IMPERIAL RECORD DEPARTMENT.

CALENDAR

OF

Persian Correspondence

Being Letters, referring mainly to Affairs in Bengal, which passed between some of the Company's Servants and Indian Rulers and Notables.

VOL. I. 1759-1767.

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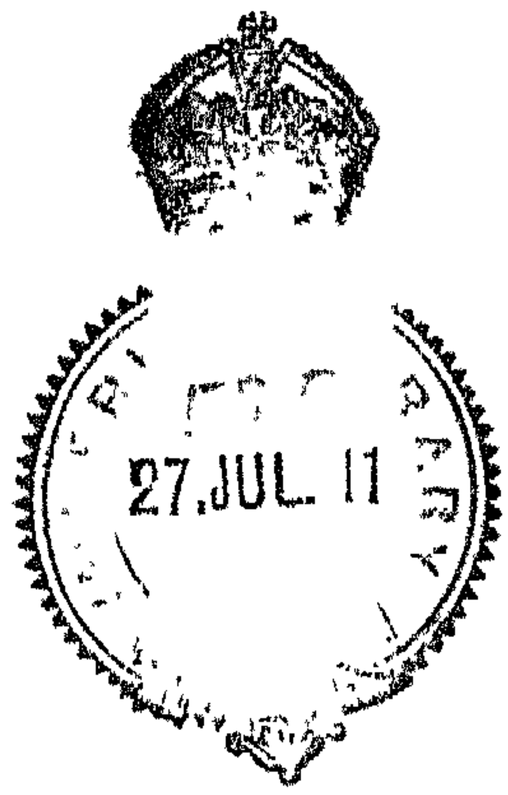

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PREFACE.

WHEN in 1891, the Imperial Record Department of the Government of India was first formed under the supervision of Mr. G. W. Forrest, among the Records received from the Foreign Department was a large collection of Persian papers, which included Firmans, Sanads, Treaties, Newspapers and finally the records of the Persian letters issued and received.[1] This correspondence was preserved and recorded in the following manner.

Of *Issues*, copies, translations, abstracts, and later, drafts; and of *Receipts*, originals, copies, translations and abstracts were kept. These various collections were by no means complete when they were taken over by the Imperial Record Department, and for the earlier period the Persian versions, whether in original or in copy, are altogether wanting. It thus comes about that the present volume, in spite of its title, is based almost entirely on documents written in the English language. It will be further noticed that for the first 870 numbers we have had nothing beyond the Abstracts to go upon.

When the late Dr. Wilson took over charge of the Imperial Record Department, he recognised the desirability of treating the Persian Records as a separate whole, and took steps to have them arranged and classified, with the result that when, in 1906, I became Officer in charge I found that so much progress had been made that it was possible to form a clear estimate of the scope and importance of these Records, and make definite proposals for dealing with them.

Up to the year 1906 only two munshis, on small pay, had been employed to bring order among the vast mass of Persian documents.

I therefore obtained the sanction of Government to create a special Persian Section within the Department, which in pay and status should

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[1] A List of Persian Records preserved in the Imperial Record Department was printed in 1909.

be quite distinct from the rest of the establishment. Four Maulavis, each well versed in Persian and enthusiasts for historical research, were appointed, and thus came into being the Oriental Section of the Imperial Record Department—a little group of specialists forming a distinct and complete compartment in itself. To the head of this newly created Section, Maulavi Zarif Muhammad, a distinguished graduate of Aligarh, has fallen the task of preparing the present calendar of Persian letters.

Although as I have said we have no Persian originals to go upon for the period covered by this volume, Maulavi Zarif's knowledge of the Persian language and the Munshi style has stood him in good stead in dealing with these abstracts and letters.

The other three Maulavis have been variously engaged on the press-listing of original letters, etc., in calendaring letters of which we possess the Persian originals, and in arranging and sorting the documents in general, and supervising the flattening of documents and the repairing and binding of volumes and bundles which have suffered from the ravages of the climate and of insects.

The earliest documents in Persian date from 1766 and these are copies; the earliest originals date from 1778. These are already being calendared by Maulavi Amjad Husain, a direct descendant of one of the Munshis of Warren Hastings' time, who possesses a very rare gift for deciphering almost illegible documents.

Some of the letters now calendared have already appeared in Long's "Selections from the Unpublished Records of Government, 1748-1767", many are included in Vansittart's "Narrative of the Transactions in Bengal from the year 1760 to the year 1764" (published in 1766), and in the Reports of the Select Committee appointed in 1772 to enquire into the affairs of the East India Company. Mr. Talboys Wheeler also drew upon them for his "Early Records of British India." This by no means exhausts the list of those who have found them useful, at the same time the correspondence has never before been treated as a connected whole.

A few words are perhaps required on the method of transcription employed in this volume; for objection may be raised that in a publication intended rather for students of history than for students of Persian, a scientific system of transliteration was not required. In reply I would say that the first object I had in view in transcribing Indian proper names was consistency: that is that every name occurring in the work should be spelled in one way only. My second object was to adopt such a mode of transcription that no doubt could remain in the minds of scholars as to the way in which names were written in the original.

The first object might have been attained, had even the most misleading system been employed—such for example as we find in the English version of the *Seir Mutaqherin*, which has been copied by so many later historians. But nothing short of a scientific transcription could secure my second object.

The system here adopted requires no explanation. I must mention however that in regard to certain Hindu names such as Dūlab and Nob Kishn I have transcribed the more familiar Persian corruptions and not attempted to reproduce the original forms.

In conclusion I have to thank Mr. Claughton for the untiring care and patient labour he has given to the preparation of this calendar, for it is on his shoulders mainly that has fallen the task of revising Mr. Zarif's work and of reading the final proofs.

E. DENISON ROSS.

CALCUTTA:
January 1911.

INTRODUCTION.

N.B.—The figures within brackets refer to the serial numbers of the letters in the Calendar.

The following summary is intended to indicate briefly some of the more important subjects dealt with in this volume and to facilitate reference to the course of events which lead up to or arose out of the various political and administrative crises of the period:—

1759. *Invasion of Behar by the Shāhzādah (Shāh 'Ālam)*:—The Shāhzādah near Lucknow. Shuja'u-d-daulah presents him with elephants (1). Negotiations proceeding between the Shāhzādah and Shuja'u-d-daulah (3). Rājā Rām Narāyan, *Nāib* of Behar, summoned by the Shāhzādah (19). The Governor (Clive) writes to Rām Narāyan to oppose the Shāhzādah (20). The Company's army to take the field on the 12th February (22). Clive intends to proceed to Murshidabad with a strong force (23). Every intelligence confirms the Shāhzādah's approach (25). Mīr Ja'far exhorted by Clive not to give the Shāhzādah any money (26). Muḥammad Qulī Khān takes up the cause of the Shāhzādah (28) and is visited by the latter and Mons. Law at Benares (30). Rām Narayan takes the field (32). The Shāhzādah intimates that he intends to visit Bengal and Behar (38). Mīr Ja'far denies having given any money to the Shāhzādah (45). Sends Muḥammad Raḥīm Khān and Qāsim 'Alī Khān to Patna (49). Is informed of the offers made to Clive by the Shāhzādah (50). Rām Narāyan repeatedly asks for assistance (55-57). Balwant Singh, Rājā of Benares, assists the Shāhzādah with *2 lākhs* of rupees (58). The Governor unable to pay any attention to the Shāhzādah as he has received no intimation of his visit either from the Emperor or the Wazīr (69). Mīr Ja'far promises to advance one *lākh* of rupees (76). Intelligence regarding an agreement between Balwant Singh and the Shāhzādah (84). The Shāhzādah rejects

1759. Mons. Law's application, dismisses his *wakīls* (94), and arrives at the bank of the Karamnassa (95). Frenchmen in the Shāhzādah's service (100). Rām Narayan upbraided for cowardice and disloyalty in not opposing the Shāhzādah (104). Ram Narayan's troops disheartened (112). A meeting between Rām Narāyan, the Shāhzādah and Madaru-d-daulah (119). Mīr Ja'far directed by the King and the Wazīr to secure the Shāhzādah (123). Muḥammad Qulī Khān told to withdraw from Behar (135). The Shāhzādah loses 500 men (142) and marches to Ja'far Khān's garden (146). Rām Narāyan told to defend Patna to the last (157). Mīr Ja'far sends 2 *lākhs* of rupees to his son Mīran for the use of his army (163). Clive congratulates Rām Narayan on his success (170). Rām Narāyan recommends the speedy junction of the Company's troops with his own (174). A thousand of the Shāhzādah's horse approach Patna (190). The French having arrived at Sasaram (193), Clive sends a reinforcement to Patna (198). The Shāhzādah defeated again (200). Retreats to Naubatpur (202), and is dismissed from the Nāibship of Patna (205). The Wazīr asks the Governor to seize the Shāhzādah and send him back to His Majesty (225). The Governor at Ja'far Khān's garden (227). The Shāhzādah moves from Daudnagar to Ghatauli (239). The Governor at Patna (251). The Shāhzādah, crossing the Soan, dismisses the French (257).

1760. *Deposition of Mir Ja'far and appointment of Mir Qāsim to the Niẓāmat* :—Vansittart appointed Governor of Bengal (276). Wishes to see Mīr Qāsim in Calcutta with Colonel Saif Jang (Coote) (296). Mīr Ja'far anxious to see the Governor at Murshidabad (306). Mr. Holwell, Mr. Hastings and others give a good character of Mīr Qāsim (307). Mīr Qāsim intends to come to Calcutta (339). The Governor expresses pleasure at Mīr Qāsim's intended visit to Calcutta (346 & 347). Mīr Ja'far hopes his affairs will be finally adjusted on Mīr Qāsim's reaching Calcutta (380). Mīr Qāsim anxious to see the Governor (382). Mīr Ja'far asked to make over the Faujdārship of Sylhet to the Company (386). The Governor anxious to see Mīr Qāsim (388). Mīr Ja'far directs Mīr Qāsim to put off his intended visit to Calcutta for some days (390). The Governor asks Ghulām Ḥusain Khan (author of the *Siyaru-l-mutaakhkhirīn*) to assist Mr. Sykes in his negotiations with the Nawāb (394). The Governor desires Mīr Qāsim to come to Calcutta as soon as possible (395). The Governor writes to Mīr Qāsim that all points will be adjusted when they meet (415). Mīr Qāsim sends Khwājah Gregory to Calcutta on

1760. deputation (419). Sets out for Calcutta (421). Is anxious to arrive at Calcutta soon (422). Arrives at Hooghly (423). Mr. Summer and others go to meet him (426). Mīr Qasim wishes to know when he is to see the Governor, requiring that no one may be present at the time (440). The Governor sees Mīr Qāsim on the 15th Sept. (443) and commends his conduct (453). Mīr Ja'far refuses to deliver Islamabad and Sylhet to the Company (456). Wants Mīr Qāsim and Colonel Coote to be sent to Patna (462). Pleased at the reception given to Mir Qāsim by the Governor. Intends to bestow a sardārship on the former (477). The Governor intends to reinforce the army with artillery and three or four hundred men (485). Intends to visit Murshidabad (487). Mīr Qāsim arrives at Hooghly from Calcutta (511). Mīr Ja'far requests the immediate presence of the Governor at Murshidabad (515). Mīr Qāsim glad to hear of the Governor's coming to Murshidabad (527). The Governor arrives at Chinsurah (528). Arrives at Nuddea (530). Mīr Qāsim sends presents to the Governor (538). Mīr Ja'far deposed (556). The Governor back in Calcutta. Thanks Mīr Qāsim for his civilities (563). Burdwan, Midnapur, and Chittagong made over to the Company by Mīr Qāsim (567). Asad Zamān Khān, Rājā of Birbhum, finds fault with Mīr Ja'far being deposed (597). Mīr Qāsim sends Rs. 50,000 in part payment of the three *lakhs* required (685). In his opinion Rs. 2,000 a month sufficient for Mīr Ja'far's expenses (691). Mīr Ja'far relinquishes the Ṣūbahdārship, intending to go to Karbala (717). Mīr Qāsim intends to sell his jewels to discharge his debt to the Company (726). Sends 3 *lakhs* for the sepoys (727). Mīr Qāsim anxious to obtain the *sanad* of the Ṣūbahdārship from the King (728).

1761. *Second invasion of Behar by Shāh 'Ālam, and the Wazir's appearance on the scene*:—The Shāhzādah wishes to cause a breach between the Company and Mīr Qāsim (803). The Company's troops close to the Shāhzādah (805). The French under Mons. Law defeated (824). Major Carnac defeats Kāmgār Khān (825) and the Shāhzādah (826) on the banks of the river Siwan (904) The Shāhzādah takes to flight (829). Mons. Law captured (841). Mīr Qāsim intends to proceed to Patna to arrange matters there finally (849). The Governor advises him of particular measures to be employed against the Shāhzādah (850). The latter sends Fakhru-l-lāh Khān to Major Carnac to negotiate peace (900), and to ask for the co-operation of the English in recovering the country of his forefathers (904). Fāẓil 'Alī Khān

1761. *Faujdār* of Ghazipur, and Balwant Singh, Rājā of Benares, asked by the Governor to assist Major Carnac against the Shāhzādah (915). The Shāhzādah visits the Major at Gya ; has intentions of proceeding to Delhi with the assistance of Mīr Qāsim and the English (941). Sues for an allowance (942) and is advised to accept the protection of the English (949). Mīr Qāsim thinks that peace should not be concluded with the Shāhzādah until the question of succession is adjusted (967). The Shāhzādah allowed Rs. 1,000 daily (968) and conducted by Major Carnac to Patna (982). The Governor informs Shāh Abdālī of his readiness to accompany the Shāhzādah to Delhi (981). In the Governor's opinion the *khuṭbah* should not be read and the *sikkahs* should not be coined in the King's name without informing Shāh Abdālī and the *amirs* of Delhi (991). Mir Qāsim visits the King (1026). Is prepared to give His Majesty 4 *lākhs* of rupees for a *sanad* (1061). The Governor recommends the King's allowance to be raised to Rs. 1,800 daily (1078). His Majesty accepts Mīr Qāsims's invitation to the entertainment of the *Nauroz* (1083). Agreement between the King and the Nawab concluded (1086). His Majesty intends to proceed to Delhi (1089). In the Governor's opinion, the King should remain at Patna until a firm agreement is made with Shujā'u-d-daulah and the other great *amirs* of Delhi (1095). The King given 2 *lākhs* of rupees for his travelling expenses (1101). His Majesty reported to have marched to Bachypur *en route* for Delhi (1121). Shujā'u-d-daulah intends to visit him at Patna (1147 & 1158). His Majesty postpones his departure from Patna until Colonel Coote's arrival there (1168). The Wazīr advises the Governor to accompany the King to Delhi himself or to send an experienced officer there (1175). Mīr Qāsim alarmed at the Wazīr's coming towards Behar (1181). The Governor asks the Wazīr not to enter Behar, as a great disturbance will ensue if he does so (1186 & 1193). The King sets out on his return journey. The Wazīr halts at Saidabad (1208). His Majesty desires that Major Carnac may accompany him to Delhi (1221). Mīr Qāsim directs the *khuṭbah* to be read and the *sikkahs* to be coined in the King's name (1235). Prepares to oppose Shujā'u-d-daulah (1306). The King confers a title on the Governor (1316). Mīr Qasim fears that Shujā'u-d-daulah will do his utmost to cause a breach between the Governor and him (1361). The King on the advice of Shujā'u-d-daulah is not inclined to proceed towards Delhi but intends to return (1394). The King and the Wazīr proceeding towards Delhi (1418). They cross the Jumna (1425 & 1435).

1761. *Alleged attempt of the English Commanders to acquire the Diwāni of Bengal*:—Colonel Coote refuses to ask the King for the *sanad* on behalf of Mīr Qāsim (1218). The Nawāb complains of the rude manner in which Mr. Watts and Colonel Coote entered his tent (1234). The Governor hopes His Majesty will comply with the requests he may make for the Company or himself (1238). Colonel Coote and Mr. Watts recalled to Calcutta (1247). Mīr Qāsim complains of Major Carnac's intending to lower him in the estimation of the King (1257). The Major recalled to Calcutta (1265). Mīr Qāsim complains of the English Commanders preventing him from getting a *sanad* for the *sūbahs*. The Governor anxious to know everything about Colonel Coote's conduct (1265). Mīr Qasim intercepts Shitāb Rāy's letters to the King, Mumtāzu-d-daulah and Bālkishn on the subject of the *Diwāni* of Bengal. Shitab Rāy sent for to Calcutta to explain those letters (1338, 1338A, 1338B, & 1338C). A opy of Shitab Ray's explanation of the letters sent to Mīr Qāsim (1340). The Nawāb also intercepts Major Carnac's letters to the King and Mumtāzu-d-daulah, and is asked to apologise (1339). Colonel Coote, Major Carnac, and Mr. Lushington declare that they did not apply for the *sanad*, but that the King himself wanted o grant the *Diwāni* to the Company (1291). The Governor assures Mīr Qāsim that he will never deviate from the treaty (1292).

1761-62. *The Marhattas*:—Sheo Bhaṭ, Mukand Pandit, and Ragmānjī Jāchak directed not to molest the Company's forces (838). A force sent against Sheo Bhaṭ (851). Rājā Rāj Narāyan asked to assist the Company's troops going into Midnapur (852). The Marhattas attack Mr. Johnstone at Midnapur (884). The Company's troops arrive at Midnapur. Sheo Bhaṭ runs away without fighting to Cuttack (900 & 908). Another force under Captain Knox sent to prevent the Marhattas from coming towards Murshidabad (923). Rājā Rā, Narāyan, Rājā Anand Lāl, and Mahāba Quli Khān asked to assist Captain Knox with provisions (932, 946, & 952). Sheo Bhaṭ asked to release Khush-hāl Chand and not to intercept letters (957 & 973A). Pataspur is plundered by the Company's troops (1001). Mīr Qāsim thinks it unjust that the Marhattas should receive the whole revenue of Cuttack (1006). Khush-hāl Chand released. Sheo Bhaṭ told that Midnapur belongs to the English (1024). Ragmānjī Jāchak commends Sheo Bhaṭ's conduct (1034). Sheo Bhaṭ told that if the removal of troops from Midnapur is so persistently urged, a breach in friendship will

1761-62. ensue (1044). Sheo Bhaṭ claims the *chauth* of Midnapur. Th Governor disallows the claim (1082). Sheo Bhaṭ threatens to invad Bengal (1099). Jānūjī's letter about the *chauth* replied to. She Bhat no longer Chief of Cuttack (1109, 1110, 1122, & 1134). Mi Qasim intends to discharge Jānūjī's agent (1115). Mr. Bristow ap pointed to settle the dispute with Sheo Bhaṭ (1142). The latte again threatens to invade Bengal (1169). Is told that he an Ragmānji Jāchak have no right to demand the *chauth* (1189 & 1191) Mir Qāsim hears of the Marhattas having arrived in Burdwan (119 & 1195). Sheo Bhaṭ renews his demand for the *chauth* (1246) Muslihu-d-dīn, Jānūjī's agent, comes to Bengal to demand the *chauth* (1254). Diā Rām and Ḥusain Bēg come to Calcutta on the part o Sheo Bhat (1350 & 1351). The Governor prepares to check the advance of the Marhattas into Bengal (1359). Turāb 'Alī Khan and Muhammad Taqī Khān directed to oppose Sheo Bhaṭ (1384). The Governor proposes the dispatch of an expedition to Cuttack (1394 & 1395) and urges the necessity of the measure (1418 & 1425). Sheo Bhat renews his demand for the *chauth* (1445). Mir Qāsim shows the necessity of humbling the Marhattas (1446). Sheo Bhaṭ claims the money collected at Pataspur and demands 3 *lākhs* from the Rajā of Burdwan (1447, 1464, & 1534). Mīr Qāsim advised regarding the payment of the *chauth* (1452A & 1470). The Nawāb indifferent about the expedition to Cuttack. The Governor's views on the subject (1463). The sending of the expedition postponed (1465). The expenses of the expedition discussed (1482). Mīr Qāsim approves the countermanding of the dispatch of the expedition (1509). Janūjī renews his demand for the *chauth* (1536) and sends Rāy Govind to Bengal (1561 & 1564).

1762. *The Monghyr fort incident*:—Mr. Ellis sends a Company of sepoys to Monghyr fort to search for some European refugees. Shujān Singh, the *Qal'ahdar*, refuses to let them enter the fort (1472). Mīr Qāsim angry with Mr. Ellis (1456). The Governor informs the Nawāb of Mr. Ellis's version of the incident (1469) and requests him to allow a sergeant to search the fort (1472). Mr. Ellis says that he sent sepoys to the fort with Rājā Rājballabh's permission (1479 & 1506). The Governor condemns Mīr Qāsim's attitude in the matter (1480) and proposes that two sergeants and some *tilangās* may be permitted to search the fort (1482). Mīr Qāsim thinks that the fact of the *tilangās* being sent to search the fort will disgrace him (1485). Mr. Hastings and Major Ironside directed to visit Monghyr fort.

1762. (1506). Mīr Qāsim determined not to allow Mr. Ellis to search the fort (1509), but has no objection to Mr. Hastings and Major Irousid doing so (1520). Mr. Hastings does not find any Europeans in the fort. Mīr Qāsim is triumphant (1539), and desires an investigation to be made into the affair (1574).

Dispute between Mir Qāsim and the Company about the inland trade of the country:—Mīr Dāwar Bakhsh stop the Company's boats. The Governor protests (1419). Jasāra Khān, *Nāib* of Dacca, refuses to coin the Company's money (1433 & 1434). Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly, stops a boat notwithstanding the *dastak* (1440). Harī Narayan hinders the *pattan* business and stops the Company's boats (1441) Mīr Qāsim directs Jasārat Khān to coin the Company's money (1443) and orders all the *faujdārs* to assist the Company's trade (1452A). The Governor asks for a *parwānah* granting the Company the right of manufacturing saltpetre in the Purnea province (1453). Khwājah Antone disregards the Company's *dastak* and seizes 5 maunds of the Company's saltpetre. Mr. Ellis directed in the case of any of the Nawāb's people injuring the Company's business to send them to His Excellency's court (1454). Mīr Qāsim invites the Governor, Colonel Coote, and Mr. Hastings to Rajmahal (1471). Mīr Shēr 'Alī asked to report whenever the Company's *gumāshtahs* act by force (1488). Mir Qasim complains of the Company's *gumashtahs* having built new houses at Dinajpur (1504) and erected several *golās* and *ganjs* (1521). Orders issued for the chastisement of the Company's *gumashtahs* (1530). All Englishmen prohibited from renting *golās* and *ganjs*, accepting any post under the Nawāb's Government, erecting colours, or stationing *chaukis* (1537). Jacob Galayger, a merchant of Calcutta, flogged by the Nawāb's people (1547). The Nawāb desires to remain at Monghyr (1551). Mr. Chevalier oppresses the people of Dacca (1585). The Company's people impede the public business at Purnea (1586). Mīr Qāsim desires to know the names of the people whose *dastaks* are to be considered valid (1590), and asks for orders prohibiting the gentlemen of the factories from lending to or borrowing from his *mutasaddis* (1599). List of the gentlemen authorised to issue *dastaks* (1601). The Company's people impede the collection of the revenue in the Dacca province (1612). Muhammad 'Alī Bēg complains of the irregularities of the Lakhipur gentlemen (1613). Shaikh Haibatu-l-āh, *Faujdār* of Katwa, detains the Company's boats (1617, 1618, &

1762. 1620), and is ordered to release them (1610 & 1616). The *'Āmil* of Jahanabad obstructs the weavers (1623). The Nawāb's officers stop the chunam boats (1624). The Governor desires Mīr Gumānī, *Dārogḥah* of Jafarganj, to be sent to Calcutta (1634). Muḥammad 'Alī Bēg warned not to stop the Company's boats (1636 & 1638). Mr. Batson and Mr. Motte lend money to the Zamīndārs of Dinajpur (1641). In the Governor's opinion the Company's people are justified in lending money to the merchants and *paikārs* (1643). The Nawāb and the Governor come to an agreement regarding the various points at issue (1646, 1647, 1648, & 1650).

1763. *Renewal of the dispute between Mīr Qasim and the Company*:— The Governor complains of the acts of violence of several of Mīr Qāsim's officers and objects to the duty on cloth (1653 & 1654). The Company's *gumāshtahs* at Bosdhum complain of Mīr Qāsim's officers (1655). Mīr Qāsim complains of Mr. Ellis and directs Rājā Naubat Rāy to prevent boats going to and coming from Colonelganj (1657). The Governor sends sepoys to Bosdhum to look after the Company's business (1659). Mīr Qāsim declares that if the English do not abide by the agreement, he will drive them away. The Governor warns him (1660). The Governor writes to Mīr Qāsim on the subject of Colonelganj and the *nagrānah* on saltpetre and advises him not to act rashly in the matter (1663). Shaikh Quṭb 'Ālam stops some boats belonging to Messrs. Lushington and Amphlett (1665). The Nawāb's officers proclaim that the English must not be allowed to remain in the country. The Governor declares the agreement null and void and proposes that a new one should be drawn up (1669). Muḥammad 'Alī Bēg's complaint against the Chief of Lakhipur inquired into (1671). The Governor desires the Nawāb to punish Muḥammad 'Alī Bēg (1672), and directs the Nawāb's officers to let the Company's business go on as formerly (1673). Mīr Qāsim objects to the Governor having sent *tilangas* into the country (1676). In Mir Qāsim's opinion his officers are not to blame since they are unable to know whether any particular goods belong to the Company or the gentlemen or the English *gumāshtahs* (1677). Mīr Qāsim is amazed that not a single gentleman has approved of the agreement concluded between the Governor and himself. Understands that a number of the gentlemen intend to set up another *Nazim* (1679 & 1679A). The Governor objects to the Berhanna wicket of Patna fort being shut (1681). Rājā Naubat Rāy stops some boats laden with grain and going to Colonelganj. Mr. Ellis is

1763. directed to release them (1682). The gentlemen of the Council meet to prepare a new agreement. The Governor assures the Nawāb that they do not want to set up another *Nāzim* (1683). The Governor again desires the Nawāb to punish Muhammad ʿAlī Beg (1685). The latter complains that Mr. Johnstone's people have not paid the duties on salt (1686). Mīr Qāsim angry at the tone of Mr. Ellis's letter to Rājā Naubat Rāy (1687). Declares that if the English cannot pay 9 per cent. on salt, they can relinquish the trade (1688). Sayyid Jalāl Bukhārī stops some boats laden with salt (1689). Mīr Qāsim stops the collection of duties and removes all *ghāts* and *chauks* (1695). Does not lay much store by the new agreement, and wants to be relieved of his duties (1696). The Governor sends sepoys to seize Sayyid Jalāl Bukhārī (1697). Mīr Qasim proposes three amendments to the old agreement (1699). Complains of the Chief of Lakhipur (1700). The Governor complains of the Nawāb's officers (1701). The Company are willing to pay 2½ per cent. on articles for inland trade. Messrs. Amyatt and Hay deputed to negotiate a new treaty with the Nawāb (1702). Shaikh Quṭb Ālam complains of the violences of the Company's people and asks the Governor to order the release of Shaikh Haibatu-l-lāh (1703). The Governor tells Mīr Qāsim that if he refuses to prohibit his officers from interfering in the Company's business, it will be the immediate cause of a rupture (1705). Mīr Qāsim forbids the collection of duties and removes Muḥammad Alī Bēg from Dacca (1706). Refers to the gentlemen of the Council in insulting terms and complains of Mr. Ellis (1707). Is willing to relinquish the *Nigāmat*. Objects strongly to the Governor sending sepoys to seize his officers (1708). The Governor recommends Mr. Amyatt to the Nawāb and advises him to adopt a conciliatory attitude (1709). The Governor tells Shaikh Quṭb ʿĀlam that he will not send sepoys if the Company's business is allowed to go on as formerly (1712). Mīr Raushan Alī and others deny having obstructed the Company's business (1713, 1714, & 1715). The Governor defends Mr. Ellis and desires the immediate dismissal of Muḥammad Alī Bēg (1716). Mīr Qāsim stops the collection of duties and sends the Governor the agreement concluded between them (1718). Believes that the English want to depose him (1719). The Governor asks for an explanation from the Nawāb for referring to the gentlemen of the Council in unbecoming terms (1720). Mīr Qāsim told that his refusal to receive Messrs. Amyatt and Hay will be regarded as a declaration of war on his side (1721). The Governor insists upon Muḥammad Alī Bēg being punished (1722). Mīr

1763. Qāsim promises to punish him if guilty (1723). Says that he is justified in his manner of referring to the gentlemen of the Council (1724). The Nawab's people said to have removed the Company's *dāk chauki* at Dacca (1725). Mr. Ellis sends sepoys to Tirhut and Tikari (1726). Mīr Qāsim has no objection to receiving Messrs. Amyatt and Hay provided they are accompanied by only one or two companies of sepoys (1730). Mīr Qāsīm sends a representation to the Court of Directors (1736). Objects strongly to his officers being seized (1737). Asks Messrs. Amyatt and Hay to send back the troops proceeding towards Monghyr (1738 & 1739). Mr. Amyatt denies that any troops are coming. Mr. Amphlett is appointed Resident at the Nawāb's Court (1740). Mir Qāsim has no objection to receiving Mr. Amyatt if the troops are recalled (1741). The Governor and Mr. Amyatt assure the Nawāb that no troops are proceeding towards Monghyr (1742 & 1743). Muhammad Taqī Khān seizes the Sēṭhs. The Governor requests the Nawāb to release them (1745 & 1747). The Sēṭhs are sent to Monghyr (1750). The Company's *dāk chauki* at Dacca not removed (1751). Mr. Amyatt requests the release of the Sēṭhs (1752). The English seize Muḥammad 'Alī Bēg. Mīr Qāsim does not know whether the English mean war or peace (1756). Mr. Ellis bellicose (1757). The Governor recalls the sepoys sent into the country (1759 & 1773). Mīr Qāsim denies that he is preparing for war (1762). Justifies his action in seizing the Sēṭhs (1765 & 1771). Two Englishmen on their way to Patna stopped by the Nawāb's officers (1774 & 1777). Mr. Helas's people quarrel with the Nawāb's subjects about *tyre* (1776 & 1783). Two more people belonging to the Company stopped by Gurgīn Khan's sepoys (1777). Mr. Amyatt sends Mīr Qāsim a list of demands (1778 & 1778A). Mīr Qāsim's people seize some boats laden with arms. Mr. Amyatt desires their immediate release (1780 & 1787). Mīr Qāsim desires the withdrawal of the Company's troops from Patna (1781, 1782, 1789, & 1793). Mr. Amyatt replies that the troops cannot be removed from Patna (1783). Mīr Qāsim replies to the Company's demands (1784). Messrs. Amyatt and Hay desire to leave for Calcutta (1785). Mr. Ellis continues to create disturbances at Patna (1789 & 1790). Mīr Qāsim complains that the sepoys have not yet been recalled (1791). More boats belonging to the Company seized (1795 & 1796). Mīr Qāsim objects to the English having established a salt *golā* at Monghyr (1796). Is told that if he refuses to release the boats

1763. laden with arms, all hopes of peace are at an end (1797). The Nawāb's people induce many of the Company's sepoys to desert (1798 & 1799). Three Englishmen belonging to Mr. Amyatt's party insulted by the Nawāb's people (1800 & 1801). Mr. Peacock farms Morang and English *gumashtahs* are sent into the Purnea country to buy up grain (1802). Mīr Qāsim insists on the removal of Mr. Ellis from Patna (1803). The Council cannot consent to the removal of the troops from Patna. Mr. Amyatt asks for a passport (1804, 1805, & 1806). Mīr Qāsim says that he will release the boats and consent to the troops remaining at Patna, provided Mr. Ellis is removed therefrom (1808). Mīr Qāsim releases the boats. Mr. Ellis ready to attack Patna (1808, 1809, 1809A, 1809C, & 1809D). The Company's troops said to have plundered the Nawāb's people at Chilmari (1809E). Muḥammad Taqī Khān and Shaikh Haibatu-l-lah about to invade Burdwan. The Governor wants to know how many of the Company's demands the Nawāb can comply with (1810 & 1811). Shaikh Quṭb 'Ālam imprisons the Company's *ḍak* people stationed at Dacca (1812).

War between Mīr Qāsim and the Company. Ambiguous attitude of the Imperial Court towards the English:—Mr. Ellis defeated and captured (1813). Mīr Qāsim proclaimed deposed and Mīr Ja'far reinstated (1814). Mr. Amyatt killed (1815). The Governor takes measures to protect Calcutta (1824). Major Adams captures Katwa (1824, 1825, 1828, 1829, & 1830). Dacca taken (1830 & 1834). Murshidabad taken (1831 & 1836). The English victorious at Gheria. Mīr Qāsim's people at Kishangarh and Hidgely run away (1839). Major Adams arrives at Udanala where Mīr Qāsim's army is posted (1843, 1844, & 1847). Captain Maclean sent to Birbhum to oppose Suhrāb (1844, 1845 & 1846). The Wazīr declares that he is coming to assist the English (1850 & 1851). The Governor tells him that the English troops are sufficient to punish Mir Qāsim and asks him to direct the Zamīndārs of Benares, Ghazipur, and Zamania to seize the latter (1853). The Governor proposes to send troops to the Karamnassa to oppose the Wazir (1855). Suhrāb defeated at Suri. Kāmgār Khān invades Birbhum (1860, 1884, & 1886). An engagement takes place at Udanala (1864). The English victorious (1867 & 1871). Sheo Bhaṭ desires to assist the English (1868). Mīr Qāsim declares that if Major Adams advances further, he will kill all the English prisoners (1872). The Governor tells Sheo Bhaṭ that the English do not require his

1763. assistance and asks him to seize Mīr Qāsim if he comes towards Orissa (1874 & 1875). Sheo Bhaṭ warned not to enter Bengal (1877 & 1951). The English army arrives near Monghyr (1878). Mīr Qāsim told that the English will continue their march in spite of his threat to kill the English prisoners (1882). Purnea captured (1884). The Governor asks Mīr Ja'far to do his utmost to effect the release of the English prisoners (1887). Kāmgār Khān retreats towards the jungles (1888, 1903, & 1911). The Wazīr anxious to assist the English (1897, 1898, & 1900). Major Adams prepares to attack Monghyr (1899). Mīr Qāsim flees to Patna. The Wazīr told that the English do not require his assistance (1901). Messrs. Ellis and Lushington sent to Patna (1906 & 1907). Monghyr captured (1911). Sheo Bhaṭ desires to assist the English (1913). Kāmgar Khān desires to join the English (1914). Mīr Qāsim flees from Patna (1916). Sheo Bhaṭ's offer of assistance refused (1920). Mīr Qāsim massacres the English prisoners (1921). The King and the Wazīr induced to take up his cause (1927). Patna captured (1934 & 1946). Mīr Qāsim asks Sheo Bhaṭ to assist him (1948). Mīr Ja'far crosses the Soan (1956). The Wazīr states that he has sent Raja Bēnī towards Benares to seize Mīr Qasim (1961, 1970, & 1972). The King and the Wazīr assist Mīr Qāsim with 5,000 horse. Shitab Rāy advises Major Adams to apply for the *sanads* (1962). Major Adams told that the *sanads* will be sent on Mīr Ja'far agreeing to pay the King's *peshkash* and the Wazīr's *nazrānah* (1964). Shākiru-d-daulah prevents the troops from going to Mīr Qāsim's assistance (1967). The King and the Wazir direct the *nāibs* and *faujdārs* to seize Mir Qāsim (1969). Major Adams asks the King to punish Mīr Qāsīm and to grant Mīr Ja'far the *sanads* (1973). Mīr Qāsim invited to the Court. The money which he sends to the Rohillas plundered (1977). Windel, a French Jesuit of Lucknow, writes to Major Adams on the situation of affairs at the Imperial Court and advises the English to take full possession of Bengal (1978). Mīr Ja'far proceeds to Sasaram (1980). Major Knox succeeds Major Adams (1981). The Governor asks the Wazīr to seize Mīr Qāsim and send him to Calcutta (1982 & 1983). Shitāb Rāy explains the Wazīr's motive in inviting Mīr Qāsim to the Court (1985). The King promises to send the *sanads* on the Nawāb's agreeing to pay the usual *pēshkash*, etc. (1993, 1995, 1999, & 2002). The King asks Major Adams to attend in his service (1995), and confers a *nīm-āstīn* on the Governor (1999). The Wazīr says that he has done

1763. a good service to the English in inviting Mīr Qāsim to the Court (2001). The Governor asks the King to punish Mīr Qāsim himself or to deliver him over to the English (2005). Mīr Qāsim near Benares. Shākiru-d-daulah explains the Wazīr's motive in inviting him to the Court (2017 & 2023). The King promises to punish Mīr Qasim (2035). The latter crosses the Ganges. The Court seems to have designs on Behar (2039). The Rohillas desire the Wazīr to assist Mīr Qāsim (2040A). Mīr Ja'far displeased with Shitāb Rāy regarding the question of Behar (2050). The Wazīr desires the Governor to send an English Commander to serve the King (2052 & 2053). Mīr Qāsim arrives at the Court (2053). The Wazīr willing to let an English factory be established between Allahabad and Benares (2054). The Governor tells the King that he will not send an English Commander to serve him until His Majesty punishes Mīr Qāsim (2062 & 2063). The Wazīr deputes the latter against Hindū Pat (2065). Mutiny in the English camp (2078 & 2085). The Wazīr repeats his request for the services of an English Commander (2088 & 2089). The Court adopts a hostile attitude towards the English (2091).

1764. *Invasion of Bengal by the King, the Wazīr, and Mīr Qāsim:*— The Imperial troops proceed towards Bengal (2092). The Wazīr and Rajā Balwant Singh asked to deliver up European deserters (2093 & 2094). Mīr Ja'far asks for reinforcements (2095 & 2107). Shitāb Rāy gets the *sanads* (2096 & 2121). The Wazīr joined by the Rohillas. Shitāb Rāy seized (2097 & 2098). The Governor proposes to carry the war into the Wazīr's dominions (2099 & 2114). The English army arrives at Sasaram (2100) and moves towards Daudnagar (2107). Captain Pemble ordered to march to the Karamnassa (2108 & 2114). Major Carnac intends to go to Buxar (2111 & 2118). The Imperial troops advance by three different routes. The Governor's plan of action (2122). Najaf Khān intends to invade Bengal by way of Jharkand (2123 & 2127). The Wazīr intends to march to Benares. Mīr Qāsim collects a large force (2124). The *sanads* detained (2125). Major Carnac arrives at Buxar (2129). The King and the Wazīr demand the stipulated revenue (2130 & 2131). The Wazīr goes to Allahabad (2133). The Court ill disposed to the English, but the King friendly (2134). His Majesty willing to return to Delhi, if the Governor defrays the expenses of his journey. (2135). The Governor warns the Wazīr not to invade Bengal (2136). In the Governor's opinion the King is a puppet in the hands of the Wazīr,

1764. whose object in coming to Bengal is to get money (2145). Mir Ja'far receives the *sanads* (2146 & 2154). Mīr Qāsim agrees to pay the expenses of the Imperial troops (2151). Captain Goddard sent to Murshidabad to raise troops (2152). The Governor unable to understand the attitude of the Court (2154). Mīr Ja'far approves of carrying the war into the Wazīr's dominions (2161). The Court at Benares. The Governor sends a body of troops towards Jharkand (2170) Captain Pemble arrives at Patna (2181). The Wazīr demands an explanation of the conduct of the English Government (2183). Troops raised in the Dacca district (2186). Dīn Diāl, an officer of the Wazīr's, prepares to march into Sarkar Saran (2189). The Governor threatens to punish the Wazīr for supporting Mīr Qāsim (2198). Major Carnac defeats the Wazīr's Durrānī horse (2200 & 2203). The Governor takes measures to protect Murshidabad (2207) and to guard the pass of Tiliagarhi (2209 & 2210). The Governor desires the sons of the Sēṭhs to come to Calcutta (2212 & 2213). The Wazīr desires the English to hand over the country to him (2214). Najaf Khān threatens Murshidabad (2217). The Wazīr wishes to treat with the English (2218). The Governor directs the officers of the *Vizāmat* to be prepared to oppose the Imperialists (2219, 2224, 2225, & 2226) and takes measures for the safety of the Hindu noblemen of Murshidabad (2229). The Wazīr defeated at Pachapahar (2231 & 2232). Katwa fort garrisoned (2246). Captain Grant sent to defend the pass of Tiliagarhi (2248 & 2257). The Wazīr anxious to negotiate with the English (2251). The Governor does not believe the Wazīr's professions of friendship (2257). The Wazīr wants Behar (2258) Mīr Ja'far refuses to open negotiations with the Wazīr (2261 & 2262). Captain Fletcher arrives at Birbhum (2265). The Governor advises the Nawāb not to open negotiations with the Wazīr until he delivers up Mīr Qāsim, Sumroo, etc., and makes full restitution for the ravages he has committed (2267). Captain Morgan drives the Imperialists from Sarkar Saran (2268 & 2270). The Court beats a retreat (2273, 2275, 2277, 2281, & 2285) and the Governor proposes pursuit (2285). The King promises to punish Mīr Qāsim (2288) and requests that negotiations may be opened (2290). Mir Ja'far firm (2295 & 2296). The Governor approves of his attitude towards the Court (2299). Mīr Ja'far asked to disband his troops (2300). The Imperialists cross the Soan (2302 & 2304) and proceed to Maner (2305). The Wazīr marches to Buxar (2320). Major Munro appointed to the Bengal Command. The Gover-

1764. nor proposes to raise cavalry (2321). The Marhattas' offer of assistance refused (2326, 2329, & 2434). The Wazir refuses to give up Mīr Qasim (2332 & 2333). The Governor ordered by the Court of Directors to stop the war (2335). Major Carnac asks Najību-d-daulah and Najaf Khān to join the English (2341 & 2342). Najaf Khān agrees (2343). The Wazīr hopes to be joined by the Afghans and Marhattas (2348). Shitāb Rāy proposes a settlement between the Wazir and the English (2349). Major Munro sets out for camp (2350). The Wazīr takes Bhojpur and prepares to prosecute the war afresh (2351). Mīr Ja'far against raising cavalry. The Governor shows him the necessity of it (2353) and advises him to enter into an alliance with the Rohillas and Marhattas (2354). The Wazīr imprisons Mīr Qāsim and Sumroo (2395 & 2395A). The Board desirous of prosecuting the war with vigour (2402 & 2403). The King and the Wazīr sue for peace (2405 & 2407) but the Governor refuses to negotiate with them until they give up Sumroo, etc., and withdraw from Behar (2408* & 2409). Major Munro asks Najaf Khān to join the English (2412) and desires Rājā Jugal Kishor to oppose the Wazīr's passage over the Gandak (2414). A number of Moghal officers in the Wazīr's service conspire to join the English (2413, 2415-2423, 2426 & 2432). Shāh Mal, *Qal'ahdār* of Rohtas, asks for assistance (2424 & 2424A). The Governor asks Najību-d-daulah to enter into an alliance with the chiefs of the Empire against the Wazīr (2435). The latter desires the English to relinquish Patna (2443 & 2447). The King professes friendship for the English (2446). The Wazīr defeated at the battle of Buxar (2456 & 2458).

1764-65. *Invasion of Oudh by the English and their acquisition of the Diwānī of Bengal* :—Shitāb Rāy asked to negotiate peace between the Wazīr and the English (2456, 2458, 2460 & 2461). The King congratulates the English on the victory (2467, & 2469). Rājā Balwant Singh agrees to join the English on certain conditions (2459, 2468, 2472, 2476, 2476A, & 2483). Proposals from the King and the Wazīr (2473-2475). Major Munro refuses to make peace with the Wazīr until Mīr Qāsim, Sumroo, etc., are delivered up (2475A & 2531). The Governor agrees to befriend the King (2482). His Majesty separates from the Wazīr and is visited by the English Commanders (2485). A battle imminent near Benares (2505). The Wazīr sues for peace (2516-2521). The Marhattas refuse to assist him (2524A). The Governor against concluding peace with him (2525 & 2529).

1764-65. The Wāzīr cannot give up Mīr Qāsim, Sumroo, etc., but promises to expel them from his dominions (2535 & 2546) Major Fletcher defeats him at Jalalpur and captures Jaunpur. Desires the King to march to Chunargarh (2569). Requests Najaf Khān to proceed to Allahabad (2570). Calls upon the *Qal'ahdār* of Chunargarh to surrender (2571) and invites Rāja Bēnī to join the English (2572). Reply of the *Qal'ahdār* of Chunargarh (2559). Major Fletcher proceeds to Allahabad and asks Balwant Singh to join the English there Major Stibbert sent to Chunargarh (2573). Ghulām Ḥusain Khān, *Qal'ahdār* of Allahabad, asked to surrender (2576). Major Fletcher at Allahabad (2577) Nazr Alī Khān appointed *Faujdār* of Oudh and Faizabad (2560, 2561, & 2579). Fath 'Alī Khān desirous of joining the English (2557, 2558, & 2580). Major Fletcher persuades a number of the Wazir's officers to join the English (2581). Asks the King to appoint Najaf Khān *Ṣūbahdār* of Oudh (2582). The King beseiges Chunargarh (2583). The English Commanders agree to Rājā Balwant Singh's conditions (2583-2586). Ghulām Ḥusain Khān again asked to surrender the fort (2587). Rahīm Khān desirous of joining the English (2588). Major Fletcher's reply to him (2589). Allahabad taken (2590). The King unwilling to appoint Najaf Khān *Ṣūbahdār* of Oudh (2592 & 2593). Shitāb Ray advises Major Fletcher not to advance into the Wazīr's country rashly (2594) Balwant Singh joins the English army (2603). General Carnac desires the chiefs of the Empire to co-operate with the English in regulating its affairs (2609) The King appoints Najmu-d-daulah *Nazim* of Bengal and desires the Governor to treat him well (2615). The Governor (Clive) intends to visit the King (2654) His Majesty unwilling to appoint Najaf Khān *Ṣūbahdār* of Allahabad and Kora (2657). Asks the Governor to direct Najmu-d-daulah to pay the stipulated revenue (2662). The Governor agrees (2664). The Governor leaves Calcutta on a visit to the King and the Wazīr (2672). Has matters of the utmost importance to settle with His Majesty (2673). The Wazir sure that everything will be settled satisfactorily (2674). The Governor directs General Carnac to put the Wazīr in immediate possession of part of his country (2675). Muniru-d-daulah hopes that the Governor will conquer all India in His Majesty's service and seat him on his ancestral throne (2681). The King impatiently awaits the Governor's arrival (2682). The Wazīr promises to abide by whatever the Governor decides upon (2686). The King makes three requests (2687), and urges the necessity of

1764-65. an alliance with the Rohillas and Marhattas (2688). The Governor returns to Calcutta (2698 & 2699). The English acquire the *Diwānī* of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa (2705).

1765. *Miscellaneous*:—The death of Mīr Ja'far (2549-2552). The Governor charges Nand Kumār with corresponding with Balwant Singh and asks the Nawāb Najmu-d-daulah to send him to Calcutta to be tried (2607). The Nawāb protests against Nand Kumār's arrest by the gentlemen of the Council and desires to accompany him to Calcutta (2616). The Governor insists upon Nand Kumār being immediately sent to Calcutta and forbids the Nawāb to accompany him (2614 & 2617). The Nawāb yields (2619). Draft of a letter from Clive to the Sēths (2640). Muhammud Yār Khān, an agent of Malhār Rāo Hulkar's, attempts to persuade Bhawānī Pandit to invade Bengal (2666). Muhammad Rizā Khān gives an account of the money received by the members of the Council from the Nawāb and himself (2667). Clive receives a letter of thanks from the families of Alīwardī Khān, Sarfarāz Khān and Sirāju-d-daulah for releasing them (2761). Account of cloth for the Royal apparel prepared at Dacca (2762 & 2762A). Jānūjī accuses the English of bad faith and demands the *chauth* (2763).

1766. Mīr Qāsim takes refuge with the Rohillas (2772). The Governor has intentions of getting Mīr Qāsim out of the hands of the Rohillas by peaceful methods. The English, the Marhattas, and the Nizām enter into an alliance against Haidar 'Alī (2783 & 2784).

1767. Shujā'u-d-daulah re-appointed to the *Wizārat* (2793 & 2794). The English unable to accompany the King to Delhi (2802). Clive asks the Wazīr to do his best to capture Mīr Qāsim (2808). Clive departs from India (2803-2814).

ERRATA.

Letter	63,	line 2,	*for* Shāhzāhdah *read* Shāhzādah.
,,	172,	line 2,	*for* Munger *read* Monghyr.
,,	183,	lines 1-2,	*for* direction *read* directions.
,,	256,	line 3,	*for* Bajipur *read* Bhojpur.
,,	277,	line 3,	*for* Calliand *read* Cai laud.
,,	291,	line 2,	*after* Clive *add* [? Coote].
,,	303,	line 1,	*for* Ṣalāhu-d-dīn *read* Sālāru-d-dīn.
,,	781,	line 1,	
,,	781,	line 2,	*for* whos *read* who.
,,	342,	line 1,	for *perwānah* read *parwānah*
,,	383,	line 2,	Here, *et passim*, *for* McGuire *read* McGwire.
,,	488,	line 3,	for *pp 36, 37* read *pp. 66-67.*
,,	626,	line 1,	*for* Āzam *read* ʻAzīm.
,,	884,	line 8,	Here, *et passim*, *for* Johnson *read* Johnstone.
,,	915,	line 2,	*for* Balwand *read* Balwant.
,,	916,	line 2,	*for* Nāẓiru-l-mulk *read* Nāṣiru-l-mulk.
,,	917,	line 3,	
,,	1028,	line 3,	
,,	926,	line 1,	*after* Riāẓu-d-dīn *add* [? Ghāzīu-d-dīn].
,,	969	line 1,	*for* Rrāyān *read* Rāyān.
,,	995,	line 8,	for *talingās* read *tilangās.*
,,	1103,	line 3 from below,	*for* Ṣābitr *read* Sābit.
,,	1177,	line 5,	for *mirdha* read *mīrdih.*
,,	1192,	line 2,	*for* prisioners *read* prisoners.
,,	1205,	line 2,	*for* Ryān *read* Rāyān.
,,	1266,	line 3,	*for* of *read* if.
,,	1340,	line 4,	for *jagirdār* read *jāgīrdārs.*
,,	1343,	line 4,	*for* that been *read* have been.
,,	1343,	line 3 from below,	*for* addressees manager's *read* addressee's managers.
,,	1352,	line 1,	*after* Muṣṭafā, *delete* full stop and for *Mushi* read *Munshī.*
,,	1359	line 3,	*after* wrote *delete* full stop.
,,	1394,	line 3 from below,	*for* Puckyt *read* Puchyt.
,,	1425,	line 4,	*for* Castairs *read* Castiers.
,,	1433,	line 1,	*for* Cartiet *read* Cartier.

Letter	1441,	line 2,	for *puttan* read *pattan*.
„	1491,	line 1,	*after* Singh *add* and.
„	1556	line 3,	*for* Karachpur *read* Khairakpur.
„	1657,	line 2,	*for* Mukrim *read* Mukarram.
„	1712,	line 1,	*after* complaining *add* that.
„	1824,	line 2,	*for* Khulna *read* Kalna.
„	1832,	lines 1-2,	for *qanūngoes* read *qānūngos*.
„	2648B,	lines 1-2,	
Page	257,	line 9 from below,	*for* 1936 *read* 1963.
Letter	1968,	line 2,	for *Waqāya'nigāri* read *Waqāi'nigārī*.
„	1968,	line 4	from below, for *Waqāya'nigar* read *Waqāi'nigār*.
„	2023,	line 14	
„	2410,	line 6,	for *badriqah* read *badraqah*.
„	2524,	line 5,	*for* Muhām *read* Mahām.
„	2710,	lines 3-4,	*after* Khān *delete* [Ihtirāmu-d-daulah.]
„	2722B,	line 2,	*for* Alexander *read* Aleander.

ABBREVIATIONS.

Abs. P. L. R. . Represents the volume of Abstracts of Persian Letters received.

Abs. P. L. I. . Represents the volume of Abstracts of Persian Letters issued.

Trans. P. L. R. . Represents the volume of Translations of Persian Letters received.

Trans. P. L. I. . Represents the volume of Translations of Persian Letters issued.

Cop. P. L. I. . Represents the volume of copies of Persian Letters issued.

N.B.—*In the case of Receipts, where the name of the addressee is omitted, and in the case of Issues, where the name of the writer is not given, the Governor for the time being should be understood.*

PERSIAN CORRESPONDENCE.

1759.

Feb. 3. 1. News from Lucknow. The Shāhzādah is near Lucknow and Shuja'u-d-daulah has presented him with elephants. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 33.*]

Feb. 3. 2. From Rājā Gajpatī. Reports that he and Colonel Forde marched towards the French. A battle ensued wherein the French lost great numbers and were obliged to take flight abandoning their camp. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Feb. 3. 3. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. States that a *sanad* for the Company's *zamīndārī* was delivered to Kāsi Nāth a full month ago. Will follow the Governor's advice with respect to the Shāhzādah. He now finds himself free from anxiety on all points. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Feb. 3. 4. From the Bēgam. She regards the Governor as her son and hopes for letters. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 1.*]

Feb. 5. 5. News from Lucknow. Negotiations are proceeding betwee the Shāhzādah and Shujā'u-d-daulah. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 33.*]

Feb. 5. 6. News from Delhi. Janujī, one of the sons of Anmājī, has arrived at Doolcoot with 40,000 horse and demands two crores from the Wazīr. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 33.*]

Feb. 5. 7. From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Offers congratulations on the victory gained by Colonel Forde over the French. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Feb. 5. 8. From Rājā Tilok Chand. Is anxious to pay up the Company's *tankhwāh* and hopes that orders will be issued to the Company's *gumāshtahs* not to impede the Burdwan *dallāls* and *paikārs* in their business. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Feb. 5. 9. To Amīr Bēg Khān. Tells him he is at liberty to repair to Calcutta, where a house is provided for him. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 52.*]

Feb. 6. 10. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The profits of the lands he gave the Company are intended for the troops to defend the country. The Governor is now about to take the field. [*Abs. P L. I., 1759-65, p. 33.*]

Feb. 6. 11. To Rājā Gajpatī Rāj. Gives news of the victory gained by the Company over the French [at Madras]. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 53*]

Feb. 7. 12. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Hopes for accounts of the Company's success against the French at Madras. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

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Feb 7. 13. To Rājā Tilok Chand. Hopes he never will attempt to extort money from his ryots by force. [*Abs. P L I, 1759-65, p. 53.*]

Feb. 7. 14. To the Bēgam. Desires to receive letters from her. [*Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Feb. 9. 15. From the Sēths. Send some flower roots on their own account and *khal'ats* from the King. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 43.*]

Feb. 9. 16. From Shitāb Rāy. Complains that his affairs have not yet been attended to either by the Governor or the Nawāb. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 43.*]

Feb. 10. 17. From Akbar 'Alī Khān. Encloses a letter from the Shāhzādah and assures the Governor of his being high in Royal favour. [*Abs. P. L R., 1759-65, p. 1.*]

Feb. 10. 18. From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Hopes for instructions because of the troubles that seem to approach. [*Abs. P. L R, 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Feb. 10. 19. The Shāhzādah to Rām Narāyan. Commends his loyalty and desires his presence in connection with some affairs of importance. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-69, p. 23*]

Feb. 10. 20. To Rājā Rām Narāyan. Acknowledges receipt of his letter enclosing the Shāhzādah's letters and tells him to oppose the Shāhzādah to the last as the Company's assistance is at hand. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 59*]

Feb. 10. 21. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Asks for an answer to his letter about the Shāhzādah. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Feb. 10. 22. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The Company's army will take the field on the 12th instant. Asks for any news that may be had respecting the Shāhzādah, and hopes for attention to Mr. Hastings, who is now at Muradbagh. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Feb. 10. 23. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Colonel Clive intends to proceed to Murshidabad with a strong force [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Feb. 10. 24 To Rājā Tilok Chand. Hopes he will send *bēldārs* as formerly requested. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 53.*]

Feb. 11. 25. From Rajā Rām Narāyan. Every intelligence confirms the Shāhzādah's approach. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Feb. 11. 26. To the Nawāb Mir Ja'far.[1] Has heard that the Nawāb is about to offer money to the Shāhzādah. If he does so, Shujā'u-d-daulah, the Marhattas and many more will bully money out of him till he has nothing left. It will also give the Shāhzādah the means to raise forces which will imperil the safety of Bengal. What will be said if Mīr J'afar who commands sixty thousand men offers money to a boy who has scarcely a soldier with him? The Nawāb should rely on the fidelity of the English and of the troops attached to him. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

[1] *See* Malcolm, *Life of Clive*, i, 399.

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Feb. 12. **27.** To Rājā Rām Narāyan.[1] The Nawāb was induced to confirm him in the *Nāib Nizāmat* of Patna on acccount of his justice, courage, and fidelity. Is therefore surprised at his fears about the Shāhzādah who has not more than two thousand men with him. Tells him to march out of the city with his forces and encamp at a distance. Mr. Amyatt will accompany him. Has gone into camp, and, if necessary, will come to his assistance. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 59.*]

Feb. 13. **28.** News from Lucknow. Explains various movements between Muhammad Qulī Khān and the Shahzādah. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759 65, p. 33.*]

Feb. 13. **29.** News from Delhi. States what passed between Jaggū Rāy and Rājā Nānjir Mal. A good look-out is necessary. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 33.*]

Feb. 13. **30.** News from Benares. Muḥammad Qulī Khān has arrived there and has been visited by the Shāhzādah and Monsieur Law. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 33.*]

Feb. 13. **31.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Sends a paper of intelligence and hopes for advice. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Feb. 13. **32.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Informs him that Rām Narāyan on whose fidelity he may depend, has taken the field. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Feb. 14. **33.** From Amīr Bēg Khān. Will be happy to see the Governor at Hooghly when convenient. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Feb. 14. **34.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Tells him the Company's troops are ready to march. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Feb. 16. **35.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Claims consideration for Mr. Scrafton who is going to Cossimbazar. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Feb. 17. **36.** From Fayyāz 'Alī Khān. Is with Shāh 'Ālam, his object being to promote the Company's wishes. [*Abs P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Feb. 17. **37.** From Fayyāz 'Alī Khān. The Shāhzādah is coming this way. Colonel Clive's good qualities have been properly set forth to him. The *farmān* he has procured for the Colonel must be received with respect. The utmost obedience is due to the Shāhzādah if he has an interview with the Colonel. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Feb. 17. **38.** From the Shāhzādah. Intends to visit Bengal and Behar [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 43.*]

Feb. 18. **39.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Intends to send to the Governor 5,000 horse and 5,000 *barqandāzes* if necessary. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Feb. 18. **40.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The Sēths have gone to Baij Nāth, but there is nothing to be dreaded from them. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

[1] See Malcolm, *Life of Clive*, i, 400.

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Feb. 19. 41. From Ibrāhīm Khān The affairs of Sikakul require a meeting between the Governor and him The French have been dismissed from the Nizām's service as no confidence could be placed in them. Asks the Governor to go to Hyderabad. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 21.*]

Feb. 19. 42. From Nizām 'Alī Khān. Congratulates the Governor on his getting a title from the Court. The intrigues of some Frenchmen promoted disputes between him and Āsafu-d-daulah, but he had long wished to banish the French. Desires that a force may be sent to him and that his friendship with the Company may daily increase. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 33.*]

Feb. 19. 43. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Explains the necessity of preparing in time to oppose the Shāhzādah and informs him of frequent engagements on the coast between the French and the English. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Feb. 19. 44. To Rājā Tilok Chand. Disapproves of his dilatoriness in paying his *qists*. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 53.*]

Feb 20. 45. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Denies having given any money to the Shāhzādah. The Sēths are to depart soon for Baij Nāth and no obstacles will be put in their way. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Feb. 20. 46. From Nand Kumār. Announces the death of his father. Hopes to receive the same attention that the latter used to receive. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 33.*]

Feb. 20. 47. From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Every intelligence confirms the approach of the Shāhzadah. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Feb. 20. 48. From the Sēths[1]. Have received two letters from the Governor, one in reply to theirs sent with some apples, the other urging that as they had procured him a *mansab* and titles, the Nawāb should have favoured him with a *jāgīr*, and asking them as friends to apply to the Nawāb for one. Are glad to hear he is in good health. Have applied to the Nawāb for a *jāgīr*. He will not grant one in Bengal, or in Orissa, which is very poor, but one in Behar could be granted immediately. Desire to be acquainted with his resolution on this affair. Are going in a day or two with all their family accompanied by some of the Nawāb's forces to a place of devotion, whence they hope to return in six weeks. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 43.*]

Feb. 21. 49. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Asks what was the reply given to the Shāhzādah's letter. Is sending Muhammad Raḥim Khān to Patna under the command of Qāsim 'Alī Khān with some troops. States his intention to take the field in ten or twelve days. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Feb. 21. 50. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is glad to hear of his not entering into any terms with the Shahzādah and of his intention of speedily taking the field. Informs him of the offers which the Shāhzādah made to the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

[1] See First Report of the Select Committee, p. 224.

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Feb. 22. 51. From Amīr Bēg Khān. Encloses a letter from the Nawāb and requests that the house he lived in at Calcutta may be bought for him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Feb. 22. 52. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Transmits news in connection with the Shāhzādah. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Feb. 23. 53. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Thanks him for his letter and tells him the Company's army is ready to march. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Feb. 23. 54. To Amīr Bēg Khān. Tells him the house he wishes for will be purchased for him. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 52.*]

Feb. 23. 55. From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Complains that no steps are being taken to impede the approach of the Shāhzādah [*Abs. P. L P. 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Feb 23. 56. From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Complains that no steps are being taken to oppose the Shāhzādah. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Feb 24 57. To Rājā Rām Narāyan. Instils confidence against any apprehensions about the Shāhzādah's approach. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 59.*]

Feb. 24 58. News from Lucknow. The Shāhzādah has marched to Jensi. Balwant Singh has assisted him with two *lākhs* and he has a large force with him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 33.*]

Feb 24. 59. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Desires the Governor to make a move towards him with his army at once as the Shāhzādah is very near with his forces. [*Abs. P. L R., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Feb. 24. 60. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Refers to his previous letter and enquires after the health of the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Feb. 25. 61. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The Company's troops will march to-morrow towards him. It will not be prudent for the Sēṭhs to leave the city. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Feb. 26. 62. News from Lucknow. Particulars about the Shāhzādah and his arrival at Saidabad. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 33.*]

Feb 26. 63. From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Complains that no steps are being taken to oppose the Shāhzāhdah. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Feb. 26. 64. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Recommends the speedy movement of the Governor towards him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Feb. 26. 65. From Amīr Bēg Khān. Encloses a letter from the Nawāb and gives information of Rājā Mānik Chand's death. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Feb. 26. 66. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has sent men to seize Rājā Mānik Chand's effects. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Feb. 26. 67. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Thanks him for his paper of news and hopes he will issue orders that no delay may arise in the payment of the Company's revenue. [*Abs. P. L I., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Feb. 27. 68. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Encloses a copy of his letter in reply to the letter from the Shāhzādah. [*Abs. P L. R., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

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Feb. 27. 69. To the Shāhzādah. The Governor cannot pay him attention if he comes down as he has received no intimation of his visit either from the Emperor or the Wazīr. Acknowledges receipt of the *farmān* which he sent for the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Feb. 27. 70. From Madāru-d-daulah. Has not yet received any accounts from the Emperor and the Wazīr about the Shāhzādah's coming. An engagement subsists between him and the *Ṣūbahdār* from which no deviation can take place on any account whatever. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

Feb. 27. 71. To Madāru-d-daulah. The Governor feels concern at not being able to pay the Shāhzādah the attention he could wish owing to the mode of his coming. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 43.*]

Feb. 27. 72. To the Nawāb Mir Ja'far. Mr. Manningham, being second in Council, cannot now wait on him. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Feb. 27. 73. To Rājā Kishn Chand The Governor is going to Murshidabad, and Mr. Manningham will preside until his return. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 61.*]

Feb. 27. 74. To Rāja Tilok Chand. The Governor is going to Murshidabad, and Mr. Manningham will preside until his return. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 53.*]

Mar. 2. 75. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has ordered his son to go into camp so as to be ready when required. Desires the speedy arrival of the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Mar. 3. 76. From the Nawab Mīr Ja'far. Is pleased at the probability of meeting the Governor soon. Intends to advance the *lākh* of rupees required. Will hereafter explain matters relating to the Sēṭhs going to Baij Nāth. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Mar. 3. 77. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The Governor has arrived at Mirzapur. Refers to his preparations to oppose the Shāhzādah. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Mar. 4. 78. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is pleased that the Governor has set out to meet him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p 25.*]

Mar. 4. 79. From the Bēgam. Her family enjoys good health. Hopes for letters. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 1.*]

Mar. 4. 80. From Rajā Rām Narāyan. Complains that no steps are being taken to oppose the Shāhzādah. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Mar. 5. 81. To Rājā Rām Narāyan. The Governor intends to go to his assistance and to punish the Shāhzadah. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 59.*]

Mar. 6. 82. From Shitāb Rāy. Jānūjī has attacked the city of Delhi. Explains various circumstances regarding the same. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 43.*]

Mar. 6. 83. From Amir Bēg Khān. Encloses a letter from the Nawāb and wishes to know the news. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

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Mar. 6. **84.** Intelligence. Relates to the terms of an agreement between Balwant Singh and the Shāhzādah. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 21.*]

Mar. 6. **85.** From Amīr Bēg Khān. Encloses a letter from the Nawāb, Rahīm Khān and the others 'ave begun their march. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Mar. 6. **86.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is pleased that the Governor has arrived at Hoogh'ly. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Mar 6. **87.** To Amīr Bēg Khān. The Governor has arrived at Patali. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 52.*]

Mar. 6. **88.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The Governor intends to be at the city by the 11th or 12th instant. He has now arrived at Patali. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Mar. 7. **89.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The Governor intends to be at Barwa on the 9th instant. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Mar. 9. **90.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is glad of the Governor's arrival at Barwa. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1559-65, p. 25.*]

Mar. 10. **91.** To Rājā Ram Narāyan. Enlarges on the necessity of preventing the Shāhzādah's approach. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 59.*]

Mar. 11. **92.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. It is necessary that Mīr Qāsim should proceed to Patna else the place will be lost. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Mar. 12. **93.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has given orders to Mīr Qāsim to proceed to Patna. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Mar. 13. **94.** From Muḥammad Qulī Khān. The Shāhzādah has rejected Monsr. Law's application and dismissed his *wakīl*. All particulars will be communicated through Fayyāẓ 'Alī Khān. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

Mar. 13. **95.** From Fayyāz 'Alī Khān. The army of Shāh 'Ālam having arrived at the bank of the Karamnassa, it is the duty of the Governor to send him an *'arzi*. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Mar. 13. **96.** From Rāy Dūlab. Transmits an account of the money left by his mother. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Mar. 13. **97.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has arrived at Satī. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Mar. 13. **98.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Remonstrates with him on the consequences of his failing to pay the revenue. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 53.*]

Mar. 15. **99.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Encloses a paper of intelligence. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Mar. 15. **100.** Intelligence. There are some Frenchmen in the Shāh[zādah]'s service. Balwant Singh has been to pay his respects to the Shāhzādah. The army is in need of pay and reports state that the Wazīr has dethroned and confined the King. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 21.*]

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Mar. 15. **101.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The Governor has arrived with his army near Belgutta. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Mar. 15. **102.** To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. The Governor has arrived with his army near Belgutta. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 33.*]

Mar. 15. **103.** To Rajā Rām Narāyan. The Governor has arrived at Aurangabad. Exhorts him to defend Patna from the Shāhzādah's attacks. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 59.*]

Mar. 15. **104.** To Rāja Rām Narāyan. Upbraids him for cowardice and disloyalty towards his master and the Company in not opposing the Shāhzādah. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 59.*]

Mar. 15. **105.** To Murlī Dhar. Desires him to warn Rām Narāyan against the vain attempts of the Shāhzādah. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 43.*]

Mar. 16. **106.** To the Nawab Mīr Ja'far. Desires him to issue strict orders with respect to the seizure of Mānik Chand's effects. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Mar. 17. **107.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Transmits an *'arzi* from Rām Narāyan. Has been obliged to halt for four days at Sadiq [bagh]. Mr. Hastings will explain the cause. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Mar. 17. **108.** From the Chhotā Nawāb Mīran. Has forwarded the letters sent to him and hopes for a speedy meeting. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 33.*]

Mar. 17. **109.** From the Chhoṭa Nawāb Mīran. Sends two European soldiers whom he thinks to be deserters. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 33.*]

Mar. 17. **110.** To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mıran. Thanks him for the apprehension of the two European deserters. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Mar. 18. **111.** From the Chhoṭā Nawab Mīran. Forwards a letter from Rām Narāyan. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 33.*]

Mar 18 **112.** From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Complains that no steps are being taken to oppose the Shāhzādah. Meanwhile his troops are disheartened. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39*]

Mar. 18. **113.** To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. The Governor has arrived at Doogutchy. Transmits a letter to Rām Narāyan. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Mar 18. **114.** To Rājā Rām Narāyan. The Governor has arrived at Rajmahal. Exhorts him to be loyal to the Nawāb and the Company. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 59.*]

Mar. 18. **115.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far The Governor has arrived at Doogutchy. Enlarges on the suspicious conduct of Rām Narāyan. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Mar. 19. **116.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has arrived at Sadiqbagh Forwards a letter from Rām Narāyan. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*].

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Mar. 19. **117.** From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Complains that no steps are being taken to oppose the approach of the Shāhzādah. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Mar. 19. **118.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Thanks him for the paper of intelligence. The Governor has arrived at Teliagarhi. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Mar. 19 **119.** From the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Reports what passed at a meeting between Ram Narāyan, the Shāhzādah, and Murādu-d-daulah. [? Madāru-d-daulah]. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Mar. 19. **120.** To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. The Governor has arrived at Diwanhat and wishes to know where the other now is. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Mar. 19. **121.** From the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Is pleased that the Governor has arrived at Diwanhat. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 33.*]

Mar. 19. **122.** To the Chhoṭa Nawāb Mīran. If he moves at all, it should be at Midnapur. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Mar. 20. **123.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is directed by the King and the Wazīr to secure the Shāhzādah; encloses copies of their letters on the subject. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Mar. 20. **124.** The King to Mīr Ja'far. Desires him to cause the prince to return from Patna as his head has been turned by the intrigues of interested persons. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759 65, p. 23.*]

Mar. 20. **125.** From the Wazīr. The Shāhzādah has been seduced by designing people. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 47.*]

Mar. 20. **126.** From the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Will halt his army so as to enable the Governor to lead the van of it. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 33.*]

Mar. 20. **127.** To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Tells him to move on to Shahabad. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Mar. 21. **128.** From the Bēgam. Encloses advices just received from Patna and laments that she does not get letters. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 1.*]

Mar. 21. **129.** To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Directs him to inquire the cause of twelve of the Company's boats being stopped on their way to Calcutta. [*Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Mar. 22. **130.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Encloses copies of letters from himself and the King to the Shāhzādah. [*Abs. P. L. R. 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Mar. 22. **131.** From the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Will march to-morrow to meet the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Mar. 23. **132.** From the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Has ordered the release of the Company's boats and directed that they should not again be stopped. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Mar. 23. **133.** To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. The Governor means to march with his troops this night and will meet him. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

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Mar. 23. **134.** To the Shāhzādah. The Governor intends to abide strictly by the treaties between the King, the Nawāb, and the Company. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 76.*]

Mar. 23. **135.** To Muḥammad Qulī Khān. The Governor is resolved to abide by the treaty between the King, the Nawāb, and the Company, and intends to root out the French wherever he finds them. The Governor will fight him unless he withdraws from the provinces. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759 65, p. 44.*]

Mar. 23. **136.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Deplores the consequences if he does not send cash as well as provisions. [*Abs. P. L. I.,1759-65, p. 6.*]

Mar. 23. **137.** To the Nawab Mir Ja'far. Acknowledges receipt of the King's *shuqqah*, etc., which he transmitted. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Mar. 23. **138.** To Rāja Fatḥ Sing. The Governor will feel pleasure in his army's joining him. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 62.*]

Mar. 24. **139.** To Khādim Ḥusain Khān. Is surprised at his not joining the Nawāb. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 28*]

Mar. 25. **140.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. As the sepoys will not stir without being paid, he intends melting down his plate to pay them. It is also his intention to levy money from different persons and he hopes that success will attend his and the Company's joint efforts. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Mar. 25. **141.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Congratulations on the success against the French on the coast. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Mar. 25. **142.** From Rajā Ram Narāyan. A battle has been fought with the Shāhzādah, who lost 500 men. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Mar. 25. **143.** Intelligence. About the Shāhzādah's receiving visits from dancing women and the different intrigues going on at Murshidabad. The army is in great distress for want of pay. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 21.*]

Mar. 26. **144.** From the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Advises an immediate march to Patna and says that Ram Narāyan should be afforded every assistance possible. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Mar. 26. **145.** To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Tells him not to be anxious. All their enemies will be overcome whether Rām Narāyan continues faithful or not. The Governor will move to-morrow to Champarnagar. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 34*]

Mar. 27. **146.** From Mulī Dhar. The troops of the Shāhzādah have marched to Ja'far Khān's garden. Rām Narāyan prevented the Shahzādah from going through the city. One of the King's sons has received a *khal'at* for the ṣūbahdārship of Patna, and Shujā'u-d-daulah's son has been appointed to that of Allahabad, but it is not yet known whether Shujā'u-d-daulah goes to Bengal or not. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

Mar. 27. **147.** From the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Rām Narāyan's *'arẓī* should be forwarded. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

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Mar. 27. **148.** From the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Will instil confidence into Rām Narāyan and advise him to aid the Nawāb. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Mar. 27. **149.** From the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Encloses two letters from Rām Narāyan. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Mar. 27. **150.** From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Complains that no steps are being taken to oppose the Shāhzādah. [*Abs. P. L. R.. 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Mar. 27. **151.** To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Regrets that he did not abide by the advice given him with regard to discharging part of the troops to save himself from the importunities of the whole. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Mar. 27. **152.** To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. The Governor intends to encamp to-morrow at Jahanpur. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Mar. 27. **153.** To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Desires him to explain to Rām Narāyan why Raḥim Khān went to the Shāhzādah. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Mar. 27. **154.** To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Sends him a letter for Rām Narāyan. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Mar. 27. **155.** To Murlī Dhar. Instils confidence into him against the attempts of the enemy. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 43.*]

Mar. 27. **156.** To Murlī Dhar. Commends his fidelity. The Governor will be soon with him. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Mar. 27. **157.** To Rājā Rām Narāyan. Is satisfied with the fidelity of his conduct and tells him to defend Patna to the last. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 59.*]

Mar. 27. **158.** To Rājā Rām Narāyan. Instils confidence into him and tells him to defend Patna to the last. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 59.*]

Mar. 27. **159.** To Rājā Rām Narāyan. Encloses copies of the letters sent to the Shāhzādah and Muḥammad Qulī Khān. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 59.*]

Mar. 27. **160.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Informs him of the success of the English on the coast and trusts he will levy money moderately for his troops. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Mar. 28. **161.** From Rang Lāl. Gives the details of a battle with the Shāhzādah. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Mar. 28. **162.** From Rang Lāl. Gives information of the march of the Shahzādah from Palswarī to Ja'far 'Alī Khān's garden. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Mar. 29. **163.** From the Nawāb Mir Ja'far. Has sent two *lākhs* of rupees to his son for the use of the army. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Mar. 29. **164.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Encloses a copy of a letter from the Wazīr wherein he says that the King's son has been appointed Nawāb of Patna. Refers to the letter of Rām Narāyan for other particulars. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

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Mar. 29. **165.** From the Wazīr. Has laid the Governor's letter before His Majesty. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 47.*]

Mar. 29. **166.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Places great reliance on the bravery of the Governor, and desires to be informed of all the letters intercepted by him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Mar. 29. **167.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. If Rām Narāyan is a coward and is running away, he can hardly be a source of injury. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Mar. 29. **168.** From the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Encloses a copy of an *'arẓī* from Rām Narāyan and thanks God that the Shāhzādah has been defeated. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Mar. 29. **169.** To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. The Governor is not convinced of the Shāhzādah's retreat yet. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Mar. 29. **170.** To Rājā Rām Narāyan. Commends his bravery and rejoices at the success he has gained against the Shāhzādah. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 60.*]

Mar. 29. **171.** To Ummīd Rāy. Desires that the people sent into Burdwan and Nuddea to collect *mathaut* be recalled immediately. [*Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 52.*]

Mar. 30. **172.** From the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Is pleased that the Governor has marched to Munger. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Mar. 30. **173.** From the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Will forward the letter for his father. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Mar. 30. **174.** From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Recommends the speedy junction of the Company's troops with his. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Mar. 30. **175.** To the Chhoṭa Nawāb Mīran. Desires he will send a camel to the Governor immediately. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Mar. 31. **176.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has made great efforts to get money for the troops and hopes for letters. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p 26.*]

Mar. 31. **177.** From Rāja Rām Narāyan. Laments the ill consequences to be expected from the troops not joining him [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Apl. 1. **178.** From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Laments the ill consequences to be expected from the troops not joining him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Apl. 1. **179.** From the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Returns the letter from Khādim Ḥusain Khān which is a peculiar one and encloses a letter and news from Rām Narāyan. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Apl. 1. **180.** From Khādim Ḥusain Khān. Avows his attachment to the Nawāb. Will explain matters in person whenever the Governor desires. [*Abs P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Apl. 1. **181.** From Rajā Rām Narāyan. Laments the ill consequences to be expected from the troops not joining him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

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Apl. 1. 182. Intelligence. Govind Pandit and Gopāl Rāo have arrived at Karrah and intend to seize Allahabad. States what passed between the Shāhzadah and Muḥammad Qulī Khān. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Apl. 1. 183. To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Sends him a letter with direction for Khādim Ḥusain Khān. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Apl. 1. 184. To Khādim Ḥusain Khān. Directs him not to wait on the Governor but to attend the Nawāb on a hunting excursion. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

Apl. 1. 185. To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Intimates the Governor's intention of marching on to-morrow and halting at Barh. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Apl. 1. 186. To Rājā Rām Narāyan. Informs him the Governor will be at Barh to-morrow and will march on without waiting for the Chhoṭā Nawāb. [*Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 60.*]

Apl. 2. 187. From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Laments the ill consequences to be expected from the troops not joining him. [*Abs, P. L. R., 1759-65. p.39.*]

Apl. 2. 188 From Rang Lāl. Gives details with respect to the forces, etc., of the Shāhrzādah. [*Abs. P. L. R. 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Apl. 2. 189. From Shitāb Rāy. Jānūjī has attacked the city of Delhi. Explains various circumstances in connection with it. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Apl. 2. 190. From Murlī Dhar. A thousand of the Shāhzādah's horse are approaching the city. No time ought to be lost in dispersing them. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

Apl. 2. 191. To Rajā Rām Narāyan. The Governor has sent him a party of sepoys to work his guns. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 60.*]

Apl. 3. 192. From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Laments the ill consequences to be expected from the troops not joining him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Apl. 3. 193. From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Laments the ill consequences to be expected from the troops not joining him. The French have arrived at Sasaram. [*Abs. P. L, R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Apl. 3. 194. From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Laments the ill consequences to be expected from the troops not joining him. The French have arrived at Sasaram. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Apl. 3. 195. From Murlī Dhar. Will do his utmost to defend the city. Professes great attachment and recommends a speedy opposition to the Shāhzadah. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

Apl. 3. 196. From the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Raḥīm Khān's affairs have been settled. Will reach Nawabganj to-morrow. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Apl. 3. 197. To Rājā Rām Narāyan. If the Company's troops join his, they will beat the enemy. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 60.*]

Apl. 3. 198. To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. The Governor has sent a reinforcement for the defence of Patna. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

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Apl. 3. **199.** To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. The Governor has everything ready for action at Patna. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Apl. 4. **200.** From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Gives news of a victory gained over the enemy. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Apl. 4. **201.** From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Has beaten the *naubat* in consequence of the victory. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Apl. 5. **202.** From Rājā Rām Narāyan. The enemy has retreated to Naubatpur. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p 39.*]

Apl. 5. **203.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Asks for assistance for Rām Narāyan who is engaged with the enemy. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Apl. 5. **204.** From the Nawab Mīr Ja'far. Encloses copies of letters from the King and theWazīr and of his own *'arzi* to the Shāhzādah on the appointment of the King's son as Ṣūbahdār of Azimabad. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Apl. 5. **205.** From the King to Mīr Ja'far. Has appointed his son to the ṣūbahdārship of Azīmabad, and dismissed 'Alī Gauhar Shah 'Ālam from that post. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 23.*]

Apl. 5. **206.** From the Wazīr. Hopes that the Shāhzādah will be stopped and sent back to His Majesty. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 47.*]

Apl. 5. **207.** From the Chhoṭā Nawab Mīran. Will march beyond Barh as directed. Encloses a letter from his father. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Apl. 5. **208.** From the Chhoṭa Nawāb Mīran. Will make a halt for a day as recommended. Has sent Shamsu-d-dīn to wait on the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Apl. 5. **209.** To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Requests him to come within 2 kos of the Governor in order to be at hand on emergency. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Apl. 5. **210.** To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Mr. Mathews has been desired to send down Amīr Qulī Khān.[*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Apl. 6. **211.** From the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Is yet five marches from Patna and therefore it is not advisable for the Governor to march so fast. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Apl 6. **212.** From the Chhotā Nawāb Mīran. Thinks it right of the Governor to direct that Amīr Qulī Khān should be released. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Apl. 6 **213.** From the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Has duly forwarded the letters of the Nawāb and Mr. Hastings and encloses a letter from his father. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Apl. 6. **214.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has marched to Sadiqbagh and intends to be with the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R. 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Apl. 6. **215.** To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. The Governor will be at Baikanthpur to-morrow morning. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

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Apl. 6. **216.** To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Acknowledges receipt of his father's letter which, he has transmitted. [*Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Apl. 6. **217.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has marched to Sadiqbagh and intends to be with the Governor soon. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Apl. 6. **218.** From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Gives further particulars about the retreat of the enemy. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Apl. 6. **219.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Congratulates him on the success of the Company's troops over the enemy. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Apl. 6. **220.** To Rājā Rām Narāyan. Congratulates him on his victory over the enemy. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 60.*]

Apl. 6. **221.** To Rājā Rām Narāyan. Thanks him for a present of rows [bows?] [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 60.*]

Apl. 6. **222.** To the Nawab Mīr Ja'far. Dissuades him from leaving Murshidabad with his troops. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Apl. 7. **223.** From 'Abdu-r-raḥīm Khān. Gives information of an engagement with the enemy near Patna. Wishes to know whether he should present the *'arẓis* or not. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 1.*]

Apl. 7. **224.** To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. The Governor intends to move to Bucknypur. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Apl. 8. **225.** From the Wazīr. Hopes that the Shāhzādah will be stopped and sent back to His Majesty. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 47.*]

Apl. 8. **226.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has arrived at Beggypur. Wishes to be informed of the Governor's arrival at Ja'far Khān's gardens. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Apl. 8. **227.** From the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Is pleased at the Governor's arrival at Ja'far Khān's garden. Wishes to know where he should himself encamp. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Apl. 8. **228.** To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Intimates the Governor's intention of waiting on him in the afternoon. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Apl. 9. **229.** To Rājā Chatardharī and others. Assures them of their receiving every reward that their services merit. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 62.*]

Apl. 10. **230** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Requests that orders may be issued to the Governor's troops not to molest his brother's ryots. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Apl. 10. **231.** From the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Has encamped this day at Wāriṣ Khān's tank. Desires the Governor to march on and he will follow. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Apl. 10. **232.** To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. The Governor intends to join the army to-morrow. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Apl. 11. **233.** To Rājā Rām Narāyan. The Governor cannot march unless he gets money. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 60.*]

Apl. 12. **234.** To Rājā Rām Narāyan. Desires him to compel the zamīndārs to send in provisions for the troops. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 60.*]

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Apl. 12. 235. To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Miran. The Governor will march after the enemy to-morrow. [*Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Apl. 12. 236. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The Governor will march after the enemy to-morrow. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Apl. 13. 237. To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. A storm prevented the Governor from marching to-day. [*Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Apl. 14. 238. From Jagat Sēṭh. Has arrived at Harcatta with his family. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Apl. 14. 239. From Rang Lāl. The Shāhzādah has moved from Daudnagar to Ghataulī. Mentions other particulars respecting him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p 40*]

Apl. 14. 240. From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Has given necessary orders about provisions. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Apl. 14. 241. From Rajā Rām Narāyan. Gives further particulars on the foregoing subject. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65. p. 39.*]

Apl. 14. 242. From the Nawāb Mir Ja'far. Hopes that the Governor has arrived at Patna to punish the enemy. Encloses a letter of encouragement for Ram Narāyan. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Apl. 14. 243. From the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Will halt to-morrow and move on the day after. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Apl. 14. 244. To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Complains of the delays he suffers to take place in joining with his forces. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Apl. 14. 245. To Rājā Rām Narāyan. Complains of his not coming on to join the Company's troops who will now march on without him. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 60.*]

Apl. 14. 246. To Rājā Rām Narāyan. To the same effect as the foregoing. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 60.*]

Apl. 15. 247. From the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Has forwarded the letter for his father. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Apl. 15. 248. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Congratulations on the defeat of the enemy near Patna. The *naubat* has been beaten. He is anxious for letters. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Apl. 15. 249. From the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Will be at Maner to-morrow and requests the Governor to halt until he comes up. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Apl. 15. 250. To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Censures the delays he makes in joining with his forces [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Apl. 15. 251. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The Governor is with the English forces at Patna. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Apl. 16. 252. From Rājā Rām Narāyan. The Shāhzādah is now preparing to cross the Soan. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

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Apl. 16. **253.** From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Regrets that he is unable to join the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Apl. 16. **254.** From Rajā Rām Narāyan. Intends to march to-morrow; requests that the Governor may not stir from Janpara. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p 39.*]

Apl. 16. **255.** To Rājā Rām Narāyan. The Governor will not cross the river without him. [*Abs. P. L I, 1759-65, p. 60.*]

Apl. 16. **256.** From the Chhotā Nawāb Mīran. Recommends the Governor to remain where he is as marching just now will only frighten the Bajipur zamīndārs. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Apl. 16. **257.** From Rang Lāl. The Shahzādah has crossed the Soan and dismissed the French. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Apl. 16. **258.** From Rājā Fatḥ Singh. Two thousand horse and some *barqandāzes* belonging to him will soon join the English army. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Apl. 16. **259.** To Rājā Fath Singh. Refers him to the Nawāb without whose orders nothing can be done for him. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 62.*]

Apl. 18. **260.** From Ummīd Rām Rāy Rāyān. Is anxious at not getting letters. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Apl. 18. **261.** From Rāy Dūlab. Desires to pay his respects to the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Apl. 18. **262.** To Rājā Chatardhaī. Tells him to come to the Governor with the utmost expedition. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 62.*]

Apl. 18. **263.** To Gaj Rāj Singh. Tells him to join the Governor with all expedition. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 31.*]

Apl. 18. **264.** To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. Mr. Scrafton now waits upon him. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Apl. 18. **265.** To the Chhoṭā Nawāb Mīran. If Rājā Chatardharī and Gaj Rāj Singh do not join immediately, the Governor will march against them. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Aug. 5. **266.** To Mīr Wāriṣ 'Alī. Desires him to apprehend some thieves who robbed a boat coming from Lakhipur. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Aug. 14. **267.** To Mīr Wāriṣ 'Alī. Returns his bills of exchange and desires him to repair to the Governor immediately. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Dec. 13. **1760.** **268.** From Muhammad Qulī Khān. Sends a complimentary letter. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

Feb. 17. **269.** From Muḥammad Riẓā Khān. The Nawāb has arrived at Seuri, and on the morrow will go on to Birbhum. The Rājā of Birbhum solicits pardon for his faults and expects letters. [*Abs. P.L. R., 1759-65, p. 31.*]

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May 31. **270.** To Diā Rām Mittar. A letter has been sent to the Rāy Rāyān about re-establishing his officers as he requested. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 30.*]

July 8. **271.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has appointed a new Faujdār at Hooghly, as the former Faujdār impeded the collections. Trusts his debt has been discharged by this time and desires the accounts may be sent to him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

July 8. **272.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Intends to discharge any balance that may appear against him and requests that a person may be sent to him to adjust the accounts. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

July 8 **273.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Repeats his requests as regards the adjustment of accounts. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 26.*]

July 8. **274.** From Rāy Dulab. Wishes to pay his respects to the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

July 9 **275.** From Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Replies with compliments to the Governor's letter intimating his accession. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

July 9. **276.** From Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Is pleased at the accession of the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

July 10. **277.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Gives his reason for wishing the Chhoṭā Nawāb's son to succeed and encloses a letter from Colonel Calliand to him on the subject. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

July 18. **278.** From Mīr Wāris 'Alī. Will soon send the revenue. Protests attachment. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

July 24. **279.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Condoles with him on the death of Mīran, the Chhotā Nawāb. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

July 24. **280.** To the Nawab Mīr Ja'far. Mr. Vansittart has taken charge of the office of Governor [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

July 24 **281.** To Rājā Kishn Chand. Mr. Vansittart has taken charge of the office of Governor. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 61.*]

July 24. **282.** To Najmu-d-daulah. Mr. Vansittart has taken charge of the Governorship. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 51.*]

July 24. **283.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Mr. Vansittart has assumed the office of Governor. Encloses a letter from Sirāju-d-daulah to him. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

July 24. **284.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far Requests him to write answers to the letters of Governor Pigot and Sirāju-d daulah. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Aug 1. **285.** To Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Desires him to issue orders for the apprehension of Captain Brohier. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 77.*]

Aug. 2. **286.** To the Nawab Mīr Ja'far. Inquires what answer should be given to two Dutch councillors from Chinsurah. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 36*]

Aug. 2 **287.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Orders have been issued to furnish him with the accounts he asks for. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

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Aug. 4. 288. From Mir Wāriṣ 'Alī. Will have a search made for Captain Brohiér and report the result. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

Aug. 4. 289. From Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Sends all the money which he could lay his hands on by Basan Rāy. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Aug. 4. 290. From Rājā Rājballabh. The sepoys give him excessive trouble for their pay. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Aug. 4. 291. From Rājā Rājballabh. Thanks the Governor for introducing Rajā Kishn Dās to the Nawāb and hopes that Colonel Clive will be sent with money for the sepoys. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p 42.*]

Aug. 5. 292. From Mīr Wāris 'Alī. Asks that the Governor will acknowledge the receipt of the bills of exchange. Enlarges on the ill consequences of the ingress of the Marhattas. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

Aug. 5. 293. From Umi Chand. Offers congratulations on Mr. Vansittart's becoming Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Aug. 5. 294. From Sulaiman Bēg *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Has issued the required orders for the apprehension of Captain Brohier. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Aug. 5. 295. From Rājā Tilok Chand. Is pleased at Mr. Vansittart's arrival as Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Aug. 5. 296. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Hopes soon to see Qāsim 'Alī Khān in Calcutta with Colonel Saif Jang. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Aug. 6. 297. From Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. The necessary orders have been issued for the apprehension of Captain Brohier. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Aug. 7. 298. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Offers congratulations on the Governor's arrival and appointment. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Aug. 7. 299. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Replies with compliments to the Governor's letter on his brother's death. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Aug. 7, 300. From Rājā Tilok Chand. Sends the *tankhwāh* accounts for the month of June. A small balance only remains due. Hopes for a little time to be allowed to him to pay the six *lākhs* of rupees ordered by the Nawāb. His only support is in the Company's favour [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Aug. 7. 301. From Rājā Tilok Chand. Compliments Mr. Vansittart on his good qualities. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Aug. 7. 302. To Rāy Rāyan Ummīd Rām. Informs him in reply, that the Governor will be glad to see him. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 63.*]

Aug. 7. 303. To Salāhu-d-dīn Muhammad Khān. Offers compliments. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 79.*]

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Aug. 7. 304. To Āzurdah-zamān Khān. Directs him to order his people not to molest the Company's *gumāshtahs* when they go to purchase cloth. [*Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 1.*]

Aug. 8. 305. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Wishes success to the Company's arms against Pondicherry. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Aug. 8. 306. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Presents compliments on the excellence of the Governor's character and expresses great anxiety to see him at the city. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Aug. 8. 307. To Mīr Qāsim. Speaks of the good character given of him by Mr. Holwell, Mr. Hastings, and others. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 7.*]

Aug. 8. 308. To Rājā Tilok Chand. Desires him to send in four or five days the sixteen *lākhs* of rupees now due from him. [*Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 54.*]

Aug. 8. 309. To Rajā Kishn Chand. Speaks of the good character the Governor received of him from Mr. Holwell and others. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 61.*]

Aug. 8. 310. To the Nawab Mīr Ja'far. Acknowledges receipt of his answers to the letters of Sirāju-d-daulah and Governor Pigot. [*Abs. P. L I, 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Aug. 9. 311. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The Rāy Rāyān Ummid Rām will settle the *tankhwah* accounts. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Aug. 9. 312. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. All the conditions formerly agreed on between him and the Dutch have been maintained. [*Abs P. L. R., 1759-65, p 27.*]

Aug. 9. 313. From Ragmānjī Jāchak. Desires to increase the trade at present subsisting between the Company and himself, and asks that some of his people who ran away with property belonging to him may be delivered up. Hopes for letters. [*Abs P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

Aug. 9. 314. From Ragmānjī Jāchak. Mr. Rogers, the Company's agent, may carry on his business without any molestation. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

Aug. 9. 315. From Chakku Sūtūar. Gopāl Pūrī has arrived from Nagpur, and will furnish the Governor with an account of all affairs. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 19.*]

Aug. 9. 316. From Gopāl Pūrī. Reports that the Company's factory at Cuttack was going to ruin. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 20.*]

Aug. 9. 317. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received two letters from him about the adjustment of accounts. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Aug. 10. 318. From Mīr Wālis 'Alī. Transmits more bills in part payment of what he owes. [*Abs P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

Aug. 10. 319. From Chakkū Sūtūar and others. Zormal and others have run off with the property of several persons. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 19.*]

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Aug. 10. 320. From Jagat Sēth. Offers congratulations on the Governor's arrival. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Aug. 10. 321. To Gopal Pūrī. Commends his attachment to the Company. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 31*]

Aug. 10. 322. To Ghulām Ḥusain Khān. Replies with compliments to his congratulations on Mr. Vansittart's arrival. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 31.*]

Aug. 10. 323. To Ragmānjī Jāchak. Desires him to assist the *gumāshtah* whom the Governor has sent to the factory. Delivers up to him one of two persons whom he required. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 63*]

Aug. 10. 324. To Rājā Anand Lāl. Offers compliments. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 63.*]

Aug 10. 325. To Muhammad Riẓā Khān. Reports that Mr. Vansittart has taken charge of the Governorship. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

Aug. 10. 326. To Muhammad Rizā Khān. Desires him to supply boats to transport timber from Dacca. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

Aug. 11. 327. From Rājā Kishn Chand. Offers congratulations to Mr. Vansittart on his arrival and appointment. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

Aug. 11. 328. To Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Desires that his peons will not interfere in the markets. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 77.*]

Aug. 13. 329. From Muḥammad Rizā Khān. Offers congratulations on the arrival of the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 30.*]

Aug. 14. 330. From Rājā Rājballabh. Regrets that he has not received an answer to his previous letter. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759 65, p. 42.*]

Aug. 14. 331. From Mīr Qāsim. Congratulatory. Wishes for a meeting. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Aug. 16. 332. From Najmu-d-daulah. Offers congratulations on Mr. Vansittart's appointment to the Governorship. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34*]

Aug. 16. 333. From Saifu-l-Mulk. Rejoices at the Governor's arrival in Bengal. [*Abs P.L. R., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

Aug. 16. 334. From Jagat Sēṭh. Is anxious for the Governor's health. Hopes for letters. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Aug. 16. 335. From Mīr Qāsim. Offers congratulations on Mr. Vansittart's arrival as Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Aug. 16. 336. To Mīr Qāsim. In reply to his letter says the Governor will be glad to see him. [*Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 7.*]

Aug. 16. 337. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far Informs him of the arrival of fresh troops at Madras from Europe. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Aug. 16. 338. To Jagat Sēṭh. Replies with compliments to his congratulations on Mr. Vansittart's assuming the Governorship. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 38.*]

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Aug. 17. 339. From Mīr Qāsim. Intends to come to see the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Aug. 17. 340. From the Rāy Rāyān. Offers congratulations on Mr. Vansittart's becoming Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759 65, p. 40.*]

Aug. 17. 341. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Offers compliments and hopes for letters. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Aug. 17. 342. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has transmitted a *perwānah* to the Dutch. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Aug. 18. 343. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. His accounts will be adjusted in two or three days. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Aug. 19. 344. From Benand Rāj, *Nāib* of Balasore. Has given strict orders for the apprehension of Captain Brohier. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 1.*]

Aug. 19. 345. To Ghulām Ḥusain Khān. Offers compliments and hopes for letters. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 31.*]

Aug. 19. 346. To Mir Qāsim. Expresses great pleasure at his intended visit to Calcutta. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 7.*]

Aug. 19. 347. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Expresses great happiness at hearing that Mīr Qāsim is coming to Calcutta. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759 65, p 37.*]

Aug. 20. 348. From Rājā Tilok Chand. Offers congratulations on Mr. Vansittart's arrival and appointment. Will soon send the balance of the *tankhwāh.* [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Aug. 20 349. To 'Abdu-r-rahim Khān. The Governor intends to send Muhammad Darwish to remain as his Agent at Cuttack. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 1.*]

Aug. 20. 350. To Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Directs him not to invest the Dutch factory as the Dutch Governor is about to surrender it. [*Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 77.*]

Aug. 20. 351. To Ragmānji Jachak. Refers to the Governor's former letter. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 63.*]

Aug. 20. 352. To Rāy Rāyān Ummid Rām. Expresses sorrow at his illness and hopes for a speedy recovery. [*Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 63.*]

Aug. 21. 353. From the Nawāb Mir Ja'far. Ten *per cent.* is to be taken for the *Sarkār's* expenses out of the three crores due to the Company. The accounts are to be settled at this rate. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Aug. 22. 354. To Rājā Raj Narāyān. Desires him to enquire who molested the Company's *gumāshtah* at Raghunathpur. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 64.*]

Aug. 22. 355. To Nilkant Rāy. Desires him to give strict orders that the Company's chunam *gumāshtah* should not be interrupted in his business. [*Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 51.*]

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Aug. 24. 356. From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Is pleased at Mr. Vansittart's becoming Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Aug. 24. 357. From Rājā Rājballabh. Offers congratulation on Mr. Vansittart's becoming Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 42*]

Aug. 24. 358. From the inhabitants of Balasore. Request a letter to the Company's *gumāshtah* at Balasore forbidding the continuation of his improper conduct towards them. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2*]

Aug. 25. 359. From Rājā Tilok Chand. The Rājā of Bīrbhum has sent troops into the *parganah* of Shergar and others. This is not good as it is detrimental to the interests of the country. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Aug. 25. 360. To Rāy Rāyān Ummid Rām. Sends him a letter for the Nawāb. His departure just now would be imprudent. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 63.*]

Aug. 26. 361. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is much pleased at the likelihood of a speedy settlement of the accounts. Hopes the Ray Rāyān will be able to return soon. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Aug. 26. 362. From the Rāy Rāyan. Begs to be recalled as he cannot bring the Nawāb round to his views. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Aug. 26. 363. From Zu-l-faqār 'Alī Khān. He did not wait on the Governor as he could not rely on the verbal message sent to him, but he will do so on receipt of a written order. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 47.*]

Aug. 26. 364. To Haidar 'Alī Khān. Warns him not to molest the Company's *gumāshtahs* at Golahgarh. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 33.*]

Aug. 26. 365. To Rājā Kishn Chand. Desires him to order Chandra Chand not to molest the Company's *gumāshtah* at Buran. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 61.*]

Aug. 26. 366. To Rāja Tilok Chand. Warns him against the consequences of his dilatoriness in discharging the Company's revenues. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 54.*]

Aug. 26. 367. To Najību-l-lāh Khān. Desires him to release a grab that put into Gungapatam. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 51.*]

Aug. 26. 368. To Narāyan Deo. Desires him to issue orders that the Company's *qāsids* be not molested in their journeys. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 51.*]

Aug. 26. 369. To Chakkū Sūtūar. Sends him a letter to be delivered to Narāyan Deo. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

Aug. 26. 370. To Asad Zamān Khān Desires him to recall immediately the people he sent into the Burdwan district. [*Abs. P. L. I. 1759-65, p. 1.*]

Aug. 26. 371. To Sirāju-d-daulah of Arcot, and his *Dīwān*. Has arrived at Calcutta. Thanks him for the civilities he (Mr. Vansittart)

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received from him while at Madras. Transmits to him the answer to his letter from Mīr Ja'far. [*Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 80.*]

Aug. 26. 372. To Sirāju-d-daulah of Arcot, and his *Diwān*. Desires him to compel Najību-l-lāh Khān to release a grab that has put into Gungapatam. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 80.*]

Aug 27. 373. From Chakku Sūtuar. Raja Narayan Deo has imprisoned some *qāsids*. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 19.*]

Aug. 27. 374. From Khush-hal Chand. On his arrival at Patta he will let the Governor know if he intends to proceed to Cuttack. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 21.*]

Aug. 27. 375. To Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Desires him to permit the Company's *tilangās* to return to Calcutta. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 77.*]

Aug. 28. 376. To Sulaimān Beg, *Faujdar* of Hooghly. Desires that he will enquire into the conduct of the Chinsurah Fiscal towards Harī Malik. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 77.*]

Aug. 28. 377. From Asad Zamān Khān. Offers congratulations on Mr. Vansittart's becoming Governor. Hopes the business respecting his *zamīndāri* will now be adjusted. [*Abs. P. L. R. 1759-65, p. 1.*]

Aug. 29. 378. From Sarsattī Dās. Is pleased at the Governor's arrival in Bengal. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

Aug. 30. 379. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far Sends an agreement which he is to enter into with the Dutch Chief and Council for execution. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Aug 31. 380. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Mīr Qāsim will soon reach Calcutta. Hopes his affairs will then be finally adjusted. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Aug. 31. 381. From Ghulām Ḥusain Khan. Intends to write frequently. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 20.*]

Aug. 31. 382. From Mīr Qāsim. Is anxious to come to see the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Aug. 31. 383. To Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Desires him to compel some Hooghly *mānjhīs* to accompany Mr. McGuire with their boats to Patna. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 77.*]

Aug. 31. 384. To Jagat Sēṭh. Desires him to send an expert in jewels to Mr. Sykes to value those which Mīr Ja'far deposited with the Company. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Aug. 31. 385. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Requests him to adhere strictly to the agreement made with the Rāy Rāyān for the payment of the revenues. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Aug. 31., 386. To the Nawab Mīr Ja'far. Requests him to make over the Faujdārship of Sylhet to the Company. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Sept. 2. 387. From Rāy Dūlab. Hopes the 4 *lākhs* of rupees borrowed for the Company will now be repaid. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

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Sept. 2. 388. To Mīr Qāsim. The Governor wishes to see him as soon as possible. [*Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 7.*]

Sept. 2. 389 To Rājā Kishn Chand. He should allow Mr. Holwell to return to Calcutta, when he has finished his business. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 61.*]

Sept. 3. 390 From Mīr Qāsim. The Nawab has directed him to put off his intended visit to Calcutta for some days. All letters to him should be given to Khwājah Petruse. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Sept. 3. 391. To Rājā Tilok Chand. Desires the *tilangās* sent to Burdwan to return to Calcutta. [*Abs. P L. I., 1759-65, p. 54.*]

Sept. 3. 392. To Rājā Kishn Chand. Desires the *tilangās* sent into Nuddea to return to Calcutta. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 61, 62.*]

Sept. 3. 393. To Jagan Nāth *Sarkār*. Desires him not to take more than the customary duties from the people of Balasore. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Sept. 3. 394. To Ghulām Ḥusain Khān. Desires he will assist Mr. Sykes in all his negotiations with the Nawāb. [*Abs. P. L I., 1759-65, p. 31.*]

Sept. 3. 395. To Mīr Qāsim. Asks him to come to Calcutta as soon as he can. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 7.*]

Sept. 3. 396. To the merchants of Balasore. Orders have been sent to Sirāju-d-daulah and others about the release of their vessel. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 2.*]

Sept. 3. 397. To the Rājā of Bīrbhum. Censures his freedom of language. Orders him to show obedience to the Nawāb. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 65.*]

Sept. 4. 398. From Ghulām Ḥusain Khān. Offers compliments. Hopes for letters. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 20.*]

Sept. 5. 399. To Khush-ḥal Chand. Encloses letters to Gopāl Pūrī and others about the *ḍāks*. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

Sept. 5. 400. To Gopāl Pūrī. Directs him to assist the Company's *ḍāk* people. [*Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 31.*]

Sept 5. 401. To Jagat Sēṭh. Regrets to hear that he has dislocated his arm. [*Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Sept. 5. 402. To Lakshmī Narāyan. Directs him to supply the *ḍāk* people with all articles they may want in their journey. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 43.*]

Sept. 5. 403. To Jodh Rām *Chaudharī*. Directs him to assist the Company's *ḍāk* people. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Sept. 5. 404. To Kāmgār Khān. Tells him that proper measures have been taken about the *dāks*. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 51.*]

Sept. 5. 405. To Mukyall Shuryamun [?] Desires him to come and settle his accounts with Khwājah Fānūs. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

Sept. 5. 406. To Rājā Narāyan Deo. Desires that he should let *qāṣids* pass through his country unmolested. [*Abs P. L. I., 1759-65. p. 65.*]

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Sept. 5. 407. To Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Desires him to release immediately some boats he has seized. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 77.*]

Sept. 5. 408. To the Rāy Rāyān. Hopes for his speedy arrival at Mūrshidabad. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 66.*]

Sept. 5. 409. To Pitambar Dās. He should supply every want of the *ḍāk* people. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 52.*]

Sept. 6. 410. From Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Refers to respectable merchants for the refutation of the malicious stories framed by the *ghat manjhis* to his prejudice. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Sept. 6. 411. From the Rāy Rāyān. Intimates that Jagat Sēṭh has dislocated his shoulder. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p 40.*]

Sept. 6. 412. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Intimates his interview with Major Coote. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Sept. 6. 413. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Intimates the departure of Major Coote and Qāsim 'Alī for Patna and Calcutta respectively. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Sept. 7. 414. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is pleased that he and Major Coote had a friendly meeting. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Sept 7. 415. To Mīr Qāsim. Informs him that all points will be adjusted when they meet. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 7.*]

Sept. 7 416. To Mīr Qāsim. Is pleased that he has set out to interview the Governor at Calcutta. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 7.*]

Sept. 7. 417. To the Rājā of Assam. Desires he should see to the proper adjustment of affairs between Mr. Peark and his subjects. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 66.*]

Sept. 7. 418. To the Rājā of Assam. Assures him of the Governor's friendship for him. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65. p. 66.*]

Sept. 8. 419. From Mīr Qāsim. Intimates the mission of Khwājah Gregory. Hopes for letters. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Sept. 9. 420. From Muhammad Zamīr. Informs him of the intention of some Marhatta chiefs to march towards Delhi with a *lākh* and half of men. [*Abs. P. L R., 1759-65, p. 30.*]

Sept. 9. 421. From Mīr Qasim. Intimates that he has set out from Murshidabad for Calcutta. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Sept. 10 422. From Mīr Qāsim Shows anxiety for his speedy arrival. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Sept. 10. 423. From Khwājah Petruse Intimates the arrival of Qāsim 'Alī Khān at Hooghly. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 19.*]

Sept. 10 424. To Rājā Tilok Chand. He will take care that a Company's *gumāshtah* sent to Kundgos is not molested. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 54.*]

Sept. 10. 425. To Mīr Qāsim The Governor will be much pleased by his coming to Calcuttā, [*Abs. P. L. I. 1759-65, p. 7.*]

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Sept. 10. 426. To Mīr Qāsim. Mr. Sumner and others have gone to meet him. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 7.*]

Sept. 11. 427. From Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. The stories of the Dutch against him are not to be credited. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p 44.*]

Sept. 12. 428. From Rājā Tilok Chand. His sepoys are discontented for want of their pay. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Sept. 12. 429. From the Nawab Mīr Ja'far. Thanks the Governor for the orders for the settlement of his accounts. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Sept. 12. 430. To Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Desires to know when the Dutch Governor intends to pay the 40,000 rupees he owes. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 77.*]

Sept. 12. 431. To Rājā Tilok Chand. Desires that the Captain and sepoys sent to him may return to Calcutta immediately. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 54.*]

Sept. 12. 432. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Informs him that a sloop going to Balasore was released as soon as it was known to be his. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Sept. 13. 433. To the Rāy Rāyān. Trusts he will send the money agreed upon. Informs him that the sloop was released immediately on her being known to be the Nawāb's property. Transmits medicine for him. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 66.*]

Sept. 13. 434. To the King of Pegu. The Company will be pleased to promote trade with himself and his subjects. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Sept. 14. 435. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Intimates the departure of Qāsim 'Alī for Calcutta. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Sept. 14. 436. From the Rāy Rāyān. Begs that 2,000 maunds of lead may be purchased for the Nawāb. Hopes that a sloop laden with some valuable articles will be released. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Sept. 14. 437. From the Rāy Rāyān. Thanks the Governor for the medicine he sent him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Sept. 14. 438. From the Rāy Rāyān. Intends to proceed to the city. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Sept. 15. 439. From Khush-hāl Chand. Requires more *harkārahs*. Six are not sufficient. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 21.*]

Sept. 15. 440. From Mīr Qāsim Wishes to know when he is to visit the Governor. Requests that no one may be present at the time. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Sept. 15. 441. From the Rāy Rāyān. Is indisposed. Submits proposals he intends making to the Nawāb. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Sept. 15. 442. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The Governor will be happy to see Qāsim 'Alī Khān in Calcutta. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65. p. 37.*]

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Sept. 15. 443. To Mīr Qāsim. The Governor will be glad to see him this evening to consult him about the affair. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 7.*]

Sept. 15. 444. To Jagat Sēṭh. Is sorry to hear he has had a severe fall. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Sept. 16. 445. To Khush-hāl Chand. Desires he will forward the letters sent by *qāsids* to Madras. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

Sept. 16. 446. To Rājā Rājballabh. Offers compliments. Assures him of the Company's friendship. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 71.*]

Sept. 16. 447. To Rājā Narāyan Deo. Hopes he will forward the letters that are sent by *qāsids* to Madras. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65. p. 65.*]

Sept. 16. 448. To Rājā Tilok Chand. He should prevent the Dutchman from remaining in Burdwan. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 54.*]

Sept. 16. 449. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. He should prevent the Dutch from overrunning the interior. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Sept. 17. 450. To the Rāy Rāyān. Desires he will, as soon as possible, send money by a safe person to Calcutta. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 66.*]

Sept. 17. 451. From the Rāy Rāyān. Intimates that he will soon send the money and requests that a proper person may be deputed to examine it. [*Abs P L. R., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Sept. 17. 452. To Rājā Rām Narāyan. A letter and *parwānah* from the Nawāb are on their way to him. [*Abs. P. L I, 1759-65, p. 60.*]

Sept. 17. 453. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Commends the general line of conduct of Qāsim 'Alī Khān. Informs him that Colonel Coote (Saif Jang) will set out for Patna in a few days. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Sept. 17. 454. To Rājā Rājballabh. States that he should not be uneasy, as a suitable appointment will be given him. [*Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 71.*]

Sept. 18. 455. From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Intends to come and see the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39*]

Sept. 18. 456. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Gives his reasons for not delivering Islamabad and Sylhet to the Company. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Sept. 18. 457. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Hopes for the quick return of Qāsim 'Alī and Major Coote. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Sept. 18. 458. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Informs him that Colonel Coote and Qāsim 'Alī Khān will immediately proceed to Patna. Expresses displeasure at his not granting the Company the Faujdārship of Islamabad and Sylhet, as requested. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Sept. 18. 459. From Mīr Qāsim. Requests the presence of Rājā Rājballabh in Murshidabad for the settlement of some accounts. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

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Sept. 18. 460. From Rājā Tilok Chand. Will send the sepoys from Burdwan to Calcutta as directed. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p 36.*]

Sept. 18. 461. From Ghulām Husain Khān. Hopes for answers to the Nawāb's letters. [*Abs P. L. R., 1759-65, p 20.*]

Sept. 19. 462. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far States that affairs at Patna will be in a bad state as Rām Narāyan is discontented. It is advisable to send the Major and Qāsim 'Alī there. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759 65, p. 27.*]

Sept. 19. 463. From Ghulām Husain Khān. Expresses a desire to communicate freely with Mr. Sykes on all affairs. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p 20.*]

Sept. 20. 464. From Jagat Sēth. States that he has had a fall and is indisposed in consequence. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 21.*]

Sept. 20. 465. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Informs him that he has attested the agreement made with the Dutch. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Sept. 20. 466. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Colonel Coote and Rājā Rājballabh will be sent to him as requested. [*Abs. P. L. I. 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Sept. 20. 467. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Hopes that Kāshī Nath, the Company's *gumāshtah*, will be favoured by him. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Sept. 20. 468. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Colonel (Coote) and Qāsim 'Alī Khān will shortly proceed to him. Hopes he will exert himself to the utmost to supply money to the troops at Patna, who are very much in need of it. [*Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Sept. 20. 469. To Ghulām Husain Khān. He should give every assistance to Mr. Batson. [*Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 31.*]

Sept. 20. 470. To Ghulām Husain Khān. Forwards a letter for the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. [*Abs. P. L I, 1759-65. p 31.*]

Sept. 21. 471 To Jagat Seth. Dr. Hancock will soon set his sprained leg right. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 38.*]

Sept. 21. 472. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. A long letter advising the sending of Rām Nārāyan to Calcutta with the pay of the troops. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Sept. 22 473. From Pitambar Dās. States his continual readiness to help the Company in every respect. Says orders will be issued to assist the people in charge of the *dāks*. [*Abs P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Sept. 22. 474. From Lakshmi Nārāyan. States that he has made necessary arrangements for the convenience and safety of the *dāk* people. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 23.*]

ept. 22. 475. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. States that orders should be given to pay off the sepoys. Desires the Colonel's presence at Patna. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

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Sept. 24. **476.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Necessary orders have been issued to prevent the Dutch from uniting with the Rājā of Birbhum. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Sept. 24. **477.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is pleased at the reception given to Mir Qasim by the Governor. Intends bestowing a sardārship on him. Expresses a wish that Rājā Rājballabh and Colonel Coote should remain at Patna owing to the approach of the Shāhzādah. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Sept. 24. **478.** From the Nawāb Mir Ja'far. Is pleased to hear that Qasim 'Alī is about to come to him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-56, p. 27.*]

Sept. 24. **479.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Hopes he will have Ghulām Husain apprehended and punished for having stolen some jewels. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Sept. 24. **480.** To Pitambar Das. Is asked to issue orders to supply the *dak* people with *mashā'ls*. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 52*]

Sept. 25 **481.** From Jagat Sēth Offers compliments in reply to the Governor's enquiries about him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Sept. 26. **482.** From Asad Zamān Khān. States that the *gumāshtah* whom the Governor wrote about will be liberated. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 1.*]

Sept. 26. **483.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Declares it is inadvisable for Rājā Rājballabh to leave Patna. [*Abs. P. L R., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Sept. 26. **484.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The Governor intends reinforcing [the army]. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Sept. 26. **485.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The Governor intends reinforcing the army with artillery and three or four hundred men. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Sept. 26. **486.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Hopes the Company's force will be sufficient to rout his enemies. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Sept. 26. **487.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The Governor intends paying him a visit shortly. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 37.*]

Sept. 26. **488.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Hopes for letters. Advises the despatch of all available cash. The Governor intends setting out immediately for Burdwan. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, pp. 36, 37.*]

Sept. 26. **489.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Asks him to issue orders for the protection of the Company's *gumāshtahs* employed in Burdwan. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1795-65, p. 54.*]

Sept. 28 **490.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. He is at liberty to send Rājā Rājballabh to Calcutta or not. The Governor in the first instance directed Rāja Rājballabh to be sent down to Calcutta thinking the proposal had met with his approbation. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Sept. 28. **491.** To Mukand Rām. He is instructed to receive the Company's money at the usual rate of exchange. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

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Sept. 28. 492. To the Rāy Rāyān. Desires he should pay the Company's dues without delay. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 67.*]

Sept. 28. 493. To the Rāy Rāyān. A further reminder demanding payment of the Company's dues. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 67.*]

Sept. 29. 494. From Asad Zamān Khān. Offers compliments with the assurance of his friendship. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 1.*]

Sept. 30. 495. To Gopāl Pūrī. Solicits his assistance to the Company's *gumāshtah* at Cuttack. [*Abs. P. L. I. 1759-65, p. 31.*]

Sept. 30. 496. To Rājā Narāyan Deo. Hopes he will assist the Company's *dāk* people on their way through Cuttack. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 65.*]

Sept. 30. 497. To Mīr 'Abdu-r-rahīm. Hopes orders may be issued to his people to give every help to the Company's *dāk* peons. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

Sept. 30. 498. To Mīr 'Abdu-r-rahīm. Lakhshmi Nath must be compelled to pay Mr. McGuire his debt. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

Oct. 1, 499. From Muhammad Zamīr. Several chiefs have been slain in an engagement near Delhi by Shujā'u-d-daulah and others. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 30.*]

Oct. 1 500. From Gopāl Pūrī. Will send Chakkū Sūtūar as requested in a week or so. Hopes for letters. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 20.*]

Oct. 1. 501. From Rājā Tilok Chand. Gives information of the trouble the ryots at Dinyercolly experience at the hands of the *firangīs* encamped there. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Oct. 1. 502. From Khush-hāl Chand. Mr. Burdett pays him no attention and has misapplied the money allowed for the *dāk*. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 21.*]

Oct. 1. 503. From Khush-hāl Chand. Ghulām Mustafā has been seized on the roads. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 21.*]

Oct. 1. 504. From Khush-hāl Chand. Some female passengers going on a sloop to Chinsurah have been seized near Ganjam Hopes orders may be passed for their deliverance. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 21.*]

Oct. 1. 505. From Mukand Rām. States that he has two *lākhs* of rupees at hand for the Governor. [*Abs. P. L R., 1759-65, p. 30.*]

Oct. 1. 506. From Mukand Rām. Has sent one *lākh* and seventy-four thousand rupees. The rate of *battah* has been arranged between him and the Rāy Rāyān. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 30.*]

Oct. 1. 507. From Mukand Rām. States that he cannot comply with the Rāy Rāyān's proposal respecting the *battah* on the different sorts of rupees. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 30.*]

Oct. 1. 508. From Mukand Rām. Requests the speedy return of the boats. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 30.*]

Oct. 1. 509. From Ragmānjī Jāchak. He has placed Zafar[?] Gosāl Chand in the factory as requested by the Governor. His interests and

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welfare and those of the Company are identical. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

Oct. 1. 510. From Chakkū Sūtūar. The Governor's letter has been sent to the Rājā. Intends going himself The *qāsids* imprisoned by the Rājā have been set at liberty. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 19.*]

Oct. 1. 511. From Mīr Qāsim. Has arrived at Hooghly from Calcutta and will proceed to the city on the following day. [*Abs, P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Oct. 1. 512. From Kāmgār Khān. Congratulations on the arrival and appointment of the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 30*]

Oct. 1. 513. From Kāmgār Khān. On the arrival of 'Abdu-r-rahīm at Balasore, the necessary *parwānah* for the *ḍaks* will be given to him. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759 65, p. 30.*]

Oct. 1. 514. From Mīr Wāris 'Alī. The Company's rice will be let pass when those in charge produce a *dastak*. A small gratuity to the peons and *sarkārs* is advisable. [*Abs P. L R., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

Oct. 2. 515. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Requests the immediate presence of the Governor. Will pay the money due to the sepoys to the Chief of Cossimbazar [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Oct. 2. 516. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The arrears due to the army will be sent. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Oct. 2. 517. To Rājā Narayan Deo. Asks him to assist the Company's *dāk* people on their way through Cuttack. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 65.*]

Oct. 4. 518. To Mīr Wāriṣ 'Alī. If he wishes to retain the Governor's friendship, orders must be given to his people to let the Company's rice pass. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 44.*]

Oct. 5. 519. To Rājā Tilok Chand. The complaints of some weavers should be attended to. [*Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 54.*]

Oct. 7. 520. To Rājā Narāyan Deo. A request to direct his people to let the Company's *qāsids* pass without molestation through Cuttack. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 66.*]

Oct. 8. 521. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is pleased at the determination of the Governor to punish the Rājā of Birbhum. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Oct. 8. 522. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is pleased to hear of the Governor's intention of proceeding to Murshidabad. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Oct. 8. 523. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Hopes for the speedy arrival of Colonel Coote with an army to punish the Company's enemies. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Oct. 8. 524. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is willing to assist Mr. Batson, the Chief of Cossimbazar. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Oct. 8. 525. To Mukand Rām. Acknowledges receipt of his letter and two *lākhs* of rupees [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 45.*]

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Oct. 9. **526.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far Is pleased to hear the Governor has left Calcutta for the city [Murshidabad]. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 27*]

Oct. 9. **527.** From Mīr Qāsim. Is happy to hear of the Governor's intention of going to Murshidabad. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Oct. 10. **528.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is pleased to hear of the Governor's arrival at Chinsurah. [*Abs. P L. R., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Oct 10. **529.** From Mīr Qāsim. Encloses a copy of the news from Delhi. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Oct 12. **530.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is glad to learn of the Governor's arrival at Nuddea. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 28*]

Oct. 13. **531.** From Mīr Qāsim. Rājā Rājballabh should be sent on some pretext to Murshidabad. [*Abs. P. L R., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Oct. 14. **532.** To Rājā Narāyan Deo. Orders should be issued for the free passage of the Company's *qāṣids* to Madras. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 66.*]

Oct. 18. **533.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Regrets that the affairs of his country are still unnoticed and unadjusted. Wishes to pay the Company the utmost it would produce. The revenues of his country are unsettled. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Oct 18. **534.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Hopes the rental of Burdwan will be fixed at such a rate that he will be able to discharge it without getting into arrears. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Oct. 18. **535.** From Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Transmits news which the *harkārahs* brought from Burdwan. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*].

Oct. 19. **536.** To Gopāl Pūrī. He is asked to assist the Company's *dāk* peons. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 31.*]

Oct. 19. **537.** To Partāb Narāyan. Orders should be issued for the safe passage of the Company's *qāsids*. [*Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 52.*]

Oct. 21. **538.** From Mīr Qāsim. Intimates having sent a few presents for the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Oct. 21. **539.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Intimates having made a further movement towards the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

Oct. 22 **540.** From Mīr Qāsim. Nand Kumār ought not to be permitted to accompany Colonel Coote to Patna. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Oct. 23. **541.** From Mīr Qāsim. Offers compliments. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Oct. 23 **542.** From Mīr Qāsim. Requests to be informed of what passes between the Governor and Rājā Sarūp Chand. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Oct. 23 **543.** From Mīr Qāsim. Amīru-d-dīn imprisoned by Colonel Coote should be released. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*].

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Oct. 24. 544. From Jagat Sēth. Sends a letter with compliments on the Governor's justice. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Oct. 24. 545. From Mir Qāsim. Praises Rājā Sarūp Chand and wishes to see him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Oct. 25. 546. From the Rāy Rāyān. Makes inquiries after the Governor's health [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Oct. 27. 547. From Umī Chand. Danjī Rāy is going to Calcutta. If affairs are to go on, attention must be paid to his letters. [*Abs P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Oct. 27. 548. From Rājā Tilok Chand. States the ruinous condition of his country. Hopes for redress against the Raja of Birbhum. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Oct. 27. 549. To Rājā Narāyan Deo. Hopes for his assistance to the *dāk* people from Madras. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 66.*]

Oct. 27. 550. To Mukand Rām. Acknowledges the receipt of the bills of exchange. Desires a further supply. [*Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 45.*]

Oct. 27. 550A. To Mukand Ram. Acknowledges receipt of Rs. 54,500. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

Oct. 28. 551. From the Rāy Rāyān. Hopes the Nawāb will receive more honours through the friendship of the Company. Expresses willingness to pay all the money due. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Oct. 28. 552. From the Rāy Rāyan. Offers compliments in reply to a letter from the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Oct. 30. 553. From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Is pleased to hear of the Governor's arrival at Murshidabad. Wishes for the services of an experienced General. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Oct. 31. 554. From Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Commends the Governor's measures for the care of the people. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Nov. 3. 555. From the Shāhzādah. Is happy to hear of the Governor's arrival in Bengal. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

Nov. 3. 556. From Rāy Dulab. Offers compliments on the dethronement of Mīr Ja'far from the ṣūbahdārship of Bengal. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Nov. 5. 557. To Rājā Baij Nāth. He must prevent his *barqandāzes* from creating disturbances. [*Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 70.*]

Nov. 7. 558. To 'Alī Naqī Khān. Desires him to set out immediately for Calcutta. Thence he will be sent to attend Mīr Ja'far during his illness. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 1.*]

Nov. 7. 559. To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has arrived at Calcutta, where he is directed to repair without delay with the Burdwan accounts. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 54.*]

Nov. 7. 560. To Rajā Narāyan Deo. Desires assistance for the Company's *qāsids* now proceeding to Madras. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 66.*]

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Nov. 7. **561.** To Miṣrī Khān. Desires him to come to the Presidency town with the Midnapur accounts. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

Nov. 7. **562.** To Mīr Ja'far. 'Alı Naqī Khān, a doctor, will be sent to him as soon as possible. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Nov. 7. **563.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Notifies his arrival at the Presidency town. Thanks him for his civilities. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 7*]

Nov. 7. **564.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. A request for 25,000 rupees for the expenses of the Nawāb Shujā'u-l-mulkh Mir Ja'far. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 7.*]

Nov. 8. **565.** From Mīr Waris 'Alı. Refers to the mission and letters of Nain Rāy. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

Nov. 10. **566.** From the Shāhzādah. Replies to the Governor's letter announcing his arrival and accession. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

Nov. 12. **567.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Requests the issue of *parwānahs* to the Rājā of Burdwan and the *Faujdars* of Midnapur and Islamabad, ordering them to come immediately to Calcutta. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 7.*]

Nov. 12. **568.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Requests the assistance of sepoys in expelling the Marhattas from Midnapur. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 7.*]

Nov. 12. **569.** To Muḥammad Qulī Khān. Desires him to set out immediately for Calcutta. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Nov. 12. **570.** To Miṣrī Khān. Desires his presence in Calcutta to make plans for frustrating the attacks of the Marhattas at Midnapur. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

Nov. 13. **571.** From Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Intimates that the Rājā of Burdwan is raising an army. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Nov. 13. **572.** From Biā Rām. The Zamīndār of Cuttack has collected together a large force. On the arrival of Saif Jang, it will break up and disperse. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Nov. 13. **573.** To Damodar Singh, Rājā of Bishanpur. Desires that orders may be issued to his *Jama'dār* for the release of the Company's *gumāshtah*. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 70.*]

Nov. 14. **574.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Desires that Kummā Nand, Zamındār, may be sent to him with the money and goods he carried away. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Nov. 14. **575.** To Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. The intimation given by him that the Rājā of Burdwan was raising troops is very praiseworthy. Hopes to hear frequently from him. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 77.*]

Nov. 14. **576.** To Mīr Waris 'Alī. His people should be ordered not to exact duties at a higher rate than formerly. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

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Nov. 15. **577.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Approves his sending Colonel Coote to Patna. More troops will be sent. Hopes that the Rājá of Birbhum will be duly punished. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 7.*]

Nov. 15. **578.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Rājā Tilok Chand and the *Faujdar* of Midnapur must come to Calcutta or troops will be sent to bring them. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 7.*]

Nov. 15. **579.** To Gopāl Purī. Hopes for letters. Trusts some letters to Madras will be forwarded. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 31.*]

Nov. 15. **580.** To Kāmgar Khān. Sends him a petition to be presented to the Imperial Court. Hopes for a recommendation for it. [*Abs. P. L I., 1759-65, p. 29.*]

Nov. 15. **581.** To Mirzā 'Alī. Desires orders to his people for the release of boats coming to Calcutta with planks. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759 65, p. 46*]

Nov. 15. **582.** To Ragmānjī Jāchak. In reply, offers compliments. Hopes for letters. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 63.*]

Nov. 15. **583.** To Rājā Narāyan Deo It is impossible to supply the troops he wants. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759 65, p. 66.*]

Nov. 15. **584.** To the Shāhzādah. Colonel Coote is going to Patna. Hopes his requests will be granted. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 77.*]

Nov. 17. **585.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has resolved to take charge of his *zamīndarī* for his disobedience. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 54.*]

Nov. 17. **586.** To Rāja Kishn Chand. Acknowledges receipt of his letter. The Rāy Rāyān has been written to in his favour. [*Abs. P. L. I. 1759-65, p. 62.*]

Nov. 17. **587.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Rājā Kishn Chand is indisposed and should be leniently dealt with. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 67.*]

Nov. 19. **588.** To Muhammad Rizā Khan. The Islamabad revenues are to be collected by him till the arrival of a European. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 45.*]

Nov. 20 **589.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Transmits bills of exchange for fifteen thousand rupees. The Rajās of Burdwan and Birbhum seem to be hostile. Intends sending a detachment against them. [*Abs. P. L. R , 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Nov. 20. **590.** From Biā Ram. The Marhattas have placed Shāh 'Ālam II, son of 'Ālamgīr II, on the throne. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Nov. 20. **591.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Writes of the poor state of his country. Hopes that the revenues will be justly fixed. [*Abs. P. L. R , 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Nov. 20. **592.** To Biā Rām. Thanks him for the *darbār* accounts. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Nov. 20. **593.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Hopes for an order to the son of the Nawāb Shujā'u-l-mulk to pay the balance due to the Company on account of lead. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 8*]

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Nov. 20. **594.** To Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Gives thanks and wishes for further news. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 77.*]

Nov. 20. **595.** To Shukru-l-lāh Khān. The Company's purchases in the Sylhet chunam should not be impeded [*Abs. P L. I., 1759-65, p. 79.*]

Nov. 21. **596.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Communicates his determination to punish the Rājās of Burdwan and Midnapur. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 3*]

Nov. 21. **597.** From Asad Zamān Khān. Finds great fault with Mīr Ja'far's being sent for to Calcutta and the use of threats. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 1.*]

Nov. 21. **597A.** From Asad Zamān Khān. To the same effect. [*Abs. P. L R., 1759-65, p. 1.*]

Nov. 22. **598.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates that he would like to send for the old Zamīndar of Burdwan and place him in the station held by his ancestors. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Nov. 22. **599.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Recommends that a person should be sent in future to collect the revenues for the payment of the troops. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Nov. 22. **600.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. States that he has sent assignments for the payment of the Company's troops. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Nov. 24. **601.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. States that he will send a capable person to Calcutta to settle the accounts and pay up some of the money due. Informs the Governor of his intention of visiting Calcutta soon when he will give a detailed account of his behaviour. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p 37.*]

Nov. 24. **602.** From Jagat Sēṭh. Offers compliments. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Nov. 24. **603.** From Jagat Sēṭh. Hopes for letters. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Nov. 25. **604.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intends setting out to chastise the Rājā of Birbhum. [*Abs P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Nov. 25. **605.** From Rājā Partāb Rāy. Offers compliments. Professes great regard for the Company. [*Abs. P. L. R , 1759-65, p. 42.*]

Nov. 25. **606.** From Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. The utmost attention will be paid to the troops going into Burdwan and Midnapur. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Nov. 25. **607.** To Jagat Sēṭh. Offers compliments. Intimates the pleasure his company will afford. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Nov. 25. **608.** To Rājā Rām Narāyan. Desires an order to the *Qal'ahdār* of Monghyr to release Mr. Williamson's boats. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 60.*]

Nov. 25 **609.** To Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Desires that he will state what the former duties on rice were. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 78.*]

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Nov. 25. **610.** To Sirāju-d-daulah. Hopes for letters from him. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 79.*]

Nov. 26. **611.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Acknowledges receipt of the *parwānahs* for Rājā Tilok Chand. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 8.*]

Nov. 26. **612.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Requests that he will remit the money promised. He should give Major York ten or twenty thousand rupees should he want them. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 8.*]

Nov. 26. **613.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Hopes that he will order the Rāy Rāyān to give copies of the Burdwan papers to Biā Rām for the Company's inspection. [*Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 8.*]

Nov. 26. **614.** To the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Intimates the disaffection of the Rāja of Burdwan and the Governor's intention of sending troops to chastise him. [*Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 8.*]

Nov. 26. **615.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Is happy to hear of his going to chastise the Rāja of Burdwan. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 8.*]

Nov. 26. **616.** To Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdar* of Hooghly. Requests to hear frequent accounts of the situation of affairs in Burdwan. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 78.*]

Nov. 26. **617.** To Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdar* of Hooghly. Troops have been sent into Burdwan. Directs that he should look after the commissariat. [*Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 78.*]

Nov. 26. **618.** To Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Wishes to know the former duties on rice. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 78.*]

Nov. 26. **619.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Competent persons should be sent to adjust the revenue accounts of Burdwan. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 54.*]

Nov. 26. **620.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. There is no fear, should he act in the right way, and attend to the adjustment of the Burdwan affairs. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 54.*]

Nov. 26. **621.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. A *dīwān* should be sent to Burdwan to wait on Mr. Sumner, who has gone to settle the country. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 54.*]

Nov. 26. **622.** To Mīr Wāriṣ 'Alī. Asks for help for the Company's people purchasing rice. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Nov 26. **623.** To Mīr Wāriṣ 'Alī. Mr. Dacre's *gumāshtah* should not be interrupted in the purchase of rice at Injeli [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Nov. 26. **624.** To Rāja Shitāb Rāy. Is assured of his friendship. Hopes for letters. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 72.*]

Nov. 26. **625.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Copies of the Burdwan papers should be made over to the care of Biā Rām. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 67.*]

Nov 26 **626.** To Muḥammad 'Ā'ẓam. Desires that orders be issued to his people not to molest the Company's *gumāshtahs* in their purchases at Dacca. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

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Nov. 26. 627. To Hatī Singh. Encloses a letter in his favour to Colonel Coote. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 33.*]

Nov. 26. 628. To Biā Rām. He must be careful to receive the Burdwan papers from the Rāy Rāyān. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Nov. 26. 629. To Jagtā Nand. Asks for a *mutaṣaddī* to adjust the Burdwan affairs. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Nov. 26. 630. To Shām Chand. The Company's revenue is to be paid to Jagtā Nand. He need have no fear. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 80.*]

Nov. 26. 631. To Jasārat Khān. People should be sent to adjust the revenue business of Burdwan. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Nov. 26. 632. To Khirat Chand. Anyone obstructing the Company's boats must be reported. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

Nov. 26. 633. To Salāru-d-dīn Muḥammad Khān. Approves of his intended visit to Calcutta. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 79.*]

Nov. 27. 634. From Miṣrī Khān. Until all arrears are paid to the sepoys no revenue can be sent from the *chaklah* of Midnapur. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 30.*]

Nov. 27. 635. From Misrī Khān. Fear of being attacked by highwaymen prevents him from going to the Governor. A plan should be devised to pay the arrears due to the sepoys, who are very discontented. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 30.*]

Nov. 27. 636. From Kāmgār Khān. Hopes for an answer to the King's letter. States that he will impress His Majesty with the Governor's fame. Refers him for all other matters to Nand Kumār's communications. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 30.*]

Nov. 27. 637. From Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Encloses news received from Burdwan. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Nov. 28. 638. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intends setting out to chastise the Rājā of Birbhum. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Nov. 28. 639. To Misrī Khān. Business must be transacted in the usual manner. Reinforcements of the Company's troops will soon be sent. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

Nov. 28. 640. To Rājā Rāj Narāyan. As his *zamīndārī* has been made over to the Company by the Nawāb, an October *qiṣt* is due from him. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 65.*]

Nov. 29. 641. From Ghulām Ḥusain Khān. Offers compliments and hopes for letters. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 20.*]

Nov. 29. 642. To Kāmgār Khān. Colonel Coote, who is going to Patna, will explain all matters to him. Sends a petition for the King. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 29.*]

Nov. 30. 643. From Rājā Tilok Chand. Hopes for protection. Offers compliments. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Nov. 30. 644. From Rājā Tilok Chand. Will send a *wakil* to Calcutta. Requests that Mr. Sumner may not be sent to him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

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Nov. 30. **645.** From Khwājah Petruse. Mentions the quantity of merchandise the Hindu merchants would like to take to the port of Surat. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 19.*]

Nov. 30. **646.** From Rājā Jagtā Nand, *Qal'ahdār* of Mina Chowra. Sends a *wakīl* to the Governor. Professes friendship. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

Nov. 30. **647.** From Rājā Jugal Kishor. Describes the manner in which Midnapur was formerly plundered. Is highly pleased to hear that the district has come into the hands of the Company. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

Nov. 30. **648.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intends setting out to chastise the Rāja of Birbhum. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Nov. 30. **649.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Trusts the stipulated sum for the support of Shujā'u-l-mulk [Mīr Ja'far] will be paid regularly. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 8.*]

Dec. 1. **650.** From the Rāy Rāyān. The Rājā of Nuddea must be forced to clear off his arrears. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Dec. 1. **651.** To the Rājā of Midnapur. Tells him to come to Calcutta with the Midnapur papers. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 42.*]

Dec. 1. **652.** To Rājā Rāj Narāyan. The Company's troops will proceed to Midnapur to chastise the disaffected. He is required to attend at Calcutta with his papers. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 64.*]

Dec. 1. **653.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Desires him to send the Burdwan papers without delay. Major White will be directed to proceed to guard Midnapur against the Marhattas. [*Abs. P. L. I. 1759-65, p. 54.*]

Dec. 1. **654.** To Khwajah Petruse. Desires that he will hasten the freight for the ships. He is asked to request the Nawāb to pay the arrears due to the Company. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 29.*]

Dec. 1. **655.** To Ghulām Ḥusain Khān. In reply, offers compliments and hopes for letters. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 31.*]

Dec 1. **656.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Major York is at his disposal, and can be employed in chastising the Rājās of Birbhum and Bishanpur. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 8.*]

Dec 1. **657.** To Biā Rām. He should attend the Nawāb who has gone to chastise the Rājā of Birbhum. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Dec. 2. **658.** To Khwājah Luṭfu-l-lāh. Asks for a clearance of the balance due on the purchase of lead. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 29.*]

Dec. 3. **659.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intends setting out to chastise the Rājā of Birbhum. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759 65, p. 3.*]

Dec. 3. **660.** To Ragmānji Jāchak. Requests an order to his people not to intercept any English letters coming from Madras. He is asked to accept the present of a watch and other things. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 63.*]

1760.

