

**North-Western
Frontier
And
British India
1839-42**

VOLUME II

Parshotam Mehra



**PUBLICATION BUREAU
PANJAB UNIVERSITY
C H A N D I G A R H**

North-Western
Frontier
And
British India
1839-42

Selections from English Records

**Published on behalf of the
National Archives of India**

By the same author

The Younghusband Expedition, an interpretation, Asia, 1968

The McMahon Line and After, Macmillan, 1974

Tibetan Polity, 1904-37, Otto Harrassowitz, 1976

The North Eastern Frontier, a documentary study, 2 Vols., Oxford, 1979,
1980

In collaboration

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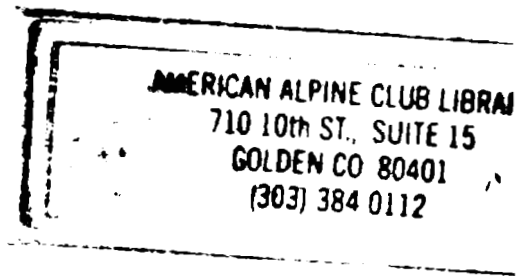
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North-Western Frontier And British India 1839-42

Being text of newsletters from the
Foreign Department, Government of
India, with an introduction, annotations,
biographical sketches and a glossary

VOLUME II

Parshotam Mehra



PUBLICATION BUREAU
PANJAB UNIVERSITY
CHANDIGARH

Published by

R. K. MALHOTRA

**Secretary, Publication Bureau
Panjab University, Chandigarh**

First Edition : 1982

Price

Printed at

Panjab University Press Chandigarh-160014

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Newsletter 36 : March 1, 1841

(No. 7 of 1841)

North West Frontier

1st to 7th February

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Ukhbar of the dates included in the margin:—

1st. Fakeer Imamooddeen reported the rebellion of the Gobindghur garrison.

2nd. The Maha Rajah proposed to assign a Jageer of 40 lacks of Rupees to Koonwur Pertaub Sing.¹

3rd. His Highness requested the refractory Sowars to accept 6 months' arrears & 15 days' pay as donation.

4th. 100 Sowars more were ordered out to protect the passage of the British Cafila about to cross the Ravee.

5th. The Maha Rajah desired the Mace through his Agents to evacuate the Summuboerj, and to remove to her house within the fort, which she is reluctantly preparing to do.

6th. 200 Sowars were detached to guard the Sutlej Ghauts, and the British Dawk lines to Hurreekee.

7th. The Maha Rajah proposed to prepare a high road from Feerozepore to Peshawur to facilitate the passage of the British Cafilas and travellers.

14th February

The Governor General's Agent in the Punjab in a letter of date noted on the margin, writes that the effects of the late revolution at Lahore, and principally the outrages of the army are threatening consequences upon the frontier, which are quite incompatible with the general peace and security that ought to prevail on the border of a friendly State. With advertence, therefore, to this aspect of affairs at Lahore, and trusting to his approved prudence and discretion, the Right Hon'ble the Governor General has authorized Mr. Clerk to adopt whatever measures he may find to be indispensable and within the compass of the means at his command, in order to ensure the safety

¹ *Koonwur Pertaub Sing* (Kanwar Partap Singh), son of Maharaja Sher Singh who fell a victim to the Sandhanwalias, along with his father, on 15 September 1843; he was then only a boy of twelve.

of those, who are entitled to British protection, from injury and violence. The former instructions to Mr. Clerk (Vide News Letter No. 6 dt. 19 February, 1841) contemplated a possibility of our interference in the affairs of the Punjab on an invitation from the Maharajah and the leading chiefs of the Country to that effect, with a view to the restoration of public order and tranquillity. It has been stated to Mr. Clerk that it is still strongly His Lordship's wish that this should be the character and form of our intervention. But Mr. C. has also been fully empowered (with the same careful regard to means which has been at all times enjoined upon him) to act as may be necessary for the security of British rights and interests notwithstanding the feebleness or the indifference of the authorities at Lahore. With a view to this, Mr. C. has requested Colonel Wheeler to halt at Loodianah, the troops of Horse Artillery which were to arrive there on the 15th Feby., and should circumstances render the step absolutely necessary, he proposes to request the Colonel to halt the whole of his detachments. Mr. Clerk concludes his despatch by observing that on his pointing to the Agents of the Sikh Darbar the necessity which a general state of anarchy prevailing on the frontier might induce for British interference, they tacitly admitted the propriety of such interference, lamenting the unhappy condition of their affairs.

Kooloo-Kotghur

14th January

The Political Agent at Subathoo mentions that Rajah Ajeet Sing of Kooloo crossed the Sutlej and entered the province of Kotghur, a British territory, on the 12th Jany., where he is permitted to reside as a refugee.

Peshawur

25th January

The following items of news are extracted from the Peshawur Ukhbar of date marginally noted :—

1. Abdoolah Khan has written to Ameer Khan to be friendly with the British.
2. Robberies continue to be perpetuated in Kohat, and the Ukhbar is filled with instances of the disorganized state of affairs in the quarter indicated.
3. Khan Bahadour Khan agrees to perform all he stands pledged to as regards his allegiance to Shah Soojah.
4. The Sungoo Kheil are said to carry on a system of plunder. Capt. Ferris proposed to send a detachment against them.

Afghanistan

6th February

The Governor General's Agent on the N.W.F. reports that the Cafila

under convoy of a wing of 5th Regt. N. I. commanded by Col. Oliver crossed the Sutlej at Ferozepore on the 30th January in progress to Peshawur and Afghanistan.

The Agent further states that he has despatched four lacks of Rupees to Afghanistan by the same convoy.

Dost Mahomed Khan

15th February

The Political Assistant in charge of Dost Mahomed Khan reports that he has safely arrived at Loodianah with the Ex-Ameer.

Khyva²

4th January

The following particulars regarding Khyva are extracted from official despatches received from England upto the 4th January.

1. On the 23rd November last Lieutt. Shakespear had the honor to be presented to His Imperial Majesty who was pleased to express in very flattering terms his thanks to Lieutt. Shakespear for his kindness to the Russian Prisoners, during their march from Khyva to the Caspian Sea.

2. From evidence, on the truth of which he perfectly relies, Lieutt. Shakespear states that the report of the murder of two Englishmen in Khyva is incorrect, and that it originated in the fate of the foreign travellers, one a Russian and the other a German who, it appears, had assumed the names and disguise of Englishmen.

3. An Envoy from Khyva has arrived at the Russian Court whose object is merely to open a friendly intercourse with Russia, and who has no powers to conclude a treaty. It is the Khan Huzrut's wish that negotiations for a treaty should take place at Khyva.

Scinde Upper

30th January to 5th February inclusive

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the *Precis of Scinde Intelligence* of dates noted in the margin:—

1. The Political Agent had an interview with Bebee Ganjam with whom he conversed for a considerable time. She is represented to be a very sensible, well-informed woman, and thoroughly conversant with the state of parties among the Brahaee tribes. The Political Agent told her that until Nusseer Khan should arrive, it was not in his power to enter into any

² *Khyva* : for Khiva.

discussion in which his interests were involved, and that, in the meantime, the Agent would give her Gundava as a place of residence along with a salary of 1000 Rs. a month out of the revenues of Cutchee. She expressed great vexation at the delay which had taken place in Nusseer Khan's arrival, and said that in the event of his not accompanying Colonel Stacy to Bhag she would herself go to Lehree and bring him in.

2. The Political Agent had an interview with the whole of the Sarawan Chiefs and informed them that it was the wish of the British Govt. to restore tranquillity throughout Belochistan. They stated that the resumption of Jagheers in Moostung was the cause of the rebellion. On being told that all their ancient rights would be restored to them they engaged heartily to cooperate with the Political Agent in endeavouring to allay the excitement which still prevails to a certain extent throughout the country.

31st January

The Political Agent in Upper Scinde states from an interview he had with several Jalamun and Sarawun chiefs relative to the causes of the late insurrection among the Brahoee tribes—(1) That the whole of the said tribes were in the first instance incensed at the separation of Cutchee, Shawl and Moostung, from under the direct Government of their native ruler. (2) That the Sarawans were driven to take up arms in consequence of the general resumption of their Military service jaghires in the province of Moostung, by which measure many of their principal Sirdars were reduced to a state of starvation and their followers obliged to plunder in order to provide themselves with the necessaries of life. (3) That the Jhalawans although discontented with the change of rule, having been left in possession of their similar Jagheers in Cutchee would not have taken any open part in the late proceedings had it not been for the sudden resumption of rent-free lands in Moostung, which led them to dread that the same measure would be eventually adopted with reference to those which they themselves had been permitted to retain in the plains of Cutchee. (4) That the latter feeling had been increased by the disposition which H. M. Shah Shooja ool Moolk displayed of providing for Afghans in provinces which had been possessed for centuries by Brahooes, and Brahooes alone. The Political Agent adds that all the Chiefs agreed also in stating that Nusseer Khan did not commence the insurrection; but that immediately on the resumption of Jaghires in Moostung, the whole of the Sarawan Chiefs sent an invitation to him to Punjeer urging him to place himself at their head which he did. The Political Agent concludes by saying that he assured the Sarawan Chiefs that it was not the intention of our Govt. to interfere with any of their local rights, and privileges, and that he proposed to follow the same course in Moostung that was laid down last year with reference to Cutchee. All the Chiefs present declared that this measure alone would

restore confidence amongst the Jhalawans and induce the Sarawans to submit at once to the orders of the British Government.

Persia

1st December

Her Majesty's Minister at the Court of Russia, in a dispatch dated as per margin, states that at an interview which he had with Count Nesselrode H. E. mentioned to him that he had heard with great satisfaction of the probability of the re-establishment of English diplomatic relations with Persia, and that the Russian Government were ready to forward the views of Her Majesty in any way she might desire.

Byrmee

26th December

The Resident in the Persian Gulf reports with reference to the expediency of encouraging the Chiefs of Byrmee to unite and resist any attempt which might be made to subjugate them, that he continues to receive from these Chiefs, assurances of their determination to follow out the news of the Government in maintaining their own independence.

Arabian Coast

30th December

The Resident in the Persian Gulf states that the last accounts from the Arabian Coast mention that a reconciliation between the Naeem & Zwahir Tribes had been effected through the good offices of the Chief of the Beni Kuttab.

Egypt

16th January

The Hon'ble Company's Deputy Agent at Alexandria in a letter dated 16th January states that, on the 8th January, Captain Napier arrived at Alexandria bringing in Lord Palmerston's full approval of the convention entered into between himself and the Pasha in December last; that on the 11th January Admiral Walker took charge of the Turkish fleet with the usual salutes with a view to convoy it to Constantinople; that the desert was still unsafe, but that from the severe examples Abbas Pasha was making of the Prisoners, there was no doubt it would shortly become passable, and that a steamer from Constantinople had brought the intelligence of the Sultan having granted the hereditary succession to Mehemet Ali.

Rajpootana

2nd February

On a representation to that effect made by the Govr. Genl's agent in Rajpootana, the Rt. Hon'ble the Govr. Genl. has sanctioned the establishment of a dawk communication between Oudeepore and Kheirwarra.

Indus Steam Navigation*12th January*

The Commander of the steam Flotilla on the Indus reports the arrival of the "Comet" steam boat from Hyderabad on the 3rd January with passengers, having been despatched on the 23rd December last from that place to bring up passengers and baggage belonging to H.M. 40 Regt. The "Comet" performed the downward voyage in four & the upward one in seven days including all stoppages. She is said to be improving in her speed.

Fort William
The 1st March 1841

Sd/-
Secy. to Govt. of India

Newsletter 37 : March 10, 1841

(No. 8 of 1841)

North West Frontier

8th to 15th February

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Ukhbar of dates marginally noted :—

1. The Maha Rajah requested Rajah Dhian Sing to quell the disturbances of the army by any means he could devise, but the Rajah said that the task was not to be performed so early and so easily.

2. The Maha Rajah has granted General Ventura leave of absence to Bombay preparatory to his return to France. The General has solicited letters of recommendation in his own favor from the Durbar to the Governor General and the Governor of Bombay. He promises to return from France after his daughter's marriage. Generals Avitabile & Court, with reference to the mutinous state of the Army, are also anxious to return to Europe.

3. The citizens have commenced barricading the entrances of the different streets in the town.

4. While the Maha Rajah was going to the camp of one of the chiefs he was surrounded by a party of about 30 of Sepoys who demanded an instant payment of their arrears and the reward promised them & threatened to kill him on the spot and to seat his sons on the Gudee if he refused. It was not without much trouble and after making a promise of payment that His Highness extricated himself from their hands. On another occasion, when the artillerymen attended to receive their pay, one of them insolently drew his sword and made a cut at the Maha Rajah, who had him immediately apprehended. Indeed the lawless state of the soldiery at Lahore is such that they care not to heap every species of invective and abuse on the Maha Rajah and the rest of the Chiefs, even to their hearing; and not a day passes without some plunder and murder being committed in the city.

5. Rajah Dhian Sing suggested that in order to curb the licentiousness of the Sepoys, an embargo should be put on the liquor shops in the city.

6. Colonel Dhounkul Sing¹ was ordered to detach 7 Companies of his Poorbia troops to escort Shah Soojah's family from Feerozepore Ghaut to Peshawur.

1 *Dhounkul Sing*, formerly a havildar in the 53rd Regiment of Company's Army; after deserting the British, he took up service under Maharaja Ranjit Singh and was one of his favourite officers.

7. Major Swayne reported that tranquillity prevailed on the road to Peshawur.

8. The Maha Rajah proposed that pay being issued to the troops, they should have leave of absence for 2 or 3 months, and that Hill soldiers from Jummoo should be enlisted in their place. These, Rajah Dhian Sing was ordered to send from the Hills secretly.

9. Rajah Golaub Sing has been ordered to attend with his Hill troops at Lahore with the view of intimidating the Sikhs.

10. As required by Mr. Clerk, Sirdar Lehna Sing was ordered to keep a strict watch on the ghauts of the Sutlege, to let none cross without permission.

A letter from the Governor General's Agent in the Punjab contains the following particulars of importance :

1. Fakeer Shahoodeen at the instigation of the Maha Rajah asked the Governor Genl.'s Agent what measures the British Govt. would adopt to quell a general mutiny in the Army such as now exists in that of Lahore. The mutiny is so general that Chiefs & Ministers could think of nothing but how to escape from insult and personal danger. No progress has been made by the Government of Lahore towards recovering its authority over the Army although a measure has been devised of procuring soldiers from the mountains to coerce the mutinous Sikh Army.

2. Genl. Ventura is about to return to France.

3. The British Cafilla marched from the Sutlege safely. The country through which it passed appeared perfectly tranquil.

4. The family of H. M. Shah Soojah and Shah Ziman with his family were moving by easy marches upon Ferozepore.

5. The Governor General's Agent has requested Major General Boyd to station at Ferozepore, one of the three troops of Horse artillery now upon the North Western Frontier.

23rd February

A private communication from Mr. Clerk of date noted in the margin states that the outrages of the Sikh soldiery are not so common now as some few days ago, and that our preparations on the frontier have deterred them from tumultuously plundering Lahore and Amritsar.

Hill Intelligence

13th February

The Kooloo insurgents are said to be yet congregated against the Sikhs.

Peshawur

23rd February

In a private communication dated as per margin, the Governor General's

Agent in the Punjab states from late accounts from Peshawur that there had been no disturbance among the Troops there, but that those employed in the Eusofzye country shown a disposition to mutiny and to kill their European officers—Major Ford² and Mr. Stembach. General Avitabile's firmness and artifice has however suppressed this spirit for the present.

Jellalabad Finance

1st February

Captain Bygrave, Pay Master to the Army of the Indus, states that Cash balance in the Military Chest at Jellalabad on the 1st Feby. was 7,22,009-9-3.

Afghanistan

21st January

The Governor Genl.'s Agent on the N.W. Frontier intimates that Dost Mahomed Khan under escort of a troop of H. Arty. and a guard from the European Regt. was to have set out for Karnaul and then proceed as far as Goormooktaisur Ghaut on the Ganges, in progress to Calcutta.

23rd January

In a letter dated as per margin, the offg. Poll. Agent at Guznee states that the Country in all directions continues in a quiet state.

30th January

As the Sungoo Kheil, a tribe of Khyber, who are said to be isolated from and almost entirely independent of all other tribes, are said to be committing great depredations upon their neighbors, it appears probable that a force may be employed against them with a view to check their predatory habits. Strict injunctions have, however, been given that no expedition should be undertaken against them without a strong conviction of the necessity of the measure and of real advantage likely to result from it.

8th February

The Brigadier Commanding H. M. Shah Soojah's force reports that he inspected the Goorka & Hindoostanee levies lately sent from India for H.M.'s service. The Hindoostances, he observes, are very fine body of men and in every respect unexceptionable indeed, in his opinion and that of the Major of Brigade, they are superior to the recruits lately sent. The Brigadier adds that their general appearance, discipline and state of appointments show the great pains that must have been taken by Lieutt. Gerrard whose success in raising and bringing the men to Jellalabad has far exceeded his (the Brigadier's) most sanguine expectations.

² *Major M. W. Ford* one-time Paymaster of Her Majesty's 16th Fleet, attached to the Army of Indus. He was murdered by the mutinous Sikh soldiery at Peshawar in April 1841.

8th February

It having been suggested that a body of Young Afghans might be raised who with care and time might form the nucleus of an efficient Infantry Regiment, authority has been given for employing & disciplining in the first instance, a company of 100 men, as an experimental measure.

Kohistan*11th January*

Sir A. Burnes, in a letter to the address of the Envoy and Minister at Cabool dated 11th January, states that the Chief of Kahdura has been forced to surrender himself and is now in confinement at Kabul; and that 7 of the Maliks of Nijrow have also come in and agreed to pay tribute to H. M. Shah Shooja ool Moolk to whom, on their returning to their country, Sir Alexander pointed out the desirableness of getting other Maliks to come forward with similar offers.

Scinde Upper*23rd to 29th January*

The following items of news are extracted from the precis of Scinde Intelligence of dates included in the margin. 1. Morad Khan informed Capt. Brown that Dadah Khan intended immediately to send his nephew Gamun to the Political Agent's Camp for the purpose of acknowledging the submission of his tribe to our Govt. and Bejah Khan Doomakie told the Pol. Agent that should Gamun join him the whole question regarding the Murrees may be considered as settled. 2. Genl. Brooks with the force under his command, viz., H.M.'s 40th, a troop of Horse Artillery, the 20th & 21st N.I., Wing of the 3rd Light Cavalry and Skinner's Horse, was at Bagh, where he intended halting, till joined by the Political Agent.

30th January

The Major Genl. Commanding in Scinde reports the arrival of troop of Horse Artillery and a Wing of Native Infantry at Dadur on the 25th January, which have halted there till further orders. The Major General states that the political state of affairs in Dadur does not appear to be so perfectly settled as to admit of his removing so effective a portion of the force under his command, especially as the want of forage in the Pass was great.

6th to 12th February

The following items of news are extracted from the precis of Scinde intelligence of dates marginally noted:—1. It was reported to the Pol. Agent that the whole of the Murrees tribes appeared to be in a great state of alarm on hearing of the advance of the British Troops but that Capt. Brown's appearance at their camp reassured the Murrees when an immediate

Council was held by them as to the mode in which a deputation from the whole of the tribes dependent on Dadah Khan should be arranged. After some discussion it was arranged that Gool Hussein, accompanied by other Chiefs, should be entrusted with powers from the whole to express their entire submission to the orders of the British Govt. 2. The Kujjack chiefs arrived in the British Camp. On the Political Agent questioning them as to the cause of their late rebellious conduct, they stated that fear had induced them to join the other tribes, but that they were most anxious to return to their duty and would pay up the arrears of revenue due by them to Govt. 3. Colonel Stacy states that Nusseer Khan came to him and declared his intention of coming to Bagh and bringing all the chiefs who adhered to him to the British Camp.

Kishengurh

18th to 24th January

From the Poll Diary of the Rajpootana Agency of dates included in the margin, it appears that the disturbances at Kishengurh have not yet been quelled.

Gwalior

Chanderee

18th to 24th January

It appears that both the sons of the late Oomrao Sing of Jacklone who had been committing numerous atrocities in the Gwalior District of Ghunderee (vide News Letter No. 6 of 19th February) have surrendered to Captn. Blake, the officer who had been ordered to reduce the rebels to obedience.

Bhopal

25th to 31st January

The Poll. Agent in Bhopal states that the Nawab of Bhopal is unwell and has expressed a desire to travel.

Nagpore

From the Poll. Diary of the Nagpore Residency it appears that the Raja of Nagpore who was reported to be very unwell is recovering but very gradually from his late illness.

Kelat

15th February

The Political Agent in Upper Scinde states that the 42d. Regt. Bengal N.I. will be detained to Garrison Kelat in furtherance of the arrangements for withdrawing that Regt. with others to India in the Autumn.

Sohar

The Govt. of Bombay report their having authorized the British Agent at Muscat to engage a passage for Hamood bin Azam, the Chief of Sohar, and his suite on a visit to Bombay.

Egypt

13th February

The Consul at Alexandria in a Lr. to the address of the Right Hon'ble the Governor Genl. states that the Pasha expects a recommendation from the Four Powers to the Sublime Porte for the hereditary Pashalic of Egypt. Commodore Sir Chas. Napier has had frequent interviews with the Pasha who receives him with great courtesy & cordiality & from the pacific turn affairs have taken, there is every prospect of the British flag being speedily re-hoisted. The acts of pillage on the Desert have ceased, large escorts are provided for passengers & the Pasha declared his intention of putting down disorder whatever political risks might occur. The Consul announces with confidence that the passage through Egypt is now securely re-established.

Nepal

6th February

The Resident in Nepal states that Chountra Futteh Jung, the Premier, has given him ample assurances of affording Lieutt. Hollings, the co-operation solicited from the Durbar in the suppression of Dacoity, prevalent in Western Nepal; and of adjusting the cases of denial of justice to British subjects without further procrastination.

16th February

The Resident in Nepal intimates the arrival at Katmandhoo of a mission from one of the Chinese authorities of Western Thibet, through Hastbeer, the Nepalese Governor of Joomla.

20th February

The Resident in Nepal reports that the Maha Ranee left Katmandhoo on the 19th February declaring she was going on pilgrimage to Benares, that the Raja taking with him the Heir Apparent, shortly after, followed her, attended by three of the Ministers, his declared purpose being to bring back the Ranee, that he (the Resident) was urged by the Premier to interpose with his *veto* upon the Ranee's journey which the latter seems to consider a device of the Misr Gooroo for involving him in trouble, and for reducing the Raja to unconditional acquiescence with the Ranee's views and purposes. The Resident adds that as the Raja and Ranee are desirous of entering our territories without passports, he has signified his unqualified reprobation of the proceeding, and has desired the Joint Magistrate of Champarun, to prevent, respectfully, but firmly, the frontier being so crossed.

26th February

Further communications from the Resident in Nepal state that the Joint Magistrate of Champarun on receiving an intimation of the Maha Raja's intention of crossing the frontier without passports proceeded to Segowley, and having obtained from the Brigadier Commanding there, an escort consisting of a wing of the 40th Regiment Native Infantry and a troop of Cavalry lost no time in marching to the frontier, that the Maha Raja had for a time returned to Katmandhoo but that the Ranee remained at Hitourda and that the Joint Magistrate had, in consequence, requested Captain De Frountain with a few of his sowars, to watch her movements.

15th to 20th February

The Diary of the Nepal Residency of dates included in the margin contains the following particulars of importance :—

1. The placarding system has been resumed at the Capital.
2. The Ranee is bent upon overthrowing the present Ministry.
3. The state has lost by death 5 individuals, all of whom were friendly to the new Ministry.
4. Two marriage parties are talked of and a further party is said to be preparing for Gya ostensibly for tirath (pilgrimage) but really for some secret end.
5. It is reported that letters have been received at Katmandhoo from Thibet through the Viceroy of Lassa.
6. Matters are said to be proceeding in quiet way with regard to all branches of the internal administration and confidence and a sense of security are growing up under the mild and equitable direction of Futteh Jung. Those, however, who pretend to look deeper into these matters say that the Maha Ranee can, and will, carry out all her projects by and by and that she has one more emphatic appeal to Lassa.
7. It is the general opinion that upon the performance of Futteh Jung's authority, the existence of the kingdom depends. All was perfectly quiet at Katmandhoo up to the date of the Diary.

Bootan*2nd February*

The Agent to the Governor General in the N. E. Frontier states that he has received a letter from the Deb Raja of Bootan soliciting that a European Officer may be deputed to adjust the boundary dispute between Sidlee & Bijnee.

Eastern Settlements*25th January*

The Governor of the Eastern Settlements reports that the British Ship "Pilot", engaged in whaling, had been cut off by the Natives of Ho-Ho, a place in the Nicobars. It appears that part of her crew had put into Noncowy harbour for the purpose of obtaining water & refreshments, when the Natives treacherously took possession of the Ship, and murdered the Captain & twenty-two men, the remainder of the Crew. Captain Gifford, the Commander of H.M.'s ship "Gurizers", found the Vessel lying in the Bay of Ho-Ho, there was no one near the Ship, but the Natives were armed and watching the English from the rocks and villages, & on Captain Gifford sending some boats to the shore they fled. Measures will, at an early period, be taken to investigate the causes of this unfortunate occurrence.

China*2nd March*

The Marine Board report the discharge from the China Service of the Hon'ble Company's Transports "William Wilson", "Medusa" and "Defiance."

Fort William
The 10th March 1841

Sd/-
Secy. to Govt. of India

Newsletter 38 : March 20, 1841

(No. 9 of 1841)

North Western Frontier

17th to 27th February

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Ukhbar of dates marginally noted:—(1) Jamadar Khoosall Sing was ordered to suspend the enlistment of Sowars, and to raise a Regiment of Mahomedan Infantry. (2) The Maha Rajah detached 5 Poorbia Companies to Ferozepore to escort Shah Soojah's family to Peshawur. (3) General Avitabile was ordered to guard the Peshawur and Kohat roads.

3rd March

The following items connected with the affairs of the Punjab are extracted from a letter from the Governor General's agent on the N. W. Frontier dated as per margin:—(1) Rajah Dhian Sing is pursuing measures for recruiting, relieving, and dismissing the army. By this means the Rajah is gaining a partial influence over the Sikh soldiery and securing an entire sway over the new troops of Jummo, Rajpoots & Mahomedans. He is endeavouring in every way to obviate the necessity for British interference. Many Sikh soldiers, it is said, are returning from Lahore to their homes on this side of the Sutlej bearing certificates of leave to pass them across the ferries. (2) Genl. Ventura with his family has arrived at Ferozepore preparatory to his departure for Bombay & as is supposed by some, to France whither he proposed himself to be desirous to send his family. Preparations are also making for the departure of General Court to the Coast. (3) Teikchund, the Treasurer of Mae Chund Koonwur, has been killed. This occurrence happened in the apartments of the Mae and she herself was severely wounded in attempting to save him. (4) The Mercantile community at Lahore and Amritsar seem to enjoy more security now than before. They regard with feelings of joy the preparations of the British Government to avert any such anarchy as might prove dangerous to the Paramount Power which consequently threatens also their ruin. (5) The arrival on the Sutlege, just at this crisis, of a troop of Horse Artillery and a regiment, though intended only to relieve one gone from Loodianah, has tended to alarm the turbulent. (6) The Governor General's Agent received an express from a person in the employment of the Punjab Agency at Lahore, stating that a camel Khurretah¹, the purport of which was to

¹ *Camel Khurretah* : 'Kharita', a letter, official communication, in this case, one sent through a camel-rider.

invite Maharaja Sheir Sing to unite with Jodhpore and other states and to oppose the British Govt. It appears that thieves carried off the actual Khareetah from the messenger while asleep. The Raja Dhian Sing had begged Mr. Clerk not to attach importance to what is evidently a trick to create mistrust between the two Governments.

Peshawur

12th & 13th February

Accounts from Peshawur state as follows :—

(1) The Alumzyes of Kummallee have been urging Fooreh Baz Khan to give them their portion of the money received from the English. He refuses to comply with their request and they threaten to join Ameer Khan.

(2) Capt. Mackeson wrote to Khan Bahadoor Khan that he was going to Peshbolak to settle the dispute pending with the Sungo Kheil. Recent intelligence has been received of the successful issue of the first operations of this Expedition although they were attended by the lamented loss of two most excellent & promising officers. (Capt. Doughlas 53d N.I. & Lt. Pigou of the Bengal Engineers). It is on the other hand satisfactory that the resistance opposed to the advance of our troops in the valley was mainly overcome by the Shah's Afghan horse & Khyberie Lezgailehas.

(3) The Mallicks of the different Tagik Tribes in the neighborhood of Kooner have urged Ameer Khan to go to Shah Soojah, but said that if he were resolved to fight they would assist him.

Candahar

20th January

The Pol. Agent at Candahar mentions that owing to the withdrawal of our troops from Zamindawur to Girishk, Akbar Khan, at the head of a few horsemen, who accompanied his flight, has returned from Baghni to his fort at Sharak, but whether with the view of reassembling any considerable body of followers after the recent failure on the Helmund, remains yet doubtful.

18th February

The Envoy and Minister at Cabool states that from recent communications, which he had received from the Pol. Agent in Candahar, it appeared that symptoms of turbulence and discontent were manifesting themselves both amongst the Dooranee and Ghilzye population. Under these circumstances two troops of Horse Artillery, a Company of foot artillery, a Rossalah of the Shah's Cavalry, a Detachment of the 4th Bengal local horse, and 7 Regiments of N.I. are to be concentrated at Candahar.

Supplement to Newsletter No. 38, dated March 20, 1841

Mr. Elliott the Pol. Asstt. in Girishk in a let.^{1a} to the address of Maj. Rawlinson² states that the rising in Zamindawur is to be attributed to

^{1a} Abbreviation for 'letter'.

² Major Rawlinson, formerly second in command of the British contingent in Persia, was appointed Political Agent at Qandhar in August 1840 in place of Major Leech who was then seconded to the British envoy at Kabul.

two causes. The 1st. is the hatred borne by the people of the country towards the Vukeel Mirza Wullee Mahomed Khan, & Mohamed Alam Khan, & the 2nd. to the question of revenue, the mode of assessment and the custom of those sent to collect it living on the people until it is paid. Sir W. Hill, with refer.^{2a} to the first of the two causes alluded to, observes, "I have all along entertained the opinion that the recent disturbances in Zamindawur owe their origin chiefly to the merited unpopularity of the Vukeel Wullee Mahomed Khan & his adherents."

Candahar—Scinde

14th February

With advertence to the inimical feelings manifested by the Dooranee and Ghilzye population, Majr. General Brooks, commanding at Scinde has made the following military arrangements—

1st Troop H.A.

4th Do. Do.

Wing 1st Regt. Lt. Cavy.

Do. 3rd Do. Do.

3 Risalahs. Skinner's horse

3rd Compy. 1st Btn. Arty.

6th Compy. Mads. Sappers

H.M.'s 40th Regt.

Wing H.M.'s 41st Do.

20th Regt. N.I.

25th Do. Do.

Poona Auxiliary force

1st Compy. Golandauze

6th Regt. N. Infantry

Wing 8th Regt. Do.

23d. Regt. Do.

Sinde Irregular Horse

1st Compy. Goolaundaze with horses

2d Grenadier Regt.

150 Poona Horse (when relieved)

2 Rissalahs: Skinner's horse

Detail Bombay Pioneers

1st Grenadier Regt.

Wing 5th Regt. N.I.

To proceed to the Province of Shawl

To be quartered at and near Sukkur

For Outpost in Cutchee at Dadur and its vicinity

To proceed to Kurachee and Hindoostan

Herat—Meshed

29th January

The Envoy to Herat reports that Yar Mahomed Khan, the Minister of

2a Abbreviation for 'reference'.

Shah Kamran, had re-opened correspondence with the Persian authorities at Meshed & that he has deputed an Envoy from the Govt. of Herat to the Persian Court in direct breach of the treaty existing between the British & Herat Government.

Herat

6th February

The Poll. Agent at Candahar, in a letter dated as per margin, states that the Envoy to Herat had proposed (This was an unauthorized act of Major Todd's) to the Govt. of Herat as the alternative to a hostile movement being undertaken against the place.

1. A Brigade of British troops with artillery to occupy the citadel of Herat.

2. The Revenues of Seistan to be appropriated to the maintenance of these Troops.

3. The present Govt. of Herat to remain unchanged during the life time of Shah Kamran.

4. Three Lakhs of rupees to be given per annum to the Govt. of Herat during the life time of the Vuzeer and, after his death, a maintenance to be guaranteed to his son. The Poll. Agent further states that in the event of the rejection of these terms, political relations with Herat were to be suspended. Meanwhile, Major Todd had informed the Vuzeer that the allowance granted to the King and Chiefs of 25,000 Rs. per mensem had ceased, pending the settlement of the matter at issue. Yar Mahd., it was added, appeared to have set on foot, arrangements for the regular interception of our posts at Herat.

10th February

The Envoy to Herat in a letter dt. as per margin intimates that our relations with the Govt. of Herat are broken off & that the officers and servants of the British Mission have, in consequence, withdrawn from the City of Herat.

As Major Todd's proceedings have been directly contrary to instructions, the Right Hon'ble the Governor General has ordered the return of that Officer to India with all expedition in order to resume duty with his own branch of the service, & for the present, placed the P.A. at Candahar in charge of the correspondence with Herat.

17th February

The Poll. Agent in Upper Scinde, in a letter dt. as per margin, states that the Poll. Agent in Candahar was making preparations to admit of a

strong force being concentrated at that place so as to be provided, in case of any advance against Herat becoming forced upon this Govt.

Khorassan

6th February

The Poll. Agent in Candahar states that he had received letters from Persia contradicting the rumoured advance of a Persian Army into Khorassan.

Nepanee

28th February

The Govt. of Bombay report that the refractory Arabs who had taken possession of the Fort of Nepanee (vide Newsletter No 6, 19 Feby) have at length surrendered themselves unconditionally to the Govt. The fort was attacked by Major Viviano with the force mentioned in the margin. The insurgents, it is said, were determined not to lay down their arms, but, on the contrary, resist to the last, & then murder the women who were in the fort with them & the young Dossoy whom they had taken a prisoner & die. But the galling fire of the British and especially the shells which were thrown into the fort having done much execution, killing about 25 of their number, led the men to submit to the Commanding Officer unconditionally. The Govt. of Bombay has directed the Poll Agent in the Southern Mahratta country to try all those of the insurgents who may appear to have been the instigators & principals in this outbreak, and award such punishment in each case as he may consider adequate; and to release on security or parole as may appear sufficient, all who may be known not to have taken a conspicuous part in these proceedings.

A detach. of Foot Artilly.
One nine-pounder Brass Gun.
Lt. Company of H.M. 4 Regt.
Rifle Company of 26 Regt. N.I. &
Grenadier Comg, of 18 Regt. N.I.

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}

but, on the contrary, resist to the last, & then murder the women who were in the fort with them & the young Dossoy whom they had taken a prisoner & die. But the galling fire

Only two officers, Major Vivian & Lieutt. Stevens were wounded in this affair.

Gwalior

It appears from the Poll. Diary of the Gwalior Residency that the health of the Maharaja of Gwalior still continues in a very precarious state.

Zanzibar

5th February

The British Agent at Muscat intimates that he has determined on proceeding to Zanzibar via Bombay for the purpose of ascertaining all the particulars of the aggressions attributed to the French on the territories of the Imam of Muscat or the East Coast of Africa. He is to go in the frig.^{2b} "Nussaree" provided for that purpose by H. Highness the Imaum.

^{2b} Abbreviation for 'frigate'.

Nepal

16th March

The Resident in Nepal in a Letter dated as per margin intimates that the Maha Rani of Nepal returned to Catmandhoo on the evening of the 14th March. She came in, the Resident adds, in a very private manner, & is said to have signalized her arrival by a furious tirade against the great body of the chiefs, more especially of the Ministers, and by the issue of an order for Ran Jung's (the late Premier) immediate attendance on her at Catmandhoo.

Burmah

Martaban

12th March

The Commissioner of the Tenas^{2c} Provinces, at present on a visit to this presidency on duty, reports his having received intelligence from Maulmein of the seizure and detention of three British officers by the Burmese authorities at Martaban. It appears that three officers of the 31st Regt. M.N.I. went across the river from Moulmein and landing on the Burmese side, proceeded into the interior with a view of indulging in the sports of the field.

As unfortunately they had not in the first instance, obtained either a pass from the Civil Department at Maulmein, stating who they were & what was their object or the permission of the headman of Martaban to proceed into the interior, their detention was perfectly justifiable. But at the same time this did not warrant the subsequent ill usage they seem to have met with : they were apprehended & brought before the Headman of Martaban, who ordered them to be violently disarmed in his presence and placed in confinement : one of the Officers, it is said, was severely beaten and the servants of all three put in the stocks.

On a representation, however, being made by the Commissioner's Assistant, the Officers were released after a close confinement.*

Quedah³

Fuanko Mahomed Saad

The individual, above-mentioned, is a relative of the Ex. Rajah of

*It has always been customary for officers on these excursions to pay their respects to the Headman on the Burmese side. The omission of this has, it is supposed, in some degree, led to the embarrassment these officers suffered.

2c Abbreviation for 'Tenasserim'.

3 *Quedah* a small principality and seaport on the west coast of the Malay peninsula to which belonged the island of Penang. It is said that, in about 1785, the king of Quedah gave his daughter in marriage to one Captain Light and offered him the island as part of his daughter's dowry. The Captain, in turn, passed it on to the British East India Company in 1800, but for a price. The British converted Pennga into an important transit-cum-fuelling station.

Quedah and was one of the leaders in the enterprize for regaining possession of that Country from the Siamese in 1838, and who on the failure of that insurrectionary movement, escaped, and appears to have subsequently entered on a career of predatory violence of the most atrocious character. F.M.S. was captured in the month of July last year, and arraigned before the Supreme Court of Penang on a charge of piracy committed on a Vessel belonging to a subject of our Government—The prosecution having failed on the plea that as a descendant of the Ex. Rajah of Quedah, the Prisoner was at war with Siam and consequently with the British Government, and therefore that the act with which he was charged if proved, was not the act of a pirate but that of an enemy, the Governor of the Straits Settlements sent F.M.S. as a State prisoner to Calcutta to be dealt with as might seem expedient to the Supreme Govt. On the arrival of the prisoner, the Government was of opinion that although F.M.S. had been acquitted of the charge of piracy on the plea adduced, yet his release from confinement might again expose the subjects of the British Government and those of other friendly powers on the Straits to his depredations. Entertaining this view of the matter, the Government decided that F.M.S. should reside at Moorshedabad under surveillance of the Magistrate, a monthly salary of about 50 Rupees being assigned for the support of the prisoner and of his followers. It may be added that some time after the arrival here of Fuankoo Mahomed Saad, a writ of *Habeas Corpus* was issued in favour of the prisoner on the motion of one of the Barristers of the Supreme Court—The resolution of Government, however, regarding the prisoner having been taken, & his removal, at his own request, from the vessel in which he arrived into that which was to convey him to Moorshedabad, having been effected anterior to the serving of the writ, the Government and its Officers were placed under no obligation arising from the process of the Court, to induce a departure from the course which was thought best for the public interests to pursue in this case. F.M.S. accompanied by his son, has reached his destination, and has been taken charge of by the Magistrate of Moorshedabad.

China

20th March

Substance of the news this day recd. from China is that up to the 11th of February the trade had not been reopened and nothing definite was known of the intentions of the Govt. of Peking.

H. V. Bayley,
Asstt. Secy. to Govt. of India

Fort William
The 20th March, 1841

Newsletter 39 : April 1, 1841

(No. 10 of 1841)

North West Frontier

7th February to 7th March

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Ukhar of dates marginally noted :—(1) General Avitabile is reported to have stated that if the Maharajah would not willingly give him leave to depart he would proceed down the Indus to Bombay of his own accord. (2) Much excitement still prevails among the Troops at Lahore. The troops say that unless the Maharajah makes good his promise of allowing 10 Rs. per month to each sepoy they will obey none. (3) His Highness is enquiring strictly as to the number of hillmen which are being recruited by Rajah Dhian Sing for the army. The Sikh troops conjecture that the Rajah is a great hindrance to the Maharajah's liberality towards them and think that he ought to be killed. (4) The irregularities of the troops in the town are less now than before.

11th March

The following particulars are extracted from a letter from the Governor General's Agent in the Punjab dated as per margin :—(1) The Maharajah had taken alarm at the measures of Rajah Dhian Sing for introducing mountaineers into the army. (2) Some of the troops ordered to relieve others in the Munde hills refused to proceed though their most unreasonable demands had been acceded to. (3) General Court has solicited Mr. Clerk's intercession with the Maharajah to obtain his dismissal from the Sikh service.

Afghanistan

1st March

Captain Bygrave, Pay Master to the Army of the Indus, states that cash-balance in the Military Chest at Jellalabad on the 1 March was Co's. Rs. 3,70,428.11.

Zemindawr

24th February

Private letters from authentic sources mention that success had attended the measures taken to put a stop to disturbances, and to restore tranquillity in this quarter.

Sungoo Kheils*24th February*

Brigadier Shelton, in a communication to the address of the Envoy and Minister dated as per margin, states that he has met with complete success in coercing the Sungoo Kheil tribe inhabiting the Nazian Valley. "The Nizian Valley", writes the Brigadier, "which is about eight miles in length is studded with forts from one extremity to the other, some of which are formidable positions. The advance of the troops was one continued course of success, and nearly the whole of this formidable valley and all the forts, too numerous to enumerate were in our possession". Col. Shelton adds that the officers and men under his command, (part of whom were H.M. Shah Soojah's forces) conducted themselves in the affair with distinguished bravery. For further particulars of Brigadier Shelton's operations v. Gazette Extra of April 1st.

Brigadier A Roberts, Comdg. Shah Soojah's force reports that he has completed his inspection of the 2d. Cavalry and 3rd. infantry, the former having been received by His Majesty and Sir William H. Macnaghten; and testifies to the highly efficient state to which these Regiments have been brought by the endeavours of their Commanding Officers, Captains Anderson and Craigie, and Lieutt. Le. Geyt.

Dost Mahomed Khan*15th March*

The Governor General's Agent on the North West Frontier reports that Dost Mahomed Khan marched on the 15th March from Loodianah to Calcutta. He will proceed direct to Gurmooktesur Ghaut on the Ganges, and there embark for Calcutta in boats prepared for the purpose; the Ex-Chief continues under charge of Lieutenant Nicolson, to whom is attached an escort of 50 men of the 59th Regiment N.I. and a Duffadar and fifteen men of the 4th Irregular Cavy. under the Command of Ensign Hicks of the European Regiment. The Ex-Ameer had, by the last accounts, reached Umballah.

Herat—Girishk

The Envoy and Minister states that Major Todd's Mission which had quitted Herat (vide last Newsletter, No. 9, dated 20th March) had arrived in safety at Girishk and had brought with it from thence the persons & families of its followers and servants and of other inhabitants of Herat who had been most closely connected with British interests at that place. Before Major Todd quitted Herat, the Vazier Yar Mahomed Khan had evinced considerable anxiety to defer the discussion of the subject of our future relations with the Herat Government, until news shall have been received of the proceedings of the Envoy sent by him to Meshed.

Scinde Upper

20th to 26th February inclusive

The following items are extracted from the *Precis of Scinde Intelligence* of dates noted on the margin. The Kujjuck Chiefs having refused to pay the Government demand, Colonel Wilson advanced against them with his troops. The Colonel's troops were fired on by the enemy from the Walls, and an immediate attack was made on the gateway. The assault lasted until half past five, when the troops were withdrawn. The loss on the side of the British has been severe. The Kujjucks evacuated the town during the night leaving the whole of their grain and Cattle behind. Their loss has been severe. Major General Brooks had ordered means to be taken to destroy the fortifications of Kujjuck and states that the Chiefs of all the other villages of the Sohee country are delighted to see the punishment inflicted on a confederacy which has tyrannized over them for so many years. The *Precis* concludes by stating that the whole of the other Chiefs on the Sebee Country have submitted to Govt. and paid the Revenue due by them.

27th February to 5th March

The following item of news is extracted from the *Precis of Scinde intelligence* of dates quoted on the margin. Colonel Stacy states that Nusseer Khan is anxious to submit unconditionally to the orders of the British Govt. and that he has only been withheld from coming in from a fear of the people about him who have advised him & encouraged him on his late proceedings.

5th March

The Govt. of Bombay report that two attacks had been made by a portion of the troops in Scinde on parties of plundering Brahooes, most of whom they captured. Four Brahooes are said to have been killed in this affray—On the side of the English one private of the Irregular Horse was killed and 2 sepoys wounded.

9th March

The Govt. of Bombay report that in consequence of the appointment of Major General Brooks to the Command of the troops above and below the Beelochistan Passes, it has resolved to constitute Sukkur a second class command, and to appoint Colonel England of H.M.'s 41 Regt. of Foot to command the Brigade at that station.

The Govt. of Bombay further report that under date the 2d. October 1840 the Infantry portion of the troops at Sukkur was directed to be organised into two Field Brigades of the 2d. Class and that it was proposed that, by the arrangement, one of these Commands should be reduced.

Quetta*27th February*

The Political Agent, with reference to the rumoured advance of Shah Kamran on Candahar proposed pushing on as many troops to Quetta as could be spared from Upper Scinde and holding carriage in readiness at the former place for an eventual movement towards Candahar, should circumstances render it necessary.

Persia*11th January*

The Resident in the Persian Gulf reports that the King of Persia, alarmed at the reported intention of the exiled Princes at Bagdad to raise a rebellion in Persia is making preparations to proceed to Kermanshah in anticipation of such an event.

Persian Gulf*18th January*

The Resident in the Persian Gulf reports that up to the date noted perfect tranquillity reigned in that quarter.

Muscat—Scinde Lower*14th January*

The Resident in the Persian Gulf reports the arrival at Muscat on the 1st Decr. last, of a person of distinction from the Ameers of Scinde for the ostensible purpose of condoling with His Highness on the demise of his Aunt. Captain Hamerton, on a mission to Muscat, has been instructed to watch the proceedings of this individual and to report to Govt. the result of his observations.

Shiraz*27th January*

The Resident in the Persian Gulf intimates that great disturbances have taken place in Shiraz which threaten eventually still more serious consequences than those which occurred during the Government of Fereidoon Mirza.

1st February

In a letter dated 1 February, the Resident states "that Shiraz was then apparently rather more tranquil".

Bushire

27th January

The Resident in the Persian Gulf reports the arrival at Cazeruon of Shaik Nasir, the Govr. of Bushire, *en route* to join his Govt. A party from the low Country had gone out to meet him.

1st February

The Resident in the Persian Gulf states that a detachment of 200 Sirbaz or regulars have been ordered to Bushire to garrison that port.

Kerman

27th January

The Resident in the Persian Gulf observes that Aga Khan appeared to maintain his position in the province of Kerman, although he had not yet succeeded in the Capture of the Capital.

Egypt

10th January

The Poll. Agent Turkish Arabia states that the Sultan has about 18000 regulars stationed between Tripoly & Jaffa, 5000 of which are at Acre. This place has been put in a state of defence by Captain Boxer of the Pique Frigate.

19th January

In a Lr. dated as per margin, the Poll. Agent writes that Ibrahim Pacha had evacuated Damascus and commenced a dangerous retreat towards Egypt. His army & followers amounted to about 65,000 individuals of which 50,000 were fighting men. He carried away 191 pieces of Artillery and 32,000 animals for baggage. A regiment of Cuirassiers¹ and other troops had already deserted him.

Arabia

10th October

The Political Agent Turkish Arabia reports that Ali Pascha has been appointed to the Govt. of Arabia by the Sultan.

Damascus

10th January

Letters from Damascus mention that Sheif Pascha, Govr. of Damascus & of all Syria was placed in close confinement on the false pretence, as it is said, of holding secret communications with Izzet Pascha, the Turkish Chief & with his brother-in-law now at Beirout. This unjust persecution had caused great anxiety in Damascus & strong interest was being made

¹ *Cuirassiers*, armoured cavalrymen.

with the British Admiral to effect the release of this unfortunate person. All was quiet at Damascus up to the 19th January.

Aleppe

10th January

The Poll. Agent Turkish Arabia states that Zachariah Pascha had entered Aleppe with twelve thousand men & that all was tranquil there up to the date quoted.

Nipal

3rd March

In conformity with the views of Govt. the Resident in Nipal has requested the Joint Magistrate of Champarun to make the necessary arrangements for the retention of Coll. Oliver's Brigade on the Frontier throughout the hot and rainy seasons. For this purpose an equal distribution of the troops are to be made between Segowley & Mullye.

1st to 16th March

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Nipal Diary of dates noted in the margin :— (1) It is alleged that the Maha Ranee insists on the restoration to power of the Kala Pandey. (2) It is said that she desired part of the troops to assault Lt. Williams. (3) The troops seem steady in rejecting the Rani's overtures. (4) She has thrown off all shame & all prudence & openly addresses the soldiery requiring them to eject the present Ministry & to reinstate the Kala Pandey. (5) There is a strong general impression throughout the people & even the soldiery favourable to the new Ministry but it is believed that the Ranee will ruin herself wholly in public esteem rather than not carry her projects through. (6) Another placard of a most mischievous tenor was put up in the city on the 14th. (7) The Rajah, it is said, will never consent to war or to abdication whatever else he may assent to.

Indus Steam Navigation

12th March

The Suptt. of the Indian Navy reports the arrival of the H.M.'s Steam Vessel "Medusa" from Kuratchee on the 11th March. The "Medusa" left Bombay on the 20th Feby. & arrived off the Kedaree mouth of the River Indus. On the 23rd, she took on board 20 tons of coal & 800 gallons of fresh water & left Kurrachee for Bombay on the 8th March. The Medusa's performances have on the whole been very satisfactory.

H. V. Bayley

Asstt. Secy. to Govt. of India

Fort William
1st April 1841

Newsletter 40 : April 12, 1841

(No. 11 of 1841)

North West Frontier

8th to 18th March

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Akhbar of dates marginally noted:—

(1) The Maha Rajah uses all his endeavours to persuade the troops to obedience. In his presence, they, in some measure, seem to listen to his advice, but it is soon forgotten. (2) From the Mooltan News it appeared that the two battalions at that place having caught the spirit of mutiny prevailing at Lahore, had demanded and procured four months' arrears and one month's reward from Dewan Sawun Mull. (3) All the precautions have been taken by both Govts. to prevent the Sikhs from crossing over the Sutlege ghauts. (4) The Sikhs requested the Maha Rajah to conduct the Govt. without consulting Rajah Dhian Sing. (5) It is said that the report of the pregnancy of the widow of the late Nav Nehal Sing appears to be quite unfounded. (6) General Court has resolved to quit the Sikh service unless the Maha Rajah had given him assurances of his honor and life being protected against the Sikhs. His Highness desired the General to wait for a week longer after which he would either be recalled to his duties in case of the consent of the troops or be dismissed to his native country. (7) General Avitabile was requested to attend to the requisitions of the British Cafila. (8) Sooltan Khan, son of Ubbasec Khan, reported the arrival of the Barukzye families at Rohtas.

25th March

The following particulars are extracted from a letter from the Governor General's Agent on the North West Frontier of date noted in the margin:—

(1) It appears that the Troops in Mundee suspecting Sirdars Lehna Sing and Kehar Sing of an intention to cross the Sutleg had seized and confined them, reporting their having done so to the Maha Rajah and that His Highness had signified his approbation of the measure and directed that the captive chiefs should be imprisoned in the Kangra fort. The Maharajah greatly incensed at the conduct of the Sundhunwallahs, has, with the advice of Rajah Dhian Sing and Bhaee Goormookh Sing, resumed a great portion of their Jageers including the forts of Jooreh and Sundhurwallah and by

the last accounts their principal Fort, Rajah Saussei¹, was besieged by a detachment of Troops under the command of Sirdar Jowala Sing and these were about to be reinforced by more troops and artillery under the command of Sirdar Lehna Sing Mujeethia. These military operations prove attractive to the soldiery over whose excesses there is now little control at any time and still less when engaged in hostilities against those who are being treated as the enemies of the State; and the Maha Rajah and his Ministers are of course inclined to engage the Troops in any kind of service the execution of which may restore at least the semblance of obedience to the orders of the Government. (2) The Maha Rajah has required Dhian Sing and Dewan Sawun Mull to raise new Regiments with which it is intended to replace some of the turbulent Khalseh Troops. These chiefs entertaining the deepest hatred for one another are engaging with much alacrity in this undertaking, each with a view to his own future benefit or security. (3) Captain Broadfoot has been directed to proceed to Ferozepore with the family of Shah Shooja whenever he is joined by the regiment which the Durbar has appointed as a guard under Colonel Cheyt Sing.

29th March

A letter from the Governor General's Agent on the North West Frontier contains the following particulars :—

(1) The troops of General Ventura's division in the Munde country mutinied, plundered the treasure with their camp and killed several of their native officers, as also Mr. Foulks, an English Gentleman in the Lahore Military Service. Mons. Montone, a French Officer and Major Ford formerly of Her Majesty's 16th Foot, have also met their death by the hands of the licentious Sikh Soldiery. (2) The Maha Rajah has directed the recovery of the hill forts now under the charge of the Sundhunwallah Chiefs. (3) The families of the Barukzye vassals marching from Kohat, have arrived near Lahore. (4) The families and retainers of the Ghilzye Chiefs, excepting those stopped by Capt. Mackeson at Peshawur and sent to Cabool, have arrived at Ferozepore. (5) On the 28th March, His Highness with several of the Chiefs went on board a pleasure boat on the Ravee, when the boat being overladen filled and went down. The whole of the party escaped with the exception of Sirdar Ummer Sing Alooowalla.² (6) Colonel Oliver reported under date the 22nd March that all was well with the Convoy under his charge.

1 *Rajah Saussei* (Raja Sansi) is a village in Amritsar district about 7 miles from the town, *en route* to Ajnala. It was the headquarters of the Sandhanwalias, an important political faction in the post-1839 Panjab.

2 *Ummer Sing Alooowalla* (Amar Singh Ahluwalia) son of Sardar Fateh Singh Ahluwalia, of Kapurthala; Nihal Singh Ahluwalia was his elder brother.

Peshawur

1st to 15th March

The Peshawur Akhbar of dates noted in the margin contains the following items of intelligence:—

(1) General Avitabile directed Gopal Rai to come to Peshawur that he might learn from him in person the present state of affairs in Kohat and make arrangements to farm out the district. There are some petty disputes in Kohat near Hungas. (2) The Shah has sent for the son of Ameer Khan who had accordingly gone towards Jellalabad. Captain Macgregor³ and Meer Alum Khan will go to Donchee to make preliminary arrangements with Ameer Khan himself about the affairs of Bajour. The Bajourees appear to be dissatisfied with Ameer Khan at present. (3) All is quiet in Bajour; the Meer Alum Khan is not popular, all are patiently awaiting the result of pending negotiations. (4) The Sikh troops in the Eusofzye country are in a mutinous state—The pass in Khyber is reported now to be free from danger. (5) Capt. Mackeson has left the Nazeean Valley⁴ but has left Bildars and others to destroy the forts. The Sungē Kheil people say they will do whatever is required of them.

Cashmere Intelligence

Iskardo

28th February.

From accounts from Cashmere it appears that Raja Ahmed Shah of Iskardo was kindly treated by Wuzeer Zorawur Sing, but is now ordered to pay 5000 Rs., remaining of the fine imposed upon him.

Bajour

17th March

There have been several discussions among the Chiefs and others interested in the case of Bajour. Ameer Khan, it is stated, went to Kooner and was received with much attention. At that place a Jirga (consultation) was held between Meer Alum Khan and an English Officer from Jellalabad when it was arranged that the two Khans should be friends and that each should retain his original Jagheer.

³ *Capt. Macgregor* (1810-83) of the Bengal Artillery was appointed British Political Agent at Jalalabad in 1838 and, after the re-installation of Shah Shuja at Kabul, took over as Political Assistant and Military Secretary to General Macnaghten. He was one of the few to escape alive from the Kabul insurrection of 1841-42. On the eve of the first Anglo-Sikh War, he was Political Assistant to the Resident at Lahore.

⁴ *Nazeean valley*—a habitat of the Nazees or Niazis, an Afghan tribe, descended from Niaz Khan of Ghor who had settled in Bannu on the north-west frontier.

Afghanistan*8th March*

A private communication from Girishk states that "Akbar Khan is likely to give us but little further trouble, and that there is every hope of peace being restored in Zamindawur without much difficulty." Since this letter others of subsequent date mention the present pacification of Zamindawur. But some doubts are still entertained of the sincerity of Ukhtan Khan. "The Sirdar" (Akbar Khan), continues the writer of the communication, "is doubtless faithful and true and I now certainly think he may be trusted; he appears also a favourite with all people."

9th March

Major Rawlinson writes that the Sirdar is personally most inimical to Yar Mahomed and consequently would not willingly coalesce with him under any circumstances.

Dost Mahomed Khan*19th March*

The Pol. Assistant in Charge of Dost Mahomed Khan reports his arrival at Umballa with the Ex.-Chief on the 15th March. In another letter without date the Pol. Asstt. intimates that Dost Mahd. had left Kurnal and was to embark at Gurmuktesur on the 30th March. The Ex-Ameer will probably leave Allahabad by steam about the 9th May; and on his arrival will be received and treated as a private nobleman. He will reside at Alipore. His son Hyder Khan may about the same time be expected from Bombay per H.C.'s steamer "Enterprize."

Herat, Candahar*Girishk : 6th March*

Major Todd in a private communication dated as per margin states a report that Vuzeer Yar Mahomed Khan had marched out against Candahar on the 6th March, that his people were busy in collecting supplies at Subzawar. There was a report also current that Shah Kamran intended to lead the expedition in person—But neither of these reports are in anyway confirmed.

7th March

Major Rawlinson, in a private communication states that preparations are going forward with much activity for pushing the Bombay Troops above the passes.

Herat*13th March*

A private communication from Major Rawlinson states that the number of Camels at present at the disposal of the Bombay Government for service

in the direction of Herat amounts to 7,000. From the same letter as also from another private one from Major Todd it appears that an Agent from Herat named Mirza Bozoorg has arrived at Girishk. He calls himself an "Elchee," but as he has produced no credentials to prove his being one, he has not been received as Envoy or allowed to proceed beyond Girishk.

Khiva

Letters of the 5 Feby. from Khiva report the safe arrival at that place of Captn. A. Conolly & of the Khan Huzrut having received and treated that Officer with the greatest kindness and distinction.

Captn. C. travelled to Khiva by the route of Merv.

Aden

28th February

The Political Agent at Aden mentions having succeeded in capturing 3 Bedouins who were discovered reconnoitring the works at the Turkish wall at Den.

The prisoners are to be sent to Bombay to be kept in confinement there.

Muscat

13th January

The Officer on a Mission to Muscat reports that Lt. Col. Schooner "Emily" escaped from Shipwreck in the month of March last through the exertions of the Commander & crews of two of the frigates—"Caroline" and "Piedmontese" belonging to His Highness the Imaum. As a return for those praiseworthy efforts, Captn. Hammerton offered the Captain and crews of the "Caroline" a pecuniary reward which was gratefully accepted. Captn. H. intended offering a similar reward to the Captain & Crews of the "Piedmontese" on the arrival of the vessel at Muscat.

Persian Gulf

18th February

The Resident in the Persian Gulf reports that up to the date quoted on the margin the country all around continued in a state of tranquillity.

It having been necessary to make certain demands upon Shaik Mukhtoom of Debaye, on acctt. of several infractions of the maritime truce by his dependants, that Chief for some months past, upon various pretexts, refused to afford the satisfaction required from him.

The Poll. Agent in the Gulf therefore availed himself of the appearance of the H.C.'s War Steamer "Sesostriis" on a temporary cruise in that quarter to despatch that vessel, together with H.C.'s sloop and frig. of War "Coote" & "Tigris", to Debaye with instructions to compel Shaik Muktoom

to afford compensation for the several aggressions committed by his subjects on the Benyas boats during the last pearl fishery.

While *en route* to Debaye Commodore Brucks was to touch at Biddah, in order to bring the Shaik of that place to account for having given shelter & protection to some notorious pirates, who have hitherto evaded all efforts of the local authorities to seize and bring them to punishment.

Karak

18th February

The Resdt. in the Persian Gulf states that on the date quoted on the margin the troops on the island, both European and native, seemed to enjoy perfect good health.

Bushire-Karak

18th February

The Resident in the Persian Gulf reports that Shaik Naseer has returned to Bushire and reassumed the Govt. Since his arrival the restrictions upon the intercourse between Bushire and Karak have been renewed, and unsuccessful attempts are made to prevent the transmission of supplies to Karak.

Arabia

3rd February

The Political Agent in Turkish Arabia states that the Lieutt. of the Pacha for Arabia was still at Damascus up to the 3rd February apparently not desirous of taking possession of his Government—The Pacha was on the point of obliging him to give a decided answer on the subject.

Bussorah-Kerman

3rd February

The Political Agent in Turkish Arabia States that Sooleeman Meerza was still at Bussorah on the 3d Feby. waiting the eventual result of a successful movement on the part of Agha Khan Mahallattee, the Chief of Kerman, who is said to have retired towards Bunder Abbass to raise a force of Beeloochees.

Damascus-Sidon⁵

14th January

A Private letter from Demascus states that the Pacha Hajee Ali was expected there in a short time, and that the Sirasker Pacha Zakariah was at Sidon.

Gwalior

22nd—28th February

From the Gwalior Diary it appears that the health of Maharaja that place continued improving steadily though slowly.

⁵ Sidon: a seaport on the Mediterranean in western Lebanon, once the principal city of Phoenicia, famous for monuments of the mediaeval age and orchards of fruit trees.

Nipal

7th to 30th March

The following particulars are extracted from the Nipal Diary of dates noted :—

(1) Ran Jang, the late Premier, was expected at the Capital on the 17th March. The Premier & his colleagues were in a good deal of anxiety but a sense of common danger has led to consultation & a sincere exchange of sentiments & views, and confidence is reviving. (2) The Rani continues instigating the soldiery; she rebukes them for hesitating to obey her orders. (3) An Envoy from Ladak has arrived at the capital soliciting the Durbar's aid against the Sikhs. The Ruler of Ladakh* is said to have offered his country to Nipal on condition of the expulsion of the Sikhs. (4) The Rest. & suite attended the Durbar by invitation, in order as it was supposed that the Raja might apply for the removal of the frontier force; but just before the Resident's arrival H. H. hurried off, to the Rani, & had a Secret Conference with her. It is presumed from the topic not being mooted having¹ that it was decided at that conference that no one shd. in the Durbar agitate the subject. The Durbar was well attended by the friends of the new Ministry, all of whom were present; and this show of union may in some measure have deterred the Raja from his purpose. (5) The Raja is thoroughly indisposed to abdicate & this is the best hold the Ministry have on his weak mind. The whole of the Kala Pandeys are in perpetual attendance at the palace & hold secret conclaves in the house of Kooleh and Sahi. (6) The Rani has been quiet for the last few days & all things are proceeding in an orderly way. The natural disposition of the subjects & the soldiery is said to be peaceable.

Burmah

Monsr. Sine, the French *Soi Desant*^{1a} official, has arrived in the "Lady Clifford" at Calcutta. It is reported that he has with him a letter from His Burmese Majesty to the King of France.

10th March

A Letter from Rangoon dt. as per margin states that the Palace for the reception of the King at Rangoon is progressing towards completion and that the princes will accompany H.M. on his approaching visit.

H. V. Bayley
Asstt. Secy. to the Govt.

Fort William,
The 12th April, 1841

*Most probably some minor chief using the name of the Ladakh chief.

1 Involved construction should read : 'It is presumed from the topic not being mooted that it was...'

1a *Soi desant* (F), self-styled, pretended.

Newsletter 41 : April 22, 1841

(No. 12 of 1841)

North West Frontier

27th March to 3rd April

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Akhbar of dates marginally noted :—

(1) Orders were issued to certain chiefs to set out for Ferozepore to accompany Shah Soojah's family. (2) Rajah Dhian Sing was desired to endeavour to control the Troops, and replied that order could not be easily restored while the Maharajah treated them so leniently. (3) The Troops speak in the most offensive manner of Rajah Dhian Sing. They remark that though they have got a new King, the same Vuzeer still remains who must be got rid of. They consider Rajah Dhian Sing as the only impediment to the Maha Rajah's generosity towards them.*

6th April

The following particulars are extracted from a letter from the Governor General's Agent in the Punjab of date noted on the margin :—

(1) The purport of the Khurretah sent to, but not received by the Agent from the Maha Rajah is to the effect that entire order** has been restored in the Sikh Army, and that the Sikh Government are ready to employ it in cooperating against any enemies who might advance to oppose the British Government in Cabool. (2) The Maha Rajah conciliates the soldiery through fear of his life. (3) Mons. Monton has been rescued by his Cavalry from the Battalions who murdered Mr. Foulkes lately in Mundee. (4) The families of the imprisoned Ghilzie Chief arrived at Loodianah from Peshawur. Mr. Clerk has remanded them to Lahore. (5) Convoys and British parties are constantly crossing the Punjab and Public stores, remount horses, British Officers and merchants with European supplies are seen crossing and others soon to cross. An emergent demand from Cabool for 500 camel loads of public stores will shortly be complied

*Before the European officers were disposed of, these were considered as the hindrances to the wild demands of the soldiery being complied with by Shere Sing.

**This communication is totally false as to the state of portions of the Sikh Army. Though the motive of the main communications in the interior is apparently well maintained.

with & kafila cross the Punjab. (6) Rajah Golab Sing has made great conquests all round Cashmere, and it is feared that the great increase of strength which he derives from having within these last three years made an ally of the Governor of Cashmere and his proposed invasion of Rutukh¹ will approximate his authority to Nipal and Chinese Tartary. (7) General Tej Sing, late Commander-in-Chief of the Army, was shot at in returning from the Durbar. Two balls struck the Howda in which he was seated on his Elephant, and a third killed a servant behind him. (8) Fakeer Azeezooden received a wound across the lower part of his leg a few days ago in the Darbar while rising from his seat at the same time with a Chief who was next to him, when the sword of the latter accidentally cut the Fakeer through its parted scabbard.

Mundee

27th March to 3rd April

The Lahore Akhbar of dates noted states that the troops at Mundee are committing all sorts of enormities upon the inhabitants, many of whom are migrating to safer retreats in neighbouring states.

Bajoree

By the last accounts, all disputes at Bajoree appear to have been settled and the conflicting claims of the rival chiefs adjusted.

Afghanistan

(The Sungoo Kheil)

14th March

The Political Agent at Peshawur reports that the Sungoo Kheil Tribes, have through the medium of their friends of the Ghani Kheil, paid into his hands Rs. 6,000 as compensation to the Taghar Ghilzies for the sheep plundered from them, computed at 2000 head. Should the sheep be restored the money will be returned.

Dost Mahomed Khan

7th April

The Political Assistant in charge of Dost Mahomed Khan reports the arrival of the Ex-Ameer on the river Ganges off Futtohghur and in a subsequent letter his arrival at Cawnpore.

Herat—Candahar

26th February

A commn. from Major Todd to the address of the Envoy & Minister at Cabool states a report that the Persian authorities in reply to the proposals brought by Fyz Mahomed Khan, the envoy to Meshed, declared that they

¹ *Rutukh* (Rudok) sub-division of a Tibetan district which comprised the country immediately to the east of the (Ladakh) districts of Tankse and Rupshu, and included the eastern portion of the Pangong lake.

could place no faith in Yar Mahomed Khan's word, and that as a preliminary to negotiations, he must send his son as a hostage to Meshed. Major Todd further states that on the withdrawal of the British Mission from Herat, Yar Mahomed levied a heavy arbitrary imposition on the Bankers & Merchants both Hindoo and Mahomedan in the City, and seized the whole of their property until the amount upwards of two lakhs of rupees, should be realised. Major Todd concludes by stating that about the time that the British Mission quitted the valley of Herat, the Vuzeer, sent out his Pesh Khana or advanced tents, a short march in the direction of Candahar, and one of Shah Kamran's sons, Shahzadeh Syfool Moolk was declared heir apparent and appointed to head the Expedition against the quarter in question. But up to this time we have no confirmation of any intention to invade Candahar or has any move against Shah Shooja.

3rd March

The Poll. Agent in Candahar states that the Brigade beyond the Helmund had been detained in position at Girishk but that at the same time Sirdar Atta Mahomed Khan had reported his successful negotiations with the rebels a great number of whom he had persuaded to retire peaceably to their homes.

7th March

Major Todd writes that Vuzeer Yar Mahomed Khan has addressed a letter to the Alezai Chiefs of Zamindawur apprizing them of his intention of immediately proceeding against Candahar and inviting them to join him. Major Todd does not doubt the authenticity of the document. But as yet no report confirmatory of the above-rumoured intention has been received.

Zamindawur

8th March

The Poll. Asstt. at Girishk states that Akbar Khan in the presence of about 300 persons, one-third of whom were Dooranee Chiefs, tendered his allegiance to H. M. Shah Soojah. As respects Nusseer ood deen, the Ambassador ("Elchee") from Yar Mahd. Khan, it was stated by Akbar Khan that he could not seize him as it would be improper to do so, but that he would* give him leave to depart. The Poll. Asstt. adds that the whole of the influential people now in Zamindawur appear to be anxious to move agt.^{1a} Herat, and that the Dooranees declare that they are not only anxious to meet Yar Mahd. Khan in the field to prove their fidelity to their King but also to satisfy their own hatred agt. the Vuzeer "who", the Poll. Asstt. concludes, "will have but few adherents among the subjects of H. M. Shah Shoojah".

*It has however been since remarked both by Major Rawlinson & Lt. Elliot that such professions are little to be depended upon and although they might be led anywhere by the hopes of plunders, the political feelings of Dooranees are uncertain & turbulent.

^{1a} Abbreviation for 'against'.

Sinde Upper

6th to 12th March

The following items of news are extracted from the *Precis of Sinde Intelligence* of dates marginally noted :

(1) The province of Cutchee is reported to be perfectly tranquil throughout.

(2) The Kajjuck tribes on being expelled from their stronghold scattered themselves along the skirts of the Maree hills but finding neither shelter nor assistance from any of the mountain Beeloochees, all of them had sent to proffer unconditional surrender, and the Political Agent had issued a proclamation that such as proceeded to his camp for that purpose within ten days should be pardoned past offences on giving sufficient pledges for their future good conduct.

13th to 19th March

Another *Sinde Intelligence* of dates noted states :

(1) That the Political Agent intended holding a strong body of troops in readiness at Quetta with reference to the withdrawal by Major Todd of his mission from Herat.

(2) That the whole of the Kujjuck Chiefs arrived in the Agent's camp & throw themselves on the mercy of the British Govt. &

(3) That Major General Brooks arrived at Dadur on the morning of the 19th March with H.M.'s 40, a wing of H.M.'s 41st, the 21st N. I., details of the 6th and 23d. N. I., 2 troops of H.A., a company of Fort artillery, wings of the 1st & 3d Cavalry & 2 Ressallahs of Skinner's Horse.

March 25

The Political Authorities at Shikarpore having strongly urged an increase to the detachment at that place, the General Officer Commanding the *Sinde* field force, has in the absence of available Infantry, stationed the *Sinde* Horse in the quarter indicated.

Sinde Lower

15th to 21st March

From the *Diary of the Lower Sinde Agency*, it appears that the Government of Bombay had commissioned Major Outram to send some logs of Baubal wood for trial in the Gun Carriage manufactory and recommended their Highnesses the Ameers to take advantage of the opening this gave, to secure a future market for their timber. The Ameers replied that they were very much obliged to the Government for always pointing out measures calculated to benefit them, that a market for the timber alluded to would

be particularly so, & that they would order their Kardars to deliver any quantity of any description on the requisition of the British Government.

24th March

The Political Agent in Lower Sindh states that he has made the usual presents to Meers Shadad Khan & Hasein Ali Khan on the occasion of their succession to the late Meer Noor Mahomed Khan.

Indus Steam Navigation

24th March

The Govt. of Bombay report that in consequence of Captain Carless having been appointed to conduct the duties of the Indus Steam Flotilla at Kurachee during the present hot season, the next senior officer belonging to the Flotilla is to reside at Sukkur, to carry on the duties heretofore under the immediate superintendence of Captain Carless, while the latter officer, in addition to the general control, is to superintend operations on the lower river conducted by the senior Lieutt.

Aden

29th February

The Poll. Agent at Aden writes that he found it expedient to expel from the town of Aden a Frenchman & a Corsican, by name Lombard and Mariani, owing to certain authentic statements made to him by trustworthy natives from the interior that the aforesaid persons had held private conferences with the Sultan Lahedge, the open enemy of the British Govt.

Hyderabad

28th March to 3rd April

From the Poll. Diary of the Hyderabad Residency it appears that Moobarizood Dowlah, the Nawab's brother, confined in Golconda for his implication in the Kurnool affair, was doing well.

30th March

The Resident at Hyderabad has furnished the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council with a report of the examination of His Highness the Nizam's Medical School at Bolaram^a held on the 30th December last.

The Resident states that he attended the examination in person and derived the highest gratification at witnessing the progress which the pupils have made in their studies, & the promise they hold out of decided utility in the service to which they are to be attached. He bears ample testimony to the zeal & ability of Dr. Key, the Superintendent of the School, and

² *Bolaram*, a military cantonment of the Hyderabad contingent, ten miles to the north of the city.

mentions that the advice and assistance of Mr. Superintending Surgeon Young have also been in an equal degree eminently useful at the Institution.

The number of pupils and candidates under instruction at the Bolaram Medical School at present is 25; the number who have completed the prescribed course of instruction and have been withdrawn for the public service during the past year is 15.

Indore

3rd April

The Resident in Indore writes that Maha Raja Hari Ram Holkar who has for some time been ill, is recovering, and is now in the enjoyment of tolerable health.

Bhopaul

15th to the 21st March

From the Bhopaul Diary of dates noted it appears that a reconciliation has been effected between the Begum and her daughter.

Lucknow

15th to 21st March

From the Lucknow Diary of dates noted on the margin it appears that the Tusheeldar of Purbar in Mohomdee attacked the fort of Oomrao Sing, Talookdar of Rahar. The Zamindar's people made a sally & killed & wounded many persons. The Zamindars of Labecha are said to have killed the Putwaree of the Village.

The mention of various similar affrays in other Lucknow diaries of about the same period show the Oudh native administration to be by no means improved notwithstanding the provisions of the recent code enacted by H. M. and the several other ministerial and financial reforms to which the present King has been earnestly giving his attention and endeavouring to carry into effect with a view to the amelioration of the country.

Nipal

14th April

The Resident in Nipal in a Letter dated as per margin states with regard to the Govr. Genl.'s Khureetah to the address of the Maha Rajah that as it seemed to him important that its contents should be faithfully made known not only to the Maha Rajah but several of the Chiefs. (including the Ministers) who in January last came forward to declare and record their sense of the value of peace and good faith, he solicited an audience of His Highness attended by all his official advisers. The Resident had likewise previous confidential communication with the Premier and by his concurrence in

his views procured the attendance of all the Ministers and of 5 other influential Chiefs entertaining similar views with them. Mr. Hodgson took the further precaution too of having prepared beforehand a translation of the Governor General's letter into the ordinary local speech, and having thus provided that His Lordship's sentiments should neither be concealed nor mis-stated, he proceeded to the Durbar. No sooner were the company seated than the Khureetah was carefully read & explained paragraph by paragraph, and whilst the Chiefs were called upon to observe that their pledges of January were not considered to have been redeemed the Maha Rajah was earnestly desired to reflect that evasion persevered in any longer must necessarily commit him with the mightiest Power in Aisa, in pure wantonness, since that power was still tendering to him the hand of friendship notwithstanding all past transgressions. The Maha Rajah appeared at times considerably agitated, in part by the evident impression made upon so many of his Chiefs but also in part by shame and fear on his own account, while the kind intentions & the deliberate denunciations of His Lordship's expression that he sought nothing but good faith and friendship from Nipal made a marked impression both on the Rajah and on his Chiefs; & when that expression was immediately followed by the declaration of the letter that if the Rajah did not desist from his evasive violation of all engagements, His Highness' ruin and that of his family must be the consequence, the looks of more than one Chief seemed to reproach to Rajah as plainly as his own manifested both apprehension and shame. Mr. Hodgson concludes by stating that the Maha Rani was resuming her turbulent pretence of going to Benaras.

China

As account of the brilliant successes which have been recently achieved by H.M.'s Forces in China will be found in the official Gazette Extraordinary of the 20th April—with a view to aid the operations carried on in China, the Right Hon'ble the Governor General has ordered that the "Philegethon"* and "Proscipine"@ steamers, the one from Singapore, and the other from Ceylon should proceed with all practicable expedition to the Canton River to be placed under the orders of the Naval Commander-in-chief in China. The Steamers "Queen" and the "Madagascar" will also leave this to return to China in little more than a fortnight. His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief will send H. M. 55 Regt. to reinforce the strength at Hong Kong, and 400 recruits for H. M. 49th and 26 Regts., 300 Recruits of H. M.'s 18 Regt. have been sent from Bombay. The Govt.

*Phlegethon Iron Steamer—8 Watertight compartments, draws 5 ft. 4½ inches, carries 2 traversing Guns.

@Proscipine—7 Watertight compartments, draws 4 feet 6 inches, carries 2 traversing Guns.

Both similar to the "Nemesis" that has done such good service on the China Waters—vide. Printed Despatches.

of Madras have been requested to fill up the detachments of artillery and sappers and miners furnished from the Presidency to their original strength. His Lordship has also ordered the transmission of all necessary provisions and stores, and of a large supply of munitions of war to China.

H. V. Bayley

Asstt. Secy. to Govt. of India

Fort William

22 April, 1841

Newsletter 42 : May 3, 1841

(No. 13 of 1841)

North West Frontier

4th to 9th April

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Akhbar of dates noted on the margin :—

(1) On the orders of the Maha Rajah being read to the Troops by a Bhya messenger that they should again acknowledge Genl. Court as their Commander, the Troops seized the messenger, blackened his face and turned him out of the lines.

(2) Ræe Kiree Sing¹ reported his joining the camp of Shah Soojah's family, his presenting 3,100 Rs. as zeeafut to the said family; 2,400 Rs. to Shah Zeman, 1,100 Rs. to Captain Broadfoot with the letter of the Durbar to his address as well as his distributing suitable zeeafuts to the rest of the officers and Establishments.

(3) The four battalions of Jemadar Khooshall Sing had arrived there under Colonel Kamp Sing having committed and committing great outrages *en route* on the people. The troops returning from the hills had also committed great enormities.

(4) Seven deserters of Shah Soojah's Goorkha levies, being apprehended at Lahore, were despatched to Captain Broadfoot.

(5) The Troops are said to have attacked Rajah Dhian Sing's house, & the Rajah to have fled and very narrowly escaped being killed.

13th April

A letter from the Governor General's Agent dated as per margin contains the following particulars :

(1) Captain Broadfoot wrote from Muttra that all was going on well with the Kafila of the Royal families of Cabool under his charge and that he expected to reach the Chenab on the 11th April. He speaks of the Chiefs who are attending the Kafila on the part of the Durbar, as most anxious

¹ *Ræe Kiree Sing* (Ræe Keisree Singh, Rai Kesri Singh), a prominent Rajput military officer from Jammu, who was a personal friend and adviser of Raja Suchet Singh and acted as a manager of his jagirs. A man of honest and upright character he earned a well-deserved reputation as a brave army commander.

to give him every satisfaction and notices the turbulent spirit of the Lahore battalions not withstanding its² being composed chiefly of Mahomedans and the steadiest companies picked from the Regiments most to be relied on. Capt. B. adds that every attention had been paid by the Sikh Government to the Royal families in passing near Lahore. The party consists of about 5,000 souls, 2,400 camels and 400 horses.

(2) The Maha Rajah continues to place reliance in the efficacy of Rajah Dhian Sing's plan of enlisting Hill troops; the latter, with the assistance of his brother Rajah Golab Sing, is redoubling his efforts in recruiting them, since he has daily experience with the hopelessness of his recovering his influence with the Khalseh troops.

(3) Fukeer Azeezodeen is said to be recovering from the wound he accidentally received and was expected to be able soon to attend the Durbar.

(4) General Court, after revisiting Lahore to take leave of the Maha Rajah departed thence in great haste, apprehending violence from the soldiery and has returned to Ferozepore. He describes the understanding among the Sikh troops as very perfect for the purpose of supporting one another in insubordination.

Peshawur

21st March

From the Peshawur Akhbar dated as per margin, it appears that the Khyber pass is quite open now and that the punishment of the Jungoo Kheil has had a good effect on the Khyberees.

Afghanistan

4th April

The Envoy and Minister at Cabool writes that H. M. Shah Soojahool Moolk is fully resolved on repairing to Candahar during the present year with a view to the settlement of affairs in that neighborhood. Great benefit may be expected to arise from such a visit by H. M. the Shah to the quarter indicated.

Dost Mahomed Khan

27th April

The Political Assistant in Charge of Dost Mahomed Khan reports the safe arrival of the Ex-Ameer at Ghazee-pore on that nobleman's own boats. As the Steamer had not reached Allahabad when he left the latter place, the Ex-Ameer had proceeded direct with his own fleet towards Calcutta.

² Its : should read 'their'.

Persia—Herat

M. Riach, Attache to the British Mission in Persia, has arrived at Meshed with an autograph letter from the Shah of Persia, to the Ausufoodowlah and with other necessary official firmans, authorizing the delivery of Ghorian to Shah Kamran of Herat which was demanded by England as a cession essentially necessary to the restoration of peaceful relations between the two powers.

Persia

3rd February

H. M.'s Charge d'Affaires in a communication from Trebizonde³ dated as per margin states that without any ostensible object in view for remaining in the field during the extremity of the winter season, the Ameer-i-Nizam was still near the Russian and Turkish frontier with a force of three or four thousand men. The Charge d'Affaires further states that the French detachment in Persia continued to receive their pay with tolerable regularity, but that no use is made by the Persian Government of their services. Their residence in Persia does not promise to be of long continuance. On a later occasion the Shah is said to have expressed himself with much warmth in favour of the British Government which His Majesty declared was one of the oldest friends of Persia.

It is reported that the entire present Russian Mission was to be recalled and that General Dastamel was to be immediately replaced by another Minister.

Aden

25th March

The Political Agent at Aden states that about every 5 or 6 years the Seamalees of Bunder Gassin, Bunder Khan, Abo, Aloooboo, Gurza, Gussalee Buroor Barad, Kow & the Arabs of Gosseirh Bagals congregate together at the latter part of the trading season at Burbora and agree to terminate the fair by a plunder of the remaining property, whether on shore or afloat. As Aden is now a British Port, the Poll. Agent has requested the services of two of the H. C. Vessels, the "Constance" & the "Euphrates" to be employed in putting stop to such manifest injury to fair trade in which the property of many British subjects becomes a prey to such piratical excursions.

3 *Trebizonde*, an important Black Sea port (without a harbour), capital of a province of the same name. Situated on a table-shaped elevation, it had an ancient acropolis and citadel.

Sohar⁴*7th April*

The Govt. of Bombay report that the chief of Sohar intended leaving Bombay in about a month.

Massowah⁵*27th March*

The Lieutt. Comdg. H.C.'s Schooner "Constance" states a report that a French Consul had arrived at Massowah via Egypt and had hoisted the French flag at that place.

Damascus*1st February*

A letter from Damascus states that good order is maintained in the Govt. of that place and that perfect harmony reigns between the different sects. The Pacha Hadjee Ali, the letter goes on to say, "seems a well disposed and an intelligent person".

27th February

Another communication from Damascus of the 27 February mentions that Hadjee Ali Pacha is succeeded by Nejob Pacha, formerly Nijib Effende, and, some years ago, Mahomt Ali's Kapon Keya at Stamboul.

Constantinople-Bokhara**Coll. Stoddart***10th March*

The Poll. Agent in Turkish Arabia states that His Imperial Majesty the Sultan has addressed a letter to the Khan of Bokhara requesting him to liberate Coll. Stoddart.

Tanjer's*1st February*

A communication from Damascus states that the French Consul at Tanjers had been insulted & that Admiral Hugon with 6 sails of the line & some Steamers had been sent there to demand satisfaction. It is stated that if no amends were made, the place was to be bombarded.

⁴ *Sohar*—A town of Oman, to the east of the Arab peninsula.

⁵ *Massowah*, an island off the west coast of the Red Sea, about four miles north of Arkeeko on the northern tip of Abyssinia. About half a mile in length, it provided excellent harbour facilities for the British troops stationed there.

Sattara

5th April

On a requisition from the Govt. of Bombay, the Right Hon'ble the Governor General has been pleased to approve the presentation to H.H. the Raja of Sattara of 2 six-pounder field peices with carriages & timber complete. These are required by the Rajah for a corps of infantry which is now being disciplined at Sattara under a European Officer & which may perhaps relieve the British Govt. from the necessity of having any troops at that place beyond a small detachment for the Residency.

Scinde Lower

22nd to 28th March

The Political Agent in Lower Scinde in his Diary of Scinde intelligence states that, Meer Nusseer Khan was taken seriously ill on the evening of the 20 March, but was greatly relieved in the morning by Dr. Winchester's⁶ treatment, and, by evening of the same day, was considered out of danger.

Jeypore

1st to 7th March

The Offg. Poll. Agent of the Jeypore Agency has addressed Khureetah to the Rao of Putun⁷ calling upon him to adopt the necessary measures with a view to put an end to the disgraceful practice among the Turoores in his domain of destroying their female infants.

Jhoonjhnoo⁸

8th to 11th March

From the Political Diary of the Jeypore Agency it appears that there are pleasing symptoms of improving prosperity & confidence evinced at Jhoonjhnoo, in the repairs of former & the erection of new buildings in the town and suburbs.

Chirgong

In a private communication, the G.G.'s Agent in Bundelcund states with reference to our measures against Chirgong, about 4 P.M. of the 15th of April, a large body of armed men with about 30 or 35 well mounted

- 6 *Dr. J. W. Winchester* : Chief Medical Officer of the Sind Residency, rendered great service to British personnel in Sind and the Army of Indus.
- 7 *Putun* : a town in Bundi, Rajputana, on the northern bank of the Chambal, about 12 miles below Kota.
- 8 *Jhoonjhnoo* : a town in the erstwhile state of Shekawuttee, on the route from Delhi to Bikaner.

sowars proceeded in the direction of the village to molest our camp followers who went in search of forage. A troop of Cavalry was ordered out, to drive them back which was headed gallantly by Captn. Verner⁹ of the Legion which attacked the enemy in front whilst the 2 six-pounders opened on those in progress to the succour of their friends. The result was altogether successful & our party of followers was well protected. The fire kept up by the matchlockmen was very brisk, but fortunately no casualties resulted although the Cavalry came into actual contact with the enemy. The rebels continued to improve their defences in the fort, but had been very quiet since they received this check. Report said that parties of horse and foot were joining the rebels from Oorcha¹⁰. The G.G.'s Agent intended to write for the wing of the 2d. Irregular Horse from Saugor & to request Coll. Spiers¹¹ to desire the Gwalior Durbar to despatch a large party of their best horsemen to the edge of the Gwalior territory adjoining Chirgong to keep the frontier safe. The fort of Chirgong is said to be strong but it is isolated in its position being situated in the middle of an open plain.

In another private letter of the 15th April, the Gov. Genl.'s Agent in Bundelcund mentions that our troops were to be seriously at work on the 17 April. The numbers in the fort remained just as they were on the 14th. The Jageerdar's two sons were said to be in the Jungles with parties of armed followers preparing to support the fort as long as they could, and then take to plunder & repair to the Jungles. The enemy were strengthening their position. As there was a rumour of a large party coming up from Reva in search of service, the G.G.'s Agent had written to the Oorcha Raja's Mooktear to prevent their passing through his district. Our troops are said to be in the enjoyment of perfect health.

By later accounts just received it appears that the mortars opened on the fort on the 17th of April & the 18 pounders on the 18th. The fort returned our fire for two or three days—after which the Jageerdar fled & the fort was evacuated on the 21st April.

Oudh

22nd to 23rd March

The diaries contain repeated reports of affrays between Government Officers & Zemindars & exhibit many similar symptoms of the existence of a very weak & inefficient native Government.

⁹ *Capt. J. E. Verner* of the 'Bundelcund Legion' was a capable engineer who subsequent superintended the construction of public buildings at Oorai.

¹⁰ *Oorcha*—(Orchha or Orcha) a princely state of Bundelkhand; one of the oldest Bundel princelities which was not held in subjection to the Peshwa.

¹¹ *Col. A. Spiers* : appointed Resident at Gwalior in February 1840; died 1847.

Nepaul

1st to 14th April

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Nepaul Diary of dates noted on the margin. 1. The Maha Raja affected to be very anxious to pay his devotions to the Bairavi of Naya Kote. 2. The marriage Mission is reported to have reached Guruckpore. 3. The Kala Pandeys are plotting but the Premier seems to hold their efforts cheap. 4. Letters have been sent to Joomla to fathom the real purpose of the Sada Kwalla's appeal to Nepaul. 5. It is rumoured that the Ranee insists on Randall, the Ex-Governor of Palpa, being made virtual Premier under the nominal supremacy of Ran Jang's son who is a youth.

14th April

The Secretary to the Lieutt. Governor of the N.W.P. states that certain Nepaulese emissaries have been made over to the charge of Captn. Carpenter¹² under whose surveillance all the State prisoners at Benares are to be placed.

The Misr. Gooroo, one of the most factious and hostilely disposed members of the Nepaul Durbar, has been again ordered to Benares* & his exclusion from the Nepaul Capital provinces obtained.

China

30th April

The Marine Board having invited Tenders for vessels to convoy H.M.'s 55 Regt. to China, the Embarkation Committee have sanctioned the engagement of those named in the margin for that purpose,

	<i>Officers</i>	<i>Fightingmen</i>
Orient	9	262
Coromandel	9	242
Ernaud	7	202
Marian	4	132
	<hr style="width: 50px; margin: 0 auto;"/> 29	<hr style="width: 50px; margin: 0 auto;"/> 838

exclusive of followers. The launches of these vessels have been each fitted with a six-pounder. Lady Wm. Bentinck, Pilot Vessel, has also been armed & is to be sent to China. Their value to be

*For the individual's previous proceedings and movements *en route* to Benares, vide News Letter No. 11.

12 *Capt. T. D. Carpenter* had seen service under the rulers of Coorg and Satara states for a long time; was on deputation from the British government. Later (1843) promoted Major, he was given charge of the Benares Agency.

debited to the Expedition, & a corresponding credit given to the H. Co's.
on account of her.

Fort William
3rd May 1841

H. V. Bayley
Asst. Secy. to Govt. of India.

(Ref.—Foreign Deptt. Miscellaneous, Vol. 333, pp. 397-421)

Newsletter 43 : May 10, 1841

(No. 14 of 1841)

North West Frontier

8th April

In reply to a Khurreetah addressed by the Governor General's Agent in the Punjab to the Maha Raja Shere Sing on the subject, His Highness intimated that Sirdar Sham Singh of Attaree, and Rai Keisree Sing had been appointed to accompany the British Cafila to the Chinab where they were to be relieved by Meean Abdul Sing (one of the relations of Raja Goolab Sing) who, together with Colonel Chyat Singh, at the head of a respectable force, will conduct this Cafila. His Highness has given assurances to Mr. Clerk that no means shall be left untried to make the Cafila comfortable.

10th to 16th April

The following items of Intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Akhbar of dates included in the margin.

(1) Raae Keisree Sing reported to the Durbar the progress of the Kafila of the Shah's family & the collection of boats for its passage over the Chenab. (2) The sepoy of the battalion under Mr. John Horne at Koolloo, it is said, had beaten that officer and were bringing him to Lahore. (3) The Regiment of Dragoons had thrown away their Cuirasses, finding them too heavy for their comfort. (4) Bhaya Mehtab Sing¹ was ordered to repair to the Usifzaee country, and remove the battalions under Col. Steinbach² and the late Col. Ford, to the Hazara Country. (5) Out of 700 Sikh recruits newly enlisted, the Maharajah retained only 20, stating, it is rumoured, that he would never wish to enlist another Sikh in future. (6) On the Durbar hearing of the progress of the Shah's family, General Avitabile was ordered to take every precaution to remove any mutinous battalion across the Attock. (7) The officer chosen to conduct the British

1 *Bhaya Mehtab Sing*, son of Amar Singh Majithia, started his career as an ordinary trooper under Maharaja Ranjit Singh, but received rapid promotions on personal merit. In 1841 Maharaja Sher Singh promoted him a General and gave him charge as Governor of Peshawar.

2 *Col. H. Steinback*, a Russian adventurer, who entered the service of Maharaja Ranjit Singh in 1836, was appointed commander of a battalion and held charge of the Sikh outpost of Peshawar from 1838 to 1841. Later, he wrote a treatise on the Punjab.

Kafila was ordered to adopt every measure necessary to secure it against any annoyance from the Sikhs. (8) The widow of the late Kunwur Nao-Nihal Sing has been sent to her mother-in-law, the Mae Chunder Kunwur. (9) From the Hazara news, it appeared that the disturbances raised in the Hazara country have not been quelled. (10) The Maharajah feeling rather unwell bled himself with his own hands. (11) The troops are greatly incensed at Rajah Dhian Sing and Bhaee Goormookh Sing³. The Maharajah deprecated their wrath; but the troops are said to have answered that they would willingly give in their receipts for their next two years' pay, if His Highness would surrender to them the Chiefs named. (12) At Rajah Dhian Sing's request, 2,350 Rs. were presented to the families of Sultan Mahomed Khan, Peer Mahomed Khan, and Syud Mahomed Khan, the Baruckzyes. (13) Rajah Golab Sing is said to be raising 7 battalions of the best hill soldiers, consisting of Mahomedans and Hindoos who are drilled every day. The enlistment of further likewise troops by this Sirdar is busily going on. (14) Raee Kisree Sing, who conducted the royal Kafila upto the Chenab, has been relieved by Meean Abadool. (15) The Durbar ordered the appointment of an Agent with 20 Sowars to accompany Captn. Harrington proceeding to Cabool. (16) Genl. Avitabile was ordered to present a Zeafut of 2,100 Rs. to Shah Shoojah's family, 1,500 to Shah Zeman, and 525 Rs. to Captn. Broadfoot on their arrival at Peshawur.

16th April

The Governor General's Agent in the Punjab states that he had received good accounts from Captn. Broadfoot from the other side of the Chenab on the 12th April, reporting proceedings of the British Kafila under that officer's charge.

17th April

Sir W. H. Macnaghten having intimated that he did not require a Regiment to move at this advanced season from Ferozepoor to Cabool, the Governor General's Agent has withdrawn his application to Brigadier Paul for one to proceed thither.

22nd April

The following particulars are extracted from a letter from the Governor General's Agent in the Punjab, dated as per margin. (1) No progress has been made in restoring order in the army, though the return of General Ventura's division from the hills has not been marked by such excesses as were committed by the troops formerly under command of Jemadar

3 *Bhaee Goormookh Sing*, (Gurmukh Singh) son of Bhai Sant Singh, a famous spiritualist and chief granthi of Har Mandir in Amritsar. When his father renounced the world, Gurmukh Singh was sent to the court of Maharaja Ranjit Singh whose liberal patronage he enjoyed. Later, during Hira Singh's regime, he fell a victim to political rivalry and was executed by Sheikh Imam-ud-Din.

Khooshal Sing, which lately marched thither. (2) The Zemindars, it is said, refuse to pay the revenue to the Government officers. (3) Fukeer Azeezoodeen, under pretext of the accident, which lately happened to him, avoids attending the Durbar from fear of the soldiery. (4) The Sikh troops, it is said, are beginning to act in unison, wherever stationed, as it regards their licentious behaviour. (5) General Avitabile has no longer any confidence on the subordination of the Sikh troops under his command. (6) On the departure of the Kafila under the charge of Captn. Broadfoot, the Governor General's Agent directed Captn. Mackeson to reinforce Captn. B's Escort from the Brigade, remaining at Jellalabad in the event of any thing occurring at Peshawur that should seem to render such precaution necessary. (7) Genl. Court having been paid seven thousand rupees only of a large amount which he considers due to him by the Sikh Govt. proposes, it is said, to remain for some months in the British territory, in the hope of recovering the whole. (8) Sirdar Futteh Sing Maun, with seven hundred horse, has been appointed to escort the ten lakhs of Treasure from Ferozepoor to Cabool. 500 camel loads of public stores being expected from Ferozepoor in a few days from the magazine at Delhi, the Governor General's Agent has detained the money, in order that both may go under the Sirdar's charge. (9) Sirdar Lehna Sing and Kher Sing, the son of Attar Singh, have arrived at Lahore under rather unexpected circumstances. The two battalions, which voluntarily seized, ironed, and brought them away from the hills, have marched up to Lahore, contrary to the orders sent to them, and have removed the irons from their prisoners, refusing to deliver them up without a sacred oath from the Maharajah that the captive Sirdars shall be set at liberty. On a previous occasion the battalions mentioned to the Maharajah that if he persisted in disgracing Lehna Sing, the whole Khalsah would join them in opposing His Highness.

