

with more chearfulness and obedience, so no Army ever had, or can have, a more unlimited confidence in your equity than we have.

We have the honor to be, in behalf of the Brigade now in the field, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

P. GAILLIEZ,
MATT^w. LESLIE,
A. MACKENZIE,
ALEX^r. HANNAY,
JOHN STAINFORTH.

Camp, 22d October, 1774.

This annexed Paper, being a State of the Case of the Brigade serving in the
Rohilla Country,

S H E W E T H,

THAT when we received the Governor and Council's orders, in the beginning of 1774, we took the field with alacrity and chearfulness, not doubting but we should receive the usual rewards of severe service attended with victory. After three months fatiguing march we joined the Vizier Sujah Dowla's Army, met with and defeated that of the Rohillas. The greatest share, if not the whole of this victory, so very essential to the Vizier, was effected by the Troops of the Company, and by their particular attention to their duty. The spoils of the field and flight fell entirely into the hands of the Troops of the Vizier, who really had not any share in the Action, and was followed by the Thanks, Rewards, and Honors of the Vizier, whilst the Army who had performed this essential Service for him were entirely forgot.

The consequence of this Action was the surrender of Peelebut, Berelly, and Ouhla, with most of the Rohilla Country. That on our arrival at Peelebut, a report prevailed that the Treasure of the beaten Army was deposited there; and, by the example shewn by the Vizier towards his own Troops, we thought we were justly entitled to our proportion of this Treasure, (the spoils of the War) as partners of it, the custom immemorial of all Countries.

We addressed ourselves to the Commander in Chief on this subject, and from the difficulties that arose in the Negotiation with the Vizier on that account, we submitted ourselves and our Rights to the Governor and Council. If we were warm in our opinions on the subject of our Rights, it proceeded from the partiality of the Vizier to his own Troops, and his total neglect of us; for having availed himself of the possession of Peelebut, Berelly, Ouhla, and Bissoulee, he accumulated Treasure to a large amount without any regard to us. We had no sooner got into Winter Quarters, at a very heavy expense, than the Vizier's affairs made it necessary we should again take the field. The severity of the season, the want of necessary equipage and almost every supply, the prospect of a reward for our former services almost extinguished, and little expected for any future, it will not appear surprising, that the chearfulness and harmony, so necessary to the success of the Service we were entering upon, was wanting. Languor and disgust had taken possession;

session; but roused by sentiments of duty and obedience as Soldiers, and animated by what we owed ourselves as men engaged in service, cheerfulness and alacrity were re-established and every difficulty surmounted.

It was at this period that we were informed by the Commander in Chief, that the Vizier, from a just sense of our past services, and to express his gratitude for them, had requested our acceptance of seven Lacks of Rupees. Whether we looked upon this Donation as the effect of his gratitude, or an acknowledgment of our Right to a proportion of the Treasure he possessed himself of, in consequence of the success of our Arms, became doubtful; but we submitted every circumstance to the Governor and Council, and persevering in our march through every difficulty, we at length forced the Enemy into his last Post of defence with all his Treasure and Effects, and having closely invested him, we were for a long time ready and willing to have forced his Works and put an end to the War; and we did hope and expect we should share in the consequences of the Capture; but, from many circumstances, we came to the knowledge of negotiation having taken place instead of force. We did make our application to the Commander in Chief, that we should be included in any Capitulation that should be made, as the Authors of driving the Enemy to this last resource. He informed us it was not in his power to have us included, as it was entirely the affair of the Vizier, to whom he was not liberty to make such application; but to shew his attention towards us and our just Rights, he would interpose his influence to procure us an equivalent proportionate to what we had a right to expect. Resting satisfied with his kind intentions towards us we left the mode to himself. The Rohilla Chiefs having put themselves under the protection of Colonel Champion and the Company's Army (having refused every circumstance of treaty with the Vizier but under our Guarantee) we flattered ourselves we should be included in the Treaty, and had an adequate recompence for our service; but were much mortified to find, that a Treaty was made without any notice being taken of us, and the Treasures we hoped to have a proportion of privately negotiated and disposed of. We did again wait on Colonel Champion, who informed us, that his influence had not had the desired effect towards us, and that it was out of his power to aid or assist us. Under these circumstances we entreat your protection to us, and we hope it is not too late to further intreat your kind influence and interposition with the Vizier in favour of our Rights, that somewhat may be granted from him in lieu of them.

As Soldiers we hope to have deserved your favour, as Men we wish to obtain it, submitting ourselves entirely to your justice.

During the late War in Germany, the Allied Army, under Prince Ferdinand, levied very considerable contributions in the Bishopricks of Munster, Osnaburgh, and Patterburn, proportions of which (under the name of Douceurs) were given to the Troops, according to the different ranks of those who were to receive them. I then served in the Allied Army as a Subaltern Officer, and in the years 1758 and 1759 I received my proportion of these Douceurs as regularly as I did my pay. In consequence of the Battle of Minden, a very considerable part of the Baggage of the French Army fell into the hands of the British Grenadiers at a place called Detmold, which Baggage was sold for the benefit of the Captors, and the amount of the Sales distributed amongst them. In the Allied Army the Troops received a reward for every Piece of Ordnance and Stand of Colours they took; to the best of my memory fifty-two Ducats was the sum granted for the taking a Piece of Cannon, and the reward for taking of Colours was in proportion, but I do not recollect the exact sum.

(Signed)

ALEX^r. HANNAY.

FOR the better elucidation of the subject, the Governor-General begs leave to refer the Board to the Proceedings of the late Council and Select Committee, and to his Correspondence with Colonel Champion now before them, and desires such parts may be read as contain the Letters and Resolutions when the Question of the Prize-Money to the Army was agitated, both on occasion of their claim at Peelebut and of the late Donation. Though it is still his confirmed opinion, that the Army cannot demand from the Vizier, as a Right, any pecuniary consideration for their services, yet he thinks them justly entitled to receive (unless in Cases in which they are restrained by Law) such a Gratuity as the Vizier may voluntarily confer upon them.

It is the Governor General's earnest wish, dictated by a due consideration for the hardships sustained and the services performed by the Army in the late Campaign, but more especially by the decent and temperate disposition which they have manifested in the manner in which they have asserted their pretensions, that the Board would give that degree of sanction to the offer of the Vizier which they are legally empowered to afford, without opposing the spirit or tenor of the late Act of Parliament.

For this purpose he recommends, that the sum offered by the Vizier, as a Gratuity to the Army, be received as a Deposit into the Company's Treasury; and that an application be made in the next General Letter to the Court of Directors, for their interest to obtain the confirmation of the Grant by such legal means as they in their wisdom may chuse to employ. And further, that for the purpose of ascertaining the share which may be due to each individual whenever the distribution shall take place, as well as to inspire them with a greater degree of confidence to hope for the promised reward by defining the object of it, an Account be formed of their respective shares, to be made public, with a declaration, that the money will be kept sacred as a Deposit 'till the pleasure of the Directors shall be known; and as soon as the Board is authorised to pay it, that payment will be made to the Parties, their Heirs, Executors, or Administrators, without any deduction whatsoever.

This Proposal the Governor General acquaints the Board is the substance of what he had offered to the Army some time ago through Colonel Champion, as a measure which might be adopted should they acquiesce in it; and it appears to him, from the Letter now before them, that the Officers would receive it as a favour, and the Army in general be satisfied with leaving the Affair on this footing.

(Signed)

WARREN HASTINGS.

AGREED that the subject of these Letters lie for consideration.

Extract of Secret Consultations, Fort-William, 14th February, 1775.

Colonel Champion sends in the following Letter and Enclosures in consequence of the Copy of the Field-Officers Address to the Governor, communicated to him by Order of the Board.

GENTLEMEN,

Col. Cham-
pion's Re-
marks on
the Field-
Officers
Letter.

1st. **M**R. Secretary Stewart has by your direction furnished me with a Copy of a Letter addressed to Mr. Hastings by the Field Officers of the second Brigade, representing, that they were always ready to do their duty; that "My kind intentions towards them," and my endeavours to influence the Nabob in their behalf, had proved ineffectual; praying Mr. Hastings, therefore, to sympathize with them, and to use "His kind influence and interposition with the Vizier in favour of their Rights, that some-what might be granted from him in lieu of them."

2d. The Troops must no doubt have undertaken any Service which I might have thought proper to have ordered them upon at any time prescribed by his Excellency; and I am sure the proofs of my disposition and of my exertion to procure them rewards are uncontestable.

3d. Nothing but the commands of the late Administration, expressed in terms the most peremptory, and the positive decision given by them and the Governor against any pretensions to Prize-Money, which it was said "Ought to be avoided like poison," could have restrained my inclinations of dividing the amount of the Tuncaw for three Lacks, which the Vizier offered to pay out of the fifteen Lacks received from Fyzoola Khan.

The Gentlemen say they were mortified to find, that a Treaty was made without any notice being taken of them, and the Treasures they hoped to have a proportion of negotiated and disposed of without their privacy.

See Extract
of Letter
produced
28th May.

The instructions which I received from time to time on the subject of Prize-Money were all duly read to the Field Officers. They knew that I should only act as a mediator; they knew that the Governor had expressed his displeasure at suffering Lieutenant-Colonel Leslie, &c. even to speak to the Nabob. I am concerned, therefore, that Gentlemen of the rank of Field Officers in the Service, thus perfectly acquainted with the Orders under which I acted, and with the disagreeable predicament of my being subject to the commands of the Vizier, should suppose that I could oblige his Excellency to make them a party to the Treaty or privy to his negotiations; or that they, who have repeatedly thanked me for my exertions to promote the interest of the Army in general, and of the Field Officers in particular, should suffer themselves to imagine that I would not have gladly served them on that occasion had it been in my power.

The testimonies of my good wishes towards the Army being already upon record, in several Letters to the Administration and to the Governor, I have only to add here, with respect to their Address to Mr. Hastings, that I shall be happy to understand they may thereby

Extracts contained in Colonel Champion's Letter. Appendix, No. XXII.

thereby prevail upon him to become their advocate; and it is my earnest wish, that although the supplication is confined to him alone, all of you, Gentlemen, may espouse the Cause of the Army, that their Rights, of whatsoever nature, may be clearly defined and ascertained.

I produce herewith Extracts of Orders, dated 21st and 28th May, 3d June, received from the Board and the Governor regarding Prize-Money; also Extract of a Letter to Mr. Hastings on this subject, under date 25th of October, with Copies of two Letters to Colonel Galliez explanatory thereof.

I have the honor, &c.

(Signed)

Calcutta, 11th February, 1775.

A. CHAMPION.

Extract of a Letter from the Governor to Colonel Champion, dated 21st May.

"HITHERTO every part of your conduct has met with my most entire approbation; but there is one subject which in some measure alarms me. The very idea of Prize-Money suggests to my remembrance the former disorders which arose in our Army from this source, and had almost proved fatal to it. Of this circumstance you must be sufficiently apprized, and of the necessity for discouraging every expectation of this kind among the Troops; it is to be avoided like poison."

(Signed)

A. CHAMPION.

Extract of a Letter from the Governor, 28th May, 1774.

"I HAVE already expressed my sentiments upon the subject of Prize-Money to the Army. The only instance wherein our Troops in the present Service could have any pretensions to it by the Customs of War, would be in the actual assault of a place by storm; in every other case, it is clear that the Capture becomes the sole property of the Power carrying on the War. In the instance of Peelebut, which made no sort of defence whatever, but fell with the whole Rohilla Country into the hands of the Nabob in consequence of the Victory, we had no more right to search or interfere at all in the Riches it contained, than we had to ransack every defenceless village or house in the open Country for Plunder. It is true that our General obtained that Victory, and our Troops bore the blunt of the Action, but such was the tenor of our engagements with the Vizier; in consideration of which he stipulated to pay a certain sum to the Company, and to bear the whole expence of the Service. His own argument is unanswerable on this subject; if we deprive him of the fruits of his Conquest, we infringe the Agreement upon which the Expedition was set on foot; and he has a right on his side to refuse the payment stipulated to us, because he depended on the fruits of his Conquest to enable him to make that payment."

"With regard to Peelebut, and to every Capture on the present Service, except perhaps in the Case of Plunder taken in an actual assault, the Right is clearly the Nabob's, and will admit of no dispute. This is my positive decision on the subject, which must be regarded by you as an instruction for your conduct until you receive the sentiments of the Select-Committee, in case you should judge it necessary to apply to them upon this subject."

"With respect to the behaviour of the Gentlemen present at your conversation with the Vizier, of which he complains, I am extremely sorry that an inattention to the established customs among people of rank in this Country, which I am well convinced could not be intended on your part, should have been the cause of so much mortification to the Vizier; for, agreeably to their ideas of respect, it must have been extremely hurtful to him, when he came to converse with you upon a particular point of importance, to find those whom he regarded as inferiors obtrude their conversation upon him. To avoid every disagreeable circumstance of this kind, I have always made it a rule myself to have no person present upon such occasions, except where an Interpreter was necessary, and he only for the purpose

pose of explaining what was said. I recommend the same practice to be invariably pursued by you; and in the present case I am in some measure necessitated to prescribe this mode to you, as the means whereby a free intercourse of opinions may take place between you and the Vizier, and all uneasiness and misapprehensions be avoided."

(A true Copy)

A. CHAMPION.

Extract of a Letter from the Governor and Council, 3d June, 1774.

"IT gives us great concern to find a claim urged by the Army, and supported by you with no inconsiderable degree of warmth, which we deem equally improper, and at this time ill founded. We cannot admit of any Right in the Troops to a share of the Treasures which the Vizier may acquire in the Rohilla Country. He is the Principal in the War, and to him every Acquisition of right belongs, Treasure and Effects as well as Territory, &c.

"It is however certain, that in no event either would we, or could we have made any stipulation for the Army. The bad effects of a similar measure were but too plainly felt in a former period, and our Honorable Masters did not fail, on that occasion, to reprobate with their censure, in the most severe terms, a practice, which they regarded as the source of infinite evils, and which, if established, would, in their judgment, necessarily bring corruption and ruin on their Army.

"Further, Sir, for your more particular information on a subject, concerning which it appears you have so widely misunderstood both our motives and sentiments, we think proper to communicate to you, as a Member of the Administration, an Extract of the Paragraph of the General Letter of the 24th December, 1765, in which you will find (what it would seem you did not suspect) a positive prohibition from the Court of Directors against all such stipulations for the future.

"This Paper, independent of argument, must appear conclusive on the point; you will therefore take the proper method to convey a positive and firm declaration to the Troops, that they are not to expect any share of the Riches acquired by the Vizier in this Conquest. Indeed the consequences which you signify to us are to be apprehended from our refusing this gratification are sufficiently alarming; but, at the same time, were there no other reason, the very appearance of so dangerous a spirit in the Troops would determine us to oppose it in the beginning; and we rely on your conduct and firmness, and that subordination and strict discipline which experience has taught us it has always been your pride to maintain, for enforcing, with the support of your Second in command and the other Field-Officers, these Orders, and procuring a complete acquiescence in them from all the Officers and Soldiers of the Army. Indeed we are persuaded that the general disposition is to obedience, however a few unruly spirits or unthinking men may have expressed different sentiments.

"We conclude with recommending, in the warmest manner, that you exert yourself in bringing the Troops to a proper disposition on the subject in question, and that you discourage in future those occasional reports of Riches and Treasure found by the Vizier, which are generally founded on idle rumour, and the cupidity or self-interest of individuals, and which can only tend to mislead the Soldier into hopes which can never be realized, and instil notions into him very incompatible with his duty and profession."

(Signed)

A. CHAMPION.

From Colonel Champion to Colonel Galliez, dated, Camp, 22d October, 1774.

I THINK it due in friendship thus privately to suggest to you the necessity of most maturely considering the tendency of the steps that have been taken with your sanction, and without my previous knowledge, within these few days regarding Prize-Money. What I allude to, is a matter mentioned to me by Lieutenant-Colonel Leslie, the assembling the Captains and Field-Officers, and entering into consultations on matters not communicated to me. You, who are in a few days to have immediate charge of the Army, reflect on the temper of the Governor and the Administration regarding the Address I preferred myself on this subject, and which more fully represented the claims

of

of the Troops than do the Papers returned to you a little ago, the sum whereof is only the trite expressions, "Immemorial Customs," without a single precedent to support them.

Be assured that this Letter is dictated by real friendship, and I hope it will be received in that light.

I remain, &c.

(Signed)

A. CHAMPION.

From Colonel Champion to Colonel Galliez, 22d October, 1774.

"**A** GREEABLY to your request signified to me this morning, I return you the Letter addressed to Mr. Hastings by yourself and the Field-Officers."

"At the same time that I return you these Papers, let me desire you in the fullest manner inform yourself, and the other Field-Officers whose Signatures appear, of the exceptions which I told Lieutenant-Colonel Leslie occurred respecting particular parts of them."

"It is premised in the Letter, that 'There is not one amongst us who is not convinced that if our situation were fully known to you, &c.' When I communicated the Opinion of the Administration, that the Troops had no right or pretensions to Prize-Money, I recollect, Sir, receiving the thanks of these very Officers for having spontaneously and so heartily interested myself in behalf of the Army; on a subsequent occasion too I remember having the pleasure of the like compliment; how then are these acknowledgments of gratitude reconcileable to the insinuation which the above paragraph conveys, that the claims of the Army have not been fully represented."

"You have all been already informed, that the Governor has kindly proposed to take such steps, as may best answer to secure to the Troops the seven Lacks of which the Vizier has requested their acceptance; if that sum is thought inadequate, or if it is supposed that the Vizier's Agreement with Fyzoolla Khan should be made an argument for obtaining an addition to it, be pleased to make the necessary alterations in the Address, which may be done without rendering it's force less efficacious, and I will forward it; but I must at the same time be candid enough to declare, that I am apprehensive such measures as these may endanger even the seven Lacks."

Bhaize-Gaut,
Camp, 22d October, 1774.

A. CHAMPION.

Extract of a Letter from Colonel Champion to the Governor, dated
25th October, 1774.

"**T**WO or three days before I left the Army some measures were taken respecting Prize-Money, which, I am concerned to inform you, favoured strongly of ingratitude; I of course discountenanced it; but lest you may receive any Address on the subject in consequence of my departure, I am to request it may not be submitted to discussion, or receive your answer till I shall have the pleasure of seeing you; and am also to beg it may not prejudice the Army in your opinion; for it would give me infinite concern that the whole should suffer in any degree by the intemperate or indigested measures of a few."

A. CHAMPION.

The Governor-General requests the authority of the Board, to communicate to the Field-Officers of the second Brigade the recommendation to the Court of Directors concerning their Address to him on the subject of Prize-Money.

AGREED, That the Governor may communicate this recommendation to them accordingly.

Extract of Secret Consultations, Fort-William, 24th February, 1774.

Read the following Letter from Colonel Leslie and Major Hannay to John Stewart, Esquire, Secretary to the Honorable Governor-General and Council.

S I R,

Col. Leslie and Major Hannay want a Copy of Col. Champion's Remarks on their Letter.

UNDERSTANDING that Colonel Champion has been furnished from your Office with Copies of the Letter of the Field-Officers and the State of the Case of the Army serving in the Rohilla Country, laid before the Honorable Board by the Governor-General, we request, that in case Colonel Champion has made any reply to it, that you will be pleased to make application to the Honorable Board that we may in like manner be indulged with a Copy of his Reply.

We are, &c.

Calcutta,
February 18th, 1775.

(Signed)

MATTHEW LESLIE.
ALEXANDER HANNAY.

Mr. Francis thinks that the Field-Officers should not have a Copy of Colonel Champion's Reply.

Mr. Barwell.—The same reason which influenced the Board to send to Colonel Champion the Letter from the Field-Officers is in force on the present occasion, and I apprehend should determine a compliance with the Field-Officers' request.

Colonel Monson thinks that Colonel Leslie and Major Hannay should not have a Copy of Colonel Champion's Reply to their Letter.

The General also thinks they should not be allowed a Copy.

The Governor-General is of opinion that it cannot with justice be refused them, as their Letter was communicated to Colonel Champion for the purpose of enabling him to make his Remarks upon it, and, for a much stronger reason, they ought to be permitted to see those Remarks.

Not granted.

RESOLVED, That a Copy of Colonel Champion's Letter be not granted to the Field-Officers.

A P P E N D I X, No. XXIII.

Extract of Secret Consultations, Fort-William, 2d January, 1775.

The Letter and Case of the Field-Officers, with the Governor-General's Minute upon them, recorded in Consultation 19th December, having been sent in circulation for the consideration and opinions of the Board, the following Minute was received from the General, Colonel Monson, and Mr. Francis.

Fort-William, 31st December, 1774.

Opinion of the General, Col. Monson, and Mr. Francis on the Donation to the Army.

GENERAL CLAVERING, Colonel Monson, and Mr. Francis have taken into consideration the Letter addressed to the Governor by the Field-Officers of the second Brigade, under date the 22d October, 1774, with State of the Case of that Brigade therein referred to, and the Governor's Minute thereupon communicated to them this day. We are agreed in opinion that a Copy of the two former Papers should be forthwith transmitted to Colonel Champion, as they seem to convey intimations to the prejudice of his character.

We

We think ourselves restricted by the Act of Parliament from giving our consent to the Army's accepting any sum of money, as a Gratuity or Donation from the Vizier, after the 1st of August, 1774; at the same time we are desirous not to disappoint the wishes and expectations of the Brigade, if it can be done without a violation of the Law, or with the consent of the Legislature; for this reason we assent to the expedient proposed by the Governor-General.

In giving our consent to a Proposition, which has for it's ultimate object the acceptance of money by the Army, we cannot but lament the difficult and distressing situation to which the measures of the late Administration have reduced the present Government, by placing us between the strict prohibition of the Law and the earnest desires of the Army. The unhappy consequences of an offensive War, undertaken on such principles as that against the Rohillas, must operate in every direction. An innocent Nation, who had given us no sort of offence, are stript of their property; one part of the conquering Army engrosses the whole plunder, the other is disgusted, languor and despondence succeed; and when at last our Troops return home, the difficulty of deciding between their claims and the prohibition of the Law is thrown upon the Civil Government. If those claims should finally be gratified, the rest of the Army will of course look forward to similar means of acquiring wealth; if they should be refused, we do not doubt of the dutiful submission of the Army to the pleasure of the Legislature; but we could have wished that there had been no such occasion of putting their obedience to the trial. The fatal effects of such measures had been often felt in this Country; many of them had particularly fallen within Mr. Hastings's experience, and ought naturally to have deterred him from involving himself and his Constituents in schemes of the same dangerous nature.

(Signed)

J. CLAVERING.
GEO. MONSON.
P. FRANCIS.

RESOLVED, That the expedient proposed by the Governor-General, in his Minute of the 19th ultimo, be adopted, viz.

That the Sum offered by the Vizier, as a Gratuity to the Army, be received as a Deposit into the Company's Treasury, and that an application be made in the next General Letter to the Court of Directors, for their interest to obtain the confirmation of the Grant by such legal means as they in their wisdom may chuse to employ. And further, that for the purpose of ascertaining the share which may be due to each individual, whenever the distribution shall take place, as well as to inspire them with a greater degree of confidence to hope for the promised reward, by defining the object of it, an Account be formed of their respective shares, to be made public, with a declaration, that the money will be kept sacred as a Deposit 'till the pleasure of the Court of Directors shall be known; and as soon as the Board is authorized to pay it, that payment will be made to the Parties, their Heirs, Executors, or Administrators, without any deduction whatsoever.

A P P E N D I X, No. XXIV.

Extract of Secret Consultations, Fort-William, 19th December, 1774.

The Secretary acquaints the Board, that since the last Meeting he had received the following Minute from the Governor, with a Note signifying the Approval of the Board, and that he immediately issued the Summons ordered in it.

THE Governor-General conceiving that it is of very material importance to the elucidation of many points, on which the judgment of the Honorable Court of Directors, respecting the propriety and conduct of the Rohilla War, may depend, that certain Questions be put to Colonel Champion, and the other Field Officers who have served in the late Campaign, desires that Colonel Champion, Colonel Maclean, Lieutenant-
Proposal for the Field Officers of the Second Brigade to be questioned on the Rohilla War.

ant-Colonel Leslie, and Major Hannay, who are now in Calcutta, be summoned to attend the Board on Monday next for that purpose, that such Questions may be proposed to them, and their Answers taken in the presence of the Board.

(Signed)

WARREN HASTINGS.

Colonel Champion sends in the following Letter.

To the Honorable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor-General, &c. Council of Fort-William.

GENTLEMEN,

Colonel Champion's Answer to the Summons, &c. **O**N the 15th instant I was honored with your favour of the 12th, desiring to have a complete Copy of my Correspondence with the President of the late Administration; and I have since received a Letter addressed to me at your command by Mr. Secretary Stewart, requesting my attendance in the Council-House this forenoon, to answer some Questions which the Board think necessary to put to me respecting the late Campaign.

In reply to the first of these Letters, I must beg leave to refer you to the Governor-General; he was at the head of the late Administration, has now the honor to preside at your own Board, and is in possession of all my Letters relative to the late War. A great number of the Letters which I wrote on that subject, Gentlemen, were addressed to Mr. Hastings in a familiar style, were not intended for the public eye.

By your application to me for them, Gentlemen, I am induced to imagine, that perhaps he may have declined producing them from certain motives of delicacy; an equal return,—the same share of delicacy, is due to him from me; I am persuaded, Sirs, your candour as Gentlemen will approve it; and when I declare to you, upon my honor, that I have no other objection to lay the Correspondence before you, I hope you will excuse my doing Mr. Hastings the compliment of referring you to him for an answer to your request.

With respect to the desire signified in your Secretary's Letter, I would with much pleasure give my attendance, but that I am prevented by indisposition. This however is not my only reason for denying myself the honor of waiting on you; I owe it to myself, Gentlemen, to be cautious of giving precipitate or undigested Answers to Questions, concerning a subject of so great and so public importance as I have always considered the Rohilla War, especially as I presume to think they will chiefly regard matters of opinion; I hope you will therefore consider it reasonable, and consistent with that candour which I am sure you wish to manifest, that your interrogatories should be previously given me in writing.

