



Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated 30th Rumzaan 1197, or 29th August 1783.

I understand, from your answer to my letter, that you indirectly decline making the nomination of Aumils to the districts under Almas Ally Cawn: You write to me to do it, and use evasions; therefore, in the last resort, I must trouble you to inform me, in plain and explicit terms, whether or not you will nominate Aumils for Almas Ally Cawn's districts, and in what time. Write me particularly. In case you decline this business, tell me so without disguise.

---

Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reply.

I am favoured with your letter. You observe, "that I indirectly decline making the nomination of Aumils to Almas Ally Cawn's districts, and that I ask you to do it." You are the Director, and I am obedient. Could I have the audacity to make indirect representations to you! Having addressed you on the subject of nominating Aumils to all places, the districts, and persons named for them, were, conformable to your orders, exhibited to his Highness. Every province was settled agreeable to your orders and nominations; for this reason I also addressed you concerning Almas Ally Cawn's districts, representing to you, that I would exhibit to his Highness the names of such persons as you might direct. I have repeatedly represented to you, in Almas Ally Cawn's business, that I did not object or demur. Whatever is your pleasure, be pleased to communicate it to me, and it shall be done. The test in this affair is, that when you directed the withholding Kyrabad, &c. from Almas Ally Cawn, it was immediately executed; and also offered to make a reduction from his other districts, if you chose to do it. You replied, they might remain for the present; I will settle that matter at the beginning of the year. At the time the other Aumils were changed, I spoke to you concerning Almas Ally Cawn, and you told me, that the revenue of his districts was not to be completely discharged until the conclusion of the year; after which period the measure should take place. For some time past, since his payments have been completed, you have directed Aumils to be appointed. I answered, that it was well; I would exhibit to his Highness such persons as you might nominate to succeed him. I have never recommended the continuing Almas Ally Cawn in employment; I replied to whatever you ordered, That it was well: And now also I acquaint you, I will exhibit to his Highness the names of such persons as you may order for Almas Ally Cawn's districts. I have already caused you to be furnished with a list of the Aumils unemployed, and those soliciting and hopeful for employment. After the end, I will attend upon you, and represent affairs more fully to you. There is no objection or demur on my part in this business. I am waiting for your orders.

---

COPY of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Major James Brown; dated Lucknow, 9th September, 1783.

I enclose a paper of news, from which it will appear as if Almas had intentions of leaving the Vizier's dominions, and connecting himself with the chiefs at Delhi. From his conduct last year; there is little dependence to be placed on his fidelity; and I should be obliged to you for such information as may have come to your knowledge concerning this matter. What renders his conduct extremely suspicious, is, that he left Lucknow suddenly on the 6th instant, without giving notice of his intention, and directed his vakeel to assign some urgent business at Meerut as the cause.

---

To David Anderson, Esquire—The same as to Major Brown.

---

COPY of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to Colonel James Morgan, commanding the troops in the Field, dated Lucknow, 9th September, 1783.

I enclose a paper of news, from which it will appear as if Almas Ally Cawn had intentions of leaving the Vizier's dominions, and connecting himself with the chiefs at Delhi. I have this instant

28





infant only received the intelligence. It being too late at night for me to obtain his Highness the Vizier's commands, I must defer writing to you particularly till the morrow. What renders his conduct extremely suspicious, is, that he left Lucknow suddenly on the 6th instant, without giving notice of his intention, and directed his vakeel to assign some urgent business at Meer Gunge as the cause. I have given the same information to Colonel Sir John Cumming and Colonel Knudson.

---

Colonel Sir John Cumming, and Lieut. Colonel Knudson—The same as the above; with the following additional paragraph in the letter to Colonel Knudson :

“ It is absolutely necessary to use every means in your power to prevent Khaja Gnuddien's escape; and discover, if you can, if there is any intercourse between him and Almas Ally Cawn, and of what nature.”

---

Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn, dated 11th Shouaul 1197, or 9th September 1783.

I have the pleasure to enclose you an extract of intelligence I have this instant received, which seems to imply some extraordinary resolution in Almas Ally Cawn. He left this place on the 7th, having neglected the usual formality of acquainting me with his intentions. As I had neither received any notice from yourself of his going, I requested, through Raja Koshaul Roy, that you would favour me with the reason of his absence; when you were pleased to inform me, by the same channel, that he was gone to Meer Gunge on some urgent business, but that he would return shortly; and on the 8th, I received a similar account from the vakeel of Almas. I am now to request you will favour me explicitly with any particulars that have or may come to your knowledge on the subject of the enclosed intelligence; and I must here take leave to remark, that it is now three months ago that I first represented to you the necessity of making the arrangements of Almas's districts; and that since the present time, the subject has been renewed by me repeatedly, both verbally and by letter, yet hitherto no one step has been taken towards such arrangement. The business of Almas Ally Cawn was before a matter of much delicacy, made so by his rebellion last year; his abrupt departure now is sufficient to awaken all our suspicions, and this it is that makes the steps to be taken on this occasion a matter of the first importance. I am therefore to request, that having reflected and determined upon what should be done, you will inform me of your determination.

---

EXTRACT of Intelligence accompanying the above, and dated from Naper Uddoulah's Camp, near Deeg, the 7th Shewaul 1197 Higere, or 5th September 1783.

Information has been received, that Mahomed Beg Cawn Humdany has marched two coss towards Behla. The Nabob Naser Uddowlah has in consequence appointed eight hircarrahs to watch his motions, and also dispatched twenty others, for the purpose of giving intelligence respecting the English detachment at Furruckabad.

---

EXTRACT 2d, from D<sup>o</sup>; dated 10th Shewaul, or 8th September 1783.

Almas Ally Cawn having crossed the Ganges, has reached the Purgunna of Falgaum, by Relays, in which expedition three horses fell dead under him; we further understand, that it is his intention to pass on to the frontier of his districts.

---

Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reply.

I have received your favour.—Raja Khooshall Roy made enquiries of me concerning Almas Ally Cawn's going, and I replied, that his vakeel represented his master was gone with your leave





CSL

leave. I afterwards repeatedly waited on you, and you did not speak to me on the subject; and the vakeel repeatedly asserted, that he had your leave. Whatever may be your pleasure in this business, is highly proper; and in regard to the settlement of Almas Ally Cawn's districts, whenever you spoke to me on the subject, I have uniformly answered, "I was obedient to your commands; when you direct me to do it, I will address his Highness." To-morrow I will wait upon you, and execute whatever orders you may be pleased to give me.

---

Mr. Bristow, in Reply, to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated 11th Shewaul 1197, or 9th September 1783.

I have been honoured by the receipt of your letter, in reply to that I addressed you on the subject of Almas Ally Cawn. You inform me, that you understand from Almas's vakeel, that he obtained my permission previous to his departure. If this were so, is it conceivable that I should have expressed my surprize at his going, both to yourself and to the vakeel, and desired to be informed of the cause of it? Or why did his vakeel, in consequence of this procedure on my part, make his master's excuse, saying he was gone on very urgent business? You are also pleased to remark, that with respect to the arrangement of Almas's districts, you have uniformly expressed your readiness implicitly to obey my directions. During three months I have been perpetually representing to you, Sir, that the sooner those districts were settled the better; but instead of the necessary arrangements, I have always received for answer, a repetition of professions of duty and obedience; and hence it is, that to this hour no one salutary measure has been adopted. The questions of most importance now are, whether you think Almas will return or not; and, in case you are of the latter opinion, I desire you will notify to me immediately the pleasure of his Highness, with respect to such directions as he may judge necessary to send to Colonel Morgan and Colonel Cumming; as also, whether or not you will form any plan for the settlement of the districts under Almas, and the time when you will do it. Be pleased to inform me explicitly on those heads.

---

Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reply.

I am favoured with your letter. What I asserted concerning Almas Ally Cawn was agreeable to his vakeel's representation. The said Cawn has always attended. Three times, during the course of the year, he went away with your permission, and returned after an absence of a few days. He never asked leave through me; and in this manner his vakeel represents, that on the present occasion he had your permission. If you entertained doubts, you would have forbid his going; and why should he have gone? You are the director, and the Nabob is master: I execute the directions I receive, and am obedient. Almas Ally Cawn did not go away privately: His vakeel's representation is, that he asked your permission three days previous to his departure. The day he set off, he acquainted you with it; and when likewise Almas Ally Cawn proceeded onwards from Mean Gunge, he did the same; to which you replied, that it was well. You never spoke to me on the subject, though I repeatedly waited upon you; and now you mentioned it as a matter of surprize. What can I, who am in the station of the obedient, represent to you concerning so clear and plain a transaction? To the vakeel you observed, that it was well; and to me, that it was a matter of surprize. Your hircarrahs and news writers are stationed with Almas Ally Cawn, and certainly they inform you of all his proceedings. Whenever you have favoured me with your commands concerning the settlement of the districts under Almas Ally Cawn, I have never made any objection. The business remained in suspense until his payments were completed; and it is not a month, though you specify the period of three months, since he discharged the sums due from him. You have, until this time, even forbid my mentioning the subjects to his Highness. I have repeatedly represented to you concerning Almas Ally Cawn, that you are the director, and you would please to order what you thought proper regarding him. I am a servant of Government, and will obey. The Aumils have every where been appointed, agreeable to your directions: Lists of the Aumils at present unemployed, specifying their names in general, as well as those of a few persons selected from the whole body, have been presented to you. Be pleased to inform me of the districts to which you think proper to nominate them, that I may exhibit the same to his Highness; but, in making this proposition, I have no view to delay. My reason is this, that you before directed me to nominate Aumils, and I submitted to your inspection a list of persons whom I recommended for each separate district; you altered my nominations at the instigation of others, who conceived in their own houses of Hyder Beg's having nominated such a man to such a district, and "we (say they) persuaded the Resident to appoint another in his room." Whenever I understood that the appointment would be ultimately arranged





arranged according to the advice of others, as it indeed has hitherto been the case, I then acquainted you that I would exhibit to his Highness the names of the persons whom you nominated to the several districts; I therefore did not object with any design to delay or evasion. You desire me to give my opinion, whether Almas will or will not return; and if I should determine in the negative, you request "that orders may be sent to the Colonel." In the presence of my superiors, what is my single opinion?—By the grace of God, all affairs are better known to you than to any other person; and your opinion, whatever it may be, is right and proper. Be pleased to express your commands. It does not depend solely upon my opinion; it becomes superiors, in matters of opinion, to issue their mandates according to their pleasure, and at their own time: they invariably do right, and no detriment can arise therefrom. A person in the station of the obedient has not the audacity to give his opinion, when it may be a subject of future investigation. His Highness is the master, and you are the director; be pleased to order what you think right. I have told you all I have heard from Almas Ally Cawn's Vakeel; do you send for him, and make your enquiries according to your pleasure, or as is proper in the present state of affairs, whether Almas Ally Cawn is still at the place he mentioned, or whether he has proceeded onwards.

---

Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated 13th Shewaul 1197, or 11th September 1783.

Almas Ally Cawn informed me, that he was entertaining a Refalla of Furkhowars; I must therefore trouble you to acquaint me if it is by his Highness's or your order, and upon what footing he is so doing, as well as the fund allotted for the support of it.

---

Hyder Beg Cawn, in Reply.

I have received your letter in regard to Almas Ally Cawn's entertaining a Refalla of Furkhowars, on which you write me: it is entirely unknown to me, and is a matter of surprize. Tomorrow, having ascertained the matter from his Highness, I will inform you.

---

Mr. Bristow to Hyder Beg Cawn; dated 19th Shewaul 1197, or 17th September 1783.

In answer to my letter of the 11th instant, concerning Almas Ally Cawn, you desire me to make the nomination of Aumils to his districts; and on giving you information of them, you would exhibit them to his Highness. You likewise write me that owing to the representation of others, your nominations were before set aside. I have never recommended any person; but, on the contrary, I have acquainted you, that if I objected to any Aumil, you might nevertheless appoint him, if it was your pleasure so to do. I was ready to assist in the execution: the responsibility rested with you. Notwithstanding I have expressed my sentiments to you in such plain and explicit terms, you desire to make the settlement of Almas Ally Cawn's districts, instead of undertaking it yourself. From such conduct is to be understood delay and evasion; and the consequences will be disorder and confusion, when you, the acting minister, thus protract the execution of a business which is of greater importance than any other under his Highness's government. Almas Ally Cawn arrived the day before yesterday; be pleased to inform me of your intentions concerning the settlement of his districts—whether you mean to dismiss him, and the period at which it is to take place; or whether you have not formed a direct contrary resolution. If you should have ascertained the footing upon which Almas Ally Cawn is entertaining a Refalla of Furkhowars, on which subject I addressed you on the 13th instant, you will oblige me by letting me know.

---

Hyder Beg Cawn in reply.

I have received your favour. Whenever you applied to me concerning Almas Ally Cawn's districts, I never objected: I requested you, both verbally and by letter, that you would favour me with your orders, agreeable to which I would address his Highness. My objection to nominating





nating Aumils, as before explained to you, is not singly confined to Almas Ally Cawn's districts, but to every other place: and when you may direct me to make nominations, I will return this answer: "That I will exhibit to his Highness the names of such persons for the respective districts as you may be pleased to order."—The person by whose representation the Aumils were hitherto appointed, and in obedience to which I have acted—that person, who has spoke in ridicule, and continues so to do, of my affairs, said very true. The plans and lifts of people, which you caused me to form, were merely for the name; the Aumils were ultimately appointed according to the said person's representations. In this situation, I consider my forming plans, and writing, to be useless; and I demur, that I may in future be relieved from ridicule: every man wishes for the honour due to his station. In regard to what you chuse to say from favour towards me, that I am the acting minister, how am I to be considered in that capacity, in affairs not left in his Highness's discretion? whose authority and mine are evident from the transactions which I have stated. Past and present circumstances I have thus plainly and explicitly represented, and do represent to you: After a candid conduct, how can doubts be entertained of evasion and delay? Be pleased to inform me of the persons you have thought proper to nominate to Almas Ally Cawn's districts, that I may exhibit them to his Highness. You wrote to me in consequence of the information Almas Ally Cawn gave you of his entertaining a Refalla of Furklowars: he is present, enquire of him: he will reply to you on this head.

True Translations and Copies.

(Signed)

JOHN BRISTOW,

Resident at the Vizier's Court.

---

#### TRANSLATION of Hyder Beg Cawn's Narrative on Almas Ally Cawn's Succession.

When Almas Ally Cawn, after having been at Cunnoge, had returned to Etawa, withdrawn his Aumils from the several districts, and written letters in a style very improper and unbecoming, as it appeared to me highly derogatory from the dignity of government to hesitate at such a time, I gave the following orders, which I thought best calculated to restore tranquility to the country: that Aumils should be immediately appointed on the part of Government; adding, that I had received letters through Sheek Golaum Husrut, &c. from Almas Ally Cawn's recalled agents, who were perfectly instructed in the detail of business, expressing their willingness to enter into the service of Government; and that I had no doubt his troops would imitate their example. Mr. Johnson originally subscribed to the advice; but Meer Zeen ul Abudun, a friend of Almas's, having afterwards stated that the succession of Almas would be attributed to him, Mr. Johnson, he forbid the appointment of Aumils, and directed that every possible means should be employed to conciliate Almas; and, that to induce him to return, all his requisitions should be complied with, as otherwise he himself would be exposed to all the odium and blame: to which I replied, that as no such consequence was to be apprehended; that we should find it a very easy task, and in a very short time, to take possession of and settle the country, when Almas would be humbled, and readily return of his own accord; otherwise being puffed up with vain imaginations that the collections could not be carried on without his assistance, his insolence and pride would increase; that this was by no means the fact; since they had been heretofore managed without him, and, by the blessing of God, might be so again: that, in the interval between the rains and the season of the collections, the persons appointed to take charge of the districts would have sufficient leisure and opportunity to inform themselves thoroughly respecting them; and would, I had no doubt, faithfully and effectually acquit themselves of the trust reposed in them.—Mr. Johnson however, for the reason above assigned, was inflexible, and positively directed that Almas should be directed back at all events; to which determination I was from necessity compelled to subscribe.

