

opposed to the Troops commanded by *Kouli Kan*.

This brave General let the *Aghwans* advance within Pistol-Shot, and then discharged his whole Train of Artillery, which prodigiously thinned their Ranks. He then ordered his Horse to advance Sabre in Hand, and take the Enemy in the Flank. Behaviour of *Kouli Kan*.

This Order was executed with so much Bravery and Judgment, that the Rebels began to give Way at the first Shock. *Kouli Kan* sent to the *Schah* for Part of his Wing, The Rebels are beaten.

to support the Attack, in hopes to bear down the Enemy: This being granted, they pressed the *Aghwans* so hard that they took to Flight. They endeavoured to recover their Lines, and dispute the Victory afresh; but were so closely pursued, that they were obliged to disperse. A prodigious Slaughter ensued, above 15,000 dead Bodies being found on the Field of Battle. *Eschref* retired to *Ispahan* with the shattered Remains of his Army, burning and destroying all that came in his Way, to deprive the *Persians* of all Means of Subsistence, in case they should advance to the Capital after their Victory.

General *Seydal*, who had suffered the least in this Action, retreated towards *Bender-Abas* with a Body of 10,000 Men. *Kouli Kan* followed him closely with an equal Number of Troops, overtook him before he had Time to intrench himself, and beat him so terribly, that hardly a twentieth Man escaped; the rest were all cut to Pieces. The *Aghwan* General, after this Loss, retired to the Side of *Candahar*: And *Kouli Kan* having

ing so happily dissipated the Rebel Army which rendered the Taking of *Ispahan* very difficult, turned back and rejoined the *Schah* to march with him directly to *Ispahan*. This Victory was the *Æra* of *Schah Thamas's* good Fortune. All the *Persians*, whom Fear had before retained in the Rebel's Party, came over in Troops to the *Schah's* Army; and even some of the *Aghwans* engaged in his Interest. Six thousand of this Nation, who were Garrison at *Caswin*, surrendered at the Approach of the royal Army, upon Assurance given that they should receive no Injury, but have a full Pardon. They opened the Gate of the City to the *Schah*, and took on in his Troops.

*Eschref*  
abandons  
*Ispahan*.

The Usurper *Eschref*, terrified at so rapid a Progress, did not think himself safe in *Ispahan*. Having got together all his Treasures, he with his Women, and 5,000 Men who still continued faithful, left this Capital, and took the Road of *Candahar*. Two Days after his Departure, the Van-guard of the royal Army appeared before *Ispahan*. The Gates were instantly opened, and the *Persian* Soldiers received by the Inhabitants with unspeakable Joy. There was Eating and Drinking for them in Abundance.

*Schah*  
*Thamas*  
enters in  
Triumph.

*Schah-Thamas* entered this Capital in Triumph: The Name of *Kouli-Kan* ran thro' all the Streets; every one called him Deliverer. Two or three thousand *Aghwans*, who could not follow the Usurper, were yet remaining in *Ispahan*: The *Persians* would gladly have cut them to Pieces if *Kouli-Kan* had not ordered the contrary and procured for them the King's Protection.

with a general Amnesty. When he had obtained this of the *Schah*, he ordered it to be published by Sound of Trumpet, that no Person should disturb the *Aghwans* who had submitted, whom his Majesty would regard as his faithful Subjects, as if they had never been in Rebellion.

The *Persian* Army, in the mean Time, encamped in the Neighbourhood of *Ispahan*. It consisted of 50,000 Men, and was soon to be considerably augmented.

It was in *November*, 1729, that the *Aghwans* were expelled, seven Years after they had invaded the Throne of *Persia*.

*Schah-Thamas* sent Orders to the Governors of several Provinces to levy new Troops. It was now hoped, that *Persia* in a little Time would be able to regain from the *Turks*, the *Russians*, and the Mogul, what they had either dismembered from it by Force, or procured the Cession of, during the Troubles.

At first it was not known which Way the Usurper was fled ; some Advices saying, he had been taken Prisoner by the *Turks* ; others, that he had killed himself in Despair : But these were all only flying Reports. When it was known for certain that he had retired towards *Candahar*, *Kouli-Kan* put himself at the Head of 15,000 Men, and prepared to go in Pursuit of him. He recommended it to the King to march against the *Turks* with the rest of his Army, assuring his Majesty, that as soon as he had rid him of *Eschref*, he would fly to his Assistance. *Kouli-Kan* set out in the Month of *December*, 1729, towards *Candahar*. The People thronged from every

*Eschref* is pursued by *Kouli Kan*.



every Quarter to see the Deliverer of *Persia*. His Army increased considerably; and the *Jews* and *Armenians* advanced him immense Sums of Money. With all these Recommendations, it was impossible but he must be every where well received. Scarce was he within two Days Journey of *Candabar* but he learned that the unfortunate *Eschref* had been before the Gates of that City, demanding an Asylum against the *Persian* General who was in Pursuit of him; but that *Magmud's* Brother had refused him Admittance and forbid him to come near. This was a hard Sentence for *Eschref*. *Candabar* was his native Place, where *Mir-weis* his Uncle had commanded in Quality of Prince, and *Abdalla* his Father, whom *Magmud* assassinated, had been Regent. Besides, he who governed there at present was *Magmud's* Brother, and consequently his Cousin-German. All these Reasons had augmented his Hopes of being received into *Candabar*, in spite of his particular Differences with the Prince of that City. His Rage, when he saw himself rejected by his Countrymen and nearest Relations, was violent. It threw him into a deep Melancholy, which degenerated into the same Disease that had seized *Magmud*. To complete his ill Fortune, the greatest Part of his Army, seeing no more to expect from him, and finding themselves in their own Country, deserted him; so that he had but a very inconsiderable Body of Troop when *Kouli-Kan* was on the Point of attacking him.

In this Extremity, it seems to have been *Eschref's* Business to have sought an Alliance with



with the Great Mogul, and to have put himself under the Protection of that powerful Monarch, who, spite of his secret Engagement with *Schah-Thamas*, would not have failed to support *Eschref*, for a Reason common to all Sovereigns,--that they love to fish in troubled Water. But whether his Melancholy made him incapable of that Reflection, or that Heaven had resolved to punish him for his Usurpation and other Crimes, he made no Use of the Support he might have drawn from the Great Mogul, nor even so much as thought to demand it. *Kouli-Kan* at last came up with this Usurper, and prepared for an Engagement, which very soon was decisive. The *Aghwans*, surrounded, were either cut in Pieces or taken. *Eschref* was among the Prisoners. *Kouli-Kan* no sooner had the Usurper in his Power, but he ordered both his Eyes to be put out, and some Days after had him beheaded. His Body was embalmed and sent to *Ispahan*, where it was embalmed, and exposed in the High Road. An ignominious, but just Punishment, for so cruel an Usurper as he had been. His Catastrophe is a fine Example of the Inconstancy of Fortune. But the preceding Month he reigned in *Ispahan*, as *Schah*, or King of *Persia*; all the Inhabitants of that Capital acknowledged his Laws, and dreaded his Cruelty; and in less than five Weeks behold him a Fugitive, pursued, taken, executed, exposed for a Spectacle to Passengers, and a Repast for the Birds of the Air!

All the Treasures that he had brought with him, fell into the Hands of the victorious *Kouli Kan*. There were six Millions of Money

*Eschref*  
defeated  
by *Kouli*  
*Kan*.  
Who takes  
him, puts  
out his  
Eyes, and  
cuts off his  
Head.

The Use ney in Specie, and the Value of the Jewel that *Kouli* was inestimable. *Kouli Kan* distributed th  
*Kan* makes Money among his Soldiers, whose Affect  
of *Eschref*'s ons he completely secured by this Liberality  
Treasures. and kept the Jewels and Precious Stones t  
himself, to make such Use of as he should se  
convenient.

He sullies  
his Vic-  
tory.

*Kouli Kan* sullied his Victory by putting t  
Death the chief Men of the *Aghwans*, not  
withstanding their Protestations of Fidelity t  
the King of *Persia*. It is in vain to pretend th  
Necessity of it, to root out all the Seeds of Rebel  
lion from so turbulent a Nation as the *Agh  
wans*. The Ways of Moderation and Clemenc  
are always the most proper to conciliate  
the Affections of restless and malecontent  
People. The Children of these illustrious  
*Aghwans*, to the Number of 400, were sent  
to *Ispahan*, and the Nation was taxed attwo  
Millions of Crowns, towards the Expences  
of the War.

*Kouli Kan*  
enters  
*Candahar*.

*Kouli Kan* entered *Candahar* as a Con-  
queror, and disarmed all the Inhabitants.  
Eight Thousand of the most Willing were  
enlisted in the *Persian* Army; and *Mag-  
mud*'s Brother, who had shut the Gates a-  
gainst *Eschref*, was continued in his Post of  
Governor; only a few trusty Persons were  
left to observe him, whose Advice he was  
ordered to ask on Occasion, that he might  
undertake nothing against the Interest of  
*Kouli Kan*. This General then marched a-  
gainst several Places in the little Kingdom of  
*Candahar*, of which the *Moguls* had got  
Possession during the Troubles in *Persia*.  
He soon drove out these unwelcome Guests,  
and confined them within their own Fron-  
tiers.

tiers. He imposed a new Oath on the Inhabitants of the Places he had reduced in favour of *Schah Thamas*. Already the Victor threatened the hereditary Estates of the great *Mogul*, tho' defended by Armies three Times more numerous than his : But every Thing was to be dreaded from so bold and fortunate a General as *Kouli Kan*. The *Mogul* made these Reflections, and sued the King of *Persia* for Peace ; which was granted him upon Condition that he should no more intermeddle with the Affairs of that Kingdom. *Kouli Kan* employed about nine Months in his Expedition, and about as much more in restoring good Order, and securing the frontier Provinces, which he had brought again under the *Persian* Dominion.

His Progress.

