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though he had passed his whole life at the desk, afterwards recruiting and commanding the corps of Guides; and, lastly, taking part in the operations before Delhi, volunteering for every enterprise in which life could be hazarded or glory could be won. He crowded into the brief space of eleven eventful years the services and adventures of a long life. He died when his reward was assured, obtaining only that reward which he most coveted—the consciousness of duty done, and the assurance of enduring military renown."

"There was not a man before Delhi who did not know Hodson," remarked the writer of some excellent papers in 'Blackwood's Magazine'; "always active, always cheery, it did one's heart good to look at his face when all felt how critical was our position. Ask any soldier who was the bravest man before Delhi, who most in the saddle, who foremost? and nine out of ten in the infantry will tell you Hodson, in the artillery as many will name Tombs.

"I once heard one of the Fusiliers say, 'Whenever I sees Captain Hodson go out, I always prays for him, for he is sure to be in danger.' Yet it was not only in the field that Hodson was to be valued, his head was as active as his hand was strong, and I feel sure, when we who knew him heard of his death, not one but felt that there was a vacancy indeed in our ranks."

"Major Hodson," wrote the 'Times,' "has been from the very beginning of this war fighting everywhere and against any odds with all the spirit of a paladin of old. His most remarkable exploit, the capture of the King of Delhi and his two sons,



astonished the world by its courage and coolness. Hodson was indeed a man who, from his romantic daring and his knowledge of the Asiatic character, was able to beat the natives at their own weapons. We could better have spared an older and more highly placed officer."

The impression which Hodson made upon those who knew him intimately may be gathered from the picture drawn of him by the lady from whom

I have already quoted :-

"There was an indescribable charm of manner about him, combining all the gentle playfulness of the boy, the deep tenderness of the woman, and

the vigorous decision of the soldier.

"His powers of attraction extended even to animals; and it was touching to see his large white Persian cat following him from room to room, escaping from the caresses of others to nestle by him. I have often watched the pretty creature as he threw himself exhausted with the day's work on an easy-chair or sofa, rubbing himself against his master, whisking the long white tail against his fair moustache, and courting the endearments liberally bestowed. Restless with others, pussy was at rest if established by him.

"At Delhi there was a wild shy little kitten which fled from every one else, but mewed provokingly whenever he appeared—would jump on his knee with all the familiarity of an old friend.

"With his horses he had the same power of domestication. They yielded to the sound of his voice with the instinct that seemed to convey to all that in him they had found master and friend. . . .



"His joyousness of nature made him the most charming companion. There was a certain quaintness of expression which gave zest to all he said; and yet there was a reverence, too, so that, were subjects graver than usual introduced even by allusion, they at once commanded his earnest response."

"I admired him," writes Sir Charles Gough, "for his gallantry in leading; his abounding energy, activity, and resource in difficulties; his coolness in danger; and his genial, cheerful, and kindly

disposition."1

Many years afterwards a distribution of prizes occurred at the Martinière College, near Hodson's last resting-place. A reference made by the Principal to Hodson of Hodson's Horse as the genius loci, and to the slanderous attacks made upon him, was followed by a speech from General M. Dillon, thus reported in a local newspaper: "As one who knew him in the field, and as one who was intimately associated for many years with the greatest soldier of the time, General Sir Robert Napier, now Lord Napier of Magdala, I am in a position not only to give my own opinion, but to state that General Napier was on the most intimate terms with Hodson during almost the whole of the career of that dashing soldier, and that he had the highest opinion of him. I have no hesitation in characterising the attacks that have been made, in the face too of the verdict of such a soldier as Lord Napier of Magdala, as ungenerous, unwarrantable, and atrocious." 2

¹ Letter quoted in 'Blackwood's Magazine' for March 1899.

² Hodson of Hodson's Horse.



In a letter of October 1885 to General Mitford the same officer writes: "Lord Napier, who had known him in an administrative capacity and in the field, held him in the highest esteem, as did also Sir Henry Lawrence. We know what the army thought of him—I would that there were many like him to lead and set the example which he gave to us."

To the last Lord Napier of Magdala retained his old belief in Hodson's moral worth. Writing to his friend's biographer in November 1883, he says: "I am much obliged for the perusal of your preface to the new edition of your Memoir of your brother. I am now, as I have always been, fully convinced of his honour and integrity." To the same effect Sir James Outram, a man as shrewd as he was generous, had borne his testimony shortly after Hodson's death. "I was a great admirer of Hodson," he wrote to his brother, "and gave no credit to the stories against him."

Among Hodson's warmest admirers was the late George C. Barnes, who, as Commissioner of the Cis-Satlaj States, had done excellent service from the very outset of the Mutiny. Like many other of John Lawrence's men, he had been strongly prejudiced against Hodson by the stories current after Hodson's dismissal from the command of the Guides—stories founded, as we have seen, upon the virtual suppression of Reynell Taylor's report. His eyes had since been opened to the truth by Mr Sloggett's timely explanations, who had been invited to meet a large company of officers and civilians at his house.

"In the course of conversation," says Mr Sloggett,





"having just opened at the table some letters brought in from Delhi, he said, 'So! Hodson has been at his old tricks again.' I thought it only right to rise and ask for an explanation, and finding that all Mr Barnes had heard of and alluded to were those I have mentioned and one other I will presently explain, I told him and the others present about Reynell Taylor's report, which none of them had heard of; the purchase of the house at Umbâla, and

the Rs. 10,000 charge.

"The fourth was as follows: Some two months before Delhi fell he was sent to destroy a small fort which was being armed against us by a native chief. On his way he met another hostile chief with an array of armed men, much outnumbering his own, whom he defeated after a sharp but short conflict. The chief himself was one of the first to fall, shot through the heart; and as Hodson returned after the pursuit, over the field, he saw something glitter on the ground and picked up a very beautiful and valuable jewelled ornament, a golden butterfly, soiled and dented by its fall upon the hard ground. This he brought and gave to his wife, who was fond of displaying it, with the dirt still adhering. Afterwards she were it, and from this the story spread that it had been looted by him at Delhi, where I had seen it two months before the city fell, and knew, for I heard the story confirmed by others, the true account of its possession.

"After giving this explanation Mr Barnes thanked me very warmly, and set himself from that time to make Hodson's acquaintance, and this in such a friendly spirit that he came to be looked upon as one of his best and warmest friends. And not he





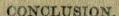
only, but all the men I knew who got intimate with Hodson liked him, and did not believe the many stories to his prejudice—which by others, because of his very reputation, were too often carelessly repeated, and became, however unintentionally, magnified in the repetition. . . .

"And I can say this much, that there was nothing apparently mean or low about him. With all his faults and his arbitrary character, he was a high-minded man, fearlessly outspoken in his judgment of many who were only too likely to have his

words brought back to them."1

"His faults we have already seen," sums up the able writer in 'Blackwood's Magazine' for March 1899; "they were enumerated years before his death by his best friend, Henry Lawrence. But it was to his good points, just those so well set forth by his old subaltern, that he owed the lifelong friendship of such men as Robert Napier, Robert Montgomery, and Thomas Seaton; and to these characteristics too it was that he owed the love and the admiration of his men. As in the corps of Guides, so in his own regiment of Horse he was the object not only of respect but of veneration. To this day the few remaining of those who served under him, and the sons of those who served under him, speak of him by the title given him by the old King of Delhi-Hodson Sahib Bahâdur. His corps of Horse has long since been split up into the 9th and 10th regiments of Bengal Lancers, and the latter has been honoured by receiving the title of Duke of Cambridge's Own; but no matter how they may be officially known, or what titles may be given them,

¹ MS. letter from Rev. C. Sloggett.





the name which they never forget, and which they most delight to honour, is that of Hodson's Horse."