---

COPY of an Engagement entered into with Almas Ally Cawn, to which were affixed the seals of the Nabob and his minister Hussen Zeza Cawn, and Hyder Beg Cawn, and the signature of Mr. Johnson.

We engage to confine our demands upon Almas Ally Cawn to the terms of his written engagements, and to consider ourselves as guardians of his honour, and that of his family, friends,





friends, and dependants; and we take God and his Prophet, the Twelve Imauns and their issue, and the holy Koran to-witness, that we will strictly conform to the articles of this treaty.

True Translation.

(Signed)

JOHN BRISTOW,

Resident at the Vizier's Court.

---

EXTRACT of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court, to the Honourable the Governor General; dated the 5th November 1782.

The acting minister has positively and repeatedly disavowed to me ever having willingly concurred in the measures adopted with regard to Almas Ally Cawn, at the time of his disaffection. He asserts, that he considered Mr. Johnson, when Acting Resident, as your representative, and invested with your authority; he of course exerted himself in supporting and enforcing every measure that gentleman recommended. He further says, that he often proposed appointing new Aumils, during Almas's absence; but Mr. Johnson objected, though he was assured of the defection of two of the principal men amongst the rebel's followers; a circumstance he did not fail to communicate to Mr. Johnson.

In my address to the Board, I mentioned that it was by my advice Almas Ally Cawn was deprived of the farms of additional districts, yielding a revenue of sixty lacks a year. Two days after my arrival I conferred with the acting minister, and opened the business by the discussion of Almas Ally Cawn's conduct, telling him, in very candid though in polite terms, the dissatisfaction you felt at the disgrace thrown upon the Vizier's authority, and reputation of the English nation; and, if he expected your support and protection, he must unite with me in the reduction of Almas Ally Cawn's power. I asked his advice about dispossessing him entirely: we maturely deliberated upon the subject, but came to no positive determination, except to deprive him of every thing consistent with prudence. The acting minister made light of Almas's power; and only demurred at the present inconvenience that would follow, owing to the weakness of the Vizier's government. The whole Kurrees, and great part of the Rubby, would be lost before new Aumils could be firmly established; and, if we should fail in creating a defection of his adherents, and Almas resist, we should not be able to procure supplies.—The state of credit at this place is well known to you. In times of peace it has been with great difficulty that the sums required for the public service has been raised.—Almas would probably have purchased a considerable body of Mahrattas, or other marauders: with the assistance of these, and his own troops, a total stop would have been put to the collection of the revenues; and, having no fund of ready cash beforehand in the treasury, to support the expences of the campaign, your army could not have been supplied. The bad government in the other parts of the Vizier's dominions would then have appeared, by general insurrections of Zemindars; and we should have experienced an insufficiency of troops in point of numbers.

These were the principal objections urged against entirely dispossessing Almas, and appeared to us insurmountable. It then became an object of great importance, how to give him confidence, and, at the same time, not betray the dignity and interest of the Vizier. We determined immediately to revoke the engagement for the additional countries; as he was not in possession, they were not liable to the inconvenience attending others. We put the matter upon the plea, that Almas had in his correspondence, and verbally, repeatedly remonstrated against holding any farms, and therefore we could relieve him from trusts which were irksome to him. He had the insolence even, on receiving the perwannahs from the additional countries, to pretend to confer a favour on government. Almas had deferred dispatching his Naibs until I took the charge, as I informed the Board, because he wished to have the sanction of the Company to his usurpations. I left Hyder Beg to communicate my sentiments to him regarding the additional countries, and bring him to visit me, and settle for such districts as he was in actual charge of. Almas Ally Cawn, on our first meeting, confirmed the truth of the declaration he had made verbally, and by letter, of his wish to withdraw himself from all public employments: but, under the present administration, he found himself otherwise disposed; he now had confidence, and would readily undertake any charge with which the Vizier would honour him. He was however informed of the determination not to trust him with the additional countries. He could not conceal his agitation at the disappointment; for, as he had been accustomed to very different language, his pride was affected by the change this treatment of him would have in the eyes of the world. He however did not answer me disrespectfully or improperly;

Whatever





Whatever was determined, he said, he would most willingly conform. I gave him the strongest assurances of support in the line of his duty; and, that he might depend upon the performance of my promises, I explained my sentiments in private; making a particular request, that, if he entertained doubts of my sincerity, he would plainly tell me so: on my part, I would on all occasions advise and assist him in the management of his affairs. I urged to him the impossibility of the Vizier's submitting to repeated insults to his person and authority, and that he could not expect my support longer than he did his duty. I now grounded my hopes and claims of obedience from him upon the personal friendship which had for years subsisted between us. I disclaimed the reports, circulated with a view of alarming him, of treachery being intended; he might be assured, if the English ever acted against him, their measures would be fair and open. Much conversation did then, and has since (at different meetings) passed between us. He possesses entire satisfaction, confidence, and obedience. I shall proceed to explain the reasons which occur to me for his doing so; as I can hardly think, after his late conduct, he will ever be contented to humble himself again to a private station.

Almas Ally Cawn connected himself at Delhi with Affranfaub Cawn; and when that party had first the prospect of gaining the ascendancy, he bought two forts near Secundera. He sent a reinforcement to assist against Mahomed Beg Humdanny, who had seized upon Himmut Be-hadre Jay Daad, and took an active part in the disturbances; thinking, at all events, to secure himself an asylum, by holding at the same time the frontier provinces (Etawa and Corah) of the Vizier's dominions, which he saw he could have upon his own terms. He stipulated for a reduction of revenue, personal security, and to be released from the obligation of attending at Lucknow; all which disgraceful conditions were eagerly agreed to. Thus far his affairs succeeded; but his friends at Delhi being worsted, as you will observe by Mr. Middleton's letters of the 15th and 17th September, and Mirza Shaffer having got the better, he lost all footing in that quarter. His friend, Affranfaub Cawn, or somebody of the party, also treated him ill, by seizing about a lack and sixty thousand rupees of his money. The fluctuating state of affairs at Delhi, evinced to him the fallacy of endeavouring at an establishment there: And thus necessity, not inclination, has in my opinion, brought him back to Lucknow. The same necessity has been the principle of my conduct towards Almas; but, suppose the minister had assented to his entire removal, I do not see the persons ready, at the present juncture, to supply his place. The distress the Vizier has suffered from Almas's conduct, as well as every principle of policy, whatever may be his merit or former services, require the reduction of his power. He is allowed, by the estimates shewn me, nineteen lacks of rupees per annum, on account of Mehaul charges and Mootayenna; and he has entertained three thousand five hundred cavalry, and nine thousand and fifty-three infantry, exclusive of artillery, and the troops he is authorized to entertain by Government: these are entirely appointed and commanded by himself. I have not had time to ascertain the numbers or denomination of any other troops he may keep of his own authority. He has, for a long time past, been collecting ammunition and stores, and given great attention to the fort of Coder Coat, which I am informed, he has rendered very strong. These particulars, relative to Almas Ally Cawn, it is my duty to communicate to you; and I am exceedingly anxious to receive your approbation. I propose temporizing with Almas until the conclusion of the year; and when the crop shall be off the ground, and the revenue realized, I would then recommend the removing him from all trust. This will afford me the opportunity of ascertaining more exactly the disposition of his adherents. I think many might be brought to quit him, especially when they would see themselves supported by the armies under the Colonels Morgan and Sir John Cumming. The success of this enterprise will depend upon the unanimity and secrecy observed between the commanding officers and myself. I shall not acquaint them of my plan until it receives your approbation, and the time of executing it may be at hand.

Almas Ally Cawn has, within these four days, through the minister, and other intermediate persons, made application to me to recommend him to the Vizier to farm Sahlone, and other districts, yielding a revenue of twenty lacks. He also again expressed his inclination to take the additional countries; and I have always returned him a positive but polite refusal.

A true Extract.

(Signed) W M HILL,

Assist. to the Resid.





TRANSLATION from Rajah Chite Sing to Munnoo Loll; dated the 21<sup>st</sup> Ramzan.

I received your letter on the 21<sup>st</sup> Ramzan, and understand the friendship and care you express for my concerns, and that Almas Ally Cawn will certainly come here in the course of one or two months. I am firmly of opinion that what you write will undoubtedly happen; but you ought well to consider the trouble I have had in managing the matter with Sindia, and even effected more than Almas Ally Cawn wishes. By the grace of God every thing is now settled. I have dispatched the Sunnuds for Lahar, which is given him for the purpose of securing his effects in; and, if he really intends coming here, there will never be any deviation from the engagement. It is well that he has accepted his old countries, as adviseable at the present juncture. Whatever is to be done, let it be to his satisfaction. It would be adviseable for the said Almas to temporize with Sindia, and take the country as a last resource; because the other party, sensible that he has connected himself with the people to the southward, and apprehensive he should slip from their hands, they have therefore given him a ketap, as a trap to catch him; and they will not fail to practise treachery.

P. S. I have also heard that Almas Ally Cawn wishes to correspond with the people here, through a different channel. You who have given yourself so much trouble, and I who have settled every thing, and had so many disputes with Sindia on this subject in your presence, what are we to conclude? Perhaps this may not be true; but you will enquire, and let me know. Undoubtedly, as the business is now concluded, people here will endeavour to bring him over to their party: you have to guard against their doing it. Consult and transact your business with Myre Abdul Huck and Anundrow Pundit; and if any one should attempt to create jealousies, hear him not, but only be attentive to the accomplishment of the business. There is no occasion to say any more on this subject to you, who are wise and intelligent. I before sent a letter, which you must have received: Afford me the satisfaction, by constantly writing. Your son was a little indisposed; but now, by God's grace, is recovered. I had an interview with him this day, when he brought me your letters. Rest contented: all other matters you will understand from my letter to Miffier.

---

Cheyte Sing to Almas Ally Cawn; dated 22<sup>d</sup> Ramzan.

I have been made happy by the receipt of your letter. I learn from Mire Abdul Huck Anundrow, and Munnoo Loll, of your reinstatement in your country, as an adviseable measure in the present times, which affords me satisfaction. At this place the wishes of your heart were accomplished, which indeed the above-named persons must have informed you of. I now inclose you a letter from Mahajee Scindia, which will explain matters to you. Your wishes, by the grace of God, will be accomplished. At all times, and in every situation, consider me your friend, and favour me with your correspondence and kind remembrance.

---

Mootee Sing to Munnoo Lall.

Lalla Seetaram is dispatched to you, and from him you will learn the state of affairs at this place. In the bond business, Almas Ally Cawn will cause a letter to be written to Sindia and you, regarding what is to be done. It is proper you should settle it; and, when Almas may come, you shall be sent for. Rest satisfied of every thing from this quarter.

---

Chite Sing to Almas Ally Cawn; dated the 15<sup>th</sup> Shanal.

I have received your letter, and one to Meha Raja Patteil Behadre, acknowledging the receipt of the Lahos Sunnuds; and am pleased, and understand the contents. I immediately had an interview with the Maha Raja; and we read your letters together, and paid our attention to them.





them. Whenever we meet, the sincerity of our friendship will then be proved.—You wrote, concerning the Purgunnah of Lahar, “ that you were ignorant of the Jumma of Lahar, and requested “ the matter might be suspended, on account of the news-writers. When you arrived at Etawa, “ what was advisable would be written; and to include the places on this side under my name.”—My friend, the Jumma of Lahar is small (may be about one lack of rupees) but the fort is large and strong. The Meha Raja gave it to you, for the purpose of keeping your effects and family in, agreeable to the original plan, when you intended to come here; and directed that other countries should be appropriated for your expences. This his intention Myre Abdul Huck, Anundraw, and Munoo Lall, will have particularly explained to you.—The custom of farms is different.—If it is your wish to include in my country, let there first be a meeting between the Maha Raja, you, and I, that we may settle some firm agreement, and gratify the wishes of our hearts; and whatever you desire shall be done. Many matters cannot be explained by writing; a great deal depends on an interview. At all events, I wish you good; in effecting which, I consider the advantage as mutual.

---

Almas Ally Cawn to Munnoo Loll.

I have received your letters, forwarding one from the Meh Raja and Chyte Sing, and understand the contents. Inclosed I return an answer to each of them, which you will cause to be delivered.—Agreeably to Chyte Sing's desire, under pretence of going to the fair, I went to Batipur, that I might seize that opportunity of meeting him: But his tents were far distant from that place; and unluckily I was forced to come away, on account of celebrating the Mohunum, and to inspect the affairs of my country. My desire, however, is still the same to see him, and I earnestly wish for his prosperity. Every thing will be done at a proper time, and Providence will bring affairs about according to our wishes. I have written to the Rajah about all other matters, from which the whole will be understood; and have not, therefore, used any repetition to you. Always give me particular information of what passes, and make me happy.

---

COPY of a Letter from Almas Ally Cawn to Mahajee Scindia.

I have written a treaty to the following purport:—“ That your friends and enemies be considered as mine. I will never depart from your orders; and, when you request my attendance, “ I shall be ever ready; and, to prevent any deviation, I here call to witness God, his Prophet, “ and the Coran. In every respect I am anxious for your welfare, and wish to devote the remainder of my life to your service.”

Written the 30th Shawul.

The same from Almas Ally Cawn to Chyte Sing, except that he has not mentioned his attending on Chyte Sing, when he shall call for him.

A true Translation.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW.

---

*EXTRACT from the Correspondence between Mr. David Anderson, Resident with Scindia, and Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court.*

Mr. Anderson to Mr. Bristow, dated 29th October 1782.—Extract.

I have received information that one Amuret Row, who is said to be in Scindia's service, but stationed with Cheyt Sing, left the camp three days ago, and is gone on some commission to Almas Ally Cawn; but whether from Scindia or Cheyt Sing is not known.

I have thought it necessary to mention this circumstance, because, if you find it is true, it will doubtless have some weight with you in judging of the degree of confidence, and the extent of the charge, which at this important period you can venture to give Almas Ally Cawn. You will also,





also, I imagine, think it necessary to ascertain if Annut Row enters into intercourse with other persons at Lucknow, particularly the Aumils in charge of districts, the Begum, and the rest of the party disaffected to the present ministry.

---

Mr. Anderfon to Mr. Bristow, dated 12th November 1782.—Extract.

I beg leave to inclose, for your information, a paper of intelligence which I have this day received from my news-writer at Etawa. There are two circumstances in it, which I think necessary to point out to your attention: 1st, the collecting together all the boats on the Jumna; and 2dly, the passing of Hircarrabs at Etawa from Cheyt Sing to Almas: I am unable to account for the former satisfactorily. I know that there are some disputes betwixt the Aumil at Etawa and Bucht Sing, the Rajah of Bahdourea and Bind, regarding the fort of Cumeit, which is on this side of the Jumna, and which, though it belonged to Etawa, was taken possession of, during the late succession of Almas, by Bucht Sing's people. It is possible that the boats are collected in order to transport troops to recover this fort; but, unless you have been previously informed of such a measure, I should rather suspect that the boats are collected to be in readiness for Almas himself, in case he should find it inconvenient to leave you a second time.

The second circumstance seems to add weight to the intelligence I sent you in my letter of the 29th ultimo, and may enable you to trace whether there is actually any correspondence carried on betwixt Cheyt Sing and Almas, or not.

We ought not to be too ready to give way to mere suspicions, so far as to let them have any influence on our outward conduct. But, in such dubious times, every thing which appears to have the most distant dangerous tendency should be noticed, and, if possible, privately ascertained.

---

Mr. Anderfon to Mr. Bristow, dated 15th November 1782.—Extract.

I find, from my Etawa intelligence, that the boats were collected at that place to transport the troops destined to recover the fort of Cumeit from the Rajah of Bahdourea's people; but that letters had been received from Almas, directing that the expedition should, for the present, be flopped, as he had taken his leave of the Nabob, and would soon be at Etawa in person.

---

Mr. Bristow to Mr. Anderfon, dated the 24th November 1782.—Extract.