*Schah Thamas*, in the mean Time, was less fortunate in his War with the *Turks*. Twice he had been beaten. A third Time he was victorious, by means of strong Reinforcements which he had received from the several Provinces of his Kingdom. This Monarch, far from taking the Advantages of his Victory, and pushing the Enemy to the utmost of his Power, amused himself only with excessive Drinking, and toying away his Time with his Concubines. His Generals had acted for him, and retook *Tauris* from the *Turks*. Notwithstanding which, spite of these Advantages, the *Schah*, sunk in Luxury, caused Solicitations for Peace, under his Hand, to be made at the *Ottoman* Court.

The ill Conduct of *Schah Thamas*, which obliges him to solicit the *Ottoman* Court for Peace.

*Kouli Kan* had good Spies at Court, and in the Royal Army, who soon informed him of the Steps taken by his Majesty. He felt all

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the



*Kouli Kan* endeavours to divert him from the Peace.

the Indignation that a Warrior, eager after Glory, and jealous for the Honour and Grandeur of the State in whose Service he was engaged, can be supposed to have conceived. He sent an Express well escorted to the *Schah*, with Orders to assure him, in his Name, that he ought to beware how he made a Peace with the *Turks*, or gave up to them an Inch of Territory : That for his Part, he would come to his Support in a few Days, with an Army of between 25 and 30,000 Men ; intreating that till then he would keep on the Defensive only.

*Schah Thamas* makes a shameful Peace.

All this did not hinder the *Schah* from proceeding, and concluding the most shameful and disadvantageous Peace with the *Turks*, that *Persia* could possibly have made, if it had been reduced to the last Extremity. By this Treaty the *Ottoman Porte* remained in Possession of *Georgia* ; obtained the Cession of *Curdistan* ; *Adirbeitzan*, the City of *Tauris* excepted ; and the Province of *Erivan*, with its Capital.

*Kouli Kan* is provoked at it.

*Kouli Kan* heard all these Particulars with a Resentment that is not easy to express. Just as he was ready to set forwards, in order to come and re-animate the Courage of his Master, which seemed entirely damped, he received Advice that this weak and timorous Prince had disbanded Part of his Army, sent the rest either into Garison or Winter Quarters, and was returned to *Ispahan*, there to plunge himself in Softness and Effeminacy. This made him redouble his Diligence, to return with all possible Speed.

In the mean Time the *Turks*, sensible of Arrogance of the Weakness of *Schah Thamas*, grew extremely arrogant. They were for sentencing the *Turks*. to Death the Bassa of *Bagdat*, who negotiated this Peace with *Persia*, for having given up the City of *Tauris*; persuaded that if he had insisted upon the Restitution of that Place, the timid Prince would not have dared to refuse it. The Grand Vizir preserved the Bassa's Life, by representing to the Divan that the *Persian War* had been destructive to the *Ottoman Porte*, which had lost therein the Flower of her Troops, and that they ought to think themselves very happy to get rid of it with so much Glory and Advantage. This Peace, so scandalous for *Persia*, was signed about the End of the Year 1731; and the *Schah* returned to *Isfahan*, gave himself up to Debauchery, leaving the Government of the State to his Ministers and Favourites.

*Kouli Kan*, in the mean Time, by long Marches came near the Capital of *Persia*. He received Informations by the Way, cautioning him to be upon his Guard with the King, who was forming some Design against either his Life or his Liberty. In Effect, *Schah Thamas* sent a Courier to meet *Kouli Kan*, and tell him, that now *Persia* was in Peace and the King had disbanded his Army, it was proper he should do the same by that under his Command. *Kouli Kan*, far from complying with this Order, answered the Messenger, "That the King had been  
" at free liberty to act as he thought proper  
" with regard to his own Troops; but that  
" as for him, he was not inclined to make

Difference  
between  
*Schah  
Thamas  
and Kouli  
Kan.*

“ the same Use of his, and that he would  
 “ soon come and give an Account to his Ma-  
 “ jesty of the Reasons of his Refusal.” In-  
 stead of disbanding his Army, the General  
 now re-inforced it with all the Hands he could  
 procure. A great Part of the Soldiers which  
*Schah Thamas* had discharged, came and en-  
 tered themselves under *Kouli Kan*, who ar-  
 rived in the Neighbourhood of *Ispahan* with  
 40,000 effective Men. When he was with-  
 in a Day’s March of this Capital, he signified  
 to the *Schah* the News of his Arrival, and  
 intreated his Majesty to send him Orders  
 more for the Good and Glory of the State  
 than the former. *Schah Thamas* persisted in  
 his Resolution that the General should dis-  
 arm, and would permit him to enter *Ispa-*  
*han* with only 200 Horse. Whether he de-  
 pended upon *Kouli Kan*’s Obedience, or whe-  
 ther his Debaucheries had deprived him of  
 Reason, he took no Measures to put him-  
 self in a Posture of Defence, but shut himself  
 up in his *Haram*, and continued his usual  
 Course of Life. In the mean Time *Kouli*  
*Kan*, having received his Monarch’s Answer,  
 assembled together the Heads of his Army,  
 and harangued them to this Effect :

*Kouli*  
*Kan*’s Ha-  
 rangue to  
 the chief  
 Officers of  
 his Army.

“ My Companions, said he, *Schah Tha-*  
 “ *mas* has as ungenerous a Soul as his Father  
 “ *Hussain*. He makes no Distinction be-  
 “ tween brave Men and Cowards, between  
 “ Fidelity and Treason. You are all worthy  
 “ of Rewards, and yet he would have me  
 “ disband you without any other Compli-  
 “ ment, than that he has no more Occasion  
 “ for your Service. Yet it is you and I who  
 “ have done all, who have placed this un-  
 “ grate-



“grateful Prince upon the Throne, and  
 “established him there; who extinguish-  
 “ed the Rebellion, and carried Ter-  
 “ror to the very Center of the *Mogul's*  
 “Dominions. Who can recount the Pains  
 “we have suffered, the Fatigues we have  
 “borne in such long Marches, the Battles  
 “we have fought, the Blood we have shed,  
 “and the Hazards we have run? I will not  
 “mention the scandalous Peace which this  
 “*Schah* has concluded with the *Turks*, since  
 “there is not one among you but is now  
 “acquainted with it, but is touched with  
 “Indignation at it. You know also how  
 “he has dealt by the Army under his own  
 “Command. The Soldiers have been dis-  
 “persed as Men of no Use, and the Officers  
 “discharged without Recompence. Not e-  
 “ven the Generals but have been made sen-  
 “sible of the Effects of his Ingratitude. I  
 “beseech you to tell me, my dear Compa-  
 “nions, what Remedy should be applied to  
 “such Evils as these! Are you resolved,  
 “with me, to retrieve the Glory of *Persia*;  
 “to follow me into *Ispahan*, and require  
 “our *Schah* to give an Account of his Mal-  
 “Administration?”

Here *Kouli Kan* paused, and waited for the  
 Assembly's Answer. Their Sentiments were  
 not divided; they all cried out, they were rea-  
 dy to follow their General wherever he would  
 lead them, for the Honour and Advantage of  
 the Kingdom. Upon this *Kouli Kan* gave  
 Orders, that the Army should hold them-  
 selves in readiness to march the next Morning  
 at Break of Day.

The Army marched accordingly, and arrived the same Day at the Gates of *Ispahan*. The Inhabitants of this City, who had the utmost Confidence in their General, and who besides had received no Orders to deny him Entrance, threw open their Gates.

As soon as *Kouli Kan* saw himself Master of *Ispahan*, he distributed his Troops in all the Quarters of that great City, took Possession of the most advantageous Posts, and replaced the Guards of *Schah Thamas*, at the several Gates, with Detachments of its own Troops. This done, he sent some Officers into the Royal Palace, to summon *Schah Thamas* to appear in the *Meydan*, and give an Account of his Conduct to the People and the Army. That unhappy Prince had no Inclination to come in the Presence of such Judges. He endeavoured to hide himself in the Bottom of a Wardrobe. His Eunuchs detected him there, and dragged him out, to bring him before *Kouli Kan*. This General had taken his Place in the *Meydan*, surrounded by all the great Men both of the Army and the Court. Every one waited for the Unravelling of this Scene.

No sooner did *Schah Thamas* appear, borne by his Eunuch's and Slaves, but *Kouli Kan* ordered some Troops to advance, to prevent any Disorder. The Murmur of the People ceasing, the General addressed himself to the King. He reproached him in the severest Terms for his Debaucheries, his Indolence, his Effeminacy, and his Cowardice. He entered into a Detail of the Faults he had committed during the last War with the *Turks*, and the scandalous Peace he had concluded. He

He declared him an Enemy of his Country, and unworthy to fill the Throne of the Sophies. He added, that for the Good of the State he should be deposed, and his Son *Abas*, a Prince only five or six Months old, made King in his stead : And during the Minority of that Prince, that the Kingdom should be governed by wise and prudent Ministers, who had the Honour and Interest of *Persia* at Heart.

*Kouli Kan* deposes the Sophi, and raises his Son, an Infant, to the Throne.

No Man had the Courage to oppose this Alteration. *Schah Thamas* himself was so confounded at it, that he had not Power to speak a Word in his own Justification. He only shrugg'd up his Shoulders, in Token of Astonishment. After that *Kouli Kan* dismissed the Assembly, and left the King under the Guard of some trusty Officers. He then repaired to the Palace Royal, followed by a Crowd of Ministers and Generals ; went directly into the Apartment of the young Prince, who was lying in a Cradle ; ordered the Royal Crown to be brought, and put it upon the Head of this Infant. He then fell prostrate before the new King, and all the Grandees did the same. Being risen from the Ground, he took the Oath of Fidelity, holding two Fingers upon a *Koran* placed at the Foot of the Cradle. All the great Men followed his Example ; and a *Mahometan Persian* concluded the Ceremony, by muttering over some Prayers for the new King.

