



CHAPTER XVIII.

An account of the encroachments or usurpations of the English in the country of the Karnatic Payanghaut, by the instrumentality of Muhammad Ali Khan, Surajuddowla ; and the detail of the war commenced by the Chief of the Dukhun, Nizám Ali Khan, in concert with the Nawaub, Bahadúr. Also, a description of the battles fought between the English, and the courageous Nawaub, in the commencement of the year 1185, Hijri.—A. D. 1771.

WHEN Muhammad Ali Khan, the Soubadár of Arkat, after the murder of his father and the Nawaub Násir Jung, was besieged in the fort of Nuthur Nuggur, (Trichinopoly,) and Hussein Dost Khan, otherwise called Chunda Sáhib, aided by the Frenchmen of the port of Pondicherri, was endeavouring to take that fort ; the besieged Khan sought and obtained succour from the chiefs of Mysore, and the governor of the port of Devna Puttun ;^z and by their assistance gained the victory over his enemies ; and the head of Chunda Sáhib was gratuitously given to the winds. The Chief of

^z Fort St. David, I believe.



Mysore having been driven away by the violation of the treaty made with him by Muhammad Alí, as has been before related, the latter, by the help of the English, conquered the French, and took the city of Pondicherri. Having then without opposition completed the reduction^a of Arkat, Muhammad Alí plundered all the Munsubdárs and Jageerdárs of that Souba, belonging to the Nowayut tribe, raised the standard of independence, and rebelled against the Nizám of Hydurabad.^b Now, therefore, when the Nizám was relieved from the conflict with Raghoo and his pursuit,—that Prince considering that, as Muhammad Alí Khan had rebelled against him, and by the powerful aid of the English had usurped the country and wealth of the Karnatic Payanghaut, it was necessary to punish him, but knowing, also that he could not alone contend with the troops of Surajuddowla and the English combined, he desired that, by the aid of the Nawaub Bahadúr, he might be enabled to displace Muhammad Alí, and take possession of the Karnatic himself. After having consulted with his Chiefs upon the subject, and framed his plans for this end, he wrote to the Nawaub, setting forth that a body of English merchants, through the medium of the

بوانعي^a

^b These statements are not very clearly expressed in the original.

rebellious Souba of the Karnatic, had taken into their heads a vain desire of chieftainship and rule, and had fearlessly raised the standard of usurpation in that quarter; and that his, the Nizám's desire was, that, in conjunction with that pride of the house^c of power and good fortune, (meaning Hydur,) they should regain the country which had been thus lost. The Nawaub lent a willing ear to these proposals, and with his troops remained ready for service. In the mean time, the Nizám with his army marched to Adhoni, and, taking his brother, Busálut Jung, with him proceeded by the road of Kurpa Kurnoul to Cheenputtun.

Another historian has, however, related this occurrence in a different manner. He states, that Muhammad Alí Khan Surajuddowla, when he heard of the prowess and discipline of the Nawaub's troops, and the promptitude of his military equipments, became perplexed and uneasy, and regarding the spring of the Nawaub's fortunes as the autumn of his own prosperity, and moreover, apprehensive that the affair of Trichinopoly, where he had so grossly violated his faith, still rankled like a thorn in the breast of the Nawaub, and, God forbid! lest he should consequently, turn his views towards Arkat, and with the energy of the Khodadad, seize his country and wealth; he, (Muhammad Alí), therefore, intimated his wish to the En-

^c خاندان Family.

glish, that the governor of Madras, otherwise Chennapputtun, should send a Vakeel with a body of troops to Hyderabad, and persuade the Nizám to undertake the conquest of the Balaghaut; and they, in consequence, having done this, prevailed so far with the Nizám, that he suddenly marched with a large force towards that province. His secret plans, however, were, that he would first meet the Nawaub Bahadúr, and ascertain his views, and, under the contingency of favourable opportunity, if he, the Nawaub, should be daunted by his warlike manifestations, he might then seize upon his territory, and retain it in his own hands; and if not, still, that he the Nizám might be able to operate advantageously in the destruction of his rebel Soubadár. He, however, still kept the English troops in his suite; but, Monsieur Raymond, his servant, with two thousand matchlock infantry was always present with him.

But, to return—when the Nizám raised his tent in the plain of Chennapputtun,^d he sent for the Nawaub to visit him; but, although the Nawaub, also, with his army and artillery, had encamped eastward of Muddoor, (a short distance from Chennapputtun), still as he considered that his meeting with the Nizám

^d Chinapputtun and Madoor are in the Mysore territory, Lat. 12.30 North.

should be deferred to another time, he sent his son, (Tippoo), with a well appointed force ; Meer Ali Ruza Khan, Mukhdoom Sáhib, Meer Ismail Sáhib, Ghazi Khan, Muddoo Khan, &c., all of whom were experienced officers being appointed to accompany him. Five elephants, and ten beautiful horses, were sent likewise as presents.

When the Prince arrived near the Nizám's tent, the crash of the drums and kettle drums of his body guard struck fear to the ears of the Nizám, who, ascending a balcony on his tent, saw and admired (nevertheless) the pomp and parade of Tippoo's cavalry escort ; and the discipline and order of his troops. The Nizám, after that, received him with great liberality and kindness, and, having gained his heart by honied words and phrases, addressed him by the title of Nuseebuddowla,* and, casting his plans and schemes, aside, consulted him on the feasibility of chastising Muhammad Ali Khan, the Soubadár of Arkat, and the English ; and then dismissed him, with the present of a Khi-laut, and the shawls the Nizám himself wore.

Tippoo now returned to his father, and, on his arrival, related with minute exactness every word spoken by the Nizám on this occasion. Agreeing in the objects and wishes of the Nizám, the Nawaub

* The fortune of the State.

Bahadûr marched on with his army, and the Nizâm giving the English their dismissal, sent them off. These two powerful chiefs now united, and having passed the Barh Mahl district, they encamped on this side the pass of Chungum, where, on the opposite side, at the same time arrived also a Colonel Hewit,^f or Howard, an English officer with a body of five thousand regular infantry, and a thousand soldiers,^g or Europeans, to secure the pass against the Nawaub, and this officer had taken up his quarters in a small fort, on the other side of the pass of Chungum. As soon, therefore, as the two Chiefs had received information of the arrival of the English army, they dispatched a force in advance, to besiege the above mentioned fort. This force accordingly marched in the night, and surrounded the English troops, stationing themselves as scouts or reconnoitering parties, and then began plundering and killing the stragglers, and followers, of the English troops. When the colonel became aware of the great strength of the combined armies, he acted according to the saying, "Whosoever strikes his naked hand on steel,"—"is sure to bruise his knuckles ;"^h and, seeing that

^f Written هويت ^g سوجر ^h ساعد

Who strikes with naked hand the steel,
 His knuckles sorely bruised shall feel.

his stay there was not advisable, he the same night marched on the route to Turnamul. The Chiefs of the advanced guard immediately sent to their masters an account of the Colonel's march ; and, on receiving this intelligence, the Nizám and Hydur immediately followed him. At the distance of two Fursungs, (about seven miles,) from their encampment, the Nuwaub, who had hastened his march, overtook the English troops, and commenced on them a fire of cannon, from different points. The Colonel, nevertheless, having taken up his ground on the slope or skirt of the hills, halted there, and with his guns and musketry broke the heads and necks of his assailants until the evening ; and, however, great and vigorous were the efforts and exertions of Hydur's and the Nizám's troops, to plunder and destroy this detachment, they were of no avail. The English troops, however, suffered much from want of water, and many were killed by the continual shower of cannon balls which fell on them. At night, therefore, the Colonel above mentioned, with his troops, in order of battle, proceeded to Turnamul, and the two Chiefs, Hydur and the Nizám, encamped on the river of Kilpauk, whence they pushed forward strong outposts on all sides of the English troops.

The Nizám now, after a consultation with Rukn-

uddowla, sent a message to the Nawaub Bahadúr, desiring that he should despatch a body of his own troops, well acquainted with the country, to plunder, and lay waste the Souba of Arkat, and the vicinity of China-puttun, (Madras), &c. and likewise, to collect cattle, and provisions; that they might strike fear and dismay into the hearts of Muhammad Alí Khan, and the English. Although, in time of need, the Nawaub did not mind attacking a wild elephant, still he did not relish this division of his army; the Nizám, however, was so importunate and troublesome in this matter, and used words so exciting, and was, besides, so infatuated in his opinion of his own troops, that at length he prevailed, and brought the Nawaub to consent to despatch his cavalry, regular and irregular infantry, and light guns, under the command of his son (Tippoo), selecting, to accompany him, Meer Alí Ruza Khan, Mukhdoom Sáhib, Muhammad Alí, commandant, Ghazi Khan, &c. Chiefs of note,—and he was accordingly despatched to that quarter; the Nawaub leaving himself but few troops,—that is to say, five or six hundred horse of his own stable,¹ two thousand regular infantry, four thousand foot, and his artillery; but all ready for action. Hybut Jung was nominated to the command of the troops remaining

¹ خاص کوتل

with the Nawaub. The Nawaub, however, at that time had not let fall the reins of caution ; and, as he had no confidence at all in Rooknuddowla, and the other Chiefs of the Moghul army, wherever he encamped he surrounded his encampment with a stockade, or an abattis,¹ and to this defence he directed there should be four gates or roads, on each of which he stationed strong guards and artillery.

