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(3)

(NECESSITY OF INTERFERENCE IN AFFAIRS OF NATIVE STATES)

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⑥
4/11/18
Types to 4 pages

6.1

The proposed paragraphs on the affairs of Jyepore appear to be written much more in the spirit of an advocate than of a judge. The writer, it must be confessed, has displayed much critical ability, and has certainly pointed out many apparent inconsistencies in the course of the policy which has been adopted at different times and under various circumstances. It is, however, much more easy for men at a distance to make observations, and to cast reflections, than for Political Agents to decide when emergencies arise.

The question of interference in the affairs of protected and dependent principalities has been repeatedly discussed. The sum of all that has been urged against the interposition of our authority amounts to this; that interference should never be exercised except in cases of obvious necessity, either for the enforcement of our own rights as the paramount (p 82) authority, or for the purpose of terminating or averting disputes, which, if permitted to take their course, might disturb the tranquility of countries over which our supremacy has been established; and eventually affect the peace and safety of our own provinces.

As it is manifestly impossible to prescribe for every case which may arise, much must necessarily be left to the discretion of those who are engaged in the local administration of affairs. Nothing could be more pleasant than to sit calmly upon the eminence which we occupy and to witness the prevalence of good order among the petty states who acknowledge our political superiority, without any strenuous effort on our part to prevent aggression, or to exact the fulfillment of tributary obligations. If this could be effected by the promulgation of those just and equitable principles of international law by which we are anxious to regulate our own conduct, it would be well. But the result of experience has unfortunately proved, that (p 83) the relaxation of the influence and authority which we have acquired by the expenditure of blood and treasure, is generally, not to say uniformly, followed by the manifestation of a desire to prosecute objects inconsistent with our views and interests. Hence the utmost vigilance is requisite in order to keep things in the proper places, and to ensure the continuance of the relations which we have established. Whilst all around us is in a state of mutation we cannot expect to maintain our ground by relinquishing a system of constant and active control adapted to current of events. The extension of our direct authority over the territories of vassal chieftains, will often be most effectually prevented, by a timely interposition of our power where it is obviously manifest that the ruler is pursuing a course which if unchecked would disable him for performing his engagements, and induce him to commit himself in hostile proceedings.

These observations are very trite. They have suggested themselves on the perusal (p 84) of the querulous and vituperative language of the paragraphs proposed for the Board's adoption, which after all the labour that has been bestowed in pointing out the errors of past proceedings, do not indicate the means of guarding against the evil of interference on the one hand, and against the still greater evil, on the other hand, of looking on with indifference upon the progress of a system of misrule which must terminate in the dissolution of an alliance, deliberately sought, by us, and established with considerable difficulty.

July 28th, 1829

B.S.J (B.S.Jones)

IOR: L/PS/2/45: Pre-Com and Drafts on Jyepore and Kotah (withdrawn)
Note by BS Jones: L/PS/2/46 is concerned with Oodeypoor.

The collections to these (withdrawn) drafts on Rajpootana are from Nos 29672-29715 (vols 1089-1111). The period covered is October 1817 to early 1829. The Drafts were withdrawn in Aug 1831.

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6.2

(WITHDRAWAL OF RAJPOOTANA DRAFTS 1829- 1830)

East India House
4th August 1831.

Sir,

I am commanded by the court of directors to state, in reply to your letter of the 21st May last, respecting the drafts Nos 145 c 149 on the affairs of ~~Rajpootana~~ Rajpootana, that the great length of time, which has elapsed since the first preparation of the/drafts, to gether with the great difference of /se opinion, which has arisen during their progress, respecting the policy of non-interference in the internal administration of protected states, render it, in the court's opinion, desirable, that the entire subject should be reconsidered, and that whatever instructions it may be deemed expedient to send to India, respecting the states of Rajpootana, should be founded on the results of more recent proceedings. I have therefore to request the Board's permission, that the Drafts Nos 145 to 149 may be withdrawn.

I have the honour to be Sir,
Your most obedient humble servant
P. Auber (secretary)

Thomas Hyde Villiers Esq.

(Draft: To Mr Auber 9th August 1831)

Sir,

I am directed by the Commissioners for the Affairs of India to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, in which the court request the Board's consent that Drafts Nos 145 to 149 on the affairs of Rajpootana may be withdrawn, in view ~~of~~ to a reconsideration of the subject and the preparation of an instruction to the local government founded on "the results of more recent proceedings".

The Board accordingly direct me (p 1/2) to ~~re~~ signify their consent to the course recommended by the court.

I am &c
T. Hyde Villiers.

IOR:L/PS/2/45: pp 1/1-2, and 1/5: The intervening pages contain an internal memo in the Board on the court's request. This volume probably contains all the correspondence between the Board and the court on these Drafts, in addition to the paragraphs pertaining to Jyepore (20-73) and Kotah (74-117, 96-135) and the various alterations, additions etc and the notes and memoranda pertaining to them. The second volume (L/PS/2/46) is mainly on Oodeypoor (paras 136-83, 184-215)., and contains similar notes, memos etc.