*Kouli Kan* afterwards turned himself towards the Ministers and Generals there present. “ Nothing now remains, said he, but to elect a Generalissimo and Regent of the Kingdom. Let us chuse, Gentlemen, from among



among us, the Man that you shall think the most capable of exercising these two Posts in Conjunction."

*Kouli Kan* is declared Regent of the Kingdom during the Minority of the new King.

Not a Man offered to fix his Eyes upon any other than *Kouli Kan*. Even if they had not thought him the most worthy, he was too well supported for any one to dare offend him; and it is plainly enough seen, that though he left the Choice to the Assembly he was not in the Disposition to give way to any other. He had already done too much for them to misapprehend his Meaning. All the Grandees therefore tendered the Honour to him, saluted him Regent of the Kingdom, and General in chief of the *Persian* Armies.

He chuses a Council.

*Kouli Kan* chose himself a Council, composed of the most sensible Men of the Court and who were the most strongly attached to his Interest. It was to take care of the interior Government of the State, while the General was in the Field at the Head of Armies. As to *Schah Thamas*, *Kouli Kan* had him conducted into a Fortrefs, where he was deprived of Sight by the hot Iron, in order to strip him at once of all Hopes of ever remounting the Throne. The *Ottoman Porte* was struck with Surprise at the News of this Revolution. She gave all her Attention to penetrate the Views of *Kouli Kan*, and very soon had her Curiosity satisfied. That General sent a Memorial to the *Persian* Ministers who resided at *Constantinople*, to be presented in his Name to the Grand Vizir; in which he declared, "That on Account of  
" the scandalous Peace which *Schah Thamas*  
" had concluded with the *Porte*, that Prince

How he treats *Schah Thamas*.  
He sends a Memorial to the *Persian* Ministers at *Constantinople*.

" wa

“ was judged unworthy the Throne of his  
 “ Ancestors, and had been justly deposed by  
 “ those Subjects, who had the Interest of  
 “ *Persia* at Heart.” He then demanded in  
 the Name of the young *Schah Abas*, the Re-  
 stitution of those Provinces and States which  
 had been so calmly ceded by the King his  
 Father.

This Memorial threw the Council of the  
 Grand Signior into an Astonishment not easy  
 to express. At first they thought it not  
 worthy of an Answer; but that Opinion was  
 soon altered, and a very menacing Answer  
 returned. The Sultan therein threatened with  
 his Indignation all who had been concerned  
 in the Deposition of *Schah Thamas*, if they  
 did not immediately acknowledge him again  
 for their Sovereign, and replace him on the  
 Throne, which was his lawful Inheritance.  
 Both the *Ottoman Porte* and the *Persian Court*  
 were ignorant that *Schah Thamas* had been  
 deprived of Sight: And the Divan hardly knew  
 the Name of *Kouli Kan*, or at least were not  
 informed of the Share he had in the Soldiers’  
 Affections, and the People’s Confidence; for  
 which Reason they thought to intimidate  
 him. But *Kouli Kan* laughed at the Menaces  
 of the Grand Signior, and prepared to shew  
 his Ministers that he was in a Condition to  
 make them change their Tone.

Effect of  
 this Me-  
 morial in  
 the Grand  
 Signior’s  
 Council.

*Kouli Kan*  
 laughs at  
 their Me-  
 naces.

As soon as this Answer came to Hand, he  
 began in earnest to levy Troops, to secure  
 the fortified Places with strong Garrisons  
 and plentiful Magazines, and to give all ne-  
 cessary Orders for disciplining the Soldiers.  
 Some Provinces not appearing over-forward  
 to contribute towards the Expences of War,  
 either

either by furnishing their Compliments of Men, or sending in their proportionate Sums; the new Regent sent some Regiments to live on them at Discretion, till they had intirely satisfied his Demands. This Severity struck Terror through the other Provinces, and every one laboured, with uncommon Zeal, to execute the Regent's Orders.

He applies for and obtains the Friendship of the Russians.

There was a separate Article in the Peace which *Schah Thomas* had concluded with the *Ottoman Porte*, by which the two Courts of *Ispahan* and *Constantinople* mutually agreed to unite their Forces, to oblige the Court of *Russia* to restore to *Persia* all that she had taken from that Kingdom. *Kouli Kan*, who had nothing at Heart but to humble the *Turks*, well perceived that to undertake any Thing against them, he ought to be secure on the Side of *Russia*. For this Reason he thought proper to send a solemn Embassy to the Court of *Petersburgh*, to demand her Friendship. The Ambassadors succeeded in their Negotiation, and concluded an Alliance between the two Empires, which subsists to this Day.

War between the *Turks* and *Persians*. Advantages gained by the *Turks* during *Kouli Kan's* Absence.

In 1733 War was openly declared between the *Turks* and *Persians*, and Hostilities began on both Sides. *Kouli Kan* not being able at the Beginning to appear at the Head of his Army, because of some Affairs which detained him at *Ispahan* longer than he expected, the *Turks* obtained some Advantages. The Seraskier *Topal Osman*, who commanded them, fell upon and entirely defeated a Body of *Persians*; which Misfortune was followed by another, that had almost ruined the

*Per-*



*Persian* Army. A Detachment of 30,000 Men had been sent to secure a certain Post. The Seraskier had Advice of it, and marched with all Expedition to meet them. The *Persians* took the best Step they could on this Occasion: They halted and entrenched themselves; being already too far from the Body of their Army, to have any Hopes of rejoining it before the Seraskier could attack them. *Topal Osman*, seeing them so well posted, did not think proper to force their Lines: But having his whole Army with him, he so extended it, as quite to surround the 30,000 *Persians*, and cut off all their Communication. It seemed impossible for them to escape, and their Provisions at most were but for two or three Days; after which they must either demand Quarter, or perish with Hunger. On either Side there was equal Danger; so that these 30,000 Men were far from being easy in their Situation.

*Kouli Kan* arrived very opportunely to deliver them from the Inquietude they were in. He had no sooner heard of the Condition of this Body of Troops, but he resolved to hazard all to disengage them. With this View, pretending an Inclination for Peace, he sent one of his Generals to make some Propositions to the Seraskier, and under Cover of this Embassy, introduced a Messenger into the *Persian* Camp, which was blocked up by the *Turks*, to advertise the commanding General that the next Day, at such an Hour, he would attack the Enemy; requiring him to do the same on his Part. *Kouli Kan* made such Expedition, that at his second Stage he was within half a Day's March of the *Turks*. His

He beats  
the *Turks*.

Receives  
two  
Wounds.  
The Court  
of *Russia*  
compli-  
ments him  
on his Vic-  
tory, and  
sends him  
Presents.  
As does  
also that  
of *Vienna*.

His Army was 40,000 strong, and that of the *Turks* consisted of 80,000. But the 30,000 surrounded *Persians* fell on so bravely, and did their Duty so well, that they contributed much to the Defeat of the *Ottomans*. The Battle lasted eight Hours. The *Turks* made a good Defence; but were at last broken, and put to Flight. Eight thousand *Tartars* and 18,000 *Turks* fell in the Action, and 12,000 of the latter were wounded. The Coming on of Night prevented the Taking a great Number of Prisoners, and favoured the Enemies Escape. They left their Artillery, however, and all their Baggage.

*Topal Osman* was found dead on the Field of Battle. There were 9,000 *Persians* either killed or wounded. *Kouli-Kan* received two considerable Wounds, and had two Horses killed under him.

This Action happened in *July* 1733. *Kouli-Kan* dispatched an Express to the Court of *Petersburg*, to give Advice of his Victory to the *Czarina*; who wrote him a Letter of Felicitation on that Subject, accompanied with Presents of considerable Value.

The Court of *Vienna* also signified its Satisfaction on this Occasion; and it is said that the Emperor sent him a Sabre set with precious Stones of great Value, and a General's Truncheon finely wrought and gilt; and that the Express which was dispatched with these Presents, went by the Way of *Petersburg*. This will appear the more probable, if we consider that at the Time when his Imperial Majesty sent these Marks of his Good-will to the *Persian* General, the *French*, the *Spaniards*, and the *Savoyards* had begun

begun to invade his Dominions, and that it was for his Interest to have the *Turks* so employed elsewhere, that they could take no Advantage of these Invasions.

However that were, Hostilities continued between the *Turks* and the *Persians* in different Places, as in *Georgia*, the *Tabristan*, and the *Gurdistan*. The *Turks* were beat four Times in the Campaign of 1734. *Kouli-Kan* received a great Number of Wounds in these several Engagements, and had many Horses killed under him. He always appeared in Places of the greatest Danger, animating the Troops by his Example, and rallying with admirable Celerity those who gave Way. The Campaign of 1735 was the most bloody of all, and the most advantageous to the *Persians*. The Court of *Constantinople* had sent the Seraskier *Abdalla Cuprogli*, to command the Troops which were to act against *Kouli-Kan*; who in the mean Time was busy in re-inforcing his Army, and forming of Magazines. The *Turks* were ready to enter into Action; when *Kouli-Kan*, willing to keep them back, signified to the Seraskier, that he was not averse to Proposals of Peace, if he could but hope to obtain one on any tolerable Conditions. The Seraskier grew negligent on this Feint of *Kouli-Kan's*, and let him know that he had full and ample Powers to treat on that Head, and that nothing was wanting but to chuse out a fit Place for the Negotiations. *Kouli-Kan* mentioned some Places, which he knew would not be accepted, and by so doing protracted the Time. But as soon as he saw himself in a Condition to act, he threw off the

The War continues between the *Turks* and *Persians*.

N

Mask,



*Kouli Kan*  
takes  
*Teflis.*

Mask, and advanced at the Head of 100,000 Men into *Persian Georgia*, of which the *Turks* were then Masters. He besieged *Teflis*, the Capital, and took it: And in a short Time after the *Turks* were driven out of all their Posts, in that Part of the Province which belonged to the Crown of *Persia*.

