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Poona Residency Correspondence

Volume 12

Poona Affairs

(Elphinstone's Embassy)

(Part I, 1811-1815)

Edited by

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Poona Residency Correspondence

General Editors—Shri Jadunath Sarkar and
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P R E F A C E

The publication of the *Poona Residency Correspondence Series*, suspended in 1943 owing to the difficulties created by the war, has now been resumed. The history and importance of this Series of English records of Maratha history has been sufficiently explained in volumes I and II of the Series and need not be recounted here. So far eleven volumes of the Series have been published and four more are being issued to complete it.

The period covered by the Poona Residency Records, 1786-1818, is very eventful in the history of India. This period witnessed the end of the Mughal Empire and, with it, of the Maratha overlordship of Hindustan. No other source of history is so helpful in unravelling the tangled skein of Anglo-Maratha diplomacy and explaining the currents and cross-currents of Maratha politics. To the students of the history of British power in India during the closing years of the eighteenth and the early years of the nineteenth centuries, this Series should provide much new unexplored material and should call for a revaluation of the estimates of some prominent personalities and should render necessary the rewriting of quite a few episodes. A careful perusal of the present volume and its successor, for instance, will bring out the sympathy of the student for Bajirao II who is generally considered as a degenerate ruler. It is hoped that the publication of the Series will attract the attention of scholars of Indo-British history and evoke greater interest in the study of the period.

When Malet, the first Resident at the Peshwa's Court, arrived in Poona in 1786 the Maratha Government was a power to count with. Nana Phadnis, the Peshwa's Minister, was at the height of power and Mahadji Sindhia had acquired the highest office at Delhi. Thirty-two years later (when the Series closes) the Peshwa had been driven from the throne, the Maratha confederacy had ceased to exist and British Supremacy in India had become an accomplished fact.

The present volume covers the first four years of Elphinstone's Residency, 1811-1815, giving however, a clear indication of events to come. It deals mainly with the settlement with the Southern Jagirdars and the mission of Gangadhar Shastri, the Gaikwad's envoy to Poona, which ended in his tragic death. The relations between the Peshwa and the British were at first very cordial. The Peshwa in 1805 had declared to the British Minister, 'I know you

both, (the Marathas and the English), I have tried you both and I speak from what I have felt. Those men with turbans who were my servants sought my ruin. You who wear hats and are foreigners, saved me from destruction and gave me back my throne. While they were here I was insulted and oppressed. Now that you are here I am at repose and I do as I please. They took from their master crores of rupees and still asked for more. You have spent crores of rupees for a friend and demand nothing in return". Col Close who continued at the Residency till 1809 had maintained cordial relations with the Peshwa by humouring him and avoiding discussions on unpleasant topics. The Supreme Government under Barlow and Minto had reversed Wellesley's strong policy and desired no further entanglements with the Native Courts.

This second period of non-intervention was now coming to an end as decisions on vital issues likely to create friction between the Peshwa and the English could not be postponed indefinitely. The Peshwa when he signed the treaty of Bassein in 1802, little understood that he was like the proverbial fly walking into the spider's parlour. He fondly imagined that his English allies would help him to crush his refractory feudatories and restore him to complete sovereignty over his subjects. From the signing of that treaty he had urged the use of the Subsidiary force to put an end to the troubles created by the Southern Jagirdars by destroying their levies and by confiscating their saranjams. The Southern Jagirdars—the Patwardhans, the Raste, Appa Desai, the Gokhale and the Zamindar of Kittur,—were all Nana's partisans and had become the special objects of the Peshwa's hatred. For years they carried on chronic warfare among themselves and defied the Peshwa's officer in the Karnatak. Only a strong force could have brought the unruly Chieftains to order. The Peshwa looked to his British Allies for help to break the power of these Jagirdars and to acquire their grants.

Elphinstone refused to fall in with the Peshwa's plan. He would not countenance the aggression of the Peshwa over the Jagirdars. While bringing these feudatories to obedience by the treaty of Pandharpur concluded in 1812, he extended to them British guarantee of protection. This pledge of security by the Resident to the Jagirdars came as a surprise to the Peshwa. He felt that it made a mockery of his authority over his subjects. Perhaps it was not so much their allegiance that he desired as their complete destruction. The arbitration effected by the Resident was altogether distasteful to the Peshwa and embittered his mind. He took a strong dislike to his erstwhile friends. This was the first serious rift between the Peshwa and the English.

The settlement with the Southern Jagirdars was followed by another episode which again emphasised the serious differences between the Peshwa and the English. This was the mission of Gangadhar Shastri to Poona. The Baroda mission had authority to discuss only the financial aspect of the dispute with the Peshwa which the Poona Court professed to treat as a subordinate issue. The Peshwa wanted to utilise the opportunity offered by the Baroda mission for asserting his paramount authority over the Gaikwad. This the British would not accept. Negotiations dragged on fruitlessly for months in the absence of common ground. The Peshwa was encouraged in his attitude by his low associates, chief among whom was Trimbakji Dengla. The Shastri's refusal to toe the line with the Peshwa cost him his life, he was murdered at Pandharpur on 20 July 1815. The British Resident repeatedly warned the Peshwa against the suicidal course he was following, but humiliated and frustrated in his cherished schemes, the Peshwa turned a deaf ear to the Resident's advice. Fed on false hopes by his ignorant advisers, he blundered into hostilities with the English and lost his authority.

P. M. JOSHI,
*Director of Archives,
Govt of Bombay*

28th November 1950

INTRODUCTION

While Mountstuart Elphinstone has been rightly regarded as one of the eminent founders of the British Indian Empire, his writings have long remained unavailable for study, although they can by no means be considered less valuable than those, for instance, of Munro and Wellesley. Sir George Forrest published in 1884 a small sketchy volume of his "Minutes and Official Writings", and in the same year appeared two volumes of his life by T. E. Colebrooke; but these do not do justice to his remarkable career, which in these days of advance in historical research one would like to examine critically from original sources. It was Elphinstone who compassed the fall of the Maratha Empire and added practically the whole of the western presidency to the British dominion in India.

Buckland in his *Dictionary of Indian Biography* gives a long account about Elphinstone of which the following is an excerpt. "Born 6 October 1779, educated at the High School Edinburgh, went out to Bengal as a writer, stationed at Benares where he had to ride for his life when some European officers including the Governor General's Agent Cherry were murdered by order of Vazir Ali in January 1799. In 1801 he was appointed assistant to Barry Close, the Resident at Poona. At the battles of Assaye and Argaum he was on the staff of Col. Arthur Wellesley. From 1804-8 he was Resident at Nagpur, whence he was sent as envoy to the Afghan monarch Shah Shuja who received him at Peshawar on March 5, 1809. The negotiations produced little result. Upon his return from this mission towards the end of 1810 he was posted to the Residency at Poona; and after the conquest of the Peshwa's territories he became the Governor of Bombay, which post he held for eight years. After retirement he twice refused the offer of Governor Generalship of India, preferring a quiet life of study and authorship. He wrote his *History of India* in 1841. He combined through life a keenness for field sports with his love of books. No Indian civilian has gained a greater name as a statesman or ruler. The Presidency college of Bombay is named after him. He died on 20 November 1859 in England".

Elphinstone's first connection with Poona as assistant Resident lasted for just two years, from January 1802 to December 1803; but after he had succeeded Col. Close to that Residency on 28 Feb. 1811, he had to cope with several momentous problems during a period of eight years. On November 5, 1817 the Peshwa

attacked the Residency with immense bodies of troops, thus starting a war which ended in the following June with the surrender of that province. On 15 December 1817 Elphinstone was made Commissioner for the conquered territories and invested with full powers both military and administrative. When the war ended he was appointed Governor of Bombay on 18 February 1819, but took charge of his new duties on 1st November of that year, finally retiring to England after exactly 8 years service, on 1st November 1827. Malcolm succeeded him at Bombay.

This series of the *Poona Residency Correspondence* concerns four illustrious persons, Malet, Palmer, Close and Elphinstone, of whom the career of the last has left an indelible mark on the history of British fortunes in India. The records of his eventful career as Resident present a complicated story of continuous altercation with the Peshwa and are so full and enormous that the editor was compelled to effect a ruthless curtailment into two medium-sized volumes. Elphinstone had constantly to deal with dangerous situations, such as only a man of his extraordinary nerve and resourcefulness could control. The first four years of his residency were comparatively quiet and easy, in which Elphinstone was mainly occupied in effecting a settlement of the dispute that had long subsisted between the Peshwa and his several vassals known in history as the Southern Jagirdars. A kind of a workable adjustment was executed between them in July 1812, which is known as the treaty of Pandharpur. The situation of Maharashtra was, however, suddenly convulsed by the murder of the Baroda agent Gangadhar Shastri at Pandharpur on 20 July 1815, who had come to Poona under a British guarantee of safety. Elphinstone at once demanded the punishment of the perpetrators, the principal of whom in the opinion of the Resident was the Peshwa's favourite Trimbakji Denglia. Denglia's insurrection coupled with the British preparations to meet the Pindary menace, which had grown intolerable, led to the last Maratha war and the final establishment of British supremacy. The trouble and tension created for Elphinstone by such eventful and rapid developments can be easily imagined and are vividly described in the two volumes which are here devoted to his correspondence. The second volume marks the culminating point of the political drama.

Elphinstone was equal to the emergency created by the Shastri's murder and showed rare courage and circumspection in handling the difficult situation. He clearly foresaw the tendency of events and prepared to reap the best advantage out of them. The Peshwa found himself so circumvented in his projects and plans that he recklessly started a war out of exasperation, in which both the

valour of the British arms and the consummate diplomacy of the Resident won rapid successes in every field, drove the Peshwa into an unconditional surrender, and finally extinguished his power

For the sake of convenience the records of Elphinstone's Residency have been presented in two volumes of nearly equal size, the first covering the period of the first five years of peace, 1811-1815 and the second the next three years, 1816-1818. They deal with a variety of transactions and are expressed in a clear and forceful style. As they could not all be found intact at the Poona Alienation Office an effort was made to recover them by resort to the Bombay Secretariat Record Office, and in some cases, to Central Archives at Delhi.

The course of events during Elphinstone's Residency is both simple and striking. His first two years were practically taken up by the settlement of the dispute between the Peshwa and the Southern Jagirdars. For the next two years (1813 and 1814) the political situation of Poona was dominated by the mission of Ganga-dhar Shastri. The next year 1815 was clouded by the murder of that ambassador, necessarily leading to the arrest of the Peshwa's favourite Trimbakji Denglia. The latter's romantic escape from prison at Thana in 1816 and his subsequent insurrection in 1817 led to an open war, which came to an end with the surrender of the Peshwa in 1818. This whole chain of events is so plain and easy to follow that no topical arrangement has been considered necessary for helping the reader. The events follow here in chronological sequence.

Elphinstone as Governor ranks still higher than as Resident. He is the maker and modernizer of the province now known as the Bombay State, and he has left a deep and enduring mark on every part of the administration. His minutes and reports, like those of Munro for the sister province of Madras, have the greatest permanent value for the light they throw on the condition of the old Indian society and administration, and the wise statesmanship with which these two eminent administrators handled the many intricate problems that confronted them. As the papers of Elphinstone's governorship have an appeal to students of history and political philosophy beyond the narrow limits of Bombay, steps are being taken to have them published as well at a future date.

A highly agreeable mixture will be noticed by the reader in these two volumes, containing as they do, not only the Resident's reports, but the answers returned by the Governors-General and their secretaries and relevant correspondence by other local officials. Secretary Adam's writings have a peculiar charm of their own.

But the main interest centres round the singular and uncommon personality of Elphinstone, always as ready to strike with his pen as with his sword. In fact Wellington remarked that Elphinstone had missed his career. Defeat in argument and repartee was unknown to him. All the stratagem of the average Maratha and all the powers of persuasion possessed by the wily Peshwa, seemed to have been baffled before this giant antagonist. Sadashiv Manakeshwar quailed before him. Trimbakji Denglia's low tricks ultimately cost Baji Rao his Peshwaship. Not only were the Governments of Bombay and Madras and the Residents at Hyderabad and Mysore compelled in difficult predicaments to seek light and advice from the Resident at Poona, but one clearly notices how even the Governor General and the Commander-in-Chief had to yield to the proposals submitted to them by this adroit statesman. He alone could bring adversaries to kneel before him. He spread a net of spies throughout Maharashtra and the territory of the adjoining chiefs of Kolhapur, Sawantwadi and of Goa: and so alert was he with plans and measures that nothing could escape his vigilance and foresight. At Poona he exhibited his powers of searching scrutiny during the frequent interviews he had with the Peshwa, his agents and ministers and with those of the other Maratha chiefs. Every line he wrote, every word he spoke breathed fire, determination, strength of will and faith in his own judgment and courage. That is why I consider all Elphinstone's writings specially valuable and instructive to students of history. Elphinstone stands alone and apart from all other British civilians in that he feels every moment that he is the dictator and that all others are to bow to his will. The reader feels that a different era has already started. What a tremendous amount of labour, inexorable subtlety, unflinching patience in investigating and learning facts, Elphinstone exhibits throughout his career! It is the Resident Elphinstone who seems to be already ruling at Poona, and not the Peshwa himself. Baji Rao surely lost his kingdom through his own incompetency, which became all the more glaring in the presence of such a supreme master. Let now the papers speak for themselves.

The character of Elphinstone, at a later date, when he was governing Bombay, is best sketched by Bishop R. Heber in his Journal under the date 15th August 1825:—

“Mr. Elphinstone is in every respect an extraordinary man, possessing great activity of mind and body, remarkable talent for and application to public business, a love of literature and a degree of almost universal information such as I have met with in no other person similarly situated, and manners and conversation of the most amicable and interesting character. While he has been engaged in

CHRONOLOGY

1802	Dec. 31	Treaty of Bassein.
1803	May 13	Peshwa's arrival at Poona
1811	Feb. 28	Elphinstone takes over charge of the Poona Residency.
1811	Oct. to April 1813	Discussions with Southern Jagirdars
1811	Oct. 20	Yeshwant Rao Holkar's death
1812	July 19	Agreement of Pandharpur.
	Oct. 1	Agreement with Kolhapur.
	Oct.	Malwan surrendered to the English.
1813	April 23	Raja of Kolhapur's death.
	June	Major Ford raises a brigade for the Peshwa.
	June 5	Baba Phadke dies at Bassein.
	Nov.	Lord Minto retires: succeeded by Marquis of Hastings.
	Dec.	Appa Saheb Patwardhan dies.
1814—1816		War with Nepal.
1814	Feb. last week	Gangadhar Shastri, Gaikwad's envoy arrives at Poona.
	May 5	Reception by Peshwa.
	June	Ahmadabad farm resumed by Peshwa.
1815	Feb. 27	Khursetji Modi's death.
	March	Trimbakji Dingle elevated to ministership.
	July 20	Gangadhar Shastri murdered.
	Sept. 19	Trimbakji Dingle surrendered to the British.
	Sept. 24	Govind Rao Bandhuji and Bhagwant Rao Gaikwad surrendered.

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ERRATA

- Page 8, line 21, after 'their' add 'not'.
- „ 119, line 15, for 'confaderate' read 'confederate'.
- „ 120, line 3, for 'perservered' read 'persevered'.
- „ 122, line 34, for 'pursuaded' read 'persuaded'.
- „ 153, line 24, for 'confiderate' read 'confederate'.
- „ 182, line 2, after 'most' add 'appropriate'.
- „ 212, line 34, after 'this' add 'place'.
- „ 230, line 22, for 'leave' read 'have'.
- „ 234, line 27, for 'Purwurdhun' read 'Putwurdhan'.
- „ 237, line 5, for 'Napaunee' read 'Neepaunee'.
- „ 245, line 6, for 'Budrghur' read 'Budurghur'.
- „ 245, line 35, for 'creating' read 'getting'.
- „ 257, line 25, for 'Colaba' read 'Colapore'.
- „ 315, line 7 from bottom, for 'reocmmends' read 'recom-
mends'.
- „ 316, line 5, for 'negotation' read 'negotiation'.
- „ 321, line 5, for 'We' read 'He'.
- „ 331, line 22, for 'Burreetghur' read 'Burrutghur'.
- „ 341, line 26, for 'heared' read 'feared'.
- „ 344, line 8, for 'last' read 'late'.
- „ 372, line 8 from bottom, for 'my expression' read 'the ex-
pression'.
- „ 373, line 4, omit comma after 'warrant', put it after
'admission of'.
- „ 373, last line, for 'whilst, if' read 'that whilst'.
- „ 425, line 9, for 'thought' read 'through'.
- „ 430, line 12, after 'those' add 'of'.
- „ 439, line 14, for 'rae' read 'are'.
- „ 439, line 31, after 'if' omit 'his'.
- „ 448, line 5 & 6, for 'instigating' read 'instituting'.

Page 394. About Panni Pathans Princep writes,—

“This is a class of Moosulman assassins, whose existence would not be tolerated under any other civil institutions, than those engendered by the misrule of the Nizam and the Maharatta princes. The singularity and binding force of their contracts consist in this, that, if once their pledge is given for any one's personal security, they are notorious for never failing to redeem it, by the secret murder of the aggressor upon the person guaranteed.”

*(History of the Political & Military
transactions, Vol. I, Pp. 354-355)*

ELPHINSTONE'S EMBASSY

SECTION 1

THE SOUTHERN JAGIRDARS

1811—1812

**No 1—Mountstuart Elphinstone takes charge of the Poona Residency on
28 February 1811.**

**FROM—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT,
TO—GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY.**

Poona. 28 February 1811.

I have the honour to acquaint you, that I have this day received charge of the Poona Residency from Mr. Russell.

No. 1 A.

**FROM—SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
TO—THE HON'BLE MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE.**

Bombay Castle, 6 March 1811.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 28th ultimo reporting your having taken charge of the Poona Residency from Henry Russell Esqr. and to tender the Governor in Council's best wishes for a successful discharge of the important duties thus committed to you.

No. 2—The Governor General intimates to the Peshwa his intended departure from the Presidency.

**FROM—THE PERSIAN SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
TO—H. RUSSELL, ACTING RESIDENT AT POONA.**

Fort William, 5 March 1811.

Sir,

I am directed to transmit to you the enclosed letter from the Right Honourable the Governor General to His Highness the Faishwa, announcing His Lordship's intended departure from this Presidency, and stating that the local administration will devolve on His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief during His Lordship's absence.

Copies of His Lordship's letter, in the English and Persian languages, accompany for your information.

No 2 A

TO—HIS HIGHNESS THE PESHWA.

Written 5th March 1811.

As the interests of the British Government demand my presence in a distant quarter, and as the state of affairs on this side of India is such as to admit of my absence, I have determined to embark from Fort William on the 9th instant, and shall proceed in the first instance to Fort St. George and from thence to the place of my destination.

The distance of the quarter to which I am about to proceed, will prevent me from holding any communication with Your Highness by letter after my departure, but I trust that the suspension of our correspondence will be of short duration, as my absence from Bengal will probably not be protracted beyond the period of a few months.

In the meantime the Government of this Presidency will devolve on His Excellency Lieutenant-General Hewett, the Commander-in-Chief of the King's and Company's forces in India, with whom I request that Your Highness will be pleased to correspond on all points connected with the interests of the two States until my return and whose communication I further request Your Highness to receive as of the same force and validity as my own.

No 3—The arrival at Poona of a vakil from the Gaikwad of Baroda for settling the long standing dispute between the two Governments is communicated by the Resident to the Governor General

FROM—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY EDMONSTONE

Poona, 28 March 1811

Sir,

I have the honour to acquaint you for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, that a Vakeel from the Guickwar State to the Paishwa has arrived within a few miles of Poona, and will make his entry in two or three days

The object of his mission is to settle the long pending disputes between the two Governments on the subject of the arrears of the Guickwar tribute and to procure a renewal of the farm at Ahmedabad

The sum claimed by the Paishwa, on account of arrears of tribute, amounts to near two crores of rupees, while that admitted by the Guickwar State does not exceed three lacs

The Guickwar Vakeel was introduced to me by the Resident at Baroda, and is to be presented to the Paishwa by me I propose to allow the Vakeel to attempt a settlement directly with the Court in the first instance, but unless both parties agree, which is very improbable, they are bound by their treaties with the British Government to refer them to the Right Hon'ble the Governor-General, and I beg to be favoured with His Lordship's orders on the subject I have not been able to discover any instructions relative to this arbitration on the records of the Residency

No 4—The following correspondence relates to the trouble that had started with Appasaheb Patwardhan of Jamkhudi one of the southern Jagirdars

*Translation of a letter from the Hon'ble M Elphinstone,
to Appa Sahib, dated 30th March 1811*

You will have heard that Mr Russell has been removed to the Residency at Hyderabad, and that I have taken charge of his duties at this Court

I hope the friendship which has so long subsisted between you and the gentlemen in the British service will continue undiminished between you and me

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1811

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You will have heard that Mr Russell has been removed to the Residency at Hyderabad, and that I have taken charge of his duties at this Court

I hope the friendship which has so long subsisted between you and the gentlemen in the British service will continue undiminished between you and me

You promised to Mr. Russell after a long negotiation that you would give up fourteen districts in Savanoor, and elsewhere to His Highness the Paishwa. This you promised to do without delay and you have delivered thirteen of the districts. But it is a matter of great surprise that although four months are going on since this promise you still retain the fort of Hoobly which is included in the fourteen districts.

Your Vakeel stated to Mr. Russell that the garrison of Hoobly did not belong to you but to the late Sirsoobadar, to which Mr. Russell replied, that to whomsoever the garrison belonged, you were responsible for the surrender of the fort to the Paishwa. It is now a month since this declaration, yet still the fort is not delivered over, nor have your people evacuated it; on the contrary you have sent the governor's family from Tausgaum to Hoobly, and there is no appearance of your intention to deliver up the place at all.

Much more time cannot now be afforded, but out of regard for you I am induced to apprise you that if you do not make over the fort without delay, arrangements will be made for taking it, and the consequences will be on your head.

In the second place I have to observe that you have done nothing towards the settlement of your accounts, and that it must be done forthwith.

If these two points be not adjusted in conformity to your engagements, I shall be under the necessity of making such arrangements as may secure their execution.

No. 4A.

*Translation of a letter from Appa Sahib to the Hon'ble
M. Elphinstone, Resident at Poona, dated 19th Rubbee-
ool-Awul or 13th April 1811.*

I have received your letter. I understand what you say about the fort of Hoobly and the money which I collected.

Formerly I received a letter from Mr. Russell, and in conformity to what he wrote, I sent Balajee Punt to speak with him. He will have spoke with him; now your letter is to the same effect, and he will speak with you. When an order and guns and infantry and other requisites come from the Government, I will settle about Hoobly.

You write about the collections. Whatever money was collected was spent on the extra force and infantry and guns belonging to the Paishwa which was employed against Undoo Khan (Abdoolah) and more is still owing to bankers.

The above mentioned Punt will explain all this matter by which it will be understood. Write me in a friendly way and make me happy with accounts of your welfare

No 5—The Resident makes a full communication to the Governor General about the objects of Holkar's visit to Jejuri and to the Peshwa, the former's desire to obtain a khilat from the latter and the Peshwa's objections to and fears about the visit

FROM—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Poona, 13 April 1811

My Lord,

Since I had the honour of addressing Your Lordship I have received several communications from the Paishwa and his Ministers, on the subject of Holcar's intended journey to Jejory, and I have had one meeting with Holcar's Vakeels to settle the manner of that chief's coming. I have now the honour to report the substance of the discussions which took place on those occasions

I was first visited by Sedasheo Maunkaisur on the part of His Highness the Paishwa. He began by saying that the Paishwa's first wish was to continue to treat Holcar as an enemy, but that as that Chief had applied to come into His Highness's territories on a religious occasion, and as Your Lordship appeared to think his request ought to be granted, His Highness was willing to allow him to come. The Paishwa must, he said, request of me to take the whole management of the affair, so that His Highness might have no communication with Holcar, and that His Highness must beg me so to conduct it, that he might not be under the necessity of having an interview with Holcar. After speaking of the calamities which Holcar had undergone and of the impolicy of eternal enmities I asked whether the Paishwa had any other objection to Holcar's coming into his country except what was suggested by his resentment. The Bhow said that His Highness had several objections though none of them were strong enough to induce him to give an absolute refusal to Holcar's request. The first was that Holcar might intrigue with Appa Sahib or some other of the Jagheerdars of the State. The second, that he might bring in the Pindarries, and the third that the troops who accompany him might injure the country through which they passed

I replied to these observations that Holcar was not in a state to injure his neighbours, and that if he were disposed to attempt it, the Paishwa might prevent his intrigues by a vigilant control over his communications with His Highness's subjects and obviate the

other dangers to be apprehended from his coming, by limiting the number of his troops and by other arrangements on the part of His Highness's Government. With respect to the Pindarries, I said, if those freebooters were under Holcar's influence, they would be less likely to make irruptions into the Paishwa's country, while Holcar was in His Highness's power than at any other time. The Bhow did not appear to think that Holcar had any intention of escaping from Meer Khan, but considered his proposed journey to be planned with that Chief's concurrence. We then proceeded to settle the manner of Holcar's coming. In answer to different questions from me, the Bhow proposed that Holcar should be desired to leave his army at Indore, and to undertake to restrain the incursions of the Pindarries; that he should march by the way of Chandore and Seroor, that he should be accompanied by 500, or at most by 1000 men; and that he should not remain above a week at Jejoory; and he remarked, that the time required for the usual ceremonies there was only three days. I assented to the reasonableness of all the Bhow's proposals, except that for obliging Holcar to restrain the Pindarries, on which I observed that Holcar had not the power of doing so, as was shown by their ravages in his own country, which suffered more than the Paishwa's territories in their late expedition. I recommended that the number of Holcar's escort should be limited to 500, which I thought sufficient for the purpose. If Holcar refused to come with so small a party he would, I said, be the only loser; the Paishwa would be exempt from the odium of refusing to allow him to visit the temple of his tutelary God.

Sedasheo Maunkaisur next proposed, that a detachment of the subsidiary force should be directed to accompany Holcar while in the Paishwa's territories, which I resisted, observing that the Paishwa might with more propriety depute a confidential officer with a respectable officer to meet Holcar on His Highness's part, and to attend him while he remained in the Poona territories. Maunkaisur objected to this on the grounds of the Paishwa's reluctance to trust any of his chiefs within the sphere of Holcar's arts, and of its being unusual to pay either Holcar or Sindia the compliment of sending an officer to meet them. I replied that this point might be considered hereafter, but that it was obvious that the Paishwa must send somebody to watch the motions of Holcar's Durbar, whether the person deputed was accompanied by troops or not. The Bhow then asked me on the Paishwa's part, whether I thought His Highness ought to send Chimnaji Appa to some place more secure than Poona while Holcar was in the country, to which I replied decidedly in the negative; and when Maunkaisur urged that Chimnaje was allowed to ride out wherever he pleased and might take the oppor-

tunity of flying to Holcar, I strongly advised him not to increase the animosity between the Paishwa and his brother, by giving the latter any grounds to believe that such a suspicion was entertained.

I mentioned in my last dispatch that a new Vakeel had arrived from Holcar. This person, whose name is Succaram Pundit, is not intended to interfere with Cundoo Pundit, with whom he appears to act in perfect concert. His mission appears to have originated in the custom of deputing a special messenger with the presents sent by the Maratha chiefs to the Paishwa, but he is also charged to join with Cundoo Pundit in pressing the Paishwa to invest Holcar with the Khillut of his rank.

I took the present occasion of asking the Bhow about the objects of this mission, and enquired into the Paishwa's intentions regarding them. Maunkaisur gave an account of the Vakeel's objects consistent with that which I have just stated, and said, that the Paishwa did not intend to give Holcar the Khillut of investiture, till he had paid the fine usual on such occasions. He said the Paishwa's Sirdars usually paid a year's revenue of the lands which they held of His Highness, and that the Paishwa would not grant a Khillut to Holcar, unless he paid 80 lacs of rupees. I remarked that I did not think His Highness and Holcar were likely soon to agree on this affair, but that it fortunately was one which did not require a speedy adjustment.

I waited on the Paishwa a few days after this conversation and His Highness repeated nearly what his Minister had said. He spoke, however, much more earnestly of his wish to avoid a meeting with Holcar. He said at first that he was resolved never on any account to meet him, but afterwards corrected himself and said, I do not mean that I would not see him, if the Governor-General thought the policy of the allied States required it, but at present I am very anxious to avoid it. After the first thing had been settled respecting Holcar's journey, the Paishwa complained that I had not assured him that I should make such an arrangement with Holcar's Vakeel, as should secure His Highness from the necessity of receiving Holcar. I answered that I had not thought any assurance requisite after His Highness had declared his determination, but that I should of course reject any application for an interview.

The Paishwa seemed pleased with this assurance, but said that it would be necessary to make Holcar's Vakeel sign a written promise that all the conditions on which His Highness's permission was granted should be observed. His Highness said he would send me a paper containing the stipulations he required.

I had afterwards a visit from Holcar's two Vakeels at which I informed them in the least offensive manner I could, of the condi-

tions which the Paishwa annexed to his permission for Holcar's entering his territories.

The Vakeels made some demur about the number of troops fixed by the Paishwa, but at last appeared satisfied with the conditions; which Cundoo Pundit said he would write to his Durbar. He readily understood that Holcar should employ his troops to check the Pindaries and should leave his army on the right bank of the Nerbudda.

Both the Vakeels afterwards requested me in the most urgent manner to endeavour to prevail on the Paishwa to grant a Khillut of investiture to Holcar before he set off on his pilgrimage, and to allow him to wait on His Highness either on his advance or on his return from Jejoory. I at first declined entering on those subjects on the ground of my having had no communication with the Paishwa respecting them, but the Vakeels continuing their instances and claiming my interposition as due to a prince, who was on terms of intimate friendship with the British Government, I told them that it was impossible an affair of the nature they alluded to, could be settled for a long time and that as their prince's journey obviously was in their own opinion of the utmost importance to his recovery, I would recommend their pressing the Paishwa's consent to it and avoiding to connect it with any other point which might delay the object for which they were so anxious. The Vakeels admitted the prudence of this advice, but continued to press me to try how far the Paishwa was disposed to accede to their Master's wishes with respect to the Khillut. After a very long conversation I agreed to mention their desire to the Paishwa, but apprized them that I reckoned them certain of a refusal.

I have not yet had an opportunity of communicating this wish of Holcar's Vakeels to the Paishwa.

At my audience of the Paishwa to which I have referred above, His Highness entered warmly into complaints of the conduct of some of the southern Jagheerdars. He dwelt particularly on that of Appa Sahib, who, he said, had solemnly promised to Mr. Russell, that he would restore all the lands which he held without authority from the Government, yet still continued to retain the fort of Hoobly, which was expressly named in the agreement into which Appa Sahib had entered with Mr. Russell. He said that this could only be considered as a fresh act of rebellion on the part of Appa Sahib, and that the least punishment that ought to be inflicted on him was the confiscation of his Serenjaumy lands. He also spoke with much indignation of the insolence of Madhoo Row Rastia, who, His Highness said, had lately engaged to deliver up certain districts which he held without authority, on the payment of a sum of money.

The money, His Highness said, had been paid, yet Rastia still refused to deliver up the fort of Badaumy, the most important of all the places in question. After similar charges against most of the other southern Jagheerdars, His Highness said that they were rebels and traitors, and that his earnest wish was to dismiss them all from his service. I endeavoured in reply to bring His Highness to views of greater moderation, I said that His Highness's most important claims on Appa Sahib had been adjusted, and that the few that remained would, I hoped, be soon completed under the arrangements which I should concert with the Minister. That His Highness's just demands on the other Jagheerdars were capable of adjustment without resorting to measures of such extremity as he had referred to. As I was not acquainted with your Lordship's wishes on the subject of the southern Jagheerdars, and was not well informed about the details of their disputes with the Paishwa, I made my discourse as general as possible and directed it to discouraging the violent schemes which His Highness proposed.

The fort of Hoobly still continues to hold out. Appa Sahib has sent a few troops to besiege it, but he scarce maintains an appearance of wishing to reduce it. It is now in fact ascertained that the person who holds it is directly under the influence of Appa Sahib. This appeared probable from the manner in which the place was occupied by its present possessor and is confirmed by the conduct of Appa Sahib, who has lately sent the whole of that officer's family from his own residence at Tausgaum to the fort of Hoobly.

I some time ago sent for Appa Sahib's Vakeel, with whom I wished to speak on this subject. The Vakeel declining to come on various pretences, I wrote to Appa Sahib remonstrating with him on his neglect of a solemn promise made by him to the British Resident and threatening him with the most serious consequences, if he persisted in his present conduct. I trust Appa Sahib will be persuaded to fulfil his promises to Mr Russell, but in the event of his failing to do so, I have no doubt it will appear to Your Lordship that no course is left for the British Government but to pursue the line in which it has already advanced so far.

It is with great concern that I have to acquaint Your Lordship with the death of the Paishwa's infant son. This event has occasioned all the affliction to the Paishwa which might be expected in the loss of an only child. I waited on the Paishwa as soon as he appeared in durbar to condole with him in Your Lordship's name on this melancholy occasion.

No. 6.—The Governor General asks the Resident to communicate with the Government of Bombay on the mode of adjusting the dispute between the Peshwa and the State of the Gaikwad.

**FROM—N. B. EDMONSTONE,
TO—THE HONOURABLE MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT POONA.**

Fort William, 19 April 1811.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th ultimo reporting the arrival in the vicinity of Poona of a Vakeel from the Guickawar State to the Peshwah, the object of whose mission is said to be the settlement of the long pending disputes between the two Governments on the subject of the arrears of the Guickawar tribute and the procuring a renewal of the farm of Ahmedabad and soliciting the orders of Government on the subject.

The mode at present proposed for the adjustment of this long pending claim corresponds with that which in the year 1808 was suggested by the Government of Bombay when the question at issue was agitated at the court of Poona, and which was acceded to by the Peshwa's Minister as reported by Colonel Close in his dispatch of the 6th May, 1808 and the line which you propose to pursue, therefore, is entirely approved by His Excellency the Vice-President in Council.

The negotiation however, in whatever form it may be prosecuted, must of course be subject to the immediate cognizance of the Government of Bombay, as being the channel of agency and communication with regard to all points connected with the affairs of the State of Guickawar in which the British interests are concerned. It will be proper therefore that you should communicate directly with that Government on the subject transmitting copies of your correspondence for the information of His Excellency in Council.

Copies of your letter and of this reply will be transmitted for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council, Bombay.

No. 7.—The Resident submits for the Governor General's consideration the excellent services that Dr. Coates was rendering, as evidenced by the report of his vaccination work forwarded with the despatch.

**FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY EDMONSTONE.**

Poona, 28 April 1811.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose a report by Mr. Coates on the progress of vaccination in the Paishwa's Dominions.

His Excellency the Vice-President-in-Council will no doubt observe with satisfaction the surprising success with which Mr Coates's exertions have been attended among a people whose prejudices were peculiarly unfavourable to the practice of an European Surgeon

Twelve thousand seven hundred persons have been vaccinated within the last five years and the small-pox is nearly if not entirely extirpated in Poona and the country round it Mr Coates calculates on very satisfactory grounds that 2200 lives have been saved out of the 12,700 persons vaccinated, but the benefit of his labours becomes incalculable, if we consider the extensive effect of the extirpation of a disease the ravages of which equal those of pestilence and famine

Of all the measures which the British Government has adopted for the benefit of the Maratha country, there is none which presents so obvious and undoubted a proof of its benevolence, or which more entitles it to the lasting gratitude of the inhabitants, than the institution for vaccination, and the success with which its advantages have been diffused can only be ascribed to the unremitting zeal and humanity of Mr Coates

In these circumstances I am confident that I perform an acceptable duty in recalling the attention of Government to that gentleman's services

Mr Coates's merits long ago attracted the attention of Major-General Close, and they form the subject of a dispatch from Mr Russell to you dated the 9th of August, 1810 Mr Coates's claims are so forcibly stated in Mr Russell's letter that I should do them injustice if I attempted to enforce them in any other way than by begging His Excellency's attention to that dispatch I must, however, call His Excellency's particular notice to the paragraphs which state that Mr Coates affords relief to sick natives of all descriptions, besides performing his duty as a vaccinator, that he is almost incessantly engaged in excursions to different parts of the country for the purpose of visiting his patients, that he derives no emolument of any kind from his practice, except what is allowed him from the Company and that his whole allowances from the Company are less by 200 rupees than he would have drawn, had he remained in the regular line of the medical service at Bombay'

Mr Russell's reference has already been noticed by the Right Hon'ble the Governor-General, in a dispatch from you dated September 25th 1810, in which His Lordship declines deciding on Mr Coates's case on the ground of his being under the Government of Bombay It is stated in Mr Russell's reply that though Mr Coates

belongs to the Bombay establishment, the whole of his allowances are paid by the Supreme Government, and on this ground the Governor of Bombay has since declared his opinion that the case ought to be decided at Fort William.

I therefore beg leave most respectfully to submit Mr. Coates's claims to His Excellency the Vice-President. I have been led to do so entirely by the accounts which I have received of his conduct, and by the perusal of the papers respecting him on the records of the Residency. Mr. Coates's has made no application to me and has said nothing on the subject of his services, except what is contained in the enclosed official report.

No. 8—The following report gives the history of the trouble that had started between the Peshwa and Appa Sahib Patwardhan and is typical of the extremities to which the trouble led in the course of time.

FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE VICE-PRESIDENT IN COUNCIL.

Poona, 9 May 1811.

Hon'ble Sir,

Seddasheo Maunkaisur having recovered from his indisposition he appointed yesterday evening to receive my visit.

I accordingly waited on him, and desired to know the Paishwa's final resolution respecting Appa Sahib Putwurdhun.

The Minister replied by reading a paper, in which all the instances of Appa Sahib's disobedience which have occurred since the Paishwa's accession were enumerated. Those which made most impression on me related to his recent conduct in Savanoor. He was represented as having begged the Paishwa to entrust him with the settlement of that province, and when his request was granted, to have wilfully protracted the war, so that he had possession of part of the province for ten months, while his troops lived at free quarters in the Paishwa's country. He was stated to have seized the officers of the former Governor of Savanoor, and to have kept them in confinement for his own purposes, though repeatedly directed to send them to the capital, to have embezzled the property public and private which fell into his hands, and finally to have kept possession of the districts which he had reduced, till threatened with an attack from the Paishwa's army supported by the British force. The Minister said that Appa Sahib had promised Mr. Russell to surrender those districts and to pay the amount of his collections within ten days, that Mr. Russell had with difficulty persuaded the Paishwa to accept of his submission, that he had delayed evacuating

the strongest place of the whole and now refused either to give it up or to pay the money which he had collected. In addition to these acts of treachery and rebellion, Appa Sahib had refused to march his contingent against the Pindaries, and had not even answered the Paishwa's orders to that effect, though two of His Highness's officers had been stationed with him for two months to enforce it.

The Minister then said that the Paishwa was collecting troops at Belgaum which he should send against Hoobly, at the same time he should give positive orders to Appa Sahib to bring his contingent to Poona. If Hoobly was evacuated, the expense of the capture should be charged to Appa Sahib, and if he refused to pay it and the money which he already owed to the Government, or if he neglected to send his contingent to Poona, the Paishwa would proceed to confiscate his Jagheer.

When the Minister had concluded, I acknowledged the justice and propriety of the Paishwa's insisting on the possession of Hoobly and on being indemnified for the expense of taking it, as well as on receiving the amount of the unauthorised collections which Appa Sahib had already agreed to refund but I positively denied the expediency of requiring Appa Sahib to come to Poona with his contingent, a demand which I thought ought on no account to be brought forward in the course of the present discussion.

Seddasheo Maunkaisur having said that he thought the demand might be brought forward at present with peculiar advantage, as it would deprive Appa Sahib of the means of assisting the garrison of Hoobly in opposing the Paishwa's troops, I pointed out the inefficiency of such a plan observing that if Appa Sahib had made up his mind to oppose the Paishwa's troops, he would have little hesitation in refusing to come to Poona, and that if he were inclined to keep appearances and assist the garrison underhand, he might send his contingent and entertain other troops for the defence of Hoobly, that no good effect could therefore be expected from the proposed measure, while there was every probability that Appa Sahib would be driven to despair by finding the Paishwa continually

On my declaring my opinion that the expulsion of Appa Sahib from his lands was an evil that ought to be avoided by all means consistent with the Paishwa's dignity, a long argument took place, in course of which the Minister said that from the inveterate enmity between Appa Sahib's family and the Paishwa's, he never could be expected to have any confidence in His Highness; that he had always disobeyed the Paishwa's orders, that no benefit was ever derived from the troops which he was bound to maintain; that his lands might be employed to greater advantage if they were assigned to new Sirdars, like Gokla and Appa Dessaye, and finally that such a measure was absolutely necessary, as nothing short of actual force would induce Appa Sahib to give up the point now in dispute. In reply to this I insisted that the enmity borne by Appa Sahib's family in common with the greater part of the Maratta nation to the Paishwa's Father, ought to be forgotten and every argument founded on it laid aside, that it was equally disreputable and impolitic to destroy the ancient families of the State that as Appa Sahib had done more in obedience to the Paishwa's orders within the last six months than in the ten years which preceded them, I thought he might be brought to discharge all his duties towards His Highness without extreme measures, and that, for the same reason I was confident that he would fulfil His Highness's demands without its being necessary to seize his Jagheer. I then asked in what respect Appa Sahib's conduct was worse than that of the other Jagheerdars, and what induced the Paishwa to insist on depriving him of his lands at a time when although slowly and reluctantly, he was actually giving up his usurpations. The Minister said that the Paishwa did not intend to let off the other Jagheerdars and that I should hear of them hereafter; but, in the meantime we had Appa Sahib's affair to settle, to which I replied, if His Highness intended to bring forward any claims against the other Jagheerdars, it would be very impolitic in him to proceed to extremities against Appa Sahib, after he had shown a disposition to submit, as such a course of action would convince the rest that nothing was to be gained by concession, and that the Paishwa was only seeking pretences to confiscate them.

The Minister here requested, that two Battalions at least of the Subsidiary Force should be sent with the Paishwa's force against Hoobly, not for the purpose of reducing that place, which he acknowledged to have been thrice taken by the Paishwa's own officers, but to intimidate the Jagheerdars and induce them to submit to His Highness's demands.

I observed in reply, that I was not informed of the Paishwa's claims on the other Jagheerdars, that I could not authorize the

movement of any British troops for the purpose of acting against them till I was convinced of the necessity, and that the march of our troops for the avowed purpose of taking Hoobly would rather encourage than intimidate the Jagheerdars, as it would lead them to think the Paishwa's own force inadequate to the reduction of so insignificant a place. Perceiving at last that there was no prospect of the Minister's bringing forward any moderate plan of operations, I wished to have informed him of what I proposed to pursue, it was, to write to Appa Sahib as soon as the Paishwa's troops were ready to move, acquainting him of the preparations that were made against Hoobly, and informing him that if that place were not evacuated before the Paishwa's troops moved, the expense of the armament would fall on him, that if he offered any resistance to the Paishwa or if he delayed to fulfil the articles of his engagements to Mr Russell, which related to the adjustment of accounts, the Paishwa's troops would proceed to attack his lands, and would be supported by the British force. I had not, however, got further than the mention of my writing to Appa Sahib, when I was interrupted by the Minister, who told me that after a long and fruitless negotiation the British troops and those of the Paishwa had been on the point of marching against Appa Sahib, when that chief agreed to give up all the points contested, among which were those now under discussion, that Mr Russell had then interceded with the Paishwa and stopped the march of the troops, that he had taken the execution of Appa Sahib's agreement on himself, and had declared that if all the articles were not fulfilled within 20 days, the Paishwa should be at liberty to proceed as he pleased that Appa Sahib had failed in his engagements and on my writing to remind him of them had returned a most insolent and contemptuous reply, and that in all these circumstances, he thought it would be highly degrading in me to write to him again, and that the only method of treating him was to send a force against him.

To this I answered by denying that Mr Russell had made any declaration to the extent stated by the Minister, and by saying that I observed no great impropriety in Appa Sahib's letter except his affecting to make light of a very serious affair, that as there could be no doubt of the British Government's possessing the power of destroying Appa Sahib, I did not think I risked its dignity by showing every wish to preserve him. This was followed by a renewal of almost all the arguments which had been before brought forward by the Minister in course of the whole conversation, but the Minister at last consented to hear the rest of my proposed letter, with which he seemed at the time to be perfectly satisfied.

as the commencement of a plan for reducing the Southern Jagheerdars than as a single and unconnected transaction

In this view it may perhaps be thought, that the measure best adapted as well to effect our present object without risk, as to secure the submission of the Jagheerdars hereafter, would have been at once to employ the Subsidiary Force in forcing Appa Sahib to the immediate execution of his agreement.

The orders of the Right Honourable the Governor-General to Mr Russell are, however, so explicit, that I do not think myself at liberty to authorize the march of the Subsidiary Force, especially in the present case, where there is a great probability of the object of the Paishwa's Government being effected by means of His Highness's own force. But if His Highness's force should be found inadequate to reduce Hoobly, or if Appa Sahib should still refuse to adjust his accounts with the Paishwa, there can be no doubt of the propriety of moving the Force, as well on the grounds of the letter of the treaty of Bassein, as of the necessity of enforcing an agreement which was exacted by the British Resident under the express instructions of the Right Honourable the Governor-General

No 9—The request of Yashwant Rao Holkar to obtain a dress of succession for his son from the Peshwa and the Resident's reply thereto are communicated to the Governor-General for information

**FROM—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY EDMONSTONE.**

Poona, 10 May 1811

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose translations of a letter which I yesterday received from Jeswunt Row Holcar, and of my reply

Holcar's letter contains a request that I will use my interest with the Paishwa to induce His Highness to grant his son Mulhar Row an honorary dress, without requiring the presents usual on those occasions. My answer expresses my anxiety to attend to Holcar's wishes in all points, but states the impossibility of my doing so in the present instance

It is needless to say that the grant of an honorary dress to Mulhar Row, implies an acknowledgement of his being the heir-apparent of the Holcar family, but it is necessary to remark that this is the first direct application there has been made on the subject. Holcar's former request was that a dress might be conferred on himself

Translation of a letter from Jeswunt Row Holcar to the address of Mr Elphinstone, Resident at Poona, dated the 21st of Rubbeeool Awul, or 15th April 1811 A C

My heart has been delighted by receiving accounts of the appointment of that friend to the situation of Resident at the Court of Sreemunt Sahib, of your arrival at Poona and your presentation to His Highness. The agents of my Government Rajasree Cundoo Punt Mahadeo and Succaram Jugoojeewun, who are now in the Presence, will regularly attend upon you. The object of this letter is to state, that this friend being desirous of obtaining a Khillaut for his son, the light of his eyes, Mulhar Row, the above mentioned agents conveyed his request to the Government. The officers of the Presence have demanded a pecuniary offering to the Government. Now in the first place as Sindia and Holcar have been for generations the servants of the Paishwa and as the obligations of friendship between the British Government and them have been firmly established, it is written and requested with the pen of friendship that you should induce Sreemunt Sahib to remit the pecuniary offering, and bounteously bestow the Khillaut on my son. You will have been made acquainted with the other orders dispatched to my agents. Conceive your endeavours necessary in these affairs.

Translation of a letter from Mr. Elphinstone to Jeswunt Row Holcar, dated the 16th of Rubee-oo-Sanee, or 10th May 1811.

At this time your letter requesting me to exert myself in obtaining a Khillaut for your son Mulhar Row and in soliciting the remission of the pecuniary offering demanded by the officers of Sreemunt Sahib Bahadur, may his prosperity be everlasting, has been received. The fact is this, that this friend is most anxious to exert himself in all the affairs of your Government, but the discussion of affairs that have been decided upon in the presence of the Paishwa, and an interference on my part in those concerns which more immediately relate to the internal Government of His Highness the Paishwa, appears inconsistent with established usage; you will, however, be pleased without hesitation to employ my services in any other affairs.

No. 10.—The Governor-General eulogizes the services of Dr. Coates at Poona in the field of vaccination, emphasises the political advantages of his efforts and sanctions his pay and permanent allowances as a personal appointment as recommended by Mr. Russell.

**FROM—N. B. EDMONSTONE, CHIEF SECRETARY,
TO—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT
POONA.**

Fort William, 24 May 1811.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter under date the 29th ultimo on the subject of Dr. Coates' allowances.

Mr Russell's reply to my letter of the 25th of September 1810 in which he stated that although Dr Coates was under the Presidency of Bombay, yet his allowances were paid by the Supreme Government, occasioned a further reference to Poona, (which was made in a private form) because no account of Dr Coates' allowances appeared on the records of the Civil Auditor's office and the communication contained in the letter of the acting Secretary to Government in the Political Department under date the 2nd of May 1810 on the subject, was not present to the recollection of the members of Government. Dr Coates' allowances not appearing on the records of the civil auditor, is now accounted for by the circumstance of their being paid in the first instance by the Government of Bombay and the account being adjusted by a transfer to the debit of Bengal.

His Excellency the Vice President in council having taken into his consideration the report contained in Mr Russell's dispatch of the 9th of August 1810 and the observations communicated in your dispatch above acknowledged, has resolved to grant the monthly allowances recommended by Mr Russell, viz 350 sikka Rupees salary and 150 sikka Rupees for establishment.

His Excellency in council finds his compliance with this recommendation principally on the political advantages resulting from the popular credit attached to the Government under whose auspices a benefit so widely extended and so universally felt as the introduction of vaccine inoculation has been conferred on the subjects of the Peshwah, and from the humane and indefatigable attention of Dr Coates to the indiscriminate relief of persons afflicted by accident and disease, an attention calculated to elevate the British character and to conciliate general respect and attachment.

The solicitude of the Peshwah to secure a continuance of the benefits of Dr Coates' exertions is an additional motive of a political nature, to a compliance with Mr Russell's recommendation in favor of Dr Coates, which is also supported by those circumstances of a personal nature which are described by Mr Russell, from whose report it appears that in the ordinary course of his professional service Dr Coates would long since have been in the receipt of allowances equivalent to those proposed to be granted to him, but that a laudable interest in the public blessings derived from his professional exertions at Poona had induced Dr Coates to forego that advantage and to remain in his present situation with allowances not exceeding in the aggregate 327 Bombay Rupees per mensem.

As the whole of these considerations have a personal reference to Dr. Coates, his present employment is not to be considered as a permanent appointment subject to be transferred to another.

The resolution now announced, having originated in Mr. Russell's report of the 9th of August 1810 and the delay in its adoption having been occasioned by the mistake alluded to in the 2nd paragraph of this letter, His Excellency in Council deems it equitable that the allowances now granted to Dr. Coates should take effect from the 1st of October 1810, that being the date from which they would have commenced if the mistake above mentioned had not precluded a decision of the question. You will accordingly be pleased to pay to Dr. Coates the difference between the allowances now assigned to him, and those which he will have received from the 1st of October until this dispatch shall reach you and you will include that amount as well as the future monthly allowance at the rate of 500 sikka rupees which you will pay to Dr. Coates in your accounts.

This arrangement will be duly communicated to Government of Bombay.

No. 11—The Resident is informed of the line of conduct he was to adopt in dealing with the Peshwa's claim to invest subordinate chiefs with dresses at succession and to discourage the old idea of the Peshwa being the head of all Maratha chiefs.

**FROM—N. B. EDMONSTONE, CHIEF SECRETARY,
TO—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT
POONA.**

Fort William, 31 May 1811.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your several dispatches of the numbers and dates noted in the margin relating almost exclusively to the two subjects, of the conduct of Appa Sahib Putwardhan and of the proposed visit of Jeswunt Row Holkar to Jejoory, and to communicate to you the sentiments and instructions of His Excellency the Vice-President in Council on those subjects.

His Excellency in Council entirely approves the tenor of your proceedings with regard to Appa Saheb and especially your endeavours (which Government is happy to find proved successful) to induce the Peishwah to limit his immediate views to the satisfaction of the demands already made upon Appa Saheb.

The course which the transaction has taken from the commencement renders it indispensably necessary that if the forces of

the Peishwah should fail in their efforts to obtain possession of Hoobly, the British power should be interposed to enforce its evacuation. The eventual resolution therefore described at the close of your dispatch of the 28th ultimo is approved by the Vice-President in Council.

The instructions of Government with reference to the prosecution of ulterior measures against the other Southern Jageerdars were communicated in detail in my dispatch of the 9th of February to the address of the Acting Resident, which, under the expectation of Mr Henry Russell's departure from Poona was transmitted in duplicate, one copy to Poona and the other to Hyderabad but the tenor of your dispatches now acknowledged does not indicate your receipt of it. I am therefore directed to transmit to you enclosed a copy of that letter and to desire your attention to the instructions which it contains. Independently of the consideration stated in the last paragraph of those instructions as opposing the expediency of undertaking any military operation of magnitude at the present time, it will be obvious to you that the season of the year is now peculiarly unfavourable to the undertaking involved in the prosecution of the Peishwa's design against the Southern Jageerdars and will continue to be so for a considerable period of time, whilst under any circumstances Government would desire to have the report required by the paragraph above referred to previously to the adoption of any final resolution on the subject.

His Excellency in Council fully concurs in the propriety of the limitations under which the visit of Holkar to Jejoory has been permitted and considers your discussions with the Peishwa and his Ministers on that subject to display on your part much judgment and ability. There is one point, however, connected with those discussions which appears to His Excellency in Council to require some specific observations. The point in question is, your implied recognition of the continued existence of the ancient relations of the Marhattah co-estates as manifested both by your discourse to the Peishwa's Minister on the subject of the Khilaut solicited by Holkar on the one part and the expectation of a heavy nuzzurana on the other, and in your reply to Holkar's letter, translations of both of which form enclosures in your dispatch to my address of the 10th instant.

With respect to this point I am directed to refer you to the ample discussion of it contained in my letter to Colonel Close of the 19th of March 1807. By a perusal of that document you will be apprised not only of the grounds on which those relations are deemed to have been dissolved by the treaty of Bassein and by transactions subsequent to the conclusion of the treaties of Deogaum and Surjee

Anjangaum, but also of the Peishwa's virtual recognition of that change. The same document, as well as the whole course of the correspondence connected with it, will point out to you the importance of maintaining that position, and you will further observe from Colonel Close's dispatch of the 24th of February 1807 that in a conference with the Paishwa's Minister he distinctly maintained, that by the arrangements of the treaty of Bassein Sindiah and Holkar were to be regarded as the heads of independent Governments; a position which was not denied and you will also observe from Colonel Close's dispatch of the 26th of August 1807, that on re-urging the same topic. the Ministers present declared that no measure should ever be adopted in reference to the former state of things in Hindustan.

It will occur to you that these discussions might with great propriety and advantage have been referred to when the question of conferring a Khilaut on Holkar was agitated and it will be necessary that you should bear them in mind on any future similar occasion.

On the principle above described it will be obvious to you that the question of conferring a Khilaut of investiture on Holkar (or on his son Mulhar Row as his successor, a point which it seems the Durbar of Holkar has much at heart) cannot properly be classed among those internal concerns of the Peishwa's Government in which you have in your answer to Holkar's letter, disclaimed a right of interference. On the contrary it forms one of those questions of external negotiation which the Peishwa by the 17th article of the treaty of Bassein has renounced the right of conducting without the participation and concurrence of the British Government.

It is highly proper that on a suitable occasion the Peishwa should be reminded of the principle thus established by the treaty of Bassein with regard to the other Marhattah states. But to render its operation effectual it seems requisite that the latter should also be apprized of it, when any case occurs to which it may be applicable, since a conception of the necessity of obtaining an investiture from the Peishwa as the Lord Paramount can alone induce them to offer the price which the Peishwa has on the present occasion demanded and would demand on every other or indeed to apply at all for such investiture.

The intelligence communicated in your dispatch of the 13th ultimo of the decease of the Peishwa's son is a subject of deep regret to his Excellency in Council. The Vice-President deems it proper to address to His Highness a letter of condolence on this melancholy occasion, and that letter will accordingly be transmitted to you from the Persian Department.

No 12—The Governor-General addresses a letter of condolence to the Peshwa on the death of his son and heir

**FROM—PERSIAN SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
TO—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT POONA.**

Fort William, 4 June 1811

Sir,

His Excellency the Vice-President deeming it to be proper to address a letter of condolence to His Highness the Peshwa on the death of his son and heir, I am directed to transmit to you the enclosed letter from His Excellency to His Highness conveying the sentiments of His Excellency's sincere concern at the melancholy event of the decease of the heir apparent, and such expressions of consolation as appear to be suited to the occasion, together with a Persian copy of it for your information; and to desire that you will be pleased to accompany the delivery of the original with a communication in the spirit of its contents

No 13—Amrit Rao, brother of Bajirao Peshwa, requests permission to stay at Surat, as the climate of Benares does not suit his health

**FROM—HIS HIGHNESS AMRIT RAO,
TO—HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICE-PRESIDENT.**

Received 10th June 1811

By a letter from the Governor-General, I have had the pleasure to learn that the Government of the Presidency of Bengal has devolved on your Excellency in consequence of His Lordship's proceeding to Madras for the purpose of arranging affairs in another quarter, and that your Excellency will watch over my interests and welfare in his Lordship's absence. This intelligence has afforded me the greatest satisfaction. As your Excellency is already fully acquainted with all the circumstances of my situation, of the impaired state of my health in consequence of the disagreement of the climate of Benares with my constitution during a residence here of 6 years and of my devoting myself exclusively to the object of manifesting my loyalty and attachment to the British Government and my gratitude for the kindness which I have received from its rulers, I will not trouble you with a repetition of them in this letter, but proceed to state to you what I have at heart, which is necessary to be submitted for your consideration, and which I have repeatedly stated in my letters to His Lordship's address. It is this, that, if further delay is likely to occur in the selection of a suitable place of residence for me, some villages in Surat on the

river Taptee situated within the Company's dominions may be assigned for my residence in the mean time; the amount of the rents of which villages to be deducted from my stipend, and the balance to be paid to me through the Governor of Bombay. This arrangement would be extremely conducive to my happiness and comfort.

The respectable Pundit, Juggernaut Pundit, who possesses my entire confidence is now in Calcutta, from whence he intends to proceed on a pilgrimage to Juggernaut. He will have the honor to communicate to Your Excellency a list of several places, the climate of which is favourable to my constitution. I trust that you will be pleased to take his communications into your favourable consideration, and to accomplish the object of his wishes, that is to say the adjustment of my affairs.

What can I say more?

Note.—I [Vice President] saw Juggernaut Pundit on Monday last, who desired me to convey to Government the request of Amrut Row to reside at Surat, without giving him any lands, in case Government should have difficulty in assigning any villages for his residence. Amrut Row conceives that as Surat is in the Company's territories, it can be a matter of little consequence to Government whether he resides there or at Benares, whereas he considers it to be of importance to his health to live at Surat.

No. 14—The Resident reports to the Governor General the Peshwa's displeasure with Gokhale and the former's plan of raising an army directly paid from his treasury and of doing away with levies from his jagirdars. Gokhale's visit to the Resident and his readiness to obey the Peshwa are also reported.

FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE HONOURABLE THE VICE-PRESIDENT.

Poona, 16 June 1811.

Hon'ble Sir,

The Paishwa arrived here on the 8th instant from Wahee, where he had been for some time on a pilgrimage. I went out to meet him with the officers attached to the Residency: The Brigade was drawn out on the road by which His Highness entered Poona, and he was received with all the usual honours.

His Highness was joined at Wahee by Bappoojee Gunais Gokla, who attended him to Poona with a party of about 1000 horse and 700 infantry the rest of his quota having been left on his jagheer.

The Paishwa, I understand, intends to take this opportunity of settling his claims on Gokla, and if he carries his designs no farther they would deserve every support from the British Government.

Government is already acquainted with the rebellion of the Prittee-Niddee, in consequence of which his whole jagheer the annual revenue of which is valued at 18 lacs of Rupees, was taken possession of by Gokla under the Paishwa's directions. Gokla has retained the whole of this Jagheer ever since he occupied it in 1805, and has neither accounted to the Paishwa for the collections, nor obeyed His Highness's frequent orders to him to make over the country to another officer.

The Paishwa now demands that the country should be surrendered and the whole revenue collected from it accounted for. Gokla professes his readiness to obey His Highness's commands, but requests that the expenses he incurred in taking possession of the country be made good to him. He states his expenses to amount to 37 lacs of Rupees, and I understand the Paishwa has offered to deposit that sum at the British Residency to be paid to Gokla, if it shall appear on a comparison of accounts to be due to him. His Highness is, however, very confident that the amount of the revenue due on account of the Prittee Niddee's country, will far more than cover all Gokla's demands. But His Highness is by no means satisfied with the hopes of recovering all the lands and money which Gokla took possession of without his orders. A late act of disobedience on the part of that chief has exasperated His Highness to such a degree, that he has resolved to deprive him of the whole of his Serinjaumy lands. It is His Highness's intention to apply the proceeds of Gokla's Jagheer to the maintenance of a body of troops to be paid from his treasury and commanded by officers of his own selection.

Gokla's services on many different occasions are well known to the Government. His contingent is the most considerable and among the most efficient bodies of troops in the Paishwa's service. His disobedience like that of all the other Jagheerdars except two has arisen merely from the supineness of the Government, which has long been used to treat the greatest zeal for its service and the rudest usurpation of its authority, with equal inattention.

The Paishwa's plan of maintaining an army to be paid from his treasury, certainly at first sight presents many advantages, but when they are examined, none will be found to compensate for the loss of such a force as Gokla's. From the careless and indolent character that pervades every department of the Paishwa's Government it is highly improbable that the proposed branch of the army will ever be diligently attended to. As there will be no permanent fund for the payment of it, there is a great risk of its being suffered to fall into arrears. This abuse among the natives is always ac-

accompanied with false musters and other fraudulent practices, by which the commanders of corps make up for the irregularity of their payments. The commanders being chosen from people about the Court, will generally be ill fitted for their duties, and there will be nothing in their situation to improve their character. For these reasons although it is very desirable that the effect of troops in the Paishwa's immediate service should be tried, yet the result of the experiment is so uncertain, that it would be imprudent to purchase it by the sacrifice of any part of his efficient army.

On this view of the subject I trust I shall meet with Your Excellency's approbation in using my utmost endeavours to prevent the confiscation of Gokla's Jagheer, at the same time that I inform that chief that he will entirely lose the support of the British Government by withholding any part of the Paishwa's just claims or by omitting any service which is due from him to His Highness.

I have as yet received no communication on this subject from the Durbar, but I am informed on very good authority that the Paishwa has the measure of removing Gokla in contemplation, in which case I shall of course be officially informed of it before long.

Before the Paishwa set out for Wahee, he removed Saddasheo Maunkaisur, the Prime Minister, from the Government of the strong forts of Loghur and Esapoor. His Highness has now prepared a fresh commission for the Government of the fort and district of Shorapoor, at present held by the Minister. He seems not to have made up his mind on whom that Government shall be conferred, but he seems resolved to take it from the Minister. If he be removed from the Government of Shorapoor, Saddasheo Maunkaisur will still retain the large district of Severndroog, with the forts and ghurries included in it. He will also retain his personal Jagheer and the lands which he is allowed for the maintenance of 300 horse. It is however, the opinion of those best acquainted with the Paishwa's character, that the Minister's influence is on the decline. Various reasons are assigned for this change in the Paishwa's disposition, of which the most serious is the detection of the Minister's misconduct in embezzling a very large portion of the treasures found in Shorapoor, when that place was taken by the Paishwa about four years ago.

No measures for recovering Hoobly have been agitated for some time. The troops of Savanoor are still employed in reducing a refractory Dessaye in that province. When they shall have completed that service, they will probably be ordered against Hoobly and reinforced by troops from Belgaum.

The Paishwa has completed his new levies to 1500 horse and 1000 foot, half of this force has been sent to Copergaum to assist in protecting the country from the Pindarries, and half is stationed to the southward at Belgaum and in the pergunnah of Adoor

Soon after I received the orders conveyed in Mr Edmonstone's letter dated the 9th of February, I took an opportunity of requesting to be furnished with a list of the districts and villages occupied by the southern Jagheerdars without authority, and a statement of all the Paishwa's claims against those chiefs. Two months have since elapsed but altho' no application could be more welcome to the Paishwa's Government and though I have reminded the Ministers of it almost every day, I have not yet been able to procure the information I require

I have had frequent communications with the Durbar since my last dispatch, but there are only two points which deserve to be reported to your Excellency

The first is, a claim of the Paishwa's to a number of guns which Amrut Row took from the Paishwa's arsenal while Holcar was in possession of Poona, and which he afterwards deposited at Ahmednuggur. In reply to this demand I stated that since Amrut Row's flight from Poona an agreement had been entered into between him and the Paishwa, in which there was no stipulation for the recovery of property carried off from Poona, that the Paishwa had allowed eight years to pass without advancing any claims of the kind, and could not expect that they would now be admitted that the guns had been deposited by Amrut Row with the Officer commanding at Ahmednuggur, and that I had no right to order them to be given up to the Paishwa without Amrut Row's consent. The Paishwa's Minister said in answer that the Paishwa was very anxious to have the guns on any terms and begged me to state the claim to your Excellency, that in case you took the same view of the subject that I did, you might use your influence with Amrut Row to procure the restitution of the guns. In compliance with the Minister's repeated solicitations I agreed to report what he had said to your Excellency, but acquainted him that I had no hopes of the success of his application

The other point which I have to notice, related to a complaint of the Paishwa's against Sindia, for levying contributions on His Highness's territories in Hindostan, which form part of the Jagheer of the Vinchoor Chief, and for permitting his Pindarries to carry on very serious depredations in Candeish. The substance of these complaints will appear in my letter to the Resident with Sindia, which I shall have the honour to forward for your Excellency's notice

I have received another letter from Holcar, in which he begs me to use my influence with the Paishwa to procure a Khellat of investiture for his son but makes no mention of his journey to Jejoory. I shall do myself the honour to forward a translation of it, and of my reply.

P.S. June 17th.

Since I wrote the above, I have received a visit from Gokla, who came in great state to the Residency. When the usual compliments on our meeting after so long an interval had passed, Gokla requested me to retire into a private apartment, where he spoke for some time of his attachment to the British and of the many occasions on which he had served with our armies. He also produced a very honourable testimony of his merit and services under the signature of Lord Wellington. He then stated that notwithstanding the numerous proofs he had given of zeal and fidelity, the Paishwa had been persuaded by some of his enemies to withdraw his countenance from him. He said he was convinced His Highness had the most gracious disposition towards him and that he was at a loss to guess what grounds his enemies could have taken to induce His Highness to diminish the favour with which he formerly distinguished him. He concluded by saying that he had always depended on the British Government and trusted its influence would be exerted in his behalf, at the same time he declared himself perfectly ready to obey any orders the Paishwa might think proper to issue.

After expressing my disappointment at finding that Gokla's long connection with the English had not taught him to carry on business with perfect openness, I told him, I thought the Paishwa had very good and very obvious reasons for dissatisfaction, and proceeded to remark in terms of much disapprobation and regret in Gokla's usurpation of the Prittee Niddee's Jagheer and on the other acts of disobedience of which he had been guilty. I told him that the Paishwa was seriously displeased with him; and that altho' the British Government remembered his services and was sincerely desirous of his welfare, it could not make any exertion in his favour as long as he gave the Paishwa just grounds of complaint. That I was happy to hear him profess so much readiness to conform to the Paishwa's orders and that, if he was really sincere in those professions, he might depend on my using every means in my power to reconcile him to his master.

Gokla said that he did not mean to practise any concealment, but that as the Paishwa had not mentioned the causes of his displeasure

it was impossible for him to discover them except by conjecture. He then most solemnly repeated his assurances of entire obedience to the Paishwa and said, if His Highness required him to give up his lands and quit the service, he would do it without demur. He begged me to speak favourably of him to the Paishwa and to take occasion to mention the many battles he had fought for His Highness's service.

I said that as I believed him to be sincere in his promises of future good conduct, he might rely on my cordial and zealous support, but I warned him that the continuance of the protection of the British Government must depend on his own fidelity to his master, and I added that it was incumbent on him to further my recommendations of him by adopting the line of conduct best calculated to conciliate the Paishwa's regard, and that it would be in vain to expect any advantage from recounting his services in former times, if he did not continue to afford them according to his own duty and the exigencies of the State.

Gokla after repeated protestations that he would obey the Paishwa and be guided in every thing by me, returned to the public apartment and soon after took his leave.

The result of this conversation with Gokla is very satisfactory as far as it goes. I have no doubt that he is sincere in the essential parts of his promises, and I hope that his ready submission may induce the Paishwa to treat him with less rigour than he at first intended, but I still suppose that Gokla will endeavour to retain as much of his acquisitions as he can without a rupture, and that the Paishwa's fondness for his plan of having his whole army under his own immediate control will occasion him to give up his designs against Gokla with some reluctance.

No 15—The Resident advocates the use of the Subsidiary Force for coercing Appasalub so as to secure a commanding influence over the Southern Jagirdars to enable the British Government to effectually adjust all the questions pending between them and Poona State.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY EDMONSTONE

Poona, 19 June 1811

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch dated the 31st of May containing the instructions of His Excellency the Vice-President, on different subjects reported in my dispatches

It gives me great satisfaction to learn, that my view of the disputes between the Paishwa and Appa Sahib, has met with the approbation of the Honourable the Vice-President.

HIS Excellency will have observed by my last dispatch that the Paishwa's proceedings in that affair are at a stand. This appears to be a fortunate circumstance in the present state of the business. If very early measures had been adopted against Appa Sahib, they might perhaps have been concluded before the season was too far advanced to interfere with military operations, and their promptitude might perhaps have deterred the other Jagheerdars from opposition to the Paishwa's authority, but it seems now to be advisable to delay sending troops against Appa Sahib for other reasons as well as on account of the advanced state of the season.

In the event of the march of the Subsidiary Force against Appa Sahib, it would be requisite in prudence to make such preparations as would enable us to subdue the whole of the Southern Jagheerdars, or at least the whole family of Putwurdhun, in case they should be induced to make a common cause with Appa Sahib; and such an arrangement would afford the British Government so commanding an influence over the Southern Jagheerdars as would enable it effectually to adjust the whole of the questions pending between that body of chieftains and the Poona State without any further exertion. It is therefore desirable to delay this measure until His Excellency the Vice-President is in possession of such information respecting the Paishwa's claims on the Southern Jagheerdars, as may enable him to decide on the measures to be pursued towards the whole body.

I had the honour to receive the duplicate of your dispatch of February 9th to Mr. Russell in due course. I did not acknowledge it because I was in daily expectation of being able to transmit the report which it required. The causes of the delay which occurred in preparing it, were stated in my dispatch to His Excellency the Vice-President. I hope they will soon be removed and I shall use my utmost endeavours to transmit the report at such a period as may afford time for considering it before the season for military operations returns.

I have to beg His Excellency the Vice-President's excuse for my inadvertency in treating the subject of Holcar's Khillut in such a manner in my letter to that chief as might lead him to suppose that the ancient connection between him and the Paishwa, was considered by the British Government to be still in existence. The Paishwa's conferring a Khillut on Holcar appeared to me a mere matter of ceremony, similar to the practice of the investiture of the

different chiefs of India by the King of Delhi. I therefore regarded it as a pageant in which I had no part, and which could have no effect on any of the affairs of real life. For this reason also, I scarcely treated Suddasheo Maunkaisur's statement of the Paishwa's claims to nuzzerana seriously.

The perusal of your letter and of the dispatches to which it refers has shown me my mistake, and a second letter which I have just received from Holkar on the subject of his Khillut, affords me an opportunity of rectifying it. I shall immediately communicate Holcar's letter to the Paishwa, and shall make such observations as your dispatch suggests, and I shall place the subject in the same light in my reply to Jeswunt Row.