Dec. 4. **661.** To Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Desires that he will send his report against the Dutch Fiscal's servants to Chinsurah. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 78*]

Dec. 4. **662.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Desires him to deliver copies of the Burdwan and other papers to Biā Rām. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 67.*]

Dec. 4. **663.** To Bia Rām. Encloses a copy of a letter to Mīr Qāsim discussing and inviting attention to the Calcutta *sikkah* rupees. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Dec. 4. **664.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Requests him to order that the Calcutta *sikkahs* be of the Murshidabad stamp in order that no impediments may arise in the Company's business. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 8.*]

Dec. 4. **665.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Requests him to send the Company's money according to the agreement as the ships are on the point of sailing [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 8.*]

Dec. 4. **666.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Repeats the former request to obtain copies of the Burdwan and other papers to be sent to Calcutta. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 8.*]

Dec. 5. **667.** From Mukand Rām. Rājā Tilok Chand intends deputing him to the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65 p. 30.*]

Dec. 5. **668.** From Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Hopes that the Dutch Fiscal will not be allowed to leave Bengal until he adjusts some accounts with Agarām and other persons. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p 44.*]

Dec. 5. **669.** From Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. States that Khwājah Anpillo and others do not wish to pay duties to the Company. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Dec. 6. **670.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Advises that if Rājā Tilok Chand himself does not come, his *wakīls* ought not to be received. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 3*]

Dec. 7. **671.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Informs him that if the Rājā of Burdwan delays sending in the revenue, troops will be sent to compel him to pay it and to chastise him. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 8.*]

Dec. 7. **672.** To Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Is pleased to hear that he is expected in Calcutta to-morrow. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 78.*]

Dec. 7. **673.** To Rājā Rājballabh. States that Colonel Coote will soon be at Patna, and stop the disturbances caused by the sepoys. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 71.*]

Dec. 7. **674.** To Misrī Khān. Desires him to consult Major White on all points. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

Dec. 7. **675.** To Mīr Wāriṣ 'Alī. Desires him to order his *gumāshtahs* not to impede the Company's purchases in rice. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

1760.

Dec. 7. **676.** To Rājā Kishn Dās. Asks him to deliver a letter sent to him to Rājā Rajballabh. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 72.*]

Dec 9. **677.** To Rājā Sarūp Chand. It is not necessary that he should come to Calcutta. He is asked for a loan of five or ten *lākhs* for the Company. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 72.*]

Dec. 9. **678.** To the Rājā of Bisseli. It is a surprise to learn that the Company's people are impeded in their business in his district. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 72.*]

Dec. 9. **679.** To Rājā Rāj Narāyan. Tells him to send the *qists* due since October with a *wakil.* [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 64.*]

Dec. 9. **680.** To Mīr Wāris 'Alī. Tells him that his boats which were stopped at Bagh Bazar have been released. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 44.*]

Dec. 9. **681.** To the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Colonel Coote is going to the siege of Pondicherry. Major Carnac will remain at Patna. Acknowledges receipt of his advice respecting Dulab Rām and Nand Kumār's disaffection. This has greatly increased the Governor's knowledge of affairs. The orders to the Rāy Rāyan to send down the Burdwan papers should be cancelled. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, pp. 8-9.*]

Dec. 10. **682.** From Kamgār Khān. Intimates that the *farman* for the *sūbahs* will be shortly transmitted from the Royal Court. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 19.*]

Dec. 11. **683.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Sends copies of letters from the Shāhzādah and Kāmgār Khan. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 9.*]

Dec. 11. **684.** To the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Requests him to issue orders for the seizure of some coiners in the *parganah* of Baulea. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 9.*]

Dec. 12. **685.** From Khwājah Petruse. The Nawāb has sent fifty thousand rupees in part payment of the three *lākhs* required. The Nawāb was obliged to halt at the city, the sepoys refusing to move until paid up. The Rājā of Birbhum's combined forces of cavalry and infantry amount to twelve or thirteen hundred. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 19.*]

Dec. 12. **686.** From Mīr Wāris 'Alī. States that he has passed orders to chastise those who demanded duty on the Company's rice. Says salt will be dear this year owing to the *malangis* having run away. Requests the release of boats laden with salt, which were stopped by the *chaukidārs* at Bagh Bazar. This was not the practice formerly. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

Dec. 12. **687.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Advises the dispatch of troops to Burdwan and not to Midnapur, to punish the Zamīndār of the former place. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Dec. 12. **688.** From the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Praises Mr. Hastings. Requests that that gentleman should be sent to him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

1760.

Dec. 13. **689.** From Mahābat Qulī Khān. Sends Khwājah Muḥammad Nāẓir to attend to the Governor's commands. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 31.*]

Dec. 14. **690.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Declares the ruinous state of his country. [*Abs. P L. R., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Dec. 14. **691.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. The utmost exertions are being made to collect money to pay the Company. States that the sum of two thousand rupees a month is sufficient for the ex-Nawāb's expenses. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Dec. 14. **692.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Informs him of the arrears of pay due to the sepoys. It is advisable to set out to punish the Rāja of Birbhum. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 9.*]

Dec. 14. **693.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. There is no occasion to send troops into Burdwan. His Excellency should proceed himself to Birbhum to oppose Sheo Bhaṭ and the Marhattas. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 9.*]

Dec. 14. **694.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Expresses great satisfaction at his turning a deaf ear to his former ill-advisers. Is pleased to observe his reformed conduct. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 55.*]

Dec. 14. **695.** To Khush-ḥāl Singh of Balasore. Asks him to favour the Chief of Midnapur with his attentions. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

Dec. 14. **696.** To Jāy Narāyan. On receipt of this letter, he should repair to the Governor with his accounts. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Dec. 14. **697.** To Partab Narāyan. On receipt of this, he should repair to the Governor with his accounts. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 52.*]

Dec. 14. **698.** To Rājā Rāj Narāyan. On receipt of this, he must repair to the Governor with his accounts. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 64.*]

Dec. 15. **699.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Informs him that Major White has been directed to prevent the inhabitants of Burdwan and others from being plundered. The Major has also been directed to leave troops in Midnapur to guard that town against Sheo Bhaṭ and other Marhattas. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 55.*]

Dec. 16. **700.** From Muhammad Riẓā Khān. States that he did not receive the Governor's letter until after the revenue had been paid over to the Nawāb's *mutasaddi*. Professes great attachment to the Company. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 31.*]

Dec. 16. **701.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Intimates that the troops under Major White during their march through his lands committed robbery. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Dec. 16. **702.** From Jagat Sēṭh. Encloses a letter from one Rām Parshād. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

1760.

Dec. 16 **703.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Hopes that he will remit a sufficient sum of money to clear the arrears due to the sepoys. Affairs in Patna are beginning to look serious. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 9.*]

Dec. 17. **704.** To Damodar Singh, Rājā of Bishanpur. Desires him to issue orders to his people not to levy duties from the Company's *gumashtah.* [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 70.*]

Dec. 17 **705.** To Rājā Tilok Chand Complains of the misconduct of his people to those of the Company. [*Abs. P. L I., 1759 65, p 55.*]

Dec. 17. **706.** To Āzurdah-zamān Khān He is desired to order his people not to levy duty from any of the Company's *gumāshtahs.* [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 1.*]

Dec 18. **707.** To Rājā Narāyan Deo Guns cannot be supplied until a sufficient reason for their use is given. [*Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 66*]

Dec. 18 **708.** From Miṣrī Khān. The sepoys at the city have been paid, but those with him are to receive four months' arrears, and are discontented on this account [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 30.*]

Dec. 18. **709.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Directs all persons demanding *battah* on the Calcutta rupees to be sent to him. A proper punishment will be meted out to them. [*Abs P. L R, 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Dec. 18 **710.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. The Rājā of Burdwan is not well disposed towards the Company; his present good behaviour is merely a cloak for future misconduct. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Dec 19. **711.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim Rāy Chand has arrived in Calcutta with all the Burdwan papers. [*Abs. P. L I., 1759-65, p. 9.*]

Dec. 20. **712.** To Jagat Sēṭh. In reply offers compliments. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Dec. 20. **713.** To Diā Rām Mittar. Desires him to attend Mr. Johnstone, who has been sent into Midnapur. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 30.*]

Dec. 20 **714.** To Rājā Rām Narayan. Informs him that Colonel Coote has gone to the siege of Pondicherry, Major Carnac officiating for him in Bengal. [*Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 60.*]

Dec. 20. **715.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Sends a *qistbandi* for his signature and refers him to his *wakil* for particulars. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 55.*]

Dec. 20. **716.** To Biā Rām. Desires him to inquire about the money for Shujā'u-l-mulk's expenses. The affairs of the mint should be arranged. [*Abs. P. L I., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Dec. 20. **717.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Shuja'u-l-mulk has relinquished the sūbadārship. He intends to go to Karbala and hopes for sufficient money for that purpose. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 9.*]

Dec. 20. **718.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. As he requested, Major White has been directed to move towards Katwa. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 9.*]

1760.

Dec. 20. 719. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Requests him to send a *parwānah* for rupees bearing the Murshidabad stamp for the purpose of gaining currency for them. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 9.*]

Dec. 20. 720. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Complains that the balance of the money due has not been paid, and that he does not keep to his agreements. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 9.*]

Dec. 22. 721. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. States that he has given, as agreed upon, a *zamindāri* to Khwājah Petruse. Requests that Rāmā Nand, the former Zamīndār, may be sent to him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Dec. 22. 722. To Jagat Sēṭh. Desires him to suggest to Mr. Batson the best method of sending money to Patna. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Dec. 23. 723. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. He is surprised at the Colonel's displeasure at the pay of the troops being in arrears, for he has sent six *lākhs* of rupees a few days ago. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Dec. 23. 724. To the Sulṭān of Mocomoco. It is hoped he will befriend the Captains of two ships going to Mocomoco. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

Dec. 25. 725. To the Zamīndār of Midnapur. Pancha Nand Datt has been appointed to the office of *Tahṣildār* of Khandhar. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 47.*]

Dec. 27. 726. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intends selling his jewels to discharge his debt to the Company. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Dec. 27. 727. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates that he has sent three *lākhs* of rupees for the sepoys. Says he is uneasy when the pay of the sepoys is in arrears. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Dec. 27. 728. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Asks the Governor to inform the Shāhzādah that as he (Qāsim 'Alī) is united by the strictest ties of friendship to the Company, the Shāhzādah had better send him (Qāsim 'Alī) the *sanad* in his name. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Dec. 27. 729. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Requests a letter to the Chief of Dacca directing him not to impede the importation of corn. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Dec. 28. 730. From Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. States that he cannot pay the required 20,000 rupees without the Nawāb's orders [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Dec. 28. 731. To Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. He is desired to send the 20,000 rupees ordered by the Nawāb. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 78.*]

Dec. 28. 732. From Rājā Tilok Chand. Requests that the troops under Major White's command about to proceed to Burdwan may be ordered not to plunder the country on their way from that place to Birbhum. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

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Dec. 28. 733. To Rajā Tilok Chand. Desired him to put obstacles in the way of the Rājā of Birbhum's followers passing through his country. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 55.*]

Dec. 28. 734. To the Rāy Rayān. Asks him to pay two *lākhs* thirty thousand rupees into the Cossimbazar factory as directed by the Nawāb. [*Abs. P. L. I. 1759-65, p. 67.*]

Dec. 28. 735. To the Rāy Rāyān. Informs him it is the Nawāb's desire that he should pay the money into the Cossimbazar factory. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 67.*]

Dec. 28. 736. To Kāmgār Khān. Acknowledges receipt of the Royal mandate from the Shāhzādah. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 29.*]

Dec. 28. 737. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Is desirous His Excellency should move into Birbhum to oppose Sheo Bhaṭ. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 9.*]

Dec. 28. 738. To Muhammad Riẓā Khān. Desires him to wait on Mr. Verelst at Islamabad. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

Dec. 28. 739. To the Shāhzādah. Acknowledges receipt of his Royal mandate, and refers him to Colonel Coote at Patna for an answer. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 77.*]

Dec. 29. 740. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. There exists too strong a friendship between the Company and himself to be affected by the intrigues of the Shahzadah's ministers. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Dec. 29. 741. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates the intrigues between the Rājā of Burdwan and the Shāhzādah and his wish to punish the latter. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Dec. 30. 742. From Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdar* of Hooghly. Twenty boats laden with salt attempted to proceed to Patna without paying duties. He has stopped them and now awaits orders. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Dec. 31. 743. From Muṣlihu-d-dīn Muhammad Khān. States that he has paid the revenue of Tamluk to the Nawāb whose letter he encloses. Has been ill. Is anxious to have an interview with the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 31.*]

Dec. 31. 744. From Sulaimān Beg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Offers congratulations on the birth of the Governor's son. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Dec. 31. 745. From Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdar* of Hooghly. Intimates that Santosh *Chaudhri* and his son have fled to Calcutta to escape payment of their rents. Hopes they will be secured. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Dec. 31. 746. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates that he has sent instructions for the payment of three *lākhs* and thirty thousand rupees for the discharge of the army arrears. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

1760.

Dec. 31. **747.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Is pleased to hear that he has sent three *lākhs* of rupees for the use of the troops at Patna. It is advisable to proceed immediately against the Rājā of Birbhum. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 10.*]

Dec. 31. **748.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Agrees that the rupees should bear the Murshidabad stamp. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Dec. 31. **749.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intends to chastise the Rājā of Birbhum. Major York and himself will consult on the best plan of doing so. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Dec. 31. **750.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Requests that no attention may be paid to the complaints of the former Zamindār of Tamluk. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Dec. 31. **751.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Approves of his allowing Khwājah Petruse to come to Calcutta. Is displeased that Kannā Rām and Munnī Lāl should be invested with the *sarpēchs* and given appointments. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 10.*]

Dec. 31. **752.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Hopes an expert jeweller will be nominated to value the jewels. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 10.*]

Dec. 31. **753.** To Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. The boats stopped at Hooghly for duties do not belong to the Company. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 78.*]

Dec. 31. **754.** To Rājā Rāj Narāyan. Desires that he will assist Mr. Johnstone with bullocks and other necessaries on his way to Patna. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 64.*]

1761.

Jan. 1. **755.** From Turāb 'Alī Khān. Intends to visit the Governor shortly. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Jan. 1. **756.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Agrees as to the necessity of humbling the Rājā of Birbhum. Intends proceeding to Patna. Declares it to be imprudent to dismiss Kannā Rām and Munnī Lāl at present. Requests that Mr. Hastings may be sent to him. Says he has sent five hundred horse and five hundred foot to Birbhum. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Jan. 1. **757.** From Jagat Sēṭh. States that he is unable to assist the Company with the required money. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Jan. 2. **758.** From the Rāy Rāyān. States that as directed he will pay two *lākhs* and thirty thousand rupees to the Chief of Cossimbazar. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Jan. 2. **759.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Transmits to him a copy of a *shuqqah** sent to His Majesty. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 10.*]

Jan. 2. **760.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Informs him that Mahābat Khan has been directed to pay the Tamluk revenues. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 10.*]

Jan. 2. **761.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Desires him to forward letters for Majors York and White immediately. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 55.*]

* *Shuqqah* should be *arzi*. A *shuqqah* is a letter from a King to a person of lesser degree.

1761.

Jan. 2. **762.** To Rāja Narayan Deo. His measures against the Marhattas are approved of. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 66.*]

Jan. 2. **763.** To Ragmānjī Jāchak. Desires him to forward, immediately on receipt, the Governor's letters. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 63.*]

Jan. 2. **764.** To Muṣliḥu-d-dīn Muḥammad Khān. Desires him to pay his revenues to the Court at Murshidabad as formerly. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 47.*]

Jan. 2. **765.** To Mahābat Quli Khān. Desires him to pay his revenues to the Court at Murshidabad. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 47.*]

Jan. 2. **766.** To Khush-ḥāl Chand. Mr. Bird is the person to apply to for his wages. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

Jan. 4. **767.** To Jagat Sēṭh. As he is not disposed to increase his connection in business with the Company, it is well. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Jan. 4. **768.** To Shām Chand. He is appointed '*Uhdahdar* of Subung. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 80.*]

Jan. 5. **769.** From Jagat Sēṭh. It is impossible to grant bills on Patna. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Jan. 5. **770.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Thanks him for allowing the Calcutta *sikkahs* to bear the Murshidabad stamp. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 10.*]

Jan. 6. **771.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Three French ships have been captured. The fall of Pondicherry is expected. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 10.*]

Jan. 6. **772.** To Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. It is hoped the twenty thousand rupees ordered by the Nawāb will be sent immediately. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 78.*]

Jan. 6. **773.** To Muḥammad Nawāz. He is desired not to demand any revenues from Rāj Narāyan. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 47.*]

Jan. 7. **774.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Agrees as to the necessity of humbling the Rājā of Birbhum. Intends proceeding to Patna. States it to be imprudent to dismiss Kannā Rām and Munnī Lāl at present. Requests that Mr. Hastings may be sent to him. Says he has sent five hundred horse and five hundred foot to Birbhum. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Jan. 7. **775.** To Rājā Fatḥ Singh. Expects Pondicherry to fall very shortly. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 62.*]

Jan. 8. **776.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Desires him to send all he has been able to collect at Burdwan. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 67.*]

Jan. 8. **777.** To Biā Rām. Desires him to attend on the Major as he always has done. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Jan. 8. **778.** To Quṭb Ḥusain Khān. Tells him to send down the twenty bales of goods he has ready. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

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Jan. 9. **779.** From Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Transmits ten thousand rupees out of the twenty thousand spoken of in one of his foregoing letters [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

Jan. 9. **780.** From the Rāy Rāyān. States that he will pay the sum of two *lakhs* and thirty thousand rupees to the Chief of Cossimbazar as directed. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Jan. 9. **781.** To Ṣalāḥu-d-dīn Muḥammad Khān. Hopes he will order his people to let the Company's *gumāshtah* return with the weavers whos are defaulters to the Company. [*Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 79.*]

Jan. 9. **782.** To Rājā Rāj Narāyan. It is desired that he will attend on Mr. Johnstone who is sent into Midnapur. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 64.*]

Jan. 10. **783.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Informs the Governor of Major White's hostile conduct towards him. Mentions the demand of three *lākhs* of rupees made by Sheo Bhaṭ at the instigation of the Shāhzādah. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Jan. 11. **784.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Offers congratulations on the birth of the Governor's son, and on the capture of three ships belonging to the French. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Jan. 11. **785.** From Rājā Jagtā Nand, *Qal'ahdār* of Mina Chowra. States that a robbery has been committed in the *parganah* of Subung. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

Jan. 11. **786.** From Jagat Sēṭh. Sends citrons as a present. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Jan. 11. **787.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. He is desired to send the Company's *qisṭs* as agreed upon. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 55.*]

Jan. 11. **788.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Desires him to prevent different *gumāshtahs* at Gahtawarah from oppressing the Company's weavers. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 55.*]

Jan. 11. **789.** To Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. He is desired to release thirteen boats belonging to Mr. Batson. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 78.*]

Jan. 11. **790.** To Sheo Narāyan Rāy. Requests him to order Gangā Govind not to impede the Company's *gumāshtah* in seizing some of the Company's refractory weavers. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 80.*]

Jan. 12. **791.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates Major York's success against the Rājā of Birbhum. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Jan. 12. **792.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. In reply, offers congratulations on the Rājā of Birbhum's flight. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 10.*]

Jan. 12. **793.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Thanks the Governor for his letter to the Chief at Dacca. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Jan. 12. **794.** From Khush-ḥāl Singh. Requests that the allowance which was granted formerly to the *Faujdār* of Midnapur, may be granted to him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 23.*]

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Jan. 12. **795.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Declares it to be the Governor's resolution not to deviate from the treaty made with him. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 10.*]

Jan. 12. **796.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Informs him that some letters from Nand Kumar to the Rājā of Birbhum and others have been intercepted. [*Abs P. L. I, 1759-65, p 10.*]

Jan. 12. **797.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Sends him a statement respecting a parcel of lead. [*Abs P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 10.*]

Jan. 12. **798.** To the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Tells him Major York will be instructed to follow his advice implicitly. [*Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p 10.*]

Jan. 12. **799.** To Rājā Tilok Chand Notifies that his last letter has been already fully answered [*Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p 55.*]

Jan. 12. **800.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Desires him to have no fear. Informs him of Nand Kumār's imprisonment. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 55*]

Jan. 12. **801.** To Ragmānjī Jāchak Tells him the Company will not pay his people any duties whatsoever. [*Abs P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 63.*]

Jan. 13. **802.** From Rājā Rājballabh. Offers compliments. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 42.*]

Jan. 13. **803.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. The Shāhzādah wishes to effect a breach between the Company and himself. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p 4.*]

Jan. 13. **804.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Requests the Governor to sell his jewels for whatever they may be valued at. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Jan. 14. **805.** To the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Tells him Colonel Coote is gone to Madras. The Company's troops are now very near the Shahzādah who with his forces will surely be routed. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, pp. 10-11.*]

Jan. 15. **806.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Offers congratulations on the birth of the Governor's son. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Jan 15 **807.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Desires him to be on his guard, as His Excellency has numerous enemies. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p, 11.*]

Jan 15. **808.** To Rājā Rājballabh. Colonel Coote has left for Madras in order to subjugate Pondicherry. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 71.*]

Jan. 15. **809.** To Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdar* of Hooghly. Desires him to take an account of the duties on salt and let the boats pass. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 78.*]

Jan, 16. **810.** To the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Requests him to imprison Rājā Rām Singh wherever he can be found. [*Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 11.*]

Jan. 16. **811.** To Rāja Tilok Chand. Requests him to imprison Rājā Ram Singh wherever he can be found. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 55.*]

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Jan. 16. **812.** To Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Requests him to imprison Rājā Rām Singh wherever he can be found. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 78.*]

Jan. 17. **813.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Requests him to send the stipulated amount of his *qisṭs* and not to trifle in the way he is doing. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 55.*]

Jan. 18. **814.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Recommends that for safety's sake two or three thousand troops may be sent to Murshidabad. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p 4.*]

Jan. 18. **815.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Commends his invariable good conduct and attention. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 67.*]

Jan. 18. **816** To Rājā Kishn Chand. In spite of Shām Chand's imprisonment, the Nawāb will favour him. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 62.*]

Jan. 19. **817.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. States that he will abide by the agreement made on his part by Rāy Chand. His country is in a very distressed condition. Hopes for attention. [*Abs P. L. R., 1759-65, p 37.*]

Jan. 19 **818.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Informs the Governor of Major White's conduct towards him and the injury done to his people. Transmits fifty thousand rupees as a part of his arrears. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Jan 20. **819.** From Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Sends two bills of exchange for the sum of twenty-four thousand rupees. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p 45.*]

Jan. 21. **820.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates that he has paid two *lākhs* and thirty thousand rupees as part of his *qisṭs*. It is unkind of the Governor not to accept the present of money he sent. Intends to take Major York to Patna with him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Jan. 21. **821.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Informs him that the Zamīndār of Myhetty's *wakīl* alleges the balance of his revenue to be now ready [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 67.*]

Jan. 21. **822.** To Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Acknowledges receipt of the twenty-four thousand rupees sent. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 78.*]

Jan. 22 **823.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Urges the necessity of punishing the Rājās of Burdwan and Birbhum for their conduct. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Jan. 22. **824.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Offers congratulations on the victory gained over the French under Mons. Law and others. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 11.*]

Jan. 22. **825.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Announces Major Carnac's victory over Kāmgār Khān. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 11.*]

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Jan. 23 826. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Offers congratulations on the victory gained by Major Carnac and others over the Shāhzādah- [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Jan. 24. 827. From Luṭfu-r-raḥmān, *Faujdār* of Balasore. Declares that the Balasore merchants were obliged to relinquish their trade owing to various oppressions committed by Mr. Burdett and his *mutaṣaddis.* [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 23.*]

Jan. 24. 828. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Offers congratulations on the victory gained by Major Carnac and others over the Shāhzādah. Intends visiting Patna. [*Abs P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Jan. 24. 829. From Jagat Sēṭh. Offers congratulations on the success of the English and the flight of the Shāhzādah. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Jan. 25 830. From Rāja Tilok Chand. Intimates that Sheo Bhaṭ has sent troops into his country to plunder it. Major White has seized his fort with cannons and other implements of war. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Jan. 25 831. From the Rāy Rāyān. Intimates that he has paid the money to the Chief of Cossimbazar. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Jan. 25. 832. From the Rāy Rāyān. Offers congratulations on the fall of Pondicherry. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Jan. 25 833. To Rājā Tilok Chand. Tells him that it is not right he should move from place to place. Directs him to repair to Burdwan. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 55.*]

Jan. 26 834. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates that every attention will be paid to Shaikh Abdu-l-ḥusain. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 11.*]

Jan. 26. 835. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Asks him to send money to be divided among the sepoys for their courage against the Rājā of Birbhum. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 11.*]

Jan. 26. 836. To the Rāy Rāyān. Is glad to hear of his having paid two and a half *lakhs* of rupees in part payment of *qiṣṭs* due. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 67.*]

Jan. 26. 837. To Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Requests him not to charge double duties on goods belonging to ships that were cast away. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 78.*]

Jan. 26. 838. To Mukand Paṇḍit. Directs him to order his people not to molest the Company's forces. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 47.*]

(*N.B.*—To the same effect to Sheo Bhaṭ and Ragmānjī Jāchak.)

Jan. 26. 839. To Ghulām Muṣṭafā. Directs him to be careful to send letters to and from Madras regularly. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 31.*]

Jan. 26. 840. To Ghulām Muṣṭafā. Directs him to be regular in sending letters to and from Madras. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 31.*]

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Jan. 26. **841.** To Jagat Sēṭh. In reply to his letter regarding the capture of Mons. Law, offers compliments. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

(*N.B.*—A letter to the same effect is sent to Sarup Chand.)

Jan. 26. **842.** To Muḥammad Raḥmān. Informs him that Mr. Burdett has no further business at Balasore. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 48.*]

Jan. 27. **843.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Asks for favours on behalf of his *Munshi's* brother. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Jan. 28. **844.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Offers congratulations on the troubles having ceased at Birbhum and other places. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Jan. 28. **845.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Remarks in bitter terms on the infidelity of Rāy Dūlab Rām and Nand Kumār. Complains of the consequent troubles at Burdwan and other places. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Jan. 28. **846.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Commends the curtailment of his expenses to the degree mentioned by Khwājah Petruse. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 11.*]

Jan. 28. **847.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Expresses happiness at the fall of Kāmgar Khān and Mons. Law. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 11.*]

Jan. 28. **848.** To Rajā Rāj Narāyan. Desires him to assist the Company's troops going to Midnapur. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 64.*]

Jan. 29. **849.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Offers congratulations on the defeat of the Rājā of Birbhum. Intends proceeding to Patna to arrange matters there finally. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Jan. 29. **850.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Gives advice of particular measures to be employed to oppose the Shāhzādah. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 11.*]

Jan. 29. **851.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Notifies him that a force has been sent against Shco Bhaṭ. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 11.*]

Jan. 29 **852.** To Rājā Rāj Narāyan. Desires him to assist the Company's troops going into Midnapur. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 64.*]

Jan. 29. **853.** To Biā Rām. Tells him the English forces are before Pondicherry, which is expected to fall shortly. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Jan. 29. **854.** To Dīdār 'Alī Khān. Desires him to assist the Company's troops going to Midnapur. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 30.*]

Jan. 29. **855.** To Pandit Rām. Desires him to state at what price he purchased some chunam. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 53.*]

Jan. 30. **856.** From Damodar Singh, Zamindār of Bishanpur. Intimates that his house has been plundered by one Aynder Jyt. Refers him for matters in general to his *wakil.* [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 20.*]

Jan. 30. **857.** From Rājā Kishn Dās. Complains that the Company's people sent to his lands impede the chunam business. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

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Jan. 30. 858. From Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Sends more money. Requests an interview. [*Abs P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

Jan. 30. 859. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Expresses great satisfaction at his and Major Carnac's success. [*Abs P. L I, 1759-65, p. 11.*]

Jan. 30. 860. To the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Tells him Major Carnac will follow his directions in every instance. His Excellency is at liberty to dismiss zamīndars at his will [*Abs. P. L I, 1759-65, p. 11.*]

Jan. 30. 861. To Raja Rājballabh. Sets forth the high opinion the Governor received of him from Major Carnac. [*Abs. P L. I., 1759-65, p. 71.*]

Jan. 30. 862. To Rājā Rām Narāyan. Notifies the high opinion given of him by the Governor to the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. [*Abs. P. L I., 1759-65, p. 61.*]

Jan. 30. 863. To Rajā Rām Narāyan. Expresses great satisfaction at his and Major Carnac's success. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 61.*]

Jan 31. 864. From the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Accuses the Zamīndar of Burdwan. Advises that two or three companies be sent against him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Jan. 31. 865. To Rāja Anand Lāl. Orders him to prevent his people from receiving duties from the Company's *gumāshtahs*. [*Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p 63.*]

Jan. 31. 866. To Turāb 'Alī Khan. Offers compliments in reply to his letter accompanying a basket of citrons. [*Abs. P. L I., 1759-65, p. 85.*]

Jan. 31. 867. To Ghulām Mustafā. Hopes for news concerning the Marhattas regularly. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 31.*]

Feb. 1 868. From Rajā Kishn Chand Offers congratulations on the success lately gained in Birbhum. Complains that his son has been carried away to the city. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 41.*]

Feb. 1. 869. From Rājā Raj Narāyan. Intimates that he will exert himself to the utmost to procure oxen and coolies. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

Feb. 1. 870. From Rājā Tilok Chand. Complains of the conduct of Major White and the ill consequences that may arise therefrom. Declares he will always make it a point to pay the Company's *tankhuāh*. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Feb. 1. 871. To the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Understands from Mr. Batson that the first *qist* of Rs. 2,30,000 has been paid that he has received Rs. 20,000 from Kishn Dās, that Diā Rām has promised to pay Rs. 1,65,000 out of the second *qist*, and that the Nawāb has ordered the Rāy Rāyān to pay the remainder. The Rāy Rāyān as a *mutasaddī* is acquainted with the business and undoubtedly will [pay] the whole. Sulaimān Bēg has paid Rs. 45,000 as the Nawāb ordered. The time appointed for paying Mīr Ja'far's four *qists* amounting to Rs. 9,00,000, has expired, but only Rs. 25,000 has been paid

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through Sulaimān Bēg. Suggests the Nawāb should find a purchaser for the jewels as Mr. Batson says he cannot. When His Excellency has settled concerning the payment of the seven *qists* amounting to Rs. 10,98,071-9-0, he should proceed to Patna.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 83, p. 1. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 11.*]

Feb. 1. 872. From Rājā Rājballabh. Offers congratulations on the victory over the enemy. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

Feb. 2. 873. From Rājā Fath Singh. Offers congratulations on the victory over the Shahzādah. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Feb. 2. 874. From Rājā Kishn Chand. Relies on the Governor for the release of his son. [*Abs. P L. R., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

Feb 2. 875. To Rājā Tilok Chand. Defends Major White's conduct and desires him to send the money according to the agreement.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 84, pp. 1-2. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, pp. 55-56.*]

Feb. 3. 876. From Rājā Tilok Chand. Declares it is owing to the Marhattas and Major White that a delay has occurred in paying the *qist* Sends a *lākh* of rupees in part payment and says the remainder will follow shortly. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Feb. 4. 877. To Rājā Tilok Chand. Acknowledges his letter and *chālān* [s]. According to the *qistbandi*, Rs. 2,85,000 is due from December, of which Rs. 50,000 has been received with one *chālān* and Rs. 31,000 with another. A third *chālān* has been received for Rs. 1,25,000, but not the money. Thus of the first *qist* Rs. 79,000 remains unpaid. For January (25 days have elapsed) Rs. 2,75,000 is due. Writes to hasten the collection, as delay will be injurious. Will send a man to receive the money.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 85, pp. 2-3. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 56.*]

Feb. 4. 878. To Khush-hāl Chand. Acknowledges his petition. Mr. Burdett left Balasore on account of the troubles and appointed Ghulām Mustafā *Munshi*, to forward letters. Has written to the *Munshī* about the addressee's and other expenses He should send this letter and his account by one of his own people to the *Munshi* who will pay the money. He is to send letters to Madras at once.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 86, p. 3. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

Feb. 4. 879. To Ghulām Mustafā. Khush-hāl Chand at Cuttack and the *dāks* must be reimbursed their expenses. He should therefore either procure money locally, giving bills for the amount; or, if this cannot be done, send a particular account of the expenses of the *dāks* from Balasore and Cuttack, and the amount will be paid in specie from Calcutta. All letters for Madras should be immediately forwarded to Khush-hāl Chand at Cuttack.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 87, pp. 3-4. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

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Feb. 4. **880.** To Rahmān Khān. Has answered his former letter. On account of the troubles, no business can be transacted at Balasore factory, and Mr. John Burdett has left. Understands what he wrote against Jagan Nāth who came with Mr. Burdett.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 88, p. 4. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 73.*]

Feb. 4. **881.** To Rājā Fath Singh. Acknowledges with pleasure his letter of congratulation on the late victory. Has written to the Nawāb in his favour.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 89, p. 4. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 62.*]

Feb. 4. **882.** To Rājā Rājballabh. Acknowledges his letter of congratulation on the late victory, reporting the good discipline of the English and the Nawāb's troops and the flight of the enemy towards Sumarya Mahadaw and their pursuit to Daryapur. Has written in his favour to the Nawāb who will reward him as an adherent.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 90, p. 5. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 71.*]

Feb. 5. **883.** From Rājā Rāj Narāyan. Intimates that he will exert himself to the utmost to procure oxen and coolies. Guides familiar with the country will show the Company's people the road. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

Feb. 5. **884.** To the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Refers to his *parwānah* pressing for vigour in collecting the revenues of Burdwan. The Rājā moves from place to place and has only sent a small part of the *qist*. Has therefore determined to send a person to receive the revenues, with troops and cannon. Major York has reported the bad behaviour of the *Faujdār* of Sylhet. The commanders of Jahangirnagar and Islamabad have been directed to make him prisoner and send him to the Nawāb. At Midnapur the Marhattas attacked Mr. Johnson's troops, and two pieces of cannon have been sent to his assistance. Through the will of God, the greatness of His Excellency, and the bravery of his troops, the Marhattas will be destroyed and consumed by the fire of the cannon as lighted straw. Understands from Major York that the Zamīndar of Birbhum is ashamed of his misconduct and willing to submit to the Nawāb. There is a great difference between his present and his former letter. Rājā Fath Singh was formerly a friend of Sābit Jang Bahādur and is devoted to the Nawāb. His country has been much damaged and he stands in need of the Nawāb's favour, which may be shown him when he visits the Nawāb at Patna.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 91, pp. 5-6. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 12.*]

Feb. 5. **885.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. On account of his dilatoriness, has determined to send Mr. Sumner to collect the money and with a few troops to secure the country and drive out the Marhattas. The Rājā should go to meet Mr Sumner with *Dīwān* Umī Chand, Rāmdhan

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Nāg, Gōkul *Majmū'ahdār* and others, and collect and send the money without delay. He should be under no apprehensions.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 92, p. 6. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 56.*]

Feb. 6. **886.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Is hard pressed for money to pay the sepoys. Mr. Hastings will fully explain the circumstances. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Feb. 6. **887.** To Murli Rām and Rājā Rāj Narāyan. Acknowledges their petition. Has sent two pieces of cannon and some troops to Mr. Johnson's assistance. They are to remain with Mr. Johnson and help him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 93, p. 7. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 65.*]

Feb. 7. **888.** From Rāja Rāj Narāyan. Will exert himself to the utmost to procure the oxen and coolies. Guides familiar with the country will show the Company's people the road. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

Feb 7. **889.** To Rajā Jagtā Nand. Has already sent cannon and troops to that side. The Marhattas will take to flight. He should secure his own country and send the revenues to Mr. Johnson, who will forward them.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 94, p. 7. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 73.*]

Feb. 7. **890.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Is in the vicinity of Birbhum. Wishes to proceed to Patna. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Feb. 8. **891.** To Rājā Rāj Narāyan. Thanks him for the *bēldārs* and other assistance which he sent with the army. The troops must have reached Midnapur by this time. The Marhattas will speedily take to flight. Urges him to procure provisions for the army, agreeable to Mr. Johnson's directions.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 95, p. 7. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 64.*]

Feb. 8 **892.** To Bia Rām. Says that on the 9th day of *Jumādā* II, the great fortress of Pondicherry belonging to the French with 800 pieces of cannon and other things fell into the hands of the Company's valiant troops. Mons. Lally and other officers with 1,200 Europeans have been made prisoners. Has written to congratulate the Nawāb.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 96, p. 8. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Feb. 8. **893.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim, Rājā Rājballabh, Rajā Rām Narāyan, Jagat Sēth, Mahārājā Sarūp Chand, Khush-hāl Chand, Ghulām Mustafā *Munshi*, Jasārat Khān, Rājā Kishn Chand, Rājā Tilok Chānd, Mirzā Sulaimān Bēg, the Rāy Rāyān, and Turāb 'Alī Khān. News has arrived from Chinapatam that on the 9th day of *Jumādā* II. through the will of God and the Company's power, the great fortress of Pondicherry belonging to the French with 800 pieces of cannon and other things fell into the hands of the Company's valiant troops, and Mons. Lally and other officers with 1,200 soldiers were made

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prisoners. In a postscript added to Sulaimān Beg's letter tells him he may come to Calcutta.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 97, pp. 8-9. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, pp. 12,71, 61, 39, 73, 29, 39, 62, 56, 78, 67, & 85.*]

Feb. 9. 894. To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has deferred sending Mr. Sumner as Dhananjaya Ray, *wakil*, has agreed that Ramdhan Nag shall come to Calcutta in seven days with what remains of the *qisṭ*. If the Rājā does not arrive at Burdwan, or delays sending the money, Mr. Sumner will certainly be sent. It would be better for Rāmdhan Nāg to come to Calcutta.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 98, p. 9. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65. p. 56.*]

Feb. 10. 895. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Offers congratulation on the victory over the French. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Feb. 10. 896. From the Nawab Mīr Qasim. Offers compliments. The interests of the Company and himself are one. Their success gives him joy. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Feb. 10. 897. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Recommends that the Faujdār of Sylhet may be recalled and dismissed. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Feb. 10. 898. From Rājā Tilok Chand. Enlarges upon the disturbed condition of his country. Mr. Sumner's presence will make it worse. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 37*].

Feb. 10. 899. From Jasārat Khān. Hopes for an increase of pay. Informs the Governor that Muḥammad 'Alī Khān has created disturbances throughout the country. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Feb. 10. 900. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. On this 5th day of *Rajab* has received the news of the arrival of the troops at Midnapur. Sheo Bhaṭ ran away without fighting to Cuttack. The Shāhzādah has sent Nawab Fakhru-l-lāh Khan to Major Carnac to put an end to the present animosity. As the Nawāb is going to Patna, he will let the Major know his opinion on the subject. Will direct the Major to consult the Nawab.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 99, pp. 9-10. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 12.*]

Feb. 10. 901. To Muhammad Rizā Khān. Is glad to hear that his *mutaṣaddī* has waited upon Mr. Verelst and hopes that the Khan will transact all business with Mr. Verelst as was customary. Informs him of the surrender of Pondicherry.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 100, p. 10. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

Feb. 10. 902. To Ghulām Ḥusain Khān. Acknowledges his friendly letter sent with the sweetmeats.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 101, pp. 10-11. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 31.*]

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Feb. 10. 903. To Jagat Sēṭh Mahtāb Rāy and Mahārājā Sarūp Chand. Acknowledges their friendly letters with the news from Shajahanabad. Has already informed them of the English success at Pondicherry.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 102, p. 11. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Feb. 10. 904. To Nawāb Sirāju-d-daulah, *Ṣūbahdār* of the Carnatic and Rājā Nand Dās Bahādur, *Diwān*. Informs them of the English success at Pondicherry. What he told His Excellency has come to pass, and the affairs of his ṣūbahdārship will be better than in the time of the late Nawāb. The Shāhzādah desires to lay aside animosities, but has bad councillors. The Company's troops encountered and defeated Mons. Law, the French, and Kāmgār Khān, with a great force on the banks of the river Siwan. Law and his soldiers were made prisoners. The Shāhzādah has sent Nawab Fakhru-l-lah Khān to the English Commander to ask for the co-operation of the English in recovering the country of his forefathers. Has forwarded the letter which he sent for the Shāhzadah.

To the *Diwān*. Will transact the business His Excellency spoke about. Hopes to hear from him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 103, pp. 11-12. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 79.*]

Feb. 10. 905. To Sirāju-d-daulah's *Diwān*. Has received his letter and the letter from Mr. Morse, and written to Mr. Pigot accordingly.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 104, p. 13.*]

Feb. 10. 906. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has written a letter to the Commander at Sylhet. Requests the Nawāb to send a *parwānah* removing the *Faujdār* there and another *parwānah* nominating his successor.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 105, p. 13. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 12.*]

Feb. 10. 907. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Is surprised that the Nawāb has written to him to keep the accounts. The Nawāb must keep the accounts of the country and of the sepoys.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 106, p. 13. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 12.*]

Feb. 10. 908. To [Ragmānjī]Jāchak. Is pleased that he has written to Sa'ādat Khān directing him not to levy the duties on the Company's cloth. Sheo Bhat with a large number of troops attacked Midnapur and created great disturbances, but retreated to Cuttack on the arrival of the English troops.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 107, p. 14. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Feb. 11. 909. To Jasārat Khān. Is glad to hear a good character of him from Mr. Playdell. Will do everything for his good and for the inhabitants of the city.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 108, p. 14. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

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Feb. 11. 910. To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has received his letter through Balrām *wakīl*, but not the money of the former *chālan*. December and January are passed but the money of the first *qisṭ* has not arrived. He should carry out the agreement made by his *wakīl* Dhananjaya Rāy; otherwise Mr. Sumner will be sent, which will be beneficial and not detrimental to his country.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 109, pp. 14-15. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 56.*]

Feb. 12. **911.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Encloses a copy of a paper of news received from Delhi. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Feb. 12. **912.** From Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Offers congratulation on the fall of Pondicherry. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

Feb. 12. **913.** From Ragmānjī Jāchak. States that he has written to Sa'ādat Khān not to demand the duties Is pleased to hear that the Company's troops have arrived at Midnapur. They should be directed not to create any disturbances. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

Feb. 12. **914.** From Raja Tilok Chand. Intimates an improvement in the state of affairs in his country. It would be disastrous to send Mr. Sumner. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Feb. 12. **915.** To Fāzil 'Alī Khan, *Faujdār* of Ghazipur, and Rajā Balwand Singh, Zamīndār of Benares. Desires them to assist Major Carnac, who has been sent in pursuit of the Shāhzādah. The Shāhzadah has done much mischief in Behar and Bengal and will do more if he enters their territories.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 110, p. 15. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 30.*]

Feb. 12. **916.** To Rāja Rājballabh. Desires him to pay the Rs. 20,000 which the late Nawāb Nāziru-l-mulk promised to Captain Knox on account of his gallant conduct in crossing the river and defeating Khādim Ḥusain Khān at Ḥajipur, the late Nawab being then near Behar and Khādim Ḥusain having come to attack him with his troops from Purnea. The money is to be paid to Mr. McGuire, the Chief of Patna, who will give it to the Captain. Has written to the Nawāb.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 111, pp. 15-16. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 71.*]

Feb. 12. **917.** To the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Requests him to direct Mahārājā Rājballabh to pay Captain Knox the Rs. 20,000 which he was promised by the late Nawāb Nāziru-l-mulk. The same description as the foregoing is given of Captain Knox's services.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 112, pp. 16-17. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 12.*]

Feb. 12. **918.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. When the Marhattas were at Midnapur, Mr. Johnson sent a letter to Major White under the care of a sepoy which the Rājā detained for five or six days. Has despatched

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many letters to him for Major White and Major York to which he has received no answer. Imagines from his behaviour that he has not received them. If his people have detained the letters without orders, he should either chastise them, or send them to Calcutta for chastisement.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 113, p. 17. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 56.*]

Feb. 13. **919.** To Ghulām Muṣṭafā *Munshī*. He must follow previous instructions. Has despatched several letters to Madras which he must forward to Khush-ḥal Chand. Asks for news.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 114, p. 17. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

Feb. 13. **920.** To Khush-hal Chand. He must follow the directions previously given concerning his wages and expenses. Has dispatched several letters for Madras which must be forwarded at once. Asks for news.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 115, p. 18. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 29.*]

Feb. 13. **921.** To Bahādur Singh, Zamīndār. Acknowledges his petition. He must follow Mr. Johnson's orders and come to Calcutta if so desired.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 116, p. 18. Als. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Feb. 14. **922.** From the Wazīr. Offers compliments and confers a *khal'at*

[*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 47.*]

Feb. 14. **923.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Acknowledges his *parwānah* about the Marhattas at Midnapur, desiring the Governor to send troops to the assistance of Turāb 'Alī Khān, should the Marhattas come towards Murshidabad while the Nawāb is away at Patna. The Nawāb has been informed that troops have been sent to Midnapur and the Marhattas have fled towards Cuttack. In consequence of the Nawāb's request, Mr. Knox has been sent with other troops to Midnapur to block the road. Should the Marhattas attempt to proceed to Murshidabad, he is to attack them in conjunction with Major White and Muḥammad Taqī Khān who is at Birbhum.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 117, p. 18. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 12.*]

Feb. 14. **924.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Again acknowledges the receipt of assignments through Mirzā Sulaimān Bēg, one for Rs. 20,000, the second for Rs. 25,000.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 118, p. 18. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 12.*]

Feb. 14. **925.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. The *parwānah* of the Nawāb Wazīr and the *sarāpā* from the King for Nawāb Ṣābit Jang arrived by Yūnus Bēg and 'Isā Qulī Bēg after his departure for Europe. The Governor put on the *sarāpā* on the 8th of *Rajab*. Encloses copies of the *parwānah* and of his answer to it.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 119, p. 19. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 12.*]

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Feb. 14. 926. To the Nawāb Wazīr Rīāzu-d-dīn Khān Bahādur. Acknowledges the receipt of his *parwānah* and of a *sarāpa* from the Court in the name of Colonel [Clive], which arrived through Yūnus Bēg and 'Isā Qulı Bēg after the Colonel's departure. Has been appointed to succeed the Colonel and is ready to act with his troops in conjunction with Mīr Qāsim to destroy all his enemies. Mons Law, the Frenchman, who was a raiser of sedition, has been made prisoner with all his people. The Company's troops in the Carnatic act in conjunction with Nawāb Sirāju-d-daulah. On the 9th of *Jumāda* II, "Pullicherry," was captured. Mons. Bussy, Mons. Lally and other officers with all their equipage fell into the hands of the English. The country will now be free from disturbances Has been highly favoured by the *khal'at* from the Court and has returned thanks and made many lowly salutations.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 120, p. 19. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 87.*]

Feb 15. 927. From Jagat Séth. Offers congratulations on the fall of Pondicherry. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Feb. 15. 928. From Rājā Kishn Chand. Offers congratulations on the fall of Pondicherry. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

Feb. 15. 929. From Muhammad Lutfu-l-lah. States that he has sent his b other to the Governor to remind him of his promise about the money due to him out of the revenue of the district of Patna. [*Abs. P. L R., 1759-65, p. 31.*]

Feb. 15. 930. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Declares it advisable to send troops to Birbhum, particularly as he himself intends to set ou for Patna shortly. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Feb. 15. 931. To the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Has never yet heard that the zamīndārs make friends with the Company's *mutasaddis* in order to lessen the revenues. If he finds this is so, he will chastise them. The Nawāb shall receive his rights, and disobedience to his orders shall be punished. No attention will be paid to their requests for lessening the revenues. Everything will be done to enable him to discharge the arrears of the sepoys.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 121, p. 20. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 12.*]

Feb. 15. 932. To the Rājā of Kasijorah. Desires him to forward without delay to Ghunwahcolly gram, coolies, *bēldars*, *bēgārs*, and other necessaries for the force under Captain Knox and to supply him with a capable guide.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 122, p. 20.*]

Feb. 16. 933. From Rāmdhan Nāg and Gōkul *Majmū'ahdār*. They inform the Governor of their exertions to make up the Burdwan rents. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

Feb. 16. 934. From Rāj Chand Rāy. Gives information of his exertions to make up the Burdwan rents. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

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Feb. 16. 935. From Umi Chand States that everything in the mofussil is going on well. He has never been deficient in his payments Recommends Mukand Rām to be sent as *Tahsildār* to Burdwan, being well-known and respected there. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 35.*]

Feb. 16. 936. From Rājā Tilok Chand. Reiterates his assertion that if a *Tahsīldar* (meaning Mr. Sumner) is sent into his country, the ruin of it must ensue. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Feb. 16. 937. To Rājā Tilok Chand. Acknowledges his letter and *chālan*. He should come to Burdwan with his people to collect the revenues and send the balance of the *qist* for December and January as soon as possible. He should also send Rāmdhan Nāg to Calcutta at once. What remains to be done, he will understand from his *wakil's* letter.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 123, p. 21. Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 56.*]

Feb. 16. 938. To Umī Chand, *Diwān* of Rājā Tilok Chand. Asks him to send the money corresponding with his *chālan*, to go to Burdwan with the Rājā and do his best to send the *qist* money for December and January according to the agreement Dhannanjaya Rāy made before he went away. Rāmdhan Nāg is to be sent to Calcutta at once.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 124, p. 21.*]

Feb. 16. 939. To Rāmdhan Nāg. Desires him to send the money corresponding with the *chālan* in accordance with the *wakil's* agreement, to go with the Rājā to Burdwan, to set the *mutasaddis* to collect the money, and to come to Calcutta.

To Gōkul Majmū'ahdār. To the same effect.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no 124A, pp 21-22. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, pp. 33 & 74.*]

Feb. 16. 940. To Rāj Chand, *Wakil.* Urges him to go with the Rājā to Burdwan and afterwards with Rāmdhan Nag to Calcutta.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 125, p. 22. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 73.*]

Feb. 16. 941. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Acknowledges the Nawāb's *parwānah* with copies of the letters of Mahārājā Rām Narāyan and Mahārājā Rājballabh. Has received this day, Tuesday, the 11th *Rajab*, a letter from Major Carnac Mahāmu-d-daulah Basālat Jang Bahādur announcing that on *Rajab* 1, the Shāhzādah visited him at Gya. The latter intends to proceed to Delhi with the assistance of the Nawāb and the English. As this will be advantageous, the Nawāb should proceed quickly to Patna and discuss with Major Carnac and Mr. McGuire what troops can be got ready to go with the Shāhzādah and what money is to be given him. Has written to Madras for troops which he expects in a month's time as Pondicherry has fallen, but provision must be made to pay them. In the end, the province will secure peace

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and the Nawāb's power will be strengthened. The revenues of Behar should be allotted for the expenses of the Shāhzādah.

(*N.B.*—And another to the same purpose the 19th.)

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 126, pp. 22-23. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 12.*]

Feb. 17. **942.** From the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Gives information of the victory gained over the Shāhzādah. Says he has sued for an allowance. Requests advice as to future proceedings. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Feb. 17. **943.** The King to Colonel Clive. Intends to visit Behar and Bengal. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 43.*]

Feb. 17 **944.** To Rājā Jagtā Nand. Refers to his two petitions. It is not necessary to give him more troops to bring the revenues of Shahpur to Calcutta and to procure rose-water. He may pay the *mālguzāri* to Mr. Johnstone, the Chief of Midnapur. The rose-water has been sent to him under the care of his *wakil*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 126A, p. 23. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 73.*]

Feb. 17. **945.** To Rāja Rāj Narayan It is reported that the *'amlahs* at Shahpurgarh have behaved very improperly to Mr. Johnstone and Major White. Their conduct towards Captain Knox will be watched and they must be directed to supply him with whatever necessaries he requires.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 127, p. 24.*]

Feb. 17. **946.** To Rājā Rāj Narāyan, Rājā Anand Lāl, and the *Nāib* Mahābat Qulī Khān. Has sent Captain Knox Dilāwar Jang Bahādur, with troops to Midnapur to drive out the Marhattas. He should be supplied with bullocks, coolies, *bēldārs*, provisions, and other necessaries and also with a *wakil*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 128, p. 24. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 65.*]

Feb. 18. **947.** The King to Colonel Clive. Intimates that he has dismissed all his evil advisers and now depends totally on the fidelity of the Company. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 43.*]

Feb. 19. **948.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Forwards a copy of a *shuqqah* from the Shāhzādah received on *Rajab* 12, and a copy of his answer

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 129, p. 24. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 12.*]

Feb. 19. **949.** To the Shāhzādah. Acknowledges the receipt by Major Carnac of his *shuqqah* commending the faithfulness and obedience of the English. He should avail himself of the present favourable opportunity. He must know what *umarā* of Delhi will join him, who are disaffected, and how he will get money. The English troops are always at his command. In the south they assisted Nawāb Sirāju-d-daulah and have been successful against Pondicherry. Choice troops will arrive from Madras. The Nawāb Mīr Qāsim, his faithful subject, is going

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to Patna and will speedily pay his respects to him. He should consult with the Nawāb, Major Carnac, and Mr. McGuire and then let the Governor know what it is considered advisable to do. He may take up his residence anywhere he pleases in the Company's possessions.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 130, pp. 24-25. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 77.*]

Feb. 20. 950. To the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Has received his *parwānah* through Khwājah Ḥusain 'Askarī on *Rajab* 15. Assures the Nawāb of his devotion to his interest. What remains will be understood from Khwājah Ḥusain 'Askarī's petition.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 131, pp. 25-26. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 12.*]

Feb. 20. 951. To Jagat Sēth Mahtāb Rāy, and Mahaiājā Sarūp Chand. Acknowledges the former's letter of congratulations on the English success against Pullicherry and the *nazr* which he sent through Lālā Bishan Dās.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 131A, p. 26. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 39.*]

Feb. 21. 952. From Rajā Rāj Narāyan. Intimates that he will try his bes to procure oxen and coolies. Efficient guides will be deputed tc show the Company's people the road. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

Feb. 21. 953. To the Rāy Rāyān. Refers to the visit of Khwājah Ḥusain 'Askarī on *Rajab* 15. The Nawāb has given the addressee the command of everything in the city. In the interest of the Nawāb, he should do his best to pay up the arreais of the sepoys. Understands from the Khwājah that Mr. Batson spoke in favour of the zamīndārs for which reason they deferred the payments. Has acordingly sent a letter to Mr. Batson through the Khwājah.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 132, pp. 26-27. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 67.*]

Feb. 22. 954. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Acknowledges receipt of the Nawāb's *parwānah* from Khwājah Ḥusain 'Askarī on the 14th of *Rajab*. According to the wishes of the Nawāb communicated through the Khwājah, has agreed to accept five *lākhs* of rupees for the months of February, March, & April, which he has directed the Rāy Rāyān to pay Mr. Batson. Has written to Mr. Batson to send the jewels from Cossimbazar and not to speak in favour of the dependants of the *Sarkār*. Will do his best to sell the jewels. Hopes that the Nawāb will arrange for the payment of the very considerable amount due to the Company. Sends a copy of the Khwājah's *qisṭbandi*. The Nawāb should write expressly to the Rāy Rāyan to pay the money into the Cossimbazar factory and do his best to collect the other money.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 133, pp. 27-28. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 12.*]

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Feb. 22. 955. To the Rāy-Rāyān. Has sent a copy of the Nawāb's *qisṭbandi* through Khwājah Ḥusain 'Askarī. Hopes he will pay the money to Mr. Batson and send the enclosed letter to the Nawāb.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 134, p. 28. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 67.*]

Feb. 23. 956. To Ghulam Muṣṭafā, *Munshi*. Sends a letter for him to forward to Dr. Bristow, who is to pay Rs. 100 to the *mutaṣddis* of the *Darbār* for the release of Khush-hāl Chand, and Rs. 400 to the Company's servants as wages to ensure the dispatch of letters to Madras. If the Doctor will not pay, money will be sent from Calcutta. The letters sent to Sheo Bhaṭ and others should be delivered. Sheo Bhaṭ will certainly release Khush-hāl Chand and not intercept the letters again. Another letter to Madras must be despatched immediately on its arrival.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 135, pp. 28-29. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

Feb. 23. 957. To Mukand Pandit, Sheo Bhaṭ, and Ragmānjī Jāchak. Asks them to direct their people to release Khush-ḥāl Chand and not to intercept letters, but to dispatch them immediately on their arrival. Khush-hāl Chand is a poor man who has been stationed at Cuttack to forward letters.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 136, p. 29. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 47.*]

Feb. 23. 958. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Khwājah Ḥusain 'Askarī states that Biā Rām, *Wakil*, transacts other business besides that of the Company. He has been directed not to do so, and the Nawāb is not to pay any attention to anything that he says which does not concern the Company's affairs.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 137, p. 30. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 12.*]

Feb. 23. 959. To Biā Rām, *Wakil*. Understands that he is accustomed to apply to the Nawāb on behalf of many people, and that for this reason the Nawāb's dependants defer payments to the detriment of the Government. Orders him to confine himself to the business of the Company.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 138, p. 30. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Feb. 23. 960. To Rājā Jagta Nand. Acknowledges his petition and congratulatory *nazr*. Understands that he has fraudulently concealed some salt belonging to the Government. He is accordingly to give information at once of whatever salt he has in his possession and to pay the *mālguzāri* to Mr. Johnstone according to the *qisṭ*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 139, pp. 30-31. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 73.*]

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Feb. 24. 961. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has before written to him about Nand Kumār's treasonable correspondence with the enemy, that he had intercepted the letters, made Nand Kumār prisoner, and was examining his papers. It appears that he corresponded with the Shahzādah's people, Kāmgār Khān, and Sheo Bhaṭ, and tried to injure the Nawāb and the Company. He would certainly have been punished, if his offences had been such as to come under the tenor of the Company's laws. However, it is not in the power of such a man to injure the Nawāb or the Company. He has been treated in such a manner that he will never be able to show his face again and will remain in his own house without credit or employment.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 140, pp. 31-32. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 13.*]

Feb. 24. 962. To the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Has examined all the papers of Rājā Dūlab Rām but cannot find him culpable. Has therefore withdrawn the peons that guarded his house. Understands that Rājā Rām decamped and joined the Marhattas.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 141, p. 32.*]

Feb. 25. 963. From Jasārat Khān. Offers congratulation on the fall of Pondicherry. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Feb. 25. 964. To the Rāy Rāyān. Acknowledges his letter and congratulations and apologises for neglecting to write. Has already acquainted him with the arrival of Khwājah Ḥusain 'Askarī and sent him a copy of the *qistbandi*. Hopes he will accordingly pay the money to the Chief of Cossimbazar.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 142, p. 32.*]

Feb. 25. 965. To Michael *Firangi*. States that he has been found incompetent to deal with the purchases of chunam at Backergunge. Kirat Narāyan, to whom he has to make over charge, has been sent to replace him. He should come to Calcutta after being relieved.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 143, p. 33.*]

Feb. 25. 966. To Kirat Narāyan. Informs him that Michael *Firangi*, whose place he has been given, has been dismissed. He must take care to purchase good chunam and despatch it immediately.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 144, p. 33.*]

Feb. 26. 967. From the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. It is his opinion that matters ought not to be compromised with the Shāhzādah. The compromise should be put off until the question of succession is adjusted. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Feb. 26. 968. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Acknowledges receipt of the Nawāb's *parwānah* and his letter of the 9th *Rajab*, in which he states that he is allowing the Shāhzādah Rs. 1,000 daily. Has been already informed of the Shāhzādah's intention by Major Carnac, but agrees with the Major and the Nawāb that it is not advisable for the Shāh-

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zadah to have the *khutbah* read or *sikkahs* struck in his name as yet. Major Carnac told the Shāhzādah to come to him without any apprehension, if he wanted help. The Nawāb should confer with Major Carnac and Mr. McGuire at Patna and find out what *amirs* of Delhi are in the Shāhzādah's favour. Has written to Madras for troops which he expects in a month's time, as Pondicherry has fallen. The revenues of Behar should be allotted to the Shāhzādah for his maintenance and expenses. Has received through Khwājah Husain 'Askari a copy of the letter of Shāhan Shāh Abdalī to Mir Ja'far, wherein Shāh 'Alām is not mentioned. If His Excellency regards the former orders of Shahan Shah Abdālī, the latter will be well satisfied. Tells him to write in answer what he thinks advisable.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 145, pp. 33-35*]

(*N.B.*—Two copies sent, one by Khwājah Husain 'Askarī, tne other by *dāk*.)

Feb. 26. 969. To the Rāy Rrāyan. The *gumashtah* at Budhun says that he has advanced the *dādni* to the people of Bynadpur *parganah* for cloth. Chētan Rāy, *Tahṣildar*, will not allow the *gumāshtah* to collect the money due to the Company. A letter asking for Chētan Ray's help for collections should be sent to him. Sends a copy of his letter to Chētan Rāy for his perusal.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 146, p. 37. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 67.*]

Feb. 26. 970. To Chētan Rāy. Tells him it will be to his disadvantage to stop the collection of money due on account of advances to the inhabitants of Bynadpur village for cloth. On receipt of this letter he should hand over to the *gumāshtah* anyone owing money to the Company.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 147, p. 37.*]

Feb. 26. 971. To the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Has heard everything from Khwājah Husain 'Askarī. Particular note has been taken of what Khwājah Husain 'Askarī said of the *Sarkār*. Mentions that many people come for recommendations, which are given to them. If this practice is disadvantageous to Government, any advice from His Excellency will be accepted. Asks that the *zamindāri* given to Khwājah Petruse may be restored to its rightful owner, for on enquiry the former Zamīndār was found to be blameless. This act will not only be one of charity, but it will be for the good of the Government. The matter is left to the judgment of His Excellency.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 148, p. 38. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 13.*]

Feb. 27. 972. From Rājā Rāj Narāyan. Intimates that he will try his best to procure oxen and coolies. Guides familiar with the country will show the Company's people the road. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

Feb. 27. 973. To Rāja Rājballabh. Acknowledges his letter, informing him of the affair at Buruk Wamydpur. Has heard about the *padre* and the *firangī*. The latter has been dismissed and Kirat Narāyan

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put in his stead; whereas the former has been made prisoner and dispatched to Calcutta. The Chief of Lakhipur has been directed to restore the lands to the people from whom the *padre* had taken them.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 149, pp. 38-39. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 71.*]

Feb 28. 973A. To Sheo Bhaṭ. Hopes Khush-hāl Chand has been released by this time. Has dispatched some letters for Madras. Desires him to forward them without delay.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 150, p. 39. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 80.*]

Mar. 1. 974. From Rāja Fath Singh Offers congratulations on the victory gained over the Shāhzādah. Transmits a *nazr*. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Mar. 1. 975. From Rāja Fath Singh. Intimates that he has ten to twelve thousand men at the Governor's command. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Mar. 1. 976. From Rājā Rājballabh. Offers congratulations on the fall of Pondicherry. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

Mar. 1. 977. From Ghulām Husain Khān. Announces his father's death. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 20.*]

Mar. 1. 978. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Khwājah Husain 'Askarī has informed the Governor of Biā Rām's affair. There is no need of Biā Rām's remaining there. Asks His Excellency's permission to let him come away.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 151, pp. 39-40. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 13.*]

Mar 1. 979. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Acknowledges receipt of the Nawāb's *parwānah* enclosed with a copy of news from Delhi. From Major Carnac's letter, it appears that the Major has left the two Mahārājās to chastise Kāmgār Khān at Behar. As regards the Shāhzādah, advice has been given before, and Major Carnac has also been written to on this point. On his arrival at Patna, he should consult with the Major; what His Excellency then proposes to do will be agreed to. A reply to the letter from Shāhan Shāh Abdālī, a copy of which he sent through Khwājah Husain Askarı, is sent for his perusal. In this letter of Shāhan Shāh Abdālī there is nothing concerning the Shahzadah. If His Excellency thinks it proper to write to Shāhan Shāh Abdālī he can do so.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 152, pp. 40-41. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 13.*]

Mar. 1. 980. To Rājā Rājballabh. Acknowledges receipt of his friendly letter offering congratulations and a *nazr* at the Company's

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success at Pondicherry. Letters in his favour have been written to the Nawāb, who must have arrived at Patna. When he has paid his respects to His Excellency everything will be happily settled. The conclusion of the war at Pondicherry has left the English some choice troops for Bengal. Kirat Narāyan, by whom his letter was delivered, has been put in place of the *firangi* in the chunam business. Orders have been issued to the *padre* to restore all the land they acquired.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 153, pp. 41-42. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 71.*]

Mar. 1. **981.** To Shāh-Abdalī On the deposition of Mīr Ja'far 'Alī, Mir Qāsim was created Nawāb of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa. This change was intimated to His Majesty some time ago. His orders to Mīr Qāsim and Colonel Ṣabit Jang were to be obedient to the will of Shāh Ālam. His Majesty's faithful subject * who has succeeded Ṣābit Jang is obedient to the will of Shāh Ālam, who has been brought into the fortress of Patna. Is ready to accompany him [to Delhi].

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 154, p. 42. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 82.*]

Mar. 1. **982.** To Rājā Ram Narayan. Has received his letter accompanied with a *nazr* and offering congratulations on the success at Pondicherry. Therein it is mentioned that Major Carnac has conducted the Shāhzādah to Patna and the Rājā himself is with the English troops. On the Nawāb's arrival at Patna, he should go and pay his respects to him and everything will be settled, for the Governor has written in his favour. The Nawāb and Major Carnac have both been instructed to consult one another when they meet. The conclusion of the war at Pondicherry has left the English some choice troops. Shāh Abdālī must have been strengthened, for he has defeated the Marhattas.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 155, p. 43. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 61.*]

Mar. 2. **983.** To Jagat Sēth. Agreeable to the orders of the Nawāb, some jewels deposited by Mīr Ja'far 'Alī at the Cossimbazar factory, will be sold in twenty days. If he intends to be a purchaser, he should send some responsible person, and also inform the other Murshidabad merchants of the sale.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 156, p. 44. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Mar. 2. **984.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Agreeable to the order of the Nawab, some jewels deposited by Mīr Ja'far 'Alī at the Cossimbazar factory will be sold in twenty days. All merchants intending to be purchasers should be informed of the sale.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 157, p. 44. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 67.*]

*Mr. Vansittart, who had taken Colonel Clive's place.

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Mar. 3. 985. To Rājā Tilok Chand. Regarding the *chālān* for one *lākh* and fifty thousand rupees, only one *lākh* and fifteen thousand have been received, the remainder has not arrived. Of the three months' *qisṯbandī* not so much as seventy-two rupees have been realised. Asks how much longer the Company's business is to suffer through the false promises of his *wakīls?*

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 158, pp. 44-45. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 56.*]

Mar. 4. 986. From Rājā Tilok Chand. Transmits a *chālān* for a *lākh* and a half of rupees. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Mar. 4 987. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Acknowledges receipt of his letter concerning Khwājah Michael. The Khwājah has told everything, but as he is indebted to the people who have complained to the *'Adālat*, he has been imprisoned. Will wait for his release to settle the matters between him and the people.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 159, p. 45. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 13.*]

Mar. 5 988. The King to Colonel Clive. Intimates that he came to Patna at the instance of Major Carnac. Hopes that no alteration will take place with respect to the coinage of the country. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 43.*]

Mar. 5. 989. To Rājā Rāj Narāyan. Has received his letter, accompanied with a *nazr* and a *khal'at* from the Court. Everything will now be settled. Desires him to pay Mr. Johnstone the *qisṯ* money, and show him all due respect

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 160, p. 45. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 65.*]

Mar. 5. 990. To the Rāy Rāyān. In answer to his letter, has directed the *Taḥṣīldār* of Helky to get the money due to the Company and not to impede the collections.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 161, pp. 45-46. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, pp. 67-68.*]

Mar. 5. 991. To the King. His Majesty can judge from the loyalty of Major Carnac his feelings, and in fact those of every Englishman towards His Majesty. They are all his devoted servants. From his *farmān* understands that he wishes him to have the *khuṯbah* read and *sikkahs* coined. This matter being of great importance, it would be right first to ask Shāhan Shāh Abdālī and the *umarā* of Delhi to do so, lest they should be displeased. If the addressee acts in this manner, his faithful subjects in Bengal, Behar, and Orissa will then read the *khuṯbah* and coin *sikkahs*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 162, p. 46.*]

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[Mar. 5.] 992. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. From a letter from the Chief of Islamabad, and an acknowledgment from the *Faujdār* Muḥammad Riẓā Khān, it is understood that the said Khan has received from the 1st October to 23rd December and paid to the *Sarkār* the sum of sixty-five thousand four hundred and thirteen rupees. Enclosed is a copy of the acknowledgment. This money through His Excellency's favour must be paid to the Company. It is desired that he should write to Sayyid Turāb 'Alī Khān and the Rāy Rāyān on the subject.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 163, p. 47. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 13.*]

[Mar. 5.] 993. To Turāb 'Alī Khān. According to a letter from Mr. Verelst and an *iqrārnāmah* from Muḥammad Riẓa Khān, *Faujdār*, the latter has paid the sum of sixty-five thousand four hundred and thirteen rupees received from the 1st October to the 23rd December 1167 to the Nawāb's *Sarkār*. Enclosed is a copy of the *iqrārnāmah* for his perusal. The Nawāb and the Rāy Rāyān have been written to on the subject. The Rāy Rāyā n should be instructed to return the money for the use of the Cossimbazar factory.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 164, p. 47. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 85.*]

Mar. 5. 994. To the Rāy Rāyān. According to a letter from Mr. Verelst and an *iqrārnāmah* from Muḥammad Riẓā Khān, *Faujdār*, the latter has paid the sum of sixty-five thousand four hundred and thirteen rupees received from the 1st October to the 23rd December 1164 [1167] to the Nawāb's *Sarkār*. Encloses a copy of the *iqrārnāmah* for his perusal. Hopes he will remit the money as well as forward the letter enclosed for the Nawāb.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 165, p. 48. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 68.*]

Mar. 6. 995. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Sometime ago His Excellency was informed of the complaints that arrived from the Company's *gumashtahs* and other merchants engaged in trade on the Rajā of Bisseli's estates, of that Rājā's misbehaviour. He was also asked to send a *parwanah*, armed with which a letter would be written to the Chief of Jahangirnagar factory to send a few troops to chastise him. As no answer, has been received and complaints are still coming in, some Company's *talingas* have been dispatched to seize and bring the Rājā to Murshidabād. When he has been brought, it is hoped that Turāb 'Alı Khān or the Rāy Rāyān will be ordered to set up Dhūrab Narāyan, the Rājā's brother, or some other competent person in his stead. This will put an end to all complaints. Enclosed is a copy of a *farmān* just received.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 166, pp. 48-49. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 13.*]

Mar. 6. 996. To Turāb 'Alī Khān and the Rāy Rāyān. The Rājā of Bisseli has been creating disturbances among merchants and

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other people. The Nawāb has been written to for a *parwānah* to chastise him, but no answer has been received so far As more complaints are pouring in, the Chief of Jahangirnagar has been directed to send some *tilangās* to seize and conduct him to Murshidabad It would be a distinct advantage to dismiss him and place his brother or any other capable person on the *gaddi*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 167, p. 49. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, pp. 68-85.*]

Mar. 7. 997. From the Rāy Rāyān. Transmits a letter to Chētan Singh, *Taḥṣīldār*, for the approbation of the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Mar. 7. 998. To Khwājah Ḥusain 'Askarī. The jewels have arrived from Cossimbazar; his presence is needed for the breaking of the seals so that the jewels may be put up for sale at auction.

[*Trans. P. L. I, 1761, no. 168, p. 50.*]

Mar. 8. 999. From Rāja Tilok Chand. Expresses concern at hearing from his *wakīl* of the Governor's displeasure on account of the non-payment of the Company's *tankhwāh*. Is concerned to hear of the Governor's demanding an increase of revenue. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Mar. 8. 1000. From Rājā Rajballabh. Offers congratulations on the *khal'at* sent by the King on the fall of Pondicherry. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

Mar. 8. 1001. To Sheo Bhaṭ. On his arrival at Midnapur, which is the Company's assignment, he plundered tenants. His own *parganah* of Pataspur has not been spared. For the security of the country troops are stationed at Pataspur. He is requested to order his *'amlah*, as the Company's have been ordered, not to create disturbances or molest the inhabitants.

[*Trans P. L. I., 1761, no. 169, p. 50. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 80.*]

Mar. 9. 1002. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his *parwānah* of the 24th *Rajab*. His Excellency's views regarding the Shāhzādah are very correct, and as the matter is an important one, it cannot possibly be settled in a short time. Copies of a *farmān* and *parwānah* from the Shahzādah are sent for his perusal. On his arrival [at Patna], expects to hear all the news regarding this matter from him *P. S.*—Khwājah Petruse has personally informed him what His Excellency wrote to him. Hopes His Excellency will not be under any apprehensions. In every respect the Governor has his interests and welfare at heart.

[*Trans P. L. I., 1761, no. 170, pp. 50-51. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 13.*]

Mar. 9. 1003. To the Rāy Rāyān. In answer to his letter concerning the affair of the *tankhwāh*, he is requested to have the money ready so that on the arrival of the *parwānah* from the Nawāb, he may be able to pay the sum into the Cossimbazar factory immediately.

[*Trans P. L. I., 1761, no. 171, p. 51. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 68.*]

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Mar. 10. **1004.** From the Rāy Rāyān. Professes attachment to the Company. Declares that he has collected the *qists* with the greatest difficulty. States that he has duly delivered the letter to Mr. Batson's address. Trusts that there will be less delay in future in transmitting accounts of the Governor's health. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Mar. 10 **1005.** From Damodar Singh, Zamindār of Bishanpur. States that he has issued orders to his people not to intercept English letters. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 20.*]

Mar. 10 **1006.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. It is unjust that the Marhattas should receive the whole revenues of Cuttack. It will be difficult to pay the *chauth* or the sepoys as large sums are due from Sylhet, Tippera, Bishanpur, and other places. The Company and he himself should raise troops of their own, for it is absurd to rely on the Shāhzādah. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Mar. 10 **1007.** To Khwajah Ḥusain 'Askarī. The *Saudpattar* he sent by Bābū Sadā Sheo has been received. Some time ago, the addressee wrote saying he was coming here. It is hoped he will do so, for then the seals of the jewels belonging to the Government can be opened and the jewels disposed of.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 172, p. 52.*]

Mar. 10. **1008.** To the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Learns from Mr. Verelst, Chief of Islamabad, that when Muhammad Rizā Khān was *Faujdār* of that place, he sent his *Diwān* and some troops to seize the Rājā of Tippera, that on the Rājā refusing to surrender himself, Mr. Verelst sent some of the Company's troops against him and ousted him from the *zamindāri*. Requests the Nawāb to appoint Muhammad Riẓā Khān or some other capable person to the vacancy. Desires to know how much revenue in the shape of money, goods, elephants, etc., was paid by the former Zamīndār. Muhammad Riẓā Khān will deliver the same to His Excellency through Mr. Verelst.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 173, pp. 52-53. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 13.*]

Mar. 12. **1009.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Is glad to learn that on the 26th *Rajab*, His Excellency's *jhandā* arrived at Baikuntpur, where Major Carnac, Rām Narāyan, Rājballabh, and other officers paid their respects to the Nawāb. Assures him that the Major and the two Rājās will serve him faithfully and hopes that peace and prosperity will reign in the province. Agreeably to the Nawāb's orders, the jewels will be opened before Khwājah Ḥusain 'Askarī and disposed of. As ordered, the Rāy Rayān will certainly deliver the present *tankhwāh* into Cossimbazar factory. Hopes the Nawāb will send him an account of the visit he intends paying to the King.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 174, pp. 53-54. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 13.*]

Mar 13. **1010.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. States that he has sent a *lākh* and a half of rupees in part payment of the two *lakhs* due. The pay-

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ment of the Company's money is his primary object. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Mar. 13. **1011.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Offers compliments and congratulations on the fall of Pondicherry. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Mar. 13. **1012.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Disapproves of the too hasty orders Major Carnac has issued for marching troops against Kāmgār Khān. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Mar. 13. **1013.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. States the plan he has formed for satisfying the Company's demands. Supposes that the Governor has heard of the Wazīr's deposition and of Shāh Abdālī's taking possession of the *Sultanat*. Approves of the orders the Governor has issued to prevent collision between the zamīndārs and *mutasaddis*. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Mar. 13. **1014.** To Turāb 'Alī Khān. Acknowledges receipt of his letter offering congratulations on the success at Pondicherry. It is surprising that the letters in answer to his of the 29th, sent by *dāk* to Mr. Batson have not reached the Khān. They must have miscarried to Patna.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 175, p. 54. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 85.*]

Mar. 13. **1015.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his two *parwānahs* and a letter, all dated the 28th *Rajāb*, acquainting him that Major Carnac, Major York, and Mr. Lushington paid him a visit, and advised the 4th *Sha'bān* as a lucky day for His Excellency's visit to the King. Hopes the Nawāb will inform him of the proceedings at that interview, as he is his well-wisher and friend. Khwājah Ḥusain Askarī will write and let the Nawāb know all particulars as he has frequent conversations with the Governor. Wishes to know the sentiments of His Majesty. Majors Carnac and York write that the King wishes to have *sikkahs* coined and the *khuṭbah* read, for he says that through the circulation of the coins his sovereignty will be acknowledged.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 176, pp. 55-56. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

Mar. 14. **1016.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Offers compliments. Intends to visit the King. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Mar. 14. **1017.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. To the same effect. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Mar. 14. **1018.** From Turāb 'Alī Khān. Offers congratulations on the fall of Pondicherry. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Mar. 14. **1019.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Acknowledges receipt of the Nawāb's *parwānah*, dated 1st *Sha'bān*, through Khwājah Ḥusain

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Askarī. Major York has been instructed to attend His Excellency as long as he remains on that side.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 177, p. 56. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

Mar. 15. **1020.** From the Rājā of Mourbhanj. Trusts the officers sent to his quarter may be directed to transact all business personally with him. Requests that attention may be shown to Motī Rām. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 31.*]

Mar. 15. **1021.** To the Rājā of Mourbhanj. Acknowledges receipt of his letter and professes friendship for him. Says it is right the Rāja should correspond with him as all the zamindārs are doing so. The officers going to Mourbhanj will be cautioned to behave in a proper way. The Rajā is also to treat them with due respect.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 178, p. 56. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, pp. 74-75.*]

Mar. 15. **1022.** To Murat Narāyan Dās. Advises him to remain on friendly terms with the whole country As regards the addressee's desire to gain the friendship of the Company, refers him to the Governor's letter to the Rājā of Mourbhanj.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 179, p. 57. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 75.*]

Mar. 17. **1023.** From the Rāy Rāyān. Approves of the seizure of the Rājā of Biselli. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Mar. 17. **1024.** To Sheo Bhaṭ. Acknowledges receipt of his letter saying that he has released Khush-ḥal Chand and given the Company's people a *dastak* for the dispatch of letters. Thanks him for doing so. Tells him that the Nawāb has given the *chaklah* of Midnapur to the English for their military expenses, and that the troops have been stationed there to protect the poor and fight the Company's enemies but not to create disturbances. Desires Sheo Bhat to be content with his own possessions and not to disturb the English troops at Midnapur. Hopes he will forward the letters sent him to Madras.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 180, pp. 57-58. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 81.*]

Mar. 18. **1025.** To Rāj Narāyan, Rājā of Kasijorah. Desires him to pay the *khazānah* of his *zamindāri* to Mr. Johnstone at Midnapur and not to the Court. Has inquired into the matter and is sure that the Rājā formerly used to pay the revenue at Midnapur.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 181, p. 58. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 65.*]

Mar. 19 **1026.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Acknowledges receipt of the Nawab's *parwānah* through Khwājah Ḥusain Askarī on the 12th *Sha'bān*. Is very glad to hear that according to the advice of Jasārat Jang (Mr. McGuire) and Basālat Jang Bahādur, (Major

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Carnac) he paid a visit to Shāh 'Ālam on the 4th *Sha'bān*; and that the King treated His Excellency with the greatest regard, showering presents on him, investing him with a *sarpēch*, and even eating at the same table with him. These proceedings of Shāh Ālam have given great pleasure to the Nawāb's well wishers. As soon as a *farmān* from Shāhan Shāh Abdālī arrives informing the Nawāb that *sikkahs* can be struck and the *khuṭbah* read, His Excellency should act accordingly. The gentlemen at the factories will also be told to have the new money circulated. Requests that the Nawāb will write him whatever news arrives from Delhi, and also acquaint him with his own sentiments.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 182, pp. 58-59. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

Mar. 20. **1027.** From the Nawab Mīr Qasim. Communicates the result of his visit to the King. Was well received. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Mar. 20. **1028.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter which says he has made an assignment on Mirzā Sulaimān Bēg for Rs. 20,000, which the Nawāb Nāẓīru-l-mulk promised to Captain Knox. Both the Captain and the Governor present their compliments. Will write to the Nawāb when Mr. Knox receives the money.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 183, p. 60. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

Mar. 20. **1029.** To Khwājah Ḥusain 'Askarī. Acknowledges receipt of his letter with His Excellency's *parwānah* enclosed regarding the assignment for Rs. 20,000 on Mirzā Sulaimān Bēg. Encloses his reply to the *parwānah* for his perusal and tells him to forward it to His Excellency. Also encloses *parwānahs* in the addressee's and Sulaimān Bēg's names and desires the former to remit the money when he receives it that it may be paid to Captain Knox.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 184, pp. 60-61. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

Mar. 21. **1030.** To Khwājah Ḥusain 'Askarī. Acknowledges receipt of his letter with the Nawāb's *parwānah* enclosed acquainting him with the reasons for his not writing to him and the business of the assignment on Mirzā Sulaimān Bēg. Tells the addressee that it is necessary for him to go to the Nawāb, but that he should not do so until the jewels are sold. Has written to His Excellency to the same purpose.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 185, p. 61. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

Mar. 21. **1031.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Acknowledges receipt on the 15th *Sha'bān* of the Nawāb's friendly letter, with a copy of the news from Delhi. Agreeably to His Excellency's directions, the petition has been signed and sealed with the small seal, the bag with the large seal, and both are sent for him to forward. The *munshis* have

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received orders to do the same with all letters. Thanks him for the copy of news from Delhi, and requests to be always kept informed of what goes on in that place. His Excellency has written for Khwājah Ḥusain 'Askarī, but he cannot be spared as the seals of the box containing the jewels from Cossimbazar have not been broken. Asks permission to let Khwājah Ḥusain Askarī remain with him till the merchants have arrived and the jewels are disposed of. If His Excellency is not agreeable to this, some capable person should be sent in place of Khwājah Ḥusain 'Askarī, though this is not desired. Learns that Colonel Coote with some troops has arrived at Injeli from Madras. More troops will follow shortly The Colonel will be in Calcutta in two days.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 186, pp. 61-62. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

Mar. 22. 1032. From the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Approves of the fidelity the Governor professes towards Shāh 'Ālām in his letters to Shāh Abdāli. Observes that the Governor's letter to the Shāhan Shāh was not written in the proper form. Commends the imprisonment of Rājā Nand Kumār. Intimates his having recalled Khwājah Ḥusain ['Askarī]. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Mar. 22. 1033. To Muḥammad Ṣādiq, *Faujdār* of Balasore. Requests him to give every assistance, in matters relating to the Company, to Mr. Bristow, who has been sent to Balasore to forward letters to Madras.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 187, p. 63. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 49.*]

Mar. 23. 1034. To Ragmānjī Jāchak. Has received his friendly letter saying that Sheo Bhaṭ "has a clean heart and no evil intentions" and requesting that a capable person may be sent to him (the addressee). Will send a man from whom he will learn everything; tells him to act according to this man's instructions. Hopes he will issue orders to his *mutaṣaddīs* not to delay the despatch of letters to Madras.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 188, p. 63. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 63.*]

Mar. 23. 1035. To Sheo Bhaṭ. States that no letters have been received from him for a long time and hopes to be kept informed of his welfare. Requests he will do him the favour of ordering his managers at Cuttack not to make any delays in forwarding the letters to Madras.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 189, pp. 63-64. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 81.*]

Mar. 24. 1036. To Rājā Tilok Chand, Dīwān Umī Chand, Rāmdhan Nāg, and Jugal *Majmū'ahdār* Mr. Sumner has been despatched to Burdwan and has the Governor's authority to receive and send the money. Desires them to settle the affairs of the *zamīndārī* with him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 190, p. 64. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 56.*]

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Mar. 24. 1037. To Rājā Tilok Chand. Desires him to co-operate with Mr. Sumner in sending the balance of the money due for the closing year. The *pūniā* time being at hand, the Rājā and his managers are required to attend on Mr. Sumner with the papers to settle the accounts of the *zamīndārī*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 191, p. 64. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 56.*]

Mar. 25. 1038. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Transmits copies of letters he received from Shujā'u-d-daula and Rājā Jugal Kishor whom he accuses of being extremely deceitful. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Mar. 25. 1039. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Says he will remove the Rājā of Bisselli as requested by the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Mar. 25. 1040. To Khwajah Ḥusain 'Askarī. Is anxious to hear from him. The breaking of the seals had to be deferred till his arrival. It is requested he will come as soon as possible, as the purchaser will shortly arrive and without him the seals cannot be broken nor can the jewels be put up for sale at auction. Sends him the *parwanah* received through him for twenty thousand rupees assigned on Mirzā Sulaimān Bēg with a request to forward it.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 192, p. 65. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

Mar. 25. 1041. To the Rāy Rāyān. Mr. Sumner has been despatched to Burdwan to receive the money, and settle the affairs of the *zamīndārī* for the coming year. Requests him to supply the above officer with any papers he may ask for in this connection.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 193, p. 65. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 68.*]

Mar. 26. 1042. To Shāhan Shāh Abdāli Has already informed His Majesty that Mīr Ja'far 'Alī Khān has relinquished the ṣūbaldārship of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa and that Mīr Qāsim 'Alī Khān has been appointed in his place. It was the addressee's order to Mīr Ja'far and Colonel Ṣābit Jang [Clive] to be obedient to the will of Shāh Ālam. Mr. Vansittart being the Colonel's successor, is also obedient to the King, and has accordingly conveyed His Majesty to the fort at Patna. If it should be the Shāhan Shāh's pleasure, he will be escorted by some troops to Delhi.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 194, pp. 65-66. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 82.*]

Mar. 26. 1043. To the Wazīr. To the same effect as the foregoing.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 195, pp. 66-67.*]

Mar. 26. 1044. To Sheo Bhat. Is very pleased to learn from his letter that he not only forwarded the letters to Madras, but gave a *dastak* to prevent their being intercepted. If the removal of the troops from

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Midnapur is so persistently urged, a breach in friendship will ensue, and war to the loss of both parties will be the result.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 196, pp. 67-68. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 81.*]

Mar. 26. 1045. To the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Has received his two *parwānahs* Will direct Major Carnac to request Shāh 'Ālam to dismiss some ot the troops. Will do everything to promote the prosperity of the Nawāb's affairs. Says that he instructed Major Carnac to obey the Nawāb and that His Excellency has seen how obedient the Major has been to him. Will write to the Major once more to the same purpose. Has written to the Dutch Chief and believes that the matters will be properly settled Everything will be done in accordance with the Nawāb's desire, when His Excellency arrives at Murshidabad.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 197, p. 68. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

*Mar. 26. 1046. To the King. Is anxious to hear from His Majesty. Says that Colonel Coote, who has arrived at Calcutta from Pondicherry, will soon be sent to Patna to serve His Majesty.

[*Trans. P L. I., 1761, no. 198, p. 69. Abs· P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

Mar. 26. 1047. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Acknowledges receipt of the Nawāb's *parwānah* as well as copies of letters from Shujā'u-d-daulah and Jugal Kishōr. Says that Jugal Kishōr has drawn bills of exchange on Delhi in favour of Shujā'u-d-daulah. Thinks it would be much better if Shujā'u-d-daulah and the Abdālī could be persuaded to consent to this money being given to Shāh 'Ālam for his travelling expenses. Advises him to punish traitors if there are any about him. Sends him copies of letters he has written to Shāh Abdālī and Shujā'u-d-daulah States that Mīr Ja'far paid only Rs. 3,90,551-9-1 *ganda* out of the Rs. 90,98,071-9-6 he agreed to pay the Committee. Hopes the Nawāb will soon pay the balance as the season for payment is nearly at an end. The sum of 5 *lākhs* assigned to the Cossimbazar factory has been paid. The price of the jewels will be placed to his credit and as soon as they are sold, a detailed account will be sent to him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 199, pp. 69-71. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

Mar. 27. 1048. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Advises a letter to be written to the Dutch desiring them to alter their insolent conduct. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Mar 27. 1049. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Gives information of the prudent steps he and Major Carnac take to prevent the Shāhzādah behaving improperly to Shāh Ālam. Alludes to the great allowance he

* The date in the Abs is 26th April.

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makes to the King. The people are still complaining. Hopes the Governor will reflect on his situation. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65., p. 5.*]

Mar. 28.* **1050. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Finds fault because two hundred European soldiers were recalled from him. Wishes to know the cause. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 5.*]

Mar. 27. **1051.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's letter. Says that the two hundred Europeans were sent for because of the disturbances with the Marhattas, but that as that affair is now ended, the soldiers will be sent back. Intimates that Colonel Coote has arrived at Calcutta and will soon proceed to Patna to pay his respects to His Excellency.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 200, pp. 71-72. Abs. P. L I., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

Mar. 28. **1052.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Describes the troubles that surround him. Requests the Governor's assistance in retrieving his affairs. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Mar. 28. **1053.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Acknowledges receipt of his letter through Rāmdhan Nāg Says that as the Rāja's *mutasaddī* has arrived, everything will be done in a proper manner. Assures the Rājā of his help. Refers him to Rāmdhan Nāg's letter for further particulars.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 201, p. 72. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 56.*]

Mar. 29. **1054.** To Muhammad Rizā Khān. Encloses a copy of the note for Rs. 10,591-10-15 *gandās* executed by the Khān and sent to the writer by Mr. Verelst. Desires the Khān to pay the said amount to Mr. Batson, Chief at Cossimbazar factory. Is glad to hear that the Khān intends paying him a visit.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 202, pp. 72-73. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

Mar. 29. **1055.** To Turāb 'Alī Khān, and the Rāy Rāyān. Learns from the Chief of Dacca that Bējī Narāyan, Rājā of Bisseli, has been dismissed and Raudar Narāyan appointed in his place by the *Faujdār* of Rangamati. It is the Nawāb's desire that Dhūrab Narāyan, Raudar Narayan's father, should succeed to the *Rāj*. Says if Dhūrab Narāyan is there, he should be appointed to the vacancy, if not, Raudar Narāyan should be confirmed. Intimates that Bējī Narāyan, the ex-Rājā, has been made prisoner and brought to Dacca whence he will be sent to Murshidabad.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 203, p. 73. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 85.*]

Mar. 30. **1056.** To Sulaimān Bēg. Understands from the addressee's letter and from Bābū Sadā Sheo, the bearer of the letter, that the former's managers have not given the Bābū the Fransdanga

* The date in the Abs. should be 27.

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papers. Sends the Babū again and tells the addressee that if he does not comply with his request, the matter will be reported to His Excellency, and the papers as well as the balance taken from him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 204, pp. 73-74. Abs. P L. I., 1759-65, p. 79.*]

Mar. 30. **1057.** To Rājā Tilok Chand, Umī Chand, and Jugal *Majmū'ahdārs.* Has answered their letter brought by Rāmdhan Nāg. As Rāmdhan Nāg is now in Calcutta, their affairs will soon be settled. Mr. Sumner has been despatched to Burdwan which he will reach in two or three days. Requires them to proceed with their managers to Burdwan to collect the revenues in conjunction with Mr. Sumner.

[*Trans. P. L. I, 1761, no. 205, pp. 74-75. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 56.*]

Mar. 30 **1058.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Says that Rāmdhan Nāg has arrived to adjust everything relating to the *zamīndārī*, but that the Rāy Rāyan has not sent the *qisṭbandi* papers. Requests that the *qisṭbandī* papers of every *parganah* may be sent that an adjustment may be effected and a *qisṭbandī* made.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 206, p. 75. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 68.*]

Mar. 30. **1059.** To Raghuband Rāy. Mr. Sumner has been despatched to Burdwan to collect and send the money. Pending the arrival of Tilok Chand, he is requested to attend Mr. Sumner with the papers and help him in the collection of the balance due.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 207, p. 75.*]

Mar. 30. **1060.** To Turāb 'Alī Khan, and the Rāy Rāyān. Acknowledges receipt of their letter acquainting him with the news from Raushanabad (Tippera). It is true that the Rājā behaved ill towards Muḥammad Rizā Khān's people, and that the Chief of Islamabad despatched some of the Company's troops to seize him. Has reported the matter to His Excellency. Will inform the Chief of His Excellency's orders when they are received.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 208, pp. 75-76. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 85.*]

Mar. 31. **1061.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Acknowledges receipt of the Nawāb's letter saying that he is prepared to give Shāh Ālam 4 *lākhs* of rupees for a *sanad* and *farmān*. Thinks that the King will not be satisfied with the above sum. Says that as the procuring of a *sanad* and *farmān* is very necessary, the Nawāb ought to pay a much larger amount. Will direct Major Carnac to help the Nawāb in all matters.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 209, pp. 76-77. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

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Apl. 1. **1062.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Agreeably to the Nawāb's orders, has written to Mr. Verelst to encourage the Zamīndār of Tippera and to direct him to settle the affairs of the *zamīndāri* with Jawānmard 'Alī Khān. Letters have also been sent to Turāb Alī Khān and the Rāy Rāyān to the same effect

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 210, pp. 77-78. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

Apl. 2. **1063.** From Turāb Alī Khān. Intimates that the disturbances at Tippera impede the collections. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Apl. 2. **1064.** To Turāb 'Alī Khān. Agreeably to the Nawāb's order, has written to the Chief of Islamabad to direct the Zamīndār to wait on Jawānmard 'Alī Khān in order to settle the affairs of the *zamīndāri* with him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 211, p. 78. Abs. P. L .I., 1759-65, p. 85.*]

Apl. 2. **1065.** From the Rāy Rāyān. Requests that a letter may be sent to the Chief of Islamabad directing him not to impede the collection of the revenue, and telling him to recall the people he sent into the *mufaṣṣal.* [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Apl. 2. **1066.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. States that Shāh 'Ālam intends setting out for Delhi. Hopes for free advice on the state of affairs. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 6*]

Apl. 2. **1067.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Advises that the former Zamīndār of Tippera should be reinstated notwithstanding his misconduct. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Apl. 2. **1068.** From Ragmānjī Jāchak. States that the united efforts of the Company and himself will soon terminate all disturbances. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

Apl. 2. **1069.** To Biā Rām. Desires him to wait on Mr. Batson. Has written letters to Turāb 'Alī Khān and the Rāy Rāyān concerning Tippera affairs; asks him to deliver them to the addressees, and to tell them that agreeably to the Nawāb's *parwānah,* Mr. Verelst has been instructed to direct the Zamīndār to wait on Jawānmard 'Alī Khān in order to settle the affairs of the *zamīndāri.*

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 212, pp. 78-79. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Apl. 3. **1070.** To Rājā Tilok Chand, Lālā Umī Chand, and Jugal *Majmū'ahdār.* Intimates that Rāmdhan Nāg has arrived and that a *qisṭbandi* for the closing and the ensuing years has been made. Desires them to proceed to Burdwan with their managers, and to send the money due according to the *qisṭbandi.*

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 213, p. 79. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 56.*]

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Apl. 4. **1071.** From the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Remarks on the improprieties going on at Delhi Transmits copies of letters he wrote in reply to those of Shujā'u-d-dau ah and Jugal Kishor. Also sends a copy of a letter from Rajā Jānūjī Bhōnslā demanding payment of the *chauth.* Requests advice on these subjects Intimates his having sent 4,000 troops to Behar in order to punish Kāmgār Khān. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Apl. 5. **1072.** The King to Colonel Clive. Refers him to Colonel Coote for all matters. Hopes for news. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65 p. 43.*]

Apl. 7. **1073.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Says that of the money assigned upon him, he has paid only Rs. 95,000 Requests him to send the balance as soon as possible as it is urgently required for the troops at Patna.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 214, p. 80. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 68.*]

Apl. 7. **1074.** To the Nawab Mir Qāsim Intimates that the caskets were opened before Khwājah Ḥusain Askarī, and that the jewels were valued at Rs. 12,07,000. Says that if they are sold by auction they will scarcely fetch 4 *lākhs* of rupees. Desires to know what should be done with them.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 215, pp. 80-81. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, pp. 14-15.*]

Apl. 7. **1075.** To the Nawāb Mir Qasim. Acknowledges receipt of his letter with a copy of a letter he wrote to Shujā'u-d daulah and Jugal Kishōr. Approves of what has been written to them. Regarding Rāja Jānūji's demand for the *chauth,* tells the Nawāb to write in reply what he thinks proper. Agreeably to the Nawāb's orders, will direct Major Carnac to co-operate with the Nawāb's troops in punishing Kāmgār Khān. Learns from Major Carnac that Captain Champion engaged Kāmgar Khān and defeated him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 216, p. 81. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

Apl. 8. **1076.** To Biā Rām. Has been informed by the Nawab that he has granted the Company a *parwanah* to purchase opium on Biā Rām's applying therefor. Desires Biā Rām to explain why he applied for the *parwānah* without the Governor's orders.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 217, pp. 81-82. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Apl. 8. **1077.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Says that on His Excellency's granting the Company a license to trade in opium, the Dutch have written to him protesting against this encroachment upon their rights. The English have no desire to monopolise the whole trade, and Biā Rām applied for the license without orders. Requests that the *parwanah* granted to the Company may be cancelled, and that the Dutch may be allowed to trade in opium as before.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 218, pp. 82-83. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

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Apl. 9. 1078. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Learns from Major Carnac and Mr McGuire that the King is hard pressed for money. Says that it is not right that during his stay in the Nawāb's *sūbah*, he should be allowed only Rs. 1,300. Requests that the Nawāb will give him Rs. 500 more. Has directed the above-mentioned gentlemen to pay the Rs. 500 from the Company's treasury. The Nawāb can repay it afterwards.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 219, p. 83. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

Apl. 9. 1079. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Says that Khwājah Ḥusain 'Askarı, after properly transacting the business of the *Sarkār*, left for Murshidabad agreeably to the Nawāb's orders.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 220, pp. 83-84. Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

Apl. 9. 1080. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter saying that the *sūbah* is in a ruinous condition, and that the demands of the sepoys are considerable. Approves of his remaining on the frontier during the rains, as by doing so His Excellency will be the better able to put down the disturbances in Behar. Has in no way deviated from his course of friendship and fidelity towards His Excellency. Will obey the orders of the Rāy Rāyān and Turāb 'Alī Khān during the Nawab's absence from Murshidabad. Is glad to learn that Kāmgār Khān has been defeated and Mīr Bū 'Alī Khān sent in his pursuit. Hopes that the Rāy Rāyān will be directed to pay the 5 *lākhs* of rupees assigned on him. It was unnecessary for His Excellency to write repeatedly for Khwājah Ḥusain 'Askarī.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 221, pp. 84-85. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

Apl. 10. 1081. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Describes the confusion Patna has been thrown into since the arrival of Shāh 'Alam there and states that he finds it difficult to get money to pay the sepoys. Says that Kāmgār Khān despised the three or four hundred cavalry sent against him, but that their superior valour soon showed him his mistake, for he found himself vanquished. [*Abs. P.L.R., 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Apl. 10. 1082. To Sheo Bhaṭ. Has received his letter claiming the *chauth* of Midnapur on the ground of its being part of Cuttack, and requesting the withdrawal of the people therefrom. Says that though Mīr Ja'far gave up the *chauth* of Cuttack, Midnapur has been independent of it for a long time Tells him that it has now been made over to the Company for the maintenance of their troops, and that he should therefore give up the claim.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 222, pp. 85-86. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 81.*]

Apl. 11. 1083. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Is glad to learn that the King accepted the Nawāb's invitation to the entertainment of the *naurōz*, presented him with a basket of flowers and betel, and treated him

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very kindly. Approves of the *pēshkash* he made to His Majesty and of the agreement he executed.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 223, pp. 86-87. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

Apl. 12. 1084. From the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Requests that Major Carnac may be directed not to yield to the request of Shāh Ālam with regard to the *sikkahs* and *khuṭbah*. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Apl. 12. 1085. To the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Has already intimated to the Nawāb what reply should be given to Janujī Bhōnsla. Tells him that if he evades paying the money on account of the ruinous state of the country, the negotiations may take some time. Advises him to grant the application of Muslihu-d-dīn Muhammad Khan and Gangā Nāīk for an agreement that the disturbances may come to an end and the tenants remain in tranquillity. The Marhattas are not now strong enough to invade Bengal.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 224, p. 88. Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 15.*]

Apl. 13. 1086. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Encloses a copy of an agreement between him and Shāh 'Alam upon the subject of the Company's and his affairs. Requests advice thereon, as well as on a letter he received from Jānūjī Bhonslā. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Apl. 13. 1087. From Rājā Tilok Chand. Thanks the Governor for recalling Mr. Sumner. Declares that his country cannot prosper unless it is under the Governor's management. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 37.*]

Apl. 14. 1088. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Acknowledges receipt of the Nawāb's *parwanah* sent by Khwājah Petruse. Approves of His Excellency's agreement with Shāh 'Alam.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 225, p. 89. Abs. P. L I., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

Apl. 15. 1089. From the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Intimates that until he has made an arrangement at Patna, he cannot leave it. Enlarges on his fears about the consequences of the sepoys not being paid. States that the Shāhan Shāh intends to go to Delhi, and Shujā'u-d-daulah to his own *sūbah*. Informs the Governor that the *amīrs* at Delhi are not attached to the writer or to the Company. [*Abs. P.L R., 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Apl. 15. 1090. To the Rāy Rāyān. Sends him a copy of the Nawāb's *parwānah* directing him to pay the sum of Rs. 3,90,551-9 to the Company. Is anxious to know from what funds this money will be paid, as there are big balances already due to the Company. Requests orders on the subject.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 226, p. 89. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 68.*]

Apl. 16. 1091. From the Nawāb Mir Qasim. States that he has not received a single rupee of the Company's money from Muhammad

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Rizā Khān, and that the Khān has made false statements in connection with the affair. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Apl. 16. **1092.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has received his friendly letter through Rāmdhan Nāg. Says that if the Rājā is anxious to remain on friendly terms with the Company, he should speedily send the money agreeable to the terms of the adjustment made by Rāmdhan Nāg. Intimates that Mr. Sumner and Rāmdhan Nāg will shortly proceed to Burdwan, and desires the Rājā to send, on their arrival there, his *mutaṣaddīs* to help them in the collection of the revenues.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 227, p. 90. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 56.*]

Apl. 17 **1093.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's letter with four enclosures and a *parwānah* in the Rāy Rāyān's name for the payment of the money to the Committee. Has sent the *parwānah* to the Rāy Rāyān asking him to explain how he will pay it Requests the Nawāb to write to the Rāy Rāyān to the same purpose. Approves of the Nawāb remaining in Behar until the affairs of that province have been properly settled. The writer's petition and letter to the Shāh and Shujā'u-d-daulah may be forwarded as they contain nothing but assurances of friendship. Agreeably to the Nawāb's wishes, has instructed Colonel Coote to obey him. Intimates that Khwājah Ḥusain 'Askarī left Calcutta on *Ramaẓān* 4.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 228, pp. 91-92.*]

Apl. 18. **1094.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. States that large sums are due to the sepoys and that Rām Narāyan is dilatory. Requests advice upon the unsettled state of his affairs. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Apl. 18. **1095.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Says that the King should remain at Patna and his daily allowance be continued until some English troops have arrived from Madras; a firm agreement made with Shujā'u-d-daulah and the other great *amirs* at Delhi, and money for the King's travelling expenses got ready. Advises that the *khuṭbah* should be read and *sikkahs* coined in Shāh Ālam's name if he proceeds to Delhi with an English escort but not otherwise. States that the officers accompanying the King to the Karamnassa should be given a few Europeans and *tilangās*, but that Major York, Rām Narāyan and the Nawāb's troops should not escort the King. Desires the Nawāb to give the King on his departure a little more than two *lākhs* of rupees. Has written to Major Carnac to the same purpose.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 229, pp. 92-93. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

Apl. 19. **1096.** To Sukh Dīn Bhuniā. Has received his petition saying that he has been paying the revenue of his *zamindāri* to the *Sarkār*. Tells him to regard the Company and the *Sarkār* as one and the same

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and desires him to pay the revenue, in future, to Mr. Johnstone, Chief of the *chaklah* of Midnapur.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 230, p. 94.*]

Apl. 19. **1097.** To Biā Rām. Has written to Mr. McGuire and the Nawāb about the cancellation of the *parwanah*. Desires him to attend on Mr. Batson to receive the assigned money. Also desires him to receive from Muhammad Rizā Khān the papers and from the Rāy Rāyān the money due.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 231, p. 94. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

Apl. 21. **1098.** From the Rāy Rāyān Intimates that before the arrival of the Governor's letter, he had despatched two *lākhs* of rupees for the payment of the troops, and that the balance will soon follow. Has written to the Zamīndār of Tippera not to impede the Company's affairs. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

Apl. 21. **1099.** From Sheo Bhaṭ. Threatens to invade Bengal, if the *chauth* is not forwarded at once. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

Apl. 21. **1100.** To Rāja Tilok Chand. Intimates that Mr. Sumner has been despatched to Burdwan. Requires the Rajā to co-operate with him in the collection of the revenues and to look upon him as the manager of the whole business and as the Governor's representative.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 232, p. 95. Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

Apl. 22. **1101.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. States that he has paid two *lākhs* of rupees to Shāh 'Ālam. Says he is unable to give more as the sepoys have not been paid yet. Informs the Governor of the troubles at Patna being nearly ended. Enters into a long detail of the rights of former *sūbahdārs*. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Apl. 22. **1102.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Colonel Coote has been dispatched to Patna, and instructed to obey His Excellency's injunctions. The Nawāb is to consider the Colonel as his friend and ally, and regard his wishes as those of the Company.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 233, p. 95. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

Apl. 22. **1103.** To the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's letter informing him that he asked Mahārāja Rām Narāyan for the account of the balance and receipts of the *sūbah*, the papers of the assigned lands, and of the *Faujdār's* customs, but had only received the papers regarding the *ṣūbah* of Behar. An English translation of His Excellency's *parwānah* has been given to Colonel Coote, who has set out for Patna and will assist the Nawāb in settling these affairs with Mahārājā Rām Narāyan. As the Mahārājā was a friend of Ṣābitr Jang [Colonel Clive] and other commanders, His Excellency is requested to use no force to procure the papers and to settle everything amicably.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 234, pp. 95-96. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, pp. 15-16.*]

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Apl. 22. **1104.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's letter acquainting him that Muḥammad Riẓā Khān has in his hands a large sum of money belonging to the *Sarkār*, that whatever he says is false, that the Governor should not listen to his lies but receive the Company's money from him. Says he cannot do so as it is not customary to take the balance of the past year from the produce of the present. Requests that the Rāy Rāyān may be directed to pay the money he received from Muḥammad Riẓā Khān to Mr. Batson. Says the Nawāb can settle the matter with Muḥammad Riza Khan, who must have arrived at Murshidabad.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 235, pp. 96-97. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 16.*]

Apl. 22. **1105.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Encloses a *parwānah* from the Nawāb regarding Muḥammad Riẓā Khān's affairs, together with a copy of the Governor's reply thereto. Desires the Ray Rayan to pay Mr. Batson the money which the Khān paid to His Excellency. The addressee can settle the matter with the Khān, who must have arrived at Murshidabad.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 236, p. 97. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 68.*]

Apl. 22. **1106.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Mr. Sumner was despatched to Burdwan, but owing to the Rājā's letters and Rāmdhan Nāg's representations, he was recalled. Rāmdhan Nāg gives information that the country is disaffected, and that in consequence of some evil rumours, the managers of districts and the tenants are fleeing from the Rājā's *zamindāri*, while the Rājā himself is under great apprehensions. Consequently Mr. Sumner has again been told to go to Burdwan in spite of Rāmdhan Nāg's remonstrances. Mr. Sumner will act in accordance with the Rājā's wishes, and assist in the collection of the revenues.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 237, pp. 97-98. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

Apl. 22. **1107.** To the King. Colonel Coote, a great warrior of wide experience, with a few troops and the necessary equipage, has been despatched to pay homage to His Majesty. The Colonel will carry out all the wishes of His Majesty, who in turn is requested to listen to the petitions the Colonel may make from time to time.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 238, p. 99.*]

Apl 22. **1108.** To Sulaimān Bēg. Encloses an assignment made on him by the Rāy Rāyān for Rs. 45,000. Refers him to his *wakil* for particulars.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 239, p. 100. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 79.*]

Apl. 23. **1109.** To Sheo Bhaṭ. Says that a reply to Rājā Jānūjī's letter about the *chauth* has been sent by the Nawāb; hopes that every thing will be properly adjusted. Tells Sheo Bhaṭ that as he is no

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longer Chief of Cuttack, he has no business to demand the *chauth* and to create disturbances in Midnapur. Warns him that by doing so he will incur the displeasure of Jānujī. Thanks him for forwarding the letter to Madras.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 240, p. 100. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 81.*]

Apl. 23.* **1110.** To Ragmānjī Jāchak. Intimates that a reply to Rājā Jānūjī's letter about the *chauth* has been sent by the Nawāb and hopes that, on its arrival at Nagpur, everything will be properly adjusted. Says that although Sheo Bhaṭ is no longer Chief of Cuttack, yet he demands the *chauth* and harasses the tenants. Requests the addressee to forward the letters sent him to Madras.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 241, p. 101. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 63.*]

Apl. 23. **1111.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Acknowledges receipt of the 5 *lākhs* of rupees assigned on him by the Nawāb. Says that the money has been applied to the affairs of the *Sarkār* Asks for a speedy remittance of Rs 1,71,000, the balance for March and April. Requests that he will also send the Committee a paper of the assignment.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 242, pp. 101-102. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 68.*]

Apl. 24 **1112.** To the Rājā of Mourbhanj. Is pleased to receive the Rājā's letter saying that he is loyal and friendly to the Company, and that his officers waited upon Mr. Johnstone Intimates that Mr. Johnstone has been instructed to treat the Rājā in a friendly manner.

[*Trans. P L I., 1761, no. 243, p. 102 Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 75.*]

Apl. 25 **1113.** To Mr John Bristow, Chief of Balasore. Has been informed that the merchants have applied to him for English *dastaks*. Directs him to charge 2½ *per cent.* on all *dastaks* he issues.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 244, p. 102. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Apl. 26. **1114.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. States that he has made various presents to Shāh Ālam, and that he will send hereafter a particular account of the *pēshkash* [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Apl. 26 **1114A.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim Complains of the improper behaviour of Major Carnac and the *Nāib* Encloses copies of letters he received from the former Hopes the Governor has given Colonel Coote proper instructions regarding his conduct towards him (the Nawāb). [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 6.*]

Apl. 28. **1115.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Informs the Governor that he has written to the Rāv Rāyān, to pay into the Cossimbazar factory the sum of five *lākhs* Wishes to know what the box of jewels is likely to fetch, that he may make up the balance of the money due to the Company. Will answer Rājā Janūjī's letter on receipt of advice from the Governor. Intends to discharge Muslihu-d-dīn Muhammad Khān and Gangā Nāik. His funds are very low. Has given as much as he could to His Majesty. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 7.*]

* The date in the Abs. is the 22nd.

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Apl. 28. **1116.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Expresses pleasure at Major York's conduct. Still dwells on the importunities of the sepoys for their pay. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 7.*]

Apl. 28. **1117.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates that he has appointed Alī Yār Khān to succeed Shukru-l-lah as *Faujdār* of Sylhet. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 7.*]

Apl. 28. **1118.** From the Rāy Rāyān. Encloses a letter from the Nawāb soliciting an order to the Chief of Sylhet to assist the newly appointed *Faujdār* of that district. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

Apl. 28. **1119.** From Turāb Alī Khān. Intimates that the Nawāb has appointed 'Alī Yār Khān to the Faujdārship of Sylhet. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p 45.*]

Apl. 29. **1120.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's *parwānah* acquainting him that he has dismissed the *Nāib* and appointed another man in his place. Says that Colonel Coote will help the Nawāb in all matters. Assures His Excellency that the writer has his interests at heart. Refers him to Mr. McGuire for particulars.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 245, pp. 102-103 Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 16.*]

Apl. 29. **1121.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Acknowledges receipt of the Nawāb's letter saying that His Majesty has marched to Bachypur *en route* for Delhi satisfied and contented; that His Excellency has been troubled by people who make impossible requests; that the Company's representative in the *sūbah* must act according to His Excellency's advice; and that the writer should tell Colonel Coote what is necessary and proper. In reply, says that he has mentioned everything to the Colonel, and assures His Excellency that the Colonel will obey him. Has also explained to him the contents of His Excellency's *parwānah* concerning the *Nāib* of Behar and sent him a copy thereof as a reminder. Has also sent the Colonel an account of the balance. Has perused the three enclosed letters from Major Carnac and sends them back to His Excellency.

[*Trans. P. L. I, 1761, no. 246, pp. 104-105. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 16.*]

Apl. 29. **1122.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Acknowledges receipt of the Nawāb's several letters saying that His Excellency has directed the Rāy Rāyān to pay the assigned money; that (the Governor) can dispose of the jewels by auction and place the proceeds to the Company's credit; that His Excellency has written a letter to Rājā Jānūjī and will inform the Governor of the agreement he makes with Gangā Nāik and Muṣlihu-d-dīn Muhammad Khān. Intimates that the Rāy Rāyān has paid 4 *lākhs* of rupees out of the 5 *lākhs* and agrees to pay the balance as well as the Committee money. Says that after the two sums assigned on the Rāy Rāyān have been paid and the proceeds of the jewels credited to the Company's account,

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the balance would amount to about 7 *lakhs* of rupees. Hopes His Excellency will make provision for the payment of it. Has perused Khwajah Ḥusain 'Askarī's petition and sends it to His Excellency through Khwajah Petruse.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 247, pp. 105-106. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 16.*]

Apl. 30. **1123.** From the Rāy Rāyān. Hopes that a letter may be written to the Chief of Midnapur directing him to prevent different persons from taking possession of the management of Jellasore. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p 41.*]

Apl. 30 **1124.** From the Rāy Rāyān. Requests that Mr. Johnstone may be instructed to release Rājā Mukurund Kishōr's *jāgirs.* [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65 p 41*]

Apl. 30. **1125.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Says he is an eye-witness of the ruin brought on the *sūbah* by the conduct of the *Nāib*, from whom a great deal of money is now found to be due. Enlarges on Major Carnac's negligence due to the baseness of the *Nāib*. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 7*]

Apl. 30. **1126.** To the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Has received His Excellency's letter saying that he has appointed 'Alī Yar Khān to the Faujdārship of Sylhet in place of Shukru-l-lāh and desiring the writer to direct the Chief of Islamabad to assist the said Khān and to send Shukru-l-lāh with his money and effects to Murshidabad. Has written to the Chiefs of Islamabad and Jahangirnagar as desired by His Excellency. Asks the Nawāb to direct the *Faujdār* of Sylhet to assist Pandit Rām, the Company's *gumāshtah* for chunam.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 248, pp. 106-107. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 16.*]

May 1. **1127.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Is glad that the Governor is pleased with the agreement entered into between himself and the King. Says he has mustered and paid the sepoys, and will after the King's departure retain only those fit for service. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 7*]

May. 1. **1128.** To Rāmdhan Nāg. Has received his petition. Is glad to learn that Mr Sumner has arrived at Byrhallah garden and that the addressee waited upon him Desires him to remain with Mr. Sumner and to assist him in the collection of the money.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 249, p 107. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 74.*]

May 2 **1129.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim, Turāb Alī Khān, and the Rāy Rāyān. Learns that when Mīr Ja'far, according to the first agreement, paid 75 *lākhs* of rupees, a small sum was embezzled, and that Mr. Batson was appointed to inquire into the matter. Requests the addressees to send the managers of the treasury to Mr. Batson to be examined by him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 250, pp. 107-108. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, pp. 16 & 86.*]

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May 4. **1130.** From the Rāy Rāyān. Intimates that a boat of his, laden with treasure, has been stopped by some *tulangās* at Baranagar, and hopes measures will be taken for its recovery. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

May 4. **1131.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Offers congratulations. Refers him for particulars to Khwājah Petruse's communications. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 7.*]

May 4. **1132.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Learns from the Nawāb Zīnat Mahal and Shāhzādah Jawān Bakht that His Majesty is determined to set out for the Capital. Declares it to be inadvisable to make the King defer his departure Enters into considerable detail as to the effects of Rājā Rām Narāyan's bad advice. Also complains of the Rājā's refusal to submit the public papers for inspection, and says that he cannot nourish this enemy to the ruin of the *sūbah*. [*Abs. P. L R., 1759-65, p. 7.*]

May 4. **1133.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received His Excellency's two letters, one referring him to Khwājah Petruse for particulars, and the other complaining of the deceitfulness of the *Nāib*. Has already communicated to His Excellency and mentioned to Colonel Coote what is necessary and fitting concerning the *Nāib* Assures him that the Colonel will do all that lies in his power for the good of the *sūbah* and collect the money according as His Excellency will advise him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 251, p. 108. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 16.*]

May 4. **1134.** To Sheo Bhaṭ. Says that he received a letter on the cover of which was a large seal bearing the addressee's name. Believes that the letter was written without his orders and sends it back to him without opening it. Desires him to reprimand the *munshis* and to chastise severely those who wrote it. Has already informed him that the Nawāb has answered Rājā Jānūjī's letter concerning the *chauth*. Is surprised that notwithstanding this, the addressee continues to create disturbances. Tells him that his conduct is bound to bring upon him the Rājā's wrath.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 252, p. 109. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 81.*]

May 4. **1135.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Acknowledges receipt of his two letters, one desiring him to direct the Chief of Midnapur to release Mukurund Kishōr's *jāgir*, and the other asking him to relinquish the possession of Midnapur. In reply, says that Mukurund Kishōr's *jāgir* has been confiscated because he created disturbances and opposed the Company's troops when they went to occupy Midnapur, and that Midnapur has been ceded by the Nawāb to the Company for the maintenance of their troops guarding the frontiers against the Marhattas.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 253, pp. 110-111. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65 p. 68.*]

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May 4. **1136.** To Biā Rām. Says that the Rāy Rāyān promised to send a paper for about Rs. 3,90,000 on account of the assignment, but that he has not sent it as yet. Desires the addressee to speak to the Rāy Rāyān about it.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 254, pp. 111-112. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

May 4. **1137.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Has received the paper and will send him the receipt after the adjustment. Has written to Mīr Abū-l-Qāsim prohibiting him from troubling the tenants of Myhatty *parganah.* Agreeably to the addressee's wishes, has directed the Chief of Jahangirnagar to put an end to the dispute occasioned by Mr Pawter and Ḥukūmut Ram, and to assist the Shiqdār of the addressee's *jāgir.*

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 255, pp. 112-113. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 68.*]

May 5. **1138.** From Ḥāfiẓ Rahmat Khān. Requests an order as to the payment of some money to Mr. Bristow, and complains that the Company's people carry away his cattle and oppress his ryots. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

May 6. **1139.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Is astonished to hear that Nand Kumār has been appointed by Colonel Coote as his *Diwān.* Warns him of the consequences. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 7.*]

May 7. **1140.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Complains of Mons. Sawlyr's irregularities in Rangpur, and requests that his measures may be put a stop to. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 7.*]

May 7. **1141.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Transmits a paper of intelligence, and refers him to Khwājah Petruse for particulars. [*Abs. P. L. R. 1759-65, p. 7.*]

May 8. **1142.** To Sheo Bhaṭ. Has appointed Mr. Bristow to negotiate with the addressee concerning the dispute. Hopes that it will be amicably settled.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 256, p. 113. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 81.*]

May 8. **1143.** To Ragmānjī Jāchak. To the same effect as the above.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 257, p. 113. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 64.*]

May 9. **1144.** From the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Accuses Rajā Rām Narāyan of the grossest disaffection and says that he cannot place any confidence in him. Refers the Governor to Khwājah Petruse for two important schemes. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 7.*]

May 9. **1145.** To Rājā Rām Narāyan. Has received his two letters saying that owing to the machination of his enemies, the Nawāb is displeased with him. Tells him that if he delivers up the genuine papers during

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the time of his Nāibship, his enemies cannot hurt him and the Nawāb will favour him for his loyalty and good intentions.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 257A, p. 114. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 61.*]

May 9. **1146.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Acknowledges receipt of his letter enclosing a paper of the balance due from the Zamīndār of Myhatty and acquainting him that he has prepared a *sanad* for his successor. Intimates that the *wakil* of the said Zamīndār says that the balance due from the Zamīndār is Rs. 10,204-1-3 *gandās* and that Rs. 525-11-16 *gandās* has been overcharged. Hopes the addressee will deliver him the *sanad* on receipt of the money.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 258, pp. 114-115. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 68.*]

May 9. **1147.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's letter saying that Shujā'u-d-daulah has written to His Excellency concerning his coming to Patna to wait upon His Majesty, and desiring the writer to direct the gentlemen to act in conjunction with His Excellency before Shujā'u-d-daulah's evil intentions are evident. Has written to Colonel Coote as desired by the Nawāb.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 259, p. 115.*]

May 9. **1148.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has received his letter saying that Mr. Sumner's arrival has much rejoiced him. Requires the Rājā to afford the above gentleman the attention of his managers and to assist him in the collection of the Company's money.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 260, p. 115. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

May 9. **1149.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's letter informing him of His Majesty's arrival at Bachypur. Has communicated to Colonel Coote everything concerning His Majesty, and says that whatever His Excellency and the Colonel determine upon will be right. Assures His Excellency that the Company will never deviate from the agreement.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 261, p. 116. Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 16.*]

May 10. **1150.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Has received his letter saying that 22 thousand and several hundred rupees on account of the Rajshahi first fruits were being brought to Murshidabad when some *tilangās* seized them and carried them away to Cossimbazar factory, and desiring him to write to Mr. Batson on the subject. In reply, says that the addressee has been deceived by his informant for the same man writes to Mr. Batson that he had collected one *lākh* of rupees for the Company, and that the Rāy Rāyān's people carried it away by force. Has written to Mr. Batson to receive the money in whatever way the Rāy Rāyān chooses to pay it. Desires him to make no delay in the

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payment and tells him that he has not yet sent a paper on account of the Committee money.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 262, pp. 116-117. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 69.*]

May 13. **1151.** From the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Says that the King has sent for his perusal a letter from Shujā'u-d-daulah intimating his intention of visiting His Majesty at Patna. Considers that this measure, if carried into execution, would be productive of some disturbance. [*Abs. P. L. R. 1759-65, p. 7.*]

May 13. **1152.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's letter concerning Rājā Rām Narāyan and referring (the Governor) to Khwājah Petruse for two important matters. Says that if Rām Narāyan comes into His Excellency's presence with a sincere heart, he should be honoured; if not, the Nawāb should act in such a manner as may tend to the benefit of the *Sarkar*. Encloses a letter (also a copy thereof) he has written to Rām Narayan and requests him to forward it to the said Rājā.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 263, pp. 117-118. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 16.*]

May 14. **1153.** To Rājā Rām Narāyan. Understands that he will not deliver up the account papers relating to the *ṣūbah* of Behar and wait upon His Excellency with a clear heart. Points out to him the folly and impropriety of his conduct and advises him to comply with the Nawāb's orders without delay.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 264, p. 118. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 61.*]

May 14. **1154.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Says that the Nawāb wrote to him, a month and a half ago, that the addressee would pay the Committee money and that he would do it in a month or two. Remonstrates with him for not yet paying it. Desires him to make an assignment upon whatever place the money can be collected in a month or two.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 265, p. 119. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 69.*]

May 14. **1155.** To Biā Rām. Has received his petition saying that the Rāy Rāyān has informed him that an assignment for the Committee money cannot he made on Hooghly or Ingelly as there is no balance due to the *Sarkar* from those places. In reply, says that, in the circumstances, it is necessary that the assignment should be made on Jessore, Nuddea, Tamluk, and Mysadal. Considers that if the money is assigned on one place, it will occasion a great delay.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 266, pp. 119-120. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

May 15. **1156.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Informs the Governor of his exertions to arrange for money for the sepoys. Says that Shujā'u-d-

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daulah has unfriendly sentiments towards him, that precaution is necessary and that he ought not to be allowed to approach. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 8.*]

May 15. **1157.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Informs the Governor of his exertions to promote the welfare of the inhabitants of Burdwan and to realise the revenue. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

May 15. **1158.** From the Wazīr. Intends to pay his respects to His Majesty. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

May 15. **1159.** To Rājā Rājballabh. Learns from Rājā Kishn Dās that Rājballabh sent the writer a letter by a *chobdār*. Intimates that the *chobdār* has brought neither a letter nor a verbal message. Thinks the addressee must have, by this time, explained the papers to the *mutaṣaddis* of the Court. Tells him that his delivering the papers will please the Nawāb as well as himself.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 267, p. 120.*]

May 17. **1160.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has examined Rājā Rām Narāyan s accounts and sent the papers to Mr. McGuire, who will explain everything to His Excellency. Says that to examine the said Rajā's accounts according to the original agreement in every particular, *viz.*, the destruction of the country, the balance from the zamindārs, the confiscation of lands, etc., is almost impossib e and would create fresh disputes. For this reason, advises the Nawāb to receive from the Rājā whatever he has collected; to pay the expenses of the sepoys, and to take no account of whatever balance remains due from the zamindars, *jāgirdars* and *faujdārs*. Asks His Excellency to give the Rājā a proper sum of money after his account is settled; and advises him to be more careful in future that a loss may not accrue to the *Sarkār*. Says that His Excellency is now well acquainted with Behar and can confer with Colonel Coote regarding its military and financial affairs.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 268, pp. 121–122. Abs. P. L. I., 1759–65, pp. 16–17.*]

May 17. **1161.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates that Anand Lāl, Zamīndār of Packyhtah, has been dispossessed of his lands by his brother and that Sheo Bhat has requested that Major White may be permitted to reinstate him. Wants to know what should be done.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 269, pp. 122–123. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 16.*]

May 17. **1162.** To Lālā Gumāni Mal. Learns from the Chief of Bombay that through the Lālā's exertions, the Company's business at the High Court has been settled. Requests to be kept informed of the news of the Court.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 270, p. 123. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

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May 17. **1163.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has already written to His Excellency concerning the accounts of the *ṣūbah* of Behar. Colonel Coote and Mr. McGuire have been directed to assist him in the collection of the balances Says that the number of troops at Patna is considerable and that their expenses are great. Desires that some troops may be sent to Bengal if they are not escorting the King to Delhi.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 271, pp. 123–124. Abs. P. L. I., 1759–65, p. 16.*]

May 17. **1164.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Understands that he has made the managers of Rajshahi prisoners and appointed others in their room. Says that the Company's money is paid from Rānī Bhawānī's *zamīndārī*, and that by changing the managers, the collection of the money will be delayed. Requests that the former managers may be retained till the money is collected.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 272, p. 124. Abs. P. L. I., 1759–65, p. 68.*]

May 17. **1165.** To Turāb 'Alī Khān. Has received his letter saying that 22 thousand and several hundred rupees on account of the Rajshahi first fruits were being brought to Murshidabad, when some *tilangās* seized them and carried them away to Cossimbazar factory, and desiring him to write to Mr. Batson on the subject. In reply, says that the addressee has been deceived by his informant as the same man writes to Mr. Batson that he had collected one *lākh* of rupees for the Company and that the Ray Rāyān's people carried it away by force. Has written to Mr. Batson to receive the money in whatever way the addressee chooses to pay it. Desires him to make no delay in the payment. Understands that the Rāy Rāyān has imprisoned the managers of Rajshahi and appointed others in their room. Says that the Company's money is paid from Rānī Bhawānī's *zamīndārī* and that by changing the managers, the collection of the money will be delayed. Requests that the Rāy Rāyān may be ordered to reinstate the former managers.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 273, p. 125. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 86.*]

May 17. **1166.** To the King. Has received His Majesty's letter commending the loyalty and sincerity of the English and saying that he should credit only such of His Majesty's letters as he received through Major Carnac. In reply, says that the English are free from deceit and are devoted to His Majesty's service.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 274, p. 126.*]

May 18. **1167.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Encloses a copy of a letter he received from Shujā'u-d-daulah. Says that mild proceedings will have no effect on the Wazīr and that his schemes with the disaffected in the *ṣūbah* of Behar must be frustrated in future. Declares that he has constantly in view the payment of the *qist*. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65 p. 8.*]

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May 18. **1168.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsīm. Has informed Shujā'u-d-daulah that His Majesty has postponed his departure from Patna until Colonel Coote's arrival, when the writer will proceed to quell the disturbances in Behar. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 8.*]

May 20. **1169.** From Sheo Bhat. Says that if the *chauth* is not forwarded, a body of troops will march into Bengal to enforce payment of it. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

May 20. **1170.** To Rājā Rāj Narāyan. Acknowledges receipt of his letter and the paper of the *nazr*. Says that if he consults the interests of the *Sarkār*, it will tend to his advantage. Desires him to attend upon Mr. Johnson and pay him the *mālguzārī*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 275, p. 126. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 65.*]

May 20. **1171.** To Rājā Rāj Narāyan. Is much displeased to learn that he has not yet paid the money to Mr. Johnson. Desires him to pay it soon.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 276, p. 127. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 65.*]

May 20. **1172.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has received his letter saying that he waited upon Mr. Sumner at Burdwan to pay the Company's money. Desires him to remain contented and to adopt such measures as will prevent delay in collecting and sending the money. Says that he mentioned to Mr. Sumner what was fitting and necessary, and that the said gentleman will not be deficient in doing everything that can tend to the Rājā's advantage.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 277, p. 127. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

May. 22. **1173.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Says that two months ago the Nawāb wrote to him that the addressee would pay the Committee money in a month or two. Desires him to do his utmost to send the money soon as he (the Governor) has informed the gentlemen of the Committee that it would arrive in a few days. Has already written to him concerning the Rs. 65,000 collected by Muḥammad Riẓā Khān at Islamabad. As the Khān is now at Murshidabad, the addressee is requested to settle with Mr. Batson, on his arrival there, in the presence of the said Khān whether the *Sarkār* or the Khān shall pay the above sum.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 278, p. 128. Abs. P.L.I., 1759-65, p. 69.*]

May 23. **1174.** From the Rāy Rāyān. Complains of the unfounded tales which Diā Rām has been relating of him.

[*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

May 23 **1175.** From the Wazīr. Commends the Governor's loyalty to His Majesty and the Company's fidelity to their engagements.

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Advises him either to accompany the King to Delhi himself or to send an experienced General there. Hopes for a clear answer to this letter. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

May 24. **1176.** To Rājā Kishn Chand. Intimates that the Rāy Rayān has assigned upon him two *lākhs* of rupees on account of the Committee money. Sends him a *chobdār*, 18 peons and Diā Rām Mittar with a copy of the *qisṭbandī*. Desires him to send the money conformably to it.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 279, p. 128. Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 62.*]

May 24. **1177.** To Mīr Abu-l-Qāsim. Intimates that the Rāy Rāyān has assigned upon Rājā Kishn Chand two *lākhs* of rupees on account of the Committee money, and that the writer has received a *qistbandi* signed by Kunwar Shaw Chand. Sends a *chobdār*, a *mirdha*, and Diā Ram Mittar with a copy of the said paper and hopes that the addressee will defer collecting the money for the Court and send the Company's money first.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 280, p. 129. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 48.*]

May 25 **1178.** To Bia Rām. Acknowledges receipt of his petition together with the letter from the Rāy Rāyān and the assignment upon Raja Kishn Chand for two *lākhs* of rupees on account of the Committee money. Has sent some people to Nuddea to collect the money. Says that as Mīr Abu-l-Qāsim has been appointed to collect the money for the Court in the same *zamīndarī*, the Rāja will complain of a double collection being made therein. Tells the addressee to ask the Ray Rāyān to recall Mīr Abu-l-Qāsim and not to let him return till the Company's money is collected, and to assign upon Sulaimān Bēg and others what balance yet remains due.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 281, pp. 129-130. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

May 25. **1179.** To the Rāy Rāyan. Acknowledges receipt of his two letters saying that he has deprived Biā Ram of his employment in Rāni Bhawāni's *zamindāri* for ruining his business, that he has not dismissed the former *gumāshtahs*; that he has assigned upon Kishn Chand, Rājā of Nuddea, two *lakhs* of rupees on account of the Committee money; and that he has sent him a *qisṭbandī*. In reply, says that he has sent some men to Nuddea to collect the money, but adds that as Mīr Abu-l-Qāsim has been appointed to collect the money for the Court in the above *zamindari*, the Rajā will justly complain of a double collection being made therein. Advises him to recall Mir Abu l Qasim and not to let him return till the Committee money is collected, and to assign the balance upon Sulaimān Bēg.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 282, pp. 130-131. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 69.*]

May 25. **1180.** To Sulaimān Bēg. Has received his letter saying that he is going to Murshidabad, leaving Lahorī Mal to act as his agent. Says that he will write to Lahorī Mal what is necessary and will not

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be deficient in complying with everything that the agent may write about. Intimates that the Rāy Rāyān has assigned Rs. 1,90,555-9-0 on the addressee. Wishes to know when he can pay it.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 283, pp. 131-132. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 79.*]

May 26. **1181.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Encloses a copy of a letter from Shujā'u-d-daulah showing that Nawāb's unfriendly sentiments towards him. Says that the Wazir's only object is to promote the schemes of the disaffected. Advises of the domineering letters which he and Major Carnac have received from him. Observes that he ought not to be admitted within the *ṣūbah*. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 8.*]

May 26. **1182.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates that Shaikh Muhammad is in attendance with the Shāh's army. Encloses papers to show the deceit of the *Nāib*, who in every instance is misleading the King. Says that Mīr Ja'far's ignorance of the art of negotiation has thrown the affairs of the *sūbah* into the utmost confusion. The sepoys are clamorous for their pay. Begs to be saved from the hands of the quarrelsome and disaffected people of Murshidabad. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 8.*]

May 26. **1183.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Learns from Shāh Walī Khān and Shujā'u-d-daulah that *sikkahs* in the name of Shāh Ālam have been issued at Delhi and other places, and that His Majesty and the commanders are displeased because they have not yet been issued in Bengal. Hopes His Excellency will send orders for this to be done. Encloses copies of a letter from Shujā'u-d-daulah and of his reply thereto.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 284, p. 133. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 17.*]

May 26. **1184.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his *parwānah* regarding the payment of the Committee money and enclosing an assignment on the Rāy Rāyān for Rs. 3,90,559 9-0. Intimates that of this sum, the Rāy Rāyān has assigned 2 *lākhs* of rupees on Kishn Chand, Rājā of Nudaea, and the remaining Rs. 1,90,559-9-0 on Sulaimān Bēg and others. Will inform His Excellency when the money is paid to the Committee. States that the auction of the jewels is proceeding, that they will not, in his opinion, fetch more than about Rs. 3,50,000, and that when this sum has been paid to the Company, the balance would amount to Rs. 7,50,000. Requests that of this, a small sum may be paid from the revenue of Behar to Mr. McGuire for the troops, and that the Rāy Rāyān may be ordered to pay the balance from the revenue of Bengal.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 285, pp. 133-134. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 17.*]

May 26. **1185.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim Learns that His Excellency intends to entertain some *Hindustāni* troops. Advises him not to do so, as the English troops are quite sufficient. Points out to him that

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it was by incurring useless expenses that Mir Ja'far's affairs were ruined. Reminds the Nawāb that he declared in his presence that he would not keep more than 5 or 6 thousand *Hindustānī* horse and would dismiss the rest and lessen the expenses.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 286, p. 134 Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 17.*]

May 26. **1186.** To the Wazīr. Has received his letter professing loyalty to His Majesty and commending the fidelity of the English to their engagements. In reply, says that the English are also loyal to the King; that Colonel Coote has been sent to Patna to serve His Majesty; and that the English troops will escort him to Delhi after the rains. Asks him to remain on the confines of his own *sūbah* and not to enter Behar as a great disturbance will ensue if he does so. Assures him that Mīr Qāsim is sincerely loyal to the King and has presented His Majesty with the customary *pēshkash*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 286A, p. 135. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 83.*]

May 27. **1187.** The King to Colonel Clive. Approves much of Major Carnac's conduct [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 43.*]

May 27. **1188.** To Muhammad Rizā Khān. Has received his letter saying that he has paid the money on account of the note of hand to Mr Batson. Has already been informed of the fact by that gentleman. Tells him that the question whether the Rs. 65,000 collected by him at Islamabad are to be paid by him or the Nawāb has not yet been settled, and desires him to settle it in the presence of the Rāy Rāyan and Mr. Batson. Is glad to hear that he intends to pay him a visit.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 287, p. 136. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

May 27. **1189.** To Ragmānjī Jāchak. Has sent Mr. Bristow to quell the disturbance in the country lying between Midnapur and Cuttack. Hopes the addressee will co-operate with him. Says that neither Sheo Bhaṭ nor the writer has anything to do with the question of the *chauth*; it concerns the Nawāb and Rājā Jānujī only and they can settle it themselves.