After that *Kouli-Kan* advanced toward *Armenia*, and began to lay Siege to *Erivan* leaving a Body of 50,000 Men, who were newly arrived out of *Persia*, under the Command of two Generals, to provide for the Security of his late Conquests. As soon as he was arrived before *Erivan*, the *Fanissaries*, who were there in Garrison, retired into the Castle, making a Shew of defending themselves to the last Extremity. This Castle is advantageously situated upon steep Rocks, and the *Bassâ* who commanded it was an Officer of Conduct and Bravery. Spite of all this the *Persians* carried it in ten Days, after a general Assault, which the *Fanissaries* sustained with a great deal of Prudence and Valour. The *Bassâ* was killed upon the Breach; his Garrison put to the Sword; and the *Persians* who never use to give Quarter to the *Turks* nor receive any from them, massacred even Women with Child, and little Infants.

Falſe Advice given  
to the  
*Ottoman*  
Court.

In the mean Time the *Ottoman Porte*, having received Advice from the Seraskier that *Kouli-Kan* was inclinable to Peace, had deputed the *Bassâ* of *Widdin's* Brother to the *Persian* General, with very considerable Presents: But this Envoy, surpris'd to hear the Progress of the Enemy, did not think proper to continue his Journey. In his Return, he had the Misfortune to fall into the

Har

Hand, of a Party of *Georgians*, who massacred his Escorte, consisting of a hundred *Turkish* Horse, and so terribly wounded the Minister himself, that it was with the utmost Difficulty he regained the Seraskier's Camp.

No sooner was the Progress of *Kouli-Kan* known at *Constantinople*, but the *Ottoman* Court concluded it had been the Dupe of that General, who all this while had thought of nothing less than desiring a Peace. The Sultan was extremely enraged at this, and dispatched Orders to the Seraskier to pursue the *Persians* wherever they went, and to give them Battle the first Opportunity. He also sent him Re-inforcements of Men and Horses, and considerable Sums of Money.

While *Abdalla* Bassa waited for these Supplies, he encamped under the Cannon of *Carfa*, or *Cars* \*, a strong Fortress in *Turcomania*, not far distant from the Source of the *Euphrates*. *Kouli-Kan*, understanding that the Seraskier expected a strong Re-inforcement, and that as soon as he had received them he was to pursue and give him Battle, thought it his Business to draw him to an Engagement before the Arrival of the fresh Forces. He detached 25,000 Men from the Gross of his Army, put himself at their Head, and came up towards the Seraskier's Camp. This latter penetrating the Design of the *Persian* General, did not stir out of his Camp, but contented himself with making a Detachment of the best of his Troops, equal in

\* This Fortress is so considerable, that the Sultan, among his Titles, bears that of Lord of *Carfa*.

Number to that of *Kouli-Kan*. He gave the Command of them to a *Bassa*, whom he enjoined not to engage, but only to observe the Motions of the Enemy. *Kouli-Kan* seeing this Body approach, thought at first it had been the whole *Turkish* Army, and retired to join the Gros of his Troops: But when he was informed that it was only a Detachment, he perceived he must use some other Stratagem to draw the *Seraskier* from his Post.

For this Purpose he turned all of a sudden from the Side of *Erivan*, making a Feint to retire into *Armenia*, as if he had found himself too weak to remain in an Enemy's Country, or perceived he could not procure there a commodious Subsistence. He did not doubt but the *Seraskier*, fearing he should escape, would be immediately at his Heels. In Effect, he was informed that the *Turkish* General had decamped, and made a Shew of pursuing him, but that it was after he had been re-inforced with 30,000 Men. On this Advice *Kouli-Kan* began to think of posting himself the most advantageously, to wait for the *Turks* in his Camp; whose Army, with the additional Troops, amounted to 110,000 Men. That of *Kouli-Kan* was above 20,000 less in Number, because of the Garisons he had been obliged to leave in *Teflis* and *Erivan*. But notwithstanding this Disproportion, *Kouli-Kan* posted himself so well, that he had Room to hope he should be able, at least, to dispute the Victory a long Time with the *Turks*, if they had the Resolution to attack him.



He disposed his Army in this Manner. His Artillery was placed upon an Eminence, in such a Posture, that it could not be seen, but very near at Hand. On the Right and Left of the Artillery, he posted the greatest Part of his Infantry in hollow Ways, Ditches, and Woods that entirely covered them. He then, with all Expedition, had the Declivity undermined, which led from the Eminence into the Plain, and placed his Cavalry in the Plain itself. The *Turkish* Army was not long before it appeared. It arrived in the Plain *May* the 25th 1735. *Kouli Kan* retired at its Approach, and the Seraskier ordered the *Tartars* and *Spahies* to pursue him, who fell upon his Rear-Guard, where he was in Person. A smart Skirmish ensued, which did not end but with the Day: The next Day it began again, while the Seraskier made the Dispositions for a Battle. At last the *Turkish* Army advanced, ranged in Form of a Crescent. *Kouli Kan* ordered his Cavalry to be extended, and placed the Foot that were still with him in the Center. A violent Wind, which blew the Dust and Sand in the Eyes of the *Turks*, hindered them from seeing there was so small a Part of the *Persian* Infantry, and that the rest were hid in Woods and Ditches. Suspecting nothing less than this, the *Ottomans* gave the Onset with terrible Outcries. *Kouli Kan* sustained the Shock of their Cavalry, as much as was necessary to animate them to the Engagement: But at the second Charge his own Horse retired, according to their Orders, towards the Top of the Eminence; and the Infantry did the same. The *Turks* began to

*Kouli Kan's*  
Dispositi-  
on to re-  
ceive the  
*Turks*.

cry out *Victory* ! But the *Persian* Horse, well instructed in what they had to execute, divided in two Parts, and buried themselves in the Woods on the Right and Left. The Foot, which had been with the General from the Beginning of the Action, fled to the Top of the Hill. The *Turks* pursued them both with great Fury : And when the *Persian* General saw them far enough in the Snare, he gave the Signal for playing the Mines. They had a surprising Effect. Multitudes of Men and Horses were seen flying in the Air, who came down dead, or shattered to Pieces. Others were buried in those Gulphs which the Powder had made in the Explosion. The Horror of the *Turks* was equal to their Surprise, being intirely ignorant of this Way of Fighting. They saw the Earth open to swallow them up ; but could not comprehend how it should be, as thinking that Mines were to be dreaded in Siege only. But what completed their Consternation, was the Artillery, which now began to play, and which was so advantageously posted, that at the first Discharge it carried off whole Ranks of the *Turkish* Squadrons. The *Persian* Infantry then issued out of the Places where they had been concealed, and falling upon the Flanks of the Enemy, gave brisk Fire, and put them all in Disorder. The *Turkish* Cavalry, no longer able to keep their Ranks, rushed upon the *Janissaries*, and drove them into equal Confusion. Then the *Persian* Cavalry, drawing up at the Edge of the Wood, fell upon the *Turks* with an inconceivable Violence.

Nothing

Nothing was now seen but horrid Slaughter, and universal Rout, which only the Night put an end to. The 29th, at Break of Day, the *Persian* Cavalry went in pursuit of the Fugitives. Those who were the best mounted, or had the best Legs, escaped the Sword of the Victors: All the rest were massacred, except a Body of *Tartars* and *Turks*, that were held in by the *Persians*, who, weary of the Work of Death, made them all Slaves. The Loss of the *Turks* was computed at 50,000 killed or wounded, without reckoning the Prisoners. The *Persians* lost about 8000 Men. This Action, or rather Slaughter, lasted nine Hours, and the *Seraf-kier* was found among the Dead, accompanied with nine *Bassas*. Five *Bassas* were taken Prisoners, among whom was *Mehemed*, lately arrived from *Constantinople* in the *Seraf-kier's* Army, with large Remittances of Money. All the *Turkish* Artillery, consisting of 35 Pieces of Brass Cannon, came into the Hands of the Victor; as did also the Baggage, and military Chest. *Kouli Kan* ordered the Money to be distributed among the Officers and Soldiers, according to their Degrees: And it must have been an immense Sum, since the meanest *Persian* Soldier had two *Sequins* \* for his Part; without mentioning the magnificent Robes, and valuable Jewels, that were found in plundering the dead Bodies. *Kouli Kan* commanded all these Carcasses to be buried in deep Ditches, which were dug in the Field of Battle for that Purpose. He ordered Search to be made for the Bodies of

*Kouli Kan*  
gains a  
complete  
Victory.

\* Almost Twenty Shillings Sterling.



the Seraskier and the Bassas, who fell in the Action, and sent them to *Carfa* to be honourably interred.

Gengis  
surrenders  
to the  
Persians.

The City of *Gengis*, which a Body of *Persian* Troops had blocked up for some Time, surrendered on the News of this Defeat. All *Mingrelia*, which is that Part of *Georgia* which belonged to the *Ottoman Porte*, submitted to the victorious *Kouli Kan*, who treated the Princes of this Province, hitherto Vassals of the Grand Signior, with great Clemency. All *Armenia*, *Diarbeck*, and *Turcomania*, were also the Fruits of this Victory.

The *Turks* perhaps had never lost so great a Number of Troops in one Day as on this Occasion, not excepting even the Battles of *Selanckemen* and *Zenta*; and perhaps never was Victory the Source of more Conquests than this which our *Persian* had now won. When we reflect on these Things, it is impossible not to admire the Inconstancy of Fortune. It was but six or seven Years ago, that the Kingdom of *Persia* had been in the most deplorable State; torn to Pieces within by Civil Wars, despised without, and exposed to a thousand Affronts from all her Neighbours. Now behold her in a quite different Situation; resuming her antient Courage; in profound Tranquility at home, and formidable abroad. All this must be attributed to only one Hero, the invincible *Kouli Kan*.

A Rebel-  
lion stirred  
up in *Per-  
sia* by the  
*Turks*.

The *Turks*, seeing to what Condition they were reduced, considered how to procure a Diversion which might divide the Arms of this General, who was upon the Brink of stripping them of their best Provinces. They made

made use of one *Laccia* for this Purpose, the Leader of a Gang of Thieves who infested the Frontiers of *Persia*. They sent him large Sums of Money, which enabled him to encrease his Band to the Number of 10 or 12,000 lusty Fellows, Part of whom were *Turkish Janissaries*.