What more remains to say concerning this great gifted soldier, who had gone through so many crowded hours of glorious life during those twelve years of Indian service, and had died, like his compeer Nicholson, at an age when few men have clearly learned how best to realise the promise of their youth? To such a question no answer need, I think, be given here. The impartial reader of this Memoir will at least be able to judge for himself how far I have failed or succeeded in clearing the fair fame of William Hodson from the obloquy which assailed it during his lifetime, and has continued to blacken and disfigure it ever since his death.

APPENDIX A.

From Major Reynell G. Taylor, late Commandant of Guide Corps, to Major J. D. Macpherson, Mily. Secy. to Chief Commissioner, Lahore. Dated Jhelum, Feb. 13, 1856.

Sir,—In accordance with the instructions contained in your letter, No. 3369, of the 10th November, I have the honour to report, for the information of the Chief Commissioner, that the result of my examination of Lieutenant Hodson's

accounts has been quite satisfactory.

- 2. The period embraced is from the 10th of March 1853 to the close of 1854. Lieutenant Hodson succeeded to the command of the Guide Corps at an earlier period than the first-named date; but at that time the accounts were kept by the adjutant, and Lieutenant Hodson first assumed direct management of the regimental accounts on the above date—namely, the 10th of March 1853—on which occasion he received a distinct balance in cash from Lieutenant Turner, and also an open statement showing the sums which he, Lieutenant Turner, believed to be claimable from the chest and due to it: this open statement I shall notice elsewhere.
- 3. Commencing with the cash balance received from Lieutenant Turner, the accounts were carried on as previously in a general day-book embracing all transactions, written for the first (13) thirteen months by Moonshee Nujjuf Allee, one of the regimental moonshees. As this man subsequently became Lieutenant Hodson's accuser, and strove to throw discredit on his own account, it is



this period of (13) thirteen months that has required the most careful and sifting examination.

4. From the 4th of April 1854 to the close of the same year the day-book was kept by the other regimental moonshee, Goordeal, and as audited bills for (9) nine months 1853 and January 1854 were only received in February 1854, and contained a large amount of retrenchments, which had to be gradually adjusted in the subsequent portion of the account, the examination of the records of the remaining (8) eight months could hardly be considered less important than that of the first (13) thirteen; but from the fact of the accounts having been kept in better form, with more collateral books of detail to support and explain them, their scrutiny was more rapidly accomplished.

5. Besides the above current accounts, Lieutenant Hodson, soon after taking command of the regiment, caused a transcript of the available Persian records to be made by one Moonshee Bachee Lall in the Hindi character. This transcript was set about with the express object of obtaining a more correct and detailed knowledge of all previous transactions than was furnished by the accounts which had been kept first by Lieutenant Hawes (in English) and then by his successor, Lieutenant Turner (in Persian), which, though good records of the receipts and disbursements which had passed through the hands of those officers, were no evidence of the real financial state of the regiment, as they had never been balanced periodically, and when made over furnished no detail of the balance then in hand.

6. It was, then, in the hope of thoroughly clearing the account from end to end, and obtaining a detail of the balance for which he was liable, that Lieutenant Hodson set Moonshee Bachee Lall to work at his transcript of the accounts, and he first wrote out the cash-book kept by Subadâr Peer Buksh, then that by Munawar Allee under Lieutenant Turner's supervision, then Nujjuf Allee's own, the transcript of which, after being brought up to date, was continued from day to day as a check.





7. An attempt to complete a khata or balanced account from Peer Buksh's day-book failed, and that the main object of the original effort was unsuccessful is best evidenced by the fact of its not having been yet accomplished; and after Lieutenant Hodson, Lieutenant Godby, and myself have sat in voluntary committee on the accounts for some months, we are unable to give the details of a large portion of the balance of the chest at the close of 1854, or say whether the money belongs to the former commandant, Major Lumsden, or to Government. The presumption is that to a great extent the former is the case, as that officer is known to have taken less than his due on many occasions. It amounts to this, that Lieutenant Hawes, on making over the accounts to Lieutenant Turner, took his receipt for an actual cash balance of about 4500 rupees, but did not or was unable to furnish him with any detail of it; and you will see that a similar sum remains in the chest as an undetailed balance after a general clearance of the accounts.

8. This was the nature of the account to which Lieutenant Hodson succeeded-everything known to be in the main correct, but the whole unbalanced and undetailed; and it must be recorded that he did not, on first obtaining command of the Guides, formally examine and take charge of the accounts. He had long been connected with the regiment, and knew all the difficulty and confusion that had been caused in its payment by a long period of ubiquitous service, during which its numerous detachments had been paid by the various officers to whom they had been temporarily attached, causing a constant and most troublesome system of adjustment from the headquarters, which latter were also usually on the move, and the commanding officer obliged to take frequent advances from political or civil treasuries. He knew, from the character of the men that had been connected with the regiment, that everything, as I have said above, must be in the main sound and correct; and having just attained the chief object of his ambition, he felt no inclination to make objec-



tion and clamour about a state of things which he knew to be, to a great extent, unavoidable, and to which his mind was accustomed.

9. I have tried to describe simply my own idea of the state of feeling under which Lieutenant Hodson omitted to do what was certainly his natural and obvious duty on the occasion of taking command. The omission, of course, rendered him materially responsible for all clear and ascertained claims that might arise; and the result was injurious to him, as it led to sums of money being spoken of as due by the chest, concerning which, from his vague and ill-defined knowledge of the balance for which he was really answerable, he was unable to feel certain of his own liability until the whole accounts, from beginning to end, had been examined and balanced.

10. When Lieutenant Hodson did turn his attention to the accounts, he made considerable efforts to understand and make a clearance of them. I do not say but that these efforts might have been more determined and sustained, but the task was not an easy one, and Lieutenant Hodson believed that he would have leisure for its completion.

11. His own accounts meantime continued to be written in one general cash-book, which has proved to have been a correct record of all transactions; but unfortunately this was never balanced periodically, and hence the time and trouble occupied in finally adjusting his account.

12. And here I must remark that Lieutenant Hodson must be considered to have furnished a correct statement of all transactions during the period of his command, when he gave in an English translation of his cash-book in April last. He subsequently prepared a balanced account of the whole period from this cash-book, which was submitted to the Chief Commissioner, and finally sent to me for examination and verification. I caused its dissection, and examined the minutest details of every item, and found some errors and some necessity for rearrangement of the various heads of credit and debit; but this did not in the least affect the correctness of the original day-book, and the two must not





be confounded. All the labour bestowed on the preparation of a balanced account has only had the effect of thoroughly testing the validity of the original book, and that I consider satisfactorily established. That the task of throwing the whole into the form of a balanced ledger, after a rigid scrutiny of all details, has cost time and trouble in unpractised hands, cannot affect its character as a true record.

