

Richard Johnson, Resident Hyderabad to Bengal: 30,10.1784
(latter part)

53

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above
10.1
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13 pages

Upon a review of the powers in Hindoostan, which from opposition of interests to yours and from situation or position and resources can essentially answer the views of the French, three will stand foremost: Nizan, Tippoo and that part of the Poona Government, which ranges under Nana. A brief consideration of the leading points in the present views and circumstances of these states may lead (p 949) to some conclusion to the question how best to defeat their possible connection with a foreign enemy.

Their junction during the last war, partly under ideal and partly under actual French influence; against us, is well known. We have at this moment treaties of alliance offensive and defensive with each of them in full force. Notwithstanding which there are reasons why each of these separately as well as generally are not really as apparently joined in interest with us. So far to the contrary that they separately and jointly seek and hold their safety, under the French connection without any other check than what exists in their fears, of being overlaid by so powerful an ally, Their prejudices against Europeans in general, and their experience of French ambition. These may be thought heavy checks, but the two first operate against us, as well as them, and the last is outweighed by fear of present danger. The English power is most visible and near of the two, therefore most apprehended: whilst the approach of the French power (p 950) however fatal in the end, in its first advances, is viewed as an aid and refuge. In their bosoms they wish to gather the first benefit of the French connection without admitting the subsequent danger. But their intrinsic weakness, leaves no room, to expect they can succeed in so difficult an attempt. The very contrary is probable, that they will become disappointed of the benefit, and suffer the ultimate detriment, of being absorbed in the French power if only (?) admitted among them.

IOR: P/B/3: pp 946-59

10.2

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Richard Johnson, Resident at Hyderabad to Governor General & Council
(Extract)

: 30.10.1784.

Of the three powers above named, particularly participating the Deccan with us, the Nizam altho the greatest name, is least in power, and last in point of position, having no seacoasts or good ports; consequently he is not the most sought and cultivated by the French, nor is he the most anxious of the three to suit (?) them. He may therefore be the easiest for us to detach and loosen from the combination: and hence the most advisable to begin with. The Nizam bears the highest rank and claims in the (p 951) Deccan, which is tacitly acknowledged as far as reconcilable with weightier (?) objects. He is hence the nominal and occasionally the actual channel for managing and settling their combinations and interests. He advises the general line adopted to their respective views, and it becomes often followed: as in the case of the last junction (?), which was planned, proposed and settled by him. I do not mean to assert that he is their actual leader, and that the rest would necessarily follow where he should lead. He wants (?) intrinsic power for this preeminence. Yet he is the best to begin with and success with him, might check and eventually turn the others.

The present Nizam, is, or has hitherto been, a decreasing power. Therefore his views aim chiefly at saving what remains to him, a necessary security, before he can look farther. (p 952) An uncommon mildness of disposition without habits of business, joined to a turn for pleasure, prevents his ambition strongly impelling him to aim at any great acquisitions of real power or of making the best use of what he has: but having been brought up, as he is, a member of the greatest family under the crown of Delhi and occupying the seat of the former great kings of the Deccan his vanity has been greatly extremely inflated, and he would prefer (to) be universally acknowledged king of the @ Deccan to enjoy its respect and pomp than obtaining a great accession of absolute resources which would require great efforts to manage and defend. He is therefore a well adapted engine to be wielded by the powerful, provided they will yield to him all the appearances and undertake (?) the management of the joint resources with such constant nice attentions as are necessary to lull the jealousy of pride, always awake to the appearance and name of being guided, while (p 953) admitting the reality. His present minister from more than 20 years experience has discovered this and trusting no support within the court which he meant to rule, where every man whose envy should be excited would find a ready ear with an easy prince, so prompt to take umbrage at being thought to be ruled, he took the uncommon step of resting his support upon foreign aid which would for its own sake be always more disposed to urge the increase of his power than aim at undermining it. He accordingly found Nana's connection answer all his purposes; he seized it and of course threw his master at once into the French party which Nana already held by. Rukkum ul Dowla and Fazel Beg Khan upon similar principles would have kept him in the English interests, had they lived. Other circumstances helped the present minister in the decision he adopted. These will be detailed and considered in the plan and arguments for bringing the court back into the channel of our connection.