When the English officer arrived at Turnamul, he detailed the strength of the combined armies, (Hydur's and the Nizám's), and their numerous artillery, to the government of Madras ; and General Smith, a brave and able officer, who was then employed in urgent duties near Nuthur Nuggur, (Trichinopoly,) was despatched, by the governor of Madras, to oppose the Nizám and Hydur, with four thousand regular infantry, eight hundred Europeans,^k three thousand horse of the Souba of Arkat, four thousand Karnatic foot, and a great quantity of provisions and stores ; and he proceeded, by forced marches, by the route of Runjun Gurh, and arrived at Turnamul. When these two Sirdárs or officers, blood-drinkers,^l met and made themselves acquainted with the strength and description of the Nawaub's and Moghul armies, they did not estimate the Moghul army at the value of a grain of barley. After

¹ خاریند

^k سوچر

^l خونخوار



having halted for a week, they formed their troops, and marched on, straight forward, without deceit or guile, like lions, to attack the combined armies; firing their guns as they moved on. The Nawaub, with the same number of troops that remained with him occupied his ground of encampment, and directed his artillery men to open their fire on their enemies. The Nizám, in the meanwhile, had stationed himself on the right flank of the English troops, and was firing away with his guns, without aim or object. His horse, also, in number like ants, or locusts, surrounded the English army in clusters. The English officers, however, by their penetration and experience, soon perceiving that the Nawaub had arranged his troops in the best order and position possible, and had kept his ground firmly, and that the Moghul army, like a herd of timid deer, was standing about without order, now, with a view to deceive their opponents, advanced quickly from the flank, and immediately charged the Nizám's body guard, giving them several quick discharges from the guns, and, with very little fighting, completely routed them, and took the whole of their cattle, stores and artillery, with the tents, standards, and Bazar of their camp. Spiritless and ashamed, the Nizám now quitted the field, and retreated, venting his spleen in cursing

the want of judgment shewn by his Dewaun, Rookn-uddowla, and the rest of his Ameers and Khans. His troops, who had never been engaged in a hard fought or well contested battle, left their master to his fate, and, like a flock of sheep at the sight of a wolf, were so scattered, that even round the elephant of the Nizám, scarcely two thousand horse remained. On witnessing this want of colour, the Nawaub bestowed many maledictions on the female relations^m of the runaways, and ordered his artillery off quickly to Singar Peeth ; but he himself remained on the field with ten light guns. The English officers having completely plundered the Moghul camp, now returned to attack Hydur. The brave Nawaub, dragging off his guns, and firing, and retiring step by step, halted and fought, occasionally, at different points on his route. The Nizám, at length, arrived at Singar Peeth, where he encamped ; and the Nawaub, sorely displeased at the irregularity and disorder of the Moghul army, pitched his tents at the distance of a fursung from them ; while the English General and his troops, victorious, encamped on the battle field. The Nawaub now quickly despatched his camel riders and Hurkaras, (messengers,) with letters, to his son Tippoo, who had been plundering the country in

the environs of Madras, commanding him to return. He, also, sent a message to the Nizám, to the effect,—that the expectations formed of his, the Nizám's, brave troops and the ability and experience of his Ameers and officers, had been well proved, in as much that, in time of need, not a thousand men with their arms, nor one Ameer of respectability had remained with the stirrup—*i. e.* the Nizám ; that with such troops therefore, strong only in numbers and shew, it was evident they could never expect to conquer the stormy, warlike, English ;ⁿ that the wisest course to be followed, was, that the Nizám should encamp at Kaveriputtun ; and he, (Hydur,) his particular friend, by every art and device which knowledge could supply, would oppose and defeat the English, and put them to flight. The Nizám followed his advice, and accordingly marched from this place, and encamped at the said town of Puttun.

In the meanwhile, until the arrival of his son, the Nawaub moved about in the vicinity of Singar Peeth, Barh Mahl, and Ootangiri, and when Tip-poo arrived, with all the officers and troops, and great store of provisions and cattle, the Nawaub was freed from all thought and apprehension ; and, having ranged his right and left wings in order of battle, he remained in readiness for action. At this

انگریز طوفان انکیزⁿ

time, the Nizám, sending his Ameers to Hydur, begged with great importunity that he would visit him ; and, although the Nawaub in his heart was unwilling to accede to his request, yet to keep on friendly terms with him, he marched with his army, and they met, and embraced and conversed together. They then consulted how they were to overcome their strong enemy, and the Nawaub, seeing on the forehead of the Nizám the signs of grief for the late defeat, essayed to comfort him, and said, with a view to his encouragement, that victory and defeat came from God ; that similar mischances had often befallen kings and princes of great renown, who, nevertheless, had attained the very highest ranks of fame for strength of mind and courage ; and that it was only consistent with the character of Chieftainship, that he should not allow the rust of doubt and despondency to rest on the clear mirror of his heart, nor permit the dust of shame or regret to stick to the skirt of his intentions and projects.^o That he recommended therefore that with the care and caution worthy men of rank and station, he, the Nizám, should march with his army to Huskote ; and he, Hydur, his well-wisher, by policy and management would subdue his enemies, and conquer the Karnatic Payanghaut in the best and easiest manner. The Nizám agreed to this proposal

^o A verse omitted.



and marched towards Huskote. Rooknuddowla, however, his minister, with Manuvvur Khan, Kurnooli, Ismail Khan, Elichpoori, Rai Rumba, and twenty thousand horse, were attached to the Nawaub, and remained with him.

The Nawaub now, with his own troops, and accompanied by Rooknuddowla, crossed the Ghaut of Tubul Pulli, and besieged Amboor Gurh, which was held by an English garrison, and left no means untried to take the place. Khaki Shah, a Fugueer, a companion and friend of the Nawaub's, was here killed by a cannon shot from the fort. As soon as the Chiefs of the English army became aware of the siege they advanced by forced marches, by the route of Karnatic Gurh, Dhoby Gurh, Kylas, and Pulli Koonda, to Amboor. The Nawaub, therefore, when he heard of the arrival of the English troops, raised the siege, and encamped in the neighbourhood of Vud Cheri and Bapun Pilli.

The English officers halted for one day at Amboor Gurh, and, on the next, advanced to attack the Nawaub. As soon as they approached near to his army, he placed his cavalry under the command of his son, Tippoo, and forming the right wing, and committing his left to the command of Rooknuddowla, and others, he posted himself in the centre with his artillery, his bravest senior officers, and

Muhammad Ali commandant. In the meantime, the English officers, by their skill comprehending the Nawaub's disposition of his army, despatched one battalion and two companies of soldiers, (Europeans) with two guns, to attack Rooknuddowla; and two battalions of natives, and a risala or regiment of Frengis, (also Europeans), with four guns to attack Tippoo; and the general, (Smith,) himself, marched straight forward to attack the centre or main body. In a moment, the flames of mortal strife blazed forth, and the brave mussulmans, steady as rocks, planted their feet firmly on the ground; and, from vollies of artillery and musketry, they passed rapidly to the active employment of the sword and spear, hand to hand. *Verses.*^p "The fire of rage seized both the right and left wings,"—"The world again saw the tempest of Noah."—"On every side glittering poisonous spears,"—"like the eye lashes and glances of the languishing fair."—"From the bloody darts or spears flashing in the sun,"—"the heart became like the Ruby Mountain of Budukshan."—"From the blood of the brave, and the dust of the army,"—"the earth became red, and the sky black."^q The troops of Rooknuddowla, however,

^p Battle of Dhoby Gurh.

^q Then, upon both the wings the fire of rage
Seized, and the world such tempest saw once more
As that of Noah's days. On every side



from the attack of one battalion, and a few shot from their guns, cowardly gave up their ground, and did not draw breath until they arrived at Wanum Bari. But, before the English could defeat the main body, Tippoo, with his victorious horse, had charged them several times, and then attacked their rear guard,^r (Chundawul), which was commanded by two Jamadárs, named Ibrar Khan, and Asrar Khan, and consisted of three thousand horse and four thousand foot, having in charge stores of provisions and cattle collected by them; and, like a lion springing on a herd of deer, he fell upon this body, and sunk the boats* of their existence in the whirlpool of eternity. A deadly shock was thereby given to this force, and the whole were dispersed, and put to flight; the military reputation of the officers above mentioned was destroyed; tents, standards, loads of baggage, grain, &c. were burned, and several officers and soldiers of the English

The glittering poisonous spears were, quivering, seen,
Like glances and eye lashes of the fair,
Who softly languishes. From darts and spears,
Ensanguin'd, flashing in the sun, the heart
Assumed the semblance of the ruby mount
Of Budukshan. From blood of heroes spilt,
And clouds of dust raised by contending foes,
Red did the earth become, and black the skies.