Though some references may have occurred to Rajpootana in earlier Political Dispatches etc these Drafts contained the first comprehensive survey of Rajpootana affairs. Hence the collections pertaining to them stretch from 1817-29 and probably include, if not all, most of the correspondence relating to their affairs during this period. The collections are in 23 volumes and may add to over 15,000 pages in manuscript (perhaps some 3000-4000 in type)

6.3

Board of Control's proposed additions to Rajpootana Drafts 1829-30
(Extract)

141/m. We can find no excuse for the extravagant expenditure which Captain Tod allowed to take place in the personal establishment of the Rana, an expenditure which is represented to have increased (p 79) from 1000 rupees a month, at which it stood when the Rana subsisted upon the bounty of Zalim Sing, to 1000 rupees a day, when its means must have been partly furnished by loans made under our guarantee, and by sums which should have been appropriated under the treaty, to the payment of our tribute. Had the amount of the arrears of our tribute been remitted to the ryot, we would have understood the reasons of such indulgence; but we cannot understand on what ground the Rana was permitted to consume in extravagance what really belonged to us.

141/n. In the course of four years, the revenue of the Rana seems to have stood as follows:

1818-9	Rs 4,51,281	
1819-20	Rs 6,59,100	
1820-21	Rs 10,18,478	
1821-22	Rs 9,36,640	(p 80)

Yet not a rupee of our tribute amounting to 7,90,747 was realized and two debts from the Rana to us, the first amounting to 87,042 for money advanced in 1818 and the other to 32,085 for arrears of pay advanced to the garrison of Komulmain (?), equally remained unpaid, so that by the departure of Captain Tod the total debt of the Ranah to the British Government was Rs 9,09,875.

141/o. It is a matter of much surprise to us that the non-payment of the sums due to us by treaty did not excite your attention, and lead to enquiry on your part as to the cause of such a circumstance, which must have seemed the more remarkable as Captain Tod's accounts stated the great improvement of the territory under his advice and management. (pp 81)

152/a. We entirely approve of your having declined taking any fixed tribute, in lieu of the tribute varying according to the amount of revenue by the terms of the treaty.

152/b. It is desirable that the protected Government and ourselves should have a common interest in the increase of the revenue, for that increase can only be permanent when it arises from the increased prosperity of the country.

152/c. That the condition of the country was improved and that Captain Tod acquired (p 82) the love and gratitude of the people of Meywar we have the unsuspected testimony of Bishpp Heber who passed through Rajpootana in 1825 and Captain Cobbe frankly admits the same fact in his letter of the 15th September 1823 in these terms: "It will be satisfactory to Government as it is honorable to Captain Tod, that our connection with Meywar is regarded by all the middling and lower classes of inhabitants as the greatest blessing heaven could have bestowed."

152/d. We shall now advert to your proceedings in respect to the hill districts. (end of additions on p 82)

IOR: L/PS/2746: Rajpootana: Drafts and Pre-Coms: 1829-30: Pol & Foreign: (withdrawn): The above is all in red ink.

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Co-urt's proposed paras in Rajpootana Drafts (withdrawn) 1829-30
 (Extract)

152. In the above proceedings there are some points which demand more detailed observations.

153. First with regard to the revenue and tribute ,

154. Captain Tod concluded a quinquennial settlement for the Khalsa lands of Meywar on a jumma increasing progressively from Rs 6,42,500 the first year to Rs 12,27,602 in the fifth and stated the annual aggregate of the Sayer (p 82) duties at Rs 2,22,800.

155. He at the same time sent up a detailed statement of the produce of all the pergunnahs in Meywar in the Sumbut year 1820 or AD 1764, amounting to Rs 70,64,497 viz 61,46,214 Jageer and Khalsa, and 7,14,175 Sasanie or charity land with an abstract of all lands antecedently or subsequently alienated, viz:

Under Scindiah	Rs 6,84,050
Under Holkar	19,43,485
Under Marwar	4,01,120
Under a chief in Ajmere	56,100
	<u>30,84,755</u>

of
 The total/lands now (p 83) remaining under the Rana's Government being:

Sasanie or charitable land	6,25,000	
Khalsa	12,00,000	
Jageer	<u>21,54,752</u>	
	39,79,742	70,64,497.

156. To have made this statement of any avail for the purposes of comparison he should have stated the Jaghire and Khalsa separately throughout especially in the statement of 1764. We cannot imagine any reason for his not having done so but his knowledge that such a comparison would have shewn what his successor has so strongly asserted that (p 84) he had sacrificed the Rana's interests to those of the Thakoors.

Memo (at Board) on para 156 (between pp 82-3)

The inference which the court draw at the conclusion of this paragraph is not a necessary consequence of the premises because Captain Tod might not have been in possession of the materials by which to distinguish the Jageer and Khalsa separately at so remote a period as 1764, while he could have no difficulty in making such distinction as to the time at which he was writing, and because the insinuation against Captain Tod of having unduly favored the native chiefs does not appear to be well founded. (see paragraph 106 of the introductory memo and the proposed alteration of para 141 in which the subject is adverted to)

It is suggested that the latter part of paragraph 156 be omitted, and the former part of the paragraph be altered as pencilled.

IOR:L/PS/2/46: Note: Paras 154 and 155 are after initially omitting them later restored by the Board in the final shape of the draft. A marginal note says "Restored see para 123 c 5". These are on pages 134-5.