13. It was for the correctness of the cash-book that Lieutenant Hodson vouched in his letter to you, No. 43, dated Peshawur, 21st of March 1855, as is clear from the contents of paragraphs five and six of that letter; but I have good reason (not derived from Lieutenant Hodson himself) to believe that the voucher contained in the latter part of paragraph six above alluded to was subsequently supposed to apply to the summary statement of assets, liabilities, and balance for which you called on him, by the Chief Commissioner's directions, in your letter, No. 142, of the 4th of April 1855, and 151, of the 9th idem, and which being hastily compiled by the moonshees, and taken from the result of their work by Lieutenant Hodson, as stated in the second paragraph of his letter (No. 62, dated Peshawar, 11th of April 1855) forwarding it, proved in a great measure to be incorrect and useless. Should the above misconception have occurred, it may well have told most unfavourably for Lieutenant Hodson, as the appearance of the matter would be that he had promised to furnish an account which should stand any test, and subsequently submitted one which was in several points incorrect, and on being addressed by the deputy judge advocate-general on the subject, wrote back declaring that he had never vouched for its correctness.

14. You will know whether this game of cross-purposes really occurred: the probability of its having done so only became known to Lieutenant Hodson at the same time that it did to myself, as he was not present when the abovementioned abstract statement was examined by the court of inquiry.



- 15. I shall here briefly enumerate the causes which led to doubt being cast upon the accounts. I believe them all but one to admit of satisfactory explanation by the accounts, and I therefore think it fair to Lieutenant Hodson to notice them in detail.
- 16. First, Lieutenant Turner, the adjutant of the regiment, expressed a belief that a duffadar, who had taken his discharge, had not been fairly treated concerning a horse purchased from him by Lieutenant Hodson; and further, that the Chunda fund of the regiment had suffered by the same transaction.
- 17. Secondly, Moonshee Nujjuf Allee asserted that Lieutenant Hodson had in August 1853 taken a large sum—about 3000 rupees—out of the regimental chest for his own purposes, when, from the fact of his pay having been retrenched in the pay-office, he had no funds to draw upon.
- 18. Thirdly, The same moonshee claimed a sum of (Company's rupees 270) Company's rupees two hundred and seventy as due to him by account from the chest, and also made two other claims on Lieutenant Hodson himself—one for (Company's rupees 65) Company's rupees sixty-five personal pay, and another for (Company's rupees 85) Company's rupees eighty-five on account of stationery, &c., for the office.
- 19. Fourthly, The same man insinuated that Lieutenant Hodson had defrauded Government of the pay of deceased men, deserters, dismounted sowars, fines, &c.
- 20. Fifthly, Moonshee Nujjuf Allee, when called upon to prove his chief allegation by his own accounts, declared that alterations had been made in the book since it left his hands.
- 21. Sixthly, Nujjuf Allee's cash-book alluded to proved, when examined before the court of inquiry, to be so full of erasures and corrections that it was pronounced unfit to be received as evidence.
- 22. Seventhly, It was supposed that there were not funds to cover certain considerable sums of money which it was known should be in the chest.



23. Eighthly, At the time of the sitting of the court a number of claims were preferred by soldiers and others for sums of money due to them on various accounts, and other miscellaneous matters which appeared to bear unfavourably on the accounts were mentioned before the court of inquiry.

24. I shall notice these eight heads in order as briefly as I can, but it is not easy in a case like this to be concise

and intelligible at the same time.

25. First, then, with regard to the case of Feroze Khan, duffadar, with the chief circumstances of which the Chief Commissioner is familiar, I need only report that I have carefully examined the various payments and repayments in the case, and believe them to be correct and true entries.

- 26. Thus Lieutenant Hodson was to give Feroze Khan, duffadar, (Company's rupees 150) Company's rupees one hundred and fifty for his horse, or another of equal value.
- 27. On the 19th of December Lieutenant Hodson advanced him (Company's rupees 150) one hundred and fifty from his private account when he was proceeding to Chuch to look for a horse.
- 28. On returning from Chuch unsuccessful Feroze Khan repaid this (Company's rupees 150) Company's rupees one hundred and fifty into the chest, and the sum, instead of being recredited to Lieutenant Hodson, was erroneously credited to Feroze Khan as a deposit.
- 29. On the 13th of January Lieutenant Hodson paid to Azadgul Khan, duffadar, (Company's rupees 200) Company's rupees two hundred from his private account for a horse purchased from him, and which had previously been made over to Feroze Khan in lieu of the 150-rupee horse taken from him.
- 30. Feroze Khan took his discharge from the 31st of January, and was paid up in full on the 3rd of March, at which time pay for January had not, however, been received. Lieutenant Hodson on this occasion repurchased the 200-rupee horse for the regiment, and advanced the money



himself, as the Chunda could not buy the horse till pay was received. At this time Feroze Khan received the original sum of 150 rupees standing incorrectly in his name as a deposit in the chest, and another 50 rupees made up as follows: 49 rupees paid to him by Lieutenant Hodson's own servant, and 1 rupee from his private account in the chest. It was the entry of this 49 rupees in a memorandum attached to the payment of 1 rupee on the 3rd of March which the Chief Commissioner drew my attention to as the only item, bad as the state of Nujjuf Allee's book was, that appeared to him really suspicious. I have, therefore, carefully examined this, as well as the previous entries, and though they are as irregular and out of rule as they can be. I cannot under the circumstances, and after having acquired a certain familiarity with Nujjuf Allee's style of book-keeping, regard any one of them as suspicious. The irregularity consists in the subjunction of explanatory notes; but as this appears to have been the moonshee's usual system, and as it is so very natural a one for a man whose natural calling was certainly not that of an accountant to pursue when his chief object was to keep a record that he should himself be able to understand, and when, in all probability, he may often not have fully understood the nature of a payment till some time after it had been made, that I cannot think that the fact of the entries being irregular and explained by notes invalidates their testimony.

31. In the case of the 49 rupees above noted, Lieutenant Hodson's recollection of the matter is, that when Feroze Khan was going he had to receive 200 rupees for the horse. The 150 rupees was paid him from deposit, and Lieutenant Hodson told an orderly whom he believed to have that amount of his in his charge to pay him the other 50. This last sum, when counted by Feroze Khan, was found to be short by 1 rupee, which Lieutenant Hodson then ordered the moonshee to give him from his account in the chest. The payment of 1 rupee to Feroze Khan from Lieutenant Hodson's private account appears on the same day that



Feroze Khan received his other balances; and to it is attached a note to the effect that Feroze Khan had really received 50 rupees, 49 of which had been paid by Lieutenant Hodson himself. Nujjuf Allee denied having added this note, but the natives who had condemned his book before the court decided that the handwriting of the note was certainly his.

32. It must be remembered that the duffadar who sold the 200-rupee horse given to Feroze Khan, and another duffadar who eventually received it after Feroze Khan's departure, are present with the regiment, while the whole circumstances of the case are known to so many that there is no room for the supposition that the truth has not been arrived at. Add to this that Feroze Khan himself, when questioned by the court, professed himself quite satisfied as far as his money dues were concerned; for I believe the root of the whole matter to have been that he had no mind to part with his original horse, and that he did not like the higher-priced horse given him in place of it half as well. It appears, however, that Lieutenant Hodson did give him opportunities of saying this if he wished it, but he did not avail himself of them, though perhaps at heart dissatisfied.