*Kouli Kan* on the News of this Rebel's Progress, left the greatest Part of his Army under the Conduct of an experienced General, and sat out at the Head of the rest to go and reduce him. He came up with him in the *Curdistan*, gave him Battle, and a Defeat. *Laccia* however escaped, got together the Remains of his little Army, and had the Courage to appear again in the Field. *Kouli Kan* allowed him no Time to repair his Loss, but in a second Engagement intirely dissipated his Forces, and took their Leader, who was impaled. Several of his Men suffered the same Fate, who were taken in the Pursuit.

And happily extinguished by *Kouli Kan*.

After so many glorious Exploits, *Kouli Kan* returned to *Ispahan* at the Beginning of the Year 1736, having now formed a Design to make himself King of *Persia*. The young King *Abas*, yet an Infant, was of a very feeble and delicate Complexion, and seemed also inclinable to Folly. Some pretend that *Kouli Kan* had ordered Potions to be given him, in order to weaken both his Body and his Understanding. Be that as it will, the Regent sent for the Grandees of the Kingdom about the Middle of *February*. Many Generals, and other principal Officers of the Army, were already at *Ispahan*: And as soon as the Nobility were arrived there, he

Design of this General upon the Crown of *Persia*.

or-

ordered them all to assemble in one of the Halls of the royal Palace. Here he made them a Speech, which held a Quarter of an Hour, and run mightily on the Fatigues he had undergone in the three last Campaigns. He complained that many Districts of the Kingdom refused to obey his Orders, under Pretence that the King's Service did not require it; was very copious on the Disgust he had met with in the Discharge of his Office of Regent; and concluded with declaring that he was resolved to resign it, in favour of him whom the Assembly should think the most worthy.

This Declaration surprised the most unwary Minds; but those of deeper Penetration saw what it drove at. They well enough perceived that he aspired at something more than the Title and Authority of a Regent, and that if I may be allowed the Expression, he only took a Step or two back, to jump the further forward. In reality, *Kouli Kan* aspired to the Crown; but was loth to be branded with the Name of *Usurper*. He wished they would offer it him by a free Election, without the least Constraint: And he flattered himself that this could not fail of coming to pass, in an Assembly composed chiefly of his own Creatures, who owed their Fortunes to him. As for the other, he had treated them with so much Lenity, that it was not likely they should form the least Opposition.

His Design opposed.

In the mean time those clear-sighted People, who had penetrated the Views of *Kouli Kan*, did not so much as whisper their Suspicions, for fear of exposing themselves to his Resentment: But as they were not well



well satisfied neither to have him for their King, they intreated him to continue in his Office of Regent, at least till the Majority of the young King: And that their Arguments for his so doing might be the more pleasing, they intermixed them with Encomiums on his Valour, his Prudence, and his Goodness. Their Harangues had a quite contrary Effect from what they had expected. *Kouli Kan*, in his Turn, seeing through their Intentions, as they had done through his, cunningly kept on the Mask, and persisted in his Resolution of laying down his Office: Immediately a low Murmur was heard through the Assembly, begun by the Officers of the Army, who could not bear to think of any other Commander than *Kouli Kan*. They declared they would obey no Man living but him. “ Well then, cried out one among them, since he will be no longer Regent, we must make him King. What Necessity is there that we should rest all our Hopes on an infirm and tender Infant? Are we desirous of such another Reign as that of *Schah Hussein*? Would the *Persians* be again governed by Women and Eunuchs? Had they rather see themselves pillaged by such infamous Ministers, their Estates ravaged by a hundred different Factions, than to elect a Hero for their King, who has delivered them from the Oppression of the *Aghwans*, and the Insults of the *Turks*? In order to be a King, is it not enough to merit a Crown, unless a Man be also born with it? I put the Question to you, *Persians*, all that are here present, in what Condition had we been, if our General had not been sent us  
“ by

A Speech  
in his Fa-  
vour by  
one of the  
Assembly.

“ by the great Prophet who is Guardian of  
 “ *Persia* ? Every one in this Assembly,  
 “ perhaps, had either been ere now deprived  
 “ of Life, or driven from his Family and  
 “ Fortune by that infinite Number of Tyrants  
 “ that had set up among us. Let us  
 “ at once then unanimously acknowledge  
 “ that Hero, who has freed the Kingdom,  
 “ who has redeemed and even won it with  
 “ the Point of his Sword, for our lawful Sovereign.”

Which is  
 applauded.

This Harangue was applauded by all the Generals there present. The Ministers who did not approve it, far from opposing his Election, were the first to cry ought that *Thamas Kouli Kan*, and he only, deserved to be King of *Persia*.

He is proclaimed  
 King.

*Kouli Kan* continued his Diffimulation. As soon as the Murmur was over, he represented, that Royalty was a Burden too heavy for him, who had resolved to pass the Residue of his Days in Retirement, as soon as he had compelled the *Turks* to an honourable Peace, for the Advantage of *Persia*. But, spite of his affected Modesty, a pleasing Joy was discernible on his Countenance, which sufficiently testified that the Choice of the Assembly was far from being disagreeable, and that his Refusal was purely a Matter of Form. For this Reason the great Men present, without shewing any regard to his Evasions, proclaimed him King of *Persia*. At last his Reluctance gave way to their Importunity: But he protested at the same Time, that as soon as young *Abas* should be of Age to govern, he would restore to him the Crown, which he now willingly accepted at the

the Solicitation of the Grandees, for the Good of the Kingdom. Vain Protestation, and made with no other View but to appease the Partizans of the Royal Family!

When *Kouli Kan* had accepted the Sovereignty, he was led up and placed upon the crowned Throne of the Sophies, where the High-priest put the Crown on his Head with the usual Ceremony. He was saluted King by all the Assembly. The Ministers of State, Generals of the Army, and Nobility there present, severally took the Oath of Fidelity, swearing to maintain him upon the Throne of *Persia*, against all Competitors, at the Peril of their Lives and Fortunes.

The Citizens of *Ispahan* were informed, by the Acclamations within the Palace, of the new King's Election. They applauded what was done, and testified their Approbation of the Choice by Illuminations, which lasted several Days. But the Testimonies of Joy at this News were no where greater than in the Army, who discovered their Interest in this Event by the Discharge of their Artillery and Small Arms. All the Provinces likewise signified their Satisfaction by public Rejoicings, which, if they were sincere, were rather an Effect of the People's Love of Novelty, than of any Idea they could have of a real Advantage.

*Kouli Kan*, willing to shew that the Splendor of a Throne had not effaced the Memory of his Original, re-assumed his former Name of *Nadir*. This was a Proof indeed of his Modesty, but which does not atone for what there was odious in his Usurpation.

He re-assumes the Name of *Nadir*.



The History I have [now given of *Schah Nadir's* Inauguration comes from good Authority, and I dare assure the Reader that he may depend on its being authentic.

It was not many Days after his Accession to the Crown, before the new King gave his Subjects to understand, that he should have no Desire to resign it back to Prince *Abas* or any one else. All that boasted of the being descended from the Royal Family, to the Number of about fifty, were secured by his Order; and it hath since been given out that he had them all privately put to Death.

He makes  
sure of the  
Royal Family.

His Ufur-  
pation cen-  
sured.

Some endeavour to justify *Kouli Kan's* Conduct, with regard to the Descendants of the *Sophies*, by pretending that he did well to dethrone *Schah Thomas*, who had shewn himself unworthy of the Royal Dignity and that with regard to the young Prince his Son, his natural Imbecillity, both of Body and Mind, rendered him incapable of Reigning. Without taking upon me to refute these Reasons methodically, I will only say that admitting it had been lawful to depose *Schah Thomas*, it was far otherwise with regard to his Son; and that nothing could possibly authorise such an Outrage, since the Prince was too young for any Thing certain to be determined, either as to the Weakness of his Constitution, or the Incapacity of his Understanding. Have we not seen, do we not every Day see sickly Children, who in an Age more advanced grow strong and robust and others, who in their Infancy seem of weak Intellects, that at the Age of Maturity turn out great Genius's

I thought proper to connect together all that relates to *Kouli-Kan's* Accession to the Throne of *Persia*, before I came to speak of the Preparations he made for the Campaign of 1736, notwithstanding the Report that had been current of an approaching Peace. In Effect, the *Turks*, disheartened by so many Disgraces and Losses, observing the extraordinary Preparations of *Kouli-Kan*, and foreseeing that they should soon be attacked by the *Russians* and *Germans*, had made Proposals for an Accommodation to our Hero, at that Time only Regent of the Kingdom of *Persia*, and who, having his particular Views, testified his Readiness to treat. He well knew, that this would be the most proper Time to get himself acknowledged King by the *Turks*, who being upon the Brink of a War with two powerful *European* Nations, would not be in a Condition to refuse any Thing on the Side of *Persia*.

Negotiations of Peace between him and the *Turks*.

The *Turks* wished for nothing so much, as to be delivered from the *Persian* War. It is always the most expensive War they engage in, and the most fatal to their Troops, on Account of the Distempers they are liable to. *Kouli-Kan* nominated *Abdul-Backi-Kan*, one of his Favourites, to treat of a Peace in his Name with the *Ottoman* Ministers. The Contents of his Instructions are not known; nor have we any better Information with regard to the Person of this Plenipotentiary. All we know is, that he was an intimate Confident of *Kouli-Kan's*, and privy to his Design of making himself Master of the Throne. It was for this Reason that he proceeded very slowly in his Journey, not de-

Why his  
Ambassa-  
dor feigns  
himself  
sick.

firing to reach the *Turkish* Territories before he heard the Success of his Master's Enterprize.