I have desired to be furnished with Copies of the Proceedings of the late and present Government concerning my Correspondence, &c. during the Rohilla Campaign; I wish also to be favoured with a List of all my Letters that have been submitted to your Board and to the late Council and Select Committee. When I shall have perused these and your Questions, I shall have it in my power to comply with your desire with more precision and perspicuity, in a manner more satisfactory to you, Gentlemen, and to myself.

I have the honor to be, &c.

Fort-William,
December 19th, 1774.

(Signed)

A. CHAMPION.

The Governor's Declaration.

The Governor-General declares to the Board, that he is ready to submit the whole of his Correspondence with Colonel Champion, provided he consents to it; that he will not admit in any shape the plea of delicacy urged by Colonel Champion towards him, as he is conscious that there is nothing in the whole Correspondence, but what, if it should appear, would do credit both to his conduct and sentiments, as well as to the manner in which he communicated them to Colonel Champion; therefore he begs that a reference may be again made by the Board to Colonel Champion for these Letters.

AGREED, That a Copy of this Minute be transmitted to Colonel Champion with the following Letter:

To Colonel ALEXANDER CHAMPION.

SIR,

WE enclose you a Copy of a Minute of the Governor-General in reply to your Letter of this date, in consequence of which we are again to request your Answer upon the subject of our former demand. Sent to Col. Champion with a Letter.

We are exceedingly sorry to hear of your indisposition, which among other things prevented your attendance this day, but cannot admit the reasons which you are pleased to urge for declining to answer verbally to the Questions we intended to put to you on the subject of the Rohilla War. We believe the chief of these Questions might be answered by you without much deliberation; but should any occur of a sort which appeared to you to demand more mature reflection, we doubtless would take your objections into consideration. We are persuaded on this footing you will not hesitate to comply; we therefore must beg that you will give us notice whenever your health will permit you to attend, to answer verbally as we at first proposed.

The other points unanswered of your Letter before us will be answered as soon as we conveniently can take them into consideration.

We are, &c.

Fort-William,
19th December, 1774.

THE Governor lays before the Board the following Questions, which he proposes to put to the Field-Officers who have been summoned to attend, all of whom, excepting Colonel Champion, he understands are now in waiting; he also proposes that they should be sent to Colonel Galliez for his Answer in writing, and acquaints the Board that he wishes they should be also put to Mr. Nathaniel Middleton on his arrival at the Presidency.

- 1st. Was the Vizier guilty of oppression over the Inhabitants of the new conquered Country?
- 2d. Did the Vizier first send out Parties to burn and ravage the Country of the Rohillas on the commencement of the War, or was Hafiz Rhamut Khan the aggressor in this instance?
- 3d. Are the Rohillas the native Inhabitants and Cultivators of the Country, or were they only in possession of it as Conquerors? And were the native Inhabitants and Cultivators of the Lands of the same sect and religion, or different from the Rohillas?
- 4th. Have the native Inhabitants deserted the Country since the conquest of it, and in what state is it at present?
- 5th. Was the Vizier guilty of cruelties to the Families of the Rohilla Chiefs, and in what instances?
- 6th. Did you hear of a Report of any attempt made by the Vizier to violate the chastity of the Wives and Daughters of the Rohilla Chiefs who had fallen into his hands, and do you believe there were grounds for the Report?
- 7th. What is the national character of the Rohillas, their manner of making war, and their conduct to their conquered enemies?
- 8th. Is the Ganges easily fordable in many, and in what places, and at what season of the year? Are the Fords defensible, and are they universally known?
- 9th. Is it likely that the Marattas, or any other Country Enemy, would venture to cross the Ganges, and invade the Rohilla Country, while our Army was present, or in the neighbourhood; or, in such case, would they easily make their retreat with our Army pursuing them?
- 10th. Is it generally known, or have you any account on which you can depend, of the amount of the Wealth acquired by the Vizier by the Plunder of the Rohilla Country, and of what articles is it said to consist?

Mr. Francis declares his Opinion upon these Questions in the following Words:

I THINK that many of these Questions ought not, in point of strict regularity, to be put to the Gentlemen now attending, as they have no direct and immediate relation to their respective Offices; their Answers consequently can only have the weight of private

vate opinions with me, and no more than those of any other Officers of the second Brigade. I have however no objection to the Questions being proposed, provided that the Gentlemen receive a proper caution with respect to the accuracy of their Answers, as these matters may perhaps hereafter be the subject of a judicial enquiry.

Mr. Barwell thinks the reasons assigned by the Governor-General in his Minute shew the necessity and propriety of putting the Questions proposed; that as to any particular caution, he does not think it requires any to be given, as every Gentleman called in this manner will no doubt answer with sufficient recollection and circumspection.

Mr. Monson has no objection to the Questions being put, although he thinks many of them are foreign to the departments in which the Gentlemen acted in the Field.

General Clavering has no objection to the Questions being put, with the restrictions mentioned by Mr. Francis.

RESOLVED, That the Questions be put as proposed by the Governor-General.

It being now Two o'Clock,

AGREED, That the Board adjourn 'till the evening to examine the Field Officers, and to proceed to the other business before the Board.

The Board met at six o'clock in the evening, all the Members present according to adjournment.

Lieutenant-Colonel Leslie called in; and the Questions above entered being put to him, he replies as follows, viz.

To the First. I would beg leave to distinguish between the real Inhabitants and the acquired ones. By the acquired ones, I mean the Rohillas or Afghans, who conquered the Country and became the Masters of it. I believe the Gentoo Inhabitants were not oppressed. The Riots have been as much cherished by him as they ever were under any former Government, except at the time of the March of the Army through their Country, but that they returned to their Plough immediately after, and seemed to be as happy as ever.

To the Second. The day before our March from Shahabad the Country upon the opposite side of the River Gurrah was in flames, and, upon my enquiry into the matter, I learned it was by order of the Vizier, that he had sent several Detachments of his Light Cavalry for that purpose; but I believe the Inhabitants of those Villages had withdrawn themselves from them, and taken sanctuary in Shawjehanpore.

To the Third. I have already explained this. The Rohillas were the Conquerors of the Country, and a very different people from the native Inhabitants; the Rohillas being Mussulmen, and the Natives Hindoos.

To the Fourth. The native Inhabitants, after I left Bissoulee, between that and Symbut, were all at their habitations, and had returned to the cultivation of the Country. When I went down towards the Banks of the Ganges it was highly cultivated; but about Pattergur, which was the Place of Arms, and Retreat of the Rohillas before they retired to Lall Dang as their last resource, there was no cultivation but of Sugar.

To the Fifth. I protest I have heard a great deal of severities exercised on the Families of the Chiefs of the Rohillas, but I cannot positively speak to any of them but from hear-say. I am afraid there was too much reason to give the world a liberty to say that they were ill-treated. There was one instance in which I thought it was necessary that I should interpose; I had been sent into Peelebut, where the Wife and Family of Hafiz Rhamur were, and after a series of conversation with his Sons, at which Major Hannay and Mr. Murray were present, I had a message from the Begum to request that I would speak to her; I returned for answer, that I was sorry it was out of my power, as my conduct was prescribed to me, but that I would receive any message she would send to me; she sent her Son in return to acquaint me, that the business she wanted to speak to me on, was to beg that I would intercede with Colonel Champion to protect her from any insult which might be offered her by the Vizier; in consequence of her request, I went to Colonel Champion, and begged that he would give every sanction in his power, and address the

Vizier

Field-Officers examined respecting the Rohilla War. Appendix, No. XXIV.

Vizier upon the occasion, which the Colonel promised to do; this is the only occasion I had to apply to Colonel Champion on the subject. I hear that many others did exist; I have heard a great deal reported of this kind; I believe a great deal of it, and had reason to disbelieve a great deal, as the reports were so improbable I did not give ear to them. The Messages from the Begum mentioned no instance of severity or ill treatment to her at that time; there could have nothing happened, as it was the very day we marched to Peelebut.

To the Sixth. Those are the vague reports which I wished in general to inform you of, but indeed there were particular ones, which were attended with such circumstances, that I could scarce give any credit to them from the situation of the parties; there was a particular one at Bissoulee, one of the Daughters of the Rohilla Chief of that Place, whom they said he had committed violence upon, and that she had in consequence poisoned herself; and knowing the situation of the Vizier at that time, I thought it almost impracticable, which made me give very little credit to the stories which I heard at the time of such a nature.

To the Seventh. Upon my word, as little as I am acquainted with those points, I can't possibly give an opinion but upon conjecture, and which every other person is fully as capable of as myself; but from the general character of this race of people, who took possession of that Country from the native Inhabitants, they made them till their ground, left them a subsistence, and kept the rest for themselves. I can't tell what their conduct was to their conquered enemies, as they conquered none within my knowledge of them, except the Inhabitants of that Country whom, as I mentioned before, they kept in subjection.

To the Eighth. The Ganges running through the Rohilla Country becomes at this time of the year, I believe, in some places fordable, and continues so 'till the end of March or beginning of April, at which time the snow melting upon the adjacent mountains, swells the River, and it is not passable but by Boats. There are several Fords from Hardwa Gaut to Ramgaut; they are all defensible, as is the Country all down that side the River, having in general very high banks; the opposite side is quite flat, and are universally known to people in the neighbourhood, because there is a continual intercourse between the Countries on both sides of the River.

To the Ninth. I don't believe, if our Army was posted there, that the Marattas durst make an attempt to enter in by any part of that River, or any other Power of Indostan; I mean, by our Army, the Brigade that was stationed there; if they did, it is very clear they might make a retreat, as our Army could not come up with Cavalry. If they should cross the River, it must be with their Horses, only they could not have any equipage, appointments or subsistence; and it must be merely for a day, as they could not bring any appointments or subsistence along with them.

To the Tenth. I can't positively say with regard to the amount of the Sum the Vizier possessed himself of, but report I believe made it a great deal more than it really was, though I am convinced it amounted to a very considerable Sum; report made it from one, two, to three millions of money; I believe the principal articles of it to have consisted in Bullion and Specie. There were a number of Camels and Elephants, but these were very inconsiderable in comparison with the former.

The General now begs leave to propose some Questions to Colonel Leslie:

Question. I observe that you mentioned, in reply to the first Question, that the Vizier behaved well to the ancient Inhabitants, and I now desire to know how he behaved to the Rohillas?

Answer. The prisoners who fell into the hands of the Vizier, which I believe to be very few, are now entertained in his service; there are some of the Sons of Hafiz Rhamut, two particularly whom I knew, and have often seen riding in his Suite; he generally took one of these out with him all the time he was at Bissoulee; their appearance was good, and I think the same as the rest of his Cavalry, and they appeared contented, but no doubt he kept a watchful eye upon them.

Question. Are there any Fords lower than Ramgaut on the Ganges?

Answer. I am satisfied there are several Fords between Ramgaut and Allahabad; I have crossed at Allahabad frequently myself.

Question from the Governor: What is the general breadth of the River from Harhwa to the Southern Extremity of the Rohilla Country?

Answer,

Answer. I did not come down by the River, but from Hardwa to Weynagaut, (about twelve Coss.) The River appeared to be about as broad as at Calcutta; at Ramgaut it is broader, and thence continues all the way downwards the same way and size as down Bahar, and intercepted by sands and islands. By the River I mean the body of the water, which when I saw it was about as broad as it is here.

Question by the General: What is the distance from Shahabad, the Frontier of the Province of Oude, to Lall-Dang, the Extremity of the Rohilla Country?

Answer. I believe it to be about 200 miles.

Question. Do you know the latitude of Lall-Dang?

Answer. The latitude I think is 30 degrees 40 minutes north.

Question. How far do you reckon it to be from Lall-Dang to Delhi?

Answer. Delhi I believe is in 28.

Question. Whilst the Army was in the Rohilla Country could it have prevented a Maratta Army entering the Province of Bahar?

Answer. The Marattas might have entered the Province of Bahar by many inroads, as the Brigade were at too great a distance to prevent them.

Question. If a Maratta Army had entered the Province of Bahar at that time, do you know of any Troops that could have opposed their coming to Cossimbuzar?

Answer. If they had made their entrance by the Province of Corah, I really do not know what disposition the Vizier had made of his Troops in the lower Country to oppose their passage; if they had come further down the Country, I do not know of any Troops nearer than Burrampore, nor what disposition Governor Hastings had made to oppose their passage to Cossimbuzar; certainly, if the Vizier had not made a proper disposition of his Troops in the lower Country, they could have penetrated as far as Cossimbuzar.

Question from the Governor: Did you hear of any Maratta Troops being in the Rohilla Country, or near it, or expected there, at the time our Troops entered it?

Answer. After our retreat to Winter Quarters, there was a Report that Fyzoolla Khan waited a junction of the Maratta Force, and expected a considerable number of Maratta Troops, with whose aid he intended to take the Field again, and I think the time he expected them to come was about the time that the River would become fordable; but the Report lost its credit immediately from the divisions that existed among the Maratta Chiefs.

Question from the General: Did the Army consider the War in which they were engaged as one that did honor to the British Name, or such as disgraced it?

Answer. I cannot answer for the opinion of others upon this subject, I can only answer for my own.

Question. Who provided the Contingencies of the Army?

Answer. The Commissary-General; at the beginning of the Campaign they were supplied by the Paymaster until the arrival of the Commissary-General's Deputy.

Question. Did you ever know in any Army that the person who provided the Contingencies had the control of them?

Answer. There were many controls upon the persons who supplied the Armies I have served in, but I do not recollect any Agent of Supplies controlling his own Accounts.

Question from Colonel Monson: Had you any Map of the Rohilla Country furnished by the Governor when you went to the Army?

Answer. No; I believe there were very few extant. I applied to the Governor for such as he had of the upper Country, i. e. of the upper parts of Bahar and Province of Oude, and he informed me the only one he had he had promised to Captain Toone.

Question. Do you know if Colonel Champion was furnished with Maps of the Country?

Answer. I believe he had some Maps of the Country; I have seen scraps of them, but he did not communicate them to me.

Question by Mr. Francis: How long since the Rohillas have been established in that Country?

Answer. About 50 years.

Question. When you were sent into Peelebut, did the Begum send the Trinkets and Ornaments of the Women to you, desiring your acceptance of them, and what answer did you send her?

Answer. The Begum did send her Trinkets and Ornaments to me. When Major Hannay, Mr. Murray and I were sent into Peelebut we went as three Commissioners, in conjunction

junction with three of the Vizier's, to examine the Treasury, and search for the Military Chest of the beaten Army. We searched the Treasury, and every other place but the Zenanas, which we were forbid to enter. The Women of the Zenana sent their Trinkets, from a supposition that they were a part of the Treasure, which we returned to them, acquainting them that we did not come in search of their Trinkets, but for the Treasure deposited there.

Question. Did the Vizier afterwards take away those Trinkets and Ornaments from the Women?

Answer. I believe he did; I am pretty sure he did take them away the next day.

Question. Was it the enormity of the Reports circulated concerning the Vizier's conduct to the Families of the Rohilla Chiefs which made you think them improbable?

Answer. No, it was not; they were the circumstances of the Reports.

Question. Is not the Vizier, notwithstanding the unhappy state of his health, notoriously addicted to Women, and accustomed to gratify the sudden impulse of his passions at any rate?

Answer. I believe he is as much addicted to Women as most people, and that he would go as far to gratify them.

Question by the Governor: Was he at this time in a condition to gratify his passions?

Answer. From the accounts I had of him I don't think he was.

Question by Mr. Francis: Do you believe that the Vizier ever entered the Zenanas of any of the Rohilla Chiefs?

Answer. I don't know; I believe he did.

Question. Is not the Family of a noble Moor dishonoured by a man's forcibly entering the Zenana and seeing the Women?

Answer. Yes, I believe it is.

Question. Was you employed in our Army in the year 1773, when it acted in defence of the Rohillas against the Marattas?

Answer. No.

Question. Did the Vizier make any suitable allowance for the maintenance of the Families of the conquered Chiefs, or were they abandoned to distress and misery for want of the common necessities of life at any time?

Answer. The Vizier has I am told settled allowances,—Jaghires upon most of them, but I believe not sufficient to keep them in that way of life they were brought up in; but upon my word I don't know what distresses they have been brought to, as they are confined within his Forts, but the report of the world says they suffer great distress.

Question. Did the Vizier make use of any, and what contrivances, to possess himself of all the Treasure in the Treasuries of the chief Towns to the exclusion of the English Troops?

Answer. The Vizier took all the Treasure he could find in the Towns without regard to the Company's Troops.

Question. Was it the English Troops or those of the Vizier which conquered the Rohilla Country?

Answer. I believe the Company's Troops were the Principals of the Conquest, and I am sure they were.

Question. Is the Vizier able to defend and secure his new Conquest without the constant presence of our Brigade in the Rohilla Country?

Answer. If you confine it merely to that his own Troops will be sufficient to defend it.

Question. How far is Ramgaut from the Frontiers of Oude?

Answer. About seventy or eighty English miles.

Question. When you were sent to join the Brigade, were you informed of the object of the Expedition, that is, whether it was to invade or to defend the Rohillas?

Answer. I knew it was ordered to join the second Brigade and Sujah Dowla's Army, but I did not know the nature of the Service on which I was to be employed.

Question. Was it commonly said or believed in the Country that the Rohillas had been sacrificed to the Vizier by the English Government?

Answer. No, I never heard it; but the Rohillas said, if we had not been in junction with Sujah Dowla they would have been an equal match for him, and it was owing to the power of the English Troops that he conquered them.

Question from the General: Were the Rohilla Chiefs, whom you said were now confined, taken in battle, or did they surrender themselves by capitulation?

Answer. They surrendered at discretion.

Question. How long do you suppose the Army would be in marching from Lall-Dang to Calcutta ?

Answer. Near three months ; two at least.

Colonel Leslie desires time to consider further on this last Question, and as it becomes a part of his duty, he will do it with the greatest exactness.

The Governor desires to add this Question for Colonel Leslie's consideration :

In what time he imagines a whole Brigade, or part of it, would be able upon an emergency to come to Calcutta by water at the different seasons of the year ? and Colonel Leslie is desired to consider this Question in it's full extent.

Major Hannay called in.

To the first Question. To the best of my knowledge I saw no signs of oppression to the Inhabitants of the new conquered Country ; but from particular enquiries which I had an opportunity of making of the Country people, they said they had met with no treatment that they could complain of ; that, from the treatment they had met with, they had no reason to fear greater severity from the Vizier than their former Masters.

To the Second. I believe both the Vizier and the Rohillas were concerned in burning the Villages. I was informed, that some days before our arrival at Shahabad the Rohillas had burned some Villages towards Mamdy, in the Vizier's ancient Dominions.

To the Third. I have learned from many people, that it is only within fifty years that the Rohillas have become Masters of the Country to the north of the Ganges ; that they were originally Afghans, came into Indostan under a Sirdar named Doud Cawn, and that they conquered that Country from the Hindoos ; and that since that time they have followed no other profession than that of Arms, and the ancient Hindoos have cultivated the Country. The Rohillas are Mussulmen, of the Sect of Omar, and that the Cultivators of the Country are Hindoos. I suppose the proportion to be about nine Hindoos to one Mussulman.

To the Fourth. Several of the native Inhabitants of course had followed the Rohillas to Pattergur and Lall-Dang, but the proportion of them was very small, and several of them to my knowledge returned before the War was finished to their former habitations. At the time that I went upon an Expedition from Bissoulee to Sumbul, Moradabad, and Rampore, the Country appeared to be in good cultivation, the Inhabitants were employed in tilling it. It is in general one of the best cultivated Countries I have seen in Indostan, and very well inhabited, and the people appeared to be as busy at this time as if there had been a profound peace, and under no kind of apprehensions from the Conquerors. At or some time after the Battle of St. George, Ellich Khan was returning from Delhi to join his Master the Vizier, and had taken possession of all the Country from Anapsheire and Ramgaut to Rampore, and established Fousdars and Collectors of the Revenues of it before the arrival of our Army at Bissoulee ; and to maintain these Fousdars in the execution of their duty, it was only necessary to leave 500 of Nudjiff Khan's Horse, and five Companies of regular Seapoys, and some hundreds of the Burrah Fultan, in all not amounting to 1500 men, who kept the Country in perfect quietness until our Army arrived, and after the march of our Army to Pattergur.

To the Fifth. I was informed generally, and from my own observation I am led to believe, that he treated them with a great deal of severity ; for instance, he deprived them of all the ornamental part of their Drels, and did not provide them with such accommodations as I thought their rank entitled them to expect. The Reports that prevailed in Camp were various, but were not conveyed to me from such authority as to warrant my offering them to the Board.

Mr. Francis begs leave to propose the following Question in this place, as it has immediate relation to the last :

Do you know, or have you heard, whether they were at any time reduced to distress for want even of a subsistence ?

I

Answer.

Answer. I have heard that their subsistence was scanty; but this is one of the Reports I have heard, and have not been able to ascertain the truth of to my own satisfaction.

To the Sixth. I've heard, while I was at Bissoulee, frequently that he had violated one of the Daughters of Mohuboola Cawn, but I never gave credit to it; nay, I believe it impossible, from the state of health he was in at that time. I may say further, that when I heard this Report, I was at a good deal of pains to investigate the truth of it, and tracing it back, I could carry it no further, than it was a Report that prevailed among the Guard at the door of the Zenana; and from the situation of this Guard to the Zenana, it was impossible they could be acquainted with any circumstances that passed within, as the apartments of the Women were at such a distance from the gate-way where the Guard was placed. There was another motive which induced me to disbelieve the Report, which was, that a few days after this happened the Women were carried to Camp, where he would have had a much better opportunity of doing it without detection, had he been disposed to it or able.

Question by Mr. Francis: Do you know or believe that the Vizier entered the Zenanas of the Wives of any of the Rohilla Chiefs?

Answer. It is impossible for me to answer this with any degree of precision, from the Zenanas being spacious places, consisting of many apartments, many of which are not occupied by Women; I never knew of his going into any of them. At Peelebut I can positively say he did not, for he never went into the Town of Peelebut. At Bissoulee I have heard that he went frequently into the Zenana there, but to the best of my remembrance it was after the Women were removed to Camp; and that he was fitting up the Zenanas for the reception of his own Family during the time he was going to Pattegur.

To the Seventh. Their national character has in general been the want of sincerity; to elucidate which I beg leave to mention one instance. At the time that Ally Mahomed was their Chief, he prevailed upon the Almora Rajah and the other Hill Rajahs to assist him in his rebellion against the King Mahomed Shaw; that they did assist him with 20,000 men; that upon the approach of the Imperial Army, they found themselves so much inferior in point of strength, that they judged it imprudent to give him battle, and prevailed upon the Almora Raja to admit them into his Country, the access to which is so strong that a small number of Troops may defend the Pass against a very numerous Army: they continued there till an invasion of the Marattas required that the Army of the Empire should be turned against them: as soon as ever the Army of the Empire quitted the Rohilla Country, then the Rohillas seized the Country of the Almora Raja, their Ally, carried away most of the handsomest Women of the Country Captives, among others the Daughter of the Rajah, whom Ally Mahomed himself took, and she was the Mother of the present Fyzoolla Khan. This is mentioned as an instance of their insincerity. Farther, it is a Proverb in Indostan, "That they pray with one hand and rob with the other." Their manner of making war is much the same as is practised all over Indostan. Towards their conquered Enemies they have generally been bloody; those whom they have saved they commonly made Captives of; and in the late Campaign, I have been very well assured by many of the Prisoners, that their intentions towards us were very bloody, that they had orders to give no quarter.

To the Eighth. I have never understood that it was fordable at any place below Anaptheire, and I have taken great pains to make myself acquainted with the subject, by enquiries of Nudjiff Khan, and, after the War was finished, of many of the Rohillas. I've understood it is easily forded at no place, but that in the month of March and beginning of April it may be forded at several places between Hurdwa and Anaptheire; but it is not fordable long after that period, on account of the melting of the snows and rising of the Rivers. I have been told by Nudjiff Khan, that he was astonished at the Rohillas suffering the Marattas to cross the Ganges when they invaded the Country of Zabita Khan to the north of the Ganges, as he assured me that every one of the Fords might easily have been defended. I was with the Vizier a few days after they had crossed the Ganges, and he blamed the Sirdars very much for suffering them; using this expression, "He was sure Zabita Khan was not the Son of Old Nuzim O'Dowla, or he would not have suffered them to cross the Ganges." It is the general opinion of all the Indostan Soldiers with whom I have talked on the subject, that the Ganges is not to be forded but by surprize. The Fords are very well known.

To the Ninth. I think it would be so dangerous an Enterprize that they would hardly undertake it, and if they did, in case of a defeat they would be totally ruined, having but a small tract of Country to march over before they come to the Ganges; and if a victorious Army pursued them closely, they must either perish in it, or fall by the Sword.

To the Tenth. I believe it is impossible to ascertain what the Sum is, but it is generally supposed, and I do verily believe it, to have been very considerable, consisting chiefly in Specie, Plate, and Jewels; by considerable, I mean upwards of a Crore of Rupees: this is my own Opinion; others have estimated the Sum at a great deal more.

To the Eleventh. I recollect to have learnt from Sir Robert Barker, that when he marched up to Ramgaut with the Vizier to the assistance of the Rohillas, and had come near to the Maratta Army, their conduct was so doubtful, and had so much the appearance of treachery, that he had come to the resolution of attacking them if they did not fully declare themselves by their actions; and, to the best of my remembrance, he would have done it, but that he was misled by a Guide: but this is a Question which Colonel Champion or Colonel Goddard can better reply to, as they were present; I was not, but only heard it from General Sir Robert Barker.

Questions by the General: Do you know who has the Commission to receive Nudjiff Khan's Pension which is to be paid by this Presidency?