No 16—The Resident reports his endeavours to adjust the dispute between the Peshwa and Babu Gokhale and obtain from the former a full statement of accounts standing unsettled between him and all his Southern Jagirdars.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE HON'BLE THE VICE-PRESIDENT

Poona, 20 June 1811

Sir,

On the day after I closed my last dispatch to your Excellency, I waited on the Paishwa at His Highness's desire.

His Highness soon opened the business of my visit by asking what had passed between Gokla and me on the 16th.

I recapitulated the substance of that conversation as reported to your Excellency, and added that Gokla was much distressed by His Highness's having refused to admit him to his presence on the preceding day (the 15th).

The Peshwa replied by a forcible statement of all the acts of disobedience of which Gokla had been guilty, and ended by saying that if Gokla was hurt by His Highness's declining his visit in the presence of one or two witnesses, he might conceive what His Highness's feelings were on a late occasion, when Gokla degraded him in the eyes of all his subjects by refusing to permit his garrison to enter the fort of Purchetgur.

This alluded to a fort of the Prittee Niddee's, which continued to hold out till very lately. The garrison were willing to have surrendered to the Peshwa, and His Highness sent a body of troops to take possession of the place, but Gokla who was besieging it at the time, refused on various pretences to admit them and at last prevailed on the garrison to give up the fort to him.

It was impossible for me to defend Gokla in such circumstances. I accordingly admitted the extreme impropriety of his conduct, but urged his former services, his readiness to give up all his usurpations, and his promises of strict obedience in future.

On this the Paishwa said that Gokla was apt to overrate his services, the principal of which had been performed while General Wellesley was in the Deccan, and when His Highness stood in no need of Gokla's aid. His professions, His Highness said, were very dutiful but they were only professions and he wished to hear what more substantial proofs of his obedience Gokla proposed to afford.

I said it was for His Highness to say what he wished Gokla to do, and the Paishwa replied that he wished him to give up the Prittee Niddee's country, and to account for the revenue. His Highness also said, that for reducing the power of the Jagheerdars he had it in contemplation to lessen the force attached to them and to increase his own. He said that when I came to require Gokla to give up the Prittee Niddee's Jagheers, I should soon find from his bringing forward counter demands and from his starting difficulties, that his professions had been from the first insincere.

I answered that His Highness's demands regarding the Prittee Niddee's lands were very reasonable, and that I should mention them to Gokla; that I could not answer for his sincerity but that I believed he was seriously disposed to adopt such measures as would restore him to His Highness's favour.

To this the Paishwa said that if Gokla agreed to his demands it was well, but that His Highness did not wish to be referred to during the discussions, as he would not trust his temper in such an altercation; and that if I failed in persuading Gokla to perform what was demanded of him, His Highness hoped I would never mention his name again but allow His Highness to take his own measures to chastize him.

I said I should with much pleasure undertake the business His Highness proposed to me; that I should inform Gokla of His Highness's wishes and would communicate his reply, which I hope would be satisfactory. I did not enter fully into the discussion of His Highness's plan of reducing the quotas of the Jagheerdars, merely observing that I should have a good deal to say on that subject if ever His Highness took it into his serious consideration, but that at present, I would recommend his proceeding to settle the points of difference between him and Gokla.

After the subject of Gokla had been settled, the Paishwa complained of the conduct of Rastia in withholding the fort and district

of Badaumy, after the Paishwa had agreed to waive his claim to the revenue for many years, and had even advanced the sum of 2,50,000 Rupees on condition of that country's being restored to him I was happy to have this opportunity of pressing the Ministers for the information required in Mr Edmonstone's letter of the 9th of February, and accordingly observed that I should be better able to understand the differences between His Highness and the Southern Jagheerdars, when I had received the statement of his claims on them, which I had so long before requested. The Paishwa undertook with great alacrity to furnish the statement I desired, and I shall now I suppose, receive it without much more delay.

During the whole of the interview the Paishwa spoke himself directly, and appeared to take a lively interest in the subjects of the conversation.

After I had withdrawn Bappoo Chitnavees, a confidential servant of Amrut Row's, was presented to the Paishwa by a person on my part and was received with much civility.

I yesterday sent for Ballajee Gokla, who is uncle to the Jagheerdar, and generally transacts his business at the Residency. I informed him of the Paishwa's demands and used every means of impressing on him the necessity of his nephew's satisfying the Paishwa's just claims, and the policy of endeavouring by all means to recover His Highness's confidence. I assured him of my anxiety for his welfare and said that I should spare no pains to reconcile the Paishwa to him, but I said that I expected to have some trouble in satisfying His Highness, even if his demands were now complied with, and that I could not answer for the consequences, if any opposition was experienced on Gokla's part. Ballajee Gokla said he would report what I had said to his nephew and acquaint me with his answer.

Ballajee Gokla came to me this morning with Gokla's answer the substance of which was, that he was ready to give the Paishwa orders of surrender for all the forts in the Prittee Niddee's country without delay, that he had no claims at all on His Highness, and that if His Highness had any on him he was ready to account to him for every thing he had received, that the Paishwa had promised to allot a country worth 2,25,000 Rupees of the Prittee Niddee's Jagheer, to the support of that chief, and four Lacs to complete the Jagheer originally settled for Gokla. That he, of course, hoped that the Paishwa would adhere to this arrangement, but that he would submit to whatever the Paishwa might determine.

I expressed myself much satisfied with Gokla's conduct on this occasion. I observed I should have less difficulty in settling the

remaining points, if Gokla would enable me to present the orders of surrender to His Highness at the same time that I communicated his answer, and that I should wait on the Paishwa for that purpose.

Ballajee Gokla replied that it was impossible for me to see the Paishwa till tomorrow, and that he wished his nephew's answer to be communicated without delay. He therefore begged me to send to the Minister and acquaint him with what had passed. I made another attempt to procure the orders at once but without success. Ballajee, however, solemnly assured me, that they should be forthcoming as soon as the Paishwa ordered them to be received.

I shall send Cursetjee, the public Accountant of the Residency, to the Minister, as soon as he is at leisure to see him, and shall instruct him to communicate Gokla's proposals and to request the Minister to draw up the Paishwa's demands in such a manner as may facilitate the adjustment of the accounts. Great difficulties will probably arise in this branch of the affair, as the sum to which the Paishwa pretends is near a crore of Rupees. I shall, however, do every thing in my power to prevent the arrangement breaking off on that head, and shall at all events, endeavour in the first place to obtain the orders of surrender for the forts from Gokla.

I shall take the opportunity of my message to the Minister to mention, that I have received another letter from Holcar, respecting his Khillut and that his urgency makes the matter of sufficient importance to induce me to write to your Excellency for orders. I shall desire Cursetjee to take occasion to lay down the principles established in Mr. Edmonstone's dispatch of the 31st of May, respecting the Paishwa's relation to the former great feudatories of the Mahratta Empire.

No. 17—The affair of Holkar's visit to Jejuri and of his desire to obtain a Khillat from the Peshwa for his son is reported to the Governor-General for orders. The Resident's reply to Holkar accompanies.

FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE,

TO—MR. CHIEF SECRETARY EDMONSTONE.

Poona, 22 June 1811.

Sir,

I had the honour to mention in my last dispatch to your address, that I had received a letter from Holcar on the subject of the Khillut which he wishes to obtain from the Paishwa. I have now the honour to enclose a copy of Holcar's letter, and a copy and translation of my reply. The substance of Holcar's letter is contained in my answer.

On the receipt of the letter alluded to I sent for Holcar's Vakeels to hear the message with which they were charged. It referred to Holcar's solicitude for the Khillut and to his dissatisfaction as to the limited number of troops allowed to accompany him to Jejoory. On the first topic, I went over the principles laid down in my letter to Holcar, and pointed out the absurdity of considering that chief as a servant of the Poona State. The Vakeels admitted Holcar's independence in its fullest extent, but afterwards with the inconsistency so common among the natives in treating these cases of nominal sovereignty, proceeded to found arguments on the fact of Holcar's being the Paishwa's servant, and as much at his command as any of his personal guard.

There was no difficulty in getting them to acknowledge the futility of this way of reasoning, but I found it impossible to prevent their recurring to it from time to time during the whole conversation.

It is to be observed that the Vakeels took pains to confound the investiture of Holkar with that of his son Mulhar Row, all their arguments being in favour of the first of these measures, while their object is certainly to obtain the second. It is unnecessary to point out the wide difference between the two demands in point of reasonableness, as well as in regard to the considerations which must influence the British Government in deciding on them.

With respect to the journey to Jejoory, I endeavoured to convince the Vakeels that there was nothing degrading to their master in the limitations imposed on him, and put them in mind that the Paishwa had submitted to similar restrictions when he visited the temple of Kartic Swamy in the Company's territory, although there was no prince for whom the British Government had a higher regard.

The Vakeels also delivered a message from Holcar requesting the release of Wauhad Ali Khan and Daudun Khan which I entirely discouraged.

Translation of a letter from Mr Elphinstone to Jeswunt Row Holcar, dated June 22nd 1811.

I have had the honour to receive your two letters, one containing favourable accounts of your health, and desiring me to attend to what your Vakeels had to say, and the other respecting villages belonging to Mokoond Row Jewajee and Kistnajee Mokoond, your Bakshees. I have also heard all that your Vakeels had to say on your part.

When I received your former letter, I observed to your Vakeels, that your journey to Jejoory being connected with the recovery of your health was of the first importance and deserving of every attention, and that the receipt of a Khillut, being merely a matter of

ceremony could not be reckoned one of urgent necessity. I therefore recommended them not to delay the adjustment of your journey to Jejoory, the principal object of their negotiation, by making any request relating to the inferior point of procuring a Khillut from His Highness the Paishwa. Your Vakeels replied, that your coming to Jejoory, without receiving a Khillut, would be objectionable on account of your honour and dignity, and I had the honour to state to them in answer that whatever might have been the case formerly, you had now for many years carried on war, concluded peace, and exercised all the functions of sovereignty without any reference to His Highness the Paishwa, and that the other Powers of India had made treaties with you and had acknowledged your independence, so that you stood in no need of Khillut of investiture on the part of any State.

On these grounds which I stated to your Vakeels, I declined mentioning this affair to the Paishwa, considering it as a branch of the ceremonial of the Durbar with which I had no concern.

I now learn from your second letter and from the communications of your Vakeels that you attach great importance to the receipt of the Khillut; I shall therefore lay this matter with your letter before His Excellency the Vice-President, and shall conform to such orders as I may receive on the subject.

I have great pleasure in making the representation you desire to the Peshwa on the subject of the villages belonging to your Bukshees.

No 18—The submission of Gokhale and adjustment of his dispute with the Peshwa on equitable terms are reported by the Resident to the Governor General.

FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE,
TO—The VICE-PRESIDENT IN COUNCIL.

Poona, 23 June 1811.

Sir,

After my interview with Ballajee Gokla, which I reported to your Excellency in my last dispatch, I sent Cursetjee, my Parsee Accountant, to communicate the substance of our conversation to the Minister with such remarks as I thought it necessary to add, and to endeavour to remove the difficulties which stood in the way of the adjustment of Gokla's affairs from the unsettled accounts between him and the Paishwa. When my message had been delivered, the Minister said that the Paishwa requested me to wait

on him that evening (the 21st) when His Highness would communicate his final decision on the whole affair

Cursetjee discovered from the Minister's conversation, that the Paishwa would be inclined to waive the discussion of the accounts, but would adhere to his favourite scheme of reducing Gokla's jagheers. His Highness it appeared had given up all thoughts of dismissing Gokla, but had determined to refuse him the four Laes of Rupees a year, for which lands were to be assigned from the Prittee Niddee's country

On receiving this information I sent for Ballajee Gokla, and told him that the Paishwa had desired my attendance in the evening for the final settlement of Gokla's affairs that I thought His Highness would probably insist either on having an account of the money collected by Gokla, or on retaining the lands which he had promised to allot to that chief, and I desired to know which of those arrangements would be the most agreeable to him

Ballajee Gokla's chief anxiety was as I expected, to prevent his nephew's being called on to account for the money, but he said that the Paishwa had promised the lands and that His Highness would probably not be inclined to recede from his agreement

I admitted the Paishwa's promise, but reminded him that Gokla had at the same time engaged to deliver over the whole of the Prittee Niddee's country within one year, that he had kept it for upwards of five years, and consequently could not expect the Paishwa to stand to an arrangement which he had himself overturned. I said that in truth the Paishwa's right both to withhold the lands and to make Gokla refund, was indisputable, that the British Government had admitted His Highness's claim to the revenue embezzled in a similar manner by Appa Sahib and could not refuse to allow the same rule in Gokla's case, that however the British Government might be inclined to serve Gokla, it could not reject the Paishwa's just demands that if His Highness insisted on his full rights on both points they must be enforced, and that it could not be expected he should give up more than one of them, that I was willing to try to persuade the Paishwa to waive that which was most hurtful to Gokla, although I could by no means answer for the success of my endeavour. Ballajee Gokla appeared to be a good deal alarmed by the preceding statement, of which he fully admitted the justice. He seemed still to think the pecuniary settlement the most formidable of the Paishwa's demands, but he earnestly entreated me to put off my visit to the Paishwa for that evening that he might have an opportunity of learning Bapoojee Gokla's sentiments on the question I had proposed to him

I agreed to this proposal after alluding to the Paishwa's intended journey to Punderpore, and pointing out the impossibility of my admitting of any longer delay. I accordingly sent an apology to the Paishwa and begged that he would allow me to defer my visit till the next day.

On the morning of the 22nd Ballajee Gokla came to me again and said, that his nephew begged as a most particular favour that I would defer waiting on the Paishwa for one day longer, as it was of the last consequence to him to see the Minister before his affair was finally discussed. Ballajee said that no inconvenience would result from this delay, as the Paishwa's departure was postponed till the 24th.

As Ballajee Gokla could give no satisfactory answer to my repeated questions as to his nephew's business with the Minister, I conjectured that his object was to secure Maunkaisur's assistance by a bribe. This mode of action at all times so objectionable appeared to me to be particularly so in the present instance. The way of extricating Gokla from his embarrassment, best suited to Maunkaisur's interest and probably the only one within his reach, would be to persuade the Paishwa to let the settlement of his claims on Gokla live over for the present. He would thus afford a temporary relief to Gokla, while he retained the power of extorting further bribes from him by threatening from time to time to revive the Paishwa's claims, a course of proceeding which would be obviously detrimental to the Paishwa and which would probably in time drive Gokla to despair and would end in his ruin. I therefore observed without mentioning my suspicions to Ballajee, that I could see no advantage in his nephew's conferring with the Minister; at all events it would neither be respectful nor even just to the Paishwa to protract the dispatch of His Highness's business for Gokla's convenience.

Ballajee endeavoured for some time to persuade me to consent to his proposal but when he found it was in vain, he said he entirely agreed in my opinion of the impolicy of Gokla's going to the Minister, but said it was a plan on which his nephew was much bent.

In the evening I went to the Durbar where the Paishwa soon after arrived. I repeated to him the substance of the message I had sent to the Minister and His Highness to my great satisfaction declared that he thought the settlement of the accounts would be a matter of much difficulty, and that if he were to compel Gokla to pay all that was due from him, his Government might not gain much in the end; that he had therefore resolved to give up his pecuniary claims if Gokla would make no demand on him; but His

Highness said he found the greater his Jagheerdars were, the more difficult they were to manage, and that though he allowed he had promised Gokla to give him a share of the Prittee Niddee's country worth four Lacs of Rupees, Gokla's conduct had since led him to alter his mind, and it was now his intention to retain the whole. I expressed great approbation of the Paishwa's resolution respecting his pecuniary claims, and then observed that if His Highness were bound by promise to give Gokla the country in question, I should certainly take the liberty of advising him to do so at all events, but as Gokla had failed in the conditions on which the promise was made, I was clearly of opinion that His Highness was entirely at liberty to adhere to it or not as he thought proper. It was, however, I said for His Highness to consider whether it was not advisable on grounds of expediency to confer on Gokla the proposed addition to his Jagheer. Some discussion took place on this subject when I said that it was politic to keep Gokla's force efficient, and at the same time to have some punishment short of absolute destruction in reserve for future disobedience on his part. That as His Highness had it in contemplation to recover the territory which had been usurped by the Southern Jagheerdars, it was particularly necessary to retain the attachment of so powerful a chieftain, and further that if those Jagheerdars saw Gokla's own lands diminished at the same time that those which he had usurped from the Paishwa were recovered, they would become desperate from the expectation of similar treatment and would resist His Highness's most moderate demands.

The Paishwa in his answer admitted that those considerations were entitled to great weight, and said that he would allow the lands of the Prittee-Niddee to remain as they were till his return from Punderpore when they should be disposed of as I should advise. In the mean time His Highness desired that Gokla might deliver orders of release for all the forts in his possession to the Minister. I begged that Gokla might be allowed to deliver the orders in person to the Paishwa, and that His Highness would now be pleased to show him the same kindness with which he had formerly honoured him.

The Paishwa agreed to Gokla's coming and said, he had now no reason to be dissatisfied with him, and would certainly make the alteration of his sentiments appear in his conduct.

After I left the Paishwa I sent a message to Gokla acquainting him with what had passed, and desiring that he would deliver the orders of surrender in the mode agreed on, I also informed him that if there was any failure on his part either in the time of delivering the orders or in the directions they contained, I should con-

sider him to have broken his word with me and would have no further concern in his affairs.

Gokla accordingly waited on the Paishwa yesterday evening and presented the orders of surrender for twenty five forts, (seventeen of which are hill-forts) to the Paishwa. His Highness declined receiving them because the hour was unlucky, and desired Gokla to deliver them to the Minister on this morning. No transaction with a Maratha Chief can be considered as closed until every part of it has been carried into execution; but from Gokla's character and from his conduct throughout the discussions I have little doubt that the forts will be delivered over in due course. The Paishwa and his Ministers have no doubts on the subject and I trust no further difficulties or delays will be experienced.

I hope the terms on which this adjustment has been made, will meet with your Excellency's approbation. It may be considered as a great step towards a general arrangement with the Southern Jagheerdars both from its removing all grounds of dispute with the most powerful of them and from the effect which his example will have on the rest. The facility with which it has been effected is chiefly owing to the hopes which the Paishwa entertains of a speedy settlement of his claims on the Jagheerdars, by which he is led to take more enlarged views than would present themselves to him in a dispute with any single chief. Gokla's compliance must in part be attributed to his connection with the English and to his being better disposed towards the Paishwa's Government than the other Jagheerdars, but it must also be ascribed in a great measure to the effects of the decided tone which Mr. Russell assumed in his negotiations with Appa Sahib Putwurdhun.

By means of the present arrangement, besides the additional strength derived from the possession of the Prittee Niddee's forts, the Paishwa secures the disposal of an annual revenue which he estimates at eighteen lacs of Rupees. His Highness will not feel the sacrifice of the money embezzled by Gokla as it was derived from a source of which His Highness never possessed the control. It appeared to me extremely judicious in His Highness to waive the discussion of this point which would have deeply affected Gokla. The examination of the accounts must have put off the final adjustment for an indefinite period and from the complexity of the business and the unreasonableness of both parties would in all probability have led to further disagreement. Gokla on the other hand, has no reason to complain. He had no claim either to the Prittee Niddee's country or to the collections he had already made, and the whole of the advantage he has acquired from them must be counted as clear gain,

made by the Paishwa's officer to levy the Chauth on part of His Highness the Nizam's dominions by force of arms and on that of a body of troops which the Paishwa's Minister intends to send to realize His Highness's claims on the Raja of Shorapoor. The Resident at Hyderabad's letter has already been transmitted to you by that officer. The last of these subjects is sufficiently discussed in the letter to the Resident at Hyderabad but on the subject of the Chauth (in addition to the inconveniences stated by Mr. Russell as resulting from the unsettled state of the Paishwa's claims), I beg leave to observe that His Highness the Paishwa loses a considerable revenue annually by the present arrangement, as till the treaty of Bassein it was always the practice of His Highness's Government to levy the Chauth by force even in time of peace without any opposition on the part of the Nizam

No. 20—The Governor-General instructs the Resident as to the line of conduct to be followed in settling the disputes between the Peshwa and his subordinate chiefs. He orders restoration of guns taken by Amrit Rao from the Peshwa's arsenal at the time of Holkar's invasion and deposited at Ahmednagar

FROM—N. B. EDMONSTONE,
TO—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE.

Fort William, 12 July 1811.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch dated the 16th ultimo to the address of His Excellency the Vice-President in Council and of your letters to my address of the 19th and 22nd.

His Excellency in Council concurs entirely in opinion with you that it is highly desirable that the Paishwa should possess an efficient army in the pay of the State, and be so far independant of the support and assistance of his feudal chiefs whose individual power and resources seem to place them beyond control and whose attachment he is unable to secure in a degree to preclude the hazard of his being subjected to the dangers and the degradation of their established habits of independence and insubordination, but that the means which he proposes to adopt for the accomplishment of that object are injudicious as being pregnant with danger and likely to prove abortive.

To reduce but not to extinguish the power of the Jagheerdars, to recover from them their usurpations and the just demands of the State are wise and legitimate purposes and the aid of the British Government by which alone he can hope to attain them, cannot perhaps in due season be withheld. But the measures to be adopted

would require a degree of deliberation, prudence and moderation, with which the violence and precipitation of the proceedings meditated by the Paishwa are entirely inconsistent and from the prosecution of which the British Government has a right to withhold him

His Excellency in Council therefore highly approves your intention to dissuade His Highness from the confiscation of Goklah's Jagheer and your endeavours to prevail upon the latter to satisfy the just demands of the former, and His Excellency in Council derives much satisfaction from the result of your conference with Goklah as reported in the postscript of your dispatch of the 16th ultimo

You appear to have misunderstood that part of the instructions of Government of the 9th of February which requires a report of the details of the Paishwa's yet remaining claims to lands unjustly held by the southern chieftains, on the Serinjaumee lands, of which Mr Russell suggested the resumption and on the situation and circumstances of the chieftains by whom they are held. It was not the wish of Government that for a knowledge of these points, an application should be made to the Durbar. Such an application must naturally be construed to imply that the British Government is prepared to enforce his Highness's claims and must suggest the supposition that a statement of them is demanded with a view to enforce them, and this effect of the application appears to have been present to your mind, as you observe that no application could be more welcome to his Highness's Government. On a reference however to the instructions of the 9th of February you will observe that Government was particularly anxious to avoid the predicament above described and accordingly after an explanation of the mode in which agreeably to the spirit of the alliance any claims on the part of the Paishwa involving the employment of the subsidiary force should be brought forward, it is added that it was not the wish of Government that it should be suggested to the Paishwa to bring forward any demands or to propose any arrangements of the nature antecedently described for the reasons thereinafter stated. Now as the application which you have made to the Durbar is certainly equivalent to that suggestion it will be evident to you that it could not be the intention of Government that you should adopt that mode of obtaining the requisite information. Government concluded that your local situation would enable you to obtain it through other channels or at least by other means.

I am directed to add that the reserve prescribed on this occasion did not refer merely to the inconvenience of prosecuting military operations at the present season, but to obstacles or objections which

might oppose the undertaking in question even when the season for the prosecution of it should be the most favourable.

On the subject of the guns taken by Amrut Rao from the Paishwa's arsenal while Holkar was in possession of Poona and deposited in Ahmednugur and now claimed by the Paishwa, I am directed to state the following observations and instructions.

His Excellency in Council does not consider Amrut Row to have any claim whatever to be consulted with regard to the restitution of these guns since he acquired the disposal of them merely by violence and usurpation. The Paishwa cannot be considered to have lost his original property in the guns, because he had been robbed of them by his brother when the latter usurped the Government at the instigation of the person who had expelled his sovereign from his dominions.

The Paishwa therefore is unquestionably entitled to the restitution of the guns without reference to Amrut Row, and you will accordingly be pleased to ascertain through the officer commanding the subsidiary force whether or not the guns in question can be spared from the fort of Ahmednugur without inconvenience; and if they are not absolutely required in the fort, you will be pleased to direct that they be immediately restored to the Paishwa's officers. In a contrary case, it will be necessary to apply to the Government of Bombay for guns to replace those which belong to the Paishwa. If notwithstanding the recognition of his property in them he should still require their removal. But in that event, you will represent to His Highness the necessity of retaining them in the fort until they can be replaced.

A copy of those parts of your dispatch of the 16th ultimo and of the present instructions which relate to this subject, will be transmitted to the Government of Bombay with a request that on receiving an application from you the Honourable the Governor in Council will adopt measures for replacing the guns of the number and description required can be spared from the arsenal. If they cannot be supplied from Bombay some other arrangement must be adopted for the purpose. You will be pleased to ascertain and report the number and description of the guns thus claimed by the Paishwa.

Your dispatch of the 19th of June does not suggest the necessity of any particular remark.

The terms of your letter to Holkar of which a copy and translation form enclosures in your dispatch of the 22nd ultimo and the tenor of your communications to his Vakeels as reported in that

dispatch are approved by His Excellency in Council. As you are already apprized of the sentiments of Government on the question of the investiture of Holkar and his son, no further instructions are of course necessary with reference to the intimation contained in your letter to the former, that you should submit the question to His Excellency the Vice President and should conform to such orders as you might receive on the subject.

The Vice President in Council entirely approves your having discouraged the expectation of a compliance with the request for the release of Wahid Ali Khaun and Daudun Khaun.

No 21—The Governor General's approval is communicated to the Resident's course of action in restoring the Pratinidhi's lands to the Peshwa wrongly held by Gokhale. The President is further requested to avoid military operations in adjusting the various conflicting claims.

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE,
TO—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE

Fort William, 19 July 1811

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatches dated the 20th and 23rd ultimo reporting in continuation your proceedings in the adjustment of the demands of His Highness the Paishwa on Goklah.

My dispatch of the 12th ultimo will have apprized you of His Excellency the Vice-President-in-Council's entire approbation of the measures which you had adopted for the accomplishment of that desirable purpose. I am now instructed to signify to you His Excellency in Council's high satisfaction at the success which has attended them as reported in your dispatch of the 23rd ultimo, and his peculiar approbation of the ability and address which have distinguished your negotiation and to which its success is in a material degree to be ascribed. His Excellency in Council confidently trusts that the sincerity of Goklah, of which hitherto there is no reason to doubt, will have been finally and conclusively demonstrated by the Paishwa's actual occupation of the districts of the Pratinidhi family which the former had agreed to surrender.

The Vice President in Council deems it an object of considerable importance for the reasons you have stated that the Paishwa should fulfil his promise of granting from those districts an addition of 4 lacs of rupees per annum to Gokla's Jagheer and will approve the exertions of your utmost endeavours to accomplish that object after the Paishwa shall have obtained possession of the lands which Gokla has consented to surrender.

The Vice-President in Council anticipates from the success of this negotiation the probability of the Paishwa's being able to effect in process of time the recovery of his just demands on the other Jagheerdars in the same peaceable manner. But in the pursuit of his object you will be careful to recommend those measures of cautious moderation, equity and justice which may preclude the necessity of having recourse to coercion, and the hazard of committing the British Government to the prosecution of military operations in support of his Highness's rights, and you will rather discourage this course and advise (him to desist from) the immediate advancement of claims however just, which you may have reason to believe cannot be satisfied without the employment of a military force.

No. 22—Mr. Ellis, first Assistant to the Resident, applied for permission to proceed to Europe for reasons of health. The request was granted by the Governor-General.

FROM—N. B. EDMONSTONE,
TO—M. ELPHINSTONE.

Fort William, 19 July 1811.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo enclosing an application from Mr. H. Ellis first assistant to the Poona Residency for permission to proceed to sea and eventually to Europe for the recovery of his health together with a certificate from Mr. Surgeon Coates, and to inform you that His Excellency the Vice-President in Council has been pleased to comply with that request.

You will accordingly be pleased to make the necessary communication on the subject to Mr. Ellis intimating to him that he will of course be allowed to draw his full salary as first assistant to the Resident at Poona up to the date of his embarkation for England, provided that the interval between the period of his departure from his station and the date of his embarkation does not exceed the term of six weeks, after the expiration of which term according to the regulations of Government one third of the allowances of absentees is retrenched.

Mr. Ellis will of course understand that on his departure from Bombay his office of 1st assistant to the Resident at Poona will become vacant.

With reference to the renewed solicitation of Mr. Ellis for the speedy settlement of his claims to arrears of salary and deputation allowance as expressed in the concluding paragraph of his letter, I am instructed to observe that a compliance with his wishes on

that point has been anticipated by the orders of Government of the 5th instant

No 23—The Governor-General discusses the Peshwa's claims to Chauth from the Nizam and from the Raja of Shorapur. He advises arbitration of such claims by the British Government and discourages use of troops by the Peshwa for enforcing those claims

FROM—N. B. EDMONSTONE,
TO—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE

Fort William, 2nd August 1811

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch under date the 10th ultimo enclosing a copy of your reply to the letter of the Resident at Hyderabad to your address of the 23rd of June on the subject of an attempt on the part of the Peishwa's Government to levy choute from the Nizam's dominions by force of arms and of the declared intention of the Peishwa's Minister to dispatch a body of troops for the purpose of realizing the Peishwa's claims on the Rajah of Shorapoor and to communicate to you the following observations on those subjects

With regard to the general question of claims on account of choute His Excellency the Vice President in Council is sensible of the embarrassment arising from the delay, which circumstances not necessary to be detailed have occasioned in undertaking the arbitration prescribed by the treaties of Hyderabad and Bassein and His Excellency in Council has now resolved to adopt an arrangement calculated to afford the most effectual means of investigating and adjusting those intricate and long depending claims. This will form the subject of a future early communication to you and the Resident at Hyderabad. At the present moment I am directed to signify to you, that His Excellency in Council is disposed to concur in the observation stated in Mr Russell's letter to your address of the 23rd of June that the Peishwa's Government and servants ought not under the third clause of the 13th article of the treaty of Bassein, to send bodies of troops to ravage the Nizam's country without having at least attempted in the first instance to obtain satisfaction of their claims by an amicable representation through us to the Durbar at Hyderabad

His Excellency in Council is aware at the same time that the Nizam's total exemption from the payment of choute is a point which the British Government stands bound to arbitrate, and that consequently no current claims to choute can properly be a subject of final adjustment independantly of that general and comprehensive question but it is obvious that under the Peishwa's

formal acquiescence in that arbitration, which might totally abrogate his claim to choute, the justice of his current demands being only eventual, they ought not to be enforced even by the intervention of the British power, much less by the Peishwa's troops previously to the general adjustment, unless having been referred in the manner described by Mr. Russell circumstances should admit of an award in favour of the Peishwa pending the investigation of the general claim; and this remark applies to the observation contained in your letter, that the Peishwa loses a considerable revenue annually by the present arrangement, as till the treaty of Bassein it was always the practice of his Highness's Government to levy the choute by force even in time of peace without opposition on the part of the Nizam, for from and after the date of the treaty of Bassein the claim of the Peishwa to any portion of current choute was a question for decision, and he cannot conclusively be said to incur an annual loss of a revenue, his title to which is undermined and which his consent to an arbitrating the Nizam's total exemption, of itself implied an inclination to resign it, if the result of an enquiry into the various complicated engagements concluded between him and the late Nizam, should appear to the British Government to support the claim to an absolute abrogation of the choute.

Government is aware that there is little encouragement to hope either that the Nizam's claim to exemption will be found to be supported by any of the stipulations of those engagements, or that in the case of its not being so supported, the exemption can be effected by compromise; but while the question is declared and admitted to be in suspense, the Peishwa cannot maintain a positive right to the exaction of choute.

Under every view of the subject, therefore, the employment of troops for that purpose seems inadmissible, so long as we profess a resolution to undertake the arbitration of his demands; but as the alternative of his forbearance, the Peishwa has undoubtedly a right to expect the interference of the British Government for the adjustment of these long depending claims. It follows therefore that without professing to undertake the stipulated arbitration or at least to mediate the adjustment of those specific demands which the Peishwah has recently attempted to realize by force of arms, we are not entitled to require his Highness to abstain from the employment of force, and it may be added that the Nizam cannot justly claim the exertion of our influence in restraining the Peishwa from the forcible exaction of choute according to ancient practice, without being prepared to submit to our award, an observation which the Resident at Hyderabad will be directed to convey to

the Ministers, because any possible adjustment of the mutual claims of the two Governments must it is supposed be unfavourable to the Nizam

With respect to the second point to which your letter refers, viz., the right of the Peishwah to levy the tribute of Shorapur by force of arms, it is difficult to form a decisive judgment without more information than the records of Government afford regarding the condition of that petty chiefship relatively to the Nizam and the Paishwa. The records, however, as far as they throw any light on the subject, tend to support Mr Russell's observation (contained in his letter to your address of the 23rd of June) that the arrangements of the Shorapoor country have always been made at Hyderabad without any participation whatever on the part of the Poona Durbar. This will appear from a reference to the correspondence of the Resident at Hyderabad on the subject of the expedition undertaken by that Government in 1802, aided by a detachment of the subsidiary force, against the Rajah of Shorapoor. That correspondence shews a peculiar degree of connection between the state of Hyderabad and Shorapoor and has admitted supremacy and control on the part of the former over the latter, with respect to internal arrangements, instanced especially at the death of the Rajah when the temporary Government of the district was arranged by the authority of the Durbar of Hyderabad without any reference to that of Poona. It would seem also that the Rajah of Shorapoor held lands in farm of the Government of Hyderabad and that a corps of sebundies in the service of the Nizam was placed with the Rajah and subsidized by him and in the accounts brought forward on that occasion for the adjustment of the Nizam's demands, the share of the Peishwa is stated only at one fourth and at an amount greatly inferior to the annual tribute payable to the Nizam, a circumstance which tends to invalidate the fact alleged by the Poona Durbar as described in the 2nd paragraph of your letter to Mr Russell of the 7th ultimo. It appears indeed from the statements of the Paishwa's claims transmitted by Colonel Close with his letter of the 10th May 1806, that the sum annually payable to the Peishwa from Shorapoor was 85 000 Rupees, whereas the tribute payable to the Nizam amounted to 145,000 Rupees.

In the course of the long term of years during which the Paishwa has derived a tribute or a choute from Shorapur, it is not alleged by the Poona Minister that the Paishwa's troops have ever been employed to collect it, a negative precedent which certainly as far as it goes, is adverse to the Peishwa's present asserted right of sending troops. The arrears of that tribute moreover actually

form part of the claims of the Peishwa against the State of Hyderabad, as appears by the statements transmitted by Colonel Close with his letter of the 10th of May 1806 above mentioned; whence it may be inferred that the Peishwah did not claim the privilege of enforcing payment by means of his own troops, and that he recognized the extent of the dependant relation of Shorapoor towards Hyderabad asserted by the Nizam's Ministers.

It must be allowed indeed that the Peishwa is entitled to some security for the discharge of the acknowledged tribute, and if he is withheld from enforcing it by his troops, it must be guaranteed to him by the Nizam. It is for his Highness to consider how far his interest suggests his incurring this responsibility by opposing the Peishwa's prosecution of the means within his own power of enforcing his demands on the Rajah of Shorapoor

With reference to Mr. Russells's supposition stated in his letter to your address of the 23rd of June, that the Peishwa's claims upon Shorapoor stand exactly upon the same ground as his claims upon any other part of the Nizam's country and ought to be levied therefore under the same restrictions, it may not be useless to observe, that in the statements of the Peishwa's claims above mentioned the demands upon the tributary Polligars among whom the chiefs of Shorapoor and Gudwall are classed, are treated as distinct from the Peishwa's choute claims.

No. 24—The Governor-General communicates his decision on the propriety or otherwise of the Peshwa recognising Malhar Rao's succession to the Holkar State and on the propriety of British interference in that succession

**FROM—N. B. EDMONSTONE,
TO—C. J. METCALFE, RESIDENT AT DELHI.**

Fort William, 2 August 1811.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter under date the 13th ultimo stating some observations relative to the effect of discouraging the Peishwa's investiture of Holkar's son and heir in the manner and for the reasons described in my dispatch of the 7th of June.

His Excellency the Vice-President in Council entirely approves the communication of your sentiments on this question and will always receive the communication of them on all subjects falling within the limits of your official cognizance with satisfaction.

His Excellency in Council is well aware of the solicitude of the coestates of the ancient Empire of the Marhattas to preserve the

form and to revive the efficacy of their constitutional federation, but deems it of importance to keep in view that principle of separation which regulated in a great degree the arrangements of the treaty of Bassein, and the eventual disappointment of Holkar's durbar at our opposition to the desired investiture of his son, does not appear to His Excellency in Council to constitute an objection of sufficient force to warrant a departure from this system of consistent policy, the observance of which indeed seems to be more expedient in proportion to the anxiety manifested by the Marhatta states to support the form of their original federative relations

Considered without reference to this general principle, the Peishwa's investiture of Mulhar Row as the legitimate heir of Holkar would not only be unobjectionable but in as far as it might tend to establish the succession and confirm the Government of Holkar in the person of his son, would be entirely compatible with the views and wishes of British Government. Considered, however, as a practical recognition of the existence of that form of constitution of which the dissolution was a primary object of our policy both in the formation of the treaty of Bassein and in the arrangements which succeeded the last Marhatta war, our consent to the investiture is opposed by considerations which in the scale of general policy outweigh the partial motives to our acquiescence and the objections to our refusal of it. At the same time His Excellency in Council is of opinion that the tendency of that refusal to suggest the supposition of a desire on the part of the British Government to obstruct the succession of Mulhar Row or to deprive it of the legitimacy and sanctity of a formal investiture might be counteracted by a public declaration of an opposite sentiment and a public recognition of the right and title of Mulhar Row to the Government as the heir and successor of his father

Copies of your letter and of this reply will be transmitted to the Resident at Poona for his information and guidance

No 25—The Resident requests sanction for Rs. 3000 and odd spent on the repairs of the Residency buildings, which consisted of five separate bungalows

FROM—M LLPHINSTONE,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY EDMONSTONE

Poona, 4 August 1811

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose an account of money expended on certain buildings belonging to this Residency. I regret extremely that I have been obliged to incur an extra expense without the

previous permission of Government, but in this case it was entirely unavoidable

I did not at first intend to have begun on any repairs till I should have leisure and opportunity to ascertain whether it was worth while to incur any expense at all on the buildings at this Residency. The advance of the rainy season and the badness of the officers however compelled me to alter my resolution

The Residency consists of five apartments, two of which are surrounded by verandahs, and each forms a separate Bungalow, the roof of which being supported by posts, the room is open on all sides. The old purdahs, entirely unserviceable, were made in the year 1786 or '87, those which were fit for use have been allowed to remain

The white-washing and painting were the necessary consequence of the repairs

The repairs of the out-houses could not have been deferred without losing the use of those buildings at the least. The Furaush Khanna in particular (which I examined myself) did not seem likely to stand for a week. The state of it was such as to risk the whole of the public property contained in it, and indeed the lives of the *clashes** who lived in it were exposed to considerable danger. I trust these reasons will induce the Vice-President to sanction the present expenditure

I have the honour to enclose an extract of a letter from Mr Russell to the Civil Auditor, which will enable His Excellency to judge of the state of the public buildings when I took charge

Sundry charges incurred in repairing bungalows out-houses,
etc, etc

	Rs	An
Five Bungalows repairing, making new Purdahs, white-washing, painting, etc, etc	1,893	12
Repairing and altering the cook-room	411	10
Charge for rebuilding the Furaush Khanna	438	4
Ditto for Cows and Fowls houses	263	8
Repairing a godown	79	8
	<hr/>	
Total Rupees	3,086	10

Signed M ELPHINSTONE,
Resident

(For the) accommodation of visitors on the present place it is proposed to put some of the bungalows now standing into a state

* A tent-pitcher servant in general

of permanent repair and to cover the expense by destroying others of the bungalows and applying the materials to the proper repair and to the construction of the new house

The accommodation contained in the new house will appear on inspection of the place to be quite inadequate. The greater part of the building is taken up by the two principal rooms which I conceive to be the most necessary of the whole as they only are intended for public purposes. The two remaining rooms are small and plain perfectly sufficient for private accommodation, but not by any means so extensive as to afford lodging for the Resident, accommodation for visitors and rooms for an office, for native writers and Moonshees and for all the purposes which will readily occur as requisite at a Residency.

In the present estimate care has been taken to provide against many difficulties which will be met with in building here beams of the length of 28 feet for instance are not to be procured nearer than Bombay. So liberal an allowance has been made for contingencies that I have every reason to believe that the expense of completing the building will in no respect exceed the estimate. If however the sum proposed should contrary to my present conviction be found inadequate it will be better to retrench all such ornaments and conveniences as can be dispensed with than that the Government should be exposed to any further expense.

There is one expense, however, for which, on account of its uncertainty, I should prefer giving no estimate. It is that of digging a well for watering the garden about the new house. In this part of the country springs are rare and a well which in some cases may be made for Rs 1,000 in others will require Rs 5,000. I must therefore content myself with submitting an account of the expenses which shall have been incurred on that account as they arise without venturing to guess beforehand what they will amount to.

The charge for furniture amounts to Rs 15,000. Rs 7,000 have already been expended on furniture in the end of 1810. It provided four pairs of plated dishes, 5 dozen of chairs, a set of tables, 2 sideboards, 4 couches and glass and china-ware for the table which at present constitute all the furniture of the Residency except some candlesticks which were here before and some additions consisting of china ware, knives and forks, chairs and beds, which were to be paid for out of the established allowance. These last articles form the arrear mentioned in my letter of the 25th of March which will be covered by the sum now proposed.

No 26—The Resident explains why and how he asked from the Peshwa a statement of his full demands on the Southern Jagirdars and how that course was producing beneficial results in the settlement of outstanding disputes

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY EDMONSTONE

Poona 1 August 1811

Sir

I had this morning the honour to receive your dispatch of the 12th Ultimo

It affords me great satisfaction that my proceedings in the affair of Baupoojee Gokla have been honoured with His Excellency's approbation

I am happy to be able to inform you that my application for a statement of the Paishwa's claims on the Southern Jagheerdars was not made in the manner which appears from your dispatch to have been apprehended

I made no communication on the subject for some days after the receipt of your dispatch when the Minister having complained of the conduct pursued by the Jagheerdars I took occasion to say, that I was not acquainted with the state of the Paishwa's disputes with those Sirdars and that as it was a topic of constant recurrence I should be much obliged to him if he would send me a statement of His Highness's claims that I might be able to judge of the nature of the injury of which His Highness so frequently complained I afterwards mentioned the subject to the Paishwa in nearly the same terms I gave neither the Paishwa nor the Minister any reason to suppose that I should use the papers even as the ground of a report to His Excellency the Vice President

I conceived that the application to the Paishwa would be welcome, because he has been for many years anxious to draw the Resident's attention to his claims, and would no doubt be greatly pleased at any step that seemed likely to procure them a hearing but I did not think His Highness imagined, that my requiring his papers led directly to his receiving assistance from the British Government, since His Highness knew from experience that the Resident might not think it politic, either for His Highness or the British Government to urge the arrangement even of His Highness's well founded claims, and that even if that officer did refer the question to the Government, there might be reasons which would prevent any measures being taken at the particular time of the reference

My reason for applying to the Durbar was that although I might have procured a statement of the points in dispute by other means, I could not have known on which claims the Paishwa meant to insist, and I should have had no record to prevent His Highness's advancing new demands whenever he thought it convenient. Similar applications for papers relating to the Southern Jagheerdars, having been made by Major General Close without producing any embarrassment, I hope none will be found to arise from the step I have taken in this instance.

From the manner of my application His Excellency will infer that it afforded the Paishwa no new hopes of an adjustment with his Jagheerdars, but I cannot say that no such hopes are entertained, on the contrary I believe the Paishwa has never been without sanguine expectations that the British Government would at a convenient season afford him its support in enforcing such demands as should appear to it to be moderate and reasonable.

These expectations have no doubt been increased since the successful interposition of the British Government in His Highness's dispute with Appa Sahib, and His Highness appears since that event to have entertained hopes of bringing about a settlement of all his claims by means of his own force, aided by the fear alone of our co-operation. With this view he has actually begun to levy troops as I had the honour to report in my dispatch, to the Hon'ble the Vice-President. His Highness has indeed made use of this dread of our power ever since the treaty of Basseen was concluded. By means of it he recovered some of his districts in 1804 but its effect on the Jagheerdars seems to have grown weaker after Mr Strachey's mission, till it was restored by the interposition of the British Government in the affairs of Appa Sahib.

Since that period the Jagheerdars appear to have become more tractable than formerly. Gokla as I have had the honour to state in my last dispatch, has acceded to many of the Paishwa's demands, Rastia has given up the greater part of the countries he had usurped, and Chintamun Row yesterday delivered orders of surrender for one of the Pargunnahs which he has so long held without authority. Should the means which have produced these favourable results hereafter fail I have no doubt that the Paishwa will formally demand the cooperation of the Subsidiary Force but that the Paishwa had adopted the line of conduct I have mentioned before my application and, indeed at the time of my arrival here, will I trust appear from the tenor of my reports, and particularly from that of my dispatch to Lord Minto and to His Excellency the Vice-President.

I have written to the Officer Commanding the Subsidiary Force for information respecting the guns left at Ahmednugger by Amrut Row and they shall be made over to the Paishwa at the earliest period consistent with the instructions contained in your dispatch

I trust however that His Excellency the Vice President will approve of my entering into no explanation of the grounds on which they are given up until I shall be honoured with His Excellency's orders. As Amrut Row carried off plunder to an immense amount from Poona as the property so acquired in all probability constitutes the bulk of his treasures and as he probably considers it as secured to him by his agreement with Lord Wellington an admission that his booty ought to be restored might be expected to draw on demands from the Poona Government which probably were not in the contemplation of His Excellency the Vice-President and which might lead to such discussions as could not fail to be productive of much trouble and embarrassment to the British Government

No 27—Baji Rao's apprehensions of the Pindari raids and how they could be met are topics discussed by the Resident with the Peshwa and reported by the former to the Governor General.

FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE
TO—THE VICE PRESIDENT

Poona 9 August 1811

Hon'ble Sir

His Highness the Paishwa returned from Punderpore on the 23rd Ultimo and was received with the usual honours

His Highness sent for me yesterday and on my attending him said he had merely wished to see me on his return

His Highness however began soon after to speak of the preparations of the Pindaries which he described as very formidable. His Highness acknowledged his suspicions that those freebooters were instigated by Sindia and Holcar particularly by the former, but said he should suspend his judgement till he should see how they proceeded. If they attacked his country boldly and in great numbers he thought the question would be decided and that we ought to look to Sindia for redress

In the mean time he observed it was necessary to be prepared against them and it was therefore his intention to send some of his own troops to his northern frontier, and to order the Jagheerdares to move with their quotas in the same direction. He

requested me to second his orders by injunctions to the Vakeels of the Jagheerdars

His Highness then said that if the Jagheerdars attended, it would be the most desirable result of his plan, but if they did not, he would have the advantage of showing me a very convincing proof of their disobedience

In reply to His Highness, I said that I saw no reason to believe that the Pindarries were supported either by Sindia or Holcar, nor did I think that the boldness of their operations would afford any proof of such a connection. It was, however, I observed of no immediate importance to ascertain whether they possessed any such encouragement or not since the same preparations would be requisite in both cases. I said I saw no objection to His Highness's demanding the services of his Jagheerdars, but that he ought not to rely on their assistance to any extent beyond what he was sure he could command. It would therefore be expedient for His Highness to provide such a force of his own as might be sufficient for the purpose of protecting his dominions without any assistance from his great subjects

The Paishwa then stated his grounds for suspecting Sindia of a connection with the Pindarries. He said Sindia had released their chiefs from whom he had taken security, that he had sent an army for the pretended purpose of checking them, but that his army and that of the Pindarries were both encamped in the neighbourhood of Ougein and offered no kind of molestation to each other. An army of Holcar's, His Highness said, was in the same predicament

With respect to the defence of the country, he said, that if he had the command of his own troops, he could easily protect his dominions, but the best part of his army was withheld from his service by the southern Jagheerdars, and that he was therefore obliged to request that part of the Subsidiary Force might accompany his own troops

I pointed out in reply, the uselessness of moving any part of the Force. The Pindarries I observed were easily defeated by any troops, but that a number of light cavalry were required, not to fight them but to hunt them out of the country. In this the Paishwa acquiesced and I repeated my instances that His Highness would provide such a force as might discourage the Pindarries from plundering his country, adding that the example of the Raja of Berar shewed how difficult it was to check them, after they had once become bold, and to which cruel and destructive ravages a country was exposed, which was subject to their invasions. His Highness hav-

ing again declared his resolution to provide effectually against the incursions of the Pindarries the subject was dropt

I afterwards enquired into the progress of His Highness's arrangement with Gokla, and he replied that there had not been time for the delivery of all the forts, that several had however been given up and the rest would be surrendered in due course. In the meantime he said, he should suspend his proceedings on the other branches of the settlement. The Paishwa seemed particularly pleased at his having got possession of these forts, and said that some of the places which had thus been given up to the dread of the British would have cost both him and us lacs of Rupees to take by force.

I endeavoured to convince him that Gokla was too faithful a servant to give reason at any time to fear that he would compel his master to resort to force for obtaining his right, but I said that the present settlement was no doubt very much facilitated by the moderation and good judgment with which His Highness had fixed the terms and I added that an attention to those qualities would remove many difficulties in any other affairs which His Highness might have to adjust.

Having ascertained from Colonel Montresor that the guns in Ahmednuggur were not required I took this opportunity of acquainting the Paishwa that they would be given up to him as soon as he pleased.

In the course of this conversation I avoided making any observation on the Paishwa's complaints of the Jagheerdars. I shall comply with His Highness's request in sending for the vakeels of those chieftains and recommending in general terms, that their masters should comply with the Paishwa's orders. This is the course which has hitherto been observed on such occasions.

No 28—The death of Jonathan Duncan and the succession of George Brown to the Presidency of Bombay are communicated to the Resident.

**FROM—F FARISH ACTING SECRETARY,
TO—THE HON'BLE MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE,
RESIDENT AT POONA**

Bombay Castle 14th August 1811

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose a courier extraordinary, announcing the succession of George Brown Esquire to the Office of Governor of this Presidency in consequence of the death of the Hon'ble Jonathan Duncan Esquire.

BOMBAY COURIER

*Extraordinary**Wednesday, August 14, 1811*

Extract from the Proceedings of Government in the Public Department, dated 11th August 1811

Ordered that the following Proclamation announcing the succession of George Brown, Esquire, to the office of Governor of this Presidency be read at the head of the troops in the Garrison of Bombay under a salute of nineteen guns and three volleys of small arms

Ordered that the Proclamation be also read at the head of the troops at all the military stations dependent on this Presidency under a salute of nineteen guns

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, by the death of the Hon'ble Jonathan Duncan Esqr late Governor of the Presidency of Bombay, which took place on the morning of the 11th August 1811, the charge of the Office of Governor of the Presidency aforesaid has devolved on George Brown Esquire conformably to the Statutes of the 24th and 33rd of our Most Gracious Sovereign George the Third

It is, therefore, hereby proclaimed that the Honourable George Brown Esquire has this day taken charge of the said office of Governor of the Presidency of Bombay and of its dependencies
Bombay Castle, 11th August, 1811

F WARDEN,
Chief Secretary

Ordered also that the Proclamation be published in the usual form by the Sheriff of Bombay

No 29—The Resident administered a vigorous remonstrance to the Peshwa through his minister against accepting the territory of Garha Kota from Sindhia without sanction of the British Government. The whole tenor of the affair shows how the power of the Peshwa was circumscribed to prevent his foreign activities

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE VICE-PRESIDENT

Poona, 18 August 1811

Hon'ble Sir,

Some time ago I received a message from the Paishwa informing me that Sindhia had offered to make over the territory of Gurra Cota to His Highness I observed on the communication that I

doubted whether Sindia had any such intention as he had professed, but that I would at all events recommend to His Highness not to accept his proposal

About a week ago I received another message from the Durbar informing me that the Paishwa had again received letters from Ballojee Coonjur, his Vakeel at Sindia's Court in which Sindia's offers with respect to Gurra Cota, were renewed, and it was stated that Sindia was ready to make over the country to the Paishwa's Officers as soon as he should receive His Highness's orders to that effect. I was also informed that His Highness was accordingly preparing orders directing Sindia to make over the country to Ballojee Coonjur. In reply to this message I expressed my decided opinion against the step which His Highness was about to take and pointed out the disadvantages of a measure by which His Highness would at best only obtain the nominal possession of a small tract of country at the expense of exposing himself to complaints from all the other claimants

A few days after I was informed that the Paishwa had actually dispatched the orders to Sindia's Durbar. I still considered this as a matter of no great importance as I was convinced that Sindia would not make over Gurra Cota to the Paishwa without some equivalent, which His Highness would not be disposed to give, but as this was the first occasion since my arrival on which the Durbar had attempted to make any alteration in its foreign policy contrary to my advice, I thought it necessary that it should not pass without notice and I therefore waited on the Minister for the purpose of addressing to him a serious remonstrance on his neglect of one of the most important articles of the Treaty of Bassein

I began by requesting the Minister to inform me what steps he had taken in the affair of Gurra Cota on which he entered into a long argument to prove the Paishwa's title to that territory. He said that the country belonged in sovereignty to the Paishwa and was held by the Raja under the Poona Government, that the Raja had joined Meer Khan when that Chief was the Paishwa's enemy, and had invaded that part of the Paishwa's dominions which formed the territory of the Raja of Berar, that the Paishwa's army under Dowlut Row Scindia had accordingly dispossessed him of his country, which of course reverted to the Government of Poona

I thought it necessary to answer every one of these extraordinary positions. I observed that I understood the Raja of Gurra Cota to have been tributary to the Maratta State at some former period, but that I never had heard that his country belonged to the Paishwa that whatever might have been the state of things

formerly, the Raja of Berar had for many years exercised an independent authority, and was no more entitled to claim the Paishwa's assistance, than he was bound to yield him obedience that Meer Khan's projects for overturning the established order of the Deccan, gave the Paishwa a just ground of war with him, and that, if the Raja of Gurra Cota had assisted Meer Khan in those unjustifiable schemes, His Highness might have had a right to go to war with him also but that Meer Khan's progress having been checked and the former relations between that chief and the allies having been restored, it must be very doubtful how far the Paishwa was justified in occupying the territory of a third power on the ground of its being in alliance with Meer Khan As to Sindia's war with Gurra Cota it did not at all affect the Paishwa's relations to that Government, since whatever might be the language of this Court, it was evident that Sindia was an independent sovereign, in whose quarrels whether just or unjust His Highness the Paishwa had no concern

The Minister replied that Gurra Cota owed Choute to the Paishwa in common with all the rest of India, and that the Paishwa had at all times a right to dispossess his tributaries in case of their rebellion. To this I answered that the very extent of the claim to Choute was sufficient to show the inutility of preferring it, and that if the Minister would reflect on the length of time that had passed since that claim was acted on in the remote countries alluded to, and the numerous transactions that had since taken place

had the misfortune to differ entirely from His Highness, the subject ought to have been referred to your Excellency, but that nothing could justify the Minister in making a communication to a foreign State without previously obtaining the concurrence of the British Government

The Minister replied by protestations that nothing was further from his thoughts than to enter on a line of conduct which would give the British Government so just a ground of offence, he went on to assure me most solemnly that he never had adopted and never would adopt any measure of foreign policy which I should disapprove. After he had spoken for some time in general terms, I begged him to explain the fact of his having issued orders respecting Gurra Cota, after I had so strongly represented the inexpediency of his doing so. The Minister declared that there must have been some mistake as he had conceived that I had entirely approved of his issuing these orders, on which I said that I had only to hope that he would take care that no such mistake might take place again, and that he would endeavour to prevent any inconvenience arising from the present one.

After assuring me that he would be careful to do so, the Minister asked me what was to be done with Gurra Cota? He said it was the Paishwa's country, that the Raja was dead, and had probably left no heirs, and he wished to know what was to become of the territory. I said that as Gurra Cota was remote, and not likely to be very productive I would advise the Paishwa not to interfere with it. I pointed out the loss of dignity which the Paishwa would suffer, if Sindia should after all refuse to give it up and the danger in case His Highness got possession of it, that either the people of the country or the Raja of Berar, should attempt to wrest it from him.

The Minister told me I need be under no apprehensions on that head as Sindia was certainly sincere and the Raja of Berar had written a letter to the Paishwa acknowledging that Gurra Cota belonged to His Highness and promising to abstain from all attacks on it. He produced this last letter and read part of it, which was to the effect he had stated. I endeavoured to dissuade the Minister from trusting too much to the promises of Sindia and the Raja, observing that the latter prince certainly wished to obtain Gurra Cota for himself, and it was notorious that he had entered into negotiations and sent out armies for that purpose and I enquired how the Paishwa proposed to defend Gurra Cota in case the Raja should attack it. The Minister said that the Peshwa intended to make over Gurra Cota to the ruler at Sagur, who would defend it on ordinary occasions and that if it were attacked by the Raja

of Berar, the Paishwa would be able with the assistance of the British Government, to oblige him by force of arms to desist

I observed that this was exactly the consequence which might be expected from His Highness the Paishwa's endeavouring to revive his obsolete claims. He would embroil himself with all the present possessors of the countries he demanded, as well as with the other pretenders to them, and the very confusion and insecurity would be produced throughout India which it was the object of the treaties between the British Government, the Paishwa and the Nizam to prevent. I then put an end to the discussion by calling the Minister's attention to the defence of his Master's own immediate territories from the incursions of the Pindarries.

The above is the substance of a very long conversation. It is by no means the whole of what was said, but it is, I hope, sufficient to give your Excellency an idea of the Minister's pretensions and of the arguments by which he attempted to support them.

On the subject of the Pindarries, I acquainted the Minister that in consequence of His Highness's anxiety that the Raja of Berar and the Nizam should defend their parts of the frontier of the Deccan, I endeavoured to ascertain the state of their preparations. The Raja of Berar I knew had long employed the whole resources of his Government against the Pindarries, and I found that the Nizam had 17,000 troops, with a proportion of artillery, on his frontier. The only part of the common frontier, which remained unprotected, was that which belonged to His Highness the Paishwa. The interest which my Government possess in His Highness's prosperity, I added, made me very anxious to know whether His Highness had determined on any plans for the defence of his country, since I last had the honour of seeing him.

Seddasheo Maunkaisur answered that the Paishwa had not determined on any new plan, but that His Highness had taken steps for carrying that which he formerly mentioned to me into execution. He had made out drafts of letters to Sindia and Holcar, desiring them to send troops to prevent the Pindarries crossing the Nerbudda, and to the Raja of Berar, requesting him to oppose the entry of those freebooters into the Deccan, that he should call on the Jagheerdars to move to the frontier with their quotas that he had already a force of his own on the frontier, and that he should expect, if the Pindarries were strong, to be assisted by the Subsidiary Force. He also mentioned a circumstance of which I had heard before, which was that Sindia's troops had begun to act against the Pindarries and had gained some advantage over them.

To this I answered that if Sindia and Holcar sent armies against the Pindarries, they would be more anxious to remove them from

their own countries, than to prevent them from entering the Paishwas. that the same observation applied to the Raja of Berar, and that in consequence unless His Highness maintained a force to oppose them; the Pindarries would fly to his country as a place of refuge. even if they were not tempted to come into it for plunder alone: that he best knew what he had to expect from the Jagheerdars, but that it was proper he should be apprized that this was not a service on which the British troops could properly be employed: that if there was occasion to fight any internal enemy, the force would of course be ready to serve; but that, it could not be expected to hunt down banditti, and that, in fact it was not calculated for any such duty. Infantry, I observed, was perfectly useless against the Pindarries, and there was only one regiment of cavalry with the force which could not possibly be of much service in acting against the numerous bodies into which the Pindarries would divide. that His Highness must, therefore, of necessity depend entirely on his own resources for protection against the Pindarries, and that I would most earnestly recommend to him to take effectual measures to save his country from the grievous calamities to which it would be exposed, if he neglected to take the necessary precautions in time.

The Minister said the Paishwa did not mean to call for the assistance of our troops, unless the Pindarries came down in great force with infantry and guns, that none of the Jaghirdars, except Gokla and Appa Desaye would attend, but the refusal of the rest would justify the Paishwa, in our eyes in seizing their Jagheers and applying the money to the maintenance of an obedient army.

I said that I did not see the advantage of this course of proceeding. If the Paishwa waited for the refusal of the Jagheerdars before he began to raise men, the first incursion of the Pindarries would be over before he had a force assembled, and that it was far more difficult to oblige those plunderers to relinquish their attacks after success, than to deter them entirely by vigorous preparations: that if His Highness was disinclined to raising troops from an idea of the expense, he would do well to reflect that every Rupee he saved by these means, might in the end cost him a thousand. The Minister answered that I might be assured the Paishwa was in earnest in his preparations, and that he could raise 15,000 men in ten days, if he only entertained the numerous soldiery in his country who were now out of employ.

After I was gone the Minister told my Parsee Accountant, that he should not be able to persuade the Paishwa to entertain more troops; but that he thought if I would press the subject once or twice, His Highness would be prevailed on to agree to my suggestion.

Before I took my leave of the Minister, I begged his attention to the settlement with the Guickwar State, and the Minister acquainted me that he was still waiting for the Guickwar Vakeel's answer to his demands, that the Vakeel had applied for papers from the Paishwa's records to enable him to draw out his answer, and that they had all been afforded to him.

I also pressed the Minister on the subject of many little affairs which he has allowed to remain unsettled for different periods from a year to a month or two. I remonstrated very strongly on this neglect of applications from the Residency, but could get nothing but protestations that they were all in train, and would be speedily adjusted.

The drafts of letters to Sindia, Holcar, and the Raja of Berar, have been shown to me. They merely desire the two former to prevent the Pindarries crossing the Nerbadda, and the latter to oppose their progress through his country.

The hill forts occupied by Gokla in the Prittee Niddee's country, have all been delivered up to the Paishwa. The rest of the affair is still unsettled and I am afraid is likely to remain so for some time, as the Paishwa is now busy in celebrating a festival which will last eight days, after which, His Highness proposes to set out on a pilgrimage to a place near Sattaria.

Having received accounts of the death of the late Governor of Bombay, I directed the same salutes and other ceremonies which had been performed on this melancholy occasion at the stations under Bombay to be observed at Poona and Seroor. I have since received visits of condolence from the Minister on the part of the Paishwa and from all the Vakeels now residing at this Court.

No 30—The Governor-General signifies his approval of the explanation afforded by the Resident about the Peshwa's claims on the Southern Jagirdars and about the restoration of the Peshwa's guns left at Ahmednagar.

FROM—N. B. EDMONSTONE,
TO—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT
POONA

Fort William, 23 August 1811

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch dated the 4th instant in reply to the observations of Government contained in mine of the 12th of July and to signify to you that under the explanations which you have afforded, your application to His Highness the Peishwa for a knowledge of his claims on the Southern Jaggeerdars, appears to be unobjectionable.

2 I am further directed to inform you that His Excellency the Vice-President in Council entirely approves your abstaining from any explanation to the Peishwa of the grounds on which the guns left by Amrut Row at Ahmednuggur are given up to His Highness for the reason which you have assigned

No 31—The Governor-General wishes to be informed whether the Resident has any objection to granting the request of Amrit Rao to stay at Surat.

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE
TO—M ELPHINSTONE

Fort William 23 August 1811

Sir,

I am directed to transmit to you for your notice the enclosed copy and translation of a letter from Amrut Row to His Excellency the Vice-President requesting that as the climate of Benares is inimical to his constitution he may be permitted to reside at Soorat, and to desire that without making any communication to His Highness the Paishwa or his Ministers on the subject, you will be pleased to state your own opinion whether a compliance with Amrut Row's application as placing him in the immediate vicinity of the Paishwa's dominions would be likely to be productive of any serious inconvenience or alarm

I am directed to take this opportunity of signifying to you that it would be useful to remind the Paishwa of the claim of this Government to reimbursement of the stipend of 8 lacs of rupees per annum paid to Amrut Row to prevent a supposition on the part of His Highness that the British Government has abandoned the expectation of the assignment of a provision for the maintenance of his brother from the resources of the State of Poona, a subject the discussion of which it is in the contemplation of Government to revive at the first favourable opportunity

No 32—Sanction is communicated to the Resident for the expenses he had incurred on additions to the buildings at the Residency as requested in a previous communication dated 4 August

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE,
TO—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT POONA

Fort William, 30 August 1811

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th current enclosing an account of money expended on certain buildings belonging to the Poona Residency amounting to

Rs 3,086-10 0 and stating the unavoidable circumstances under which that expenditure has been incurred and to inform you that under the explanations which you have afforded His Excellency the Vice President in Council has been pleased to sanction those charges

No 33—The Governor General approves the action of the Resident in declining to the Peshwa the use of the Subsidiary Force in repelling the inroads of the Pindaris

**FROM—N B EDMONSTONE,
TO—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE**

Fort William, 6 September 1811

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch dated the 9th ultimo reporting the substance of your conference with His Highness the Paishwa on the subject of the apprehended invasion of his dominions by the Pindarries and on other points, and to signify to you His Excellency the Vice-President in Council's entire approbation of the tenor of your discourse on that occasion, especially with regard to the employment of the subsidiary force in repelling the incursions of the Pindarries, a service for which as you justly observed, it is by no means calculated

No 34—The Resident requests sanction for Rs 25 000 to be expended on an entertainment to the Peshwa

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY EDMONSTONE**

Poona, 9 September 1811

Sir,

I have hitherto avoided the expense of giving an entertainment to the Paishwa in the hope that it might be possible to let the practice die away I, however, find that such an omission would be liable to be taken amiss, I have therefore to beg His Excellency the Vice President's permission to entertain His Highness in the usual manner after the rains The expense will amount to 25 000 rupees or thereabouts

No 35—The Resident is asked to convey to the Peshwa the Governor General's disapproval of the transfer of Garha-Kota to him by Sindhia without reference to the British Government The transaction was considered to be entirely inconsistent with the stipulations of the treaty of Bassein

FROM—N B IDMONSTON,
TO—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT
POONA

Fort William 13 September 1811

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch dated the 18th ultimo, reporting the substance of your communication and conference with the Peishwa's Ministers on the subject of Sindiah's alleged transfer of the country of Gurra Cota, to the Peishwa and of the latter's claim to it.

Your opposition to the progress of this transaction and to the claim itself, is of course approved by His Excellency the Vice-President in Council, and the arguments which you employed on the occasion are considered to have been forcible and proper.

The conduct of the Peishwa's *darbar* has throughout this transaction, been inconsistent with the fundamental principles of the alliance and in fact a direct violation of the 17th article of the treaty of Bassein, which provides that His Highness the Peishwa shall not commence nor pursue any negotiations with any other State whatever without giving previous notice and entering into mutual consultation with the Company's Government.

The Peishwa conformed to this article by apprizing you in the first instance of the offer which he had received from Sindiah, he violated it by pursuing the negotiation in opposition to your advice since the evident obligation of it is that as allies, the parties should act with respect to such negotiation in the mode that might be determined by mutual consultation, and it might perhaps have been advisable to have stated to His Highness this observation when you were first informed of his acceptance of Sindiah's offer in opposition to your counsel, rather than confine your remonstrance to a representation of the disadvantages which would attend it.

The Peishwah, however, appears to have lost sight of the true spirit and intent of the treaty in a more general sense, by adopting as the basis of his proceedings the annulled relations of the Marhatta federation which have been distinctly dissolved by the treaty of Bassein, since compatibly with its provisions and obligations they cannot exist.

His Excellency in Council is of opinion that every opportunity should be taken to remind the Peishwah of that fundamental principle of the alliance by which these relations have been annulled.

He should be reminded that the British Government did not guarantee the recovery of territorial claims arising out of the ancient constitution of the Marhatta Empire. To such claims indeed it would be difficult to assign a limit and His Highness might with as much justice require us to support his universal claim to choute and his pretensions to all the conquests that were ever effected by the arms of his ancestors and have been lost by the revolutions of succeeding times, as expect our countenance to the revival of his pretensions to the insulated country of Gurra Cota or to his acceptance of the transfer of it to his dominion. He should be reminded that our guarantee cannot be construed to extend to additional territory or to rights not acquired with our consent, and that he cannot reasonably expect our consent to unite with him in the recovery of claims which at the conclusion of the alliance were not brought forward, and which have since been suffered to lie dormant during a period of nine years.

Under these circumstances the British Government is entitled to require that the Peishwa should revoke his orders to Ballajee Coonjur for the occupation of Gurra Cota, and I am directed to desire that you will convey this requisition accordingly to the Durbar, supporting it by the arguments which you have already employed and those which are suggested in this dispatch.

I am further instructed to observe that the requisitions addressed by the Peishwa to Sindia, Holkar and Raggojee Bhosale as described in the 21st paragraph of your dispatch although in themselves rather nugatory than objectionable, yet proceed upon the same inadmissible principle which has been already noticed upon the supposed continuance of the ancient constitution of the Marhatta Empire, and they are irregular with reference to the spirit of the 17th article of the treaty of Bassein. Such applications, if judged expedient after mutual consultation, should be made in the name of the allies.

It is of great importance to keep constantly in view the true principles of the alliance and to impress them on all occasions on the mind of the Paishwa and I am therefore directed to state an observation on that part of your discourse to the minister which intimated that Meer Khan's projects for overturning the established order of the Deccan gave the Peishwah a just ground of war with him and that if the Rajah of Gurra Cota had assisted Meer Khan in those unjustifiable schemes His Highness might have had a right to go to war with him also.

This statement might be construed to imply the Peishwa's right to enter upon a war under his own conception of the urgency.

of the occasion. It is apparently giving him a voice in the question of peace or war on an occasion on which Government does not admit his right to judge and to determine. It is a point of foreign policy, from the cognizance of which except in communication with and under the guidance of his ally he is excluded. If the term allies had been employed instead of the Peishwa singly the passage in question would not have been subject to remark.

His Excellency in Council does not suppose you to ascribe to the Peishwa the latitude of decision above described and states the preceding observation merely because under the evident disposition of His Highness to exercise privileges not consistent with the principles of the alliance it seems advisable to avoid in your communications with the Durbar any expressions that can have a tendency to countenance his assumptions.

No 36—Lt Close is appointed first Assistant to the Resident at Poona

**FROM—N B EDMONSTONE,
TO—THE HON'BLE MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE,
RESIDENT AT POONA**

Fort William, 20 September 1811

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that His Excellency the Vice-President in Council has been pleased to appoint Lieutenant Close at present first assistant to the Resident at Nagpur and Post Master at that station to be first assistant to the Resident at Poona in the room of Mr H Ellis embarked for Europe. The above appointment to take effect from the 18th ultimo the date of the departure of the Honourable Company's ship Carmarthen on which Mr Ellis has embarked from Bombay.

No 37—In reply to the Governor General's query whether Amrit Rao, the Peshwa's brother may be allowed to stay at Surat, the Resident replies that no serious inconvenience would arise from that course but that the Peshwa would be greatly alarmed thereby.

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—J MONCKTON ESQUIRE PERSIAN SECRETARY**

Poona, 29 September 1811

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch dated August 23rd enclosing a letter from His Highness Amrut Row, and desiring me to state my opinion on the question, whether any serious inconvenience or alarm would arise from Amrut Row's

being permitted to reside at Surat, as placing him in the immediate vicinity of the Paishwa's dominions

In the present state of affairs, it does not appear to me that any serious inconvenience would be produced in the interior of the Paishwa's country from Amrut Row's being allowed to reside on its frontier, but I conceive that such a permission would greatly alarm and displease the Paishwa .