33. With regard to the idea that the Chunda fund had suffered by having to purchase a 200-rupee horse instead of a 150-rupee one, which without some explanation might have an injurious effect with those who have no exact knowledge of the working of a Chunda fund, I would put the case thus:—

34. Setting aside the case of a commanding officer, who had better have nothing to do with a transaction of the kind, suppose a subordinate officer to wish to purchase a horse from a sowar in the ranks, and to apply to his commanding officer for permission to do so, he would probably, if he obtained leave, be directed to be careful to give the man a full and fair price for the horse, or an equally good one in its place, would he not then be thought to have done the thing handsomely if he gave a 200-rupee horse in place of a 150-rupee one? And would not the whole



transaction be considered to have closed there as far as the subordinate officer was concerned? And if the sowar who had received the 200-rupee horse subsequently took his discharge, and the commanding officer resolved on purchasing the horse for the regiment, no injury would be done to the regimental fund; the lesser and the higher priced horse are both supposed to be worth their money, and each to have their respective value in the market, and the commanding officer may of course purchase any horse within the price fixed by Government that he thinks will be an acquisition to the regiment. I hope I have explained my meaning, and that the Chief Commissioner will agree in my view of the case.

35. Secondly, Nujjuf Allee's chief allegation against Lieutenant Hodson-namely, that he had in August 1853 taken a large sum out of the chest, about 3000 rupees, and in the subsequent months of the year "hundreds of rupees," when, through a retrenchment in the pay-office, he had no funds to draw upon-must fall to the ground before the fact that, owing to the transfer of the regiment from the civil to the military department, so great delay took place in the audit of the pay abstracts of the regiment that a single statement, including eight months' pay of the regiment-namely, from April to November 1853-was only received from the pay-office in February 1854, and those of December 1853 and January 1854 were received a few days later in the same month, making the audit of ten months' pay received at the regiment all in one month.

36. The pay-bills for November and December 1852 and January 1853 were received subsequently even to the above—namely, in April 1854—from the civil auditor; so that the audit of thirteen months was received in the course of three months, though the whole of these months' pay was received in advances from the civil treasury at Peshâwar; and Lieutenant Hodson, like others, received the full amount of his pay, and Nujjuf Allee's own account shows that he never exceeded it. The retrenchment

his leave.



spoken of by the moonshee certainly occurred, but it dated from the 29th of August, when Lieutenant Hodson went on leave; and the pay statement and notice of retrenchment only having been received in February 1854, Lieutenant Hodson knew nothing about it till that date. His pay was only then held in abeyance for a confirmation of

37. With regard to the three sums claimed by Nujjuf Allee, two claims seem to have been grounded in truth and were settled. The third, for a sum of 270 rupees, would not, I think, be gained in a civil court; but were it so, the money would have to be recovered from Dr Lyell, to whom it has been paid, and to whom it appears to have been due by account.

38. Nujjuf Allee's fourth allegation sounds serious; but it amounts to this, that proper records of the estates of deceased men and deserters and of fines had not been kept up, so that the money received remained in the undefined balance of the chest, while dismounted sowars had, until orders were received for a different course, invariably received full pay. In both these instances all that can be said is that Lieutenant Hodson had failed to improve upon the hitherto prevailing custom of the regiment. It will be remembered that one of Feroze Khan's causes of discontent, mentioned by him to Moonshee Nujjuf Allee, was that he heard that he was to receive dismounted pay for the time he had been looking for a horse, which had not hitherto been the custom; as it was, I believe he was about the last that received full pay for the period during which he was dismounted under the old system. During Lieutenant Hodson's command the casualties were very few in number. While Nujjuf Allee was in charge of the accounts, (6) six casualties by decease and desertion occurred, and (7) seven instances of fines, some of which latter were remitted.

39. It is hardly necessary to notice the fifth point, as in the only instance in which Nujjuf Allee particularised an entry as not his own, the competent natives who had condemned his book before the court of inquiry decided dis-



In the original payment of 200 rupees for the horse purchased for Feroze Khan, where his repudiation of the note attached might have been of importance, Nujjuf Allee, when questioned by the court, allowed that the explanatory note was his, but asserted that Lieutenant Hodson had no funds of his own in the chest at the time—an assertion sufficiently answered by the refutation of his chief charge.

40. On the sixth hand, if Nujjuf Allee's day-book be regarded as a regimental account liable to audit, I can say nothing in defence of it, as it is so cobbled and amended that it is wholly unfit for evidence; but it is an improvement on its predecessor kept by Subadâr Peer Buksh, which was seen by the members of the court of inquiry and impounded by them; and further, taken as a memorandum of all his transactions (which is, I believe, the true light in which it should be viewed), it is a good and well-detailed one, as is evidenced by its having been feasible to prepare a correct balanced account from it.

41. Besides his day-book, Nujjuf Allee also kept up nominal pay distribution rolls, written in his own hand with a steel pen: these have been, at the expense of some time and difficulty, compared with the scattered entries in the day-book and found to correspond throughout. In fact, I found no room for continuing a suspicion of the correctness of Nujjuf Allee's book, and it appears that when it suited him he himself appealed to it as unchallengeable; and further, its genuineness as a record is greatly estab-

lished by the transcript made by Moonshee Bachee Lall, which was concluded before the period when Nujjuf Allee

got into disgrace, of which fact Lieutenant Godby and myself have taken copious evidence.

42. On the seventh point has chiefly hinged the opinion at one time prevalent, that Lieutenant Hodson was a defaulter in account. It was known, in the first instance, that Lieutenant Lumsden had never made use of his command allowance, and therefore that the accumulations of it, amounting to a considerable sum, ought to be in the





chest. Lieutenant Hodson had also received clothing compensation from the Government for the years 1852-53 and 1853-54, which would amount to Company's Rs. 4000, and yet from the appearance of things there was small hope of the assets of the chest being sufficient to meet these demands; the actual cash balance was very small, the outstanding assets were unknown, and Lieutenant Hodson, when naturally called upon to explain the state of things, conscious of the fact I have before stated, of his having no clearly defined knowledge of the nature of the balance he had received, could only reiterate the conviction, which he had always had, that all was correct and capable of eventual demonstration to be so; but with regard to the account prior to his command, that he could not say positively what sums there were available in the chest on this or that head until all had been sifted and examined from first to last. I confess I do not wonder at the fact of a tribunal of officers used to regular regimental accounts not being as sanguine as Lieutenant Hodson was about the ultimate solvency of the regimental chest; but the excuse I should be inclined to put forward for Lieutenant Hodson is, that under the circumstances of the case the account could not be viewed as a mere regimental one. Large sums had been advanced from the chest for a public work, and other difficulties had occurred so completely out of common course that common rules could scarcely be applied to them.

43. I have before noticed the open statement of recoverable assets and liabilities made over by Lieutenant Turner to Lieutenant Hodson on the 10th of March 1853: this did not profess to be an infallible sketch of the state of things, but an approximation; the result, however, has been that items to the amount of 1001 rupees, unnoticed in Lieutenant Turner's memorandum, were collected, while sums, amounting in all to Company's Rs. 2071, were disbursed in excess of what Lieutenant Turner had believed to be due. Thus at the time of the sitting of the court any claims on Lieutenant Hodson, based on the supposed balance made over to him



when he took up the management of the chest, would have been liable to considerable diminution; but when questioned by the court Lieutenant Hodson had only a general idea that something of the above nature had occurred. He was, however, conscious that he had made no direct disbursements from the various funds for which he was considered liable; and under these circumstances I can easily conceive that his replies appeared uncertain and unsatisfactory-a confidence expressed with apparently no demonstrable

ground to support it.