28th April

By later accounts contained in a letter from the Gov. Genl.'s Agent of the annexed date it appears that the Maharaja had found means of surrounding the Battalions who refused to give up the Sundanawalla Chiefs in a position where he could bring 21 pieces of artillery to bear on them. By this they delivered up the Chiefs. The Maharajah next intended to demand from the battalions the actual perpetrators of the murder of Mr. Foulkes. This, it was expected, the troops would refuse to comply with. The same despatch reports that a spirit of revolt had broken out among the troops at Cashmere—that they had forced their way into the audience Chamber of the Governor of that province, and demanded double pay. On this being refused they killed the Governor on the spot. The N.W. Frontier, both on our side the Sutledge, & the Sikh tracts immediately on the bank of the River, remain in tranquillity. With reference however to the approaching rains which render travelling more than usually slow, inconvenient

from their heaviness in the Punjab and on account of the increasing risk of proceeding thro' the Lahore dominions from the excited spirit of the mutinous soldiery, Mr. Clerk has deemed it expedient to advise all British officers to defer travelling thro' the Punjab till a more convenient season.

Peshawur

1st April

From the Peshawur news it appears that Captn. Mackeson is contemplating the erection of certain buildings in Aly Musjeed to protect the troops and others from the effects of the weather.

2nd April

The convoy under Colonel Oliver is said to have passed in safety through the Khyber Pass.

Afghanistan

7th April

Captain Bygrave, Pay Master to the army of the Indus, states that cash balance in the Military Chest at Jellalabad on the 7th of April was Company's Rupees 1,92,903-12-10¼. Captain Bygrave further states that four lakhs of rupees have arrived at Jellalabad with Colonel Oliver's convoy.

9th April

In a Mission General Order issued by the British Envoy and Minister at the Court of His Majesty Shah Shoojah ool Moolk, the Brigadier Commanding His Majesty's force has been requested to take the superintendence of the Gazailchee Regiment under Captain Ferris, the Khyber Regiment under Captain Burn, and the Kohistanee Regiment under Lieutenant Maule⁴.

19th April

Private letters from the Envoy and Minister mention that His Majesty Shah Shoojah ool Moolk had marched from Jellalabad to Cabool.

4th May

The Political Assistant in Charge of Dost Mahomed Khan reports the arrival of the Ex-Ameer at Monghyr and states that he will in all probability be in Calcutta by the 18th May.

4 Lt. Maule was attached to the British envoy Macnaghten. Deputed to raise a native corps of Kohistanis for the Kabul ruler, he apparently succeeded in his mission albeit some Kohistani supporters of Akbar Khan also infiltrated into the ranks and did short work of their master towards the end of 1841.

Teran Ghilzyes

6th April

The Officer in Charge of the Teran Ghilzyes reports the arrival of Nussur Khan with his family in the Tokley Country, and states that this step has been productive of the most beneficial effects.

Kelat-i-Ghilzye

8th April

The Political Agent at Candahar states that a force consisting of two guns, a detachment of 300 of the Shah's 1st Cavalry & the 1st Regiment of the Shah's Infantry, have marched from Candahar under command of Captain Griffin⁵ for Kelat-i-Ghilzye to take up a position at that place, and that Lieutenant Stoddart of the Bombay Engineers is employed in constructing a fortification which may afford shelter to a garrison of this strength and thus act as a prominent^{5a} check to any future turbulence or insurrection which may arise among the Tooran Ghilzyes.

Candahar

8th April

The Political Agent at Candahar reports that the measures adopted by Major Lynch for the tranquilization of the Ghilzye tribes without having recourse to the employment of arms, have met with complete success.

Persia-Herat

10th April

From a private letter from Major Todd to the Envoy and Minister's address it appears that Dr. Riach had left Meshed and was on his way to Ghorian. Dr. R. writes that the Ausefloodowlah promised him full compliance with the Shah of Persia's orders for the delivery of Ghorian, but that he was evidently delaying allowing him to go to Ghorian being in hopes of receiving fresh orders from Teheran. Dr Riach says that the Shah and the Hajee were delighted at the prospect of being in good terms with the British, adding that in his opinion Ghorian will be evacuated.

Major Todd intimates that he had heard of no movement from Herat, though supplies were being laid in at Subzawur and other places. The road, he says, was strictly watched to prevent, as he imagined, the escape of persons inimical to the Vazier. He concludes by saying that every person at Herat suspected of being in our interest has been seized and plundered. Some Moolahs, our friends, had hid themselves but were inveigted⁶ to the mosque to join their brethren in prayer for rain, and were there seized by the Vuzeer's myrmidons.

⁵ *Capt. Griffin* was attached to the 1st Regiment of *Shah Shuja's* force.

^{5a} Should read 'permanent'.

⁶ *Inveigted* should read 'invited'.

Persia

27th December

Her M.'s Charge d'Affaires in Persia states that Meerza Massood, late Minister for Foreign Affairs, had quitted Khorassan, and returned to Tehran in consequence of an intimation from Yar Mahd. Khan, the Vuzeer of Herat, that it was not necessary he should take the trouble of proceeding in the direction of Herat, as the Govt. of that country had resolved to arrange its own affairs with the English Govt.

Two Officers or Sergeants belonging to the French Military Detachment have, it is said, lately been employed by the Persian Govt., the others receive their pay regularly, Genl. De Damas receiving 1800 tomans a year.

Viscount Northland, an English nobleman, who has been travelling in Persia, was lately received by the Shah with great distinction. It is said that at a special audience, the Shah expressed in warm terms his regard for the English nation. The Prime Minister is said to have used language of the same nature.

Bokhara⁷

3rd March

Coll. Stoddart in a letter to the address of the Envoy and Minister at Cabool dt. as per margin, states that a letter was written by the Russian Govt. to the Ameer of Bokhara requesting that the Colonel should be liberated and sent to England via Russia, and that the Ameer released him from his imprisonment on the 8th October last. Since then Colonel Stoddart says he has been very handsomely treated by the King, and that His Majesty's favor towards him now amounts to a degree of confidence and kindness beyond Colonel Stoddart's best expectations. The Toorah or the Heir Apparent, also shewed much kindness to Coll. S. by calling on him personally, an honour which he has never conferred on any other person in Bokhara. The Envoy & Minister has addressed a Persian letter to the King with the view of inducing His Majesty to give Coll. S. credit with the Bokhara merchants for such sums as he may require to effect his purpose of leaving Bokhara. Sir W.H. Macnaghten has also agreed to honor Coll. S.'s drafts to the extent of 50,000 Rupees.

Persia-Bagdad

November 1840

A Persian letter to the address of Lt. Coll. Sheil in Erzeroon states

⁷ *Bokhara* (Bukhara), a city now in Uzbek SSR, in the Zeravshan valley. One of the oldest cities in Central Asia and a well-known centre of Islamic culture, it was the capital of the Khanate which comprised parts of Uzbekistan, Tadjikistan and Turkistan. Tsarist Russia occupied it in 1869.

that the Princes and Chiefs of Persia in the service of the Zil-i-Sultan had assembled themselves in Irak Arab (Bagdad). Her Majesty's Charge d'Affaires in Persia in a letter dated as per margin states that the Zil-i-Sultan was making preparations for an incursion into Persia.

Persia

21st December 1840

In a private Persian letter from Teheran it is rumoured that Meerza Abool Hessen Khan, formerly Ambassador in London from Fetteh Ali Shah, and who now receives a pension from the British Govt., had been appointed Minister for Foreign Affairs or to some equally high situation.

Kerman

27th December

Letters from Persia state that the province of Kerman continues in a disturbed state—Agha Khan Mehlatee who caused an insurrection in that province, is said to have got possession of the cities of Kerman and Bemm and to have been joined by several Chiefs, Bektearees and others. It is further stated that two Regiments have been sent from Tehran against Agha Khan, and that the Shah was to have undertaken a winter campaign in person in that direction.

Arabian Deserts

1st April

Letters from the Political Agent at Aden mention a report that Jedda, Mecca, and the Hedjaz have quietly gone over to the Bey sent by the Porte, and that Sheriff Ibn Aoon had been permitted to retain his Govt. under the authority of the Sultan.

Aden

1st April

The Political Agent at Aden mentions that our troops in general at that place, and especially the European portion of them were in good health up to the 1st April.

The Political Agent at Aden states that Syud Mahomed Hoossain Weiss Abdalee had tried all in his power to prevent coalition that had taken place between the Fudthli Sultan, Sheriff Ibn Hussein, and the Lahedge Chief, and that there was every probability of a disturbance taking place between the Abdali and Fudthili tribes in consequence.

Shoa

18th April

The Govt. of Bombay report that Captain Harris has been selected to proceed in charge of the Mission to Shoa. He was to be accompanied by

Lt. Horton of H.M.'s 49th Regt. of Foot, should he have obtained leave of absence to do so, his regiment being on service in China. It is the intention of the Bombay Govt. to attach also to this mission Mr. Hatchatoor, the person recently appointed Agent at Tedjoura.

Mokha-Hodeida

1st April

The Pol. Agent at Aden states that at Mokha and Hodeida another levy of 10,000 German crowns at each town had been obtained from the merchants who were literally prisoners in the town.

Barberra

The Political Agent at Aden states that on the appearance of the Frig. of War "Euphrates" under command of Lt. Barker, at Barberra, with a view to prevent the plunder of that place by the pirates, the latter fled to their own coasts. It is hoped that they will not venture to visit the vicinity of Aden again.

Scinde Upper

27th March to 9th April

The following items of News are extracted from the precis of Scinde Intelligence of dates included in the margin. (1) Col. Stacy mentioned that he had rejoined Nusseer Khan & that the determination of the Chief to submit to the orders of our Govt. could not in his opinion be doubted. (2) But the Pol. Agent was otherwise informed that Darogah Gool Mahomed had induced Nusseer Khan to intrigue once more with the various Chiefs who supported him during his late enuite⁸, and to send Messengers for that purpose into Novshkhi, Karan & Shoorawuck. (3) The conduct of Gool Mahomed & others by whose councils Nusseer Khan is entirely swayed, has disgusted all the most influential Chiefs of the Sarawan & Jhalawan tribes. Kumal Khan Ilazye has more than once threatened to put the Darogah to death, & has latterly entered into a correspondence with Shah Nawaz Khan. (4) The Pol. Agent states that there are at present concentrated at Candahar six regiments of N.I. with strong details of Cavalry & Artillery. (5) Subsequent accounts state that Lieut. Col. Stacy had been dismissed from the Camp of Nusseer Khan, & obliged to return to Kelat. (6) The right distribution of the Troops in Scinde will, the Pol. Agent states, serve effectually to secure our interests through Beeloochistan both above & below the Passes, & Carry into effect measures for establishing an efficient administration in Kelat and suppressing the evil influence of Darogah Gool Mahomed & Raheem. The Pol. Agent in Upper Scinde in subsequent Letter recd. 11th May states that he had had reason to doubt the sincerity of

⁸ *Enuite* : The word is not legible in the original manuscript. It can be read as 'mutin'.

Nusseer Khan in the expression of his determination to submit to the order of our Govt. & altho' Lieut. Col. Stacy continued of opinion that he would follow him to Quettah, it appeared to the Pol. Agent far from probable that such would be the case. It is not Mr. Bell's intention without further instructions to make any change in the course of policy which he has hitherto been following. From the date on which the Pol. Agent first addressed Nusseer Khan, he has uniformly acquainted that Chief that no representation of his could be discussed or laid before the Govt. of India previous to his unconditional submission. We are therefore still as free to determine regarding the best arrangement for the administration of Kelat as at the time when Nusseer Khan was in Arms, and Shah Newaz a fugitive. Previous to taking any decided step in the matter, the Pol. Agent had sent for Mahomed Hossien from Bagh, and expected him to arrive at Quetta within a week or ten days of the date of this communication. The doubts which have for some time past been entertained by the Agent as to the probability of Nusseer Khan submitting, as he expressed his intention of doing, led him to make arrangements for the purpose of guarding against any further hostilities on his part.

The distribution of troops noted in the margin, which has been made, will protect all points at which any attack would be attempted, and prevent an insurrection from gaining head, and the Country from being plundered. On the arrival of Mahomed Hossein at Quetta, the Agent will lay before the Right Hon'ble the Governor General the arrangement which he would submit for the consideration and Order of government regarding the affairs of that country.

Sukkur

Sinde Horse	..	50
5th Company Golundauze	..	94—6 guns.
1st Grenadier Regiment	..	758
23rd Regiment N.I.	..	801
		<hr/>
Total	..	1703

Shikarpore

Sinde Horse	..	154
Wing 8th Regiment	..	244
		<hr/>
Total	..	398

Ianeedeerah

Sinde Horse	.	100
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Bagh

Sinde Horse	..	100
3 companies 2nd Grenadier Regt.	..	336
		<hr/>
Total	..	436

Kotree & Shoorun

Wing 1st Regt. Light Cavalry	..	168
Poona Horse	..	50
3d Company Golundauze	..	282—2 guns
2d Grenadier Regiment	..	529
6th Regiment N.I.	..	336
		<hr/>
Total	..	1109

Dadur

Poona Horse	..	200
3d Company Golundauze	..	55—4 Guns
6th Regiment N.I.	..	580
		<hr/>
Total	..	835

Moostung

3d Regiment Light Cavalry	..	230 Natives
3d Company's 1 Battn. Artillery.	..	93 Europeans 27 Natives
Wing H.M. 41st Reg.	..	347 Europeans
25 Regt. N.I.	..	950 Natives
		<hr/>
Total	..	1554

Quetta

1st & 4th Troops of Horse Artillery
H. M. 40th Regiment of Foot
20th & 21st Regiments of N.I.

Kelat

42 Bengal N. I. and 3 guns.

19th April

The Govt. of Bombay report that a Detachment of the Poona Auxiliary Horse of the strength noted in the margin* was to have moved from Kurachee to Bombay on the 18th April.

Scinde Lower

6th April

The Political Agent in Lower Scinde reports his having effected a contract with the Chief of the Jokeas to conduct the Mail between Kurachee & Hyderabad. The measure ensures celerity & saving in expense, and gives security to the mail as passing almost entirely thro' the Contractor's Territory, but particularly as giving that Chief an interest in our arrangements.

Indus Steam Navigation

9th April

The Govt. of Bombay report that in consequence of continued ill-health, Capt. Carless, the Superintendent of the Indian Navy, has been obliged to place Lieut. Jardine in charge of the Flotilla on the River Indus.

Haraottee

1st to 7th March

From the Poll. Diary of the Haraottee Agency dated as per margin it appears that the Choamulla was in a disturbed state & that some of the ryuts of the Choamula who were oppressed wished to seek redress from the British. The Maha Raja desired this to be reported to the Poll. Agent.

Indore

21st March

The Brig. Commanding the Malwa Field Force in reporting on the state of the Malwah Bheel Corps observes that the infantry is undergoing a regular course of drill under Lieutt. Andrews & it is expected that a considerable improvement will be visible ere long.

Nagpore

26th April

Capt. Fitzgerald⁹ from Nagpore reports that Her Highness the Bazeer

*6 Duffadars
133 Sowars
139 Horses
88 Followers

9 *Capt. J. Fitzgerald*, a military officer, in the pay of the foreign wing of British Indian intelligence, put on miscellaneous civil and general duties. He served as Postmaster of Kamptoti, remained in attendance upon Bazeer Bai and provided intelligence to the civilian government of Madras presidency.

Baee left that place on the 26 April in prosecution of her journey to Nassick. The Baee, Captn. F. mentioned, contemplated halting at Nagpore but the absence of the Raja from his capital & his (Captn. F's) hinting to Her Highness the impropriety of the measure, prevented the Baee carrying her intention into execution.

Nipaul

16th to 29th April

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Nipaul Diary of dates noted on the margin. 1. The Maha Rani insists on going to Benares probably to prevent the Raja attending too much to the Gov. Genl's solemn advice. 2. Daily letters go to the Misr Gooroo from the Kala Pandeys urging his return to the city.

3. The Raja, it is said, was anxious & alarmed owing to the sentiments of the Gov. General's Kharita having been re-echoed by the vakeel from Calcutta.

4. The Ranee seeing that she cannot get him to abdicate seeks, now, it is said, to be her husband's avowed minister.

5. Ran Jang, the ex-premier, was to go to Bhatgaon where all his adherents would openly or secretly visit him.

6. An explanatory and apologetic reply to the Govr. Genl. was in course of preparation framed by the present ministry.

7. With regard to the China war the ministers hinted to the Raja a preference to the English side of the contest should Nipaul ever interfere in the matter.

8. The Raja had freely engaged to send away the Misr Gooroo on condition that the Resident pledged himself to the validity of the safe conduct & that the dismissal should not be held to be a decree of permanent banishment from Nipaul.

9. The Raja also volunteered the declaration that the Kala Pandeys should be removed from his presence and counsels, observing that this measure had not yet been enforced only because of the necessity of their attendance for the settlement of the public accounts.

10. The British traders in Nipaul complain that no money can be got out of the Durbar.

11. The Sadak wala, it is said, brought no letters & speaks vaguely of himself, but his appeal to Nipaul has been referred to Lassa.

12. A person calling himself a secret agent of Lahore is rumoured to have lately left Catmandhoo. He stated to the Raja on going that he or another man would soon return with credentials & that he seeks the union of Nipaul with Lahore.

13. All ordinary matters were proceeding in a quiet orderly train in the city and Provinces upto the date of the Diary.

24th April

The Misir Gooroo has been assured by the Resident at Catmandhoo that he shall meet with no interruption or annoyance on his way to, and would be allowed to remain perfectly unmolested while at Benares. The Maharaja stated to Mr. Hodgson that the Kala Pandey's for whose removal at least from his immediate presence and secret councils H.H. stands pledged, will be shortly sent away in conformity with H.H.'s professions to the Right Hon'ble the Govr. Genl.

The Resident in Nipaul states that the Brigr. Commanding at Segowly has made a distribution of the small body of Irregular cavalry attached to the frontier forces as follows :—

					Duffadars	Sowars
At Tillia & the Baugmutty					1	8
„ Ruxoul					1	10
„ Ramnuggur					1	6
„ Buncutwa					1	6
„ Segowly (Orderlies)						4
					4	34
	N.R.	K.D.	N.B.	N.		
Amordee	1	1	1	1	1	14
	1	1	1	1	5	48

N.E. Frontier

27th April

Demi-official Communications from Captain F. Jenkins¹⁰ mention the rumour of a promise of assistance being made by the Burmese King to the Tipaun Rajah to enable him to take Assam. There is however no confirmation of this, and no commotions exist on the Frontier, and the Provinces appear to be undisturbed, except that there is a small Burmese Force in Hookum, said to be collecting revenue and supplies. The Boobteahs and Tibetans on the frontier of Durrung had been down in some numbers, but they have since retired to their hills, and Captain Jenkins concludes, "we may now venture to say that we have got over the season without any trouble from any of our hill neighbours."

10 *Capt. F. Jenkins* had served for a long time in Assam and was promoted (1849) as Chief British Political Agent of the North-East Frontier Agency.

Burmah

26th April

A private letter from Moulmein dated as per margin contains the following particulars :

1. No doubt is entertained at the Capital of the King's intended visit to Rangoon—the preparations for His Majesty's reception are nearly completed, the Palace almost furnished and a road is being made direct from the river's bank to it. The inhabitants and Officers of Government have been called on to contribute provisions for the consumption of the royal cavalcade. The whole Court, it is said, will accompany His Majesty.

2. The new Woongee is to be left in charge of the Capital—he is high in His Majesty's favor : he does not approve of the King's visit to Rangoon, and is determined to use his best endeavour to prevent its taking place.

3. The Exchequer of the King is said to be in no flourishing state, and it is difficult to say how even with the contributions levied from the people, it will meet the demands of the royal journey.

4. The King has given up his intention of removing the whole town in consequence of its having been represented to him that such removal would cause much loss and distress to the native and foreign merchants, but he proposes making persons of each nation live in one place, separated from others of a different race.

5. A powder Magazine at Ava inside the palace enclosure is reported to have exploded. The *Lhotdan*, the Court in which the Princes and Ministers transact business was totally destroyed, and the palace escaped with some partial damage.

6. The 40th Regiment at Moulmein has been relieved by the 44th Regiment N.I.

7. Every thing was quiet at the capital up to the date of the letter.

8. A beautiful new Government Steam Frigate of about 800 tons, called the "Tenasserim", has been launched from the Moulmein Dock Yard.

China

The following is a precis of the various measures which the Right Honorable the Governor General adopted since the arrival of His Excellency Sir G. Bremer at this presidency in order to supply the wants of the China expedition.

(1) Naval Reinforcements

The "India" and the "Madagascar" Steamers—returned to their duties at the completion of their repairs. His Excellency Sir G. Bremer returned in the "Queen" to his Head-Quarters. The Steamers "Phlegethon" and "Proserpine" were attached to the China expedition and the Government addressed instructions to Singapore and Ceylone desiring the Commander of these Vessels to proceed to Canton and place themselves under the orders of His Excellency the Naval Commander in Chief.

Further the Honorable Company's Pilot vessel "Lady William Bentinck" had been properly armed and equipped and placed at His Excellency's disposal as a tender to the Naval Squadron in the China Seas.

(2) Military Reinforcements

Her Majesty's 55 Foot, mustering upwards of 800 strong, together with the recruits of Her Majesty's 26 and 49th Regiments amounting to 400 men, embarked to reinforce the military strength in China; 300 recruits for Her Majesty's 18th or Royal Irish had already been despatched from Bombay to join the Head-Quarters of their Regiment at Hong Kong. The Government of Madras were requested to fill up to their original strength the sappers and miners and artillery from that Presidency and to forward the recruits for the 37th Madras N. Infantry to the Corps in China.

(3) Transports for Military Reinforcements

For the conveyance of Her Majesty's 55 to China, this Government sanctioned the engagement of the Vessels named in the margin. Their launches had been each fitted with a 6-pounder.

	<i>Officers</i>	<i>Men</i>
Orient	9	262
Coromandel	9	242
Ernaad	7	202
Marion	4	132
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	29	838

The Madras reinforcements are forwarded in Her Majesty's Troop Ship "Jupiter".

4th Followers
5th Supplies

Supplies of Provisions generally seemed to be abundant with the China forces and the further quantities that had been procured at and despatched from England and New South Wales and India rendered the expedition

complete in this part of its arrangements. Sir Hugh Gough was instructed to appoint a qualified officer to keep regular accounts of the Ordnance Magazines to ensure a due economy in the regulation of them and Major Hawkins¹¹ the Deputy Commissary General in China was ordered to make arrangements for disposing of surplus articles at moderate prices to any purchasers who may offer rather than allow them to perish in his store.

Strict Instructions to economize without stinting and to disburse stores without careless profusion have been transmitted to the proper authorities.

Quarterly Accounts

The Government requested the Accountant General to furnish punctually a quarterly return exhibiting a statement of the entire expense incurred by the Indian Government on account of Her Majesty's Government for the China expedition.

H. V. Bayley
Asstt. Secy. to Govt. of India.

Fort William
10th May 1841

¹¹ *Major J. K. Hawkins* of the Bombay Artillery was subsequently appointed Deputy Collector of a district in Sind.

Newsletter 44 : May 24, 1841

(No. 15 of 1841)

North West Frontier

18th April to 5th May

The follg. items of intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Akhbar of dates included in the margin. (1) Surdar Futteh Singh Maun with 700 Sowars had been detracted to Ferozepore to escort the British Treasure about to be despatched to Cabool. (2) It was reported to the Durbar that the Shah's family had safely crossed the Jehlum. (3) The Maharajah has pardoned the refractory Kulloo Battalions thro' the intercession of Rajah Dhian Sing; they prepared to march to Kulloo after realizing their dues, and surrendering the Sundhuwallah prisoners. The Maha Rajah desired the English Newswriter at Lahore to communicate this intelligence to Mr. Clerk. (4) Also to assure him that the Shah's family would soon reach their destination in safety, and that Gl. Avitabile would come out from Peshawur to join them, & conduct them to Khyber. (5) It was reported to the Durbar that the Shah's family had reached Rohtas in safety. (6) Genl. Court applied for a remuneration for his plundered property, and Rajah Dhian Sing was desired to remit the sum to him & to deduct it from the pay of his troops. (7) Rajah Dhian Sing is reported to have been insulted in effigy by some Fakeers. (8) Rajah Dhian Sing and his son Hera Sing are said to be attended by about 1,000 armed hill men, every time they go out, and have appointed about 3,000 men to guard their house. The M.R.¹ also has his own bodyguards always around him & every Minister is attended with a hundred or two of Rohilas. (9) The M.R. issued order to inform Mr. Clerk that every care was taken of the Shah's Kafila & that instructions were repeated to the officers on the road to facilitate its passage. (10) Orders were likewise issued to Gl. Avitabile to take back the treasure from the mutinous sepoy. He has been instructed to conciliate the sepoy & their officers by promise of increase of pay, & at all events to check clamour. (11) Fifteen sepoy & two Commandants, suspected of Coll. Foulke's murder have been apprehended by Rajah Dhian Sing. (12) Gl. Avitabile reported that he would soon join the Shah's family with the Nujeeb battalions & conduct them safely to the limits of his jurisdiction. Sirdar Sham Singh reported

1 Abbreviation for 'Maha Rajah'

the safe passage of the Kafila through the Buckrala defile and their arrival at Dhurmuk. (13) The Durbar is said to be held within the fort with closed gates, the walls of the place are at all times surrounded by guards. (14) The citizens were apprehensive of the plunder of the town owing to a collision between Raja Dhian Sing and Jooalla Sing. According to Raja Dhian Sing's advice, orders were issued to the Charyaree Officers to give up Jowalla Sing. They declined to do so, when the M.R. ordered a Company of sepoy and a gun to be placed at each of the city gates & directed Genl. Soodh Sing^{1a} of the Arty. to move out of the lines with 12 Guns and two battalions and to encamp on the parade ground. Orders were likewise issued to the several artillery Corps under Muzhar Allee, and others to be in readiness. Early in the morning, the Maha Raja attended by Raja Dhian Sing, and the Khas Sowars, joined the troops on the parade, and deputed Lall Sing to persuade the insurgents to give up Jowalla Sing, and to say that failing this, they would all be blown up. The insurgent sowars demanded the entire exclusion of Raja Dhian Sing from the Military command, and the appointment of Jowalla Sing in his stead. The Maha Raja bent on apprehending Jowalla Sing, moved towards the low lands of the Ravee, and advancing towards General Avitabile's house, disposed of his troops so as to surround the insurgents. It was ordered that a cannonade should be opened upon the insurgents after noon. On the other side Jowalla Sing assisted by the Charyaree and other Sowars, the battalions from Mundee, and about 3,000 Akulees, prepared for resistance. Raja Dhian Sing observing how the matter was running to extremities & anxious to avert the bloodshed of thousands, lost no time in deputing Baba Mehan Sing² & Sadhoo Sing Akalee to the ring leaders. The latter persisted in saying that they would not obey Raja Dhian Sing. The deputies in reply told Jowalla Sing that he was but a mere Khidmutgur of the Maha Raja's, & should not be so ungrateful to his sovereign. Jowalla thereupon requested security for his life, & offered to attend on the Maha Raja if His Highness would pledge himself for his safety. The Maha Raja promised to pardon Jowalla Sing in which the Raja acquiesced, & after the Maha Raja had sworn to spare his life, Jowalla Sing was brought by the deputies to the Maha Raja attended by 300 soldiers. He was ordered to beg Raja Dhian Sing's pardon, he accordingly knelt before the Raja as also before Raja Heera Sing with his joined hands & begged their pardon, which was granted. (15) The Akallees have threatened that if the Maha Raja does not feed them well every day,

1a *General Soodh Sing* (Sudh Singh) an Akali leader who held the fort of Sisgarh, to the north of the Sutlej; the fort was captured by Sheikh Imam-ud-Din in July 1844.

2 *Baba Mehan Sing*, a General in the Sikh Army was appointed Governor of Kashmir by Maharaja Rànjit Singh (1834). In 1841 he was murdered by his own mutinous troops.

they will replace Chund Koonwur on the Guddee calling her Chundan Sing. The Mae had sent a message to the troops that if they would seize Shere Sing, & put her again on the Guddee, she would give them 12 Rs. monthly pay & a suitable increase to the officers.

5th May

The Governor General's Agent on the N.W. Frontier reports that in consequence of the 10th Lt. Cavalry remaining at Ferozepore, he had directed the Asstt. Agent to the Governor General at that station to afford every assistance in his power in procuring materials to enable the men of that corps to shelter themselves during the present season & for the construction of temporary buildings for the staff sergeants, riding muster & magazine.

7th May

The following particulars are extracted from a letter from the Governor General's Agent on the N.W. Frontier dated as per margin.

- (1) All the Sirdars, with the exception of the Rajas, are anxious for the interference of the British Govt. in the affairs of the Punjab.
- (2) Many of the personal retainers of the Maha Raja are jealous, it is said of the dignity & authority vested in Raja Dhian Sing.
- (3) The Akhalees & Charyaree horse who on a late occasion were drawn out on the plain under Jowallah Sing to visit the troops of the Maharajah & his minister led on by themselves, vociferously demanded & obtained a donative of thirty thousand rupees for not having compelled Jowalla Sing to refuse to throw himself at his master's feet. Jowalla Sing is said to be a man of low birth. He was formerly a menial servant & in that capacity won the confidence of the Koonwur Shere Sing who now as sovereign appointed him to the command of the troops lately sent to resume the Jageers & forts of the Sundunwallah family. Jowalla Sing & the family named, have resolved to eject Raja Dhian Sing from the Ministry.
- (4) Mr. Clerk continues to receive appeals from the Ex-Ministers, from Sirdars & other influential men for the interference of the British Govt. with a view to quash the anarchy prevalent in the Punjab. The European inhabitants of Lahore have appealed to Mr. C. for protection. He has offered it to them on our side of the Sutlej.
- (5) Mr. C. has received fresh overtures from the Mae Chund Koonwur soliciting the assistance of the British Govt. in usurping the throne of Lahore under promise of making over to them a portion of the Punjab. Mr. C. has discouraged such overtures.

Peshawur

20th April

The Poll. Agent at Peshawur states that General Avitabile has now one

battalion of half-disciplined Najibs who, it is said, still preserve some degree of organization or the appearance of it at Peshawur. With this exception the whole of the troops are in open mutiny, and have laid hands on the Government Treasure they were sent to guard.

30th April

With reference to the present disorganized state of the Lahore and Peshawur Governments, the Governor General's Agent N.W. Frontier has advised Captn. Mackeson as to the practicability of withdrawing with his Establishment from Peshawur to any Station within the Cabool frontier where the duties of his office can best be transacted.

2nd May

The Gov. General's Agent on the N.W. Frontier reports the despatch from Ferozepore to Peshawur on the 28th April of treasure and stores/being 265 Camel loads in all under Convoy of Sirdar Futteh Sing Maun and a party of Sikh Cavalry.

Afghanistan

20th April

It is stated in a private letter that His Majesty Shah Shoojah ool Moolk was to enter Cabool on the 29th April en-route to Candahar. His Majesty has settled all affairs at Jellalabad.

22nd April

Captn. Mackeson in a letter dated as per margin states that the two battalions of Mussalman auxiliaries sent by General Avitabile to Attock, to protect Government Treasure from being plundered by the mutinous Sikh Battalions in the Eusofzye territory had joined themselves to the mutineers and expelled, after maltreating them, their own Commandant and several officers of lower grade. These four battalions were encamped together, on the high road near Akhora and their intention was after dividing the treasure to move down to Lahore. General Avitabile had offered some kind of a compromise to these troops, by which he hoped to recall them to a sense of their duty.

Captn. Broadfoot, proceeding with the Royal families of Cabool, feared that he would come in collision with these battalions on his way through Peshawur, but Captn. Mackeson assured that Officer that before he arrived near them, the Sikh battalions would have moved off the high road into Hazara and the Mussalman battalions would have returned to Peshawur. Captn. Mackeson is also of opinion that there is no great danger of the troops on the road between the Jhelum and Peshawur molesting

Captn. B.'s Kafila. General Avitabile had ordered, as a measure of precaution, a party of 500 Mohomedan horsemen to proceed to meet Captn. Broadfoot.

27th April

From accounts received from Captn. Broadfoot up to 27th April from Manikyala, it appears that the conduct of those among the Sikh Escort whom he regarded as the most riotous, was very much improved and that Captn. B. considered there was every appearance of his progress being peaceful in consequence.

3rd May

The Governor General's Agent in the N.W. Frontier states that General Avitabile has received the strictest orders from the Durbar to advance from Peshawur in person, if it seemed advisable that he should do so, and to meet Captn. Broadfoot's Convoy, with all the troops which appear to be best qualified to escort the royal families of Cabool in security.

Dost Mahomed Khan

22nd May

The Ex-Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan arrived at Calcutta on the 22 May, and had an audience of the Right Hon'ble the Govr. General. His son Akram Khan, and two nephews accompanied him.

Candahar

20th April

A private letter from Candahar states that it has been ascertained that the amount of the Dooranee claims is Rs. 80,000 half of which sum, the Poll. Agent has handed over to Mirza Ahmed for distribution among the tribes. The balance will be paid hereafter.

20th April

A private communication from Candahar mentions that the Poll. Agent had received from Sukkur and Shikarpoor stating that preparations were in progress there for sending heavy guns and howitzers to Candahar.

Killa Abdoola

17th April

The position of Killa Abdoola, commanding as it does, the line of communication between Candahar and Quetta³ appearing to be of the greatest

3 *Quetta*, an important town of Baluchistan, situated in the valley of Quetta or Shawl. The fort was situated on the direct route from Jacobabad and Shikarpur to Kandahar, via the Bolan pass. It was occupied by the British during the Anglo-Afghan wars in 1838-42, 1876, and 1878-80. In the first/Afghan war, Quetta formed a base of operations for the southern columns of the Army of Indus.

importance, the Envoy and Minister at Cabool has suggested to the Poll. Agent at Candahar that application should be made to the authorities at Quetta with the view of having the fort in question garrisoned by a party of regular troops of a strength equal to that which has been sent away from it or superior if deemed advisable by the Military authorities.

Khoolum : Balkh

26th April

From a private communication it appears that the Envoy and Minister had received a letter from the Wullee of Khoolum to the effect that he has taken Balkh from the King of Bokhara.

Scinde Upper

20th April

The Poll Agent in Upper Scinde states that Lieut. Coll. Stacy expressed so firm a conviction as to the sincerity of Nuzzeer Khan, Kummal Khan, Esan Khan and Meer Bohar and of the gross perfidy practised by Darogah Gool Mehomed and Rahaem Dad, that he considered it right not to close the door against the party of Nusseer Khan without giving him one more opportunity of acting upto the solemn promise he had made of surrendering to the British Government. Being satisfied as to the evidence of the treachery of Gool Mahomed and the traitorous intentions entertained by Rahimdad, Mr. Bell has invited on Nusseer Khan's dismissing both these individuals entirely from his councils, previous to any terms being arranged with him, & that after this act, he may look upon the favor of the Br. Govt. being secured to him.

28th April

The Quarter Master General of the Bombay Army reports the arrival at Quetta on the 2nd April.

Aden—The Red Sea

21st April

The Government of Bombay state that the Military Board of Bombay have with reference to a requisition made to that effect by the Poll. Agent at Aden, instructed the Commissary General to prepare a supply of provision for eight hundred men—sufficient for three months' consumption and forward the same forthwith to Aden for the use of any Naval Force that may arrive in the Red Sea.

Sohar

23rd April

The Government of Bombay report that Syed Hamood bin Azan Chief

(Continued on p. 74)

Corps	Genl. officers	Brigadiers	Field officers	Captains	Subalters	Regiments	Asstt D.O.	N.C. officers	Sergeants	Havaldars	Duffadars	Drummers	Fifers	Buglers	Fammers	Trumpeters	Corporals	Naïques	Bombardiers	Privates	Horses.
Head Qrs Staff	1	—	2	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	197
4 Troops H Arty	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	5	—	10	93	40
Skinners Horse	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	40	—
Pioneers	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	27	—
H.M.'s 40 Regt	—	—	2	3	19	1	—	—	44	—	—	16	—	—	—	—	38	—	—	747	—
21st Regt N I	—	—	1	1	8	1	—	15	—	42	—	17	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	730	—
Brigade Staff	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Artillery Staff	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Sinde Upper

Of the Head Quarters of the Scinde Field Force under the command of Major General Brooks, as noted in the margin.

(From page 72)

of Sohar arrived in Bombay on the 24th January last. He was received with the greatest civility and orders were issued for his being entertained at the public expense during his stay at Bombay. The object of his visit being to cultivate the friendship of the British Government.

The actual power and influence of the Sohar Chief throughout Oman is perhaps greater than that of even H.H. the Imaum himself; and in the event of any attempt being made by Ameer Khaled to extend his authority over that province, the energy, talent and courage of Syed Hamood would render him a very efficient instrument in our hands, to oppose the encroachments of the Wahabee Chief. Upon the friendship and forbearance of the ruler of Sohar depends, in a great measure, the integrity and safety of the Imaum's Arabian possessions, during the absence of the Imaum of Muscat at Zanzibar.

26th April

The Government of Bombay ordered a Khilaut and Rooksataue to the value of Rs. 2,174 to be presented to Hamood Bin Hazan, the Chief of Sohar, on his taking his departure from Bombay.

4th May

In a subsequent letter the Government of Bombay report that the above-named chief took his departure from Bombay on the 29th April for Muscat.

Mocha

The Home authorities considering it advantageous to form an alliance with the Ruler of Mocha, the Govt. of Bombay have issued instructions to the Poll. Agent at Aden to keep this point in view, should the Imaum of Senna establish his authority at Mocha and be disposed to enter into friendly relations with the British Government. Any engagement into which the Agent may enter with the Imaum of Senna⁴ is to be subject to the confirmation of the Government of India.

Muscat Zanzibar

20th April

A private letter from Muscat states that an American merchant-ship named "Satar" arrived there from Zanzibar with letters from H.H. the Imaum to the address of Shoo ee nie⁵, and Syud Mohomed bin Salim. He also

4 *Senna* (Senaa), a town in south-western Arabia, now included in the Yemen. The chieftains of Senaa, known as Imams, once came to acquire control over the whole of what is now Yemen after defeating the Ottoman Turks in 1630. In the nineteenth century, taking advantage of internal dissensions in the state and its conflict with the Turks, the British acquired a hold over the Imams by promises of friendship and military aid against their internal and external foes.

5 *Shoo ee nie* may also be read as *shos w nee*; possibly a proper noun or official designation.

had a letter to the address of Captn. Hamerton from the Imaum. The Imaum is said to have reached Zanzibar in 37 days. A British vessel belonging to a Coll. Henderson had also reached that place and Coll. H., it is reported, has opened a commercial office at Zanzibar for the manufacturing of coconut oil and sugar. Captn. Cogan,⁶ it is rumoured, is also expected to arrive shortly at Zanzibar.

The Overland Mails & Euphrates Steamers

24th April

As arrangements have been made by the Government of Bombay for conveying via the Red Sea by means of the steam Frigates "Auckland" and "Sesorties", the monthly overland mails, during the approaching monsoon, it will be unnecessary to send this year any extra mails by the Persian Gulf route. In consequence of the above arrangements the Steamers belonging to the Euphrates will be employed in keeping up the communication from the lower part of that river to Bagdad and from Hilla, upwards towards Beles.

Euphrates Expedition

26th March

Lieutt. C. S. Campbell, commanding Euphrates Expedition states that he has great hopes of substituting "Bitumen" fuel for Coal for the purposes of the Expedition. Lieut. C. further states that the survey of the river Tigris has been completed and that the "Assyria" will continue the survey of the Bussorah river and adjacent streams as long as the weather will permit. He intended leaving Maijhiel for the Euphrates on the 1st April, or sooner if practicable.

Bhopaul

5th to 11th April

From the Bhopaul Diary it appears that orders have been issued by the Begum of Islamnugur prohibiting the levy of toll duties by the Zemindars.

Oude

12th to 18th April

The Lucknow Diary of dates noted in the margin states that Prince Hoomayoon Bukht, the king of Lucknow's youngest son, has been appointed nominal commander in chief of His Majesty's forces.

Hyderabad

25th April to 1st May

From the Poll. Diary of Public Correspondence connected with the

⁶ Capt. R. Cogan was allegedly implicated in political intrigues in Satara state against British interests.

Hyderabad Residency of dates noted on the margin it appears that levies of Arabs had been made at Hyderabad for an individual named Phid Naick, a brother of the Raja of Sholapore. This person, the Diary states, has fled to Kaluotah with the avowed intention of attacking his brother and creating a disturbance. The Collector of Sholapore has been requested to adopt measures with a view to prevent the mischief contemplated by Phid Naick.

3rd May

From a subsequent Diary it further appears that the Nizam's Government had requested Capt. Jackson⁷ to institute prompt inquiries in ascertaining the particulars of Phid Naick's hostile intentions, and had detached a force to co-operate with the troops under Capt. Jackson's command, should circumstances render the measure necessary.

Rajpootana

15th April

The Governor General's Agent in Rajpootana reports that it had been resolved to dispose of the Kalak prisoners who proved to be subjects of the Jyepoor state, in the following manner. Bishen Sing, brother of the deceased Kishen Sing, and four more individuals, relatives of the late Thakoor and ring leaders in the affair of the seizure and defence of the fort and in the commission of other outrages, have been forwarded to hill forts, where they are to be confined for an indefinite period. All the rest of the prisoners have been sentenced to six months' imprisonment in Jail with shackles for their safe custody but without hard labor. The Marwar prisoners taken at Kalak have been sent to Joudpore and the Bikaner prisoners have been placed at the disposal of the Rajah of Bickaneer.

Indore

15th April

The Officer Commanding the Malwa Field Force on reporting on the state of the 5th Regiment of Irregular Cavalry observes that the men of the Corps in general appear to be fully competent to discharge the duties they are expected or are likely to be called upon to perform and that the attention paid by the Commanding Officer and his adjutant to the Corps entrusted to them, is very creditable to both those officers.

27th April

The Officer in charge of the Political duties at Bhopawar reports that

⁷ *Capt. G. Jackson* belonged to the army of the Nizam of Hyderabad. In 1849, he rose to the rank of Brigadier General and Paymaster of the Ellichpur division. On behalf of the Nizam he always collaborated in chasing and bringing to book such rebels and enemies of the British as found their way into the state of Hyderabad.

Doorjun Sing, Raja of the petty State of Dhey, and Kalloo Baba of Dhurain Rae, having entertained some mercenaries or muckranees with a view to commit hostilities or reprisals upon each other & being likely thereby to disturb the tranquillity of the neighbouring states of Burwanee. Allee Mohur, Kookno, Chiskalda, Baugh and Matwee; he had summoned Rajah Durjun Sing in the hope of preventing these chiefs proceeding to extremities. Further, the Resident at Indore has instructed that officer to proceed to the scene of the contemplated out-break and endeavor to avert hostilities by his personal exertions; should the Rajah have evaded a compliance with his requisitions or the conduct of either himself or the other party be reported to be such as to lead to an apprehension of an outbreak between them.

Kishengurh

10th April

The Governor General's Agent in Rajpootana states that for sometime after the capture of their stronghold Narana, the disaffected Chief of the Maharajah of Kishengurh remained comparatively quiet in their place of refuge on the Maiwar and Jyepore territory. But at last they commenced a course of reprisals against Kishengurh and aggressions on travellers and the people of the country generally both within and beyond that border. Measures are in progress to avert these excesses.

Jhoonjhnoo

13th April

The inexpediency of the plan hitherto pursued at Jhoonjhnoo of making requisitions upon the villages for many miles round to supply fodder for the consumption of the Government cattle free of cost and the great hardship which the Agricultural portion of the ryots experience in consequence of it, having been forcibly impressed on the mind of Capt. Thoresby by the urgent complaints and representations made to him on the subject, he has urged upon the Jyepore administration the desirableness of putting an end to a system so injurious and oppressive in itself, and has instructed Major Forster to carry his determination into effect by purchasing and paying for all articles of fodder required.

Nagpore

The Baiza Bae

4th May

Captn. Fitzgerald reports that Her Highness the Baiza Bae crossed the Wardah and encamped at Twisah on the morning of the 4th May instant.

Tenasserim Provinces

The following is a return of the force serving on the coast of Tenasserim for the month of April 1841:—

Officers	:	76
Rank and file	:	3,190

Ordnance stores and carriages :

Iron guns 12-Pounders with carriages	:	2
Brass guns-9	—do—	7
Brass guns-6	—do—	7
5½ Inch Mortars	—do—	8
Spare carriages for	—do—	3
Howitzers 12-Pounders	:	3
Ammunition wagons Howitzer 12-Pounders	:	5
—do— guns 9	—do—	10
—do— Artificer	:	1
—do— Forge	:	1
Carts platform	:	98

Ammunition

	Rounds	Cartridges	Sphenial ^{7a} Case	Shells
12-Pounder shots	4423	85	..	..
9 —do—	3038	966	771	..
6 —do—	3594	917	338	..
5½ inch Mortar	..	..	1708	..
12 Pounder Howitzer	..	604	782	765
5½ inch —do—	..	192	326	..
4½ inch —do—	..	70	322	126
Cartridges slotted musket	..	..	7,34,906	..
—do— fuzil Artillery	..	..	8391	..
—do— —do— Infantry	..	..	4984	..
—do— —do— Pistol	..	..	6800	..

Pounds in Magazine including gun cartridges = lbs. 29667

7a Mis-spelt for sphenoidal (wedge-shaped) or spherical.

Steam Vessel Phlegethon K. J. Cleveland, Commander, R. N., from England to Calcutta

1840		Situation	Tons of coals expen- ded	Days under steam only	Days under sail only	Days in actual motion	Days in port at anchor	Distance run in miles	Name of Port
Sept.	17	Left Falmouth							
„	24	Anchor'd Off Funchall Madeira	69.4	5.10.10	0.20.15	6.6.15		994	
„	26	Left Ditto					2.4.0		Off Funchall
Oct.	2	Anchor'd Off Port Grande-St. Vincent	30.2	3.8.30	2.15.0	5.23.30		1030	
„	5	Left Ditto					3.1.45		Port Giana
„	28	Anchor'd at West Bay Princes	73.12 $\frac{1}{2}$	6.14.10	16.9.35	22.23.45		2391	
„	4	Left Ditto					7.11.30		West Bay
Dec.	21	Anchor'd in Fable Bay Cape of Good Hope	4.1	2.22.30]	44.0.0	46.22.30		5008	
„	29	Left Ditto					8.3.50		Fable Bay

(Continued from p. 79)

1841									
Jan.	14	Anchor'd off Port Elizabeth/ Algoa Bay	75.4	2.2.55	7.10.10	15.20.10		1740	
"	25	Left Ditto					10.22.10		Algoa Bay
Febr.	4	Anchor'd Off English River Delagoa Bay	62.17	4.12.5	1.10.30	8.7.55	1.19.15	745	Off S. E. Coast town (of) Africa
"	7	Left Ditto					2.14.0		Delagoa Bay
March	11	Anchor'd in the Harbour of Mozambique	7.15	0.10.0	26.1.0	26.3.40	5.19.10	1213	
March	20	Left Mozambique					9.3.0		Mozambique
May	4	Anchor'd in the Harbour of Galle (Ceylon)		1.5.25	43.11.5	45.2.0		1819	
"	11	Left Ditto					7.2.0		Galle
"	21	Anchor'd in Diamond Harbour	76.0	1.8.30	3.1.35	10.0.0	0.0.0	1190	
			398.15½	27.16.15	145.7.10	187.13.55	57.28.50	17130	
						57.28.50			
						<u>245.17.45</u>			

Nipaul

23rd April

The Joint Magistrate of Champarun states that 2 individuals were on their way from Nipaul to Lahore on the date of his letter with secret despatches from the Durbar of the former.

1st May

The Resident in Nipaul states that a person calling himself an accredited agent of the Lahore Durbar, though unprovided with credentials, and, as far as he knew, with despatches, had several secret interviews with the Rajah at Hitoundah, and had announced to H.H. the certainty of the speedy arrival of a more authentic agent at Cathmandoo.

The Ladak Envoy was still at Cathmandoo up to the date of the Resident's letter. His invitation to Nipaul to attack and possess herself of the territory of Ladakh has been referred by the Durbar to Lassa for the information and orders of the Chinese Government.

The Durbar's Agent at Lassa is alleged to have been secretly informed of the Durbar's willingness or rather wish to put its troops in motion in the direction of Ladakh provided the Chinese Government can be induced to sanction the measure.

With reference to the two Agents from Ladakh to Cathmandoo, the Resident in Nipaul states that the name of the one is Mephram Namdal, that of the other, Jonampalijone, of whom the former is alleged to have been domestic priest and the latter, controller of the household, of the late ruler of Ladakh. They are both natives of Ladakh and quitted that place about a year after the demise of their master, who, they say left two young sons (still living) and whose pretensions, it is the object and wish of the Envoy to get supported by Nipaul.

The Joint Magistrate of Champarun in letters, to the address of the Resident in Nipaul states, that the Misr. Guru was encamped at Hutti close to the frontier on the banks of the Bugmuttie and was awaiting there the orders of the Durbar either to return to Nipaul or to proceed to Benares. The Guru declares openly his unwillingness to pursue the latter course at least, until he has had an interview at Cathmandoo with the Rajah. He is said to be going about in the Terrace from Fort to Fort and from Cutcherry to Cutcherry examining defences, looking at troops, &c.

China

4th May

Some of the transports have sailed & the Queen will leave at (day-light) on the 25th.

In a former News-letter it was mentioned that the *Phiegethon* had been ordered, on her arrival at *Pldegalle*⁸, to proceed to China direct. On the 22nd. however, she was announced at this Port, having been obliged to come hither, to undergo some repairs, necessary to make her efficient for the service to which she is destined. Her Commander (Mr. Cleveland) has brought from Mozambique, in the Steamer, the King of Johanna & two of his principal chiefs who have been forced by a hostile faction to fly their country and seek refuge & aid in India.

The abstract of the "*Phiegethon's*" voyage is subjoined:—

18th May

In order to ensure the most punctual and speedy delivery of letters for the naval and military forces of the China Expedition, His Excellency the Naval Commander in Chief has suggested to the Right Honorable the Governor General that the mails containing them should be addressed to the Post Master at Hong Kong or Macao (as the case may be) in the first instance, and to aid him in the correct distribution of the letters His Excellency will issue orders to furnish the Post Masters in India with a list of H.M.'s Ships and the transports which may be left in the Canton river, and of those which proceed to a distance from it. Similar orders will be issued to the Post Masters by the General Commanding the land forces regarding letters intended for those forces.

Fort William
The 24th May 1841

H. V. Bayley
Asst. Secy. to Govt. of India

(Ref.—Foreign Department, Miscellaneous, Vol. 333)

⁸ *Pldegalle* probably 'Pt. de galle' or 'Port de Galle', somewhere along Ceylon's sea-coast.

Newsletter 45 : June 1, 1841

(No. 16 of 1841)

North West Frontier

19th & 25th April & 6th May

Private letters from the North West Frontier contain the following items of Intelligence :

(1) Monsieur Lafont had quitted Lahore to assume the command of the two mutinous battalions, viz., that of Mr. Ford and Bhoop Sing and was expected to arrive at Rawul Pindee on the 24th April and thence to be conducted to Peshawur. Owing however to the disorganised state of the Government and the Army, Monsr. La Font has resolved upon an early resignation of the Sikh service. (2) The weakness of the Maha Raja is represented to be such that the assassins of Mr. Foulkes remain unmolested amid the troops who protect them and whither the justice of the ruler ventures not to pursue them. (3) General Court was to proceed with his family to Loodianah with a view to pass the hot season there, and after October to set out for Europe. General C. obtained the permission of the Maha Raja (only however on the pledge of Rajah Dhian Sing for his return) to proceed to Loodianah.

7th May

Another private letter from the frontier states that Genl. Ventura having expressed a fear of his being unable, from a deficiency of means, to retire from the Sikh Service for his native country, the Governor General's Agent on the North West Frontier has purchased this Officer's personal property at Loodianah for 10,000 Rupees, which he estimates not be more than he will receive upon its sale. The same communication intimates that Capt. La Font and Monsr. Allard had sought safety in the camp of our Convoy of Shah Soojah's family. It concludes, "we are strong on this frontier and ready to chastise all intruders or offenders."

9th May

From a private communication dated as per margin it appears that the universal feeling on either side the Sutlege seems to be one of gratitude for the anxiety manifested by the British Government to preserve tranquillity and order in the Punjab. The communication in question adds that "nothing

can exceed the anxiety of the Maha Rajah, Rajah Dhian Sing and the Sirdars to evince their friendship for the British Government."

10th to 14th May

The Lahore Akhbar of dates marginally noted contains the following items of intelligence :

(1) The Durbar sent orders to its Officers to try and quiet the Peshawur troops and to require them to leave the passage clear for the Kafila of H.M.'s family. Orders were also issued that if the troops were disposed to annoy the Kafila, measures should be taken to stay its progress on this side of the Attock and to report with all haste whatever measures it might be necessary to adopt with a view to conciliate the troops. (2) Koonwur Pertaub Sing was on his way to Cashmere. (3) The Maha Rajah is said to have intimated to Rajah Dhian Sing that if order could not be restored in the Sikh Army by his own exertions, the British troops must necessarily effect it. (4) His Highness is of opinion that the Sikh Army should be reorganized by some new battalions. (5) Koonwur Pertaub Sing requested pardon for Jowalla Sing vide last Newsletter and his appointment in Cashmere under him. His Highness referred the Koonwur to Rajah Dhian Sing. (6) The Maha Rajah ordered that the gates of the fort should always be shut and the wicket only left open. (7) His Highness conversed with Rajah Dhian Sing regarding the safety of the Shah's Kafila. The latter said that he feared no interruption to its progress although the British officers seemed much alarmed on the subject. He addressed a letter to his uncle Mean Arbeil Sing in his hill language requiring him to sacrifice even his life freely if required on this occasion, reminding him that as a Rajpoot it became him to do so as he had in charge the guests of the British Govt. and the Khalsah Sircar. He wrote further to General Avitabile requiring him as well as Arbeil Sing, by their fidelity and allegiance to omit no exertions to secure the safety of the Royal families from all insult or outrage. (8) The Hazara country has been given in Jagheer to Koonwur Purtab Sing. (9) Captain La Font reported from Peshawur that the 4 Battalions at that place were hostilely disposed to Genl. Avitabile—that they apparently had no intention to oppose the passage of the Kafila of the Shah's family, and that it would pass very freely.

17th May

A letter from the Gov. Genl.'s Agent on the N. W. Frontier contains the following items of news:—

(1) The attention of the Sikh Durbar is said to be at present anxiously directed to the situation of the Royal families of Cabool who were in the vicinity of the four mutinous battalions encamped near Attok. (2) Genl. Avitabile continues to report to his Govt. most unfavourably

of the intentions of the mutineers towards the Cafila and Convoy. The reports of Colancl La Font, on the other hand, however, seem to represent the hostility of these troops as directed personally against General Avitabile.

Peshawur—Kafila of Shah Shooja's family

25th April

The Political Agent at Peshawur has promised Captn. Broadfoot the aid of the Brigade of British troops at present at Jalalabad, should he have any reason to fear molestation to the family of Shah Shoojah from the Sikh troops with his Camp or on the road between Jehlum and Peshawur.

7th May

A private letter from Peshawur dated as per margin states that Lieutt. Dowson with 300 Janbaz horsemen was expected in a few days at Peshawur, with a view to support the passage of the Shah's Kafila.

9th May

A private letter from Peshawur states that Colonel Shelton's Brigade left Jallalabad on the 8th May to march towards the Sikh frontier; that General Avitabile appeared worried with his fruitless exertions to preserve order, and that he was anxious for the arrival of our troops on the frontier.

10th May

A private letter from Peshawur states that General Avitabile would probably leave his Govt. at that place a few days after the Shah's Convoy had passed through it.

10th May

Captain Broadfoot in a private letter from Attok writes that all was quiet in his Camp on the 10th May. He was to make a peremptory demand for the removal of the mutineers from Saidoo, and march across the river on the 10th.

12th May

In another private communication of date noted on the margin Captain Broadfoot says, "I pushed the Sirdars" (who have been sent by the Sikh Durbar to conciliate the mutineers) "through the Pass, crossed with most of our troops after them and secured the same pretty well". Captn. B.¹ had sent for Lieutt. Dowson's Janbanzees; the whole Camp was secure on the West side of the Khairabad Pass—he had placed a guard at one of the gates of the town of Khairabad; also pickets in the Pass and in the river road, and had the bridge broken. "So once more", writes Captn. B. "their (the mutineers') projects are baffled". He goes on to say, "Do not fear for us, we are safer

1 Captain B. abbreviation for Captain Broadfoot.

now than before, and the whole risk is nothing in comparison to what we have come through." Captn. Broadfoot had six of the Punch prisoners who represent the mutinous battalions, and two delegates from the Hyderon battalion.

12th May

Captn. Broadfoot in a private letter states that to ensure the safe passage of the Shah's family under his charge to Afghanistan, he had called on the Afreedees to join his camp and had sent a Moolah to bring in the Eusofzyes for the same purpose.

Ajeet Sing

Sardar Ajeet Sing Sandanwalla has arrived by dak at Calcutta to treat on the part of Mae Chand Koonwur and has requested interview with the Gov. Genl. in order to explain his objects—The very nature, however, of his mission, exclusive of his having no credentials from the British Representatives prohibits a compliance with his request.

Bokhara

10th March

A letter from Coll. Stoddart from Bokhara states that the Ameer was preparing a letter under his own seal offering an explanation in apology for his conduct towards Colonel S. and stating his readiness fully to enter into friendly relations with the British Government. The Ameer had directed Coll. S. to write to Govt. in the same terms, "towards whom & myself", the Coll. adds, "he continues to be very kindly disposed."

Khoolum

Meer Wullie

1st May

The above-named Chieftain has recently been extending his conquests to the Northward of the Hindoo Koosh. Having expelled the garrison stationed in Bulkh by the King of Bokhara & made himself master of the place (vide. Newsletter No. 15 dt. 24th May) he is said to be laying siege to Akcha. Alarmed, apparently, at the consequences which such aggressions are likely to entail upon him, he has written to the Govt. to the effect that he is making these conquests on behalf of the Dooranee Monarch, whose vessal he now professes to be.

1st May

The Envoy & Minister at Cabool states that he will urge upon H.M. Shah Shooja ool Moolk the propriety of refraining from making any attempt to extend the authority of the Afghan monarchy beyond Syghan,

and that he would do all in his power to preserve a friendly understanding with the Meer of Bokhara.

Koondooz

1st May

The Envoy & Minister states as a proof of the growing respect for the authority of H.M. Shah Shooja among the chiefs to the north of the Hindoo Coosh, that Meer Morad Beg the Ruler of Koondooz having gained some advantages over his rival Kutta Khan which ended in the defeat & death of the latter, submitted a respectful representation of the circumstances to H.M. & himself.

Candahar

10th April

The Poll. Agent at Candahar states that Meerza Ahmed Khan, the Revenue Manager of that place, had several Rukkums addressed by H.M. Shah Shooja ool Moolk to different Dooranee Khans, expressive of gracious & indulgent consideration among which was a Rukkum to the address of Aktar Khan Alezye, promising him a full indemnity for past offences & exhorting him to loyalty for the future.

This Rukkum was forwarded to Aktar Khan by the Poll. Agent, in reply to which to the address of Meerza Ahmed Khan, Aktar Khan enters into attempts at a justification of his past conduct & professing allegiance to H.M.

12th April

The Poll. Agent at Candahar in a letter dt. as per margin mentions that tribes in the province of Gurmusel have exhibited a very friendly & pacific disposition towards the Afghan monarchy.

Kelat-i-Ghilzye

26th April

The Political Agent at Candahar reports the arrival at Kelat-i-Ghilzye of Captain Griffin's detachment & their occupation of the ancient position of that place.

Private letters from Candahar & Bombay mention the circumstance of the assault & capture of the fort of Syez Khan, one of the Ghilzye chiefs. It appears that Major Lynch, the Political Agent in the Ghilzye country, was in the neighbourhood, and approaching the fort, when the garrison brandished their swords, refused him admittance, & desired him to withdraw. He sent back to Kelat-i-Ghilzye for reinforcements—with which the fort was assaulted & taken. Capt. Saunders^{1a} of the Bengal Engineers

1a *Capt. C. B. Saunders* served on the Punjab Commission after 1849 and later as a Deputy Commissioner.

was injured whilst arranging the powder bags—but still continued in the field and during the subsequent action received six sabre wounds—Lt. Stoddart of the Bombay Engineers & Lt. Hoppe of the Shah's force were also wounded. About one-half of the garrison were killed & wounded—some few taken prisoners & the rest escaped in the dark.

No official details of the action or of the original cause of it, have yet reached the Govt.

12th May

A private letter from the E & M^{1b} at Cabool of May 12th says that "accounts from Major Lynch to 8th ulto. (May) regarding the Ghilzye affairs, are favourable."

Herat

14th April

The Envoy and Minister at Cabool has apprized Major Rawlinson that no pecuniary advances are to be made to Yar Mahomed pending the accommodation of our differences with the Government of Herat.

24th April

Major Todd reports that consequent on his relinquishing the Herat Agency with a view to join his own branch of the service in India agreeably to the instructions of the Right Honorable the Governor General, he has delivered the establishment and records of the above agency to Lieutenant North of the Bombay Engineers.

Scinde Upper

24th to 30th April & 1st to 7th May

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the *Precis of Scinde Intelligence* of dates noted in the margin. (1) Fazil Khan² commenced his attack on Noshkey, which after a long, continued and desperate attempt on his part to take the place by storm, proved fruitless. He withdrew to his own camp with the intention of renewing the assault or of surrounding the place and remaining there until it should capitulate. 2 Companies of H.M.'s 41st foot, the 20th Regiment N.I. Wing of 3d. Lt. Cavalry and 4th Troop Horse Artillery under the Command of Colonel Soppit were to proceed early on the morning of the 28th April for the purpose of relieving Noshkey. (2) Colonel Stacy states that Bebee Gaunjam had rejoined him at Kelat on the evening of the 27th April and continued to express a confident belief that Nusseer Khan would follow her without loss of time. (3) Ruhimdad had fled towards Dadur and instructions have been issued by the Political Agent to

^{1b} Abbreviation for Envoy & Minister (Sir W H Macnaghten).

² *Fazil Khan*, a trooper attached to the personal escort of the British envoy in Kabul.

Lt. Vardon³ to make him a prisoner. (4) The Poll. Agent has heard from good sources that Gool Mahomed had used his utmost influence with Nusseer Khan and Azad Khan of Kharan to induce them to abstain from submitting to the orders of the British Government and to watch the course of events at Herat. (5) Owing to the death of Dadah Khan, the chief of the Murree tribe, there is not now any man who possesses entire control over them. (6) The Political Agent has advised Nusseer Khan to lose no time in discarding from his confidence Darogah Gool Mahomed Khan and Raheemdad. (7) Kumal Khan, Nusseer Khan's father-in-law and Meer Bohir Khan had come to Kelat *en route* to Nusseer Khan for the purpose of representing to him how essential it was to his interests to join the Poll. Agent (8) After the most careful inquiries and consideration, Mr. Bell states that the majority of the chiefs and of the tribes in Beloochistan regard it as a matter of indifference which member of the Ahimedzye family is placed on the musnud of Kelat so long as their own individual rights and possessions are not interfered with. The tribes mentioned that they would be most willing to acknowledge Shah Nawaz Khan and to adhere faithfully to the orders of the British Govt. provided they be allowed to remain in possession of their rights and privileges.

Capt. J. Abbott

9th May

Captain J. Abbott, late on a mission to Khiva, reports his arrival at Bombay by the Steam Packet from Suez in progress to Calcutta whither he is directed to proceed by the Sect. Commee. Capt. A. proposes to come round by the first suitable vessel bound for Calcutta.

Baroda

24th March

From the Bombay abstract of Proceedings in the Political Dept. of the 24th March, it appears that the Guicowar has at length compromised the differences so long existing between His Highness & his relative Abhyee Bhugwant Row Guicowar.

Bhopal

12th April

The Political Agent at Bhopal states that owing to ill-health, the Nawab of Bhopal has been advised to try the effects of change of air & scene, & that H.M. contemplated visiting Baroda, Raiseen & other places in the neighbourhood of Bhopal in the hope of being restored to health.

Meywar

9th to 25th April

Copy of a Kyfeat from the Joudhpore Vakeel has been received by the Poll. Agent of the Meywar Agency with an English letter from Captain

³ Lt. Vardon (Varden) second in command to the Baluch Levy.

Ludlow intimating that the Marwar members of a punchayat had been named for the settlement of the cases pending between that state & Meywar & requesting that the Meywar members might also be named & notice given of the date & place where the punchayat is to be assembled.

Meywar Bheel Hills

24th April

As there exists but one opinion respecting the advantages to be derived from securing the co-operation of the Bheel Chiefs in the measures now in progress for the pacification of the Meywar Bheel Hills, the Thakoor Dowlut Sing of Jowass has been enrolled on the strength of the Bheel Corps in aid of the object stated. The influence of Dowlut Sing over a considerable portion of the hill tribes is said to be unbounded, and greatly calculated to maintain peace and good order throughout the country subject to his control. His tribute is to be collected through the officer commanding at Kheirwarrah instead of by the Tehseldar's Sebundees.

Jhalawur⁴

22nd April

The Maha Raj Rana of Jhalawur declining to station the Kotah contingent in his country—a measure which, it is feared, will disarrange the general plan of suppressing plunder and marauding in Malwah and Rajpootana by means of local corps posted at convenient stations throughout those countries has been informed that if His Highness cannot be prevailed upon to accede to the troops taking up a position within his territory, he will be responsible for the ill-consequences likely to attend his refusal and that he must, therefore, be prepared to establish by his own means such checks upon the plundering system and such precautions against his territory becoming either a thoroughfare or an asylum to predatory gangs as shall leave no reason for him to repent that the contingent had not been stationed at Jhalawur. In this case, His Lordship in Council inclines to the opinion that it would be advisable at the proper season to move the contingent to Neemuch or to Nusseerabad.

Oudh

19th to 25th April & 4th to 7th May

From the Lucknow Diary of dates noted in the margin it appears that on the 4th May the Amil of Sultanpore attacked the Forts of Durrao Koor and Sheekoour, the Talookdars of Gorapore, who had, for many months

⁴ *Jhalawur* (Jhalawar), a princely state in the south-east of Rajputana (area approx. 810 sq. miles). Its ruling family belonged to the Jhala clan of Rajputs which gave its name to the state. In 1838, the British took it under their protection and installed one of the old contenders, Madan Singh as its ruler. He assumed the title of Maharaj Rana, was succeeded by his son Prithvi Singh who rendered them a signal service during the Rebellion of 1857.

past, set his authority at defiance. The Amil's troops having approached the gate, the Garrison fired upon the assailants and killed 7 and wounded 38 men. Lt. Spiers, an officer in the King's service, was wounded. They fought for some hours, but at midnight a shell having set fire to some house-tops, the garrison evacuated the ghuree and retired into the jungle.

Nipal

1st to 15th May

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Nipal Diary of dates noted in the margin. (1) It is rumoured that the Kalla Pandeyes will certainly be reinstated at the lesser Dusahara in June. (2) A letter is said to have been prepared for the viceroy of Lassa, in which the Maha Rajah adverts to the alleged conquests of the English in China. (3) It was reported that the Misr Guru would be soon in Cathmandoo, the Raja having almost avowed his intention to permit it, as though he could not prevent it owing to his (the Guru's) unmanageable temper. Another report says that the Misr Guru had sent back the Jemadar who went to him with the Lal Mohur requiring him to repair to Benares, and also his own train, and had declared his intention of remaining in the Terraie. The Raja and Rani were however bent upon getting back the Guru and, it is said, the Resident would be asked to consent to the measure. (4) The Brides for the Raja's second son were on way from Gurruckpore. (5) The Viceroy of Lassa has by letter declined to sanction Nipal's interference in Ladakh affairs.

18th May

The Resident in Nipal in a letter dated as per margin intimates that on the 16 May two Nipalese Chiefs waited on him with a message from the Maha Rajah to the effect that as the Chief reason which induced the Misr Guru to make up his mind to go to Benares viz., to see his wife, had now ceased, by her death. His Highness proposed to recall the Guru to Cathmandoo where alone he could be secure from the injurious effects of the climate. In reply to his visitors, the Resdt. briefly reviewed the whole of the circumstances of the case, observing particularly that the proposal to retire to Benares had been originally the Guru's own, that no allusion had then been made to the Guru's wife as the reason of his retirement, or of the Resident's assent to it; that his returning to Cathmandoo would be attended with great risk; that such return after all that had passed on the subject could scarcely fail to revive old, and to originate new, surmises; and that he (the Resident) could not suffer himself to be made accessory to a measure which he thought was calculated to give rise, in various ways, to mischief and trouble to His Highness.

20th May

The Resident in Nipal reports that the Viceroy of Lassa has replied to the Durbar's recent address to him respecting Ladakh to the effect that the Chinese Government had no intention to interfere with the politics of that country. In a note appended to the letter containing the above report dated 22nd May the Resident questions the truth of the same adding, "the viceroy, it is said, has sanctioned Goorkha aggression or aid and has promised that China will back Nipal".

26th May

A Khurreeta has been received from the Raja of Nipal expressing his most earnest desire to maintain a firm friendship with the British Govt. and promising due security for the right of British subjects and the future non-employment of mischievous or evil disposed ministers.

Burmah

10th May

A private letter from Rangoon states that it was reported that some magazines were being constructed in the Arracan District, and that all at Rangoon was quiet and tranquil under the present Governor.

China

24th April

The Governor of the Eastern Settlement advises having purchased from the "Bencoolen" 250 tons of English Coal and reports further consignment per ship "Sultan" of 310 additional tons of the same article purchased from the ship "Providence."

The following is a list of Military Stores shipped by the Governor on board the "Sultan" from the Singapore Magazine for the Eastern expedition.

Balls Leaden Musquet	1,88,500
Fuzes filled, Cannon 8 In.	600
Fuzes Spherical, 1st size	600
Shells Common, 8 Inches	500
Shells Shrapnell, 8 In.	500
Shot round loose, 32 Pdrs.	3,000
Shot round 18 In.	100

8th May

The Govt. of Fort St. George intimate that on the arrival of Her Majesty's

Ship "Jupiter" at the Port of Madras, the officers & men required to complete the detachment of Madras Artillery and Sappers and Miners serving with the expedition in China were to be embarked on that vessel & that she was then to proceed to Masulipatam for the purpose of receiving on board & conveying to China the rifle company of the 1st Regt. N. I.

15th May

The Hon'ble Company's Steamer "Atalanta" requiring extensive repair, and His Excellency the Naval Commander-in-Chief, having recommended on this ground that she should be relieved as soon as practicable by another powerful ship from Bombay, a communication has been made to the Govr. of that Presidency with a view to ascertain that vessel can be readily spared to relieve the above-named Steamer, and allow her of being returned to Bombay for repairs. The Govt. of Bombay have been further requested to send one of the Indus or other light Iron Steamers under the escort of the vessel despatched to relieve the "Atalanta".

22nd May

The Barque "Sylph" which, it was stated, in a former News Letter (No. 14) was to be examined as to her fitness for Her M.'s Service in China as a vessel of war, having been pronounced by competent judges deficient as to good accommodation for a man of war's crew & for carrying the usual supply of stores &c. His Excellency the Naval Commander-in-Chief has deemed it unnecessary to take any steps towards the purchase of the same for the China expedition.

Fort William,
The 1st June, 1841

H. V. Bayley
Asstt. Secy. to Govt. of India

(Ref.—Foreign Deptt., Miscellaneous, Vol. 333 pp. 539-582)

Newsletter 46 : June 9, 1841

(No. 17 of 1841)

North West Frontier

16th to 20th May

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Akhbar of dates included in the margin :

(1) Owing to Capt. Broadfoot's want of confidence in the Sikh troops, notwithstanding the exertions of the Sirdars deputed for that purpose to conciliate them, the Maha Raja observed to Raja Dhian Sing that Rajah Goolab Sing should join the Kafila of the Shah. But the Raja suggested that nothing more need be done unless worse news should arrive from Peshawur.

(2) At the Maharaja's suggestion, the Baees wrote a letter to the Sundunwallas, requiring their return to the Punjab.

(3) Colonel Goolab Sing has been created General and invested with the Command of General Court's troops.

(4) The Maharaja attended by Raja Dhian Sing went to Mae Chund Koonwur to concilate her, and said that Lalla Teik Chund¹ should soon be created Dewan for the management of her Jageers.

(5) Sirdar Sham Sing and General Avitabile reported that the troops at Peshawur would not obey their orders to remove themselves to the Usofzye Country.

(6) As required by Mr. Clerk, orders were despatched to the officer at Peshawur to prepare supplies for the British troops at Jamrood.

(7) The Charyaree Sowars requested the appointment of Sirdar Jowala Sing permanently to command them.

(8) The Maha Raja ordered the appointment of some of his confidential people to the treasury affairs at Cashmere.

(9) Orders were issued to the district officers to apprehend the families of the Sepoys of the mutinous Battalions at Peshawur.

¹ *Lalla Teik Chund* (Lala Tek Chand) was incharge of the 'Toshakhana' of Rani Chand Kaur.

(10) The Maha Raja made a vow to give 1100 Rupees worth of "Kurrah Purshaud" in the name of Gooroo Ramdoss if the Shah's Kafila reached its destination in safety.

(11) The Barukzyes are said to be building houses in the Shah Durreh garden, and the Rohtas and Khampore districts were proposed for their maintenance with Sikh thannahs remaining in them.

(12) The appointment of Koonwur Purtab Sing to Cashmere with other Chiefs is said to be merely nominal. They are to look into old accounts of the districts and are to act in a subordinate capacity and Rajah Golab Sing is empowered to punish them in case of disobedience.

(13) The officer at Rawalpindee was rebuked for being neglectful of the store of Grain there belonging to the British Commissariat and was warned to be more careful.

(14) One of the mutinous battalions is said to have marched towards the Eusofzye Country, and the other three promised to follow them provided their officers, imprisoned by Captain Broadfoot, should be released. The Maha Raja was much pleased to hear of the mutinous battalion having marched away.

(15) The Barukzye chiefs declared that Capt. Mackeson was very kind to them and had even recommended them to Mr. Clerk.

(16) It is rumoured that the Khalseh Govt. is much alarmed, lest the British troops, after conducting the Shah's Kafila, should Occupy Peshawar.

25th May

The G. G.'s Agent on the N. W. Frontier states that Koonwur Purtab Sing had not yet set out for Cashmere, and that Raja Goolab Sing was endeavoring to shew that there was no necessity for the Koonwur's visiting that province. Although the Maha Raja is apprehensive that he might have much difficulty in restoring his authority in Cashmere, without having recourse to the awe in which the Raja's name and resources are held in that direction, he is said to be very averse, to delivering over its Govt. to the Raja's exclusive superintendence.

Hill Intelligence

11th May

Accounts from the hills state that there are about 3000 Sikh Troops in Mundee and only about 200 Sepoys in Kooloo. No hostilities prevailing there at present. It appears that the people who had deserted their villages during the late warfare in the hills are reoccupying them in consequence of the comparative peace which is restored there.

Peshawur

10th May

A private letter from Cabool states that as Peshawur is in a sad state of disorganization that there can be now no doubt of General Avitabile's intention to abdicate his Govt. of that country & retire to Cabool. The private communication goes on to say that possibly Peshawur would be plundered & taken possession of by the mountain tribes which surround it, unless the British Government interfered with a view to avert the evil.

The Envoy and Minister had instructed Captain Mackeson to authorize Brigadier Shelton's return from Peshawur the moment the royal families were pronounced out of danger, & that it would be certainly proper for Captain M. to take his own departure also whenever Genl. Avitabile left his Government. In this case, Sir W. H. Macnaghten enjoined Captain M. to make the best arrangements possible by means of native agency for the safe conveyance of the British dawks.

15th May

The Poll. Agent at Peshawur writes that he had received an intimation from Captain Broadfoot on the 14 May to the effect that the Sikh mutinous troops at Saido had consented to evacuate their position on the high road & that they had commenced removing their camp across the river Sandao. Owing to this movement of the Sikh force there will be no occasion for Coll. Shelton's Brigade to advance beyond its present position which will therefore shortly retrace its steps towards Afghanistan.

24th May

The Gov. Genl.'s Agent for the affairs of the N. W. Frontier reports that the Kafila of Shah Shooja's family under command of Captain Broadfoot reached Peshawur on the 18th May in safety.

Kelat-i-Ghilzye

5th May

With reference to the state of affairs at Kelat-i-Ghilzye (vide. News Letter dated 1st June Inst.) the Envoy and Minister has directed a strong force upon that place calculated to frustrate any designs of the enemy, & has given instructions to go on with the work of strengthening our position there. Most of the hostile tribes are said to have fled to the mountains; but Sir. W. H. Macnaghten was in correspondence with them & His Majesty Shah Shooja had sent a respectable Agent to remonstrate with them on the folly of their conduct, requested them to return to allegiance & to their homes.

Candahar

16th April

The Poli. Agent at Candahar reports that under the auspices of His Majesty Shah Shooja's restored government, a larger extent of land in the vicinity of Candahar has been laid under cultivation than has ever previously occurred since the foundation of the Dooranee empire, and that a favourable spring has also given a promise of a most abundant crop which will make the resources of Candahar fully adequate to meet any demand that can be made on them for the ensuing year.

15th May

A private letter from Cabool of date quoted on the margin states that the Dooranees in the neighbourhood of Candahar "were in good humour". The Envoy and Minister was to send his military Assistant Mr. Conolly to Candahar to raise two Janbaz Corps with a view to garrison them on the western frontier. The private ltr. adds that Shah Shooja would send Shahzada Timour to govern the Candahar Provinces as it was uncertain when His Majesty would be able to go thither.

Indus Steam Navigation

Lieutenant Jardine, in charge of the Indus Steam Flotilla, reports the arrival of the Steam boat "Satellite" at Bukkur on the 8th April, having been despatched from Currachee at the request of the Political Agent in Lower Scinde with 5 lakhs of treasure on the 24th ulto. She arrived at the mouth of the river on the evening of the same day, and on the following morning commenced her voyage to Bukkur. She reached Hyderabad in the morning of the 28th and there received on board about ten tons of commissariat stores with which she proceeded to Sukkur, her drafts being 3 feet forward and 3-1 aft, and came, too, at Sukkur on the afternoon of the 8th April.

At the requisition of the Assistant Political Agent in Upper Sinde, she was again despatched on the 10th to receive and bring up four river boats, a portion of ordnance stores urgently required for battering train proceeding in advance with which she fell in 10 miles below Kalora fuel station, a distance of about 40 miles from Sukkur, and took on board 6 tons and arrived at Bukkur on the 13th.

Bombay

20th May

Don Pedro Joze Da Costa Pacheco, Brazilian Consul General in the British Dominions in Asia residing at Bombay, having solicited the permission of Government to appoint Mr. Bras Ferriandis as Vice Consul in that port, in consequence of authority reced. from the Government

of His Imperial Majesty, Senhor Dou Pedro the II, to that effect, the Right Honorable the Governor General has expressed his acquiescence in the appointment of Mr. Ferriandis to the situation alluded to.

Cambay

7th April

From the abstract of papers laid before the Govt. of Bombay of the 7th April it appears that Bundi Ali Khan, Nawab of Cambay, died on the 15th March last.

14th April

A subsequent Abstract of Bombay papers states that the late Nawab has been succeeded by his nephew Mirza Hossein Yardar Ali Khan². As the late Nawab has a brother living, the collector of Kaiva has been requested by the Bombay Govt. to explain the cause of the nephew having in this instance succeeded in preference to the brother of the deceased.

Goa

5th May

From the abstract of papers laid before the Govt. of Bombay of 5th May, it appears that an assemblage of a large party of armed men had appeared on the frontier of the Portuguese settlement of Goa, with hostile intentions against that territory.

Hyderabad

2nd to 8th May

From the Political Diary of the Hyderabad Public correspondence of dates marginally noted, it appears that the Minister had despatched a body of men to bring in the Arabs entertained at Hyderabad (vide News Letter No. 15) and that he had heard that the levy had been raised by an Arab Zemadar in the name of the Raja of Sattara.

The Baiza Bae

10th May

Captain J. Fitzgerald reports the arrival of Her Highness the Baiza Bae at Dauepuree, one march beyond Oomrawatty, on the morning of the 10th May.

17th May

On the 17th May Her H. arrived at Wyraghur about 5 miles north of Amlassar.

2. *Mirza Hossein Yardar Ali Khan* (Yawar Ali Khan), nephew of Bundi Ali Khan, Nawab of Cambay. He succeeded to the 'guddi' in preference to another brother of the Nawab who is said to have better claims.

Gwalior

29th March to 4th April

From the Gwalior Diary of dates noted on the margin it appears that the Ministers of the Maha Raja are at variance with each other in the adoption of measures for the settlement of affairs & that four or five different plans are said to be in agitation for the formation of a new administration.

The Maha Rajah's private treasury has lately contributed six lacks of Rupees towards the exigencies of the public service.

23rd May

A private letter from Gwalior states that in consequence of the little attention paid to the communications made to the Gwalior Durbar for cooperation in preserving the general peace of Malwa, the Resident had asked and obtained an interview with the Maha Raja. H. H. in conference with the Resident mentioned to him that he (H.H.) had every wish to attend to what was required of him by the British Government; that he had given orders on all the points the Resident had brought to his notice & would take every care that measures were adopted for carrying them into effect. The private communication goes on to say that on the Residents leaving the Maha Raja, His Highness sent for all the Ministers and told them that if they could not pay more attention to his orders & be more careful in the discharge of their duties as public servants, they had better give in their resignation of office and retire. His Highness is said to have particularly addressed himself to the Mama Sahib to whose department the Amils and other local officers in Malwah in general belong. The same letter adds that the Maha Raja was to send a Vakeel to Indore with full powers to act for the general pacification—not improbably Nara Punt Aptiah, Scindiah's nominal Soobadar of Malwa. The health of Maharajah Jungogee Scindiah, from the same communication, appears to be very delicate.

Fort of Kherooa

13th May

The Resident in Gwalior, in a letter dated as per margin, reports the evacuation of the Fort of Kherooa & the surrender of Thakoor Raae Sing & of his son Bakut Sing—This fortunate result the Rest. adds, is attributable to the vigorous measures adopted by Captain Minto & to the steady and brave conduct of Scindiah's Reformed Contingent under his command—The Contingent has returned to Sippree.

Joudpore

Marwar and Sukur international claims are in course of adjustment by arbitrators.

Jyepore

12th to 18th April

From the Political Diary of the Jyepore Agency it appears the Council of Regency had resolved that the proceeds of the late Soomeerundas Dadoo Punthie to which no one was entitled by inheritance, should be expended upon public works, for the use of travellers.

Kishengurh

31st May

The Governor General's Agent in Rajpootana reports the death of Maha Raja Mokum Sing of Kishengurh on the morning of the 17th May. The late Maha Raja has left no issue—no adopted son, but one widow. The Chief of Futtehgurh is said to be the next of kin and next to him the Chief of Kalaota. It is said that the Maha Raja on his death bed named the latter as his successor; but, on this subject, the Governor General's Agent had heard nothing from the Kishengurh Authorities. The old Futtehgurh Chief died sometime since, but he has a son between 30 & 40 who once visited Calcutta to assert certain claims of his house.

Nipal

26th May

The Resident in Nipal has forwarded a Khureetah from the Maha Rajah to the address of the Right Honorable the Governor General dt. 18th Jaith 1898 (23rd May) being in reply to His Lordship's last communication, wherein His Highness repeats his intention of adhering to his engagements of January last, and the obligations of good faith & friendship, and promises to discard mischievous and evil disposed persons altogether from his Councils. The Resident, in acknowledging the receipt of the Khureetah, has written to the Maha Rajah requesting His Highness to inform him what measures have been taken in regard to the affairs of the Raj Guru and of the two cases of denial of justice to British traders by the Courts of Catmandhoo, which formed a part of the peremptory demands of Government upon the durbar last autumn.

18th to 29 May

The Nipal Diary of dates noted in the margin contains the following items of intelligence :—

(1) The Guru has virtually been invited back. (2) The Kalla Pandeys were expected in from the interior. (3) A new placard is said to have been affixed to the Palace walls which though trivial in tenor is considered likely to be mischievous. (4) Prebhee Chund, the Rani's father, is said to have made violent remonstrances against the recall of the Misr Guru, insisting that it would be the ruin of the

State. (5) The Rani has vowed never again to enter the Palace (she is residing at her garden house) even during her son's marriage till she has carried out her schemes. (6) The Ministers appear considerably alarmed at the prospect before them. (7) The recent letters from Lassa do not sanction Nipal's interference with Ladakh politics, and require to know who is to conduct the approaching periodical mission to Peking. Jagobburn Pandey a partizan of the Rani's is spoken of as Envoy elect. (8) Notwithstanding the promises made in the Khureetah to His Lordship's address, the Misr Guru who is now somewhere in the Turae, it is believed, is said to be about to be smuggled up, or is about to force his way up to Catmandhoo despite the Raja's prohibition. (9) The Raja is said to be oppressed with anxiety and half resolved at times to shake off the Rani. (10) The Rani summoned 2 Companies of the Srinath Regiment for the arrest of the 4 principal Ministers. (11) Agreeably to the Resident's advice Prebhee Chund exerted his influence with the Rani to reduce her to reason; she is said to have been somewhat moved at her fathers' remonstrance, though she is determined not to give up the Misr Guru, nor abandon any of her schemes. (12) The Ministers are said to have demanded an explanation from the Raja of the Rani's order to arrest four of their number, and have threatened resignation in case of refusal of some sort of satisfaction. (13) The wedding of the Raja's second son took place on the 28th May, which the Resident attended with his suite.

Eastern Frontier

Manipore

8th May

Brigadier J. H. Little, commanding Eastern Frontier, reports that at the requisition of the superintendent of Cachar, a Subadar's party from the Sylhet Light Infantry had been detached from Silchar for the apprehension of the Munipore Prince Treebhowanjeet Sing. This individual was lately placed under restraint by the Superintendent of Cachar for the non-payment of the advances made to him on account of agricultural purposes (Tuccavee); but the Commissioner of Dacca considering it inexpedient to detain him long in confinement, solely on this ground, he was released accordingly. Since his liberation he has taken up arms against Government.

The detachment failed in apprehending the prince, who, it is said, fled into the jungles and passed over into the Munipore territory. Several arms and other weapons of war have been captured from his party.

At the requisition of the Superintendent of Cachar, a further native officer's party of the Sylhet Light Infantry Battalion was detached by

Lieutenant Egerton from Silchar to Hoorung for the purpose of preventing any arms or supplies being conveyed to the Prince.

A further detachment was sent to Luckipore to search all boats passing up and down the river there.

22nd May

The Commissioner of Dacca, in a letter dated as per margin, intimates that the superintendent of Gachar had succeeded in apprehending some and dispersing others of the prince's followers, who appears to have meditated an attack on Manipore.

15th May

A subsequent letter from the Political Agent at Manipore states that the prince, accompanied by his brother Ram Sing, and another prince with their followers, were, on the evening of the 14th May, surrounded in a lull at Manipore, by the Senaputtee Muniepore "General in Chief" but cutting their way through, they gallantly made for the Regent's palace, which they reached and attacked on the 18th. The Enemy obtained possession of the magazine and held it for some time, when after their numbers had been much reduced, a rush was made upon the magazine by the Senaputtee's people. Ram Sing was shot in the scuffle which ensued and Treebhowan-jeet Sing, who was captured, was killed whilst being brought to the Regent. There is no positive intelligence of the other prince.

North-East Frontier

26th May

The Governor General's Agent on the N. E. Frontier intimates that the Raja of Cooch Behar has solicited from Government a qualified person who would undertake the medical charge of his household and at the same time the education of the young princes in English. The General Committee of Public Instruction have been requested to select and forward an individual possessing the requisite qualifications for the purpose.

China

31st May

The Embarkation Committee report that in consequence of the length of time which the transport "Mermaid" would require for the completion of her repairs, they have caused her to be discharged and have supplied her place with the new ship "Worcester" of 636 tons burthen. The Committee have also, in communication with the Marine Board, engaged the "Nerbudda" of 719 tons burthen for transports to be employed in the Mily. Dept.

3rd June

The Commander of the Hon'ble Company's Steam Vessel "Phlegethon"

states that he has placed himself under the orders of the Controller of Government steam vessels, with the view of rendering that vessel available for active service in China and the "Phlegethon" will probably leave on the 15th for that quarter.

26th May

The Government of Bombay intimate the following arrangements having been made for letters to China from the Bombay Post Office, viz.

To make up separate packets for the naval and military forces, the latter to be addressed to Head Quarters & the former, through the Macao Post Office, to the several ships, the packets for the Navy including separate packets for each ship & those for the army separate packets for each Regiment.

H. V. Bayley

Assistant Secy. to Govt. of India

Fort William

The 9th June, 1841

(Ref.— Foreign Deptt., Miscellaneous, Vol. 333, pp. 583-616)

Newsletter 47 : June 22, 1841

(No. 18 of 1841)

North West Frontier

22nd to 30th May

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Akhbar of dates noted on the margin :—

(1) Payundeh Khan has rebelled in the Hazarrah Country and captured several forts and pillaged 2 or 3 places in the said country. Sirdar Sham Sing Attaree Wallah was ordered to proceed to Hazara on his return from Peshawur in order to settle the affairs of that country. (2) The Maha Rajah told Rajah Dhian Sing that he wanted to lay a dak of bearers from Lahore to Benares to facilitate the receipt and despatch of news and for the procuring of any thing that might be required. (3) Koonwur Purtab Sing was ordered to prepare himself for departure to Cashmere with a view to put down the Huzariah disturbance in his own way. The troops and the garrison at Cashmere were rumoured to have taken an oath to oppose Rajah Golaub Sing and the Koonwur to the very last. (4) Dissoundhee Jemadar of Harcarrahs reported to the Durbar that he had taken securities from all the Zemindars and officers on the road from the Attock to the Bhummeuvalla to protect the British daks, and had made every arrangement to ensure their safety across the country. (5) Sirdar Futteh Sing Maun was ordered to await the arrival of troops from Peshawur at the fort of Attock with the British treasure in his charge. (6) General Avitabile was invested with the insignia of the store of Runjeet Sing. (7) Some ammunition was ordered to be sent to Cashmere. (8) The Maha Rajah consented to the flagellation and confinement of Jowalla Sing in compliance with the wishes of two of the Sikh Chiefs on the ground of his having incited the Charyaree Horse to kill the Rajahs. (9) It was reported that the sepoy of the battalions had broken open the Treasury boxes with their swords and spears and divided the money among themselves.

5th June

The following particulars are extracted from a letter from the Governor General's Agent on the North West Frontier of date noted in the margin :—

(1) The troops at Lahore are said to be obedient on parade, but they continue to reject the appointment of any superior officers who are disagreeable to them. Lawlessness in the army of the state does not prevail

now to the same extent as before and every instance of it is punished with more or less severity. Some regiments do, indeed, oppose measures of reform and with these the Maharajah, it is said, continues to temporize. (2) The Maha Rajah has declared to the Troops his determination to avenge the murder of Captain Foulkes, and the chief perpetrators of it have been apprehended by Rajah Dhyan Sing, tho' the ring leader, it is said, has escaped from Lahore. (3) Rajah Dhian Sing's power in the state is increasing and he now exercises his authority fearlessly as he sees the courage of his opponents failing. (4) The Rajahs have succeeded in obtaining the office of the "Deorhee" or door keeper of the presence chamber with Koonwur Pertaub Sing. (5) The Maha Rajah has granted to the Koonwur, in Jageer, the Districts of Hazara, Damtour and Pukhelah at the head of the Indus, and yielding an annual revenue of three lakhs and twenty thousand rupees. (6) Rajah Dhian Sing having pointed out the propriety of noticing the reputed child of the late Maha Rajah Runjeet Sing born in 1838, whose mother Jendha was a hill girl and who was recognised by Mae Chund Koonwur, the Maha Rajah has occasionally seen and shown kindness to this child. (7) The Sikh troops in Cashmere have declared their willingness to obey any orders from the Maha Rajah, conveyed through his old servants, instead of through Rajah Golaub Sing: they wish the Maha Rajah to transfer the Government of the province wholly to the Koonwur. (8) There is a rumour of a collision having taken place between the troops of Zorawur Sing, the Vazier of Rajah Golaub Sing, and the "Mool-keas" or the militia of Bussahir at some place near the frontier of Ladakh and within the Kanawur territory of Bussahir north of the Sutlege. The Gov. Genl.'s Agent has received assurances from the Durbar that it has no intention to molest the Rajah of Bussahir.

10th June

The following particulars are extracted from a letter from the Governor General's Agent on the North West Frontier dated as per margin:— (1) The state of anarchy and mutiny lately prevailing in the Punjab is unending. (2) The Maha Rajah's attention has, for some time, been directed to inflicting punishment on mutineers and other lawless characters and to turning the minds of the troops in general to the indulgence of the periodical leave of absence. By these means, considerable progress has been made towards restoring order in the army present at Lahore. The rumour that British troops were descending from Jellalabad evidently produced a salutary effect, not only on the troops at Peshawur, but also on distant divisions of the disobedient army, and when Brigadier Shelton's Brigade appeared within a march of Peshawur, the Maha Rajah, it is said, made the most of its presence and proved to his battalions that continued disorder caused by their excesses

could only result in their prompt annihilation. These and other reports have induced the troops to accept the offer of the leave of absence made them, and return to their homes. (3) The revolted troops in Coshmere have made overtures to Rajah Golaub Sing, who is still at Jummoo, to renounce their rebellion, if admitted to certain privileges of increased and prompt pay. (4) Rajah Dhian Sing has so severely punished Jowalla Sing, the chief who lately headed the Charyaree Sowars in their rebellion against the Rajah, that his life is despaired of. (5) The "Jhunda" or the Goroo's standard at Amrutsur, which had been thrown down in the late storms to the great dismay of the priests, the Akhalees and the Sikhs in general, has been reconstructed, and lately replaced with great eclat and a salute from the batteries.

Peshawur

19th May

The Political Agent at Peshawur states that in prosecution of his intention to withdraw from the Govt. of that country, Genl. Avitabile sent him (the Poll. Agent) an application on the 17 May, to convey the Genl.'s camp equipage & carriage to Ali Musjid on a pretext of selling them for the use of Shah Zeman. After speaking to Captain Mackeson, however, the General thought of continuing at Peshawur, one or two months longer, & appeared to think that he could perhaps carry on his Govt. for the period specified with safety to himself. The occurrence, however, of a fresh mutiny among the irregular troops would seem to render his stay at Peshawur any longer difficult. Capt. Mackeson adds that the mutinous Sikh troops at Peshawur were contemplating a march to Lahore.

Afghanistan

20th May

A private letter from Cabool states that Colonel Shelton had reached Jamrood originally with a view to escort the family of the Shah proceeding to Afghanistan under charge of Captain Broadfoot, but that the Brigadier was to return to Cabool as no molestation seemed to threaten the Cafila at the period the troops had reached Jamrood.

12th May

The Envoy & M. (Minister) in a letter dated as per margin, states that H. M. Shah Shoojah ool Moolk has conferred the 2d. class of the order of the Dooranee Empire on Brigadier Shelton and the 3rd Class of the same on Captn. Ferris for services rendered by them during the campaign in the Nazian Valley.

24th May

The Poll. Agent at Peshawur states that 10 lacks of treasure under Siidar Futteh Sing Maun from Peshawur to Cabool had reached the Attok on the 23rd May. The Treasure was to be escorted on by a detachment from Colonel Shelton's Brigade to Cabool.

10th June

At the requisition of the Govr. Genl.'s Agent in the N. W. Frontier, the Sikh Durbar has appointed one of their officers to convoy to Peshawur some military stores, urgently required for the British Troops in Cabool laden on 350 camels. These stores were to be despatched from Ferozepore in a few days.

13th May

With a view of rendering the Jan Baz force under the superintendence of Captn. Trevor as applicable as possible to the exigencies of the Public Service, the Envoy and Minister has considered it advisable to direct :

1st. That whenever portions of the Shah's force and the Jan Baz Cavalry may be temporarily united for operations in the field, the latter shall be considered as placed at the disposal of Brigadier Auquetil, and the Officer Comdg. be ordered to report himself accordingly. Captn. Trevor¹ on such occasions is to communicate the requisite details of the arrangement by letter to the Brigade Staff.

2d. Captain Trevor is to furnish the Brigadier with such general information regarding the Afghan Horse as may, in his opinion, be necessary either to his useful employment of them when joined with H.M. Shah Shoojah's force, or to his forming an accurate judgment of the value of the military support derivable to H.M.'s Govt. from the service in question.

The foregoing rules will in no measure affect Captn. Trevor's arrangements respecting the interior convoy of the Janbaz regiments which have met with His Majesty's approbation.

Candahar

2d. May

The Political Agent in Upper Scinde writes that as soon as the state of our political relations with Beloochistan will admit of it, he will make

¹ *Captn. Trevor* attached to Shah Shuja, he raised the 'Hazirbash Corps' and acted as Superintendent of the 'Afghan Horse' regiments. In appreciation of his services an insignia of the Durrani empire was conferred on him. His detailed report on the 'Military system of Afghanistan' was a valuable contribution on the subject. He was murdered in the Afghan insurrection of 1841-42.

arrangements for pushing on a regiment to Candahar from those posted above the Boolan Pass.

12th May

The Political Agent in Upper Scinde states that 7 lacs of rupees were held in readiness at Quetta up to the date of his letter to be forwarded to Candahar by the first escort proceeding to that place.