Almas proposes to come to Lucknow again very shortly, and continues to profess implicit confidence and obedience. Your intelligence regarding his correspondence with Cheyt Sing is confirmed by the Vizier's agents, as well as those I have employed. I cannot ascertain any particulars of Annut Row, unless he be a man now at Delhy, who wrote me a letter, inclosing one from Scindia: I forward you copies of both. The names of Shuffy Beg and Mahomed Jaffier are fictitious, for Shuffy Ulla and Uscurry Cawn, who inform me they did not chuse to appear in a negociation with the Marattas. Jadoo Row, at this place, is the agent of Annut Row; who, I take it, will appear upon enquiry to be the person you mentioned in your letter of the 29th ultimo. By what I have seen and heard of Jadoo Row, he is come for the purpose of obtaining intelligence; and I apprehend there is no mode of preventing his residence with us, whilst your negociations with Scindia may continue. It is a fair conclusion, if Annut Row had been deputed to Almas, that he would not have sent his agent (Jadoo Row) to Lucknow; and therefore I am inclined to think their secret correspondence is, at the present juncture, conducted through some other channel.

True Extracts.

T. HILL,

Assistant to the Resident.





( 96 )

ESTIMATE of Receipts and Disbursements on Account of Almas Ally Cawn's Districts, as included by Hyder Beg Cawn in the general Estimate of Revenue, on Account the Fuf-  
fullee Year 1191.

Jumma	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69,22,383	8	3
CHARGES.										
Military establishment.										
Horfe 3,554	-	-	9,88,640	14	0					
Deduct Batta, &c.			69,494	14	0					
						9,19,146	0	0		
Foot 9,053	-	-	-	-	-	6,20,056	0	0		
Artillery	-	-	-	-	-	90,639	0	0		
	-	-	-	-	-	1,00,000	0	0		
							17,29,841	0	0	
Charges, collections	-	-	-	-	-		2,98,235	5	6	
								20,28,076	5	6
Net revenue - - 48,94,307 2 9										

Errors excepted.

(Signed

JOHN BRISTOW,

Resident at the Vizier's Court.

STATEMENT of the Etaya and Corah Provinces, during Almas Ally Cawn's Administration.

The Jumma of Chucklah, Etaya, and Corah, for six years, or from 1185 to 1190 inclusive.				
1183.	Etaya, Zyne ul Abdy Cawn	-	-	44,85,321
	The Jumma of 1184 I have not been able to ascertain.			
1184.	Corah, Almas Ally Cawn	-	-	14,53,251
The decrease in estimation on this Jumma			58,38,572 for 6 years.	3,56,31,432 0 0

## DECREASE JUMMA.

1185.	Almas Ally Cawn	-	-	2,38,572	0	0	57,00,000	0	0
1186.	Ditto	-	-	7,38,572	0	0	52,00,000	0	0
1187.	Ditto	-	-	10,38,572	0	0	49,00,000	0	0
1188.	Ditto	-	-	5,38,572	0	0	54,00,000	0	0
1189.	Ditto	-	-	8,32,957	5	0	51,05,614	11	0
1190.	Ditto	-	-	13,88,625	5	0	45,49,946	11	0
							3,08,55,561 6 0		
Decrease in 6 years -				47,75,870	10	0	47,75,870 10 0		

Corah,





Korah, when under Hyder Beg Cawn, during Shuja ul Dowla's lifetime, with the Jaghyres included, was

22,00,000 0 0

At different times, Almas Ally Cawn has farmed Khyrabad, Sultanpore, Goruckpore, and Ferockabad, which are districts remarkable for the refractory spirit of the Zemindars. He nevertheless gained great profit by them; but his conduct has been invariably so oppressive, that his successors have complained of his leaving the countries in desolation and ruin. In short, he collected at the point of the sword, and plundered indiscriminately every rank and class of men. From the best information I can obtain, he has certainly, at the lowest calculation, benefited at least ten lacs a-year, which, from the year 1185 to 1190 inclusive, is, 6

years altogether - - - - - rupees 60,00,000 0 0

Add decrease for the six years of his farm of Etya and Corah, as above specified - - - - - 47,75,870 10 0

Total loss to Government - - - - - rupees 1,07,75,870 10 0

I have omitted in this calculation to note his advantages from the immense allowance granted on account of his civil and military establishments, which were always near a third of the revenues. The management of his troops was left to his own discretion; he appointed his own commanders, and mustered them himself: This was another source of loss to Government. During that present year, I have received numerous representations of the violent and oppressive administration of his Naibs; and I dread an enquiry. The result can only bring to light a series of cruelty, shocking to every humane and feeling mind.

Errors excepted.

JOHN BRISTOW,

Resident at the Vizier's Court.

*Mr. Hastings' Minute.*

20th January 1784.

Governor General.

IT is with reluctance that I bring before the Board a subject of the greatest importance, at a period not ostensibly requiring it; but the necessity of it has been long since foreseen, and unnoticed in the verbal communications which I have had occasion to make to the members of the Board.

On the 28th of last month, while the late arrangement of the concerns of this government in the province of Oud was under discussion, I received a letter from my secretary, Major Palmer, at Lucknow, containing a very alarming representation of the disordered state of that country, and urging the necessity of my repairing to Lucknow for the purpose of giving my personal and early assistance to the Nabob Vizier for their retrieval.

From other letters, which have been since received from Lucknow upon the same subject, I understand that this was the expressed wish of the Nabob Vizier, his minister, and all the principal persons of his family and court; and I have great reason to believe, that as soon as the Nabob shall have received the notification lately transmitted to him of the last resolutions of the Board, he will declare the same wish in terms, and connect it with his acceptance of the engagement prescribed to him.

It is neither consistent with my interest or ease to resign the ordinary transactions of my station, and by accepting the detail of a single and inferior department, engage in a scene of difficulties, some of which derive their origin from natural causes, and may be insurmountable by human exertions; nor am I very anxious to hazard my reputation on the success of so doubtful a service; yet as the Board has been pleased to commit the affairs of that province in an especial manner to my charge, and have given me the most positive assurances of their support, to enable me to acquit myself of so weighty a responsibility, I conceive this to be a case which will not allow of my attending to any personal suggestion. My services are at all times, and in all cases, primarily due to the most important and most urgent calls of this government. To the importance and urgency of the present exigency are added the obligation of a special trust and engagement, and the pledge of the most powerful aid for my encouragement.





I therefore make this early tender of my services to proceed to Lucknow, whenever I shall receive an invitation from the Nabob Vizier to that effect, for the purpose of regulating the Company's interests in that province, and affording the Nabob Vizier the like assistance for the regulation of his.

My reasons for thus anticipating the call which I have supposed are many.

I have already premised, which I now repeat in more forcible terms, than I am morally assured of receiving such a call from the Nabob Vizier; and I make no scruple of affirming, that I can implicitly rely on the deference which he has ever shewn to my advice, and on his confidence in my justice and good faith, for the most willing co-operation on his part in the measures which I shall recommend for his service, and as prompt and ready a submission to the rights which I may exclusively assert on behalf of the Company.

The accumulating distresses of that country require preventive no less than remedial applications. The administration of his government requires the vigorous exertion of the powers of our own to restore and confirm the authority which has been loosened from it. His revenue requires the superintendency of officers acknowledging their dependance on their constitutional master, and possessed of credit and characters equal to the responsibility. The balance of the Company's debt, and its progressive growth, depend for the payment on the same provisions; and the liquidation of our own current and bonded debts, together with the credit of our treasury, equally depend on the early liquidation of that which is due to the Company for the province of Owd. The dearth which has already shewn itself in some severe effects, will require the same co-operative aid to remedy so much of this calamity as may proceed from artificial, grounded on natural causes.

The Sics, who have been for some time forming in large bodies, and have avowed their design on the dominions of the Nabob Vizier, require early preparations to meet and repel them; and I have cause to believe that the presence of the executive member of this government, supposed to possess the command of all its powers and resources, would contribute much to discourage the attempt, and supercede the necessity of more substantial operations. Such are the objects of the proposed measure, and the necessity of its early execution is involved in the terms of each, nor is it possible to state them in others which shall exclude it. But to these I must add other considerations, derived from my own situation: First, a respect due to the constitutional rights of the individual members of the Board, and something due to my own credit, which impel me to bring the question before the Board, while every member of it now present may have an opportunity of giving his opinion upon it, and thereby also to guard myself against the imputation of seeking the advantage of carrying it by my own casting vote. Secondly, the desire which I have to possess the official assistance of Mr. David Anderson, whose weak state of health, derived from a late dangerous illness, has induced him to resolve on a voyage to Europe for his recovery: On intimating to him the possibility of my being called upon this service, and the indispensable call which I should in this case have for him, he cheerfully agreed to yield it to me, and to suspend the engagement of his passage until the latest period requiring it, that he might be at liberty to attend me.

I should be sorry to seem to depreciate the merit of others by an exclusive preference shewn to one; for I know many of the Company's servants, who are equal to any trusts that may be reposed in them; many, who in talents and integrity are entitled to receive the most public testimony of my esteem and approbation; but I have been long in official habits with Mr. Anderson; I know him; his disposition and manner of thinking agree with my own; and, in the peculiar line in which I should wish to employ him, there is not another to whom I could so confidently rely. I do not think it reasonable to keep him longer in suspense, and on that consideration alone, were there no other, I would entreat the Board to bring this point to an instant decision.

I repeat, that I do not solicit the service which I have offered to undertake, but simply offer it, with the most firm determination to hazard every interest that is dear to me in the prosecution of it, if it shall be the option of the Board to assign it to me; and I shall expect, in that event, to be invested with the full powers of my office, that is to say, such as I have especially committed to me on similar occasions.

If the Board shall not chuse to accept of my offer, I shall rest contented with the complete discharge of my duty in having both made it, and used my endeavours to render it effectual.

(Signed)

WARREN HASTINGS.

A true Copy.

E. Hay,

Secy.

10

Minutes



*Minutes of Mr. Stables and Mr. Wheeler.*

The following minutes were received on the 23d ultimo from Mr. Wheeler and Mr. Stables, and communicated to the Governor General.

Mr. Stables,

21st January 1784.

I am sorry that I cannot accept of the Governor General's offer to proceed to Lucknow. In my opinion the executive member of government ought to remain at the presidency, and most particularly at this time, when we are in daily expectation of receiving the news of new arrangements from home.

A true Copy,

E. Hay,  
Secretary.

Mr. Wheeler,

21st January 1784.

In giving my opinion on the very important question brought forward in the Governor General's minute of yesterday, it is necessary for me to make a reference to what has passed before upon the subject.

On the 31st December 1783, the Board resolved to withdraw the residency from Lucknow, and to confirm the Governor General's acceptance of the responsibility and charge of affairs there, as explained in the minute agreed to and delivered in by Mr. Macpherson, Mr. Stables, and myself, on the same day.

Previous to the resolution the Governor General represented the necessity which he conceived there was for his repairing to Lucknow, for the purpose of accomplishing those plans which alone could place the Company's concerns in the Nabob's country in a more prosperous state. Against the acceptance of this many difficulties occurred, and in consequence it was, after much deliberation, mutually and unanimously agreed to decline the acceptance of the Governor General's tender of his personal service in the Nabob Vizier's country, and this part of the proposal ended in conversation, without being entered on our recorded debates; however, in candour, I must acknowledge, that no claim was preferred on the one hand to bring forward this question at a future day, nor on the other was any attempt made to preclude it, should the measure hereafter appear more strongly necessary.

But I flatter myself that in so short an interval as between the 31st December and 20th January, no motives more pressing, or reasons more urgent than those which had already been brought in argument, would have occurred to prompt the Governor General to the revival of a question of such magnitude as that of his departure from the presidency, at a time when his services here are so essentially required, and I consider myself the more warranted in this hope, because no advices can have arrived from Lucknow since the Nabob Vizier received the notification of the resolution of the Board to accept the offer made by himself and his minister of giving the security of bankers of known credit and responsibility for the payment of the balance due to the Company, and of the current demands of the year. It is true, the Governor General's visit to Lucknow is said to be the expressed wish of the Nabob Vizier, his minister, and all the principal persons of his family and court, and that the same will probably be declared in terms, and be connected with the engagement prescribed to him; if such be the Nabob Vizier's intention, a very short period of time will be sufficient to enable the Board to receive his requisition in form.

Great merit is certainly due to the Governor General for his zealous tender of his services on this occasion, which, he says, are at all times and in all cases primarily due to the most important and most urgent calls of this government; but in the present terms and circumstances of the question, I must beg leave to decline anticipating the necessity which may arise of accepting them in the way they were offered: For I think that the presence of the Governor General at our Board should never be dispensed with but on the most pressing and most important occasions; and I repeat, that I deem it at this particular juncture essentially requisite.

But





But should the Nabob Vizier, in his letters to this government, press the assistance of the Governor General's abilities in forming new arrangements for the internal government of his country, and the aid of his personal and official influence to carry them into execution, and should state it as a measure absolutely necessary to be adopted for the regulation of his finances, and the speedy liquidation of his debt to the company, connecting it also with his acceptance of the engagement prescribed to him; and if the Governor General shall be of opinion that his services can be more effectual, and generally beneficial to the interests of the Company, by their being employed in that country, than in the arduous and important duties annexed to his station here: I shall not shrink from the additional weight of labour and responsibility which will in that case devolve on me, but shall think myself acting up to the spirit of the minute delivered by Mr. Macpherson, Mr. Stables, and myself, in giving the Governor General this opportunity of acquitting himself of the responsibility he is hereby charged with in the affairs of the Nabob of Oude. This opinion I hope and trust will meet with the concurrence of the other members of the Board; and I venture to express a confidence in their hearty co-operation with me, during the Governor General's absence, in discharging the important duties which belong to our government.

A true Copy.

E. HAY,  
Secretary.

*EXTRACT of the Secret Letter from Bengal, dated the 7th February 1784.*

Para. 21. **Y**OUR honourable court has already been made acquainted with the resolution which we thought it necessary to pass on the 31st of December, for withdrawing the residency from Lucknow, and accepting the offer made by his Excellency the Vizier and his minister, of the security of bankers of known credit and responsibility for the payment of the balance due from his Excellency to the Company, and other current expences, the Governor General being specially responsible for the propriety of the measure. Mr. Wombwell, our accountant at Lucknow, having been directed to receive such security from the Vizier, has lately transmitted to us a copy of the engagement entered into by two bankers, named Lela Butchrauge, and Faquir Chund; in which they make themselves answerable for the sum of Lucknow Sicca Rupees 1,03,84,420, being the balance due from his Excellency to the Company at the end of the last Fuffulee year, as well as for the subsidy and other current demands of the present year, according to a statement adjusted by Mr. Bristow. Part is to be paid in the course of the present year 1191, and the remainder in the course of the next year 1192 fuffulee. A copy of the engagement attends you, a number in the packet.

22. The Governor General having laid before us copies of a correspondence which passed between Mr. Wombwell and Mr. Bristow, by which it appears, that Mr. Bristow has hesitated to obey the order which directed his return to the presidency, in consequence of some doubts expressed to be primarily founded on the terms of that order, which he expresses to be "loose and indefinite," we have sent our peremptory commands to Mr. Bristow to leave Lucknow, and repair to the presidency immediately, directing, in like manner, the assistants of his office to do the same.

23. We have the honour to transmit to you a number in this dispatch, copy of a minute delivered by the Governor General, on the 20th of the last month; in which the Governor informs us of a letter he had received from his secretary, Major Palmer, at Lucknow, containing a very alarming representation of the disordered state of the Vizier's dominions, and urging the necessity of his repairing to Lucknow for the purpose of giving his personal and early assistance to the Nabob Vizier for their retrieval: And that from other Letters received from Lucknow upon the same subject, the Governor General understands that this was the expressed wish of the Nabob Vizier, his minister, and all the principal persons of his family and court; having also great reasons to believe, that as soon as the Nabob should have received the notification lately transmitted to him, of the last resolutions of the Board, he would declare the same wish in terms, and connect it with his acceptance of the engagement prescribed to him. The Governor General has therefore made us an early tender of his services, to proceed to Lucknow whenever he shall receive an invitation from the Nabob Vizier to that effect, for the purpose of regulating the Company's interest in that province, and affording the Nabob Vizier the like assistance for the regulation of his.