Answer. It is a Question I cannot well reply to; I know whom he intended to appoint his Agent, but the confirmation of the appointment I understood depended on the Governor.

Question. Who was the Person intended with the Governor's approbation?

Answer. I was.

Question. What was you to receive for it?

Major Hannay ordered to withdraw.

The Governor-General observes, that the Questions which he proposed, and which were assented to by the Board, related only to the Rohilla War; but the Questions now put by the General tend to reveal some transactions of Major Hannay himself, which, if of a private and lawful nature, the Board have no right to enquire into, and if of an unlawful nature, they ought not to be put to Major Hannay himself; he therefore objects to this Question being put.

Mr. Francis. I think the Question proper and necessary, and that the Board have a right to make the enquiry. I cannot suppose that Major Hannay has done any thing criminal in this business, because the intended appointment was to have the sanction of the Governor, and had been communicated to him by the Commander in Chief of the Army.

Mr. Barwell thinks the Question improper; it has no public object, and therefore objects to it.

Mr. Monson sees no impropriety in putting this Question to Major Hannay, as he understands that these Gentlemen were called before the Board to give the most ample information; and I cannot suppose that if there were any thing improper in the appointment of Major Hannay to be Agent to Nudjiff Khan, as it was to receive the Governor-General's sanction.

RESOLVED, That the Question be put.

Major Hannay called in again, and the Question put to him.

Answer. I have long known Nudjiff Khan; he is a man for whom I entertain a friendship, and should embrace any consistent opportunity to testify my friendship to him. I wish to explain what I mean by the Governor's confirmation of his intention of appointing me his Agent: I thought it was improper to accept of that appointment, without having first applied for and obtained leave from the Commander in Chief and

the Governor, not thinking myself an adequate judge how far it was proper for me to undertake such an Office.

Question by the Governor: I desire Major Hannay may inform the Board what Answer he received from me, either directed to himself or the Commander in Chief.

Answer. I don't positively recollect what the Answer was, but I think it was, that there was no money due at that time to Nudjiff Khan, but when the Governor should be acquainted with the pleasure of the Court of Directors, he would then determine whether the Jaghire was to be paid; and in the mean time it was needless to confirm an appointment which might never be exercised.

Question by the General: Do you not know that Colonel Champion made representations to the Vizier of cruelties exercised by his Troops in the Rohilla Country?

Answer. I have heard Colonel Champion say, that he had remonstrated to the Vizier againg the burning of any Villages, but I was not present at any such remonstrance. I further heard him say, that he had used his offices with the Vizier to persuade him to treat the captive Families of the Rohilla Chiefs with more humanity and tenderness, and that upon these occasions the Vizier denied having treated them with severity.

Question. Do you imagine that Colonel Champion would have made such representations to the Vizier if he had not been persuaded that the facts were true?

Answer. The burning of the Villages was evident; and I can say with confidence, that Colonel Champion would not have made application to the Vizier for the remedy of evils which he did not believe to exist.

Question. Whether you don't think that the Commander of the Army was in a situation to be better informed of transactions of that nature than yourself?

Answer. With respect to the burning of the Villages and matters of that nature, with all deference to the Commander in Chief, I humbly conceive that I had as good opportunity of being acquainted as any one. With respect to the treatment of the captive Families, I conceive that he must have had better opportunities of information than me, as he might have received Letters from them on the subject, which I did not.

Question. Whether you imagine that the Army, whilst it was in the Rohilla Country, could have prevented the Marattas from entering the Bahar Province by the Country of Corah?

Answer. I understand that the Marattas must come into the Corah Country by the Culpee Gaur, and as their march from their own Country to Culpee is a very considerable greater distance, our Army would have been time enough to oppose their passage of the Jumna.

Question. Was the Brigade compleat when it entered the Field, particularly the Europeans?

Answer. Not quite compleat.

Question. How was it by the last Returns you have seen?

Answer. Not compleat.

Question. How many Men did the European Battalion want?

Answer. I will send a particular account to-morrow from the latest Returns I have seen.

Question. What Troops had you belonging to the Company over the Brigade Establishment?

Answer. The latter part of the Campaign the Troop of Cavalry; we had also two Companies of Grenadier Seapoys from the third Brigade.

Question. Whether the Cadets form part of the effective strength of the second Regiment or not?

Answer. It was only in October last that they joined the Regiment; they did duty before with the Seapoy Grenadier Corps; they are not included in the Establishment.

Question. Who supplied the Contingencies of the Army.

Answer. At the beginning of the Campaign they were furnished by the Paymasters, but latterly by the Commissary-General.

Question. Is it usual for the same person to supply Contingencies and to control the Accounts of them?

Answer. I don't recollect any instances of it in Europe.

Question by Colonel Monion: What induced the Vizier to enter the Zenana at Bissoulic after the Women had been removed from it?

Answer. To look for Treasure was his first motive, and to fit up the Zenana for his own Women was his secondary.

Question. When you went as an Agent in behalf of the Army into the Fort of Peelebut to look for Treasure were you precluded from going into the Zenana?

Answer. I was.

Question. Do you imagine if you had been allowed to have gone into the Zenana you would have found Treasure?

Answer. I do imagine I should have found some, as I was informed by a Son of Hafiz Rhamut Cawn's that there were some thousand Rupees there; I think about 18,000.

Question by Mr. Francis: Do you conceive the Country of the Rohillas to be compleatly and quietly reduced to the Vizier's subjection?

Answer. I do.

Question. Do you apprehend that it is necessary for the English Troops to remain there, in order to secure and establish the Vizier's Government over his new Subjects.

Answer. I do not consider it as absolutely necessary that they should continue in that Country, but it would be of great advantage to the Vizier's affairs that they should be in some part of the Province of Oude; the nearer the Frontiers the more it would contribute to the Vizier's advantage.

Question by the Governor: Do you imagine that the possession of the Rohilla Country would be at this time in danger, by the opinion that it might be invaded without any interruption or opposition from the English Brigade?

Answer. The unsettled situation of the Pattans, and the Rohillas that were made to cross the Ganges into the Doab, makes me believe, that if the Brigade were withdrawn, and they were thoroughly convinced that the Vizier would not be supported in that Conquest, they would endeavour to wrest it from him.

Question by Colonel Monson: Do you know the Bundabust that the Vizier has settled for the whole of the Rohilla Country?

Answer. No, I do not.

Question by Mr. Francis: What is the reputed Revenue of the Rohilla Country?

Answer. Upwards of seventy Lacks.

Question. You said, that several of the Prisoners had informed you that they had intended to give us no quarter; do you not think it natural that they should form such a resolution against a Nation, which, without any provocation, invaded their Country, with an avowed design to conquer it for a Prince, whom in their conception the Rohillas particularly feared and detested?

Answer. Under such circumstances as here represented, I should regard it by no means an unnatural resolution for the Rohillas to have come to; but I understood that they never accused us of entering their Country without provocation; and what I understood from them to have been the provocation that brought us into their Country, was their not having fulfilled their Engagements they had entered into with the Vizier to pay him forty Lacks of Rupees; nor did I understand that the conquest of the Country was meditated, if they should have paid the Treaty Money and the Expenses of the War.

The Board having no further Questions to put to Major Hannay, he is desired to withdraw.

Extract of Secret Consultations, Fort-William, 28th December, 1774.

Colonel Champion, in compliance with a Summons, now attending, is called in, and the Governor-General's Questions of the 19th instant being put to him, he replies to them severally as follows:

Colonel
Champion
called in,
and examin-
ed on the
Rohilla
War.

To the first Question. It appeared so to me.

Second. The Vizier.

Third. The Rohillas are in possession of it as Conquerors only. The native inhabitants are not of the same Sect or Religion.

Fourth. The native Inhabitants are still remaining, and the Country is in a flourishing state.

Fifth. It appeared to me that he was guilty of cruelties to the Families of the Rohilla Chiefs, but as to the instance I must refer to my Minute.

Sixth. I did hear such a Report, but as to the grounds I have none sufficient to prove the Accusation; but the Report of it was made to me.

Seventh. They are a brave race of people; they make war as the Indians generally do. I have no particular accounts of their conduct to their conquered Enemies.

Eighth. That the Ganges is fordable in many places, I believe, in April, May, and part of June. I have little knowledge of the Fords, but I believe they may be defensible by an European Force, but not by the Country Powers. I believe they are universally known; Baynegaut is one, Ramgaut another; and there are two other places, the names of which I do not know.

Ninth. If our Army was upon the spot, I don't think they would venture to cross; but if the Army was at the distance of 100 Cos, I believe they would venture; and with our Army pursuing them, I think they could recross themselves, but not with safety to their Baggage.

Tenth. I have heard, and have an account (but that account was given me by Hircarrahs) that the amount of the Plunder was about 1½ Crore of Rupees, and I believe that the amount was a Crore and a half of Rupees; it consisted in Gold, Silver, and Jewels.

Eleventh. I cannot charge my memory with any thing of that sort.

Question by the Governor-General: Do you know whether the Vizier received any Letters from Hafiz Rhamut Cawn and the other Rohilla Chiefs, under their respective Seals, about the time of the commencement of the Campaign?

Answer. To the best of my recollection he did.

Question. Did you receive such a Letter from the Rohilla Chiefs at the same time?

Answer. I think I did.

Question. What was the purport of them?

Answer. To the best of my recollection they were offering an accommodation.

Question. What opinion did the Vizier express upon the Offer?

Answer. That he would hear of no accommodation.

Question. Do you recollect whether the Letter expressed any thing like an acknowledgment of a breach of Treaty committed by the Rohillas?

Answer. I don't recollect.

The Colonel is requested to lay before the Board a Copy of the Letter addressed to him by the Rohilla Chiefs, with his Answer to it.

Question by the General: When did you receive your Instructions.

Answer. About the 19th or 20th of February in Calcutta.

Question. Was any mention made in those Instructions of the object of the Rohilla War?

Answer. I think there was.

Question. Was any previous intimation made to the Rohillas that the Government had taken offence at any part of their conduct?

Answer. I don't recollect that there was.

Question. Do you believe that you should have remembered it had such an intimation been made by yourself?

Answer. Certainly.

Question. When the Vizier began plundering and burning the Country did you make any representation to him upon it?

Answer. I did.

Question. Did you represent to the Vizier your opinion of the ill treatment of the Prisoners?

Answer. I did.

Question. Were not some of the Families of the Chiefs left destitute of necessaries for their subsistence?

Answer. No.

Question. In what way were they ill treated?

Answer. It was reported to me that they were in want.

Question. Did you inform the Governor, Mr. Hastings, of the Vizier's conduct towards the Country and the Prisoners.

Answer. I did.

Question. How did the Governor take your representations?

Answer. To the best of my recollection, he wrote to the Vizier to be more moderate in his behaviour.

Question. Did the Governor seem to be pleased at your making this representation to him?

Answer

Answer. I refer to the Governor's Letter written in answer.

Question. When you expostulated with the Governor on the disgrace and dishonor which this War brought on the British Arms, what Answer did he make to these Expostulations?

Answer. I cannot charge my memory, but beg leave to refer to the Correspondence.

Question. Did you apprehend during the Campaign that the Marattas would come towards the Ganges in the Autumn?

Answer. I received some information from the Vizier that he was in expectations of it.

Question. Whilst the Army was in the heart of the Rohilla Country, do you think you could have covered the Province of Bengal from an Invasion of the Marattas, had they entered by the way of Corah?

Answer. I request to have this Question given me in writing that I may return an Answer.

Question. Did you hear that Nudjiff Khan had engaged Somroo, Redman, and other English Deserters in his service?

Answer. To the best of my recollection, no.

Question by the Governor: What is your opinion of the character of Nudjiff Khan, and of his attachment towards us?

Answer. I believe him to be a good man and firm to our interest.

Question. Do you know how Major Polier came to be employed at the Siege of Agra?

Answer. No.

Question. Do you know of any Cannon or small Arms sent to the Vizier?

Answer. I know of some Cannon, but as to small Arms I can't say.

Question. How many Cannon were there, and of what sort?

Answer. Four; and I believe them iron eighteen pounders.

Question. How were the Contingencies of the Army furnished?

Answer. The first part of the Campaign by the Paymaster, and the latter part by the Commissary-General.

Question. What was the cause of the change in the mode of supplying the Contingencies from the Paymaster to the Commissary-General?

Answer. I understood it was by Order of the Company.

Question. Do you know nearly how many Boats the Commissary-General had with Stores?

Answer. No.

Question. When he sells the Stores, who purchases them or makes the bargain for the Company?

Answer. The Stores are supplied by Indent; I cannot say who makes the bargain.

Question. Who fixes the price of the Stores?

Answer. I cannot say.

Question. Who controls the Accounts after they are purchased?

Answer. The Commissary-General.

Question. Do you know if any Lead was indented for?

Answer. No, that I recollect.

Question. When did you acquaint the Governor with having received an Obligation from the Vizier for seven Lacks as a Present to the Army?

Answer. I believe it to be the 8th of August.

Question. When did you acquaint them of your having received the Obligation for 50,000 Rupees?

Answer. I never did mention it to the best of my knowledge.

Question. When did you acquaint them of your having received the Tuncaw for the three Lacks?

Answer. Not 'till I came to Calcutta.

Question. Did you ever mention in your Correspondence with the Governor-General, that advantageous conditions might be procured for the Company by making peace with some of the Rohilla Chiefs?

Answer. I did.

Question. Do you recollect what conditions might have been obtained for the Company by making peace with them?

Answer. I refer to my Correspondence for the particulars.

Question. When you made these propositions to the Governor, did he not order you not to negotiate, but to pursue the War till the Rohillas were entirely conquered?

Answer. I cannot charge my memory with this, but refer to my Correspondence.

Questions by Mr. Francis :

Whether you have received from the Vizier any part of the forty Lacks stipulated to be paid by him to the Company on account of the Rohilla War?

Answer. No.

Question. Do you know whether he has paid any part of that Sum to any person for the use of the Company?

Answer. No.

Question. What do you apprehend is the annual amount of the Revenue acquired by the Vizier by the conquest of the Rohilla Country?

Answer. I understood it to be between seventy and eighty Lacks.

Question. Whether your Letter to us dated the 19th instant, and now shewn you, was communicated to the Governor-General before it was sent in to the Board, and whether he made any objection to it's being sent?

Answer. No.

The Governor begs leave to ask Mr. Francis, and desires he will inform the Board, why he asks this Question, as it is so pointed to himself.

Mr. Francis. I did understand that one of the Letters sent in by Colonel Champion had been previously communicated to the Governor; I do still understand so from the Colonel, and I asked merely to ascertain what the Letter was; and to point out mistakes, I now beg leave to ask the Colonel, whether any Letter of his to this Board since his arrival at this Presidency was previously communicated to the Governor?

Answer. The Letter wherein I required my resignation was shewn to the Governor.

Questions by General Clavering :

When you were ordered by the late President and Council to make your demand on the Vizier for the forty Lacks did he acknowledge the money to be due?

Answer. Yes; the first demand having been made, as the Colonel apprehends, about the middle of July.

Question. Did you ever repeat the demand afterwards?

Answer. To the best of my recollection, I did.

Question. What reason did he give for not paying you?

Answer. That he had no money in the field, but when he returned to Fyzabad it should be paid,

Question. Did he not promise to pay it with the money he received from Fyzoolla Khan?

Answer. He did promise it.

Question. Did he perform it?

Answer. No.

The Board having no further Questions to put to Colonel Champion, he is desired to withdraw, and the Secretary ordered to deliver him the Question which he desired to have in writing.

The Governor-General now observes, that every Question must have an Object, and therefore begs Mr. Francis will inform the Board what is the Object of the two last Questions which he asked Colonel Champion:

Mr. Francis replies; I asked the first of these Questions for the reason I have assigned; I asked the second in consequence of the Governor's Question to me, to shew that I did not causelessly ask the first.

Reconsidered the Letter from Colonel Champion in Consultation 19th December.

AGREED, That he be accordingly permitted to resign the Company's Service.

Extract of Secret Consultations, Fort-William, 28th December, 1774.

Colonel Leslie's March Route of a Brigade. Colonel Leslie, conformably to his promise of the 19th instant, at his Examination before the Board, now sends in the following Letter and Account of the March Route of a Brigade from Pattergur to Shawabad.

To the Honorable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor-General, and the Members of the Supreme Council of Bengal.

Honorable SIR and SIRS,

IN obedience to your commands, I have considered the circumstance of one of the Brigades of the Honorable Troops being posted at Pattergur with all its appointments, with the most eligible manner in which it could be conducted down the Country on any emergency, either by land or by water.

I have the honor to enclose you a March Route along the North-East Side of the Ganges, which I prefer to any other, from its being well supplied with good water all the dry season.

It is a very bad Route in the rainy months, from the number of Rivulets that come down from the adjacent Mountains, and overflow the Country down to Benaras, particularly the Upper or Rohilla Country.

I have therefore annexed a Sketch of a Route through the Doab, Corah, and Allahabad Countries, which I think will be more eligible in the rainy season, as it has few Nullahs, and the Rains empty themselves into the Ganges as soon almost as they fall.

The Brigade Boats being posted at Ramgaut with all the spare Stores, which I prefer to having them in the Ram-Gangoh near Berelly, as you can get down from thence at all seasons of the year. You can march the Brigade from Pattergur to Symbol at any time from beginning of October to the end of April in seven days; and sending their Hospital and all other incumbrances from thence to their Boats at Ramgaut, they will, by continuing their march to Bissoulee, get through the Rohilla Country to Shawabad in eighteen days, from Shawabad to Benaras in twenty-one.

The Boats will be able to get to Benaras before them in about fifteen days from Ramgaut; and should the necessity of the times require it, sufficient Boats can be got at Benaras and places adjacent to transport the Brigade by water to Calcutta, which they will be able to reach in twenty-one or two days. If Boats should not easily be got at Benaras, the Brigade by continuing its route will get to Bankypore in thirteen days, the Boats in five. Boats most certainly can be had at Patna.

But the Brigade continuing its march from Bankypore will get to Mongheer in eight days, from Mongheer to Burrampore in sixteen, and from Burrampore to Calcutta in nine days.

They will with facility perform the march in eighty-five days; and it may be performed in much less time, by leaving every incumbrance behind them after they enter our Provinces.

The months of May and June are very warm; July, August, and September are the rainy months; but even in those months I think this march can be effected.

I should suppose the Vizier could always keep a sufficient number of very good Boats at Berelly, to transport the whole Artillery and Stores of the Brigade, as well as the European Regiment and Artillery Corps, to any part of the lower Country; the Seapoys will in this case, unincumbered by Artillery, be able to make a very speedy march.

I presume also that Boats can at all times be had at Benaras for the above purpose of transporting the Europeans and Artillery.

They can most certainly be had at Patna.

I beg leave to annex the following references, that it may be seen at a view the time it will take to perform this service to the different places, either by land or by water.

March

March Route by Land.

	Rohilla Cofs.	Days.		Rohilla Cofs.	Day
From Pattergur to Shawabad,	110	18	From Mongeer to Burrampore, ditto,	102	16
From Shawabad to Benaras, common Cofs, two English miles, - -	134	21	From Burrampore to Calcutta, ditto, - -	57	9
From Benaras to Bankypore, ditto, - -	78	13			
From Bankypore to Mongheer, ditto, - -	52	8		533	85

N. B. I have estimated they will be able to march eight Cofs per day, halting every fourth day for the refreshment of the draft and carriage cattle.

Boats by Water.

	Days.		Days.
From Ramgaut to Benaras,	15	From Patna to Minfoot,	7
From Benaras to Patna, -	5	From Minfoot to Calcutta, -	9
			36

N. B. In the dry season of January, February, and March, the water may be low and the passage more tedious; but in the other seasons, by the rapidity of the stream, they will be more expeditious.

I shall be happy if I have sufficiently explained this subject, as I shall ever study to evince how much I am, with the highest respect,

Honorable Sir and Sirs, &c.

(Signed)

Calcutta,
22d December, 1774.

MATTW. LESLIE,
Quarter-Master-General.

General March Route of an Army from Pattergur to Biffoulee, and from Biffoulee to Shawabad through the Rohilla Country.

	Cofs.		Cofs.
From Pattergur to Coutlah or Sady-poor, - -	6	From Ram-Gonga to Barella, -	4
From Coutlah to Gongoure or Biffoulee, - -	6	From Barella to Neuter, -	2
From Biffoulee to Chawnpore,	5	From Neuter to Furridpoor, -	6
From Chawnpore to Sawalla, -	6	From Furridpoor to Tiffouah,	4
From Sawalla to Omruah, -	7	From Tiffouah to LaykeraBagoul Nulla,	3
From Omruah to Symbol, -	13	From Laykera to Cuttera, -	2
From Symbol to Biffoulee, -	16	From Cuttera to Tilhar, -	4
From Biffoulee to Oundla, -	8	From Tilhar to Shajahanpoor, -	6
From Oundla to Laharkerry Bridge,	2	From Shajahanpoor to Badfhanagur,	2½
From Laharkerry to Guinah Village, on the Ram-Gonga River, a Ford-age, - -	3	From Badfhanagur to Shawabad,	4½
		Distance—Cofs,	110
		Esteeming each Cofs 1½ English miles,	192½

General

General Route from Shawabad to Benaras through the Dominions of the Vizier
Sujah Dowla. Appendix, No. XXIV.

	Cofs.		Cofs.
From Shawabad to Seramnagur, -	3½	From Dowdpoor to Hussenpoor, }	3
From Seramnagur to Jugdispoor, -	5	leaving Sultanpore on the left, }	
From Jugdispoor to Saundy, -	5	From Hussenpoor to Humhaut, -	2
From Saundy to Belgram, -	5	From Humhaut to Buckrouly, -	2
From Belgram to Molia, -	5½	From Buckrouly to Pawper-Gaut, -	3
From Molia to Bangermow, -	5	From Pawper-Gaut to Purtabpoor, -	5
From Bangermow to Tuckea, -	4	From Purtabpoor to Singramow, -	4
From Tuckea to Affuvan, -	4	From Singramow to Budlahpoor, -	2
From Affuvan to Mohun Singehia Nulla	7	From Budlahpoor to Ramnabushey, -	4
From Mohun to Vizier-Gunge, four }	2	From Ramnabushey to Callouchabad, -	4
Cofs from Lucknow, - }		From Callouchabad to Zafferbad, -	2
From Vizier-Gunge to Sarafraunagur, -	4	From Zafferbad to Poolipoor, -	7
From Sarafraunagur to Allahabad, -	1	From Poolipoor to Harrowah-Serray, -	5
From Allahabad to Amatie, -	8	From Harrowah-Serray to Benaras, -	4
From Amatie to Lunia-Cuttrah, -	5		
From Lunia-Cuttrah to Hydra-Gur, -	3		
From Hydra-Gur to Indowna, -	5		
From Indowna to Jugdispoor, -	5		
From Jugdispoor to Condia-Nulla, -	5		
From Condia-Nulla to Dowdpoor, -	5		

Distance 134

Esteeming each Cofs of this Route } 268
two English miles, - }

General Route from Benaras to Bankypore near Patna.

	Cofs.		Cofs.
From Benaras to Mogul-Serai, -	4½	From Pulacha to Arwell, - - -	5½
From Mogul-Serai to Genowly, -	3½	From Arwell to Rannaca-Tallow, -	6
From Genowly to Cudgwa-Gaut, -	4	From Rannaca-Tallow to Murage-Gunge, -	7
From Cudgwa-Gaut to Saont, -	4	From Murage-Gunge to Pulwarry, -	4
From Saont to Monia, -	4½	From Pulwarry to Bankypore, -	3
From Monia to Furruckabad, -	4½		
From Furruckabad to Courmabad, -	4		
From Courmabad to Saffuram, -	5		
From Saffuram to Chinrowly, -	5		
From Chinrowly to Doudnagur, -	8		
From Doudnagur to Pulacha, - -	6		

Distance 78½

Esteeming this Route two English } 157
miles to a Cofs, as ascertained by }
measure, - }

General Route continued from Bankypore to Mongheer.

	Cofs.		Cofs.
From Bankypore to Jaffier Cawn's } Gardens, - }	5	From Rougha-Nulla to Allenagur, -	4
From Jaffier Cawn's Gardens to } Buckanpoor, - }	4	From Allenagur to Surage-Gully, -	5
From Buckanpoor to Rena-Seray, -	6	From Surage-Gully to Sengee-Nulla, -	5
From Rena-Seray to Bahar, -	5	From Sengee-Nulla to Mongheer, -	3
From Bahar to Moor, -	5		
From Moor to Doomria, -	6		
From Doomria to Rougha-Nulla, -	4		

Distance 52

English miles 104

General Route from Mongheer to Burrampoor.

	Cofs.		Cofs.
From Mongheer to Gurgott, -	7	From Colgong to Pyalapore, -	5
From Gurgott to Sultangunge, -	5½	From Pyalapore to Shawbad, - -	4
From Sultangunge to Boglepore, -	5	From Shawbad to Gunga-Pufad, -	4
From Boglepore to Ramnagur, -	3½	From Gunga-Pufad Sicklegully, -	4½
From Ramnagur to Colgong, -	7	From Sicklegully to Muza, -	5

	Cofs.		Cofs.
From Muza to Rajahmaul,	7½	From Devanka-Serai to Syder-Baug,	5
From Rajahmaul to Furruckabad,	8	From Syder-Baug to Burrampore,	8
From Furruckabad to Tinnucknegur,	5		
From Tinnucknegur to Geria,	9	Distance	102
From Geria to Comra,	3		
From Comra to Devanka-Serai,	6	English miles,	204

General Route from Burrampore to Calcutta.