The Poona Government from (p 954) the confinement of their Rajah, and as well as imbecility of their Peshwa or Premier, is now an aristocracy in which the powerful

IOR: Bengal Secret and Military Proceedings: P/B/3: Proceedings 23.11.1784: pp 946-57, post script 957-9.

The British Museum copy of this vol (W. Hastings Papers, Add Ms 29014) does not seem to contain this letter. After the entry "Read letter from Resident HYderabad" there is a blank of two pages followed by a communication from the Military Secretary of 17.11.1784.

and leading chiefs must necessarily divide against each other. No candidates for the general management rising above the rest and one of these affecting the English support, could not fail to throw the other into a similar chain upon the French. The Marrattas are strogly disposed towards conquest but while the first object of their leaders is to make conquest at home they will with little effort succeed in attempts abroad under their present divided form without a head. (f) Under the extraordinary phenomenon of having no public treasury or common stock to answer general views, the Marrattahs are in themselves very little to be feared by any but the smallest powers. If they have not experienced, they have witnessed the progress of French ambition, and they have established it as a maxim among themselves that whosoever in their (p 955) internal feuds, shall first bring in European aid, all the rest shall join against him as a common enemy. Yet the violence of party contentions, have been often known to overthrow prudential considerations and hence they may afford openings for the French, while nothing lasting can be settled by us with so changeable an existence.

Remains Tippoo. He is neither a falling nor a divided power but a rising and united one inflamed by youth and success. From these circumstances he is intrinsically by far the most formidable of the three, particularly in the line now under consideration. By his long extended coasts, fine ports and habits of connection with the French, already possessing settlements on his coast. (j) His compact country yields double the amount collected by the Nizam and altho perhaps only a third of what is collected ~~by~~ under the Mahratta name, yet their divided extent is not superior to his compact the smaller lands, so that he is by far the strongest of the three with the additional advantage of large ready resources. He is so peculiarly surrounded that in prosecution (p 956) of his restless ambition, he must either attack the English or his allies. The first too powerful for him alone. The others are his natural allies in case of general danger. Of course an invasion of them is clogged with many objections. Yet as he must from the principles that were first stated as actuating him attempt conquest and push the attempt to his own destruction or elevation he will attempt the weakest of his allies while general interests do not claim an immediate junction of forces.

From a consideration of these three descriptions it may be inferred that the Nizam is the most easy for us to attain. For if, besides securing him his own, (very easy to our power and influence) we would increase his power to force equality to his pretensions, we should for ever make him ours, and thereby oppose through him a mighty barrier to Tippoo who must then either be quiet or be thrown upon the Marattas or English. The first would be little to our detriment as it would not be difficult to prevent (pp 957) great advantage on either side and the latter with the Nizam in our scale would be a light evil if not opening the way to a benefit. (g)

I therefore conclude that our true interest lies in endeavouring to support the weakest and having thereby made him ours increase his power to at least a level in the scale. Should it even extend to preponderate it would still be in our favour.

I have thought it necessary to state this much, as an introduction to the plan of the negotiations my last address of the 21st pointed out. It should have attended you sooner but that another illness of near a week's continuance has scarcely permitted me to write this.

I have the honour to be
Hyderabad, 30th October 1784.

Richard Johnson,
Resident, Hyderabad.

(g) The above letter and other correspondence between Hyderabad and the Governor General in Council is extensively utilized and quoted in the Abstract of Hyderabad Correspondence (12.2.1784 to Jan 1785) in Home Misc 265, pp 225-64. This para is produced as follows:
"The inference drawn from the whole is that the Nizam (p253) is the most easy for us to obtain. That besides securing his own (very

(P.S.)