24. For the other important reasons which have induced the Governor General to make this offer, we beg leave to refer you to his minute, which we deem well deserving your attention. The minutes of the other members of the Board now at the presidency on this subject, are also enclosed numbers in this address; and by these you will observe, that the Governor General's tender of his services to repair to Lucknow, has been accepted on the following conditions; viz. that the Nabob Vizier shall, in his Letters to this Government, press the assistance of the Governor General's abilities in forming new arrangements for the internal management of his country, and the aid of his personal and official influence to carry them into execution, and state it as a measure absolutely necessary to be adopted for the regulation of his finances, and the speedy liquidation of his debt to the Company, connecting it also with the acceptance of the engagement prescribed to him; and that the Governor General shall be of opinion, that his services can be more effectual, and generally beneficial to the interests of the Company, by their being employed in that country, than in the arduous and important duties annexed to his station at the presidency.

---

*Extract of the secret Letter from Bengal, dated the 16th February 1784.*

Para. 10. We had the honour to inform you in our last advices, of a tender made on the 20th of last month, by the Honourable the Governor General, of his services to proceed to Lucknow whenever he shall receive an expected invitation from the Nabob Vizier to that effect, for the purpose of regulating the Company's interests in the province of Oude, and affording the Nabob Vizier the like assistance for the regulation of his. Our resolution was also communicated to you on the Governor General's offer.—A strong letter from his Excellency, and his minister Hyder Beg Cawn, has been lately received, and submitted to us by the Governor General, who has renewed the offer before made to us.—The Governor's minutes on this subject, and the papers accompanying them, are transmitted to you numbers in the packet, together with the minutes of the other members of the Board now here, to which we beg leave particularly to refer you, and by which it will appear, that we have vested in the Governor General the powers and authorities which he has desired, to enable him to effect the purposes of his visit to his Excellency the Vizier's dominions.

---

14th February 1784.

THE Governor General having this instant received letters from the Nabob Vizier, and his minister Hyder Beg Khaun, translations of which accompany this minute, the Governor General, in compliance with the pressing invitations contained in these letters, now renews the tender of his services in acceptance thereof, in the terms and for the purposes expressed in his minute of the 20th January.

The Governor General also, relying on the Board's acquiescence in the foregoing proposal, since in the event which has happened it has already been in fact agreed to, and wishing to preclude all intermediate delay, submits to the Board, for their approval, drafts of his public credentials, and of orders to be issued to the civil and military officers stationed behind the province of Bahar.

Not willing, on so short a notice, to require the members of the Board to give themselves the trouble of an immediate and formal meeting for the purpose of discussing the business of the preceding questions, nor the occasion requiring it for the reason already mentioned, the Governor General has directed the secretary to attend them with these papers, and requests that they will be pleased to deliver their opinions thereon in circulation.

A true Copy.

E. Hay,  
Secy.





Received February 14th 1784.

*From the Vizier to the Honourable Governor General.*

Usual introduction.

Your gracious letters, which you honoured me with from paternal kindness, have arrived. In what language can I express the favours and obligations you have conferred upon me? This country, my family, and myself, are all yours. Such obligations have bound me firmly in gratitude. I before rested entirely on your pleasure, but am now with heart and life attached to it, and will in no measure depart from it. From the favours conferred on me, your reputation will spread throughout all Indostan, for to the inhabitants of this country you have given new life.

My only desire now is a meeting with yourself: From the same motive as you have already shewn me so many favours, I entreat you will travel this way, and confer prosperity on my family and country, which are the same as your own. Your presence will be the cause of increase of my reputation, regulation to my affairs, and settlement of the country, to the mutual advantage of our Sircars, as whatever plans you may adopt will remain permanent, and be a source of credit during our lives.

As I am now ardently employed in the direction of affairs, and the measures for paying the Company's demands, I have no leisure, and am therefore excusable, otherwise I should come to visit you. In the manner you have already favoured me, confer the obligation of coming here to complete my happiness, as I am certain such regulations will proceed from it, as shall not leave room for any one hereafter to find fault. I have performed the conditions signified by you through Major Palmer, for the satisfaction of the Company, which will be known to you from his letters.

Concludes as usual.

A true Copy of the Translation.

E. Hay,  
Secy.

Received February 14th 1784

*From Hyder Beg Khan to the Honourable Governor General.*

Usual introduction.

How shall I express the obligations you have conferred upon his Highness and his subjects in general, since human language is too weak? Your fame will from them be spread throughout the world. His Highness is so obliged and grateful for your favours, as cannot be expressed; frequently saying, you have purchased him by generosity. This will be fully known to you from the letters of Major Palmer.

The only desire of his Highness now is, that you will, by coming here, bestow prosperity on his affairs. From your presence will spring stability to measures, and benefit of both Sirkars; as whatever you plan will remain firm for ever. I who am your servant, lifted from the dust by your hand, have received new life from the favours conferred upon his Highness, and regard paying my respects to your Excellency as necessary to my existence; but at this time your presence here is most advisable. The favours you have shewn can only be repaid by prayers for your prosperity. What was desired for the satisfaction of the Company has been performed, and shall be observed in future. Every point will be known to you from the letters of Major Palmer.

Concludes as usual.

A true Copy of the Translation.

E. Hay,  
Secy.

Governor





## Governor General's Credentials.

Whereas it has been resolved in council, on the 31st December 1783, to withdraw the Residency at Lucknow, and to invest the Governor General with a special and separate charge of the Company's affairs and interests in the dominions of the Nabob Asoph ul Dowlah, on certain conditions therein expressed, which have been since fulfilled; and whereas the Board have agreed on the invitation of the Nabob Vizier, and on a tender made by the Governor General of his services in the acceptance thereof, that the Governor General shall proceed to Lucknow, for the purpose of assisting the Nabob Vizier in the means of discharging his engagements to the Company, and the regulation of his government; it is hereby resolved, That the Governor General shall be and is invested with full power and authority to concert and adjust with the Nabob Vizier the means of discharging his engagements to the Company, of restoring and securing the peace, safety, and order of his government, and of promoting the improvement of his revenue, and to support the Nabob Vizier with the authority of this government, in as full and ample manner as we can empower him by any act of the Parliament of Great Britain, or by any of the orders of the Honourable the Court of Directors, and to take all such measures as he the Governor General shall think necessary for the accomplishment of these ends: And for these purposes it is hereby agreed and resolved, that the Governor General shall be and is invested with the full power and authority of this Government (so far as we can legally delegate the same) over all the officers, civil and military, stationed or residing within the dominions of the Nabob Asoph ul Dowlah, and the province of Benares; but restricted in the exercise thereof to the dominions of the Nabob Asoph ul Dowlah and the province of Benares aforesaid, and to the purposes above recited.

Given in Fort William, under the seal of the Honourable Company, and under the Hands of the Governor General and Council, this                      day of                      in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four.

A true Copy,

E. Hay,  
Secy.

14th February 1784.

The Governor General.

To obviate any misconstructions of the confidence with which I have long since mentioned my expectation, which is now arrived from the Nabob Vizier, I think it expedient to observe, that, independently of my intimate knowledge of the Nabob's general wish upon this subject, his particular desire of a visit from me at this time, and for the purposes of the actual occasion, has been repeatedly signified to me in many private letters from Lucknow, both from Major Palmer and others, long before I made the first tender of my services in accepting the invitation.

At the time that my letter, containing the notification of the resolution of the Board, passed on the 31st of December, arrived at Lucknow, the Nabob Vizier had quitted his capital, and was on an excursion of pleasure at a distance of an hundred and ten miles from it. By a paper of intelligence, delivered to me by his Vakeel Rajah Govindram, and in the possession of the secretary, I am informed, that such was his impatience to return, that he performed the journey in seven parrs, or 21 hours, in a palanquin, and arrived at Lucknow on the 2d instant without attendants.

For further proofs of the little ground which existed for the use of any indirect means to influence the Nabob in soliciting my presence and assistance, I refer the Board to the accompanying letters, which I received the day before yesterday from Major Palmer and Mr. Wombwell, neither intended most assuredly for public record, nor was it without hesitation that I was induced to insert that of Mr. Wombwell. I could not deny myself the advantage of so strong a testimony, both of the point in question, and of the utter want of foundation for the assertion so often repeated by Mr. Bristow, that the Nabob was himself indifferent to the transactions which formed the multiplied complaints against the Resident, and that the whole were the fabrication of his minister without the participation of his will or inclination.

(Signed) W. HASTINGS.

A true Copy.

E. Hay,  
Secy.



*Letters from Major Palmer and Mr. Wombwell to the Governor General.*

(Copy.)

My dear Sir,

Lucknow, 2d February 1784.

The Vizier arrived here yesterday, after travelling a considerable part of his journey by post. Mr. Wombwell and I paid our respects to him this morning. After perusing your letters, presented to him by that gentleman, he entered into discourse upon the different subjects of them, and gave the strongest and most unequivocal proof how deeply he was penetrated with a sense of your goodness, and the important benefits which you have obtained for him.—He earnestly wishes to see you, to make his grateful acknowledgments in person, to request your personal assistance in completing the generous work which you have begun, by establishing the mutual interests and reputation of both governments upon the most solid foundations. To-morrow he will tell you so himself; and if his writing is so expressive and as forcible as his speech and action, you will be convinced that there is no circumstance in life can give him greater happiness than to see you at his capital, and to prove his gratitude by an implicit and cheerful acquiescence in whatever measures you may recommend.

I am greatly concerned that the fine season for travelling will be nearly over before you can set out. The absence of the Vizier has caused an unlucky delay. I thought your visit a point of too much delicacy and importance to be settled whilst he was at a distance, as it would have been impossible for me to have known his real sentiments upon it; and I was determined to decline the invitation, if it should appear to be made only as a compliment.

I request, my dear Sir, that you will give me the information of your departure, that nothing may be wanting, either here or upon the road, for your accommodation. The Vizier has not yet intimated to Mr. Bristow his permission to depart, being desirous to avoid every appearance for his removal, and Mr. Bristow not having yet given in his accounts.

I am, with the greatest respect,

My dear Sir,

Your most devoted and affectionate

humble Servant

(Copy.)

(Signed W. PALMER.

Dear Sir,

The Nabob arrived last night; and this morning I had the honour of presenting your letters to him. Major Palmer will acquaint you with the expressions of his gratitude. You were his friend, the brother of his father.

They were not lost to me; for he acknowledged his obligations in tears.

Permit me to offer my congratulations to you on this happy event.

With the most sincere respect,

I am, dear Sir,

The 2d February 1784,

Your very faithful and obedient Servant,

Lucknow.

(Signed) J. WOMBWELL.

True Copies.

E. Hay,  
Secy.





*Consultation, 18th February 1784.*

Received February 17th 1784.

The Nabob Vizier to the Governor General.

Usual introduction.

Before this I was entirely guided by your pleasure, but now am more so than ever: What you desired regarding the securities for the Company's money has been done, and I have given the teeps of the merchants in addition to that security. My country and family, which are also yours, are ready in further pledge: Set then your mind perfectly at ease concerning the payment of the Company's demands, for my honour and reputation are bound with your own. I am with my heart and life ready to observe your wishes; therefore, whatever you shall judge advisable, let me know, that I may comply with it. I can have no excuse in my duty and submission to yourself.

Concludes as usual.

A true Copy of the Translation.

E. H A Y,

Secy.

---

The following request from the Governor General having been received and circulated yesterday, and agreed to, the letter which is enclosed after it is written to the Resident at Benares.

The Governor General acquaints the Board, that he may require part payment of the order on the treasury, for two lacks of rupees at Benares; he therefore requests that orders may be sent to Mr. Fowke, to furnish Major William Sands with such sums as he may demand on the Governor General's account, taking for the same his drafts in favour of the Governor General and Council on the sub-treasurer.

(Signed)

W. HASTINGS,  
EDWD WHEELER,  
JOHN STABLES.

---

To Mr. Francis Fowke, Resident at Benares.

Sir,

We hereby direct that you furnish Major William Sands with such sums of money as he may require from you at Benares, on account of the Honourable the Governor General, taking for the same his drafts on the sub-treasurer, in favour of the Honourable the Governor General and Council.

Fort William,  
Secret Department,  
18th February 1784.

We are, &c.

---

Read the following Letter and its Enclosures from the Commander in Chief.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. &c.

Gentlemen,

I beg leave to lay before you copy of a letter which I have received from Colonel Ironside, together with the papers therein referred to. I also lay before you a copy of my answer to him on the occasion: Should the Board be of opinion that more precise instructions than those I have conveyed to him, are necessary for the guidance of his conduct, they will of course furnish him with such additional orders as they may deem suitable.





With respect of the invasion of the Rohilkund now threatened by the Seiks, I presume Colonel Sir John Cummings, from whom I have yet received no advice on the subject, will take the necessary steps to repel, by ordering Colonel Knudson to advance with the detachment under his command from Bareilly, and reinforce him, if requisite, with troops sufficient to guard the gauts, a precaution which has usually been taken. Should they have collected so large a body as to make it expedient for Sir John to march with his whole force to oppose them, Colonel Ironside ought to be directed to march himself with his brigade, or to detach a part of it towards Furruckabad, to cover the country on that side.

By the statement of the troops in the service of Almas Ally Cawn, lately transmitted by the Resident to Colonel Morgan, and by the Colonel to me, it appeared that he had a force on foot in the Doab sufficient of itself to oppose any attempts of the Seiks, if his fidelity to the Nabob may be relied on at any rate. I think it cannot be apprehended that he will join them, or suffer them to ravage this country, of which he is collector.

Fort William,  
27th February 1784.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G<sup>r</sup> STIBBERT.

Cawnpore, 3d Feby. 1784.

To Major-General Stibbert, Commander in Chief.

Sir,

I herewith transmit, for your information, copy of a paper of advice from Major Browne, sent to me by the Resident at the Vizier's court: I received it yesterday, accompanied by his desire of my opinion on the measures I deemed it expedient to follow.

A copy of my answer to him goes also enclosed. You will please, I hope, more immediately to notice that part wherein it is observed, that no instructions had been received by me from Colonel Morgan; nor had any yet been issued for my conduct in case of hostilities from the neighbouring powers, either by the Governor General and Council, or by yourself. It is my earnest wish to be favoured with them, that I always may act, as is my duty as well as my inclination, in entire correspondence with the views and intentions of my superiors: Should I not, however, be favoured with them in time for the present conjuncture, I shall do my best to repel every invasion of the dominions of the Vizier, in conformity to his Excellency's requisitions to me, of which, and every other material event, no occasion shall be omitted by me to yield you the earliest intelligence.

A true Copy.  
Wm. Scott,  
Secretary to the Commander in Chief.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) G. IRONSIDE,  
Col.

COPY of a Letter from Major James Browne to Mr. John Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court; dated Delhi, the 25th January 1784.

I have the honour to enclose, for your perusal, the news-paper from the great camp of the Seiks now near Boonah Gaut, up to the 27th of Suffer. From this it appears that they still talk of crossing the Ganges, and have thought Suckertawl the fittest Gaut: I dare say our government and the Vizier's will be in a condition to repel them.

A true Transcript.  
(Signed) R. E. Roberts,  
Secy.

A true Copy.  
(Signed) J. NEAVE,  
Assistant to the Resident at the Vizier's Court.

A true Copy.  
Wm. Scott,  
Secretary to the Commander in Chief.





Cawnpore, 3d Feby. 1784.

To John Bristow, Esquire, Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Sir,

I have received your favour of the 31st of January, containing a transcript of intelligence from Major Browne of the 25th, and desiring my opinion on the measures expedient for me in consequence to pursue.

With no other given premises than a mere notice of the Sykes intention, it is not in nature for me to form a competent judgment on the subject: on so very material a one to offer an inconsiderable opinion, might probably be dangerous, certainly ineffectual. Before it is possible for any reason of mine to proceed to a single determination on the present case, it is requisite for me to be apprized of the following particulars:

First. In what degree of opposition or connection the Vizier stands with the Seikes.

Secondly. The power he possesses in aid of the English forces, to oppose them.

Thirdly. What force is now actually near the Ghat of Suckertawl, to guard that passage.