44. The eighth point is the one I have alluded to as not admitting of perfectly satisfactory explanation. Claims on the chest appear to have been numerous, and though many of them were unimportant, and many others not claims at all, it is impossible to resist the impression that Lieutenant Hodson was in the habit of keeping men who had claims on the chest waiting a long time without examining their cases and clearing accounts with them. It is the prevailing impression which I cannot resist; for I cannot think the idea fully borne out by an examination of the cases contained in your letter, No. 188, of the 7th of December, to the address of the major-general commanding the Peshawar Division, and those mentioned before the court of inquiry. I have read through the whole of these cases, and wish to notice particularly the following heads:-

45. Out of (64) sixty-four cases in all that were brought to the notice of the court, I find that seven were claims for balances of half-mounting deductions; thirteen were on account of sums due either to individuals or Government, as estates of deceased or deserted men; thirteen were cases of fines, civil and military; six of pay forfeited and due to Government; and, lastly, only nine were claims by individuals for arrears of current pay or deductions therefrom, which is the point to which I wish particularly to draw

attention.

46. The cases of half-mounting balances were peculiar. Lieutenant Hodson stated before the court that with one exception the claimants had never made application to him



for the money, and further, as the reason of this, that it had not been the custom to pay anything to the Pathans of the neighbouring districts or belonging to countries beyond our border, on account of previous deductions for half-mounting. I do not wish to leave the subject unnoticed, but I must allow that I have not carefully examined this point. I have, however, held conversations with Major Lumsden, Lieutenant Godby, and the pay jemadar on the subject, and the result is a belief that, as a rule, all classes were considered entitled to these balances, but that they were not unfrequently withheld if a man's character was bad, or if he had injured his arms, or asked for his discharge improperly.

47. With regard to estates, the system that had always prevailed in the regiment was that any sums accruing on such accounts were paid into the chest in ordinary course of account, and only paid out again on a clearly established claim by an heir; while all unclaimed sums, though considered to be entirely the property of Government, remained in the undefined balance of the chest. This, in fact, had been the mode in which all money due to Government had been treated in the regiment from the first, and it would have been right to have mentioned this when these cases, and those of forfeited pay, were brought to the notice of the Court.

48. Of the fine cases five were civil, inflicted in due course; three had never been inflicted; and five were military, and had been realised—two from bazaar-men and three from soldiers, if I remember right, from sowars who had brought their horses back from furlough in bad condition. At present, if this happens, a man is put on dismounted pay, which is much the same thing.

49. With regard to the whole number of cases mentioned, I may say that where Lieutenant Hodson's statements in reply refer to the accounts, they are borne out by the facts.

Of scenes and events I have no knowledge.

50. But my particular business is with nine cases of claims, or asserted claims, for arrears of current pay or excess deductions therefrom. Of these, four were incorrect,





and not eventually allowed; two were for sums retrenched in the pay-office; one case had been adjusted previously; in another the money was in deposit in the hands of a native officer; and the ninth was due, and had to be paid, but the claimant failed to prove that he had applied to Lieutenant Hodson for the money.

51. It must be remembered, at the same time, that Lieutenant Godby, who had, I believe, been called upon to ascertain all claims that existed against Lieutenant Hodson with the regiment, gave public notice that all who had them to make must speak then or be silent afterwards. It is certain, therefore, that every one who thought he had a chance of gaining by coming forward did so; and it is a very important point in the case, that it should be seen that there were no real complaints to be made on the score of pay.

52. With reference to this I must mention that Lieutenant Hodson had, under circumstances of really great difficulty, paid up the whole regiment to the end of October 1854, and cleared accounts with every man in it for all the advances that each had received while audit was pending. In doing this the following anomalous occurrence (when judged by ordinary rules) took place—namely, that he paid the regiment for the three months of May, June, and August with August's pay and half June's, aided by a large sum received as reaudits on former abstracts, and completed by a sum advanced from the chest.

53. I must put this in figures, for it will be hardly comprehensible or credible without them.

54. I must first mention that the deputy paymaster in several instances refunded the whole or a part of an abstract into the Peshâwar treasury on account of previous advances received for the corps, merely transmitting to the commanding officer the statement and retrenchment paper, by which he learned that whereas, in some former month, he had obtained a loan of Company's Rs. 17,000 from the civil treasury on his own idea of what what was due to the regiment, only Company's Rs. 15,000 had eventually been



passed, and the balance had either to be recovered in arrears from the men or from the military auditor-general after correspondence and representation, while the abstracts passed for the current pay of the regiment were being refunded by the paymaster direct into the civil treasury in lieu of these former advances.

55. Received by the Guide chest:-

On the 19th June the audited pay abstract for May 1854 was received. Total passed after retrenchments, Rs. 15,637.

On the 25th of July the audited pay abstract for June was received. Total passed after retrenchments, Rs. 15,570.11.11.

This whole amount paid into the Peshawar treasury direct by the deputy paymaster on account of former advances.

Of this Company's Rs. 7849.12.1 paid direct by the deputy paymaster into the Peshawar treasury.

Balance available on the two months' abstract, Rs. 7720.15.10.

56. The above refunds were not to cover advances for the months for which the abstracts were passed, but on account of transactions of a long prior date. The audited abstract for April 1854, amounting to Company's rupees 20,613.15.10, had been in the same way paid direct into the Peshawar treasury in lieu of advances of the former year; and the regiment being left entirely without pay, Lieutenant Hodson was obliged to get an advance of that sum again from the treasury, and it was to repay this advance for April, and an outstanding balance of former advances, that the above two sums were refunded direct into the Peshawar treasury from the pay of the regiment for May and June, leaving Lieutenant Hodson half a month's pay with which to pay the regiment for the two months named.

To continue.

57. On the 22nd of August the audited pay abstract for July was received. Total passed after retrenchments, Company's rupees 17,582.5.10, and the money being received in full, was disbursed to the regiment—May and June still remaining unadjusted.



On the 22nd of September audited abstract for August received in full Also sums allowed in reaudit to the	Rs.	17,285	8	3
amount of		13,028	13	7
	Rs.	30,314	5	10

58. These reaudits were the property of the chest, having been recovered after correspondence on account of sums which had been paid from the chest, but audit withheld for a time, while the whole of Lieutenant Hodson's debt to the Peshâwar civil treasury had been refunded indiscriminately from his passed abstracts.

59. This sum, therefore, was available to make good the deficiency in the months of May and June, from the abstracts of which only the balance before-mentioned remained available—pamely Company's

the abstracts of which only the balance	before-mentioned			
remained available—namely, Company's rupees	7,720	15 10		
Add August's pay and amount received in reaudits with it	30,314	5 10		
Total by abstracts	Rs. 38,035	5 *8		
regimental chest	8,380	0 3		
Total amount required to pay the regiment for May, June, and				
August	Rs. 46,415	5 11		

of the pay of the European officers, and the whole was subsequently refunded by repayments on the fort account. Lieutenant Hodson had advanced about (Company's rupees 11,000) Company's rupees eleven thousand in all to the fort works, and eventually repaid it on receipt of assignments from the chief engineer; but a portion of the above sum, due as officers' pay, having been suddenly called for, he was obliged to obtain a loan from the banker of Major Chamberlain's corps for the immediate want,—a slight



complication, which led to misconstruction in two instances.