I shall take the first opportunity of reminding the Paishwa of the claim of the British Government to be reimbursed the stipend which it has allowed Amrut Row, but the communication will require considerable delicacy, as the Paishwa never hears his brother's name with temper, and His Highness has before shown such unusual obstinacy and determination whenever he was urged to make good the amount of the stipend now in question

No 38—The Governor General sanctions Rs 25 000 for an entertainment to the Peshwa by the Resident

**FROM—N B EDMONSTONE,
TO—M. ELPHINSTONE**

Fort William, 1st October 1811

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter under date the 9th instant reporting the necessity of giving an entertainment to the Peshwa after the rains and to inform you that His Excellency the Vice-President in Council has been pleased to sanction your doing so at the expense which you have stated of 25,000 rupees

No 39—The expected Pindari inroads and the means of repelling them were the topics discussed by the Resident with the Peshwa and his minister, who urged the employment of the Subsidiary Force for that purpose The discussion is fully reported to the Governor-General

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICE-PRESIDENT**

Poona, 3 October 1811

Hon'ble Sir,

The festival mentioned in my report dated August 18th prevented my seeing the Paishwa before he set out on the pilgrimage alluded to in the same dispatch The Paishwa's mother-in-law died before his return, and the ceremonies of mourning prevented his receiving me till the approach of Dussera and put a stop to all business From

these circumstances I had no opportunity of reviving the subject of the Paishwa's army till yesterday evening when His Highness agreed to my application for an audience.

His Highness was scarcely seated, when he began to inform me of the substance of letters which he had received from Malwa and Candish, and which he afterwards desired the Minister to read aloud. The letter from Malwa stated that the troops which Sindia formerly sent against the Pindarries had been obliged to retire for want of money and equipment that Holcar's troops were also withdrawn from the same service that Kereem Pindarreh had replied in terms of defiance to an order which Sindia had issued for his repairing to Gwalior that the Pindarreh Chief had avowed his independence of any established Power, declaring that he was a robber and that all countries were his and ridiculing Sindia's credulity in supposing that he would again put himself into the hands of a chief who had so grossly broken his faith with him before. The same letter added that the Pindarries were preparing for an expedition to take place after the Dussera and that they were accompanied by a body of infantry with guns.

The letter from Candish mentioned that a very small body of Pindarries had appeared near Burhaupoor and that the gates of that city had in consequence been shut for several days, that the party of Pindarries had since drawn off, but it was not known in what direction this letter also stated that an immediate incursion of the Pindarries might be expected.

When the Minister had done reading, I said there was every reason to believe the intelligence, and that it was particularly necessary for the Paishwa to be prepared to repel the Pindarries if they should make an incursion in this direction. The Paishwa immediately answered that he had fulfilled his promise to me by sending off two thousand horse to his northern frontier. I observed that there had been no limitation of the number of troops which I had recommended His Highness's detaching to his frontier, and that their strength could only be regulated by that of the force to which they were to be opposed. I then enquired what His Highness conceived the number of the Pindarries to amount to. His Highness having replied that he believed they were 25,000 strong, I pointed out the necessity of his maintaining a much larger body of troops than his present establishment to oppose them.

The Paishwa replied at considerable length. The substance of his discourse was that he had entertained a certain number of troops, and had ordered his Jagheerdars to attend with their contingents, and that if the Subsidiary Force were sent to the frontier as the

Nizam's Subsidiary Force was, there would be no ground for apprehension. I begged leave to correct the mistake His Highness had fallen into in stating the Nizam's Subsidiary Force to be on the frontier. It was farther from Hyderabad than the force serving with His Highness was from Poona, but the distance from Jaulna to the nearest part of the Nizam's frontier, was not a great deal less than that between Seroor and the nearest point in His Highness's frontier, and the distance from Jaulna to the most remote part of Berar proper, was far greater than that from Seroor to any part of the Paishwa's northern dominions. I observed that Jaulna and Seroor were selected as preferable to any points on the frontier for the stations of our troops. That if they were more advanced, they could each only protect one point, while all the rest of the frontier, and the whole of the country in the rear would be open to any invader. It was not therefore from the advanced position of the British Force, but from the number of troops which the Nizam himself maintained in Berar, that his dominions were protected from the incursions of the Pindarries. That if His Highness would adopt the same measure his territories would be equally secure, which I was sorry to say was not the case at present. I observed that His Highness had abolished the establishment of Sebundies throughout all his dominions, so that there were no troops to defend his villages and smaller garrisons. That he had not a single man beyond his own two thousand horse, 500 of the Vinchoor Jagheerdar's and two Battalions of Infantry to defend his whole frontier, and that the Pindarries might plunder his open country and sack his villages up to Poona almost unopposed, that such an event would not only be calamitous but disgraceful, that His Highness's army ought to be on such a footing as to render his territories at all times safe from incursions of marauders, and that I hoped to see the time when His Highness should not be obliged to deliberate on the means of opposing such an enemy.

The Paishwa assented to most of these observations, but said he had an army already, and that a great part of his resources were allotted to maintain it, but that the commanders disregarded his orders, and instead of affording him any assistance, obliged him to employ some of his other troops in watching their motions. His Highness plainly alluding to the Southern Jagheerdars, I said that however unjustifiable their conduct might be, yet as it seemed certain that their services could not be commanded, there only remained to employ some other means for the defence of the country. I added, that if the Paishwa would keep up such an army as became the greatness of his State, he would be enabled to overcome all his subjects and would easily influence the Jagheerdars.

who had never revolted from him, although the relaxation of the Government induced them often to disregard his orders

The Paishwa then said that the Southern Jagheerdars might remain idle, as I seemed to think it advisable and that our troops might stay at Seroor, but if the small body of troops that he could muster were overpowered, it would not be his fault. I replied by assuring the Paishwa, that nobody would be more happy than I should, if His Highness could command the services of all his subjects, but that, as he had himself declared that he could not prevail on the Jagheerdars to send their contingents, I had recommended his procuring other troops to serve in their room, because if his country were ravaged, it would be no consolation to reflect that the calamity was occasioned by the fault of the Jagheerdars. I said that our troops were always ready to act in defence of His Highness at a moment's warning, but that their employment was limited by the treaty to services of importance, and that duties like the present would be best performed by His Highness's own forces. With respect to the probability of a small body of His Highness's troops being overpowered by the Pindarries, I said I had not recommended his detaching a small body, and that if he would send a larger one, there would be no fear of such a misfortune.

After some further conversation on this last subject the Paishwa laughed and said he believed he must entertain more cavalry, although he should be obliged to borrow money from the barkers to enable him to pay them. As I have reason to think that the Paishwa is far from being in any pecuniary difficulties, I did not take much notice of this remark, merely observing that by organising his army, he would be enabled to secure his territories from injury, and that no State gave a better example of the advantage of spending money, when circumstances required it than the British Government.

The greater part of the above conversation was supported by the Paishwa either directly or through the Minister, in what follows the Minister spoke for himself.

He first spoke of the probability of the Pindarries being secretly instigated by Sindia and Holcar, to which I opposed the same obvious arguments that I made use of on a former occasion. He then asked what was to be done, if it should appear that Sindia and Holcar were the real invaders of the Paishwa's country. I said that the Paishwa's country had not as yet been invaded at all, that there was no shadow of reason for suspecting Sindia and Holcar of any design against it, but if they should be guilty of any aggression, the alliance was strong enough to prevent any bad effects arising from their attack. The Minister then asked what the British

Government would do if Sindia and Holcar were to carry on a formidable predatory war without appearing themselves to be concerned in it. I said that if such an improbable state of things were to arise, the British Government would of course dispose its troops in such a manner as should enable it to frustrate the design of the enemy.

The Minister then endeavoured to represent the expected inroad of the Pindarries as a formidable invasion. He said they were coming not only with light troops to plunder, but with good cavalry, infantry and guns, which would be sufficient to defeat any army which the Paishwa could assemble, and as this was the case, the Subsidiary Force ought to move out to oppose them. I observed in answer that there was no probability of the Pindarries making such an inroad as the Minister described, that they had raised infantry and cast guns on former occasions, but that they had always made use of them to reduce the country in their own neighbourhood, and had employed their cavalry alone on their predatory expeditions. If however the Pindarries or any other power, attempted a similar invasion of His Highness's territories, the Subsidiary Force was ready to oppose them, but at present it must be confessed that a predatory incursion was more to be apprehended and I should be happy to see the Paishwa's troops prepared to repel it.

The Minister replied that whenever the occasion required, the Paishwa would produce the number of troops which were required by the treaty, but he said that the British troops ought to be employed on repelling predatory incursions as well as serious invasions, and referred me to the treaty of Bassein for the proof of his assertion. I observed that it was expressly stipulated in the treaty of Bassein, that the British troops were not to be employed on trifling occasions, and the Minister answered that the British Government was to allow no Power or State to injure the Paishwa's territories, but was to defend them in the same manner as the Company's territories were defended. The Minister here alluded to the 2nd Article of the Treaty, but insisted much more on the 9th Article, by which the British Government is bound to chastize excitors of disturbance, and to correct such of the Paishwa's subjects and dependants as shall withhold His Highness's just claims. As he dwelt most on this last clause, which cannot be applied to the Pindarries, I conceive that he meant to take this opportunity of adducing an argument in favour of the Paishwa's favourite scheme of establishing his claims on the Southern Jagheerdars. As this subject was not in discussion, I took no notice of that part of the Minister's discourse, but said that by the Treaty of Bassein we

became His Highness's allies, and were bound to assist him on all just occasions where our aid was required, but that it was never intended by either party that the Paishwa should reduce his army, pay off his Sebundies, and leave every kind of military service, great and small to be performed by the Subsidiary Force, that the terms of our treaty with the Nizam were similar to those of our treaty with His Highness, yet the Nizam kept up a respectable force fully sufficient to protect his dominions from plunder and to maintain his authority on most occasions over all his subjects. That the spirit of both these treaties plainly was, that the British Government should defend their allies from all formidable attacks or insurrections, but that each Power should maintain the tranquillity of its own territories in ordinary times. I said, that the British Government had fully performed its part, and was ready when required to perform it again and that it remained with His Highness to perform his part in which both his honour and his interest were deeply concerned.

As it was now getting late and as the Paishwa's presence was required at some religious ceremony, His Highness broke off the conversation by requesting that I would discuss the subject on some other occasion with the Minister, His Highness added that he had nothing further to say but that his whole dependence was on the British Government.

The two thousand horse of which the Paishwa spoke, are actually in readiness, and His Highness has ordered all the Jagheerdars to move to the frontier with the contingents. Most of these chiefs will probably excuse themselves on different pretexts, or send small and useless detachments. Appa Dessye, whose obedience might be depended on, is prevented from marching by the circumstances in which he is placed. The only Jagheerdar who can now be depended on, is Baupoojee Gokla, who will be able to move with about 1500 horse. This will make the Paishwa's force on the frontier amount to 4000 horse and two battalions of infantry, and if His Highness can be prevailed on to make any considerable addition to this number, the Pindaries will probably be discouraged from attacking his country, which their success in their last incursion, might otherwise induce them to attempt.

The Paishwa has lately spoken much of raising a body of infantry. His plan was to raise six strong battalions, and to apply to the British Government for officers to command them, but he proposed to commence by raising two battalions, which, together were to amount to 2400 men. His Highness enquired of me whether the British Government would supply him with arms at the usual prices, and I replied that I was not authorized to give any promise.

on that head, but that I thought the Government would be perfectly disposed to assist him to any extent which might be practicable, without interfering with its own arrangements His Highness also requested me to furnish him with statements of the rates of pay of the different ranks in our service, and of the prices of guns, muskets, and other military stores These statements were produced and sent to His Highness, and for some time I received frequent messages from him on the subject but for this last fortnight I have heard no more of the plan

The Government is apprized of the quarrel which has long subsisted between Appa Dessaye and the Raja of Colapore Their enmity has not occasioned any open disturbance since the last defeat of the Raja by Appa Dessye The Raja of Colapore has for some time been entertaining troops, and has lately plundered a village belonging to Appa Dessye He has for some time been engaged in negotiations with Chuntamun Rao, who is said to have entered into his views, and to have accepted the office of Sena Puttee, or General in his service It appears certain that their intention is to attack Appa Dessye, and that chief is himself convinced that they entertain such a design He replied to the Paishwa's letter directing him to repair to the frontier by stating these circumstances, offering at the same time to send part of his contingent if the Paishwa required it At the same time he wrote to the same effect to me The Paishwa immediately ordered an answer to be written to Appa Dessye, desiring him to remain at his Jagheer with all his troops

The other Jagheerdars are quiet at present, Chuntamun Row is said to have applied to Appa Sahib Putwardhan to join in the attack on Appa Dessye, but I have not heard what encouragement Appa Sahib gives to the proposal The Paishwa's troops, amounting to about 500 cavalry and 1200 infantry, with two guns, are besieging Hoobly, but they seem yet to have made little progress

No 40—The Resident reports his interview with the minister when the latter earnestly put forth the Peshwa's claims to lands in Bundelkhand which no treaties could, he urged, affect The Resident with equal vehemence disputed those unbecoming pretensions

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICE-PRESIDENT

Poona, 13 October, 1811

Sir,

I waited on the Minister last night for the purpose of communicating your Excellency's request on the subject of Gurra Cota, and

of discussing several points which remained unsettled at my audience with the Paishwa.

The first topic introduced was that of certain letters received by the Paishwa and the Minister from Chintamun Row, but this subject was suspended till Chintamun Row's Vakeel (to whom I wished to put some questions) should attend.

I then made the communication regarding Gurra Cota in the language of my instructions, and supported the justice of your Excellency's decision by the arguments furnished to me in Mr. Edmonstone's dispatch.

I had expected that the former instances would have induced the Paishwa to recall his orders to Ballajee Koonjur, and that at all events they would be recalled when your Excellency's decision was made known. In this I found myself very much deceived for as soon as I had finished what I had to say the Minister recurred to all his former arguments intended to prove that Gurra Cota belonged to the Paishwa, and brought forward in course of the discussion which followed, all the pretensions to extended sovereignty which I had before contested and repelled.

My former dispatches will have made your Excellency acquainted with the nature of these extravagant pretensions, and of the arguments by which they were supported. It would be a waste of your Excellency's time to repeat them here. All the Minister's arguments went to prove that the great Maratta feudatories were the Paishwa's subjects, and that no misconduct of theirs and no treaties between them and the British Government, could free them from their allegiance.

The substance of my reply was that those chiefs had long ceased to be the Paishwa's subjects, that His Highness had virtually renounced their allegiance on many former occasions, as he had fully and expressly acknowledged when he accepted the treaties of peace with Sindia and the Raja of Berar; that to revive His Highness's claims would be injurious to his interests, and inconsistent with his faith, that the whole system of Maratta politics was founded on the existing state of affairs and that if His Highness should disturb it, he would not only overturn all his relations to the Maratta chiefs, but materially affect his connection with the British Government. I earnestly recommended to the Minister to be careful how he again advanced these unbecoming pretensions, which would probably displease the Paishwa, as much as I was sure they would surprize your Excellency.

The Minister was not satisfied with these answers but stated the arguments he had advanced, again and again introducing the

Paishwa's claims on Bundelcund, his grounds of complaint against the Southern Jagheerdars, and many other matters equally extraneous to that in dispute

The conversation had continued for a long time without any satisfactory result, when it was put an end to by the arrival of Chintamun Row's Vakeel. I renewed it for a moment as I was taking my leave, by requesting the Minister to communicate your Excellency's decision to the Paishwa and to send off counter-orders respecting Gurra Cota without delay. I also recommended to him strongly not to resume the strange pretensions which he had now brought forward, which were inconsistent with the terms and spirit of all our treaties, and which he might be assured would give great offence.

Translations of the letters from Chintaman Row are annexed to this dispatch. They speak of Chintamun Row's confederacy with the Raja of Colapore for the purpose of attacking Appa Dessye as an arrangement proposed by the Paishwa's Minister, and refer to certain letters from Chintamun Row's Vakeel to his Master in which that proposal is detailed. The Minister solemnly protested his ignorance of the proposal alluded to in the letters, and said that Chintamun Row's Vakeel denied having written anything to his Master that gave the smallest colour to his present insinuations. When the Vakeel came I questioned him closely on this subject but without deriving any further information from him. He denied ever having reported any conversation with the Minister regarding the Raja of Colapore or Appa Dessye, except one in which the Minister refused to listen to anything which Chintamun Row's Vakeel had to say on the part of the Raja, and desired that all communications from the Raja might be made through his own Vakeel.

I am not able to account for the conduct of Chintamun Row in this affair, which involves several inconsistencies and contradictions. I told the Minister that we might hereafter be able to discover the history of this alleged correspondence, and that in the mean time I would recommend that letters from the Durbar should be written to Chintamun Row disavowing the communication imputed to the Minister, and positively prohibiting Chintamun Row from taking any share in the Raja of Colapore's designs.

In course of this evening I took an opportunity of speaking of the claims of the British Government on account of Amrut Row as an unadjusted demand, which was likely to be hereafter renewed.

No 41—This is a lengthy but weighty document which sets forth clearly and exhaustively the whole history of the dispute between the Peshwa and the Southern Jagirdars with their origin, their duties respon-

sibilities and their conflicting claims. It is obvious that the trouble arose owing to the incompetence of the Peshwa and his Government. Col. Close had dealt with the situation as best he could and tried to compose the differences. The document contains a masterly analysis which the student of history will highly appreciate. One can now clearly realize why a few southern Maratha States managed to exist even when the Peshwa's Government had fallen. Elphinstone's singular grasp of the situation is particularly noticeable throughout.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—MR CHIEF SECRETARY EDMONSTONE.

Poona, 26 October 1811

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose a statement of the Paishwa's claims on the Southern Jagheerdars. These papers were received and translated some months ago, but I was obliged to delay their transmission by an intimation I received from the Paishwa's Ministers, that they had discovered some further demands, of which they would send me a statement. Not wishing to show any anxiety on the subject, I left it to the Minister to send this statement at his own convenience. In consequence I heard nothing of it till within these few days, when I took an opportunity of enquiring about it, and was informed that the Paishwa had no more claims to bring forward.

As the explanations afforded in the Paishwa's statement do not appear sufficiently full, I have endeavoured to collect such information as may assist the Government in discovering the grounds on which His Highness's claims stand, and the manner in which the present disputes regarding them have arisen. I shall first give an account of the persons on whom the Paishwa has demands.

These persons all hold lands of the Maratta Government, but as that Government began to grant lands at a very early period, and has granted them to different descriptions of persons on very dissimilar conditions, it is of some importance to class the holders, and to ascertain to which description those on whom the Paishwa has claims belong.

1st In the first class may be placed relations of the Raja of Satara who were sent to conquer countries and afterwards allowed to retain them. The more powerful of these chiefs consider the Raja of the Marattas as their feudal superior, but since the accession of the Paishwas at least they have acted rather as confederates than as vassals. Of this description are the Rajas of Berar and Colapore.

2nd Officers who hold lands from the Sahoo Raja Many of these hold their lands from a date which among the Marattas may be reckoned ancient Some of them contributed to establish the Maratta State, and received their lands at once as a reward for their services, and as the means of enabling them to maintain their troops Others received lands for the latter purpose alone Others received them as the wages of their personal service These are all considered as under the Paishwa's authority

3rd Chiefs whom the Paishwas detailed on foreign expeditions, allowing them for the maintenance of their armies a share of the countries which they might conquer Sindia, Holcar, and others belong to this class

4th Military Officers to whom lands were allotted by the Paishwa in Jaidaud or as it is here called Serinjaum These persons did not hold their lands by a feudal tenure, as has been supposed, but were entrusted with the administration of them on behalf of the Paishwa They were to apply the revenue to the payment of a particular body of troops The number and pay of the troops, and the personal allowance of the chief were fixed These allowances were issued under the inspection and control of Durrukdaurs, Officers holding their appointments immediately from the Paishwa, and accounts of the revenue of the Serinjaums were submitted to the Paishwa every year* This is a very numerous class, and includes persons holding lands from the value of Rs 20,00,000 to that of Rs 10,000 The Chiefs to whom the Paishwa's present claims relate, are all of this last description, except the Raja of Colapore. They are

Chintaman Rao	} Putwurdhans
Ramchunder Purseram (commonly called Appa Sahib)	
Trimbuk Row Ragonaut, and	
Narrayen Row Gungadhur	
Madhoo Row Rastiah	
Baupoojee Gokla	
Appa Dessye Neepaunkur, and The Dessye of Kittoor	

4th The Putwurdhuns are descended from Huree Bhut, a Brahmin Priest, whose son Govind Row appears to have been the first of his family who entered the military service of the Poona State It is immaterial to ascertain when he entered the service, but he first had lands allotted for the payment of troops by Madhoo Row

* From this it appears that persons of this class are not Jagheerdars—tho' that term has been so long applied to those to the southward that it would occasion obscurity to alter it

the 1st, in the Arabic year 1164, about 17 years ago. The Tynaut Zaubtah, or Instrument fixing the value of the lands to be assigned and the numbers and pay of the troops, was made out in the name of Govind Row alone, but personal allowances were fixed for his nephews Purseram Bhow and Neelkunt Row, and it was stated, that of 8000 horse which Govind Row was to furnish 2400 belonged to Purseram Bhow and 1000 to Neelkunt Row. The Serinjaumee lands appear afterwards to have been divided between those three persons, and their shares are now quite distinct. The Tynaut Zaubtah, however, continued in the name of Govind Row till his death when a new one was issued in the name of his son Waumun Row, and on his death another was made out in the name of his (Waumun Row's) grandson, Chintamun Row for all the lands allotted to the Putwurdhuns. The number of persons holding personal allowances is increased in this last paper, but the conditions of service remain the same. The affairs of the Putwurdhuns were not always managed by their nominal chief. While Purseram Bhow was alive, his abilities gave him a great ascendancy over all his relations. At present the family is entirely divided, but Chintamun Row is the nominal head. The present chiefs are Chintamun Row who resides at Sanglee, Appa Sahib who resides at Tausgaum, Trimbuck Row Neelkunt of Koorroondwar, and Narrayen Row Gungadhur of Meritch. This last chief does not derive his lands from the original division. His father Balla Sahib was the guardian of his nephew Chintamun Row, and usurped Meritch and other places during the minority of his ward. These shares were confirmed to him about three years ago by a Sunnud from the Paishwa. The Putwurdhuns appear to have served without any change in their condition, till the war of the allies against Tippoo in 1791/2. Purseram Bhow then received orders to raise a large body of troops in addition to his Serinjaumee horse, and on the conclusion of the war, the conquered countries including Savanore were assigned for the repayment of the expense he had incurred in maintaining those troops. On the death of the last Paishwa (in 1795) Purseram Bhow attempted to place Churnajee Appa the present Paishwa's younger brother, on the Musnud. The attempt failed and in the end Purseram Bhow was made prisoner and whole of his lands were sequestered. Dhondoo Punt Gokla was employed to occupy the country thus resumed, and Nana Furnavees, who then conducted the Paishwa's affairs, invited the Raja of Colapore to assist Gokla in dispossessing the Bhow's officers. All the lands held by Purseram Bhow, were by these means recovered and placed under Moro Punt Furkia, the brother of Hurree Punt, who held them for a year. The distractions in the Paishwa's Government increased during this period. Nana Furnavees was seized by

Sindia, and the Paishwa himself remained almost a prisoner in the hands of that chieftain. The Raja of Colapore who had been so imprudently engaged by Nana in the settlement of the southern countries, seized the opportunity afforded by the weakness of the Poona Government and occupied Savanore, whence he was with difficulty expelled by Gokla. The Paishwa now released Purseram Bhow and restored him to his possessions, and the Bhow soon after engaged in a war with the Raja of Colapore, in which he lost his life. This event took place in 1799. The relations of Purseram Bhow continued the war against the Raja of Colapore in which they were at first assisted by a brigade of Sindia's and by Gokla on the Paishwa's part. During these transactions the famous freebooter Dhoondia Waug began his depredations and in 1800 Lord Wellington entered the Paishwa's country in pursuit of him. About the time Lord Wellington reached the frontier Dhoondia surprized the Maratta troops who were proceeding to join the British Detachment, Gokla was killed, and Chintamun Row wounded, and from that time Lord Wellington appears to have received little assistance from any of the Maratta chiefs except Appa Sahib. In consequence His Lordship made over to him all the forts belonging to the Paishwa which were retaken from Dhoondia and his adherents. While Lord Wellington was still on the frontier Sindia compelled the Paishwa to make over all the lands of the Putwurdhuns to him, and he sent an army about the year 1800 to take possession. At this time they lost some of their Serinjaumee lands which they have not since recovered. They were saved from any serious loss by Sindia's march from the Deccan, but before long they were attacked by the Paishwa, who made many unsuccessful attempts to seize their persons and to occupy their lands. At last on Holcar's approach to Poona the Paishwa accommodated his differences with the whole Putwurdhun family. The war with the Raja of Colapore still continued and was carried on till 1804 when it was put a stop to by Lord Wellington. Since that period the Putwurdhuns have fallen into disputes among themselves owing to an attempt of Chintamun Row's to recover the territory taken from him in his infancy by his uncle, but which it seems had been allotted to the usurper on a settlement of the family lands, which was made by the Putwurdhuns after the death of Purseram Bhow. Chintamun Row has sometimes attended at Poona since the treaty of Bassein, and a small body of his troops is now serving in Savanore, but he as well as the other Putwurdhuns have generally rather given uneasiness by his restlessness than afforded any aid to the Paishwa.

5th The revenue of the country assigned to the Putwurdhuns appears by the list transmitted in Colonel Close's letter to your address on the 11th of July 1804, to amount to Rs 21,84,345-6-0

Some few of the lands mentioned in that list have fallen into the hands of Sindia and into those of the Raja of Colapore, and the remainder with the lands claimed by the Paishwa, constitutes as far as I can learn the whole of their possessions

6th The lands of the Putwurdhuns and the troops which they are bound to maintain, are divided among these four chiefs in the following proportions —

	Rs
Chintamun Row's revenue Horse 1800	7,13,623
Appa Sahib's revenue Horse 2000	7,54,319
Trimbuk Row's revenue Horse 750	2,35,238
Narrayen Row's Revenue Horse 1300	4,50,762

7th It is observable, that the allowed expenses of the Putwurdhuns were always above 25 lacs and the revenue assigned to them, appears never to have exceeded 24 lacs and latterly to have fallen under 22 lacs To obviate this inconvenience it is agreed in the first Tynaut Zaubteh that until the Serinjaumee is completed, the number of troops is to be proportioned to the revenue of the lands The number of troops in the original plan was 8000, it was afterwards reduced to 6597 and since the occupation of part of the Serinjaumee lands by Sindia it had been reduced to 5850

8th The ancestor of the Rastiahs was a banker The first of the family to whom lands were allotted was Bheekajee, who received in 1167 Fussilec,* 49 years ago an assignment of a country the revenue of which amounted to Rs 10 00,000—9 lacs were allotted to the support of 3 000 horse, and one lac to the payment of the arrears which were at the time due to Rastiah In 1169 the last mentioned revenue was ordered to be applied to the maintenance of an additional body of horse, and other lands were allotted for the payment of the arrears In 1800 the Paishwa seized Madhoo Row the present head of the Rastiah family, occupied the lands belonging to the family in Guzerat and Candiesh, and endeavoured to take possession of their country to the southward In this he had only a partial success and in 1802, when Holcar was approaching Poona, he released Madhoo Row and restored what he had seized of his possessions to the southward and in Candiesh Madhoo Row has since generally resided at Poona and attended the Paishwa with two or three hundred men He behaves with decent obedience but does no real service

9th His Serinjaum is valued at Rs 10 41,008 and he is bound to furnish 3302 horse

* 1167 Fash falls in 1757-1758 A D

First major grant to the Rastia family was made in 1757 and confirmed in 1763 See Pp 7-9—History of the Rastia & Gokhale family

10th About three lacs and a half of the Serinjaumee revenue is drawn from lands in Candiesh, the rest from lands to the southward

11th Baupoojee Gokla's uncle Dhondoo Punt was originally an officer under Purseram Bhow. He was afterwards employed immediately by the Paishwa, and had half the districts of Noulgoond and Gudduk allotted to him in Serinjaum for the maintenance of half his troops, the other half being paid from the treasury. He was killed by Dhondia Waug, and was succeeded by Baupoojee, the present chief. Baupoojee Gokla was the only one of the Paishwa's servants who accompanied the British army in 1803, and his present Serinjaum was conferred on him at the instance of the British Government, after the conclusion of that campaign. When Dhondoo Punt died, he was in possession of a large portion of Savanore, from which he was allowed to collect money to pay his troops. This was given up by Baupoojee in 1804, at the request of the British Government, and his present Serinjaum is much under the expense of the troops which he ought to maintain. He was employed to quell the rebellion of the Prittee Nidee and to occupy his country, this he did after a long struggle.

12th His Serinjaumee Revenue ought to amount to 11,21,500 rupees but he has only received Sunnuds for seven lacs

13th The troops which he is bound to maintain are 2,200 cavalry and 2,500 infantry with guns

14th Appa Dessye is the hereditary Dessye of Neepaunee. He was formerly attached to the Raja of Kolapoor and afterwards to Sindia. From the last mentioned chief he received some lands to which he had claims in the Paishwa's dominions, but he was not in the service of the State of Poona till 1803, when Lord Wellington prevailed on him to accompany the British army, and afterwards procured his present Serinjaum for him. The office of Surlushkar was at the same time conferred on him. He has since served on several occasions particularly in the reduction of the rebellion in Savanore, which he accomplished in a few weeks after the Putwurdhuns had protracted their operations for a long time, and he gave up all the country he recovered without any difficulty or delay. He was for a long time engaged in a war with the Raja of Colapore, who claims two of the districts composing Appa Dessye's Serinjaum. He defeated the Raja and took a portion of his country. Appa Dessye was also detached by the Paishwa into Sawunt Warree for the purpose of driving out the troops of the Raja of Colapore which had been sent to occupy that country.

15th His Serinjaumee lands are rated at 10,00,000 or thereabouts His force is 2000 horse and 500 foot His own country may be worth Rs 60,000 a year

16th The Dessye of Kittoor has long been tributary to the Marattas His country was conquered by Tippoo and afterwards ceded to the Marattas It is still doubtful whether the Paishwa has any right over the country of Kittoor besides that of levying his tribute The Dessye however received a grant of Serinjaum from the Paishwa in the name of his son This assignment was only made about a year ago and a great part of it has not yet taken effect

17th His own country yields him about four lacs of rupees but his Serinjaum amounts to only 1,49,900 He is to maintain 473 horse

18th The Raja of Colapore though nominally dependent on the Raja of Sattara may be regarded as a foreign power None of the Paishwa's claims imply any other relation I shall now proceed to the consideration of the Paishwa's claims

19th The Paishwa's claims are, 1st that the Jagheerdars shall perform the conditions on which they hold their Jagheers, and second, that they shall give up certain lands and revenues which they have usurped from His Highness I shall first examine the conditions on which the Jagheers are held, and the manner in which those conditions have been and are performed

20th These have been supposed to be vague and undefined, and to arise out of ancient and varying customs, originally introduced in the reigns of the first Maratta Rajas, but the first introduction of these families into the Paishwa's service will be found to be recent, and they appear on their entrance to have received *regular commissions, specifying the value of the lands to be assigned to each and the conditions on which they were to be held*

21st These instruments certainly refer to the customs of other Serinjaumee chiefs, but it happens luckily that the only chief who is specifically referred to is almost the only one who has preserved his allegiance to the Paishwa unaltered till the present day All doubtful customs can therefore be settled by a reference to his practice This is the Vinchoor Jagheerdar The grounds on which most of the Paishwa's present claims rest are however expressly stated in the Tynaut Zaubtahs, so that there will probably be little occasion for referring to ancient custom in course of the present investigation Some alterations may have taken place since these Tynaut Zaubtahs were issued, and they must of course be considered

22nd Translations containing the substance of the Tynaut Zaubtahs granted to Govind Rau the first of the Putwurdhuns who served the Poona State, to his successor Waumun Row, and Waumun Row's successor Chintamun Row the present chief, are annexed to this report, as are translations containing the substance of the Tynaut Zaubtahs issued to Anand Row Bheekajee, the first of the Rastiahs who held lands, to Gokla, and to the Dessye of Kittoor Appa Dessye's lands, were granted at the same time and on the same terms with Gokla's. As the first of the series of Tynaut Zaubtahs issued to the Putwurdhuns refers to the usage of the Vinchoor Jagheerdar, I have annexed a copy of the conditions laid down in his Tynaut Zaubtah. None of these papers have been procured officially but they were extracted from the Dufter, and may I think be depended on.

23rd The following appear to be the original terms of all the grants alluded to

1st A body of troops, the numbers, description and pay of which is fixed, to be maintained by the Jagheerdar. The personal allowance to the Jagheerdar is fixed. Allowances are also granted in some cases to his relations and to some of his ministerial officers.

2nd The Jagheerdar's troops may be mustered as often as the Paishwa pleases. The pay of any of the troops who are absent from muster must be refunded by the Jagheerdar, no men are to pass muster that are not of a certain description and mounted on horses of a certain value.

3rd All the expenses of the Serinjaumee troops without exception are to be paid from the assigned revenue.

4th The expenses of collecting the revenue and protecting the Jagheer in common times, are to be paid from the assigned revenue. A portion of the Serinjaum is always allotted to this purpose in the original assignment. There are exceptions to this last rule in particular cases which are specified in the Tynaut Zaubtah.

5th From these conditions arise the Paishwa's claims to the services of the Jagheerdars, and to a commutation in money for their services in years when they were not called on.

24th The Paishwa's other claims relating to the Serinjaumee lands and troops are founded on custom, if they have any foundation at all.

1st His Highness claims a right to appoint Durruckdars or officers employed in inspecting the management of the Serinjaumee lands and paying the troops. This claim does not appear to be disputed, but some of the Jagheerdars do not employ the Durruckdars.

in the offices to which they are appointed. The Paishwa insists on these being so employed.

2nd. The Paishwa claims certain fees which he states to have always been paid to his ministers by the Jagheerdars proportioned to the number of their troops. These were probably of the same nature with the fees levied by the ministers on the troops paid from the treasury.

3rd. His Highness also claims a fine on the appointment of a new incumbent to any of the ministerial offices of which the salaries are paid by Government.

4th. He also claims a sum of money in consequence of a rule introduced by himself in 1208 that a day's pay should be stopped monthly from the Sibundy or troops employed for preserving the internal tranquillity of the Serinjaumee lands and that a month's pay should be stopped yearly from the salaries of the ministerial officers both for His Highness's benefit.

5th. His Highness further claims the arrears of a contribution which he levied on the Jagheerdars in 1217* 'I do not know by what right this contribution was levied and I suspect it was levied by force and without right at all.

25th. I have heard of no other conditions introduced by custom on either side except that of continuing the heirs of the Jagheerdars in the employments held by their predecessors.

26th. The conditions above enumerated appear to have been always fulfilled till the accession of the present Paishwa.

27th. The Paishwa's reign began with the rebellion of Purseram Bhow, and it is from that time that almost all the present irregularities appear to have commenced. After Purseram Bhow was restored to his Jagheer, he was ordered to join General Harris in the attack on Tippoo Sultan. He had just been restored to his Jagheer after a long imprisonment and the Court of Poona refused to assist him with money. He was also employed on a national war with the Raja of Colapore, whose country was contiguous to the Bhow's Jagheer. It is not therefore surprising that the orders for his march were not obeyed. It seems indeed to be doubtful whether they ever were seriously issued. Rastiah received no order to join General Harris but was directed to act against the Raja of Colapore. Dhondoo Punt Gokla the other great Jagheerdar of that time was directed to march and was preparing himself for executing the order when Seringapatam fell.

28th. All the Jagheerdars obeyed the next orders they received, which were to co-operate with Lord Wellington against Dhondia

Rastiah alone did not make his appearance I believe he was at that time at Poona

29th The next occasion on which the presence of the Jagheerdars was required was the war with Holcar Previous to that period the Paishwa had greatly disgusted the Jagheerdars by his treacherous seizure of Rastiah and by his violent and vindictive conduct towards the Putwurdhans A reconciliation had indeed taken place between His Highness and the Jagheerdars, but it could scarcely have been expected that any of them would have trusted their persons in his power and still less that they would make any exertion to support his Government Several Jagheerdars did however attend and among them Chintamun Row Putwurdhun, but on the first appearance of serious danger that chief quitted the Paishwa as did most of the chief persons of the State

30th The next service for which the Jagheerdars were called out was the recovery of the Paishwa's capital in 1803, and on that occasion their conduct was perfectly consistent with their engagements and with the former order of things The presence of Lord Wellington's army in the southern countries and his personal influence with most of the Jagheerdars, induced the greater part of them to accompany him to Poona or repair thither by themselves Major General Close states in a dispatch dated May 21st 1803, (a few days after the Paishwa's entry into Poona) that no Sirdar of any consequence was absent except the Prittee-Niddee, the Jagheerdar of Akulcote and Mallojee Raja Goreporeh, whom the general expected soon to join The Prittee Niddee has since rebelled and has been deprived of his lands, and it is probable that the other two did not refuse to attend Mallojee Raja had just before distinguished himself in the war with Holcar, in which he accompanied the Paishwa's army, and was desperately wounded in one of its defeats, and the Raja of Akulcote who adhered to the Paishwa, during all his misfortunes, afterwards repaired to Poona and continues to this day to attend at all times with his contingent

31st The breaking out of the war with Sindia and the Raja of Berar appears to have had a great effect on some of the Jagheerdars When they were ordered to join Lord Wellington, Rastiah professed obedience but urged his poverty and remained at Poona, from which place he some time after set out for his Jagheer The Putwurdhuns assumed a more decided line They positively refused to proceed except on certain conditions, and even when the Paishwa showed a disposition to listen to those conditions, they marched off to their Jagheers in defiance of the Paishwa's orders and without regard to his entreaties, and they soon after opened a

correspondence with Sindia acting through the whole war as neutral powers

32nd From that time neither Rastiah nor the Putwurdhuns have served on any important occasion They have sometimes come to Poona where Rastiah indeed resides Rastiah once sent two hundred horse to serve with Colonel Wallace, and the Putwurdhuns once obeyed the Paishwa's orders in attacking the rebels in Savanore, but in that instance they acted entirely for their own interests and their general conduct justifies the Paishwa's complaint that instead of serving themselves they oblige His Highness to keep some of his own troops from all other service to watch their motions

33rd I cannot ascertain when the fees and fines began to be withheld nor does the question appear of much consequence I shall now mention the lands claimed by the Paishwa, which are specified in the annexed lists *

34th Some of these lands came legally into the occupation of the Jagheerdars but are unjustly retained others were usurped with little or no colour of right during the confusion in the southern countries and particularly after the present Paishwa's accession and rebellion of Purseram Bhow a period which appears from Mr Strachey's correspondence to be constantly referred to for all the great changes in the southern countries

35th There are in all parts of the country villages called Domehlee the whole revenue of which is granted to individuals either in rewards of services or for other reasons These villages are never assigned as Serinjaum When a district is allotted to maintain troops, the revenue of the Domehlee villages is always deducted from that of the district and the remainder gives the sum at which the district is rated in the Sunnud† From this it is evident, that the Jagheerdars have no claim on Domehlee villages more than on any part of the Paishwa's country which is not assigned to them yet as these villages are intermingled with the Serinjaumee lands, the Jagheerdars are often tempted to take possession of them on pretence that the possessors have no sunnuds for them and that they ought to revert to the Paishwa This practice seems to have begun early as many of the Tynaut Zaubtahs stipulate, that persons holding Domehlee lands

* Nos 8 9 and 10 contain claims against the Putwurdhuns No 11 those against Rastiah No 12 those against Gokla No 13 those against the Raja of Kattoor No 14 those against the Raja of Colapore and No 15 those against Appa Dessye

† See the list of lands enclosed in Col Close's dispatch to the Secy in the Political Department dated July 11th 1804

are not to be questioned about their sunnuds, but to be left to settle directly with the Paishwa. Many of these lands have now been usurped probably most of them during the time of confusion above alluded to.

36th Enaum and Zemeenee are grants of the same kind as Domehlee. Enaum is a grant of part only of the revenue of a village, and Zemeenee is a grant of a portion of land. The history of the usurpation of those grants and the state of the claims of the Paishwa and Jagheerdars are the same as in the case of Domehlee.

37th The land revenue of the Marattas is not collected under one simple head, as is usual in most parts of India, but is divided into several branches, arising from the particular manner in which they were acquired, for example, before the Marattas had begun to make extensive conquests, they extorted from the Mogul Government a share of the revenues of particular provinces. This share was called Sirdaismookhee after the Marattas had acquired the sole possession of the provinces from which it was defined. The Sirdaismookhee was still kept distinct from the other revenue. They have other divisions of this sort besides the customs, and some taxes which are naturally distinct from the land revenue. It is usual in granting Serinjaumee lands to reserve some of these branches of Revenue, but as they are to be collected from lands of which the Jagheerdar has possession, they naturally fall into his hands in times of confusion.

38th The Domehlee lands and some of the smaller Serinjaums are often resumed by the Government. When these are situated near the Serinjaum of a considerable chief, he is often employed to take possession of them, and of late Jagheerdars have retained many of the lands which they have thus been employed to occupy.

39th They also have frequently taken possession of resumed lands on their own name, on pretence that the former possessor owed them money and sometimes without even that pretext.

40th Defenceless villages intermixed with Serinjaumee lands seem to have been sometimes usurped in times of confusion without any pretext at all.

41st The Jagheerdars have sometimes conquered countries from each other during their own petty wars. This is in reality an usurpation from the Paishwa; and it affects His Highness directly by preventing the persons to whom those lands were granted from performing the conditions on which they received them.

42nd It was usual in all times when troops were required for the Government to authorize the Jagheerdars to raise men in addi-

tion to their Serinjaumee force This description of troops is called Etlaukee The expense incurred by the Jagheerdar in raising and maintaining them ought to have been paid from the treasury, but more frequently a portion of land was assigned to the Jagheerdar for the payment of the debt This was sometimes granted for a definite time, but more frequently till the debt should be extinguished Some of the Jagheerdars are stated by the Paishwa to have retained lands granted for this purpose long after the debt was paid

N B To entitle the Jagheerdar to payment for Etlaukee troops it is necessary that he should have an order from the Paishwa for raising them

43rd Lands have sometimes been allotted for other purposes which the Jagheerdars refuse to give up, when the occasion on which they were granted is past Of this kind is the village of Wattaur given to maintain Purseram Bhow's Noubut Khannah and still retained by Appa Sahib

44th Jagheerdars have sometimes been employed to conquer foreign countries and provinces occupied by rebels Of late the Jagheerdars have generally retained the countries so acquired Of this description are the lands of the Prittee Niddee taken by Gokla, those taken from the rebels in Savanore by Appa Sahib and those conquered from the Raja of Colapore by Appa Dessye The two former affairs have been partly adjusted, the latter remained to be settled

45th Most of the lands now claimed have been usurped in one or other of the above ways When they have been taken in any other manner, it will generally be stated in the annexed lists

46th From these sources arise the Paishwa's claims to lands and revenues usurped or withheld from His Highness on any of his Serinjaumee chiefs or holders of grants from his Government

47th On those claims depends His Highness's claim to the amount of revenue appropriated by the Jagheerdars in consequence of their usurpations

48th It may not be improper in this place to mention that the Jagheerdars have also claims on the Paishwa, those of Chintamun Row and Appa Sahib were delivered to Mr Strachey in 1804 They are annexed to this report with the remarks and explanations which Mr Strachey added

49th Chintamun Row's claims are very trifling Appa Sahib's relate to places in his Serinjaum of which he has been deprived offices held by his father to which he has not been appointed, promises made to his father and not fulfilled, Jagheers belonging to

his relations and dependents resumed or claimed by the Paishwa, debts owed by the Paishwa to his father, and lands of his, usurped by the Raja of Colapore and the Dessye of Kittoor

50th Some of these claims seem reasonable. Some demands have been satisfied and some are entirely inadmissible. What has been said will give some idea of the history and present state of disputes between the Jagheerdars and the Government, before I offer any suggestions regarding the mode of adjusting them, it is necessary that I should state what has already been done for that purpose, and what have been the effects of the various lines of policy adopted at different times by the British Government

51st Many attempts were made to bring about a temporary adjustment during the interval between the Paishwa's arrival at Poona and the War in 1803. They all failed partly from the Paishwa's unaccommodating spirit and still more from the unreasonableness of the Putwurdhuns

52nd Immediately after the war, Lord Wellington turned his serious attention to the means of effecting a permanent adjustment of these disputes. The principal obstacle which His Lordship met with in this settlement, arose from the obstinacy and unreasonableness of the Paishwa, who would be satisfied with nothing but the destruction of the Jagheerdars. His Highness asserted with apparent truth that the Jagheerdars had forfeited all claims to their lands by their neglect of the conditions on which those lands were granted to them, and to this position he adhered in spite of all that Lord Wellington could urge respecting the former services of the Jagheerdars, and the extreme impolicy of pressing such a measure at a time when His Highness's Government was scarcely established in his capital

53rd After a variety of discussions on this subject, Lord Wellington addressed two dispatches to the Governor General, in which he submitted his sentiments on the whole question to His Excellency's decision

54th In the first of these dispatches dated March 7th 1804, after animadverting in very severe terms on the Paishwa's conduct particularly his implacable hostility to the great chiefs of his Empire and his encouragement of a foreign Prince (the Raja of Colapore) in laying waste such of His Highness's own territories as were possessed by the Putwurdhans. His Lordship gives his opinion in the following words "There is no doubt whatever that the Paishwa's Government cannot exist on its present footing, unless the British Government interfere in some manner respecting the Southern Jagheerdars. There will be a contest in the southern part of the Empire, which will in its consequences affect Mysore and

the Company's territories, they will be obliged to interfere in the end, probably with less effect than they can at present, and in the meantime the benefit of the services of the Southern Jagheerdars and their troops is entirely lost'

55th Lord Wellington then states his opinion that the first thing to be done is to check the Raja of Colapore (To accomplish this, His Lordship shortly after took measures which were attended with complete effect)

56th Lord Wellington then goes on with the following observations "In respect to the Southern Jagheerdars, the following lines of conduct may be pursued

1st To concur with the Paishwa in destroying them

2nd To leave them and the Paishwa to their fate, and allow both parties to settle their disputes in the best manner they can, without interfering at all

3rd To interfere in a certain degree to ascertain the extent of the service to which the Paishwa is entitled from the Southern Jagheerdars, to oblige them to afford it, and on the other hand, to protect them from the oppression of the Paishwa's Government, and to guarantee to them their possessions so long as they shall continue to serve the Paishwa with fidelity

4th To make them at once independent States with the protection, arbitration and guarantee of the British Government"

57th In his second dispatch which is dated March 21st 1804, Lord Wellington acquaints the Governor General that he had conferred with Major General Close on the subject of his last dispatch, and proceeds to announce his decision in favour of the 3rd mode of Settlement, adverted to in his former letter He states the objections which had been so often urged against the first plan, observes that if the second were adopted, the British Government would be obliged to interfere at last, and that in the mean time many calamities would be produced, and the danger and difficulty of the final settlement would be greatly increased The 4th plan he thinks would be the best for the Company, but adds that it must be founded on the fact that the Paishwa has broken his treaty with the Company and other facts on which he is not able to decide After urging different arguments for the necessity of adopting the 3rd plan, His Lordship concludes by recommending that (if affairs should settle to the northward) it should be completed during the approaching rainy season

58th The Governor General, in reply to this dispatch, approves of Lord Wellington's sentiments and directs him to proceed to the execution of the 3rd plan, stated in his letter of March 7th

His Lordship authorizes Lord Wellington to depute an officer to the southward to conduct the necessary enquiries and negotiations observes that the rains will be the most eligible season for the arrangement, and that if any external cause should require the march of the British troops to the southward, such a movement may facilitate the proposed settlement with the Jagheerdars His Lordship, however, prohibits the employment of the troops on any service not required by treaty, and in a subsequent part of his dispatch expresses in unqualified terms his utter disapprobation of the schemes of vengeance and rapine which the Paishwa had meditated against the Jagheerdars

59th In consequence of these orders, Lord Wellington dispatched Mr Strachey on a mission to the Southern Jagheerdars, and instructed him to enter into terms with them

60th The following is the substance of the articles which Lord Wellington ordered to be concluded

1st The Paishwa and Jagheerdars to forget past injuries The British Government to guarantee to each Jagheerdar his personal safety and that of his adherents, as long as he served the Paishwa with fidelity

2nd The British Government to guarantee to each Jagheerdar his lands held by regular sunnuds as long as he serves the Paishwa with zeal and fidelity The British Government to decide what lands are regularly granted, and the Jagheerdars to hold the lands in their possession pending the discussion

3rd The condition of the above guarantee is the service of the Jagheerdars, each Jagheerdar to be excused one third of his original quota on the grounds of the famine and the wars (which had long raged at the time when these instructions were issued) This reduced quota to be always ready when called on by the Paishwa and a third of it always to attend at Poona under the command of a member of the Jagheerdar's family The British Government to settle the usual number of troops to be supplied by each Jagheerdar, in the mean time the whole quota to be furnished If the Jagheerdars infringe this article, the 1st and 2nd to be void

4th All lands held without sunnuds, and all lands which any Jagheerdar may hold as Comavisdar (or Collector) to be given up The British Government will interest itself to prevail on the Paishwa to allow each Jagheerdar to retain such of the places above alluded to, as may be essential to the safety of his Jagheer, provided the Jagheerdar can give security for the regular payment of the revenue

61st Mr Strachey was instructed to allow the Jagheerdars to settle their affairs at Poona if they preferred doing so, to entering into engagements with him. Accordingly, Rastiah and Appa Sahib agreed to come to Poona, and expressed the greatest readiness to settle with the Paishwa, Chintamun Row on the contrary received Mr Strachey's proposals very coldly and declined having any negotiation with him. Mr Strachey was then instructed to retire to Mysore.

62nd The war with Holcar soon after assumed a serious aspect, and all thoughts of settling with the Southern Jagheerdars were for the time laid aside. Lord Wellington declares in a dispatch dated the 21st of January 1805, that we ought to wait till the irritation produced on the minds of the Paishwa and Jagheerdars, by mutual injuries should subside, and till the allies are at peace externally, before we endeavoured to establish the Paishwa's rights over the Serinjaumee lands.

63rd When the subject was resumed by the Government after the general peace, it was declared to the Resident that all interference between the Paishwa and the Jagheerdars was to be abstained from.

64th It is obvious that this is the policy proposed in the 2nd of Lord Wellington's plans, which was rejected by His Lordship on the grounds above stated. Its adoption has by no means been productive of the inconveniences which His Lordship apprehended, at least to the extent which might naturally have been looked for.

65th The causes of this favourable result will probably be found in the following facts.

1st The Jagheerdars were not aware of the resolution of the British Government not to interfere in their affairs. The Paishwa in all probability held out to them that any outrage on their part would draw down on them the vengeance of the British Government.

2nd It was impossible for the Resident entirely to abstain from interfering with the Jagheerdars, accordingly Major General Close used on all occasions when the conduct of those chiefs appeared to threaten the public tranquillity, to expostulate with them either through their Vakeels or by letter. General Close always made these communications in the most cautious and guarded terms, but it can scarce be supposed that they did not tend strongly to confirm the opinion held by the Jagheerdars, that the British Government would support the Paishwa with its forces if His Highness's affairs required it.

The other Putwurdhuns have been little heard of. They are probably the least turbulent of the family. During the wars with Sindia and Holcar the Putwurdhans have always corresponded with the enemy. They received an agent of Holcar's with particular respect and allowed an officer of that Chieftain's to recruit a considerable force which assembled at Meritch. In short though the Jagheerdars never joined in any confederacy against the allies their conduct often occasioned much uneasiness and a considerable British force was always required to watch them. Besides these more violent proceedings the Putwurdhuns not only kept their usurpations but in several instances made new ones on a very large scale. The whole of the old Jagheerdars also withheld their contingents from all services not connected with their own interest. All the Jagheerdars were called on last year to march to the frontier for its protection against the Pindarries but not one stirred. Even Gokla and Appa Desaye who have received their Jagheers since the treaty of Bassein and who were at first perfectly faithful have been infected by the example of their neighbours. They have in consequence joined in the civil wars of the Jagheerdars and made considerable usurpations from the Paishwa. Nor could they any longer be depended on for service unless in very favourable circumstances. They also refused to march against the Pindarries last year. The effects of this unsettled state of the Southern countries have spread to the Paishwa's province of Savanore which besides less important disorders has once been in open rebellion. The bodies of freebooters which the present state of the Southern countries has created have also on two occasions at least made incursions into the territories of the Nizam and the Raja of Mysore.

67th This state of affairs is however considerably altered for the better since the interference of the British Government in the disputes between the Paishwa and Appa Sahib. Many places were recovered from Appa Sahib by the immediate operation of that interference and his disposition to encroach has probably been checked. Rastih has since given up the strong fort of Baddaomy, and the Pergunnahs of Baugulcote and Jaulghaul. Gokla has given up the forts of the Prittee Niddees country, and has left the settlement of the lands to the Paishwa. Chintamun Row has sent 500 men to serve under the Sirsoobahdar of Savanore. They were first employed against Hoongaondy a village which rebelled in Savanore after the capture of that place. The same troops served against Hoobly, and are still with the Sirsoobahdar. Appa Dessaye at present shows an inclination to come to some adjustment about the conquests gained from Colapore.

68th In considering the measures which may now be adopted with respect to the Jagheerdars, the following questions present themselves

1st Whether the Paishwa's claims are just

2nd Whether the British Government is bound to assist the Paishwa in enforcing his claims supposing them to be just

3rd Supposing the British Government is at liberty to grant or refuse its assistance as it may think proper whether it is expedient to assist the Paishwa, and

4th To what extent it is expedient to assist him

69th The first question cannot be answered with any precision till the answers of the Jagheerdars to the Paishwa's demands, have been heard It seems, however, to be admitted on all hands that some of the Paishwa's claims are just, particularly His Highness's claim to the military service of the Jagheerdars The second question depends on the application of the terms of the treaty of Bassein to the present case, and the decision of it must rest with the Government As the remaining questions depend in some measure on local information, I shall take the liberty of offering some remarks on them

70th In case we do not interfere to settle the disputes at once one or other of three courses of events must take place, either the Paishwa will reduce the Jagheerdars, or the Jagheerdars will entirely throw off their allegiance or things will remain as they have been for these last nine years

71st If the Paishwa would raise an army, such as he could maintain without an effort, he would be able in the event of peace continuing, to reduce the Jagheerdars to obedience without difficulty Even with his present force he has greatly reduced some Jagheerdars and entirely extirpated others The Prittee Niddee, the Jagheerdars of Baramutty and Belgaum and Gunput Row Paunseh, have been entirely deprived of their lands, and those held by Madhoo Row Rasitiah have been considerably diminished By continuing his present system, the Paishwa may possibly reduce all the Jagheerdars without any decided interference on our part, in which case he would deprive them of their lands and all the bad consequences of the first of the plans, contemplated by Lord Wellington, would infallibly ensue

72nd It is also possible that the Jagheerdars may be allowed to retain their lands till the Paishwa's claims are considered as extinct and till every mark of obedience which they now show is entirely laid aside, both of which may take place at no very distant

period, or the Jagheerdars may win their entire independence after a struggle with the Paishwa. Supposing either of these events to take place without the intervention of the British Government in favour of the Jagheerdars, there would be strong reason for apprehending that they would disturb the neighbouring countries or form combinations with the enemies of the allies. There can certainly be no reason for expecting that they would behave better in those respects than they have done hitherto, and the power of the allies to restrain their turbulence would be much less than it ever has been.

73rd The success either of the Paishwa or the Jagheerdars might be expected to be preceded by a struggle in which the neighbouring possessions of the Company, the Nizam, the Raja of Mysore, and the Paishwa would run a great chance of suffering materially.

74th How the Jagheerdars would conduct themselves if they remained in their present condition, and our interference were entirely withdrawn, it is difficult to conjecture as the experiment has never fairly been tried, but the manner in which they have actually conducted themselves is known, and I think it appears that they have behaved with greater or less moderation, according as we seemed to be more or less able and disposed to interfere in their concerns, and consequently that the Jagheerdars on their present footing require frequent interference on our part to prevent great disorders, and always require it most when it is least in our power to afford it.

75th From these premises it appears to follow, that it is desirable for the British Government to interfere for the purpose of making such an arrangement as it may approve, and that it is advisable for the British Government to choose its own time for interfering, and to settle the Jagheerdars on such a footing, as may prevent their distracting its attention at any future period.

76th It appears probable that this might be effected without any opposition from the Jagheerdars.

77th It is true that a former negotiation undertaken for this purpose was unsuccessful, but there were circumstances at the time unfavourable to its success. Mr Strachey states the following causes of failure. That the Jagheerdars did not think the terms proposed to them advantageous (as they certainly are not), that owing to the weakness of the Paishwa and the moderation of the British, they thought they had nothing to dread from either of those Powers, that the Paishwa's Government counteracted Mr Strachey and excited in the minds of the Jagheerdars a strong distrust of His Highness's good faith. Besides these causes the distractions of

the Paishwa's country, the unsettled state of his Government, the full employment of the British troops, and the recent enmities between His Highness and the Jagheerdars, must be taken into the account, yet even at that time the Jagheerdars professed the greatest readiness to serve, and it was Mr Strachey's opinion and I believe Lord Wellington's, that if the Paishwa would have forborne to molest people who were willing to serve him, if he would have agreed to pardon old offences and forego old pecuniary demands, he would at that time have effected a settlement of his southern dominions

78th If the Paishwa would now adopt those principles there can be little doubt that they would succeed, as most of the obstacles which prevented a settlement in 1804 are now removed

79th The Jagheerdars will certainly be more reluctant to part with their usurpations than formerly, because they have been longer in undisturbed possession, but I do not think this will weigh against the disadvantage which results to the Jagheerdars from the power which the allies possess of bringing their whole force against them. At all events it is an obstacle which will increase by being left alone, and if the Paishwa's claims are to be enforced at all, it will be best done before the Jagheerdars conceive that they have acquired a prescriptive right to refuse compliance with them

80th I do not, however, suppose that proposals founded on the principles above stated would be resisted by any of the Jagheerdars, still less do I think there would be a general combination to oppose them

81st Such moderate demands would present nothing to drive the Jagheerdars to desperation or even irritate them to any great pitch, and none but desperate men or men under the influence of violent passion would engage in so unequal a contest. Many of the Jagheerdars are very rich and they have all large landed possessions, which they hold legally and which they would be unwilling to risk for the chance of keeping their usurpations

82nd If any resisted, it could only be the most violent and turbulent among them and the Jagheerdars have shown no such spirit of combination as would lead us to expect that they would all provoke the British Power, merely because one of their body had done so. Chintamun Row certainly took part with the Prittee-Niddee and entirely for the purpose of preserving the power of the Jagheerdars, but this was at a time when the allies were so fully employed, that they had not the means of chastizing insubordination among the Paishwa's subjects. When the Paishwa was again obliged to

attack the Prittee-Niddee after the peace with Holcar, Chintamun Row was easily persuaded by the Resident to leave the Prittee-Niddee to his fate, and for the five years which were occupied in dispossessing that chieftain none of the Jagheerdars attempted to interfere in his favour. In course of the same period some other Jagheerdars have been dispossessed without creating any sensation among the rest. In the disputes with Appa Sahib there was no disposition to confederate among the Jagheerdars, although the points in dispute were such as equally affected the whole body.

83rd From these facts I am inclined to believe that the Jagheerdars are unlikely to confederate against the Paishwa except in times when the allies are so much occupied by other wars as to be unable to act with vigour against such a combination. Supposing, however, that a confederacy could be formed a view of the particular circumstances of each of the Jagheerdars will show that it is not likely to be extensive.

84th Gokla and Appa Dessaye are on bad terms with the other Jagheerdars, and are at present in obedience to the Paishwa and attached to the British Government. As they both maintain the whole of their Serinjaumee troops and have served when required on all occasions but one, they would not be affected by the demand for their service. They would be required to give up their usurpations which are recently acquired, and bear no proportion to the lands regularly assigned to them. Besides which Gokla would lose by rebellion the certain prospect of obtaining grants of additional lands, more than equal to those which he holds without authority, and Appa Dessaye would be left if he rebelled, to fight his own battles with the Rajas of Colapore and Sawuntwarree, if not with the Putwurdhuns and Gokla. It is therefore very improbable that these chiefs would join in a confederacy against the British.

85th The Dessaye of Kittoor would only lose an annual income of 45,000 rupees by this arrangement while he would gain all that part of his Serinjaumee lands which are now held by the Putwurdhuns, he would not be called on for troops unless this Serinjaum were assigned to him, and if it were he would be glad to furnish them, for though aware of that condition he is anxious to receive a Serinjaum. There are several Jagheerdars besides those mentioned in this dispatch, but they are all on good terms with the Government, and none of them are of any consequence except Bappoo Sindia, who derives some importance from his possessing the fort of Darwar. He is the Paishwa's Governor but not under His Highness's authority. He is however, unlikely to join in any

confederacy against his Master particularly in a dispute in which he has no concern

86th The principal losers would be the Putwurdhuns and among them Appa Sahib. He has still usurpations to restore to the amount of 3,00,000 rupees annual revenue or thereabouts. Chintamun Row is only called on for about Rs 45,000 and Trimbuc Row for Rs 10,000 and they would acquire Serinjaumee lands to a considerable amount which have been seized by the Raja of Colapore and the Dessaye of Kittoor. There is no claim for lands on Narayen Row of Meritch, but the whole family would be required to furnish their contingents and would certainly lose a good deal of their present independence. Whether they would consider the enforcing of just and moderate demands as a sufficient cause for open rebellion it is not easy to say, but considering the force that would be opposed to them and the little hope they have of acquiring allies, it seems rather improbable. The utmost force they could assemble would not be sufficient to prevent the occupation of the principal places belonging to them, which I cannot suppose they would be willing to stake on the chance of remaining in their present state of insubordination.

87th The only Jagheerdar at all likely to join them in a struggle against the allies is Rastiah, and as he has given up the most valuable of his usurpations and actually attends himself at Poona, I do not think that the Paishwa's demands would make so much difference in his condition as to tempt him to resist them by force. He would besides immediately lose his lands in Candiesh which form a third of his Serinjaum.

88th The Raja of Colapore might, perhaps, join the Putwurdhuns, not so much for the purpose of resisting His Highness's present demands, as for that of recovering Chickoree and Manowlee and other places which he claims, and which are held for the Paishwa by Appa Dessaye. His interests, however, are essentially different from those of the Jagheerdars and it is probable that no hearty union would take place between them and the Raja.

89th If the Putwurdhuns did rebel and were supported by Rastiah and the Raja of Colapore, they would still be unable to make any formidable opposition.

90th I have no information about the Raja of Colapore's country, but he cannot be very strong as he has been conquered by Appa Dessaye.

91st The Putwurdhuns have at present about 900 (sic) horse and 1700 peons, Rastiah must have less.

92nd The present state of the southern countries keeps up a number of adventurers, who might be entertained by the Jagheerdars. It is said that there are 10,000, or 15,000 horse of this description. They are, however, unconnected with any particular chief and would serve the Paishwa as readily as his enemies. They are described to be very bad troops.

93rd The peasantry of the countries beyond the Kishna are warlike and have been known to defend their villages against very superior force. Many of these villages were however, easily taken in the campaign against Dhondia, and they would probably offer no opposition after the principal places were reduced.

94th The Jagheerdars alluded to have several forts, but none capable of offering much resistance to regular troops, except Meritch on the fall of which the fate of the rest might be expected to depend. Koosigul is a strong fort but small and ill provided with ordnance. Jumkundee has the same disadvantages with Koosigul and is not so strong a place. None of the others are of any note.

95th The capture of one or two forts would probably break up the confederacy. If it did not, the rest of the country would be occupied and in the meantime the troops of the Raja of Mysore, the Nizam and the Paishwa, would be employed in protecting the respective countries against any inroads that might be made into them. If the country was reduced, the Jagheerdars would not be more formidable than any other plunderers, and not so much so as the Pindarries who have nevertheless been attacked with impunity.

96th It is to be observed that the Paishwa's situation with respect to the Southern Jagheerdars is much improved since his means of acting against them were last discussed in 1804, he having obtained possession of the province of Savanoor and the strong forts of Badaumy and Belgaum, which are equalled by none in the southern countries except Meritch and Darwar.

97th But the difficulty of reducing the Jagheerdars becomes a question of inferior importance, if it appears to the Government that they have always shown a disposition to turbulence when the armies of the allies were engaged in any extensive war. In that case even, supposing that they would all unite to oppose us and that Gokla, Appa Dessaye and the Dessaye of Kittoor were so much disaffected as to join them against the Paishwa to their own obvious detriment and supposing that in consequence their reduction should become a matter of much difficulty, it would still remain to be considered whether this combination is not as likely to take

place at some more inconvenient time, and whether it is not expedient to provide against such an event by enforcing the Paishwa's just claims when all advantages happen to be on the side of the allies

98th If the Government should think it expedient to interfere at all, it will be proper to enquire how far its interference ought to be carried

99th The first question will then be, whether it ought to assist the Paishwa in the design which he evidently still harbours of dispossessing the Jagheerdars. There can be very little hesitation in deciding this in the negative. Besides many other arguments brought forward by Lord Wellington against this course of policy there is one which seems quite decisive. It is that the great defect of the Paishwas' Government is the little influence which his officers possess over the people under them, and the little interest which they have in the prosperity of the country subject to their authority. Both these advantages are possessed by the Jagheerdars, and that in a part of the country where they are more required than in any other. The destruction of so many great chiefs could not fail to throw the country which they had possessed into great confusion, from which such officers as the Paishwa's would be very unlikely to extricate it. A resolution to dispossess the Jagheerdars would also be sure to occasion a war with those chiefs, which on any other plan is very unlikely to occur. Accordingly this plan has been decided to be impolitic by the highest authorities on former occasions as it probably will be on this

100th It would therefore be necessary to make it a condition of our interference, that the Paishwa should give up this design, and allow the British Government to guarantee their regular Serimjaumee lands to the Jagheerdars as long as they should serve His Highness with fidelity. The Paishwa ought also to engage to satisfy such claims of the Jagheerdars as the British Government should judge to be equitable.

101st There would then remain the following claims on His Highness's part to be adjusted —

1st That the Jagheerdars should restore the lands and revenues which they hold without authority

2nd That they should refund the revenue which they have gained by these usurpations

3rd That they should obey the Paishwa and serve with their troops when commanded,

4th That they should refund the money allowed to pay their Serinjaumee force during the years when they did not serve.

5th That they should pay certain fees to His Highness the Paishwa with arrears

6th That they should pay certain fees to His Highness's Ministers, with arrears

7th That they should pay the arrears of the contribution levied in 1197 (1797 AD)

8th That they should employ the Durrukdars appointed by His Highness

102nd It appears to me entirely inexpedient to enforce the 2nd, 4th 5th, 6th or 7th articles

103rd The 4th and 7th articles appear to me, all things considered, to be not only impolitic but extremely unreasonable

104th The others may be just, but in the event of the interposition of the British Government the Paishwa might probably be persuaded to drop them His Highness ought at least to be urged to give up his claim to the arrears due on the 2nd, 5th and 6th articles The demand of such sums of money would probably very much disgust the Jagheerdars, and might occasion the failure of the whole arrangement, on the other hand if the money were obtained, it would probably be squandered on Brahmans or hoarded in hill forts without affording any real advantage either to the Paishwa's affairs or to the general interests of the alliance

105th The policy of asserting the Paishwa's claim to the usurped lands as stated in the 1st article, has been maintained by Major General Close and Lord Wellington, and approved by Marquis Wellesley, and it certainly seems unreasonable that the Jagheerdars should be allowed to retain lands belonging to the State, which they could restore without being exposed to any greater inconvenience than the Paishwa suffers by being deprived of them. On the other hand, by being restored those countries would be exposed to suffer from the defects which I have formerly mentioned in His Highness's Government, and it must be owned that little advantage would accrue from His Highness's possessing them These objections would be removed, if the lands in question were put under Serinjaumee chiefs on the usual conditions, and such of them as were not from their situation of importance to the Paishwa, might be allowed to remain in the hands of their present possessors on condition of their maintaining an additional body of troops This plan would be best for the country and would be most easily effected, but it would be disagreeable to the Paishwa, and perhaps

otherwise objectionable. If it be not adopted, the acquisition of these lands may still be made advantageous if it can be rendered instrumental to the increase of the Paishwa's army and to the employment of the soldiery of the country either by His Highness's applying the revenue to the payment of troops, or by his allotting lands of equal value in some other part of his dominions to the maintenance of Serinjaumee horse.

106th The third article is that which it appears most important to the British to enforce.

107th The Paishwa has at present no regular army which can be relied on as disposable. The defence of the country is entrusted almost entirely to the Subsidiary Force. It may be considered as an instance of extraordinary good fortune that the force has hitherto been so seldom called on. I think no reasonable expectation of the continuance of this state of things can be entertained.

108th The Paishwa's own force consists of about 6500 horse and 3000 foot, *4000 of the horse have been raised since the last incursion of the Pindarries, and will probably be discharged if this season passes without another incursion. The Paishwa can always rely on the services of the Vinchoor Jagheerdar. His Highness might also be able to command the services of some of the Southern Jagheerdars in any operation carried on in their own neighbourhood and affecting their own interests. Gokla and Appa Dessaye appear at present to be willing to serve even at a distance, but neither moved last year against the Pindarries when required. At present Appa Dessaye is prevented from serving by the troubles among the Southern Jagheerdars, and Gokla would be obliged to leave more than half of his contingent to protect his Serinjaum. 2500 of the Paishwa's own troops are required to protect his possessions to the southward and 2000 remain about his person. 3000 new troops, with the troops of the Vinchoor Jagheerdar, forming together a body of 4000 horse, with the addition of 1500 or 2000 of Gokla's horse, and 2000 of the Paishwa's infantry, are the utmost that could be assembled on the frontier at this period.

109th An arrangement with the Southern Jagheerdars would at once render disposable that part of the Paishwa's troops that must be employed to watch the Jagheerdars, and add a force of near 10,000 men to His Highness's army.

110th The remaining claim, No 8, may be decided on an enquiry into the practice of the Jagheerdars and especially that of the Vinchore Chief.

*This is the nominal strength of the Paishwa's army, but I do not believe it to be materially incorrect.

111th Should the British Government determine to interpose on the principles just laid down, it would be necessary that it should take the whole conduct of the negotiation into its own hands. The Paishwa would certainly not be zealous in his endeavours to bring about an amicable adjustment, and the well grounded distrust which the Jagheerdars entertain of His Highness, together with the notorious treachery and corruption of his Minister, would throw many obstacles in the way of his effecting such an accommodation even if he sincerely desired it. On these considerations the best method of proceeding may, perhaps, appear to be, to state to the Paishwa the terms which it is proposed to offer to the Jagheerdars and obtain full powers from His Highness to make such a settlement as may appear advisable to the British Government.