چندارل^r

* This confusion of images is contrary to Asiatic rule.

army taken prisoners, with their horses and palankins; and, having effected this, Tippoo returned. On seeing this condition of affairs, the General to preserve his cattle and baggage, instantly halted.[†] The Nawaub Bahadúr, in speed outstripping the lightning, now fell upon the battalion sent to pursue Rooknuddowla; and, in one irresistible charge, overthrew it, and, with such spoil as had fallen into his hands, returned to Wanum Bari. Tippoo, also, returned victorious, and rejoined the Nawaub's force. The English officers and army remained on the field of battle.

The Nawaub now sent for Rooknuddowla, and made him listen to a bitter expostulation; for he told him that, without doubt, his companions were fine fellows for shewing their heels, and, therefore, it was better that he and his city champions should return to his master, seeing that, by the exertions of such men, he, the Nawaub, could never expect to see the face of victory, and God forbid that the contagion of their cowardice, or want of manhood, should, by association and companionship infect his gallant fellows, and cast their courage and enterprise to the winds. As Rooknuddowla in reply, repeated his boasting and did not wish to go away, it was settled that he should always

[†] برگشت Ceased his pursuit, according to Marriott.



encamp at the distance of half a Fursung, (two miles), from Hydur's army, and that none of his men should enter Hydur's camp; but, in case of need, messages should be sent by Hurkaras.

But, to return—after four days, the English officers, with their army, marched towards Wanum Bari. The Nawaub, on this, quitted his encampment, and the first day encamped at Tripatoor, the next day, he marched with his troops and artillery, and pitched his tents near Kavuri Puttun, in a plain, surrounded by a plantation of Saul trees^u and a marsh or deep mud. Here he threw up round his army, four batteries, or redoubts, and mounted guns in them. Rooknuddowla was stationed outside the limits of his camp. The English General now left the troops attached to the Colonel, (Hewitt), in charge of Wanum Bari and Tripatoor, and he himself encamped on the slope of a hill, at the distance of one measured Fursung from the army of the Nawaub. The outposts^v of the Nawaub, however, pressed the English army closely on the flanks, and on one side, the horse of Rooknuddowla were stationed to guard the road. At night, however, General Smith, intending to make a nocturnal attack, got his troops in readiness, and marched by

^u Saul is a tree, the wood of which is used in building ships, &c.

^v طالايه or طالايه Signifies scouts or reconnoitring parties.

the very road which was held by the *brave*^x picquets of Rooknuddowla; and, although these troops were fully aware of what was going on, they gave no intelligence to the Nawaub, neither did they make any opposition, but on the contrary retired out of their enemy's reach—"Not every woman is a woman, nor every man a man."—"God has not made the five fingers of the same length,"^y until the time when the General, with much exertion, had arrived near the camp of the Nawaub. From the ignorance of his guides, however, his troops had been led among the Saul trees, and into the marsh or mire; so that his guns had stuck fast in the mud, and they had all been much delayed and distressed, and by this time the harbinger of morning, the cock, sounded his awakening call to the sleeping army, that is, the dark night suddenly broke into the light of the morning, and the soldiers, awakening in the batteries of the Nawaub, began to pour forth such a fire from their guns, and other arms, as soon made the Saul plantation like a bed of spring roses, with the blood of the English troops wading through the mud; and at the same moment, also, the picquets of the Nawaub arrived

^x Ironically brave.

^y نه هر زن زن است نه هر مرد مرد
 خدا پنج انگشت یکسان نکرد



in their rear, treading on their heels, and, with arrows and musketry, made the red coats drink the red wine of death.

The same night, having concerted and taken the path of union with the English, Rooknuddowla made a treaty with them; and although he on one side was all in readiness, pretending to give aid to the Nawaub, yet, in fact, he was only looking out for an opportunity, to attack and plunder his army. The Nawaub, therefore, who had before heard that his conduct shewed evidently a siding with the English, being now confirmed in his opinion by the circumstance of his being in readiness, and yet giving to the Nawaub no warning or information of the night attack, clearly perceived that he and his troops were changing sides, and he, therefore, ordered to Payindah Khan Bukhturi, Risaldár, to advance with his Risala, and fire a few cannon shot at him, by way of congè, and that drove him away. The General, (Smith), in despair, now wheeled about, and returned to his own ground of encampment.



CHAPTER XIX.

An account of the establishment of a lasting peace between Nizám Alí Khan and the English, without the knowledge of the Nawaub Bahadúr, by the intrigues² of Rooknuddowla ;—and of the battles which followed, about two months after, between the English and the Nawaub, near Nuggur, Trichinopoly, and the Barh Mahl ; with an account of the victories gained by Hydur's gallant army in the same year, and the re-establishment of Peace, 1185, Hijri.—A. D. 1771.

WHEN the General had returned to his ground of encampment, and Rooknuddowla proceeded to the presence of the Nizám of Hydurabad, he persuaded him to make peace with the English Bahadúr ; and, having settled the articles of the treaty, opened a communication with the English by letter. The next day the English army marched back, and took the road to Amboor Gurh. The Nawaub was surprised at this movement, and fell into deep thought ; when Hurkaras arrived, with intelligence that the Nizám had marched from Huskote to-

wards the Ghaut or pass of Kurumpat, and that his Vakeels or ambassadors had reached the English camp, and also that Rooknuddowla, had proceeded to visit Muhammad Alí Khan. The Nawaub was now convinced that that old^a wolf, the Nizám, was playing some artful tricks, and that he was travelling in the path of treachery and deceit. Nevertheless, as "men of courage, do not put their trust in the aid of others"—"the canopy or tent of the heavens, stands without pole or pillar,"^b and relying on the exertions of his faithful servants, the Nawaub formed his plans, and was ready to carry them into execution, when the Nizám, for the security of his dominions, and by the advice of Rooknuddowla, gave to the English government, as payment for a subsidiary force to aid and defend him, the country of Sikakole,^c and Rajbunduri, the collection of the customs of which was thirty Lakhs of rupees; and which was first under the authority of Anwuruddeen Khan, and afterwards assigned for pay to Monsieur Bussy, a French officer. Having done this, he without the knowledge of the Nawaub,

کهنہ گرگ

- ^b The man who owns a firm courageous soul
 Relies not on the aid another lends :
 Nor prop, nor buttress, keeps sustained the whole
 Of heaven's vast canopy that o'er us bends.
^c Spelt by the English, Chicacole.

returned to Hydrabad, by the route of Kirpa^d and Kurnole.

But, to continue—In two months and a few days, General Smith and Colonel Hewitt collected together a force, and made preparations, with the intention, of conquering the Karnatic Balaghaut, according to the instructions of the Nizám ; and, taking with them Muhammad Alí Khan, the Souba of Arkat, they advanced from Amboor Gurh. The Nawaub, however, not thinking it prudent to oppose the English openly in the field, harassed them with his Kuzzaks or predatory horse only, and despatched the heavy baggage of his army, with his heavy artillery, towards Anikul and Makri Droog ; remaining with his horse, foot, and rockets, &c., ready for battle. In the mean time, he attacked the English army on all sides, with parties of his light troops, while he himself was forming schemes to destroy his powerful opponents. At this period, his Hurkaras brought intelligence that by the route of Nuthur Nuggur, (otherwise Trichinopoly,) and from Tanjore, a large convoy of stores under the escort of two thousand foot, a thousand English musketeers, four hundred horse, and two guns, was advancing, by the Ghaut of Chungum, to join the English army, and that they had a great number of cattle

^d Written Kuddapah by the English.



with them. The Nawaub, therefore, who was looking out for news bringing such good luck, marched without delay, and, keeping under cover of the hills and forests, brought the day of Judgment on the convoy and its escort; for, at the first attack, the escort were mostly killed, and the whole of the convoy taken. The English General was thrown into perplexity by this occurrence, and, having encamped at Tripatoor, he sent to Madras for stores and provisions. At this time news was brought from Nuggur, that an English army had arrived from Bombay, and had taken the fort of Gorial Bundur, (Mangalore), and was spreading terror over that country; and that it was to be feared the territory of Nuggur would likewise soon fall into their hands. Tippoo was, therefore, despatched with two thousand regular infantry, four thousand horse, and a thousand irregular foot, to protect and defend that quarter; while Hydur himself remained involved in the tempest of battle and slaughter, with these two officers, Smith and Hewitt. Other letters were now received, from the Chiefs of Koimbatoor and Kalikut, that, on the side of Nuthur Nuggur, a Captain, with two or three thousand regular infantry, and four thousand Kullars,^e the servants of Ram Raja, the Poligar of Malabar, had



entered Karroor ; and that his intention was to reduce the districts in that vicinity. On hearing this, Hybut Jung was appointed, with four thousand horse, to repel these invaders.