	Cofs.		Cofs.
From Burrampore to Beriaka-Serai,	5	From Ghyratta to Calcutta, across the	} 8½
From Beriaka-Serai to Plassey,	6	River,	
From Plassey to Anger-Deeb,	7		
From Anger-Deeb to Jahanagur,	7	Distance	57½
From Jahanagur to Colna,	7		
From Colna to Hitchapooore,	5	English miles,	115
From Hitchapooore to Bune-Beria,	6		
From Bune-Beria to Ghyratta,	6	Total distance from Pattergur to	} 1040½
		Calcutta,	

General March Route from Pattergur to Ramgaut.

	Cofs.		Cofs.
From Pattergur to Symbol,	43	From Chuckenpoor to Ramgaut,	12
From Symbol to Chuckenpoor,	11		
		Distance	66
		English miles,	49½

From Ramgaut, across the Ganges, to the Road leading from Dilly to Furruckabad through the Doab Country to Corah, and from thence to Corah and to Allahabad, crossing the Ganges to Juey, and from thence to Benaras.

(Signed)

MATTW. LESLIE.
Quarter-Master-General.

Major Hannay also, conformably to the Orders of the 19th instant, sends in the following Letter, with a Return of the Europeans of the second Brigade for October last; by which it appears, that the strength amounted to 34 Cadets, 49 Serjeants, 24 Drummers, and 704 private Soldiers.

To the Honorable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor - General, &c.
Council.

Honorable SIR and SIRS,

IN obedience to your orders, I have the honor to lay before you a Return of the second Regiment of European Infantry for the month of October, specifying the number of men then wanted to compleat it to the Establishment.

I have the honor to be, with the utmost respect,

Honorable Sir and Sirs, &c.

Calcutta,
December the 21st, 1774.

(Signed)

ALEXR. HANNAY.

APPENDIX, No. XXV.

Extract of Secret Consultations, Fort-William, 21st December, 1774.

Major Hannay not employed as Adjutant-General.

The General asked his reasons for this.

THE Governor-General thinks it his duty to inform the Board, that Major Hannay, the Adjutant-General, has formally represented to him, that the General has declared to him that he would not employ him as Adjutant-General. That as Major Hannay received that appointment from the late Administration, which appointment of course can only be dissolved by the present, the Governor requests that the General will be pleased to state to the Board his objections, if he has any, to the appointment of Major Hannay, that it may be either declared by them to be valid, or that Major Hannay may be discharged from the duties of it.

The General acquaints the Board that he will declare his reasons at the next Meeting.

Extract of Secret Consultations, Fort-William, 28th December, 1774.

The General now delivers the following Reply to the Governor-General's Request in Consultation the 21st instant, respecting the General's Declaration to the Adjutant-General.

General Clavering's Minute in reply to the Governor-General's Request of the 21st instant.

The General's Answer respecting Major Hannay, Adjutant-General.

THE Governor-General having informed the Board, that Major Hannay had represented to him that I would not employ him as Adjutant-General, in consequence whereof the Governor requests of me that I would state to the Board my objections, if I have any, to the appointment of Major Hannay, that it may be declared by them to be valid, or that he may be discharged from the duties of it;

In compliance with the Governor-General's request I beg leave to acquaint the Board, that I conceive the Post of Adjutant-General to have been established in all Armies for the immediate relief of the Commander in Chief, and that it depends on him to give more or less activity to the functions of the Office, being equally responsible, whether the duties of it be performed by the Adjutant-General or himself. These premises being granted, as I think they cannot be doubted, I certainly had an unquestionable right to acquaint Major Hannay, that I would not avail myself of the offer he made me of his services 'till the Court of Directors had approved his nomination, being willing 'till that time to take the whole duties of the Office upon myself. Besides this, I feel a doubt, and beg leave to express it to the Governor-General, which I persuade myself his experience and practice will easily enable him to resolve; that is, whether the late Council were not precluded from creating the Office of Adjutant-General, with the Salary annexed to it, by the thirty-sixth Bye-Law, which says, "It is ordained that no new Office, either at home or abroad, shall be created by the Directors, with any Salary exceeding the sum of one hundred pounds per annum, without the approbation of the Court of Proprietors." The Salary annexed to the Office of Adjutant-General being eight Sunaut Rupees per day, does, in my opinion, make it very questionable whether the late Council had a right to create such an Office, unless they have had particular instructions from the Court of Directors concerning it. But if my doubts concerning the above Law should appear to be well founded, and if the appointment of Major Hannay should be thought inconsistent with that Law, I hope my caution in the observance of my duty to the Company will not be objected to me, particularly when I have reason to believe, that the Court of Directors themselves have regulated their conduct by the same Law in all the new military Offices they have created. They took the sense of the Proprietors for the creation of the Offices of both the Quarter-Master-General and Commissary-General before they would appoint the Persons whom they had resolved should fill them. As, from the short time I have been here, it is not possible I can be so conversant with the Orders of the Company as the Governor-General certainly is, I must desire he will be pleased to state to the Board, whether he has received any Orders from the Court of Directors to abrogate the above Law, or to dispense with the observance of it in this particular

ticular instance; because the Board may then proceed, upon the fullest information, to declare either that the appointment which the Major received from the late Administration be valid, or to discharge him from the duties of his Office.

(Signed)

J. CLAVERING.

December 25th, 1774.

The Governor desires to record the following Observations on General Clavering's Minute in reply to the Governor's Request of the 21st instant.

WHATEVER may be the duties annexed to the Office of Adjutant-General, or however irregular the late President and Council may have been in constituting that Office, it appears to me improper in the General individually, and of his own authority, to attempt to abrogate an appointment which had been made by them. The former Administration was vested with as full powers with respect to this particular Government as the present. Should a future Member of the present Administration attempt, of his own single authority, in whatever station, to set aside an appointment made by our joint concurrence, and ratified by a Resolution of this Board, we would undoubtedly consider his conduct as assuming an independent superiority to Administration; in like manner, this attempt of a single Member of the present Administration to set aside an appointment, which was established by a formal Resolution of the late President and Council, appears to me to be an encroachment on the authority of Government, and an assumption of that power in an individual which is only vested in the whole Administration, and as such I do protest against it.

With respect to what the present Administration may determine upon the subject of Major Hannay's appointment to the Post of Adjutant-General, I beg leave to observe to them, that it was made by the late Administration expressly to be referred to the Court of Directors, either to be annulled or confirmed by them; and as their determination will soon be known, which must cancel any present Resolution of our's, I hope the Board will agree with me in opinion, that the appointment may remain as it stands at present until their pleasure be known.

As to the Bye-Law quoted by the General, of which he considers the appointment in question to be an infringement, I do not in the least doubt from his information that such an Order may stand on the Records of the Company; but I imagine it is only meant to apply to appointments made by the Court of Directors: with respect to this Country, if it ever extended so far, it must long since have been obsolete; for in the whole course of my experience in the Company's Service I never have seen or heard of such a Law referred to by them, and the instances are innumerable wherein it has been infringed; even since the establishment of the present Administration it has been broke through in several instances. I am certain the General cannot mean to make a partial application of this Law, and to admit it's validity in some cases and not in others. It is easy for the Court of Directors to summon a Meeting of Proprietors, for obtaining their judgment on any new appointments they intend to make; but at this distance, to suspend every appointment which the Board might judge necessary for the approbation of a Court of Proprietors, would occasion such a loss of time, as might in many instances defeat the very purpose for which it was intended. I am therefore of opinion, that the Bye-Law, quoted by the General, is meant, as it really expresses, only to be applied to appointments made by the Court of Directors, and that it is not intended to extend to appointments made by their Governments in India.

Extract of Secret Consultations, Fort-William, 10th February, 1775.

THE Governor-General moves, that the Board determine whether Major Hannay do hold the Office of Adjutant-General, and continue to exercise the duties of it.

Mr. Francis begs leave to ask the Governor-General, whether Major Hannay's appointment was by authority of the Court of Directors, or whether there are any injunctions or orders from them tending to preclude the President and Council from appointing such an Officer?

The Governor's Question: If Major Hannay shall be confirmed as Adjutant-General?

The

The Governor-General makes the following Reply :

The appointment of Major Hannay to the Office of Adjutant-General was an Act of the late Administration, at the recommendation, as I recollect, of the Commander in Chief, and referred to the Court of Directors for their approbation : I presume that Mr. Francis has no right to call on me for further information : if the Board mean to arraign the Act of the late Administration, or to revoke the appointment of Major Hannay, they will undoubtedly find good and sufficient reasons for such a Resolution.

Mr. Francis. Understanding that the appointment of Major Hannay was referred home to the Court of Directors on the 15th March, 1774, I do not think it ought to be revoked until their pleasure should be known.

Mr. Barwell does not think the appointment should be set aside,

Colonel Monson. As it does not appear that this appointment was made by the Order of the Court of Directors, but by the President and Council, at the recommendation of the then Commander in Chief, I am of opinion, that unless the present Commander in Chief shall think proper to recommend Major Hannay for that employment, he should not be continued in; but that the recommendation of the present Commander in Chief should be taken for that employment, as conformable to the late military regulations, by which we are instructed to pay due attention to the Commander in Chief's recommendation of the Staff.

General Clavering. I am of opinion that the late Administration had no power to create the Office of Adjutant-General by the thirty-sixth Paragraph of the Bye-Laws, which says, " It is ordained, that no new Office, either at home or abroad, shall be created by the Directors, with any Salary exceeding the Sum of £.100 per annum, " without the approbation of the Court of Proprietors ; " and the Salary annexed to the Office of the Adjutant-General being 2920 Rupees per annum, which exceeds the Sum limited by the said Bye-Law by nearly £.200 sterling per year, I am therefore of opinion, that Major Hannay should not perform the functions of that Office 'till the pleasure of the Court of Directors be known.

The Governor. I think he should.

Major Hannay continued Adjutant-General. RESOLVED, That Major Hannay hold the Office of Adjutant-General, and continue to do the duties of it;

A P P E N D I X, No. XXVI.

Letter from the Vizier Sujah-ul-Dowla to Governor Hastings, received the 28th November, 1774.

I HAVE already written you, that on the day of my arrival at Peelebut, one of my Hircarrahs brought me intelligence, that the English Troops had entered the city, and were committing outrages and violence ; I therefore sent word by Sheek Shuffi Ullah to check them ; in answer to which Colonel Champion returned me a message, that he would station the English Soldiers at the gate of the city ; I again sent him word that his doing so would be improper, and desired he would put a stop to it. The Colonel afterwards came to me himself, and told me that the English Gentlemen said there were four Crore of Rupees in the city, of which the Troops would come in for a part ; that they were very earnest upon this point, and that he would send three Gentlemen of confidence and trust to take an account of the Effects which were in the city : I observed to him that this was a new affair, and quite different from the Agreement mutually concluded between us ; the Colonel then replied, that if he did not take this step there would be a mutiny among the Troops. Seeing therefore that he was averse to it, and not at liberty to follow his own inclinations, I told him that I would consider the matter farther the next day, and do what was proper. After this the Colonel wrote me that it was necessary people should be immediately sent into the city : as I perceived that he was greatly disturbed, I went to him at twelve o'clock, in the extreme heat of the day, and asked him what Gentlemen he proposed sending into Peelebut ? upon which he called

Mr,

Mr. Murray, Colonel Leslie, and Major Hannay before me, and pointing to them, said, "These three Gentlemen shall go to take the Account:" I told him that I had made no such agreement with Mr. Hastings, nor could there be more than 4 or 5000 Rupees in Peelebut; that provided there were the Gentlemen had no business with it, and that nothing of the like had happened heretofore: Mr. Murray then answered and told me, that at the time of disturbances with the Marattas there was no country in the case, which was the reason no such point had been insisted upon; and that if the English were not now allowed to go into Peelebut, the Seapoys would plunder and lay waste the whole country: Colonel Champion then interrupted him, and told him that it was improper his saying any thing on that subject. I afterwards observed, that although I had made no agreement on this subject with Mr. Hastings, it did not signify, and that they might take all the money which they said was in Peelebut in lieu of the amount I had stipulated to pay Mr. Hastings on account of the Company, giving me an acquittance for the latter: they made no reply to this proposal, but insisted upon what they before urged: upon this I observed, that if the English were this time allowed to go into Peelebut, it would be a precedent for their insisting to the same when they came to other cities and places; to this it was answered, that they only meant the present city, and that they would make no such demands when they came to other places. I then told Major Hannay, that it did not signify, that on the present instance I should be silent, but that in future, if they made the same requisitions, I would quit the country and retreat into my own Subah. Major Hannay then explained what I said to Colonel Leslie, who gave me no answer himself, but turned to Colonel Champion, and calling him by his rank, said, "Well, Well." I understand nothing of the English Language myself, but these words which I have mentioned are very common, and I understand the meaning of them very well. I told the Gentlemen, that by their sending people into the city nothing would be got but a bad name; however, to satisfy them, I consented to their desire: they experienced the truth of what I told them, for having at last sent them, they returned disappointed. My friend, the case is this: there was not so much as 4 or 5000 Rupees in Peelebut; supposing there had been more, what business had the Gentlemen with it? When we concerted this Expedition together no such condition was provided for: the sum which I stipulated with you I will pay without evasion; but what can be the meaning of these steps taken by the Gentlemen? they astonish me. Conferences between me and the English Gentlemen were never before conducted in such a manner, that other Gentlemen were allowed to answer the Questions which I asked, whilst the Principal withdrew himself on one side. I have long been acquainted with the principal English Gentlemen, such as Lord Clive, and others, as well as yourself, but I never saw it customary that the principal Chief and Commander of the whole should sit still, and let every one else talk as each thought fit. It is now a space of three years that I have been in alliance with the English, and hitherto it has gained daily strength. It is always my wish that there may be never room for a single expression which (God forbid) can possibly create the difference of a hair's breadth in our friendship: as to my part, I pay the most implicit regard and attention to it; you, Gentlemen too, have hitherto contributed every duty towards strengthening and perpetuating it; but I confess the present conferences have alarmed me. You well know what a burthen of expenses I have for these three years been obliged to sustain; I am notwithstanding night and day employed in devising means for the payment of the money I stipulated with you: but if the Gentlemen are to talk to me in this manner, they no doubt will make the same requisitions of me at every other place, and it will be impossible for me to comply therewith. I submit to your own impartiality whether what I have written be right or wrong. In all my negotiations and conferences with the English, it was never before usual to introduce pretensions, and insist upon matters which were neither stipulated in the Treaty, nor before we had any idea of; nor was it ever usual for the Commander in Chief to withdraw himself apart, and let others impose such conditions and make what requests they pleased. Consider well upon this matter, and reprimand the Gentlemen, that they may not commit such practices again. It is the custom in no country for the Principal himself to remain silent, and let others make themselves Principals; amongst the English especially this never happened.

Afterwards, when I arrived at Bissoulee, and Fyzoolla Khan and the other Rohilla Chiefs fled towards Nejeebabad, and established themselves in that part, Ambassadors came on the part of Fyzoolla Khan to Colonel Champion, to confer with him concerning an accommodation, which the Colonel proposed to me. As I was determined to extirpate the Rohillas, I would not listen to any proposals of peace, and frankly told Colonel Champion that he must put an end to these conferences, and send away the Ambassadors of Fyzoolla: notwithstanding which they remained a long time afterwards

with the Colonel ; at last he dismissed them, but still maintained a correspondence with Fyzoolla Khan, and received many Letters from him. Consider, my friend, that it was my absolute determination to extirpate the Rohillas, and that I requested the assistance of the English Troops for that purpose ; was it not therefore highly improper in the Colonel to enter into such a correspondence without my permission ? If he had ever consulted me on the occasion it would not have signified ; but when I gave him a clear answer, and absolutely refused my consent to the proposals for an accommodation, was it proper for him to continue the negotiations ? At last, perceiving that Fyzoolla Khan, encouraged by his correspondence with the English, assembled his Forces, and daily became more formidable, I determined, though it was in the height of the Rains, immediately to bring him to punishment. I informed Colonel Champion of my intentions, and sent a message to him to march towards Fyzoolla Khan for the execution of them : Colonel Champion excused himself by saying, that he had no orders from the Gentlemen of Calcutta to proceed to the place of Fyzoolla Khan's Encampment, which was beyond the Boundaries of Rohilkund, and that therefore he would not march ; I answered, you certainly have not a Map of this Country, for it is mentioned in the Treaty between us, that the English Forces shall march into every part of the Rohilla Country, from my Borders to the foot of the Mountains and to the River Ganges ; the place where Fyzoolla Khan is now encamped is within these limits ; the Gentlemen of Calcutta will not therefore be displeased at the march of the Army ; they are even desirous that the War should be at any rate brought to a conclusion, and the money stipulated to the Company quickly discharged : though I am in a bad state of health I will undergo the fatigue of marching. The Colonel marched with the greatest unwillingness : In the mean time conferences for an accommodation were set on foot with the Colonel, and Fyzoolla Khan was encouraged by this circumstance to make a stand. When we afterwards arrived at Pattergur, and Fyzoolla Khan was at the distance of fifteen Coss from us at the foot of the Mountains, I determined to march forward and attack him ; the Colonel again delayed, and pretended that he had no orders to proceed further : in answer to which I explained clearly to him, that he had orders to march to any part of the Rohilla Country, from my borders to the skirts of the Mountains and to the River Ganges ; that it was necessary to conclude this business immediately, for which purpose it was expedient to march forwards. At last, after many conferences, he marched from thence also, and encamped within five or six Coss of the Hills, and continued his conferences for an accommodation with Fyzoolla Khan, and proposed it also to me. Although I was averse from the first to making a Peace, and had desired the assistance of the English Troops to extirpate the Rohillas ; yet when I perceived that the Colonel interposed, and had for several months maintained a correspondence with Fyzoolla Khan, and that he was desirous of peace, being remediless, I told him it did not signify, that I would give Fyzoolla Khan a Country yielding a Revenue of nine or ten Lacks of Rupees, and that I would take from him half his Wealth : the Colonel replied, Fyzoolla Khan has desired that an English Gentleman may be sent to confer about the terms of an accommodation ; I answered, it is well, we will send a Gentleman under this pretence to the Camp of Fyzoolla Khan, that he may observe the situation of their Encampment and their Retreat, and give us information ; for this purpose let us send Mr. Brooke and Mr.*—Collicherrun came to me, and represented, that it should be left to the pleasure of the Colonel whom to send on this Expedition. At last the Colonel sent Mr. Murray and Mr. Brooke, who departed without waiting on me to take their leave. After two or three days these Gentlemen returned unprofitably without having settled any thing. For four or five days after this the conferences were broke off ; after which Omar Cawn, and two other Sirdars, came from Fyzoolla Khan to me with proposals of peace : I asked them why they had taken such measures as to oblige me to march against them in the rainy season ; they replied, we remained peaceably at the extremity of the Country without any Force, but when a correspondence was set on foot by means of the English Chiefs, they wrote to Fyzoolla Khan to take some step, that might make it appear that he was in a situation to oppose the Army of the Vizier, by which means his affairs would be settled. Encouraged by the advice of the English Chiefs, Fyzoolla Khan assembled this number of Troops, and sent them to Nejeeabad ; otherwise how could he have taken such a step ? My friend, Omar Cawn did not particularize any Gentleman to me, but informed me of the above particulars : be pleased to reflect on this. In short I returned this answer to Omar Cawn, &c. that I was at first averse to an accommodation, but since they had entered into conferences by means of the English Chiefs, whatever I had mentioned to the Colonel I would perform. The Vackeels took their leave and returned, after which our joint Forces marched near the Encampment of Fyzoolla Khan, and prepared to attack it : but there was still a private intelligence between the Colonel and Fyzoolla Khan, encouraged by which Fyzoolla Khan rode

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* The Name is omitted in the Original

out of his own Encampment and came to the Colonel. The day that Fyzoolla Khan came to the Colonel, the English Troops were ready to engage in a quarrel with mine, and took several improper steps, but it passed over happily. Afterwards Collicherrun came and informed me, that Fyzoolla Khan was arrived, and would not agree to accept of nine or ten Lacks of Country; that he was now with the English Chiefs, and that it was necessary to pay regard to this circumstance: I considered the respect to the English Name as superior to all other considerations, and replied, that although I was averse to an accommodation, nevertheless, as Fyzoolla Khan had surrendered himself to the General, it did not signify, I would give him a Country yielding a Revenue of twelve Lacks of Rupees. After which Collicherrun having reported these particulars to the Colonel, returned with an answer that Fyzoolla Khan would not agree to these conditions, and if I was not desirous of an accommodation, to write so to the Colonel, that he might dismiss Fyzoolla Khan, and put a stop to the conferences: I wrote to the Colonel, that if Fyzoolla Khan would not agree to these offers to send him away; I also sent Mahomed Elich Cawn to explain these particulars more fully to the Colonel, who went and executed my orders: the Colonel, in answer to this, made use of some disagreeable expressions, and said, the Nabob Vizier has broke his word in the answer he has sent me, has he no respect for the English Name; Fyzoolla Khan is come under the English protection, will he not settle his affairs? briefly, he made use of a number of such kind of expressions. At last, as I saw that I should displease the Colonel by insisting on the former conditions, I was compelled to give 14,75,000 Rupees of Country, and said, let Fyzoolla Khan take this much Country, and give me 20 Lacks of Rupees in Specie in lieu of half his Wealth; because, if I am to take half of his property, how am I to discover what he is possessed of and where it is kept? it can therefore never be settled in this manner. These conferences were at first maintained, and afterwards new propositions were introduced, that this affair had been already settled by the English Chiefs in this manner; that Fyzoolla Khan should give up half his property; that he had one Lack and some thousand Gold Mohurs and one Lack of Rupees, of which I should take the half: I replied, when I agreed to take one half of Fyzoolla Khan's property, it was on condition that I was to give him a Country yielding a Revenue of nine or ten Lacks of Rupees, and that he should not retain more than 5 or 600 men in his service; now, that I am to give him a Revenue of 14,75,000 Rupees, and consent to his entertaining 5000 men in his service, I will have twenty Lacks. Briefly, after a great deal of trouble and argument, this affair was thus settled; that Fyzoolla Khan should give me fifteen Lacks of Rupees, and take a Country amounting to 14,75,000 Rupees. My friend, consider well that I first proposed to give Fyzoolla Khan a Country amounting to nine or ten Lacks of Rupees, and on these offers Fyzoolla Khan came to the General; if he did not consent to these terms why did he come? After that Fyzoolla Khan came to the General he increased his demands, and they obliged me to give him 14,75,000 Rupees: besides which, you will consider, that when these conferences were first set on foot, the Colonel observed to me, that Fyzoolla Khan had one Lack and some thousand Gold Mohurs and one Lack of Rupees, amounting to fifteen or sixteen Lacks, of which I should take the half; but afterwards, when the affair was settled, Fyzoolla Khan gave me fifteen Lacks of Rupees: consider then, if Fyzoolla Khan was only possessed of thus much, would he have given me all his property? From this circumstance you will clearly perceive how the case is. My friend, whilst I refused to consent to conferences for an accommodation, it was proposed that I should give a Country of eight or nine Lacks of Rupees to Fyzoolla Khan, and take all his money: after that I was obliged out of respect to the English to consent to a Peace, then the following propositions were made to me; that I should take 20 Lacks of Rupees from Fyzoolla Khan, and give him the whole of the Rohilla Country: I answered, I am much indebted to the Company, and I have expended many Lacks for the support of my Army; if I give up all the Rohilla Country for the sum of 20 Lacks, what advantage shall I gain, and how shall I fulfill my engagements? Before I marched from Bissoulee, Mr. Roberts came to me from the Colonel, and informed me that conferences for an accommodation with Fyzoolla Khan were on foot, and that it was advisable I should agree to them. My friend, this is called giving advice in Indostan, when a person says, I think this is for the best, and you must do so. When the English Chiefs were continually sending to me these messages, how could I refuse to satisfy them? Briefly, I was at first averse to an accommodation, and should never have consented to it but for the satisfaction of the General. In like manner the several Letters which the General caused me to write at the conclusion of this affair I gave out of respect for him. After the conclusion of this business, when I marched towards my Subah, and determined to send the English Brigade to Ramgaur, I told the General to send two Battalions with me; he replied, that the Battalions could not be separated from the Brigade. What can I write

on this subject? The case is, that I pay the most implicit regard and attention to the friendship of the English, and I am always apprehensive lest such measures should be pursued as might be the cause of any difference in our friendship; for which reason I overlook every step that is taken, whether it is proper or otherwise, and on all occasions endeavour to give satisfaction to the English Chiefs. Consider well, my friend, the conferences at Peelebut, and the method of settling the affair of Fyzoolla Khan. How shall I inform you of all the other instances of this kind?