112th The following terms might then be proposed to the Jagheerdars

1st. Mutual oblivion of past injuries to take place

2nd All pecuniary claims on either side to be given up

3rd The Serinjaumee lands of the Jagheerdars to be guaranteed to them by the British Government, as long as they serve the Paishwa with fidelity

4th All other lands held by the Jagheerdars to be given up

5th. The Jagheerdars to serve the Paishwa conformably to their Tynaut Zaubtahs and to old custom, to attend with their contingents whenever summoned a third of the force of each under a member of the family to attend the Paishwa at all times

6th The British Government to guarantee the personal security of the Jagheerdars and of their relations serving as above as long as they serve the Paishwa faithfully

7th All disputes arising in course of this arrangement to be arbitrated by the British Government

113th On the appearance of any hesitation on the part of the Jagheerdars in accepting these proposals the troops of the allies ought immediately to march against them. I cannot but think that such a movement would induce them immediately to submit, but if they continued to resist, they must be attacked and the operations against them pursued till they are forced to come into terms in which case the possession of some strong places in their country might be insisted on in addition to the terms above mentioned. It would obviously be expedient to employ on this service all the troops that could conveniently be assembled. The ease, security and effect of the operations would be proportioned to the strength

of the army, but I do not suppose that a greater force would be necessarily required than that which Mr Russell proposed to have put in motion for the purpose of enforcing the Paishwa's demands on Appa Sahib. It would be necessary in the event of war, to march as many of the Mysore horse and even of the British cavalry as could be spared from that quarter for the protection of the Raja of Mysore's and the Company's territories, and some arrangement might also be necessary to secure those of the Nizam but it does not seem likely that those troops would be required to act, or that the Jagheerdars would attempt to resist the British Government at all.

114th Some difficulty might be experienced in prevailing on the Paishwa to agree to the terms above stated, particularly to that which gives up his pecuniary claims and to that which places the Jagheerdars under our guarantee. It is impossible for me to ascertain His Highness's sentiments on these heads without incurring some of the inconveniences alluded to in my instructions. I think, however, that His Highness might be prevailed on to agree to them in consequence of the advantages he would derive from the arrangement. If His Highness should discover so unreasonable a spirit as to occasion the entire failure of the plan, we should at least gain the advantage of having strong reasons for declining to assist His Highness against the Jagheerdars, and should be able to put a stop to his complaints of our imputed neglect of his interests in this particular.

115th It is possible that in the event of a war with the Jagheerdars, they might proceed to such extremities as would oblige us to dispossess them. In that extreme case their Jagheers might be conferred on other members of the same family. One of the sons of Purseram Bhow is now at Poona using all means to engage the Paishwa to support him against his brothers.

116th It may be apprehended that even if the proposed arrangement were effected, the enmity between the Paishwa and his Sirdars might continue, and might be increased by their more frequent intercourse, but this would be prevented by constant attention on the part of the British Government to discountenancing any encroachment on either side, and to preventing as much as possible any cause of irritation to either party. The employment of the contingents of the Jagheerdars at a distance from their own lands for a year or two would also prevent their attempting anything against the Government, and would accustom them to obedience so that I think in a few years they would become as useful servants to the State as they ever have been.

117th If I have gone further into the question regarding the Pa shwa's claims than my instructions appear to require I have to request the indulgence of His Excellency the Vice-President It seemed desirable to bring the whole of the subject at once before His Excellency and as I have given no grounds either to the Jagheerdars or the Paishwa for suspecting that our Government has any design to interfere between them I trust that no bad consequences can arise from the discussion

No 42—The Resident reports the demand for guns made by Amrut Row's agent and encloses copy of a letter from Lord Wellington. The guns he says were good for nothing

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE

TO—MR CHIEF SECRETARY EDMONSTONE

Poona 31 October 1811

Sir

I was visited some days ago by Bauboo Chitnavees Amrut Row's agent at this court He had heard of the delivery of the guns left at Ahmednuggur to the Paishwa and came purposely to request explanations regarding them After I had brought forward the grounds on which the guns were given up the agent said that Amrut Row had deposited them in Ahmednuggur under assurances from Lord Wellington that they should be restored to him when he pleased That mutual oblivion had been agreed on between him and the Paishwa and that he conceived that he was to be liable to no demand which did not arise from the treaty between him and Lord Wellington He said that the present step would cause great uneasiness to Amrut Row and that he must beg me to report what he had said to the Government and to forward a Persian translation of a letter from Lord Wellington to Amrut Row on the subject of his property left at Ahmednuggur The original Mahratta letter was he said in the hands of Amrut Row as was the Commanding Officer's receipt for the guns

As he continued to insist with great earnestness on the doubt and anxiety to which his master would be exposed I told him that Amrut Row ought to know the British Government too well to suppose that it had any intention of treating him with injustice that if his claims to the guns were made out the Government would take means to indemnify him for the loss and that if he had no right to them, he could not complain of being deprived of them At all events I could assure them that the guns were absq-

lutely good for nothing, and were no great loss to the proprietor whoever he might be

Translation, through the medium of the Persian, of a letter from Lord Viscount Wellington to His Highness Amrut Row, dated July 31^d 1804

Although I was very desirous of waiting on you my engagements have not allowed me that pleasure I must beg your excuse Whatever engagements have past between you and the Honourable Company are firm and sincere They will never be departed from Be entirely satisfied on that head, and do not allow yourself to be disturbed by the insinuations of interested persons Please God the engagements of the Government will never be infringed, and you in all respects rely on its friendship Col Close will furnish you with passports and everything else that is necessary for your present journey to Benares Whatever articles (Serinjau) you may have at Ahmednuggur, you will make over to the British Commandant and take his receipt for them When you return to this part of the country, they will be restored to you by the Company's Officers, agreeably to the receipt Always consider me as your well wisher and believe that I will never fail in doing you any service in my power

No 43—The Peshwa requests a speedy adjustment of his claims on the Nizam

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—MR SECRETARY EDMONSTONE**

Poona, 31 October 1811

Sir,

In conformity to the orders contained in your letter of the 27th ultimo on the subject of the Paishwa's claims on the Nizam, I took an opportunity of acquainting the Paishwa's Ministers with the intention of Government to enquire into present differences without delay, and requested that all His Highness's demands might in the meantime be suspended

The Paishwa's Ministers readily assented to this proposal, and said that nothing would give the Paishwa greater pleasure than a speedy adjustment of these disputes They however added that they trusted the decision of the British Government would be expeditiously resolved on, as their Master would incur great loss by the suspension of payments on the Nizam's part, which would be the immediate consequence of the present arrangement

No 41—The disadvantages resulting from the policy of subsidiary alliances have been lucidly set forth in this communication and remedies suggested to effect improvement in the future

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE,
TO—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE

Fort William, 1 November 1811

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch dated the 3rd ultimo reporting the substance of your conference with His Highness the Peshwa on the subject of the expected incursion of the Pindarries

His Excellency the Vice-President in Council entirely approves the tenor of your discourse to the Peshwa on that occasion, particularly your observations tending to impress upon His Highness's mind a just conception of the practical intent of the treaty of defensive alliance which His Highness is evidently disposed to interpret as imposing upon the British Government the exclusive burthen of protecting his dominions as rendering the British force the instrument of those exertions which it is the duty of every state to employ for its internal security

Such, however, is the natural tendency of all subsidiary alliances, which originate in the strength of one party and the weakness of the other. The latter relieved from its dangers and its apprehensions and withheld from the contemplation of projects of aggrandisement and ambition, ceases to be actuated by any motives of exertion. The prince reposes in indulgent security under the assured protection of his ally, his military establishment is neglected, and his attention is directed to the accumulation of those resources which under other circumstances would necessarily be applied to the support of an efficient army

The protecting power on the other hand loses all but the negative advantages of the original compact and is exposed to immediate evils and prospective dangers, the necessary consequence of this change in the character of the alliance. It is burthened with the control of discontent and insubordination arising from the decay of energy in the governing power, without possessing the means of exercising the restraints of local authority. The sphere of its protection is extended without deriving from the alliance that accession of strength which it was intended and in its original condition was calculated to afford. It retains only the negative although certainly most essential benefit, of being no longer exposed to the

disquietude or the danger arising from the existence of an independent dominion left at liberty to take advantage of any circumstances favourable to the prosecution of hostile or ambitious designs, or susceptible of being added to the power of other hostile states, but it incurs a danger of considerable magnitude, the danger arising from the eventual aversion of the present or future head of the state to an alliance, which while it protects his dominions, controls his power, and wounds his pride, from the weakness, the folly or the vices of his character, and the intrigues and machinations of his ministers, advisers, or feudatory chiefs, who have no natural interest in the preservation of the alliance and have ends to answer by aiming at the subversion of it. Under the operation of these causes the main object of the alliance is not only lost, but perverted, the expected source of additional strength becomes an instrument of peril, and must operate most injuriously under the occurrence of the very contingencies against which it was intended to provide.

These observations have been practically verified in the case of our alliance with the state of Hyderabad, and they demonstrate the importance of obtaining, if possible, a security for the effectual operation of our subsidiary alliances, which may be independent of the character or disposition of the ruling chief or the means of counteracting the dangers arising from those alliances in their present inefficient and still declining state. At the same time it is by no means the intention of these remarks to question the policy of these subsidiary alliances or their great beneficial influence on the condition of the British Empire in India, in time past, present and to come. They have added most materially to our power and resources and they have placed for ever at a distance dangers far greater than any to be apprehended from the operations of the evils above described. But these alliances like all other human arrangements bear within them the sources of their own decay and require the application of corrective measures to obviate their natural and progressive tendency to dissolution.

The most effectual and apparently the only mode of accomplishing either of the important objects stated in the preceding paragraph, is the adoption and extension of the system already partially established in the dominions of the Nizam, that of placing a corps in the pay of the allied state under the command of British officers. His Excellency in Council, therefore, learns with great satisfaction from the 15th paragraph of your dispatch, that the partial establishment of that system was recently in the contemplation of His Highness the Peshwa, and founds on this circumstance the hope that the measure of organizing a considerable body of the Peshwa's

troops by means of British subjects or officers may progressively be accomplished. It is consequently the earnest desire of His Excellency in Council, that the Peshwa's suggestion should be encouraged and promoted by every means in your power consistent with the delicacy and caution necessary to preclude the alarm of jealousy and suspicion which would render it abortive.

It is premature to enter into a consideration of the details of such a system, and it is only necessary at the present moment to direct your particular attention to the means of reviving the agitation of the question and of leading the Peshwa to propose or persuading him to consent to the introduction of it on a scale however confined. A foundation being once laid it may not be difficult gradually to extend the system, until it shall have attained the magnitude which is ultimately desirable.

No 45—The Resident is informed that he had exceeded the intentions of Government in suspending all Peshwa's demands upon the Nizam.

**FROM—CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
TO—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE**

Fort William, 2 November 1811.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter under date the 31st ultimo reporting the communication which you had made to the Paishwa's Ministers on the subject of the intention of Government to institute at an early period of time, an enquiry into the differences between the Courts of Poona and Hyderabad according to the provisions of the Treaty.

The Right Honourable the Governor General in Council observes that you have exceeded the intentions of Government in recommending the suspension of all the Paishwa's demands on the Nizam until the proposed adjustment of differences should be effected. It was not the wish of Government that the current payments on the part of the Nizam should be suspended. This would excite additional questions and increase the difficulty and embarrassment of a final adjustment of differences, whilst intermediately the loss sustained by this suspension would be a perpetual subject of complaint and remonstrance on the part of the Peshwah. It is highly desirable, therefore, that the ordinary payments on account of Choute etc should continue as usual. It was merely the design of Government that those claims which have lain dormant since the conclusion of the Treaty of Bassein and which form

the specific subjects of the proposed arbitration, should not be revived pending the investigation

No 46—The Peshwa demands possession of the fort of Ahmednagar but the Resident demurs to giving it up

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—MR SECRETARY EDMONSTONE

Poona, 3 November 1811

Sir,

I was this morning visited by Anund Row, who brought messages from the Paishwa and the Minister on a variety of important points

Among other messages he brought a formal demand on the Paishwa's part that the fort of Ahmednuggur should be made over to him I replied to him that the fort of Ahmednuggur was unquestionably the Paishwa's, and that if I were to report to the Government a request from his Highness that it should be given up, I should no doubt receive orders to make it over to His Highness, but I observed that it was of great use to His Highness as it was at present employed, and would be of none if in the hands of his own officer That I should therefore hope that His Highness would reconsider his demand

From the manner in which the subject was agitated I am inclined to think, that the Paishwa is not really desirous of having the fort, but that he makes the demand with the intention of keeping up his claim to it

If he should be in earnest, I hope he will be persuaded to drop his request, which is obviously very disadvantageous to his own interests

No 47—The Resident reports how he was slowly discouraging the Peshwa from entertaining regular infantry in his service in conformity with the instructions of the Governor General

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—MR CHIEF SECRETARY EDMONSTONE

Poona, 22 November 1811.

Sir,

I had this day the honour of receiving your despatch dated the 1st instant I beg you to assure His Excellency the Vice-President that no attention in my power shall be wanting to the accomplishment of his views

I have as yet given no particular encouragement to the Paishwa's proposal for raising regular troops, partly because the measure did not tend to remove the danger immediately apprehended, and because I suspected that its agitation was intended to amuse me and prevent my urging the Paishwa to augment his cavalry, but also from an opinion that if the Paishwa were sincere, the discovery of any anxiety on the part of the British Government for the adoption of the proposed arrangement, would tend rather to diminish His Highness's desire for its immediate accomplishment than to accelerate his steps towards that end. The Paishwa's relinquishment of his design of raising battalions and his evident wish to have the subsidiary force employed on all services of which infantry is capable, tend to confirm my opinion that he was not earnest in his proposal, but however it will not be difficult to ascertain his real disposition beyond doubt. I shall take the opportunity of an interview with the Paishwa, which I expect to have in a few days, to impress on him the serious consequences of the defenceless state of His Highness's Dominions, exposed as they are to the inroads of the Pindarries, and strongly to recommend to His Highness to take the subject into his early consideration. At the same time, I shall inform His Highness that I have received an answer to the application which I made in His Highness's name for permission to purchase stores from our arsenals, and that I am authorised to say that the British Government will afford His Highness every assistance in its power towards the accomplishment of a project which His Highness appears to have so much at heart.

Should any very favourable opportunity offer, I shall not fail to point out all the advantages to be derived from regular infantry, but otherwise I shall abstain from pressing the subject till His Highness's real sentiments shall be ascertained, and in the mean time I shall endeavour to keep the wish of Government as secret as possible.

No 48—The Governor General approves the tenor of the Resident's reply to Amrut Rao's agent regarding guns deposited by him at Ahmednagar.

**FROM—N B EDMONSTONE,
TO—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE**

Fort William, 22 November 1811

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter under date the 31st ultimo reporting your communication with the agent of Amrut Row on the subject of the guns formerly deposited by Amrut Row in the fort of Ahmednuggur and lately restored to the

Peishwa and to signify to you the Right Hon'ble the Governor General in Council's approbation of the tenor of your reply to the agent's representation on that subject. It must of course rest with Amrut Row to exhibit the receipts of the commanding officer for the guns the production of which will certainly entitle him either to their restitution or to an equivalent.

Copies of your letter and of this reply will be transmitted to the Governor General's agent at Benares with directions, not to demand but to receive from Amrut Row, if tendered, the documents in question and in that case to take copies of them to be forwarded for the information and final orders of the Governor General in Council.

No 49—The Governor General announces to the Peshwa his return to the Presidency from Java.

**FROM—THE PERSIAN SECRETARY,
TO—THE HONOURABLE M. ELPHINSTONE,
RESIDENT AT POONA**

Fort William, 23 November 1811

Sir,

I am directed to transmit to you the enclosed letter from the Right Honourable the Governor General to His Highness the Paishwa, announcing His Lordship's return to the Presidency on the 18th instant and the conquest of Java and its dependancies by the British forces under the command of His Excellency Lieutenant General Sir Samuel Auchmuty.

No 50—Several topics are discussed and reported by the Resident in this communication such as Chintaman Rao's projected attack on Appa Desai the plan of the Peshwa to conciliate the Pindaris, and the death of Yashvant Rao Holkar.

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE VICE-PRESIDENT**

Poona, 24 November 1811

Hon'ble Sir,

On the 13th ultimo I had the honour to transmit to your Excellency translations of letters from Chintamun Row, in which that chief referred to orders which he professed to have received from the Minister for his joining in a combination with the Raja of Kolapore against Appa Dessye. The Minister denied all knowledge of these orders, and I have not been able to ascertain the exact history of the transaction. I have, however, very little doubt

that the Minister did actually engage in some intrigue for the purpose of embroiling the Southern Jageerdars and that on Chintamun Row's making his intrigues public, he did not scruple to assert the falsehood of that chief's statement

The Minister's conduct after the receipt of those letters fully justifies this opinion. Either the Minister must have given the orders in question to Chintamun Row's vakeel, or the vakeel must have written a false report of the Minister's communication, or Chintamun Row must have invented the whole story, and written it to the Minister with the certainty of being contradicted both by that officer and his own vakeel. The last of these contingencies is the one which the Minister states to have taken place, and he attributes Chintamun Row's statement to a wish on his part to get his own vakeel disgraced. The Minister however has shown no dissatisfaction either with the Vakeel or his Master; nor has he indeed shown any anxiety to enquire into the grounds of Chintamun Row's misstatement. I have pressed him ever since the letters were received to write to Chintamun Row and inform him that no orders of the nature alluded to in his letter have been issued from this Durbar, to call on him to explain his reasons for alleging that he had received such orders and to forbid him to join in any design of the Raja of Kolapore. There seemed to me to be an urgent necessity for the immediate dispatch of these orders, as the plan for attacking Appa Dessye was nearly ready for execution, and as it would be difficult to stop its operation if once begun. These reasons had no weight with the Minister, who not only delayed writing himself but requested me to lay aside my intention of writing to Chintamun Row (as I had been before requested to do), because he said there was no reason for apprehending a combination between that chief and the Raja of Kolapore. He was at last prevailed on to write to Chintamun Row and to advise the Paishwa to do the same. I have the honour to enclose a translation of the Bhow's letter, the Paishwa's is nearly to the same effect. I have also the honour to enclose a translation of a letter which I wrote on the same occasion in which I have endeavoured to adhere to the guarded manner of expression which Major General Close used in all correspondence with the Southern Jagheerdars.

Before these letters were dispatched, an event had taken place to the southward which had nearly rendered all attempts to stop the conspiracy against Appa Dessye of no avail. That chief was surprised in his fort of Neepaunee by a body of about 300 armed men, and with great difficulty escaped alive to a body of his own troops with whom he returned and recovered the place in the course of the same day. This attack was headed by two zemindars of the

neighbourhood, one of whom resided in Chintamun Row's country and was protected by that chieftain from Appa Dessye, whom he had before provoked by some acts of turbulence or plunder

What follows I report on the authority of Appa Dessye's Vakeel, who gave me an account of the whole transaction by his master's orders. On the recapture of the fort several prisoners were taken and among them a Brahmin carcoon, about whose person a bag of gunpowder was discovered. This man confessed that he was sent by the Raja of Kolapore and Chintamun Row whose troops were dispersed in parties of 200 and 300, at different villages within five or six coss of Neepaunee. The Carcoon was instructed to fire one of the guns of the fort as soon as Appa Dessye should be killed, for which purpose he had been provided with the powder. This was to be the signal for a general attack on Appa Dessye's troops, after which his Jagheer was to be occupied by the confederate chiefs. I cannot answer for the truth of this story, but there is certainly great reason to suspect that Chintamun Row was concerned in the attack on Neepaunee, and it is certain that so far from having laid aside his connection with the Raja of Kolapore as was stated by the Minister, he still keeps up a close intercourse with that prince.

If this combination against Appa Dessye continues, it will without doubt disturb the southern countries, and may lead to the ruin of a chief who has always served the Paishwa with fidelity, and who is considered as immediately connected with the British Government. I shall therefore take the earliest opportunity of urging the Paishwa to write the strictest orders to Chintamun Row, directing him to lay aside his designs against Appa Dessye. I think it is probable that these orders will have some effect on Chintamun Row, who appears now to be anxious to obtain the Paishwa's good will, and probably is acting or thinks he is acting, in the present affair with the approbation of the Minister.

I have had much altercation with the Minister on the subject of Gurra Cota, but he at last assured me that orders should be sent to Ballajee Coonjur to acquaint Sindia that the Paishwa would not receive the territory offered to his acceptance. I have since been informed from the Durbar that the orders have actually been dispatched.

The Minister has of late been very active in bringing forward all sorts of new claims and proposals. He acquainted me a few days ago that a person had offered to rent the tribute of Jhaunsi on very advantageous terms, and had engaged to obtain its possession without any expense to the Paishwa. He was to receive no

assistance and was to give security for the regular payment of the tribute. I entirely discouraged this plan, but I expect that it will be renewed, and should it be persevered in, I shall recommend the adoption of the line of conduct noticed in Sir George Barlow's instructions to Major General Close.

Very urgent applications have also been made for our interference, for the protection of the Jagheers of the Vinchoor Chief, of Raja Bahadur, and the Powar family, who hold Dhar. I long ago agreed to write to the Resident in Sindia's Camp on the subject of the Vinchoor chief's lands about which Major General Close had before interfered, but the Durbar omitted to furnish me with the requisite information and the affair had lain over for six months when it was thus renewed. If the information I require be furnished, I shall write to Mr Strachey in the manner I before proposed. I am not well acquainted with the circumstances of the other territories, and I therefore made no observation respecting them, except that the subject would require investigation and that it was a very unsuitable time to think of arranging such remote districts when the Paishwa's immediate territories were so far from being either settled or protected. Raja Bahadur resides at Poona and is in perfect obedience to the Paishwa, and I understand his Jagheers are held by his own officers but suffer so much from the exactions of Sindia as to yield him no revenue. I do not suppose that the connection of the Powar family with this state is by any means so intimate. I shall endeavour to obtain a more accurate knowledge of this subject and submit the result of my enquiries to your Excellency.

Another attempt of the Minister to extend the sphere of the Paishwa's interference was his proposing to comply with a request of the Raja of Berar, that the Paishwa should desire Sindia to give up the guns and property taken from the Nagpore troops at Gurra Cota. I argued against this project, as exposing the Paishwa's Government to contempt by meddling in an affair which did not concern it, and which it was unlikely to succeed. On this ground I said I could not but entirely disapprove of the proposal, but if the Paishwa were not persuaded by my arguments, I said I was ready to submit the question to your Excellency to be settled agreeably to the 17th article of the Treaty of Bassein. The Minister has since acquainted me that the Paishwa's intention of writing to Sindia has been laid aside.

A fresh demand was yesterday made for the delivery of the Fort of Ahmednuggur to the Paishwa, which I replied to by saying, that I should speak on the subject to His Highness at my interview with him.

At the same time I was informed that Meer Khan has made overtures to the Paishwa through Ballajee Coonjur, proposing to leave Holcar's service and come into that of His Highness. The Paishwa had determined on this affair before he consulted me, and I saw no reason to wish for any alteration in my resolution which was to take no notice of the offer. Meer Khan probably expects to facilitate his forming an independent state out of the fragments of the Mahratta Empire.

An overture was made through the same channel by the Pindarries, expressing their great desire to sit down in the enjoyment of peace and quiet, and requesting that His Highness would grant them a country which should maintain them without the necessity of their disturbing their neighbours. This proposal was mixed with obscure hints of what the necessities of the Pindarries would drive them to, if the Paishwa would not generously relieve them. The Minister proposed to encourage this overture, with a view to delaying their attacks on the Paishwa's country, though he has no intention of using the time so gained in such a manner as would at all alter the situation of the country with respect to the Pindarries. With this design he wrote a draft of a letter to Ballajee Coonjur, offering to settle a Jageer on the Pindarry chiefs provided they would engage to abstain from plundering the dominions of the allies or those of the Raja of Berar, and I believe those of Scindia and Holkar. Instructions for commencing similar negotiations were drafted for Trimbuckjee Dinglea who commands on the northern frontier. I strongly objected to this negotiation as tending to degrade the Paishwa's Government, and to encourage the Pindarries without the smallest chance of any desirable result. With respect to gaining time I said the Pindarries would not give the Paishwa a minute more than suited their own convenience, and that if they were to give him a year, I saw no use that he would make of it, I therefore recommended that the Paishwa should instruct Ballajee Coonjur to tell the Pindarries that His Highness had refused to listen to their overtures, and that he was fully prepared to punish any insult that they might presume to offer to His Highness's territory. I have not heard from the Durbar since this conversation, but I presume the suggestion I have offered will be adopted. I took this opportunity of urging the necessity of an increased and efficient army as the only real means of securing the country from the inroads of the Pindarries and all other adventurers.

Several complaints have been made by the Paishwa of the conduct of the British Government with respect to the Raja of Mandvee. It was stated on His Highness's part that by the treaty of Bassein he had only ceded the tribute of 65,000 rupees due to

the Marattas from Mandvee, yet the Government of Bombay had imprisoned the Raja of Mandvee's Dewaun, and declared their intention of occupying the whole territory which yielded two lacs and a half of rupees. I acknowledged that I was perfectly ignorant of this transaction, but observed that whatever might be the truth, His Highness had ceded all his rights in Mandvee to the British Government and could have no interest in the present transaction of that principality. This argument has stopped the discussion for the present and I shall not renew it unless I am instructed to do so though the Paishwa does not appear satisfied with my reply.

On receiving accounts of Holkar's death I paid the Vakeel of that Government a visit of condolence. He has since come to the Residency and renewed the subject of the Khillut to Mulhar Row Holkar. I received his application in the spirit of your Excellency's instructions to the Resident at Delhi, and told the Vakeel, that I had no doubt your Excellency would recognize Mulhar Row, as it was your most anxious wish to see the present great families of India continue to maintain their respective sovereignties. In that case I said the Paishwa would also recognize Mulhar Row, and would pay him all the attentions which were usual towards independent states but that it would be almost an affront to the Paishwa to speak of the family of Holkar as His Highness's servants, when the real truth was so widely different. The custom I believe is for independent states to send honorary dresses to each other on their accession and if this prove to be the case, the difficulty attending the investiture of Mulhar Row will be got over. Should the case be different, I shall of course dissuade the Paishwa from sending a Khillut on the grounds furnished to me in my instructions, but your Excellency will have been prepared by my former conferences with the Paishwa's Ministers and Holkar's Vakeel, to expect that the line adopted by our Government however necessary, will be considered as somewhat harsh by both of the states concerned. Holkar's Government evidently attaches great importance to the investiture of Mulhar Row, and can scarcely be persuaded that a refusal of it is consistent with good will towards their Government. The Paishwa also although he has in practice long since given up the principle of his sovereignty over all the Marattas, is as fond of the name as a native might be expected to be, and from what I have seen of the records of this Residency or learned of former conferences from report, his nominal sovereignty does not appear to have ever been contested, though his exercise of actual authority was always disputed and restrained. If this be the case it is not extraordinary that His Highness should regard any attempt to alter the language and ceremonies in use between him and his

former vassals as a direct attack on his rank and consequence. The Paishwa stopped his Noubut (Band) for three days on hearing of Holkar's death. He is about to send an article of dress called a Saira to Mulhar Row on the occasion, but this ceremony is common among individuals in cases of mourning, and has nothing to do with the relation of sovereign and subject.

Your Excellency will have learned that the Pindarries who entered Candesh, have turned off to the eastward and appeared at Nagpoor. The Paishwa's preparations are still incomplete, and he cannot be prevailed on to render them effectual either by sending Gokla to the frontier or by raising new troops.

His Highness a long time ago sent a Hoozra to require Chintamun Row and Appa Sahib to attend with their contingents but this summons has hitherto been disregarded. It is usual when the Sirdar called on delays complying with the orders, for the Hoozra to endeavour to bring him by persuasion, and eventually even to try to drag him to the court, if all these attempts fail, the Hoozra burns his clothes and returns to the Paishwa, after which the chief is considered to be in open rebellion. The Hoozras sent to Chintamun Row and Appa Sahib were about to proceed to the last extremity when those chiefs declared their readiness to serve, and it is now believed that each of them will send a small body of horse to Poona, but it can scarcely be expected that they will either come themselves or send any large proportion of their contingents.

I have the honour to acquaint Your Excellency that the Bombay Government has announced its intention of raising a troop of horse artillery consisting of three Brigades of 6 Pounders, and of attaching it to the Subsidiary Force serving with His Highness the Paishwa.

No 51—The Resident requests hospitality be shown to Sardar Dhamdhare who was proceeding on a pilgrimage to Benares, Prayag and Gaya.

**FROM—THE RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—THE AGENT OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL AT
BENARES**

Poona, 24 November, 1811

Sir,

This will be presented to you by the Sirdar Paundoorung Punt Anah Dhumdehray, father-in-law to His Highness the Paishwa who proceeds on a pilgrimage to Benares, Allahabad and Gyah. He is accompanied by his family, an escort of cavalry and party of pilgrims, who have collected to travel under his protection. At the desire of His Highness the Paishwa, I have given him a passport

requesting that he may not be detained in the British territory on account of the customs, provided the regulations of Government will so permit. From the rank, connection and character of this Sirdar, any civilities you may be able to show him cannot fail to benefit the common interests. He will cheerfully discharge the fees or duties received by the officiating Brahmins of the places he is to visit, but exempting him from the customs he will feel as a particular distinction.

No 52—*Translation of a letter from His Highness Amrut Row to Mr Elphinstone, dated November 24th 1811*

After the usual address

I have not had the pleasure of hearing from you for some time let me occasionally hear of your welfare

At this time I am informed by a letter from Baupoojee Mahadeo Chitnavees, that my guns and other property which were made over to the Governor of Ahmednuggur have been delivered by you to the Pundit Purdhaun

When I was setting off for Benares, I made over these guns, etc to the Governor of Ahmednuggur (in conformity to General Wellesley's desire) and I took a receipt for them, intending to take them back agreeably to the receipt when I returned to the Maratta country. General Wellesley's letter was to that effect. The Pundit Purdhaun's Ministers pressed you for the guns, and my Chitnavees informed you of above particulars. Notwithstanding this you have made over the guns without my knowledge. This is very surprising. Never till now has anything like this been done by the Company, I have therefore written to you. My Chitnavees is now at Poona, make over the things to him agreeably to the receipt. This is proper and necessary. I must be informed what put it in your heart to make over the guns, or whether you did it from negligence. Let this letter therefore be speedily answered.

No 52-A—*Translation of a letter from Mr Elphinstone to His Highness Amrut Row, dated December 29th 1811*

After the usual address.

I have had the honour to receive your Highness's letter. Your Highness will be pleased to communicate anything you may have to say respecting the guns to the Right Honourable the Governor General's Agent at Benares, by whom it will be submitted to His Lordship.

No 53—The Resident narrates an important interview he had with the Peshwa at which they discussed the Peshwa's military establishment, his discord with his brother Chumnaji Appa and his intended journey to Satara for marrying again.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Poona, 29 November 1811

Hon'ble Sir,

I yesterday waited on the Paishwa and found His Highness very much reduced by a fever from which he has suffered for some days. He was scarcely well enough to converse on business, but had been induced to give me an audience, because he was himself about to leave Poona and the Minister was to set out in a few hours.

The Paishwa had not heard of the attack by the Pindarries on Nagpoor, and as soon as he was seated, the Minister repeated the contents of a letter which he had received on the subject.

This gave me a favourable opportunity of introducing the subject of the Paishwa's army, and I accordingly observed that what had happened at Nagpoor furnished a useful lesson to His Highness and to all other powers, whose dominions were exposed to the eruptions of the Pindarries. I pointed out the boldness and enterprise of the Pindarries in attacking the capital of one of the great powers of India, when they thought the arrangements of that power inadequate to oppose them, and at the same time I remarked that they had been repulsed wherever they were faced by the Raja's troops, notwithstanding their own great superiority in numbers. I said they had as yet made but few attempts on His Highness's dominions from an idea that so great a state may be well able to resist and to chastize them, but that when they became acquainted with the real state of His Highness's preparations it was most probable that they would pursue their ravages with confidence till they came within the fire of the British troops. I dwelt on the disgrace and damage which His Highness's state would suffer from such a course of events, and represented His Highness's immediate and serious attention to his military establishment as the only means which could be adopted for averting it. His Highness said that he would order the Minister to confer with me on the subject and that he would adopt any plan that we might fix on in concert.

His Highness seemed inclined to allow the conversation to drop here, but the Minister took it up and spoke in the usual manner about the inefficiency of the troops already in His Highness's

service, the refractory spirit of the Southern Jagheerdars, and other topics which I have more than once reported to Your Excellency I replied to him by observing that these were all very strong arguments for the adoption of the proceedings which I was recommending, that the Jagheerdars had been obedient when the Paishwa had a sufficient force of his own to control them, and would be so again as soon as they saw that the Government had recovered its vigour. That the inefficiency of the troops actually in His Highness's service could only be remedied by the adoption of a rational system, which should have for one of its principal objects the enforcing of discipline and control through the whole of His Highness's army.

The Paishwa himself answered and stated that the place of household troops which had formerly constituted the force, at the Paishwa's immediate command, was now filled by the new Jageercars Gokla and Appa Dessye, and that the same good effects which had been experienced from the one ought now to result from the other. I took the liberty of reminding His Highness of the arguments which he had often used to show the superior obedience of a body of men under his own management over any that he entertained through the medium of dependent chiefs, and said that although I had always argued for the expediency of keeping up the old establishment of Jagheerdars, I could never deny that a corps immediately attached to His Highness, was necessary to secure the obedience of those more remotely connected with him.

His Highness on this immediately brought forward his former plan of dispossessing the Jagheerdars and paying a regular army from the produce of this confiscation, but I reminded him that even if the policy of this measure were admitted, a well regulated army must first be provided to carry it into execution.

I then returned to the subject of the new Jageerdars and said that some more attention than was now given was necessary to preserve even their utility, and begged to know His Highness's reason for not sending Gokla to oppose the Pindarries as I had taken the liberty of recommending to him. His Highness said that it was necessary that some Sirdar should remain with his person, and on my saying that he ought to have enough both to detach and to retain he said the truth was that if he sent Gokla to the countries on the frontier there would be no fear of the Pindarries. He then expatiated on the depredations committed by Gokla's troops on various occasions when they had been employed on His Highness's service. I said that all this only proved the occasion there was for the introduction of a new system in His Highness's army, and

observed that His Highness ought to threaten Gokla with exemplary punishment in case he ever repeated his transgression, and that if necessary His Highness's Sirdars ought to be made to feel that he would not suffer his orders to be disobeyed.

The Paishwa asked who was to punish his Sirdars if they disobeyed him? On my saying His Highness (Maharaj), he said it was very well to talk about the Maharaj but that we both very well knew that His Highness had no power of his own, and depended on us for protection in all cases. I said this was the very evil of which I was complaining. That the alliance ought to be a source of strength to each of the contracting parties, and that it was impossible for the British Government to maintain the tranquility of India, if each of its allies expected it to carry on the internal government of his country, that in particular it was impossible for the British Government to perform so extensive a task with means which were designed for more limited undertakings. The Paishwa here interrupted me by observing that no great force would be necessary to dispossess Gokla, and I said that there was no reason at present to entertain any thought of punishing Gokla, who had only been mentioned incidentally, but there was the utmost necessity for His Highness's putting his army in such a state as might enable him to act as became him in every circumstance which might at any time arise. His Highness now assented to the truth of this observation, and said he should turn his serious attention to the introduction of such measures as I should advise for that purpose.

The Minister next introduced the subject of the proposed negotiation with the Pindarries, to which I replied in the manner which I had the honour to report on a former occasion, on which the Minister asked what was then to be done against the Pindarries. He said they were a great and increasing power and that it would be necessary continually to maintain a large force for the express purpose of opposing them. I assented to his observation, and added that no state could be safe from insult that did not permanently maintain a suitable military establishment.

The Paishwa had before announced to me his intention of going to Sattarra for the purpose of performing the ceremonies of marriage on which he was about to enter at that place. His Highness assigned as a reason for celebrating his nuptials at a distance from his capital that it was uncertain whether his brother would attend, and that his absence would not be so remarkable if the ceremony were performed at a distance from his residence.

The differences between the Paishwa and his brother continued to increase since my arrival at this place, and though neither party has taken any step likely to give great offence to the other, a variety

of irritating disputes continually occur which are only arranged by my intervention. I therefore thought it very desirable to speak to the Paishwa on this subject, and conceived the present to be a favourable opportunity for that purpose. I therefore apologized to His Highness for having taken up so much of his time in the present state of his health, and stated that there was another subject on which I should be happy to say a few words if His Highness was disposed to listen to them. His Highness having given his consent, I began by lamenting the alteration which had taken place in his intercourse with his brother since I was last at Poona, spoke of the credit which redounded to both princes from the entire cordiality which then subsisted between them, and said that there was no circumstance in His Highness's situation which gave me so much pain as to see that friendship converted into a relation which could not but have the worst effects both on His Highness's domestic comfort and on his reputation abroad. I said I was extremely reluctant to interfere in any of His Highness's internal affairs, and in particular in one of so much delicacy, but that as His Highness had made over the conduct of all Appa Sahib's affairs to the British Residency and had no other channel of communication with his brother, I thought it incumbent on me to endeavour to remove the very trifling grounds of dissatisfaction which subsisted between him and His Highness, and that I hoped if not to accomplish a complete reconciliation, at least to prevent the widening of the breach which unhappily existed. I then said every thing I thought calculated to remove the Paishwa's jealousy of his brother, dwelt on his entire dependence on His Highness's pleasure, on the fidelity which he had always shown towards His Highness, and on the tone of respect and affection in which he still spoke of him even on the occasions when he was obliged to complain a diminution of His Highness's favour towards himself. I mentioned the liberality with which the Paishwa had provided for Appa Sahib and the effect which his kindness had produced on that prince's mind, and the increase of reputation which it procured him among the world at large, and pointed out the wisdom as well as the benevolence of completing this generous system by removing the few hardships to which Appa Sahib was still exposed.

The Paishwa received the whole of this discourse very favourably and assured me at the end that it was his firm intention to persevere in the system recommended to him by Major General Close, and to conduct himself in all his transactions with his brother agreeably to the advice of the British Resident. He then desired me to take an early opportunity after his return to Poona, of acquainting him with the steps which I wished to recommend.

After acknowledging the condescension of His Highness's reply, I proceeded with the information, that I was prepared to furnish him with a note of the points on which I wished him to show his kindness to Appa Sahib, but that I did not wish to negotiate a treaty between the two brothers, and was desirous that whatever steps he might adopt should appear to be the spontaneous movement of his own goodness

The Paishwa replied to this rather harshly by declaring that he never had made nor ever would make any advance to Appa Sahib which could possibly be supposed to come from himself. At the same time he fully acknowledged the advantage he had derived from the intervention of the British Residency, and said that if the British had not interposed, his brother and he would long ago have reached the extremities of which they had so many and such near examples. I answered this by asserting my conviction that neither he nor his brother would ever have been driven into any extremities and after complimenting the Paishwa on his own character, I enlarged on the trials to which Appa Sahib's loyalty and affection had been put, and on the proofs which he had always afforded of devotion to his brother and his sovereign.

In the course of this audience I acquainted the Paishwa that your Excellency would be happy to supply him with stores, and His Highness received the intimation with much apparent satisfaction.

His Highness also acquainted me that he intended in course of the ensuing year to make a pilgrimage to Cartic Swamy in the Company's possessions, that if all the Pindarries in India should come down and even if Sindia and Holkar came along with them, he must go, but if anything required his presence here he would return with all possible expedition. I told him that the incursions of the Pindarries ought not to interfere with his movements, for that one month of application would enable him to make such an arrangement as should secure the permanent tranquility of his dominions.

Although the Paishwa's reception of both the subjects which I took occasion to introduce, was fully as favourable as could have been expected, I am not very sanguine in my hopes of any immediate benefit resulting from the circumstance. The Minister was to set out last night for Satara, and the Paishwa will follow as soon as he is sufficiently recovered. He will be absent for a month or six weeks, and during that time it would be impossible to draw his attention to business even if the custom of this Court admitted of my accompanying him. I shall endeavour to get something settled in Appa Sahib's affairs before His Highness sets off, and with respect to his army, an incursion of the Pindarries, which may be

expected before the end of the season, will bring on his plans much faster than all the arguments I have used or ever can use.

No. 54—The Peshwa's departure for Satara for his own marriage and that of the Chhatrapati, and the disturbance created by Chintaman Rao Patwardhan are reported to the Governor General by the Resident.

FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

Poona, 28 December 1811.

My Lord,

Immediately after the date of my last address to His Excellency the Vice-President, His Highness the Paishwa set out for Sattarra. The marriages of His Highness and of the Raja of Sattarra have since taken place, and the Paishwa has now set off for the Concan, from whence he will return in a fortnight or three weeks to this capital. Everything that depended on the Government has of course been at a stand since His Highness's departure.

The Raja of Colapoor and Chintamun Row have continued to strengthen themselves and to assemble their troops in the neighbourhood of Appa Dessye's Jagheer.

On receiving information of these proceedings I applied to the Ministers who remain at Poona, pointed out to them the probability of great disturbances in the southern countries, and took notice of the peculiar interest the Minister had in exerting himself to prevent them, on account of the imputation which had been cast on him by Chintamun Row, and concluded by requesting that they would write immediately to the Paishwa and the Minister, recommending that peremptory orders should be sent to Chintamun Row, directing him to withdraw from his connection with the Raja of Colapore. After some time had elapsed an answer was received from the Minister, in which he said that no answer had been received to the Paishwa's former orders, but that if I thought it proper more strict orders would now be issued, and that in the mean time the Minister would wait for my reply.

About the same time I received intelligence of the actual commencement of hostilities. This was communicated to me by Appa Dessye's Vakeel, who acquainted me that the Raja of Colapore and Chintamun Row had assembled a force of 4 or 5,000 men in a fort belonging to the Raja in the heart of Appa Dessye's Jageer, that these troops foraged and plundered in the surrounding country, and that they had at last been opposed by a party of Appa Dessye's troops, with whom they had engaged and skirmished, and that some lives were lost on both sides. The Vakeel then com-

plained of the treatment his master received from the Durbar, which he said, always commanded him to abstain from any preparations that might excite jealousy, and promised to prevent the designs of his enemies, while in secret it did everything to encourage those designs and to promote their success. The Vakeel entirely acquitted the Paishwa of all share in the transaction, but said that Chintamun Row never showed a letter from the Minister to him desiring him to go on with his plans against Appa Dessye, and that the whole of the Minister's conduct seemed to show that the letter was authentic. He said his master was not at all afraid of the result of this combination against him, provided he were allowed to take measures for his own defence, that he could form a league with the remaining branches of the Putwardhun family, and that he could muster troops enough to oppose his enemies, but that he required my permission to engage in operations which would throw all the southern countries from the Ghauts to the Bheema, into confusion. I told the Vakeel in reply that the present disputes not being immediately connected with the British Government, I could not take it upon me either to permit Appa Dessye to engage in war or restrain him from adopting such measures as he thought necessary for his own safety, that I could only advise him to abstain from all unnecessary violence and be punctual in his fidelity to the Paishwa. I added that I would again address the Paishwa's Minister on this subject before long.

I accordingly sent for Anund Row on the following day, and spoke to him of the bad consequences which had arisen from the Minister's delay to adopt proper measures for withdrawing Chintamun Row from the combination against Appa Dessye. I alluded to the imputation thrown on the Minister in Chintamun Row's letter, acquainted Anund Row with the measures which that chief had taken to make it generally believed that he was acting under the Minister's orders, and concluded by saying, that although the quarrel among the Southern Jagheerdars was an affair which concerned the Paishwa's internal government, I was still under the necessity of reporting all particulars respecting it to your Lordship, as it was my duty to transmit all important intelligence of this kind, and that Anund Row might guess what impression it would make on your Lordship to hear that one of the Paishwa's most faithful servants was obliged to defend himself against the attacks of two chiefs not remarkable for their attachment to His Highness, that their attack was justified by an alleged order from the Minister, who on his part took no effectual measures to frustrate their designs, but on the contrary conducted himself in such a manner as seemed rather to countenance their assertion. Anund

Row then promised to write to the Minister, requested me to write myself to Chintamun Row, and begged me to point out the mode in which I would wish the Minister to act. I declined writing or offering any further advice on the subject, observing that I could not venture to write unless I knew certainly that the Minister had done so and to what effect he had written, and that the Minister knew very well what kind of letter would have most effect with Chintamun Row, who ought out of regard for his own character to take steps to prevent a war without waiting to be pressed by me.

I have repeatedly received assurances from Appa Sahib Putwurdhan through his Vakeel at Poona, that he is entirely unconnected with Chintamun Row and has no intention of disturbing the tranquillity of the southern countries.

While the Paishwa was at Sattarra, Chintamun Row sent 150 horse to serve as his contingent.

I was this morning visited by Amrut Row's Vakeel, who brought a copy of the Commanding Officer of Ahmednuggur's receipt for the guns lately restored to the Paishwa and who desired to know whether I had received any answer to my letter on that subject from the Government. I acquainted him in reply that any further communications respecting those guns ought to be made by Amrut Row to your Lordship's Agent at Benares.

No 55—Several points which the Resident had referred to the Governor General for orders have been answered in this letter by the Secretary and further hints have been offered for the Resident's conduct at Poona.

FROM N.B. EDMONSTONE,
TO—M. ELPHINSTONE

Fort William, 3 January 1812

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatches to the address of His Excellency the Vice-President in Council dated the 24th and 29th of November and to communicate to you the following observations on such points of those dispatches as appear to require any particular notice.

The consideration stated in the 5th paragraph of your dispatch of the 21st of November sufficiently establishes the necessity of your interference to prevent the prosecution of Chintamun Row's project of engaging in the disputes between the Rajah of Colapore and Appa Dessaye, and the Governor General in Council trusts that it has been attended with success.

His Lordship in Council learns with satisfaction that orders had been issued agreeably to your recommendation on the subject of Sindiah's factitious cession of Gurra Cotah to the Paishwa

With reference to the 7th paragraph of your dispatch of the 21st November which relates to the offer received by the Peshwa from a person to rent the tribute of Jhansi on very advantageous terms, engaging to obtain possession without any expense to his Highness, and to your intimation that in the event of the renewal of that proposal you should resume the adoption of the line of conduct noticed in Sir George Barlow's instructions to Major General Close, I am directed to observe that although you have not specified the date of those instructions, nor stated the substance of them, you probably alluded to my dispatch to Major General Close of the 10th of March 1807 a part of which relates to the question of His Highness the Peshwa's dispatching an officer with a force for the purpose of realising his tributary rights in Bundelcund and directs the Resident to discourage that design suggesting as a measure more expedient and more efficient in every point of view, that His Highness should merely dispatch an agent to his tributaries in Bundelcund for the realization of his dues, in which event the agent's negotiations would be supported by the influence of the British Government

His Lordship in Council observes that this recommendation in the event of the revival of the subject will be highly proper, but that if the Peshwah should manifest a determination to accede to the proposal, which from your description goes to the length of dispossessing the soubedar of Jhansi of his territory, it will be necessary that you should deny His Highness's right to proceed to that extremity and refer him to the engagements existing between the British Government and the soubadar, by which the possessions of the latter are guaranteed to him personally but not in a manner to affect His Highness's just claims as is demonstrated by the instructions to which you have alluded.

The Governor General in Council approves of the answer you returned to the applications for the interference of the British Government in favour of the Vinchore Jagheerdar, of Rajah Bahadur and of the Pawar family and of your intentions with respect to that question as described in the 8th paragraph of your dispatch of the 21st of November

Your dissuading the Paishwa's Government from complying with the Rajah of Nagpur's request that His Highness would desire Sindiah to give up the guns and property taken at Gurra Cotah is considered by His Lordship in Council to have been highly proper

The Governor General in Council concurs in the propriety of His Highness the Peishwa's determination to take no notice of Ameer Khaun's offer of attaching himself to His Highness's service

His Lordship in Council of course entirely concurs in the justice and expediency of the observations which you expressed to the Peishwa's ministers on your receiving information of the absurd project of attempting to suppress the activity of the Pindarries by grants of land

With regard to the complaints which in the 13th paragraph of your dispatch of the 21st of November, you state as having been made by the Peishwah, of the conduct of the Government of Bombay towards the Rajah of Mandavee, I am directed to observe that as far as the information of this Government extends, your observations in reply were perfectly correct. Mandavee itself and not merely the tribute which the Peshwah formerly derived from that district appears by the schedule annexed to the treaty of Bassein to have been ceded to the British Government. But supposing the cession even to have been limited to the tribute, it is obvious that with the tribute, the Peishwah must be considered to have relinquished all the rights of a paramount authority over the chief who paid it, and that those rights must have been transferred to the British Government. The Government of Bombay will be requested to communicate to the Governor General in Council and also to you the circumstances to which the Peshwa appears to have alluded, together with information respecting the relative condition of the chiefship of Mandavee.

His Lordship in Council approves the answer which you returned to the Vakeel of Holkar's Government on the occasion of his renewing the subject of the grant of a Khillut of investiture to Mulhar Row Holkar. Your observations regarding the solicitude of the family of Holkar to receive the Khillut and of the Peshwa to maintain the nominal relations between the state of Poona and the Government of Holkar in its ancient form, are unquestionably correct, but rather strengthen than weaken the grounds of the instructions which have already been conveyed to you on this subject.

The Governor General in Council highly approves your having continued to urge the Peishwa to adopt vigorous and efficient measures of defence against the expected incursions of the Pindarries and the terms of your representations on that subject as described in the 2nd and the following paragraphs of your dispatch of the 29th of November administering to the Peishwa frequent intimation of his entire dependence upon the British troops for the protection

of his country without conceiving himself under the necessity to employ his own resources for the purpose, I am directed to observe that it might be proper to urge to His Highness and his Ministers more distinctly than you appear to have done, the obligations imposed on him by treaty with regard to the necessity of his uniting his exertions with those of the British power on occasions of exigency. The alliance presumes that His Highness maintains a force capable of efficient cooperation with the British forces on occasions when the latter may be required according to the stipulations of treaty to aid in the defence of His Highness's possessions or when the British Government and their allies may be compelled to take up arms against a foreign enemy and consequently that he maintains a force capable of executing those services on which it is expressly declared that the British troops shall not be employed. But it may be assumed that at this moment His Highness has not the means even of furnishing the stipulated contingent of troops in a case of joint war, far less of affording that more calculated cooperation for which the treaty provides. His Highness therefore seems not to be aware that by neglecting to attend to your representations he is departing from the obligation of his engagements.

His Lordship in Council entirely approves the interposition of your good offices for the purpose of effecting a reconciliation between the Peishwa and his brother in the manner described in the 11th and the following paragraphs of your dispatch of the 29th of November

No 56—The overtures from the Raja of Kolhapur for an agreement of protection with the British Government together with the pros and cons of the proposal are submitted by the Resident to the Governor General's decision.

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL**

Poona, 23 January 1812

My Lord,

Since the action between the Raja of Colapore's troops and those of Appa Dessye, which I reported in my last dispatch, the Raja appears to have laid aside the designs which he had shewn so much anxiety to mature. I hear from the southward that he has instructed the Zemeendar of Akkewat, who commanded his army, to endeavour to negotiate a peace with Appa Dessye and his situation appears to be such as to render an accommodation essential to his safety.

I had formerly the honor to address your Lordship on the subject of proposals which were made by the Raja to the British Envoy at Goa. The envoy discouraged the Raja's overtures and referred his Vakeel to me. The Vakeel has accordingly arrived at Poona and came immediately to me. After delivering a letter from his master, which was written in general terms, the Vakeel began to expatiate on the distress to which the Raja was reduced, not only by the operations of Appa Dessye but by the rebellion of several of his principal subjects. He said that the Government of Bombay had formerly entered into a treaty with the Raja, in which both parties agreed to assist each other by all the means in their power whenever it should be requisite, and that the time was now come when nothing but the assistance of the British Government could save the Raja from ruin.

I disputed the existence of this treaty, and then told the Vakeel, that it had often been announced to his master that the British Government could not interfere in his affairs without deranging the general line of policy which it had adopted, and that nothing had lately taken place to induce it to alter its determination. The Vakeel replied that the Raja was reduced to great extremities, and asked what he was to do if the British Government would not protect him? I said if he had consulted me before he began his present war, I should have advised him not to engage in it, but that at this stage of the business it was not easy to advise him.

The Vakeel had then recourse to the humblest entreaties spreading out the skirts of his garment, as is customary in this country for a suppliant, and said that I must consider these submissions as made by the Raja in person, since they were made by his order. After saying something to soothe the Vakeel I told him that it was of no use to employ solicitation to me because I had no latitude or discretion, and must act as I was ordered, at the same time assuring him that the British Government wished his master well, and would be glad to see tranquillity established although it could not depart from its fixed maxims for the purpose.

The Vakeel then read to me the instructions he had received for the conduct of his mission to Goa. He was to engage to subsidize a British battalion, for the pay of which lands were to be assigned. The British Government was to engage to subdue the Raja's rebellious subjects, and to recover the countries held by Appa Dessye, part of which was to be ceded to the British Government. If a larger force than one battalion was required for any operation, the British Government was to receive half of the conquests. These were the heads of the proposed agreement as far as I can recollect them,

but the Vakeel said that the Raja was now ready to renounce all claims to Appa Dessye's lands and to cede his whole country to us, if we would assign him a stipend sufficient for his maintenance. I answered these proposals as I had done the first general overture, but stated more in detail the reasons which prevented the British Government acceding to the Raja's offers, and at last dismissed the Vakeel after promising to give him my answer to his master's letter in course of a few days.

Your Lordship will observe that I have given the Raja no reason to hope for our interference, but I beg leave to remark that in case your Lordship should think any arrangement with the Southern Jageerdars expedient, great advantage might be derived from the present situation of the Raja, which would dispose him to receive as a favour an offer for the arbitration of our Government on the principles proposed by Lord Wellington in 1804.

Chuntamun Row appears to have entirely withdrawn himself from all share in the Raja's designs. He had lately sent 200 horse to serve with the Paishwa, and tho' this force is not much more than a tenth part of his contingent, his sending any troops at all after so long an interval, is a proof of some anxiety to conciliate the Paishwa. Appa Sahib Putwurdhun is sending a similar body of troops under his brother Madhoo Row Dajee but they have not yet reached Poona.

His Highness the Paishwa arrived here on the 18th inst and was received with the usual honours. I shall have the honour of waiting on him for the purpose of presenting your Lordship's letter announcing your return to India in a few days.

No 57—The Resident issues strict orders to the Commandant of the Poona Subsidiary Force to stop the prevalent evil practice of English troops and officers forcing villagers to carry their goods without paying wages.

FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE,
TO—COL MONTRESSOR.

Poona, 26 January 1812

I have lately received many complaints from the inhabitants of the villages on the road between Bombay and our stations in the Paishwa's country of the hardships which they suffer from being pressed as begarries by British travellers and indeed by every person however remotely connected with the English.

I had particular opportunities of learning the extent of this abuse in a journey from which I am just returned. The Pottail of every village between this and Panwell came to me to complain

of the oppression to which they were exposed and in villages where there were safeguards the Pottail was always accompanied by the native officer or sepoy employed on that duty who confirmed the assertions of the Pottail and complained of the entire disregard that was paid to his remonstrances by all passengers who required begarries.

The custom of pressing begarries originates in an institution of the Native Governments by which a small portion of land is allowed in most villages to be held free of revenue on condition that the village shall supply a certain number of begarries to persons travelling on the business of the Government, but it was never intended to subject the whole inhabitants of a village to be pressed even by the officers of Government and still less to render them liable to be seized by every traveller. This practice like most others among the natives has run into great excess and is productive of the greatest oppression to the inhabitants of the country. The effects of it must be felt in every part of the Paishwa's Dominions but no where more than on the road between this and Panwell where the villagers complain that they are almost every day liable to be pressed and carried away from their labour however important the season may be to their husbandry or whatever call they may have for their presence at home. They even add that they frequently receive no pay for this very onerous service. So great is the weight of this oppression that the Paishwa's Ministers represent the villages in the Panwell road to have declined in consequence and to be no longer able to pay their usual revenue. Abuses of this nature when attributed to our troops are particularly inconsistent with our reputation both for justice and discipline and I have no doubt that you will be as anxious as I am to put a stop to them as far as they are caused by the conduct of any person belonging to the Subsidiary Force.

I have addressed the enclosed letters on this subject to the Officer Commanding at Panwell and to the Officer Commanding the Brigade at this place. I request that you will be pleased to issue orders to the Native Officers in command of parties on the road near Seroor directing them to afford the same protection in the same manner in which those between Poona and Panwell are directed to do in the enclosed letters.

It appears to me that troops marching from Panwell, Poona or Seroor might always provide carriage at those places, and if they made proper preparations there, they could require no begarries on the road. I have therefore the honour further to request that you will be pleased to recommend this arrangement to the force

and to issue orders that no begarries shall be pressed on any account. If notwithstanding the preparation above alluded to, any officers or troops should require coolies, they will always be able by offering sufficient pay to procure as many as the villages can conveniently supply and no more ought ever to be expected.

I beg leave to recommend that a copy of the orders should be sent to the officer at Panwell who may be instructed to send it with the book signatures to all officers on their arrival at that place.

Some cases must no doubt arise where it is absolutely necessary to press carts and coolies for the use of detachments marching on the public service but in those instances the commanding officers ought to pay the strictest attention to enforcing the punctual payment of the hire of the carts or coolies so pressed.

Should any other measure appear to you likely to increase the efficiency of the safeguards at the different villages on the road I beg that you will be pleased to adopt it.

No 58—The trouble created by the Pindaris, the investiture of Malhar Rao Holkar by the Peshwa and the disputes of the Southern Jagirdars are the subjects that were discussed by the Resident in his interview with the Peshwa.

**FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL**

Poona, 10 February 1812.

My Lord,

ganized, it would take a long time to restore. The Pindarries, I said, were light armed robbers, loosely united into predatory bands, who dispersed whenever serious danger threatened them, and again assembled as soon as that danger was passed over. I then recurred to the arguments which I formerly used to prove the necessity of His Highness's strengthening his army, and I did not fail to avail myself of the ground pointed out in the Chief Secretary's despatch dated the 3rd ultimo. The Paishwa promised to turn his attention to the increase of his army, and the subject was allowed to drop.

Having received private information on which I could rely, of a secret negotiation which had commenced at Sattarra between the Paishwa and Holkar's Durbar on the subject of the investiture of Mulhar Row by His Highness, I deemed it of importance to take the earliest opportunity of remonstrating on the subject. I had been informed that the Paishwa had been induced by a liberal offer of money to lend a favourable ear to the solicitations of Holkar's ministers, and that the conclusion of the arrangement was only put off by a reference made by Holkar's Vakeel to his Government on the subject of a peremptory demand on the Paishwa's part of a sum exceeding that which the Vakeel was authorized to offer. I accordingly acquainted the Paishwa that I had heard that His Highness was carrying on a negotiation with Holkar's Government, and that I begged to be informed of the origin of such a report. The Paishwa replied through the Minister that Holkar's Government had offered His Highness a sum of money as the price of a *cess* of honour for Mulhar Row, that the death of Jeswunt Row had abated the Paishwa's enmity to that Government, and that he was consequently more inclined to listen to any request from it than he had formerly been, but that he never intended to take any step without the advice of the British Government, and that he had taken care not to commit himself in his reply to a message which he had been obliged to receive without communicating with me. While the Minister was speaking, the Paishwa called out with great earnestness, that I was well acquainted with his sentiments towards the family of Holkar. After hearing these explanations, I addressed the Minister and stated that it would have been more satisfactory if the Paishwa had communicated his proceedings in the first stage for your Lordship's information as was required by the treaty in all negotiations with foreign states, that as this measure had unluckily been omitted I was happy to find that His Highness had not committed himself, because I should have many remarks to make on the proposed measure, if His Highness ever thought it necessary to revive the mention of it. The Paishwa and the Minister both assured me with a great deal of anxiety, that no step was ever

intended to have been taken without consulting the British Government. The Minister indeed went so far as to say that he was just going to have mentioned what had passed, when I had begun to speak on the subject

The subject of the Southern Jageerdars was revived at this interview, and I was informed of a proposal which had been made to the Paishwa by Gunput Row Putwurdhun, a son of Purseram Bhow, who is on bad terms with his brother, Appa Sahib, and has long resided at this capital. This proposal was that the Paishwa should assign a third of the lands formerly held by his father to him, and that he should engage to compel the other Putwurdhuns to serve the Paishwa faithfully agreeably to the conditions on which they held their lands and should dispossess them all in the event of their refusing to adopt this line of conduct. On my asking a few questions it appeared that Gunput Row meant the Paishwa to assist him with troops in the execution of this project, if such assistance should be required. I therefore observed that the plan appeared to be the same which the Paishwa had more than once mentioned of reducing the Southern Jagheerdars by force of arms, since it could not be expected that Appa Saheb would be more ready to yield obedience to the Paishwa in giving up a third of his Jageer, than he had been in performing his ordinary duties. This being the case, it would be necessary to consider how far the measure in contemplation could be carried into effect without a larger army than His Highness at present possessed. I added that to attempt it with inadequate means would only be to throw the southern countries into confusion and to render the Jagheerdars less tractable than they were at present.

I was somewhat surprised by the Paishwa's answer which was, that he was sensible of the necessity of a superior force to that which was now at his disposal for effecting his purpose. That he had looked to us for eight years in the hope that we would assist him in asserting his claims, but that he was now convinced that he must depend on his own exertions, and had therefore been increasing his army as I knew, and had besides been deliberating on other more extensive measures for the improvement of his military establishment. I assured His Highness that it gave me great pleasure to hear that he had begun to take such views of the case as he had just expressed, that it was obviously never the intention of the alliance that the British Government should charge itself with all the military duties of His Highness's country, and that in cases where the interposition of the British Government was due and would be given, it is still required that His Highness should

cooperate with a force which he certainly had not at present the means of bringing into the field. I then went on to urge the necessity of His Highness's completing his proposed arrangements with respect to his army before he entered on any enterprize which would require any considerable military exertion.

The Paishwa said he would consult with me fully on the subject before he took any further steps, and I after thanking him for his confidence, repeated that the necessity of improving his army before he began his operations, would be the first point to which I should call his attention in the event of such a consultation as His Highness proposed.

His Highness then announced his intention of beginning his annual journey to Copergaum in course of a few days, and mentioned that it was his intention while on this excursion, to make progress through the northern part of his dominions with a view to see the progress of improvement, and the means of defence already existing and to adopt such measures as should be likely to increase them both. I made a suitable reply to this communication, after which the Paishwa said that if anything occurred to require his presence at Poona, I had only to acquaint him with it and he would be here in four days, but he begged I would not suggest his return unless it was necessary for some important consideration. I replied that His Highness would at all time be the best judge of the importance of any affair which I might have occasion to communicate to him, and would act according to the dictates of his own understanding.

In course of the evening, the arrangement which has been made for the release and future support of the Prittee Niddee, was communicated to me. That chieftain is already at liberty, a Jagheer of 200,000 rupees per annum is to be assigned to him, and one of 25,000 to his mother. The Paishwa has annexed a variety of conditions to this grant, which are all intended to prevent a repetition of the former disorders, and which generally appeared to me to be reasonable. I replied to this detail in terms of approbation, and mentioned the propriety of being attentive to conciliating the goodwill of the Prittee-Niddee as he was about to be restored to freedom, and to some degree of consequence in the country.

Lieutenant Close, who arrived at Poona in the beginning of December, while the Paishwa was absent, was presented to His Highness on this occasion.

As I understand that the Paishwa has lately made some overtures to his brother Chumnajee Appa, I did not think it prudent to revive

the discussion of that prince's claims and grievances which I thought in such circumstances would be productive of injury rather than of service

I did not think it necessary to say anything on the subject of the fort of Ahmednuggur, the discussion of which had been deferred till this interview, as any proposition regarding it might be expected to come from the Paishwa if His Highness really entertained any wish on the subject

The state of the southern countries is improved by Appa Dessye's success. It is generally reported that peace has been granted by that chief to the Raja of Colapore. There are, however, strong appearances of approaching hostilities between Appa Dessye and Chintamun Row. Chintamun Row is busily employed in preparations. A letter was yesterday received from him by the Paishwa, in which he says that some of Appa Dessye's horse have killed one of his men, and begs His Highness to send back the small party that is serving here as his contingent, that it may be employed with his other troops in retaliating on Appa Dessye. The Minister, when he showed me this letter, remarked the effrontery of the proposal, that the Paishwa should send a body of troops which are maintained at His Highness's expense and for His Highness's services to act against one of the most faithful of his own servants, and drew from it a new argument for the necessity of the Paishwa's repressing the presumption of the Jagheerdars. In the mean time letters have been sent by the Paishwa to both chiefs directing them to abstain from hostilities.

No 59—The Resident M Elphinstone communicates to the Raja of Kolhapur British policy of absolute neutrality towards disputes between Indian Powers

Translation of a letter from the Resident at Poona to the Raja of Colapore, dated the 10th of February 1812

I have had the honour to receive your Highness's letter by Moonshee Mahommed Ibrahim. Your Highness is already apprized by my communications, that the British Government has no intention of departing from the policy with which your Highness was made acquainted by Colonel Close, and that whatever anxiety it may feel for your Highness's interests, it cannot take any share in your Highness's dispute without abandoning the line which it has deliberately marked out for its own conduct. Moonshee Mahommed Ibrahim will inform Your Highness of the details of the conversation which I had with him on this subject.

No 66—Complete reconciliation and cordial meetings between Baji Rao and his brother Chumnaji are reported by the Resident to the Governor General.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

Poona, 19 February 1812

I had the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the Paishwa had made some overtures to his brother Chumnajee Appa, which induced me to avoid renewing the subject of the differences between those princes at my last audience of His Highness.

The Paishwa's advances were of great use in disposing Chumnajee to a sincere reconciliation, and his conduct in his conversations with the Paishwa's messenger was such as cannot fail to make a good impression on His Highness's mind.

Soon after this communication, I received such messages from both the princes as led me to think the time favourable to bring about a reconciliation. The demands which each had brought forward on former occasions were numerous and difficult to adjust, but they now narrowed the ground of their own accord and were jointly persuaded that if they were once cordially reconciled, there would be no necessity for written agreements, as each might then depend on the other's affection for the accomplishment of any reasonable wish that he might entertain.

The Paishwa's chief anxiety was about his brother's marriage, a point to which His Highness attached great importance, and which in the opinion of the Hindoos, is material to His Highness's reputation. Appa Sahib was solicitous that the practice requiring him to sign receipts for his allowance, which were couched in very offensive terms, should be discontinued, that such as he had already signed should be destroyed, and that his confidential servants should at all times have access to the Paishwa, and be permitted to communicate Appa Sahib's wishes on all points connected with his honour and comfort, to which the Paishwa should be at liberty to pay whatever attention he thought proper. Both princes agreed to these terms and pledged themselves to me to perform them.

There were many points of inferior importance which they both agreed to leave unsettled, and to depend on each other's goodwill for their accomplishment.

At the Paishwa's request, I witnessed a paper in which it was stated that the agreement concluded through General Close and witnessed by that officer, should remain in force, but that His High-

ness should no longer require receipts of the kind which had given offence to Chinnajee

This paper appeared to me of no importance to be of any use. It ought to have contained all the stipulations made by each party, but all those stipulations had for their object an entire reconciliation, which was more likely to be obstructed than promoted by written terms, and the agreement settled by General Close appeared to have provided sufficiently for the honour and comfort of both parties in case any future dissensions took place. I should therefore have preferred avoiding all written papers and only signed this one to gratify the Paishwa

had not been got under by the exertions of Captain Ford, the Officer Commanding my escort, who went to the palace with a fire engine and a party of pioneers, as soon as the conflagration was reported, and who succeeded in checking it after the labour of a whole day. All the Ministers and great servants of the state attended on this occasion, which put a stop to all business.

No 62—Baji Raos conversation with the Residency Accountant Cursetjee is reported by the Resident, the subjects being the marriage of Chhmnaji Appa and the restoration of the fort of Ahmednagar

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,

TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Poona, 14 March 1812

The Minister's Dewaun, who transacts the business of the Government in the absence of his superior, yesterday desired Cursetjee, the Parsee Accountant of the Residency, to meet him at the old palace

Cursetjee accordingly attended at the time appointed, and the Dewaun consulted him on the propriety of the Paishwa's going in person to invite his brother to an entertainment on the beginning of the Hindoo year. While they were engaged in conversation the Paishwa arrived himself from the palace where he generally resides. He immediately began on the same subject, and Cursetjee recommended to His Highness to consult his own inclination and the ancient custom of his family, and took that and some other opportunities which offered to impress on the Paishwa the propriety of carrying on his intercourse with his brother directly, instead of using my intervention, a point which I am very desirous of bringing about. *The Paishwa then talked for some time on the subject of Appa Sahib's marriage which, he said he was resolved, should be solemnized with the same magnificence that had been displayed in his first nuptials, although by the custom of the Hindoos a second marriage is never considered as an occasion of so much pomp as a first.* Cursetjee commended His Highness's liberality and after some further observations on this subject, the conversation took another turn.

The Paishwa now complained of the delays that had taken place in the adjustment of his differences with the Nizam, and of the consequent loss of revenue to which he was exposed.

Cursetjee made him an answer which appeared to satisfy him, and His Highness then adverted to his demand for the fort of Ahmednuggur, on which he spoke with a good deal of earnestness. He said that Major General Close had told him that the fort would

be delivered up to him whenever he pleased, and added that he now wished particularly to have possession. Cursetjee made use of all the usual arguments to dissuade His Highness from bringing forward this demand, but the Paishwa appearing to be fixed in his intention, at last said he would report His Highness's wish to me. I have sent no answer to this message, and shall avoid going so, as long as I can, in the hope of receiving instructions on the subject before it becomes necessary for me to make it the subject of an avowed reference.

The Paishwa, as he was dismissing the Accountant, informed him that he should set off for Copergaum in a few days if his health was sufficiently re-established, otherwise he said he would put off his journey altogether.

I do not hear of any further disorders among the Southern Jagheerdars. I have, however, received frequent and serious complaints from the Nizam's officers and from the Court of Hyderabad on the subject of an incursion made by a considerable force belonging to Appa Dessye into the district of Perinda, which the Nizam's Government represents as entirely unprovoked and not justified by any reasonable pretext. I have made the necessary representations to the Paishwa, to Appa Dessye himself, who though the best behaved of the Southern Jagheerdars (except Gokla) is yet by no means incapable of the conduct attributed to him.

No 63—An interesting account of the buildings of the Poona Residency and the repairs and extensions that they needed is submitted by the Resident with a request for sanctioning the needful amounts.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY EDMONSTONE

Poona, 25 March 1812

I have the honour to enclose an estimate of the expense necessary for repairing the roof of my bungalow, for some purdahs,* for repairing two wells, and for building up a wall which cannot be expected to stand till next rains. The first and fourth of these charges require no remark, one of the wells is the only valuable structure belonging to the Residency (except an embankment necessary for keeping out the river) and it will be rendered entirely useless unless this charge be incurred. The former estimate for purdahs, enclosed in my letter dated 4th August 1811, was intended to replace the old ones which had gone to decay, the present is for some additional ones requisite to complete the dining bungalow.

* Screens

I am sorry to be under the necessity of recommending expenditure on the public buildings of this Residency twice within one year, but such is the state of those buildings that I can scarcely promise myself an exemption from the same disagreeable duty at any future period. A consideration of this circumstance leads me to suppose that it would be the truest economy for the Government to erect buildings of a permanent nature once for all rather than be at a constant expense in maintaining bungalows of so very inferior a description. I am confirmed in this opinion by a recollection of the consequences of a similar system at Nagpur, which from my having erected the cheapest possible buildings at the first establishment of the Residency, the Government has since been exposed to an expense for repairs and new buildings, much exceeding what would have been necessary, had I recommended the erection of a suitable Residency at first.