When Tippoo arrived by forced marches at Gorial Bundur, the commanding officer of the English army, there, strengthened the works of the fort, and, to the distance of a Fursung, surrounded them with redoubts, which he occupied. Tippoo wrote an account of this to his father, whose sole object being the order and safety of his territories, he considered the reduction of that part of the country necessary, prior to all other measures, and he, therefore, taking with him four Risalas of regular infantry, with four guns and selecting two thousand good horse, from the whole of his army ; left the rest of his troops, his tents, standards, drums &c. to the charge of Meer Alí Ruza Khan, Mukdoom Sáhib, and Muhammad Alí, commandant, with Ghazi Khan Beed, &c. ; and in the space of a week, entered the fort of Nuggur. He then despatched orders, to collect men, to all the Killadárs and officers in that neighbourhood, and, in about ten or twelve days, assembled twenty thousand of the peasantry of the country. Having provided these recruits with wooden muskets of ebony and also furnished them



with standards of black, white, and yellow cloth, one flag or Beiruk, being assigned to a thousand men, he moved forward with this showy semblance of a force. When he arrived near the batteries of the English, he formed his lines, and, having marched, and countermarched his troops before them, he encamped on an open space on some high ground, and ordered his son, (Tippoo), to attack the batteries in flank. This being done, Tippoo, after some fighting succeeded in taking them, and putting the infantry stationed in them to the sword. This success having thrown the enemy into some confusion, the chief officer of the English, from fear of the Nawaub, whose army appeared numerous, while his, (the officer's) troops were but few ; and with a view, also, to preserve his men, which is the duty of every commanding officer ; left the batteries the same night, and took the road to the fort. In this movement two European soldiers ran away from their comrades, and came to Tippoo, and gave information of the retreat of the English. Tippoo instantly despatched this intelligence to his father ; but before the Nawaub could put his force in motion, or the retreating parties of the enemy could reach the fort, he with the greatest rapidity, moving on the flank, advanced before them, and keeping up a smart fire, entered the fort, and put

to the sword those of the garrison who were manning the walls. The Nawaub, on hearing the news, followed with his cavalry at a gallop, treading on his heels, and rained a storm of arrows and rockets on the devoted detachment of the English ; and, at length, their order being broken, and the men terrified, they abandoned the road to the fort, and retired to the sea side. The troops of the Nawaub, however, dashed out after them to the sea shore, and the whole were taken or put to death. The commanding officer of the English troops however embarked on a vessel lying ready to receive him, and disappointed, and hopeless, bent his course to Bombay. After having left a strong garrison in the fort of this sea port, (Mangalore), the Nawaub returned with his European prisoners, and, in six weeks, arrived at Bangalore. By this time, the two officers, Smith and Hewitt, had taken the forts of Wanumbari, Tripatoor, Gugungurh Nutkul, and Jug Deo, and also the small fort of Dhurumpoori, (after Payindah Khan, the Risaldár, who commanded there, was slain), with the Hill Fort of Kishengiri, which was plundered. Abdurrusheed Khan, the Dewaun of the Nawaub Muhammad Alí Khan, was also appointed to the charge of the Barh Mahl ;^f

^f The historical account of the Barh Mahl, or twelve Purganas, is to be found in the Persian copy of Mr. Marriott only.



and the general, having crossed the Kunuk Goondah, Droog, or Ghaut, reduced the forts of Hussoor, Mashti, Moorwakul, Kolar, and Huskote.

It is to be observed here, that, in the reigns of the Kotab Shahi dynasty, the Barh Mahl district was included in the Souba of Arkat, which Souba was depending on Hydrabad; but, when Bahadúr Shah, the son of Alungeer, gave Kirpa in Jageer to Abdunnubbee Khan, the nephew of Azum Khan Meeana, the Barh Mahl was added to that district. But, to return—Muhammad Ali Khan of Arkat had, at this period, taken up his residence at Kolar, but had sent for Morar Rao, Ghoor Purria, from Gooti, to his assistance, and was making his own arrangements, when the Nawaub returned, and re-entered his camp, and disposed his army in the best order.

The English army, with the army of the Rao before mentioned, was now encamped near the town of Nursipoorum, when the Nawaub finding one night a favorable opportunity, marched towards them to make a night attack, and, on arriving there, without hesitation gallantly attacked and plundered the whole of Morar Rao's force, and the Rao himself, being wounded, took to flight, leaving all his guns and stores behind him. Some English soldiers, and horsemen of Muhammad Ali Khan, were among the killed and wounded, on this occasion.



The commanders of the English, nevertheless, stood to their arms, and, firing their guns, pursued the Nawaub to the fort of Huskote; and, in the plain to the eastward of that town, they took up an encampment, surrounding their army with redoubts, and halted there. Muhammad Ali Khan (of Arkat) in great trepidation, but pretending he was sick, now made the movement of the English an excuse for retiring to Satgurh, and recalled his Dewaun from the Barh Mahl.

At this time, Hybut Jung, who had been appointed to oppose that part of the English army which was advancing by the way of Trichinopoly, despatched a letter to Hydur, stating that, at the present moment, the Captain commanding the English troops had taken (the forts of) Dindigul, Coimbatore, Palghaut, Hurroor, and Dharapore, and that, being at leisure, he, (the Captain), now intended, after receiving his ammunition and provisions, which had arrived from Turnamuli, Mudhura, and Trichinopoly, and were collected in the small fort of Karoor, to march by the Ghaut of Gujulhutti, and make an incursion into Mysore and Seringaputtun; and that, although Hydur's Kuzzaks or light troops exerted themselves like brave men, to defeat the enemies of the Sirkar, still, without infantry and guns, no advantage could



be gained from their exertions. As soon as the contents of this letter were made known to him, the Nawaub left Tippoo, with the army, to oppose his encroaching enemies; and himself, with six thousand regular infantry, four thousand horse, and fifteen guns, proceeded by forced marches to Dhurrumpoori, and, attacking it in the night, took both the fort and garrison. Then, by night marches, crossing the Ghaut of Tipoor, by the route of Namkul, he proceeded straight by a night march to Karroor, and besieged that fort, which contained two hundred regular foot, and some Kullers or irregulars, for the guard and protection of the supplies or stores therein deposited. In one night he completed his batteries, and mounted on them four or five battering guns, and in the morning commenced his fire. The walls of the fort being of earth, a few discharges, shattered and broke them down; and, although the garrison defended themselves with great constancy till mid-day, they were then obliged to give in, and quit the fort.

About this time, also, intelligence reached the Nawaub, that four thousand carriage bullocks, despatched by the Captain of the English to fetch stores from Hurroor to Karroor, under the escort of two hundred musketeers and three hundred Kullers, (called Colluries by Orme), were advancing,

without any fear or caution. On hearing this, the Nawaub immediately despatched two guns and a thousand matchlock men after them ; and these intelligent brave fellows attacked this sleepy convoy, and at one charge having thrown the escort into confusion, made prisoners of them, and brought them and their bullocks to the Nawaub, who immediately attached the bullocks to his own artillery, and, after three days, moved towards Hurroor. The Captain, before mentioned, being much alarmed that his detachment and supplies did not return, and by the want of intelligence respecting them and being also ignorant of the arrival of the Nawaub, despatched six hundred regular infantry, and two hundred Europeans, with four guns, to Karroor. This detachment had marched about four fursungs, when the Nawaub heard of them, and he immediately despatched his horse to surround, and draw them on towards the range of his artillery. The horse, accordingly, by caracoling round them, and by pouring showers of arrows and rockets on them, drew them gradually on to the front of the artillery, when they dispersed and retired. Supposing that the cavalry were those of Hybut Jung only, the officer who commanded the English detachment took little or no notice of them, but proceeded on, when, all of a sudden, the artillery opened its fire,

and the discharges followed so quickly that the detachment fell into confusion. The Kuzzak, or light horse, who were on the watch for such an opportunity, leaping their horses, dashed forward, and without fear plunged into the midst of the fugitives, and with the sword and spear destroyed many guiltless^g lives ; and although the men of this country, [the Dukhun,] had their lives spared on asking quarter, not one of the Frengis,^h or Europeans, except two little boys, nine or ten years of age, were left alive.

After this battle, the Nawaub marched on, and pitched his camp opposite the fort of Hurroor, whence he sent the following message, by these two boys, to the captain commanding in the fort. " Behold the Nawaub Bahadúr, like sudden death, is upon your head. He has defeated and plundered the armies of General Smith and Muhammad Alí Khan, and has sent his army with his officers to conquerⁱ Arkat, while he himself has arrived by forced marches with his personal guard, to complete your destruction. He has also, put to the sword all the convoy or escort on the road to Karroor, with the garrison of that fort, and if you have any wish to prolong your life, you must come and seek

^g بیگناہان

^h اہل فرنگ

ⁱ بندوبست

A word of very wide signification.

the protection of the Nawaub's skirt. If not, the Nawaub has determined that on the morrow he will not spare the life of a single man."

The little artless boys, who had seen with their own eyes the men of their party destroyed, and were still in great alarm, entered the fort, and related every circumstance with minute exactness to the Captain. The Captain, therefore, being a simple honest man, was deceived by this lying story, and relinquished all intention of defending the fort, and getting into his palankin, accompanied by two or three servants, one or two pioneers,^j and seven foot soldiers he went out, and met the Nawaub. The Nawaub, who was highly pleased at his arrival, by consoling and comforting him, quieted his apprehensions, and then ordered a separate tent to be pitched for him and sent him off to occupy it. He did not, however, allow any of his, the Captain's, servants except the pioneers, to remain with him.