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I have mentioned above an argument made amongst the Marhattas that whosoever shall (p 958) first introduce an European force for the decision of their internal contentions for preeminence in their aristocracy is to be deemed a general enemy. This is exemplified by one fact: When Scindia, having advanced northward undertook to finish the negotiations with the English. The great power to a final consent on the part of his opponents in the Maratta Government (that is the party under Nana who spoke and acted in the Peshwah's name) arose and was founded in their suspicions and apprehensions of Scindia as connecting himself with us in the course of the negotiations. This operated so strongly as to make them restrict the final ratification and delivery until he should pledge himself not to make separate connection on his own behalf. Tukkojee and Hurry Punt altho his friends equally claimed this with Nana and further pledged themselves to defeat and oppose him (Scindia) whenever he should break this engagement. As this separate agreement was required, as a previous condition to their abiding to his act in the final interchange of definitive treaties, (p 959) it is not improbable that this was the secret paper which has been mentioned as dispatched by Scindia to Poona the very day when he delivered the ratified definitive treaty to Mr Anderson.

(footnote: contd)

easy to out power and influence) we would increase his power to some equality to his pretensions; we should for our make him ours, and oppose through him a weighty barrier to Tippoo, who must then either be quiet or the Marattas or us. The first not to be dreaded, and the latter a light evil, if not a means of a benefit."

10.3

(A REVIEW OF HYDERABAD AFFAIRS 1784-5)

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(p 18) Altho his sovereignty in the Deccan was but nominal, he was occasionally consulted in the formation of plans. He might be regarded as an useful instrument who would readily afford his sanction to another power, whom he would allow to act as long as outward appearances should be conceded to him. He preferred being at Hyderabad, the seat of the kings of the Deccan, with an extensive (p 19) nominal authority, to a more limited domain with absolute power (an instance of Mahomedan pride as Mr observed on a subsequent occasion).

...Mr Johnson proceeded to notice the resources and revenues of the three great powers of the Deccan. The revenues of Tippoo Sultaun, owing to the compactness of his dominions (and vigorous Government) exceeded those of the Nizam by one half: and altho it might not amount to more than a third part of what was collected under the Maratta name, rendered him more (p 21) than an overmatch for that people. (Taking also into the account the superior discipline of his army and the character of their prince).

The Nizam's income was estimated by Mr Johnson at $1\frac{1}{2}$ crore of rupees (February 1785) and the treasure which he had accumulated was considerable.

His Highness's army was in an undisciplined state, and owing to long inactivity very unfit to enter into a contest with the Mysorean, who was now meditating acts of aggression.

With respect to the state of the interior little information could be communicated by the Resident Mr Johnson; it will therefore be expedient to introduce, at length, his letter to (p 22) Bengal dated 12th February 1785.

IOR: Home Misc 563:

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(A REVIEW OF THE EXTERNAL RELATIONS OF HYDERABAD 1784-98)

1 Dec 1784

(p 15) The price which the Nizam offered (at this time) for the CIRCARS was a crore of rupees, together with the remission of Peshcush. Mr Johnson stated the revenue of the Circars at 20 lacs of rupees per anum. ...

(p 16) As to the four Northern Circars, he declared that the Nizam would never regard the British as friends, while they should remain possessors of them, because he had ceded them involuntarily. The Bengal Government having offered to sell the Guntoor Circar to the Nizam, the minister thought they might as well extend the offer to the inclusion of the four Circars. ... Earnestly desirous of (p 17) obtaining possession of the Circars, the Nizam extended his offer from one crore to a crore and a half of rupees, besides the remission of the debt due to him by the Company, amounting, after deducting the nominal rent of Guntoor, to Rs 16,32,666 making the total offer R 1,66,32,666. This offer Mr Johnson considered to be very liberal, as he estimated the revenues of the Circars at less than 15 lacs of rupees per anum.

(p 19) ... Regarding the Carnatic, as well as the Circars, as his right, the Nizam expressed his wish to purchase the former at 4 crores of rupees making in the whole $5\frac{1}{2}$ crores. Mr Johnson gave it as his opinion that the offer would be stretched to 6 ~~crores~~ crores. The Company were to retain possession of the Jaghire of Madras and Masulipatam. The Nizam was to maintain 10 battalions of the Company's troops, being as many as the Abob of Arcot had lately agreed to maintain (the troops to be at the Nizam's disposal).