61. The Company's rupees 46,415.5.11 was disbursed as follows:—

Pay of the cavalry for Ma	y, June, and	l Aug	ast	Rs. 24,	713	5	8
Ditto, infantry	ditto,			15,	900	9	6
European officers and esta	blishments			* 5,	801	6	9
	Total			Rs. 46,	415	5	11
* European officers, Lieutena	nts Hardinge	and Ho	dson	Rs.	2125	1	0
Doctor Dalzel					141	12	6
Establishments					574	8	0
Arrears to furlough men					2960	1	3
	Total			Rs.	5801	6	9

On the 21st of October audited abstracts for September were received in full and disbursed to the regiment. On the 18th of November those for October were received and disbursed.

62. I would draw attention to the dates on which these abstracts were received and audited in all the months I have mentioned, as they are good evidence that the monthly papers were made out and sent off regularly and without delay. During my command I have had difficulty in ensuring the receipt of pay in time to complete the disbursement of one month before the close of the following one.

63. Thus by the expedient above described, and by keep ing the men alive with petty advances, Lieutenant Hodson avoided the necessity of again applying for an advance from the civil treasury, which system, unavoidable under the circumstances, had caused such confusion and difficulty in his accounts; and on the disbursement of October's pay (which took place on the last days of November and the beginning of December) the whole pay accounts of the regiment had been put on a sound footing. The advances previously made as subsistence to the men had been recovered (a necessity which fell heavy on many that had



forestalled their pay by advances begged from the chest), and the long outstanding difficulties connected with the pay of the regiment bad been overcome.

64. It was almost immediately after this that a court was assembled to inquire into Lieutenant Hodson's conduct in the matter of Feroze Khan's horse, and he never rejoined his appointment; but he left the regiment paid up to date, and all the long-pending accounts of the men squared, and though complaints were, as I have before shown, invited, no valid ones were made on the score of

current pay or excess deductions.

65. With regard, then, to the outstanding claims against the chest which Lieutenant Hodson had failed to examine and clear off, it is, I think, a fair presumption that as he had with careful endeavour surmounted his chief difficulty, he would eventually have adjusted all minor matters as well; and further, that as there were, as you will see by the balance-sheet, as many and as large sums due to the chest as claimable from it when Lieutenant Hodson's conduct became the subject of inquiry, placing the credits and debits of this nature in juxtaposition considerably softens the unfavourable aspect of the eighth point under notice.

66. I enclose the following papers, which will, I hope, fully explain the nature of the account and the mode of

its final adjustment:-

(1) General summary of receipts and disbursements from the 10th of March 1853 to 31st December 1854.

(2) General balanced ledger of the above period.

(3) Statement of balance.

(4) Detail of ditto as far as known.

67. Such is the account. I may briefly such up my opinion by saying that I believe it to be an Lonest and correct record from beginning to end. It has been irregularly kept, but every transaction, from the least to the greatest, has been noted in it, and is traceable to the individuals concerned; for it must be remembered that while we have been sitting in committee on the accounts at



Murdan, nearly every man mentioned in the transactions of the chest has been present with the regiment, and throughout the inquiry I have found Lieutenant Hodson's statements borne out by the facts of the case, while in some instances where doubts had been engendered by a want of knowledge of details they were removed by working through the minutiæ of the account. At the same time, though the account was faithfully kept, it was not systematically checked; and you will see that several considerable mistakes and miscreditings remain to be corrected. Both Lieutenant Hodson and Dr Lyell have received overcredits in their private accounts which they have to make good, and two sums are found to be due to Major Lumsden and Lieutenant Miller; an item of error in account is due by Moonshee Nujjuf Allee, and several smaller sums due from Government on account of pay can only be recovered by special audit.

68. These are the skimmings of an irregular unchecked account of two years' standing. They argue want of system, and are only explicable on the grounds that inquiry broke in while adjustment was in progress; but, on the other hand, I do not for a moment regard them as suspicious, nor would the members of a court of inquiry view them as such, should one eventually be ordered for the examination of the accounts, when the adoption or amendment of this statement would probably form the basis of their

report.

69. The explanation is, as I have before shown, that Lieutenant Hodson had only just emerged from his chief difficulty—namely, the confused state of the current pay of the regiment—when he became involved in other troubles which prevented his applying himself to a thorough balancing of the whole account, and without that no clearance could be effected. But this task would have required even from him a large portion of the labour and application which was eventually found necessary for it, though of course he (Lieutenant Hodson) could have taken large



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divisions of the account for granted as correct which we have been obliged to work through step by step; and I do not think it extraordinary that, engaged as he was in other duties, he did not manage to find time for this.

70. A natural course would have been for Lieutenant Hodson to have made more use than he appears to have done of his natural assistants—namely, his subordinate officers; and I can answer for one who has been present with the regiment during the period of my command, having had every qualification to render him an efficient assistant; but with regard to this it is fair to mention that in the latter part of 1854 he was a good deal alone, Lieutenant Godby being on leave for several months in the autumn, and Lieutenant Turner having been attached, from July of

that year I believe, to another corps.

71. Lieutenant Hodson had civil and political charge of Eusufzye, and had further the building of a large fort to superintend, and the two duties were calculated in a great measure to distract his attention from regimental matters; still I have shown that he certainly did not neglect them, and that the state of the regiment, as regarded the most important item of pay, was healthy, and supported by regular distribution rolls, &c., while the collateral accounts of Chunda and clothing were fully kept, and had been the subject of care and labour. The accounts of the regiment were made over to Moonshee Goordeal in April 1854, and from that time the vernacular cash-book was kept accurately and clearly. A regular Chunda account, containing every necessary detail, had been kept up from July 1853. From April 1854 regular distribution rolls, containing full details of all deductions and the balance paid to each individual, were regularly kept; also vernacular copies of the pay abstracts with details of retrenchments and deductions in the pay office; also a separate debtor and creditor account, showing each soldier's transactions with the chest, and the sum deducted from him on account of clothing, accoutrements, &c. All these books have come



greatly into employment in making out the account. A monthly balancing of the transaction of the cash-book would have kept all clear.

72. I should mention that where I have alluded to what occurred before the court of inquiry I have drawn my information from Lieutenant Hodson's transcript of the proceedings, which, I believe, he wrote down from the dictation of the deputy judge advocate-general. Any allusion of mine that appears incorrect can be immediately

set right by reference to the original papers.

73. This statement has run to a great length; a short one would scarcely have matched the rest of the proceedings in the case. I am aware that I have in one instance noticed a matter (that of the horse purchased from Feroze Khan) which must have been fully examined and reported on by the court of inquiry. As the case, however, involved four entries in the books, the credibility of which it was the main part of my duty to ascertain and report upon, I do not think that there can be impropriety in my noticing it: I am quite unaware of the opinion given by the court on the subject, and therefore I cannot be supposed to be anxious to oppose or amend it. I merely give my own opinion on what has come under my notice, and if I have entered into more details than was actually necessary, I am sure that the fact of Lieutenant Hodson's honesty and honour having been assailed with regard to this regimental account, and my examination of the case having convinced me that there was nothing whatever in the accounts to afford grounds for the imputation, and, moreover, that he had had most unusual difficulties to contend with, will sufficiently account for my doing my best to show that I have demonstrable grounds for the opinion I have formed.