Fourthly. Whether the Vizier can rely on the affection and fidelity of his new Rohilcund subjects, on an enemy's invasion of that district

Fifthly. Whether, by the very last treaty struck with the Vizier (which I have never seen) there are any specific provinces guaranteed to him by our Government, beyond the frontier of which line the English troops cannot pass without an express order from the Governor General and Council.

Sixthly. In the event of taking the field, for what number of English troops the Vizier might make a requisition.

Seventhly. Whether the Vizier can supply a sufficient quantity of grain by water conveyance on the Ganges, for the consumption of a large army in Rohilcund or the Doab, for at least four months, which would be nearly the duration I presume of an ensuing campaign.

It is full as expedient also for you to be acquainted, that no instructions whatever regarding the conduct of the troops beyond the provinces were left with me by Colonel Morgan, nor have I yet received directions for my procedure in any one exigence from the Governor General and Council, or the Commander in Chief.

Provided, therefore, there be no instructions deposited with the Vizier, to be delivered to me on occasions similar to the present, I deem it indispensable for me to receive, if possible, the commands of the Honourable Board for my guidance, before any decisive operations are hazarded in a contingency of such eminent consideration.

If those, however, cannot be obtained in time, let me be but once truly ascertained of the particulars above recited, and honoured at the same time with his Excellency's written commands; I can then, instantly, as a soldier, decide what is to be done. In every case of this nature, I wish indeed to be considered in no other light.

I have not adverted to the magnitude of the Seiks army, because if it is uncommonly numerous, and the dearth in the western provinces severe as represented, it is scarcely possible they should long subsist where they are. much more attempting any enterprize in a region equally destitute.

I am, Sir, &amp;c. &amp;c.

A true Copy.

Wm. Scott,

Secretary to the Commander in Chief.

(Signed)

G. IRONSIDE,

Colonel.





To Colonel Ironside, commanding at Cawnpore.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 3d instant, enclosing a copy of a paper of intelligence sent to you by the Resident at the Vizier's court, as also a copy of your letter to Mr. Bristow, and acquainting me that no instructions had been left with you by Colonel Morgan, regarding the conduct of the troops beyond the provinces.

I believe no particular instructions were given by the Board to Colonel Morgan, at least none passed through me, further than in general terms, to comply with the requisitions which might be made to him from the Vizier, through the Resident, for troops for the protection of his country either against foreign or domestic enemies; and you of course are to observe the same line of conduct.

In case of invasion by a powerful enemy, or a general commotion in the country, to repel or suppress, to which the co-operation of all the forces in the Vizier's dominions might be requisite, you are, as senior officer, to take the command of the whole, in conformity to the instructions contained in a letter from the Honourable the Governor General and Council to Col. Morgan, a copy of which I enclose to you, as well as a copy of the letter to Col. Sir John Cummings, therein referred to.

The questions upon which you have required information from the Resident, will, I suppose, be answered by him; but that the Board may be apprized of your doubts upon certain particulars, I shall immediately submit to them your letter to me, and the papers that accompanied it.

Colonel Knudson, in a letter to me under date the 30th of January, acquainted me, that in consequence of intelligence he had received of a numerous body of Seiks being collected in the upper part of the Doab, with an intention, it was imagined, of entering into the Rohilkund between Nagul and Daranagur, he had applied to Colonel Sir John Cummings, for permission to advance to the banks of the Ganges, which I suppose Sir John Cummings will immediately direct him to do, and support him with more forces to repel these invaders, should it be necessary. — Besides the troops which the Nabob may have already in that province, it will be proper that he detach for its particular protection as large a body of horse as he can spare, which it would be proper you should intimate to the Resident.

Fort William,

12th June, 1784.

I am, Sir,

Your very humble servant,

(Signed) G. STIBBERT.

A true Copy.

Wm. Scott,

Secretary.

The Secretary begs leave to acquaint the Board, that the Governor General, on reading the foregoing papers yesterday, desired it might be mentioned to the other members of the Board, that he approved of the instructions sent by the Commander in Chief to Colonel Ironside on the 10th instant; and is moreover of opinion, with the Commander in Chief, that if the Seiks should have collected to large a body as to make it expedient for Sir John Cummings to march with his whole force to oppose them, Colonel Ironside should be directed to march himself with his brigade, or to detach a part of it towards Furruckabad, to cover the country on that side.

The Board agree in opinion with the Governor General, and resolve, That the following Letters be written to the Commander in Chief, and Colonel Ironside.

Major General Giles Stibbert, Commander in Chief, &c.

Sir,

We have been honoured by the receipt of your letter, dated yesterday. We approve much of your instructions to Colonel Ironside; and agreeing with you in opinion, that if the Seiks should have.





have collected so large a body as should make it expedient for Sir John Cummings to march with his whole force to oppose them, Colonel Ironside ought to be directed to march with his brigade, or detach a part of it, towards Furruckabad, to cover the country on that side, we have sent orders to Colonel Ironside to this effect; a copy of our letter to the Colonel is enclosed.

Fort William,  
Secret Department,  
18th Feb. 1784.

We are, &c.

---

Colonel Gilbert Ironside, commanding at Cawnpore.

Sir,

The Commander in Chief having lately laid before us a copy of a letter which he had received from you, under date the 3d instant, and of the papers therein referred to, as well as a copy of his instructions to you on the 16th instant, we think it right to express our entire approbation of the latter, and moreover to direct, that if the Seiks should have collected so large a body as should make it expedient for Sir John Cummings to march with his whole force to oppose them, you do yourself march with your brigade, or detach such part of it as you may think proper, towards Furruckabad, to cover the country on that side.

We are yet without advices from Sir John Cummings, with respect to the measures which he intended to pursue on the expected entrance of the Seiks into Rohilcund, but it is to be presumed that he has taken the necessary steps for repelling them, by ordering Colonel Knudson to advance with the detachment under his command from Bareilly, and that he will reinforce him, if requisite, with troops sufficient to guard the Gauts.

Fort William,  
Secret Department,  
18th Feb. 1784.

We are, &c.

---

Read again the letter from Mr. Bristow, dated the 4th October, and entered on the proceedings of the last meeting.

The Board deeming the subject of this letter, and the papers accompanying it, of material importance,

Agreed to transmit copies of them to the Governor General, and to recommend them to his serious consideration.

The following is accordingly written to the Governor General.

Honourable Sir,

Having taken in consideration Mr. Bristow's letter to this Government of the 4th of October, which has been lately before us, and deeming it of material importance, we have the honour to transmit to you a copy of it, and of the papers enclosed in it, and beg leave to recommend the subjects of them, in regard to Almas Ally Cawn, to your particular attention and investigation, on your arrival in the dominions of his Excellency the Vizier.

Fort William,  
Secret Department,  
18th Feb. 1784.

We have, &c.





Read the following letters from Mr. Wombwell, Accomptant at Lucknow.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have the honour to transmit you copies of a letter from Mr. Bristow, and of the papers enclosed with it.

I have the honour, &c.

Lucknow,  
9th Feb. 1784.

(Signed) J. WOMBWELL,  
Accomptant.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose a general engagement from the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn to his Highness the Nabob Vizier, for Benares rupees 15 00,000.

Engagements payable in the Rubby of the year 1191, and the Kurreef 1192, for 5,00,000, being the balance remaining due on the general engagements for Benares rupees 15,00,000.

Lucknow,  
23th Feb. 1784.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW.

COPY of a Teep under the Seal of Fyzoola Cawn; dated the 16th of Rubbee ul Awul 1197 Hegeira.

The sum of fifteen lacks of rupees Sicca Rayje Kuttar, on account of the present of gratitude for the perpetual remission of the body of troops which is engaged in the treaty of the deceased Nawub Sujah ul Dowlah, and the Nawaub Vizier ul Mamaalek Afoph ud Dowlah, Afoph Jah Behadre, which agreeably to the consent of the Nawaub Ameer ul Mamaalek Amud ul Dowlah, Governor General, through the Nawaub Atefaud ud Dowlah, Mr. William Palmer, Behadre, has been agreed to, shall be paid conformably to the Paper of Kitts, and the former sum also, which on account of the remission of Tooffee, on the collections of the Jagheer Mahals, and the guarantee of the Honourable English Company, through Mr. Daniel Barwell, Bahadre, was paid to Roop Loll, Gomastah of Fackeer Chun Sahoo, inhabitant of Lucknow, in Rayje Kutteer, and Bareilly Sicca. If at any time any deficiency in the Sicca of that former sum should be proved, upon such proof the deficiency of batta shall be made up at the same rate. Written on the above date.

COPY of a Teep under the Seal of the Nawaub Fyzoola Cawn; dated the 16th Rubbee ul Awul 1197 Hegeira.

The sum of two lacks of rupees, of which the half is one lack of rupees, Sicca Rayje Kutteer, out of the balance of the present of gratitude on account of the perpetual remission of the stationing a body of troops at the time of war and hostilities, which is engaged in the treaty of the deceased Nawaub Sujah ul Dowlah, and the Nawaub Vizier ul Mamaalek, Afoph ul Dowlah, Afoph Tat Bahadre, for the Sircar of the said Nawaub, shall be paid at Rampoor in specie, in the collections of the Fuffil Rubbee 1191 Fuffullee, at the end of the month Jeit, and this teep redeemed. Written on the above date.

COPY of a Teep under the Seal of the Nawaub Fyzoola Cawn; dated the 16th Rubbee ul Awul 1197 Hegeira.

The sum of three lacks of rupees, of which the half is one lack and fifty thousand, on account of the balance of the present of gratitude for the perpetual remission of the stationing a body of troops at the time of war and hostilities, which is engaged in the treaty of the deceased Nawaub Sujah ul Dowlah, and the Nawaub Vizier ul Mamaalek Afoph ul Dowlah Afoph Jar, for the Sircar of the said Nawaub, shall be paid at Rampoor in specie, from the collections of the Fuffil Kurreef 1192 Fuffullee, at the end of the month of Cautic, and this teep redeemed.—Written on the above date.





The secretary lays before the board the following letter, and its enclosures, from Mr. Wombwell, Accountant at Lucknow.

To Edward Hay, Esquire, Secretary.

Sir,

I beg you will do me the honour to lay before the board the copy of a letter I received this morning from Mr. Bristow, and a list of the papers that were delivered to me at the same time by his order. I have now transmitted to the Honourable the Governor General and Council the whole of our correspondence, and the copies, &c. of all the papers Mr. Bristow has thought proper to deliver me.

I have the honour, &c.

Lucknow,  
9th Feby. 1784.

(Signed) J. WOMBWELL,  
Accountant.

Sir,

I am to notify to you, that I have withdrawn the Residency, and agreeable to the orders of the Governor General and Council, commanding me to deliver over the accounts and necessary papers, I now must refer you to the records of your office, and the information I have already communicated to you.

I have the honour, &c.

Lucknow,  
8th Feby. 1784.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,  
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

LIST of Papers delivered to Mr. Wombwell, by John Bristow, Esquire.

English and Persian Accounts, the counterparts of which are lodged in the Huzzoory Duffer for 1183, 1184, and 1185.  
Treasury Vouchers for 1186.  
2d and 3d Brigade Vouchers for 1776 and 1777.  
Captain Bruce's Abstract Accounts Current Disbursements to his Troop for 1775, 1776, and 1777.  
Receipts of the Three Battalions and the Vizier's Body Guard, New Brigade, and Cavalry Brigade Receipts.  
Light Infantry Pay, Abstract Pay Bills, and Contingent Bills, from June to December 1778.  
Letters, Receipts, &c. of the Paymaster to the Detachment beyond the Jumna, 1188 and 1189.  
Letters, Receipts, &c. of the Paymaster 2d Brigade 1187, 1188, 1189.  
Do. Do. of the Cavalry Paymaster, 1188, and 1189  
Do. Do. of the Paymaster Futtighur, 1188 and 1189.  
Do. Do. of the Paymaster General 1188.  
Returns of the Vizier's Arsenal.

AGREED, That a copy of the foregoing letter be transmitted to the Governor General.

Ordered, That the secretary do acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Bristow's letter, and acquaint him, that the Board, observing by the list of papers delivered over by him to Mr. Wombwell, that his public correspondence does not make a part of them, it is their pleasure that he transmit the same to Mr. Wombwell, that it may be lodged in Mr. Wombwell's office.

Read the following letter, and its enclosures, from Accountant General.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have now the honour to lay before you an estimate of the balance due from his Excellency the Nabob Afoph ul Dowlah to the Honourable Company, on the 31st December 1783, and a  
113  
continuation





continuation of the same to the 1st February 1784, taken from the accounts of the late Resident at his court, for the month of January 1784, which were received subsequent to the formation of that estimate.

2. The Honourable Board will observe, that the balance due from the Nabob, as stated by this estimate, exceeds the amount at which it is stated by the account current of the Nabob, formed by the late Resident at his court, by the sum of current rupees 12,02,120. 9. 4. and will find every article of difference between the accounts of the Presidency and those of the Lucknow station exhibited in the estimate. To these however it may be necessary for me to advert more fully than was practicable in the formation of that estimate, to enable the Honourable Board to determine how far the articles of difference which it exhibits, should be either charged by the Accountant to that station to the Nabob's debit, in the account current of the next month, or be wrote off from those of the Presidency.

3. The amount of the first article, current rupees 1,83,020. 14. 9. must, I conceive, be carried to the Nabob's debit, as it arises from the Resident's having mistakingly carried to his credit current rupees 2,23,205. 3. 4. which he received back of the advances which he had made on account of the pay of the troops stationed for the defence of the Nabob's dominions situated beyond the line of guaranty; which differing very materially from the actual expence of those troops, the Resident should never have attempted to regulate the Nabob's accounts with the Company on this account, by what was advanced by him to the paymasters, but by the actual expence thereof, ascertained to him by the officers of the Presidency.

4. The second article of current rupees 2,94,015. 6. 1, being the difference between the actual expence of Abdul Ehemman's Cawn's Riffallah 1781-2 and its estimated expence of 1782-3 to the end of which they were paid up by Colonel Morgan, previous to their being permitted to return from Surat to Lucknow, and the amount of sundry payments made by the Resident, on account of this Riffallah, which he has not charged to the Nabob's debit; and the amount of those sums with which he has charged the Nabob on this account, must, I conceive, be carried to the Nabob's debit in the accounts of the Lucknow station, as being so much which they include less than what ought to have been included in them for this expence. I must however observe, that as the estimated expence of 1782-3 has been substituted in lieu of the actual expence, an adjustment may hereafter be necessary, to bring to account the difference. Why the Resident should make advances on this account, which he did not charge to the Nabob's debit, is a matter for which I cannot account.

5. The third article, of current rupees 76,792. 5. 8, which is the difference between what the Company have been charged on the account of the stipend of the Nabob Saadut Ally and the amount which the Resident has ultimately permitted to remain at the Nabob's debit on this account, must, I should conceive, be brought to account in the accounts of the Lucknow station, as so much which the Resident has included therein less than what they ought to have been charged with.

6. The fourth article, of current rupees 6,960 being the amount of two advances made by the Honourable the Governor General to his Vackeel Rajah Govindram, will no doubt be readily admitted as an omission which has escaped the observation of the Resident, and as such brought to account in the accounts of the station.

7. How far the Honourable Board may be inclined to think it worth while to direct the amount of the 5th article, being current rupees 134. 15. 4, now to be charged to the Nabob's debit, in the accounts of the Lucknow station, is a matter which I have but to point out to their notice.

8. Had the Honourable Board's orders, of the 14th April 1783, been officially communicated to the Resident, I should conceive that the amount of the sixth article, being current rupees 1,09,077. 13. 1, would not at this time have been an article of difference between the accounts of the Lucknow station and those of the Presidency; but as the former have not yet been made to contain this article, it should now have place in them. I must however remark to the Honourable Board, that the Company's bonds, which were granted to Mr. Frazer, in discharge of the Vizier's bonds to him, bear an interest of 8 per cent. from the 22d March 1783; that in case the Board should think that, as the Honourable Company are paying at the rate of interest on a part of the Nabob's debt to them, the Nabob should be charged with the same, the Accountant of the Lucknow station may be apprized of their determination thereon, and act in conformity to it.