13th May

A private letter from Candahar states that the 2d. Regiment had re-crossed the Helmund in safety and that Captain Woodburn's² Corps was to follow shortly. The same letter adds that Akhtar Khan's power was on the decline. He had attacked Omar Khan, one of the loyal Alezye Chiefs and had been defeated with loss of two men. He had also quarrelled with his ally Meer Afzal Khan and had been told by the Nouzadees that if he attempted to enter their country they would rise *en masse* to resist him.

19th May

The Military Secretary to the Envoy and Minister at the Court of Cabool intimates that His Majesty the Shah has resolved on deputing his son Shahzada Timour to Candahar. Lieutenant J. B. Conolly, Commanding the Escort of the Envoy and Minister, with Captain Hart's³ Corps of Janbaz and part of Lieutenant Golding's, has been requested to accompany the Prince and his party.

Kelát-i-Ghilzye

14th May

A private letter from Candahar states that matters were improving at Kelat-i-Ghilzye, & that the peasantry were flocking in to labor at the Kelat works.

Khiva

21st April

A private letter from Meshed mentions that Captain A. Conolly was using his best endeavors to get the Khan Huzrut to liberate the Persian slaves who had already bought their freedom. It is rumoured that one hundred of them reached Meshed a short time ago.

- 2 *Capt. Woodburn* of the 44th Foot was attached to Shah Shuja's force. He also received an insignia of the Durrani empire, but 'lost his life at the hands of the Ghilzais.
- 3 *Capt. Hart* of the 22nd Bombay Native Infantry was attached to Shah Shuja's force. For some time he acted as interpreter to the Sind Reserve Force and later as Postmaster at Dadhar in order to facilitate the smooth flow of military correspondence between the British government and the front lines in Afghanistan and Sind. He received an insignia of the Durrani empire and submitted a valuable report on Sind and the neighbouring states to his government.

Scinde Upper*2nd May*

The Poll. Agent in Upper Scinde intimates that, owing to our present political relations with Beloochistan, the four regiments of N.I. specified below have been stationed above the Bolan Pass as follows :—

- the 42nd Bengal N.I. posted at Kelat;
- the 20th Be. N.I. detached to Noshkey;
- the 21st Be. N.I. posted at Quetta; and
- the 25th Be. N.I. posted at Mustoong.

8th to 14th May

The following items are extracted from the *Precis of Scinde Intelligence* of dates quoted on the margin :—

(1) Nusseer Khan, after lingering for some time in the neighbourhood of Null, removed to Noshkey near the frontier, with the view of communicating more freely with Azad Khan Nowherwanee, the Chief of that country. Azad Khan, however, has been intimidated by the advance of Coll. Soppit's detachment in the direction of Noshkey, and had abstained from showing openly any countenance to the Agents of Nusseer Khan.

(2) Reports from Cutchee state every thing to be quiet in that quarter. The Kujjucks have settled down peaceably and have hitherto abstained from molesting their neighbours. On the North-Eastern frontier of Cutchee, however, a race named the Kulpur Boogties, who inhabit partly the skirts of that province and, partly, those of Scinde and the Sikh states, have combined with the Muzarees, a tribe subject to the Govt. of Lahore, and engage in frequent plundering expeditions into Boordgah and other tracts belonging to the Ameers of Sinde. As these incursions extend to the line of road leading from Shikarpore to Rajhan and render it insecure for traffic, Mr. Bell has requested the Poll. Agent at Hyderabad to use his influence with the Ameers with the view of inducing them to establish such posts on the frontier as may tend equally to ensure the security of their own subjects & of the public roads. Mr. Bell has also instructed Captn. Kennedy, the Offg. Asstt. Poll. Agent at Khyrpore, to request His Highness Meer Roostum's serious attention to the subject, that portion of his territory situated in Boordgah being peculiarly exposed to the incursions of the marauders.

15th May

The Poll. Agent in Upper Scinde states that Nusseer Khan was still lingering on the frontier of Kelat and would probably continue to do so as long as he can subsist the followers by whom he is attended. It is thought inexpedient, therefore, to reduce the number of troops in Upper Scinde until the affairs of Kelat are finally arranged.

15th to 21st May

The following items are extracted from the *Precis of Scinde Intelligence* of dates quoted in the margin :—(1) The Asstt. Poll. Agent on deputation to Noshkey states that when Colonel Soppit's detachment had arrived within a march of that place, Fazil Khan evacuated the province. (2) The Agent addressed the different subordinate chiefs of the Lujgur Meyngil tribe, holding out promises of forgiveness, provided they returned to their homes, and engaged to abstain from unprovoked hostilities for the future. (3) The door has also been left open to Fazil Khan on similar conditions. His adherents are gradually deserting him and making separate terms for themselves. (4) A confidential Agent, named Yar Mahomed, arrived at Quetta from Azad Khan, the Kharun chief, for the purpose of tendering his master's submission to the authority of H.M. Shah Shoojah ool Moolk. This sudden resolution on his part was occasioned by the advance of Coll. Soppit's detachment to Noshkey. He says he will engage to pay in future the tribute formerly paid by him to the throne of Cabool. Yar Mohd. stated to Mr. Bell that he had been instructed by his master to assure him that in the event of Fazil Khan's continuing in a hostile attitude, he, viz., Azad Khan, would, if directed, take measures to reduce him to submission. (5) Azad Khan mentioned that Nusseer Khan continued at Noshkey & had determined on not submitting to Govt. unless the British posts should be withdrawn, in the first instance, from Kelat & Moostung.

Sinde Lower*17th to 23rd May 1841*

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the *Diary of the Lower Sinde Agency* of dates noted in the margin :—(1) Meer Nusseer Khan has offered, on behalf of himself and the heirs of the late Meer Noor Mahomed Khan, sole proprietors of the Hyderabad share of Shikarpore and its dependencies, to farm the whole to the British Government at a fixed rent in perpetuity, retaining merely nominal sovereignty. (2) On a remonstrance to that effect made by the Political Agent, Meer Nusseer Khan promised to dismiss the troops which he collected for the purpose of prosecuting his quarrel with Shere Mahomed Khan induced by a hope that some settlement may be effected by the Political Agent.

Indus Steam Navigation*4th May*

The Commander of the Steam Flotilla in the river Indus reports the despatch of the "Comet" steam boat, to Hyderabad on the 20th March. She proceeded down the river with the engines going at half power and reached Hyderabad on the 20th April. She took on board from the last

mentioned places, 100 boxes of treasure containing 5 lakhs, & commenced her return voyage to Sukkar on the morning of the 22d, drawing 2.10 forward & aft; and arrived at Bukkur on the 29th April.

Cambay

With regard to the accession of Mirza Hoossein Yawar Ali Khan to the Guddy of Cambay (vide Newsletter No. 17) the Govt. of Bombay report that the above-named individual succeeded the late Nawab at His Excellency's own request, and with the free consent of his only brother, Yawar Ali Khan. As the brother of the late Nawab voluntarily waived his right to the succession, the Bombay Govt. were of opinion that it was not, in any way, called upon to interfere with his arrangement & it, therefore, resolved to recognize the nephew as successor to the deceased.

Africa

7th June

Mr. Charles Johnston, late Surgeon of the H.C. 's Steamer "Phlegethon", is about to undertake a voyage of discovery, into the interior of Africa.

This is a private and not a Government undertaking.

Bagdad

6th to 15th Feby.

It is rumoured that the Persian Princes at Bagdad will be removed entirely from the Persian frontier by the Porte, to Aleppo or Damascus.

Kerman

6th to 15th Feby.

Private letters from Tehran state that Agha Khan Mahlatee had 7,000 or 8,000 Beloochees with him, who were actively plundering near Kerman, and that his long continued rebellious movements seemed beyond the control of the Persian Court.

Persia

6th to 15th Feby.

Dr. Riach, on a deputation to Meshed & Ghorian, in a private letter from Tehran, describing the state of Persia, when he was at the Court, intimates that he had an audience of the Shah of Persia on the 4th February and was graciously received by H. M. Dr. R. writes that all those who seek the welfare of Persia were delighted to see him back, and observed to him that they knew that both the Shah & the Hajee were waiting for a favourable opportunity to shew their desire for the renewal of friendly relations with England.

The French officers at Tehran, expect Genl. Damas (who was translating French military manoeuvres) are, it is said, quite unemployed.

Those who arrived there with Hossein Khan received their pay pretty regularly. Genl. Damas and his party are said to be less fortunate, and to be often in want of their daily expenses. The Shah rarely sees the General now, and it is presumed that in a short time the Russian Minister will be applied to by the French people to get them the means of returning to Europe. Genl. Damas is said to be a violent and imprudent man, who tried to interfere in opposition to the Shah's nomination of Meerza Abool Hussan Khan to the office of Minister for Foreign affairs, and declared he had proofs of a conspiracy in Tehran in favor of the Zil-i-Sultan. He had, it is stated, the names of above 60 people, who, he said, were implicated in the conspiracy. A short time since he attacked one of the officers of Government, who returned the blow on the Genl.'s head, which cut it. Since the occurrence of these things, Genl. Da Hamel refused to see Genl. Damas or any others of the party, and the Persian Court & people were getting tired of their French guests. Genl. Da Hamel's communications with the Persian Court are said to have always been such as tended to remove irritation from the minds of the Shah and the Hajee, as also to elevate, in their opinion, the power & greatness of England & the value of her friendship. The finances of Persia were in great confusion. The Govt. was actively engaged in the manufacture of artillery, and all the money the Hajee (the Prime Minister) gets is to be spent in the arsenal. The troops generally were in the most complete state of disorganization, and the men & inferior officers were, from a year to three years, in arrears of pay. Preparations, it is said, were being made for the erection of a splendid palace for the Russian mission outside the city.

Persia-Herat

21st April

A private letter from Dr. Riach at Meshed states that on the 8th April all was quiet there, & that the Shah & the Hajee were very firm in their resolution of adhering to their late professions of earnestly desiring a friendly understanding with the British. The private letter goes on to say that Sheer Mahomed Khan, the envoy from Herat, was well received by the Shah & the Hajee, "but they said, 'the affair of Herat is finished & we cannot have anything to say to it'". Dr. R. adds, "the work on which I was sent, being finished, I must leave this for Tehran on the 23d or 24th April". It is further stated that Yar Mahomed Khan was selling all his wheat, rice, & ca., & that he was preparing for flight to Meshed.*

Gwalior

19th to the 25th April

From the Political Diary of the Gwalior Residency of dates noted on the margin, it appears that the Maha Rajah had called the attention of the

*This is mere rumour without foundation or confirmation.

members of the Ministry to the present state of public affairs in terms of severe reprehension, & had pointed out the impossibility of such a state of things lasting long. His Highness earnestly desired them to adopt measures for preventing disgrace coming upon the character of the Government.

9th June

In a private letter dated as per margin, the Resident at Gwalior states that on the 3rd May the Durbar Vakeel brought Naroo Punt Aptea to wait on him, by desire of the Maha Rajah, on his being nominated as Vakeel on the part of the Gwalior Govt. to remain with the Resident at Indore, for the adjustment of all their affairs in Malwah. Naroo Punt Aptea told the Resident that the Maha Rajah had put every amil & local officer in Malwah under his jurisdiction without any reservation, with power to remove them should he think it requisite. This appointment under the management of the Chief Political officers connected with central Malwa cannot but lead, it is hoped, to the most satisfactory result.

The Resident at Gwalior adds that the ministers were still fighting amongst themselves & endeavouring to oust the Mama Sahib. The Maha Rajah interposed to prevent his entire removal & has confirmed him in his office of Receiver General of the land revenues of the state, imposing several restrictions on his proceedings.

The health of the Maha Raja was much in the same state as it has been for a considerable time past, perhaps with a little change for the better.

As there exists a strong necessity for a thorough reform in that part of the Maha Rajah's administration which concerns the relations of his distant officers with those of the British Government, who are entrusted with the preservation of the general peace of the country, the Resident has been requested not to relax his efforts to induce the Durbar to adopt those measures that are recommended to it by the British Government for the better management of Scindiah's distant and scattered possessions.

Indore

27th May

The Resident at Indore states that the village of Sawant Sing Thakoor, called Roneja, had been attacked by the amil of Burnuggur or Nolye with a regiment of infantry and 4 Guns, who had levied a contribution on, and extorted some money from, the principal merchants of the place. With advertence to the above statement, the Right Hon'ble the Govr. General has caused it to be stated to the Resident at Gwalior that the practice of Scindiah's local officers in Malwah undertaking of their own accord and

without the knowledge of the Poll. authorities in that quarter, military operations against the subjects of Scindiah or of any other state, is liable to strong objection, and is calculated to perpetuate, in that province, the misrule and disorder of which so many complaints have been made.

Bhopal

3rd to 9th May

From the Poll. Diary of the Bhopal Agency of dates noted on the margin it appears that the Amil of Shajawulpore has formed an opinion that a course of moderation in his assessments is the true and profitable process of land revenue collection.

Meywar Bheel Corps

14th May

The Political Agent at Neemuch states that the Meywar Bheel Corps is now complete in number, that about half of the Corps attend drill, & that this result is highly creditable to the discretion, temper, and zeal of Capt. Hunter, its Commandant.

Jyepore

19th May

The Govr. Genl.'s Agent in Rajpootana states that the Jyepore Govt. is about to build an hospital at Jyepore at its own expense for the accommodation of the sick belonging to the Escort and Establishments there, and for men of various regiments in the service of the British Govt. who, having been taken ill upon the road, come to Jyepore for the purpose of obtaining medical assistance.

Hyderabad

Arabs and the Fort of Badamy

4th June

From our *urzee*^{4a} to the address of the Collector of Shorapore, it appears that the hill fort of Badamy has been captured by the Arab force under the Zemadar named Kokeran (vide News L. No. 17) when the rebel took the fort. He had with him, it is said, 4 or 500 Arabs and Sawars, and that His troops have since accumulated in Badamy to the number of 5,000.* All the Mootsuddies etc., of Hoongond and Bhagulcote, who were in the Badamy catchery, have been taken prisoners. The rebel, it is said, had hoisted a red flag on the fort and had given Sahoocar^{4b} 5 or 600 Rupees for the

*Later accounts show 500 to be nearer the truth.

4. Capt. W. Hunter of 15th Native Infantry became commandant of the Mewar Bhil corps in August 1840 and a year later was promoted Political Agent.

4a *Urzee*, literally application, request.

4b *Sahoocar*, (village) moneylender.

purpose of procuring grain. He is reported to be blind. Captain W. B. Jackson, commanding 4th Regiment N. I., has received orders to proceed towards Goobarah, 5 koss from Muktul, on the frontier of the Nizam's dominions, with the view of assisting in the capture of these Arabs. It was further reported that the Arabs were repairing the fort and mounting all the guns that are there, in fact making every arrangement for maintaining the place.

17th June

A subsequent communication from the Rest. Hyderabad states that Captain Macleod moved out of the Cantonments of Bolaram on the 5th June with the right wing 1st Cavalry completed from the left wing, and was to proceed by forced marches to capture the rebels. The Wing is said to be in the most efficient state for field service. Later accounts state the march of this force to have been suspended.

5th June

It is stated in a letter from the Resident in Hyderabad that the Arabs sent by the Minister of the Nizam to attack the Arab Jamadar Kokeran, instead of acting up to their duty (which they had numerous opportunities of doing) have all along evinced the most friendly and pacific feelings towards him and his party and are said even to have gone to the extent of exchanging visits.

Burmah

25th March

A letter from Rangoon dated as per margin contains the following:—

The writer asserts that the largest ships might proceed 50 miles up the Irrawaddie river, and that vessels of 15 feet water (after the southerly winds set in, or the river swells—say from May to August) could sail with facility to Amarapoorah.

2. Orders had been issued to prevent the re-building of houses in Rangoon, with a view, probably, to remove the town about the new palace.

3. It is rumoured that the Bo Moo Min-tha, the King's half-brother, who was Viceroy over the Shan States, had escaped from prison about January last.

4. By the fire that broke out at Amarapoorah the armoury or rather store for the Muskets is said to have been burned.

5. It is generally rumoured that Monsr. Sicre has received a title, a present of a gold-handled sword, another of silver, and some spears.

25th May

Another private letter from Moulmein dated as per margin states —

1. That Amarapoorah was in a state of confusion.
2. That the Government of Rangoon had it in contemplation to levy a contribution on the foreign merchants at Rangoon, viz., the Moguls, Armenians, Chinese and Jews (the English excepted) in order to defray the expenses of erecting a wharf for the landing of the King.
3. That His Majesty was very anxious to procure some Bramins from the City of Banares, well-versed in astrology and the abstruse sciences; and
4. That every thing at Moulmein was quiet up to the date of the letter in question.

H. V. Bayley
Asstt. Secy. to Govt of India.

Fort William
22nd June, 1841

(Ref.—Foreign Deptt. Miscellaneous, Vol. 333, pp. 617-670).

Newsletter 48 : July 1, 1841

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North West Frontier

15th June

A private letter from the North West Frontier states that as the Sikh army at Lahore is returning to submission, from the alarm they have taken to our movements, especially that on Peshawur, and, as the Maha Rajah and his Minister have frightened and conciliated them, Rajah Dhian Sing's talents are fast regaining for him his wonted ascendancy. The Governor Genl.'s admonitory Khurreta to the address of the Maha Rajah produced a salutary effect upon the minds of both His Highness & the Minister and the Govt. is said to have recovered a respectable degree of vigour. "The Punjab", continues the private letter, "may be considered virtually free to the passage of the British troops at all times and in any number as far as the Govt. of that country is competent to render it so."

Mr. Clerk writes that Captain Tait, his officers and men, all seem to be very much pleased with their new quarters at Amballah.

Kurnal

15th June

The Governor General's Agent in the N. W. Frontier has recommended Genl. Boyd¹ to dismiss the extra establishments entertained for the troops at Kurnal.

Peshawur

10th June

The Poll. Agent at Peshawur, in a letter dated as per margin, reports the mutiny of the Cashmere battalion at Peshawur lately commanded by Coll. Steinbeck of the Lahore service. The particulars of the case are as follows:—

On 8 June, the above-named battalion came to receive their pay from Genl. Avitabile; they refused to receive it unless the arrears due to them were included in the payment. Genl. Avitabile agreed to give them Rs. 200 per Company of arrears which they claimed, on condition

¹ *Genl. Boyd*, Appointed Assistant Quarter Master General in Sind in July 1841 but soon afterwards, was called upon to take charge of the entire commissariat of the Army of Indus with his headquarters at Kabul.

of their refunding the sum, if it was not sanctioned by the Lahore Govt. Two companies went away satisfied with this addition to their pay, but the rest became extravagant beyond measure in their demands when the Genl. gave orders to the guard in the Gorak hatree to turn them out. After the two companies had retired to their encampments about three miles from Peshawur, the Genl. ordered the gates of the city to be closed and all men who were found in the city belonging to the Cashmere regiment were seized, and put in irons in the Gorak hatree. General Avitabile then lost no time in collecting together a body of Afghans (Mulcias) to the number of three thousand and ordered them to march to Chamkani and massacre the battalion to a man. It appears that an engagement took place between the parties and the reports that had reached the Political Agent from the scene of action state that the Afghans attacked the battalion without plan or order and suffered much loss in consequence. They had driven the Sikhs from a fort they occupied but the latter were still in possession of a strong position, and the action had ceased to be vigorous on either side. The Sikh battalion is said to be 700 strong; they were in communication with the other Sikh battalions, now in Hazara, and with the troops in Jahengira on the other side of the Attock. The Najib battalions and Ramgols at Peshawur are said to be much displeased at General Avitabile's letting loose the Ooloos against the troops of the State. The artillery who were desired to proceed against them refused to obey.

General Avitabile has taken measures for his own protection by entertaining a personal guard of two hundred Afghans. These men are not visible during the day but mount guard every night round his residence.

The Najib battalions who threatened to attack Gorak hatree, having received their pay, returned to their duty peaceably.

Ladakh

17th June

The Governor General's Agent on the N. W. Frontier intimates that the Ladakh Envoys, of whom the Resident in Nipal writes, are likely to prove Vakeels of the heirs of that branch of the Ladakh family which Goolaub Singh deposed in 1836.

Candahar

Fort of Girishk

20th May

The Poll. Agent at Candahar reports that the Brigade in the Helmund has been withdrawn, and that the troops, both of the Regular and H.M.'s services, have arrived at Candahar in safety.

The fort of Girishk has been left under the protection of a garrison of 200 men composed of Hindoostanees and Afghans.

Kelat-i-Ghilzye

7th June

The Major General Comdg. in Afghn. in a letter dated as per margin states that Lieutt. Coll Wymer² of the 38th Regt. of N.I., while marching in charge of a convoy to the fort of Kelat-i-Ghilzye, was attacked by a large body of the rebels under Sultan Mahomed Khan and the Ghoroo, two well-known Ghilzye Chiefs, and that, after a smart action, the Enemy were totally repulsed. The loss on the part of the insurgents is said to have been considerable as sixty-four bodies and six or seven horses were left dead in the field. On being repulsed, the Enemy withdrew to the left bank of the Turmuck and, it is currently reported, that they have since all dispersed. Major General Elphinstone adds that the conduct of the European and Native commissioned and non-commissioned officers and men of the detachment during the engagement was characterized by exemplary discipline and bravery.

Gurmsel

3rd June

The Poll. Agt. at Candahar, in a letter dated as per margin, states that the fact of the capability of the Beloochees of Gurmsel to supply carriage does not now rest on mere native testimony, but that on the Beloochees coming in from the desert to the banks of the Helmund, Lt. Peterson³ was able to satisfy himself that the tribes possessed between twenty and twenty five thousand camels capable of bearing loads.

Herat

3rd June

The Poll. Agt. at Candahar reports that Mahomed Ameer Beg and the Persian messengers had reached Herat and delivered the Commission with which they were charged, and that Yar Mahd. Khan on receiving the communication had signified that it would be necessary to make a second reference to Teheran, and to wait the announcement of the final decision of the Persian Govt., before he (the Minister) would feel himself at liberty to permit any messenger to proceed on his errand or to reply to the letters which he had received from Candahar and Jellalabad.

2. *Lt. Col. G. P. Wymer* played an important role in British action against the Afghans in 1842, before the withdrawal of British forces and re-installation of Amir Dost Muhammad. Later he was on deputation as a Brigadier of Sindia's contingent.

3. *Lt. Peterson* was deputed in the Kandahar region, where, like a dare-devil, he toured the disaffected areas with a small escort and procured valuable information.

Shawl. Kelat & Scinde Upper*8th May*

Lieut. Coll Soppitt, Comdg. field detachment, reports the flight of the chief named Fazil Khan from a place, a short distance to the west of Noshky whither Lt. Coll. Soppitt had gone in pursuit of him.

22nd to 28th May

The following items are extracted from the Precis of Upper Scinde Intelligence of dates marginally noted :—(1) All the Tuggur Monynghil chiefs have, it is reported, seceded from Fyzil Khan, and making separate terms for themselves, have become reconciled to the Rukshanie tribe. As this arrangement renders the continued presence of a military force at Noshky unnecessary, the Poll. Agent has requested Major Genl. Brooks to withdraw Coll. Soppit's detachment, which would enable him to push forward supplies of treasure and ordnance stores to Candahar. (2) As the Kujjuck chiefs have, from the date in which they entered into engagements with Mr. Bell at Dadur, adhered to them in the most punctilious manner, and as they pledge themselves solemnly to maintain faithfully hereafter their allegiance to Shah Shoojah ool Moolk, he has authorized them on an expression of their wishes to that effect, to reoccupy the town of Kujjuck. As the whole of the chiefs represented to Mr. Bell their wish that one of their number, who enjoyed the confidence of the remainder, should remain in attendance on the Agent of our Govt., he has agreed to take one, along with five sowars into service.*

Scinde Lower*24th to 30th May*

The Diary of the Lower Scinde Agency states that Lieutt. Leckie had returned from his late Mission viz., to examine the cause of a fresh dispute between Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad and Meer Shere Mahomad Khan of Meerpoor. He was attended to the spot by deputies from the former, and was met there by agents from the latter as requested by Major Outram. All parties were particularly civil to Mr. L. and afforded every information, from which that gentleman ascertained that the work now in the course of execution by Meer Nusseer Khan to stop which Shere Mahomed had interfered, is actually situated within the territory of the Hyderabad Ameer, but calculated to turn off the water entirely from a large district belonging to the Meerpore chief. A suitable letter was accordingly addressed to Meer Nusseer Khan by the Political Agent, expressing a hope that he (the Meer) would discontinue the work as it was calculated to injure his neighbour without benefiting himself.

Meer Nusseer Khan is said to be assembling his followers for the purpose of intimidating if not attacking Meer Shere Mahomed Khan of Meerpore.

*On this proceeding further explanation is expected.

Indus Steam Navigation

6th May

The commander of the Steam Flotilla on the River Indus reports the arrival of the "Planet" Steam boat from the mouth of the river on the evening of the 29th April. On the 16th, she commenced her upward voyage & arrived at Tatta on the 30th where she took on board 20 tents and 10 Hog-shead of Arrak with a small guard of a Naique and 3 sepoys. The "Planet" reached Hyderabad on the 22nd & left it on the afternoon of the same day, drawing 3 ft. forward & 3-1 aft. & came at Lukkur at 6.30 p.m. of the 29th April.

Lt. Ball, superintending the experimental timber cutting in the hill forests, which border upon the upper parts of the Sutlej, for the general supply of Loodeeana and Ferozepore reports that on a mountain called Neuebar on the confines of the state of Bhujee and belonging to the Kote Raja, there is a large quantity of fine Keelo trees about 3 miles from the River Sutlej.

The summit of the Shallee Hills beyond Neuebar, is also covered with large Keelo trees, and lower down Cheel & Kail timber are found in considerable quantities. Above this small patches of Cheel and Kail are found, not far from the river & near Khomar-sain & Kotghur, the Keelo, Kail, & Ray are abundant from 4 to 6 miles distant. Above Kotghur there is a large Keelo forest about 6 miles from Nail (on the river's bank) in the state of Bussahir. Lt. Ball writes that he had 40 or 50 samples of the Keelo, Ray & Kail spars, felled and prepared at Kotghur & Khomarsain, and a quantity of planks at the latter place which he intended to float down the river to Mr. Clerk, G.G.'s Agent in the North West frontier, about the latter end of June.

Aden

22nd May

The Political Agent at Aden, in a letter dated as per margin, states that it would be inexpedient to reduce any portion of the European troops in that quarter, the Arabs being more in dread of them than of the native soldiery. As the wing of Her Majesty's 6th Regiment of Foot has tended in a great measure to keep the Abdollees and the Fonthelees apparently quiet, they will not be recalled without being relieved. The Government of Bombay are now considering the means by which they should effect this relief.

By a late census it appears that the population of Aden, which upon our first occupation did not exceed 1200, now amounts to more than 8000 in number.

Johanna

The following particulars regarding the state of affairs at Johanna have been communicated by Captain Cleveland, the late Commander of the Steamer "Phlegethon". Captain C. obtained them from the Commander of H. M. S. Andemache to whom they were made known thro' Mr. Griffith by the party of Sultan Salem.

King Hossein, the grand father of the present King, Salim, reigned ten years over the people of Johanna and appointed Alloye his eldest son, the father of Salem, to succeed him as King of Johanna. King Sultan Alloye reigned 21 years and appointed Abdullah, his eldest son, to succeed him. King Sultan Abdullah wished his brother, the present King Salem, to succeed him. But the present King said "Not so—let Alloye my nephew be King and I will be his adviser & counsellor". In the course of two months after the King Alloye came to the throne, he despised the counsel and service of his uncle, the present King, and appointed Izoberry, Prime Minister, and two other relations of his mother as Ministers. Being guided by the bad Counsel and advice of these three men, King Alloye tyrannized over his people and robbed and plundered them of all their property. The present King Salem seeing how things were going on and his liberty and even his life in jeopardy, desired to leave Mounsomolo for Dasmay. When his nephew Alloye heard of this intention of Salem, he put him in a Dow with a view to banish him to Mozambique and imprison him there. Alloye, however, failed in this project of his, but confined Salem in the town Mounsomolo; but the latter fled by night and went to Dasmay. At the time that Alloye wished to banish Salem, he put several people, including some of his relations, in confinement, who were released thro' the intercession of Captain Craigie of H.M.'s ship "Scout" and who succeeded in making peace between Alloye and Salem, the present King. This peace lasted but for a short time; for so soon as Captain Craigie left the Island, Alloye sent his men to fight his uncle Salem who were defeated by the latter. When Alloye saw that his cause was failing, he seized the poor people belonging to Salem and sent them away to the King of Mayotta who sold about 150 of them at the Mozambique. Afterwards the people of the town of Mounsomolo went to Salem and begged he would come over to the fortress that they might deliver up the town to him and be his faithful subjects. In compliance with this request of the people Salem came over and accepted their offer, and the Capital was taken without shedding of blood. On Salem being acknowledged as King, Alloye, seeing his case a hopeless one, sailed off to the Comoro Islands and thence went over to Mozambique," (vide Newsletter No. 23 dt. 22d. Jany. 1841) shewing that Alloye thence came in the Phlegethon to Calcutta and went from hence to Mauritius in the Salsette.

Rampore

9th June

The Secretary to the Lieutt. Governor for the N.W. Provinces reports that the Nawab of Rampore has in contemplation to raise a small corps of Rohilla horse in his Jagheer. The Right Hon'ble the Governor General has been pleased to signify his approbation of this project on the conviction that such a Corps may become essentially useful for police purposes in Rohilcund & will, in emergencies, be available to take the place of the irregular cavalry when the services of the latter may be elsewhere required. His Lordship has directed that the proposed Corps should be left under the general authority of the Nawab & that the European officers required to form and discipline it should not be commissioned officers from the regular army, but should be taken from the same class of officers as those now employed in the King of Oudh's force and in the Shikauvattee Brigade.

Rajpootana

3rd June

The Governor General's agent in Rajpootana reports that Major Dinning has commenced recruiting the Bheel companies to be incorporated with the Joudhpore Legion in conformity with the plan adopted in the Meywar Bheel Corps, & that up to the 3d. June, 71 men had been entertained.

Jodhpore

24th to 30th May

From the Poll. Diary of the Jodhpore Agency of dates noted in the margin, it appears that Captain Ludlow having succeeded in concluding an agreement, annulling claims mutually existing between Jyepore & Marwar on account of criminal acts committed by their subjects, wrote to the Political Agent in Meywar with a transcript of a deed of a like nature formerly executed between Bickaneer & Marwar requesting that the Meywar authorities would conclude a like engagement, more or less modified, by which the labours of the PUNCHAYET to be assembled might be considerably reduced or rendered altogether unnecessary.

Haraotee

From the Political Diary of the Haraotee Agency of dates noted, it appears that an intelligence being received by the Maha Raj Rana that a Gosaeen was about to undergo self immolation, H.H. expressed his disapprobation of it, adding moreover that the practice was also contrary to the wishes of the British Government.

Nagpore**The Baiza Bae***31st May*

Captain James Fitzgerald states that Her Highness the Baiza Bae encamped at Elora on the 31st May and at Nassick (her destination) on the 11th June.

Gwalior*3rd to 9th May*

From the Gwalior Diary of dates noted it appears that the Mama Sahib alleging himself to be unequal to conduct the affairs of the state, and being opposed by all the other Ministers, had tendered his resignation of his office to the Maha Raja. His Highness felt much displeased in his heart at this step, but said nothing openly & only encouraged the Minister to persevere in the execution of his duties.

1st June

The Resident at Gwalior reports that on a suggestion from himself to the Maha Raja of Gwalior to that effect, His Highness consented to the employment of the Retired contingent in the Thuggee and Dacoity duties over the Gwalior Territory.

Hyderabad*30th May 5th June**6th to 11th June*

From the Political Diary of the Resident at Hyderabad of dates noted on the margin, it appears that the son of the rebel Arab Koheran had been apprehended; as also his Hurkara with some papers and that the Minister had ordered the parties eventually to be sent to Hyderabad. A later diary reports the capture of further members of the family of the insurgent Arab Koheran.

The Govt. of Bombay report the fall of Badamy, the possession by Major Johnson of all the hill forts in that direction and the unconditional surrender of about 100 prisoners amongst whom are Koheran and Narsing Row. The prisoners taken were to be lodged in the Dharwar jail, there to await instructions respecting their disposal, and orders have been issued to seize and forward for eventual trial, all emissaries and persons who may be found to be connected with the insurrection. Major Genl. Delamotte has been requested to place a small force in the fort of Badamy until the country becomes tranquillized. The Resident at Hyderabad has been requested to keep some of His Highness the Nizam's troops for a time on the frontiers, and to retain a small garrison in the fort of Gajunderghur. The Bombay Govt. have ordered that a detailed account should be drawn up by an

Engineer Officer, of all existing forts in the southern Mahratta country in order to determine in what state they should be allowed to remain.

Tenasserim Provinces

May

The following is a return of the force serving in the Coast of Tenasserim for the month of May 1841 :

Officers	..	68
Rank and file	..	3,380

Burmah

The Governor of Rangoon has, on the part of the King of Burmah, sent a deputation to Calcutta, consisting of two Burmese officers to search for and obtain from Benares, male and female Brahmins of clear descent and orthodox doctrines and certain books on religious subjects for His Majesty. These Envoys have arrived in the "Flora Macdonald" and, on their proceeding to Benares, will be duly attended to by the G.G.'s Agent.

28th & 30th May

A letter from Rangoon dated as per margin states :

1. That His Majesty's half-brother the Bo-moo-mintha's family have been executed on the plea that that prince had absconded from prison to join the Shans.
2. That Monsr. Sicre was about to proceed to France.
3. That the duty on muskets imported at Rangoon had been taken off.

Nipaul

1st to 14th June

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Nipaul Diary of dates noted in the margin :

1. The Misr. Guru is said to have actually arrived and the Raja to have ordered him to join H.H. at Balajee. The Guru has taken up his abode at Tarkeswar on the skirts of the Capital. The Guru has lowered his tone in finding himself in no respect made the subject of debate by the Resident with the Durbar, and states that he is come back against orders.
2. The Kala Pandey's march about the City attended by bodies of soldiery.
3. The Ministers have not fulfilled their declared intention of demanding explanation of the Rani's threat to imprison them—nor has the Rani taken any further measures on that head.

4. Rana Jang Pandey is said to have thrown off his assumed insanity and to be desirous of sounding the Resident's disposition towards him as Minister again with better purposes and larger powers; it is said that he has secured the Rajah and the Rani's consent and that their Highnesses will not rest till he is restored. Meanwhile, the present Ministers have attempted to provide against any violation by granting leave of absence to an unusual number of troops, and have used other expedients for the same purpose.

5. The Raja desired the opinion of the Chiefs as to the policy of joining the English against China by acting in the direction of Thibet.

Segowly—Mullye

12th June

The Joint Magistrate of Champaran, in a letter dated as per margin, states that great progress had been made in the erection of the public and private buildings at Segowly and Mullye for the use of the troops under Brigr. Oliver's command, and that the Regiments at both places had been comfortably housed and were pleased with their quarters. The Joint Magte. adds that the health of both officers and men attached to the Brigade has all along been exceedingly good, and that the conduct of the men since their arrival in the places mentioned has been quiet and exemplary.

China

17th June

The Marine Board report having despatched a further supply of coal to China as follows.

David Malcolm	tons	150
Worcester		120
Nerbudda		200
	Tons	<hr/> 470 <hr/>

25th June

The Iron Steam Vessel "Prosperine" under command of Captn. Hough of the R.N. has reached the Port of Calcutta. Captn. Hough was to have gone to China direct from Ceylon, but owing to his original Ship's crew leaving the vessel at the Cape on the expiration of the period of their engagement and his entering a fresh crew at that Port, composed, for the most part, of the very refuse of Merchant Seamen, he could not feel himself justified in proceeding upon active service. The vessel, moreover, required a thorough overhauling and has accordingly been made over to the Steam Dept. here for repair, which done, she will proceed, at as early a date as possible, direct to China. The Phlegethon, St. & Hooghly Strs. have sailed for China and the Diova for Singapore.

The recruits for H.M.'s 49th Regt. having been ordered to China, have embarked on the "John Adam", the "Worcester" and the "Nerbudda" for their destination.

Return of details in readiness to embark on H.M.'s ship "Jupiter" from Madras for service in China.

Rifle Company 1st Regt. N.I.	135
Detail 2d. Bn. artillery	22
Detail Sappers & Miners	35
Commist. Dept followers	216
Ordnance Dept. followers	3
Camp Equipage Dept. followers	1
Medl. Officer	1
Medl. subordinate	1
Private followers	2
	416

H. V. Bayley
Asstt. Secy. to Govt. of India

Fort William
1st July 1841

(Ref.—Foreign Deptt. Miscellaneous, Vol. 334, pp. 3-60.)

Newsletter 49 : July 10, 1841

(No. 20 of 1841)

North West Frontier

1st to 17th June

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Akhbar of dates marginally noted :— (1) Raja Golab Sing reported to the Durbar, his having received overtures from the officers of the late General Mohan Sing, and to restore order there, on being paid the arrears due to them. An order was issued to the Raja authorising him to act with Koonwar Purtab Sing for the administration of Cashmere in such manner as he might think best. A report was received from Raja Golab Sing that the officers of the Battalions at Cashmere were quarrelling among themselves, were charging each other with the murder of Genl. Mohan Sing and were ready to make over the murderers on the arrival of the Koonwur. (2) It is said that the troops in Mundee had been guilty of further extortion. (3) The Maha Raja intimated to the Mae Chund Koonwur that if she continued secretly to intrigue with the Sundhenwallah chiefs against the state, her jageer of 70,000 Rs. lately assigned for her support would be confiscated. (4) Raja Dhian Sing observed that as the Govr. Genl.'s Agent did not approve of Khanpore being assigned to the Barruckzye sirdars as a Jageer, they should have some other. (5) The Raja proposed to send news writers to Ladakh, Bussahir, and Simla, and Raja Socheet Sing recommended the despatch of one also to Ca'cutta.

21st June

A letter from the Govr. Genl.'s Agent in the North West Frontier contains the following items of intelligence :— (1) The letter states that tranquillity prevailed generally at Lahore, nor was disorder common in the Provinces. (2) The Sikh troops are repairing on leave of absence to their homes and the Maha Raja's present reported intention is never to employ them again in the service of the State. (3) His Highness has lately announced to Mr. Clerk the appointment of Colonel Mohun Lall as an agent on his part to act in co-operation with Rae Kishen Chand, Fakeer Shah oodeen, & Lalla Shadee Lall, as Vakeel. (4) An intimation had been thrown out by Colonel Mohun Lall¹ that the Maha Raja finds the

¹ Col. Mohun Lall (Mohan Lal) was a wakil or political agent of Maharaja Sher Sing who was often deputed for settling various issues between the Darbar and the British.

activity and ambition of his Prime Minister rather irksome at times. (5) Agreeably to the suggestion of Mr. Clerk, His Highness has resumed Khanpoora, which is situated between the Indus and the Jehlum from among the Jageers lately conferred on the Barrukzyes instead of their Jageers, west of the Indus; on another place more easterly is to be assigned to them instead of Khanpoora. (6) It is stated that Rajas Sochet Sing and Heera Singh had been fired upon by one of the Sikhs, but fortunately escaped being shot. The search for the apprehension of the perpetrator of this act has been unsuccessful. (7) The Maha Raja has been desirous of placing the Charyaree horse under the command of Raja Sochet Sing; but this influential body of troops seem as little disposed to receive him as when they ejected him some months ago. It is supposed that the perseverance of the Maha Raja may have led them to conspire to attempt to assassinate the Raja.

22nd June

A letter from the Governor General's Agent on the North West Frontier dated as per margin, contains the following items of intelligence—It is reported that Vizeer Zorawur Sing had made encroachments upon the frontier of the Raja of Bussahir and that the Raja was arming to repel the aggression. The Maha Raja had required Raja Dhian Sing to write direct to Vizeer Zorawur Sing calling upon him to desist from molesting the Raja of Bussahir and to Raja Goolab Sing, to appoint a special agent on his own part to inquire into the proceedings of Zorawur Sing. His Highness informed Mr. Clerk that he had deputed Lalla Choonee Lall on his own part to proceed to the Ladakh & Bussahir frontier, expressing a hope that Mr. C. would associate an agent on the part of the British Government to cooperate in adjusting the pending differences between Ladakh and Bussahir on their common frontier.

In reply to the above, the Right Hon'ble the Govr. Genl. has caused it to be stated to the Lahore Darbar that he does not think it necessary or advantageous that there should be any meeting of officers on the part of the British Government and of those, either of the Sikh Government or of Rajas Dhian Sing and Goolab Sing, with a view to discuss boundary or other local questions in regard to the limits of Ladakh and Bussahir. His Lordship in Council would do nothing which would give the least countenance to the encroachments of the Rajas in that direction & Mr. Clerk has been directed to state decisively, whenever circumstances may appear to call for his interference, that the British Government will not permit any intrusion within the boundaries of Bussahir, or any aggressive measure which may appear likely to excite distrust or alarm or to obstruct the free transit of commerce through the Bussahir state or through any other districts entitled to British protection.

Peshawur

15th May

The Political Agent at Peshawur intimates that the mutinous battalion stated their intention to remove their camp from Saidu to the left bank of the Lauder river on the 14th May provided they could procure sufficient number of boats by that time.

8th June

The Political Agent at Peshawur reports that Sirdar* Futteh Sing Maun made over charge to him at Peshawur, on the 31st May, of the 10 lacs of treasure, which he had escorted from Ferozepore; and that he transferred the treasure on the same day to the charge of Lt. Dowson who had received orders to escort it to Kabul with a detachment of Janbaz horsemen and a wing of Captain Foooci's corps of jazailchees. The Right Hon'ble the Governor General has been pleased to sanction the grant of a pecuniary reward of 25,00 Rupees distributed by Captain Mackeson thro' Futteh Sing Maun among the Sikh detachment for its services in escorting this treasure.

10th June

A letter from the Political Agent at Peshawur contains the following items of intelligence :—(1) The Sikh battalion at Chum Kanee (vide N. L. No. 19 dt. 1st July) reported to General Avitabile the money, they had drawn in excess of the pay due to them, and also returned the pay that four of their Companies had received. This battalion, as directed by the General, was preparing to return to the Eusofzye territory. (2) In recompense for the services rendered by the Afghan Oolloo, General A. has forgiven their past offences against the state. He has also released a number of Afghan prisoners, and issued orders to collect all the property plundered by the Ooloos from the Sikh battalion with a view to its being restored. (3) General A. had again expressed his intention, to withdraw from Peshawur in the course of another month. He wishes to go round by Candahar and Shikarpore to Loodeeanah, and then to apply for his final dismissal from the Lahore Durbar. It is an object with him to leave in time to secure the favourable season for the overland journey to Europe through Egypt.

Inundation of the Indus

12th June

The particulars regarding the inundation of the Indus, taken from private letters and papers are as follows. There was a general rumour on

*Note : This man was once a Subadar of Bengal Cavalry—now a Sirdar in the Sikh service.

the N.W. Frontier about 6 months ago of the course of the Indus, in the mountains, above Attock, having been interrupted by the falling into its bed of an enormous mass of mountain. Little credit was attached to this report at the time, although every one accustomed to view the Indus admitted that the volume of water it discharged at Attock had become sensibly less and was diminishing daily. This report of the course of the river having been interrupted has been fearfully verified in the devastation it has caused, in having, with sudden violence opened a road for itself. All the country from Chach up to near Publu, within ten miles of Peshawur, has been overflowed. About seventy villages together with the towns of Shaidin Khairabad, Akhra, Noushara, have been completely swept away by the deluge, and the loss in human life has been frightful. The Peshawur dawk had been put a stop to owing to the inundation. The torrent had also swept away the Artillery and camp of the Khalseh troops on the banks, and entering the fort at Attock damaged it considerably destroying all its stores. The force of the flood is said to have turned back the current of the river Sindu.

It is stated that the four Battalions of mutineers, who were at Saidoo, have been swept away almost to a man by the inundation.* Its effects have also been felt from Kohat to the Isakhail territory, below Kalabagh in the sweeping away of villages with thier inhabitants.

Cashmere

It appears from the Cashmere Intelligence that since the Afghanistan roads have been opened, Merchants from Khorassan have come in abundance and the prices of goods, especially shawls have risen.

Candahar

9th June

The Political Agent at Candahar reports that Akhtar Khan Aleczye and the Herat emissary Nusserooddeen Khan continued to disseminate the most inflammatory letters amongst the Dooranees in the districts to the North West of Candahar, calling on all parts to rise and join in a religious war against the English. It is however gratifying to know that the influence of the two Dooranee Chiefs, Sultan Mahomed Khan Barukzye and Mahomed Azeem Khan Noorzye, was sufficient to persuade many of the parties addressed to surrender these inflammatory letters and to desist from joining the rebel standard, and Major Rawlinson entertained hopes that when the reinforcements of Dooranees, he was sending under Sunnud Khan, crossed the Helmund, tranquillity would be restored in Zemindawur and Nowzad. It is said that the name of Yar Mahomed Khan was freely made use of by the rebels.

*This has received partial confirmation—that is 1000 men and their equipments of this force have been lost in the inundation.

Gandamuck

The Right Hon'ble the Governor General has sanctioned the erection of buildings at Gandamuck for the cantonment there of the Regiment of the Khyber Rangers.

Scinde-Upper

29th May to 4th June

The following items are extracted from the *Precis of Upper Scinde Intelligence* of dates marginally noted :—(1) Mr. Bell states that he had received satisfactory accounts of the state of affairs from all parts of Beloochistan— Above the passes the harvest had commenced & the inhabitants of the plains were busily engaged in cultivating their lands. Agents from the different Chiefs constantly wait on Mr. Bell for the purpose of asking advice on points connected with their affairs & their mutual intercourse. Their confidence in the British Government is said to be rapidly increasing. (2) Mr. Bell has deputed Lt. Coll. Stacy to Kelat as an accredited agent of the British Government, where he was to remain till such time as Lt. Hummersley returned from Noshky when Lt. Coll. S. was to make over charge to that officer.

5th to 11th June

The following items are extracted from the *Precis of Upper Scinde Intelligence* of dates noted in the margin. (1) Everything continued quiet in Beloochistan both above & below the pass up to the 11 June. (2) On the side of Noshky, matters have been arranged in a satisfactory manner. The Rukshanees & Menguals are satisfied with the appointment of Omar Khan as Naib. (3) Accounts from Kelat show that the Country round about was perfectly peaceful. The harvest was nearly ripe & no instance has recently occurred of any attempt at plundering. The Poll. Agent had requested Brig. England to move the 42d Regiment B.N.I.^{1a} from Kelat to Candahar for the purpose of reinforcing that place. The officer commanding it was to pass on his way through Quetta to receive charge of treasure to the amount of seven lakhs of Rs. consigned by Mr. Bell to Major Rawlinson together with ordnance stores for the use of the troops under Major General Nott. The high road which passes through the territory of their Highnesses, the Ameers of Hyderabad, between Jagun & Roghan continued to be inhabited by robbers. Brig. England had instructed the officer commanding at Shikarpore to employ the Irregular Horse at his disposal in maintaining a vigilant patrol along the line of road in question.

Scinde Lower

16th June

The Poll. Agent Lower Scinde states that Meer Shere Mahomed Khan's

^{1a} B.N.I. abbreviation for Bengal Native Infantry

vakeels waited on him on the 16 June conveying their masters' full consent to the terms offered i.e., to pay 50,000 Rs. annual tribute for the Meerpore treaty, & to appoint arbitrators to meet them from the Lower Scinde Durbar with full powers to settle all existing territory disputes with the Hyderabad Ameers under an umpire appointed by the Poll. Agent.

Aden

25th May

The Poll. Agent at Aden reports that a boat from Macalla with 30 African slaves on board bound to Judda was wrecked on the night of the 17th of May about 10 miles north of Aden: her Nacodah², 8 Seamen and 20 Slaves reached the shore in safety, the remaining part of the crew and 10 slaves were drowned. The survivors reached Aden nearly naked having been plundered by the Bedouins. The Poll. Agent directed them to be clothed, fed, and attended by Doctor Malcolmson.³ After two or three days' stay, the Nacodah and crew left in a boat for Macalla leaving the African boys and girls to their freedom in Aden.

All the boys and girls (with the exception of a few who have voluntarily entered into service with some Gentlemen and ladies) were still under the care of the Political Agent, who informed their owner that, as they were cast on British ground, they were no longer slaves; and he (the owner) would not be allowed to take them away to sell them. Those who have entered into the service of English Gentlemen and ladies will be taught to read and write. The Government of Bombay have directed Captain Haines to send the remaining fourteen slaves to the care of the Senior Magistrate of Police of Bombay by the first available Steamer, accompanied by a Register of their names, sex, age, country etc. (so far as can be ascertained).

Jyepore

10th to 16th May

It appears from the Poll. Diary of the Jyepore Residency of the dates noted in the margin that the Naib Faujdar had re-issued instructions to the several thanadars for the purpose of preventing the practice of destroying female infants in the districts among the Rajpoots, Goojars & Meenas.

17th to 23rd May

From the Poll. Diary of the Jyepore Agency it appears that the Council of Regency has renounced all claims to property stolen or plundered before the 1st Janaury 1841, excepting where stolen property is recognized or an

2 *Nacodah* (Persian, 'Na-Khuda') captain of a ship or boat.

3 *Dr. Malcolmson* part of a British detachment at Aden, he was called upon to perform medical duties at the local civil hospital as well, so as to win the affection of the populace. It is said that he introduced vaccination in Aden for the first time.

acknowledgement of responsibility produced existing between Joudpore & Jyepore.

Meywar

31st May to 30th June

From the Poll. Diary of the Meywar Agency of dates noted on the margin, it appears that Capt. Riddell,⁴ not long since appointed Asstt. General Superintendent in Malwa, had arrested several dacoits who were engaged in the plunder of certain Mahajauns of Pertabghur.

Bhopaul

24th to 30th May

From the Poll. Diary of the Bhopaul Agency of dates noted in the margin it appears that the Poll. Agent has established a Fund, from which rewards are given for information in cases of infanticide in Bhopaul.

Nepaul

21st June

An individual named Afzal Khan, a British subject, having been suspected as an Agent of the intrigues of the Goorkha Durbar with our allies on the plains of India, the Resident in Nepaul has bound him in a penalty bond against fomenting like intrigues and sent him to the Joint Magistrate at Champaran with a view to his being allowed to reside at Bettrah under the bond.

H. V. Bayley
Asst. Secy. Govt. of India

Fort William
10th July 1841

(Ref.—Foreign Deptt. Miscellaneous, vol. 334, pp. 61-96.)

⁴ *Capt. Riddell* rendered commendable service as Assistant Incharge of the Thuggee and Dacoity Departments and helped in the eradication of these evils to a considerable extent, both in Rajputana as well as Central India.

Newsletter 50 : July 20, 1841

(No. 21 of 1841)

Peshawur

25th June

Captain Mackeson reports that General Avitabile having received letters from Maha Raja Shere Sing expressive of His Highness' approbation of the measures he had adopted towards the mutinous Cashmere battalion (vide newsletter No. 19, dt. 1st July), carried out these measures by paying the arrears of their stipend, depriving them of their arms, and finally dismissing them. Captain M. further states that Genl. A. had received a sort of promise from the Maha Raja that His Highness would shortly send for him to Lahore, and the General was resolved to proceed in that direction in preference to another, taking with him a strong guard of Afghans.

Afghanistan

19th June

The Envoy and Minister reports the safe arrival at Cabool of Shah Shooja's family. This event has been the source of much gratification to His Majesty.

23rd June

The Envoy and Minister reports the safe arrival at Cabool of the sum of (10) ten lakhs of rupees which was brought across the Punjab by the Sikh Sirdar Futteh Sing Maun. This treasure, Sir Wm. Macnaghten further states, was escorted from Peshawur, without the least accident, by a party of Jan Baz, under Lieutt. Dowson, and a wing of the Jyzalchee troops. This fact speaks much for the utility of the Afghan troops and the tranquil state of Northern part of Afghanistan.

Candahar

11th June

The Brigadier Commanding the Sinde Force states that in consequence of requisitions from the Major Genl., Commanding in Afghanistan, and the Political Agent in Upper Sinde, he directed the immediate relief of the 42d. Regt. of Bengal Infantry from Kelat, and proposed, on its arrival at Quetta, to despatch it, together with the recruits of Her Majesty's 13th Light Infantry and a party of horse, in charge of treasure, and ordnance stores, to Candahar.

Herat*26th May*

Major Rawlinson received letters from the frontier of Candahar mentioning that the Topchee Bashee had been warned by the Minister to hold himself in readiness to proceed to Candahar in a friendly mission in the event of the failure of the Herat negotiations with Persia.

Bokhara : Coll. Stoddart.*31st January*

Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople states that a letter from His Imperial Majesty, the Sultan, had been despatched to the Khan of Bokhara for the unrestricted liberation of Coll. Stoddart.

Colonel S. has been released from confinement, as stated in a former News Letter.

27th February

In a private letter from Bokhara, dated as per margin, Colonel Stoddart thus writes :—

“You will be glad to learn how much at my ease I now am, no personal comfort that can be found for me being withheld.” Colonel S. hoped that communications on his part in future would be more satisfactory to government at their frequency and fullness, than they could be before the Ameer's feelings took this favourable change.

The Wullee of Khoolum*No date*

In reporting to Cabool the fact of his having taken Balk, noticed in News Letter, No. 15 dated 24th May, the Wullee of Khoolum has made the most unequivocal professions of friendship towards, and deference for the British Government and its allies.

Kokund*28th February*

Captain A. Conolly writes that on explaining to the Khan Huzrut in an audience he had of His Majesty, the object of his mission to Kokund, the Prime Minister of the Khanate replied that he had perfect confidence in that object; that he had withdrawn his Envoy because the Kokundees had by repeated aggressions forced him to assume a hostile attitude; but that now, whenever Captain C. wished to proceed thither, the Minister would give him both escort and attendant envoy.

Persia*24th February*

A private communication states that intelligence had been received from Tehran to the effect that Hoossein Khan had been appointed to, and was immediately to proceed on a new embassy to England.

Persia—Russia*17th March*

Despatches from HM's Charge d' Affaires state that the Persian Government had reported that Persian trade suffered great injury in the Caspian Sea by the traffic which Russian Ships maintained with the Toorkemans (who are styled by the Persian Court rebellious subjects) at Hoossein Koolie, at the mouth of the river Atrek, on the south-eastern coast of the Caspian. Genl. Du Harnel on the Persian Minister applying to him for redress stated it to be out of his power to prevent Russian ships from trading at the Atrek; but he suggested that a custom house should be established at Astera-bad with a view to remedy the evil complained of.

Persia—Herat*10th April*

A private letter from Meshed, dated 10th April states that on the 31st March, the Persian Garrison evacuated Ghorian much to Yar Mahomed Khan's regret as he did not like that such a public demonstration should be given of the influence of England over Persia at that time. But a subsequent private communication from Tehran, dated 11th May, intimates that Sher Mahomed Khan's Mission to Tehran was likely to complicate matters again. Kamran Shah and Yar Mahomed Khan's letters, declaring the sovereignty of Herat to belong to Persia had been received by the Shah and H. M. had accepted the Vizier's proffer in regard to Herat and re-conferred its sovereignty on Kamran Shah.

11th June

Major Rawlinson states that merchants, syuds and travellers who were daily flocking into Candahar from Herat, all united in declaring that the Persian Agent, Yusoof Khan, was instructed to demand on the part of his Government, as an indispensable preliminary to any arrangement, that the Minister's son should proceed to Meshed as a hostage for the sincerity of his father, and a man in the confidential employ of Abdool Rehim Khan,¹ named Ishik Aghassee, states that, Yar Mahomed Khan having positively refused to fulfill this condition, the negotiations with Persia had been broken off.

¹ *Abdool Rehim Khan* (Abdul Rahim Khan) a chieftain of the Sipa tribe in the Khyber mountains. A large number of the Khyber maliks, belonging to various tribes, were handsomely paid by the British so as to win them over. Abdul Rahim Khan was chosen as the chief spokesman by these maliks when they were called in an assembly at Peshawar by Captain Wade. The latter, convinced of the ever-increasing monetary demands of these chiefs and their lack of sincerity towards the British had, therefore, dissolved the assembly, without making any further commitments to them.

Bagdad

5th April

The Political Agent in Turkish Arabia reports the arrival of the Prince Alaverdi Meerza from Persian Koordistan to Bagdad, adding that the Prince and Ali Sha were to proceed without delay to Constantinople to throw themselves on the mercy of the Sultan.

Ispahan

5th June

The Political Agent in Turkish Arabia writes that the Governor of Ispahan has been defeated in an attack which he made on the rebel chief of Shushter against whom a royal force, originally intended for Kerman, had been directed. Agha Khan was consequently in full possession of the last-mentioned place. But it was supposed, a Persian force was shortly about to move against him.

Muscat

7th May

From a letter from the Imaum of Muscat to the address of Lord Palmerston, it appears that a French man of war had arrived at Zanzibar, from Bourbon, with a General, 400 Troops, and 200 artificers, being in all 600 men. It was understood that they had fixed themselves at Noosheh.

Georgia—Kotais

3rd December 1840

Letters from Erzeroom state that some changes have lately been made in the administration of the Government of Georgia. Kotais, formerly under a General, is now placed under a Civilian, and it is said that civilians are, or are to be, appointed to the Chief places (excepting Tiflis) which were under Military Officers.

The Jellalekonds

4th December 1840

Despatches from Erzeroom mention that a combined expedition of the Russians, Persians, and Turks, had been undertaken against the Jellalekonds.

The Russians—Circassians—Cabardians—Lesghee

3rd December

Despatches from Persia state that the Russians had made no attempt to regain the forts taken from them by the Circassians along the Coast. The Campaign against the Country of the Cabardians had turned out a

fruitless and disastrous one to the Russians, and their loss in officers and men is said to be very great. No active operations were being carried on against the Circassians, but the blockade of the Coast was strictly maintained by a number of gunboats.

Accounts from Tiflis state that the Lesghee had routed the Russian troops in one or two engagements, and regained a part of the territory taken from them during the previous years.

The Euphrates Expedition : The "Benilam" Country

25th March

The Lieut. commanding the Euphrates Expedition states that after surveying with the "Nimrod" and "Nitocris" and fixing the various points of interest and importance on the line of River between Bagdad and Bussorah, he explored a large portion of the Canal Hie which he navigated with perfect ease, and, returning to the Jigris, ascended the Had Canal into the "Benilam" country towards the cities of "Viaka" and "Sus", the hills of which were in sight. Here, the Lieutenant Commanding states, he used every means in his power to conciliate the natives, with perfect success, and found the greatest confidence and good-will prevail amongst this large and powerful tribe.

The Lieutt. Commanding adds, that he has succeeded in introducing Bitumen fuel into general use in the Flotilla, thus effecting a considerable saving of expense.

Hyderabad

13th to 19th June

From the Political Diary of the Hyderabad Public Correspondence of dates noted, it appears that His Highness the Nizam has agreed to the Resident's placing a Military force on the Bombay frontier with the view of preventing the disorders in that direction of which incessant complaints had reached the Resident.

Mysore

25th June

The Resident at Mysore reports that the Rajah of the place has sanctioned the addition of a separate building, to the Charitable Hospital supported by H. H. (Vide News Letter No. 4, dt. 1 February) to be erected at his own expense for a Lying-in Hospital for the Hindoo women.

Gwalior

17th to 23rd June

From the Gwalior Diary of dates noted on the margin, it appears that the Maha Raja of Gwalior, on receiving the state of the administration

with his Ministers, recommended them to give over the practice of accepting bribes, and to unite together for the good of the state, and to pay deference to the wishes of the British Government.

Kishengurh

18th June

The Governor General's Agent in Rajputana reports that the widow of the late Raja of Kishengurh, in conformity with His Highness' wishes, has adopted a son, & that he has received applications from different individuals in that petty state respecting the rights of succession to the vacant Guddy.

Instructions have been issued to the Agent by direction of His Lordship to the effect that he should ascertain clearly what is the prevailing local custom as to rights of adoption. It has been thought that it would not, under any circumstances, be proper that the succession to this principality should be left to the chance of a struggle amongst the petty Chiefs concerned in it, which would be attended with the revival of habits of license, and with the disturbance of tranquillity in all the bordering country, and that the question is properly one to be regulated by the Agent of the British Government after procuring full and authentic information of the rights, wishes, and power of all parties.

Indore

6th July

The Resident in Indore reports that Maha Raja Hari Rao Holkar, has adopted as his successor, Kundee Rao, the eldest son of Santojee, a youth of his own tribe. Letters have been addressed to the different officers of His Highness' Government in charge of districts, notifying to them the event, and ordering them to observe the usual demonstrations of respect. The Resident goes on to observe that the Maha Raja partook in the satisfaction of his people in being relieved of the uncertainties which oppressed them, with regard to the future condition of the country. The Maha Raja is said to be unwell, but the effect of the measure on his mind has been so much for good that he has recovered greatly from his illness although not considered to be entirely out of danger up to the date of the Resident's Letter.

Nipal

20th June to 3rd July

The following items of Intelligence are extracted from the Nepal Diary of dates noted on the margin :—

1. A note was thrown into the Premier's house lately, telling him that the Rani, the Kala Pandeys, and Kulchund Tohi had combined to poison the Raja by means of pounded diamonds.

2. The Rani is said to have lost her reliance on the soldiery as instruments of violence.

3. The Misr Guru continued at Deo Patan where Kulraj Pandey meets him.

4. The Rani openly expressed her indignant surprise that the Ministry had not yet resigned. But the Ministers had debated the policy of resignation and had decided against it for the present.

5. The Ladakh Envoys were still at the Capital.

6. A confidential man of Ranjang's, sent to the Viceroy of Lassa, has returned having failed to interest him in the politics of the Pandeys.

7. The Ministers endeavored to show to the Raja how causeless and indecent it was to defer the decision in the two cases of denial of justice to British subjects which had been so frequently noticed by the Resident.

Lassa-Nipal

5th July

The Resident in Nipal reports that a Dhiba or subordinate officer with a party of 25 soldiers is said to have been posted at each of the passes into Thibet by command of the Chinese Viceroy at Lassa, with instructions to prevent the ingress from Nipal of all persons, not *bona-fide* traders, and also that 4 Thibetans, natives of Lassa, had arrived at Catmandhoo, pursuant to the orders of the Viceroy, but with what express views is not yet known.

Burmah

23rd May

A communication from Rangoon states that preparations were being made to build a stockade around the outer bamboo wall of the Palace yard at Rangoon of jungle-wood, about 12 feet.

China

9th July

The Secretary to the Embarkation Committee in a letter dated as per margin states that the "Cleveland" of the burthen of 385 tons, has been engaged for the conveyance of stores to China for the sum of Rupees 10,000.—The "Madagascar" and "Proserpine" War Steamers will be ready to proceed to China, it is expected, on the 15th Proxo.

H. V. Bayley

Asstt. Secy. to Govt. of India

Fort Willam,
The 20th July 1841

Newsletter 51 : August 2, 1841

(No. 22 of 1841)

North West Frontier

18th to 24th June

(1) The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Akhbar of dates noted in the margin :—(1) Raja Dhian Sing stated that he had sent for Misur Balla Ram to settle about the transit duties as proposed by Mr. Clerk. (2) Raja Golab Sing, it is said, has some views of usurping the Govt. of Cashmere. He has succeeded in conciliating the chiefs about that country. A petition from the Sikh Officers and Soldiers in Cashmere was read in Durbar, declaring their allegiance to the Maha Raja on the condition that Raja Golab Sing should have nothing to do with the administration of the country. (3) The Maha Raja expressed a wish to visit Beshanoo Deveen, Purmundal, Jummo, and all other districts in the hills belonging to the Rajas. (4) Capt. La Font requested leave to return to his native country. (5) The Agent of the Allowala Chief reported that about 150 men & a gun of the detachment of his Master, on duty on the Indus, had been carried away by the overflowing of that stream. And Sirdar Sham Sing Attaree Walla stated that one thousand of his troops, with all his baggage and property had been carried down by the same inundation.

29th June

The following particulars are extracted from a letter from the Govr. General's Agent dated as per margin :—

(1) The influence of Raja Dhian Sing over the Maha Raja, & generally the administration of affairs appear to be secured by means of the dread with which his punishment of Sirdar Jowala Sing (V.N.L. No. 18 dt. 22nd July) had inspired all other personal followers of His Highness. None of the Chiefs oppose the Minister in his views and measures. (2) Jemadar Khooshal Sing and General Teij Sing believing that they would not be forgiven for their adherence to Mae Chund Koonwar when she was in power, are said to be keeping as much out of the way as they can. (3) Raja Dhian Sing does not yet deal with the army as if he felt perfect confidence in his authority over it. (4) Genl. Avitabile had notified to the Durbar his wish to be relieved from the Govt. of Peshawur, but was directed to continue at his post.

Multan*12th July*

The *Precis of Intelligence* from the Diaries of the Political Agency in Upper Sind, Shikarpore, for the week ending the 12th July, states that Sawun Mull, the Governor of Multan, was reported to be in rebellion against the authority of the Lahore Court, and that he refused to attend to the numerous orders he had received to deliver up the revenue in his hands, or to present himself at Lahore. Such of the Pattan and other mercenaries as were unemployed in the direction of Shikarpore have, it is said, been taken into Sawun Mull's service who, it was reported, had placed himself in a state to repel force by force.

Ghuzni*30th June*

The Envoy and Minister reports the happiness and tranquillity generally prevailed in the district of Ghuzni up to the date of his letter, and that the best feelings were entertained towards the British Govt. by the inhabitants. (From private sources, it appears that, on the 16th, N.I. leaving Ghuzni, the inhabitants all turned out as a compliment to the corps in token of their good wishes.) The Envoy and Minister considered this happy result to have been attained in a great degree by the conciliatory and judicious conduct of Coll. McLaren of the 16th Regt. N.I. and his Corps. Re. the reply to the Envoy and Minister's letter on the subject, the Governor General in Council ordered it to be stated that he had perused with such satisfaction the report of the tranquil state of the neighbourhood of Ghuzni, and the testimony borne by the Envoy and Minister to the highly creditable conduct of Coll. McLaren to whom the expression of His Lordship's high approbation was directed to be conveyed. The G.G. in C. further remarked that the results were in like manner honorable to the officers and men of the 16th Regt. N.I. and to the Ressullah of Skinner's Horse and under Col. Mcd's command as well as to himself, in as much as they marked, in the most satisfactory manner, the degree to which the people of the country may be conciliated by confidence and kindness, and to which they may be led to regard our troops as present only for purposes of protection.

The Tooran Ghilzyes*23rd June*

The Political Agent at Candahar, agreeably to instructions received from the Envoy and Minister at Cabool, has requested Lieutt. Elliot to proceed to Kelat-i-Ghilzye for the purpose of relieving Major Lynch from his Political duties in connection with the Ghilzyes.

The Helmund-Persia

Herat

17th June

The Political Agent at Candahar states that about the 9th June, Aktar Khan at the head of above 1000 men, came down from Noazed to attack the position of Mahomed Azeem Khan the Nouzye Chief who was employed with 100 of the Koolba horse in watching the frontier, and who was encamped at that time at Khojanoor Khan. Mahomed Azeem Khan summoned all the Nouzyes of the vicinity to his assistance, and Aktar Khan, finding that he could not frighten the former chief from his position, and fearing that his own followers would not stand by him in an attack, retreated after some days' trifling skirmish to Noazad. He then commenced destroying the villages and crops of every petty chief in the country who would not join his standard, and succeeded by these means in raising the number of his followers to about 1500 men. Mahomed Azeem Khan, in the mean time, finding his influence insufficient to check the arms of the rebels, and feeling that his communication with Girishk would be cut off, fell back in Sadah, when he effected a junction with Sultan Mahomed Khan and the friendly Barruckzyes of the Helmund. Simultaneously with this retreat of Mahomed Azeem Khan, letters appear to have been received in the rebel camp from Yar Mahomed Khan of Herat, which announced his having effected an Alliance with Persia, and held out a promise of speedily supporting the insurgents by the march of troops from Herat. The effect of this encouragement was to induce Aktar Khan to move down upon Sadah with a force amounting to nearly 2000 men. The fort of Sadah is watered by a Kehrez (water course) and Aktar Khan immediately commenced destroying it. The Dooranees moved out of the fort to prevent him, and a smart skirmish took place, which ended in Aktar Khan being beaten off, and obliged to retreat to Zenak. His object, however, had been obtained of destroying the Kahrez or water course, and the Dooranees finding the Fort to be no longer tenable were compelled to abandon the place, and fall back on Girishk, where they were joined by the confederated Chief who had been sent out from Candahar to their support, but who, owing to the difficulty of collecting their horse, only succeeded in crossing the Helmund on the 16th June.

The Political Agent had cautioned Sumud Khan, the head of confederate chief, not to risk an engagement unless pretty confident of success, and until he was supported by the Jan Baze, which was expected at Candahar, and which the Agent wished to send out immediately on their arrival to the Helmund.

The Helmund

28th June

The Pol. Agent at Candahar states that the Doranee Sirdars, after remaining, several days, inactive, at Kajee, were persuaded to move down

on Girishk by the assurance of the Baruckzyes that they would be joined by 2000 men of that Tribe who would unite with them in forcing Aktar Khan to retreat to Zamindawur. On approaching Girishk, however, Akhtar Khan's pickets came out to skirmish with the Dooranee horse, and so far from the Baurakzyes rising generally to assist Sumnud Khan, and his confederates, the greater part of the Contingent of that tribe, which, under the leading of Sultan Mahomed Khan, formed a portion of the Dooranee force, went over, in spite of the protestations of their Chief, and joined the rebel standard. The consequence of this act of treason was that the remaining Dooranees were obliged to recross the Helmund and fall back for support upon the friendly Nooruzyes of Koosh Kawa. The Political Agent goes on to observe that Aktar Khan was using every effort to create disaffection among the garrison at Girishk, but that he met with little success.

The Helmund

Girishk

24th June

Subsequent advices state that, on the arrival of these corps at Candahar, the Political Agent had requested Lieutt. Patterson to proceed to Zamindawur with Captain Hart and Lieutt. Golding's Janbaz, and assume political charge of the districts beyond the Helmund.

The immediate object of this movement is the relief of the fortress of Girishk, besieged by the rebel forces under Aktar Khan. After the attainment of this point, Lieutenant Patterson was to direct his attention to the best means of finally crushing the power of Aktar Khan, and restoring tranquillity in the districts of the Helmund.

Khyva-Persia-Kokund-Russia

27th April

Letters from Khyva, up to the date quoted on the margin, contain the following particulars :

1. The Govt. of Khyva evinced no disposition to attend to the remonstrances of Shah Shoojah regarding the sale of H.M's Afghan subjects.
2. The Khan Huzrut is said to be well-disposed towards the British, so also is the Kooshhleggie, the Commander in Chief of the Khyvan army, who is said to be of the Royal tribe.
3. The Khan expressed a desire to cooperate with us against the Persians and Heratees.
4. Captain Conolly mentions a report that the Russian Govt. had

opened a communication with the Khan Huzrut and had promised that if H.M. would fulfil his engagements, skilful artizans and miners should be furnished to him in lieu of the handicraftsmen slaves lately restored.

5. The Khan's Ambassador had returned from Kokund, accompanied by Envoy of rank, who brought presents, and a pacific message regarding the border disturbances.
6. Captain Conolly mentions that he remains on the most amicable terms with the Khan Huzrut.
7. And further states that he has established a friendly feeling in his favor at Kokund through a very influential and superior person of the Court of that Country. The project of his journey having been notified to Mahomed Ali Khan¹, he received assurances that welcome awaited him.

Scinde Upper

16th to 18th June

The *Precis* of Upper Scinde Intelligence states that Lieutt. Hammersley, with Coll. Soppitt's Detacht. had arrived at Quetta from Naohkey. Lt. H. was accompanied by the Principal Rukshana & Zagar Mignaul Chiefs, with the exception of Fazil Khan who had returned across the desert. The distractions in the Ghilzye country, the *Precis* goes on to say, affected to a certain extent the northern frontier of Beloochistan & kept the Brahooes of that quarter in an unsettled state. The remainder of the Belooch Provinces are quiet peaceful.

19th to 25th June

A subsequent *Precis* of Upper Scinde Intelligence contains the following items:—(1) Col. Stacey stated that Nusseer Khan was to have arrived at Kelat by the 28th June & the Pol. Agent intended carrying into effect the wishes of the Right Hon'ble the Govr. Genl., regarding the Establishment of Provincial Govt. in Kelat, should the Khan not have come in by the time that had been fixed for his so doing. (2) Col. Stacey reported that Gool Mahomed wished to have an interview with him, to which the Poll. Agent objected, as the individual in question had been separated of a month and half ago specially excepted on account of the part he acted towards the late Lt. Loveday and of the intrigues which he had since then carried on and on account of his general bad character. (3) A large Kafila had arrived from Soomeeanee, who reported the road to be quiet and safe.

1 *Mahomed Ali Khan* of Masulipatam, placed in Shah Shuja's service; was fortunate to have escaped alive from the Afghan insurrection of 1841-42 and was later pensioned off by the British government.

26th June to 2nd July

The Poll. Agent at Candahar states in a private letter that Fermans from the Persian Envoy Yousuf Khan had been sent to Nusseer Khan, calling on him to consider Yar Mahomed as Naib from the Persian Crown and to unite with him and Persia for the good of Islam. (2) Futteh Khan, the Brother of Azad Khan, Chief of Khasan, arrived at Quettah for the purpose of declaring the submission of the first named province to H.M. S.S. Ool Moolk. (3) The provinces of Beloochistan above the pass continued tranquil. (4) In Cutchee and Upper Scinde matters were perfectly quiet. (5) Capt. Le Messurier has completed a detailed and valuable survey of the mountain passes along the southern frontier from Dadur to Noshkey.

12th July

The precis of Intelligence from the Diaries of the Poll. Agency, U.S., Shikarpore, for the week ending the 12th July, states that owing to some misunderstanding amongst themselves, parties of the Jakrana tribe of Beloochees in Eastern Cutchee had crossed over to the Khosahs in Upper Scinde who had given them protection. Lt. Postans stated that he would endeavour to settle the points at issue between the parties of the tribe attached to, and induce those who had gone over to the Khasahs to return to Eastern Cutchee.

Upper Scinde Canal

5th July

From the Precis of Intelligence from the Diaries of the Poll. Agency, U.S. Shikarpore, of dates noted, it appears, that Lt. Ferry of the Artillery has concluded a very useful Survey of the Scinde Canal from its mouth, to the bunder of Shikarpore, a distance of about 32 miles. This great source of cultivation and inland navigation, is found to contain only 1 & 1/2 feet of water at the point where it issues from the Indus. By deepening the Canal 10 feet below its ordinary level, it would be supplied with for 9 months of the year, instead of only half that period as at present.

Katra

19th July

Official Communications received from the Govt. of Bombay give a truly melancholy account of the sickness of the Force stationed at Katra; they state that the sickness had increased and that the 5 officers, named in

the margin, had fallen victims to the climate of the country. It appears from statements furnished that

Major Liddell—1st Lt. Cavy.
 Capt. Ripenback—25 Reg. N.I.
 Lt. Kendy—2nd Fronta.
 Ens Hunt—2nd Fronta. ^{1a}
 Mr. Arst Carlow Surgeon of
 the Nurses Estabt.

} out of 1190 men at Katra 739 were,
 on the 31st May, in Hospital, and
 that with the exception of the

Cavalry, all the Officers were sick in Quarters. Under these circumstances H.E. the Commander in Chief of Bombay had requested Brigadier England to adopt every measure in his power for the relief of the post at Katra, and that if the measure was found practicable and met with the concurrence of the Poll. authority, to abandon it altogether.

Scinde Lower

23rd June

The Poll. Agent in Lower Scinde reports Meer Shere Mahomed's acceptance of the treaty on the terms sanctioned by the Right Hon'ble the Govr. General viz., C. Rs. 50,000 annual tribute with stipulation to submit his territorial disputes with the Ameers of Hyderabad to the decision of the Poll. Agent, Major Outram further reports that a reconciliation has been effected between Meers Nuseer Khan & Shere Mahomed Khan, thro' the instrumentality of Meer Mohd. Khan and adds that the infant son of Shere Mahomed arrived at Hyderabad as a pledge of the reconciliation adverted to.

Arabian Coast

20th May

The Resident in the Persian Gulf states, in a report furnished by him to the Government of Bombay on the 20th May, respecting his proceedings at the different interviews he had with several Chiefs who visited him during his late tour to the Arabian Coast, that the maritime truce has been renewed on the part of these Chiefs for the ensuing year. The Right Hon'ble the Govr. Genl. has caused it to be stated to the Govt. of Bombay that as recent events in Syria and Egypt appear to have strengthened the influence of the British Government in the Persian Gulf, the Resident should have taken advantage of the feelings existing in our favour, to induce the Chiefs to consent to the renewal of the maritime truce, in which all are alike interested, for a longer period than one year.

Bahrein—Kateep

2nd April

Letters from Bahrein state that some Persian pilgrims had arrived there from Nejd on the 1st April, one of whom stated himself to be a Shazadah.

^{1a} Should read 'Flotla', short for Flotilla; 'Ens' is abbreviation for Ensign.

The name of this individual is Shah Tookh Mirza, a son of the late Hasein Ally Mirza, the Governor of Fars.

Ameer Khaled, from the accounts brought by the pilgrims, was residing at Riaz, and did not, it is said, contemplate moving. He would appear to be exercising his authority with prudence and moderation and the desire exhibited by him to render Central Arabia a safe track for Persian Pilgrims is a favorable proof of his wish to maintain peace and tranquillity throughout that extensive province.

The Shaik of Bahrein, it is said, had issued the strictest orders to all the places on the sea coast, belonging to himself, to afford no shelter to suspicious characters under fear of severe punishment.

The garrison of Kateef with 50 men of Nejd and Lassa is said to be of the same strength as it was last year, and under the command of Moobarruck boo Mismar. The Governor of the place is Ali Bin Abdoollah al Rahman. Nothing extraordinary had happened at Lassa and Omeer bin Oofaysan, who had fled from Khoorshed Pacha, and come to Bahrein, and who, during the Government of Faizul, was Governor of Lassa, had gone to Khaled, who received him kindly and gave him the command of the Arabian troops.

North of Abyssinia

5th July

The Govt. of Bombay report that Mr. Coffin² who had arrived at Aden with a letter from ovbia³ to H.M. the Queen of England had met on his route the French envoy Le Fevre with 60 camel loads of presents, said to be from the King of the French to the King of North Abyssinia. He also met a person named Brusah, travelling in State, who is reported to have been appointed a Consul General. There were 36 Frenchmen in all, 6 of whom were Engineers, 6 Mechanics, some military Officers, Botanists, & ca. Monsr. Lefevre, and Messrs D' Abbadie were at Hodeida, intending, it is believed, to proceed to Shoa, but which, the arrival of the British Mission, it was thought, would possibly prevent them accomplishing.

Tedjoura—Shoa

6th June

Captain Harris, in charge of the Mission to Shoa, reports his arrival at Tedjoura on the 17th May last. He states that he experienced great difficulties on the commencement of his journey to Shoa but he succeeded in overcoming them by patience and perseverance. Captain Harris had

2 *Coffin*, an Abyssinian traveller in the pay of the British representative in Egypt, who probably carried on some intelligence work for his master.

3 *Ovbia* difficult to identify.

left a portion of the mission to Tedjoura in consequence of the want of sufficient carriage. By order of the Govt. of Bombay, Lieutt. Horton of H.M.'s 49th Regt. and Dr. Impey, forming the portion left at Tedjoura, were to return, the former to join his regiment at present in China, and the latter to resume his medical duties in the Indian Naval Department.

Johanna

26th June

Captain the Hn'ble F. W. Grey Comdg. Her Majesty's Ship 'Endymion' (now at Bombay) states that on his anchoring at the Island of Johanna on the 21st of May, on his passage from the Cape of Good Hope, he found that, in the beginning of that month, a French Corvette called "La Prevoyante Proserpane" (vide News Letter No. 19, 1st July) had been there, and that the Captain had made a proposal to the King that the Island of Mayotta, should be surrendered to the French, and that upon the King's refusal to accede to this proposal, he threatened to return in two or three months to take possession of it by force, at the same time telling him that resistance on his part would be war against France.

2. The King mentioned this circumstance to Captain Grey⁴, adding, "what shall I do if the French return as they threaten? I have no force to oppose them! Will you write me to say that these Islands belong to England?" Captain Grey so far yielded to the King's solicitations by addressing him a letter in which he ventured to express a strong opinion that Her Majesty's Government would not receive with indifference the intelligence of such a proceeding as that threatened by the French Captain. As the possession of an Island by the French so directly in the track of our India Ships, using the Mozambique channel during the S.W. Monsoon, appeared to Captain Grey so contrary to British interests that he took the first favourable opportunity of informing the Governor of the Mauritius on the state of affairs in the quarter indicated.

Captain Grey states that up to the date of his leaving it, the Island of Johanna was in a state of perfect tranquillity under the present King Saleem. He adds that nothing could exceed the civility and attention shewn him and his crew by all classes during their stay at the Island

Rajpootana

The Chow Muhla

13th June

The Political Agent at Kotah states that, on a late visit to Jhalawar, he

4. *Capt. F. Grey* belonged to the army of East India Company; his services were placed at the disposal of the British Resident in Hyderabad so as to get him fixed up in the Nizam's army.

spoke seriously to the Maha Raj Rana on the disturbed state of the Choumukla, & His Highness replied that the Maha Raja Cheetur Sing, the Hakim of the Province, had received orders to repair thither & exert himself in suppressing the disturbances.

**North East Frontier
Rajah of Cooch-Bihar**

4th to 10th July

From the Political Diary of the North East Frontier of dates noted on the margin, it appears that the Rajah of Cooch-Bihar has adopted as his future heir Gobindra Narain, youngest son of Sumboo Narain Comar.

Nipal

29th June

The Resident in Nipal states on the authority of the Governor General's Agent on the N. West Frontier, that on enquiring of one of the retainers of the late Guelpo of Ladakh, he found that among the parties at Cathmandoo said to be Envoys from Ladakh, are two of the six servants who set out to convey the ashes of the young Guelpo to Lassa.

5th to 8th July

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Nipal Diary of dates noted in the margin:—

1. Kalraj, Pandey the Ex-Minister's brother, is alleged to have been nominated to the charge of the Heir apparent.
2. The Rajah had determined not to suffer the recent engagements with the British Government to be violated.
3. Except Ranjang, all the Kala Pandey's are said to be now in daily open attendance at Durbar.
4. The Misser Gooroo was at Deo Patun.
5. There are 6 Emissaries from Lassa, and the Viceroy has written for the name of the Chief who is to conduct the coming periodical mission to Peking.
6. Satisfactory steps had been taken in regard to the British suitors in the Courts of the capital and 2 officers were ordered to see that their cases were not unduly delayed.
7. The Rajah and the Ranee, by the advice of the Misser Gooroo and others, had determined to try to effect a union between the opposite parties among the Chiefs. The Choutras, it is said, were favorable to this measure, but the rest of the Ministers were opposed to it.

20th July

With regard to the aggressive conduct of the servants of Nipal in levying tolls on the Jumouni Nuddee on the Tirhoot frontier, Mr. Hodgson states that the Durbar had ordered its boundary Ameer to repair instantly to the spot and to investigate thoroughly the causes, which had led to this improper conduct on their part, and to settle the matter to the satisfaction of the British Government. The disposition evinced also by the Nepal Durbar in regard to the suppression of dacoits on the Frontier has been very favourable; indeed, to all appearances, its general conduct at present is marked by a desire to give satisfaction to the Br. power.

China

17th July

The Government of Fort St. George report that H.M.'s ship "Jupiter" sailed on the 16th July from the Madras Roads for China with the following details:—

Rifle Company 36th Regt.	122
Sappers and Miners	31
2nd Br. Artillery	21
37th Regt. N.I.	1
Commt. Dept.	1
Public followers	228
Private—Do.—	22
	<hr/>
Total	426
	<hr/>

Fort William,
The 2nd August, 1841

H. V. Bayley
Asstt. Secretary to the
Govt. of India

(Ref:—Foreign Deptt. Miscellaneous, Vol. 334, pp. 135-184)

Newsletter 52 : August 11, 1841

(No. 23 of 1841)

North West Frontier

25th June to 4th July

The following items of Intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Akhbar of dates noted on the margin:—(1) It was reported to the Durbar that the heavy rain and the overflowing of the Ravee has had swept away all the baggage & equipment of the Charyaree troops. The overflowing of the river is said to have inundated the suburbs of Lahore. (2) 25 more Sepoys & Officers of the Dragoon Regiment were seized as accomplices in the murder of Mr. Foulkes, & being brought into the Durbar, were told to relate particulars of the murder. A trumpeter was told to point to the man who actually killed Mr. F. but he, stating his inability to do so, was ordered to be imprisoned. (3) The Sikh Supdt. of Customs was ordered by the Durbar to arrange a permit (transit customs) system as required by Mr. Clerk from Loodhiana to Ferozepore, & from Ferozepore to Peshawur. And Raja Dhian Sing ordered the matter to be settled in such a manner that no loss might be sustained in the customs at Amritsar or Lahore. (4) Genl. Avitabile applied for permission to attend at Court, but was ordered to remain in his office at Peshawur. (5) Fukeer Shahoodeen reported to the Durbar that 4 Gentlemen were to leave Ferozepore with 50 horses for Afghanistan, & that a guard with a passport through the Punjab was required. Raja Dhian Sing ordered a confidential man to attend and conduct them as far as Khyber.

9th July

The following particulars are extracted from a letter from the Governor General's Agent on the North West Frontier of date quoted in the margin:—(1) The army at Lahore, it is said, was daily becoming more submissive. Some excitement prevailed in consequence of the exaggerated rumours of alleged negotiations by Surdar Ajeet Sing in Calcutta. (2) The success of Raja Goolab Sing is reported to be only partial, but appearances indicated that it would soon be complete. Some of the insurgents still held two or three of the forts, but many of them had tendered their submission to Koonwur Purtab Sing, on receiving a promise of forgiveness.

(3) The Maha Rajah is said not to trouble himself much about the administration of affairs. He inspects the troops frequently and had at length induced Genl. Court's division to promise to receive that Officer again, though the General had no intention of availing himself of the option. (4) Mr. Clerk has apprised Sir W. H. Macnaghten that there seemed to be nothing in the present condition of the Punjab, to prevent his removing the restrictions he had placed on the departure of Officers from Afghanistan thro' the Sikh territory to India.

13th to 19th July

The following items of Intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Akhbars of dates quoted on the margin:—(1) Raja Dhian Sing engages himself much in preparing ammunition, and had issued orders for the preparation of such stores in his own garrisons. (2) The Ghorchora troops demanded leave, which was granted to them. (3) The Cashmere Intelligencer reports that Raja Goolab Sing had reached Daood Majra, one coss from Cashmere, and that Sheikh Gholaum Mohee Ooddeen, Chowdhree Waras Khan, and Captain Kooldeep Sing, had previously gone into Cashmere & placed their guards on the Tosha Khana, and the gate of the fort Nursinghur, & had removed the garrison to a garden called Ram Bhag. The country round Cashmere has been completely inundated by the overflowing of the rivers. Koonwur Purtab Sing & Raja Goolab Sing were expected to enter Cashmere on the 10th July with the concurrence of the astrologers. The officers & sepoy engaged themselves to afford no protection to those who murdered General Mehan Sing & raised the tumult. Raja Goolab Sing proposed to seize & confine the murderers and rebels engaged in that tumult. Koonwur Purtab Sing & two chiefs reported the submission & attendance of the different establishments of Cashmere, the affairs of which were daily becoming orderly. Instructions were issued to Goolab Sing & the Koonwur to leave Cashmere soon and return thro' the Hazara. (4) The officers of the Horse Artillery at Lahore having asked for leave, half of them were allowed to avail themselves of it. (5) Genl. Court reported sickness in his family at Loodhiana and stated that the fears of his friends in France for his safety from assassins made him again back to be allowed to retire. The Maha Rajah answered him with an order not to be alarmed. (6) The Sowars of the Dragoon regiment being summoned, further enquiries regarding Colonel Foulkes, murder were made & five more of them being proved to have been implicated, were ordered into confinement.

20th July

A letter from Mr. Clerk of date noted on the margin contains the following

particulars :—(1) The troops at Lahore continued partially to avail themselves of the leave of absence offered them. By the advice of Rajah Dhian Sing, this had been rescinded in the instance of the “Poorbees”, or those, whose homes being distant, could not return in two months. (2) The Goorkah battalion, which was appointed as an Escort to Koonwur Purtab Sing, formed the garrison of the principal fort in Cashmere on its being evacuated by the rebels. (3) Raja Dhian Sing is habituating the “Khalseh” chiefs to look upon young Duleep Singh as a child of the Maha Rajah Runjeet Sing. (4) The Rajah had directed that whatever lands are held in Peshawur by any Sirdars are to be resumed. (5) The Maha Raja is always in the habit of inspecting the troops. He himself, on most occasions, communicates directly with the army, present at Lahore, and seems to omit nothing that is calculated to keep him in favor with them. Their advice, he attentively listens to; their raillery, he smiles at; and extreme insolence on their part, he punishes. (6) Rajah Dhian Sing has not gained much ground in his endeavours to re-establish his influence over the Army. (7) A scarcity of funds is beginning to be felt at Lahore, and there is no regularity in the realization of the revenues.

26th July

The Govr. Genl.’s Agent on the N. W. Frontier states that he has requested his Assistant at Ferozepore to prepare and to transmit him a periodical price current which he proposes to forward regularly to the Govt. of Agra and to the Chamber of Commerce at Bombay, in the expectation that the information contained in them may, if published, prove useful to trade. Mr. Clerk’s intention is to provide also a similar price current at the Amritsar market, for publication in the Loodheanah Akhbar and Agra Gazette, and for transmission to the Chamber of Commerce at Bombay. These papers will also be communicated to the Chamber of Commerce at Calcutta.

28th July

The following items of Intelligence are extracted from Mr. Clerk’s letter of latest date yet received:—(1) Rajah Dhian Sing seems now to feel that the result of his endeavours, though uninterrupted of late by any commotion, is not such as to afford much promise of the stability of the Govt. at Lahore. The troops are silent but sullen. The doubts which the Raja expresses of the intentions of the British Govt. excite little corresponding sentiment in the Khalseh. Even the activity which the Rajah enjoys in the magazines, and arsenals fails to rouse them. The fact is said to be that, at present, they are more under the influence of a feeling of rancour towards him, than of enmity to the British Govt. The Sikhs are not given to speculating on what is not immediately apparent to them, and as it is universally understood among them that the British Govt. refused to encourage an offer of

half the Punjab on the part of the favourite of Chund Koonwour to interfere and set her up as Sovereign, they are not much disposed to believe that the British Govt. desires to undertake the adjustment of their internal distractions. (2) The Maha Raja has married a lady of the family of the Hill Rajah of Sookait. The concession was recommended, and all the arrangements preliminary to the marriage effected, by Sirdar Lehna Sing Majeethia. This is said to have given offence, to the Prime Minister. (3) The exertions of Dewun Sawan Mull of Mooltan in raising Mahomedan troops, to protect himself against Raja Dhyan Singh, keep pace with the Raja's organization of hill troops to protect his territories against the Khalseh or against the British Government. (4) Mr. Clerk has requested the Maha Raja to provide Dr. Jameson¹ with a passport, and an attendant to enable him to proceed to examine the effects of the late inundation of the Indus, and to endeavour to reach the scene of the obstacles, that impeded the current of the river and caused the disaster. Rumour seems to assign Gilaghit, which lies North West of Cashmere, as the district in which the original cause of the disaster arose. Mr. Clerk proposed that Dr. Jameson should take this opportunity of inspecting the Karaliagh hills where Captain Carless supposes that coals are to be found. (5) On the 29th June last, while engaged in conversation with Fukeer Shahoodeen, Mr. Clerk's attention was drawn to a scuffle at the open door from which he was seated three paces distant. Going to the door he heard the demands of "tulwar Giran" ("throw down the sword") several times quickly repeated, by a man struggling with another whose foot was on the threshold. It was a sepoy of Fukeer Shahoodeen's entering. An old Jemadar of the Fukeer's had applied all his strength to grasp the man's sword-arm, and at this moment a servant of Mr. C. coming up from behind, threw him down and secured him. The impression on Mr. C.'s mind seemed to be that the man had come in search of him, and from the frantic manner in which he is said to have rushed to the door, Mr. C. thinks, he was bent upon some mischief.

Cashmere

1st to 29th June

The Cashmere Intelligence of dates quoted states the following particulars :—(1) Heavy rain fell incessantly for two days and two nights, and overflowed all the country round Cashmere in an unusual manner, destroying about 1,500 houses, 150 men, women and children and 700 cattle. A great deal of damage is said to have been done to the bridges on several streams and all the granaries ruined. (2) The market rates in Cashmere are as follows:—

Rice: 1 md. & 15 Seers pr. Rupee.

1. Dr. W. Jameson who made a valuable contribution to the geological survey of the Himalayas, was appointed (January 1841) Chief Medical officer of the North-West Frontier Agency; a year later, he was attacked by the Afridis while on his way from Kohat to Peshawar.

Wheat : 16 Seers pr. Rupee.

(3) Rajah Ahmed Shah, chief of Askardo, has been reinstated by Raja Golaub Sing, and received a Khillut of investiture.

Afghanistan

In consequence of the sickly state of the Shah's Goorka Regiment, it has been found requisite to remove it from Cabool, and Kohistan, appearing to be in all respects an eligible position, it was to be for a time quartered there. It will be accompanied by a Rissala of Anderson's Horse. This movement will have the advantage of setting free the Kohistan Corps for proceeding to Zoormut, if requisite.

24th June

Sir A. Burnes states that the reform in the duties of transit and customs throughout the Shah's dominions (Candahar excepted) has been completed and brought into active operation.

The whole duties of transit, on external commerce, throughout Afghanistan, with the exception referred to, have been abolished and a uniform standard of 2½ per cent fixed upon every description of goods and leviable only *at the capital*, and under the immediate superintendence of the Officers there, after which a passport is given which prohibits all further molestation and examination.

The large expenditure incurred in protecting Khyber, Sir A. Burnes goes on to observe, rendered it inadvisable to abolish the toll there.

The result of these reforms, Sir A. Burnes adds, in a financial point of view, is important, for by them not only is no loss expected to befall H.M.'s treasury, but also great encouragement given to the spread of commerce. The shawl trade had hitherto been peculiarly favored at Cabool from Cashmere, having been a province of the Empire, but it is now placed on an equality with British goods, but Sir A. Burnes thinks it can well bear the change from the valuable nature of the fabric.

In connection with this subject, Sir W. H. Macnaghten observes that the commerce of the Country was rapidly increasing and that he anticipated from this Sounee² a large and speedy augmentation of the revenue. Merchandize brought from the provinces, according to the Envoy and Minister's showing, was selling at 150 per cent profits exclusive of all charges. It was Sir W.'s intention to call upon Major Rawlinson for a report of the system of commerce in force in the Candahar portion of H.M.'s dominions and of the means which seemed best calculated to improve that system on the principle adopted at Cabool.

12th July

A letter from Captn. Broadfoot states that Shah Leman and every member of the Royal families having safely arrived at Cabool, the Royal

² Should read 'source'.

Convoy has been broken up, and the several British Officers ordered, to join their respective posts.

Candahar

30th June

Brigadier England reports the arrival of the 42d Regt. N.I. from Kelat on the 30 June. He states that the recruits of Her M.'s 13th Lt. Infy. were to march *en route* to Candahar on the morning of the 3rd. July ultimo.

The Helmund—Girishk

For a detailed account of Capt. Woodburn's gallant affairs when in command of a detachment of the Shah's troops with Ukber Khan and his rebels, See Cal. Gaz. extra of Aug. 11th.

Kelat-i-Ghilzye

24th June

The Poll. Agent at Candahar reports that Sirdar Atta Mahomed Khan³ proceeded to Cabool in advance of the detachmt which had marched for the Ghilzye country, and that the Chaoosh Bashee was to leave Candahar on the 25th June under the surveillance of Abdool Jahir Khan Populzye and escorted by 10 horsemen. The association of the three individuals upon the road seemed to the Poll. Agt. likely to produce feelings of alarm on the minds of the two former, and he was also anxious that the Chaoosh Bashee, on leaving Candahar, should not appear as a prisoner escorted by British troops. Abdool Jabir Khan however was directed to avail himself of the march of the British troops from Kelat in order to insure the safe transit of his charge through the Ghilzye country.

Bokhara

7th June

Sir W. H. Macnaghten has been directed to state to Lt. Coll. Stoddart that if he continues to enjoy the favor of the Ameer it may be proper that he should remain at his Court till the further pleasure of H.M.'s Govt. should be known, and to retire in the event of his personal safety being exposed to risk. Lt. Coll. has been cautioned against attempting to interfere in the administration of the Ameer's country.