During the War with Fyzoolla Khan, an English Gentleman plundered a Chief in my Army of a Pallankeen, four looking-glasses, and other goods: when I sent word of this, it was answered, that no one in the English Army had taken them. Some days afterwards it happened that the Bamboo of the said Pallankeen was brought before all the Gentlemen to sell, which my Sirdar seeing, took it forcibly away, and having learnt the name of the Gentleman who had taken the Pallankeen, informed me of it: I sent the Bamboo to the General with this message, that it was now proved that it had been taken by some one in his Army, and that it was necessary that the rest of the things which had been plundered should be returned, the person punished, and care taken to prevent any thing of the kind happening in future; but the goods were not returned, nor any punishment inflicted on the Offender. Besides which, wherever the English Army encamped, they committed such violences and outrages on all the villages around them as to render them quite desolate: they went under the pretence of getting wood, cots, and cudjeree pots, and when they got into the villages, plundered whatever they could lay their hands on. My friend, these things were the wealth of these poor people, which they not only took, but also all the grain, cloth, and every thing else they found in their houses, by which means the whole country was desolated. The English Army encamped near a large and populous town named Custah, into which they went, and destroyed the shops of the traders, and plundered and laid waste the city; how then could the villagers remain in safety? They paid no regard to my repeated remonstrances on this head. It is known that they had permission to take wood, cots, and cudjeree pots. Whilst this is the case, and the Troops are satisfied that they shall not be punished for any outrages they are guilty of, they will undoubtedly lay waste all the villages they come near. Briefly, the particulars of this kind are so numerous that I cannot write them to you; I will inform you of some few particulars out of those which have happened. The English Troops are continually quarrelling and disputing with my people, sometimes on the most trifling occasions, and frequently without any at all, and putting them under a guard: sometimes, after a confinement of one or two Pars, and at others immediately, they send them before me. My friend, the case is, that all the Infantry in my service know the custom of the Army, that if any one commits a fault he will be imprisoned for it, and think nothing of being put under a guard; but there are other Hindostannies, and the Nejeeb Battalions, and others in my service, who consider it as the highest disgrace to be put under a guard; and if any one attempts it, they will defend themselves against it, and rather lose their lives than submit to such a dishonor. I was apprehensive lest the English Gentlemen should attempt to seize and imprison some Sirdar who had 5 or 10,000 men in his service; in this case there is no doubt but the Sirdar and all his people would repulse with all their force those who attempted it: I also know, that was this the case I should punish such Sirdar with death; but he would be in no fear of me when he exposed his life in a quarrel with the English: in this case it would be necessary for me to assist the English Army; by this means a Civil War would arise in our joint Army, and a great number of people lose their lives: it would be equally bad for me whichever side had the advantage. I was continually subject to these apprehensions, and made it my study to prevent any difference arising between the two Armies. Although I am convinced that you are, by the blessing of God, endowed with wisdom and understanding, and will pay no attention to the false representations of any one, yet I cannot help being uneasy on this account. Some people formerly wrote you many circumstances to my discredit; I did not return this by accusing them to you. Some time ago you received Letters from some Gentlemen concerning the affair of the family of Hafiz Rhamut Cawn and Eunait Cawn. The English Gentlemen first begun this method; I therefore have written all the above particulars for your information. The affair of Hafiz Rhamut Cawn's family is as follows: the Colonel sent a message to me, that the family of Hafiz Rhamut were dying with hunger; that a storm had one day thrown down the Purdas of the Tent of Hafiz Rhamut Cawn's family, and left the men and women exposed: I went to visit the Colonel, and returned an answer to his message, that I sent provisions from my own Sircar daily for their support; and that with respect to the Purdas which were thrown down by the violence of the wind, I could not help it, that I had no authority over the winds to still them; and that if I had not supplied them with provisions, what means had they taken to preserve

preserve their existence? My friend, the family of Hafiz Rhamut Cawn is well supplied with provisions, and 3000 Rupees per month is appointed for this purpose. I have not power with God to prevent the violence of the wind. Consider well these particulars. Let prisoners be ever so well treated and supplied with necessaries, still confinement is uncomfortable. Whoever has lost a father and brother in war, has fallen from the dignity of a Throne and become a prisoner, will undoubtedly suffer much misery. I have written this long account that you may be informed of every affair; I have related them all more particularly to Colonel Maclean, who will inform you of them; Mr. Middleton will also write you on these subjects. I am very much pleased with Mr. Middleton's good conduct; he is a sensible and intelligent man, and a sincere well-wisher of mine; I therefore consult him on all affairs, and have been spoken to on this subject by the Colonel, who says that Mr. Middleton was appointed to collect the money due to the Company, and that he has no business to interfere in any other matter: I returned him no answer to this. I consulted Mr. Middleton on several affairs, particularly at Peelebut, when the English Gentlemen introduced so many new propositions and arguments. The Colonel then made use of the expression I have mentioned above, that Mr. Middleton had no other concern but to collect the money due to the Company. I have now given you an account of all that has happened here for some time past.

A P P E N D I X, No. XXVI. A.

Extract of Secret Consultations, Fort-William, 14th February, 1775.

Read the following Letter from Colonel Champion, with the Papers to which it refers, all which accompanied his Address of the 3d February, recorded in Consultations of that day.

To the Honorable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor-General, &c. Council of Fort-William.

GENTLEMEN,

ON the evening of the 27th past I was furnished with the Translation of a Letter received by the Governor-General from the Vizier as far back as the 28th of November. Colonel Champion in refutation of the Vizier's Charges against him.

I acknowledged the receipt of it next day, and expressed my concern that it had not been convenient to favour me with an earlier perusal. It contains Charges highly injurious to my honor, and it would therefore have been satisfactory that an opportunity had been given me of ushering these aspersions into your presence with their refutation.

I know the Vizier's character intimately; too well I know his littleness of soul to be surprized at his stooping to any meanness: but I cannot help expressing my astonishment at the appearances of a certain management with which this Letter is strongly marked.

It must have been written about the middle of November. The Vizier and I parted on the most friendly terms on the 14th October. Not only had he often personally thanked me for the services I had rendered him, but he did so by a Letter after he had left Camp. When I told him of my intentions to return to Europe, he said he should lament my absence as that of his best of friends; and I have already informed you, in another Address, that I was urged to accept of a more convincing proof of his approbation and satisfaction after the conclusion of the settlement with the Rohilla Chief.

How then shall I account for the appearance of the present extraordinary Letter?

Observe, if you please, Gentlemen, the first part of it, 'till you arrive at Bissoulee, then cast your eyes on a Letter which his Excellency wrote to Mr. Hastings from Peele-No. 1. A. but; according to the Translations one is an exact Transcript of the other. Now the Vizier had duly received an Answer from Mr. Hastings to the Letter sent from Peelebut. The War was over early in October; there remained no more towns to plunder, no new discovered hoards of treasure to dig up, no unhappy man to rob of his wealth, no miserable woman of her raiment: why then does his Excellency set down in November to copy a Letter to which he had received a satisfactory Answer six or seven months before? There is something mysterious in this business; perhaps in the sequel we may see more clearly.

28th April. It is unnecessary to recapitulate what passed at Peelebut; I communicated the circum-
 Two Letters stance to Mr. Hastings the very day it happened, and I afterwards gave him my
 to the Go- sentiments on his own Letter, as well as on the Vizier's Complaint.
 vernor, 14th
 June.

It would now therefore perhaps suffice to refer to what has already passed on that subject; but it may not be out of place to remark, that the compliment which the Vizier pays me, of having suffered myself to be lorded over by the Gentlemen he mentions, will, I am confident, upon enquiry, meet with the polite retort from each of them as it does from me.

After all, what did the Complaint amount to? only to this; 1st. That a demand was made on the part of the English Troops to take an account of the Riches which might be found in Peelebut, and that this demand was not agreeable to his Excellency. 2dly, That he was displeased with the deportment of Colonel Leslie and the other Gentlemen.

With regard to the first, we may in politeness be sorry that the demand was disagreeable to his Excellency; we are not surprised at it, because he is less a friend to us than to himself; but it does not therefore follow that any apology is due; on the contrary, I wish it may not be thought that other Commanding Officers would have caused the search to have been more particular.

Two Letters With respect to the behaviour of the Gentlemen, I have already acquitted them of
 to the Go- impropriety so far as fell under my observation; * and I dare say, if they are called
 vernor, 14th upon, they will answer for themselves in confutation of his Excellency. But why, as
 June. I have already said, why is this Complaint reiterated at this time of day?

* See also No. 1. B. I cannot help admiring the confidence with which his Excellency has advanced, that there was not so much as 4 or 5000 Rupees in Peelebut. The report of four Crore being concealed there I always thought extravagant, but his Excellency has gone so far in the other extreme that it is impossible he can ever expect to be credited. According to the accounts of trusty and intelligent Spies, the fact proved to be, that the Company would have been considerable gainers by the offer which he says he made, of giving up all the Riches in the Fort for the forty Lacks.

As we are now on the subject of Plunder, permit me to offer my attachment to the Army in apology for begging of you to attend to it a little farther.

According to the letter and to the meaning of my Instructions, I had authority to proceed to the Conquest of the Rohilla Country, if the Vizier required it, with the Company's Troops only.

Supposing then, Gentlemen, that the Nabob had found himself sufficiently engaged in the Doab, and that I had effected the Rohilla Conquest, can it be alledged that the Company's Troops would have taken charge of the Riches found in the Forts and Cities merely on account of the Vizier, and that they must afterwards have delivered them over to his Excellency? impossible! and it follows of course, that his being present could only entitle him to a proportion. I submit, therefore, whether the giving up the rights of the Army was not in effect sacrificing the Interest of our Nation, inasmuch as the Riches of the Individuals contribute to the support of the State.

But passing over this remarkable complaisance to the Vizier as inexplicable, we shall march from Peelebut, and accompany his Excellency towards Bissoulee, dragging in triumph the disconsolate Begum and Children of the brave but unfortunate Hafiz, the Widow of his eldest Son, Ennait Khan, the Wife of his eldest surviving Son, Mahubbet Khan, and some hundreds of miserable captive women on carts.

No. 1. C. Leaving Berelly and Oulah behind us, and trusty Slaves of his Excellency's to see the Inhabitants indiscriminately plundered for the behoof of their Master, we arrived at Bissoulee, where the whole Army were witnesses of scenes that cannot be described.

But not to dwell on the enormities or excesses of his Excellency, I shall proceed to answer the Charges brought against me.

In doing this, Gentlemen, I must trouble you with a narrative of all the transactions relative to Fyzoolla Khan; and in proceeding I shall deduce from the facts such arguments, as naturally arise in support of the propriety of my conduct during the Campaign. The Vizier says, that after our arrival at Bissoulee I carried on an underhand Correspondence with Fyzoolla Khan. I received and answered several Letters from the Rohilla Chief, but his Excellency is an economist of truth when he says I did so clandestinely.

The first Letter I received from Fyzoolla Khan was in these words:

14th May, "After the death of my Father these Gentlemen, the Rohilla Chiefs, took possession
 No. 2. "of my ancient Estate, and gave me a trifle for my subsistence: this is as evident as
 "the

“ the Sun ; surely it is known to you ; I therefore from necessity supported myself with
 “ difficulty. The Person who designed the War is no more. Regarding your sacred
 “ friendship and sincerity, I request, without other intervention, that the degree of
 “ friendship with you may be confirmed. Your goodness and celebrity is every where
 “ known; and that you, the English, dispossess no one. This trouble therefore is given,
 “ that in case I am reinstated in my antient Possessions; whatever is conferred upon me,
 “ I will pay you as much, without damage or deficiency, as any other person will agree
 “ to do; and in all matters I will regard you as my master and benefactor 'till death,
 “ but no other person. My Agreements will I on no account depart from, and, God
 “ willing, I will perform them with my heart and soul.

“ Whenever you require it I shall attend you, and perform my duty and my firm alli-
 “ ance. I hope in God, that by your means I shall receive justice, which goodness I
 “ shall hold in remembrance while I have life. I would have sent a faithful person
 “ to you to have explained all particulars, but the roads not being free prevented me;
 “ if you will send a man to me mine accompanying him shall attend you.”

I received at the same time a Letter from Ahmed Khan Khanfuman.

14th May,
No. 3.

“ Long before this Titte Khan Khanfuman; deceased; performed his duty to the
 “ English Chiefs.

“ At his death I was left singly, and Hafiz *Rhamut Cawn took that opportunity
 “ to seize half my Country, and conferred it on my Brother Azeem Khan, by which I
 “ attained not my hereditary Estate; I therefore withdrew my connexion with him,
 “ but he carried me with him forcibly. When the Nabob Vizier's Letter to console
 “ me was received I wished to join him and you; I declared my desires; but what could
 “ I do, for Hafiz would not let me go? This will have reached you from others through-
 “ out Indostan: there the English beneficence is founded, and it is manifest to all
 “ that they dispossess no one of his right; it is therefore requested that on our, the
 “ Rohillas, particular compassion may be shewn, and whatever be thought just bestow-
 “ ed. By God's assistance, from the dues of fidelity and duty I will never deviate the
 “ breadth of an hair.

“ As Fyzoolla Khan has true esteem for me, I quitted him not, but accompanied
 “ him to this Fort. From your honor and clemency a reply to this Address is intreated;
 “ it was necessary it should be made. May you ever prosper!”

These Letters commenced the Correspondence; and if his Excellency had not, by the cruelty and inhumanity of his conduct in general, and by a piece of treachery towards other Chiefs, which I shall hereafter have occasion to mention, and to prove under his own Seal; I say, if he had not, by such means of these, impressed the Natives with a just and deep-rooted distrust of his honor, it is probable I should not have been troubled with their Addresses: but to continue.

Next morning I waited upon the Vizier and shewed him the above Letters; at the same time I offered him the Corps of Grenadiers of the Army to accompany a Body of his Troops to reduce the Fugitives, and in the evening repeated the offer in person: how he received it may be seen in my Letter to the Governor and Council, 16th May, of which date, by advice of the Vizier, I sent the following Answer to the Rohilla Chiefs:

15th May.

TO FYZOOLLA KHAN.

“ Your Letter is received and gives me pleasure. The particulars are clear. My No. 4.
 “ reply is this; this Country is not taken into the possession of the English, but in
 “ consequence of engagements the English Army is come to the aid and assistance
 “ of the Nabob Vizier, who is now Master of this Country. Agreeably to your desire
 “ I communicated the particulars of your Letter to the Vizier, and this is his reply,
 “ that he did not chuse any Patan Chief should have settlement in this Country; I
 “ therefore said no more: but if you, or Ahmed Khan, should at any time wish to come
 “ to me, for ye and your Family, and to Ahmed Khan and his Family, I will give
 “ protection, that no person shall give you the smallest molestation; but of your Country
 “ and Effects the Nabob Vizier is now Master. Your desires are made known to him,
 “ and if ye can settle your affairs agreeably to his pleasure, it will be very advisable,
 “ and in this Agreement I also shall be very glad.”

To

TO AHMED KHAN.

16th May, No. 5. "Your representation is received, and the particulars known. All that ye have written in excuse for your conduct I have communicated to the Nabob Vizier; and his determination is this, that no person of the Rohilla Tribe shall have residence in this Country. I write to advise you explicitly of the Vizier's pleasure that ye may act according to it. Should ye at any time wish to come to me, for yourself and family I will afford full protection; but your Country and Effects are now the property of the Nabob Vizier.

*See Paper marked P. "From these Replies, Gentlemen, it is evident how implicitly I obeyed the orders I had received, to consider the Vizier as the Master."

24th May. On the 24th a Letter arrived from Fyzoolla Khan in these Words :

No. 6. "Previous to this I addressed you with a representation of my condition, which from it will be evident to you. Just now I have received a Letter from the Nabob Vizier; I have returned in reply to it, that through your mediation I will come in to him. This trouble therefore is given, to beg you will write me of whatever you have determined in my favour, that acting agreeably to it, and arriving by your means, I may obtain an interview. From whatever promises and agreements I make I will not deviate the breadth of an hair."

No. 7. This Letter speaks more plainly than the former the distrust which the Vizier had caused in the minds of the Fugitives by his conduct to their Kindred. In consequence of a communication of it to the Nabob, his Minister, Elich Khan, waited on me, and, pursuant to the pleasure of his Excellency, the following Reply was written to the Rohilla Chief :

No. 8. "I now advise you that the two following proposals are offered to ye; 1st. The Vizier will not confer on ye, or any other (Rohilla) person, one foot of land in this Country; but he will give you an equal quantity with what you possessed here in the Country of Doab, provided ye will now pay him twenty Lacks of Rupees: on this condition come satisfied. The second proposal, should ye not accept of the first, is this; That you, with your Family, Domesticks, Treasure, and Effects, but without Troops, come in and meet me; after which ye will proceed directly into the English Districts, wherever may be best, and remain there 'till the pleasure of the Board in this particular is written to me. The reason of this is, that the Vizier does not chuse ye should remain here. I now give you promise of protection, and send you a Pass under the Vizier's Seal, and one under my own: whichever of these you chuse to accept, act agreeably; but should neither of them be agreeable to you, you are your own master, therefore send the Passes back to me."

This Letter was dispatched in the morning, and in the afternoon I received one in reply to mine of the 16th :

27th May No. 9. "Your gracious Letter is received, and the particulars comprehended. You write, that this Country is not come into the possession of the English, but, in consequence of engagements between the English and Vizier to give him assistance, their Troops came into this Country, of which the Vizier is now Lord: that agreeably to the Letter, having told all the particulars to the Nabob, his pleasure is this, that no Chief of the Rohilla Tribe shall have settlement in this Country; therefore that in this matter I should attempt no farther. The case is this: I have never acted in such manner that the Vizier should have taken hatred to his heart against me, but it was the disturbances of other Chiefs which afflicted his noble heart; in that I am guiltless: therefore I trouble you, that if this Country is not in your possession, the management of it finally will be put into the hands of others; it is better therefore to accept it from me. If it is in the Nabob's Dominion, foregoing every other connexion, I will take it through your means. I am in hopes that the Nabob's favour being regained, that this Country will be put under my charge, and whatever any others may offer for it, I will bind myself to perform. In reply to Letters received from the Vizier, calling me in to him, I have replied, that whatever may be his pleasure regarding me, he shall advise you of it, that by your means I may come to his presence. Your bravery and generosity is as evident as the Sun, and whoever loses his Country by War is again replaced

“ replaced in it. I wish to take it (the Country) purely through you ; then by your favour
 “ let us not lose our Country. In the dues of friendship and fidelity I will never fail,
 “ and while I live I shall be obedient to your commands. Abdulrhum Khan and Hukah-
 “ met Oulla I have sent to you. In the matter of my offer for receiving the Country of
 “ my father, whatever is my ability to give they will represent to you ; agreeably to
 “ that, shewing the dues of lordliness and compassion, your fame will resound through
 “ the World.”

The offers which the Vackeel made in the name of his Master are mentioned in my Letter to the Governor of the 28th May.

From the reinstatement of Sujah-ul-Dowla in his own Dominions, the Powers of Indostan had conceived the English to be a people of unparalleled magnanimity, as celebrated for their justice and humanity as for their bravery and generosity : this is evident from the style of their Letters which were addressed to me.

I thought nothing could be more honorable to our Nation than the support of so exalted a character ; and whilst it could be done on terms so advantageous as an annual increase of near £.400,000 to the revenues of our Ally, and an immediate acquisition of above £.300,000 to the Company, for their influence in effecting an accommodation perfectly consistent with their engagements to the Vizier, who would have thus derived more than a reasonable advantage from that manner of terminating the War, I supposed it very unlikely that the Vackeel's proposition should be received with indifference.

They were not, it is true, agreeable to the Vizier ; they were not favourable to his ambitious designs, nor to his inhuman plan of *extirpation*.

I informed the Governor of Sujah's having received them with disdain ; and when I 28th May, candidly told his Excellency that I should act in the matter agreeably to the orders of Government, he anticipated the answer which I received, by saying, “ *Mr. Hastings will tell you as I do.*”

But though his Excellency gave himself the liberty of divining this, how was it possible that I should believe that we were to consult the Vizier's interest and aggrandizement only ? I could not as a Company's Servant give place to such an idea.

I knew that Sujah's acquisitions in plunder had exceeded the expenses of the Campaign, even including the forty Lacks which he had promised to pay to the Company ; I had with regret observed, that the part which the English took in the War brought their national character into the highest disrepute ; I had remarked, and all the Officers in the Army had remarked, that his Excellency's haughtiness increased with the power which we put into his hands.

Independent therefore of the immense pecuniary considerations which I have mentioned, nothing could be more consistent with what I conceived to be the interest of the Company, than embracing the opportunity which presented itself of having a standing Army of 15 or 20,000, and, in case of emergency, 50 or 60,000 Afghans ready to assist in repelling any of the Powers to the westward of the Ganges, or to crush the growing insolence of the Vizier himself.

Knowing that we owe establishment in this Country to the want of unanimity amongst the Natives, I had always understood it to have been an axiom in our System of politics, that it was our part to endeavour at keeping the power of the Country Princes as much upon an equipoise as possible, lest, by lengthening the sword of one, he should destroy his neighbour and become formidable to ourselves.

It was upon this principle that a Deputation was a few years ago sent, at a great expense to the Company, to limit the Forces of Sujah Dowla, when they were far less numerous than at present.

This, Gentlemen, as has been already observed, I was induced to think it very improbable that the overtures of the Rohilla Chief would have been totally disregarded, nor could I ever be possibly reconciled to myself had I presumed to have withheld them from the knowledge of Government.

I therefore referred the proposals to the Administration through the Honorable the Governor, and I reflect with real satisfaction on having done so.

“ I shall be extremely glad if, upon due consideration of them, any means can be devised by which the public good may be promoted. I wish for nothing so much as that some measure may be adopted, that will strike all the Powers of the East with admiration of our justice in contrast to the Vizier's conduct.”

Conclusion
of a Letter
to the Go-
vernor, 28th
May.

In the mean time however I wrote the following Answer to Fyzoolla :

“ I acquaint you, that your agreeable Letter by your Vackeel is received and gives me No. 10.
 “ pleasure. The contents are clearly understood. In your business I have had a good deal
 “ of conversation with the Nabob Vizier, but he will not consent that either you or any

" other person (Rohilla) shall have one foot of land in this Country ; but the Vizier offers
 " you the same quantity of Country you have possessed here in the Province of Doab.
 " If you chuse to accept of this, it is well ; if not, there is no other choice. Had the
 " Vizier accepted of your proposal it would have given me much pleasure, but in re-
 " gard to the Country, the Vizier is Lord. Further correspondence on this matter will
 " be fruitless, on which account I write you explicitly."

With this Letter I desired the Vackeel to return to his Master, telling him I could do nothing in his affairs of my own authority, but that I would make his offers known to the Gentlemen at Calcutta, and afterwards advise Fyzoolla of their pleasure.

28th May.

The Vackeel however sent the Letter by another person, and intreated permission to remain in Camp 'till I should hear from the Presidency, which I granted, as intimated to the Governor.

No. 11.

I had no further intercourse with Fyzoolla until the 7th June, when, in consequence of a report that Lieutenant Redman and two other European Deserters were with him, I desired he would send them forthwith to my Camp.

On the 8th of the same month being advised, as well through his Excellency as by other intelligence, that the King had invited over the Rohillas, and the Vizier and myself being of opinion that the consequences of their joining His Majesty would prove prejudicial to his Excellency's future peace, especially in case of a Maratta War, of which he seemed very apprehensive, I addressed Fyzoolla as follows :

No. 12.

" Hearing at this time that Letters are arrived with you from His Majesty, wherein he
 " strongly enjoins you to come to him without any apprehensions, I write ye, that hav-
 " ing clearly represented your condition to the Board at Calcutta, and in a friendly man-
 " ner having recommended the settlement of them to the Governor, I wait impatiently
 " for replies. In this case I think it necessary and advisable that ye do not comply with
 " the King's desires until answers come from Calcutta ; whenever they do come they
 " shall be immediately transmitted to you ; in this matter there shall be no neglect on
 " my part."

To this Letter, Gentlemen, is probably owing the present peace of the Empire ; to it is certainly owing that the Nabob is undisturbed, and that Fyzoolla Khan is the mere Dependendant of his Excellency ; for if that Chief had not, as he afterwards complained, been lulled into inactivity by the hopes which he entertained from the interposition of our Government, he would have crossed the Ganges at Baize-Gaut and Chandy-Gaut whilst the River was fordable.

He had, according to our Advices, made very early application to Timur Shah for assistance, which the Vizier was apprehensive would be granted ; His Majesty Shah Allum, it was said, had invited the Marattas, he stood chiefly in need of money to prosecute his designs ; Fyzoolla was master of a large sum, the inferior Chiefs were also possessed of riches ; the Seiks were ready to join them ; in short, they must at least have easily established themselves in the Doab, and have been able to have kept the Vizier in a state of disquietude during the remainder of his life. This Letter had the desired effect, and the listening to it proved the cause of much self-disapprobation to the Rohilla.

No. 13.

Nothing further passed between Fyzoolla Khan and me 'till the 25th June, when, on receipt of new advice regarding Redman, a Copy of which was sent to the Governor, I again demanded the Deserter.

No other circumstance occurred regarding the Rohillas 'till the 7th July ; on the morning of that day I received a message from the Nabob, desiring me to send away the Vackeel, for which his reasons may be collected from what follows :

After the fall of Hafiz, the Vizier, as has been elsewhere observed, became extremely arrogant ; it is well known that even his people carried themselves haughtily to the English Officers, and we shall hereafter have occasion to mention a very remarkable and daring instance of it. Great pains were taken to impress the Natives of Indostan in general, and the Vizier's own Subjects in particular, with the highest ideas of his late and great acquisition of power and magnificence.

I have been told, that in a Fittre-Nama published in many parts of his Country on account of the victory, the English Troops were not so much as mentioned ; and it is an undoubted truth, that several Officers, when on their way to the Army, (one of them now in town) were asked if the English had been at the defeat of Hafiz.

The circumstances of the English being in his pay, and under his absolute direction, were circulated with great industry ; nay, so indiscreet was his Excellency, in the use of the command which it had been thought proper to confer on him over the Company's Troops, that our own Seapoys could not help observing the difference between these and former times ; " Now the Saheb Loque (Gentlemen) must run at his nod, and must halt at his
 " nod."

As the Vackeel's remaining in Camp was therefore not favourable to the views with which these reports were spread abroad, and tended to render the Vizier's unlimited authority over the English Army doubtful to the Country Powers, his Excellency requested his dismissal.

I had been directed to consider our Government in a secondary point of view only; and having myself no particular desire for the Vackeel's presence, I indulged the Vizier in his wishes, and immediately directed him to return, promising to acquaint his Master of the answer which should be received from Calcutta.

It happened to arrive that very day, and I gave the Vackeel the following Letter to carry to Fyzoolla as a final answer.

"I laid the state of your affairs before the Board, and impatiently awaited their an No. 14.
 "swer; accordingly this day it arrived, and they write, that the Rohilla Country being
 "in the possession of the Nabob Vizier, and he the Ruler thereof, whatever he may
 "chuse to do in the settlement of it, it would not be proper for them to interfere there-
 "in. I in consequence advise you, that as they have written that they cannot interfere,
 "that without their concurrence I alone am not able to do it. I have exerted the effects
 "of friendship and ability in your concerns, as Abdurhum Khan, who is here, is well
 "convinced of: having now dismissed him, he will return to you, and telling you all
 "particulars, will assure you that I have done every thing I was able; but now I can do
 "no more."