74. Lieutenant Godby, who assisted me throughout the laborious examination of the accounts with a wish to understand them himself and do Lieutenant Hodson every justice, appends a certificate to this statement to the effect





that he is perfectly satisfied with regard to the correctness of the whole account.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant.

REYNELL G. TAYLOR, Major, Late Commandant Guide Corps.

True copy.

REYNELL G. TAYLOR, Major, Deputy Commissioner.

From Major Reynell G. Taylor, late officiating Commandant Guide Corps, to Major H. B. Lumsden, Commandant Guide Corps. Dated Jhelum, 13th February 1856.

SIR,—In your demi-official letter of the 31st ultimo to my address you say that from your recollection of my report on Lieutenant Hodson's accounts, which I have read to you at Peshâwar, you think that the tenor of it will convey the impression that you had made over the accounts of the regiment to Lieutenant Hodson in such a state that all his subsequent difficulties were the natural result of it.

- 2. I take, therefore, this opportunity of saying distinctly that it is very far from my intention to convey the idea that you unfairly bequeathed labour and difficulty to your successor.
- 3. It is, indeed, very clearly my opinion that one of the chief causes of the difficulties which subsequently occurred was the undefined balance of the chest, which not having been clearly ascertained and set aside at first by Lieutenant Hodson, vitiated the whole of the subsequent accounts; but this view of the case does not affect you: the difficulties you had had to contend with were great and well known, and on leaving you left large balances, both public and private, in the chest, while you believe that all was then intelligible if Lieutenant Hodson had taken pains to master the difficulty at once.



4. This he certainly did not do, as I have described in my report; and though you may be correct in your memory and belief, you must not quarrel with me if, as I have in the course of this inquiry encountered a good deal of inadequate appreciation of the difficulty of working up arrears of long-unchecked accounts, I still retain an opinion that the task of clear and rapid comprehension might have proved more difficult than you suppose.

5. But all that I wish to point out is, that the task of detailing the large balance of the chest was never accomplished. I have conversed with all the officers concerned, and none of them wished, or pretended to say, that it had been; still this would not have so much signified if Lieutenant Hodson had made strenuous efforts at once, on taking charge, to ascertain the exact amount of this balance, and had set it aside as a distinct item due by him. This he did not do, seeing no urgent necessity for it, and the money came and went as it was paid in or properly called for; and in the end he positively did not know the real sum he was liable for. It is not my intention to defend this, though perhaps carried away by my subject, and thinking of the far worse things that were laid to his charge, I have written warmly in my report as if there was nothing to be quarrelled with. I only contend that all was natural and explicable, and in a great measure brought on by circumstances.

6. There are many things, I am aware, that appear in Lieutenant Hodson's final balance-sheet which are utterly indefensible as matters of regular regimental account, and I have not wished to defend them. At the same time, I do not think it would be right or generous to condemn him for them under the circumstances of the case, considering the efforts he had made to clear the pay accounts, and the way in which he was brought to a sudden stop, after which the adjustment of any items would have been improper and suspicious. The fact of mistakes being worked out in an account by labour and careful examination is satisfactory



proof of the honesty of the record, though sad evidence of its not having been carefully checked.

7. In forwarding the papers to the military secretary to the Chief Commissioner, I have noted all the items which are, I consider, irrecoverable or doubtful: they include those you allude to. The amount under both heads, however, will not exceed 250 rupees, and the bulk of the balance ought to be realised without difficulty.

8. Now I am going to say what you must know full well—namely, that the task that has employed me more or less during the whole time that I have been with the regiment has been a most uncomfortable one, as it has placed me to a certain extent in the position of a scrutiniser, and in a slight measure condemner, of the acts of men whose services to Government have been greater than my own. I hope I need not say that the duty would never have been entered into as fully as it has but for the hope of assisting a man whose case had been submitted to me, and whom I believe to be to a great extent a victim of circumstances, while I considered his honour clear in all that came under my notice.

9. The whole papers in Lieutenant Hodson's case go in to-day, and a copy of this letter accompanies them.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

REYNELL G. TAYLOR, Major, late officiating Commandant Guide Corps.

True copy.

REVNELL G. TAYLOR, Major, Deputy Commissioner.



APPENDIX B.

THE following correspondence seems to indicate the unkindly spirit in which Major H. Edwardes, the Commissioner of Peshâwar, took up the case of Khadir Khan against his alleged oppressor. It is evident from Hodson's answers to the questions put by Captain Cripps that the Pathân chief of Turu was not the sort of man whose word could be trusted in any dispute with an English officer.

No. 67.

From Captain J. M. Cripps, A.C., to Lt. Hodson, late in civil charge of Yusafzai. Dated Mardan, 2nd August 1855.

SIE,—Being at present engaged in investigating the claims of Khadir Khan of Turu to compensation for losses sustained by him to the extent of C. Rs. 15,151.7.3 (exclusive of some bonds for large sums of money) whilst in confinement at Peshâwar, I have to request the favour of being furnished with information on the following points:—

1st, At the time of confiscation of the Khan's property was any person placed in charge of his dwelling-house at Turu and the property contained within it; also, if a list of such property was prepared?

2nd, If any property was taken out of the small house situated within the enclosure around the Khan's estate, the door of which was nailed up?

3rd, If the attachment of the property took place in



presence of any of the friends or relations of the Khan, and if so, who were they?

4th, If the cash taken from the house of Shaikh Mian was counted in your presence; and was the Shaikh present at such time?

5th, Were any camels of the Khan's employed in conveying materials to the Fort, and if so, how many and at what rate of hire?

2nd, A few days subsequent to my arrival in Yusafzai I proceeded to Turu, and broke open the door of the small house alluded to in 2nd question. The only property discovered consisted of some shawls and chogas much damaged by damp; but in one corner there was a large chest which had evidently been broken open, and the Khan states that in that chest were contained his most valuable jewels, none of which are forthcoming.

3rd. I shall be obliged for any information you can supply regarding the proceedings taken at the time of confiscation, to enable me to arrive at some decision regarding the justness or otherwise of the Khan's claims.-I have the honour

to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

J. M. CRIPPS, A.C.

No. 106.

To Captain Cripps, Asst. Commissioner, Yusafzai. Dated Mardan, Sept. 4th, 1855.

SIR,-I regret that I have been unable to reply earlier to your letter, No. 67, dated 2nd ulto.

I reply to your questions in the order in which they

occur.

1st, Khadir Khan's property was not "confiscated" on his arrest. It was attached by my orders, with a view to its safety. His house, cattle, and horses were left in charge of his own family. The acting thanadar of Mardan, Rahmat Ali, was placed with 4 barkandazes at the exterior gateway



of Khadir Khan's house to prevent any of the live stock or horses or other property being taken away. As far as I recollect, a list of the live stock was made out. This, I conclude, will be among the vernacular file of papers con-

nected with the proceedings.

2ndly, The property contained in the chest in the small house alluded to in your 2nd question and 2nd paragraph was opened in my presence, and the property it contained (consisting of ornaments, a few jewels, and gold and silver trinkets) taken out before me. The whole (together with some books and papers) was taken by me to camp and placed in a box (secured by a letter-lock which could be opened by no one but myself) under the guard at my tents. A detailed list of the contents was made out in my presence and carefully compared by myself, and eventually the whole was handed over by me personally after a strict comparison This list is, or was, on the file. Thus I am with the list. in a position to state with confidence that the whole property so recorded was produced and made over. Wherefore, supposing that the property detailed in the list referred to was restored to Khadir Khan, his statement as to the contents of the chest not being forthcoming must be entirely false.