When the Captain had retired from the presence, and entered the tent, and saw that none of his servants had remained with him, he sat down alone in the chair of despondency looking about him, and, placing the telescope of the discernment of truth on the stand of patience, he viewed the wide extent of the region of understanding,^k and

بحثي^j

دریافت^k

asked himself, what kind of business is this, and how will it end?—In the meanwhile the civil servants of the Nawaub arrived, and, in sweet words and soft language, began to treat with him, respecting the surrender of the fort, and the military and other stores contained therein, and requested he would give an order, to that effect, on the second in command in the fort, who was ready with his troops to defend it; and, notwithstanding the Captain objected and resisted the demand to surrender the fort, unless after he was permitted to return, the Nawaub's servants would not allow his words any weight, but by fair and foul means,¹ they at length compelled him willing or unwilling, to write an order to surrender the fort, and stores, agreeably to the schedule made of them; and then they returned to the presence.^m

The Nawaub now despatched four Risalas or battalions of regular infantry, and a thousand irregular foot, with this order. The officer who was second in command no sooner saw the writing of his superior, than he without hesitation gave a return of the troops, composing the garrison, and the guns, and stores, with the keys of the fort, to the Nawaub's officer, and quitted the fort, of which the Nawaub's

فریفته سزاوی سخت بعمل اورده¹

^m By this it appears they extorted the order required by torture.



troops took possession, and all the valuable stores were appropriated by the Khodadad government. The servants or troops of the Ram Raja, and the Kullers, who formed a part of the garrison, the Nawaub marched three times round his camp, as an offering, or sacrifice, for the safety of his troops, and they were then dismissed. A few prisoners,ⁿ of the English garrison, were sent to be confined in different forts of the kingdom; and thus, victorious, crossing by forced marches the Ghaut or pass of Gujul Hutti, the Nawaub returned to make head once more against the English army.

At that period the General, who had returned from Huskote, and had pitched his tents in the neighbourhood of Kolar, despatched two battalions and four hundred Europeans, to fetch supplies, which had been collected and deposited in the small fort of Hussoor, and when the escort for these supplies had proceeded by night to Hussoor, and had taken charge of the cattle and provisions, they marched with them the next night on their return. The Nawaub at the same time, marched from Anikul, in pursuit of this convoy and escort, and detached Muhammad Ali, commandant, with four thousand regular infantry, and guns, to attack the fort of Hussoor; while he himself, in the vicinity of

ⁿ He put the rest to death most likely.



Nidra Mungul, fell in with the convoy, and, surrounding them, raised the clamour of the Resurrection^o and the tempest of destruction around them. The fearless Kuzzaks now gallantly exercised their predatory calling ; for, notwithstanding they lost some of their best men in the attack, they drove off the whole of the bullocks, with their loads, even to the bullocks of the artillery ; and, moreover relieved the shoulders of (many of) the escort of the heavy burthen of their heads. On all sides, the field of battle was straightened by bitter enmity,^p and it went near that a great loss had fallen on the detachment. Their commanding officer, however, withdrew his men into a ruined fort, which was hard by ; and, by a continual fire of cannon and musketry, repelled his assailants.

While matters were in this state, Muhammad Alí, commandant, after having placed a garrison in the fort of Hussoor, returned to the camp with the stores and prisoners, which he had taken ; and, being now appointed to the plunder and destruction of this detachment, he attacked them like a raging lion, and, battering one side of the fort, soon breached the walls, while he kept his men ready for the assault. At this time, the General of the Eng-

^o A favourite figure with the author.

^p دغا



lish troops, who was encamped at Kolar, hearing the report of the guns and musketry, knew that his convoy had been vigorously attacked, and, in consequence, despatched a body of troops to reinforce them. When, therefore, after great difficulties and trouble, these detachments of English troops joined, the power of the besiegers became much contracted, and the English marched at night and joined their own camp. A single bag of grain or stores, however, never arrived in the English camp.

The Nawaub, after this, marched and besieged Huskote, in which was an English garrison, and attacked it on all sides. The officer who commanded in the fort, however, repelled several assaults with the greatest gallantry, and made known his situation to the general, who instantly marched from Kolar towards Huskote. The Nawaub's scouts or outposts immediately apprised him of the General's advance, and he, therefore, despatching the whole of his cavalry, under the orders of his son Tippoo and Meer Ali Ruza Khan, towards the English army to amuse them, he himself remained with his regular and irregular infantry, to take the fort. He now ordered the brave commandant, Muhammad Ali, to plant ladders^۹ against the towers and



gates ; and with great exertion and bravery, the assailants by their aid mounted the walls. The garrison of the fort being few in number, they had not power to repel the assault of such a multitude ; and, therefore, threw away their shields, *i. e.* surrendered. The merciful Nawaub gave the garrison, who had defended themselves with great bravery, the surety of their lives and property, and brought them out of the fort, in which he placed a garrison of his own. He was preparing, with his artillery, and regular and irregular infantry, to repel the English army, when the general himself, with his best troops, arrived in front of the town of Huskote, under the impression that the fort still remained in possession of his Killadár or officer.

The Nawaub, who had now no choice but to light up the flames of battle, arranged his artillery as quickly as possible, in the plain of the Eedgah,[†] and fired away with such vivacity, that the concussions of the guns shook the breast of the earth to her centre, and thousands of men were slain. The General, meanwhile, prevented his men from throwing away their lives or limbs uselessly, by making them shelter themselves in the low grounds, and then calmly resigned himself to the will of God.

[†] A mosque built to celebrate the Eedikorban, and Eedi Fitr festivals of the Mussulmans.



The Nawaub now signified to the officers of the guards on the prisoners who had been taken, of the garrisons of Nuthur Nuggur, Huskote, &c. that they should release two or three men; and this being done, these persons soon reached the General, and detailed to him the circumstances which had occurred at Huskote, and the present condition of the garrisons of Hydur Nuggur, Nuthur Nuggur, and Hurroor. On hearing these statements the General hesitated, and having halted during the day, from anxiety, he, in the evening, returned to Kolar, leaving the heavy baggage of his army, with two or three pieces of artillery; one of which, with its muzzle broken, still lies there, as a remembrance.

Having taken possession of the abandoned baggage, the Nawaub now advanced and encamped at Nursing-poorum, where Hurkaras brought intelligence, that a convoy of provisions was advancing by the Ghaut of Tubul Pulli, to join the English camp, under the escort of two thousand regular infantry, a thousand Poligar foot, and a thousand horse. On hearing this, the Nawaub himself with his light artillery, and regular and irregular infantry, marched and took post in ambuscade in front of the Pass. The next day, the convoy having passed the Ghaut, and arrived at Pudnainchuro, the Gha-

ziaun, (the Nawaub's troops,) sallied forth from their ambush, and, commanded by the Nawaub, attacked it on every side, and, like the famished at a table laden with dainties, they put forth the hand of plunder, and with the pitiless sword slew, and then trampled many men of the escort under the hoofs of their horses; and the whole of the property and stores taken being appropriated to the Nawaub's provision and store departments, he then returned.

When this news reached the General, in whose army provisions and stores became scarce, he fell into deep thought and perplexity, from the prospect of a famine in his camp; and the Nawaub, seeing that the General confined himself in his movements to the conquest of the towns and Talookas of the Balaghaut, resolved that he himself, with the whole of his army, would march to the Payanghaut. Accordingly, having crossed by the pass of Rai Kote, he took the fort of Kishingiri; and then, placing garrisons in the forts of Tripatoor and Wanumbari, he burned most of the towns depending on Amboor. Plundering as he went, he next marched by the districts of Amboor Gurh, Santgurh, Rai Vellore, Dhobigurh, Arnee, and Jeeth-peenth, (or Chittapet,) to Turnamul, where he encamped. From this place he detached his son, (Tippoo,) to-



wards Madras, and Meer Ali Ruza Khan, towards Tujawur, (or Tanjore,) and Nuthur Nuggur, and Ghazi Khan, Maha Mirza Khan, &c., towards Chittoor and Niloor, to plunder the cities and towns in those quarters; and, in a very short time, the whole of that part of the country was swept by the besom of plunder and destruction, and most of the population perished under the hoofs of the Nawaub's cavalry.

The General, on hearing of this, and the pillage of the Payanghaut districts, was immersed in the whirlpool of anxiety; and now, being compelled, of necessity marched by the Ghaut of Kurrupat to Sautgurh, and thence towards Rai Vellore where he halted.

Muhammad Ali Khan, when he saw the two lions, (General Smith, and Hydur,) blood drinkers, making these exertions from manly emulation, and purely for the honour of their respective governments, and in the mean time shedding blood, and plundering and destroying God's people uselessly; moreover, that, notwithstanding the destruction of thousands of brave men, their hands were not yet withdrawn from slaughter; and that, in his Muhammad Ali's wish to obtain the country of the Bala-ghaut, the whole of the Payanghaut would be lost; after considering all this, he, therefore, wrote letters



to the General, and persuaded him to entertain thoughts of peace. Then, having appointed Nujeeb Khan and Danishmund Khan his plenipotentiary Vakeels, he despatched them with four lakhs of rupees, and friendly letters and presents, to the Nawaub, and, following the path of friendship and truth, he manifested his wish to make peace. The Nawaub Bahadúr, who, also, in his engagements with the English, had obtained nothing but hard blows and loss; who was laden with a burden of hundreds of thousands of debt, and who was himself seeking peace; was in his heart rejoiced beyond measure, by the application of Muhammad Alí Khan, accepted his presents, and with great satisfaction, despatched Alí Zumán Khan, and Mehdi Alí Khan Nayut, as his ambassadors.