[*Trans P. L. I., 1761, no. 288, p. 130. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 64.*]

May 28 **1190.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Requests to know if the Marhattas have arrived in Burdwan. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 8.*]

May 28 **1191.** To Rahmat Khān. Has sent Mr. Bristow to quell the disturbance in the country lying between Midnapur and Cuttack. Hopes the Khān will co-operate with him Says that neither Sheo Bhat nor the writer has anything to do with the question of the *chauth*, which concerns only the Nawāb and Jānūjī between whom negotiations are proceeding.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 289, p. 137. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 73*]

May 28. **1192.** To Sheo Bhaṭ. Has received his letter saying that four of his *qasids* have been taken prisioners by the Chief of Midnapur

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and sent with the letters to Calcutta. In reply, says that he has been misinformed and that nothing of the kind has happened. Has written to Mr. Johnson not to intercept his letters. Mr. Bristow has been sent to settle the dispute. Hopes the addressee will endeavour to put an end to it. Has despatched letters to Madras and requests he will forward them.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 290, p. 137. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 81.*]

May 31. **1193.** To the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Acknowledges receipt of His Excellency's two *parwānahs* saying that Shuja'u-d-daulah, under pretence of kissing His Majesty's feet, is coming to Behar to create disturbances and that, for this reason, His Excellency is desirous of spreading a report that he himself is going to settle the affairs of Bhojpur, in order thus to guard the frontier of the *sūbah* against the Wazīr. In reply, says that he has already written to Colonel Coote that the Wazīr should not be allowed to enter Behar; that under pretence of kissing His Majesty's feet, he intends to create disputes in the *sūbah;* that it is advisable to send the troops to accompany His Majesty across the Karamnassa with instructions to encamp there, in order that the Wazīr's schemes may be frustrated and that he may pay his respects to His Majesty on the other side of the river. Says that if His Majesty, on his arrival there, wants the English troops to accompany him, they should be sent after him; but that if he proceeds with the Wazīr's troops, it will be much better. Approves of what he has written to the Wazīr and Major Carnac. Has already written to His Excellency that Rām Narāyan is only a servant and that His Excellency should collect the balance from the zamīndārs, etc., and that by this means the said Rājā would be divested of his powers.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 291, pp. 138-139.*]

May 31 **1194.** To Bīā Rām and Rānī Bhawānī. In compliance with their wishes, has written to the Rāy Rāyān to reinstate the former managers. Desires the addressees not to be dilatory in paying the Company's money.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 292, pp. 139-140.*]

June 1. **1195.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received His Excellency's letter saying that he has been informed that the Marhattas have entered Bengal but that the Governor has not written to him about it. In reply, says that the report is false, and that Sheo Bhat through his baseness, has spread it. Has, however, sent some good troops to oppose him. Is always ready to assist the Rāy Rāyān and Turāb 'Alī Khān.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 293, p. 140. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 17.*]

June 1. **1196.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates that advices have reached him from Bombay that Aḥmad Shāh Durrānī has driven the

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Marhattas from Delhi, that they are in great distress, and that Bālājī Rāo has been wounded by the Zamīndār of Pawnah. Believes that the strength of the Marhattas is decreasing, and that the affairs of Shāh Ālam will daily flourish. Will issue orders for coining the *sikkahs* and reading the *khuṭbah*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 294, pp. 141-142. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 17.*]

June 1. **1197.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his *parwānahs* with enclosures referring him to Khwājah Petruse for the news of the city. Has already written to His Excellency concerning the accounts of the *sūbah* of Behar Desires His Excellency to follow his instructions regarding them. Says that Colonel Coote will act according to his pleasure, and hopes that an adjustment will soon be arrived at. Has perused the enclosures and returns them.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 295, pp. 141-142. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 17*]

June 2. **1198.** From Fāzil Alī Khān. Has dismissed the Dutch agent who has been purchasing saltpetre for a long time, and appointed another man in his place. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 20.*]

June 2. **1199.** To the King. Has received His Majesty's letter desiring that Major Carnac should not leave him, and giving assurances of his Royal favour. Agreeable to His Majesty's orders, has directed the Major not to leave him. Says that the Major wanted to come to Calcutta on his own business, and not in consequence of the Governor's orders.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 296, p. 142. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

June 6. **1200.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. States that the Governor must be aware of Mīr Ja'far's ignorance even in his own affairs. Intends having Rām Narāyan's accounts publicly scrutinized. Disapproves of Major White having left Birbhum. Hopes he will be directed to return to that district. [*Abs P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 8.*]

June 6. **1201.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qasim Approves of the measures taken to prevent Shujā'u-d-daulah's coming and of the Governor's wish to adhere to treaties. Expresses his high sense of obligation at the attention shown to him by Colonel Coote on his second visit. Says that at their first meeting, the disaffected prevented the Colonel from showing him attention. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 8.*]

June 6. **1202.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Requests that no attention may be paid to the tales of calumniators, and that no more than the present rents may be demanded from him. Refers the Governor to his agent for particulars. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p 38.*]

June 6. **1203.** From Kishn Mānik. Professes attachment to the Company and desires to lease out Tippera to the English. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 23.*]

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June 6. **1204.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Has received his letter informing him of the deceitfulness of the Zamīndār of Nuddea; desiring him to recall the Company's people from there, and promising to collect the money without delay. In reply, censures him for his dilatoriness and says that he will not recall the Company's people, that he cannot wait any longer, and that he has sent a man to hasten the collection. Is aware of the deceitfulness of the *Nāib* and has been informed that after the assignment was made, the *Nāib* despatched Rs. 25,000 to Murshidabad. Desires the addressee to direct the Rājā's son to write to his father about the money, and requests him to make an assignment upon Sulaimān Bēg for the balance.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 297, pp. 143-144. Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 69.*]

June 6. **1205.** To Bīā Rām. Has received his letter saying that the Rāy Ryān demands a receipt for two *lākhs* of rupees which he has assigned upon the Rājā of Nuddea. In reply, says that he will send the receipt to Mr. Batson after the money has been paid. Has been asked by the Rāy Rāyān to recall the Company's people that have been sent to Nuddea to collect the money. Complains of the Rāy Rāyān's dilatoriness and says that he cannot wait any longer; that he will not recall the Company's people, and that he has sent a man to hasten the collection. Is aware of the deceitfulness of the *Nāib* who after the assignment was made, sent Rs. 25,000 to Murshidabad. Desires him to tell the Rāy Rāyān to direct the Rājā and his son to send the money soon, and to ask him to assign the balance on Sulaimān Bēg.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 298, pp. 145-146. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

June 6. **1206.** To Fāẓil 'Alī Khān. Has received his letter saying that on Mr. McGuire's representations, he prevented the Dutch *gumāshtah* at Ghazipur from purchasing petre. Thanks him very much and says that he has written to Mr. McGuire to cultivate his friendship as much as possible. Hopes he will assist the above gentleman and deliver all the petre that is produced there to the Company's *Sarkār*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 299, p. 146. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 30.*]

June 8. **1207.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Thanks the Governor for having written to the lime merchants. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 9.*]

June 8. **1208.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Approves of the proposal made to him by Colonel Coote for an allowance of Rs. 1,800 a day to the King. Has appointed Rājballabh to examine Rām Narāyan's accounts. Expects much trouble from the sepoys owing to the

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confused state of affairs. Intimates that His Majesty has set out on his return journey, and that Shujā'ud-daulah has halted at Saidabad. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 9.*]

June 9. **1209.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Says that of the Rs. 3,90,559-9 assigned by the Nawab on the Rāy Rayān on account of the Committee money, the Rāy Rāyān has assigned Rs. 2,34,000 upon Kishn Chand, Rājā of Nuddea. Has sent some men to collect the money. Complains of the deceitfulness of Mīr Abu l-Qāsim and hopes His Excellency will direct him to remain inactive till the Company's money has been collected Asks His Excellency to direct the Rāy Rāyān to pay the balance soon.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 300, pp. 147-148. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 17.*]

June 10. **1210.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter, saying that he has told Colonel Coote that the zamīndars should be sent for to have their accounts examined in order to find out what money Rām Narāyan has received for the three years. Approves of the directions he has given to the Colonel and assures him that the Colonel will act agreeably to them. States that the Major cannot remain at Birbhum on account of the rains, and has, therefore, been directed to come to Burdwan.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 301, pp. 148-149. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 17.*]

June 10 **1211.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Makes mention of his indefatigable attention to discharge the Company's debt. In another letter of the same date, approves of the plan of dismissing the sepoys. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 9.*]

June 10. **1212.** To Kishn Mānik. Is always willing to serve him. Advises him to regard the satisfying of Mr Verelst, Chief of Islamabad, as of the greatest consequence. Assures him that the above gentleman will be glad to help him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 302, p. 149. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 17.*]

June 15. **1213.** From Asad Zamān Khān. Apologises for the offensive language he used in his letters Professes attachment to the Company. Promises to be obedient in future. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 1.*]

June 15. **1214.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates his total inability to collect the money owing to the collusion subsisting between the *Nāib* and Shitāb Rāy. Says that the former has made away with six *lākhs* of rupees. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759 65, p. 9.*]

June 15. **1215.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Complains of the hardships he has suffered at Mr. Sumner's hands. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

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June 15 **1216.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his several *parwānahs* saying that, on Colonel Coote's representations, he has consented to allow His Majesty his daily expenses; that he has appointed Rājballabh to examine into Rām Narāyan's accounts and intends to replace the latter by the former; that the King has marched towards Delhi; and that Shujā'u-d-daulah has halted at Saidabad. Approves of his appointing Rājballabh to succeed Rām Narāyan, saying that the former is a fit man for the post. Intimates that the King of England has died, that Colonel Lawrence is again coming out to India, and that Colonel Clive has reached home.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 303, pp. 149-151. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 17*]

June 16. **1217.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Says that Shujā'u-d-daulah's approach renders it inadvisable to dismiss the sepoys. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 9.*]

June 16. **1218.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Finds fault with Colonel Coote for not staying at Patna but proceeding direct to Delhi. Intimates that His Majesty has conferred a new title on the Colonel. Says that the Colonel has refused to ask the King for the *sanad* for the *sūbah*. [*Abs P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 9*]

June 16. **1219.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the Governor's letter and its enclosure. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 9*]

June 16. **1220.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. States that the *sūbah* of Behar is not in his possession; that the *mutaṣaddis* will not attend him; that he cannot dismiss the managers; and that, therefore, it is impossible for him to collect the revenue. Intimates that he has appointed Rājballabh to investigate Rām Narāyan's acccounts. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 9.*]

June 16. **1221.** From the King. Desires that Major Carnac may be directed to accompany him to Delhi. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 43.*]

June 17. **1222.** To Rājā Kishn Chand. Is amazed that of the money assigned upon him, he has, up to the present time, sent a *chālān* for Rs. 40,000 only. Desires him to send the whole amount according to the *qisṭbandī*, otherwise the *tankhwāh* will be returned to the Rāy Rāyān.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 304, p. 151. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 62.*]

June 17. **1223.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Is glad to learn that he waited upon Mr. Sumner, delivered his papers, and made a *qisṭbandī* agreeable thereto. Desires him to collect and send the money according to the *qisṭbandī* in conjunction with Mr. Sumner. Tells him to turn out the peons of the *Faujdārs* of Hooghly and Katwa, if they come into Burdwan. Has written to the above *Faujdārs* on the subject.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 305, p. 151. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

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June 17. **1224.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Intimates that of the Rs. 2,34,000 assigned upon the Rājā of Nuddea, he has, up to the present time, sent a *chālān* for Rs 40,000 only. Says that the Committee is in great need of money, and asks him to urge the Rāja to send the balance according to the agreement with the utmost expedition. Tells him that failing this, the assignment will be sent back and ready money demanded.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 306, p. 152. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 69.*]

June 17. **1225.** To Sulaimān Bēg and Mīr Jamāl, *Faujdārs* of Hooghly and Katwa, respectively. Has been informed that their peons go into Burdwan and create disturbances, whereby the collection of the Company's money is greatly impeded. Desires them not to send their peons into Burdwan on any account.

[*Trans. P. L. I, 1761, no. 307, p. 152. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 79.*]

June 18. **1226.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Says that he relies solely on the Governor The sepoys are clamorous for want of provisions. Complains loudly of Rām Narayan's disturbances. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 9*]

June 18. **1227.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his *parwānah* saying that unless Rām Narayan is dismissed from all his employments, the *tahsīldārs*, etc., will not make their appearance and his orders will not be obeyed, that he has spoken to Colonel Coote about it; and that Mr. Watts has applied to him to reinstate Kāmgār Khān. In reply, says that His Excellency can do whatever he likes, and that Colonel Coote will obey him. Tells him that he is not bound to reinstate Kāmgār Khān on Mr. Watts's recommendation. States that seven *lakhs* of rupees are still due from His Excellency, and requests him to pay it to Mr. McGuire at Patna for the expenses of the sepoys.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 308, pp. 152-153. Abs. P. L I., 1759-65, p 17*]

June 19 **1228.** From the King. Complains that his affairs are not in a flourishing condition through the remissness of Rām Narāyan. Relies on the Governor's steadiness in the observance of treaties. [*Abs P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

June 20 **1229.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has written to Colonel Coote ordering him to be concerned in the affairs of His Excellency and not in those of Rām Narāyan. Encloses a copy of the above order for his perusal. Is sure that the Colonel will settle the business according to his will. Intercedes on behalf of Rām Narāyan. Advises His Excellency not to appoint a *Naib* until the accounts of the *ṣūbah* are adjusted.

Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 309, pp. 153-154. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 17.]

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June 23. **1230.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has been informed that Jawānmard 'Alī Khan, the new *Faujdār* of Tippera, is capable of nothing but creating disturbances, and cannot procure money to pay the expenses of the English troops. Requests His Excellency to make over the Faujdārship of that place to the Company. Says that if he did so, the disturbance would easily be put an end to. Promises to pay the *mālguzāri* according to the *qisṭbandī*. Refers him to Mr. McGuire for particulars.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 310, p. 154.*]

June 23. **1231.** To the Rāy Rāyān Complains that the Rs. 65,000 collected by Muhammad Rizā Khān at Islamabad have not yet been paid, and says that now as the Khān is at Murshidabad, and his papers and accounts have been examined, the addressee has no excuse left. Asks him to pay the above sum without delay to Mr. Batson, Chief of Cossimbazar.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 311, pp. 154-155. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 69*]

June 23. **1232.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. To the same effect as the above.

[*Trans. P. L I., 1761, no. 312, p. 155 Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 18.*]

June 24. **1233.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Enlarges on the hardships consequent on the sepoys being without their pay. Has not found the smallest evidence of conciliation in Colonel Coote's disposition. Condemns the delay which Rām Narāyan makes in respect of the accounts. Dwells on his accumulated distresses. Considers the Governor as the only person who can relieve him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 9.*]

June 24. **1234.** From the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Complains of the indecent manner in which Mr. Watts and Colonel Coote entered his house. Says that such conduct would be fatal to friendship. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65 6, p. 9.*]

June 24. **1235.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has directed the *sikkahs* to be struck and the *khuṭbah* to be read in Shāh 'Ālam's name. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 10.*]

June 25. **1236.** From the Rāy Rāyān. Will, as directed, pick out and send the horses and palanquin. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

June 25. **1237.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Agrees to the *qisṭbandi* he made with Mr. Sumner. Desires him to collect and send the money according to the agreement. Has written to the *Faujdārs* of Hooghly and Katwa not to create any disputes in his *zamindāri*. Refers him to his *wakil* for particulars.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 313, p. 155. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

June 26 **1238.** To the King. Has received his royal *parwānah* intimating that His Majesty is marching towards Delhi. Professes loyalty and

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attachment. Hopes His Majesty will comply with the requests h may make for the Company or himself.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 314, pp. 155-156. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65 p. 41.*]

June 27. **1239.** From the Nawāb Mir Qasim. Says that his orders ar obeyed neither inside the fort nor outside it. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65 p. 10.*]

June 28. **1240.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his two letters Will regulate the business and despatch a letter to Colonel Coote.

[*Trans. P.L.I., 1761, no. 315, p. 156. Abs. P L I., 1759-65, p. 18.*]

June 28. **1241.** To the King. Intimates that dates have been fixed for the striking of the *sikkahs* and the reading of the *khuṭbah*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 316, p. 156. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

June 30. **1242.** To Biā Rām. Intimates that the Nawāb has assigned another sum of Rs. 1,60,000 upon the Rāy Rāyān on account of the Committee money. Has informed the Rāy Rāyān of the fact. Desires the addressee to get an assignment or the ready money from him and send it speedily.

[*Trans. P. L. I, 1761, no. 317, p. 157. Abs. P. L I., 1759-65, p. 3.*]

June 30. **1243.** To the Ray Rāyān. Says that of the money he assigned upon the Rāja of Nuddea, only Rs. 50,000 have been collected. Desires him to press the Rājā's son to send the money speedily according to the *qisṭbandi*. Encloses a *parwānah* from His Excellency in the addressee's name for the payment of the balance of the Committee money. Hopes he will soon send an assignment or the ready money.

[*Trans P. L. I., 1761, no. 318, p. 157. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 69.*]

July 1. **1244.** To the Nawāb Mir Qāsim Intimates that the *sikkahs* have been struck and a date fixed for the reading of the *khuṭbah*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 319, pp. 157-158. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 18.*]

July 2. **1245.** To Rājā Jānūji. Has not yet received a reply to his letter. Intimates that a severe famine prevails in Bengal, and that food is so scarce that children are being sold in Calcutta. Hopes the people will receive favourable attention from him. States that Muṣlihu-d-dīn Muhammad Khān has come to pay him a visit. Is glad to learn from him that great friendship formerly subsisted between the Rājā and the Company.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 320, p. 158.*]

July 2. **1246.** To Sheo Bhat. Has received his letter concerning the *chauth*. Says that His Excellency has already written to Rājā

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Jānūjī on the subject, but that no reply has yet been received. Has asked the Nawāb to settle the matter with Rājā Jānūjī's people soon.

[*Trans. P.L.I., 1761, no. 321, p. 158.*]

July 3. **1247.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Is much displeased to learn that Colonel Coote and Mr. Watts entered his tents and behaved rudely. Has, on account of the rains, sent for them to Calcutta with half the troops. Has expressly written to the officers to follow His Excellency's orders. Says that now as His Excellency has a free hand in Behar, he can settle its affairs to his satisfaction. Asks His Excellency to reinstate Rām Narāyan, if his account is found to be satisfactory.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 322, p 159. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 18.*]

July 4. **1248.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has received his letter saying that the *tilangās* carry away the wives and daughters of the people, and applying for a *parwānah* to recall Rāmdhan Nāg and Gokul *Majmū'ahdār*. In reply, says that he has directed Major White to take particular care that the violence complained of is not committed in future. Cannot recall the above-named persons as it is now the season for settling the rents.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 323, p. 160. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

July 5. **1249.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Enters into a long detail of the state of the *Zamīndārī* of Burdwan. Complains of the excess at which the rents of that district have been rated. Hopes for attention to this remonstrance else his country will be ruined. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

July 5. **1250.** From Rājā Rājballabh. Thanks the Governor for so strongly recommending him to the Nawāb. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

July 5. **1251.** To Lāhorī Mal, *Dīwān* of Sulaimān Bēg. Says that Burdwan belongs to the Company. Desires him to recall his people from the above *chaklah*, and in future to desist from sending peons to collect the *Faujdār's* privileges there. Has written a similar letter to Sulaimān Bēg.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 324, p. 160.*]

July 5. **1252.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates that Muṣliḥu-d-dīn Muhammad Khan has paid him a visit and shown him the several letters which Jānūji has written to him. States that the Khān is held in particular esteem by the Rājā, and that, in the time of Mahābat Jang, he was appointed to negotiate regarding the *chauth*. Says that the Rājā has sent for him, and recommends that he should again be employed on the same work.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 325, p. 161. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 18.*]

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July 10. **1253.** To the King. Intimates that the *khuṭbah* has been read and the *sikhahs* struck. Sends His Majesty a *nazr*. Prays for his safe return to Delhi. Professes attachment.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 326, p. 161. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

July 11. **1254.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates that Muṣliḥu-d-dīn Muḥammad Khān, with a letter of recommendation from him, is coming to see His Excellency. Says that with regard to the *chauth*, whatever His Excellency thinks advisable will be proper. Encloses a copy of a letter he has written to Jānūjī.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 327, p. 162. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 18.*]

July 11. **1255.** To Turāb 'Alī Khān. Has received his letter saying that Diā Ram Pal and Dhirrī, who owed Rs. 21,060 to the late Qāẓī Muḥammad Zāhid Khān, have fled to Calcutta, and desiring him to send them to Murshidabad. In reply, says that he made search for them but without success.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 328, p. 162. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 86.*]

July 12. **1256.** From the Rāy Rāyan. Cannot pay Rs. 1,32,175 to Mr. Batson without the Nawāb's orders. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

July 13. **1257.** From the Nawāb Mir Qasim. Declares it to have been Major Carnac's intention to lessen him in the eyes of the King. Wishes to know if he has committed any crime that could have afforded grounds for such conduct. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 10.*]

July 14. **1258.** To the Rāy Rayān. Has received his letters saying that Mr. Mott has set up two *ganjs* in Murshidabad, that the addressee cannot comply with the Governor's wishes regarding the money collected by Muḥammad Riẓā Khān at Islamabad, without the Nawāb's orders; that the Khān wants some of it to meet the charges he incurred at Raushanabad Tippera; that there yet remains a balance of Rs. 2,80,000 due for the month of June; that Jawānmard Alī Khān makes excuses because the Company's people interfere in his work; and that the addressee has imprisoned Diā Rām, Lakhi Rām, and Rām Gopāl after taking the money from them. In reply, says that he has written to Mr. Batson regarding the *ganjs* directing him to take care that no such thing happens in future. Says that the money collected by Muḥammad Riẓā Khān at Islamabad must be paid to the Company, and that if the Khān wants some money to meet the expenses he incurred at Raushanabad, it should be paid by the Nawab's *Sarkar*. Represents that if the Company's people do not remain at Raushanabad, it will be very difficult for Jawānmárd Alī Khān to remain there.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 329, pp. 162-163. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 69.*]

July 14. **1259.** To Rajā Rājballabh. Is glad to learn that the Nawāb is favourably disposed to him. Never loses an opportunity of recom-

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mending him to His Excellency Advises him to regard the Nawāb's will and pleasure as of the greatest consequence.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 330 pp. 163-164. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 71.*]

July 14. **1260.** To Turāb Alī Khān. Encloses a letter he has received from His Excellency concerning Mr. Dobbins' affairs. Says that Mr. Dobbins was a servant of the *Sarkār*, and asks the Khān to pay him his wages on receipt of the muskets, etc., of the *Sarkār* which are in his possession.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 331, p. 164. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 86.*]

July 16. **1261.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Says that he represented to His Excellency at Murshidabad that traders without *dastaks* hoisted English colours upon their boats and in this manner excused themselves from paying duties. Understands that through the negligence of the *chaukis*, the practice is still going on. Intimates that John Goloal *Firangī* has been caught red-handed by the Chief of Dacca, and that his boats have been stopped. Has directed Mr. Batson to represent this affair to the Rāy Rāyān and Turāb 'Alī Khān, and to tell them to write expressly to the *chaukis* of the *Sarkār* to prevent such frauds being committed in future.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 332, pp. 164-165. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 18.*]

July 16. **1262.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Encloses a memorandum and desires His Excellency to write to the Dutch Chief agreeably thereto.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 333, p. 165. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 18.*]

July 16. **1262A.** The memorandum which it is desired that Mīr Qāsim will send to the Dutch Chief. Has been informed that he is repairing the factory, digging the ditch, and making other preparations. Points out to him that he is acting contrary to the treaty and wants to know whether or not he will abide by it.

[*Trans. P. L I., 1761, no. 333A, p. 165. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 18.*]

July 18. **1263.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has written to the Rāy Rāyān to pay Rs. 65,000 collected improperly by the *Faujdār* of Islamabad. Declares it would be imprudent for him to give up Tippera to the Company, as it would gain him discredit in every respect [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 10.*]

July 18. **1264.** From Rājā Rām Narāyan. Sends some new *sikkahs* and hopes false tales will not be noticed. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

July 20. **1265.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letters saying that Colonel Coote has departed for Calcutta, that His Excellency will consider Rām Narāyan's case favourably after ascertaining what

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money is due from him; that His Excellency was inclined to get a *sanad* for the *sūbahs*, but that the Commanders prevented him, and desiring him to appoint only such officers to remain with him as are possessed of understanding, and not to believe the false tales of the gentlemen from Patna. Intimates that Colonel Coote will shortly arrive and that the Major has been directed to come down to Calcutta without delay. Asks His Excellency to inform him of everything relating to Colonel Coote's conduct. Requests him to pay the balance of the former *qistbandī* Says he can obtain the *sanad* for the *sūbah* on paying His Majesty the money according to the agreement.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 334, pp. 165-166. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 18.*]

July 20. **1266.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Understands that His Excellency is not willing to grant the Faujdārship of Tippera to the Company. Submits once again that of the Faujdārship of Tippera is granted to the Company, the disturbance there will be easily quelled. Has directed the Chief of Islamabad to recall the officers and troops that are there and to receive from the *Faujdār* what money has been spent for their maintenance. Requests His Excellency to direct the *Faujdār* to pay the money.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 335, pp. 166-167. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 18.*]

July 21. **1267.** To the Rāy Rāyan. Learns that twenty days ago Mīr Abu-l-Qāsim wrote the Governor a letter saying that he would come to Calcutta and pay the money assigned upon him, and requesting him to recall Diā Rām Mittar from Nuddea. Has been informed that Har Narāyan, the Rājā's *Dīwān* has, through his baseness, detained the letter. Asks the addressee to appoint Mīr Abu-l-Qāsim to collect the Company's money in the Rājā's *zamīndārī*. Has sent for Diā Rām Mittar with all his people.

[*Trans. P.L. I., 1761, no. 336, p. 167. Abs. P L. I., 1759-65, p. 70.*]

July 24. **1268.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim Says that Muhammad Riẓā Khān is a capable and faithful man, and is a well-wisher of the *Sarkār*, adding that at Islamabad he did his work in a proper manner, behaved well to the Company's people and gained his friendship. Hopes the Nawāb will answer the Khān's petition regarding his accounts and honour him with a post worthy of him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 337, pp. 167-168. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 18.*]

July 24. **1269.** To Rājā Rām Narāyan. Has received his letter congratulating him on the *khuṭbah* being read and the *sikkahs* being struck. Takes him to task for not having yet settled the account.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 338, pp. 168-169. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 61.*]

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July 24. **1270.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Encloses a copy of Rām Narāyan's letter, together with a copy of his reply thereto.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 339, p. 169. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 19.*]

July 24. **1271.** To Turāb 'Alī Khān and the Rāy Rāyān. Says that through the scarcity of provisions, the people in and about Calcutta are in great distress. Asks the addressees to direct the merchants at Murshidabad to send to Calcutta some of the rice they receive from Jahangirnagar and other places.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 340, p. 170. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 86.*]

July 24. **1272.** To the Ray Rāyān. Has received his two letters saying that Mr. Hamilton has, in consequence of his boat being lost, imprisoned Nand Lāl and four fishermen; and that he has appointed Zahīru-d-dīn Zamīndār of Ambrabad in place of Ātāu-l-lāh, who is a fool; but that the latter's managers do not let Zahīru-d-dīn take possession of the *zamīndārī*. In reply, says that he has directed Mr Batson to inquire into Mr. Hamilton's affairs. Has also written to Mr. Playdell, Chief of Jahangirnagar, not to assist 'Atāu-l-lāh and his managers and to recall any *tilangās* he may have sent.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 341, pp. 170-171. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 70.*]

July 24. **1273.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Has received his letters desiring him to have the *sikkahs* struck and the *khuṭbah* read on the 25th and 29th of *Zulqa'dah* respectivelly; intimating that merchants without *dastaks* pass and repass with English colours hoisted on their boats to evade paying His Majesty's duties and desiring him to inquire into the matter. In reply, says that the Nawāb's orders regarding *sikkahs* and the *khuṭbah* have been duly carried out. Has already written to His Excellency concerning the merchants. Requests the addressee to expressly order the *chaukīs* of the several *ghāṭs* to imprison such people.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 342, p. 171 Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 70.*]

July 24. **1274.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Has received his letter concerning Rājā Mukrund Kishor. States that when the Marhattas invaded Bengal, the Rājā fought against the Company. Says that though to give way to the disaffected is not advisable, he shall receive his *zamīndārī* if he waits upon the writer with a sincere heart.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 343, p. 172. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 70.*]

July 26. **1275.** To the Rāy Rāyān. Has been informed that among Mr. Hamilton's things taken away by the robbers, there was a chest containing money, and that now he has received it empty. Desires him to inquire of that gentleman how much there was in the chest. Says that as the theft was committed in Rajshahi, the zamīndār of that place should be made to pay the money according to custom.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 344, p. 172. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 20.*]

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July 26. **1276.** To Lāhorī Mal. Says that as famine prevails in the *sūbah*, it is the will of both His Majesty and His Excellency that no duties should be taken on rice. Desires him to take note of it and warns him that if he continues to take duties on rice, the Company's *chaukis* will be placed at Katwa.

[*Trans. P. L I, 1761, no. 345, p. 173.*]

July 26 **1277.** To the Rāy Rāyān Says that of the money he assigned upon Rājā Kishn Chand, only Rs. 50,000 have been paid. Asks him to direct Mīr Abu-l-Qāsim not to collect the money for the *Sarkār* until he has sent the whole of the Company's money. Wants to know the names of the persons to whom the addressee gave the letters that were detained by Har Narayan. Will severely chastise them

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 346, p. 173. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 70.*]

July 26. **1278.** To Mīr Abu-l-Qasim. Has received his letter through Har Narāyan Thinks the Rāy Rāyān must have dispatched him to Nuddea by this time. Approves of his coming to see him to settle the business of the assignment.

[*Trans. P. L. I, 1761, no. 347, p. 174. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 48.*]

July 28. **1279.** To Rājā Rām Narāyan. Has received his letter asking that he might be interceded for as he had always been greatly favoured by the English. In reply, says that it was because of this that he was recommended to the Nawāb's favour. Advises him to settle the account soon.

[*Trans P. L I., 1761, no. 348, p. 174. Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 61.*]

July 30. **1280.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Says that Mr. Dobbins is ready to leave Murshidabad with his people, but that as they are without provisions, it is feared that they will plunder the tenants as they pass. Advises His Excellency to pay that gentleman his dues that he may proceed to Calcutta or wherever he thinks proper.

[*Trans P. L. I., 1761, no. 349, p 175. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 19*]

Aug 1. **1281.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Indicates the necessity of union between himself and the Company. Says that the King has unfriendly sentiments towards both of them. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 10.*]

Aug. 3. **1282.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Complains of Colonel Coote's behaviour, and commends that of Rām Narāyan. Considers it his foremost duty to pay up the Company's money. Has appointed a new man to the Faujdārship of Islamabad. Says that it is utterly impossible for him to raise the vast sums demanded from him. [*Abs. P.L.R., 1759-65, p. 10.*]

Aug. 3. **1283.** From the Wazīr. Congratulates the Governor on the victory gained by the English over the enemy. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 47.*]

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Aug. 6. **1284.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letters saying that Muhammad Shākir Khān is ready to go to His Majesty to bring the *sanad*. Is glad to learn from the enclosures that the plot of the enemies has been frustrated. Says that if Rām Narāyan does not deliver the papers and pay the money, the Nawāb should act as shall tend to the advantage of the *Sarkār*. Advises His Excellency to dismiss the Rajā, if he conspires with his enemies. Approves of His Excellency's appointing Rājballabh in place of Rām Narāyan. Believes that the former is a capable man

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 350, pp. 175-176. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 19.*]

Aug. 6. **1285.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim Will direct the officer stationed at Birbhum not to correspond with Asad Zamān Khān.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 351, p. 176. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 19.*]

Aug. 6. **1286.** To Rājā Rājballabh. Has received his letter asking that he may be recommended to the Nawāb for the Nāibship of Behar and for a *sarpēch* In reply, says that he has informed the Nawāb of the addressee's capacity and character and recommended him for Rām Narāyan's place.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 352, pp. 176-177. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 71.*]

Aug. 9. **1287.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter saying that Major White has recommended Asad Zamān Khān to him. Is much displeased with the Major and has directed him to refrain from recommending the Khān. Observes that the business of a soldier is to fight and not to interfere with other affairs. Will recall him if he does not comply with the Governor's orders.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 353, p. 177. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 19.*]

Aug. 10. **1288.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Mentions the contumacy of Rājballabh [? Rām Nārāyan] and his officers. Says that they wish to create disturbances. Informs the Governor of Mansā Rām's hostile conduct towards Mīr Mahdī 'Alī Khān. Agreeable to Mr. McGuire's directions, will invest Rājballabh with a *sarpēch* on his being created *Nāib Ṣūbahdār*. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 10.*]

Aug. 10. **1289.** From the Rāy Rāyān. Promises to pay, as directed, Rs 65,000 collected at Islamabad by Muḥammad Riẓā Khān. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

Aug. 10. **1290.** From the Rāy Rāyān. Intends to proceed to Patna. His son will act for him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

Aug. 10. **1291.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has examined Colonel Coote, Major Carnac and Mr. Lushington who declare that they did not, on behalf of anybody, apply to His Majesty for the *sanad*; that it was His Majesty who told the Major that he wanted to grant the Diwānship of the *ṣūbahs* to the Company, but that the Major could not

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make any reply without orders from Calcutta. When the writer heard of the affair, he wrote to Major Carnac not to accept the *sanad* and to Mr. McGuire to inform His Excellency of it. Major Carnac says that the paper enclosed in his letter was simply an application for a place for the comfort of the troops. Intimates that, according to Major Carnac and Mr. Lushington, when Shitāb Rāy wrote "you must not meddle in this business, take care" he referred to the King's granting the Diwānship to the Company; and when he wrote that the business had been deferred on account of Colonel Coote and Major Carnac going to Calcutta, by the "business" he meant the departure of the Company's troops for Delhi. Says that Shitāb Rāy knows the whole truth, and requests His Excellency to send him to Calcutta to be examined.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 354, pp. 177-179. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 19*]

Aug. 10. **1292.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter saying that His Majesty is inclined to grant the Company the Dīwānship, and that, on this account, a difference will arise between him and the English. Assures him that he will never deviate from the treaty and will always be ready to assist him. Is sorry that a misunderstanding has been caused between His Excellency and Colonel Coote by evil men. Hopes that a reconciliation will be effected when His Excellency returns to Murshidabad.

[*Trans. P. L. I, 1761, no. 355, p. 179. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 19*]

Aug. 11. **1293.** To Turāb 'Alī Khan. Has received his letter referring to the Governor's amazement on hearing of the troops being prepared. Has already written to the Khān on the subject. Tells him not to mind the past. Says that the affairs of His Excellency and the Company are one and the same.

[*Trans. P. L I., 1761, no. 356, pp. 179-180. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 86.*]

Aug. 15. **1294.** From the King. Replies to a letter from the Governor regarding the *sikkahs* of the country. Intimates the transmission of a *nazr* [?] and a title for the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Aug. 16. **1295.** From Bihrūz Bēg. Transmits a letter from the Wazīr and enters into a long detail of the Wazīr's disposition towards the Company. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 36.*]

Aug. 18. **1296.** From the Rāy Rayān. Transmits, as directed, the papers relating to the *jāgīrdārs* at Midnapur, etc. [*Abs. P L. R., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

Aug. 18. **1297.** From the King. Is attached to the Company. Hopes for frequent *'arẓis* from the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

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Aug. 18. **1298.** From the King. Approves of the Governor's *'arẓi* regarding the coinage. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Aug. 19. **1299.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's letter saying that His Excellency wants the false papers of the expenses of Raushanabad Tippera, and that Rājballabh has been appointed to the Nāibship of Patna and invested with a *sarāpā*. [*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 357, p. 180*]

Aug 20. **1300.** To Ghāziu-d-dīn Muhammad Khān. Has received his letter through Bihrūz Khān. Professes obedience. The English rely upon his graciousness. Refers him to Bihrūz Khān for particulars.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 358, pp. 180-181. Abs. P L. I, 1759-65, p. 33.*]

Aug. 20. **1301.** To Bihrūz Khān. Says that the King wants the English troops to accompany him to Delhi, but that the proposal has not yet been put into execution. Hopes the Khān will lay this letter before Ghāziu-d-dīn Muḥammad Khan, the Nawāb Wazīr.

[*Trans. P. L. I, 1761, no. 359, p. 181. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

Aug. 21. **1302.** From Rājā Rājballabh. Has been invested with a *khal'at* by the Nawab. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 42.*]

Aug. 26. **1303.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Declares it to be far from his wish to quarrel with Colonel Coote, Major Carnac or Mr. Lushington. Represents that all his affairs will run to ruin, if Shitāb Rāy is called down to Calcutta. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 10.*]

Aug 26. **1304.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. States that Rām Narāyan withholds all papers, accounts, etc. Refers to Mr. McGuire's conduct in the most favourable terms. Expresses doubts as to the treatment he may receive from Mr. Ellis. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 10.*]

Aug. 26. **1305.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Congratulates the Governor on getting a new title. Intends to send the *sanad* for the *sūbahdārī*. Is unable to pay so large a *pēshkash*. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 10.*]

Aug. 26. **1306.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Is making preparations to oppose Shujā'u-d-daulah whom he hopes to defeat and drive back. Laments that the friendly intercourse that subsisted between himself and Colonel Coote has so unfortunately been interrupted by ill-disposed people. Trusts the Governor will re-establish their former friendship. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 10.*]

Aug. 26. **1307.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Complimentary. Refers the Governor to his *wakīl* for particulars. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Aug. 26. **1308.** From Rājā Shitāb Rāy. Hopes that a letter may be written to the Wazir not to interfere in his *jāgīr* money. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 43.*]

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Aug. 26. **1309.** From the King. Approves of the Governor's *'arzī* with respect to the coins. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Aug 27 **1310.** To Turāb 'Alī Khān. Understands that the Nawāb has written to him somewhat disagreeably on account of the disorder in the city on the approach of the Company's troops and that he is consequently much afflicted. Has already written to him on the subject. Tells him not to think of the affair any more Has asked His Excellency to pardon him Advises him in future to treat the Company's troops in a friendly manner

[*Trans. P. L. I, 1761, no. 360, p. 181. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 86.*]

Aug. 27 **1311.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Learns that His Excellency has written somewhat sharply to Turāb 'Alı Khān concerning the disorder in the city on the approach of the Company's troops, and that consequently the Khân is very uneasy. Says that what is past is past, and that in future the Khān will treat the Company's troops in a friendly manner. Hopes His Excellency will think of the affair no more and will write a few words to satisfy the Khān.

[*Trans. P. L. I, 1761, no. 361, p 182. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 19*]

Aug 31. **1312.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Hopes that as Mr Graham is well acquainted with his affairs, he may be continued at Burdwan. [*Abs P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Sept. 3 **1313.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Has received the Nawāb's letter saying that Rām Narāyan has not yet given in the papers and settled the account. Has already written to His Excellency that in the event of the Rājā remaining obduiate, his concerns should be seized and capable writers and servants appointed to collect the money in the *sūbah.* Agreeably to His Excellency's orders, has directed Mr. Hay to deliver the Rājā into his hands. Says that if the Rājā does not settle the account, the Nawāb can bring him to Murshidabad.

[*Trans P. L. I., 1761, no 362, pp. 182-183 Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 19*]

Sept. 3. **1314.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Refers to His Excellency's postcript saying that as Mr. McGuire is well acquainted with all the business and always assists His Excellency, he should not be replaced by a new man. In reply, says that it is the business of every chief, whether old or new, to transact the mercantile part of the Company's business and to give His Excellency and his *Nāib* every assistance they may demand. Hopes His Excellency will regard the person who remains with him as the Company's chief and live in friendship with him. The affairs of His Excellency and those of the Company are the same.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 363, p. 183. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 19.*]

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Sept. 3. **1315.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's letter saying that Shitāb Rāy has not yet paid anything and that his coming to Calcutta will be attended with shame and dishonour to His Excellency. Understands that in consequence of His Majesty's orders and those of His Excellency, Shitāb Rāy has given up the *jāgīr* and that, of the money collected by him, he has sent a portion to the owner of the *jāgīr* and paid the rest to the sepoys. Has sent for the Rāy to inquire of him about Colonel Coote. Says that the Rāy's coming to Calcutta is not necessary if it will be attended with loss or detriment to the *Sarkār*. Tells His Excellency to demand from the Rāy an explanation of the ambiguous words he wrote. Hopes His Excellency will inform him of the particulars thereof in English. Requests that the Rāy may be granted some *jāgīr* money. Encloses a copy of his reply to the Rāy's letter.

[*Trans P. L. I., 1761, no. 364, pp. 183-184 Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 19*]

Sept 3. **1316.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's *parwānah* intimating that the King has increased the Governor's title and conferred upon him many favours; that His Excellency will send the *khal'at* when it arrives; that the *sanad* is ready and will shortly be received and lastly that His Excellency will write to him hereafter about the provision to be made for it. Regards His Majesty's graciousness as a great blessing and has returned many thanks to the Almighty. Has deferred answering the *Shuqqah* as his seal is not yet ready.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 365, p. 185. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 19.*]

Sept. 3. **1317.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's letter concerning the dispute between the English and the Dutch, and desiring information regarding it. Says that it is true that the Dutch created a disturbance and caused the inhabitants [of Hooghly] to run away. News has arrived from Europe that there is no dispute of any kind between the English and the Dutch. Says that if it were otherwise, he would acquaint His Excellency and put an end to the disturbance in an hour. Intimates that the inhabitants have returned to the town. Recommends that if the Dutch continue to be firm to the agreement they made with His Excellency, they may be allowed to transact their business without molestation.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 366, pp. 185-186. Abs. P. L I, 1759-65,*] *p. 20*]

Sept. 3. **1318.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received His Excellency's *parwānah* desiring that the Chief of Islamabad may be directed to let twenty-two elephants pass and not to intercept them. Has already written to the Chief as desired. Intimates that the elephants have arrived at Jahangirnagar and will be delivered into the hands of the *Sarkār's* people. Has again written to the said Chief on the subject and encloses the letter for transmission to him.

[*Trans P. L. I., 1761, no. 367, p. 186. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 20.*]

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Sept 4. **1319.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received His Excellency's letter saying that the *Tahsīldār* of Islamabud has, on the part of the Company, sent his brother Muhammad Āshiq to Jahangirnagar to receive the money for the expenses of the sepoys and other servants. Says that, some time ago, he asked the Chief of Jahangirnagar to send Muhammad 'Āshiq back to his brother and not to permit him to take anything belonging to the Government. Has written a similar letter to the Chief of Islamabad and directed him to pay the expenses of the sepoys, placing the amount to the Company's account. In consequence of His Excellency's orders, has again written to the said Chiefs on the subject.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 368, p. 187. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 20.*]

Sept. 4. **1320.** To Rājā Rājballabh. Has received his letter intimating that he has been appointed to the Nāibship of Behar and honoured with a *khal'at* consisting of seven pieces of cloth, a *sarpēch* and other things of value. Congratulates the Rājā on the honours conferred upon him and advises him to discharge the business of the *Sarkar* in such a manner as may gratify the Nawāb. Acknowledges receipt of the *nazr*.

[*Trans P. L. I., 1761, no. 369, p. 187. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 71.*]

Sept. 4. **1321.** To Rāja Shitab Rāy. Has received his two letters professing friendship and askirg for a letter of recommendation to His Excellency Has been informed of his character and of his friendship for the English by Colonel Saif Jang, Colonel Coote and others. Says that the Nawāb has gone to Patna to settle the affairs of the *sūbah* and desires the Rājā to give His Excellency an account of what he sent to the owner of the *jāgīr* and paid to the sepoys. As regards the *jāgīr*, thinks that it should remain in the Nawāb's hands till a King is enthroned.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 370, p. 188 Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 72.*]

Sept. 8. **1322.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Requests that Mr. Graham may be directed to allow Rāmdhan Nag to go to Calcutta to see the Governor. [*Abs P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Sept. 12. **1323.** To the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Has received His Excellency's letter with Sete Rām's petition and Sulaiman Bēg's letter enclosed. Has already directed that Rām Narāyan should be delivered up to His Excellency. Has perused the petition. Says that the affairs of the *Sarkār* and those of the Company are the same and that as they are both firm to their agreement, the animosity of their enemies cannot avail. Will be glad if His Excellency chastises Sulaimān Bēg according to his deserts. Returns the petition and the letter.

[*Trans. P. L. I, 1761, no. 371, p 188-189. Abs. P. L I., 1759-65, p. 20.*]

Sept. 12. **1324.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates that as there is a considerable number of troops in Calcutta and as more are coming from Madras, it would be very difficult to accommodate them. Has

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sent some to Chandarnagar. Says that they will execute any business His Excellency charges them with. States that though Sheo Bhat has agreed to remain in his own place and not create any disturbances, he cannot be trusted. Believes that as soon as he finds an opportunity, he will invade Bengal. Thinks it advisable, therefore, to chastise him in such a manner as to oblige him to make a precipitate retreat. Recommends that Cuttack may be occupied and a *parganah* assigned for the payment of the Company's troops, who will collect the revenue and deliver it to His Excellency's *Sarkār*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 372, p. 189. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 20.*]

Sept. 13. **1325.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim Learns from Mr. Billers that the *parganahs* about Lakhipur are in a ruined condition for want of capable commanders; that thieves, robbers and wicked men are committing terrible acts of violence; and that the Company's people have imprisoned one of their leaders. Encloses a letter he has received on the subject. Advises His Excellency that all the *parganahs* should be amalgamated into one and a *Faujdār* appointed to root out the wicked. Is ready to assist His Excellency in the restoration of peace and order. Desires that Tuiāb Ali Khān and other officers may be directed to threaten Munawwar Singh, and that orders may be given to the *Faujdār* to blow the thief who was taken prisoner from the mouth of a cannon.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 373, pp. 189-190. Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 20.*]

Sept. 17. **1326.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received His Excellency's *parwānah* and the royal *farmān*. Sends a copy of the petition he has written to the King thanking His Majesty for the *sarāpā* and the title. Says that he could not write it earlier as his seal was not ready.

[*Trans P. L. I., 1761, no. 374, p. 190. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 20.*]

Sept. 17. **1327.** To the King. Has received the royal *farmān* conferring upon him the title "Munīru-l-mulk Ālī Jāh" together with a *sarāpā*. Has been honoured beyond expression and his utmost wish in this world has been accomplished. Professes loyalty and attachment. Is glad to learn that His Majesty approves of the friendship between the Nawāb and the English.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 375, p. 191. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

Sept. 17. **1328.** To Muhammad Taqī Khān, *Faujdār* of Bospur. Learns from Mr. Graham that several people under the Khān's management come into Burdwan and plunder the inhabitants whereby the collection of the Company's money is greatly impeded. Says that Burdwan has been allowed to the Company for their expenses, and requests the Khān to direct his managers to see that nothing of the kind happens in future.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 376, p. 191. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 48.*]

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Sept. 21. **1329.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim Transmits a *sarpēch* conferred upon the Governor by the King and congratulates him thereon [*Abs P. L R., 1759-65, p. 11.*]

Sept. 21. **1330** To Fāzil Alī Khān, *Nāib* of Ghazipur. Has received his letter saying that he will give all the saltpetre that is produced at Ghazipur and Azamgarh to the Company. Thanks him very much and says that the Chief of Patna has been directed to send *gumāshtahs* to the said places to purchase saltpetre

[*Trans P. L I., 1761, no. 377, p. 192*]

Sept 21. **1331.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's *parwānah* saying that Rām Narāyan has written an instrument for the payment of fifty *lākhs* of rupees and desiring that Mr Ellis, who has been appointed Chief of Patna, *vice* Mr. McGuire, may be directed to live in friendship with His Excellency Approves of His Excellency accepting the above amount from the Rājā. Says that it would have taken His Excellency a considerable time to examine his accounts. Is glad that the Company's debt will now be settled and the demands of the sepoys put an end to. Mr. Ellis will shortly set out for Patna. Has directed him to live on good terms with His Excellency. Says that His Excellency is the Commander of the *sūbah* and that Mr. Ellis's business is to transact the Company's affairs and to give His Excellency such troops as may be required.

[*Trans. P. L. I, 1761, no. 378, pp. 192-193.*]

Sept. 21. **1332.** To Mir Jamālu-d-dīn, *Faujdār* of Katwa. Learns from Mr. Graham, Chief of Burdwan, that one Jagat Nāth, who owes a large sum of money to the Company, has absconded to Katwa and that the addressee's people will not deliver him up. Understands now what the addressee meant when he wrote that the *tilangās* of the *Sarkār* came to his place and created disturbances. Desires him to deliver up Jagat Nāth at once and to give such directions that nothing of the kind may happen in future.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no 379, p. 193.*]

Sept 28. **1333.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Says that as the *gumāshtahs* who were stationed at Malda to transact the mercantile part of the Company's business, do not discharge their duties properly, Mr. George Gray has been appointed to replace them Requests His Excellency to direct his people to assist the said gentleman.

[*Trans. P. L. I, 1761, no. 380, p. 193. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 20.*]

Sept. 29 **1334.** To the Zamīndār of Midnapur and others. Intimates the appointment of Mr. Burdett in place of Mr. Johnson. Desires them to regard Mr. Burdett as their master, to pay him the *mālwājib*, and not to deviate from his advice and instructions.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no 381, p. 194. Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 47.*]

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Sept. 30. 1335. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Transmits a *farmān* for the three *sūbahs*. [*Abs. P L R., 1759-65, p. 11.*]

Sept. 30 1336. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. A complimentary reply to the Governor's letter acknowledging the receipt of the *farmān*. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 11.*]

Sept. 30. 1337. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Expresses happiness at hearing of the expected arrival of troops from Madras and satisfaction at the troops being so well accommodated at Chandarnagar. Intimates his intention of sending 2,000 horse into Bishanpur, when the rains are over, to root out all the enemy [*Abs. P. L R., 1759-65, p. 11.*]

Oct 2 1338. To Rāja Shitāb Rāy. Says that His Excellency's *harkārahs* have seized the Rājā's petition and the two letters he wrote to Mumtāzu-d-daulah and Balkishn, and that His Excellency has forwarded them to the Governor Sends the addressee the contents of the petition and the letters and desires him to explain what business was deferred by the departure of the Colonel and the Major; what money he expected from Calcutta and for what purpose; who approved of the affair; whose affair it was; whose business it was he wrote to Bālkishn about; what *sanad* it was he wrote to have prepared; and also what *parwānah* it was he wanted to get written in Govind Rām's name Requests him to come to Calcutta to explain matters

[*Trans. P L. I, 1761, no. 382, pp. 194-195. Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p 72.*]

Oct. 2. 1338A. Rājā Shitāb Rāy to the King Intimates that Colonel Coote has set out for Calcutta and that Major Carnac is daily expected to follow him. The business which His Majesty knows of has, consequently, been deferred. The money will be despatched to the Court as soon as the said gentlemen reach Calcutta

[*Trans. P L. I., 1761, no. 383, p. 195.*]

Oct. 2. 1338B. Rājā Shitāb Rāy to Mumtāzu-d-daulah Intimates that Colonel Coote has gone to Calcutta and that Major [Carnac] will shortly follow him. The business, which the addressee knows of, remains, therefore, in suspense; and there is at present no appearance of its being soon concluded. Advises him to take the money if it falls into his hands and to finish the business without waiting for the said gentlemen. Says that he ought to take such steps as will promote the welfare of the High *Sarkār*. Intimates that the good understanding between the Colonel and the Nawāb has ceased to exist and that the Colonel has consequently gone to Calcutta

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 384, p. 195.*]

[Oct 2. 1338C. Rājā Shitāb Rāy to Bālkishn. Has already informed him of Colonel Coote's departure for Calcutta Advises him to drop the business he knows of. Says that the project has failed and will never come to anything. Has written similarly to Mumtāzu-d-daulah. Warns him again and again not to meddle in the affair. Has informed the-

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King of Colonel Coote's departure for Calcutta and Major Carnac's intention of following him shortly. Asks him to procure the *sanad* and a *parwānah* in Govind Rām's name and send them.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 385, pp. 195-196.*]

Oct. 3. **1339.** To the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Refers to Major Carnac's intercepted letters to the King and Mumtāzu-d-daulah and says that he has made enquiries of the Major and Mr. Lushington. Encloses a copy of the paper of requests mentioned in the letters. It shows that the Major did not mean any harm to the affairs of the *Sarkār*. Says that the stopping of the letters of the Commander of the English army is a measure that may be attended with bad consequences to the Company's affairs as well as those of the *Sarkār*, and is besides an injury to his character. Desires His Excellency to give reasons for taking such a step and to make such an apology to the Major as the case requires.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 386, p. 196. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 20.*]

Oct. 5. **1340.** To the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Has already sent His Excellency a copy of Shitāb Rāy's explanation of his intercepted letters. In regard to the money the said Rāy has collected, he has given a portion to the *jagirdar* and the rest has been appropriated. Advises His Excellency not to demand an account of it from the Rāy, as he has collected it in consequence of a *sanad* from the High Court and the orders of former *ṣūbahdārs*, and further, His Excellency did not before disapprove of his enjoying the post of commander of Rohtas and that of *Dīwān*. Hopes His Excellency will give him if not the management of all the *jāgīrs*, at least as much as will support him, and favour him as other *ṣūbahdārs* have done before. Assures His Excellency that the Rāy will never be deficient in zeal and attachment.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 387, p. 197. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 20.*]

Oct. 9. **1341.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's *parwanah* with a *sarāpā* from His Majesty's Court. Knows that it is through His Excellency that the honours have been conferred upon him. Intimates that on the 1st of *Rabi'* I he put on the *khal'at* and duly made many lowly salutations with his head towards His Majesty's sacred altar.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 388, p. 198. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 20.*]

Oct. 9. **1342.** To Jagat Sēṭh. Intimates that the King has favoured the Governor with a *sarāpā*, a *jāgīr*, the command of 7,000 horse and the title of Munīru-l-mulk 'Ālī Jāh, and that on the 1st of *Rabī* I he put on the *khal'at*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 389, p. 198. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Oct. 10. **1343.** To the Rājā of Parsautam. Has been informed that a ship belonging to the Company's *Sarkār* has sunk near his *zamīndārī*; that a number of the crew and a considerable quantity of goods, etc., that been lost; that one gentleman with a hundred men and two women

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reached the shore and now remain near the *chaklah* of Makhdum; and that the addressees manager's will not permit them to come to Calcutta. Says that this is very improper and desires him to direct his managers to let them go with their effects.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 390, p. 198. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 75.*]

Oct. 10. **1344.** To Sheo Bhaṭ. Recapitulates the matter of the above letter. Sends Ghulām Muṣṭafā *Munshī* and hopes that according to his representation, the addressee will grant the survivors from the wreck a *dastak* for the way, give them whatever else may be necessary and dispatch them to Calcutta. Has been honoured with a *sarāpā*, a *jāgīr*, the command of 7,000 horse and the title of Munīru-l-mulk 'Ālī Jāh.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 391, p. 199. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 81.*]

Oct. 15 **1345.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Asks him to comply with Rāmdhan Nāg's requests. Hopes to come to Calcutta himself. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Oct. 17. **1346.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Thanks the Rājā for the *naẓr* and the letter congratulating him on his receiving a *khal'at* from the King

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 392, p. 199. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

Oct. 17. **1347.** To Sulaimān Bēg. Has received his two friendly letters, one congratulating him on the arrival of the *khal'at* and the other concerning the customs of the *bāzār*, and intimating the despatch of a paper relating thereto. Acknowledges also the receipt of the congratulatory *naẓr* and thanks him for it. Says that since the sale of provisions has considerably increased on account of the arrival of more people, Bakhsh Muḥammad, the manager of the *bāzār*, should be directed to have provisions, etc., as cheap there as in Calcutta that the sepoys may be well supported.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 393, pp. 199-200. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 79.*]

Oct. 17. **1348.** To the King. Thanks His Majesty for the *khil'at*, the *jāgir*, the command of 7,000 horse and the title of Munīru-l-mulk 'Ālī Jāh conferred upon him. Intimates that on the 1st of *Rabī'* I he put on the *sarāpā* and made many lowly salutations while a salute of a number of guns was fired. In conjunction with the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim, is always ready to do everything that can tend to the advantage of His Majesty. Hopes he will be honoured with Royal *farmāns*, the execution of which will afford him the greatest happiness.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 394, p. 200. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 41.*]

Oct. 17. **1349.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's letter saying that when the rains are over, His Excellency will send two thousand horse under a capable commander to take Bishanpur, that after Bishanpur has been taken, they will join the Company's troops

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and proceed to capture Cuttack; that, after this, His Excellency will send a *sanad* for payment of the Company's troops; and lastly that when that business is settled, His Excellency will proceed to Murshidabad to transact many matters with his advice. Approves of His Excellency's plans and hopes that the commander will be directed to join the Company's troops soon after taking Bishanpur. Desires to know where the King is staying, whether his Majesty intends to return to Delhi and if so what should be done. Has sent a petition to the King thanking him for the *sarāpā* and encloses a copy of it for His Excellency's perusal. Intimates that Anand Lāl, who has been reinstated in consequence of the Governor's request and obtained a *sarāpā*, has arrived, but that he cannot take possession of his *zamīndāri* without men and money. Says that the Company's troops can help him if His Excellency so desires.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 395, pp 200-201. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 20.*]

Oct. 18. **1350.** To Sheo Bhaṭ. Acknowledges receipt of his letter. Has ordered Diā Rām, who came with Mr. John Bristow, to take possession of Pataspur and other *parganahs* dependent on Jellasore, and afterwards to wait on Mr. Burdett, Chief of Midnapur, with the papers of the former collection to receive from him whatever is due.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 396, p. 201. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 81.*]

Oct. 19. **1351.** To Raḥmat Khān. Acknowledges receipt of his letter. Says that Diā Rām and Ḥusain Bēg came to Calcutta with Mr. John Bristow on the part of Sheo Bhaṭ in order to settle the affairs relating to Pataspur and other *parganahs* dependent on Jellasore. Has dismissed them and directed Diā Rām to take possession of the *parganah* and afterwards to wait on Mr. Burdett, Chief of Midnapur, with the papers to receive from him whatever was collected before.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 397, p. 202. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 73.*]

Oct. 20. **1352.** To Ghulām Muṣṭafā. *Mushī*. Has received his letter saying that he has heard of a ship being lost; that out of the whole crew, one gentleman, two women and a hundred men reached the shore near Parsautam; that the zamīndār of that place would not permit them to pass; and that Sheo Bhaṭ has sent his people to take them to Cuttack, and desiring that the addressee may be permitted to get them released and Bēnah Rām ordered to write to Lattū Kar, his constituent, to pay the expenses of the *Darbār* and of the said people. Has made Bēnah Rām write to Lattū Kar to supply the *munshi* with what money he requires. Has written to Sheo Bhaṭ, the said gentleman, and the zamīndār of Parsautam and asked Jāchak to help him with money and other things. Desires him to receive the money from Bēnah Rām, to proceed speedily to deliver the letters, get the crew released, give them what money is necessary and then despatch them soon to Calcutta. Sends some

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letters to be forwarded immediately on their arrival.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 398, pp. 202-203. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

Oct. 20. **1353.** To Ragmānjī Jāchak. Has received his letter concerning the affairs of Nagpur. Intimates that Mr. John Bristow has paid him a visit and communicated to him the addressee's sentiments. His Majesty has gone towards Delhi and his *sikkahs* are now current. Has been honoured with a *sarāpā*, a *jāgīr*, the command of 7,000 horse and the title of Munīru-l-mulk ʿĀli Jāh. Recapitulates the matter of the above letter. Will send him broad cloth or anything else he requires or repay him the money.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 399, p. 203. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 64.*]

Oct. 20. **1354.** To Abdu-s-subḥān *Munshī*. Speaks of the loss of the ship near Parsautam. Has directed his brother Ghulām Muṣṭafā to get the survivors released and send them to Calcutta. Desires him to endeavour in conjunction with his brother to dispatch them with the utmost expedition. Sends some letters and requests him to forward them to Madras immediately on their arrival and expressly to direct the *chaukīs* not to be dilatory.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 400, p. 204. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Oct. 20. **1355.** To Sheo Bhaṭ. Learns that the survivors of a shipwreck have reached the shore and that he has sent for them to Cuttack. Thanks him and requests him to be obliging to them in every respect and to grant them a *dastak* for the way. Ghulām Muṣṭafā who has been directed to go to him will supply them with money, etc.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 401, p. 204. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 81.*]

Oct. 20. **1356.** To Ghulām Muṣṭafā *Munshī*. Has been informed by Kālī Charan that Sheo Bhaṭ has taken the survivors of the shipwreck to Cuttack. Is amazed that he should hear the news not from the addressee who belongs to the Company but from others. Has already written to him to go to Sheo Bhaṭ, to procure a *dastak* for the men, give them what they stand in need of, and then dispatch them speedily to Calcutta. Has made Bēnah Rām write to Lattū Kar, his constituent, to supply the addressee with money. Has also written to Sheo Bhaṭ and Kālī Charan on the subject.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 402, p. 205. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

Oct. 20. **1357.** To Kālī Charan. Has received his letter intimating that Sheo Bhaṭ has sent for the survivors of a shipwreck. Desires him to send one of his people to take care of them and give them what money may be necessary for their expenses. Has directed Ghulām Muṣṭafā, a servant of the Company's, to go to Sheo Bhaṭ to whom he has written.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 403, p. 205.*]

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Oct. 22. **1358.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Laments that his exertions have failed to give satisfaction to the Governor. Declares, however, that the treaty entered into must remain in force for ever. Is much surprised at anyone wishing to take away his office or writing without his knowledge to the King about the *nazrānah*. Requires that justice may be done him on these points. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 11.*]

Oct. 27. **1359.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's four *pāruānahs* saying that the bad conduct of the commanders was apparent to the Governor before. Says that he wrote. His Excellency with this intention that in future the commanders should in conjunction with His Excellency root out the enemies. His Excellency need be under no apprehensions on account of Nand Kumār's evil designs as he has no power to detriment their affairs. Says that though the Colonel permits Nand Kumār to come to him, he will set him at a distance as soon as his wickedness becomes evident. Is firm to the agreement formerly made between His Excellency and the English. Professes loyalty. Sends a letter received by Major White from Sheo Bhat showing the latter's wickedness and knavery. Has stationed some of the Company's choicest troops at Midnapur and written to the Commander at Burdwan to despatch some troops to Chunder Konah. Hopes the Nawāb will direct Turab 'Alī Khān and Muhammad Taqī Khān to be on the guard as the Marhattas may perhaps come by the way of Bishanpur or Birbhum. Says that if they do so, the Company's troops at Midnapur will march against Cuttack.

(*N.B.*—Another letter to the same purport was written on October 28.)

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 404, pp. 205-206. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 20.*]

Oct. 28. **1360.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Says that the Company will receive the money from the *Sarkār* according to the *qistbandī*. Has sent the account of receipts and balances to Mr. Hay, who will lay it before His Excellency. States that according to the account, the amount due to the Company is Rs. 8,88,188 *minus* what His Excellency may have paid into Patna factory. Will in future pay Mīr Jā'far Rs. 15,000 a month besides the rent of his house and the cost of the repairs. Hopes His Excellency will send the amount monthly or for two or three months together as he thinks proper.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 405, pp. 206-207. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 21.*]

Nov. 1. **1361.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Encloses a copy of news about the Royal army. States that a great enmity exists between the King, Shujā'u-d-daulah and himself and that the Wazir will exert his utmost to make a breach between the Governor and him. Thinks that if he now dismisses the troops, they will be clamorous for their pay. Requests the Governor to advise him on all his affairs. Solicits the aid of English troops. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 11.*]

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Nov. 4. **1362.** From the King. Replies to a letter from the Governor on the subject of the titles and the *Khal'at.* [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Nov. 5. **1363.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has learnt from some gentlemen that they do not want to evade paying duties on the goods now ready at the *arangs* of Burdwan, but that the Rājā's people want to detain these goods for the duties on goods formerly sent away. Desires the Rājā to direct his people to desist from such practices.

(*N. B.*—Two letters were sent to this purport.)

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 406, p. 207. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

Nov. 8. **1364.** To Turāb Alī Khan. Says that there is no capable headman at the Calcutta mint and that a large sum of money is required on account of several ships being under dispatch to different parts. Requests the Khān to send a coiner and some workmen.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 407, p. 207. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 86.*]

Nov. 12. **1365** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Declares this to be the season for punishing the enemy. Intends to proceed to Patna. Says that some disaffected people who refuse to pay the revenue must be punished. Hopes his relations at Murshidabad will be taken care of. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 11.*]

Nov. 13. **1366.** From the King. Expresses high satisfaction at Major Carnac's conduct and recommends him as a pattern for the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Nov. 13. **1367.** From the King. Complains of a diminution in the respect the Governor was wont to show him. Trusts that Shitāb Rāy's representations will be attended to. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Nov. 15. **1368.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Inveighs against Nand Kumār, who wishes to ruin his affairs. Has taken steps to prevent the irruption of the Marhattas into Midnapur and sent Bū 'Ali Khān against Kamgar Khān. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 11.*]

Nov. 18. **1369.** To Ghulām Muṣtafā *Munshī.* Intimates that agreeably to his request, Lattū Kar has been asked to pay him Rs. 500. Desires to be informed when he receives the money. Has dispatched a bundle of papers and asks him to direct the *dāk qāsids* not to make any delay.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 408, pp. 207-208. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

Nov. 18. **1370.** To Pandit Rām. Says that through his neglect and that of his managers, one half of the chunam which he loaded on the boats has not arrived. Desires him in future to get a receipt from the managers of the boats for the goods delivered to their care and send a copy thereof to the Chief of Dacca who will hold the managers responsible for any loss that may arise. Sends some goods in exchange for the chunam agreeably to the account forwarded by him.

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Tells him to receive the remainder from the managers or be accountable for it himself

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 409, p. 208. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 52*]

Nov. 18. 1371 To Rājā Tilok Chand. Says that Rāmdhan Nāg came to settle the duties on cloth and was told to take them. Desires him again to take the duties on cloth according to former custom.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 410, p. 208. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 52.*]

Nov. 18. 1372 To Ghulām Muṣtafā *Munshī*. Learns that of the survivors of the shipwreck, two or three men and one woman have arrived at Balasore but that the *Faujdār* will not permit them to proceed. Is amazed that the addressee has not acquainted him with this. Has written a letter to the *Faujdār* of Balasore and desires the addressee to deliver it to him and to tell him that his detaining the said people is very improper The addressee is also directed to give them money and other things and speedily send them up either on boats or a sloop.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 411, pp. 208-209. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

Nov. 18. 1373. To Tāju-d-dīn Muhammad Khan, *Faujdār* of Balasore. Learns that two or three men and one woman who reached the shore from a ship that was lost, have arrived at the port of Balasore, but that the addressee prevents them coming to Calcutta. Characterises his conduct as very improper and says that they have suffered great hardships and that to impede them will be as "throwing salt on the wound." Desires him to provide them with provisions and dispatch them to Calcutta by boats or a sloop. This will satisfy Sheo Bhaṭ and rejoice the Governor.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 412, p. 209 Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 86.*]

Nov. 18. 1374. To Tāju-d-dın Muhammad. Has received his letter intimating that he has been appointed to the Faujdārship of Balasore and that Rahmat Khān has gone to Cuttack to see Daryā Khan. Congratulates him and says that the Governor is always desirous of serving him. Recapitulates the matter of the above letter.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 413, pp. 209-210. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 86.*]

Nov. 18. 1375. To Jaggu Nāth. Has received his petition saying that he has sent his brother Kālī Charan to Cuttack and dispatched three gentlemen and some sailors to Calcutta on a boat. Thanks him for this and desires him likewise to send any survivors of the wreck that may arrive at his place. Is always desirous of serving him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 414, p. 210. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

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Nov. 19. **1376.** To Anand Lāl. Understands that salt is procurable in his *zamīndārī*. Has sent Diā Rām Chutjī, a *gumāshtah* of the *Sarkār*, to purchase some. Says that the addressee can receive some *dādnī* from the *gumāshtah* or else draw up an instrument to furnish the *Sarkār* with the salt. Assures him that the money will be sent him without delay.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 415, p. 210. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 2.*]

Nov. 19. **1377.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Says that the troops stationed at Islamabad and Raushanabad Tippera, have driven off the evil-minded and swept them clear away, and that when Rs 49,861-10, the expenses of the troops, were demanded from the managers, they replied that they had no money ready nor had they received the Nawāb's orders for the payment thereof. Has sent a paper of the expenses to Mr. Ellis, Chief of Patna, who will show it to His Excellency. Hopes His Excellency will direct the *Faujdār* and the Zamīndār of Tippera to pay the money to the Chief without delay.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 416, pp. 210-211. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 21.*]

Nov. 19 **1378.** To Tāju-d-dīn Muhammad. Has received his letter saying that he has sent to Calcutta whatever people came to him from the ship but detained those that remain, in obedience to Sheo Bhaṭ's orders. Says that they have suffered great hardships and wants to know why they have been detained when they have a *dastak* for the way. Desires him to send to Calcutta all those that arrive, either on a long-boat or a sloop.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 417, p. 211.*]

Nov. 19. **1379.** To Pandit Rām. Has been informed that the people of the *Sarkār* and other merchants at Sylhet prepare chunam; that the whole of what is produced by the people of the *Sarkār* is appropriated for the Nawāb's use; that other merchants cannot have it; and that the addressee has disputes with the people of the *Sarkār* on account of what is prepared by them. Desires him to send a paper mentioning what quantity is produced yearly, where it is produced, and how much is yearly delivered to the Nawāb.

[*Trans. P. L. I. 1761, no. 418, pp. 211-212. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 53.*]

Nov. 19. **1380.** To Muḥammad Taqī Khān. Understands from his letter that Captain Castiel distressed the inhabitants. On inquiry, finds this to be true. Has therefore dismissed the Captain and sent away the people after encouraging them. Assures him that whatever officer is appointed in future, will not act in that manner.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 419, p. 212. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 48.*]

Nov. 20. **1381.** To Pandit Rām. Has been informed that he acts with the people of the *Sarkār* in procuring all the chunam and that disputes arise between them and the addressee. Tells him that His Excellency's

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business and that of the Company are the same and desires him to deliver one half to the Nawāb and the other to the Company. Intimates that His Excellency has approved of the above arrangement.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 420, p. 212. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 53.*]

Nov. 20. 1382. To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has received his letter concerning the appointment of *Dīwān*. Says that he is the commander of the *zamīndāri* and should therefore so act as shall tend to the welfare of the inhabitants, the prosperity of the country, and the settlement of the Company's demands. Desires him to appoint such a *Dīwān* as will satisfy him in these respects.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 421, p. 212. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

Nov. 20. 1383. To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has received his letter concerning his expenses and saying that he has dismissed the sepoys. Understands everything about the assignment he has delivered to Mr. Sumner for the present year. Says that of the five *lakhs* of rupees allowed him, he has received two *lākhs* of rupees from Jagat Sēṭh and the remainder will be paid to him by Mr. Graham Desires him to pay one *lākh* of rupees to the sepoys and to tell the zamīndārs, if they make any evasion, to leave a person on their part to whom he should pay next year the whole amount of the balance due to them. Mr. Graham will assure them that it shall be paid by the *Sarkār*. Further, Mr. Graham will pay him two *lākhs* of rupees in monthly instalments. Delivers up to him the computation which Mr. Sumner brought with him concerning the Brahmans, servants, *amjidārs*, etc., and tells him that whatever he receives from them, will be his profit. If he receives from them more than is customary, no harm can accrue to them. Mr. Graham will assist him in the matter. Has not mentioned the balance of last year in the present adjustment, but has left it for him to prepare and send. Desires him to direct his *mutasaddīs* to get it ready. If it is not paid, the *mutasaddīs* will be accountable. Says that he will have to pay 30 *lākhs* of rupees as the Company's revenue and Rs. 2,30,000 for the expenses of the sepoys from the present collection and that the remainder is his own.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 422, p. 213. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65 p. 57.*]

Nov. 22. 1384. To the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's two letters saying that His Excellency will proceed to Bhojpur with the English troops to chastise the enemy; desiring that Turāb 'Alī Khān and Muzaffaru-l-mulk may be taken care of; and stating that His Excellency has written to Turāb 'Alī Khān and Muhammad Taqī Khān to chastise Sheo Bhaṭ severely, should he come by way of Bishanpur, that he has dispatched Bū 'Alī Khān with five thousand horse and as many peons after Kāmgār Khān, and lastly that His Excellency is inclined to account with the Company. Approves of His Excellency proceeding to Bhojpur. Thinks that on hearing the

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report of his departure, the enemies both far and near will be ashamed and receive their deserts, and the Rājās on that side will be obedient to his will. Has as great a regard for Nawāb Muzaffaru-l-mulk as for himself. Will be happy to execute any orders he receives from the said Nawāb or Turāb 'Alī Khān. Is ready in conjunction with the said Khān to defeat and punish any enemies that come on this side. Approves of what His Excellency has written to Turāb 'Alī Khān, Muhammad Taqī Khān and Bū 'Alī Khān.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 423, p. 214. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 21.*]

Dec. 1. **1385.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim Compliments the Governor on the mode in which he quelled the disturbances in Bengal and the other *sūbahs*. States that the failure in the payment of the revenue was by no means to be attributed to him, but to the disaffected, who ought to be chastised. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 11.*]

Dec. 1. **1386.** From the King. Replies to a letter from the Governor acknowledging the receipt of a *khal'at* and titles. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Dec. 1. **1387.** From the King. To the same effect as the above. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Dec. 5. **1388.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates that Chētan Singh, Zamīndār of Bishanpur, has arrived and applied for the Company's troops to assist him in recovering possession of his *zamindāri* from which he has been ousted by his brother. Does not know why His Excellency has sent Bū 'Alī Khān to Bishanpur. Desires to be acquainted with His Excellency's intention concerning the *zamindāri* Will act accordingly.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 424, p. 215. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 21.*]

Dec. 8 **1389.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim Will give an assignment for the balance due to the Company after the *khālisah* accounts are settled States in an enclosure that he will allow Mīr Ja'far Rs. 10,000 a month. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 11.*]

Dec. 9. **1390.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qasim Declares his resolution of crossing the Soan to punish his enemies. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65 p. 11.*]

Dec. 9. **1391.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Recommends the 1st of *Jumādā* I, 1175, as a lucky day for coining *sikkah* rupees of the third year of the reign in the Company's mint. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759 65, p. 11.*]

Dec 10. **1392.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Informs the Governor of the ill conduct of the zamīndārs of Bhojpur. Has ordered them to be chastised. Is beset on every side by his enemies. Says that his only hope of redress or safety is in the Company's friendship. [*Abs P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 12.*]

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Dec. 10. **1392A.** From the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Says that when he and the Governor meet, they will adjust matters as to the heavy balance due from Burdwan. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 12.*]

Dec. 10. **1393.** From Rāja Tilok Chand. States his distresses. Hopes for attention to them. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Dec. 11. **1394.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim Says that, some time ago, he wrote to His Excellency concerning the chastising of Sheo Bhaṭ and the dispatching of an officer from the Court to act in conjunction with the Company's troops in taking Cuttack. Understands that His Excellency has sent Mīr Bū 'Alī Khān towards Bishanpur with horse and foot. Says that Major Carnac is ready with the Company's troops to co-operate with Bū 'Alī Khān in driving Sheo Bhaṭ from Cuttack and bringing that city into subjection to the *Sarkār*. Has written to Mīr Bū 'Alī to hasten his arrival and encloses a copy of the letter for His Excellency's perusal Hopes His Excellency will write to the Khān to the same purpose. Has heard that His Majesty, on the advice of the Nawāb Shujā'u-d-daulah, is not inclined to proceed forward but intends to return. Says that the number of the English troops who are now with His Excellency is very inconsiderable, and proposes to send some more to strike terror into the heart of all his enemies. Will shortly send Colonel Coote with some good troops Says that the Colonel will go by the way of Puckyt to put Har Narandās in possession of the *zamīndārī*. Asks for His Excellency's advice concerning these affairs.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 425, pp. 215-216 Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 21*]

Dec. 11. **1395.** To Mīr Bū 'Alī Khān. Understands from His Excellency's *parwānah* that the Khān has been dispatched to Cuttack by way of Bishanpur or Birbhum to chastise and root out the disaffected Marhattas and in conjunction with the Company's troops to bring the city into subjection to the *Sarkār* Says that Major Carnac and the English troops are in readiness Desires the Khān to come speedily either by way of Birbhum or Bishanpur, and asks which road he proposes coming by

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 426, p 216. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 48.*]

Dec. 11. **1396.** To Rāmdhān Nag. Has received his letter intimating his arrival at Burdwan and saying that he has dispatched two *lākhs* of rupees and sent express orders to the managers. Expresses satisfaction at his sending the money and congratulates him on his safe arrival. Desires him to send the money according to the *qisṭbandī*. Assures him that this will tend to his advantage.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 427, p. 217. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 74.*]

Dec. 13. **1397.** To Ghulām Muṣṭafā *Munshī*. Has sent a packet of letters to be dispatched to Madras. Desires him immediately on the arrival

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thereof to dispatch them, and to acquaint him of it. Desires him always to follow this practice.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 428, p. 217. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

Dec. 16. **1398.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Has ordered some troops from Burdwan as requested. [*Abs. P. L R., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Dec. 16. **1399.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsīm. Intimates the capture of the fort of Judgepur, and the defeat of the disaffected zamīndārs. Intends to cross the river to appoint *tahsīldārs* for the collection of the revenue. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 12.*]

Dec. 18 **1400.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Learns that *chaukīs* have been stationed on the part of His Excellency where there were never any before; and that they, without reason, demand duties, by which a considerable loss accrues to the merchants. Is sure that this has been done without His Excellency's orders. Says that the Dutch Company have His Majesty's *farmān* and that by the establishment of these *chaukis* all their affairs will be injured. Encloses a petition which the Dutch Director has addressed to His Excellency. States that through the traffic of the merchants, the country will flourish. Advises His Excellency to direct the transactors of his business to dismiss the new *chaukis*. The former *chaukis* will receive the duties according to custom.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 429, p. 217-218. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 21.*]

Dec. 18 **1401.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has not heard from the Rājā for a long time. Has sent for the troops that were stationed at Burdwan as the disturbances on all sides have disappeared. Intimates that only a few soldiers and some *tilangās* will remain there.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 430, p. 218. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

Dec. 19. **1402.** To Mīr Shēr 'Alī Khān. Says that the English Company have His Majesty's *farmān*, giving them and their dependants full liberty to trade according to the Company's *dastak*, and that their business has been carried on in this manner up to the present time. Tells him that his impeding the business will make a breach in their friendship, and desires him to direct his manager not to hinder the Company's purchases or those of their dependants in any respect.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 431, p. 218. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65 p. 48.*]

Dec. 19. **1403.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates that Mīr Shēr Alī, Manager of Purnea, has several times intercepted at Nawabganj the boats belonging to the Company and their dependants, with all the goods, notwithstanding that they had the Company's *dastak*, extorts a certain custom from the people, and imprisons the *gumāshtahs*. Has written to him several times, but he pays no regard to it. Sends

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for His Excellency's perusal a letter he has received from the Khān in reply to his. Hopes that an express *parwānah* will be sent to him directing him not to impede the affairs of the Company and their dependants.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 432, pp. 218-219. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 21.*]

Dec. 19. **1404.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's *parwānah* saying that according to the Company's accounts and the papers of receipts and balance, examined in the presence of Mr. Hay, Rs. 1,08,000 was due from His Excellency exclusive of the money paid into the factory at Patna; that His Excellency will assign it on the Rāy Rāyān, and that he approves of Rs. 10,000 for the support of Mīr Ja'far. Is sensible that the *Khāliṣah* account will soon be settled and that His Excellency will speedily make an assignment. Is well assured that without Rs. 15,000 a month, the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far cannot support himself. Says that the said Nawāb is like His Excellency's father and that therefore whatever His Excellency bestows upon him, will not be ill employed and credit will redound to him. Hopes that Khwājah Petruse will be directed to pay the Nawāb Rs. 15,000 a month.

(*N.B.—Another letter was written to the same purport.*)

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 433, p. 219. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 21.*]

Dec. 19 **1405.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has been informed that when Rājballabh went to see Mr. Ellis, the latter gave him a courteous reception, but that when Mr. Ellis intimated his desire to see Rājballabh, the Rājā replied that he could not consent to it without orders from the Court. Says that this seems very improper, as any displeasure between His Excellency's *mutasaddīs* and the Company's chiefs will only be attended with trouble to both the Governments. Asks His Excellency to order the Rājā to apologise for his behaviour and in future to live in friendship with Mr. Ellis. Encloses a copy of a letter he has written to Rajballabh on the subject for His Excellency's perusal.

(*N B—Another letter was written to the above purport.*)

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 434, p 220. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 21.*]

Dec. 19. **1406.** To Rājā Rājballabh. Has been informed that when the Rājā paid Mr. Ellis a visit, the Chief was not deficient in giving him a good reception, but that when Mr. Ellis intimated his desire to see Rājballabh, the Rājā replied that he could not consent to it without orders from the Court. Says that His Excellency's affairs and those of the Company are the same and that there is no difference between the people of the Government and those of the Company. Believes that His Excellency will not be pleased when he hears this.

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Desires the Rājā to behave in a friendly manner towards the English chiefs and in conjunction with them to conduct the business.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 435, p. 220. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 71.*]

Dec. 20. **1407.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's *parwānah* saying that his standard was erected; that Mansā Rām has arrived on the part of Chatardhārī Singh and Phulwan Singh, Zamīndār of Bhojpur; that if they [the rebellious zamīndārs] did not come in four or five days, His Excellency would march forward, cross the Soan and severely chastise them; that Mīr Bū 'Alı Khān has taken Bhekhary fort and stationed a garrison there, and will clear the forts under the hills belonging to the Zamīndār; and lastly that His Excellency will inform him of what occurs in the future. Has already written to His Excellency that the Zamīndārs of Bhojpur were formerly knaves and that the number of the English troops attending his happy stirrup was very inconsiderable, and has asked permission to send Colonel Coote with advice regarding the capture of Cuttack. Says that Mr. Hastings will accompany the Colonel and that thus the business between His Excellency and the Colonel will be concluded. Remarks that Mr. Hastings is a sensible man, that he will speedily wait upon His Excellency and be obedient to his will. Desires His Excellency to send a capable person for the Nāibship of Cuttack to go with the Company's troops and Major Carnac to that place.

(*N.B.—One more letter was written to the same purport.*)

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 436, p. 221. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 21.*]

Dec. 20. **1408.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Says that, some time ago, His Excellency gave orders for Raushanabad Tipperah to be brought into subjection and promised to pay the expenses of the English troops employed for the purpose. Intimates that the Company's troops have captured Tippera and made it over to the people belonging to the *Sarkār*. Hopes His Excellency will do justice in this affair and send the money.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 437, p. 222. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 21.*]

Dec. 22. **1409.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has sent Bū 'Alī Khān into Bishanpur to root out Kāmgār Khān. Is utterly disgusted with the conduct of the zamīndārs of Birbhum and Bishanpur. Is resolved to collect the revenue himself. Hopes the Company will aid him in reducing these people to obedience. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 17.*]

Dec. 23 **1410.** To Rāmdhan Nāg. Has received his petition concerning his sending the money and getting ready the other *qist*. Desires him to send all the money according to the *qistbandī*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 438, p. 222. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 74.*]

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Dec. 28. **1411.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has received his letter saying that Rāmdhan Nāg has arrived; that he is preparing to send the money and that his *mutaṣaddīs* have presented Mr. Graham with the papers of the former and present year. Says that the increase of their friendship, the flourishing of the country and the tranquillity of the inhabitants are greatly impeded by the non-payment of the Company's money. Desires him always to send the money according to the *qisṭbandī*. Approves of his sending the *mutasaddīs* with the papers. Desires him expressly to order them to get the remaining money ready.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1761, no. 439, p. 223. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

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Jan. 1. **1412.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Has transmitted two *lākhs* of rupees to Calcutta. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Jan. 4. **1413.** To Rāmdhan Nāg. Has received his petition saying that he has expressly ordered the *qisṭ* money to be collected and sent, and that the money he has forwarded includes the balance for last year. Intimates that the money has arrived agreeable to the *chālān*. Desires him to send the *qisṭ* money without delay.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 1, p. 1. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 74.*]

Jan. 6. **1414.** To Ghulām Muṣṭafā *Munshī*. Asks him to forward a packet of letters to Madras.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 2, p. 1. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

Jan. 7. **1415.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Approves of the Governor's having written to Rājballabh to wait on Mr. Ellis and consult his wishes. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 12.*]

Jan. 7. **1416.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has made an assignment of Rs. 15,000 a month for Mīr Ja'far's support. Hopes that the adjustment of all matters may be inserted in the receipt. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 12*]

Jan. 7. **1417.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Declares it to be unjust for him to be called upon to pay the expenses of the troops sent to Raushanabad Tippera. Is ready to pay any other money he owes the Company. [*Abs P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 12.*]

Jan. 9. **1418.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter forbidding the forces to be prepared for Patna or Cuttack on the grounds that the enemy on that side have been weakened and chastised; that all the forts are in His Excellency's possession; that the King and the Wazir are proceeding towards Shahjahanabad; and stating that His Excellency will make inquiry concerning the reduction of Cuttack and act as shall be most advisable. Is glad to hear of His Excellency's success. Admits that there is no great occasion for a large number of troops at Patna. Will dispatch them when His Excellency writes. Regarding the reducing of Cuttack, says that this is the season to

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put the scheme into execution. Desires that a capable *Nāib* should be sent with the forces of the *Sarkār*. The English troops will act in alliance with them and settle the business in a proper manner. Tells His Excellency that in one or two months the rains will set in, and that then the season will be over.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 3, pp. 1-2. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Jan. 9. **1419.** To Mīr Dāwar Bakhsh. Has been informed that his people have detained four boats, laden with tobacco and going from Jahangirnagar to Rangpur, notwithstanding that they had a *dastak* from the Chief. Whatever *dastak* is issued at Jahangirnagar or other places under the Chief's seal is on account of the Company's *Sarkār* and therefore to intercept the boats is improper. Desires him to release them without delay, to return any custom hat may have been received, and direct his people not to act in this manner in future.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 4, pp. 2-3. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 49.*]

Jan. 10. **1420.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Says that in order to reduce expenses, some of the troops ought to be disbanded. Declares the mission of Colonel Coote to him to be improper, as no union subsists between them. Requests to know the Governor's sentiments as to taking steps to set aside the *chauth* and generally as to preventing the inroads of the Marhattas. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 12.*]

Jan. 10. **1421.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Declares that no necessity exists for Colonel Coote's going to him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 12.*]

Jan. 12. **1422.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has received his letter. Intimates that the money he sent has arrived according to the *chālān*. Desires him to continue to forward the Company's money in this manner.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 5, p. 3. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

Jan. 14. **1423.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Intimates the transmission of two *lākhs* of rupees to Calcutta. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

Jan. 14. **1424.** From Rāmdhan Nāg and Gokul *Majmū'ahdār*. Inform the Governor of their exertions to make up the Burdwan rents. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

Jan. 16. **1425.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's letter saying that the Rājās of Bhojpur have fled; that His Excellency will easily settle the affairs of the country to his satisfaction; that he consequently intends to send back Captain Castairs with the English troops to Patna; that the King has crossed the Jumna and proceeded towards Delhi, so that there will be no occasion for more troops to remain on that side; and desiring to know the Governor's sentiments with respect to the expedition against Cuttack. Is glad that His Excellency has so good a prospect of settling the affairs of Bhojpur.

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Fears that the Marhattas will invade the country when they think they have a favourable opportunity. They now demand the *chauth* for three years, and His Excellency's not paying them is as good a pretence for them to enter Bengal, as if he took possession of Cuttack and restored it to this Sūbahship, of which it is properly a part. But if Cuttack is in His Excellency's possession, the Marhattas will not find it easy to make incursions into Bengal. Thinks that leaving them in possession of a neighbouring country, or paying them money, only makes them more capable of setting up further demands and invading the country. Advises His Excellency to resolve from this time to pay them no *chauth*, to dismiss their *wakīls* in a civil manner, and repossess himself of the province of Cuttack without delay. Says that there is no great danger of Jānūjī making any considerable effort, but that if he does, the English forces joined with His Excellency's will be sufficient to repulse the attack. The English army has, in consequence of His Excellency's desire, been ready for some time to march to Cuttack with proper artillery and stores. Hopes His Excellency will immediately dispatch 1,500 or 2,000 horse and foot and also a *Nāib* to take up the management of the country. Requests that as by this acquisition a considerable revenue will be recovered for the *Sarkār*, orders may be given for discharging the expenses of the English army during that service as agreed upon.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 6, pp. 3-5. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Jan. 23. **1426.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Thanks the Governor for deferring Colonel Coote's mission to him. Hopes for attention to the business of the *chauth*, and to his own affairs at Patna. Encloses a letter from Shujā'u-d-daulah to him, wherein the Wazīr states that runaways of either Government will be given up. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 12.*]

Jan. 23. **1427.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has received his letter. Intimates that the money he sent has arrived according to the *chālān*. Desires him to continue to forward the *qist* money in this manner and to direct his *mutasaddis* not to delay in collecting it.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 7, p. 5. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

Jan. 23. **1428.** To Rāmdhan Nāg. To the same effect as the foregoing.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 8, pp. 5-6. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 74.*]

Jan. 23rd. **1429** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's *parwānah* saying that His Excellency has made an assignment for the balance that remains due to the Company; that the Governor will receive it through Khwājah Petruse; that Rs. 10,000 is sufficient for Mīr Ja'far's expenses; and that more will be improper. Says that when the money arrives, it will be taken into the treasury and a receipt given to the Khwājah. Some time ago, the Governor sent Mr. Hay an account of the balance due to the gentlemen of the Committee. Hopes His Excellency will make an assignment

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for it. Represents that the money allowed to Mīr Ja'far will be expended on the house, etc., and that there will be left too little to enable him to act improperly. If Mīr Ja'far is satisfied and his time rendered agreeable, His Excellency will gain a great name.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 9, p. 6. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Jan. 25. **1430.** To Sheo Bhat. Has received his letter saying that he spoke in a friendly manner to Ghulām Mustafā; that he was much afflicted at the death of Mr. John Bristow; and that he has written to Ballī Khān to return the money to the gentlemen who reached the shore from the vessel that was lost. Is satisfied at Daryā Khān's appointment as *Faujdār* of Balasore. Has written to Mr. Burdett, Chief of Midnapur, concerning the business of Pataspur. Assures him that the Chief will behave in a friendly manner to the Khān.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 10, p. 7. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 81.*]

Jan. 25. **1431.** To Ghulām Muṣṭafā *Munshī*. Has received his petition and the two letters from Sheo Bhat and Daryā Khān. Desires him to deliver the letters which he has written to them. Has written to Mr. Burdett, Chief of Midnapur, concerning Pataspur, etc, as desired by Daryā Khān. Sends a *dastak* to be delivered to the Khān Desires him to use his utmost endeavours to make Ballī Khān return the money. Sends a packet of letters and directs him to forward them immediately on their arrival. Tells him to maintain a friendship with Daryā Khān.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 11, pp. 7-8. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

Jan. 28. **1432.** To Pandit Rām. Some time ago, the Governor told him that one half of the Company's chunam had arrived safely but that the rest was much damaged, and directed him at the same time to inquire into the reason of it and repair the loss. Believes that a great quantity was spoiled when the water was taken out of the boats. Directs him to provide the chunam and then to advise Mr. Cartier of it. Directs him also to take from the said gentleman what boats he may want in future, and to act according to his orders in everything.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 12, p. 8. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 53.*]

Jan. 30. **1433.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Understands from Mr. Cartiet, Chief of Jahangirnagar, that the managers of the mint and Jasārat Khān, the *Nāib*, refuse to coin the Company's money notwithstanding that the charges are offered to be paid. Represents that on this account the Company suffers; that it is contrary to custom; and that Mīr Ja'far granted the Company several *parwānahs* directing their money to be coined. Requests His Excellency to direct the said Khān to strike without delay any money that is delivered by the Company.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 13, p. 8-9. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

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Jan. 30. **1434.** To Jasārat Khān. Recapitulates the substance of the above letter. Has written to the Nawāb on the subject and thinks that the Khān will shortly hear from His Excellency. Desires that, in the meantime, the business should he carried on as usual.

[*Trans. P. L. I, 1762, no. 14, p. 9, Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Jan. 30. **1435.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's letter saying that the King and the Wazīr have crossed the Jumna and arrived near Kalpi; that the business on that side has been settled; that Colonel Coote should not be dispatched; that His Excellency will return in a month or two and have the pleasure of seeing the Governor; and lastly that as the Governor is inclined to establish a lasting friendship between the Colonel and His Excellency, it is necessary that he should advise the Colonel. Is much rejoiced at the business on that side being settled, and at His Excellency having sent *tahsīldars* to the several *parganahs*. Will never be backward in strengthening the friendship between His Excellency and the Colonel. Has deferred sending the latter as the affairs of the country have been settled, and as His Excellency is coming back. Has represented to the Colonel what His Excellency wrote concerning him. The Colonel appeared much pleased and the Governor was rejoiced to see the answer which he wrote. Hopes that, on its receipt, His Excellency will be convinced of the Colonel's loyalty and attachment.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 15 pp. 10-11. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Feb. 1. **1436.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has received his letter intimating the dispatch of the last *qist* for December and saying that he is using his utmost endeavours to collect the money, both for the past and present year, and has given express orders to the *mutasaddis* regarding it. The money has arrived according to the *chālān*. Desires him to continue to collect and send the money in this manner. Tells him that his honour and reputation are dependent on his assiduity, and that if he pays the money in time, his credit with the Company will daily increase. Is always desirous of serving him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 16, p. 11. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

Feb. 1. **1437.** To Rāmdhan Nāg. To the same effect as the above.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 17, pp. 11-12. Abs. P. L I., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

Feb. 3. **1438.** To the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's *parwānah* saying that His Excellency has directed *sikkahs* of the third year of His Majesty's reign to be struck in the Patna and Murshidabad mints, and desiring the Governor to give similar orders to the managers of the Calcutta mint. Says that as it is fitting and right for him to obey His Majesty and His Excellency, orders were given on the 25th of *Jumādā* II after prayers on Friday. Prays that this event may be fortunate to the well-wishers of His Majesty and His Excellency, and that the country may remain in tranquillity.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 18, p. 12. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

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Feb. 4. **1439.** To the King of the Maldives. Has received through the *Nākhudā* the Royal *farmān* concerning the things that were stolen last year and for which his people gave a note on their departure, and saying that His Majesty stands indebted for the goods, and that his people have this year compromised the affair with the owners thereof. Intimates that the ship His Majesty sent with the goods, amber and sea cocoanut, has arrived. Has settled the business of His Majesty's Government agreeable to the *Nākhudā's* request. The latter purchased goods in Calcutta at his own discretion and departed in the beginning of the season. Hopes His Majesty will send vessels next year and continue to do so in future.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 19, pp. 12-13. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

Feb. 4. **1440.** To Sulaimān Bēg. Has been informed that a boat laden with cloth and coming from Malda was intercepted by his people, notwithstanding that it had a *dastak* from Mr. Gray, Chief of Malda. Says that the Chief's *dastak* is the same as the Governor's. Desires him to release the boats immediately on receipt of this letter, to direct his managers to regard Mr. Gray's *dastak* as sufficient, and never to detain the Company's boats in future.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 20, p. 13. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 79.*]

Feb. 5. **1441.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates that Harī Narāyan *Chaudhrī*, Zamīndār of Tajpur, hinders the *puttan* business and prevents the passing and repassing of boats belonging to the Company as well as those belonging to the Company's people. The Governor wrote to Mīr Shēr 'Alī Khān on the subject and directed him to punish the said Zamindār but the Khān did not comply with his desire. Some time ago, Mr. Hastings made a complaint to Jalādat Jang Bahādur, who imprisoned the Zamīndār in the city, but notwithstanding this, he does not relinquish his business. Represents that to retain him in his post would only tend to the detriment of the Company's business. Requests His Excellency to appoint a capable man in his place.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 21, pp. 13-14. Abs. P.L.I., 1759-65, p. 23.*]

Feb. 6. **1442.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has received his letter saying that he has, with Mr. Graham's consent, set out for Chander Konah, leaving Gokul *Majmū'ahdār* and Rāmdhan Nāg with the said gentleman to act for him. Approves of this, and desires him to enjoin his *mutaṣaddis* to collect and send the money.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 22, p. 14. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

Feb. 10. **1443.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has written to Jasārat Khān about giving in old money to be coined anew in the Dacca mint. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 12.*]

Feb. 10. **1444.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Asks the Governor's advice regarding Shāh Abdālī's arrival at Lahore and Shāh 'Ālam's demand

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for the revenues of Bengal and the other *sūbahs*. Requests advice also as to the conduct he is to observe towards Shujā'u-d-daulah. Hopes that attention will be shown to his uncle Turāb 'Alī Khān whom the writer has, however, removed from his post. Has written to the *Faujdārs* of Purnea and other places not to molest the Company's affairs on any account. Recommends that some excuse may be pleaded as to the claim of the Marhattas. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, pp. 12-13.*]

Feb. 10. **1445.** From Sheo Bhat. Declares more emphatically than before that if the *chauth* is not forwarded, a body of troops will march into Bengal to enforce payment of it. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

Feb. 16. **1446.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim Shows the necessity of humbling the Marhattas in Cuttack and the probable advantage that would arise from taking that place. Enters into some explanation as to the pay of the troops that would be sent against it. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 13.*]

Feb. 16. **1447.** To Sheo Bhat. Has received his letter desiring that the money collected at Shahbandar and Pataspur and the goods which were plundered, and which his troops now demand from the zamīndārs under the jurisdiction of Midnapur, may be returned, and that the Rājā of Burdwan may be directed to pay him three *lākhs* of rupees Regarding the money and the goods in question, replies that the papers must first be examined to ascertain what loss accrued to the Company and the zamīndārs by the ravages of his troops, and that then whatever may be due will be paid to him. In regard to the Burdwan money, says that Burdwan has been granted to the Company for the expenses of their troops by His Majesty and Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Is amazed that the addressee, knowing this, still writes again and again on the subject.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 23, pp. 14-15. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 52.*]

Feb. 19. **1448.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has received his letter intimating the dispatch of one *lākh* of rupees and saying that he will arrive at Chander Konah in a few days. The amount has arrived according to the *chālān*. Desires him to direct his *mutasaddis* from this time to collect some of the Company's money daily, since it is the end of the year now.

[*Trans P. L. I., 1762, no. 24, p. 15 Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 58*]

Feb. 19. **1449.** A receipt for the sum of Rs. 26,08,044-9-15 *gandās* paid, as agreed upon, by the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim on account of the balance due from Mīr Jā'far.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 25, pp. 15-16.*]

Feb. 22. **1450.** To Ghulām Muṣtafā *Munshī*. Has received his petition with Daryā Khān's letter. Sends a copy of his reply to the Khān's letter for the addressee's information.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 26, p. 16. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

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Feb. 22. **1451.** To Daryā Khān. Has received his letter saying that he has arrived at Balasore, of which place he has been appointed *Faujdār;* that a gentleman may be sent there to transact the business of the factory; that he intends to come to Calcutta to visit the Governor and to see about trade; and that Bakhshī Rāo Mūdī, a servant of Rājā Jānūjī's, has come to Calcutta to purchase goods and will proceed to Murshidabad; and desiring that he may be given a *dastak* and supplied with a sloop when he returns. Congratulates him on his appointment. Says that to send a gentleman to carry on business at Balasore will be a needless expense as the trade is transacted at Midnapur. Will act as shall tend to the Khān's benefit when any of his people come to Calcutta to trade. Is anxious to see him. Hopes that through the Doctor's advice and medicine he will speedily recover. Will give Bakhshī Rāo a *dastak* on his arrival and dispatch him on board a sloop.

[*Trans. P. L. I, 1762, no. 27, pp. 16-17. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 30.*]

Feb. 22. **1452.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's letter enclosing a paper and saying that the zamīndārs of Bhojpur have fled; that the affairs of the country have been settled; that His Excellency intends to leave Mirzā Muhammad Mahdī at Bhojpur with two or three thousand horse and four or five thousand *barqandāzes;* and lastly that His Excellency will return to Bengal in two or three months. Is much rejoiced to hear that the zamīndārs have fled. Approves of his intentions in regard to Bhojpur. Says that the people on that side are full of wickedness and deceit and are always inclined to create disturbances, and that if an experienced and brave man does not remain there, they will never be obedient and faithful. Prays that His Excellency's "magnificent standard may speedily enlighten these parts." Encloses a paper containing his answers to the Nawāb's several questions.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 28, pp. 17-18. Abs. P.L. I., 1759-65, p. 23.*]

Feb. 22. **1452. A.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. (1) In regard to His Majesty demanding the revenue of the *sūbahs* from the time His Excellency waited upon him and His Excellency intending to pay it from the time the *khutbah* was read and *sikkahs* were struck, says that His Excellency's intentions are very proper since His Majesty's reign commenced when *sikkahs* were struck and the *khutbah* was read. (2) As for His Majesty demanding the revenues of the *jāgīrs* of Nawāb Zīnat Mahal and others according to the former custom and His Excellency representing that the country has been ruined by the frequent incursions of the troops, says that the money cannot be paid according to a former adjustment. Advises His Excellency to pay it agreeable to the present produce of the country. (3) Regarding what His Excellency writes, namely, that he is under no apprehensions concerning Shujā'u-d-daulah and that he is ready either on the one hand to make war on the Wazīr, or else to pay regard to his dignity and behave in a friendly manner, says that the Wazīr is at a great distance from Behar and that therefore as long as

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he acts like a friend, it is proper that His Excellency should behave also in a friendly manner. But if he should attempt or be inclined to come into this country with a design (to create a disturbance, His Excellency should engage him. (4) As to His Excellency's statement that he has appointed Mīr Sayyid Muhammad Khān to the Nāibship of Murshidabad in the room of Sayyid Turāb 'Alī Khān and that the new *Nāib* will behave to the English in a friendly manner, says that though the said Khān spread a very improper report through the city, he is a great man and is His Excellency's relation and consequently deserves His Excellency's favour. (5) His Excellency also writes that agreeable to Mr. Ellis's representations, *parwanahs* have been sent to all the *faujdars* on that side to assist the Company's trade; and desires that the *faujdārs* and managers on this side may be written to according to the remonstrances of the *gumāshtahs* belonging to the Company. Says that this has assured him of His Excellency's favour and friendship, and adds that the *faujdārs* and managers on this side act in accordance with their instructions, but that those of Purnea and Rangpur are very deficient. Hopes His Excellency will write expressly to them. (6) As to His Excellency writing that he has not yet received an answer from him concerning the dismissal of the Marhatta *wakīls*, says that, some time ago, he wrote particularly concerning this affair. Approves of what His Excellency thought it advisable to do and advises him to act in that manner and make an excuse.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 28A, pp. 18-19. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 23.*]

Feb. 23. **1453.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Says that last year he requested His Excellency to grant the Company a *parwānah* for purchasing all the saltpetre in the Purnea country, but that His Excellency excused himself from granting it, on the ground that the greater part or whole of it would be required for his own business. Is now certain that a large quantity over and above what is required by the *Sarkār* is sold to other merchants. If the Governor buys it from these merchants, it is a loss to the Company not only as regards the price but also as regards the quality, as it is not prepared with so much care as when the Company's *gumāshtahs* have the management. Besides, there is another inconvenience. The petre in Behar, of which the Company are the sole purchasers, is fraudulently conveyed to the other side and there passed and sold as Purnea petre, by which means the deceit passes undiscovered and the investment of saltpetre is diminished. Desires that in order to prevent such abuses, His Excellency will grant the Company a *parwānah* for preparing and purchasing all the saltpetre in the Purnea province, just as he has granted them one for Behar. The *Sarkār* will be paid by the Company and whatever quantity His Excellency may require shall be supplied to him either at Purnea or Behar according as he may write. Remarks that this will be an advantage to the Company and cause no loss or inconvenience to His Excellency.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1752, no. 29, pp. 19-20. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 23.*]

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Feb. 23. **1454.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates that a *gumāshtah* of the Company's was carrying a parcel of goods from the *parganah* of Mulky with a *dastak* from the Chief of Patna, when Khwājah Antoine told him that the Company's *dastak* was of no effect, copied it and returned it to him with another *dastak* under the seal of Syda Rām, Khwājah Gregory's *Nāib*. Complains that Khwājah Antoine is also concerned in conveying away privately five maunds of the Company's saltpetre. A *nuniā* on the other side having applied to him for the said quantity in the name of Khwājah Gregory, he sent for one of the Company's *nuniās* and made him bring it. He then sent one of his own people to see the *nuniā* safe over the river. One of the Company's *gumāshtahs* wrote to Antoine on the subject, but the Khwājah insisted that he had a right to do what he had done. Intimates that, for these reasons, Mr. Ellis made him prisoner and sent him to Calcutta. In regard to the affair of the *dastak*, says that as His Excellency is sensible that by the Company's *farmān*, their *dastak* is to be regarded as a passport sufficient in all parts of the Moghal dominions, and as there would be a continual stoppage of their business if any other *dastak* was required, it is highly necessary that all '*amaldārs*, *chaukīdārs*, etc., should be convinced that the Company's *dastak* is sufficient. As to the saltpetre, says that it is not the quantity conveyed away that is to be considered, but the bad example by which others will be encouraged to do the same. Notwithstanding that Antoine has committed these faults against the Company, he is in the employ of one of His Excellency's servants. Thinks it most desirable that he should be punished in a proper manner. The Governor depending on His Excellency's justice did not detain the Khwājah, who confesses to all the charges, longer than one day in Calcutta, but sent him away after making inquiries of him. Transmits copies of the letter and the *dastak* written by him. Has directed Mr. Ellis in the case of any of the people of the *Sarkār* molesting or injuring the Company's business, to send them to His Excellency's court with an account of their behaviour, that after inquiry they may be punished according to their deserts.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 30, pp. 20-22. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 23.*]

Feb. 23. **1455.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates that the whole amount of the balance due to the Company has been paid through Khwājah Petruse. Agreeably to His Excellency's orders, has enclosed a receipt (for the whole amount) both in English and Persian with his own seal affixed thereto.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 31, p. 22. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 23.*]

Feb. 26. **1456.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Requests to know the cause of Mr. Ellis's having sent some *tilangās* to attack Monghyr. Declares this conduct unwarrantable. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 13.*]

Feb. 26. **1457.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates his having dismissed Harī Narāyan Zamīndār as requested. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 13.*]

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Feb. 26. **1458.** From Rājballabh. Replies to the Governor's letter about cleaning the fort. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

Feb. 26. **1459.** To Turāb Alī Khān. Has received a *parwānah* from His Excellency with another for Sayyid Muḥammad Khān directing him to proceed to Cuttack with 1,500 horse. Encloses the said *parwanah* and requests him to deliver it to the Khān, and dispatch him after getting the people ready. Asks him to direct the Khān to proceed by way of Midnapur. The Company's troops are ready and will march on that road in three or four days.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 32, pp. 22-23. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 86.*]

1460. A receipt for Rs. 19,69,269-½ on account of Burdwan, the *zamīndārī* of Rāja Tilok Chand in part of the whole assignment to the English Company, commencing the 27th or 28th June 1761 and ending the 31st December of the said year. Received on the 31st December 1761 into the treasury.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 32 A, p. 23.*]

1461. A receipt for Rs. 6,23,330-14-1 pice in part of the whole assignment to the English Company from Burdwan, the *zamīndārī* of Rājā Tilok Chand. Received into the treasury between the 27th January and the 16th June 1761.

[*Trans. P. L I.,, 1762, no. 33, p. 23.*]

Mar. 2. **1462.** From Sheo Bhaṭ. Hopes that an arrangement will be made regarding Diā Rām's business. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

Mar. 2. **1463.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's letter concerning the Cuttack expedition and saying that as the Governor thinks it advisable to dispossess the Marhattas of that place, His Excellency has ordered Mīr Sayyid Muhammad Khān with 1,500 horse to accompany the English troops, and that if any profit accrues from the district that may be conquered, His Excellency will assign one or two *parganahs* as a gratuity to the English troops. Replies that it was more for the benefit of the *Sarkār* than of the Company that he proposed the undertaking. His Excellency wrote at first that it was highly proper and that he would willingly pay all the expenses of restoring Cuttack to this sūbahship. Now as His Excellency seems to think otherwise and to be indifferent about it, the Governor will not put the Company to needless expense but will lay aside all thoughts of this expedition. Hereafter if His Excellency thinks it necessary to remove the Marhattas from the country and applies to the Governor for assistance, he will act according to His Excellency's desire, but as Cuttack has been separated from this ṣūbahship for a long time and given up entirely to the Marhattas, the Governor will look upon such an expedition as a new conquest. His Excellency therefore will have to pay all the expenses of the English troops that may be employed upon it.

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The treaty between His Excellency and the Company does not include any new conquest. It only implies that His Excellency shall be assisted by the English troops in defending all the countries belonging to the *Sarkār* and reducing the rebellious zamindārs to subjection. Has always faithfully complied with this and will do so in future.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 34, pp. 23-24. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 23.*]

Mar. 4. **1464.** To Sheo Bhaṭ. Has received his letter saying that the money collected at Pataspur and the goods plundered by the Zamīndārs of Shahpur and Kutubpur must be returned Replies that some time ago he sent him a letter on the subject through Ghulām Mustafā. Has now told what is fitting and necessary to Dia Rām, who will doubtless relate everything to him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 35, pp. 24-25. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 82.*]

Mar. 5. **1465.** To Turāb Alī Khān. Has received his letter concerning the dispatching of Sayyid Muhammad Khān and enclosing a *parwānah* from His Excellency to the latter. The Khān has not yet arrived at Murshidabad. Has written again to His Excellency on this matter. The dispatching of Sayyid Muhammad Khān has consequently been postponed. Requests him to defer the preparing of the troops. Will hereafter acquaint him with His Excellency's directions.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 36, p. 25. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 86.*]

Mar. 7 **1466.** To Sheo Bhaṭ. Says that some time ago he answered his letter and told Diā Rām everything that was proper and necessary. Has dispatched a bundle of letters for the port of Madras. Requests him to direct the managers to dispatch it without delay.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 37, p. 25. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 82.*]

Mar. 7. **1467.** To Ghulām Muṣtafā *Munshī*. Has disparched a bundle of letters for the port of Madras. Desires him to send it away and acquaint him of its dispatch. Desires him also to deliver a letter he has written to Sheo Bhaṭ on this subject.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 38, p. 26. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

Mar. 9. **1468.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Upon the subject of Purnea saltpetre and the disgrace of one of his *gumāshtahs*. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 13.*]

Mar. 11. **1469.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's letter acquainting him of the displeasure of the gentlemen at Patna and other matters. Understands what His Excellency writes about Monghyr fort and Khwājah Antoine, the Armenian. Some time ago, Mr. Ellis sent the latter to Calcutta and informed the Governor of the affair. He was detained one day and then sent to His Excellency's court, where he must have arrived by this time. Has been informed

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of the affair relating to Monghyr fort by Mr. Ellis, who writes that several Europeans having run away, he had intelligence that they were concealed in the fort. Thereupon he wrote to Rājballabh, procured a letter from him to the *Qal'ahdār* and sent a company of sepoys to inquire after them. When the sepoys arrived near the fort, Shujān Singh sent in a threatening manner to acquaint them that if they advanced any nearer, he would fire upon them and would not upon any consideration permit them to enter the fort. Mr. Ellis directed them not to quarrel with the people of the *Sarkār*, so they remained quiet and the *Qal'ahdār* ordered that they should be supplied with provisions. Asks His Excellency to consider how much difference there is between his account of the affair and that given by Mr. Ellis. Remarks that every business of importance appears like this to have two meanings. Thinks that both His Excellency and Mr. Ellis have disaffected people about them, who for their own advantage are desirous of creating an animosity between His Excellency and the commanders. It is necessary that His Excellency should endeavour to find out the person who is the instigator of these disputes and severely punish him. Has, in like manner, written to Mr. Ellis to inquire into the affair, and if he finds anyone guilty, to chastise him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 39, pp. 26-27. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 23.*]

Mar. 11. **1470.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's letter with one from Sheo Bhat saying that His Excellency must settle the *chauth* through him. Some time ago, the Marhatta Chief wrote to the Governor to the same effect but he was told that settling the *chauth* between His Excellency and Jānūjī did not concern the Governor. His Excellency should send this answer if he thinks proper. Has enclosed the said letter.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 40, p. 27. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 23.*]

Mar. 11. **1471.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter saying that when he arrives at Monghyr fort, he will send for the Governor, Colonel Coote, and Mr. Hastings and meet them at Akbarnagar. Is much rejoiced to hear this. Will certainly arrive there on the day His Excellency appoints. As to what His Excellency writes about having been continually travelling and having had no rest for one year past, while the Governor has been happy, says that he also has not enjoyed the least diversion but has always been busy. Hopes to derive much pleasure from meeting His Excellency.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 41, pp. 27-28. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 23.*]

Mar. 12. **1472.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Encloses a letter which Colonel Coote has written in reply to His Excellency's. Has answered His Excellency's letter concerning the displeasure of the gentlemen at Patna. Some time ago, the Governor was informed of the affair relating to Monghyr fort by Mr. Ellis. Has received from the said gentleman another letter to the effect that he has several times received certain

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intelligence of the Europeans being in Monghyr fort but that Shujān Singh, the *Qal'ahdār*, would not permit them to be searched for. Requests His Excellency to send a *parwānah* to Shujān Singh directing him to let a sergeant go into the fort and make a search. The dispute will then be settled.

[*Trans P L. I., 1762, no. 42, p. 28. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 23.*]

Mar. 12. **1473.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Learns from Mr. Ellis and Rājā Rājballabh that His Excellency, on Mr. Ellis's application, has directed the Rājā to shut up all the gates of Patna fort on account of the desertion of the English horse and to leave open the sally ports towards Ranipur. Requests His Excellency to order the old sally port towards the factory to be left open that the people of the factory may not be hindered in going backwards and forwards.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 43, pp. 28-29. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 23*]

Mar. 12. **1474.** To Rāmdhan Nāg. Has received his petition intimating the dispatch of the third *qisṭ* for January. The money has arrived according to the invoice. Is glad to learn that he is taking great pains. Tells him that his sending all the Company's money according to the *qisṭbåndī* will give the Company much satisfaction and also tend to his own advantage.

[*Trans P. L. I., 1762, no. 44, p. 29. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 74.*]

Mar. 18. **1475.** From Sayyid Muḥammad Khān. Intimates that the Nawāb has made him his *Nāib*. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

Mar. 19. **1476.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Upon the subject of conquering Cuttack. Wishes to know what the expenses of the sepoys to effect this object would come to. [*Abs P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 13.*]

Mar. 19. **1477.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Says that the affair of the *chaukis*, which the Dutch at Chinsurah complain of, shall be remedied and the extortion prevented in future. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 13.*]

Mar. 20. **1478.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Requests a receipt for the money paid after Mīr Ja'far's management [?] or that the engagement may be returned to him. Intimates in a separate enclosure the capture of Bettia fort. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 13.*]

Mar. 24. **1479.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's *parwānah* and the letter which Mr. Ellis, Chief of Patna, wrote to His Excellency concerning the affair of the Europeans. As to His Excellency writing "who is Rājā Rājballabh that Mr. Ellis should write to him," says that the said Rājā is *Nāib* of the *ṣūbah* of Patna. It was because of this, that Mr. Ellis wrote to him in order to procure a letter to Shujān Singh, the *Qal'ahdār* of Monghyr. The said Rājā knowing himself to be the *Nāib*, wrote a letter to Shujān Singh, but the latter would not permit the sergeant to go into the fort and search for Europeans, and thus created a needless dispute for a small

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matter. On this account the Governor conjectured that the Europeans were concealed. Hopes His Excellency will send a *parwānah* to Shujān Singh directing him not to prevent the sergeant from searching the fort, and will chastise Shujān Singh should any Europeans be found there.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 45, pp 29-30. Abs. P. L I, 1759-65, p 23*]

Mar. 24 **1480.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Says that the prolongation of so small a matter as an inquiry after a few European deserters makes it appear as if it was the intention of some ill-designing people to create animosity between His Excellency and the Company. When His Excellency's people come to Calcutta on business, the Governor never hinders them in any respect Observes that if Shujān Singh had permitted the sergeant to enter the fort and search for the Europeans, there would have been no dispute Hopes His Excellency is sensible that he is firm to the treaty, and instead of paying regard to the stories of bad men will dismiss them

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no 46, p. 30 Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p 23.*]

Mar. 24 **1480A.** A receipt for Rs. 3,90,559-4-1 pice, being the balance of 23 *lākhs* of rupees promised to the Committee by the Nawab Mir Ja'far and paid by the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Dated the 22nd *Sha'bān*, the third year of the reign.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 46A, p. 30*]

Apl. 1 **1481.** To Sayyid Muhammad Khān Has received his letter. Is much rejoiced to hear of his having written to the zamīndārs to take care of the roads for the Company's horse which have been ordered from Patna to accompany the forces of the *Sarkār* to Cuttack. Intimates that the sending of troops to Cuttack has been deferred till another *parwānah* arrives from His Excellency. Requests him therefore to put off sending Khān Bahādur who has been appointed to go on the expedition. Will write to the addressee after a *parwānah* arrives from His Excellency

[*Trans P. L. I., 1762, no. 47, pp 30-31 Abs. P L. I., 1759-65, p. 23*]

Apl 2. **1482.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's *parwānah* concerning the Cuttack expedition together with the *parwānah* from Shujā'u-d-daulah and the letters from Mr. Ellis and Mr. Castiers. As to His Excellency's desire to know the expenses of the expedition, says that if His Excellency's troops take with them 1,000 Europeans, 2,000 *tilangās*, 10 pieces of cannon, and other necessaries, the monthly expenses will amount to Rs. 1,50,000, and that it will take them three or four months to gain possession of the country, clear it of the disaffected, and strengthen the several redoubts. Imagines therefore that the whole expense will not amount to less than five or six *lākhs* of rupees Hopes His Excellency will consider well whether he can settle the business this year or should defer it till next. Desires

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to be advised of His Excellency's determination. Understands what His Excellency writes concerning the affair of Monghyr fort. Thinks that the best and clearest way is to send two sergeants and several *tilangās* to inquire for the European deserters. The petitions of Mr. Castiers are reliable and the representations of the Zamīndār and the *Qal'ahdār* are false and malicious. By these means they are desirous of making a breach in the friendship between His Excellency and the Company. Hopes His Excellency, who is master of the *sūbah*, will properly inquire into the matter. Returns the enclosures.

[*Trans. P L I., 1762, no. 48, pp 31-32 Abs P. L I., 1759-65, p 24.*]

Apl. 2 **1483.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's letter concerning the success against Bettia and Rohtasgarh and intimating that new *sikkahs* were struck on the 26th *Jumādā* II. Says that in consequence of His Excellency's orders, *sikkahs* of the third year of the reign were struck in the mint on Friday, the 1st *Rajab*. Is glad to hear that His Excellency's standard will, in a month's time, reach the bounds of Akbarnagar. Will set out without delay on hearing of his arrival on that side. Mr. Hastings will start in two or three days.

[*Trans P L. I., 1762, no 49, p. 32. Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 24*]

Apl. 2. **1484.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim Has received the Nawāb's letter saying that in the receipt the Governor sent him Rs. 3,92,487-4 was not mentioned Sends him a receipt for the said amount as well as a *qistbandi* which Mir Ja'far delivered to the Company. Says that from Mīr Ja'far's arrival to January last it is sixteen months, and his expenses have been paid for eleven months. Has sent the receipt with the former one. Hopes His Excellency will dispatch the remaining five months' money or make an assignment In consequence of His Excellency's orders, Sulaimān Bēg has paid Mīr Ja'far's expenses due since August and will in future pay them monthly.

[*Trans. P. L I., 1762, no. 50, pp. 32-33. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

Apl. 5. **1485.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Protests that he has not given refuge to Europeans in the fort of Monghyr and that the fact of the *tilangās* being sent to search for them will lessen his character. Declares that he expects the persons behaving in such manner towards him to be severely punished. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 13.*]

Apl. 8. **1486.** To Sheo Bhat Has received his letter informing him of the battle between Rājā Jānūjī and Niẓāmu-d-daulah. Is much rejoiced to hear the news Believes that the said Rājā is not deficient in point of valour and that success goes before him in all his undertakings. Requests to be kept informed of the latest news.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 51, p 33. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 82.*]

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Apl. 8. **1487.** To Ragmānjī Jāchak. Has received his two letters informing him of the battle between Nizamu-d-daulah and Rājā Jānūjī, of Rāo Govind's appointment to the *zamīndārī* of Chitnan Berdah by His Majesty's Court, and of the said Rāo's son's appointment to the post of *Chaudhrī* to the *ṣūbah* of Orissa. Is much rejoiced to hear of Janūjī's success. What the addressee writes about the Rājā's bravery is true. Is surprised at Rao Govind's appointment to the *zamīndārī* of Chitnan Berdah, for it belongs to Burdwan and Rājā Tilok Chand is still alive. Thinks that the *sanad* was procured through the addressee's representation. The *Chaudhrī* of Midnapur has been dependant on the Company ever since Rājā Narāyan was appointed agreeable to His Majesty's *farmān*. Says that the *Chaudhrī* of Orissa is not dependant on Midnapur, and that if Sheo Bhat has put the Rāo's son in possession of the *ṣūbah*, he then must transact the business.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 52, pp. 33-34. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 64*]

Apl. 8. **1488.** To Mīr Shēr 'Alı Khān. Has received his letter concerning the inquiry into the affair relating to the goods detained by Mr. Gray and desiring that one of the Company's people may be sent to find out whether the Company's *gumāshtahs* or His Excellency's managers acted improperly. Says that Mr. Gray is a capable and sensible man. Requests the Khān to write to him and Mr. Gray whenever the Company's *gumāshtahs* act by force. If it is evident, they will get their deserts. Hopes that in like manner the Khān will chastise the managers of the *Sarkār*, if it is proved that they are in the wrong. The Khān must be sensible that the affairs of the *Sarkār* and of the Company are the same.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 53, pp. 34-35. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 49.*]

Apl. 8. **1489.** To Mahindar Narāyan and Rām Narāyan *Mustaufi*. Has received their letter concerning the *paotakī* duties of the province of Burdwan. Says that the Company have had possession of the said province one year and that therefore the addressees must certainly receive one year's duties, but not the balance that was due before that time.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 54, p. 35. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 49.*]

Apl. 8. **1490.** To Parsautam *Chaudhrī*. Has received his petition saying that he has been appointed to the post of *Chaudhrī* of Orissa. Says that Orissa belongs to Sheo Bhaṭ and that therefore he can appoint whomever he likes *Chaudhrī* of the *sūbah*. But the province of Midnapur and other places are in possession of the *Sarkār* of the Company and have been independent of Orissa ever since the Chaudhriship of the said *chaklah* was conferred on Rājā Narāyan agreeable to His Majesty's *farmān*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 55, p. 35. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 53.*]

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Apl. 9. **1491.** To Balwant Singh Bēnī Bahādur. Is glad to learn from the Court of Shujā'u-d-daulah that he has been appointed to the Nāibship of Ranipur. Has been informed by Mr. Ellis, Chief of Patna, that the addressee's managers demand the *nazrānah* from the Company's *gumāshtahs* who purchase saltpetre. Says that evidently this is a new custom. The Nawāb and the Company are such friends as not to mind the advantage arising from so small a sum as the *nazrānah*. Requests him to write to the managers of the saltpetre to relinquish their claim to it. Tells him to regard the affairs of the Nawāb and those of the Company as one and the same.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 56, pp. 35-36. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 75.*]

Apl. 9. **1492.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has received his letter saying that sickness is the occasion of his stay, and desiring that Mr. Graham may be informed of this. Prays for his speedy recovery. Says that as the year is now at an end and the adjustment of the coming year at hand, the sooner the Rājā can arrive at Burdwan, the better. Has already written to the said gentleman concerning the bridges and the proposal to give the money that will now be collected to the inhabitants. Asks him to write what he thinks concerning the adjustment.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 57, p. 36. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

Apl. 10. **1493.** To Rāmdhan Nāg. Has received his petition saying that he has rented a village from Rājā Kishn Chand near Shamnagar and built a house, but that now the managers of the said Rājā require more money than was agreed upon, and desiring that the said Rājā's *wakils* may be written to. Has spoken to the Rājā's *wakils*. Doubtless they will act accordingly. Is extremely sorry for Rājā Tilok Chand's indisposition. Prays for his speedy recovery and return to Burdwan.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 58, p. 37. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 74.*]

Apl. 10. **1494.** To Rājā Rāj Narāyan. Has received his letter intimating the dispatch of all the *qist* money. On examining the Company's papers, finds that there yet remains a large balance. This has not a good appearance. It is from the payment of the revenues that the *zamīndārī* subsists. Desires him to send the revenues without delay agreeable to the *qistbandī*. His *wakils* are now present. Will observe what they have to represent.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no 59, p. 37. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 65.*]

Apl. 15. **1495.** From Sayyid Muhammad Khān. Intimates the death of the *Faujdār*. Has appointed his son to succeed him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

Apl. 15. **1496.** From Sayyid Muhammad Khān. Will give the required order for providing timber for the fort. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

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Apl. 16. **1497.** To Mīr Shēr 'Alī. Says that some large timbers are wanted for the fort and that, for want of wood, the business is at a stand-still. Has sent a gentleman to purchase some timbers and forward them. Requests that his managers may be directed to supply him with what he may stand in need of.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 60, pp. 37-38. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 49.*]

Apl. 16. **1498.** To Sayyid Muhammad Khān. To the same effect as the foregoing.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 61, p. 38. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 83.*]

Apl. 16. **1499.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. To the same effect as the foregoing.

[*Trans. P. L. I, 1762, no. 62, p 38. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

Apl. 18. **1500.** From Rajā Tilok Chand. Requests permission to depute a *wakīl* to Calcutta Requests also that a cutcherry may be allowed to be held in his house. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Apl. 19. **1501.** To the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Some time ago, the Governor wrote to His Excellency concerning Mr. Hastings' setting out. Has dispatched him to-day and mentioned many things to him which he will relate to His Excellency Hopes His Excellency will regard what he says as the Governor's own words.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 63, p. 38. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

Apl. 19. **1502.** To Sayyid Muhammad Khān Has dispatched Mr. Hastings Jalādat Jang Bahādur on a visit to His Excellency. The said gentleman will proceed by way of Murshidabad. Requests that he may be supplied with whatever he may apply for.

[*Trans. P. L I., 1762, no. 64, pp. 38-39. Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 83.*]

Apl. 20. **1503.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates that Khwājah Antoine has been punished and dismissed and that all boats with the Company's *dastak* are allowed to pass. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 13*]

Apl. 23. **1504.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawab's *parwānah* saying that the English Company's *gumāshtahs* have made several new houses at Dinajpur. Represents that before the troubles, the English Company and their dependants trafficked everywhere. The country has for a long while been in a ruinous condition so that the Company's *gumāshtahs* have not been able to carry on trade anywhere. Now through the increase of His Excellency's wealth, Bengal is clear on every side On this account every European is desirous of trading at the several places, and thus the country will flourish and the inhabitants reap an advantage. In former times, Bengal flourished from the trade carried on by the merchants, and if the commerce increases, so much more will the country prosper.

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It is by sending out *gumāshtahs* that trade will flourish. Assures His Excellency that no one will have cause to complain of them. Should any of them relinquish their business and impede the business of the *Sarkar* or act by force, it will be proper and necessary to punish them. Requests that if anyone acts wickedly, His Excellency will let the writer know his name and crime.

[*Trans. P. L. I*, *1762, no. 65, p. 39. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

Apl. 23. **1505.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's *parwānah* saying that the Dutch will not pay the former customs and desiring that they should be written to. Asks His Excellency to send a *parwānah* to the *Faujdār* to receive the customs as formerly, and another to the Dutch Director to pay the duties to the *Faujdār*. Will write expressly to him. Is ready to assist the *Faujdār* if the Dutch make any evasions. PS.—Mr. Moore was sent to Rangpur before His Excellency's *parwānah* arrived.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 66, p. 40. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

Apl. 23. **1506.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Nawāb's several *parwānahs* concerning the dispute about Monghyr fort, also the letter from Nawāb Sālār Jang Bahādur, the letter which Mr. Ellis wrote to Rājā Rājballabh and the said Rājā's petition. Says that whatever is mentioned in the city of Patna, is greatly exaggerated when it reaches the King's army. Mr. Ellis has not the power to write such a letter to the officers of the Court nor do the officers pay regard to Mr. Ellis's letter concerning the affair of Monghyr fort. Mr. Ellis writes that when he received news about the Europeans, he sent Ghulām Muhammad who reported that the Rājā had written to Shujān Singh. On this account, imagines that either Ghulām Muhammad or the Rājā spoke a falsehood. Now, in consequence of His Excellency's orders, has dispatched Mr. Hastings Jalādat Jang Bahādur and Mr. Ironside, the Major of the troops On their way they will see Monghyr fort and afterwards wait on His Excellency and relate to him everything. Returns the enclosures.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 67, pp. 40-41. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

Apl. 24. **1507.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Complimentary reply to the Governor's letter notifying the nomination of Mr. Johnstone to the Chiefship of Burdwan. [*Abs. P L. R., 1759-65, p. 38*]

Apl. 24. **1508.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has received his letter saying that he will send Gokul *Majmū'ahdār* and Nāg *Sarkār* to make the adjustment. The settling of the King's revenues depends on the produce of the country and therefore the *parganahs* must be rented. The computation of these things belongs to the district. Has therefore appointed Mr. Johnstone who will arrive there, inform himself of everything, compute the produce from the outcry of the *parganahs* and increase the allowance for the other articles. Desires him, when

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Mr. Johnstone arrives there, to present the *mutasaddis* to him, and direct them to explain everything relating to the districts according to the papers, after the collection and adjustment has been made for the *zamindari* expenses and the Company's money.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 68, p. 41. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

May 1. **1509.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Approves of the countermanding of the dispatch of an expedition to Cuttack. Will not allow Mr. Ellis to search Monghyr by force. Will be happy to meet Mr. Hastings at Akbarnagar. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 13.*]

May 1. **1510.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Points out instructions which he hopes will be given to Mr. Johnstone. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

May 1. **1511.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has received his letter concerning the appointment of a *Dīwān*. Replies that as the Rājā is well acquainted with his own affairs, he can appoint whom he thinks proper. Will relate to Mr. Johnstone everything necessary and fitting that on his arrival he may act as may tend to the advantage of the *zamīndārī*. Desires him to remain satisfied in every respect.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 69, pp. 41-42. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

May 1. **1512.** To Rājā Har Narayan Diān. Has received his letter saying that Muhammad Taqī Khan's troops will accompany him to Puchyt and then return, and asking for assistance. Has written to Mr. Graham to send him two companies of sepoys. Says that if the Khān's troops leave him without settling matters, he should detain one of the two companies of sepoys and collect the country people. Tells him to pay the *tilangas* according to the custom of the *Sarkār* Has also written to Muhammad Taqī Khān to direct his troops not to return till everything is settled. Desires him to inform the Khān what number of troops are requisite. Has sent Rām Sundar to collect the money promised by the addressee. Requests him to send it.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 70, p. 42. Abs. P. L I., 1759 65, p. 75.*]

May 1. **1513.** To Muhammad Taqī Khān. Has been informed by Rājā Har Narayan Diān that the troops which the Khān sent to his assistance want to return without putting him in possession of the fort of Puchyt Requests the Khān to direct his troops to conduct the Rājā to the fort, establish him in the *zamindārī* and remain there till his affairs are properly settled Has ordered a company of sepoys to be sent to the Rājā's assistance.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 71, pp. 42-43 Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 48*]

May 1. **1514.** To Rām Sundar. Has appointed him to collect the money which Har Narāyan Diān consented to pay the Company on account of the monthly expenses of the troops that accompanied him.

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Desires him to go and collect the money in conjunction with the said Rajā. Desires him also to send the Company's money to the Court according to the *qisṭbandī*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 72, p. 43. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 43.*]

May 2. **1515.** To Muhammad Katī[?]. Has been informed that as some of the Company's cotton was being taken to their house at Null Dangah in the *parganah* of Muhammad Shay[?], Lāl Bihārī *Chaudhrī*, the manager of that *ghat*, extorted from the people of the *Sarkār* Rs 40 notwithstanding that they had a *dastak*. Has therefore sent the addressee ten *tilangās*. Desires him to proceed there and bring the said *Chaudhrī* to the Court.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 73, pp. 43-44. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 50.*]

May 2. **1516.** To Bhaskir Pandit. Has received his letter intimating that he has arrived at Balasore, of which place he has been appointed *Faujdār* in place of Rahmat Khān, and that he has sent Ḥayāt Khān and Diā Rām to the Governor. Congratulates him on getting the Faujdārship. Says that when the said people arrive, the friendship which now subsists between Sheo Bhat and the Governor, and to which the Pandit is at present a stranger, will become evident.

[*Trans. P L. I., 1762, no. 74, p. 44. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

May 8. **1517.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has received his letter saying that the order for an outcry has frightened the inhabitants and made him also uneasy, and desiring that the outcry might be deferred and the *mālguzārī* fixed at 31 *lākhs* of rupees. Replies that the Company's intention is to settle the *hast-o-būd* according to the condition of the country. Should the produce amount to more than the computation, it is to be delivered to the *Sarkār*; and if less than that of last year, it will not be the Rājā's loss. Recommends therefore that an outcry of all the *parganahs* should be made. Tells him that the expenses of the *zamīndārī* will be deducted therefrom. Asks him to urge the *mutasaddīs* to collect and forward the money.

[*Trans. P. L. I, 1762, no. 75, p. 44. Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

May 10. **1518.** To Sheo Bhat. Acknowledges receipt of his letter.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 76, p. 45.*]

May 11. **1519.** From Sayyid Muḥammad Khān. Intimates that an affray took place between Harīsh *Chaudhrī* and some people belonging to Mr. Motte. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

May 12. **1520.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Says that Mr. Hastings and Major Ironside may search the fort of Monghyr for the Europeans. [*Abs. P. L R, 1759-65, p 13*]

May 12 **1521.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Complains that the *gumāshtahs* of English gentlemen do not attend to the orders of his people. Complains of them likewise for creating *golās* and establishing market places, etc. [*Abs. P L. R., 1759-65, p. 13.*]

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May 15 **1522.** To the King of Pegu. Has received his letter, also the camel, horse and other presents. Is glad to hear that he has a great friendship for the English, will give them a piece of ground to establish a factory on and will not take from them more than a reasonable custom. Is surprised to hear from Captain Alves that at the time he was at the Court, a subject of the *Sarkār* had a design to assassinate him. On the matter coming to the Captain's knowledge, he came away himself and left behind a considerable amount of jewels and other things. Has no doubt that this has been done without the King's knowledge. Hopes that His Majesty will chastise the offender according to his deserts and send articles in exchange for the jewels, etc., according to the agreement. On receipt of a reply to this letter, will decide in what manner trade can be carried on.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 77, p. 45. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 40.*]

May 15. **1523.** To Sheo Bhat. Has received his letter intimating that he has appointed his younger brother Bhaskir Pandit to the *Faujdar*-ship of Balasore in place of Rahmat Khān, and spoken expressly to him of the friendship that subsists between the English and the Marhattas. Is glad to hear it. Hopes the said Pandit will not be wanting in friendship to the Governor. Has sent a packet of letters. Requests him to direct his people to dispatch it immediately on its arrival.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 78, p. 46. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 82.*]

May 15. **1524.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has dispatched Mr. Johnstone to settle the affairs of Burdwan. Desires the Rājā to sed his managers to the said gentleman to assist him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 79, p. 46. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

May 15. **1525.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has, in compliance with the Rājā's desire, told Mr. Johnstone everything that was necessary and directed him to act in conjunction with him. Tells him to remain happy and contented as the affairs of the *zamīndārī* will still remain in his hands.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 80, p. 46. Abs P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

May 16. **1526.** To Bhaskir Pandit. Complains that Chiton Sutwar, who has some papers relating to the late Mr. Bristow's effects, does not deliver them up. Has sent Rām Kant for them, but the said Chiton has hitherto evaded giving them. Besides, when Rām Kant was returning, Chiton lodged a complaint against him and got him imprisoned. Has sent two sepoys with a *dastak* to bring him. Hopes the Pandit will direct his people to deliver him up.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no 81, pp. 46-47. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 4.*]

May 16. **1527.** To Mirzā Mahdī Bēg. Has received his letter concerning the *chaudhrāī* custom belonging to the Bakhshbandar. Does not desire

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that the *Sarkār* should sustain any loss. Tells him to write to his managers to receive the duties according to former custom and not to release any goods till they are paid.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 82, p. 47. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 50.*]

May 16. **1528.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Has received His Excellency's letter desiring the account of Mīr Ja'far's expenses to be sent to him. Says that from the said Nawāb's arrival to the end of January it is sixteen months, of which he has been paid for eleven months. Hopes His Excellency will either send the balance or make an assignment. Since February the money has been received from Hooghly and will in future be received from there monthly.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 83, pp. 47-48. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

May 16 **1529.** To Rāo Govind. Is glad to learn that the Rāo intends to pay him a visit. Encloses a *dastak*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 84, p. 48. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 76.*]

May 16 **1530.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received His Excellency's letter expressing satisfaction at Mr. Hastings having been sent to him. Says that the said gentleman must have arrived by this time and related everything to His Excellency. Has sent for the latter's information a copy of the letter received from the Court of Directors. Concerning the affair of Monghyr, Mr. Hastings has been instructed to search the fort, and Mr. Ellis to recall the *tilangās* therefrom. Has already written to His Excellency that orders have been issued for the chastisement of such of the Company's *gumāshtahs* as injure the business of the *Sarkār*. Has written particularly to Mr. Hastings to settle this affair. Requests His Excellency to write similarly to his *faujdārs*, zamīndārs and *dāroghahs* of the *chaukīs*. Desires that if the zamīndārs, etc, complain of the Company's *gumāshtahs*, he may be informed of the whole affair. Promises to punish them.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 85, pp. 48-49. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

May 16. **1531.** To Mīr Shēr Alī Khān. Acknowledges receipt of the rice sent by the Khān. Intimates that it has been weighed but found deficient. Shaikh Aẓīmu-d-dīn who brought it says that a portion of it was sunk on the way. Requests the Khān to inquire into the matter. Encloses the receipt.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 86, p. 49. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 49.*]

May 23. **1532.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received a *parwānah* from the Wazīr and a *ta'liqah* from Shāh Walī Khān, Prime Minister to Shāh Durrānī. Sends the *ta'liqah*. Hopes His Excellency will write a proper answer and acquaint him of it. Will write an answer agreeable thereto.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 87, p. 49. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

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May 23. **1533.** To Khirat Narāyan. A considerable sum is due to the Company from Mykut *Firangī*. It appears from the account sent by the addressee that the said person's *gumāshtah* has Rs. 1,250 ready. Desires him to send the *gumāshtah* under charge of his own people.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 88, p. 50. Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 42.*]

May 23. **1534.** To Sheo Bhaṭ Has received his letter relating to the money collected at Pataspur. Has already transmitted all the particulars thereof through Diā Ram. Refers him again to the said person. Advises him to act as may increase their friendship.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no 89, p. 50. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 82.*]

May 25. **1535.** From Sheo Bhat. Transmits a letter from Rājā Jānūjī to the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p 45.*]

May 25. **1536.** From Rājā Jānūjī. Intends to march agreeable to Panḍit Pardhān's orders Complains of the consequences of his not receiving the Bengal *chauth*. Requests letters. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 31.*]

May 25. **1537.** To Sayyid Muḥammad Khān. Has received his letter concerning the quarrel between Harīsh *Chaudhrī* and Mr. Motte. Censures the latter's conduct. Will inquire into the affair. Orders have been given that Harīsh *Chaudhri* be delivered to the people of the *Sarkār*, and that no dependant of the *Sarkār* be concealed or protected. Has also issued orders that no Englishman shall rent any markets or *golās*, or accept any posts under the Government, or on their account erect colours or station *chaukis*. Has no doubt these orders will settle the disputes.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 90, pp. 50-51.*]

May 25. **1538.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim Has, in compliance with His Excellency's directions, given Har Narāyan Diān, the newly appointed Zamīndār of Puchyt, two companies of sepoys who conducted him there. Has written to him to use his utmost endeavours to pay the *mālguzārī* to the *Sarkār*.