3rdly, The Khan's brother and son and several of his people were present when the search above mentioned took place, and when the property was removed. The son himself handed over to me some of the books and papers.

4thly, The cash taken from the house of Shaik Mian was

not counted in my presence, but at the tahsil.

5thly, Some camels of Khadir Khan's were employed on the public works. They were fed, the sowars employed on them were paid regular wages, and pack-saddles, &c., made up and repaired for them. All such sums were paid out of public works account and charged in my bills. At this distance of time I cannot state numbers or rates from memory. The female and young camels and those unfit for work were left with the family.

2. With regard to your last par., I shall be glad to give







you information on any point in my power. The attachment was conducted by myself personally to ensure no injury being done or annoyance given to the women of the family. There was scarcely any property of any kind in the place save horses, cattle, and corn, none of which were removed, with the single exception of the contents of the chest already alluded to. If these have been made over to the Khan, together with the live stock, I should unhesitatingly say that he can have suffered no loss of any property which was visible on his estate at the time of the attachment.—I have, &c.,

W. R. H.

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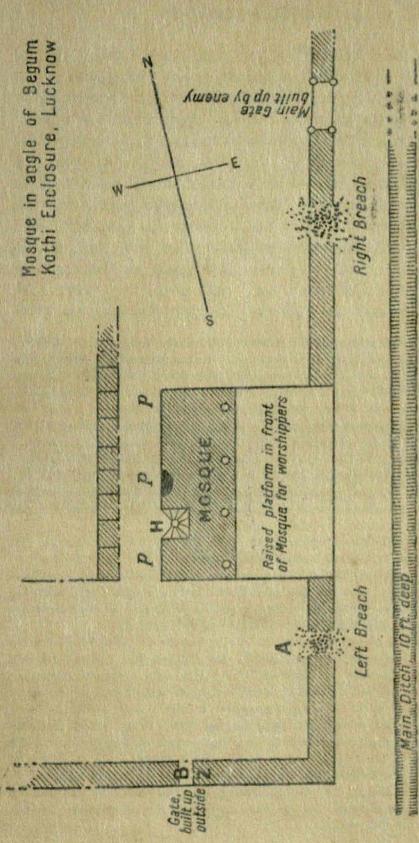
APPENDIX C.

In his 'Recollections of a Highland Subaltern' (E. Arnold, 1898), Lieut.-Colonel W. Gordon-Alexander gives the following trustworthy account of what happened just after the

storming of the Begam's Palace :--

"As I turned round again towards the breach, I noticed two officers, whom I took to be on the staff, clambering over it, and when they reached the bottom on the inside, proceed arm-in-arm to skirt the wall of the platform on which the mosque stood, and, merely glancing at the firing going on in our corner, make for the passage or lane which led to their right. Believing that this lane was bordered by rooms harbouring desperate fellows in concealment, similar to those at the gateway we were then dealing with, I called to a man of my company below to run towards these two officers, one of whom I had just recognised as Hodson of Hodson's Horse, and warn them to be careful. As I was descending the ladder to terra firma a tremendous explosion made me pause and turn round, to witness what was evidently the explosion of the large mine at the breach where the right wing had entered. . . .

"The man I had sent across the court to warn Hodson was the 'funny man' of No. 6 company, called John Dougherty, a Glasgow Irishman. . . . As there was no further need for me in that corner, and my men of No. 6 company were only hanging about waiting for the sepoys penned into the gateway (B in plan) to be blown up, I called out to them, when I had descended the ladder, to follow me, and doubled across the courtyard after Hodson and his friend. Dougherty, unfortunately, did not catch



A, Position of Napier and Hodson when first seen by autitor, who was then on the roof at Z, trying to drive some sepays out of B, H, Stairway where Major Hodson was wounded. N.B.-Roberts entered by the right breach. P.P.P., Passage between back of mosque and pilgrims' lodgings.



them up, and before they had gone many yards down the passage (PPP) which ran along out of our square at the back of the mosque, Hodson turned into the first doorway he came to on his right (the only doorway on that side of the passage), which opened into the foot of a narrow short staircase (marked H on the plan) leading up into the mosque above. Immediately one or two shots were fired, and Hodson staggered back. Dougherty never stopped, but ran in to the door and pinned the man who shot Hodson with his bayonet before he had time to reload. There was only one other sepoy in the doorway, and he was bayoneted too; and when they were both hauled out into the roadway I noticed the stair, up which

Colonel Malleson, at p. 271 of his fourth volume, thus records Hodson's death: "He had joined the storming-party, had entered the breach with Robert Napier, and had been separated from him in the milie. He was not wounded during the storm; but after the breach had been gained, he rushed forward to seek for sepoys who might be concealed in the dark rooms and recesses of the palace." I must here draw attention to the facts, which I can personally vouch for and have recorded in the text, which traverse all the statements put by me in italics in the above quotation. Major Hodson did not join our storming-party, and could not have found any position in it if he had; he was in no milie, but walked in quietly arm-in-arm with his friend, Brigadier Napier, over the left breach, and therefore "rushed" nowhere.

As Colonel Malleson has recorded in his History his own opinion that the execution by Hodson himself of the "princes of the House of Taimur" was "needless slaughter," I here venture to assert that he would not have found two men amongst the magnificent heroes of the Delhi besieging force, not three among Sir Colin Campbell's relief and siege of Lucknow

force in 1857 and 1858, who would have agreed with him.

As to the unsupported assertion by the author of 'The Life of Lord Lawrence,' Professor Bosworth Smith, that Hodson was "killed in the act of looting in a house in Lucknow," Mr Smith never answered either my challenge, published in the 'St James's Gazette' and dated May 23, 1883, nor the challenges of other eyewitnesses of Hodson's death which appeared in other London newspapers, including the 'Daily News,' about the same time, denying the base accusation—challenges which certainly called for the production of the evidence upon which such a charge could be based by Mr Smith; or, failing that, for an ample apology for having ventured to make such a charge. Mr Smith ought not only to have admitted that he had been misinformed, but to have apologised for propagating such a slander. He did neither.



two more of my men mounted step by step, prodding with their bayonets above them till they ascertained there were no more Pandies in hiding there.

"When I re-emerged from the staircase Hodson had been borne away, and his friend, who, I afterwards heard, was our chief engineer, Brigadier Robert Napier, had also disappeared."

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APPENDIX D.

THE following verses by Sir Mortimer Durand, K.C.S.I., appeared in an Indian newspaper shortly after Hodson's death. They have since been quoted by Mr David Ross in his 'Land of the Five Rivers and Sindh.' They are supposed to represent the feelings of an old Sikh warrior, Attar Singh:—

"I rode to Delhi with Hodson: there were three of my father's sons; Two of them died at the foot of the Ridge, in the line of the Mori's guns.

I followed him on when the great town fell; he was cruel and cold, they said:

The men were sobbing around me the day that I saw him dead.

It is not soft words that a soldier wants; we know what he was in fight;

And we love the man that can lead us, ay, though his face be white.

And when the time shall come, sahib, as come full well it may, When all things are not fair and bright, as all things seem to-day, When foes are rising round you fast, and friends are few and cold, And half a yard of trusty steel is worth a prince's gold, Remember Hodson trusted us, and trust the old blood too, And as we followed him—to death—our sons will follow you."

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