Kohistan

26th June

Major E. Pottinger, Poll. Agent in Kohistan, who has furnished Govt. with an account of that country states that the Kohistan of Cabool consists of the Valleys of Charekar, Ghoreband, and Pushyr, the streams of which unite at about 40 miles from Cabool and then run last into the remaining districts of Nijrah,

³ Atta Mahomed Khan (Atta Muhammad Khan), son of Mukhtar-ud-Daulah, tutor & advisor of Prince Jahangir (son of Shah Kamran). He had been governor of Kashmir on behalf of Zaman Shah.

and Tugale. H.M.'s Govt. has the full command of the avad to it, which runs thro' a Valley, said to be the most productive and valuable part of the district. This valley runs from S. by W. to N. by E., nearly on the west in the Pughman range; on the East, is the Koh-i-Safy and two small ranges which connect that with Pughman Range. About 40 miles from Cabool, at place called Abdulla boorj (the citadel of the ancient town of Bugram), the valley reaches the junction of the Ghorabund and Punshyr streams, and a few miles lower down the river, called Barikab, joins the combined waters whence the main stream flows along the northern stream & Tagab during which it is joined by numerous rivulets and streams. Between these valleys are innumerable glens and ravines, forming a perfect network; by these there is generally a foot communication inaccessible to cavalry with the next valleys, and thus the inhabitants of one valley can aid those of the others without exposing themselves. The range of Pughman in the west of the road contains many villages built in glens from each of which issues a stream which supplies the cultivation. This portion is generally called the Kohdaman, in which, from the difficult nature of the mountains, the different villages form Posts capable of defence. On the east of the valley, are comparatively few villages, and the hills are more easily accessible than those of Pughman. The back of the Pughman range is an elevated country occupied by the Hazouch tribes: those nearest are the Shekaby tribes who have always preserved their independence. At Charekar, 36 miles from Cabool and 4 miles S. of the river, the Governor generally resides; the country in its neighbourhood is watered by canals drawn from the Ghorkund river. At 8 or 10 miles N.W. of Tootandara, is the point whence issues the river of Punshyr. This river may be considered the northern boundary of the lately reduced country. There are several small level districts north of this which own allegiance to Cabool. The people of Charekar are said to be loyal; well satisfied, and undisturbed by any active agitators.

The Ameers of Scinde and the disturbances on the Shikarpoor Frontier

28th June

With regard to the disturbed state of the Shikarpur frontier which has been occasioned by marauders, coming from Kutchee, Major Outram altogether exonerates their Highnesses the Ameers of Hyderabad from all blame directly or indirectly on them, and expresses his opinion that they are entitled to praise for the profound tranquillity preserved throughout their territory during the long period of excitement in their neighbourhood during which British subjects of every description have traversed the country in every direction without an instance of robbery or molestation

having been brought to the notice of the Poll. Agent at Hyderabad for a year past.

Sinde-Upper

3rd to the 9th July

The Precis of Upper Sinde Intelligence of dates quoted in the margin contain the following items of intelligence :— (1) A Kujjuch Chief assured Mr. Bell of the fidelity of his tribe and of their determination never again to be betrayed into an insurrection as they lately were under the Counsel of bad advisers. (2) Omer Khan Zuggur Meyngil, along with several Rukshanoo Chiefs, have had several interviews with Mr. Bell, in which all matters under dispute have been satisfactorily adjusted and they were to return to Nooshkey on the 10th July. (3) The movement of Coll. Soppitts' detachment has produced a very extensive and salutary effect throughout the Country. Besides putting a stop to the intrigues which were being carried on between Azad Khan of Kharon and Ukhtour Khan Dooranee, it overawed the Chiefs of Gumsel and Sharawrech and prevented them from joining if they had mediated it, in the Dooranee rebellion. (4) Raheem Khan, Chief of Wudd, had assured Mr. Bell of his entire devotion to our Government, His adherence, observes Mr. B, is a matter of great importance as a great portion of the high road between Kelat and Soomueeanee, just about to be surveyed by Captn. Le Messuier, passes through his Estates. (5) Nusser Khan informed Mr. Bell that he had at length finally made up his mind to submit to our Government, and that he determined on starting for Kelat on the 5th of July. It is stated that the circumstance of Shah Newaz Khan having arrived at Quetta had induced him to determine on submitting to the British Government. (6) Mr. Bell reports that the troops stationed in Cutchee have suffered severally from the inclemency of the season, and that seven officers have died during the last month and a half.* (7) Mr. Bell and Brigadier England have agreed as to the propriety of making the following Military arrangements viz., stationing a native battalion and three guns at Quetta, 4 Companies N. I., and 2 guns at Kelat. The following troops are to be moved into Cutchee during October— 1. 40th and 41st Queen's, a wing of N. I., 2. troops European horse Artillery and a wing of Cavalry, Company of Sappers and Miners, 3. Rissallahs Bengal local Horse. (8) Mr. Bell received intelligence from Girishk of a hard contested action between the Dooranee Chief Aktar Khan and a detachment of the Shah's troops under Captn. Woodburn.**

*Measures are being taken for the relief or abandonment of this post so disastrously affected.

**For correct particulars of this see the Gazette of 11th August.

7th July

The Poll. Agent Upper Sinde states that he has given no pledge to any party at Kelat and that pending the final instructions of Government he would confine his measures to the maintenance of tranquillity and the conciliation of the Chiefs and the tribes at Kelat.

12th July

The Diary of the Poll. Agency of Upper Sinde upto the 12th July states that the boundary disputes between Meer Nusseer Khan and Meer Alli Moorad have been at length brought under arbitration. Formerly the river being generally assigned as a limit in the division of the country made by the Ameers among themselves, and its stream constantly altering its course, these disputes were necessarily multiplied unceasingly and proved of very serious detriment to the cultivation; for whenever they arise, a number of followers of the Ameers or their jageerdars proceeded and quartered themselves on the inhabitants. Meantime, the tillage of the ground was neglected, nor could even the crops be removed until a decision took place.

Shikarpoor

16th July

The Poll. Agent in Upper Sinde states that the balance in the Shikarpore treasury on the 1st July was 3,10,238-11½ P.

Cutch

30th June

From the Abstract of proceedings in the Poll. Deptt. of date noted on the margin, laid before the Govt. of Bombay, it appears that His Highness the Rao of Cutch had issued a proclamation addressed to the "Summat-umuree no Putur" (a designation which included every tribe and family of the Jarijahs) warning them that as the practice of Infanticide, which hitherto prevailed among them, had been in a great measure put down, it would not be permitted to continue among the other tribes which had followed the ancient bad example, but that every case of infanticide which might come to the knowledge of the Cutch Durbar would be severely punished.

Johanna

30th June

The Colonial Secretary at the Mauritius states that the Johannese Deputies who were sent by the Government of India to the Isle of France and recommended to the favourable notice of H.E. the Governor, with a request that they might be forwarded to their country by the first favorable opportunity, had, together with seven of their countrymen and followers, who were at the Mauritius on a mission from the Sultan of Johanna, been provided with a passage to Mozambique, where Sultan Allaye, to whose party they belong, is understood to be resident; and that they sailed in the Frig. "Maria" from Mauritius on the 24th June.

The Colonial Secretary further states that the affairs of the Omoro Islands and their disturbed state have been brought under the consideration of H.M.'s Government at Home by His Excellency the Governor of the Mauritius and the Senior Naval Officer on the Cape Station, and that instructions in regard to them may be expected in the course of the present year.

Mysore

10th July

The Rest. at Mysore reports that the English Free School of His Highness the Rajah of Mysore continues to prosper. There is said to be a progressive increase in the number of scholars, there being now 85 boys in the school. 250 copies of a little elementary work, prepared for the use of the school, were being printed, His Highness having granted 1000 Rs. for the purpose. The Superintendent of the School writes—"with characteristic generosity, His Highness proposed to support Canarese, Telooogo and Mharatta Teachers in addition to the present establishment."

Brigadier Lovell who has lately inspected the Mysore Sillardar Horse speaks of them as an efficient corps & that they might be made a very valuable body by some few additions to their equipments & internal system.

Gwalior

14th to 20th June

The Diary of the Gwalior Residency of dates noted in the margin states that the Ministers represented to the Maha Rajah that the affairs of the Government could not be satisfactorily discharged as long as the Mama Saheb remained at the Captial, and recommended that he should be removed from Court. The Maharaja did not approve of this arrangement. The Diary further states that Nana Apte made his first march from Gwalior towards Indore on the 24th June (vide News Letter dated 22nd June, No. 18).

Nipal

The new Ministry at Cathmandoo are described in a private letter from thence not only as being strong enough to be able to resume office at the new Punjamee (October) but they have also been asked so to do by both parties in the state, and the country generally is said to partake in this feeling.

Fort William
The 11th August, 1841

H. V. Bayley
Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of
India

(Ref. :—Foreign Deptt. Misc., Vol. 334, pp. 185-228).

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Newsletter 53 : August 20, 1841

(No. 24 of 1841)

Peshawur

The Khyber Pass

6th July

The Poll. Agent in Peshawur reports that the Afreedee¹ Maliks were about to proceed to Tira where they would in the first place, call on all the Afreedee tribes to suspend for a time their internal feuds and this object effected, the whole of the Afreedees, were to be invited to send a deputation to the Amakzyes² and ask them to a conference to discuss their claim to share in the Chokee dues of Khyber. It is further stated that the object of the Afreedees is: first, to detach Alum Khan from our service, and then to divide with him and the rest of the Amakzyes, the present stipends of Khyber; and having closed the road for some time, to make higher demands on us. Should Alum Khan not accede to the terms offered to him, the Afreedee Maliks are said to be prepared to disburse their savings from the last two months' stipends, in exciting the Amakzyes against Alum Khan, expelling him and his family from Tira. The Afreedee Maliks, however, declare their object in going to Tira to be to look out after their own tribes. They disclaim any hostile designs against Alum Khan, the Amakzye Chief. At the same time, they avow their intention to assemble the Amakzyes in order to come to a settlement with them, because they demanded a share of the Mowagile of Khyber. The Poll. Agent goes on to say that there has always been good deal of intrigue going on between the Afridi Maliks & the Amakzyes, and latterly among Alum Khan's own family, but Alum Khan himself writes with much confidence of the disposition of his tribe.

With regard to robberies committed in the Khyber Pass at night, of which the Afridi Maliks wish to evade the responsibility, the Political Agent had determined, with their concurrence, to have a board posted in a

- 1 *Afreedees* (or Afridis) a Pathan tribe inhabiting the mountainous country south of the Khyber, commonly called Tirah. There were as many as six chief divisions of the tribe- Kamar Khel (Kheil), Kamrai, Kuki Kheil, Malik Din Kheil, Sepaiah or Sipah and Zakka Kheil. During the Afghan interlude (1839-41) the British gave generous subsidies to the Afridi chiefs, called maliks, who were made responsible for the protection of the pass. This notwithstanding, they could not always be relied upon.
- 2 *Amakzyes*, people belonging to the Aimack tribe who lived to the north of Herat and Kabul, in a range of undulating country. They were at once brave and relentless.

conspicuous spot on the road side at either end of the pass, laying down to travellers as the rule, that they must not travel by night, and if by chance any may be, being held, that they must send one of their party to the nearest post of Chokedars and get a guard from it.

The Sikhs and the Chinese Tartars

20th July

The Commr. of Kumaon states a report that a body of Goorkha soldiers had either marched, or were about to march from Joomla towards Ghartopee (Lat. 31° Long $80\frac{1}{2}$); but with what object, it was not mentioned. The Commr. mentions his having also heard that the Ladakees some time ago sent 6,000 Rupees to the Gorto-ke Deba, with letters praying for aid against the Sikhs, from Lassa.- The Deba received and kept the money and promised to advance the object of their prayer; but nothing having been done in consequence by the Lassa Govt., the Ladakh people, after waiting a considerable time, came to the conclusion that the Deba had deceived and cheated them and determined to revenge themselves on him. They, therefore, incited the Sikhs to attack Ghartope, accompanying and aiding them as far as was in their power. The reported force with which this conquest had been achieved was stated to be so small.- twelve, fifteen, or eighteen hundred men, as to render it probable that the Lassa authorities would shortly succeed in driving the Sikhs out unless reinforcements of their own were to join them or others from Ladakh, or a supply of troops should be given them by Nipal.

28th July

The Political Agent at Lubothoo states that in the month of Assar last (towards the end of June), a battle took place between the Sikhs and Ladakhees on one side, and the Chinese Tartars on the other. The loss on the part of the latter was 30 killed, that on the part of the former a greater number. It is said that the Chinese Tartars were victorious. It is added that on receiving this news, Zorawur Sing, the Viceroy of Ladakh, left the latter place and went over to Dugchi Chooret within Ladak in progress to Roothing within Chinese Tartary.

28th July

Subsequently accounts confirm the intelligence of the battle fought between the Sikhs and the Chinese Tartars. Reports have also arrived through the Mana and Neetee Passes and from the Rawul of Budrinauth, which tell the same tale as far as regards the principal facts, with the exception of some difference in the name of the Sikh commander. All trade is said to be at a complete stand still between the passes and the country of Heoondes. A few of the oldest and most intelligent Bhotias have gone across to see whether it would be safe to take goods into Keonburg, Dapa, Tuklakhal

and Gartope or not. The traders of the last named places are quite ruined & most of them have fled. The Bhoteas are as yet only alarmed. The Sikhs had not reached Tuklakhal upto the last news. They had a large detachment of from 1,000 to 1,500 men at Roondakh to guard the salt and gold mines. Another smaller detachment remained at Gartope, and another over the Borax grounds. The Commissioner at Kumaon makes the whole number to 1800 - others state it to be 2,300 - very few Chinese or Tartars (only 25 or therabouts) it is said fell in the battle near Gartope. The Chinese or Tartars are said to have behaved in a cowardly way & gave up their country without any real struggle. Report states that a large body of Goorkas had crossed the frontier by passes, east of Joomla, and gone either to fight or to coalesce with the Sikhs. In the present juncture of affairs, the legitimate authorities would seem to have lost possession of Thibet from Ladakh to the Kylas range³ which separates the sources of the Indus & the Sutlej from those of the B⁴ or rather the Sanpoo. It is stated that the Gartope Gurphun & Dewa robbed the refugee Ladakhees & did not forward their petitions to Lhasa praying & paying for aid against the Sikhs.* Dotee is reported to be very quiet and no increase of force appears to be brought there.

Sinde Upper

10th to 16th July

The following particulars are extracted from the precis of Upper Sinde intelligence of dates quoted in the margin :—

(1) Nusseer Khan wrote to Mr. Bell that fear had long prevented him from submitting to our Govt., but that he had at length finally resolved on doing so. The Khan was dissuaded by certain people from tendering his submission, but he said he was tired of following advice which ended in evil.

(2) The 42nd Bengal N. I., with a convoy of 7 lakhs of Rs. & ordnance stores, left Quetta on the 3rd July, for Candahar.

(3) On the 14th July, Mr Bell had an interview with Shah Newaz Khan who expressed a wish to return to Shikarpore owing to the enormous expense attending the maintenance of his followers and cattle in the valley of Shawl, & his desire to avoid meeting Nusseer Khan. He stated that although it would be most agreeable to him to be placed in possession of the estates around Dadur and other Jagheer which he inherited from his father, yet that he considered himself entirely dependent

*Mr. Clerk has been instructed, should the intelligence of these Sikh aggressions not be open to any strong doubt, to seek an explanation from the Lahore Durbar, and to warn it that it will be held strictly responsible for any injurious proceedings on the part of those owning it allegiance.

³ *Kylas range* : The 'Kailash Parbat' in Trans-Himalaya.

⁴ 'B' for Brahmaputra.

on the British Govt. & would take up his residence hereafter at Candahar or whatever other place might be pointed out to him.

(4) Matters are said to continue to be very quiet in the Upper Beelooch provinces, that all the Chiefs, both Sarawan & Jhalawar, adhere to the terms which they entered into (see News Letter No. 7 dated 19 March).

(5) The troops were suffering to a considerable extent from sickness, & two valuable officers, Capt. Valiant of H.M. 40th & Capt. Jones of the 20th N. I. died within a few hours of each other.

(6) Loss among the Camels continued to be very great notwithstanding all the precautions which were taken to prevent it.

17th July

Mr. Bell writes in a letter dated as per margin that the advance of Colonel Soppitt's detachment to Noshkey⁵ not only discomfited the projects of Fazil Khan and caused the various Zuggur Mogngil Chiefs, by whom he was supported, to abandon him, but overawed Azad Khan and induced him to lose no time in declaring his allegiance to Shah Saojah-ool-moolk, thus leaving Ukhtar Khan, the Dooranee Chief, unsupported to the allies on whose aid he might otherwise have reckoned.

25th July

The Precis of intelligence from the diaries of the Upper Sindh Poll. Agency Shikarpore of date noted, states that accounts from Eastern Cutchee announce that various excesses had been committed on the peaceable inhabitants in that part of the country, and also to the north towards Hajee and Mittree, by the hill tribe of Boogties in the Sikh Territories, as also towards Sibhee and the Khujjuch country. These hill Beloochees are the most unsettled and turbulent of all the tribes, and safe in the retreats of their strong hills, they prove a continued source of annoyance to the inhabitants of the plains. From Nusseer Khan the first downwards, the Kelat Chiefs have attempted to prevent their devastating effects, but without success.

The party of the Muzarees are said to be completely unrestrained, and though subject nominally to the Sikh government, do not acknowledge any authority.

Aden

6th July

The Poll. Agent at Aden writes that no advance had been made by the Fouthellee force on that place; but that, on the contrary, a considerable

⁵ *Noshkey* (Nooshky, Noshki) a small town, situated on the banks of the river Bale, to the west of Sarawan, in Baluchistan. In the middle of the 17th century it was inhabited by barely 200 families of shepherds and nomads who depended for subsistence, either on their flocks and herds, or, on plunder. Their nomadic chief was a tributary of the Khan of Kelat.

reduction had taken place in the number assembled at El-Khore, from the different sub-divisions of the tribes.

Slave Trade on the Southern Shores of Arabia, Red Sea, and the Abyssinian Coast.

6th July

The Poll. Agent at Aden reports that the principal marts for the purchase and export of Slaves in the Red Sea are held at Massorva and Swaken, and Tedjoura, Zeyla, and Barbera, on the Abyssinian Coast. A considerable number of slaves are annually brought from Zanzibar and Mombay to Meculla from whence a few are sent to Mocha, Hodeida, Lohera, and Juddah, but by far the greater number to Muscat and the Persian Gulf.

The Abyssinian slave trade consists principally in children of from 8 to 16 years of age and is said to exist to a great extent. They are taken during war which constantly exists between the Galla tribes and their neighbours. Captain Haines states that immediately after hoisting the British flag at Aden, he pronounced all traffic in slaves to be illegal, and proclaimed it to all within the jurisdiction of the Agency.

Hyderabad

26th to 31st August

It appears from the Military Diary of the Resident at Hyderabad that intimation had been received by Captain Jackson of 100 Arabs crossing the Beemah river and of a large body of troops being about to pass through that Country. These Arabs are said to belong to one Ingun Mohun Sing. The Rajah of Sholapore had been instructed to seize the Arabs in question as also to stop the progress of a further body of men who were reported to be coming from Hyderabad, should they not be government servants.

Nagpore

From the Nagpore Diary it appears the Rajah had ordered all Risaldars to join the stations of their several corps and that all proceedings in the Sudder Court of Appeal at Nagpore were to be carried on in the same way as was the practice when Nagpore was under British management.

Jodhpore

5th to 11th July

From the Poll. Diary of the Jodhpore Agency, of dates noted in the margin, it appears that measures have been resorted by the Jodhpore authorities for restraining the lowest Bheels and Meenas on the Marwar frontier bordering upon Meywar and Serohee.

Burmah*1st July*

The following is the Return of Troops serving on the Cost of Tenasserim up to the 1st July, ultimo:-

English Officers	..	57
Native non-commissioned Officers	..	252
Rank and file	..	3,441
Ordnance Deptt.	..	166
Commissariat Deptt.	..	125
		<hr/>
		4,041
		<hr/>
Iron guns, 12 pr.	..	2
Brass —Do.—9"	..	7
Do.— Do.— 6"	..	7
Mortars 5½ inch	..	8
Howitzer 13 pr.	..	3
Cartridge sglotted muskets	..	6,77,098
" " artillery	..	4,899
" " infantry	..	5,864
" " Pistol		6,800
Powder in Magajzne, including gun cartridges lbs.	..	36,121

13th July

The Commissioner of the Tenasserim Provinces states that H.M. will quit his capital in all⁶ September next, by which time, the advance guard of the force to accompany him, may be expected at Rangoon under the command of his eldest son, the Prince of Prome, for whose reception, preparations were making.

The Commissioner had heard nothing of any extraordinary preparations being in progress in the neighbourhood of Moulmein for the reception of troops beyond clearing the environs of the town of Martaban of Jungle and collecting materials for building, as is supposed, a house for the Governor of Bileng, nor had any report reached the Commissioner that it was intended to station a force on the frontier. The son of the Governor of Bileng who is Military Commandant under his father, has very lately proceeded to the Capital for the purpose, it is reported, of assuming some command in the advance guard. Beyond these petty circumstances there is nothing at present to indicate any movement on Moulmein. "A late letter however from Rangoon," the Commissioner goes on to observe, "mentions that the Govr. of that place had gone to Pegu for the purpose of examining the creeks in that direction. I do not think" concludes Mr. Blundell "that the King meditates any attack

⁶ all may stand for 'early'.

on us; but if he appears in the Southern part of his Kingdom with a large army, we ought to be prepared for a collision.* Though the King may really desire to avoid all hostilities, yet his sons may allow their enmity towards us to break out & his ill-paid, undisciplined troops may seek subsistence by plundering our people.”

21st July

A letter from Rangoon intimates that a house was being built there for the reception of the Prince of Prome, who, it is stated, will arrive in charge of the advance portion of the Royal forces about the time that His Majesty sets out from the Capital. The time that the King should leave Amara-porah had been fixed for the last month of the Burman lent, i.e., in September, but it being contrary to the regulations of the Priesthood to remove from one habitation to another during that season, the Tha-tha-nabine (Chief Priest) & other priests had been ordered to commence the observance of it in boats on the river. On a representation made by them, however, His Majesty was pleased to defer his intended departure until the termination of the lent, and it is now supposed that he will leave the capital in the beginning of October. It is mentioned on the authority of letters received from Amara-poorah that the forces which are to accompany the King to Rangoon amount to 70,000 & that in consequence of these preparations for the King's visit, the general trade at Rangoon was in a depressed state. It is understood that the Ministers & other high officers of the Burman Court are all averse to the intended royal journey. By orders lately issued, a house is about to be built at Rangoon for the King's brother[**], *who, it appears, is to accompany His Majesty.

2nd August

Another letter from Rangoon of date noted in the margin states that His Burmese Majesty had positively postponed his visit to Rangoon to October and that His Majesty had resolved to send two Burmese Phoongees to Siam in company with three Siamese Phoongees who have for some time been at Ava.

Nipal

20th July to 2nd August

The following particulars are extracted from the Nipal Diary of dates quoted on the margin :—

1. The apparent disposition of the Kala Pandey's to humble themselves and fall into co-operation with the existing ministry had led to some little jealousy among the latter, according as the Kala Pandey's have tried one

*H. M. Ship Childers and an armed steamer are kept in the neighbourhood of Moulmein as a precautionary measure.

[**] *The ex-King.

or other channel of negotiation.

2. Randal and Iogatban, it appears, exhorted both the Rougonath Gurus and the Choustras, by the direct orders of the Raja and Rani, to a coalition. But neither the Gurus nor the Choustras deem to confide in the Kala Pandey's.

3. The Rani, who continues ill, professes to agree with the Rajah as to the policy of union at home, and good faith abroad.

4. It is reported that the Rani promised to restore the Thappas to caste and to make Kumbir Minister.

5. Another inflammatory placard was set up at Pooudi Khel.

6. Buhadoour Sing, a Secret Agent from Lahore, was alleged to be on his way to Catmandoo.

7. The Ministers appear no longer to be apprehensive of violence, as during the past 4 months, and are sensible that the season for action and for prospective arrangements is now come.

8. It is said that the Rajah and Rani are bent on establishing a union of all parties and a coalition Ministry, as preliminaries to some more adjustment with the British Govt.

9. The Rani appeared anxious to atone for cruelties to the Thappas & others. She desired that Kumbir (the late Bheem Sen's brother) and the rest of the family might be restored to caste.

10. The attack of the Sikhs on little Thibet had been reported to the Durbar, where a debate had been held as to the policy of interference in the matter.

11. The popular voice is said to be strong in favor of the continuance in office of the present Ministry who have won the good opinion of all men by reason of the sense of security from violence that has gradually to come back all since the ejection of the Kala Pandey's.*

China

23rd July

His Excellency Rear Admiral Sir W. Parker, Naval Commander in Chief, and Sir Henry Pottinger, Bart., Her Majesty's Envoy & Commissioner to China, left Bombay on the 17th July in the H.Co's Steam Frigate "Sesaitris" for China.

Fort William,
10th August 1841

H. V. Bayley
Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of India

(Ref:—Foreign Deptt. Miscellaneous Vol. 334, pp. 231-268).

The conduct of the Nepal Durbar, in word and deed, has, for the last month, been satisfactory.

Newsletter 54 : September 1, 1841

(No. 25 of 1841)

North West Frontier

22nd to 31st July

The following items of Intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Akhbar of dates noted in the margin :—

1. The Maha Rajah proceeded to Amreetsur by a dak of carriages.
2. Ammunition and other military stores were being prepared at the houses of Rajah Dhian Sing, and Sirdar Lehna Sing Mujeethia, inside and outside of the Lahore fort, and principally at Shahzadabad.
3. Rajah Dhian Sing had been left by the Maha Rajah in charge of the Govt. at Lahore with full powers.
4. A month & 15 days' pay had been deducted from each officer as a fine for the murder of Coll. Foulkes.
5. 15 Sikh officers had been directed to pay forty-six lakhs & fifty-five thousand Rs. to be deposited in the Motee Mundeel Treasury.
6. Fukeer Azeezoudeen suggested that Mr. Clerk should be apprised of the Maha Rajah's conferences with the mercantile community, and the measures contemplated for promoting trade. The Maha Rajah directed that every thing that had occurred during his visit to Amreetsur, should be fully written to the Vakeels for communication to Mr. Clerk.

A letter from the G.G.'s Agents on the N. W. Fr. contains the following particulars :—

1. It is stated that a Sikh battalion, which Genl. Avitabile had despatched to collect the revenues in the lower Eusofzye Country, met with a severe reverse from the inhabitants. The Eusofzyes, headed by Mokarib Khan of Sunjtar, assembled in great numbers, & made a mighty attack upon the battalion, but were repulsed. They however renewed the attack the next morning, when the battalion was completely routed, about half its members killed, including the Commandant, & the guns and standing camp abandoned & carried off by the Mahomedans. Rajah Dhian Sing, on receiving the intelligence of the defeat of the battalion during the absence of the Maha Rajah at Amreetsur, immediately nominated Sirdar Sham Singh Attarewalla, and Sirdar Mungul Sing, to proceed to the Eusofzye Country with large reinforcements. The Maha Rajah being apprized of the disaster directed that Raja Gulab Singh should be summoned to the

Court, with a view to his undertaking an expedition to subdue the refractory Eusofzyes.

2. The Maha Rajah was making preparations to comply with the reiterated requests of Dhian Sing for H. H.'s speedy return to Lahore.

3. The Maha Raja, on visiting Gobindghar, at Amreetsur, released, unconditionally, the Munde Raja, long a prisoner in that fort, & informed Mr. C. of this circumstance, thro' the Vakeels at the Agency.

4. Mr. Clerk states that he has every expectation of adjusting the Punjab transit duties in a way that will be convenient to the Hindoostan and Cabool trade.

5. The Guelpo of Iskardo has been restored to the possession of his country, which he, however, holds at the pleasure of, and in subjection to, Rajah Gulab Sing.

11th August

A private letter contains the following particulars :—

1. Dhian Sing has found fault with Genl. Avitabile, ascribing to his employment of the Mahometan borderers to coerce his mutinous battalion, the confidence that prompted them to attack the Khalsah troops, sent to collect revenue from them, and enabled them to repulse those troops & to capture their guns. The tone in which Genl. Avitabile has been blamed may probably hasten that officer's resignation. Gulab Sing is said not to be conveying things quite so much his own way, in Cashmere, as he had expected.

2. A severe action is said to have taken place at Cashmere between Gulab Sing and the mutinous Sikh battalions there, in which the latter have been defeated, & some hundreds of them killed. On Rajah Gulab Sing's side, many are reported to have fallen, including some hill Chiefs of rank. The survivors of the battalion are said to have submitted. It is said that Gulab Sing has been committed by Purtab Singh's advisers and that they have relied on the secret approval of the Maha Rajah, who follows the advice of Bhaee Gormookh Sing and Raja Soheet Sing from inclination, & that of Dhian Sing & Gulab Sing, from fear.

3. The transit duties across the Upper Punjab, it is said, will soon be rendered convenient for trade, & Bhawul Khan is quite prepared, as far as his territory is concerned, to join in any plan for improving it where it crosses his waste tracts.

4. The Maha Rajah was preparing an escort for Dr. Jameson, deputed to survey the cause of the inundation of the Indus (Vide News Letter No. 23, dt. 11 Aug). Mr. C. concludes that Dr. J's route, after inspecting the Kalabagh Coal formation, would be via Cashmere, in progress to the remote scene of the avalanche & Earthquake or whatever the obstruction may have been. It does not appear certain that Dr. J. will succeed in reaching that locality. As far as can yet be learned, it borders on Kaffreestan.

15th August

The G. G.'s Agent on the N.W.F. reports the departure from Ferozepore, on the 12th August, in progress to Peshawur & Cabool, of a detachment of the 5th Lt. Cavy. under the command of Lt. Harrington of that regiment, with Capt. Ponsonby, Assistant Adjutant General, & Dr. Stiven accompanied by a party of Lahore Sowars, under Jamadar Mirza Reeheem Beg.

18th August

A letter from the G.G.'s Agent in the N.W.F. contains the follg. particulars :—

1. Mr. Clerk states that if the discontent and angry spirits of the Khalsah should not be appeased before the Dessura they may seize & imprison the Maha Rajah and propose some terms to the Ranee Chund Coonwur. And should Raja Dhian Sing, at such a time, escape them, he will probably feel strong enough, particularly, as he had latterly been enabled to introduce Rajpoot garrisons into several of the Khalsa forts, to oppose the Sikhs upon the plains.

2. Almost all classes, seem, at present, to be indignant, at Raja Dhian Sing's conduct towards them which is said to border on violence and recklessness.

3. The Munde Raja has had restored to him his capital & a fourth of his territory. The Sikhs are to continue to garrison Kumlagurh and Nundgurh & its other forts were ordered to be demolished. Raja Bulbeer Sein, however, besought that some fair on his frontier might be spared, on the pretext that enemies might visit him from across the Sutlej. Sirdar Lehna Sing Mujjeethia is said to have been appointed to accomany the Rajah, to superintend the Khalseh collections in the reserved territory, and to endeavour to induce the Koolloo Raja to cross the Sutlej and treat for the withdrawal of the Sikh troops from his capital at Sultanpore, & his own restoration.

4. The Minister, it is said, finds a difficulty in procuring reinforcements to move off to the Eusofzye country. The Sikh troops, however, feel inclined to march to the support of their comrades in Cashmere against Rajah Gulab Sing.

20th August

The G.G.'s Agent on the N.W.F. states that the Lahore Dubar in compliance with his requisition to that effect, issued orders to Vuzeer Zorawur Sing, calling upon him to desist from molesting Bussahir Trans-Sutlej. This fact involves an admission on the part of the Sikh Government, that it has no supremacy over Bussahir trans-Sutlej.

Hill Intelligence

25th July

From the Koolloo news it appears that the adherents of the Raja of that place, having crossed over from the East of the Sutlej to Sooltanpore, fought a battle with the Lahore troops. The action commenced about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and continued, it is said, with the loss of many lives on both sides, until heavy rain caused a cessation of hostilities.

The Sikhs and the Chinese Tartars

20th July

The Political Agent at Subathoo reports that the Sikhs, from the latest authentic information, appeared to be gradually, but steadily, extending their aggressive operations to the Eastward, and that a detachment of troops from Ladakh had already crossed the river Para (which, running to the South, unites itself to the Sutlej) and had built a Fort at a place called Choret, within the Elaqua of Chimoartee, subject to Garu. The Political Agent further states that the Sikhs appeared to be resolved on stopping *all trade** between Chinese Tartary & Bussahir, having previously occupied the passes by the Tyrhi valley to prevent the ingress of traders from Upper Kunawa into Ladakh. It is reported that two of the subjects of Bussahir, the one from Theal Khur, & the other from a village named Chung², ** were recently seized whilst proceeding to found Choret (the new fortress occupied by the Sikhs) and one of them carried a prisoner to this latter place, from whence he effected his escape. The Commissioner at Kumaon states that the Chinese or Tibetan Amils had collected a force of from 800 to 1,000 men at or near Manserowur to attack the Sikhs or receive the attack of the latter, should they push on, (as is most probable) from Gartope to Maribehae.

1st August

The Commissioner of Kumaon states, with regard to the Sikh invasion of Gartope, that the Sikhs were in possession of the country up to the date quoted on the margin, that they had seized on the mines of Salt, Gold, and the spots where Borax is found, and that they were doing their utmost in the way of plunder and rapine.

The Protected Sikh States

4th August

The Gov. Genl.'s Agent in the North West Frontier has submitted three statements to the Right Hon'ble the Govr. General comprising a

*See News Letter No. 20, dt. 1st July.

**In the map "Chung".

return of the military resources of the protected Sikh states available to the British Govt. Statement No. 1 exhibits a contingent amounting to 2,033 Horse and 3,253 foot, which the Chiefs will maintain in constant readiness to attend for inspection as for service. No. 2 is a statement, which Maha Raja Kurrum Sing¹, has, at Mr. Clerk's request, prepared, consisting of a body of well-armed horse, which the Chiefs could bring into the field, for any particular service, in aid of the British Govt. The amount is 20,595. In No. 3 is a sketch of a levy *en masse*, which, for the most part of an inferior description to No. 2, could be without difficulty, assembled on a short time. The amount is 60,000.

Afghanistan

31st July

A private letter mentions that Mahomed Akbar, son of Dost Mahomed Khan, was at Khooloom on the date quoted, but had not come in. His father has, however, very recently written to him from Calcutta to desire that he will proceed to Sir William Macnaghten at Cabool.

11th August

The following return of Dost Mahomed's family at Loodhiana, furnished by Mr. Clerk, exhibits a great decrease in their numbers, which, on their first arrival there, were reckoned at 776.

Family and followers of Dost Mahomed Khan at Loodhiana, August 1841.

	Women	Children	Slave Girls	Servants
Family of Dost Mahomed Khan	4	14	15	20
of Mahomed Afzul Khan ²	1	1	4	18
of Mahomed Azeem Khan	1	1	3	16
of Sheir Jung Khan	1	1	3	„
of Akram Khan	2	1	6	16
of Abdool Sarab Khan	1	„	3	5
of Khalid Khan	1	„	2	6
of Mahomed Ameer	„	„	„	13
of another son of D. M.'s sister	„	„	3	„
of Akbar Khan	1	1	3	4
of Hyder Khan	1	1	3	2
of Mother of D. M. K	„	„	3	10
of Abdool Ghunee	„	„	„	8
	13	19	48	114 ^{2a}
Total 194				

1 *Maha Raja Kurrum Sing* (Karam Singh) of Patiala; while a minor, the affairs of his state were conducted in his name by his Minister, Nandj Rao, as Regent.

2 *Afzul Khan*, eldest son of Amir Dost Muhammad. Later Governor of Afghan Turkistan and Balkh, reputed to be among the bravest of the Amir's sons.

2a The figures add up to 118, not 114.

The number of the Ex-Ameer's suite at Calcutta is

11	members of the Family and connexions.
26	attendants.

37

This party will leave Calcutta by a Steamer on the 10th instant, under charge of Captn. Nicolson, for Allahabad-& thence will march to Loodhiana.- Their progress is to be assisted by all local officers *en route* in such manner as Captain N's requisitions may point out. The Ex-Ameer and his relatives have expressed themselves much pleased with the consideration and attention they have met with from the Supreme Government at the Presidency.

Candahar

25th July

A private letter from Candahar states that an office clerk of the Herat Establishment, by name Gorman, whilst walking through the Char Soo on the morning of the 25th July, was stabbed in the belly by a fanatic Fakeer, who had come to Candahar as a Ghazee, and that the poor man died of his wound after a few hours. The murderer was sent by Major Rawlinson to the Shahzadah Timour, who, after inquiry, ordered the culprit to be blown away from a Gun.

31st July

A private letter from Cabool states that all the inhabitants of the Turnack valley had returned to their homes; that the Tokhee rebels had nearly deserted, and that they contemplated an early submission.

Sir W. H. Macnaghten writes that he had hopes of adjusting affairs with the Nijrow people without a campaign, and preventing the Kohistanee rebels from again annoying us.

Kelat-Ghilzye

6th August

A private letter from Cabool states that a detachment of our troops had proceeded into the interior of the country of the Ghilzyes, where the Chief rebels had taken refuge. The inhabitants fled with such precipitation, leaving behind all their grain and live stock. Four forts have been taken possession of, and the country is described as being most fertile and beautiful.

Herat

25th July

Persons lately arrived from Herat at Candahar acquainted Major Rawlinson with the report of the flight of Seifool Moolk Mirza, a son of Shah Kamran to the Tymaunee Country, and the execution by Yar Mahd. of the son of Mahd. Reza Khan³ of Seistan.

³ *Mahd. Reza Khan* was granted a pension for having rendered good service to the British envoy as well as Shah Shuja in Kabul.

Khooloom-Koondooz*31st July*

A private letter from Cabool states that the Wullee of Khooloom and the Meer of Koondooz were both suitors to Shah Soojah for assistance against each other.

Khyva—Kokund

Letters from Captain Conolly down to the 11th of May state that he had parted on good terms with the Khan Huzrut of Khiva and gone on to Kokund. Capt. C. had furnished the Khan Huzrut, at his request with a summary of British connexion with the Nations of the East.

Bokhara*23rd June*

Coll. Stoddart, in a letter to the address of Sir W. H. Macnaghten, states that the Ameer of Bokhara had relinquished his intention of sending an expedition against Kokund, and that he had returned to Khiva some runaway slaves, in return for the compliment paid him by the Khan of that country in sending 16 slaves back to Bokhara. Coll. S. adds that the confidence entertained at Bokhara in the sincerity, justice, and power of the British Government, is unbounded.

Scinde-Upper*25th July*

Coll. Stacey reports that Meer Mahd. Nusseer Khan has tendered his submission to Government and was with him on the 25th July last, up to which date the young Khan was very weak and much reduced by recent illness. Coll. Stacey has been instructed to continue for the present in charge of Nusseer Khan; and Major Outram, in consequence of the death of Mr. Ross Bell, late Poll. Agent in Upper Scinde, has been appointed to succeed to the charge of our political relations in Scinde & Belloochustan. Instructions have also been issued to Major Outram, the officer at present in charge of Upper Scinde Agency, that pending the arrangements which may be made concerning Nusseer Khan, he should be treated with kindness and with such consideration as is becoming the position in which he now stands.

12th August

The Government of Bombay report that at the date of the last accounts from Quetta, the sickness which has been lately prevailing amongst the troops at Kotra (vide Newsletter No. 22, dated 2nd August) and Shoonum, had considerably abated, and that the troops at both these stations, were improving in health.

Aden*16th July*

The Political Agent at Aden reports that an advance guard of 60 mounted

men, of the Touthalee tribe had traversed our immediate frontier, from the 12th July, to the 16th; but that they seldom molested the daily supplies. The main body of the enemy, with Sultan Humed Abdulla, were to march on the evening of the 16th to take up a position near Bin Zaad (about 2½ or 3 miles from Sheik Othmar or 8 from the Field works) where they intended to erect a fort. Permission to do so had been granted by Sultan Mahumed Houssain Fudthell of Lahedge. Sultan Hamed Abdulla Fouthelle had determined to attack the Field works, and Captn. Haines had given timely information of this to Coll. Wilson and the Senior Naval Officer, and they had made every preparation to repel him.

Shoa

Captain C. W. Harris, in charge of the Mission of Shoa, states, in continuation of his last report on the progress of the Mission to its place of destination, (vide News Letter No. 22, dt. 2d. August) the circumstance of his arrival at Warrimeilee on July the 1st and the deliberate murder of 2 Europeans and one native of the escrot at the 1st stage after leaving Khore Assal (or the Salt Lake). The particulars of the sad event are as follows-While Captn. Harris' party had halted at Goorgomta an hour before midnight, there was a cry and a rush from the qurater in which the escort slept. On Captain Harris hurrying to the spot, Sergeant Walpole and Corporal Wilson of H. M. 6th Regt. were discovered weltering in their blood, and in the agonies of death- the one having been struck with a creese in the caroted Artery, the other stabbed in the stomach, whilst beside them lay a Portuguese follower, who had received a frightful gash in the abdomen. On investigation, it was found that a party of the Essa Bedouins, who seem to have an innate lust for blood, had, favoured by the nature of the locality, seized the opportunity afforded by the absence of the sentry at the further end of his distance, to perpetrate the cold blooded deed. It is said that for every victim that falls to the murderous knife of one of these Bedouins, he is entitled to wear an additional copper bracelet on the arm, and to adorn the belt of his crease with an additional stud of silver, his reputation for prowess and bravery rising amongst his clansmen, in proportion to the number and the foulness and atrocity of such deeds. The murderers unfortunately escaped from the darkness of the ravines but in consequence of the murder taking place so close to the sea, the Political Agent at Aden entertained hopes of ascertaining who the murderers are, and bringing them to punishment. He does not, however, think that they are of the Essal tribe of Arabs; for the murder occurred in the Danna Kali territory, whither the Essal tribes only resort in bodies for pillage. Captain Harris further states that Mahomed Ali, Esak, and Cassim, (Brothers of the Sultan of Tedjoura) with all their followers, appeared much affected by the fatal occurrences of the night refered to, and said that "their eyes should never again be closed in sleep so long as any danger was to be apprehended from

the Essal". The conduct of these Chiefs had heretofore been cold and unfriendly towards the members of the Mission; "but from this moment," continues Capt'n. Harris, "their manner was visibly changed, and the anxiety evinced for the safety of the survivors, unremitting."

During his journey Captain H. was given to understand that the road to Zeyla, branching off from Dadder, passes by four stages, fit for a cafila over a level country unimpeded by steep ranges of hills, and practicable throughout for artillery, and Captain Harris contemplated adopting early measures to ascertain the truth of this intelligence.

In a postscript, Captain H. mentions that Esak, one of the escort of the Mission, received a letter from Shoa from Sahela Cullassick, directing him to forward, together with all their baggage, any gentlemen, who might arrive at Tedjoure with the design of visiting the Shoa Country.

Gwalior

19th August

The Resident in Gwalior reports that on discussing the subject of the Amil of Burnuggur's proceedings with the Durbar Vakeel, he was informed by the latter, that in making their collections of revenue, it was occasionally requisite to employ troops in so doing; that they had hitherto done so, under such communication to the British authorities; but that as the wish of the British Govt. had been expressed to that effect, the officers of the Gwalior Durbar would be directed in similar cases in future, to communicate the necessity for such a measure to the Resident at Indore.

Burmah

19th August

A private letter from Maulmein dated the 19th August states that the authorities at Martaban were busily employed in repairing the old brick-wall on the river-face of the town and collecting materials for stockading and strengthening the other posts of the place. At Isamponage (or Tsanpanago) where the Governor of Bileng has taken up his quarters, wood had been collected, and both at that place and Martaban, guns have been forwarded from Bileng. It is said that the King has changed his mind in regard to visiting Rangoon after the Burman lent; according to the persuasion of the Priests, (vide News Letter, No. 24, dt. 20 August) and has decided on adhering to the time first fixed on, viz., in September next, and that the preparations for his reception were being actively pursued. The people are also said to be hard at work on the houses for the Prince of Prome and the ex-King, which are to be close to each other. Men had also arrived to build houses for some of the other Princes. Report states that an Embassy from the Court of China had arrived at Amaporah, bringing letters from the Court of Peking requesting assistance against "a Sea Monster which had lately appeared and was eating up the sons of heaven."

20th August

A subsequent private communication states that the Princes will certainly visit Rangoon with the King; but that there is so much jealousy amongst them, that even if they had intended to commit aggressions on our territories, they would very likely first commence to fight among themselves.

The "Proserpine" and "Ganges", Steamers and H. M. S. Childers, will be allotted to the Provinces, both as a means of communication with Calcutta and of defence against any aggression that may take place.

Nepaul*3rd to 14th August*

The following particulars are extracted from the Nepaul Diary of dates quoted :—

1. The Kala Pandays are alleged still to retain some influence, and to have been consulted in the matter of the intended pardon of the Thappas and giving them back their caste and their property. There were no signs in Nepaul of secret agents of intrigue from the plains; and, indeed, since the change of ministry, the Durbar seems to have felt the necessity of giving up all such projects.

3. The crops were most abundant; the soldiery quiet and the Chiefs and people reposing in thankful security from spoliations and arrests.

4. The Raja and Rani were pressing the Ministry to be recruited with their adversaries and to form a coalition administration for the ensuing year in principles of declared amity with the British Govt.

5. More placards were reported, but no one heeded them.

6. The Raja and the Rani still talk of the necessity of affording satisfaction to the Govr. General.

7. One base of denial of justice to British subjects has been fairly adjusted, whilst other symptoms indicate a desire to remove all such grievances.

14th August

The Resident in Nepaul states that, up to the date quoted on the margin, the health of the Maha Rani was much improved, and that hopes were entertained of its speedy re-establishment. Neither Her Highness, nor her party had dropt their recently improved tone and temper (vide News Letter No. 24 dt. 20 Augt); it was supposed that the present Ministry might derive material benefit from it. It is said that the Kala Pandays and the Choutras are believed to be looking with anxiety to whatever may be interpreted into an indication of the probable views of the British Govt. for the coming cold season. One party is rumoured to expect immediate punishment; the other looks for continual support; the former seeks to be rid of the dangerous proximity of our frontier force; the latter, to establish under cover of it, some steady prospective system of good faith and amity.

15th August

The Resident in Nepaul in a private letter states, that the Goorkha Ministry have used every exertion and succeeded, in preventing schemes of mischief in the state, such as intrigues with our allies; aggression on our frontier limits; denial of justice to our subjects located in Nepaul, and all current grievances. The Rane, continues Mr. Hodgson, has been, foiled in all attempts she may have wished to make to create lawless popular rupture and uproar and the Ministers have put an end to cruelty and rapacity in the State.

Fort William,
1 Sept, 1841

H. V. Bayley
Asstt. Secy. to Govt. of India

(Ref:—Foreign Deptt. Misc., Vol. 334, pp. 269-320)

Newsletter 55 : September 10, 1841

(No. 26 of 1841)

North West Frontier

31st July

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Akhbar of dates quoted. Sirdar Ameer Singh Mujjeethia was ordered to set out with his Contingent to the "Dhunnee Country" to take charge of its revenue matters, and the Officers there were informed of his appointment. The troops remarked that those officers who had embezzled a great part of their pay, had been punished and that had Fukeers Immamooden and Tajooden, their employers, been found at the time, they would have shared the same fate. The Maharajah ordered 60 sepoys and officers, suspected of committing the murder of Soba Sing¹, to be apprehended and confined in Genl. Pertaub Sing's² battalion, and their trial was committed to Raja Dhian Sing. Rajah Dhian Sing again requested the Maharaja's speedy return to Lahore.

2nd August

Rajah Socheet Singh requested the Maharajah to try the case of Sobha Sing's murder and mutiny in the Gobindgurh fort himself, and a trial being held, it appeared that the leader in the murder was gone on duty to Peshawur, and that Chohar Sing, an artillery officer present, had also assisted in cutting down Sobha Sing. The Maharaja, therefore, ordered the right hand of Chohar Sing to be struck off, 10 sepoys were punished with dismissal, and the confiscation of their arrears, about 10 or 15 were whipped, and as many imprisoned, while the garrison was recruited by 150 of the "Khas Carbineers". The Maha Rajah told Fukeer Azeezooden that the best arrangement had now been made at Gobindgurh, and that Fukeers Immamooden, and Tajooden, should be reappointed, but the Fukeer declined, observing, that, in his opinion, there was still a mutinous spirit in the garrison.

An order was issued to Fukeer Shahooodeen informing him of the despatch of Misseir Bullaram³ to settle the custom matters with Mr. Clerk,

- 1 *Soba Sing* (Sobha Singh), the Sikh garrison commander of Amritsar, was murdered by his own troops when Maharaja Sher Singh ascended the throne at Lahore.
- 2 *General Pertaub Sing* (Partap Singh) one of the distinguished military officers of Maharaja Ranjit Singh who kept himself aloof from court intrigue and political bickering which followed the Maharaja's death. In 1844, he was stationed at Peshawar where, to pacify the mutinous Sikh soldiery, he caused gold medals and presents distributed among them.
- 3 *Missier Bullaram* refers to Misser Beli Ram.

directing his attention to the several letters of the Governor General, purporting that the diminution of the Customs of the Umreetsur mart was never intended, and desiring him to show Mr. Clerk what loss would accrue from too great a reduction. Orders were also issued by Raja Dhian Sing to General Avitabile desiring him to consider that he ought not to have sent the troops, or to have relied on Kadur Khan and Ahmed Khan Eusofzyes, that he should now himself march at the head of the two Nujeeb Battalions, one of the Ramghol battalions (leaving the other at Peshawar) and all the Sowars, and take his position in the Eusofzaye country, that he should by no means rely on any Afghan, except Arsulla Khan, who was the only respectable man in the whole family, and that, on the return of the Maharaja to Lahore, reinforcements would be despatched from Cashmere and the Hazara to punish the insurgents. From the Attok news it appeared, that the waters of that Stream had again become so shallow as to be easily forded, and it was supposed that the rocks which had lately obstructed the channel had not been removed, which circumstance, it was feared, would probably cause a recurrence of the late calamity. Orders were likewise issued by Raja Dhian Sing to Raja Golab Sing Palwovindiah, at the head of the two battalions, who had killed Mehan Sing, to detach them to the Eusofzye country, to act in concert with Genl. Avitabile in punishing the Eusofzye insurgents.

4th August

The Maha Raja directed the Raja to address a letter in the Hill dialect to Raja Golab Sing, desiring him to come to Lahore without delay, and give his opinion on some subjects of importance, adding that a Khillut and Jageer would be granted to him, and the disturbances in the West be suppressed according to his suggestions.

5th August

The Officers at Dhunnee and Rawal Pindee reported that the Zumeendars in those districts seemed to be infected with the spirit of disobedience, prevailing among their neighbours, the Eusofzyes, and were slow in paying their revenues. They were provided assistance but directed to temporize for the present.

At Fukeer Azeezodeen's request, orders were issued to Fukeer Shahooden, notifying the pleasure of the Durbar at the intended appointment of Dr. Jameson to examine the river Attock, and he was directed to send his Sowars with the gentleman to Lahore, where proper persons would be deputed to conduct him up the river.

From the Cashmere news it appeared, that Raja Golab Sing had confined the remnant of the insurgent battalions and confiscated their property, that some experienced Commandants, and veterans, Rajah Fuzaldad Khan, one of the Rohta's family and others, had been killed; but that the action* had

*Vide News Letter No. 23 dt. 11th August 1841.

inspired a sense of fear and respect throughout all Cashmere.

6th August

Raja Golab Sing proposed some new management in the collection of the Shawl tax, but this was objected to by Bhaee Goormookh. The Raja said he was empowered to do whatever he thought proper; that he would, after completing his work at Cahsmere go to Jammoo, and not to Lahore where disorder was still prevailing. He replied that His Highness and his Ministers seemed to think that affairs were going on well, but that he had now ascertained that it was quite the reverse; that the Sikh troops would not tolerate the deductions again made from their pay, and that they would repent it, unless precautions were soon taken. The Maharajah observed that Raja Dhian Sing had the arrangement of this, and that it rested with him to do what he thought best. But the Raja resumed that the old Chiefs were dissatisfied and in time might coalesce with the rebel troops.

10th August

A jageer of one lakh of Rupees was granted to Raja Balbeer Sein of Munde, and the town of Munde, being assigned for his residence. Lahore Thanas were ordered to be kept in the two forts of Kumlah and Nundgurh, subject to Sirdar Lehna Sing's authority. The rest of the forts throughout the Munde country were ordered to be demolished, & the servants of the Surdar were appointed to collect the revenues in excess of the Raja's Jageer.

10th August

A treaty conferring the above Jagheer on the Munde chief was drawn up and signed.

There are 4 Sikh battalions in the Munde country under General Khan Singh. Out of the two battalions at Sooltanpore in Koolloo, Hookina Sing, the Commanding Officer, had detached 7 Companies to punish the Zumindars of the Oajee district, but the latter having made a night attack, destroyed about 140 men of the Sikh troops. About a week ago, another attack was made by the Zemindars at night, in which they killed 50 Sikhs, and the remainder of the 7 Companies being terrified, fled back to Sooltanpore.

The Sikhs and the Chinese Tartars

21st August

The Commissioner of Kumaon states that the Sikhs continued to gain footing in the Bhote Country, having repulsed and put to flight the Honias during a night attack made by the latter at a place called Doge-Panchoo, 2 miles from Tuckla Kheil. Zorawur Sing, the leader of the Sikhs, it is said, was expected to arrive at Munsarowar, on the 15th of August last, together with his wife and family, for the purpose of worshipping at the sacred lake at that place, and making an offering of a Golden Idol, with other splendid Gifts, at the Kylas temples.

29th August

Other private accounts do not represent the conflict at Døgepancha to have been decisive of the question of Sikh or Tibetan supremacy in the Hoondes; for the Honia camp appeared to have consisted of policemen, and unarmed inhabitants of the country and not of troops.

It is reported that there are about 2,000 Sikhs altogether, independent of the garrison of Roodukh, in the North, half way between Ghartope and Ladakh.

25th August

The Commr. of Kumaon writes that by the latest accounts from the Manserowar lake it is rumoured that a reply had been received from Lahssa by the Ghartope Amil, in which, after censuring him severely for his neglect in not immediately reporting the approach of the Sikhs, he is informed that the Lahssa Govt. intended to leave their subjects, the Hoomas, to the mercy of the Sikhs for the present, and that next year, they will call the latter to account for their conduct.

Another rumour is that the Sikhs have declared their intention of building a fort at or near Menbelove and that Dhapa, Chupung, and Tolung had been taken possession of by a Sikh party of 3 or 400 men, detached from the main body, by Zorawur Sing. This detachment is said to have been commanded by a Mahomedan who swam his horses and men across the Sutlej at a place which the Hoomas supposed was not fordable and then, moving quickly upon the above-named place, took the authorities completely by surprise, and, after a few shots, utterly routed them.

Peshawar*26th August*

The G.G.'s Agent of the N. W. Frontier states that aggressions have been committed in the Duaba of Peshawar by Nawab Khan Pindiallee, & Mahomed Sayeed Khan, the son of Khan Bahadur of Kohat & that measures have been adopted by the Poll. Agent at Peshawar to check the incursions of these Chiefs into the Sikh territory.

The Khyber Pass*5th August*

The Poll. Agent at Peshawar states that Khan Bahadur, the Chief of the Afreedees, fearing that we might at some future period be led to coerce him & his tribe in revenge for the trouble they caused us, or entertaining an inward conviction that the Afreedees will sooner or later give us fresh cause to be displeased at their conduct, was making efforts to join over the Aurokzye clans, by endeavouring to secure for them a share in the Chowkedary of Khyber, and thus attaching them to his own interests from a sense of

obligations & making common cause against the British. Capt. Mackeson proposed Abdaal Rahim Khan Malazi, Shah Shooja's Officer at Peshawur, to meet Khan Bahadoor with a view to remove from his mind any distrust of our designs by which he might be actuated.

Afghanistan

1st August

Captn. Bygrave states that Cash Balances in the Mily. Chest at Cabool on the 1st August was 12,48,669-2-5½.

Akbar Khan, son of Dost M'd Khan

13th August

The Envoy and Minister at Cabool states that Akbar Khan, the son of Dost Md. Khan, was a guest with the Meer Wullee of Khoolum, up to the date quoted in the margin, and that he had (though in terms of civility) rejected the overtures which the Envoy & Mr.⁴ made to him to come to Cabool and join his family in India.*

Kelat-i-Ghilzye

10th August

The Major General Comdg. in Afghanistan states that an affair took place on the 5th August last, between the insurgent Ghilzyes on the one side, and Captn. Walker's Sawars of the 4th Irregular and Lo. Bazett's Troops of the 5th Cavalry on the other. Lt. Coll. Chambers had 5 Companies of the 16th Regt. N. I. in readiness to cooperate with the force alluded to, but the discomfiture of the Enemy was complete without his assistance. The Major General bears ample testimony to the good conduct of the troops on the occasion, especially the gallantry displayed by the Cavalry, both Regular and Irregular

A private Letter from Cabool of the same date reporting the same affair, says that Lieutt. Bazett⁵ has been severely wounded, but that otherwise our casualties are few and trifling; while about fifty of the enemy (who are estimated to have been at fully a thousand horse and foot, and many of them men of consequence) were killed. The private commn. adds, "the notorious Goro submitted and came in just before the occurrence of these skirmishes."

Zamindawur

26th July

The Poll. Agent at Candahar states that the Dooranee insurrection has, for the present, been suppressed, and that Akhtar Khan has retreated to the

*Mahomed Akbar would not then have received his father's commands to go on to Cabool.

⁴ *Mr. for Minister*'.

⁵ *Lt. C. Y. Bazett* wounded in action with the Ghilzais in September 1841, which led to his transfer to India just before the Kabul insurrection (November 1841). Subsequently he was 'prize agent' for the Bengal army at Hyderabad (Sind.).

strong district of Baghnee. He adds, that the cultivators had throughout the Helmund districts returned to their peaceful agricultural pursuits.

Herat

31st July

Sir W. H. Macnaghten states that rumours had reached him that a serious disagreement had occurred between Shah Kamran and Yar Mahomed Khan.*

A private communication from Cabool states that there were various rumours afloat there regarding Yar Mahomed; some having represented him as having been imprisoned; others, as having been killed by order of Kamran Shah.**

Herat-Persia

8th July

The Resident in the Persian Gulf, on the authority of a letter from Shiraz writes that in consequence of the interference of the Russian Ambassador, the Shah of Persia had rejected the overtures of Sher Mahomed Khan for the surrender of Herat, and suspended his warlike preparations against that City.

Candahar-Persia

11th August

A private letter from Cabool mentions that the celebrated Kirman*** rebel had arrived at Candahar.

Gundamuck

8th August

A private letter states that a fight took place at Gundamuck between Mahomed Deen, a mullick of the Shaista Kheil of Kote-rood, and the Afghans, in which the latter were victorious. The particulars of the affair are as follows : It appears that some of the Government people went to enquire into a case of adultery committed by a party of the Shaista Kheil, and were about to bring the guilty person to Meer Hyder, the Deputy Governor, when they were opposed by the aforesaid Mahomed Deen, who killed two of the deputation and wounded a third. On this circumstance being reported to Meer Hyder, he, with much promptness and energy assembled his followers and attacked Mahomed Deen and his adherents, who took refuge in a fort. This was speedily invested by the Government people; a mine was sprung under the bastion, and the fort was taken by assault.

*This requires confirmation.

**These reports require confirmation.

***Vide News Letter No. 21, dt. 20th July, 1841.

In this affair five or six of Meer Hyder's people were slain, as also the rebel Mahomed Deen, and five of his followers. The fort has been secured by the victors.

Sinde-Upper

24th to 31st July

The precis of Upper Sinde Intelligence contains the following particulars :—(1) The death of Mr. Ross Bell, the late Political Agent in that quarter. (2) Nuseer Khan was to march with Colonel Stacey *en route* to Quetta on the 2nd July last. (3) Mahomed Khan Shawanee had been with Colonel Stacey and was very desirous to be allowed to accompany the party to Quetta; the Colonel, however, desired him to remain in the neighbourhood of Kelat, until instructions concerning him were received.

3rd August

The officer in temporary charge of the Pol. Agency in Upper Sinde reports the arrival of Nuseer Khan at Moostung on the 1st August last, in company with Colonel Stacey and a number of Chiefs. On hearing of the death of the Poll. Agent (the late Mr. Ross Bell) considerable excitement appeared to have prevailed in the camp; but it was soon allayed, and Nuseer Khan having expressed a wish to remain at Moostung until a successor to Mr. Bell was appointed or some person empowered to treat with him, Colonel Stacey has acceded to his (Nuseer Khan's) wishes to the purport stated. Colonel S. says that "no fears need be entertained of the Khan going back". A Durbar is said to have been held in which it was determined to be guided by Colonel Stacey's advice—a determination which was subsequently repeated on a formal visit by the Khan and his Sirdars to Colonel's trust.

12th August

A private communication states that Major Outram proposed proceeding to Quetta on the 16th August last to join his new appointment as Poll. Agent in Sinde and Belochistan. Before doing this he expected to bring (and has since brought) to a satisfactory termination, of the Shikarpore negotiations.

From a private letter it appears that Major Outram has addressed a letter to Nuseer Khan giving him every assurance that he will religiously fulfil the promises made to him by the late Mr. Bell and act up to that gentleman's instructions in regard to the young Khan.

Cutchee

It appears from the Precis of Intelligence for the diaries of the Upper Sinde Poll. Agency, Shikarpore, for the week ending 9th August, that Lieutt. Postans has granted permission to a certain member of the tribe of Khosah to proceed to Cutchee, where they proposed to cultivate. The Khosahs

formerly occupied considerable tracts of land in Cutchee, and they require protection to make them good and useful subjects.

Scind Lower

28th July

From the diary of the Lower Scind Agency it appears that the elder Ameers of Hyderabad have made a separation of the states and property of the brothers, and that articles of agreement were written on Korans and exchanged between Meers Shahdad and Hosein Ali. The Diary states that a reconciliation took place not only between Meers Shahdad & Hoosein Ali, but between all the other parties implicated on either side, whose animosities had attained a pitch of rancour which began to threaten serious consequences. This quarrel arose from an attempt of Meer Shahdad to cheat his brother out of portion of his heritage when dividing the estates in accordance with the will of the late Meer Noor Mahomed Khan (vide News Letter No. 19, dt. 1st December 1848). The following is the substance of the articles of agreement entered into between Meer Shadad and Hossein Alli, and Meer Mahomed Khan, the elder Ameers of Hyderabad, viz., that that portion of Scind and Shikarpoor which belonged to the late Meer Noor Mahomed Khan, according to the will of his late Highness, shall, with the exception of the Fuppa of Shool be divided in equal halves between the contracting parties, Meers Hossein Alli Khan and Shadad; that, the contracting Ameers have revived intercourse with each other and have been reconciled, that they shall bring forward no further claims on each others' territory, that should any boundary disputes arise, they shall be settled by an arbitration of the elder Ameers; that no disputes shall be encouraged among the servants of the contracting parties hereafter; that should any boundary disputes arise, they undertake to settle the same according to the terms of the treaty; and that should the contracting parties reject the offices of the elder Ameers, they shall, conjointly with the Political Agency, bring such disputes to a satisfactory conclusion.

Indus Steam Navigation

10th to 16th August

The precis of Intelligence from the Diaries of the Political Agency in Upper Scind, Shikarpore, for the week ending 16th August, states that the instance of the rapidity with which the steamers can now descend the River, occurred in the passage of the "Satellite", which left Sulik at 8 A.M. on the 8th and reached Hyderabad at 9 A.M. on the 9th August.

Bushire

14th July

The Resident in the Persian Gulf states a report that a firman from the

Shah of Persia was sent to Shiraz, directing that 100 masons, under a qualified person, be despatched to Bushire and the sum of 12 or 14 thousand Tomans be immediately expended in erecting a series of Towers and curtains round the sea and land faces of that town, to fortify it completely.

Mocha

19th July

The Political Agent at Aden states that there appeared to be no prospect of the Imaum of Seuna obtaining Mocha, as the Sheriff of that place was gaining greater influence by means of his increasing wealth, which he obtains by frequent and sudden demands on the inhabitants of his sea port towns. He has, it is said, strengthened the Fort at Bate-el-Fukee, and removed 4 guns from Mocha, and 4 from Hodeeda, to complete it.

Bahrein-Nejd

30th June

The Resident in the Persian Gulf reports the submission of Ameer Khaled to the Ottoman Porte, and his appointment as the Walee, or Ruler, of Nejd, on the part of Sultan Abdool Mujeed. "At present I do not think," the Residt. continues, "Ameer Khaled entertains schemes of conquest in the direction of Oman," and concludes that affairs at Bahrein continued tranquil.

Bushire-Shiraz-Karrack-Tungistan-Yezd-Kirman

8th July

The Resident in the Persian Gulf states that the Shaik and inhabitants of Bushire, being at length quite wearied out with the insolent and outrageous conduct of the Shirbaz, had sent a petition to Shiraz, assuring the Prince that no fear need be entertained for the safety of the town, and offering a present to His Royal Highness, provided he would order their return to the Capital of Fars. Sheik Nusseer still continued to stop the transmission of supplies to Karrack from the Persian Coast, but with ill success. Bakir Khan, the chief of Tungistan, had made up his quarrel with the Shaik of Bushire. The feud which so long subsisted between the Dashty and Tungistan Chiefs is said to have been adjusted by a matrimonial alliance. Strenuous endeavors were making among all the Chiefs of the Gunaseer, or low Country, to settle their feuds and quarrels with each other, for the purpose of forming a general combination. Hubeeb-oollah Khan, the Persian Commandant of Artillery, it is said, was laying waste Yezd and Kirman, with the Royal force under him. Report states that this officer's proceedings had incurred the displeasure of the Shah, who had summoned him back to Tehran.

Muscat

10th July

The Resident in the Persian Gulf states, having received a letter from

our Native Agent at Muscat, stating that a Frenchman by name Leppa* or Count de Verom, had an interview with the acting Governor of that place and intimated to him that three Frigates were on their way from France to take possession of Muscat, and that the King of Portugal intended to send an expedition to recover Zanzibar and all the neighboring countries as having formerly belonged to that nation. The Residt. has given instructions to his correspondents in Bushire to look out for Mons. Leppa's arrival there, and keep him fully occupied with his movements.

Zanzibar

Nos Beh

6th May

Captain A. Hamerton on a Mission to Zanzibar states that on his arrival at that Island, he found the Imaum of Muscat much dejected and broken in spirit, in consequence of his having received authentic information of the occupation by the French of Nos Beh.

14th May

In a letter dated 14th May, Captan. H. states that the French had 2 ships at Nos Beh, the colonial corvette "La Dordaque" and a transport,

*The adventurer who passed himself off here as Count de Pron about 2 years ago, is a native of Vienna. He is a man of some talents and of prepossessing appearance and address. He was for some time in the service of Mohemet Ali, and came to Bombay via the Red Sea, in 1837. While at Bombay he attracted the notice of Govt. by professing to have an infernal machine of enormous destructive Powers in his possession, and which he wished to dispose of to Runjeet Sing or the Ameers of Hyderabad. He, however, proceeded to Pondicherry and so far imposed on the Governor the Marquis de St. Simon, as to induce him to grant him Passports in lieu of those from the French Govt., said to have been lost by Shipwreck in the Red Sea. From Pondicherry he came to Calcutta where he was well-received by the higher classes of Frenchmen and the authorities at Chandernagore. Ere long he was put into Jail for debt; while there he swallowed the contents of a Phial of Landanum but contrived that the officers of the Jail should have timely knowledge of what he had done. The Chandernagore Authorities released him from prison by paying the debt. He then applied through Monsr. Burgoine for Passports to Loodianah, whither he wished to proceed *en route* to Lahore, in order to enter the service of Runjeet Sing. But Govt. having learnt through the French Consul at Bushire that he was an Imposior, declined granting him the solicited Passport in the absence of any intimation of a desire for his services by the Maha Rajah. Sometime afterwards he proceeded to Ava and got into favor with Therawaddi by engaging to make a machine that would destroy any force which the English could bring against his Country. Therawaddi advanced him money from time to time for the preparation of this machine; but soon discovered that he was an impostor and sent him about his business. He went to Rangoon, thence to Moulmein and managed under false pretences to obtain fraudulent possession from different persons of nearly 20,000 Rs. with which he furtively escaped to Bourbon, where his representations, it is believed, induced the Governor to send a sort of mission in the name of the French Government to the Burman Govt. and we next hear.....

and that they were erecting a fort. Captn. H. adds, that there was a strong feeling in favor of the French amongst all the Arabs at Zanzibar excepting the Imaum and the members of his family.

Gwalior

13th to 18th July

From the Gwalior Diary of dates noted, it appears that Pertaub Sing, known as a chief of the dacoits, had raised a band of 7 or 8 hundred men and set the authority of the Durbar at defiance. It is said that an engagement took place between this band and one of Coll. Jacob's regiments, in which 7 or 8 men belonging to the latter appear to have been killed.

Hyderabad

16th to 22nd August

From the Nizam of Hyderabad's Military Diary of dates quoted, it appears that in consequence of there being no due or prompt administration of justice, the districts west of Ellichpur near Scindiah's frontier and beyond it, were in a very disturbed state. The same Diary mentions the peaceable state* of the Bheel population.

Badamee

1st to 7th August

From the Political Diary of the Rest. at the Nizam of Hyderabad of dates noted, it appears that the Minister has established Military posts on the roads leading to Badamee.

Meywar

2nd to 8th August

The Poll. Diary of the Meywar Agency states that all pending claims between Marwar, Meywar and Sirohee were to be adjusted by a panchayat under Major Downing.

Jodhpur-Jessulmere

2nd to 8th August

The Poll. Diary of the Rajpootana Agency states that the international dacoits' cases between Jodhpur and Jessulmere have been decided.

Lucknow-Gorruckpore

2nd to 8th August

From the Diary of the Lucknow Residency of dates quoted, it appears that the Zemindars of Mackoocah and Khyreepore, the subjects of Oudh, had destroyed the boundary land marks, and prevented the cultivation of the

*This is to be solely ascribed to the appointment some few months back of a British Officer as Bheel Agent and Commandant of a Bheel Corps in His Highness the Nizam's service.

Gooruckpore frontier lands. The Magistrate and Collr. of Gorruckpore has written to Coll. Low^a requesting that decisive measures be adopted to prevent similar aggressions in future.

North West Provinces : Bhurtpur Scholarships

2nd to 7th August

From the abstract of the Lieut. Governor's proceedings to the Poll. Department, it appears that the Rajah of Bhurtpur has made a gift of 200 rupees per annum to the Agra College.

Burmah

16th August

A private letter from Rangoon mentions that His Burmese Majesty was to quit the capital for Rangoon on or about the 30th August last.

18th August

Another private letter from Rangoon states that it was the opinion of the Shawbandur, or Collector of Customs, that His Burmese Majesty would be at Rangoon in 40 days from the date quoted, and that the journey was to be undertaken merely from religious motives.

Nipal

20th August

The Resident in Nipal states that the Maha Rajah has issued a proclamation denouncing the system of placards and the authors of it.

20th August

The Resident in Nipal states that on his applying to the Goorkhah Durbar for orders to the proper Nipalese officers for the apprehension of two felons who had taken refuge in Nipal, his requisition was promptly attended to by the Maha Rajah granting purwannahs for the purpose.

The Resident further states that the Nipal Government have paid ready attention to his representations in regard to dacoits who have taken refuge in his territories, by issuing orders for their apprehension.

26th August

The Resident in Nipal states that the Goorkhah Durbar have at length restored the family of General Matabar Sing to caste, and to the enjoyment of civil and religious privileges in the State.

6 *Col. J. Low* performed multifarious duties as British Resident at Lucknow and Hyderabad (Deccan) and Agent, Rajputana, all assignments being held simultaneously. Later he gave up charge of the Lucknow Residency and was presented 'Khilats' by the ruler of Oudh.

28th August

The Resident in Nipal states that one of the two cases of denial of justice to British subjects has been satisfactorily adjusted, and that the other, from the amicable disposition of the Goorkha Durbar recently manifested towards the British Government, cannot much longer fail to be likewise settled.

H. V. Bayley
Asstt. Secy. to Govt. of India

Fort William
The 10th September 1841

(Ref. :—Foreign Deptt. Misc. Vol. 334, pp. 321-378)

Newsletter 56 : September 20, 1841

(No. 27 of 1841)

North West Frontier

12th August

The following particulars are extracted from the Lahore Akhbar of dates marginally referred to :—

1st. The Maha Rajah ordered that the 400 men should garrison the Nundgurh and Kumlah forts; but that the other forts in the Mundee territory had better be dismantled by Sardar Lehna Sing.

2nd. His Highness desired the Mundee Chief to use his influence with Rajah Ajeet Sing of Kooloo in bringing him over from the other side of the river, and to send him to the Durbar, or at least to affect a treaty with him in concert with Sirdar Lehna Sing and to restore him to his 'Gaddee' in Kooloo.

3rd. The Rajah of Mundee and Sirdar Lehna Sing have proceeded to Mundee by order of the Maha Rajah.

4th. Raja's Golab Sing has pardoned about 250 sepoy's of the Kashmir mutinous battalions, and discharged them from service.

5th. A report is said to have been received by Rajah Golab Sing from Vuzeer Zorawur Sing, requesting his permission to take possession of some places in the Chinese territory with which he has made himself acquainted* and to carry his conquests further on.

6th. News from the Hazara country states that an affair took place between Sirdar Mohar Sing of Attarre and some Sowars and Infantry on the one side, and the 'Mookheas' on the other, in which 55 of Nohar Sing's people and 50 of the 'Mookheas' were killed.

16th August

7th. Sheochurn Boogh reported to the Durbar that he was encamped with three battalions on the bank of the Attock, and was laying the foundation of a Fort at Durbund.

8th. Several officers have been ordered to enlist new troops to the extent of 10,000 in all.

22nd August

9th. Bhaee Ram Sing is said to have urged the Maha Rajah to take the management of affairs in his own hands and thus imitate the example of his late Father.

*Vide News Letters of 20 August & 1st Septr.

3rd September

Mr. Clerk's letter of the date quoted contains the following items of Intelligence :—

1st. It is said that Rajah Golab Sing, accompanied by Koonwur Pertaub Sing, was expected about this time in the Hazara country. The Troops at Lahore murmur much at his conduct in Cashmere, saying, "that he slaughtered the Khalsas as if they had been Afghans".

2nd. Rajah Golab Sing, it is said, will take the field against the lower Eusofzyes, with a considerable Army.

3rd. Some of our Troops who had deserted from the Cantonment at Ferozepore with a view to seek service in the Lahore Army, have been surrendered by the Durbar. The high rates of pay which have been promised by the Maha Rajah to his own Troops, induce those mentioned of ours to enter the Sikh Army. The total desertions amounted to 12 men, including Cavalry and Infantry. On their surrender, an order was issued to Fukeer Shahooden informing him and recommending them to the Mercy of British Government.

The Sikhs and the Chinese Tartars

6th September

In a note to a recent account furnished by him respecting the progress of the Sikhs in the reduction of Nari, or Western Thibet, and the Nepalese having advanced detachments from Joomla, Mr. Hodgson says, "above Joomla is Hoomla, then Tuklu Khur, whence to the lake of Munsurrower is but a short distance by a good road. Hoomla is the Frontier District, half Nepalese and half Tibetan."

Peshawar

31st August

The Govr. Genl.'s Agent on the N.W.F. reports that the safe arrival at Peshawar, on the 17th Augt ulto. of the Kafila with magazine stores which marched from Ferozepore on the 19th June last under convoy of a party of horse & foot of Lahore service.

Zamindawur

25th August

From the Sukkur Precis of intelligence for the week ending the 25th August last, it appears that some apprehension was felt in Zamindawur relative to Captain Woodburn's position in consequence of his being surrounded by three different hostile tribes. Captn. Griffin's corps had marched to his relief. Late accounts received this day inform Government of the total defeat of Auktar Khan and the rebel Dooranee, by the Shah's own troops—horse, foot, and artillery under command of Captns. Woodburn and Griffin,

the capture of three principal chiefs; and the destruction of 500 of the enemy. The conduct of the Sheik's son, who charged the rebels at the head of his own cavalry, is spoken of as having been most gallant.

The character for steadiness and bravery of these local levies has been fully tested and fairly won in this affair, and considering their recent organisation, and the strength of the enemy (60,000) with whom they were engaged, the greatest credit is due to them for their conduct and the best promises afforded of their future high utility.

The Kujjuck Pass

Fort Abdoollah

9th August

Captn. Bosanquit commanding Fort Abdoollah speaking of the Kujjuck tribe states that a body of men about 80 or 100, followers of Kubber Khan and Buzyeed Khan Atchiekzye chiefs and led on by the latter, came to the Kujjuck Pass and attempted to persuade Abdoul Khan and his followers to join them in the occupation of the Pass and to attack Fort Abdoollah. It also was rumoured that there had been a consultation amongst the Atchikzyes of Toba on the subject of attacking the above-mentioned Fort. On hearing of this conduct on the part of the Atchikzyes, the Pol. Agent at Candahar despatched, without loss of time, Suloo Khan with a party of 50 Janbuz horsemen, to reconnoitre the Kujjuk Pass.

11th August

In a subsequent letter Captn. Bosanquit states that there was then no appearance of truth in the rumor of the Atchikzyes having collected on the date quoted. He adds that Captn. Walker and his Convoy met with an obstacle in their journey through the Kujjuck Pass.

Khyva-Kokund

11th May

Captn. Conolly writes that the Khan Huzrut, on receiving intelligence of the Kokundas having committed fresh aggressions on the Khyvan territories, sent for Captn. Connolly and asked him if he would repair to the Kokund Court on His Majesty's behalf, and become the means of inducing a better understanding between the two states. Captain C. replied in the affirmative, but said that he would readily attend to the Khan Huzrut's wishes as expressed above, on the distinct understanding that he proceeded not as the agent of the Chief of Khyva but in prosecution of his own appointed mission from the British Government to the Court of Trighana. To this, chief agreed and Captn. C. was on the eve of starting for Kokund in Company with an intelligent officer given him as guide by the Khan Huzrut towards the early part of May last (vide News Letter No. 25, dt. 1 Sepr.). At the Khan Huzrut command, the Khyvan minister was to draw up and

present to Captn. C. a memorandum regarding the frontier of Kharason, that he might have an authentic document to refer to in his communications with the Court of Kokund.

Scinde Upper

7th to 13th August

From the precis of U/S Intelligence it appears that the Durogah Gool Mahomed has been gradually, though rapidly, losing influence, and that the chiefs now with Nusseer Khan are pleased to see his control over him decline.

Accounts have been recd. in Scinde of some movement in the direction of Kharam &, it is said, that Azeed Khan¹ of the latter place, together with Kureem Khan of Kushook & others had raised a force with the intention of proceeding against Punjgoor who was in attendance on Nusseer Khan at Mustung proceeded at once with letters & a confidential messenger from the Khan to put a stop to this movement.

14th to 20th August

A subsequent precis of dates quoted states that nothing of importance has occurred in Nusseer Khan's Camp at Mustung, & that sickness continues its ravages to an alarming extent. The detachment of the 3rd Light Cavalry is reported to have arrived from Candahar without seeing one of the bands of Atchikzyes to be lying in wait for the Convoy in the Kojuck Pass.

Scinde Lower

25th August

From the Sukkur Precis of intelligence for the week ending the 25th August it appears that Major Outram arrived at Sukkur on the Steamer "Comet" on the afternoon of the 25th. He is said to have left immediately for Shikarpore and expected to reach Quetta on the 1st Sept. instant, there, in the first instance to take up his appointment as Poll. Agent in Scinde and Beloochistan.

Sattara

4th September

The Govt. of Bombay report that His Highness the Raja of Sattara has declared by proclamation the buying or selling of slaves in his territory illegal from the 16 August ultimo.

Aden

2nd August

The Poll. Agent at Aden reports that the Interpreter at the field works at that place has been treacherously murdered by the Arabs. It appears

1. *Azeed Khan* (Aziz Khan), principal chief of eastern Ghilzai, with head-quarters at Jhoke, about ten 'kos' from Surkhab.

that a body of armed men amounting to fourteen, 5 of whom were on horse back, and the remainder on camels, came to within 120 yards of the gate of the field works, where they remained, when unsuspecting of their designs, and unarmed, the interpreter went out to invite them in. When he approached the men to speak to them his suspicions were excited and on running back with a view to escape danger, he was speared by the party, from the wound of which he died. The Poll. Agent further states that the Abdale and Foudthli Chiefs with their followers were in the habit of patrolling across our frontier, night and day, stopping trade and supplies, and murdering indiscriminately every one that goes out of Aden, or endeavours to enter it.

As there was some suspicion that the Arabs would enter our frontier and attack the troops, every preparation was made to repel the insurgents.

30th August

The Govt. of Bombay report that the Poll. Agent at Aden had made arrangements for sending to Bombay about 50 men of Hill's 6th Regt. stationed in that quarter and that, with a view to keep the Arabs in check, he had detained 200 men from that Corps until they might be relieved by a detachment of the same strength from Hill's 17th Regt.

24th August

The Govt. of Bombay report that the Poll. Agent at Aden has forwarded to the care of the Senr. Magistrate of Police of the Bombay Presy. the surviving twelve African slave boys and girls, saved from a boat wrecked near Aden on its way from Macallah to Juddah (vide News Letter No. 20, dt. 10th July 1841). The Actg. Magte. of Police at Bombay has been requested to endeavour and obtain situations for these children if they are willing to take service, in respectable families, as also to ascertain whether any of the boys in question, could be provided for in the Mint or in the Navy.

H.M. Ship "Endymion" and H.Co's Sloop "Elphinstone" were, by the latest advice from Bombay, just about to proceed to the Persian Gulf and thence to the Red Sea.

Shoa

28th June

Mr. Hatchatoor writes from Tedjoura that the French travellers, at Hodada were carrying on their intrigues through the Sheriff of the place, making him write to all the neighbouring Chieftains of Arab, on the Coasts, to throw impediment in the way of our mission; to refuse all kinds of assistance, and to shut their ports against it.

Hyderabad

6th September

From the Nizam of Hyderabad's Military Diary of date quoted it

appears that a large force of immigrants had assembled themselves at Raichoor and that instructions had been issued to Brigadier Tomkyns to detach a portion of the Boloram force towards that place to arrange measures for the preservation of the tranquillity of the Southern Frontier. From the same Diary it further appears that Brigadier Blair had proceeded with a Risalah and a half to put down the insurgents that possessed themselves of the Gurrae of Burroorjee, and to guard the frontier on that side and prevent invasion into the Company's territory.

Haraote

12th to 18th July

The Political Diary of the Haraote Agency of dates quoted mentions that the Khurreef, but more particularly the Rubee crops are expected to be very good and plentiful in Jhallawar this year.*

N.E. Frontier

22nd to 28th August

From the Political Diary of the N.E. Frontier it appears that the Deb Raja has requested the mediation and interference of the Governor General's Agent in the settlement of a land dispute between the Rajas of Sidlee and Bigull.

Nipal

17th August

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Nipal Diary of dates quoted :—

1. The Raja paraded the troops and called on the Officers and men of each corps to discover and give up the authors of the placards as calumniators and enemies of the state.

2. The Rajah and Rani are both said to be making every effort to induce Matabar Sing to return to Nipal. Two Moslem envoys of Matabar Sing arrived in Nipal and were civilly received by the Raja, who longs to have the General back.

19th

3. Some of the menial attendants on the Palace have an intention, it is said, to get up a third party to be called the Rajas or royal party, apart from the Pandeys or the Chountras.

21st

4. The Raja was most anxious as to the course the British Government might take in the affairs of Nipal after the rains.

*Note ; This is the case also in regard to the Crops throughout the whole of Rajpootana.

31st

5. The Quinquennial mission to Peking has been ordered to report its state of preparation in January and again in May ere it set off in June.

6. There was no further talk of a coalition ministry or of a general reconciliation among the Chiefs.

7. The British Government and the present ministry (friendly to it) are said to be favorably talked of by all grades of men in the state.

Fort William,
The 20th Sept., 1841

H. V. Bayley
Asstt. Secy. to the Govt. of India

Post Script

Ghilzye

24th August

A private letter from Cabool, dated as per margin, states that the rebellious tribes in the Ghilzye country have been quite subdued. The collections in Zoomut (where there used to be a fight annually) are said to be going on with regularity and tranquillity. In the neighbourhood of Khyber, the tribes, it is reported, were fighting against each other, so that there is little chance of a combination against the British.

Seistan

Accts. have just been recd. of the murder of Dr Forbes² in Seistan.

(Ref. :—Foreign Deptt. Misc. Vol. 334, pp. 379—400).

2 *Dr. Forbes* on a special mission to Herat, was murdered by Ibrahim Khan, the Baluchi chief of Seistan.

Newsletter 57 : October 1, 1841

(No. 28 of 1841)

Peshawur

9th September

The Governor General's Agent on the North West Frontier intimates that in reply to his remonstrance against the future Government of Peshawur being vested in Raja Golab Sing, the Sikh Durbar said that it was not intended that General Avitabile should leave Peshawur, and that, should he quit it, some Sirdar of rank, well-qualified for that Government, would be selected.

Khyber

29th August

The Political Agent at Peshawur states that hostilities have lately occurred between the Aurokzyee & Afreedee tribes of Khyber. The Aurokzyees being a numerous tribe had made incursions into the Afreedee territory at different points simultaneously, attacking in one place the Zakhi Kheil, in another the Aka Kheil, and in another the Malik Deen Kheil, but with indifferent success. The Afreedees, although perhaps unprepared for an attack on so extended a line as that organized by the Aurokzyees, do not appear to have suffered much loss. The Aurokzyees carried their inroads up to the forts of the Afreedees, and then were obliged to retreat in their turn. The Aurokzyee leaders appear now to be in want of funds to carry on the war, and the Afreedees, having the advantage in this respect over the former, will most probably maintain a superiority. The Political Agent adds, that there does not appear to be any reason to apprehend an interruption to our hitherto cordial understanding with the Afreedee tribes owing to their being engaged in these hostilities with the Aurokzyees.

The Sikhs and the Chinese Tartars

6th September

The Commissioner of Kumaon states that a report was received from the Putwarri of Dhurma (Bhote) announcing the occupation of Tukla Kote by the force of Zorawur Sing. The rabble of Hoonias, collected at that place by the Chinese Tartar Amils, appeared to have offered no resistance whatever to the invaders, but fled without even exchanging shots, in different directions. Many of these unfortunate creatures have with them their families, and such property as they could carry off, taken refuge in our Perguna of

Beazis, where, it is concluded, the Sikhs will not venture to attempt to molest them.

9th September

The Governor General's agent on the North West Frontier intimates that the reply to the representation made by him to the Sikh Government relative to the conquest of Gurtope by Zorawur Sing, was to the effect, that no certain intelligence had been reported direct to the Durbar of the movements of the chief named, but that the outrages of tribes bordering on Ladakh in that direction, the molestation offered to trade by parties of highwaymen, and especially the confiscation and destruction, by the Chinese authorities, of opium, belonging to merchants, the subjects of the Sikh Government, might have provoked Zorawur Sing to proceed and coerce those who had so rendered themselves deserving of punishment.

11th September

The Commissioner of Kumaon states from reports received from the Bhote Pergunna of Darwa, bearing date the 28th Augt., that the main body of the Sikh Ladakhee force was still at Tuklakote; that 1,000 men had been sent from thence on the 27th August to Khochur; that 500 Sikhs had arrived on the 28th from Ladakh; that Zorawur Sing was in command of the whole force; that there was also a Ladakh Sirdar, whose name had not been learnt; and that Zorawur Sing had, on the 29th August, sent three of his followers with a letter to the Nepalese Government of Joomla, with what object, was not known. There was a report prevalent that 2,000 soldiers had been sent* from Lassa via Yarkund, and 2,000 were arriving via Gurtope for the purpose of attacking Ladakh; that strict orders had been issued to them by the Lassa Government to eradicate the Ladakhees (the expression is "Ladakhee ka beej na rakhna") and to collect from other pergunnas, people sufficient to occupy and cultivate Ladakh, as the Ladakh people had traitcrously brought the Sikhs into Gartope. The *Darwa* report goes on to say that the Chief men of Tuklakote to the number of 25 or 26 had been first beaten, then plundered, and finally thrown into prison by the Sikhs. *Beazis* (our Pergunna) is said to be filled with the Hoonias, who have deposited their property with the *Beazis* villagers. The latter at first wished the Hoonias to return to their own Country; but they refused, saying that they would not leave the asylum of the British Government in which they considered themselves safe and secure from Sikh oppression, and that they earnestly hoped their country would ere long be attached to the Company's rule. It is stated that the Bhote trade has been partially reopened under the sufferance of the Sikh leader Zorawur Sing.

*Another report received via Catmandhoo mentions that the Lassa Viceroy intended to allow the Sikhs for a while to fancy themselves secure & free from all chance of attack, & then to come down upon them at a good opportunity, with an overwhelming force with a view to crush them.

13th September

It appears that, in communication with the Lieutenant Governor of the North Western Provinces, Mr. Clerk has deputed Lieutenant Cunningham to Bussahir, and has given that officer a letter to the address of the Bussahir Raja accrediting him as the confidential agent of the British Government to enable him to proceed to any part of that Chief's territories on either side of the Sutlej, to prosecute enquiries regarding the movements of the detachments of Sikh troops, and the proceedings or negotiations of Sikh officers or vassals in the North East. Lieutt. Cunningham is to hold the same language to the Officers of the Jummoo Rajas, or to those of the Sikh Government, as Mr. Clerk holds to the Lahore Durbar.

Afghanistan*6th September*

Captain Bygrave's statement shews that the Cash Balance in the Military chest at Cabool on the 6th September ultimo was Co.'s Rs. 8,55,974.

Dost Mahomed Khan*26th September*

The Officer in charge of Dost Mahomed Khan reports that the Ex-Chief and his party have arrived safely off the Fort of Moongheer. Some of the followers of the Ameer had suffered from sickness but the whole party was well and in high spirits on the date quoted.

Candahar*30th August*

The Political Agent at Candahar reports that the Zamindawur force marched upon Baghne on the 25th August, with a view to follow up the success obtained by our troops at Secunderabad (vide News Letter No. 27).

The most influential chiefs of the Secunderabad District, alarmed at the approach of the Troops, came in immediately and paid their respects to His Royal Highness, Prince Sufder Jung, and furnished securities for their future good conduct. No opposition whatever is said to have been experienced by the troops in their passage up the valleys. Some of the minor chiefs fled to the hills, but were expected to return and to bring in their families as hostages; in the meantime, the troops retraced their steps to the mouth of the Valley, and by the last accounts dated 28th August, Captain Griffin was preparing to enter the District of Baghran. Akhtar Khan continued at Hazara Durukht in the district of Teznee, and was endeavoring to obtain from the Tymanee Chief an asylum in his country.

It is proposed that, from Zamindawur, His Royal Highness, Prince Sufder Jung, accompanied by a part of the force, should return to Khakuz, where he will meet the troops moving from Candahar, and from whence the

united force will march upon Nish and Yireen, reducing those Districts before Akram Khan is attacked in Dehrewat. The troops in Candahar, warned for service in Yireen, consist of the 38th Regiment Bengal N. I.; a wing of the 2d Regiment N.I. (the other Wing joining at Khakriz the European details which have left Kelat-i-Ghilzye for Candahar); with two 18 lb. guns, two of Anderson's field guns (one or two more joining at Khakriz); two Rissalahs of Horse, and the 1st Corps of Candahar Janbaz.

Herat

Accounts from Herat state that in March last, Yar Mahomed had confined many Persian merchants and others in Herat, demanding eight lacks from them to enable him to proceed against Candahar, and it is said that he actually moved out of the city of Herat, and was then making active preparations for resisting, or attacking us. It was rumoured that Yar Mahomed could collect 6 or 8,000 horse, and that he had fifteen or eighteen hundred Serbaz, or regular troops, in Herat.

Herat

Khash

30th August

The Political Agent at Candahar states that a levy of men was going on with activity under the asserted sanction of H. M. Kamran Shah in the Herat territories with a view to the expulsion of Yar Mahomed; and accounts from the post of Washeer upon the frontier mention that the Sirdars were contemplating an attack upon the city of Furrak, the garrison of which had been lately reinforced by Yar Mahomed Khan, in the apparent expectation of such an event. A communication is also said to have been established between the Sirdars and Shah Pursund Khan of Laush. It was not ascertained whether the parties had come to any definite understanding with each other.

The late Dr. Forbes, and the proceedings of Ibrahim Khan at Kuddeh

With reference to the murder of Dr. Forbes in Seistan, noticed in the Postscript of News Letter No. 27, the Envoy and Minister at Cabool forwards the following further report of particulars regarding that lamentable event.

It appears that on reaching the place of Mahomed Reza from Laush, Dr. Forbes was very well treated, and that that chief gave him an escort to take him all over the country and shew him the different places. After visiting the Island in the lake, he returned to Jehanabad, Ibrahim Khan's place, when Ibrahim, treating him as a guest, sent people with him to shew him the ruins of Boonaka. After Dr Forbes had left the fort, Ibrahim mounted and came up with him on the banks of the River, which was not

fordable. Dr Forbes therefore stripped and prepared to cross in a canoe. As soon as Ibrahim saw the Doctor undressed, he took up his gun and shot him, and threw his body in the River. The Persian attendant who was with Doctor Forbes, was at the same time seized and bound.

After this Ibrahim Khan collected his men and the next day marched upon Kuddeh, and the Fort there fell into his hands. Ibrahim, after the sack of Kuddeh, was preparing to transport the inhabitants to Chuknasoor, where he intended to establish his Head Quarters and is now said to be preparing to make an inroad upon Khash.

Sinde-Upper

21st to 27th August

The *Precis of Upper Sinde intelligence of dates* quoted states as follows :—(1) The movements in the direction of Kharan (vide News Letter No. 27, dated 20 September, ultimo) have, it is believed, been suspended, & some of the parties had aimed at Nusseer Khan's camp, where their conflicting claims were to be settled by arbitration. (2) The quarrel between the Meagul & Beizunga tribes, which threatened to create an insecurity of the road between Kelat & Sonmeanee, was also to be amicably arranged, & no other part of Belochistan appeared to be in a disturbed state.

Brigadier England reports having made arrangements for quartering the Sinde Force during the ensuing cold season as follows :

Quetta : by one Native Battn. & 2 Guns European artillery with their Horses.

Mostung : by four companies N. I. & 2 guns European Foot Artillery.

Kelat : by one N. Battn. & 2 guns European Foot artillery.

Measures have also been adopted by Brigr. England to collect a sufficient supply of provisions at the places named, & it has been thought advisable to allow the troops a gratuitous supply of fire-wood against the severity of the ensuing winter.

4th September

Major J. Outram reports his arrival at Quettah on the 2nd September, & his having assumed charge of his new office of Poll. Agent of Sinde & Beloochistan. While on his way, Major Outram met deputations from all the Khyrpore Ameers with the usual letters & civil messages. His first step, on arriving at Quettah, was to address a letter to Nusseer Khan, through Coll. Stacey, inviting his attendance, & had recd. the chief's reply, expressing his satisfaction at Major O's arrival and his intention to march from Moostung on the morning of the 4th Sepr., to enable him to arrive at Quettah on the 6th Idem.

Shikarpore

7th September

From the Precis of Intelligence from the Diaries of the Upper Sindh Political Agency, Shikarpore, for the week ending the 7th September, it appears that the services of Lieutt. Ferry, of the Artillery, have been engaged for the purpose of completing the survey of the country in the vicinity of Shikarpore, embracing the whole of the dependencies of the Shikarpore tract.

Sindh Lower

22nd to 29th August

From the Diary of the Lower Sindh Agency of dates quoted on the margin, it appears that some disputes had arisen between Meers Shadad & Hossein Alli, & that the Assistant Poll. Agent in charge was requested by the Durbar to mediate between the parties. This he declined doing, in as much as the senior Ameers, agreeably to the late treaty, entered into between the brothers (vide News Letter No. 26, dt. 10th September, ultimo) had stipulated to interfere in their quarrels.

30th August to 5th September

A subsequent diary states that the difference between the two younger Ameers, above alluded to, had been amicably arranged. The same diary further states that the boundary disputes between Meer Mahomed Khan of Hyderabad, & Meer Nusseer Khan of Meerpore, were shortly to be adjusted.

Gujerat

26th July

The Commissioner of Gujerat, who has recently made a tour through various districts of that tract, states that tranquillity reigned throughout the country & that the portion of the Guicowar Contingent inspected by him appeared to him in an excellent condition.

Aden

15th August

The Poll. Agent at Aden states that though the guard of Bedouins placed by the Arabs to prevent all intercourse with Aden, (vide last. News Letter, No. 27) had been increased, yet supplies entered the town on the 4th and 5th of August last, and that our troops were in the enjoyment of good health up to the date quoted.

29th August

A subsequent communication from the Poll. Agent mentions that the

monopoly enforced on all Kafilas entering Aden by Sultan Mahd. Houssein, continued until the 24th August, when a strong body of Foudethelees arrived on our frontier, and on the morning of the 25th, a sharp conflict took place between them, and a kafila of supplies under the protection of Sheik Mahomed bin Hamed of Homeida, and 15 men of his tribe. The affair was decided in favour of the Foudethelees from the numerical superiority of their tribe. The Kafila, it is said, was plundered; supplies, however, have entered Aden, from time to time with various success. Sultan Mahd. Hossain Futhel of Lahedge, is reported to have a force of 1,000 men collected, independent of his tribe, the Abdulee, & had made offers to the Ratfan tribe for assistance. The Foudethelee had in all about 1500 men collected; and Houshebee and Huggabee, were all prepared for self-defence, so that the whole of the neighbouring tribes were in an unsettled and troubled state.

Karrak

18th June

The Resident in the Persian Gulf reports that the health of the troops at Karrack continued to be tolerably good on the date quoted.