Early in the morning of the 8th July the Vackeel took his departure, lamenting his want of success, and presaging the disgrace into which he actually fell with his Master and his Tribe,* for not having immediately returned in consequence of my Letter to Fyzoolla of the 28th May, and being thereby in some measure the cause of their not crossing the Ganges, and decoying them into imaginary security.

On the 9th Advices being received that supplies of Grain were sent to Fyzoolla's Re No. 15.
 treat from the Districts of Zabita Khan, the first Omrah of the Empire, I wrote to him, desiring he would peremptorily forbid his people to furnish the Enemy with provisions.

I had very early signified to the Governor how exceedingly disagreeable I found my situation. The unhandlome manner in which, I must be pardoned to say, I thought myself treated, on account of the notice I took of the impropriety that had appeared to me in reposing a greater trust in the Vizier than in the Company's Commander in Chief, had determined me to return to the Presidency as soon as the Rivers should have swelled, either to have matters put upon a more becoming footing, or to have taken my leave for England; which, in case of failure in this particular, I had resolved to do, even if no Successor should arrive.

Accordingly I had made preparations for my journey downwards, and had declared 16th July.
 my intention of quitting Camp on the 25th.

In the mean time, however, Mr. Middleton, the Resident at the Vizier's Court, brought 17th July.
 me a message expressive of his Excellency's wishes that the Army should take the field. Next day I waited upon him, and the following is the substance of the conversation which passed:

"My reason for sending Mr. Middleton was this; Mr. Hastings has hinted to me to No. 16.
 "effectually settle this Country as soon as I possibly can, that in case another Enemy
 "should appear after the Rains, and perhaps *both the Marattas and Timur Shah* may, I
 "may be able to withdraw my Troops from this Country without any risk of it's being
 "attacked; and on this account, if the Colonel approves, we will move towards Fyzoolla
 "Khan, who cannot escape, and may be got at without much difficulty."

"I replied, That as the season was so far advanced, and the Camp-Equipage extremely
 "bad, I wished to avoid moving now, as it would be attended with the loss of a number
 "of men, but advised the Vizier to send more Troops to Moradabad; that I would now
 "advance some Battalions, and if the Enemy came down from their present situation,
 "would march with the Brigade to oppose them; adding, that *if I remained here*, I
 "would move with the Army towards them at the latter end of the Rains, and before
 "they could get away: *all this was approved of.*

On the 19th I advised the Select Committee of these circumstances, and informed them that I believed I should be under the necessity of marching, although I was apprehensive the consequences would prove fatal to the Troops.

In the interim I took every possible measure towards a sudden movement; but I heard No. 17.
 nothing more from the Nabob himself on the subject till the 23d, when he acquainted me

* The Vackeel continued a considerable time in disgrace, and his Excellency was so much satisfied of the services of this Man, that he conferred a Jaghire of 5000 Rupees per annum upon him after the Peace.

24th July. he had sent forward part of his Troops, and desired the Brigade might also march. In the evening I sent my Interpreter, and the next morning waited upon him myself, as well to represent how necessary it was to march at that season, as the disadvantages with which I thought our movement would be attended; but finding him bent on the Expedition, I gave into his measure, and took the precaution enjoined by Administration, of requiring a Letter from his Excellency, expressing the necessity of taking the field, which he accordingly sent me.

No. 18. 24th July. The same day I addressed the Select Committee, acquainting them of these circumstances, and also issued orders for the Troops to hold themselves in readiness to march.

25th July. No. 19. I paid his Excellency a visit, and informed him, that in consequence of his requisition, the Brigade should be got in readiness to march as soon as possible.

No. 19 & 20. 26th July. The same day another Vackeel arrived from Fyzoolla in my Camp, but he was instantly dismissed.

26th July. No. 21. I was taken ill; Colonel Galliez, the second in command, was also extremely indisposed. I reminded his Excellency of his being near three months of arrears of Subsidy to the Troops, and observed that it was necessary to supply them with money before the march.

27th July. Continued ill; ordered the Troops to march the 29th in the morning.

No. 19. 28th July. Directed the Camp-Equipage to be sent forward to Chandoufy. Colonel Galliez and myself very unwell. Supply of Ammunition not yet arrived from the Boats; at night therefore countermanded the march of the Army.

29th July. No. 19. My illness considerably abated. Addressed the Select Committee. Ordered the Army to march on the 30th at three o'clock in the morning. I was informed that our Carriage-Cattle had been obliged to make two trips for the Camp-Equipage.

30th July. No. 19. The Army accordingly broke ground, and marched to the Encampment at Chandoufy. And if you consider, Gentlemen, that we were unprovided with the necessaries requisite for the security of our Ammunition and Stores; that great part of them being in the Boats distant about forty miles, the carriage to Bissoulee at that unfavourable season was attended with much trouble and delay, as well as risk of damage; that many of the younger Gentlemen of the Army, whose allowances in the field, however handsome they may be thought, are barely sufficient to indemnify their expenses where the necessaries of life bear to exorbitant prices, had, from motives of economy, dismissed their Coolies, in confidence of our continuing in Cantonments during the Rains; that several hundreds of the Contractor's Drivers, and in particular those attached to the Magazine and Artillery, had either deserted or been discharged by his Agent, that it was with great difficulty even the Nabob's influence, in the course of several days, procured so many of these necessary people as enabled us to proceed; I say, Gentlemen, these circumstances considered, it appears that the Army was in motion with uncommon alacrity.

I confess I was, however, extremely embarrassed in mind lest my desire of pleasing the Nabob should subject me to reprehension.

Accordingly you find, that in my Letter to the Select Committee, 29th July, I studiously endeavoured to apologize for venturing to take so much upon me.

" I deliberately weighed in my mind whether I should acquiesce in the Nabob's request
 " of moving higher; I discovered that my hesitation gave him much dissatisfaction; and
 " it was very perceptible, that if I had persisted in remaining here, he would have been
 " impressed with doubts and jealousies of the sincerity of our attachment towards him,
 " which I was apprehensive would never be effectually effaced: but indeed his conduct
 " in advancing his Army above thirty Coss in front of our Troops, without my concurrence, rendered a movement on my part absolutely necessary, for the reasons mentioned
 " in my Address of the 19th, &c. &c. and I hope, therefore, that the motives which
 " have prevailed with me to comply with his Excellency's requisition will secure to me
 " the honor of your approbation."

Nor will you be surprised, Gentlemen, that I was anxious for such approbation, when you shall have considered the causes which I had to be doubtful of obtaining it, and the inward disquiet which these doubts occasioned.

First; I remained in a state of disagreeable suspense, as to the effect which the Treaty of partition of the conquered Country between his Majesty and the Vizier might have.

23d May. The Board had said, " We cannot entertain so bad an opinion of the Vizier, as to suppose him capable of acting in avowed breach of Treaty; but if any plea of that kind should be made for contesting *our right* * to occupy any part of the Rohilla Country *yet unconquered*, it would be proper to put the question to him, whether such Treaty
 " does

* As if they had had a right! This is not the language of Auxiliaries, but of Principals in the War.

"does exist or not? if he should acknowledge such a Treaty, you must undoubtedly cease from farther hostilities in abetment of his breach of faith."

The King had sent me a Copy of the Treaty which had been sworn to on the Koran; "Perhaps," said his Majesty, "the Nabob has forgot his oath, it is fit you should remind him of it."

When I shewed his Excellency the Treaty he acknowledged it's authenticity; he had not forgot his oath, but he braved it: he alledged, that the counterpart in his possession expressed a condition that his Majesty should take the field in person, and that his failure in that particular annulled the Treaty.

But when the original counterpart which he put into the hands of my Interpreter came No. 22. to be examined, it appeared there was no such stipulation; nor indeed did it ever exist even verbally, as may be understood from Nudjif Khan's declaration on that subject, where he said, "He had no doubts of the Vizier's abiding by his engagements."

I sent Copies of both to the Committee, having been repeatedly desired to correspond with them only; and as the above sentiments of the Administration seemed very favourable towards his Majesty, it was not clear to me that so frivolous an excuse would have been sanctified in breach of so solemn a Treaty; I therefore made a reference to the paragraph above quoted, and desired the Committee would give me explicit instructions regarding the import thereof; nor was I a little anxious for a reply.

Secondly; After I had agreed to take the field, and before we marched, but when it was too late to retract, I discovered that the Vizier had grossly imposed upon me regarding the Letter which he had pretended to have *just* received from the Governor; for although I had not been favoured with any Address from Mr. Hastings on that subject, yet believing that his Excellency had really got such a Letter, it was the most prevailing argument with me, and I urged it accordingly in my Letters to the Select Committee in justification of my conduct. 19th & 24th July.

But upon finding that the Letter which the Vizier pretended to have *just* received was no other than one he had got in May, congratulating him on the victory, and "the *ardour* of his *courage*," and casually recommending the settlement of his affairs in the Rohilla Country, I was much concerned, because the Governor's advice could apply to the present time; and if the expedition should be disapproved, it would not be in my power to quote Mr. Hastings's authority in favour of the undertaking.

Thirdly; The Board had already declared the forty Lacks due to the Company.

"Considering our right to the sum stipulated for the present service *as now fully ac-* 23d May. *quired*, we have recommended to the President to make *immediate* application for the "payment of the forty Lacks:" a formal demand had accordingly been made for the money; * this was in effect avowing that they had already performed all that was incumbent on them, No. 23. consequently that no further service was due from their Troops without new stipulations for the advantage of the Company; and I intimated some time before pretty plainly that this was my own opinion.

Had I not therefore great reason to be apprehensive lest I should be told by the Administration, that my acquiescence with the Vizier's desires had rendered it impossible for them to make such stipulations with his Excellency.

And I would ask, Gentlemen, whether the treatment which I received in the course of correspondence left me the smallest room to doubt, that if any unfortunate accident had happened during the second Campaign, "of my own undertaking," for such it would be termed, every argument would be laid hold of to screen others from, and saddle me with the indignation of the Company.

From what I have already said, I think it must appear that I had very forcible reasons for the disinclination which I informed the Select Committee I should have at marching, and that in overcoming all these powerful causes of my embarrassment, I manifested even a superlative degree of attention to his Excellency's wishes.

But fourthly; This will be still more evident, from the circumstance of my having marched while the Troops were near three months in arrears of pay; for though I had made application to his Excellency on the 26th to pay up at least a part of the arrears, I had no success; he contented himself with signifying pleasantly to some of those about his person, "That he had no silver then except in bars, and that although he had bars, "he had no implements of coinage." The only observation that occurred to me on this head was, that if he carried the bars from his own Provinces, I was sorry he had not brought the necessary utensils, and that if he found the bars in the Rohilla Country, to have been consistent in his plan, he should have forgot that he had them.

5 1

But

* Remark of the Vizier, "The Board always ready to lay hold of any thing that would bear a dispute."

But to enforce the argument arising from my having marched whilst the Troops were so much in arrears.

Board's Instructions,
Par. 7.

Be pleased to recollect, that, according to my Instructions, I had full authority not only to discontinue the operations, but to countermarch with the Army, in the event of his Excellency's suffering himself to be in arrears of Subsidy for the space of one month after the day on which it should have been paid.

Now whilst it is evident, that, by adhering to the orders of the Board, my conduct could not be liable to challenge, it is equally obvious, that, by acting thus in direct contradiction to them, I shewed a condescension to his Excellency, which, independent of every other consideration, is fully sufficient to destroy the calumnies with which this insidious man would stab my reputation; for if I had been disposed to thwart his inclinations, I might have embraced this opportunity of doing it in security.

Having therefore clearly established the falsity of the malicious insinuations which have been directed against me, on account of the objections made to the movement from Bisfoulee, I shall now proceed to shew, that those which regard my subsequent conduct are no less slanderous and void of truth.

No. 19 &
24.

Under every possible disadvantage we took the field, in submission to the caprice of this ungrateful Ally; every difficulty was struggled against with uncommon perseverance, as you, Gentlemen, will be well convinced even from perusing very summary minutes of occurrences taken down by one of my Aid de Camps, * from which you will perceive that I persisted in keeping the field, and dragging the Europeans along, contrary to the written opinion of the surgeons.

No. 25. A.

Our march was as expeditious as the season and the scarcity of provisions would permit. His Excellency did me the favour of a visit almost every morning; he told me of his expectations that the Marattas would make war on him as soon as possible; a report also prevailed that Timur Shah had determined to take the field against him; his Majesty Shah Allum was likewise exceedingly dissatisfied, and ready to adopt any measure to humiliate the Vizier; in short, according to all Advices, there were great appearances of a general flame.

No. 25. B.

The Nabob seemed therefore exceedingly uneasy lest the Rohillas should retire into the Country between the Mountains, and gain time until his attention should be called off by the Marattas to the defence of his own Dominions, in which case he would have enemies in front and rear, and all his ambitious schemes would fall to the ground; his Excellency therefore, on the 12th of August, proposed to me to make overtures of accommodation to the Rohillas.

13 August,
No. 25. B.

The propositions were, that Fyzoolla should deliver up half his Effects to the Vizier, who would give him a District sufficient for the maintenance of 15,000 men in the Country which his Excellency had lately taken from the Marattas.

Correspondence between me and Fyzoolla had ceased from the 7th July, when the Vackeel was dismissed, till this day, that I addressed him, agreeable to the Vizier's desire, enclosing a Copy of his Excellency's Letter making the above propositions.

On the 14th I advised the Committee of the Vizier's wishes and proposal of settling matters amicably with the Rohillas.

No. 26.

On the 15th I received a reply from Fyzoolla, declining to accept the Country taken from the Marattas in the Doab; observing, that in case of their approach, he must either break his engagements with the Vizier, and join them, or they would take the Country from him; he therefore tendered half his Effects to the Vizier, for a settlement in the Rohilla Country equal to that which his Excellency offered in the Doab.

Having communicated Fyzoolla's Letter to the Nabob, his Excellency on the 17th August addressed me thus:

No. 27.

"I have perused the Copy of Fyzoolla Khan's Letter that ye sent me, and understand the particulars: do ye write him a reply to this purport; that of whatever Effects he has he will give me half, and that I will give him Country in the Doab, which I took from the Marattas, for the maintainance of 15,000 men; and that him and me will enter into mutual agreements, to which the English Gentlemen shall accede: that in future, if the Marattas attempt to take the aforesaid Country, I will join and assist Fyzoolla Khan to oppose them. This matter firmly agreed on and determined I enter into by means of the English Gentlemen. Do you write to this purport to Fyzoolla Khan that he may be satisfied. I am ready to give the aforesaid quantity of Country, and to aid and assist him against the Marattas; never, never will I be neglectful in this matter."

* See also a Paper marked L.

Accordingly I wrote to Fyzoolla Khan, enclosing a Copy of his Excellency's Letter, No. 28. recommending to him to accept of the conditions, or at least to come and discourse on the subject.

In reply he observed, that he was unable to write so much as he had to say, and re-No. 29. requested I would send my Secretary to hear from him, and relate to me all particulars: his desire being communicated to the Vizier, his Excellency wrote to me on the 20th, re-No. 30. commending a compliance with it, and containing the necessary instructions; in consequence of which I directed my Secretary to proceed immediately to the Rohilla Camp; and in order to obtain as much information as possible regarding the Enemy's post, I availed myself of this opportunity of sending Lieutenant Bruce, the Field Engineer, to make his observations, that we might profit thereby, in case the Enemy should oblige us to attack them.

On the 21st of August the Engineer sent me an account of the road to Lall-Dang.

"After crossing the Nullah at the village Bujouree, distant from your camp about No. 31.
"4 $\frac{1}{2}$ Cofs, we entered a low jungle, in which are two deserted villages, the wells of
"which afford plenty of good water. Continuing our course northward three Cofs fur-
"ther we arrived at the large village of Ramnagur, to the northwestward of which is an
"open space (I think) sufficiently large to encamp the Brigade on; *this must*
"*be the last stage.* Altering our Route to N. N. West along the foot of the hills, *an*
"*almost impenetrable jungle lines each side of the road.* Another difficulty the Troops
"will have to struggle with is *the want of water*, except at a river two Cofs to the
"westward of Ramnagur; *we did not meet with a drop of that element during a dis-*
"*tance of eight Cofs*, when we arrived at the Rohilla Encampment. The opening here
"is of very little extent, and must have been cleared by the Rohillas after their flight
"to Lall-Dang."

At the same time that these two Gentlemen were in the Enemy's Camp, Elich Khan, the Vizier's Minister, had agents there offering all his influence to effect a settlement; this tended to give the Rohillas confidence, at the same time that Lieutenant Bruce, being recognized by people who had seen him surveying, created suspicions of our intentions.

Fyzoolla Khan however declared his willingness to come to an interview with the Vizier, but his Chiefs would not consent to his leaving their strong-hold: they proposed to send his eldest Son, accompanied with some of their own number; but his Excellency having refused to receive them, and the Gentlemen being recalled on the 24th, correspondence dropt, and I resolved to move nearer the Enemy, in order if possible more effectually to distress them.

On the 26th, attended by the Quartermaster-General, &c. I went twelve miles to re-No. 32. connoitre the Country between the Ganges and the Jungles, leaving the road which the Engineer had travelled to Lall-Dang several Cofs to the right.

On the 27th a body of the Nabob's Troops were ordered by my direction to proceed No. 32. along the banks of the river towards Chandy-Gaut. The 28th I advanced with the No. 32. Grenadier Corps five Cofs, and the Brigade under the command of Colonel Galliez marched three Cofs. I strengthened the advanced division of the Army, and gave the command of it to Lieutenant-Colonel Leslie.

In consequence of an advice which I had early given to the Vizier, a party of Nudjif Khan's Troops had come across the Doab, and posted themselves on the opposite banks of the river at Chandy-Gaut, to prevent all supplies to the Enemy from the western side of the Ganges.

On the 29th I rode out fourteen miles to reconnoitre the Ramnagur Road. On the No. 32. 30th ordered the Quartermaster-General to pitch upon a spot of ground for the Brigade to encamp upon, between Lieutenant-Colonel Leslie's Camp and the hills, and the Brigade accordingly took up that ground the next morning.

1st September, accompanied by the Gentlemen of my Family, I spent the day with No. 33. his Excellency upon the banks of the Ganges.

All this time his Excellency was busied in intriguing with the Rohillas; Elich Khan, and the Abyssinian, Mahomed Bushier Khan, by the Nabob's desire, had set their emissaries at work; and in this manner the Nabob kept up a constant intercourse with the Enemy.

In consequence of which, on the 2d of September his Excellency transmitted me a No. 34. Letter which he had received from Fyzoolla Khan professing obedience, and his Excellency also informed me that the Rohilla Chief had sent a trusty person to him to explain all matters.

This day I ordered two Battalions of Grenadier Seapoys to hold themselves in readi- 2d Septem-
ness to attend me early on the 3d on a party of observation, but on account of a severe ber.
fall of rain that morning I was obliged to countermand the order; on the 4th how-
ever

No 33. ever I went, escorted by the said two Battalions of Grenadier Seapoys, five Cofs, and with a Body of the Nabob's best Horse advanced two Cofs further, when I arrived at an *almost impenetrable jungle, where only one horseman could pass*; I desired the Nabob's Bildars and Tavildars might be employed to cut a road through it.

No. 35. Very severe rain on the 5th. The 6th I again rode out to examine the Ramnagar Road. On the 7th his Excellency transmitted me a copy of the Answer which he sent to the Letter he had received from Fyzoolla Khan on the 2d, importing, that if he did not accept of the former terms further discourse was needless.

No. 33. Notwithstanding all which his Excellency's agents were still employed. Severe rains on the 8th and 9th. On the 10th having visited his Excellency, he acquainted me, that the situation of the Rohillas was very hard, that after the rains ceased the water from the hills would kill them; "Perhaps, added his Excellency, *with these new Gentlemen*

No. 36. "*new measures may take place.*"

This was not the only time he had expressed himself in that manner; the Advices which he had early received from the Presidency created him no small uneasiness; he became more anxious than ever to settle with Fyzoolla, and in order to effect it he doubled his agents and his industry.

On the 11th I received a reply from the Select Committee to my Letters of the 19th and 24th July, and upon the strength of the approbation of my conduct in moving from Bissoulee, without waiting for an answer to my Address of the 29th July, I sent immediate notice to his Excellency that I would press upon the Enemy as soon as possible.

No. 37. His Excellency visited me on the 12th, and without taking any notice of my message of the preceding day, told me, that the Rohillas were in the most distressed situation, that the Chiefs threatened to desert Fyzoolla: upon my advising him to offer them service, he replied, that he had done so, and also security to all who would quit the Enemy's Camp.

But nothing can more clearly demonstrate how wishful the Vizier was to avoid an attack, and bring the Rohillas to an agreement, nothing can more incontestably prove, that the delays which he would impute to me were really his own than the following circumstance.

On the 13th I resolved to ride out as next morning to observe what progress the Nabob's Bildars and Tavildars had made in cutting the road, and to penetrate as much further as I could into the Jungle for the sake of observation; expecting also to have an opportunity of surprizing some of the Enemy's advanced Posts.

No. 38. Pursuant to this design I applied to his Excellency for a strong Body of his Troops to attend me; his Excellency returned for answer, "That he had put himself under a course of physick, *which would continue six days*, for which time he begged I would defer the attack, as then he would be *able* to accompany me."

No. 38. Although I thought this a very unmilitary preparative, I was willing to leave his Excellency to his own mode of whetting his courage; but thinking it necessary for me in the mean time to obtain as perfect a knowledge as possible of the ground we should have occasion to act upon, I replied, that I only meant to go in front to examine the road, and therefore desired his Excellency would send me the escort demanded.

No. 38. Before my Note had reached his Excellency, he sent a message importing that he was treating; and on receipt of my Note he returned another, desiring I would be governed by his pleasure, and defer the Expedition.

14th September. This day two Ambassadors came from Fyzoolla to the Vizier on the invitation of his Excellency; Fyzoolla's Vackeel brought me also a Letter, and informed me, that the Vizier had made proposals of accommodation to his Master, but that he would trust the English only; I observed, that it was probable his Master would not have many days to consider, and sent himself and the Letter to his Excellency.

No. 39. On the 15th I acknowledged the Select Committee's Letter of the 18th August, and advised them of the Vizier's mode of proceeding.

"His Excellency has several persons employed in endeavouring to settle with Fyzoolla, or to detach the Rohilla Sirdars from the common cause; but I am afraid he discovers too much anxiety, and renders the Enemy more backward in coming to terms than they otherwise would be."

No. 40. September the 16th, after some conferences with the Vackeels, his Excellency acquainted me that he would make Fyzoolla Collector of the Revenues of Rohilcund, allowing six Lacks for his expenses, and desired I would therefore address the Rohilla to that purpose, which I did accordingly.

His Excellency had so many schemes, and so many agents to conduct them, that it was impossible to know his real intentions; but it was evident that he was departing from his former resolutions. He had some time before refused to receive Fyzoolla's eldest Son accompanied by some of the principal Chiefs, and he had now not only

admitted two Chiefs without the Son, but even sent several Sirdars to invite and conduct them to his Camp.

On the 17th I acquainted the Governor of these circumstances, and on the 18th took No. 41. occasion to repeat the offer of the service of the Troops, and to inform his Excellency that they were in readiness.

The two Vackeels remained in his Camp, and were entertained several days by Bushier Khan, &c. by order of his Excellency.

On the 19th I received a Letter from Fyzoolla, in answer to that which I had addressed No. 42. to him on the 16th by desire of the Vizier; and having transmitted it to his Excellency he sent me the following reply.

"The Letter of Fyzoolla Khan which you sent me to peruse I have received, and No. 43. clearly understand. I desire the death of no Mussulman, and therefore have fixed on this plan which I now write. Do you acquaint Fyzoolla Khan from yourself, that the Nabob Vizier will settle a Jaghire of ten Lacks of Rupees per year on him of the Rohilcund Country, and he shall keep two or three thousand men as household servants along with him; the Troops of the Nabob Vizier shall be stationed in the Country; that the Troops and Chiefs of Khuteer Rohilcund shall be taken into service, but shall not remain with him.

"If this is agreeable to Fyzoolla Khan, do ye write him to come in to you; when he comes I will have an interview with him, and if he desires it shall rent or supervise the whole Rohilla Country, which shall be settled face to face; but of whatever effects he may have, half shall be given to me; and the Troops of Khuteer, or Rohillas, that are with him, shall not remain."

Thus, Gentlemen, you find, that in emerging from his Hebdomadal Purgation, the Vizier became a most devout and excellent Mussulman. The near approach of "these new Gentlemen" seemed also to operate powerfully on his Excellency.

Agreeably to his wishes I sent a copy of his Letter to the Rohilla Chief, and recommended to him to accept of the Vizier's proposals; at all events to return a speedy No. 42, near the end, reply.

From this time we had very heavy rains for several days successively, and no answer No. 44. being arrived from Fyzoolla, I wrote him a note on the 25th demanding an immediate reply. No. 45.

Afterwards, on the same day, an answer was received from Fyzoolla, importing, that No. 46. if the Vizier would not grant either of his former requests, fate must determine between them.

I saw no longer any prospects of peace, which I accordingly signified to the Select Committee the same day that the above answer came to hand.

On the 26th the Vizier favoured me with a visit, when it was resolved to move the No. 47. Army nearer to Lall-Dang, as the most probable means of "*bringing the Robillas to terms.*"

I ordered the Troops to hold themselves in readiness to march the 29th in the 27th Sept. morning, and the division under Colonel Galliez to take the ground occupied by the No. 48. Grenadier Corps.

Well assured of the great advantages the Enemy had in the strength of their situation, 28th Sept. sensible that nothing but the strictest observance of good order could ensure our success, and having reason to be suspicious lest the Troops, mindful of past neglects, should suffer their discontent to get the better of their moderation, and impell them to disperse in search of plunder, I assembled the Field Officers at head quarters.