IOR: Home Misc 562:

23. The domestic attention of the minister is at present directed to the improvement of the revenues, which he describes as having suffered a heavy decrease by the ruinous and impolitic system (ff 79r) pursued during his absence by the Rajah Roy Royam of granting indiscriminately jagheers for the payment of the troops of the state, as instanced in the case of the French party, though it is difficult to conceive that the whole amount of the Roy Royan's inconsiderable grants that way, could equal his own unjustifiable commitment of the public revenues to the disposal of such an unprincipled spendthrift as Muzuffer ul Mulk. With regard to the real revenues of the Nizam, I must acknowledge myself much in the dark, it being a subject on which accurate or authentic information is by no means easily procurable. According to ~~the~~ Meer Allum it does not, or rather ought not, to fall greatly short of five crores of rupees. If the revenue bore any proportion indeed to the extent of the Nizam's dominions & this calculation would perhaps be sufficiently moderate, as in square miles his highness's territories exceed those of Oude by nearly one third. It is to be recollected however, that owing to the occasional ravages of war and famine, and to the still more ruinous effects of systematic oppression, a great part of these fine countries is little more than a barren waste, (with the exception of the soubah of Hyderabad, and now also that of Beder) must (ff 79v) yield one fourth and more of its produce such as it is, to the Poonah and Berar Governments, upon the strength of their established and acknowledged claims, known by the name of Chout, Kardanah (?), and Surdaish Mooky. Without pretending then to offer any opinion on the present state of the Nizam's revenues, I shall just beg leave to state ~~to~~/your /for lordship's information, what their amount was in the Fusly year 1200, that is seven years ago: premising that since that period, the greatest part of the Nizam's dominions have been visited by a famine of two years duration, which is supposed to have swept off one third of the inhabitants, and to have occasioned at least a proportionate decrease in the revenues. The jumma kaumul hausil or revenue actually forthcoming at the period above spoken of, including the Company's paishcush for the Northern Circars, is stated in the revenue office accounts of Hyderabad at four crores, twenty six lacs eighty six thousand four hundred and forty nine rupees, one anna and nine pye (Rs 4,26,86,449- 1- 9), and after deducting therefrom, two crores, twenty three lacs, sixty six thousand, two hundred and thirteen rupees, fourteen annas nine pye, (Rs 2,23,66,213-14- 9), on account of jagheerdars, munsubdars, and enaumdars, a net balance of two crores, three lacs, twenty thousand two hundred (ff 80r) and thirty five rupees, three annas (Rs 2,03,20,235- 3- 0) still remained for the personal use of the Nizam. Since then, an addition of thirty three lacs of rupees (Rs 33,00,000) has been made to his highness's revenue by his third of the countries ceded to the allies by the treaty of Seringapatam, and thirty nine lacs (Rs 39,00,000) more, by the resumption of the districts of Adoni and Raichore upon the death of Basalut Jung's son, the late Darah Jah. The whole of such (?) however is supposed by no means to counterbalance the loss which the revenue sustained by the two years famine of 1790 and 1791. The treasure possessed in specie by his highness was supposed to be very considerable at the conclusion of the late war with Tippoo, when it received one addition of one crore of rupees, being the Nizam's share of the pecuniary fine imposed upon the Suldaun by the allies. The late Mahratta war however, and the rebellion of Ali Jah, are said to have drained it of enormous sums, though there is still I apprehend a residue of at least one crore of rupees deposited in in the fortress of Golcondah, whence the occasion must be urgent indeed, that could now induce His Highness to agree to any part of it being taken. ...

British Museum: Add Ms 13582: ff 59-80: ends para 24. FF 1-58 is "Survey in Nizam's Dominions 1797" by Colin Mackenzie with remarks and observations dated 5.2.1799. FF 81-100 is "Journal from Caunpore to Beder (Boorhanpoor)" and ff 101-111 is (Journal) "From Delhi to Cabul" (in 15 stages).

10.6

Wellesley Instructions to Resident at Hyderabad: 15.6.1800
(Extract)

10. ... (p 48) Or if territory should be assigned, the cession might be burdened by conditions absolutely precluding such a system of management as must be adopted to render the assumed (?) revenues equal to the maintenance of the troops. Any expression in the grant calculated to raise a doubt of its performance, or to limit the power of the Company's internal government of the countries or to favor the Nizam's right of resumption, would eventually prevent us from concluding any settlement worthy of our character, or advantageous to our interests.