When these able deputies arrived, and met Muhammad Alí Khan, they arranged the preliminaries of the treaty in the best possible way, and laid such a strong foundation to the conditions of peace and amity, that on no account should the Chiefs of these two governments ever again quarrel, but, on the contrary, assist and support each other. Included in this negotiation, the Vakeels of the Nawaub again obtained the release from Muhammad Alí, of the Nowayut dependents, that is to say, the relations of Chunda Sáhib, also the relations



of Imám Alí Bukhshi, and their Zenanas, or women. Those persons and others being released from the prisons of Muhammad Alí Khan, solely from the Nawaub's regard for his tribe, the Vakeels returned successful.

By this peace the Khan also transferred the Talooka of Kurroor to the Nawaub, and it was taken possession of by his (the Nawaub's) officers. But, besides this, most of the Munsubdárs,^a and Jageerdárs, of the tribe before mentioned (Nayut) as, for instance, Mehdi Khan, the Chief of Awul Goondi, Moortuza Hussein Khan, Munsubdár of Girkut Palli, Muhammad Tuki, the Jageerdár of Wundiwassi; Muhammad Saeed Khan, the Munsubdár of Pur-Mokulgurh; and also the Ilakadárs, Muhammad Alí Khan Powloori, and Herasut Khan Sautgudi, who, from the oppression of Muhammad Alí Khan, were sorely afflicted and distressed. To all these he sent pecuniary assistance, and carriage, and invited them to come to him; and when they arrived, he gave to every one service according to his rank and abilities, such as the office of Bukhshi, or other civil offices, and honours. Many inhabitants of the city and towns of Arkat, Vellore, &c., also, who, being neglected, felt aggrieved, and had retired from public life, now, taking advan-

^a Munsub is a stated rate of pay for military service.



tage of the time offered for the appreciation of their merits, and considering the opportunity as presented by their good fortune, visited the liberal and discriminating Nawaub, and according to their titles or claims were entertained in his service. The chain of strife and discord being thus cut asunder by the shears of four lakhs of rupees, the Nawaub returned victorious to the Balaghaut province.



CHAPTER XX.

The march of the Nawaub and his troops towards Kirpa, Kurnole, Bellari, &c., and the collection of an adequate^t Paishkush (tribute) from the Chiefs of the above districts; with other conquests, made in the end of the same year 1185, Hijri.—A. D. 1771.

At the period when the Nawaub had marched to oppose the English, the Chief of Kirpa, Abdul Hu-leem Khan, considering the time favourable to his plans, despatched his horse to ravage and plunder the districts and towns depending on the Nawaub, and the towns belonging to the Souba of Sura, and Kurum Goonda, and the villages of the tributary Poligars of that Souba, were in consequence laid waste. In the same way, Munuwwur Khan, the Chief of Kurnole, in concert with the Chief of Gudwal, exerted himself to do as much injury as he could. The Náik of Bullari, whose name was Doodapa, also insolently caused a great disturbance in the dependencies of Rai Droog, &c; and continual

شایان^t



accounts of these excesses arrived at the hearing of the Nawaub's servants. The settlement of that quarter was, nevertheless, postponed by the Nawaub to the end of the war with the red faced blood drinkers, (*i. e.* the English). At this time, therefore, as the heavenly mind of the Nawaub was set at rest by the conclusion of treaties of peace with them, he sent off to Puttun^u the heavy baggage of his army with the dependents and families of the Nowayuts or Nayuts; and himself, with a determination to punish his enemies, accompanied by all his horse, and regular and irregular infantry, the whole of which amounted to fifty or sixty thousand men, accompanied also by his Atash Khana,^x or artillery raining fire, he proceeded by easy stages, as if travelling for pleasure to see the country, toward Kirpa, and he gave orders to a party of his Kuzzaks to omit no means of laying waste the country in the vicinity of Kirpa; (and they obeyed his orders so thoroughly,) as to leave not one of the well wishers of that enemy, (the Chief of that place), alive.

When this intelligence was carried to the Chief of Kirpa, he became exceedingly alarmed and saw no resource for his present and future welfare but

^u In this book Puttun means Seringaputtun.

^x آتش خانه



to seek refuge with the servants of the Nawaub, and he therefore despatched a Vakeel with five lakhs of rupees in money, two elephants, and four horses, with jewelled or embroidered saddles and equipments, as a present together with petitions for the forgiveness of his offences, great and small, and offering, as to the future, strong and repeated assurances that, from this time, he would never place the foot of presumption beyond the boundary of obedience to the Nawaub's commands, but would act according to his orders; and as a mode of manifesting the strength of his attachment, he further offered to send a portion of his troops to serve as subsidiaries with the Nawaub's army.

This petition the Nawaub granted from political motives, and also accepted the money and presents, according to the *verse*, "What comes unasked, is given of God"—"refuse not what is sent by God."^y—and placed them in his treasury, and having written^z some directions, in the way of advice, for the regulation of the Khan's conduct, now and hereafter, and which might serve as the rule of his life and welfare, he then despatched a newswriter to his capital, with proper presents, and honorary distinctions.

^y What comes unasked, by God is given;
Refuse not then the gift of heaven.



Budruzzumán Khan, who formerly gave up the fort of little Balapoor to the Paishwa, Madhoo Rao, and thereby threw the dust of shame on his own head, and had since accepted the service of the Hakim of Kirpa, now through the intercession of Ali Zumán Khan his brother-in-law, had an assurance of safety sent to him ; and, forgiving his faults, the Nawaub invited him to return, bestowing on him the Khilut, or honorary dress of pardon, and restoring him to his former office of Bukshi.

The Nawaub now immediately marched on, and passing by the environs of Gunjee Kote, belonging to the Kirpa Chief, arrived at Bheekun Pulli. The Killadár of that place, who was of the Syud family of Gholaum Ali, otherwise called Guloo, at first got ready to fight ; and, his insolence and folly producing a kind of frenzy, he fired a few gun shots at the Nawaub's body guard ; the Nawaub himself being present, and riding his favourite elephant, called Poon Guj. The Nawaub was, therefore, bound in honour to require and demand that this insolent fellow should be punished in a way that might serve for a warning to others, and accordingly, gave orders to his brave officers to attack him with their companies ; upon which they instantly encircled him, putting forth their hands to plunder and lay waste. Seeing this ravage, the

Killadár threw down his shield, and, placing the ring of obedience and service in the ear of his life,^a despatched a Vakeel with a present of fifty thousand rupees, and he was then allowed to remain unmolested. At the same time his cousins, Meer Hussein Alí Khan, and Meer Assud Alí Khan, being desirous to serve the Nawaub, presented themselves to him, and were appointed Bukshis of horse.

The Nawaub now marched two stages towards Gudwal, the Poligar of which place, fearful of the overwhelming attacks of the Nawaub, and trembling like a reed shaken in the wind, despatched a Vakeel with two lakhs of rupees, and some other presents, and also with petitions for his life and safety; and having done this, he considered himself out of danger. When the Vakeel with the money, presents and letters, arrived at the presence, he delivered his message with much humility and supplication. From forethought and expediency, the Nawaub accepted his money and presents, and then marched in another direction.

Although the Nawaub passed with his army by the dependencies of Gooti, that is to say, those of Morar Rao, yet, from policy, he took especial care that no injury should be done, either to the Rao or the inhabitants of that part of the country; but

marched on hastily to Kurnole. As soon as Munuwur Khan was apprised of the arrival of the Nawaub Bahadúr's army, he determined to oppose them, and got his troops in readiness, pitched his tents, and raised his standards, outside the town. A fanatical devotee, named Shah Miskeen, the Khan's Moorshud or spiritual director, in whom the Khan placed great faith and all whose commands he obeyed, (to such an extent that no chief of his rank was ever so obedient to his spiritual guide as he,) now said "Munuwwur, rejoice; for I will make thy enemies flee." The Khan was so overjoyed, at hearing these glad tidings, that he nearly fainted; and, being now happy, fancied he should certainly conquer the Nawaub's gallant army. The Nawaub, when he became aware of the intentions of the Khan, committed the right and left wings of his army to his bravest officers, and, mounted on an elephant, he himself, with his most devoted troops, taking post in the centre, his artillery in front, advanced opposite the walls of the town, and there halted; his intention being to attack immediately and take the town and its chief together.