Bushire

14th June

The Resident in the Persian Gulf reports that Shaik Nasir, the Governor of Bushire, does not appear to be favorably disposed towards the British, and had sent a verbal intimation to Colonel Davies that he was averse to any officers from Karrak visiting Bushire. In addition to this display of opposition to the English, the attention of Shaik Nasir is said to be especially directed to prevent the transmission of supplies to the Island. He is reported to have fined one of the Chiefs of Roodhila, and sent out an agent to that district, for the purpose of carrying into effect, this object. His endeavours, adds the Resident, have, however, altogether failed, as the steady demand and regular payments of the Commissariat of Karrak, are sufficient inducements to the inhabitants of the Persian Coast to keep up the communication, and to ensure a constant and plentiful importation of every necessity of life.

A reinforcement of two hundred Sirbaz, or regular troops, is said to have lately arrived at Bushire.

Persia

26th August

The Envoy and Minister at the Court of H.M. Shah Shoojah ool Moolk states that he has authorized the Poll. Agent at Candahar to furnish Aga Khan (a refugee nobleman from Persia, and who is desirous of contracting the friendship of the British Government), with the means, on the most

economical scale, of proceeding to Bombay, should he be desirous of going to that presidency.

4th September

The Bombay Govt. state that despatches recently sent to Bombay from the Govt. of India to the address of Sir John McNeil in Persia, were forwarded as follows :—Original packet per the H.Co's Schooner "Emily"—the duplicate per H.M.'s ship "Endymion", both of which vessels have just quitted Bombay for the Persian Gulf.

The Supdt. of the Indian Navy has been instructed to make arrangements, to have a steamer at Kurrack on or before the 1st November next, for the purpose of bringing down despatches from Sir Jon. McNeil.

Lar-Yezd-Kerman

18th June

The Resdt. in the Persian Gulf reports that the rebellion of Aga Khan Mallutee has been entirely suppressed by Khan Ali Khan, the Governor of Lar. This Chief, having united his forces with those of Kerman, completely defeated the Aga, and compelled him to fly to the border of Beloochistan. Habeeb Ollah Khan, the commandant of the Persian Arty., had been dispatched by the Shah to Yezd and Kerman, with 8 guns and a considerable body of troops. The royal orders were to burn and destroy every town and village in the latter province, suspected of aiding in the late rising.

Kishengurh

25th August

With regard to the disputed succession to the Principality of Kishengurh (vide News Letter, No. 21, dt. 20 July), the GG's Agent in Rajpootana writes that there has not been the least reason to apprehend any struggle amongst the petty chiefs concerned in the discussion relating to it. The second brother of the Futtehgurh Chief, and the Kuloor Chief, are the only houses which pretend to any right to succeed the late Rajah; but the claim of the latter is deemed too absurd to be maintained and seems to have been dropped. But if the Ranee has not the right to adopt a son, the head of the Futtehgurh house is the undoubted successor. Both the Futtehgurh and Kuloor houses, the GG's Agent adds, have formerly, and to a considerable extent, been disturbers of the public peace. But they appear at present to be sensible of our power & disposition, to punish all who might pursue such a course, to venture to adopt it, whatever might be the decision relating to the succession in question.

Mr. Strachey¹ has been deputed to Kishengurh to investigate, and report on the conflicting claims to this Chiefship.

1 *W. Strachey* appointed Assistant to the Political Agent for the states of Rajputana. In 1842 he was placed on special duty to investigate and report on the diverse claims put forth by rival claimants to the 'guddi' of Kishengarh state.

Gwalior

2nd to 8th August

The precarious state of the Maha Rajah's health forms a subject of great uneasiness to the well-wishers of the Maharatta dynasty. Col. Baptiste & others lately addressed the Ministry, condemning the expediency of the further postponement of the adoption of an heir to the throne. The ministers, not long ago, determined to send for a child of the Sindhrra family from the Deccan; but this important arrangement appears to have been lost sight of amid party struggles for power.

North East Frontier

30th August

The Governor General's Agent on the N. E. Frontier states that the Political Agent, Upper Assam, proposed undertaking a tour into the Singphoo & Naga Country, during the approaching cold season, with the view of keeping up our influence on the borders, & allaying the feuds which have been of such frequent occurrence of late among the Singphoos.

Burmah

30th August

A private letter from Moulmein mentions that the Maityaban people continued to clear the jungle round the place and to collect wood for the stockade, the erection of which proceeded very slowly. The King, it is said, continued determined to quit the capital about the 6th or 7th Sept. ulto. and the Shahbunder (Custom's Collector) was to have left Rangoon on the 14th or 15th and proceed to Prome to meet His Majesty. The object of the King's visit remained unknown. The Comr. had not heard anything of troops having quitted the Capital in advance of the King's journey as had been referred to as likely in other previous communications. All was quiet at Moulmein on the date cited.

16th September

A private letter from Chuprah states that the Burmese mission to Benares, ostensibly for the purpose of making a collection of religious books, and a selection of Brahmins (vide. News Letter, No. 19, dated the 1st July), arrived there on the 7th September, ultimo.

Nipal

1st to 14th September

The Diary of the Nipal Residency of dates noted contains the following particulars :—

(1) The ministers appear less certain of their ground than they were, and they are said to be very anxious for some sort of help from the British Government.

(2) Letters from Lassa to the Durbar indicate that the Chinese are awaking to the events on the Nipal frontier.

2nd. & 3rd.

(3) The Rani was still ill and protested that she would go to Benares.

(4) The Rajah is anxious for the return of Genl. Matabar Singh to Nipal.

4th to 10th

(5) One of the cases of denial of justice to British Merchants was daily before the Council, and was to be fairly adjusted.

(6) Aid had been afforded by the Durbar to our officers for the suppression of Dacoity.

(7) The Sikh conquest of Western Thibet excites much talk in Nipal.

13th & 14th

(8) The Rani is rumoured to be anxious to create Ranber Thappa minister.

(9) The Durbar's Vakeel in Kumaon had written that the Sikhs were close to the frontier of Joomla and that the Chinese were making great preparations to oppose them.

H. V. Bayley

Asstt. Secy. to Govt. of India

Fort William

The 1st Oct. 1841

(Ref. :—Foreign Deptt. Miscellaneous, Vol. 334, pp. 403-448).



AFGHANISTAN
 during 1839 - 41

Newsletter 58 : October 11, 1841¹

(No. 29 of 1841)

N. W. Frontier

The following is extracted from the Lahore Akhbar of dates cited :—

18th September

Genl. Avitabile was ordered to furnish supplies to the Troops in the Eusofzaee Country. From Diwan Lukher Shah's reports it appeared that all the Afghans of the Mazaree tribe and others having assembled, had attacked and captured Tank; that he had, therefore, lost no time in repairing with his Troops and recovering the place from the hands of Allahdad Khan, the ringleader, and that about 200 men were killed on either side. From the Peshawar news it appeared that the Eusofzees and the Afreedees having reassembled, an obstinate battle was fought between them and the Khalsa troops, in which about 2000* men were killed, that the latter were finally victorious; that the Yarbussua village was wrested from the hands of the enemy who had fled in consternation, and that this defeat had entirely disabled the Eusofzees. A copy of this report was ordered to be furnished to Rae Gobind Jas for communication to Mr. Clerk. Bhya Meeadas was deputed with 5 sowars to escort Dr. Jameson from the Sutlej and other Agents to receive him on his arrival within two miles of the town of Lahore. Rajah Dhian Sing wrote in haste to Rajah Goolab Sing and to his son Meean Jowahur Sing, regarding Gunthope and directed the latter to send two runners to bring intelligence from Vuzeer Zorawur Sing.

14th September

From the Delhi news it appeared that Surdar Ajeet Singh Sundhunwalla had despatched an Agent to England to prefer his complaint to Her Majesty the Queen**. Genl. Ventura reported, from Kiranshee, his intention to proceed to Bombay. Bhuggut Ram and Roop Chund Moostsuddies reported that the troops had again begun to murmur for 4 months' arrears, and that some disturbances were threatened in consequence.

23rd Septr.

Rajah Dhian Sing proposed the following dispositions of the troops

*Note: It is stated in the letters received that this number is probably much exaggerated.

**Unfounded.

1 From now on, 'Sing' is spelt occasionally as 'Singh' although the earlier spellings also continue to be used.

with a view to proper security to the States during the Dussarah viz., 8 Battalions of Inftry. consisting of the 4 Battalions of Genl. Mehtab Sing; one of Genl. Avitabile, returned from Peshawur, and 3 of Genl. Court's Division, to encamp at Ram Nuggur, near the Chenab, under the command of Raja Socheit Singh. 8 Battalions, consisting of 3 battalions of Genl. Ventura's division, 3 of Genl. Golab Sing Pohooaindiah's Brigade, and two of Dhoulut Sing's, together with 4 Regts. of Cavalry, (the Dragoons, the Cuirassiers, the Akal, and the Ram Regts.) to remain at Lahore in the lines of Mean Meer under command of the Rajah in person; battalions of the late Genl. Ameer Sing Maun, 2 newly raised by Jemadar Khoosal Sing & one of Col. Courtlands, to encamp at Amratsur, under the Gobind Ghur fort commanded by Genl. Teij Singh, and a fourth division of equal strength, and that no Sepoy of one divn. is to be allowed to hold any Communication with those of any other. With regard to the Cavy., the Rajah proposed that the khas Ghorihuras, the Rowulpindeeahs, the Charyarees, and the Ramgurheas should be stationed to Mean Sumdoos Tank at Amritsur, under the Command of Surdar Uttar Singh Kalehwala², and Raja Golab Singh, with his own troops, should hold the fort of Lahore; that all the Arty. Corps should remain at Lahore. Sirdar Lehna Singh Mujjeethia reported that the peasantry at Koloo had clandestinely carried away the family of their Rajah to the other side of the Sutlej, where the Raja is, and that the latter being apprehensive of being treated like the Munde Chief, it would be better for the Durbar to entrust the duty of conciliating him to the Rajas Socheit Singh and Dhian Sing.

The Sikhs & the Chinese Tartars

23rd September

The Commr of Kumaon intimates that on the 15th September, a Sikh of the name of Kesri Sing, accompanied by three or four others, entered our territory of Bearis, and demanded from our Bearis Bhotias, in the name and by the orders of Zorawur Sing, the rukur, or revenue formerly paid by them to the Thibet authorities.

The Putwary of the place, who was present when this demand was made, urged that without orders from his Government, he could not consent to the dues being paid. No attention, however, was given to his remonstrances: sundry threats were held out in the name of the Sikh leader, and the matter ended in the Bearis Bhotias, or heads of villages, paying the sum demanded of them against their will.

25th September

A private communication from Meerut states that two or three parties of armed Sowars continued up to the 15th Idem, to enter the passes

² *Surdar Utter Singh Kalehwala* (or Attar Singh Kalianwala), eldest son of Sardar Dal Singh Naherna, who did not prove a successful general but, after the death of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, was appointed Adalti (Chief Justice) of Lahore by Maharaja Sher Singh.

and threaten aggression and plunder. The same letter goes on to say that 300 Sowars had gone to the Jowahir Pass on the same errand of demanding tribute, and that Zorawur Sing talked of having a Chionnee (holding his camp) on the Southern side of the Snow.

25th September

The Commissioner of Kumaon has signified his intention to proceed towards the Bearis Pass, with a view to report on the movements of Zorawur Sing on our frontier.*

28th September

Subsequent accounts on the same subject mention that Zorawur Sing had collected from the stores of the people of the country, grain enough to support his army, and render him, for the present year, independent of our trade. His party at Tuklakote is understood to have been lately increased, but is not thought to exceed 7 or 8 hundred Sikhs, with a rabble of some thousand Ladakhees.

The general belief among the Hoonias that the Goorkhas—(about 1,200 strong) at Yaree, their frontier post, in Jomla, intend to come to an understanding with the Sikhs. Zorawur Sing is reported to have addressed the authorities at Jomla and the Nepal Durbar and has given out that he is on most friendly terms with the British Government, but that he will not relinquish his rights as successor to the Chinese Govt. in Thibet. It is rumoured that it is the intention of the Sikhs to establish a communication by a chain of small forts, between Ladak and Nepal, and that to this the Goorkhas will readily assent.

2nd October

The Resident in Nepal states that he has learnt from a credible source that the Rajah of Nepal has sent secret despatches, unknown to his Ministers, to the address of Zorawur Sing, at the Camp of the Sikh leader, at the lake of Mansorawer on the subject of making common cause with him in the conquest of Chinese Tartary.

Afghanistan

30th September

The Officer in Charge of the Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan reports the safe arrival of the ex-Chief and his suite at Dinapore on the date cited. The whole party was in the enjoyment of good health.

4th October

In a subsequent letter, the same officer reports the arrival of Dost Mahd. Khan at Ghazeepore.

*Proper steps have been taken to require reparation for the past and security for the future in regard to these movements of Zorawur Sing, as far as British subjects & British interests are concerned.

Kelat-i-Ghilzie

12th September

A private letter of date cited, mentions that the rebel Gooro, with the other surrendered Ghilzie Chiefs, had reached Cabool on the 13th Sepr.

Zamindawur

12th^{2a}

A private letter from Cabool states that Akhtar Khan and his colleagues have been driven fairly out of the country.

Bokhara

19th July

A private communication from Bokhara states that the Ameer of that place, on the receipt of Sir Wm. Macnaghten's letters, had given Coll. Stoddart, permission to depart, and had been very well satisfied with the tenor of Sir Macnaghten's communications; but that he had requested Coll. Stoddart to remain a few days at his Court till the receipt of the reply from Her Majesty to his despatch on the subject of the wish of the Ameer to enter into friendly intercourse with the Home Government.

Coll. Stoddart had pointed out to the Ameer that the reply on the part of the Queen would be merely corroborative of Sir Wm's sentiments. Coll S. added the Ameer's conduct to him was very kind and satisfactory.

12th September

The Envoy & Minister at Cabool writes that he considered the intelligence from Bokhara very satisfactory and that he expected Coll. Stoddart at Cabool about the 14th Sepr.

The Huzarreh

10th July

Coll. Stoddart states that the Huzzarehs, under Kurim dad Khan, have committed great depredations in the Turkoman and Osbeg countries north of Morghat, and had carried off about 30,000 sheep.

Kokund-Capt. Conolly

19th July

Coll. Stoddart, in a private letter, mentions that he learnt from a messenger from Kokund that Captain Conolly, proceeding to the Court of Kokund, was delayed a long time among the Cossaks and at Aug Musjeed, that about the 28th June last, he reached Taushkend where he was well recd. by the Governor of that place. At Taushkend he awaited orders from Kokund to proceed thither, and expected to pass through Bokhara in prosecution of his mission.

^{2a} Month not mentioned; likely to be September.

Yareen**Dehraunt***12th September*

A private letter from Cabool states that the expedition against Yareen and Dehraunt, was to leave Candahar on the 10th September.

Scinde Upper

The following items are extracted from the Diary of the Upper Scinde Political Agency, Shikarpore, for the week ending 14th Sept. :—

9th September

The Oomrenes complained that notwithstanding the generally favourable season in Cutchee, there has been a great want of rain at Naneiotri, and that the crops and prage³ at that place have this year completely failed. The tribe in consequence meditated emigrating to Upper Scinde.

13th to 14th September

Great lawlessness is said to exist in Cutchee, particularly, amongst the tribes to the Eastward viz., the Boogties, Doomkees, and Jekarrees. The Khybeerees, traders, and cultivators, at Chatur made earnest appeals to Captn. Postans for assistance, without which, they stated, that it would be impossible to preserve the place and their crops from plunder, or their lives from violence, and that they would abandon the place if no succour arrived. Captn. P. thought it advisable to comply with their entreaty by requesting 100 of the Scindh Irregular horse to be detached to Chatur, to protect the interests at stake.

Central Cutchee is also said to have suffered considerably. The Political Agent meditated adopting the necessary measure, for the protection of the people against any further depredations.

Beila-Kelat*July*

The British Agent at Sommeecanee reports with reference to the transit duties between Beila and Kelat, that the Afghan merchants were quite willing to pay a duty of 5 Rupees in each Camel load to the Chiefs of Nul and Wudd, for protection between Beila and Kelat.*

Aden*21st September*

The Govt. of Bombay have issued instructions to the Political Agent

*This measure coupled with the daily increasing security of the Someecanee via Kelat route to Cabool will not improbably lead to its being preferred-for commercial purposes, if the Punjab Govt. renders the transit thro' that country, so burdensome to the merchants. For even the revised rate of Punjab duties remains from 40 to 50 Rupees per maund.

3 Prage, not easy to identify, possibly abbreviation for 'pasturage'.

at Aden, vesting him with a discretionary power to take advantage of the approaching relief by the "Auckland" of the European portion of the troops at Aden, to make a sudden sally on the post which the hostile Arabs have lately erected at Shark Ottoman, and any other unfinished post in the vicinity of Aden, provided he may consider such a measure expedient in a political point of view, and the Commanding Officer may concur with him in opinion that the means at command will be found fully adequate for that object.

The Hon'ble Company's Steam Frigate "Auckland" proceeded to Aden on the 22nd Septr. with the above mentioned relief viz. 500 rank and file of H.M.'s 17th Regt.

Lower Scinde

6th to 12th September

The Assistant Political Agent incharge, speaking of the state of the country about Lower Scinde, writes that apprehension had been entertained that there would be scarcity in that quarter this season, owing to the river having suddenly fallen about 6 feet, and caused the crops to blight, which are watered by the Canal leading from the Indus. Since the 7th Septr., however, the water had much increased, and on the 10th, the price of Bajura rose from 16 to 22 seers the Hyderabad rupee; there was very little sickness either in Hyderabad or in the country around.

Hyderabad (Deccan)

11th September

The Govt. of Bombay report on the authority of letters received from the Acting Poll. Agent in Southern Marhatta Country, that several bodies of insurgents were advancing on the frontier from the Nizam's territories. Further, that the Nawab of Gurigaurtee and the Raja Amagoomdee were collecting large bodies of troops, and that a considerable number of Arabs had actually left Hyderabad. Every precaution was being taken in our districts, and the acting Political Agent had a force ready to act against the insurgents.

Hominabad

5th Regt. N.I. The Lt. and F. Companies including :

1 Captain
3 Lieutenants
3 Ensigns.
3 Subedars
3 Jamadars
8 Havildars
18 Naiques

The Residents at Hyderabad states that 3 Companies of strength, as per margin, commanded by Captn. Langford, with ammunition, were ordered to proceed in advance to Hominabad, to await any requisition which might be made by Brig. Blair in order to coerce the insurrectionary Arabs. Captn. Langford has been instructed to use the utmost diligence in reaching Homina-

6 Drummers
 270 Privates
 3 Puckalies
 1 Asstt. Apothecary
 1 Tobie

bad and was to be there on the 25th Sepr.

Later accounts mention Brigadier Blair's force to have encountered a body of the Arab Insurgents at the Churree of Baloorgee & that the Arabs had been defeated with loss, & compelled to surrender.

Oudh

5th to 29th August

From the Lucknow Diaries of dates cited, it appears that many parts of the Oude dominions were in our unsettled state. It is mentioned that an attempt was made to assassinate the King's Chief Moonshe, Rajah Ruttun Sing⁴, and that the armies of Jagdeespore and Sultanpore attacked the Talookdar of Bhowkpore and drove him out of his Gurhee. Some lives were, it is stated, lost in the affair.

5th to 22nd September

Another Diary states that the Armies of Sultanpore attacked the Gurhee of Soojakur and drove Runjeet Sing out of it. He took refuge in another Gurhee, which he was obliged to evacuate also. In these affairs several persons were killed and wounded.

The Gurhee of Bikurmajeet, in Gurh Awethee, was taken and 4,000 Rs. presented to the Amil for its demolition.

Indore

From the Diary of the Indore Residency of date cited it appears that the health of the Maha Raja Hurree Rao was in a precarious state.

N. E. Frontier

It is apprehended that from the great extent and duration of the inundations towards the N. E. Frontier, the present crops in that direction will be very small. Captn. Vetch has been instructed by the Political Agent to lay up a stock of grain for the use of the troops in consequence.

Muneeopore

1st September

A private communication states that rumours had been circulating at Muneeopore, that a body of Burmans and Muneepoorees, under Petumbbur Sing, a brother of the Late Prince Triboghanjeet Sing, were about to make an attack upon that place.

4 *Ruttun Sing* (Ratan Singh) son of Sardar Nar Singh started as an ordinary trooper under General Hari Singh Nalwa but came to prominence in the Kashmir campaigns. He was subsequently attached to the Charyari Horse and promoted a General under Maharaja Sher Singh.

1st September

The Poll. Agent in a subsequent communication states the rumour of another attempt about to be made to repel the authorities at Muneepore by three Princes in Cachar, Pabitur Sing, Phairalea, and the Prince already referred to. The Political Agent has requested Captn. Lyons to keep a watch upon these men.

9th September

The Political Agent at Muneepore intimates that the Burmese Agent informed him that, in order to prevent agitation caused by unfounded rumours spread by the followers of the Muneepore Prince, who frequently stop at Monfoo, on their way up to their master's Estate on the Ooroo river; he had written to his Govt., suggesting that the Prince should be deprived of his present Estate and receive another in exchange, in some part of the Burmese territory, far removed from Muneepore frontier, and that he had, in reply, been informed that his suggestion would be attended to as soon as some arrangement could be made, for carrying it into effect; and that, in the meantime, Petumber Sing would be directed to send his men overland in order to avoid passing through any place where they were likely to come into contact with people from Muneepore. The Political Agent further states a report that the interdict by the Burmese on the exportation of ponies to Munneepore had been withdrawn.

As a precautionary measure against any hostile attempt which meditated the Right Hon'ble the Govr. Genl., has directed Brigadier Litter, Commanding N.E.F. Sylhet, to detach as many Companies of the Sylhet Light Infantry as can be spared without delay, to Muneepore to be posted there for the defence of the valley, or for any operations that might be judged expedient. This detachment is to be accompanied by Artillery, but if the road render it difficult for the transport of Guns, a detail of artillery men are to be sent with the detachment as field pieces belonging to the Muneepore State will be furnished. It is further directed that Brigr. L., in communication with the Poll. Agent, should move the Regiment of N.I. at Sylhet in advance to such a position as he may select near Baar Kandee or Luckipore.

Burmah*22nd September*

A private letter from Moulmein dated 22d Sepr., states that the Princes and the Queens were in their boats and that the King was to leave the Capital on the 6th Idem. No body of note was to remain at Amarapoorah except the Mekkra Prince, the King's uncle and the former Woonduck of Rangoon*, now one of the Woongees, who are to have charge of the Capital. Great preparations had been made for the journey and an immense multitude variously reported at 70,000; 1,00,000; 1,50,000 to 2,00,000 men was to follow H.M.

*A man well-known for his desire for a good understanding with our Govt.

Numerous Gun boats were also to form part of the train. The communication goes on to observe that a Woonduck had arrived at Rangoon with orders to construct 15 or 20 more gun boats and that the Chaliah vessels at Rangoon were to be taken up. The people at Martaban were busily at work with their fortifications and stockades.

24th September

A communication from Rangoon dt. 24 September intimates that the King left the capital on the day appointed, viz., the 6th, and that he was prosecuting his journey with much greater rapidity than had been expected, or than appeared to have been anticipated by the authorities at Rangoon. His Majesty is said to have arrived at Saawah, at which place, it is reported, he is to build a Pagodah, and that he would reach Rangoon by Oct. 1st. It seems to be canvassed whether the King will not attack the Province of Tenasserim and it is mentioned that certain Bohs (military officers) pledged themselves to the King to take the provinces in fifteen days and that the Prince of Pakhan, who is to bring up the rear, has with him about seventy pieces of artillery*. This prince is said to be the only one, who is favorable to the supposed projected hostile movements of the King, to which the ministers are reported to be altogether opposed. It is further mentioned that many of the military substitutes received one hundred tical of silver for the whole term of the expedition, with the proviso that a moiety of the sum should be returned if no fighting took place, and a private communication from Muneepoor states that each of the followers of the King has been ordered to bring with him for his subsistence, gold to the value of 74 Rs. This, by some, is taken as an indication that the period of His Majesty's stay at Rangoon may be long. The movements of the King adverted to, coupled with other important circumstances in connection with the subject, have induced the Right Hon'ble the Govr. General to adopt the measures necessary for placing the provinces of Arracan and Tenasserim in such a state of defence as may render them secure against any acts of rapine, they may be subject to, from the presence of great numbers of ill-disciplined troops on the frontier as well as from any more organized plan of hostilities which may possibly be designed against them by the ruler of Ava. For this purpose, the following arrangements have been ordered viz., Her Majesty's 50 Regiment now in Fort William proceeds without delay on the vessels mentioned in the margin to reinforce the station of Moulmein : from Midnapore the 14th M.N.I. when relieved by a wing of a native

	ton	men	
Steamer India	1206	300	Regiment from Barackpore, will
Ship Roberts	800	234	proceed to Calcutta for embarkation
Ship Thetis	560	173	to Moulmein, and another Native
		—————	Regiment of the Madras army will be
		707	embarked for the same direction from
		—————	Masulipatam or such other point as
			may be most convenient.

*Chiefly Dutch and French brass guns.

A corps of N.I. is held in readiness at Barackpore to proceed to Kyok Phyoo. H.M. Ship Calliope (28) will leave for Moulmein about the 12th. The "Ganges" steamer, well-armed with a European Crew, on the 12th also. The authorities in the Straits have been instructed to send up the rifle company of the 24 Regt. M.N.I. and the "Diana" Steamer, from thence to Moulmein. The "Forbes" steamer, has been sent to Penang with the above orders, and with instructions to intercept and desire the "Ariadne" and "Medona" armed Iron Steamers, which left Bombay for Galle, Penang, Singapore and Macao on the 29 Sept., to proceed to Moulmein and place their vessels under the orders of the Senior naval officer, and orders have likewise been issued to the Marine Board for arming the "Eagle" and "Orissa" and despatching them to the Coast of Arracan in charge of European Officers. 50 European Artillery men to Arracan with provisions and of Captn. Bogle, the Commdr. (who is now in Calcutta) to Kyok Phyoo. The "Calliopee" is to take 12 long and 12 short twelve-pounder guns for H.M.'s Ship Childers and 6 or at least four 24-pounder Howitzers to Moulmein and four gun boats, formerly built for service in Arracan, are to proceed to that province duly armed. Orders have also been issued to despatch the Steamer "Enterprize" from Point de Galle to Moulmein.

Nepaul

17th September

The following items are extracted from the Diary of the Nepaul Residency of dates cited :

1. Some charges have been preferred against Karber and Kabraj Pandeys whom Ranjang is said to have abandoned in wrath as those who had led him into trouble.

2. The Raja has written with his own hand to the Govr. of Joomla, commanding him to communicate with Zorawur Sing on the subject of effecting an alliance with the Sikh leader and the latter has replied to the Raja consenting to an alliance.

18th to 24th September

3. With all his duplicity and vacillation, the Raja is said to be manageable and matters were said to be getting into train, though slowly, for adjustment, and the cases of justice to British merchants promised to be satisfactorily settled. It is stated, however, that many of the Kabraj faction were attempting to devise schemes against the effectual settlement of affairs and to embroil the Raja with the British Government on account of China or the Sikhs. China and the Sikhs are now anxiously looked to by the Durbar.

4. Though it is believed that the Raja will ultimately confirm Futteh Jung as Premier, yet he has been dallying with Rambir Thappa and with Ranjang's son as though he would appoint one of them as such. This has

In a great measure delayed the official arrangements of the year, which should be taking place about this time and has distracted the minds of the people and the soldiery.

5. The Rani was unwell on the date last quoted.

3rd October

Mr. Hodgson writes that the Maha Raja, elated by the News from Lassa and by the continued announcements of the progress of the Sikhs at Naree, had apparently thought of evading the engagements, he has entered into with the British Government, of placing his relations with it on a more friendly footing; but that during the last month, the repeated remonstrances of the Government and the faithful advice of his Ministers, appear to have induced His Highness to consider the advisability of following a more amicable course of policy in regard to the British.

China

15th July

A despatch from H.M's plenipotentiaries in China intimated that the Kwang-Chow-Too waited upon Captain Elliot in Canton by the command of H.E. the Governor, bearing the following communication in reply to three notes on the subject. It was declared that whilst the Chinese Government could not make public proclamation sanctioning the freedom of British intercourse with Hong Kong with the imperial authority, it was fully understood and promised that there should be no practical obstruction to the exercise of such freedom.

A lakh of Dollars was paid at once in part of the sum due for the pillage of the factories and a further sum of Rs. 10,000 in satisfaction of the loss of injuries sustained by the attack on the passage boat "Black Joke", and the Kwang-Chow-Too promised payment of the balance within fifteen days.

The Plenipotentiaries reported the progress of the Establishment at Hong Kong and the gradual decrease of the sick lists.

8th August

A subsequent despatch from China mentioned that Captn. Elliot, on proceeding to Canton, upon the subject of the factory indemnity, found that two of the recently discovered Channels had been staked. Lieutt. Kellett of the "Starling" in company with the "Phlegethon" and "Atlanta" proceeded up the river to see (and they did see) that these obstructions were removed. The damage sustained by the men of war by the typhoon on the China seas was shortly to be made good.

19th August

Sir H. Pottinger and Admiral Sir Wm. Parker reached Macao on the 10th and it was immediately determined that the armament should sail for the

Northward on the 21st, leaving Major General Burrell in Command at Hong Kong. Annexed is a return of the Force which Sir H. Gough proposed taking on with him and of the numbers left at Hong Kong. It was observed the Bengal Volunteers had wonderfully improved in health.

European Infantry

Corps		<i>To proceed to Northward</i>	<i>To remain at Hong Kong</i>
18 Royal Insh. Rank & file with Officers and non-Commissd.		730	103
26 Cameronsans	—do—	161	368
49 Regiment	—do—	549	66
55 —do—	—do—	805	12
		<hr/> 2,245 <hr/>	<hr/> 549 <hr/>

Native Infantry

Bengal Volunteers Detacht.		Nil	167
37 M.N.I.		Nil	586
Sappers and Miners (Madras)		218	26
Artillery (Madras)		270	20
		<hr/> Total : 2,733 <hr/>	<hr/> 1,348 <hr/>

Miscellaneous

21st September

The Government of Bombay report that the H.Co's steamer "Atlanta" arrived in Bombay on the 26th September from China, having on board Commodore Sir Cordon Bremer and Captain Elliott.

Fort William
11 Oct. 1841

H. V. Bayley
Asstt. Secy. to Govt. of India

(Ref. :—Foreign Deptt., Miscellaneous, Vol. 334, pp. 449-498).

Newsletter 59 : October 20, 1841

(No. 30 of 1841)

N.W. Frontier

28th August

The following particulars are extracted from the Lahore Akhbar of dates marginally cited :—

(1) Coll. Steinbach was asked by the Durbar if his sepoy were satisfied with him, and he, replying in the affirmative, was promised the command of them again. (2) The Manjha Sikhs represented to the Maharajah that they had made him the King of the Punjab, but that His Highness was still guided by the advice of the Rajas (i.e., Jummoo) who goaded the Sikhs, and that, had any of the Rajahs attended him on his late shooting excursion, they would have met the fate intended for them. The Maharaja observed, that it was through this fear that none of the Rajahs had now attended him, and desired the Sikhs to be kind to them. The Sikhs, however, added that if he would be a King, he ought to dismiss the Rajahs towards Jummoo, as they would have to depart thither in haste some day, with all the Khalseh, troops at their heels. A petition received from Rajah Dhian Sing, was heard in private, from which it appeared that the Rajah had cautioned His Highness that as the Kingdom entirely depended upon his person, he should look to his own security.

1st September

(3) The ramparts of the town of Lahore were to be repaired. (4) Mahomedan & Rajpoot troops are stated to have been enlisted & forwarded to Cashmere. (5) Orders were issued by the Durbar to Rajah Goolab Sing to facilitate the excursion of Dr. Jameson to observe the state of rivers Indus and Attock.

5th September

(6) Hoondees for 3 lakhs of rupees were remitted to the Durbar by Dewan Sawun Mull from Mooltan. (7) Bhaee Ram Sing advised the Maha Rajah not to vest so much power in Rajah Dhian Sing. His Highness replied that he had always been consulted by the Rajah, & there was no fear whatever. Rajah Socheit Sing observed it was not proper to give Dhian Sing any undue degree of authority. The Maha Rajah's reply to him was in substance the same as to Bhaee Ram Sing. (8) Rajah Goolab Sing was ordered to raise militia from Jummoo, for service at Hazara and to punish Payendah Khan in such a manner as to prevent all future disturbances.

7th September

(9) Sirdars Mungul Sing and Ram Sing complained of the ill-treatments they had received from Rajah Dhian Sing; but were only referred to him again. (10) The Maha Rajah proceeded to the lines of Genl. Court and desired the troops to receive him again as their Commander. They replied that they would decide the point on the return of the troops from their furloughs. (11) Of the imprisoned Sepoys, suspected of the murder of Sobha Singh, the Garrison Officer at Gobindgurh, 15 were dismissed & 10 were whipped & turned out. (12) Sirdar Lehna Sing Mujjeethia was ordered to raise a battalion consisting of a thousand Hill soldiers, and to send it to Lahore without delay. (13) Rajah Dhian Sing represented that since the occupation of Thebet* by Zorawur Sing, the population of Cashmere had nearly doubled; that the import of Shawl wool was being secured by him; that this had caused a complaint from the merchants, to the Poll. Agent at Simla; that a road into Tartary was now open and that, if the Maha Rajah pleased, that country could easily be conquered. The Maha Rajah desired the Rajah to be silent for the present, but he replied that silence would produce disappointment. The Maha Rajah resumed, "conquests in China should be made only after having consulted Mr. Clerk." (14) Owing to the objection made by the British Govt. to the appointment of Rajah Goolab Sing at Peshawur, that Chief was prohibited from proceeding thither, & ordered to return to Lahore. (15) A Parwannah was issued to Zorawur Sing, ordering him not to interfere with the China boundary. (16) Genl. Avitabile applied for leave of absence for a year. The Maha Rajah ordered Rajah Dhian Sing to write & dissuade him from leaving the service. (17) On the Maha Rajah adverting to the subject of Zorawur Sing's proceedings in Chinese Tartary, Rajah Dhian Sing denied having the least knowledge of the origin of the affair & said that he would write to Rajah Goolab Sing, & through him to Zorawur Sing. Sheikh Ghoolam Maheoodeen was ordered to despatch some of his confidential servants to Garoo (Ghurtope) to report every particular regarding that country to the Durbar, & the Maha Rajah desired two Harkarus to be despatched with orders to Zorawur Sing, calling upon him for a report on, and a map of that country & prohibiting him from any further encroachment till further orders. It is said that Zorawur Sing intimated his intention to capture Lassa & Yarkund agreeably to Rajah Goolab Sing's wishes. On the Maha Rajah consulting Rajah Socheit Sing & Fukeer Azeezooodeen on the subject of Zorawur Sing's proceedings, they replied that were Garoo to be proved to lie in the Ladakh district the right of the Durbar was established, but were it proved to belong to Lassa, the case would be different. (18) At first, some success, it is said, attended the measures taken to suppress the disturbances in the lower Eusoofzye country. But disturbances prevail in the Bunnoo Tank district. Troops are there in the field also, & require to be reinforced to enable them to restore order. The Durbar

*See N. L. 29 dt. 11th October on this subject.

intended to detach eight battalions to Ramnuggur to which the Br. Agent objected because that place is situated upon the line of march of the British Convoys about to proceed to Cabool.

30th September

From a letter from the Govr. Genl.'s Agent on the N.W. Frontier, it appears:—(1) that a negotiation is being opened between Lahore & Kashgar. From what has lately passed at the Durbar in regard to the latter country, it is supposed that its early subjection is contemplated by the Jummoo Rajas. (2) Rajah Dhian Sing, in communicating to Goolab Sing the prohibition regarding his going on to Peshawur, has required him to be at Lahore again previous to the Dusserah. The Raja intends thus to avoid himself of his brother's personal exertions, & courage in encountering the Khalsa troops at that time. (3) The Minister was contriving on one plea or another, to disperse the most turbulent of the battalions during the Dusserah. He was prudently commencing to carry into effect this arrangement, previous to the return of the men from furlough as there is less difficulty in inducing the head quarters so reduced to move away from the capital, than there would be when the battalions are again complete. (4) At Bhaee Ram Sing's request, Genl. Teij Singh was to be appointed Comdr. in Chief. (5) The troops mount guard as usual, but there are no regular parades, & no roll-calls. (6) It was generally anticipated on the late removal of Sirdar Jawala Sing from Lahore to a dungeon that he would soon be made away with. Accordingly, he is now reported to be dead. (7) The Lower Eusofzye territory is reported to be in an entire state of rebellion, & the Sikh force there had entrenched itself waiting for reinforcements; Mookairh Khan of Pungtar was acquiring great influence by the successful forays he has made. Khawajah Mahomed Khan, the son of Sirdar Sooltan Mahomed Khan, had left Kohat on his way to Lahore.

The Eusufzoyes

28th July

The following account of an action between the Sikhs and the Eusufzoyes is extracted from a private note of date cited in the margin:—

It appears that officers had been appointed by Genl. Avitabile to proceed with troops into the Usufzoye country with a vazir to collect revenue. On their arriving at the village of Nowsherah, the inhabitants of the place prepared to oppose them and began firing. The inhabitants of the neighbouring villages also assembled in arms to oppose the Sikhs, and all together attacked their camp. The Sikh troops, it is said, repulsed the enemy, sword in hand, more than once, but were at last overpowered by numbers, which amounted to about 20,000 "Moolkeas". Half of the Khalsa battalion, together with Bhoodh Sing¹ their Commandant, were killed, and the rest fled for safety

¹ *Bhoodh Sing* (Budh Singh) once a 'Khidmutgar' (attendant; an armour-bearer) of Prince Sher Singh was raised to the status of a Sardar (a nobleman) when the Prince became Maharaja of Lahore. One of his brothers, Ichhra Singh, was among the conspirators who murdered Rani Chand Kaur.

oo refuge in the Jehangeer fort. The Moolkeas were said to be still assembled in Arms under Mookaish Khan of Punjhar. No reinforcements had arrived, and apprehensions were entertained that if timely aid was not afforded, the Peshawur district would be in danger of being seized, for a time at least from the Khalseh Government.

The Sikhs and the Chinese Tartars

11th October

The Lieutt. Governor of the N.W. Provinces states that the Sikh Chief Zorawur Sing has addressed a letter to the Rajah of Bussahir, informing him of his having conquered Chinese Tartary, and that Rajah Goolab Sing had written to him (Zorawur Singh) intimating his having deputed ten confidential servants to Bussahir for the purpose of obtaining information in respect of the Bussahir Frontier. Copies of these letters are with the Br. authorities and it is worthy of observation that, in neither of the letters from Golab Sing to Zorawur Sing, or from the latter to the Bussahir Rajah, is any mention made of Lahore, or the Khalsajee; although Dhian Sing is particularly named in both; whence it may not unprobably be inferred, as also from certain items from the Lahore Akhbar preceding, that Dhian Sing is acting apparently in this instance in a separate capacity, and not as the Prime Minister of the Sikh Govt.

Cashmere

The Sepoys of the late Genl. Mohan Sing's battalions were directed to restore the land and property of the General. They proposed to restore a part of it but Rajah Goolab Sing, objecting to this, surrounded them with his own troops, whereupon a battle was fought, in which about 500 men were killed on either side. Some of the sepoys in question were apprehended and others fled. From the Cashmere Intelligence it appears that merchants had arrived in Cashmere with bills for 6 or 7 lakhs of Rs. to purchase shawls, but their bills were not sold, owing to the present fluctuations & partly owing to the want of Shawl. The consequence of Vuzeer Zorawur Sing having marched into Rootuck with troops, & with Rajah Ahmed Shah at the head of 300 men, the trading classes have deserted their homes.

Shawls were very dear, but notwithstanding this, since the just application of British influence in Afghanistan and the appreciation of its benefits, the general trade in this valuable article, it is said, has doubled. For Caboul and Candhhar, merchants now more frequently make purchases for Khorasan, Persia and Constantinople.

Afghanistan

15th September

The following summary of the generally (with the one or two exceptions which will hereafter be fully narrated) improving state of affairs in

Afghanistan, is extracted from a letter from the Envoy and Minister at Cabool of date specified in the margin.

The Ghilzye insurrection is said to be completely suppressed and the Country between Cabool and Candahar perfectly tranquil. The principal leaders in the late insurrection having surrendered, were living quietly at Cabool and Major Leech had recently traversed the whole of the Ghilzye districts with a few attendants, meeting everywhere with the greatest civility and attention from all classes.

At Ghuzni, every thing was quiet, and the collection of revenue to the south of it, was going on in the most satisfactory manner.

The apprehended combination against us, between the Afreedees and the Amakzyes in Khyber is now no longer likely.

The Political Agent at Jellalabad reports the state of the country between Cabool and Jellalabad, as being in the highest degree satisfactory. The roads are now traversed without fear. Agriculture is increasing and habits of peaceful industry spreading. Affairs at Cabool also wear a prosperous and quiet aspect.

The Ameer of Bokhara moreover seems disposed to cultivate our friendship, and the petty chiefs of Khoodum and Koondooz are continually applying to us for assistance against each other.

17th September

With reference to the foregoing item as to the Afreedees and Amakzyes, the Political Agent at Peshawur states that three engagements had taken place between the tribes named in which about 25 men had been killed and wounded.

27th September

Captn. Bygrave states that Cash Balance in the military chest on the 27th Sept. was Co's. Rs. 9,49,533-13-6½.

11th October

The Officer in Charge of Dost Mahomed Khan reports the arrival of the ex-Chief and his suite at Allahabad. The Ameer was to have temporary accommodations prepared for him on shore, and was very much pleased with the attention and facilities afforded him his steam trip up to Allahabad.

18th October

By the order of the Right Hon'ble the Govr. Genl. in Council, the two native regiments of regular infantry, proceeding with the Convoys to Peshawur, are to go on to Jellalabad and, ultimately, to Cabool, and it is left discretionary with Major Genl. Elphinstone either to detain the troops of Bengal Horse Artillery and the 5th Lt. Cavalry now in Afghanistan, or to send them back to India as he may think expedient.

Bokhara

16th July

Colonel Stoddart, in a letter to the address of the Envoy and Minr. at Cabool states that on the 11th July last, after the receipt of the letters from Sir W. Macnaghten, which proved so satisfactory to the Ameer (See News Letter No. 29 dt. 11 October, 1841), he demanded leave from that chief and that in reply to his request, which the Ameer immediately granted, he stated distinctly that he would send Col. S. immediately to Cabool with an Ambassador of his own, and that he would forthwith make the necessary preparations for his departure. 2d. that he would send after Col. S. any news or letters that might come from Captn. Conolly *en route* to Kokund or from Persia. 3d. that he did not require any money for the Russian slaves, they being all in his own possession, and that whoever of them desired to return to Russia should be handed over to Col. S. with a view of being forwarded to the Russians. 4th. that he would give Col. S. a sealed document, stating that the Persian Slaves at Bokhara would on no occasion be prohibited from being purchased or released by their friends and returned to their own country. The Ameer is said to be impressed with a full confidence that the friendly relations now established between his Govt. and that of the British are sincere, and he justly believes that, whatever answer comes to his letter to Her Majesty, will surely confirm and strengthen those relations.

Neesh, Tireen and Dehraunt

The districts of Neesh, Tireen and Dehraunt, having repeatedly set H.M. Shah Shoojah's authority at defiance during the last two years, and the inhabitants of those districts having lately taken up arms and in favour of Aktar Khan, it was judged expedient, previous to the withdrawal of the troops from Candahar, which have, under orders, to return to India in the winter, to employ them in reducing the wild tribes of this portion of the Candahar Govt. and in imposing such restraints upon the Dooranee Chiefs who control the movements and feelings of these tribes, as shall afford a sufficient guarantee for the future tranquillity of the country. It was accordingly arranged that a force should rendezvous at Xurnboorah in Khakuz under the command of Lieutt. Coll. Wymer, consisting of 4 Guns belonging to H.M. the Shah's Horse Arty; two 18 pds. with details of European Arty; a detachment of Sappers; six Risallahs of Captn. Leeson's—(S.S.'s) horse; two S.S.'s Janbaz Corps; the 2nd and 38th Regiments of N.I., and the 5th Regt. of the Shah's N.I.—His Royal Highness Shah Zadah Timour appointed his eldest son Prince Secunder to accompany the force, as the representative of H.M. the Shah, and Sirdar Mahomed Abbas Khan was to attend upon the Young Prince as his Naib (or Deputy). Lt. Elliot has been appointed on the part of the Br. Govt. to the Poll. Charge of the expedition referred to.

Luo*24th September*

Captn. G. H. McGregor has been selected by Sir W. H. Macnaghten to accompany (in a political capacity) the troops proceeding against the plundering chief of Luo near Gurdez.

It appears that, on a recent occasion, the occupants of the forts of the place named, fired upon the troops of H.M.; and Captn. McGregor has been instructed, on a surrender of the chiefs, to destroy the forts and call upon them (the Chiefs) to furnish satisfactory security for their future good behaviour.

Scinde Upper*28th August*

Brigadier England states that with the concurrence of the Political authorities in Scinde, he has ordered the ports of Kotra and Shoorun, lately so unhealthy, to be abandoned as soon as the necessary arrangements for so doing can be effected.

He has directed the details of the Company's Golundauje at Kotra to join its Hd. Qr. at Dadur, and the party of Poona Horse at Shoorun also to proceed to Dadur and Quetta in the expectation of being able, on its arrival, to detach the three Rissallahs of Punjab Local Horse to Candahar.

Brigr. England has ordered the Wing's Lt. Cavalry and Hd. Qr. 2nd Grenadier Regiment at Kotra to proceed direct to Sukkur; and the detachment 6 Reg. N.I. at Shooran to march to Bhag, there to relieve the detailed 2nd Grenadier regt; and the latter when relieved, to march to Sukkur.

Scinde Lower*13th to 19th September*

The Paper of occurrences at the Lower Scinde Agency of dates marginally noted, states that on the 16th Septr., Meer Meer Mahd. Khan sent a Monnshi with a Razeenamah (agreement) from His Highness Meer Nusseer Khan, binding himself to abide by the decision of Meer Meer Mahd. Khan in the settlement of the Bizang disputes, with Meer Sher Mahd. Khan of Meerpore.

The Razeenamah from the latter chief to the same effect was daily expected.

17th September

The original draft of the Treaty concluded with Meer Sher Mahomed Khan of Meerpore, duly ratified, signed, and sealed by the Rt. Hon'ble the Gr. Gl. was forwarded on the annexed date to Meerpore. The substance of the treaty is as follows :—

1st Article. That there shall be lasting friendship between the H.E. & the Ameer of Meerpore.

2nd—Article 5000 Cr. Rs. to be paid by the Ameer annually in part payment of the expense of the British Force stationed in Scinde.

3rd—do. The territory of the Ameer to be protected by the British Govt. from foreign aggression.

4th—do. The jurisdiction of the British not be introduced in the principality of the Ameer. British officers not to listen to complaints against the Ameer from his subjects.

5th—do. The Ameer will refer to the British representative in Scinde, complaints of aggression against the other Ameers & the Poll. Agent will mediate between the parties.

6th—do. The territorial disputes between Meer Sher Mahomed Khan & the Ameers of Hyderabad to be submitted to the decision of arbitrators.

7th—do. In case of aggression by the subjects of one Ameer on the territories of another, the Governor General will, should he see fit, under certain circumstances, order and to be afforded with a view to bring the offenders to punishment.

8th.—do. The Ameer not to enter into any negotiation with any foreign state without the knowledge & sanction of the British Govt.

9th.—do. The Ameer to act in subordinate cooperation with the British Govt. for purposes of defence & to furnish it with troops whenever required. The Ameer's troops, when employed beyond Scinde, will be paid by the British.

10th.—do. The Coy.'s Rupee to be admitted in the Ameer's territory.

11th.—do. No toll to be levied on trading boats passing up or down the River Indus, within the Ameer's territory.

12th.—do. Merchandize, landed from Boats to be subject to the usual duties of the Country. Goods sold in a British Camp to be exempt from the payment of duty.

13th.—do. Goods of all kinds may be brought by merchants to the mouth of the Indus (Goraboree), kept there, till the best period of the year for sending them up the river. Goods landed & sold either at Goraboree or any other place, except within the British Cantonments, shall pay the usual duty.

14th.—do. The provisions of this treaty to be binding on all succeeding Govts. of India, & on the successors of the Ameer in perpetuity.

The Ameer on the receipt of the above treaty expressed his great gratification, and forthwith directed the different bodies of soldiers placed to watch and protect his boundaries & water-courses to proceed to their homes, he having no further need of their services, alleging that this last was in consequence of his Treaty with the British Govt. At Meerpore he has now only a few followers besides his private servants.

Aden*9th September*

The Poll. Agent reports that, from the 30th of August until the 5th of September, supplies into the town were stopped. On the latter day a Kafila of 498 Camels, guarded by 300 Matchlockmen, of the Houshebee & Ratfan tribes, was sent in by Sayed Mahomed Houssain, which brought a plentiful supply of grass, flour, vegetables, and fruit, the guards of the enemy being afraid to attack them. The Fouthelee and Abdalie Sultans were apparently exasperated at the willingness evinced by their North-Western neighbours, the Houshabees, Ameers, Alloocs, and Ratfan tribes, to use force, if necessary, in forwarding the British supplies, and the former Chief left Terranear the same evening to consult with the Abdalee Chieftain. In consequence of the continued revengeful and insulting conduct of the Abdullah and Fouthelee tribes, Captn. Haines recommended and was instructed by the Govt. of Bombay to effect the stoppage of supplies by sea entering their ports on the coast during the approaching season provided the naval means at his disposal are sufficient to enforce it. This line of policy, it is believed, may tend to convince them that while they have it in their power to annoy us during the hot season, the British can, with facility, retaliate on them for 7 months in the year, whilst also we thereby benefit Aden and improve the general trade.

A subsequent letter from the Poll. Agent dated 11th September intimates that a Kafila of nearly 400 Camels, under Sheikh Mahd. Hyder, of the Abdulla tribe, entered Aden with supplies.

The local authorities having reason to suspect some treachery, immediately ordered extra gun boats up from the H.Co's vessels "Clive" and "Euphrates". At 7.15 P.M. the Signal Rockets were fired in the field works for a general attack, and for a short time the firing became rapid, apparently along the whole line of the wall, when shortly after the assailants were totally dispersed. The troops behaved with courage and alertness. Not a man was wounded on the side of the British, but from the traces of blood it appeared evident that some of enemy must have suffered.

Captain Haines having received authentic information that the enemy in large force headed by their Sultans, intended to make a bold attempt on Aden during the night of Tuesday, 14th Septr. or the succeeding day, and that they were endeavouring to obtain some person to fire the town, so as to direct the attention of the troops from the attack outside, had, with the other authorities at Aden, made every preparation to meet, and disperse them.

Beila*6th September*

With reference to the establishment of a more regular system of duties*

*See News Letter No. 29, dated 11th Oct. 1841, note to Lahore

at the port of Sonmeanee, the British Agent at that port states that the Jam of Beila² has agreed to the alteration proposed, by fixing the duty to be in future levied at the port of Sonmeanee on piece goods of every description, as also on spices, such as cardamoms, cloves, & c. at (Rs. 2) two rupees per Sonmeanee maund**, with a duty of (8 as.) Eight annas, on the same weight of Sugar, Coffee, Metals, and other bulky articles—Lt. Gordon believes that this modification in the scale of duties will be very acceptable to the Afghan traders, and when it is well-known, of considerable pecuniary advantage to the Jam of Beila himself. He adds that as goods were probably to be brought to Sonmeanee this season of a kind, not hitherto imported, the Jam evincing a most satisfactory degree of confidence in the B. Agent had delegated to him the privilege of regulating the duty to be charged upon them, which Lieutt. G. proposed to fix with a due regard to the just interests of all parties.

These proceedings cannot be viewed as affording otherwise than a most pleasing and encouraging result of our political influence in Lower Beloochistan.

Hyderabad

Arabs & Mercenaries

With reference to certain communications regarding Arab & other Mercenaries in Mahratta States, the Resident at Indore reported that he heard of none such in the service of Holkar or of the other states in Malwa, except a few Pathan adventurers.

In the Bhopal state Sir C. Wade mentions, that there are some Sikhs. Holkar has also a very few of that tribe, & only four or five Mekranees & of the latter, throughout Malwa, the number, he says, does not exceed two hundred and fifty. None of these are supposed to have any connection with the late insurgents in the Deccan.

30th September

With reference to the defeat & surrender of a body of the Arab insurgents at the Ghuree of Bolingee (vide News Letter No. 29 dt. 11th October) there may be added, in this place, the following particulars.

Brigr. Blair states that after the surrender of the Arab & other prisoners, he sent for the head Jemadar, Seedee Nusseeb, who came with two followers. Brigr. B. fully explained to them the orders of Govt. as to their surrender, the necessity of disarming them & the folly of their making any resistance.

**Equal to three Bombay Maunds.

2 *Jam of Beila*: Jam (a Baluchi word) was a title borne by certain chieftains of small principalities in Kutch, Kathiawar, and Sind. There were a number of them in Lower Sind, and the Jam of Las Bela was one of the more prominent. His estate, bordering the sea, was a dependency of the Khan of Kalat.

The Jemadar replied, "Arabs never surrendered their arms", & appeared inclined to be impertinent. Brigr. B. rose & was leaving his tent to mount his horse, saying he would see, when the Jemadar & his two followers rushed upon him suddenly with their daggers. A scuffle ensued, in which the two Arabs were mortally wounded by Brigr. B's orderlies, & have since died, & the Jemadar was seized unhurt & put in irons. After this, the whole party quietly laid down their arms, & marched towards Hyderabad in charge of Captain Tromer with a complete troop of the 1st Cavalry, & the Sirkar horse. A few of the prisoners who were found to have no connection with the insurgents were released by Brigr. Blair. The total number of prisoners sent to Hyderabad, with the exception of Wahab Alee Khan & his party, is 155, & the number of arms of various descriptions captured from the insurgents, 522. They have safely arrived at Hyderabad, & are under guard & as before stated, disarmed.

Jyepore

30th September

It having been determined by Govt. that the Pol. Agent Jyepore, in subordination to the Governor General's Agent in Rajpootana, should continue to work in concert with a Council of Regency to carry out the renovation of the Jyepore Territory during the minority, of the **Maha Raja**, Lieutt. Coll. Sutherland has directed that it should be intimated to the Chiefs that it is necessary for the satisfaction of the public mind at Jyepore, and in Rajpootana generally, that they should in reality, as well as in appearance, share the responsibility with the P.A. himself; that they should satisfy themselves, and have the means of satisfying others, that the administration is carried on in a manner conformably with Rajpoot usage, and that it be of a character in which the best chiefs of the land can join and co-operate, and of which there can hereafter be favourable testimony to produce to their sovereign. Lieut Coll. Sutherland has also caused it to be stated that if the present Chiefs of the Council cannot thus join, from there being something wrong in the system, he was ready to make such reasonable alterations as might be required to gain their co-operation; but if from a want of diligence, or business-like habits, they found themselves unequal to the duty required of them, it was their business to resign, or to be removed in order that more suitable instruments might be employed for the furtherance of the important object in view.

N.E. Frontier

31st October

The Governor General's Agent on the N.E. Frontier states that ten of our subjects on the N.E. Frontier have been carried away by a party of Akhas. It appears that 18 men of the Bulleparah Mouza went into the forest for the purpose of cutting wood for boats, on which duty they were engaged for several days, when, on the night of the 6th October, they were

surprised by the Akhas. Eight of them effected their escape by plunging into the thickets, whilst the remaining ten were laid hold of by the Akhas and made away with. Every exertion has been used to trace the retreat of the Akhas, and ascertain the best means of surprising them and delivering our subjects from captivity.

Burmah

12th October

The Marine Board state that the vessels noted on the margin have been		engaged for the conveyance to Arracan
	Men	of a part of the 47th Regiment N.I.
Zemindar	317	and that the remainder will be embarked
Trio	205	on the H.C.'s S. Amherst on her
Justinu	209	return to Calcutta—daily expected.
	<hr/>	
	731	
	<hr/>	
H. C.'s S. Amherst	253	
	<hr/>	
	984	

19th October

The Marine Board report that the ships named in the margin have been	
Larkins	engaged for the conveyance of the
Elizabeth Ainslie	14th Regt. Madras N.I. expected from
Stalkart	Midnapore <i>en route</i> to Moulmein.
Maria	

Nipal

10th October

The Resident reports that the Maha Rani of Nipal, the head of the hostile faction and the supporter of the late ill-disposed Ministry, died suddenly on the 6th October, in consequence, it is alleged of the effects upon a debilitated frame; of a furious discussion with the Maha Rajah and others respecting public affairs, which took place on the 20th September.

China

2nd August

The Major General Commanding the Expeditionary Force, mentioned that a Naval Store-Keeper had been nominated in China, and that by the arrangements he had made, he confidently calculated on supplies of every kind to the middle of April, bread alone excepted. The Major General adds that the whole of the transports had been fully victualled for four months.

Miscellaneous

The Govt. of Bombay report that the necessary orders have been issued for the despatch from Bombay of the Prince Regent "Yacht" to Calcutta.

H. V. Bayley

Asstt. Secy. to Govt. of India

Fort William

The 20th October 1841

Postscript**Zamindawur—Tireen—Dehrawut**

20th September

A private Lre. from Cabool contains favourable accts about Zamindawur, Tireen and Dehrawut. The tribes, it is said, have refused to support Akram and Afzul and were only thinking how they might best save themselves from the punishment which their conduct deserved. The chances of opposition seemed remote. In Zamindawur the country was gradually settling down, most of the minor chiefs had sent in their families as hostages; the ryots had all returned to their villages, and the collection of revenue was going on steadily and prosperously.

Another Lre. from Candahar states that Auzul Nuboo and many others, who had come in, were people of great importance at home and that Akram and his party in Dehrawut were the only ones of any consequence who remained at large.

On the subject of flour, the Govt. here will consider the best means of making due provision.

(20 October, 1841)

(Ref. :—Foreign Deptt. Miscellaneous, Vol. 334, pp. 499-566)

Newsletter 60 : November 1, 1841

(No. 31 of 1841)

N. W. Frontier

25th September

The following items are extracted from the Lahore Akhbar of dates marginally cited :—

(1) In regard to the case of Gartope, the Maha Rajah told Dhian Sing that the orders of the British were immutable; that disobedience to them was unwise, and that Vuzeer Zorawur Sing must be dissuaded against any further encroachments. His Highness caused an order to be written to Rajah Golab Sing, directing him not to advance towards Gartope. Rajah Soochiet Sing is reported to have quietly mentioned to Fukeer Azeezodeen that, to his certain knowledge, Vuzeer Zorawur Sing had reported to his brother Rajah Goolab Sing his intention to enter Lassa, in order to secure a road to Yarkund; and that Rajah Golab Sing had encouraged the design.

(2) Baba Mohan Sing reminded the Maha Rajah that His Highness was more free while enjoying his petty Jageer, but that since becoming a King, he had placed himself in the hands of Raja Dhian Sing and his son Pertab Sing, in those of Rajah Goolab Sing. The Maha Rajah acknowledged the truth of the observation, but desired the Baba to remain silent now that the times were so critical. (3) Rajah Dhian Sing ordered three battalions and the Dragoon and Cuirassier regt. to encamp on the Mean Meer plains. Similar orders were issued to Genl. Court's division, & to the Nursing & Alla Sing's regts.

27th September

(4) Meean Arheil Sing reported to the Durbar that he had captured the fort belonging to Payunde Khan of Durbund. (5) Genl. Pertab Sing was ordered to march with his three battalions to Amritsur which he immediately did. A battalion of Gen. Soodh Sing also marched to that place.

29th September

(6) Alladad of Tank is said to have again fallen on the district of Dera Ismail Khan at the head of the "Moolkeas", & carried away some cattle; and it was thought impossible by the Sikh local officers to resist him and the Vuzeerees, without a large army commanded by an able officer. The Sikh Sirdar, in the neighbourhood, was ordered to raise troops from the

Esakheils & Dera countries, & from the Jaggeerdars, to send an express for a battalion from Dewan Sawan Mull, and was assured of other reinforcements being detached from the neighbouring districts of Dhunnee, Gheib, etc. He was also apprized of the appointment of 4 battalions with an able Sirdar from Lahore. (7) Rajah Golab Sing and Koonwur Pertab Sing proposed to station about 12 battalions at Moozuffarabad, midway between Cashmere & Hazara, and comdg. the Eusofzyee & Khaseer countries. The Raja was directed to come to Lahore on the Dussehra before giving effect to this project that his troops might be first inspected. (8) On the Maha Rajah & Rajah Dhian Sing mentioning to Jemadar Khoosal Sing that the British Govt. wished to rescue Ghartope from the hands of the Khalseh, he replied that the late Maharaja i.e., Runjeet Sing had never considered his own advantages when opposed to the wishes of the British; that he had given up all thoughts of Shikarpore at their suggestion, and that his example ought always to be followed. The Maha Rajah observed that he also would not care to give up Ghartope, and had already despatched two Hurkarahts to order the delivery of that place, agreeably to Mr. Clerk's requisition.

1st October

(9) Rajah Dhian Sing offered Genl. Tej Singh, the command of the troops detached to Amrutsur—3 battalions of Genl. Purtab Sing; 2 of the late Genl. Ameer Sing Maun, detached on the 1st Oct., & 2 battalions, newly raised by Jemadar Khoosal Sing, were put under his command, & ordered to encamp near Gobindgurh. The Arty. corps. was put under Genl. Soodh Sing's command, & separated from these battalions.

5th October from Lahore

(10) From the Peshawar News it appeared that the Eusufzyees had again attacked the Khalsah troops, but these being on the alert, a fight had taken place, in which about 300 of the enemy were killed & wounded, and the rest put to flight, while the loss of the Sikh troops amounted to 60 men. (11) With regard to Lt. Cunningham's mission towards Chines Tartary, (Vide News Letter, No. 28, dated 1st October), the Maha Rajah sent orders to Zorawur Sing, commanding him to depute his Agents to receive that officer on the boundary, then to attend him personally, and to show him all marks of respect. Similar instructions were communicated to Rajah Goolab Sing by Rajah Dhian Singh.

The Sikhs and the Chinese Tartars

13th October

The Commr. in Kumaon, through the Lieutt. Governor of the N.W.P., reports the* murder of five inhabitants of the Bussahir state, by the Sikh

*This subject will be specially noticed to the Lahore Durbar thro' Mr. Clerk—and due reparation demanded and exacted.

soldiery, under Zorawur Sing, stationed at Tolung, in Chinese Tartary, and the interruption to which the trade of Kumaon has been subjected from the lawless conduct of these troops. It is mentioned that besides Tolung, the Sikhs have established posts at Chaprung and Duba.

Kooloo

14th October

The Agent to the Lieutenant Governor of the N.W. Provinces reports the escape of the Ranees of the Rajah of Kooloo from their captivity at Sooltanpore, and their expected arrival at Keepoo. The deliverance of these ladies and their attendants is stated to have effected certain people of the country who continued to excavate a subterranean passage to their place of captivity.

The same political officer intimates the death of the Rajah Ajeet Sing of Kooloo on the 27th September. The deceased is said to have left no direct heirs.

14th October

Mr. Clerk states that on receipt of the tidings of the Rajah of Kooloo's death, orders were despatched from the Sikh Durbar to Sardar Lehna Sing Mujeethia, to place his (the deceased Rajah's) territories under the direct dominion of the Khalsa Government.

Afghanistan

1st October

A communication from Lieutenant Towgood Actg. Pay Mr. shews that the cash balance in the military chest at Cabool, on the 1st October, was Co's Rs. 9,04,790-14-5½.

Kelat-i-Ghilzye

23rd September

The Political Agent at Kelat-i-Ghilzye states that he had received confirmed reports of the return of Sultan Mahomed Khan to Kelat-i-Ghilzye. The ex-Chief is said to have spent the first night of his return at the house of one Northa Hossen Khan, in the valley of Dalounah, in the district of Peetao. From that place he was traced as far as Candahar, and his destination supposed to be the country of Martaza Khan Hazara, who moreover professes friendship for the British Government.

Bokhara-Herat

12th July

The Political Agent in Turkish Arabia reports that an Ambassador from Bokhara had arrived at Tehran to procure French Military instructors in

order to organize troops, and that he had been referred to the French Ambassador at Constantinople.

23rd July

The same officer further states that the French Consul and Persian Agent at Bagdad were working hard to establish a French Mission in Persia, and to facilitate the entrance of French agents into Bokhara and Herat.

Zamindawur—Nijrow – Furrah

8th October

A private communication from Cabool intimates that Yar Mahomed Khan had written to Meer Musjidee, the principal rebel chief in Nijrow, to hold out against the British, and that he (Yar Mahomed) was said to be advancing in force to Furrah.*

Zuo

22nd September & 8th October

With reference to the measures adopted for the subjugation of the refractory chiefs of Zuo, near Gurdez, and the destruction of their forts (vide News Letter No. 30, dt. 20th October) it is mentioned in a private communication, that the inhabitants of the place, who had paid their revenue, would not only stand and neuter, but afford us any assistance in their power, on account, perhaps, of their own feuds. The whole country appeared to respect the power of the British. The number of people occupying the forts was computed at 150 men, and it was believed that 300 men from the Judranees would be added to them. The prevalent opinion throughout the country was that nothing would tend more to establish Shah Shooja's authority; to prevent the people sheltering or countenancing plunderers, and to pave the way for future easy collections of the revenue, as the destruction of the Zuo forts.

Since the above was written, accounts from Cabool, up to the 8th October, have been received, stating that the refractory chief had surrendered; that the Zuo affair had satisfactorily terminated and that the forts would be demolished.

Scinde Upper

13th to 14th September

The following items are extracted from the Upper Scinde digest of Intelligence :—(1) 28 camp followers were murdered, it is said, near the Kooch lock Pass, who went thither to cut grass. These murders are committed mainly from the circumstances of the followers carrying considerable sums of money, and the miscreants to appear invariably to add murder

*This rumour wants confirmation. Yar Mahd's influence and strength in Herat is not sufficiently firm to admit of his risking such movements.

to robbery. (2) At a review of the detachment stationed at Mustong, the young Khan was present, & took considerable interest in the spectacle. He discovered great quickness in discerning the object of the various movements. (3) The detachment referred to was in good health on the date last quoted.

24th September

With regard to the relief of troops in Afghanistan, the Political Agent in Scinde states, that measures were in progress for the movement of H.M. 40th Foot., the 21st Regt. Bombay N.I. & 4 Guns (9 Pd) of the Bombay European Artillery to Candahar, to relieve 3 Bengal Regts., returning to India; of a detachment to Karachi, via Kelat and Soumeanee, consisting of the 4th Troop Bombay Horse Arty., 2 Companies H.In 40th Foot & 25 Madras Sappers and for the return of a wing of the 1st Bombay Cavalry to the Head Quarters of its regiment at Dessa & of the 20 Grenadier Regt. Bombay N.I. to Karachi, there to await the orders of the Govt. of Bombay as to its ultimate destination, also, for the completion of the wing of Her Majesty's 41st Foot from Karachi.

Kelat

Major Outram reports the investiture of Nusseer Khan, son of the late Mehrab Khan, in the Khanate of Kelat. The ceremony of the inauguration was performed in the presence of Major Outram, all the British officers, and the Sirdars of the young Khan. It was conducted with much eclat, and the Chief of Kelat appeared considerably affected on the occasion, even to tears. He expressed his gratitude to the British Govt. for the accomplishment of this happy event, which, he observed, was brought about through their friendly policy and assistance. The people acknowledged with joy the authority of their young prince evincing the most lively sympathy and satisfaction at the event.

The young Khan has entered into a treaty, acknowledging himself as a vassal of the Ruler of Cabool, and owing allegiance to His Majesty.

Indus Steam Navigation

30th August

The Commander of the Indus Steam Flotilla reports that, on the 17th of June last, the Steamer "Comet" was despatched from the river at the request of the Political Agent in Lower Scinde, and arrived at Hyderabad at noon on the 20th of the same month. On the 29th, their Highnesses the Ameers of Hyderabad, embarked on board the vessel, and proceeded to their Shikargahs, on a shooting excursion with whom she was employed, until the 8th July, on which day she returned to Hyderabad. On the 30th of July, the "Comet" was directed to proceed to Tatta for the purpose of receiving on board such passengers and stores as were waiting there for passage to

Hyderabad. She arrived at the latter place with Major Outram and 6 officers with followers and baggage on the 5th instant. On the 17th she commenced her upward voyage to Sukkur with Major Outram, and arrived on the 24th.

The "Satellite" steam boat left Tattah on the 22nd and Hyderabad on the 24th September last, and arrived at Sukkur on the 1st of Oct.

Colapore

15th September

From the Abstract of Proceedings in the Political Department of the Govt. of Bombay, it appears that a proclamation had been issued by the Colapore Durbar prohibiting the future performance of Suttee within its territories.

Shoa

19th July

Captn. Harris intimates that the Mission to Shoa under his charge, after having overcome the numerous difficulties of the way, arrived at Ali Amba, four miles from Ankobar.

Tedjoura

8th October

The Poll. Agent at Aden reports the murder of three of the servants of Mr. Hatchator, the Agent at Tedjoura, and the unfriendly conduct of the chief of that place towards our mission there.

Captain Haines has ordered a vessel of war to proceed forthwith to Tedjoura for the purpose of ascertaining who the perpetrators of the murder are, and to render the agent every assistance.

Persia

6th July

In a Precis of Intelligence furnished by him, the Political Agent in Turkish Arabia states that a Russian nobleman, who travelled with the French Consul General from Suez to Bombay, was charged with a special mission to Persia, by way of Cabool and Herat. By passing through India, he hoped to disarm suspicion.

31st August

Her Britannic Majesty's Minister at St. Petersburg states that Count Medem¹, late Russian Consul General in Egypt, was appointed Russian

1 *Count Medem* (or Medom) was Russian Minister at the Court of Persia. He visited Baghdad, Basra and Bushire, where local British agents kept a close watch on his movements and sent intelligence reports on his activities. In March 1842, the British in India advised the Shah about his intrigues in Afghanistan.

Minister at the Court of Persia, and that he was to proceed to his post about the beginning of September.

18th October

The Resident in the Persian Gulf reports, on the authority of the news letter at Shiraz, that the Persian force under Habeeb Doollah Khan, the Ameer-i-Topkhana, was defeated by a night attack made on his camp, near Lawur, on the borders of Kerman, by Aga Khan Mullatee. This Chief having, it is said, succeeded in obtaining reinforcements in Beloochistan, marched by the Loot road, and having, as before stated, fallen upon the Persian Camp; killed a great many, and took a greater number, prisoners. There is, however, much reason to believe from the subsequent arrival of Aga Khan at Candahar that this rumour is without any foundation.

Tehran

31st July

The Poll. Agent in Turkish Arabia writes that a Roman Catholic Patriarch named Owannees, a convert from the Armenians, and who has studied at Rome, and been lately appointed to the ecclesiastical superintendence of Roman Catholicism in Persia, is the present French Agent at Tehran.

The Navigation of the Euphrates

14th June

The Political Agent in Turkish Arabia states that Lieutt. Selbeg² was occupied in investigating the Karoon river.

Egypt

Steamers

15th September

The Abstract of Proceedings in the Poll. Department of the Govt. of Bombay, states that great readiness had been displayed by the Governor of Suez in rendering every assistance in his power to our steamers visiting that quarter.

The Government of Bombay has addressed a complimentary letter to His Highness, Mehemet Ali Pacha; conveying the acknowledgments of the British Government for the obliging and friendly conduct of his officer. A similar communication has also been addressed to the Governor of Suez.

Mysore

The Resident at Mysore states that the Canarese types of the Rajah of Mysore's printing press being considered very defective, His Highness had

² Lt. Selbeg (correct name, Selby) belonged to the British Indian Navy. In July 1842, he took part in an encounter with the Arabs.

sanctioned a new set of punches etc.; being prepared at his own expense, which, when completed, would, it was hoped, make the Canarese type equal to that of any other language; & has printed, at his own cost, some very useful elementary works in English & the vernacular & serves to take a deep interest in his free school & especially in the promotion of education generally.

Hyderabad

22nd October

The Rest. at Hyderabad states that the whole of the Nizam's country, towards the Company's frontier was perfectly quiet on the date cited, & that he had heard of no more levies of Arabs or other troops. The Rest. adds that the Nizam's Govt. were proceeding with the trial of above 200 prisoners who include, besides those taken at Buroorjee, several Mahratta Brahmins & others who had been recently employed as Agents at Hyderabad.

Indore

10th September

The Resident at Indore states that Naroo Brihnoo Apte³, Sooba of Malwa, proposed to Rajah Bhao through the medium of his vakeel that some effectual measures should be adopted to check the extortion of the Insurancers, who, when they lost any property of 50 Rs. value, laid the amount of their damages at 500 Rs. In consequence of this information, Raja Bhao ordered that it [should be publicly made known to all the Sahoo-kars in the city, that when sending money or goods which were insured, they should state the exact amount to the authorities, otherwise they would not be entitled to any compensation in the event of loss.

The Rt. Hon'ble the Govr. General has ordered the Malwa Bheel Corps to be located at Bhopwur, with outposts at Checulda & Tandla.

Meywar

13th to 19th September

The Poll. Diary of the Meywar Agency states that the Boondee people had entered into an agreement to refrain from committing any further acts of violence in the district of Jehaspore.

Munee-pore

27th September

The Poll. Agent at Munee-pore states that the Munee-pore Regent informed him that the three princes, Pubitur Sing, Pairaba, & Tribabunjeet Sing's brother intended to attack Munee-pore on the Dasserah festival (Vide News

³ *Naroo Brihnoo Apte* (Naru Vishnu) was Sindhia's agent at Indore.

Letter No. 29, dt. 11th Oct.). In consequence, of this intelligence, the Poll. Agent had written express to Captn. Lyons at Cachar, with a request to cause the three princes to be placed in confinement or under surveillance, in order to prevent their disturbing the peace of the country.

With reference to the above the Right Hon'ble the Govr. Genl. has ordered that Commissioner of Dacca to remove the princes to Dacca to be kept there in order to prevent their return to the hills without the knowledge & sanction of the British Govt. By later accounts it appears that they are now under surveillance, *en route* to Dacca.

N. E. Frontier

3rd to 9th October

An officer had been deputed to the Sidlee frontier to report on the state of affairs in the Doars to the Supdt. of Darjeeling and the Magistrate of Rungpore.

These two offices will shortly meet together to concert measures for putting a stop to the violence of the Booteahs on British subjects in their neighbourhood.

Nipal

1st to 15th October

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Nipal Diary of dates cited on the margin :—

1. Now that the Rani is no more, the Rajah's weak character is alleged to be attracting all kinds of persons round him who profess to be able to manage the British in war or in peace. H. Highness appears likely to such, to incline for he is all fraud, and already effects inability to arrange matters without his son's approval.

2. The Choantras were to be set at liberty when, it was believed, no further delay would take place in regard to the Ministerial arrangements of the coming year, though the Rajah's inveterate duplicity and habits of postponement and indecision encourage mischief makers still to perplex affairs by placards, rumours, and intrigues. The Premier, though at times, is staggered by these proceedings, yet on the whole, is said steadily and prudently to hold his way, and expected to be reappointed formally. His intentions in regard to the external and internal policy of the Govt. appeared alike commendable. Peace, good faith, and a respite from violence and frauds, both personal and political, are his aims, nor has the death of the Rani, the prop of his enemies, made him less prudent than before in regard to state affairs.

Burmah

The remainder of the 14 M. N. I. will embark on the 4th Nov. on the

“Stalkert” for Moulmein, and the remainder of the 47th B. N. I. about the same date on the H. Co.’s ship Amherst for Arracan—these completing within one month from the first requisition being received, the complete reinforcement of the Eastern Coast of the Bay; the further particulars of which have been fully detailed in former News Letters.

H. V. Bayley
Asstt. Secy. to the Govt. of India

Fort William,
1st Novr. 1841

(Ref :—Foreign Deptt. Misc. Vol. 334, pp. 567—608)

Newsletter 61 : November 10, 1841

(No. 32 of 1841)

N. W. Frontier

11th October

The foll. items of news are extracted from the Lahore Akhbar of dates cited.

1. Dewan Mootee Ram reported to the Darbar that disorders in the Eusofzyee country had been settled; that the collection (of revenue) had been resumed, and that all the Arbabs had submitted.

2. The battalion detached by Dewan Sawun Mall to Dera Ismael Khan, (Vide N. L. No. 31, dt. 1st Nov.) marched against Alladad Khan, who fled before it, and concealed himself.

3. A thousand rounds of balls & gun powder had been distributed to every gun in the Artillery Corps by Raja Dhian Sing's orders.

4. Aluf Shah, with seven sepoy, was ordered to accompany Dr. Jameson on his journey in the hills, & the Agent of the Chumba Chief was instructed by Raja Dhian Sing to attend to every requisition of Dr. Jameson while passing through Chumba. Orders were likewise issued to all the officers on the road to assist Dr. Jameson's passage through their respective districts.

13th October

5. The Maha Rajah, according to Raja Dhian Sing's suggestion, conferred on Genl. Court, the command of his former division, & of a regt. under Assan Sing, commandant, as well as of the Artillery under Imam Shah and the Akal and Ram Regts.

6. It is said that the officers of the troops in the Eusofzyees were going to erect a fort in Kohat.

15th October

7. Sirdar Amur Singh Mujeethia is in an order to proceed with his suwars into the Tank district, to protect the country, & to report regarding the construction of a fort by Futteh Shah Khurul.

8. The Maha Rajah ordered that 5,000 musquets and matchlocks should be prepared.

9. His Highness ordered it to be written to Mr. Clerk that

Zorawur Sing's brother had been despatched to deter that Chief from any aggressive acts.

10. Genl. Golab Sing Pohoovindeeah was promised the command of his troops again in C. shmere.

11. Rajah Dhian Sing observed to Bhaee Ram Sing that according to his loyal suggestions, he had written to Zorawur Singh to retire into the Ladakh country immediately, merely levying some small tribute on his newly acquired possessions, and to leave future arrangements regarding it to some other time, and to receive Lt. Cunningham very respectfully, that he had pointed out to the Vuzeer the impropriety of his encroachments, and desired him to act according to Lieutt. C's advice. The Bhaee in reply merely requested on the propriety of the cordiality with the British Government.

26th October

Mr. Clerk states that by the latest accounts he received from Lahore, there appeared to be no unusual excitement prevailing among the troops there althro' about the period of the Dusserha.

The Sikhs and the Chinese Tartars

20th October

The Governor General's Agent in the North West Frontier has written to Lieutenant Cunningham, deputed to Chinese Tartary, with the view of reporting on the movements of the Sikhs in that direction, stating that the Sikh, or Jammu rulers, are to be called on not to retain Zorawur Sing or any troops in advance of the Ladakh borders after the 10th of December, the period thus allotted being deemed sufficient to allow the Sikhs to withdraw with all convenience in compliance with the requisition of the British Government.

21st October

Lieutenant Cunningham writes that in his interview with the Raja of Bussahir and his Vuzeer, they expressed generally their apprehensions of the Sikhs and complained—(1st) that the portion of revenue due to them from the village of Mauning, in the Pergunnah of Dimkur, in Spiti, had recently been refused, as they believed, at the instigation of the Sikhs. (2d) That certain inhabitants of Kumawur proceeding on their annual journey to the neighbourhood of Garoo (Gartope) to purchase wool, & c. had been plundered and murdered by the Sikhs at Tholing, and also at another place near the Bootpao Pass between the Indus and the Sutlej. (3d) That two Sikh messengers had arrived at Rampore, with letters from Raja Dhian Sing or Raja Golab Sing demanding a daughter of the Raja's (Mohindur Sing) in marriage for one of their sons, and threatening, in case of refusal, to seize the Trans-Sutlej possessions of Bussahir (4th) that their

agents at Shalkur had reported that Zorawur Sing had given out that the Kumawur district, as far as Cheenee, was properly a part of China (Ladakh) and that it would be occupied by the Sikhs.*

Lt. C. further states that in his conversations with the Raja, his Vuzeer and others, he ascertained the following circumstances relating to the progress of the Sikhs in Thibet. 1st. After the conquest and settlement of the affairs of Iskardo, the district of Rohtuck was invaded, and the fort taken about the beginning of June last. Chooret and other places then fell, and in July Garoo was occupied. The Sikhs are now in possession of Tuklakote (on the Gagra) to the south of the Mantulloo.** They allege that they occupy these countries as part of the Kingdom of Ladakh, which extends, they say, as far as the valley of Maighil, four or five marches to the east of the lake. (2) The Sikhs have small forts at Rohtuck, Chooret, Tasheegong, Garoo and Tuklakote, and their parties, before stationed in Ghuprung and Tholing, are said to have been removed towards the lakes. Chooret is one march only to the north of Shalkur, it is in the pergunnah of Lumghil, and the Pergunnah of Chomoorta, which includes Chooret, appears to be beyond Lumghil towards the Indus. (3) Zorawur Sing has four or five thousand men in all with him, chiefly Kishwarees, Ludakhees and men of Iskardo. He has also, it is said, five or six small guns, probably Ginjals, which can be carried by men or on mules. (4) He is said to have with him the present Vuzeer of Ladakh—the dispossessed Raja of Iskardo, the brother of the Raja placed by the Sikhs on the Ladakh Guddee, and Goolum Khan, the son-in-law of Ruheem Khan, the killadar of Dunker in Spiti. (5) All trade especially in shawl wool to the Company's provinces was at a stand still and had been prohibited. (6) Zorawur Sing himself was in the Pergunnah of Proontz near the lake; he had the Governor of Garoo and the killadars of Chuprung and of Proontz prisoners in that fort.

Peshawur

From the Peshawur intelligence it appears that on the 23rd September the Ooloos having collected together came upon the Sikhs, who were all in a stockade, and who fired from within their cover. The Ooloos having charged seven times up to the stockade, & making no impression on them, were drawn back, & being totally defeated, took to flight & disappeared. After this affair, the Sikh force having come to the village of Shewah, encamped, & from thence sent the Sowars after the Ooloos to surprize them; but the Ooloos, collecting, came to meet the Sikhs; a fight ensued, & many on both sides were killed & wounded. The Sikhs were thrown into disorder & returned to their encampment.

Candahar

3rd October

With regard to the distribution and relief of the troops serving in

* These complaints of Bussahir must be received as ex-parte statements. But much of them are founded on facts.

** Mansorwur Lake.

Afghanistan, the Brigadier Commdg. Scinde Force states that he ordered the troops detailed

Head Quarter's 4 Guns (9 Pounders)

3rd. Campy. 1st Bn. European Arty. with Horses.

1 Rissala 1st Beng. Local Horse H.M. 400 Regt.

in the margin
to march on to
Candahar without
delay.

The two remaining rissalahs of the 1st Bengal local horse were under orders to march to the same place about the 18th Octr.

13th December

A private Lt. from Cabool mentions that Lt. John Conolly, with the son of Shah Soojah's minister, and some Janbaz, made a "Chupao" upon Akram Khan, a notorious rebel in the Candahar district, and effected his seizure with three of his associates, after a march of sixty miles over a most difficult country, and while the rebels were encamped in a fort. Akram Khan was betrayed by one of his associates.

The Eastern Ghilzyes

13th October

A private letter from Cabool states that some rebel Ghilzyes, having occupied, in large numbers, the pass of Khurd Cabool, 10 miles distant from Cabool, Genl. Sale deemed it expedient to dislodge them from the place. To effect this, the 13th Lt. Infy. and the 35 N.I. were employed. They succeeded in forcing the pass, with the loss of about twenty killed and wounded. Genl. Sale is said to be severely wounded in the leg; Captn. Younghusband is wounded in the same place and Lts. Combs¹, Oakes and Mayne² are also wounded, the last named, it is feared, mortally. The 35th with 2 guns, remained on the other side of the pass and the 13th returned to Boot Khak. Every chief has his rival and enemy, and the efforts of the rebels to raise the surrounding tribes were utterly unavailing, and the Khurd Cabool pass was, shortly after, entirely clear of the enemy, the Chiefs of whom were seen retreating and venting angry expressions against their confederates for not joining them.

Gundamuck

17th October

The Poll. Agt. at Peshawur writes that affairs between Gundamuck and Cabool were becoming somewhat more settled. The same officer reports the death of Khan Bahadoor Khan, Malik of the Malik Din Kheil tribe of the Afridees.

1 Lt. Combs, a gunner, attached to Shah Shuja's force, held charge of two heavy field guns.

2 Lt. Mayne, attached to the Army of Indus, under the command of General Sale. He was mortally wounded while clearing the pass of Khurd Kabul (ten miles from Kabul) which had been blocked by the Ghilzais.

Fagan

13th October

The Poll. Agt. at Peshawur reports that a party of 300 Hazirbash, or orderly troops, under a European officer, and with Mahomed Azim Khan, had, it is said, invested a fort of Khoda Buksh Khan's, reputed to be a strong place, near Fagan. A desultory firing was kept up in the fort till evening, when a party of a thousand men from Fagan came to the relief of the garrison. An engagement took place between them and the Hazirbash, in which the latter are said to have suffered a good deal. Mahomed Azim Khan himself is reported to have been wounded, and to have retired with his party into Laghman, not being able to make his way back to Cabool.

Scinde Upper

2nd September

Major Outram, in his Digest of Intelligence, states that the 25th Regt. and Detachment of Artillery, heretofore, stationed at Kelat had marched *en route* to Moostung. With regard to the investiture of Nusseer Khan in the Khanate of Kelat (vide News Letter No. 31 of 1st Novr.) Major O. writes that H. H. agreed to every article of the treaty prepared by the Major for his approval & signed both copies of it, applying the sign by his own hand. The sickness at Quetta is said to be gradually abating, the last returns dated 3rd Octr. give—

	Sick	Commodement	Total
H.M. 40th Regt.	109	40	149
20th Regt. N.I.	81	„	81
21st Regt. N.I.	166	„	166
	Grand Total		396

3rd October

The Officer Commanding Scinde Force reports that the 4 troops of Horse Artillery marched on the 28 Septr. from Quetta *en route* to Soumeeanee & Kurachee, where it was expected to arrive about the middle of Novr. The left wing, 1st Lt. Cavalry was ordered to join its Head Quarters at Deesana via Jeslmere, if the state of the local rains rendered that route practicable, otherwise by the left bank of the Indus & Northern border of the river. The 2d Grenr Regt. has been ordered to Karachee by water, there to await orders. Brigr. England expected to send the 5th Compy. of Golundauze also by water to Kurachee. These arrangements would, it was hoped, complete the relief or withdrawal, from Scinde & Afghanistan, of every portions of the Scinde force which served in the latter campaign, or arrived in Scinde in the years 1838 & 1839, with the exception of the 3d Company 1st Battn. Artillery & H. M. 40th Regt.

12th October

Major Outram contemplated sending the detachments of the 3d Light Cavalry from Sukkur via Jessulmere & Balmere to Deesa. The detachment proceeding from Quetta via Soumeanee, was expected at Kelat on the 12th Oct.

Two Sirdars named Gazee Khan Bungulzye & Shere Dil Khan Sherree, who were deputed by Meer Nusseer Khan, to accompany Captn. Boyd to examine & survey the passes leading direct into the Bolan, having afforded that officer, material assistance in the accomplishment of the object of his deputations, and in the most kind and friendly way, Major Outram presented to each of them, in the presence of the young Khan, a loongy and 100 Rs. as a reward for their exemplary conduct.

16th October

Major Outram reports the capture of the actual murderer of the late Lieutt. Loveday, the name of the man is Kaissoo, who confessed that he was the sole and uninstigated perpetrator of the deed, & that he did it in a moment of excitement caused by the loss of some relatives in the action that took place just previously.

Scinde Lower

11th to 17th October

From the Poll. Diary of the Lower Scinde Agency of dates quoted, it appears that Brigr. Farquharson,³ Commanding in Lower Scinde, had made a requisition for the steamers "Satellite", "Planet" & "Comet" at Tattah early in November for the conveyance of troops.

12th to 17th October

From the Digest of Lower Scinde Intelligence it appears that Their Highnesses Meers, Meer Mahomed, Nusseer Mahomed, & Shadad Khan, have entered into a compact, which was duly sealed and sworn to by them, to the effect that they would abide by each other in opposition to Meers Sobdar and Hossein Alli Khans & the Nawab Ahmed Khan. Their Highnessess make it appear that they found this step necessary from the threatening bearing of the Chiefs last named, these bickerings among the Ameers have caused a feeling of uncertainty among the people.

The price of grain is said to have falled⁴, but there was a great scarcity of forage in Scinde up to the date last cited.

Aden

10th October

In consequence of the discretionary power vested in the Poll. Agt. at

3 *Brig. Farquharson* (later Major General) held command of British forces at Karachi in 1840. The following year he was given command of Lower Sind for a short while until he retired and was relieved by Major Outram (October 1841).

4 *falled*—should read fallen.

Aden by the Govt. of Bombay to surprize and destroy the post erected by the hostile Arabs at Shaikh Ottewan and other posts in the immediate vicinity of Aden, that officer sent, through Coll. Croker C. B., Comg. **the Aden Force**, a detail of troops consisting of 300 Europeans and 200 Natives, with a gun and 80 Arty. men, under the command of Lt. Coll. Orungaick of the 17th Regt. to effect these objects. On arriving at Shaikh Mehadee, the place was found deserted; the Sultan's tower was however ordered to be destroyed, which was speedily and effectually done with gun powder. The force next reached Shaik Otteman and attacked and repulsed the Arabs, who are said to have suffered a severe loss there. After this the tower, usually occupied by the Arab guard there, was directed to be destroyed, which was effected in the same manner as at Shaikh Mahdee. In these engagements, the troops are stated to have displayed much gallantry and performed their duties with great cheerfulness. One officer and four privates were wounded in this affair. One of the latter has since died of *coup-de-soleil*. Captn. Haines has been instructed by the Govt. of Bombay to come to an understanding on honorable terms with the Sultan, should he seem disposed to make overtures of peace to the British.

The French Consul at Jeddah, M. Fresuel, is reported to have left that place.

Persia

16th June

Her Majesty's Charge d' affaires in Persia states his having received a letter from the Persian Minister for Foreign Affairs in which much anxiety is expressed for the re-establishment of a British Mission in Persia.

2nd July

In a letter of a subsequent date, the Charge d' affaires mentions that one cause of this anxiety is the conviction that the Persian Court has begun to feel that the cessation of relations with England is enabling Russia to establish gradually a domination from which emancipation would be difficult.

Kerman

17th May

Her Majesty's Charge d' affaires in Persia states that orders had been received in Tabreez for the immediate preparation and despatch to Tehran of six regiments of infantry, and 500 artillery men. A force of 20,000 men and 20 guns was under preparation at Tehran, ostensibly for the purpose of proceeding to Kerman to suppress the rebellion of Aga Khan. For results of this expedition see News Letter No. 31, dated the 1st Novr. 1841.

Abyssinia

18th August

The Poll. Agent in Turkish Arabia states that the French, desiring to

form a station in Abyssinia, had landed on points on the coast, arms and ammunitions of war from their merchant vessels.

Eddu

Amphila

2nd July

The Officer Commanding the H.Co's schooner "Constance", and who made a recent visit to Mussowah, states that the French have purchased Eddu and some extent of coast on each side of it, comprizing more than one protected anchorage—1800 Dollars are said to have been paid down, and 500 more promised by the purchasers. The same officer adds, "so much of the French plans regarding Amphila is current among the people, as that they intended to buiid houses, and to have a fort and vessels of war in these seas."

N. W. Provinces

27th September to 3rd October

From the Political Diary of the Sougor & Nurbunddah Agency it appears that a proclamation had been issued at Rewah prohibiting the custom of putting female children to death among the people of Kirchorakur and Purchar tribes.

Indore

28th June to 14th July

From the Political Diary of the Indore Residency of dates quoted, it appears that various effectual measures were being successfully carried out with a view to the suppression of Bheel & other plunderers.

Muneepore

Orders have been issued to Brigr. Littler, Comdg. N.E.F. Sylhet, to detach as many companies of the Sylhet Lt. Infantry corps as can be spared, to Muneepore, to be posted there for the defence of that valley if necessary & for any other operations which may be judged expedient. It is thought desirable that this detachment should be accompanied by artillery; but if the state of the roads renders the transport of guns, a work of much difficulty it is proposed that detail of Artillery men should go with the detachment as they can be furnished with field pieces belonging to the state of Muneepore.

The Brigadier has also been further directed to move the Reg. of N.I. at Sylhet in advance to such a position as he may select near Banshander or Luckeepore. These movements are to be made in communication with the local political authorities.

Burmah

30th October

A private letter from Moulmein states that though matters were quiet

at Rangoon yet a great deal of excitement existed there on the date quoted. The British Residents and others had been obliged to discontinue going out, both from a fear of getting into any dispute with the people and also from its being whispered that they went to spy His Majesty's proceedings for the purpose of reporting them to the British authorities at Moulmein. The streets, it is said, overcrowded with soldiers and chiefs, horses and elephants; and armed men were scattered about in every direction. The King is said to be well-pleased with the situation of his palace, and the country surrounding the Pagoda, and was removing the town there. It was to be enclosed by an earthen and brick embankment of $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles in circumference. This work was going on and the King was strengthening and fortifying the great Pagoda and mounting cannon on the walls. It is rumoured that 50 war boats have been sent in great haste towards the capital in consequence of some insurrection that has broken out. It is said that the Prince of Pakhan was about to pay Martaban a visit, and that preparations were making along the road for his journey. Bodies of armed men were stationed at some of the principal villages between Martaban and Rangoon. These are said not to belong to the party of the King.

Another private communication of the same date as the foregoing intimates that the whole of the guns had been removed from the Rangoon wharf and stockade, to the palace. To the new town, already referred to, 70 guns had been brought from Ava, and about 70 more from Rangoon. Those from the former place are said to be field pieces, mostly brass.*

31st October

The Commissioner in the Tenasserim Provinces in a public letter states that there was no indication at Rangoon of any march of the King's troops in the direction of Moulmein, and that the rumour of his designing to attack our provinces appeared to have very much subsided.

Another private communication states a report that after the completion of the embankment of the new town, H. Majesty was to return to the capital towards the end of Novr.**

Nipal

17th October

The Nipal Diary contains the following :—

1. It is said that Rambano Thappa, a most active Agent of mischief, was in prison and would be fully punished on conviction.
2. The hostile faction at Court is alleged to retain its insolence and some of its secret influence.

*Many of these are old Dutch and French pieces of small calibre.

**This rumour is mentioned also in a communication from Munipore.

18th October

3. Placards continued to be put up, abusive of the Ministry tho' not so frequently as heretofore.

4. Nothing was doing in the way of business, on account of the Dussehra; but the Dasin being an auspicious day for a beginning, the premier was reinvested. His leniency and easiness are much complained of by his friends as being excessive.

5. The Rajah has again betaken himself, it is said, to the apartments of the Chotee Rani, who, it is presumed, will become senior Queen, and more or less influential. She is said to bear a good character, and the people appear to draw good omens from her expected influence.

27th October

6. The Kala Pandeyas are said to have lost all hope since Futteh Jung was reinvested.

7. The Misr Gooroo had a secret audience of the Rajah.

8. The Rajah is said to take a more decided interest than ever in the contest between the Chinese and the English.

9. The Ladakh envoys were still in Nipal.

10. Great efforts were making to secure Raj Bullub, the extortioner and torturer of our subjects in Tirhoot.

11. The Rajah had ordered enquiry to be made as to how small a sum a soldier could subsist upon.

Fort William,
The 10th November 1841

H. V. Bayley
Asstt. Secy. to the Govt. of India

(Ref :—Foreign Deptt. Miscellaneous, Vol. 334, pp. 609-659)

Newsletter 62 : November 20, 1841

(No. 33 of 1841)

North West Frontier

21st October

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Akhbar of dates marginally noted :—

1. From the Hazara news it appeared that Raja Goolab Sing had appointed his own officers to the different forts and districts there, to the entire exclusion of the old Khalsa officers, that he had called on the latter to give in their accounts, that the Raja's thannas were also placed in all the forts of Payundeh Khan; that the people were trembling through fear of the Rajah; that the Chiefs of the Arbabs, who had never acknowledged subjection to any body, were now voluntarily coming to pay tribute; that revenues were fully collected from Hazara, as well as Rawul Pindee; and that the Rajah wishes to continue his own officers in the forts, and had ordered the collection of ammunition in all the forts on the frontier.

2. General Mehtab Sing reported from Ramnuggur that the troops there were conducting themselves mutinously towards him.

23rd October

Fukeer Azeezodeen observed that Mr. Clerk had several times written to the Durbar on the subject of Vuzeer Zorawur Singh's proceedings. Rajah Dhian Sing replied that Zorawur Singh was quite ignorant of the rules of the treaties between the two Governments; that he would no longer dare to infringe them; that two servants deputed by the Durbar would wait on Lieutt. Cunningham in Bussahir, that they would supply him with every necessity on his crossing the Sulej, that the Vuzeer would also attend on him, shew him every place and give true explanation on every subject, and that he (Zorawur Sing) would no longer retain Garoo since all the "Khalsa" were displeased with the Rajas for provoking a war with the British Govt. by violating the territories of their dependants. Rajah Dhian Sing observed to the Bhaees, Ram Singh and Golab Sing, that he had directed Vuzeer Zorawur Singh to return to Ladakh and give up all his late acquisitions before the arrival of Lt. Cunningham in that quarter. The Bhaees remarked, that had he first prevented the Vuzeer from making such encroachments, these discussions would not have occurred, nor would Lieutt. C. have

been deputed, nor would Mr. Clerk have written to the Durbar on the subject in the way he had.