(p 56)

20. The revenues of the countries acquired by the Nizam under the treaty of 1792 are acknowledged to be greatly injured, and I have no satisfactory grounds for believing that those of the districts acquired by His Highness under the treaty of Mysoor, are now equal to the amount ~~of~~ stated in the schedule of that treaty. It appears to be highly probable that the resources of the countries in question have materially declined since those countries came into the possession of His Highness. They have been ravaged by various insurgents, and it is to be feared that they have been managed on principles which must impair their future prosperity, whatever immediate advantage may have been extracted from those unhappy districts by their rapacious governors and managers.

(p 67)

39. I entertain no views of conquest upon the territories of Dowlut Rao Sindia, or of any other native power of India; I cannot therefore consent to a formal arrangement of the division of spoils which I have no wish to acquire. If Dowlut Rao Sindia, or any other power, after the conclusion of defensive engagements between the Company and the Nizam, should be guilty of any unprovoked aggression against ~~any~~ either party, and war should appear inevitable, in concerting the operations to be undertaken against the aggressor, the allied states may proceed with propriety to adjust the division of such conquests as might appear attainable during the progress of hostilities, and convenient to be retained at the conclusion of peace.

(p 72)

46. By the new treaty every material object of the court of Hyderabad is more distinctly and effectually secured than by the treaty already executed by the Nizam. A long period of time must elapse before the territory which I require as a security for the subsidiary (p 73) payments can become equal to their discharge. It is ever doubtful whether the produce of the countries required will ever exceed, in any considerable degree, the amount of the subsidy. If the nett revenues of the districts specified in the new treaty should hereafter exceed the charges of the subsidiary force, or if the present nominal revenue of of the districts (a revenue which under the management of his highness's (officers, * never has been realized, and under the same management never can be rendered more productive) should be realized, under a more wise and prudent system, by the abilities, experience and integrity of the Company's officers, it would be reasonable that the increased resources of those countries to him should be turned to the advantages of that power under whose happy auspices the (p 74) improvement has been carried into effect. The augmented revenue might be justly claimed by the Company on various grounds. First, because the Company must suffer immediate pecuniary loss and embarrassment by the commutation of the subsidy, in the actual declining condition of the districts to be ceded.

Secondly, because the expence incident to the Company's system of management for exceed those incurred by the Nizam's administration; consequently the probable amount of the surplus which may be realized by the Company is not to be estimated by the standard of the charges usually authorized by His Highness's Government.

IOR: Home Misc 564B: pp 41-122; Wellesley Draft of Treaty pp 123-54.

Thirdly, because ...

Fifthly, because this treaty grants to the Nizam, without any specified (p 76) equivalent, the new and extraordinary benefit of the Company's aid in repressing the refractory spirit of such tributaries and dependents as owe a mixed allegiance to him, and to the Marhattas. In this view it may justly be expected that the resources of the territories retained in His Highness's hand may be improved to an amount proportioned to any excess in the produce of the countries to be ceded to the Company.

(Draft of Proposed Treaty as enclosed with above)

(p 128) Article 5th: For the regular payment of the whole expence of the said augmented subsidiary force (consisting of 8,000 infantry, one thousand cavalry and the usual proportion of artillery) His Highness the (p 129) Nabob Asoph Jah hereby assigns, and cedes, to the Hon'ble East India Company in perpetuity, all the territories acquired by His Highness under the treaty of Seringapatam on the of March 1792, and also all the territories acquired by His Highness under the treaty of Mysoor on the 22nd of June 1799, according to the schedule annexed to this treaty.