As the News of this Affair did not arrive according to his Expectation, and the Ambassador was already near the Frontiers of the *Ottoman* Empire, he feigned himself sick, and proceeded no farther till the Scene was unravelled, which he knew was then playing at *Ispahan*. When he was ascertained of *Kouli-Kan's* Election to the Dignity of King of *Persia*, he imparted the News to the *Ottoman Porte*; informing that Court, at the same Time, that he could not appear there before the Grand Signior's Ambassador was arrived at *Ispahan*, and had acknowledged *Thamas Kouli-Kan*, on the Part of his Highness, for lawful King or *Schah* of *Persia*. This Incident gave great Uneasiness at the *Porte*: The Pride of the Sultan, on the one Hand, would not permit him to acknowledge the new King, and treat with him as an Equal; and the Terror of *Kouli-Kan*, on the other, made them extremely cautious not to affront him. Reasons of State at last prevailed, and it was agreed to acknowledge the new *Schah*. This Resolution was engrossed in a public Instrument, and sent to the *Schah Nadir's* Ambassador, who immediately communicated it to his Master, and received Orders back to continue his Journey to *Constantinople*. He was still to proceed however by very short Stages, and to stop at *Bolnisi* nine Days Journey from *Constantinople*, till he received new Orders, and till he had certain Advice that the *Turkish* Ambassador had acknowledged *Schah Nadir* for King of *Persia*, and brought the same Acknowledgment in his

Cre-



Credentials, under the Grand Signior's Hand.

The Seraskier *Achmet* Bassa was sent Ambassador from the *Porte*, on this Occasion, to the *Schah*. Here follows a Translation of the Full Powers granted him by the Sultan, a Copy of which was sent into *Holland* by their High-Mightinesses Ambassador.

*Most honoured and most illustrious Minister of the Affairs of our Empire, our most wise and most faithful Councillor, thrice happy Wali of Natolia, my Seraskier and Vizir in Asia, Achmet Bassa, whose Renown and Happiness we wish everlasting.*

The Grand Signior's Full Powers to his Ambassador.

“H A V I N G considered that the Differences between our sublime *Porte* and the Kingdom of *Persia* have caused the Desolation of divers Provinces, and the Ruin of many People in both Empires, the Bowels of our Compassion have been moved for the Misfortunes of so many innocent Persons, and have inclined us to renew the Union which ought to be between two People who profess the same Religion, and to change the Complaints of the Inhabitants whom War has laid Waste, into Benedictions for the Repose we would procure them, according to the Will of God, and the Wishes of our good Subjects.

We declare that as to the Agreement concerning Religion, and the Regulation of the Frontiers of the two Empires, proposed by the most serene *Schah* (who shines like a Star, and whose Enterprises may God prosper!) our Intention is that the Treaty made between *Persia* and our Predecessor *Amurath* IV.

should be the Basis of that which we would now conclude.

But as the most serene *Schah* has given us to understand, that he desires absolutely to put an End to the Differences of the Sects which divide the *Mahometan* Religion, promising to give the necessary Orders for that Purpose thorough the Extent of his Kingdom ; and as he has at the same Time intreated us to add some new Points in Form of Preliminaries to the Treaty of *Amurath IV.* as well for the Good of Religion, as the Interests of the two Courts, having already dispatched on his Part the illustrious *Abdul-Backi-Kan*, to come to our Court in Quality of his Plenipotentiary we have ordered this Instrument to be drawn up, in which we have caused to be inserted the three Preliminary Points which we are willing to consent to with regard to Religion.

## I.

We will that the *Persians* have free Liberty to make the Pilgrimage of *Mecca*, and visit the other holy Places which are in the Countries under our Dominion, without the least Hindrance or Damage from any one, on any Pretence whatsoever. We will that they freely pass and repass through the Province of our Empire, without paying any Tribute or Custom.

## II.

The *Schah*, on his Part, to terminate the religious Disputes in *Persia*, shall abolish the Sects of *Schienski* and *Syneiski*, and tolerate that of *Schawarmski*, which acknowledge the four Successors of *Mahomet*, *Abubecker* *Omar*, *Osman*, and *Ali* ; Nor shall he suffer any

any

any one to blaspheme the Names of those holy Persons.

## III.

As the *Schah* has banished the Sect of *Sunni*, which only troubled the Consciences of his People continually with Disputes, and moreover has acknowledged us the Successor of *Mahomet* in Religion, we acknowledge him also for the lawful *Schah* of *Persia*. And we at the same Time give to thee full Power to sign the Treaty in our Name with the Ambassador of the *Schah*, in the Place where you shall meet together: And after the Exchange of the Treaty, thou shalt send back to us the Vizir *Horam Kwaley*, with the *Persian* Ambassador and his noble Retinue, defraying all their Expences upon the Road to the Place of our Residence. When thou shalt have consented to the Articles of the Treaty, thou shalt forget nothing to re-establish a good Understanding between the two Courts, to the Exclusion of the *Russian* Infidels, whom all good *Mussulmans* ought to detest.

By so doing thou shalt merit the Applause and Acknowledgment of True Believers. Given at *Constantinople* the 8th of the Moon *Zilchidefi*, the Year 1148."

*I* Cafi Asker Muhamed do certify that this Copy is conformable to the Grand Sultan's Original.

In the mean time the *Persian* Ambassador, accompanied by the Bassa of *Erzerum*, and a Retinue of 200 Persons, arrived on the 6th of *August* at *Scutari*, near *Constantinople*, and took up his Lodging in the House of the

The *Persian* Ambassador conducted to an Audience in Ge-Pomp.



General of the Bombardiers, where an Apartment was prepared for him. The *Kiaya* of the *Kaimacan* \* came thither to compliment him in his Master's Name. On the 10th of *August*, the *Kaimacan* having resolved to give him Audience, the Ambassador went on Board a Galley with the Marine *Bassâ*. He was received into it under the Discharge of the Cannon. As he passed by *Leander's* Tower, he was saluted by five Pieces of Artillery there mounted. When he arrived over-against the *Seraglio*, he was complimented by a Discharge of the Cannon from all the Gallies there at Anchor. He landed at the Custom-House, where he found many of the Sultan's Officers ready to receive him, who made him a Present of 120 Horses magnificently caparisoned, out of his Highness's Stable, for himself and his Train. The Ambassador rested about an Hour at the Custom-House, and then proceeded in this Order. A Company of 100 *Janissaries*, in their Habits of Ceremony, went foremost. After them came the *Simen Bassâ*, between two *Tcherbadgi*, and sixty of the Sultan's *Chiaoust* †  
Twelve

\* The *Kaimacan* is Governor of *Constantinople* and performs the Office of Grand Vizir in the Minister's Absence. There is also a *Kaimacan* in the Army, who has the Rank of Lieutenant to the Grand Vizir.

† The *Chiaoust* are a Sort of subalter Judge whose Business is to terminate particular Differences between Man and Man. They follow the Grand Signior in the Field. Their Arms are Sabre, a Bow and Arrows, and a Staff like that of

Twelve of the Ambassador's *Chiaous*, with Turbans adorned with Ostriches' Feathers. His *Kiaya*; his Master of the Horse; his *Selictar*, with a naked Sabre on his Shoulder; Sixty-four Fusileers on Foot, marching in two Lines, with their Arms on their Shoulders; two Pages, with Maces; the *Chiaou Bechi*; two led Horses: The Ambassador alone on Horseback, dressed in a *Persian* Habit turned up with Sable; his *Iman*, and his Secretary, with the credential Letters in his Hand. The Procession was closed by 86 *Persians*, richly dressed.

The *Kaimacan* regaled the Ambassador with a Present of the most exquisite Perfumes. At his Return from the Audience, the same Order was observed as in going. The Wind being somewhat high, the Gallies could not possibly row up to *Scutari*; so that the Ambassador was obliged to go on board a Saick belonging to the *Bostanga-Bachi*, and mounted with twelve Pieces of Cannon, which carried him to *Scutari*, with the same Ceremony that had been shewn him in coming.

From that Day the *Persian* Ambassador received extraordinary Honours at *Constantinople*, equal to what *Kouli Kan* could have expected, had he been there in Person. The Peace was soon concluded: And indeed the Porte had great need of it, being at that Time attack'd by two of the most formidable Christian Powers. The Treaty was con-

Conclu-  
sion of  
the Trea-  
ty.  
Condi-  
tions on  
both Sides.

our Couriers. Their Superior is the *Chiaou Bassa*, who has the Charge of the State Prisoners. When the Sultan is determined to have the Head of any great Man, the *Chiaous* perform the Execution.

cluded

cluded and signed in the great Mosque of *Sophia*. By this Peace Things were re-established between the two Empires upon the antient Footing.

The *Turks* restored all that they had conquer'd from the *Persians*, from *Schan Abul* the Great exclusively, down to *Schah Thomas*; and the *Persians* gave up to the *Turks* whatever they had dismember'd from the antient Territories. The Sultan engaged to oblige those of his Subjects who had natural *Persians* among their Slaves, to set them at Liberty in the Space of two Months; as well as those whom they had bought, as those they had taken in War either by Land or Sea. His Highness's Edict on this Occasion farther declared, that it was expressly forbidden, under pain of corporal Punishment, for the Merchants who dealt in Slaves, to buy or sell for the future, any *Persian* of either Sex in the *Basars* or Markets; enjoining them to bring all such to the *Miry*, who should pay fifty *Piasters* per Head, of the Sultan's Money, to redeem and set them at Liberty, that they might retire wherever they thought proper.

The *Persian* Ambassador's Audience of Leave.

On the 22d of *October*, 1736, the *Persian* Ambassador had his Audience of Leave of the Grand Signior, who received him with great Marks of Distinction. He continued to pay Visits to the *Grande*s of the *Ottoman* Court till the 14th of *December*, when he set out from *Scutari* in his Way to *Persia*. He was escorted and maintained at the Sultan's Expence to the Frontiers of the Kingdom. Several *Turkish* Ecclesiasticks accompanied him home, who were to endeavour at a U



nion between the two Sects of *Omar* and *Ali*. He received all imaginable Honours upon the Road. At his Departure, the Sultan made him a Present of 30,000 Piasters in Money, which is about 50,000 *French* Crowns, and a Sabre richly set with Diamonds; besides delivering up to him 700 *Persian* Slaves, of both Sexes. All the Grandees imitated his Highness, and rivalled one another in their Presents to his Excellency.