4. General Mehtab Singh Mujeethia reported from Ram Nuggur that he had given his gold bracelets and the greater part of the property, he had with him, to the troops to pacify them, and had begged their pardon. He was desired to humour the troops, and that Khiljuts would be afterwards sent to the officers.

5. The following disposition of the troops was to be made in the Punjab.

Troops to be despatched to Ram Nuggur and Bar of Doola Bhattee—

- 4 Battalions of Genl. Mehtab Sing
- 1 —do— of Genl. Avitable
- 2 Battalions of Coll. Courtland
- 2 —do— of John Homes¹

Troops at Amritsur

- 4 Battalions of General Pertaub Sing
- 2 —do— under Bishen
- 2 —do— of late Genl. Ameer Singh Maun
- 1 Huzzooree Regiment
- Ghor Cherah Horse 1,000 men
- Rajah Heera Singh's —do— 1,500 men
- Churyaree —do— 1,000 "
- Orderly —do— 2,500 "
- Ram Guryas &
Missuldars —do— 2,200 "

Troops at Lahore

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Under Genl.
Court | } | 3 Battalions of Genl. Court |
| | | 1 —do— of Assar Singh Commandant |
| | | 1 Regt. of Cavalry, called Ram Regiment |
| | | 1 —do— Akali Regiment |
| | | 7 Guns of the General's corps |
| | | 21 Guns of Genl. Imam Shah's party. |
| Under Dewan
Ajoodhia
Pershad | } | 3 Battns. of General Ventura |
| | | 1 —do— of Goorkhas |
| | | 1 Dragoon Regt. Cavalry —700 men |
| | | 1 Cuirassier Regt. under Mr. Monton ² —700 |
| | | (39 Guns of Ilahee Buksh's Artillery |
| | | (15 —do— of Ameer Chund Tollee |

-
1. *Capt. J. Homes* of 12 Bombay Native Infantry who subsequently (1846) rose to be commander of 2nd Baluch battalion.
 2. *Col. Monton* entered service in the Sikh Army under Maharaja Ranjit Singh; he was murdered by mutinous Sikh soldiers in April 1841.

- 2 battns. under Dhunkil Singh
- 2 —do— „ Colonel Jowala Singh
- 1 Sheer Regt. under de Lal Roche : 500 men

Sowars under Sham Singh of Attaree 1,000; 80 guns under Genl. Soodh Singh, Kishen Sing, Sheo Pershad and Meera Singh, Teij Singh and Lehna Singh Mujeethia.

29 Guns and 2 mortars under Sooltan Mahomed

19 Zumboorucks — (wall pieces)

Troops at Shahdurah

Churyaree Horse	1,000 men
Sepahees with Kowajah	
Mahomed Khan Barickzye	300 "

25th October

The Raja proposed to take the command of all the troops upon himself, observing that the late Maha Rajah having given independent command of the several battalions to each of their respective officers, the latter had in fact begun to consider the troops as their own, and this had upset all discipline, that General Ventura having been allowed only one month's leave of absence, had not yet returned & that, therefore, his division should be placed under Rae Kisree Sing's command.

7. Bukshee Bhuggut Ram³ being asked as to the number of mounted guns, replied that 209 pieces were ready for service, and the Maha Rajah proposed to prepare 100 pieces more.

8. Vuzeer Zorawur Sing is said to have reported to Raja Dhian Sing that he had conquered forts and territory to the extent of 150 miles from Ladakh, and that were two battalions and 4 Guns to be sent to his aid, he would capture Yarkund.

26th October

9. Orders were issued to Rajah Goolab Sing to dismiss any Soat Boneir Agents from his camp v. Tripartite Treaty, to prevent them from coming to Lahore, to be kind to Mokrib Khan, and to attend at Lahore with all his troops.

10. The officer of the Troops at Amritsur reported that they plainly saw that the Maha Rajah had distrusted them, and that this had dissolved all ties between Servant and Master. From news from the town it appeared

3 *Bukshee Bhuggut Ram* (Bakshi Bhagat Ram) son of Baisakhi Ram, a goldsmith of Lahore, started his career as a 'mohairir' (octroi-collector) but rose to be the Assistant Accountant of the Royal Treasury of Maharaja Ranjit Singh in 1824. Subsequently he was transferred to the military cadre and became commander. He outlived the Maharaja and continued to serve the Lahore Darbar as honestly and efficiently as before.

that the troops were dissatisfied and had abused the Rajas i.e., the Jummoo Rajas. The Maha Raja desired Raja Dhian Sing to take care of the capital, to guard it with his hill troops and proposed to go himself with Raja Soocheit Sing by dak to review and pacify the troops at Amritsur.

3rd November

The Governor General's Agent on the N. W. Frontier states that the Dussera passed off without disturbance, but the measures, which the Minister had recourse to for preventing it, had tended to increase the dissatisfaction of the army, and to raise their voices still louder against him.

Kooloo

3rd November

Mr. Clerk states that up to the date cited in the margin nothing seemed to be settled in regard to the Kooloo succession on that side of the Sutlej, and nothing for certain was known as to the heirs of this. The conduct of Koopooroo Vizeer, however, has been as such as only the greatest confidence in the support of the British Govt. could divest of imprudence. He refused to visit or hold any communication with the Lahore Sirdar Lehna Singh Mujeethia, and hoped that by keeping matter in an unsettled state & the people's mind in a ferment for some time the longer, i.e., till the snow were free, he would either compel the Sikhs to withdraw, or disable them from contending with the "Moolkeeahs" or the peasantry.

Punjtär

3rd December

The Poll. Agent at Peshawar states that the Sikh troops in the Eusofzye territory, in chastising the "Ooloos" for their late rebellion, had followed up their success against the "Ghazi" headed by Mocarib Khan, by making a "Chapao" in Punjtär the capital of that chief. In the chapao, the Sikhs met with no opposition, and the general belief appeared to be that Mocarib Khan was induced by his friend Arsala Khan to vacate Punjtär on receiving a large money consideration which Arsala Khan was authorised by Rajah Golab Sing to pay to the first-named Chief. The Sikhs are said to have made no stay at Punjtär, but turned to their camp outside the hills in the plains about 10 miles from Punjtär. It is understood that they were waiting at Toolandi, having demanded from Mocarib Khan the restitution of the guns and property taken from the Sikhs by the tribes under his command. Mocarib Khan, it is said, refused to render up anything and was preparing for another attack on the Sikh chauki at Toolandi.

3rd November

Mr. Clerk in a subsequent letter reports that Punjtär had again been subjected by the Sikhs as in 1837, and that their tenure of it would probably be as short as was Runjeet Sing's on that occasion.

Upper Sinde

9th October

Lieutt. Postans intimates that the Murrees had descended into the country beyond Lehree, and had committed various excesses and violences on the inhabitants in that direction. A private letter from Major Outram received this day states that that officer had successfully taken some preliminary measures, which, he was sanguine, would result in effectually putting a stop to the state of things in the Murree country, above described.

7th to 21st October

The digest of Upper Scinde intelligence of dates quoted in the margin contains the following items of intelligence :—

1. Major Outram left Kelat on the 15th October.
2. Nusseer Khan was to leave that place on the 21st October accompanied by Colonel Stay by a different route, and was to join the Major at Sir-i-Balan.
3. The troops proceeding below the passes from Moostung and Quettah, having united at Sir-i-Ab, were to march to Sir-i-Bolan on the night of the 21st October.
4. The sickness among the troops at Quetta had very greatly abated, though it was severe in Major Outram's camps.

Major Outram writes that not a single robbery or murder had occurred at Quetta or in the valley of Shawl since the enforcement of the measure of rendering the Zemindars responsible, and the introduction of other improvements in the system of police of the district by Lieutt. Hammersley.

Scinde Lower

21st to 31st October

The precis of Intelligence from Lower Scinde dates as per margin contains the following :—

1. Left wing of the 1st Light Cavalry was to commence its march to Deesa, via Jesulmere, on the morning of the 25 Oct. The cavalry were ordered to march from Roree on the 27th and the left wing of the 23rd Regiment Light Infy. was in^{3a} orders to proceed to Kurachee under Captn. Watkins, as soon as tonnage was available.
2. Meer Roostum Khan was requested to afford every assistance he could to the troops marching through his territory.

The Satellite Steamers, arrived at Sukkur on the 30th Octr. with 1 Jemadar, 4 Havalgars, 4 Naiks & 180 rank and File, and recruits for the 20th, 22nd & 25th Regiments. Captn. Watkins is said to have embarked on the "Satellite" with 200 men of his Regiment, the 23rd, for Tattah, *en route* to Bombay.

^{3a} Should read 'under' not 'in' orders.

Aden

2nd October

The Political Agent at Aden states that the attempt made on the British outworks by the Arabs, on the 11th of September (vide. News Letter No. 30, dt. 20th Oct.) and the reception they met with, caused a division in their councils for a time. Instead of resolutely attacking Aden in force, the Arabs contented themselves with preventing all supplies from entering the town, which they succeeded in doing, until the Poll. Agent diverted the attention of the Fondthelee chief from the Aden Roads, to the security of his own villages, by dispatching the H.C.'s 10 gun Frig. "Euphrates" to blockade his coast, by which manoeuvre the British obtained a Kafila of 380 camels of supplies; and on the 26th, another Kafila fought their way in successfully, with the loss of one man killed, and four severely wounded, killing and wounding about an equal number of Fondthelees, who, under Sultan Fuzzle had arrived and secreted themselves at Khan Miksa in the early part of the night to waylay them. No supplies had entered Aden by land since the 26th Oct; but the sea was open for all the small trading boats which arrived daily. Fresh meat was very abundant, and the boats from the Eastwd., had commenced bringing in grass and sheep; and from the Westward, fowls, limes, vegetables and other necessaries. Sultan Hamed Abdulla Fondthelee and his tribe, were to return to our frontier about the 3d. Oct. and during his absence, the laborers at Sheikh Otteman⁴, and the vicinity were preparing baked bricks of clay, to continue the new fortifications at Bin Zed, Sultan Md. Houssain Fondthelee Abdhallee having secretly given his consent to the measure. On the 1st of Octr., Sultan Nassur Fondthelee, with 9 horse-men and 60 mounted camel-men, arrived at Sheikh Othman, where they remained to assist a party of the Adallee tribe, in preventing a very large Kafila, which the Poll. Agent sent on the 26th Sept. to Sayd Md. Houssain, to collect and to force their way in. There had been matchlock firing near the jungle for 2 hours, on the 2d. Octr., which led the Agent to conclude that the Kafila had made an unsuccessful attempt to pass the guard.

Sheriff Houssain bin Ali Hyder had removed 13 guns (7 Iron and 6 Brass) from Mocha to Aloo Aush, which town he had considerably strengthened by a wall and towers, and during the approaching family marriage, he had relieved Sheriff Hamood from the Govt. of Mocha by Sheriff Mohd. Jevegger.

4 *Sheikh Otteman*, a village near Aden, situated about six miles beyond the isthmus. It commanded all roads leading to Aden and was purchased by the British from the Sultan of Lahej for a consideration. The Abdali and Fudhli tribals of the adjoining areas felt sore over a British military pocket in their midst and continued to harass their detachments stationed here. At least twice—once in 1841 and again in 1858—they nearly overran the local British garrison and had to be repulsed with a considerable loss of life on both sides.

Shoa⁵

17th September

The Poll. Agent at Aden reports that Captn. Harris of the Engrs. reached Shoa on the 18th of July. The whole party was in good health. His first visit to the King of Shoa was to take place on the 23d. of the same month. His reception, on the whole, was favorable, though a French messenger by the Tygre route had forwarded a letter with presents a few days before his arrival.

Hyderabad

17th to 23rd October

From the Political Diary of the Resident at the Nizam's Court it appears that His Highness ordered 200 Arabs and 25 sowars of the party, under Bin Shams to be discharged.

11th November

The Resident at Nagpore reports that a person calling himself Appa Shaib had collected a body of armed followers near Mohore in the jungles on the Payne Gunga in the Nizam's country, variously stated to amount to from 400 to 4,000, with avowed intention of proceeding to Chanda in His Highness the Rajah of Nagpore's country. They appear to have attacked the village of Koorlie in the Kelapore pergunnah, wounded two persons, and put in irons 4, from whom they demanded 10,000 rupees.

Brigadier Raynsford⁶ of the Nizam's service has moved against the armed body, and Brigadier Tweenlow of the same service was to cooperate with him. As a precautionary measure, the Resident has requested the officer commanding the Nagpore subsidiary force to hold in readiness a detachment to move on the shortest notice, should its services be required. On his own part His Highness, the Rajah of Nagpore, had reinforced the Chanda detachment which is said to be thus of the strength noted in the margin.* The horse was to be posted near the

* 2 Guns
500 Horsemen
450 Infantry

} Wurdah, to act according to circumstances. A second detachment of His Highness's troops, consisting of Infantry,

were to be in position on the Wurdah not far from Natchinaon.

to 5th October

From the Political Diary of the Haraotee Agency it appears that the Rao Rajah of Boondee has assured the Political Agent that every means

5 *Shoa*, an important principality in southern Abyssinia, whose ruler, Sahela Selassie, expressed a desire (1840) to cultivate friendly relations with the British. A year later, a commercial treaty was signed with him.

6 *Brig. Raynsford* (Raymsford) of the Army of the Nizam of Hyderabad, expired in August 1842.

would be adopted to prevent disturbances taking place between his people and those of Jahazpore.

The same Political Diary states that the Maha Rao of Kotah being fearful of active strife between the Maha Rajah Katowbe and Gayenta, had sent some of his troops to preserve the peace between them. The Political Agent had directed that the troops should limit their operations to the object mentioned.

North East Frontier

10th to 16th October

From the Political Diary of the N. E. Frontier it appears that Captain Jenkins had written to the Rajah of Cooch Behar desiring him to send a Mooktear to the frontier to meet the Supt. of Darjeeling and the magistrate of Rungpore, in order to set on foot an inquiry into the aggressions committed by the Booteahs on that frontier.

China

See Gazette of the date.

H. V. BAYLEY
Asstt. Secy. to the Govt. of
India.

Fort William
The 20th November 1841

(Ref :—Foreign Deptt. Miscellaneous, Vol. 334, pp. 660-690).

Newsletter 63 : December 1, 1841

(No. 34 of 1844)

The Sikhs and the Raja of Bussahir

10th November

Mr. Clerk states that the Lahore Durbar, with reference to the fact of the Sikh authorities withholding the Raja of Bussahir's dues from the village called Maning in pergunnah Dunkin, and killing five traders, his subjects, and otherwise molesting the trade carried on by Bussahir people with Thibet, has issued orders to the Sikh Agents, deputed to attend on Lieutt. Cunningham, to inquire into these complaints, and to redress them in a manner satisfactory to that officer.

The Sikhs and the Chinese Tartars

11th November 1841

A report received by the Commissioner of Kumaon from the Boaris Putwarry, of date the 24th Octr., communicates the intelligence of Zorawur Sing having left Tuklakote with the main body of his army, and being, up to the date quoted, encamped near the Mansurawar Lake, three days' journey from the former place. A guard, however, of 150 or 200 men had been left behind at or near Tuklakote by the Sikh leader. The same report adds that the trade of our Baris and Dama people had been reopened and prosecuted as far as the supply of salt would admit.

12th November

Mr. Hodgson writes that on one occasion the Raja of Nipal told him before all his Chiefs that his Vakeel at Lassa had reported the march of 4,000 troops at two different times to relieve Nari—the first time 2,500 and the second 1,500. The Nipalese chiefs, and especially the Premier, however, looked incredulous at this announcement. "But", says Mr. Hodgson, "it must be added on the other side, that my secret intelligencers confirm the Raja's assertion in part, and state that 1,500 troops including 100 Asst. China, or Tartars have actually been despatched from Lassa with orders to remove the intruders (Zorawur Singh and his followers) by negotiations, if possible, if not, by force.

The Maha Raja, according to Mr. Hodgson, continues much disposed to secret dealings with Zorawur Singh. But the Ministry are wholly averse to this proceedings, and were determined to put a stop to them sooner or later.

19th November

A private letter from Kumaon states that Zorawur Sing left Munsarowur for Gartope with his whole force on the 6th Novr. The Honias have taken possession of Tuklakote and hoped, before the passes were quite shut, to open some trade with our Bhooteas. A Thibetan force of four or five thousand men is said to have assembled somewhere near the Kylas mountains, a march or two N. E. of the lakes. Zorawur Sing sent them word that he would give up all Heoondes lying east of Gartope, and keep all the country west of that place. He received for answer, "You seized Ladakh and we remained silent, you become bold in consequence and took possession of Gartope and Tuklakote. If you desire peace, give up Ladakh and go down to your own country". Zorawur Sing gave out in his camp, "We must play fast and loose with the Thibetans, until we reach Ladakh, there we shall fight and chastise them—after which I shall move back and take 'Lhassa' for which Golab Sing has a force ready." It is mentioned on the spot that now the Goorkhas pretend to attach themselves to the Hoonias, and to be opposed to Zorawur Sing, tho' a belief prevails that they are, in heart, joined to the Sikh cause. It is rumoured that there was some stir in "Dotee", and that troops were being marched about thence against the Sikhs.

Afghanistan

22nd November

A demi official letter from Delhi states that the latest intelligence received in that city, was to the effect that the road from gugaluck to Cabool had not apparently been open since the 1st November.

For news of Sir Robert Sale's proceedings, see official Gazette of 27th November. Subsequent accounts shew that Sir Robt. Sale's force has fallen back upon Jellalabad where the enemy are collected in force - a sally of our cavalry had succeeded in destroying 150 of the rebels—but the British force was deficient in supplies and ammunition. Both these, however, had been called for and Mr. Clerk had immediately, on the receipt of these requisitions, sent large supplies and reinforcements consisting of the 60th, 64th and 53d. Bengal Native Infantry, and it was hoped that, with this aid, the present inconveniences would be checked and remedied. There is no doubt of an insurrection having taken place at Cabool and of a conflict between the British troops and the insurgents. But as yet no definite report has reached the Presidency, sufficiently precise and authentic to justify its insertion here.

Dost Mahomed Khan

22nd November

The officer in charge of Dost Mahomed Khan reports the arrival of

the ex-Chief and suite at Delhi on the 20th Novr. Captain Nicolson intended starting with Dost Mahomed Khan from Delhi to Kurnool on the 24th Idem.

Sinde Lower

Brigadier Farquharson, commander in Lower Scinde, reports the arrival per "Indus" Steamer, at Kurrachee from Bombay of details of H.M. 40th & 41st Regts. & departure in that vessel of the 2nd Company of Sappers and Miners. Also that the detail of H.M. 13th Light Infy. had returned to Kurrachee from Tattah. From a report from the Envoy & Mr. dated 26th October, it would appear that the rise and progress of the Eastern Ghilzye insurrection took place in the following manner.

The first intimation the Envoy and Minister received of this rebellion was about to the effect that the chiefs had suddenly left Cabool under the day, after he learnt that they had stopped a caravan on the high road and had taken the property and its owners to the hills at a distance from the road.

Sir W. Macnaghten immediately waited upon His Majesty & prevailed upon him to send the Governor Humza Khan¹ with a message to the rebels, inviting them to return to their allegiance and promising redress of any real grievance they might have sustained. This mission failed of success because Humza Khan was the chief instigator of the rebellion.

Two reasons have been assigned for this rebellion. First, the reduction of the allowances of the Ghilzye chiefs & secondly, the engagement that was reqd. of them to be responsible for robberies by the eastern Ghilzyes whenever committed.

On the first point Sir William states that the necessities of His Majesty and the assurance that the chiefs had admitted the justice of & cheerfully acquiesced in the reduction, led to this. Sir W.H. Macnaghten was assured, moreover, that after the reduction was effected, the chiefs would, in consequence of the enhanced value of grain, receive larger allowances than they did in the time of Dost Mahomed.

On the second point unfortunately they never represented their grievance to the British Envoy. They had been prohibited from visiting him by the before-named Governor on the part of the State (Humza Khan), a worthless man alike inimical to us and to His Majesty. The good result of the recent rebellion is the disgrace and imprisonment of this man. His father was killed in the Shah's service and His Majesty, from an amiable weakness, was unwilling to acknowledge the demerits of the son, of which, however, he is now fully sensible.

One of the chief rebels, Mahomed Shah Khan², has very large possessions in the districts of Lughman. The Envoy, therefore, urged the Minister to

1 *Humza Khan*, one of the Ghilzai chieftains who played an important role in the Kabul insurrection against Shah Shuja and the British. Subsequently he was defeated and taken prisoner.

2 *Mohd. Shah Khan*, chief of the Ghilzais living in Lamghan (Afghanistan).

send out a relative of his own with 300 Huzarbash horse to that neighbourhood. They attacked the party *en route* but did comparatively little damage, and the conspirator found it necessary to separate & each to look after his individual interests before the plot was matured.

There are 4 Thanas on posts founded by Ghilzyes between Cabool & Gundamuk. The first belongs to a chief named Khoda Buksh, a relative, by marriage, of the ex-Ameer Dost Md. Khan. The second to Sher Md. Khan, the third to Allahzar Khan, & the fourth to Dost Md. Khan. The second named of these (who has by far the greatest influence) was gained over to our cause at an early period and the third was always staunch in his allegiance. Khoda Buksh and Dost Md. went into open rebellion, & with them was joined Md. Shah Khan, already mentioned, a Ghilzye chief possessing extensive property in Lughman, and a relative also, by marriage, of the ex-Ameer.

The conduct of Gool Md. was the most inexcusable of all. On the Shah's arrival in this country that individual was in a state of destitution & was placed in power & affluence by His Majesty. He has been indefatigable in his endeavours to stir up the surrounding tribes to rebellion but could not succeed. He was immediately deposed and his place supplied by Burkut Khan, a chief of great influence and respectability.

On the separation of the rebels, Md. Shah Khan retreated to Lughman; Khoda Buksh Khan, with not more than 100 followers, proceeded to occupy the Khoord Cabool pass, and Gool Mohd. Khan went into his own country to raise the tribes. The first thing to be done was to dislodge Khoda Buksh & his party of rebels from the strong defile which they had occupied. The manner in which service was performed, has been reported in the official Gazette.

Capt. Macgregor, having in the meantime, retd. from the Goormut expedition, the Envoy caused him to communicate with the rebels & he promised in H.M.'s name & that of the Envoy & Minister to enquire into & redress all their grievances. Messengers with conciliating proposals were also sent but to no purpose. Whilst professing the greatest desire to return to their allegiance, the party of Khoda Buksh & Gool Mahomed (which latter had joined the former after his expulsion from the Pass) made a night attack on the position of the 35 Regt. No 9 at Khoord Cabool, the particulars of which have been communicated elsewhere.

After the night attack, the 35 N.I. were joined by H.M.'s 13 L.I. & the 37th Regt. N.I. with a suitable proportion of artillery & cavalry, and the rebels were, in the meantime, joined at Tazeen by Mohd. Shah Khan, Azeed Khan and a party from Tugus. Captain Macgregor estimates their united numbers at about 700 men.

Our troops moved upon Tazeen on the 22nd instant, and for these operations see official Gazette.

Indus Steam Navigation

18th October

The officer in charge of the Indus steam flotilla reports the arrival of the "Planet", steam boat, at Bukkur on the 4th October with 8 officers of different regiments, 16 followers & about 10 tons of baggage.

The vessel left Sukkur on the 22nd of June for the mouth of the Indus and arrived at Seehan on the 28th of the same month. She remained at that village until the 21st of August & on that date commenced her voyage to Tatta for the purpose of rendering assistance to the "Meteor" steam boat at Gurrah Bunder.

On the 29th Sept., she left Tatta at the requisition of the Assistant Poll. Agent at Hyderabad, and arrived at Bakkur after a very tedious voyage of the days, exclusive of stoppages, on the 4th October, as reported above.

Guzerat

13th October

From the abstract of proceedings in the Poll. Dept. of the Govt. of Bombay dated as per margin, it appears that the districts under the management of the 1st Asst. to the Poll. Commissioner of Guzerat were in a very tranquil state.

Sholapore

27th October

The abstract of proceedings in the Poll. Dept. of the Govt. of Bombay dated as per margin states, that some excitement prevailed in the Sholapore districts in consequence of an extensive collection of insurgents from the Moghlaee on the borders of the Zillah.

Southern Mahratta Country

3rd November

From the Abstract of proceedings in the Poll. Dept. of the Govt. of Bombay, it appears that the Fort of Mannohur, in the Southern Mahratha Country, has been captured by the troops sent for that purpose by the Colapore Govt., & that there was a prospect of an adjustment of existing disputes.

Persia

19th July

A letter from Shiraz reports that the King of Persia had taken up his residence at Shemeeroon, and that constant reinforcements of infantry, cavalry, and artillery have been sent after the commadant of the Persian Artillery, Hubeeboolah Khan, at Kerman (vide News Letter No. 27, dated 10th Sept.). The object of this force is not yet ascertained.

Yezd*24th July*

A letter from Shiraz states that Hubeeboolah Khan had appointed his adjutant General, Aslam Khan, Acting Governor of Yezd, in the room of the deposed prince, the Baba-oo-dowlut.

Hyderabad*14th November*

The Resident at Nagpore states that the person who had assembled the body of plunderers in the Nizam's country & was moving towards the territory of His Highness the Rajah of Nagpore (vide News Letter No. 33, of 20 November) is an impostor, who has given himself out to be the ex-Rajah of Nagpore, (Appa Sahib), who died in the Maha Munder at Joudhpore, on the 15th of July, 1840.

Detachments from Kamptee, Hingolee & Hyderabad had been despatched to capture the impostor & his band variously stated to consist of from 2, to 4,000 men, Mahrattas, Arabs, Sikhs, Pathans, & others.

The impostor had avowed a determination to enter the Nagpore dominions by Chanda, but from the last accounts received of his movements, he appears to have gone towards the forests, North West of Kuringa.

Munipore*7th November*

The Poll. Agent at Munipore reports the destruction, by the Angamis of Sumberum, of a village, a little to the north of Tharol, & a battle between the inhabitants of Tharol & the Angamis, whilst *en route* to the relief of Sumberum, in which the Angamis are said to have been repulsed. Their leader, a man of some importance, & four men were killed, the people of Tharol having one man killed & two wounded.

In consequence of the attack on Tharol, the Munipore Regent had despatched sepoy to that place, & the Poll. Agent has suggested to Captain Jenkins, to place a permanent post at Papoobaugmie, & to take such other measures as may appear likely to curb the Angamis. The aggressors are said to have come from Gnomuee proper, in the eastern part of the Angamie country, to the north of Papoobaugmee.

8th November

In a subsequent letter, dated as per margin, the Poll. Agent reports that the village of Ching Kanglang, which supplies labourers to the Munipore road, has been destroyed & four of the inhabitants killed by the Angamis, the Angamis having three killed on their side.

Khumbat on the Burmese Frontier

9th November

The Poll. Agent at Manipore reports that everything was quiet at Khumbat, that the King of Ava was stated to have no intention of war, that the Woon of Khumbat felt no alarm at the preparations in the neighbourhood of Manipore—and that he (the Woon) declared he would consider every thing peaceful until British troops came into the valley.

Burmah

Private letters from Moulmein, upto the 13th Novr., state that all was quiet at Rangoon on the 6th Novr. The King is described as very restless by all who go over to Moulmein from Rangoon, and as constantly visiting different places attended only by a small number of followers. It is said that similar restlessness has always shewn itself previous to an attack of insanity, (an hereditary disease) in the present Royal family of Ava.

2nd November

Captn. A. Bogle, Commissioner of Arracan, reports that every thing was perfectly quiet and tranquil in that province, and that no serious alarm existed with reference to the Burmese frontier.

In a subsequent letter, Captn. Bogle adds that, at the foot of the hills, the chokeys were, as usual, only garrisoned by a very few armed men. At Chuleng a new fort was being erected; but that at Maphi and Phyug, places much nearer to our frontier, all was in *status quo*. At Bassein there were not more than 400 armed men, the Govr. of which place is said to have lately visited Thurrawaddy at Rangoon, and to have sent many boats thither with provisions, & ca., for the Burman army. Captn. Bogle concludes, "All the news I can collect from beyond the frontier inclines me to think that nothing is farther from his (the King's) intention than to give us any annoyance."

The Brigadier Commanding the Tennasserim Provinces intimates that the 50th Queen's Regiment had all landed at Moulmein and were comfortably encamped. Upto the 13th Novr. they were in the enjoyment of good health perfectly ready and for active service.

The detachment under Lieutenant Orphants of the Bengal Artillery, had also arrived safe in H.M's ship "Calliope", with 4-24 Pounder Howitzers.

Two detachments, with the headquarters of the 14th N.I. had also landed and were comfortably encamped.

The rifle Company of the 24th N.I., with the exception of a small party under a subaltern, on board the Diana, Steamer, landed on the 11 Novr. The Brigadier adds that the troops were in the highest health and spirits. Subsequent reports mention the arrival at Moulmein of the Enterprize Sr.³ from Bombay.

3 Sr. for steamer.

24th November

The Government Agent at Benares states that the Burmese party (vide News Letter dated 1st Oct. No 28) left Benares for the Presidency on the 18th Novr. after having accomplished the object they put forth viz., the procuring certain Sanscrit books, and eight Pundits from the city. The latter, it is said, accompany the party to Calcutta.

Nipal

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Nipal Diary of dates marginally noted.

1st to 4th November

1. The Goorkha Governor of Joomla has written to the Nipal Durbar to say that Zorawur Singh, having already committed some aggressions on the Company, may probably encroach on Nepal also—and as he (the Joomla Governor), had an intention to check the movements of the Sikh Chief which might be undertaken with that view, he wished for 300 firelocks; these were sent him.

2. The Durbar is reported to have sat several times on the case of Rajbullub (in the Tirhoot Jummo Nuddee frontier case*) in consequence of the Resident's demand for his punishment.

3. Two chiefs are said to have fallen off from the Premier whose general reputation, strength, and influence, however, are otherwise increasing slowly but surely.

5th to 7th November

4. Nothing is said of the Thappas just now, nor any notice taken of them by the Durbar openly.

4. The two Gurus and the two Chountras form effectually the administration. They were to meet on the 7th to take into consideration the best method of bringing about a reconciliation between the two Govts., of conducting affairs generally, and controlling the Heir Apparent, whose wild conduct is said to be insufferable.

5. No more placards, or talk of furnishing placarders.

6. The Rajah dines with, and abides in the apartments of the Chotee Rani** whose promotion to the vacant guddee of the Senior Rani was daily expected.

7. The Ministers have all been reinvested, but have not made any considerable arrangements at present. They proposed to ask the Resident for the recall of the frontier Brigade. This question was to be settled before the Rajah on the 11th.

* Vide News Letter dt. 2nd August No. 22.

** Supposed to be favourable to the present Ministry and the maintenance of peace with the Br. Govt.

7th November

The Resident states with reference to the outrages committed by the Nepalese in the neighbourhood of the Jumni Nuddee, (vide. News Letter dt. 2nd Augt. No. 22) that he has accepted a deposit of Rs. 2,786, until the actual losses have been ascertained, and has stayed, for a while, his demand for the immediate punishment of Rajbullub.

H. V. Bayley
Asstt. Secy. to the Govt. of India

Fort William
The 1st December 1841

(*Ref.*—Foreign Deptt. Miscellaneous, Vol. 334, pp. 691-732).

Newsletter 64 : December 10, 1841

(No. 35 of 1841)

The Sikhs and the Chinese Tartars

A communication from Byaus states that upto the 21st October, no kind of outrage or aggression had been sustained by our British Kumaon people at the hands of the Sikhs, and that everything was quiet and orderly. For the previous acts of the Sikhs on these parts see News Letter Nos 29 and 31.

24th November.

The Assistant Commissioner in Kumaon writes that, from information he received up to the 11th Novr., it appears that Zorawur Sing was either massacred, or in chains. A Chinese commander, by name Kulum Seer Kang, with an army of 10,000 men, from Lhassa, had encompassed the Sikhs and their leaders. 7,000 are said to be in or about *Missar*, hemming in Zorawur Sing, and 3000 in Proaaug (Kurdum-kot Tuklakot country)—100 Sikhs forming a guard at Kurdum-kot, have been slaughtered. Bustee Ram¹, the Vakeel who lately communicated with the Commissioner of Kumaon, was hemmed in with 150 Sikhs and 2 Guns, in the fort at Taklakote (built by Zorawur Sing) by 1,500 Chinese, and would, it was feared, be destroyed. The thanna at Ghartope also has been surprized and the guard killed. In fact, the Sikhs are said to be in a perilous situation and that nothing but hard fighting will save them. With Zorawur Sing are two Guns and 2,000 men—the latter of various descriptions, and the Buttee, Ladakh and Heoondes people have made common cause with the Chinese against them. 14 refugees from an outpost of Tukla Kote, consisting of Sikhs, Ladakhees, and Cashmeerees had fled for British protection into Byaus, and the Asst. Commr. had sent into Almorah.

The Chinese have stopped the trade and allow no Bhotia of our side to cross. In the interval between Zorawur Sing's departure and the approach of the Chinese army, the trade was partially reopened in the Byaus pergunnah.

Two hundred men (Nepalese) from Joomla were on the 11th. still stationed at Naree.

Information received from Joomla and Dotee is to the effect that a reinforcement of 1500 men had reached Joomla in order to prevent the Sikhs

1 *Mehta Bustee Ram*, a colonel in the Sikh army and political representative of the Lahore Darbar attached to the contingent of Zorawar Singh which had gone to Tibet. After the latter's military debacle, he along with nearly 250 soldiers escaped over the Lepu Lekh pass into British territory. In the process they suffered severe privations.

wintering there, and that some alarm still tho' causelessly prevailed about the Sikh movements. The Nipalese were also looking carefully after the Kumaon frontier, and an inspecting officer had come to the Kalee to see that the guards were in good orders. At Darchoola, opposite Arkot, a company of Goorkhas is said to be stationed to guard the pass into Dotee from Byus.

The peasantry in Dotee and Joomla have been compelled much to their dissatisfaction to shave their heads in mourning for the death of the Maha Rani of Nepal.

Dharma and Jwahir were closed by snow, and so was Keetee. In Joomla and Dotee, there are now 3000 muskets, there are still lately, 1500 men.

Mr. Hodgson, our Rest. in Nepal, writes that, at the suggestion of the Prime Minister, he has required from the Maha Raja, an explanation of the fact of the Nepalese having put themselves into active communication with the Sikhs.

Trade of the Bhotias with the Trans-Himalayan Pargunna of Gartope; etc.

13th November

The Commissioner of Kumaon intimates that the annual value of trade carried on by the Niti and Mana Bhotias (Garhwal district) with the Trans-Himalayan Pargunnah of Gartope etc. is estimated by Capt. Haddleton, the Senior Assistant Commissioner, Garhwal, at 30, to 35,000 Rs. the value of the imports, exceeding in a small degree that of the exports which may be placed to the credit of the carrying traders, our own Bhotias. The trade, it is said, has somewhat declined of late years.

According to a calculation recently made, there are above, 8,000 sheep & goats regularly employed in the carriage of goods to & from Tartary by the two passes in the district of Garhwal belonging to this side of the Himalaya, besides the flocks of sheep and a few other animals, on the other side. There are also nearly double the number of sheep & goats in the northern pasturages used for the transport of the different articles from Mana & Niti to the several parts of the district.

Afghanistan

Cabool insurrection

2nd to the 8th November.

The follg. precis of intelligence from Cabool, of dates quoted on the margin, relative to the insurrection of the Ghilzyees, is extracted from the Journal of a lady. "On the 2d." states the Journal, "an insurrection broke out in Cabool; the shops were plundered- Johnson's house and treasury plundered and burnt; he was in Cantonments- his guard and servants murdered

Troop and Warburton were in the Cantonments; their houses burnt. Sir A. Burnes, his brother, and Broadfoot murdered. Skinner² supposed to be secreted by his Gomashta. Sturt was sent by the Genl. on a message, and was stabbed in four places in the King's presence, the face, the shoulder, a lance in the arm, and on the side. There are three principal chiefs at the head of this outbreak, Abdoulah Khan Atchickzye, Moolah Momin, and Scunder Khan. The Kuzzul-bashees* are not in it, but are afraid to declare openly in our favor. Shelton with 2 Regts. and 1 Compy. H.M.'s 44th is in the Bala-Hissar. On the 3d., the 37th B.N.I. came in; they had to fight their way being followed by 200 men, and had five killed and fifteen wounded. Gordon slightly wounded. A number of Kohistanees came into Cabool. They got out of the City, with just the clothes they had on their backs, their houses burnt. The Afghans attacked the commissariat fort, but were repulsed by Waller, - he was wounded. Another large party, who had raised the religious standard came against the cantonments at the rear gate, where our guns dealt destruction; and the Cavalry cut them up- Sturt³ able to speak- the wound on his shoulder deep, the side not so bad, and the lungs uninjured. In the face, near the corner of the eye, he was struck on the bone with such force that he was stunned for the moment- he had warded off two blows. On the 4th, Khan Shuraam Khan and some others drove part of the fighting men out of the town. The Enemy took possession of the small fort nearly opposite our bazar that joins on to the King's Garden- the Guns played all day agt. the gate of the Shah Bagh which is filled with the Enemy- it cannot be blown open with powder, there being too many people about it- a large party of Horsemen shewed themselves on the Seah Sung hill- Mahd. Khan's fort, where the tower was thrown down has been taken possession of by the enemy—he is on our side, and, therefore, they have cut off his son's ears. We shotted and shelled the fort, opposite our bazar, all day with little or no effect. The Kohistan is all up. Maule and Wheller have been murdered—their men were overpowered. This day killed Gordon 37th Swayore and Robinson⁴ 44th, and 4 men wounded—Welsh, Hallaham and Warren—16 men of the 6th Cavy. wounded, 31 missing. In the Evg⁵

* Force of Persian origin and of the Sheaah faith in number abt. 10,000.

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- 2 *Lt. Skinner* of the British cavalry was present in Kabul from 2nd to 10th November 1841 at the outbreak of the insurrection. He, however, retreated immediately thereafter and reached India safely. Later his services were placed at the disposal of the Nawab of Rampur, for whom he raised the Rohilla Horse.
 - 3 *Lt. A. A. Sturt* of the Army of Indus was killed during the retreat of the British forces from Kabul.
 - 4 *Robinson* of HM's 44th Regiment was killed in an engagement with the Afghans at Kabul in January 1842.
 - 5 *Evg.*, for evening.

there was a very brisk firing—5th: the troops were employed all day with guns and mortars, shot and shell at the fort, with very little effect—6th; Sturt insisted, weak as he was, on going to the Genl. as there was no Engineer here but himself we have only Warburton⁶ and Eyre, as artillery officers. By 10 o'clock he got all in order and at 12 a good breach was made, and in a few minutes it was carried. Rahan killed, Deas wounded- Hobhouse and 12 of 13th volunteered for the assault- 1 man badly wounded. Those who escaped were joined by a large body of horsemen, well-dressed, and mounted, evidently Kuzzalbash. Sturt says these amounted to about 2,000, others say 3,000, they formed a beautiful sight. Anderson's horse charged up the hill and drove the enemy all along the crest of it, to the extreme left, where the 5th Cavy. charged up; they were hemmed in—more Afghan horse came up, and they had a great struggle with swords, but the Afghan matchlock fire was so hot, that they in turn drove ours back all along the ridge. Tho' outnumbered, they retired in excellent order—Anderson's horse again went up the road to challenge them, but the enemy's position was good, and they maintained it. We had every man out, or on duty in the Cantonments. A Brigade was much wanted in the field. Two guns of Warburtons' were seized in the city and the men forced to work them—they have thrown a number of balls into the Cantonments and in Sturt's Garden, from Mahomed Khan's fort. Sir William has given 50,000 Rs. to a Kuzzulbash Chief to create a diversion in our favor, and promised him 2 lakhs if he succeeds. The Envoy and the General agreed to send for H.M.'s 13th and 35th B.N.I. and the orders went off for Genl. Sale to return with them, leaving his sick, wounded and baggage in safety; to come on by long marches. The Enemy have had possession of the Commd. fort, these two days, to-day they have set it on fire, as also a village near the town, that fired on them, we thought it was the city in flames. Sturt got the wall of the garden, next to the Comsr. fort down by the Sappers to-day. A new King and Vizeer were set up, but the other Chiefs wont have them. Codrington's* Corps is in Chareekar and surrounded—all the officers wounded. Rattray and Salisbury killed—Sturt's wounds going well, but he overworks his strength. He cannot yet open his mouth, to get food in properly, his tongue and throat have suffered, and all the nerves about—he is out all day, and the soldiers help him about. McKenzie defended the fort he was in, till the ammunition was expended, and then cut his way out; he has 3 wounds—We had intelligence that we were to be attacked tonight, and that the insurgents were making boasa bags to throw into the ditch. Sturt recd. a *carte blanche*, he has told off the people and officers to their posts, and paraded them this eveg. and at 9 went with

* Later accounts mention Capt. Codrington to have died from his wounds.

6 Lt. R. Warburton, one of the English hostages who remained in the custody of Akbar Khan, the son of Amir Dost Muhammad during the retreat of the British contingent from Kabul to Jalalabad. Later he became commander of the 2nd Artillery Company of Gwalior.

Paton Eyre⁷, and Bellew⁸ all the rounds. The Envoy is in the Cantonments, and his place is a cavalry and infantry Camp, and the walls loop-holed. 8th: We had an alarm at 4 o'clock. The Enemy attempted to take the fort back; they mined a large hole, and set fire to the bastion but were driven back.

Great reliance was placed by all upon the probable return of Sir Robert Sale with a reinforcement of two regiments, unhappily this return has become absolutely impossible, from the want of carriage and of camp equipage and supplies- and it is itself in some difficulty at Jelalabad. The writer, however, speaks of all present being staunch and in good spirits.

Later private communications from Peshawur state upon the authority of news from Jellalabad, that, an engagement took place between our troops and the rebels at Kabul on the 11th Novr. in which the former were completely victorious, and our men recaptured from the Enemy, the two Guns, taken in the City. A prospect appeared of the British being able to gain over the Ghilzyes and thus break the confederacy agt. us. The troops at Jellalabad, after defeating the Ooloos on the 15th, had placed the City in a state of defense; had got in supplies from the country, and were quite safe. They expected another attack on the 20th but were perfectly confident as to the result.—100 mds. of powder and lead had then already been despatched to Jellalabad in aid of our troops.

18th November

The Regt. in Kohistan is said to have held its ground. Major Pottinger was doing well. Captn. Paton, Dy. Qr. Mr. Genl., to have been wounded severely in Cabul and accounts have since been received of his having had an arm amputated.

At Jellalabad the troops were making good use of their time by strengthening the place. Gool Mahomed Khan, a hostile Ghilzye chief, was said to be in the neighbourhood of Jellalabad.

The Khyber Pass

26th November

A letter from Captn. Mackeson states that the country between Peshawur and Gundamuck continued quiet up to the time of Captn. Bum's Afreedees and Lieutenant Dowson's Janbaz being necessitated to abandon the Cantonment there. When the Gundamuck cantonment had been burnt, the whole country rose at once, and our posts were attacked. Captn. Ferris'

7 *Capt. Paton Eyre* was appointed commandant of the 1st Company of Scindia's artillery in 1844; and later, in 1846, given charge of public works at Gwalior.

8 *Capt. Bellew* was attached to the contingent of Brig. Shelton in Kabul. On the outbreak of the Afghan insurrection in November 1841, he performed a heroic deed in capturing the 'Rick-bashee' fortress, situated close to the British cantonment in Kabul. He is said to have physically carried the gun-powder bags all alone in the face of enemy fire and blew open the main gate of the fortress.

Cantonment was attacked on the night of the 13th November. He repulsed the assailants and then withdrew into the Cantonment fort. He had a garrison of 260 men, Eusufzais, and one Gun, but running short of ammunition, he was compelled to abandon the fort on the 16th and dividing his remaining ammunition between his men, cut his way through the surrounding Ooloos at night.

This he gallantly effected with great success, losing 15 men. He had reached Lalpura in safety and was on his way to Peshawur. Captn. Ferris had recalled the posts at Landi Khana and Huftchah in Khyber, to his assistance, and their leaving the pass was the signal for disorder there. A Kafilā was plundered by the Sheenwaris, and the huts of the sepoy's at Landi Khanna, and some bhoosa was set fire to. The Zukka Khail tribe of Gharri Lalabeg came and plundered the bazar below Ali Musjid, and attacked the fort. The Afreedees of Captn. Burnt's Corps, who had quitted Gundamuck, reached Tira, and spread the report that all the Europeans at Cabul had been destroyed. Hundreds after hundreds came down to Khyber from Tira, bent on rapine and plunder, and from the 16th to the 19th, Ali Musjeed was invested, and the garrison consisting of Mr. Mackeson, and 150 Eusofzyes badly armed, were opposed to one or two thousand Afreedees. At the commencement, a bastion of the fort was blown up by the explosion of some gunpowder, and about 16 men of the garrison killed and wounded, with two munshis : On the evening of the 18th the Afreedees had succeeded in cutting off from the garrison all access to the water and had taken possession of Mr. Mackeson's house built on the platform of the hill nearly as high as the fort and kept a galling fire from it on the fort. They also made two or three assaults on the gate or doorway of the fort but were repulsed leaving about thirty dead on the ground. Mr. Mackeson and the men with him did their duty well and though the Maliks frequently offered him and his men safe conduct to Peshawur, and they had little hope of success, they remained staunch. From the commencement of the attack, Captn. Mackeson was in communication with the Afreedee Maliks who disclaimed all participation in it; but said they were unable to control the Ooloos who had risen up as one man, and now that men had been killed on both sides, it would be very difficult to put matters right, Captn. M. on the 19th went out with General Avitabile to Jamrood, with three or four hundred horsemen, and the Ooloos of Peshawur. He also despatched Abdul Rahim Khan on with 1,500 Rs. to the Maliks to enable them to dismiss the Tira Ooloos and withdraw them from near the fort. This the Maliks succeeded in doing on the afternoon of the 19th. The water of the garrison was released and the men who had possession of Mr. Mackeson's house withdrawn to below the hill. The Afreedees also asked permission to carry off their dead. This was granted. On the morning of the 20th, as most of the supplies of the garrison had been plundered with the bazar, Captn. M. sent 50 bullocks laden with supplies to the Maliks and told them if they sent

them to the fort, he would rely on their professions of friendship. They sent the supplies, and it is said, have re-established their Chokees on the road, and the fort has been preserved to us. Captain M. was sending in supplies to it, and as soon as the crowd were dispersed, was to increase the garrison of 600 men.

The Afreedee Maliks are to restore the property, the tribes have plundered, and have sworn to serve us as they have hitherto done, and to keep the road open so long as an European remains alive at Cabool.

**Agent Governor General—Punjab
Lahore Government**

2nd November

Mr. Clerk states that Raee Kishen Chand waited on him on the 27th Novr. and read, a Purwannah addressed to him from Maha Raja Shere Sing directing him to state that His Highness, hearing of the rebellion of the tribes around Cabool and Jellalabad, had despatched Raee Keisree Singh with 4 battalions, 2,000 horse, and six guns, with a good deal of ammunition, and that Keisree Singh had been directed to proceed by forced marches, and to perform whatever Captain Mackeson and General Avitabile may, after consultation, require him to undertake.

**Ferozepore
Reinforcements**

27th November

Mr. Clerk intimates that the 30th and 53rd

Coll. Wilde ⁹ 53 Regt. in command		
Commdt. Cheyt Sing, Sikh Motermoned		
Sheikh Sadatoollah British—do—		
30th Regt. N.I.	1008	}
53rd —do— —do—	1045	
	2,053	
Officers	49	
Followers	860	
Baggage Camels	599	
Commisst —do—	650	
Ordnance Stores —do—	71	
Horses & Ponies	150	

The 60th Regt. crossed on the 20th Novr. mustering 1044 men and 14 officers.

} Regiments Native
Infantry with
Convoy as per
margin, crossed
the Sutlej on the
27th Novr., in pro-
gress to Peshawur.
For previous
reinforcements see
last News Letter.

⁹ Col. Wilde (later Brigadier) forced his way through the Khyber and reached Ali Masjid on January 3, 1842. His contingent was ambushed by the Afridis, his ration train left behind and he himself beaten back to Peshawar with a heavy loss of life.

Sinde-Candahar

Detention of Troops

8th to 14th November

Major Outram, in his digest of Sinde Intelligence, mentions that he received accounts from Major Rawlinson of the disturbances in the neighbourhood of Cabool, which had induced that officer to halt the Bengal regiments (which had made two marches from Candahar on their return to India) until he should ascertain the extent of the reported insurrection.

Scinde Upper

Assemblage of Chiefs to wait on Nusseer Khan

1st to 7th November

The digest of Scinde Intelligence of dates cited in the margin states, that the Chief of the Kahan Murries had accepted Major Outram's invitation to attend the general assemblage of Chiefs in that Officer's Camp at Bagh, to meet Nusseer Khan, & that he mentioned to him that whatever crimes his people may have committed since his agreement with Mr. Bell, were done against his will, & that he (the Chief) would be most happy to aid Major Outram in punishing the offenders, which, without assistance, he had not the power to do.

As this Chief and his ancestors have, heretofore, refused to attend on the Khans of Kelat, or any other's power, in person, this submission is a gratifying proof of his sense of our justice & power. And the alacrity which has been displayed by all the Chieftains of the Country in hailing Nusseer Khan, is referred to as an undeniable evidence of the popularity of the young prince.

Colonel Stacy writes that the number of Chiefs who have notified their intentions to meet Nusseer Khan, amounts to 44.

22nd October

The British Agent at Soomeanee states that in consequence of instructions received from Major Outram to that effect, he was to set out for Gundava in the evening of the 22d October, to accompany the Jam of Beita, & other Chiefs, whose attendance has been requested by Meer Nusseer Khan of Kelat, at a general meeting of the Sirdars already alluded to.

Soomeanee & Kelat Route

5th November

The Poll. Agent in Scinde reports, on the authority of a demi-official letter, dated Kozdar, 25th October, the very satisfactory progress to the last-mentioned place, of the detachment *en route* from Kelat to Soomeanee.

Scinde Lower*1st to 7th November*

The Assistant Poll. Agent, in charge Lower Scinde, states that a disagreement arose between Meer Sobdar Khan and Meer Mahd. Khan, of which the following are the particulars : It appears that Meer Sobdar Khan on one occasion complained bitterly against Meers Meer Mahomed and Nuseer Khan, with regard, in the first place, to Meer Hossein Ali Khan, who had sought his protection, because, while a fair division of territory & property had been only arranged by Major Outram for the sons of the late Meer Noor Mahomed Khan, the Ameers had altered the portions and given the larger to Meer Shahdad, by decreasing the rights of his brother & 2ndly, because Meer Meer Mahomed Khan had been persuaded to nominate Meer Abbass Ali, the youngest son of Nuseer Khan, his successor on his death. This Meer Sobdar considered unjust as he was more closely related to Meer Mahd. than Meer Nuseer, and, in consequence, had a right to expect his eldest son would succeed, if not to the whole estate at least to half of it. Meer Sobdar said that should this injustice be carried into execution, he was determined to resent it by force of arms & called upon Shere Mahomed to state which side, he would take, and that, in this contest, the tribes of Nizamane, Jummallee, Sugharee, and part of the Murees were ready to assist him. In answer, Meer Sher Mahomed recommended Meer Sobdar not to act as he intended, but suggested to him the propriety of referring the different points of grievance to Major Outram for his arbitration.

Mr. Leckie, in the conclusion of his Diary, states that since the above was written, he had learnt that Meer Meer Mahomed had had an explanation with Meer Sobdar, through Nawab Ahmed Khan, and that they had met each other and a reconciliation had been effected between them.

Oude*1st December*

The Resident of Lucknow reports that the notorious freebooter, Busswant Sing, who committed so many dacoities at different times, both in the Company's provinces & in Oude, attended with great loss of life and property, was attacked on the night of the 1st Decr., by the King of Oude's troops, killed and his head sent to Lucknow, where it was fully identified.

Hyderabad - Nagpore**The Impostor Appajee¹⁰***2nd December*

The Resident in Nagpore intimates that the pretender, styling himself

¹⁰ *Apphajee* (Apa Sahib), had become a legend among those Maratha youth who
(Contd. on next page)

Appa Sahib, and his Chief man of business, Boorhannee Sahib, have been seized by Captain Johnson, of His Highness the Nizam's Service, his followers having been, some days before, dispersed, and that the detachment under Lieutenant Colonel Dneker, which had been sent to apprehend the impostor, has been requested to return to the head Quarters of the Nagpore Subsidiary Force.

Burma

The Commissioner of Arracan reports from late accounts which he had recd. from the Burmese frontier, that everything continued perfectly tranquil within the Burmese territories, and that the number of troops in the several towns nearest to Arracan, did not exceed a few hundreds; and that even at Amarapoorah, there were said to be not more than 4,000.

The Shan Merchants who annually visit Aeng with large droves of bullocks laden with the produce of the Shan states and various parts of Burmah, and which they exchange for the produce of Arracan and its dependencies, as also for British goods, were daily arriving at Aeng as usual. They report that no preparations, indicative of hostile intentions, were being made in any part of the Burmese Empire. The number of boats which had arrived from Bassein was very small, but this unusual circumstance may, the Commr. thinks, be attributed to Tharrawady's visit to Rangoon and the necessity arising there from for the employment of a great many boats in conveying to his camp, the supplies required for the support of so many persons. The non-arrival at Arracan of Bassein boats may also, perhaps Capt. B. adds, be in some degree, owing to fear of encountering any of our men of war or steamers, on the high seas, and to a suspicion that they might not be allowed to return. With a view to remove any such impression, the Commissioner intended to endeavour to induce such Arracanese, as are in the habit of trading with Bassein, to proceed on their voyage without delay

(Contd from previous page)

tried to stem the rising tide of British imperialism with the result that the name was assumed by more than one person. The original Apa Sahib was Mudaji Bhonsle, a nephew of Raghaji Bhonsle II, the Maratha ruler of Nagpur (1788—1816) who claimed descent from Shivaji. Mudaji, better known as Apa Sahib, usurped the throne of Nagpur in 1816 after strangulating his idiot cousin Parsoji, the only son of Raghaji Bhonsle II. Although he maintained formal friendly relations with the British, he did not like their ever-growing interference in Indian, particularly Maratha affairs. He, therefore, prepared an elaborate plan to arouse Indian chieftains and the people, including the Marathas, Pindaris and Bundelas etc. In

1818, he was taken prisoner by the British in a coup but escaped and was deposed.

The state was awarded to a minor grandson of the late Raghaji Bhonsle II. Apaji wandered around as a fugitive in the forests and ravines of central and southern India. He is said to have appeared in the court of Maharaja Ranjit Singh also for a short while but later took refuge with the ruler of Jodhpur and is said to have died there in 1840. The legend of Apa Sahib, however, survived.

and to afford the Bassein traders every assurance of the peaceful posture of affairs.

27th November

The force of Arracan continued perfectly healthy up to the date cited in the margin.

Nepaul

15th to 19th November

The following items of Intelligence are extracted from the Nepaul Diary of dates cited in the margin :—

1. On the evening of the 14th, the Heir Apparent set off suddenly for Thankote and thence towards the plains; and next morning, the Maha Raja followed with a large force and several Sirdars. The Maha Raja expostulated with his son against his quitting the Capital, but in vain, and the whole party went off towards Pherphung. Two of the Ministers had been sent for and arrived at the last mentioned place. In consequence of the movement, all business was suspended. On the afternoon of the 18th, the Rajah and Heir Apparent came back; and proceeded with the Court to Nyakote on the 26th, accompanied by the British Resident.

The Heir Apparent is said to have decided on journey to the Terai during the current month (December) on which occasion 5000 troops, it is alleged, would follow him with all the Court; but this is a mere rumour wanting confirmation. The restlessness of the late Ranee is said to have been inherited by the Prince.

22nd to 24th

2. The Punjam was proceeding slowly and some few changes, both civil and military, had been effected.

3. On the 23rd., an *amende* by Khuritah was tendered to the Resident.*

H. V. Bayley

Assistant Secy. to the Govt. of India

Fort William

10 December 1841

(Ref : Foreign Deptt. Miscellaneous, Vol. 334, pp. 733-780).

*N.B. See also previous sheets in regard to "Sikhs and Chinese Tartary".

Newsletter 65 : December 22, 1841

(No. 36 of 1841)

North West Frontier

8th November, 1841

The Lahore Akhbar of dates cited contains the following items of intelligence :—

1. Raja Dhian Singh required the Charyaree troops to hold no consultation among themselves. Orders were issued to Utter Sing Kalewallah, informing him of the despatch of the Maha Raja's advance tents towards Amritsar, preparatory to His Highness's arrival there, & he was instructed to advise all the troops and officers to address the Maha Raja with courtesy, and that any disrespectful language would not be listened to with impunity.

2. Raja Dhian Sing reviewed the 500 hill soldiers lately enlisted, and ordered them to remain as his orderlies, as the other 300 hill sepoys already on that duty. The Raja proposed to detach the 5 battalions under John Holwes, and Col. Courtland, lately sent towards Bar Boolla Bhattee, to the Dera Ismael Khan, Donibanoo, and Tank districts, and to direct the 4 battalions under Genl. Mehtab Sing Majeethia to march towards Mozufferabad, observing that the assemblage of troops in any one place was productive of riot, and that the mutinous conduct of one proved as an incitement to others. The troops are said to be very discontented owing to the deductions made in their pay.

10th December

3. Raae Sing, brother of Raae Kishen Chund, requested some promotion, his brother was promised a Jageer if he would bring Mr. Cluk¹ to Lahore with a Khillat from the British Govt.

4. Fakeer Shah Deen was ordered to send reports regarding the British magazines and troops at Ferozepore.

5. Raja Dhian Singh and Sirdar Futteh Sing Maun were sent to Mae Chund Koonwur. They attended on her, and represented that the rumours regarding the march against the Punjab of Sundhunwallas with the British troops and Governor General's Agent had proved false; that reports from the Vakeels had brought every assistance to the Maha Raja; that it was now due on her part to consider the Maha Raja as her dear relation, and to give in a Razeenamah, and to take whatever more she wanted. The Raja

¹ *Mr. Cluk* : refers to G. R. Clerk, the British Political Agent at Ludhiana, 1840-43.

recommended Ranee Chand Koonwur to give in a Razeenamah in order at once to clear up all differences, but the Ranee observed that she was already a prisoner, that her imprisonment might be rendered more severe, but that still she was the widow of Khurruck Sing, and her right could never be destroyed; that Maha Raja Runjeet Sing had also respected her above all other Ranees. After some further conversation, the Raja retired. Strict watch was set round the fort.

6. Orders were issued to all the officers of the Ghoorcharh orderlies, Rumgurhia Missaldars and other sowars, and Battalions at Amritsur to form in review order on the morning of the 12th, when the Maha Raja would review them.

7. Sirdar Gunda Sing of Norjah, Utter Sing Kalewalla, Goolab Sing, Dewan Gunput Raee² and other officers of the Sowars formed a line of their troops on both sides of the road, and paid their respects to the Maha Raja.

8. Syed Alif Shah, in attendance on Dr. Jameson, reported his arrival at Pind Dadur Khan. If Sirdar Lehna Sing Mujeethia reported that Vazeer Kussooroo had rejected the terms offered to him that he was, accordingly, compelled to settle the Siraj Pergunnah in the Kooloo district for 32,000 Rs. on Raja Bulbeer Sein of Mundee; that the Ropee Bursaul district was farmed for 8,000 Rs. to Gungoo Shah, that he had collected the bones of the 200 Sikh Sowars lately killed by the peasantry at Siraj and had them burnt after Hindoo custom and intended sending the remains to the Ganges. He further reported that all the arrangements for Mundee and Kooloo had been completed, and requested permission to return.

9. The Maha Raja promised two hundred shawls as rewards to the officers if they would prevail upon the sowars to be satisfied with only 3 months' pay for the present. The Raja urged the officers and the garrison in the Govind Ghar fort to receive Fukeer Tajoo-deen as their officer-in-charge but they replied that they had no particular objection, except that they did not believe those duties would be performed by the Fakeers.

10. Fukeer Shah-deen reported the preparation of the bridge of boats on the Sutlej—in reply he was ordered to discontinue it soon after the passage of the British convoy.

11. The Raja remarked that the release of Abdoor-rehman Khan would have facilitated the security of the Candahar road through him, as he was the head of the Ghilzyes.

12. Sirdar Lehna Sing reported that he had detached the two battalions from the hills to Lahore, and that he had enlisted in their stead 2,000 warlike hill soldiers to garrison the Kooloo Siraj, and other forts in that district. He was ordered to prepare ammunition and stores in the hills.

² *Dewan Gunput Raee* (Ganpat Rai) was in the employment of Raja Hira Singh and used to supply him intelligence about affairs at the Lahore Darbar.

13. From the Hazara news it appeared that Sirdar Nahar Sing of Attaree had taken the Sungleefort of Payundeh Khan, that Raja Golab Sing was resolved to destroy the capital of Payundah, that is Arul, and to rescue all the districts from the Khans, leaving Kunwar Pertab Sing for the present at the Hurkishengurh fort.

14. Raja Heera Sing reported from the Lutwara encampment that the troops there were ripe for a mutiny, that their complaints of being stationed on the Lutwara sands, and the dilatory distribution of pay, which would at this rate be protracted for 4 months, were loud; that they observed that they were going to be deluded, that he was, therefore, obliged to march every evening to Lahore, and join them again in the morning, and he urged the return of the Maha Raja from Amritsur. Bhaee Ram Sing also wrote that the troops at Lutwara ferry demanded immediate payment of 4 months' arrears, afterwards to be regularly paid without deductions, and that otherwise there was every probability of a disturbance.

15. Raja Dhian Sing has cleverly won over the Charyaree cavalry, and proposed to undertake the command of them himself.

16. In consequence of the receipt of news from Peshawur, an express was sent off to Koonwur Purtab Sing and Raja Golab Sing to warn them that the rebellion of the Afreedees and Khyberees might soon require the employment in that country of the troops under their command.

29th November

The Governor General's Agent in the north west frontier states that the Commandant Cheet Sing³ with a party of sowats has been appointed by the Durbar to attend upon the 30th and 53rd Regiments proceeding to Peshawar.

The following items of intelligence are extracted from Lahore Akhbar of dates cited :—

22nd November

1. Orders were issued from the Durbar to the officers on the Rancee to prepare boats for the passage of the British Troops, and Fakeer Noor-oo-deen was ordered to attend to all such requisitions on the part of the British officers immediately.

2. Raja Dhian Sing proposed that, were an invasion to be undertaken in great force on the frontier of China, in concert with the British Govt., it would be very beneficial to both the Govts.

24th November

3. The Maha Raja observed to Raja Dhian Singh that if Mr. Clerk expressed a wish to that effect he was ready to appoint all Koonwur Purtaub

³ *Commandant Cheet Sing*, was later to be an eye-witness to the tragedy of Prince Nau Nihal Singh's death, being on guard duty at the spot where the accident occurred

Singh's and Rajah Gooloub Sing's troops to Peshawur to intimidate the insurgents in Khoorasan. He also issued an order to the Koonwur and the Rajah to be ready with their troops and to attend to whatever orders may henceforth be issued for their movements.

4. Genl. Mehtab Sing Majeethia was ordered to march with his four battalions to Rawulpindee, and it was determined that Vizier Kisree Sing and the Charyaree sowars should also be despatched to Peshawur to serve the British Government. Rajah Dhian Sing and the Maharaja told Fakeer Azeezoodeen that if Mr. Clerk desired the assistance of the Khalsa troops at this emergency, the Durbar would appoint any number to punish the Ghilzye insurgents.

28th November

5. From the Peshawur news it appeared that the disturbances, in and around Khyber, were still going on; that Genl. Avitabile was engaged in preserving order at Peshawur, and in the Doaba, that orders had been issued by Koonwur Purtab Sing and Rajah Goolab Sing to the District officers to be on the alert.

6. Rajah Golab Sing is said to have besieged the forts of Aral and Chuttingurh, and appointed Dewan Motee Ram with Artulla Khan to intimidate the Khan.

7. Orders were issued to the Koonwur to protect the Hazara and Usfazye countries.

8. At Fakeer Azeezoodeen's request, the Maharajah reappointed Fakeer Jozoodeen to the charge of the Gobindgurh fort.

9. Rajah Bulbeer Sein reported from Mundeel that it was advisable for the Durbar to keep their troops in the Kooloo district for one or two years longer; that Vizier Kuppoooroo and the peasantry could not be relied on, and that, therefore, troops should be collected from the Hill Rajas. Raja Dhian Sing accordingly drew out the following list viz.

From Rajah Rooden Chund Kattoch	200 men
From Rajah Goodbeer Chand	150 men
From Rajah Gobind Sing of Seeba	100 men
From Rajah Shumsher Singh of Goleer	100 men
From Rajah Omed Singh of Juswan	100 men
From Rajah Ujjah Singh of Chumba	200 men

Orders were issued to Sirdar Lehna Sing Majeethia to send for the above troops, from the Rajas, and thus to garrison the Kooloo forts. He was also informed of General Goolab Sing Pohowindeeah's⁴ being put in command

4 *General Goolab Sing Pohowindeeah*, son of Karam Singh of village Pohowind, an independent Sikh jathedar in the Jullundur doab. In 1806 he succeeded to his father's estate but was soon overrun by Ranjit Singh's forces. Thereafter, he thought it prudent to enter the Maharaja's service, was granted his paternal jagir and rose to be a distinguished commander of Sikh forces.

of 4 battalions, subject to the control of the Sirdar.

30th November

10. From the Peshawur news it appears that Mr. Mackeson, with some of the Khalsa troops, was encamped at Futtehgurh, endeavouring to open the Khyber pass, which, it was expected, he would soon effect. The account goes on to say that no reliance could be placed on the Khyburees, that their chiefs were still keeping up appearances with Mr. Mackeson, and waiting only the result of the insurrection at Cabool; and that they were ready to rebel in case success attended the insurgents if otherwise to side with us.

11. Rajah Golab Sing has written to Vizier Zoorwur Sing of the disturbances in Khorasan and ordered him to protect the country in his charge, and to report his arrival at Ladakh, as well as the despatch of his agents to Lieutenant Cunningham.

December

12. Rajah Dhian Sing reported his arrival at Ramgurh, 12 coss on this side of Jummoo, on leave of absence to visit that place.

13. According to General Avitabile's request, orders were issued to Rajah Goolaub Sing and Koonwur Partab Sing to postpone the capture of the Arul and Chutturgurh forts of Payundeh Khan, and to be ready to meet the requisitions of General Avitabile if their presence may be wanted by him to intimidate the tribes of the Moolkeas. The General was informed of the above orders, and assured that the Rajah and the Koonwur would be detached immediately if required. He was also directed to protect the Khalsa districts against any infection of the mutinous spirit in the people, and to take measures to effect the safe passage of the British troops proceeding to Afghanistan.

14. Orders were issued to Rajah Dhian Sing calling for his return from Jummoo as so many British Cafilas were passing through the Punjab, and his presence in the Durbar was so much required.

15. Orders were issued from the Durbar for the preparation of supplies on the road, and the protection of property and the letter-dak laid by Mr. Clerk on the line of march of Coll. Wild's Brigade and for the assemblage of boats on the Rivers.

16. Orders were issued to the garrison officers at Rohatas, Rawulpindee, and Attok, directing them to protect their forts property, as British troops were passing along.

17. Fakeer Shahdeen reported the arrival of the cafila with Captain Lawrence at Sharukpure.

18. The Maharajah by Goormookh Sing's advice proposed to set out on a tour in the Manjha to intimidate his troops, and other troublesome characters there and only awaited the return of Raja Dhian Sing.

8th December

Mr. Clerk writes that the Maha Rajah was still at Amritsur up to the date cited. His Highness had not been able to induce the detachment to move which was ordered to proceed from Amritsur and Lahore to Peshawur. Raae Keesree Sing, a hillman appointed to command this detachment, is said to be a zealous and brave officer, but the troops refused to accompany him, until their demand for increase of pay was complied with. The only Punjab troops from which Mr. Clerk expected useful cooperation at Peshawur at the present moment, are those in the field with Rajah Golab Singh, and the Maha Rajah, in compliance with Mr. C's wishes to that effect, has authorised Genl. Avitabile to call them to his aid. His Highness has also informed Mr. C. thro' his Vakeel that several orders have been despatched to Genl. Avitabile to attend to Captain Mackeson's requisitions as far as lies in his power.

The distrust subsisting between the Maharaja and Rajah Dhian Sing is said to have arrived to such a pitch, that they are, every two or three days, renewing to one or another, the most sacred oaths of mutual friendship. The Minister had obtained leave for a few days to visit Jummoo.

The Maha Rajah, inclined to rely upon the fidelity of the Munde Rajah whom His Highness lately released from imprisonment, had adopted his advice of holding the Kooloo forts by means of garrison of hill soldiers of Rajah Balbeer Sein's selection.

Trade carried on by the line of the Sutlej between Thibet and our provinces:—

Lieutt. Cunningham, reporting on the trade referred to, states that the principal articles of import are shawl wool, sheep, woollens, sheep wool, borax, and salt but many other articles of luxury or use or curiosity, such as chourees, felts, silks, tea, leather, sulphur, musk, zedary, chinaware, coral, amber, & ca, are also brought to the fair held at Rampoor. Our exports are chiefly mules, poorwehs (wooden cups), cotton piece goods, grain, dried fruits, brass pots, spices, but similarly as with imports, indigo, madder, horse, shoes, bread, cloth, vankobs, sugar, tobacco, medicinal seeds and Bussahir tea are carried to Ladakh or the Garroo fair. Opium was, until the recent regulations of the Chinese Government, by far the most considerable article of export. It was taken to Ladakh for the Yarkund market, and, in the former city also our traders usually disposed of their indigo, but the consumption of that article is not one-fifth what it was before the invasion, and exactions of the Sikhs had greatly impoverished the country. Some traders from Leh report that they scarcely realized any profit from country indigo, as the Yarkandees now got the drug through Bokhara.

The balance of trade is entirely on the side of Tibet owing to the large quantity and great value of the shawl wool brought from that country. Lieutt. C. roughly estimates that our traders import 80,000 Rupees worth of goods annually from Tibet, and that more than two-third of our purchases are made with cash.

Shawl-wool is produced generally in Ladakh and throughout the valleys of the Indus, and its tributaries above Leh—but the goats are also bred along the valley of the Sutlej, above Tholang and around the Mansorawar Lake, while some few are reared in Spiti. The finest wool, however, is that of Rohtuk and our traders either purchase it direct from the goat-herds or from the Government officers, who are said to store up large quantities on their own account in exchange for tea, & ca., or they resort to the Garro fair and thence proceed to Rampoor to dispose of their investments.

In Rohtuk, a goat herd or farmer has occasionally as many as 1,200 goats, male and female, and to tend them he keeps from 30 to 40 servants. The price of the wool in Rohtuk some years ago was eight annas the seer, but the increase of purchasers has latterly almost doubled its value. No wool of the wild goat appears to be taken to Rampoor, tho' it is known as an article of trade to Cashmere.

Sheep-wool and wollens are produced generally in Tibet. The wool is purchased by the Kunwourees at about $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet and sell in Rampoor for 3/- to 6/- each piece. Salt is produced in series of lakes to the n.w. of Rohtuk. The salt is sold on the Kunawur frontier from 25 to 30 seers the rupee or weight for weight for barley. Borax is also procured in small quantities in the salt lakes of Rohtuk and is of a good quality. That article however is chiefly brought from the northern part of the district of Roopshoo (in Ladakh) and nine day's journey from Shalkur, a valley near a village named Roogha, seems the most productive spot, and it there sells for 32 seers the rupee. The trade in this article to Rampoor is chiefly in the hands of the Kampas, as the itinerant traders of Rampoor are called.

Sulphur is also found in an impure state near the village of Rooghoo above mentioned, it sells for about 4 as. the seer. Felts, leather, & ca. from Yarkund and silks, musk etc. from Garroo, are rather articles of occasional, than of regular trade.

Tea of three kinds is brought to the Garroo Fair; it is made up in packages named Chuddums, each weighing from $3\frac{1}{4}$ to $3\frac{3}{4}$ seers. The packages are of paper and several Chunddums are packed into one box or skin. The 1st sort is termed "Zungeha" and the 2nd "Choong Choo". They may be called black teas and sell for about six rupees the Chuddum. The 3rd sort is called "Kopurjeh"—it may be considered a green tea and sells for 18/- the Chuddum. The leaves of the 1st and 2nd sorts are not rolled, those of the 3rd (Kopurjeh) are, and it is described as resembling our tea.

Of our exports, the tea of Bussahir is the first. It is only carried to Garroo & ca. by petty traders and is not always saleable, but, when there is scarcity of Chinese tea in the market somewhat more than a seer may be sold for a rupee. Poorwehs, wooden cups, are made of the excrescence or knob of a tree known as the "Kunzil".

The only grains exported are rice & barley, a small quantity of atta is, however, occasionally taken to Garroo; madder, tho' produced in small

quantities in these hills, is nevertheless exported to Tibet. It is used to dye the garments of the Red order of Lamas. All the grain exported and most of the dried fruits are the produce of the Hills. As carriage, rams, the goats, asses, mules, ponies, and khas are used, but men also are employed.

The report goes on to say that in Ladakh, under the native Government, the subjects of Bussahir are exempt from all duties. All the people of Kanawur appear to be traders but no one realizes more than 300 Rs. in a year, and these are the most respectable ones of the trading body. It is said that only two trade with their own means, the rest borrow money in Rampoor at 20 per cent, almost entirely for the purchase of wool. The trade is entirely in the hands of the money-lenders of Rampoor.

Reinforcements thro' Punjab

5th December

The Govr. Genl.'s Agent on the N.W. Frontier intimates that our troops were marching through the Punjab towards Peshawur in the highest spirits. The Sikh escort officer provides the camp, it is said, with everything required, and the people of the country are most attentive to all the wants of the troops.

Mr. Clerk was further informed that the 19th N. I. had left Kurnaul in the same high spirits as all the sepoy, have shewn in the Lt. Regiments preceding them.

Jellalabad

27th November

A private letter from Jellalabad has the following :—“Since our action of the 14th, we have not been molested by the enemy and each day adds strength to our defenses. The Ghilzye Chiefs, with their followers, are in our neighbourhood, but, apparently, afraid to approach us. I don't think they will be able to hold many days longer. We are greatly in want of money.”

29th November

Captn. Mackeson writes from Futtehghurh as follows:—“travellers say that all is well at Jellalabad.—Aziz Khan with the Ghilzyes is said to be at Charbugh, 5 miles from Jellalabad, but apparently has no stomach for a second fight. The gates at Jellalabad are said to be open during the day, and the Kachis bring in supplies.”

Letters had been recd. by the Shinwari and Afreedi tribes from Kabul, from the Doorani, Khowanni, and Nawab Zeman Khan and Jabbar Khan calling on them to rise, and telling them that 150 “Sahibans” and 2000 of our troops had been destroyed at Cabool, and that only a few remained in the cantonment and the Bala Hissar; that Nawab Zamdar was the head until Mahd Akbar Khan, eldest son of Dost Mahd Khan, who was expected, arrived.

4th December

A later communication from Peshawur states that letters had been recd. at Lallapoorā, containing an account of another victory obtained by our troops at Jellalabad over the rebel Ghilzyes (Khajwarras, and Ghonwarris) under Azeez Khan and Gool Mahomed. The rebels are said to have been totally routed, and vast numbers of them slain.

Further reports state that the troops at Jellalabad had supplies for 40 days, and were in high spirits—and that there was every prospect of the 4 Regts. from Hindostan proceeding as reinforcements, being able to pass thro' the Khybur to Jellalabad without risk—and the very circumstance of their joining Sir Robert Sale's force at the latter place cannot fail to have the very best effect on our interest at Cabool.

Captn. Woodburn's detachment

8th November

A private letter from Kelat-i-Ghilzye states that the detachment under Captn. Woodburn was a coss or two in rear of Captn. Conolly's baggage near Sydahad, about two or three marches from Cabul, when two or three Sowars came back and informed Captn. W. that it (the baggage) had been attacked and plunderd. On receiving this intelligence, he halted the advanced party—let the baggage close up, got the main body to the front, and recovered 5 of Captn. Conolly's camels. On reaching Sydabad he got into a fort with all his party and baggage, cattle, & ca. where they remained unmolested all day. About 11 at night a strong body of men (about 500 or 600) tried to get admittance into the fort, on the plea of having come to assist Ct. W. but the Subadar at the Gate would not allow them to enter. The people in the Boorjees (bastions) then opened a cross fire on the party, which after a time became so ailing, that Ct. Woodburn determined on sallying out. This he accomplished, driving off the party outside, and taking half his men himself and sending the rest round the other side of the fort under Ramdeen Subadar, who fought under him. Both parties, however, were surrounded in a short time by 4 or 5,000 men, when a sepoy came and reported to Ramdeen Subadar that Ct. W. had fallen, being shot dead. Ramdeen with his party then retreated having only 7 or 8 men left, and their ammunition expended. At this moment, the Subadar himself was killed and the few men left with him separated and only two escaped by rolling themselves into the bed of a stream, after having been plundered of everything and severely wounded. It appears that Captn. W. was killed soon after he left the fort, and after this said event Shaikh Khoosal, an naique, 3 sepoy, and 3 sowars of Captn. Conolly's detachment, but who were with Captn. W., made for a hill to the end of the pass near Shasgur, which they reached on the morning of the 4th and hoped to get protection from the zuzalchees, 40 in number

(our paid servants) stationed there to keep the pass; but these latter fired upon him, killing some and wounding those who escaped.

Cabool

28th November

A private communication from Jellalabad mentions that two very successful sorties had been made by our troops at Cabul with heavy loss on the side of the enemy, but none on ours. The troops were said to be in high spirits. All hands hard at work at the defences. They were said to have three months' supplies and were in the Bala Hissar with camp followers and cattle.

Azeed Khan and Gool Mahomed were at Bala Bagh with about 600 followers and about 300 Shunwaree, were near our troops to the south—but they had not been troubled by either.

6th December

The following is extracted from a Ire. From Captn. Mackeson dated 6th Decr:—The rebellion at Cabool is said to have originated in the fear of some of the Khawannis that they were to be sent to Hindustan like Haji Khan and the Haji. The insurgents murdered Sir A. Burnes with a view of raising the cry of a "Balwa for Islam" * and implicating all who might have a share of the plunder of his and Johnson's treasure. By this stratagem their numbers, which were at first not more than forty, were increased by the whole of the Cabul population; the treasure and property plundered in the houses of the different Europeans in the city became the prize of the rabble. The leaders in the insurrection saw the necessity of choosing a head in order to give form and purpose to their masses, and finding that Shah Soojah was not prepared at this stage of their affairs to put himself at their head, they sought out Mullah Mahd. Zaman Khan, Barkazaye. This chief was selected because he was the only person known to possess any wealth, and whether willing or otherwise, he found himself in the hands of the insurgents, and accepted the distinction conferred upon him.

It is he who gives the rebel troops their "minsura", and confers Khilats, and I am told that coin is now struck in his name. It would not appear, however, that his resources have gone far; for by the advice of Amin Ulle Laghan, several merchants have been seized at Cabul and put under restraint, and money to the amt. of 30,000 Rs. exacted from them. Most of the merchants have removed their property to places of security and retired from Cabul. Every day now must add to the difficulty the leaders find in keeping their ill-organized bands together; not only from the failure of their resources, but because the inclemency of the weather will prevent the tribes from remaining collected together with shelter, and without

* Rebellion for Moselemism.

food after the small supply each man brings with him is exhausted. I am told the leaders were concerting to provide against this difficulty by appointing a certain position to each tribe to maintain so as completely to invest and surround the cantonments on all sides; but it was not expected that their plan could be carried out. At present the Ooloos retire into the valleys and city at night, leaving the roads to the cantonment unguarded, and I am told that atta is taken and sold in the Cantonment at night. Our troops are now reported to be altogether in the Cantonments—the Shah with Lieutt. Connolly and his own people being in the Bala Hissar.

Ghuznee

20th November

A private letter from Kelat-i-Ghilzye mentions that Colonel Palmer commanding at Ghuznee had received intelligence from Cabool to the purport that all was again quiet there, and that the Envoy and Minister had gained over the Kohistanees and Khan Shurreem Khan but it is known that this news cannot be true and it only shows the impression which was made by the successful sally of the 14th.

Candahar

19th November

A private letter from Candahar states that Lieutt. Craford⁵ who was proceeding to Cabool in charge of the Dooranee prisoners was attacked on the 8th Novr. at Nasmee, lost all his baggage, servants and 45 horsemen, and himself escaped with difficulty into Ghuznee—Lt. C. had been requested to execute the prisoners in the event of an attempt on their part to escape. As the prisoners were men of influence and tho' from this it was feared their flight would occasion some inconvenience at Candahar yet, up to the latest accounts, none had occurred. Major Rawlinson was endeavouring to seize other parties who might serve as hostages for the chiefs who have escaped.

A private communication from Candahar states that Lt. Coll. McSaren's Brigade of 16th, 42nd, 43d B.N.I. and a troop of Shah's H.A. and Sappers was on its way to Ghuznee and eventually to Cabool in aid of our troops there, and that Capt. Hart's Janbaz was to follow the Brigade with Prince Sufdar Jung.

Major Outram writes that Coll. McSaren's Brigade had reached half way to Kelat-i-Ghilzye without encountering any difficulty in its march. The troops were eager, it is said, to meet the enemy.

19th November

A private letter from Candahar states that the Ghilzye country was

⁵ Lt. Craford (Crawford) was in charge of Shah Shuja's Gurkha levies. After the latter's re-installation at Kabul, his services were placed at the disposal of the British envoy there.

tranquil and that there was no immediate symptom of disturbance in Candahar.

Ghilzyes

28th November

Major Outram reports the death of Guddoo Khan, an enterprising Afghan chief by the revolutionary Ghilzyes. This individual was the most opposed to the British on their first entrance into Afghanistan, but afterwards became their most attached friend. On one occasion, he accompanied Major Outram in his pursuit after Dost Mahomed Khan. His death must be felt as a public loss to our cause in Afghanistan.

Killa Abdulla

25th Novembe

Official despatches from Upper Sinde upto the 25th Novr. mention that an apprehension was entertained that our post at Killa Abdulla would be attacked by the Atchikzyes. The fort, it appears, was suffering from the want of water; but as it is in all other respects a most strong and a very important position and secures the communication between Quetta and Candahar, and as its evacuation would be merely creating a temptation for all the tribes about the Kojuck Pass to rise; Major Outram had issued orders to Lt. Godfrey to maintain his ground in the fort until reinforced and to use means to fill a well that is in the body of the place, by the water courses, as also to excavate tanks or ponds and thus secure a supply of water for the garrison. Major Outram was to reinforce the place with one or two Companies of Infantry from Quetta, with ample ammunition and provisions.

Scinde Upper

15th to 21st November

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the *Precis of Upper Scinde Intelligence* of dates quoted.

1. Major Southeby, commanding a Company of Bengal European artillery, entered the pass on the 15th November *en route* to Candahar, having under his charge a large convoy of military stores. A party of Native Infantry and Poona Auxiliary Horse had been attached to Major S. to aid him in escorting the stores to Quetta.

2. The Kauker portion of the Bolan Rangers had deserted.

3. From Medical advice as to the unhealthiness of Dadur, Brigadier England and Major Outram have decided on reducing the post there next hot season to the lowest strength consistent with safety, as it cannot possibly be abandoned, and supporting it from some other healthy and otherwise favorable position.

20th November

A private communication states that Yacoob Adeemzie, with a band of the Sarawzyes attacked the Brahoees in the pass. Lt. Hammersley *exculpates* Shah Boozroog from any participation in the attack alluded to, and states that that chief parted from him on very friendly terms.

To secure the people at Quetta from any attack by the Kakurs, Lieutenant Hammersley, in consultation with Major Forbes, decided in detaining the wing of the 25th Regt. there, in order to inspire confidence, as also to guard against any *emeute* which might arise.

By accounts from Candahar at Dadur dated 23rd November and from Quetta 25th November all was perfectly tranquil throughout the Candahar province and Major Rawlinson confidently relied on its continuing so, he had had no direct accounts from Cabool, but reports had reached Ghuznie that the insurrection at the capital had been put down, and Major R. argued that from the disposition which the rebellious chiefs near Ghuznie now display to make terms; it was evident a reaction had begun.

29th November

The apprehension of an insurrection among the Kaukers is now proved to have been entirely unfounded, by Gaffoo Khan, the head of all the Kauker tribes, having deputed his brother the chief priest of the tribes and other men of importance among the Kaukers to Maj. Outram's camp to solicit terms. They arrived on the morning of the 29th November.

The arrival of the Murree chiefs has been delayed by an attack of some hostile tribes from the opposite side of their hills, but they are now on their return and may soon be expected.

The following extract from a letter from Major Le Messurier⁶ dated Beila 13th instant, gives the progress of the detachment to that place.

"We arrived here this morning having happily completed the most part of our journey with ease and comparative comfort to ourselves, and without the slightest accident having occurred to our men, followers or property, no one of our numerous stragglers, (and they were plenty of them) from sickness and other causes lost so much as the smallest trifle, while the report of the feeling of alarm and opposition at our transit through the country may not very inaptly be met with by an act of great kindness, experienced by a sergeant of the 41st, who in a long march lost his way near Toorkutee, the wildest part of the country, and wandered amongst some ravines, where he found himself in the midst of a Goodous (tents of the country); the people came out on seeing him of their being well disposed. They gave him milk and bread, and having rested himself, he was shewn the way to Camp by one

6 Major Le Messurier carried on a survey of the western side of the Indus from August 1840 to March 1842. As a result of the Afghan debacle and opposition of the Lahore Darbar, he was not very successful in his mission and resigned his assignment.

of the Brahees; but I regret to add that the Sergeant on seeing our tents dismissed the guide and I could not discover by any means who the individual was, as I wished particularly to reward such an act of kindness. From the foot of the Baram Sukh, as you may have seen yourself, our greatest obstacles in the road occurred particularly from Ramjee to the Pawalee river—20 miles from Beila, the road was generally in the bed of rivers, with high and well-like banks rising from 100 to 300 feet in height and some parts from its extreme narrowness, delayed the guns for a day or so, but I can report what I stated before that had we had an entire company, instead of 20 sappers with us, the road would have been cleaned so perfectly that the benefit we should have done the country in this respect would have been lasting, whereas now the first fall of rain may reduce the roads to almost their original state of difficulty.”

Soumeanee and Kelat Route

3rd December

The Govt. of Bombay report on the authority of communications from Major Holland,⁷ the arrival at Beila on the 14th of November, without encountering any difficulties of the force proceeding under the guidance of that officer from Kelat to Kurrachee via Soumeanee.

Scinde Lower

5th to 7th November

From the Political Diary of Lower Scinde Agency of dates cited, it appears that the 2nd Grenadier Regiment Native Infantry and party of 1st Light Cavalry had arrived at Kurrachee, and that Brigadier Farquharson made a requisition on the Political Agency for three steamers for conveying the right wing 8th Regiment from Tattah and Sukkur.

Indus Steam Navigation

The Precis of Sukkur Intelligence states that the “Comet” Steamer, arrived at Sukkur 18th Nov. from Tattah with the following passengers.

Captain Blackburne, Lieutt. Saddler, Lt. Farmer, H.M.’s Foot—Asstt. Surgeon Horse Artillery, 1 apothecary, 90 rank & file—H.M. 41 Regt. 500 public followers and baggage.

Persia

4th August

In a letter dt. August 4th, Sir John McNeill, G.C.B. H.M.’s Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Persia, reports his arrival at Tubizonde on the 1st Idem.

⁷ Major Holland submitted a detailed memorandum to government on the route from Soumeanee to Kandahar which he had traversed an official duty.

12th September

In a subsequent letter Sir J. McNeill writes that he had received letters from the Shah and his Ministers expressing a strong desire that friendly relations between the British and Persian Courts should be re-established, and that all recollections of the differences that had arisen, should be obliterated. The Envoy adds that the reception which had awaited the mission everywhere since it entered the Persian territory has been in all respects as honorable as on former occasions and in some respects even more distinguished.

Persia-Herat*13th September*

In a communication from him dt. the 13th Sept., the Envoy Extraordinary to the Court of Persia reports that Sheer Mohd. Khan, the Envoy from Herat to Tehran, was at that place up to the date quoted, that he had not received the sum of money that was promised him by the Persian Government and that the Shah had lately treated him with little or no consideration.

Two Commercial Agents on the part of the British Govt. were to reside, one in the capital of Persia and one in Tabreez, with the understanding that he who resides at Tabreez shall be honored with the privilege of Consul General. Also that a Resident of the British Government reside at Bushire as heretofore. Two Commercial Agents likewise to reside on the part of Persia, one in the capital, London, and one in the port of Bombay, and they shall enjoy the same honors and privileges in their respective residencies which the Agents of Great Britain shall enjoy in Persia.

With reference to the ratification of the above treaty with the Court of Persia, Sir J. McNeill, in accordance with the instructions from H.M.'s Government, has addressed a letter to the Officer Commanding the British detach. at Karrack directing him to cause that Island to be evacuated by the British troops.

Sir J. McNeill's reception at Tehran is said to have been most courteous.

Hyderabad**The Imposter Appajee**

The officer commanding Hingalee division, Nizam's army, intimates that as the Despandeahs, Deshmooks, and other people of the Woon Pergunnah have been extensively implicated in the impostors' proceedings, he proposed leaving a company of infantry at Woon, with the view of employing it for the seizure of the parties mentioned. This officer directed Bupoo Despandeah of Woon, who accompanied him to the boundary of the Pergunnah to be placed in confinement, and proposed carrying that individual with him to Hingalee.

Captn. Johnston, commanding the Nizam's troops, writes that, along

with the Impostor, he succeeded in apprehending his adherents amounting in all to about 30 persons and that all Appa's papers have fallen into his hands. Capt. Johnston further states that thirty Sikhs deserted the pretender's party on his apprehension.

The Resident in Hyderabad states that since the apprehension of Appajee and his adherents, another disturbance had arisen in the districts to the west of Ellichpore and that a considerable body of armed men from Scindiah's dominions had obtained possession of a portion of the country in the neighbourhood of Jelgaum. The insurgents alluded to are also headed by an individual who has assumed the designation of Appa Sahib. Orders had been sent to the officer commanding the Ellichpore division, with whom the officers commanding the Aurangabad and Hingalee divisions were to cooperate if necessary, on the apprehension of the rebel and his follower. The result has been that the insurgents were attacked and dispersed by Brigadier Jwemlow. The Brigadier mentions that 83 of the rebels were killed and the Ghurrie of Jamad where they had taken refuge, & which they obstinately defended, had been captured.

Gwalior

Female Infanticide

24th November

The Resident at Gwalior states that female infanticide prevails in the neighbouring territory of the Gwalior Govt. to a considerable extent, and that he has used every effort with the Durbar authorities to induce them to put a stop to this revolting crime.

Lt. Coll. Spiers has furnished a copy to the Durbar of an ordinance instituted by Rajah Bejey Sing of Nawar in sumbut 1821 or 75 years ago, on the subject of female infanticide, with a view to its prevention, with a request that it may be adopted and carried out with reference to all classes of its subjects.

Burmah

3rd November

A private letter from Rangoon of date cited contains the following particulars:—

1st. An opinion prevailed that the King of Burmah was to leave Rangoon in twenty days from the date stated, and that the General of the Ordnance was to be left in command of the place. This person was formerly the Governor of Dallah—It was conceived that His Majesty would make Sarawah his Head Quarters. He surveyed the mouth of the Rangoon river in company with his sons.

2nd. It is reported that the Governor of Martaban applied for 500 men,

owing, it is thought, to the arrival of our troops at Moulmein, but His Majesty, it is said, declined to send them.

3rd. A rumour prevailed that His Majesty was going to expel all foreigners from his country.

4th. The King's measures appear to have rendered him very unpopular with his subjects.

Nipal

30th November

The Resident in Nipal states that the Maha Raja has addressed a Khureeta to the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council in which His Highness humbly tenders an *amende* to His Lordship; solicits forgiveness for past offences, pledges himself solemnly to abide by the arrangements concluded at Nagakote, and concludes by entreating that the old amicable relations between the two Governments may be restored by the removal of the frontier force. It appears from Mr. Hodgson's letter that at the requisition of the Maha Raja, Futteh Jung Sah, the premier and the other chiefs who form the effective body of the Nipalese Ministry, waited on that gentleman and solicited his intercession with the Governor General on the points alluded to above.

Mr. Hodgson further states that the Ministers mentioned to him with reference to the late movements of the Rajah (vide News Letter No. 35) that in future no such movements should be made without due notification to the British Resident and with a proper limitation of the number of troops.

4th December

The Resident in Nipal writes in a demi-official letter that the Maha Raja left the capital for Hitoudna with a smaller number of troops than that which accompanied him to Thankote. The Maha Raja has undertaken this journey with the previous knowledge of the Resident who was shortly to follow His Highness to Hitounda.

10th December

In a private letter dated 10th December, the Resident intimates that the Maha Raja had returned with his followers from Hitounda and that he (Mr. Hodgson) saw no reason to ascribe this movement to any material political cause.

China

October

A private letter from Macao states with respect to the Madagascar's crew, that the intelligence of their misfortune reached Canton on the 8th October; that two linguists, with a mandarin, were instantly despatched—

the lingusit speaking English and Hindoostanee, and that instructions were given to provide for them, and treat them with kindness. The Chinese suppose the "Madagascar" to be a merchant-man.

Chinese troops were being collected from the Canton river, and the defences reconstructed. 500 men were posted near the Macao passage and the other 500 somewhere behind Golgotha. It is said that the Enemy expected the English fleet and had sent these men to oppose them.*

31st October

The following is the distribution of the force in China under the command of Lieutt. General Sir Hugh Gough, K. C. B.

		<i>Officers</i>	<i>Rank & File</i>
	Royal Artillery		
	Madras —do— Europeans	61	1069
	—do— —do— Natives		
	18th Royal Irish Regt.		
	26th Cameronians		
	29th Regt.		
<i>Ningpo</i>	Royal Marines		
	55th Regt.		
	Rifle Compy. 36th M.N.I.		
	Madras Sappers & Miners.		
	Madras Arty. European		
	Do —do— Natives		
	18th Royal Irish Regt.		
<i>Chin-hao</i>	29th Regt.		
	Royal Marines		
	55th Regt.	24	541
	Rifle Compy 36th M.N.I.		
	Madras Sappers & Miners.		
	Madras Artillery Europeans		
	do —do— Natives		
<i>Cheeteh</i>	49th Regiment	16	517
	55th —do—		
	Rifle Compy 36 M.N.I.		
	Madras Sappers & Miners.		
<i>Kulungsu</i>	Madras Artillery Europeans		
	—do— —do— Natives		
	18th Royal Irish Regt.	19	529
	26th Cameronians		
	Madras Sappers & Miners.		

*For late operations in China see official Gazettes of Decr. 18th and 20th respectively.

		<i>Officers Rank & File</i>	
<i>Hong-Kong</i>	Madras Artillery Europeans		
	do —do— Natives		
	18th Royal Irish Regt.		
	26th Cameronians		
	29th Regiment		
	55th —do—		
	Bengal Volunteer Detacht.	45	1256
	37th M.N.I.		
	Madras Sappers & Miners		
On board ship	Royal Artillery		
(Chinhre & Chusan)	18th Royal Irish Regt.	2	55
	49th Regiment		
	55th —do—		
Grand Total		167	3,967

Fort William
22 December 1841

H. V. Bayley
Assistant Secy. to Govt. of India

(*Ref* :— Foreign Department, Miscellaneous, Vol. 334 pp. 782-873)

Newsletter 66 : January 1, 1842

(No. 1 of 1842)

The Sikhs and the Chinese Tartars

9th December

The Commissioner of Kumaon states with reference to the fact of Zorawur Sing's camp being invested by a large Chinese force (vide newsletter No. 35 dated the 10th Decr. 1841) that on some date between the 10th & 20th of Novr., a fight took place between the two, in which from 200 to 250 Sikhs of various descriptions were killed, and 60 taken prisoner.

Zorawur Sing is said to have received a letter from Raja Gulab Singh to the effect that "if he (Zorawur Sing) came back to Lahore with the loss of his Thibetan conquests, he would also lose his nose." On the receipt of this letter, the General is said to have fought his way back from Missur to Googoombo in the neighbourhood of the Munsorawar¹ Lake, and to Gyanura, distant only 3 marches from Tuklakote, and the Commissioner states that Zorawur Sing was about to fight his way to Tuklakote and reinforce Bustee Ram. He is said to have lost about 400 men from death and desertions, besides his Kurdumkote garrison, and the heads of all the dead Sikhs and Ladakhees were collected in the Chinese camp at Tuklakote, to be sent off by dawk in baskets to Lhasa. The Sikh leader expected reinforcement from Golab Sing.

It is reported that eleven hundred "yaks" from Lhasa laden with grain, barley, and other supplies, have reached the Chinese force at Tuklakote.

The temper of the Chinese towards our Bhotias is said to be most oppressive and haughty and the latter say that, of the two, they would far prefer the Sikhs under Zorawur Sing, to the Chinese under Kullum-seer-Kwang.