[*Trans P. L I., 1762, no 91, p. 51.*]

June 5. **1539.** From the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Refers to Mr. Hastings' communications as to Europeans being concealed in the fort of Monghyr or not. Cannot endure the disgrace he suffers on this account. States that punishment ought to be inflicted on those who wish to foment ill-feeling between the Governor and him. Will make the desired assignment for Mīr Ja'far's support. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

June 5. **1540.** To Sayyid Muhammad Khān. Has been informed by Mr. Batson that the people of the *Sarkār* have surrounded the house of Mīr Ja'far's Bēgam and the son-in-law of Naṣīru-l-mulk, and tell them that they must either go to Jahangirnagar or the other side of the Karamnassa Hopes the Khan will write particulars thereof. Desires that if he has received such orders, he will defer

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executing them till he hears further about it. Has written similarly to the Nawāb.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 92, p. 51. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 83.*]

June 8. **1541.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Requests orders to Mr. Gray of Malda to deliver up Shah Muhammad. [*Abs. P. L. R. 1759-65, p. 14.*]

June 9. **1542.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has received his letter. Approves of his returning to Burdwān and waiting on Mr. Johnstone. Has already written to the latter what was necessary. Has no doubt he will act accordingly.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 93, pp. 51-52. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

June 9. **1543.** To Ahsanu-l-lāh Khān. Intimates that Mr. Cameron has been appointed to measure the Company's lands. Requests him to direct his *gumāshtahs* to wait upon the said gentleman with the papers of his district.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 94, p. 52.*]

June 9. **1544.** To Salāḥu-d-dīn Muhammad Khān. Has received his letter saying that he has sent two or three *tilangās* with a *dastak* to the *parganah* of Jessore. Says that this will only tend to increase the disturbances. Advises him to send the names of his people and those of the *Sarkār* concerned in the affair. Will punish them.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 95, p. 52.*]

June 9. **1545.** To Mirzā Mahdī Bēg. Has received his letter. Approves of his going to Murshidabad and leaving Muhammad Bakhsh and Bhāī Adī Rām to transact the business at Hooghly and Injeli respectively. Will never be deficient in listening to what they represent.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 96, pp. 52-53.*]

June 12. [?] **1546.** From Mirzā Mahdī Bēg. Will send for and punish Muhammad Ibrāhīm for putting one of the Company's people in irons. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 31.*]

June 19. **1547.** To Mirzā Mahdī Bēg. Complains that Jacob Galayger, an inhabitant of Calcutta, while bringing salt from Injeli was stopped, accused of having stolen it, put in irons, degraded at the cutcherry and flogged like a thief. Says that this is the first instance of a European being thus disgraced by a *faujdār*. If any of the people belonging to the *Sarkār* behave ill in regard to the Company's business, the Governor does not chastise them, but sends them to His Excellency who punishes them according to their deserts. In like manner the said *Firangi* ought to have been sent to the Governor if he was really guilty of the crime. Requests him to examine and severely punish Muhammad Ibrāhīm, the person responsible for the outrage, that others may be intimidated.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 97, p. 53. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 50.*]

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June 20. 1548. From Rājā Tilok Chand. Hopes the intended outcry of his lands will be laid aside, as, if it takes place, destruction to his lands must be the consequence. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

June 20. 1549. To Ghulām Muṣṭafā and 'Abdu-s-subhan *Munshī*. Understands from the other side that letters arrive in twenty or twenty-five days. Takes them to task for their negligence. Will punish them if they are remiss in future. Sends them a packet of letters and desires them to dispatch it immediately on receipt.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 98, p. 54. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

June 22. 1550. From Rāja Tilok Chand. Intends to send a *gist* in a few days. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

June 24. 1551. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received His Excellency's letter saying that he is displeased; that he cannot dismiss his troops; that the affairs of Bhojpur have not yet been settled; that he cannot send *tahsīldārs* to the several places; and that therefore he will remain in Monghyr, Rajmahal not being yet ready; and asking the Governor to pay him a visit. Approves of His Excellency remaining in Monghyr. Tells him not to be under any apprehensions in regard to Bengal. Has always been ready to assist the *tahsīldars* who were sent to the several places on behalf of the *Sarkār*. Cannot come to see His Excellency for two or three months, it being the season for the arrival of ships from Europe. Will do so after the rains. By that time the intentions of His Excellency's enemies will become evident. Will then act against them as may seem most advisable. Refers him to Mr. Hastings' letter for particulars.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 99, pp. 54-55. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

June 24. 1552. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received His Excellency's letter concerning Mr. Helas having been sent to purchase timber; saying that from the said gentleman's remaining there, the affairs of the *Sarkār* and the collection of the money will be greatly impeded; and desiring that he should be recalled. Replies that Mr. Helas is a civil person and will not create any disturbance. Has, however, recalled him in compliance with His Excellency's desire. Hopes His Excellency will direct his *mutaṣaddis* to send two thousand timbers.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 100, p. 55. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

25. 1553. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has recalled his troops from Puchyt as they were no longer required there. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

1554. To Rāja Tilok Chand: Has received the Rājā's letter erning his rents and desiring that Mr. Johnstone may be direct- et them remain in his hands as usual and to receive the *ārī* from him. Has already done so. Doubtless the said an has acted accordingly.

P. L. I., 1762, no. 101, p. 55. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 58.]

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ıne 30. 1555. Copy of a *sanad* for the post of *Chaudhri* and Zamīndār of certain *parganahs* in Midnapur given to Narharī.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 102, p. 56.*]

une 30. 1556. To Narharī *Chaudhri*. Has received his letter. In consequence of his request, a *sanad* for the post of *Chaudhri* and Zamīndār of Karachpur, etc., together with a *Khal'at* has been delivered to Mr. Burdett. Desires him to wait upon the said gentleman to settle everything concerning the *zamindāri* and receive the *Khal'at*. Tells him to be always ready to pay the *mālgugāri*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 103, p. 56. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 51.*]

uly 5 1557. To Lakhhī Dhar. Intimates that a *Khal'at* has been conferred upon him. Desires him to wait upon Mr. Burdett and receive it from him.

[*Trans P. L. I., 1762, no. 104, pp. 56-57. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 43.*]

July 5. 1558. To Sayyid Muḥammad Khān. Understands from Mr. Batson that Mirzā Dāūd, who was the *Sarkar's* prisoner, has run away and taken refuge in the house of a servant belonging to the said gentleman. It is evident that the servant and the Mirzā are great friends. Has ordered the former to be secured and punished. Desires to be informed of the particulars of this affair. Has directed Mr. Batson to deliver up any subject of the *Sarkār* taking refuge with the Company's servants. The Nawāb desires the Mirzā to be sent out of the country but does not want to injure his person or honour. Doubtless the Khān has already received or will receive a *parwānah* to the above purport.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 105, p. 57. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 83.*]

July 6. 1559. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has made an assignment for the balance of Mīr Ja'far's expenses at Calcutta. States that the saltpetre *nagrānah* for the last as well as the present year has not yet been paid. Hopes for orders on the subject. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

July 6. 1560. To Rājā Harī Narāyan Dīān. Has received his letter saying that Kāmgār Khān has run away, and that he is under no apprehensions from his enemies and will be able to pay the *mālgugāri*. Desires him to pay the Company's money as well as that of the *Sarkār* according to the agreement.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 106, p. 57. Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 76.*]

July 6. 1561. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates that Rāo Govind has arrived from Rājā Jānūjī with letters for His Excellency and himself. The said person is leaving and has applied to him for a letter to His Excellency concerning his business. Encloses a letter and hopes that

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after perusal His Excellency will write in reply what he thinks advisable, and acquaint him of it.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 107, pp 57-58. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

July 7. **1562.** From Sayyid Muhammad Khān Intimates that Mr. Batson's people had a scuffle with Mirzā Dāūd. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

July 8. **1563.** From the Nawāb Mir Qasim. Has appointed Raja Naubat Rāy to supersede Rājā Rājballabh who is defaulting in 40 *lākhs* of rupees. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

July 9. **1564.** To Sheo Bhaṭ. Intimates that Rāo Govind has arrived with letters from Rājā Jānūjī. Will give him a letter for His Excellency.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 108, p. 58. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 82*]

July 9. **1565.** To Khirat Narāyan. Has received his petition saying that the Company's *gumāshtahs* and others create disturbances as before. Has sent him a sergeant and some *tilangas* and directed them to seize the offenders and send them to Calcutta.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 109, pp. 58-59. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 42.*]

July 10. **1566.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has received his letter. Approves of the adjustment he made with Mr. Johnstone. Understands everything about the outcry. Is glad to learn that the amount of the present year is greater than that of the last. It shows that the country is flourishing, that the inhabitants are happy, and that the Company are receiving more money. It also reflects credit on his assiduity. Tells him not to be anxious about his rents. Has several times directed that they are to remain in his own hands.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 110, p. 59. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

July 10. **1567.** To Rāmdhan Nāg. Has received his letter concerning the rents. Has several times directed them to be collected as usual and not in any manner to be interfered with. Desires him to act according to the directions of Mr. Johnstone and the Rājā.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 111, p. 59. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 74.*]

July 13. **1568.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has received his letter. Has already written to him concerning the adjustment and the rents. Says that the *gumāshtahs* belong to him and that Mr. Johnstone has no concern with his rents. The said gentleman will not detain his *ijārahs*. Desires him to send all the papers relating to them. The profits arising from them will be his own and his dependants'.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 112, p. 60. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

July 13. **1569.** To Sayyid Muḥammad Khān. Has received his letter concerning Mirzā Daūd. Learns from Mr. Batson that he gave the Khān a clear answer, that the Khān's people went to arrest the Mirzā,

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but that the latter would not leave and declared that if they thought of taking him by force, he would destroy himself. States that the said gentleman does not protect him. Has again written to him to deliver the Mirzā to the Khān's people. But it is necessary that the Khān should send his own people to arrest him as best they can, and that he should act agreeable to the Nawāb's directions. Desires to be informed of what the Khān knows concerning the servant and the Mirzā.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 113, pp. 60-61. Abs. P. L.I. 1759-65, p. 83.*]

July 15. **1570.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Hopes Mr. Ellis will be directed to receive the visits of Rājā Naubat Rāy. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

July 18. **1571.** To Sayyid Muhammad Khān. Has an assignment in the Khān's name for Rs. 75,000 on account of Mīr Ja'far's expenses. Sends him a copy thereof. Has received the amount in salt from Mirzā Bēg, son of Sulaimān Bēg, and sent the original *parwānah* to Mahdī Bēg, who agreeable thereto will receive the money and give a receipt.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 114, p. 61. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 83.*]

July 18. **1572.** To Khirat Narāyan. Says that of the 50,000 maunds of chunam for which he received the amount, he has delivered only 8,500 maunds. Deferred taking it from Michael *Firangi* thinking that the addressee would deliver it in a short time. It is owing to his dilatoriness that there yet remains so great a balance. Desires him to send it speedily. Sends him the account in the Bengali language.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 115, pp. 61-62. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 43.*]

July 24. **1573.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has arrived at Murshidabad. Hopes for 100 pieces of cannon for the garrison of that place on his paying for the same. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

July 24. **1574.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Desires an investigation to be made as to whether his or Mr. Ellis's people were to blame. Declares it to be impossible for him to receive Mr. Ellis in Monghyr, such is the extent of their animosity. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

July 26. **1575.** To Sāhib Khān. Has been informed by the Governor of the Danish factory that as two boats laden with rice for his own provision were coming from Jahangirnagar to Serampur with his *dastak*, the Khān seized them for the duties. Tells him that the Danish Company's *dastak* has always been regarded as sufficient. Desires him to release the boats.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 116, p. 62. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 84.*]

July 27. **1576.** To Sayyid Muhammad Khān. Has received his letter saying that Kishn Dās, who owes some money to the *Sarkār*, has

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been imprisoned and that *chaukis* have been stationed at his house. Does not approve of the last measure. Has written previously to the Khān and everyone about it. Has now directed Mr. Batson to recall the *chaukis* at once. Has also directed the said gentleman to make out Kishn Dās's account and send copies thereof to the Khān and himself.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 117, p. 62. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 83.*]

July 29. **1577.** To the Nawab Mīr Qasim. Approves of his dismissing Rāja Rājballabh and appointing Rāja Naubat Rāy in his place. Asks the Nawāb not to dishonour the former as His Excellency himself believed that he bore a good character. Is glad to hear that His Excellency is coming to Monghyr.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 118, pp. 62-63. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 24.*]

July 29. **1578.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter saying that he has made an assignment on Sayyid Muḥammad Khān for Rs. 75,000 on account of Mīr Ja'far's expenses and complaining that he has not received the *nazrānah* for saltpetre for two years. Replies that he has written to Sayyid Muhammad Khān concerning the assignment and directed the Chief of the Company's house at Bakar to pay the amount of the said *nazrānah* to the *Nāib* of the *ṣūbah* according to custom.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 119, p. 63. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

July 29. **1579.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter saying that Shaikh Haibatu-l-lāh has been appointed *Tahsīldār* of Katwa and Nuddea, and desiring that he may be assisted in his business. Considers the affairs of the *Sarkar* of greater importance than his own. Will not be deficient in giving the Shaikh assistance if he applies for it.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 120, pp. 63-64. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

July 29. **1580.** To Narharī *Chaudhrī*. Has received his petition saying that he has put on the *khal'at* and promising that he will do his best to pay the *malguzārī* and transact the business of the *zamīndārī*. Is glad to hear it.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 121, p. 64. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 51.*]

July 29. **1581.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter, saying that he sent Rāja Naubat Ray to Mr. Ellis and concerning other matters. Has, in consequence of His Excellency's directions, sent orders to the factories at Cossimbazar, Dacca and Patna, that whenever a new *Nāib* is appointed, the Chief is first to go and pay him a visit on the part of the Company. But it is necessary that the *Nāib* of the *sūbah* should remain in the King's Fort and give him a proper reception. Looks upon the *Naibs* of the said places as men

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of quality and character. That is why the Governor has made the above-mentioned regulation. But should a *faujdār*, a *tahṣīldār*, or a zamindār have any business with the Chief, it is proper that they go to him. Hopes His Excellency will send similar orders to the *Nāibs*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 122, p. 64. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

July 29. 1582. To Rājā Kishn Dās. Has received his letter saying that Raghunāth being dead, the managers of Burdwan have put a guard over Rāmānand, brother to the deceased, declare that there is no heir, and desire the Rājā to write to the *mutasaddis* there on this subject. Replies that agreeable to his desire, Mr. Johnstone and Rajā Tilok Chand have been directed to examine strictly into the affair, and should there be an heir, to remove the peons.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 123, pp. 64-65. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 72.*]

July 29. 1583. To Rājā Tilok Chand. To the same effect as the foregoing.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 124, p. 65. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

July 29. 1584. To Sayyid Muhammad Khān. Four months ago, Mr. Batson sent the Governor copies of letters from the Nawāb to Turāb 'Alī Khān, Khwājah Petruse and Khān Bahadur. The contents thereof appeared to be very improper. Looked upon it as a deceit and wrote to the said gentleman to get one or two copies of the originals from the person who gave him the copies. Mr. Batson replies that Biā Ram got them from Najmu-d-dīn *Munshi*, who says that he has got the originals and can produce them. Says that as the *Munshi* has not yet kept his word and continually makes excuses, it is clear that he is a liar. Has directed the said gentleman to arrest Biā Rām and send him to Calcutta. Desires the Khān to acquaint Turāb 'Alī Khān of this affair and to imprison the *Mir Munshi* and Najmu-d-dīn separately that they may not have any correspondence with each other.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 125, pp. 65-66. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 83.*]

July 30. 1585. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Hopes that a letter will be written to M. Chevalier to abstain from troubling the people of Dacca. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

July 30. 1586. From Mīr Shēr 'Alī Khān. Requests orders to the Company's *gumāshtahs* not to impede the public business. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 31.*]

July 31. 1587. From Mīr Shēr 'Alī Khān. Has given orders about procuring the two thousand timbers. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 31.*[

Aug. 4. 1588. From Jasārat Khān. Replies to the Governor's letter about the mint at Dacca. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

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Aug. 4. 1589. To Sayyid Muhammad Khān. Has received his letter concerning the assignment for Rs. 75,000 on account of Mīr Ja'far's expenses and saying that the *mutaṣaddıs* of the Court have forgotten to include one month. Sends him the account and shows that there is no mistake therein. From the said Nawāb's arrival to the end of January it is sixteen months, of which he has been paid for eleven months. The Rs. 75,000 assigned upon the Khān is for the remaining months.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 126, pp. 66-67. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 84.*]

Aug. 15. 1590. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has given orders for Mr. Howell to be sent away from Hunda Gola as he intercepts all boats. Requests to know whose *dastaks* are to be obeyed as different people now issue them. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

Aug. 15. 1591. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has written to his different *Nāibs* to pay all proper attention to the chiefs of the Company's factories. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

Aug. 15. 1592. From the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Enlarges on the reasons of his dismissing Rājballabh and appointing Rājā Naubat Rāy to succeed him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

Aug. 15. 1593. From Sayyid Muhammad Khān. Has sent for Jagat Chand as directed, regarding Nand Kumār's business. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

Aug. 25. 1594. From Sayyid Muhammad Khan. Has seized Nand Kumār's *Munshī*. Is awaiting orders respecting him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

Aug. 25. 1595. From Rājā Tilok Chand. Intends to send a *qist* in a few days. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Aug. 27. 1596. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Desires that Nand Kumār may be expelled from the country or sent to him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

Aug. 27. 1597. From Sayyid Muḥammad Khān. Regarding the punishment Hans *Chaudhrı* deserves. , [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

Aug. 27. 1598. From Sayyid Muḥammad Khān. Has sent for Gulāb Singh and directed him to pay over half the profits he received as *Naib*. [*Abs P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

Sept. 2. 1599. From the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Desires that orders may be issued forbidding the gentlemen of the factories and his *mutaṣaddis* to give loans to each other. Will send some large timber. All Hindustan knows his greatness to be due to the Governor's favours. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

Sept. 3. 1600. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter saying that not one original can be found to answer the copies sent him; that the Governor kept them for four months and did not advise His Excellency of it, which makes the latter conjecture that a real and

762. sincere friendship does not subsist between them; and lastly that His Excellency has written to Sayyid Muhammad Khān to send the disaffected people to him. Has also received the accompanying four papers. Replies that had he first acquainted His Excellency of the affair and made it public, bad men would have blamed him for not punishing the offenders. Besides, all chance of getting the originals would have been lost. Has written to Sayyid Muhammad Khān to send Najmu-d-dīn to Calcutta. On the arrival of the *Munshi*, will inform His Excellency of particulars. Bīā Rām and Nand Kumār are now prisoners. The latter stands charged also with forwarding a letter from His Majesty to the French at Pondicherry, with forging Rām Chand's Royal seal and writing to Kāmgār Khān, and with engaging Sadru-d-dīn, his *Munshi*, in the affair for which he is now in confinement. Bīā Rām has been imprisoned on account of the copies of the before-mentioned papers. He is one of Nand Kumār's people.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 127, pp. 67-68. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Sept. 3. 1601. To the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Says that the gentlemen authorised to issue *dastaks* are Mr. Batson of Cossimbazar, Mr. Cartier of Dacca, Mr. Billers of Lakhipur, Mr. Verelst of Islamabad, Mr. Ellis of Patna and Mr. George Gray of Malda.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 128, p. 68. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Sept. 3. 1602. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his *parwānah* desiring to know why Rām Sundar collects the revenue in Puchyt. Says that Ram Narāyan agreed to pay a *lakh* of rupees to the Company on their establishing him in the *samundāri*, for the expenses of their troops. Rām Sundar has been sent from Calcutta to collect the said amount. He has, however, been directed first to send the *mālguzāri* according to the *qistbandi*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 129, pp. 68-69. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Sept. 6. 1603 From Sayyid Muhammad Khān. Regrets to hear of the Governor's illness. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

Sept. 9. 1604. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Hopes the Governor has recovered from his indisposition. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

Sept. 13. 1605. From Rājā Shitāb Rāy. Has paid his respects to His Majesty and the Wazīr. Complains of having been deprived of his different posts. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 43.*]

Sept. 14. 1606. From Rājā Tilok Chand. Intends to send a *gist* in a few days. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Sept. 15. 1607. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Congratulates the Governor on his recovery. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 14.*]

Sept. 20. 1608. From Rājā Tilok Chand. Has appointed Rāy Chand as his *wakil* at Calcutta. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

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Sept. 20. **1609.** From Rajā Tilok Chand. Laments to hear of the Governor's indisposition. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Oct. 1. **1610.** From Shaikh Haibatu-l-lāh. Has given orders for the release of the Company's boats. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

Oct. 3. **1611.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Requests that the *gumāshtahs* at Dacca may be directed to make him some rich cloth. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

Oct. 3. **1612.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Requests that the gentlemen of Dacca may be ordered to recall the people sent among the zamīndārs as they impede the collection of the revenue. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

Oct. 3. **1613.** From Muḥammad Alī Bēg. Complains of several irregularities he experiences at the hands of the Company's *gumāshtahs* in general and of the Lakhipur gentlemen in particular. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

Oct. 5. **1614.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. States that an enmity of old subsists between Shujā'u-d-daulah and himself. Can neither assist him nor advise any assistance to be given him. Intends to take possession of Cuttack and to prevent Sheo Bhaṭ meeting the Wazīr. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

Oct. 5. **1615.** From the King. Desires that an army of 1,000 Europeans and some *tilangās* may be sent to him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 44.*]

Oct. 9. **1616.** From Sayyid Muḥammad Khān. Has directed the *Faujdār* of Katwa to release the Company's boats that have been stopped. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

Oct. 9. **1617.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Complains that Shaikh Haibatu-l-lāh soon after his appointment as *Faujdār* of Katwa and Manager of Nuddea detained 150 boats belonging to several gentlemen, oppressed the inhabitants of Nuddea and is now continually intercepting boats. Has frequently written to him not to act in this manner. Asks His Excellency to write to him to the same effect. If the *Faujdār* does not release the boats, he will be seized and sent to His Excellency.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 130, p. 69. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Oct. 9. **1618.** To Sayyid Muḥammad Khān. Has, in consequence of the Khān's letter, directed Mirza Mahdī to deliver him the *parwānah* and to take a receipt for the money from Mīr Ja'far. Complains that Shaikh Haibatu-l-lāh has detained 150 boats laden with salt and going to Patna and other places, notwithstanding that they bore the Company's *dastak.* This is contrary to the Nawab's intentions. Asks him to direct the said Shaikh and the *jama'dārs* at other places where any boats may have been detained, to release them and not to intercept them again. If they do, they will be seized and sent to His Excellency. Has recovered from his late indisposition. When

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he gets stronger, will pay his respects to His Excellency and call upon the Khān.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 131, pp. 69-70. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 84.*]

Oct. 10. **1619.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has almost recovered. Approves of his having sent Rāj Chand to remain at Calcutta and transact the business of Burdwan. Will show him favour.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 132, p. 70. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

Oct. 12. **1620.** To Shaikh Haibatu-l-lāh. Learns that he has not yet released the boats. Of the salt loaded on them, 25,000 maunds belong to the Governor and the same quantity to other gentlemen. The water now daily decreases and salt must, before its arrival at Jellingy, be shifted into smaller boats. The loss occasioned thereby will not be less than fifty rupees. Says that the Shaikh will be accountable for it.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 133, pp. 70-71. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 33.*]

1621. Copy of a *dastak* given to two peons named Katga and Banda As the Company are in great need of bricks for the new fort, and as the people in Calcutta who understand the work are not sufficient, the said peons are sent to Chandarnagar and towards Hooghly in order to entertain some bricklayers.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 134, p. 71.*]

Oct. 15. **1622.** From the Wazīr. Recommends the sending of a body of troops to be employed in His Majesty's service. Refers him for further particulars to the communication of the Nawāb. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

Oct. 15. **1623.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has been informed by Mr. Ellis, the Chief at Patna, that the Company's cloth has always been made in the *arang* of Jahanabad, and that one Pirū, the *'Amil* there, obstructs the weavers and bleachers in their business. Requests His Excellency to enjoin him not only to refrain from such practices, but to assist the Company's *gumāshtahs*. [*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 141, p. 75.*]

Oct. 16. **1624.** To Jasārat Khān and Muhammad Alī Bēg. Has been informed by Mr. Cartier, the Chief at Dacca, that the officers of the *Sarkār* in many places stop the chunam boats notwithstanding the Company's *dastak* under his seal. Says that the *dastak* of the said Chief has always been considered sufficient. Desires them to direct their officers to regard it as the Governor's and not only to refrain from such practices, but to assist the Company's business. Has written to the several chiefs that they should strictly charge their *gumāshtahs* to carry on their business like merchants and not to interfere in the affairs of the Government. [*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 142, p. 75.*]

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Oct. 17 **1625.** To Muhammad Taqī Khān. Has been informed by Mr. Johnstone that the Khān has been appointed *Faujdar* of [?Puchyt] and Bishanpur and proposes going there *viâ* Burdwan. Says that as this is the harvest season, his marching through Burdwan will be a means of hurting the ryots and frightening them out of their houses, on account of the multitude of his attendants Requests him, therefore, to change his route. Permits him to take with him the two companies of sepoys which were sent to [?Puchyt] agreeably to the Nawab's desire.

[*Trans P. L. I., 1762, no. 143, p 76.*]

Oct. 28. **1626.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Enlarges on the ill-conduct of the Rāja of Nuddea and says that he has been imprisoned. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 15*]

Oct. 28. **1627.** To Mirzā Mahdī. An assignment was made upon him for the payment of Mīr Ja'far's expenses, and a *parwānah* was sent him in February for the payment to be made monthly. Complains that only Rs. 45,000 have been paid up to this time. Desires him to send the balance at once.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 135, p. 71. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 50.*]

Oct. 29. **1628.** From Mīr Shēr Alī Khān. Hopes that the timber he has sent will soon arrive in Calcutta. Says that Mr. Helas's mode of purchasing it, is not pleasing to the merchants. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 31.*]

Oct. 29. **1629.** To Sayyid Muhammad Khān and Muhammad Rizā Khān. Has received their letter with the congratulatory *nazr*. Will set out on a visit to His Excellency in a week and see them on his way.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 136, p. 71, Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 84*]

Oct. 29. **1630.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received His Excellency's letter saying that he understands that Shitāb Ray has been sent to Shujā'u-d-daulah and has advised him to send for Colonel Coote and to write to His Excellency. Has also received His Majesty's note and Shujā'u-d-daulah's letter Understands what His Excellency writes concerning the Wazīr's friendship Is satisfied that it is the real truth. Sends the letters he has written in reply to the King's and the Wazīr's. Desires His Excellency to write to them in a similar strain. Returns the enclosures. Hopes to hear from the Court in two or three months.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 137, p. 72*]

Oct. 29. **1631** To the Wazīr. Has received his letter and the King's *shuqqah*. Professes loyalty and attachment. Promises to send 1,000 Europeans and *tilangās*. Will go to His Excellency to confer with him and transact the business of His Majesty.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 138, p. 72*]

Oct. 29. **1632.** To the King. To the same effect as the foregoing.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 139, pp. 72-73.*]

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1633. Copy of a *dastak* given to Shākir Peon. As some goods belonging to Mr. Majendie were being taken to Madhopur, Biswās *Dāroghah* detained them and obliged the peon who escorted them to give a note and find security for the payment of Rs. 50 as customs. Shakir Peon is sent to inquire into the affair, return the security, and bring the said *dāroghah* to the Court.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 140, p. 73. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 84.*]

Nov. 1. 1634 To Muhammad 'Alī Bēg. Has heard from the Chiefs of Dacca, Lakhipur and Chittagong that, notwithstanding their *dastaks*, boats have been stopped in many places and the people who had the care of the goods ill-treated. Desires him to direct his officers to refrain from such practices. In case these interruptions continue, he will be made answerable for whatever losses the gentlemen may suffer. Mīr Gumānī, *Dāroghah* of Jafarganj, is particularly culpable. Desires that he may be seized and sent to Calcutta to be punished according to his deserts. Sends him some letters from Sayyid Muḥammad Khān. Hopes he will act conformably thereto.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 144, pp. 76-77. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 50.*]

Nov. 10. 1635. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Thanks the Governor for his condolence on the death of Muzaffaru-l-mulk Mīr Shamsu-d-dīn 'Alī Khān. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

Nov. 11. 1636. To Muḥammad 'Alī Bēg. Has received his letter saying that the Nawāb has written to him that the Company's boats will be provided with a *dastak* and a flag. Notwithstanding that the Company's people have always followed this practice, he has stopped one or two hundred boats in different places. Warn him that he will reap no advantage from such proceedings.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 145, p. 77. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 50.*]

Nov. 17. 1637. From Mīr Shēr 'Alī Khān. States how he exerted himself to get and send down timber. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 34.*]

Nov. 20. 1638. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has written to Muḥammad 'Alī Bēg not to interrupt the Company's business. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

Nov. 20. 1639. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. States that large balances are due from the zamīndārs. Defers all particulars until he sees the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

Nov. 20. 1640. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Is glad to learn that Major Adams has become Commander-in-Chief. Laments the indisposition of Mr. McGuire. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

Nov. 20. 1641. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Encloses a copy of a letter he wrote to Sayyid Muhammad Khān about the money borrowed by the zamīndārs of Dinajpur from Mr. Batson and Mr. Motte. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

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Nov. 20. **1642.** From Ghulām Muṣṭafā *Munshī*. Requests bills of exchange for his money or goods. States that as he was sending some bamboos to Shujā'u-d-daulah, they were stopped by the Company's people. Hopes they will be restored. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 21.*]

Nov. 24. **1643.** From Mir Shēr 'Alī Khān. Has got 497 timbers ready. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

Nov. 27. **1644.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Transmits an invitation to Major Adams to visit him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

Nov. 29. **1645.** To Mir Shēr 'Alī Khān. Has received his letter saying that the English *gumāshtahs* trade with the merchants and rent-holders, lend to and borrow from them and are guilty of numberless violences and oppressions; that his respect for the Governor has hitherto restrained him from complaining of these matters, but that now, agreeably to the Nawab's orders, he lays before the Governor a fair representation of all particulars. Replies that the writing of such a long and confused letter without coming to the point is certainly not the way to remove the disturbances he complains of. It is the custom of this country that one does not receive ready money for the goods one sells, but is paid for them according to the agreement one makes. Also if one wants to purchase any cloth or other merchandise, one must advance money five or six months beforehand. That being so, one must undoubtedly lend to the merchants and *paikārs*. If it is in the Khān's power to break off this old custom and make the *paikars* and merchants give and receive ready money for the goods they buy and sell, the Governor will be obliged to him and it will be greatly to the advantage of all trading people. But until the Khan has established this new method, ordering no advances to be made to the *paikārs* is in effect putting a stop to trade. The merchants and *paikārs* are not rent-holders of the Government. The Nawāb's order and the Governor's is that the *gumāshtahs* of the Company's factories and the English gentlemen should not lend to or borrow from the zamīndars or other officers of the *Sarkār*, and that in case any of the *gumāshtahs* disobeys this order or interrupts the business of the *Sarkār*, the Khan should write to the Governor all the particulars of their proceedings, that they may be punished. Desires him to assist the Company's people in carrying on their trade, for such is the Nawāb's desire and the Governor's.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762, no. 146, pp. 77-78. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 49.*]

Dec. 26. **1646.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Has received his letter. Will instruct the chiefs of the factories that they can issue *dastaks* in the case of shipping goods, but that as regards those bought and sold in the country, they must pay a duty of 9 *per cent.* Hopes His Excellency will direct his officers not to make unjust demands Has already written to all the chiefs of the factories that they must not oppress the ryots and inhabitants of *parganahs*, nor protect His

1762. Excellency's dependants, nor create any disturbances. Will write to them and the *gumāshtahs* again to the same effect. Hopes His Excellency will order his officers to behave to the latter with truth and uprightness and act impartially if a dispute arises between a *gumāshtah* and a subject of the *Sarkār*. Has written to the Chiefs of Chittagong and Lakhipur that they must not work the salt pans themselves, nor intercept the merchants and renters of salt pans. Encloses two letters for the said chiefs. Will direct the chiefs and *gumāshtahs* of the factories that they must neither rent nor purchase land, nor lend money to, nor borrow it from the zamīndārs and officers of the *Sarkār*, and will tell them to give back whatever *ta'alluqs* they may have purchased. Requests His Excellency to order the purchase money to be returned. Has received complaints that the officers of the *Sarkār* insist upon the former collections and beat, bind, and imprison the people. Asks His Excellency to direct them to desist from such proceedings. Will direct the chiefs and *gumāshtahs* not to obstruct the *dallāls* and weavers of the *Sarkār*. Is afraid that the *ṣarrāfs*, on learning that His Excellency has forbidden the Company's money to be coined in the Patna and Dacca mints, will demand as much *baṭṭah* as they please. Hopes His Excellency will write to the *Nāibs* of Murshidabad, Patna and Dacca to punish the *ṣarrāfs* in case of their demanding more than what they are entitled to by the rate of the *bāzār*. Will direct the *gumāshtahs* at Goalpara to carry on their business as formerly and not to trade direct with the mountaineers, but through the *dārogḥahs* of the *Sarkār*. Hopes His Excellency will enjoin him to treat the English *gumāshtahs* as he does other merchants.

1763. [*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 1, pp. 1-3. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Jan. 1.[?] **1647.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Requests the Governor to write to the chiefs of the factories that they must not give *dastaks* or permit English colours to be hoisted except to the extent conceded for the Company's shipping trade; that they must pay a duty of 9 *per cent.* on such goods as they buy and sell in this country, receive a *dastak* from the *Sarkār* and leave a copy of the same at every *ghāṭ*; that they must not use force in the purchase and sale of goods, nor take possession of houses belonging to the ryots and merchants, nor impede weavers and *dallāls* in the transaction of the business of the *Sarkār* for which money is advanced at the several *arangs*; that they must not use any force towards the ryots, nor protect any subjects of the *Sarkār*; that the Company's *gumāshtahs* must not manufacture salt but purchase it from the *malangīs* at the *bāzār* price; that the gentlemen, *mutasaddis*, *munshīs*, etc., belonging to the Company must relinquish their *ijārahs*, *ta'alluqahs*, *ganjs* and *golās* and have their money refunded; and lastly that they must neither lend to nor borrow from the *mutaṣaddis*, managers, zamindārs, etc., of the *Sarkār* nor coin any money at the Murshidabad, Dacca or Patna mints.
[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 1, pp. 1-2. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

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Jan. 4. 1648 To Rājā Naubat Rāy. Has, as desired, directed Mr. Ellis to abolish Colonelganj The merchants have been told not to bring their goods there any more As it is necessary that some grain should be stored up for the Company, Mr. Ellis has been directed to build some *golās* in such places as the Raja thinks suitable and to keep there about 20,000 maunds of grain The merchants, after selling the said quantity to the Company, can dispose of the rest as they please. They are at liberty to serve the Company as before or to settle in any of the *ganjs* of the *Sarkār*. Orders have already been issued forbidding the Company's people to hold any *ta'allugahs* and to lend to or borrow from the officers, zamīndārs, etc. With reference to the Rāja's complaint that numbers of merchants carry away their goods for sale under the Company's protection, says that the Company grants them *dastaks* for which they pay; that this is no new custom, and that this is the only protection afforded them. As to the goods bought and sold in this country, the Governor and the Nawāb have agreed that the Company will pay a certain duty on the purchase price When this regulation comes into force, no duties will be demanded on the road. Understands what the Rājā writes about shutting up the Berhanna wicket of the fort and about the intrenchment by the river. Though there does not appear to be any great necessity for it, and the consequent deviation of route will be an inconvenience to the people of the factory, yet since it is the Nawāb's order, it should be carried out. Zainu-l-'ābidīn, *'Āmil* of Behar, writes that a *gumāshtah* of the factory has taken from one Diā Chand, a merchant, an obligation to the effect that no one shall buy opium besides the English. The merchant showed the *'Āmil* a copy of the obligation but did not leave it with him. It is uncertain whether the story is true, or whether the merchant was prompted by self-interest to impose upon the *'Āmil*, that he might avoid paying the duties. Advises him to send for the merchant and inquire into the affair in the presence of Mr. Ellis, who has been directed to punish the *gumashtah* in case the complaint is proved. If not, the Rājā, on his part, should punish the merchant. With regard to the *Sarkār's* bill in the hands of Mīr Ashraf, it appears from the account that he has disposed of only 25,396 maunds of salt. He says that he could not sell more because in many places there was salt belonging to the English gentlemen, and he was not authorised to stop the sale of their merchandise to dispose of that of the *Sarkār*; and because notwithstanding the obligation entered into by the merchants of the city, the officers of several of the neighbouring places did not put a stop to the business of other merchants. As the merchants of the city will be entirely ruined if their business continues to be stopped, the Rājā is advised to take back what salt of the *Sarkār* remains unsold and to dispose of it at the market price Is sure that the Nawāb will by no means approve of injuring the merchants. Desires him to examine Mīr Ashraf's account. Will inform the Nawāb of all particulars. As to the coining of the Company's money, tells him to direct the *Dāroghah* of the mint not to receive any money or bullion that

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may be brought by the servants of the factory to be coined, and to write to Mr. Ellis that money will be coined for him on the same terms as for other merchants or that he may exchange it at the *bāzār* price. Understands what the Rājā writes concerning the revenues of Birrumpur and the *nagrānah* for the saltpetre. Some thousand rupees were at different times paid by the Company to Rām Narāyan for the expenses of his army Mr. Ellis has been directed to pay the balance into the *Sarkār's* treasury.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 2, pp. 4-8. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65 p. 76.*]

Jan. 6. **1649.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Reiterates the substance of the foregoing letter.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 3, pp. 8-9. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65 p. 25.*]

Jan. 6. **1650.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Hopes His Excellency will inform *faujdārs* and collectors that all exports will be accompanied with a Company's *dastak*; that they are by no means to stop them or make demands on them; that they must take a duty of 9 *per cent* upon goods for inland trade before they are dispatched and grant a *dastak* for same, after which they are not to make further demand anywhere in the country; and lastly that the *chaukidārs* are only to take a copy of the *dastak*. Recommends that these regulations should apply not only to the English *gumāshtahs* but to all other merchants. Hopes His Excellency will get the *parwānahs* ready, so that when the Governor sees him, he may take them with him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 4, pp. 9-10. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Jan. 21. **1651.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has arrived safe at Calcutta.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 5, p. 10. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Jan. 21. **1652.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. The Company are in need of ten thousand Patna rupees. Desires that His Excellency will direct his *Nāib* at Patna to coin the said sum as soon as it is sent him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 6, p. 10.*]

Jan. 22. **1653.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. When the Governor was at Murshidabad, Mustafā Sher, Collector of Bikrampur, complained to him that the *gumāshtahs* of the English Company would not pay any duty on cloth. Encloses a copy of his representation. Thinks the said Collector to be entirely ignorant of his business. The Company have never paid such duties. Complains that he has imprisoned Kishn Indar Stoota's [?] *gumāshtahs* and taken from him Rs. 6,700, notwithstanding that he has given up his *ta'alluqah* and the lands he rented. Jīvan Kishn, a servant of the Company, held a small farm, and although he has given it up, yet Ḥājī Ábdu-l-lāh has, by force, taken from his *gumāshtahs* Rs. 400, over and above the rent, and

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[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 7, pp. 10-11. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Jan. 24. **1654.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. The Governor made an agreement with His Excellency that the Company should pay a duty of 9 *per cent.* on salt, tobacco, betelnut and dried fish—articles bought and sold in this country. But the officers of the *Sarkār* do not observe the agreement, and demand duties on cloth contrary to custom. Complains that Shaikh Haibatu-l-lāh has put peons on Rām Kant, *gumāshtah* to Ḥuẓūrī Mal. They take two maunds of *kaurīs* every day for their expenses, and though they have taken Rs. 110 from him by force, they have not yet been removed. Likewise Muḥammad 'Alī Bēg has intercepted two bales of cloth belonging to the Governor and makes unreasonable and unheard-of demands upon the Company's cloth. Represents that if the officers of the *Sarkar* everywhere make such demands, the disputes between the Company's people and those of the *Sarkar* will be greater than before. Encloses copies of the complaints of Rām Kant, etc. Requests His Excellency to write to all his officers on the subject.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 8, p. 12. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Jan. 25. **1655.** To the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Encloses a translation of the complaint made by the Company's *gumāshtahs* at Bosdhum against the officers of the *Sarkār*. Does not see how the Company's business can be carried on unless those men are punished. Hopes His Excellency will direct them not to make any demands wherever a Company's *dastak* is produced. As this is the season for dispatching the ships, and the delay of a day is the delay of a year, some sepoys have been sent to Bosdhum to see that the business goes on as before till the officers receive His Excellency's orders.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 9, p. 13. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 25.*]

Jan. 28. **1656.** From Sayyid Muḥammad Khān. Has received the Governor's letter saying that Khirpai is dependant on Burdwan and consequently belongs to the Company, and desiring that the *zila'dār* recently posted thereto may be recalled. Has made inquiries and finds that Khirpai was never dependant on Burdwan, and that when the latter was made over to the Company, Khirpai was left out of the *qiṣṭbandi*. Encloses a copy thereof. Has forwarded the Governor's letter to His Excellency.

[*Trans. P. L R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 2, pp. 2-3. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

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Jan. 28. **1657.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter complaining that Mukrim Khan, *Faujdār* of Bhagalpur, has not yet settled the business of Mr. Lion's money. Forwards to the Governor Rs. 350 collected by the Khān. Has written to his officers to settle the business of the Company's *gumāshtahs* with dispatch. The officers of the *Sarkār* have it not in their power to disobey His Excellency's orders. It is the Company's people who have not yet withheld their hands in spite of the Governor's letter to them. The Governor inquires into every little thing done by His Excellency's officers, but does not punish the English *gumāshtahs* through whose proceedings His Excellency's affairs daily suffer. Forwards a copy of Mr. Ellis's reply to Rājā Naubat Rāy's letter concerning Colonelganj and the *nagrānah* on saltpetre. Nothing but anger appears in the said gentleman's letters. Has therefore written to the Rājā to prevent boats going to and coming from Colonelganj, and to punish the merchants that they may not go there again. Has, for friendship's sake, paid all the Company's dues together with the *baṭṭah*. Formerly there was no trouble about the saltpetre *nagrānah*. The Governor gave Mr. Ellis a good character, but he acts quite differently. Will receive the *nagrānah* where it was formerly paid.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 3, pp. 3-4. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

Jan. 29. **1658.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. His Excellency directed Sulaimān Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly, to pay Mīr Ja'far's allowance month by month from the beginning of *Phāgan*. Complains that a year has elapsed and only five months' allowance has been paid. Requests His Excellency to order the said Bēg or some other person to pay the balance without delay.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 10, p. 13. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Jan. 29. **1659.** To Shaikh Haibatu-l-lāh. Has been informed by the *gumāshtahs* at Bosdhum that the Company's business there has been stopped by the oppression of his officers. Sends him a translation of the *gumāshtah's* letters. As this is the season for dispatching the ships to Europe, the delay of a day is as the delay of a year. Has therefore sent to the said place a few sepoys to see that the Company's business goes on as before. Has written to the Nawāb on the subject.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 11, p. 14. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 85.*]

Feb. 3. **1660.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received His Excellency's letter together with the petitions of Jasārat Khān and Muḥammad 'Alī Bēg. As to the latter saying that the Chief of Lakhipur has imprisoned the *Sarkar's choùdār*, killed one of the *barqandāzes* and not delivered up Ghulām Aḥmad, the Governor has not yet heard a word of this matter. Will inquire into it and punish the Company's people in case of their being found guilty. Hopes that His Excellency too will punish such of his officers as create ill-feeling between the

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Sarkār and the Company. Disapproves of His Excellency giving entire credit to Muhammad 'Alī Bēg's story, and writing to him to release his dependants. His Excellency is master of extensive dominions and therefore should not act hastily. As many English *gumashtahs* have, for the last five or six years, been carrying on their business in Dinajpur, Rangamati, etc., without paying anything, and as His Excellency's officers also have been taking from people whatever they can, the agreement concluded between His Excellency and the Governor cannot be enforced but by degrees. Haste will only ruin His Excellency's affairs. Has received from the Chief of Dacca a copy of His Excellency's *parwānah* saying that it was after a good deal of trouble that His Excellency made the Governor sign the agreement, and that if the English do not act conformably to it, His Excellency will drive them away. Such expressions are by no means agreeable to the friendship subsisting between the *Sarkār* and the Company, since they tend to bring the English nation into contempt. Muhammad 'Alī Bēg, considering himself lord and director of the Company's affairs, wants to put an entire stop to their trade, seizes the *dallāls* and weavers, demands duty on the Company's cloth and requires an account from them for the last five or six years. The Governor agreed to pay a duty of 9 *per cent.* on salt, tobacco, betel-nut and dried fish—articles bought and sold in the country. But Muhammad 'Alī Bēg wants to include cloth and other foreign goods as well in the list. Encloses the said Bēg's letter on the subject. Hopes His Excellency will write to the *faujdārs* fully and particularly concerning every article.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 12, pp. 14-16. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Feb. 3. **1661.** To Muhammad 'Alī Bēg. Recapitulates the substance of the foregoing letter and adds that by agreeing not to give protection to the servants and dependants of the *Sarkār*, the English have not given up their authority over the *dallals* and weavers who supply the Company with cloth.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 13, pp. 16-17. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 50.*]

Feb. 5. **1662.** From the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter intimating his arrival at Bhagwan Gola and requesting that other merchants should be made to pay the same duties on salt as the English; that the duties should be taken before the goods are dispatched; and lastly that the *ghats* should be removed. Has also received the memorial of several merchants on the subject. His Excellency agrees to the above as a great friendship subsists between him and the Governor, and as he places great confidence in the English. There are other foreign merchants in the country but none can be so much relied on as the English, who will, therefore, receive preferential treatment.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 4, pp. 4-5. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

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Feb. 5. **1663.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received His Excellency's letter, together with a letter from Mr. Ellis to Rājā Naubat Rāy on the subject of Colonelganj, the *nagrānah* for the saltpetre, and the *ta'allugah* of Birrumpur. The Governor settled the affairs of Patna in the presence of Naubat Rāy and sent His Excellency a copy of the letter he wrote to the Rājā. In that letter it is written that the Rājā shall, first of all, appoint a place for erecting some *golās*, in which Mr. Ellis may keep 20,000 maunds of grain on the Company's account, and that the merchants shall be allowed as much time as may be required for emptying their *golās*. This is likewise Mr. Ellis's request in his answer to the Rājā's note. Consequently His Excellency's writing to the Rājā to stop all boats going to and coming from Colonelganj is contrary to justice. With regard to the rents of Birrumpur and the *nagrānah* for the saltpetre, the Governor wrote to the Rājā that some thousand rūpees were at different times paid by the Company for the expenses of Rām Narāyan's army, of which the particulars were given in the Company's books, and that Mr. Ellis had been directed to prepare the account and, after deducting the above sum, to pay the balance into the *Sarkār's* treasury. The account has not yet arrived and fresh orders have been sent to Mr. Ellis about it. His Excellency writes that he has fully paid the Company's money together with the *baṭṭah* and that it is not difficult for him to realise the *nagrānah* for the saltpetre. Asks why His Excellency acts so rashly in this business and makes use of improper expressions. Requests him to peruse the aforesaid letter and to act agreeably to the regulations contained therein.

[Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 14, pp. 17-18. Abs. P. L. I., 175-65, p. 20.]

Feb. 7. **1664.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates that some French ships have captured two sloops belonging to Balasore and plundered seven more, the property of the merchants there. Has written an account of this affair to Madras where there are some men-of-war. They will shortly arrive here. The enemy will be taken or killed if they stay any longer.

[Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 15., p. 18. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 26.]

Feb. 10. **1665.** To Shaikh Quṭb 'Ālam. Has been informed that while some boats laden with salt and belonging to Messrs. Lushington and Amphlett were going to Patna, he stopped them near Rajmahal, notwithstanding that they were provided with the Company's *dastak*. Such a proceeding is improper and contrary to justice. Desires him to release them at once. In case of delay, what loss the gentlemen may suffer will be demanded from him.

[Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 16, pp. 18-19.]

Feb 10. **1666.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Transmits a translation of the account of the *nagrānah* money, the rents of Birrumpur and Rām

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Narāyan's debt. It shows that a balance of Rs. 5,649 is due to the Company. Requests that His Excellency will either pay the money or have it deducted from the saltpetre *nazrānah* next year.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 17, p. 19.*]

Feb. 10. 1667. To the Nawab Mīr Qasim. Finds fault with his stopping some boats belonging to the Company. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Feb. 10. 1668. To the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Informs him of the improper conduct of one of his *'amils* in stopping some saltpetre at Mangee. [*Abs. P. L I., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Feb. 12. 1669. To the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Has been informed that while some saltpetre was being brought from Ghazipur on bullocks, His Excellency's *'āmil* forcibly pulled it off from the bullocks' backs at Mangee, took away the bullocks and left the saltpetre there; that the *Dāroghah* of Seisun has stopped a boat belonging to the Company and taken the saltpetre out; that all the *asamis* who supply the Company with saltpetre have run away through the oppressions of His Excellency's officers; and lastly that Quṭb 'Ālam, *Faujdār* of Rajmahal, has stopped four boats laden with betelnuts, notwithstanding that they bore a *dastak* from the Chief of Dacca, and demands duties. As disturbances have at once arisen on every side and complaints are coming in from all parts against the oppressions of His Excellency's officers, it is evident that this cannot have happened without orders. If His Excellency is desirous of removing the Governor's suspicions, he should punish those responsible and cause recompense to be made. Complains that His Excellency's officers, instead of abiding by the agreement concluded between the *Sarkar* and the Company, devise orders on their own account and proclaim, by beat of drum, that the English must not be suffered to remain in the country and that nobody must have any dealings with them. Thus the agreement has been rendered null and void. It is necessary that a new agreement be drawn up, wherein it should be fully explained how the officers of the *Sarkar* and the English *gumāshtahs* are to act. The Chiefs of Cossimbazar, Dacca, Lakhipur and Burdwan have come to Calcutta to assist at the deliberations. Will hereafter inform His Excellency of whatever may be resolved on for the mutual benefit of the *Sarkār* and the Company. His Excellency lives at such a distance from Calcutta that an answer cannot be received in less than a month. Besides, none of the *'āmils* in these parts are invested with sufficient authority to treat with the Governor. Has, therefore, written to Sayyid Muhammad Khān at Murshidabad and Muhammad 'Alī Bēg at Dacca that an elaborate agreement is being drawn up, that they must let the Company's business and that of private gentlemen go on as formerly till the arrival of the agreement, and that if any of the *zila'dārs* in the meantime obstruct it, some of the Company's people will be sent to remove the obstruction. Encloses copies of his letter to the *zila'dārs*. Requests His Excellency to write to them to the same effect.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 18, pp. 19-21. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

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Feb 13. **1670.** To Muḥammad Ali Bēg. To the same effect as the foregoing.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 19, pp. 21-22. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 50.*]

Feb 13. **1671.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has inquired into the complaint made by Muḥammad Ali Bēg against the Chief of Lakhipur. The latter says that as soon as he saw His Excellency's and the Governor's letters, he released Ghulām Aḥmad and sent him to His Excellency. It appears that Muḥammad Alī Bēg oppresses the English and then writes to His Excellency the very reverse. His design is to create ill-feeling between the *Sarkār* and the Company. Desires His Excellency to punish him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 20, p. 22. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Feb. 14. **1672.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Encloses a copy of a letter from Muḥammad Alī Bēg to Abdu-l-lāh, *'Āmil* of Sundeep. The former cannot suffer a single Englishman to remain in this country and punishes whoever takes the name of an Englishman. Accordingly the Company's business and that of private gentlemen has everywhere been stopped, and the agreement concluded between the *Sarkār* and the Company for the removal of the disputes has been entirely broken off. It would have been proper for the Governor, on receiving the copy of the Bēg's letter, to have dispatched some of the Company's people to seize him and to have sent him to His Excellency. However, as he is a servant of the latter, the Governor has contented himself with merely representing the affair. Desires His Excellency to punish him and make him answerable for the losses caused by him. Otherwise the Governor cannot sit quiet and see the Company's business and that of private gentlemen go to ruin. Transmits a copy of a letter written to Muḥammad Alī Bēg.

[*Trans P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 21, pp. 22-23. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 26.*]

Feb. 17. **1673.** To Muḥammad Alī Bēg and other officers of the *Sarkār*. Desires them to write to the *ṣila'dārs* under their jurisdiction to let the Company's business go on as formerly till the arrival of the new agreement, to return the *muchalkahs*, recall the orders and proclamations they have issued concerning the affairs of the English, and not only to desist from obstructing the *gumāshtahs* in collecting the balances due, but to grant them all reasonable assistance. If these orders are not obeyed, some of the Company's people will be sent to carry on the business by whatever methods may be necessary. Has written to the Nawāb on the subject.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 22, pp. 23-24. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 50.*]

Feb 19. **1674.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has heard from the Chief of Patna that some *sikkahs* being much wanted for the Company's

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business, he sent some *sannauts* to the *bāzār* to be changed and that the *sarrāf* took 9⅛ *per cent.* as *baṭṭah*. As by this means an unjust loss falls upon the Company, His Excellency is requested to direct the *Nāibs* of Dacca and Patna to coin three *lākhs* of rupees in the Dacca and three in the Patna mint every year. The chief of the factory will write a note to the *dāroghah* whenever he wants any money to be coined.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 23, pp. 24-25. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Feb. 20. **1675.** From Sayyid Muhammad Khān Has received his letter with two letters for the Court and a *parwanah* in Qutb 'Ālam's name. Has perused the letters and forwarded them to the Court Assures the Governor that the Company's business will be properly carried on. Is always receiving orders from the Court to act agreeably to the will of the Governor and other English gentlemen Will not be deficient in transacting their business as soon as His Excellency's reply to the Governor's letters arrives. Has sent Mr. Hastings' and Major Adams' letters to the Court.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 5, p. 5 Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

Feb. 22 **1676.** From the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Has received his letter saying that the Company's *gumāshtahs* at Burdwan are being very much oppressed by the managers; that unless His Excellency threatens them with punishment, the Company's business cannot be carried on; and that as His Excellency's *parwānah* cannot reach them soon, some *tilangās* have been sent to have the business carried on as usual. Has also received a translation of the complaints of the *gumāshtahs* at Santipur and Jahangirnagar. His Excellency understood that the *tilangās* were entertained in the Company's service to punish their common enemies. He did not imagine that they would be sent against him. The Governor's giving credit to the complaints of the *gumāshtahs*, sending *tilangas*, and then forwarding His Excellency a translation of those complaints is "shameful."

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 6, pp.5-6. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

Feb. 22. **1677.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter. The cause of the disputes is that the Governor purchases goods through the merchants whose names are entered in His Excellency's office and who always pay duties. The officers of the *Sarkār* do not know whether the goods belong to the Governor or the merchants. If the Governor traded through his own *gumashtahs*, no disputes could possibly arise. Encloses a *parwānah* he has written to the managers at Nuddea, Dacca, etc., ordering them not to intercept any goods belonging to the Company at any of their places of trade. But nothing can be done if the officers of the *Sarkār* are uncertain whether the goods belong to the Company, or the gentlemen, or the

1763. English *gumāshtahs*, and are not shown the Company's *dastak*. The *gumāshtahs* belonging to the English do not show it out of pride. Desires the Governor to write to them on the subject.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 7, pp. 6-7. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

Feb. 22. **1678.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter concerning Mīr Ja'far's allowance. Encloses an assignment on Muhammad Ali for the money due since the 1st of *Rajab*. Intends going to Rajmahal where he will make an account and then pay the balance to the Governor.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 8, pp. 7-8. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

Feb. 22. **1679.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. It is amazing that not a single gentleman has approved of the agreement concluded between the Governor and His Excellency. The Chiefs of Patna and Dacca declare that they will follow the directions of the Council only. Cannot conceive why they are creating disturbances all over the country. His Excellency neither has negotiated nor will negotiate with anyone besides the Governor. Wishes to know if the Governor will make all the gentlemen abide by the agreement. Understands that a number of the gentlemen intend to set up another *sūbahdār*. It is of no consequence to His Excellency whoever succeeds him. Does not pay regard to matters of small importance. Encloses copies of letters from Mr. Ellis and Jasārat Khān. Has given 50 *lākhs* of rupees in land for the maintenance of *tilangās*. It is amazing that the gentlemen are collecting troops to ruin His Excellency's country. Says that it is evident to everyone that Europeans cannot be trusted.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 9, pp. 8-9. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 15.*]

Feb. 22. **1679A.** Jasārat Khān to the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has, in consequence of His Excellency's orders, shown the agreement to the Chief of Dacca and the English *gumāshtahs*. They replied that the agreement would stop the Company's trade, and that they would not act agreeably thereto until they received a letter to that effect from the Governor signed by eight councillors.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 9A., p. 9.*]

Feb. 22. **1680.** From Sayyid Muḥammad Khān. Has received his letter with the letters from the Court and the copy of Kishn Rām's letter to his own *gumāshtah* about Sahibganj. Kishn Rām denies having written the letter. Has sent it to the Nawāb. Assures him that His Excellency will inquire strictly into the matter and punish the offender.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 10, pp. 9-10.*]

Feb. 22. **1681.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has heard from the Chief and Council of Patna that on account of the Berhanna wicket being shut, the servants of the factory are put to much inconvenience, and that by the

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extension of the intrenchment to the river, boats are prevented from getting up to the factory Represents that the wicket has been in existence for the last eight years. It was by this way that the people of the factory came to the assistance of the town when it was besieged by the Shāhzādah The inhabitants of the town are uneasy, and reports are in the air that there does not exist perfect harmony between His Excellency and the Company. These reports are prejudicial both to His Excellency's affairs and the Company's. Desires His Excellency to have the wicket opened, and the intrenchment so made that a passage may be left for the *dāndīs* to approach th boats.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 24, pp. 25-26. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Feb. 22. 1682 To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has been informed by Mr. Ellis that Rājā Naubat Rāy has imprisoned several of the merchants of Colonelganj, stopped some boats laden with grain and going with an English *dastak* to the factory, and proclaimed, by beat of drum, that no one must carry any grain to the English. As this is an open breach of all the rules of friendship, Mr. Ellis has been directed to send some of the Company's people to protect the business. If the Rājā has behaved in this manner in consequence of His Excellency's orders, it is necessary that they should be contradicted, for if complaints of the oppression of the officers of the *Sarkār* arrive daily from all parts of the country, ruin of His Excellency's affairs must be the consequence. In case the Rājā has acted without orders, he should be speedily punished that no one in future may be guilty of such proceedings. It was agreed that some grain should be stored up for the use of the English army and the factory, and that no duty was to be paid upon it. As the price will be lower at the factory's *bazar* than in the town, the people of the town will go there to purchase grain This is not desirable. Recommends that a certain number of merchants should be appointed to take what grain may be necessary to the town. A list of their names will be sent to the Rājā who will appoint a *dāroghah* to collect the usual duties of the *Sarkār*. Desires His Excellency to direct the Rajā to act agreeably to these rules and speedily to appoint a place for erecting *golās*, that the *ganj* may be abolished

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 25, pp. 26-27. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

Feb. 22. 1683. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter. The gentlemen of the Council are desirous of assisting His Excellency in everything that may be necessary for the welfare of his Government. His Excellency, on his part, must prevent his officers from interrupting the Company's business and doing anything contrary to the privileges granted to the English by the King and former *Nāzims* and confirmed by His Excellency himself. It is with a view to making regulations for this purpose that the gentlemen are met together. The story that the English want to set up another *Nāẓim* is a fabrication of designing men whose wish it is to create a disturbance in the country for their

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[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 26, pp. 27-28. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 26.*]

b. 23. **1684.** From Muḥammad Ᾱlī Bēg. Has received his letter. Says that he released the boats as soon as the Chief of Dacca agreed to pay the duties on receipt of the letter from the Council. Is always ready to carry into effect whatever the *wakil* of the Dacca factory represents. Cannot see why the Chief has complained of him. Hopes the Governor will inquire into the matter. But if he is determined to be displeased, it is another affair. If the Governor likes, he can send a capable person to arbitrate between him and the gentlemen.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 11, pp. 10-11. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

eb 24 **1685.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Encloses a translation of a letter from Mr. Middleton and copies of letters from Āqā Muhammad Nizām and Sayyid Badal Khān. Complains that Muhammad Ᾱlī Bēg wants to plunder the houses of Ghulām Ḥusain *Munshī* and Muhammad Ghāzī, and bring dishonour upon them. He is also attempting to take possession of the Company's *ta'alluqah* near Lakhipur. Encloses a letter from Quṭb Ᾱlam to Mr. George Gray, Chief of Malda. It appears that he also wants to deprive the Company of their possessions and abolish the *bāzār* of the factory; and he writes in an unbecoming style. Sends His Excellency a copy of a letter written to Quṭb Ᾱlam. Is desirous of putting an end to the disturbances. But His Excellency's officers, particularly Muḥammad Ᾱlī Bēg, are making matters worse. Requests His Excellency to punish them speedily that they may no longer obstruct the Company's business.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 27, pp. 28-29. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Feb. 25. **1686.** From Muhammad Ᾱlī Bēg. Complains that Mr. Johnstone's people at Mandal Ghat have not paid the duties on salt. Hopes the Governor will write to the said gentleman on the subject.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 12, p. 11. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

Feb. 26. **1687.** From the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Has received his letter. His Excellency regards the Governor as a just man, but in this matter he is not doing justice. The Governor established Colonelganj and would not abolish it for a year, while His Excellency gave the Company Burdwan and other places and has never stationed *chaukis* there. Mr. Ellis has written to Rājā Naubat Rāy that if he minded

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the welfare of himself and the Nawāb, he would withhold his hands from stopping the Company's boats A *gumāshtah* of the Company's has therefore set His Excellency s *Nāib* at defiance and yet the Governor will not punish him? If His Excellency had written to the Governor in these terms, what uneasiness it would have given him and what would he not have done and written! Laments that the Governor believes every idle tale that is related to him concerning His Excellency. The Governor promised to punish mischief-makers. Mr. Ellis is one It is amazing that the Governor does not know it.

[*Trans P. L R.. Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 13. pp. 12-13. Abs. P. L R., 1759-65, p. 16*]

Feb. 26. **1688.** From the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter. The Governor is ignorant of what the Chief of Lakhipur has done and is still doing. Desires him to send a person to inquire into the matter In the *parwānah* sent by His Excellency to his officers, there was nothing incompatible with the agreement concluded between them. As to the Governor's taking exception to the expression "a great deal of pain and trouble," His Excellency says that the Governor knows that the settlement was arrived at after much discussion. His Excellency made use of this expression in order to prevent his officers looking upon this affair as a matter of small importance. Has sent them copies of the agreement, and directed them to act accordingly. It is amazing that the gentlemen and chiefs of the factories pay no regard to what the Governor writes to them. They require a letter signed by eight members of the Council. Has written to all the *faujdārs* not to impede foreign goods, and to take a duty of 9 *per cent.* on salt and other articles, produced and sold in the country. If the gentlemen think this duty to be too heavy, they can relinquish the trade. Formerly they did not trade in these articles.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 14, pp. 13-14. Abs. P. L. R., 1759–65, p. 16.*]

Feb. 26. **1689.** To Sayyid Jalāl Bukhārī. Has been informed by Mr. Senior that the addressee has stopped some boats laden with 400 maunds of salt and going from Dacca to Rangamati, and demands Rs. 3,250, notwithstanding that the said gentleman paid the duty at the Bakhshbandar and had a pass. The addressee's behaviour appears extremely culpable. Desires him to release the boats at once and not to stop any more passing that way with a *dastak*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 28, p. 29. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 85.*]

Feb. 26. **1690.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qasim. Reiterates the substance of the foregoing letter and requests His Excellency to punish severely such of his officers as obstruct the Company's business.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 29, pp. 29-30 Abs. P. L. I., 1759–65, p. 27.*]

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Feb. 28. **1691.** From Muḥammad Taqī Khān. Has received his two letters saying that, through the bad conduct of Muhammad 'Alī Bēg and other officers, the agreement concluded between the *Sarkār* and the Company has been rendered null and void; desiring the Khān to return the instrument whereby the *gumāshtahs* of the factory bound themselves not to transact any business for the Company or the gentlemen; and asking him to send the revenues of Jamganwan according to the *mālguzārī* paid by Asad Zamān Khān. Is much surprised at what the Governor says concerning the instrument. Nothing was ever said to the *gumāshtahs* relative thereto. They were only shown the copy of the agreement received from the Court and asked to act according to it. Immediately on receipt of the Governor's letter, the Khān wrote to them to carry on their business as usual. Directions have also been issued to the *ta'alluqdārs* not to interfere in the Company's business till the new agreement is made. Is not acquainted with the particulars of the *mālguzārī* of Jamganwan. Hopes the Governor will inform him thereof. By that time orders will have arrived from the Court.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.–Sept 1763, no. 15, pp. 14-15. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

Feb. 28. **1692.** From Jagat Sēṭh Mahtāb Rāy. Learns that the *wakīls* of Burdwan have represented to the Governor that Khirpai and Radhanagar are not his *ta'alluqahs* but rented lands, and that they have been dependant on Burdwan for a long time. Replies that if it had been so, the receipt from the *khālisah* cutcherry would not have been in his possession. The fact is that Mānik Rām, deceased, purchased the land with money and hence it is called Manikpur. Rented villages are not called after the names of the renters. Encloses papers relating to the subject. Has written to His Excellency to get the *ta'alluqahs* released. Refers him to Rām Chand for particulars.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.–Sept. 1763, no. 16, pp. 15-17. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 22.*]

Feb. 28. **1693.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter about the French ships. Doubtless the enemy will be slain or taken prisoners on the arrival of men-of-war from Madras. Will act in conjunction with the Governor in this business agreeably to the agreement concluded between them.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 17, pp. 17-18. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 16.*]

Mar. 3. **1694.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Dwells at length on the ruinous condition of Burdwan. Says that the Company's money has not been paid for three or four months; that the sepoys are clamouring for their pay; that the present is not the season for collecting the revenues; and lastly that there is no prospect of *ijārahdārs* being able

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to settle the Company's dues. Hopes the Governor will help him in his troubles.

[*Trans P. L R., Jan–Sept. 1763, no. 18, pp. 18-19. Abs. P. L R., 1759-65, p. 38.*]

Mar 1695. From the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Has received his letters. When His Excellency went to Behar, Bengal being left without a ruler, every village and district in that province was ruined through the oppression of the English, the subjects of the *Sarkār* were deprived of their daily bread, and the collection of the revenues was entirely stopped, so that His Excellency lost nearly a crore of rupees. On His Excellency representing the matter to the Governor again and again, the latter has been pleased to observe that it is not the Company's people but the officers of the *Sarkar* who are to blame. When the Governor was at Monghyr, he promised to settle all disputes between the *Sarkār* and the Company. But on his return to Calcutta, he sent troops to carry on the Company's business by force. His Excellency's officers are beaten and chastised if they dare speak a word His Excellency has not, for these three years, received a single coin or article from the English, and yet fines and penalties are being levied upon the officers of the *Sarkār*. If any one of them refuses to pay, a storm of complaints is poured upon His Excellency's head. Has, agreeably to the Governor's desire, given the English the free use of the mint, and directed the wicket and the intrenchment at Patna to be opened. Has also stopped the collection of customs, etc., upon articles bought and sold in this country and removed all *ghats* and *chaukis*. His Excellency's people and merchants are in great distress; his country is oppressed, his revenues have diminished by the amount of crores of rupees; he himself is exposed to daily insults and his officers and servants are ill-treated. Holds the Board responsible for all this Is anxious to know if his life is safe or if there is anything else to be done

[*Trans. P. L. R, Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 19, pp. 19-21.*]

Mar. 5. 1696. From the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Has received his letter. Cannot believe that the Council are desirous of coming to terms with him, since Mr Ellis, a member of the Council, has for the last two years been endeavouring to injure His Excellency's affairs and make him look small in the eyes of the world The English need not enter into a new agreement with His Excellency, when they have taken the law into their own hands and dispatched troops to chastise his officers. Treaties can never bind the stronger party. Complains that formerly the English paid a duty of Rs 3-3-2 per maund on saltpetre, but that now they have forcibly fixed it at Rs 1-12 Denies having evil-minded people in his service. Is at a loss how to act under present circumstances. Wants to be relieved of his duties and asks the Governor to appoint some one else in his place. Knows very well that the Council will condemn both His Excellency and the

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Governor. The Council had better do what they like without delay It does not become men to bring an unjust charge against any one with a view to concealing other designs.

[*Trans P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763 no. 20, pp. 21-23. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 16.*]

Mar. 6. 1697. To the *Diwān* of Rangamati. Jalālu-d-dīn Bukhārī, *Faujdār* of Rangamati, has interrupted the trade of the English gentlemen and put an entire stop to their business. Has sent some sepoys to bring him to Calcutta. Desires the addressee to act as *Faujdar* till the arrival of the Nawāb's orders and to direct the officers of the country to let the Company's business be carried on as formerly.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 30, p. 30. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 76.*]

Mar. 7. 1698. From Sayyid Muhammad Khān. Has received his letter saying that while seven boats laden with rice and bearing the Company's *dastaks* were coming from Rajganj, the *Dāroghah* of Barah Ghurya Haut stopped them, and desiring the Khān to arrest him. Has sent some *harkārahs* to bring him to Murshidabad. Will punish him severely.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 21, p. 23. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

Mar. 7. 1699. From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received the Governor's letter. Knows that the saltpetre, laden on bullocks, has not been stopped. Has, however, directed his officers to inquire into the affair. Quṭb Ālam writes that the Governor has released all but four boats. Contends that the former was justified in stopping the boats since he was not shown His Excellency's *dastak*. The Company's *gumāshtahs* are believed implicitly, while his people are said to tell nothing but lies. The former are extolled when they are guilty of oppression, while the latter must be punished with death. His Excellency must make good to the Company their losses, but no one will indemnify him for his losses. It was to please the Governor that His Excellency concluded a treaty with him. Believes that the Council's rejecting it and wanting to have another treaty made is an imposition. Proposes three amendments to the former treaty. The first is that His Excellency will negotiate with the Governor but not with the rest of the Council The second is that the Company's *gumāshtahs* do refrain from engaging in inland trade and oppressing the subjects of the *Sarkār*. The third is that a stop be put to the dual rule prevailing in the provinces. Is heartily tired of all these disputes. The Governor need not send troops against his officers. He can order them to leave their districts and repair to His Excellency. Has given the Company Chittagong, Midnapur and Burdwan and given up the right of catching elephants, etc. Will be surprised if justice is not done him.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 22, pp. 23-27. Abs. P. L. R 1759-65, p. 16.*]

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Mar. 7. **1700.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Will punish Muhammad Ālī Bēg provided he is found guilty. Hopes that the Governor on his part will punish such of the Company's people as create ill-feeling between him and His Excellency. Has never had a word with an English *gumāshtah* It is the Governor who sends troops against his officers. Muhammad Ālī's violences cannot render the treaty null and void. Has never heard that a treaty between superiors is broken through the faults of their servants The *yasāwal*, imprisoned by the Chief of Lakhipur, has arrived. He says that on his arrival at Lakhipur, he was surrounded by two hundred men who ill-treated him very much and carried him off. They told him that His Excellency was a creature of theirs and that his *dastak* had no weight with them. It was after the Governor's letter reached the said chief, that the *yasāwal* was set at liberty. Appeals to the Governor's sense of justice and asks whether the English or the officers of the *Sarkār* are to blame Complains that there are many fleets of boats in Patna, yet His Excellency cannot get a single boat. Those belonging to him have been carried away by the people of the factory.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 23, pp. 27-30. Abs P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 16.*)

Mar. 7. **1701.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has been informed that Sayyid Jalāl Bukhārī stops the boats at every *ghāt* and demands as much duty as he pleases; that he seizes the *mānjhis* and *dāndīs* and plunders them; that if they are suffered to proceed on their way after all this trouble, they fall into the hands of the next *chaukīdārs* from whom they receive the same treatment; that his orders are so strict and positive that the gentlemen can scarcely get anything to eat; and that if any Englishman sends a peon with a letter to him for a *dastak*, he imprisons the latter for a week or so and then sends him back half-dead without an answer. Also he has published a copy of the Governor's letter and issued orders that no one must have any dealings with the English, and that as they have [little] power in the country at present, everyone must take from them as much as he pleases. Accordingly many English gentlemen have severely suffered through his violences and extortions. Will send His Excellency an account of their losses The *'Āmil* of Rangpur also demands duties on cloth, silk and all kinds of goods—foreign as well as native—and imprisons the *dallals* and *paikārs*. At Sheoganj, where six English *gumāshtahs* are settled, Rām Nāth Bhadrī, the *Nāib*, has set a guard of ten *barqandāzes* over each of them, and taken money from them under pretence that they must contribute their share to the fund for the relief of the poor. Encloses a list of the *gumāshtahs'* names and an account of the money extorted from them. Is not much concerned about the interruptions thrown in the way of the Company's business, as they will be entirely removed when His Excellency punishes the offenders. Is greatly surprised at a

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letter of His Excellency's to Mohan Lāl ordering him to levy a duty of 9 *per cent.* on opium. Agreeably thereto, the latter has sent a *dastak* summoning a certain *gumāshtah* of Patna factory to attend him. Encloses a copy of His Excellency's letter and the *dastak*. Protests that opium is exported to foreign markets, and consequently a duty on it is highly improper and contrary to the agreement. The Chief of Dacca sent the Governor a copy of a letter written by His Excellency to Muhammad 'Alī Bēg Therein the latter is strictly charged not to interrupt the *gumāshtahs* employed in the Governor's trade and having the Governor's *dastak* or the Company's. Represents that the Governor's business and that of other gentlemen is one and the same. The distinction which His Excellency makes in the Governor's favour can only gain him an ill name. His Excellency lives at a great distance from Calcutta. Were the Governor to wait for his answer, the business of the English would be stopped and the *gumāshtahs* would be almost dead for want of provisions. Has therefore been obliged to send some sepoys for Sayyid Jalāl Bukhārī. Will send him to Monghyr. Has written to the latter's *Dīwān* to officiate for him till the arrival of His Excellency's orders. Hopes His Excellency will do whatever may be necessary for the removal of these disturbances.

[*Trans. P. L. I, 1762-63, no. 31, pp. 30-33. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

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1702. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letters of the 26th February. It appears that His Excellency is disinclined to give the English any satisfaction for the interruptions that have been caused to the Company's business by Muḥammad Alī Bēg and others, and His Excellency's letters seem to be an evasion rather than an answer to the Governor's letters. The *farmāns* and other public orders of the Court, together with the subsequent treaties with the *sūbahdārs* have been strictly examined. They show that the English are entitled to carry on trade, foreign as well as inland, in Bengal, Behar, and Orissa duty free. The Council have also taken account of the custom that has hitherto prevailed in the different parts of the country with respect to the English paying a duty on certain articles for inland trade. They learn that salt and tobacco are the only articles on which a duty has been paid, and that in the case of tobacco, it has been done so only at Lakhipur and Dacca. Although the aforesaid grants give the Company full permission to trade duty free, yet they are willing to pay 2½ *per cent.*, as will be explained to His Excellency by Mr. Amyatt. As regards the *gumāshtahs*, the Council cannot let the officers of the *Sarkār* control them. They have made certain regulations restraining the *gumāshtahs* from oppressing the country people, and directing them to complain to the chief of the factory in case of their receiving any injury from His Excellency's officers. Copies of the *farmāns*, *hasbul-hukms*, and treaties together with the regulations for collecting the

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aforesaid duty on salt, and guiding the conduct of the Company's *gumāshtahs* and of the officers of the *Sarkar*, will be sent to His Excellency by Mr. Amyatt and Mr. Hay, who have been deputed by the Council to explain to His Excellency the justice of those rights and privileges. With regard to the complaints which have already been made, the Council insist upon punishment being given to such of His Excellency's officers as may be proved guilty of extortion and obstruction, and upon reparation being made for the losses occasioned thereby. On the other hand, the Company are willing to make amends for the acts of oppression committed by their agents. All the complaints made by His Excellency's officers against the latter have been referred to gentlemen of the factories. Admits that it has been customary for the *Ṣūbahs* of these provinces to negotiate with the Governor only, but says that it is the Council who decide everything and that the Governor is only their mouthpiece. The agreement concluded between His Excellency and the Governor cannot be enforced, since the Council do not approve of it. Desires His Excellency to inform his officers of the fact without delay, that they may cease obstructing the Company's business.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 33, pp. 34-37. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Mar. 9. 1703. From Shaikh Qutb Ālam. Has received the Governor's letter. Denies having stopped the Company's boats at Rajmahal. Has never deviated from the former treaty. Learns that the managers of Malda factory have taken possession of more land than they actually purchased, and cut down mangoe trees in the *parganah* of Bhulah Gopalpura. It was about this affair that he wrote to Mr. George Gray. Mr. Peacock, who has built boats for gentlemen at Nawabganj, sent some people to Mahdipur for carpenters. They plundered and ruined well cultivated villages. On the writer's addressing the said gentleman, the latter has made reparation for a few things only. Complains also of the violences of the Chief of Malda, and says that the latter sent to Buthdah [Purdah?] a number of *tilangās* who plundered the cutcherry and carried away Shaikh Haibatu-l-lāh and others. Requests the Governor to direct the gentlemen of Malda factory to release the said Shaikh and to return the money and things plundered. They may also be directed to report to the writer if any of the managers of the districts interrupt the Company's business. Will chastise the offenders.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 24, pp. 30-31. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

Mar. 10. 1704. To the Sēths. Has received their letter saying that the inhabitants of Baligokalpur, a *ta'alluqah* they have just purchased, have all run away on account of the violences committed by the peaple belonging to the Company. Has already issued orders that no dependant of the English should on any account oppress the

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ryots. Desires to be informed of the names of the offenders together with all particulars.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 32, pp. 33-34. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 85.*]

Mar. 10. **1705.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has already informed His Excellency that the Council do not approve of the agreement concluded between them. Notwithstanding this, Naubat Rāy demands duties upon opium and disputes the Company's right to purchase it through their *gumāshtahs*. This right is founded on the *farmāns*, *hasbu-l-hukms*, orders and *sanads* The Council are determined to insist upon all the rights and privileges contained therein. The copies of all these documents will be sent to His Excellency, as already intimated, through Mr. Amyatt. In the meantime, the Company's business will be carried on without molestation. Insists upon His Excellency sending immediate orders to that effect to his officers and transmitting a copy thereof to the Governor. Wishes to know whether His Excellency will do this or not. If he refuses or neglects to do it, it will be the immediate cause of a rupture—an event which if it happens, will cause the Council much concern.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 34, pp 37-38. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 27.*]

Mar. 11. **1706.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Acknowledges receipt of his letter complaining of the officers of the *Sarkār*. Has forbidden the collection of the duties as well as the coining of any more money. Has also had the wicket of Patna opened and Muḥammad Alī Bēg though innocent, removed from Dacca. The Governor can now appoint a European to succeed him. It is not long since "Ellis" placed a guard upon His Excellency's house. The said gentleman has now sent sepoys to arrest his officers and is actually besieging Tajpur. Does not know the reason of all this. Will not put up with these insults.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 28, pp. 34-35. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 16.*]

Mar. 14. **1707.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. It is only for friendship's sake that His Excellency has put up with everything Now that he is being insulted by "servants and people of no character," his patience is quite exhausted. One may by all means be friendly to one man, but to be dependant upon ten people is beyond one's power. Has in no way violated the agreement. When His Excellency heard that Mr. Ellis had sent sepoys to Tajpur, Darbhanga, etc., and that Akbar Alī, *Nāib* of Tajpur, had been seized, he sent Muḥammad Amīn Khān to inquire into the affair. When the Khān approached the factory, the Company's people fired upon him without challenging him. He succeeded however in seizing the Company's *gumāshtah* in charge of the place, and bringing him to His Excellency. Inquiry shows that it is "Ellis", who owing to his

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hatred of His Excellency and impetuousity of temper, is creating these disturbances. The officers of the *Sarkār*, for the sake of their character, stand on the defensive only. Appeals to the Governor to help him out of these troubles. If the Governor is desirous of supporting Mr. Ellis, he had better make over the country to the latter. Is convinced that the Council will not put an end to these disputes. Will march towards Monghyr to-morrow.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 29, pp. 35-38. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 16.*]

Mar. 15. **1708.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has yielded to the Governor in all matters and yet the latter sends sepoys to seize the officers of the *Sarkār*. His Excellency told the Governor face to face, and has written again, and again, that on account of the difference of disposition btween him and the English, he is unfitted for the *Nizamat*. They can make it over to whomsoever they think proper. It is unbecoming of the Governor to write His Excellency letters breathing nothing but friendship and at the same time to take steps towards a rupture. Asks the Governor to send Sayyid Jalāl Bukhārī back to his district. Will not answer the Governor's letters, if he is resolved to send sepoys against the officers of the *Sarkār*. Such tumults as the English have stirred up were never known up to the time of Mīr Ja'far. It was then that they sent sepoys against the officers of the *Sarkār*. If the English *gumashtahs* will carry on their trade like other merchants, well and good; if not, His Excellency has no remedy but to make use, like the Governor, of expressions savouring of disagreement. Holds honour and reputation dearer than life. Wants to know immediately if the Governor is inclined to break with him, that he may have nothing further to do with these things.

(N B.—*The last two paragraphs are in the Nawāb's own hand.*)

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 30, pp. 38-40. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 17.*]

Mar. 16. **1709.** To the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter. Will recall the sepoys on condition that His Excellency directs his officers not to obstruct the Company's business. With regard to the saltpetre *nazranah*, His Excellency gets Rs. 15,000 a year, the same amount as was paid to his predecessor. Hopes His Excellency will readily agree to what Mr. Amyatt represents. The latter is a man of understanding. Advises His Excellency to regard the said gentleman as his friend and to open to him his heart, for that will be the means of putting an end to all these disturbances. The Council have examined the *farmāns*, etc., and are of opinion that the English are entitled thereby to trade duty free in all kinds of goods — foreign as well as native. Mr. Amyatt will bring His Excellency copies of those documents. Desires His Excellency to peruse them and then to write his views fully. His letter will be forwarded to the Court of Directors, who will examine into the respective rights of the Company

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and the *Niẓāmat*. Asks His Excellency to come to Rajmahal to settle all matters. Mr. Amyatt is in want of eight elephants. Has written to Sayyid Muhammad Khān on the subject. In case there are no elephants at Murshidabad, His Excellency is requested to send some from Monghyr.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 35, pp. 38-40. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Mar. 16. **1710.** To Sayyid Muhammad Khān. Requests him to supply Mr. Amyatt with eight elephants. Encloses letters for the Nawāb and Qutb Ālam and desires him to forward them.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 36, pp. 40-41. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 84.*]

Mar. 16. **1711.** To Sayyid Muhammad Khān. Some time ago, one Jugal, *gumāshtah* of Tulsīdhar *Ṣarrāf*, sent the Governor a petition complaining that Mr. Batson had taken Rs. 12,500 from his master by force. Mr. Chambers, who has inquired into the affair, says that Tulsīdhar owed a large sum of money to another *sarrāf*, that the former had to pay the above amount, and that Mr. Chambers has seen the receipt with his own eyes. It appears that Tulsīdhar has invented a lie and unjustly accused Mr. Batson of extortion. Has directed Mr. Chambers to explain the whole affair to the Khān Desires the latter to send for the persons concerned and punish the offender.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 37, p. 41. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 84.*]

Mar. 16. **1712.** To Shaikh Quṭb 'Ālam. Has received his letter complaining the sepoys of Malda factory have seized the Collector and Zamīndār of Hittiade *parganah* and plundered the revenues, and that Birjū Sarkār, Mr. Gray's *gumāshtah*, has possessed himself of Rs. 8,302 out of the revenues of Goorhind *parganah*. Mr. Gray admits having the Collector and Zamīndār arrested, but says that he did not insult them. He discharged them after enjoining them not to obstruct the Company's business. Has directed Mr. Gray to refund the money, in case the sepoys are guilty of plundering it. Will not send any sepoys if the addressee lets the Company's business go on as formerly. Cannot sit quiet and see it ruined. In regard to the revenues of Goorhind *parganah*, the Governor has received an account from which it appears that Birjū collected Rs. 5,857; that Mr. Gray lent Rs. 4,552 to Shāh Muḥammad, the former Zamīndār of Goorhind, and Rs. 467 to the ryots, and that when the interest is added to the principal, no surplus remains in the *mutaṣaddī's* hands. Has directed Mr. Gray to send the account to the addressee. Shāh Muḥammad is accountable for whatever balance is due from the *parganah*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 38, pp. 41-43. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 29.*]

Mar. 17. **1713.** From Mīr Raushan Alī. Has received his letter. Says that the *gumāshtahs* have made a false complaint against him.

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Denies having obstructed the Company's business. Has neither received a bond, nor issued any orders.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 25, pp. 31-32. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

Mar. 17. **1714.** From Rām Nāth. To the same effect as the foregoing, adding that the Company's people own twenty-three factories in Dinajpur, and have, by their violent proceedings, ruined the country, and asking that they may be written to.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 26, pp. 32-33. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 43.*]

Mar. 17. **1715.** From Ábdu-l-Álī Khān. To the same effect as the two foregoing letters.

[*Trans. P. L. R, Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 27, pp. 33-34. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 1.*]

Mar. 17. **1716.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Does not believe in any of the charges laid against Mr. Ellis. Requires proofs of what His Excellency advances. The said gentleman parades and marches troops about in order to protect the Company's business. In regard to the saltpetre, the Company purchase it at the same price as they did in the past. Nay, now they pay even more. His Excellency's reference to the saltpetre as an instance of the Company's oppression is unjust, and is a proof of the fact that there are designing people about him. His Excellency has no right to complain of the English not paying customs when they have the Company's *dastak*. But if it can be proved that the *gumāshtahs* have extorted money from the country people, the Governor is ready to have the offenders punished and the money refunded. To say that His Excellency's loss amounts to a crore of rupees is nothing but a baseless exaggeration. The Company will always be glad to support His Excellency if he ceases injuring their business. Encloses a copy of Muhammad Álī Bēg's letter to Sayyid Badal Khān ordering him to seize Muhammad Ghāzī. Mr. Billers has laid the letter before the Council. It appears therefrom that instead of seizing Muhammad Ghāzī on account of the revenues, and denying that he is a servant of the English factory, the said Bēg acknowledges him to be such, and even gives that as a reason for seizing him Cannot put up with the Bēg's insolent and improper behaviour any longer. Insists upon his being immediately dismissed from all his offices and obliged to make restitution for the losses he has been the occasion of.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 39, pp. 43-44 Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Mar. 20. **1717.** From Sayyid Muhammad Khān. Is in receipt of the Governor's letter. Has forwarded the enclosures. Will be glad to furnish Mr. Amyatt with elephants. Has been informed that the Governor has sent sepoys to seize Sayyid Jalā Bukhārī, *Faujdar* of

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Rangamati. This will hurt the affairs of the *Sarkār*. Business would be better conducted if a proper regard were paid to people's dignity.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 31, pp. 40-41. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

Mar. 20. **1718.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Is in receipt of the Governor's letter. Has sent for Muḥammad Ālī Bēg. Will make him repay the money taken unjustly by him and punish him severely. His Excellency never gets anything by collecting duties. Moreover, they are the cause of endless disputes between him and the Company. Has therefore put an entire stop to collecting them. The English need not pay anything on tobacco at Dacca and Lakhipur. Is not ignorant of the nature of the *farmāns* and *ḥasbu-l-hukms*, as he has been in Bengal for about thirty years. But why go so far back. Even so recently as the time of Mīr Ja'far, the English could not, in spite of those *farmāns* and *ḥasbu-l-ḥukms*, get ten or twenty timbers to build their houses with. Cannot let the disputes between the Company's people and the officers of the *Sarkār* be decided by the chiefs of the factories. The latter's idea of justice is to beat, insult, and carry away His Excellency's officers. Cannot make good the losses suffered by the Company's *gumāshtahs*. Has not realised a single farthing on account of the customs while the rents have been paid to the sepoys. The person who is to be chosen as his successor will make good those losses. Encloses a copy of a *parwānah* His Excellency has written to his officers, also a *sanad* for the exemption of duties. Sends back the agreement recently concluded between the Governor and His Excellency. If the old treaty has not been of any use to him, a new one cannot. Will send the old treaty also if the Governor so desires.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 32, pp. 41-44. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 17.*]

Mar. 22. **1719.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter of the 25th *Sha'bān*. Has not realised a single farthing on account of duties. The English have combined with some of His Excellency's people and taken penalties from others. Many merchants have carried their goods duty free on account of the protection afforded them by the English. Has therefore entirely given up the collection of duties, and removed all *chaukis*. As regards the Company's rights based upon Royal *farmāns* and *sanads*, up to the time of Mīr Ja'far, the English traded in a few articles only. They could not get even ten or twenty timbers from Chittagong to build their houses with. It is needless for the Governor to say that a rupture will ensue in case of His Excellency delaying to send orders to his officers. Mr. Ellis is losing no opportunity of bringing about a rupture. It is the custom of the Europeans to change their chief every three years. His Excellency has been in office for nearly three years. The

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English want to have a change now, and are creating these disturbances with a view of provoking His Excellency into some rash act, and so finding an excuse for deposing him.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 33, pp. 44-46. Abs. P L. R., 1759-65, p. 17.*]

Mar. 24. **1720.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received His Excellency's letters of the 11th, 14th and 15th instant. The Council's original orders to the *gumāshtahs* were to apply to His Excellency and his officers for the redress of their complaints. But this was so often done without effect that the English were obliged to make use of force. What Mr. Ellis has done in Patna is agreeable to the orders of the Council. The said gentleman does not apply to His Excellency for redress, because the latter has refused to answer his letters. It appears that His Excellency has not yet sent orders to his officers directing them not to obstruct the Company's business. The English will not cease interfering in the affairs of the *Sarkar* unless such orders are issued. Has already informed him of the demands of the Council. They insist upon His Excellency's compliance with them on every point. They are ready to support him, but if he opposes the Company's people in the execution of the Council's orders, they will look upon such conduct as an open declaration of war. To show that the Council earnestly desire to prevent such an event happening, they are sending Mr. Amyatt and Mr. Hay to negotiate a new treaty with His Excellency. Refers to the expressions "servants" and "men of no character," made use of by His Excellency in one of his letters. Is unwilling to suppose that these unbecoming expressions are meant to be applied to the gentlemen of the Council; but they insist upon an explanation as they will by no means suffer themselves to be treated with disrespect.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 40, pp. 45-46. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Apl. 1. **1721.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received His Excellency's letters of the 22nd instant. They are written in an improper style. This, and the events that have lately happened, fully justify the Council in declaring war. But to convince His Excellency how far such a proceeding is from their thoughts, and to show him that they have not the least intention of bringing about a change in the Government, they have deputed Messrs. Amyatt and Hay to treat with him and settle, beside the question of the duties, many other things tending to the welfare of both the *Sarkār* and the Company. His Excellency ought to regard this as the strongest mark of the Council's friendship for him and as a compliment paid him The Council are willing to accede to his just demands. His Excellency's refusal to receive the said gentlemen will be regarded as a declaration of war on his side.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 41, pp. 46-48. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65 p. 27.*]

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Apl. 1. **1722.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Muḥammad 'Alī Bēg is still at Dacca, though His Excellency says that he has been dismissed from his post and summoned to Monghyr. Encloses copies of some orders issued by the Bēg. The originals thereof have been produced before the Council by Sayyid Badal Khān and Āghā Nizām. The Bēg has ordered the factory at Lakhipur to be surrounded, the Company's *chaukis* to be seized and sent in irons to Dacca, and their letters to be intercepted. In short, the Bēg commits every act of insolence and open hostility, and treats Englishmen in the most opprobrious manner. Hopes His Excellency will punish him. If not, the English will take the law into their own hands and seize him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 42, pp. 48-49. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Apl. 2. **1723.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter of the 4th *Ramazān*. Some time ago, Mr. Ellis, accusing His Excellency of concealing Europeans, sent troops who surrounded Monghyr fort and created disturbances. But the gentleman, who came from Calcutta, searched the fort and did not find a single European. When Mr. Ellis was not punished for so great an offence, His Excellency cannot expect the Governor to punish him for the disturbances he is creating now. As to the saltpetre, the Governor should send a capable man to inquire into the affair. It is only to flatter His Excellency that the Governor agrees to make reparation for the money extorted by the Company's *gumāshtahs*. Complains that the Governor gives employment to the defaulting dependants of the *Sarkār*. Has sent for Muḥammad 'Alī Bēg and will punish him if he is found guilty. Has taken away all *chaukis* and written to his officers not to take a single *kauri* on account of duties. It is known throughout India that the English are His Excellency's friends and supporters. But when they disgrace him and seize his officers, peace and order cannot be maintained. It is amazing the Governor is not sensible of this.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 34, pp. 46-48. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 17.*]

Apl. 2. **1724.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter His Excellency did not expect that, while he was in Behar, the English would send troops into Bengal. The Governor wrote that sepoys would be sent to protect the Company's business, but not to seize and carry away the officers of the *Sarkār*. His Excellency did not answer Mr. Ellis's letters, because the latter does not act in accordance with what he says, and in the affair of the saltpetre, he did not write to Rājā Nauḥat Rāy at all, but sent *tilangās* and seized the *'Amil* of Tajpur. When the Rājā sent his *chobdār* to inquire into the nature of the business on which the *tilangās* were going, Mr. Ellis replied that the Rājā would learn it after their return. Encloses a copy of the Rājā's petition. Has already intimated that he is coming to Rajmahal and will act according to the Governor's.

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instructions. Has also removed all *chaukīs*. And yet the Governor has sent people into the country and created disturbances. It appears that he is not willing to help His Excellency but wants to set up another Nawāb. As to mercantile affairs, His Excellency has relinquished everything, and there remains nothing for Mr. Amyatt to negotiate. The question of the revenues can be settled with His Excellency's successor. With regard to his calling the gentlemen of the Council "servants" and "men of low character," asks the Governor to consider whether such people as are sending sepoys to seize the officers of the *Sarkār* and creating disturbances, are of low character or not.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 35, pp. 48-51. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 17*]

Apl. 7. **1725.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has been informed that His Excellency's people have removed the Company's *dak chauki* at Dacca Hopes His Excellency will inquire into the affair and punish the offender.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 43, p. 49 Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Apl. 9. **1726.** Rājā Naubat Rāy to the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Has received His Excellency's letter. Mr. Ellis says that Akbar 'Alī, *Naib* of Sher Zaman, has been seized and brought to Patna on account of his breaking the seals of the saltpetre and forbidding the makers of the article to sell it. When asked to release him, the said gentleman replied that he could not do anything until the arrival of orders from the Council. Mr. Ellis has now sent two more companies to Tirhut and Tikari, and says that the Rājā will learn the nature of their business after their return. Has, agreeably to His Excellency's orders, arranged for the security of the fort

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 36, pp. 51-52*]

1727. Sayyid Muhammad Khān to Mr. Amyatt. Is glad to learn that Mr Amyatt and Mr. Hay have arrived at Plassey. Has sent Ḥājī Mūsā Rizā to meet them. Refers them to the said Ḥājī for particulars.

[*Trans. P. L R, 1763, no. 1, p. 1.*]

Apl 15 **1727A.** From Turāb 'Alī Khān. Will act as directed with respect to the Rājā of Besseli and Dharrap Narāyan. Hopes for letters.

[*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 23.*]

Apl 15. **1728.** Mr. Amyatt to Sayyid Muhammad Khān. Has received his letter through Ḥājī Mūsā Riza. Is sorry to learn that the Khān is making preparations for war. Hopes the Nawāb's orders are not to that effect, as they are needless and contrary to His Excellency's interest. Mr Amyatt and Mr. Hay are coming to adjust all disputes. Has heard that orders have been issued for all the mulberry trees to be cut down. Desires to be informed of the truth of this report

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Hopes the Khān will send a creditable person to go with one of Mr. Amyatt's people to the different cutcherries to inquire into the matter.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 1, p. 1.*]

1729. Sayyid Muhammad Khān to Mr. Amyatt. Has not heard anything about the mulberry trees. Does not know if the relations between the *Sarkār* and the Company are strained. Is sending a trusty person to meet him. The garden of Motijhil has been made ready.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763, no. 2, pp. 1-2.*]

Apl. 19. **1730.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter. It is surprising that the Governor does not see the faults of the Company's people. His Excellency pays the expenses of the Company's army, and the only favour shown him is that his officers are being seized and beaten. It is the English who are ready to make war on him. Has no objection to receiving Mr. Amyatt and Mr. Hay if they are accompanied by only one or two companies of sepoys. Remarks that on one side the Governor is taking violent measures; while on the other, he is sending a deputation to confer with His Excellency. A conference attended with such violences was never heard of in any country. As to the Governor's saying that *besides** the articles of customs, the orders lately issued by His Excellency are not consistent with the Company's rights and privileges, His Excellency wants to know if he is an *'āmil*, or a *wa'dahdār*, or a zamīndār, or a *gumāshtah*, or a *mutaṣaddi*, that he cannot issue orders about anything excepting the customs.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 37, pp. 52-53. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 17.*]

Apl. 19. **1731.** Mr. Amyatt to the Nawāb Mir Qāsim Has not yet been favoured with a reply to his letter. Imagines that His Excellency has not yet advised Sayyid Muḥammad Khān of his and Mr. Hay's visit. Will stay at Motijhil but is awaiting His Excellency's invitation.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 2, pp. 1-2.*]

1732. Sayyid Muhammad Khān to Mr. Amyatt. Will meet him at Motijhil, and talk over all matters with him in private. Has given up the idea of sending a man to meet him.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763, no. 3, p. 2.*]

1733. Mr. Amyatt to Sayyid Muḥammad Khān. Will be glad to see him at Motijhil.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 2A., p. 2.*]

1734. Mr. Amyatt to Sayyid Muḥammad Khān. Has postponed proceeding to Motijhil until he hears from His Excellency.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 2B, p. 2.*]

* There is a note in the margin saying that the Nawāb seems to have understood the word "besides" in the sense of "except," the same word being used in both senses.

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1735. Sayyid Muhammad Khān to Mr. Amyatt. The addressee will soon hear from the Nawāb. The garden has been made ready. He can come when he chooses.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763, no. 4, pp. 2-3.*]

Apl. 21. **1736.** The Nawab Mīr Qāsim to the Company. States his case as follows Mīr Ja'far could not by reason of old age bestow proper attention on the administration of affairs, especially after the death of his son by a stroke of lightning. Grief and affliction deprived him of the exercise of his reason and understanding At that time, Prince Shāh 'Ālam arrived in Behar and caused great troubles there; and though the King wrote to Mīr Ja'far to send the prince to Delhi, the latter remained where he was. The result was that the collection of the revenues was entirely stopped, and that the Company's business was very much impeded. The Nawāb's debt to the troops amounted to nearly two crores of rupees; besides which he owed large sums of money to the Company and the merchants. From his extreme negligence and want of authority, he could not discharge the smallest part of his debt and was reduced to such an extremity that the troops surrounded him and clamoured for their pay. They even went to the length of calling him names and raining stones and bricks on him. The demands of the Royal treasury were more pressing, while the Marhattas lay at a distance of five or six *kos* from Murshidabad When the writer saw things come to this pass, he offered himself as security for the arrears due to the army, satisfied the people, and then informed the Governor of the state of affairs. The latter thought it highly advisable to invest the writer with the direction of the affairs of the country, came to Murshidabad with some of his colleagues, and advised Mīr Ja'far to entrust all his affairs to the writer who would serve him with all his heart and soul and eventually restore order. Mīr Ja'far went to live at Calcutta where he has been paid his expenses ever since his deposition. The writer then applied himself to the management of the affairs of the provinces. He assigned the Company lands yielding an income of fifty *lakhs* of rupees for their military expenses; assisted their troops with five *lakhs* of rupees when they were engaged in besieging Pondicherry, and paid all the money Mīr Ja'far owed the Company. He then went to Behar to put an end to the troubles caused by Shāh 'Ālam He agreed to pay His Majesty the sums due to the Imperial *Sarkār* on condition of the latter's returning to the capital, when several gentlemen and chiefs of the Company's forces interfered, and having conspired with some of the *mutasaddis* of the Court, took His Majesty to Patna, laid the writer under heavy expenses for six months and tried to throw all his affairs into confusion. Luckily Mr. Vansittart remained firm to the treaty and recalled several gentlemen to Calcutta, so that their designs proved abortive and the King was prevailed upon to return to Delhi. Notwithstanding that His Excellency has done so much for the Company, the English bind and carry away his officers, speak whatever comes into-

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their mouths, and place guards upon his houses and forts. His Excellency does not take any duties on the Company's exports and imports. But they, not being satisfied with this privilege, carry on trade in dried fish, straw, bamboos, betelnuts, salt, tobacco, timber, etc.—articles which used to afford the means of subsistence to the poor and indigent in the country. On His Excellency's representing the matter to the Governor, the latter agreed to a small duty on goods bought and sold in the country. But the gentlemen of the Council do not abide by the agreement and are creating disturbances. Has faith in the justice and impartiality of the Company. Hopes they will befriend him and direct the chiefs of the army and the gentlemen to abide by the treaty and not to create disturbances. Requests an answer to this address.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 38, pp. 54-59. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 17.*]

Apl. 21. **1737.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has repeatedly intimated that Muhammud 'Alī Bēg has been sent for and will be punished. The Bēg has put off his departure for a few days, probably in order to prepare the accounts. It appears that the Council, on the one hand, usurp His Excellency's authority and on the other, write letters of peace and send people to negotiate. If the English bind and seize his officers, life will become bitter to His Excellency. Has faithfully observed every agreement made between the *Sarkār* and the Company. Has no remedy left, since the English make a quarrel with him for the folly and imprudence of some of his *'āmils*. If His Excellency had not punished his guilty *'āmils*, there would have been room to reproach him. To make a new treaty every year is contrary to rule, for "the treaties of men have lives."

(N. B —*The last paragraph was in the Nawāb's own hand.*)

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 39, pp. 59-60. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 17.*]

1738. The Nawāb Mīr Qāsim to Mr. Amyatt. Will be glad to see him. Has heard that he is an influential member of the Council and is possessed of many good qualities and accomplishments. Learns that the Company's troops are proceeding this way by land and by water. Is surprised that on the one hand, he writes His Excellency friendly letters and is coming to visit him, while on the other, he is sending troops with warlike implements by every way. If he is desirous of settling affairs amicably, it is necessary that he should send the troops back. Otherwise His Excellency has no remedy. It is incumbent on every man to defend his honour.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763, no. 5, pp. 3-4.*]

1739. The Nawāb Mīr Qāsim to Mr. Hay. Will be glad to see him. Learns that the Company's troops are proceeding this way by land and by water. This is very improper and unfriendly. Has

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written to the Governor and to Mr. Amyatt to recall the troops. If this is not done, it will be incumbent upon His Excellency to defend his honour. No friend ever went to visit a friend with great guns and small arms.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763, no. 6, pp. 4-5*]

Apl. 21. **1740.** Mr. Amyatt to the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Hopes that all the disputes will be settled amicably. The English began to seize his officers only when their behaviour became intolerable. The story that the Company's troops are in motion is a false and malicious lie. Desires His Excellency not to give credit thereto. Learns that His Excellency is making preparation for war and has stationed troops at different places. If such is the case, His Excellency must have sent orders to the *chaukis* not to molest Mr. Amyatt and party, but to render them all necessary assistance. Busybodies will continually spread false reports while the *Sarkar* and the Company are in a manner deprived of a free intercourse. The Governor and the Council have therefore thought it advisable to appoint Mr. Amphlett to remain as Resident with His Excellency. Assures His Excellency that he is accompanied only by his attendants and that they are not so many as those who accompanied the Governor.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 3, pp. 2-3.*]

Apl. 23. **1741.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. His Excellency never suspected that the Governor would write friendly letters and at the same time send troops. Has repeatedly written to the Governor that he is not equal to the task of the *Niẓāmat.* Has no objection to receiving Mr Amyatt if the troops are recalled. If this is not done, His Excellency is without remedy. It is every man's duty to defend his honour.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 40, pp. 60-61. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 17.*]

Apl. 23. **1742.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter of the 15th instant. Desires His Excellency not to believe the groundless tales of news-mongers and mischievous busybodies. The Company's troops are not proceeding towards Monghyr. Only a company or two have gone with Mr. Amyatt and Mr. Hay to attend them on the road. Hopes everything will be properly settled by the said gentlemen.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 44, pp. 49-50. Abs. P. L I., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Apl. 23. **1743.** Mr. Amyatt to the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Has received his letter saying that now that all *chaukis* have been removed, the Company's business cannot suffer; that if the English have a design against His Excellency, that is a different affair, that if Mr. Amyatt waits upon His Excellency purely for a visit, his house is ready; that His Excellency's troops are uneasy at the disturbances the Company's

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people have created by forcibly carrying away his officers and confining them; and lastly that if Mr. Amyatt is accompanied by a large body of troops, it is feared that disturbances will ensue. Professes friendship and attachment. It is not the Company's people but the officers of the *Sarkār*, who are to blame. Is accompanied by half as many attendants as were with the Governor when the latter last paid His Excellency a visit. Will soon have the pleasure of seeing His Excellency.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 4, pp. 3-4.*]

1744. Sayyid Muḥammad Khān to Mr. Amyatt. His Excellency has never written to a single officer to cut down mulberry trees nor has he ever once thought of such a thing. Desires to know the name of the person who cut down the trees or has informed Mr. Amyatt of the affair, that His Excellency may punish the offender.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763, no. 8*, pp. 5-6.*]

Apl. 24. **1745.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has been informed that Muhammad Taqī Khān has seized Jagat Sēth and Sarūp Chand and carried them to Hirajhil. The Sēṭhs are men of high rank and the treatment meted out to them is extremely improper. It is, moreover, a violation of the agreement and reflects dishonour upon His Excellency and the Governor. The Sēṭhs were never thus disgraced in the time of former *Nāẓims*. Desires that Sayyid Muḥammad Khān may be directed to keep them in their own house that they may carry on their business in peace. Has written a similar letter to the Khān.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 45, pp. 50-51. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Apl. 24. **1746.** To Sayyid Muḥammad Khān. To the same effect as the foregoing.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 47, pp. 52-53. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 84.*]

Apl. 24. **1747.** To the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. The Sēṭhs are merchants and have never interfered in the business of the *Sarkār*. The story that they are in alliance with the English is utterly false. Hopes the Nawab will refrain from injuring them.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 46, p. 52. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 27.*]

Apl. 25. **1748.** Mr. Amyatt to the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has arrived at Sadiq Bagh. Complains that owing to the hostile attitude of the officers of the *Sarkār*, letters from Calcutta now reach His Excellency in about eight days, as against four in the past. Hopes the Nawāb will direct his officers to assist the Company's *dāk chauk is* as formerly.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 5, p. 5.*]

* No. 7 is missing.

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Apl. 25. **1749.** Mr. Amyatt to Sayyid Muḥammad Khān. Has arrived at Sadiq Bagh. Learns that Muhammad Taqī Khān has imprisoned Khush-hāl, a *harkārah* of the Company. Requests him to inquire into the affair. Will write to the Nawāb about it. Is glad to hear that the mulberry trees have not been cut down. Mr. Chambers is inquiring into the matter and will let the addressee know the result of his inquiry.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no 5A., pp. 5-6.*]

Apl. 26. **1750.** To Sayyid Muhammad Khān. Learns that the Sēṭhs have been sent to Monghyr and that consequently their families are very much frightened and their servants have run away. Desires the Khān to send for some of the servants and remove their apprehensions.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 48, p. 53. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 84.*]

Apl. 28. **1751.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter. His Excellency's officers have not removed the *dāk chaukī* at Jahangira. The Governor can send his people to ascertain the truth.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept 1763, no. 41, p. 61. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 18.*]

Apl. 28. **1752.** Mr. Amyatt to the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Has heard that the Sēṭhs have been seized and carried away to Monghyr by His Excellency's orders. Represents that they are merchants and have never interfered in the business of the *Sarkār*. The story that they are in alliance with the English is false. Hopes His Excellency will let them return home.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 6, p. 6.*]

1753. Sayyid Muḥammad Khan to Mr. Amyatt: Has received his letter saying that Muhammad Taqī Khān's people molest the Company's *qāṣids*. The said Khān says that he has no knowledge of the matter. Will make further inquiries.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763, no. 9, p. 6.*]

Apl. 29 **1754.** From the Nawāb Mir Qāsim. Has received his letter. It is the English who are responsible for the disturbances. Has no objection to receiving Mr. Amyatt and Mr. Hay, provided they come like the Governor. It appears that except the English nation, no one has any honour. Where a true friendship exists, the honour of either party affects both equally. If the Governor is inclined to continue to remain on friendly terms with His Excellency, the former will devise some means for stopping the disturbances.

(N. B.—*The postcript was in the Nawāb's own hand.*)

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 42, pp. 61-62. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 18.*]

Apl. 29. **1755.** Muhammad Ṣalih to Muḥammad 'Alī Bēg. Intimates that since the Bēg's departure for Calcutta, the collection of the revenues

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has been entirely stopped. Some of the zamīndārs have run away, while those that remain evade paying the money due to the *Sarkār*. Suggests that the Council may be requested to direct the gentlemen of Dacca to assist the writer. Has sent the former bill of exchange for two *lākhs* of rupees to the Court. No answer to the letter, which the addressee wrote to the Court, has yet arrived. The gentlemen of the factory demand Rs. 1,543 for the boats that accompanied the addressee. Has not yet paid the money. Is awaiting his instructions.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 43, pp. 63-65. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

Apl. 30. **1756.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter. Protests once more that it is not his people, but the Chiefs of Lakhipur and Patna who are to blame. The English have seized Muḥammad ʿalī Bēg, notwithstanding that His Excellency promised to punish him himself. Mr. Ellis, under the pretext that his horses have been seized, sent sepoys against the Zamīndār of Cussmer. The latter has run away but his property has been plundered and carried off. Mr. Ellis says that he has been authorised by the Council to seize the *ʿāmils* of the *Nizāmat* without giving notice to the *Nāib*. Encloses a copy of a letter written by the said gentleman to Muḥammad Mahdī Khān on the subject. On the one hand Mr. Amyatt and Mr. Hay are coming to negotiate a treaty with His Excellency, while on the other his officers are being seized and the Company's troops are proceeding towards Monghyr and Patna. Does not know how to judge of the real designs of the English. Has faith in the Governor's friendship, otherwise His Excellency would have submitted to the will of the Almighty long ago. Will see what Mr. Amyatt has to propose. Wonders how the English will observe the new treaty since they have not abided by the old. Integrity is the most valuable quality in man. God forbid that any man should prove false and become a scorn to the world.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 43A, pp. 65-67. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 18.*]

Apl. 30. **1757.** Mr. Ellis to Muḥammad Mahdī Khān. Has received his letter. Sepoys were sent against the Zamīndār of Cussmer for his seizing three horses belonging to the writer. Has been instructed by the Council to punish whosoever is guilty of such improper proceedings. No friendship now subsists between the *Sarkār* and the Company, else why is the Berhanna gate still shut and why is the Khān making preparations for war.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 43B, p. 67.*]

May 1. **1758.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Muḥammad Ali Bēg, *Faujdār* of Hooghly, has, since *Rajab*, been paying Nawāb Mīr Jaʿfar's allowance month by month. But as the Company have advanced seven months'

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allowance to the said Nawāb, it is desired that His Excellency will assign the money upon such place as may appear to him most proper.

[*Trans P L. I., 1762-63, no. 49, pp. 53-54. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

May 4. **1759.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim Has received his letter saying that the people of the *Sarkār* did not remove the *dāk chaukīs* at Dacca, and complaining once again that the English sepoys go to all parts of the country raising disturbances and seizing his officers. As regards the *dāk chaukis*, Mr. Amyatt has been directed to inquire into the affair, and punish the head *dāk* man in case he is proved to have made a false statement. It was only to protect the Company's business, that the Governor sent some people to two or three places. Now they have all been recalled. Hopes His Excellency will strictly enjoin his officers not to obstruct the Company's business.

[*Trans. P. L. I, 1762-63, no. 50, pp. 54-55. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

1760. The Nawāb Mir Qāsim to Mr. Amyatt. Has received his letter It is long since His Excellency sent Mr Amyatt an invitation and directed Sayyid Muhammad Khān to wait on him at Motijhil. By this time the addressee will have graced that place with his presence. Will be glad to see him

[*Trans. P. L R., 1763, no 10, pp. 6-7.*]

1761. Sayyid Muhammad Khān to Mr. Amyatt. Has directed Shaikh Qutb Ālam and Sayyid Mukarram Khān, *Nāib Faujdārs* of Akbarnagar and Bhagalpur, respectively, to wait upon the addressee and see to his wants. Sends another trusty *harkārah* to attend him on the road.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763, no. 11, pp. 7-8.*]

1762. The Nawāb Mīr Qāsim to Mr. Amyatt. Is in receipt of his two letters Has never delayed replying to his letters. His Excellency's letters have probably gone to Calcutta and from thence been dispatched to the addressee. Regards the English as his allies; but since they are acting so violently, he is without remedy. Is not preparing for war, but is simply recalling some people who have long been quartered at a certain place, and replacing them by others. Cannot conceive why a man of character such as Mr. Amphlett is coming to act as a *wakīl*, when the Company's business is being transacted by means of sepoys. Has written to his officers to afford the addressee protection and to supply him with all necessaries.

[*Trans, P. L. R., 1763, no. 12, pp. 8-10.*]

1763. The Nawāb Mīr Qāsim to Mr. Amyatt. Has neither removed the *dāk chaukis* nor issued orders for their removal. Mr. Amyatt can inquire about it. Is surprised at Mr. Amyatt's saying that the English *dāk chaukis* have been in existence from ancient times

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There is no mention of them in the treaties. It was only during the troubles with the Shāhzādah that the English were permitted to station *chaukīs* between Patna and Calcutta. Has sent Mīr Ábdu-l-lāh and Ghulām Ḥusain Khān to meet him.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763, no. 13, pp. 10-11.*]

May 5. **1764.** Mr. Amyatt to the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter. Is glad to see Mīr Ábdu-l-lāh and Ghulām Ḥusain Khān.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 7, pp. 6-7.*]

1765. The Nawāb Mīr Qāsim to Mr. Amyatt. Has received his letter demanding the release of the Sēths Contends that he is justified in having them seized. They were distrustful of him and looked upon him as an enemy, notwithstanding that he continually sent them invitations and *khal'ats*. Moreover, they had entirely left off their mercantile work and withheld the assistance they agreed to afford him. The English are daily seizing his officers and violating the treaty openly, and yet it reflects no disgrace upon them; while he, in having his subjects brought to him, is said to have disgraced himself in the eyes of the world. It appears that the Sēths have some kind of connection with the English, otherwise it is difficult to account for the latter's uneasiness about an affair in which His Excellency has done nothing but right. Cannot comprehend whether the English mean to intercede on behalf of the Sēths, or whether they accuse him of a breach of faith on the ground that in the old treaty they are put down as English subjects.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763, no. 14, pp. 11-14.*]

May 6. **1766.** Mr. Amyatt to the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has given His Excellency sincere advice. It lies with him to accept or reject it. Has sent his letter to Calcutta. Has had nothing to do with the murder of Fakhru-t-tujjār.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 8, p. 7.*]

1767. The Nawāb Mīr Qāsim to Mr. Amyatt. Is glad to learn that Sayyid Muḥammad Khān received him in the most respectful and obliging manner, and that he has got as far as Dinapur. Has directed his officers at Ahberna to supply him with six elephants.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763, no. 15, pp. 14-15.*]

1768. The Nawāb Mīr Qāsim to Mr. Amyatt. Has received his letter intimating his arrival at Ghurghat. Mīr Ábdu-l-lāh and Ghulām Ḥusain Khān have arrived and delighted His Excellency with their account of his many good qualities. Has sent his brother Abū 'Alī Khān and Rājā Naubat Rāy to meet him. There being no good house at Monghyr, two or three straw bungalows have been erected at Shafiabad for his reception. The elephant has been caught and will be sent to him.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763, no. 16, pp. 15-16.*]

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May 8. **1769.** To Rājā Damodar Singh. Has, as desired, directed the *gumashtahs* of the factory not to give protection to any of the Rājā's dependants. The Rājā, on his part, must not seize any of the dependants of the factory, but should write to the *gumashtahs* if he has any business.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 51, p. 55. Abs. P. L I., 1759-65, p. 70.*]

May 8. **1770.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Is glad to hear of his safe return home. Desires him to exert himself to collect the revenues.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 52, pp. 55-56. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 59.*]

May 9. **1771.** From the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter demanding the release of the Sēths Contends that he is justified in having them seized and brought to Monghyr On His Excellency's accession to the *masnad*, they agreed to live with him and assist him in the affairs of the *Nizamat*. But notwithstanding that he repeatedly sent them invitations, they refused to come, put a stop to their own business, threw the affairs of the *Nizamat* into utter confusion, and treated him as an enemy. They have been brought to Monghyr, not because they were intriguing with the English but because their presence was required in connection with affairs of state The English are sending troops to every part of the country and seizing his officers, and yet it reflects no disgrace upon them: while he in summoning his own subjects is said to have violated the treaty and disgraced himself in the sight of every one. Cannot understand whether the English mean to intercede on behalf of the Seths, or whether they accuse him of a breach of faith on the ground that in the old treaty they are put down as English subjects. If the English are resolved to misconstrue every rightful action of his, he is without remedy. *PS.*—The treaty does not allow the English to interfere on behalf of the dependants of the *Sarkār* and yet they do it.

(N.B.—*The postscript was in the Nawab's own hand.*)

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 44, pp. 68-71. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 18.*]

May 14. **1772.** From the *Diwān* of Rangamati. Has received his letter. Sayyid Jalāl Bukhārī is with His Excellency and Mīr Ḥayāt Ālī has been appointed *Nāib* of Rangamati Regards the Governor as his patron. No one has ever received a bond or issued any. Has directed all the managers in the districts not to obstruct the Company's business. Refers him to the gentleman at Goalparah for particulars. Hopes that orders will be issued for the release of the people carried away by the Company's *tilangās*. The *malguzāri* of this place is very small and depends on the customs taken from the merchants. Hopes that the gentleman at Goalparah will be directed to take his share of the goods brought to Kundah, and to let the merchants and the writer have the rest.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 45, pp. 71-72.*]

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May 15. **1773.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter. Absolute necessity obliged the Governor to send the sepoys into the country. They have been recalled now and the chiefs of the factories have been directed to apply to His Excellency's officers for the redress of their grievances. Hopes His Excellency, on his part, will order his officers to attend to the complaints of the Company's people without delay. Joyful news has arrived from Europe. Refers him to Mr. Amyatt for particulars.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 53, p. 56. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

May 16. **1774.** Mr. Amyatt to the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates that two gentlemen on their way to Patna were turned back at Nawabganj by Ibrāhīm Khān's order. Regards this as the greatest insult to the English nation. Desires to know his reasons for permitting such an order to be issued.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 9, p. 7.*]

1775. The Nawāb Mīr Qāsim to Mr. Amyatt. Is in receipt of his letter. Has directed the Customs Master to take a copy of the *dastak* and let the boats go. Requests him to direct the boat people not to delay showing their *dastak* and giving a copy of it.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763, no. 17, p. 16.*]

1776. The Nawāb Mīr Qāsim to Mr. Amyatt. Has received his letter enclosing a translation of Mr. Helas's letter. Is surprised that the Company's people have quarrelled with his subjects about a matter so trifling as a little *tyre*, and even killed some of them. If a similar violence had been committed by one of His Excellency's people, the English gentlemen would have raised a storm. As to sending a capable man to bring His Excellency's sepoys and the muskets, says "May such men be collected and the muskets and other weapons procured." The English commit violences and, what is wonderful, throw the blame on His Excellency's subjects.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763, no. 18, pp. 16-17.*]

1777. The Nawāb Mīr Qāsim to Mr. Amyatt. Has received his letter. The two gentlemen going to Patna were stopped, because they were without a *dastak*. As to the two of the Company's people who went into the city at night to have a brass pot mended, fell in with Gurgīn Khān's sepoys, and were detained till 9 A.M., says that there is a great distance between the *bāzār* and the camp, and that the Company's people must have gone to pry into the condition of his army. Sends him a *dastak* for the two gentlemen stopped at Nawabganj.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763, no. 19, pp. 17-18.*]

May 23. **1778.** Mr Amyatt to the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Sends him a list of demands. Hopes he will return a satisfactory reply that it may be sent to Calcutta to convince the Council that His Excellency's

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intentions are as peaceful as theirs, and that peace and order may once more reign in the country. It is necessary for a body of English troops to remain at Patna in order that they may be at hand for any service His Excellency may require of them. Moreover, Patna is a healthy place. The Council, however, will probably consent to their being removed to Monghyr, when His Excellency has built fit cantonments for their accommodation. The fact that troops are pouring into Patna, and that the communication between the factory and the city has been stopped when there is no enemy in the country, gives strong reason for suspicion that war is really going to break out. Desires it to be proclaimed that friendly negotiations are in progress between the *Sarkār* and the Company, in order that the alarm of the people may subside. Desires also that Mahdī Alī Khān may be directed to adopt a conciliatory attitude towards the English and to punish anyone who insults them. Mr. Ellis will punish the Company's people immediately on receipt of complaints against them.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 10, pp. 7-8.*]

1778A. List of demands delivered to the Nawab by Messrs. Amyatt and Hay. (1) That His Excellency do annul the treaty he made with Mr. Vansittart and issue *parwānahs* informing his officers of its being void. (2) That reparation be made for the losses sustained by the English both before and after the said treaty was made. (3) That the *sanad* for the remission of all duties for the space of two years be immediately cancelled, as it deprives the English of the advantages to which the Royal *farmān* entitles them above other merchants, and as it is entirely repugnant to their interests and prejudicial to the harmony which ought to subsist between His Excellency and the English. (4) That disputes between the English and the dependants of the *Sarkār* be adjusted in the following manner:— At all the *arangs* adjacent to or under the management of the subordinate factories, a *gumāshtah* shall, in the first instance, apply to the officer of the *Sarkār* residing on the spot. In case he does not receive immediate satisfaction, he shall send his complaint to the chief of the nearest factory. But in respect of weavers, *paikārs*, etc, who receive advances of money for goods to be supplied or are indebted for goods bought, the *gumāshtahs* shall as usual retain their power to call such debtors to account. On the other hand, a subject of the *Sarkār*, complaining of an English *gumāshtah* shall give the latter notice of the complaint in writing. In case the said *gumāshtah* refuses to settle the dispute in such a manner as shall appear reasonable to the officer of the *Sarkār*, the latter shall transmit the case to the chief of the nearest factory. The gentlemen of the subordinate factories shall keep a register of such complaints, a copy whereof shall be forwarded monthly to Calcutta. (5) That a gentleman on the part of the English shall always reside at His Excellency's *Darbār* to transact all business between the *Sarkār* and the Company. (6) That *jāgīr ī sanads* be granted the Company for Burdwan, Midnapur,

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and Chittagong. (7) That the money coined in the Company's mint be declared current, and the English allowed to coin three *lākhs* of rupees annually in each of the mints of Dacca and Patna. (8) That the money spent by Muḥammad Riżā Khān in the expedition to Tippera out of the revenues of Chittagong, after the latter was made over to the Company, be reimbursed. (9) That before the departure of Messrs. Amyatt and Hay from Monghyr, a public and exemplary punishment be inflicted on Lāl Shāh, who attacked a *sūbahdār* and 50 sepoys, declaring that he had the Nawāb's orders to cut every English sepoy to pieces wherever they were found. (10) That the Sēṭhs be released. (11) That His Excellency do give an explicit answer to the above demands and with all convenient expedition issue orders agreeably thereto.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 10A, pp. 9-11.*]

1779. The Nawāb Mīr Qāsim to Mr. Amyatt. Will reply to the Company's demands in two or three days. Desires that in the meantime no unpleasant conversation should take place between them. Invites him to an entertainment arranged in his honour.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763, no. 20, pp. 18-19.*]

May 25. 1780. Mr. Amyatt to the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Complains that while two soldiers, in charge of the boats laden with arms, were coming to see him, the guard at the landing place stopped them and told them to lay down their swords and clothing. Hopes that orders will be issued for the immediate release of the boats, that he may come to His Excellency's house with a light heart and have a greater relish for the repast. Is glad to learn that Mr. Ellis has ceased creating disturbances.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 11, pp. 11-12.*]

1781. The Nawāb Mīr Qāsim to Mr. Amyatt. Has been informed by Muhammad Mahdī Khān that Mr. Ellis is daily creating disturbances. The public believes that the relations between the *Sarkār* and the Company are very much strained. Desires that the English troops stationed at Patna should either be recalled to Calcutta, to remain there till they are wanted, or transferred to Monghyr. If the English, under pretence of the rainy season, are resolved not to withdraw their troops from Patna and are wholly bent upon the ruin of his affairs, they should say so, that he may relinquish the *Niẓāmat*.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763, no. 21, pp. 19-20.*]

1782. The Nawāb Mīr Qāsim to Mr. Amyatt. Is heartily desirous of retaining the friendship of the English. Mr. Amyatt is not sufficiently acquainted with the affairs of the *Niẓāmat*. Desires him to inquire into them. Requests that a trusty person may be sent to Monghyr to build cantonments for the English troops. Mr. Amyatt can send for the troops from Patna if he likes. Has written to Calcutta on the subject. Muḥammad Mahdī Khān continually complains of

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Mr. Ellis and says that if a reinforcement is not speedily sent him, he will relinquish his post. Declares most emphatically that if the troops are not removed from Patna, there is bound to be war between them. As to Mr. Amyatt's saying that Mr. Ellis keeps the troops merely for his own safety, His Excellency is much grieved that his sincerity is still doubted. Asks if he has ever beaten, bound, or killed a person belonging to the Company. The English killed twenty of his subjects for a trifle such as a little milk but he has not retaliated.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763, no. 22, pp. 20-22.*]

May 25. 1783. Mr. Amyatt to the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. It is no business of the writer's to inquire into the conduct of the officers of the *Niẓāmat*. They should by no means obstruct the Company's business. It is expected that they will answer for any injury they have done. The Company, on their part, will indemnify the Nawāb tor the violences committed by their dependants. Thinks that in most cases the charges brought against the latter are absurd, for if they had been the aggressors, troops would not have been sent to assist them. Is not authorised to allow the removal of the troops to Monghyr. Will, however, represent the matter to the Governor and Council. The troops cannot be removed soon, for even if His Excellency's request is granted, a fit cantonment for their accommodation cannot be built in a day. Is surprised at His Excellency's defending the behaviour of his people who, in consequence of a little milk, beat, bound and carried away a servant of the English. On Mr. Helas's remonstrating with them and demanding the release of the prisoner, they called him most scandalous names and set up an affray. The English acted on the defensive only. It has been intimated to His Excellency again and again that there is nothing the English are more desirous of than the continuance of the alliance and the re-establishment of harmony between them. But this is impossible unless His Excellency complies with the Company's demands. Requests him to reply soon.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 12, pp. 12-13.*]

May 26. 1784. The Nawāb Mīr Qasim's reply to the Company's demands. (1) His Excellency never regarded the agreement. Has written to his officers to look upon it as null and void. (2) Is willing to indemnify the Company for their losses provided they indemnify him for his. (3) It is to retain the friendship of the English that he has chosen to lose *lākhs* of rupees and abolished all duties for two years. (4) Will not interrupt the weavers, *paikārs*, etc., dependant on the Company, provided his people are not molested. Objects strongly to the chiefs of the factories settling disputes between his people and those of the Company. The fact of there being two rulers in the same districts will ruin the country. (5) Whenever they have settled their differences to their mutual satisfaction, there will be no necessity for a Resident remaining at his Court. (6) Agrees to pay the expenses of the Company's troops. (7) Has never objected to receiving the revenues in *sikkah* rupees coined either at Murshidabad, Patna, or Calcutta.

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Ṣarrāfs and merchants are no one's servants. Cannot compel them to accept or to refuse to accept a particular currency. (8) The money collected by Muḥammad Riẓā Khān at Chittagong has already been paid into the Company's treasury. (9) Will punish his people after the English punish theirs. (10) Will not release the Sēths. It has been customary for them to live wherever the *Nāgim* lives (11) The English have broken the treaty but he has always been firm thereto. Consequently some concessions should be granted to him in the proposed agreement. Concludes by saying that if the English want him to retain the *Niẓāmat*, they must withdraw their troops from Patna and other places.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763, no. 22A, pp. 22-26.*]

1785. Messrs. Amyatt and Hay to the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Are sorry to learn that His Excellency has not complied with a single demand of theirs. What they want is nothing more than the restoration of peace and order, and the establishment of friendship that they may carry on their trade,, without which they cannot remain in the country. Their business is now at an end. Will wait on him the next day to take their leave.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 13, p. 14.*]

1786. The Nawāb Mīr Qāsim to Mr. Amyatt. Asks to which article he has not returned a satisfactory answer. Has never impeded the Company's trade. Is ready to perform his agreement. But if the English make new demands every month and invent excuses for making war on him, he is without remedy. Even the meanest person would not choose to give his good name and honour to the winds. Mr. Amyatt has not yet listened to his grievances and is going away without settling anything. Approves of his sending a copy of His Excellency's answer to Calcutta. Has been indisposed for some days, but is better now. Requests the addressee to call on him the next day.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763, no. 23, pp 26-27.*]

May 27. 1787. Mr. Amyatt to the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Is glad to learn of his recovery. Will, as desired, wait on him the next day. Requests that orders may be issued for the release of the boats laden with muskets.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 14, p. 14.*]

May 30. 1788. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. News has arrived that the French having been defeated in all parts of the world, have sued for peace which is about to be concluded. Has been indisposed for some days but is better now.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 54, p. 57. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

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June 2. **1789.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. The Company's demands are unreasonable and contrary to former treaties. His Excellency did not expect to be involved in trouble whilst the Governor remained in India. Has been repeatedly informed by Muḥammad Mahdī Khān that Mr. Ellis continues to create disturbances. His Excellency's troops at Patna are greatly alarmed, and the public believes that the relations between the Company's *Sarkār* and His Excellency are very much strained. Encloses the said Khān's letter on the subject. Mr. Amyatt does not listen to his representations. Desires that the English troops at Patna may either be recalled to Calcutta or stationed at Monghyr, else he will relinquish the *Niẓāmat.*

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 46, pp. 72-73. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 18.*]

June 2. **1790.** Muhammad Mahdī Khān to the Nawab Mīr Qāsim. Mr. Ellis continues to make disturbances. The people are in a state of panic, and the collection of the revenues has been entirely stopped. Requests His Excellency to issue orders for the restoration of peace and order.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 46A, p. 74.*]

June 2. **1791.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. The sepoys have not yet been recalled. Desires that the gentlemen of the Council may be requested to recall them. Has written to his officers not to obstruct the Company's business. Congratulates him on the victories gained by the English over the French.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 47, pp. 74-75. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 18.*]

June 3. **1792.** Rājā Satarām Rāj to the Colonel.* Has defeated Sheo Bhaṭ and Rajā Narāyan Deo, and is encamping on the frontiers of Cuttack. Wants to capture Barabati, the capital of Cuttack. Hopes the Colonel will assist him in the enterprise. The writer is an old friend of the English, while Sheo Bhat has always given them trouble. Will pay an annual tribute to the Company.

[*Trans P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 48, pp. 75-76. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 43.*]

June 3. **1793.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Messrs. Amyatt and Hay refuse to listen to his representations. They say that instead of removing the troops from Patna they will reinforce them, and that if the Nawāb wants war, the English are ready. Complains that the Governor has, contrary to the agreement, sent from Calcutta six boats laden with muskets. Has no objection to two or three hundred Englishmen remaining at Patna. The rest should either be recalled to Calcutta or stationed at Monghyr Is desirous of coming to terms with the English, but cannot see his way thereto. His patience is almost exhausted. Encloses his reply to the list of demands.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 49, pp. 76-77. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 18.*]

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* Probably Clive, though he was not in India at this time.

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1794. The Nawāb Mīr Qāsim to Mr. Amyatt. Has been informed that Mr. Ellis has, to some extent, desisted from creating disturbances. Is convinced that this is entirely due to the addressee's writing to the said gentleman. Invites him to an entertainment.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763, no. 24, pp. 27-28.*]

June 6. 1795. Mr. Amyatt to the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Requests that orders may be issued for the release of the four boats laden with grain and going to Patna with an English *dastak*. Complains that an Englishman's *gumāshtah*, who went to the city to dispose of some salt, was, in consequence of a complaint from some coolies, forcibly carried away to the cutcherry, where, without form or trial, he was tied up to a post, drubbed with his own shoes, fined four annas, and then turned about his business. Is surprised at the manner in which justice is dispensed by His Excellency's officers.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 15, p. 15.*]

1796. The Nawāb Mīr Qāsim to Mr. Amyatt. Replies that the grain belongs to a merchant who is a subject of the *Sarkār* and who says that the *dastak* was forced upon him. It is by no means proper for the chiefs of the factories to catch hold of his people and give them *dastaks*. Sends him the merchant in question. Complains that Mr. Ellis extorts money from the merchants of Colonelganj. Is surprised to learn that there is an English salt *golā* at Monghyr. Asks by whose permission it has been set up.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763, no. 25, pp. 28-29.*]

June 8. 1797. To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. It is surprising that His Excellency has not complied with a single demand of the English. Mr. Amyatt and the Governor never said that they would not send military stores. The only promise made was that the troops at Patna would not be reinforced. His Excellency's stopping the boats laden with arms, and seizing two thousand maunds of saltpetre, can only be regarded as acts of hostility. It appears from his letters that he is firmly resolved to make war on the English. If such is his desire, he should say so plainly that the Governor may no longer labour in vain to settle the disputes in an amicable manner. Tells him that if he refuses to release the boats, all hopes of peace and friendship are at an end.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 55, pp. 57-58. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

June 9. 1798. Mr. Amyatt to the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has been informed that His Excellency's people have induced many of the Company's sepoys at Patna to desert, and that Muḥammad Mahdī Khān has set a *chaukī* on the house of Mīr Ghulām Jīlānī, a *gumāshtah* of the Company. It is evident that His Excellency means war. The writer's business is now at an end and he begs leave to depart for Calcutta. Has, as desired, written to the Council about the Company's people interfering with his *'Āmil* at Sylhet.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 16, pp. 15-16.*]

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1799. The Nawāb Mīr Qāsim to Mr. Amyatt. Denies having induced the Company's sepoys to desert. Mr. Ellis brought the same charge against him last year. It is usual with soldiers to desert at the approach of war. It is prejudicial to his own interests to pay the expenses of an army which is kept to be employed against him. Wishes to know the meaning of the Governor's sending arms to Mr. Ellis, who is night and day making preparation for war. Is not inclined to quarrel with the English The latter have done him much injury and yet his attitude has all along been friendly. Requests that his demands may be listened to. It is in the addressee's power to put an end to disputes or to increase them. Does not know if a guard has been placed on Ghulām Jilānī. Has, however, written to Muhammad Mahdi Khān on the subject Ghulām Jīlānī is by no means so great a man as Muhammad Ālī Bēg that the English should be so uneasy about him.

[*Trans P. L. R., 1763, no. 26, pp. 29-30.*]

1800. Mr. Amyatt to the Nawāb Mīr Qasim Complains that while three Englishmen were riding out for pleasure, they were stopped and in the most insolent manner ordered to turn back. On their refusal to comply with the command, His Excellency's people presented arms and said that they were acting under orders. The said Englishmen, on their way back, were further insulted by the latter who called out "*chalo, chalo.*" Regards this as an insult of the most serious nature and demands satisfaction.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 17, p. 16.*]

1801. The Nawāb Mir Qāsim to Mr. Amyatt. It is not his guards, but the three Englishmen who are to blame. The latter went about His Excellency's quarters for their amusement, and when questioned by the guards, they returned no answer but brandished their swords and called them scandalous names. The word "*chalo*" is not insulting. Will not give any satisfaction for the so-called insult, since the English have never been deficient in bringing his Government and his people into contempt.

[*Trans. P L. R., 1763, no. 27, pp. 30-31.*]

June 13. **1802.** Mr. Amyatt to Rājā Naubat Rāy. Has written to the Governor and Council regarding Mr. Peacock having farmed the jungle of Morang, and English *gumāshtahs* having been sent all over the Purnea country to buy up grain. Whatever is decided in the Council, will be communicated to the Company's people. The writer's words will carry no weight.