Some Time after this Ambassador's Return into *Persia*, the Grand Signior called home his Plenipotentiary, and sent another Minister to *Schah Nadir*. But the *Persian* Monarch, thinking his Ambassador might have made a more advantageous Peace with the *Turks*, appeared to be dissatisfied with his Conduct, and testified his Resentment by refusing at first to ratify the Treaty. In all likelihood he would have chosen to renew the War, if he had not apprehended the Factions that were forming against him, of which he had certain Intelligence. In the mean Time the Ambassador he had sent to *Petersburgh*, a little before his Accession to the Crown, was received by the Empress of *Russia* with great Marks of Distinction: And when he had ascended the Throne, he dispatched an Express to this Ambassador, with a Letter to her Imperial Majesty. When his Excellency obtained an Audience of that Princess on this Occasion, he delivered himself in a Speech to this Effect.

The Peace he makes is not pleasing to his Master.

“ Most August Sovereign of all the *Russians*, equal to the Moon in Happiness and Power, who have Armies as innumerable as the Stars of Heaven, and who wear a Crown

The  
Speech of  
*Kouli*  
*Kan's* Am-  
bassador  
to the Em-  
press of  
*Russia*.

“ Crown as brilliant as the Sun, may the God  
“ of our Fathers ever bless your Govern-  
ment. My Lord and Master the Sultan of  
“ *Persia*, *Nadir-Ali-Begatyr Chan*, whose  
“ Throne may God establish, having resolv-  
“ ed to renew the antient Friendship be-  
“ tween your Court and that of *Persia*, and  
“ willing to give Proofs of his Affection to  
“ your Imperial Majesty, hath sent me, the  
“ Lord *Misir Ali-Bec*, a Native of *Daghestan*,  
“ with a Letter, in which my Master  
“ the *Schah* of *Persia* notifies to your Ma-  
“ jesty his Accession to the Throne of the  
“ *Persian* Monarchy. I beseech your Ma-  
“ jesty, as the most humble of her Slaves  
“ after having cast your Eyes on the said  
“ Letter, to give an Answer to it in Writing  
“ and order it to be remitted to his most hum-  
“ ble Slave, that he may communicate it to  
“ the *Schah* his Lord and Master.”

The Empress caused the following Answer  
to be given by Prince *Czerkaskoi*, Privy-  
Councillor.

The Em-  
press's  
Answer.

“ Her Imperial Majesty has heard with  
“ great Satisfaction of the Elevation of *Schah*  
“ *Nadir* to the August Throne of *Persia*,  
“ and heartily felicitates him upon his  
“ happy Success. She prays God long to  
“ preserve that Prince, for the Glory and  
“ Aggrandizement of the Kingdom of *Persia*.  
“ And as her Majesty entertains a great  
“ Esteem for the *Schah* your Master, on  
“ Account of the Valour and Prudence  
“ he has manifested in all his Actions, she  
“ is resolved to contribute all in her Power  
“ to establish him on his Throne, and for  
“ the Good of the Dominions of which he

“ is become Sovereign. Of this her Imperial Majesty will herself assure him, in the Answer she will return to his Letter with all Expedition.”

Some Days after the two *Persian* Ministers were admitted to another Audience, in which the *Daghestan* Lord, who delivered *Schah Nadir's* Letter, received the Empress's Answer. He then took Leave of her Imperial Majesty, and prepared for his Return into *Persia*. The 27<sup>th</sup> of *July* he went from *Petersburgh* to *Cronschlott*, and came back two Days after. A few Days more he employed to see the Rarities at *Petersburgh*; among others, whatever was most curious in the Academy of Sciences; the Mathematical and Philosophical Instruments, the Printing-house, the Library, the Anatomy-hall, the Physic-Garden, &c.

He took the Road of *Persia* in the Month of *December*. *Schah Nadir*, all this while, appeared every Day dissatisfied with the Peace his Minister had negotiated at *Constantinople*. He refused to ratify it, till the Beginning of an Insurrection among the *Aghwans* at *Candabar* obliged him to comply.

No sooner was it done, but the *Schah* A new Rebellion turned his Resentment towards that turbulent Nation, and marched against the City of *Candabar* with 50,000 Men. The Expedition was attended with some Inconveniences, in *Persia*.

*Cronschlott* or *Cronschloß* is a *Russian* Fort in *Cavelin*, built in the midst of the Sea, four Leagues from *Petersburgh*. The Czar *Peter the Great* raised it to cover his Conquests, and the *Russian* Fleet is usually laid up at this Place.



notwithstanding the Precautions he had taken that his Troops should want nothing. When he was within a few Leagues of the Place, he learned that 7 or 8000 Rebels were encamped under the Cannon of the Ramparts. He sent several Parties to observe their Disposition, which when he had learned, he marched and attacked them. The Rebels being well intrenched, defended themselves bravely ; but after a long and bloody Battle, the Fortune of *Schah Nadir* prevailed. The Intrenchments were forced, and the Rebels, pushed on every Side, took to their Heels. A great Part of them jumped into the Ditches that encompassed the City and were there drowned. The rest were either taken, killed, or got within the Walls.

*Kouli Kan*  
besieges  
*Candahar.*

After the Army had reposed a little, *Schah Nadir* opened the Trenches before *Candahar*. The Siege continued almost six Weeks, the *Aghwans* disputing every Foot of Ground. But at last, the *Persian* Artillery having made considerable Breach, they began to storm. The Rebels received them with great Courage till finding the Place must of Necessity be carried, they demanded Quarter. The *Schah* made them surrender at Discretion ; ordered some of the most mutinous to be impaled, disarmed the rest ; left a good Garrison to keep them in Subjection, and issued out such excellent Orders, that he had room to flatter himself they would never think of another revolt. The Noise of this Expedition spread such a Terror among the Malecontents, that they submitted more than ever to *Schah Nadir*.

He returned to *Ispahan* about the Middle of the Year 1738. Scarce was he arrived there, before he ordered his Minister, who had negociated the Peace at *Constantinople*, to be arrested, and with him the new Ambassador of the *Porte*. He had them both brought into his Presence, and commanded twenty Bastinades to be given his own Plenipotentiary, upon the Soles of his Feet. That being over, he asked the *Turkish* Ambassador what he had brought with him; who answering, that he was charged with a Letter from the Sultan, the *Schah* replied, that it was not worth while to come so far to bring a Letter; at the same Time falling on his own Minister, and beating him heartily. He then told the *Turk*, that for his Part, he had nothing to fear, being too old for a Bastinading: But he would have him to know, that he was extremely enraged with the *Ottoman* Court, for having taken Advantage of his Plenipotentiary's Stupidity, by concluding a Peace with *Persia*, of which they alone had the Advantage, notwithstanding they had been beaten. After this, he let him go out of his Presence, telling him, that he was at Liberty either to go or stay. Some Advices say since, that he afterwards had his own Ambassador beheaded.

*Kouli Kan's* Severity to his own Plenipotentiary, and Contempt of the *Turkish* Ambassador.

The *Ottoman* Court, informed of this Affair, did not think fit to resent it. Engaged in a burthensome War with the Christian Powers, she shut her Eyes at this Affront upon her Ambassador, and thought of nothing but appeasing the *Schah*. She accomplished it at last, by means of the Presents she made to those about his Person, who found

The *Ottoman* Court does not take the Affront.



the Secret so to divert their Master's Mind from this Object, that he forgot his Resentment, and applied to the establishing himself on the Throne, by securing those within the Kingdom, before he engaged in any more foreign Wars. He left the *Russians* to dispute the Field with the *Turks*, and was not displeased to see those two Powers so mutually engaged in weakening each other, resolving to fall afterwards upon which he thought proper; and if he has not hitherto put this Design in Execution, there wants no other Reason to account for it, than his Quarrel last Year with the Great Mogul. As the Occurrences of this War are not yet perfectly known, I will not undertake to relate them. Far from adopting what the Gazettes have with so little Foundation published; That *Schah Nadir* had deposed the Mogul, taken Possession of his Throne, and left the Regency of *Persia* to his eldest Son.

Particulars concerning the Person of *Kouli Kan*.

I will conclude this History with some Particulars concerning the Person of *Kouli Kan*, now *Schah Nadir*. He is about fifty five Years of Age; somewhat above a middle Stature; of a strong Constitution, and capable of the greatest Fatigues. He is fatter than the *Orientals* usually are; loves Wine and all Sorts of strong Liquors; is very much given to Women, but not to the Neglect of the Affairs of his Government, to which he passes from Scenes of Pleasure with admirable Facility. He is every Day seen in public, a Thing before unheard of in *Persia*, where the Kings seemed to reign for no other End, but to shut themselves up in their Palaces. He often rides thro' the Streets of *Ispahan* on Horseback.



back, and frequently stops to ask Questions of any one he meets. He reviews his Troops in Person, and makes them exercise in his Presence. He keeps them to admirable good Order and Discipline, which does not in the least lessen their Affection to him. His Family consists of two Sons and three Daughters; but he has many other Children by several Concubines. His eldest Son is about thirty Years of Age, and was not long ago Governor of *Mached*. The Age of the youngest is unknown; but it is certain that he is Governor of *Herat*, the Capital of a District in the Kingdom of *Chorasan*. *Schah Nadir's* second Wife is of the Family of the *Sophies*, some say the Sister of *Schah Thamas*. He has had by her two Sons and two Daughters. His Father is dead, but not till since he had the Satisfaction to see his Son Generalissimo of the *Persian* Armies. His Mother was living in *October*, 1736. He has two Brothers, one of them Governor of *Kirman*, and the other of *Tauris*. He has put his Troops on the *European* Footing, and allures into his Service Officers and Engineers of the *English*, *French*, *Italian*, and other Nations. His Liberality gains him the Affection of all Strangers. So little covetous is he, that he gave an Engineer a Gratuity of 100,000 Tomans, for having made some Brass Pontoons, the Use of which the *Schah* was before unacquainted with.