The Goorkhas had not been heard of either in the Sikh camp or at Tukalkote. The Joomla Pass is said to be closed, and all was quiet in the Dotee frontier up to the date cited above.

17th December

The Resident in Nepal intimates that a Kharita was about to be

-
- 1 *Munsorawar* (Mansorawar) the largest lake of the Himalayas from which rise about half a dozen major rivers of northern India, including the Brahmaputra, the Ganges, the Jamuna, the Sutlej and the Indus, etc. Sacred to the Hindus.
 - 2 *Bhotias* : inhabitants of Bhot-pa or Ladakh, also known as Little Tibet (or Iskardo). They had close ethnic affinity with the inhabitants of eastern Tibet and called themselves Bhotias.

despatched by the Nepalese Durbar to the Viceroy of Lassa, tendering the services of the Goorkha army for the expulsion of Zorawur Sing. This offer is a mere pretence, and designed, most likely, to blind the Viceroy to the Raja's intrigues with the Sikh General, of whose retreat the Raja is said to be now aware.

Peshawur & the Khyber Pass

Captain Mackeson reports that Lieutt. Liprott's detachment with the magazine stores arrived at Peshawur on the 13th December.

10th December

Captain Mackeson writes that there appears some doubt whether Mahomed Akbar Khan has not sent letters from Cabool of an inflammatory nature to the Afredi tribes, calling on them to close the Khyber pass and allow no European a transit, as also to the tribes of Ningrabar, calling on them to unite and attack the force at Jellalabad. This chief, however, was much straightened for want of money.

Capt. Mackeson has written to Lt. Coll. Tullock³ to hasten to Peshawur *en route* to Cabool, in order to allay any new excitement that might be caused in consequence of Mahd. Akbar's conduct.

Capt. M. adds, our Enemies are contemptible in every thing but their numbers. So Genl. J. Pollock has arrived at Rawul Pindee with his detachment.

Cabool Jellalabad—the Khyber & Col. McLaren's⁴ Brigade.

11th December

Captain G. H. MacGregor states that they were not afraid of treachery within the town at Jellalabad; that they had turned out all suspicious persons leaving only tradesmen and artificers, and that they had established a market outside the walls to which the villagers brought attah, sheep, fowls, grain & c.

24th November

Sir Robert Sale reports that incessant labour has put Jellalabad in a good state of defence. Eleven guns and five mortars are mounted on the works which have now a widened rampart & growing parapet of 3 feet.

5th December

Captain MacGregor reports on the authority of a messenger who left Cabool on the 30th Novr. last, that a battle was fought on the 23rd. The enemy first occupied the Dehmarrom hills, & were attacked by sallying

3 Lt. Col. Tullock of the Army of Indus was despatched with a contingent through the Khyber pass in December 1841 in order to reinforce British troops at Kabul.

4 Col. McLaren (Maclaren) was attached to the Army of Indus. In August 1841 he was appointed officiating Political Agent at Ghazni.

parties from the Bala Hissar & the cantonment. Shazada Futteh Jung & the Nizamood Dowlah led the party from the Bala Hissar. The contest is said to have been a sanguinary one. Meea Musjeedee & several other chiefs were slain & the enemy defeated.

10th December

A private letter mentions that the enemy had not ventured on even a demonstration towards Jellalabad since the 1st. Decmber last. The hostile chiefs were at Umkheil, twelve miles distant, but were said to have few followers & were distracted with dissensions amongst themselves.

The private communication goes on to say that our ultimate success in the action of the 23d. Novr. at Cabool does not appear doubted. Our troops, however, met with a check in the first onset & a gun fell into the hands of the enemy.

Lt. Coll. Oliver, 5th N.I., Captain Mackintosh of the same corps, & Lt. Laing, 27th, were killed, & Captain Walker, Irregular Horse, died of his wounds. On the part of the insurgents, Meea Musjeedee, the most influential chief of the Kohistanees fell, & Abdullah Khan Uchuckzye, the assassin of Sir Alexr. Burnes, was wounded. Captain Mackeson writes that a person from Cabool arrived at Peshawur, confirming the intelligence of the action of the 23rd. referred to, & stating that, at Cabool, it was rumoured, that the force, that had gone against Akbar Khan, had reached Makkoor on its way from Kundahar to Cabool, & that the rebels were suing for terms.

11th December

Captn. McGregor states that on the 6th. & 7th Decr. he had heard at Jellalabad, throughout each day, sounds of artillery. He was not certain whether these sounds came from Cabool, but that they were not to be traced nearer to Jellalabad.

16th December

Captain Mackeson states a rumour that Akbar Khan had been bought over by the Envoy & Minister. This intelligence was recd. from a Mulla from Cabool.

4th December

A private letter from Dadur dt. 4 Decr. last states that letters had been recd. at Candahar mentioning that Coll. McLaren's Brigade had reached Kelat-i-Ghilzye without difficulty, & continued its march from the day of its arrival without a halt. It is said to have lost some of the cattle & the sepoy were most eager to meet the enemy. Later accounts from Col. McLaren's Brigade give information that the inclemency of the season, & the consequent loss in his carriage cattle, had obliged the Colonel to return towards Candahar, which, it was expected, he would be able to do

without obstruction or much inconvenience. The conduct of the sepoy is said to have been most enduring & spirited.

Scinde Upper

20th November to 5th December

The following is extracted from the digest of Upper Scinde Intelligence of dates cited on the margin :—

The Murree Chief, Deen Mahomed, writes that he had deputed his uncle to meet any person from Major Outram at Lehree.

As Coll. Stacy is about to proceed to Lehree, in company with the Khan, who proposes making a circuit of Cutchee. Major Outram had little doubt that gentleman would, by personal communication with Deen Mahomed's uncle, entirely remove all mistrust, and induce him to adhere to his original proposition to come personally to the Major's camp.

30th November

Announced to the Khan that the Governor General had ratified the treaty, and that to evince the sincere desire of the British Government for the welfare of the chief and prosperity of his Government, His Lordship had acceded to the Khan's solicitation for protection against foreign enemies which would be pledged in an additional article to the treaty.* Meer Nuseer Khan wrote in reply, expressive of the gratitude he felt for the kindness of the British Government on this subject.

1st December

Issued proclamations announcing that Catchee had been restored to the Kelatstate and enjoining obedience to Meer Nuseer Khan. Proclamations were likewise promulgated by the Khan assuring all present possessors of Jageer lands, and property, of uninterrupted enjoyment thereof, and expressing his determination to earn the good will of his people by his just Government, also intimating that he was about to proceed on a tour thro' the district and inviting all who had aught to petition for to attend on his approach to their neighbourhood when he could personally hear any one.

7th December

The Kankar deputies took leave, much gratified by their treatment, fully assured and pledged to take Guffur Khan, the principal Chief of all the Kankar tribes, to Lt. Hammersley at Kuetta, who would there conclude a mutually advantageous settlement with them, to the inclusion of the refugees from the Bolan Rangers, who the deputies prove to have belied

* The words of the additional article of the treaty are as follows :—

“In case of an attack on Meer Nuseer Khan by an open foreign power, the British Government afford him assistance or good offices, as it may judge to be necessary or proper for the maintenance of his right.”

that Chief by pretended rebellious intentions to join their own ends. These ends, Major Outram states, are quite opposed to those of the Chiefs of the tribe, it being the aim of Shah Boozgoorg, the leader of the deserted rangers, to raise himself to the chieftainship thro' the aid of British influence, and backed by the worst characters of the tribe whom he had drawn to his interests by the means obtained in our service.

Capt. Owen, commanding a wing of the 1st Bombay Lt. Cav. *en route* from Sukkur to Jessulmere reports the arrival of the wing at the place last mentioned on the morning of the 13th Novr. last. Capt. O. states that during a difficult and trying march thro' an almost barren land, he received the most valuable aid in regard to supplies and guidance from Bahadur Khan, the servant of Meer Rustum Khan, and from the Meer himself in his own territory. Capt. O. concludes by reporting that no kind of irregularity was committed by the troops or followers of his command, during their presence in the Khyrpore territories.

Sooumeanee Route

3rd December

Major Outram reports the arrival at Sooumeanee of the detachment of Horse arty. & infantry which marched from Kelat under the guidance of Major Le Messurier on the 16th Oct. last. The march of the troops throughout had been a successful one, not only unchecked by the slightest opposition but accompanied by the exhibition of good will towards them by the tribes occupying the wild and hitherto untroubled tract which they passed through. The safe arrival of the detachment at Sooumeanee satisfactorily clears up the doubts which had hitherto so long prevailed as to the practicability of this route.

The Persian Gulf

29th November

Capt. J. W. Grey, Commander of the H. M. S. "Endymion" states, that he found during his recent voyage in the Persian Gulf, that at Tanrie, Bahrein, Sharja, Rasal Khyma & Bunder Abbass all was quiet and peaceable.

Turkish Arabia

22nd September

The Poll. Agent in Turkish Arabia states that all preparations for the movement of Ali Shah & the other Princes to Aleppo appear to be suspended or altogether abandoned. Rumour from Arabia stated that Khalid was still at war with his neighbours, aided by a body of Egyptians of the force commanded originally by Koorshed Pacha.

The Shaikh of Jebel Shammar was in the field & had added to his force some artillery of large calibre.

Bagdad

20th September

The Poll. Agent in Turkish Arabia reports that the French at Bagdad had evinced much jealousy in regard to our steamers & their pursuits. They are also said to manifest the greatest interest for the temporal protection of the native adherents of the Church of Rome inhabiting the Pachalic, "clearly" (as adds the Poll Agent) "to form this numerous population into fit instruments for the attainment of future political ends."

Bagdad—The Euphrates

20th September

An order of the French Ministry is reported to have reached their Consul General at Bagdad, enjoining him to travel over Mesopotamia & to assure himself of the real view of the English on the Euphrates.

Bagdad Persia

20th September

The Poll. Agent in Turkish Arabia states that the Bishop Trioche, formerly Vice Consul at Bagdad, was expected at Bagdad as Bishop of Babylonia, and is said to be the bearer of despatches from the Ministry at Paris to their Consul General instructing him definitely to proceed to Persia, and in person, conclude a treaty with the Shah.

Oudh

8th to 14th November

The Lucknow Diary of dates quoted states Rajah Durshun Singh, Nazim of Gondah and Bahraitch, had surrounded the Gurhee of Dirbijy Sing, the rebel Talookdar of Bulrampore, and fought for two days when the rebel evacuated the fort, and that nearly 100 men were killed and wounded on both sides. The Diary further states that a Karindah of the Talookdar and more than 600 of his followers had been made prisoners and that some horses and ten large and small guns were taken. The King of Oudh issued orders to send the guns and horses to Lucknow, to demolish the Gurhee and to fill up the trench. With reference to these internal disorders further accounts mention that the Chuchleeldars of Purtabgurh and Sultanpore had attacked the Gurhee of Sunkree Sing Talookdar, and that one of Captain Magnes's officers was killed. Another account states that the attack on the fort of Shunkree was successful, that the Chief had, however, escaped, but that a number of his followers had been killed and wounded, and that the Tahsildars had also some men killed and wounded. It is mentioned that Mr. Nesbitt in Captain Magnes' Rissalah and Mr. Spry in Captain H. Hearsay's Regiment were also among the killed.

Nagopre—H. M. 39th Foot*15th December*

The Resident at Nagpore intimates that Her Majesty's 39th Regiment was to leave Kamptee⁵ *en route* to Agra about the 25th December last. The Regiment is expected to reach its destination about the first week in February.

Rajpootana*12th December*

Lieutt. Coll. Sutherland in his Despatch of December 12th reports that on the withdrawal of the 55th Native Infantry from Nusseerabad, he offered the Brigadier Commanding the services of the Kotah contingent to take a share of the duties of that cantonment. Brigadier Kennedy thought the force was such a one as would be very useful, and it has accordingly been placed at his disposal and was to march from the South Eastern quarter of the Ajmere district to Nusseerabad.

North East Frontier*27th December*

Brigadier J. H. Littler Commanding Eastern Frontier reports that tranquillity prevailed throughout Silchar and the Munipore frontier.

Burmah*6th December, 1841*

A private letter from Moulmein states that nothing of any moment had occurred to disturb the tranquillity of the place. "But", proceeds the letter, "there is every reason to believe, that the Burmese are working quietly to accomplish some object of a military nature—either preparing against an attack from us, or to act on the offensive, should a favourable opportunity offer."

The King of Ava is said to have gone on a visit to Pegu for a few days, and had ordered a number of Gunboats to be built at Rangoon, of a superior class. It also appeared that some regular troops, about from 3 to 500 men were to garrison Martaban, and that militia had been called out, amounting to 3,000 men for the purpose of completing the fortifications of that town.

The last detachment of the 14th N.I. in the "Agnes" landed at Moulmein on the 5th Decr.

The location of the 50th Regiment at Moulmein, it is said, has had a considerable effect on the movements of the Burmese Government, and it appears to entertain great apprehensions of our Naval force in Moulmein river under Captain Kuper.

⁵ *Kamptee*, a cantonment town in Nagpur district, Madhya Pradesh.

Nipal

The Resident reports that the Nipalese Court followed the Heir Apparent once more to Hitounda, (vide News Letter No. 36 d/22nd December, 1841) on the 4th. December last, returned to the valley on the 10th, and to palace on the 14th. The ostensible reason of the Prince's journey was his desire to get some large Elephants that were refused at the Captial for fear of harm ; but the real motive of the movement is said to have been that jealousy of his step-mother and her sons which he has inherited from the late queen. Mr. Hodgson states that this jealousy had put him in motion again in the same direction with the Court after him. In the journey to Hitounda referred to, the attendance on the Heir Apparent is said to have been duly limited as regards troops, and previous intimation was courteously conveyed to the Resident by the Rajah of the intended movement.

26th to 30th November

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Nipal Diary of dates quoted.

(1) There had been a communication between the Durbar and the Resident, in relation to the cessation of past terms of difference and alienation. An adjustment had been come to which it was hoped will suffice to preserve present peace and hereafter gradually to improve the temper and views of the Durbar.

(2) Balur Jung Sah is appointed to Dotee vice Jam Sah, and Randall and Ingtbeem Pandeys to Palpa, vice Singbim Pandey.

(3) The Kala Pandeys are said to enjoy in some degree the confidence of the Maha Rajah, and His Highness courts the Thappas in secret.

(4) All was quite and orderly at the capital up to the dates quoted.

20th December

The Resident states, that with reference to the present posture of British affairs in regard to Ava, Cabool, & China, His Highness has made a tender of the services of his troops to the British Government.

China

5th October

The following is extracted from a private letter from China.

"Amoy⁶. I had a very satisfactory report from Captn. Smith of the "Druid" respecting the Detachment in possession of Golongsoo Island dated the 12th September, where every thing was going on quietly. The Chinese were

⁶ *Amoy*, a sea-port and commercial town on a small island of the same name, off the Chinese coast, opposite Taiwan. It was one of the earliest ports for European commerce in China, the Portuguese having established here in the 16th century, and the Dutch in the 17th. In 1841 it was taken by the British; the Treaty of Nanking (1842) declared it open to British trade.

gradually returning to Amoy and we received tolerable supplies of what we required.

Extract from another letter :

“Amoy is the nicest place I have yet seen in China, but we met there with far less resistance than I expected, and indeed, than all expected.

“*Chusam*—You would not have known Tinghal (*Chusam*). I really did not at first. The Joss house⁷ hill has been fortified upon our own foundations, looking more like some of the castles on the Rhine than what it was. The whole line from Sapper’s point to the Creek eastward beyond the suburb, a distance of nearly two miles, is one line of battery, and in front of the suburbs, raised on a solid stone foundation with arched gateways of cut-stone, the whole walls of the city have been repaired, and the parapet heightened and new gate towers built above all the gates—all these works, to say nothing of a fortified camp and two forts on the western heights, must have incessantly occupied some hundred workmen, since Feby. last. They have not neglected the ornamental work, all the statues great and small, in our Temple have been new gilt & painted, but, on the other hand, the old commandant’s house, all the old arsenals and the pawnbrokers’ shop, are completely waste, nothing left but the posts & roof. New Arsenals however, had been established, and the place evidently converted into a large military station.

“We had a brisk affair on the Sapper’s hill and they made a stand also in the long battery, but they evidently expected to be attacked from the harbour, and were battered by our landing on the other side of Sapper’s point, and taking in flank. I met many old acquaintances, who grinned welcome, and many shops were open the very next day and almost all before we left for Chinbae.

“*Chinhae*⁸—was the smartest affair, and as a military operation, the prettiest thing we have had. The Chinese suffered awfully; it never fell to my lot before to see so many dead bodies or so many fearful wounds—our fellows certainly behaved gallantly, the conduct of this little force is, I think, extraordinary.

“*Ningpho*—here have we taken and occupied 3 large wealthy towns, one after another, and with the sole exception of an outbreak of a few men of the 18th. at *Chinhae*, which was promptly repressed, there has been no misconduct, and here in the midst of this wealthy city are our men wanting every thing, ill clothed, miserably housed, and indifferently fed, without a complaint, so that, as was justly remarked, you may traverse the town in

⁷ *Joss house hill* : ‘Joss House’, literally a Chinese temple, or a family place of worship, found almost universally in all Chinese homes. Here it refers to a village or community temple, built on a hillock.

⁸ *Chinhae* was the maritime base of the river Yung or Ningpo in China. Ningpo which occupies a commanding position on the Chusan archipelago, is about ten miles from the harbour which was captured by the British in October 1841.

every direction without being aware that there is a soldier in it. There are hundreds of fine Mandarin houses in the town and handsome shops. Head Quarters are established in an old public building.

26th October

“*Ningpo*—Here we are still in Ningpo, and so far as I know, not likely to leave it, a ransom having been demanded, I for one have no objection to Ningphoo for winter quarter; but it is no easy matter to hold so much with so few men. It is reported that Hung-chow too is surrounded by a cordon of troops—all the intermediate country appears to be abandoned and there the stand is, it is said, to be made, if we had only a few hundred more men, it would be only a pleasant walk for us.

“The Banks here are curious things, fancy a couple of 1,00,000 thousand Dollars worth of cash, collected in one place in Stuckoes. There are several of these banks in the town but nobody seems to know whether public or private property or both combined, in the meanwhile, they are protected; in short, we are hampered by the vastness of our acquisition and the non-resistance in this city.

“The great number of very fine ponies, to the amount of probably 200 or more, that are loose in the town, is a curious circumstance. Whether there was any cavalry here, or whether they formed the studs of Mandarins who let them loose in their flight, I have not been able to make out. The Revd. Mr. Gutzlaff has been very active and very useful here. The Artillery with the whole of the Madras Establishment is quartered in the public building, where Anstruther, Mrs. Noble, & the rest were imprisoned.”

H. V. Bayley

Assistant Secy. to Govt. of India

Fort William

1 January 1842

(Foreign Department, Miscellaneous, Vol. 335, pp. 2—44).

Newsletter 67 : January 8, 1842

(No. 2 of 1842)

North West Frontier

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Ukhbar of dates marginally noted :—

4th December

Orders were issued to Choonee Lall Jemadar of Hurkarras, informing him of the march of the British Troops thro' the Punjab to punish the Afghan rebels and directing him to report regarding the progress of the troops as well as to warn the garrison in the Attock Fort to be on the alert and to protect their fort and the camp followers. The Charyaree officers being questioned as to their partiality towards the Sundhunwallas, replied that they had nothing to do with them; that they were obedient to the Maharaja; that without his orders they had not moved towards Peshawur, tho' so often urged by Rajah Dhian Singh, and were now ready to march anywhere. They added that they deserved the increase of pay such as had been granted to the Ghoorchuras; that they had done greater services to the Maharajah, when, in June last, H. H. had marched against them with the arty. to blow them up; that they had shewn great moderation in their surrendering Sirdar Jowala Singh and his sons and brothers at the Maharajah's request, and that had they then resisted, the Punjab Govt. would have been at an end. The Maha Rajah acknowledged the truth of their assertions and promised to comply with their demands.

Bukshee Bhuggut Ram requested that the 3 Battalions just returned from Koloo under Colonel Kaub Sing, had been clamorous for pay and were likely to raise disturbances. The Maharaja observed that they must pay for the loss they had occasioned to the Doaba villages, and to the hill subjects on their line of march from Koolloo to Lahore; that otherwise all of them should be fined a month's pay.

Fakeer Azeezooden represented that the late Maha Raja Runjeet Singh had rendered every kind of assistance to the British in Colonel Wade's time, and furnished troops, guns, magazine, and whatever was wanted to meet the necessities of these times. The Maha Raja observed that no pains should now be spared to please the British Govt. and Mr. Clerk, and every aid should be given, and turning to the Fukeer and Bhaee Goormookh Sing, the Maha Raja added that he was convinced of the sincerity of the British Govt.,

and was prepared to do whatever was required of him. Orders were issued to Sirdars Chutter Sing¹, and Nahur Sing, of Attaree, directing them to request Koonwur Purtaub Sing's permission, and to march with all their sowars to Attock.

6th December.

Bhaee Goormookh Sing asked Rae Kishen Chund regarding the Sundhunwalas in the protected States. The latter replied that these Chiefs had never been admitted to an interview with Mr. Clerk; that Mr. C. was very anxious that unanimity might exist among the Chiefs of the Durbar; that the Sundhunwallas, it was plain, were chiefs of high rank, but that had some common officer of the Lahore Court made his escape into the British territories, he could have perhaps induced Mr. Clerk to have allowed him to be brought back to the Durbar, that notwithstanding the recommendations of their high rank, & representations to our Agent and to Govt. itself by Sirdar Ajeet Sing, and his offers of the whole kingdom of Punjab, if it would once be established in the name of Mae Chund Koonwur for her life, and its Vizirut to Attar Sing, as well as the proposal of a British Resident being stationed at Lahore, the Sundhunwallahs were in no way listened to, and were at last referred to Mr. Clerk by the Supreme Govt. Rae Kishen Chund observed that experience had shewn him, that the British had always dealt above board with every Chief, and that even the weakest widows in the protected Sikh states were free and unmolested rulers of their hereditary possessions.

Rai Kishree Sing was ordered to set out immediately, and told that the Charyarees could follow him. General Avitabile was informed of Raee Keshree Sing's march, and directed to act in concert with him and Capt. Mackeson in coercing the Afhgans. Sirdar Sham Singh of Attaree reported that the passage of the British troops was no way troublesome, to the Lahore subjects; that it was the custom in these Camps in case of any damage to send for the sufferers, and have them paid for their loss on the spot, and taking certificate to that effect. Raee Keisree Sing added that he knew well how easily the British Camps passed; that a proclamation was at every stage issued prohibiting all aggressions on the part of the Camp followers, or troops, against the inhabitants under pain of severe punishment. The Maha Rajah remarked that in whatever direction the Khalsa troops might march, the country for 10 miles round was altogether ruined.

9th December

Raee Kishen Chand represented that by rendering assistance to the British in this crisis, a satisfactory letter from the Governor General for

1, *Sirdar Chutter Sing of Attaree*, son of Sardar Jodh Singh, is said to have been a mere stooge of Raja Gulab Singh. For a while he betrothed his minor daughter Tej Kaur to Maharaja Dalip Singh, himself a minor. In the upheaval that ensued, he worked to safeguard the interests of his master, Raja Gulab Singh.

Koonwur Purtab Sing, such as had been written in return for Koonwur Nao Nihal Sing's activity, would be received; and reminded the Maha Raja how Nao Nihal Sing's services in the Khyber Pass were praised by the Governor General. The Maha Rajah replied that he was very right, but that unfortunately the active operations already commenced against Payundah Khan still engaged Koonwur Purtab Sing and Rajah Golaub Sing; but that could they only get rid of that affair, they could proceed at once to Peshawur. General Avitabile was ordered to march from Peshawur with two Mahomedan and two Ramghol Battalions, and the Alowalia's troops, and join Capt. Mackeson, and assist him in every respect.

17th December

The Govr. Genl's Agent on the N.W. Frontier states, that, the Sikh troops in the Hazara country seem to have met with more opposition than Rajah Golab Sing at one time expected to encounter from Payandah Khan. He every year gives much trouble to the Sikh Government and, tho' the measures taken by the Rajah on this occasion, for his coercion, have been very energetic, it is probable that his casue derives strength from the turbulent spirit which is now being displayed by the Mohomedan tribes, in general, on the Afghan border.

Rajah Dhian Sing returned from Jummo on the 10th Instt, after an absence of a week. He chose the best time, for his purpose of proving to such rival as Bhaee Goormookh Singh, of how little practical use he can be as a Minister.

A respectable man who is much about the Court, told Mr. Clerk lately, that the sentinels now refuse to stand or walk, but will only discharge that duty sitting and cited it as a fair sample of the relaxed easy condition, on which alone the troops at and near the Capital, will consent to pay any obedience to orders.

Rae Keisree Sing, who was appointed to command a contingent to cooperate with the British troops proceeding to Peshawur, may however, have the means of assembling troops capable of doing good service. He is himself a soldier, and, being such in the confidence of Rajah Goolaub Sing, can, through him, procure braver and hardier troops than are to be found in the Khalsa Battalions. If the Rajah is not now himself in difficulty in his operations against Pyundeh Khan, some of the troops in the field there will probably have been detached, ere this, towards Peshawur.

12th December 1841

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Akhbar of dates marginally noted :—Gecan Sing, Commandant with the advance party of the British troops on their way to Peshawur, reported their arrival at Rawalpindee. Orders were issued to the Officer in the Chinaub and the Jehlum rivers to collect boats for the pasage of the British troops.

Rajah Dhian Sing remarked that the constant false reports from the News Papers of Hindustan, and from some of the Khalsa servants regarding the British invasion of the Punjab had alarmed the Durbar; but that the advices of Raae Kishan Chund had afforded much satisfaction. Raae Kishan Chund having made an allusion to the attention of the Durbar in effecting the safe passage of the Shah's families and the 10 lakhs of Rupees under Surdars Sham Singh of Attaree, and Futteh Sing Mean, Raae Keisre Sing and Mean Arheil Sing, the Rajah observed that no deviation from the established treaties should ever take place, and since Mr. Clerk never put faith in the representations of interested persons, the same conduct would be pursued by the Durbar.

13th December

Raae Keisree Sing requested payment for the Charyaree troops, and the Maha Rajah's compliance with their demands.

The Maha Rajah ordered all his Amla, and the Ranees to march to Tulwara, and himself started towards Adeean on the other side of the Ravee, apparently with a view to listen to the demands of the Charyarees, and to despatch them with Raae Keisree Sing, after disbursing the rewards, & c. Rajah Dhian Sing, recommended the Maharajah to march towards Wuzeerabad after the review of the troops at Meean Meer, as this would create an impression on the minds of the people, that the Maha Rajah himself had marched to punish the insurgents. The Maha Rajah observed that he would move in that direction, and would visit some sacred tombs at Goojeranwala.

16th December

Raae Keisree Sing having attended, reported to the Maha Rajah that he had prevailed upon 1000 Charyaree Sowars to accompany him to Peshawur, and that they had marched about 2 coss from Shah Deerah. The Maha Rajah, thereafter, detached Meean Labh Singh to persuade the rest of the Charyarees, but his endeavours to prevail upon them were in vain. The Sowars remonstrated against marching to Peshawur, and the Maha Rajah proposed himself to remain for 2 or 3 days at Shahdeerah, in order to induce them to march by encouraging each Sowar and granting them presents.

Fukeer Shahoodeen requested the appointment of some officer to attend on Captain Lawrence proceeding to Peshawur, and Sooraj Bhan, Adjutant was ordered to set out with his Sowars on that duty. Fukeer Nooroodeen reported that he had sent a zeeafut to Captain Lawrence. Orders were issued to Sheikh Imam-oo-Deen to detach Raae Chund Rissaldar with his Sowars to escort Captain Lawrence. Raja Dhian Sing proposed that Sheikh Imam Oodeen may be stationed at Kauch Kuchet or between that place and Hussen,²

2 *Hussen* (Hasan Abdal), an important village in the Rawalpindi district, close to the ancient archaeological ruins of Taxila. It took its name from Baba Hasan Abdal, a Muslim saint from Afghanistan who had come to India with Mirza Shah Rukh, son of Prince Timur and grandson of Ahmed Shah Abdali.

as a permanent cantonment, since the passage having been once opened at that line, it can no longer be obstructed without incurring the risk of a quarrel with the British Government. The Rajah observed that he was not satisfied with Dewan Sewan Mull, and that measures should be taken to remove him from Mooltan. But the Maha Rajah desired the Raja to remain silent on this subject until the arrival of Raja Golab Sing and Koonwur Pertaub Sing. From the Huzara news it appeared that Rajah Golab Sing had crossed over his troops against Payundeh Khan by means of boats, and inflated skins called "Daraees", that the Khan was still on his Chukhergunah and Arab forts with his armed peasantry, but that the Rajah was resolved to extirpate him.

12th December

Coll Kank Sing reported his arrival from Mundee with both of his battalions at Amritsur.

21st December

Dewan Deena Nauth suggested to the Maha Raja again to issue orders to Rajah Golab Sing and to Koonwur Pertaub Sing to collect boats on the Attock, to form a bridge over it for the passage for the British troops. These orders were immediately issued and Raja Golab Sing and the Koonwar were also called upon to detach the Battalions under Budree Nauth, Commandant, and that lately under Mr. Le Font from Hazara to join General Avitabile and Captain Mackeson without the least delay.

23rd December

The Maha Raja in consultation with Bhaee Goormookh Sing and Raja Dhian Sing prepared an answer to Mr. Clerk's last Khurreetah, to the effect that Rajah Golab Sing and Koonwar Pertab Sing having immediately marched as a support at Attock, General Avitabile with 5 battalions & the ordinary army of Peshawur would cooperate with Captain Mackeson & Capt. Lawrence in punishing the Khyberes & Moolkeeahs, and that Surdars Sham Sing Ataree Walla, and Surdar Futteh Sing Maun, with the Missaldar horse, would encamp at Peshawur and that presently Surdar Lehna Sing Mujeethia, or some other experienced Sikh Leader, should also be despatched to Peshawur. A perwana was again issued to Koonwur Purtaub Sing and Raja Goolaub Sing to settle affairs immediately with the rebel Payandah Khan, and to proceed forthwith to Attock in support of the British troops and, though the Hazara affairs might not be settled, to allow them to remain as they are.

24th-27th December

The Maha Raja returned to Lahore. Mr. Clerk in forwarding the above states that the Durbar was indeed making exertions to cooperate with the British troops at Peshawur; but that its power to do so promptly has

considerably diminished by disaffection in a portion of the army which has latterly been including to the cause of the Sundhunwalla chiefs, and by Rajah Goolaub Sing having been debarred from going to Peshawur.

This latter impediment, Mr. C., at this juncture thought it proper to use his best endeavour to remove, as Rajah Golab Sing is, in his opinion, the only man who retains due authority over Sikh troops, while he is also a good and courageous general and is the brother of the active Premier.

Kohat

17th December

Mr. Clerk writes that Mr. Jameson was attacked by a large body of Afreedees on his march from Kohat to Peshawur and that after losing some followers including Arif Shah, the Sikh agent who attended upon him, and all his own property, he returned to Kohat. Capt. Mackeson seems to consider that as Kohat was well garrisoned by Sikh sepoy, Dr. Jameson was in no danger there. Dr. J. was still in Kohat by the last accounts.

Mr. Clerk has addressed the Sikh Durbar lamenting the death of Arif Shah. This individual since leaving Lahore in attendance on Dr. Jameson had been every attentive and useful to that gentleman.

The Sikhs & the Chinese Tartars

30th November

The Commissr. of Kumaon states a report that the Chief Lama, who is also the temporal manager of the villages immediately adjoining Tesheeganj & Thohwg, was a prisoner in the hands of the Sikhs, & that Zorawur Sing had placed a Ladakhee to carry on the revenue business of the districts. The Commissr. further states that the Sikhs were said to have reached Tuklagarh taking with them their prisoners, the surviving Garpur or Govr. of Garro (Ghartope) & others, & that the Chinese had placed a small detachment of Goorkhas in the place.

2nd December

The Senr. Asstt. Commissr. of Almorah intimates that Zorawur Sing has returned the tribute which he caused to be taken from our Byanse Bhotias,³ into the hands of the head men through the agency of the same Hoonias who have always collected it. The Bhotias, the officer referred to further states, have placed the money in deposit in case the Chinese^e Rulers should demand it.

Peshawur

25th December

The Commander in Chief states that as Maj. Genl. Lumlay⁴ is unable,

3 *Byanse Bhotias* : Bhotias living around Byanse, a pass in Garhwal, in which they had nine settlements at the time.

4 *Major General Lumlay* (Lumley) joined the Company's army in 1796 and served for no less than fifty years till his death in March 1846 at Ferozepur. From 1833 to 1846 he was Adjutant General.

from ill health, to take the command of the force assembling at Peshawur, H.E. has ordered Maj. Genl. Pollock to proceed by dawn to Ferozepore, & there assume his command. Sir R. Shakespear has been appointed Secretary to the Maj. General.

The troops assembled or assembling at Peshawur, are—

10th B.L.C.

26th „

30th „

53rd „

60th „

H.M. 9th Foot with a proportionate train of arty. viz.,

1/2 N. 5 Field Battery.

2 Nine pounders.

2 24 lb. Howitzer.

5 Other pieces indented for by Capt. Abbot.

Major Genl. Mckas Kill will command the 1 Infy. Brigade of H.M. 9th Foot—26 & 53 B.N.I. Brig. Wild the other 30th, 60th & 64th B. N.I.

Lalpoora⁵

22nd December

Capt. Mackeson intimates that he entertained 120 horsemen to send to the support of Toorabaz Khan at Lalpoora. These are Afghans. Capt. M. has also sent his own mounted escort to Lalpoora & a party of Jazailchsai to guard supplies sent there.

Jelalabad

19th December

Reports from Jelalabad state that they were unmolested, had strengthened the defences, had six weeks' full rations and were generally doing well at Jellalabad but that they were in want of money. Capt. Mackeson has sent 50,000 Rs. to Jelalabad.

Afghanistan

Dost Mahd. Khan

19th December

The officer in charge of D.M. Khan reports the safe arrival of the ex-Chief and his suite at Saharanpore on the 19th Decr. last.

25th December

Mr. Clerk intimates that he had an interview with Dost Mahd. Khan

⁵ *Lalpoora* (Lalpura) headquarters of the Mohmand tribe who were vassals of the Barakzai dynasty of Afghanistan. Saadat Khan, their chieftain, was anti-British in outlook and carried predatory raids into British territory after the annexation of the Punjab. Under pressure from the latter, the Amir of Kabul, confiscated his estate in 1864.

at Seharanpore in company with Captn. Nicolson. On the ex-Chief's expressing his anxiety to proceed to Loodianah & join his family, Mr. C. stated that in consequence of the present critical juncture of affairs at Cabool it was desirable, the Ameer should postpone the journey to some future opportunity. Dost Mahd. Khan replied, "suppose commotions in Afghanistan should last for 5-10 or 20 years, is that any reason that I should be withheld from joining my family till that period?" To this Mr. C. rejoined that he did not allude to the petty disturbances so frequent among the Afghans but to the extraordinary rebellion at the capital; that the Ameer himself must be aware that while it was rumoured abroad that he was advancing to the frontier, all kinds of false tales, & excitement would naturally arise tending if not to embarrass, at any rate to do no good to our cause at this period. The Ameer was silent & seemed to assent & to be willing to abide by the wishes of the British Govt. He intimated that far from wishing to raise commotions among his countrymen, he was ready to use his influence in allaying what already existed, should the English think it desirable to engage his services for that purpose. He denied all knowledge of his son Mahomed Akbur Khan being at Cabool, & of his making common cause with the insurgents. On Mr. C. proposing that his son Akram Khan should return with him to Loodianah to see his family, the Ameer remarked that Hyder Khan having been longer separated from his, it would be better to let him go. Hyder Khan accordingly followed by Dawk on the 21st December last. Mr. C. left the Ameer apparently quieted and in good humour.

As the Ameer has given no indications of a wish to break terms with the British Govt., no stricter measures of custody have been resorted to in regard to him than those already adopted, that is, the usual sentries round the premises & stables.

Every means, however, has been employed to prevent Afghan missions and correspondence having access to the Ameer.

Cabool

18th December

Lt. Coll. Tullach expected to reach the Indus & to cross it on the 19th Decr 1841. The following is extracted from the Journal of a lady.

24th November

"All quiet—the enemy have sent to offer terms. As far as we can learn Mahomed Akbar Khan will be here tomorrow. They threaten to attack us tomorrow in the cantonment, and say they will sacrifice 6,000 men to take it. They had fully, 5,000 cavy. in the field yesterday.

25th November

"The enemy have sent to offer us terms, & to give up the King to them with all our guns & ammunitions, Sir Robt. Sale's Brigade having first

marched to & arrived at Peshawur, we may go down, the alternative being the attack on our cantonments. Please God we will beat them if they try it, or blow up friend or foe in one common ruin.

27th November

“Meer Musjidde is dead. Some say poisoned, others that he died of last year’s wounds. A report by the Enemy that 3 regts. from Candahar are at Sheikabad, but that they cannot get on to us. The enemy’s demand was that we should give up our guns, ammunition, muskets, bayonets, swords & pistols, & trust to their generosity—the married men, ladies and children to be retained as hostages. The Envoy sent a chivalrous reply, “that death was better than dishonor; that we put our trust in the God of battles, & in his name bid them come on.” The Shah is in an awful state of alarm; all H.M.’s followers have dropped off, except the Larrd, i.e., the Chief of Lughan, the fort of the last, & his property are destroyed. The Dost’s son, Mahd. Akbar Khan, is now chief; old Ismutoola, the Moola in Sir William’s confidence, is gone off.

28th November

“Show again—Deh Maroo is in the possession of the enemy. Mahomed Shah Khan Ghilzye came into Cabul. We suppose he must have had a drubbing from Genl. Sale below. A Hindoo merchant promises to give us grain. If he keeps his promise we shall still look up.

29th November

“It is reported that the Enemy’s cavalry have gone to stop our troops from Ghuzni.

30th November

“The Cavalry did not go away—it was a mere ruse; they were concealed behind the Hill & had put the infy. on it, hoping that we would go out to take it, & then they would attack us. We have now 13 days’ provisions in store at 1/2 rations for fighting men & 1/4 for camp followers. A little Atta in the Bazar at 2½ seers per rupee. Hurt is trying to get firewood for the sepoys, 30,000 Rs. worth piled up. He wants to give them good fire, & to put them by the ramparts, so that they may do their duty & shall have comforts. Mackeson & Avitabile, it is said, are forcing the Khybur. Our sick doing well & most of the 13th able to give a hand in case of need. Baness has got the clerks under him two at every gun to help.

1st December

“The enemy attacked the Bala Hissar & were repulsed. They are said to have divisions among them, & have put old Ismut Oola in prison.

3rd December

“We only got 20 mds. of grain today, the enemy on the alert.

4th December

“No grain today. We have 10 or 11 dys.’ 1/2 rations. The enemy on the heights—they planted 2 guns in the gorge leading to the lake, from which they fired 144 shots. Many went clear over the cantonments & plenty fell in,—1 camp follower killed, 1 Sergeant & some horses wounded. They had 5 Guns out, 3 on the road by the Shah Bagh behind an entrenchment which they have thrown up. As it got dusk, they made a rush at the captured fort and exploded a bag of powder at the wicket. Sturt had it filled up & it did no harm. The firing was very sharp. All was quiet by 7 o’clock, but now at 10 the shots are dropping rather quickly. Cumberland had 100 men in the fort; but sent for a reinforcement, so Sturt took 50 men to him having run the gauntlet twice under a very heavy fire. He was nearly blown up by an explosion of powder in a battery today, and had his coat all singed. Our list of officers, including Sir Robt. Sale’s, up to Jujdolak⁶ is 55, i.e. 32 wounded & 23 killed.

5th December

“The enemy burnt the bridge.

6th December

“The enemy have retaken the captured fort.

“At 9 a sharp attack from the South & S.E., but did not last long—only 7 days’ provisions. Our convoy of ammunition was attacked on the way to Bala Hissar, we have lost 40 horse loads. Mahomed Akbar Khan in treaty. We have but 3 days’ provisions.”

Cabool**Candahar***11th December*

Lt. Coll Mac Laren’s Brigade returned to Candahar on the 10th. Instt. after an unsuccessful attempt to advance on Cabool. Emissaries from Cabool were trying to incite the Candahar provinces to rise. By the latest accounts the people, it appears, had removed their women, goods & chattels from the town in anticipation of troubled times. The old Gilzyc rebel Gooroo had issued orders to strip every traveller on the road from head to foot; no one has yet escaped his vigilance. In a few days 5 Regts. were to be quartered in the town; a park of Arty. has been in position in the town for some days past.

⁶ *Jujdolak* (Jagdalak), the name of a stream, a valley and a defile in Afghanistan. It rises in the Kotal and after a course of ten miles falls into the Kabul river. The defile is steep, narrow and winding; its width averaging 40-50 yards, but at one place a bare 6 feet. It was in this defile that, on January 12, 1842, the remnant of the retreating British Indian army was destroyed, with only a few survivors able to reach Gandamak.

Scinde Upper*15th December*

Major Outram has requested Brig. England to send up to Quettah the remaining Head Quarter Wing of the 25th Regt. which were to march on the 18th. By this arrangement there will be at Quettah two strong Regiments of N.I. (minus 3 Companies at Killa Abdulla) & 2 9-pounders of the Bombay Euro : arty. and two 9 pn. of the Bolan rangers with Major Sotheby's Company of B.E. Arty. men with ample provisions and tenable ground. Owing to this arrangement Major O. was under no anxiety whatever, were the rebels to come in their utmost strength against that post, which is obviously their policy with a view to preventing succour to Candahar by exciting disturbances in this country.

Coll. Stacy and the Khan are now at Lehree, where they will be joined by the uncle of the Murree chief, their assurances to whom would, Major O. hoped, remove the personal fears which the chief himself entertained; and once thoroughly assured of our good faith towards him Major O. was satisfied that he would not join any combination against us, which indeed he (Major O.) was not apprehensive of being formed in this country, even although the protracted struggle in Afghanistan so calculated to encourage disaffection. The new scale of the Upper Sinde Agency that will shortly be submitted for the approval of Govt. will produce a saving of a lac a year over the old scale, without impairing the efficiency of any portion. This saving is exclusive of that obtained in the Indus flotilla estab.

Shugra—Aden

It appears that Captn. Haines, Poll. Agent at Aden, had adopted measures for blockading the Port of Shugra, and made a requisition on the Senr. Naval Officer at Aden for the services of the H. C.'s sloop of war "Clive", to secure or destroy the boats belonging to the Fudthelee tribes, so as to prevent their injuring our coasting trade. Captn. H. states that the Fudthelee Chiet, at the instigation of the Abdalee tribe, continues determined to cut off supplies entering Aden, and that it was, therefore, advantageous that his forces should be kept from our frontier, which effect the presence of a vessel of war, and continued vigilance of his post. Necessitated under these circumstances, the Govt. of Bombay authorized the blockade of the port of Shugra.

About 18th Novr. certain chiefs visited Aden friendly intentions, and expressed the humility they felt on account of the blockade of Shugra, never having received too severe a punishment before as the stoppage of their supplies and trade. Captain Haines further states that the Fudthelee and Abdalee Chiefs had met and mutually agreed to abstain from any further interruption of the Kafilahs, and that Sultan Mahomed Hoossain of Lahedge assembled the Chiefs of his tribe and obliged them to promise

that they would neither plunder nor molest the road, informing them that it was his intention to enter Aden on the 27th. or 28th. Novr. last to sue for forgiveness and peace.

Captain H. has been instructed to persevere in his efforts to effect an amicable settlement on honorable terms, with the several Chiefs, who have hitherto been hostilely disposed towards the British Govt., provided, however, that he is satisfied of their sincerity, & that there is a likelihood of their adhering to any engagement which they may enter into.

The Joasmee Chief & the Soomalee Slaves

The Resident in the Persian Gulf writes that certain Soomalees⁷ who have been seized and carried away as slaves from the coast of Barbara⁸ by the Joasmee Chief,⁹ in contravention of a treaty existing between their Sheik Sultan bin Suggur, and the British Govt., that Chief was endeavoured to make some reparation by recovering and giving up as many of these unfortunate people as lies in his power. Captain Hennell could not exactly say how many Soomalees were forthcoming; but H.M.'s Frigate "Endymion" was to touch at Rus-ul-Khyma on her voyage to Aden & the Hon'ble Capt'n. Grey, her Commander, had offered to receive on board his ship, and furnish with a passage to the Red Sea, as many of the individuals in question as the Joasmee chief may have recovered. Captain Haines has received instructions to make such arrangements on their arrival at Aden as may be most suitable in order to restore them to their native land.

Euphrates Steam Navigation

23rd October

The Officer Commanding the Euphrates Expedition states that the steam vessels "Nimrod" & "Nitocris" left their stations near Bales on the 16th. October last, and commenced the descent and survey of the river Euphrates. Captain Lynch further mentions that the Arabs settled on the banks of the river are friendly, and that the crews of the vessels were in good health and spirits.

Rajpootana

The Governor General's Agent writes as follows in regard to the effect the news from Cabool has had upon the states & population of Rajwarra.

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- 7 *Soomalees* (Sumalis) a people on the African coast, also found in Aden and along the west coast of Arabia. Those along the coast were usually taken slave by European settlers.
 - 8 *Barbara* (Barbary)-A region of Africa between the Atlantic ocean, the Mediterranean sea and Egypt, broadly embracing the countries of Barca, Tripoli, Tunisia, Algeria Morocco, etc.
 - 9 *Joasmee Chief* (Joasmi) one of the maritime chiefs of the Persian gulf with whom the British had concluded treaties. The Joasmi had occupied the province of Seer from the earliest times, and carried on a vigorous and profitable trade by sea. Coming under the influence of Wahabis, they turned pirates. The British subjugated them and forced a treaty in 1820 under which slave trade was prohibited.

I have watched closey the temper of all classes of the community and been in communication with the most of them, on the subject of our position in Afghanistan since the first intelligence of the recent outbreak in that country. The impression at first produced was no doubt very considerable, and perfectly obvious, for the statements of disasters were exaggerated through the Native press and Native report. This it has of course been my object to mitigate and correct, as the several facts became known to us, and no person seemed to doubt that we had ample power, and means to re-establish and maintain our position in that country or to conquer it, should such be the object and wish of Government.

“In these discussions which were sometimes held in full Durbar, with the representatives, and some of the chiefs of the states in Rajpootana, I have always been sensible of the most perfect good feeling towards us, and of sympathy in our cause, nor have I observed the slightest effect in the tone and temper of society towards us through these reports, nor should I expect this in the present condition of these Rajpoot states.”

Burmah

18th December

A private communication from Moulmein states that upto the 12th. of Decr. last the Burmese King appeared actively engaged in visiting places in the vicinity of Rangoon and superintending the different works in progress. His Majesty left Rangoon on the 3d. Idem on a visit to the old city of Pegu, and returned to Rangoon the next morning. On the 11th. he went to the mouth of the River, where a large stockade is reported to be in progress. He meditated another visit to Pegu. It is mentioned that a force of about 6,000 men had marched in the direction of Pegu, Toungoo. The King was joined at Rangoon by a body of cavalry and a number of elephants. A body of 500 men is said to be at Bileng with guns. The king was filling his empty treasury by the monopoly of timber, which he has appropriated to himself and the English vessels at Rangoon have to pay very heavy prices for their timber. All persons from Rangoon unite in representing the troops and followers in a miserable state from absolute want. The deaths among them are computed at about a thousand men.

18th December

In a letter of date noted in the margin, Captn. Bogle states, that he received intelligence from the Burmese territories to the purport that every thing was very quiet at the different places of any consequence along the frontier. At Chaleng the Burmese are, however, renewing the fortifications, which surround that place, where they have 4 or 500 men, and at Maphetia new stockade was being built. The number of armed men at the several ports stated to be rather larger than before, and instructions had been issued in all the principal places for the male population to hold themselves in readiness to march at a moment's warning.

Intelligence of the arrival of immense* numbers of troops at Khyouk Phyoo had spread throughout the country, and caused some sensation, still so little were the merchants apprehensive of any evil resulting to them from a war with us, that they are daily arriving at Aeng as usual accompanied by large droves of laden bullocks; and on the whole there is nothing in the state of affairs at all indicative in the Commsr.'s opinion, of approaching danger.

Captn. Bogle adds that the people of this province do not seem to be at all apprehensive of war, and that he learns from the numerous boats which are now constantly arriving from Bassein, that all is quiet there.

China

10th December

The bark "Catherine Stewart" has been hired at Singapore to proceed to Chusan with coals and other stores at 11 dollars a ton. 450 tons of coal more will be shipped on board the same vessel. This measure of sending coal direct to Chusan has been adopted, as the steamers "Queen", "Sessostus", "Nemesis", and "Phlegethon", are to the northward and likely to continue there for some months, and because, therefore, in that quarter coal is likely to be more required than at Hong Kong.

Owing to a violent typhoon and the want of fuel in Novr. in the China Seas, the "Medusa" steamer, had put back to Singapore and thence proceeded to Moulmein. There is some reason to be anxious for the safety of the "Ariadne" owing to her non-appearance with her consort, the "Medusa".

Her Majesty's ship "Sulphur" had reached Singapore *en route* to England. H.M.'s "Nimrod" had been from Macao via Formosa to Amoy where she found all quiet and had returned to Macao the latter part of Novr.

The Captn., the officers, passengers and crew of the "Madagascar" steamer had not been liberated from the hands of the Chinese.

Fort William
8 January 1842

H. V. Bayley
Assistant Secy. to the Govt. of India

(Foreign Department; Miscellaneous, Vol. 335, pp. 46-116).

*One Extra Regiment.

Newsletter 68 : January 22, 1842

(No. 3 of 1842)

North West Frontier

24th December, 1841

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Akhbar of dates cited on the margin:—(1) Genl. Avitabile requested that as he had been appointed with troops to cooperate with the British Govt., he should be reimbursed whatever expenditure he might incur on account of Govt. during this duty, & that, meanwhile, an officer might be appointed to collect the revenues at Peshawur & that he might be promised leave to go to his native country as soon as the present important duties were performed. In consultation with Raja Dhian Sing, a kind encouraging reply was written to the General. (2) Raja Dhian Sing proposed to depute Goolam Moostafa Shah with a party of Sowars to attend on Dr. Jameson at Kabool & to bring him safe via Kaleh Bagh to Peshawur, & to procure his Certificate of Satisfaction. (3) The Maha Rajah has issued orders that with the exception of the British dawks no Hurkarahs should pass thro' his territories without His Highness's knowledge.

28th December

(4) Rajah Goolab Sing & Koonwar Pertaub Sing reported that General Avitabile had, at Capt. Mackeson's request, appointed Dr. Ritchie to superintend the construction of a bridge of boats over the Attock and that at the Genl.'s request and considering the unity of the objects existing between the two Govts., they had despatched all the boats they could collect in the Huzara ferries, & were prepared to render any further assistance which the Doctor might require. They also reported that, having some troops on the west bank of the river, & in the field, to check Paundah Khan, they would themselves march to Peshawur to fulfil the objects of the Govts. Orders were therefore issued to Rajah Goolab Sing, expressing the thorough reliance of the Durbar, on his sagacity, and desiring him, and the Koonwur to march with as many troops as they might deem proper to Peshawur, leaving a suitable detachment of the Raja's own troops to act against Payendah Khan. A very soothing Perwanah was addressed to Genl. Avitabile promising him every promotion desiring him to remain with his troops in attendance on Captn. Mackeson and apprising him of the approach of Raja Goolab Sing, and Koonwur Pertab Sing to Peshawur. (6) The Maha Rajah wrote to

the Cavalry that no confidence could be placed in them, in consequence of their correspondence with the Sundhunwallas; that the orderly Corps should therefore attend at the Encampment of the Maharaja at Kakoo Kalch, and that the Khas Goorcharras should encamp at Ram Turuth, and the Rawalpindie Sowars at the Talwara Ferry. (7) Genl. Court's Agent requested leave for his Master to proceed to his native country, and the Raja desired him to persuade the Genl. not to speak of leave, until a Khillut might be received for the Maharaja from the British Govt. (8) The Maharajah observed that he was well-informed of the state of Rajwara & the protected States; that no one could draw breath freely but by permission of the British Govt; that no Chief had power to do otherwise; that each was too cautious of his own individual interests to dream of combination, that it was folly to say anything to the contrary, & that the British Govt., though somewhat troubled at the present aspect of affairs in Khorasan, would soon reestablish itself. (9) In concert with Raja Dhian Sing, Rae Keisre Sing was ordered to march with the Nursing Regt., the Charyaree Horse, the Battalion under Genl. Mehtab Sing Majeethia & the contingent of Koonwur Cashmere Sing & Peshawura Sing, to Peshawur, travelling 10 coss a day, disbursing pay while on the road. Agreeably to these orders the Rae, with about 1,200 sawars 100 camel (Zambooras) marched on the 28th of Decr. last, & encamped at Khooree, a village about 6 coss on the road to Peshawur.

Mr. Clerk states that accident having discovered a correspondence which had for some time been secretly carried on between portions of the Army at Lahore & the Sundhunwalla Surdars in Calcutta & Thanesur, the Maharaja put in irons the two Chiefs of that fraternity, Surdars Lehna Sing and Kehr Sing, who were already in confinement at Lahore. These letters involved the Sirdars Utter Sing and Ajeet Sing to come upto the Sutlej, and promised that ten battalions were already prepared, and that more would soon be prepared to join him there. The general state of insubordination in the Lahore Army which has prevailed since the demise of Koonwur Nao Nehal Singh, has long rendered it very liable to revolt at the instigation of the highest bidder. This has been the main difficulty against which the Maharajah and his Ministers have had to struggle, while upholding, and in some parts, restoring, an administration of some efficiency throughout the Punjab, and this critical state of things in the army now proves an impediment to their immediately earning by prompt cooperation that approbation from the British Govt. which would be so valuable to them. The Maharajah perseveres in leaving the management of the Army and of affairs in general to Rajah Dhian Sing; but it may be observed that he himself never neglects to direct and to act on occasions when it is vitally important to his interests that he should do so. The Minister at Lahore, several of the Chiefs, and, in some measure, the Maharajah himself, are not without apprehension that the British Govt. designs to invade the

Punjab when a portion of the Khalsa Army may have been drawn off to Peshawur. A body of twenty thousand men, infantry & cavy. including Genl. Court's division and the division which was lately Genl. Ventura's, with upwards of one hundred pieces of ordnance, continued encamped on the Meean Meer plain near the capital. Rajah Heera Sing is nominally in command of them, and is enjoined to watch the proceedings of the Sundhunwalla chiefs on the south of the Sutlej.

The Sikhs and the Chinese Tartars

31st December

The Commissioner in Kumaon states that any efforts to aid Zorawar Singh & his army against the Chinese Tartars appeared to be impracticable in as much as the Himalayan passes are now closed by the snow, & his attempts to induce any of the Bhotias to try the Beass passage have entirely failed. The Commissioner had, therefore, no communication with Tuklakote; but it was hoped, the pass would be opened by the end of Jany. or the beginning of February.

The Commissioner goes on to say that certain Sikh refugees from Zorawar Singh's camp (in all amounting to about 15 persons) had arrived at Almorah; that they were hospitably received by him & had an advance of 100 Rs. for their immediate wants. These refugees were about to be sent from Almorah to Ferozepore. Mr. Lushington¹ adds that they brought an Urzee to his address from Bustee Ram, the Sikh Thanadar of Tuklakote in which the writer states that a Chinese Army of 3 or 4,000 men had arrived & then proceeds to invoke the aid of the British Govt. on behalf of Zorawar Sing and his force.

Peshawur

27th December

Capt. Lawrence writes from Attock that the bridge for the passage of the troops was a very good one.

3rd January

Matab Sing with his 4 Battalions is reported to have arrived at Attock; and Kesair Sing, with the troops from Lahore was at Vizirabad, on his way to Peshawur. Letters from Peshawur of Jany. 3rd state that the 60th, 64th, 30th & 53rd and some 9-pounders, had got to within one march of Ali Musjid. These were to be followed by 700 Pathan horse, in our pay.

8th January

Mr. Clerk intimates that the Brigade under Major Genl. McCas Kill, K.C.H., crossed the Sutlej on the 4th Jany. at Ferozepore, in progress to Peshawur.

¹ G. T. Lushington, was appointed Agent to the Lt. Governor of North-Western province (U.P.) at Kumaon in January 1842.

Mr. C has remitted 10 lakhs of Rupees to Peshawur.

29th December

Captain Mackeson writes that the money he sent to Jalpoora had reached its destination in safety and that Turabaz Khan had sent twenty-five thousand Rupees to Jellalabad, which also reached that place.

Cabool

A letter dated Jellalabad the 31d January from Sir Robert Sale reports the murder of Sir W. Macnaghten, and states that Major Pottinger had taken charge of the mission and was treating on the basis of the treaty which Sir William had been carrying on, viz., withdrawing our troops.

A Persian letter, speaking of events at Cabool states as follows:—"The people of Islam had so surrounded and beleaguered the Cantonments, that no provisions reached the besieged. In this helpless condition His Excellency the Lord Sahib (the Envoy and Minister) addressed a letter to Sirdar Mahomed Akbar Khan, saying "tomorrow the 1st. of the month Zekadeh (19th of Decr.) come to Beebee Mahroo that you and I may meet, and every thing shall be arranged according to your wish"! Accordingly, Mahomed Akbar Khan, with 3 or 4 persons, and the Lord Saheb with three or four English Gentlemen, came on the 1st. of the month to Beebee Mahroo, and had an interview. After much conversation the Lord Saheb gave a written agreement under his own seal, and in the Persian language."

The Persian letter goes on to say "Whereas in the matter of this peace-making, the people of Islam were much enraged and abused the Sirdar very much, saying, 'To release your father and your relatives, and for wordly pelf, you have overwhelmed the whole of Islam', the Sirdar looking upon the Envoy's paper, (some subsequent overture made to him by the Envoy) as a stratagem or craft, determined, in his own mind, to kill the Envoy, without consulting with, or acquainting the other leaders, except the 4 mounted people who accompanied him to the interview referred to. Accordingly on the 9th. of Zilkhade (23. Decr. 1841) the Sirdar, with the 4 Sowars, went to an interview with the Envoy, and Sir William also, with Trevor, and 3 other mounted Gentlemen and 15 Sowras, came from the cantonments and the Envoy met the Sirdar within the environs of Mahmoon Khan's fort. They dismounted from their horses and had a conference. The Sirdar and the Envoy went apart from their followers. After much conversation the Envoy became alarmed, rose from his place in order to keep himself at a distance from the Sirdar, when the latter fired a pistol at the Envoy's breast. The Sirdar and 4 Sowars on the side of Mahomed Akbar Khan, standing with the other English Gentlemen, killed Trevor. The Envoy's sowars fired immediately on the Sirdar in a volley. The Sirdar's other horsemen, hearing the firing,

came to the place. The Envoy's sowars retreated to the Cantonment, and 2 persons out of the 3,* who accompanied the Envoy were taken alive. They, together with the heads and bodies of those killed, were brought into the city. 5 English persons whose names are Conolly, Skinner, Lawrence, Drummond and Thain, are in confinement. It seems likely that the Sirdar will draw the rest of the English and their troops out of the Cantonments and give them a safe conduct to Jellalabad, and from thence to Peshawur. We shall see what will take place."

Major Pottinger writes on the 25th December, briefly confirming the melancholy intelligence of the murder of Sir Wm. Macnaghten and the capture of our officers, and mentions that at the time of writing, the cantonment was being attacked.

Captain McGregor writes on the 30th December, that a messenger who arrived at Jellalabad from Cabul, mentioned that, at the meeting between Mahomed Akbar Khan and Sir William the former was accompanied by Mahomed Shah Khan Ghilzye, Sooltan Jan, Moolah Momin and others. Trevor, he said, was slain by Moolah Momin. The messenger further states that up to the period of his leaving Cabul, being two days subsequently to the murder of Sir William, no fighting had taken place between the rebels and our troops.

Sinde Upper

30th October

Major Outram, in a private letter, states that he has detached 100 men from the 41st Reg. to go up the pass with the Hd. Quarter Wing of the 25th Regt. Lt. I., as a reinforcement to the garrison at Quetta.

17th December

A private letter states that Atta Mahomed Khan was at Thala, near Candahar with upwards of six thousand horse & that he was said to intend to "Chapao" (foray) Quetta.

29th December

Lt. Col. Stacy reports from Lahore that a treaty has been concluded between Meer Nusseer Khan of Kelat and Deen Mahomed, the Murree Chief. The following is a translation of the treaty.

"This is the treaty upon oath and agreement on the part of myself, Dost

*Note.—Major Pottinger mentions the following as prisoners.

Lieutt. Conolly
Captn. Lawrence &
Captn. Mackenzie.

Notes.

1. I. B. Conolly—Asst. to Envoy & Comg. Escort.
2. Skinner—Commet. Dept.
3. Lawrence—Mily. Secy. to the Envoy.
4. Drummond—Capt. 5 B. L. C.
5. Thain—A. D. C. to Genl. Elphinstone.

Alli, the son of Moobarick Murrie for Dean Mahomed. I have now come in obedience and have been honoured by making my Salam to the Khan and Coll. Stacy. I have repented and will abstain from injuring the Country of my old Master, the Khan and of the British; and in future I will never attempt to do so and according to old usage I will never disobey my master and benefactor, nor will I act contrary to his wish; and if any one of my subjects shall be guilty of aggression on the country of my Master or of the British, I will punish him and hang him, that no repetition of the same may occur. Should the thieves of any other tribe stronger than ours oppress us, then will the army of the Khan repulse them, and should any robbers, Brahoee or Beloech, having committed crimes, come to us, we will expel them, and the enemies of the Khan and the British we shall esteem as enemies to ourselves, and if it should happen that any tribes should be guilty of aggression on the property of the Khan or of the British in the Bolan, or elsewhere, and upon investigation it should be declared that such proceeded from any of my tribe, then shall we be willing to make reparation, and should it prove to be the act of others, then can the armies of the two Governments accompany us, & we will point out the robbers with the view to their being destroyed. We will always depend upon our own master and not serve with other Government; So long as we live, we will not quit the circle of his service”.

This treaty has been framed in the way of friendship on this 4th day of Zilkadur 1259—A.H. agreeing with 16th of December, 1841 A.D.”

This treaty written on the Koran, was signed & sealed in the tent of the Khan, in the presence of Syud Ameer Khan, Meer Mahomed Khan Iltazye, Naib Moola Mahomed Hussain Khan, Mahomed Khan Lehrie, and Beelooch Khan Doomkie.

Coll. Stacy in a private communication, describing the debates which preceded this gratifying conclusion, writes “You would be delighted, could you see the propriety of conduct and speech of the Khan. He is but a boy yet, still the quietness, coolness and ability with which he speaks and acts is wonderful. He is never at a loss; listens with the patience of an old man, is never betrayed into the least violence, remonstrates, reasons, explains, has admissible command of language and suits the action to the word.”

Lt. Hammersley in a private letter dt. 13th instant expresses his belief that the flight of Dooranee Naib of Shawl is with a view to incite the Dooranee rebels, to one of whose principal leaders he is nearly related, to attack Quetta. Lt. Hammersley states that the detachment had set to work to throw up entrenchments with a view to connect the whole defence of the post.

By our latest accounts no attack had been made either on Candahar or Quetta.

25th December.

From the Digest of Upper Scinde Intelligence, of dates noted, it appears

that Major Outram has, with reference to the state of affairs in Afghanistan, requested Brigadier England to strengthen the post at Shikarpore, and that it had been determined to send a detachment from Dadu consisting of 2 guns of the Horse Brigade, and 2 troops of the 3d. Light Cavalry and an additional Company has been ordered out from Sukkur to Shikarpore.

The Murrees have already given proof of their sincerity, Dean Mahomed having sent notice to all the ill-disposed of his clan, who heretofore have been pursuing an insurrectionary course in the past instantly to return to their tribe and to abstain from future evil practices, on a penalty of the sacrifice of their relations and families with the tribe, and the enmity of the whole Clan to themselves. It is reported that Guffoor Khan, the Kaukar had preferred to listen to the traitor Mohomed Sudeek, the Naib of Shawl Chief had accordingly, it is said, gone to try to some other and more distant tribes.

25th December

Lt. Hammersley states having received letters from the Kauker Sirdars, Guffoor Khan, Rusheed Khan, and Wiloss Khan, all of whom asked for being, the two latter offering to give up Mohd Sudeeq, the Naib of Shawl.

Major Outram reports the murder of Ensign Hallswell of the 6th Regiment N.I., which melancholy event occurred in the hills about 8 miles from Seebee on the 12th December last. It appears that contrary to the advice of two other officers who had accompanied Mr. Hallswell on a fishing-excursion to the Seeba Bund, that Gentleman climbed the Hills to some corner totally unarmed and unattended; after a considerable lapse of time his distance companion, finding he did not return, went in search of him and found the unfortunate officer's lifeless body with a sword cut across the back of the neck, which must have destroyed life instantly. The Hills in the neighbourhood of the Bund are noted haunts of lawless Bandits the scannings of neighbouring tribes, who acknowledge no particular leader.

Another officer very nearly lost his life in a similar manner about the same time. Lieutenant Blenkins of the 6th Reg., when out shooting not far from Camp, saw a native take a deliberate aim at him with his matchlock which fortunately missed in the priming and the officer being mounted rode after and secured the assassin whose guilt was clearly established by the evidence of the officer and two of his attendants, besides the gun being found loaded with ball and the priming recently. The evidence was transmitted to the Khan whose subject he is & who sentenced man to death in such manner the and at such time and place as Major O. may be pleased to direct. But as this decisions, although deemed just and necessary, appeared to have been hastily given without consultation with the Native law officers, Major O. thought it right, again to refer the case to the Khan with a request to Coll. Stacy to advise him to go through the usual forms of the Mohomedan law previous to condemning a fellow creature to death.

The Digest of Upper Sindh Intelligence of 26th December states, that the prisoner Morad was hanged by the Khan's officers on the 24 Idem and that though large numbers of people of the country were present, the event appeared to excite no manner of concern, the public being well aware of the justice of the sentence.

Killah Abdoolah

Quetta

23rd December

Major Outram intimates that Killah Abdoolah has been evacuated, and that the troops have reached the garrison at Quetta in safety with the exception of five stragglers.

It is stated that the officers of the detachment have lost all their private property, but that they succeeded in securing every particle of ammunition.

Capt. Woodburne's detachment reached Quetta on the 25th December last without opposition.

Major O. adds that the troops were confident of repelling any attacks of an Enemy.

The Scinde Canal

Capt. Postans intimates that he had recently inspected the Scinde canal and found it in a very satisfactory state of forwardness.

Sohar

30th September

Commodore Bucks reports that in his recent voyage in the Persian Gulf he touched at Sohar and exchanged wish with Ahmed ben Azam. The Chief was much gratified with this attention on the part of the Commodore, and spoke in grateful terms of the kindness he had received from the Govt. of Bombay.

Mysore

16th December

The Commissioner of Mysore intimates that the state of the country is very satisfactory. The Revenue was early collected. The Police alert, and large robberies infrequent. The Mohomedans, formerly the most destitute and discontented part of the community, were settling down to agricultural pursuits, and were extensively engaged in the cultivation of silk, while the laboring population instead of deeming it necessary to assemble in towns and villages for security, was established in small hamlets & solitary houses, each family on its own fields.

The Hyderabad Insurgents

With reference to the proceedings of the insurgents in Hyderabad, noticed in some of the late News Letters, authority has been given to the Resident at that place, to order the troops at his disposal to cross the frontier with a view to attacking and dispersing away body of outlaws or robbers who have taken up a position in Scindiah's territories for purposes of aggression against those of His Highness the Nizam.

The Rest. at Gwalior has been instructed to urge the active assistance of Scindiah's Govt. in putting down any predatory bands that may harbour in his districts bordering on the Nizam.

The Doars²

14th January

The Supdt. of Darjeeling states a rumor that the 43 Soubahs of Dalimkote, Buledewar, and Chomoorohi have united under the orders of the Paeo Pilo, and on behalf of one of the persons striving for the Deliship, have driven Durga Deo from the Doars, and taken the son of the late Hur Govind Bhutma by the land with a view to setting him up in the Doars to the total exclusion of Durga Deo. "This would be a fortunate measure", adds the Supdt. "for the peace of the frontier."

Burmah

30th December

A private letter from Moulmein states that all was quiet at Rangoon, and that Tharawaddie was still there on the date cited as active and as changeable as ever. "The only thing he appears bent on is the fortifying of various posts. These he looks to himself. Death has carried off a great number of the royal army, and sickness continues within and without the Palaces. There was a rumour of the King's moving up to the Capital by January but no actual orders had been issued to that effect. He is said to keep his Council very closely. The Moguls at Moulmlin have received letters by the "Ganges" regarding the position of the British at Cabool."

They had very bad weather at Rangoon on the 16th Decr. last, the shipping escaped without damage altho- a considerable number of large boats have been washed off the banks and sunk, and many were seen for days floating up and down with the tide.

The packet of the "Elizabeth Ainslies" was detained a whole day at the Custom house, but finally given up without being opened.

The "City of London" had been taken up for 7,000 Rs. to take over the two companies of the 2d. Regt. which sailed from Madras in her. The

² *The Doar* (Duars), literally a gateway, reference is to the passes leading from the plains at the foot of the Himalayas into Bhutan.

“Greenlaw” “Coringa Packet” and “Highlander”, three of the vessels originally taken up at Madras for the remainder of the regt. had conveyed bullocks to Moulmein for the artillery & commissariat stores. H.M.’s “Britomart”, 10 guns, was at Moulmein, & pronounced as unseaworthy.

700 head of cattle had been recd. at Moulmein from the Shan States.

Nipaul

15th & 17th December.

The Nipaul Diary of dates noted contains the following items of intelligence.

1. The Royal family and minister were all collected again at Catmandhoo,

2. An Envoy is said to have arrived from Lassa, or rather a messenger with a letter from the Emperor of China.

3. The Rajah continued well disposed to the British, the state of affairs at Cabool having apparently had no real effect on his feelings.

4. The Resident had a private audience with the Rajah on the 16th when H.H. made a tender of his troops to the G.G. for service in the S.E. or N. West quarter.

18th & 19th

5. On the first of the dates quoted, the Heir Apparent and, on the last, the Raja set off again to Hitounda.

20th December.

6. The Chote Rani still remains unpromoted, partly because the Heir Apparent is jealous of her and her sons, and partly because the Choutras fear her as a patroness of the Thappas.

21st to 24th

7. The alleged messenger from Lassa comes, it seems, from Ladakh, and is probably some Agent from the expelled ruler seeking to interest Nepal in favor of the claims of the Ladakhwallahs. The Durbar’s Kharita for Lassa is kept back pending the ascertainment of the state of affairs or the arrival of an expected special messenger from Lassa.

25th to 29th December.

8. The Raja returned to Catmondoo on the 27th December.

9. An Urzee from Matabar Sing was received by the Rajah.

10. A Kharita from Lassa has been received relating, it is said, only periodical mission to Pekin which sets off in June.

11. The Rajah appeared very anxious for the settlement of the case of the trial of British subjects and that of the Jammo Nuddy.

Fort William
22 January 1842

H. V. Bayley
Assistant Secy. to the Govt. of India

(Foreign Department, Miscellaneous, Vol. 335, pp. 118-164).

Newsletter 69 : February 1, 1842

(No. 4 of 1842)

North West Frontier

1st January

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Akhbar of dates cited in the margin:—Orders were issued to General Avitabile stating that his appointment to Peshawur had been for the service of the two states; that his reputation depended upon the due discharge of his trust & that he ought, therefore, to attend to the Cabool business. Orders were issued to Sheo Churn, Provost Marshall, directing him to prevail upon the troops at Peshawur to accompany Genl. Avitabile, and the general was also desired, in case of disobedience on the part of the Peshawur troops, to take with him 4 Battalions of Genl. Mehtab Sing only. Orders were likewise issued to Dewan Lukkee Shah of Dera Ismael Khan to detach the 300 Mahomedan Sowars under Hadayatulla Khan, and Ashik Myhemed Khan, Jageerdars, to co-operate at Peshawur. Raja Golab Sing reported, that he was quite prepared to march to Peshawur with Koonwur Pertab Sing, but that he had received no instructions what missuldars or Jageerdars, and which of his own battalions should accompany him, and that having sent his officers with the British Officer to the Attock, the Bridge on that river had been prepared. He was ordered, in reply, to leave whatever troops be thought proper at Hazara, and take whatever of them he thought best to accompany him, & to march soon to Peshawur, also to dispatch Genl. Avitabile further on with troops and Artillery without waiting for further orders.

Raja Dhian Sing informed the British news-writer of his having appointed Moostafa Khan, Chief of Makad,¹ on the other side of the Attock, to escort Dr. Jameson to Peshawur. Moostappa Khan stated that owing to his acquaintance with his Afreedee neighbours, he would be able to discharge that duty well. A road was ordered to be prepared for the British Cafilas near the Rumgeelpore ferry, & strict orders were issued for the construction of a bridge of boats for the British troops on the Ravee. Raja Dhian Sing received a letter in Hill writing from his brother Goolab Sing, stating that he was resolved to march with valiant troops and guns upon Lassa, but that he had deferred it for the present, and was prepared to march to Peshawur with Koonwur Pertab Sing. Orders were issued for the collection of boats for

¹ *Makad* (or Mukkud), a town headquarters of a small estate of the same name, held by a Muslim chieftain, under the suzerainty of the Lahore darbar. It was situated on the eastern bank of the Indus, in close proximity to the Salt range.

the British troops of the 2nd Brigade on the Chenab & Jehlum rivers. The Raja & Maha Raja are much engaged in sending magazine & troops to Peshawur, & repeated instructions were daily being issued to General Aitabile to join the British Officers with the Ramghol, the Nujeeb, & Mahomedan Battalions.

15th January

The Govt. Genl.'s Agent on the North West Frontier states that he has deputed the Serishtedar² of his office to the Court of Maha Raja Shere Sing with a letter to the address of His Highness, with a view to lead to a meeting between the Maha Raja & himself. The object of this meeting is to bring about a more intimate intercourse between the British Government and that of Lahore, with reference to the recent events which have transpired in Afghanistan.

As the Mahomedan troops in the employ of the Sikh Durbar tendered by it to assist the British against the Afghans, are not to be relied on, owing to their creed, & as the Sikh troops want the requisite quality of courage, Mr. Clerk has suggested to the Durbar to appoint, for the most active service, at the present juncture, Sikhs mixed with Raja Golab Sing's hill or Rajpoot troops, who are comparatively braver.

20th January

Mr. Clerk intimates that in consequence of Raja Golab Sing's preparations to retire from the Hazara, in order to repair to Peshawur, the rebel Paendah Khan had gained confidence, and was advancing at the head of a large body of the armed peasantry of the hills. Mr. C. adds that the Durbar had directed the Raja nevertheless to proceed to Peshawur, leaving a part of the Hazara force in its original position, & that reinforcements were being ordered off from Lahore to assist in holding Paendah Khan in check.

The Sikhs and the Chinese Tartars

20th January

The Governor General's Agent in the North West Frontier states that the Jummoo Rajas were preparing a reinforcement of 5,000 men, well-equipped to march from their Hills into Ladakh, under Meean Rutnoo, in the name of Zorawur Sing. The last-named Chief is variously reported to be killed by the Chinese or besieged by them, or retreating before them. Meean Jawahir Sing,³ the son of Raja Dhian Sing, was to advance from Jummoo in command of a reserve of 2,000 men. "The Rajas were considering however" adds Mr. C. "whether they had not better consult the British Government before renewing the enterprize."

² *Serishtedar* (Sheristadar), literally register keeper, a ministerial officer at a court who was to receive plaints, ensuring that these were in proper form and duly stamped. He also attended to routine business.

³ *Meean Jawahir Sing* (Mian Jawahir Singh) second among the three sons of Raja Dhian Singh, the other two being Hira Singh and Moti Singh.

The Mazarree Tribe

20th January

Mr. Clerk states that the Mazarree tribe having lately again rebelled, Dewan Sawan Mull, the Governor of Mooltan, had moved out a considerable force towards Bajhee to act against them.

**Peshawur, Ali Musjid, Jumrood, Lallpoorah,
Cabool, Jellalabad**

15th January

A private letter from Peshawur dated 15th January states that Ali Musjid was about to be attacked, & that Captain Mackeson had gone to camp to make arrangements for the moving of our troops to its relief. In a communication from himself of the 9th January, Capt. M. stated that he had little doubt of being able to hold the fort with two corps against all the Afreedees; & that should the Afreedees break with us, he would be able, through the Aurakzyes to give them plenty of employment. Most of the former tribe, he said, were choosing for themselves new leaders, & thus laying themselves open to our endeavours to cause a division among them if occasion required it.

Mr. Clerk states that in order to enable the Sikh troops to move as far as Ali Musjid, he advanced one lac & forty thousand Rupees of the treasure, he received by the first convoy, as a loan to the Lahore Government.

The Mussalman Sikh battalions at Peshawur, had, it is said, mutinied against General Avitabile; they have however repented of this deed, and prepared for a movement in the direction of Jumrood. The Auxiliary Horse of the Sikhs had encamped near our troops, & had prepared to go on with them.

Metab Singh's battalions were to go to Thakul near Kawalsar on the 10th January.

Captain Mackeson states that our horsemen and levies of matchlockmen at Lalpoora enabled Turehbaz Khan to repel an attack made by Saadut Khan on the place mentioned, on the 6th January.

Intelligence from Cabool upto the 7th January is of a very melancholy nature. It appears that after the conclusion of the treaty on the basis of the one commenced upon by the late Envoy & Minister, in conformity with which, a number of guns, ammunition, & the greater part of the treasure, together with 6 hostages*, had been made over to the enemy, our troops left the Cantonment on the 6th or 7th January *en route* to Jellalabad. No sooner, however, did they do this, than they were attacked by the enemy, who possessed themselves of the cantonment on its being evacuated by our

*These are as follows—Captains Webb, Walsh, Drummond, Conolly, Airey & Warburton.

people. At Khoord Cabool⁴, which was their third march, the ladies of the party were sent back to Cabool under the charge of some people of Mahomed Akbar Khan, the enemy having continued to molest them on the way. On the Huft Kotul, part of the troops became disorganised; many were destroyed & others fled. At Tezeen,⁵ where our last gun fell into the hands of the enemy, Major General Elphinstone, and Colonel Shelton, were made prisoners. From Tezeen to Jugdulluck, about 200 men of the 44th. Regiment held well together, but, there, they ultimately became disorderly.

The following is the list of officers who are reported to have been killed : Major Ewart, Lieutt. Strut, Drs. Duff, Bryce, MacGrath & Cardew; A. Bellew ; Captn. Bird, Brigadier Auquetil, & Ensign Macarthey.

At the time of the evacuation of the Cantonments, our sick, it is said, were sent into the city to the new King Zeman Khan.

Shah Shooja was still in the Bala Hissar; his party, it is said, was strengthening, & all was intriguing in the town.

At Jellalabad every thing continued quiet up to the 11th. Jany : supplies were plentiful, & Captn. MacGregor had managed to get into the town some few maunds of country powder. The newly appointed Governor, Abdool Ghafoor Khan Atchuckzye, had taken himself & his horsemen to Bala Bagh.

Our people at Jallalabad were anxiously awaiting reinforcements from Peshawur.

Dost Mahomed Khan

8th January

The officer in charge of Dost Mahomed Khan states that the ex-Chief continued safe in Saharunpore & in good health.

Indus Steam Navigation

The Purser⁶ of the Indian Navy reports the despatch of the H. C.'s

⁴ *Khoord Cabool* (Khurd Kabul) a formidable defile or pass near Kabul, about six miles long, and shut in by lofty hills. When General Sale's brigade passed through in 1841, it was opposed by 200 Ghilzais, and lost 67 men in killed and wounded. It was through this pass that 4,500 fighting men, including 700 European soldiers, 12,000 Indian camp followers, with women and children, endeavoured to retreat after the evacuation of Kabul but the Afghans fired on them, and 3,000 of the victims are said to have perished in the attempt.

⁵ *Tezeen* (Tezin), a river which rises in the Safed Koh, and after a course of 40 miles, falls into the Kabul at Tarobi. Here, on October 22, 1841, Brigadier Sale defeated a body of hostile Afghans; on January 11, 1842, the remnant of a British force retreating from Kabul perished; and on September 12-13, 1842, General Pollock, while advancing, was attacked by the Afghans.

⁶ *Purser*, an officer charged with managing money matters and keeping accounts.

steamer "Planet" to Tatta on the 17th October last at the request of the Asstt. Political agent at Sukkur with 4 officers, 70 rank and file and about 5 tons of baggage of the 2d Grenadier Regiment N. I. She performed the downward voyage in 6 days, having arrived at Tatta on the 22d of the same month.

The Planet left Tatta on the 8th Novr. with 5 officers of different Regts; 120 rank & file of Hill's 41st Reg., 86 public & private followers, & about 10 tons of baggage, & arrived at Sukkur on the 25th November last.

The Camp at Kurachee

Major Outram intimates that their Highnesses, the Ameers of Hyderabad, have declared all supplies for the consumption of the troops at Kurachee free from duties.

Bagdad

24th November

The Political Agent in Turkish Arabia intimates that the Pacha was still engaged in collecting the tribute of the tribes round Bagdad in which he has had partial success.

Thamir Shaik of the Chaab Arabs has been displaced by the Mootamed at the head of a Persian Force advancing on their territory, and has been called upon to pay a large arrear of revenue due in the Persian districts long farmed by himself and his ancestors.

Thamir has abandoned his captial Falahujah, inundated the country and retired to the Turkish ground at Moohammerah.

Two other shaiks of the same family have been set up by the Mootamed; the expelled Governor is strengthening his party by the aid of Arabs at the mouth of the Euphrates, and by professing deep submission to the Turks, and soliciting their countenance.

The Turks are not decided whom to support, important as the crisis is to their interests in this disputed and commanding position of their country.

Taking advantage of this miserable indecision of the Turks, the Mootamed has notified to the Governor of Bussora that his troops will seek the ex-Shaik at Moohammerah & requested him to send the Turkish fleet to that point to prevent the flight of that Chief and his followers.

The Political Agent further states that Shaikh Khalid had commenced a dangerous intrigue with the French, in union with Mahomed Ali, against British interests at the Pachalic, and that the French Consul General had offered to supply the Pacha of Soolemaniah with arms & had written to France for two or three thousand muskets to supply this, and other contingent demands.

Two hundred stand of arms had been forwarded by Mr. Vidal, the

Interpreter of the French Consulate at Bagdad, to their Agent in Persia, the Matran Essae, who resides usually at Khosrawa, a village of the district of Ooroomiah.

The recent recall of two steamers from Bagdad, it is said, has afforded undisguised gratification to the French party there, & they were doing their utmost to induce the people to believe that this is the first step in the decline of British influence in the Pachalic.

The Political Agent goes on to say that shortly after the arrival at Bagdad, of the Consul General of France, wrote he to Khalid ben Saaood, desiring to know his intentions regarding the French Govt., but the Ameer omitted to answer him. On this the Consul General informed the French Consul Genl. at Cairo that Khalid had entered into intrigues with England, and it was requisite that Mahomed Ali should counsel & threaten him. Consequently, the above-mentioned Khalid wrote to the Consul General that he desired, at any cost, the friendship of France, as an ally of his protector Mahomed Ali Pacha; that he desired the Consul General's advice; promised not to intrigue with the English, & hoped in future for a close union of sentiments.

The Consul General's answer required Khalid to state the extent and position of his country by sea and land, the number of his troops; mentioned that if he wanted arms, France would furnish them, desired him to secure a sea port to receive a ship of war to be stationed there, if France should desire so to do, as the English, in consequence of a treaty signed at Tehran, must abandon the Island of Karrak, and lastly to send force, to the fort of Borainee.

Moolla Abdelaziz, the Persian Agent at Bagdad, had assured the Consul General that he would arrange all his affairs and objects at the Court of Tehran to his complete satisfaction.

Muscat

The Rescue of an Indian Slave Girl

28th December

The Govt. of Bombay report the liberation of an Indian slave girl by the British Native Agent at Muscat. The Girl alluded to, was, it appears, kidnapped by some Arabs in the service of His Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad, & publicly sold in the slave market of Muscat. She has been sent to the charge of the Senior Magistrate of Police at Bombay, & an enquiry was to be instituted in order to ascertain who the parents of the unfortunate girl are, with a view to her being restored to them.

The Hyderabad Insurgents

The Resident in Hyderabad states that the Rohilla part of insurgents were again collecting in Scindiah's country, & that active measures had been adopted for their suppression.

Gwalior

25th to 31st December

The Gwalior Diary of dates noted in the margin states that two men, one a subject of Dholpur, the other that of Indore, had been charged with having been guilty of kidnapping children, & that the Resident at Gwalior recommended that these individuals with their associates should be punished with imprisonment by the states to which they own allegiance.

Indore

6th to 12th December

The Poll. Diary of the Indore Residency states that a Khurreetah has been addressed to Rajah Bhow Phemsier by the Resident, calling on him to use his efforts for the suppression of infanticide amongst the Rajpoot chiefs & others in the Indore State.

Bhopal

1st to 7th November

From the Political Diary of the Bhopal Agency of dates quoted, it appears that great confusion & disorder prevailed at Bhopal from the want of an efficient police & administration.

Kamptee

Movement of Troops

13th to 19th December

From the Political Diary of the Nagpore Residency, it appears that a detachment of H. M. 39th Regt. consisting of 4 European officers, 220 rank & file, together with 670 followers, were proceeding from Madras to Kamptee thro' His Highness the Rajah of Nagpore's territory.

Mhow

7th January

The Resident at Indore states that the Government of Bombay have made arrangements to relieve the 17th Regiment N. I. at Mhow by a wing of the 18th Regt. from Baroda, as a temporary measure, until the arrival of the 10th N. I. from Aden.

Burmah

1st January

A private letter from Rangoon states that a council was held by the King of Ava on the 31 December consequent on the receipt of intelligence of the insurrection at Cabool. There are several merchants at Rangoon

from Cabool and Candahar who correspond with their relatives & friends in those countries. It was reported that the Prince of Prome was to quit Rangoon for the capital about the 12th January and that the King would follow in a few days.

A subsequent private communication from Rangoon without date states that the Burmese were clearing ground near Pegu for a large encampment. Of this fact, however, the writer had no confirmation.

The usual annual mission from Bangkok arrived at Moulmein & had an interview with Mr. Blundell, the commissioner. The Envoy appeared alarmed at the position of the King of Ava at Rangoon and it appears that the Court of Bangkok have also taken alarm at this & seem to suspect that the English may either unite with the Burmese against Siam or allow them a passage through out territories.

15th January

The Commissioner at Arracan reports that, up to the date cited in the margin, the most perfect tranquillity continued to prevail on all parts of that frontier.

Fort William,
1 February 1842

R. H. Maddock
Secy. to the Govt. of India

(Foreign Department; Miscellaneous, Vol. 335, pp. 166-212).

Newsletter 70 : February 10, 1842

(No. 5 of 1842)

The Sikhs and the Chinese Tartars

26th January

The Commissioner of Kumaon in a letter dated as per margin reports the arrival at Bagesir of Bustee Ram, late commandant, on the part of Vuzeer Zorawur Sing, at Taklakote. Bustee Ram has brought with him about one hundred and fifty followers, and about one hundred more were on their way from our pergannahs of Beans, Chandans and Askote. The 150 men referred to effected their escape from Taklakote about the 2d. of January and made their way thro' Kumaon.

It appears that Zorawur Singh was slain in an assault made by him on the Lhasa troops, at a place about a days' march from Taklakote, by whom he was at the time surrounded, and that Sirdar Raee Singh, on whom the command devolved on the death of Zorawur Singh, was induced by the Lhasa commanders to deliver up his arms, stores and baggage to them, on condition that food and a free passage to Ladakh would be allowed him and his soldiers. These conditions, Bustee Ram states, were violated by the Lhasa chiefs, and the Sikh followers were left to die of cold and famine on the spot.

The news of the above catastrophe reached Bustee Ram thro' two of his own men whom he had sent out to procure intelligence, and he then called on his followers to adopt one of two courses. 1st. Either to die sword in hand, at Taklakote, his ammunition having been expended in one or two fights with the Thibetans, or 2ndly, to attempt the Beans pass notwithstanding the heavy falls of snow, and seek protection in our territory.

The latter was the course preferred and the successful issue of it, speaks highly in favour of the hardihood of Bustee Ram and his followers. Bustee Ram states that the whole of the Sikh army has been completely destroyed by the Lhasa troops and by cold and famine. Some of the details learnt from him are as follows :—

Previous to the engagement in which Zorawur Singh fell, the Sikhs had lost from 150 to 200 men, in one night, by cold and exposure. The Kardumkote commander Ootara, a relation of Zorawur Singh's, had been surprized by the Lhasa people, and destroyed with the whole of his party. When Zorawur Singh attacked the Lhasa force at the head of his remaining troops (about 1,000 to 1,200 strong) it was found that his men could not use their arms effectually owing to cold and fatigue. They were therefore so soon

repulsed by the Thibetans, Zorawur Singh having been first wounded by a matchlockball, and shortly after killed by one of the Lhasa spearmen, his head, hands and ears were cut off and sent to the Lhasa authorities.

Under instructions lately issued by the Hon'ble the Lieutt. Governor, N. W. P., the Commr. of Kumaon has afforded Bustee Ram and his party every necessary attention, and purposed, after they had rested a few days from their fatigues, to have forwarded on such of them as could march, to the Governor General's Agent, N. W. Frontier, to be disposed of by him as he may think proper.

**Peshawur—The Khyber Pass—Alli Masjid—
Cabool—Jellalabad**

19th January

Captn. H. M. Lawrence in a letter dated 19th January states that the Sikh troops refused to march into the Khyber Pass from Jumrood, and leaving their camp standing, were on their way back to Peshawur, and that General Avitabile had ordered all the gates to the city to be shut to prevent their admission into it.

Under these circumstances, Captn. Lawrence had written to Koonwur Pertab Sing and Rajah Golab Sing, to endeavour to induce the Sikhs under their command to move on to the aid of the British troops.

Captn. Lawrence reports the failure of part of Brigadier Wild's Brigade to reach Alli Musjid. A gun fell into the hands of the enemy, though in an inefficient condition. In this affair Brigadier Wild is said to be wounded in the face, but not dangerously. Brigade Major Loftie and Lieutt. Montgomery are also wounded, and it is supposed that 20 or 30 others, including officers and men, are likewise wounded and 2 or 3 killed. The Enemy, it is said, were not in great numbers and there was no heavy firing. Captn. L. however states that not being with the advance, he may be mistaken in these respects.

Captn. Mackeson, with 2 Regiments, remained at Alli Musjid without provision; but Captain Lawrence intended marching troops into the pass by night to cover his retirement should Captn. M. have proposed to go to Lalpoorah, and had despatched supplies and powder by the Tatera road to his aid. He had also sent the Aurackzye Agents and those of the Khaleels into the pass to try either to get grain into the fort, or to create a dissension among the tribes.

Brigadier Wild writes that the Afreedees had thrown off all reserve and declared against the British.

Colonel Tulloch was encamped at Rawalsar.

Captn. McGregor states a rumour that Shah Shoojah and the Barrackzye clan were at issue; that His Majesty had been joined by Secunder Khan, Badia Maroo, and other influential men, and that he was likely to gain the ascendancy over the rebellious tribes.

The troops at Jellalabad under Sir Robt. Sale were in high spirits and quite ready to give the enemy battle. As Sir Robt. Sale had written for reinforcements, His Excellency the Commander in Chief, at the solicitation of Mr. Clerk, has ordered two other Native Regiments from Kurnaul to Ferozepore, with a view to support our troops at Jellalabad. His Excellency has likewise issued orders for the advance of H. M.'s 3d. Dragoons to Ferozepore for the same purpose.

Mahomed Akbar Khan was at Lughman¹ with 3 or 400 sowars, busily engaged in collecting the clans with a view to attack Sir Robert's position. He had however not been joined by any of the principal Chiefs of the faction. Another report was afloat that the assassin of Sir Wm. Macnaghten had fallen by the hands of a rival Chief. This report has not yet been confirmed.

22nd January

Captn. Lawrence intimates on the authority of Captn. McGregor that two officers, viz. Major Griffiths of the 37th and Captn. Seaton* of the 44th. who were on their way from Cabul, were made prisoners in a fort near Jellalabad and that they were to be ransomed for the sum of 1,000 Rupees.

Dost Mahomed Khan

17th January

Mr. Clerk writes that an additional guard from H.M.'s 3rd Foot, with 4 officers, marched from Kurnaul on the 4th. January for duty over Dost Mahomed Khan.

18th January

Captain D. M. Cameron of the above-mentioned Regt. has assumed command of the party employed in guarding the Ameer.

With reference to the atrocities committed by Mahomed Akbar Khan and his adherents against British people & British interests at Cabool, & with a view to public security, the Right Hon'ble the Governor General has issued instructions to Mr. Clerk to remove Dost Mahomed Khan together with his sons & other members of his family from Loodianah to the fortress at Allahabad, to be kept there in close custody. The Ameer in his exile is to be treated by the British authorities with all kindness & attention, consistent with his being retained in perfectly safe keeping.

Scinde Upper

2nd January

The following is a translation of a compact of allegiance as arranged by

* The public prints mention the name of the second officer to be Lt. Sonter of the 44th.

1 *Lughman*, (Lamghan), part of the province of Jalalabad, situated north of the town in the foot-hills of the Hindu Kush, in a fertile, well-watered, populous valley. After the massacre of retreating British troops with their families at Khurd Kabul, Muhammad Akbar Khan, leader of the Afghan insurrection (1841-42), withdrew here along with the surviving Britishers taken captive by him.

Nusseer Khan with Islam Khan, the eldest son of Bebaruck Khan, the chief of the Bhogtee tribe on behalf of his father. "This is a treaty concluded on oath : at the present time, we Islam Khan and Ahmed Khan, have come, on the part of our father Bebaruck Boogte and Meer Hussain and the Muzzarries and Notarses and have paid our devoirs to the Khan and Coll Stacy, and have become obedient & subservient. We will in future refrain from robbing or doing injury in the Country of the Khan or in that of the British. This practice we have relinquished and should any of our tribes, Boogties or Wootaries, do injury or wrong in the country of the Khan or the British on the Bolan route or on other place, we shall be responsible for such acts and they shall suffer punishment and we will cause them to repent of and refrain from such evil practices, so that they shall not again harbour any idea of doing injury in the country of the Khan or the British. The enemies and bad wishers of the Khan, we shall esteem enemies to ourselves, and Evildoers & Robbers of any tribe Belooch or Brahaee, shall find no refuge near us. We will drive them out from among us. Should any tribes, Belooch or Brahaees cause injury or evil in the Khan's country, we will in such case collect and repel them, should they, however, be stronger than us, we shall look for assistance from the Khan's troops, that the enemy may be destroyed. While we live, we will not quit the circle of our obedience and submission to the Khan. On these accounts, this Treaty has been concluded on oath on the part of our Fathers and Tribe, on the 16th day of Zalkadeer A. H. 1257, corresponding with 1 January 1842".

Coll Stacy writes that Meer Islam Khan & all his tribe expressed great pleasure at the above treaty.

With reference to the above compact, the Poll. Agent has released 6 Bhoogtees who had been made prisoners by some of our Sowars near Chuttergurh, whither they had proceeded for purposes of plunder.

The digest of Upper Sindh Intelligence states that the trial of the murderer of Lt. Loveday has been postponed for the production of certain witnesses whom the criminal now calls to prove that the act was committed at the instigation of a sirdar named Kurreem Khan.

4th January

Brigr. England reports that the troops in Upper Sindh are at present posted as follows:—

One battalion Native Infantry & one gun Golunduzze at the deserted fort of Cobee (Seebee) 15 miles eastward of Dadur.

One battalion & a half of N.I. & 3 guns Golundauze battalion at Sukkur; half a battalion & 2 guns Horse Artillery at Shikarpore. Her Majesty's 41st Regt. & one battalion of Native Infantry, the Head Quarters of the 3d. Light Cavalry & 4 guns Horse Artillery, & two six-pounders Golundauze battalion at Dadur. Two battalions Native Infantry at Quetta, (vide Head "Quetta" in the present News Letter).

Brigr. England adds that in consultation with Major Outram he had taken steps to procure a supply of carriage for the force also to replenish the magazine & to put the troops in all points in a state of perfect equipment.

Post at Quetta

4th January

Brigr. England states that in consequence of the altered aspect of affairs of the northward, he had taken measures to reinforce the post of Quetta & that the garrison at that place now consists of two Regiments of Bombay N. I., with two guns of the 3d. Company 1st. Battn. European Artillery, under Brevet Major Sotheby. With reference to these arrangements Brigr. England considers Quetta secure against any insurrectionary movement.

Sooumeeanee route of Afghanistan

The Govt. of Bombay have issued instructions to the Suptt. of the Indian Navy to detach a properly qualified officer to survey the Sooumeeanee Bay with the view of tracing out a line other than that hitherto followed, by which to march troops to Afghanistan.

Indus Steam Navigation

10th December, 1841

The officer commanding the Indus Flotilla reports that the Steam Vessel "Meteer" left Sukkur on the 7th July at the requisition of Major Outram and reached Hyderabad on the following day. She left that station with the Political Agent, family and suite on the 12th, on her way to Ghisree Bunder which she reached on the 14th, of the same month.