9. On the 24th July 1733, the Honourable Board was pleased to resolve, "that the Vizier's account should be debited for the actual loss proceeding from the deficiency between the amount received and the sum credited the Nabob, at the standard batta fixed by the table of assay." This order passed upon two accounts submitted to them by the Acting Accountant General, who exhibited in them the difference between the produce of fundry remittances made from Lucknow by the Residents, in bills of exchange drawn upon bankers in Calcutta, and what would have been produced, had the same sum of Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca rupees, as was charged in the accounts, been remitted in specie to Calcutta, and re-coined in the mint; but as it should seem that some part of this difference must have arisen from the Hoondian which the Shroffs charged for the remittance, which is a circumstance that seems to have escaped the attention of the Board, I think it incumbent upon me to offer this suggestion, which may possibly induce the Honourable Boards in their ultimate determination upon this matter, to require a different entry to be made of it than what the present orders admit of.

10. It appears from accompanying copy of an extract of general orders by Colonel Charles Morgan, dated 13th December 1784, that the horses which formerly belonged to the 1st regiment of cavalry, and which were the property of the Nabob Vizier, have been partly sold, and partly delivered to Abdul Rehman Cawn, who commanded the Candahar cavalry in the pay of the Nabob, which were on service with the Bombay detachment; but as the latest account of any yet received from the paymaster of that detachment is that for the month of February 1783, in none of which is any sum acknowledged by the paymaster as received on this account, I am unable to state what further credit should be given to his Excellency on this head, as the inability of ascertaining the number of horses which were with that regiment on the 3d December 1781, when the Nabob's cavalry were taken into the Honourable Company's service, prevented me from giving him the credit that was ordered to be given him by the Honourable Board on the 24th of June 1782, for the horses with this regiment, at the same time that I gave him credit for those that belonged to the other two regiments. There is, however, a sum of current rupees, 9,750. 15. 4, which is the amount of the 8th article of difference stated in the accompanying account, which arises from the Resident's not having given the Nabob that credit which the Military Paymaster General gave, for the amount at which the horses of those regiments were valued, and the stoppages that had been made from the pay of the whole on the Nabob's accounts, which was the fund from which his Excellency was to be reimbursed their original cost; this sum, I should conceive, ought to be carried to the Nabob's credit in the accounts of the Lucknow station.

11. I also beg leave to suggest to the Honourable Board the expediency of their determining upon the addition which should be made to the present subsidy for the two rissalahs of cavalry, one of which is to be stationed with the troops at Cawnpore, and the other with those at Futty Ghur, as the former mode of charging the exact expence of any particular corps, which can seldom be ascertained to the present time, occasions the necessity of subsequent correcting entries, which may not always be clearly comprehended by the Nabob, and may occasion a dissatisfaction, that would not occur in the payment of a definite sum.

12. The Honourable Board having on 5th January resolved that they would exert their influence with the Nabob Vizier for the payment of his bond to Mr. Frazer, for Sicca rupees 1,23,000, bearing an interest of 12 per cent. from 1st Shaborn. or 15th July 1782, and that the same be included in the estimate for the current year, I could wish to know, whether it is their intention that this sum should be carried to the Nabob's debit in his account current with the Honourable Company, and that Mr. Frazer should receive credit for that proportion of the amount which may be realized of the whole amount of the estimate, which this article bears to the whole.

13. On a suggestion of the circumstance adverted to, as explanatory of the 9th article to the Accountant of the Lucknow station, the necessity of the trifling correction which it will require, must immediately strike him.

14. When I am made acquainted with the Honourable Board's determination upon these points, I shall without delay prepare such instructions as the Accountant at Lucknow will require for the execution of their orders thereon.

Fort William,  
24th February 1784.  
VOL. IV.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed)

W. LARKINS,  
Accountant General.

G g

ESTIMATE





ESTIMATE of the Balance due from his Excellency the Nabob Afoph ul Dowlah to the Honourable Company, on the 31st December, 1783.

Balance due from his Excellency on 31st December 1783, as stated by the account current transmitted by the Resident at his Court	- - - Oude Sa R.	53,92,748 10 10	
Batta 11 per cent.	- - -	5,93,202 5 8	
			59,85,951 0 6
Add the following differences, which appear between the account of the Resident and those of the Presidency, which have rendered that balance less than it would have been stated at by the former, had they not existed.			
The actual expence of the troops employed for the defence of that part of his Excellency's dominions situated beyond the line of guaranty, from 30th April 1781 to their being withdrawn, amounted, as per the accounts thereof formed by the Military Paymaster General, to			
	- - -	32,16,446 12 10	
And the amount of Military and Ordnance stores, expended by those troops in that period, was stated by the Accountant to the Board of Ordnance, at			
	- - -	1,32,081 5 7	
		33,48,528 2 5	
The Resident has debited the Nabob on the above account, as follows.			
Amount of fundry advances made by him to the Paymasters of those troops, which he carried to his Excellency's Debit in 1781-2			
	16,26,498 4 6		
In 1782-3, when he brought to account the difference subsisting between his accounts & general books, on 1st September 1782			
	14,48,515 3 10		
	30,75,013 8 4		
Deduct			
The credit which he has given to his Excellency, for sums which he received back from the Paymasters in April 1782			
	10,439 10 1		
July			
	2,12,765 9 3		
	2,23,605 3 4		
Sum actually charged by the Resident to the Nabob's			
Debit on this account	28,51,808 5 0		
Batta 11 per cent.	3,13,698 14 8		
	31,65,507 3 8		
		1,83,020 14 0	





Brought forward — — 59,85,951 0 6

The actual expence of Abdul Reham Cawn's Riffallah, between the 30th April 1781 and 1st May 1782, appears by the account thereof, formed by the Military Paymaster General, to have amounted to — — 3,56,413 4 1

And the Nabob's proportion of the loss by exchange on the whole expence of that corps, to 1st May 1782, is stated by the Military Paymaster General at — — 1,30,146 9 8

The estimated expence of that corps from 30th April 1782 to 1st May 1783, to which time they were paid up by Colonel Morgan, is as follows.

Pay at CRs 26,283. 13. 7, for 10 months	3,15,406 3 0
Estimated loss by exchange on ditto	30,702 10 2
	<u>3,46,108 13 2</u>

The Resident has debited the Nabob on the above account as follows:

In 1781-2 — — 3,30,000 0 0

In 1782-3, when he brought to account the difference subsisting between his accounts and the general book, on 1st September

1782 — — 10,273 3 11

In 1783-4 — — 3,00,000 0 0

O. S. R. — — 6,40,273 3 11

Batta 11 per cent. — — 70,430 0 11

7,10,703 4 10

To which must be added the amount of sundry payments made by the Resident, on account of this Riffallah, which he has not charged to the Nabob's debit

O. S. R. — — 1,55,000 0 0

Batta 11 per cent. — — 17,050 0 0

1,72,050 0 0  
2,94,015 6 1

Brought





Brought forward

59,85,951 0 6

The payments made on account of the Stipend of the Nabob Saudit Ally have been as follows:

In 1781-2 - - 2,85,035 11 10  
 1782-3 - - 2,85,035 10 0  
 1783-4 to 1st Jan. 1784 1,66,270 12 6

7,36,342 2 4

The resident debited the Nabob on this account, as follows.

In September 1781 - 3,00,000 0 0  
 In August 1782 - 3,00,000 0 0  
 In September 1783 - 3,00,000 0 0

9,00,000

From which sum must be deducted the credit given to his Excellency by the resident on this account, on bringing to account the difference subsisting between his account and the general books on 1st Sept-

1782 22,068 14 5  
 Do - Do 2,07,356 5 5

2,29,425 3 10

6,70,574 12 2

65,767 6 2

To which must be added the difference between what was charged to his Excellency's debit for the payment made by the resident at Benaris, on account of the stipend of the Nabob Myrza Saudit Ally in the year 1779-80 and 1780-81, which were made in Benaris Standard Gourshahy rupees, computed at 8. 3. 14—2. 2. 8. per cent. above current, but which being equal to Sonauts, or 11 per cent above current, are of equal value in account with Owde Sicca rupees; and as the resident, in bringing to account the difference which subsisted on 1st September 1782, between the accounts of the presidency and those of his office, adjusted the Nabob's account in conformity to the rate of Batta, he will have now to charge this difference to the Nabob's debit.

In 1779-80 the Resident at Benaris paid in this Acct -	Rs	Compured Value in Sicca	Actual Values in CR
In 1780-81 -	1,25,000 0 0	1,35,291 9 8	1,38,750 0
	2,73,485 4 10	2,96,002 1 10	3,05,568 11

11,024 15 6

76,792 5 8

The resident has omitted to charge his Excellency for the amount paid on his account to Rajah Govindram by the Honourable the Governor General in

1781-2 - - - - 3,480 0 0

1783-4, to 1 January 1784, for the Shaugord Peshwah of

1190 - - 118 - - 3,480 0 0

6,960 0 0





Brought forward

59,85,951 — 6

The Resident has not debited the Nabob for the loss which arose on an advance made to Lieut. Polhill by the Honourable the Governor General, who charged for the same - - - 15,113 4 9  
but who received back from Mr. Wombwell  
on this account no more than - - - 14,978 5 5

134 15 4

The Resident has not yet debited the Nabob for the amount of his Excellency's debt to Mr. James Frazer, which was ordered by the Honourable Board, on 14 April 1783, to be liquidated by the Company's Bond, being Lucknow Sicca rupees 1,89,305. 15, or Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca rupees - - - 1,79,304 5 3  
Batta 11 per cent - - - 19,723 7 8

1,99,027, 13 1

The Resident has not yet debited the Nabob for the difference between the produce of the remittance made by him in bills of exchange, and that which would have been produced from an equal number of the Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca rupees received in the Mint at Calcutta, which, agreeable to the Honourable Board's orders of 24th July 1783, was to be carried to his Excellency's debit.

The Resident has charged for remittance by bills as follows:

In February 1782	-	-	18,94,331	12	9
May	-	-	9,47,165	14	5
September	-	-	27,63,342	7	3
November	-	-	6,15,657	13	5
June 1783	-	-	16,48,068	10	6
July	-	-	2,19,742	7	10

Oude Sicca	-	80,88,309	2	2
------------	---	-----------	---	---

Which, as 100 Oude Sicca rupees would, by the report of the Assay and Mint masters, have produced in the Calcutta Mint

Deel.

Calcutta rupees 94,112,

or Ca Siccas - - 76,12,069 7 11

Batta 16 per Ct 12,17,931 1 11

88,30,000 9 10

But which have produced no more than 83,78,081 3 2

4,51,919 6 8

12,11,870 13 7

Deduct.

The Military Paymaster General has given in credit for the amount received on the following account, as follows:

For horse stoppage made on account of the Vizier in 1781 - - - 1,08,875 7 4

For 903 horses, the number alive, and mustered with the 2d and 3d regiment of Cavalry, on 3 Decr 1781, to the day on which the Honourable Board agreed to take them of the Vizier, at 8 rupees 250 each, Sonaut rupees 2,25,750, or 2,50,582 — —

3,59,457 7 4

The Resident, when he brought to account the difference subsisting between his accounts and the general books, on 1st Sept 1782, only credited the Nabob for this,

O. Sicca rupees - - - 3,15,050 14 5

Batta, 11 per cent. - - - 34,655 9 7

3,49,706 8 —

9,750 15 4

71,88,070 14 9





Brought forward

71,88,070 14 9

Add.

The Resident, in bringing to account the remainder of the difference which sub-  
sisted on 1st Sept. 1782, between the account of the Presidency and those of  
his office, by stating the amount of that part which had been carried to the  
Nabob's debit, in the account current for the first part of Sept. 1782, at  
24,62,631. 15. 8. whereas the sum which was then actually charged to the  
Nabob's debit was 24,62,631. 5. 8, entered the same as much less than it  
ought to have been, as the other was stated at more than it was, which pro-  
duces a difference of

Batta, 11 per Cent.

Current Rs. 71,88,071 9 10

N. B. This Estimate will not be found to correspond with the accounts furnished from this  
office on the 1st October 1782, and 3d July 1783, these accounts having been formed from docu-  
ments which were afterwards rectified by the officers from whom they were received, agreeable to  
which rectification the general books of 1781-2 were adjusted, and in conformity to which adjust-  
ment this estimate has been drawn out.

Errors excepted.

Fort William,  
Accountant General's Office,  
the 24th February 1784.

(Signed)

W. LARKINS,  
Acc<sup>t</sup> General.

CONTINUATION of the ESTIMATE of the Balance due from his Excellency the  
Nabob Asoph ul Dowlah to the Honourable Company, from the 31st December 1783 to the  
1st February 1784.

Balance due from his Excellency on the 31st January, 1784,  
as stated by the account current transmitted by the Re-  
sident at his Court — — O. S. Rs.

Batta 10 per cent.

54,02,165 13 11  
5,94,238 3 11

59,96,404 1 10

Add.

The account of sundry differences enumerated, explained in  
the estimate of his Excellency's debt to the Honourable  
Company on the 31st December 1783 — —

12,02,120 9 4

71,98,524 11 2

Add.

The Resident has not debited the Nabob for the payment  
which in January 1784 he charges for as made to Abdul  
Rehman Cawn on account of his Ruffullah — —

Batta 11 per cent.

40,000 0 0  
4,400 0 0

44,400 0 0

Add.

The Resident has not debited the Nabob for the stipend of  
the Nabob Saadit Ally for November and December 1783 — —

Batta 11 per cent.

B. S. Rs.  
47,505 15 0  
5,225 10 5

52,731 9 5

Current Rupees 72,93,656 4 7

Errors excepted.

(Signed)

Fort William,  
Accountant General's Office,  
the 24th February 1784.

W. LARKINS,  
Acc<sup>t</sup> General.

General





## General Orders by Colonel Charles Morgan.

Head Quarters, Camp near Surat, 13th Dec. 1782.

Upon the reduction of the regiment taking place, Lieutenants Welsh and Ramsay are permitted to draught the number of horses necessary for forming their respective ruffallahs, for which they will be held responsible to the Honourable Company in the average purchase sum of 300 rupees for each horse, until the approbation of the Honourable the Supreme Council shall be obtained.

The Candahar Chief, Abdul Rehman Cawn, is permitted to draught such horses he may require for the service of the corps under his command after the ruffallahs are completed, at the rates allowed by the Nabob Vizier, of 250 rupees for each horse; the remaining horses of the 1st regiment of cavalry are ordered to be sold at public auction in the Cavalry Lines on the 20th instant, on account of the Honourable Company.

Attested to be a true copy of the Original.

Fort William,  
Accountant General's Office,  
24th Feb. 1784.

(Signed) Wm. LARKINS,  
Acct General.

The Accountant General being in attendance, is called in.

Ordered, That the amount of CRs 1,83,020. 14. 9. being the difference between the sum for which the late Resident has debited the Nabob Vizier, on account of the pay of the troops stationed for the defence of his Excellency's dominions, situated beyond the Line of Guarantee, and the actual expence of those troops, be carried to the Nabob's debit in the accounts of the Lucknow station.

Ordered, That the sum of CRs 2,94,015. 6. 1, being the difference between the actual expence of Abdul Retunan Cawn's rissalah in 1781-2, and its estimated expence for 1782-3, to the end of which it was paid up by Colonel Morgan, previous to its being permitted to return from Surat to Lucknow, and the amount of fundry payments made by the late Resident, on account of this Rissalah, which he has not charged to the Nabob's debits; and the amount of those sums with which he has charged the Nabob on this account, be carried to the debit of the Nabob Vizier.

Ordered, That the sum of CRs 76,792. 5. 6, which is the difference between what the Company have been charged on account of the stipend of the Nabob Saudit Ally, and the amount which the late Resident has ultimately permitted to remain at the Nabob's debit on this account, be carried to the debit of the Nabob Vizier.

Ordered, That the sum of CRs 6,960, being the amount of two advances made by the Honourable the Governor General to the Nabob's vakeel Rajah Gourdrum, be carried to the Nabob's debit.