Article 6th: (deals with adjustments above and below Tungbhadra)

Article 7th: (Exclusive management by the British of the ceded areas)

Article 8th: (No claims on each other for deficit or excess)

NOTE: This volume is wholly on Hyderabad and has correspondence between the Resident and Governor General from ~~21~~ 12.4 to 27.7. 1800. In May the Resident (J.A. Kirkpatrick) on instructions dated 12.4. 1800 concludes a treaty with the Nizam, subject to its conformation by the Governor General. The clauses and wording of this treaty angers the Governor General and the above letter while admonishing the Resident sends him detailed instructions with a draft from Wellesley. The Resident's reply to the above is dated 1.7.1800 (p 433-64) and his further letters on the steps taken by him are on pages 583-722 (dated 10.7., 13.7., 17.7., 22.7., 25.7., and 27.7.; and numbered 92 to 97 respectively). Though no new treaty gets concluded by July 27 the Resident succeeds in gaining an interview with the Nizam and in getting back the Nizam's copy of the unconfirmed treaty.

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Wellesley to Lt Col Kirkpatrick: 7.10.1801

Private and Secret

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Patna, October 7, 1801.

Lt Coll Kirkpatrick

My Dear Sir,

It is with the utmost degree of pain and sorrow that I inform you that intelligence has reached me from various quarters which leaves no doubt on my mind, that your brother the Resident at Hyderabad, has abused my confidence in the most criminal manner and has deceived both me and yourself with respect to his conduct towards the daughter of Bauker Alli under circumstances of the most aggravated guilt. The accusation originally came before me, as charge against the Resident of having employed (ff 279v) the authority of his station to compel the family of this unfortunate woman to grant her to him in marriage. This charge led to a reference to the Nizam himself, and I thought your brother fully acquitted by His Highness's reply, and by the report of some respectable gentlemen then at Hyderabad. But it now appears evident that whether Major K ever attempted to force such a marriage or not, he has debauched the daughter of Bauker Alli, he has a child born of this woman, and he now lives with her. The effect at Hyderabad is mischievous in the extreme as might be expected from such an outrage upon the general principles of morality, and upon (ff 280r) the most revered prejudices of the Musselmans. I will not press the aggravations of this most heinous crime to the extent which they would bear; because I know the justice, honour, and purity of your mind, too well to suppose that you do not anticipate every topic which I could derive from the principles of public duty, of private gratitude, and even of the common sense of integrity and honest dealing between man and man. I will therefore only add the determination which I have formed on this case.

Although thoroughly convinced of the truth of the charges preferred against Major K it is not my intention to proceed (ff 280v) extremities until they shall have been verified by evidence regularly taken by competent authority. When I shall have reduced the facts alleged to regular form, I shall remove the Resident from his station; and I shall afford him the fullest opportunity of entering upon any species of defence which can tend to exempt him from any more severe punishment. This course appears to me to be the most just, and expedient; the facts now alleged, when stated in a solemn manner by credible and respectable evidence will require the immediate removal of the person representing me at Hyderabad; because such a person's character (ff 281r) ought to stand above even the rumour of such crimes; It is due to the common principles of justice to admit the Resident to a full hearing although I fear that silence would be his best policy.

Now my dear sir, I wish to call your attention to the situation in which the offences of Major K against me and against the state have placed (what I know you value more than life) your character and honour...

British Museum: Wellesley Papers: Add Ms
ends on ff 283r.

: The letter

11 (63) 511
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3bb
10.8
(COMPACT IN VILLAGE SALONE: DISTRICT KAIRA: AD 1815)

We the whole of the Brahmins of the village of Salone, all the Khuarval cast (p 19) both divisions included, all the Ooditch cast, all the Wagalla, as well as the whole of the Satodras, one and all agree, that each in his own cast, shall be entertained, and entertain, that should any one feast, all the four casts, they shall then all eat together. While in regard to Bhoorse money (or charity usually divided among the cast) or betlenut money, each shall give the whole of whatever he may possess, to the general body of the casts. Should any one refuse in this respect, he shall be considered an offender against the whole of the Pungis.

Besides this, should there (p 20) arise any thing concerning which a resistance ought to be made on that account as well as on account of houses, trees or fields, should there arise any impediment or question, no one shall act contrary to what the assembled Pungies may settle. Should any one in support of the whole Punje kill any one he shall receive 200 rupees and in the case of wounds being inflicted 25 rupees shall be given. Should any one resist this, the Bhat securities, shall at the request of the Punje or whole body cause it to be paid.

To this effect Puthoo Kobum (?), Kurla Mungul, Gulle Manojee (p 21) and Ragnath Theka are securities and they shall cause the order of the general body to be obeyed.