At this time, the mad^b Shah or Devotee above mentioned, sitting upon a naked or uncapparisoned elephant, and accompanied by two or three hundred

Afghans, careless of life, advanced towards the Nawaub's army. On seeing this, a number of the Nawaub's companions, and Khans, addressed him several times intimating that he ought to relinquish the attempt to conquer this place, in respect that it was under the protection of one of God's most perfect Walis, or saints; that the Aktab,^c Outad,^d and Oulia,^e whenever they cast an eye of favour on any one, placed him in security from all evil and danger; that the manifestation of this intention might be the cause of loss and injury to the Khodadad government, and God forbid that in the result his mind should be disturbed or person injured; that it was best, therefore, that the Nawaub should encamp his army in some place, (near), and halt there, until the Afghan of Kurnole should, of his own accord, present himself with his hands tied, ready to obey the Nawaub's commands; and that, in this matter, haste was not becoming the servants of the Nawaub.^f The Nawaub, on hearing these opinions, and suggestions, so dishonourable to a man of courage and determination, was much irritated, and, looking angrily in the faces

^c Kotub, is the polar star.

^d Wutud, is a tent peg,—symbolical of strength, also height, &c.

^e Wuli is a friend or a saint—all these are degrees of religious attainment among the Mussulmans.

^f Meaning the Nawaub himself.

of these weak^g men, demanded of them if *his* troops also were not under the protection of some Wali, Kotub, or saint, that he and his troops should be supposed to be without support or aid? Nearly the whole of those who were present, now wisely held their tongues, and were silent; but, some took the liberty to reply, "Yes, certainly they were." The Nawaub then said, "in that case, the saint who protects our army, will dispute with and oppose him who protects this place;^h and, in the mean time, we ourselves will remove the clouded brain from the vain head of Munuwur Khan; for, added he, "I will stretch the neck of his presumption with the halter of degradation, and not allow him to remain alive." After saying this he drove on his elephant, and had advanced about the distance of a musket shot, when the fanatic Shah above mentioned, who had determined to charge and overthrow the Nawaub's troops suddenly turned about and retreated into the fort, and retiring to the women's apartments of his house, crept into a dark room, where he said to the Khan, "Oh, Munuwur! whatever thou hast, give up to this brave man, and make peace; only thy fort will we not give up to him." On hearing these words from his priest, the Khan gave up all heart,

^g اراکین

^h Called Kunole and Kurnole.



and the strength of his loins was broken by the staff of fear. He, therefore, sent his Dewaun, or minister, to the Nawaub, with presents and provisions for a feast; and intreated he would encamp, and promised the payment next day of as large a sum of money as he was able to collect.

Casting the eye of favour, and the compassionate regard of a master, on the condition of that representative of an ancient house, the Nawaub agreed to accept his propositions, and pitched his tents and standards to the westward of the fort, on the bank of the river Tungbhuddra, and entered his tents, until the money was paid, until that however, he would not allow the Dewaun to return to the fort. The next day, in lieu of five lakhs of rupees, which sum he had engaged to pay, the Khan sent out a quantity of money, and ornaments of gold, and silver, and, in sweet flattering language, professed great regard and friendship for the Nawaub, and thus escaped his ire and vengeance.

The Nawaub, desiring much to conquer and put in order other places, took the amount above mentioned, and on the next day marched by the road of Tripeti Goondeh, and Pundeh Goondeh, to Kupthal, in the environs of Bullari, where he encamped his victorious army, with the intention of reducing the Poligar of that place, and of leaving a garrison of his own in his forts; to cast the dread

of his victorious army into the heart of Busálut Jung, the Chief of Adhoni, who was secretly intriguing with Morar Rao, and inciting him to the plunder of the Mysore territory. Under the shew, therefore, of lighting a fire among the villages of Rai Droog, the Nawaub ordered the Risaldárs of the regular and irregular infantry to employ the bravest among their number to run on approaches¹ against the fort of Rai Droog, to breach the lower and endeavour to take the upper or Mountain fort. Accordingly, by the exertions of thirty days, the tower or bastion at the north east angle of the lower fort was battered down, by the continual fire of the guns, and at night they made an assault. The besieged Náík, however, defended himself bravely, and did not suffer fear to influence his exertions; but successfully beat off the storming party. The resolution displayed by the Náík, excited the violent anger of the Nawaub, who brought his large guns under the sweep of the hill to the north, where he ordered his artillery to batter the walls of the Mountain fort. The sureties of conquest, that is, the artillery-men, now threw some large stones from mortars¹ into the women's apartments of the Náík, on seeing which, the women, in great distress and confusion, filled the air with their cries, and

¹ سیب

¹ They are called guns in the original.



obstinately insisted, that the Náík should immediately enter into communication with the Nawaub to make peace, and pay him whatever sum of money he demanded ; and, they declared, that, if he had not money enough, they would give up all their most valuable ornaments, “for,” said they, “should the Nawaub, which God forbid, take the fort, our honour would certainly not remain inviolate.” The Náík being by this means agitated and perplexed, sent a messenger of peace to the Nawaub, agreeing to pay two lakhs of rupees, and thus he entered the list of those who were spared by Hydur.

At this period, spies or intelligencers sent information to the Nawaub, that Tattia Mahratta, the Chief of Mirch, at the instigation of Govind Rao, the son of Imrut Rao, the Chief of Gujindurgurh, had marched a body of troops, with an intention to lay waste and destroy the country, under the government of the Sirkar Khodadad, (the Mysore State ;) and that he was raising disturbances near Badami and Dharwar. As the Nawaub was now compelled to reduce this fort, and to chastise the Mahrattas, he accorded the petitions of the Poligar, and taking two lakhs of rupees in money, and leaving a newswriter there, he marched on, and, having crossed the river Toongbhuddra at the Ford of Goruknat, he by long marches arrived at Binkapoor. The enemy, being

aware of the rapid advance of the Nawaub, lost their senses, from the fear of the desperate valour of his troops,^k and returned hopeless to Mirch.

The Nawaub, therefore, now returning, arrived at Shahnoor, where Hukeem Khan advanced to meet him; and, having professed his friendly sentiments, he presented the expenses of the army for ten days, amounting to a hundred and thirty-five thousand rupees, as a gift, and was thus freed from further trouble. From this place he, Hydur, moved on, and, passing Sirihutti, Dumul, and Kunugiri, and collecting an adequate Paishkush from the Poligars of that quarter, he next pitched his tents at Bejanuggur, otherwise called Anigoondi, and Tum or Timraj, the Chief of that place, was sent for by the Nawaub to visit him. As, however, these Chiefs are the descendants of Kishenraj,^l and Ramraj, Chitri, they salute or make obeisance to no one. In former times, the country of the two Karnatics, and even the Dukhun from the forts of Malabar to the banks of the Nurbudda, were subject to their authority. But the power of these Princes was broken and destroyed, by the energies of the officers and troops of the Kings of Islam, namely, Kotub Shah, Adil Shah, and Nizám Shah, in the environs of Nyaul Kote, a town on the banks of the Kishna, in 972,

^k غازیان

^l Meaning apparently, Ram and Krishna.

Hijri. The words "Ram Raja"^m died on the day of Adeena,"—give the date of his death. Sultan Alumgeer during his reign gave the descendants of this line of Princes, to provide for their subsistence, the three districts of Howeli Anigoondi, Durwajee, and Gungawati, as the writer of these lines has detailed, in his History of the rise and fall of these Princes, called the Tuzkirut ul Biladwul Ihkam.

But to return—when the Nawaub sent to Timraj he pretended to be very sick, and sent his son, with some presents and a lakh of rupees, and begged he might be spared. Having taken into consideration the high rank of the ancestors of Timraj and their former greatness, the Nawaub excused him the payment of his Paishkush, and sent him from the presence an honorary dress, confirming him in all his possessions. Hydur then marched, by the route of Hurpunhully and Jureemli, to the neighbourhood of Chitul Droog. The Poligar there, from fear of the spoliation and desolation of his country, sent a Vakeel to the Nawaub, with three lakhs of rupees as a present, and one lakh of rupees as one day's entertainment for the army, representing his devotedness, and that he was obedient to the Nawaub's orders. The Nawaub accepted the money, and allowed him to rest under his powerful protection ;

^m Friday, مرد رام راج روز ادینه

and having, by suggestion and advice, pointed out the path he was to pursue, he despatched an able newswriter and register to the residence of the Poligar.

Hydur then marched by the route of Boka Puttun, and encamped in the environs of Gulwari. The Nawaub here gave orders for the attendance of the Poligar of that place, whose eccentricity and folly had frequently reached his ears. It is to be remarked here, that the said Poligar was, without doubt, entirely void of sense and understanding. He was an opium eater, and spent all the revenue of his Talooka, or district, in the purchase of opium. He was accustomed, sometimes, to mount up into the balcony of his house, and enjoy the prospect of his hills and dales; and there happening to be opposite his little fort a pond full of water, and a small hill beyond it, he used to ask his minister,—“ If we had a quantity of pure opium as large as that hill, and as much milk as that pond or tank would hold, how long would it last ?” The minister would answer, “ Perhaps about a month ;” upon which the Poligar would reply, “ What—do you take a man to be like a sparrow, that he should pick a bit here and there, and drink by drops ?” “ If any one could finish the whole of it in a week, then, indeed, I should call him a man.” If he sat



down in the morning to wash his mouth and his face, it was mid-day before he had finished, even although his servants did their best to arouse him. His general food was rice and milk, and his wife, after she had caused it to be cooked, usually sent a servant girl to call him to dinner. But it was not until the girl had well shaken his head, and his shoulders, and repeated to him that his dinner was ready, that he rose and retired to the women's apartments to eat. He also had planted a small garden, about the distance of a musket-shot from the town; but, whenever he wished to walk in his garden, it took him a week to get ready. When, however, his ministers had at last roused him, and he had walked to the garden, after an hour or two he would ask his servant, "How many days is it since we left home, and in how many days shall we return?" The servant in answer, would say, that they would reach home after two or three stages, when the Poligar, laughing, would reply, "No, no, we are not pigeons, that we should fly so swift as that!" But, in fact, there are so many stories told of this man, that it would be impossible to relate them all.