23rd December

The commander of the Indus Flotilla states that the Steam Vessel "Satellite" with a Govt. flat in tow, arrived from Tatta at Bukkur with the following on board :—2 officers; 1 Conductor; 2 Assistant Apothecaries; 250 rank & file; 1 Jemadur; 76 women, & 120 followers of the 8 Regt. N. I. & 30 tons of baggage. This voyage of the Satellite with a flat in tow is considered very satisfactory & the commander of the Flotilla contemplates making further experiments of the kind, the steamer being considered equal to the undertaking.

3rd January, 1842

The steam vessel "Planet" left Bukkur for Tatta on the 27th Novr. last, with 3 officers, 150 rank & file & 40 followers of the 23d Regt. L. I. and about 7 tons of baggage & arrived there on the 2d Decr. The "Planet" commenced her return voyage to Sukkur on the 4th, having received on

board at Tatta, 4 officers, 167 rank & file & 24 followers of the 8th Rcg't. N.I. and 8 tons of baggage & arrived there on the 23rd Decr.

The Chief of Gujunderghur

The Government of Bombay have issued orders for the dismantlement of the fort of the chief of Gujunderghur in the southern Mahratta country. The Chief referred to has long been guilty of disaffection towards the British Govt., and the acting political agent of the southern Mahratta country states that intrigue & disturbances continued to exist among the followers of the chief in his (the acting political agent) districts. Under these circumstances, the fort alluded to, has been ordered to be destroyed by the Bombay Govt. & the conduct of the Chief most carefully watched.

Karrack

Lieutt. Colonel Davies,² in charge of the Residency in the Persian Gulf, reports the arrival at Karrack from Shiraz of Hassain Ally Khan, deputed by the Firman Firma to invite the Resident to Bushire. This individual has been accompanied by a messenger from Tehran. Lt. Coll. Davies had duly received & entertained the parties & explained to Hossain Ally Khan that he could not leave Karrack until the British troops had evacuated the garrison there,

Muscat

The Native Agent at Muscat states that on the night of the 4th. Decr. a French vessel of 24 guns, "La Forte", Captain Monsr. Pitch, arrived at Muscat, having on board, 200 men. On the evening of the following day the Captain of the vessel went to Syud Thooenee & intimated to him that he had to propose some questions to him, to which Syud Thooenee replied that he could not enter into negotiation with any body, & that the Captain might, if he wished, communicate, with His Highness the Imaum himself. The Agent further states that the course of conduct pursued by the French is far from friendly. They visited, he says, every hill & town & examined all the roads. On the night of the 8th. December, the vessel sailed for the Persian Gulf. The members of the Imaum's family & the rest of the Boosyant tribe entertain great apprehensions from these proceedings of the French.

Bunder Abbas

2nd December

The Native Agent at Muskat states that he has recd. intelligence from the Govr. of Bunder Abbas to the purport that the Commanding Officer of the Persian artillery, who came to Kerman, had marched towards

² Lt. Col. Davies assumed charge of the Persian Gulf Residency from Capt. Hennell in January 1842.

Beloochistan with a body of 6,000 troops, that he had been accompanied by Alli Khan & the Khans of Kerman, & that he had left the remaining force in Jeraft.

Nejd

The Resident in the Persian Gulf writes that native rumours reached him to the purport that Ameer Khuled, the ruler of Nejd, had been deprived of his capital of Rias by a Shaikh of the name of Abdullah bin Soonyan. This rumour has not been confirmed.

Mhow

13th January

The Resident at Indore states that the 17th Regt. N. I. left Mhow on the 1st January, Instant. (vide News Letter No. 4 of 1842).

The Hyderabad Insurgents

With reference to the late disturbances in Berar & on the borders of the Scindiah's dominions (vide News Letter No. 3 dated 22nd Jany) the Resident of Gwalior states that Scindiah's Govt. have agreed to admit the troops of the Nizam's Regular army to pursue the insurgents into their territory.

Jyepore

From a report drawn up by Major Thoresby, on the condition of affairs in the Jyepore principality during the past year & at the present time, it appears that the council of Regency in the state continues to work well, and that opposition to it seems to have abated; that the courts of civil & criminal justice & the police afford greater security to property & life, than has heretofore been known in that country since British connection with it, that the management of the army causes no trouble, and that the army is of sufficient strength to preserve order throughout the country.

In the Department of Revenue & Account there is said to be still room for much improvement, altho' taking into consideration the various causes of drawback in the way of attaining to a satisfactory point in the administration of the finances, and the whole of the receipts, disbursements, and accounts, much good it must be acknowledged (adds Major Thoresby) has really been effected.

At Khetree also, matters are said to be going on satisfactorily & promise to improve.

The Govr. General's Agent in Rajpootana observes that all these important results are mainly attributable to the ability, industry, and

discretion with which Major Thoresby has carried through the very arduous and complicated duties entrusted to his charge at Jyepore.

Gwalior

8th to 14th November

From the Gwalior Diary of dates cited on the margin, it appears that measures have been adopted by the Gwalior Durbar for the suppression of the practice of female infanticide in its territories.

Bhopal

27th December to 2nd Jany. 42

From the Diary of the Bhopal Agency it appears that the Begum of Islam Nuzzur seemed again to aspire to the Regency of Bhopal.

Khumbut

20th January

The Brigadier Commanding Eastern Frontier states that, up to the date cited in the margin, the greatest tranquillity prevailed on the Khumbut frontier & that the disposition of the several Burmese chiefs continued very firmly towards the British Govt.

The Naga Chiefs

24th January

Capt. Jenkins states that the disturbances which recently occurred in the Naga hills from the chiefs fighting against one another, have been completely quelled, and that arrangements for the future peace of the country have been made by Lt. Brodie³ & Capt. Vetch with all the Naga chiefs. Capt. J. describes the Naga hills to be exceedingly beautiful & very densely peopled and observes that if the tribes could be restrained from quarrelling with each other, they would form a valuable addition to our territory. The tribes, it is said, contribute largely to the trade of Assam. At one halt on the Dhansiri last year, they brought 21,000 mds. of cotton which was nearly all paid for in Bengal salt. Further last they bring in chiefly salt, and purchase grain with it at a most profitable rate to the British merchants.

Burmah

1st January

A commn. from Rangoon of annexed date states that preparations were

3 Lt. Brodie was Political Assistant Commissioner at Sibsagar in Assam. Because of his long stay and service in the Naga hills, he had come to acquire a thorough knowledge about the Nagas and their habits. The result was that whenever the Indian government faced any trouble from the Nagas, Brodie was pressed into service.

going forward for a speedy removal of the Burmese court & forces from Rangoon. A number of the people and elephants had already left the place and the army and baggage were in progress of shipment. It was reported that the King would remain a certain time at Sarawadi, ostensibly for the purpose of finishing a Pagoda there, but really for erecting some fortification. The writer of the comn. adds—"for the present I would consider that all danger of an out-break on their (the Burmese) part has passed over". He proceeds to observe that a belief generally prevails at Rangoon that on the arrival of the King at the capital, the Woonjae Moungh Dhooahgyae would be sent down to the charge of the former place. The officers who were at Rangoon before the arrival of the King were to remain in charge after H.M.'s departure, and it was not intended to leave any large body of troops.

Arracan

7th January

The Commissioner of Arracan states that up to the date cited on the margin, the whole line of the Arracan frontier was in the most perfect state of tranquillity. Merchants were daily arriving at Aeng with droves of laden bullocks from all parts of Burmah & boats from Bassein & other places to the southward of Arracan, were constantly touching at its different ports in the prosecution of their voyage to Chittagong, Dacca & Calcutta. Capt. Bogle adds that the Intelligence, all parties brought him of the Burmese was of the most pacific nature, which was entirely corroborated by that obtained from spies in his own employ.

Capt. Bogle has solicited from the Government the services of a steamer for the provincial duties of Arracan for the movement of troops in peace or war & a vessel of the description will be despatched to the province at the earliest practicable period.

Nipal

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Nipal Diary of dates cited on the margin :—

2nd January

(1) A general council of chiefs was held on the 1st. January to decide whether the Raja should offer his troops to the Governor General. Many were present at the Council, & the decision was in the affirmative. Rendall Pandey & Guru Persaud said the soldiery ought to be previously consulted lest they refuse to work. The Majhila Guru was the chief spokesman & advocate of the offer, though several inferior sirdars, it is said, opposed it. The Rajah asked if the troops would be accepted, & if so, whether the Governor General would pay the charges.

(2) One Gopi Pandit having spread rumour that a very large army of

Chinese were approaching Nipal to attack the English, the report was traced to its author, & he was ordered to be confined for the fabrication.

2d., 3d., 5th.

(3) The Lassa Vakeel wrote to the Durbar that 100 Sikhs had been slain & 80 were made prisoners, in Chinese Tartary. The recently received Kharitah (vide News Letter No. 3, dt. 22d. Jany. 1842) is said to be from the Viceroy of Lassa & relates to the periodical mission of Nipal to Peking : the projected Kharitah for Lassa offering Goorkah troops against the Sikhs is kept back.

(4) The Kharitah for the Governor General offering the troops for service in Ava or Cabool was sent to Resident & recieved by him, the selection of a commander of troops, should they go, had become of interest. The Rana Raji is spoken of for the post.

(5) Reference was at the same time made to the advantage of enabling Resident, while forwarding this Kharitah to report that measures had been taken to adjust the outstanding cases of plaint preferred to the Durbar.

10th.

(6) The Ministers & Chiefs of most note, to the number of 21, including Batook Dutt, the Heir Apparent's Gooroo, in a body, resigned, owing to the wild sports and un-business-like conduct of the Prince. All persons, it is said, approved the measure.

(7) His Highness sent for the Ministers to desire them to proceed with the affairs of the British Government.

(8) The Resident, at the prisoner's request, gave a passport to Benares to the Misr Guru who again proposed to retire thither.

(9) The Resident was to be invited on the 19th., & it is alleged that the unadjusted plaints preferred by him were to be forthwith settled.

China

27th December

The Governor of Prince of Wales Island reports that the Resident Councillor at Singapore had taken up the bark "Catherine Stewart Forbes" for the purpose of conveying coal with some commercial stores to Chusan. The vessels noted in the margin* have been engaged for the conveyance of the 2d., 6th., & 41st., B.N.I., intended to reinforce the China expedition, with a detail of artillery, & 500 gun lascars. The vessels carry a full year's provision in rice, water, & firewood, for the regiments named.

*Urgent
William Money
Roberts
Percy
Thames
Rohomany
Duke of Bedford

The undermentioned vessels have been taken up for general service in China :—

Name of Vessels	Tonnage
Thames	1620
Trio	388
Martha	382
William Money	834
Berhampooter	550
Urgent	622
Victoria	443
William Wilson	407
Maria	460
Roberts	800
Carsetjee Cowasjee	590
City of Palaces	430
Forth	489
Pekin	562
Percy	658
Rohomany	847
Duke of Bedford	720
Warrior	541
Faize Robanny	550
Mellekel Behar	650
Tamerlane	427

Fort William
10 Feby. 1842

T. H. Maddock
Secy. to the Govt. of India

(Foreign Department : Miscellaneous, Vol. 335, pp. 214-266)

Newsletter 71 : February 19, 1842

(No. 4 of 1842)

North West Frontier

15th January

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Akhbar of dates marginally cited :—

Orders were issued to General Avitabile to lend three mortars to Capt. Mackeson and to attend to all his other requisitions. Raja Dhian Sing was asked how many Khalsa troops were assembled at and near Peshawur, and he replied that there were 2 battalions of General Avitabile's, 1 of Nujeebs, 2 of other Mahomedans, 1 of Raja Sochiet Sing's, 2 of Raja Golab Sing's; 2 of Raja Heera Sing's, 4 of General Mehtab Sing's, including 3,000 sowars under Dewan Motee Ram and 4,000 Charyarees, and other troops under Koonwar Pertaub Sing, the total amounting to about 40,000 besides the several garrisons in the neighbourhood.

27th January

The Maharaja and his minister observed that Sirdar Lenha Sing should be appointed to Peshawur. Sirdar Futteh Sing Maun with 115 sowars was despatched to the place mentioned. Raja Golab Sing reported that he was about to march to Peshawur. Many of the Charyarees and of the Nursing Regiment who had marched to Peshawur under Raee Keesree Sing, went to their own houses on the road, leaving their ranks one by one and promising to rejoin them. Rajah Golab Sing proposed to detach 5,000 hill troops towards Ladakh under Vuzeer Rutnoo to succeed the late Vuzeer Zoorawur Sing, and 5,000 leather suits were being prepared for them at Jummoo to protect them against the snow in the hills. Meean Jwahir Sing, son of Raja Dhian Sing, is appointed at Keshtwar with 3,000 men to assist the operations of Rutnoo Vuzeer.

19th January

1,000 sowars and 2,000 peasantry with guns had been detached to the Bolan pass desiring that if they desired to maintain the Mahomedan faith they should allow no one to enter by that route. Fakeer Azeezodeen was sent to General Court to propose to him the command at Peshawur & to state that on his doing so, 40,000 Rs. would be granted to him annually, and that he should have leave to return to his Native country after a year, if he discharged his duties well and penetrated as far as Allee Musjid. The General declined the offer. From the Jummoo news it appeared that

Vuzeer Rutnoo had marched to Ladakh at the head of 2,000 hill peasantry ; that they had advanced only 40 coss as far as Chundree and returned, owing to the inclemency of the weather, and that the people in the Jummo hills were very much displeased with the Rajas.

21st January

Fakeer Azeezoodeen was ordered to draft out a letter of condolence to Mr. Clerk on the subject of the disasters suffered by the English at Cabool. A note also, describing the Maharajah's concern, was at once addressed to Raae Kishen Chund.

23rd January

The Maharaja remarked that Raja Golab Sing and Koonwur Purtaub Sing would soon arrive at Peshawur and would arrange all the money and military matters.

27th January

The Maha Raja ordered the troops under General Court to march directly to Peshawur to cooperate with the British and to act very obediently to their General. The Maha Raja returned to Lahore. Sheikh Goolam Moheoodeen requested permission for the passage of some British magazines requiring to be despatched from Ferozepore to Peshawur. Nurrain Sing, Agent of the Attaarewala, was, therefore, sent with 50 sowars to accompany the magazine to Shurukpore. Orders were issued to Fakeer Shahdeen, directing him to allow passage to all the British Cafilas and Magazines on the requisitions of Raae Kishen Chund, Mr. Clerk, or the Assistant at Ferozepore without further reference to the Durbar. Since the flight of the Khalsa troops has been reported, the Durbar is making great exertions to render effectual assistance to the British Govt.

30th January

Mr. Clerk intimates that Maharaja was making efforts to redeem the character of his troops who have so glaringly disgraced themselves in failing to do their duty to the allied Govts. at Peshawur.

The Durbar issued instructions to its officers at Dera Ismael Khan to afford Coll. Palmer at Guznee every assistance in their power should that officer retire in that direction.

The Sikhs and the Chinese Tartars

19th January

The Commissioner of Kumaon states that Bustee Ram was about to leave the above place on the 20th January, with 127 of his followers, for Loodhiana. A letter of introduction has been granted him by Mr. Lushington to the address of the Govr. General's Agent on the North W. Frontier. Bustee Ram was to leave behind him, at Almorah, about forty of his wounded

followers, and about 150 still remained behind, who had as yet not been able to reach that place. As the whole of these persons have suffered severely in their extremities from the effects of cold and snow, the Commissioner has requested the Civil Surgeon of the station to give them the benefit of his skill and advice. As many of them as recover (though a fear is entertained that many will lose their hands and feet, & some, perhaps, their lives) shall be forwarded to their homes. Bustee Ram professed to feel the utmost gratitude for the kindness and attentions he and his men have received at the hands of the British Govt. Mr. Lushington adds that he has received a visit from the Lama of Tolung who has come to communicate with him on the subject of the Sikh aggression.

**Peshawur , Alli Musjid, Lalpoorah, The Khyber Pass,
Cabool—Jellalabad**

28th January

Captn. Mackeson, in a letter dt. 28th. Jany., states that Captn. Lawrence fearing Rajah Goolab Sing & Koonwur Pertaub Sing were purposely tarrying on the road, had gone to Peshawur to bring them in quickly, to cooperate with the British troops.

The same officer reports the evacuation of the fort of Ali Musjid by our troops. Captn. Mackeson had gone in aid of the garrison without any loss either in men or baggage, & without useless expenditure of ammunition. He remained there for 8 days on half rations but little molested, but supplies failing, he left the post with the troops. On their retirement, our men were attacked in the front & rear before they got clear of the fort. Their loss, including sick men, who were massacred, amounts to 40 killed and 130 wounded. It is said that on receiving intimation of the evacuation by our troops of the post of Ali Musjid, a party of Dorranee horsemen, belonging to Akbar Khan, who were at Peshbalaq, came & encamped below it. The fort had not been occupied by the enemy, & the Afreedees were debating among themselves whether or not to destroy it. Torabaz Khan, with our newly raised levies of horse & foot, is said to have arrived at Peshawur from Lalpoorah, on the mere rumour of Mahmd. Akbar Khan's arrival at Kama, & Suadat Khan has taken possession of the place. Captain Mackeson intimates that a messenger from Khyber mentioned that a servant of Mahd. Akbar Khan's had brought about 1500 Rs. to the Maliks of Khyber. Moollah Inayat Khan, their leader, told the Maliks that Mahmd. Akbar would come personally, and present them with Khilluts, but that with regard to their stipend they must look to Shah Shoojah for that in future. The Afreedi Maliks, it is said, were not well pleased at the small sum brought by Akbar Khan's messenger and they had come to the determination to keep Ali Musjid themselves, and not again allow it to be garrisoned by the troops of the Govt. of Cabool. The tribes were dispersing to their homes after having appointed a hundred men to guard each of the entrances into the Khyber pass.

Sir Robert Sale, in a private communication states, that his garrison had been considerably diminished by the employment beyond the walls of the detachment of 200 Jezzailchees of Captain Fern's corps. Sir Robert adds that the knowledge of the disasters, which has befallen the force at Cabool; the high state of fanatical excitement against the British which pervades Afghanistan, and the delay in the arrival of succours from India had combined to produce a sensible effect on the minds of the troops at Jellalabad, many of whom are Cabooles and Bajourees. The Eusofzyes in their ranks, were the most worthy of confidence, but they too were much shaken by the progress of events. The officers incharge of the detachment generally concurred that the enemy had been secretly tampering with their men. Sir Robert continues that on a requisition to that effect from the Momund chief of Goshta, he consented to the detachment at Jullalabad moving to the place first mentioned on the night of the 18th. Janry; and that he had heard that it effected a junction with the men of Kholut Khan with very trifling loss. Sir Robert adopted this measure from the conviction that it was not prudent to retain men of doubtful fidelity, where they might eventually have become dangerous enemies. Owing to this measure the troops at Jellalabad have been reduced to two not very strong battalions of Infantry, 200 Cavalry, and 3 Companies of Sappers with the Artillery. These were employed in retrenching the gates and excavating with great labor a ditch of 12 feet in breadth and 10 in depth. Rumours reached Sir Robert that Mahomed Akbar Khan meditated to assemble a force of Ghilzyes in his front, with a view to endeavour successively to seduce from our service our petty Afghan allies at Koma, Besart, Goshta, and Lalpoorah to prevent the garrison receiving any supplies, and to animate the Khyberees to oppose and retard in every way the advance of succours from India. Captn. McGregor, in a communication dated 22nd. Jany., writes that rumour had reached him to the purport that it was not Mahomed Akbar Khan's intention to attack Jellalabad at present because in the first place, he had not the force to do so with any chance of success & secondly, because the British had evidently established a wholesome dread of themselves among the Ningrahar tribes, on whom alone he had to depend for support. Captn. M. goes on to say, that since the destruction of the force at Cabool, a change had taken place in the conduct of Gaffoor Khan, the new Governor of Jellalabad, and that he had withheld his friendly offices from the British. On the 24th January, there was two months' provision in the garrison at Jellalabad.

Captain McGregor has received a letter from Shah Shoojah, in which His Majesty requests pecuniary assistance from the British Government to enable him to re-establish his authority in Afghanistan. It is said that all the hostile chiefs have submitted to the King, and that Nawab Zeman Khan has been appointed Prime Minister. His Majesty expressed great regret at our troops having placed reliance in the faith of the perfidious Dooranees, and for having left their Cantonments in dependence on a

compact with them. He entertains a strong conviction that his affairs will still prosper, and has expressed a determination in that event to concur in every way in the views of the British Government. Captain McGregor writes that he received a letter from Dost Mahomed Khan to the address of Mahomed Akbar Khan, which he intended to forward to the latter.

Two sowars of Captn. Anderson's horse arrived at Peshawur : these effected their escape from Ali Musjeed. They state that Major Genl. Elphinstone, Brigadier Shetton and others, with the ladies were under the safe custody of Mahomed Akbar Khan.

Dost Mahomed Khan

2nd February

The officer in charge of Dost Mahomed Khan states that, up to the date cited, the ex-Chief was perfectly safe and well. The Ameer's followers have been disarmed, and their arms are kept in the escort guard at Loodianah.

Captain G. P. Lawrence, Military Secretary to the late Envoy and Minister at Cabool, giving an account of the disastrous events that have transpired there, states that the insurrection broke out in the city on the 2d. November last. On that day he was sent by Sir Wm. Macnaghten to the King in the Bala Hissar, and narrowly escaped with his life. The result of his Mission was that Brigadier Shetton, with nearly two Regiments, and Captn. Nicoll's troop of Horse Artillery took possession of the Bala Hissar. The day following, the commissariat fort, in which the provisions were kept, was taken by the Enemy. On the 2d. Novr. Sir A. Burnes, his brother, and Captain Broadfoot were killed, Brigadier Auguetil¹ and Captain McKenzie was in his fort, a commissariat depot, which he most gallantly defended for three days with a handful of men, when, all his ammunition being expended, he brought off his party into the cantonments at night. Captain Trevor remained with his wife and children for two days, protected by the Hazarbash who escorted them all safely into the cantonments. The successes on our own side and that of the enemy were various. Our people took two forts, in which they got some grain. Brigadier Shetton was sent for, and one regiment withdrawn from the Bala Hissar. After this, the remaining regiment, the 24th., was withdrawn from the Bala Hissar. For days the military authorities pressed on the Envoy the absolute necessity of entering into terms with the enemy based on the evacuation of the country by our troops. This the Envoy resisted to the last; but hearing that the troops, he had written for from Candahar, had returned to that city, and that there was no hope of the arrival of Sir Robert Sale's

¹ *Brig. Auguetil* (Auqueril) assumed command of Shah Shuja's force on the resignation of Brig. Roberts in January 1841. He was killed during the British retreat from Kabul a year later.

Brigade from Jellalabad, he most reluctantly made up his mind to comply. A few days after, the Envoy, his Military Secretary, and Captn. Trevor met all the Chiefs outside of the Cantonments, when Sir William produced a Persian document containing 19 or 20 articles for a Treaty, which he read and which were all approved. Mahomed Akbar Khan seemed the chief spokesman on the occasion. Other meetings also took place, and some of the Chiefs called on the envoy to settle matters. On the 22d. Decr. Captain Skinner came into the cantonments at night with a cousin of Akbar's with certain propositions from the Sirdar. The Envoy then told Captains Lawrence, Trevor, and McKenzie to accompany him to Mahomed Akbar Khan's. They went, and hardly had seated themselves 5 minutes when at a signal they were all seized. The Envoy's party were hurried to horses and mounted behind Afghans. Captn. Trevor, it is said, afterwards fell off and was cut to pieces by the Ghazies, as was also Sir Wm. Macnaghten, who, it seems, resisted mounting a horse. Captains. Lawrence and Mackenzie were saved, though a host of Ghazies cut at them as they rode by. The officers were next put into a house in the Gagheer fort, where they were kept till midnight, when they were taken through the City to Mahomed Akbar's, first having had their watches taken from them. Here they heard of Sir Wm.'s and Captn. Trevor's death. On the morning of the 20th., Captn. Lawrence was sent for by Naib Aminollah, one of the chief rebels, and was told by him that Genl. Elphinstone required him (Captn. L.) in the cantonments to settle the Envoy's papers. The Naib is said to have behaved with uniform kindness to Captn. L. On the 6th, the troops marched from the cantonments with a foot of snow on the ground. Captain L. was with the escort in charge of the ladies. They reached Bayramee unmolested; but the rear guard was attacked and Hardyman, 4th Cavalry, with some others was killed. The next morning they made towards Boodhak, the rear guard being attacked the whole way, and their three mountain guns carried off. The following morning (the 7th) they forced the Camp which was nearly surrounded. Captn. Skinner had gone in the evg. to Mahd. Akbar Khan who was on a hill close to our troops, & who told our officers that it was all their own fault for leaving the Cantonments before the troops appointed to escort them were ready, & that the chiefs had not (save himself) power to prevent them from being attacked; that he was still willing to exert his power in their behalf on their giving 6 hostages & that they should not go beyond Tezeen till Genl. Sale's Brigade left Jellalabad. On this Major Pottinger & Captns. Lawrence & McKenzie offered themselves as hostages, while the troops marched for Khoord Cabool pass. Here with all his efforts to that end Mahd. Akbar could not restrain the Ghazees who attacked the columns on all points. A few hours after the scene of slaughter became fearful, a gun was left. Masdomes, Anderson & Boyd had each a child carried off, but Mrs. Boyd's child, a European woman, & a wounded soldier were

brought back by Mahd. Akbar Khan. The next day, the Sirdar after lamenting his inability to restrain the fury of his people said that the only safety for the ladies wd. be to put themselves under his charge. This was done & Captn. & Mrs. Anderson & child- Boyd, Eyre, Wallier, Mrs. Trevor, Ladies Sale & McNaghten, Mrs. Sturt, Mr. & Mrs. Ruley, Mrs. Mainwarin, Serjt. & Mrs. Wade & Troup all joined Major Pottinger's party; & were recd. with every attention by the Sirdar, who halted a day or two and then proceeded to Jugdallack. On their way they found the road crowded with our dead & dying, many of whom seemed to have fallen from the cold & then been cut down, then killed by the fire of the enemy.

At Jugdallack our troops endeavoured to make a stand in an old ruined fort, but after doing so, till only 30 rounds of ammunition remained per man, they fired to negotiate with the Gheiljies. Mahomed Akbar Khan assisted them, and asked for Genl. Elphinstone, Brigr. Shetton & Johnston to be sent to him. This was done. Towards the evening of the next day the troops from want of water and the loss of their Commanding Officer got impatient, and at night made a rush on the road to Jellalabad. The Sirdar brought the party under his care, with Major General Elphinstone, Brig. Shetton & ca. at Lughman, where they at present are, and where he does everything in his power to make them comfortable. Captn. Lawrence writes that the whole party were perfectly at their ease.

Captain Conolly wrote on the 17th Jany. that hundreds of our sepoys, fugitives from the Cabool force, and starving and naked, come into the city from time to time; that the Oosbeks buy some, and some go to our people there. The Hospital is said to be crowded with them, many of whom were dying off fast.

The new King has voluntarily abdicated and has sworn allegiance on the Koran to Shah Soojah. There was a general rejoicing in the city in honour of the coalition between them.

Scinde and Beloochistan

2nd to 9th January

The Digest of Upper Scinde Intelligence of dates cited in the margin states that the latest account from Nusseer Khan's camp at Bhag from Seebee, from Chuttee near Phoolojee, from Shukarpore, from Sukkur and from Hyderabad represented the public in the place mentioned to have been perfectly tranquil and not in the least affected by the rebellion of the Afghan chief.

10th to 16th January

The Digest of Upper Scinde Intelligence from the 10th to 16th January, inclusive, states that the aspect of affairs had considerably improved throughout the Khan's territories owing to police arrangements to repress plundering in the plains under the pass, and that not an instance of robbery or

murder throughout Cutchee had come to the knowledge of the Poll. Agent for some time past. The Belooch Horse in conjunction with the Scind Rissalah, with whom, the former now act cordially as comrades, were doing good service. Lieut Jacob, commanding the Scind Rissalah, was engaged in following up certain outlaws and plundering bands, who had hitherto preyed on the Ameer's territories almost with impunity. Captain French² was also similarly occupied in the Seebee district and Capt. Pastons was engaged in reforming the Police of the Shikarpore pergunnah preparatory to the British Government assuming the direct control thereof.

A private letter states that Nusseer Khan accompanied by Coll Stacy and some of the Chiefs were on their way from Gundeva to join Major Outram, and that His Highness and his Sirdars made their first march on the 27th Jany. The letter adds that major Outram's charge was quiet throughout and that the public works (canals, tanks & dawk bunglows) were steadily perservered in.

It is reported that hostilities had broken out between the Kakurs and Murrees.

Movement of Troops

15th January

The Poll. Agent in Cutch states that Major Reid³ with the Hr. Qr. Wing of the 12th Regt. N.I. marched for Sukkur on the morning of the 15th January, having been relieved by Major Scott and the Hr. Qr. Wing of the 23rd Regt. L.I.

Major General Wills is said to have supplied the Infantry detachment for Kasba from Deesa.

Candahar—Quetta

23rd January

A private letter from Lieutt. Hammersly dt. 22d. January states that a Cossid of his, who had been seized in the Peshing valley, mentioned to him that whilst a prisoner with Mahomed Sadeeq, a letter from Candahar came in giving an account of a skirmish between the English & some of the enemy's cavalry in which the latter met with a severe loss from an ambuscade. All agree in the account of the defeat of Mahommed Atta & Prince Suffdur Jang in this affair. This news, the Cossid added, had the effect of calling the ardour of the people collected, and the issue was that Mahomed Sadeeq directed the people to disperse and be ready to move on Quetta 5 days after the Id.

2 *Capt. French* of 23rd Bombay Native Infantry, acted (1843-45) Assistant Political Agent in Sind and Baluchistan while holding charge of the Sind police as its superintendent.

3 After the retreat from Afghanistan, Major Reid was made commandant of Hyderabad (Sind) fort, in October, 1843.

23rd January

The same officer writes on the 23d. January that another man arrived at Quetta from Peshing with the intelligence that the Burratches of Shaswah, the Atchikzyes and the Peshingees agreed to move against Quetta in a combined force, and that they were to start for Hydaizye, 2 marches from Quetta, on the 23d. January.

27th January

Commenting on the intelligence stated above, Major Outram writes that, on the approach of the enemy at Quetta, the position of the 25 Regt. occupying Mahomed Sadeeq's fort for the benefit of shelter, purposed to unite with the rest of the Regiments in the town & that a nine-pounder was placed on the citadel which had a most commanding range all round.

The force at Quetta consist of 2 strong native regiments, well-officered; a company of H.M's 41st completed to 200 strong; a company of Bengal European Artillery, men under Major Sotheby and other officers also European Artillery men for two Guns (Bombay) under a good officer, total about 110 Artillery men; 4-nine pounder Guns, well-provided; a small detachment of Bolan Rangers and about 200 Mahoe Rangers, with ample ammunition and treasure.

The Ameers of Hyderabad & the Troops passing through Scinde

The digest of Lower Scinde Intelligence states that their Highnesses had sent their officers to accompany the detachment & regiment passing through Scinde for the purpose of providing them with supplies.

Aden

4th January

The Political Agent at Aden reports that he had received constant friendly visits from the Sheikhs of different tribes about the place, and that he had adopted necessary measures to effect peace with them. He adds, however, that his endeavours to bring about an amicable settlement, with the Sultan of Lahedge had failed.

The Political Agent further states that both the Fouthelee and Abdallee chiefs, having opened a communication with the interior for commerce, our people at Aden had been abundantly supplied with provisions, and that from 2 to 300 camels entered the town every day without the slightest molestation on the roads.

Muscat

5th January

The Native Agent at Muscat states that a Frenchman, by name—Tural, arrived at that place on the 19th December last. He professed to be a

physician. He took his passage on board the *Braemar*, Captain Gillan. He told the Captain that he wished to go to Calcutta, but afterwards changed his mind and expressed his intention to go to Cochin.

Mocha

4th January

The Political Agent at Aden reports that a French Ship of War was at Mocha on the date cited, the Commander of which requested permission to hoist a Consul's flag. This application had been referred to the principal Sheriff at Aboo Arish, and the Captain awaited the receipt of the reply. The Poll. Agent adds that every respect and attention was shown by the Sheriff and his followers to the officers of the vessel mentioned.

Berbera—Tajoura—Ambaboo The Soomalee Slaves

2nd February

The Hon'ble Captain Grey, commanding H.M. Ship "Endymion" states that, whilst in the Gulf of Aden, he paid a short visit to Berbera & Tajoura. At the former place he landed from the "Constance" the four Soomalee women from Rasul Kyma, preparatory to their being restored to their relatives.

The Political Agent at Aden presented each female with 4 German crowns on their quitting the place, with some clothes, and the women appeared very grateful for the kind treatment which they received on the passage. A letter has been addressed to Sheikh Shemaakhi informing him that the women have been released from slavery by the British authorities in the Persian Gulf. Captain Grey found that there were no less than fifty slaves waiting at Berbera for embarkation, and that the leading men of the place appeared to be very much interested in slave trade.

At Tajoura, Captain Grey had reason to think that the Sultan was extremely suspicious of the British, and no persuasion would induce him to come on board Captain G.'s vessel.

The people of Ambaboo off which Captain Grey anchored were quiet, and behaved with civility towards him and his crew, though they manifested the same disinclination to trust themselves on board his ship as the Sultan of Tajoura.

Suez-Cossier⁴

18th November

Her Britannic Majesty's Consul General in Egypt states that a report

⁴ *Cossier*, an Egyptian town and harbour on the western side of the Red Sea. The harbour is open on the east, but on the north reefs advance into the sea, while on the south is a chain of mountains of some elevation.

was prevalent at Cain that the Pacha of Egypt was about to fortify Suez and Cossier.

Persia

2nd December

In a despatch to the address of Her Majesty's principal Secy. of State for Foreign Affairs dt. Decr. 2d. 1841, the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Persia states that a treaty has been concluded between the Govts. of Persia and Herat, by which the King of Persia engages to aid Kamran Shah with money & troops in the event of any enemy appearing before it, & that copies of this treaty had been communicated to the French & Russian Govts. respectively. On receiving intelligence of this transaction Sir Jon. Macneill wrote to the Persian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Meerza Abdool Hoossein Khan, intimating to His Excellency his surprize why a copy of the document, alluded to, had not been furnished to him in like manner as to the two Govts. mentioned, Mirza Abdool Hussien Khan, in reply, stated that the reason of the Persian Govt. not apprising H.M's Envoy at the Persian Court of this affair was because there was nothing in the treaty, at variance with the wishes or opinions of the British Govt., because the Envoy was absent from the Persian Court at the time the treaty was concluded and because he did not make an intimation to the Govt. of Persia on the subject. To this Sir John wrote a rejoinder asking whether or not the Persian Govt. intended to act upon the terms of the engagements entered into between Persia & Herat if British troops were sent into the territory of the former Govt. to punish them for their hostilities. The answer to this was a general assertion that nothing inimical to England was contemplated in the compact & that a tender of aid in money and troops was made to Kamran Shah with special reference to the hostile intentions of Khyoa on that kingdom.

Sir John Macneill adds that he was given to understand that the Persian Court meditated sending a Mission to England to discuss these matters with Her Majesty's Govt. and proposed to select for this duty, Hossein Khan, who had been formerly sent on a Mission from Persia to London.

5th January 1842

The native Agent at Mocha states a report that the Commandant of the Persian Artillery has been plundering the countries which he has from time to time visited, and been imprisoning those who tendered their submission to him. The Commandant received instructions from His Majesty Mahomed Shah of Persia to return to Karasan where some Turkomans had been pillaging large caravans. The agent adds that Sheikh Sheefbin Nubbar, Govr. of Bunder Abbass,⁵ paid him 30,000 keronecs in order that he might

5 *Bunder Abbas*, the seaport of Abbas, situated in a bay on the gulf of Ormuz. The land route to Bunder Abbas leads through one of the natural mountain passes into the heart of Persia.

not march into his territory.

Hyderabad

15th December

The Resident of Hyderabad reports that several small parties of Arabs have recently arrived in the Nizam's territories through Bombay on their way from the western coast. It had been determined by the Bombay Government that the Magistrates of the zillah through which travellers pass should carefully inspect the passports in their possessions, & to enable this duty to be strictly carried out, intimation of the grant of every passport should be given to the Magistrate of the Zillah, the same notice to be given by the different authorities to each other as they may pass on the travellers.

It is also proposed that in future passports are to be issued in the native instead of the English language, that the native subordinate authorities may be able to examine into their correctness, if they should have occasion to call for them. Further that no foreign followers, beyond one or two personal attendants, should be permitted to leave the Bombay Presidency with any party for the interior, unless the party taking them, furnish satisfactory security for their return.

5th February

The Resident in Hyderabad states that the 7 Regt. N.I. of the subsidiary force at Secunderabad, refusing to receive their pay without batta, Brig. Riddel directed Captain Grant, the Assistant Adjutant General, to proceed to the lines of the Regiment, & to reason quietly with the men regarding their conduct. Capt. Grant's effort is said to have produced the most salutary effect, as he succeeded in bringing the men to a sense of their duty, the whole Regiment having agreed to receive their pay without batta.

This result seems to have been aided by the judicious conduct of two officers of the Corps, Capt. Scotland & Lieutt. Brown who, it would appear persuaded their respective companies to consent to receive their pay about the same time, that Capt. Grant's reasoning had effected the same object with respect to the other companies.

The example of obedience having been thus given by an entire Regiment, it was determined that pay should be distributed to the rest of the force. The Resident adds that he understood from some of the officers of the 4 Regt. N. Infy; that the best spirit prevailed in the corps, & that no difficulty would present itself when their pay was tendered to them.

Gwalior

6th to 12th December

From the Diary of the Gwalior Residency of dates quoted it appears that in addition to the charges upon which Suroop Sing and his followers

were arrested, they have now been accused of having formed a conspiracy for the seizure of the four Ministers of the Gwalior state. Colonel Baptiste, and others, with the whole of the officers, are said to have been privy to the conspiracy. It is asserted that they intended seizing the Ministers and making each of them pay 20 lacks of Rupees in payment of the arrears due to the troops, some of which have not received their wages for sixteen months. The arrest of Suroop Sing & his followers had created a feeling of great insecurity, and the Mamā Saheb with many others, refused to go to the Durbar on various pretences.

From a subsequent Diary it appears that the Horse Artillery under Mohkan Sing, Rissaldar, had mutinied for being in arrears of pay for 18 months, and placed the Rissaldar in confinement.

The Minister submitted a plan to the Maha Rajah for an improvement in the Govt. of the country. They proposed to distribute the whole Gwalior territory into nine zillahs with a Soobadur to each who should have an efficient force of infantry and cavalry at his disposal, and be authorised to employ them for the suppression of all disturbances.

Marwar

Captain Ludlow reporting the results of a recent tour undertaken by him through parts of Marwar, states that the people of the country whom he visited seemed cheerful and happy, and mentioned to him that they had been relieved from the fear of marauders since the interposition of the British Govt. to reconcile the feuds between the chiefs of Beekaneer and Jessalmer. Captain Ludlow goes on to say that in the small frontier village of Kherwa is to be seen, fast falling into decay, a tower in which the males of the village slept with matches burning to be prepared against any sudden attacks, by their foemen of Beekaneer, but as above remarked, security has been felt by them against foreign aggression since the year 1835, and that from the period of our close attention to the internal affairs of the Govt. of Marwar, exemption against loss from robbery appeared to be everywhere enjoyed.

With regard to the Merta & Berar roads, Capt. Ludlow states that in that line of the country the peasantry were very contented & happy under their rulers, & rejoiced in the improved degree of security which they at present enjoyed. In various tracts irrigation by Persian wheels is carried on day and night, & the endless fields of flourishing young wheat betokened the prosperity of the country. It appears also that the Tnana posts which were, in 1840, placed along the frontier of Godwar & Jalore in communication with the Reywar & Sirorsee authorities, for the purpose of restraining the excesses of the Meena & Bheel population, had in a great measure produced the desired effect. Measures have been adopted for the further extension & improvement of this system & for fixing responsibility on the various chiefs.

The Bheels & the Patel of Daumode

27th December 1841 to 2nd January 1842

From the abstract of Intelligence of the Indore Residency of dates quoted, it appears that an attack was made by 200 Bheels of the Pertaubghur district on Thoree Ram, Patel of Daumode, who in compy. with a number of Brahmins was returning from that place. The Patel was killed, but all the others managed to save themselves by flight.

Burmah

17th January

A private comn. from Moulmein states that, up to the date cited in the margin, every thing was quiet in that neighbourhood, & that the Burmese King had some intention of visiting the frontier of Arracan to place it, as His Majesty called it, in a proper state of defence. There was a rumour afloat at Moulmein that the Shans to the north of Ammraporah were up in arms again. This has not been confirmed by letters from the capital which mention that up to the 6th Decr. all was quiet & tranquil there.

25th January

Other private commns. from Rangoon up to the 25th Jany., state that His Burmese Majesty & court embarked for the capital of his dominions on the 22d. idem, & that the Prince of Pakkan followed the king in the afternoon of the same day. By some it was supposed that the king was to make a prolonged stay at Tharrawah, and others are of opinion that he will revisit Rangoon after the rains. It is said that the embarkation bore no comparison with the splendour displayed on the landing of the king at Rangoon. This is thought to be an evident indication of the present unpopularity of the King. The old Mywoon was to be left Governor of the place, & the palace was to be converted into "Charuns", or residences for the Phoongees. The Shabunder, who is also Kula Woon, is to have jurisdiction over all foreigners.

Arracan

30th January

The Commissr. at Arracan intimates that the province continued in the most tranquil state up to the date cited. He adds that sickness prevailed to some extent amongst the 47th Regt. of which many men were in hospital.

China

9th February

The Military Board state that 6 months' supplies for the whole European force, both naval & military, in China, are on their way from England, & may be expected in all May, & that a second supply to the same extent has been ordered.

T. H. Maddock

Secretary to the Govt. of India

Fort William,
19 Feby. 1842

Newsletter 72 : March 2, 1842

(No. 7 of 1842)

North West Frontier

28th January to 8th February

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Lahore Akhbar of dates cited. Raja Golab Sing and Koonwar Pertab Sing, it is said, have reached the Attock. Orders were issued to several officers at different districts to send about 10,000 troops to render assistance to the British. The officers in the line of road from Ferozepore to Peshawur had been instructed to speak very civilly to the British & to pass them unmolested. There are 2 battalions of Raja Heera Sing's, one of Raja Socheit Sing's, & one of Raja Golab Sing's, with 1,000 sowars with Raja Golab Sing and Koonwar Pertab Sing.

A letter from Mr. Clerk with his remarks on the disgraceful flight of the Khalsa troops from Jamrood having been received, the Maha Raja observed that His Highness's own regrets on the occasion were equally as great as those expressed by Mr. Clerk; that to redeem it, Koonwur Pertab Sing would soon arrive at Peshawur; that General Court had already been detached with 4 Battalions, 2 Regiments Cavalry, & some Horse Artillery with magazine and treasure; that Tukht Mull, a Soucar of Amritsar, had been despatched to supply 50,000 maunds of grain at Peshawur, while 30,000 maunds would be sent thither from Rawal Pindee; and that about 2,000 bullocks would be sent to serve for carriage.

Raja Dhian Sing was desired to write to Raja Golab Sing to act in concert with Captain Mackeson. A Perwanah was written to Raja Golab Sing expressing the confidence of his Govt. in his zealous services and his expeditious march to Peshawur, to cooperate with General Pollock & Capt. Mackeson against Khyber and Ali Musjid, so as to efface all the infamy attached to the Khalsa name, owing to the flight of the Mahomedan troops.

15th February

The Governor General's Agent in the North West Frontier states that the exertions of the Lahore Durbar to facilitate the passage of British troops to the relief of Jellalabad & to protect its own frontier at Peshawur & in the Hazara & Derajat, are all that could be expected from it. He adds that in the late attempt made to advance previous to Genl. Pollock's arrival at Peshawur, a battalion & some Pathan horse of the Lahore army took part & lost some officers & men.

Peshawar-Lalpoora-Ghuzni-Lughman-Jellalabad-Cabool

30th January

Captain Lawrence from the Attock writes that he had an interview, on the 29th Jany., with Koonwur Pertab Sing & Raja Golab Sing, when he urged on the latter the necessity of an immediate advance in aid of the British troops. Captn. L. states that Raja Golab Sing had agreed to take the Nujees to Peshawur.

It is said that Mahomed Akbar Khan addressed letters to Syud Agaudin, one of the Padshahs of Koonar, & to Torabaz Khan, of Lalpoora, on hearing that they had left their possessions & retired to Peshawur, calling upon them to return to the standard of Islam.

Captain Mackeson intimates that Mahomed Akbar Khan continued at Lughman; that he had written to the Ningrahar tribes to collect & join him, but that they had shewn no great alarcity to do so, & that he had not been joined by the influential men among the Ghilzyes. The impression throughout the country was, that Mahomed Akbar Khan left Cabool in consequence of some misunderstanding with the existing Barrukzye Government there, or because he would not swear allegiance to Shah Shooja.

Of the chiefs who had hitherto adhered to our interests in Nigrahar, Abdool Rahman of Kuria, & Khalid Khan of Goshta, were preparing to submit to Mahomed Akbar Khan.

Mr. Clerk states that from a Peshawur Akhbar dated 7th. February, received by the Sikh Durbar, it appeared that Sham-soo-deen Khan, one of the Ministers of Shah Shooja, who had been deputed to Peshawur, has been ordered back to collect the Ghilzye tribes & settle the affairs of Ghuzni. The Akhbar proceeds to state that the Shah has appointed Sham-soo-deen, the Governor of Ghuzni, with orders to bring the people of Kelat-i-Ghilzie into subjection. At Jellalabad Sir Rohvert Sale's garrison expected to hold out until reinforced by General Pollock's forces. It is said that Sir Robert's troops made a foray & captured 175 head of black cattle, & that they had two months' provisions.

Sinde Upper

30th January

Colonel Stacy reported his arrival with Meer Nusseer Khan, and His Highness's principal Chiefs, at Naushera on the 30th January.

Candahar

22nd January

The Poll. Agent at Candahar, in a private communication, states that, by the 10th. of Jany., Mahomed Atta had advanced down the Urghundah valley to within one stage of Candahar and that his scouts came over within

sight of the City. A party of the enemy attacked the camels of the 43d. Regiment which had gone out for Boosah, but were beaten off by the escort. This is said to have been a spirited little affair, the Hindoostanee escort consisting of about 40 men & the enemy mustering 400 horse and foot. Out sepoy formed a rallying square, repulsed the Dooranees repeatedly and brought in all the camels in safety. Under these circumstances General Nott consented to attack Mahomed Atta and took out with him a most overpowering force, viz, 5½ Regiments Infantry, and 100 horse, with 16 guns. Mahomed Atta, on the 11th, marched leisurely down the Urghundah valley, & on the 12th, took up position on the right bank of the river in the heart of the Alekhozie country. He brought about 3000 men with him from Dehla and was joined by about some 2,000 more from the Alekhozie villages as he marched down the river. His position was strong, guarded in front by canals, & an ugly marsh, and his flanks rested on strong gardens. As soon, however, as our troops got across the river and the guns were brought into play, he altogether lost heart. The fire of his matchlockmen from the canal was severe, for a short time but did our men but little injury, and when our infantry advanced to the charge he broke and fled. There was dissension among the enemy, and Fyz Tulub Khan, a chief in our interests, deserted them on their taking up position. The enemy's cavalry endeavoured to make a stand beyond the village but were charged with great spirit and driven from the field. The number of bodies which the Dooranees buried amounted to 153, and between 1 and 200 of their men were wounded. The loss of the British was very trifling, 3 killed, and some 20 or 30 wounded. Three officers were also wounded. In the enemy's ranks the Alekhozie villagers were the chief sufferers.

Quetta

Major Outram mentions on the authority of Lieutt. Hammersley that the defeat of Mahomed Atta Khan at Candahar had apparently dispirited Mahomed Sadeeq's followers, and that Lieutt. H. did not expect an attack on Quetta for some time to come. It is also intimated (Digest of a paper, Scinde Intelligence, 24th to 31st Jany. inclusive) that Mahomed Sadeeq and his followers purposed moving to the Hyderzie on the 22nd. Jany. which was to be the rendezvous. On the 24th, a report was received of a division having taken place among the rebels.

Kurachee

12th February

Orders have been issued by the Govt. of Bombay for the reinforcement of the troops at Kurachee by a wing of Her Majesty's 22d Regiment and a Company of European Artillery.

Scinde Lower

24th to 30th January

Up to the date cited on the margin all was tranquil in Lower Scinde.

The Persian Gulf

Karrack

10th January

It appears that, up to the date cited, every thing was quiet in the Persian Gulf, and that the officers in charge of the Residency there was daily expecting ships from India for the purpose of removing our troops and stores from Karrack in accordance with the arrangements made by Sir Jon. Macneill, Her Majesty's Envoy and Minister at the Court of Persia

Bunpore

2nd February

Major Outram received intelligence from the Western frontier of Beloochistan that the Persian army which was reported some time ago to be advancing on Bunpore had destroyed that place for some offence against the state, and carried all the survivors, captives into Persia, whither the army returned. This account is confirmed from Corachir via Kedj.

The Fort of Baroda

and the Rohilla Insurgents

10th February

The Resident at Hyderabad reports the capture of the fort of Barodah and the surrender of the insurgents who held possession of it. From Major Twenlow's report it appears, that of the men who laid down their arms, forty-two, he believed, to be foreign Afghans, from Peshawur and Cabool.

The Nizam of Hyderabad's regular troops formed guard over the insurgents.

Munipore

28th January

From a demi-official letter from the Poll. Agent at Munipore, it appears that, upto the date quoted, every thing remained perfectly tranquil in that frontier, and that the Poll. Agent continued to receive the most friendly assurances from all the Burman authorities in that neighbourhood.

The Nagas and the Burmese

14th February

The Political Agent at Munipore states that the Nagas have been guilty of aggressive acts against Burmese subjects within the Munipore boundary, and that necessary measures have been adopted for their suppression.

The Poll. Agent adds that the Regent of Munipore has detached a force

of 1,200 men against Chothar and other large villages, the inhabitants of which have been guilty of aggression, and one of 300 men against the villages nearer to the Kenbbo Valley.

Burma

1st February

In spite of the orders said to have been sent to the Governor of Martaban to suppress robberies & ca., in the River, they are said to be very frequent.

Nipal

2nd February

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Nipal Diary of dates cited :—

The Rajah was very anxious about the progress and issue of Zorawur Sing's expedition. The Premier has at length contrived to get into his hands and to proceed with the Panjami, exclusive of that of the Chief Regiments, which the Rajah reserves for himself and his sons. Another Arzee from Mahtab Sing had been received. The Rajah recieved very well the Resident's note and Govr. Genl's Kharita relative to the removal of the frontier force, and continued in every respect to give satisfaction.

13th & 14th February

The Premier appears to have abandoned the Chotee Rani, and her interests, in order to conciliate and gain the more powerful and adverse party of the Heir Apparent, who is said to regard the Premier with respect and confidence.

T. H. Maddock
Secy. to the Govt. of India

Fort William,
2 March 1842

Newsletter 73 : March 10, 1842

(No. 8 of 1842)

The Sikhs and the Chinese Tartars

Captain H. M. Lawrence writes from Peshawur that since the receipt of the intelligence of the fate of Zorawur Sing & his army in Chinese Tartary, Raja Golab Sing is bent on proceeding to Cashmere, with a view to collect a force there & march with it to Ladakh. It appears that the Raja had expressed his intention of establishing colonies in the desert wastes beyond Ladakh.

Peshawur, Khyber Pass—Guzzni, Jellalabad, Cabool

16th February

The Governor Genl.'s Agent in the N. W. Frontier states, on the authority of Captain Mackeson, that Koonwur Pertab Sing & Raja Golab Sing had arrived at Peshawur with their troops, on the 14th February.

20th December

His Excy. the Commander in Chief has sent forward powerful reinforcements of cavalry, infantry and artillery, to support General Pollock at Peshawur.

It appears from a private letter from Captn. H. M. Lawrence that the sick at Peshawur in Brigadier Wild's brigade were rapidly diminishing in numbers, that none have died, & that the wounded were all getting on very well.

Major General Pollock intimates that the Afreedees had been attacked by the Aurackzyes and took some of their strongholds.

At Ghuzni Coll. Palmer is stated to have retired from the town into the citadel, where he held his ground well against Shamshuddeen, who had invested the place. Coll. P. was determined not to abandon his post without instructions to that effect. He had six months' provisions.

Subsequent communications from Candahar mention reports that the Ghilzyes had commenced mining operations under one of the main bastions of the citadel, and as the Ghilzyes possess considerable skill in the art of mining, some apprehension may be felt of their succeeding unless countermanded.

About Jellalabad, all was quiet up to the 13th. Feby. There were two months' provisions for the troops, and the health of the men was excellent. Another report states that grain was brought in daily into the garrison and that there was plenty of good water in the town.

Mahomed Akbar Khan was at Char Bagh, near Lughman; he is said to have neither influence, nor means, to assemble a force strong enough to attack Jellalabad, and Sir Robert writes that he had nothing to fear from the force now with that chief.

In a letter dated 19th Feby., Sir Robert reports that some damage was done to the town & fortifications of Jellalabad by an earthquake which occurred on the same date. The troops were busy in repairing the damages. Mahomed Akbar's camp at Char-Bagh appears also to have suffered from this event, and it was hoped that the enemy, employed in repairing their own losses, would be prevented from taking advantage of ours.

At Cabool, Shah Shooja appears to hold durbar regularly, at which all the chiefs attend. Newab Zeman Khan, the Prime Minister, professes great anxiety to secure the firendship of the British, and the King himself professes to be attached to our interests. Captn. G. H. McGregor writes from Jellalabad that the existing Govt. at Cabool & Mahd. Akbar Khan were evidently at variance and that inactivity and indecision characterized the actions of the latter.

A cassid from Jellalabad to Peshawur mentioned to Captn. Lawrence that about 40 camp followers of the late Cabool force had reached Jellalabad.

Captn. Bygrave is reported to be alive as also Captn. Souter of the 44th. Both were with Mahomed Akbar Khan. Captn. Souter has saved the Queen's colour of H. M.'s 44th Regt. He had folded it round his waist and it is said to have been the means of saving his life from a ball which struck him.

Dost Mahomed Khan

26th February

The officer in charge of Dost Mahd. Khan states that he proposed marching wth the ex-Chief *en route* to Deyrah Dhoon¹ on the 28th. Feby.

Sinde

7th Feruary

Every thing was reported quiet at Sukkur, Shikorpore & in Cutchee up to the 7th Feby.

Candahar

Major Rawlinson intimates that the Enemy were inactive, and that M.Gl. Nott intended to maintain his post, until the receipt of instructions. Major R. adds that our people had free commn. with the authorities to the south of Candahar, and that the son of the Govr. of Helmund had rendered our men important service against the Enemy.

¹ *Deyrah Dhoon*, for Dehra Dun, in Uttar Pradesh. A number of Afghan Amceers in exile had settled down in the Doon valley.

Kelat-i-Ghilzye

Private letters from Candahar state that Kelat-i-Ghilzye was perfectly safe.

Herat

It appears from a private commn. from Major Rawlinson that Shah Kamran's officers at Herat were improviding and that Yar Mahomed, who had shut himself up in a fort, would, he thought it probable, make his escape to Ghorian.

Quetta

31st Jany—6th February

The digset of Sinde intelligence of dates cited states that it was positively reported that Mahomed Sadeeq and his colleagues had returned to Killa Abdoollah. Another account states that Mahomed Sadeeq had been instructed by Mahomed Atta, to retain his position at Pisheng, and that if possible, after seeing how matters go on at Candahar, he would send him (Mahomed Sadeeq) reinforcements; if not, the ex-Naib was to join his kinsmen's standard at Candahar.

5th January

Major Outram states that up to the 5th Feb. all was quiet at Quetta.

6th February

It appears from a letter from Lt. Hammersley that Guffoor Khan, the Chief of the Kankers, had again refused to join Mahomed Sadeeq in Pisheng for the purpose of proceeding against Quetta, and that the Peshang tribes had put him off with excuses.

Dadur

9th—11th February

At Daudur perfect tranquillity prevailed up to the dates cited in the margin, as also amongst hill tribes and in the plains. The news of our disasters in Afghanistan appears to have caused not the slightest alteration in the disposition of the Brahooes who profess to regard the Afghans with a thorough dislike, and Cabool as quite a foreign country with which they say, they have no concern.

Lahedge-Aden

31st January

The Political Agent at Aden reports that the Sultan of Lahedge continued inimical to the British Govt., and that he was endeavouring to gain over the surrounding tribes to work with his own in carrying out his hostile designs.

He had likewise attempted to gain over the Fouthelee chief, to his interests by an offer of money. Captn. Haines appeared to doubt the sincerity of the Fouthelee chief in our cause & expressed a fear that he would secretly assist the views of the chief of Lahedge for a time.

At Aden the roads were still open & supplies entered daily into the town. Up to the 10th. Jany. the tribes in the neighbourhood of Aden had remained perfectly quiet, & commerce from the interior was in a flourishing state. The Govt. of Bombay has sent a party of horse to reinforce the garrison of Aden.

Mocha

31st January

It is intimated that up to the date cited in the margin, the French ship of war (i.e. Newsletter No. 6, dt. 19th Feby.) was still at Mocha, employed in surveying the roadstead.

Burmah

3rd February

Letters from Amarapoorah of 3rd. Feby. represent all to be quiet in the capital.

Nipal

15th to 28th February

The following items of intelligence are extracted from the Diary of the Nipal Residency of dates quoted in the margin.

The younger Rani appeared provoked at the neglect shewn her & her children by the Raja & threatened to retire to her home. She had caused all the officers & menials even of her suite to resign their situations & go out of employment; these have, however, been reinstated in their places & their insignia restored to them by the Raja. The younger Rani demanded of the Raja her connubial² & political rights consequent on the death of the Maha Rani.

The Panjami of the troops in the cantonment was still delayed, at which they were dissatisfied, & threatened another mutiny.

The Raja, at an interview with the Resident, expressed his thanks for the removal of the frontier force.

All was quiet in the country as also in the Palace.

Fort William

T. H. Maddock
Secy. to the Govt. of India

10 March 1842

2. *Connubial*, Also 'conjugal', concerning the relationship between husband & wife.

Newsletter 74 : March 22, 1842

(No. 9 of 1842)

North West Frontier

10th to 21st February.

From the Lahore Akhbar of dates quoted in the margin it appears that the Khalsa troops now at and about Peshwaur amount to little below 25,000 men.

The Sikhs and the Chinese Tartars

29th January.

Lieutt. Cunningham, in a demi-official letter, states that he received intelligence from Hanloh¹ to the purport that the Chinese force at Mansorawar lakes had been considerably augmented, and that a general belief prevailed in the country that the force would march on Ladakh in a very short time.

Peshawur, Khyber Pass, Ghuznee, Jellalabad, Cabool

1st March

Captain Mackeson intimates that his negotiations with the Auraukzyes² and Afreedees promised to end satisfactorily & that he would find means of disuniting the Afreedees and thus opening the Pass.

Our garrison at Ghuznee is stated to have plenty of provisions, but to be ill supplied with water.

16th February.

Captn. MacGregor writes from Jellalabad that Mahomed Akbar Khan's camp, consisting of about 800 horse & 1200 foot, had moved from Char Bag, & had taken up a position between the Soorkah and the Cabool rivers, about 10 miles from Jellalabad. Sir Robt. Sale writes to the same purport, adding that Mahomed Akbar Khan's patrols scoured all the country.

Captn. MacGregor says in a letter dated 1st March, that Mahd. Akbar had managed effectually to cut off supplies entering the garrison of Jellalabad & Sir Robt. Sale intimates in a letter of same date, that they had only 35 days' rations of meat for the European troops.

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- ¹ *Hanleh* (Hanle), principal town of a district with the same name in Ladakh. Situated on the banks of a stream with the same name, it has a fine monastery built on the summit of a steep hill which rises abruptly out of the plateau. All the male inhabitants of the town were rated lamas and owned huge flocks of sheep and goats.
 - ² *Auraukzyes* (Orakzais), a Pathan tribe residing in Tirah, intermingled with the Afridis.

A remittance of 4,500 Rs. had been despatched to Sir Robert.

Captn. Lawrence in a private communication, dated the 5th March, states, that a Cassid, with letters up to the 1st idem, had arrived from Jellalabad, from which it appeared that Mahomed Akbar Khan had made desultory attacks for days on Jellalabad with 1500 horse & 1000 infantry. The enemy kept at such a distance that their shot had no effect. The garrison fired little; but Jan Mahummud, Akbar Khan's General, was wounded.

The Lahore Akbbar states, upon the authority of a harkara from Cabool, that the Shah continued on the throne, & that troops were being daily enlisted.

Captain Lawrence mentions, in a letter dated the 15th February, on the authority of Captain Conolly, that the Shah was at the bottom of the insurrection, & that the chief rebels were with him up to the time stated. Captn. L. further intimates that a change of Ministers had been proposed, by which Osman Khan was to be Vuzeer, & Captn. Conolly writes that the Shah was forming a party in opposition to the Barrackzye faction.

His Majesty in a Kurretah to the address of the Right Hon'ble the Govr. Genl. endeavours to exonerate himself from blame in the late atrocities at Cabool, and professes attachment to our interests.

Cabool—Persia

The news writer at Shiraz, in a letter of 12th January states, that he had received news from Tehran to the purport that the Afghan noblemen residing in Persia solicited the aid of 10 guns & troops, & 10,000 Tomauns, from the King & his vizier, Mirza Aghasee, for the purpose of proceeding against Cabool & Candahar & raising the tribes against the British. The King appears to have answered the applicants by saying that he was on good terms with the British, and "had nothing to do with countries in their possession".

Sinde Upper

From the latest Digest of Upper Sinde Intelligence it appears that Shah Boozoorg Kakur, & others of the same tribe had refrained from plundering in the pass & had prevented the Doomur Murries from committing similar depredations.

The same Diary states that considerable bodies of armed men had been observed lately crossing the Indus whose destination was supposed to be Shikarpore; that the Minister of Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore had come to that city with some religious object, & if the objects of the others were not equally pacific, means had been taken to prevent disturbance.

Candahar

12th. February

Major Outram writes that letters from Candahar dt. 12th February intimate that the enemy remained 25 miles distant from Candahar; that their

followers were falling off; that two chiefs have made overtures for reconciliation; that the people of the city had been disarmed without difficulty & upwards of 1,000 stand of arms collected, & that General Nott had determined to attack the rebel camp, as soon as the roads would admit of his so doing.

Quetta

1st to 27th February

The Digest of Scinde Intelligence of dates cited states that at Pisheng every thing was perfectly quiet. Mahomed Sudeeq, who was at Myzai³, had very few followers, & all accounts agreed in mentioning that Sala Khan's influence had completely undermined that of rebel chief in Pisheng.

Scinde Lower

26th to 27th February

The Digest of Scinde Intelligence of the 21st to 27th Feby. states that up to those dates, perfect tranquillity prevailed in Lower Sinde.

Hyderabad Insurgents Boorhanpore⁴

31st January

The Resident of Indore intimates that a person of the name of Maukil Rao, one of those who escaped from Jamoodh is supposed to be to the north of the Taptee in Sindhia's country trying to recruit for another enterprise in same quarter in that direction. At the Resident's request, Sindhia's Chief officer Nana Apte, had sent after him a detachment of troops to Boorhunpore with a view to put a stop to the threatened disturbance within the limits of the Boorhanpore territory.

Disturbance in the neighbourhood of Oodegheer & Manjeeram

21st February

From papers forwarded by the Resident of Hyderabad it appears that certain Naicks, with about 3000 followers, were committing depredations at the places above indicated & that necessary measures had been adopted by the local authorities for their suppression.

3 *Myzai* (Mazye) was a large village, close to the route from Shawl to Kandahar, situated at a distance of about forty miles north of Shawl. Its surrounding country was well cultivated.

4 *Boorhunpore* (Burhanpur) : an historic town in Madhya Pradesh on the northern bank of the river Tapti. Founded in 1400 A.D. by Nasir Khan, the first independent ruler of the Faruki dynasty of Khandesh, and named after the famous Sheikh Burhanud-Din of Daulatabad. Here is the ancient fort of Asirgarh, surrounded by a masonry wall with massive gates on the main roads; it was captured by Wellesley in October 1803.

The Nandar⁵ Insurgents

It appears that certain Zamindars and others at Nandar are at present disturbing the country of H. H. the Nizam of Hyderabad, & that the commander of the Hingolee Division was to march with some troops to the scene of disturbances & put down the insurgents.

Assam & Muneepore

5th March

A demi-official communication from Sylhet states, that up to the date quoted in the margin, perfect tranquillity prevailed in Assam & Munipore.

China

1st January.

The latest despatches from China contain an account of the destruction of 4 Chinese batteries in the Bay of "Kelang" in the Island of Formosa, by the exertion of Commander Pearse and the officers and men of Her Majesty's sloop "Nimrod". In this affair 27 guns belonging to the enemy were captured.

It also appears from these despatches that on the landing at the city of about 400 troops, with some seamen and marines, accompanied by Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary and some naval officers, a body of the Chinese forces, who had assembled there, fled without the slightest opposition.

The barracks in this city were totally destroyed by our men.

The fortress of Wangtong has been likewise demolished, with 30 war junks, which were at work in obstructing the navigation of the Canton river, below the Macao fort.

In a strong reconnoissance of the cities of "Yuyaon" and "Sze-Kee", a large body of the Chinese, who were in possession of the former place, fled precipitately on the approach of our men, with a loss of 100 killed and wounded. On our side there was no casualty. On this occasion 4 pieces of cannon of an improved construction were captured.

Other trifling encounters had taken place between the Chinese troops and detachments of our naval and military forces, in which the enemy were put to flight, some prisoners taken, and the enemy's military posts, their barracks and the arms and munitions of war, which fell into our hands, were all destroyed.

These advantages had established a wholesome dread of the British arms among the Chinese soldiery generally, and produced a very great effect at the enemy's headquarters.

5 *Nandar* (Nander) headquarters of the district of the same name, in Andhra Pradesh, on the left bank of the Godavari. Guru Gobind Singh was murdered here by an Afghan in 1708. The local Gurdwara is a place of pilgrimage for Hindus and Sikhs alike; the railway station is situated about a mile north of the town.

A communication addressed to His Excellency Lieutt. General Sir Hugh George mentioned, on credible authority, that Chinese troops from various provinces had arrived at Hang-choo, to the number of 2,500 men; that 7,000 men besides had advanced to Toangoo, and that an equal number covered the retreat on the side of Loocke.

Great exertions were making to raise a militia in the surrounding villages, which had, however, by no means proved successful; the people having lost all confidence in their Mandarins. Among the latter, great dissension is said to exist. In general, the villages near the intended operations were on the point of being abandoned, and both Szkee as well as Yuyaon were in a state of very great terror. Offers of assistance, as soon as the campaign commenced, had been made, and while at Yuyaon, a party of 1,000 militia was ready to march with the English, a number of men, near Szkee, wished to enlist in the British service, on receiving 5 dollars monthly.

By a recent declaration of the Emperor in full Council, which has been published to the soldiers, it appears that His Majesty was determined to continue the war to the very last and ready to support his nephew with an army of 1,00,000 men. The Emperor has assured his Ministers that he will never conclude any treaty with the English or seek for peace.

T. H. Maddock
Secy. to the Govt. of India

Fort William,
22 March 1842

Biographical Sketches

Allard, General Jean Francois, French, b. 1785; started career as soldier, served under Napoleon Bonaparte; after Waterloo, fled to Asia and, along with Ventura, sought service with Maharaja Ranjit Singh, 1822; raised a cavalry force on the European model and earned popularity among his troops by his polite and courteous behaviour; died, Peshawar, 1839.

Attariwala, Sham Singh, son of Sardar Nihal Singh; entered military service under Maharaja Ranjit Singh, 1803; won laurels in 1818 in the final siege of Multan and on other war fronts; in 1837, his daughter Nanki was married to Kanwar Nau Nihal Singh; took little part in intrigues rampant at the darbar; after murder of Maharaja Sher Singh and Raja Dhian Singh, he could have protected the state from disintegration, but was completely ignored and retired to his village Attari (near Amritsar); hearing of the treachery of Lal Singh and Tej Singh in the first Anglo-Sikh war he came out of seclusion, dashed to the battle field of Sobraon (February 10, 1846) and died fighting.

Avitabile, Paolo di Bartolomeo; b. Naples (Italy), 1791; rendered military service under Napoleon Bonaparte; later migrated to Asia; sought service under Maharaja Ranjit Singh & rose to be Governor of Wazirabad, 1827.

Aziz-ud-Din, Fakir, son of Sayyed Ghulam Muhi-ud-Din of Ansari tribe of Arabs; had served under Nawab Abdul Samad and Zakaria Khan, Mughal governors of Lahore; Aziz-ud-Din was a pupil of Lala Hakim Rai, a noted physician, who put him in attendance on Maharaja Ranjit Singh when the latter suffered from eye-trouble in 1799; gradually rose to be a family physician and political counsellor of the Maharaja; an intellectual, with refined manners and elegant taste, won admiration from all alike and was rated as the chief spokesman of the Maharaja; retired from darbar after Maharaja's death; his brother, Fakir Imam-ud-Din was incharge of Gobindgarh fort; another brother, Nur-ud-Din, head of 'Gulab Khana', was commonly known Khalifa Sahib.

Beli Ram, Misser; Brahmin of village Dalwal, Jehlum district; took service under Maharaja Ranjit Singh, 1809; soon rose to be a prominent courtier; held charge of 'Toshakhana' and royal treasury; because of his influence, his three other brothers were also well placed; jealousy of Sikh chiefs brought his disgrace; done to death by Raja Hira Singh through Sheikh Imam-ud-Din.

Burnes, Lt. Col. Sir Alexander, son of James Burnes; connected with the family of the famous English poet Robert Burnes; b. May 16, 1805; educated, Montrose Academy; entered Company's military service at 16; in 1830, led a political mission with a gift of horses to Maharaja Ranjit Singh at Lahore and explored the Indus; 1832-35 saw him on continuous travel in northern India, Afghanistan, Bukhara and Persia; received recognition as traveller and explorer by the Royal Geographical Society, London; followed his successful missions to the Amirs of Sind (1836) and Kabul; was sent (1838) to Sind and Baluchistan to prepare way for the Army of Indus; acted as Political Agent at Kabul under Macnaghten; was murdered by the unruly Afghan mob on November 27, 1841; his, younger brother, Lt. Charles, Burnes, suffered a similar fate.

Chand Kaur, Mai, widow of Maharaja Kharak Singh and mother of Prince Nau Nihal Singh; after the sudden and almost simultaneous deaths of her husband and son, she was ruler for a short while; Sher Singh who succeeded her, got her poisoned and killed, June 1842.

Chet Singh (Cheyt Singh), intimate personal friend and adviser of Maharaja Kharak Singh; a youngman in his early twenties, he was married to a niece of the Maharaja's favourite wife, Ishar Kaur; attempted to oust the Dogra brothers and secure office of Prime Minister for himself, but Raja Dhian Singh proved too clever for him; on the night of October 8-9, 1839, he was murdered in the presence of the Maharaja.

Clerk, Sir George Russel, acted as British Political Agent at Ambala and Ludhiana, August 1831 to June 1843; in October 1842 he was asked to discharge duties of envoy to Lahore darbar in addition to his earlier charge; advocated British armed intervention in affairs of Punjab although, as a clever diplomat, pretended to help Maharaja Sher Singh; in June 1843, took over as Lt. Governor of North Western Provinces but appears to have continued an active association with the disaffected elements of Lahore darbar; said to have instigated the Sandhanwalia chiefs to murder Maharaja Sher Singh and Raja Dhian Singh.

Cotton, W., (1783-1848); only son of Admiral Cotton; joined Indian army at the age of sixteen; saw service in the first Anglo-Burmese war (1824-26); commanded 1st Division of Bengal Army in the Afghan war (1838-42).

Court, General C. A., (1793-1861); one of the military officers of Napoleon Bonaparte who fled from France after battle of Waterloo; joined Maharaja Ranjit Singh's army, 1827, at a salary of Rs. 2,000 p.m.; modernised Sikh artillery; outlived the Maharaja and continued to serve the Lahore darbar until 1843 when he sought retirement and left.

Cunningham, Lt. J. D., (1812—51), celebrated author of *History of the Sikhs*, 1849; lived in the Panjab for eight years after death of Maharaja Ranjit Singh; started as officer of Bengal Engineers; held many assignments

in Foreign & Political Department, serving principally under British envoys at Lahore and Political Agents at Ambala and Ludhiana; man of literary taste, wrote regularly for the *Journal of Bengal Asiatic Society*; eye-witness to the first Anglo-Sikh war, he narrated the true story of British involvement therein which fact aroused the wrath of Dalhousie, then Viceroy and Governor General of India; was removed from his post in Bhopal where he was Political Agent; stunned by this entirely unexpected blow, he died, broken-hearted.

Dhian Singh, Raja, son of Kishore Singh, a Dogra Rajput from Jammu; joined Sikh army as ordinary trooper, 1817; soon rose to be 'Deorhidar' of Maharaja Ranjit Singh and then Prime Minister; served Lahore darbar under the Maharaja after whose death, the polity weakened; held office until September 1843 when put to death by Ajit Singh Sandhanwalia.

Dina Nath, Dewan, a Kashmiri Pandit by descent, started career as a subordinate civil servant at Lahore, 1815; became Chief Dewan (Finance Minister) of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, 1838; continued to hold this office under his successors, including Kharak Singh, Nau Nihal Singh, Sher Singh and Dalip Singh; the Lahore District Gazetteer of 1916 describes him as the 'Talleyrand of the Punjab'.

Durand, Sir Henry Marion; entered Bengal Engineers, 1828; rose to be Major General by 1867; served in the first Afghan and Anglo-Sikh wars; was appointed Political Agent to the Governor General in Central India; in 1867, he was Military Secretary to Government of India; played important role in the Rebellion of 1857; in 1871, fell from an elephant and succumbed to his injuries.

Eastwick, W. J. (1808-89), joined Bombay army, 1826; Political Assistant to Sir Henry Pottinger in Sind; negotiated treaty with Amirs, 1839; kept Indus open to commercial enterprise in the first Afghan war and obtained supplies for the Army of Indus in Kandahar; returned to England, 1841; made Director of East India Company, 1846; member Council of India, 1858; retired, 1868.

England, Sir Richard (1793-1883), a product of Royal Military College, Marlow; entered the British army, 1808 and rose to be Brig. General; commanded a division in the first Afghan war; in the debacle of 1841-42, safely brought back his troops from Kandahar, through the Bolan pass, to Sind.

Fane, General Sir Henry (1778-1840); entered the Dragoon Guards, 1792; saw service, chiefly in cavalry commands, in the Peninsular war; Master-General of Ordnance and M.P., 1829; C-in-C, India, 1835-9; objected strongly to British policy towards Afghanistan; resigned 1839; died on voyage home.

Gough, Sir Hugh, later Lord, (1779-1869), entered British army, 1794; took active part in Napoleonic wars; served in China and concluded Treaty of Nanking, 1841; C-in-C British India, 1843; commanded in both the Anglo-Sikh wars.

Gulab Singh, Raja, elder brother of Raja Dhian Singh, one of the cleverest and farsighted nobles of the Lahore darbar; a great military commander, he was made governor of Jammu by Maharaja Ranjit Singh in 1820, the title of Raja being conferred on him in 1822; a crafty diplomat who, after the assassination of Raja Dhian Singh, is said to have worked in league with the British, betrayed the Lahore darbar in the first Anglo-Sikh war, and thereafter, acquired Kashmir from the British.

Hira Singh, Raja, son of Dhian Singh; enjoyed patronage of Maharaja Ranjit Singh and, after death of his father, became Prime Minister in September 1843; was only 25 at the time and virtual ruler of the Punjab because Dalip Singh, the then Maharaja, was a young boy of six years of age; on December 21, 1844, was done to death at the hands of some desperate Sikh soldiers.

Hodgson, Brian Houghton (1800-1894), British Resident at Kathmandu, 1833-44; managed Nepal's neutrality in Afghan war (1838-42); was great scholar of Sanskrit and Tibetan languages; responsible for initiating policy of recruiting Gurkha soldiers in Indian army.

Johnson, Capt. an officer of Company's army; appointed Shah Shuja's Paymaster in Afghanistan; was allotted accommodation in heart of Kabul; Afghan insurrection of November 2 (1841) started with loot and plunder at his place; being absent, escaped death; his *Journal of the Disaster in Cabul* records the course of events vividly.

Kashmira Singh, son of Rani Daya Kaur, widow of Sahib Singh Bhangi of Gujrat, but reputed son of Maharaja Ranjit Singh; proved, along with his brother Peshawara Singh, to be good military commander; killed in September 1845 at Attock.

Keane, Sir John (1781-1844); second son of Sir Johh Keane, Bart; entered Company's military service, 1799; promoted Major General, 1814; was Commander-in-Chief of the Bombay Army from July 1834 to February 1840, commanded Army of Indus in the first Afghan war. After the success of his mission, Keane returned to India, leaving behind an army of 8,000 men at Kabul and garrisons at Ghazni and Kandahar; was raised to peerage, December 1839; died August 1844.

Khan, Muhammed Akbar, son of Amir Dost Muhammad; led the Afghan uprising against the British in November 1841 when his father was a state prisoner in India; after the latter's restoration (1842), Akbar Khan was appointed heir-apparent in preference to his eldest half-brother, Muhammad Afzal Khan; died, 1848.

Kharak Singh, Maharaja, (1802-40), eldest son of Maharaja Ranjit Singh from his wife Mai Raj Kaur; was declared Crown Prince and provided silver chair in the darbar; held nominal command of several large expeditions; succeeded to the throne in July 1839 but proved incapable ruler; was placed under house arrest by his son, Prince Nau Nihal Singh, with the connivance of Raja Dhian Singh in October 1839; died in virtual captivity.

Khushhal Singh, (Khooshal Sing, Khooshall Sing), son of a poor Brahmin shopkeeper of Irki in Meerut district; started career as an ordinary trooper under Maharaja Ranjit Singh, 1807; was promoted Jamadar soon afterwards; in 1811, he was appointed Deorhidar; became a Sikh in 1812 and spent the rest of his life in the service of the darbar; died, 1844.

Lawrence, Major General Sir George, elder brother of Lord Lawrence; joined 2nd Bengal Light Cavalry, 1822; participated in first Afghan war; conducted Amir Dost Muhammad to India; later, 1841-42, repatriated women and children of British personnel from Kabul; kept as hostage by Akbar Khan, January 1842; taken prisoner by Sikhs in the second Anglo-Sikh war; after annexation of the Panjab acted as Deputy Commissioner of Peshawar before being sent to Mewar as Political Agent; died 1884.

Lehna Singh (Lanah Sing), came of the famous Jat family of Majithia village in Amritsar district; rose to be Master General of Ordnance & Chief Engineer of Maharaja Ranjit Singh; also a scholar, mathematician and skilful mechanic; honest and efficient employee of the Lahore darbar, who kept himself above all political intrigue.

Macnaghten, Sir William Hay (1793-1841), second son of Sir Francis W. Macnaghten; entered Company's military service, 1809; was appointed to the Bengal civil service, 1814; gained distinction in languages; Registrar of the Sadr Diwani Adalat, 1822-30; published his works on Hindu and Muslim law and reports of cases; accompanied William Bentinck on tour of northern India, 1830-35; was present at the Rupar meeting of Bentinck with Maharaja Ranjit Singh; Secretary in the Secret and Political Departments, 1833-37; accompanied Auckland on tour to North Western Province, 1837; negotiated the Tripartite treaty with Maharaja Ranjit Singh and Shah Shuja, June 1838; British Envoy and Minister at the court of Shah Shuja in Kabul 1839-41; was assassinated by Muhammad Akbar Khan, in the Afghan insurrection of November, 1841.

Maitland, Sir Fredrick Lewis (1777-1839); brilliant naval commander; saw service in French Revolutionary wars; commanded warship which brought Napoleon Bonaparte captive to England, 1815; in first Afghan war, held charge of Karachi and protected landing of British troops in Sind; died aboard his ship, near Bombay.

Maun, Futteh Singh, son of Sham Singh; personal attendant of Prince Kharak Singh; showed his worth as military officer in the battle of Attock and Kashmir campaign (1814); caught the fancy of Maharaja Ranjit Singh in the conquest of fort of Mankera (1821); proved to be a trustworthy officer of the darbar.

Moti Ram, Dewan, son of Dewan Mohkam Chand; succeeded his father as Dewan, 1814; acted as Governor of Kashmir for seven years; had a spiritual bent of mind, and sought retirement from service; settled as a recluse at Benares where he died, 1839.

Nau Nihal Singh, Kanwar; son of Maharaja Kharak Singh and his wife Chand Kaur; was much more intelligent than his father and enjoyed love and care of his grandfather, Maharaja Ranjit Singh; usurped the throne by throwing his father into background and acted as virtual ruler of the Punjab; not destined to enjoy independent rule for while returning from his father's funeral, on November 6, 1843, the archway of the entrance to the royal buildings crashed over his head and he succumbed to his injuries soon after.

Nott, Major General Sir William, (1782-1845), joined Bengal European Regiment, 1800; commanded a brigade in the Army of Indus; during Afghan insurrection defended Kandahar bravely; after murder of Macnaghten, declined to retire without express orders; in July 1842, was ordered to withdraw from Afghanistan but was allowed choice of route to be taken; sent General England with a part of his force to Quetta but himself marched via Ghazni towards Kabul where he rendered considerable help to British armies under General Pollock; eventually returned to India, via Jalalabad, and was appointed Resident at Lucknow.

Outram, Sir James, Baronet (1803-63), educated at Marishal College, Aberdeen; joined the Company's Indian army at 16; keen sportsman and hunter; commanded Bombay Army through Kandahar and Ghazni to Kabul; led pursuit of Amir Dost Muhammad from Kabul across the Hindu Kush, 1839; was Political Agent at Hyderabad (Sind) and then in Upper Sind (1841-42); opposed British policy of annexation of Sind; in rebellion of 1857-58 led British force at Lucknow; was Military Member of Governor General's Council from 1858 to 1860.

Pollock, Major General Sir George; joined Bengal Artillery, 1803; served under General Lake in Gurkha and Burmese wars; at Peshawar, in February 1842, placed in command of expedition to relieve General Sale at Jalalabad; forced the Khyber and relieved Sale on April 16 (1842); when ordered to withdraw, he remonstrated and was allowed to advance at his own discretion; defeated Afghans, and entered Kabul on September 16 where Nott joined him; secured release of British captives, destroyed the Kabul bazaar and returned to India. Ellenborough received him at Ferozepur.

Pottinger, Lt. Eldred, of Bombay Artillery; was sent on a confidential mission 'to report on Central Asia' by his uncle, Colonel Henry Pottinger; travelled through Shikarpur and Dera Ismail Khan to Peshawar and Kabul, disguised as a horse-keeper and thence to Herat as an Indian Syed; was an eye-witness to the siege of Herat by the Persian army, 1837-38; acted as Political Assistant to Sir John Macnaghten at Kabul.

Prinsep, Henry Thoby (1792-1878), of covenanted civil service; acted member, Governor General's Executive Council 1835 and 1840-43; long after his retirement, he was made Director of the East India Company, 1850; held membership of the Council of India, 1858-74; wrote books on Afghans and Sikhs.

Ranjit Singh, Maharaja (1780-1839); son of Mahan Singh and grandson

of Charat Singh, founder of Sukarchakya Misl; born at Gujranwala; his father died, 1792; from 1792 to 1797, real power of the Misl was in the hands of a council of regency; asserted himself and assumed reins of government, 1797; conquest of Lahore, 1799; Amritsar, 1805; Treaty of Amritsar with the British, 1809, defined the Sutlej as boundary line between possessions of the two powers; conquest of Multan (1802-17), Kashmir (1813-19), Dera Ghazi Khan (1820), Dera Ismail Khan, Bannu and Mankera (1821); Peshawar (1823); Ladakh (1839); raised a large, efficient, well-equipped army on modern lines; in conformity with tripartite treaty (1838) rendered all assistance to his British ally; known as Sher-i-Panjab.

Roberts, Brig. A. (1784-1873), entered Company's army, 1804; served under General Lake in the campaigns against the Pindaris and Nepal; held rank of Brig. General in first Afghan war but resigned as he was opposed to British policy of intervention in Afghanistan and anticipated danger in Kabul; his advice was disregarded, with disastrous consequences.

Sale, Sir Robert (1782-1845), entered army service, 1795; commanded advance brigade to Kandahar, 1839; defeated Amir Dost Muhammad at Parwandarra, November 1840; on a rising of hill tribes, October 1841, Sale forced the Khurd Kabul and reached Jalalabad, November 1841; was besieged with his force until April 1842, when he defeated Akbar Khan; relieved by Pollock's army; accompanied latter to Kabul, September 1842; took charge of recovered captives and returned to India.

Sandhanwalia, Ajit Singh, one of the assassins who killed Maharaja Sher Singh, his son Partab Singh and Prime Minister Raja Dhian Singh on September 15, 1843. Being scions of the house to which Ranjit Singh himself belonged, the Sandhanwalias had come to occupy important political and military assignments under the Maharaja; but, after his death, they fell out with Raja Dhian Singh, while their important leaders took shelter with the British government. The latter supported them in the pursuit of their unscrupulous designs which culminated in the above-mentioned assassinations. Hira Singh, son of Raja Dhian Singh, retaliated and soon secured the murder of Ajit Singh and his accomplices.

Suchet Singh, Raja, the youngest of the three Dogra brothers, was efficient military officer and a sportsman. A protege of Rani Jindan, he was put to death by the henchmen of Raja Hira Singh in March 1844.

Thackwell, Major General Sir Edward Joseph (1781-1859), son of John Thackwell; entered British army, 1798; saw service in the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic wars, including the famous battle of Waterloo; commanded cavalry at Ghazni, 1838-39; took part in the Gwalior campaign, 1843, and the battle of Sobraon during the first Anglo-Sikh war, 1845-46; author of *A Narrative of the Second Sikh War in 1848-49* (1851).

Ventura, General Jean Baptiste, Italian by birth, brilliant military career under Napoleon Bonaparte, fled Europe after Waterloo; reached Lahore,

1822; was given charge of Sikh Infantry which he recruited and trained on western lines; one of the Maharaja's efficient and well-paid generals; returned to France in 1843; died, 1858.

Wade, Lt Col. Sir Claude Martin (1794-1861); son of Joseph Wade; born in Bengal; entered Company's military service, 1809; fought battles with Scindia and Hoker, 1815; Political Agent at Ludhiana, held charge of Shah Shuja, 1823; negotiated with Maharaja Ranjit Singh, and kept him quiet during the Burmese war, 1824-26; served in the first Anglo-Afghan war; returned from Kabul, January 1841 and sought retirement from service, March 1844.

Willoughby, John Pollard (1798-1866), third son of Sir Christopher Willoughby; entered Bombay civil service, 1817; Chief Secretary to Bombay Government, 1835; Member, Governor's Executive Council, 1846-50; Director of East India Company, 1854; member Council of India, 1858-66.

Zorawar Singh, Dogra General of Maharaja Ranjit Singh; worked under Raja Gulab Singh, then Governor of Kashmir; led successful expeditions against Ladakh and Iskardu (1839-41); later took Gartok in Western Tibet; in 1842, while engaged against Tibetan forces, his army caught by blizzards; many of his men died of cold and starvation while the rest, including himself, were massacred by enemy forces.

Glossary

Adaulut, adalut, adawlut, adalat : a court of law for administering justice.
Akalee, akali : member of a militant sect of the Sikhs; literally 'immortal'.
Akhbar, ukhbar : a newspaper or a news despatch.
Amir, ameer (plural *umra*) : an honorific title borne usually by Muslims of high rank, connoting a rich man, a commander, a chief.
Arzi, urzi, urzee : a petition, request.

Baba : used as a mark of respect for old and saintly persons; also grandfather.
Bajra : spiked millet.

Bazaar : a market-place.

Bhae, bhaee, bhai, bhy : literally, a brother; title connoting respect, regard.

Bhia, bhayya, bhea : literally, a brother; term invariably applied to people of Uttar Pradesh; persons holding low-paid jobs.

Booza, boosa, bhusa : husk or chaff of grain, grass etc., used as a feed for animals.

Buduksheej, bandukchi : gunner.

Burj : a tower.

Bustree, bustri : one who looks after *bastar* or clothes; incharge of the wardrobe; term used for personal attendants of officers employed for menial work.

Caravan : a convoy of travellers, same as *cafila* or *kafila*.

Caravan serai : a place, building for accommodation of travellers or caravans along with their pack-animals; consisting usually of an enclosed yard with chambers around it.

Cazee, qazi : a Muslim judge.

Charpoy, kat, kot, khat : a bedstead for sleeping; usually with a wooden framework, interwoven with strings made of jute or straw ('baan').

Chokey, Chowkee, Chowki : a police outpost, where guards were deputed; some times octroi post or a customs house.

Choukidar, chowkedar : watchman, caretaker.

Cossid, cassid, qasid : a messenger, courier.

Dak, dawk : mail, post.

Delaun : courtyard, enclosed open space.

Darbar, durbar : a royal court, an audience-hall presided over by the chief or king, a council of royal advisers or ministers.

Darogah, daroghah : a superintendent, supervisor or manager of some official establishment.

Darrah : a pass.

Deoree, deorhi : porch, main gate immediately preceding the court or private chambers in a residential building.

Deorhidar, deorhi-wala : incharge of 'deorhi'; an officer whose permission was necessary for access to the royal chambers.

Dera, Dehra : literally, abode; a community lodge, place of congregation,

Dewan, deewan, diwan : a royal court or a meeting-place of officials, also a minister, especially a revenue or finance minister, sometimes chief minister in an Indian state.

Fakir, faqueer, fuger, fuqueer : literally, a mendicant; a religious-minded person devoted to meditation; title taken by the three 'Fakir' brothers who held high office in the Lahore Darbar.

Farangi : a term generally used for a European.

Gadi, gaddi, guddi : a cushion; a spiritual or temporal seat of authority.

Gamastah, gomastah, gumashta : an agent; a representative.

Gholam Khanna : a house, compartment meant for the residence and maintenance of slaves; the Amirs of Kabul, including Dost Muhammad and Shah Shuja, used to maintain a huge establishment of slaves- men, women and eunuchs, for rendering all sorts of domestic and menial service.

Ghoorchurra, ghorcharhas : horse-riders or cavalymen who constituted the bulk of irregulars in the Sikh army.

Gooroo : guide, spiritual leader, religious preacher.

Goosain : a mendicant, member of the Gosain order of Hindu mendicants.

Granth Sahib : the holy book of the Sikhs compiled by Guru Arjan Dev in 1604 A.D.

Hakeem, hakim : a physician.

Harkara, hurkara, hurcarah, hurkarrah : a messenger carrying news, news-despatches.

Hindustan, Hindostan, Hindoostan : India; literally, the land of the Hindus.

Ilaqa, illaka : a territory, province or estate.

Ilaqadar, illakadar, ilakedar : officer, functionary incharge of an *ilaqa*.

Imam : an exemplar, a leader; title usually taken by the spiritual leaders of Islam, and in a more restricted sense the functionary of a mosque who leads the faithful in their daily prayers.

Issut, hoormut : honour, self-respect.

Istiqbal : welcome, reception.

Jagheer, jageer, jagir : an assignment by the state of an area, territory along with its revenues to an individual or a body, with power to administer.

Jageerdar, jagirdar : the holder of a jagir or landed estate from the state.

Jamadar, Jemadar : low-rank officer of the army.

Jhanda : flag, royal insignia; also presentations made on a ceremonial occasion.

Juggernath, jagannath, one of the mythical Hindu gods, the Puri temple in Orissa is sacred to him.

Jungle : forest.

Jwarr, jowar, juar : millet.

Kardar : an agent of government; an official.

Khalsa : the fighting brotherhood of the Sikhs; collective determination of the Sikh people; also lands or villages administered directly by the state.

Khan : literally, chief or lord; honorific title used by the Afghans, Turks.

Khas : special, selected, eminent.

Khasgee : personal or private in contra-distinction to that belonging to the state.

Khatri, khutri, khutree : originally 'kashatriya'; the fighting class in Hindu society.

Khidmutgar : servant, personal attendant.

Khilat, khillat : a robe of honour conferred by the ruler on persons of rank, distinguished royal visitors.

Khooshe khanah : literally 'happiness house', a place for enjoyment and recreation used by princes or chiefs.

- Khureeta, khureeta* : an official letter from the head of state/government.
- Khwaja* : a Muslim of distinction, wealth.
- Kiladar, qiladar* : a military officer incharge of a fort.
- Kos* : a measure of distance variously estimated at a mile and a quarter or two kilometers.
- Kotwal, kotuwal, kotowal* : a police officer incharge of a kotwali, thana, or police station.
- Koonwur, kanwar* : a prince; sometime title borne by one, not in direct royal line of descent.
- Lakh, lac* : a hundred thousand.
- Lalla, lala* : a respectable Hindu; term usually applied to Hindu bankers, businessmen, merchants.
- Madrussa* : seat of learning, an educational institution comparable to a modern college or higher secondary school; schools for juniors maintained by Muslim divines were called *maktabs*.
- Maharaja, maharajah* : ruler of a state who had some rajas or feudal chieftains under his sovereign control.
- Mai, mae, mae* : literally, mother; an honorific title for a respectable lady.
- Malya* : land-revenue; governmental share of agricultural produce.
- Mama* : maternal uncle.
- Mauza* : a large village; a medium-sized town.
- Mamlatdar* : an officer of the state who looked after the revenue and other financial affairs.
- Maulvi* : a Muslim prelate; a judge, doctor of Islamic law. It was a usual prefix to the names of learned Muslims and experts in Islamic law.
- Meean, mian* : an honorific borne by persons of status among Muslims and Rajputs; also used by people of Himalayan regions; address expressive of affection and respect.
- Naiek, naiko, naique* : from 'nayaka' in Sanskrit, a leader, chief, general; also used as an honorific among Hindus in the Deccan.
- Nauroz, nowrooz* : literally, new (year's) day, first day of the solar year, observed as a festive day by Muslims and Parsees.
- Nazim* : officer incharge of a *nizamat* or province; a governor.
- Nujeeb* : volunteer; a class of soldiers distinguished by a special dress; gentlemen soldiers of the irregular army of Maharaja Ranjit Singh.
- Nuzzer* : a votive offering; also a ceremonial present from an inferior to a superior.
- Palanquin* : an anglicised version of the 'palanki' or 'palaki'; a box-litter for travelling, with a pole projecting on either side.
- Purwanah, parvana, purwanah* : a written precept or command; a letter from a man in power to a dependant; a permit, licence.
- Peishkhedmut* : an attendant.
- Peshwae* : attendance, presence, act of producing a subordinate or an accused before a superior or judge.
- Purbia* : a man from 'purab' (viz. east), usually referring to the inhabitants of the Gangetic valley (modern Uttar Pradesh).
- Qizilbash* : literally, a red cap; the Shias of Afghanistan were usually referred to as such because of the colour (viz. red) of their head-dress.
- Rais, raees* : a chief, head; a title of respect borne by courtiers or rich bankers.

Raj : literally, government, sovereign authority.

Raja, rajah : a ruler, feudatory chieftain.

Ranee, rani : queen, princess.

Razinamah : an act of reconciliation between contending parties.

Rissaldar : a cavalry officer.

Rissalah : a unit of the army, usually mounted horsemen, roughly equivalent to a company.

Ruckum or roocka : a letter, written document, a hand-written note.

Ruqum : amount of money, gold, silver or precious stones.

Rowney : rampart of a fortress.

Sahibzada : a gentleman of noble lineage; one having high social status.

Sardar, sirdar : literally a chief or commander; used as a form of address for all respectable Sikhs, Afghans.

Sayyid : a descendant of Husain, the grandson of Prophet Muhammad.

Sawar, sewar, sowar : a horseman.

Soucar, sahukar : banker, money-lender.

Shameeana : a tent.

Sheikh, shaikh : a title; form of address used for learned, saintly Muslims.

Shokka, shukka or shukku : a royal missive or directive; letter from a superior.

Sumshere Ke Dust : literally, 'hands of the sword'; soldiers wielding the sword in action in their hand-to-hand fight.

Sirkar : government of the day.

Sorais : earthen jars, pitchers for storing drinking water.

Subah : a province, an administrative unit; sometimes also the officer incharge.

Syce : an attendant of horse/horses.

Tarai : foothills.

Topkhana : artillery.

Toshakhanna : a store-house, ward-robe, an imperial godown in which objects of value were kept.

Tulwar : a sword.

Vakeel : an ambassador, agent, representative; an attorney or an authorised representative of the government or feudatory chief.

Vazeer, vazier, vizir : a counsellor; minister of state; lieutenant of a king or feudatory chief.

Vizarat, vazeership : office of a minister of state.

Walee : a Muslim title corresponding to a governor or a feudatory chief.

Zeeafut, zeafut, zeefut : a feast, banquet.

Zemindar, zamindar : a landed proprietor, usually an intermediary between the government and the tiller of the soil for collection of land-revenue; in the Panjab, almost every free-holder was called a zamindar.

APPENDIX

List of Newsletters, 1839-42 in the Foreign Department; Miscellaneous Vols. 331-35.

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