This Residency was built in 1786, by Sir Charles Warre Malet then Resident at this Court. It was calculated to afford such accommodation as was absolutely requisite for Sir Charles himself at a time when Poona was never visited by any English gentlemen except those attached to the Residency, and it was made as small as possible to avoid exciting the jealousy with which the Marattas of that period are well known to have viewed all attempts by Europeans to erect permanent habitations in their dominions. The only addition it has since received was by the erection of an apartment and a tiled passage while Captain Sydenham was in charge. It now consists of several small detached bungalows, the best of which is the dining room, a small tiled bungalow, open all round and not capable of accommodating even a small company. It is obvious from the above statement that the buildings at this place are but ill calculated for a Residency, but it is necessary to add that they are as deficient in convenience as in appearance, and that many houses in the cantonments of the Subsidiary Force, (moderate as they are) contain rooms surpassing the public apartments of the Residency. I have formerly had occasion to refer to Mr Russell's letter to the acting Civil Auditor dated the 27th February 1811, which will show the opinion which that gentleman entertained of this place.

The original buildings at the Residency cost 10,000 rupees, the additions made by Captain Sydenham cost 3,500 rupees which added to the former sum, makes the expense amount to 13,500 rupees. Sir Charles Malet was permitted to apply a sum amounting to 10,000 rupees, which he received from the Paishwa, to the erection of some buildings for himself and the gentlemen of his family. I do not know whether that sum was applied to the con-

struction of the present bungalows or to that of the temporary ones which Sir Charles at first inhabited, but it certainly was divided between the Resident and the other officers and no part of the charge fell on the British Government. No other aid of any description has ever been contributed by the Paishwa towards the expense of the Residency, and it is my opinion that none should ever be expected. The whole plate and furniture of every description can be valued at 7,000 or 8,000 rupees.

The nature of his office and the practice of the Government seem to establish, that a Resident should possess a spacious and commodious dwelling, and that the general appearance of his furniture and establishment should be superior to that ordinarily to be met with at the place where he resides. I have in my possession a plan which was prepared by an officer of engineers some years ago for a Residency at Poona, on as moderate a scale as would be consistent with the principle which I have just laid down. The house was to be but one story high, and the longest room was to be 36 feet by 24 broad. A house on that plan, with a few alterations, would be sufficient in proportion to the style of building commonly used in this part of the Deccan, as it would be much superior to any gentleman's house at Poona or Serror, and on calculating the expense of building and furnishing it, I find that in consequence of the high price of materials it would amount to about Rs 60,000. Being anxious to obviate the necessity of so large an expenditure, I have taken a good deal of pains to ascertain what is the least that could be done to render the Residency convenient for the purposes which it is intended to answer without going to the expense of erecting a new one. By building a room contiguous to the dining bungalow already mentioned by rendering habitable two other bungalows now deserted, and by purchasing and removing a considerable number of native huts in the heart of the Residency, the place might be rendered sufficiently convenient, though by no means such as Government would probably desire.

The expense of these repairs, together with a moderate addition of furniture, and the payment of some arrears for expenses of that nature which I had intended to defray out of the established allowance of 5819 rupees but which are liquidating very slowly, would raise the whole expense to 30,000 rupees. Of the possibility of meeting such expenses by means of the established allowance, the present state of the establishments of the Residency affords abundant proof.

I cannot take upon me to say that this last arrangement will provide suitable accommodation for the Residency, or that it will obviate the necessity of subsequent repairs, but I have thought it

my duty to submit both plans to the Government, which will be best able to judge which it is most expedient to adopt

No 64—The Resident orders a small military escort to accompany Jiu Bai, the widow of Nana Fadnis on her journey from Poona to Wal.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,

TO—ENSIGN SPRATT, COMMANDING AT PANWELL

Poona, 27 March 1812

I have the honour to acquaint you that Jewoo Bye the Widow of the late Nana Furnaveese has intimated a wish to visit Wye and to be allowed a small guard to attend her on her journey which will probably occupy one month

It is my desire therefore that you will comply with her wish by appointing a Naique and four sepoys to proceed with her accordingly

No 65—This minute of the Governor General authorises the Resident to arbitrate the dispute between the Peshwa and the Southern Jagirdars and to enforce the settlement even by means of an armed force
The Resident accomplished the purpose in due course

Extract from the Right Honourable the Governor General's Minute dated the 3rd April 1812

I have perused with the deliberation that the importance of the subject demands, the very able and comprehensive report of the Resident at Poona under date the 26th October 1811 relative to the Paishwa's claims on the Southern Jagheerdars and I now proceed to state to the Board my sentiments on that subject

The valuable information contained in the Resident's report supplies the materials which were wanting for the purpose of determining the expediency or in expediency of interposing our influence and power for the settlement of the Paishwa's claims upon the Jagheerdars and the nature and extent of our interference if it be employed at all

I shall proceed at once to consider the question as involving the discussion of all the leading topics of that report

The first question stated by the Resident is "whether the Paishwa's claims are just" On this point the Resident has observed that 'it cannot be answered with any precision, till the answers of the Jagheerdars to the Paishwa's demands have been heard, that it seems, however, to be admitted on all hands that some of the Paishwa's claims are just, particularly His Highness's claim to the military service of the Jagheerdars"

It is certainly true that the justice of most of the specific demands of the Paishwa on the Jagheerdars, cannot be determined until the answers of the latter shall have been received, but with regard to the general rights of the Paishwah over the Jagheerdars a consideration of which is sufficient for the present purpose, no doubt can be entertained, that the Paishwa is entitled to their obedience and their services and that generally speaking they yield him neither service nor obedience, are facts which admit of no question. We could not, therefore, withhold our assistance on an assumption of the justice of his claims.

The second question stated by the Resident is "whether the British Government is bound to assist the Paishwah in enforcing his claims, supposing them to be just", on which the Resident has observed, that it depends on the application of the terms of the Treaty of Bassein to the present case, and the decision of it must rest with the Government."

The following are the terms of the Treaty which are relative to the present question

"The Subsidiary Force will at all times be ready to execute services of importance, such as the protection of the person of His Highness, his heirs and successors, the overawing and chastisement of rebels or excitors of disturbance in His Highness's dominion, and due correction of his subjects or dependents who may withhold payment of the Sircar's just claims, but it is not to be employed on trifling occasions, nor like Sebundy to be stationed in the country to collect the revenues nor against any of the principal branches of the Marhatta Empire, nor in levying contributions from Marhatta dependents in the manner of Moolkgeery."

Some part of the preceding passages is obviously descriptive of the actual state of the Jagheerdars, and the only circumstance which affords a ground of argument on which the obligation of the Company to assist the Paishwa in enforcing his right over the Jagheerdars can be disputed is that the terms of treaty above quoted had relation in the view of those who framed them, to prospective acts of rebellion and contumacy on the part of the Paishwa's subjects and dependents, whereas the state of insubordination in which the Jagheerdars are at present, existed antecedently to and at the time of concluding the treaty of Bassein and has existed ever since, producing however occasionally new acts of contumacy on the part of Jagheerdars which singly, might be brought literally under the provisions of the Treaty, but which in the limited point of view above described, would not impose upon us the obligation of interfering further than might be necessary for the purpose of

correcting those specific acts. It may be remarked that the positive obligations of the Treaty of Bassein appear to have been viewed in this restricted sense under the administration of Marquis Wellesley, for the question of our interference in the settlement of the Paishwa's rights over the Jagheerdars was at that time discussed exclusively on the basis of policy and expediency. I am inclined to be of opinion, however, that according to the general spirit of the alliance, that interference when called for by the Paishwa is a matter of obligation on our part, for the converse of this proposition would amount to a denial of the Paishwa's right to claim the legitimate obedience and service of the Jagheerdars, and consequently to a guarantee of the condition of the latter as it existed at the date of the Treaty, neither of which can reasonably be supposed to have been intended. Hence it follows that we are not precluded by any obligation with respect to the Jagheerdars from the option of affording our aid to the Paishwah in establishing that degree of authority over them which is recognized as legitimate by the constitution of His Highness's Government. If, therefore, the policy of our interference be determined affirmatively, a decision upon the point of positive obligation becomes unnecessary.

The Resident has discussed the question of policy with so much force and ability and the arguments in support of it have been urged by authorities so respectable and competent, that little is left to be added on that subject.

The essential object of our interest as connected with the state of Poona is two fold, on the one hand to prevent any of its component parts from rising into a condition which would render it a source of danger rather than of support to our empire in India, and on the other, to maintain it in such a state of power and efficiency as to secure in our favour, the full operation of the alliance in the true spirit of its formation.

It cannot certainly be said that this two fold object would necessarily be lost in the event of the Paishwa being permitted to pursue and of his finally accomplishing his favourite purpose of completely reducing the Jagheerdars, but the preservation of that object under such a change of affairs is at least extremely problematical and the opinion upon this point recorded by Lord Wellington and acquiesced in by the then administration, is that we should be in a worse situation with regard to our interests as connected with the state of Poona than we were at the time when His Lordship had occasion to represent the utter incapability of the Paishwa to fulfil the duties of the alliance. But the hazard of the Paishwa failing in the attempt, the probability of its exciting disturbances which must affect the tranquillity of our own possessions or those of our allies,

and that our being compelled to incur the very inconvenience which we desired to avoid and to interfere under circumstances of extreme comparative disadvantage, perhaps of imminent danger, must be taken into account

In the second case stated by the Resident, that of the Jagheerdars establishing their entire independence, not only the evils represented by him must ensue, but the alliance with the Paishwa to every efficient purpose would become totally extinct and a new and independent power would rise upon its ruin

With regard to the only remaining circumstance in which the consequences of our non interference may be contemplated, that of affairs continuing as they have been for the last nine years the Resident has merely stated the following observations

' How the Jagheerdars would conduct themselves if they remained in their present condition and our interference were entirely withdrawn, it is difficult to conjecture, as the experiment has never fairly been tried, but the manner in which they have actually conducted themselves is known, as I think it appears that they have behaved with greater or less moderation according as we seemed to be more or less able and disposed to interfere in their concerns, and consequently that the Jagheerdars on their present footing require frequent interference on our part to prevent great disorders and always require it most when it is least in our power to afford it "

This observation appears to me perfectly just and it tends to prove that our interference could not be permanently withheld and that under a determination to withhold that interference as long as possible, it must be called for at a time when many disadvantages and possibly considerable dangers would attend it

But it is not on this ground alone that I found my opinion of the inexpediency of allowing affairs to remain in their present state. The alliance, as far as regards the duties of it imposed on the Paishwa, is in the same condition of inefficiency as it practicably was at the period of the war with confederate Mahratta Chiefs and from the same cause. The Paishwa's Minister acknowledged to Lord Wellington that the cause which prevented His Highness from fulfilling the obligations of his alliance on that occasion, was that the Putwurdhuns and other principal Jagheerdars had refused to serve and had disobeyed His Highness's orders. We have ourselves repeatedly seen that the Paishwa was unable to command the services of his Jagheerdars even for the purpose of our repelling the incursions of Pindaries. The Paishwa's force is stated by the Resident to consist of no more than about 6500 horse and 3000 foot

and even of this force 4000 horse are stated to have been raised since the last incursion of the Pindaries and in another part of his report, the Resident adverts to the Paishwa's complaint, that Jagheerdars instead of serving themselves oblige His Highness to keep some of his own troops from all other service to watch their motions. It is superfluous, therefore, to observe how utterly incapable the Paishwa must be, of fulfilling his engagements, which in a case of joint war bind him specifically to supply a force of 10 000 horse, and 6 000 infantry and generally to employ every further effort of his power for the purpose of bringing into the field the whole force which he may be able to supply from his dominions. It is equally obvious that the Jagheerdars in their actual state of insubordination and disobedience must in a case of war constitute a source of danger, *instead of assistance to both Governments* the result then is that contrary to the essential object of the alliance as above described, the state of Poona is at this moment in a condition which in a case of war wherein the Paishwa would be required to co operate, would render it a source of danger than of support to us.

It is on this special ground that I conceive our interference between the Paishwa and his Jagheerdars with a view to place them in a state of due submission to his authority and thereby to give strength and efficiency to his Government to be more than expedient, to be essentially necessary to the preservation of an important branch of our political interests in India, which it accords with and in my own view of the subject is demanded by the spirit of our engagements.

The next and last point stated by the Resident for consideration is the extent to which it is expedient to assist the Paishwa, the policy of our interference being assumed.

On this point the able remarks and suggestion of the Resident combined with the information which he has afforded, leave me little to add.

I have no hesitation in expressing my entire concurrence in the basis of arbitration and adjustment proposed by the Resident, to make it a condition of our interference that the Paishwa should give up the design of reducing the Jagheerdars and allow the British Government to guarantee their regular Serinjaumee lands to them, as long as they shall serve His Highness with fidelity, the Paishwa also engaging to satisfy such claims of the Jagheerdars as the British Government shall judge to be equitable.

The corresponding terms suggested by the Resident to be proposed to the Jagheerdars likewise appear to me to be entirely pro-

per and judicious, and I fully concur in the suggestion that the British Government should take the whole conduct of the negotiation into its own hands for the reasons therein stated, obtaining in the first instance full powers from the Paishwa for that purpose

The Resident in his report has judiciously proceeded upon the principle of simplifying as much as possible the claims of the parties. Their claims, unless bounded by some definitive rules, would produce interminable discussions, which would defeat the object of our interference. I, therefore, entirely concur in the limitation of the Paishwa's claims and his several suggestions appear to me to merit unqualified approbation. It will only be necessary in the event of the Board's concurrence in my sentiments to authorize the Resident to act in conformity to his own propositions.

The grounds on which the Resident founds a confidence that no resistance will be offered by the Jagheerdars either singly or combined, appear to me to be solid. It cannot indeed be supposed that demands so just and moderate as those which are proposed, would drive them to the desperate measure of encountering the British arms at a time when we are disengaged from foreign war and when our troops could be brought to act against them in every direction. There is no proportion between the privations, restraints and duties to which they would be required to submit by those demands, and the eventual consequences of their opposition, and even admitting their disposition to resist, the physical and moral obstacles to a combination in any degree formidable, are such as may be considered to render it altogether impracticable. If, however, the spirit of turbulence, disaffection and hostility which could excite such a combination actually exists in the minds of the Jagheerdars, it obviously becomes an object of augmented importance to reduce them to obedience, with a view to preclude the danger which its activity would produce at a future season, when we might be less in a condition to encounter it.

At the same time a certain degree of precaution may be proper to provide against the possibility of such an occurrence and I would, therefore, propose that the Government of Fort St. George be confidentially apprized of the measures in agitation and be desired to hold corps stationed at Belharı and Canara in a state to move at the shortest notice, when the Resident's negotiations shall have commenced. The Resident at Mysore should also perhaps be provisionally authorized at the requisition of the Resident at Poona to apply to the Rajah for the stipulated services of the Sillehdar horse to be advanced to the frontier and prepared to act as circumstances may require. In like manner the Resident should be authorized to require the advance of the disposable part of the

force stationed at Jaulna. The necessity and the period of requiring the movement of any of these corps must, of course, be left to the judgment of the Resident aided by the professional opinion of the officer commanding the Subsidiary Force of Poona, but under any circumstances, these corps could probably only be required to guard the frontiers as the Subsidiary Force of Poona, joined by such troops as the Paishwa could command, would no doubt be adequate to meet any degree of practicable opposition.

It may be proper to observe that any arrangements preparatory to this eventual exigency should be adopted with the caution and reserve necessary to preclude premature alarm in the minds of the Jagheerdars and others.

The time of opening the negotiations with the Paishwa and the Jagheerdars must of course be regulated by the season favourable for the operations of troops. On this point I do not possess accurate information but judging from the experience of past times, it may be assumed that the ensuing months of May and June are not unfavourable in the western provinces of the Deccan, and I have reason to suppose that the troops can keep the field even in the season of the rains. This, however, is a point which the local military authorities are best competent to decide.

No. 66—The Resident communicates to the Governor General that the Peshwa was at Kopergaum and was indisposed.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Poona, 4 April 1812

My Lord

For some time past the Paishwa has been at Copergaum and the Minister on leave of absence at his native village, and all business at this Court has been at a stand.

His Highness the Paishwa has been indisposed for some time, and his health does not appear to improve. His illness however it is to be hoped is not serious. It seems to be of the nature of a jaundice.

Appa Sahib Putwurdhun appears to be conforming to the Paishwa's orders in giving up a third of his Jagheer to his brother Gunpant Row. Among other places he has given up his provincial capital of Tasgaum agreeably to the Paishwa's instructions. This ready obedience of Appa Sahib is certainly very different from what might have been expected. It seems to be complete and sincere, and if so it furnishes a strong proof of the weakness of the

Southern Jagheerdars, or rather of the impression made on them by the decided interference of the British Government in the end of 1810

No 67—The Resident communicates to the Governor General skirmishes that had taken place between the Raja of Kolhapur and the Chief of Nipani and the warning he administered to the former through his vakeel

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Poona, 15 May 1812.

My Lord,

I have lately received information that the Raja of Kolapore is again assembling troops and has already got together about 7,000 men. I have this day learned that a skirmish has taken place between his troops and those of Appa Dessye, but it does not appear which party was the aggressor.

The Raja of Kolapore's Vakeel came to me two days ago on purpose to acquaint me that his master was levying troops, but assured me that his doing so was entirely with a view to his own defence, and that he had no intention of making an attack on Appa Dessye. I took the opportunity of dissuading him from entering into hostilities again and pointing out the ill consequences of such a system of conduct.

The Vakeel visited me again this morning, acquainted me with the skirmish which had taken place, the blame of which he threw entirely on Appa Dessye, and concluded by informing me that in consequence of this aggression the Raja had ordered his army to move against Appa Dessye. I expressed my surprise at this intelligence, remarking to the Vakeel that his master had formerly gone to war contrary to my advice, and yet had come to request the assistance of the British Government after a failure, that he seemed to be pursuing the same course again and must do so under the same disadvantages. If the Raja was defeated, I observed, it was obvious that he must suffer great loss, but if he were successful his prospects would not be in any respect improved. The only use of a victory would be to follow it up by invading and seizing on Appa Dessye's Jageer, but as that country formed a part of the Paishwa's territories, it was not to be expected that His Highness would look on and see it conquered by a foreign power. The result of the greatest success the Raja could meet with, would therefore

be to involve him in a war with the Paishwa His Highness would therefore do well to consider how he entered on a conflict in which he had every thing to lose and nothing to gain The safest course, as well as the justest, would be to state his complaints against Appa Dessye to the Paishwa or to me, and to expect redress if it was due to him from the justice of the allied powers

The Vakeel then spoke as if the Raja's troops were not sufficiently advanced to have occasioned an engagement, gave me to understand that the Raja would avoid hostilities, and then renewed his old claims for Chickoree and Manowlee I said I hoped the Raja would yet be able to avoid hostilities and that the British Government would see with regret any measure adopted by His Highness which would tend to his own injury I alluded to the long disturbances which His Highness had occasioned, and to the depredations committed on our trade by his subjects, and finally dismissed the Vakeel with a promise that I would speak to him more fully on these subjects hereafter, if in the mean time his master suspended all his operations against Appa Dessye

The Raja of Kolapore's Vakeel brought me a letter from Madhoo Row Rastia the great Jageerdar setting forth the claim of his on another Sirdar of the Paishwa I told the Vakeel that I should be happy to see any person whom Madhoo Row should send to me on his own part, but that I could not enter on any discussion of Rastia's affairs with him I this morning sent for Rastia's Vakeel, and expressed my surprise at his master's sending me a message by the Vakeel of a foreign power, expressing at the same time my readiness to attend to anything he should think proper to communicate in an unobjectionable form Soon after Rastia's Vakeel was gone, the Kolapore Vakeel came accompanied by another person from Rastia I refused to see him while the Vakeel was at the Residency, and when I did receive him, I only referred him to the message which I had just sent to his master

Understanding that Chintamun Row has renewed his negotiations with the Raja of Kolapore and has even sent some troops to the Raja's army, I propose to write a strong remonstrance to him on the subject, and I shall do myself the honour to transmit a copy of it to be laid before your Lordship through the regular channel

The Paishwa still continues at Copergaum He has been joined by his brother, whom he received very honourably His Highness went to meet Chinnajee and brought him to the town on the same elephant with himself, the marriage of the latter prince will now be concluded in the course of a few days, and the Paishwa will probably return to Poona immediately after the ceremony

No 68—The marriage of the Peshwa's brother Chinnajt Appa is reported
It took place at Kopargaum on 20th May

**FROM—THE RESIDENT
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.**

Poona, 21 May 1812

I was visited this forenoon by the Minister's Dewaun who is in charge of the Government during the absence of the Paishwa and the Minister, and had the satisfaction from him that the Paishwa had gone through all the ceremonies previous to Chinnajee Appa's marriage in a manner calculated to give the greatest satisfaction to his brother, and to show publicly His Highness's anxiety to pay him every mark of honour and affection. The marriage was to take place yesterday, and the Paishwa is to set out on his return in the first week in June.

No 69—Elphinstone here proposes to start negotiation with the Raja of Kolhapur and thus gain certain advantages in settling later the disputes of the Peshwa with his Jagirdars. Such a course he says offers certain prospect of success.

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY EDMONSTONE**

Poona 22 May 1812

Sir,

My dispatch of yesterday will have made the Right Honourable the Governor General acquainted with my proceedings respecting the Raja of Kolapore, but I am induced to offer such remarks on them as are connected with the settlement of the Southern Maratta Country, in a separate letter to prevent His Lordship's intentions on that subject from being divulged in consequence of the numerous copies that are made of my regular dispatches.

It appears to be very desirable to separate the negotiation with the Raja of Kolapore from that with the Southern Jagirdars so as to keep the Raja's interests distinct from those of the other body, and prevent their combining to resist the measures of the British Government and there are particular reasons in the present state of affairs for beginning with the Raja.

In the first place the Raja having already assembled an army and begun to act against the Paishwa, it is a point of considerable

consequence to prevail on him to desist, which is not likely to be the case by any means but by threatening him with our resentment if he continues, and offering our arbitration if he refrains from hostilities. If the war with the Raja should be protracted till the commencement of the discussions with the Southern Jagheerdars, he would no doubt, exert himself to the utmost to excite that body to revolt and join him against the Paishwa and his attempts might not be unsuccessful at a time when the Jagheerdars had personal grounds of dissatisfaction with His Highness and the British Government.

In the second place the Raja of Kolapore would probably join with the Jagheerdars in any attempt at resistance to which our propositions impel them and this he would do for the sake of the contested districts, even if no demands were made on him by the British Government or the Paishwa but the Jagheerdars are by no means likely to join with the Raja against the allies unless some steps of ours were to give them a personal interest in resisting us. It is true that Chintamun Row is already closely connected with the Raja, and that Appa Dessye has reported Chintamun Row as being interested in that alliance by a wish to ruin the Paishwa, and to form such a combination as should deter His Highness from bringing forward any demands against the Jagheerdars, but this plan is not sufficiently matured to induce Chintamun Row to run the risk of our displeasure for the mere purpose of keeping up the confederacy. The progress which has been made towards a combination between the Jageerdars and the Raja of Kolapore, and the strength of the army which that chief has been able to assemble, are, however, very convincing proofs of the disorder into which the Southern countries are falling, and of the necessity of immediate measures being taken to secure their tranquillity. The present state of those countries in the event of any extensive war to the northward of the Nerbudda, would expose the communication between Mysore and Poona to be cut off if it was not sufficient to alarm us for the tranquillity of the country in the immediate neighbourhood of this capital.

Another reason for beginning with the Raja is, that the present juncture affords a favourable opportunity for obtaining the Paishwa's consent to our arbitration, and, at the same time, it is more consistent with the line of conduct hitherto adopted by the British Government to interpose at a convenient moment when its good offices are necessary to avoid great calamities than at another when affairs are in their ordinary train, and our interference does not appear to be called for. I have it also in my power to open this matter to the Paishwa by letter while I was obliged to defer the

more complicated negotiation respecting the Jageerdars till I could communicate personally with His Highness

It is likewise to be considered that if the present negotiation fails, the Raja of Kolapore will not be more likely to interrupt the settlement with the Southern Jageerdars than he would have been if it had never been commenced, but if it succeeds, that settlement will be greatly facilitated by securing the Raja and depriving the Jageerdars of all hope of advantage from his military aid and from the strength of his country, which would otherwise afford them a desirable retreat in case of our being obliged to occupy their own lands. For all these reasons it seems desirable to begin with the Raja of Kolapore and if possible to conclude the adjustment with him before that with the Jageerdars is commenced on, but if the present negotiation threatens to be protracted to a great length, the danger of losing the opportunity and the chance of counteraction to which the arrangement with the Jageerdars would be exposed if it were to transpire, may render it necessary to enter on the settlement with them, before that with the Raja is brought to a conclusion

His Lordship will have observed that I have mentioned both to the Raja and His Highness the Paishwa, that the British Government intends to insist on reparation for the depredations committed by the former upon its trade. I thought it necessary to declare this in the present stage of the business, but if it were concealed till the parties had consented to our arbitration, they might, indeed, suppose that we were led to make demands upon the Raja by the advantages which we derived from our situation as arbitrators, whereas my present declaration will satisfy them that these demands were part of His Lordship's original design, and that we have no intention of making use of the arbitration for the purpose of gaining anything for ourselves

I have been able to make but few enquiries as yet respecting Sawant Waree, the Raja having been ill and as the Ministers and Dewan are one of Kolapore's allies, I took occasion to enquire into the relation which he bore to the Paishwa. I was informed that while that Government was settled, it was entirely subordinate to the Paishwa's, but that it had been for a year or two in the hands of usurpers, who paid only a nominal obedience to His Highness's authority. The situation of that state in other respects is fully elucidated in the report which has been transmitted to you by the envoy at Goa, but I shall not fail to take an early opportunity of obtaining such additional information regarding it as may be within my reach

No 70—The Resident forwards a letter from the Peshwa to the Governor General

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—JOHN MONCKTON, ESQUIRE

Poona 26 May 1812

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose a letter from His Highness the Paishwa in reply to one from the Right Honourable the Governor General, announcing His Lordship's return to India from the expedition against Java

No 71—The officer reports to the Resident what articles belonging to Amrit Rao were found at the fort of Ahmednagar

FROM—OFFICER COMMANDING AT FORT AHMED-
NAGAR,
TO—THE HON'BLE M ELPHINSTONE

Ahmednagar, 30 May 1812

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th and in compliance with your desire, I have given the bearer access to such things as I can find in the fort are the property of His Highness Amrut Row. The man says he has found very few of the articles he expected, and produces a list of what he did. Amongst other things he mentions a quantity of gun-powder which we doubt has long since been condemned and destroyed, also several other perishable articles which we cannot expect to find considering the length of time they must have been here. Much of what he expected to find here was, I imagine, removed hence seven or eight months ago, as I perfectly recollect that a number of guns, tumbrils etc, were taken out of the fort by a man who came from Poona for that purpose

No 72—The Resident requests exemption from customs dues for Sardar Dhamdhere, the Peshwa's father-in-law, in his pilgrimage to Benares

FROM—ELPHINSTONE,
TO—MR CHIEF SECRETARY EDMONSTONE

Poona, 20 June 1812

Sir,

On the 25th of November last, I had the honour to transmit a copy of a letter which I had addressed to the Agent for the Right

Honourable the Governor General at Benares, requesting an exemption from the Government customs for Anna Dhumderry, the Paishwa's father-in-law and for the party with him. The rank and character of this Sirdar and his intimate connection with the Paishwa, rendered it impossible for me to refuse him an exemption, but I now understand from Anna Dhumderry himself that some difficulties are made regarding it on the ground that the Collector is not directly authorized by Government to remit the customs in Dhumderry's favour. I therefore beg that you will be pleased to submit the case to the Right Honourable the Governor General for his orders.

No 73—The Resident communicates a full report of his interview with the Peshwa on the subject of effecting a settlement with the Southern Jagirdars.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Poona, 23 June 1812.

I am concerned to acquaint your Lordship that little progress has as yet been made in the adjustment of the disputes between His Highness the Paishwa and the Raja of Kolapore.

His Highness the Paishwa returned from Copergaum on the 2nd instant and I lost no time in soliciting an audience but a number of obstacles arising from the Hindoo religion which so frequently interrupt the business of this Durbar prevented my obtaining one till the 8th when I waited on the Paishwa at his palace.

After congratulating him on his return and on Appa Sahib's marriage, I delivered your Lordship's message expressing your Lordship's satisfaction at His Highness's reconciliation with his brother, and made such observations as I thought likely to dispose His Highness to keep up the good understanding now established.

I then addressed His Highness on the subject of his army and country, and after a preamble intended to conciliate his mind, and to show him that the British Government was actuated by its anxiety for His Highness's welfare alone in pressing him on this subject, I reminded him of the expectations that were entertained when the alliance was first formed regarding the prosperity to which his Government would attain when secured from all external danger, I contrasted the improvement which was thus looked for, with the actual state of the country, and showed that the disappointment which had been experienced was entirely owing to the notion entertained by His Highness that the alliance was to do every thing,

and that no sacrifice or exertion on his part was necessary even for the settlement of his own dominion. I pointed out the state of disorder and insubordination in which many parts of the country were, even in times of profound peace, and observed that instead of contributing to the strength of the alliance during war, His Highness's Government actually weakened it by requiring the presence of a considerable British force to secure the internal tranquillity of his possessions. These considerations, I said, had induced your Lordship (who were always anxious for His Highness's prosperity as well for his own sake as for the general benefit of the alliance) to instruct me to call His Highness's attention to the state of his army and of his dominions and I added that as I had proposed several plans which had not been carried into effect, I had now to beg that His Highness would be pleased to state the measures which he himself thought best calculated for the attainment of the end in view.

The Paishwa showed the utmost reluctance to enter on business of any description till the return of Sedasheo Maunkaisur, and several times endeavoured to evade replying to my question by referring me to that Minister, who, he said, was fully apprized of his views and intentions on the subject to which I had called his attention but when I had pressed him as far as I could with propriety, he said I knew the state of his Serinjaumy Sirdars, and that until something were settled about them, it would be impossible to take any step for the improvement of the army. Being anxious to discover His Highness's sentiments regarding those Sirdars without committing the Government, I took this opportunity of begging His Highness to inform me of the nature of the settlement which he wished to make with them, to which the Paishwa replied that he never wished to have a single Serinjaumy horseman in his service, and that his desire was to form an army on the model of that of the British Government. He begged me to say no more on the subject at that time, and assured me that he would make me acquainted with the details of his plan as soon as the Minister returned.

As I found that His Highness was determined to avoid discussing his projects regarding the Jageerdars, I urged him no farther. He had, however, said enough to show that he is still bent on confiscating the lands of the Jagheerdars, but if His Highness is sincere in his professed intention of forming an army on the English model, it is to be hoped that he may be brought to limit his design, and content himself with raising a body of regular troops to be paid from the usurped lands which he may hereafter be enabled to recover.

I next called His Highness's attention to the disputes between his Government and the Raja of Kolapore, and desired to be informed of his sentiments on the letter which the Minister's Dewaun had written to him at my request. His Highness replied he had read that letter with great attention and was determined to support Appa Dessye. He said he would send Gokla for that purpose with his own artillery, and that he would make every exertion to reduce the Raja without delay.

I said that his resolution was very judicious if no other means should be found for removing the present disputes with the Raja, but that he had been twice defeated before, and yet the quiet of the country was as far as ever from being secured, I would therefore advise His Highness to try the method which he had himself originally proposed and which had been recommended in the Dewaun's letter. The Paishwa replied that General Close had already examined his claims and had been satisfied of their justice, but that he had not been able to prevent the Raja from repeatedly attacking his (the Paishwa's) territory. I said the advantage of the plan which I proposed was that if His Highness and the Raja once consented to the arbitration, the British Government would interfere in such a manner as to prevent all further disorder.

After some more conversation the Paishwa gave his formal consent to the arbitration, and on my enquiring whether I might acquaint the Raja of Kolapore with His Highness's acquiescence in our arbitration and invite that prince to consent to the same arrangement, His Highness said I might do so without hesitation and promised to send all the papers requisite for investigating his claims to me as soon as the Minister returned.

The lateness of the hour prevented any further conversation at this meeting but I took an early opportunity of waiting on His Highness again to inform him of the details of the proposed arrangement and particularly of the projected demands of the British Government for certain forts in the Raja's country on the sea-coast which might secure our trade from all future annoyance by the pirates belonging to the Raja's ports. The Paishwa heard the statement with great complacency, but declined making any remark on it till the Minister should return, nor was it in my power to induce him to alter his resolution.

The business therefore remained at a standstill till the 19th when the Minister arrived from his village of Tambburni. I immediately sent to request an interview with him, but he was prevented by illness from receiving me till yesterday evening.

I began the conference by recapitulating what had passed between me and the Paishwa regretting that the Minister had not been present, but observing that His Highness had no doubt made him acquainted with all that took place, to which the Minister replied in the affirmative. He then began a history of the Kolapore Government as far as related to that of Poona which lasted for upwards of half an hour, but which contained nothing worthy of remark except a studied attempt throughout to insinuate that the Raja of Kolapore was a subject of the Paishwa. At the end of this discourse the Minister observed, that so much expense had been incurred in maintaining the Paishwa's right to Chickoree and Manowlee, that the question regarding the possession of those districts had entirely changed its basis. The Paishwa had at first made the most equitable proposals for submitting the Raja's claims to the arbitration of the British Government. The Raja had refused the offer, and had endeavoured to possess himself of the two districts by force and the Paishwa was certainly entitled to indemnification for the expense to which he had been put by that unjust attack. No plan of adjustment, therefore, remained but to desire the Raja to give up his claims to the districts.

I remarked that the Minister's view of the subject differed so much from that taken by His Highness the Paishwa, that I was unable to guess what were the intentions of His Highness's Government. I then asked whether the Minister wished the confusions occasioned by the disputes with Kolapore to continue, or whether he thought the Raja would ever agree to an adjustment on the principle of his giving up the point for which he had so long been contending?

The Minister answered my first observation by calmly observing that he had not conversed with the Paishwa on the subject of the proposed adjustment and said that he certainly wished the disputes to cease and added that if the Raja would not listen to the terms offered to him, he ought to be made to listen to them. I said, the best way to make him listen to terms would be to propose reasonable ones, and it would be time enough to resort to violent measures if he rejected them.

The Minister then said he would communicate what I had said now to the Paishwa, and I observed that there was nothing new to His Highness in these observations that His Highness had heard them and given his consent to an arbitration, and that my business at present was to communicate the claims of the British Government on the Raja of Kolapore which I thought it would be advantageous to discuss at the same time with His Highness's disputes.

I then briefly stated the transactions which had taken place between the British Government and the Raja of Kolapore since the year 1765, and opened the plan by which we proposed to secure our trade from future depredation

The Minister heard me to the end and then said, that if I would show the grounds of our claims to the Paishwa, His Highness would immediately investigate them. I said an investigation by His Highness would not be at all necessary, as we did not call on His Highness for his mediation or assistance in settling our claims, but the British offered to undertake the adjustment of his differences, in which we were solely actuated by a wish for the prosperity of his Government

The Minister then brought forward in express terms the Paishwa's claim to sovereignty over Kolapore, and I endeavoured to avoid the discussion, observing that His Highness's relation to Kolapore did not affect the present question, since that Prince's right to negotiate directly with the British Government was established by the practice of nearly 60 years, and had ever been admitted by the Poona Government

The Minister afterwards enquired what means we should take to enforce our claims if we did not apply to the Paishwa, and I said we might procure the money due to us and a sufficient security by amicable negotiation, we might depend on the system of blockade which had so long been practised, or we might send a force as had been done formerly, and occupy some of the Raja's forts. The Minister said the British Government surely would not take such a measure as the last mentioned without communicating with the Paishwa, and I answered that the intimacy of our alliance with His Highness naturally led us to communicate many of our designs to him, but that the same measure had formerly been pursued without any communication with the Government of Poona

After much unsatisfactory discussion the Minister brought forward a proposal which had been made to me in less distinct terms by the Paishwa before the Minister's arrival. It was, that the Paishwa should become responsible for the money due to the British Government by the Raja of Kolapore, and should bind himself to make up all future losses which might arise from the depredations of that prince or his subjects. I endeavoured to show the Minister the disadvantage to which the Paishwa would expose himself by entering into such an engagement but as he seemed very anxious that it should be agreed to, I asked him in very distinct terms whether the Paishwa would pay the money due to the British Government amounting to 50 lacs of rupees out of his own treasury without delay, and whether he would bind himself to pay the price of all ships and cargoes hereafter plundered by the pirates of

speedy termination, but I cannot venture to fix with any precision, the time when I shall be at liberty to open the proposed arrangement to the Jageerdars

The circumstance most likely to occasion delay at present is the Paishwa's opposition to the proposed demand of Malwaun, and though considering that object by itself, I should not hesitate (from the manner in which I understand your Lordship's instructions) to waive it for the present, rather than run any risk of the failure of the general arrangements, yet it is impossible to give it up on the grounds brought forward by the Paishwa without being exposed to serious future inconvenience

The Raja of Kolapore and Appa Dessye continue inactive The Raja's Vakeel professes that his master's forbearance is owing to my injunctions, but the truth is that his troops are mutinous and will not move The Raja has sent no answer to the overtures I made to him through his Vakeel and perhaps he may not be inclined to receive them favourably as long as he can keep an army together It is not desirable that he should meet any reverse at present as such an event might render the Paishwa unwilling to submit to our arbitration and would tend to His Highness's own detriment in the end, but if the arbitration were once settled with the Paishwa, the sooner Appa Dessye attacks the Raja, the better, as a defeat would in all probability, bring back the disposition on the Raja's part, which formerly made it so easy to have effected a permanent adjustment of his affairs

I shall hereafter have the honour to report to your Lordship the correspondence I have had with the different political and military authorities on the arrangements to be adopted in case of opposition on the part of the Jageerdars I have not yet received the final answer of the Government of Fort St George, but I conceive that all military preparations will be complete before the previous negotiations can be closed

No 74—This is a significant communication in which the high tone assumed by the Peshwa in asserting his rights over all the chiefs of the Maratha confederacy and the equally vehement rejection of those claims by the Resident are markedly exhibited

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

Poona 27 June 1812

My Lord,

Since I last had the honour to address your Lordship I have had another interview with the Minister, at which he informed me that

Kolapur, to both which questions the Minister replied in the affirmative. I then enquired whether this proposal was really made in good faith, or whether it was merely an expedient to gain time for some purpose which I could not perceive? The Minister declaring that it was made in perfect good faith, I asked what the Paishwa was to gain by it, and pointed out that the Raja of Kolapore would not in consequence be induced to submit to the Paishwa's authority, nor would the British Government recognize His Highness's sovereignty over Kolapore, so that he would merely pay 50 lakhs of rupees for the Raja without any return whatever. The Minister, however, persevered in his offer and said he would settle the matter with the Paishwa and see me again, when he would also communicate His Highness's final determination regarding the arbitration.

Though the Minister's conversation, which I have just reported, appears so wild and extravagant, it has at least the advantage of bringing the Paishwa to the alternative of making good our demands (to which I am certain he will never consent) or of agreeing to our settling with the Raja as we ourselves think best. His objections to our doing so at once are certainly in the highest degree unreasonable, and I did not fail to complain of them, and of the Paishwa's interfering to prevent our obtaining satisfaction for our just claims when we were entering on a negotiation almost exclusively for His Highness's benefit, but the necessity of preserving the Paishwa's confidence renders it necessary to pay more attention to his arguments in support of his supposed rights than their intrinsic importance deserves.

To show the Paishwa more strongly the absurdity of the course he is now pursuing, I have drawn up a statement of the Minister's proposals which I shall transmit to the Paishwa previously to my next interview with the Minister which, I hope, will take place to-morrow.

I anticipate your Lordship's dissatisfaction at the loss of valuable time which is occasioned by these frivolous discussions, but such delays can scarcely be avoided at Poona. Pilgrimages and other religious ceremonies actually occupy one half of every month, and both the Paishwa and the Minister are often averse to business on days when it might otherwise be transacted. Nor are these compensated by any vigour or dispatch in affairs that are once begun. The procrastination which the Marattas employ from mistaken policy is proverbial, and the dislike to direct dealings protract the completion of every transaction in which they are engaged.

As it still appears to me very desirable that the settlement with the Jageerdars should be made during the rainy season, I shall use my utmost exertions to bring the negotiations with the Paishwa to a

speedy termination, but I cannot venture to fix with any precision, the time when I shall be at liberty to open the proposed arrangement to the Jageerdars

The circumstance most likely to occasion delay at present is the Paishwa's opposition to the proposed demand of Malwaun, and though considering that object by itself, I should not hesitate (from the manner in which I understand your Lordship's instructions) to waive it for the present, rather than run any risk of the failure of the general arrangements, yet it is impossible to give it up on the grounds brought forward by the Paishwa without being exposed to serious future inconvenience

The Raja of Kolapore and Appa Dessye continue inactive The Raja's Vakeel professes that his master's forbearance is owing to my injunctions, but the truth is that his troops are mutinous and will not move The Raja has sent no answer to the overtures I made to him through his Vakeel and perhaps he may not be inclined to receive them favourably as long as he can keep an army together It is not desirable that he should meet any reverse at present as such an event might render the Paishwa unwilling to submit to our arbitration and would tend to His Highness's own detriment in the end, but if the arbitration were once settled with the Paishwa, the sooner Appa Dessve attacks the Raja, the better, as a defeat would in all probability, bring back the disposition on the Raja's part, which formerly made it so easy to have effected a permanent adjustment of his affairs

I shall hereafter have the honour to report to your Lordship the correspondence I have had with the different political and military authorities on the arrangements to be adopted in case of opposition on the part of the Jageerdars I have not yet received the final answer of the Government of Fort St George, but I conceive that all military preparations will be complete before the previous negotiations can be closed

No 74—This is a significant communication in which the high tone assumed by the Peshwa in asserting his rights over all the chiefs of the Maratha confederacy and the equally vehement rejection of those claims by the Resident are markedly exhibited

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

Poona 27 June 1812

My Lord,

Since I last had the honour to address your Lordship I have had another interview with the Minister, at which he informed me that

he had communicated the paper, which he had received from me to the Paishwa, and that His Highness had directed him to assure me that as soon as the statement of our claims should be presented, he would then call on the Raja of Kolapore for his answer, that if our claims appeared well founded he would desire the Raja to satisfy them, and if that should be beyond the Raja's ability, the Paishwa would see whether it would suit him to take the settlement on himself, and inform me whether he would or would not

To this I replied that the plan proposed was entirely inadmissible, that we could negotiate with the Raja ourselves without giving His Highness the trouble of mediating our disputes, that no investigation of our claims was necessary, as I believed they were not denied by the Raja himself, and that I could not admit the Paishwa's right to prescribe conditions when it was as a favour that we had allowed an offer to be mentioned for his intervention on our own terms. The Minister then said that the Peshwa had surely a right to decide on our transactions with his subject, and I answered that the practice of former times gave no countenance to any such pretension. The Minister said that the former transactions were such as a subordinate authority, even a common Collector might carry on, but that when conquest or cession of territory was thought of, it became necessary to recur to the supreme authority. I said that conquest and cession had before taken place between the British Government and the Raja of Kolapore without the Paishwa's intervention, and certainly might take place again if our interests required it. In answer to a question of the Minister I told him, that in the present state of the dispute I would not tell him whether the British Government intended to require a cession of territory from the Raja of Kolapore or not, that would depend on the judgment of the Government itself, but that I was contending for our right to make conquests and acquire territory from Kolapore without any authority from His Highness, that we had exercised this right for 60 years and assured, would never give it up.

In some further conversation it came out that we were to submit our claims to the Paishwa, and if he decided in our favour and could not realize our demands, we were to enforce them ourselves, and all this was to be considered as a favour conferred on us by the Paishwa. I could not help expressing my surprize and displeasure at this proposal, and contrasting the conduct of the British Government in voluntarily undertaking the adjustment of an expensive and dangerous contest for the Paishwa, with His Highness's unreasonableness and ingratitude in throwing obstacles in the way of our recovering our just dues, when our failure was of no advantage to His Highness. I said if we were even to admit the Paishwa's

sovereignty over Kolapore, the Raja never would, and all His Highness would gain would be an addition to those idle pretensions which so often interfered with his real interests. I said His Highness never had mentioned his sovereignty over Kolapore when the Raja was plundering our shipping, nor yet when we were retaliating by open force, but as soon as a friendly overture on our part gave His Highness an opportunity of interfering with safety, he came forward with his antiquated claim to sovereignty, a claim which I had some doubt whether his Government ever possessed at any period however remote

The Minister seized this opportunity to begin a long discourse on the Paishwa's right to sovereignty over the Raja of Berar, Sindia, Holcar, and many other Princes and States in various parts of India. He complained that His Highness had been rather ill used at the time when we concluded the treaties in 1803 with his rebellious subjects, and insinuated that we ought to assist His Highness in reducing them into obedience. He said, to satisfy ourselves of His Highness's right to sovereignty over those powers, we had only to examine the sunnuds by which they held their dominions.

I was a good deal surprized at the effrontery of this discourse, introduced at a time when I thought it would become the Minister to endeavour to prevent the resentment of the British Government, for conduct of which I had been complaining. I accordingly remonstrated against the renewal of those absurd claims so unconnected with the present discussion, and said that the Minister's observation would naturally lead to a question by whose sunnuds the Paishwa held his country, and whether we ought not to assist the King of Delhi in recovering this part of his former dominions? The Minister replied that whatever sunnuds the Paishwa might have from Delhi, he held his country of God alone, on which I told him that, if that were the case, his right was extinguished when Providence was pleased to resume its gift. I then said, this discussion was as unnecessary as it must be unpleasant to him, and that I would return to the original subject to acquaint him that the British Government would submit to no alteration in its established usage with respect to Kolapore, that it had no wish to interfere with the Paishwa's rights, but it could never suffer any encroachment on its own. I then told the Minister that I considered the whole of his offers of compensation and security to have fallen to the ground, and that the British Government would depend on its own measures for a settlement of its disputes with Kolapore.

The Minister after this said that the whole of the statement which I had sent to him for the Paishwa's consideration was correct with the exception of one article. That I stated the Paishwa to have consented to our arbitrating his differences with the Raja of Kolapore,

but that His Highness denied having ever given any such consent. I said His Highness had made the promise, but that as we only offered our arbitration out of friendship for His Highness, we would immediately withdraw it if His Highness showed any reluctance to its being carried into effect. The Minister again denied the Paishwa's having consented to the arbitration, and hinted that as His Highness spoke in Marattas, it was probable I had misunderstood him. He then appealed to his Dewaun and Anund Row who were both present at the Conference, and who both agreed in denying that the Paishwa had ever given his consent. I repeated that the Paishwa had given his formal consent, that misunderstanding was out of the question, as I had made His Highness repeat what he said twice at least, if not thrice, and that nothing would satisfy me of his having retracted his consent except a declaration from His Highness's own mouth to that effect. That if His Highness would make such a declaration he would soon find that we had no wish to encumber him with our help. The Minister saying that the Paishwa ought only to be referred to on matters of importance, and ought not to be troubled in a trifling affair like the present, I asked with much warmth if he thought the Paishwa's retracting his promise a trifle, and if it was of no importance whether the British Government should ever be able to trust His Highness's word again. For my part I said, I was convinced that the Minister had himself misunderstood the Paishwa, and that when I had an opportunity of seeing His Highness, it would appear that he had no intention of retracting the pledge he had given.

The Minister now endeavoured to remove the bad impression he saw his conduct had made on me, promised that I should soon see the Paishwa, and afterwards changed the conversation and requested me to fix a day when he might have the pleasure of giving me an entertainment. but I continued to urge the necessity of a speedy interview with the Paishwa, observing that if the Minister had rightly stated His Highness's determination, I was deceiving your Lordship as long as I allowed you to rely on the consent that had been given.

I expect nothing but good consequences from the high language that passed at this meeting. I believe that the Paishwa's Ministers finding us disposed to assist them in the affair of Kolapur, thought it advisable to try what was the most they could expect from our interference, by first insisting on the possession of the disputed districts and afterwards of the whole principality. It is satisfactory that a full discussion of the Paishwa's ancient claims should have arisen in a case so clear as that of Kolapore, and it is fortunate that it ran so high because the Paishwa's Ministers continue constantly to bring forward those claims though sensible of their futility, and do

not so much require to be convinced of the unreasonableness of their demands as to be deterred from advancing them when aware of their injustice.

I have no doubt that the Paishwa will now drop his claim to interference in our disputes with Kolapore, but I am less confident about his renewing his consent to the arbitration, because I believe he expects to gain more by force than he can hope for from justice. Should he desire to renounce the arbitration, I shall express the readiness of the British Government to give it up, and shall renew my remonstrances on the state of his country till he is again brought to see the advantage of our interposition. It appears to me that no real benefit would result from compelling His Highness to submit in appearance to the arbitration, if he were really disinclined to it, and I think the advantages he will derive from our interference so great, that he cannot but perceive them at an early period if he is not already convinced of them.

No 74A.

Note sent to the Minister on the 22nd June 1812

The British Government entertaining a sincere wish for the settlement and improvement of His Highness the Paishwa's Government, and viewing with concern the confusions occasioned by the disputes with the Raja of Kolapore, came forward to offer its assistance in terminating those disputes, intending to offer its mediation and arbitration on all contested points and to support the Paishwa in his just claims in case the Raja refused to agree to an arbitration. The British Government having certain claims of its own on the Raja of Kolapore, it was deemed convenient to take the same opportunity of adjusting them, so that no grounds might remain for any disagreement or dispute between the Raja and the allies. His Highness the Paishwa was pleased to agree to the proposed arbitration of his own differences with the Raja, but referred the Resident to his Minister for an answer on the subject of the demands of the British Government. The Resident accordingly had a conference with the Minister in which the agreement respecting the arbitration was left unaltered, but objections were started to the adjustment of the British claims on the ground that the Raja of Kolapore was a subject of the Paishwa. After much discussion the Minister proposed that the Paishwa should take it upon himself to satisfy the demands of the British Government, which were stated by the Resident to amount to upwards of 50 lacs of rupees, and that His Highness should bind himself to make up all future losses incurred by the British Government or by British subjects from the depredations of the Raja of Kolapore. The Resident far from pressing the

arrangement on the Paishwa's Minister, pointed out the expense to which it would expose His Highness, and stated that such a measure would not induce the Raja to acknowledge the Paishwa's sovereignty, nor would His Highness's sovereignty be recognized by the British Government. The Minister, however, adhered to his proposal, on which he said he would take His Highness's orders. For the greater distinctness and to enable His Highness to see the whole proposal in one view the Resident has drawn up the accompanying articles which contain the terms offered by the Minister, and the only ones on which the British Government can consent to negotiate with His Highness the Paishwa. These demands are submitted to His Highness the Paishwa entirely in consequence of the earnest wish expressed by His Highness's Minister, and the British Government has no desire to recommend so disadvantageous an arrangement to His Highness's adoption.

Should His Highness the Paishwa decline agreeing to these articles the British Government will be left to settle its demands on the Raja of Kolapore agreeably to the practice of the last 60 years and such a refusal on His Highness's part will in no degree diminish the anxiety of the British Government to settle His Highness's disputes with Kolapore, as that anxiety arises solely from the friendship of the British Government towards His Highness, unconnected with any views of advantage to itself.

No 74B

Proposed articles of agreement between His Highness and the British Government

His Highness the Paishwa engages to satisfy the pecuniary demands of the British Government against the Raja of Kolapore. A statement of the demands will be laid before His Highness at the earliest practicable period, and His Highness engages to pay their amount without hesitation or delay.

His Highness the Paishwa engages to make good all future losses suffered by the Hon ble Company or by British subjects from the depredations of the Raja of Kolapore.

On condition of the faithful performance of the above articles, the British Government consents to abandon its claims on the Raja of Kolapore.

Nothing in this agreement is to be understood to imply a recognition on the part of the British Government of the Paishwa's sovereignty over the Raja of Kolapore. The question of His Highness's sovereignty will remain precisely in the state in which it was before this agreement was entered into. Nor is anything in this

agreement to be understood to limit the right of the British Government to negotiate with the Raja of Kolapore as heretofore on all points not expressly renounced in the above articles

No. 75—The Resident reports an animated interview he had with the Peshwa who felt irritated and disappointed on account of the security which the British Government offered to the Jagirdars in their dispute with the Peshwa

FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

Poona, 4 July 1812

Two days after my last interview with Seddasheo Maunkaisur that Minister sent for Cursetjee, the Parsee who is employed in the business of the Durbar, and spoke to him in moderate terms of our demands on the Kolapore Raja. He said the Paishwa had no objection to our entering into any negotiations with that Prince respecting pecuniary indemnification for our losses, but that if we required any cession of territory, His Highness hoped we would consult with him before any steps were taken in the affair. He also expressed an apprehension that we might enter into some treaty with the Raja, which would prevent the Paishwa's enforcing his claims on him hereafter. He then adverted to the proposed arbitration and said, the Paishwa would himself take an early opportunity of seeing me and explaining his sentiments.

Throughout the conversation the Minister betrayed considerable jealousy of our designs, and spoke of giving up the point of our negotiating with the Raja of Kolapore direct, because he despaired of persuading us to desist rather than because he thought our right to negotiate established. In reply to his message I sent a written note of which the enclosed paper is a translation.

I have for some time past daily received information of the dispersion of the Raja of Kolapore's army for want of pay, and on the day after I wrote the note to the Minister I heard that the Paishwa and the Raja were negotiating a peace among themselves, and this intelligence was afterwards communicated to me by the ministers of both parties. I lost no time in assuring them both, that any peace that they could establish on principles which were likely to secure its permanence would be highly agreeable to the British Government, which had offered its mediation with no view but to bring about such a pacification.

If this negotiation were to lead to a permanent peace, it would answer the important end in removing the Raja of Kolapore from all temptation to join the Jageerdars, but I have no hopes

that it will end in anything more than a hollow truce, of which all the advantages will be on the side of the Raja, the Paishwa gaining nothing but the possession of the disputed district till the Raja is able to take the field again

It has, however, now become absolutely necessary for me to give up the plan of endeavouring to settle with the Raja of Kolapore before I open the proposed negotiations on the affairs of the Jageerdars. Circumstances inseparable from military preparations have given publicity to the measures which have been adopted for enabling the troops in the ceded districts to take the field the intended movement of that force has become a subject of report among the British Officers and speculations have been added respecting movements in this part of the Deccan. These reports must soon spread among the natives, and will early be communicated to the Paishwa and the Jageerdars. I have already had the honour to state the reasons which so strongly impressed me with the importance of commencing my negotiations before your Lordship's intentions were known, and accordingly as soon as I found they were likely to be suspected, I determined on opening your proposals to the Paishwa without delay.

Other reasons contributed to confirm me in this resolution. The Paishwa is about to proceed on a pilgrimage, on which he will be absent for a month, and I could neither request him to defer his journey nor propose to accompany him, unless I had some avowed affair of importance to transact with the Durbar. H. H. has also on a late occasion shown a very strong disposition to extend his encroachments on the Jageerdars. Having received some offence from Rastia he sent a message to me urging the necessity of punishing him. Rastia did not readily consent to the submissions necessary to appease His Highness, and it was with some difficulty that I prevented a serious rupture between this Sardar and His Highness.

With a view therefore to open the proposed negotiation, I requested an audience of His Highness, which, after many evasions was granted me yesterday. Some delay took place in the transaction of business in consequence of an entertainment which His Highness was pleased to give to me and the gentlemen of the Residency. After the ceremonies were concluded, and dresses of the usual description and value had been presented to us, the Paishwa retired into a private apartment, where the following conversation took place.

I began by representing the state of His Highness's territory, which after nine years of alliance with the British Government, was still a scene of disorder in peace and a source of weakness and alarm during war. I said I had received your Lordship's commands

to urge a settlement of the country and observed that your anxiety for the Paishwa's welfare rendered such a measure highly desirable, while a view to the interest and safety of the allies made it of absolute necessity. The Paishwa replied, by assurances of a wish to undertake any measures that might be agreeable to the British Government. I told him that any proposal affecting His Highness's Government ought in the first instance to come from himself, and for some time our mutual reluctance to bring forward a specific plan prevented anything but vague professions from passing on either side.

At last I pointed out the necessity of commencing any scheme of improvement by organizing an army, to which His Highness replied that he would consider of the best means for that purpose and let me know the result. I reminded His Highness that he had promised to give me his sentiments on this subject as soon as the minister should return, on which His Highness referred me to the Minister, who he said, would make me acquainted with his wishes at an early occasion. I begged His Highness not to throw me back on the Minister, as I found by experience that so many references were necessary from him to His Highness that no progress was ever made through him in any affair of my proposing.

The Paishwa then repeated his former scheme of dispossessing the Jageerdars and maintaining an army to be paid from the treasury, on which I remarked, that such a scheme instead of settling the country would create new confusions, and far from enabling him to employ more troops in the common cause, would require to be enforced by much larger armies than His Highness possessed. I also begged His Highness to inform me how the plan was to be executed, and said His Highness had already pursued it for 10 or 12 years and had only reduced one Jageerdar and that by means of another chief of the same description. His Highness said he should rely on the assistance of the British Government and I answered that the British Government would never be inclined to afford its assistance for such an end at the same time stating the strong objections which exist to such a line of policy.

The Paishwa said that he did not wish his scheme to be enforced immediately, but hoped to accomplish it by degrees, to which I objected,—the slow operation of such plans as those which His Highness had hitherto adopted and the urgency of the necessity for rendering his Government efficient. The Paishwa then expressed his fears that no other arrangement could be made, and renewed his desire that he might be enabled to set up chiefs whose services he could command in the same manner as the British Government did those of its officers. I asked His Highness why he would

not be satisfied with bringing his present chiefs into the same degree of obedience as that which he expected from new ones and the Paishwa saying he would be satisfied if that were in his power, I asked him whether he would allow the Jageerdars to keep their lands if they would yield him that obedience. The Paishwa said he certainly would and could wish for nothing more. I then adverted to the Paishwa's repeated declarations of his resolution to resume the lands of the Jageerdars, and begged him to say whether he was serious in the professions which he now held out. To this the Paishwa answered deliberately that his own wish was, to resume the lands of the Jageerdars, but that in compliance with the advice I had offered to him, he was satisfied to give up his plan of resumption if the Jageerdars would serve him with fidelity.

I now ventured to open your Lordship's plan a little further and told the Paishwa that your Lordship had authorized me to afford him the assistance of the British Government in any moderate and practicable plan which he might propose for the settlement of his dominions, and therefore begged him to declare formally and solemnly, whether he would renounce his former plan of resumption in case the Jageerdars should be brought to serve him with zeal and fidelity. His Highness again replied that he would renounce his former plans if the Jageerdars would obey him hereafter, but said I knew the Jageerdars and asked how their obedience was to be obtained or secured, I answered that if the terms proposed by His Highness were such as your Lordship would approve there could be no difficulty in obtaining the compliance of the Jageerdars, and if after an arrangement was made, they should attempt to recur to their habits of disobedience, the British Government would readily concur in punishing their rebellion.

His Highness now to all appearance gave heartily into the plan, and said the whole arrangement was in the hands of the British Government but as he did not seem to expect that any difficulty would occur or any sacrifices be necessary in executing it I thought it necessary to observe, that even on the moderate terms His Highness had mentioned it would be an arduous undertaking to settle with the Jageerdars, and it might perhaps be necessary to enter into a war for that purpose, after which I enquired how His Highness intended to convince the Jageerdars of his sincerity in his promise that they should keep their lands as long as they served with fidelity? The Paishwa replied, that if they would not be content with his word, he knew of no satisfaction he could give them. but I told him that although his declaration might be enough for me, it was possible that a long train of enmities might occasion distrust on the part of the Jageerdars, and asked if he would autho-

size me to pledge the faith of the British Government to their security. From this moment there was a visible alteration in His Highness's temper and an entire change in his language and sentiments throughout the whole of his remaining discourse. He said if he was to negotiate in this manner with his subjects there was an end to his Government, and breaking out with more resentment than I had ever before witnessed in him, he renewed his complaints of the former misconduct of the Jageerdars, stated many instances of their disrespect and insubordination, particularly Appa Sahib's rejection of his supplications when Lord Wellington was marching against the Marattas, and asked me if I had heard of these insults and outrages, and could after that expect him to foster the persons from whom he had suffered so much. I said I was well acquainted with many of the instances of misconduct he had stated, and that it was a recollection of them which made me so anxious that His Highness should adopt the only practicable means of reducing those chiefs under his authority, and preventing a renewal of their irregularities in future, at the same time I was obliged to dispute some of the propositions His Highness had stated, and to claim some merit for the Jageerdars on the score of their fidelity during the usurpation of Holcar, and their assistance in placing His Highness on the throne. The Paishwa said if I *did* know all that he had mentioned, he was astonished I should speak in favour of the Jageerdars or interfere to prevent his punishing them, and (striking his hand on his breast) said, their perfidy was stamped there, and that the impression was indelible. After a short pause I replied that the question was not now whether the Jageerdars should or should not be punished but whether they should remain independent or be reduced into submission to His Highness, an observation which I frequently repeated in various forms, and endeavoured to convince His Highness that the means I proposed were the only ones by which he could ever hope to triumph over the Jageerdars.

The Paishwa continuing to grow more and more violent against the Jageerdars, and to show increased aversion to any adjustment with them, I told him that if His Highness did not approve the plan I had suggested, he had only to offer some other as well calculated for the settlement of his dominions, but that your Lordship viewed with alarm the dangers arising from the present condition of his empire, and was resolved that some measures should be taken for the security of all the members of the alliance. The Paishwa acknowledged the truth of what I said, and yet immediately declared that he was in a condition to fulfil all the duties imposed on him by the treaty, said his condition was greatly altered since he had failed to afford the stipulated aid to Lord Wellington, and that he was now ready to send an efficient army into the field whenever

it should be required. I could not help expressing some surprise at this language of His Highness. I remarked that I was well acquainted with the state of his military resources, and that I could see no signs of ability to send armies into the field. I also recapitulated the instances in which His Highness had failed to furnish his contingent since the time to which he alluded. The Paishwa threw all the blame on the Jageerdars, and for some time showed an inclination to renew moderate measures for bringing them into obedience, but soon flew off again and on my pressing the subject, said he would consult with the Bhow and give me an answer.

I entreated His Highness not to occasion unnecessary delays, pointed out how much time had already been lost since the Treaty of Bassein and how much His Highness's interests had suffered in consequence. At the same time I begged His Highness to recollect that the only point to be considered was whether the Jagheerdars were to be reduced to obedience or allowed to remain independent, that if His Highness preferred the chance of being able to resume their lands, he must not expect either now or hereafter, the least assistance from the British Government in the execution of his design. Finding at last that I could obtain no decided answer, I begged His Highness to promise that he would not set out on his pilgrimage till something was accomplished, or at least that he would allow me to accompany him. His Highness said he would be happy to have my company, but that there were affairs of State, and must be determined on without deliberation.

The subject of the settlement of the country was now dropped, and I began that of the Kolapore arbitration. His Highness said he wished to see what he could do himself with the Kolapore Vakeel, after which, he would tell me his final resolution. He promised this communication should be made in two days. His Highness's denial of his consent to the arbitration being mentioned, it appeared to me indispensable to show the serious light in which your Lordship regarded such evasions. His Highness avoided either admitting or denying the Minister's account of his retraction, and soon showed himself so much irritated that I dropped the subject. The Paishwa maintained the whole of the discussion himself. He sometimes whispered with his Ministers, but none of them took any part in the conversation.

It is difficult to form any speculations respecting the Paishwa's intentions on this extraordinary conference. His Highness evidently changed his views from the moment when the guarantee of the British Government was mentioned, and this may be attributed to various motives. His pride may have been alarmed by the little account that was made of his promise even in transactions with his

own subjects, or his jealousy awakened by the dread of our interference his temper may also have been exasperated by the mention of the wrongs and insults he had suffered from the Jageerdars, which immediately followed the proposal for our guarantee, but I have always found it considered as so much a matter of course throughout India that the British faith will be relied on, when that of all other Governments is distrusted, that I cannot suppose the Paishwa to have been offended at a proposal for strengthening his promise by the addition of our guarantee. There was nothing in this particular part of the plan to excite peculiar jealousy, nor would His Highness have been much irritated by the recollection of his wrongs if he had been satisfied with the redress which he was now to receive. On the whole, I am afraid that during all the previous discussion, His Highness had flattered himself with the hopes of making our offer subservient to the gratification of his revenge, and that when his hopes were destroyed by the stipulation for a guarantee, his disappointment was proportionate to the greatness of his previous expectations.

The result of the conference is, no doubt, extremely unsatisfactory, but it is by no means unexpected. It does not in my opinion alter the former prospect of ultimate success. The Paishwa's prejudices promise to throw all the obstacles that were anticipated in the way of an adjustment, but I hope that when reflection shall have convinced him of the impracticability of his own schemes, he may be disposed to listen to those proposed to him, and that his returning good sense and a consideration of his obvious interest will in the end prevail.

No 75 A—The following note contains a veiled threat to the Peshwa.

Note from the Resident at Poona to the Minister, dated 29th June 1812

Mr Elphinstone has heard the message which Seddasheo Maunkaisur sent to him through Cursetjee Modey, and in reply he begs leave to assure the Minister that the British Government has no design to encroach on the Paishwa's rights or to limit his legitimate authority, but that the British Government cannot suffer any alteration to be made in its own established practice.

The question of the claims of the British Government on the Raja of Kolapore is entirely distinct from that of the proposed arbitration of the Paishwa's differences with that Prince, and has only been incidentally mentioned in course of the discussion of the former question. Mr Elphinstone requests that it may now be dropt

The British Government will proceed with regard to its claims on Kolapore as it shall judge most for its interest, and will negotiate directly with the Raja conformably to ancient usage. The Bhow having expressed an apprehension that some treaty would be entered into with the Raja of Kolapore which might hereafter prevent the Paishwa's obtaining satisfaction for his just demands on that Prince, Mr Elphinstone thinks it proper to assure him, on the part of the British Government, that he need be under no such apprehension. If His Highness the Paishwa thinks proper to submit his differences to the arbitration of the British Government, the British Government will not only satisfy his just demands at present, but will prevent the Raja of Kolapore from offering any injury to His Highness for the future, but on the other hand, it must bind itself to the Raja to procure him satisfaction for his just demands and to secure him from any injury on the Paishwa's part for the future. The mutual claims of both States will be carefully examined and impartially determined. If either party desires those things alone to which he is justly entitled, he will gain greatly by the proposed arbitration which will secure him the undisturbed possession of the object of his wishes, but if either party is desirous of increasing his power by force and violence without regard to justice, he will find the arbitration of the British Government a permanent obstacle to the execution of his designs.

Mr Elphinstone having already communicated the Paishwa's consent to the arbitration of the British Government to the Right Hon'ble the Governor General, he cannot acquaint His Lordship with an opposite resolution of His Highness, unless it is communicated to him with the same formality that accompanied the consent, but if, on mature deliberation, His Highness the Paishwa is desirous of withdrawing his consent, Mr Elphinstone only desires to hear that resolution from His Highness's own mouth, after which the British Government will readily give up an undertaking from which it never expected any direct advantage, on the other hand, if His Highness, considering the length of the war, which has laid waste the southern part of his dominions and the danger of far greater distractions and disorders arising hereafter from the same cause, should still be disposed to refer this dispute to the arbitration of the British Government, that Government will cheerfully undertake an arrangement which promises so much advantage to His Highness, and which will contribute to the strength of the British Empire by adding to that of its ally.

No 76—The Resident reports how he got the Peshwa to accept the terms of settlement with the Southern Jagirdars It is known as the agreement of Pandharpur

FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Poona, 7 July 1812

My Lord,

In my last dispatch I had the honour to acquaint your Lordship with the altercation which took place at the Durbar on the 3rd instant. I am happy to be now able to report to you, that the discussion which then occurred has had all the effect I expected, and that the question of the punishment of the Jageerdars and the resumption of their lands has never been renewed since that time

I find that when a dispute has once begun with the Paishwa and his Ministers, my personal intercourse with them is not calculated to remove the grounds of it. When transacting business with me on such occasions, they are so intent on resisting my proposals and on guarding against committing themselves, that a great deal of the effect of all arguments and explanations is lost. I therefore thought it expedient on the morning of the day after my visit to the Durbar to send Cursetjee, my Parsee Accountant, to the Minister for the purpose of removing any irritation that might have been produced by the previous discussion, and preparing him for the interview which I was to have in the evening. I furnished Cursetjee with notes of the proposals I had made to the Paishwa, and desired him to point out the advantages of the arrangement to the Minister, and if necessary to let him see that no assistance was to be expected from the British Government in executing the Paishwa's schemes of revenge

Cursetjee had no occasion to execute this last commission, as no mention was made of the plan on which His Highness seemed the night before to be so determined. He therefore pointed out the advantages of the proposed arrangement with a great deal of ingenuity and address, and removed such objections to particular details as were stated by the Minister, who concluded by expressing his conviction of the advantages of the plan, begged that my visit should be put off, and said, that after he had seen the Paishwa, he should be prepared to inform me of His Highness's sentiments. He accordingly went to the Paishwa who desired to see Cursetjee himself, and expressed his wish that all should be settled before he next met me, to prevent the necessity of any personal discussion with him. Cursetjee went to the Paishwa on the night before last,

and found him prepared to give his consent to the great outlines of the proposed arrangement

I thought it necessary, however, before I again saw the Paishwa, to bring the negotiation more to a point. I therefore desired to see the Minister, and in the meantime drew up a paper, of which the enclosed is a copy, containing, as your Lordship will observe, the substance of all the terms proposed in my dispatch dated October 26th 1811, together with a stipulation for His Highness's raising two complete Battalions. I had originally intended to require three, but as I had reason to expect resistance on this point, I lessened the number, considering that it was more important to take severe measures for introducing the system than to risk anything by endeavouring to establish it in its full extent at first. My object in preparing the paper was, to have some record of the transactions between me and the Paishwa, in case His Highness should positively refuse to sign a formal agreement which his strong aversion to signing papers and his uniform practice since the Treaty of Bassein, render very probable

I waited on the Minister yesterday evening, and Cursetjee recapitulated all that had passed between them. The Minister admitted and confirmed the statement, and expressed in very handsome terms the Paishwa's gratitude for the interference of the British Government. A long desultory conversation then took place in which the Bhow sometimes pretended that the Paishwa was entitled by treaty to the intervention of the British Government, and at others spoke of the Paishwa's gratitude for it as a voluntary act of friendship. He one time approved of all my proposals and said I was at liberty to make what terms I pleased with the Jageerdars, and at another took exceptions to many of the details of the plan I proposed. He objected particularly to any stipulation concerning the Battalions, and said that the Paishwa was about to raise Battalions, and he would pledge himself that His Highness would do so, but that His Highness could not allow it to be made a stipulation on our part, as that would take away His Highness's power of deferring the measure if he pleased. He afterwards, with some inconsistency, expatiated on the disadvantages of raising regulars at all, and said they must always be very inferior to the British troops, and that the Paishwa had better depend entirely on us for regular infantry than attempt a system in which he would not succeed.

I said if His Highness was really resolved to raise Battalions he would make no difficulty about promising to do so, that it was a very desirable arrangement for His Highness and at the same time of considerable importance to us. The Paishwa might have a little fort to take, and would not be able to do it without regular troops

We would not wish our force to move on such an occasion, and we should be unwilling to see His Highness fail. In the event of war a garrison might be required for a fort of His Highness's, we should be unwilling to weaken our field force, and without Battalions His Highness could not secure the place himself. I mentioned many other cases in which both His Highness and the British Government would derive advantage from his having regular troops, or would feel the want of them if they were not raised. With respect to the inferiority of Battalions so raised, I could only say that if His Highness would take my advice about the formation of those corps, I would engage that they should be extremely respectable.

The Minister said the Paishwa would promise to raise "Troops" but not "Battalions" and I urged that if by troops he meant irregular infantry, I thought His Highness had much better keep his money in his treasury than lay it out in so useless a description of troops. After much discussion of this kind which led to no result, I presented the paper I had prepared to the Minister, and told him that I wished to give it to the Paishwa as a note of my plan, but that I was desirous of hearing his sentiments on it first, and would alter any expressions which he thought might be disagreeable to His Highness. The Minister then read the paper article by article, and gave his opinion on each in its order.