[*Trans. P L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 18, p. 16.*]

1803. The Nawāb Mīr Qāsim to Mr. Amyatt. Insists on the removal of the troops from Patna, because Mr. Ellis, being his avowed enemy, has been creating disturbance for the past two years. Will, however, release the boats and consent to the troops continuing

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to remain at Patna, provided Mr. Ellis is removed therefrom and replaced either by Mr. Amyatt, Mr. McGuire, or Mr. Hastings. If the English want war, the addressee should say so plainly, that the *dastaks* and *parwānahs* may be sent him. Has not yet been asked to give him his dismissal.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763, no. 28, pp. 31-32.*]

June 17. **1804.** Mr. Amyatt to the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. The Governor and Council cannot consent to the removal of the troops from Patna. If His Excellency refuses to treat on other terms and to release the boats, the writer is ordered to demand his dismissal. Requests that a passport may be sent him as soon as possible. The Governor and Council have decided to release the *'āmils*. It is hoped that His Excellency will not detain any of his party as a hostage. But if he does, Mr. Hay is willing to remain behind.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 19, p. 17.*]

June 18. **1805.** Mr Amyatt to the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has been ordered to leave his Court immediately. Hopes His Excellency will send him a passport and direct his officers not to molest him on the way.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 20, p. 17.*]

June 19 **1806.** Mr. Amyatt to the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has repeatedly told His Excellency that Mr. Ellis cannot act against the people of the *Sarkār* without orders from Calcutta. The Council do not want war unless it is forced upon them. Has received orders to the effect that if His Excellency refuses to release the boats or to lay aside all thoughts of having the troops removed from Patna, he is immediately to depart for Calcutta. Cannot, in consequence of this order, treat with His Excellency on any other matter. As to his dismissal, the Council inform him of all their resolutions which he faithfully lays before His Excellency.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Apl.-June 1763, no. 21, pp. 17-18.*]

June 22. **1807.** To Rājā Bījī Rām [? Satarām]. Is glad to learn that he has defeated Shoe Bhaṭ and Narāyan. Will send an army to his assistance after the rains are over.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 56, pp. 58-59. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 76.*]

June 25. **1807A.** Form Turāb 'Alī Khan. Has written to the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far about the palanquin and horse which the writer was directed to send. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 23.*]

June 26. **1808.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has received his letter. His reply to the demands of the English was conformable to treaty and justice. If he had known that the troops at Patna were kept not for his benefit but for the defence of the factory, he would not have demanded their withdrawal. Will release the boats and consent to

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the troops continuing to remain at Patna, provided Mr. Ellis, his avowed enemy, is replaced either by Mr. Amyatt, Mr. McGuire, or Mr. Hastings. Denies having seized the Company's saltpetre. Requests that the muskets may be sold to him. Wants them in order to intimidate his unruly subjects. Reiterates his complaint about the Company's people seizing his officers. Does not desire a war with the English. It is the latter who every year make fresh demands and drive him into corners. Mr. Ellis is ready to attack Muḥammad Mahdī Khān. Is without remedy. It is every man's duty to defend his honour. Will pay Mīr Ja'far's allowance after the *'amils* have gone to their districts and collected some money.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 50, pp. 77-80. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 18.*]

June 26. **1809.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Has, as desired, released the boats with the muskets. But Messrs. Amyatt and Hay have told His Excellency that the Council have decided not to remove the troops from Patna. Has just learnt that Mr. Ellis is about to assault the fort, and that he is preparing ladders and platforms and pulling down the houses of Bankipur in order to make entrenchments. Has forborne so long for the Governor's sake. His patience is now quite exhausted. Encloses letters regarding the state of affairs at Patna.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 51, pp. 80-81. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 18.*]

June 26. **1809A.** Muḥammad Mahdī Khān to the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Mr. Ellis has made platforms and ladders to scale the walls. One day he was ready to assault the fort, when a storm of wind and rain frustrated his design. Cannot sit inactive. Requests permission to fight.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 51A, p. 82.*]

June 26. **1809B.** Muḥammad Mahdī Khān to the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Encloses a paper of news.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 51B, p. 83.*]

June 26. **1809C.** Paper of news. Mr. Ellis's sepoys come close to the fort, call the garrison names, and challenge them to fight. He has made ladders and platforms to scale the walls. One day he was ready to assault the fort, when a storm of wind and rain frustrated his design. The people of the city are in great distress, but Muḥammad Mahdī Khān will not fight without His Excellency's orders.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 51C, p. 83.*]

June 26. **1809D.** Papers of news. Mr. McLeod pulled down some houses in order to make entrenchments, and turned out the tenants. The latter complained to Captain Castiers but received no answer.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 51D, p. 83.*]

June 26. **1809E.** Mahsingh to the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Intimates that about 700 Europeans and *tilangas* after plundering the merchants

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and tenants at Chilmari, went to his cutcherry and killed and wounded fifteen of his peons. Owing to the repetition of such disturbances, the country has been ruined and the collection of the revenues entirely stopped.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, No. 51E, p. 84.*]

June 28. **1810.** To the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. The Company's troops at Patna and elsewhere are at His Excellency's disposal. It was at his desire that some of the Company's troops were stationed at Patna. Wishes to know what enemy has made his appearance at Monghyr that he has, on a sudden, sent for them. Mr. Ellis cannot do anything without orders. He makes a show of his forces through necessity. Rumours of war are abroad in the country because His Excellency has concentrated his troops at Patna. Muḥammad Taqī Khān and Shaikh Haibatu-l-lāh are with their troops at Katwa and declare that they are going to invade Burdwan. Has sent some forces there to remove the fears of the people. No one prevents His Excellency from sending his officers to their districts. If he does so, it may be a means of putting an end to the reports of a rupture between the *Sarkār* and the Company. Desires to know how many of the Company's demands he can comply with. Requests that Messrs. Amyatt and Hay may be allowed to leave, whenever they desire to do so.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 57, pp. 59-61. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

June 28. **1811.** To Sayyid Muhammad Khān. As Muḥammad Taqī Khān and Shaikh Haibatu-l-lāh have assembled their forces at Katwa and Budgaun and are going to invade Burdwan, and as the ryots are consequently very much frightened, some troops have been sent to remove their fears. Should any other report spread in the city, the Khān is asked to pay no regard thereto.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 58, pp. 61-62. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 84.*]

July 3. **1812.** To Shaikh Quṭb 'Ālam. Learns that the addressee has imprisoned the Company's *ḍāk* people stationed at Dacca, and that consequently the people belonging to the other *chaukīs* have run away through fear. This cannot have been done without the Nawāb's orders. Desires to be supplied with a copy thereof.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 59, pp. 62-63. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 29.*]

July 7. **1813.** From the Nawāb Mīr Qāsim. Mr. Ellis has turned out to be his sincere friend. The Governor would not part with two or three hundred muskets, but Mr. Ellis has supplied His Excellency with all the muskets and cannon in his possession; for he assaulted the fort like a night robber and plundered the city for hours together, but was at last defeated and captured with all his muskets and cannon.

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Passes over his own losses, but will insist on the Company making reparation to the poor. The English concluded with him a treaty to which they pledged the name of Jesus Christ. They took from him Burdwan and other lands for the expenses of their army, with the condition that the troops would always serve him. In reality they were kept to be employed against him, as the recent events have clearly shown. Desires that the said lands may be restored to him together with therents for the past three years, and that he may be indemnified for all the violences committed by the English *gumāshtahs*.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan-Sept. 1763. no. 52, pp. 84-85. Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 19.*]

July 7. **1814.** Proclamation. The Nawab Qāsim 'Alī, having committed acts openly hostile to the English, the Council declare war against him and recognise and proclaim Mīr Ja'far as the *Ṣūbahdār* of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa. As the said Qāsim Alī has likewise committed acts of violence and oppression on the principal inhabitants and merchants of the country, all manner of persons are invited to repair to the standard of the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far and assist him in defeating the designs of the said Qasim 'Alı

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1762-63, no. 60, p. 63.*]

July 9. **1815.** To Sayyid Muhammad Khan. Mr. Amyatt and the other English gentlemen have been treacherously murdered notwithstanding that they had a pass from Mīr Qasim. Such an infernal action is contrary to the dictates of human nature. Hears that the Khan was not concerned in this horrible crime ; still it is surprising to learn that others can be guilty of such wickedness within the limits of his jurisdiction. Desires that if any Englishman falls into his hands or those of his officers, he may be sent to Major Adams. In case Mīr Qāsim's orders prevent the Khān from doing this, he is requested to take all imaginable care of the man, and not to send him to Monghyr. In ten or twenty days, it will be known who is master of Murshidabad, and the murderers of Mr. Amyatt and the other English gentlemen will be dead.

[*Trans. P.L. I., 1762-63, no. 61, p. 64. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 84.*]

July 10. **1816.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has sent Rājā Dūlab Rām to His Excellency. Hopes he will be reinstated in his posts.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 1, p. 1.*]

July 10. **1817.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has, as desired, presented Muhammad 'Alī Bēg with a *khal'at* and sent him to His Excellency. Will write to the Chief of Dacca to assist the Bēg.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 2, p. 1.*]

July 12. **1818.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is glad to learn of his arrival at Ghyretty. The agreement will shortly be signed and sent to him. Approves of the enlistment of 3,000 horse and 2,000 foot.

[*Trans. P. L. I. July-Dec. 1763, no. 3, pp. 1-2.*]

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July 12. **1819.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has, as desired, dispatched Muhammad 'Alī Bēg to His Excellency. Encloses a pass and a letter to the Chief of Dacca.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 4, p. 2.*]

July 12. **1820.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has delivered 333 firelocks with powder, etc., to Qāim Bēg and dispatched him to His Excellency.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 5, p. 2.*]

July 13. **1821.** From Sayyid Badal Khān. Learns that some of the Calcutta merchants refuse to pay any duties on salt, etc., at Mukwa and Bailea. Hopes that strict orders will be issued on the subject.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 1, p. 1. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 47.*]

July 13. **1822.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Intimates his arrival at Hooghly. Has not yet received the muskets and the agreement. Requests that they may be sent with expedition.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 2, p. 1. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

July 13. **1823.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The Dutch have factories at Patna and are afraid of the enemy on account of the smallness of their own force. That is why they neglected to visit His Excellency. Encloses the agreement signed by himself and the gentlemen of the Council. Mr. Batson, Major Adams, and Major Carnac are in camp. His Excellency can get it signed by them there.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 6, pp. 2-3.*]

July 15. **1824.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is glad to hear of His Excellency's arrival at Khulna. Has, as desired, ordered a large ship to lie off Hooghly and some sloops and boats off Nuddea. A guard has already been posted to the north of Calcutta and another will be stationed at Anwarpur. News has arrived that Mr. Glen is in possession of Katwa Fort, that many of the enemy have been killed, and that the rest have fled. Congratulates the Nawāb on the victory.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 7, pp. 3-5.*]

July 16. **1825.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has arrived at Samdargarhi. Learns from Major Adams that Captain Long has dispossessed the enemy of Katwa and the fort, and that they have fled to the other side of the river. Congratulates the Governor on the victory. Hopes to join the army soon.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 3, pp. 1-2. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

July 18. **1826.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has arrived at Putly, where he was met by the Captains Spelman and Witchcot. Has not yet crossed

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the [Bhagirathi] on account of the scarcity of boats. Has received the agreement. Will get it signed by Mr. Batson, Major Adams, and Major Carnac.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 4, p. 2. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

July 18. **1827.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Major Adams came as far as Putly to meet him. Has joined the army.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 5, pp. 2-3. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

July 20. **1828.** To the Nawab Mīr Ja'far. Learns from Major Adams that he has completely routed the enemy's army under the command of Muḥammad Taqī Khan, Mīr Ja'far, Haibatu-l-lāh, and Khwājah Aratoon. Congratulates the Nawāb on the victory.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 8, p. 5.*]

July 24. **1829.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Offers congratulations on the victory of Katwa. Learns that Muḥammad Taqī Khān has died of his wounds, and that Shaikh Haibatu-l-lāh and Mīr Ja'far have also been mortally wounded.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 6, p. 3. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

July 24. **1830.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter intimating that on the 19th instant, the enemy's commanders with 7 or 8 thousand horse and foot engaged the Company's troops, that Major Adams made an attack upon their rear and killed about 700 of them, and that the rest took to flight, leaving the victory in the hands of the English. Has already heard the news from Major Adams. Reports the capture of Dacca. His Excellency can appoint whomsoever he likes to the Nāibship of it. The sons of Sarfarāz Khān, deceased, and several other persons are confined in the fort. Will do with them whatever His Excellency directs. Encloses a letter from His Excellency's son Najmu-d-daulah. Has, as directed, dispatched a ship and some armed sloops.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 9, pp. 5-6.*]

July 27. **1831.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Learns from Major Adams that, on the 24th instant, the enemy were routed [at Motijhil] and that His Excellency was seated on the *masnad*. Has returned thanks to the Almighty and fired guns in celebration of the happy event. The province of Bengal has now been reduced to subjection and the people have been delivered from the oppressions of the enemy. Hopes that under His Excellency's rule the country will ever flourish.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 10, p. 6.*]

July 27. **1832.** To the *gumāshtahs* of the zamīndārs, *chaudhrīs*, and *qānūngoes* of the *chaklahs* of Dacca and Jessore. Whereas the Nawāb Mīr

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Ja'far has been appointed *Ṣūbahdār* of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa and seated on the *masnad* of Murshidabad, the addressees are required to apply themselves with all quietness and diligence to the carrying on of the business of the *Sarkār* as usual, and on no account to harbour any fears in their minds.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 11, p. 7.*]

July 27. 1833. To the Nawāb Mir Ja'far. Requests that whenever His Excellency sends officers to the different parts of the country, the writer may be informed of it, that knowing who are His Excellency's friends and who his enemies, he may assist the former and punish the latter.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 12, p. 7.*]

July 29. 1834. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is glad to hear of the capture of Dacca. Has sent for some of the people confined in the fort. Thanks the Governor for delivering his letter to Najmu-d-daulah. Hopes his family will be taken care of.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 7, pp. 3-4. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

July 29. 1835. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Requests His Excellency to enjoin his officers, whenever they get any tidings of the Company's effects, to appoint a guard to take care of them and to send a list of them to His Excellency and the Governor.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 13, p. 7.*]

July 29. 1836. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter intimating Sayyid Muḥammad Khān's flight from the entrenchments of Motijhil and His Excellency's arrival at Murshidabad. Has already congratulated him on the happy event. Prays that the country may under his rule ever flourish.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 14, p. 8.*]

Aug. 2. 1837. To Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Has received his letter with another from Chānd *Harkārah* to Sukh Lāl. Desires that the contents of the last may be kept secret. Encloses a letter he has written to the Dutch Director insisting on his delivering up Shaikh Kamāl, Āqā 'Aẓīm, and others. The addressee should write a similar letter. Advises him not to come to the point abruptly but to write in a cautious and indirect manner. If the Director does not deliver up the said people but orders them to leave the place, a guard should be placed both by land and by water that they may be seized. The addressee is to manage this business coolly and carefully. As regards the *parganah* of Ursa, Mr. Johnstone has been directed to order his *gumāshtahs* to act agreeably to the former custom.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 15, pp. 8-9.*]

Aug. 2. 1838. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Agrees with His Excellency that Muḥammad 'Alī Bēg is not well disposed to their cause. Approves of

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Muhammad Rizā Khān's appointment to the Nāibship of Dacca. The Khān is an old well-wisher of His Excellency's. Has, as desired, written to the Chiefs of Dacca and Chittagong to assist him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 16, pp. 9-10.*]

Aug. 7. **1839.** To the Nawab Mīr Ja'far. Has already heard of the defeat of the enemy at Gheria and sent His Excellency a congratulatory letter. Hopes the enemey will soon be brought to shame and repentance. Has delivered the letter to his (the Governor's) brother Najmu-d-daulah. The Dutch Director has, as desired, turned the Hooghly officers out of Chinsurah. Shaikh Kamāl and Chānd *Harkārah* have been taken and the others also will meet with the same fate. The enemy's adherents at Kishangarh, Hidgely, etc., have run away. Requests His Excellency to send some officers to those places to quiet the minds of the inhabitants and collect the revenues.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 17, pp. 10-11.*]

Aug. 10. **1839A.** From Turāb 'Alī Khān. Bad men wish to cause a breach between him and the Governor. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 23.*]

Aug. 11. **1840.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Learns from the *Dāroghah* of Bankibazar that all the ryots have run away on account of the oppression of the officers of the hospital Requests that the officers may be written to on the subject

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec 1763, no. 8, p. 4 Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

Aug. 11. **1841.** To Rājā Narāyan Deo. Has received his letter intimating that by stealth he has arrived at Sangant Gola in the province of Burdwan and asking for protection. Cannot help him at present on account of the war with Mīr Qāsim. If the addressee has any good troops, he should go and join the Nawāb and the Company's army, or march to Monghyr by way of Jharkand. But if he is entirely alone, he should go to Mr. Johnstone. Afterwards he can come to Calcutta to see the Governor.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 18, pp. 11-12.*]

Aug. 12. **1842.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has been informed by Mr. Johnstone that the enemy's people have returned to Birbhum and are collecting money. Has, therefore, directed him to send a person there to collect the revenues till the arrival of an *'āmil* from His Excellency. Has appointed Ahsanu-l-lāh Khān Collector of Kishangarh and Jessore. Requests that he may be confirmed in that post.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 19, p. 12.*]

Aug. 14. **1842A.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is in receipt of his letter. Will inform him as soon as Muhammad Rizā Khān sets out for Dacca. Thanks him for writing to the Chiefs of Dacca and Chittagong to

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assist the Khān. Is encamped at Goramary. It is about four or five *kos* from there to Udanala, where the enemy have strongly entrenched themselves.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 9, pp. 4-5. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

Aug 15. **1843.** To Sayyid Badal Khān. Has received his letter concerning the Danish factory. The Danish Chief has agreed to pay the *qists* at the stated time. Desires that the Khān will positively require him to keep a *wakil* at Hooghly according to custom, and will send the accounts for the Governor's perusal. Success has, on all occasions, attended the arms of the English. The Nawāb and Major Adams have arrived at Pudkipur, which is about a mile from the enemy's entrenchments at Udanala.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 20, pp. 12-13.*]

Aug. 16. **1844.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his two letters, one intimating his arrival at Shergarh and saying that Major Adams is encamped at Pudkipur, and the other enclosing a letter from Suhrāb, the adopted son of Muḥammad Taqī Khān, to Muḥammad Rizā Khān, and mentioning that His Excellency has appointed Khudā Yār Khān Collector of Birbhum. Though the enemy have strongly entrenched themselves at Udanala, it is hoped that they will soon be defeated. After perusing Suhrāb's letter, the writer directed Captain Maclean, who is on his way to camp, to march from Burdwan to Birbhum, and in concert with Khudā Yār Khān to put down the disturbances there. Has dispatched three long boats under Captain Wedderburn to camp. The ships and sloops cannot go so far up the river on account of the shallowness of the stream.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 21, pp. 13-14.*]

Aug. 18. **1845.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has already intimated to His Excellency that Captain Maclean has been directed to march to Birbhum and co-operate with Khudā Yār Khān in clearing the place of the enemy Faqīr Chand seized Bābū Rām and others and sent them to Calcutta, thinking them to be some of the enemy's people. They were, however, released before the arrival of His Excellency's letter. As to his writing that Muḥammad Kāẓim Khān, a relation of his, has been carried away from Rajmahal and that the enemy have placed a guard upon his family, the Governor hopes that he will soon be restored to liberty.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 22, pp. 14-15.*]

Aug. 22. **1846.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Approves of the appointment of Muḥammad Yār Khān to the office of Collector of Nuddea. Has, as desired, directed Ahsanu-l-lāh Khān to leave Nuddea for Jessore. Approves also of the appointment of Muḥammad Nāṣir to manage the affairs of Hidgely. Desires to know whom the Nawāb is going to nominate as Collectors of Tamluk and Mysadul. Hopes

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Suhrāb will soon be defeated and Khudā Yār Khān put in possession of Birbhum. Encloses the *dastak*, letters and accounts seized on the other side of Jellinghy, together with the Sylhet revenues in *kaurīs*. Has sold the *kaurīs* at the *bāzār* price. The troops which were sent to Kishangarh found in the cutcherry there about Rs. 25,000, which they seized together with the *'āmil* of the place. The whole of the above amount has been used for the expenses of the troops. His Excellency will be credited for it, and an exact account will be forwarded to him later on.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 23, pp. 15-16.*]

Aug. 25. **1847.** To Rājā Dūlab Rām. Has received his letter saying that the enemy have entrenched themselves at Udanala and that the English army is encamped at a mile's distance from them. Hopes the enemy will soon be defeated. When that is done, the Rājā's business will be settled in a proper manner.

[*Trans. P. L. I, July-Dec. 1763, no. 24, pp. 16-17.*]

Aug. 26. **1848.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter together with a copy of a *parwanah* His Excellency has written to Rājā Narāyan Deo. Approves of His Excellency sending the Rāja a letter of invitation. Mr. Johnstone has forwarded him some money and also invited him. He says that the Rājā has mean and incapable people about him. However, it is well to have him for the sake of his name. Encloses a copy of the Rājā's letter together with the reply thereto.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 25, p. 17*]

Aug 27. **1849.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Encloses letters which the Wazīr has written to himself, the Governor, the Council and Mr. Ellis. Solicits advice as to what answer he should send. Has arrived at Pudkipur. Hopes to drive the enemy to Monghyr and thence to Patna. It is not advisable to invite the King and the Wazīr. The expenses of their army would be enormous. As the enemy is running away, the Wazīr may be requested to direct the Zamīndār of Benares and the *Faujdārs* of Ghazipur and Zamania to seize him if he passes through their territory.

[*Trans. P L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 10, pp 5-6. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

[*Aug 27.*] **1850.** The Wazīr to the Nawāb Mir Ja'far. Professes friendship. The King also is favourably disposed towards him. His Majesty had thoughts of marching towards Bengal, but was prevented from doing so on account of the rains. He has now been informed of the political situation in Bengal and was grieved to learn of the distress of that province. Therefore, notwithstanding the badness of the roads, he left Surajpur with his troops "numerous as the stars" and crossed the Ganges that he might speedily arrive and punish the iniquitous. Refers him to Muhammad 'Alī Bēg for particulars. Requests a reply to this letter.

[*Trans P. L. R, July-Dec. 1763, no. 10A, pp 6-7.*]

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Aug. 27. **1851.** From the Wazīr. The Rohillas have been reduced to submission. Has heard of the disputes between the English and Mīr Qāsim, and of the violences committed by the latter. According to the treaty which Colonel Coote and Major Carnac made with the writer, their interests are identical Is surprised that the Governor has not informed him of the political situation in Bengal for a long time. It is His Majesty's most earnest desire that not even a single poor man should be oppressed or injured. Accordingly, asks how they can suffer the English to be treated with oppression or injustice. They have crossed the Ganges at Allahabad with the intention of coming to Bengal with all expedition. Hopes the Governor will send a letter of invitation that their intention may not be misunderstood.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 11, pp. 7-8. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 47.*]

Aug 27. **1852.** The Wazīr to Mr. Ellis. To the same effect as the foregoing.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 12, pp. 8-9. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 47.*]

Aug. 28. **1853.** To the Wazīr. The English were obliged to enter into a war with Mīr Qāsim on account of his stopping the Company's business, acting in an unfriendly and hostile manner and treacherously murdering Mr. Amyatt. Has dispatched against him an army under Major Adams, Major Carnac, and the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has also sent for some troops and men-of-war from Madras. The English troops are strong enough to punish the enemy. They have gained successive victories at Katwa, Murshidabad, and Gheria. Hopes that Monghyr will shortly be taken and the enemy captured or obliged to flee. Requests that the Zamīndār of Benares and the *Faujdārs* of Ghazipur and Zamania may be directed to seize him if he passes through their territory. The Nawāb Mīr Ja'far, who is loyal to the King, is engaged in regulating the affairs of the country. Hopes His Excellency's representations will be listened to.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 26, pp. 17-19.*]

Aug. 28. **1854.** To the King. To the same effect as the foregoing.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 27, pp. 19-20.*]

Aug. 28. **1855.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Approves of his reply to the Wazīr's letter. Is entirely of opinion that the latter's coming to Bengal would mean a heavy expenditure, and expose the country to ruin and devastation. Encloses letters he has written to the King and the Wazīr. Desires that they may be forwarded. The Wazīr has always had a desire to get possession of Bengal. It will be proper to send a body of troops to the banks of the Karamnassa to prevent anyone entering the province.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 28, pp. 20-21.*]

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Sept. 1. **1856.** From the Nawāb Mir Ja'far. Acknowledges receipt of his letter. Encloses a *sanad* confirming Ahsanu-l-lāh Khān in the Wa'dahdārship of Usufpur in Jessore. Requests that a *muchalkah* signed by the Khān may be forwarded to be entered in the books. Muhammad Khuda Yār Khān has set out for Birbhum. Hopes that Suhrab and others will soon come to grief. Approves of the Governor's selling the *kauris* and spending the Rs. 25,000 on the troops. Mīr 'Alī Yār Khān, *Faujdār* of Sylhet, is dead. Has appointed Sanjar 'Ali Khan to succeed him.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 13, pp. 9-10. Abs. P. L R., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

Sept 1. **1857.** To Ahsanu-l-lāh Khan. Encloses a *sanad* from the Nawāb appointing him *Wa'dahdār* of Usufpur. Desires him to sign a *muchalkah* and send it to Calcutta that it may be forwarded to His Excellency. Advises him to apply himself with diligence to the collection of the revenues.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 29, p. 21.*]

Sept. 1 **1858.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Captain Maclean will drive away Suhrāb and leave Khudā Yār Khan in possession of Birbhum. Is glad to hear of the enemy's repulse. Hopes that they will soon be brought to punishment. Has already written to the King and the Wazīr.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 30, p. 21.*]

Sept 5. **1859.** To Ahsanu-l-lāh Khān Intimates that some men-of-war and a large number of troops have arrived at Hidgely from Madras. Though the army under Major Adams is sufficient to rout the enemy, the news may serve entirely to remove the apprehensions of the high and the low. (*N.B.—The same was written to Muhammad Yār Bėg Khān, Sayyid Badal Khān, Muḥammad Riẓā Khān and Muhammad Ēraj Khān.*)

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 31, pp. 21-22.*]

Sept 5 **1860.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has sent the *sanad* to Aḥsanu-l-lah Khān. Will forward the *muchalkah* as soon as it arrives. Approves of the appointment of Sanjar 'Alī Khān as *Faujdār* of Sylhet. A battle was fought at Suri on the 30th August. The enemy, unable to stand their ground, fled into the jungle. Many of them were killed and five or six pieces of cannon fell into the hands of Captain Maclean. Learns that Kāmgār Khān has collected a large number of troops in order to invade Birbhum. Has, therefore, sent a body of Europeans and sepoys to the assistance of the said Captain. It is highly necessary that every precaution should be taken for the security of the city of Murshidabad. Is afraid that the enemy, flying from Birbhum, may appear there. Does not know what force exists there, for Muhāmmad Ēraj Khān has not written him a single letter since his appointment to the Nāibship. Requests that the Khān may be directed to be on his guard, and that some troops may be sent to Murshidabad if none are

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already there. The *kauris* have been sold to the merchants. Will send the account later on. Encloses particulars of the money. Some ships and troops have arrived at Hidgely from Madras. Will send a large army in two or three days.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 32, pp. 22-23.*]

Sept. 6. **1861.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has already written to His Excellency that ships and troops have arrived from Madras, and that a large reinforcement will be sent to camp as soon as the necessaries for their march are got ready. Requests that the Zamīndār and Collector of Belkuchi may be directed to assist the *gumāshtah* of Harrial Factory.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 33, pp. 23-24.*]

Sept. 6. **1862.** To Muhammad Riẓā Khān. Has received his letter saying that he has arrived at Dacca, that on account of Muhammad 'Alī's conduct, the affairs of those parts are in a ruinous condition, and requesting that the gentlemen of Dacca and Lakhipur and Mr. Verelst, Chief of Chittagong, may be directed to assist him. Is glad to hear of his arrival at Dacca. Encloses the letters asked for. Has already informed the Khān that some ships and troops have arrived from Madras. Hopes the enemy will soon be driven away.

[*Trans P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 34, pp. 24-25.*]

Sept. 7. **1863.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter. Approves of his reply to Rājā Narāyan Deo. Learns that the enemy's people are carrying away the Rājā to Monghyr. Some ships and troops must have arrived from Madras. Desires that a reinforcement may be sent as some of the Europeans have fallen sick. Has received the letters for the King and the Wazīr. Will shortly forward the same.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 14, p. 11. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

Sept. 8. **1864.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. This morning about 4 or 5 hundred of the enemy's horse and foot appeared in the rear of the Company's army, but met with so warm a reception from the latter that being unable to stand their ground, they turned back. Fifty or sixty of them were killed and a great number wounded. One of their principal chiefs is among the dead. A body of the enemy's troops also attacked the left flank of the English, but was easily repulsed. In the front, there was a fierce cannonading and the gate of the enemy's entrenchments was broken down by the quickness of the fire.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 15, p. 12. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

Sept. 8. **1865.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has already written to His Excellency that Banghīl Chand, Collector of Murli Cutcherry, has been seized and brought to Calcutta. Aḥsanu-l-lāh Khān having written for

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the papers which were with him, he was ordered to take them to Jessore But as he desires to pay his respects to His Excellency, he has been sent with a *harkārah* to camp. The papers have been taken from him and sent to the said Khān.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 35, p. 25.*]

Sept. 10. **1866.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has appointed Muhammad Rizā Khān *Wa'dahdār* of the *parganah* of Mysadul and Collector of Hidgely and Maljhata. Hopes the Governor will send the Khan, on his arrival at Calcutta, to the said *parganah* and assist him in his work.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 16, p. 12. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

Sept. 10. **1867.** From the Nawab Mir Ja'far This morning an hour and half before sunrise, Major Adams, Major Carnac, and all the other chiefs made a fierce attack on the enemy's entrenchments at Udanala The battle lasted till 7 o'clock, when the English army got entire possession of the entrenchments and the enemy took to flight Congratulates the Governor and the gentlemen of Council on the victory.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 17, pp. 12-13. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

Sept. 10. **1868.** From Sheo Bhat. Has heard of the battle of Katwa. Is surprised that the Governor has not written him a word about it. Desires to act in conjunction with the English.

[*Trans P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 18, p. 13. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

Sept. 10. **1869.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Congratulates the Nawāb on the victory gained at Udanala. Has, as desired, directed Mr. Johnstone to assist Captain Maclean. The troops from Madras are preparing to march to the assistance of the said Captain. Hopes that Monghyr will be taken shortly.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 36, pp. 25-26.*]

Sept. 10. **1870.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has been informed that the Kings of England and France have concluded a treaty, whereby the French are to have factories in Bengal as formerly, but are not to bring any soldiers or necessaries of war into this country, to enlist any troops here, or to take any cantons or villages. A Governor will shortly arrive on their part. Requests that orders may be issued for Chandarnagar, Saidabad, and Jugdea to be delivered to the French agents.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 37, pp. 26-27.*]

Sept. 11. **1871.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. In the battle of Udanala 1,400 of the enemy's horse were killed and about 5,000 men drowned. Asadu-l-lāh Khān, Shādī Khān, and Himmat 'Alī Bakhshī are among

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the dead. The wounded are without number. Muhammad Riẓā Bēg, Sumroo, and Marcat, though wounded, made their escape. All the prisoners were set at liberty. Is encamped at Nagesar Bagh.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 19, pp. 13-14. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

Sept. 12. **1872.** The Nawāb Mīr Qāsim to Major Adams. Asks by what authority he has been devastating the King's country for the last three months. If he is in possession of any Royal *sanad* for His Excellency's dismissal, it should be sent to him, that having seen it and shown it to his army, he may quit the country and repair to the Court. Mr. Ellis's violences led his people to believe that war had been declared, and that therefore it was their duty to kill any Englishman they came across. Thus it was that the *'āmils* of Murshidabad killed Mr. Amyatt. But it was by no means agreeable to His Excellency that that gentleman should be killed. If the Major is resolved to act on his own authority in this matter, he should know it for certain that His Excellency will cut off the heads of Mr. Ellis and the rest of the English chiefs and send them to him. Tells the Major not to exult at the success he has gained merely by treachery and night assaults in two or three places against a few *zamīndārs*. He shall see in what manner this shall be revenged.

[*Trans. P. L. R., Jan.-Sept. 1763, no. 53, pp. 85-86.*]

Sept. 13. **1873.** From Turāb 'Alī Khān. Is staying at Sarkar Saran to adjust some of his affairs. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 23.*]

Sept. 13. **1874.** To Ghulām Muṣṭafā Munshī. Desires him to warn the Marhattas to abstain from all acts of hostility and to acquaint Sheo Bhaṭ that if his people make any disturbance, interrupt the collection of the revenues, or injure and oppress the ryots, the friendship now subsisting between them will be broken off, the army which has just arrived from Madras will be sent against him, and the town of Cuttack will be taken from him. Hopes the present disturbances will not last long. The enemy's entrenchments at Udanala have been taken.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 38, p. 27.*]

Sept. 13. **1875.** To Sheo Bhaṭ. Relates how the English were obliged to make war on Mīr Qāsim, and gained successive victories at Katwa, Murshidabad, Gheria, Udanala, and Suri. Suhrāb, the adopted son of Muhammad Taqī Khān, and Kāmgār Khān have appeared in the Birbhum province. Hopes that they too will meet with due punishment and that Monghyr will shortly be taken. Some ships and troops have arrived from Madras, but there will be no occasion to send a reinforcement to Major Adams. The Governor knew that the addressee, if requested, would assist the English, but did not think it proper to trouble him in this trifling business. Hopes that in case the enemy comes that way, he will be seized and sent to the Nawāb.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 39, pp. 27-30.*]

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Sept. 16. **1876.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. His Excellency wanted to stay at Rajmahal for two or three days to regulate his affiairs, but as Major Adams has reached Gunga Parsaud, he is obliged to set out with all speed. Khwājah Muhammad Āsim and others are creating a disturbance in Birbhum. Requests that Mr. Johnstone may be directed to take proper care to bring them to punishment. Khudā Yār Khān, and also the reinforcements from Calcutta, must have joined Captain Maclean by this time.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 20, pp. 14-15. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

Sept 16. **1877.** To Ghulām Mustafā *Munshi*. Desires him to tell Sheo Bhat in plain and direct terms that if he sets foot within the borders of Jellasore, the troops which have just arrived from Madras will be sent against him and will drive him out of Cuttack.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 40, p. 30.*]

Sept. 16. **1878.** To Sheo Bhat. The English army has arrived near Monghyr, which will shortly be taken. It is not necessary to send the newly arrived troops to Major Adams, as the army under him is sufficient to drive away the enemy.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 41, p. 31.*]

Sept. 16. **1879.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has received his letter of congratulation and the *nazr*. The English army is encamped at Sakri. Hopes that Monghyr will soon be taken and the enemy driven away.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 42, pp. 31-32.*]

Sept. 17. **1880.** To Muhammad Ēraj Khān, *Nāib* of Murshidabad. Has received his letter. It is true that the Company's troops fought very bravely and that they have been successful. Has sent a strong detachment to Birbhum to drive away the enemy.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 43 p. 32.*]

Sept. 17. **1881.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter. Approves of his proceeding to Patna. Has already sent a large force to the assistance of Khudā Yār Khān. Will not fail to attend to the affairs of the *Sarkār*. Encloses the obligation entered into by Ahsanu-l-lāh Khān.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 44, pp. 33-34.*]

Sept. 17. **1882.** To Mīr Qāsim. Has received a copy of the letter he wrote to Major Adams. The addressee killed Mr. Amyatt, who was sent to him as ambassador—a title sacred among all nations; imprisoned Mr. Hay; plundered the factory at Cossimbazar; carried away the gentlemen of that place in the most disgraceful manner, and attacked the English agents who were carrying on their trade quietly. Yet he asks why Major Adams has been sent against him. As he declared that he would turn the English out of the country, and proceeded as far as he

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could towards it, it became necessary for the English to take measures for their defence. "Thanks be to God that success has attended our army thus far." Hopes that they will continue their triumphant march as far as the Karamnassa. Although the English are shocked, as people of every creed and race must be, at the revenge which he threatens to take upon the lives of the English chiefs, who have been taken prisoners by him, yet the honour of their nation and the interests of the Company will not be sacrificed to this consideration and the war will go on as before. To put prisoners of war to death is an act shocking not only to Christians and Mussalmans, but even to the most barbarous pagans Such sentiments are nowhere to be met with but among the beasts of the forest. After the battle of Udanala, a thousand of his officers and men were captured, but Major Adams released them all without doing them the least injury. The addressee should reflect on this and think of his reputation both in this world and the next. He should remember also that if he had followed the Governor's advice, this war would not have taken place.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 45, pp. 34-35. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 28*]

Sept. 18. **1883.** To Aḥsanu-l-lāh Khān. Learns that Nilkant and the other zamindārs have forcibly taken Rs. 1,768-0-6 from some of the Company's *gumāshtahs* attached to the factory at Boodun. Desires the Khān to make the zamindārs return the money.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 46, pp. 35-36.*]

Sept. 19. **1884.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is glad to hear of the victory gained by Captain Maclean over Suhrāb. Approves of his sending a reinforcement to the Captain, who is opposing Kāmgār Khān in Birbhum. Has directed Muḥammad Ēraj Khān to inform the Governor of whatever happens in those parts. Mīr Rāḥu-d-dīn Ḥusain Khān, who was with the enemy at Monghyr, having made his escape, repaired to Purnea where he got the *Nāib* in his power, issued a proclamation in His Excellency's name and quieted the fears of the people. He has also released the English *gumāshtahs* and merchants imprisoned there and restored their goods to them. Has marched from Sonpur to Shahabad.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 21, pp. 15-16. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 28.*]

Sept. 22. **1885.** To Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Desires him to release the cloth as well as the people, belonging to the Danish Company, and stopped by him. Has several times written to him to send an account of the balance due from the Danish Chief. Writes to him once more to the same effect.

[*Trans. P. L. I, July-Dec. 1763, no. 47, p. 36.*]

Sept. 22. **1886.** To Muhammad Ēraj Khān, *Nāib* of Murshidabad. Intimates that Captain Maclean has defeated Suhrāb at Suri. Has sent the

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Captain a strong reinforcement in view of the threatened invasion of Birbhum by Kāmgār Khān.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 48, pp. 36-37.*]

Sept. 22. **1887.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter. Pays more attention to the business of the *Sarkār* than to his own. Will assist Muḥammad Ēraj Khān whenever he applies. Is glad to hear of the capture of Furnea. The reinforcements sent to Captain Maclean have joined him. Kāmgār Khān will shortly be punished. Has sent Major Adams a copy of a letter which the Governor wrote to Mīr Qāsim. The addressee must have seen it. The deliverance of the gentlemen who are prisoners in the hands of the enemy is a matter of the greatest importance. Begs His Excellency to devise the most proper means to effect it. Advises him to write a letter of thanks to Commodore Tinker, the commander of the men-of-war which have arrived from Madras. Requests that Muḥammad Rizā Khān may be directed to advance what money may be wanted at the Dacca Factory.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 49, pp. 37-38.*]

Sept. 26. **1888.** To Muhammad Ēraj Khān, *Nāib* of Murshidabad. Has received his letter saying that Khwājah 'Azīm [? Āṣim] and others of the enemy's commanders are stationed at Suri, and that another body of troops has advanced to within ten or twelve *kos* of the city. Has several times written to the Khān that an army has been sent to Birbhum. Learns from Captain Maclean that the enemy, unable to stand their ground, have retreated towards the jungles Has sent the Captain a fresh reinforcement. Tells the Khan not to be under any apprehensions. The disturbances will soon be put down.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 50, pp. 38-39.*]

Sept. 26. **1889.** To Sayyid Badal Khān. Has received his letter concerning the affairs of the Danes. Is surprised that he has not yet released their goods. Desires him to do so immediately on receipt of this letter. The Danes will pay him whatever is customary.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 51, p. 39.*]

Sept. 27. **1890.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Mr. George Gray who formerly carried on the Company's business at Malda, but came to Calcutta on the breaking out of the war, is now returning to his former work. Requests that strict orders may be issued to the officer there to assist him in all his affairs.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 52, pp. 39-40.*]

Oct. 1. **1891.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is much concerned to hear of his indisposition Will shortly send him the orders regarding the French factories. Asks him to settle the *nazranah* with the French agents when they arrive. Has conferred upon Major Adams the title "Muẓaffaru-l-mulk Saifu-d-daulah Bahādur Ghālib Jang," and

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presented him with a seal on which the said title is engraved. Has written to His Majesty on the subject.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 22, pp. 16-17. Abs. P. L. R. 1759-65, p. 28.*]

Oct. 5. **1892.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has been completely restored to health. Approves of his granting a title to Major Adams and writing to the King on the subject. The gentlemen of Dacca have received a *lākh* of rupees from the house of Jagat Sēṭh, and another *lākh* from that of Bulāqī Dās. A portion of this money has been paid to the sepoys and the rest sent to camp. Requests that Muḥammad Riẓā Khān may be directed to re-pay it to the merchants. The above amount together with the Rs. 91,144-9 taken from the collections of Muḥammad Ṣāliḥ, as also the money advanced or to be advanced by Muḥammad Riẓā Khān, will be credited to His Excellency.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 53, pp. 40-41.*]

Oct. 5. **1893.** To Muḥammad Riẓā Khān, *Nāib* of Dacca. Is in receipt of his letter. Has asked the Nawāb to direct him to pay Jagat Sēṭh and Bulāqī Dās the money advanced by them. Has also intimated to His Excellency that the said money together with the Rs. 91,144-9 taken from Muḥammad Sāliḥ's collection, as also the money advanced or to be advanced by the addressee, will be credited to the *Sarkār*. With regard to the *parganah* of Sundeep, certainly the addressee cannot give it to the Company without the Nawāb's orders. Mr. Verelst should be told to apply to the Governor or to the Nawāb.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 54, pp. 41-42.*]

Oct. 7. **1894.** To Asad Zamān Khān, ex-Zamīndār of Birbhum. Has received his letter intimating that he is attacking the enemy's posts, and that Muhammad Mahdī Khān is with Captain Maclean. The Nawāb will pay due regard to the good services he is rendering. Has written to His Excellency what was proper concerning him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 55, pp. 42-43.*]

Oct. 8. **1895.** From Sayyid Badal Khān. Reports that one Āqā 'Alīvardī, who was arrested in connection with the plundering of Cossimbazar, says that though nothing has been proved against him, he is still kept in prison. Requests that the Chief of Cossimbazar may be directed to release him provided his statement is true.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 23, pp. 17-18. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 46.*]

Oct. 8. **1896.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has appointed Lāhorī Mal, Diwān of Hooghly and Hidlly. Hopes the Governor will assist him in his work

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763 no. 24, p. 18. Abs. P. L. R. 1759-65, p. 29.*]

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Oct. 10. **1897.** From the Wazir. The King and the writer have always desired to assist the English. They prevented the troops from passing over to Mīr Qāsim, and are now proceeding towards Bengal. They are ready to perform what they wrote before. Is glad to hear of the capture of Murshidabad. Desires him to reply soon.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 25, pp. 18-19. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

Oct. 10. **1898.** From Mu'īnu-d-dīn Khān. Professes attachment. The Wazīr is favourably disposed towards the English, and likes them very much for their amiable manners, integrity, and bravery. As soon as His Highness heard that some of the English, after being defeated, were coming to the borders of Ghazipur, he sent orders to Rājā Bēnī Bahādur to bring them to the Court. It happened that the Rājā found none except one or two people, who were treated in the most honourable manner. Mr. Lushington was sought for but no tidings of him could be got. Though Mīr Qāsim has sent several *'arzīs* to the Court, soliciting assistance, they have never been attended to. The sepoys and zamīndārs, who were going towards Monghyr to join him, and had received letters of invitation with bills of exchange, were all intercepted. The *ghāts* of Benares and the other fords are being guarded so that no one can pass them. The King and the Wazīr plainly declare that Mīr Qāsim is false and a traitor to the English, who made him Lord of the three provinces of Bengal, Behar and Orissa. The King granted him *sanads* and conferred upon him the title of 'Ālījah, but he has never remitted any money to the Court. His Majesty and the Wazīr have heard with the greatest joy the news that Mīr Ja'far is, by the assistance of the English, about to be reinstated in the *Nizāmat*. They are encamped at Allahabad and are anxious to know if they can assist the English in any way. Encloses the Wazīr's letters Requests a speedy reply thereto.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 26, pp. 19-21. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

Oct. 10. **1899.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has, as requested, issued orders for Chandarnagar, Saidabad, and Jugdea to be restored to the French. Requests him to settle with their agents the *nazrānah* to be paid to the *Sarkār*. Complains that the gentlemen of Dacca have taken Rs. 50,000 from the *Nāib* without waiting for an order from His Excellency. Disapproves of this and says that if they want anything in future, it is right that they should apply through the proper channel. The Chief of Chittagong has sent a number of *shiqdārs* to Sundeep, Homnabad, Patira, and the *Chaklah* of Raushanabad and is collecting the revenues there. Muhammad Rizā Khān has written to the Chief several times, but has not received a single letter in reply. Hopes that the gentlemen at Chittagong will be directed to give up the said districts. Major Adams is preparing to attack the fort of Monghyr. Encloses a copy of a letter he has received

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from the Wazīr. The *parwānahs* for the Governor and Council will be sent through the Major.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 27, pp. 21-23. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 29.*]

[*Oct. 10.*] **1900.** The Wazīr to the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is glad to learn that he has been reinstated in the *Niẓāmat* by the help of the English. Is encamped at Allahabad. Has written to the gentlemen also. Is ready to march with proper troops and stores. Professes friendship. Hopes that Mīr Qāsim will soon be punished. Is awaiting a reply to this letter.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 27A, pp. 23-24.*]

Oct. 12. **1901.** To the Wazīr. Is glad to learn that he is friendly to the English. Has already informed him of the political situation in Bengal. Mīr Qāsim has fled to Patna. The troops under Major Adams are more than sufficient to punish the enemy. Moreover some of His Majesty's men-of-war with a formidable army have arrived from Madras. The war is almost finished and the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far, who is a loyal servant of the King, is engaged in regulating the affairs of the country. His Excellency with the assistance of the English army will, in a short time, be able to repulse whatever invaders may attempt to disturb the tranquillity of these provinces.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 56, pp. 43-44.*]

[Oct. 12.] **1902.** To Mu'īnu-d-dīn Khān. To the same effect.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 56A, p. 44.*]

Oct. 13. **1903.** [To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far.]. The total amount advanced to the gentlemen at Dacca by the *Nāib*, the Sēṭhs and Bulāqī Dās is Rs. 3,91,449 which will be credited to His Excellency. Orders have been sent to the Chief of Dacca that in case he wants money in future, he should apply through the Governor. As more money is already wanted there, it is requested that an order for another *lākh* of rupees may be sent. The Chief of Chittagong sent some *shiqdārs* into the country at the beginning of the war and before the appointment of Muhammad Riẓā Khān to the Nāibship of Dacca. Has now directed the Chief to recall them and deliver over the money that has been collected, together with the papers, to the officers of the said Khān. Encloses copies of the letter he has received from the Wazīr and of his reply thereto. Requests that his packet may be forwarded to the Court. Encloses also a letter he has received from Asad Zamān Khān together with a copy of his reply thereto. Has been informed by Captain Maclean that Kāmgār Khān has retired towards the jungles, and that Muhammad Khudā Yār Khān has begun to collect the revenues in Birbhum. Major Carnac will shortly proceed that way with a large force; and in case no one opposes him, he will march

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on and join Major Adams. Hopes His Excellency will not neglect to write Commodore Tinker a letter of thanks.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 57, pp. 44-47.*]

Oct. 15. **1904.** To Sayyid Badal Khān. Some of the men-of-war which came with Commodore Tinker are lying at Kedgeree, where some straw bungalows are needed for the accommodation of the stores. Desires that Khwājah Muhammad Naṣir, *'Āmil* of Hidgely, may be ordered to get them erected soon on a convenient site, and to supply the gentlemen of the ships with whatever necessaries they may want.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 58, p. 47.*]

Oct. 15. **1905.** To Khwājah Muhammad Nāṣir, *Faujdār* of Hidgely. To the same effect.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 59, p. 47.*]

Oct. 16. **1906.** From the Nawab Mīr Ja'far. Has already informed him that Mīr Qāsim has sent Messrs. Ellis and Lushington to Patna. Is constantly thinking of means to effect their release. Has already sent him an order on Muhammad Rizā Khān for a *lākh* of rupees and written Commodore Tinker a letter of thanks.

[*Trans. P. L. R, July-Dec. 1763, no. 28, p. 24. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 29.*]

Oct 18. **1907.** From the Nawab Mīr Ja'far. Encloses a letter he has written to Commodore Tinker. Has received the *muchalkah* signed by Aḥsanu-l lāh Khān and sent it to Murshidabad to be entered in the books. Whatever goods the enemy plundered at Cossimbazar were taken to Monghyr. The rest were carried off by the people of Murshidabad. When His Excellency arrived there, he ordered a strict inquiry to be made into the affair, and directed Muhammad Eraj Khān and the *Dāroghah* of the *Sarkar* at Murshidabad to collect the stolen goods. Encloses a list thereof. Complains that the Chief of Cossimbazar has arrested Muhammad 'Alı, the *Dāroghah,* and Himmat Singh, the *Dıwān,* on a charge of stealing the said goods, and does not consent to their being tried by Muhammad Ēraj Khān. Asks how the city can flourish whilst such oppressions are committed. Is encouraging the ryots to settle but these disturbances make them run away. Hopes strict orders will be sent on the subject to the officers of the factory. Has been informed that the enemy have sent Messrs. Ellis and Lushington to Patna. Is always thinking of how to effect their release. Is glad to say that his brother Mīr Kāẓım 'Alī Khān, having made his escape, arrived at camp on the 5th instant.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 29, pp. 25-26. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 29*]

Oct. 19. **1908.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The strictest injunctions have been issued to the Chief of Cossimbazar to release Muḥammad 'Alī and Himmat Singh and to send the Governor a list of the property

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plundered. All the chiefs have been strictly prohibited from seizing any of the dependants of the *Sarkār*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 60, p. 48.*]

Oct. 20. **1909.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has heard of Mr. George Gray's arrival at Malda. Will not fail to direct his officers to assist him.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 30, p. 27. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 29.*]

Oct. 21. **1910.** To Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Learns that a guard has been placed on the house of Mirzā Mahdī, son of Sulaimān Bēg. Intimates that the Mirzā was carried away to Monghyr to settle the accounts, but having made his escape, he joined the Nawāb. Now he has returned to Hooghly and wants to pay the Governor a visit. Desires the addressee not to prevent his coming to Calcutta. If the former has any orders on the subject from the Nawāb, he should inform the Governor thereof.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 61, p. 48.*]

Oct. 21. **1911.** To Muḥmmad Ēraj Khān, *Nāib* of Murshidabad. Has received his letter. It is true that Monghyr has been captured. The Company's troops must have arrived at Patna by this time. Has been informed by Captain Maclean that Kāmgār Khān has fled towards the jungles. Major Carnac will shortly proceed that way. Tells him not to be anxious with regard to Birbhum and Murshidabad.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 62, p. 49.*]

Oct. 23. **1912.** From Sheo Bhat. Congratulates him on the victory gained by the English over Mīr Qāsim. Hopes for letters.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 31, p. 27.*]

Oct. 23. **1913.** From Sheo Bhat. Is glad to hear of the victories gained by the English. Is desirous of co-operating with them. Hopes the Governor will grant him some money for the expenses of his army.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec 1763, no. 32, pp. 27-28. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

Oct. 25. **1914.** Kāmgār Khān to Major Adams. Mentions his former correspondence with Colonel Coote when the latter was at Ghyretty; relates how Mr. Qāsim used to ravage his lands in consequence of his friendship for the English, how on the breaking out of the war, he was summoned by the ex-Nawāb and sent to Burdwan, and lastly how he deserted and went to Birbhum, where he received friendly letters from the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far and Nand Kumār. Has now arrived at Deogarh, and is desirous of joining the English army. If the Major is willing to secure his services, he should send him an agreement signed and sealed by himself and the other gentlemen.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 33, pp. 28-29. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 19.*]

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Oct. 25. **1915.** From Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Has, as desired, ordered the release of the boats of cotton belonging to Sītā Rām Pal. Does not know who stopped them at Chandarnagar. Bēlā *Jama'dār* has inquired into the affair and is now returning. Professes obedience. Requests that the Chief of Dacca and the Nawāb's *Nā'ib* there may be directed to show favour to Mīr Nazr Muḥammad, his brother.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 34, pp. 29-30. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 47.*]

Oct. 25. **1916.** To Rājā Dūlab Rām. Has received his letter. The enemy have retired from Patna. The war will soon be over and the Nawāb firmly established in the Government. His Excellency will then doubtless reward his loyalty. Has already written to the Nawāb and Major Adams about him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 63, pp. 49-50.*]

Oct 25. **1917.** To Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdar* of Hooghly. Learns that his people have again stopped some bales of cloth belonging to the Danes This proceeding is entirely improper as the latter have, up to this time, paid Rs. 10,000 more than is customary. Desires him to release the bales. Does not choose to be daily troubled with these affairs, and has accordingly written to the Nawāb on the subject.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 64, pp. 50-51.*]

Oct. 28. **1918.** To Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Learns that he has placed a guard over Khwājah Menis and demands from him duties on cloth purchased two years ago. Characterises his conduct as highly improper and desires him to release the said Khwājah, to return the money extorted from him, and to desist from such iniquitous practices. Has written to the Nawāb on the subject.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 65, p. 51.*]

Oct. 29. **1919.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has not heard from him for a long time Attends to His Excellency's affairs, as requested. Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly, demands illegal duties from the Danes and other people and stops their goods. Represents that as the said Khān is a good man, and as this oppression of the merchants has begun since the arrival at Hooghly of Lāhorī Mal, a nominee of Rājā Nand Kumār's, it is clear that it is all the Rājā's doing. The more favour he is shown, the more oppressive he will get. Hopes, therefore, that His Excellency will support the merchants. Requests that a person of understanding and consequence may be appointed to represent His Excellency at Calcutta Jagat Chand, who delivers his letters to the Governor, is not fit for this business. He is a mere idler

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 66, pp. 51-54.*]

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Oct. 29. **1920.** To Sheo Bhat. Mīr Qāsim has been driven out of Behar. He is no longer in a position to oppose the English troops. His only concern now is for his own safety. Thanks the addressee for offering to assist the English, but says that they have so effectually punished the enemy that there is no necessity for troubling him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 67, pp. 54-55.*]

Oct. 30. **1921.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has been informed that Sumroo, a Frenchman, has, by order of the enemy, massacred Messrs. Ellis, Hay, Lushington, and the other English gentlemen together with the Sēths and the rest of the *mutaṣaddis*. The news has cast a gloom over Calcutta Desires His Excellency to issue a proclamation enjoining all persons to seize Mir Qāsim, Sumroo, and the sepoys concerned in the massacre, and send them to the Governor or Major Adams. A handsome reward will be given to whomsoever seizes them. Encloses letters which he has written to the King and the Wazīr on the subject. Hopes His Excellency will also write to them.

[*Trans. P L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 68, pp. 55-56.*]

Oct. 30 **1922.** To the King. To the same effect, adding that Mīr Ja'far is ready to perform the duties of a loyal subject.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 69, pp. 56-57.*]

Oct. 31 **1923.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter. Encloses an order on Muhammad Rizā Khān for another *lākh* of rupees Has directed in the order that the money, collected by the gentlemen at Dacca in Raushanabad, Sundeep, and Homnabad, shou d be deducted from the above amount. Requests that they may be addressed on the subject. Has dispatched the Governor's letter together with his own to the Court. Is encamped at Barh. Returns Asad Zamān's letter.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 35, pp. 30-31.*]

Nov. 1. **1924.** From Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. The cloth belonging to the Danes has been released. It was stopped by Lāhorī Mal, the *Pēshkār*. The whole business is under the latter's directions. The writer is not even consulted.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 36, pp. 31-32. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 47.*]

Nov. 1. **1925.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The gentlemen of Dacca write to say that they have received two *lākhs* of rupees from Bulāqī Dās's factory, while according to Muḥammad Rizā Khān, the amount received by them is Rs. 2,30,000. Will inquire into the matter and let His Excellency know which account is correct. Will not fail to send him the *gumāshtah* of the said factory. As Bulāqī Dās has an aptitude for business and is the only remaining merchant in the country, it is hoped that he will be shown favour and sent away in peace that he may apply himself to his business with confidence.

[*Trans. P L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 70, pp. 57-58.*]

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Nov. 1. 1926. To Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Desires him to send Lahorī Mal to Calcutta for the settlement of the question of duties. Has written to that man on the subject.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 71, p. 58*]

Nov. 7. 1927. Rājā Shitāb Rāy to Major Carnac.* Has not yet received a reply to his letter. Mirzā Shamsu-d-dīn, a *wakīl* of Mīr Qasim's, having lately arrived at Court has agreed to give a *nazrānah* of 17 *lākhs* of rupees to the Wazīr and 10 *lākhs* to the King, and has prevailed upon them to move towards Bengal. They proceeded as far as Handia, while Rājā Bēnī advanced to Benares. But the writer, at no time guilty of negligence, told the Rājā that the English chiefs and the Nawāb [Mīr Ja'far] were loyal to the Imperial Court and that the "tyrant" should not be assisted. The Rājā took him to the Wazīr and represented everything to the latter. Accordingly the army has halted at present and only 5,000 horse have been sent to assist the enemy. One day the Wazīr told the writer that it made him uneasy to think that, notwithstanding the importance of this war, he had received no addresses from the Nawāb and the English chiefs. The writer represented to him that the obstructions in the way had prevented the addresses from reaching him, but that he would receive some as soon as the disturbances were over. The Wazīr replied that the Nawāb and the English chiefs could always send letters in some way or other, but that they had been negligent and inattentive. Recommends that letters requesting *sanads* for the provinces should be sent to the Court; for when Mīr Qāsim is deposed by His Majesty's *sanads*, he will be ruined without fighting and lose all his credit in the country. Is by no means negligent in this business, but with bare words on the one side and *lakhs* of rupees on the other, he has a difficult task on his hands. Requests him to reply soon.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 37, pp. 32-33. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 43.*]

Nov 7. 1928. To Muhammad Ēraj Khān, *Nāib* of Murshidabad. Has directed the Chief of Dacca to dispatch two or three companies to the assistance of Mīr Muhammad Qasim, the newly appointed *Faujdār* of Rangpur. Desires him to write to the *Faujdar* on the subject. There is no need of sending another detachment from Cossimbazar.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 72, pp. 58-59.*]

Nov. 8. 1929. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The goods and *kaurīs* belonging to Sylhet have been sold for Rs. 20,772-14. Encloses the account.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 73, p. 59.*]

Nov 9 1930. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has been informed by the Chief of Cossimbazar that Mirzā Muhammad Alī was not even sent for, much less imprisoned; that Himmat Singh, his *Dīwān*, was summoned

* *Adams* according to the volume of abstracts.

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because he was a servant of the enemy and was said to have plundered the Company's effects, but that he was sent back on Muḥammad Ēraj Khan's representing matters. It appears therefore that a groundless complaint has been made to His Excellency. As it has been agreed between the Company and the *Sarkār* that half the chunam and saltpetre produced at Sylhet and Purnea is to belong to the former and half to the latter, it is requested that the officers of the said places may be directed to grant all due assistance to the Company's *gumāshtahs*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 74, pp. 59-60.*]

Nov. 9. **1931.** To Ghulām Muṣṭafā, *Munshi* [the Company's *gumāshtah*] at Balasore. Sends a packet of letters and desires him to forward it to Madras without delay. It is surprising that the sepoys take two months to cover a journey which should be performed in one month. Directs him to issue strict orders on the subject.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 75, p. 60.*]

[Nov.] **1932.** To Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Has received his letter desiring that no one may interrupt his people in seizing the *asāmīs* belonging to Muhammad 'Alī Bēg. The *chobdārs*, peons, etc., to the number of 17 persons came into the town and stayed seven or eight days without informing the Governor. Such a proceeding is highly improper. Desires him to inquire into the affair and inflict due punishment on them. Will cause search to be made for the *asāmis*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 76, p. 61.*]

[Nov.] **1933.** To Muḥammad Ēraj Khān, *Nāib* of Murshidabad. Has been informed that some bales of goods belonging to the Guzerat and Armenian merchants are ready but that they cannot be brought down to Calcutta on account of the duties demanded by the Government officials. As this is the season for dispatching the ships, the Khān is desired to enjoin the *Dāroghah* of the *pachotra* to take what duties are customary and grant a *dastak* for the goods.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 77, p. 61.*]

Nov. 12 **1934.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Intimates the capture of Patna. The enemy are retiring with precipitation. Will inform him of the particulars later on.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 38, p. 33. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 29.*]

Nov. 12 **1935.** The Nawāb Mīr Ja'far to the Council. Congratulates them on the capture of Patna.

N. B.—*The last sentence in the original letter was written by the Nawāb himself.*

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 39, p. 33. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 29.*]

Nov. 12 **1936.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Approves of his directing the Chief of Cossimbazar to release Mirzā Muḥammad Alī and Himmat

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Singh, the officers of the *khās ta'alluq*; and prohibiting all the chiefs from seizing any of the dependants of the *Sarkār*.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 40, pp. 33-34. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 29.*]

Nov. 13. **1937.** To Damodar Singh, Rājā of Bishanpur. Has received his letter intimating that some of the troops under Major Carnac are encamped on the banks of the Damodar, and that some have crossed over. Tells him that his *zamīndārī* will not be invaded provided he is steady in his loyalty to the Nawab and does not fail to pay the revenues.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 78, p. 62.*]

Nov 13. **1938.** To Ahsanu l-lāh Khān, Collector of Jessore. Has received his letter with the copies of the Nawāb's *parwānah*, Muḥammad Eraj Khān's letters, and the list of the *huzūrī* lands Tells him to act agreeably to His Excellency's orders and to exert himself to collect the revenues.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 79, p. 62.*]

Nov. 13 **1939.** To Ahsanu-l-lāh Khan, Collector of Jessore. Has received his letter saying that a thorough search has been made for the boats but without success. Replies that Manuel Bankister, who landed the chunam from the boats, has been sent to Jessore. He will show the addressee's people where they are. Desires that they should be sent to Calcutta when found.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 80, pp. 62-63.*]

Nov. 14. **1940.** From Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Has, as desired, written to Khwājah Muḥammad Nāṣir, the officer at Hidgely, to supply the Commander of the ships with whatever he may require. Has also several times written to the said officer to erect some bungalows

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 41, p. 34. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 47*]

Nov. 16. **1941.** From Muhammad Ēraj Khān, *Nāib* of Murshidabad. Congratulates him on the capture of Patna. Has not yet heard of the particulars thereof. Has received his letter intimating that the Chief of Dacca has been directed to assist Mīr Muhammad Qāsim, *Faujdār* of Rangpur. Has forwarded a copy of the above letter together with an English letter from Mr. George Gray to the Chief of Dacca. Hopes the affairs of Rangpur will, by this means, be properly settled.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 42, pp. 34-35. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

Nov. 16. **1942.** From Muhammad Ēraj Khān. Has appointed Mīr Abu-l-Qāsim *Faujdār* of Tippera in place of Mohan Singh who has resigned.

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Requests that the Chiefs of Dacca, Chittagong, and Lakhipur may be directed to assist him.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 43, p. 35. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 32.*]

Nov. 17. **1943.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Congratulates him on the capture of Patna.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 81, p. 63.*]

Nov. 17. **1944.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Mr. Watts has been appointed to reside at his court in order to carry on the business of the Company. Hopes that His Excellency will pay attention to whatever he represents.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 82, p. 63.*]

Nov. 17. **1945.** To Muḥammad Ēraj Khān, *Nāib* of Murshidabad. Approves of the appointment of Mīr Abu-l-Qāsim to the Faujdārship of Tippera. Encloses the letters asked for.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763 no. 83, pp. 63-64.*]

Nov. 21. **1946.** From Rājā Dūlab Rām. Gives an account of the capture of Patna. One day the enemy sallied out upon the trenches, but after a short engagement retreated into the fort. Again on the 4th instant Najab Khān, an officer of the enemy, came out an hour or two before sunset and attacked an advanced guard of horse. But numbers of his people being killed and wounded in the counter-attack, led by Captain Stables, he took to flight. This morning the English troops having filled up the ditch, planted scaling ladders against the walls and entered the fort "like so many tigers." They killed and wounded a great number of the enemy's horse and foot and took possession of the gates. Thus the town was taken and the Company's troops marched out of the western gate to the factory and Bankipur.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 44, pp. 35-36. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 39.*]

Nov. 22. **1947.** From Muḥammad Riẓā Khān, *Nāib* of Dacca. Congratulates him on the capture of Patna. Has sent a *nagr*.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 45, p. 36.*]

Nov. 22. **1948.** From Ghulām Muṣṭafā *Munshī*, [the Company's *gumāshtah*] at Balasore. Sheo Bhat has received several letters from Mīr Qāsim to the effect that he has destroyed the power of the English, and that if the Marhatta Chief has a mind to get the *chauth* of Bengal, he should act in conjunction with him. The Nawāb has also sent him *sanads* for Jellasore and Midnapur. In consequence, therefore, of Sheo Bhaṭ's orders, Bhaskir Pandit and Būlī Khān had resolved to march towards Jellasore on Thursday, when the writer with Āqā Muḥammad 'Alī, who is a principal man at Balasore and is always ready to serve the Company, went and dissuaded them from carrying the design into

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effect. At present Bhaskir Pandit is going towards Hariharpur. Āqā Muhammad 'Alī has written to the Governor on the subject. Hopes he will be favoured with such a reply as may increase his attachment to the Company.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no 46, p. 37. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 21.*]

Nov. 24. **1949.** From the Nawāb Mir Ja'far. Has severely reprimanded Lāhorī Mal for acting contrary to the Governor's wishes. Cannot at present dispense with the services of Jagat Chand as he cannot find a capable man to replace him. The late *Nāzim* has not left a single *mutasaddī* in Bengal Will decide the question after settling at Murshidabad. Is encamped near Bankipur. Has appointed his brother Mīr Muhammad Kāzim Khān *Nāib* of Patna, and left Dhīraj Narāyan with him as his *Dīwān*. Will march onwards in two or three days. The enemy have arrived at Sasaram. Returns Rāja Damur [? Damodar] Singh's letter. Approves of the Governor's reply thereto. Has examined the account of the goods and *kaurīs*, and forwarded to the King and the Wazīr the Governor's letters on the subject of the Patna massacre.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 47, pp 37-39. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 29.*]

Nov. 24. **1950.** To Muhammad Rizā Khan, *Nāib* of Dacca. Acknowledges receipt of his letter of congratulation. Learns that the Khān has been made uneasy by the insinuations of some designing men. Assures him that they cannot do him any harm. Is sincerely disposed to promote his interests.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 84, p. 64.*]

Nov. 25. **1951.** From Ghulām Mustafā *Munshī*, [the Company's *gumāshtah*] at Balasore. Some time ago, Sheo Bhaṭ, agreeably to Mīr Qāsim's desire, intended to march to Jellasore, but was prevented from doing so on account of his quarrel with Rājā Bīrkishor Deo. Has, as directed, written to the Marhatta Chief that if he should make an attempt upon Jellasore, the English would attack Cuttack. The Marhatta officers at Balasore have now given up the idea of invading Bengal and are sending their forces against some petty Rājās. Encloses a letter from Sheo Bhat. There being at present a disturbance near Sirsoonum, the letters have been delayed in coming and going.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 48, p. 39. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 21.*]

Nov. 25. **1952.** From Sheo Bhat. Congratulates him on the conquest of Bengal and Behar Demands, on behalf of Rājā Jānujī, the *chauth* and *sirdēshmukhī* of Bengal. Complains that they have not yet been paid through the evasions of short-sighted people Requests permission to send a man to Calcutta in order to negotiate on the subject

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Bhaskir Pandit has been directed to send Mrs. Sparks to Calcutta with a passport.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 49, pp. 39-40. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 45.*]

Nov. 26. **1953.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Money is wanted at Patna factory. Requests that orders may be issued for a *lākh* of rupees to be paid to Mr. Batson, Chief of the said factory.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 85, pp. 64-65.*]

Nov. 28. **1954.** From Khush-ḥāl Chand and Udey Chand, sons of the Sēṭ s. Thank him for his letters of condolence on the death of their respective fathers.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 50, p. 41. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 20.*]

Nov. 29. **1955.** To 'Alī Riẓā Khān, Commander of a troop of horse. Has received his letter relating how he escaped from the enemy's hands, how he was wounded at the battle of Gheria and placed under Dr. Anderson's treatment. Has already heard of his situation from Major Adams. Has written to the latter to take all possible care of him and show him every mark of friendship.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 86, p. 65.*]

Dec. 7. **1956.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has crossed the Soan. The enemy are near the Karamnassa. Hopes to defeat them soon. Has been informed by Muhammad Riẓā Khān that the Chief of Chittagong has not yet recalled his people from Tippera, and that the officers of the *Sarkār* have not yet received charge of the several districts. Encloses two letters from the Khān on the subject. The expenses of his troops are daily increasing and he owes large sums of money to the Company, the King, and the Marhattas. In fact, his liabilities amount to upwards of a crore of rupees. Asks how he can raise so much money if his authority continues to be disregarded. Hopes that the Chief of Chittagong will be strictly enjoined to release the districts and to give an account of the money he has collected there.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 51, pp. 41-42. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 29.*]

[*Dec. 7.*] **1957.** Muḥammad Riẓā Khān to the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The Chief of Chittagong has not yet withdrawn his people from Tippera. Dated 18th Oct.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 51A, p. 42.*]

[*Dec. 7.*] **1958.** Muhammad Riẓā Khān to the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The Chief of Chittagong has sent orders to every place except Tippera for the withdrawal of his people; but the officers of the *Sarkār* have not yet received charge of the districts.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 51B, pp. 42-43.*]

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Dec. 7 **1959.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Agrees to let the Company purchase half the chunam and saltpetre produced at Sylhet and Purnea respectively. Has written to Sanjar Khān and Rūhu-d-dīn Khān on the subject. Requests the Governor to issue orders to the effect that half the expenses of manufacturing the petre are to be borne by the Company and half by the *Sarkār*. Encloses copies of two letters he has received from the Wazīr together with one from the latter to the Governor.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec 1763, no. 52, p. 43. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 29.*]

Dec. 7. **1960.** The Wazīr to Major Adams. Has received his letter concerning Rājā Shitāb Rāy. The writer formerly kept the Rājā with him on account of his being a well-wisher of both the Company and the Court. The King and himself wish the Major success and glory. Hopes he will be steady in his loyalty. Refers for particulars to the letters of Rājā Shitāb Rāy and Rājā Bēnī who has been sent with some troops[towards Benares].

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 1, p. 1.*]

Dec. 7. **1961.** The Wazīr to Major Adams. Has received his letter concerning the war On hearing, that a battle was going to be fought at Udanala, the writer marched to Handia Sarai, but when the news of the English victory arrived, he returned to Allahabad. As desired, he sent Rājā Bēnī towards Benares with strict injunctions to pass over with his army and not to suffer Mīr Qāsim to recruit himself, but to seize him wherever he might be found. Doubtless the Major must have heard of these particulars. Desires him to send an Englishman of distinction to be treated with on all affairs. Approves of Nand Kumār being appointed *Dīwān* of Bengal. The latter is a man of understanding and knowledge; and has, since the time of Colonel Coote [? Clive], been well in touch with affairs of state. The writer formerly had a friendship for him and now sends him a seal with the title of Mahārājā. Refers to Ḥasan 'Alī Bēg Khān and 'Alī Bēg for particulars.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 2, pp. 1-3.*]

Dec. 7. **1962.** Rājā Shitāb Rāy to Major Adams. Has written to him several times. Has long been attached to the English gentlemen. Colonel Coote was very kind to him and introduced him to the addressee at Ghyretty. The addressee must have heard from the Colonel and Major Carnac of his services in treating with the King. When he writer returned from the Patna province on account of the enmity of Mīr Qāsim, he went to the Royal army, where he remained eight months with the King and the Wazīr. Afterwards the latter sent him along with Rājā Bēnī, who is *Nāib* of the provinces and has authority over all the affairs of the Empire. As the writer was always desirous of obtaining the good-will of the English gentlemen, he forwarded all the letters which Messrs. Ellis and Lushington sent to the Court,

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and treated for them in a proper manner. Accordingly it is universally known that all the business of the English chiefs at the Imperial Court is carried on through the writer. When the affairs of the Patna factory were ruined, he made all possible search after the above-named gentlemen, and was daily thinking by what means they might be released from the hands of that "ungrateful tyrant," "but as no one can go beyond the will of God," all his endeavours proved ineffectual. Sends Sādū Rām, his *diwan*, who is a man worthy of trust and well acquainted with all the affairs of the Imperial Court. Hopes the Major will listen to his representations and deliver him what letters he may write to the Court, that the writer may transact the Company's business there as formerly in a proper manner. Mir Qasim, notwithstanding so many defeats and his inability to oppose the English, does not desist from his wicked intentions. He has sent Mirzā Shamsu-d-dīn with bills for 17 *lākhs* of rupees for the Wazīr and 10 *lakhs* for the King, and has got 5,000 horse appointed for his assistance. Rajā Bēnī has gone to Benares for the money. The writer represented to the Wazīr that His Highness's sending troops to the assistance of a man who laid waste the country, ruined the people, and plundered the English factories, would be contrary to justice. The Wazir replied that he must first get money from Mir Qasim, and then he would comply with whatever the English chiefs might desire. Has written the particulars of these affairs to Sadū Ram. It is advisable that the Major should write letters in the most friendly terms and request the King to grant *sanads* for the provinces. From procuring the *sanads* and taking care of the King's affairs, two advantages will result. In the first place, the King, the Wazir, and Rājā Bēnī will give up the idea of assisting the enemy; and in the second place, when Mīr Qāsim is dismissed by His Majesty, he will be disheartened and no one will place any confidence in him. States that Mīr Qāsim has also sent bills and letters of recommendation from Munīru-d-daulah and Madāru-d-daulah to the Rohillas. Shāh Shākir Khān, one of whose brothers has gone to invite the Rohillas, will write to the addressee and to the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far, but is secretly acting the part of an enemy. Refers to Sadū Ram for particulars.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 3, pp. 3-7.*]

Dec. 7. 1936. Rājā Shitāb Rāy to Major Adams. Has delivered his and the Nawāb's letters to the King and the Wazīr and forwarded the latter's reply to his previous communications. Mumtāzu-d-daulah, the *Bakhshi* of the Empire, who treated for the English gentlemen when His Majesty was at Patna, still acts as the Company's friend. He has written a letter to the Major, who is requested to answer in the most friendly terms. Refers to Sādū Rām for particulars.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 4, pp. 7 8.*]

Dec. 7. 1964. Rājā Bēnī to Major Adams. Has received his letters through Rājā Shitāb Rāy and forwarded them to the Court. Has, as

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desired, written to the Wazir in a proper manner. Hopes that the latter will be pleased to settle everything agreeably to his representations. The affairs of Bengal have never been regulated without the payment of ready money. Desires him, therefore, to send an agreement under the Nawāb's seal and his own sign-manual, agreeing to pay the King's *pēshkash* and the Wazir's *nazrānah*, and recognising the customary *jāgirs*. The *sanads* will then be sent.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 5, pp. 8-9.*]

Dec. 7. **1965.** Rājā Bēnī to Major Adams. The King and the Wazīr sent for his perusal the letters which the Major wrote them. They have been fully informed of his fidelity and obedience. The Wazīr is greatly concerned for his welfare, and his favour towards him has further increased by the writer's representations. Refers to Rājā Shitāb Rāy for particulars.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 6, p. 10.*]

Dec. 7. **1966.** Ḥasan 'Alī Bēg Khān to Major Adams. The King and the Wazīr are glad to hear of the victories of the English and their alliance with Mīr Ja'far. Nand Kumār has been favoured with the title of Mahārājā. The addressee will shortly receive a *farman* from His Majesty.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 7, pp. 10-12.*]

Dec. 7. **1967.** Shākiru-d-daulah [Shah Shākir Khān] to Major Adams. Has sent an address to him and the Nawāb Mir Ja'far together with some letters from the Wazīr. The latter has a hearty friendship for the addressee. The padre [Windel] must have informed him that the Wazīr has closed all the *ghats* and imprisoned every person for whom bills arrived from the enemy. Munīru-d-daulah Rizā Qulī Khān, His Majesty's *Khānsaman*, is also a well-wisher of the English and the Nawāb. Hopes that all their wishes will be complied with. Mīr Qāsim has sent Shamsu-d-dīn 'Alī with a large sum on account of the balances due to the King, and bills for procuring assistance. But the writer has so arranged matters that not a single horseman or footman can go to his assistance. As he regarded the fort of Rohtas as his place of security, orders have been sent to the zamīndars of Bhojpur and the Wazīr's officers at Bijaigarh to drive him out. The English will be granted assistance as well as the customary *sanads* for the *Sūbahdāri*, the *Diwāni*, the *Faujdāris* and the *jāgirs*. Everything has been settled.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 8, pp. 12-14.*]

Dec. 7. **1968.** Shākiru-d-daulah to Major Adams. Has been granted the *Bakhshigari* and *Waqāya'nigāri* of Bengal and Behar with an allowance of Rs. 2,000 a month and a *jāgir* of 80 *lākhs* of *dāms*. Hopes the Major will assist him in the settlement of his business.

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Will not fail to serve the English and the Nawāb as best as he can. The addressee must have heard of the injury the writer received from Mīr Qāsim. The writer's uncle Muhammad Mīr Khān and his cousin 'Izzat Khān kept him several months in prison and seized his office of *Waqāya'nigār* as also his allowance and his *jāgīrs*. The *ex-Nāẓim* acted very contrary to the Wazīr's inclinations also; and because the Wazīr, the English and the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far had a friendship for him, the *ex-Nāẓim* oppressed him.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 9, pp. 14-15.*]

Dec. 7. 1969. Shākiru-d-daulah to Major Adams. Has just received his letters and the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far's for the Wazīr and himself. Is glad to hear of his arrival at Patna. Hopes that it will soon be taken. Has settled everything with the King and the Wazīr. Is ready to serve the English and the Nawāb to the best of his abilities. The Major must have heard of the services which the writer formerly rendered in conjunction with Rām Narāyan and Nawāb Nāsiru-l-mulk (the *chhota* Nawāb). His Majesty and the Wazīr marched towards Benares to the assistance of the English, but returned to punish the zamīndārs of Bundelkhand. Has delivered his letters and the Nawāb's to the King and the Wazīr, who have issued orders to the *nāibs* and *faujdārs* of the country to seize Mīr Qasīm wherever he may be found.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no.10, pp. 15-16.*]

Dec. 7. 1970. The Wazīr to the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is glad to hear of the chastisement received by Mīr Qāsim. The writer advanced as far as Handia to the addressee's assistance, but on hearing of his victory at Udanala returned [to Allahabad]. Has sent Rājā Bēnī to cross over with his army, and instructed him not to suffer Mīr Qāsim to bestir himself, but to seize him wherever he may be found. Hopes the addressee will be loyal to His Majesty, who will shortly honour him with a letter. Refers him to 'Alī Bēg and Ḥasan 'Alī Bēg Khān for particulars.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 11, pp. 16-17.*]

Dec. 7. 1971. The Wazīr to the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Both His Majesty and himself approve of his appointing Nand Kumār as his *Dīwān*. Desires that he should be made also the sole manager of all the affairs of the three provinces, as he will transact the business in the most capable and faithful manner.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 12, pp. 17-18.*]

Dec. 7. 1972. From the Wazīr. Has received his letter relating how the English went to war with Mīr Qāsim and how they reinstated Mīr Ja'far. Has already written to him several times. The writer advanced as far as Handia to the assistance of the English, but returned to Allahabad on receiving the news of their victory at Udanala. Has sent Rājā Bēnī to cross over with his army, and has instructed

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procure and forward an answer to his letter Has already intimated that Mīr Qāsim sent a large sum of money to the Court and applied for assistance, but that it was refused through the good offices of Munīru-d-daulah and the writer. In consequence of the Major's representations and those of the Nawāb Mir Ja'far, His Majesty, the Wazīr and Munīru-d-daulah have given Mīr Qāsim leave to come that way with a few attendants. Accordingly the latter has advanced to the Karamnassa. Whenever he arrives, the Major's desires will be complied with, and the death of Mr. Ellis and the rest of the gentlemen, Jagat Seth and the other persons who were murdered by him, will be duly revenged. Mīr Qāsim formerly sent about five *lākhs* of rupees to invite the Rohilla chiefs to his assistance. He has now sent Shaikh Haibatu-l-lāh, *Faujdār* of Nuddea, with bills for sixty *lākhs* of rupees, goods, and jewels, to solicit the assistance of the Rohilla Najību-d-daulah and his two brothers. Of this the writer informed the Wazīr as also Munīru-d-daulah and Rajā Bēnī, and caused the said Shaikh to be put under a guard of His Majesty's and the Wazīr's *harkarahs* at Benares. Several of Mīr Qāsim's commanders such as Raushan 'Alī, Muhammad Akbar, Mashāikh, the *Nāib* of Masnad Ālī and Shaikh Ghulām Rasūl have arrived at Benares with household furniture, etc. If the Nawāb Mir Ja'far and the Major so desire, they shall be strictly charged to quit his service. On the 17th of November, the Wazīr marched from Sarai Begam to the *parganah* of Chail, and proposes to send Shujā' Qulī Khān, Mīr Bāqir Khān Yamanī, Fath 'Alī Khān Durrani to join Rājā Himmat and call the Bundela zamīndārs to account His Majesty is at Faunamoo [? Phaphamau] and will, in a day or two, proceed on towards Chail. Najibu-d-daulah is extremely ill. The five *lākhs* of rupees sent by Mīr Qāsim to invite him to his assistance have been entirely plundered. Encloses a letter from the padre. Desires him to send congratulatory addresses to the King and the Wazīr together with a *nazr* for the former. Is sincerely attached to the English. The Major must have heard of this from Karāmat 'Alī Khān, son of Sultān 'Alī Khān. Requests that letters to the Court may be sent in future through his hands. Dated 20th Nov.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 18, pp. 26-30.*]

[*Dec. 10.*] **1978.** Padre Windel to the Commander of the English army at Patna [Major Adams]. Is glad to hear of the English successes. Some time ago, he wrote a letter of congratulation to Major Carnac, not knowing that it was by the addressee's wise and valiant conduct that those surprising deeds were performed in so few days. The news has induced him to sing aloud the *Te Deum* "among these infidels as a thanksgiving for the defeat of those barbarians" from whom the English had everything to fear. On hearing of the massacre of Mr. Ellis and so many other gentlemen of the noble English nation, however, his joy turned into profound grief. "Is it possible" said he "that a man born in Europe, as it is reported that

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that monster Sumroo was, can commit this crime." But it is done, and obliged as Christians are to love their enemies, and incumbent as it is upon the writer on account of his office to exhort others, he will not fail to use all possible means to effect what the addressee desires. Believes, moreover, that the divine vengeance will soon fall upon both Mīr Qāsim and Sumroo, and that if they find means to escape from the pursuit of the English, they will fall into the pit which is dug before them. The barbarous homicide and his accomplice are about to arrive at the camp of Rājā Bēnī, who is at present at Benares with an army of four or five thousand horse in company with Munīru-d-daulah, the King's *Khānsāman*. Mīr Qāsim spares neither complaisance, money, nor promises to engage the Wazīr and the King, as also the Pathān and Rohilla chiefs, to assist him or at least to let him pass to the Deccan. Does not himself believe that what the English have so much reason to demand can be attained. However, he is almost certain that if Mīr Qāsim comes into the Wazīr's dominions, they will strip him, and that they will show him great mercy, if after that they dismiss him. They have for a long time secretly wished him the fate he has met with. Is not in much doubt as regards the Wazīr, and as for the King, he has no more authority than it is Shujā'u-d-daulah's good pleasure to allow him. It will be of little consequence whose part His Majesty may wish to take. It is true that the Pathān and Rohilla chiefs would be glad if the Wazīr and the King interfered in the affairs of Mīr Qāsim in order to get him out of the country and then to be masters of it themselves. Fears that if Shujā'u-d-daulah ever does engage himself more seriously, his conquests are at an end, and that he risks his country, since he has hardly sufficient force to protect himself. In all cases, the English have chiefly to deal with the Wazīr and the King. The former is the most important neighbour whom the English need fear. Believes that he fears as much from them. Friendship and a reciprocal correspondence, which they may buy and maintain at the expense of others, will secure them easily from everything they may have to apprehend. Sooner or later, it will be to Shujā'u-d-daulah's interest to have the English for friends; for it is doubtful whether there are any chiefs now in India who would not be glad if the Wazīr was less powerful, or indeed defeated. It appears indeed that the King and Shujā'u-d-daulah would have no difficulty in giving up the full possession to the English. The latter might easily fix the conditions to their satisfaction, since they are the masters, and the Moors give with a good grace what they cannot refuse. Maintains further that this would be the most advantageous method, and perhaps the only one the English nation can adopt. There is no use in setting up successive Nawābs. Asks if the father-in-law will be better than the son-in-law, and if he will never think more of the past. The English have been too long in this country not to know these "infidels." Advises them to retain the power that they have acquired, to make *ṣūbahs* more humble, less dangerous, and not stronger than is necessary for their preservation, and thus

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remain always the masters they are at present. If the Company engage to pay the revenues to the King, grant the rights of the Wazīr, and let private persons possess their *jāgīrs* as far as it may not be to the prejudice of the people, no one will trouble them. Perhaps the Moors will tremble at the idea of Bengal being made over to the English; but that need not affect them. If the English want people to protect the country from innovations [? invasions], they should keep them themselves, and as many as are necessary to ensure security. They should also increase their forces especially on the frontiers. The country will furnish the wherewithal to maintain them. It is a practice with the chiefs of India to seize and keep the provinces of the Royal dominion after the fall of the Kings. The English have as much right as any of these chiefs,—even more. Will do his best to influence the Wazīr favourably to their claims. Nawāb Shākiru-d-daulah, *ex-wakīl* of Mīr Qāsim has, for upwards of a year, been very assiduous in promoting the interest of the English Company at the Court, although he had no orders for it. Mīr Qasim took off Rs. 2,000 *per mensem* from his *jagirs* in Behar, and caused his relations to be stopped at Monghyr. He hopes, nevertheless, under the protection of the English to be put again in possession of his revenues. If it is necessary for the English to have an agent at both Courts, he is preferable to many others, owing to the zeal which he has hitherto shown. It is by him that the writer caused to be represented to the Wazīr the benefit the latter might receive from the friendship of the English. Advises the addressee to gain the friendship of those people in the Wazīr's army whom Mīr Qāsim from time to time thought to corrupt. The advantages which may accrue from this will be manifold. Is glad that his representations have not been altogether useless. Will again endeavour to explain to the people of the Court that the English can never forget to revenge the massacre of their countrymen, and that nothing agreeable can be expected while the least movement is made in favour of the routed and fugitive tyrant.

PS.—Has written this letter in French, it being easier for him to express his thoughts in that language than in English. Wishes to know in which language he should write in future. Dated Lucknow, the 12th Nov.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 19, pp. 30-38.*]

Dec. 10. **1979.** To the Nawab Mīr Ja'far. Has received his favour with the letters from Ḥasan 'Alī Bēg Khān and 'Alī Bēg. Has written to them to the same effect as to the Wazīr. Major Adams will acquaint His Excellency with the contents of the letters.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 87, p. 66.*]

Dec. 10. **1980.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter. Is glad to hear that he is proceeding to Sasaram to destroy the enemy. Agreeably to His Excellency's desire, the Chief of Chittagong has

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been strictly enjoined to recall his people from the *chaklah* of Tippera, and orders have been sent to the *gumāshtahs* to take half the saltpetre and chunam and defray half the expenses. Encloses copies of the Wazīr's letters. Has desired Major Adams to acquaint His Excellency with what has been written in reply thereto. The Company's business at the factories is at a standstill for want of money. Requests to be favoured with orders on Hooghly or Nuddea for the payment of five *lākhs* of rupees at Calcutta, and on the *nāibs* and zamīndārs of the neighbourhood of the factories for the payment of five *lākhs* at Cossimbazar, 5 at Dacca and 3 at Patna. As His Excellency's letter is dated the 5th year, it appears that the 5th year *sikkahs* have been coined in the mint of the *Sarkār*. Begs to be informed of the date of the said *sikkahs* that the 5th year *sikkahs* may be struck in the Calcutta mint also.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 88, pp. 66-67.*]

Dec. 10. **1981.** Major Adams to Rājā Shitāb Rāy. Has left the command of the army to Major Knox and is proceeding to Calcutta. Has not yet answered the King's letter. Will do so after his arrival in Calcutta agreeably to what may be resolved upon in Council. Professes loyalty and attachment to His Majesty. Has ever looked upon the addressee as a true and sincere friend.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 2, p. 4*]

Dec. 10. **1982.** To the Wazīr. Has received his letter. Requests that he will do his best to seize that worst of tyrants Mīr Qāsim, and send him to Calcutta. If he should attempt to create a disturbance in conjunction with the enemies of the Imperial Court, orders have been sent to Major Adams, in case the latter receives His Highness's commands, to dispatch an army to attend his service. A large army has arrived in Calcutta with ships of war and will, in case of necessity, march that way. Will, as desired, send an English envoy to the Court. Requests that a passport may be sent for him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 3, pp. 5-6.*]

Dec. 10. **1983.** To 'Alī Bēg. To the same effect as the foregoing, adding that he should represent matters to the Wazīr and send Mīr Qāsim with his treasure and effects to the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far or to the writer.

[*Trans. P. L. I, 1763-64, no. 4, pp. 6-7.*]

Dec. 10. **1984.** To Ḥasan 'Alī Bēg Khān. To the same effect.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 5, pp. 7-8.*]

Dec. 11. **1985.** Rājā Shitāb Rāy to Major Adams. Has not yet received a reply to his letters. Has delivered the addresses to the King and the Wazīr. Hopes all the requests will meet with their approbation. The Wazīr has written letters in reply. Dresses are being prepared for the Major and the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Will bring them to camp

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as soon as they are ready. Requests that orders may be issued to the guards not to obstruct him. Will be accompanied by only 100 horsemen, and will return as soon as he has represented a great many particulars which it is not proper to write. Yesterday Mīr Qāsim arrived at the Karamnassa. He proposes coming to the Royal presence. The writer represented that Mīr Qāsim was an enemy of the English chiefs and should by no means be countenanced. The reply given was that if he went anywhere else with so much treasure and effects, it would cause great disturbance; that at present he should be allowed to come that they might get him into their hands, and that afterwards whatever might be represented, would be agreeable. The Wazīr has passed over from Allahabad. "His Majesty is encamped on this side of the river." Dated 20th Nov.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 17, pp. 24-26.*]

Dec. 13. **1986.** The King to Major Carnac. Has not heard from him for a long time. Refers to Mumtāzu-d-daulah Farzand Khan for particulars. Hopes the Major will act agreeably thereto. Desires him to send addresses through the Khān and not to place confidence in the writings of any other person.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 20, p. 38.*]

Dec. 13. **1987.** Mumtāzu-d-daulah Farzand Khān, *Bakhshī*, to Major Carnac. Has not heard from him for a long time. His Majesty is constantly inquiring about his not receiving any addresses from the Major. The latter must have heard that Mir Qasim would not let the writer have a single farthing of his *jāgirs*, and injured him to the utmost. Notwithstanding the smallness of the charge and the short duration of his government, the ex-Nawāb is greatly in debt to the Royal *Sarkār*. His Majesty has long been displeased with him. Desires the Major to write to the King. All his requests will be complied with. There subsists a sincere friendship between the Wazīr and the writer. Hence the Major need not be under any apprehensions from that quarter. Refers him to Muhammad Yār Khān for particulars. Has sent Muḥammad Qulī to the addressee. Desires him to send letters through the latter.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 21, pp. 38-40.*]

Dec. 13. **1988.** To Muḥammad Riẓā Khān, *Naib* of Dacca. Has received his letter requesting that the gentlemen of the factories at Backergunge may be directed not to send peons into the neighbouring *parganahs*, but to apply to the Khān, whenever they have any business. Replies that there is no fit person at Backergunge to write to. There are only two or three low class men there for building boats and making chunam. Desires the Khān to send an officer of understanding and experience there and strictly to enjoin him, in case these men are guilty of oppressions, to inform the Governor of the particulars together with the names of the offenders. Will punish them without delay. The violence of the current having carried away the banks at Lakhipur, and endangered the factory, an entire

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stop has been put to the Company's business there. Half the goods have been removed to Dacca and half to Chittagong.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 89, pp. 67-68.*]

Dec. 15. **1989.** From Rājā Dhīraj Narāyan. Congratulates him on the victories. Has been appointed *Dīwān* of Patna.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 53, p. 44. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 43.*]

Dec. 16. **1990.** To Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdar* of Hooghly. Learns that his officers have stopped 24 bales of cloth belonging to the Company. Tells him that no duties are paid on the Company's cloth and that he should release it at once.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 90, pp. 68-69.*]

Dec. 17. **1991.** To Rājā Shitāb Rāy. Learns that he has arrived at the English camp on the part of the Wazīr. Desires him to come to Calcutta to receive instructions. He should then return to the Imperial Court to negotiate with the King and the Wazīr.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 6, pp. 8-9.*]

Dec. 20. **1992.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has been favoured by His Majesty with "a turban which has been bound about his sacred head," a *nīm-āstīn* with a *samūr* and other valuable presents together with a *farmān*. Encloses a copy thereof. Dated 7th Dec.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 22, pp. 40-41.*]

Dec. 20. **1993.** The King to the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has seen the Nawāb's letter to his "beloved brother" Wazīr Shujā'u-d-daulah, "the pillar of our Empire," professing loyalty and requesting to be appointed *Ṣūbahdār* of those provinces and to be supplied with a copy of an obligation to be entered into by him. It is known throughout the world that whoever with truth and sincerity has been faithful and obedient to the Royal house of Tīmūr, has found it an eternal honour to him, and that whoever, in pride and haughtiness of heart, has acted in a contrary manner, has quickly suffered the consequences of his evil actions. As the subsistence of the Royal army and His Majesty's other necessary expenses depend upon the remittances from Bengal, it is hoped that the Nawāb will hold himself accountable for the customary revenues and *pēshkash*. Desires him to dispatch to Court, along with Rājā Shitāb Rāy, some person of rank and consequence together with the Sēṭh's *gumāshtahs*, the stipulated *pēshkash*, an *'arzī* and a bond. As soon as the bond and the *pēshkash* arrive, a *sanad* for the provinces shall be granted. Directs him to transact his business with the Imperial Court through the Wazīr and Rājā Bēnī, and not to place confidence in any other person. Refers him to Rājā Shitāb Rāy for the rest of his commands and enjoins him to act accordingly.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 23, pp. 41-43.*]

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Dec. 21. **1994.** From Muhammad Yar Bēg Khān. Complains that Rām Sundar, a Brahman tenant of the *parganahs* of Amirpur and Balanda in the *zamindāri* of Rājā Kishn Chand, not only refuses to pay the balances due from him, but also does not suffer Lāl Chand, who has been sent to replace him, to collect the revenues. Hopes he will be compelled to pay the money and restrained from doing further violence. Encloses an account of the balances.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 54, pp. 44-45. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 33*]

Dec. 22. **1995.** The King to Major Adams. Has received his letter professing loyalty and requesting that the Nawab Mīr Ja'far may be granted the *sanads* Is fully convinced of the attachment of the English. Will grant the *sanads* on condition of their being accountable for the usual revenues. Refers him for particulars to Mumtāzu-d-daulah and Rājā Shitāb Rāy who are true friends of the English. Desires that the Company's business at the Court should be transacted through them alone. Some time ago, Colonel Coote promised to attend in His Majesty's service. As the Colonel has now gone to Europe and the addressee has been appointed in his place, it is proper that he should come and serve in the Royal presence.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 24, pp. 43-45.*]

Dec. 22. **1996.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is glad to hear of the favours bestowed upon the Nawab by His Majesty.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 91, p. 69.*]

Dec. 22. **1997.** To Muhammad Ēraj Khān, *Nāib* of Murshidabad. Has received his letter saying that the son of Asmatu-l-lāh Khān wants to deprive the writer's brother, Asad 'Alī Khan, of the Qāzīship of Barbakabad, and has gone to camp to procure the recommendation of Major Adams and Mr. Batson for that purpose. Replies that if his brother was appointed to the Qāzīship by the Nawāb, the said officers would not interfere Desires him to represent the circumstances of this affair to His Excellency, and to act agreeably to h s commands. Is not neglectful of his business.

[*Trans. P. L. I., July-Dec. 1763, no. 92, pp. 69-70.*]

Dec 24. **1998.** From the Nawāb Mir Ja'far. Encloses a letter from His Majesty to the Governor. Desires that the reply may be sent to him to be forwarded to Court. Has already sent for the Governor's satisfaction a copy of the letter from His Majesty with which the Nawāb was honoured. Dated 12th Dec.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 25, pp. 45-46.*]

Dec. 24. **1999.** From the King. Has seen his letters to the Wazīr, in consequence of whose representations, he has made the Governor the object of his favours and has great reliance on his fidelity. All that the Wazīr has represented to His Majesty concerning the

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English has met with his approbation. Desires him to receive from the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far the papers of the tribute together with a bond, agreeably to the ancient custom, and send them to Court. As soon as they arrive, a *sanad* and a dress will be granted. Has bestowed upon the Governor a *nīm-āstīn* in which His Majesty has himself been dressed. Desires him to write to the Wazīr through Rājā Bēnī and not to place confidence in any other person. Refers him to Rāja Shitāb Rāy for particulars. Desires the latter may be sent to Court with the Sēṭhs' *gumāshtahs* and the aforesaid bond and papers.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 26, pp. 46-47.*]

Dec. 29. **2000.** The Wazīr to Major Adams. Intimates that he represented to His Majesty in a proper and effectual manner the faithfulness and obedience of the English, and procured for them a letter and other favours which Rājā Bēnī has sent the addressee through Rājā Shitab Rāy. Is indefatigable in promoting the interests of the English. Rājā Bēnī must have written fully concerning this already.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 27, p. 48.*]

Dec. 29. **2001.** The Wazīr to Major Adams. Is convinced of the loyalty of the English. His Majesty's favours have already been dispatched to the Major. With regard to his anxiety about Mīr Qāsim's coming to Court and his desire that no attention may be paid to the ex-Nawāb's complaints, says that the latter had thoughts of retreating to other parts, particularly the Deccan, and intended to stir up trouble in conjunction with the Marhattas. But the writer, with a view to the good of the English and in consideration of their faithful obedience, removed his apprehensions and invited him to Court, so that now he has no power to move anywhere else. This should be regarded as a great piece of good fortune which has attended the English without any trouble on their part. He should act conformably to whatever Rājā Bēnī has written, and all his requests will be complied with.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 28, pp. 48-50.*]

Dec. 29. **2002.** Rājā Bēnī to Major Adams. Has received his letter. Will send him the *sanad* after the arrival of the usual bond. As the English have stood surety for the Nawāb, the Rājā is persuaded that the money of the Royal *Sarkār* will be faithfully paid. The sons of Jagat Sēṭh will soon be released. Refers him to Rājā Shitāb Rāy regarding Mīr Qāsim.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 29, pp. 50-51.*]

Dec. 29. **2003.** To Mīr Ḥasan 'Alī. Acknowledges receipt of his letter congratulating the English on their victories.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 7, p. 9.*]

Dec. 31. **2004.** Representations of the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far delivered to Major Adams to be laid before the Board. (1) All *dastaks* should bear the

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Company's seal. The gentlemen should be prohibited from interfering in the affairs of the revenues and the country, as it weakens the authority of his officers. (2) Sepoys and *harkārahs* go into the country in the name of the Company and oppress the ryots. They should be given certificates under the seal of the Company's Councillors, and if they go into the country without such certificates and create disturbances, they should be punished (3) The English *gumashtahs* should not take possession of any of the *zamindāris* or *milki** lands, receive money† for protection, or hold any farms. Whosoever has taken possession of lands, should be made to relinquish them. Protection should not be granted to the dependants of the *Sarkār*. (4) Copies of *dastaks* should be left with *chaukidars* according to custom. (5) As he has so many liabilities to discharge, he will pay the stipulated sum in three years. (6) The Chief of Chittagong should be directed to give up Tippera, Sundeep, and other districts belonging to Dacca, and the money collected by him there should be credited to the Nawāb's account. (7) The Company's *gumāshtahs* should not, on their private business only, send sepoys into the country, oppress the ryots and force them to purchase their goods. If a dispute arises, they should make it known to the officer of the *Sarkar* and have it settled by him.

[*Trans. P. L. R., July-Dec. 1763, no. 55, pp. 45-46. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 29.*]

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Jan. 1. **2005.** To the King. Has received his letter and the *nim-āstin*. As regards the agreement, the *pēshkash* papers etc., says that Mīr Qāsim has carried away with him the money due to the Imperial Court, together with all the riches of the country. Hopes and trusts that His Majesty will take from him the balances due to the Court. The Nawab Mīr Ja'far is loyal to His Majesty, and so are the English who are the Nawāb's strict allies. But His Excellency is exhausted by the expenses of the present war; and the country is ruined by the violences and oppressions of Mīr Qāsim. Has seen His Majesty's letter desiring Major Adams, who has arrived in Calcutta, to attend in the Royal service. Looks upon this as an "eternal honour" to the English. As Mīr Qāsim has been guilty of such oppressions and has unjustly put to death so many English gentlemen, together with the Sēṭhs, Rājballabh, Rām Narāyan and other principal men of the country, and as he has now arrived in the Royal camp, the mind of the English army will not be at ease until His Majesty does justice in this affair. Hopes that the King will either himself punish Mīr Qāsim or deliver him into the hands of the English.

[*Trans. P. L. I, 1763-64, no. 8, pp. 10-12. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 96*]

Jan. 1. **2006.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his favour together with a letter from the King. Encloses a copy thereof. Encloses also

* Lands granted by the King rent free or for a very trifling consideration.
† *Mīrān.*

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a copy of the letter which the Governor has sent the King. Desires him to write to His Majesty in the same strain.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 9, p. 12. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 91.*]

Jan. 1. **2007.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has perused the paper which he delivered to Major Adams. Desires that the business of the *Sarkār* and that of the Company may be carried on smoothly. Is glad to hear from Major Adams that His Excellency proposes to come to Calcutta in order to confer with the Council. Learns from Mr. Gray, who is at Malda, that one Sayyid Muḥammad Rafīq of Purnea interrupts the purchasing of saltpetre for the Company. Requests that he may be directed to desist from such proceedings.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 10, p. 13. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 91.*]

Jan. 5. **2008.** From Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. The writer previously mentioned at Ghyretty that some peons had arrived from Burdwan to summon Jiwan Kunwar, an inhabitant of Azimganj in Hooghly, and the Governor was pleased to direct his *Munshi* to write a letter to Mr. Johnstone on the subject. But by reason of his returning to Calcutta it was not done. As Jīwan Kunwar and his nephew Bīchā Rām have long had the management of the business of the said *ganj* and as the utmost interruption has been caused therein by the arrival of the peons, it is requested that the writer may be favoured with a letter for Mr. Johnstone directing the peons to be withdrawn.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 30, p. 52. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 80.*]

Jan. 5. **2009.** From Sheo Bhaṭ. Has had no news for a long time. Did not come to the help of the English, as the Governor forbade him to do so. Rāy Gōvind is being sent to settle the affairs of Mourbhanj and other places. Hopes for letters.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 31, pp. 52-53. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 80.*]

Jan. 6 **2010.** From Rāy Govind. Has already stated that he has come from the Nawāb's army. Sheo Bhāṭ is engaged in rooting out the Khandaits* and has sent the writer to regulate the affairs of Keonjhar and Mourbhanj. Professes attachment. Hopes for attention. Refers him to Sheo Bhaṭ's letters for particulars.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 32, p. 53. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 71.*]

Jan. 6. **2011.** To Muḥammad Yār Bēg Khān, Collector of Nuddea. Intimates that as Muḥammad Mubārak, Mirzā Badlū and other persons belonging to Shāistah Khān, a merchant of Mootimishabad, were going from Murshidabad to Radhanagar with Rs. 13,000 to purchase some goods, they were killed on the road in the *parganah* of Nuddea

* A sect of robbers.

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belonging to the *zamindāri* of Rajā Kishn Chand, by some highwaymen who carried away the money. Shāistah Khān therefore went and laid his complaint before the Imperial Court. He has now arrived in Calcutta with letters from His Majesty, the Nawāb Najibu-d-daulah, the Nawāb Ghālib Jang, *Bakhshi* of the Empire, and Ḥāfiz Raḥmat Khān. Encloses copies of the same. Desires him to punish the offenders, to restore the Khān his money, and send him back to Calcutta that he may leave for the Court with letters from the Governor.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 11, pp. 14-15. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 98.*]

Jan. 7. **2012.** From Sheo Bhat. Rājā Jānūjī has again written about the *chauth* in the strongest terms. Offers congratulations on the victories. Professes friendship Desires to send his brother Rāy Govind to Calcutta to settle some necessary business. Is awaiting a reply to this letter.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 33, p. 54. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 81.*]

Jan. 8. **2013.** To Sheo Bhat. Has received his letter. Tells him to send Rāy Govind to Calcutta as soon as possible. Hopes Mir Qāsim will soon be brought to justice and meet with the punishment due for his evil actions.

[*Trans. P. L. I , 1763-64, no. 12, p. 15. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 104.*]

Jan. 10. **2014.** From Rājā Dūlab Rām. Though Nand Kumār has been managing the affair of the *Khālisah*, not a fourth part of the amount of the last year's collections has yet been realised, although the year is nearly concluded. On the 26th of *Aghan*, the Nawāb gave the writer betel and invested him with the office of the *Nizāmat*, ordering a tent to be pitched to serve as his cutcherry. Has appointed five or six writers and entered upon his duties. Encloses a list of the offices, formerly annexed to the *Nizāmat*, but now held by Nand Kumār. This will give the Governor an insight into the state of affairs at Murshidabad. The business of the *Nizāmat* has begun in part to be settled. But all the affairs of Bengal depend on the *Khālisah*, and so long as Nand Kumar continues to be at the head of it, there can be no improvement. The Nawab has agreed to pay the Court 28 *lākhs* of rupees for the provinces. One half of this amount together with a *nazranah* of 5 *lākhs* is to be paid immediately. But the money cannot be procured. Consequently His Excellency is offended with Nand Kumār, and has for the last three or four days been most gracious to the writer, sending a *chobdār* twice a day to call him, and conferring with him upon all affairs. It remains to be seen what the end of all this will be.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 34, pp. 54-57. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 71.*]

Jan. 10. **2015.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja far. Has not heard from him for a long time, Encloses letters from the Wazīr and Shākiru-d-daulah to

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the Governor. Will be glad to forward his replies to the Court. Dated 25th Dec. 1763.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 35, p. 58. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 53.*]

Jan. 10. **2016.** From the Wazīr. Has received his letter through the hands of Shākiru-d-daulah. Is glad to learn that the English are now in firm possession of Bengal and Behar. Has been fully acquainted with the contents of his letter to the French padre. Will comply with the Governor's wishes. Has always been friendly to the English. Hopes for letters. Refers him to the letters of Shākiru-d-daulah and the French padre for particulars.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 36, p. 59. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 85.*]

Jan. 10. **2017.** From Shākiru-d-daulah. Encloses a letter from the Wazīr. Has obtained His Highness's consent to what the Governor has written to the French padre about seizing Mīr Qāsim and not letting him go anywhere else. The ex-Nawāb designed to march by the road of Magri Kahosa towards the Deccan, and then to proceed up to the country of the Rohillas and having obtained their assistance by means of his treasure, to create a disturbance in Bengal. But the Wazīr, out of his regard for the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far and the English, did not approve of his going to the Rohillas, removed his fears by letters of kindness and encouragement, and invited him to Benares. Accordingly he has come this way and is now encamped on the other side of Benares on the banks of the Ganges, which he will cross in a day or two. The Wazīr has invited him here as it was necessary to put an end to the present disturbance by some means or other. Professes attachment. Has, for the last twelve months, been promoting the interests of the English and the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Many of Mīr Qāsim's partisans are gaining him friends by means of bribes and are wanting to bring His Majesty and the Wazir over to their side. But the latter are firm in their friendship for the English. It is proper that the Nawāb and the Governor should at all times regard His Majesty's commands and the Wazīr's pleasure as of greater consequence than anything else, in which case all their requests will be granted.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 37, pp. 59-62. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 81.*]

Jan. 10. **2018.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Intimates that 660 pieces of broadcloth and 600 maunds of lead belonging to Mīr Qāsim were seized at the beginning of the war. As these goods are now the property of the Nawāb, they have been sent to Muḥammad Ēraj Khān at Murshidabad. Requests that the Khān may be directed to acknowledge receipt of them.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 13, p. 16. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 91.*]

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Jan. 10. **2019.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Encloses a letter from Sheo Bhaṭ. When Ray Govind arrives, he will be sent to His Excellency.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 14, p. 16. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 91.*]

Jan. 10. **2020.** To Muhammad Ēraj Khān, *Nāib* of Murshidabad. Has been informed by Mr. Williamson at Cossimbazar factory that some time ago, while a hundred maunds of silk belonging to the Company were being taken from Rampur Bauleah to the said factory, they were stopped by Diā Rām, Zamīndār of Rajshahi; and that now one Rādha Kishn, an officer of the addressee's, has taken possession of them and has not yet sent them to the factory. This proceeding is extremely improper. Desires him to order the said officer to send the goods to the factory as soon as possible. Desires him also to take a receipt from Mr. Williamson and forward it to Calcutta.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 15, pp. 16-17. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 98.*]

Jan. 13. **2021.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Encloses a letter from the King to the Governor. Hopes for letters. Dated 29th Dec. 1763.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 38, p. 62. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 53.*]

Jan. 13. **2022.** From the King. Is convinced of the loyalty of the English, and favourably disposed towards them. Will approve of whatever Shujā'u-d-daulah and Rājā Benī represent to His Majesty concerning Bengal. Desires him to send to the Court some English gentleman who has no connection with Mīr Qāsim.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 39, p. 63. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 63.*]

Jan. 14. **2023.** Shakiru-d-daulah to Mr. Batson. Has received his letter requesting that Mīr Qāsim and Sumroo may be seized and delivered up. The King and the Wazīr are friendly to the English and will comply with their wishes. Mīr Qāsim wanted to go to the Rohillas and the Jāṭs, but His Majesty and the Wazir, out of their regard for the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far and the English, invited him to the Court by artful encouragement. Now that he has arrived, it is certain that they will take from him a vast sum of money on account of the balances due from him to His Majesty and the *jāgīrdārs*, as well as whatever remained due from former *Nāgims*, that he, being brought to shame and distress, may desist from creating a disturbance and may even retreat from the world, and in the end die through grief at seeing himself reduced to such a state of poverty and contempt. These designs of ruining the enemy will be carried into execution in order to please the Nawāb and the English gentlemen. Their addresses together with a *nazr* of 100 gold mohurs have been received at the Court. The Wazir presented them himself to His Majesty, who wrote on the paper requesting the *sanads*

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"Let a *farmān* be written." His Highness will cause the *sanads* to be drawn up in the usual form, and send them to Rājā Bēnī, by whom they will be forwarded to the Nawāb. Has been appointed *Waqāya'nigār* and *Bakhshi*, etc., of Bengal and Behar, and has sent Muhammad Wāris Khān and Rāy Sidā Mal to manage his affairs. Hopes the addressee will intercede with the Nawāb and cause his people to be put in possession of his *jāgirs*. Will serve His Excellency diligently. Mīr Sulaimān, *Khānsāmān* of Mīr Qāsim, came to His Majesty and the Wazīr to procure their assurances of protection. They have accordingly sent Mirzā Rahīm Khān and 'Alī Bēg to receive him. After his arrival, the wishes of the English will be complied with. His Majesty and the Wazīr are encamped on the banks of the Jumna. Āghā Bāqir has been recalled from Bundelkhand. The country on the other side of the river has been committed to the charge of Anūp Ghīr Himmat. The French padre Windel has not yet received a reply to his letters. Encloses another letter from him to Major Adams. Dated 24th Dec. 1763.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 40, pp. 64-69. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 81.*]

Jan. 14. **2024.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is quite well now. Will shortly answer the letters forwarded by His Excellency. Requests him to supply Major Knox, who has now the command of the army in those parts, with whatever may be wanted for the troops.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 16, pp. 17-18. Abs. P. L. I., 1759 65, p. 91.*]

Jan. 17. **2025.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has paid Rs. 1,50,000 to Major Knox, and one *lākh* of rupees to Major Adams and ordered another *lākh* to be paid to Mr. Batson, notwithstanding that the country is in a desolate condition, and that he owes large sums of money to the Company, the army, the gentlemen, the King and his own troops. Requests that no further demands should be made upon him at present. Cannot describe the obstructions in the collection of the revenues, the interruption to which the business of his *Nāib* at Patna is exposed, and the contempt to which the latter and through him His Excellency himself is subjected. Complains that the forts of Patna and Monghyr have not yet been restored to him. Further, His Excellency sent some troops to arrest Rām Nidī of Sarkar Saran for having misappropriated the revenues and behaved ill to Messrs. Ellis and Lushington; but Mr. Batson's people carried him to the factory where he was treated kindly and presented with a *khal'at*. The said gentleman has now dispatched some people for his goods and effects. Complains also that Mr. Feake [?] has seized a large number of elephants belonging to the *Sarkār*, and that although Major Adams wrote to Mr. Martindale [?] about it, they have not yet been released. Has written to Mr. Batson, Major Knox and Mr. Grant on the subject. Some time ago, Thākur Dās, Doctor Fullarton's *gumāshtah*, complained to Ahmad Khān, *Faujdār* of Shahabad, that

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one Mīr Walīu-l-lāh, formerly the enemy's collector in the *parganah* of Dinwar, had seized the Doctor's salt, and desired that he should be taken prisoner. Hearing of this, the accused ran away, but the said Khān succeeded in seizing some of his effects. Has now been informed that Mīr Walīu-l-lāh, having made up matters with the Doctor and taken refuge in the factory, complained to Mr. Batson that Aḥmad Khān had seized his effects and horses; that on this pretence, Thākur Dās sent some Europeans and sepoys to Daudnagar Ganj, where the accused was residing, and took possession of it; and that the Europeans proclaimed by beat of drum that the *ganj* belongs to the gentlemen. This is the state of the weakness of his authority. Regards the Company's business as of more importance than his own, and is ever ready to assist the gentlemen who are engaged in trade. If the latter then will not promote his interest, but will, on the contrary, do everything that is conducive to the ruin of his affairs, it belongs to the Governor to take the matter into consideration and apply a remedy thereto. Otherwise His Excellency sees nothing but contempt upon his Government and disturbance in his affairs. Asks how long he will be able to bear these daily insults and oppressions. Desires to know what the Governor thinks advisable. Mīr Qāsim was an enemy of the English and yet they conciliated him; while His Excellency who is a true friend of the Company is treated in this manner. Justice is requisite. Has already written about several particulars. Major Adams must have informed him thereof. Dated 6th Jan.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 41, pp. 70-76. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 53.*]

Jan. 17. **2026.** From Rājā Shitāb Rāy. When the writer was at Calcutta, the Governor gave him letters of recommendation to the Nawab [Mīr Qāsim], and told him that His Excellency would not hinder him from enjoying his post of *Dīwān*, but that in case it should not be agreeable to His Excellency, he must not remain in this country. As the Nawāb was not pleased with him, he remained only a few days in Patna and then by the assistance of Mr. Ellis, he left the Bengal Provinces and repaired to Court. Ever since his arrival there, he has been representing to the King and the Wazīr the loyalty of the English. It was he who procured the letters and the *nim-āstīn* for the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far, Major Adams and the Governor. Requests, in consideration of his old friendship for the English, that their correspondence with the Court may be carried on through him. Requests also that he may be recommended to the gentleman who is coming to the Court. The envoy may be directed to send the writer word of his approach, that the King and the Wazīr may be asked to give him a proper reception. He may also be directed to negotiate with the Court through him. Dated 30th Dec. 1763.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 42 pp. 77-79. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 73.*]

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Jan. 17. **2027.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter together with the one from His Majesty. The Chief of Dacca has inquired into the affair of Tippera and taken a receipt from Muḥammad Riẓā Khān. Encloses a copy thereof. Major Knox is in great need of money. Requests him to grant some immediately.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 17, pp. 18-19. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 91.*]

Jan. 17. **2028.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Major Adams died on the 13th instant after an illness of two days. Expresses great grief.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 18, p. 19. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 91.*]

Jan. 17. **2029.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Ḥasan Ali, *Nā'ib* of Muḥammad Yar Bēg Khān at Katwa, stops the Company's boats and demands duties notwithstanding the *dastak*. Is surprised to hear of these proceedings. Requests His Excellency to direct the said *Nā'ib* to desist from such behaviour.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 19, p. 20. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 91.*]

Jan. 17. **2030.** To Muḥammad Yār Bēg Khān, Collector of Nuddea. To the same effect.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 20, pp. 20-21. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 98.*]

Jan. 17. **2031.** To Ḥasan Ali, *Thānahdār* of Katwa. To the same effect.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 21, p. 21. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 91.*]

Jan 19. **2032.** The Nawāb Mīr Ja'far to the Governor and Council. Has received the Governor's several letters. Has already supplied Major Adams with a *lākh* of rupees and now Major Knox demands Rs. 1,50,000 for the expenses of the English troops. Is endeavouring to raise this sum by loan. The country is in a desolate condition; all the revenues have been carried away by Mīr Qāsim, and large sums of money are wanted for the King, the English Company, and the troops. Does not know how he will discharge so many liabilities. Has appointed officers to collect the revenues; and the people, who had been dispersed, have begun to return to their houses and their occupations. But the Company's servants interfere in the affairs and obstruct the collection of the revenues. Complains that Mr. Batson, in consequence of the tales of some interested people, sent a company of sepoys to Sarkar Saran to reinstate the dismissed *'Āmil*, Rām Nīdī, a man who fought on the enemy's side and was responsible for the capture of Messrs. Ellis and Lushington and the other gentlemen of Patna factory. Mr. Batson has likewise carried away Rāy Mohan Lāl, *'Āmil* of Bissara, to the factory of Patna and has imprisoned him there. He also attempted

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to arrest Suchīt Rām, *Faujdār* of Sannaut in the dependency of Tikari, but the latter having made his escape, came to His Excellency alone and unattended. The affairs of those quarters have consequently been thrown into utter confusion. Similar is the condition of Tirra Sarkar, the *Faujdār* of which was debarred from taking possession of the fort for a long time, and where the Company's servants have not yet desisted from holding farms, assuming to themselves the office of *kotwāls*, etc., and impeding the collection of the revenues. While the Company's people are doing so much to injure the affairs of the *Sarkar*, His Excellency has given the strictest injunctions to his officers not to obstruct the business of the factories, but to inform him of all occurrences. Consequently, none of his officers are able to open their mouths before the agents of the factories on any occasion. Major Adams will inform the Governor of the orders His Excellency has already given him on Patna and Murshidabad. The ten *lākhs* of rupees, which he has consented to pay, are over and above the sum mentioned in the agreement. Will pay the whole, either from the revenues of the country or through loans. Desires that the gentlemen of Council should hold a consultation and thoroughly consider the state of the country and his situation. The *sikkahs* of the 5th year were struck in the mints of Patna and Murshidabad on the 1st of *Jumādā* I. Dated 26th Dec. 1763.

[*Trans. P. L. R*, *1763-64, no. 43, pp. 80-86. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 53.*]

Jan. 19. 2033. Rājā Tilok Chand to the Council. Has been acquainted with the contents of the English petition sent to the Council by Gokul, his late *Majmū'ahdār*. Has, as ordered, set him at liberty. The reason why he was imprisoned and treated with severity is that he was disobedient and faithless, and was defaulting in a large sum of money, which he delayed making good. Denies having seized all his goods and household effects. Everyone knows that Gokul removed them from his house two or three years ago, and that before his dismissal, he sent away all that remained together with his family to the border of Birbhum Asks how he can pay the Company's revenue if the Council do not allow him to punish his dishonest servants, and contends that if they are not called to account, the business of the *zamīndāri* will be injured, other servants will have nothing to deter them from misbehaviour, and no one will place any confidence in him. Rāmdhan Nāg, *Ihtimāmdār* of the land farmed by the **doury*, has also misappropriated *lākhs* of rupees. Has, consequently, placed a guard over him and such of his relations as have been concerned under him, and taken the farm into his own hands. Trusts that he will be permitted to seize his property whenever it can be proved upon any one Has, for the last two years, been discharging his duties diligently.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 44, pp. 86-90*]

* Mother, wives, and daughters.

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Jan. 23. **2034.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has been honoured with letters from His Majesty and the Wazīr containing professions of friendship and kindness. Encloses copies of them. Dated 9th Jan.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 45, pp. 90-91. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 53.*]

[*Jan. 23.*] **2035.** The King to the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter professing loyalty and intimating the dispatch of a *pēshkash*. Will, as requested, soon send a *sanad* for the *Ṣūbahdarī*, punish Mīr Qāsim and release the sons of the Sēṭhs. Exhorts him to remain loyal.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 45A, pp. 91-92.*]

[*Jan. 23.*] **2036.** The Wazīr to the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter acknowledging receipt of the Royal presents, intimating the dispatch of a *nazr* by the hands of Rājā Shitāb Ray and applying for *sanads* from the Court. Has properly represented to His Majesty the firmness of his loyalty. Rāja Bēnī will shortly arrive in the Royal presence. Matters will then be settled and an answer sent him. Mīr Qāsim is likewise coming The Sēṭhs will be released. Refers him to Rājā Bēnī's letters for particulars.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 45B, pp. 93-94.*]

Jan. 23. **2037.** From Muhammad Yār Bēg Khān, *'Āmil* of Nuddea. Is in receipt of his letter. Has reprimanded Ḥasan Ālī in the severest terms. Will dismiss him and inflict due punishment on him, if in future he acts contrary to the Governor's pleasure. Is ready to obey his commands. There was no necessity for writing to the Nawāb.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 46, pp. 94-95. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 66.*]

Jan. 23. **2038.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter complaining of the disturbances created by Mr. Batson. There has been some delay in considering his complaints, as the writer has lately been much indisposed. Now that he has recovered, the Council will meet and pursue such measures as may in future prevent the disturbances complained of. Desires to be fully informed of whatever injuries are done to His Excellency's affairs.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 22, pp. 21-22. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 91.*]

Jan. 25. **2039.** Rājā Shitāb Rāy to Major Knox. Has arrived with Rājā Bēnī at the *ghaṭ* of Tahnamoo [?Phaphamau], where Mīr Qāsim arrived the day before. Rājā Bēnī sent him word that he must begin to make his people cross the river. Mīr Qāsim answered that the Rājā should pass over first and that he would follow. The Rājā replied that as he had all along marched first, it was proper that Mīr Qāsim should now cross over first. Accordingly his people are crossing the river. Will speedily repair to the Court and get the *sanads* ready. Has forwarded the *'arzīs* and *nazrs* to the King and the Wazīr. Encloses letters

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received from them in reply. The papers sent by the Nawāb regarding the *pēshkash* and the tribute were presented by the Wazīr to His Majesty who was pleased to set his hand to them. Accordingly the writer's *gumāshtah* caused the *sanads* to be written. At present, the Court is awaiting the Nawāb's assent to some agreements relative to the province of Behar. As soon as it is signified and the stipulated *pēshkash* money arrives, the *sanads* and the usual presents will be delivered to the writer. Remembers his commission about the sword, the quiver, the bow, etc. Will on his arrival at the Royal camp, purchase them and bring them with him. Dated 4th Jan.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 47, pp. 95-97. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 73.*]

Jan. 28. **2040.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter. Is preparing to come to Calcutta. Dated 16th Jan.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 48, pp. 97-98. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 53.*]

Jan. 30. **2040A.** Rājā Shitāb Rāy to the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Communicates a conversation that took place upon Mīr Qāsim's friends having shown the Wazīr a letter from the Rohillas desiring him to assist the ex-Nawāb, and upon the agreement respecting Behar. [*Abs. P.L.R., 1759-65, pp. 74-75.*]

Jan. 30 **2041.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Is glad to learn that he intends to come to Calcutta. Desires him to come soon. On his arrival, rules and regulations will be discussed and made for the proper settlement of the affairs of the *Sarkār*. Positive orders have been sent to Mr. Batson directing him to refrain from interfering in those affairs.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 23, pp. 22-23. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 92.*]

Jan. 31. **2042.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Requests that the receipts for the Bengali year 1170 may be sent to him. Hopes that the representations of Gaurī Malik, his *wakil*, will be listened to. Refers him to one Jugal for particulars.

[*Trans. P. L. R., 1763-64, no. 49,* p. 99. Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p 77.*]

Feb. 1. **2043.** To Rājā Tilok Chand. Has received his letter for the Council. The Rājā has full power to appoint and dismiss his servants and to deliver the *doury's* farm into the hands of whomsoever he likes. But it does not appear right that he should punish anyone without his being first proved guilty. Desires him to lay the affair before Mr. Johnstone and the gentlemen of Council at Burdwan, and

* Letters nos. 50-228 are missing in the volume of translations.

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in case of the property being proved upon the accused, to recover it in concert with those gentlemen.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 24, pp. 23-24.*]

Feb. 2. **2044.** From Rājā Shitāb Rāy. Requests information relative to the Company's intention of establishing a factory in the Wazīr's province. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 74.*]

Feb. 2. **2045.** From Rājā Kishn Chand, Zamīndār of Nuddea. He and his son have arrived safe at Murshidabad. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 77.*]

Feb. 3. **2046.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has been informed by Mr. George Gray, Chief of Malda factory, that about 10,000 maunds of saltpetre fell into His Excellency's hands at Purnea at the time when that place was captured. Requests that Rūḥu-d-dīn 'Alī Khān, the *Faujdār* there, may be ordered to deliver half of it to Mr. Gray for the Company's use. The price will be credited to His Excellency's account.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 25, p. 24. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 92.*]

Feb. 3. **2047.** To Rūḥu-d-dīn 'Alī Khān, *Faujdār* of Purnea. To the same effect.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 26, p. 25. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 102.*]

Feb. 5. **2048.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Encloses a copy of his answer to Sheo Bhaṭ's letter. Requests him to write to the Marhatta Chief that His Excellency is coming to Calcutta, and that Rāy Govind should be sent there. Thanks him for the cloths. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 53.*]

Jan. 23. [*?Feb. 5*] **2049.** The Nawāb Mīr Ja'far to Sheo Bhaṭ. Is coming down to Calcutta. Requests that Rāy Govind may be sent [there]. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 54.*]

Feb. 5. **2050.** The Nawāb Mīr Ja'far to Rājā Shitāb Rāy. Expresses displeasure at his giving the *muchalkah* and the agreement concerning Behar. Is surprised to hear of the affair of the Sēṭhs. Intends to go to Calcutta. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 54.*]

Feb. 9. **2051.** From Dūlab Rām. The Rājās Bēnī and Shitāb Rāy have gone to the Imperial Court to procure *sanads* for the *Ṣūbahdārī*. Mīr Qāsim also is going there. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 72.*]

Feb. 11. **2052.** From the Wazīr. Proposes that an army with an English chief should be sent to his dominions. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 85.*]

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Feb 11. **2053**. From Rājā Shitāb Rāy. Has arrived at the Royal camp. The Wazīr desires an army with an English chief to be sent to him. Mīr Qāsim has arrived at the Court. Ṭhākur Sūraj Mal attacked Turcessenagar [?], but was defeated by Najību-d-daulah. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 74.*]

Feb. 11. **2054**. From Rājā Shitab Rāy. The Wazīr is willing to let an Englishfactory be established between Allahabad and Benares, and to grant the *sanads* for the *Ṣūbahdārī*. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 74.*]

Feb. 12. **2055**. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Intimates the success of Rajā Shitāb Ray's negotiations for a *sanad*.[*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 54.*]

Feb. 12 **2056**. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Informs him of the discharge of the subsidies exacted for the troops. Has severely rebuked Muhammad [Yār] Bēg Khan for his villainous conduct. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 54.*]

Feb. 14. **2057**. To Muhammad Ēraj Khān, *Naib* of Murshidabad. Has received his letter regarding the broadcloth and lead. Has not yet been able to dispatch them on account of the scarcity of boats. Will do so, however, the next day. Desires the Khān to send him a receipt and to inform the Nawāb thereof.

[*Trans. P. L I., 1763-64, no. 27, pp. 25-26. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 98.*]

Feb. 15. **2058**. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Intends to come to Calcutta when the disturbances created by Mr. Batson have been remedied. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 54.*]

Feb. 15. **2059**. From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Requests permission to purchase 1,000 muskets. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 54.*]

Feb. 17. **2060**. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. As His Excellency agreed to make restitution for whatever losses the merchants and gentlemen might suffer, it has been ordered in Council that the accounts of losses should be speedily sent in, that a regulation may be made at the time of His Excellency's arrival in Calcutta. Hopes that till then the Nawāb will not engage himself in any unnecessary expenses.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 28, p. 26. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 92.*]

Feb. 17. **2061**. To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Mr. Batson has been strictly prohibited from interfering in his affairs. Encloses a translation of the above gentleman's letter, showing how different his account is. Desires the Nawāb to make a searching inquiry into the matters complained of, which will be settled at the time of His Excellency's arrival in Calcutta.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 29, pp. 26-27. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 92.*]

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Feb. 17. **2062.** To Rājā Shitāb Rāy. Has received his several letters. Dwells on the outrages perpetrated by Mīr Qāsim and says that it is surprising that His Majesty has never thought of bringing him to justice or of taking from him the balances due to the Imperial Court. Had he not saved himself by flight, he would, by this time, have met with his deserts. Asks how he can make his escape to the country of the Rohillas, who are enemies of the Court, without His Majesty's permission. Expects that the King and the Wazīr will themselves punish him, in conformity with their regard for justice, or send him to Calcutta; and that they will seize all his money, which is in reality the money of the Imperial Court. In such case, a body of English troops under the Company's commanders will be ready to sacrifice their lives in His Majesty's service. But if justice is refused the English, their minds will not be at ease, and they will despair of ever obtaining that honour. Encloses letters for the King and the Wazīr. Desires him to return as soon as he has procured the *sanads* for the Nawāb. As His Excellency is coming to Calcutta, the addressee should accompany him if possible, that all affairs may be settled face to face.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 30, pp. 27-31. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 102.*]

Feb. 17. **2063.** To the King. Has been informed by Rājā Shitāb Rāy that His Majesty is favourably disposed towards the English. Professes attachment and offers thanks for His Majesty's giving orders for the *sanads* to be prepared. As regards His Majesty's desire that an army under an English commander may be sent to attend him, it has already been represented that unless justice is done and a suitable punishment inflicted on Mīr Qāsim, the minds of the English, and also more particularly of the soldiers and sepoys, will not be at ease. But in case the ex-Nawāb gets his deserts, they will be ready to sacrifice their lives in His Majesty's service.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 31, pp. 31-33. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 96.*]

Feb. 17. **2064.** To the Wazīr. To the same effect, adding that Rājā Shitāb Rāy may be sent back with the *sanads* for the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 32, pp. 33-35. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 106.*]

Feb. 18. **2065.** Rājā Shitāb Rāy to the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Relates a conversation that took place between the Wazīr and the King relative to Mīr Qāsim, who was then introduced and ordered to accompany Rājā Bēnī against Hindū Pult [Pat]. It was decided that the writer should return to Calcutta with the *sanads*. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 74.*]

Feb. 18. **2066.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter enclosing a letter from Rājā Shitāb Rāy and a copy of His Excellency's reply

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thereto, and intimating that he will set out for Calcutta on the 12th instant. It appears by the said Rājā's letter that the whole affair is a contrivance of Rājā Bēnī and the Nawāb Shujā'u-d-daulah. Approves of His Excellency's reply, for that is the kind of answer required at this time. No one can molest His Excellency so long as he is supported by the English troops. Returns Rājā Shitāb Rāy's letter.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 33, pp. 35-36. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 92.*]

Feb. 18. **2067.** To Rāja Dūlab Rām. Has received his several letters. By this time, the Nawāb must have set out for Calcutta. The Rājā will doubtless accompany him. Encloses some letters in reply to His Excellency's.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 34, p. 36. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 103.*]

Feb. 19 **2068.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Intimates the dispatch of a letter relative to the situation of affairs at the Imperial Court. Intends to set out for Calcutta on the 12th instant. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 54.*]

Feb. 19. **2069.** From Sayyid Badal Khān. Refers to affairs at Burdwan, and requests the exemption of Jīwan Kunwar and Bīchā Rām from the obligations of the bond. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 80.*]

Feb. 21. **2070.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Expresses satisfaction at the Governor's directing Mr. Batson not to interfere in the affairs of the *Sarkār*. Sends an account of the money paid to the Company. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 54.*]

Feb. 21. **2071.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Complains of the refactory spirit of the Company's troops who have marched to the Karamnassa. Has directed Rāja Parwand Singh to stop them. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 54.*]

Feb. 21. **2072.** From the Rājā of Mourbhanj. Communicates the atrocities committed by several people. Has been obliged to use force to drive them out of his country. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 77.*]

Feb. 24 **2073.** To Sheo Bhaṭ. Encloses a letter to him from the Nawāb. Desires him to act agreeably thereto.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 35, p. 36. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 104.*]

Feb. 24 **2074.** To Muhammad Ēraj Khān. Intimates the dispatch of the broadcloth and lead in twenty-eight boats under the charge of Pūdan, son of Bēlā *Jama'dār*. Desires him to acknowledge receipt and to

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send Rs. 660 9, being the cost of transport. Encloses an account thereof in Bengali.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 36, p. 37. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 98.*]

Feb. 24. **2075.** To Damodar Singh, Rājā of Bishanpur. Has been informed that he has bought some horses from Muḥammad Bēg but is putting off paying the price. Disapproves of this and desires him to pay the Bēg whatever is his due. Encloses the account.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 37, pp. 37-38. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 103.*]

Feb. 24. **2076.** To Khush-hāl Chand and Udey Chand, sons of Jagat Sēth and his brother. Encloses a letter for the Nawāb concerning the addressees, together with a copy of it for their perusal. If they approve of the letter, they should present it to the Nawāb at the time of his arrival at Murshidabad; if not, they should return it to the Governor.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 38, p. 38. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 97.*]

Feb. 24. **2077.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Khush-ḥāl Chand and Udey Chand, being overwhelmed with grief on account of the death of their respective fathers, Jagat Sēṭh Mahtāb Rāy and Mahārājā Sarūp Chand, are desirous of paying the Governor a visit in Calcutta. Doubtless they will first do themselves the honour of paying their respects to His Excellency on his arrival at Murshidabad, in which case it is desired that they will be permitted to come to Calcutta.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 39, pp. 38-39. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 92.*]

Feb 26. **2078.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter stating that although he paid Major Adams seven *lākhs* of rupees on account of the donation money, yet the Europeans and sepoys of the Company's army; having gathered together, sat down in the outer part of his tent and prevented him from setting out for Calcutta. Has already written to the Commanding Officer that seven *lākhs* of rupees are ready, and that the share of the troops in camp will be sent either in ready money or bills whenever he desires it. At this time orders have been sent to Major Carnac, who has been appointed to the command and has gone to camp, to pay the troops their proportion out of the Company's money, and to send down a receipt for it that it may be credited to the Company's account. The Major has also been directed to receive the donation money from His Excellency according to the *qisṭbandi*, and to give strict orders to the army on no account to prevent His Excellency from setting out. These disturbances among the troops will doubtless be removed on the Major's arrival. *Ps.*—Understands the particulars of the money His Excellency has paid the Company.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 40, pp. 39-40. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 92.*]

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Feb 26. **2079.** To Sheo Bhat. As great delays have happened in the passing and repassing of letters between Calcutta and Madras, Messrs. Marriott, Hope, and More have been appointed to reside at Balasore, Cuttack, and Malud respectively, in order to superintend the *dāks*. Desires him to afford them proper assistance.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 41, pp. 40-41. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 104.*]

Feb. 26. **2080.** To Bhaskir Pandit, *Faujdār* of Balasore. Mr. Marriott has been sent to Balasore to forward letters between Madras and Calcutta. He will accordingly live at the Company's factory. Desires that he may be granted assistance on all occasions.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 42, pp 41-42. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 89.*]

Feb 26 **2081.** To Jādu Rām and Lakkhī Kant, *Chaudhris* of Hidgely. Has been informed by the merchants of Calcutta who bring rice, salt, etc, from Hidgely that notwithstanding the *dastaks*, the addressees demand duties from them in violation of the established custom. Desires them to desist from such proceedings.