A certain Greatness of Soul has been remark'd in him, beyond what could be expected in a Usurper: For though he has sometimes acted a quite contrary Part for Reasons of State, it is nevertheless certain that he has at other

other Times shewn Tokens of Generosity. He has treated Prisoners of War with a great deal of Lenity: He has bestowed the Honours of Burial on the Dead; as in the Case of *Topal Osman Bassa*, and the Seraskier *Abdulla Cuprogli*, whose Bodies he had taken up in order to be interred according to their Dignity. He has those Ideas of Society which every reasonable Man ought to have; does not believe that a different Manner of Thinking in religious Matters ought to disunite Mankind, form'd as they are for Commerce and Conversation; he treats equally all the Christian Sects, *Lutheran*, *Calvinists*, *Papists*, and *Armenians*, provided they advance the Interest of Trade in his Dominions. When he took *Teflis*, the Capital of *Georgia*, the *Capuchin* Missionaries there established came to pay him their Compliments. He demanded whether they were *French* or *Germans*: To which having answered, that they were *French*, he told them he had a great deal of Friendship for their Nation, and a very high Esteem for the King of *France* of whose Power he said he had received good Information. He made them sit upon magnificent Carpets, treated them with great Politeness, and assured them, that the *French* Nation should always find in him a hearty Protector. The *Capuchins*, seeing him so well disposed, took this Opportunity to ask his Protection for the *French* Jesuits at *Scamachi*, and the Church they were there in Possession of. When the *Schah* heard the Name of *Scamachi*, he gave a Sort of malignant Smile, and told them, that the City they spoke of had merited his Indignation.



and he was resolved to raze it to the Gound, and exterminate the Inhabitants: That as for the Jesuits there established, he would do them no Hurt, but assign them another Place for their Habitation; that was not under the divine Malediction, as *Scamachi* was. The *Capuchins*, at taking Leave, presented the *Schah* with some Confections and Con-serves of their Preparation. He received them graciously, and gave them forty Ducats; telling them very politely, that he was sorry he could not, in a better Manner, return his Acknowledgments for the Regard they seemed to have for his Health; but that, unluckily, he had no more Money about him.

A little Time after his Elevation to the Throne of *Persia*, he was acknowledged for lawful *Schah* by the Grand Mogul.

In this Manner did *Kouli Kan*, a humble Shepherd, raise himself to the supreme Dignity of the most antient and most flourishing Kingdom in the World, where he yet reigns respected by his Neighbours, feared and esteemed by his Subjects, and adored by his Soldiers.

F I N I S.





THE  
HISTORY  
OF  
THAMAS KOULI KAN.

*Part the Second.*



WE have seen, in the first Part of this History, in what manner *Kouli Kan* delivered the Kingdom of *Persia* from the Enemies that had over-run it; how he afterwards placed himself upon the Throne of the *Sophis*, vanquished the *Turks* in several Engagements, and at last besieged and took *Candahar*, the Center of the Rebellion.

I was obliged to stop there, in order to wait till Time, and the Memoirs that I then  
B wanted,

wanted, might enable me to continue my Work. I had indeed heard of an Irruption made by this Conqueror into the Dominions of the *Great Mogul*; but as I had not good Information and Assurance of the Facts that were rumoured abroad, I did not think fit to extend my Narrative any farther, for fear of amusing the Publick with fictitious Stories.

I am now no longer in this State of Uncertainty. I have not only a faithful Relation of all that occurred in the Expedition which *Kouli-Kan* made into the *Mogul* Empire, but likewise several Letters of this Hero's writing, Copies of which the *Dutch* Merchants, inhabiting in *Persia*, received from *Gamber-Ali* the *Persian* Secretary of State. These Letters were first translated into *Low-Dutch*, and it is from that Language that I render them into *French*.

It must have been remarked from the several Particulars related in the preceding Part of our History, that *Schach-Nadir* is not only brave in his Person, but very crafty also and politic, having joined to the Force of his Arms a consummate Prudence.

*Kouli-Kan* Before him the *Persians* were ignorant of introduced the first Principles of Military Art, Order, and Discipline. *Kouli-Kan* has instructed them in these, and, what is yet more, has made them conform to his Regulations. These Barbarians had formerly no other Way of fighting than the *Tartars*; they set up loud Cries, and turned their Backs with as much Facility as they first fell on. They now make their Attack in Silence, and keep their Ground in an Action as well as the best Troops in *Europe*.

They  
/

They were also unacquainted with the modern Manner of building Places of Defence: A few Towers of a very indifferent Construction, a scurvy Trench, and a Rampart of small Extent, made all the Fortification of their garrison'd Towns. We now begin to see among them Bastions, half-Moons, and other regular Works, as in this Part of the World.

Their Artillery was still the worst in order of any thing amongst them, and they wanted good Cannoneers as well as good Engineers. *Kouli Kan* has an Artillery extreamly well supplied. He gives us an account of it himself, in a Letter that he wrote to the Governor of *Isfahan* upon the Taking of *Candahar*; (1) a Translation of which here follows,

*A Mandate (2) sent by Schach Nadir from Candahar to Hattembeck, Governor of Isfahan; a Copy whereof was sent to Bengal by the Officers of the India Company, and brought by two Couriers to the said Company, the 6th of May, 1738.*

**B**E it known to *Hattembeck* Governor of *Isfahan*, (after having assured him of our Royal Favour) that, by the Blessing of God, since the Day that this great Kingdom of *Persia* has fallen to our lot, every thing has succeeded according to our Wish, and that, by the Permission of the Most High, our Arm is become so powerful, that no Fortrefs has been able to

(1) Vid. *part I. p. 158.* where the Siege of this Place is spoken of.

(2) This is the Meaning of the *Persian* Word *Regam*.



withstand it : Mountains have seemed as Chaff, ( 2 ) and the Sea as a Valley before our Royal Countenance ; and it is by us that these things are done.

The Inhabitants of *Candahar* having revolted against us, and obliged us to march against them, before we laid Siege to their City, we put them in mind of the Passages in the *Koran* against Rebel Subjects, and exhorted them to desist from their pernicious Revolt, turn aside from their evil Ways, and enter again into their Duty of Allegiance. Notwithstanding this, they continued in their abominable Obstinacy, and would not renounce their criminal Enterprize, confiding without doubt in the Strength of their Bulwarks. Their Leaders, like a Flock of black Ravens, lifted up their hideous Voices, and rejected our Counsels and Exhortations with Contempt and Mockery. For this reason, seeing that neither the Commandments of God, nor our Counsels and Exhortations had any effect, and that this obstinate People took pleasure in their evil designs, and grew more and more pertinacious, I have at last suffered my Wrath to break forth against them. Resolved as I was to become Master of their Fortrefs, I ordered my Troops to advance, and commanded them to attack the Quarter called *Sangee*, and the Redoubt which stands upon the Eminence on the side called *Deda*.

My Soldiers having happily got possession of the said Quarter of *Sangee*, I planted my Mortars thereupon, and threw Bombs into the City incessantly, the one following the other as close as Thunder follows Lightning.

This

This continued till the third of the Month *Sjebejed Tulharoem*, (3) when I ordered my Army to attack the Fortress by Storm, and to bring up my Artillery, which continued playing without intermission upon the Redoubt on the side of *Deda*, of which I could not as yet make myself Master. While my Field-pieces thundered upon it, I commanded the *Bagtians*, who serve in my Army, to prepare for giving the Assault on that side: Which they executed with so much Courage and Intrepidity, that they got possession of it, in spite of all the Efforts of the Rebels. And as the News of this happy Success cannot but give great Joy and Satisfaction to all the well-affected in our Kingdom, who have waited for it with Impatience, I have dispatched *Mahmet Alibeck*, Standard-Bearer of this Army, which is like Paradise, (4) to bring the said joyful Tidings.

You are not ignorant that it is an ancient Custom in all the Cities and Provinces of *Persia*, upon the Reception of any good Piece of Intelligence, to pay the Contribution called the Courier's Fee: But considering that our faithful Subjects have not been deficient for three Years past in assisting us with all their Power, and furnishing the extraordinary Expences which we have been obliged to be at, I remit to them the aforesaid Contribution; and willing that all Persons, of every Degree, be informed of this joyful News, by the public read-

(3) Answering to the 12th of our Month of *March*.

(4) *Mafalis*.



ing of this our Mandate, we order the City Chamber to pay only 12 Tomans (1) of our own Money to the Bearer of it, and present him with the Habit of Honour, without taxing any private Person a Farthing towards the Expence of all this.

The present Letter shall be immediately sent to *Avisa, Congiloen*, and all the other Cities round about *Ispahan*, that the Inhabitants of the respective Countries may partake early of the agreeable Tidings, and have so much the more Cause to increase their Hopes. This Royal Mandate must be received with Esteem and Veneration. Given in our Camp before *Candahar* the 4th of the Month *Sjebejed Tulharoem*, in the Year 1150. (2) ”

Underneath was the following Order.

“ Whereas Bonfires and Illuminations may run our poor Subjects into burthensome Expences, we order that none be made ; and will only that the Trumpets be sounded, and the Drums beat to the Royal March, and the other customary Flourishes. ”

*Kouli Kan* After that *Kouli Kan* had every where reduced the *Aghwans* to Obedience, and put it out of their Power to do any farther Mischief, he resolved to take revenge on the *Great Mogul*, who had underhand fed the Flame of Rebellion in *Persia*. It is an ill Sort of Policy, too common among Princes, to excite Insurrections against such of their Neighbours

*Kouli Kan*  
resolves on  
a War  
against the  
Great Mo-  
gul.

( 1 ) About One Pound Sixteen Shillings.

( 2 ) March 13th 1738.