Ordered, That the sum of CRs 134. 15. 4, being the difference between the sum debited to the Nabob for the loss which arose on an advance made to Lieutenant Polhill by the Honourable the Governor General, and that paid back by Mr. Wombwell, on this account, be carried to the debit of the Vizier.

Ordered, That the sum of CRs 1,99,027. 13. 1, being the amount of the Vizier's debt to Mr. Frazer, which was ordered, on the 14th April last, to be liquidated by Company's bonds, be carried to the Vizier's debit as before, together with the interest due on it to the present time.

The Nabob having made his payments to the Resident, valuing the different species of rupees, agreeable to the table of assay fixed upon between this Government and his Excellency, the Board are of opinion, that his Excellency ought not to be charged with any loss that may have occurred in the remittance, and the re-coinage of it; and resolve accordingly.

Resolved,





Resolved, That the sum of CRs 9,750. 15. 4, be carried to the Nabob's credit, by the Accountant at Lucknow, and that he do insert a memorandum on the creditor's side of the Nabob's account current, to denote that when it can be ascertained what sum has been received for the sale of the horses lately belonging to the first regiment of cavalry, his Excellency will have credit given him for the sale; and that he do in like manner insert a memorandum on the debtor's side of the Nabob's account, of the sum that will be to be charged to it for the amount that will be due on his Excellency's bond to Mr. Frazer, for the principal sum of Rs 1,23,000, at the time when his Excellency assents to the payment of that bond.

Resolved also, That such a proportion of the sums monthly received on account of the assignments taken for the amount of the claims on his Excellency the Vizier, as the amount of Mr. Frazer's demand on the Nabob bears to the whole of those claims, be monthly carried to Mr. Frazer's credit, first by the Accountant to the Lucknow station, and afterwards by the Accountant General, when he enters up the account of that station in the Company's books; and that the sum so credited be endorsed off, as received, from the back of the Vizier's bond to Mr. Frazer.

The Board leave it to the Governor General to determine and settle with the Nabob Vizier what addition shall be made to the subsidy now payable by his Excellency for the two rissullahs of cavalry, which are to be stationed at Cawnpore and Fatty Ghur.

Ordered, That the trifling sum of eleven annas one pice, which is the last article in the Accountant General's estimate, be inserted in the accounts of Lucknow, by the Accountant at that station.

It appearing, that the two articles of difference exhibited in the continuation of the Accountant General's estimate, viz. the sum of CRs 44,400, not debited to the Nabob by the late Resident, for the payment which in January 1784 he charged as made to Abdul Rehman Cawn, on account of his rissullah, and the sum of CRs 52,731.9.5, for which the Resident has not debited the Nabob on account of the stipend of the Nabob Saudit Ally, for November and December 1783, are owing to omissions of the Resident: Ordered, That they be carried to the Nabob's debit accordingly.

Ordered, That the Secretary do transmit to the Accountant General a copy of the foregoing Resolutions; and that the Accountant General do prepare therefrom a complete account of the balance due from the Vizier to the Company.

Ordered also, That the Accountant General do prepare and lay before the Board such instructions as the Accountant at Lucknow will require in consequence, and such instructions as he would recommend for Mr. Wombwell's observance, in the further execution of his office at that station.

Resolved, That the sum of Lucknow 16 Sun Sicca rupees 10,50,000, which is included in the last estimate of claims upon his Excellency the Vizier, to the end of the Fushullee year 1191, for the army donation, be charged in the account current of the next month to the Nabob's debit as before; and that such a proportion of the sums monthly received on account of the assignments taken for the amount of these claims, as its amount bears to the whole of that estimate, be monthly carried to the credit of the claimants, for the late Nabob Vizier's donation to the army employed in the Rohilla campaign; and that the Accountant General do make the entries that will be required in the Honourable Company's general books in consequence of this resolution of the Board, which is formed in obedience to the orders of the Honourable Court of Directors of the 11th April 1781.

Ordered, That this Resolution be communicated to the Accountant General, and to the Accountant at Lucknow.

---

#### EXTRACT of the Secret Letter from Bengal, dated 28th February 1784.

Par. 17. We have the honour to acquaint you that the Honourable the Governor General left the Presidency on the 17th instant to proceed to Lucknow.

18. We beg leave to refer you to our proceedings\*, for the perusal of a letter which we have received from the Accountant General, accompanying an extract of the balance due from the Vizier to the Company to the end of January last, and followed by our resolutions on the diffe-

\* Consultation 24th February.





rences which he has stated to exist between that estimate and the one formed by your late Resident at Lucknow. The Accountant General has been directed to form a complete account of the balance from our resolutions on his statement; and this will be communicated to you without delay, as soon as we receive it.

20. We beg leave to acquaint you that Mr. Bristow delivered over the papers of his office to Mr. Wombwell on the 8th instant, and that the Residency at Lucknow was withdrawn on that day.

*EXTRACT of Bengal Secret Consultations, 9th March, 1784.*

**READ** the following Letter from the Honourable the Governor General.

To Edward Wheeler and John Stables, Esquires, &c. &c. &c.

Gentlemen,

I have been honoured with your letter of the 18th instant, enclosing Mr. Bristow's letter of the 4th of October, relative to Almas Ally Cawn, recommending the subject of it to my particular investigation, on my arrival in his Excellency the Vizier's dominions; to which I shall pay all possible attention: in the mean time I have the satisfaction to acquaint you, that on the receipt of a letter from me, Almas Ally Cawn immediately repaired to Lucknow, where he quietly demeaned himself, which I consider as a presumptive refutation of all that has been laid to his charge.

Boglepore,  
28th February 1784.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your very obedient and faithful humble servant,

(Signed) **WARREN HASTINGS.**

The Secretary lays before the Board the following Letter from the Accountant at Lucknow.

Sir,

I have the honour of your letter, enclosing an extract of the Honourable Board's proceedings on the 5th of last month, relating to a bond of the Nabob Vizier to Mr. Frazer.

Lucknow,  
19th Feb. 1784.

I have, &c.

**J. WOMBWELL.**

Ed<sup>d</sup>. Hay, Esq. Secretary.

Read the following letter, and its enclosures, from the Accountant General.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

In obedience to your orders of the 24th ultimo, I have now the honour to lay before you such instructions as the Accountant at Lucknow will require in consequence of the Honourable Board's resolutions on my letter of that date, and those which I would beg leave to recommend for his observance, in the further execution of his office at that station. These are accompanied by a statement of the sums which the Accountant at Lucknow should carry to the debit and credit of his Excellency the Vizier, in his account current with the Honourable Company, for the month of February 1784, exclusive of those which were usually monthly included in the accounts current transmitted by the late Resident at the Vizier's Court.

I am concerned to be under the necessity of pointing out to the Honourable Board an omission that intruded itself into the estimate of the Nabob's debt to the Honourable Company on 31st December 1783; in the fourth article of which the batta of 11 per cent. on Benaris Sicca rupees 65,767. 6. 2, being current rupees 7,234. 6. 7, being omitted, that article was stated at current rupees 76,792. 5. 8. instead of current rupees 84,026. 12. 3, and the amount of the Nabob's debt at that period at 71,88,071. 9. 10; but which would, but for that error (as it should) have been stated at current rupees 71,95,306. 0. 5; I have, however, corrected this mistake in the accompanying statement, so that the Accountant at Lucknow will not have any occasion to notice it.

VOL. IV.

li

I would





I would recommend to the Honourable Board to make an application to Colonel Charles Morgan for account of the sales of the horses which belonged to the 1st regiment of cavalry, which he appears to have disbanded in December 1782, and for the return of the whole, exhibiting the casualties that took place from the time of their leaving Fatty Ghur to their being disbanded, that the same may be delivered to the Nabob for his information. When I am informed of the amount which will be to be carried to his Excellency's credit on this account, I shall immediately draw out the account current between his Excellency and the Honourable Company, from the commencement of the present year, of our accounts to that time.

Fort William,  
Accountant General's Office,  
9th March 1784.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

(Signed) WM LARKINS,  
Accountant General.

### INSTRUCTIONS from the Accountant General to the Accountant at Lucknow.

1. The accountant at Lucknow should, in the accounts current of his Excellency the Vizier, for the month of February, debit the Nabob for the sums contained in the accompanying statement, to and by the different heads, under which they are severally stated.
2. The Honourable Board having resolved, that, as Company's Bonds, bearing an interest of 8 per cent. from 14th April 1783, have been granted in discharge of his Excellency's bonds to Mr. Frazer, that he should be charged with interest at that rate, on current rupees 1,09,027. 13. 1 from that day; the accountant at Lucknow should monthly debit the Nabob, for the interest due on the sum which monthly appears to remain undischarged of this debt, from giving an account thereof credit for such a proportion of the sum received by the resident of his successor, from the assignments taken at the commencement of the year, as the amount of this debt, which should be placed to the debit thereof, bears to the whole amount of these assignments.
3. The accountant at Lucknow should be particularly attentive to the Honourable Board's resolutions regarding the memorandums which they expect his accounts current should monthly exhibit, respecting the credit to be given him for the sale of the horses that belonged to the 1st regiment of cavalry, and of the amount that will be due on his Excellency's bond to Mr. Frazer, for Sicca rupees 1,23,000, and should keep a similar monthly account of the state of his Excellency's debt on that account, as I have pointed out in the preceding article.
4. When the Honourable the Governor General shall have determined upon the amount which is monthly to be charged to his Excellency's account for the two Riffallahs of cavalry, which are to be stationed at Cawnpore and Fatty Ghur, the accountant at Lucknow should charge the same from the time on which the same commenced to the end of the month in which it is brought to account, and should after that regularly monthly debit his Excellency for the same.
5. The accountant at Lucknow should also keep a similar account of the army donation, as I have pointed out as necessary to be kept of the sum due on account of his Excellency's bonds to Mr. Frazer, in charge of which Company's bonds have been granted, and state the amount which at the expiration of each month, appears to be due from his Excellency on that account.
6. To prevent the intrusion of errors, by the Lucknow accounts not corresponding with those of the presidency in the sums charged to his Excellency's debit for the stipend of the Nabob Mirza Sandit Ally, the accountant at Lucknow should monthly debit the Nabob for the same, in like manner as he debits him for the army subsidy, which, as the Benares Sicca rupees, in which it is paid are comparatively of equal value in account with the Fyzabad 16 Sun Siccas, if he regularly charges the Nabob monthly with 23,752. 15. 6. of the last-mentioned rupees, no difference can in future occur.
7. Should any sum have been paid on account of Abdul Rehman Cawn's Riffallah in the month of February, the accountant should charge the same to the Nabob's debit.
8. The forms by which the Lucknow accounts have for some time past been kept, affording every important useful article of information that can, in my opinion, be required of them, an adherence to these is all I can have to recommend, besides an equal attention to their being transmitted to the presidency with the least possible delay, as has lately been shewn to them: It may perhaps be necessary to observe, that the Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca rupees are valued in account at 11 per cent. above Current; and that in all the expressions of Current rupees made use of in these instructions this rate is alluded to; consequently, that 90. 1. 5—297 of the former are equal to one hundred of the latter.

Fort William,  
Accountant Genl's Office,  
9th March 1784.

(Signed)

WM LARKINS,  
Acco<sup>t</sup> Genl.

STATE





STATEMENT of the Sums which the Accountant at Lucknow should carry to the Debit and Credit of his Excellency the Vizier, in his Account Current with the Honourable Company, for the Month of February 1784, exclusive of those which were, as usually, Monthly included in the Accounts Current transmitted by the late Resident at the Vizier's Court.

C

To estimate the expence of the troops stationed for the defence of his Excellency's dominions, situated beyond the Line of Guarantee.		By Horses, and Horse Stoppages.	
The actual expence of the troops employed for the defence of that part of his Excellency's dominions, situated beyond the Line of Guarantee, from 30th April 1781 to their being withdrawn, amounted, as per the accounts thereof formed by the Military Paymaster General, to - - - - -		The Military Paymaster General has given credit for the Amount received on the following Accounts, as follows:	
And the amount of military and ordnance stores, expended by those troops in that period, was stated, by the Accountant to the Board of Ordnance, at - - -		For Horse Stoppages made on account of the Vizier in 1781 - - - - -	
32,16,446	12 10	1,08,875	7 4
1,32,081	5 7	For 903 horses, the number alive, as mustered with the 2d and 3d regiments of cavalry, on 3d December, 1781, the day on which the Honourable Board agreed to take them of the Vizier, at Sonaut rupees 250 each, Sonaut rupees 2,25,750, or -	2,50,582 0 0
33,48,528	2 5		3,59,457 7 4
The Resident has debited the Nabob, on the above Account, as follows:		The Resident, when he brought to account the difference subsisting between his accounts and the general books, on 1st September, 1782, only credited the Nabob for these O S R's	
Account of fundry advances made by him to the Paymasters of those troops, which he carried to his Excellency's debit in 1781-2 - - - - -		3,15,050	14 5
16,26,498	4 6	Batta 11 per cent. -	34,655 9 7
In 1782-3, when he brought to account the difference subsisting between his accounts and the general books, on 1st Sept. 1782 -			3,49,706 8 0
14,48,515	3 10		9,750 15 4
	30,75,013 8 4		
Deduct			
The credit which he has given to his Excellency, for sums which he received back from the Paymasters:			
In April 1782 -	10,439 10 1		
July - - -	2,12,765 9 3		
	2,23,205 3 4		
Sum actually charged by the Resident to the Nabob's debit on this account -			
	28,51,808 5 0		
Batta 11 per cent. -	3,13,698 14 8		
	31,65,507 3 8		
Carried forward - - - -		Carried forward - - - -	
	1,83,020 14 9		9,750 15 4





Brought forward - -	- -	1,83,020 14 9
To estimated expence of Abdul Rehman Cawn's Riffalah.		
The actual expence of Abdul Rehman Cawn's Riffalah, between the 30th April 1781 and 1st May 1782, appears, by the account thereof formed by the Military Paymaster General, to have amounted to - -		
And the Nabob's proportion of the loss by the exchange, on the whole expence of that corps, to 1st May 1782, is stated by the Military Paymaster General at -	3,56,413 4 1	
	1,30,146 9 8	
The estimated expence of that corps, from 30th April 1782 to 1st May 1783, to which time they were paid up by Colonel Morgan, is as follows :		
Pay at C.Rs 26,283. 13. 7 for 10 months	3,15,406 3 0	
Estimated loss by exchange on ditto -	30,702, 10 2	
	3,46,108 13 2	
	8,32,668 10 11	
The Resident has debited the Nabob on the above account, as follows :		
In 1781-2 - - - -	3,30,000 0 0	
In 1782-3, when he brought to account the difference subsisting between his accounts and the general books, on 1st September 1782 - -	10,273 3 11	
In 1783-4 - - - -	3,00,000 0 0	
O. S <sup>a</sup> Rs 6,40,273 3 11		
Batta 11 per cent. 70,430 0 11		
	7,10,703 4 10	
	1,21,965 6 1	
To which must be added, the amount of fundry payments made by the Resident on account of this Riffalah, which he has not charged to the Nabob's debit:		
O. S <sup>a</sup> Rs 1,95,000 0 0		
Batta 11 per cent. 21,450 0 0		
	2,16,450 0 0	
	3,38,415 6 1	
Carried forward - -	- -	5,21,436 4 10 13

Brought forward - - -	9,750 15 4
Carried forward - - -	
	9,750 15 4





Brought forward - - - 5,21,436 4 10

To Stipend of the Nabob Saudit Alley.