[*Trans. P. L. I, 1763-64, no. 43, p. 42. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 96.*]

Feb. 26. **2082.** To Sayyid Badal Khān. Desires him to give positive orders to the *Chaudhris* of Hidgely not to demand duties from the merchants of Calcutta.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 44, pp. 42-43. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 105.*]

Feb. 27. **2083.** From Muhammad Yar Bēg Khān, *'Āmil* of Nuddea. Reports the disturbances committed by the European troops, and requests that two sepoys may be sent with a *dastak* to take care of the country. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 66.*]

Feb. 27 **2084.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. His Excellency must, by this time, have set out for Calcutta. As money will be wanted in camp for the troops, it it desired that the *Nāibs* of the *Sarkār* at Patna and Bhojpur may be directed to supply Major Carnac with two *lakhs* of rupees per month.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 45, p. 43. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 92.*]

Feb. 28. **2085.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has already replied to His Excellency's letter concerning the mutiny of the army on account of the donation money. As the enemy will undoubtedly raise up their heads on hearing this news, the troops, which were going to Madras,

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have been detained, and Commodore Tinker has been requested to remain in Calcutta.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 46, pp. 43-44. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 92.*]

Feb. 29. **2086.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has discharged a portion of the subsidy due to the troops. Complains of the injustice of the Governor's demand with respect to the saltpetre. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, pp. 54-55.*]

2087. Rajā Shitāb Rāy to the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Intimates the enlargement of the Sēths and their intended departure upon the payment of the ransom. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 75*]

Mar. 1. **2088.** From the Wazīr. Represents the necessity of the Governor's sending a force with an English Commander to serve His Majesty, and encloses a passport for them. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 85.*]

Mar. 1 **2089.** From Rājā Shitāb Rāy. Has presented his letter to the Wazīr. The King and His Highness are willing to let the English erect a factory between Allahabad and Benares, and to bring Mīr Qāsim to destruction, on condition that the Governor sends them a force under an English chief. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 75.*]

Mar. 4. **2090.** From Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Has sent peons to make the *Chaudhrīs* of Jādū Rām, etc., refund the money taken. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 80.*]

Mar. 8. **2091.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Intimates the report spread by Mīr Qāsim in consequence of a desertion among the French and Dutch soldiers, and of a disagreement between the writer and the English, which has, in some measure, changed the mind of the Court. Recommends the stationing of two armies at Benares and Ghazipur, owing to Rājā Shitāb Rāy being carried back by the Wazīr. Requests the assistance of English troops at the fort of Rohtas. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 55.*]

Mar. 8. **2092.** News from Benares. Mīr Qāsim has entered into an agreement with the Wazīr and the King, whose army has arrived at Aqil Sarai, and who have issued orders to cut down all the corn towards Ghazipur. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 62.*]

Mar. 8. **2093.** To Rājā Balwant Singh [of Benares]. Understands that 150 men have run away from the English camp to his dominions. Their history is as follows. In the war between the English and the French, some of the French troops behaved in a cowardly manner and were taken prisoners by the English army. For a long time they remained in close confinement and frequently represented that as the English had given them their lives, they did not desire to

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go anywhere else, but would willingly enter the Company's service. This was not agreeable to the Governor, who, however, out of kindness to them at last complied with their desire, sent them to the English camp, and gave them money for their subsistence. Now they have fled to the Rājā's territories. Asks him to consider what crimes these men, who were faithless to their own master and who have now treacherously deserted the English, will not commit. The Commander of the English army wrote to him about sending them back. Is surprised that this has not yet been done. There cannot subsist any concord between the addressee and the English, if he affords an asylum to their dependants. Desires him to seize and send back those traitors, otherwise his dependants also will meet with the same encouragement in the Company's territory. Requests him to write a plain answer to this letter.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 47, pp. 44-46. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 103.*]

Mar. 8. **2094.** To the Wazīr. To the same effect.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 48, pp. 46-47. Abs. P. L. I.- 1759-65, p. 106.*]

Mar. 10. **2095.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Intimates the disaffection and desertion of the army, the designs of the enemy, and the necessity of reinforcements. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 55.*]

Mar. 10. **2096.** Rājā Shitab Rāy to Captain Stables. Has been dismissed with the *sanads*, but has deferred his departure in expectation of Rājā Bēnī, who is coming back after settling affairs with Hindū Pat. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 75.*]

[*Mar. 10.*] **2097.** Mīr Zainu-l-'ābidīn, the principal officer of the Wazīr's *Dīwān*, to Mīr Bunyād Ālī. Intimates the arrival of many Rohillas under Ummīd Khān and the Wazīr's intended march to Ghazipur. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 66.*]

[*Mar. 10.*] **2098.** From the son of Ghirīdā Mal. Intimates the seizure of Rājā Shitāb Rāy in consequence of an agreement between the Wazīr and the Rohillas. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 82.*]

Mar. 11. **2099.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letters enclosing a letter from Rājā Shitāb Rāy to Mr. Stables, and copies of Mīr Zainu-l-'ābidīn's letters to Mīr Bunyād Ālī and the son of Ghīrīda Mal; intimating his arrival at Daudnagar on the 26th February; stating that Rājā Shitāb Rāy and some of the Wazīr's people were dismissed and afterwards recalled, that the Wazīr is thinking of invading Bengal and proposes to cross over with his troops by way of Ghazipur; and requesting that Commodore Tinker may be dispatched with an army as soon as possible. Replies that Mīr Qāsim,

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having been driven out of the country, will undoubtedly give the English and the Nawāb all the trouble he can : but that as the Wazīr has many enemies on all sides of his dominions, and as the English, who are ready to live in friendship with him, will be his most inveterate foes if he should march against these provinces, His Highness will not expose himself to ruin in consequence of Mīr Qāsim's representations. In case, however, he should venture on such an enterprise, it would be advisable to leave Bengal free from disturbance, to march the English army with all expedition towards Benares and carry the war into his dominions. Has already stopped the troops ordered to be sent to Madras, and prevailed upon Commodore Tinker to defer his departure. The latter has accordingly brought the men-of-war from Hidgely to Calcutta and has, as already intimated, got the English troops in readiness. Is not negligent in entertaining and getting ready more forces. Has, as desired, sent a proper reinforcement under the command of Captain Pemble, who will shortly join the army. As soon as Major Carnac arrives at camp, it is hoped that His Excellency will start for Calcutta that regulations may be made for the proper settlement of the affairs of both Governments. *PS.*—Has, conformably to His Excellency's desire, written to the said Major about the enlisting of more troops. *PS.*—Has been informed by Major Carnac that there is the greatest scarcity of provisions in camp. As this is an affair of the greatest consequence, His Excellency is requested strictly to enjoin the *Nāib* of Purnea and the officers of the adjacent districts to send a supply of grain, etc., with the utmost expedition to Patna that the army may by no means be in want.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 49, pp. 47-50. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 92.*]

Mar. 12. **2100.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Intimates the arrival of the English army at Sasaram. Intends to come to Calcutta after a conference with Major Carnac. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 55.*]

Mar. 12. **2101.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Approves of the Governor's letter to the King and of the orders given to Mr. Batson, who has written about the elephants. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 55.*]

Mar. 12. **2102.** From the daughter of Mirzā Muḥammad Shāh (the Nawāb's wife). Sets forth the oppressions in the district of Jalalpur. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 52.*]

Mar. 13. **2103.** From Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Intimates the interruption of the salt trade in the *parganah* of Jalamuta. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 80.*]

Mar. 13. **2104.** To Muḥammad Ēraj Khān. Mr. Watts is going to see the Nawāb Desires the Khān to regard him as a person of rank and to supply him with whatever he may want.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 50, p. 50. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 98.*]

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Mar. 13. **2105.** To the Nawab Mīr Ja'far Has already stated that Mr. Watts has been appointed to reside at his Court The said gentleman will set out the next day to meet His Excellency and will accompany him to Calcutta.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 51, p. 51. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p 92.*]

Mar. 13. **2106.** To 'Abdu-l-hakīm. Has received his letter together with that of Muhammad Ēraj Khān concerning the Faujdārship. Replies that as he, Muhammad Yar Bēg Khan and Ahsanu-l-lah Khan hold their offices from the Nawab, they should address themselves to His Excellency and should act agreeably to his commands. Encloses a letter for Ahsanu-l-lāh Khān.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 52, p. 51. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 106.*]

Mar. 14. **2107.** From the Nawāb Mir Ja'far. Encloses a letter from Rājā Shitāb Ray on the political situation. The English army has moved to Daudnagar. Urges the necessity of speedy reinforcement. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 55.*]

Mar. 14. **2108.** To Muhammad Ēraj Khān. A body of Europeans and sepoys under the command of Captain Pemble has been ordered to march to the Karamnassa in order to join the English army. Requests him to supply them with whatever necessaries they may want. The price thereof will be paid by the said Captain.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 53, pp. 51-52. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 98.*]

Mar. 15. **2109.** From the Nawāb Mir Ja'far. Has written to Mr. Gray about Mīr Sayyid Muhammad Khān, and ordered Muḥammad Yār Bēg Khān not to prevent the loading of boats with the Company's goods. Encloses his answer. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 55.*]

Mar. 15. **2110.** Muhammad Yar Beg Khān, *'Āmil* of Nuddea, to the Nawāb. Intimates that no one prevents the loading of boats with the Company's goods. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 66.*]

Mar. 17. **2111.** From the Nawāb Mir Ja'far. Encloses a letter from Rājā Shitāb Rāy. Is encamped at Shamshernagar. Major Carnac intends to go to Buxar. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 55.*]

Mar. 17. **2112.** From Rājā Rām Singh. Complimentary. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 77.*]

Mar. 17. **2113.** From Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Communicates the disturbances at the cutcherry. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 80.*]

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Mar. 17. **2114.** To the Nawāb Mir Ja'far. Has received his letter enclosing copies of Rājā Shitāb Rāy's letters; stating that Major Carnac has arrived with him at Daudnagar, that the army is now encamped at Sasaram, and that His Excellency is not in favour of its marching beyond the frontiers of Behar; and requesting that Commodore Tinker may speedily be sent with a proper reinforcement. It appears from Rājā Shitāb Rāy's letters that Shujā'u-d-daulah designs to march towards Behar. Is, therefore, employed in collecting fresh forces and military stores. Captain Pemble has already been dispatched with a body of Europeans and sepoys, and now some of the English troops belonging to Commodore Tinker are assembled at Ghyretty Garden with guns, artillery-men and proper stores, and will march in two or three days. If Shuja'u-d-daulah commits hostilities against the English and the Nawāb, it would be advisable to carry the war into his dominions and leave Bengal and Behar free from disturbance. Still, whatever may be decided upon by the joint counsels of His Excellency and Major Carnac, who are upon the spot, will be right and proper. With regard to sending the Commodore, he is most heartily ready to assist in His Excellency's affairs. He will dispatch as many of his forces as may be necessary and will himself remain with the ships according to the custom of the navy. Returns Rājā Shitāb Rāy's letters.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 54, pp. 52-53. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 92.*]

Mar. 17. **2115.** To Khudā Yār Khān, Collector of Birbhum. Has been informed that in consequence of the false evidence of a strumpet, he has imprisoned Sūchī Rām, *Dallāl* of Gopalpara factory, and that he seizes the weavers to make them sell him thread and *gārhā*, by which means the business of the factory is obstructed. Requests him to release the *Dallāl* immediately on receipt of this letter and to desist from molesting the weavers.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 55, pp. 53-54. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 97.*]

Mar. 17. **2116.** To Muḥammad Yār Bēg Khān, *'Āmil* of Nuddea. Has been informed that while the Company's *gumāshtah* belonging to Boorun was loading some cloth on bullocks, one of them went astray with a bale of cloth, and subsequently returned without it. Desires him to direct his officers to search for the cloth and restore it to the *gumāshtah*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 56, p. 54. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 98.*]

Mar. 17. **2117.** To Muḥammad Ēraj Khān, *Nā'ib* of Murshidabad. As it is necessary for the affairs of the Government that some more sepoys should be entertained, Captain Goddard and two officers have been

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sent to Murshidabad for that purpose Desires him to give the Captain every assistance in his power.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 57, p. 55. Abs. P. L. I.; 1759-65, p. 98.*]

Mar. 21. **2118.** From the Nawāb Mir Ja'far. Approves of the Governor's orders to Major Carnac for the payment of the troops. Intends to set out with the Major for Buxar the next day. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 56.*]

Mar. 21. **2119.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Represents his inability to pay the sum for the troops, owing to the revenues not being collected. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 56.*]

Mar. 21. **2120.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Intimates the probability of war with the King and the Wazīr; mentions the route by which they are advancing with their armies and urges the necessity of stationing a force to impede them. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 56.*]

Mar. 21. **2121.** Raja Shitāb Rāy to his brother Sādū Rām Intimates the Wazīr's junction with Mīr Qasim and the necessity of collecting a strong force Has obtained the *sanads* and *khal'at* which he will submit [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 75.*]

Mar 21. **2122.** To the Nawāb Mir Ja'far. Has received his several letters stating that he has determined to set out with the Major for Buxar, that the enemies intend marching towards Behar by three different roads, *i.e.*, by way of Benares to the Karamnassa, by way of Ghazipur to Buxar and by way of Sarkar Saran towards Chapra, and that a proper force should be stationed at each place; and complaining that the *gumāshtahs* of the Company and of English gentlemen, who are found in every district, give protection to the defaulting zamīndārs and other officers of the Government. Replies that whatever His Excellency and Major Carnac may determine on by their joint counsels will be right and proper, but that the stationing of troops at three different places would weaken the army too much. Thinks it advisable to gather all the troops together and march into the enemies' dominions in order to lay waste their country, and in order that a report of the largeness of the English force may spread through their army. His Excellency cannot be more vexed than the Governor at the daily disturbances of the English *gumāshtahs*. It was in order to remove these disturbances and to settle the affairs of the *Sarkār* that His Excellency was so often asked to come to Calcutta. Now that he has been detained by the news of the troubles in the west, the Governor is without remedy. Returns Rājā Shitāb Rāy's letter to Sādū Ram.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 58, pp. 55-57. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 93.*]

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Mar. 27. **2123.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Intimates Najaf Khān's intention of invading Bengal by the road of Barcund [Jharkand]. Urges the necessity of stationing a force at Murshidabad to stop him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 56.*]

Mar. 28. **2124.** From Rājā Shitāb Rāy. Communicates a conversation that took place between Mīr Qāsim and the Wazīr, and the latter's indecision as to which party he should uphold. His Highness intends to march to Benares. Mīr Qāsim is collecting an immense force. Has dispatched the *sanads* by Sādū Rām, who will propose to the Governor a scheme for the destruction of the ex-Nawāb. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, pp. 75-76.*]

Mar. 28. **2125.** From Rājā Shitāb Rāy. Intimates the detention of *sanads* and his departure for Lucknow in consequence of the treachery of Mīr Qāsim. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 76.*]

Mar. 28. **2126.** Major Adams to Ajīt Singh. Enlarges upon the necessity of seizing Rām Nīdī *Chaudhrī* and prohibits the carriage of grain to the enemy's camp. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 67.*]

Mar 28 **2127.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter. Is collecting some fresh forces, which in the event of Najaf Khān's marching by way of Jharkand will be sent towards Birbhum to stop him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 59, p. 58. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 93.*]

Mar. 28. **2128.** To Muhammad Eraj Khān. Has received his letter saying that he is waiting in expectation of the army dispatched from Calcutta. Has already informed him of Captain Pemble's march. Has now sent a detachment of the English troops belonging to Commodore Tinker with cannon, artillery-men and military stores. Desires him to supply them with provisions, etc., that they may speedily join the army.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 60, pp. 58-59.*]

Mar. 28. **2128 A.** To Muḥammad Rizā Khān. Requests his assistance for the detachment going to the army. [*Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 99.*]

Mar. 30. **2129.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Intimates his arrival with Major Carnac at Buxar and also that of Sādū Rām with the *sanads*. The Wazīr is coming to Benares. Urges the necessity of reinforcements. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 56.*]

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Mar. 30. **2130.** From the King. Has sent a *khal'at*. Requires the stipulated sums for the Imperial Court. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 64.*]

Mar. 30. **2131.** From the Wazir. The *sanads* have been sent. Requires the stipulated money for the Court. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 85.*]

Mar. 30. **2132.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Encloses letters from the King and Shitāb Rāy. Requires speedy surcourt [succour ?]. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 56.*]

Mar. 30. **2133.** From Rājā Shitāb Rāy. The Wazir has joined Mīr Qāsim and gone to Allahabad. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 76.*]

Mar. 30. **2134.** From the King. The Court is ill-disposed to the English but His Majesty is firmly resolved to abide by the treaty. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 64.*]

Mar. 30. **2135.** From the King. Will return to his capital if the Governor defrays the expenses of his journey. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 64.*]

Mar. 30. **2136.** To the Wazir. Reminds him of his promise to punish Mīr Qāsim, and says that it is reported that he has taken the ex-Nawāb into his friendship and is marching towards Bengal in order to support his cause. The Governor cannot give credit to this report when he considers the former connections subsisting between His Highness and the chiefs of the Company. Is persuaded that he has the utmost regard for justice and that he will not act in an unequitable manner. If, however, his intentions are in reality hostile, the English will not neglect to do what is necessary on their part, and such a flame of war shall be lighted up as will not easily be extinguished. It is well known that those who have been most firm in their attachment, are hardest to be reconciled after they are once injured. Assures His Highness that in case he commences hostilities against the English, it is their resolution to keep Bengal and Behar free from troubles, to carry the war into his dominions, and to desolate his country.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 61, pp. 60-61. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 106.*]

Mar. 30. **2137.** To Qāsim 'Alī Khān, *Faujdār* of Rangpur. Has received his letter intimating his arrival at Rangpur. Has been informed that he has made restitution to the English gentlemen's *gumāshtahs* who were in those parts, for whatever losses they sustained during the late troubles. It is surprising that he has never mentioned this affair to the Governor. Desires to be informed how much he has

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collected, how much of it he has paid into the *Sarkār's* treasury and how much to the English *gumāshtahs*. Hopes that through his diligence and good management the district, which has been desolated by the oppressions of the enemy, will be restored to a flourishing condition, and that the inhabitants will live in peace and prosperity.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 62, pp. 62-63. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 89.*]

Mar. 31. **2138.** To Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. The wife of a European has complained to the Governor that her husband has been plundered and murdered at Bugdoor, a place near Kaunti in the *zamindāri* of Lakkhi Narāyan. Encloses a separate account of the affair. Desires him speedily to seize the murderers with the goods and send them to Calcutta. It appears that the European's *sarkār* is concerned in the murder since it took place the very night after he set out for Kaunti, and since he remains in hiding. Requests him to order the zamīndār to catch him. Has dispatched two peons from Calcutta for that purpose.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 63 pp. 63-64. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 105.*]

Mar. 31. **2139.** To Lakkhī Narāyan *Chaudhri*. To the same effect.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 64, pp. 64-65. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 97.*]

pl. 1. **2140.** From Sheo Bhaṭ. Intimates that the affairs of Sarnudpur have been adjusted and that Orissa has been granted to the Mahārājā [Jānūjī]. Requests the Governor to procure the payment of the *chauth*. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 81.*]

pl. 2. **2141.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Expresses anxiety for the arrival of the detachment of Captain Pemble. Does not think it advisable to come to Calcutta. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 56.*]

pl. 2. **2142.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. States that there is no scarcity of grain in camp. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 56.*]

pl. 3. **2143.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter stating that he is encamped with Major Carnac and the other commanders at Buxar, that the enemy are at a small distance, and that the reinforcements have not yet arrived. Replies that the first detachment under Captain Pemble must have arrived near camp by this time, and the second, which consists of troops belonging to Commodore Tinker, near Murshidabad. Will send as many more troops as may be

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necessary. A fresh army with cannon and military stores is in readiness.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 65, p. 66. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 93.*]

Apl. 3. **2144.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Refers to His Excellency's promise to settle the payment of 18 *lākhs* of rupees to the Company on his coming to Calcutta. As his visit has now been postponed indefinitely, it is requested that he will grant *tankhwāhs* on his officers for the payment of 3 *lākhs* of rupees at Patna, 5 *lākhs* from Hooghly or Nuddea at Calcutta, 5 *lākhs* at Cossimbazar and 5 at Dacca.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 66, p. 67. Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 93.*]

Apl. 3. **2145.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter enclosing copies of some letters from the King and the Wazīr and mentioning that Rājā Bēnī arrived at Benares with Mīr Qāsim on the 20th of last month. The letters which the Governor received from the Court are exactly conformable to the copies sent by His Excellency. It appears that the King has no manner of authority, but is entirely under the power of the Wazīr, who carries him about wherever he pleases. His Highness's views seem to be merely to get some money. Does not believe that he will ever come to an engagement with the English army. If he does, he will be punished and will ruin and desolate his dominions. Is by no means negligent in raising fresh forces.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 67, pp. 67-68. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 93.*]

Apl. 5. **2146.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Intimates the receipt of *sanads* for the *Nizāmat* of Bengal, etc. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 56.*]

Apl. 5. **2147.** From Anand Lāl *Chaudhrī*. Reports the outrages committed by Birj Bihārī in the *parganah* of Ourannagar, and the interruption of salt trade. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 49.*]

Apl. 5. **2148.** From Birj Bihārī, *Nāib* of Nucky [? Lakkhī] Narāyan, *Chaudhri* of the *parganah* of Jalamuta. Reports the violences of Anand Lāl in the village of Chaknan, etc., and requests the Governor to send an umpire to decide their dispute. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 49.*]

Apl. 6. **2149.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Expresses surprise at their [the Board's] claiming the *jāgīr* given to Colonel Price [? Clive]. Intends refurming [re-farming ?] it himself. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 56.*]

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Apl. 8. **2150.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Represents the necessity of fresh supplies of men and stores, as the enemy are crossing the river. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 56.*]

Apl. 8. **2151.** From Rājā Shitāb Rāy. Has represented all particulars to the King and the Wazīr. Mīr Qāsim has promised to defray the expenses of their armies. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 76.*]

Apl. 8. **2152.** From Muhammad Ēraj Khān. Intimates his willingness to assist Captain Goddard in raising troops. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 67.*]

Apl. 8. **2153.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has been informed that a guard of peons and *harkārahs* has been placed over Kishn Chand, Rām Narāyan *Mustaufi* and others, who having escaped from Mīr Qāsim's hands, repaired to the English camp with a view to seeking His Excellency's protection, and were dismissed to Murshidabad. Represents that they have no power to act in disobedience to His Excellency and requests that they may be set at liberty. Learns that a guard has been placed also over the survivors of the family of Rāy Rāyān Ummīd Rām, whose son Nittā Nand was murdered by Mīr Qāsim. As there is scarcely a zamīndār or *mutaṣaddī* remaining in the country, it is not proper to ill-treat the few that have escaped. Desires that the guard may be removed from Ummīd Rām's house;

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 68, pp. 68-70. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 93.*]

Apl. 8. **2154.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter enclosing copies of the *farmāns* and *sanads* for the *Ṣūbahdārī* of Bengal, Behar and Orissa; and stating that they were brought to Buxar on the 24th of March by Sādū Rām, Rājā Shitāb Rāy's deputy. Offers congratulations. Is surprised at the conduct of the Court, who, on the one hand, have sent the *sanads*, and on the other hand, have entered into an alliance with Mīr Qāsim and are marching towards Bengal.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 69, pp. 70-71. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 93.*]

Apl. 8. **2155.** To Sheo Bhaṭ. Is glad to hear of his arrival at Lal Bagh. Approves of his sending Rāy Govind to Calcutta.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 70, pp. 71-72. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 105.*]

Apl. 8. **2156.** To Makkhan Lāl. Has been informed that the addressee has been appointed by Muḥammad Ēraj Khān to decide the dispute between Lakkhī Narāyan and Anand Lāl. Desires him to inquire into the affair in the presence of both parties and to inform the Governor of his decision.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 71, p. 72. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 100.*]

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Apl. 8. **2157.** To Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. With regard to his complaint that the peons belonging to the cutcherry at Calcutta go and disturb the inhabitants of Hooghly, it has been decided that all disputes should be settled by the officers on the spot. Bhawānī Singh, who represents that he has been injured by Rāy Rājāmal at Hooghly, has been ordered to go there and have the affair settled.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 72, p. 73. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 105.*]

Apl 12. **2158.** To Muḥammad Ēraj Khān, *Nāib* of Murshidabad. Orders have been sent to Mr. Watts to leave Murshidabad and proceed immediately to the Nawāb's presence. Desires that he may be supplied with two or three elephants to carry his baggage, as he is on a visit to His Excellency on public business.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 73, pp. 73-74. Abs. P. L. I, 1759-65, p. 99.*]

Apl. 12. **2159.** To Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. The gentlemen of Chandarnagar having frequently represented to the Governor that the town was much infested by thieves, Muḥammad Fāẓil, *Kotwāl* of that place, was summoned to Calcutta. As Chandarnagar is under the addressee's jurisdiction, the *Kotwāl* has been sent to him. Desires that he may be severely reprimanded.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 74, p. 74. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 105.*]

Apl 12. **2160.** To the Zamindārs, *Faujdārs, 'Āmils, Dāroghahs* and *Guzarbāns* of the country from Dacca to Calcutta. As a body of troops is now coming from Dacca to Calcutta, the addressees are required to provide beforehand at the different *ghāṭs* whatever boats, etc., may be necessary.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 75, pp. 74-75. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 107.*]

Apl. 14. **2161.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Approves of carrying the war into Shujā'u-d-daulah's dominions. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

Apl. 17. **2162.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter of the 3rd instant. The two reinforcements, which have already been dispatched, must have arrived by this time at camp. Has come with Commodore Tinker to Ghyretty and is busy in collecting a body of troops with cannon and military stores. These will be sent in two or three days towards Jharkand in order to prevent the enemy marching against Murshidabad, Burdwan, and Birbhum.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 76, p. 75. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 93.*]

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Apl. 17. **2163.** To Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. As a Commander is going to march with a body of troops, and bullocks are wanted for transport, the Khān is desired to provide as many as possible and send them without delay. Whatever their just price may be, will be paid.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 77, p. 76. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 105.*]

Apl. 17. **2164.** * To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. It is with great concern that the Council find themselves under the necessity of remonstrating with His Excellency upon the ill-administration of the affairs of these provinces, strongly exemplified by the great distress the English army has been in for want of grain, though the country had been freed from disturbance before the crop was cut and though it was as plentiful as was ever known; exemplified too by the repeated complaints His Excellency has made of his want of money, though the heaviest collections of the year must have fallen into his hands; and in general by the little assistance he now seems able to give for the destruction of their common enemies. Asks to whom these evils can be imputed but to Nand Kumār, under whose influence and direction all the affairs of the Government have been hitherto conducted. These are strong instances of his misconduct and negligence, but what gives the Council still greater reason to be dissatisfied with him is that, from advices lately received from Major Carnac, it is suspected that he has been carrying on a secret correspondence with the enemy, and counteracting every measure that has been taken for the support of His Excellency's Government. Notwithstanding the repeated representations which have been made to His Excellency for supplies of grain, Major Carnac, for want of it, has been obliged to return to the Soan. This, together with other matters which have been fully represented to His Excellency by the Major, will effectually convince him that the disapprobation which the Council now express at Nand Kumār's conduct, arises alone from their friendship for the Nawāb and a regard for their common safety. However backward and cautious therefore the Council should at all times be in interfering with the affairs of the *Sarkār*, yet the wicked mismanagement of Nand Kumār in the present critical situation of affairs obliges them to press and insist upon the immediate removal of that man from His Excellency's employ. They do not take it upon themselves to recommend a successor, but are resolved to approve of any man whom His Excellency is pleased to appoint, provided he will but manifest a true zeal for the service of the *Sarkār*. Whatever opinion they may have expressed of Rāy Dūlab, or desire to have him employed, they are ready to acquiesce in his removal to Calcutta, if such is His Excellency's pleasure, at the time when Nand Kumār is sent down, being desirous to give His Excellency every proof in their power of the fact that they are not swayed to make this remonstrance by any partiality for the one or personal dislike for the other, and that they

* Agreeable to Cons. the 16th April.

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are not incautiously or unnecessarily interfering with His Excellency's authority, which they are determined to support, but are compelled much against their will to press the removal of Nand Kumār, who seems to be undermining both his power and that of the Company. As they are now giving the strongest proofs of their attachment to His Excellency by exerting all their strength to free his country from their common enemies, they must expect that he will so far concur with their endeavours as immediately to remove Nand Kumār from his confidence and service. The longer any power continues to remain in his hands, the more endangered is their common safety by his artifice and misconduct. This address will be presented to His Excellency by Major Carnac, of whose attachment and regard he has repeatedly had such strong proofs, and with whom he will without doubt be ready to concur in every measure necessary for the public good.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 78, pp. 76-79. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 93.*]

Apl. 18. **2165.** From Muḥammad Ēraj Khan. Intimates the arrival of the Commodore [? Commander] at Motijhil, and his departure for Sadiq Bagh. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 67.*]

Apl. 18. **2166.** To Muḥammad Ēraj Khān, *Nāib* of Murshidabad. Has received his letter together with the paper of news. There is another body of Europeans and sepoys with artillery and military stores ready at Ghyretty. They will march in two or three days towards Jharkand to prevent the enemy from coming that way and to protect the city of Murshidabad and the districts of Burdwan and Birbhum. Desires him to set his heart at ease and to apply himself with diligence to the management of the affairs of the *Sarkār*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 79, p. 80. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 99.*]

Apl. 19. **2167.** From Sheo Bhaṭ. Expresses satisfaction at the coming of the English gentlemen [to Orissa]. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 81.*]

Apl. 19. **2168.** From Muḥammad Ēraj Khān. Has sent a receipt for the cloths. Captain Pemble's detachment has left Sadiq Bagh. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 67.*]

Apl. 19. **2169.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Intimates that Doctor Mirzā Alī Naqī has been sent to Calcutta and requests the Governor's advice upon his coming. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

Apl. 20. **2170.** To Muḥammad Riẓā Khān, *Nāib* of Dacca. Has received his letter. The King and the Wazīr, through the intrigues of Mīr

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Qāsim, are marching towards Behar and have arrived at Benares. Rajā Bēnī crossed the Ganges, but went back on account of the great disputes prevalent at the Court. At all events, the English army is in readiness, and reinforcements of Europeans and sepoys have been sent from time to time. A body of troops with military stores is now going towards Jharkand for the protection of the city of Murshidabad and the districts of Burdwan and Birbhum. Tells him to set his mind at ease and to employ himself in the management of the affairs of the *Sarkār*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 80, pp. 80-81. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 100.*]

Apl. 20. **2171.** To Rājā Dūlab Rām. Has received his letter giving an account of the state of affairs in the west. From the behaviour of the grandees of the Court and the different appearances of friendship and war that they put on, it seems as if their only view was to get money. The English are collecting troops and sending reinforcements to the frontier. Has come with Commodore Tinker to Ghyretty to send some troops to Jharkand. Tells him to set his mind at ease and to apply himself with diligence to the management of the affairs of the *Sarkār*.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 81, pp 81-82. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 103.*]

Apl. 20. **2172.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. His Excellency's letter to Sheo Bhaṭ was forwarded to him under the care of an English gentleman, who has been appointed to reside at Cuttack. Encloses the letter which the Marhatta Chief has sent in reply. Has been informed by the aforesaid gentleman that there is no one in those parts in a condition to give the Nawāb and the English any trouble.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 82, p. 83. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 93.*]

Apl. 21. **2173.** From Chamnā Sau, the new Marhatta Chief. Has obtained a *sanad* for the *Ṣūbahdāri* of Orissa. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 51.*]

Apl. 23. **2174.** From Rājā Dūlab Rām. Reports the failure in the attempt against Rohtas and the retreat of the army to Patna. Gives information likewise of the Wazīr's army and states that Abdālī has been defeated by the Sikhs. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 72.*]

Apl. 24. **2175.** From Muḥammad Riẓā Khān. Is raising troops for the defence of his districts. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 82.*]

Apl. 24. **2176.** To Chamnā Sau, the new Marhatta Chief at Cuttack. Has received his letter intimating that he has been appointed Governor of

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the province of Orissa. Congratulates him and desires that he may at all times be regarded as his friend.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 83, p. 83. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 90.*]

Apl. 24. **2177.** To Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Refers to the state of affairs at Chandarnagar and says the Khān was desired to appoint some one to the office of *Kotwāl* for the protection of the town and not for the collection of money. Has now been informed by Santosh, a merchant of Chandarnagar, that the Khān is collecting money and has taken upon himself the management of all affairs there. This is entirely contrary to the Governor's inclinations. Desires him to desist from such behaviour.

[*Trans. P. L I, 1763-64, no. 84, p. 84. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 105.*]

Apl. 24. **2178.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has been informed by Chamnā Sau that the latter has been appointed *Ṣūbahdār* of Orissa in place of Sheo Bhaṭ. Encloses a copy of his letter. Has not yet received Rājā Jānūjī's letters. Will let His Excellency know as soon as they arrive. Learns from some English letters that Sheo Bhat has been imprisoned by Chamnā Sau and that the former's friends are preparing to rescue him. Accordingly the two parties are going to war with each other. These disturbances among themselves will render it impossible for them to make an attempt upon Bengal or give trouble to the English and the Nawāb in any other way.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 85, pp. 84-85. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 93.*]

Apl. 24. **2179.** To Chamnā Sau, the Marhatta Chief at Cuttack. As letters from the Company and the English gentlemen constantly pass between Calcutta and Madras, *daks* have been stationed at different places on the route. Requests him to give strict orders to the zamīndārs under his jurisdiction to furnish oil, *mash'als*, tom-toms, pikemen, etc., according to custom. Three English gentlemen have been appointed to reside at Balasore, Cuttack, and Malud for the management of this business. Hopes that they will always be granted assistance.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 86, pp. 85-86. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 90.*]

Apl. 25. **2180.** From the Nawāb Mir Ja'far. Communicates the views of the Wazīr and reports the weakness of the King. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

Apl. 25. **2181.** From the Nawāb Mir Ja'far. Intimates the arrival of Captain Pemble at Patna. Owing to the scarcity of grain, has left that place with his army for Dinapur. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

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Apl. 25. **2182.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Relates to the payment of the sums required by [the Company's] Government for the factory [factories ?]. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

Apl. 25 **2183.** From the Wazīr. Desires an explanation of the conduct of the English Government. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 82.*]

Apl. 25. **2184.** The Wazīr to Major Carnac. To the same effect. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 82.*]

Apl. 25. **2185.** To Muḥammad Riẓā Khān, *Nāib* of Dacca. Has received his letter together with an address which he has written to the Nawāb. Has been fully acquainted with all circumstances by Mr. Cartier. Desires him to raise some troops agreeably to that gentleman's advice. Has forwarded his address to the Nawāb and written to His Excellency on the subject.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 87, pp. 86-87. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 100.*]

Apl. 25. **2186.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has been informed that as it is feared that a few idle reports might induce the zamīndārs in the neighbourhood of Dacca to create a disturbance, Muḥammad Riẓā Khān and Mr. Cartier have begun to raise some troops. Encloses a letter which the Khān has written to His Excellency on the subject. Hopes that this affair will meet with his approbation, and that they will be allowed to raise as many troops as may be requisite.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 88, p. 87. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 93.*]

Apl. 26. **2187.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Represents the unhappy state of his country. Intimates that the enemy are advancing and requests that a battalion may be sent to join some troops he has raised. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

Apl. 26. **2188.** From Qāsim 'Alī Khān, *Faujdār* of Rangpur. Encloses a letter from Mr. Moore respecting the restitution money. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 51.*]

Apl. 27. **2189.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter enclosing orders for ten *lākhs* of rupees. Has sent the orders to the respective persons according to the separate list. Will let him know when the money is paid. Refers to his statement that a body of 10,000 horse under the command of Dīn Dīāl, Rājā Bēnī's *Dīwān*, is preparing to march into the districts of Sarkar Saran in order to destroy the factories and proceed to Patna; and that as the English commanders have not provided for the security of the factories, Mīr Ghulām Muṣṭafā Bukhārī has been ordered to raise some troops,

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which he has accordingly done. Expresses satisfaction thereat and says that when Major Carnac's whole force has joined him, he will send to Sarkar Saran such a detachment as His Excellency and he may judge necessary. The troops which were appointed to prevent the enemy from entering Bengal [by way of Jharkand], and to protect Murshidabad, Burdwan, and Birbhum, have marched to Burdwan. The reinforcement consisting of troops belonging to Commodore Tinker will shortly arrive at camp.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 89, pp. 88-89. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 93.*]

Apl. 27. **2190.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter through the hands of Doctor Mirzā Ālī Naqī who has paid him several visits. Has been informed by him of His Excellency's commands. Will diligently act agreeably thereto. Refers him to the Doctor for particulars.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 90, p. 89. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 93.*]

Apl. 27 **2191.** To Mukand Pandit. Has not heard from him for a long time. As *daks* have been stationed on the route from Calcutta to Madras to forward letters, he is desired to give strict orders to the zamīndārs to furnish them with oil, *mash'als*, and other necessaries according to custom. Three English gentlemen have been appointed to reside at Balasore, Cuttack, and Malud for the better management of this business. Hopes that they will be granted assistance.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 91, pp. 89-90. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 100.*]

Apl. 27. **2192.** To Ragmānjī Jāchak. To the same effect.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 92, p. 90. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 103.*]

Apl. 27. **2193.** To Qāsim Ālī Khān, *Faujdār* of Rangpur. Has received his letter enclosing an account of the restitution money paid to the English *gumāshtahs*. Has already sent a reply to his letter through the hands of Mr. Jekyll, the Company's Resident at Rangpur. It might not have arrived at the time the Khān last wrote to the Governor. Encloses a duplicate of it. Has examined the account which has made him acquainted with all particulars.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 93, pp. 90-91. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 89.*]

Apl. 27. **2194.** To Muḥammad Yār Bēg Khān, *'Āmil* of Nuddea. Has received from the Nawab an order on him for Rs. 1,50,000 to be paid at Calcutta in the space of one month. Encloses a copy of it. Desires him to pay the said sum within the stated time. The original order will then be sent him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 94, p. 91. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 98.*]

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Apl. 27. **2195.** To Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. To the same effect.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 95, p. 91.*]

Apl. 27. **2196.** To Muhammad Riẓā Khān, *Nāib* of Dacca. Faqīr Chand Sāhū has for a long time been bringing grain, oil, and other goods from Dacca to Calcutta. The people employed by the addressee in collecting grain have now stopped the boats loaded by Faqīr Chand's *Nāib*. Desires him to release the boats and to give positive orders that no one should act in such a manner in future.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 96, p. 92. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 100*]

Apl. 28. **2197.** From Khuda Yār Bēg Khān, *'Āmil* of Birbhum. Reports Kamgār Khān's conduct and asks for assistance to defend Chuckay pass. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 65.*]

Apl. 28. **2198.*** To the Wazīr. The English have been always faithfully attached to the Kings of Hindustan and sensible of the favours they have bestowed upon them. They were moreover the first to acknowledge the present King Shāh 'Ālam, who, on his part, has frequently expressed a dependence on the English above all others, and might have benefited by their assistance, had he not unfortunately fallen into the addressee's hands. Instead of supporting the King's rights when he received His Majesty from the English, and proceeding to put him in possession of his capital, he has detained him ever since in a kind of slavery and made use of his name to carry on his own ambitious and unjust designs on the rights of others. The English have still the strongest proofs of the King's affection and regard for them and it is entirely contrary to His Majesty's inclination and without his authority that he is advancing towards these provinces. With respect to what he writes, namely, that the English have interfered in the King's country and turned out and established Nawābs at pleasure without the consent of the Imperial Court, he himself in former letters expressed the highest approbation and applause of the English deposing Mīr Qāsim and supporting the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far; and as a proof of the King's approbation of the conduct of the English, His Majesty has graciously confirmed the said Nawāb in the *Ṣūbandārī* by his Imperial *sanads*. In the same letter, the addressee reviled Mīr Qāsim for his tyrannies and oppressions, and meanly sued for the assistance of the English against him. Now that forgetting his former declarations, he joins with a tyrant and oppressor, in what light can the English regard him but as an abettor and partner in his murders? Since his conduct has proved so inconsistent and unworthy of the rank he holds, and since notwithstanding the warning the English have given him, he still persists in his designs upon these provinces, they are resolved for the future to answer his threats only by force of arms, nor will they desist till they have amply revenged themselves for the injuries he has done them, and given the world a fresh proof of

* Agreeable to Con. the 26th April.

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the fact that as the English will never injure others, so none shall dare to attack them with impunity. This will not only be a justice to themselves, but will be a means of rescuing the King from the bondage in which His Majesty has been impiously detained, and will put it in his power to sit on the throne of his ancestors.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 97, pp. 92-95. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 106.*]

Apl. 29. **2199.** To Khudā Yār Bēg Khan, *'Amil* of Birbhum. Is in receipt of his letter. Has already sent a body of Europeans and sepoys with cannon and military stores to intercept the enemy and protect the city of Murshidabad, and the districts of Burdwan and Birbhum. Tells him to set his mind at ease. The designs of the enemy will be frustrated.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 98, p. 95. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 97.*]

May 2. **2200.** From Rājā Dulab Rām. Relative to the disposition of the enemy's forces and the defeat of the Durrānī horse by Major Carnac. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 72.*]

May 2. **2201.** From Chamnā Sau, the new Marhatta Chief. Intimates his assumption of the management of affairs in Orissa and the imprisonment of Sheo Bhat. Refers to the consequences thereof. Has complied with the request regarding the factory as specified in the Governor's letter. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 51.*]

May 2. **2202.** From Rāy Govind. Requests to be informed of the Nawāb's arrival at Calcutta. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 71.*]

May 2. **2203.** To Rājā Dūlab Rām. Has received his two letters intimating that in a skirmish 14 of the enemy's horsemen were killed, two taken prisoners, and a good many wounded, and that Major Carnac returned triumphant. Congratulates him on this first success which is the earnest of future victories. "As the blessing of God attends the Company," the enemy are leading each other to destruction and the English arms will be crowned with success. Tells him to set his mind at ease and to exert himself to root out the enemy.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 99, p. 96. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 103.*]

May 2. **2204.** To Chamnā Sau, the Marhatta Chief at Cuttack Has received his letter intimating his arrival at Lal Bagh; stating that he has taken Sheo Bhat prisoner, and that Mukand Pandit with others of his friends, having come to an engagement with the addressee's troops, have been defeated; desiring that strict orders may be issued to the officers at Jellasore and Midnapur to prevent their coming that way, and that he may be informed of the Nawāb's arrival in Calcutta, so that he may send Rāy Govind there; and mentioning that Mr. Marriott and Mr. Hope have been established in the factories of Balasore and Cuttack and that Mr. Lowe has been sent to Ganjam.

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Agreeably to his desire, orders have been sent to the Chiefs of Jellasore and Midnapur to prevent the fugitives from coming that way. The Nawāb's coming to Calcutta has been delayed by the fresh war wherein His Excellency and the English are engaged. But he will shortly come crowned with victory and then notice will without fail be given to the addressee. Thanks him for having established the gentlemen in their business. Requests him strictly to enjoin the zamīndārs to supply the *dāks* with oil, *mash'als*, etc, according to custom.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 100, pp. 96-98. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 90.*]

May 2. **2205.** To Rāy Govind. Approves of his coming to Calcutta. The Nawāb's return thereto has been postponed on account of the disturbances in the west. His Excellency will shortly arrive crowned with victory, and then word will be sent to the addressee.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 101, p. 98. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 104.*]

May 4. **2206.** To Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Has received his letter with eight bills to the amount of 35,700 *sikkah* rupees on account of the order for Rs. 1,50,000 granted by the Nawāb on him. As soon as the said amount is paid into the Company's treasury, a receipt will be sent him. Desires him to pay the balance in the space of one month.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 102, p. 99. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 105.*]

May 5. **2207.** To Muḥammad Ēraj Khān, *Nāib* of Murshidabad. Has been informed that some of the enemy's horse have advanced to this side of Patna and are plundering the people. As the armies of the Nawāb and the Company are on the other side of Patna, it is necessary that Murshidabad should be taken care of. Orders have therefore been given to the Commander of the Company's battalion of sepoys to assist the Government troops. Desires him with the advice of the Commander to fix upon some place in the neighbourhood of Murshidabad and post some troops there.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 103, pp. 99-100. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 99.*]

May 6. **2208.** To Ḥasan Alī Khān, *Faujdār* of Rajmahal. Some of the enemy's people having advanced to this side of Patna, the interchange of letters with that place has been interrupted. It has therefore been decided to station *dāks* on the Purnea side of the river from Rajmahal to Hajipur. Has sent a principal person on this business. Requests the Khān to assist him and to send two or three boats along with him. Requests him also to communicate any news that he hears.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 104, pp. 100-101. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 91.*]

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May 7. **2209.** To Ḥasan Álī Khān, *Faujdār* of Rajmahal. It being necessary to guard the pass of Tiliagarhi in order to prevent the enemy from entering Bengal, it is desired that he will send there all the horse and foot that he has under his command. The Government troops from Murshidabad, and a body of Europeans and sepoys belonging to the Company have been ordered to assist him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 105, p. 101. Abs. P L. I., 1759-65, p. 91.*]

May 7. **2210.** To Muḥammad Ēraj Khan, *Naib* of Murshidabad. Desires him to march to the pass of Tiliagarhi himself or send some good officer there with two pieces of cannon. The Commander of the Company's troops at Murshidabad has been ordered to co-operate with him. The army which has been sent towards Shergarh will be sufficient for the protection of those parts and the district of Murshidabad.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 106, pp. 101-102. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 99.*]

May 7. **2211.** To Muhammad Riza Khān, *Nāib* of Dacca. Mr. Cartier has been directed to collect some grain and send it to the army. Desires the Khān to assist him. Has already sent to the said gentleman the Nawāb's order on the Khān. Asks him to pay the money to the factory in the space of one month agreeably to His Excellency's directions.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 107, pp. 102-103. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 100.*]

May 7. **2212.** To Muḥammad Ēraj Khān, *Nāib* of Murshidabad. As the enemy's people have begun to create a disturbance in the districts of Patna, it is necessary that persons of rank should take care of their families. Seṭh Khush-hāl Chand and Udey Chand will therefore come with their families for some time to Calcutta. Desires that they may be permitted to do so.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 108, p. 103. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 99.*]

May 7. **2213.** To Sēṭh Khush-ḥāl Chand and Udey Chand. As it does not seem proper that their families should remain at Murshidabad during these troublesome times, Muhammad Ēraj Khān has been asked to let them come to Calcutta.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 109, p. 103. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 97.*]

May 8. **2214.** From the Wazīr. Recommends the Governor to relinquish all possession of the country or to take the consequences of a war.

[*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 83.*]

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May 8. **2215.** To Muḥammad Yār Bēg Khān, *'Āmil* of Nuddea. As the English are in great want of money, the Khān is desired to pay the full amount of the order in the space of one month.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 110, p. 104. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 98.*]

May 8. **2216.** To Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. To the same effect.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 111, p. 104. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 105.*]

May 9. **2217.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Reports the capture of all the grain by the enemy, the subsequent skirmishes and the movements of the English army. Najaf Khān is coming to attack Murshidabad. Urges the necessity of sending a force for its protection. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

May 9. **2218.** From Rājā Dūlab Rām. Intimates that Major Carnac has sent Captain Wemyss's detachment to Patna, and that Shujā'u-d-daulah wishes to treat with him. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 72.*]

May 9. **2219.** To Muhammad Yār Bēg Khān, *'Āmil* of Nuddea. Understands that some of the enemy's plundering parties have advanced to this side of Patna and of the Nawāb's camp. It is proper that the several officers of the Government should hold themselves in readiness to drive them away. Desires the Khān to let him know what number of horse and foot he has under his command and to post some troops at the *ghāts* of Gwauri and Bakhshipur to prevent the enemy from crossing over there. Desires also to be informed of whatever news the Khān hears; and in case of necessity a detachment will be sent from Calcutta to the assistance of his people.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 112, pp. 104-105. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 98.*]

May 10. **2220.** From Muhammad Riẓā Khān, *Nāib* of Dacca. Will acquiesce in whatever Mr. Cartier may advise with respect to raising troops. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 68.*]

May 10. **2221.** To Rājā Dūlab Rām. Has received his letter touching the proceedings of the army. Whenever the enemy come to an engagement with the Company's troops, they will be duly punished. All the occurrences of these parts have been written to Major Carnac, who will inform the Rājā thereof.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 113, p. 105. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 103.*]

May 10. **2222.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. To the same effect.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 114, p. 106. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 93.*]

May 10. **2223.** To Muhammad Riẓā Khān, *Nāib* of Dacca. Has received his letter. At this time of troubles it is indispensably necessary to

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take measures for the protection of the country. The more good men he can raise, the better. Is convinced of his attachment and friendship.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 115, pp. 106-107. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 100.*]

May 10. **2224** To Mīr Rūhu-d-dīn Alī Khān, *'Āmil* of Purnea. Desires the Khān to let him know what number of horse and foot he has under his command and to place guards over all the roads by which the enemy might enter Bengal. Desires him also to protect the Company's factories.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 116, p. 107. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 102.*]

May 10. **2225**. To Qāsim Alī Khān, *'Āmil* of Rangpur. To the same effect.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 117, p. 107. Abs. P. L. I , 1759-65, p. 90.*]

May 10. **2226**. To Rādhā Kishn, *'Āmil* of Rajshahi To the same effect.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 118, p. 108. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 104.*]

May 11. **2227**. From Muḥammad Ēraj Khān. Expresses anxiety for the arrival of the troops to defend Birbhum. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 67*]

May 11. **2228**. From Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Represents the fears of the inhabitants at the approach of the enemy. [*Abs P L. R , 1759-65, p. 80*]

May 11. **2229**. To Muhammad Ēraj Khān, *Nāib* of Murshidabad. As at this time of troubles it is necessary that all persons of rank should provide for the security of their families, it is desired that Rām Narāyan *Mustaufi*, Rajā Kishn Chand and Lālā Prīt Rāy, son-in-law of the Rāy Rāyān, who were kept for two years in close confinement by the enemy and over whom since their escape to Murshidabad, a guard has been placed, will be allowed to go to their own houses for that purpose. When the Nawāb arrives at Murshidabad, they will appear before him.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 119, p. 108. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 99.*]

May 11. **2230**. To Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Has received his letters desiring that Kandarp and Pitambar Das, *gumāshtahs* of Lakkhī Narāyan and Jādū Rām may be sent to him; mentioning that the inhabitants of Hooghly are under apprehensions on account of the news of the enemy, and requesting to be informed of the success of the English arms. The *gumāshtahs* have been sent under the charge of some peons. The news from camp is that the armies of the

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Nawāb and the Company are at Patna and that the enemy are five or six *kos* on the other side of it. Hopes that the news of a victory will shortly arrive.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 120, pp. 108-109. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 105.*]

May 12. **2231.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Gives an account of the battle of Pachapahar, which resulted in the defeat of Shujā'u-d-daulah. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

May 12. **2232.** To Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. Learns that on the 3rd instant, the Nawāb Shujā'u-d-daulah, Rājā Bēnī Bahādur, Mīr Qāsim, Sumroo, Himmat Ghīr and the other commanders of the enemy marched with their whole force with cannon, rockets, etc., from their camps two or three *kos* beyond Patna and attacked Major Carnac's entrenchments at Pachapahar. The two armies engaged with artillery and small arms from 8 o'clock in the morning till sunset. The enemy were defeated wherever they made their appearance. At length, being unable to stand their ground, they retreated to Phulwari and their cannon fell into the hands of Major Carnac, who remained victorious in his camp It is said that Bēnī Bahādur and Himmat Ghīr have been wounded and Shaikh Dīn Muhammad and other *Jama'dārs* killed.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no 121, pp. 109-110. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 105.*]

May 12. **2233.** To Muhammad Riẓā Khān, *Nāib* of Dacca. To the same effect.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 122, p. 110. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 100.*]

May 12. **2234.** To Muhammad Yār Bēg Khān, *'Āmil* of Nuddea. To the same effect.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 123, p. 110. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 98.*]

May 12 **2235.** To Chamnā Sau, Marhatta Chief at Cuttack. To the same effect

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 124, p. 110 Abs. P. L I., 1759-65, p. 90*]

May 12. **2236** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Congratulates him on the victory. His Excellency's letter to his son Najmu-d-daulah has been delivered. Will forward the latter's answer as soon as it arrives.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 125, pp. 110-111. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 93.*]

May 13. **2237.** From Sayyid Muhammad Khān. Intimates the death of Ābid Alı Khān. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 82.*]

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May 13. **2238.** From Sayyid Muḥammad Khān. Has given orders with respect to the purchase of grain and discharged in part the stipulated sum. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 82.*]

May 13. **2239.** To Muhammad Ēraj Khān, *Nāib* of Murshidabad. Has received his congratulatory letter enclosing a copy of a letter from Abū Muhammad Khān, and intimating that tom-toms have been beaten in celebration of the victory. Approves of this and desires him to tell the inhabitants not to be under any apprehensions. The letters received from the Nawāb and Major Carnac corroborate all that the said Khān has written.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 126, pp. 111-112. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 99.*]

May 14. **2240.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Requests that orders may be issued for the supply of the *dāks*. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

May 17. **2241.** From Muḥammad Yār Bēg Khan, *'Āmil* of Nuddea. Encloses a list of *ghāts* where the Canca [Kankana] is fordable. States what force he has under his command. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 66.*]

March [? May] 18. **2242.** From Ragmānjī Jāchak. Has given orders with respect to the *dāks*. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 77.*]

May 18. **2243.** From Chamnā Sau, the new Marhatta Chief. Intimates his acquiescence respecting the *dāks*. Requests to be informed of the Nawāb's arrival at Calcutta, that he may send Rāy Govind, at present employed in adjusting affairs at Mourbhanj. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 51.*]

May 19. **2244.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Expresses satisfaction at Sheo Bhaṭ s dismissal. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

May 19. **2245.** To Muhammad Ēraj Khān, *Nāib* of Murshidabad. Has received from the Nawāb two *tankhwahs* for three *lākhs* of rupees, one on Muḥammad Yar Bēg Khān, *Tahsīldār* of Nuddea, and one on Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdar* of Hooghly, with orders that they should pay the said sum in the space of one month. As payment cannot be procured from them on account of the collections not being made in the country at this season of the year, and as the Company are in great want of money, the addressee is desired to pay the said sum to the Chief of Cossimbazar without delay. Encloses copies of the *tankhwāhs*. The originals will be forwarded when the amount has been paid.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 127, pp. 112-113. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 99.*]

May 19. **2246.** To Muhammad Yār Bēg Khān, *'Āmil* of Nuddea. Has received his letter. As the addressee has but a small force under him, the Commander of the detachment that is going to Rajmahal has been directed to leave a few of his sepoys in Katwa for t.

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Requests him to order his *Nāib* at Katwa to admit them into the fort.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 128, p. 113. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 98.*]

May 21. **2247.** To Qāsim Alī Khān, *Faujdār* of Rangpur. As the affair of Mohan Shau is under examination in Calcutta, and as some ten persons, belonging to Shahpur, Sheoganj, and Rangpur are witnesses therein, some peons have therefore been sent to summon them. Desires the Khān to search for them and send them to Calcutta under the care of the peons. They can return after giving their evidence.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 129 p. 113. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 90.*]

May 21. **2248.** To Sayyid Badal Khān, *Faujdār* of Hooghly. As a detachment under Captain Grant has left for camp with guns and military stores, the Khān is desired to provide them with boats to cross the *nālās* of Tirpany and Nayasarai, that they may soon reach their destination.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 130, p. 114. Abs. P. L I., 1759-65, p. 105.*]

May 23. **2249.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Intimates that he has paid the subsidy to the troops. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

May 23. **2250.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Encloses copies of letters from the Wazīr and Rājā Bēnī and his replies thereto. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 57.*]

[*May 23.*] **2251.** Rājā Bēnī to the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Wishes to negotiate with the English. Has sent Chintā Rām to His Excellency. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 78.*]

[*May 23*] **2252.** The Nawāb Mir Ja'far to the Wazir. Enlarges upon his ingratitude to the English, and exhorts him to punish Mīr Qāsim. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, pp. 57-58.*]

[*May 23*] **2253.** The Nawāb Mīr Ja'far to Rājā Bēnī. Has explained all particulars to Major Carnac. Communicates his opinion on the subject. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

May 23. **2254.** From Rājā Dūlab Rām. Is glad to learn that the Governor has dispatched troops to Jharkand. Reports the movements of the ene my. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 72.*]

May 24. **2255.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has written to Muḥammad Rizā Khān on the subject of raising troops. Is satisfied to learn that the Governor has sent troops to protect the city [Murshidabad]. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

May 24. **2256.** From Ḥasan 'Alī Khān, *Faujdār* of Rajmahal. Has repaired [? to] the pass of Tiliagarhi. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 53.*]

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May 24. **2257.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter together with the enclosures. Approves of his reply to the Wazīr and Rājā Bēnī, but says that from the contents of their letters it appears that all their professions of friendship are insincere and deceitful. Advises him not to suffer himself to be lulled to sleep by their soft and soothing words but to pursue the most vigorous measures and duly chastise them. Is by no means negligent in sending troops and military stores. Has just dispatched a detachment under the command of Captain Grant with some cannon and all necessaries to the pass of Tiliagarhi in order to prevent the enemy from coming that way. The army which was sent to Birbhum some time ago, is now encamped at Nagar. None of the enemy's troops have as yet made their appearance. Should they do so, they will be punished.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 131, pp. 114-115. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 94*]

May 26 **2258.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Encloses copies of letters from Rajā Bēnı, etc , requiring the cession of the province of Behar. [*Abs P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

[*May 26*] **2259.** Rājā Benī to the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Intimates his wish to carry on negotiations. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 78.*]

[*May 26*] **2260.** Asad 'Alī Khān to the Nawāb. Represents the displeasure of the Wazīr upon the perusal of the writer's letters. The Wazīr has ordered that no person should correspond with the Nawāb but His Highness h·mself and Rāja Bēnī [*Abs. P. L R., 1759-65, p. 49.*]

[*May 26.*] **2261** The Nawāb Mīr Ja'far to Rāja Bēnī. Expresses surprise at his demand for negotiations and represents the folly of sending Asad 'Alī Khān before an agreement is arrived at. [*Abs. P L. R., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

[*May 26.*] **2262.** The Nawāb Mīr Ja'far to Asad 'Alī Khān. Expresses disgust at the Wazır's deceit and artifice in requirıng the cession of the province of Patna. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

May 26. **2263** From Muhammad Ēraj Khān. Intimates the grant of *tankhwāhs* for the payment of exacted sums and reports the unjustifiable conduct of Muhammad Yār Bēg Khan in delaving payment Encloses a copy of a letter from Lāhorī Mal. [*Abs. P L. R., 1759-65, p. 67.*]

[*May 26*] **2264.** Lāhorī Mal to [Muhammad Ēraj Khān]. Intimates the discharge of the *tankhwāh*. [*Abs. P. L. R , 1759-65, p. 66.*]

May 26 **2265.** From Khudā Yār Bēg Khān. Intimates the arrival of Captaın Fletcher's detachment in Bırbhum. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 68.*]

May 26 **2266.** To Muhammad Rizā Khān, *Nāib* of Dacca. Encloses the Nawāb's reply to the Khān's letter. Desires him to consult Mr. Caıtier and raise as many troops as may be necessary.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no 132, p 115. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 100.*]

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May 27. **2267.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter mentioning that he formerly enclosed copies of letters from the Wazīr and Rājā Bēnī concerning the appointment of the Wazīr's son to the Governorship of the three provinces, and that now the said Rājā and Asad 'Alī Khān, in consequence of His Highness's directions, have written to the Nawāb to give up only the province of Patna; and requesting the Governor's advice on the subject. Asks what kind of demand this is that the Wazīr makes. Having entered into an alliance with Mīr Qāsim and marched to his assistance, he has plundered and ravaged the country to the utmost of his power; but now that he finds it difficult to make a safe retreat, he has thought it proper to open negotiations with His Excellency. If he has a mind to settle matters in an amicable manner, he should deliver into the hands of the English Mīr Qāsim, Sumroo and the European deserters whom he received into his camp, and make full and ample restitution for the ravages he has committed and the mischief he has done in the country.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 133, pp 115-117. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 94*]

May 29. **2268.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Reports the defeat of the enemy in Sarkar Saran by Captain Morgan. Rām Nidī has gone over to Mīr Qāsim. Is in distress in consequence of the revenues being stopped. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

May 29. **2269.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Mr. Watts, who was appointed to reside at His Excellency's court and was going there, has returned to Calcutta on account of the roads being obstructed. As Major Carnac must frequently be away from His Excellency for the regulation and management of the army, it is necessary that some person of rank should always be attending him, that everything may be transacted with his advice. Orders have therefore been sent to Mr. Batson to reside at His Excellency's court. Hopes that His Excellency will open to him the secrets of his heart and consult him on all occasions.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 134, pp. 117-118. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 94.*]

May 31. **2270.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter intimating that the disturbances of the enemy have put an entire stop to the collection of the revenues of the Patna district, and that Rām Nidī, who was formerly a servant of Mīr Qāsim's, and who has now been appointed by the Wazīr to the *Faujdārī* of Sarkar Saran, was defeated by Captain Morgan on the 18th instant. The Wazīr's remaining in Behar and Bengal cannot but be attended with daily injury to His Excellency's affairs and the stoppage of his revenues. But His Highness can be routed whenever he is attacked. Thinks that there is no necessity for the Nawāb's remaining with the army during the rainy season. The affairs of Bengal are going to ruin in consequence

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of His Excellency's absence, and the Company's business also awaits his arrival. Advises him to come down to Calcutta, leaving some person of rank to command the troops that are with Major Carnac.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 135, pp. 118-119. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 94.*]

May 31. **2271.** To Muhammad Ēraj Khān. Has received his letter expressing his inability to pay the *tankhwāh* money from the treasury of Murshidabad. As this is not the season for collecting money, it is with the utmost difficulty and repeated injunctions that the sum of Rs. 55,000 has been procured from Sayyid Badal Khān, while not a single *kaurī* has been obtained from Muḥammad Yar Bēg Khān. Desires him to pay Rs. 2,45,000 to the Chief of Cossimbazar, to take a receipt from him and send it to Calcutta. Has certain information that there is money ready in the treasury. Asks what can be thought of it, if he again sends an evasive answer.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 136, pp. 119-120. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 99.*]

June 2. **2272.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Reports the disaffection of the zamīndārs and their defeat by some Europeans. Requires assistance. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

June 2. **2273.** From Muhammad Ēraj Khān. Encloses a paper of news intimating the return of the King and the Wazīr towards the west. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 67.*]

June 2. **2274.** From Muhammad Yar Bēg Khān, *'Āmil* of Nuddea. Has paid a portion of the *tankhwāh* money. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 66.*]

June 2. **2275.** To Chamnā Sau, Marhatta Chief at Cuttack. Desires to send a letter to the Governor of Bombay by way of Cuttack and Poona. Has accordingly directed Mr. Hope at Cuttack to hire two *qāsids* for the purpose. Requests him to give them a passport that no one may interrupt them on the way. *PS.*— Has just heard that Shujā'u-d-daulah, being unable to contend with the English troops, has marched back with the utmost precipitation towards his own dominions. Encloses a copy of a letter on the subject.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 137, p. 121. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 90.*]

June 2. **2276.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter intimating that Muzaffar 'Alı, who has received a *khal'at* from the Wazīr, has been defeated by Wāriṣ 'Alī and some forces from Monghyr, and that Asadu-z-zamān, who has also received a *khal'at*, is marching with his troops; and asking the Governor to take care of the eastern districts and to seize Asadu-z-zamān in case he should make his appearance. "As the blessing of God attends our arms," the

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enemy have everywhere been brought to punishment. About a month ago, a large body of troops was sent towards Birbhum. They are now posted at Nagar, but none of the enemy's people have yet made their appearance. A considerable detachment with military stores is ready to march to the pass of Tiliagarhi in order to prevent the enemy from coming that way. Tells him to set his mind at ease with regard to the eastern quarter of the province.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 138, p. 122. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 94.*]

June 4. **2277.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. States that the King and the Wazīr have marched towards the west. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

June 4. **2278.** From Mīr Rūhu-d-dīn 'Alī Khān, *'Āmil* of Purnea. States what measures he has taken for the defence of his districts. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 68.*]

June 5. **2279.** From Muḥammad Riẓā Khān, *Nāib* of Dacca. States the measures he has adopted for the annihilation of the robbers. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 68.*]

June 6. **2280.** From Rājā Tilok Chand. Intimates that he has sent Nand Rām Mittar as his *wakīl*. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 77.*]

June 6. **2281.** To Muḥammad Riẓā Khān, *Nāib* of Dacca. Learns that Shujā-u'd-daulah, being unable to stand his ground, has retreated with his whole army towards Benares. The English troops will pursue him and retaliate on his country all the mischief he has done in Behar. Tells him to set his mind at ease.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 139, p. 123. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 100.*]

June 6. **2282.** To Rājā Tilok Chand, Rājā of Burdwan. Has received his letter. Will comply with whatever Nand Rām, his *wakīl*, represents. Hopes for letters.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 140, p. 123. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 102.*]

June 7. **2283.** From Muḥammad Ēraj Khān. States that there is no money in the treasury excepting the amount that will be paid into the Cossimbazar factory, otherwise *tankhwāhs* would not have been granted. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 67.*]

June 7. **2284.** To Mahindar Rāy. Has been informed by Anand Lāl, Zamīndār of Mysadal, that the *parganah* of Gumgur belongs to his *zamīndāri*, that Gopalnagar *nālā* has of old belonged to the said *parganah*; and that the addressee has collected a number of people and is preparing to take possession of the *nālā* by force. Such proceedings are not proper. Desires him to appoint an umpire to

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settle the dispute and to inform the Governor of the latter's decision

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no 141, pp. 123-124. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 101.*]

June 7. **2285.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter intimating that the enemy have retreated and are now encamped on the road to Daudnagar. Their retreat will restore tranquillity to Bengal and Behar. But as they committed such ravages on every side during their stay, it is advisable to retaliate, otherwise whenever an opportunity offers, they will again invade these provinces. Besides, it will be an honour to His Excellency and the English chiefs to bring the enemy to punishment.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 142, p. 124. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 94.*]

June 9. **2286.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Represents the desolate condition of Behar. [*Abs. P. L.R., 1759-65, p. 59.*]

June 10. **2287.** From Rājā Dūlab Ram. The march of the Wazīr's army will probably be impeded by the rains. Letters have arrived from the King, etc., to the Nawāb, the Major and himself. Encloses a copy of the King's letter together with his reply thereto. Requests to be allowed to come to Calcutta. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 72.*]

[*June 10.*] **2288.** The King to Rājā Dūlab Rām. The Wazīr and himself are well disposed towards the English. Mīr Qāsim shall be brought to punishment. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 64.*]

[*June 10.*] **2289.** Rājā Dūlab Rām to the King. Expresses satisfaction at His Majesty's friendly disposition towards the English. Has communicated to them the contents of the Royal letters. Hopes that Munīru-d-daulah will be sent. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, pp. 72-73.*]

June 10. **2290.** From the King. The Wazīr and himself are well disposed towards the English. Requests that an English gentleman may be sent to negotiate with them. Rājā Shitāb Rāy has been recalled. [*Abs. P. L. R, 1759-65, p. 64.*]

June 10. **2291.** Shākiru-d-daulah to Major Carnac. The King has sent Rāy Sīdā Mal to the Major. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 81.*]

June 10. **2291A.** Munīru-daulah to Major Carnac. Communicates the friendly sentiments of the Wazīr. The King will allow Shākiru-d-daulah to depart if desired. Rājā Shitāb Rāy has been recalled to the Court. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759 65, pp. 68-69.*]

2291B. From Munīru-d-daulah. Communicates the friendly sentiments of the Wazīr and recommends *'arzīs* to be sent to the King. Rājā Shitab Rāy has been recalled to the Court. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 69.*]

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June 10. **2292.** Shākiru-d-daulah to Major Carnac. The King has recalled Rājā Shitāb Rāy. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 81.*]

June 10. **2293.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Encloses copies of the King's letter and his reply thereto. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 58.*]

[*June 10.*] **2294.** The King to the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The Wazīr is well disposed towards His Excellency. Desires him to come to the Court when the tyrant [Mīr Qāsim] shall be punished. Desires likewise the presence of Mr. Swinton. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 64.*]

[*June 10.*] **2295.** The Nawāb Mīr Ja'far to [the King]. No negotiations can take place until Mīr Qāsim and Sumroo are delivered up. Mr. Swinton will be sent on Munīru-d-daulah's arrival. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 59.*]

[*June 10.*] **2296.** The Nawāb Mīr Ja'far to Munīru-d-daulah. Expresses satisfaction at the friendly disposition of the Court and the recall of Rājā Shitāb Rāy, but says that no negotiations can be carried on until Mīr Qāsim and Sumroo are delivered up. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 59.*]

June. **2297.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Reports the interruption of trade at Chilmari and desires that orders may be issued on the subject. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 59.*]

June 12. **2298.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter mentioning that a stop has been put to the business of the merchants of Chilmari by reason of the trade of several Englishmen, and that the making of *khedās* for elephants has been entirely interrupted by the ravages of the Bhutias; and desiring that the Chiefs of Rangamati and Chilmari may be directed to desist from interfering in the *arangs* of those parts and to assist Muhammad Taqī Khān, the *Faujdār*. Replies that there is no factory of the Company in Rangamati or Chilmari. There are only two or three English gentlemen there, who carry on their trade without obstructing other merchants. The gentlemen of the Council say that when His Excellency comes to Calcutta, he may acquaint them with everything face to face, and that proper measures will then be taken for the prevention of such disturbances. With regard to the Bhutias, some sepoys will, if His Excellency thinks proper, be sent to put a stop to their ravages.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 143, p. 125. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 94.*]

June 12. **2299.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter enclosing copies of the letters he has received from the King and Munīru-d-daulah and of his replies thereto. Approves of His Excellency's reply, and says that it is advisable to write in plain terms to the enemy. It was doubtless in consequence of the plain answers sent them that they have returned in despair to their own country: otherwise it is impossible to know how long they would have remained carrying on their faithless negotiations and spreading ruin and desolation over Behar and Bengal.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 144, p. 126. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 94.*]

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June 12. **2300.** To the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. Has received his letter relating the state of affairs in the districts on the other side of the Karamnassa, in Sarkar Saran and in the districts of Murshidabad; mentioning that a stop has been put to the collection of the revenues on this side of the said river by the appointment of officers on the part of the enemy, that his monthly expenses amount to five *lākhs* of rupees, that he was desirous of disbanding his troops on account of his inability to pay them, but that Major Carnac forbade him to do so; and requesting the Governor to advise His Excellency on the subject Now that the enemy have retreated, Major Carnac will pursue them, and the whole country as far as the Karamnassa will be freed from troubles; whilst the zamīndārs of those districts, being brought to shame and repentance, will soon be ready to obey his commands. During the one or two months that the enemy have been in possession of those parts, they cannot have collected any money. The districts of Murshidabad are in His Excellency's possession. No one has rebelled against his Government, nor is it in the power of anyone to do so. When His Excellency returns to Bengal and employs himself in the regulation of its affairs, he will receive the usual revenues together with the balances that are due. The gentlemen of the Council desire that His Excellency should select from among his army such troops as are good and trustworthy, leave them with Major Carnac and discharge the rest. They further desire him to give the Major a *tankhwāh* for two *lākhs* of rupees for the expenses of the English army and to come down to Calcutta during the rains, that all affairs may be properly settled agreeably to his pleasure.

[*Trans. P. L. I., 1763-64, no. 145, pp. 126-128. Abs. P. L. I., 1759-65, p. 94.*]

June 14. **2301.** From Muhammad Ēraj Khān. Reports the invasion of the Wazīr's dominions. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 67.*]

June 15. **2302.** From the Nawāb Mīr Ja'far. The enemy's army has crossed the Soan at Kullore. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 59.*]

June 15. **2303.** From Muhammad Ēraj Khān. States the amount of the money paid into the Cossimbazar factory. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 67.*]

June 16. **2304.** From Rājā Dūlab Rām. The enemy have crossed the Soan at Kullore. The King has sent [? for] Rājā Shitāb Rāy. Communicates the movements and plans of the English army. Requests permission to come to Calcutta. [*Abs. P. L. R., 1759-65, p. 73.*]

June 16. **2305.** To Rājā Dūlab Rām. Has received his letter enclosing copies of His Majesty's letters and his reply, and mentioning that Shujā'u-d-daulah is marching towards Maner, whereby the fears of the inhabitants have been dispelled. Approves of his reply to His Majesty's letter, but says that if the enemy were to get overthrown, they would return to their own country, and never more think of troubling the Nawāb and the English. Is glad, however, that the

did not signify. To the north a range of mountains, which bordered the valley of the Godavery, formed another distinct frontier. The river Manjra, which flowed eastwards, rising among these mountains, gave another distinctly-defined boundary to a certain point, where it diverged; and from this point to Afzulpur on the Bhima, an arbitrary line had been drawn, which, as it included several large counties that were private estates belonging to one of the chief nobles of Hyderabad, could not be attached. Within the general boundary too, many portions had either been willully concealed or improperly and dishonestly retained. However, the whole province, as defined in the treaty, would have been more than was really required; and in the end, after I had gone over the whole carefully, my boundaries became more definite, and it was satisfactory to think that all the country lying within them was under my own control.

As fast as I could get them, I despatched managers to the different head-centres of counties with my orders, and to convey my assurances of goodwill to the people. The Arabs were fast betaking themselves to Hyderabad, and neither my assistant nor I had experienced any except very temporary difficulties from them. In almost less than one month I was able to report that we had established the authority of the British Government of India in every part of the province. My assistant's father, Mr. Cadell, was an eminent Writer to the Signet in Edinburgh; and I was much amused when he wrote to his son that the proceedings of two men, with a small escort of cavalry, taking possession coolly of a province half as large as Scotland, with a strange population, were, to his perception, the 'most consummate piece of assurance' he had ever heard of; and 'pray, how were we going to govern it?' Our district was rather more than 15,000 square miles in area; but though the shrewd old Scotch lawyer saw, I daresay, a thousand difficulties, I saw none which could not be overcome by patience, hard work, and steady perseverance.

It was a fine climate, fortunately, and very healthy. The tract lying between the Sina river and the hills was lower than the rest; but it was open, free from jungle, and for the most part well cultivated. From it the basalt plateau named

the Balaghat rose to a height varying from 400 to 1,000 feet, some of the highest summits showing 2,400 feet above the level of the sea. This plateau, culturable from its very edge, sloped gradually eastwards to the Manjra river, and joined the northern mountain boundary, which extended to Ahmednagar.

Naldrug itself lay 2,200 feet above the level of the sea; and, compared with Shorapur, the climate, even during the hottest part of the year, was much less trying, while in the cold season it was very cold indeed, and not unfrequently frosty.

The Balaghat was renowned all through the Deccan for its luxuriant crops of wheat and barley, pulse and oil-seed. Cotton did not thrive, and what was produced was of very short fibre, harsh and unfit for export. Sugar-cane grew well, and there was a good supply of hemp and linseed; but the beautiful white millet of Shorapur was wanting, and that grown was coarse and hard in comparison.

I had known the people before, when I was a boy, and many still remembered me and my red trousers, and came to see me. The population was almost entirely agricultural—thrifty, industrious, practical farmers and gentry; who tilled their somewhat hard soil with singular perseverance and success; they were better farmers than those at Shorapur, and kept improving their fields till they would have done credit to an English landowner.

I had liked the people in my early days because of their sturdy, independent character. Marathi was the only language spoken,[1] and this I had at my command—a circumstance which, I felt sure, would inspire confidence, for everybody soon knew that they could come to me and speak out their minds freely whenever they had occasion, without any go-between, or interpretation, being necessary. I knew, too, that the normal crime of the district, *dacoity*, not only still existed, but was largely and desperately practised—and this, which had defied me in former years, must now be eradicated with a strong hand.

[1] 'Changed to the sweet Mahratta vernacular, that all could understand' (*Tara*, chapter xlviii.).

I believe that the people at large, with the exception of the small portion forming the hereditary criminal class, welcomed the new rule with sincere delight. They knew it meant security of their land and possessions, as well as justice and protection, and extension and protection of trade. Those who were unacquainted with the working and ways of English rule in other districts were, perhaps, somewhat disturbed at first at the idea, but they were few, and the feeling soon wore off.

When I took possession of the province, there was no court of law or justice whatever, civil or criminal, any more than there had been at Shorapur, and none such had ever existed within the memory of any person. The agents of the Nizam's Government, and the Arabs, used to punish gross criminal offences, and, in some cases, petty thefts; but in the great crime of *dacoity* all seemed to have had a share, inasmuch as the agent always received part, according to his share, of the property stolen! As for murder, no one ever noticed it, or thought of bringing the perpetrators to account.

After a great deal of very hard work—during almost night and day while it lasted—I had gained, partly from old accounts and partly from the details sent in from my new managers, a tolerably correct estimate of the resources of the province, which I submitted in a report to the Resident.

If I had taken the province according to the estimates and orders of transfer of the late Minister and the *daftardars* of Hyderabad, I should have had a revenue of about *two and a half lakhs*, and a few scattered portions of territory, and there would have remained within my boundary-line large tracts of country not under my jurisdiction. This would have caused much confusion and vexatious embarrassment, and probably constant disputes would have arisen. Now, when I had got all together in a kind of ring-fence, as it were, I found, according to my rough estimate, that I should have about *eleven and a half lakhs* of Hyderabad rupees.

Colonel Low was just going away to Calcutta to be sworn in as a member of the Supreme Council; and before he went, he wrote me his very hearty approval of what I had been able to effect in so short a time, and particularly his great satisfaction at the complete and bloodless expulsion of the Arabs.

I must here, likewise, record my grateful thanks and remembrance of the very essential services rendered to me in respect to the latter by the native officers and men of the cavalry detachments sent for my assistance. The native officers were all gentlemen by birth, most intelligent, and highly respected by the people wherever they went. They proved excellent negotiators, and were fully trusted by all, even by the Arabs themselves.

At Ausa, a far stronger fort than Naldrug, my manager presented my letter to the Arab chief commanding the garrison, requesting him to evacuate the place. The request was indignantly refused; but on the appearance of a squadron of cavalry which I sent to my officer's assistance, the Arabs received the native officers with 'honours', marched out at once, and gave up all the large dependencies they had held in mortgage from the Nizam's Government without any demur. Ausa was the last, indeed the only place, that caused me any anxiety; and I knew that the Resident had also been very anxious about it, owing to its reputed great strength and the large number of its garrison. In Ausa, Parenda, and Naldrug, I now held the three strongest forts of the Deccan;[1] yet all had submitted without using any violence, and no further display of force than I have mentioned.

So ended my preliminary operations in my new province; and I was about to leave Naldrug, in order to start on a tour through the district, when I received a note from the Collector at Sholapur asking me to come to him and arrange many matters pending between us. The prospect of a little holiday and society was very pleasant, and I went. His wife was an excellent musician—both sang delightfully; and it was a great treat to me to hear once more the music of great composers skilfully executed, and to try my own voice in concerted pieces—a pleasure to which I had for so long been a stranger.

[1] This is a doubtful statement. Yet Taylor had a reasoned admiration for these forts. In his *History* he writes that the fortresses of the Bahmani kings 'far exceed any of the same period in Europe. They are of all kinds, both on the plains and on the crests of mountains, from baronial castles to forts of the grandest dimensions'. Out of not less than fourteen of these enumerated by him as remarkable and beautiful, Parenda and Ausa, he says, 'are the most perfect, according to military science'.

They were very kind and very patient with me; but I fear I gave the ladies some trouble, I had grown so rusty.

Owing to my very unsettled life latterly, my letters to *The Times* had become irregular, and I could not keep up the necessary communications for news which were required for fortnightly letters.

There were no posts through my district; and letters and newspapers would, of necessity, reach me very irregularly, while the same objection applied to my despatch of letters. I reflected, also, that whereas hitherto my position at Shorapur had left me comparatively independent, I was not so in my new appointment, and that I was not justified in writing so unrestrainedly on political subjects as I had been used to do. I therefore resigned my office of 'special correspondent' to the great paper, which, from first to last, had uniformly treated my opinions and contributions with the greatest courtesy.

I could not, either, agree with the now confirmed annexation policy of Lord Dalhousie, which began in 1853, and seemed likely to be continued; and I knew that among the people generally the annexations of Jhansi and Nagpur, and the transactions in regard to the latter especially, were spoken of with unmeasured mistrust and suspicion. The proceedings [1]

[1] The continued proceedings of this Inam commission were among the causes of popular discontent alleged in the Marathi warning sent to Lord Elphinstone early in 1857. At the end of his special Mutiny letters, included in the present chapter, Taylor guards himself against being thought to be 'against the annexation policy of Lord Dalhousie'. Yet his intellectual allegiance to the great Governor-General was sorely shaken by some of the doings of the year when he gave up his connection with *The Times* rather than defend or attack them. In his *History* is a short chapter on Nagpur and Jhansi, beginning: 'Of all the period of Lord Dalhousie's administration, the year 1853–1854 most abounds with remarkable occurrences.' As he says, Jhansi was small. But the extinction of so noble a kingdom as Nagpur, or Berar, could not take place in silence. Taylor gives its area as 76,500 square miles—which approaches the present size of the Nizam's Dominions. But its population was then less than five millions, and it is still scanty.

This, Gondwana or the land of the Gonds, though a good country, was one of the empty spaces of India, without archaeology or antiquity, with no history that can go back three centuries. Until 1853 the Nagpur Raj had run on pretty well through more than two decades upon the impulse given it by Sir Richard Jenkins (see earlier note). At the end

in the Bombay Presidency in regard to the inquiry into free lands, charitable grants, and the like, had been, or were being, badly conducted, and had excited much discontent. My very outspoken Marathas took no pains to conceal their censure of the conduct of Government as evincing a spirit of greed and bad faith which was strange and painful to many of them, and in these views people and gentry alike coincided.

During my period of connection with *The Times*, however, I had enjoyed the privilege of discussing and explaining, as far as possible, all the great subjects which pertained to the period: education and its results on the people—for vernacular education had long since become a declared policy—trade, railways and communications of all kinds, cotton cultivation, irrigation in all its forms, along with the general political events of the previous ten years, momentous as they had been. I do not know whether these humble efforts of mine had any effect in bringing India and its people, its interests, and its increase of civilisation, more directly under the notice of thinking people in England. I hope so; and I was vain enough to think they might have some such effect, as they were generally backed up by leading articles in the paper itself, and thus attained some importance.

Now, there were other correspondents in the field,[1] newspaper articles were better written, and their number had increased largely, so that the exponents of India's condition and wants were manifold, and there was no use in my continuing to send communications which must necessarily be unconnected and desultory. My correspondence all these years with my faithful friend Reeve never slackened, and his

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of November the Maratha Raja died heirless; and in December Nagpur was annexed. 'The State of Nagpur,' Dalhousie proclaimed, 'conferred on the rajah and his heirs in 1818 by the British Government, has reverted to it on the death of the rajah without any heir.'

Taylor's discussion of the question shows how his conscience was hurt. If the annexation was unpopular and alarming, the mode in which it was carried out, he says, was worse. W. W. Hunter and Talboys Wheeler tell the story in their *Histories*. The latter says that the people spoke of 'Dunkin Sahib' (Jenkins) with affection, while 'all the middle and lower classes were heartily desirous of British rule'.

[1] One of these was to be Sir Joseph Archer Crowe, the later diplomat and historian of art, 1825–1896, who was in Bombay for two years from 1857, and *Times* correspondent during the Mutiny.

letters were a great source of pleasure and encouragement to me in my work, and kept me informed of what was going on in the political and literary circles in London, so that I did not feel quite so much my exclusion from them.

On my return from my pleasant little stay at Sholapur, I went out to my tents, which were pitched at Tuljapur, my old favourite resort in 1825 How beautiful it was! The hills were all clothed with verdure, and the view from my tent was lovely. On the north side of the promontory where I was, lay the town, built on both sides of a deep ravine, and at its head the celebrated shrine of Bhowani or Kali, which lay in the hollow beneath—not indeed, in itself, a remarkable edifice at all, but surrounded by picturesque cloisters and courts, always thronged by pilgrims, and which formed a curious combination of all kinds of Hindu architecture.

Above the temple towered rugged cliffs on either side, and the ravine opened out into a large amphitheatre, bounded by precipitous hills, that seemed like buttresses to the plateau above. To the south was a great undulating plain, stretching to the dim blue horizon, dotted by thriving villages, surrounded by luxuriant cultivation, and checkered by ever-varying masses of light and shade. The line of the hills and plateau extending towards the east or Naldrug direction, was broken by headlands and ravines descending to the lower country. There was no wood, it is true; but the diversified outlines, now rugged, and again more regular, redeemed the landscape from any monotony.

The climate was delightful, like that of an English summer day, in turn cloudy and sunshiny, with occasional light showers. On the day of my arrival, I had just breakfasted, and sat down to begin work in my *kacheri*, or office tent, when an old Brahmin came in, and for a time sat down quietly in a corner without speaking. Seeing that I was alone, he came up to my table, and peering closely into my face as he leant upon his staff, he said, 'Are you the Taylor Sahib who came here many years ago?'

When I answered that I was the same, he produced a bundle of old papers, and asked me whether I recollected them. As I looked over them, I saw that I had put my initials to each of them, but forgot at the moment why I had done so; for in

any case of inquiry or settlement it was my habit to initial all the papers, and I thought these documents must relate to some old claim or suit to be revised. I was soon undeceived.

'Have you forgotten, sahib,' said the old man, 'that I once cast your horoscope, and told you that you would return here to govern us after many years? And see! it was true!—you have come; and, indeed, there is little difference in the time I recorded—twenty-five years! I had not the exact data, if you remember, that I wanted—you could not give it to me.'

It was all true enough; there I was, the 'ruler' over them, and I then recollected how strange it had appeared to me at the Residency when my destination was so suddenly altered from Berar to these western districts, on the requisition of the Government of Bombay. The prediction had certainly been a strange one, and was as strangely fulfilled, even to the very letter of time.

'And you have been a "raja", too,' continued my old friend, 'and have governed a country to the south for ten years; that I recorded—see, sahib!' and he pointed excitedly to the document. 'See, there is no mistake there either!'

'Not quite a "raja",' I said, laughing, 'only manager of the country while the raja was a child.'

'It was all the same,' returned the old Brahmin; 'you were all-powerful, and just like a raja, and you governed the people. And you have seen sorrow too, sahib; you were not married when you were here, and now you have lost wife and dear children, I hear? I wrote that. I saw it all plainly—it is here. And you are not rich, they tell me? Yet lakhs of rupees have passed through your hands. Did I not tell you that too?'

'No, indeed,' I replied, 'I am not rich; indeed much the reverse, and I have had heavy sorrows.'

'It could not be avoided,' he said; 'no one could have mistaken what I discovered just twenty-five years ago. You were born for work, not for the indulgence of wealthy idleness, and so you will continue. If you want these papers I will give them to you; if not, let them remain with me,' and so saying, he took his leave. He soon afterwards went on a pilgrimage to Nassik, and there died.

I did not want the papers, and he kept them. I cannot account for his prediction. I only relate what happened. I told my old Serishtadar, Baba Sahib, about my horoscope and its results ; but he was not in the least surprised.

'We Brahmins', he said, 'believe in astrology, and you English laugh at it ; but when one who understands the art casts a horoscope and calculates it scientifically, the result is seldom wrong. You were to have gone to Berar, and yet your fate has brought you here to Tuljapur again, at the very time appointed, twenty-five years after, in spite of yourself and also of the Resident. Can you doubt, after this ? Is there not more in astrology than you believed ? '

I made no comment. How could I, in the face of the simple facts that had occurred ?

It was the rainy season, but there was so much to see after that could only be done on the spot in each division of my district, that my personal convenience must not be studied in any way ; and I marched along the edge of the plateau from one division to another, halting at the head station of each for the purpose of investigating old accounts, records of cultivation and the like, and, above all, gaining, as I went, knowledge of the people.

A settlement of the country for five years had been directed, and inquiries were necessary before any attempt could be made to carry out the measure. I did not even know what the revenue of the whole district might amount to ; and the accounts received from Hyderabad, if not actually designed to mislead, were at all events most incorrect and incomprehensible, proving to be of no use whatever. I therefore began at the foundation—the village accounts—and was glad to see that they had been far better kept than those of Shorapur, when I began a like inquiry there. The village accountant had proper lists of proprietors and occupants of land, according to the ancient Deccan system, which had never been altered, however much it might have been abused ; and among the records of some of the chief towns and villages, were ancient settlements of the officers of the Bahmani kings of Gulbarga and Bidar, and the Adil Shahis of Bijapur. The most regular and valuable records were the settlements by Malik Ambar, the great regent of the Ahmednagar State, which were more

minute than those of the Emperor Akbar, and were founded upon an actual survey of the lands and their assessment, according to their productive quality. But these had only been preserved here and there, and it would be impossible to found any new settlement upon those that existed as a basis for all. The Nizam's Government had taken no record of cultivation; but the sums received from villages were entered in an account for every *taluk*, or division, which was signed by the hereditary ministerial officers of each county, and which, up to the last financial year, had been regularly sent up to the head accountant's office at Hyderabad. From these documents, compared with the village accounts and registries, I could see my way to a new form of account which would embrace all particulars; and copies of these forms were made by the village accountants, to be filled up when the yearly period of settlement arrived.

It was very tedious work; but unless it were done, it would be impossible to submit to Government any clear or complete statement of the general revenue, or whence it was derived. My progress was necessarily very slow.

In the original instructions given to the Deputy-Commissioners, they had been directed to make use of the existing local courts of the Nizam's Government for the trial of all cases, civil and criminal; but as no local tribunal or judicial office of any kind was found by me, and none had existed for years, I determined to introduce a code of laws of my own, civil as well as criminal; and I took the regulations of Bombay as my guide, drawing up a short definition of crimes and their punishments—and in civil cases, of general procedure,—simple and intelligible to all classes. I assigned various powers to *patels*, or heads of villages, to *taluk* officers, to my assistant, and to myself—mine being the highest court of appeal in the province from the decisions of subordinate courts, and the Resident being the final one to whom all appeals against me were to be referred.

This code and general plan of mine were approved of as a temporary measure at Calcutta, and I put it in force as soon as it was sanctioned. It lasted till Macaulay's penal code was sent for a practical trial in the assigned districts, but the civil procedure I had drawn up was, I think, retained. These,

with instructions for the guidance of police, revenue proceedings and collections, and for the conduct of every department, occupied a great deal of my time; but all were as brief and concise as possible, though necessarily embracing every point for general direction.

After Colonel Low's departure from the post of Resident at Hyderabad, several distinguished officers were named as his probable successors. Sir Henry Lawrence, to whom I believe Lord Dalhousie offered the appointment, and my old friend James Outram, whom I would have gladly welcomed, were among those talked of; but as the office of Resident now involved the head administration of the assigned districts, and as everything in regard to them was still in an incomplete state, a civilian of administrative experience was held to be the fittest person; and Mr. Bushby, once an assistant to the Resident at Hyderabad, was appointed to the office, which, until his arrival, was conducted with much ability by (then) Captain Davidson.[1]

It was his wish, as it had been that of Colonel Low, that my district should have a well-defined frontier; and all the boundaries, except those to the north, had been gradually adjusted. I had even been exempted from the vexatious task of administering justice and police affairs in the reserved portions which lay along the Bhima to the south-west, and they remained under the charge of their native proprietors. But to the north, on the borders of the Ahmednagar and Nizam's territory, there remained a small tract, hitherto undefined, and often much disturbed, the British and Nizam's villages lying confusedly together.

This was by far the prettiest and most picturesque portion of my province. The plateau of the Balaghat continued to the hills forming the Ahmednagar range; but at one point it lowered considerably, breaking into ravines, which ran south

[1] Cuthbert Davidson, 1810–1862, who runs through the *Life of James Stuart Fraser*, and whose niece Hastings Fraser married. He was first assistant at Hyderabad under Generals Fraser and Low, Resident at Baroda for three years, and finally Resident at Hyderabad from 1857 to his untimely death in August 1862. 'Distinguished for his courage, composure and resolution,' says Buckland. What Taylor has to tell of Colonel Davidson shows him as one of those who held steadiest in the evil days.

towards the Sina, and north-east to the Godavery, a very rough tract, with a corresponding rough class of inhabitants, who required to be kept well under control.

While encamped at Patoda,[1] the station of my native collector, I explored the whole of the crest of the plateau towards the north-west, and found the scenery very beautiful. There was no jungle, but the grassy hills afforded fine pasturage for cattle, and the views from the summits of the highest knolls were, in some instances, very grand.

In one place a small river, the Incherna, which received the drainage of a great portion of these hills, fell into the lower level of the western portion of my district with one leap of 398 feet, sheer perpendicular fall, and now, being well filled with water, formed one of the most graceful waterfalls I have ever seen. I did not expect to come upon anything so grand or picturesque as this fall and the basalt chasm into which it precipitated itself, and I was lost in admiration, remaining at the place for several days, in order to sketch the ravine and waterfall from every point of view. I have described it fully in my novel of *Seeta*, to which I refer any curious reader who may wish to know more.[2]

[1] A village of 3,000 inhabitants, headquarters of a 'crown' taluk in the south-west of Bhir District. The Manjra river rises in the hills to the west. 'The taluk is situated on a fertile plateau, and is hilly toward the north and west.' The *Imperial Gazetteer* article on Bhir District says: 'The climate is generally healthy and temperate. Patoda, on the Balaghat, is the highest part and is cool even in the hot season.'

[2] The opening paragraph of *Seeta* describes a waterfall somewhat like this But the reference must be to chapter xxvii., 'The Gao Mookh,' or Cow's Mouth. It is placed seven or eight miles from Nurpur, which in some respects is Nagpur.

'Before them lay a deep valley, the sides of which were sheer precipices of basalt, some four hundred feet in height, which showed the richest colours, from black to brown, yellow and red. . . . At the upper end of this amphitheatre, which was of no very great width, a portion of it narrowed sharply, and out of it spouted a jet of water of considerable volume, which fell clear of the precipice in a cloud of fine spray, wafted here and there by the wind, and showing portions of brilliant rainbows as the bright sun caught its changes. At the foot of the fall was a deep, dark pool, fringed with graceful bamboos and reeds, which continued down the glen and up the sides where there was no rock. A dull roar from the fall came up to them now and then, mingling with the murmur of the river above and below as it chafed in its rocky bed.'

'It's a strange place', says Brandon, 'and I think most lovely.

I descended by a well-known pass to the low country north of my district, and found, as I had anticipated from a copy of the trigonometrical survey map, exactly the frontier I desired. A considerable stream flowed from the west, almost in a direct line eastwards. Its name was the Suitana; while a smaller one, the Domeri, rising on the plateau, flowed due north, and fell into it. Within this line were sixteen scattered villages of the Nizam's mingled with British villages and my own; and after representing the difficulty of maintaining all three jurisdictions in a state of amity, they were transferred entirely to me, under the orders of the Nizam's Government. The whole tract had been in a state of chronic feud for years, and the correspondence and other references, regarding all manner of disputes, had been vexatious and endless. I found no less than *seventy* boundary disputes had to be adjusted, of which I settled the worst, leaving the tract for the final supervision of my assistant, who now joined me. I determined to proceed to Ahmednagar, in order to confer with Mr. Bell, the Collector there, as I had already done with Mr. Loughman, the Collector of Sholapur, upon all matters which required settlement.

Cadell had had a little adventure at Parenda, by far the strongest fort in the district, situated in his division. He had not been able to visit it personally before, and when he arrived the garrison shut-to the gates, mounted the bastions, and declared they would not give it up. He might do what he liked with the dependencies, but they were the garrison, and they declared that until they received orders from Hyderabad, they would not open the gates. Finding remonstrance useless, Cadell wrote to me for help, in the shape of a troop of cavalry, with which he could watch the place to see that no

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The river is the Inchorna . . . which rises in the hills about thirty miles off. You see there is comparatively very little water in it now, but it must be a magnificent fall in the monsoon. You can make out the white mark, high up, on both sides of the head of the water.' As another says, 'a great body of water would fall straight down, whereas, look at those beautiful swayings to and fro which it has now'. A further account, from a different point of view, speaks of 'the huge spout of water, blue as a sapphire. . . . All the rocks were vivid with colour, while flocks of wild blue pigeons and green parroquets wheeled hither and thither in the air.'

malcontents got in to help the garrison. I wrote to the *kiladar*, or castellan, desiring him to evacuate the fort, to which he demurred; and I then wrote again, saying he *must* do so, or fight, for that no orders could come now from Hyderabad, the country having been entirely ceded to the British Government. The troop of cavalry arriving almost immediately after my letter reached him, the *kiladar* saw that I was in earnest, and thought 'discretion the better part of valour'; so he opened the gates, and as Cadell marched in and took possession, the garrison laid down their arms, which he at once returned to them. He described the place as the strongest he had seen, and quite perfect in every way, and there was a very respectable garrison of Rajputs. I was glad on every account that the affair had been tided over so peaceably. I visited Parenda myself afterwards, and shall describe it later.

Having made all the arrangements I could in the newly-acquired territory of Manur, I went on to Ahmednagar. One of my villages lay within nine miles of the station, and, owing to its beauty, was a favourite resort for country parties and picnics. I met Mr. Bell there, and he hospitably invited both Cadell and myself to his house, where we spent some days very pleasantly at the great station. I had not been there since the year 1826, and found it greatly improved and enlarged.

In my journey both to and from Ahmednagar, I had been much struck with the capabilities of the country for large irrigation works, and in particular for tanks. Streams, descending from the table-lands to the north, and tributaries to the Sina, afforded ample supplies of water; and the ground, from its peculiar character, provided most convenient basins, which only required dams at certain places across their mouths to be converted into tanks.

In one instance a stream which had a catchment area of upwards of 200 square miles, after leaving the hills, ran through a nearly level plain of about four square miles in area, which ended in two bluffs about a quarter of a mile asunder. A dam of fifty feet high was perfectly practicable at a comparatively small outlay, and the water held back would form a lake twice the size of Bohnal. I determined, with as little delay as

possible, to get up a report on the subject, and try to have some works of the kind begun for a country which was absolutely thirsting for water, and where every drop that could be procured from wells or from streams was used for the production of sugar-cane, ginger, turmeric, and other rich and valuable crops.

Mr. Bell met us at a village which we had agreed upon, where there was good camping-ground, and which, though under his charge, was within our frontier, and there we passed some days in November very agreeably. As he had brought his establishment with him, we compared our work, and he was not a little surprised, I think, to find mine quite as regular in all respects as his own, except in the revenue department, the particulars of which we had still to unravel, whereas his had been decided by survey. I was now settling three divisions in order to enable my assistant to work for himself; and when these were completed, I left him, to look after my eastern districts on the table-land, which I had not yet visited.

By the end of the year 1853 the whole was in fair working order, and giving me no anxiety, except as to the scarcity which seemed to threaten us owing to failure of crops. There had been no rain since September, and comparatively little before that. Portions of the Bombay Presidency were already suffering, and Shorapur was also in distress. The accounts from thence were very sad. Neglect, riot, and crime prevailed; and I was indeed grateful that, although I was worse paid as a Deputy-Commissioner than I should have been as Political Agent there, yet I was spared the pain of seeing all the fair structure I had striven so long and so hard to raise rapidly falling into ruin and decay.

All we Deputy-Commissioners had been placed on a salary of 1,200 rupees a-month, as a temporary rate of payment, and, as yet, we received no 'deputation' allowance, but were promised it, to provide for the expenses of tents and moving about our districts.

When the local officers were pensioned, we hoped that we, who had now become servants of the Company, might be granted our Nizam's pensions apart from our pay, as was at first arranged; but ultimately this was not allowed—both were included in the pay of a Deputy-Commissioner, a pro-

ceeding which I have always considered unjust, for we were not serving the Nizam but the Company ; and if the Government of India had set us aside and sent its own officers, it would have had to pay both charges out of the revenue of the cession. When we were transferred to the new service, our rank was recognised in all respects as those of 'Company's officers' of corresponding length of service ; but in this respect also were we painfully deceived—we were placed in the category of 'Uncovenanted servants', by which we lost all our former rank and privileges, and were reduced in status. One of our number laid down his rank, and would never resume it. However, hard as it was, we were grateful for employment at all, though I have never ceased to consider it an ungenerous act of the great Government of India, to take advantage, as it seemed, of our necessities, and to give us lower pay than it gave to its own servants in like employment, and in charge of far smaller districts and with less responsibilities than ours.

I will state the question clearly in figures. My pension from the Nizam's Government was 300 rupees a-month, or £360 a-year ; my pay 1,200 rupees a-month.

Had I received 1,200 rupees a-month and my pension as well, my receipts would have been 1,500 rupees a-month. Now I was to receive in all 1,200 rupees—that is, 900 rupees pay and 300 rupees pension ; so the 300 rupees were saved, which we considered taking rather a mean advantage of us. We were no more Nizam's servants, but had been taken over into the Company's service, and, as such, should have received salaries on the same scale as those already in their employ.

By the close of the year I had already made considerable progress in the suppression of the terrible normal crime of dacoity. Several old dacoits had turned approvers, and had given details of robberies and murders, which had been shockingly numerous. Through them stolen property was traced, and recovered too, to a very large amount ; and out of one dacoit's house at Ausa, articles of various kinds, to the value of 1,200 rupees, were taken, which had been his share of the plunder secured on that occasion. I was blamed at first by the Resident for raking up old cases ; but I held my ground, for

those I had tried were all comparatively recent, though the crimes had been committed before the cession. I was determined to eradicate the pest if I could, and I thought the only chance lay in attacking the old gangs and in bringing their crimes home to them. This had been done in Thuggee, why not in Dacoity? The question was referred to Calcutta, and soon decided as regarded the assigned districts. All criminal offences, such as dacoity and murder, were deemed open to trial within a period of ten years from the date of their perpetration; and according to this rule I was at liberty to work, and I did so vigorously. Already I had achieved something, and more would follow.

By Lord Dalhousie's request I kept up my correspondence with Mr. Courtenay; I think his lordship liked to know unofficially what I was about, and I wrote free and unreservedly. A report I had sent in upon my system of administration had interested him a good deal, and I heard he took it away to study in private, and that he desired I might be told this. He had also entirely acquiesced in my plan of revenue settlement to precede a survey; and to hear that what I had done was approved of, was very cheering.

I found the eastern portion of my district in a far worse condition than the western, and I find myself writing thus to my father in March 1854:

'While at Nilanga [1] I was more oppressed with work than I had been anywhere. I found the district in shocking order: no proper accounts, and no confidence among the people; a ruined, impoverished set of pauper cultivators, who have been so long oppressed and neglected under the Arab management, that they are, I imagine, blunted to all good perceptions. Murder, robbery, attacks on villages, plunder of cattle, and destruction of crops, had got to such a height last year, that civil war could not have had a worse effect upon the people or on the revenue; and all agreed that if British rule had not come in this year, the whole district would have been *utterly ruined and wasted. I never saw anything like it.* I thought Shorapur bad, but this is infinitely worse, and the labour it is to get anything put right has been excessive. I can only say that I have been obliged to work frequently from 4 A.M. to 8 P.M., with only respite for dressing and

[1] A village of some 3,000 inhabitants, and headquarters of a taluk, in Bidar District.

breakfast; but there is no help for it. I have been giving five years' settlements to such villages as are ready to take them, but there are many which are so disorganised that they require to be specially nursed.'

I had likewise introduced a regular system of village accounts with the rent-payers and the treasurers, which I will briefly detail.

Each village accountant kept a day-book and ledger, in which the sum he was to pay was entered to his debit, and his payments successively at stated times to his credit. His account was entered in the village ledger in the same manner. If he paid an instalment, it was entered to his credit in his book as a receipt; and this payment was entered into the day book, and afterwards posted to his account in the ledger. Peculation was therefore almost impossible, or any undue exactions, and the people now began to understand the protection that the system implied. The district treasury had a similar account with villages, and the particulars of each village instalment were forwarded to the head treasury with the general remittances. Any error or any exaction by any individual could thus be traced up to its author at once, and the check and counter-check were quite efficient in practice. The village accountants were at first rather clumsy about their books, but they soon grew accustomed to the system; and before the season of collections was over, I had the satisfaction of finding that the plan was working easily and well in every portion of my province.

Before I returned to my headquarters, Naldrug, I had the satisfaction of beginning two new irrigation reservoirs near Tuljapur, on plans and surveys which I had previously submitted. I intended that these should form the commencement of a system of tank-irrigation from Tuljapur to Ahmednagar, a question in which the Governor-General seemed much interested, and in which he encouraged me heartily to persevere.

The Resident also, Mr. Bushby, began to see the necessity of it; and I was the more rejoiced at obtaining sanction for this, because great distress was prevalent, though it scarcely amounted to famine yet, and three new works would enable me to employ a great number of persons. I was glad, too, to

find that both my neighbours, the collectors of Ahmednagar and Sholapur, had become strong advocates for irrigation-works, and had sent in urgent representations to Government on the subject. In these undertakings I had to make the surveys, plans, and calculations entirely myself; but I always managed to find time to do these before my daily work began, so that other business was never interfered with or postponed. It seemed strange to me that though irrigation-works were progressing in the North-West Provinces with great energy, in the Bombay Presidency no one seemed to take the least interest in them, and, had it not been for these gentlemen, would probably ever have given a thought to the subject; and indeed, to this day, I believe but little progress has been made in these most useful works.

I had great difficulties to encounter in the treasury department for the first year or two. Rents had been paid in all sorts of local currencies, and I was required to account for them in Company's rupees. Now I had as many as fourteen different kinds of rupees current in my province, each with its separate value, and the market value was often fluctuating; the assay rates did not correspond at all with the market value, and, in short, the whole was a system of inextricable confusion; and I was obliged in the end to notify that none except Company's rupees would be taken in payments to the State, and this relieved us of all difficulty.

For a long time the proposed revenue survey caused much trouble and vexation. A small manual had been sent us from the Punjab of the system in use there, which was by plane-tables, and plane-tables were sent afterwards. Every Deputy-Commissioner was to have a school of instruction, and to teach the *patwaris*, or village accountants, to survey their own lands; and the work was to begin at once. This was all easy enough to write about; but the carrying such orders into effect was a very different matter. I believe I happened to be the only Deputy-Commissioner who knew how to survey, and the rest looked to me to begin operations.

Extensive correspondence on the subject took place, and cost me much additional time and trouble; but I could not

use the Punjab instruments and the compasses with which the work was to be done it was impossible ; and after much writing and loss of time in useless endeavours at explanation, I introduced a plan of my own. I had some better plane-tables made, and worked them by backsight, like a theodolite, and my plan succeeded very well. I also established a school of young men, instead of the *patwaris*, who proved apt scholars, and did good work, and I sent in my report with some specimens of surveyed lands. My plan was approved, and I was simply desired ' to go on '.

I found distress very great at Naldrug—not so much among the people of my own district, as among starving wretches who came there from all quarters so emaciated, and so shrivelled and weak, that all, men, women, and children, were fearful to look upon. Often, during my morning rides, I came upon dead bodies lying by the roadside, creatures who had sunk down to die before they could reach the town ; and many crawled in who were too far gone to be recovered. Except at Hingoli I had never seen famine in its worst form before, and this was horrible to witness. I did what I could myself, and every one at Naldrug did the same : my own share amounted to several thousand rupees, which I could very ill afford ; and it was not for a comparatively long time that I could get any answer to my earnest request to be allowed to use what money I needed, to give employment to those able to work. At length, however, I got a favourable reply, and about four thousand miserable wretches were set to work to cut down the scrubby jungle in the fort, and to clear out the old ruined works. Gradually, as rain fell and prospects brightened, the people began to return to their various homes. What would have become of us at Naldrug if the famine had been universal, I can hardly conceive ; for its results from which we suffered were fearful enough.

The monsoon was heavy, and all the month of September proved very unhealthy at Naldrug. My establishment, and nearly all the clerks, both English and native, suffered from fever, dysentery, and other complaints ; so that to get through the needful work was very trying. We had no other convenient shelter, and so were obliged to remain ; but I thought it doubtful whether the place could be retained as a head-station,

However, a further trial of it was directed before it was given up.

The year 1854 had been a truly laborious one to me, and except during the very short period of the late rains, I had been under canvas since July 1853. The work accomplished had been enormous. In English, Persian, and Marathi, the references and letters had been 31,174, upwards of 9,000 of which had passed between my assistant and myself, many being on very intricate and tedious subjects. We corresponded officially always in Marathi.

For my own share I had had 272 criminal cases to dispose of, thirteen of which were indictments for murder: of civil cases and appeals I find no record among my letters, but no doubt they may have been mislaid or lost.

My revenue for the financial year was all collected—except about 3,000 rupees, which still had to be remitted—and amounted to 10 lakhs and 66,000 rupees of all sorts; which, allowing for large deductions, exchanges, etc., became Rs. 886,565 13 3.

The revenue for the previous year had been, according to the local accounts, Rs. 699,305 11 8, so that there had been an increase of Rs. 187,260 1 7. The amount of land previously under cultivation had been 1,192,395 *bighas*; that for the present year 1,221,947 *bighas*, or an increase of 29,552.

Further particulars are unnecessary, and would scarcely interest the general reader.

In spite of a little fever, from which I suffered at Naldrug, I was in rude health. I enjoyed the climate of the district, and along the edge of the table-land it was generally cool in the hottest weather.

I was always able to work at least twelve hours every day, and often more, except on Sundays, when I always read the service in my tents to my English clerks.

Every department of the district was now in fair working order, and I was quite prepared to show the Resident, if he came to see it, as it was hinted he would, all my interior economy, and wished it to be compared with other districts of the same class.

I was directed by the Resident to meet the Collector of Sholapur on the frontier, in order to settle a boundary dispute

which had arisen between the Raja of Akalkot's[1] territory and the Nizam's, and in regard to which there had been some serious fighting and bloodshed; so I made for the spot early in November, expecting that everything would be satisfactorily arranged in a few days.

It proved, however, that I had to survey 26 miles of disputed boundary, and to make a map of it, before the question could even be understood at all; documents on both sides had to be examined, and evidence taken. Finally, after recording our opinion in separate minutes, part of the boundary was laid down; but the Akalkot men came in the night, pulled up the stones which had been placed as landmarks and threw them away.

As I could wait no longer, and the Collector had no authority to enforce our decision, I left the place on the 18th December, heartily regretting that my detention had been so long and so unprofitable; and I moved to a village on the eastern frontier to begin the revenue settlement for the year. I should then be close to the Resident's line of march from Hyderabad to Naldrug, and could easily join him at the nearest point.

I was glad to find the people on the eastern and western frontiers taking heart; and I had the pleasure of letting nearly all the uncultivated lands, which had become covered with low mimosa jungle. There was a better spirit abroad in the country and the local bankers were ready to make advances for the cultivation of these waste lands on low rates of interest to any extent. The fact was, that agents from some of the great mercantile houses in Bombay had acted upon a circular which I had sent them some months before, pointing out to them the capabilities of my province for the production of oil-seeds and other staple commodities of trade; and they had sent agents with bills of exchange to a very large amount to invest in these purchases. One of these agents had bills to the extent of three lakhs (£30,000); and in all I traced more than £60,000, which was a very welcome addition to

[1] A pleasant little country if not a good neighbour. Akalkot State has some 500 square miles, a growing population which was 82,000 in 1901, a tolerable climate, an army of fifty men. It is watered by the Bori, the Bhima, and the Sina.

former capital. No such influx of money had ever been known before, and I recommended the agents to deal directly with the farmers, without the intervention of any third party; and they took my advice, and ultimately all were quite satisfied.

The Resident and his staff left Hyderabad on the 20th December, and I met him at Kaliani, in the Nizam's territory, on the 1st January 1855. He received me very kindly. As I rode into camp, he was just starting on his elephant, and he asked me to come with him, which I did, and we were soon deep in friendly talk about all sorts of things. We travelled together to Naldrug, where I had plenty to show him—all the treasury books and accounts, the jail, etc., etc.; and I had collected the *patwaris* of a number of villages and their books, and explained my system to him. He was pleased to say 'he could hardly believe that so perfec a system could have been organised'; and he was more and more satisfied as we proceeded further, and the books of other groups of villages were shown to him. He did not like Naldrug at all, and said there must be another head-station—and in this view I quite coincided; but there could be no change made for the present.

I was very anxious to lay my projects for irrigation-works before him, and he marched with me to Tuljapur, where the largest tank had been marked out, and this seemed to decide him in regard to the more extended system which I had advocated. He said he was very anxious to show that the 'assigned districts could do as much for their size as the Punjab', and promised to send on to Government all the plans and estimates that could be prepared.

He could propose no change in judicial matters, as my small code was working very satisfactorily; and he confided to me that I was the only Deputy-Commissioner who had attempted to introduce anything of the kind.

The Resident had not very much time to spare; we therefore went on from Tuljapur to Ausa, but I regretted his being unable to see the prettiest part of the district, which lay along the edge of the table-land.

He was immensely struck, however, with the regularity and beauty of the fine old fort of Ausa; and indeed, if the

Arabs who formed the garrison when I first took possession of it had chosen to resist, the place could only have been taken by a regular siege I left the Resident at Bhalki,[1] a point on the Hyderabad road; and we had, when we parted, settled everything as far as we could. I showed him the survey work, which pleased him. No other Deputy-Commissioner had as yet even attempted a commencement, and it gratified him that I had done so, in spite of my refusal to make use of the Punjab system. We parted very good friends; and as I fancied, on his first coming, that he had acquired rather a prejudice against me, I was the more pleased at the result of our meeting. I knew my district was in a much more orderly and regular condition than any other ceded at the same time, and I was anxious it should be inspected.

At the request of the people, I chose the site of a new market-town near Nilanga. There were more than a hundred applications for sites, so I designed a market-place and a hall of assembly; and the Resident having given his sanction we began to build at once. Nilanga was now a place of trade and a resort of merchants, yet how it was reduced! The old accounts showed its revenue to have been 12,000 rupees a-year; now it did not reach above 3,000.

After much tedious and lengthy correspondence respecting the difference in value of currencies collected during the first year, which I had cut short by accepting only Company's rupees in payments during the present year, I was able to submit my accounts of revenue and collections at an early period; and the following copy of a memorandum I sent to my father in July will show what progress had been made:

'*Cultivation.*—Contrasting the returns of 1852–53 with those of 1854–55, and after adjustment of all transfers of villages attached to proprietors, lands released, etc., there is a clear increase of new cultivation of *bighas* 130,190. A *bigha*, by the average of local measurement, is here upwards of an acre—about 1·30.

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[1] Plainly shown upon the map, with a rising population of 6,000. Bhalki is the headquarters of a taluk of the same name in Bidar District.

'*Revenue*.—The gross and net revenue of 1851 52, including all estates resumed by us, customs duties, etc., was:—

Gross revenue, Hyderabad rupees . .	856,263	7	5
Village expenses	164,882	13	5
Balance, net revenue, Hyderabad rupees .	691,380	10	0
Gross revenue for 1854–55 in Company's rupees	922,666	8	0
Deduct village expenses	97,993	3	9
Balance, net revenue, in Company's rupees	824,672	15	3

Result.

Net revenue, 1854 55, Company's rupees .	824,672	15	3
Net revenue, 1851–52, Hyderabad rupees .	691,380	10	0
Increase in tale . .	Rs. 133,292	5	3

'The value of the different rupees is not here given; and either the Hyderabad rupees may be turned into Company's at 21 per cent, or the Company's into Hyderabad, and here is the result:

Company's rupees, 824,672, at 121 for 100 Hyderabad rupees	997,853	1	11
Net revenue of 1851–52, as above . .	691,380	10	0
Net increase, value, Hyderabad rupees	306,472	7	11

Or, if the Nizam's Government's share only of 1851–52 for the whole province is reckoned, the amount will stand as follows:

Net revenue of 1854–55, as above, Company's rupees, 824,672, at 121 per 100 . .	997,853	1	11
Realised by the Nizam's Government in 1851–52, according to account . .	562,457	14	9
Given to the Nizam's Government by cession on the result of 1854–55, in Hyderabad rupees	435,395	3	2

'Even this is not all, for the Rs. 562,457 14 9 contained the customs duties abolished in 1854–55. These amounted to

Rs. 35,000; and there is a further profit in decrease of village charges, which were 19·41 per cent on the gross revenue in 1851–52, and in 1854–55 10·84 per cent.

'The average rate of assessment per *bigha* or acre, is nine annas and two pies (about one shilling and three halfpence); and there is no other tax or cess whatever.

'In reference to the gross revenue of 1854–55, the total remission from unrealised balances is Rs. 620 5 6; or 922,666 8 Company's rupees have been realised, all but Rs. 620 5 6; or £92,266, all except £62.'

There remained, therefore, no doubt whatever that the cession of this province had been highly profitable to the Nizam's Government. The actual receipts had very nearly doubled, and the revenue was secured in Company's rupees instead of in fluctuating currencies. The local profits of the Nizam's *talukdars*, or collectors, had been enormous. They had collected all the revenue, for the most part, in a local currency, which was little short in value in the market of the Company's rupee; but instead of giving their Government the benefit of the exchange into Hyderabad rupees, they had paid Hyderabad rupees only by bills on Hyderabad, which were cashed in the local debased currency of the city itself.

If this were a specimen of one province, what must have been the result from them all? Berar, like Naldrug, showed a similar difference of value and increase in favour of the cession.

In August of this year the distress seemed almost greater than the year before. There had been no rain since June, and the poorer classes, who were accustomed to gain their living by weeding fields and other agricultural work, were now starving, and flocking in crowds to Naldrug. We all did what we could, as we had done the year before, and it was a heavy drain on private individuals. I urged the Resident to allow me to begin the roads to Sholapur and Hyderabad, which he had promised, and which would have greatly relieved the local strain upon me and others, but I had to wait a weary time for an answer.

During this month, too, I lost the valuable services of my assistant Cadell. He had gone to Hyderabad on leave for a month, and when there, Bullock, who was Commissioner in Berar, applied for furlough to England on medical certificate;

the Raichur Commissioner was ordered to act in Berar, and Cadell was sent to Raichur. I was very sorry to lose my friend. He had managed four out of my ten divisions admirably from the first; he was always kind, courteous, and considerate to natives of every degree, and had won golden opinions from all. We had worked well together, and he was thoroughly acquainted with his duties in every respect. Personally, I was very much attached to him, and shall never forget, while I live, our pleasant days together.

No assistant was appointed in his stead, and the whole work of the province fell upon me, without any additional pay; but I was grateful for excellent health, though I hardly hoped it would long hold out under the terrible strain now put upon me.

We had no rain till September; but the new roads, to the commencement of which a tardy sanction had at length been given, provided labour for upwards of 4,000 men, women, and children, and saved them from starvation. I also cleared out the fort altogether, and thus employed 1,500 more persons: every old wall was levelled, and the stones were thrown into hollows and covered with earth. In October heavy rain fell all over the district, and we thanked God that all dread of famine was at an end. The very early crops had withered, but now every acre of land was being re-ploughed and sown, and the prospects were very cheering. Another road to Tuljapur was sanctioned, and put in hand; and I had completed thirty miles of one and fifteen of another, having been obliged to do all the surveying and laying out myself. They were only cleared and levelled to begin with, and would be metalled afterwards.

My brother-in-law, William Palmer, was at last appointed as my assistant. He had served in a similar capacity in North and South Berar. In the latter province no system whatever had been introduced, neither revenue, account, nor judicial, and the Resident had gone there on a tour of inspection. Cadell, too, wrote from Raichur to say that he had everything to originate there, and he did not like it at all; but I hoped he was in a fair way for promotion. The work at the large tank at Tuljapur had been stopped, pending formal sanction by Government—but this had been granted; and after

testing all my old levelling by a new instrument which my father sent to me from England, the embankment was begun in earnest. In December all looked well—crops were luxuriant, work progressing, and people happy and contented; and for this peaceful close to a very trying year, I felt most grateful. I again received orders to meet the Resident on his return from South Berar to Hyderabad, at any point nearest to my boundary. I therefore, while waiting for him, carried on the survey of the road from Tuljapur to Kaliani, and contrived to get through from seven to nine miles per day, laying down marks for the contractors and workmen. I finally met the Resident at his camp at Bandapur on the 14th January 1856. He was exceedingly kind and friendly towards me. He expressed himself dissatisfied with the condition of South Berar, and was pleased to say many flattering things about the order and regularity in all departments which he had found at Naldrug. As still further improvement had continued since his visit, I would have liked to have taken him through part of my district; but time did not permit of it, and he could not delay longer his return to Hyderabad. There was no difference of opinion between us except in regard to the survey, as to which I consistently maintained my first position, that unless it had a scientific basis, and the surveyors had a practical education and knowledge of their work, they could not deal with village lands like those of Naldrug, some of the areas of which were from 20,000 to 30,000 acres in extent; and that to persevere in the Punjab scheme would not only entail loss of time, but of money also.

We had several hot arguments about this; but at last the Resident confided to me that the Punjab work had been an utter failure when scientifically tested, and he showed me some of the correspondence, which was convincing.

I was therefore allowed now to work out my own tables in my own way. I had a number of clever pupils, who were ready to set to work at once, and I promised to show results in a very short time, which I hoped would be considered satisfactory. All official clouds and differences were dispersed, and we were of one accord in all matters. In private Mr. Bushby was one of the pleasantest of companions; and we sat up each night into the small hours of the morning, engaged

in pleasant talk, and schemes for the further improvement of my district. He had sent on all my plans for roads and irrigation-works; and estimates, exceeding a lakh of rupees, had been passed by Government. All this made me very hopeful

I thought very earnestly at this time of taking furlough to England, and seeing my father once more, and of bringing out my children to India, if it were practicable. My heart yearned to see them and all the dear ones at home, yet there were many difficulties. I had no society, and no means of continuing their education; and Naldrug, or life in tents, was quite unfit for them. I could not, either, go home on medical certificate, for, thank God! my health was first-rate; and no doctor in Bombay, seeing my ruddy cheeks and strong frame, would have ventured to give me one. So I had no alternative but to wait patiently the tide of events.

I was not without a hope, that as a head-commissioner was to be appointed to superintend the whole of the districts, I might be nominated to the post. This would have involved residence at Hyderabad, where I could have had home and friends for my children; but in this I was disappointed. Alas! I was not a regular Company's servant, only an outsider, 'uncovenanted', and the Company's rules could not be infringed! Already, I heard from Mr. Courtenay, there existed much jealousy in regard to the offices held by 'local officers'; and much as Lord Dalhousie wished personally to serve me, he dared not provoke further dissatisfaction.

On the 6th March, Lord Dalhousie departed from Calcutta for England, leaving behind him a minute, which has its place in history, in which he detailed what he had done during his vice-royalty. His last annexation had been Oudh; but that had not been his own work. It had been for some time imminent, and was finally decided upon by the Court of Directors and the Government of England. It is only in future histories of India, and from his own papers, should they ever be published,[1] that the character and acts of Lord

[1] These add little to the facts which Taylor knew. A sentence in the chapter in *the History* on the annexation of Oudh, 1854 to 1856, in which the local agent was his early friend Outram, shows how obstinate were his questionings of the measure: 'All these are patent facts, which no one, even among the most bitter censurers of the annexation,

Dalhousie as Governor-General can be properly estimated; as yet, he has had his eulogists, and his bitter opponents, almost, indeed, amounting to defamers.

To my humble perception he was the most practically useful and single-minded ruler that India had ever possessed. His great mind took in every question with a singular clearness, whether it were large or small, momentous or unimportant, and he improved everything he touched. To him India owes electric telegraphs, railways, extension of practical education, large irrigation projects, roads, and the removal of many disabilities under which natives suffered. No one who ever worked under Lord Dalhousie could for a moment question his unerring detection of any weak point, and the great power of mind and application which distinguished him, and at no period of Indian history had the administration of India been so admirably conducted.

To receive a word of praise from him was the desire which lay nearest every heart; and when given, it was never in a cold or niggardly spirit, but warmly and most encouragingly. To myself personally, though I knew him not, he had been, both privately and officially, kind and considerate from first to last; and I only regret that I cannot find among my papers the last expression of his lordship's sentiments towards me, in transmitting a copy of the last despatch of the Court of Directors in reference to the affairs of Shorapur.

I have spoken of my own work, and have called it hard, lasting from twelve to sixteen hours daily; but this was made up of the petty details of one province. Lord Dalhousie did as much each day, with the direction of all India on his mind. 'No one can record,' wrote *The Times*, 'for few knew, of his daily toil, or how, with a delicate frame, he overcame it, but which overworked and destroyed his physical powers, and in 1860 sent him to his grave.'

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has ever disproved, or sought to disprove; and yet the question remains open as to whether the course pursued was justified by the emergency, and whether the abrogation of treaties, and cancelling of all claims by a dynasty on which, in its sorest times of need, the British Government in India had relied without ever experiencing disappointment, and to which its obligations had been placed on record for nearly a hundred years, was not a breach of national faith.' The chapter closes with a paragraph from the *Times* article of which a sentence is quoted below.

When he left her, India seemed secure and peaceful, and he retired with a very sincere conviction that so she would long remain!

I was desired in February to meet a native commissioner from Hyderabad, to settle the boundary of jurisdiction, which had been under dispute, and we were to act in concert. I waited wearily for a month, losing the best period of my season; and when at length the commissioner arrived, he had received no instructions, and further delay ensued. At length, after he had made references to his Government on various points, we arranged affairs amicably.

I was principally engaged in trying criminal cases, which were both numerous and heavy; but there were no dacoities now, and these cases belonged chiefly to the period before the cession. As a proof of what I had to do in judicial affairs, I may here mention that Mr. Compton, who was judge of Sholapur, sent me a memorandum of the result of his work within a certain period. He had tried 72 cases, whereas my file showed 172 for the same!

My police system was working well. Every *patel*, or head of a village, was made a local magistrate, with certain powers, and a small allowance; and as a mark of distinction, the post was much esteemed. It gratified me also to find that my rules for the police were ordered for adoption in every province of the cession.

My accounts were made out, and sent up to Hyderabad with the administration report in July. The increase of cultivation in three years had been 184,000 acres. In 1855–56, 72,000 acres of new land had been taken up, but 34,000 were abandoned in the famine, which would not have been the case had rain fallen, and we should have had, with that, 218,000 acres of increase. As the revenue augmented, petty taxes would be remitted, as I had arranged from the first. This year 40,000 rupees would be struck off, yet the whole revenue would not be seriously affected. I need not give again all the details, as those of the previous year will suffice.

In August Mr. T. N. Maltby, of the Madras Civil Service, was appointed head-commissioner, and Mr. Bushby was relieved from the extra duties which had been imposed upon him, and which were very onerous. We looked out now for

changes and amendments, which would form part of a more regular system than we had yet experienced. It was very evident to our commissioner, in the first place, that without increased establishments, the demands for regular reports, constantly increasing, could not be complied with, nor could the strain on any one who could and would do the work be borne much longer. As some relief to me, my head ministerial officer, 'Baba Sahib', a very shrewd and excellent revenue officer, whom I had brought with me from Shorapur, was promoted to the rank of extra-assistant;[1] and he, with my assistant Mr. Palmer, relieved me of much of the petty detail which had distressed me before. Cadell had been appointed Deputy-Commissioner in South Berar, and Eastern Raichur had been added to the western portion as part of the new arrangements. He was now, I was glad to see, on the high-road to promotion, and he had truly well earned his advance. My work never slackened in amount; and in reply to my father's query as to how my day was spent, I wrote as follows:

'Up at 5 A.M., and go out about the survey of the roads. In by eight o'clock and answer letters, English and Marathi, till ten; bathe, and breakfast over at eleven. Then to *kacheri* work, trials, etc., till 6 P.M., without stirring—often, indeed, till seven. Dine, and sit an hour or so with Palmer, if he is there, or with some native friend, by way of a rest, which brings up the time to half-past eight or nine. Then to my room, and work at translations or other business till eleven or twelve. Count up all this and you will see there is no time for anything except hard work; yet, I am very thankful to say, I have neither pain nor ache.'

The public works did not slacken either. Every road I had surveyed and marked out was in active progress, and there were now six long distances under the labourers' hands.

Our new Commissioner had written to me to say that he proposed taking my district the first in his projected tour of inspection. He was to leave Hyderabad on the 20th

[1] Cyril Brandon's Serishtidar, Baba Sahib, runs similarly through *Seeta*, even to this appointment. There is a further detail: 'It was gratifying to him to receive the order of the Star of India, and a high pleasure to know that in the same grade had been included the name of his old faithful friend and constant companion, Baba Sahib.'

November ; and as I had a little leisure time and needed rest, I went into Sholapur [1] on a visit to my kind friends, Mr. and Mrs. Compton. What a treat this was to me ! She was a highly-accomplished and exquisite musician, and it was delightful to listen to her. I had heard so little music since I had been in England, and had nearly forgotten all I knew ; but it came back to me, and I had the great delight of singing all my favourite duets, Italian and English ; and they were so kind and sympathetic, these dear friends, that my heart warmed to them both, nor did our friendship ever lessen. My pleasant stay ended abruptly, as I had to return to Naldrug sooner than I expected. Another assistant was added to my staff, Lieutenant Temple of the Madras Army, who, having passed an examination as civil engineer, and having been employed in the survey, and as superintendent *of roads and tanks, would be of the greatest use to me.*[2] He arrived at Naldrug on the 30th November, and was followed by a second native assistant, Jewanji Rustomji, a Parsi, so that now I had two English and two native assistants. Mr. Maltby had seen at a glance that it was no use overworking

[1] This would be the period when Taylor was getting to be fifty, and stout, covered by the recollections kindly contributed by Sir George Birdwood. The father alluded to in them was Christopher Birdwood, 1807–1882, 'Birdwood Maharaja', who had forty-five years actually in India, becoming full General in 1877.

'Meadows Taylor was a great friend of my father, and used to stay with him whenever he came into the Presidency of Bombay. When, after fifteen years' absence, I returned to India as a full-blown Assistant Surgeon in the service of the Honourable East India Company, in 1854–5, I saw a great deal of him at my father's house at Sholapur, *where my father was commanding the 3rd Native Infantry. I saw* Meadows Taylor again sometime in 1856-8 in Bombay, where my father was Commissary General for some years during and after the Mutiny. Taylor was for me and for everyone else at Sholapur simply a thorough English gentleman and loyal friend, and the most cheering of companions, with none of the airs of an author about him, or the slightest trace of literary pretension and pride. We all had read his books ; but he never talked about them. . . . Taylor was highly respected by both Hindus and Muslims.'

Sir George Birdwood has also written : 'I knew Abingdon Compton, Judge at Sholapur, well. . . . He was a typical Civilian of the fine type created by the Honourable East India Company.'

[2] In *Seeta* is a 'young Temple', similarly appointed from the Army to be a civil assistant.

his Deputy-Commissioners. He unfortunately met with a severe accident, which prevented his leaving Hyderabad; and I was much concerned at this, for I had looked forward to his coming with sincere pleasure, and I knew that he was one to appreciate all I had done and was striving further to accomplish.

During my little visit to Sholapur I made the acquaintance of the surveyor-in-chief for the railway, and I asked him to come with me to see my embankment works, roads, etc., and, above all, to test my survey with the theodolite. He came to Naldrug, tested the surveys of three considerable village lands, and gave me a certificate that he could find 'no appreciable error whatever'. Here was a grand triumph for me! Government had refused me a theodolite, and I had been working in my own fashion, and somewhat in the dark.

My system with the plane-tables was quite new to my friend, and he did me the honour to ask me for one of my instruments, which I considered a high compliment. The certificate he had given me was too valuable to retain, as it entered into full details of his tests, and I forwarded it to the Commissioner.

Although he had not seen them in actual working, Mr. Maltby ordered at once the adoption of my system of accounts in all departments, and directed it to be put in force in all districts of the Commission. My police regulations had already been adopted, and, at length, what I had been working for so hard seemed to be appreciated; and I received, by a minute of the Supreme Council, the 'special thanks of the Governor-General in Council for my valuable services'. And so ended the year 1856, with many thanks to God for all His merciful protection. Everything around me was peaceful and prosperous; there was good hope of a fine season; my roads were opening out lines of traffic all through the country; and trade was brisk and profitable.

I had held many criminal trials during the year; but the last one in 1856 was more than usually extraordinary. A farmer and shepherd, the possessor of some wealth, had two wives—one old, the other young. The elder wife had no family, and he had married a younger one in the hope of having an heir born to him. Much jealousy existed between the women, though they did not live in the same house, or even

in the same village. One morning, early, the shepherd was found dead in his sugar-cane field, which he had gone to watch alone during the night. His head was literally knocked to pieces with large stones, but the body could be perfectly identified. There had been a feast in his house the evening before, and a kid had been killed by his nephew, and many of the neighbours had partaken of the dinner, at which the shepherd and his elder wife had appeared to be on the best terms. At the inquest and local investigation, many suspicious circumstances were brought forward against the elder wife and the nephew, and both were committed by me for trial. One of these was, that the wife of the nephew declared her husband had been absent most part of that night; and when he returned home he threw a thick sheet over her, which he had with him, saying she must be cold, and that he was going to her village, and she must follow. On this sheet were large patches of blood, which she had not observed at night; but she had given it to the police when they came in the morning. I had sent the sheet to Hyderabad in order that the blood-stains might be analysed; but it could not be proved that the blood was human, and the male prisoner swore that it was that of the kid which he himself had killed for the feast.

There was a great deal of circumstantial evidence in the case; but it was impossible to convict the prisoners upon this only, and they were very ably defended by a native advocate. When the defence was closed, I was on the point of recording an acquittal, although I was inwardly sure the prisoners had done the murder; and I had taken my pen in hand to write, when the woman, a tall masculine figure, began to beat her breast, and cried out with a loud voice—

'Stop, Sahib! do not write! You do not know the truth; you would write what is wrong. All that my advocate and the witnesses have said to you is false. Lies! lies! lies! *I* did the murder, and' (pointing to the nephew) '*he* helped me! He knocked him down with a big stone, and then we killed him between us.'

It was quite in vain that I cautioned her that this confession must be made use of against her if she persisted in it. She only said the more—

'Lies! lies!—we did it, he and I, and he will tell you so himself. Is it not all true?' she said, turning to the other prisoner. 'Don't be ashamed of it. Speak the truth before God and the Sahib.'

'It is all true', said the young man, quite calmly—'quite true; and I will tell how we did it. Was I not his heir? and he had always denied me my share because he said he would have children by his new wife. Could I bear that, Sahib?'

'Could I bear his leaving me for a wooden-faced girl?' cried the woman, beating her breast violently. 'No, no! I did it! I did it! I and he; and if he were alive now, and we two were free, we could not let him live. Take down all I say!' she shrieked—'take it all down, and hang me afterwards, for my heart is burning! burning! burning!'

I recorded their confessions, which were long and very circumstantial, not only corroborating the evidence in every material point, but explaining how the murder had been long planned,—how the woman had engaged five men of a village in the British territory to do it, and had given them two rupees each as earnest-money; but their courage failed them, and they had given the money back to her: then, as she said, there remained no one to do it but her husband's nephew and herself. After all was recorded, I passed sentence of death upon both. The proceedings were sent on to the Sadar Adalat or Supreme Court of Calcutta, the sentence confirmed, and the horrible pair hanged together. I shall never forget the look and action of that woman as she cried out to me 'not to write', and poured forth a torrent of confession which she could not repress.

In another case of dacoity which followed, the clear evidence of the widow of the owner of the house attacked, who was a young and very beautiful Brahmin girl, affected me very deeply; and the subject of that trial forms the opening of my romance of *Seeta*. The deposition of Seeta given at the first inquiry is that of the Brahmin widow, with very slight alteration.[1]

[1] This scene, and the events leading up to it, occupy the eight opening chapters of *Seeta*. It is all very workmanlike, readable narrative, yet without the brilliant touch which tempts to quotation. It is one of the

Indeed my operations against the dacoits of my district were beginning to tell heavily upon them. One large gang, very notorious in 1827–29, were at length brought to justice, and stolen property to a very large amount was recovered from them and recognised. A zemindar of the adjacent British province, a great man in his way, was also tried and convicted on many charges of dacoity, and was sentenced to fourteen years' penal servitude; and these instances of conviction, and many more, purged my province of dacoits.

New-Year's Day of 1857 found me at Nilanga, where I had been for two days. All was now very prosperous, and the crops were splendid. Every one was in good heart, and applications for waste lands were very numerous; in a comparatively short time none would remain to be taken up. My new assistant, Temple, had gone to work steadily, and was studying Marathi with every prospect of becoming a proficient. He liked the people, and they liked him; and, as I had before done with Cadell, I made several yearly settlements to show him how the work was done, and he was a very patient and good-tempered scholar. He had been with me on the Hyderabad road so far as it extended, and he completed the survey of two branch lines from Nilanga and Sowara to Latur [1]—all of these I left to him to look after, as he could afford the time; but the works were making rapid progress everywhere. From Nilanga I went to Kharosa, half-way to Ausa, as I was very anxious to see some Hindu cave-temples of which I had heard a good deal, and none of the archæologists of Bombay seemed to know anything about them. I found them well worthy a visit—excavated in a cliff of laterite or coarse stone; but some

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few contributions to fiction from the magistrate's bench. Seeta, the goldsmith girl, has brown eyes like the Brahmin Tara, but without the alleged flecks of violet. 'For a native woman, Cyril Brandon had never seen any one so fair or of so tender a tone of colour. Such, he remembered, were many of the lovely women of Titian's pictures—a rich golden olive, with a bright carnation tint rising under the skin—and Seeta's was like them.' As Brandon says later: 'It only proves how little we know of native women, and how impossible it is to know anything more except in a case like this, which breaks the ice.'

[1] This is a town in the Ausa taluk of Osmanabad District. Its population had gone down from 10,000 in 1901 to some 7,000 in 1911. 'Latur is a great centre of the cotton and grain trade in communication with Barsi railway station, 64 miles distant.'

of the pillars left were richly decorated with carving, and several of the halls of the temples were large and airy. The whole were a miniature, apparently, of the caves of Ellora, but very humble copies of these noble temples; and though there did not exist even a tradition of their origin, I concluded they must have been the work of the Rajas of Kaliani—either the Chalukyas, or their successors the Yadavas of Deogarh or Daulatabad. I could discover no inscription to copy and send to the Asiatic Society of Bombay, but I measured the temples and sent plans of them, as I did also those of the fine Buddhist excavations near Dharasco,[1] which in many respects were very remarkable, and had been previously unknown.

The day I arrived at Kharosa I received the melancholy intelligence of the death of the Resident, Mr. Bushby.[2] He had over-fatigued himself when out on a country excursion, and brought on an illness from which he never rallied. I regretted him very much; for although we had had some differences of opinion on various local questions, yet to me individually he had been kind and encouraging. We corresponded constantly, and he was ever urging me on to attempt and begin further public works, and expressing satisfaction at the result of those already completed. It was impossible to conjecture who might be his successor.

After staying a few days at Ausa, for the trial of the prisoners confined in the jail there, I went by the new line of

[1] This name may be found in parentheses, under the prominent word Osmanabad, in the map at the end of the volume. The town is of some 10,000 inhabitants, the headquarters of a taluk and a district. The *Imperial Gazetteer* says of Osmanabad: 'It lies in the Balaghat, and was formerly known as Dharasco. . . . When the District was temporarily ceded to the British, from 1853 to 1860, the headquarters were removed here from Naldrug, owing to the healthy climate of the place.' This fact does not appear from Taylor's account of the period up to 1857. The *Gazetteer* calls Osmanabad a great centre of trade; and adds an evident reference to the caves explored by Taylor. 'Two miles north-east of the town is a group of seven caves, four of which are Jain, while the others are probably Vaishnava.'

[2] 'A cemetery close by contains, among other tombs, those of two Residents, Mr. C. A. Bushby and Mr. Roberts, who died respectively in 1856 and 1868; and of Sir W. Rumbold, Bart., a partner in the house of Palmer & Co., who died in 1833' (*Imperial Gazetteer*, article 'Hyderabad City').

road to Sowara and Naldrug. This latter portion was quite finished, and measured 24 feet in width, looking like a good gravel-walk the whole way. This had before only been a rough track for carts, indeed sometimes merely a path winding among the great basalt boulders. At Naldrug, the first building I had used as a jail was now too small, and I began enclosing the large magazine with a wall 21 feet high and plastering it inside. There were now 400 prisoners in the jail, and I had established a school of industry, which was going on well. Some of the prisoners were making rope and tape, others weaving, and more manufacturing carpets of strong cotton—some of these were very pretty, and showed much skill. Nor did I allow the women to be idle; they made various articles in a kind of knitting which was taught them, and other kinds of work. The prisoners were likewise set to build the new jail wall, and were useful in a multitude of ways.

After a good look round Naldrug, just to see that all was right, and testing all the surveys of villages within reach, I went on to Sholapur for a few days' rest, and to indulge myself in a little music; and I promised to go there for a long visit during the rains, when I could not move about my district. My friend the surveyor-in-chief was not at Sholapur, but Lieut. T. of the Artillery, who had belonged to the Trigonometrical Survey of Sind, accompanied me to Tuljapur, bringing his theodolite with him. He was curious to see what I was doing, and he remained long enough to test my surveys of several large villages—all of which, I am glad to say, he found correct.

I asked him to make a report to me on the subject, which he did, explaining in detail the tests he had made, and their results, which I sent on to Mr. Maltby—and if the Commissioner had any doubt about our work, I knew this report would remove it; but he wrote word that he was sure we were fully able to carry it on correctly; and I was rejoiced to find that my plan of using the plane-tables was turning out so thoroughly successful.

I had now leisure to make measurements for the completion of the noble embankment at Bhatodi,[1] which was one of my

[1] This name, though not in the *Imperial Gazetteer* maps or index, is mentioned in the article on Ahmednagar District. 'The Bhatodi lake was constructed by Salabat Khan . . . and was restored by Government

principal projects. The high-water level showed an area of upwards of two square miles; the water would have an average depth of 25 feet, and the irrigation channels on the right bank of the stream would carry water to Ahmednagar itself, which needed it sorely. This great work had been begun, according to tradition, by Salabat Khan, the great Minister of Ahmednagar, who died in 1588, and whose mausoleum overlooks the admirable site for the lake which he had selected. As each would benefit alike by the work, the Nizam's and the British Governments were to share its expenses; and I was so anxious to see it put in hand, that I worked very hard at all the plans, sections, and surveys. Bhatodi was one of the most delightful of all my villages, and I had constant visitors from the cantonment. Lieut. Cotgrave of the Engineers, with an assistant, was sent to help me.

Between us all, we finished what we had to do; and the cross-levels of this basin gave a result of upwards of sixty millions of cubic yards of water-storage, while the expenses of the work would be comparatively moderate. Mr. Cotgrave had not had experience of tank-engineering, but he very soon took in the project, and entered into its details with great spirit and zeal; and on looking into the particulars of the former portion which had been completed, we were both exceedingly struck by the profound science which had been evinced by the ancient Musalman engineers.

A survey of the high watershed lying between my district and the great valley of the Godavery river was necessary in order to calculate the amount of rainfall for storage in the large tanks I had proposed; and I began this from Bhatodi, *and finished about 100 square miles of it, which all fell into* the basin I had tested when I came first to the district.

I had now gained the amplest data for irrigation projects both here and at Bhatodi; and when I should find leisure to

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in 1871. It is 10 miles from Ahmadnagar. . . . When full it has an area of 315 acres.'