He allowed the part of the first article which promises mutual oblivion to pass without much opposition. He said the Paishwa would never himself pronounce a pardon for the Jageerdars, but that he would strictly fulfil any terms into which the British Government might enter. He raised many objections to the abandonment of the Paishwa's pecuniary demands. At first he refused to agree to it at all, and said that the pecuniary demands ought to be left out of the arrangement, and that the Paishwa and the Jageerdars could settle them among themselves. On my showing him that this omission would infallibly occasion the failure of the whole plan, he agreed to give the claims up for the present, on condition that they were to recover their force in case the Jageerdars failed to serve the Paishwa with fidelity. I said if the Jageerdars failed to serve with fidelity, the Paishwa and the British Government might inflict a severe punishment without reserving their old claims which would excite distrust and embarrass our proceedings at present without being of the least use in the case which the Minister supposed. As he adhered to his opinion with much obstinacy, I begged him to tell me sincerely, whether he really wished for the faithful services of the Jageerdars, or was anxious to preserve some pretext for their destruction. The Minister assured me of his sincerity, said the Paishwa had already declared that I had full

powers to conduct the negotiation with the Jageerdars as I pleased, and added that I should do well to take advantage of this declaration, and settle what terms I thought best for the State, without referring to the Paishwa on points which were likely to give His Highness uneasiness. I told him that I could not think of entering on the adjustment till I knew that the terms I was instructed to offer would be pleasing to His Highness, but as I was satisfied from what the Minister said, that his real objection to the article was founded on the reluctance which he knew the Paishwa had to anything like a pardon in his name, I proposed to alter the phrase and insert the words, noted in the 2nd Col of the enclosure, which appear to me to bind the Paishwa as fully as the others, at the same time that they contain nothing repugnant to his feelings. I acquainted the Minister at the same time that the British Government will never consent to a revival of His Highness's enmities or a renewal of his claims and it was the terms of the article only, which were altered for His Highness's satisfaction.

The Minister declared himself now quite satisfied with the article, but mentioned some claims of no great magnitude which His Highness was anxious not to give up. I requested him to send me a note of them, and promised to let him know whether they could be admitted.

The second and third articles passed without remark, but the Minister objected to the words "ancient practice" in the fourth, and I gave them up as unimportant. The Minister also objected to the stipulation for a third of the contingent attending always at Poona, as he said it would be virtually a renunciation of the Paishwa's right to the services of the Jageerdars at what time and in what manner he thought best. I observed on this that the stipulation had been inserted as favourable to the Paishwa, and should be struck out if he did not approve it, but it occurring to me that it might be intended to harass the Jageerdars by requiring their constant attendance, I immediately stated my suspicion and the Minister disclaiming the intention imputed to him and declaring that the Paishwa would dismiss the Jageerdars when their presence was not required, and when we should advise it, I asked if I might insert a stipulation to that effect in the paper, and the Minister immediately consenting, I have since made the proposed alteration in the 4th article.

The article regarding the Battalions was a good deal discussed a second time, but though the Minister did not appear averse to the measure, he would not consent to its being made one of the terms of the present arrangement. I hope when I next see him that he will have altered his view of the subject. If the Paishwa's aversion

to this article seems very difficult to overcome I will abandon it rather than disgust him with the establishment of regular troops, by teaching him to regard it as a point which he is to contest in opposition to our demands, but the great importance of introducing the system will induce me to urge it as long as there appears to be a reasonable chance of success

The habits of this Court prevent my reposing confidence on the good disposition which is shown in these discussions. As long as anything remains unsettled, it is not impossible that the Paishwa may recede from all his former declarations, but as he seems now to have a just view of his own interests, I have little doubt of his sincerity, and though there may be some delay in adjusting details, I think His Highness's consent to the great principles of the arrangement may be relied on. My late experience of the case with which the Paishwa can retract his promise, makes me anxious to obtain his signature to the enclosed paper. If I do not succeed in that, I shall endeavour to obtain some other instrument conveying full powers to the British Government to adjust his disputes with the Jageerdars

The Paishwa's repugnance to committing himself in writing is, however, great and although it may have originated in the practice of deceit, it is now a habit that affords no proof of insincerity, accordingly Major General Close was satisfied with His Highness's verbal consent to invest Lord Wellington with full powers during the Maratta war, and on the occasion of the attempt which was made in 1804 to settle the affairs of the Jageerdars. His Highness has not given any written paper to the British Resident since the Treaty of Bassein, and he has not failed to remind me of that circumstance in reply to an application which I have already made for full powers in writing on the present occasion. If he cannot be prevailed on to give me such an instrument, the enclosed paper, which will have been fully discussed, altered at the Paishwa's desire, and formally agreed to by His Highness, will of itself be a sufficiently authentic document to justify my proceeding in the negotiation, and to prevent all future dispute about the terms to which His Highness had consented. Since the above dispatch was finished the corrected draft of the proposed terms has been sent to the Paishwa for his inspection. As this is a Hindoo holiday His Highness cannot examine it till tomorrow. If he approves of it, I shall wait on him without delay to receive his final sanction to the terms proposed, but I shall not be surprised, if he takes exceptions at some part of the draft and protracts the final settlement for some days longer.

No. 76 A.

Substance of a paper presented by the Resident at Poona to the Paishwa's Minister on the 6th of July, 1812 [known as the agreement of Pandharpur.]

Subsequent Alterations.

1st. Mutual oblivion of past injuries and all pecuniary claims to be relinquished by His Highness the Paishwa and by the Jageerdars.

1st. His Highness the Paishwa will take no notice of past injuries, and will advance no pecuniary claims without the consent of the British Government.

2nd. The Jageerdars to retain possession of their Serinjaumy lands as long as they serve His Highness the Paishwa with fidelity.

3rd. All lands and revenues which have been usurped, i.e. enjoyed without surnuds by the Jageerdars to be restored to His Highness the Paishwa.

4th. The Jageerdars to serve His Highness the Paishwa, according to their Tynaut Zaubitas, and to ancient practice, and to attend with their contingents when summoned by His Highness. The third of their contingents likewise to be at all times in attendance on the Paishwa under a member of the family and His Highness the Paishwa to show towards them due attention and consideration.

4th. The Jageerdars to serve his Highness the Paishwa according to their Tynaut Zaubitas, and to attend with their contingents when summoned by His Highness. The Paishwa will not give any promise to the Jageerdars that shall limit his ancient right to summon them when he pleases and retain them as long as he thinks fit; but he promises the British Government to employ them when the affairs of his Government require it, and to dismiss them according to ancient usage by the advice of the British Government, when their services are not required. His Highness also engages to treat the Jageerdars with the consideration to which they are entitled by former practice.

No 77—The Resident informs the Bombay Government of the march of part of the Poona Subsidiary Force to Pandharpur

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—MR CHIEF SECRETARY WARDEN, BOMBAY.

Poona, 11 July 1812

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you for the information of the Honourable the Governor in Council that I have deemed it necessary to direct the march of two Battalions of the Subsidiary Force from Seroor to Punderpore for the protection of His Highness the Paishwa during his stay at that place

I have also requested of Colonel Montresor to hold the whole of the Force in readiness to march at the shortest notice though I do not at present apprehend that there will be an immediate necessity for its moving

In acquainting you with these circumstances, I have to request the Honourable the Governor's sanction to the expense which Colonel Montresor will be obliged to incur for the purposes here mentioned

No 78—Two battalions of the Poona Subsidiary Force are ordered to proceed to Pandharpur for the protection of the Peshwa

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—COLONEL MONTRESOR,
Commanding the Poona Subsidiary Force

Poona, 11 July 1812

His Highness the Paishwa having determined on a journey to Punderpore I think it necessary in the present state of affairs with respect to the Southern Jagheerdars, that some arrangement should be made for the protection of His Highness's person, I have therefore to request that you will be pleased to order two Battalions with their guns to march from Seroor to Punderpore at the earliest practicable period and to advance with as much expedition as you may think possible without harassing the troops I beg that you will have the goodness to direct the officer in command to communicate with me and to refer to me for further instructions

His Highness will be absent about one month and in the event of your being required to move before the expiration of that period these Battalions can join you on your advance. Should a movement of the force under your command be unnecessary the Battalions will either return immediately or remain at Punderpore as the circumstances of the time appear to require.

There is no particular reason at present to expect hostilities on the part of the Jagheerdars, but as the Paishwa and these Battalions are so far advanced, it appears expedient that you should be enabled to support them without delay in case any necessity should arise for such a measure. I have therefore the honour to request that you will put the force under your command in readiness to move at the shortest notice.

An application will be made to the Government of Bombay to authorize the expense necessary for this purpose.

I request you will do me the favour to inform me when the Battalions will move and what route they will adopt.

No 79—The Resident at last succeeded in extracting the Peshwa's consent to British arbitration of his dispute with the Raja of Kolhapur. The Peshwa marched to Pandharpur on 12 July and was to be followed by the Resident the next day.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Poona, 12 July 1812

My Lord,

I had the honour to acquaint your Lordship in my dispatch of yesterday, that I had sent Cursetjee to obtain an audience of the Paishwa at all events on the subject of Kolapore. He succeeded with great difficulty late last night.

I had furnished him with notes containing many arguments in favour of the proposed arrangement, the most weighty were the following: the influence which the Kolapore Raja would have on the conduct of the Jageerdars both now and hereafter if he be allowed to remain in his present situation, the excuse which the Jageerdars will have for declining to send their contingents if the Raja of Kolapore is allowed to threaten their Jageers. This was the ground of their refusing to accompany Lord Wellington, and to come to Poona during Mr Strachey's negotiation. The danger to which their Country will actually be exposed if their troops are withdrawn while no settlement has been made with Kolapore. The

necessity of recovering for the Putwurdhuns that part of their Serinjamy lands which is held by the Raja of Kolapore, and the impossibility of doing so, if the negotiation remains on its present footing

I also directed Cursetjee to remove any apprehension on the Paishwa's part, that the admission of our arbitration was equivalent to a renunciation of the disputed districts, and to satisfy him that his claims would be impartially considered. He was also authorized to say, that if on communicating with the Raja of Kolapore, the claims of the British Government were found to form an obstacle to this very desirable adjustment, they should be laid aside for the present

These arguments had due weight with His Highness, and Cursetjee was informed first by the Minister and afterwards by the Paishwa, that His Highness invested me with the fullest authority to settle with the Raja of Kolapore, but that he hoped I would proceed on the principles adopted by Lord Wellington and General Close, and that I would do nothing to compromise His Highness's honour. In answer to this message I sent the enclosed note principally for the purpose of fixing His Highness's consent in writing

His Highness the Paishwa marched this morning and I shall follow tomorrow at day break. The Vakeels of the Jageerdars are to accompany me, and I shall probably open your Lordship's arrangements to them tomorrow

No 79-A—Note addressed by Elphinstone to Seddasheo Maunkaisur on the 12th July 1812

I have received the messages which His Highness the Paishwa and you sent me by Cursetjee Modey. His Highness has been pleased to declare that I have full powers to negotiate with the Raja of Kolapore and to arbitrate his differences with that Prince, but His Highness wished me to proceed on the principles adopted by Lord Wellington and General Close, and begs that I may do nothing hurtful to his honour. I therefore hasten to assure you, for His Highness's information, that I shall be careful to preserve the consistency for which British Officers are distinguished, and that the Paishwa's honour is in no danger in my hands and I beg you to satisfy His Highness that I shall pursue the same upright and impartial course as was followed by General Wellesley and Colonel Close, and that I shall be as careful of His Highness's honour as I should be of that of my own Government

No 80—How expeditiously Elphinstone tried to bring the rebellious Jagirdars to obedience and how sincerely he was trying to settle the confused affairs of the Peshwa is seen from this report to the Governor General.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVLRNOR GENERAL

Waukry, 19 July 1812

My Lord,

On the day after the date of my last dispatch I set out from Poona in company with the Minister, Madhoo Row Dadjee, the brother of Appa Sahib, and the brothers of the Jageerdars of Merich and Koorundwar accompanied us with the portion of their contingents, which they have thought proper to furnish Madhoo Row Rastia was ordered to attend, and sent his party, promising to follow it himself, but has since excused himself on the ground of sudden indisposition The whole of the troops with the Minister do not exceed 1500 men and I do not think the quotas of the Jageerdars amount to a thurd of that number

We overtook His Highness the Paishwa on the second march from Poona, but although we have marched at the rate of 20 miles a day, His Highness reached Punderpore on the day before yesterday and we only arrived this morning at Waukry, three miles from the town

Since I left Poona I have prepared letters for the Jageerdars, of which I have the honour to enclose translations The period fixed for their appearance at Punderpore is the longest that the Paishwa's stay would admit of, and is amply sufficient for the journey, as Appa Sahib, the more distant of the chiefs resides within 120 miles of Punderpore, while Merich is not above 60 miles from the same place I have requested the Paishwa to send orders to the Jageerdars to attend without delay, and they will be issued today or tomorrow The time that was required for copying out these papers and the difficulty of procuring a meeting with the Vakeels on marching days, has prevented my dispatching the whole of the letters at once, but I this morning sent off those to Appa Sahib, to Chintamun Row, and to the Jageerdars of Merich and Koorundwar I sent for the Vakeels of those chiefs two days ago, and those of Appa Sahib and the Jageerdars of Merich and Koorundwar attended yesterday evening I stated much more plainly than I could do in writing the resentment which the Paishwa had entertained against the Jageerdars the difficulty which the British Government had experienced in prevailing on him to agree to the present

terms, the attention which had been paid to the interests of the Jageerdars in framing them and the impossibility of any alteration being now made in them. I also explained the preparations which had been made for enforcing the Paishwa's demands, the impossibility of allowing it to remain long a question whether or not our troops were to be employed and consequently the absolute necessity of the Jageerdars giving up their habits of procrastination on this occasion, unless they were prepared to hear of the immediate advance of the British troops and I pointed out the great advantages which they would derive from the guarantee of the British Government in terms which I could not use in a letter without appearing to undervalue the promise of His Highness the Paishwa. The letters, the articles enclosed and the list of lands held without authority by their masters were read to each of the Vakeels who agreed to everything contained in them with the following exceptions. They all three declared against their masters coming to Punderpore. Two of them said their masters had long been subject to illnesses which rendered such a journey impracticable, and the third declared that his master could not think of leaving the Paishwa's fort of Merich exposed to the dangers which it might incur in his absence. They also used many arguments to prove, that the presence of their masters was not necessary. In reply to all this I said that the Jageerdars must absolutely attend, that ill health and similar excuses had been so often employed for the last ten years that it would be impossible to satisfy the Paishwa that they were now founded in reality, and that the great use of attendance of the Jageerdars was that it afforded a proof that those chiefs had renounced their old habits, and were resolved to conform to His Highness's commands in future.

The Vakeels generally admitted the Paishwa's claims to the lands mentioned in the lists enclosed in their letters, which were reduced from the lists enclosed in my letter to Mr Edmonstone dated October 26th 1811, by striking off all pecuniary demands.

Appa Sahib's Vakeel, however, stated claims to two places, one of which was Koosigul and I told him that those claims would be fairly examined hereafter, but that in the mean time the lands must be given up.

The vakeels concluded by expressing the greatest readiness on their master's parts to conform to the terms proposed to them, but I scarcely think that all I have said on the subject will induce the Jageerdars to desist from their usual plan of trying to gain time, or will convince them that the British Government is in earnest, till they hear that the Subsidiary Force is in motion. I shall request Colonel Montresor to advance as soon as I see any symptoms of

hesitation on the part of the Jageerdars but it must depend on the information I receive at the time whether it will then be necessary to call for the proposed reinforcements (so as to enable Colonel Montresor to act against Merich) or merely to move out the force at Seroor for the purpose of intimidating the Jagheerdars

I have the honour to inform your Lordship, that a Brigade of the Subsidiary Force, consisting of the Grenadier Battalion and the 1st Battalion 8th Regiment with four field pieces, under the command of Major Mahony, has reached a place within one march of Punderpore, and is expected to arrive tomorrow

No 80A.—Clear, just and decisive are the terms offered by Elphinstone to the Southern Jagirdars in the following letters

Substance of a letter from Mr Elphinstone to Chintamun Row, dated July 19th 1812

After compliments

The British Government has long viewed with concern, the unsettled state of His Highness the Paishwa's dominions in the Carnatic and its vicinity, which for various reasons have hitherto remained unadjusted to the great damage of the chiefs of that country as well as of His Highness the Paishwa and his allies. The country has been a scene of confusion and disorder, the chiefs have been engaged in continual wars and distractions which have deprived them of all personal comfort and security, and have occasioned the ruin of their Serinjaumy lands. They have been estranged from the Paishwa's favour and have lived in constant anxiety from the uncertain tenure by which they held their lands, and they have suffered in their reputation from the repeated and peremptory orders which His Highness the Paishwa was obliged to send to them on all occasions. In the meantime the Paishwa has lost the benefit of their services and the alliance has been deprived of the benefit of a cordial co operation between all the members of His Highness's Empire in the prosecution of hostilities against foreign enemies. These disorders had at length risen to such a pitch, that the Paishwa would soon have been obliged to take the whole of the country in question into his own hands. On a consideration of all these circumstances the British Government (which is united by the strictest ties of friendship with the Paishwa and which has always taken an interest in the welfare of the Jageerdars and is unwilling that any misfortune should befall them) has resolved to interfere and exert itself to remove all these disorders and distractions and establish an arrangement which shall at once secure

the dignity and advantage of His Highness's Government and preserve the prosperity and honour of the Jagheerdars I have accordingly been commanded by the Right Hon'ble the Governor General, and empowered by His Highness the Paishwa to propose certain terms to you, of which a copy is enclosed The British Government will guarantee the fulfilment of these terms towards all the Sirdars who accept them, and it will employ its whole resources in conjunction with His Highness the Paishwa to reduce any person who may obstruct the execution of a plan so just in itself and so advantageous both to the Paishwa and his Sirdars

The first of the enclosed articles stipulates that the Paishwa shall take no notice of past injuries, a condition which was inserted for your satisfaction The renunciation of old pecuniary aims on each side is necessary to obviate all dispute, and I have every reason to think it is highly advantageous to you The restoration of all lands held without Sunnuds, as stated in the second article, is a measure of too obvious justice to require any comment The third article stipulates that you shall serve His Highness the Paishwa according to your Serinjaumy tenure which is the condition on which your lands were granted to you You must therefore, from every principle of duty and honour be willing to fulfil it If you have any objection to discharge this duty, you would not retain in your possession the land which you hold of His Highness No new demand is made on you under this head, you are merely required to perform the duties which belonged to your ancestors, and to fulfil the engagement into which you have yourself entered The Serinjaumy lands which you hold by Sunnuds from the Paishwa's Government, will remain in your hands Should you have been deprived of any of your Serinjaumy lands, a proportionate reduction will be made in your contingent The British Government pledges to the security of your lands as long as you continue to serve His Highness the Paishwa with fidelity, and you may rest assured that during the continuance of your faithful services, no injury shall be offered to you It shall be the business of the British Government to persuade the Paishwa to this It is unnecessary that I should point out the entire security which you will derive from the interposition of the British faith, since the fidelity of the British Government to its promises and engagements is so well known But I beg you to contrast the security you will enjoy with the state of uncertainty in which you have so long remained, possessing your lands on conditions which you have never fulfilled, and consequently daily liable to the resumption of your whole possessions The British Government, you will observe, charges itself with the security not only of your possessions but of your honour, so that no objection can remain to your performing your duties, and attending

with confidence in person I doubt not that you will immediately comply with demands so just and moderate, and all things considered, so favourable to yourself. But as for particular reasons this affair must be brought to an immediate conclusion, I shall proceed to state the only measures that can be received as proofs of your sincere disposition to avail yourself of the terms now offered to you. First your delivering over the lands, which you hold without Sunnuds, to the Paishwa's officers without delay or hesitation, as soon as those officers present themselves, any unreasonable exceptions taken to the officers or to the nature of the commissions with which they are entrusted, will be considered as a flat refusal to execute this demand. Secondly, your attending in person at Punderpore with the least possible delay for the purpose of accompanying His Highness the Paishwa to Poona. As His Highness leaves Punderpore in 20 days, your presence will be required in 14 days at the farthest from the date of this dispatch. His Highness is pleased to dispense with the attendance of your contingent on this occasion, as you might be unable to assemble it within the period assigned but it will be expected to appear at Poona complete in numbers and equipment and ready for field service by the Dussera. Your failure to attend at Punderpore at the time appointed will be held as an unequivocal proof of your disposition to disobey His Highness's just authority, and I shall act accordingly. These demands are so clearly just that I do not expect you will hesitate to comply with them but should hesitation take place, it will be a matter of necessity for me to adopt the course to which I have already alluded. If you have any statement to offer, it will receive every attention after you shall have complied with the preceding stipulations. The shortness of the Paishwa's stay at Punderpore obliges me to request you will favour me with an answer to this letter within two days after you receive it. I shall be under the necessity of considering your failure to reply within the time appointed as a denial and to act accordingly. I have now only to assure you of the goodwill of the British Government towards you personally and to offer you any service in my power towards the adjustment of your affairs.

Alterations made in the letters addressed to the remaining chiefs

No 80B—In the letter to Appa Sahib Putwurdhun, after the words 'highly advantageous to you', are inserted the following

His Highness the Paishwa will make no pecuniary demands upon you except for the money which you collected at Savanore, amounting to two lacs of rupees and which you are required to refund. As it was through Mr Russell that you promised to pay

that sum to the Paishwa, it is not in my power to intercede with His Highness to obtain its remission' And in the same letter after the words "attending with confidence in person", are the following

'Exclusive of the articles before mentioned, His Highness the Paishwa has one demand to make upon you, viz that you will send to Poona the carcoons of the late Soobahdar of Savanoor who are with you, to adjust their accounts with His Highness Except this and the claim for two lacs of rupees before stated, no other demands shall be made upon you in the event of your compliance with the terms enclosed

No 80C—In the letter addressed to Naryne Row of Merich, all mention of usurped lands is omitted, as he had usurped no lands from the Paishwa He is required first to give up Baba Furkia a delinquent towards the Paishwa's Government and now in confinement at Merich, and to deliver up His Highness's guns which are deposited in Merich, as soon as His Highness's officers shall present themselves to receive charge of them, and secondly, to attend at Punderpore in 14 days, and to furnish his contingent at the Dus.era in the same manner as the other chiefs

No 80D—*Terms proposed to the Southern Jageerdars, enclosed in Mr. Elphinstone's letter to Chintamun Row Putwurdhun of July 19th 1812*

1 The British Government engages that no notice shall be taken of past offences by His Highness the Paishwa, and also that the Jageerdars shall not be molested by the revival of old claims of a pecuniary nature or otherwise, on the other hand the Jageerdars promise never to revive any former claims on His Highness the Paishwa

2 The Jageerdars engage to restore promptly all usurped lands without exception, and to relinquish all revenues which they enjoy without Sunnuds Their Sunnuds to be examined for this purpose, and any grounds they may offer for mitigation to be hereafter investigated Under this article, all lands which are held in comavees are to be restored to the Paishwa

3 The Jageerdars engage to serve His Highness the Paishwa according to the former practice of the Marhatta Empire, as laid down in the Tynaut Zaubitas

4 The Jageerdars are to carry on no hostilities whatever, unless authorized by His Highness the Paishwa, and should any occasion arise for private wars among themselves, they promise to submit their disputes to the Paishwa and to abide by His Highness's decision

5 The British Government pledges itself that the Jageerdars shall retain undisturbed possession of their Sunnuddee lands as long as they serve His Highness the Paishwa with fidelity, and also promises to use its influence to induce His Highness to restore them to favour, and to treat them with due consideration on the same terms

6 His Highness the Paishwa has entrusted all the negotiations affecting the preceding questions, to the British Resident, who has been instructed by the Right Honorable the Governor General to carry them into effect, and to see that they are punctually observed

No 81—The Resident reports his additional expenses and his preparations for enforcing terms of settlement with the Jagirdars

FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE,

TO—MR CHIEF SECRETARY EDMONSTONE,

*Pandharpur, 20 July 1812 **

Sir,

In consequence of my accompanying His Highness the Paishwa to this place, some expense will necessarily be incurred beyond that which is required at Poona, to which I have to beg the sanction of the Right Hon'ble the Governor General

The impossibility of procuring carriage for tents at Poona obliged me to accept of the loan of 15 camels from His Highness the Paishwa, which assistance will of course diminish the expense to which the Residency will be liable

The remaining expense will be occasioned by the carriage of supplies and other articles, which will be greater than it otherwise would be from the presence of the Brigade at this place I shall, however, pay every attention to economy and hope that the extra charges will be moderate

No 82—The Resident reports success of his negotiations

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,

TO—MR CHIEF SECRETARY EDMONSTONE,

Pandharpur, 23 July 1812

Sir,

I had this morning the honour to receive your letter of the 19th of June, enclosing a copy of a letter from the Government of Fort St George, and of the Right Hon'ble the Governor General's reply

* On this date fell the principal day of Hindu pilgrimage the 11th of the bright half of Ashadh

The Right Hon ble the Governor General will have observed from my dispatches that the arrangements with the Jageerdars have met with less delay than was expected. The preparations ordered by the Government of Fort St George have however, been increased since the date of the dispatch enclosed in your letter and are now perfectly sufficient to meet any circumstances which can arise in course of the present negotiation

No 83—The Resident communicates the attitude of the Jagirdars towards the terms offered to them

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

Pandharpur 24 July 1812

My Lord

I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that I arrived at this place on the 20th instant. The Brigade under the Command of Major Mahony arrived on the 21st having advanced by very long marches from Seroor. I have the honour to enclose a present state of the Detachment

Since I last had the honour of addressing your Lordship, I have had an interview with Chintamun Row's Vakeel, and have entered into the same explanations with him which I communicated to the agents of the other chiefs. The Vakeel professed on his master's part the utmost readiness to comply with our demands, he said Chintamun Row had long wished to have his differences with the Paishwa settled and would be very grateful to the British Government for the liberal principles on which it had undertaken the adjustment. Little reliance can of course be placed on this language of the Vakeel. In consequence of the Vakeel's attendance my letter reached Chintamun Row before he had any other communication on the subject. He in consequence sent an express to this place to desire his Vakeel to discover the causes of this unexpected proposal. The Vakeel received the express this morning and by his own account he referred to his former letter, which he says will set Chintamun Row at ease and procure his immediate attendance.

I this morning received a communication from Madhoo Row Dajee Appa Sahib's brother stating his fears that Appa Sahib's high spirit would not permit him to submit to the terms proposed to him. The tone of the message was high and the messenger even said that his master wished we would leave him and the Paishwa to try their strength by themselves though he afterwards sent to recall and disavow this intemperate expression. The message con

cluded by Madhoo Row's requesting that I would fix a time to receive a visit from his Vakeel who would converse with me on this subject. I replied that, if the Vakeel had nothing to say to me beyond what had already been communicated, his visit was unnecessary, that I had heard Madhoo Row's message with a good deal of surprize, but that I should not be led by it to precipitate the measures which I had already projected, that I should wait till the expiration of the term allowed for Appa Sahib's answer, that if it disappointed my expectations, I should proceed to the steps which I had announced with great regret but without any hesitation, and that if Appa Sahib (without entertaining any serious intention of opposing himself to the British power) was endeavouring to ascertain how far the British Government was disposed to support its proposals I had only to beg him to advert to the deliberation with which the present system was adopted, and to consider whether the great preparations which he knew to be in forwardness in all quarters, were likely to be undertaken without a determinate object. I hope to be able to give your Lordship better grounds for judging of the disposition of the Jageerdars in course of two or three days

No 84—The Resident communicates the submission of Chintaman Rao Patwardhan to the requisition made upon him

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL**

Pandharpur, 26 July 1812

My Lord,

I have the honour to enclose a translation of a letter from Chintaman Row which I have first received

It is in answer to my letter of the 19th and your Lordship will observe that it contains an unqualified acquiescence in the terms which were proposed under your Lordship's orders

The Vakeel who delivered the letter brought an order of surrender for the districts of Seralleh to the Peshwa. I have the honour to enclose a copy of it

This district is by far the largest of those which Chintaman Row holds without authority. Its revenue amounts to Rs 60,000 a year although I have stated it as Rs 7,000 in my letter of the 26th of October by a mistake arising from the similarity between the Maratta words for 60 and 7

The Vakeel stated that the Peshwa had long been anxious to exchange the district of Shahpoor which Chintaman Row holds by sunnud for that of Seralleh and that he hoped as he had now given up Seralleh no demand would be made for Shahpoor. I assured him in reply that if Chintaman Row acquiesced to the terms proposed to him, he need be under no apprehension that he would be disturbed by any demands on the country which he held by sunnud.

The Vakeel further stated that Chintaman Row would come to Punderpore without delay but begged that no blame might be imputed to him if he arrived a few days late as he suffered from a temporary indisposition which though of no consequence rendered it difficult for him to travel. I said I should be extremely sorry to put him to inconvenience but that as I had fixed the same time for the arrival of the other Sirdars and as I intended to keep them to it, I must beg Chintaman Row also to be punctual in appearing within the appointed period.

The Vakeel then promised that he would

Some conversation took place about Chintaman Row's requiring an order from the Peshwa. I acquainted the Vakeel that the Peshwa never wrote orders while on a pilgrimage but that orders had been issued by the Minister in His Highness's name and that I hoped Chintaman Row would make no excuse on this ground. The Vakeel assured me that Chintaman Row would attend in consequence of my letter, but that he mentioned the custom of his receiving orders direct from the Peshwa to prevent the privilege from falling into disuse. I then assured the Vakeel that if Chintaman Row conformed to the proposals transmitted to him, I would answer for all his ancient privileges being preserved.

It is not impossible that Chintaman Row may ultimately refuse to come in on the pretence above alluded to, but as far as I can judge from his letter and from the language of his Vakeel he seems really inclined to conform to the demands transmitted to him.

A battle has taken place between Appa Dessye and the Raja of Kolapore in which the latter was defeated with the loss of 3 guns and several hundred men killed and wounded. The Raja has retired into the town of Kolapore and Appa Dessye is about to lay siege to Akkewaut.

Madhoo Row Rastiah arrived in camp on the day before yesterday. I had written to him on the subject of the Peshwa's claims but my letter missed him on the road. I shall now open the proposed arrangement to him with the least possible delay.

No 84A.—Translation of a letter from Chitaman Row to Mr Elphinstone dated Rajab 12th corresponding to July 22nd 1812

After compliments

The letter which you lately addressed to me arrived on the 11th of August and the particulars of it have been understood as also the contents of the enclosure it contained proposing six articles for my acceptance I have likewise received the list of lands which was transmitted to me as extracted from the records of the Poona Government and have comprehended the two conditions offered to me regarding my speedy attendance at Punderpore during His Highness the Paishwa's stay there and my delivering over to H H's officers the lands which I hold without sunnuds As it has been customary for me to receive H H's orders to attend upon him I request they may be sent to me, but in conformity to your letter I shall watch for a fortunate moment and commence my journey thither, where in a meeting with you all the circumstances connected with this question shall be fully explained to you I understand what you have written respecting the whole of the negotiations on the present subject being in your hands There shall not be the slightest hesitation on my part in obeying your wishes and restoring the lands for which I have no sunnads A full communication on all points shall be made to you personally when I shall be guided by your advice and as in the time of my ancestors, so in future neither shall any disregard be shown to H H the Paishwa's orders nor any want of zeal in his service The entire fulfilment of my intentions as above expressed is in the hands of the deity Paundoorung Ramchunder and Sedasheo Bapujee will communicate with you on this subject

No 85—Elphinstone reports to the Governor General that Appa Saheb Patwardhan was hesitating to accept the demands of the Resident

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Pandharpur 27 July 1812

My Lord,

Yesterday evening after I had closed my dispatch to your Lordship I received a letter from Appa Saheb of which the enclosed is a translation

The substance of the letter is that Appa Saheb is prevented by ill health from complying with my requisition, that he has much to say on the other subjects which I had mentioned

in a letter, but that his Vakeel would communicate his sentiments regarding them verbally; that I was his friend and he hoped I would continue to manage with the Peshwa as I had done hitherto.

On receiving this letter I sent for Appa Saheb's Vakeel who had received no instructions from his master. I then told him that as Appa Saheb's family had long enjoyed the favour of the British Government, it was with great regret that I saw him pursuing so ruinous a course, that I had however no alternative but to direct the march of the British troops against him, that he had still 9 days remaining of the period originally fixed for his appearance, and that if he came in, all that had past would be overlooked; but if he failed he should be charged with the whole expense of the movements to which he had forced the British troops. I added that Appa Saheb did not seem to be aware of the pains which it had cost the British Government to manage the Peshwa hitherto or of the benefit which he derived from the proposed arrangement; but I put him in mind of some parts of the Paishwa's conduct which shewed that he had the will and would soon have had the power of destroying him, but for this interposition of the British Government for which Appa Saheb made so bad a return. I also wrote a letter to this effect to Appa Saheb and I have the honour to enclose a translation of it.

The Vakeel was very urgent with me to defer sending off the requisition for the movement of our troops till to-day, saying that he might receive letters from his master in the interim, which would render that measure unnecessary; but I pointed out the impossibility of his receiving instructions of such a character, unless his master's communications with him were of a nature diametrically opposite to that of his letters to me.

I have the honour to enclose a copy of a letter which I addressed last night to Col. Montresor and of one which I addressed to the Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George.

I have also written to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay requesting that the Regiment of Europeans which is destined to join the Subsidiary Force may be sent off as early as possible. It will probably experience no great difficulty in its march to Poona and as it will have no guns, it will be able to cross the range of hills south of Poona by a pass in the immediate neighbourhood of that city, without making the circuit necessary to reach the little Bore Ghaut, the most westerly in the range which is practicable for guns. It may therefore be expected to join Col. Montresor within little more than a fortnight after it reaches the Maratha shore.

I have also requested Col Conran to direct the detachment from his force which is to join Col Montresor to march on Punderpore. The Subsidiary Force will probably be near this about the time when the Jaulna detachment arrives in this neighbourhood, but should it be at any other position, the route of that detachment can be altered without its losing any marches. I have not as yet made any application for the march of the troops from Hyderabad or Bellary, but if Appa Saheb shews no disposition to agree to the terms proposed by the British Government at the expiration of the period fixed for his appearance I shall request that those troops may advance and shall instruct Col Montresor to commence operations without delay.

I have as yet received no answers from the chiefs of Merich and Kooroondwaur and the period fixed for their reply will expire to-morrow. Chintaman Row may also be led by Appa Saheb's resistance to retract his promise of obedience and submission, but I do not think any opposition of this nature is to be expected. The Jageerdars are at present destitute of troops and no steps have yet been taken to form a combination. If sufficient vigour is shewn on the part of the British Government, I think they must immediately submit and nothing but delay or hesitation on our part will either give them the spirit to adopt an opposite course or the power to pursue it with any effect.

I have written to all the chiefs acquainting them with the intended movement of our troops and explaining the reasons of it so as to satisfy them that they will be exposed to no danger if they comply with the just demands of the British Government and the Peshwa.

I have the honor to enclose a translation of my letter to Chintaman Row. Those to the chiefs of Merich and Kooroondwaur mention that I have not received their letters but hope to do so within the limited time and then go on with the same explanation respecting the movement of the force as that contained in my letter to Chintaman Row.

Appa Saheb's Vakeel has been here again this morning, he delivered a message from Madhoo Row Dadgee saying that the Paishwa's wishes should be complied with in all respects, that Appa Saheb could not attend, but that he (Madhoo Row) was here and would agree to all the Paishwa's orders. To this I answered that the first order the Peshwa had issued was for Appa Saheb's attendance, that it would take time to execute his other orders and that this was therefore the only one which could be fixed on as a test of Appa Saheb's disposition to obey.

The people who carried my letter to Appa Saheb found him at Jumkandee without any troops. They state that he has long been

subject to rheumatism but is not particularly indisposed at present. The Vakeel's account of his master's disorder agrees with the above, he states it to be a disease of long standing which may ultimately have serious effects but does not pretend that any aggravation of it has taken place within these several months.

No 86—Elphinstone reports Appa Sahib Patwardhan's readiness to submit to the demands made upon him.

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.**

Pandharpur, 28 July 1812

My Lord,

I had yesterday the honour to report the measures adopted in consequence of Appa Saheb's evasion of the demands which I transmitted to him in your Lordship's name. I am happy to have it in my power to acquaint your Lordship that there is already strong reason to suppose that they will produce the desired effect.

I had the honour to state that Appa Saheb's Vakeel came to me once on the night of the 26th, and once on yesterday morning, on both which occasions he pretended to have received no instructions from his master. He came again yesterday forenoon and acquainted me that an agent had arrived from Appa Saheb with letters for Madhoo Row Dajee, empowering him to settle everything with me, I replied that I had nothing to settle with Appa Saheb till the two requisitions I had made on him were complied with and that no negotiation was necessary about them.

The vakeel then asked how it would be regarded if Madhoo Row were authorized to fulfil those requisitions and I answered that one of the requisitions referred to Appa Saheb's attendance and the other to his surrender of the lands he held without authority, neither of which could be fulfilled by Madhoo Row. The Vakeel then said that there were many discussions necessary about the lands, but I told him I could admit of no discussions till the lands were made over, that if any of them belonged to Appa Saheb they should afterwards be restored and in the meantime he could not complain if the Paishwa held some of his lands for a month or two, when he had held lands of the Paishwa's for 10 or 15 years. Some more conversation of this kind took place in which the Vakeel was evidently employed in discovering my real intentions and the lengths to which I was prepared to go. It was not till he had ascertained that letters requiring the advance of the Subsidiary Force were gone, that he told me that Appa Saheb had agreed to give up his

usurpations and that he himself had written by express to recommend his master's immediately coming to Punderpore. After this he assured me again and again that he had no doubt that Appa Saheb would come in as soon as he received my letter.

A good deal of conversation passed in which I shewed the advantage of the arrangement as it respected Appa Saheb, enlarged on the difficulty the British Government had experienced in procuring the Paishwa's consent to it, and declared that it was absolutely incumbent on the British Government to enforce the moderate demands to which it had reduced His Highness. The Vakeel repeated anew that he was convinced his master would attend, said that all the part of the family which was here were sensible of the benefits of the plan and he could not imagine what induced Appa Saheb to resist it.

Notwithstanding the Vakeel's denial of his having received instructions till his third interview with me, I have good information that the agent from Appa Saheb came in on the 26th before I had seen the Vakeel. From this it appears that the Vakeel was authorized from the first to make all the concessions which were required except engaging for Appa Saheb's appearance, but that he was instructed to hold out to the last and make no concessions at all which were not rendered absolutely necessary by my proceedings. It may be inferred from Appa Saheb's conduct on this occasion that his refusal to come in originates in the hope that if that demand were vigorously resisted, it would be given up. I therefore expect that when he receives my letter of the 26th and his Vakeel's account of the steps which have been taken, he will attend at Pundurpore without any further dispute.

I understand from Chintaman Row's Vakeel that his master was to enter his tents on Sunday the 26th. My messengers are not yet returned from Merich or Kooroondwar, but I hear the chiefs of those places are preparing for a journey to Punderpore.

No 87—Elphinstone warns the Chief of Miraj of the consequences of his failure to attend the Peshwa at Pandharpur.

Translation of a letter from Mr Elphinstone to the Chief of Merich dated July 30th 1812

I have had the pleasure to receive your letter of the 17th of Rejeb July 27th.

I called your attention to the demands, to neither of which you have replied. As I wish you well I cannot but be concerned at this conduct. You wrote to me about your honour and consequence.

Those points were provided for in the proposals which I sent to you. If you had agreed to them, your rank and honour would have been secured but you have not thought proper to do so. I have already informed you what course would be adopted in this event and it is unnecessary to repeat it. You may be sure that the British Government will act as it has professed. The Peshwa will still be here for 6 days. If you come within that time it is well, otherwise I must pursue the course I formerly laid down. No other choice is left me.

No 88—The Resident reports the submission of Appa Sahib and Chintaman Rao Patwardhan, who were expected to arrive at the camp on the following day.

**FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL**

Pandharpur, 1 August 1812

My Lord,

I have the honour to report to your Lordship that I yesterday received an answer to the letter which I wrote to Appa Saheb on his rejection of the terms. It is unnecessary to trouble your Lordship with a translation of the letter as it contains little more than professions of friendship and a promise to repair to Punderpore without delay.

The Vakeel who brought it assured me that Appa Saheb would march as promised yesterday and would endeavour to reach this place by Monday next, but that as he was in an infirm state of health, he should not be able to make long marches and that if he did not arrive within the time he hoped it would be excused. To this I replied that if Appa Saheb were well on his way to this place I should have no doubt of his intention to come on, but that if he did not arrive till the Peshwa was gone, H.H. would certainly take it amiss and would think that he had merely come to me in consequence of my requisition and had shown no desire to pay attention to H.H. I then told the Vakeels that I had to manage with the Peshwa as well as with their master and that I must beg them to impress on Appa Saheb the necessity of his co-operating with me in conciliating the Peshwa's mind and bringing about an entire oblivion of past disagreements.

The Vakeels then started some difficulties about the surrender of the usurped lands. They represented that it was necessary that the Peshwa's officers should go to Appa Saheb first and receive from him orders for the surrender of the places. If they went

direct to the lands the people in charge would not give them up without orders from Appa Saheb and till he saw the officer he could not know what lands the Peshwa intended to require I objected to this arrangement on account of its tendency to produce delay and still more on account of its being at variance with the demands I had made on Appa Saheb, compliance with which, I said, was as essential for the Peshwa's satisfaction as his compliance with my other demand for his personal attendance I said there would be no difficulty about sending orders of surrender Appa Saheb had only to issue such orders with regard to the lands mentioned in the list I had sent him and that if the Peshwa's officers appeared before any other place to demand the surrender of it, I should not complain if they met with a refusal

I have this day learned from a pair of hurcarras of my own that Appa Saheb has crossed the Kiswa and will be here tomorrow

The Chief of Merich refused to come in as I had the honour to report in my last dispatch He has now (either in consequence of the receipt of my letter announcing the approach of the troops or of some concert with Appa Saheb) altered his resolution and set out from Merich He will reach Punderpore tomorrow as will Chirtaman Row I have received no answer from the Chief of Koo-wau nor do I hear anything of his motions

Notwithstanding the favourable appearance of affairs in this quarter at present, it does not appear to me that the advance of the troops could be safely countermanded. The Marattas make promises with so little intention of fulfilling them and recede from them so frequently even when they have been sincere, that no engagement of theirs can be relied on, and in this particular case I think it more than probable that any appearance of slackness on the part of the British Government would have an instantaneous and unfavourable effect on the proceedings of the Jageerdars. For these reasons it will perhaps be advisable for Col Montresor to remain at an advanced position till the preliminary demands for the surrender of the lands and the attendance of the Jageerdars be complied with if not till all disputes be finally adjusted and the contingents of the Jageerdars have assembled at Poona.

No 89—His extreme satisfaction and gratitude to the British Government for the settlement with Jagirdars were expressed by Bajirao in a personal interview with the Resident and have been reported herein to the Governor General.

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL**

Pandharpur, 2 August 1812

My Lord

I yesterday waited on the Peshwa by appointment at the house which H H occupies in Punderpore.

H H's whole appearance and conversation indicated extraordinary satisfaction and he was profuse in expressions of gratitude to the British Government for the interest which it had taken in his affairs. It would draw out this letter to an unnecessary length if I were to state all that H H said of the friendliness and disinterestedness of the conduct of the British Government on this occasion and the advantages both direct and indirect which he expected would accrue from it to his Government, but it affords a proof of his sincerity and shews the exultation which the Peshwa feels to mention that he could not help contrasting the present behaviour of the dependants of the Patwardhan family towards him with that which he used to experience on his former visits to Punderpore and dwelling on the mortifications to which he used to be exposed from a principal agent of that family who was now among the most obsequious of the followers of his court. He afterwards spoke at great length on the general benefits of the alliance and the gratitude he felt to the British Government for the security

which he enjoyed. This is a usual topic with H H but his language on this occasion was particularly warm and animated at the same time that I am thoroughly persuaded it was sincere. He said that the early part of his life had been spent in continual anxiety and apprehension that he distrusted his allies, his ministers and his relations and that there was nobody of those with whom he was connected from whose designs he was free from dread, but that the last ten years had past without a doubt a fear or even an uneasy thought, that his person and dominions were protected, his dignity was maintained and that he had enjoyed what he never had known before the power and dignity which became a sovereign. He said that he should never cease to feel the liveliest sense of gratitude to British Government from whose alliance he derived all these benefits, that he had in his closet the pictures of Col Close who signed the treaty of Bassein and of the Marquis Wellesley under whose auspices it was concluded and that he never passed a day without looking at them and calling to mind the blessings which he enjoyed through their means. He then alluded to the kindness he had received from the British Government since that time and did not fail to dwell with particular earnestness on his gratitude to your Lordship for this last great proof of the interest you took in his welfare. These observations were made at different times and frequently recurred to—the Paishwa uttered them without the least appearance of design and seemed only to be indulging in the unrestrained expression of his feelings.

I wish it were in my power to add that in this disclosure of his thoughts, no sentiments escaped him but such as did him honour, but I am sorry to say that his exultation in his own good fortune was mixed with triumph over his enemies and with strong signs of that spirit of implacable revenge which has been inspired by the injuries His Highness has suffered and by the circumstances in which his character was formed. He seemed to be as much delighted with the prospect of having Baba Furkia in his power, as with any of the solid advantages he is to derive from this arrangement. He enlarged on the hatred which Furkia bore him, said he was at the head of the party which imprisoned His Highness immediately after his accession and was one of the principal actors in the revolution which expelled him from his dominion in 1802 and that if he had it in his power, he would now spare no effort to accomplish His Highness's ruin. I could not deny the truth of these

Furnaveese, I have little doubt that he will act according to his professions. He then went on to describe the miserable end which had awaited Purrusram Bhow who fell alive into the hands of the Rajah of Colapoor and was put to death in cold blood, he said he did not mean to justify the Rajah's cruelty but that he was shewing how providence had avenged his wrongs. After Purrustam Bhow's death he had, he said, four mortal enemies, Holcar, Moroba Furnaveese, Babba Furkia and Amrutrow. The first two were dead and Furkia would soon be in his power, but Amrut Row was free and enjoyed a large pension from the British Government, he then said that it would be a proof of my regard for him if I would write to your Lordship and recommend that some severe measures should be taken with Amrutrow. I told him that I could not venture to hold any language of the sort with your Lordship and added that it was entirely on His Highness's account that we had pensioned his brother. His Highness did not press his request any further, but he continued to speak of Amrutrow in a manner which satisfied me that his sentiments towards that Prince have undergone no change since the time when His Highness was a fugitive at Bassein and Amrutrow in possession of his capital. I endeavoured to soften him and convince him that Amrutrow bore him no ill will and had not the power to injure His Highness if he were so disposed but my discourse did not make the smallest impression.

I afterwards endeavoured to make His Highness sensible of the necessity of treating the Jagheerdars who were coming in, with kindness and of endeavouring by his conduct to efface the memory of past differences. The Paishwa promised to be guided implicitly by my advice, but candidly confessed that he was far from feeling anything like friendship or kindness towards any of the body. It is to be hoped that the new footing on which His Highness will stand with regard to the Jagheerdars will in time effect an alteration in his sentiments towards them.

The Paishwa afterwards acquainted me that it was his intention to leave this on Tuesday (the 4th*) and expressed a strong desire that I should accompany him. I represented that I thought it would be more convenient if I could remain here till every thing was settled, but although I gave reasons which appeared to me strong, they did not affect the Paishwa, nor even draw any argument from him for my accompanying him but he continued to beg that I would do so with so much earnestness, that I began to suppose that His Highness entertained some suspicion which he did not choose to disclose and was averse to leaving me alone with the Jagheerdars. I have since, however, ascertained that His Highness's anxiety for

* August 4 i.e. 12th of the dark half of Ashad, 1812 A.D.

my accompanying him originates entirely in his apprehension of the consequences of being by himself among so many of his enemies and knowing how much he is influenced by his fears, I shall not again refuse to attend him. I hope, however, to prevail on His Highness to put off his departure till Thursday, the 6th

I have at last received an answer from the Chief of Kooroondwaur of which the enclosed is a translation. He says that being utterly unable to proceed himself he has sent his son to Punderpore. I believe this statement to be true. The Jagheerdar has long been afflicted with the palsy and has lost the use of his limbs. The Paishwa himself bore testimony to the truth of this story before I had received the Jagheerdar's letter.

Chuntaman Row is expected in a few hours but Appa Sahib whose health is really deranged has been obliged to make short marches and is still 30 miles distant. He is accompanied by the Chief of Merich and the son of the Chief of Kooroondwaur.

I had yesterday the honour to enclose a copy of my letter to Gokla. The Paishwa of his own accord offered to complete that Chieftain's Jagheer by granting him Sunnads for the lands he held without authority. I of course acceded with the utmost satisfaction to an arrangement which has been desired ever since 1803. No demand therefore remained against Gokla, but I thought it unreasonable that he should be deprived of the benefit of the British guarantee merely because there was no ground of complaint against him. I therefore, after consulting the Paishwa wrote the letter which was enclosed in my last despatch.

I have been endeavouring for some days to prevail on His Highness to make some addition to Appa Dessye's Jagheer which is liable at present to great defalcations. I shall have the honour to report fully on the subject hereafter and shall only at present observe that some arrangement of this nature is absolutely necessary both from considerations of policy and justice.

No 90—In this important communication the Resident charges the Peshwa with duplicity and intrigues at a time when he was so thoroughly gratified with the settlement of the Southern chiefs. The Resident calls upon the Peshwa to explain his conduct.

Translation of a letter from Mr Elphinstone to His Highness the Paishwa, dated Camp on the Neerah, August 9th 1812

After the satisfaction and cordiality which I experienced at my last meeting with Your Highness it gives me sincere concern to be obliged to address Your Highness in the language of remonstrance and complaint, but my duty to my own Government does

not permit me to hesitate in undertaking this disagreeable office. After a variety of discussions respecting the Southern Jageerdars and the Raja of Kolapore, Your Highness was pleased to consent to the arbitration of your claims on those powers by the British Government and to invest me with full powers to investigate and arrange them all. In undertaking the settlement of these claims the British Government was solely actuated by a wish for Your Highness's prosperity. It voluntarily exposed itself to great expense and trouble to bring about the adjustment of many disputes in which it had no interest except that which it derived from their great importance to Your Highness. In the negotiation with Kolapore (the only one in which the British Government had a direct concern), it agreed to make its interests subservient to those of Your Highness and to sacrifice them if it were necessary for Your Highness's advantage.

All the other disputes have been put into a train of arrangement and it gave me the greatest pleasure to perceive that the proceedings which it fell to me to pursue on the part of the British Government, were entirely satisfactory to Your Highness and that Your Highness was fully sensible of the liberal and disinterested conduct of the British Government in authorising them.

There only remained the affair of Kolapore in which I relied upon Your Highness's cordial co-operation as well from the conduct of the British Government and the warm and friendly sentiments which Your Highness had expressed regarding it, as from the express concurrence which Your Highness was pleased to give to the proposed arrangement. For this reason, although fully prepared to give up the objects of my own Government if such a sacrifice was requisite for the security of Your Highness's interests, I did not expect to meet with much difficulty in realising the just demands of both Governments. Your Highness may therefore judge of my surprise when I was informed that the Raja was willing to agree to all my demands, but that Your Highness's Durbar had strongly advised him to resist those which tended to the advantage of the British and had even threatened him with its displeasure in the event of his compliance. I confess that it was with difficulty that I could bring myself to believe what I had heard and it was not till it had been confirmed beyond all doubt by other circumstances that I could persuade myself that Your Highness was capable of a proceeding so inconsistent with the friendship and fidelity which Your Highness has always shewn towards the British Government, and I can now account for it only on the supposition that it has been adopted without Your Highness's knowledge and that it will meet with your extreme displeasure when you are informed of it. Being however satisfied of the fact, I think it be-

comes me to state it to Your Highness and frankly to inform Your Highness of my sentiments on the occasion, after which I shall hope to be honoured with any explanations Your Highness may be pleased to offer before I proceed to make a communication of so serious a nature to my Government

I must first beg Your Highness not to consider me as imputing the conduct which I complain to Your Highness personally. The following reasons convince me that Your Highness has no share in it. The fidelity which Your Highness has shewn towards the British Government for a series of years induces me to believe that every measure that originated in you would be dictated by the spirit of friendship, while the conduct of which I complain, would only become an open enemy. It is unnecessary to say how incompatible it is with the character of an ally, and a bare narrative of the transaction will shew how little it could be expected from Your Highness at a time when the last uneasiness of the British Government had strengthened and improved the existing friendship. The claims of the British Government on the Raja of Kolapore are undisputed, though they have hitherto been urged with * * * * * moderation. The British Government could easily have secured their adjustment had it been content to pursue its own interest without attending to that of Your Highness, but Your Highness also had disputes with the Raja of Kolapore and the anxiety of the British Government for the settlement of your dominions, induced it not only to undertake the adjustment of those disputes, but to promise that it would forego its own claims for the present, if they should be found to interfere with yours. Your Highness was thus secured from all chance of inconvenience, and the attainment of every legitimate object of your Government, was rendered certain. In this state of things obstructions were created by Your Highness's Durbar to the settlement of the just and moderate demands of the British Government, but for this interference I am persuaded the Raja would have satisfied those demands without hesitation or had he refused the British Government supposing it free from engagements to Your Highness, could have obtained its own satisfaction by force of arms, but in the present state of our engagements, if the intrigue had not come to my knowledge and the Raja would have rejected the demand for Malwaun I should have given it up on account of my promise to Your Highness. It would therefore have been the anxiety of the British Government for Your Highness's interest alone which put it in the power of its

The communication made in Your Highness's name and from your Durbar would, if you should not prove that it was unauthorized, entirely release the British Government from the engagements with which it had bound itself and leave it at liberty to pursue its claims without reference to your Highness's interest. If those claims were not satisfied, it might conquer Colapore and proceed to advance claims to the disputed districts on its own part, or if the well known moderation of the British Government renders the above course of policy improbable however justified by the circumstances of the case the British Government might at least close with the offers which it has more than once received from the Raja of Kolapore and accept a large cession of territory from that prince as the price of its protection against all aggression from whatever quarter. Such are the proceedings which the British Government might adopt with respect to Kolapore with regard to Your Highness. I know that it could scarcely be proper to think of any measures which were inconsistent with perfect harmony and good understanding but Your Highness will perceive how much the author of this intrigue is your enemy if you will consider the dangerous consequences to which such a step would lead if its ill effects were not corrected by the candour and moderation of the British Government. One of those ill consequences must even now be felt because its operation is out of our control. Foreign states must believe that an opposition of interests and a spirit of counteraction exists between the two allied Governments and they will be led to suppose that each is indifferent to any injuries which the other may suffer. Which state will suffer most from this opinion, I leave Your Highness to judge.

I rely upon Your Highness for excusing the plainness with which I have stated facts which it would have been unfriendly towards Your Highness as well as culpable towards the British Government for me to have concealed. What measures Your Highness should adopt to remove the unfavourable impression which they must make on Lord Minto's mind, it is not for me to point out for I consider this as too important a case for me to act in it without specific orders from the Rt Hon'ble the Governor General, but I beg Your Highness to believe that I shall not fail to make the most ample representation to His Excellency of any explanation you may offer for the purpose of preserving His Highness's freedom undiminished and that it will give me the sincerest pleasure if Your Highness can explain the transactions to which I have alluded in such a manner as may remove all ground of complaint against Your Highness.

Your Highness will be pleased to observe that the present affair does not derive its consequence from any anxiety of the

British Government to obtain possession of Malwaun, a point which the British Government was fully prepared under certain contingencies to give up. The importance of the measure now complained of, arises from the injury done to the confidence which ought to subsist between the two States and from the indignity which is offered to the British Government by the deception which has been practised upon it.

No 91—The Resident at Poona requests the Resident at Tanjore to deliver the Peshwa's letter to the Raja of Tanjore and introduce to him the Peshwa's Vakil

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—CAPTAIN BLACKBURN, RESIDENT AT TANJORE**

Poona, 8 September 1812

Sir,

In compliance with the earnest request of the Paishwa's Ministers I take the liberty of recommending to your favourable notice Appajee Row Vencataish, the bearer of this letter, who resides at Tanjore as Vakeel on the part of His Highness the Paishwa. It is represented here that His Excellency the Rajah of Tanjore has not given a favourable reception to the Vakeel and has not received the letters with which he was charged by the Paishwa and I am now requested to intimate to you that it would be very acceptable to His Highness if you were to afford to Appajee Row your countenance and support so as to procure him an honourable reception from the Rajah. I beg therefore to submit for your consideration this request of the Paishwa's Ministers. Any objection to a compliance with it you will have the goodness to inform me that I may have it in my power to satisfy the Durbar on the subject.

No 92—Elphinstone orders Lieutenant Colonel Dowse to proceed against Koosigal and capture the place. For this purpose he supplies a resume of the situation of the various chiefs. This account is a terse recapitulation of the measures taken by the Resident for the settlement of all outstanding disputes.

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—LIEUTENANT COLONEL DOWSE.**

Poona, 11 September 1812

Sir,

I have at last received accounts of the reply of the officer of the fort of Koosigal to the summons transmitted to him by His Highness the Paishwa.

This summons was directed to Junnoba or Junnardhun Soobedar in whose name the former Sunnud for Koosigul was made out, although the control of the place was generally understood to be in the hands of the chiefs of the Putwurdhun family. The officers who were sent with the summons were not able to find Junnoba Soobedar and after a long and fruitless search they returned to Koosigul and presented the summons to the officer in charge of the garrison. That officer is stated by the Paishwa's people to have at first required an order from Appa Sahib for the surrender of the fort and when such an order was produced to have said that it was not the custom in the service to which he belonged to deliver up a fort till three several orders to that effect had been received, that he would write to his master who, he said, was at Poona and act in conformity to the instructions which he might receive.

Junnoba Soobedar's concealment of himself and the evasive answer of the officer in charge of Koosigul convince me that no intention of delivering over that fortress is seriously entertained and that possession of it will only be obtained by force or by intimidation. It therefore becomes necessary for you to cross the Toombudra with the force under your command and to march against Koosigul.

I shall do myself the honour to enclose an order for the surrender of that fort from the Paishwa which you will be pleased to transmit with a summons from yourself at such time as you may think proper and should the summons be rejected, you will be pleased to proceed to attack the place in such manner as may appear most expedient to you.

Any resistance on the part of the Officer Commanding in Koosigul will place him in the situation of a rebel against the Paishwa's Government and it may be proper to apprize him of the risk he runs at the same time that you call upon him to surrender. If the place falls into your hands without any conditions being made, the Officer Commanding and some of the principal officers of the garrison must be sent prisoners to Poona, but no obstruction need be opposed to any capitulation on which you may think it necessary to enter by the circumstance of their rebellion, provided that the capitulation extends no further than to allowing the garrison to retire in safety.

I have reason to expect that the garrison will stipulate for the payment of their arrears, which considering the future effect of such a concession in a country where there are many forts, it is not desirable to grant, but in this you must be guided by your own view of the circumstances of the place and time.

I had the honour to send you in a private letter such an account of Koosigul as could be obtained here and you will have better opportunities than I have of ascertaining the nature of that fortress, but as your operations will be carried on in Savanore and in the immediate neighbourhood of the Raja of Kolapore and the Jagheerdars, it may be useful to communicate a summary account of their situation and probable intentions

You are already well acquainted with the transactions relative to those chieftains up to the commencement of the present negotiation, it therefore only remains for me to state what has passed since that period

The Paishwa had no claims on Gokla who has received a great addition to his Jagheer without being called on for any further service His attachment may therefore be relied on

Appa Dessye has been required to give up some usurped lands and obliged to desist from some projects against Colapore, which he seemed to have much at heart, but he is to receive an addition to his lands and he continues to profess the same attachment to the British Government and obedience to the Paishwa which he has always hitherto professed with sincerity I therefore think that nothing is to be apprehended from him

The Dessye of Kittoor has been required to give up two or three villages which he had usurped, but he is to receive lands to a much greater extent which had been usurped from him He has always behaved with fidelity and is very unlikely to oppose the Government now

The Raja of Colapore is at war with the Paishwa about the districts of Chickory and Manowlee, to which he has advanced a claim These districts form part of the Jageer of Appa Dessye by whom the whole weight of the war with the Raja has hitherto been sustained He has however exerted himself with such success that he is now besieging the Raja in his capital I have lately signed a treaty with the Rajah of Colapore's Vakeels, which if ratified by the Rajah will put an end to all enmity with him If he should refuse to ratify the treaty, such measures will be taken as will prevent his disturbing you His force before his defeats amounted to 12 000 men but is now greatly reduced

Rastia's affairs are nearly settled and he has throughout shown no disposition to resistance He is himself at Poona and the force at present in his pay is very inconsiderable

The chiefs of Ramdroog and Nergoond are in obedience to the Paishwa and no claims have been advanced upon them

Narayan Row Goreporah of Gujinder Ghur is in the service of Appa Dessye His conduct will of course be guided by that of his master

Baupoo Sindia the Killadar of Darwar professes entire obedience to the Paishwa but is not in reality to be depended on No claims have however been advanced against him, and although he may wish well to any opposition that is made to the Government he is not likely to expose himself to danger by joining in it unless in circumstances far different from those which now exist It will however, be necessary to keep a watchful eye on his proceedings with a view to preventing any succours which he might secretly send to the garrison of Koosigul

The Killadar of Darwar may perhaps be alarmed by the approach of your Detachment in which case it will be prudent to apprize him of your real destination and to assure him that you have no intention of acting against him These promises must only extend to your own army and to the present time and must not be made to bind the Paishwa or even to impose any restraint on the British Government hereafter but it will not be expedient to use any expression which may lead the Killadar to suppose that any future operations against him are in contemplation.

Anaba Rahticur the Sirsoobehdar of Savanore resides at Poona where he holds several appointments The province of Savanore is governed by his deputy Both those officers depend entirely on the Paishwa and have no weight or influence but what they derive from His Highness's appointment

I have now only to mention of the family of Putwurdhuns whose interests are more immediately connected than those of any other chiefs with the result of the service on which you are proceeding

Junnoba Soobehdar is either a member of the Putwurdhun family or nearly connected with it by descent or by marriage He was originally an officer in the Paishwa's Paugah or Corps of Stable-Horse He was attached to the army under Purseram Bhow in the war with Tippoo and received from the Bhow a Sunnud for the fort and lands of Koosigul at the time when that fortress was taken from the Sultan This grant was never confirmed at Poona It was indeed considered as designed to impose on the Government and to enable Purseram Bhow to hold Koosigul for himself under pretext of assigning it to an immediate servant of the Paishwa Since the death of Purseram Bhow it has been considered to belong to Appa Sahib and it was from him that it was lately demanded Nor was Junnoba ever mentioned till the negotiation with the Jagheerdars had reached an advanced stage Even then Appa Sahib agreed to give an order for the surrender of the place and

The above comprises all the information I possess respecting Savanore and the country in its neighbourhood, but such information is not easily procured here, and if it were obtained it could not be communicated with sufficient minuteness in writing I therefore requested the Paishwa to give orders that an intelligent person might be sent to you from Savanore for the purpose of making you acquainted with all particulars of this nature His Highness has ordered the Deputy Sirsoobehdar to attend you himself and by his means and those of the Bramin I had formerly the honour to send to you I hope you will be able to collect all the information you request

Your own experience will point out to you the necessity of securing the best intelligence in your power of the state of the country round Koosigul and of the situation and proceedings of the different chiefs in the neighbourhood I shall be happy if you think it necessary to recommend to the Government of Fort Saint George to sanction any extra expense which may be incurred for this important object

No 93--A dispute between the family of Khande Rao Rastia and the Angrias of Kolaba is referred to mutual arbitration by Elphinstone

**FROM--THE RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO--MR CHIEF SECRETARY WARDEN BOMBAY**

Poona, 14 September 1812

Sir,

I had the honour of receiving in due course your letter of the 24th ultimo relating to the disputes between the two Maratta Chiefs, Angria and Rastia I deferred replying to it till I should be enabled to give some satisfactory information regarding the subject to whom it referred

The dispute above alluded to was never referred to me and from its nature it would be impossible for me to decide on it It relates among other things to the possession of a fort which I imagine the present occupant would not be willing to resign and of which I have no authority to dispossess him

With a view however to the desire conveyed in your letter as well as to the interest which the British Government has always taken in the prosperity of the family of Cundee Row Rastia I sent for the parties and after pointing out the ill consequences of their present altercations, strongly, recommended to them to refer the matter in dispute to arbitration The parties seemed much irritated against each other, they however agreed to my proposal and consented to

abide by the decision of two arbitrators, one chosen by each party, and of an umpire nominated by the arbitrators Rastia named Cundoo Mahadeo, Vakeel for the Holcar State, and Angria's Vakeel (Angria being himself in Sindia's camp) fixed on Chintoo Punt Daismook, the Paishwa's principal officer of revenue. As the arbitrators thus fixed on are men of weight and respectability, I trust the disputants may be brought to some sort of compromise which will prevent the inconveniences hitherto felt from their dissensions

No 94—The Resident communicates to the Peshwa in writing the Governor General's displeasure with his minister. He informs him that the minister should no longer be entertained in service

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Poona, 13 October 1812

My Lord

On the receipt of Your Lordship's commands notified in Mr Edmonstone's dispatch of the 11th ultimo I sent immediately to request an audience of the Peshwa which various circumstances prevented his granting me till the 7th

I then went to the Minister's house which the Peshwa had appointed for the meeting

As the message which I had to communicate was of so much importance and as the part of it which relates to the dismissal of the Minister might by a little misconstruction be so represented as to excite much alarm and jealousy in the Peshwa's mind, I thought it prudent to commit the whole to writing and after it had been read in my presence to deliver it to His Highness. I accordingly carried a note, containing your Lordship's message to the Durbar

I had only time to inform the Minister of your Lordship's extreme displeasure when the Peshwa came in. As soon as the usual inquiries had passed I acquainted His Highness that I had reported the obstructions which I had met with in my negotiation with Colapore to your Lordship and had added all the explanations and apologies which had been offered by H H and the Minister, that I was concerned to state that although those communications had a considerable effect in preventing the bad impression which the conduct of this Court must otherwise have made on your Lordship, they by no means prevented your feeling a great degree of surprise and uneasiness at a proceeding so little to have been expected from H H, that I had been led by the greatness of the occasion to commit to paper the message which your Lordship had communicated me

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to deliver and that with H.H.'s permission it should now be read. I also suggested the propriety of H.H.'s desiring such persons to withdraw as were not required to be present.

The Peshwa immediately requested that he might be allowed to read the paper himself, to which I consented, imagining that it was his intention to read it on the spot, but His Highness afterwards observed that the subject would require a great deal of consideration and that he was desirous of examining my note carefully before he returned any answer to it. I endeavoured for some time to prevail on H.H. to allow the paper to be read in my presence, after removing any of the persons present whom H.H. did not wish to be acquainted with its contents. I represented that my instructions were to deliver your Lordship's message myself, and that it was only as a security against mistakes that I had committed it to writing at all. I added that some parts of the note might require explanation and some other observations which were rather intended to impress H.H. with the importance of the communication than to prevail on him to read the note in my presence—a circumstance to which I did not attach much importance.

H.H. who seems to have thought that the note contained some serious demand on your Lordship's part was extremely averse to exposing himself to the necessity of returning an answer, of entering into any explanations without previous preparations and accordingly he persisted in his request that he might be allowed to peruse the note by himself, to which I at last consented, begging that H.H. would fix a day for me to attend him and receive his answer. I continued at the Durbar for some time after this conversation, but all the persons present remained in profound silence till my departure except at one time when the Peshwa said he hoped, I did not consider his refusal to read the paper in my presence as any reflection on me and I assured him that I had no such suspicion.

After I was gone the Peshwa spoke to the Minister in terms of great displeasure, said that he had brought about such a disagreement as had never happened in the last ten years for which the alliance had subsisted and left his house without taking any further notice of him or showing him the note which I had delivered.

I have since received a message from the Minister in which he attempted once more to exculpate himself and desired me in the Peshwa's name and his own to make use of every argument and assurance which would tend to remove Your Lordship's displeasure. On the receipt of this message I applied for an interview with the Minister and I shall request an audience of the Peshwa before I drop the subject. This application is intended to give both

H H and his Minister a deep impression of the importance of the occasion, but as I know the Peshwa's aversion to personal intercourse on such occasions I shall not insist on receiving his answer from his own mouth if I find him very reluctant to give it

Nothing could be better timed than the arrival of Your Lordship's instructions on this subject. It will hereafter appear that the Peshwa's late intercourse with the Raja of Kolapore has not been so guarded as might have been expected. I have also received private information which gives reason to believe that the acquisition of the districts of Chikoree and Manowlee is by no means sufficient to satisfy the rapacity of the Peshwa's Durbar. No sooner was the court informed that the British Government was determined to put them in possession of those districts which they had all along declared to be the extent of their wishes, than they determined to profit by the mistakes of the Raja of Colapore and endeavour to obtain some further accession of territory on the ground of his refusal to agree to an arbitration. They accordingly determined to remonstrate with me on the agreement which I had concluded, as sacrificing some of their just claims, and they were for some days busily occupied in searching all the treaties between the States of Poona and Kolapore from the time of Sewajee, with a view to picking out every article that could afford any countenance to a claim on Kolapore. Your Lordship's message will I hope have put a final stop to these unjustifiable projects

The caution which it will probably inspire at this Court will also facilitate the execution of the agreement with the Raja of Kolapore as far as depends on the Peshwa, and will make H H more reasonable in the numerous details which are to be settled with the Jageerdars, the successful adjustment of which must in a great measure depend on the candour and moderation of the Peshwa's Government

I long ago received certain information of the arrival at this city of a new Vakeel from the Raja of Kolhapore named Succaram Pandit. I was informed that his object was to prevail on the Peshwa to undertake the arbitration of the claims of the British Government on the Raja. I have only heard of one communication between this Vakeel and the Minister which was carried on through Trimbakjee Dainglia. I have not heard directly what passed between the Minister and the Vakeel, but as he has allowed him to remain at Poona and has concealed his arrival from me, it appears as if he intended to make some use of him which he did not wish me to know. The accounts I have heard from Kolapore of the Vakeel's reports represent him as stating the Peshwa to have opposed the treaty with the British Government to the utmost and the Raja

himself told Kishen Row of a very threatening speech of the Peshwa, which reached the Raja through Trimbukjee Dengha and probably by the channel of Succaram Pandit. For reasons which I shall hereafter have the honour of stating I have contented myself with watching the progress of these intrigues without making any communication respecting them to the Durbar.

Your Lordship will observe by Kishen Row's letters that he states a Vakeel to have been sent to Kolapore in Gokhala's name but charged with a message from the Peshwa.

A newswriter whom I sent to Kolapore gives the true account of the Vakeel and both he and Kishen Row agree in the drift of his communications. They are stated by the newswriter to be ambiguously expressed and capable of being interpreted either as advising the Raja to be firm in his negotiations, or steady in his engagements with the British Government.

Krishen Row represents them as more unreserved and states their tendency to be to persuade the Raja to drop his negotiations with the British Government or at least to avoid all written engagements.

The concurrence of the intelligence which I have obtained in Poona with that which has reached me through two separate channels from Colapore, I am afraid leaves little room to doubt that the Peshwa or his Court have continued their endeavours to counteract the negotiations of the British Government even after my remonstrances and their penitence and professions of amendment.