Some proposed to stipulate with his Excellency for twenty, some for fifteen, and the most moderate for ten Lacks, in lieu of Plunder, and that the Troops should be acquainted No. 48. of it before the attack.

I told the Gentlemen, that if his Excellency should offer five Lacks, I thought it would be advisable to accept of them, both on account of the imminent danger which would ensue from any disorder of the Troops, and the small probability of discovering the riches of a people accustomed to bury their Treasure; declaring however my wishes that the Vizier might offer a larger sum: the Gentlemen, satisfied of my good inclinations, said no more on the subject.

In conformity to the injunctions of Administration, I desired his Excellency to signify Board's Instructions, Paragraph 4th. in writing, that it was now his pleasure the Army should proceed to attack Fyzoolla in his intrenchments; his Excellency accordingly did so.

And though I was unable to mount my horse without assistance, having been confined to my Tent by a severe illness from the 19th, I advanced with the front division of the Army four Coss towards the Enemy.

Mention being made to his Excellency of the Plunder, he observed, that he had certain intelligence where the riches of the Enemy lay buried, that he knew the English could

never discover the Treasure, and therefore he would not give them one cowrie; a circumstance which I thought it prudent to conceal carefully from the knowledge of the Troops.

No. 48. On the 30th I proceeded four Cofs further, the Brigade under Colonel Galliez taking up our last ground.

30th Sept. This day I received a Letter from the Select Committee of the 8th September, "Expressing their satisfaction at the Vizier's intention of terminating the War by an accommodation, and their hopes that his Excellency would be disposed to *conciliate their affections to his Government by acceding to lenient terms.*"

No. 49. Being now arrived near the Rohillas, who were very strongly posted, and had thrown up works in their front, it became necessary to advance by regular approaches, and before evening a work was established sufficient to cover 1200 men; but it was agreed to give the Enemy the option of accepting the terms offered by his Excellency, or stand the consequences, which was accordingly done in the following Letter.

No. 50. "This day I am arrived with my Army near the foot of the hills; but as friendship has been formed between us, I perform my part, and tell you, that ye still have opportunity of coinciding to the Nabob Vizier's offers which were before sent ye, and of coming hither; this is the best advice ye can follow. There has been discourse between the Nabob Vizier and me, when the Nabob said, and confirmed, that whenever you would accede to his proposals, that something should be settled for every Chief with ye. Now the Nabob Vizier has said, and has written this conformably to your request. My advice is this; do you now come here and agree to this, for I do not desire that the blood of the people be spilt. Motives of friendship induce me again to write ye on this subject. If ye will not accept of this, and will not come, the fault is not mine, as I have done every thing in my power. Now for what may ensue ye and your Chiefs are answerable. In case ye consent, and come in, write me, and I will send a proper person to conduct ye; in this there is neither prejudice or danger. If ye will not agree, let me certainly have your reply this day."

No. 48. In the mean time, however, our works were carried on with all possible diligence. Bush-fighting all this day between small scouting parties of both Armies. A few men of the Nabob's and of the Enemy's said to be killed. Advised the Committee of the posture of affairs, and of the last offer made to Fyzoolla.

No. 51. Next morning, 1st October, the Rohilla Chief sent an unsatisfactory reply. I reconnoitred the road several miles in front. Many shot fired by the Enemy. Pitched upon a spot for establishing our second works.

About noon a man came from Fyzoolla to inform me that he could certainly come in next day. I could not give myself leave to rely implicitly on his assurances; but having informed the Vizier of the circumstance, he expressed a satisfaction at the news.

Very early on the following morning I advanced, with a strong body of the combined Armies, to the ground which had been pitched upon for our second approach; from thence I dispatched Fyzoolla's messenger to inform his Master, that I was so far advanced with the Army to pay him a visit at Lall-Dang. All industry used to establish our post. Many shot fired in the Jungles on our flanks.

About two hours after the messenger's departure a Chief came to inform me, that if our advanced parties were recalled Fyzoolla would come out. At noon notice being brought that he was approaching, I sent a Field Officer and the Persian Interpreter to escort him through our advanced parties; and on his arrival immediate advice being sent to his Excellency, he appointed the next morning for receiving him.

No. 52. Accordingly Fyzoolla was presented to the Vizier on the 3d; at that meeting nothing passed but compliment; however his Excellency afterwards addressed me thus:

No. 53. "I before wrote ye, that if Fyzoolla Khan would come in and meet us, a Jaghire for ten Lacks of Rupees of the Rohilkund Country should be conferred on him; that he should keep 2 or 3000 people with him as attendants, and that of his effects half should be taken: now that he is come in, in consideration of his coming, I will present him with two Lacks more; and twelve Lacks of the Rohilkund Country, including his former Districts, shall be given as a Jaghire; and of his effects half shall be taken. In this estate of twelve Lacks Fyzoolla Khan is at liberty to keep 5 persons or 5000, but he must not keep one more than 5000; and to content him and the people with him, I will entertain in my own service from 10 to 15,000, and they shall be stationed where he chuses, and shall receive their pay from me."

No. 52. I communicated the Vizier's pleasure to the Rohilla in the evening; he acknowledged the generosity of the offer, but remarked, that twelve Lacks would be insufficient for the maintenance of all his relations and dependants, and entreated I would request of the Vizier to increase the Jaghire.

I said

I said I would endeavour, but gave him no hopes of success; and the following is the Letter which I addressed to the Vizier on the subject. No. 52.

"I conversed with Fyzoolla Khan last night on the subject of the Jaghire, and told him ye had agreed to settle twelve Lacks of Rupees on him, which it was advisable he accepted; he replied, that he did not desire a settlement for the Troops with him, but that he had a great number of relations and dependants, who had been with him from their birth, and from whom he could not part, and that the twelve Lacks of Rupees ye had conferred would be small for the support of the whole; he therefore entreated ye would graciously bestow what would be sufficient for their maintainance. He hopes ye will be pleased to make some addition; and I also give ye this trouble, that if ye think it proper and advisable to comply, that ye will do so; favour me, however, with your pleasure in reply." 4th Oct. No. 54.

His Excellency replied, that he could not do more for Fyzoolla Khan: afterwards he sent his Minister, Elich Khan, requesting to make enquiry concerning Fyzoolla Khan's circumstances and desires.

This being done, Fyzoolla gave in a statement, specifying, that he had in silver one Lack fourteen thousand Rupees, and one Lack seventeen thousand three hundred and eighty-eight Gold Mohurs, which he valued at 20 Berelly Rupees each, besides his jewels and other effects, of which he could not give an estimate without returning to his entrenchment. He solicited Elich Khan to intercede for him with his Excellency for an increase of the Jaghire; and upon Elich Khan's report of these matters, the Nabob addressed me thus:

"Previous to this ye wrote me, that Fyzoolla Khan would not accept of a Jaghire of twelve Lacks of Rupees; in reply it was written, that if he would not accept of that sum ye would return him to the entrenchment, as I would not give any thing more. After that I sent Elich Khan to ye to learn the condition, &c. of Fyzoolla Khan, and from his report I find Fyzoolla Khan desires a Jaghire of 14 Lacks and 75,000 Rupees; I therefore give you this trouble to acquaint you, that that sum is not very great, and, in consideration of Fyzoolla Khan's coming in, a Jaghire for 14 Lacks and 75,000 Rupees shall be given him. Do ye bring Fyzoolla Khan along with you hither to me to-morrow morning, and I will give a Jaghire for 14 Lacks and 75,000 Rupees, and I will take half his effects. When ye come I will have farther conversation with ye." No. 55.

According to his Excellency's request, I waited upon him in the morning of the 6th accompanied by Fyzoolla Khan, when they settled the terms of accommodation.

On the 7th his Excellency visited me; Fyzoolla Khan being sent for, the mutual writings were framed by his Excellency, and the only amendment made, at the desire of Fyzoolla, was, that he should be at liberty to correspond with the English.

I remarked, that there was no mention made of the division of the effects, upon which his Excellency said, he would be contented with the half, whatever it might be. No. 56.

It was afterwards found however that the omission was intentional, and with a view to squeeze Fyzoolla Khan as much as possible: accordingly, from this time 'till the 14th, the Nabob's Minister and Fyzoolla Khan had daily conferences on that subject. The Rohilla advanced the equity of the Vizier's accepting half his effects of every kind, conformably to his Excellency's original and repeated stipulation; Elich Khan insisted on receiving money only: and I also, being willing to promote the Nabob's interest, Fyzoolla was importuned so much that he was constrained to give fifteen Lacks of Rupees in order to satisfy the Vizier. No. 57.

A dispute then arose concerning the species of Rupees; Elich Khan was desired to go and settle that point, and he returned immediately, saying, that his Excellency agreed to receive Berelly Rupees, and had also signified his wishes to see Fyzoolla Khan and me, as he intended to proceed next day towards Fyzabad; I waited on him accordingly, and after some conversation we took leave.

His Excellency marched very early next morning; an altercation then ensued between Fyzoolla Khan and Elich Khan regarding the value of the Gold Mohurs, which was also compromised by me, and my decision referred to his Excellency, who in the evening transmitted to me the following Letter.

"The pains and trouble you have taken in settling this business of Fyzoolla Khan is beyond the power of writing to express. In all respects you have acted to my satisfaction, and in no respect contrary to it: I esteem this as pure friendship in you." No. 58.

Thus,

Thus, Gentlemen, I have given you a particular detail of the transactions of the Campaign. All the correspondence which passed between Fyzoolla Khan and me is before you. It appears that that carried on at Bissoulee was duly communicated to the Vizier and to the Governor; that the proposition for renewing it came from the Nabob himself on the 12th October; that the continuation of it was at his express desire: that I did not take a single step, from the beginning to the end of this business, but by his direction and approbation, with which you find the whole is closed.

In the course of what has been premised I have therefore already fully confuted the Vizier's calumnies; but I shall nevertheless glance over his Excellency's Letter once more, and take notice of such parts as may hitherto have escaped me.

"Consider, my friend," says his Excellency repeatedly to Mr. Hastings, "That it was my absolute determination to *extirpate the Robillas, and that I requested the assistance of the English for that purpose.*"

However well it is known that his Excellency is equal to the barbarous design for which he thus publicly and daringly avows he solicited the aid of the English, is it possible we can believe that the respectable Gentleman here traduced could have been privy to so horrid a purpose? Could he have so entirely overcome the feelings of humanity? Could he have been so lost to every sense of honor, as to prostitute the English Troops, and to stain the glory of the British Name, by subscribing to a preconcerted massacre? What is not his Excellency capable of advancing?

"If the Colonel had *ever* consulted me on the occasion, *it would not have signified*; but when I gave him a clear answer, and absolutely refused my consent to the proposals for an accommodation, was it proper for him to continue the negotiations?"

If I had not consulted him, Gentlemen, how could he have refused his consent? I have already shewn, that the moment I was told it could not be for the interest of the Company to receive three hundred thousand pounds for their influence as mediators in an honorable Peace, which would have brought four hundred thousand pounds annually into the coffers of the Vizier, I submitted to the authority with implicit obedience, though I could not chime with the propriety or wisdom of the doctrine.

I should have thought myself excusable even if I had not consulted the Vizier on this occasion; the fact, however, is, that I did communicate all country correspondence to him; but his Excellency seems to have an insuperable antipathy to truth.

"At last, perceiving that Fyzoolla Khan, encouraged by his correspondence with the English, assembled his Forces, and daily became more formidable, I determined, tho' it was in the height of the rains, to bring him to punishment."

One part of this sentence, like the former, destroys and belies the other: after the setting in of the rains it was impossible Fyzoolla Khan could get a reinforcement of men; it was impossible he could wish for them, because he could not give them grain to feed upon.

But it is demonstrable that the Vizier himself did not believe what is written in that paragraph; he says the Enemy were encouraged by the English, and yet he would make the very same English bring those whom he alleges they favoured to punishment.

This would indeed be an extraordinary proof of his absolute power over us, but it would be to carry the idea too far. The Vizier is wiser than to have undertaken an expedition depending on the support of troops supposed to be attached to his enemies.

His Excellency knew perfectly well that I was anxious to return to Calcutta, and that I had determined to set off in a very few days; if he had entertained any suspicion of my fidelity, would he not have gladly concealed his intentions of moving till after my departure?

"You certainly have not a Map of the Country, &c."

I remember informing both the Vizier and the Committee that I would march to Nigeebgur, but that I did not think myself authorised to go farther; his Excellency observed, with an unbecoming air of ridicule, "If Nigeebgur is on the other side of the Ganges, or of the hills, no matter, the English Troops shall not go thither."

Now, Gentlemen, I had told him that I would go to Nigeebgur; wherefore then such a wanton display of petulance? The impropriety of it neither escaped the notice of
"his

"his sincere well-wisher," Mr. Middleton, or of my Interpreter. I pointed at it in my Letter to the Committee, but they suffered themselves to overlook the disrespect shewn to their Commander in Chief, forgetting, or chusing to forget, that an indignity to him was in effect an insult to the Government.

"When we arrived afterwards at Pattergur, and Fyzoolla Khan was at the distance of 15 Cofs from us at the foot of the mountains, I determined to march forward and attack him; the Colonel again delayed, &c."

I have clearly established by his Excellency's own Letters, &c. in a regular chain, that the overtures of accommodation made on the 13th August, and the subsequent intercourse on that subject, was at his express desire: the truth is, that he never had an idea of attacking the enemy; he had declared originally and invariably, that his resolution was "*to starve them.*" No. 18.

It was agreed on the 24th to approach nearer them; on the 26th I went twelve miles to look for ground; 27th, a body of his troops were sent forward by my desire; on the 28th the whole army advanced; 29th, I rode twenty-eight miles, examining the country; 30th, the Quarter-Master-General pitched on ground for the brigade to advance to, which they did on the 31st, in order completely to environ the enemy.

2d September, I found that his Excellency was treating with the enemy, that he had received a Vackeel; and you see him busied in the same manner during the remainder of the Campaign. After I had offered him the service of the troops to storm the enemy's intrenchments, you find he denied me even the liberty of reconnoitring. No. 34. No. 38.

"For four or five days after this, the 24th August, the conferences were broke off; after which Omar Khan and two other Sirdars came from Fyzoolla to me with proposals of peace. I asked them, why they had taken such measures as to oblige me to march against them in the rainy season? They replied, we remained peaceably at the extremity of the country without any force; but when a correspondence was set on foot by means of the English Chiefs, they wrote to Fyzoolla Khan to take some step that might make it appear that he was in a situation to oppose the army of the Vizier, by which means his affairs would be settled. Encouraged by the advice of the English Chiefs, Fyzoolla Khan assembled this number of troops, and sent them to Nejeebabad; otherwise how would he have taken such a step?"

From the 23d of August I had not the least intercourse with the Rohillas till the 16th September, that I wrote Fyzoolla a Letter, by desire of the Vizier, offering him the Collectorship of Rohilcund. It was about the 14th that Omar Khan and Bahadar Khan had come to his Excellency, in consequence of Mutishim Khan, Abdurihman Khan, and Meir Moghul, and others having been repeatedly sent to the enemy's camp, to prevail with Fyzoolla to send out some Sirdar to temporize with his Excellency.

The story which he would put into their mouths is truly a knavish one; but forgeries of this kind generally detect themselves.

Omar Khan is a soldier, who, it is well known, has ever held the Vizier's character in detestation; Bahadar Khan is the brother-in-law of Fyzoolla; can we suppose then that these two gentlemen, who had come intrusted with a negotiation for their friend, and for their kindred, should have talked to his Excellency in a manner so destitute of truth, so wide of their purpose, and, had the report been true, so ruinous to their interest with the English? most certainly we cannot believe it.

His Excellency makes these two Chiefs tell him "that they had no force," which was an absurdity too gross for them to have said; he makes them charge Fyzoolla Khan with the folly of increasing his numbers, at a time when he could not subsist the troops he already had. His Excellency concludes with making the Chiefs ask the question, "How could Fyzoolla have taken such a step as sending his troops to Nejeebabad, if he had not been encouraged to do it?"

It would not be more preposterous in his Excellency, to represent them ridiculous enough to have asked how it was possible that a people in want of food should be susceptible of hunger, the dreadful prospects of which had made them endeavour to collect all the grain they could before our near approach,

"Our joint forces marched near the encampment of Fyzoolla, and prepared to attack it; but there was still a private intelligence between the Colonel and Fyzoolla, encouraged by which Fyzoolla rode out of his own encampment, and came to the Colonel."

It is astonishing with what effrontery his Excellency advances these untruths. I have already, Gentlemen, informed you of all the intercourse I ever had with the Rohillas : I did not write a Letter to any native during the campaign but such as went through my Interpreter ; that gentleman had my Persian Seals in his custody, from the time I left Benaras in March till after my return to Calcutta ; and I desire that he and my Secretary, and every person who may be supposed to have had any share of my confidence, be called before you and interrogated, whether they know or believe that I at any time carried on any sinister correspondence with the enemy.

“ The day Fyzoolla came out, the English Troops were ready to quarrel with mine, &c.”

It is the first time I have ever heard of it.

Colonel Leslie and Major Hannay, who commanded the advanced division of the army, are in town, and will, I am persuaded, if called upon, satisfy you that this allegation is totally void of foundation.

“ I wrote to the Colonel, that if Fyzoolla would not agree to these offers, to send him away ; I also sent Mahomed Elich Khan to *explain these particulars* more fully to the Colonel.”

What explanation did so express a desire require ?

The Vizier's own Letter of the 5th October best tells why he sent his Minister ; “ I sent him to enquire into Fyzoolla's condition, &c.”

“ At last I saw that I should displease the Colonel by insisting on the former conditions ; I was compelled to give fourteen Lacks and seventy-five thousand Rupees of country.”

The conclusion of my Letter of the 4th October speaks for itself how far I went in this matter : “ He, Fyzoolla Khan, hopes ye will be pleased to make some addition ; and I also give ye this trouble, that if ye think it proper and advisable to comply, that ye will do so ; favour me however with your pleasure in reply.”

It was after Elich Khan's intercession and report, that his Excellency resolved to make a *seeming increase* of two Lacks seventy-five thousand Rupees to the twelve Lacks formerly offered.

You will admire his Excellency's address and management in this business.

Instead of making a *real addition* to the Jaghire, he gave Districts, which had till then only paid twelve Lacks forty-five thousand Rupees, and obliged the Rohilla Chief to receive them at an increased valuation of fourteen Lacks seventy-five thousand Rupees ; so that in fact, his Excellency only made an addition of forty-five thousand Rupees to the twelve Lacks offered in his Letter of the 3d October ; and in place of a settlement of fourteen Lacks seventy-five thousand, Fyzoolla only got a Jaghire of twelve Lacks forty-five thousand Rupees.

“ Briefly, after a great deal of trouble and argument, this affair was thus settled ; that Fyzoolla Khan should give me fifteen Lacks of Rupees, and take a country amounting to fourteen Lacks seventy-five thousand Rupees. You will consider that when these conferences were set on foot, the Colonel observed to me, that Fyzoolla had one Lack and some thousand Gold Mohurs, and one Lack of Rupees, amounting to fifteen or sixteen Lacks, of which I should take half ; but afterwards, when the affair was settled, Fyzoolla Khan gave me fifteen Lacks of Rupees : consider then, if Fyzoolla was only possessed of this much, would he have given me all his property ?”

The first and only enquiry regarding the Rohilla Chief's riches was in consequence of the Nabob's own desire of the 5th October, and, according to the account given in by Fyzoolla Khan, he had near twenty-five Lacks in money, besides his jewels and effects.

The agreement to give the Jaghire for the fourteen Lacks seventy-five thousand Rupees was signed on the 7th October ; but the stipulation for the fifteen Lacks in lieu of half the effects did not take place till the 15th.

The Vizier purposely omitted mention of the effects to leave room for the after-game which he put in practice, inasmuch, that although the Rohilla repeatedly offered to deliver over half his effects, of every kind, on oath, the Nabob declined to receive them ; hence Fyzoolla was necessitated to agree to give a sum of money nearly equal to two-thirds of all his

his fortune; for his Excellency not only took fifteen Lacks, but the helpless Chief was obliged to pay away his Gold Mohurs at a great discount, the Vizier allowing only sixteen one-half Berelly Rupees for each, although I have been assured that they usually pass in that country for about twenty Berelly Rupees: the Nabob therefore owes his getting so large a share of the unhappy Fyzoolla's fortune to his Excellency's chicane, not to his justice.

After the conclusion of the Peace, his Excellency says, "Then the following proposition was made to me, that I should take twenty Lacks from Fyzoolla, and give him the whole Rohilla Country."

I never heard of such a proposition.

"Before I marched from Bissoulee Mr. Roberts came to me from the Colonel, and informed me, that conferences for an accommodation with Fyzoolla were on foot, and that it was advisable I should agree to them. My friend, this is called giving advice in Indostan; I think this is for the best, and you must do so. When the English Chiefs were continually sending me these messages, how could I refuse to satisfy them?"

Why does his Excellency lead us back to Bissoulee? We have seen the whole that passed there; we have seen that he rejected the overtures; nay, in the very Letter under consideration, he says, "*But when I gave him a clear answer, and absolutely refused my consent,*" &c. and yet in another place he has the modesty to ask, "How could I refuse to satisfy the English Chiefs?"—Strange incongruity! endeavouring, by a studied confusion of times and circumstances, to make the efforts of low art and cunning supply the want of truth and reason.

"In the like manner the several Letters which the Colonel caused me to write at the conclusion of this affair, I gave out of respect for him."

I am greatly indebted to his Excellency for professions, but I cannot say that I have ever had occasion to thank him for any real mark of respect. His Excellency in particular owed me no respect of the nature he mentions here; for although he applied to me at Bissoulee, when his shameful conduct rendered him odious over all the country, when he was spoken of with irreverence even by his own slaves, for a letter or testimony under my hand in his vindication, I declined giving it: 7th July.

Therefore it is improbable that his Excellency's politeness, in repugnance to his conviction, would carry him so far as to pay me a compliment, which my regard for truth had made me deny to him.

It was matter of no moment whether I had received the Letter of the 15th October or not, those which his Excellency addressed to me so frequently during the course of the negotiation being very sufficient to shew that I was guided by his pleasure.

I therefore owe nothing to his Excellency's respect for me; but I owe much to that part of the Board's Instructions, which directed me to do nothing material without requiring his Excellency's desire in writing; for if I had not got that "necessary precaution," as it was emphatically called by those who knew his Excellency better than I did, it is probable I should have trusted too much to his word, and not have had these written authorities to produce in support of my conduct.

There cannot be a more striking instance of his meanness than the present: in order, as he apprehends, the better to gloss over the innumerable liberties he has taken with truth, he has laid aside all the dignity of a man, and condescended to subject himself to the opinion of being thought a dupe.

On the same system he might say, that the Letter which he addressed to Mr. Hastings, promising the forty Lacks to the Company, was mere matter of courtesy; indeed we have detected him in endeavouring to falsify that Letter. No. 23.

I foretold as early as April 1774, about the time we entered the Rohilla Country, how his Excellency would act regarding that money. 17th April.

With respect to the refusal of two Battalions to accompany him to his Subah, he asked for none; he desired the brigade, or at least two battalions, might be left at Sukertal, which I refused, but not without assigning reasons that appeared sufficient to his Excellency. Letter to the Governor. No. 57.

"An English Gentleman plundered a Chief in my Army of a Pallankeen and four looking-glasses, &c."

The easy temper of this Chief, in suffering himself to be robbed with impunity, is not perfectly consistent with the character of heroism and independent spirit, which his Excellency would elsewhere attribute to his Sirdars.

The Vizier would bring our troops even under a level with his own banditti; and truly his Excellency has exemplified the depredations of the English by an instance worthy of himself. It is painful to follow him through his jumble of untruths and inconsistencies; but as this accusation is derogatory to the character of English Officers, it becomes necessary to enquire into the story of the Chief of the Mirrors.

The Pallankeen alluded to was said to have been lost on the 23d April, on the field of battle.

Whilst his Excellency was exulting over the pale head of Hafiz, whilst we should suppose that joy at his success had entirely occupied his mind, we find it susceptible of meannesses; for the very next day after the action he complained of the loss his Sirdar had met with, and alledged that the articles taken from him were in the possession of some person belonging to the 10th battalion of Seapoys.

No. 60.

In consequence of this representation, I directed one of my Aid de Camps to write a note to Captain Bevan, desiring the Pallankeen might be delivered up if it could be found.

Captain Bevan addressed himself in answer,

“ To Captain Allan Macpherson, Aid de Camp.

“ S I R,

“ My Commandant yesterday took the shell of a Pallankeen cut in two in three places, from which circumstance I should imagine it is not the one meant; however I have ordered him to deliver it to the bearer, agreeable to the Commander in Chief's orders, which you will please to acquaint him of.”

The Nabob's people kept the said shell; notwithstanding which his Excellency sent me another message concerning the Pallankeen, and my Aid de Camp wrote a second time to Captain Bevan.

No. 61.

“ The Nabob has again spoke to the Colonel upon the subject of the Pallankeen I before wrote you about, and persists that it is in the possession of some one of your Battalion.

“ The Commander in Chief therefore directs, that you will be pleased to order it to be delivered up to the bearer, who is to have permission to go into the lines of your battalion to shew you where it is.”

Captain Bevan replied,

“ S I R,

No. 61.

“ You will please to acquaint the Commander in Chief that I have given the Nabob's man permission to go through my lines, and if there is any Pallankeen there that he can lay proper claim to, I will order it to be delivered to him; but at the same time must request, that as the Pallankeen I formerly sent was not the one required, it may be returned to my Commandant, whose property it is.”

I heard nothing more concerning any Pallankeen, excepting that, a considerable time afterwards, some of the Nabob's people impudently forced from a servant of Ensign Ramsay a Pallankeen Bamboo, which it was found belonged to that officer.