The Payments made on account of the Nabob Saudit Alley have been as follows :

In 1781-2	-	-	2,85,035	11	10
1782-3	-	-	2,85,035	10	0
1783-4 to 1st March 1784	-	-	2,61,282	10	6
			8,31,354	0	4

The Resident debited the Nabob on this account, as follows :

In September 1781	-	-	3,00,000	0	0
In August 1782	-	-	3,00,000	0	0
In September 1783	-	-	3,00,000	0	0
			9,00,000	0	0

From which sum must be deducted the credit given to his Excellency by the Resident on this account, on bringing to account the difference subsisting between his accounts and the General Books, on 1st September 1782 - 2,268 14 5

Do. Do. Do.	2,07,356	5	5		
	2,29,425	3	10		
			6,70,575	12	2
B <sup>s</sup> Sa Rs	-	-	1,60,778	4	2
Batta 11 per cent.	-	-	17,685	9	9
			1,78,463	13	1

To which must be added the difference between what was charged to his Excellency's debit, for the payments made by the Resident at Benaris, on account of the stipend of the Nabob Mirza Sirdaut Alley in the years 1779-80 and 1780-81, which were made in Benaris Standard Gourshahy rupees, computed at 8. 3. 14—2. 2. 8. per cent. above current; but which, being equal to Sonauts, or 11 per cent. above current, are of equal value in account with Owde Sa Rs; and as the Resident, in bringing to Account the difference which subsisted on 1st September 1782, between the accounts of the Presidency and those of his own office, adjusted the Nabob's account in conformity to that rate of batta, he will have now to charge this difference to the Nabob's debit.

In 1779-80 the Resident at Benaris paid on this account	Rs. Sa. Rs.	Computed Value in CRs.	Actual Value in CRs.
In 1779-80	1,25,000 0 0	1,35,191 9 8	1,38,750 0 0
In 1780-81	2,73,485 4 10	2,96,002 1 10	3,03,568 11 0
	3,98,485 4 10	4,31,293 11 6	4,42,318 11 0

Carried forward - - - 7,10,925 2 3

Brought forward - - - 9,750 15 4

Carried forward - - - 9,750 15 4





Brought forward — —

7,10,925 2 3

To payments to Rajah Govindram.

The resident has omitted to charge his Excellency for the amount paid on his account to Rajah Govindram, by the Honourable the Governor General, in 1781-2 —  
In 1783-4, to 1st January 1784, for the Shaugard Peish of 1190 — — — —

3,480 — —

3,480 — —

6,960 — —

To payments on account of his Excellency's Body Guard.  
The resident has not debited the Nabob for the loss which arose on an advance made to Lieutenant Polhill, by the Honourable the Governor General, who charged for the same; — — — —  
But who received back from Mr. Wombwell, on this account, no more than — — — —

15,113 4 9

14,978 5 5

134 15 4

To his Excellency's debt to Mr. James Frazer.

The resident has not yet debited the Nabob for the amount of his Excellency's debt to Mr. James Frazer, which was ordered by the Honourable Board, on 14th April, 1783, to be liquidated by Company's bonds, being Lucknow Sa Rs. 1,89,305.

15 — or Fyzabad 16 Sun Sa rupees 1,79,304 5 5  
Batta 11 per cent — 19,723 7 8

1,99,027 13 1

Interest on CRs 1,99,027, 13. 1, from 13th April 1783 to 1st March 1784, being 10 Mos 17 Ds, at 8 per cent. per annum. — — — —

14,020 6 3

2,13,048 3 4

To error of former accounts current.

The resident, in bringing to account the remainder of the differences which subsisted on the 1st September 1782, between the accounts of the presidency and those of his office, by stating the amount of that part which had been carried to the Nabob's debit, on the account current for the 1st part of September 1782, at 24,62,631 15 8, whereas the sum which was then actually charged to the Nabob's debit was 24,62,631. 5 8, entered the same as much less than it ought to have been, as the other was stated at more than it was, which produces a difference of — — — —

Batta 11 per cent — —

— 10 —

— 1 1

— 11 1

To army donation.

Amount, which the Honourable Board have directed, by their orders of the 24th February 1784, to be carried to his Excellency's debit, for the Nabob Vizier's donation to the army employed in the Rohillah Campaign, Fyzabad 16 Sun Siccas — — — —  
Batta 11 per cent. — — — —

10,50,000 — —

1,15,500 — —

11,65,500 — —

Current rupees — —

20,96,569 — —

Errors excepted.

Brought forward — —

9750 15 4

128

Current rupees — —

9,750 15 4

Fort William,  
Accountant General's Office,  
the 9th March 1784.

I 5

(Signed)

WM LARKINS,  
Accountant General.

Ordered,





Ordered, That a copy of the foregoing letter and account, as well as of the letter and estimates from the Accountant General, recorded in the last consultation, with the Board's resolutions thereon, be transmitted to the Governor General, with the following letter

Honourable Sir,

We have the honour to acknowledge our receipt of your letter of the 28th of last month, and are well pleased to hear that Almas Ally Cawn has repaired to Lucknow, and demeaned himself quietly to the Vizier's government.

We have also the honour to enclose a copy of a letter which we received from the Accountant General on the 24th of last month, and of the estimates enclosed in it, together with an extract from our proceedings on that day, N<sup>o</sup> 1, 2, 3, 4, in consequence of which the Accountant General has addressed us in the accompanying letter, N<sup>o</sup> 5, and laid before us the Vizier's account with the Company, and the instructions which he proposes for Mr. Wombwell, and to which we have agreed, N<sup>o</sup> 6, 7; our resolutions on these last papers attend you, N<sup>o</sup> 8.

Fort William,  
Secret Department,  
9th March, 1784.

We have the honour to be, &c.

Ordered, That the Accountant at Lucknow do debit and credit his Excellency the Vizier in his Excellency's account current for the month of February 1784, for the sums included in the Accountant General's statement delivered in this day; that a copy of the Accountant General's letter be also sent to him, and that he be directed to conform to the instructions proposed by the Accountant General for his guidance.

---

EXTRACT of Secret Letter from Bengal, dated 15th March 1784.

Par. 19. We beg leave to refer you to our proceedings\* for a statement of the sums which the Accountant at Lucknow should carry to the debit and credit of his Excellency the Vizier, in his account current with the Honourable Company for the month of February 1784, exclusive of those which were usually monthly included in the account current transmitted by the late Resident at the Vizier's court, and for a copy of the Accountant General's letter on this subject.

20. We have transmitted a copy of these papers, and of our resolutions on them, as well as on those entered on our proceedings of 24th ult<sup>o</sup>, to the Honourable the Governor General.

21. We have the satisfaction to acquaint your Honourable Court with our having been advised by the Governor General, that Almas Ally Cawn, whose conduct had given suspicions of his good intentions towards his Excellency the Vizier, had in consequence of the receipt of a letter from the Governor General repaired immediately to Lucknow, where he quietly demeans himself to the Vizier's government.

---

*Consultation 11th May 1784.*

Lucknow, 21st April 1784.

To Edward Wheeler, Esquire, &c. &c.

Gentlemen,

I Have the pleasure to acquaint you, that I have received from the Nabob Vizier two bills of exchange, drawn by Buckrange and Beroondofs, on the house of Cashmeeri Mull and Coffinaut, in Calcutta, for two lacs and fifty thousand rupees each, payable to your order; the one in fifty-one days, and the other in eighty-one days after date; and I have sent them to the Accountant, as the proper official channel through which they should pass, with directions to him to transmit them by this day's dauk to the Board.





These bills make a part of thirteen lacks, which Almas Ally Cawn has agreed to pay to his master in the present emergency, for the purpose of aiding him, and relieving the Company.

The acting minister has informed me, that he has a further sum of eight lacks ready, which I shall also deliver to the Accountant, with orders to pay it to you; and these, with the former sums, amounting all together to thirteen lacks, will be carried by him, in his official accounts, to the credit of the Nabob Vizier.

The exchange of the bills I have settled at 5½ per cent. at which I mean to fix it, as the true and just standard at which it ought to be rated, and which it should never exceed. The former exchanges upon bills drawn at this place, I cannot revert to without expressing my astonishment at them. At the time of Messrs. Middleton and Johnson they were from 19 to 20 per cent. and they were afterwards reduced by Mr. Bristow (if I recollect right) to 16 per cent.

I desire your instructions with respect to the rest, and what more I may have to receive; and request, if you should have occasion to draw upon your treasury here, that the rate of exchange may not be more than 5½ per cent.; and I earnestly recommend it to you, that if your other calls are not of so urgent a nature as to render it impossible, you will appropriate this remittance, together with what remains of the 13 lacks advanced by Almas Ally Cawn, as the first institution of a fund for the payment of the interest of your bonds, which had suffered something in their credit, and of course in their value, by the suspension of payment of the interest but a few months before my departure from Calcutta. Unless that debt has been since augmented, this supply will be more than sufficient for the payment of the interest for one complete year to come.

I expect in a few days to receive five lacks from Fyzoola Cawn, and other payments will follow, as the collections are able to furnish them, in which, however, I mean not to urge the minister to any acts of precipitation, as in the present calamitous state of the country it requires to be managed with a gentle hand.

The period of the ensuing rains, which I am patiently waiting for, will determine how far I may venture to promise. If there should be another drought similar to that which we have already experienced, it is not in the power of human wisdom to devise means for saving the country; but as it is not in the course of things that we should be again afflicted with such a dreadful misfortune, I have every reason to believe that I shall answer, in every respect, the complete ends of my deputation.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

P. S. The acting minister has delivered to me the following account of other sums advanced by the Nabob Vizier to the Company since the 31st January last, which I send merely for your satisfaction, as they yet want adjustment.

By Bukerage	—	—	—	4,77,000
Munfaram	—	—	—	2,00,000
Bukeraje Surat, bills	—	—	—	1,00,000
Almas Ally Cawn	—	—	—	8,00,000
Bills to Mr. Orr	—	—	—	2,00,000
Furruckabad assignment	—	—	—	1,00,000
				<hr/>
			Lucknow Siccas	19,77,000
				<hr/>

A true Copy.

E. Hay,  
Secy.

Lucknow, 22d April 1784.

Edward Wheeler, Esquire, &c. Council, Fort William.

Gentlemen,  
Mr. Wombwell this day addressed a letter to me, representing that the troops at Chunar being 2,20,000 rupees in arrears, and the Paymaster of that station having made repeated application,





tion, without effect, to the Resident at Benares, he therefore desired my permission to make the necessary supplies from this treasury; to which I assented, and gave him an authority in writing for that purpose.

As my instructions (though they may admit the general construction of a power to order the disposition of the money which may be unemployed in the Company's treasury at this place) do not specifically express it; and as it is very necessary that I should possess it, for the purpose of affording early relief to the different military stations of these provinces, by payment of money which would otherwise be unemployed, I request that you will grant me an express authority for that purpose.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

A true Copy.

E. Hay,

Secy.

The Board approve of the relief afforded by the Governor General to the troops at Chunar; and with respect to the powers which the Governor General desires, they are of opinion, that as the wants of cash at the Presidency are very urgent, every supply which the Governor can procure should be sent immediately to Calcutta.

---

EXTRACT of a Letter from the Governor General to the Court of Directors; dated  
Lucknow, 16 June 1784.

The ministers of the Vizier have for some time past been diligently employed in regulating the affairs of his government: It has been their grand object to retrench all expences which have proceeded from inattention or profusion, and to such establishments as are necessary, either for the support of his dignity, for the collection of the revenues, or for preserving the peace of the country; they have regulated the several departments of government, by making separate and distinct arrangements for the collection of the revenues, the controul of the household expences, the administration of justice, and the command and payment of the forces: And they are now employed in making the settlements with the farmers and officers of the revenue, for the year which is fast approaching; when this last work is finished, it will be in our power to fix the proportions of the Vizier's resources, which are to be applied to the expences of his government and household, and to the payment of his debt to the Company.

All the arrangements have been undertaken by the Vizier and his ministers at my suggestion, but they have been prosecuted almost entirely without my participation—the necessity of them was obvious; and though the reduction of expences is in every state an arduous and disagreeable task, yet the Vizier and his ministers have proceeded in it with a degree of alacrity which has exceeded my expectations. All that has been necessary for me to do has been to point out general plans, and to support the ministers by my presence in carrying them into execution, but without interfering myself in the detail. The productive seasons of the year being past, there is little revenue now drawn from the provinces, except what is collected from the Aumils in settling their accounts.

It will not therefore be in my power to add much to the list of sums received from the Vizier in liquidation of his debt, until the commencement of the new year, when the revenues arising from the Khureif harvest will begin to come in.

Some showers of rain have lately fallen, but the season of cultivation is not sufficiently advanced to enable me to form any preface regarding the future harvest. In the mean time, it is with the utmost concern that I inform you, that the effects of the extraordinary drought which has prevailed for two years past, are now felt in a very severe degree in the upper part of Hindostan. This province, although it has suffered less than those which are situated still more to the westward, has already felt the fatal influence of the general calamity, both in the loss of its population and the diminution of its revenue.

It will be perhaps sufficient to inform you that barley and nukoot, which form the chief articles of the sustenance of the lowest inhabitants of this part of India, sell at present at the rate of 15





feers, though in moderate seasons the average price of them is about a maund and a half the rupee; in the same proportion wheat, and all the other kinds of grain have risen in their price.

Under such circumstances, the Vizier's ministers have thought it absolutely necessary to allow considerable reductions in the revenues of the present year; and for this I have been obliged to give my concurrence, although in so doing I admitted a proportionable diminution of those resources from which the Company's claims on his Excellency must be realized: but as this diminution is merely of a temporary nature, I flatter myself it will not affect the expectations which I have given you for the ensuing season. Indeed, if the season of the approaching rains should prove favourable, I assure you that they will be fulfilled.

In the arrangements which are now taking place in the internal administration of the Vizier's dominions, I had equally in view the improvement of his finances, and the solidity and security of his government; and, considered in this last point of view, their effects, though they may not be so immediately apparent, will prove of the utmost consequence to the permanency and tranquillity of our own provinces; for while we are at peace with the powers of Europe, it is only in this quarter that your possessions and the government of Bengal are vulnerable.

Had this country continued in the state in which I found it, subject to a divided government, regulated by no fixed system, and with its rulers and officers in a state of mutual distrust, the slightest shock from a foreign hand, or even an accidental internal commotion, might have thrown the whole into confusion, and produced the most fatal consequences—happily we have found time to remedy this evil. The province enjoys at present a state of complete repose—I have no immediate apprehensions of its being disturbed by the designs of any of the neighbouring powers.

I have the pleasure to inform you that, in consequence of permission which I obtained from the Board at Fort William, I lately sent from this place a remittance of five lacks of Surat rupees to the Governor and Council of Bombay. This will prove a seasonable relief to their present exigencies, which by the latest intelligence from thence seem to have been very pressing.

It will be a satisfaction to you, to know that the brigade at Cawnpore, the detachment commanded by Colonel Sir John Cummings at Futtygur, and the military station at Chunar, are completely paid up to the present time. The long arrears also of the detachment lately arrived from Surat have been discharged from this treasury. This has given effect to the orders for the reduction of that detachment, and to the extraordinary and heavy expence attending it.

You will have observed, from the records transmitted to you from Fort William, that several consultations have, at times, been held on the subject of differences which had taken place in the account current betwixt the Vizier and the Honourable Company, as it appeared in your General Books, and as it was stated by the Vizier and the Resident.

Many of these differences originated some years ago, and they have gradually accumulated, till they at length amounted to a very considerable sum.

An accurate statement of the several articles, with full and clear expositions, being drawn out by your Accountant General, was soon after my arrival here transmitted to me by the Gentlemen of the Council, with their own opinions and resolutions on each, and the object has accordingly employed a considerable share of my attention.

I have now the pleasure to inform you, that the Vizier and his ministers, on receiving a satisfactory explanation of each article, have agreed to a complete adjustment; and to obviate the possibility of further disputes, the Vizier and myself have agreed to affix our respective signatures to an account current brought up to the last day of May; in which is inserted, to the Vizier's debt, the sum of rupees 19,00,441. 11. 5, being the amount of differences stated by your Accountant General, in conformity to the resolutions of the Board. The accounts of the Vizier therefore now correspond with your General Books, and I have given such instructions to Mr. Wombwell, the Accountant of this place, as will, I hope, prevent their ever differing materially again.

By adding this sum to the balance formerly admitted by the Vizier, I have in fact substantiated a considerable claim, which if left much longer in its former state might have only proved a cause of disputes. At the same time I think it necessary to remark, that by thus increasing the Nabob's balance, I have made a proportionate addition to the difficulty of the work which I am now engaged in, of securing the liquidation of his Excellency's debt to you from the resources of the ensuing year.

EXTRACT