Taylor's *History* says that in 1588 Salabat Khan, then an aged man, was allowed to return to Ahmednagar, and died the same year. 'His noble mausoleum, erected on a lofty hill south of the city, is still in perfect repair, and is used by pleasure parties from Ahmednugger. It commands a grand view over the mountains to the south and east, and over the broad valley of the Godavery river.'

do so, would submit them with my administrative report. How anxious the people were for water!—not only for cultivation, but for their cattle; and what noble memorials would these works be of our rule in the province! I had discovered among the hills a refuge in hot weather—a village 2,470 feet above the sea-level by barometer and boiling-point of water. I did not leave it till the end of March, and then it was quite cold at night and very agreeable during the day. The scenery was beautiful all along the mountains to Ahmednagar westwards, and over my own district eastwards; while to the north lay the wide plain of the Godavery, and Aurungabad and its hills beyond. Even with the naked eye I could see the glitter of the marble dome of the great tomb of Aurungzeb's daughter in the far distance, and of other domes and minarets in the city; but my time was up—I had to meet my assistant Palmer, and to lay out a new piece of road south to Dharasco and north towards the city of Bhir. After all was done, the rainy season would begin, and we should assemble at Naldrug.

My plans were changed by a note received from Colonel Davidson, from Baroda, where, after leaving Hyderabad, he had been appointed Resident. Now, it appeared, he was promoted to the vacancy at Hyderabad, and sent me word that he should be at Naldrug on the 12th April. I received his note while at Manur on the 6th, and I had 120 miles to travel over as best I could in order to meet our new chief, who was an old friend of mine. By relays of horses, and a palankeen from Tuljapur, I managed to reach Naldrug on the morning of the 10th, as the sun was rising, and I found everything looking very nice. Next day at 4 A.M. the Resident arrived, and I was very glad to welcome him, and to congratulate him on his new appointment. He had been overworked at Baroda, and looked ill; but the offer of the Hyderabad Residentship was too tempting, and he had abandoned his previous idea of going on furlough to England for a few months' leave, until he should have established himself in his new position.

As soon as it was light, he asked to be shown all over the fort, expressed his approval of the new jail, and heard all about my schemes for roads, and all the irrigation projects,

to which he promised his help and countenance, declaring that one of his first undertakings at Hyderabad would be to complete the road to a junction with my frontier. I explained the progress of the survey, and, in short, everything connected with my work in all departments, and he had not one single objection to offer to any of my plans. He stayed with us till the evening, Temple having ridden in from Ausa during the day; and we then sent him on, with our hearty good wishes for a safe journey, and after this relapsed into our usual monotonous routine of daily work.

I returned to my camp, and made surveys and plans for the last large tank I had to prepare for execution in the ensuing year. It would collect the drainage of 57½ square miles; would have an average depth of 24 feet, and an area of 13¼ square miles; and would, when completed, be a truly noble work.

I had much anxiety at this time about many things, and one especially was the very severe illness of my father-in-law Mr. Palmer, who throughout my life had been so steady, loving, and truly helpful a friend to me in all my doings. He recovered, however, very slowly; but his son, my assistant, was obliged to leave me and go to Hyderabad for advice about his eyes, which began to fail him terribly. He could now scarcely see to write his name, and was unfit for duty. I took charge of his subdivision myself; and the travelling season being over, returned to Naldrug by the close of May.

On my way to Naldrug, my assistant Baba Sahib had met me at Dharaseo, and in course of a conversation which we held privately, he told me that very disagreeable rumours had been flying about that disaffection prevailed in the British territory, and that it was reported an attempt would soon be made to turn the British out of India altogether.

I had heard this myself, but it had made no impression upon me. Who could or would think it could be true, while the whole of India lay apparently in profound peace? Who could dream of any rising?

'Do you remember', said Baba Sahib, 'the anonymous letter sent to you by the Bombay Government some time ago? I think it was in February; that was a warning, and kindly meant, though it sounded rude and insolent. Now the

almanac for this year 1914[1] is most alarming; it goes back to the "hundred years" of the battle of Plassey, and declares that the rule of the Company must come to an end in bloodshed and tumult. This is what is disturbing men's minds, and we must be very careful. When I saw the almanac for the year, I had almost determined to write to you to have it stopped, and prevent the public reading of it if possible; but I knew that you would say such a step would give it too much importance. Do you not hear ugly rumours yourself?'

I scarcely liked to confess that I had; but since February I had been receiving several anonymous letters sent through the ordinary post, with various post-marks, all warning me, as a friend to natives, to take furlough to England and join my family, and leave the district to its fate. They were worded mostly in this way—

'Although you have many friends, and the people worship you, you have still enemies who will approach you when the time comes, and you will never know who strikes you down.'

All these letters were marked 'private', or 'to be read by himself', and, like other anonymous productions, which were common enough, I had read them and then torn them up. I had not the smallest fear of the people in my district; but these letters, taken in connection with those which had been sent confidentially to Lord Elphinstone,[2] had more effect upon me than I cared to acknowledge.

The advent of 1914 had been preceded by frightful cholera

[1] These were favourite ideas of Meadows Taylor, developed in *Seeta*, in his *History*, and elsewhere. It was, of course, by the Samvat era of King Vikramaditya, beginning in 57 B.C., that 1914 corresponded to 1857–58. Taylor calls it 'Sumbut 1914' in the *History*, where are various passages illustrating unsuspected causes of discontent, with warnings which very few Englishmen were in a position to hear, and still fewer to regard.

[2] John, thirteenth Baron Elphinstone, 1807–60. He was nephew to Mountstuart Elphinstone, who died only half a year before him. Lord Elphinstone was Governor of Madras during an uneventful period, 1837 to 1842; and the efficient Mutiny Governor of Bombay between 1853 and 1860. In his *History* Taylor tells of 'a very remarkable letter or petition', anonymous, but evidently well meant and well founded, received by the Governor. It 'contained a solemn announcement of treason, accompanied by the enumeration of causes of general discontent.'

and floods in Bengal, discontent about the greased cartridges, and the mutiny of the 19th Bengal Native Infantry; but such events seemed to have no possible connection with the general uprising of the people; and even if, in Bengal, they were suspicious of infringements of caste, what could that possibly have to do with the peaceful and apparently loyal farmers of the Deccan?

In Bengal, however, there now appeared to be real alarm. Lord Canning's proclamation of May 16th proved that there was, as there seemed to me to be, direct sympathy between what the people of Bengal were warned of by Lord Canning and what I knew was being felt all round me. I could only infer that the evil prophecy of the curious almanac, the same in purport everywhere, had in reality disturbed the minds of the unthinking and superstitious. What could be done? I heard the same apprehensive reports from Hyderabad. The Resident and others wrote to me about them; and from Ahmednagar, Sholapur, Berar, and other localities, came the same tidings: and out of all the letters which reached me and Temple, there was scarcely one which did not make some reference to the subject.

I confess I was considerably relieved when I received an order to remit all the money I had in the treasury to Bombay for the Persian war. I felt, in any case, it was better to be without it.

I well remember the receipt of the 'Extra' from Meerut of the 11th May. Who that was in India at that time can forget it? One could not but shudder at the awful news; but there arose a hope that it might only be a local mutiny which could be checked without spreading further, and that peace would soon follow; and yet, if common precaution had been taken at every station as early as February or March, before the evil wind of 1914[1] began to blow, many and many a valuable life would have been spared. (Now it was too late, for throughout the Bengal army disaffection was widely prevalent, and was beginning to bear fruit almost day by day everywhere. Warnings had not been wanting. Friendly natives had endeavoured by many means to put Englishmen on their

[1] A remarkable anticipation of another 1914.

guard; but no hints were taken, no precautions used, and the blow fell at last.

The following letters were written home to my friends, though with no view to publication at the time; but for the convenience of my family and others interested in the subject, they were printed and circulated privately without my knowledge:—

'Naldrug (Western Ceded Districts, Deccan),
June 21, 1857.

'No Government despatch that ever left India will be looked for with such anxiety as the mail which takes this. The close of the Afghan war was a period of intense excitement; but then it was for an army retiring, and one which could, united as it was, have borne down everything before it. Now the fear arises from the army itself. To say that a Bengal army exists, is, I fear, hopeless. The list of regiments that have broken into open mutiny, or have been disbanded because of disaffection, has extended to more than half the regular regiments already, and who shall say how far it may not extend? How will it be possible to trust any after this? Happily, as yet, no disaffection has been manifested in the Bombay or Madras armies, and the native States are one and all faithful. There has been excitement at Hyderabad, of course, and one night a standard was planted, around which some rabble assembled; but the Minister sent a party of Arabs to keep order, and those assembled fled, nor has any attempt at sedition been renewed. Davidson has a small detachment and a few guns at the Residency, more to assure the people at the Residency Bazaar than aught else; and all is quiet. There had been suspicion of communication between disaffected parties in the native regiments and the city rabble, but no trace could be found; and such reports have been common at all times, for the last twenty years, in any periods of general excitement. The Minister and Nizam are steadily with us; and it seems they have the Arabs *in hand*, which perhaps some doubted. Of course the general interest is now centred in Delhi; and I think and hope that you will hear of its fall by this mail. News, by electric telegraph, to Davidson, of the 2d, from Delhi, said that a breach had been made; but the most material was, that the king had thrown himself on our protection, and that the mutineers were divided among themselves. They had been defeated with great slaughter outside the walls, by our troops, under General Barnard; and the results of their two attacks on the outpost of the Meerut post on the Hindun,[1] were also slaughter and defeat. That

[1] The battles on the Hindun river, on the way from Meerut, on the last two days of May, have a couple of paragraphs in Rice Holmes's

the whole will be quelled, and speedily too, I have not the least doubt; but, meantime, it is a period of intense anxiety and excitement, as you may believe. It is most satisfactory to see the *people* of our newest provinces—the Punjab and Oudh—as yet unmoved by what is going on. Those of the North-West have not been loyal, and more plundering has been carried on by the rural population about the large stations than by the mutineers. Here we are all perfectly quiet, and I trust in God may remain so. With a purely agricultural population there are no elements of excitement; and unless it be among any of the chiefs in the Southern Maratha country, no chance of disaffection exists on this side India.

'One naturally asks what has been the cause of all this—of a whole army becoming at once disaffected, and officers and men, Hindu and Mohammedan, abandoning allegiance, pay, and pensions,—risking all in this wild attempt to subvert the Government, for no one can doubt that that is the end aimed at. It is not only that present advantages have been risked, or considerations of them thrown away; future considerations are involved as well. All sepoys, or most of the Bengal army, are connected with land,—there was hardly a farmer or proprietor of any kind who had not a son or relative in the army; many were themselves landed proprietors: all are known, and, as traitors, have forfeited their estates. It would seem also, by the wanton butchery of officers, and by the measures at once pursued, that it was desired to leave no chance of accommodation or retreat. I suppose all this will come out some day. It is impossible but that a commission must be appointed to sift the whole to the bottom, and devise a remedy. The authorities, blindly confident, or timid, or conceited as they may have been, must open their eyes now, and not only look danger in the face, but provide against its recurrence. Some people talk of Russia; but I cannot think what she can have to do with it, or how secret means could have been devised for the corruption of the army. That a general conspiracy was made, who can doubt?—the fact of the circulation of those mysterious cakes of bread last year showed this, though no one suspected the sepoys, or at least declared that they did.

'But observant men have done so for many years. I have never met an officer who had seen Bengal troops, who was not amazed at their lax discipline. Colonel Jacob,[1] long ago,

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History of the Indian Mutiny. 'Wilson had done something to retrieve his tarnished reputation'; though it was the opinion of John Nicholson, who was not present, that 'he was driven into fighting at the Hindun, and could not help himself'.

[1] John Jacob of Jacobabad, 1812–58. His cousin on the Bombay side, afterwards Sir George Le Grand Jacob, 1805–81, was the General

said that the "normal condition of the Bengal army was *mutiny*", for which he was nearly losing his commission; but it was fact. At Multan,[1] and through the whole of the Punjab war, the men were hardly to be trusted; and after it, Sir Charles Napier had to quell one mutiny, which had not the appearance of being an isolated ebullition of feeling, though it did not spread. Caste has been the bane of that army, and it has been most strange to me always to hear caste spoken of as an advantage. Brahmin sepoys are, no doubt, a fine race; physically, no finer men exist; temperate and well-behaved always, and they are liked by officers; but they have viewed with dread the gradually extending territory of the British beyond seas, which to them are dreadful, and yet where they *might* sooner or later *have to go*—*nay*, *would have* to go. Enlistment is only made for general service now; and while it has been made by young hands, to get the only service possible, the old hands had not taken the oath, and it must have been an object of the lower and younger grades to free themselves from theirs. There are many reasons why mutiny has broken out, which I see are prominently given in the newspapers—foreign service, suspicion about the Enfield cartridges, general lax discipline, absence of European troops, and the like; but there are others which I do not see noticed

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Jacob whose vigorous action at Kolhapur, and as Commissioner in the Southern Maratha country, is repeatedly commended by Taylor. Neither Jacob is mentioned in his *History of India*. Sir George Jacob published in 1871 *Western India before and during the Mutiny*, a book much used by Mr. Rice Holmes in his *History of the Indian Mutiny*. See note, opening of Chapter XV., concerning General Jacob's strictures upon Taylor's account of this subject.

[1] Siege of Multan, first and last, from September 1848 to January 1849. In *Seeta* the Brigadier traces much of sepoy disaffection to the siege of Multan, when Bengal troops had to work with Bombay troops. 'And we all saw the difference to our shame. . . . Those little Mahratta fellows would work in the trenches like Englishmen, and never took off their accoutrements on guard, as our petted men who jeered them, did. Do you think we dared to ask our high caste people to do the same? Not we; there would have been a mutiny on the spot. Yes, Jacob's clever letter went to the root of that matter and many another! but who would or *dare* attend to its wise and practical considerations?'

The situation before Multan is further illustrated in Taylor's *History*, p. 691. 'The Bombay army . . . had a more exact internal discipline than the Bengal. On these points, the contrast between the men of the two armies at the siege of Mooltan was very evident; the Bombay Sepoys were taunted with performing ordinary duties which had never been imposed upon the high-caste Brahmins of the Bengal army, and opinions and discussions had run high in camp and throughout India on the subject.'

at all, but which strike me as having had some effect. These are: 1st, The way in which the Commission in Oudh has been working, and its result as regards the landholders. This class—petty Rajas, Thakurs, and landholders of all degrees—are powerful under the native governors, and lawless to a degree. They had as much land as they liked, and paid only what they chose. The Government was at perpetual feud with them; and they had the best of it, I suspect. Now that is all changed, and there can be no distinction of persons. 2dly, It is said that the appointments in the Commission, as regards the heads of it, were not good—too many regulation men—and that the revenue screw was not spared at all. I do not know how this is, but suspect that all combined has had more to do with the Mutiny than any other cause—or if not more, that it has had the effect of arousing to action all other subjects of real or fancied discontent. 3dly, I doubt also whether the revenue system of the North-West Provinces is sound—Thomason's system, so belauded by its supporters. It has *not* secured property to the middle classes; and the yeomen, who are our sepoys, have lost lands, which are swallowed up by moneyed men. The Santal rebellion [1] was of this kind; but there, interest and exorbitant charges on *money transactions had driven savages to despair*. The middle classes of tenants in the North-West are not savages, and watch and have watched with jealousy the operation of laws and courts which have sold up old properties and encumbered new ones. I cannot dilate on these subjects; but keep them in mind, and I think you will see hereafter that they have had effect banefully to weaken attachment which might have been secured by other means.

'I am confident in your English resources. It will be seen that a very large force of European troops is needed for India, and that henceforth they must be *en masse*, as Sir Charles Napier most truly observed and urged. Isolated parties are of no use, and, as in case of the assembly at Delhi, can only be got together after long delays, and then inefficiently. I have no doubt the Government will send from 10,000 to 20,000 men directly, and meantime what there are will hold their own *at least*; but I hope the Delhi matter will have been settled by this time, and, after that, the rest is rather of detail only. Without money, without leaders, without guns, resources, or ammunition, what can a rabble of sepoys do? Social mischief only; and that, horrible as it has been

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[1] During the second half of 1855. In the *History* there is a paragraph about the Santal rebellion, referring to and praising the young W. W. Hunter's *Annals of Rural Bengal*. This, when Taylor wrote, had only recently appeared, and had been made by him the subject of an article in the *Edinburgh Review*.

and may be, is the price at which we are purchasing experience. Perhaps, in the end, all will be better than before. Illusions will be dispelled, and there will be no trifling with danger. There must be a native army, but that of Bengal will not be what it has been. There will be more European cavalry and infantry, and more artillery; more irregular levies or armed police: in short, we shall be wiser and sadder, and shall not trust, as we seem to have been doing for many years, to our good fortune or *prestige*. This, too, may have been one of those solemn warnings, given in God's providence, resulting from struggles in men's minds between forms of belief—the *fact* between heathenism and Christianity. What the Saxons were to Charlemagne, the Hindus, *mutatis mutandis*, may be to us. A great struggle between light and darkness, civilisation and savages, is no doubt progressing, and, like others before it, will have its phases of excitement and misery. Lord Canning is doing well *now*, but was not decisive enough perhaps at first. Yet who shall say it?[1]

'MEADOWS TAYLOR.'

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[1] The military will say it as represented by Sir Thomas Seaton, who was doing more conspicuous work than Meadows Taylor in this and the following year. He fought before Delhi as a volunteer, having lost his regiment. Very indignant he was that Lord Canning, 'who seemed to rush from blunder to blunder', decided against the prize money, giving six months' batta instead. A soldier chalked up on the walls of the palace: 'Delhi taken and India saved for thirty-six rupees, ten annas; or one rupee, one anna, per battle'. Seaton says that this was reported to Calcutta, and that 'My Lord', or 'his stupid adviser, stung to the quick, directed every exertion to be made to find out the author of the pasquinade'. Of course no one would 'peach'. Some soldiers dashed their money on the ground. Two years later: 'I thought that I could never again look upon a sepoy or the natives of India with the same kindly feeling I had previously entertained for them, and that I should thus be prevented from serving the Government with satisfaction.' *From Cadet to Colonel*, chapters xvii. and xx.

The first Viceroy runs through Taylor's account of the Mutiny. He sums up, when Lord Canning was leaving in March 1862, to die in three months, having given his life for India: 'It was evident that the first fierce clamour against his clemency had been softened by a late, but full, recognition of its justice and necessity. . . . Future historians, while they may notice his natural slowness of conception and of action, will not fail to recognise the inherent firmness and unostentatious greatness of his character. . . . At the worst period, and when surrounded by panic-stricken men, he never lost confidence in himself or his means, and his calm courage and perseverance, while they cheered and encouraged every subordinate authority, gained him an eventual success, the value of which will be enhanced by time.'

Earl Canning, like his father, is remembered among the few best makers of Latin verse at Eton.

'NALDRUG, *July* 6, 1857.

'You will read with horror in England the accounts from the Bengal stations, where regiments have mutinied. I will not dwell upon them. Mutiny, and a declaration for the sepoy's cause, whatever it is, might have been expected in an organised rising of this kind; but it is clear now that the extermination of officers, with their wives and families, was one main object—and, alas! it has been accomplished with fiendish barbarity in many instances. I cannot think otherwise than that England will be stirred as she has rarely been stirred before; and that it has needed but the perusal of the accounts of the last month, and even of the last fortnight, to arouse a spirit of vengeance against these miscreant sepoys, such as has been rarely, if ever, displayed among you, and that troops will be sent out instantly in large numbers. We have not yet heard of the fall of Delhi—that is the point on which all interest centres at present; and the operations there are not known, except that General Barnard had repulsed three sorties from the place, with great loss to the mutineers. By the last accounts—that is, up to the 16th—the General was waiting for some reinforcements from the Punjab, which had reached Umballa on their way down to him. I daresay the place is strong; and as all in it are fighting with halters in prospect if taken, they are doubtless desperate; and it is clear nothing can be risked. Reports have come down country to Bombay that the place has been taken, but they are not officially confirmed as yet; so we must wait in patience. They are strong in Calcutta, and I daresay by this time have some of the Chinese troops there; if so, they will be pushed up the country with all speed. 'The Punjab is quiet—no rising or disturbance—which speaks well for the local administration. All through the Deccan and south of India there is entire tranquillity. Hyderabad is well in hand by Davidson, who will get credit for what he has done. The Nizam and the Minister are stanch, and the Arabs well in hand also; they have no sympathy with the Bengal movement, or with a king of Delhi, and will be faithful to us; Here we are all quiet and peaceable as any one could wish, and also in all the adjoining districts, British and Nizam's. We were rather apprehensive, a week ago, that a regiment of Nizam's Contingent cavalry, which had mutinied at Aurungabad, and was at first stated to be in full march on its station, Mominabad, about sixty miles from this, might make a dash at us for the sake of the treasury; but that report was false. No men moved from Aurungabad till General Woodburn's force arrived there by a forced march of seventy miles from Ahmednagar. The General went straight to the cavalry lines, surrounded the regiment, when the greatest number of the men submitted at once—in fact, joined him; but some

remained till a charge or two of grape was sent among them, when they fled for the most part, sixty-four being taken prisoners. Of these, several have been hanged, and some transported; and the example will have a good effect—no doubt, indeed, has had, for no one has stirred elsewhere. I have about eighty of the men of this corps on duty in the district, but all have behaved well, and seem right glad to be out of the mess. There was an ugly sort of conspiracy at Satara, when the matter first broke out; but Rose, the Collector there, who is a good officer, has nipped it in the bud, and all is square again.

'You will see that the ex-king of Oudh has been confined, and that Government have a clue to his participation in the matter. I have from the first thought that Oudh was the cause of this. Our Bengal army are Oudh men for the most part; and, as I may have said before, the check on habitual lawlessness in Oudh, and no less lawlessness in the ranks of the army, was hardly to be endured. 'No doubt the conspiracy has been long matured.' It has been no cartridge question, or any other question, but a struggle to break bonds, which were getting tighter every day. If this outbreak had not occurred, the crisis would have come in some other form, and might possibly have been worse! As it is, it is only a question of time. The Ganges is rising fast, and steamers can get up with troops easily and quickly. 5,000 men from China will hold everything till you can send us more; but for some years to come India will require many more European troops than she has had. In this Lord Dalhousie failed, that he trusted the native army when it was clear they were not in hand as soldiers should be. With a new annexation at one end in the Punjab, and one in the middle—and considering the character of Oudh, which was far more lawless than the Punjab ever was—there should have been a heavy European force there and at Delhi. All this is too late now: we have only to retrieve the losses, and our power will be stronger than ever, and the attachment of all well-disposed classes greater; for it is clear to all, when any disorganisation ensues, what will be the result to property. Government will be sadder but wiser; and the administration of India for the next hundred years more civilised than it has been since Plassey. The savagery of the worst State in India has had its burst—a fearful one it has been—but the retribution will be as fearful. All these men are landed proprietors in Oudh. Dare they return there to be hunted down? Every man's name is known, and his place of residence; and when our turn begins again, woe to them! Small mercy will be shown to the violators and murderers of English women and helpless children. As it is, there appears a lull. About half the Bengal army has not stirred. Many of the corps are doing good service, and will perhaps wait to see the issue of Delhi. By-and-by,

as corps move up from Calcutta, the rebels will be between two fires. We know they have no ammunition or material in shot and shell but what may have been got at Delhi, and no ammunition but what was found there. Where are they to get caps for their muskets, which are all percussion? We see at Benares that they threw away 1,400 stand of arms. Now, if they kept their arms and discipline, they might be formidable; but without either, they are no more than the rabble, which has never yet stood—and never can—regular armies. So I see good hope in prospect; and as we must have had it *out* one day, the worst is over, I think. Every one will blame Lord Dalhousie, I daresay. I only see that he was wrong in not covering his annexations with sufficient European troops, and this the Russian war prevented his doing. We ought to hear by the mail coming in what you say at home to the beginning of the Mutiny. But we cannot hear what you know of the worst for another fortnight, or month perhaps. This mutiny will give us an electric telegraph to you, no doubt, when you can hear daily news from India. But we should be thankful that we have at least steam to carry over distress to you in a month, and perhaps gain help. You will see that men are equal to the emergency. Lawrence at Lucknow has done wonders. Colonel Neill and his Madras Fusiliers are renowned already—a gallant-spirited man as any we have. In the Punjab, too, they have determined men and troops enough, as they have got rid of all the Bengal men. We only want troops for the North-Western Provinces and Central India, and we shall be all right in a few months. Meanwhile, the more anxious England is the better.

'You will see what Lord Canning has done about the press. I think it was needed now; but it may be relaxed, except to native prints, hereafter. And I hope these murders and massacres will ease Exeter Hall and its party of some of its cant in regard to "sympathy with natives".

'I am quite well—and here, but that we read newspapers, should have no anxiety whatever. Tell this to all who ask after me. God bless you! and believe me ever yours faithfully,

MEADOWS TAYLOR.'

[In the month of August Captain Taylor was promoted to the Deputy-Commissionership in North Berar, and proceeded to his new station at Buldana.]

'JALNA, *September* 7, 1857.

'I have got so far on my journey to my new country,- that is, about three-fourths of the distance. We cannot travel luxuriously as you do, but I have come about 180 miles in nine days, with my tents and servants well up, which is not bad work. I give all a rest here, and hope that Bullock will come in from Buldana to-day, till when I shall occupy myself

with writing, and first to you. I had intended to have done so on the road; but the double marches, evening and morning, though they are not over ten or twelve miles at the most, interrupt every attempt to settle to anything. My journey has been a very pleasant one; there was no rain to speak of: and through the Nizam's country, in which I could not possibly have been treated with greater civility and distinction had I been the Resident himself, deputations met me from all the large towns and stations, and I was helped on in every way I could desire. The country is perfectly peaceful and loyal to us. But it is sad to see so much of it waste, and to hear the people complaining, not so much of active oppression, as of no one taking the least interest in them, except to screw what can be got out of them. I see, however, changes for the better in the system of district management, and there seems to be a system at last; but it must be, even with Salar Jung, that he has little assistance, much opposition, and in all cases very lukewarm co-operation. I trust, however, that a man so thoroughly in earnest and single in purpose will succeed as he deserves to do. His conduct through the trying crisis of June and July has been very admirable; and as it has passed the ordeal of the Moharram safely, Hyderabad may be considered thoroughly safe, I think, as its people throughout the country are entirely well affected.

'You ask me in your last what the effect of this mutiny upon the princes of India seems to be. It is not an easy question to answer, but I will give you my opinions; and, unless we sustain very unlooked-for and serious reverses, I do not think they will alter. At present, then, I think all is in a satisfactory state. Certainly there is no sympathy with the mutineer sepoys, neither politically nor as far as creed is concerned. The papers will give you details, but not one of the large States has moved or openly displayed sympathy with the sepoy movement. Wherever these Purbia [1] sepoys, whether Hindus or Musalmans, have had service, they have mutinied and gone towards Delhi, as they did from our service. Contingents of native princes which at first appeared loyal to us, but which consisted of the *same classes* of soldiers as our men, broke away as well from us as from their nominal masters and joined the general confederacy. You see this exemplified in the events at Indore and Gwalior, and the cases of the Kotah contingent, Bhopal people, etc.; but as soon as Holkar was rid of his mutinous soldiery, who marched to Delhi, and his own Marathas rallied round him, he welcomed the Resident back, and matters now are much safer and quieter than before. The princes of Rajputana have been loyal and stanch, I believe, to a man, helping with their men

[1] This is defined on following page as Hindustani, and particularly as having to do with Oudh. The word Purbia means 'eastern'.

as far as was needed. I can, however, readily understand their not sending large bodies into the field, with an infectious spirit abroad, and without any apparent head, knowing that there is amongst them as strong a love for plunder and anarchy as existed in the time of the Pindharis, nay worse. Native States have therefore kept quiet, sending only what they themselves could entirely depend on ; and in this they have been right.

'That there is any combination among native States against us, I have no suspicion ; and a combination to set up a head, as an Emperor of Delhi, would, I should think, be the last thing that any one of them wanted. If it were possible that such a result followed, even for a while, the impossibility of cohesion is most transparent to all ; while the certainty of exaction, extortion, plunder, and insecurity of property, is alike clear to every one. Better, therefore, as it is, to them ; and they are accordingly quiet, if not active and sympathising friends. At a first glance you might think that the Nizam State would sympathise with a "Delhi Raj". But the Nizams were faithless to Delhi, utterly so, and would have to pay a heavy reckoning, nay, be utterly extinguished, if possible. The Maratha princes, what remain of them, hold territories wrested from Delhi. Would they be spared ? The Rajput princes, the oldest feudatorics of Delhi, have, as I have said, displayed active sympathy with us, retaining and protecting the political agents with them, and helping with supplies, and in other ways of which the papers give details. I have from the first looked anxiously to see whether any grand political movement or confederation could be detected, but as yet there appears none, and I think the Government will have the same intelligence from the Governor-General. No ; as yet the movement appears confined to the Bengal army, and to that portion of it which is called Purbia or Hindustani. The Sikhs will have none of it : Gurkhas are stanch ; but wherever these Purbias are, there are disaffection and open savagery of the worst description. The reason of this is as yet a profound mystery. That the whole of the Bengal army was prepared to rise about the 15th May, there can be no doubt now ; and that its rising was not simultaneous, has been providential. Even now, regiments that have been disarmed break away occasionally. Corps of irregular cavalry that have been considered stanch, mutiny and make off to plunder, and join, if they can, the Delhi or Rohilkund parties, even without arms, or pay, or plunder. To doubt, therefore, a preconcerted plan in this mutiny would be absurd. It has existed, and exists ; and out of the whole Bengal army I do not think there are at present more than half-a-dozen Purbia regiments who are stanch, or who have proved loyalty by action. It will be long before the origin of the movement is known. Whether, as has been supposed, it is in reality a

plot of the Delhi princes to attempt to regain sovereignty,— whether it is owing to intrigues in Oudh,— whether an attempt among a powerful body, bound together as the Hindu Purbias are by one bond of religious belief, to establish a dominion of military priests as existed in the ancient days of Hinduism,— or whether it is one of these outbreaks of savagery against civilisation, of which we have instances innumerable in the history of civilisation, remains to be seen. My own impressions lead me much to the latter belief. Civilisation is pressing hard on Hinduism, perhaps also on Mohammedanism: I do not say Christianity, for that as yet is far off; but that amount of civilisation which has proved progression of knowledge to be incompatible with Hinduism, and to be sapping its very existence. This may have led to conspiracy among Brahmins, and by them the Rajputs or Kshattriya classes have been aroused to action. These classes compose the Bengal army. There are no others. Hindustani Musalmans are much Hinduised, and were originally part of the Hindu people. Hence, when it became necessary, there has been for the time a complete identification of the interests of all. Again, for the last fifty years we have been breeding up a race of stalwart priests for our army. In the most deplorable manner we have strengthened every prejudice by enlisting none but them. The magnificent *men* of that army were the admiration of all, they were accordingly pampered and indulged by all; they *would not allow* intermixture of other classes; they recruited themselves; and each corps, from the officers down to the lowest private, were not only classmen, but fellow-priests as Brahmins, or holy warriors as Kshattriyas. Can anything more pregnant with mischief be imagined? Yet so vain were Bengal officers of their men, and of their men's *caste*, which was the strangest thing, that mention or thought of anything low-caste was ridiculed,—and the Madras and Bombay armies held as things of nought. So it went from bad to worse, as regards discipline; and while the sepoys strengthened themselves in their regiments, civilisation was treading hard on their heels outside. Sepoys were not educated men, except in ceremonials as Brahmins. Education was spreading over Bengal and the North-West Provinces very fast. It would have followed into Oudh, and as yet Oudh was a stronghold of dark Hindu fanaticism! The Oudh Brahmins are known by other Brahmins for their attachment to, and study of, the mystic rites of Bhowani or Kali. These rites are held in abhorrence by Deccan Brahmins; they call them fearful and unholy, and those among them who have knowledge of them are held in dread by the rest. Of such are the Bengal sepoys, the Brahmins and Rajputs of Oudh and as far south as Benares. And since they have broken forth and shown themselves in their true colours, it has not surprised me to see that the mask completely thrown off has

displayed in savagery that spirit which in those districts produced Thuggee, which had its most noted leaders from among these very classes. I have given you these reasons to explain why I think this more a movement of savagery against civilisation than aught else, and I still adhere to my opinion that the annexation of Oudh was the incentive to this outbreak. Perhaps the way in which Oudh was managed at first, and till Lawrence got it, made it more immediate than it otherwise would have been. Outram took Oudh, but has always eschewed details of management. The first managing man under him was a thorough-bred Bengal civilian, as the phrase goes, haughty, quarrelsome, imperious, and a red tapist of the worst school.[1] So I have heard him described. He did much mischief, no doubt; and *then* must have begun the organisation, or the idea of it. Strange to say, Lord Dalhousie could not see danger in trusting a new country to the military

[1] This culprit, though not in books of reference, is easily run to earth. In his *History* Taylor writes: 'In Oudh, the new administration, which had promised fairly at first, became in the last degree unpopular, from the mistaken and over-zealous proceedings of the commissioner, Mr. Coverley Jackson, and his subordinates; and though Mr. Jackson was removed and Sir Henry Lawrence appointed in his room, the evil already done could not be remedied.'

Mr. Rice Holmes, in his *History of the Indian Mutiny*, calls Coverley Jackson 'a smart revenue officer from the North-Western Provinces. . . . No more unfortunate selection could have been made. Jackson was best known for the violence of his temper. . . . Only a man of the greatest tact and firmness could have reconciled the classes who had thriven under the corrupt native government to the rigorous purity of British rule: but Jackson had no tact.' Lord Canning only superseded Jackson 'when his pertinacity had outraged all patience, and when it seemed too late even for Lawrence to repair the mischief which he had done. For the deposed King of Oude was complaining bitterly of the unmanly cruelty with which the English were treating his family, even the delicate ladies of the zenana.' It was shown that 'C. Jackson . . . had taken possession of one of the palaces set apart for the royal family'.

The same point is mentioned (though not indexed) in the cumbrous *Life of Outram* by Sir Julian Goldsmid. There were many other complaints, with a lamentable atmosphere of contention. Finally, there are pages about this in the great *Life of Sir Henry Lawrence*, from which a few sentences must suffice. Lawrence reached Lucknow in March 1857, and soon afterwards wrote to relatives: 'Mr. Jackson has received me amiably, though he feels bitterly his supersession. He is an able and energetic man, but, like us Lawrences, has strong passions not under much control.' 'Mr. Jackson was not altogether to blame. He is a violent but able and kindly man. When thwarted he could not restrain himself, and lost his judgment. He stayed eight days with me, and was very amiable, though I told him he was very wrong in some of his acts, and in more of his expressions.'

occupation of a people whose freedom (lawlessness is a better word) his measures were curtailing every day. He too believed in the Bengal sepoy as others did. Yet he was bringing that sepoy's father and brothers into subjection, looking after and taxing their lands, preventing them from indulging in outrages and dacoity. For years and years we have recruited from Oudh; and for years and years we have known the Oudh population to be the most lawless in India. Was it expected that it would like civilisation, or a strong Government, or restraint of any kind? And were not the very men we enlisted as lawless in their way as their brethren at home,—refusing foreign service, refusing discipline, refusing intermixture of other castes? All this was: some saw it, and some wrote about it. Those who did write about it, either to the public or to Government, were marked and ruined men; they were never advanced. Many people are getting courage to speak out *now*, but it is too late. It was a pleasant delusion, that Bengal army, while it lasted; and so were all other Bengal delusions pleasant—nothing was like them. The men who held them were inflated; they were, in fact, Bengal civilians, and who should gainsay them? —— wrote to me only the other day that he knew every one, for years past, who had striven publicly or privately to expose these delusions, had been a marked man. So it went on. One would have thought that when last year the cakes of bread flew through the North-West Provinces, it would have aroused suspicion of some intrigue, or would have been traced. What notice was taken of it? None, that I know of; or if any suspicion was entertained it was shut up. If Government knew of suspected disaffection—or if at any time what Napier wrote, what others hinted, what even broke out in occasional mutiny, was known,—and I am impressed with a conviction that it was known, and feared too,—why was India left so defenceless in regard to European troops? But this is another part of the subject now, alas! causing waste of life and treasure, which will keep India back for years.

'There is another matter, or cause of disaffection, which I will briefly mention, because it affects the *people* of the country. I have doubted the revenue system of the North-West Provinces very much ever since I knew it. It has made village communities throw off attachment to Government, I think, by weakening the bond between them; and it has reduced the bond of the landholders, whether great or small, to a simple question of money-payment, the most easily broken. It has also given headmen too much influence, and reduced village communities to a state of vassalage to them, rather than retaining them in a direct communication with Government authorities. This system is the far-famed "Thomason" system; one which, no doubt, got in most money with least cost—but otherwise, *I* think, and have always

thought, was regardless of the people, and regardless of the bond which should have been maintained, rather than broken. You see the result now in some shape. Leaders of villages have abused authority, petty chiefs have leagued with them, both parties have taken to plundering property not belonging to their own classes. Here and there, there are symptoms of revulsion, and the *people*, tired of being plundered, have risen on their headmen, and invited back the European magistrates; and this will progress, I think and trust, as if to show, without doubt, the utter inability of these people to rule themselves without plunder and massacre, and the utter insecurity of property in whatever shape it may exist. This may have its effect in time in restoring order; but the operation of reducing to order a country which has become disorganised is necessarily slow at any time, and one can hardly see or think whom to trust when Government has crushed, as it will crush, the originators of the Mutiny. It is sad to think, too, that all the promotion of natives to offices of trust and confidence has in most instances proved futile to check disorder or maintain authority. There have been, it is true, some faithful men, some bright instances of personal exertion to aid our authority, but they are lamentably few; and it must be almost more bitter to those who have selected these authorities to see them supine or faithless, than to encounter the mad savagery of the native army. It is too soon now to speculate upon final results as to the civil government of the country. It may, it is true, be comparatively easy when order is once more established; but the shock to all has been a rude and violent one. The civilisation of mind, which most of us thought had made progress, proves to be only skin-deep, and not to have affected the masses of the people at all, and will have to be commenced again, I hope in a more earnest and practical spirit than before. I adhere to my opinion that a government on the part of the Crown will be the best policy to pursue, and there can be no doubt that a double Government will not answer. Whether it is understood by the people, that the Company has been, as it were, abandoned by the Crown—that it only occupies the place of "farmers" of the country, or is in the position of a weak interloper, and can be thrown off—I do not know; but there is much in the discussions on the renewal of the charter, and the comparative absence of European troops, to favour the supposition in minds which cannot understand European politics or the constitution of our own country. I see that Sir Erskine Perry [1] has already made a motion on the subject;

[1] Rt. Hon. Sir Thomas Erskine Perry, 1806–1882, who had been Chief Justice in Bombay. Later, when for a few years M.P., he attacked Lord Dalhousie's administration and spoke constantly on Indian affairs.

Perry was member of the Council of India for the lengthy period

but the extent of the calamity must be fully known before a remedy can be applied, and I think the result will be a Government into which no division of authority can enter. No one will be hardy enough now to support the doctrine that India can be governed by opinion. It must be by European troops well distributed that government can be maintained. I shall be anxious to see what turn your counsels take on this subject, one on which all in India are well assured that England is doing her best, and that the past will be retrieved in time.

'I have nothing particular to say of myself. I was very sorry to leave the Naldrug district; the people were quiet and attached, the country was fast improving, and improvements as to roads and other matters were in active progress. I do not know on what principles Berar has been managed, and have to get acquainted with the people,—a long matter, with a district of its size. I will write you more from Buldana by-and-by, and when I see my way into what is before me. God bless you.—With my dear love to all kindred, believe me ever yours faithfully, MEADOWS TAYLOR.'

'BULDANA, NORTH BERAR, *September 26, 1857.*

'I arrived here on the 14th, and took charge of the district, and your letter of the 6th of August reached me a few days after. I wrote to you from Jalna, when staying there to wait for Bullock, and I hope that letter has come safe to hand. I do not think I have missed any mail since this war began; for such as my opinions are, and means of observation, I am anxious you should have the result of them for yourself, apart from all public discussions which reach you from India and are made in England. You have done my first letter much honour,—more than it deserved, I fear, for it was written in a hurry, and in some alarm perhaps, and more than there need have been; and yet I cannot say I have ever felt alarm for anything south of the Nurbudda since the Mutiny broke out, and as yet, you see, we are safe. So long as Hyderabad remains quiet and attached, there is no apprehension, I think, for Southern India; and I sincerely believe that it is both. The Moharram passed off quietly, and there is no excitement at present. On one point they appear obliged to temporise, which is, the trial of Torra Borg Khan, the Rohilla zemindar who led the attack on the Residency. He has not been hanged, as he ought to have been, nor given up, nor will the head of the Adalat in Hyderabad condemn him for taking part in a *holy war*; it would be against Mohammedan laws,

from 1859 to 1882. It was to him that the remarkable letter from W. W. Hunter in 1878, urging the merits of Meadows Taylor and the claims of his daughters to pensions, was addressed, which is printed in full at the end of this volume.

and the Minister appears helpless in respect of bringing him to punishment for the present. He is, however, still in confinement, and it is safe policy not to press anything at the present. I have no apprehension of any Maratha league. In the Deccan the old Maratha families are weak, and I do not think there is any one who would have sympathy with Sindia after the long break there has been in the connection. The Brahmin influence was never liked by the true Maratha families, and *he* would not join Nana Sahib, the representative of the Peshwa, nor would the Satara family. There have been reports that Sindia was deposed by his troops, and Delhi proclaimed. But this wants confirmation, and is not believed. Holkar, the Gaikwar, and the Kolhapur chief, the Jaghirdars in the South Maratha country, are all stanch and quiet, and, whether singly or collectively, are too weak to attempt coalition; such at least is my impression, and I imagine Lord Elphinstone says the same. The Maratha people of the Deccan, too, are well off as to employment and landed settlements; they appear to me to have ceased to be warlike in every way, and, under a good system of government and easy taxation, have fairly abandoned old ways and settled down into active farmers. No doubt there were some intrigues at Satara which were put down with a strong hand by Rose, the Collector, who behaved admirably.[1] There were some plots also at Poona and Belgaum, got up by low adventurers, without leaders or means, but having a bad *animus*. These also were promptly discovered and the conspirators executed. The reported mutiny of one Bombay regiment at Kolhapur caused some alarm for the time lest it should spread; but it was an attempt by the Hindustanis of the regiment, which was, beyond anything we have seen yet, insane and futile; and these men were disposed of very gallantly by the Maratha Horse and the true men of their own corps. In this matter the Kolhapur Raja was well affected, and gave what help he could; and you know he is one of the representatives of Sivaji, and many of the old Maratha families hold by him and

[1] These small intrigues are not mentioned in Taylor's *History*. The *Imperial Gazetteer* merely says: 'During the Mutiny a widespread conspiracy was discovered at Satara to restore the Maratha power with assistance from the North; but the movement was suppressed with only trifling disturbances.' Mr. Rice Holmes gives half a page to it, mentioning Mr. Rose, and stating that seventeen conspirators were executed, while the family of the late Raja were transported.

As to the rising at Kolhapur, below, Taylor, in his *History*, writes: 'Captain Kerr, commanding the Mahratta Horse, with fifty troopers, marched from Sattara to Kolapoor—seventy-six miles—in twenty-four hours, and pursuing the mutineers, came up with them in a temple where they were resting, and slew most of them.' Mr. Rice Holmes relates these and kindred events in great detail. Kerr lived until 1919.

his little court. The Brahmins of the Deccan are not military people in any way, and they are well represented and provided for in Government employ. I do not think there is discontent among them, and if there were, they have no sympathy among the Maratha people, who do not like them. Under all these points of view, I do not think there is ground for apprehension of any Maratha rising or combination, and I hope my views may be ultimately correct.

'Now the more I look back to what I wrote to you first, the more I am inclined to adhere to the opinions I then expressed, and have since repeated. The Mohammedan sympathy in the movement has been secondary as far as the people are concerned, even in the North-West Provinces, but the share of the King of Delhi and his large family of *soi-disant* Shahzadas in the original plot, while it remains to be investigated, is meantime borne out by facts. I have long considered the Bengal army utterly unsafe. It had become impossible to control the prfestly faction of which it was composed, and to which all others were subordinate; for the Mohammedan portion of it was just as arrogant in respect to caste prejudices as the Hindu, and followed the Hindu lead. It was impossible to convince Bengal officers of the mischief attending any caste as an element of military service under us. No attempt was made, or could have been made (except by taking the bull by the horns, which no one dared to do), to break down the caste influence, except by the very partial effort of the enlistment of sepoys on oath for general service—which of course, and as might have been foreseen, was useless in contact with the old and very powerful element of the former system. I daresay this was admitted by those who chose to think—and I will venture to say there were few who did not; still, the old prejudice in favour of high-caste Brahmins, arising no doubt out of the comparative ease by which they were managed as soldiers in garrison, the fine appearance of the men, and the bravery *occasionally* displayed in recent times, with the *prestige* of old victories, all combined to perpetuate the illusion; and while the soldiery were led to look up to the service as an hereditary right, they became the less disposed to brook any interference with it. You see how these men were spreading fast into the Bombay army. As Hindustani men rose to rank as *subadars* and native officers in general, and returned to their native villages, they were employed to bring down batches of recruits, fine stalwart young fellows, who enlisted readily, and no doubt served well. Marathas, as their country has been settled, and become, as it is, one expanse of cultivation, needed no employment for their young men, and, except the very lowest classes, did not enlist in the army. Those regiments into which a Hindustani element has been once infused, became more and more Hindustani from year to year; and the 16,000 men said now to be in the

Bombay army would have been doubled in a few years more, with the same kind of contrivance, the same views, and no doubt eventually the same conduct as the Bengal army itself. Happily, most happily, this has been broken up. The design of enlisting any more of these people, and the danger of even allowing what there are to remain, is too imminent to be overlooked, and it will be averted. In the Madras army I believe there are a few Hindustanis here and there, but very few, and they will, I trust, be got rid of. But in the Madras army there is another influence not unlike what prevailed in Bengal, which needs to be checked in time; this is the Mohammedan, and you will do good service by bringing it to notice in those quarters where it can be remedied. The military portion of the Mohammedans of the Madras Presidency lie about Arcot, Seringapatam, Vellore, and other places, and are exclusively military, looking, as the Bengal and Oudh Brahmins did, to hereditary services. They are known to be bigoted, and even natives mistrust the Thal Ghat Musalman as turbulent and unfaithful. They have their old ideas of rule under the Mysore dominion of Hyder and Tippoo, brief but brilliant; possibly have no sympathy with Delhi, but true sympathy with the cause of Islam. They are not cultivators, like the Sikhs and Marathas, but look to service as sepoys—in short, to a military life, rather than to any other, and have found it in the Madras army to a great extent. It is only necessary that this combination, which provides all the cavalry and many of the infantry regiments, should not be allowed to proceed as it has done in Bengal; and there is plenty of time to avert it. I have known many men who thought that the more a regiment was connected by family ties the better; but we now see the danger of it as regards the Bengal army, and, under the constitution of the native mind, everywhere the same; and the danger attending combination induced by a sense of power, I think should be prevented. I am not writing or thinking any wrong of the Madras army, which as yet has proved wonderfully stanch and obedient in many trying times and foreign wars: I only wish to prevent the possibility of its becoming other than it is and has been—the possibility of its gaining that conviction of power, which has destroyed the Bengal army, as it will assuredly any other army which is infected by it. By what means this can be best effected is not in my power to state. It must be done silently, gradually, and without exciting suspicion. I have often thought a partial admission of half-castes, as also enlistment of negroes, or some of the martial Cape tribes, would be good, and negroes best of all; [1]

[1] Negroes in India would afford subject for a monograph. Their military value, under superior direction, has been illustrated in West, East and North Africa. In India they could not always be controlled.

and often and often, in old letters, have I dwelt on this subject, and alluded to the increasing predominance of *caste power* in the native armies, particularly in that of Bengal; but who attended then? Another idea is, that part of every native regiment *should be European*,—say one flank company or both flank companies, with more English non-commissioned

There were several short-lived negro kings even in Bengal. To use the word Abyssinian, as is conventionally done, is of course an absurd equivalent for East Coast negroes of whom the one thing certain is that they were Moslems. On the Bombay coast they are represented by the Habshi, the Grand Negro as one may say, of Janjira: his petty State is called Habsan, 'the African's land'. The other word for negro, Sidi, perhaps a corruption of Saiyid, is also located here. To be a Sidi in Janjira is to be a person of distinction, probably related to the Nawab and in possession of State grants. Many good sailors come from Janjira island.

Even a European feels the sense of intrusion in reading of so many Arabs, and more particularly of negroes, in the history of Hyderabad. Indians might well have felt the presence of negroes, certainly when dominant, an unequalled profanation to the sacred soil of Bharata. They probably did, but could not help themselves.

Without quoting references to Abyssinians in Taylor's *History*, here are two passages from the full picture of the Bijapur polity in 1657 in *Tara*: 'At this period the Dekhanies and Abyssinians were rival factions in the state. The latter were more amenable to discipline than the former, who were descendants of . . . Toorks, Tartars, and Affghans. . . . Was it wonderful that they at length became arrogant, and that, to maintain an equipoise against them, another element, the Abyssinian, was admitted into this state?' It is a Hindu who later says: 'Take some of your . . . Abyssinians; they know no fear, and are more certain than the braggart, plundering Dekhanies, who are afraid of the Mother who sits in the glen, though they are Mussulmans.'

In the attack upon the temple at Tuljapur it is a huge negro who strikes down Tara's father. It must have been humiliating to live upon a plane whereon the big bodies and the docile vigour of the negroes gave them an advantage. At the opening of *Tara* the Wazir of Bijapur is a treacherous Abyssinian, a former slave, dreaming of kingship, who gets slain. His son, Kowas Khan, betrothed to the delicate Zyna, must have been a negro, perhaps with some dilution of Indian blood. Taylor has not dared to make speaking characters out of either of these historic figures. 'We feel that we do not know much of this young man,' he weakly says at the end. The Slave Kings of Delhi were of very different race.

It is but just to say that the most recent testimony of missionaries in Western India who have had the training of negro boys taken from slave ships is that they far surpass the lower-caste natives of that countryside in energy, strength, and industry. The standing example of the enlightened negro is Malik Ambar, minister of Ahmednagar at the opening of the seventeenth century, died 1626. In his *History*,

officers. The French mixed natives and Europeans together in this manner with good effect, both as to work in the field and discipline in garrison, and it prevented combination. It has long been the opinion of able men that artillery should be exclusively European, and natives used only as assistants, as I may say, under them; and in this I entirely coincide. It is the artillery only of the mutinous Bengal army which does any execution, and costs us men to recover; and yet the guns have not in general been well fought, and are taken by comparative handfuls of our troops. But I am wearying you, I daresay, with these disquisitions.

'The siege-train has reached Delhi, and the final result there cannot be delayed. Every one knows by this time of the munificent aid you are giving us, and the rest is but a work of time. The cold weather is before us, the British army will have the best of the year for field operations, and it is little to say, I think, will perhaps, in the end, be disappointed that there is so little left to do. I myself think there will be comparatively few left in Delhi when it is assaulted, and that our final operations will be in Oudh, where most of the mutineers will fight *pro aris et focis*, and not for the King of Oudh, or any potentate whatever. It will be satisfactory to you to see how few persons of rank are concerned in this movement, and how few of the people in general, when the millions of which the population of Hindustan is composed are reckoned. Idle savagery exists everywhere, and the country has never been disarmed. Plunder and violence might be expected from such classes, and it has no doubt abounded, to the misery and disgust of those better classes who were secure under us. I cannot but think that this has had a great effect in our favour throughout the country, and most, too, in the worst districts about Delhi and in Oudh. I trust the complete disarming of the Bengal Presidency will be the first work of the *new* Government. It has worked well in the Punjab; and indeed for all India a "licence to carry arms bill" would be very advisable. Oudh must be disarmed, of course. They did not hesitate to disarm the Punjab almost as the first measure, and we see the benefit of it now; but they dared not attempt to disarm Oudh, because it would have affected the Bengal army, and so it remained as before, strong in itself as having perpetually resisted the Oudh Government, and stronger as being part of ourselves, with which we dare not interfere. It will be broken now and reduced, and with it will be broken all military *prestige*, and I hope combination, not only of the

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Taylor calls him 'one of those Abyssinians who, little better than savages in their own country, displayed in the Deccan abilities as statesmen and generals which were hardly exceeded by the more civilised Persians'. But he neglects to make him a speaking character in *A Noble Queen*.

Brahmins and Rajputs, but of the petty rajas and zemindars who abound. In our next revenue settlements, too, we might break up combinations in regard to land, and by seeing that every one gets what he requires for cultivation, make him dependent more upon Government than on his feudal chief. I mistrust those North-West settlements, I assure you, very deeply, and think that had the Government made grants to the people instead of to the middlemen, they would have had more content, more real attachment than in the other course. That course, however, got most money at least cost of collection, and so was persevered in.

'I do not go into details of events; those the newspapers chronicle steadily. A few Bengal regiments remain stanch, and do good work, as the 31st at Saugor, etc.; but the rest are gone, and happily, I think, sparing our Government any chance of sympathising with them afterwards. You will know the sad, sad particulars of Cawnpore in time; and I beg you to read the deposition of a subadar of the Bombay army, who for his faithful conduct has been promoted, with 1000 rupees, and the military order of merit. I dare say, and hope, that there will be many such examples come to light by-and-by. You may hear by this mail that Delhi has been stormed, and Lucknow relieved by Havelock and Outram. If they do not kill the King of Delhi, I hope he will be transported to England with all his family. The King of Oudh should go too, and be kept there, as Dhulip Singh is, in honour and respect. There should be no flinching in this, I think.

'I would not have you think, from anything I have said, that I am against the annexation policy of Lord Dalhousie. The fault was, not guarding it sufficiently; and if, as I believe, it has been the direct means of showing the true temper and worth of the Bengal army, it has been the more welcome now that we are free to remedy it. We should have been hard pressed if this outbreak had occurred when we had the Russian war on our hands. I am delighted to see the question of the Queen's Government openly canvassed; and it should be carried steadily through till Queen Victoria's proclamations are in every village of India belonging to her.[1]

[1] No more moderate and illuminating comment upon the Mutiny can well be found than in those contemporary letters. But *Seeta*, Taylor's only novel dealing with the Mutiny, does not offer as much illustrative matter as might have been expected: the intellectual quality does not predominate there.

In his Introduction to *Seeta* Taylor brings out a favourite point. 'The Sumbut year 1914 commenced on March 25, 1857, and closed on March 19, 1858, before the war had come to an end. It had been preceded by deadly epidemics and disastrous floods, and in addition to these, tumult and massacre, as predicted, had marked its course.' Many natives clung to the belief that 'the English are just in the end',

'This is a nice little station. Myself, Captain Grant, and his wife, are the only tenants of it. Bullock's house, which he lets me live in, is very comfortable. The situation is on the table-land just above the Ghat, on the south side of the Berar

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Yet this belief was sorely tried by the annexations above discussed. 'They are all-powerful, and in the main they are just; but why so greedy? Is no one to be left?' These disquieting facts were supplemented by rumours which would not have gone down in all lands. 'The childish credulity of the ordinary Hindoo native of India', says Taylor, 'has no equal in the world. Trained in his youth to believe the astonishing, and to him beneficent, miracles of his gods, his mind is prepared, as it were, to receive any human exaggeration and invention without question, and for any cause.'

The speech of Azrael Pandé to the Oudh sepoys at Barrackpur in chapter xx. has some good points. Which of them used not formerly, when stepping into any of the holy rivers, to cry out first 'Jey Gunga Mata!' and next 'Jey Kumpani Bahadur!'? 'With such cries our fathers went to battle, and won a thousand victories. But that is past. The "Kumpani" is not as it used to be; it is no longer an incarnation of our gods. It has changed into a mean, cheating robber, who farms this great Hind of ours from the Government of England, and robs it of all it can carry away. Where do those great ships yonder take the cotton, and the indigo, and the silk which the poor ryots have produced, but to England? Do they bring us anything in return? No! nothing but what we have to buy, and very dearly; and even the old Moghuls did not tax our salt and our opium. . . . In the west they took Sattara, and the family of Sivajee are beggars.'

Then comes the obscurantist argument that the former muskets were good enough to fight with—reminding them of a grievance. 'Did not the old win all Hind for the English? win it with your fathers' blood, freely poured out? Did not thousands of our people perish in the Khyber amidst the snow and ice—whose blood cries for vengeance? Did not these same men die with the old guns in their frozen hands?'

The judge, returning from Calcutta, speaks of the grumbling of the sepoys; 'and between you and me, they don't ever grumble for nothing. . . . I hate these new-fangled laws; can't they let the people alone?' Next year it has become: 'And so around them the trouble thickened, for the evil storm of 1914 was raging fearfully everywhere.'

In contrast to so much discrimination as to the causes of the Mutiny, an interesting passage in *From Cadet to Colonel* illustrates the merely military point of view. Seaton returned to command his regiment in 1855 after an absence of ten years. At once he noticed 'a marked deterioration in the bearing and conduct of the sepoys towards their European officers. . . . The men were quite careless of showing respect to any officer but those of their own regiment. Riding in uniform past the guard of other regiments, I constantly observed that the sepoys would stand with their arms folded, their legs straddled, their noses raised in the air, and that they would salute with mock respect, or purposely with the left hand. . . . Every governor-general and

valley, six miles east of a place called Dewal Ghat, which I daresay you will find in any good map. The climate is very *good—just now most delightful*; and I am quite hearty, and well as ever I was in my life, I am thankful to say. Now good-bye, and God bless you *all!*—My most affectionate *regards* and remembrance to all, and believe me ever yours most faithfully, MEADOWS TAYLOR.'

I cannot find my usual statement of revenue and cultivation for this official year, 1856–57, which would have given the details of each department. I only find in a letter to my father, *dated June 4*, that the net amount of revenue was 919,000 rupees in round numbers, and that the 40,000 rupees lost by abolition of customs duties had been nearly made up.

The increase in cultivation had been very nearly 35,000 acres in the year, which, together with the previous increase, *made a total of 219,000 since the cession. 237 miles of road* had been completed, and much more had been surveyed, marked out, and was in progress.

The survey showed a result of 260,000 acres completed; and the surveyors, who could not do field-work in the rains, were now occupied in *making fair copies of village maps and* registries. These maps were most creditably executed, and some of my pupils evinced decided talent as draughtsmen.

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commander-in-chief, including that most mischievous double functionary, Lord William Bentinck, had done something tending to the ruin of the native army. Lord William Bentinck gave it the first and most serious push down the incline.'

Not only did he abolish some allowances of the officers, but he abolished corporal punishment in the native army. 'There are two things the natives of India revere as much as they do their deities: money and power. Lord William Bentinck muleted their officers in both.' Sir Thomas Seaton *testifies*: 'There is naturally a great deal of the gentleman about the sepoy.' But: 'Take away the lash, and in a campaign your army will soon become a disorderly rabble. I have *commanded both English and native troops, and know it well. . . .* Lord Dalhousie, governor-general, and Lord Gough, commander-in-chief, men of natures as noble and merciful as could be found, recognised *the absolute necessity of re-establishing corporal punishment in the* native army, and carried it into effect.'

Yet they reduced the officer to the condition of King Log. 'In time *commanding officers found themselves like Gulliver, so tied down by* innumerable little strings, that they could move neither hand nor foot. The weapon that kept the wild beast in awe was taken out of their hands; the beast rose up against them, and they were weaponless, prostrate, and helpless' (*From Cadet to Colonel*, chapter xiii., 1866).

I was in daily expectation of a reply in regard to the principles and working of the survey which I had drawn up, and submitted in November 1856; but eight months' work had shown decided and continuous improvement in every respect; and as the tenures of land had not entered into the first propositions, and I had to make many explanations in regard to future contingencies, my final report was delayed. My readers would scarcely understand the minutiæ of village and landed tenures, and I will not inflict them upon them here; but I may mention that I found a great proportion of the occupants of land to be *mirasdars*—that is, persons who hold their portions of land in hereditary occupancy, and had so held it for generations, on a fixed rent. Most of these had suffered from local exactions, and but too many had thrown up their ancestral lands, and had emigrated to the British provinces. Of these great numbers had now returned, and had taken up their former estates where they were in possession of yearly tenants. Others, in cases where the land had been improved, had paid the occupant a sum of money for reoccupancy; but all *miras* rights were reclaimable within a period of forty years of absence. To preserve the local rights of these *miras* proprietors, the tenants of *miras* lands had only been recognised as yearly tenants; but they were not disturbed so long as they paid their rent regularly.

The third was a fluctuating class, who took up lands which generally belonged to the village area, on yearly tenure only. These were constantly changing, and passing from village to village, for the most part unthrifty people, with neither capital nor credit, and but few cattle.

I could see plainly the advantage of settled classes, and of giving them security of tenure, in order to induce the employment of capital and the improvement of their estates; and I proposed that all holders of land should be made proprietors, and that the land should be not only actual property to all, but that it should be allowed to be bought and sold or mortgaged like any other marketable commodity. Also, as the lands in all surveyed villages had now been defined, that the owners and occupants should have the option of taking out title-deeds for them, on stamped paper, which at the head should have a map of the land or estate, whatever it might be,

great or small ; and that in the body of the deed the boundaries and general description of every field or division should be detailed, the estate to become the hereditary property of the holder, subject only to a lien on the part of Government.

I fixed the term of thirty years for the first settlement of revenue, at the expiration of which period a revision should be made, and the rent fixed as a permanent settlement in perpetuity.

The Bombay survey was admirable, as far as it went, and the occupants of land were secured by registry ; but I thought that possession required more security than registry, and that actual title-deeds would provide this, enable the land to be bought and sold, and satisfy the proprietors. I saw, too, that by the plan I proposed the real marketable capital of the country would be enormously increased, and the intrinsic value of the land would become a source of wealth to every individual holder. I also, at the same time as the land survey, carried on a survey of village sites. Every house was numbered, and its boundaries defined and measured, and title-deeds for this description of property were to be given separately.

When all my rules were drawn up and completed, I made a translation of them into Marathi ; and having assembled the chief men of villages, the officers and *mirasdars*, as well as other landholders and occupants, as many as would attend, I laid before them the paper I had drawn up, telling them what I proposed to do if permitted by Government.

At first anything so definite and so valuable was doubted, and I believe the people, who had all through their lives been under a system of exaction and oppression, thought there was some dark sinister plan lying below the surface ; but when they came fully to comprehend the projects laid down, and received my assurance that title-deeds would be given for all lands, even the smallest holdings, the delight (for I can call it nothing else), the enthusiasm, and the gratitude of the people knew no bounds. It seemed to all as if a new life were opening before them—peace for themselves, and their descendants after them.

Two years previous to this, I had saved the people from a measure proposed on the system of the North-West Provinces,

by the Supreme Government. This was, to make a settlement of my district, and all the others were placed in the same category, with zemindars. Now there were no zemindars, in the Bengal sense of the term, in the ceded districts, with whom any settlement could be made. The officials who went by that name were the ancient hereditary officers of counties, not necessarily landed proprietors, except in payment of their local services. It was impossible to elevate such persons into land-holders, or to give them the rank and position of such, or to transfer to them properties which belonged to other people. Such a course would have interfered seriously with those landed proprietors in villages who were very sturdy in maintaining their hereditary rights; and the settlement in this manner seemed to my perception utterly impossible, and any attempt to force it on the people would have produced not only universal discontent and anger, but in all likelihood a serious insurrection. I wrote, as I was obliged, a great deal on the subject, and I believe I was considered 'most impracticable and obstinate', and incurred, I have little doubt, much ill-will; but for that I cared absolutely nothing. I could not uphold what I believed would be an injury and a wrong to my people, or become a party to any course which I considered was not only unjust and unpopular to the last degree, but which would abolish all those ancient hereditary tenures to which the people had clung with devoted pertinacity through all revolutions and vicissitudes for many centuries, and which the old Musalman kings and rulers of the Deccan had continuously respected.

My view of this question was very strenuously supported by my friend Bullock, Commissioner in Berar; and, in the end, I rejoice to say that we so far prevailed as to enlist the sympathies of our Chief Commissioner on our side, who earnestly protested against the system proposed from Bengal, and was successful in his opposition, inasmuch as the question was deferred for 'future consideration'. In his Administrative Report of 1870, Mr. Saunders, Resident at Hyderabad, and *ex-officio* Chief Commissioner, states, p. 14:—

'Orders were actually issued by the Government of India for a settlement of rights on the basis of the village community system, and were suspended only in deference to the earnest

protest of Mr. Maltby, the then Commissioner of the Hyderabad Assigned Districts, some of whose assistants, such as Mr. Bullock and Captain Meadows Taylor, had passed their working lives in the Deccan, and perfectly understood the nature and meaning of the facts they had to deal with in their newly-acquired provinces.'

Again, after the final territorial arrangements with his Highness the Nizam in 1860 were completed, the question was revived by the Government of India, and orders were again issued in the most stringent terms. All honour is due to Mr. Saunders, who, although himself a Bengal civilian, possessed ample means of studying the question from previous reports and local observation, and had the firmness to resist and maintain the existing system; and, as he states, 'when the report was drawn up, the final orders of Government were passed, and the system of field assessment and recognised recognition of cultivating occupancy was formally sanctioned.'

The people of Berar had also obtained a zealous advocate in Mr. Lyall,[1] Commissioner of the province, also a Bengal civilian, whose report, after study of all previous correspondence, formed, perhaps, the basis of those by Mr. Saunders, and rescued the rights of the hereditary and all other classes of occupants from transfer to a class of persons who had never possessed them, and who, indeed, made no pretence whatever to them in any way. I had the subject much at heart, and must apologise for this long story about it; yet I cannot refrain from quoting Mr. Lyall's own words, which explain the system on which the new settlement was made in 1869:—

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[1] In J. H. Rivett-Carnac's *Many Memories* is a charming picture of life during the following decade in the larger Berar, the annexed kingdom of Nagpur which became the Central Provinces in 1861, and the next year received Richard Temple to 'initiate good government'. He obtained, to help him, Alfred Comyn Lyall, who became Commissioner in 1867. But when Temple applied to the Punjab for James Broadwood Lyall, the answer came: 'Oh, you want J. B. Lyall, do you? Well, he is the very best of our young men; and don't you wish you may get him!' The work in 'an out-of-the-way jungly Province like ours', carefully to be distinguished from Taylor's restricted Berar, must have had a morning freshness comparable to that of the earlier administrators in India.

'The English Government has now placed the tenure of land in Berar on a stable foundation. After some hesitation, for a settlement on the North-West Provinces model was first actually ordered, the Bombay system of survey and settlement according to fields has been adopted. The whole country is being marked off into plots, and assessed at rates which hold good for thirty years. Subject to certain restrictions, the occupant is absolute proprietor of his holding; may sell, let, or mortgage any part of it, cultivate it, or leave it waste, so long as he pays its assessment, which is fixed for the term of thirty years, and may then be raised only on general principles; that is, the assessment of an entire district or village may be raised or lowered as may be expedient; but the impost may not be altered to the detriment of any one occupant on account of his improvements. . . . When the registered holder alienates his estate, he does it by surrender and admittance, like in English copyholding. Indeed the Berar occupancy has many features resembling the copyhold estate in the reservation of manorial rights. Thus, in fifteen years, the Berar cultivator has passed from all evils of rack-renting, personal insecurity, and uncertain ownership of land, to a safe property and a fixed assessment.'

All this is in exact accordance with the plans laid down by me in 1856 as the principle of my own survey of the province of Naldrug; but in my humble opinion it does not go far enough. It neither gives title-deeds for the land, nor does it assure the landholder that after the expiration of the thirty years' assessment any further adjustment of rates shall be final and unchangeable in perpetuity. Possibly the grant of title-deeds may be deferred only till the present term of thirty years has expired; but I rejoice to see that a perpetual settlement with all *bona fide* proprietors of land throughout India is now publicly advocated, if not publicly notified; and I trust the bill to be passed on the subject will include the issue of title-deeds. I cannot imagine a more beneficial or more popular measure, or one more calculated to secure the gratitude of the agricultural classes of India. These deeds would be issued by millions, and the property in land would be an enormous addition to the national wealth of India.

I feel that this digression may have been wearisome to some of my readers, but in writing the *Story of my Life* I cannot pass this over without notice, as it was a point on which, firmly believing myself to be in the right, I deliberately risked not only the goodwill of the Government of India at that

time, but my own employment as Deputy-Commissioner. I would never have agreed to carry out the unjust measure proposed in ignorance of local tenures by the Government of India, and my friend Bullock and myself were prepared to have resigned our appointments in case stringent orders were issued on the subject; and there is no act of my public life which, to this day, gives me more sincere pleasure and satisfaction than my successful resistance to the orders of Government to the settlement being made according to the North-West system.

It was hoped the Mutiny would be confined to Bengal; but very early in June the regiment of cavalry stationed at Aurungabad, or a portion of it, was decidedly in a mutinous condition, and was, perhaps, only checked by the attitude of the infantry and artillery who were loyal. Application had been made to Ahmednagar for assistance, and the General marched at once upon Aurungabad with part of a dragoon regiment and some horse-artillery. Hearing of their approach, some of the native cavalry broke away at once, and proceeded to Hyderabad and Homnabad, exciting much alarm throughout the country. The dread was great lest the whole Contingent might be infected with the spirit of the army of Bengal, for most of the Contingent infantry were from Oudh, and thus their example might have spread to the Madras army; happily, however,—most happily and providentially—the Contingent remained otherwise firm.

The re-establishment of a new empire at Delhi would not at all have suited the Nizam; for his ancestors had declared themselves independent when the empire had fallen into decadence. And this consideration alone, had others been wanting, would have preserved his loyalty.[1]

[1] During the early weeks of the Mutiny South India depended upon the Nizam's loyalty—which held. As the Governor of Bombay telegraphed to the Resident: 'If the Nizam goes, all is lost.'

It shows the faintness of personality to which any Nizam, after the first, has been allowed to attain, that there was just now a change in the Nizamat which did not cause a ripple. Nasir-ud-daula died in the critical May of 1857, after a reign of twenty-eight years. At his accession, in June 1829, he had asserted himself in a way which meant much in Taylor's early life. He was the fine-looking prince, ruddy, fair, and with blue Tartar eyes, to whom Taylor was able to render the delicate

It was impossible not to feel great anxiety at Naldrug. After the mutiny among the cavalry was known abroad, and I think, when the mutineers arrived at Homnabad, they must have had some communication with those who were with me. They seemed uneasy for several days, and the native officer who was in command seemed uneasy too; but the men professed entire loyalty when I went among them; and as they were quartered in the town, they could not do much harm to any one. They were watched carefully by the police. Eventually three of the troopers broke away at night and went towards Homnabad—the rest remained at their post. I had no means of pursuing the fugitives, indeed my doing so would not have answered any good purpose; and even supposing the cavalry had come to Naldrug, on account of its treasury, and attacked it, as it was reported they intended to do, I had ample garrison inside the fort, in police and infantry, to have repelled them. The great gate was the only mode of communication with the interior, and the approaches on all other sides were defended by inaccessible precipices. Sholapur, too, where the troops were quite loyal, lay within twenty-six miles of us, and a reinforcement could be obtained in twenty-four hours at any time if needed; but the stout old fort no doubt induced a feeling of security which might not have been felt in less well-defended quarters.

On the 23d July, I was very agreeably surprised by a letter from the Chief Commissioner, Mr. Maltby, informing me

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service recorded in Chapter IV. Nasir-ud-daula was practically the Nizam of Meadows Taylor's lifetime in India. Yet his disappearance is not mentioned either in the autobiography or the *History of India*. He was succeeded by his son Afzul, unmentioned personally in those two works.

In his *History* Taylor writes of 1857: 'Brigadier Stuart, at Dhar, was doing good service with the Malwah field force, part of which was composed of the cavalry and infantry of the Hyderabad contingent. During July and August, Colonel Davidson, the Resident at Hyderabad, had, with excellent judgment, assembled a strong brigade of the contingent at Mulkapur in Berar; and throughout the subsequent campaigns no force rendered more able and gallant service than the Nizam's contingent, which, composed as it was of the same elements in men as the Bengal army, and excited by the prevalent rumours and events, might, under inaction, have proved mutinous.'

that I had been nominated 'settlement officer' and 'surveyor-in-chief' to all four districts of the cession, on a salary of 1,500 rupees a-month for the present, and 300 rupees travelling allowance. All my maps and proposed plans of settlement had been approved and confirmed, and I was to set about collecting an establishment as soon as possible, so as to begin my work directly the monsoon admitted of my so doing. This was indeed good news; and I looked anxiously to the time when I could surrender all revenue affairs to a successor, who I hoped would be Cadell, as he knew the district and the people so well, and all were attached to him. My new duties would be infinitely more congenial and agreeable ones to me I felt; and to get rid of the interminable details of revenue business would be a very great relief. I was in high spirits at the prospect opening before me, and at the thought that all my labour at the commencement of the survey would now bear good fruit for the people and save me much trouble. Mine was, however, '*the only district in which any attempt had been made to carry out the orders of Government, and my proceedings, from first to last, had been eminently successful, and reflected the highest credit upon me*'. So wrote Mr. Maltby; and I was very much gratified at his kind expressions.

I was quite easy about my district in every respect. The revenue would increase up to two lakhs, which would be its maximum, till the conclusion of the survey; and in all other respects everything was progressing steadily and well. There had not been a single case of dacoity for upwards of a year now!

But I was doomed to disappointment, and all my pleasant dreams rudely dispelled, at least for the present, by the receipt of an express from the Chief Commissioner, on the 24th August, informing me that I had been appointed Deputy-Commissioner of Berar, *vice* Bullock, who was transferred to my district; and I was to proceed there with all possible speed.

With this public notification came private letters from the Resident and Mr. Maltby, both to say that my immediate transfer was a necessity—but why, they did not tell me. Their letters urged me to make no delay whatever, and the Resident's note was characteristic:—

'Go to Berar directly, and *hold on by your eyelids*. I have no troops to give you, and you must do the best you can. I know I can depend upon you, and I am sure you will not fail me.'

I would have started that very day, but my camels were out grazing in the country, and Temple was absent, to whom I must make over the treasury and all current business. What would come of the survey now I knew not, nor of my appointment as 'settlement officer'. I saw the call was very urgent. It was not a time to waste words or thought in idle speculations. My duty was clear before me, and the times were too exciting to venture to ask any questions I was, however, assured that I should be promoted to be a Deputy-Commissioner of the first class on a salary of 1,500 rupees a-month.

It became known later that the survey operations had been suspended till more peaceful times, and all public works as well till the present threatening aspect of affairs was at an end.

On the day appointed for me to leave—the 27th August—I was presented with a public address from all the official and principal persons of the province. This ultimately received 1,622 signatures, and I append a translation of it here. I had not the least conception that such a proceeding had ever been intended. The address was beautifully written in Marathi, and presented to me on a very handsome silver salver, which I now use constantly.

True Translation of a Marathi Address to Captain Meadows Taylor, Deputy-Commissioner, Dharaseo District, August 27, 1857.

(After the usual preliminary compliments.)

'Since your arrival in this country we have all been happy and prosperous. Now an order has come from Government that you are to go to Berar, and Government has no doubt directed this because of your qualifications, and fitness, and ability for that duty. As it is a higher office than this, it will be a source of pleasure to you; and we all pray to God that He will be pleased to protect so kind and merciful an officer, and we shall be very grateful, so God will hear our prayers.

'But now we are to be separated from you, and are thereby

fallen into a sea of grief. We shall never be able to give sufficient praise to you for the manner in which you have protected the people hitherto—how you have created means of prosperity—and for your various good qualities. Still we have it in our hearts to address you in some sort, and you are to be pleased to accept it in order to gratify all.

'In the year 1853 you came to this district as Deputy-Commissioner; and, considering its circumstances then and now, there is a very great difference in its condition, of which you are the sole cause. When you came, there were no good roads in Naldrug; all the village streets and paths were filthy and useless, and even men travelled with difficulty. But you, with much personal exertion, have made proper arrangements for the good comfort of all. We all know this, and it has all come of your kindness.

'There was an immense quantity of waste land in the district. This has been cultivated since you came, and is now inhabited; and by provision of water and other circumstances in the country, hamlets, villages, and market-towns have been founded and built, and trade has very greatly increased, by which all obtain a livelihood, and there is no distress of any kind.

'Before, in this district, dacoits and gang-robbers and plunderers who openly committed murder, used to go about in force, and the inhabitants were much afflicted by them. But you established police, and settled everything, and so entirely extirpated these people, that not even a trace of them remains. From this protection of life and property, one of the principal benefits which result from the British Government was secured to this district.

'In the year 1855 there was a very heavy famine in this land, and it was difficult even for rich people to support themselves. In that hard time many poor people were at the point of death; many could get no food, and in their straits even abandoned their children. We all saw this. Then you made great exertions to save these poor people, and began with large establishments to clear the fort, and to make roads —as well to the advantage of Government as to the people; and thus you maintained the poor, who had no other means of subsistence. Of those who were not able to labour, you, from your own private funds, supported thousands. So if we seek for benevolent and useful people like you, we find few of them.

'From the tanks which you strove to get constructed, this district will be greatly benefited, and from this your name will be sung with praise when our women grind at their mills. But if we now say all we have to say it would only fatigue you, and take up much time; therefore we will be concise, and close this with what is due to your good qualities.

'But what shall we say? You were as father and mother to the ryots. You heard the complaints of the poor and

protected them. In your *durbar*, as flies to honey, all classes and degrees of persons gathered and mingled together without apprehension; but we never saw yet that you ever used harsh expressions to any one. Your perfect knowledge of our language assured complainants, for they knew they were understood, and were contented; and never, on any occasion, have we seen that any one was treated with indignity or affronted in your *durbar*.

'We, who are the servants of Government in this district, as also all the ryots, well know what your conduct has been, and know also that your kindness to us has never decreased. You have taken care of us as of our children. Were we to relate how you have exerted yourself for us, we should never make an end of it. It will be difficult for us to obtain another superior like you, and we considered it good fortune when we obtained service with you. Now you are going from us, and our misfortune is apparent to us. Be it so. Wherever you go, may God prosper you, and may our country be prosperous through you. So we entreat God. Our hearts are full, and we can say no more. So also, before you came here you were at Shorapur, and there, too, you made all happy, and made that district prosperous. Such praise have we heard from many persons who came from thence.

'Now our last request is this, that as you have bestowed on us so many obligations and so much love upon us, we, to show our gratitude to you, have signed this address, which all assembled have agreed on, and we pray you will be pleased to accept it. This is our unanimous representation, which you are to be pleased to accede to.

(Signed) 'JEWANJI RUSTOMJI,
SHANKAR RAO RUGGONATH,
Extra-Assistant Commissioners;

'And 1,123 *zemindars*, *patels*, and other respectable inhabitants.'

(Dated Naldrug, *Aug.* 27, 1857.)

I can never forget the scene in the public *kacheri* when this was read to me. My old friend, Shankar Rao Baba Sahib, read it with the tears running down his cheeks, and there were few dry eyes among the vast crowd that had collected. The old cry, 'Mahadeo Baba Ke Jey!' was raised outside and taken up by thousands. It was the first time I had heard it at Naldrug. I was much moved. Nothing, I thought, could exceed this simple but earnest expression of the feelings of the people towards me, and their manifestation of regard and affection was very grateful to my heart; and if I had stood

between the people and wrong in the matter of land—if I had governed them justly to the best of my ability—if I had insured for them peace, and laid the foundation of prosperity, this was indeed a grateful reward—all I could have hoped or wished for on earth.[1]

That night as I left the fort and town, I found all the road and street lined with the people, cheering me with the old shout, 'Mahadeo Baba Ke Jey!' and many were weeping, and pressing round to bid farewell; and I was followed for more than two miles out of the town with the same cheer, by a crowd from which it seemed difficult to get away.

At every village I passed through that night, and till my frontier was reached, the village authorities, elders, and people came with their farewells and best wishes, in crowds, from all points within their reach, praying for my speedy and safe return. My departure from Shorapur had been affecting and painful to me, but the demeanour of the people here was, if possible, more touching and affectionate.

[1] In or near the Sholapur District there long flourished a native Christian called Mesoba Londhe of Watvad. He was noted for the circumstances of his conversion, and for an alleged connection with Meadows Taylor. In the course of 1917 a missionary organ published in Bombay had a long article about Mesoba.

It seems that in the Nizam's Territory, 'about fifty miles east of Barsi', between dates better not specified, but during Taylor's Naldrug period, Mesoba lived as a gang robber. This calling he doubled, as was quite possible in Hinduism, with that of a guru or spiritual leader. 'Physically he was a large man. He and his band robbed villages and carried off whatever they could secure. Col. Meadows Taylor, a noted writer on Indian customs, was the Magistrate of that district. He convicted Mesoba of theft and put him in jail for three years. Col. Taylor had schools in all the jails in his territory. In jail Mesoba learned to read.' And reading Christian books, though never having 'seen a missionary, nor a Christian, nor the Bible', he became a Christian.

CHAPTER XIV

I ARRIVED at Jalna on the ninth day. I had intended to travel faster, but a feverish cold I caught on leaving Naldrug, when my palankeen doors were open and a chill night wind blowing through them, confined me to my bed for one whole day and night, and retarded my progress, so that I could not make double marches. The warm greetings and farewells did not cease till I reached the city of Bhir[1] in the Nizam's dominions,—everywhere the same reception, most hearty and affectionate.

The native district officer at Bhir, on behalf of the Nizam's Government, came out to meet me with a large retinue, a distance of six miles; and I found my tents pitched in a very pleasant garden close to the city, and a most ample breakfast cooked at the officer's house, and ready to place upon my table. He pressed me very much to stay as long as I could, but I dared not linger; and in the afternoon I pushed on again to a village on the Hyderabad road, where there was a good bungalow.

Next day I had to cross the Godavery at Shahgarh; fortunately it was not in high flood, but it was not fordable. Here I found all my camels, baggage-ponies, and servants, clustered together on the bank of the river—the ferrymen would not permit them to pass; and as soon as I came up

[1] This urgent journey from Naldrug to Buldana, due north through well over two degrees of latitude, may be clearly followed on the map. Bhir is the name of a district, a taluk and a town in the Aurungabad Division. The largest river is the Godavery, prominent below, which forms the northern boundary of the district. The town of Bhir had, in 1911, 16,000 inhabitants, a decrease from previous returns. Nothing more notable is recorded of it than that a tooth of Mohammed bin Tughlak is buried there.

there were some very ominous cries of *Deen ! Deen !* [1] while the ferrymen, who had taken their boat to some distance, waved me off. I had no escort—only four men out of twenty-four who had been sent with me from Bhir ; the other sixteen had already crossed the river. I had not brought my own cavalry escort from Naldrug ; some of them still appeared very restless, and I thought it was safer to leave them where they were. As I and my servants were parleying with the boatmen, an old Byragi whom I had never seen before, raised the old cry loudly : 'Mahadeo Baba Ke Jey !' he shouted—and many joined, drowning the *Deen ! Deen !* most completely ; while on the opposite side of the river, near the town of Shahgarh, a large body of cavalry came in view, making it very doubtful to my mind what would be the next move. This, however, was soon decided by one of the horsemen, the officer in command of the party, tying a white scarf to his spear, and at the same time despatching two other boats with a few dismounted men to my assistance. On seeing this, the party who had set up the cry of *Deen ! Deen !* bolted up the bank, looking sulky enough, and I saw them no more ; while the three boats took me, my bearers, servants, baggage, and camels, across the river in safety.

The horsemen had been sent by an old friend of mine, the Talukdar of Ambarh,[2] with orders to see me safe over the river. He did not expect me so soon, or he would have sent them before. He had heard that the Musalmans of Shahgarh had betrayed a very fanatical spirit, and had said I was not to be allowed to proceed ; and he feared for my safety.

This escort would not permit me to halt at Shahgarh, but carried me on to a village eight miles further, where they had

[1] 'For the Faith !' the Mohammedan call to arms. [M. T.]

'"Deen, Deen ! cry to God for victory. Deen, Deen ! the Prophet hears us, and Ali, and the holy martyrs, and so will ye be martyrs and enjoy Paradise if ye die." Again, again, his cry was raised, the fanatical cry of Islam, which no Moslem can hear without emotion.' (*Tara*, chapter xliv.)

[2] Ambarh is a village of between three and four thousand inhabitants, the headquarters of the south-eastern taluk of Aurungabad District. 'The river Godavari passes through the south of the *taluk*, which is composed of *regar* or black cotton soil.'

ordered a small tent to be pitched for me, and there I slept. Next morning we all went on to Ambarh. My old friend was ill and could not leave his house; but he sent his son with a large cavalcade to meet me, and entertained me most hospitably all day.

My friend, who was able to visit me in the evening, told me that he feared several mutineers of the Aurungabad cavalry were concealed at Shahgarh, and that a Musalman priest had been preaching rebellious addresses; but that he should send fifty men to the crossing place for the protection of travellers. I left the escort here that had accompanied me from Bhir. The men were sadly vexed at the scene at the river, and that they had not been with me; but as we could not all have crossed together, I, anticipating no difficulty, had desired them to precede me. I now dismissed them with a letter to the Talukdar of Bhir, thanking him for their services.

Next day I marched twenty miles, and arrived at Jalna.[1] I was rather amused at the 'cloud of cavalry' sent to attend me by my old friend, whose only regret was that he was not well enough to accompany me himself. Orders had been forwarded to a Parsi merchant at Jalna to see that a house was ready for me; and as the cantonment was nearly emptied of troops, there were plenty at my disposal, and I found myself located in a very comfortable well-furnished bungalow belonging to the Colonel of the 6th Cavalry. Here Major Gill,[2] who had been for some years employed by Government

[1] Jalna is the headquarters of the taluk of the same name in Aurungabad District. The town had a decreasing population, in 1911, of 19,000. It is locally believed to have been founded in the time of Rama. Jalna has some uncertain Moslem memories, and a ruined fort. It is little notable apart from the cantonments of which Taylor speaks, which were built in 1827, but which have been abandoned since 1903. There is a range of Jalna Hills, running eastward from Daulatabad (3,000 feet) into Berar.

[2] Robert Gill, one of the interesting Indian figures who can only be recovered in part. He is not in the *Dictionary of National Biography*. Mr. Buckland, who cannot give his birth, says of him: 'Major: antiquary, artist and sportsman: entered the Indian Army in 1842: his regimental service was apparently uneventful: he is remembered for his work.' From about 1845 he was employed, for some thirty years, making copies of the frescoes in the Buddhist excavations at Ajanta. 'With great labour, Gill, working in feverish jungle, and in

in copying the Buddhist frescoes in the caves of Ajanta, came to see me, and gave me a letter from Bullock, which had come in by express, begging me to wait for him at Jalna, which I was glad to do, especially as a heavy fall of rain set in, and marching would have been next to impracticable. Two days afterwards my friend joined me, and told me what had occurred. On the outbreak of the Mutiny several of his cavalry escort had broken away, very much as mine had done, and the whole district was reported to be unsound. He had asked for troops, which it was impossible to send him; and after a very sharp correspondence on both sides, our sudden exchange of districts was peremptorily ordered. I had been told nothing of this, but had simply acted according to the short urgent letter I had received; but the prospect of having to keep Berar quiet after what I now heard, was not encouraging by any means.

I was likewise told that I must be prepared to find the internal economy of the district very irregular. When Bullock had gone on furlough to England, his successor had not carried out the general instructions promptly, and I should find the progress made slow, but he hoped I would soon set things right; he had begun to work hard on his return, and thought he had put matters in training. I told him he would not have much trouble with my district, as it was in capital working order; and so we parted. This was no time to show vacillation or uneasiness, and I was determined to go through the country and among the people exactly as I should have done had I heard no unpleasant rumours. There were no troops to be had, so there was no use thinking about them. As much of the Contingent as could be spared, and several half-mutinous regiments of cavalry and infantry, were collected at Edlabad,[1] near Burhanpur, and prepared for service with

dark recesses (haunted by wild animals), copied in full size and in oil the principal frescoes, about thirty in number.' Gill was also an expert photographer, and published in conjunction with James Fergusson, whom Taylor afterwards knew (see note below). Major Gill killed above 150 tigers, mostly on foot. He died, apparently not an old man, in 1875, while being conveyed from Ajanta to Bhusawal, where he is buried.

[1] The Edlabad or Adilabad, in the north of the Nizam's Dominions, quite to the eastward, is some two hundred miles, right across Berar,

(then) Sir Hugh Rose's force; and for the time, no bolder course could have been adopted. Nevertheless, the Resident was assailed fiercely by the press; accused of shifting the responsibility of managing mutinous troops on others, and of ruining the chances of Sir Hugh Rose's success by placing in his rear a large brigade of the best troops in India, who could not possibly be depended on. But Colonel Davidson knew his men. He issued a spirited address to them, appealing to their loyalty, and encouraging them to go forward and win fame under Sir Hugh Rose. The men obeyed; and after the brigade joined Sir Hugh, it shared in the whole of the Central India campaign with him, and behaved well to the very last. Colonel Davidson had in view a much higher aim than merely keeping the troops employed in the field. His object was to show that the Nizam had no sympathy with the re-establishment of the monarchy of Delhi; and that his own troops were assisting the English to quell the Mutiny, and crush the authors of it; and in this point the Resident's bold measure was successful beyond his hopes.

On the 19th July, the Residency at Hyderabad was attacked by a concourse of Rohillas and other city fanatics, who were easily repulsed; but the Resident was at issue with the Commander of the Hyderabad Subsidiary Force, who not only differed from him on the question of retaining the Residency at all as a fortified post, but advised its total abandonment, and the location of all belonging to it within the cantonment. Happily the Resident took his own way, and he saw clearly that his desertion of the Residency would have the effect of weakening the Minister (now Sir Salar Jung, G.C.S.I.), and also the Nizam himself, both of whose lives had been threatened by fanatics. It was when it was determined that the Contingent Force should take the field, that my friend had applied for troops, and the utter impracticability of the request was resented. 'Berar,' wrote the Resident to me, 'which contains more than two millions of people, *must* be kept quiet by moral strength, for no physical force is at my disposal.'

Delhi, attacked first in June, and before which a position only was maintained till the siege began on the 1st September,

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from Burhanpur, which is in the south-west corner of the Central Provinces, some fifty miles north of Taylor's headquarters at Buldana.

was taken by storm on the 14th, but resistance continued inside until the 20th. Every native in India who could think at all, had watched the progress of the siege from June to September with the greatest anxiety as to which would win the victory—England or the Mogul; and many doubted whether the small force of English in India could make any impression on the immense power of the native army of Bengal. And the long delay, to which they were so little accustomed in English operations generally, strengthened this feeling considerably.

As I approached the head station of Berar, Buldana,[1] I received deputations from the principal landholders, merchants, and bankers of the chief towns, who were all eager for authentic news; but I could discover no symptom whatever of disaffection. The great Musalman colony below the plateau of Buldana had been one of the chief points of anxiety to my predecessor; and, as soon as I could, I marched there, sending down a light tent before me. I gave no other warning, and was quite unexpected by the native officials and my English assistant, whom I found in charge. Though my sudden appearance at the head town of their county, when I had as yet visited no other, at first excited some surprise, and perhaps suspicion, we soon became excellent friends. At first I felt rather doubtful, as nobody came near me, and my servants heard very disagreeable rumours; but at length one leading man came forward, then another, and another, I suppose, to take my measure; and then all the people came, many hundreds, and raising the old cry, "Bolo Mahadeo Baba Ke

[1] A place of some 4,000 inhabitants, more than 2,000 feet above the sea. 'The town owes what little importance it possesses to its selection as the headquarters of a District.' The climate of much of the district is enervating, being both hot and moist. But Buldana, owing to its elevation, is 'the coolest and most pleasant station in Berar'.

Berar (or the Hyderabad Assigned Districts) is a province of 17,000 square miles, as Meadows Taylor says; while the two millions which he gives as the population are still under three millions. The Marathas, whose language is spoken by four-fifths of the people, call it Warhad. From the Assignment in 1853 Berar was administered by the Resident at Hyderabad until 1903, when it was transferred to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces. Two years later the old six districts which Meadows Taylor governed for about half a year were rearranged into the four present districts: Amraoti, Akola, Buldana and Yeotmal.

Jey!' which some one set up, the whole assembly joined in heartily, and proffered service whenever and however I needed them. 'They would watch the frontier,' they said; 'they would not let in Sindia's disaffected people; they would follow me to Delhi if I would only take them there; they wanted no pay—only food, and ammunition for their match-locks; they would be true and faithful to the English,'—and many more promises were made, and faithfully kept.

From that day they never gave me the least uneasiness; and, if I had had occasion to call them out, would, I firmly believe, have done their duty nobly.

I wrote what had occurred, privately, to the Resident, by express, and I believe my despatch was a very considerable relief to him, as he was under great anxiety about Berar.

I need say nothing upon the condition of the internal economy of Berar at this time. Cultivation and revenue alike seemed to have declined, and did not exhibit the elasticity of Naldrug. I had to set things to rights as much as I could, and the Commissioner wrote that he would come to me in January. Very hard work fell on me, as my assistants were new to the duties, and had not been trained to a regular system, which, had it been adopted from the first, would have rendered matters easy now to all. There was, too, a heavy arrear of appeals and civil suits; but every allowance was to be made, for the territory had undergone so many changes from one hand to another; and my friend Bullock's health having failed, and his being obliged to take furlough just after his appointment, had not given the district a fair chance. The climate was very enervating, and the district so extensive, that I felt very thankful my first appointment to it had been altered for Naldrug, as I am quite sure my health would never have held out under its relaxing influence. Indeed I felt anxious now as to whether I should be able to stand it; but this only experience would prove.

Buldana was a pleasant place on the south table-land, above the valley of Berar, and had been fixed upon as the head station on account of its fine climate; for there was the greatest possible difference in the air up there and that in the valley below. The views were beautiful down the wooded ravines, and my early morning rides were far more picturesque than

any about Naldrug. But I had no time to stay there long, and, after a few days' rest, I took my establishment into the valley, and began work in earnest. It was not by any means pleasant, as I was obliged to find much fault with the managers of divisions, who, being provided with ample instructions, had neglected to carry them out, and had neither kept their own accounts in order, nor those of the villages under them. Neither were the village books nor the records properly kept. These were matters of detail, as to which I need not perplex my readers, for, except at great length, they could not be explained intelligibly; and if they were, it would not answer any purpose.

I confess I thought I had been badly paid at Naldrug, having received 300 rupees a-month less than had been granted to the Deputy-Commissioner in Berar, solely because the latter had a higher revenue and population: the area of both were nearly similar. However, it was no use grumbling now. I had done the work at Naldrug to the best of my ability, and now I was going to try to set things straight here, and I hoped to get the district rapidly into order. As yet I had received no additional pay. I, as second-class Deputy-Commissioner, was holding a first-class district; Bullock, as first-class Deputy-Commissioner, holding a second-class district. But we supposed some arrangement would be come to in time.

Although both Delhi and Lucknow had been taken, yet the pacification of the country was far from complete; and rebellion in the Central Provinces, close to my own northern frontier, had made, and was making, rapid progress.

There was now much more alarm and uneasiness than before the taking of Delhi, which was far too distant from us to excite more than passing interest.

I received many anonymous letters, apparently from friends, warning me of contemplated assassination, and stating that when I was disposed of, the native troops at Ellichpur were prepared to rise, and, aided by the military and predatory classes of the district, would plunder the chief towns, and join the rebel forces beyond the Satpura range which constituted my whole northern frontier. At Nemawar,[1] Captain Keatinge

[1] A district of Holkar, on the north bank of the Nurbudda.

had been obliged to conceal himself in the jungle, having his wife and children with him; and they escaped almost by a miracle.

At Jubbulpore and Saugor, rebellion was at its height, not only in the mutiny of native regiments, but by the risings of petty 'rajas and nawabs, and of the people of the district, always noted for their turbulent and predatory habits.

There was hardly one spot where loyalty prevailed; for as the regiments broke away from their several stations, with or without violence and murder, as it might be, all restraint was removed from the lawless classes of the people at large, and these were every day growing stronger under the evil spirit and licence which could not be checked.

On the eastern portion of Berar lay Nagpur, by no means to be trusted; and it was owing to the large force of faithful Madras troops who were stationed there that no serious outbreak occurred in favour of the deposed family, on whose behalf, it was reported, intrigue was busy throughout the whole country. On my western frontier lay Khandesh, not secure either. Nana Sahib had active agents there, as he aspired to be Peshwa; and all the northern frontier of that province was in contact with Sindia's and Holkar's territories, where rebellion was rife.

Berar was the centre of these three great provinces, which stretched across the whole of India, and formed, as it were, the barriers that were to prevent the rebellion from spreading southwards; and of the three, Berar was the most important perhaps, as, if the rebels had broken through the passes of the Satpura range—a very easy proceeding—and had been joined by the military classes and indigenous marauders of the province, it is impossible to say how far disaffection might have extended to the Nizam's dominions.

From October, therefore, as the circle of war and mutiny grew wider, reaching my northern frontier, the danger increased almost daily; and it was only the thorough attachment and loyalty of the people to the English rule which saved Berar, under God's blessing, from insurrection.

I have already mentioned the goodwill and proffered devotion of the Musalmans of the western portions of my

district; and as I travelled up the valley slowly to Akola,[1] I was equally gratified by the conduct of the Rajputs, who resided there in large numbers. There had been fierce and bloody feuds between these two great classes from time to time, on occasions of religious festivals; and this seemed a good opportunity for them to break out again; for I had literally no troops on whom I could rely, and those at Ellichpur were more a source of uneasiness to me than anything else, as, although they were as yet orderly and quiet, it was felt that any excitement might cause them to break off and join their rebel brethren at Jubbulpore or in Central India. Their officers were very mistrustful of them, for many were from Oudh; and who could rely on them after the mutiny of Sindia's troops and their march to join the main body of the rebel forces?

I was grateful for the attachment evinced by the Rajputs of the Akola district, who also proffered service wherever and whenever it might be of use. All I could do was to ask their aid in watching the passes, and in apprehending parties from the north who might seek to sow rebellion among us. This they promised to do; and in two instances they actually did so, succeeding in arresting and bringing to justice a number of delegates from Sindia's mutinous troops at Burhanpur, whom I tried and sentenced to transportation and penal servitude. And these events prevented any further attempt of the like nature.

There were several petty rajas of the mountain tribes of Gonds who received hereditary allowances or stipends from the Berar administrators, and who were responsible for the several passes which led from the north. All these came to me and tendered their services, nor did any one case occur of disloyalty or neglect.

The northern frontier was thus made as secure as I could under these circumstances make it; but, in Colonel Davidson's expressive phrase, I was literally 'holding on by my eyelids'.

I will not deny that it was a period of fearful anxiety. No aid could be expected from without, and the anonymous

[1] A town of some 30,000 inhabitants, 'one of the principal centres of the cotton trade in Berar', headquarters of the former and the present district of Akola.

warnings were more frequent than ever, while evil reports flew daily through the country. My servants kept a horse saddled for me every night in case of necessity for escape.

I had no guards except a few police, and I was carrying on my duties in my tents as usual: making the yearly settlement; examining village books, district books, and accounts; trying appeal and civil cases; holding criminal trials, and the like. One great benefit to me was my being able to speak the vernacular language, Marathi, fluently. The people felt that I understood them, and came to me freely with petitions as to any real or imaginary grievance.

There had been some corruption at work among my *chaprassis* or office attendants, which seemed to be of long standing; and I one night overheard a conversation between two of them who lay outside my tent walls, when they thought I was asleep, about division of the proceeds of their gains, upon the receipt of petitions, which would have been amusing enough but for the mischief that such extortion for presenting petitions to me occasioned. I at once adopted my Naldrug plan, which was to have a large box fitted with hinges and a padlock: a slit was cut in the lid, and notification made that all petitions henceforth were to be dropped into it, and that petitioners were to attend every afternoon, when the box would be opened before me, and the papers publicly read. The box was placed in an open space before my tent, and was presently filled with petitions; the two men, whose confidential talk I had overheard, were then called up. I took my usual seat outside my tent, and after addressing the crowd, I had the men's badges removed, and they were turned out of camp in disgrace.

I think, nay, I am positive, that if every Deputy-Commissioner, situated as I was, had such a box, they would find it an admirable plan.[1] It had an excellent effect in my district, and inspired great confidence among the people. Any frivolous complaint was at once dismissed; but many corrupt practices and grievances were brought to light; and as each petition was taken out of the box, the name of the petitioner

[1] This detail is given in *Seeta*, where Cyril Brandon, a young civilian in an indeterminate Non-Regulation Province, adumbrates many of Meadows Taylor's experiences in Berar, and earlier.

was called out, and every applicant knew that his paper was considered, and heard it read before me. A memorandum was then written on the back, referring it to the district native officer for report if necessary.

I was now fairly among the people; and though so often cautioned and advised of danger, I felt that reliance on them was the safest course. Once, in a Bombay paper, it was stated that I had been attacked and murdered; but I wrote to contradict the report before the departure of the mail for England, and the dear ones at home knew nothing of it; nor did I, as I see by my letters home, mention any current reports, and, indeed, I alluded very little to the condition of affairs at all, or my own cares. I lived, however, in a state of perpetual alarm, and every day added to the anxiety I endured. Every detail of deeds of violence in Central India—of which, almost daily, fresh rumours reached me, sometimes very much exaggerated—the arrival of every 'express', night or day, in camp—caused unavoidable excitement. Who could say what news it might not bring? At that time all Deputy-Commissioners of provinces and political officers used to send such expresses, when and how they could, to each other, giving local news, and with a request that the express might be forwarded to the next authority. Many a man in India was 'holding on', never flinching from his post, dying there bravely in many a terrible instance, or, when hope was gone, escaping with bare life, often through hosts of enemies, and thankful for that mercy. 'What if Berar should go?' I often thought; and how could I hope to escape? How thankful I was that I was alone—that I had only myself to think of! Had I had wife and children with me, as many had my anxiety would have been increased a thousandfold.

True, my people appeared steady and trustworthy, and business proceeded as usual, as I moved my camp from village to village; but Berar was 250 miles long, with an average breadth of 60 miles or more, and the population was two millions. Who could answer for all? And from day to day for some months, one felt as if in the morning one might be murdered before night, or at night be dead before the morning.

The Resident's anxiety on my account seemed to increase; but I assured him in my letters, which were rare, that so far

I could not trace any disaffection, and that a good spirit seemed to prevail among the people, even where I had felt most uneasiness myself. Still I often longed to be in the roughest scenes in Central India rather than bear the load of responsibility on my mind day and night: it was a terrible strain upon me.

I was at Ellichpur on the 9th December, and I stayed there till the 13th. It was very cold, the thermometer showing 36° and 40° in the mornings. It was the head civil station of a subdivision of my district, and I was greatly indebted to Captain Hamilton, who superintended it, for his watchful supervision of the frontier. The people were deeply attached to him, and gave him information freely. How welcome were the large baskets of delicious peaches grown in his garden at Chikalda, the sanitarium of Ellichpur! and I wished I could go up there again and revisit the old scenes.

The native officers of the cavalry and infantry both visited me, and I congratulated them on the honours which their regiments were winning in Central India. They appeared to be intensely gratified at the news which reached them from time to time, both in newspapers and private letters, and at the prospect which was opening for further good service under Sir Hugh Rose, whose forces were now advancing into the disturbed districts.

Many of the men also came to me 'for a talk', and raised the old cry of my regiment, which was known to all. So I hoped the disaffection of the cavalry at Ellichpur was a groundless rumour.

When the glorious news came from the Northern Provinces, the victory over the Gwalior troops at Cawnpore, and the second relief of Lucknow, with many other successful engagements in Central India, the year 1858 opened very brightly, and with good hope that the general campaign against the rebel forces would be brought to a brilliant conclusion in a few months. Already the various combinations of the rebel army and the various rebel chiefs had been much broken; now they were growing dispirited, and had nothing to fall back upon. When the constant arrival of troops from home made it manifest to all that England was fully roused, and was putting forth her strength and her enormous resources to save and help her

sons, the hopes of the rebel leaders fell, and they felt their inability to war against her.

I am not, however, writing a history of the time,—that is in far abler hands than mine.[1] I can only relate what affected me personally.

My own position was decided by the Governor-General, who decreed, as I thought he would, that my friend was to be reinstated in Berar, and I to return to my old quarters —Naldrug. The Commissioner, Mr. Maltby, had been at Naldrug, had seen all my work, and approved of it, and had been much struck by the independent, though thoroughly respectful, demeanour of my Maratha farmers. They had visited him freely, and assured him of their prosperity and loyalty, and he wrote me a very flattering letter on the condition of the district generally. In Berar I had done my utmost to redeem irregularities and reconcile conflicting accounts; but three months had been too short a time to do all I wished, or to leave things as straight as I should have liked.

Bullock was to leave Naldrug at once, and wished me to meet him in the eastern portion of the district as soon as I could; and I too was anxious to get back to my old work before the very hot weather began. Berar was beginning to tell upon me; the old fever had returned in periodical attacks, and I was tormented with severe neuralgia, from which I could obtain no relief whatever. I had used the hot springs at Salbadli with some good effect, but it was not lasting, and I greatly dreaded the hot season. All the accounts had been sent in, and I found that one lakh out of two, set down for remission, was recoverable: the village books were now in order, and only careful supervision was needed.

While in the eastern portion of the district, I had been able to perform an essential service to Government, which had great effect on the war in Central India. One day I received an express from Colonel Hill, Assistant Quarter-master-General of the Madras army, attached to General Whitlock's force at Nagpur, which had not marched, and was

[1] Probably a compliment to Sir John Kaye, whose *Sepoy War* Taylor admired, and with whom he was somewhat associated. See note on Taylor's *People of India* in Chapter XVIII.

not able to do so, for want of draught and carriage bullocks. He requested I would, if possible, purchase and send to him 600 at once, leaving 400 more to follow ; and added, if I could not manage this, there would be no hope of getting any except from Mysore. The Nagpur province either would not, or could not, supply them. I set to work directly. The province of Berar contains the finest draught cattle in India, and plenty were to be had at moderate prices. No sooner were my wants known than my camp was crowded with noble beasts. In two days I had got half the number, which were sent on under an escort of police, and day after day other herds were despatched ; and this enabled the siege-train and heavy stores to be sent on without delay, so that eventually the whole force was set in motion, with an ample supply of trained cattle.

I received not only the thanks of the generals commanding for this assistance, but of the Governor of Madras in Council ; and it was very clear that, if these cattle had not been sent up from the south, Whitlock's force could not have accomplished what it did in marching upon Jubbulpore, and, by a lucky stroke, capturing the Karwi treasures.[1] I thought myself fairly entitled to a share of the Karwi booty for the

[1] In Taylor's *History* appears the quiet claim : 'General Whitlock's column from Nagpoor, long delayed by want of draught cattle for his siege guns, was entering Bundelkhund.' Readers of Marbot may recall the sheer cleverness with which Davout, in 1812, marched into Russia with twelve thousand oxen, dragging supplies, but intended to be themselves eaten.

Sir George Cornish Whitlock, 1798–1868, is mentioned in all accounts of the intolerably fierce and small Central India fighting during the hot season of 1858, when the sun was the worst enemy. Rice Holmes speaks of his inactivity. Mr. Buckland writes that Whitlock captured 'Kirwi in June : gained a victory at Kirwi, Dec. 1858'. Allusions to the squabbles over the *Kirwee* booty, thus spelled, may be traced, if worth while, in several contemporary memoirs.

The *Imperial Gazetteer* tells what the more obvious history books, including Taylor's, fail in explaining. Karwi is a town of some 8,000 inhabitants, headquarters of the tahsil of the same name in Banda District, United Provinces. 'In 1829 it became the principal residence of a Maratha chieftain who lived in almost regal state, and built several beautiful temples and large wells. Numerous traders from the Deccan were thus attracted to Karwi. During the Mutiny, Narayan Rao, after the murder at Banda of the Joint-Magistrate of Karwi, assumed the government, and retained his independence for eight months amid the subsequent anarchy. The accumulations of his family constituted

service I had rendered; but it was decreed afterwards by Sir J. Phillimore,[1] that as I did *not* belong to the force, 'my chance, *though just in equity*, was not admissible.'

In my letters home at this period I wrote very earnestly on the question of pressing the direct rule of the Crown in the future government of India, and that the time had arrived for a change to be made with advantage.

There was a very general impression that the great Company was only a farmer of the revenues; and while royal houses would acknowledge and respect the Crown, they would have, especially after late events, no such feeling for the Company.

I suggested many other material changes as to high courts of justice and tenures of land, several of which have been carried out; and I had the honour done me of some of my letters being read in the 'House'.

The letters written to my cousin Reeve,[2] and already given, embody most of my opinions and suggestions.

Strange indeed was the weird prophecy of Plassey in 1757–58!

The Company's rule was to last for a hundred years. In 1857–58 it had virtually expired, and 1859 witnessed its total extinction!

It was my intention, after leaving my friend, to go direct *via* Aurungabad to Bhir. Mr. Maltby was now on his way to Berar, and Bullock and I moved on to meet him early in February, when he asked me to accompany him through the

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the great treasure afterwards famous as "the Kirwee and Banda Prize Money."'

[1] Sir Robert Joseph Phillimore, 1810–1885, first baronet, was a civilian and judge. Of his quarrelsome brother, John George Phillimore, jurist, 1808–1865, who attacked Henry Reeve in 1863, Sir John Knox Laughton says that if he had known that Taylor's *Tara*, which had just received a laudatory article in the *Edinburgh Review*, was by a cousin, 'he would certainly have made it the subject of some more scurrilities'.

[2] Of 1857 Henry Reeve records this, and no more: 'It is singular that I have made no note with reference to the Indian Mutiny, which was the great and terrible event of the year. I remember Rawlinson saying to me as we rode in the Park that at this moment we hold no land in India except that occupied by our armies. But this was an exaggeration. My cousin, Meadows Taylor, was in India during the Mutiny, and I corresponded with him regularly during the whole time of his service there' (Laughton's *Memoirs*).

district, and to visit with him the caves of Ajanta and Ellora. This would have been a very pleasant holiday for me; but again I was to be disappointed. We met the Commissioner near Amraoti,[1] on his way to Ellichpur, and the very next day came an 'express' from the Resident, directing me to lose not a moment in proceeding to Hyderabad on business relating to Shorapur.

I had seen by the papers a short time before, that the Raja had been suspected of treason, and that troops had been sent to watch the eastern and western frontiers of his district. Now I learned that he had attacked a small force[2] which had been ordered to Captain Campbell's assistance—this officer having been sent to Shorapur on a special mission; and the

[1] Amraoti is a cotton centre, a town, with the civil station, of some 40,000 inhabitants, headquarters of the taluk and district of the same name in Berar. Until the railway diverted the route to Bombay the Amraoti cotton was chiefly sent to the Ganges on pack bullocks. One merchant in one year is said to have sent off 100,000 bullock loads thus to Calcutta.

Did Taylor, fifty and fever-stricken, standing here in the sun to receive his official superior, have time to recall how, twenty years before, eager-hearted but even then stricken with fever, he had written chapter xxxiii. of the *Thug*?—'How Ameer Ali conducted himself in his debut as a Pindharee, and how the sahoukars of Oomraotee received their unwelcome visitors.'

'We entered the territories of the Nizam near the river Wurda, which we crossed, and in one march of nearly twenty-five coss reached Oomraotee. . . . I have once before described its riches and prosperity, and it was then far richer than it is now. As we rushed along, like the flood of a mighty river, every village on our route was instantly deserted by its inhabitants and left to our mercy.' There is comedy in the way in which Ameer Ali, entering Amraoti in advance of the host, patronises the frightened fat merchants in the market-place, lines his own pockets while making a good thing for his master Chitu, and genially arranges that the town shall be spared, and the Pindhari leaders entertained without any show of fear which might cause offence.

[2] 'This was treacherously attacked on February 7, 1858, by the Raja's tribe of Beydurs, with some Arabs and Rohillas; but after fighting all night they were repulsed, and early in the morning the movable column under Colonel Hughes, which had been watching the Beydur districts, came up by a forced march, and uniting with Captain Wyndham, drove the Beydurs back into the town of Shorapoor, a position of immense natural strength. The day after . . . preparations were being made to assault the place, when it was discovered to be entirely deserted' (*History*, p. 761).

Raja being defeated, had fled to Hyderabad, where he had been arrested.

Mr. Maltby spoke very kindly to me of all he had noted in the Naldrug district, and hoped I should soon be again at liberty to continue my work there, especially the survey operations. I ventured to ask whether I might be allowed anything for my labours in Berar; but he could not say—and my travelling expenses had been a very serious pull upon my resources. I was to receive plenty of thanks; but although these were very gratifying, they did not pay me for the very hard work and terrible anxiety I had gone through: but—there was one comfort—I had 'held on by my eyelids!'

I pushed on now by double marches to Hingoli, and thence to Hyderabad, where I arrived on the 18th March, after having travelled 300 miles in sixteen days—not very fast perhaps; but my continued travelling had blistered my people's feet, and I could not get on quicker.

I went of course to Mr. Palmer's house, and found him well and cheerful; but the Resident would not hear of my being with any one but himself, and sent for me directly. I was very kindly received. He at once increased my pay, appointed me now Commissioner of Shorapur, on 1,800 rupees a-month, or, at the least, 1,500, and said his wish was to keep me altogether in the political department.

He told me all the high officials, and chiefly the Governor-General, were more than satisfied with what I had done in Berar.

CHAPTER XV

1858

THE Raja of Shorapur was a prisoner in the main-guard of the 'Royals' at Secunderabad, and I went three times to see him. He had deliberately rebelled against the British Government, and was to be tried for his life by a military commission, which would shortly assemble. As may be imagined, he was deeply affected on first seeing me, and he threw himself into my arms, quite unable to speak for some time. Even the honest fellows of the guard were moved, and much surprised that my appearance should have so sudden and extraordinary an effect upon their prisoner. In appearance he was much improved—he had grown stouter, fairer, and more manly; but though handsome, his features bore unmistakable signs of dissipation and excess, which I was sorry to see. Now, his face was so distorted with his emotions that it was difficult to judge what it would be in repose.

'O *appa, appa*!' was all he could cry, or rather moan, as he sat at my feet, his face buried in my lap, and his arms clasped tightly around me; 'O *appa*, I dare not look on your face! I have been so wicked—oh, so wicked! I have done every crime—I have even committed murder! Oh, if the earth had opened, and swallowed me up, it would only have been just. I cannot tell you all now, *appa*. My throat is parched, words will not come; but to-morrow, *appa*, you will come again—do come, and then I will tell you all.'

It was useless to remain then, and only painful to us both. So I promised to return on the morrow, and went away.

It was a sad case, and I feared there was no hope for him—none whatever. His unwarrantable disaffection began with that of the Southern Maratha country, where some of its chiefs

had, as was proved afterwards, laid their plans for a general insurrection, in connection, no doubt, with Nana Sahib, and the general mutiny in the Bengal army; and the vigorous conduct of General Jacob alone prevented this rebellious movement.[1]

The Raja of Shorapur had been early inveigled into these intrigues, and was an active promoter of them. He was invited specially, as an ancient feudatory of the Peshwas, to join again the Maratha standard; and owing to his reputed wealth and the numbers of his clan, was not a chief to be overlooked by those disaffected.

If he could be induced to take the field with ten thousand men, the Beydurs of the Raichur Doab, of Bellary, Dharwar, and Belgaum, as well as those also of Mysore, would rise and follow him as their leader, and could plunder as they listed. His vanity and cupidity were excited, and he fell an easy prey to these representations.

Even after the Beydurs of the Southern Maratha country had received some very severe checks, the attitude of the Shorapur Raja was considered threatening and suspicious. He had collected Arabs and Rohilla mercenaries in addition to calling his own clan together, while he was more than

[1] The references in the text to Jacob, and to the Mutiny in Western India, were probably written after Taylor's attention had been drawn to the many errors in his *History*. Miss Penson writes:

'During my investigations the other day I came across something that I think might interest you. Taylor's *History* had been somewhat enthusiastically reviewed in the *Edinburgh Review* in 1877. Thereupon Major-General Sir G. Le Grand Jacob, who has written a book on Western India in the time of the Mutiny, wrote to the editor pointing out that the pages of Taylor's book dealing with the Mutiny and Western India were teeming with inaccuracies. And after some correspondence he sent letters written by Taylor to him acknowledging the errors. Taylor says that the book was written more hurriedly than he would have wished and that if he were able to bring out a new edition he would correct it. The comment on Taylor's inaccuracies to which I referred is found in the following article: "Taylor's Student's Manual of Indian History and the Edinburgh Review," by Major-General Sir G. Le Grand Jacob, K.C.S.I., C.B., Special Political Commissioner, Southern Mahratta Country, 1857–59 (London: C. Kegan Paul & Co., 1 Paternoster Sq., 1877). Published in *Political Tracts relating to India, China, etc.*, 1876–78. The pages of the *History* referred to are 759-761.'

suspected to hold communication with foreign mercenaries at Hyderabad. Those were anxious times, and it was impossible to allow any known conspiracy to exist, without watching it very narrowly. A strong force was sent, under Colonel Malcolm, and placed about equidistant between the Beydurs of Shorapur and those of the Southern Maratha country; Colonel Hughes, with a Madras force, watched the eastern frontier of Shorapur; and the Contingent troops at Lingsugur lay, as it were, between, ready to act in concert with either force, according to necessity.

The Resident, however, was very anxious to save the Raja, and to rescue him from his evil counsellors, feeling a peculiar interest in the boy who had for so long been a ward of the British Government; and early in January 1858 he despatched his assistant, Captain Rose Campbell, to Shorapur, to remonstrate with the Raja, and endeavour to bring him to a sense of his danger, and his promised allegiance to the British Government.

This considerate kindness was, unfortunately, thrown away.[1] The Raja was in the hands of the worst fanatics of the country, on all sides—even from Mysore and Arcot—and would listen to neither warning nor advice; and at length, when Captain Campbell received an intimation from the Raja's own servants and relatives that his life was in serious danger, the force from Lingsugur was ordered to support him, and arrived at Shorapur on the 7th February, encamping near the town. A narrow valley, surrounded on all sides by lofty hills and rocks, was pointed out as the camping ground; but Captain Arthur Wyndham, who commanded the force, was too wary to be misled, and moved on to an open plain, where he was comparatively safe from any danger of surprise.

At night he was attacked by the Raja's whole force of Beydurs and foreign mercenaries; but he held his position bravely, and early in the morning Colonel Hughes, who was at Deodrug, twelve miles distant, and to whom a special messenger had been despatched, arrived with all his troops. It was very plain that had Captain Wyndham remained on the ground first pointed out to him, he would have endured

[1] 'Hast thou eaten my salt', asks the King of Bijapur in *Tara*, 'and found it so bitter that that of others seemed sweeter to thee?'

very heavy loss, if not total defeat. As it was, his force suffered but little, but he had inflicted serious damage on the Shorapur rebels.

Colonel Hughes arrived early on the morning of the 8th, and he and Captain Wyndham, with their united troops, drove the Beydurs and others from the hills into the town with severe loss. Unfortunately Captain Newberry, Madras cavalry, was killed in a charge against a body of Rohillas, and his subaltern, Lieut. Stewart, badly wounded. As the city of Shorapur was very strong, the approaches difficult of access, and the walls and bastions crowded with defenders, they did not attack it at once, but waited for Colonel Malcolm's force, which had moved close to the western frontier of Shorapur, and who had been requested to come on with all possible speed.

When this reached the ears of the Raja, and he heard also that Colonel Malcolm's force had with it a large proportion of English troops, who, together with two companies of the 74th Highlanders under Colonel Hughes, made a sufficiently imposing array—he saw that there was no chance of escape except by flight; and, in the evening, accompanied by a few horsemen, he left Shorapur, and proceeded direct to Hyderabad.

He believed me to be at Naldrug, and intended to have given himself up to me there; but hearing on his northern frontier that I had been removed to Berar, he changed his route, and made for Hyderabad, where he arrived with but two followers left. There, having made a fruitless attempt to gain the protection of the Arabs, he was found wandering about the bazaar, was apprehended, and taken to the Minister, Salar Jang, who at once sent him on to the Resident.

As soon as the Raja's flight became known, all the Beydurs and mercenaries left Shorapur during the night, and dispersed, whereupon the English forces marched into the city unopposed, and found it almost deserted.

Such is an outline of the occurrences that took place, and I hoped that when I next visited the Raja, he would disclose to me all the particulars of his rebellion and the causes that led to it. I found him much calmer during our second interview, but very reserved on many points.

'Do you remember, *appa*,' he said, 'that the day before

you left me, you warned me of the evil people who were about me; and you said, if I did not dismiss them, and lead a steady life, I should not hold Shorapur five years; and I promised you I would send them all away, and look after my own affairs?'

'I remember it well,' I replied, 'and how you wrote to me and told me that you were in trouble, and would come to me; and I sent you word to do so at once, for that I should now be near your border. But you never came, though I was there nearly a month, and I expected you.'

'No,' he said, 'they would not let me go to you, *appa*; and if I had gone it would have been no use; you could have done nothing. What was to be has come to pass, and I must bear my fate now, whatever it may be. When that evil wind blew, the people came and said it was the time to rise. The English had lost everything in the north, and were beaten everywhere; they could not keep the country, they said, and were flying to England as fast as they could get to their ships. This was told me, *appa*, by Brahmins and others from the south, from Poona, from everywhere.

'They promised, by their incantations, to raise me to be Raja of all the country—from Shorapur to Rameshwar[1]—and if I marched at the head of my twelve thousand, they said, all the country would rise, and we should be conquerors. Then Marathas from Poona, from Satara, from Kolhapur, from Mungoond,[2]

[1] '"Jey Sivaji Raja!" shall be cried from Delhi to Rameshwur' (*Tara*, chapter lxxvii.), with this note: 'The celebrated Hindu temple in the southern point of India.'

[2] If such a place exists, I have not been able to run it down. Considering the way in which many names are rendered in the first edition, this is probably a misprint for Nargund, a name prominent in the history of the period. Nargund is now a busy trading town of some 10,000 inhabitants, with many temples, in the Navalgund taluk of Dharwar District, Bombay, and near enough to the Hyderabad border. On the fall of the Peshwa it was confirmed by the British to the chief then in possession of the petty principality. This contained thirty-six towns and villages, with a population of about 25,000. At the time of the Mutiny the chief was one Bhaskar Rao, *alias* Baba Sahib.

On p. 761 of his *History* Taylor says: 'A very widespread conspiracy was attempted in the Southern Mahratta districts of the Bombay presidency, towards the close of 1857, which, however, only produced two outbreaks—one of the Rajah of Nurgoond, who treacherously murdered Mr. Manson, the political agent, who had gone to remonstrate with him.

from Bhim Rao,[1] who had secured all the disaffected people of Raichur, persuaded me to join them, and offered me what I pleased if I did so; but still I did not go. I was still true to the English and to you. I knew I was right. I did not move a man; nor did I allow one of my people even to go to the assistance of the Beydurs of Halgali, their brethren, many of whom were slain. And then my people rebelled against me, and called me a "coward and a fool", because I would not let them go. Arabs and Rohillas now came around me, and one man, worse than all the rest, swore to me on the Koran that the Arabs and Rohillas of Hyderabad, and all the Musalmans, had declared a crusade against the English; that the Madras troops would not fight, and they would all come and join me if I would rise. And these men and my own evil companions gave me brandy, and made me drunk, and they took my seal and used it, and led me into evil which I could not help, and did not know.

'When Captain Campbell came to me with the letter from the Resident, ask him whether I did not receive him with all honour and respect. But the people about me and the Hyderabad men said he was a Kafir and a Feringhi, and that he must die. Had not all true men put to death any English they could find? And they told me about Cawnpore, and Jhansi, and Delhi, and how all the English had been slain—even women and little children; and I thought of you—and of your children—girls too,—and I was grieved; but they made me drunk again, and they determined to murder Captain Campbell the next time he came; but I sent him private warnings, and this I could prove to you. Ask my uncles;

The fort of Nurgoond, which resisted, was afterwards captured and dismantled. The second, by a Brahmin named Bhim Rao, who gained temporary possession of the strong fortress of Kopul Droog, in the Raichore Dooab, and tried to raise the country, but failed. He was soon afterwards attacked by a Madras force from Bellary under Colonel Hughes, when he was killed in an attempt to retire to the upper works.'

Mr. Rice Holmes, in his *History of the Indian Mutiny*, calls Baba Sahib the ablest of the native chiefs. He does not mention Bhim Rao or Koppaldrug; but has a wordy account, covering a page, of the movements of Mr. Manson. See below, Mirgoona, another misprint for Nargund.

[1] See further accounts of this small rebel leader in the two chapters following.

ask ——, and ——, and others; they will tell you. Ask Captain Campbell if they did not warn him. I speak no lie, why should I? my life is not worth saving now. I have done too much crime to live; I dare not tell you all; you would not touch me or let me come near to you. O *appa, appa*! why did you leave me? If you had stayed with me, all would have been well! I tell you, if Captain Campbell had come to me again, no one, not I myself, could have saved his life; the men who were to cut him down were standing ready: but he attended to my warnings, and was saved.

'Then the troops came, and when I heard the first gun fired at night, I knew all was gone. I had no faith in my people's courage, although I had not been able to stop their madness, and I went up to a bastion and stood there all night. They told me—what a lie it was!—that the Lingsugur troops had lost their officers and fled! but when I saw, as day broke, the whole force and the English soldiers driving all my people before them into the city, and a shell burst close to the bastion where I was, killing some, and wounding more—ah! why did it not kill me?—when I saw this, I say, I knew there was no hope left, and I thought to myself, "I will go to *appa*, and give him up the *Samasthan* to do with as he pleases".

'I told Rangama (the eldest wife) to hide herself, and to tell the others all to hide for the night, and get on as well as they could to Naldrug to you. When I got to Narribol, I heard you had gone to Berar, and I turned through the hills and across the jungle to Hyderabad, riding the horse you bought for me. This is all my story, *appa*; it is true, all of it. If I can remember any more you ought to know, I will tell you. I wish you to know everything.'

Hours had passed while he poured out this tale; hours of intense suffering to him, and bitter self-reproach. Sometimes he would stop, and throw his arms round me passionately; sometimes kneel beside me, moaning piteously; again he would burst into loud hysterical sobs which shook his frame. I did my best to soothe him, and gradually he gave me the details narrated above. I have given only the heads, which I took down for the Resident's information. It would be impossible to remember his wild incoherent exclamations, his sudden recurrence to old scenes when he had played as a

child about me, with his sisters; of the enjoyment they had had in the magic lantern I showed; of the little vessel on Bohnal lake, and the happy expeditions there: and all those recollections of his innocent early life, made the scenes through which he had lately passed the more grievous and full of reproach.

I asked him if he would like to see the Resident, who had promised to accompany me on my last visit to him if the Raja wished it. To my surprise, he drew himself up very proudly, and replied, haughtily—

'No, *appa*; he would expect me to ask my life of him, and I won't do that. Tell him, if you like, that if the great English people grant me my life, I and mine will be ever true to them; but I deserve to die for what I did, and I will not ask to live like a coward, nor will I betray my people.'

I think this speech, which I reported word for word, pleased the Resident better than anything he had heard of the Raja before.

'The poor lad has spirit in him,' he said; 'and I will not forget all you have told me of him.'

I went once more to see the Raja, the day before I left for Shorapur. I should soon see his wife and his other relations, and I wished to know whether he had any instructions or messages for them. He was calm, though he could not repress his old loving ways to me—but very quiet. I told him I was going by *dak* to Shorapur. 'What could I do for him there?'

'*Appa*,' he said, 'you remember once I said to you, that the British Government should have Shorapur if I left no heir; and I have none. I only wish now I had written this down; but at that time I had hope still: and I wish now to say, that I want you to have it yourself; the people love you, and you must never leave it. I will write this with my own hand, if they will give me pen and ink and some paper.'

'No,' I said, '*it could not be as you wish*; and besides, the Government may pardon you when all is known.'

'And spare my life? No—I will never ask it.'

'That would not save it,' I answered. 'If Government is merciful, they will give you your life freely, without your asking it.'

'What do you think, *appa*? Shall I have to die?' he asked.

'I think so,' I said. 'It would be wrong in me to give you any false hope, or to raise the slightest shadow of one in your mind. Many have been false who should have remained true, and you were a child of the English.'

'Why do you reproach me?' he asked, sadly. 'You know all; it was not of my own will, when I was in my senses, *appa*.'

'I do not reproach you,' I said, 'for I do know all; but those who will try you do not. Speak the truth before them boldly, and exactly as you have done to me, and send for me if you think I can help you.'

'I will surely tell all,' he answered, calmly; 'but if they press me to disclose the names of those who excited me, I shall be silent. Government is powerful enough to crush them if they rise. But what can they do? Was I not the strongest among them? And yet, where am I now? Shall I, who have to face death, be faithless to those who trusted me months ago? Never, *appa*! I would rather die than be sent over the black water, or shut up in a fortress always. Suppose they sentence me to that, I could not bear it. No; the meanest Beydur could not live if he were imprisoned—and shall I, a Raja?'

'If you have to die,' said I, a good deal moved, for there was much nobility in his speech, 'die like a brave man.'

'I shall not tremble when they tie me up to a gun,' he answered, gravely. 'If you could be near me to the last, I should be happier. Only one thing, *appa*—do not let them hang me. I have done nothing to be hanged for, like a robber. Tell the Resident that is all the favour I ask. Promise me to tell him.' And I promised.

'I have nothing now to give you, *appa*,' he continued. 'They have taken away all I had, even my amulets; but take what you will at Shorapur, in remembrance of me. As to all my people in the palace, they are yours; and you will care for them, I know. I shall never see them again, now. I ask nothing more.'

Then, throwing himself into my arms, he clung to me for a long time, silently; then kissing me gently on the forehead, he said—

'Go, *appa*—go now. I shall never look upon your face or

hear your voice again; but I am thankful to have seen you. Tell them all that you have been with me, and that I was not a coward.'

And so I left him, among the men of the guard, who looked on with kindly, wondering eyes.

'He was very fond of you, sir,' said one of the sergeants, as I passed out, 'and before you came, was asking for you constantly. You must have been as a father to him.'

'He was like a child to me', I said, 'till evil people came between us, and temptation proved too strong for him. Now, I fear, it is too late to help him.'

I told the Resident all that had taken place, on my return, and all the Raja had said, especially about his not wishing to make any disclosures that would implicate his associates; and he respected the poor boy's reticence on these points.

'We will save him if we can, Taylor, when the time comes,' he said. 'Just now, things must take their course. But I am sure there is good stuff in the lad; and if we can save his life, he will be all the better for this experience.'

My bearers to Shorapur were laid; my servants and baggage had preceded me by some days—and they would, I hoped, have all ready on my arrival.

Mr. Palmer had no hope of the Raja's life being spared, but he took a great interest in him, and only feared that his death might be considered necessary as a warning to all the plotters in the South, of whom, no doubt, there were many, though there had been no actual rising except the unimportant one at Hyderabad, and the intrigues in the Southern Maratha country before mentioned.

I bade all Hyderabad friends farewell on the 30th March in the evening, and went on by stages to Shorapur, putting up in the villages during the day, for it was too hot to expose myself to the sun. The nights were, fortunately, cool and pleasant still, and I hoped to arrive at my long journey's end by the 3d April, when I should have travelled over 500 miles.

I reached the Bhima river on the morning of 3d April, long before it was light, indeed not long after midnight, hoping to get into Shorapur soon after daylight; but it was quite impossible. I found the river-bank crowded with people, from all the villages round, come to welcome me back again

to my old scenes, and I had to wait to exchange greetings. Very warm and affectionate they were. 'Now', they said, 'they would have no more fears; all would take up their lands and go to work quietly, so long as I remained with them': and I assured them I should remain. All the head-men, *patels*, and *patwaris*, all the principal farmers and traders, assembled to give me the first greetings; and they told me the road was lined with crowds from all the country-side. Many had been waiting for days, as it was reported I should arrive sooner than I did. When I could get away from these, I passed on in the same manner from that village to the next, always with crowds running beside my palankeen, and a blaze of lights carried by the village torch-bearers. Now I had to stop while some old friend dismounted from his horse or pony to embrace me or kiss my feet; and again, when village authorities came out to meet me with their simple offerings and libations of water. I could, in truth, have dispensed with the crowds, for the dust rose heavily in the air, and there was no wind to scatter it, and the torches increased the heat perceptibly, while to sleep was out of the question. When day broke, the throng seemed greater and greater—men, women, and children pressing on my palankeen to touch my feet, or even my clothes—and, as I neared Shorapur, vast numbers, apparently thousands, came out to meet me, and my bearers could only advance at a slow walk, often being obliged to halt altogether. So, through the first suburb and up the steep road to the city, amidst shouts of the old cry of 'Mahadeo Baba', the scream of pipes and Beydurs' horns, and thumping of big and little drums, I was conducted into the first street, where further progress was clearly impossible.

I had never before seen even this excitable people so frantic; women weeping passionately, grasping my hands, kissing my clothes, or touching my feet—crying, 'Oh, you are come again; we see you; we shall suffer no more!' They raised their children above their heads and showed me to them, showering blessings on me the while.

The terraced house-tops were full likewise, and the shouts and cries quite indescribable. It was now eleven o'clock, and my slow progress through the town occupied almost an hour more.. The sun was blazing hot, and I was faint and

wearied out; still the showers of garlands, the handfuls of sweet powder and dyed rice, thrown on and over me, continued till I was close to the palace guard, when my bearers turned in, and I was free.

Captain Wyndham and all the officers had been most anxious, especially when the shouts were heard as I entered the streets; and my delay was so unaccountable that they feared I had met with opposition, till they were assured I was only 'being welcomed', and therefore abandoned their idea of sending a troop of cavalry, which they had ready, to my assistance.

I had never dreamed of such a welcome. It was intensely gratifying, and I was deeply affected by the feeling displayed by all, which could not be mistaken. Captain Wyndham and others had seen something of my reception from the roof of the palace, and had wondered not a little, as I had myself. It proved, at any rate, that I was not *forgotten*; and I thanked God *for this from my heart very gratefully*. The English officers congratulated me very warmly.

I was very glad of a refreshing bath and a substantial breakfast, which had been got ready for me; and then I lay down to have a sleep, which I needed much after the night's work. When I awoke, several old native friends were waiting for me. We were located in the new palace I had built for the Raja, which afforded good airy shelter for us all. The large upper room was the 'mess' and public room, and soon all the male members of the Raja's family and State officers assembled there—Pid Naik's sons, their uncles, and great-uncle.

All were as much concerned as I was at the unexpected events which had led to my second arrival at Shorapur; but they told me that for more than a year past they had lived in perpetual alarm at the conduct of the Raja, who seemed to have become quite deranged by constant intoxication.

In the evening I went to see the Ranis, who had assembled at the house of the father of the eldest Rani, close to the palace. As may be imagined, it was a sad and trying scene for us all. I could not either console them or hold out any hope that the Raja's life would be spared. They had, too, lost all they possessed, except the few ornaments they wore. When the Raja had desired them to escape the night he fled,

they had gone out by the northern gate on foot, and made the best of their way to villages, where they were sheltered by the people. Some few women-servants followed them; but when they heard the Raja had gone to Hyderabad and was a prisoner, they took advantage of a proclamation issued by Captain Campbell, and ventured back to Shorapur—not to the palace, as that was occupied by troops and soldiers, but to the house where I found them. Some of their clothes had been sent to them, but everything valuable was declared prize property, and was confiscated.

When the ladies grew more calm, I told them about my interviews with the Raja, and the various messages he had sent to them. They had almost expected to have heard before now of his public execution.

'I could not save him, *appa*,' cried Rangama, the chief Rani, whom I had petted as a child—'I could not save him; he was quite mad of late, drinking brandy those horrible men gave him constantly, which made him furious. Then, when he was quiet, he used to lay his head in my lap, and call for you, and tell me he knew he should lose the *Samasthan*, but that he would die like a soldier at the gates if the city were attacked. Again and again we all implored him to go to you, but we did not know you were so far away; and he always said if he left, the Rohillas and Arabs would plunder the city, because he owed them so much—and so he stayed.'

According to an arrangement made with the Resident, I issued a general amnesty to all except certain persons who had been leaders and exciters of this most miserable rebellion. The people of the city and of the suburbs were still in the villages to which they had fled; but now they returned. All the shops were opened; and in a few days the markets were full, and firewood, fruit, and vegetables were as plentiful as ever. Captain Wyndham's company occupied the palace, and were ordered to secure all valuables as 'prize'. My house was tenanted by a company of the 74th Highlanders. The troops of all arms had entered the city; but though property of every kind had been summarily looted, the people had remained unmolested.

In the treasury there remained nothing except a few State jewels; others had been hurriedly secreted, but were returned

by those who had them in charge. I do not think a single article was missing, and any coin found had become prize-money.

I deeply regretted that all the old records had been either burnt or destroyed,—letters from former kings of Bijapur and Bidar, Rajas of Vijayanagar; of the Emperor Aurungzeb, with the impress of his large hand dipped in sandal-wood; of the Peshwas, and others. Great portions of these I had already translated, and had intended to continue when I should have leisure, hoping to complete a very interesting historical State paper; but all were gone now.[1]

The Resident allowed me to draw on the Residency treasury for as much as I required, and I got bills cashed as they were wanted for current expenditure. Many of the *patels* and heads of villages came in during the first week and assured me as to the cultivation of the country, and that such of the newly-cleared land as could be managed would be taken up at once; so altogether there seemed a fair prospect of revenue.

The investigation upon the occurrences which led to the rebellion was cut short as much as possible. There was no good in raking up old scores, especially as the Raja, as chief of all, had been the one responsible, and he was on his trial at Hyderabad. There was one man, a Musalman of Hyderabad, who had preached a holy war at Shorapur, and had been the instigator-in-chief of much trouble, and who, in concert with a wicked Brahmin whom I remembered, Krishna Shastri, pretended to miraculous power and divination. These two had, by their false prophecies and mischievous counsels, deluded the Raja more than any others; and, as dangerous characters, were worthy of death, or at least transportation for life.

The Brahmin eluded all pursuit, and disappeared. The Musalman, however, was apprehended after some time at Hyderabad, and sent to me for trial, when evidence was

[1] In a note to his *History*, p. 356, Taylor tells of these 'very valuable and interesting' records. 'They had been classed and arranged by me when in political charge of the State, with a view to complete translation; but on the capture of Shorapoor, after the rajah's rebellion in 1858, they were destroyed by the English troops in possession of the place.'

produced conclusive as to the projected murder of Captain Campbell, in which he was to have taken an active part; and his own treasonable conspiracies being distinctly proved, he was condemned to death. The sentence was confirmed by the Resident, and he was publicly hanged at Shorapur.

The great interest of the time was centred in the Raja's fate. There was no doubt, had he been taken in arms during the attack by Wyndham's force, that he would have been at once tried and summarily executed—and even now there seemed but small chance of his life; but the Resident wrote to me saying he thought, if I asked it, the Raja's life might be granted, especially if I explained with what ruffians he had been surrounded, and how misled.

I sent an 'express' at once with an earnest appeal for mercy.

A few hours after my arrival in Shorapur the old Brahmin priest came to me privately.