When, by the order of the Nawaub, this foolish man attended his Durbar, the Nawaub, seeing the stamp of folly on his forehead, called to him to advance, and then said,—“How is it with you, and

what have you brought me for a present?"—He, with his hands respectfully crossed, replied,—“ By your auspicious fortune, there is in my treasury nothing but two or three maunds of opium ; but there are also two hundred cows, giving milk, and a few jewels of gold and silver are on the person of your female servant, ‘ meaning his wife,’ if it be your pleasure I will present them to you.” The Nawaub laughed very heartily at his absurdity, and gave him leave to return home, and allowed him to retain his town, to furnish him subsistence, but, stationed in it an Ameen, to regulate the administration of the Talooka. The Nawaub then returned to his capital, Puttun.



CHAPTER XXI.

An account of the celebration of the Marriage of the Sáhibzada,ⁿ Prince, Tippoo, also that of the daughters of Shahbaz Sáhib; and the Marriage of Hydur's own daughter, the year 1185, Hiji.—A. D. 1771.

WHEN the Nawaub Bahadúr was freed from the war with the English, and his arrangements with the Poligars, &c., and had returned victorious to his capital, he determined to celebrate the nuptials of the Princes and Princesses; and, therefore, with the greatest pleasure, demanded for his son the daughter of Imám Sáhib Bukhshi, Nayut, whom he had brought from Arkat, and he ordered the preparations for the banquet, &c. to be made. The ladies of the curtain of chastity and purity, that is, the mother of the Prince, and the wife of Hydur Sáhib, the elder, would not, however, agree to the marriage of this lady; but, agreeably to the choice of the bridegroom himself, and that of their family,

ⁿ I have translated صاحبزاده Prince as I know no other equivalent when speaking of Tippoo.



selected Rukba Banoo, the daughter of Lala Mean, (who was killed at Churkoli,) and the sister, by both parents, of Búrhan-ud-dín Sipahsalar. The Nawaub, being angry at the rejection of his choice, gave orders that the Prince should be married^o to both these ladies the same night. Those, therefore, to whom charge was given to prepare the banquet for this happy occasion, commenced the music of congratulation on both sides,^p and the feast was spread, and the customary forms of rejoicing, agreeably to the usages of the Dukkanees, were all celebrated in royal style and fashion; and, for nearly a month, the streets and markets of the city were ornamented, like the nuptial chamber of the bride and bridegroom, and the fame and noise of the royal banquet extended to all parts of the world. The joyful entertainment, music, and all other appliances of delight, were provided so abundantly, that, during the whole time, little and great, low and high, either among the servants of the government, or the inhabitants of the city, never dried^q their hands from eating and drinking. The chief officers of the army, the brave men of the body guard, the servants of the household, and the danc-

^o پیموند معنوی

^p The bride and bridegroom.

^q It will be recollected that the people of Hindustan use their fingers alone in eating.

ing girls, with countenances lovely as Venus, like brides and bridegrooms, arrayed in their various coloured raiment, excited by their beauty the envy of the ever blossoming rose garden, and the poor and needy of the world, by the gifts of pearls, and jewels, made on this marriage, were placed independent of poverty and want.

At length, at the fortunate and blessed moment, after the ceremony of riding in procession, the bridegroom was first taken to the gate of the Nayut's house, and, after the reading of the Khotba and Nikah, and the performance of other marriage customs, the bridegroom was again mounted, and taken to the respected gate of Lala Mean, where all the ladies of the Nawaub's family, and all his relations assembled, and gave their sanction to the Khotba and Nikah, and, with the assistance of able bride's women, the ceremonies of Julwah, &c., were performed to their perfect satisfaction, and the sun and moon were placed in auspicious conjunction. In truth, it is the nature of most men and women, that although women of their own tribe may be the poorest^r in the country, still they hold them in respect and honour, and disparage the women of other tribes by hints and allusions, even while allowing their claim to lineage and nobility. But,

مفلوک چرخہ کش^r



to return — when they had finished all this celebration and congratulation, the two honourable ladies were placed in the Serai of the prince, and there remained.

After this, came the marriage of the two daughters of the deceased Shahbaz Sáhib. Shahbaz, after the increase of the power and wealth of the Nawaub, retired to his own house, and died of disease at Kolar, leaving three daughters, and one son, named Abdulkadir, who was slain in his youth by a cannon ball at the battle of Anooti. The eldest daughter, whose mother was a lady of Shahbaz Sáhib's tribe or family, was married, during the life of her father, to Lala Mean, and, consequently, now became the mother-in-law of the prince, Tippoo. The other two daughters were by a wife of a different tribe, not a first marriage. The Nawaub now, therefore, honoured Turbeut Ali Khan Nayut, by bestowing one in marriage on him; and the other he married to Yasin Sáhib, the son of Yakoob Sáhib, Jamadár, one of the most noble among the families of the Dukhun, and after the most liberal fashion of that country.* After this, again being highly pleased with the mild disposition, the propriety of language and manners, and the correctness of

* This detail is so involved in parenthesis, as to be almost unintelligible.

conduct of Hafiz Syud Ali, (the son of Shah Sâhib Dukkuni,) a worthy friend and companion of the Nawaub; who had been deputed on an embassy to Hydrabad, and had there negotiated a peace, and strengthened and improved the relations of amity between the Chief of Hydrabad and the noble Nawaub; and who, without the knowledge of the Nizâm, or his ministers, with much address had purchased a great quantity of valuable articles and jewels of great price, and had forwarded them to the Nawaub; and, also, had engaged a number of brave and experienced men, well known for their courage, and had sent them to the presence;—taking, into consideration all these services, and wishing to mark his approval of them, he honoured him by uniting him in marriage to his own daughter, and thus exalted his head in both worlds.

As these affairs were all completed in about a year, the Nawaub next occupied himself in the regulation of the affairs of his territories, and despatched officers of justice to all quarters; that, wherever thieves, highway robbers,[†] and cut purses, had extended the hand of depredation and cruelty, they might be punished; and, wherever the foundations of oppression and tyranny had been raised, they



should cause them to be pulled down. As soon as the Nawaub had completed the internal arrangements of his state affairs, he appointed his confidential servants to the charge and possession of different governments and countries, and next employed his time in collecting warlike stores, and soldiers of approved valour," (like Roostum and Isfendiar); so that, in a short time, he assembled under the shade of his victorious standard experienced and able men from all tribes; and, giving pledges of safety and aid to merchants, and the leaders of Karwans of all countries, he attracted (many of those persons, bringing with them) bales of precious stuffs, droves of fleet horses from Irak and Daman,^v and troops of the bravest men of Iran and Tooran, who had been invited to enter his service, and whom by liberal treatment he made the slaves of his will. He also appointed active disciplinarians, to exercise and teach his troops, and maintained near two thousand able spies and newswriters, in all parts of his dominions, and even in Hydrabad, Poona, Madras, Dehli, Bengala, Iran, Tooran, and Kabul, and was supplied with intelligence by them which he heard with great interest and discrimination. But, especially in every district of the tributary Poligars depending on him,

^u شکوہ^v Also written Maun.



(for he was never at ease respecting them), he employed spies and secret intelligencers, one upon another, and required from them the most minute information and a copious diary. He also, at an immense expense, collected all implements of war, as guns, firelocks, and other European articles, from the ports of the French, Dutch and Portuguese nations.



CHAPTER XXII.

The invasion of Tatia Mahratta the Chief of Mirch, Govind Rao, the son of Imrut Rao, and Suboo Rao Ghatkia, &c., Chiefs of the Mahrattas, from Poona, with the intention to ravage and conquer the country depending on the Nawaub Bahadúr. Also, the incursion of Ibrahim Khan, Dhoonsa, with the same purpose, from Hyderabad; and the making prisoners the chiefs of the Mahrattas, by the hands of the brave soldiers of the Nawaub's army. The retreat also of Dhoonsa, without attaining his object and the conquest of Bullari by the Nawaub; all which occurred in the year 1187, Hijri.—A. D. 1773.

WHILE the Nawaub Bahadúr remained in Puttun, and was occupied in making some particular arrangements, and collecting troops and stores; Busá-lut Jung, the Chief of Adhooni, and the promoter of strife, Morar Rao, combining and concerting together, wrote and despatched letters to the Nizám of Hyderabad, and the chief persons at Poona, containing a request that they would despatch troops into this country, (Mysore,) and pluck up the tender plant of the Nawaub's prosperity and greatness,—for, in the increase of his power and might, they