(Signed by) 120 persons of the village of Salone and by the above mentioned four Bhanote securities.

(Dated 2nd Wyackseed,
Summut 1871: AD 1815)

TRUE TRANSLATION
(signed) A. Robertson

Minute of Governor in Council on Robertson Communication: 4.8.1819
(Extract)

The Governor in Council concurring in Captain Robertson's opinion, does not deem it advisable since tranquility and order have been completely restored to take any further notice of the agreement entered into by the (p 22) Brahmins of Salone in the year 1815, to remunerate each other for murder, or wounding their own bodies in opposition to the Government regulations enacting a registry of lands, than to authorise Captain Robertson to make a communication to the parties, to the effect recommended in the 3rd paragraph of the preceding letter.

(Recommendation of Capt Robertson): 7.7.1819 (p 7-11):Extract:

"That they have rendered themselves amenable to the penalties of the law by such criminal conduct; but that relying on their having become sensible of their error, and determined in future, to avoid such illegal acts, the Government have been pleased to direct that they shall be exonerated from all criminal prosecution on account of it."

IOR: Board's Collection vol 638: No 17676

: The above compact is titled on page 18 as under:

"Translation of an agreement entered into by the Brahmins of Salone in the year 1815, to remunerate each other for murder, or wounding their own bodies in opposition to the Government Regulations enacting a registry of lands: on the 2nd Wyackseed Summut 1871: AD 1815"

10.9

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J. Sutherland, 3rd Judge of Circuit to A. Robertson, Collector and Magistrate, Eastern Zillah North of the Myhee: 25.5.1819

To
Captain Robertson, Magistrate of the Eastern Zillah &c &c

Sir,

I have the honour to (p 13) hand to you for the purpose of being deposited in your office, to be made such use of as circumstances may point out, the accompanying important original paper, which was presented to the court of circuit by the prisoner Durve Kusuljee Manogee, of the village of Salone, in the Mahher (?) Pergunnah, charged with the commission of traga on his own person, in resistance to the process of the adawlut in apprehending his brothers Assaram and Nurbharam, who themselves had opposed the tulatee in the execution of his duty, in registering the village lands, by (p 14) threatening to immolate a young child in the commission of traga.

2. This document was tendered to the court, on the defence as the bond of agreement entered into by the whole of the Brahmens of Salone, to oppose by traga and every means in their power the registry of village lands and which prescribes premiums /the to those who should devote themselves to the common cause of this unlawful combination. The document was intended to prove, that in the commission of the traga with which the prisoner was charged, (p 15) he acted under the influence, and consequently by directions of the combination. The circumstance tends to prove the document to be authentic and the deposition of Assaram in support of it, decides the matter in the affirmative. A copy of his deposition is also transmitted.

3. This paper which has now come to light, incontestibly proves on what basis the minds of the community were agitated in the year 1815, as the same spirit of resistance was discernible every where; the combinations at Neriad which gave rise to the proceedings of the special court (p 16) held at Kaira about the end of that year, and similar one at Mahter (?) among the Bhats, must be traced to the same source, and altho in the two last cases, the written engagements have not been produced, yet there is every reason to suppose that such were entered into, altho to procure them would no doubt be impossible, the present paper having come to light from circumstances of a peculiar nature.

4. The firm conduct of yourself and Assistant, Captain Barnewall, in overthrowing such deep and firmly seated combination, might (p 17) during that ~~that~~ delicate and trying period, have reduced, in less efficient hands the whole of the late zillah of Kaira to a state of confusion, which years of trouble could not have rooted out; and to the highly satisfactory result of your management must be attributed the state of order which reigns throughout your zillah. The bonds of these combinations have been untied, resistance to legitimate authority is no longer to be met with, and from the struggle which ensued between the subject and the Government for ascendancy, the rules and regulations of Government (p 18) have been more firmly established in the country than they ever were previous to 1815.

Provincial Court of Circuit
at Kaira, 25 May 1819.