This is another circumstance that may well serve to illustrate the degree of insolence at which even the Nabob's menial servants had arrived.

“ Wherever the English Army encamp'd they committed such violences on all the villages around them, as to render them quite desolate, &c. My friend, these, these things were the wealth of these poor people!”

Poor people, indeed, who were unfortunate enough to fall into the iron gripe of Sujah!

Though such a liberty with the discipline of the troops is one of those extravagancies which carries its own discredit along with it, yet it is such a reflection on the English Army, and on me, as Commander in Chief, that I must request of you, Gentlemen, to call upon Colonel Galliez, Major McKenzie, and other Field Officers of the second brigade,

Brigade, to give you a report upon honor of the behaviour of the troops during the Rohilla War.

It may not in the mean time be improper to observe, that on our way from Shabad to Peelebut, it was usual to send safeguards to the villages contiguous to head-quarters to preserve them from destruction; but the moment the Seapoys were withdrawn to proceed on their march, the villages were set on flames by way of bonfire for his Excellency.

Afterwards, when we were cantoned at Bissoulee, many Jemidars, who resided at the distance of ten, twenty, and thirty miles, very frequently sent to entreat for even one Seapoy to protect them; and though they could not always be supplied, it is sufficient to shew the opinion which the natives entertained of our troops.

Besides my Aid de Camps, who had the charge of detaching these Seapoys, several other Officers in town are perfectly acquainted with these circumstances.

The apprehensions with which his Excellency says his mind was agitated, and the dreadful suppositions he has made, in order to give an *ideal* proof of his fidelity to the English, by an imaginary slaughter of thousands of his own troops, is too chimerical to deserve any notice.

But we cannot forget that his people, after his own example, by an unpardonable arrogance of deportment, often put the temper and patience of the English to trial; a daring instance of which happened to Lieutenant Charles Forbes, who, in the presence of another gentleman and several of our Seapoys, was told by an officer of the Nabob, that he would be the means of his Excellency's not only having his, Mr. Forbes, coat stript from his back, but his ears cut off.

Such insolence was well calculated to ferment the minds of our troops, and an officer of less discretion than Mr. Forbes would have cut down the miscreant; yet the Vizier never gave the least satisfaction for the indignity; and it is well known that my servants have been beat, and my baggage thrown on the ground, by the Nabob's people.

His Excellency is very unreasonabable in his railery regarding the unfortunate family of No. 62. A. Hafiz, and there is a palpable impertinence towards me in his manner of expression. Although he could not command the winds, he had in his power to have treated the captives with tenderness; he could have ordered it so, that these illustrious prisoners should not have been distressed for food or raiment; yet the truth is, that they were covered with vermin, were reduced to the severe necessity of making supplications for private charity, and actually received alms from several gentlemen.

But the minutes which my Aid de Camp took down from reports of trusty Hircarrahs No. 62. A. stationed for the purpose of bringing faithful intelligence regarding the prisoners, will speak more plainly their miserable situation, and at the same time prove how moderate I was No. 62. B. when under examination on these subjects, and how reluctant I have hitherto been to enlarge on the excesses of the Nabob *.

His behaviour to the families of Mahubulla Khan, and his brothers Fitte Ullah Khan, who possessed a country of about twenty Lacks of Rupees per annum, was yet more criminal. No. 62. E.

* See also a paper marked D.

Before the commencement of the war he corresponded with them, and upon his assurances of protection and friendship they remained at peace at Bissoulee, the capital of their district.

He wrote to them on the 23d of March in these words:

"I have received your Address, the particulars of which are clearly understood. *You are* No. 63. *very dear to me*, and have been long impressed on my heart: I therefore write, that ye may remain in your own possessions in Bissoulee in perfect security, and raise no commotions. To what I write hereafter you will act conformably, and you will sooth and satisfy all Rohillas who are disposed to obey me. By the favour of God no one shall receive injury. *The families of Rohillas I regard as my own* *. Let all remain in their habitations."

On the 4th of April his Excellency addressed them as follows:

"Previous to this Meir Golawn Mahomed Khan will have arrived with you, and made No. 64. you acquainted with whatever was necessary. *By the blessing of God there is not the smallest difference between us; nay, there is the firmest friendship*, and all will be well. "Regarding the devastation of your country, I have avoided marching through it. Remain perfectly at ease where you are; whatever is befitting will be performed on my part, and all will be well. It is necessary you regard me as a friend in this affair. "Whatever Meir Golawn Mahomed Khan has engaged for I will not depart from."

* Such was the Vizier's regard for the Rohillas, and such his regard for humanity, that he refused to give any assistance either in transporting their wounded to our hospitals, or in burying their dead.

Subsequent to the above Letter, his Excellency sent a Letter to the said Chiefs, and to their mother the Begum, in these terms :

No. 65.

" Your Address is received. What you write, that Meir Golawn Khan is arrived and has related all particulars, and that ye will act agreeably thereto, *relying firmly on my friendship*, is clearly understood. It is manifest that I have long had *true regard for your families*; and now that ye renew our former union, all will most certainly be well. Nothing shall be wanting on my part for your benefit, for I wish for your good and prosperity. I am now marching by your boundaries by way of Cundseroon, &c. It behoves that ye remain at home in perfect security, and firm to your agreements."

Upon the faith of these Letters the deluded Chiefs remained in their habitations, in full confidence of being treated as friends by the Nabob, and of being left undisturbed in their possessions.

The moment he arrived at Bissoulee however they were put into rigorous confinement, denied access to their families, robbed of their property, and themselves and their women treated not only with dishonor and indignity, but even with cruelty.

The unhappy Chiefs preferred frequent complaints to me in the most moving terms, and sent the Nabob's original Letters to prove how much he had deceived them.

No. 62.
27th May.

" He has deprived us of our country, of our riches, *and even of our honor*; and not satisfied with that, he is going to send us prisoners to Fyzabad. We desire no country, no riches, no houses; but at Bissoulee are the tombs of our noble ancestors; near them, under some shade, we beg permission to spend the remainder of our days as Faquiers. Relying on the Vizier's promises we remained in this country, otherwise we should have fled as the other Chiefs did, and have preserved our characters and honors; these he has taken away with our effects; *and how he has dishonored us is known to all.*"

No. 66.
3d June.

It was this deceitful conduct, this inhuman treatment, that filled the minds of all the fugitive Chiefs with such a distrust and detestation of the Nabob.

And although my representations of the distresses of the family of Hafiz were ungraciously received, and, I am sorry to say, gave me but little encouragement to plead the cause of the unhappy, yet I regret exceedingly that I have so long suppressed my inclinations of endeavouring to alleviate the misfortunes of the much injured Chiefs to whom these Letters were addressed, and who, as well as the family of Hafiz, I have good reason to believe are even now stinted of the necessities of life; and when I was on the way down I received the affecting accounts of the death of twenty-five of these ill-fated prisoners, since their arrival at Allahabad, for want of sustenance.

" Whoever has lost a father and brother in war, has fallen from the dignity of a throne, and become a prisoner, will undoubtedly suffer much misery."

The analogy between the style of this paragraph, and of a Letter which I received some time ago from another quarter on the same subject, is worthy of observation.

We grant that the fall of a father and of a brother, and the loss of a throne, were sufficient causes for impressing the souls of the family of Hafiz with sorrow: but what shall we think of that unfeeling man who added cruelty to the burthen of their afflictions? What shall we say of him who, in violation of all faith, in breach of every sacred tie, under the artful mask of dissembled friendship, not only robbed the family of Doondy Khan of their throne, but even despoiled them of their honor; and, not contented with depriving them of their liberty, has embittered the draught of their misfortunes by unexampled severity in their bondage?

You find these unhappy people in the utmost dread lest the Nabob should hear of their complaints; let me therefore hope and intreat, Gentlemen, that whatever it may be your pleasure to do in their favour may be so ordered and concerted, as that they may not be exposed to the implacable resentment of Sujah.

Towards the conclusion of the Nabob's Letter we find mention made of Colonel Maclean. I have hitherto been much at a loss to account for that gentleman's expedition to the army, and more so to divine the causes of his speedy return.

He quitted his Budgerow at Buxar, and in fifteen days, including those he halted, arrived at our encampment, in the extremity of the Rohilla Country, having travelled above six hundred miles in nine days. He had hardly got to Camp when he talked of leaving it. If he had not been so much on wing, I should have supposed that he came up in the way of his duty; but deferring the comptrolling of Accounts till some future opportunity, he

set off again in a very few days. In thirty-two hours he reached Bissoulee, distant above one hundred-and-forty miles from our Camp; but having overtaken the Nabob and Mr. Middleton there, he found it convenient to abate of his haste, made easy journies, and accompanied his Excellency to Lucknow.

It is not obvious what business Colonel Maclean, either in the character of Commissary-General of Stores, or Comptroller-General of Accounts, could have with the Vizier; yet if his Excellency had said that he had been consulting Mr. Maclean on establishments of that nature, or on subjects connected with his office, I should have been willing to have thought so.

But when he declares that he has been conversing with Colonel Maclean, who was an entire stranger to him, on matters totally foreign to that gentleman's department; when I consider that I received no intimation from the President regarding Colonel Maclean's expedition; that he did not trouble himself with the duties of his office, which was the only pretence he had for his journey; when I consider that the Governor had been solicitous to prevent the gentlemen of the army from having access to the Vizier; and that, notwithstanding a positive prohibition against any officer's visiting the Nabob without my permission, Colonel Maclean had a particular and private introduction to him: in short, when his hurry to join the army, his abrupt departure, his rapid journey to Bissoulee, his sudden and extraordinary intimacy with the Vizier, his private conferences with his Excellency as a bosom friend, his courteous jaunt to Lucknow, his posting from thence in ten days, and arriving at Calcutta nearly about the same time with the Vizier's Letter; I say, when these and other circumstances are considered collectively, I cannot help thinking it impossible that all could be accident.

It is not easy to develop transactions of this nature; but his Excellency was ill advised when he wrote, "I have related all more particularly to Colonel Maclean, who will inform you of them." This unguarded sentence reflects a great deal of light, and the veil is no longer more than a cobweb.

I am concerned that his Excellency took the liberty of treating Colonel Maclean so ungracefully, as to make him the vehicle of such malevolence and calumny; and I am exceedingly surprized that the gentleman could condescend to become an Agent in such a business: at all events, it would have been no more than candid in Colonel Maclean, when he did me the favour of desiring to audit my bills before the resignation of his office, to have informed me of these manœuvres.

"Mr. Middleton will also write you on these subjects; I consult him on all affairs."

Here his Excellency has removed the curtain entirely; and although he has not perhaps brought forth all the characters who were buried behind it, yet such hints have escaped him, as leave us very little at a loss for the compleat *Dramatis Personæ*.

"I am very much pleased with Mr. Middleton's good conduct; he is a very sensible intelligent man, and a very sincere well-wisher of mine."

If I did not think favourably of Mr. Middleton, I should be induced, from his Excellency's mode of expression, to believe that the one had agreed to found the eulogium of the other.

"I have been spoken to on this subject by the Colonel, who says, that Mr. Middleton was appointed to collect the money due to the Company, and that he has no business to interfere in any other matter."

This paragraph bears so little connexion with the preceding parts of the Letter, that it seems rather introduced as a complaint of Mr. Middleton's than of his Excellency.

It is true I thought Mr. Middleton rather officious, and I repeatedly declared that he had no business with military affairs; but as I afterwards had it under a respectable signature, that the young gentleman did not concern himself in such matters, I was willing, till now, to have persuaded myself that I had been mistaken.

I would gladly suppose Mr. Middleton did not intend any disrespect to me by his interferences with the province of the Commander in Chief; and although I am ignorant of what he has written on the subject which his Excellency mentions, I trust it is perfectly consistent with his sentiments of the Vizier, of whom, I must do Mr. Middleton the justice to say, he entertains a very proper opinion.

"I have

No. 67.

"I have had so many proofs of his Excellency's deviating from truth, as well as violating his promise, that I know not how to believe his assurances."

With these sentiments of Mr. Middleton's I should close this Address, Gentlemen, but that I find it necessary to trouble you yet a little further.

Since my arrival in town I have been told that it was unfortunate the Rohilla War was not concluded "*a month earlier*."

Whether this was intended as a supplement to the Vizier's Letter I know not, but I consider the connexion very strong.

When I left Calcutta to go on the late expedition, the Members of Administration declared they would think it fortunate if the war could be finished "*in two years*." Observe what happened; seven-eighths of the Rohilla Country was conquered, and in the undisturbed possession of the Vizier, and the Company's engagements to his Excellency fully performed, in less than *three weeks* from the commencement of the war.

He was in the collection of three-eighths of the country more than it was necessary to put into his hands in order to have entitled us to the forty Lacks.

The second campaign, in which, upon the authority of the late administration themselves, I deny the Company were under any obligation of being a party, was finished in two months.

In fine, the articles of peace were signed in little more than five months from the beginning of the war, including a recess of three months which we had at Bissoulee; yet the very same gentlemen who had allotted two years for this business, and these gentlemen only, are now dissatisfied that it was not concluded *a month earlier*.

And why? because in that case these transactions might possibly have been less attended to.

But wherefore slur over measures in this manner, or how could it be expected they should escape unnoticed?

The public have for some time been very observant of, and very minute in their enquiries regarding the transactions in this country.

Whenever the administration of a commercial body take upon themselves a military character, they become responsible for their conduct, not only to their immediate constituents, but to the State.

The guardians of the glory of Britain are ever on the watch lest any stain should be brought on the honor of the Empire.

The principles upon which the Rohilla War was undertaken, the mode on which the Vizier chose to conduct it, could not pass unobserved.

We may well say of the British, that they are the modern Romans; their Senate could never overlook the prostitution of the national honor, in subjecting a British General to the command of an Infidel Prince.

If these measures were improper, the conclusion of the war, or sooner or later, could not justify them.

I have, in the preceding part of this Address, clearly shewn that there was no unnecessary delay on my part; and I must here beg leave to transcribe a Letter which I wrote to the Governor, under date the 11th October.

"Had there appeared any urgent necessity of pressing upon the Rohillas immediately after our arrival at Pattergur, it is probable that, notwithstanding the scruples which I entertained with regard to the extent of my authority, I should not have been able to have overcome my inclinations of attacking; but as the Marattas, even supposing a certainty of their intentions to disturb the Vizier, could not reach the Doab earlier than December; as the Rohillas were shut up, and could only receive scanty supplies from the country between the hills; as a delay in the attack, of course, subjected them to greater distress, and tended to weaken and render them less capable of taking advantage of the strength of their situation; as it would have been highly imprudent to enter the Jungle which surrounds them till after the heavy fall of rain usual at the Equinox; as the attack, supposing it most successful, could have only made the enemy retire further into the country between the hills; as this would have entirely defeated the Vizier's intentions of crushing or making the Rohillas his friends before any other power could make head against him; as the natural strength of the enemy's post would put the credit of the Company's Arms to the test; as the small share of reputation which I have had the good fortune of acquiring in the course of long service was at stake; as I could not have assured myself of approbation, in case I had risked the attack and had failed; as the Vizier very earnestly, and from the most prudent motives, wished to re-establish friendship with Fyzoolla Khan; and as I was for some

"time ill of a severe indisposition: in short, Sir, as there did not appear a single reason
 "in-favour of an earlier advance than was made; and as, on the contrary, every confide-
 "ration that could weigh with me, either as a General, or in a political view, argued very
 "strongly against any attack at all, I am perfectly satisfied with the issue which matters
 "have had; and it is my firm hope and wish, that the honorable and speedy conclu-
 "sion to which the Rohilla war has been brought may give you sincere pleasure, and add
 "to that reputation which you have so justly acquired in your administration."

And I repeat it, Gentlemen, that no occurrence brought more credit to that admini-
 stration than the honorable period put to the Rohilla war, which has in some measure
 done away the reproach that was so wantonly brought upon the English name.

I am confident that even a few of the reasons urged in the above Letter would carry
 to any unprejudiced mind a conviction of the propriety of my conduct; but many others
 might be added.

The engineer had informed me, in his description of the road to Lall-Dang, that there
 was no ground for encampment within less than sixteen miles, and that there was not a
 drop of water nearer the enemy's post than twelve miles.

In a subsequent Letter he observed, "The people we have been among are strong and No. 68.
 "robust; they seem not to be affected by their present situation; are of a haughty and
 "independent temper, and consider their Sirdars more as kinsmen than commanders."

The gentlemen of the late Administration may have been more able politicians; they
 must have known better than I could how to make up the Company's Investment; but
 it can be no compliment to myself to say, that I was the best judge how to conduct mili-
 tary operations.

Very long experience had taught me to know, that a close attack with Seapoys ought if
 possible to be avoided; because it has hitherto been impracticable to make them keep their
 order and preserve their fire.

I have very often been an eye witness of their misconduct in that particular, and had
 a recent and remarkable proof of it on the 23d of April, when one of the battalions, sent
 from the second line to drive off a body of the enemy who galled our right flank, fell into
 immediate disorder, and fired in the air twenty deep, although they had an European
 officer to every division, and were in an open plain: What then was to be expected in the
 Jungles?

One should imagine too, that a scarcity of ammunition might be admitted as a good
 reason why an officer should be cautious of engaging an enemy.

I carried a much larger quantity to the field than the regulations allowed carriage for, No. 69.
 and yet we had no more than forty-five rounds per man when we left Bissoulee in the
 height of the rains.

I had made indents to the several magazines for supplies to arrive with the army in due No. 70.
 time for opening the campaign at the usual season; and on the 24th July, in consequence
 of the resolution of taking the field in the rains, I directed Lieutenant-Colonel Muir to
 forward one hundred thousand rounds of musket ammunition from Chunar to Ramgaut;
 and although that attentive Officer took every possible measure to expedite its arrival, yet
 the ammunition did not reach the place of destination till the campaign was over, owing
 to the rapidity and force of the current.

I had applied to the Vizier very frequently, as Mr. Middleton * well knows, for the No. 71.
 loan of as much lead as would make one hundred thousand musket balls, yet I never could * See also a
 get an ounce from his Excellency; so that we really had not ammunition enough for paper mark'd
 the attack, much less a provision for the event of a retreat. M.

The troops had been neglected by the Vizier, and were greatly discontented; the con-
 sequence of disorder amongst them threatened destruction to us all. The Vizier's uniform
 plan was to have *starved* the enemy into terms; my inclinations to mercy were propor-
 tioned to that degree of odium which our concern in the Rohilla persecution had brought
 upon us. The idea I had formed, upon the faith of good intelligence, of the strength of the
 enemy's post, made me believe our success would be very precarious; and the opinions of
 the engineers, which I afterwards took, will satisfy you, Gentlemen, that it was fortunate
 we were not obliged to risk the reputation of our arms, and all the advantages we had
 gained, so unnecessarily. Lieutenant Bruce, whose opinion of the spirit and disposition of
 the Rohillas you have seen, talking of their post, says, "From this the road leads directly No. 72.
 "under the hills to a second passage over the Sewassa, where from the heights a *handful of*
 "resolute men are capable of opposing a considerable army."

“ To the southward of the river lies the spot where the families of the Rohillas resided ;
 “ but before we could reach that, it would have been absolutely necessary to have gained
 “ the summit of the surrounding hills ; the slaughter that would have been the conse-
 “ quence of such an attempt, if we consider that the Rohillas were fighting for their fa-
 “ milies, must undoubtedly have been dreadful.”

No. 73.

Captain Penman expresses himself thus :

“ In order to gain this post, it is necessary to ford the river several times ; and as the
 “ banks are very high and steep, and covered with trees and jungles, the passages might
 “ be disputed with great advantages to the Rohillas. The natural strength of this post is
 “ greater than can well be described, and I am confident that a handful of resolute men
 “ might baffle the attempts of the most daring assailants : nor could any thing, in my hum-
 “ ble opinion, be more dangerous than to lead a body of native troops to such an attack,
 “ as I have always understood that it is almost impossible to prevent Scapoys from throw-
 “ ing away their fire, by which means they would of course fall a sacrifice.”

For a further illustration of this subject, I produce copies of the plans taken by these two engineers, and of their opinions at large.

Even the fullest instructions from the Select Committee, which, by the way, let me observe I did not receive till after the Peace, did not authorize me to proceed into the hill country at all ; and yet the enemy were actually entrenched between the hills.

The desire of satisfying the Vizier however, and my wishes of obliging those whom I knew supported his Excellency, had prevailed on me to go much greater lengths than perhaps I ought to have done.

I had acquainted the Committee on the 17th August of the Vizier's being in possession of Pattergur, &c. “ The main body of the Rohillas, said still to consist of about forty
 “ thousand, are penned up at Lall-Dang, within sixteen Cofs of us, &c.”

In answer the Committee were pleased to express themselves thus :

“ The service being compleated wherein the brigade was engaged under your com-
 “ mand, a repetition of our thanks is due to you, and to the troops who effected it.”

Thus, Gentlemen, although they were advised of the enemy's being within so short a distance of us, they again pronounced the service compleated.

I beg your attention to the situation in which the receipt of this Letter placed me.

When it came to hand I was within six Cofs of the enemy ; and let the event have been what it would, I must have pushed forward if the Rohillas had persisted in declining the Vizier's offer.

What would have been the consequence if the army had been repulsed or greatly thinned, which must have been the case even upon the most favourable supposition ? Would not the above paragraph have been laid hold of to throw the whole upon my shoulders ?

The Company would have had great reason to say, our Administration made a strange bargain with the Vizier, and our Commander in Chief has been obstinate in servility. Our President stipulated, that we should receive forty Lacks if an agreement took place between Sujah and the Rohillas ; we were to receive forty Lacks if half the Rohilla country was conquered, and we are to receive no more for subduing the whole.

Our Administration declared the forty Lacks to be due in May ; payment was demanded early in June ; and yet a second expedition was undertaken, and approved of, without any regard to our interest, or making any new stipulation for our advantage.

Not content with reducing the whole country, our Commander in Chief took upon himself, even after the Administration had a second time declared the service compleated, to embark in a dangerous undertaking, and, without the shadow of advantage to us, has precipitated our army to destruction, and endangered even our existence in Indostan.

Such would very naturally be the language of the Gentlemen in the Direction had their army been repelled, or had they even been victorious at the expense of a great number of lives unnecessarily thrown away ; and I must confess that I think their highest indignation would be most justly excited.

Supposing however our success out of question, and that the Rohillas had all been cut off, what benefit would have derived,—what profit to the Company ?

The Administration had declared the forty Lacks due in May, and they were not to reap any farther advantage ; but admitting, for a moment, that the gentlemen in Leadenhill-

Street were of so forgiving a disposition as to overlook the neglect of the Company's interest, would they not be incited at the wanton sacrifice of above one hundred thousand lives?

The language of the British Senate on such an occasion would be very serious:

We condescended to admit of your keeping a military force for the preservation of your factories and the protection of your trade; you have abused our indulgences, have entered into an unprovoked war, have hired out his Majesty's subjects for your private emolument, and to crown all, have brought an indelible stain on your country by the massacre of an innocent people.

The Company would throw the blame upon their Administration, and these gentlemen would endeavour to transfer it to the Commander in Chief.

I thank God it is out of their power: I have often successfully fought the battles of the Company, and have acquired them riches, and to myself renown; I have been the asserter of their neglected rights; I have been mercifully disposed towards a persecuted people, and have endeavoured to alleviate the affliction of the miserable and unhappy; I have stood forth for the honor of humanity, and for the glory of my King and of my Country.

If these are crimes, Gentlemen, permit me to stand condemned, and, worse than death, let the sentence be dishonor: but if these are not crimes, let those beware who have wantonly accused me of their being so.

I should now, Gentlemen, offer an apology for the prolixity of this Address, but that would be to spin it out longer: I have an apology to make, but it is of a very different nature; it is for that implicit submission, bordering I am afraid on extreme humility, which I manifested towards the Vizier, and towards those who supported him.

Military men have in this country stood always in a disagreeable predicament; lorded over by every young man who could scrawl a waste-book, or post a ledger, the soldier's fire was smothered; or, if from any officer a spark of liberty broke forth, those gentlemen, grown up to Counsellors, pronounced his fate—DISMISSION.

And although such a fate could not prevail on me to act in any manner inconsistent with honor, yet it must be allowed that such a consideration would weigh much with every man of prudence, who had dedicated his life to the Service, and had been habituated to the obedience of many orders repugnant to his own feelings.

I will not trespass longer on your patience, Gentlemen; to conclude therefore,

It is an easy matter to accuse, but allegations unsupported, as the Vizier's, fall of themselves.

Conscious that no man was ever more injuriously aspersed than I have been, and sensible of the disrepute into which his Excellency has irrecoverably plunged himself, it might perhaps be enough for me to have said, I defy the slanderer, and it is not incumbent upon me to prove a negative.

It too frequently happens that the most irreproachable are thus maliciously accused; and though they cannot be formally condemned, yet I am afraid the generality of mankind are so prone to think ungenerously of their fellows, that innocent men often lay under the most unjust imputations: happy he, who in such a situation can put his hand on his breast, and say, all is quiet, all is serenity within.

Fortunately for me however, Gentlemen, on this occasion, I have been able to stand forth; I have bearded the calumniator, and have brought such a load of truth upon his back as shall make the burthen irksome.

(Signed)

Fort William 30th January, 1775.

A. CHAMPION.

Copy of a Letter from the Nabob Vizier to the Governor.

THIS day I arrived at Peelebut. Hircarrahs brought me word that people of the English going into the city caused disturbances there; on this I sent a message by Sheek Shuffi Ullah that it was necessary to forbid this; Colonel Champion returned reply, that he would place English troops on the gates; I rejoined, that it was by no means necessary, and therefore to defer and forbid it: Colonel Champion then coming to me, said, the English gentlemen say there are four Crore of Rupees in the fort, of which the troops must have some, and for this purpose is all this argument; therefore three English gentlemen,

No. 1. A.