It is easy to conceive the disgust which this intelligence must give Your Lordship, and it is doubtful whether I ought not to renew my remonstrances in a higher tone than ever on this new discovery of the insincerity of the Court of Poona but I trust the following reasons will appear to Your Lordship to justify my suspending that course of proceeding until I am honoured with Your Lordship's command.

It is doubtful whether these intrigues of the Poona Durbar have produced any bad consequence hitherto and I am induced to hope that they will give rise to no such consequences in future.

They may perhaps have instigated the Raja of Kolapore to the measures by which he forfeited his claims to Chickoree & Manowlee, but in that case, the Raja has less reason than ever to complain of the decision as he has brought it on himself by joining in a scheme for deceiving the British Government. It will produce no immediate inconvenience to the British Government, on the contrary it facilitates the settlement of the Paishwa's disputes with

Kolapore and relieves the British Government from the difficulties which would have occurred, had the Paishwa lost Chickoree and Manowlee, in providing an indemnity for Appa Dessye

I hope no future inconvenience will be experienced because I expect that the message which I had the honour to deliver from Your Lordship will effectually restrain both the Minister and the Paishwa from again attempting so dangerous a course

On the other hand my noticing the late intrigues might lead to considerable inconvenience and embarrassment. If Your Lordship's knowledge of those intrigues were avowed, so soon after the delivery of your message to the Paishwa, it would become indispensibly necessary either to abandon the Paishwa's interest in the present negotiations which could not be done without leaving the seeds of confusion in the southern countries, or to insist on the dismissal of the Minister, an interference in the internal Government of our ally which, though it may in particular cases be just and necessary, can never be desirable on general principles. At the same time my silence on the subject of the Paishwa's intrigue will not prevent Your Lordship's taking any notice of them that you may judge expedient either now or hereafter

I have already had the honour to forward copies of my correspondence with Colonel Montresor subsequent to the Raja's acceptance of the agreement. I shall transmit a copy of that instrument in Marattas through the Persian Secretary. I have given the Rajah no reason to think that Your Lordship will ratify the agreement in person if it meets with your approval, because I was in doubt whether the occasion was of sufficient importance, but if such an act is not inconsistent with the practice of the Government, I have no doubt it would be a great satisfaction to the Rajah

No 95—The Peshwa applies for the purchase of gunpowder at Bombay

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—MR CHIEF SECRETARY WARDEN,

Poona, 23 October 1812

Sir,

I have been requested by His Highness the Paishwa to solicit the permission of the Right Honourable the Governor for his purchasing Rs 50,000 worth of powder from the Honourable Company's Stores at Bombay

The Paishwa having at present turned his attention to assembling a force on his northern frontier for the purpose of opposing the Pindaries, it is extremely desirable to encourage his preparations and therefore beg leave to recommend his request to the Right

Hon'ble the Governor's attention if it should not be attended with inconvenience to the Public Service

No 96—Arrangements for taking possession of Malwan are communicated by the Resident

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—LIEUTENANT COLONEL MONTRESOR**

Poona, 27 October 1812

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose an open letter to Lieutenant Colonel Smith enclosing orders of surrender for Malwaun and the annexed forts I have no information respecting Lieutenant Colonel Smith's progress but it is possible you may have heard whether he has reached Malwaun or when he is expected Should you possess no such information or should it appear that Lieut Colonel Smith will not be at Malwaun before the arrival of the 2nd Battalion 7th Regiment I beg leave to request that you will forward the enclosed letter to Major Webb and direct him to take possession of the forts and to comply with the suggestions contained in the enclosed, until Lieutenant Colonel Smith's arrival or until orders shall be received from Bombay

No 96A

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—LIEUTENANT COLONEL SMITH**

Poona, 27 October 1812

Sir,

Having been informed by the Government of Bombay of your deputation to Malwaun and the other newly ceded forts on the coast, I have the honour to forward orders of surrender for those ceded by the Rajah of Kolapore I have been assured by the Rajah's Vakeels that orders of surrender will be sent to you direct and that at all events no obstruction will be offered to you taking possession But nevertheless I consider it expedient to send you the enclosed

I beg leave to point out to you that none of the guns or stores belonging to the fort are transferred to us and to request that you will permit the Rajah's people to remove them and any other property they may have in the fort at their own convenience The Rajah expresses great anxiety about the treatment of the priest and dependents of a Hindoo temple situated at Malwaun, but I consider it entirely superfluous to recommend them to your protection

I am not informed whether your instructions extend to enforcing the articles of the agreement with the Rajah of Kolapore which relate to the suppression of piracy, but in case they should, I think it necessary to acquaint you that the Rajah has some vessels in Malwaun which were formerly piratical vessels and which may still be armed. The Rajah now intends to sell them to merchants or to dispose of them in some way which will not be offensive to the British Government. Under these assurances it does not appear expedient that any claim should be advanced to them on the part of the British Government.

You will have been apprized that the 2nd Battalion, 7th Regiment under the Command of Major Webb marched on the 20th inst from Colonel Montresor's camp towards Malwaun. As that Corps may reach Malwaun before your arrival, I shall do myself the honour of enclosing this letter open to Colonel Montresor who will forward it to you direct or through Major Webb, as his information regarding your progress and the movements of the Battalion may render expedient.

No 97—The Peshwa has given up his intended journey to Kartik Swami

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—MAJOR GENERAL TAYLOR, COMMANDING AT
BELLARY.**

Poona 30 October 1812

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter on the subject of His Highness the Paishwa's intended journey to Cartick Swamy. I lose no time in communicating to you the information I have just received that His Highness's journey is put off for this year.

No 98—The Resident orders the Poona Subsidiary Force to return to their normal position as the purpose for which they were called out had been accomplished.

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—COLONEL MONTRESOR**

Poona, 26 November 1812

Sir,

The arrangement of the Paishwa's southern countries being now in such forwardness as no longer to require the presence of the force under your command in the field, I have the honour to request

that you will be pleased to order the return of the troops to their stations

As I have not heard anything respecting His Majesty's 1st Battalion 47th Regiment from the Government of Bombay, I conclude that it is intended to return to that Presidency. It will therefore be expedient to order it to proceed by the direct road to Poona.

The force under Colonel Dowse will remain where it is till orders are received from the Right Hon'ble the Governor-General respecting its future employment.

On your arrival at Seroor you will be pleased to reduce the establishments to their ordinary footing.

No 98A

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—MR CHIEF SECRETARY WARDEN**

Poona 23 December 1812

Sir,

In consequence of your letter of the 16th instant I communicated to His Highness the Peshwa that there was a difficulty in supplying the gun powder which he has solicited from the Government of Bombay. His Highness immediately replied that he would cheerfully dispense with the supply for the present, but that he should leave the price of the powder at Bombay and should expect it in two or three months when it was more convenient to the Government, that he might receive the quantity originally applied for.

SECTION 2

**THE MISSION OF GANGADHAR SHASTRI
1813-1814**

No 99—The Resident requests the Bombay Government to supply officers and men to train a Brigade for the Peshwa

**FROM—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT
AT POONA,**

TO—FRANCIS WARDEN, CHIEF SECRETARY

Poona, 25 January 1813

Sir,

The Right Hon'ble the Governor has long been acquainted with His Highness the Paishwa's intention of raising a Brigade of regular infantry to be disciplined by British Officers and he has already been pleased to accede to my request that Captain Hicks and Lieutenants Betts, Hicks, Davis and Thew should be permitted to assist in disciplining the Brigade

I have now the honour to enclose a list of the European and Native Officers and men who are still required for the same purpose and I beg leave respectfully to suggest the advantage which will accrue to the undertaking if the Right Hon'ble the Governor will be pleased to order such of the officers and men as are required immediately to be furnished as soon as may be convenient —

<i>Required for the Brigade</i>	Twenty Sepoys
One Commandant	<i>Required immediately</i>
One Major of Brigade	One Commandant
One Surgeon	<i>Artillery</i>
<i>Required for the Artillery</i>	One Lieutenant
One Lieutenant	One Sergeant
Two Sergeants	Two Gunners
Four Gunners	<i>Infantry</i>
<i>Required for the Infantry</i>	Two Officers to command Bat-
Two officers to command Bat-	talions
talions	Two Adjutants
Two Adjutants	Two Jemadars
Two Jemadars	Two Sergeants
Four Sergeants	Ten Havildars
Ten Havildars	Ten Naiques
Ten Naiques	Twenty Sepoys

No 100—The Resident offers definite requirements for the Peshwa's Brigade to be organized at Poona

**FROM—THE RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—THE CHIEF SECRETARY**

Poona, 6 February 1813

Sir,

I have had the honour to receive your dispatch dated the 30th ultimo and have to apologize for the want of distinctness in my letter of the 25th. I beg leave to offer such explanations of it as appear to me to be required.

Captain Ford who was selected by the Paishwa to command His Highness's Brigade belongs to my escort, and has already been allowed to join the Paishwa's corps. The officers who are to command the artillery have also been supplied by the goodness of the Right Honble the Governor. No surgeon is necessary at present (as the duties can be performed with advantage by Mr Coates the vaccinating surgeon at this place. Captain Ford has already applied to me to solicit leave of absence for a particular officer whom he recommends for his Major of Brigade but as that officer's services do not seem necessary at present, I have deferred making any application till I receive the Governor General's specific approbation of the details of the arrangement. There only remain therefore the Native Officers and the European and Native non-

Commissioned officers, and the Gunners and native privates to be provided. The Native officers and privates will perhaps be supplied with the greatest advantage from the corps in the Deccan if such an arrangement should be agreeable to the Right Hon'ble the Governor, and in that case, I will instruct the officer commanding to furnish them as soon as I am honoured with your answer to this letter, but as those Native officers and privates may be required by the Paishwa for a longer period than their corps will remain in the Deccan I have not thought it proper to take any of them from the Subsidiary Force, without the sanction of the Right Hon'ble the Governor.

The European non commissioned officers and Gunners cannot be supplied in the Deccan and therefore may be ordered from any other station which may appear most expedient to the Right Hon'ble the Governor.

No 101—Allowances fixed by the Peshwa for his Brigade are communicated by the Resident in this letter

**FROM—THE RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—THE CHIEF SECRETARY**

Poona, 14 February 1813

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 9th of February and to acquaint you for the information of the Right Hon'ble the Governor that the following are the allowances fixed by His Highness the Paishwa for the Officers attached to his Brigade of regular Infantry —

	per mensem
Officers Commanding Battalions each	1000
Adjutants	500
Lieutenants of Artillery	500

When a Brigade Major and Surgeon are appointed, the former will receive 800 rupees a month and the latter 500 rupees

No 102—The dubious conduct of the Peshwa and his minister in regard to the settlement arranged with the Raja of Kolhapur and with Appa Desai of Nipani is clearly exposed in this communication. The affairs of the State of Sawantwadi are also alluded to

**FROM—THE RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL**

Poona, 18 March 1813

My Lord,

Soon after I had last the honour of addressing Your Lordship directly, His Highness the Paishwa set out for the Concan from

whence he proceeded to Copergaum Seddasheo Maukaisur set off for his village of Taimboornee About the same time the greater part of the other Ministers either accompanied the Paishwa or the Bhow, or were allowed to go to different parts of the country on their own affairs The contingents of the Jageerdars marched to the frontier, and they themselves repaired to positions pointed out to them for reasons which will hereafter be explained The adjustment of many little points which remained to be settled with the Jageerdars was thus suspended and the investigation of the limits of Chickoree and Manowlee entirely interrupted

When the march of the Jageerdars was settled, a considerable degree of embarrassment was created about the place where they were themselves to reside Their own wish was either to be allowed to go to their Jageers or to accompany their troops to the field They were soon persuaded to drop the first of these plans and the second appeared to me quite unobjectionable The Paishwa at first agreed to its being adopted if I was convinced there was no danger of their intriguing with Sindia and Holcar I soon satisfied His Highness on that head, but he still said he would prefer their staying at Poona After a good deal of arrangement it was settled that they should remain at Poona, but when the Paishwa was about to set out on his journey, the Minister sent to Appa Sahib Putwurdhun to say that after the attempts his father (Purishram Bhow) had made to place Chimnaje Appa on the Musnud, his remaining at the same city with that Prince during the Paishwa's absence could not but be alarming to His Highness, and would give rise to many reports unfavourable to the Putwurdhun family He therefore recommended his passing the period of the Paishwa's absence at Punderpore When this was communicated to me, I complained of the Minister's interfering in the arrangements with the Jageerdars without previous concert with me I pointed out the inconvenience of the contradictory instructions which those chiefs received from him and me, and I could not but exclaim against the extraordinary impolicy of pointing out Chimnaje Appa to the Jageerdars as a rival of the Paishwa's and of giving rise to notions which had never till now occurred either to the Prince himself or to any of the Paishwa's subjects However, as the Bhow had desired the Putwurdhuns to repair to Punderpore, I said I should avoid all appearance of counteraction by seconding his request, and I accordingly settled with the Putwurdhuns that they were to send their brothers to the field, and go themselves to Punderpore, but they had scarcely reached that place when the real motive of all these intrigues and false claims became apparent The Minister wrote to me complaining bitterly of the Putwurdhuns

remaining at Punderpore and not accompanying him to Taimbornee, from which it was evident that his real object was to procure for himself a train of chiefs of birth and high rank in the State, and to indulge his affectation of imitating Nana Furnavees. The difference was compromised in the end, and I only mention it to show the trifling causes which are allowed to create embarrassment in the most serious affairs of this Government.

The musters of Rastia's contingent still remained to be settled, and as I had a good opportunity of knowing the distressed circumstances of that Sirdar in course of a partial settlement of his affairs which I undertook at his request, I prevailed on the Paishwa with great difficulty to be satisfied with 2000 men from him instead of 3300, the number which His Highness claimed. This number was accordingly mustered a few days ago, and no complaints have yet been made by the Government, but judging from the numerous and tedious alterations which took place at the musters of the Putwurdhuns, I presume there will still be some difficulty in settling that of Rastia's troops. In the meantime that body is to march as soon as possible to join the contingents of the other Jageerdars on the northern frontier.

I shall now proceed to report the progress of the adjustment of the Raja of Kolapore's affairs. I before acquainted your Lordship that I had failed in prevailing on Appa Dessye to give up any of the districts which were admitted to belong to the Raja of Kolapore, to desist from extorting money from the disputed districts, or even to refrain from plundering those in His Highness's possession. In consequence I transferred my applications on these subjects to the Government, and received frequent assurances from it of its readiness to fulfil the treaty, but the Minister betrayed considerable irresolution in enforcing the observance of it on the part of Appa Dessye, nor was it till the day fixed for his departure, that any advantage was derived from my constant applications and remonstrances. At length the Minister sent me a certain number of orders of surrender under Appa Dessye's seal, but as the small number of orders and the ambiguous style of some of them were unsatisfactory to the Raja's vakeels I made a new application to the Minister whom I begged to defer his departure, and in consequence a meeting took place at which the Raja's Vakeels and those of Appa Dessye were brought together in my presence and that of some of the Paishwa's Ministers. A summary enquiry was then made into the Raja's claims, those which appeared doubtful were set aside for future investigation and those which were clear were settled by the Ministers engaging to give orders of surrender for the places to which they related. Appa Dessye's Vakeels were,

as might be expected, very unreasonable, but the Paishwa's Ministers were more moderate, and it was at length settled with their concurrence, that orders of surrender should immediately be given for the places held by the Paishwa's troops in 17 Turufs or Districts, that the case of three other places should be communicated to the Minister together with my opinion that they ought to be surrendered. Next day the orders for the surrender of the 17 Turufs were brought to me and the Minister announced his acquiescence in my opinion regarding the other three for which he promised to send orders of surrender under Appa Dessye's seal within a day or two. The Minister then marched accompanied by Appa Dessye and his contingent, and I sent a native agent with him to receive the promised orders and also to procure similar orders for some places belonging to Rastia and the Putwurdhuns which have been usurped by Appa Dessye. Appa Dessye contrived to defer the delivery of those orders till he reached Tamboornee when he procured the Minister's leave to return to Neepaunee to celebrate his marriage.

I had intelligence of the Minister's intention of allowing him to depart in time to write to him and request that Appa Dessye might on no account be permitted to return to his Jageer till all the points under discussion were adjusted. The Minister was nevertheless prevailed on by certain considerations to sanction his return. As soon as I heard of his departure, I sent a message to the Minister, remonstrating with him for his neglect of the Paishwa's promise that the question of permitting the Jageerdars to return to their lands should always be settled in consultation between His Highness the Paishwa and the British Government, pointing out the peculiar necessity there was for attending to that promise in the present case and at the present time, and declaring my opinion that many inconveniences would arise from the particular instance in which that promise had been infringed.

On the receipt of this message the Minister redoubled his exertions to procure the orders of surrender, and pressed Appa Dessye with much earnestness to return to Tamboornee. His efforts have as yet been wholly unavailing, and the following circumstances do not lead me to suppose that his authority will be much more respected in future.

The orders of surrender which Appa Dessye had given under his own seal, were delivered to the Raja of Kolapore who sent officers to take possession of the villages. At the Raja's request a Hircarra of mine accompanied those officers and the following account is made out from his letters and from the statements of

the Raja's Vakeels The Raja's officers first went to the town and fort of Akkewat, one of the most considerable which was to be made over to the Raja They were there informed that the orders they brought could not be complied with unless further instructions were received from Napaunee To that place therefore they went and were told by Appa Dessye's chief agents that the orders would not be carried into execution unless the Raja previously surrendered either the fort of Saumaunghur or that of Budderghur to Appa Dessye It is to be observed that the Paishwa's right to these places had already been discussed and had been candidly acknowledged by His Highness's own Ministers to be a proper subject for investigation, and not one which ought at all to interfere with the restitution to which the Paishwa had preferred no claim

The Hircarra's report also confirmed the accounts I had often received from the Raja's Vakeels of the extortions committed by Appa Dessye on all the districts which are likely to be restored to the Raja, and of the outrages practised by him within the territories in the Raja's possession It also stated that various messengers from the Minister were at Neepaunee urging the immediate return of Appa Dessye to Tamboornee, but that Appa Dessye did not seem disposed to pay much attention to them The same statement is contained in a letter written by my native agent with the Bhow by that Minister's desire The letter represents the pains the Bhow had taken to prevail on Appa Dessye to return, mentions their ill success, and afterwards gives the substance of a very strong letter which the Minister had addressed to Appa Dessye insisting on his compliance with the former orders The part of my agent's which was written by the Minister's directions concludes with declaring that if Appa Dessye still continues to disobey the orders he has received, "his evil destiny must be allowed to take its course"

In consequence of these proceedings I have written to His Highness the Paishwa to request that he will issue orders in his own name to Appa Dessye, and that he will exert himself to fulfil the treaty with Kolapore I have also written to the same effect in more detail to the Minister I have the honour to enclose translations of these letters

To understand Appa Dessye's real situation and designs at this moment it is necessary to take a slight view of his rise and the circumstances which brought him into his present state Appa Dessye inherited from his ancestors a little country consisting of 8 or 10 villages which had been granted to them by the Kings of Beejapore In his infancy he was under the protection of the

Raja of Kolapore, and he together with Serjee Row Ghautkee, was, at the time, given as hostage to the Bombay Government for the performance of some engagements entered into by the Raja. Appa Dessye was for a considerable time in the Raja's service, but when the influence of Purisram Bhow began to be great in the countries near Kolapore he went over to his service, and I believe remained in it, till Serjee Row Ghautkee came into power, when he entered Sindia's service and attached himself particularly to Ghautkee. He received a large share of that adventurer's usurpations in the southern countries and being a man of talents and a good soldier, soon became a person of some importance in that neighbourhood. When Lord Wellington entered the Maratta Country in 1803 Appa Dessye accompanied the army to Poona together with the other southern chiefs but he was distinguished from the rest by his continuing with the army during the whole of the campaign against Sindia and the Raja of Berar. During that period he received a large monthly allowance and at the end of the war he obtained through the influence of the British Government the office of the Surlushker and a very considerable Jagter in addition to what he had before. He afterwards received a grant of Chickorce which he wrested from the Raja of Kolapore. In his long wars with that prince he was often counteracted by the intrigues of different Ministers and Chiefs of the Paishwa and was chiefly supported by the influence of the British Resident in consequence of which he was liberal in his professions of obedience and attachment to the British Government and on one occasion at least he actually marched with his contingent to the northward to cooperate with the British army. In the meantime he acquired great power and reputation in his own neighbourhood formed a strong party at the Durbar of Colapore, compelled the Raja to give him his daughter in marriage and seems to have formed the design of acquiring the whole of that principality. He seems to have held out to the Paishwa the prospect of being made Paishwa to the Raja with the same powers which he exercises in the name of the Raja of Settara, but if my own intelligence and the positive assertions of all the Colapore Vakeels be correct his real design was to desire that authority for himself under the title of Dewan to the Raja. The period during which the British Government declined all interference with Colapore affairs and only interposed to check the intrigues of chiefs at this court against a Sirdar of their own Government, was favourable to Appa Dessye's designs but just as he was about to reap the fruit of his wars and intrigues his whole scheme was disconcerted by the decided interposition of the British power. His feelings on this disappointment seem to afford a sufficient explanation of the irritation so apparent in his answer to my

first letter from Punderpore, for which, as I was not then acquainted with the extent of his designs I found so much difficulty in accounting. Nevertheless as soon as the first ebullition of his anger was over, he resumed his usual professions of devotion to the British Government, and of ready obedience to the commands of his own Government. I at first had much confidence in these professions but as that does not appear to have been well founded, it is necessary to take another view of Appa Dessye and to attempt to discover what his conduct will be from his known designs and his means of carrying them into effect.

The enclosed letter shows that Appa Dessye has not laid aside his original design of getting the chief authority in Colapore into his own hands. Much reliance may, I think, be placed on that letter which gives a good idea of the state of the Government of Colapore and of the Raja's intentions. The Raja's speeches to Kishen Row must, however, be distinguished from the rest of the letter, as those were compliments in the usual native style which the Raja addressed to my agent for the purpose of being reported to me. Appa Dessye's means of accomplishing this favourite object are now greatly diminished, and unless he is able to gain the Raja to his side, they have little chance of success. Accordingly it is to this object that his attention appears at present to be directed. His resistance to the British Government is probably in a great measure prompted by his wish to show the Raja that our friendship will be of very little use to him, and that it is Appa Dessye alone on whom the accomplishment of his wishes depends. He derives great advantages in this scheme from his having a strong party among the Raja's ministers and from his being attended by almost all the Raja's Serinjaumy chiefs, whose lands having been occupied by Appa Dessye, they have been forced to join him and are now of the greatest use to him both by the intrigues which they carry on at Colapore and by the disturbances which they excite in the Raja's country. He seems also to have employed the Raunee of Sawunt-Warree to harass the Raja and to show him the miseries to which he will be exposed if he continues to rest his hopes on the aid of our Government. I do not believe he can expect the Paishwa's Government to countenance his scheme in all its extent. He has certainly found means to secure the Minister's support to a certain degree, but I imagine the latter will not venture to engage in any plan for frustrating our design or for breaking the treaty with Colapore, indeed, although it is evident he has had his reasons for wishing to oblige Appa Dessye, I believe he is now alarmed at the probable consequences of the liberties which he was induced to allow that Chief to take. Before Appa Dessye left him, he sent a private message to me to beg I would write him such a letter as

might give him a pretence for pressing Appa Dessye's surrender of the Raja's districts and he now seems equally earnest in his endeavours to recall Appa Dessye, and in his attempts to exculpate, I believe has no share whatever in Appa Dessye's present operations. For all these reasons, I do not think Appa Dessye will endeavour to hold out in his present refusal to comply with the Paishwa's orders and his own promises. The eagerness with which he is plundering the countries which are to be surrendered, confirms me in the opinion that he will ultimately give them up. But when the limits of Chickory and Manowlee come to be settled, I think it extremely probable that he will offer great opposition to any award by which he may be deprived of part of the lands in his possession. The Paishwa's interests and his will then be the same, and I have no doubt great difficulties will be thrown in the way of an adjustment. It is probable also that Appa Dessye will continue to harass and molest the Raja as long as he has the power, and as long as he thinks he can do so with safety.

To avoid the first of these inconveniences, I shall take great pains to show the Paishwa the difference between his interests and those of Appa Dessye, and to convince him of the justice of my decision which may be passed respecting Chickoree and Manowlee, as well as of the little importance of the disputed points to His Highness. The second inconvenience I hope will be obviated in some measure by the example of Sawuntwarree and by serious language on the part of the British Government. It may, however, render it necessary to keep Lieut. Colonel Dowse in the field longer than was originally intended, a measure rendered otherwise desirable by the recall of the auxiliary force from Goa during the present unsettled state of Colapore and Sawuntwarree, and one which will contribute greatly to the permanence of the present adjustment of the affairs of the Jageerdars.

I beg leave before dismissing this subject, to draw your Lordship's attention to the fact that the present difficulties with respect to Appa Dessye have not been created but disclosed by the settlement of the southern countries, had things remained in their former train the British Government would have continued unconsciously to be instrumental in reducing Colapore under Appa Dessye's authority, and that Chief would have opposed us with much greater effect than he now can, on the first occasion where our interests were at variance with his, if, indeed, the very circumstance of a Sirdar of the Paishwa's acquiring the control of another state had not at once compelled us to take such measures as must have produced a rupture.

The correspondence which I shall do myself the honour to forward, will make your Lordship acquainted with all the transactions that

have taken place relating to the State of Warree This State has long been connected with Appa Dessye It was in cooperation with Warree that he made his first attack on Colapore, and could scarcely find a better instrument for molesting the Raja without exposing himself to danger It seems therefore probable that the unexpected attack made by that State on the Raja, was in a great measure excited by Appa Dessye's intrigues, but whether the attack originates directly from Appa Dessye or not, it seemed to me material to give an early proof of the determination of the British Government to resist all attempts to injure the Raja The circumstances of the attack appeared particularly to require such a measure The State of Warree might have good claims to the fort which it attacked, but that fort had been for several years in the Raja's possession, and during that period he was at peace with the State of Warree, on the other hand the Raja had much more extensive claims on the State of Warree which had also been allowed to lie dormant for several years In such circumstances, if either party commenced a war on the other without previously renewing its claims or demand in satisfaction, it must surely be considered as the aggressor and its attack must be repelled by force The State of Warree did actually commence a war in the manner above described, but instead of immediately resorting to force, I suggested to the envoy at Goa to open a negotiation with the Raunee of Sawuntwarree to apprise her that we were bound to defend the Raja of Colapore and to offer her a fair investigation of her claims if she would abstain from violence It is true I also suggested the expediency of impressing on the Raunee the danger of her pressing her claims which would revive those of the Raja of Colapore, but the Raunee in her answer took no notice of this disuasion, and merely said she had received and understood Captain Schuyler's offer of an investigation but was determined to take Burrutgur to prevent the Company's districts being disturbed by the neighbourhood of the confusions incident to a divided district, on the receipt of this letter Captain Schuyler in compliance with my suggestions called on Lieut Colonel Dowse to enter Sawuntwarree and again apprized the Raunee of the consequences of her conduct.

The transactions having imposed on us the necessity of recognizing a particular individual as the head of the Warree State, and at the same time completely unsettled the relations between us and that principality, it appeared necessary to enter on a new treaty and an opportunity was thereby afforded of introducing the modifications of that formerly concluded, which are required by your Lordship's instructions to Captain Schuyler, and to the Right Hon'ble the Governor of Bombay Under this impression I addressed a letter to the Government of Bombay through their Chief Secretary,

submitting certain terms which I proposed to offer to the State of Warree, and requested to be honoured with their directions in respect to the points which related to their Presidency. The Government replied by enclosing a copy of a letter to the Resident at Malwaun, directing him to enquire into the subjects in question, to communicate them to me, and to attend to any instructions he might receive from me. After the receipt of this communication I was anxious to have waited till I should have an opportunity of referring to the Right Hon'ble the Governor of Bombay, after the receipt of the report of the Resident at Malwaun, but the advance of Lieut Col Dowse into Sawauntwarree rendering a speedy decision absolutely necessary, and Captain Schuyler continuing to express much solicitude respecting the terms which I was about to recommend to him, I found myself obliged to furnish him with my own sentiments on the subject referring him to the Resident at Malwaun for information on the points connected with the Presidency of Bombay. The arrangement which I suggested to Captain Schuyler comprized the following terms —

The restoration of Burrutghur

The establishment of some provision for the settlement of future disputes between the States of Warree and Colapore

The cession of Raaree and of the Warree share of Massoorra

The renunciation of all right on the part of Warree to the teak forest

The confirmation of all parts of the former treaty not at variance with the present

The cession on the part of the British Government of its share of the districts which it holds in participation with Warree and of the town of Vingoorla with the exception of the fort and the land between it and the Sea, and also of ground for a guard house

The cessions are conditionally suggested and are recommended to be avoided in case the report of the Resident at Malwaun should show them to be objectionable. The fort is retained as a place of retreat for the troops which might become necessary, as the removal of the force from Goa would render the arrival of assistance in case of a disturbance more remote than it was when Lieut -Colonel Smith made his report about the abandonment of our pecuniary claims and the extension of our protection and guarantee to the Raunee with a salvo for the Paishwa's right of supremacy. Most of these articles are founded on your Lordship's instructions and require no comment, but there are one or two on which I am anxious to offer more full explanations

The principal of these are the omission of the demand for the cession of Newtee and the recommendation to Captain Schuyler to give up the Company's pecuniary claims. I have no doubt your Lordship would at any time approve of the utmost moderation of our demands which might be consistent with the attainment of your designs, and at present moderation is rendered more necessary by events which have taken place since your Lordship's instructions were issued. The interposition of the British Government in favour of the Raja of Colapore, however just, cannot but be offensive to the Government of Warree, and the removal of the auxiliary force from Goa, by lessening our means of coercing that Government, makes it more desirable than ever to offer such terms as will secure its cordial acquiescence in the arrangement which is to be maintained henceforward. It was therefore desirable to lessen our demands and increase the advantages offered to the State of Warree, as much as was consistent with the interests of the British Government, and it will perhaps appear that those interests are exposed to no real detriment by the sacrifices attended. Lieut-Colonel Smith's opinion of the fort of Newtee is already before the Government, and from all the information I have been able to collect, it does not appear to be of the least use to a power which is in possession of Malwaun. The cession therefore while it would increase the difficulty of settling with the Warree State, would only burden us with an establishment without increasing our means of checking piracy. Our pecuniary demands on Warree appear from the circumstances of that State to be merely nominal, and although there might be an advantage in retaining them for the purpose of furnishing an equivalent of any sacrifice we might hereafter require from Warree, yet the benefit of such a possession cannot in the present state of affairs be put in competition with that of a sincere and cheerful accession on the part of the Warree State to our demands.

The clause which I have advised to be annexed to the guarantee as a salvo for the Paishwa's right is liable to objection, inasmuch as it appears to countenance claims which we have every reason to think unfounded, but it is of so much importance to secure the Paishwa's cordial cooperation in the adjustment to be effected of the Raja of Colapore's affairs that it is worth while to submit to some inconvenience rather than give him offence, and the inconvenience in this case is not great, since the proposed clause only binds us to attend to the Paishwa's just claims which we would not in any circumstances have attempted to set aside. For these reasons I trust the terms I have alluded to, will not be disapproved by your Lordship. I trust these terms will soon be acceded to, and that Lieut-Colonel Dowse will speedily be enabled to reascend the Ghauts.

I have now only to mention the repeated applications I have received from the Colapore Vakeels for gifts or loans of money to relieve the pecuniary embarrassments to which their Government and even their own mission, is at present subject. I have constantly rejected these applications in civil terms, but it is not impossible that they may be made subservient to the acquisition of the Raja's rights to the remaining share of Massoorah, in case he should appear to possess any rights worth acquiring.

I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that in consequence of the desire expressed by the Government of Bombay to be enabled with the least possible delay to strengthen the force employed in the defence of Guzerat, I have authorized the march of the 1st Battalion, 8th Regiment Bombay Native Infantry from Seroor without waiting the arrival of the corps which is to relieve it. The 1st Battalion, 8th Regiment accordingly marched in the beginning of this month and the other Battalion may now be daily expected to arrive.

No 102A

Translation of substance of a letter addressed by Mr Elphinstone to His Highness the Paishwa dated March 15th 1813

Since your Highness left Poona I have had the satisfaction of hearing from time to time of your progress and of your safe arrival at Copergaum which gave me the greatest pleasure. When your Highness set out, you left certain affairs of your Government in train for immediate adjustment, and as you probably expect to find them settled when you return, I think it my duty to make you acquainted with the present state of their progress towards a final arrangement. Your Highness had been pleased to issue orders for the march of the troops belonging to the Jageerdars towards the frontier. Those troops marched accordingly and the Sirdars proceeded to a separate destination agreeably to your Highness's commands. Rastia's troops remained to be mustered and their muster has since taken place agreeably to the arrangement to which your Highness was pleased to give your consent, and they are now about to proceed to the frontier. When your Highness was about to leave Poona, you were pleased to give positive orders that all the places taken from the Raja of Colapore and not claimed for your Highness, should be immediately given up to the Raja. Accordingly the Minister before his departure directed an enquiry to be made into the number of places so circumstanced, and after a full investigation at which the Sirlushker's Vakeels assisted, it was settled that orders of surrender for 20 places should be given without delay. 17 were accordingly given on the spot under the seal of the Sirlushker and the rest the Minister promised to send to me while on his march to Tamboornee. The orders of surrender given by the Sirlushker

were made over to the Raja of Colapore and the Raja immediately sent them to the places in question. The Governors of those places, however, refused to obey the orders and referred the Colapore people to Neepaunee. The Colapore officers then went to Neepaunee accompanied by a man of mine, when they were told that the places in question would not be given up unless Samaunghur and Budrghur were given in exchange. In the meantime the Sirlushker continues to extort money with the utmost severity from the disputed districts and even to ravage parts of the Raja's country, the right to which is not disputed. The Minister has used all the exertions in his power to check these proceedings and to procure the execution of the orders of surrender and of the points settled at Poona, but the Sirlushker having retired to Neepaunee shows no disposition to comply with his repeated instances. In these circumstances I beg leave to recommend to your Highness's particular notice the necessity of enforcing those orders by your own commands. I have no doubt your Highness is as anxious as I am for the faithful performance of this and of all the remaining parts of the late treaty with Colapore, but in this case an additional motive for insisting on compliance with your former orders is found in the impolicy of permitting your Jageerdars to relapse into habits of disobedience and of imagining that they can have separate wars and negotiations with foreign states involving individual rights and interests unconnected with, and often at variance with, those of your Highness's Government. As your Highness's own orders are required I have taken the liberty to address you directly to save the time which would be requisite in communicating with your Highness through the Minister. I have addressed the Ministers Malhar Row and Anund Row on several other subjects connected with your Highness's affairs which I leave them to submit to you, being unwilling to trouble your Highness except when it is unavoidable.

No 103—The following correspondence between Elphinstone and Chintaman Rao Patwardhan is typical of the tightening hold which the Resident was fast creating on Maratha affairs and the Maratha Government in general.

*Translation of a letter from Mr Elphinstone to Chintaman Row
Written March 23rd, 1813*

I have just learned from His Highness the Paishwa's Minister Seddasheo Maunkaisur that you have left the place, where you were directed to remain, without leave and have returned of your own accord to your Jageer. This step has given me great concern. You are well acquainted by my former communications with the

terms which His Highness the Paishwa is willing to observe with you and of the attention which is secured to Your honour and prosperity, but you are also aware that all these advantages are conditional and that as soon as you cease to obey His Highness the Paishwa you forfeit all claim to them, and the British Government becomes bound to assist the Paishwa against you. This being the case I should have hoped that you would have been more punctual in your obedience. At present, if you will go heartily into the arrangement which the Paishwa has marked out, and will pay punctual obedience to his orders, you will be entitled to expect indulgence on His Highness's part and you have had a proof of this in the leave of absence which was granted to you almost immediately after your arrival at Poona but if you disregard his orders, you must be aware of the necessity the Paishwa will be under of preventing other Sardars from imitating your example. After these observations I have only to recommend your immediately returning to the place appointed by the Paishwa and to advise you in future to afford strict obedience to His Highness the Paishwa's orders.

No 103A

Translation of a letter from Chintamun Row Putiwardhun to Mr Elphinstone dated 27th Rubbee ool Awul (31st March, 1813)

I have received the letter you lately did me the honour to write to me as follows (recapitulate Mr Elphinstone's letter of the 23rd of March), the whole of which I have understood. My son and my wife were both taken violently ill so that it was necessary for me to call in the assistance of a physician. On receiving the accounts from Vittul Row Bappo while I was at Nursingpoor, I acquainted Seddasheo Row Bhow with the circumstance, and informed him that I would leave my troops behind me and set out unattended for the residence of my family. After making this communication I accordingly did so and I instructed my Vakeel to inform His Highness the Paishwa of the steps I had taken. I desired Baba Furnavees and Paundoorung Punt also to come to me, bringing with them Deo Row Bhow and Nana Wyde, to which they replied that it was necessary to obtain the Paishwa's orders for the physician's journey. They accordingly procured His Highness's permission and wrote that they would come to me accompanied by the physician.

It is my intention to return to camp as soon as proper measures are taken for the recovery of the sick in my family. The course which you have pointed out to me and the advice you have given are very proper. I was only induced to come hither in consequence of the urgency of the occasion and the distress in my family. I

hope therefore you will, as a friend, intercede with the Paishwa in my behalf

No 103B

Translation of Mr Elphinstone's letter to Chintamun Row Putwurdhun, dated the 26th of April 1813

I have received and understood your letter of the 12th of Rubbeeool Akhir stating that Hybut Row Jugtaup, who is represented as being an officer of the Sirsoobah's had levied exactions on the villages in the Pergunna of Hoobly, that he had given orders for money on the villages belonging to the Dessye, and had carried off some of the inhabitants from the town of Hoobly, etc I have represented all these circumstances to the Ministers of the Government Orders on that subject will be issued under the Paishwa's authority, and the disturbances you relate shall be quickly suppressed Be confident of this You were formerly told that it was incumbent on you to proceed to the station which had been assigned to you by His Highness the Paishwa, but this you have not yet done, which is by no means proper It is unnecessary for me, however, to write any more, it is to be seen what His Highness the Paishwa will think on the subject Should His Highness not be disposed to notice your conduct, it is of no consequence, but if His Highness should be displeased, I am precluded from saying any thing in your favour by the stipulations which were formerly made His Highness will be absolute in this respect, and it will be incumbent on both the Governments to unite in accomplishing his wishes

No 104—The Resident seeks the Governor's approval to the appointment of
Lieut Leckie

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—FRANCIS WARDEN CHIEF SECRETARY**

Poona, 28 March 1813

Sir,

Having received the Right Honourable the Governor General's approbation to the proposed establishment of European officers for His Highness the Paishwa's Brigade I beg leave to remind the Right Hon'ble the Governor of the intended appointment of a Brigade Major of which I before apprized him, and to inform him that Capt Ford is desirous that Lieutenant Leckie of the 5th Regiment N I may be appointed to that office Should the Right Honourable the Governor see no objection to this arrangement I beg leave to recommend it to his notice

No 105—The vexatious delays and paltry excuses put forth by the Peshwa's Government in the execution of the treaty with the Raja of Kolhapur are brought to the notice of the Governor General by the Resident and strong measures advocated.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Poona, 10 April 1813

My Lord,

Since the date of my last dispatch some little progress has been made in the adjustment of the affairs of Colapore, but the final settlement of all disputes seems as remote as ever

Appa Dessye has given up seventeen places for which he gave orders of surrender, but he first plundered them of every article of property carried off the cattle from all of them and from some even the people. He promised to give up the other three places, to the surrender of which the Paishwa's Ministers formerly agreed, and the Minister expects him to come in himself before long. The Paishwa in reply to my letter a translation of which was enclosed in my last dispatch sent me the most positive assurances that every article of the treaty with Colapore should be fulfilled, and issued orders to Appa Dessye to conform to the arrangement which has been settled at Poona without delay

In the meantime one of the Ministers whose business it was to attend to the investigation of the Raja of Colapore's claims, returned to Poona, and the conferences on that subject recommenced. I had information that these conferences were merely meant to amuse the British Government, and that no business would be done till Sedasheo Maunkaisur's return, when the Paishwa's real views would be disclosed. Accordingly at the first meeting the Paishwa's Minister opposed unreasonable doubts to every thing advanced by the Colapore Vakeels, and after wasting the day in fruitless conversation, asked for a fortnight to examine his papers. This was refused, and the next morning he excused himself from further attendance on the plea of severe indisposition and everything is in the same state in which it was before his arrival. My intelligence represents him to be really ill, but as the Paishwa has many Ministers of his rank his sickness affords no excuse for the suspension of all business

I have written several letters and sent many messages to Sedasheo Maunkaisur on the subject of these delays, and his answers, while they professed much readiness to comply with my wishes, have in reality shown great indifference to the subjects to which I pointed his attention and a want of any sense of the impropriety of his indulging in retirement and leisure, while so much of the serious business of his Government is at a stand, nor is it impossible that the Minister may be pleased with the idea that he is baffling

derived from the letter your Highness wrote to the Sirlushkar and have the pleasure to say that many of the points which were the immediate cause of my anxiety at the time have since been adjusted. It gives me real concern to be obliged to trouble your Highness again so soon but I am certain your Highness will do me the justice to observe that my addressing you on this occasion is required as much from a regard to the interests and reputation of your own Government as by the attention which it is my duty to pay to the British Government. I formerly announced to the Raja of Colapore that unless he complied with your Highness's just demands within three days he should be attacked by the British troops. The Raja consented to your Highness's demands and signed a treaty with me on your Highness's part in which it was stipulated that all the country conquered from him within the preceding four years and not included in Chickoree and Manowlee should be restored to him. After the signature of this treaty nearly five months elapsed before a single village was restored. At the end of that time your Highness's Minister acknowledged that seventeen of the Turrufs which had been retained by your troops belonged incontestibly to the Raja had been taken within four years and consequently ought to have been restored on the day after the treaty was ratified. A vast number of the Raja's claims still remain to be investigated and your Highness at my repeated request appointed certain persons to conduct the investigation. Your Highness may possibly be acquainted with the delays which took place while you were still at Poona when you left it the whole of your Ministers withdrew and I was left with the Colapore Vakeels who as well as myself had been in attendance every day since the beginning of this investigation. At length Baba Cholekur has come to Poona but he has been taken ill and everything is again at a stand. His illness may be the visitation of God but I cannot believe that there is only one man in your Highness's service capable of meeting the Colapore Vakeels and therefore I do not think his illness affords any excuse for delay. There cannot be a greater proof of the Governor General's friendship to your State and regard for your person than the forbearance which he has shown during the whole of these delays. His Lordship has hitherto from his reliance on your faith and friendship given credit to the reports I wrote to him that the affairs of Colapore would be adjusted but as the faith of the British Government is as much implicated in the execution of this treaty as your Highness's I cannot doubt but His Lordship will take a very serious view of the subject when he receives the report which I am now obliged to write to him nor can I see what measures His Lordship may think it necessary to adopt. I think it my duty to make the above statement to your Highness with as much freedom

as I would use towards His Lordship, as I doubt not your own desire is to do everything that can be required of an upright Government and of a faithful ally

No 105B

Substance of a letter from Mr Elphinstone to Seddasheo Maunkaisur, dated April 1813

After suffering near six months of delay and neglect, I lately heard that Baba Cholekar was coming to Poona to undertake the adjustment of the Raja of Colapore's claims, and in consequence I flattered myself that the Paishwa's Government was now disposed to put an end to that affair. Baba Cholekur, however, arrived and at the first conference he asked for a fortnight to enable him to ascertain whether Caugul belonged to H H the Paishwa. It was agreed that he should examine his papers for a few days, but has unfortunately fallen sick, and all business is again at a stand. I long ago told Mulhar Renoo Row and Anund Row Mulhar that if the settlement did not make more progress after Baba Cholekur's arrival than it had done before, I should be obliged to refer the matter to my Government for its orders, I have now done so, and I enclose a copy of a letter which I judged it necessary to write to His Highness the Paishwa. It would be presumption in me to guess what measures the Right Honourable the Governor General will take when he receives my report, but I am confident there is no inconvenience he will not undergo, rather than allow the smallest imputation to be cast on his fidelity to his engagements.

No 106—Sadashiv Mankeshvar assures the Resident that he would do his utmost to carry out the engagements contracted with the Peshwa's Government.

Translation of a letter received by Mr Elphinstone from the Paishwa's Minister Seddasheo Maunkaisur dated the 12th of Rubbeool-Akhir, or 14th of April 1813

I have received your letter enclosing a copy of that which you addressed to His Highness the Paishwa. The substance of it is as follows (recapitulate the contents of Mr Elphinstone's letter of the 10th April). When you mentioned the circumstances stated in your letter to Mulhar Renoo Row and to Anund Row Mulhar, they wrote immediately to Chintoo Punt Daismook, desiring him to return to Poona, and they acquainted you, as well as myself, with the steps they had taken. It has been agreed that the whole of the Talooks of Chickoree and Manowlee shall belong to the Sircar, and that exclusive of them, all those places which have been taken by

which I myself partake in consequence of the undisturbed tranquillity of my situation here? You are wise and provident, and your care is to augment the friendship and good understanding between the two States. Of this His Highness and myself are confidently assured.

No 107—The Resident reports to the Governor General the death of the Raja of Kolhapur on 23rd April, leaving two sons, the elder Sambhaji being 12 years of age. The delay on the part of the Paishwa's Government in settling the claims of Kolhapur treaty is also reported again.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Poona, 26 April 1813

My Lord,

I am concerned to inform your Lordship of the death of the Raja of Colapore. His Highness was seized with a fever while superintending a tank which he was making in the vicinity of Colapore, and died on the 23rd instant.

This event was entirely unexpected till the day before it took place. The Raja's Vakeels only heard of their master's danger yesterday, and they immediately came to me to consult on the steps to be taken in case of Raja's demise. By their accounts there is no apprehension of the succession being disputed between the Raja's two sons. They seem convinced that all parties will concur in acknowledging the eldest, who is indisputably the rightful heir. This prince is now only 12 years of age.

I acquainted the Vakeels that in the event of the Raja's death the British Government would consider as standing in the same relation which he had himself held, that it would protect the State from foreign force, but that it would not interfere at all in the domestic concerns of the country.

The Vakeels endeavoured to show that it was for the interest of the British Government to interfere to prevent the continuance of Rutnakur Punt Rauj-Adneea* in the ministry or the advancement of Nana Pautunkur to that station. Those persons, they said, had lost the Raja's confidence, and were deprived of the means of doing harm while the Raja lived, but might recover their influence under the Government of the infant Raja and his mother, and would no doubt employ it to favour Appa Dessye to break off the alliance with the British, and to destroy the Government of their own country.

*Rajadnya

To this I replied that the lawful Government of Colapore must be allowed to choose its own Ministers and to manage its own internal concerns That the British Government would interpose if any foreign power took part in the affairs of that principality, and that it would of course take care that its own honour or interest did not suffer from the conduct of any Ministry that might be constituted but that it could not be induced to take a part in the domestic transactions of the government as long as they had no reference to it or to its allies

I think it extremely probable that Appa Dessye will be tempted on this occasion to engage in some schemes open or concealed for the purpose of effecting his former plans on Colapore, or at least of recovering his influence over that State I shall therefore communicate the death of the Raja to the Paishwa's Government without delay, and request that positive orders may be given to His Highness's Sirdars to abstain from all interference with that principality At the same time I shall make known the fixed determination of the British Government to extend to the late Raja's successor, the protection which it was bound by treaty to afford to him and to his heirs I shall also urge the return of Appa Dessye which does not seem to have been at all accelerated by the orders issued directly by His Highness the Paishwa

I have received a letter from the Minister, in answer to the remonstrance which I addressed to him on the subject of the delays which have taken place in the adjustment of the Raja of Colapore's claims The Minister, in this letter takes no notice of past delays or of the discredit which I represented them as occasioning to the Paishwa's Government but calmly requests me to rest assured that everything will be done that is required to fulfil the engagements of the British Government or to execute your Lordship's wishes

The principal Minister employed on the investigation of the Colapore claims has returned to Poona and is to visit me today I cannot however say that I expect any real progress to be made in the adjustment until I shall be enabled to point out to the Paishwa himself the injustice and impolicy of the measures pursued by his Minister and to convince him of your Lordship's resolution to enforce the execution of the treaty with Colapore

Having lately received a dispatch from Captam Sydenham at Aurungabad acquainting me that a force of the Paishwa composed of some troops in His Highness's immediate service and the contingents of the Putwurdhuns and other Jaggerdars and estimated at 15 000 men, had advanced to the Nizam's frontier in pursuit of a freebooter named Shaikh Dulla, and was about to enter His Highness's dominions I immediately called on the Ministers for an ex-

planation of this proceeding The Ministers informed me in reply that the force in question had orders to pursue Shaikh-Dulla as far as the territories of His Highness the Nizam

No 108—The Resident at Poona requests the Resident with Sindhu to watch the Peshwa's machinations with Sindhia's Court

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—R STRACHEY ESQUIRE,
RESIDENT WITH DAUWLUT RAO SINDHIA**

Poona, 5 May 1813

I have had the honour to receive your dispatch of the 27th March It is difficult to reconcile the statement which was made to me by the Paishwa's Ministers and which formed the ground of my letter to your address of the 21st of December last year, with that which is contained in the Paishwa's letter to Dowlat Row Sindeah of which you have furnished me with a copy The requisition made by the Paishwa, that Sindeah should take an active part in supporting the interests of this Government cannot be viewed otherwise than as a very irregular proceeding, altho' it is not likely to meet with any particular attention Notwithstanding the inconsistency of the Paishwa's conduct in the proceedings now referred to, any encroachment on Sindeah's part in the possessions of the Paishwa should in my opinion be at all times discouraged, and I would, therefore, recommend in pursuance of the sentiments contained in the latter part of my address to you of the 21st of December, that you should support any remonstrances which may appear to you to have a just foundation, and which the Paishwa's Vakeel may be instructed to address to Sindheah's Durbar

No 109—The impropriety and insincerity of the conduct of the Peshwa's minister and his endeavours to frustrate the treaty with the Raja of Kolhapur are proved and reported to the Governor General in this long communication by the Resident

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL**

Poona, 17 May 1813

My Lord,

I am much concerned to be obliged to report to your Lordship that there is at present less appearance of sincerity than ever in the conduct of the Paishwa's Government relative to the Raja of Colapore

After Baba Cholekur, the Minister who was employed on the enquiry into the territories claimed by the Raja, was taken sick (on the 28th of last March), the whole business was at a stand, except that I sent frequent messages on the subject to the Ministers and pointed out the impropriety of their conduct at every meeting I had with them. About the middle of April, Chintoo Punt the Paishwa's Principal Minister in the revenue Department, and the one in whose office all the papers relating to the Paishwa's claims are deposited, arrived at Poona. A week or ten days afterwards he paid me a visit and acquainted me that he was diligently searching for the necessary documents and would send me notice when he had succeeded in discovering them. He sent me that notice on the 15th instant and yesterday about the end of the eighth month since the conclusion of the treaty with Colapore, a conference took place between him and the Raja's Vakeels for the purpose of ascertaining what places might be immediately surrendered on the ground of the Paishwa having no claim to them and what places were to be retained until the conclusion of a future investigation.

It was always my intention to have reserved my opinion on all cases that were strongly contested, and to have reported the facts to your Lordship for your decision, to which I was induced as well by the propriety of waiting for particular orders before a permanent arrangement was established, as by the solidity which that arrangement would derive in the eyes of the two Mahratta Governments, from its being the result of your Lordship's deliberations. The importance, however of bringing the Paishwa's Ministers to a point from which they should not be able to escape by evasion, and of thus ascertaining their real intentions, induced me partially to depart from this plan, and to determine to pronounce a decision in the name of the British Government on the first question that should appear to me so clear as to preclude all reasonable dispute.

At my meeting with Baba Cholekur on the 27th of March, I had chiefly insisted on an explicit answer to the question whether His Highness the Paishwa had any claims on the district of Caugul, which I was well assured belonged incontestibly to the Raja of Colapore. Baba Cholekur had required a fortnight to prepare himself to answer this question. He afterwards agreed to give his answer in eight days, but was prevented by his illness from coming any more to the Residency. His illness though of a nature to confine him to the house, did not prevent his transacting business. He had now been for some time recovered, and Chintoo Punt Daismook had been near a month in Poona. I therefore conceived that the Paishwa's Ministers were deprived of all pretence for further procrastination.

At the meeting which took place yesterday, Chintoo Punt Daismook was accompanied by Mulhar Renoo Row & Anund Row, the two Ministers generally employed to communicate with the Residency by Baba Cholekur, and some other inferior Ministers. I opened the business by recapitulating the principal engagements of the treaty between the allied Governments and the Raja of Colapore, then stated the different classes into which the questions under discussion might be divided and observed that the disputes regarding the limits of Chickoree need not now be agitated, but that we should be best employed in ascertaining what other places claimed by the Raja were in the Paishwa's possession, whether those places had been conquered within the four years specified in the treaty, and if they were, whether there was any just ground for the Paishwa's retaining them. I then reminded Baba Cholekur of the reference which concluded our last conference, and begged to be informed what the result of the investigation on that subject had been, and whether His Highness the Paishwa had any claim on the district of Caugul. Both Baba Cholekur and the Daismook replied, that they had fully examined the subject, and were prepared to prove that the district belonged to the Paishwa. They then proceeded to say that the district of Caugul had been assigned in Serinjauim to the family of Ghautky by the Raja of Sattara before the Colapore possessions were separated from his dominions, that in the division between the two branches of the Bhosla family, the district had been assigned to the Raja of Colaba, but that the Raja of Sattarra had retained the services of the Ghautky family as could be proved by an article of the treaty with Colapore concluded by Mahadjee Sindia, in the Arabic year Samaun Suobyne. or 1178 (A D 1778-79)

render his services faithfully on this last condition Caugul etc. shall be allowed to remain in his possession in the same manner as during the life of the late Ave Sahebeh" "Agreed" It is necessary to remark on the above translation that "Ghautky Caugulkur" is an old servant of the "Sircar", and not expressly of the "Rajas"

When this article had been read, the Colapore Vakeel immediately urged that both the spirit and letter of it were decidedly favourable to the Raja's claims since it plainly appeared that Ghautky was considered as a rebellious subject of the Raja for whose impunity the Paishwa found it necessary to stipulate The Daismook replied that it was evident from the article, that Ghautky was not to be dispossessed by the Raja but it was not so clear to which State he was to render his services On this I remarked that it seemed clear that he was to serve the Sircar from which he held his lands, that was, besides, the invariable practice of the treaties between the Rajas of Colapore and the Paishwas to apply the phrase of Sircar exclusively to the former the Paishwa's Government being always designated by some other term, and what with respect to the Raja's power of dispossessing Ghautky there was no necessity for discussing that topic until the Raja should show a disposition to dispossess him At present the question was to whom the district of Caugul belonged, and to whom the Jageerdar's services were due, and the Raja had declared that he did not mean to dispossess any Jageerdar who would attend and serve him As the letter of the treaty was too plain to be long disputed the Daismook had recourse to the usual expedient of delay and said he would look over his papers, and that in a few days he would be able to prove that Ghautky had originally served the Raja of Sattara I replied to this by noticing the length of time which had already been occupied in examining papers relating to Caugul, and the improbability of any new document being discovered after so long a search, but the Daismook obstinately insisting on delay, I enquired whether the Paishwa claimed the district on any other ground than that of Ghautky's having been originally in the service of the Raja of Sattara, and on his replying in the negative I said, that even if the fact were proved, it would not affect a right of the Raja of Colapore which was acknowledged by a treaty concluded long after the Raja of Sattara had ceased to take a part in the Government, after which I again enquired if the Paishwa's claim stood on no other foundation And he again said that it did not on which I proceeded formally to acquaint him that the arguments he had addressed did not establish the Paishwa's claim, and that the district ought to be given up to the Raja The Daismook readily acquiesced in this decision but on my proceeding to say that it would be proper that Ghautky should be acquainted that if he did not

render the service which was due from him, the Paishwa would not protect him against the Raja of Colapore, the Daismook objected and told me that he and I differed in opinion on the subject, that I seemed to think Caugul belonged to the Raja, for his part he thought it belonged to the Paishwa, and that we might talk the matter over hereafter and in the meantime we had better proceed on some other branch of the enquiry

As the Daismook is among the most intelligent and reasonable of the Paishwa's Ministers, I considered this language of his as an unequivocal proof of the correctness of the intelligence I formerly reported to your Lordship that the present conferences were merely intended to amuse the British Government, and the Paishwa's Government was determined that they should not lead to any practical result. I, however, thought it advisable to put the question as much out of doubt as was practicable without a public discovery of the opposition between your Lordship's plan and that of the Paishwa's Government. I therefore reminded Daismook that I had no controversy to maintain with him, but was deputed on the part of the British Government to arbitrate the disputes between His Highness the Paishwa and His Highness the Raja of Colapore. The Daismook immediately acknowledged the justice of my statement and declared that the decision of the British Government should never be controverted but urged that in the present case a little delay would be advisable. After some further conversation finding Daismook resolved and observing that none of the other Ministers opposed him, I said that I had spoken the sentiments of the British Government, but that as the Ministers appeared to entertain opinions on the subject of the arbitration widely different from mine, I was obliged to suspend all further proceedings till I should have an opportunity of submitting the case to the Paishwa's judgment. I then broke up the meeting.

Anund Row and Mulhar Row remained after the rest were withdrawn, the former has always been employed in the intercourse between the Paishwa and the Resident at this court, but having become nearly disqualified from business by age and infirmities, the other is often sent when there is any thing important to communicate. He is a relation of Sedasheo Maunkaisur and is greatly in his confidence. I did not think it necessary to maintain as much reserve with these Ministers as before the Colapore Vakeels, and accordingly I acquainted them that I should report all that had passed to your Lordship, and that if I did not find His Highness the Paishwa ready to repair the errors of his Ministers, I should suspend all further

communications respecting Colapore until I receive fresh instructions on the subject. I said I could not do otherwise till I knew the view your Lordship would take of the long delays and ultimate resistance which had been opposed to the execution of the treaty, but with regard to the future, the Court of Poona would do well to be convinced that your Lordship never would lend yourself to the evasion of treaties or to usurpation of the rights of others. Mulhar Row replied by strong professions of future attention. He said the subjects in question were of trifling importance and never would be contested that the Paishwa would completely fulfil his engagements, and that when I had meeting with His Highness, I should find him ready to whatever I pleased. I replied that my only dependance was on the Paishwa's sense of propriety that I had no wish but that of executing the duty entrusted to me, and that it was not me that the Paishwa's Government was to please or displease by its future conduct. I then dropped the subject and did not renew it till the Ministers were going away when I pressed them very earnestly to report what I had said in strong terms to the Paishwa.

Mulhar Row then read a letter from the Minister which referred to a former communication respecting Appa Dessye, which took place soon after my last dispatch to your Lordship on that occasion. Mulhar Row had read me a letter from the Minister, stating that Appa Dessye had repeatedly disobeyed his orders to come to Tainboorne and to abstain from molesting the Raja of Colapore and that he now considered that chief to be in rebellion, or nearly so, and asking my advice on the proper steps to be taken, to which I answered, that whether things had come to that point, or not, they assuredly would do so, if the present system were continued, that so unfortunate an event would be ascribable to the Minister's conduct alone, and to his repeated rejection of my advice on that important subject, that no call would be or could be made on the British Government for assistance under such circumstances, and that, in the present case it was difficult for me to offer the Minister advice, as I was entirely unacquainted with the nature of his numerous communications with Appa Dessye. On Mulhar Row's continuing the subject I said that your Lordship would, no doubt, regard with great interest any event that was likely to disturb the tranquillity of the Paishwa's dominions, but before I could report to you, and still more before I could offer my advice, I should wish to be satisfied that the intercourse between Appa Dessye and the Minister really stood on the footing on which it had been represented. I said I would recommend a plan, which if it were executed, would soon show whether Appa Dessye was disposed to obey the Government or not, and which if it were not executed, would satisfy me that the state of things was

different from that which was represented. This plan was to order Appa Dessye to come in within five days and to tell him that he should receive no further communications on the subject if he did not obey. Mulhar Row highly applauded this scheme, which he actually wrote to the Minister and the letter he now read contained the reply. It began, and, indeed, in the usual form with professions of gratitude to the British Government on the part of both of the Minister and the Paishwa, and with drawing a very well founded contrast between their present condition and the state of misery and alarm in which they lived before the alliance with the British Government. It also contained many personal compliments to me enlarging on the state of order into which the country had been brought and on the uninterrupted leisure and retirement in which the Minister was enabled to indulge in consequence of my exertions. It stated that after the receipt of my message the Minister had resolved to adopt my decided measures with Appa Dessye and that when a new Vakeel came in from that chief he had obstinately refused to see him, but that the Vakeel, after besetting him for a considerable time without success, had at last overtaken him in his garden and obliged him to give him a hearing. The Minister then related in detail several acts of disobedience and contempt for the authority of the Government with which he had reproached Appa Dessye, and triumphantly stated that on each individual charge the Vakeel had answered with his hands closed that Appa Dessye was very much in the wrong. On these grounds the Minister could not avoid giving his confidence to the Vakeel and accordingly he abandoned the scheme of ordering Appa Dessye to come in, and agreed that the Vakeel should return and endeavour to persuade him. The Minister then stated his firm belief that Appa Dessye would now join him at Tamboornee.

When the letter was concluded, I observed, that the Minister had too much good sense to have been deceived by such a dialogue as he had related, and that I concluded he had other grounds for his confidence than those he had stated, but that Appa Dessye's coming in on these terms would neither make it appear that the Minister and he were not connected nor would it impress the other Jageerdars with an opinion that the Paishwa was resolved for the future to see his orders obeyed. I then said that when Appa Dessye was still acting in concert with the Minister or not, the effect would be exactly the same, and that sooner or later the southern countries would be involved in the same state of rebellion and disorder from which they had lately been rescued. Mulhar Row replied by expatiating on the good conduct of the other Jageerdars and saying that if Appa Dessye was to rebel, we might now employ the Putwurdhuns

to reduce him so perfectly frivolous is the conversation of the Paishwa's Ministers even on points of the highest importance

From what has been stated in the former part of the dispatch your Lordship will observe that, notwithstanding the frequent remonstrances I have addressed to this Government, there is still a determination either on the part of the Paishwa or his Minister to frustrate the treaty with the Raja of Kolhapore. It will not be possible to ascertain whether this design originates till the Paishwa's return, but in the mean time I am not disposed to attribute it to His Highness. The districts in dispute are of very little consequence to him, and though he has received large presents from Appa Dessye, I do not suppose they could have been given on any specific condition. The only motive I can imagine His Highness to be actuated by, is the disappointment he may have suffered in being interrupted in a plan for annexing Colapore to his possessions but it will be recollected that His Highness acquiesced in the proposal for an arbitration till the Minister's arrival and till the demand of the British Government for Malwan gave some handle (though a most absurd one) for misrepresenting the motives of the British Government, and for that reason I think it may be presumed that His Highness had no share in (or at least took no great interest in) the design on Colapore. I also attach some weight to the solemn assurances I have so often received from the Paishwa for whatever may have been His Highness' conception in the first years of the alliance, he has in the less important transactions which have occurred since, shown himself sufficiently acquainted with our ideas of good faith. He has several times refused to comply with the advice of the British Government, but I scarcely recollect an occasion on which he has broken his promise when he had once agreed to our proposals. The Minister's character and the public reports of the country, justify our attributing many very sordid motives to him and if he is the sole occasion of the present delays they may in time be overcome by unwearied perseverance, but the Raja of Colapore will suffer by being deprived of his country during the interval, and I am persuaded that it will require strong measures even to procure him the indemnity for this deprivation which the British Government is bound to afford to him.

The Raja of Colapore continues in undisturbed possession of his Government, but the ceremony of his formal investiture is still to take place when the eight Purdauns and other officers of the State shall have assembled. The Paishwa intends to send a person of rank to condole with him and to present him with a dress in compliance with ancient custom, but this ceremony is entirely unconnected with any pretensions to sovereignty.

No 110—The progress of vaccination is reported to the Resident in this letter

FROM—THOMAS COATES,
TO—MR ELPHINSTONE

Poona, 21 May 1813

Sir,

I do myself the honour to enclose for your information, a general abstract of persons vaccinated by me in the neighbourhood during the last year, ending in December. I also have the honour to enclose a Mahratta copy for the information of His Highness the Paishwa's Government

The vaccine inoculation, I am happy to state, continues to be sought after by all descriptions of the inhabitants as eagerly as heretofore. This, after the full experience of so many years, is the best proof that we can have of the confidence entertained of its efficacy and safety. Some families still however resist its adoption from religious prejudices, but these are comparatively very few, and at present fewer than formerly

The small-pox as a necessary consequence is happily kept completely in subjection in the city and adjacent villages, for although cases occasionally appear, yet the contagion in the absence of materials for its action is invariably prevented from spreading

The total number vaccinated viz 2816, is in consequence of the great diminution of subjects in our vicinity, less than that of former years. Since the beginning of the present year, I have extended the limits of my excursions, and the result has been that upwards of 30,000 persons have been inoculated during the last five months

No. 111

**FROM—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY WARDEN**

Poona, 27 May 1813

Sir

I have the honour to state in reply to your letter of the 21st instant that no particular expectations were entertained or held out by me regarding the allowances to be drawn from the Bombay Government by the officer attached to His Highness the Paishwa's Brigade at the period when that establishment was formed

No 112—The Peshwa's professions of loyalty and faithfulness are reported to the Governor General

**FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL**

Poona, 9 June 1813

My Lord

His Highness the Paishwa arrived at this place on the 5th instant and was received with the usual honours on the occasion. I sent to beg that I might have the honour of an audience on the 7th. The 7th was a festival and I was not received till last night

As from the forms of communication in use at this Court it is difficult and inconvenient to attempt a long discourse, I drew up a note in writing pointing out the obstructions I had met with in the fulfilment of the treaty with Colapore, showing certain results of those obstructions and the only mode of avoiding the unpleasant consequence which they were likely to produce. If the Paishwa's Court find that a system of procrastination and delay draws on no serious inconvenience when employed against the British Government there can be no doubt that it will easily fall into a practice so congenial to its habits and policy. I therefore thought it my duty to point out the irreparable evils which had already been produced by the conduct of the Durbar on this occasion as well as the more serious misfortunes which it would bring on if longer persevered in, and being well convinced that the whole of the obstacles thrown in my way originated in the Bhow, I used no reserve respecting that minister but what was required by the common forms of civility, and by the necessity of not placing his conduct in such a light as would commit your Lordship to take notice of his proceedings. I have the honour to enclose a translation of the note

Before the Paishwa came in, I took an opportunity of mentioning to Mulhar Row my regret that the Minister was not present on this occasion, and my expectation that he would inform him of all that I had said

I had expected that the Paishwa would be reluctant to begin on business before the Minister's arrival and consequently I was not surprised when the Paishwa declined hearing my note in my presence, and said that it was not necessary we should have any discussion as he was prepared to fulfil every article of the treaty as soon as it could possibly be effected. As His Highness persevered in his desire to read and consider the paper in private, I proceeded to address a conversation to him which embraced most parts of the substance of my note except the narrative, and in reply to his assurances of his sincere resolution to fulfil the treaty, I said I had never doubted His Highness's sincerity, but in spite of the declarations he has been pleased to make to me so often, means had been found to thwart his good intentions and that it was really incumbent on me to make him acquainted with the serious impression those circumstances had made, and were likely to make, on your Lordship's mind. After mentioning several other arguments for the speedy adjustment of the points under discussion, I concluded by declaring that my only dependence was on His Highness's own friendship and good faith. The Paishwa was very explicit in his promises and very earnest in his manner of enforcing them, and the general impression was, that he was fully sensible of the misconduct of his ministers, and somewhat alarmed at the probable consequences. I have therefore determined to await the result of this operation before I present your Lordship's letter, a measure which ought always to be reserved for very serious occasions, and the effect of which ought not to be lessened by too frequent use.

The Paishwa then conversed on the subject of Captain Ford's Brigade in which he showed great interest. I was happy to be able to give His Highness the most favourable accounts of its progress, and His Highness declared his intention of visiting the arsenal which has been formed by Captain Thew of which also I had it in my power to make a favourable report.

On the occasion of mentioning Mr Malet, a son of Sir Charles W Malet, who has lately brought a letter to the Paishwa from his father, His Highness took occasion to enumerate the British officers who had distinguished themselves in his own cause, and that of his father, and particularly those who had fallen in the service, and he concluded by strong expressions of gratitude to the Government from whom his family had received such zealous and effectual support.

that he had not been rigidly confined and that his death was entirely owing to disease and not accelerated by the treatment he had received

The Paishwa replied that Furkia's attendants had already been allowed to go where they pleased, and that he would be glad to give the utmost publicity to the manner of that chief's death

The Minister will arrive tomorrow, and I hope to see the Paishwa or at least the Minister on the next day

No 114—The Resident requests permission to purchase locks and supplies for the Peshwa's Brigade from the stores of the Subsidiary Force

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—FRANCIS WARDEN.**

Poona, 11 June 1813

I beg you will submit to the Right Honourable the Governor that an application has been made to me by Captain Ford requesting he may be permitted to purchase for the use of the Paishwa's Brigade, a few maunds of old lock furniture out of the stores of the Subsidiary Force The lock furniture consists in the locks of un-serviceable musquets which have been returned into store and should it not be inconvenient to comply with Captain Ford's request, it would be desirable that the necessary instructions should be issued on this subject to the Commissary of stores with the Subsidiary Force Captain Ford is also anxious to procure for the use of his Brigade the requisite supplies of medicines which I hope it may not be found inconvenient to permit that he should receive from the Hon'ble Company's stores at Bombay Captain Ford will be prepared to defray all the charges which may arise from his being admitted to this indulgence Should the Right Hon'ble the Governor be pleased to forward this arrangement, it would be convenient were you to point out the forms which it would be necessary for Captain Ford to observe in order to obtain the supplies he may require

No 115—The Resident reports to the Governor General the interview he had with the Peshwa in which the utter insincerity of the minister's conduct was fully exposed in connection with the defiant attitude of Appa Desai

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL**

Poona, 27 June 1813

My Lord,

The Minister arrived here on the 12th and I waited for two days to give the Paishwa an opportunity of sending for me as he had pro-

mised but finding at the end of that time that there was nothing said about my visit I myself sent a message to remind His Highness of it. The Paishwa was by this time engaged in some manner which prevented his seeing me and I was obliged to request to see the Minister instead of His Highness.

That person was unluckily seized with a fever which prevented his receiving me and everything remained as it had been before the Paishwa's arrival till the 19th when I at last obtained an interview with the Bhow. He soon entered on a long account of the proceedings mixed with complaints of the extreme ill treatment he had received from Appa Dessye. He repeatedly avowed that Appa Dessye was not in obedience to him and more than once boasted that he could now convince me of the little ground there was for suspecting him of being in concert with that chief.

He however confined himself to this sort of discourse without suggesting any remedy for the evils of which he complained. When he had finished his speech which was a very long one I stated all that had passed since the Paishwa left Poona nearly in the same terms with the note enclosed in my last dispatch but I introduced much more complaint of the Minister's own conduct, and I concluded by saying that things must now be brought to some issue and that if Appa Dessye was not in obedience to the Minister, I should be obliged to him if he would say so at once and leave the rest of the arrangement to me. The Minister then said he had been thinking of a plan which would probably remove all difficulties, and this was, that he should wait the result of a communication he had just made to Appa Dessye, one of whose vakeels was still in the house, and that if it were unsuccessful, he and I should send a friendly message to Appa Dessye pointing out the bad consequences of his conduct, and that if it failed of effect I should take the negotiation into my own hands, and recover not only the Raja of Colapore's districts but those belonging to the Paishwa which Appa Dessye held without authority. I objected to this proposal observing that as I had already broken off all communication with Appa Dessye it would not be consistent with the dignity of the British Government for me to begin again by an application which, if refused, would lead to no further consequences and that when His Highness the Paishwa was prepared to make over all negotiations with Appa Dessye to me in the same manner as had been done with the other Jageerdars, then and not till then I should be ready to send such a message as the Minister proposed.