I have &c
J. Sutherland, 3rd Judge of Circuit

IOR: Board's Collections vol 638: No 17676 (34 pages): Collections to paras 99-103 of Jud Letter from Bombay dated 19.4.1820, in Bombay Jud Consultations dated 4.8.1819.

NOTE: No 17671 (89 pages) pertaining to paras ~~of~~ 39-44 of Jud Letter of 19.4.1820 is mainly concerned with some cases of alleged "witchcraft" at AGASEE and around near Bassein in the Northern Concen. In trial No 4, 67 persons (37 Hindoos and 30 Christians) all Fishermen Coolies are charged with the murder of one woman; in No 1 eight women are charged with the murder of one woman; and in No 5, 7 Hindoos are charged with the murder of 3 women on 29.10.1818. The victims were supposed to be responsible for the prevalent epidemic of cholera. The judge was J. Sutherland.

Public Letter to Bombay: 8.4.1816

(Extract)

(Reply to Paragraphs 28-9 of Bombay Letter dated 16.6.1814)

13. We agree with you as to the policy of rendering the Roman Catholic clergy of Bombay as dependent upon the British authority as circumstances will admit; and as independent as possible of foreign jurisdiction. But we question the propriety of obtaining that object at a rate higher than that which was asked. The Bishop of Antiphali (?) seems only (p 2) to have solicited you to grant him the annual pension of 400 rupees, which he had heretofore received from Rome, but of which he had been deprived, in consequence of the invasion of that city by the French: and the supreme Government appear to have sanctioned this allowance "with such a retrospective operation as you may judge proper to give it", in the view of relieving the Bishop from any distress which he may have sustained by the loss of the pension from the Pope. Under these circumstances we cannot but consider the pension of Rs 200 per month, which you recommended for the Bishop, as in fact, unnecessary, particularly after (p 3) the donation made him of 1,000 rupees.

14. The reason which you have assigned for recommending that a pension of 200 rupees per month should be granted to him, namely, that it is not more than equivalent to the sum allowed, in the year 1718, to the chief minister to the Carmelite Mission at Surat, we do not consider as sufficiently strong to warrant our yielding to your said recommendation, which upon such grounds, might, probably be laying the foundation of a permanent expense for the successors of the present incumbent, whose personal good qualities, no less than the policy of rendering the Roman Catholic clergy dependent on the Company's Government, have induced (p 4) us to give a favorable consideration to the petition in question.

15. We therefore authorize your granting him a pension of Rs 400 per annum, agreeably to his request, from the 1st January 1814.

16. From the recent change which has occurred in the political affairs of Europe, it is ~~possibility~~ probable, that the allowance which the Bishop has hitherto received from Rome, may again be paid to him. However that may be, we shall, in consideration of your strong recommendation in his behalf, and the advanced age which the Bishop has attained, authorize you to grant the pension of Rs 400 per annum to him for his life. This, however, is not to be looked upon as an allowance to descend of course to his successors.

17. We sanction your instructions to the collector of Kaira for granting a small spot of ground for a Catholic chapel there.

IOR: Board's Collections: No 20461 (vol 749)

Revenue Letter from Fort St George: 19.2.1822

(Extract)

6. The Board of Revenue having submitted for our orders, whether Comara Hegda, (who had undergone a sentence of imprisonment and hard labor passed upon him by the court of circuit) should be restored to his hereditary privilege of exercising the chief direction over the Durmastalla pagoda in Canara; and whether the collector ought to exert any control over his management, we informed them of our opinion, that Comara Hegada should not be (p 8) obstructed in resuming the entire direction of the affairs of the Durmastalla pagoda, and that no interference with his management should take place so long as it continued to give general satisfaction to the people, and to provide for the prosperity of the pagoda. We consider this to be the proper rule with respect to all similar endowments, but at the same time were of opinion, that the right of interference, when necessary, should be reserved to the officers of Government. It did not appear to us, as it had done to the Board of Revenue, that there was any ground for exempting the (p 9) religious institutions of Malabar and Canara from the provisions of Regulation VII of 1817, but we expressed our wish, that those provisions, there, as well as elsewhere, should be sparingly applied, and not against the sense of the parties most interested, but for their benefit, and with their concurrence.

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Nos 14 & 15

B.Coll. No 20460.