'Do you remember, Sahib,' he asked, 'what I once told you, and what the Rani said when we were with her at her bedside?'

'Perfectly,' I answered; 'you said the Raja would not live to complete his twenty-fourth year, and that he would lose his country.'

'Yes, Sahib,' he went on; 'part of the prediction is already fulfilled, and the rest will surely follow—it is quite inevitable.'

'Do you think the Raja knew of the prediction?' I inquired. 'If he did, it may have made him reckless.'

'I do not think he knew it,' replied the old priest; 'for the last time I saw the box it was in the treasury, with the seals unbroken, as you left it.'

(Captain Wyndham had secured the box, and kept the horoscope with the rolls of calculations as a curiosity, not knowing their purport.) [1]

'We cannot say', I continued, 'what may yet happen; the proceedings are not over, and the Resident and I are both determined to save the Raja's life if we can.'

[1] This horoscope, a very curious document, left to her by Mrs. Wyndham, is now in the possession of Miss Taylor. She has also a large picture of the Raja and his family painted by her father, as well as many water-colour sketches of Shorapur, Naldrug, and other places where he was in charge.

'It's no use, Sahib,' returned the Shastri, shaking his head mournfully; 'your intentions are merciful, but you are helpless before his fate. He will die—how, we may not see; but he must die—he cannot live. You, Sahib, and I, are the only two living that possess this secret, and you must be so good as to tell me directly you know his sentence. I cannot believe that the Government will spare him. I firmly expect that he will be blown away from a gun.'

When the Resident's letter came, I sent for the old Shastri and read it to him, and also my own strong appeal in reply. 'I hope the Raja's life is now safe,' I said. 'Listen to what I have written. The Governor-General, who is kind and merciful, will scarcely refuse this request, supported by the Resident.'

The old man shook his head sadly. 'Till the last day has passed to which the calculation extends, I have no hope,' he said; 'it cannot be wrong, and but little time remains. It grieves me, Sahib, to go over the figures again, but the present aspect of the planets is very calamitous to the Raja, and all through next month the combinations show extreme danger. We cannot help him, and you have done all you could; you can do no more—only wait.' So we did, anxiously.

From the time I had quitted Shorapur, no regular accounts appeared to have been made up; but I had been joined by my old head accountant, Sita Ram Rao, now Assistant Deputy-Commissioner, to whom I could offer better pay, and who was rejoiced to serve again under me. He knew all about the revenues of Shorapur, and could help materially. A schedule of the whole period of the Raja's administration was drawn out, and the result was that three and a half lakhs, or £35,000, of new debt had been contracted, while every rupee of the former surplus had altogether disappeared.

We had much to do in revising district accounts; but all was progressing well, and my life was a very pleasant one. I had charming companions in Wyndham and his wife, who became my very dear friends, and our love and friendship will continue while life lasts. They were interested in all my doings, and it used to be a great delight to me to show them all my roads and the improvements I had made during my residence at Shorapur. The roads were sadly out of repair, but we

scrambled over them on horseback, and I soon had them put to rights again.

I could not get back my house while the 74th remained; but I held my *kacheri* in the hospital, and was constructing a large, airy, thatched barrack for the soldiers.

At last the news came.

The Raja of Shorapur had been sentenced to death; but the Resident had commuted his sentence to transportation for life, which was the most his power admitted of. This sentence had, however, been still further commuted by the Governor-General to four years' imprisonment in a fortress near Madras (I think Chingleput).[1] In addition, the Raja was to be allowed to have such of his wives as he pleased with him, and his own servants. If he showed evidence of reform and steadiness, his principality was to be restored to him.

I sent off at once for the Shastri.

'Listen', said I, 'to the gracious and merciful determination of the Governor-General. The Raja's life is safe; and if he is quiet and steady for four short years, he will regain his State! What could be more considerate or more lenient? What becomes now of the prophecy? This letter proves it is false.'

'I wish I could think so, Sahib,' he sighed, 'and that my poor young master were really safe; but, alas! he is in the greatest danger. Nay, it seems closer than ever now; but we shall see, Sahib. Sometimes a merciful God puts away the evil omens just as the fulfilment of them is imminent. I will go and tell the Rani this good news. I only wish the time were past, and that I could be happy in it too.'

The Rani would hardly believe the message I sent her. She and the other Ranis were to join the Raja almost directly, and were to make their preparations at once.

The head Rani, Rangama, asked me to come to her; and when I entered, quite regardless of etiquette, she threw herself into my arms, and danced about in the wildest glee. She had expected the news of her husband's death when she saw the old Shastri come into her rooms, and the revulsion of feeling was almost too much for her. She and one other Rani were to go. The third was no favourite with the Raja.

[1] Vellore, according to Taylor's *History*.

A few days after, the Resident's order finally came that the ladies were to be sent off on a certain day to meet the Raja at Karnul. Everything had been already prepared; there need be no delay; and I intended them to start that very afternoon. I took leave of them both in the morning, and had settled down to my work after breakfast was over. It chanced to be a day set apart for the arrangement of yearly allowances and gifts to Brahmins, and all the chief Brahmins were present, and the old Shastri among them. Several were seated at the table with me, assisting me, when suddenly I heard the clash of the express-runner's bells coming up the street. I thought it might be some message from Lingsugur, or some new arrangement for the Ranis' departure. The runner entered the palace court, and his packet was soon in my hands. It contained a few lines only, from the Resident:—

'The Raja of Shorapur shot himself this morning dead, as he arrived at his first encampment. I will write particulars when I know them.'

My countenance naturally changed; and the old Shastri, who was beside me, and had been reading over Sanskrit deeds and grants to me, caught hold of my arm, and, peering into my face, cried, almost with a shriek—

'He's dead! he's dead! I know it by your face—it tells me, Sahib, he's dead!'

'Yes,' I said, sorrowfully. 'Yes, he is dead; he shot himself at the first stage out of Secunderabad, and died instantly.'

Then ensued a sad scene of weeping and wailing; and one of my friends in the adjoining room, hearing the tumult, rushed in, crying, 'Thank God, you are safe! I feared something terrible had happened. Why are these people so agitated?'

'It is terrible enough,' I answered. 'The Raja has shot himself, and the news has just come by express.'

'Ah,' said the old priest, as soon as he could speak, 'he could not escape his fate, and the prophecy is fulfilled.'

It was, indeed, a strange accomplishment of the prediction. In a few more days the Raja would have completed his twenty-fourth year; and now he had died by his own hand! I sent for the Rani's father, and bade him break the news gently to

his daughter. I could not bear to see the poor girl's misery, and I should have to visit her later ; so he and an old friend of his departed to perform their sad task.

The day after, I heard by another express the particulars. The Raja had been told of the Governor-General's commutation of his sentence, and was very deeply grateful for the mercy shown to him. He had promised earnestly to try and deserve the consideration which had been extended him, and was particularly pleased that he was to be allowed the society of his two Ranis, speaking joyously of the prospect of meeting them at Karnul.

He had travelled in a palankeen, with the officer commanding his escort near him, all the way to their camp.

When they arrived, the officer took off his belt, in which was a loaded revolver, hung it over a chair, and went outside the tent. While washing his face a moment afterwards, he heard a shot, and, running back, found the Raja lying on the ground quite dead. The ball had entered his stomach and passed through the spine.

Was the act intentional ? I think not. He had a trick always of taking up and examining everything lying near him, more especially if it were new to him ; and he had had this habit from childhood, and I had often checked him for it. I do not think he could ever have seen a revolver—and such a weapon would be too tempting to escape notice ; he would be sure to snap it, or meddle with the lock, and the pistol may have exploded without his intending it at all. No one was with him—no one saw him,—so that only conjectures could be raised about the event ; but I, who knew him well, do not believe it was suicide.

Whether accidental or intentional, the result was the same. The Raja was dead, and his kingdom was lost, ere he completed his twenty-fourth year ; and the grim old prophecy deduced from the horoscope was literally fulfilled !

CHAPTER XVI

1858–59

Towards the end of May, Lord Elphinstone and the Resident had both been extremely anxious in regard to Shorapur and its Beydur population.

It had transpired at the Raja's trial, and had previously been suspected, that certain chiefs of the Southern Maratha country had formed a plan for insurrection; but as the Raja had refused to give any names, or to implicate others in any way, no action could be taken: and the Raja simply pleaded in his defence that he had refused to join the rebellion when invited and pressed to do so. General Jacob had taken the precaution, very wisely, of disarming Miraj,[1] a very strong fort; and his admirable check of formidable rebellion at Kolhapur, and the active measures he used, effectually crushed the hopes of the insurrectionists. I have little doubt that had the Raja gone to the assistance of the Beydurs of Halgali when they asked his aid, the whole of the Southern Maratha country and Raichur would have joined him in far greater force than they afterwards displayed when they rose at last on the 29th May 1858, under the chief of Mirgooma,[2]

[1] An old trading town, now of some 20,000 inhabitants, capital of Miraj State, senior branch, which is under the political agent of Kolhapur. Miraj is notable for the admirable missionary medical work carried on by the American Presbyterians.

[2] No such place, or chief, or victim can be traced, evidently because they are creations of the first printers of this autobiography. Mr. Thomson is Mr. Manson; the chief is Baba Sahib, Raja of Nargund (see earlier note). Rice Holmes, following the narrative of General George Le Grand Jacob, giving the same dates, tells how on June 1st Colonel Malcolm defeated the Raja before Nargund, the fort of which

and openly murdered Mr. Thomson, a Bombay civilian, who had ventured to remonstrate with them.

The force was afterwards attacked by Colonel Malcolm and utterly routed on the 2d June : their chief was captured, tried, and executed.

Another rising was planned by one Bhim Rao, formerly a Government collector at Bellary, who with 250 men took up his position in the fort of Koppaldrug,[1] but was pursued and killed by Major Hughes and a detachment from Lingsugur. The remainder of the rebels were taken prisoners, and either hanged or shot.

There were many such parties in the Deccan ; and I confess that, when I heard of these troubles, I wondered what my Beydurs would do : but they had received sufficient warning in the fate of their Raja and in the prompt discomfiture of their rebellious neighbours, and not a man stirred or showed the slightest sign of insubordination. They even assisted me materially in guarding the frontier, and the ferries across the Bhima, against the insurgents who tried to pass through Shorapur. The Arabs of Hyderabad employed by the late Raja were satisfied that the Beydurs would soon join them if they could only enter the country, and were not a little discomfited to find these very people guarding their country against their entrance. So, finding they could get no sympathy, all disturbance ceased, and we were once more at peace ; and I could assure Lord Elphinstone, with whom I had been in private correspondence, that no apprehension of the Beydurs being induced to join the rebel party need be entertained.

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was found empty the next morning. 'Baba Sahib had fled in the night. Frank Souter, the superintendent of police, rode with a few men in pursuit, and on the 2nd caught him, disguised as a pilgrim, in the jungle. Soon afterwards he was tried, condemned, and executed.'

The Malcolm of these chapters was not Taylor's earlier friend at the Hyderabad Residency, Captain D. Malcolm. This was the subsequent General Sir George Malcolm, 1818–1897. He was born in Bombay, a nephew of Sir John Malcolm ; and was in the old Bombay Army, from Kabul to Abyssinia. Buckland writes of him : 'Against Shorapur, 1858 : commanded in the operations against the Chief of Nargoond, 1858.' He had distinguished himself at Gujrat, 1849, leading a charge of 'the famous Sinde Horse', as mentioned in Taylor's *History*.

[1] See note, next chapter.

The victories won by Sir Hugh Rose, that of Gwalior, and the death of the Rani of Jhansi,[1] the capture of the Nawab of Banda and his treasure, Sir Hope Grant's proceedings in Oudh, and the seizure of Tantia Topi—all these went to prove that the power of the Mutiny was broken, and that India would soon be at peace in all its borders.

How earnestly I had looked forward to this year as the one in which I should again see all my dear ones in England! but now leave was impossible to obtain, and indeed no one would have asked it, except it were urgently needed for health's sake. Fortunately I was in too good condition to ask for a medical certificate, though at times I had much suffering. My father proposed to bring my children to me; but in my present position I felt it would hardly do. I had no home for them; my work was of a very unsettled nature, and the country was still very much disturbed. I consulted the Resident; but he earnestly begged me not to risk such a step, adding that he knew I sorely needed change, and it was better to wait another year, when leave could be obtained without difficulty. I felt he was right, and a very serious fit of illness in September warned me that I should soon need rest from work; but I recovered, and went on as usual again.

Authentic ghost-stories are comparatively rare; but a circumstance occurred at Shorapur which made a great impression on men's minds, and may be accepted as one.

There were two companies of the 74th Highlanders at Shorapur with Colonel Hughes's force. After the place was taken, one company was located, as I have before stated, in my house on the hill, the other remaining in camp below the town, till they should return to Bellary. One afternoon—I have forgotten the date—Capt. ——, the senior officer, was sitting in his tent writing letters for England, as the mail letters had to be forwarded by that evening's post, and had had the side wall of his tent opened for light and air, when a young man of his company appeared suddenly before him in his hospital dress, without his cap, and, without saluting him, said, 'I wish, sir, you would kindly have my arrears of pay

[1] A singularly poor chapter in *Secta*, xlix., 'The Ranee of Jhansy', is devoted to this sovereign: Taylor felt sorry for her, and tried to idealise her.

sent to my mother, who lives at —— ; please take down the address.' Capt. —— took down the address mechanically, and said, 'All right, my man, that will do'; and, again making no salute, the man went away. A moment after, Capt. —— remembered that the dress and appearance of the soldier, and his manner of coming in, were highly irregular, and desired his orderly to send the sergeant to him directly.

'Why did you allow —— to come to me in that irregular manner?' he asked, as soon as the sergeant came.

The man was thunderstruck. 'Sir,' he exclaimed, 'do you not remember he died yesterday in hospital, and was buried this morning? Are you sure, sir, you saw him?'

'Quite sure,' was the reply; 'and here is a memorandum I took down from him of his mother's address, to whom he wished his pay should be sent.'

'That is strange, sir,' said the sergeant; 'his things were sold by auction to-day, and I could not find where the money should be sent in the company's registry, but it may be in the general registry with the regiment.'

The books were searched; the address taken down was proved to be correct, and the circumstance made a profound impression upon all who knew the facts.

These Highlanders were capital fellows—very steady in a town where there were all sorts of temptations to excess. As the weather grew cooler, they got up a play—a melodrama—called, I think, 'The Maniac Lover', and acted it well in the *kacheri*. Many of the Shorapur 'gentry' and their wives being invited, the latter sat ensconced behind bamboo screens; and although no word could be understood, the natives applauded very vigorously. I wrote a ballad, entitled the 'Battle of Shorapur', with a very long string of verses, which became exceedingly popular, and detailed the march of the troops, the fight, with various incidents, and the final discomfiture of the rebels; and this was constantly sung with great spirit, all joining in the chorus. The men had also games of cricket, skittles, etc., to amuse them, and some were even fond of chess.

The officers were pleasant companions, and we generally dined together. They were succeeded by a company of H.M.'s 56th Regiment in June.

I laid out a new road into the town, which was about 24 feet wide and about a mile long, leading from the alley up to the north gate. Its deepest gradient was 1′ in 25′, and along it carts and pack-bullocks could travel easily. My plantations of mango and tamarind trees were generally thriving, and the oldest ones were now bearing fruit. Bohnal tank required no repairs, and was quite complete in all respects; but as to the others, nothing had been done, except a little at Kachaknur. No outlay upon public works had been permitted since I left.

By June all the arrangements of estates and pensions were reported as finished. There were objections to the Ranis receiving their estates back again, for the present at any rate; but an allowance of £1000 a-year was settled on Rangama, and pensions on the other ladies in proportion. Rangama was very grateful; she did not expect half so much. I often paid her a visit, and she was gradually growing more cheerful and resigned.[1]

The year closed pleasantly to me, though I could not get leave to England; but as soon as ever the prohibitions were

[1] A glimpse of this fallen family half a century later is given in the little volume of the Nawab Framurz Khan, called *Shorapur, an Ancient Beydur Raj*. It seems that, although the Rajas of Shorapur considered themselves Kshattriyas, yet in reality they were only Beydurs. Much of Indian social history is indicated in the statements: 'They were allowed by religion to eat everything', that is, they were so low that it did not matter what they ate. 'Later on they took it as a matter of dignity to abstain from certain things, and as they had bestowed Jagirs and Inams on Brahmins, the latter in return classed these Rajahs as Kshatriyas. . . . The daring deeds to which they accustomed themselves deprived them of their natural timidity and made them bold and fearless.'

As in many parts of India, personal names among the Beydurs are extremely few, and repeated to the point of confusion. The Kanarese word *appa* or father is added to the names of men, and *ama* or *avva*, mother, to the names of women. The wives of the last Raja would seem to have had but two names between them. Most of them were probably children in 1858. In 1906 the Nawab Framurz Khan wrote: 'The last Rajah Venkatappa Naik had nine wives, of whom Rani Bangarama III. and Rani Rangama VI. are still alive. After the State was ceded to His Highness the Nizam, allowances were granted to the nine Ranis.' There were three acknowledged cousins of the last Raja. The sons of two of these had been endowed by the Nizam, one of them upon a considerable scale, with grants including the historic Sagar.

withdrawn, I was prepared to ask for it. The survey in Naldrug was to be carried on according to my plan, as an experiment, although my present duties did not admit of my taking up the surveyorship.

The Governor-General was pleased to record of me that 'Captain Meadows Taylor has been deputed to Shorapur, where his past experience and local knowledge make his presence most invaluable.'

It was not yet decided who should take my place at Naldrug. Mr. Maltby had been obliged to go to England; and my friend Bullock was acting for him—without any hope, however, of obtaining the appointment permanently, as it was far too good for an 'uncovenanted servant' to aspire to! We had all hoped that the gracious proclamation issued on her Majesty's assumption of the Government of India, which I had the pleasure of reading in Urdu and Marathi to the people of Shorapur, would have extended to us, and done away with the invidious distinctions 'covenanted' and 'uncovenanted'; but it was not to be so.

At the close of the year I had a visit from the executive engineer in the Raichur district, who came to look at my contemplated works, and checked the levels and surveys of the great Kachaknur tank. There was a slight error of fourteen-hundredths of a foot detected in the outward bench-marks of the embankment; but in all other respects my work, even with the imperfect instruments I had used, was entirely correct. I proposed to go on and complete the tank; but until some decision was come to about the principality, no public work of magnitude could be attempted. The Resident had gone up to Calcutta to confer with Lord Canning, and perhaps the fate of Shorapur would be decided by them. However, in the end, it was left uncertain.

A very unpleasant affair had taken place at Hyderabad. At a reception which the Nizam had held, and at which the Minister and the Resident had both been present, a man had fired a loaded pistol either at the Resident or the Minister, who were coming out together. It could not be determined for whom the shot was intended. Fortunately the ball missed both, but wounded the Minister's foster-brother. The ruffian then drew his sword and made a cut at the Minister,

which an attendant received upon his arm, and the villain was immediately cut down by Captain Hastings Fraser and others standing by. The scene had been exciting and disagreeable, and showed plainly that the germs of treason were not yet destroyed. There was, however, no further disturbance.

I could get no satisfactory answer to my application for furlough to England, being answered that, as soon as the question of the Shorapur State was decided, I should know my fate; and meanwhile, if it were at all possible, I was to hold on.

At the beginning of May 1859 I had finished my tour of the district, and made a settlement for the current year. The country was in a wretched condition. A great mass of the cultivation had been thrown up the year before. The farmers had been deprived of their best lands by the Raja, who had given them to his favourites. There were no proper accounts, and the whole was in worse confusion than when I had first taken over charge. Numbers of families had emigrated in disgust. I could give very little assurance to any, as to future settlements; and, indeed, I was forbidden to do so, for Government was still silent as to the destiny of the State.

I did what I could, but it amounted to very little. The people would not invest their capital unless the country were to remain under British rule, and I could not conscientiously counsel them to do so. 'Directly you went away the last time,' they said, 'the men about the Raja chose the best of our newly-cleared lands, and they were taken from us and given to them. True, you have now given them back to us; but can you assure us that the same won't happen again if your back is turned? Let us wait and see what will happen.'

No change occurred in my position until August, when, in addition to Shorapur, the whole of the Raichur Doab was put under my charge; and as Raichur had been deeply disaffected, I was desired to report upon its condition specially. I did not relish this employment; and I began to fear, too, that this accession to my duties would prevent my going to England, as I had hoped to do, the year following. I was now by no means strong, and I looked to the future with grave anxiety. With Raichur and Shorapur combined, I should have a country quite 20,000 square miles in area under my juris-

diction, and a population hardly under, perhaps exceeding, two millions. There was but one English assistant, with four native assistants, in Raichur; but my assistant in Shorapur, Sita Ram Rao, was a host in himself, and I could trust that province to him with every confidence.

It appeared, too, that I was to receive no additional pay for my extra work; but there was no help for it. The order came, and was obeyed with the best grace I could command.

I went to Lingsugur for a few days, and there performed the sad and painful task of reading the burial service over a dear friend's wife, who had died suddenly, and who expressed a wish that I should be the one to perform this last sad office for her. I could not stay long, but simply took charge of the province, returning again to Shorapur to investigate a trial for murder—a very difficult and complicated case, which no one but myself could dispose of. Captain and Mrs. Wyndham accompanied me, and remained till October, when we moved out to Bohnal, to begin my tour.

It was a delightful time, cool and pleasant. There had been a good monsoon, and the lake was full and running over. We had charming rides every morning over the roads, both old and new, and which were now as smooth as gravel-walks.

After a fortnight spent at Bohnal, where the schooner was in capital order and in constant use, we set out for the western frontier, so as to visit the great falls of the Krishna, which I wanted to show my friends. I took them also to the cairns and cromlechs I had discovered, and we all enjoyed our holiday at the falls most thoroughly.

Here the great river Krishna leaves the tableland of the Deccan, and falls, by a descent of 408 feet in about three miles, into the lower level of Shorapur. The fall itself is not perpendicular, but becomes a roaring cataract half a mile broad when the river is in flood. The scene then is indescribably grand, an enormous broken volume of water rushing down an incline of granite with a roar that can be easily heard at a distance of thirty miles, and a cloud of spray dashing up high into the air; while the irregularity of the incline, its huge rocks, and the deep holes which the waters have excavated, increase the wonderful effect of the cataract, and brilliant rainbows flash through the spray, changing with every breath

of wind. Finally, the water falls into a deep pool, which becomes a whirling mass covered with billows that, rushing in every direction, clash and break against each other, sending up great piles of foam. As a Beydur standing beside me said, 'It is like all the white horses in the world fighting together, and tossing their manes into the air.' Nor was the simple fellow's illustration without point.

I had never seen such a sight during my life, and perhaps few cataracts in the world can surpass it, when in flood, for sublimity and beauty.

I believe few English people have visited this spot. I, at least, have never met any traveller who had heard of it. When we were there, the water was lower than on my first visit; but the effect of the fall, the rocky gorge below clothed with wood, and the grand old fort at the end, partly Hindu and partly Musalman, was very beautiful.[1]

Our route lay across the ford, which was a memorable spot in history, when the Musalman army crossed to engage that of Vijayanagar in the battle which was fought on the south bank of the Krishna in 1565. The ford had been carried by a bold stratagem. The Musalman leaders marched slowly up the left bank of the river for two days, watched by the Hindu troops, who left the ford almost unguarded. The Musalmans then doubled back, carried the defences of the ford by storm, and the whole army followed. By this utter defeat of their opponents, the Musalmans gained possession of the city of Vijayanagar and the whole of the northern portion of the kingdom.[2]

[1] A large part of such action as there is in *A Noble Queen* passes at this fort, Jaldrug (otherwise Shahdrug), a few miles above the junction of the Dhon, the river of the Bijapur plain, with the Krishna. 'If the crop on Dhon ripens, who can eat it? if it fails, who can eat?' There is much about these falls, not merely in the chapters called 'The Cataract of the Krishna' and 'The Storm and the Flood'. A Beydur chief, an ineffective repetition of the sympathetic hunchback cateran in *Tara*, uses the same comparison as above about wild horses. 'Although the water was yellow and muddy, yet the rosy light played among every giant stream, or tiny portion of the vast fall, causing rainbows to appear, to vanish, and to re-appear in every part of the spray on which the sun shone. . . . Beneath them the stupendous rushes of water from the great holes, rising in perpetual changes, seemed hung with these lovely garlands ever varying.'

[2] The story is told at more length in Taylor's *History*. 'By this great battle, which is usually called that of Talikote, though in reality

We found the remains of the defences still quite traceable at the ford, and corresponding in all respects with the description given by Ferishta. From hence to Lingsugur was only an easy march, and we returned into cantonments.

At the end of October I started on my first march to Mudgal.[1] I dared not loiter longer, and felt I must see with my own eyes, and hear with my own ears, before I could report specially upon the district.

I found a good road to Mudgal, and the canter in the fresh morning air was delicious. Mudgal is a fine old fort, built upon a group of granite rocks rising perhaps 100 feet above the plain. It had been a bone of contention from the earliest times of the Bahmani dynasty, and alternately fell into the possession of the Hindus or the Musalmans, whichever chanced to be, for the time, the strongest party. Now it was considerably ruined, but most picturesque, and I explored it thoroughly.

I could only stay two days, and these were mostly occupied in inquiring into a dispute relating to a Christian settlement there, which, as it involved religious jurisdiction between his Holiness the Pope and the Archbishop of Goa, I was incompetent to decide. The congregation were all weavers of blankets, and shepherds, originally converted by one of

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fought nearly thirty miles to the south west of that town, the Hindoo power of Southern India was destroyed.'

[1] Headquarters of the Lingsugur taluk, Raichur District, with a dwindling population of 7,000. 'The fort was the seat of the Yadava governors of Deogiri in 1250.' The 'small Roman Catholic colony in the town' of Mudgal is mentioned in the *Imperial Gazetteer* article.

Mudgal appears in Taylor's *History* in connection with the well-known story of the martyrs. And Seeta's grandfather thus tells another when giving her to Cyril Brandon: 'Many years ago—centuries—when the Hindoo princes of Beejanugger ruled over Southern India, and the Moslems held Goolburgah, there was a great war, on account of a daughter of our craft, who was very beautiful and learned, like Seeta. The Rajah of Beejanugger desired to carry her away from Moodgul, where she lived, and sent his horsemen to seize her; but the Moslems prevented this, and a bitter war followed, in which the Moslems were victorious. Then the Moslem king sent for the goldsmith's daughter, whom his son had seen and loved in secret, and married her to him; and she bore him children, who sat on the royal throne of Beedar.'

There is also much about Mudgal, and the Christians there, in *A Noble Queen*.

St. Francis Xavier's missionaries from Goa. It had been somewhat richly endowed by the several kings of the Adil Shahi dynasty of Bijapur, and it still retained these grants through all revolutions. There were two other congregations in the Doab, one being composed of potters at Raichur; the name of the place of the other I forget.[1] The church at Mudgal was a humble but respectable edifice, and service was performed by a deacon, the Mass in full being celebrated when a priest came from Goa on his rounds.

On my arrival some time after in England, I wrote to his Eminence Cardinal Wiseman about this congregation, furnishing him with all particulars respecting them, and received a courteous reply, to the effect that my communication was both valuable and extremely interesting, and would be duly forwarded to Rome.

I hoped next to visit the grand old city of Vijayanagar, and to add some sketches to my collection. At the town of Kanakgheri the Raja came out to welcome me, and entertained me most hospitably. Here I saw the finest Hindu temple I had yet visited. The interior was supported by huge pillars of granite, in the form of horses, on which female figures were mounted; the frieze and ceiling were richly ornamented in carving. I do not think it is much known, but it well repays a visit. After breakfast the Raja came to me, and Shorapur and its affairs were the subject of discussion. 'Could I give any hope', he asked, 'of its being restored to the family? would the British keep it? or would the Nizam have it?'

I could say nothing, for nothing had been determined upon. My friend, whom I had often before seen at Shorapur, deprecated the idea of the Nizam having Shorapur.

'Why should the people suffer more oppression?' he said. 'Of course I would wish to see it given back to the family—

[1] At the end of *Tara*, when (probably at Afzulpur near the Bhima) the dying Tara says, 'I come, O Mother,' she may have remembered her old goddess at Tuljapur. Or she may have been thinking of another Mother, 'since some Christian monks from Goa, who had established a mission at the town of Chittapoor, only a few miles distant, had come to beg alms of her'. There is this note: 'The mission still exists, and is visited periodically by priests from Goa. There are, or were, about seventy Christians in it who, with an affecting simplicity, preserve their faith in purity. They are shepherds, weavers, and distillers.'

my relatives; but if that may not be, why should the Nizam get it? The 12,000 Beydurs would far prefer the just rule of the English, and would not revert to their evil ways under you.'

Such was the old gentleman's opinion, and I agreed with him perfectly; but I had no hope of the restoration of the family being allowed. Pid Naik's eldest son, who was the next heir, was steady, sensible, and thoroughly loyal, having opposed his cousin, the late Raja, in all his insurrectionary movements; still, I thought the British Government would eventually annex the State, as an example and a warning to all others.

From Kanakgheri I went on to Anagundi, where the lineal descendant of the great Rajas of Vijayanagar resided.[1] He

[1] In his admirable *Brief History of the Indian Peoples*, Sir W. W. Hunter, telling of lesser powers founded by the nobles and the blood royal of Vijayanagar, says: 'Another scion, claiming the same high descent, lingers to the present day near the ruins of Vijayanagar, and is known as the Raja of Anagundi, a feudatory of the Nizam of Haidarabad.'

This romantic corner, so rich in historical interest, is well represented in the map of Hyderabad State. Anagundi, Hampi where Vijayanagar stood, and the large modern town of Hospet, feverish through irrigation, all appear.

To the end of Indian history the unregenerate student will be tempted to confuse the ruined Shiah city of Bijapur with the ruined Hindu capital a hundred miles to the south. This tendency is made irresistible by Meadows Taylor's way of spelling the latter, 'Beejanugger'. The only safety, as so often, lies in the standard of the *Imperial Indian Gazetteer*. Vijayanagar is so plainly the Town of Victory. The article upon it in the *Gazetteer*, evidently written by an enthusiast, is of extreme interest.

'The site of the old city is a strangely wild place to have been the birthplace and capital of an empire. The whole area is dotted with little rocky hills; and immediately to the north the wide and rapid Tungabhadra hurries along a boulder-strewn channel down rapids and through narrow gorges. The hills are of granite, weathered to every shade of colour from a bluish-grey to a rich golden brown, and have hardly a shrub or a blade of grass upon them.' For ten square miles there is nothing between heaven and earth but boulders. 'The city was founded in 1336; and its importance in South Indian history lies in the fact that it was a stronghold of the Hindus, and that for two and a half centuries it successfully opposed the southward movement of the Musalman arms.'

After the great defeat the puppet king of Vijayanagar is believed to have fled with 550 elephants laden with 100 millions sterling of treasure.

had sent me a very pressing invitation to come and visit him, and volunteered to show all the marvels of Vijayanagar to me on my arrival. Anagundi, 'The Elephant's Corner', had once been a suburb of Vijayanagar, and proved to be one of the most curious places I had ever visited. To the north was a perfectly inaccessible range of bare granite hills, surmounted by piles of fantastic rocks, along the tops of which ran high walls, with bastions at intervals, in the Hindu style. The only entrance to this labyrinth of rocks was through a very narrow gorge on the eastern side, also strongly fortified by double walls and large bastions. Passing round the corners of these walls, the ground opened out to some degree, and was cultivated, affording a lovely view of the rugged hills on the south side of the Tungabhadra, a rough brawling river rushing through the valley.

The Raja had made a good road through his estate, and showed me many points which afforded exquisite views of wood, rock, and water, with the mountains in the background; and he always stopped the carriage at these places, to show me the prospect, with evident enjoyment. He was driving a handsome light phaeton, and met me at the barrier. He was a fine active young man, with a very pleasing and intelligent countenance, and we were soon good friends. He had

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This may illustrate the meaninglessness of numbers in the East. The victorious Musalmans spent five months in deliberately destroying everything destructible within the city. 'The existing representative of the line is the Raja of Anegundi [*sic*] in the Nizam's Dominions, who possesses a small estate and draws a pension from the British Government.' The article upon Anegundi adds little. The word means 'elephant pit', where the elephants of the Vijayanagar Rajas were kept. The village has some 2,000 inhabitants. The region on both sides of the river is peculiarly sacred as the Kishkindha of the Ramayana, where Sita was seen by Hanuman, the minister of the king of the place, being borne through the air to Ceylon, and where the monkey host was gathered to deliver her.

Taylor has here given such a picture, intensely felt, of the place that there is the less need to sample what he has written of it in his *History*. He had no illusions about the material magnificence of Vijayanagar, however he may have exaggerated that of Bijapur. See the loving monograph upon this subject, Mr. Robert Sewell's *A Forgotten Empire*. For formal description, *Hampi Ruins*, described and illustrated by A. H. Longhurst, Superintendent of the Archaeol. Survey, Madras, 1917 may be consulted with advantage. The book is well illustrated.

prepared the porch of a temple on the bank of the river for me, and I found an ample breakfast provided, and his own servants in attendance.

The situation of the town among these most picturesque piles of rock was very curious. I went to return the Raja's visit in the afternoon, when he proposed to take me to his island in the evening. I willingly agreed. I found his reception-room nicely furnished in the English style; and we sat chatting pleasantly for a long time. He seemed pleased to find me acquainted with his family history—their wars with the Musalmans, and their final gallant struggle with the crusade against them in 1565.

'Ah!' he said, 'my ancestor, Ram Raj,[1] alone would have beaten them back; but the coalition of four kingdoms of the Deccan proved too strong for him. They are all gone now, and have left no trace except these cities—not a soul to pray for their manes, or light a lamp in their name; while I still am here, and represent my great ancestors as their lineal descendant. I have only the "Elephant Corner" of the great city to live in, it is true; but I am quite content, and the Nizam allows me this corner and its dependencies, while the English have granted me some lands on the south bank of the river, and a pension.'

[1] The Raja of Anagundi may be supposed to have known best who were his ancestors. A list furnished by him to another person is mentioned in Taylor's *History*, according to which the royal line must have had about one hundred descents even before the founding of Vijayanagar. Rama Raja, Maharaja, or Raya, whose name bears a halo as the champion of Hinduism fallen in battle, was plainly not of the old line, but the son of a minister. The opening of the next chapter mentions Achyuta Rao as an ancestor of the Raja of Anagundi.

The *Imperial Gazetteer* says: 'Achyuta (1530–1542) was a weak yet tyrannical ruler, and his conduct and mode of government ruined the Hindu cause in the South. His nobles rebelled against his authority, and all real power fell into the hands of three brothers. The chief of these was Rama Raja, who did much to repair the blunders of Achyuta and restore the prestige of the empire.' Yet by haughtiness he brought the confederacy upon Vijayanagar, and died at Talikot with one of his brothers.

Taylor in his *History*, leaning too heavily upon Ferishta, has made rather a tangle of the last generation of Vijayanagar history. A far clearer account, yet hardly recognisable as of the same events, is given in the *Short History of India* by J. Talboys Wheeler, who speaks of Vijayanagar by the alternative name of Narsinga.

In the evening he came quite alone, poling a small basket-boat.

'I always go down to the island by myself,' he said; 'it is such good fun shooting the rapid; but I have men there to paddle me up again in a bigger boat.'

I got into the little craft, and he pushed off into the stream, striking as directly across it as the current would allow. We were soon drawn into the rapid, and dashed on for a quarter of a mile at great speed—the Raja with his long bamboo pole fending the boat from rocks on either side very skilfully, and evidently intensely enjoying the excitement.

At the end of the shoot, we entered the still water, where the island was situated—a richly-wooded spot, laid out as a garden in the English style, well stocked with fruit-trees and a profusion of roses and gardenias, whose scent filled the evening air with perfume. In the centre was a pretty pavilion, also in the English style; and this was, the Raja told me, his favourite resort. There were numbers of tame pea-fowl; and at his peculiar call some cranes and flamingoes, with geese and ducks, all came flocking round us to be fed—a motley and curious collection. 'These are my pets,' said the Raja, 'and my children's too.'

When it was growing dark, his gardeners brought a large basket-boat to the landing-place, and six stout fellows paddled us up the rapid to my resting-place. I had spent a very interesting day, and my host pressed me much to remain some time; but this was impossible—my tents had already gone on to Hampi on the south bank of the river, where the old city commenced, and I had much to see there. 'If you really must go,' said the Raja, 'I will take you there myself in my large boat, and you will then see the views from the river, which are very striking, and more interesting than those on the road; but I wish you could stay—you are the only Englishman with whom I ever felt on easy terms of friendship; and none of your people seem to know or to remember who I am.'

The Raja was punctual to the time appointed next morning, and brought a stout crew with him, as we should have to paddle up several rapids; and before sunrise we were off.

It was a lovely voyage of several miles. At each bend of

the beautiful river new prospects opened, and new piles of granite rocks, some of them 500 feet in height, came in view, fringed with trees and brushwood, which softened their grim outlines, and rendered the effects of light and shade most charming. I took many sketches from the water, while the Raja looked on wonderingly, and longed to be able to do so likewise. At last the 'Gate of the River', as it is called, came in sight, where the stream lessens to a very narrow pass, bounded by piles of rock of the most fantastic forms imaginable; and leaving our boat at the landing-place, we walked up to the courtyard of the great temple, in the cloisters of which I found my servants had taken up a comfortable position, instead of pitching my tents.

'If I can, I will come to-morrow,' said the Raja; 'but in any case, you must not go till I return. I must be with you when you go over the great temple.'

I promised I would stay, and he took his leave.

After breakfast I ordered my palankeen, and wandered over the western portions of the city. I saw that the barriers of rocks extended to the south, forming a strong line of defence, the only aperture being a pass between them and the spurs of the Raman Mallay Mountain. This was the pass by which the Bahmani king, Mujahid Shah, entered the lines of defence in 1378, and endeavoured to take the city; but owing to the neglect of one of his generals, who had been directed to occupy an eminence to the west of the city, which was the real key to the place, and who failed in his duty, the king could only penetrate the first line of defence, where a huge image of Hanuman, the monkey-god, stands alone, carved out of a great granite boulder.

The king, on seeing it surrounded by Brahmins, charged and dispersed them; then dismounting, he struck the image with his steel mace, breaking off a portion of the right leg.[1]

'For this act', cried a dying Brahmin, 'thou shalt die before thou reach the city'—a prophecy strictly fulfilled; for

[1] 'Struck the image in the face, mutilating its features,' says Taylor in his *History*. A page is there given to the moving story of Mujahid Shah, who ascended the throne of Gulbarga at the age of nineteen in 1373, and was murdered four or five years later, according to the best authorities.

King Mujahid was assassinated on his march to Gulbarga. In Ferishta,[1] a vivid description is given of this battle; and the positions occupied by the contending parties are so exactly mentioned, that they are, to this day, easily traceable.

I spent all the day sketching. The Raja's sleeping-palace was a curious conception of Musalman-Gothic architecture,

[1] *C.* 1570–*c.* 1611, according to the *Encyclopædia Britannica*. The same dates are given in the article in *Cassell's Biographical Dictionary*, which may or may not be by Meadows Taylor. The actual dates are not known. 'This celebrated historian of the rise of the Mahometan power in India was born at Astrabad, on the shores of the Caspian.' There is a reference in *Tara*: 'Those were times when the service of Indian princes was eagerly sought for by Persians, Turks, Afghans, and even Abyssinians.' At the Deccan court, Bijapur, 'among others of his countrymen, the historian Mahomed Kasim Ferishta had been distinguished'. He had drifted thither from Ahmednagar. At an early age he gave up arms, and settled down, as king's librarian, to his too brief, studious life.

The article in *Cassell's Biographical Dictionary* says that Ferishta 'entered upon his great work of history with much diligence, and at the age of twenty-six [*sic*] he had completed the detail of the Beejapoor and other Deccan kings. The rest of the work he rendered most valuable and interesting. His style is nervous and elegant; and the wonderful labour bestowed upon his histories of the many Mahometan dynasties, even from the earliest times, is most remarkable.' But it was loose to write, anywhere near 1870, that Ferishta's 'history has been twice translated into English; the portion of it which related specially to the Deccan, by Colonel Dow, and the whole work by Colonel Briggs'. In *Tara* Taylor refers to Scott's 'Ferishta'. Among the works consulted for his own *History of India* were Briggs's *Translation of Ferishta's History*, Scott's *Deccan*, and Dow's *History of Hindostan*.

Ferishta is easily the outstanding Asiatic historian. In all Sanskrit there is no historian with the exception of Kalhana, invaluable both for the isolated story of Kashmir and for his genuine poetical quality. Yet history was outside orthodox Hindu mentality. The Moslem mind, less acute, did just admit an uncritical chronicle of names and haphazard events. But Ferishta compiles carefully, besides telling some good stories. He brings the chronicles of Hindustan within measurable distance of the coming of the English conquerors. The more scholarly of these therefore fastened upon him in the days when Persian, the court speech of half the East, was still eagerly studied.

Alexander Dow, whose translation of Ferishta appeared in 1768, worked his way as a sailor to Benculen, where he became secretary to the governor, later a colonel and a dramatist. Jonathan Scott, the next translator, was a brother of Major Scott, the mismanaging agent of Warren Hastings, to whom he had himself been Persian Secretary. His translations (1811) of several stories are still reprinted in the Oxford University Press *Arabian Nights*. There is yet no better translation

the upper rooms of which would make a delightful residence if purged from the bats, swallows, and wild-pigeons' nests. The fine tower, with a Gothic pavilion at the top, from whence there is a glorious view; the elephant stables and treasury, still perfect; and the ruins of the Raja's palaces, and their courtyards, which are very extensive—with a host of other picturesque scenes, and masses of ruins,—gave me more than enough to do with my pencil and my brush. Vijayanagar is well described by the Nawab Abdul Bazzak, a Persian merchant, who visited the city in 1443, and resided there. His account of the population and general aspect of the city, the religious ceremonials, and the splendour of the king's court, are very graphic and eminently truthful. The journal has been translated for the Hakluyt Society, and well repays perusal. I have described the temple in a volume published by Mr. Murray on the *Temples of Western India*, and I endeavoured to extract my information from the most authentic sources.

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of Ferishta than that of General John Briggs, 1785–1875, sometime Resident at Satara and at Nagpur. It was reprinted at Calcutta in four volumes, 1908–10.

Elphinstone relied chiefly upon Ferishta, while Taylor's *History* would have been far more readable had he excluded whole sheets of uncouth names and indigestible details taken from the same source.

CHAPTER XVII

1859–60

After breakfast, the Raja arrived in his chair, which he insisted upon my using, while he took my palankeen instead; and we set off for the temple which had been built by his ancestor, Achyuta Rao, in 1534–36. Anything more exquisitely beautiful, or so wondrously finished, could hardly be conceived —except, perhaps, the temple of Nandidrug,[1] which even excels this in some particulars; but that of Kanakgheri,

[1] 'The temple of Bhoga Nandishvara dates at least from the Chola period, the beginning of the eleventh century, but in the courtyard is a Pallava inscription 200 years older' (*Imperial Gazetteer*, article 'Nandi'). This is a village in the Kolar District of Mysore, on the road to Bangalore, through which Taylor had passed on his way to the Nilgiris a quarter of a century before. Here the only sentence in all these volumes of standardised information referring to one of Taylor's novels has two mistakes. 'East of the village is the mosque mentioned in Meadows Taylor's novel *Tippoo Sultaun*, the opening scenes of which are laid at Nandi.' The mosque must be the temple to Nandi, the bull of Siva (*sic transit gloria Nandi* as Dr. John Wilson of Bombay used to say on seeing one of them), already twice specified above. The travellers, on their undeniably slow progress towards 'the city', Seringapatam, arrive there in chapter xii.

'Shortly afterwards they rode into the outer court of the Temple of Nundi, at the town under the fort of Nundidroog. . . . The court was a large square, contained in a sort of piazza formed by a colonnade of huge square blocks of granite placed in three rows, about twelve feet asunder, each piece probably sixteen feet in height; across these at the top, to form a roof, were transverse pieces of equal length.' As then profaned by the Musalmans, the temple made capital barracks. 'Before them, and above the piazzas, appeared the richly ornamented and curious high pyramidical roofs of the temples, and their massive and decorated gateway; and above all frowned the bare rock of the fort—a naked mass of about eight hundred feet perpendicular, arising from

which I had considered very marvellous, sinks into significance before this.

Lofty pillars of granite support the roof, carved out of solid blocks of stone; some of these are fashioned like horses or lions; on the horses' backs ride female figures: others have rows of slender figures round them, cut away from the main stem, giving a graceful airy effect, which is very charming. Every portion of the interior is covered with rich, minute carving, and some parts were polished like glass.

Outside, the basement consists of rows of elephants, above these run several courses of different ornaments of elegant patterns. The projecting eaves of the cornices are likewise elaborately carved; and the whole presented an appearance of extreme lightness and grace, which I had not before noticed in any Hindu edifice. Tippoo Sultan, when encamped near Vijayanagar, had had a mine sprung in the roof, in the hope of destroying the building; but it had only made a small hole, and Tippoo then said he had been warned in a dream not to attempt to destroy the holy temple. The deity to whom it was dedicated was Vithal or Krishna, and it had been the intention of one of the Raja's ancestors to have removed the holy image from Pandharpur to it, as being a more appropriate dwelling-place; the god, however, refused to stir, and, in consequence, the building has never been fully consecrated.

Close to the exterior of the temple there is what appeared to me to be a richly-ornamented triumphal car, to be used on festivals; but this proved to be also of granite—a great boulder having been wrought as it stood into the perfect

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a rugged and woody slope of an equal height. The walls around the summit, which were built upon the very giddy verge, were bristling with cannon, and the numbers of men about showed that it possessed many defenders.'

This famous fortress overhead, Nandidrug, was taken by Lord Cornwallis in 1791. It stands close upon 5,000 feet above the sea, much higher than the Ramandrug described below. Points called Hyder's Drop and Tippoo's Drop are shown, whence British prisoners used to be hurled—sometimes purposely from heights not great enough to cause instant death. Taylor's hand, so unfailing where native life is concerned, fumbles with the English characters in this novel. The later chapters, about the officers confined at Nandidrug, are crude, and gruesome beyond anything in the *Thug*, because the artistic touch is lacking. Nandidrug was a favourite summer resort of Sir Mark Cubbon.

resemblance of a car, the wheels of which seemed only to require a push to make them turn, so well was the carving executed.

I had felt ill all day, and at last, in the middle of my drawing, such violent fever and ague came on as obliged me to give it up very unwillingly; and as the attack lasted some hours, my sketching came to an untimely end, and I was unable to see the remainder of the temple or the east side of the city.

However, before the fever began, I had managed to ascend the 'Matan Parwat', a stupendous pile of rocks, by the stone steps which had been cut in them; my bearers easily carried my chair—and from the top—an elevation probably of five hundred feet—I had enjoyed a magnificent view.[1] The whole area of the old city lay spread out before me—the noble temples, and their lines of building—the ranges of fantastic rocks piled on all sides—the course of the river, for miles above and below the 'Gate'—and the blue Raman Mallay Mountains, and their varied spurs, stretching away to the south.

The Raja pointed out to me all the objects of interest—the battle-fields of Mujahid Shah, and the Lake of Kamalapuram, glittering in the bright sunlight.[2] It was indeed a magnificent panorama, and one never to be forgotten.

I was very sorry to say farewell to the Raja, whose genuine and most courteous hospitality and agreeable manners had made a great impression upon me. I had been told I should find him haughty and repellent: on the contrary, he was entirely free from presumption, full of information and intelligence, active and manly in his habits, and of very prepossessing appearance—in every respect a 'gentleman',—and I was glad I had gone out of my way to visit him.

[1] 'To know Vijayanagar at its best, the visitor should climb the slippery steps leading to the little shrine on the top of the hill called Matanga Parvatam, and watch the evening light fade across the ruins; and if the fates are kind and grant him the added glory of a Deccan sunset, he will surely return content' (*Imperial Gazetteer*, article 'Vijayanagar').

[2] 'The best base from which to see what remains of the ruined city of Vijayanagar to-day . . . is Kamalapuram, 7 miles from Hospet railway station, where a deserted temple converted into a dwelling by a former Collector is now used as a travellers' bungalow' (*Imperial Gazetteer*, article 'Vijayanagar').

I stayed a day longer to recruit after my fit of fever, and went again to the great temple, and to the avenue of pilgrim's cloisters, and so round to the palace of the kings and its surroundings, all of the highest interest. The palaces could never have equalled those of Bijapur: there were no arches, and the roof had evidently been made of wood, covered with concrete, and supported on wooden pillars. These had either been destroyed on the spot or carried away, as no vestige of them remained. There was nothing to compare with the fort at Bijapur. The defences of Vijayanagar were mean and weak in comparison; and the ancient Rajas, who had built the city, had evidently trusted more to the natural strength of the position than to the work raised by men's hands.

One Cesar Federicke, a Venetian merchant, gives a very interesting description of the city in 1565, after the residence there of the victorious Musalman kings for six months. He says:—

'The city was not altogether destroyed, but houses still stand empty, and there are dwelling in them nothing but tigers and other wild beasts. The *enceinte* of the city is about four-and-twenty miles, and within the walls are several mountains. The houses stand walled with earth, and no place, saving the palaces of the three tyrants and the pagodas, other than made with earth.'

Evidently, therefore, the city was exactly the same as the Hindu habitations of the present day,—the walls of houses being of mud, or clay and stone, and the roofs of clay beaten down—very substantial as long as the roof is good, but which crumbles away on the percolation of water.

In the large volume which illustrates the *Temples of Western India*, which I have before alluded to, many fine photographic illustrations of Vijayanagar will be found, and the views of the temple of Vithal or Vithoba are especially worthy of examination.

From Vijayanagar I ascended the pass through the Raman Mallay Mountain by a beautiful road constructed by the Madras engineers, at an easy gradient the whole way up. I was well enough now to ride, and enjoyed the lovely scenery to the full. At the top I found a nearly level plain, and a total change of climate from India to Europe. Ramandrug is,

I believe, about 4,000 feet above the sea-level,[1] and its climate is delicious throughout the year. Even during the hottest season the sea-breeze makes its way up, and there is no oppressive heat. Here there is a sanitarium, and I had sent word to the medical officer in charge that I was coming up for advice. I well remember we had to have a fire lighted that evening as it was so chilly, and that we sat over it till a late hour most thoroughly enjoying it. How I slept that night! All the evil demons that had been tormenting me—neuralgia, rheumatism, and all their doleful train, vanished as if by magic with the change of air. The doctor said I had been too long without a thorough change and rest from work, and that there was nothing for it but to take furlough and go home to England as soon as I could. He would not answer for my life, he said, if I remained at Shorapur through another hot season. I enjoyed some days at Ramandrug very much; my strength and appetite returned; I felt fresh vigour and renewed health, and could take a good long walk without fatigue. However, I might not stay; time was precious, and I set off again to my work.

I went to Kurga, where my tents were pitched, and where there was a fine ancient weir for irrigation, which required repair on my side, the authorities of Bellary having already restored their portion. The old Rajas of Vijayanagar had been great constructors of irrigation works from time to time, had thrown several dams across the Tungabhadra river, and had diverted the various streams so as to employ them extensively for the cultivation of rice, sugar-cane and cocoa-

[1] 3,250 feet, according to the *Imperial Gazetteer*. This is no more than the height of many a place, which says nothing about it, throughout the Deccan. Taylor's enjoyment here of 'The sleep that is among the lonely hills' was the measure of his need for a larger change. Ramandrug is as minute a sanitarium as Kipling ever laughed at. It is within Sandur State, but controlled from Bellary. There are 'some fifteen bungalows' belonging to people in Bellary, where the temperature averages twelve degrees higher. Chilly fogs during the monsoon make fires a necessity at Ramandrug.

Save for one monsoon on the Nilgiris in his youth Meadows Taylor never was at an Indian mountain station of good class. He relates below how narrowly he missed seeing Mahableshwar, in the neighbourhood of which he has laid perhaps his finest and most important historical scenes.

nut, ginger, turmeric, and other produce. At Kurga the constructor had been Achyuta Rao, and the inscription bore date 1537. This dam consisted for the most part of large loose blocks of granite, placed together on a broad base in a triangular form, and which had gradually become consolidated by silt. Many noble tanks, too, had been constructed by the Vijayanagar dynasty, the largest being nearly three square miles in area.

My district work now fairly began, and was fearfully heavy, while the petitions against one grievance or another became almost too numerous to attend or to settle at all as I could wish. Here the fever returned, and I could only do my work lying on my bed, for I was too weak to sit up much, and I began to fear I should soon fail utterly.

For change I went further north to Koppaldrug,[1] a marvellous fort indeed, being entirely impregnable. It consists of two fortifications, one, encircling the town, which had been remodelled by the French engineers in Tippoo's service, and all the bastions and cavaliers fitted with embrasures, and ramparts for heavy guns; the other fortification being of the great granite rock within the *enceinte*, the batteries of which command every portion of the land below on all sides to a great distance.

This hill-fort must be upwards of 500 feet high, and is inaccessible except by a flight of very rude rough steps which wind in and out among the rocks, and are in some places extremely narrow and unsafe. How many guns were ever carried up, it is impossible to say, but there were several old ones in the upper batteries. I went up this rock once, my bearers having contrived a light conveyance out of an arm-chair, and I travelled along easily. Had the insurgent Bhim Rao confined himself to operations against villages, he would have done much mischief, and roused the people, who seemed

[1] This is the Koppal of the map, *drug* meaning fort. The population has come down to some 7,000, from 9,000 a decade before. The *Imperial Gazetteer* gives it as an old hill fort and town in Raichur District, on the Southern Mahratta Railway. It figured in the wars of Tippoo. 'During the Mutiny of 1857, Bhim Rao, a rebel, obtained possession of it, but was slain with many others of his party, and the rest surrendered. . . . Sir John Malcolm described it as the strongest place he had seen in India. It is now the chief town in a jagir of Sir Salar Jang's family.'

ripe for insurrection; but he got possession of Koppaldrug by a stratagem, and found himself there in a trap. He could not hold so large a place, and his party betook themselves to the steps of the fort, where many, including the Raja himself, were slain, and the rest were forced to surrender at discretion, for they had no food. I found the summit of this rock was composed of a large circular battery, and below it some deep cisterns in the naked rock contained beautiful clear water. About three miles south of Koppaldrug lay another rock-fort, if possible even stronger and more difficult of access, but not so high, and equally well provided with water in the same manner.

At Kukanur, near the border of the Dharwar Collectorate, I found a very beautiful Hindu temple dedicated to Siva. The pillars of the porch and hall were of polished greenstone, and seemed almost as if they had been turned in a lathe, the different circles of ornamentation were so exact; and the designs were cut out as sharply in this tough, hard stone, as if they had been chased in metal. Near the town was a curious monolith of sandstone thirty-five feet in height, richly decorated, and having a figure of a cock on the top. There was a long inscription on the pillar, apparently in ancient Kanarese, and I regretted very much that no one was able to decipher it. A little further on I found another superb temple; the ornamentation of its pillars was truly exquisite, and the designs so delicate that the various patterns were copied by the goldsmiths of the country for gold and silver ornaments.

This was the limit of my district, which contained, in addition to the foregoing, many illustrations of the Jain and Hindu architecture, dating from A.D. 76 to the 18th century. Many of their works are represented in the volumes before alluded to, but very many more certainly remain comparatively unknown. Had I been originally appointed to the Raichur district, I should have delighted in making myself acquainted with all these wonderful and very curious and beautiful buildings; but as I have recorded, my lines fell in other places, and now I had not the time to devote to them as I wished. The archæological features of Raichur would have supplied a noble field for research. It had been the battle-ground of the ancient western Hindu and Jain dynasties, as

well as the Musalman and Hindu, and each in succession had left their distinctive marks of occupation.

I pushed on to Gulbarga and Ḥamam Sagar, once a great city, as was apparent from its ruins, which spread over a large area. There was nothing, however, remarkable in them. Here my friend, the Rev. Mr. Keis, of whom I have before made mention, paid me a visit, as he happened to be in the neighbourhood on one of his tours, and we had a pleasant talk over old times. He had succeeded well in his work since our last meeting, and one whole village community had become Christians; they were weavers by trade. He was travelling about in his old fashion, a true missionary, going from village to village ministering to and teaching the people as he found occasion—everywhere welcome, and everywhere respected; for the people saw his earnestness, and his pure, humble, godly life, and loved him for his simplicity and his benevolence.

I visited the fort of Gajendragarh,[1] which belonged with its dependencies to a Southern Maratha chief, and also a remarkable place of pilgrimage near it on the side of the mountain, which proved exceedingly picturesque. Almost half-way up the hill, and at the foot of its precipitous sandstone top, is a cavern in which an image of Siva is placed. This is approached by steps, wide at foot and narrowing to the last gallery. The cavern is a natural aperture between two enormous blocks of granite; and on further examination of the hill, I found that the whole of the flat upper portion, which was upwards of 300 feet in height, with precipitous sides, rested upon granite, which had been raised from the plain around by some subterranean upheaval. The fort was built on a portion of this elevation, and as its chief had been implicated in the late insurrectionary movements, and his loyalty was still very doubtful, part of the walls and gates had recently been blown up, and the fort thereby rendered untenable.

I had now done what I could in the Raichur Doab, and I have not described my work minutely, as it was of the same character as that I had previously been employed upon, and there would be no use in multiplying details. The fever had

[1] A town in no other way notable, of some 9,000 inhabitants, in the Ron taluk of Dharwar District.

again returned, with neuralgia and other trying accompaniments, and I felt that something must soon be done. I could not hold on much longer. It was no use attempting anything more in Raichur, because it now transpired that the province was to be restored to the Nizam, and Naldrug also; and that, as the revenues had largely increased, and were more than sufficient for the purpose for which the original cession had been made, the assignment would now be restricted to Berar, the whole of which, without any reservation, was to be retained, along with some portions to the south and east, which had not been included in the previous agreement.

Evidently the time had come when the Commission would be remodelled, but how it might affect me, it was impossible to tell. Had my health continued good, I should never have dreamed of leaving India, for I loved the country, and I loved the people; but I felt I could no longer stay now. I had no wish to retire from active work, and hoped to return to live and die, if God willed it, among the people. And I thought in any case I could take leave and go as far as Malta, where my father would meet me, and I could bring back my children with me, and by that time the new arrangements would be completed, and I should know what position I would occupy when the new treaty with H.H. the Nizam was concluded.

I was obliged to admit now, that work was growing very difficult to me. Medicine seemed powerless to check the perpetual ague and fever, and a debility and want of energy came over me which I could not struggle against. The doctor at Lingsugur told me very plainly that I had no chance of recovery in India, and that if I stayed, my illness must go on from bad to worse. I sent up his report upon my case to the Resident, at the earnest entreaty of my friends, who thought me very ill, and made an application for two years' leave of absence, which was all I could hope to get under the rules.

I gave over charge of the Raichur Doab to Mr. Ricketts, my only Assistant, and, taking a sad farewell of my friends, whom I never then thought I should see again, I went to Shorapur to try and close my work there.

The Treasury was in a prosperous condition, and I was allowed to take from it the price of my house,[1] for which I

[1] This is now the 'New Durbar' at Shorapur.

fortunately held the late Raja's note of hand. I was very thankful for this piece of good fortune, although I had of course to put up with the loss of interest on my money.

At Shorapur the utmost anxiety prevailed as to the ultimate destiny of the State, but I could give no opinion whatever; and its fate remained yet uncertain. There was much dread that it would be made over to the Musalmans, their old hereditary enemies; and I found this fear was disturbing the people very much.

'We shall no longer be true Hindus,' was the general cry. 'Cows will be killed in our precincts, and the flesh will be sold in our streets. Hundreds of years have passed since this indignity has been offered us, and now we dare not resist it.'

What could I say? or what assurance could I give them that such would not be the case?

I grew better at Shorapur. I went out to Bohnal, and had a last sail on the beautiful lake. I left instructions for the completion of Kachaknur, in case it should ever be found practicable to go on with it. I looked round all the roads and plantations, and saw them in a satisfactory condition. I settled all estates belonging to individuals on a more permanent basis, and recommended that the Ranis should have theirs restored to them.

My last farewells to all the people were very trying. They saw I could not stay, and had little hope they should ever see me again. On the 25th February they asked me to preside at a last *durbar*, and presented me with the following address, which is literally translated:—

Translation of a Marathi Address, presented to Captain Meadows Taylor, Deputy-Commissioner of Shorapur, by the Inhabitants of Shorapur Territory, February 26, 1860.

(After compliments.)

'We, the undersigned Pundits, Alims, Raja's relatives, Government servants, merchants, Watandars or hereditary State servants, Jaghirdars, soldiers, ryots, and others, residents in and belonging to Shorapur principality, respectfully beg to subscribe the following Address to you, in the sanguine hope that you will accept it as a token of our respect and esteem towards you:—

'1. We unanimously beg to state that, on account of your being in readiness to return to England, we are plunged into

much grief; but your health having declined, from your residence in this country for the long period of thirty-six years, engaged in the arduous service of Government, protecting and benefiting thousands of people with much care and benevolence, you are disabled by over-exertion from continuing any longer to perform your very laborious duties for the benefit of the country and its people, without some relaxation; therefore, you have necessarily determined to go home, and remain there, among your relatives and friends, and thus return with renewed vigour to support thousands of people in this country. But this, we hope, temporary, separation has overpowered our minds with sincere anxiety, and we have only one alternative to allay it—in the hope of expecting your happy and safe return amongst us soon, and humbly to pray to the ever-blessing Almighty to restore happiness upon you, your beloved father, and daughters, kindred and friends.

'2. Since your arrival in this country, you have done great things to secure happiness to the people; and though they are too numerous to be enumerated here, yet, by recapitulating some of them, as far as our abilities will allow us, we trust they will enable us to pass our time in joy, by frequently refreshing our hearts with their recitation until you return to this country. With this desire, we have ventured to intrude upon your precious time, in the hope that you will kindly pardon us, and permit us to say what we feel on this occasion.

'3. The cause of your first coming to this district was this: certain unsatisfactory circumstances having occurred, which threatened the welfare of the State and its Prince, in reference to their relations with the State of Hyderabad, the considerate British Government became a mediator between the two States, and appointed you Political Agent in this principality, in the year 1842. From that period until 1852, you administered the country very judiciously, and according to its requirements; and brought it into a very prosperous condition, both as regards the public revenue and the improvement of the morals of the people. All this is not only known to us who have this day assembled here, but it is patent to the world.

'4. In this district certain crime-thirsty wretches used, before your arrival, to commit atrocities to the injury and suffering of the people. But you, with the weapons of your judgment and discretion, extirpated their vices, and led them to pursue virtuous paths of life, thereby affording true security to life, honour, and property; and the country prospered day by day. In any country where courts of justice are established, and justice is properly administered, that country does not acquire a bad reputation. So the misrule which prevailed in this district before 1842 was speedily annihilated by the awe of your prompt and impartial justice, just as darkness vanishes on the appearance of the sun.

'5. By introducing wise measures into the revenue affairs of the State from 1842 to 1852 the people fearlessly cultivated waste lands, and thereby the revenue doubled in ten years. This advantage was not only secured to Government, but to the people; because during their former administration the people did not know the value of continuously holding any lands from which they could derive profit for their labour, whereas they now cultivated considerable quantities of land in excess of their former means, thus contributing to the public revenue, as well as adding to their profits. Hence in 1852 about one and a half lakhs of *bighas* [150,000 acres] of lease expired, and cleared fields were ready to yield full assessment in the following year, in addition to the ordinary cultivation of the State.

'6. From the increase thus obtained, works of public utility and remuneration—viz., roads, State buildings, tanks, wells, etc., were constructed, and avenues, gardens, groves, etc., were planted. This is one of the reasons by which your name and fame have become popular, and everlasting in this district.

'7. At this healthy state of affairs, the late Raja of Shorapur having attained majority, you considered it advisable that the management of the country should be intrusted to him, and Government having, on your recommendation, sanctioned the measure, you made over the principality to him, giving him your friendly and full advice in regard to his future conduct in his responsible and dignified position, and as to governing his people; and then you proceeded to join your new appointment of Deputy-Commissioner at Naldrug. There, too, by your amiable disposition, generosity, benevolence, ingenuity, and zeal, you created abundant security and happiness to the people of that country, and profit to Government. You built there new tanks, constructed roads, and other works of public utility, and thus became entitled to the respect and gratitude of the people. Convinced of your abilities, the Government sent you as Deputy-Commissioner to the district of Berar.

'8. Here, in this principality, for two or three years after the Raja's assumption of independent management of his country, he conducted his affairs tolerably well; but, at this period, he was unfortunately surrounded by a band of designing and capricious men, who took advantage of his youth, imbued him with bad notions, and, misusing his name, committed atrocities with impunity. This becoming known to the Resident at Hyderabad, he deputed his second Assistant to Shorapur for the purpose of ascertaining the true state of affairs, and dispersion of all ill-advisers.

'But while things were in this state, the Raja's intriguing band unauthorisedly fired at the Government troops who were encamped below the town; then the young Raja became alarmed for the consequences, and fled to Hyderabad,

to seek refuge with the Government itself. The inhabitants of the town, beholding these things, fled for their lives, accompanied by their wives and children, abandoning their homes and property, lest worse things might happen to them. Immediately after the Raja's flight, the British troops took possession of the town, and plundered it for three days, thereby making it desolate and deserted. At this unhappy period we, of this place, were praying to God to send His messenger in your form for our relief; but as you were in a higher appointment, and in a distant country, we had not much hope of your coming at all. But lo! when God pleases and blesses, the very impossibilities become possibilities at once. So, according to the heartfelt desires of the people of this country, the Resident, by God's will and influence, suddenly thought of sending you here, and took the necessary measures accordingly. With what joy and thankfulness the population, old and young, great and small, received the intelligence of your nomination to this place (because we had our long-cherished hopes and confidence in your magnanimity and justice) is beyond all description. And our anticipations of good from you were greatly strengthened when we knew of your true feelings for the Raja when you saw him at Hyderabad. Your feelings were so affected and plunged into grief at the sight of that unfortunate Raja, that it was hardly possible, even for his own parents, to grieve at his misfortune more bitterly than you. Thus have you continuously manifested great interest and kindness towards this principality and its rulers; and this being universally known to the people, even before your arrival at Shorapur, those who had abandoned their homes in despair and anxiety, speedily returned without apprehension. All this, of course, depended upon your kind and humane disposition and goodwill towards the people.

'9. On your arrival here you caused all the anarchy and misrule that had taken place to disappear. You introduced new regulations, and secured a proper and correct system of management. From this much good and advantage have accrued to the people. By your constructing good roads around the town, much comfort and convenience have been enjoyed by the traders and people in general; and the praises which are merrily sung to your name by the travellers, old and young, on these roads, are indeed gratifying and pleasing to the hearers.

'10. The thousands of mango-trees, planted by you in and about the town during your former administration of this country, are now bearing abundant fruit; and, as you are now again planting thousands of trees, with great pains, for our benefit, we humbly pray to God that He will likewise ordain you shall be present here when these infant trees shall similarly bear fruit.

'11. You have used your full powers in securing and

continuing various rights, perquisites, *miras* or hereditary lands, and allowances, etc., which were enjoyed by the people; and if, in spite of your generous endeavours, any unfortunate person's expectations were not realised, it is no fault of yours, but his own misfortune. Consequently, we are all content with what you have done for us, and are under great obligations to you.

'12. When sedition and rebellion occurred here in 1858, certain senseless persons were concerned in them, and they were liable to heavy penalties; and if you had punished them, notwithstanding the proclamation of amnesty, you would not have exceeded the requirements of the law, nor their deserts; but, not considering their past violent and intriguing acts, you have saved their lives and honour from destruction. For this singular kindness, these people should be grateful and thankful to you for ever; and this assembly ardently believes they will be so.

'13. Another, the principal request and prayer of this assembly, is, that this principality should be restored to the family of the late Raja, in compassion for their misfortune, and the maintenance of charitable and other ancient institutions which have existed and have been enjoyed for centuries. *To attain this end, we trust you will accord your support*; but we are aware it depends mainly upon the future good conduct and loyalty, as also destiny, of the expectants of this dignity. It is the duty, nevertheless, of this assembly to pray constantly to the Almighty that Government will, in their exalted generosity, pardon all past misdemeanours, and indulgently protect the remnants of the late chief's family.

'14. That your projects for constructing a series of new roads and a market-place, and for lighting the town, as well as for erecting travellers' and strangers' homes, sinking wells, building tanks, etc., for the use and benefit of the people, as well as for improving the public revenue, should be carried out after your return, in renewed health, is the heartfelt prayer of this assembly.

'15. All your acts being of benevolence and for the good of the people, there is very little time to recount them all here; and it is likewise hardly possible to give preference to any one of them. We, therefore, most respectfully beg to entreat that you will kindly accept what we have briefly stated above, as a sincere expression of our feelings towards you, and we crave that you will pardon us for our rather long intrusion upon your time.

'16. It may only be known to the light of the world, the Sun, if there were any persons like you on the face of the earth; but, as far as our experience goes, we know not a more kind-hearted, equitable, painstaking, skilful, and benevolent gentleman than you; and we are constrained to think that your qualities have no parallel save in you.'

'17. We are afraid that you may have tired of our loquacity; but, our hearts being full with heavy anxiety at the thought of our approaching temporary separation, and being unable to bear it without giving utterance to our feelings, we have ventured to occupy a good deal of your time, for doing which we have already craved your pardon.

'18. In conclusion, we most ardently hope that, by the blessing of the Almighty Protector, you will happily and safely reach your country, and meet your most beloved and endeared father, daughters, brothers and all who for a series of years have been intensely long ng for your return, and cause them to rejoice. And we further heartily and sincerely pray to the Lord of the Universe to bestow upon you abundant longevity, renewed health, greater grandeur, and higher powers, and safely and happily bring you again to this country, in order that thousands of people may find a ready asylum in you for their protection, and so your fame and glory may be greatly aggrandised; and, by the grace of God, we confidently hope to realise these our desires and expectations.

'Again tendering our warmest, sincere, and affectionate but respectful thanks to you for the cordial support and courtesy you have usually evinced towards us, according to our respective positions in society, during your former and present career in this principality, we are proud that you carry with you our heartfelt gratitude and good wishes. May God bless you and yours for ever!

'We beg to remain, with the utmost respect, dear sir, your most obedient, faithful, obliged, and humble servants and well-wishers,

(Signed) 'Raja Venketappa Naik, sen.,
Raja Venketappa Naik Jellipalli,
Raja Krishnappa Naik,

and 987 others of the Raja's relations, Pundits, Jaghirdars, and other principal inhabitants of Shorapur.

(*True Translation.*)

'J. Sita Ram Rao,
Extra Assist. Commissr.'[1]

I cannot describe the scene; but its passionate character can be imagined from the purport of what is recorded above in the quaint, simple words of the people. None of them had been strangers to me; many had grown up from children

[1] This address, and that to Taylor upon his leaving Naldrug in August 1857, are truly admirable, showing what the Marathi language may be capable of. A much poorer address for similar circumstances, apparently made up from these two, is given in the depressing penultimate chapter of *Seeta*.

under my sight, and had now children of their own about their knees; others were old and greyheaded; and many whom I had known had gone to their rest. It was not an easy task to leave them all; but I had to go, and I do not think I am forgotten there even now. I intended to depart quietly in the night; but I found the chiefs of the Beydur clans assembled in the streets, and it was as difficult now to reach the north gate of the city as it had been to enter it two years before—only, instead of a clamour of joyous welcome, there was now sad wailing of women, while the men walked by me in utter silence. Now and then some one would exclaim, 'We have no one now to care for us; but our women will sing of you as they grind corn in the morning, and will light their lamps in your name at night. Come back to us; oh, come back!'

It was very sad and very solemn, and can never be forgotten. At every village the people came about me, the mothers holding up their children for me to put my hands upon their heads and bless them; and it was all so simple, so earnest, and so heartfelt, one could not but feel its sincerity. People ask me what I found in the natives to like so much. Could I help loving them when they loved me so? Why should I not love them? I had never courted popularity. I had but tried to be just to all, and to secure to the meanest applicant consideration of his complaint, by allowing unrestricted communication with myself.

Thousands wished to have signed the address had time permitted it; but there are quite enough signatures to show the attachment of the people to the only Englishman whom most of them had ever seen, and certainly the first who had exercised any authority over them. At Naldrug the sincere love of the people was shown in the address before given; in Berar I accepted the loyal and peaceful demeanour of the population as a marked proof of their attachment to me in the most trying crisis of the great rebellion.

In all I had ruled over 36,000 square miles of area, and a population of upwards of five millions of a most industrious and intelligent people, not only without a single complaint against my rule, but, as I think and hope, with a place in their affections and respect, gained by no other means than by exercising simple courtesy and justice to all. I was often told

by various friends, 'You do too much for people who will never thank you.' I do not think so: I did not do half enough, and I could have done more had I had more help. God is my witness, I tried to do as much as I could, and heartily regretted being obliged, through physical inability, to leave undone many a measure of progress and advancement which I hoped to accomplish.

I travelled slowly to Hyderabad, for I could not bear long marches now, and stayed at the Residency, where there was still much to do before I could leave. Even now furlough to England was very difficult to obtain, and, but for the Resident's private intercession with the Governor-General, I should not have got it at all.

I was very glad to be able at this time to render my friend, Colonel Davidson, the Resident, an essential service in writing a series of letters to the *Friend of India* in justification of his conduct in remaining at the Residency after the officers commanding at Secunderabad had thought it desirable to leave it, and also in sending away the Contingent troops to act under Sir Hugh Rose. Both these acts of the Resident were severely censured, and deemed 'worse than rash'; but I considered that the complaints made were totally unfounded. Had the Resident gone into Secunderabad, the desertion of the Residency would have been looked upon as a sign of fear, and the loyal minister, Salar Jang, would have been left to his fate. What might have happened had he not been able to control the fanatical element of Hyderabad, or had the British all entrenched themselves at Secunderabad, who can say? By remaining firm, the Resident showed the minister that he had every confidence in him—a confidence which has been fully merited, and never abused by Sir Salar Jang.

I regarded the march of the Contingent, too, as a triumph of will over disaffection. No one denied that many of its members had trembled on the verge of mutiny, and no doubt, in their cantonment, they were sorely tempted and chafed by inaction. The effect, however, of the Nizam's troops having joined the English cause, while Sindia's soldiers coalesced with the rebels, soon became known and apparent to all, as the Hyderabad Contingent fought, as Lord Strath-

nairn himself has told me, more like Englishmen than natives. The honours they gained in the field kept them quiet, and as their loyalty was now beyond question, the whole of the Nizam's territory kept quiet also; nor, with the one exception of the insurrection at Hyderabad, was there a single instance of treason to the English during the whole of that most trying period.

My letters were upheld and supported by the *Friend of India*, and I believe produced a good effect in England, although the opposition party was a very strong one. I pressed Colonel Davidson very earnestly to come home with me, for he was very ill; but he would not leave his post, and died there the year following.[1]

I left Hyderabad at length,[2] and as the road *via* Homnabad and Naldrug was now finished, I went by it as far as Sholapur; then there was the railway. At Naldrug I had left my plate and various articles in the treasury; but, alas! some one had, during these troublous times, broken open the plate-chest,

[1] Not until August 1862.

[2] This, despite Taylor's visit just before his death, was the end of an old song, of a long and affectionate connection with Hyderabad. Little memory of him now survives in the capital of the State which he served during well-nigh four decades. The alleged original of his Tara was long pointed out in Hyderabad.

In 1916 I was fortunate enough to get into communication with the one faithful local memory of him. William Palmer's daughter Lucy, Mrs. William Fallon, Taylor's sister-in-law, was alive a year later. For long survival she is worthy to be named with Miss Hogarth and with Miss Peabody, the sisters-in-law of Dickens and of Hawthorne, and their literary confidantes.

A niece wrote to Mrs. Fallon about Meadows Taylor, reminding her thus of an event eighty-four years earlier: 'He married your sister Mary, your father's eldest child.' But Mrs. Fallon was able herself to write: '*I was with Meadows Taylor in Shorapur and Naldrug. He was of* a very loveable and amiable disposition. He was very much beloved by the people of Shorapur; the women composed songs about him and sing to their children. . . . I have just lately returned from Shorapur, where my husband's regiment was stationed for fourteen years. Meadows Taylor's memory is still fresh in the minds of the people there.'

It has not been possible to secure specimens of these songs or refrains on Taylor. To Mrs. Fallon I owe the knowledge of the book about Shorapur, by an Indian family friend, which makes the subject of a note. 'My youngest son,' she has written, 'is called Meadows after the old man.'

and several articles had been abstracted, most of which, however, I afterwards recovered; but I was much grieved at the loss of a small bag containing all the autograph letters I valued most, and a few little ornaments which my wife had always worn. They were of no value to any one intrinsically, and must have been taken for the sake of the bag, which was prettily embroidered in gold thread.

On the road I reached one of the stage bungalows for travellers, and, being very weak, was being lifted from my palankeen by one of my servants, when two gentlemen came forward to help me. 'Was I Captain Meadows Taylor,' they asked, 'who was anxiously expected at Malta?' 'Yes, I was'; and they told me they had been fellow passengers with my dear ones, who were awaiting me there, and gave me many particulars of them. Going home seemed at last to be growing a reality!

I passed a day and a night at Sholapur with my dear friend Abingdon Compton, and he urged me, if I missed the steamer, which seemed very probable, as I was too weak to travel very quickly, to go up to stay with his wife at Mahableshwar; and indeed, he said, I had better not go to England till the next steamer, as he knew Lord Elphinstone was at the Hills,[1] and wanted to see me, and, in any case, it was no use my waiting a fortnight in the heat at Bombay. I promised to go if I missed the steamer; but I was in time, having just two days to spare before it sailed.[2] How strangely

[1] Lord Elphinstone remained Governor only until May, and was dead by the July of this year—one of the true victims of the Mutiny.

[2] Miss Taylor writes: 'My father could not go to Mahableshwar because his passage to Malta was already taken, 1860—whether he was over there in previous years I don't know.'

The likelihood is that he was not; and thus that he never saw the Mawuls or western valleys, 'the wild rugged country beyond Wye', where Maratha freedom rose, and of which he has made such vivid use in *Tara*. The proof of this would seem to be in Taylor's own descriptions of the scenes, near Mahableshwar, which framed the central episode in Hindu history. In his *History* the 'Mahabuleshwur mountains' are quite wrongly implied to be 6,000 feet above the sea.

The account of the Mahableshwar of sixty years ago may pass—even to the point where it is suggested that sails can be discerned on the sea thirty miles away. But not for a moment the description of the road to Pratapgarh. 'The forest, or jungle, had been partly cleared away

events happen! Had I missed that mail, I should have gone to Mahableshwar, and should, as I afterwards found, have been offered by Lord Elphinstone the 'Directorship of Jails', an appointment which I could have held, worth £2,500 a-year! He had kept it for me; but finding I had gone home on sick leave, was obliged to bestow it elsewhere. I should have stayed in India, and have taken up my appointment, telling my father to come on at once. I could have remained at the Hills, would have entered a new department of the service where there was no press of work, and where I could travel as I pleased. But luck was against me! Yet, why should I say

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from its sides, but noble trees still hung over it, affording grateful shade as it wound round ravines and shoulders of the mountain in gradual but easy ascent; and the huge broad leaf of the teak tree, the graceful and feathery bamboo, and other masses of luxuriant foliage, rich with great creepers now covered with flowers, which hung from tree to tree in graceful festoons, or clung in dense masses about their tops,—presented endless and beautiful combinations with the bold upper precipices of the mountain itself, and the distant ranges behind it. Farther up, as the air grew fresher in the ascent, and you looked down into deep gloomy dells, or broad over the valley, or up to the rugged sides of the great mountain beyond,—a subtle blue atmosphere appeared to pervade everything; and this, the peculiar characteristic of those high tropical regions, seemed to increase in depth of colour,—and, without in reality obscuring the features of the scenery, to soften its rugged outlines, and blend its almost savage elements into harmony' (chapter lxx.).

Again, as Afzul Khan ascends to his doom: 'The wind had died away, and the sun shone with a blaze of heat unknown elsewhere, striking down among those moist narrow valleys with a power which would have been painful, but for the cool refreshing air by which it was tempered. The distant mountains glowed under the effect of the trembling exhalations, which, rising now unseen, tempered the colours of the distance to that tender blue and grey which melts into the tint of the sky. The rugged precipices above were softened in effect; and the heavy masses of foliage, festoons of creepers, and the dense woods, rich in colour, combined to enhance the wonderful beauty of the spot' (chapter lxxviii.).

These passages might come from the descriptions, in *Tippoo Sultaun*, of the Western Ghats hundreds of miles farther south, in Malabar—places which Taylor never saw, though such a negative is almost impossible to prove. He had much natural eloquence, a glowing imagination and style. Pratapgarh, according to the *Imperial Gazetteer*, is but 3,543 feet above the sea, a height greatly less than that of Nandidrug described above. Nor have its approaches—I have walked up there, and on to Mahableshwar—anything of the tropical character which Taylor gives to them. Those hillsides are bare, not to say bald.

this ? I might not have been able to stand the Indian climate longer, even at the Hills, and with lighter work. At all events, God willed it otherwise. I heard before I left, that Naldrug and Raichur were to be restored to the Nizam, and that Shorapur was to be given to him as a token of the appreciation of the British Government of his faithfulness and loyalty in the mutiny. So, what would have become of me without Lord Elphinstone's kind offer was not apparent, and I should have at once accepted it had I remained in India.

I had a pleasant party of fellow-passengers; one poor fellow, who had been badly wounded by a bullet in the lungs, was specially consigned to my care, although, as his father said at parting, 'You do indeed look fearfully ill yourself.' And so I was; the relaxing heat of Bombay, and all my final journey and preparations, had exhausted me terribly, and I had grown so fat and unwieldy that to move about was a trouble to me. I asked one lady on board, whose husband had been Political Agent in Miniawar [?],[1] why they had not come to me when obliged to fly? 'We dared not,' she said, 'go to Berar. We were told you were a marked man, and dangerously popular. There would be no hope for us—nay, we heard you were already murdered!'

Yes, we had almost all in that ship been through trying scenes and many dangers, and a merciful God had brought us out safely from the land.

We arrived at Malta in due course, very late, after midnight, and no passengers could land till morning. I was sitting with the poor fellow who had been my constant care, and who was so ill that night we thought him dying, when a gentleman came up to me. 'The P. and O. agent has come on board,' he said, 'and tells me he will take you and me ashore if we like, to-night. I know how anxious you are to go.' I put my night things in a small bag, and went. I could not stay behind. It was as much as I could do to get up the long flight of steps into Valetta, and I had to sit down often; but at length the hotel was reached. All was quiet, every one in bed; but this was no time for ceremony, and in a few minutes I held my darlings to my heart.

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[1] Probably for Kathiawar.

CHAPTER XVIII

1860–74

I NEED not dwell upon that time. Any one who has followed me through the latter years of my life in India, so lonely and so utterly cut off from all society of any kind, will appreciate what it was to me to find myself again with those dearest to me on earth, to learn to know them and be known by them. And the days flew by, I feeling stronger, and my face losing the deep-drawn lines of pain about my forehead and mouth, which my children said they 'ironed' out; and so they did, no doubt. I was, however, very far from well, although the excitement and delight of my first arrival had kept me up wonderfully. But Malta was growing hot, and we started for Naples, where we spent some delightful days, taking a fresh excursion every day—one to Pompeii and Herculaneum, the former presenting exactly the appearance of a Deccan town unroofed;[1] one to Baia, and another to Vesuvius, which we partly ascended, but my strength was not equal to much yet. My old Indian helmet, with a scarlet *pagari* tied round it, with gold ends, attracted much attention, and hats were raised as we drove along; and on passing the main guard, there rose a cry, 'Il Generale!' and the guard fell in and saluted, to our very great amusement. There was a sudden exodus from Naples, owing to a rumour of cholera, and an apprehended

[1] 'Furniture, such as we need, was unknown. A small cotton or woollen carpet laid down here and there, with a heavy cotton pillow covered with white calico, sufficed for sitting or reclining. . . . The house, therefore, would have appeared bare in any of my readers' eyes; but it was neat and pleasant to look at: and one can imagine, though decorated in a higher style of art, the Roman houses at Pompeii to have been similar in most respects of plan and domestic arrangement' (*Tara*, chapter i.).

attack by Garibaldi, and we decamped with the rest. We landed at Civita Vecchia, a very motley crowd, and a general scramble began for luggage and places in the train. My red *pagari* stood me in good stead, however, and the officials came forward at once. Everything was at the service of 'Il Generale' or 'Eccellenza'.

'Air you a Ingine general, sir?' asked an American, as I was entering the carriage.

'No, sir, an Indian officer, but not a general,' I replied.

'Wal, sir, you air very fair for Ingy, you air. If you was to come to our country, they wouldn't know you for a Ingine; no, sir, they would not, I tell you, sir.'

We stayed a fortnight in Rome. We saw all the pictures and the statues and the palaces. We made excursions to Tivoli and to Hadrian's villa. We saw St. Peter's, too, under decoration for a great ceremony, and above all, I was introduced in the strangest manner to his Holiness the Pope. We had no tickets for the reserved seats for the occasion, not having secured them in time, and our old guide Stefano was sorely distressed at this. He, however, told us not to despair, 'he had a great friend, a priest, who was to take part in the ceremony,' and motioning me to follow, he marched straight to the door of the sacristy, and beckoned to his friend, explaining to him who I was, and how I had arrived too late to get tickets. I was bidden to enter, and was presented to a very benevolent-looking old gentleman as 'Il Generale Inglese' I had hardly time to realise that it was the Pope himself, when he put out his hand to me, while I bent low and kissed it He told me I was welcome, and desired the priest to see that we had good seats. We were conducted to a little door in one of the great pillars, where, ascending a spiral staircase we found ourselves in a cosy little box, just large enough for four people, from which we saw and heard everything most perfectly.

'Did I not manage that well?' cried old Stefano, rubbing his hands.

What a world of new thought and beauty was opened to me! I revelled in the pictures and in the galleries at Rome but even more, I believe, in those of Florence, where we literally lived in the Pitti Palace and the Uffizi. I think,

however, I was most interested in the ancient remains—the statues and the busts—not only those of emperors, kings, and statesmen, but of the citizens and their wives, recalling the features of the age to which they belonged, the head-dresses and graceful draperies as worn at the period. Many of the women's faces struck me as being truly noble, and their figures too, and as more intellectual and handsomer in type than those of the men. We could have lingered in Florence, in Bologna, in Milan, in Venice so dreamy and so exquisite, for weeks, nay, months; but time was passing, and we left beautiful Italy—its pictures, statues, noble ancient remains, its churches, and its lakes behind us—and crossed over the Splügen Pass into Bavaria. Surely the world can contain no fairer spot than those lakes of Italy, and it is quite impossible to decide whether Maggiore, or Lugano, with its wild grand beauty, or fair Como, lying sparkling in the sun, carries off the palm, all are so lovely and all so different. I do not know and have not seen, the other Passes over the Alps, but I should think none can exceed the Splügen and the Via Mala in grandeur and in beauty; nor could I, an old road-maker, cease to marvel at the great science and daring displayed in the engineering work. From Chur—after a *détour* made to visit dear relations in Bavaria, and stay some days with them in their beautiful old *schloss*[1]—to Paris, by way of Basel and Strasbourg, a weary railway journey in very hot weather.

[1] It has always rather fascinated and puzzled me to know how Meadows Taylor came to have relatives in a Bavarian castle. The answer is in the *Life of Henry Reeve*, where, under the year 1873, recording an August journey in Switzerland and Germany, Reeve barely writes, '26th, to Syrgenstein.' But his wife annotates: 'Near the Lake of Constance, where some cousins of ours, the Whittles, bought an old schloss with some 300 acres, and settled about fifteen years ago.' Under 1877 Reeve refers to a cousin, Mrs. James Whittle, a great invalid, who wintered near Florence: 'But she is now returning to a Schloss (Syrgenstein) they have in Bavaria.'

Of these relatives Miss Taylor writes: 'They were a very quiet couple who, with her sister, found small incomes went further abroad; they were childless, and lived in several places in Germany and Italy at different times. It happened that just at the time mentioned they were renting an old Schloss near the Lake of Constance which was very picturesque, and the country around it very pretty.' The Whittles, like the Philip Taylors of Marseilles, 'were far off cousins with whom no subsequent intercourse was kept up'.

Paris was almost unbearable from the heat, and we only waited long enough to get a few clothes, and then on to London, and back to home-life once more. My health, which at first had seemed almost re-established, now again broke down, showing that the evil still existed; the fever returned perpetually; and the best physicians, both in London and Dublin, shook their heads. The news from India was not reassuring. The treaty of 1860 was now accomplished; the Raichur Doab and Naldrug were transferred to the Nizam, and the principality of Shorapur conferred upon him as a free gift in return for his loyal conduct during the mutiny. It was clear to me that except my Deputy-Commissionership, I had no hope of promotion, unless I should be made Settlement Officer.

My eighteen months' leave expired in November 1861, and I obtained an extension for six months more; and as I was in London on this business, I had the honour of being summoned by the then Secretary of State for India,[1] who was anxious for information in regard to Berar and its revenue settlement. He seemed to approve of the system I had introduced in Naldrug during 1856–57, and listened earnestly while I described its details; he requested me to write him an official letter on the subject, and hinted that, although the Head Commissionership might not be given to an 'uncovenanted servant', the appointment of Settlement Officer was one which I could hold.

Time passed. I confess I have no distinct memory of events. Constant illness, and, worse than all, a sort of debility of the brain, seemed to possess me, and were most distressing. I had not only lost my energy, but my memory also in great measure, and I was obliged to have every note looked over before it was posted, lest the sense should not be clear, or a strange jumble and repetition of words should be found. Indeed I grew worse and worse, and the thought that I should, if this continued, be obliged to give up India altogether, made me miserable. My doctors apprehended, I have since heard, paralysis of the brain, and entreated my family to oppose my return to active work. As the expiration of my leave drew near, I made desperate efforts to have it renewed still further,

[1] Sir Charles Wood, baronet, 1800–1885. He was Secretary of State for India from 1859 to 1866, when he was created Viscount Halifax.

offering to do without pay altogether if my place might be kept open for me. Sir Ranald Martin[1] told me six months more would, perhaps, recruit my health, and promised to back my petition: I had friends too at the India House to help me. But it was of no avail; the rules of the 'uncovenanted service' could not be broken, and my request was refused; so no alternative remained for me except to go out as I was, ill and weak, or to resign the service altogether. It was a hard battle. My heart was in my work, and I ardently longed to go back and try to carry on what I had been planning for the benefit of the people among whom I had lived my life, and whom I loved; but it seemed as if God, in His wisdom, had taken from me the power and strength I needed. 'If you go back', said Sir Ranald Martin, 'to the climate of Berar, you must die: you are totally unfit for duty, and the fever and ague are as bad as ever. Think of your life, and think of your children, and may God help you to a right decision. I never had a more painful case to deal with.'

I thought over all this earnestly, and asked for help and guidance, and I saw clearly that it would not be right to run into the jaws of death as it were; so I gave up the struggle, and sent in my resignation with a very heavy heart. No one knows, even now, what a bitter grief it was to me to do this; but I trust I did what was right. I returned to Dublin very much cast down. I was not able to do anything except paint, and I took refuge in this, and in music: any attempt at writing set my head throbbing; and neither words nor thoughts would come. I looked sadly at the commencement of a story I had begun years before in India, and wondered whether I should ever be able to complete it.

A friend, finding me one day sitting on a doorstep in Dublin, faint and sick, and shivering with ague, took me home and told me how his brother, who had suffered terribly from Australian bush-fever, had derived much benefit from homœopathy. I had tried everything else, and every physician

[1] Sir James Ranald Martin, 1793–1874, at this time President of the India Office Medical Board. He had written on the drainage of Calcutta, and *On the Influence of Tropical Climates on European Constitutions.*

of note without avail, and I promised my friend to consult the doctor he told me of, and to give the system a fair trial.

I told my story to the kind physician he recommended, and also honestly confessed my want of faith in the system.

'I don't mind that,' said the good man; 'but it is rather hard to ask me to cure a malady of thirty years' standing, when so many great men have failed. However, I will try to alleviate—I cannot cure it; and I trust, under God's blessing, to give you some help. But you were right not to return to India.'

I followed the prescriptions he gave me faithfully, and I amused myself by fishing, painting, and reading very light literature, and tried not to think about anything. The effect was really marvellous. I grew stronger and more energetic, and I felt some of my old power returning to me; and after a few months I went to my friend and asked his leave to begin to write.

'Do you feel able now?' he asked. "If you do, begin; but you must be very cautious, and do not fatigue your brain. If you feel the least tired or confused, stop.'

I took his advice, and I began my novel of *Tara*. The incidents and actions of the story had been planned for nearly twenty years; and I knew all the scenes and localities described, as I had the story in my mind during my visit to Bijapur, and had noted the details accurately; while my long residence in an entirely native State, and my intimate acquaintance with the people, their manners, habits, and social organisation, gave me opportunities, which I think few Englishmen have ever enjoyed, of thoroughly understanding native life. One day, when talking of my projected book with my dear friend Mrs. Cashel Hoey,[1] whom I have known since she was a child,

[1] Miss Taylor writes of Mrs. Hoey: 'She was a very old friend of our family, and before she became a widow lived in Kensington and had very interesting guests on Friday afternoons. When I lived there I used to see a great deal of her. After Mr. Hoey's death she went to live at Bath, where she died. She seemed to lose touch with old friends; but I believe she gathered an interesting circle about her. She must have been an old woman. She was very clever and brilliant in conversation, with a great deal of Irish humour, and keen appreciation of a joke.'

Canon Taylor, of St. Just, has sent me this abstract of what is told of Frances Sarah Hoey in *Allibone's Dictionary of English Literature*: '"She was born in 1830 at Bushy Park, Co. Dublin, Ireland." She was the daughter of C. B. Johnston and she married (1) in 1846 A. M. Stewart

and whose career I have always watched with ever-increasing interest and affection, she said suddenly, 'Now you have the plot so clearly defined in your brain, come and write it out chapter by chapter; I will set it down exactly as you dictate to me.' We went together to my study, and locked the door, and there for six hours we worked at it, she writing in total silence, and a perfect sketch of the whole tale was made, the details of which were filled up afterwards. I never remember feeling so utterly exhausted in my life; but the relief when it was finished was intense, and we both were glad that we had resisted the entreaties to us to stop our work, and rest, which my children, fearing for me in my state of health, made more than once in vain. After this, I felt sure of my subject, and wrote confidently, but very slowly, for my brain had not regained its full strength yet; but the occupation interested me, and was a source of infinite delight. When my book was partly finished, I wrote to Messrs. Blackwood, offering it to them, and telling them how it had been promised twenty years before, for *Blackwood's Magazine*, when I had written the *Confessions of a Thug*.

My book was accepted, and, still writing very slowly, I finished and published it in 1863. It was most favourably received. All the leading papers—*The Times*, *Morning Post*, *Athenæum*, *Saturday Review*, and the Quarterlies—were loud in its praise;[1] and I only mention this at length, because I

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and (2) in 1858 John Cashel Hoey. She is a constant contributor to periodical literature, writing criticism and fiction, and has translated a large number of works from the French and Italian." Then follows a list of twenty-seven novels and translations, and a further list of seven translations from the French in collaboration with John Lillie.'

[1] *Tara* was dedicated to the scholarly seventh Earl of Carlisle, K.G., 1802–1864, the friend of Prescott and of other literary men, then for the second time Viceroy of Ireland, who died in the following year. *The Times* said of *Tara*: 'For its rapid action, in fact, we have seldom read a better story, or one which is more full of incidents, sanguinary, trenchant, and robust.' *The Morning Post*: '*Tara* is a unique work. There is nothing like it in the English literature of fiction No other writer has ever attempted the portrayal of Indian life, society, and interests, entirely free from any European admixture of character or incident. . . . *Tara* is all Indian.' *The Spectator*: 'This is a very remarkable book. It is a determined attempt to bring the interior Hindoo and Mussulman life of a great Mahratta province during the most exciting times home

had been very anxious as to my reception in the literary world, after a silence of so many years; and I was not a little gratified to find myself welcomed once more so warmly.

Tara was the first of the series of three historical romances which I had proposed to write on the three great modern periods of Indian history, which occurred at an interval of exactly a hundred years. *Tara* illustrated the rise of the Marathas, and their first blow against the Musalman power in 1657.[1]

to the hearts and understandings of Englishmen, to interest them in people with whom they have nothing except human nature in common.'

The shortest article in the October number of the *Edinburgh Review*, of hardly ten pages, was on *Tara*. As soon as the opportunity arose Reeve spoke up loyally, as again later, for Meadows Taylor. He welcomes the return, after a quarter of a century, of the author of the *Thug*. 'Few Englishmen have left behind them in India a more honourable reputation: for in addition to the not uncommon merit of successful administration in a large territory, it has been Captain Taylor's good fortune to endear himself to the population, to penetrate the native character in all its phases, and to live amongst the mingled races of Southern India as one of themselves. In this respect his career has widely differed from the dominant character of Indian civilians—a class to which he did not belong; and it is probably due to this cause that he writes of India, and the natives of India, with a degree of spirit, truth, and genuine sympathy hardly to be met with in any other English author.'

About one half of the article consists of the quotation of 'a remarkable episode, complete in itself, and admirably described'. This is the tragedy at Pratapgarh, Taylor's chapter lxxviii., as far as the words: 'Some escaped; but of the fifteen hundred men who had ridden there in their pride that morning, few lived to tell the tale.'

'India', the article ends, 'in which we have a far deeper interest than in any other part of Asia, is still but imperfectly known to England—perhaps, we might even add, to many of the English who have inhabited and governed it. To inspire his countrymen with a deeper interest in the past annals of the people of India is, we are informed by Captain Taylor, one of the objects he had in view in his work, and we think he has succeeded in it to a very remarkable degree.'

[1] This scheme, of which Taylor makes much in various places, was too symmetrical to be quite correct. It seems to have been a year or two later than 1657 that Shivaji slew Afzul Khan.

The date 1658 may be found, and I grew up in the same district, somehow identifying the death of Afzul Khan with the year, and practically the month, of Cromwell's death. But Hunter's *Brief History of the Indian Peoples*, the *Oxford Student's History of India*, and the *Imperial Gazetteer*, article 'Pratapgarh', all say 1659.

Ralph Darnell, my second work, was to illustrate the rise of the English political power in the victory of Plassey in June 1757.

Seeta, which was to be the third, was to illustrate the attempts of all classes alike to rid themselves of the English by the Mutiny of 1857.

Ralph Darnell, which appeared in 1865, was also well received, and I had every encouragement to persevere.[1]

I read a paper upon my discoveries of cairns, cromlechs, etc., in Shorapur, before the Royal Irish Academy, with illustrations and sketches of what I found, which, I believe, completely established the identity of those remains in India and in Europe, and, I have reason to think, was valuable archæologically. It was published in vol. xxiv. of the Society's *Transactions*, and illustrated with sixty-eight engravings. This had been a subject which, since I had made the first identification in relation to the cromlechs and cairns of Rajah Kolur, I had followed up with the greatest interest, until I obtained ample confirmation of my views in the cairns on Twizell Moor, Northumberland, in the autumn of 1864.[2]

I was placed in charge of the Indian Department of the Dublin Exhibition of 1865 by my friend Dr. Forbes Watson,[3]

[1] *Ralph Darnell* was dedicated, from Old Court, Harold's Cross, near Dublin, August 16, 1865, 'to my dear father, with the love of my life'. It offers not a hook by which any illustrative extract can be attached to the autobiography, save for the descriptions of two romantic Northumbrian houses inhabited by Taylor's kinsmen. The book deals with England of the eighteenth century, and with an Indian province of which he knew as little, Bengal. One is tempted to ask what had happened in the two years since the writing of *Tara*, so sketchy, so amazingly inferior, is its successor. Yet *Ralph Darnell* contained some elements of popularity, including a rather sickly sentiment. A second edition was issued in 1879.

[2] Other references are *J. Bs. Br. R.A.S.* iii. 179, iv. 380; *J. Ethnological Soc.* i. 157. Taylor's pioneer researches on the subject were of much interest.

[3] The second-hand copy of the first edition of *The Story of My Life*, two volumes, Blackwood, 1877, from which the present edition is being printed, bought at Oxford in 1915, has upon the top of the title-page of the first volume, *in clear lead pencilling, the signature*, Dr. Forbes Watson. Therefore this copy probably belonged once to Taylor's friend.

He appears (1827–1892) in Buckland and in the *Dictionary of National Biography*. Yet it is an indeterminate sort of fame that he has left,

and on the occasion of the visit of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to the Exhibition, was called on to attend and explain various matters to him. He was especially struck by the large raised map of the eastern coast of India, constructed to scale by the late Mr. Montgomery Martin,[1] which I had painted afresh, and of which the Prince showed a very intimate knowledge. He had evidently studied Indian subjects deeply, and appeared gratified by the information I was able to give in regard both to the natural productions and the articles of manufacture displayed.

My next task was to write the historical and descriptive portions of two superb volumes of Photographs of the City of Bijapur and the Hindu Temples of the Southern Maratha country. These volumes were published by Mr. John Murray, the architectural portions being contributed by my friend Mr. James Fergusson.[2]

This led to my undertaking the descriptive letterpress of a work entitled *The People of India,* which consisted of a series of photographs of the different races, tribes, and orders of the people all over India, and involved much labour and research. The descriptions were necessarily very short, and

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chiefly connected with just such exhibitions as the one here mentioned, then so much in vogue. He was for some years in the Bombay Medical service. The *Dictionary of National Biography* calls him a 'writer on India'; yet it was on such subjects as food grains, textile manufactures, and plant names, as official Reporter on the products of India. He published, with J. W. Kaye, *The People of India,* 8 vols., London, 1868–75.

[1] Another of the scholarly Indian surgeons, died 1868. Robert Montgomery Martin must have had an interesting life, for in youth he had roamed, as botanist and naturalist, all the shores of the Indian Ocean, getting later both to Hongkong and Jamaica in official capacities. His chief work was *The History, Antiquities, Topography, and Statistics of Eastern India* (1838), usually cited as *Eastern India,* a valuable work in three volumes, based on the survey by Buchanan Hamilton. This is still constantly consulted.

[2] 1808–1886. Fergusson was one of the few who have successfully entered Government service from business life. 'In ten years at his indigo factory made sufficient to retire upon. . . . He invested the historical study of architecture, particularly Indian architecture, with a new interest' (Buckland). The volumes are *Architecture at Beejapore,* London, 1866 (Taylor and Fergusson); *Architecture in Dharwar and Mysore* (Taylor), London, 1866. [In I.O. Library.]

as much information as possible had to be compressed into a few meagre lines. The work was brought out by the India Office, and no limit was affixed to it. Up to the present year (1874) six volumes have been completed. Eight were published.

I also began a series of Indian articles for Messrs. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin's Biographical Dictionary,[1] which, as far as I know, are the only contributions to Indian biography which exist. Of course the space here was also very circumscribed, and all I could do was to make the notices intelligible and useful for reference.

Thus I worked on, and employed myself as busily as I could, painting during my leisure hours. In 1868 we went abroad, and remained away for a year, wintering at that loveliest of places, Mentone—one of the sweetest spots, I think, the world contains.[2] How we all enjoyed it, and what glorious walks, donkey rides, and excursions we made! And the flowers—but they are too beautiful for description. We used to bring home basket-loads of crimson and scarlet anemones, violets, tulips, and a thousand more, less gay, perhaps, but none the less beautiful. I worked on at the biographies and descriptions all the winter, steadily refusing to be tempted out until the afternoon. A project for a *Child's History of India* was also growing in my brain, originated by a dear friend, a lady, coming to me one day with an armful of most stupendous-looking volumes, and

[1] The sub-title of this volume is: 'Original memoirs of the most eminent men and women of all ages and countries.' It is neither scholarly nor literary. There is no date, and the editor is nameless. There is a list of thirteen contributors, none better known than Colonel Meadows Taylor and Canon Payne Smith. All the Indian articles cannot be assigned to Taylor, for there is also a Captain W. W. Knollys, author of *Memoirs of Lord Combermere*.

Some of the major Indian articles, as that on Clive, afford internal evidence that they are by Taylor. He may have found these exercises useful for the *History of India* which was to follow. Messrs. Cassell have kindly looked up their books in the effort to identify for me Taylor's work. 'Whilst I find the record of numerous payments to Colonel Meadows Taylor for contributions to *Cassell's Biographical Dictionary*, there is nothing to indicate the articles for which payment was made.'

[2] This was the place where Taylor was to die. See the accounts of Mentone, with a dying man there, in the last chapter of *Seeta*, published 1872.

saying, as she threw them down wearily, 'Oh, Colonel Taylor, do tell me what I am to do. How can I teach the children the history of India out of those?' And indeed it seemed a truly formidable task. I was not able to set about a history of India just then, but later I confided the scheme to Messrs. Longman, who begged I would make mine a *Student's Manual of the History of India*; and this I eventually wrote some time later.[1] The work was very laborious, and involved much minute study, occupying me in all about two years.

I had not long returned from Mentone when I was solicited by the Institute of Civil Engineers of Ireland to deliver a lecture upon the method of constructing large earthen embankments and sluices for irrigation tanks in India; and as I was much interested in the subject, I made the lecture as comprehensive as I could, and described the system adopted so as to retain the rainfall as much as possible. I had all my own plans, elevations, surveys, and sections, and some details of ancient native work. My lecture was printed in the *Transactions* of the Society, and to my gratification, I was not only elected a member, but received a diploma as civil engineer, with liberty to practise as such within the United Kingdom.

My hard work over my *History* was delightfully interrupted during 1869 by an announcement from the Secretary of State for India that Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen had been pleased, on the 2d of June, to appoint me a 'Companion of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India'. The honour and gratification of the gift were enhanced by a communication from his Grace the Duke of Argyle, as he presented me with the order, that the selection of my name had been made by her Majesty herself.

I felt very grateful for this honour—which had been entirely unsolicited by me—not only as a recognition of any public service I had been able to perform during my Indian life, but as an assurance that I had not been forgotten though so long absent. Her Majesty had indeed recognised me at the first levee I attended after my return, and her words,

[1] 1st ed. 1870, 2nd ed. 1871 (I.O. library cat.), new edition, 1895, 1915.

'I am glad to see you back again,' will always be treasured by me, as a very gratifying proof of her kind interest in so humble a servant as myself.

In 1871 my *History* appeared, as complete as I could make it in the limited space necessarily at my disposal, and I trusted that, having now a compendium, as it were, at their command, Principals of colleges and schools would bring the History of India more into their educational course. I inquired in many directions, but I could not discover that Indian history was taught anywhere. Why, I know not, for surely there can scarcely be any subject of greater importance to Englishmen than the history of the noble dependencies won by their ancestors, which, one would think, would be both more useful, and perhaps more interesting, than many subjects which seem to form part of the essential education of our boys.

I had to take a long rest now. The labour of the *History* had very much exhausted me, and I spent the interval in travelling and painting, and was elected honorary member of the Royal Hibernian Academy. In 1872 I began *Seeta*, finishing it in June the same year;[1] and up to the time I write, I have not begun any more works of fiction.[2] After

[1] *Seeta* was dedicated 'to my dear daughters, Alice and Amy, for their devoted love and valuable patient assistance'.

The excellence with which this novel opens hardly holds beyond the first quarter part or so, when Seeta is united to her white husband. The remainder cannot be called good as a picture either of the English in India sixty years ago or of the Mutiny. Yet it was doubtless a relief to many readers to be among their countrymen at all after the generally native novels. This, together with the vein of sentiment, is enough to account for the popularity which *Seeta* long enjoyed. It gave the first detailed account of love across the gulf of race and religion. It had also topical interest, the Mutiny being then not fifteen years old.

[2] Several of Taylor's later friends are indicated in a somewhat involved sentence of Sir Bartle Frere's Introduction to the 1872 edition of *Pandurang Hari*: '*Pandurang Hari* has been so completely forgotten, that when Dr. George Birdwood recommended its republication, the publishers were indebted to the liberality of Lord Talbot de Malahide for one of the few copies of the book which could be traced by Captain Meadows Taylor in any library, with which he was acquainted, in the United Kingdom.'

Later are some grudging references to Taylor's novels. He appears to have been called 'captain' by many people to the end of his life,

this *Story of my Life* is finished, I hope, if I am spared, to revert to the romantic and medieval period of Deccan history, and write an illustration of it, the plot of which is growing in my brain.[1]

From time to time I contributed articles to the *Edinburgh Review*, on various subjects connected with India: every year one or more of these appeared. And I enjoyed this kind of literary labour very much, and am grateful it was given to me to do.[2]

Also, from time to time, I gave public lectures on subjects connected with India, both in Dublin, Birmingham, Whitehaven, and other places. I wanted to bring India nearer to England—to bring its people nearer our people; and if, by my simple descriptions of life among the natives, any have felt more interest in their Indian brothers and sisters, or have

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He would seem to have retired as colonel, 'with the pension of his rank in the British service' which Henry Reeve mentions, only in 1862. His new grade was given currency by the advertisement of his novels as 'Colonel Taylor's Indian Tales'.

[1] It is to this period that the beautiful portrait belongs which Miss Taylor has presented as the frontispiece to this volume. It is dated, by the contemporary record of the photographer, Chancellor, Dublin, as of August 1873. To use this it has been necessary to sacrifice the one prefixed to the two-volume edition of the *Story of my Life*, Blackwood, 1877. It is a sacrifice, for the countenance there, too, is of rare charm and nobility, with such kind eyes.

Miss Taylor writes: 'I like the one in Court dress best of any he ever had: it is so exactly like him. The one in the first edition of the *Life* was taken by our cousin Colonel Mitford at Mitford when we were staying there; and after my father's death Colonel Mitford asked me as a favour to allow this photo to be used. I could not refuse, although I did not really think it as good as the other. When Mitford church was being restored various branches of the family had the offer of putting in windows if they wished. My father and uncles chose one of St. Peter in the chancel, to commemorate their mother. My father died before the window was ready; and Colonel Mitford suggested to me that *his* portrait (of course the head only) should be perpetuated as the Apostle. This was done; and his dear face looks down upon all the worshippers now and is really a memorial to him as well. There are six windows on the south side of the chancel in that beautiful church, the four Evangelists with St. Peter and St. Paul—St. Peter, I like to think, just beside the altar.'

[2] An acknowledgment to Henry Reeve, editor of the *Edinburgh Review* from 1855 to 1895. Messrs. Longmans have obliged me with this list of Taylor's articles:

been led to read and study more, my object has been attained. The following were the subjects of some of my lectures :—

'Ancient Literature of India.'
'Village Communities.'
'India Past and Present.'
'Some Great Men of India.'
'Some Great Women of India.'

And others, of which I have only notes.

I always found my audiences interested and amused; and I believe it only needs such illustrations to arouse an interest in, and bring India home to, the minds of English people.

I heard frequently from friends in India who did not forget to tell me about my old people and districts whenever they could hear of them. How Naldrug and the Raichur Doab are now administered I know not, or whether the revenue remains as it was under English management. Of Berar there is at least no question. I have already stated that a portion of the Bombay survey was introduced in 1860, and its benefit and progress have been wonderful. Not only do the people possess their holdings, instead of being merely 'tenants at will', liable to be dispossessed by any outbidder; but the cultivation has extended, as it was plain to see would be the case, with insured possession. All that is now wanting,

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April 1862 . . .	Cotton.
April 1864 . . .	Human Sacrifices in India.
Oct. 1865 . . .	Rock Cut Temples.
July 1867 . . .	Indian Costumes.
Jan. 1869 . . .	Rural Bengal.
Oct. 1869 . . .	Fergusson, Tree Worship.
Jan. 1872 . . .	Central Provinces of India.
Jan. 1873 . . .	Berar.
April 1875 . . .	Geology of India.

Of the intercourse with Henry Reeve which is known to have existed during Taylor's fifteen years at home, the only suggestion in Sir John Knox Laughton's *Memoirs of Henry Reeve* is a record in May 1873: 'Gladstone presided at the Literary Fund dinner. I took Meadows Taylor, who was staying with us.' The index to these volumes wrongly puts upon Taylor the authorship of 'our common friend's Memoirs', unnamed, mentioned in a letter from Lord Ebury to Reeve in 1886. These had something spiteful about Lady Blessington; but the *Story of my Life* certainly contains no spiteful word.

to my perception, to complete the land settlement—which is exactly in principle what I proposed for Naldrug in 1855—is the grant of title-deeds for estates and area of house occupation; and I hope these may be eventually issued. The increase of revenue has been enormous, and has accompanied the increase of cultivation. According to the Administrative Report of 1870–71, a final total of £905,167 was reached, which showed an increase of £504,985 in ten years; and as a large portion of the district is still unsurveyed, the revenue will, in the end, there is little doubt, exceed a million sterling. I trust this magnificent practical result may induce Government to undertake a perpetual settlement on the sound basis of proprietary right, instead of the many shifty measures which have hitherto been in operation.

I have little more to add. I went to India with only one friend there on whom I could rely, and upon him I had no claim except a slight relationship. I have had no education so to speak. What I know I have taught myself. I have gained my position, such as it is now, by steady hard work and perseverance; and that my humble services have been acknowledged by my Queen and my country in giving me the Star of India, is a recompense for which I am very grateful.

My literary work has been a great pleasure to me; but I can only write about the people among whom I lived, and whom I love and shall always love to the last. Had I known how to write about modern society, fast young ladies, *roué* young gentlemen, fair murderesses with golden hair, and all the 'sensation' tribe, I doubt not I should have filled my pockets better; but it was no use,—I was too old and stiff to change my ways. The old Tuljapur Brahmin spoke truly, 'Much, very much money, passed through my hands', and yet I continue poor. But I am thankful,—thankful for having sufficient to live on, though not riches; for loving and beloved children; for many, many dear friends, who make me welcome always in the North, and in Yorkshire, and in Norfolk (is not the hot corner kept for me at Didlington[1] when I am able to

[1] Didlington was the home, rich in books and in Egyptian and other antiquities, of Mr. and Mrs., afterwards Lord and Lady, Amherst.

Lady Amherst of Hackney was the daughter of Admiral Mitford of Hunmanby Hall, Yorkshire, Taylor's uncle. She was born in 1835,

shoot ?)—in London, where I sometimes go for a few weeks to have a glimpse of the great world and its doings—in Dublin, where, in my dear old home, I have a large circle of kind and loving friends. And is not this enough to make me happy and contented with my lot ?

One word, one last reflection in regard to India, may not be out of place. It is to advise all who go there in whatever capacity, or whatever position they may hold,—use true courtesy to natives of all degrees. My experience has taught me that large masses of men are more easily led than driven, and that courtesy and kindness and firmness will gain many a point which, under a hard and haughty bearing, would prove unattainable. By courtesy I do not mean undue familiarity—far from it ; self-respect must always be preserved. But there is a middle course which, if rightly pursued in a gentlemanly fashion, not only exacts respect from natives of all classes, but gratitude and affection likewise.

Grateful to God for all the mercies of my life, for His sustaining power, and the ability to do what I have been able to accomplish through all my life, all that I hope for, in my humble sphere, is that my efforts may be accepted by Him, and that, in Sir Henry Lawrence's words, ' I may be thought of as one who strove to do his duty.'

MEADOWS TAYLOR.

OLD COURT, HAROLD'S CROSS, DUBLIN,
June 1874.

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died November 1919. The following month died her daughter, Baroness Amherst (Lady William Cecil).

TAYLOR'S 'HISTORY OF INDIA'

After such an ending to such a *Life* it is hard to have to say certain things about the *History*; and I shall write less rather than more.

The *History*, which is still reprinted from the old plates, has a singularly pleasing *format* for so thick a volume. It was for long the only one of Taylor's works which brought in any income. It has eight hundred pages, amounting to something approaching half a million words, with a vast index.

My father, who bought the *History* after his voyage with Colonel Taylor, often took up the red-edged black volume. 'To think of calling that a *Student's Manual*!' I tried faithfully to learn Indian history from it; nor could any book be less adapted for the purpose.

Sir George Birdwood, a friend and admirer of the author, could not think well of the *History*, except for the views, impressions and opinions which it contains. These have more than a personal interest, being wonderfully mellow and reasonable. I have extracted about all the best of them in the notes preceding. Of similar excellence there remain only Taylor's descriptions of the Hindu and the Mohammedan character and modes of life, which he knew so thoroughly. They are delightful; but it would be out of proportion to give them here.

Though Sir George Birdwood tried also to except from his condemnation Taylor's accounts of Hyderabad State which he served, and of Indian history in his own generation, this is not possible. Nothing is better in the preceding autobiography than the reasoned discussion of the causes of the Mutiny in Chapter XIII. One would think that Taylor would excel in the account of the Mutiny through which he had valiantly passed, in the only part of India which he knew. Yet it is precisely his account of the Mutiny in Western India which has been riddled through and through with convicted errors by the chief military actor therein, Sir George Le Grand Jacob.

The effect of the repetition of dates, and of uncouth needless names, chiefly Moslem though at one period Maratha, is very bad. No principles of mnemonics or of literary art can justify the degree to which this is here carried. Surely if dates and names are to be retained they must be selected and adequately set forth. They defeat their own purpose, they cease to make clear, if scattered too mercilessly. Page 129 of Taylor's *History*, which is but two-thirds of a page, contains some two dozen dates or accumulations of figures, each quite certainly

wrong, since all concern the early history of Kashmir. Page 151 is horrid with some thirty-three dates, text and margin, besides Moslem names more aggressive than most. This, with several others, is such a page for looks as no printers should ever have passed. Taylor was peculiarly ill served throughout his *History* by his printers, who probably had a trying handwriting to complain of. Many mistakes are due to them; but many are of the sort which cannot be put upon the printers.

At successive periods Taylor leans heavily upon at least three authorities, Ferishta, Grant Duff, and James Mill. It was an impossible task which he undertook to put through in two years. Sir George Forrest has told me at Oxford that as a young man he knew Meadows Taylor while the *History of India* was being written. 'You are attempting too much,' he used to say to Taylor. 'Choose some one period or subject which you can master, and upon that you may be able to do lasting work.' It was sound advice.

Of the *History* Miss Penson has noted: 'In the last part of the book dealing with British rule, of which alone I am at all competent to judge as to accuracy, there is a great deal of revision necessary. Even now it is difficult to be rid of the influence of Mill; and at the time when Taylor wrote Mill's apparently deliberate twisting of the truth had not been shown up. . . . Taylor's book is of a very convenient size; and it is interesting to see how his own experiences in India prevent him here and there from endorsing the traditional condemnation of the early Governors, while for the most part he retains the traditional version of the facts.'

So Reeve, to whom the *History* was dedicated as Taylor's cousin and 'faithful friend of many years,' was justified in calling it the most complete summary then in existence of the annals of India. The fact that there have been at least four editions shows that the book was wanted.

CHAPTER XIX

CONCLUSION

1874–76

During the autumn and winter of 1874–75, my dear father suffered much from bronchitis and general debility; but in the quiet of his own study, to which his health almost entirely confined him, he wrote his last novel, *A Noble Queen*, which appeared in chapters in *The Overland Mail*, and also in *The Week's News*, and was published by Messrs. H. King & Co. His friends earnestly hope that the story may be published shortly in volume form, and thus become known more widely than at present in England. In India it has been much appreciated, and eagerly looked for on the arrival of each mail; and, to quote *The Times of India*, 'apart from its historic and literary interest, it abounds with attractive and excellent descriptions of Indian scenery'. The story relates to the Musalman kingdoms of Bijapur and Ahmednagar; and its historic heroine is Chand Bibi, the dowager queen of Ali Adil Shah—its ideal heroine being Zora, the young granddaughter of an exiled dervish. My father also completed during these winter months the seventh and eighth volumes of the *People of India*. Whether this great work will be continued by the order of the Secretary of State for India is not yet apparent; but the materials are almost inexhaustible, and it deserves to be made as complete as possible.

In May 1875 my father's eyesight suddenly failed him, and he wrote the concluding pages of *A Noble Queen* with considerable difficulty.[1] It was hoped earnestly that this

[1] This did not appear in book form until 1878. It is surprising and creditable, considering the circumstances under which the novel was

dimness of vision was only temporary, and that, with renewed health, the precious sight might be regained. He visited London in order to obtain the best medical advice, and was told by the physicians that his best and only hope of recovery lay in passing the following winter in some warm, dry climate.

'I should like to go to India again, if you think the climate would suit me,' he said. And after a long and deliberate consultation, leave was given; and he was told he might revisit the old scenes, now made yet more attractive by the residence at Hyderabad of his married daughter.[1]

When the news of his determination to spend the winter in India reached Hyderabad, His Excellency, Sir Salar Jang, wrote in the kindest possible terms, expressing a hope that, if my father fulfilled his present intention, he would consider himself as his guest during his stay, and allow him to make all the arrangements he could for his comfort.

This invitation was gratefully accepted, and on the 12th

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written, that it holds together as it does. The brief introduction is dated only a few weeks before Colonel Taylor sailed. His two novels published subsequently to the *History* suffered less than that work at the hands of the printers. Those who may yet read through *A Noble Queen* will keep from it a certain light upon the Western India of the end of the sixteenth century. As in his *History* at the same period, Taylor follows Ferishta meticulously, sometimes at the cost of the larger accuracy. The figure of the Queen is one of some sweetness.

Miss Taylor writes: 'I quite agree with you that *Tara* is my father's masterpiece; though I find, when I lend his books, that *Seeta* is the general favourite—I presume because it is more English. I love the *Noble Queen* too, but it does not come up to *Tara*.' 'Of all his books my father liked *Tara* best.'

[1] Colonel Taylor's younger daughter Amy had in 1873 married Mr. Krohn, tutor to the Nizam, Mir Mahbub Ali, who succeeded at the age of three in 1869 and died in 1911. Mrs. Krohn died in 1899, leaving three daughters.

Miss Taylor has written of her father: 'I know of no one now living except our dear cousin the Dowager Lady Amherst of Hackney who knew my father well. . . . She says beyond testifying to his marvellous versatility of talent and his great store of knowledge on very many subjects, including geology, antiquarian research, engineering, road and tank making, she can add nothing. Besides those, he was always busy with his hands; painting, doing needlework on canvas, making balls for children, never idle for a moment and always the same—gentle, loving, sweet-tempered and patient.'

of September 1875, he and I, with our faithful servant John,[1] sailed from Liverpool in the s.s. *Guy Mannering* for Bombay. The change of air and the sea voyage seemed to benefit my father's general health, though there was scarcely any improvement in his sight. His memory was so wonderfully clear; and his recollection of places and scenes so accurate, that our captain was astonished, and declared he was led to look for and find out many points of interest that he had, in previous voyages, overlooked. We arrived at Bombay on the 15th of October, and, after a rest of two days, started for Hyderabad. The long railway journey, of twenty-seven hours, was borne without much fatigue, and my father seemed to rally wonderfully under the delight and excitement of meeting those so dear to him once more. His loss of sight was a sad drawback, but his patience under this terrible affliction was very touching. He could see a little, but not enough to read or write himself, or employ himself in any way; and this to one of his indefatigably industrious habits was a trial which only those who knew him could appreciate. When not writing or reading he used to draw, or knit, or crotchet, and his delight was to surprise his friends with some specimen of his work. His interest in all that went on around him was as keen as ever; and the numerous visits he received from his native friends afforded him great pleasure. Some came from long distances, only to see him, to touch his feet, or bring their simple offerings of fruit, sugar-candy, and garlands of sweet jessamine; and it was very touching to see the love and reverence the people bore for him. One, a native of Shorapur, told him how the people yet bewailed his loss, and how the women sang ballads to his honour as they ground their corn, and related stories of him to their children. He seemed to be so essentially the *people's* friend; and that his memory and his deeds lived still in their hearts, was evident to all who saw the manner of their coming.

[1] This John was something of a character, who at least amused the children aboard. He was a clever and prized family servant. After Colonel Taylor's death he was for a short time in the service of Taylor's only nephew, the Rev. Robert Taylor, junior, then vicar of Muston near Filey. John, who was falling back into drink, returned to Ireland and was lost to sight.

Owing to the prolonged absence of H. E. Sir Salar Jang, both at Bombay and Calcutta, on the occasions of the visit of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, my father did not see so much of the Minister as he otherwise would have done; and this was a source of much mutual regret. But everything that princely hospitality could suggest, in the providing of house, servants, horses and carriages, and every comfort, was done by Sir Salar Jang to render my father's stay as pleasant and as comfortable as possible. He was able to partake of the hospitalities of the palace, too, on several occasions, especially that of the grand *fête* given on the arrival of Sir Richard Meade as Resident at Hyderabad; and he was able also to accept and enjoy invitations to the Residency, and among other friends. One great regret to him was that his health did not admit of his taking the long journey to Calcutta, in order to be present at the great gathering of the members of the 'Order of the Star of India'. He wrote his apologies to Sir Bartle Frere, begging him, if he would, to make known to H.R.H. the reason of his non-attendance, and received in reply a note which gratified him exceedingly. Not only was Sir Bartle Frere desired by the Prince of Wales to assure Colonel Taylor how much he regretted being deprived of the opportunity of making his personal acquaintance, but he added that he wished Colonel Taylor especially to know what pleasure he had derived from the perusal of his works on the voyage out to India. This gracious message and recognition of his literary labours were very pleasant to him, and afforded another instance, among so many at that time, of the graceful thoughtfulness and kindly feeling of his Royal Highness. In January 1876 my father was once more attacked by his old enemy, the jungle fever, and for many days and nights it seemed doubtful whether he would be spared to us yet a while. On the advice of his medical attendants, we took him back to Bombay, the climate there being considered better for his complaint, as it was more relaxing, and had not the excessive irritating dryness of Hyderabad. He remained at Bombay for a month. During this time he received many visits from persons acquainted with his Indian career and literary works, and enjoyed, on several occasions, long and earnest conversations with them,

especially on subjects connected with native education and literature.

On this latter point he was exceedingly anxious, and it was his purpose, had his life been spared, to have contributed a series of letters to *The Times of India* on the subject. In one letter, to a native gentleman friend, which has been largely quoted, after thanking him for his criticisms on *Seeta*, and admitting that it is impossible for a writer, not a Hindu, to describe Brahminical observances and caste customs with absolute correctness, he thus proceeds :—

'Now why do not you, or some one of your friends, take up the subject of novels or tales, and instruct *us* on the subject of your people? If you wrote in Marathi, or Gujarati, you would have a vast audience. If in English, we—if the work were simply and truthfully written—would welcome the author warmly. Think of the still existing popularity of Goldsmith's *Vicar of Wakefield*, which is undying; and how simple and pathetic the tale is. You have matter, too, for a hundred romances in Grant Duff's *History*, if you follow history; but that is not needed for general interest so much as writing that will move the hearts of the people, and become the foundation of a national literature of fiction, healthy, pure, and instructive to future generations. Why should we know only the dark side of Hinduism, and see none of the bright and light side, from the pens of its sons, now so rapidly advancing and advanced in modern science and thought? Any one of your people who might attempt this department of literature would, if he wrote simply, naturally, and without pedantry, secure for himself not only present reputation, but undying fame. I cannot believe the ability is wanting; all that is required is to be stimulated to healthy exertion on a pure model to achieve a decided success.'

And on another occasion he writes :—

'I am glad to hear that my works have been read, if it be only to prove to those who read them that my interest in the people of India, of all classes, is as strong as ever, and increases with time. I would fain see the educated portion striving to strike out new lines of occupation for themselves; and I do not despair of yet seeing illustrations of native life, native legends, and native history written by yourselves.[1] Such

[1] Taylor would have rejoiced to see the considerable output of historical fiction in Marathi and other vernaculars. What Seeta says no longer holds: 'While for us—no one writes now; no one thinks; we are as the dead, with those whose very language is dead too.'

as I am, though we strive never so much, cannot penetrate beyond the surface of that we see; and as for myself, in regard to *Tara*, *Seeta*, and my other books, where I have tried to work out phases of native character, male and female, I only hope I have produced pictures something like reality, and not caricatures. I think portions of *Tara* and *Seeta* would translate easily into Marathi; and I should like to hear that extracts of these books were done into Marathi to serve as reading-books for the new generation.[1] Until Marathi and other native languages have a homely literature of their own, I confess there is the want of a principle which would encourage many to better things.'

On the 15th March we embarked on board the s.s. *Australia*, belonging to the Rubattino Company, who had with great kindness reserved two cabins for my father's and my own use, without extra charge, in spite of an over-full complement of passengers. We were bound for Genoa, as we intended passing a little time in the south of France until the spring should be far enough advanced to permit of our return home. On the voyage my father became far more ill, and the loss of all power in his lower limbs was a great additional trial. He could no longer walk at all, and was carried up and down from his berth to his chair on deck. We reached Genoa, however, in safety on the 6th April, after a very calm voyage of twenty-one days, and travelled on next day to Mentone, where, becoming gradually worse and more and more helpless, he sank to rest peacefully and painlessly on the 13th of May 1876.

To the last my dear father retained all the brightness of his intellect, and his interest in all that passed. The night before his death he heard read with great pleasure the account of the arrival of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales in England, and spoke long and earnestly of the royal visit to India; of the good it was likely to produce there; of the courtesy which distinguished the Prince's behaviour to all natives of whatever degree, and his wish that such an example might be largely followed.

The papers both of England and India were filled with

[1] This reasonable wish has never been fulfilled. To this day the Government reading books in Marathi contain nothing from Taylor's writings. Yet his best cameos are from Maratha history, which he has idealised to the furthest permissible point.

notices, all speaking of the varied and great talents my dear father possessed as soldier, administrator, man of science and of letters; but we, whose privilege it was to be with him in his home, knew him best as the tenderest and most loving of parents, the wise friend, the true-hearted, humble Christian gentleman, ever casting his cares upon Him who cared for him in his strange neglected boyhood and early manhood, and who helped him to become what he was in private life, and to attain the public distinctions which were awarded to him.[1]

He rests at Mentone, in that spot so sacred to many English families and homes, amid the lovely scenes he delighted in, and among the sweet flowers he loved so well.

A simple cross of white marble marks his grave, on which are inscribed the last words he uttered on earth :—

'The Eternal God is thy Refuge, and underneath are the everlasting Arms.'

ALICE M. TAYLOR.

HUNMANBY VICARAGE, 15*th September* 1877.

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[1] The *Edinburgh Review* for October 1877 contained an article of 33 pages on the *Story of my Life*, mellow and moderate. Extracts from it have already been given.

Towards the end the writer dwells upon what has been painfully evident in the text of the Autobiography, the way in which Taylor was hampered during his last years, and the circumstances of his retirement made difficult for him, by 'the invidious distinctions of covenanted and uncovenanted'. It is plain that his health might have been restored, or need never have been so injured, had he enjoyed the liberal privileges of furlough to England which his supposed betters enjoyed, instead of having to spend those cruel twenty years on end in India. 'That, if he had belonged to the regular Indian service, Taylor would have risen to the highest posts, is certain, for he exhibited almost every quality needed to deserve promotion; that, being what he was, he should never have been allowed to rise higher than a district officer, or to receive even the salary of a humdrum collector, is hardly creditable to those concerned.' There is a reference which Taylor, with his peculiarly happy modesty, might not have endorsed, to the inadequacy of the only decorative reward conferred upon him in the Companionship of the Star of India.

MEADOWS TAYLOR OUTSIDE THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY

It is seldom that one biography is so neatly concluded by another as is *The Story of my Life* by Mr. Francis Henry Skrine's *Life of Sir William Wilson Hunter*. (Longmans, 1901.)

This thick volume is unique among Indian memoirs for its stimulating intellectual quality, besides poignant personal interest. Mr. Skrine has written up to his subject. As to Hunter, it is amazing, though but natural, how much better he wrote in his letters than in his books *ad hoc*. Napoleon used to say that he would go down to posterity with his Code in his hand. Hunter may take the same journey holding in his hand Skrine's *Life* of himself, with perhaps the exquisite *Brief History of the Indian Peoples*. The twenty-six volumes of the *Imperial Indian Gazetteer*, of which I have made lavish use in the notes preceding, are too many and too mutable to carry far. Already they contain hardly a paragraph as Hunter wrote it. Yet it was an achievement to initiate and to launch such a collection of indispensable information, with the principle within it of self-renewal.

Hunter was believed to make ruthless use of other people's work. In 1895 he told me at Oxford that, of the ten thousand articles which the *Gazetteer* then contained, he had written with his own hand—doubtless meaning written something in—not less than eight thousand and five hundred articles. This statement has been hotly contested, before and since. But there can be no hesitation about the value of Hunter's standardisation of Indian spelling. Of the two views on the transliteration of Indian names mentioned in the extracts below, Taylor's was no system at all. It was just the whim of the moment; so that, as already shown, Taylor's spelling varies not only from book to book, from decade to decade,

as might be reasonable, but within the same book and actually upon the same page, becoming on the whole rather more uncouth towards the end. This flux, this eccentricity was tardily arrested by what used to be called the Hunterian system. All who resent having to give their minds to trivialities must feel grateful to have a standard of orthodoxy in Indian spelling completely established.

Hunter was born in 1840; dying before he was sixty in 1900, killed either by the Boer War or by his expanding labours upon the *History of British India*. When the extracts which show him to such advantage begin he was still a young man, known as Dr. Hunter, flushed with unusual success, engaged at Bombay in his happy life-work on the *Gazetteer*. There was a kindling quality about him, a touch of personal if not of literary genius.

Mr. Skrine thus annotates the first mention of Taylor's name. 'Colonel Philip Meadows Taylor, C.S.I., Author of the *Confessions of a Thug* (1839), *Tara* (1863), and other brilliant delineations of Indian society at critical stages of its history. . . . He was also an administrator of mark, and rendered splendid services to the Empire, which were poorly requited by the Government of the day'.

Hunter writes to his wife from Bombay, March 13, 1876: 'I am looking after Colonel Meadows Taylor, the Indian novelist. He was sent out for the cold weather to Haidarabad by Sir William Jenner, but has fairly broken down. Poor old man! it is fifty-two years since he entered the Haidarabad Contingent as a subaltern, and he has now become so blind and paralytic that he is carried about like a child by his daughter and a faithful Irish valet. To-day I am taking Miss Meadows Taylor to see our potters at work, and will see them safely shipped off for Europe on the morrow' (Skrine's *Life of Hunter*, p. 252).

Of a later date, the opening of 1878, Mr. Skrine writes of Hunter: 'His own toils and sufferings gave him a rare degree of sympathy for others. We have seen how he befriended Colonel Meadows Taylor during the last sad voyage of the great Indian novelist, who, like Sir Walter Scott, revealed the romance of a vanished past to British readers and, like him, vainly sought relief for an overtasked brain in foreign

travel. His autobiography showed too late how poorly rewarded had been the veteran's services to the Empire, and its perusal impelled Hunter to press the claims of Colonel Meadows Taylor's daughter on the special consideration of the State.' And in a note: 'This transparently truthful autobiography was published in 1877,' etc.

Hunter writes to Sir Erskine Perry (see earlier note) of the India Council, February 12, 1878: 'I have learned quite accidentally that Miss Meadows Taylor is in straitened circumstances. As a Bengal civilian, I had been painfully impressed by her father's posthumous *Story of my Life*. I could not help contrasting the rewards which come as a matter of course in the covenanted service with the scanty promotion earned by his long and exceptional labours. Though technically an "uncovenanted officer", Colonel Meadows Taylor held what are now styled "covenanted" appointments, and yet he had no chance of reaching more lucrative posts, nor is there any pension for his daughter after his death. But it is rather as a man of letters than as an official that I venture to ask your Council as to whether it might be possible to do something in the matter. My personal acquaintance with Colonel Meadows Taylor was a slight one, and in public matters, as regards the revision of Indian proper names, he strongly took up the view opposed to that which it was my duty to carry out. But I have derived more knowledge of Indian life and native character from him than from any other Anglo-Indian writer. His works have given zest and reality to the daily routine of hundreds of young civilians and soldiers, teaching them to study the facts around them, and counteracting the besetting sin of Anglo-Indian life in our day—the tendency to regard India as a temporary place of business rather than as a career or a home. It has fallen to my lot to do something to systematise our knowledge of India, and so to render possible the present method of short periods of service and constant changes, or, at any rate, to strip that method of its most evident evils. The performance of this task has made me the more keenly alive to the administrative value of the influence which Colonel Meadows Taylor's works exercise. They form a most salutary reminder that Indian administration is not, and ought not to be, merely

a matter of system, but one of individual knowledge. The stream of native life which Anglo-Indians see flowing past them with unconcerned or weary eyes, becomes to his readers a drama full of reality and pathos. I believe that I am only one among hundreds of Indian officials who owe their first awakening to this fact to Colonel Meadows Taylor's writings. Surely it must be possible to do something for the daughter of a common benefactor of this sort? I understand that Sir Salar Jang has given a small allowance of £60 a year, but out of his own purse and, therefore, dependent on his own life. The Indian Government spends little enough on literature, and has but few men of letters to pension or reward. The case is not one for relaxing the rules of the uncovenanted service or any other and thus creating an inconvenient precedent. It is the case of a man of rare literary excellence, who gave his whole life and leisure to Indian subjects (in themselves never more than barely remunerative), and has exercised an influence for good on two generations of Indian officials.'

Mr. Skrine adds this note: 'It is greatly to Hunter's credit that he, though one of the elect, should have felt the injustice of these galling class distinctions. Such breadth of view is rare, and still rarer is the generosity which extended a helping hand to the children of one who had opposed a reform very near his heart. The chivalrous intervention was entirely successful.'

Reeve, after consultations with Mr. William Blackwood and Sir Erskine Perry, wrote to the Viceroy, his old friend, enclosing Hunter's letter, and asking him to give Taylor's daughters '£100 a year each, with benefit to the survivor.' As Mr. Skrine says, 'Lord Lytton's sympathies as a man of letters were excited by this appeal.'

The big *Life of Henry Reeve* (Longmans, 1898), which has hitherto been so disappointing as regards Meadows Taylor, gives this letter which Lord Lytton wrote to Mr. Reeve from Government House, Simla, April 20th, 1878:

'I think you in nowise overestimate the value of Meadows Taylor's life and work in India, and I cordially recognise the exceptional claims of the two ladies, on whose behalf you have written to me, to the grant which I regret to hear they

require. Their case is rather a difficult one to deal with, owing to the fact that nearly the whole work of Meadows Taylor's life was performed, not in the service of the Government of India, but in that of the Nizam's Government; and we are precluded, by rules as inflexible as the laws of the Medes and Persians, from granting public money to the distressed survivors of our own public servants on purely compassionate grounds. In my own opinion, however, the claim of these ladies may be fairly admitted on grounds furnished by their father's eminence, not only as a literary man, but also as an administrator, and the fact that his work, though not performed in the service of the Government of India, has been, and is, in various ways, unquestionably beneficial to India. I am glad to say that I have obtained the concurrence of my council in this view of the case, and we propose to grant 100*l.* a year to each of these ladies from the Indian revenues' (*Life of Reeve*, vol. ii. p. 258).

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