The Minister here interrupted me to say that I had misunderstood him and that his meaning was, that I should support my

message in any manner I thought proper For added he, when a chief has set the Government at defiance, why should I be anxious to make terms for him? I then resumed my discourse and said, that the British Government was not bound to assist the Paishwa in retrieving opportunities of asserting his rights, which had been lost by the mismanagement of his own Ministers, and by their disregard of its advice, but that its first object was the promotion of His Highness's interests, and it would not therefore refuse to interfere in his favour But that, if the Paishwa intended to resume all the lands held by Appa Dessye, he ought to pay such expenses as that Sirdar had bona-fide incurred in recovering them from the Raja of Colapore, for whatever might have been Appa Dessye's conduct, it would not become the Government to treat him with injustice The Minister contested this argument and showed an anxiety for the recovery of the Paishwa's land which made the Colapore affair appear to be in his eyes a very secondary consideration I put an end to this by saying that we might discuss the subject of Appa Dessye's and the Paishwa's claims hereafter, and asking whether I was to consider myself as authorized to negotiate with Appa Dessye in the same manner as with the other Jageerdars The Minister affected to hesitate, and at last said that he should receive Appa Dessye's final answer that night or at latest next day, when he would let me know the result, and if it was not entirely favourable, I might take the matter into my own hands I said I should expect his final answer on the next day but one at farthest, and left him almost persuaded that Appa Dessye was really refractory, and that the Bhow seeing the danger of his later proceedings, was desirous to guard against their effects before it was too late

I had before heard that Appa Dessye had begun to hold very high and threatening language with the Minister, and had declared his intention of quitting the Paishwa's service if the present demands were persevered in, and I soon learned that after I left the Minister he had really sent a peremptory message to Appa Dessye Great, therefore, was my surprise, when I sent a native at the appointed time for the Bhow's final answer, to receive a message from that Minister, acquainting me that Appa Dessye said he would give the orders of surrender for the three remaining districts which it had been settled in March that he was to give up, but that in the mean time he wished to leave Poona for the purpose of celebrating another marriage in addition to the five which had so long detained him at Neepaunee I lost no time in replying that I would not receive the orders of surrender nor admit of any compromise short of the complete execution of all my demands, and that if the Minister allowed

Appa Dessye to depart, I should consider it as an acknowledgement either of inability or of unwillingness to control him on the part of the Paishwa's Government, and should proceed to act according to the orders I might receive from your Lordship without any reference to them. Immediately after dispatching this reply I learned that Appa Dessye had actually marched within eight or nine hours after my conference with the Minister, and consequently at least six and thirty hours before the Bhow had sent his message to me.

On receiving this account I sent immediately to acquaint His Highness the Paishwa that I had received a letter from your Lordship to him on important business and that I begged I might be allowed to deliver it at His Highness's earliest convenience. I also sent to Anund Row and Mulhar Row who had announced their intention to wait on me from the Bhow, begging that they might not give themselves the trouble as no benefit could now be expected except from direct communication with His Highness the Paishwa. The Minister's answer first arrived. He stated that Appa Dessye had set off without his knowledge, that he was amazed to hear of it, and that of course that chief must be considered as being in open rebellion. The Paishwa's answer was that a circumstance in his own family obliged him with the greatest reluctance to defer receiving your Lordship's letter for three days. I sent an immediate answer to His Highness to say that I did not mean to put His Highness to inconvenience, but that if it were possible to get over the obstacle he alluded to, it was due to his friendship for your Lordship to receive your letter on so serious an occasion without any delay. In the evening Anund Row and Mulhar Row came to me with further explanations from the Paishwa and with an earnest request that I would put off my visit till the 26th (Saturday), to which I immediately agreed. They also brought stronger assurances than ever from the Paishwa of his determination to enforce the execution of the treaty without delay. They stated His Highness to be much incensed at the contempt that was shown for him, and they added a message from the Bhow full of indignation against Appa Dessye, who was treated as the worst of rebels and traitors but concluding with a promise couched in violent language that if he did not return by Thursday (24 June), I should be allowed to deal with him as I thought proper. I returned a respectful and cordial answer to the Paishwa but when the ministers asked me what they were to say to the Bhow, I said it would be an ample answer to repeat his own proposal. He had promised in the most solemn manner that unless Appa Dessye afforded full satisfaction in course of the 20th the negotiation should be made over to me, that the period fixed was passed and that in consequence of an intermediate act of what he termed treachery and rebellion, the Bhow

now proposed that everything should lie over till the 25th when (in case Appa Dessye did not return) he would consider about keeping his promise

My audience of the Paishwa was fixed for yesterday and to save the time required for translating your Lordship's letter into Maratta after the Paishwa had received it, as well as to prevent the suppression of any passage which might be offensive to the Ministers, I prepared a translation to be delivered with the letter. There is only one man about His Highness's Court who understands Persian and his knowledge is very imperfect. In course of the day I learned that Appa Dessye was on his return to Poona. I waited on the Paishwa yesterday, (26 June), evening as it was settled. I found the Minister at the palace where His Highness did not arrive for near an hour. The Minister, however, showed no disposition to introduce the affairs of Colapore and I was not desirous to speak on the subject with him. Our conversation was therefore confined to other matters of business and to general topics. When His Highness arrived I presented your Lordship's letter and said that I had instructions to make further communications to His Highness, but that I had no doubt your Lordship would approve of my abstaining from them as I was persuaded His Highness's wishes were the same as your Lordship's. I then proceeded to acquaint him with all that had passed since my last visit without making it a personal complaint against the Minister but yet concealing no part of his conduct that was necessary to my narrative. I concluded by requesting to know His Highness's pleasure during this discourse. The Paishwa appeared perfectly at his ease, but the Minister appeared to be agitated by the greatest anxiety and alarm.

The Paishwa replied by some observations in moderate language on the impropriety of Appa Dessye's conduct and announced his resolution of adhering to the arrangement which had been made between the Minister and me, and of staying at Poona till every thing was settled to my satisfaction. He then directed the Minister to read the translation of your Lordship's letter, but either from an apprehension of some animadversions on his own conduct or to relieve the Minister's evident confusion, he stopt the reading before the compliments at the beginning had been finished and said, that he would have it read to him along with the Persian when he retired to his own residence. I then told him briefly the contents of the letter and observed that the period fixed on by the Minister had already passed and that if His Highness meant to abide by that arrangement I concluded I was to consider myself as empowered to begin a negotiation with Appa Dessye. The Paishwa said that he thought it would be proper to see him first himself, that I was always an advo-

cate for treating Sirdars with civility and that he was sure I should agree that this was due to a Sirdar. The Minister who had recovered his spirits when he found no direct attack made on him, joined in this argument and spoke for a long time in defence of himself, in reprobation of Appa Dessye and in favour of giving that chief some more time to decide. He also said the Paishwa was desirous to postpone all his own demands on Appa Dessye and confine himself to the settlement of the claims of Colapore.

In reply to all this, I said that I had no wish to hurry His Highness's decision, but that I begged him to recollect that if Appa Dessye agreed to all that was demanded of him (as I had no doubt he would) nothing would be gained. All his present obstinacy was about three districts and some prisoners, every other point either required the production of accounts or a regular examination of treaties. I had before experienced the delays I should meet with in the enquiry and the disregard with which my decisions would be treated, and after all, my proceedings would be rendered nugatory by the real or pretended insubordination of Appa Dessye. I said that it was only His Highness's presence that gave me any hope of an adjustment at present and that in whatever state the affair was when he left Poona, there I was persuaded, it would remain till he returned. His Highness having said the Minister would remain, I could not but remark the little advantage I had as yet derived from his presence and went on to state the neglect and disregard I had met with particularly in the instance of the Daismook's refusal to abide by my decision. I requested His Highness to put himself in your Lordship's place or to imagine his receiving the treatment from the British Government which it had met with from his Ministers and then repeated that nothing could secure the fulfilment of the treaty but his making over all arrangements with Appa Dessye to me. His Highness then explained some plans by which he meant to secure Appa Dessye's obedience, one of which, was to keep him at Poona till everything was settled and said he certainly should make him over to me if he did not readily engage to fulfil all demands against him.

I then remarked on the light in which the delivering up of Appa Dessye appeared to be regarded, declared that I had no orders and no wish to proceed to any extreme measure with him, that I should adopt the same course I had done with the other Jageerdars, that I hoped all demands would be quietly agreed to, but that I would see they were enforced. I said the British Government had shown by its conduct from the first introduction of Appa Dessye into His Highness's service, that it had no enmity to him and on a recent occasion it had shown that it had no undue

partiality for the Raja of Colapore, but that it was aware that obedience could never be secured but by decision, and I then reminded the Minister that I had told him six months ago, that however well he and AppaDessye might understand each other at that time, a perseverance in the system he adopted would soon lose him all authority over that chieftain. The Paishwa made some civil answer and repeated the promise he had made at first, that I should have his answer on the day following Appa Dessye's arrival. In course of the conversation it appeared that His Highness had not been informed of my having declined to negotiate directly with Appa Dessye for the last four months, and that he believed the Minister to have been all this time acting in concert with me, I therefore acquainted him that as soon as I found the difference of opinion which existed respecting the affairs of Colapore, I had dropt all communication with His Highness's Sircar on that subject and formally consigned the entire conduct of the affair to the Minister.

I then told His Highness, when he read your Lordship's letter, to remember by how much provocation it had been produced and that I was sure he would then be struck by the friendly and moderate terms in which it was expressed. The Paishwa admitted that your Lordship had great cause to be displeased and said he was certain there could be nothing in the letter which his conviction of your Lordship's friendship could not enable him to receive with goodwill.

He then talked of Captain Ford's Brigade with a great deal of interest and soon after I withdrew. Captain Ford paid His Highness a visit after I was gone to acquaint him with the progress made in raising his Battalions and His Highness declared his intention of proceeding on the 28th or 29th to inspect the arms and stores that have been procured from Bombay.

Appa Dessye's journey appears to have been merely an experiment to ascertain the length he would be permitted to go. It appears to me to have been concerted or at least connived at, by the Minister. His assertion that he did not know of it till a day and a half after it had taken place, is too improbable to deserve any attention, while the insincerity of his whole discourse on the evening of the 19th and of his message on the 21st are rendered too manifest by his subsequent conduct to entitle his word to any sort of respect. I have taken an opportunity which offered today of enquiring into the meaning of his advice to the Paishwa so opposite to his own propositions first of waiting till the 21st and then till the 25th and of acquainting him that no arrangement that can now be made short of committing all negotiations to me, will give me the smallest confidence that the execution of the treaty is intended.

His Highness the Paishwa some days ago sent me a letter from the Raja of Berar expressing his wish to come to Jejoory and his hope that he would be received with the usual attentions, on which he requested my advice. I advised him to give the Raja free permission and an honorable reception since which he has repeatedly expressed his wish that no interview between the Raja and his Highness's brother Chimmajee Appa should be insisted on, to which I replied that His Highness was the best judge, that I saw no necessity for such an interview, but that it ought to be avoided in some manner which would not excite any suspicion of distrust on His Highness's part towards his brother.

No. 116—The Resident recommends to the Governor General chairs worth Rs 400 to be presented to the Peshwa's minister Sadashiv Mankeshvar

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—MR SECRETARY ADAM

Poona, 19 August 1813

Sir,

Seddashew Bhow Maunkasur, the Paishwa's Minister, has at different times taken occasion to hint to me his wish to have a few chairs for the accommodation of his house. If the Governor General should be pleased to sanction the expense of this civility I would be glad to accommodate the Minister with 4 dozen to be procured at Bombay. The expense of that number of chairs together with the carriage to Poona, would amount to about 400 rupees.

No. 117—The Resident requests sanction of estimates for effecting repairs to the bungalows of the Residency

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—MR SECRETARY ADAM

Poona, 14 September 1813

I have the honour to enclose the estimate of repairs for the Residency Bungalows

Besides repairs it includes a charge for a Bungalow which I have ventured to purchase with a view to supplying in some degree the inadequacy of the present accommodation. The rest of the expense incurred is sufficient to keep the Residency from going to decay but will not, I am afraid, preclude the necessity of occasional repairs in future.

No 117A

Estimate of repairs of the buildings belonging to the Residency at Poona

To the purchase and repair of a new Bungalow	4502	0	0
„ the repairs of various other Bungalows	3500	0	0
„ the repairs of walls round the garden and other enclosures about the Residency	800	0	0
„ the repair of the cookroom	500	0	0
„ the repairing of a Furrauskhaunah	300	0	0
„ the making and repairing doors and windows	170	0	0
„ the repairing stable	300	0	0
	<hr/>		
	Rupees	10,072	0 0

No 118—The Peshwa gratified at the results secured to him by British arbitration in his disputes with the Southern Jagirdars and particularly with the Raja of Kolhapur, now requests British arbitration in the settlement of his long standing disputes with the Gaikwad State. The Resident asks instructions from the Governor General in that connection. The history of the whole dispute together with claims and counter claims is also fully reported. As this affair is the culminating point of Maratha Raj it deserves careful study. It reveals the weakest features of the Maratha administration.

FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE,
TO—MR SECRETARY ADAM

Poona, 21 September 1813

Sir,

At a late interview between Seddasheo Maunkaisur and me, that Minister took occasion to speak with some urgency of the delay which had taken place in the adjustment of the claims of His Highness the Paishwa's Government on the Guickwar State. I reminded him that this delay was entirely ascribable to himself, as I had repeatedly recommended to him to confer with the Guikwar Vakeel and to endeavour to effect an amicable adjustment of the disputes between the Governments. The Minister replied, that he was satisfied from the conferences that formerly took place of the utter inefficacy of this mode of proceeding and that he now requested that the British Government might interfere to arbitrate according to its treaties with both States.

I told the Minister in reply that it would have been preferable if the two Governments could have come to an arrangement between themselves, but that as he called on the arbitration of the

British Government, I should take occasion as soon as the affairs of Chickoree and Manowlee were settled, to communicate with the Guickwar Vakeel and to put things in train for a final adjustment

It has long been obvious that no progress could be made by the Ministers of the two native Governments whose views of the subject are altogether unlike. The Guickwar's Vakeel looks only to a favourable adjustment of the claims of this State on his Government, while the Paishwa's Minister is probably more anxious about the profits which have generally accrued to persons in his office during all former negotiations of this kind. I have not, however, thought it necessary to press the affair to a settlement or to make any offer of the arbitration of the British Government as long as it was not requested by the Paishwa, the only party who is likely to profit by the decision. The Guickwar can only expect at best to be free from loss and the British Government must run the risk of offending both parties as is usual in such cases without the smallest prospect of advantage to itself. As the Paishwa's Government has now made a formal call for our arbitration, I shall think it my duty to address the Right Hon'ble the Governor of Bombay on the subject and to prepare for bringing the matter to a conclusion.

In the mean time I do myself the honour to enclose translations of the papers which have passed between the Ministers of the two Maratta Governments. The claims which they contain do not appear to require much investigation or to be attended with much difficulty, if the principles were fixed on which they are to be determined, but there appears to be a preliminary question which though it has been overlooked by both parties, involves most of the Paishwa's present demands as well as the claims which he will be entitled in future to bring forward against the Guickwar. This is, whether the Paishwa's failure to afford protection to the Guickwar State during the troubles which preceded its treaty with us, has entirely dissolved the connection between that State and His Highness, and if not, to what point the connection still subsists?

Both parties will probably agree that the relations between them stood on the ancient footing till 1797 or 1798 when Govind Row Guickwar received his investiture from the present Paishwa after a settlement of their reciprocal claims. Between that period and the end of 1801, great disorders broke out in the Guickwar State, which terminated in its concluding a treaty with the British Government early in 1802.

It may be contended on the Guickwar's part that he received no assistance from the Paishwa during the period just mentioned, and

that he was in consequence reduced to the alternative of throwing himself on the protection of the British or of allowing his Government to be destroyed. That this neglect of the Paishwa's releases him from all his former engagements to that prince, and that the Paishwa has himself consented to his emancipation by acknowledging his treaty with the British Government, a treaty by no means consistent with his ancient allegiance to the Paishwa. To this the Paishwa might reply that he had never refused his protection to the Guickwar, who indeed had never solicited it, and that the due execution of the treaty between the British Government and the Guickwar was by no means incompatible with the latter's receiving his investiture and furnishing his contingent as heretofore. At all events His Highness might contend that his claim to tribute is not affected by our treaty any more than his claim to Choute from the Nizam is affected by our alliance with that prince. He is the more likely to pursue this train of argument, as there is a declaration prefixed to his acknowledgement of our treaty with the Guickwar, that the said treaty was not intended to infringe his Highness's right, from which it follows that all the rights he possessed at the time when the treaty was signed are to be preserved, except those which are absolutely inconsistent with the terms of that agreement.

The Right Hon'ble the Governor General will observe that the Paishwa's claims are not as yet disputed by the Guickwar, who appears to admit His Highness's right to tribute, to military service and to a fine on his investiture, but brings forward counter claims of his own arguments for allowing him remissions and deductions. It however appears to be doubtful how far those claims of the Paishwa are just and how far they are consistent with the actual State of the Guickwar Government as fixed by treaties. I should therefore be happy to receive his Lordship's instructions on the view to be taken of the case and in the mean time I shall forward a copy of this dispatch to the Right Hon'ble the Governor of Bombay.

No 118A

Translation of a statement setting forth the claims preferred by His Highness the Paishwa against the Guickwar Government, on account of Nuzzurana, etc written in the Arabic year 1211, corresponding to 1811. D

The particulars of which are as follows

In the Arabic year 1194, it was agreed that a sum was due, amounting to

1,20,00,001

Of which the particulars are these

On account of Nuzzurana and troops, as here detailed

1,00,00,001

viz To Nuzzerana, including an equivalent for the service of troops which were not maintained from the year 1191 to 1193, that is to say, a period of three years, at 14,54,000 rupees each

43,62,000

Due under an engagement which was concluded on the Guikwar's accession to the Musnud

56,38,001

Balance due to the Paishwa by Maun Sing Row Guickwar, on account of a Nazzur and troops and which he consented to discharge

20,00,000

Total ..

1,20,00,001

From the Arabic year 1194 to 1197, there has been due

58,16,000

As follows, viz

On account of Nuzzur

7,79,000

On account of the equivalent due for the services of 3000 men, under an agreement by which it was stipulated, that when not employed, money should be paid in lieu of them

6,75,000

Total for one year

14,54,000

×4

178 16,001

Total for the 4 years above stated

58,16,000

To be deducted as follows viz

For cash received into the treasury and for the amount of drafts issued upon the Guickwar Government, an account of which has not yet been delivered in

78,01,211

For amount received through Gunaish Sambajee Carcoon of the Sillehdar who was deputed to Baroda to receive money, and was attended by some Paugah horse and others, as follows—viz

Paid to Gunaish Sambajee	9000
The Paugah and others	23001

Total .

32,001

Carried over Rupees

78,33,212

For abatement allowed on account of a representation made by Rowjee Appajee, Dewaun of the Guickwar, to the effect that large sums of money had been taken from Maun Singh Guickwaur which had occasioned much distress to his Government, that some pecuniary demands of the Sirkar still remained to be liquidated, and soliciting a diminution of them

60,00,000

Total

1,38,33,212

Balance

039,82,789

Due in subsequent years, as here detailed, on account of Nuzzur, and the annual equivalent for troops

2,03,56,000

viz To balance due on account of a force of 3000 men which should have been maintained for the service of the Sirkar, under the following engagement, that, if necessary, the force should be increased to 4000 men, that on an emergency a member of the Guikwar family should be stationed near the Paishwa's person, that the troops should always

be ready to go on any service that might be ordered, and that when not required, an equivalent should be paid to the Sirkar in money, agreeably to stipulation, per annum .	6,75,000
Total for one year	14,54,000

Or from the year 1198 to 1211 that is to say for a period of fourteen years

	× 14
<hr/>	
	2,03,56,000

Damajee Guickwar took possession of the new Babee Mahauls on this condition (formerly entered into) that he should pay one half of the profits to the Sirkar and retain the other half himself

That a Carkoon of the Sirkar should go there, and after examining into the state of the revenue, that he should draw out two statements of the different shares, agreeably to which one should go to the Sirkar, and that in the year 1170, the authority of the Sirkar should be established over the Mahauls. Such was the former agreement, but the stipulations of it have not been fulfilled. In the year 1172, 1,00,000 rupees was received, but on no definite account, and in the year 1173, in the same indefinite manner, 25,000 rupees were agreed to be paid, it was also said that on the arrival of Futteh Sing Row Guickwar, he should be consulted with and a final adjustment be made. In this manner, was it stipulated in the year 1173, but it has not been fulfilled. Therefore the money contracted for in the above article, remains due from the year 1170 to 1211 that is to

say, 42 years One lac of rupees was received as already stated, and that being assumed as the share annually due, the whole amounts to 42 lacs of rupees, from which sum deducting the lac received in 1172, there remains due

41,00,000

In the year 1194, the title of Sena Khas Khyle was conferred on the late Govind Row Guickwar, when a Nuzzur was taken The same money is now required from his son on whom those honours and grants are likewise to be bestowed, viz

56 38 001

Total amount claimed

 3,40,76,790

In Ahmedabad, the authority of both Governments is jointly established The system which was followed in the time of the Great Madhoo Row, should now be adhered to Since then innovations have been introduced without any regard to the Sirkar, which should be discontinued, and former engagements be fulfilled

In the year 1194, it was agreed that the Guickwar should present to the Sirkar three of his best elephants which should be approved of, and five of his best horses This has not been done Three elephants and five horses are now peremptorily required

The Sirkar lent money in addition to a lac of rupees through means of a Soucar in the year 1194, and it was agreed that a draft should be given on a banker for those sums with interest Till now this has not been done Let that money with interest be paid to the Sirkar, exclusive of the balance which was admitted to be due by the engagement of 1198, and let the other debts due to the Soucar be also discharged

Let Mulhar Row Guickwar and his women be respected, and decently provided for, so that no complaints from them may reach the Sirkar

Ballajee Naick Bheeray has claims upon the Guickwar, for the settlement of which, the Sirkar is security It was formerly agreed that a lac of rupees should be paid annually till the whole should be liquidated This is now demanded

Mahadajee Mulhar formerly held the office of Furnavees to the Guickwar He is since dead, and the Sirkar engaged that the office should descend to his son Vishnoo Mahadeo The usual salary and Carcoonee are required for him, all which was formerly settled by agreement

Debts are due by the Guickwar to some soucars of Poona, for the discharge of which, the Sirkar is responsible, let these be paid

It was formerly agreed that the Guickwar should present to the Sirkar jewels to the value of a lac of rupees, exclusive of the money already claimed. But this has not been done. Jewels which are bona fide of that value are now required.

The village of Ranee, in Pergunna Saownlee (Sawli), belonging to the Sirkar was in the year 1195 taken possession of by the Guickwar. Thirty four thousand rupees are claimed, being the revenues of the place, from the foregoing year to 1211, being 17 years, at the rate of 2,000 rupees per annum, and the village is required to be delivered over to the Comavisdar of the Saownlee Pergunna.

After ascertaining what monies have been collected by the Guickwar from the Mhaults etc, etc, of the Sirkar, a statement of them shall be made out.

In the disturbances lately excited by Holkar and others, the records of this Government were dispersed. The claims now made have therefore been drawn up from such papers as have been preserved, such as remain shall hereafter be made out according to the records which may be recovered.

In the year 1198, a settlement was made out, after which, the Sirkar issued bills to several people on the Guickwar, an account is now required of those which were paid or rejected.

Let the engagements which were entered into at the time of the great Madhoo Row be observed.

No 118 B

Translation of the reply made on the part of Sena Khas Khyle 'Shumsheer Bahadur to the claims advanced by His Highness the Paishwa. Written the 17th of Rujub, in the Arabic year 1212

Agreeably to the settlement of accounts, which was made in the year 1198 (inclusive of 1197), a balance remained due to the Paishwa of

Rs 39,82,789

Rs

The Paishwa further makes the following claims,

On account of Nuzzur per annum	7,79,000
On account of troops ditto	6,75,000
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	14,54,000
Or, from the year 1198 to 1211, inclusive that is fourteen years	×14
	2,03,56,000
	<hr/>

2,03,56,000

Total Rupees

2 43,38,789

From the above account the following deductions should be made

Broach, an important possession under the Guickwar Government, was unwarrantably taken possession of by the late Mahadajee Sindia. Money was still required by the Sirkar from the revenues of the country, but when this Mhaul fell into the hands of others, how could the usual annual Nuzzur be then paid? The Sirkar was formerly made acquainted with this circumstance, upon which, on the 19th Zilhej in the Arabic year 1199, an engagement was concluded to the following effect. That at the next future settlement an arrangement should be made on this account. In the Purgunna abovementioned, the fiftytwo amul (?) was established, by which sixty rupees in the hundred pertained to the Guickwar. The Revenues of Baroach amount to ten lacs of rupees, and the Guickwar's share to six lacs, according to which computation from the year 1176 to 1211 inclusive, (a period of 36 years) a balance remains due to the Guickwar Government of rupees 2,16,00000

It was formerly agreed, that in the event of the Guickwar's relations or dependants raising insurrections, the Paishwa was to assist in their suppression. He now rests demands on the deficiency of troops maintained by the Guickwar Government, but when there were disturbances, no assistance was given, on which account it was necessary to employ more troops for the settlement of the country, and considerable distress fell upon the Government in consequence. For these reasons a deduction should be made in the Paishwa's demands on account of troops, for those years in which there were insurrections

1st In the year 1201, on the death of Govind Row Guickwar, Cannojee Row excited disturbances in the Government, and having imprisoned the Guickwar and his Ministers, he seized upon the public treasure, which he dissipated. Troops were consequently employed to punish him and to restore order, which occasioned a heavy expense

Rs 21,600,000

2ndly In the year 1202, Mulhar Row having formed inimical designs against the Government revolted, and having collected a force, he seized upon the fort of Veesanuggur. To remedy disorders, the Guickwar was obliged to raise a large army, and to secure the aid of the Hon'ble Company, all which likewise occasioned great expense

3rdly In the year 1203, some Arabs who were in the service of the Government and were employed to garrison forts, rebelled and disturbed the surrounding country. In suppressing them a battle

was fought with the assistance of the Hon'ble Company at Baroda, and in order to restore tranquillity throughout the country, and to expel the Arabs it was necessary to maintain a considerable additional force. In that year the Government sustained great losses, and incurred heavy expenses on account of the Arabs.

4thly From the year 1204 to 1206, i.e., for a period of three years, the country was laid waste by the depredations of Sindia, Holkar, the Bhosla, and other powerful Sirdars. On this account, the Guickwar was obliged to collect an army on the frontier for the protection of the country, which occasioned great expenses. This for six years, at the rate of 6,75,000 rupees each, the sum total amounts to

Rs 405,0000

Abajee Krishen Sailoocur, on his coming to Ahmedabad in the year 1200, in an unwarrantable prosecution of hostilities against the Guickwar, raised troops and excited insurrections. The Guickwar having communicated this event to the Sirkar, restored order. Eight months were consumed in these arrangements, in the execution of which some of the principal Sirdars of the kingdom lost their lives. The establishment of a suitable provision for their families, together with the expenses of the military preparations, amounted to about

Rs 80,00,000

Total Rs 3,36 50,000

1st The Guickwar, with the assistance of the Honourable Company, suppressed the insurrections which were raised in his dominions, a Jaidad yielding a revenue of 14,50,000 rupees was, on this account, assigned to the English troops in the year 1203, an arrangement which still subsists. Let all the difficulties of the Government therefore be considered, and old claims be abandoned, so that it may henceforward prosper.

2ndly All money which has been paid to the holders of Government drafts, should be also deducted.

A demand is made for 56,38,001 rupees on account of the Khillut of investiture and the Jagheer lands. At the time that the late Govind Row Guickwar was at Poona, his Government was in a prosperous state, for which reasons he agreed to pay that sum but since that period, in consequence of the disorders occasioned by Sailoocur, Cannojee Row, Mulhar Row, and the Arabs, the revenues of the country have been insufficient, the expenses increased, and the Government involved in difficulty. These things being favourably considered, the usual honorary Khillut should be granted.

A claim for 41,00,000 rupees is advanced on account of the Babee Mhaults. In the year 1163, Sreemunt Maharaj Rajaram Chutterputtee, conferred on the late Damajee Row from Sittarra the title of Sena Khas Khyle, and the customary Khillut. Afterwards the late Dada Saheb, on his return from the Meritch expedition to Poona, engaged to relinquish five Mhaults to Damajee, which should thenceforward be independent of the Sirkar. Thus was it agreed upon which he took possession of the Mhaults. Upon Damajee Row's death, Futteh Sing Row succeeded to the Government and Govind Row was at Poona. The Sirkar granted a Khillut to the latter, and without regarding former engagements took from him one lac of rupees the first year, and twenty five thousand rupees the next on account of the Babee Mhaults. A Khillut of investiture was afterwards given to Futteh Sing Row, during whose Government the claims of the Sirkar were two or three times adjusted. On his death, a Khillut was granted to Maun Sing Row, with whom a settlement was also made, and on his demise, a Khillut was again bestowed by the Sirkar on Govind Row, at that time an adjustment also took place, and once afterwards the claims of the Sirkar were again settled, but from the year 1174 to the present time, which is a period of 37 years, no mention has ever been made of an engagement by which money was to be paid to the Sirkar on account of the Babee Mhaults. At the same time, those districts, it must be observed are very turbulent, and do not yield a revenue sufficient to defray their expenses, a large force is stationed there to preserve order, in consequence of which, the Sirkar's possessions are protected from injury and have prospered.

It required twentyfour months to take possession of those Mhaults, the expense of the military preparations for which was so great, that it is still felt by the Government.

A true translation,
Signed R CLOSE,
Assistant

No 118 C

Translation of the answer made by His Highness the Paishwa to the statement urged by the Guickwar, in refutation of His Highness's claims. Written in the Arabic Year 1212, corresponding to the year 1811 A D

Statement of the annual Nuzzurana, and the pecuniary equivalent for troops, demanded from the Guickwar

Due on account of Nuzzurana and troops Rupees 2,43,38,789

The following is an answer to the Guickwar's rejection of that claim

1st An abatement is required on account of Baroach of Rs 2,16,00,000

In the year 1176 a treaty was concluded at Poorunder between the English and the Sirkar, in the 5th article of which it was stipulated, that all the claims and rights of the Paishwa over Baroach and the adjacent country, as they formerly existed during the Mogul Government or otherwise, should together with Choute, be ceded in perpetuity to the British Government, and that no future demands should be brought against them

2nd In the year 1184, a treaty was concluded at Gwalior through the mediation of Mahadajee Sindia, between the British Government and the Sirkar, in the 3rd article of which, it is written, that the town and district of Baroach, with all the Sirkar's rights and claims from the time of the Mogul Government, are ceded in perpetuity to the English Company, and that the Sirkar shall in future advance no claims for Choute or otherwise. The English government was accordingly to retain the place in its own exclusive possession, and was not to admit the claims of others. In this manner was the original treaty confirmed

3rd The territory which was ceded to the English by Syajee and Futteh Sing Row Guickwar, by the 7th article of Upton's treaty, was there expressed in doubtful terms, and afterwards in order to terminate all disputes, the English relinquished it. "Such lands as were usually held in Jagheer by the Guickwar, shall revert to him, and such as may appear to belong to the Paishwa, shall be taken possession of by the Sirkar." Such were the terms of the 5th article

4th In the 8th article it was written that whatever lands had been held in Jagheer by Syajee and Futteh Sing Guickwar in former times, that is to say before the present war, should agreeably to former custom continue in Futteh Sing's possession, and that he (Futteh Sing) should continue to pay to the Paishwa such annual tribute as was usual before the war, or had been fixed by treaty, and that he should, as formerly be liable to military service and pay obedience, and that the Paishwa should not revive any claims which he had already abandoned

5th The Guickwar has written to the following effect "That he had to pay money every year to the Sirkar, that six lacs of rupees (which were three shares of the Revenues of Baroach belonging to him, of which the remaining two shares appertained to the Mogul Government) had with the whole of the country, fallen into the hands of the Sirkar; that therefore his shares should be paid to him agreeable to former usage, or that other lands should

be assigned to him as an equivalent for them, or else in default of an arrangement of this kind, that a deduction should be made from the annual Nuzzurana equal to the revenues of Baroach" This was asserted in the year 1184, to which it was answered, 'That when a meeting should take place, the question would then be discussed and arranged "

6th In the year 1188, Futteh Sing Row Guickwar wrote, That Sindia had without any warrant, possessed himself of Baroach, that he (Futteh Sing) was required to pay an annual Nuzzurana to the Sirkar; that he had two or three times before come to an adjustment with the Government, when his minister had stated the foregoing circumstances, and had given in a written account of them, "That the Sirkar then satisfied him on the subject, but that nothing had been since done That in the preceding year, when his Nuzzurana had been received, the Sirkar alleged that the matter had been represented to Mahadajee Sindia, on the receipt of whose answer a reply would be given That the Sirkar still continued to demand money on account of his possessions, and that as this important district, valued at six lacs of rupees, had fallen into the hands of others, it could not now be paid, and that therefore this point must be adjusted before he could pay the Nuzzurana for the ensuing year Thus did the Guickwar write, on which it was answered, that when the usual settlement came to be made in the following year, an arrangement should be made

7th In the year 1191, Maun Sing Row Guickwar wrote, 'That the district of Baroach had long been in his possession but that the Sirkar had ceded it by treaty to the English, that it ought to be restored to him, and a deduction be allowed in the Nuzzurana equal to the collections which had been made up to that time, that it had before been agreed upon, and therefore he ought to be put in possession of the place" It was answered, that on Maun Sing's arrival at Poona, the question should be negotiated, and that whatever might be determined upon should be observed

8th In the year 1199, Govind Row Guickwar wrote that the settlement which had been made with regard to Baroach in the year 1198, had not been fulfilled, and that measures ought to be taken for its accomplishment To this it was replied, that in the adjustments of the ensuing year, an arrangement should be entered into Thus was it determined in 1198

Eight articles have now been written, of which four relate to the treaties which have been concluded between the Sirkar and the English, and four to the negotiations which have passed between the Sirkar and the Guickwar

The sum of the affair is this That in 1176, the Pergunna of Baroach was ceded by the Sirkar to the English, after which, up to the year 1183, frequent settlements were made by the Guickwar, but no mention of this Mhaul was ever introduced A treaty was afterwards formed in 1184 between the Sirkar and the English by the mediation of Sindia, at which time also the district of Baroach remained with the English agreeably to the stipulations of the treaty of 1176 Notwithstanding this state of the case, the Guickwar wrote, that the Mhaul had fallen into the hands of the Sirkar, and that Sindia had without any authority taken possession of it Before the treaty of 1184, however, that district belonged to the English, who then ceded it from themselves to Sindia Therefore what the Guickwar writes as to its having reverted to the Sirkar and Sindia's having taken possession of it without obtaining any grant, is absurd By the treaty of 1184, the English engaged that such territories as had belonged to the Guickwar previous to the war, should continue in his possession as formerly, that the Guickwar should pay to the Paishwa's Government the same annual tribute he had been accustomed to give before the war, and that he should offer the same obedience, and perform the same military service, as had been established by former usage Hence it is evident that the Sirkar having in 1176 ceded that district to the English, the rest of the country remained in the possession of the Guickwar The English had previously to hostilities, subdued parts in the Paishwa's and the Guickwar's territories, which by the treaty of 1184 reverted to the original proprietors respectively, afterwards from the year 1184 to 1198, the annual Nuzzurana was regularly fixed The Guickwar then occasionally made representations on the subject of Baroach, to which ambiguous answers were returned, but no deduction from the usual payments was ever actually admitted It is therefore unjustifiable in the Guickwar to introduce the question now The distress of the Government occasioned its surrender of Baroach to the English, and is it now right that the Guickwar, one of the most considerable chiefs of the Empire, should constantly demand an equivalent for that place or a diminution of his Nuzzurana? Under this impression it was, that when the Guickwar mentioned the subject, the following answer was given, that on a meeting with Futteh Sing and Maun Sing Row Guickwar, the necessary arrangements should be made with them in person A promise to that effect was made, and now disputes are revived about the adjustment which took place in 1199 Before this, a settlement had twice been made, when it was agreed that on a meeting with the Guickwar, all disputed points should be discussed, and whatever arrangement should be then determined upon should be considered as binding It

was likewise, observed that the engagement which had been formed in 1199, was not agreeable to the Sirkar, since it had been improperly concluded at an unseasonable time, when Ballajee Jenardhun, who was conversant in the affairs of the Government, was dissatisfied and absent from Poona, previously to that in the year 1194, a Khillut of investiture, together with grants of land, were conferred on Govind Row Guickwar at Poona, when a pecuniary engagement was entered into, at that time, no allusion was ever made in course of the negotiations to Baroach, and it was written, that the same stipulations should be in force between the Guickwar and the Sirkar as had subsisted in the days of the great Madhoo Row. If it should be said, that after the death of the Row, Baroach was ceded to the English, it is to be observed, that as the circumstances were not noticed at that period, there is now no room for the introduction of the question about Baroach.

The Guickwar writes that in the disturbances excited by his relations and others, the Sirkar gave him no assistance, which occasioned an expense to his Government of 40,50,000 rupees. The answer is, the Sirkar was engaged to give its assistance in the event of the Guickwar's relations raising insurrections. They however, never did rebel, but were always obedient to the Government, and the Sirkar preserved for them the same favourable disposition that they evinced towards it. If others and not they revolted, wherefore are any demands made upon the Sirkar? The particulars of the affairs are as follows —

In the year 1201, Canojee Guickwar rebelled, but he was a scion of the Guickwar House, and it was owing to neglect in the Government that he was not restrained. It is not therefore right to make any representation on his account to the Sirkar.

In the year 1202, Mulhar Row Guickwar raised an insurrection, but what was the reason of this? Let Mulhar Row be brought to Poona, when after investigating the matter, the necessary orders shall be given. There is no just reason for introducing the subject of these disturbances into the question concerning the annual Nuzzurana. If it is asked why? Let a provision agreeable to former custom and suitable to his situation, be assigned to him, so that no complaints may reach the Sirkar, has this been done, or not? If, notwithstanding the assignment of a proper provision for him, he should still have entertained designs hostile to the Government and have excited disturbances, information of this should have been given to the Sirkar, but this has not been done, nor has any engagement ever been made to compose those dissensions. Whatever was done has been effected on the Guick-

war's responsibility, to whom it remains to adjust the matter, and who should offer no interruption to the payments due to the Sirkar

In the year 1203, the Arabs revolted, on whose account a heavy expense was incurred. An article to that effect is written. Those dissensions however, arose through the negligence and mismanagement of the Government. The Arabs are a faithless people, and it was never recommended by the Sirkar that they should be employed. This ought to have been well considered before they were entertained. In all Governments occasional disturbances will arise of some kind or other, and complaints on such matters should not be made to the Sirkar.

From the year 1204 to 1206 a period of three years the country was laid waste by the depredations of Sindia, Holkar, the Bhosla, and other powerful Sirdars on which account an army was maintained at great expense on the frontier. Such is the purport of another article. The disorders occasioned by those Sirdars did not reach the Guickwar's dominions, or provocation must have been given. Either the Guickwar may have failed in the performance of engagements he had contracted, for which reason they may have offered him some injury, or, on account of the Guickwar's inactivity, some of the members of his family may have joined them and set up opposite claims but no account of these events was ever transmitted to the Sirkar, nor is it just to bring them forward at this time.

In the year 1191, the Guickwar represented that from the earliest times the members of his family and others had served the Government, and that if they continued to do so, the same provision should be allotted to them as was made by Futteh Sing Row. That if any of them proved disobedient, he would settle the matter, but that the Sirkar should not give them any countenance or support. It was accordingly agreed, that the same adequate provision which had formerly been made, should be continued to them, so that no complaints should reach the Sirkar, which on its part engaged not to afford them its support.

To this purport are the five articles discussed, which are above written. The engagements with the Sirkar relating to Nuzzurana should therefore be faithfully performed, and no unjust claims be preferred.

By another article the Guickwar claims 80,00,000 rupees on account of Abjee Krishen Salloocur. The answer is this Abajee

Krisen is present, if there is any written engagement of the Sirkar on this subject, let it be shown. If there should be none, and the Guickwar should have opposed Sailoocur in his management of the affairs of the Sirkar, any expense that may have been incurred in such a proceeding, should not be charged upon the Sirkar. Money was due to the Sirkar by Abajee Krishen, who was also charged with other affairs, all of which remained unaccomplished on account of the Guickwar's disputes. The loss sustained by Sailoocur should be made good by the Guickwar.

The total of the sum demanded is Rupees 3,36,50,000. After examining the three subjects above detailed, let the claims of the Sirkar be adjusted.

The following is an answer to the remaining claims of the Guickwar.

It is written, that the assistance of the Hon'ble Company was obtained by the Guickwar to suppress the disorders which had arisen in his dominions, for which purpose a Jaidad of 14,50,000 rupees was assigned to their troops in the year 1203, an arrangement which still subsists, and it is requested that from a consideration of the difficulties which have been experienced, old claims may be relinquished, and the Government be protected. Such are the terms that are used. The Guickwar ceded territory to the English without having received any orders to that effect from the Sirkar, yet does he write in this manner. When a cession of this kind was made to the English, that intimation of it was not sent to the Sirkar, which ought to have been given. The Guickwar surrendered those lands to the English at his own free choice, it was his concern only, and he must have done it with a view to his own interest. Consequently there is no reason for representing the matter to the Sirkar.

It is likewise written, let the money which has been paid to the holders of Government drafts be deducted. Produce an account of the monies so paid, the orders issued by the Sirkar, and the receipt of their holders, from the year 1170 to 1211, a period of forty two years. What may appear bona fide to have been paid on a comparison of the above documents with the Duftar, shall be deducted and what shall appear to be due for that period, will be demanded.

Such is the state of those two articles. Two others still remain to be answered, concerning Nuzzurana and the Babee Mhaults.

The Guickwar writes, that 56,38,001 rupees are demanded on account of the Khillut of investiture and the grant of lands, that when the late Govind Row was at Poona, his Government was in a prosperous state, for which reason he consented to pay money, but that since that period on account of the insurrections of Sailo-ócur, Canojee Row, Mulhar Row, and the Arabs, the revenues of the country were reduced, while the expenses had increased, that the Government was consequently involved in distress, and that all these circumstances being favourably considered, the honorary Khillut should be granted. Thus is it written. The Guickwar has mentioned disturbances in the country, and answer to which has already been given, and it is not reasonable now to allege excuses for the omission of those payments, which had been agreed upon.

It is stated by the Guickwar that 41,00,000 rupees are claimed on account of the Babee Mhaults, that in the year 1163, Sreemunt Maharaj Raja Ram Chuttur Puttee gave at Sittarra to the late Damajee Row Saheb a Khillut of investiture and the title of Sena Khas Khyle, that afterwards the late Dada Saheb on his return to Poona, from the Meritch expedition, consented to relinquish to him five of the Babee Mhaults, which should thenceforward be independent of the Sirkar. Thus was it agreed.

Other subjects are likewise introduced in the explanatory paper drawn up by the Guickwar, an agreement was concluded on this head in 1199 by which some former debts due by the Guickwar, were cancelled on condition that such payments should be made as were hereafter to be settled, and that the Mhaults should be restored to the Sirkar. In the years 1172 and 1173, it was agreed in general terms that something should be paid on which 1,00,000 rupees were received and the question was settled, and in 1199, when a release was given it was determined that the Babee Mhaults should be considered as pertaining to the Sirkar from the year 1170. This was clearly stipulated for, and no complaints should now be preferred relative to the period subsequent to 1199. In conformity to the stipulations of 1199 such Revenue as may be due from 1170 ought to be paid, a deduction being allowed for what may already have been liquidated, and the Mhault should be delivered up to the officers of the Sirkar.

Those two articles are such as are above stated.

In addition to the three preceding, some other points are also mentioned in the statement of the Sirkar. Let them be adjusted as well as any others which may hereafter arise.

No 119—The Resident brings to the notice of the Governor General the three outstanding affairs of the Nizam, the Gaikwad and the Sawants of Wadi, in which British mediation was called for, but points out that it did not conduce to the advantage of the British Government to undertake their settlement.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

Poona, 25 September 1813

My Lord,

On the day after my last address to your Lordship I waited on the Minister and acquainted him with the opinion I had formed regarding the limits of Chickoree, supporting it with the arguments which I have already had the honour to state. The Minister did not attempt to deny the justice of the conclusion I had come to, but he showed great reluctance to giving up any part of the conquests still in the Paishwa's hands and seemed to hope that he might be allowed as a matter of favour to retain them. I pointed out the impossibility of the British Government's showing any favour in its decision of a question submitted to its arbitration, but the Minister did not alter his language and nothing was settled at that interview.

On the next day but one I requested Captain Close to wait on the Minister to present him with a list of the villages assigned to the Raja of Colapore and to beg that orders of surrender might be issued for the whole of them. A fit of indisposition which the Minister suffered prevented this meeting for some days. I have the honour to enclose a copy of Captain Close's report of what passed when it did take place. On that occasion the Minister postponed giving any definitive answer about Chickoree till after the Paishwa's arrival.

At a subsequent meeting which I had with him, I said I had no objection to await the Paishwa's arrival, but that it would be convenient if I was allowed to call on Appa Dessye for the orders of surrender in the mean time, as there might be some difficulty in obtaining them. When I was once in possession of them I could await the Paishwa's pleasure without any fear of procrastination. To this the Minister gave his ready assent and afterwards ordered Appa Dessye's Vakeel in my presence to procure orders of surrender for one hundred villages to be named by me.

The Minister at the same time directed the Vakeel to bring final answers on all the points which still remained unadjusted. The first was that Appa Dessye should send off the bulk of his force to

the frontier or wherever the Paishwa should direct. This he at first refused to do unless he were allowed to march himself, but he has since consented to send his troops wherever they may be ordered, and I have requested the Minister to dismiss them without delay. The second point was the release of the Dessye of Nairlee with which the Minister has since charged himself. Another was the sending of proper persons to the country which has been restored to the Raja of Colapore to ascertain the amount of Appa Dessye's collections since the peace. This was agreed to and the remaining heads related to matters of little consequence. I expect soon to receive the orders of surrender and to hear of Appa Dessye's troops having marched off.

I do not doubt that the Paishwa will consent to the arrangement which I have proposed respecting Chickoree, nor do I expect that there will be any opposition to the Raja's occupation of the villages for which I shall have obtained orders of surrender. I shall have real pleasure in reporting to your Lordship the termination of this affair, which from the intrigues of interested persons has been made to take up so much more time and trouble than its importance deserved.

At one of my meetings with the Minister, he unexpectedly revived the discussions concerning Sawunt Warree, by proposing that measures should be taken to seat one of the sons of the late Pond Sawunt on the Musnud and to settle the Government. This he endeavoured to bring forward as a proposal to which he expected ready assent, but I perceived from the confusion he was in, that he was fully aware of the real nature of the affair and was about to renew the former dispute. I however merely observed that the British Government was now at variance with the State of Sawunt Warree and could not offer its interposition in any of its internal affairs. The Minister next proposed that I should commence a negotiation with the Sawunt Warree Vakeel at this Court but that I said I had no orders to do. The Minister then said I could at least forbid Lieutenant Colonel Dowse's returning to Sawunt Warree, and I replied that I could do no such thing as both Lieut. Colonel Dowse and I must be guided by the orders we received. I added that after the manner in which our troops had been got out of Warree, I certainly would not prevent their return if it were in my power to do so. The Minister at last openly renewed his claims on Sawunt Warree as a dependency of the Paishwa's, to which I replied that the subject had been discussed before and that the Paishwa had been obliged to avow his inability to prove the dependence of Sawunt Warree on his State. Since that period the British Government had gone to war with Sawunt Warree, and in such

circumstances it was scarcely becoming in the Minister to come forward again with his exploded claim. I said I should still be willing to hear his arguments but that even if he could prove the Paishwa's title, he could not prevent our completing a war in which we had engaged in consequence of his having omitted to do so before, and I added that even if the Paishwa was proved to be sovereign of Waree, the fact of our having long carried on wars and negotiations with that principality without consulting His Highness, could not be denied. The Minister then said he only meant to offer the Paishwa's mediation, to which I replied that the claim of sovereignty which His Highness brought forward on his own account rendered him an unfit person for a mediator. The Minister at last promised to send proofs of the Paishwa's sovereignty, and he did send a person who had been the Paishwa's agent in Warree to show me a letter from the chief of that State, announcing to the Paishwa his having received from the King of Dely the privilege of using fans of peacock's feathers, and to point out instances on which the Sawunt Warrée troops had served with the Paishwa's armies. I did not however admit that this proved anything. The letter was a friendly communication from one prince to another, and the cooperation of troops without the smallest proof of the terms on which they were furnished, affords no reason for assuming dependence. The matter has not since been mentioned, but I have reason to think it is not yet laid aside.

The complaints respecting the Paishwa's possessions in Hindostan, which are mentioned in Captain Close's report, originated in a conversation with me, in which the Minister after gratefully acknowledging the interference of the British Government in favour of the lands of the Vinchoor Jageerdar, proceeded to enlarge on the distressed situation of His Highness's other territories in that neighbourhood. He said there were several places beyond the Nerbudda which are universally admitted to belong to His Highness, and on which no other powers had ever advanced the smallest claim, yet the whole of the revenue was collected by predatory leaders in the services of Sindia and Holcar. This topic has always been brought forward from time to time by His Highness, but his wish formerly was to be allowed to protect his northern territories himself in his own way, whereas the Minister seems now to desire to do so with the assistance of the British Government and under its direction.

Your Lordship will observe that His Highness has renewed his applications for a settlement of his disputes with the Nizam. Though these disputes have been for many years periodically brought forward together with the Paishwa's claim on the Guickwar

and his complaints regarding his territories in Hindoostan, yet I am not aware that they have ever been urged in so peremptory and decided a manner, the Minister having told me plainly that he would not redress a complaint of the Nizam's Government until that Government should show more attention to those of the Poona State. The reasoning by which he supported this unusual declaration and the impression made on him by the arguments which were urged against it, are stated at length in Captain Close's report.

The vehemence with which this point is urged on His Highness's part is the more remarkable, as he has for many months appeared to be entirely satisfied with my assurances that the requisite enquiry would be undertaken as soon as the pressure of many important affairs would allow the Government time to attend to it. It is certainly not for the advantage of the British Government to enter into this arbitration, or that of the disputes with the Guickwar, if any other mode of adjustment could be devised. The decision of the Government must in both cases draw loss on its other allies and our recent experience does not entitle us to expect that any advantage the Paishwa may derive from our interference, will make much impression on His Highness's mind, but as in the case of the disputes with the Nizam, nothing can be expected from negotiation between the parties, and as it is not easy to suggest any other plan by which the Paishwa's call for our arbitration can be justly set aside, it might perhaps save trouble in the end, if some means could be taken to remove at once the ground of these complaints on His Highness's part, with which the Government is so continually assailed. All the papers relating to these disputes were transmitted to Fort William on the 10th May 1806 in consequence of an intention then entertained of bringing the affair to an immediate decision, and from the concluding paragraph of the dispatch from Sir Barry Close in which those documents were enclosed the questions to be determined appear to be neither numerous nor intricate.

His Highness the Paishwa arrived at this place on the 24th instant. The Brigade could not be moved from its position to receive him, but I went with the gentlemen of the Residency to meet His Highness in the usual form. His Highness made his entry in a chariot accompanied by a long line of English carriages and attended by a few guards.

Baboo Row Aungria the Chief of Collabba and uncle to Dowlut Row Sindia, died some time ago near Ahmednuggur while on his way from Sindia's camp to Poona. The succession is likely to be contested and I have been earnestly entreated by the Ministers of

the late Baboo Row to interfere in favour of one of the candidates. I have however refused this on the ground of the determination of the British Government not to interfere in the domestic disputes of the Maratta chiefs

No 120—The Resident seeks the Governor General's orders regarding succession to the family of the Angria's of Kolaba.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—MR SECRETARY ADAM.

Poona, 20 October 1813

Sir,

I lately received a message from His Highness the Paishwa relating to the appointment of a successor to Baboo Row Angria, which I beg leave to submit to the Right Hon'ble the Governor General. I shall preface it by a short account of the state of the succession as represented to me by the Vakeel of the late Baboo Row.

Cannojee the founder of the family of Angria had two illegitimate sons, one named Yaisojee, who was the fruit of an inferior sort of marriage, and one illegitimate named Mannajee. The two legitimate sons died without issue and Yaisojee succeeded to the principality. He was soon after deposed and blinded by Ragojee, an illegitimate son of Mannajee, and at length died, leaving two sons of whom Baboo Row was the younger, and a daughter who was the mother of Dowlut Row Sindia.

On the accession of this prince, he did not fail to exert himself in behalf of his mother's family. The sons of Ragojee were set aside by the Paishwa at his request, and the elder brother being passed over in consequence of some domestic arrangement, Baboo Row was made Chief of Colabba. The elder brother, however, left two sons, for the eldest of whom, Sambajee, it is now the wish of the family and Ministers of the late Baboo Row to secure the succession.

The Paishwa's proposal is, that a member of the branch of which Ragojee was the head, should be appointed to succeed Baboo Row. He justifies this step by maintaining that the claim of that branch was always superior to Baboo Row's and that he had only granted an investiture to the latter to gratify Dowlut Row Sindia. His Highness said he was now resolved to pay no attention to Sindia's wishes but he wished to have my opinion on the subject.

I was at first disposed to decline offering any opinion in a domestic concern of this nature, but considering that the British Government

had interfered in favour of Baboo Row when attacked by Morari Row one of the descendants of Ragojee and also that the present branch could not be set aside without a struggle which might be inconvenient to the Island of Bombay, I afterwards replied that I was not prepared to offer an opinion on the question but would take the earliest opportunity of doing so I beg leave therefore to request the orders of the Right Hon'ble the Governor General on the subject

No 121—A bold and hazardous incursion by the Pindaris into the Peshwa's dominions is reported by the Resident to the Governor General.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

Poona, 23 October 1813

My Lord,

I am much concerned to report to your Lordship, that information has reached this place of an irruption of a body of Pindaries in His Highness the Paishwa's dominions They crossed the Godavery in the neighbourhood of Toka, passed by Jaumgaum near Ahmednuggur and from that to the village of Paubul which is about 38 miles north of this place and about 20 west of Seroor They are now said to have taken the route to Joonere Their numbers are variously estimated, and may be 2000 or 2500 Another body of a superior force has ascended the Adjunta Ghaut, but has not yet entered the Paishwa's country Whether their design is to turn up towards Nassick and plunder the numerous bodies of pilgrims assembled on the Godavery or to renew their ravages in the Company's territories near Surat, it is difficult to conjecture, but I have not failed to apprise the Government of Bombay of the advance of these freebooters and shall take care to keep it informed of their motions

I have for some time been pointing out to His Highness the Paishwa the probability of such an invasion as the present and the necessity of ordering troops to the frontier as a measure of precaution His Highness has accordingly issued his orders to the different Sirdars in his service to move to an advanced position, but the unusual earliness of this incursion has anticipated the preparations which were contemplated It is indeed so much earlier than usual, that I imagine the Pindaries must have crossed the Nerbudda by boats particularly as that river cannot have fallen sooner than usual after so heavy a monsoon as the last

The Pindarries seem to have been compelled to extend the field of their operations in consequence of the exhausted state of the countries which have hitherto supported them, and this circumstance joined to the prospect of plundering the pilgrims who are this year collected for the purpose of bathing in the Godavery, has tempted them to engage in an enterprize, which considering the season of the year must be reckoned very bold and hazardous

No 122—Lord Moira arrived and took charge at Fort William on 4 October 1813 and Lord Minto returned to England The resident addresses the following communication on various affairs involving the Peshwa's claims to Bundelkhand, Sondoor, Ahmednagar and Ahmedabad.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—HIS EXCELLENCY THE EARL OF MOIRA

Poona, 5 November 1813

My Lord,

On the 3rd instant I did myself the honour of waiting on His Highness the Paishwa for the purpose of delivering the Earl of Minto's letter to His Highness, and of announcing your Lordship's arrival and assumption of the Government His Highness took that opportunity of testifying his high respect and esteem for the character of Lord Minto, and his regret that His Lordship was leaving India without having had an interview with His Highness I did not fail to enlarge on all the topics of Lord Minto's letter or to endeavour to inspire the Paishwa with agreeable anticipations of his intercourse with your Lordship, nor was his Highness remiss in professing his gratitude for the kindness he had already received from the Company's Government, and his hope that all the grounds of his friendship with the British would be strengthened under your Lordship's administration I now proceed to submit to your Lordship a report of the transactions which have taken place at this Court since the date of my last dispatch to Lord Minto My attention has been in a great measure directed to the completion of the arrangements necessary for the full execution of the treaty with the Raja of Colapore These arrangements have proceeded as slowly as they have done for the last 15 months, but they continue to make some progress and there now remains but little to be accomplished

I had occasion on the 29th ultimo to send Captain Close to the Minister to urge him to expedite the remainder of those affairs, and I took the same opportunity of communicating the measures which have been taken by the Resident in Sindia's Camp for

the protection of the Paishwa's dominions in Hindoostan I have the honour to enclose Captain Close's report of what passed at this interview, from which your Lordship will observe, that the Paishwa's Minister took occasion to press his designs of sending a Sursoobehdaur to Hindoostan, and proceeding to the investiture of Mulhar Rao Holcar, and that he accompanied his statement of those projects with a renewal of his demands for the evacuation of Ahmednuggur by our troops and for a speedy settlement of the Paishwa's claims on the States of Hyderabad and Baroda and with an explicit declaration of the Paishwa's intention to resume Ahmedabad now held by the Guickwar, as soon as the lease which was obtained with so much difficulty by the British Government should expire. Nearly at the same time the Paishwa requested of me that Colonel Dowse might be sent against Sondoor without further delay, while he positively declared that he would never agree to bear any part of the expense of that undertaking. He also expressed great dissatisfaction at the Nizam's being allowed to retain His Highness's posts of Sailoo and Munta and called loudly for an adjustment of his claims on that head. At the same time he declared that nothing short of entire confiscation would satisfy him as a punishment for the neglect of the Jageerdar Rastia to take the field when commanded to do so. I attributed this increased urgency on so many subjects in a great measure to the policy of the natives who are used to press all their claims and pretensions with extraordinary earnestness at the commencement of a new administration. Some of those demands are just in themselves, and most of them may be supported by passages in the treaty of Basseen, but others have no such support, others are unreasonable at this particular time, and bringing forward the whole in a body has more the appearance of complaint for neglect than of proposal from which His Highness expected any practical benefit. I therefore requested Captain Close to repeat his visit to the Minister on the next day, to reply on my part to all the Minister's demands, to show the injustice of some of them, and to point out how unbecoming it was to call on the British Government to plunge into fresh embarrassments for the Paishwa's benefit, while it was yet struggling to extricate itself from those in which it was involved by the misconduct of His Highness's officers and the insincerity of his Durbar. At the same time I desired Captain Close to assure the Minister of the scrupulous attention which would be paid to treaties and to notice that His Highness the Paishwa could not complain if we expected equal attention to those engagements on His Highness's part.

I have the honour to enclose Captain Close's report of what passed at his second visit and I shall take the liberty of offering

some observations on the demands which were discussed at both meetings

I have already submitted the subject of the arbitration of the Paishwa's disputes with the Nizam and the Guickwar to the Government His Highness is entitled by treaty to demand such an arbitration, and consequently I had no answer to make but that his wish would be attended to The dispute with the Nizam about Sailoo and Munta in particular, seems to occasion great dissatisfaction in the Paishwa's mind and has already been productive of considerable inconvenience Its origin is much more recent than those of the other disputes, and His Highness appears to consider the treatment he has met with in it, as distinguished by peculiar hardship He has in consequence retaliated by refusing to give up some places of the Nizam's which have fallen into the possession of one of his Sirdars On the other hand some of the Paishwa's troops have been guilty of excesses in Berar, which appear to be entirely unjustifiable His Highness the Nizam's officers have just threatened to treat them as enemies and the misunderstanding between the two Governments seems to be on the increase

The District of Ahmedabad is divided between the Paishwa and the Guickwar, and the late Sir Barry Close succeeded with great difficulty in obtaining a lease of the Paishwa's share for the Guickwar The lease was for 10 years commencing from 1804 At my audience of the Paishwa on the day before yesterday, His Highness renewed in person his solicitations for a speedy settlement of his disputes with the Guickwar, and then said that as the term of the lease for Ahmedabad was now within a few months of its end, he thought it proper to announce his intention of taking his share of the district into his own hands He said his officers would proceed with full authority on the first day of the approaching Hindoo year, and that he hoped they would be put into immediate possession in conformity to the last article of the lease which was guaranteed by the Company I used all the arguments that occurred to me to dissuade His Highness from the measure, at the same time fully admitting His Highness's right to do what he pleased with his share as soon as the present lease should have expired, but His Highness showed no disposition to alter his intention He said that Ahmedabad was a place of importance and reputation, that it was discreditable to his Government to let it remain out of his own hands, that he had allowed the Guickwar to have his last lease merely to oblige the British Government and that, if he was to go on from ten years to ten years, renewing the lease he might as well give up the place once for all, securing a regular tribute I am afraid that very great

difficulty will be experienced in procuring a renewal of the lease if it can be effected at all. The arguments avowed by the Paishwa are not without weight and a far more serious obstacle than they occasion will be presented by the strong interest which all the Ministers have in the execution of a measure which will open such a field for patronage and afford such opportunities for corruption as the resumption of Ahmedabad

The demand for the evacuation of Ahmednuggur, tho' so slightly mentioned to Captain Close, has been kept up from time to time for two years, and has lastly been so seriously urged both by the Paishwa himself and by the Minister, that I have been obliged to say that I should make His Highness's wishes known to your Lordship and wait your orders on the subject

The point of difference between the British Government and the Paishwa on the question of Sondoor is that the former considers the reduction of Sondoor as supererogatory to the treaty of Basseen, and consequently conceives itself to be entitled to indemnification for any extra expense which may be occasioned by that operation. The Paishwa on the other hand considers it as within that description of services which the Subsidiary Force is bound to perform, and denies the right of the British Government to any indemnity. His Highness as well as the Government appears sensible that no expense is likely to be incurred. The dispute is therefore about the principle, and is the more important on that account

The Paishwa's desire to resume Rastia's lands, probably arises from his old design of gradually annihilating the Jageerdars. Rastia's imprudence and misconduct have afforded too specious a pretext for such severity, but I hope His Highness may be prevailed on to be satisfied with some more moderate punishment

The proposed investiture of Mulhar Row Holcar has been decided to be fundamentally inconsistent with the whole system arising from the treaty of Basseen. I shall therefore think it my duty to oppose it to the utmost

If the British Government did not exert itself for the protection of the Paishwa's territories in Hindostan, His Highness would have good grounds for complaining of the discouragement which his plan of sending a sursoobadar to settle that part of his dominions has met with. but the remonstrances which have lately been addressed to Sindia by the Resident are acknowledged by the Paishwa himself to be more effectual than any thing that could be expected from the appointment of such an officer. His Highness has therefore little

reason to be dissatisfied with the reluctance which has been shown to admitting of an appointment which would probably create great confusion even among our own allies and dependents in Bundelcund, *if it did not involve us in disputes with Sindia and Holcar* I shall continue to refer all the complaints I receive from the Paishwa against Sindia or his officers which appear to be at all well founded, to the Resident in that chieftain's Camp

The mention of Amrut Row was only introduced by Captain Close in consequence of an opportunity that offered of noticing the claims of the British Government which I have been instructed to revive from time to time

No 123—The mission of Gangadhar Shastri to Poona for the adjustment of the Peshwa-Gaikwad dispute and the renewal of the Ahmedabad farm by the Peshwa are topics urged in this communication and explained also by the Resident at Baroda

**FROM—F WARDEN, CHIEF SECRETARY,
TO—THE HON'BLE MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE,
RESIDENT AT POONA**

Bombay Castle, 10 November 1813

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council, to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch dated the 24th of September and the 6th of this month, enclosing copies of your letters to the Supreme Government, on the claims of the court of Poona on the Government of Baroda

The Resident at Baroda having been called upon to report whether the intention of the Guicawar to depute Gungather Shastry to Poona, with the view of endeavouring to effect an adjustment of those claims, had been relinquished, I have the honour to enclose a copy of Captain Carnac's reply, by which you will observe, it is intended that the Shastry shall proceed on his mission without delay

On a reference to the records of this Presidency it does not appear that the proceedings of this Government connected with this important subject, and the counter claims of the Baroda state, have at any time been communicated to you or to your predecessors, and I have in consequence been directed to transmit to you a copy of the proceedings of this Government of the dates specified in the margin

The Governor in Council abstains from offering any observations upon the subject of these documents, until the result of the mission

difficulty will be experienced in procuring a renewal of the lease if it can be effected at all. The arguments avowed by the Paishwa are not without weight and a far more serious obstacle than they occasion will be presented by the strong interest which all the Ministers have in the execution of a measure which will open such a field for patronage and afford such opportunities for corruption as the resumption of Ahmedabad.

The demand for the evacuation of Ahmednuggur, tho' so slightly mentioned to Captain Close, has been kept up from time to time for two years and has lastly been so seriously urged both by the Paishwa himself and by the Minister, that I have been obliged to say that I should make His Highness's wishes known to your Lordship and wait your orders on the subject.

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reason to be dissatisfied with the reluctance which has been shown to admitting of an appointment which would probably create great confusion even among our own allies and dependents in Bundelcund, if it did not involve us in disputes with Sindia and Holcar I shall continue to refer all the complaints I receive from the Paishwa against Sindia or his officers which appear to be at all well founded, to the Resident in that chieftain's Camp

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The Governor in Council abstains from offering any observations upon the subject of these documents, until the result of the mission

disposition which His Highness the Paishwa has at length betrayed to settle the disputed claims between the two Governments and adhere to the resolution originally entertained of deputing Gungadhar Shastry to His Highness's durbar with full powers to effect a final adjustment. Particular circumstances at the present crisis would have rendered it highly acceptable that the Shashtry's departure could have been dispensed with for a short time, but as the administration are unwilling to take example from the procrastinating moods of the Paishwa as elucidated by Mr Elphinstone's dispatches, it is intended that the Shastry proceeds on his mission with least possible delay.

2nd From a perusal of the letters from Elphinstone I am led to believe that the arguments of the Guicawar set forth in the voluminous correspondence on the Paishwa's claims, have not hitherto had the advantage of being known to that gentleman and as this correspondence so clearly established the invalidity of the chief pretensions of the Paishwa as well as the principles on which the Guicawars derive their title to a proportion of the revenues of Broach, I beg leave to specify the several dates in the margin for the purpose of reference in the progress of the expected discussion.

The Guicawar Government are desirous of adopting any arrangement for the settlement of the claims now pending which His Highness the Paishwa may select. The notorious corruption of His Highness' Ministers leave little room to hope, that unless sacrifices are made to their avarice which the means of this state cannot afford, no hopes of any satisfactory issue by direct negotiation, are reasonably to be expected. It is not probable that even with the ability of meeting the views of the Paishwa, the Guicawar Government would feel disposed to accede to a considerable payment for the gratification of any mercenary expectations, under the full impression of the injustice of His Highness' claims not only in their principle but manifested in the enormous remission of demands when the necessities of the Guicawar compelled them to recognise the wishes of the Paishwa. That such has been the unvaried practice of the Poona state and that this Government have never admitted its dependance in any point of view to the Paishwa, the dispatches of my predecessor have corroborated. Under these circumstances it appears almost certain that the Paishwa disappointed in his hopes of ample personal compensation will at length refer to the arbitration of the British Government.

To this medium the Guicawar Government is ready to resort. It looks with confidence to the justice of the British Government,

of Gungather Shastry shall be known, when if unsuccessful, this Government will be prepared to enter upon the discussion of these claims

I am directed on this occasion to express the deep concern with which the Governor in Council has perused that part of your dispatch, which indicates so decided an indisposition on the part of His Highness the Peishwa to consent to a renewal of the farm of Ahmedabad

It is not unknown to you that the affairs of the Guicawar state are conducted under the immediate direction and control of the British Government that the decennial engagements concluded by the Guicawar in 1807 with the chieftains of Kattywar, have been guaranteed by the Honble Company, and in fact that the whole of the turbulent and uncivilized tribes in Guzerat have been kept in subjection by the active interference of our authority, the good effects of which have within these few years been felt and acknowledged. The whole of these arrangements, which have been effected with so much trouble, anxiety, and expense, will probably become nugatory, and a rich and valuable country now emerging from a state of barbarism and misery to one of comparative civilization and happiness, revert to its former condition of anarchy and insubordination.

It is to be regretted that the engagements made by the Guicawar Government with the chieftains of Kattywar for fixing the tribute, had not been limited to the period at which the present lease of the farm will expire, the particulars of which may be collected from the enclosed extract and should every prospect of renewing the farm be at an end, The Governor-in-Council has desired me to submit to your consideration *whether it might not be possible to prevail on the Peishwa to confirm these engagements which though perhaps incautiously made as to their duration it would be desirable in every point of view, to allow to be fulfilled*

No 123 A.

FROM—J R CARNAC, RESIDENT AT BARODA,
TO—FRANCIS WARDEN, CHIEF SECRETARY
TO GOVERNMENT, BOMBAY.

Baroda, 31 October 1813

Sir,

I have had the honour to receive your dispatch dated the 9th instant with its enclosures from the Resident at Poonah. The Guicawar Government has awaited with extreme solicitude, the

disposition which His Highness the Paishwa has at length betrayed to settle the disputed claims between the two Governments and adhere to the resolution originally entertained of deputing Gungadhar Shastry to His Highness's durbar with full powers to effect a final adjustment. Particular circumstances at the present crisis would have rendered it highly acceptable that the Shashtry's departure could have been dispensed with for a short time, but as the administration are unwilling to take example from the procrastinating moods of the Paishwa as elucidated by Mr Elphinstone's dispatches, it is intended that the Shastry proceeds on his mission with least possible delay.

2nd From a perusal of the letters from Elphinstone I am led to believe that the arguments of the Guicawar set forth in the voluminous correspondence on the Paishwa's claims, have not hitherto had the advantage of being known to that gentleman and as this correspondence so clearly established the invalidity of the chief pretensions of the Paishwa as well as the principles on which the Guicawars derive their title to a proportion of the revenues of Broach, I beg leave to specify the several dates in the margin for the purpose of reference in the progress of the expected discussion.

The Guicawar Government are desirous of adopting any arrangement for the settlement of the claims now pending which His Highness the Paishwa may select. The notorious corruption of His Highness' Ministers leave little room to hope, that unless sacrifices are made to their avarice which the means of this state cannot afford, no hopes of any satisfactory issue by direct negotiation, are reasonably to be expected. It is not probable that even with the ability of meeting the views of the Paishwa, the Guicawar Government would feel disposed to accede to a considerable payment for the gratification of any mercenary expectations, under the full impression of the injustice of His Highness' claims not only in their principle but manifested in the enormous remission of demands when the necessities of the Guicawar compelled them to recognise the wishes of the Paishwa. That such has been the unvaried practice of the Poona state and that this Government have never admitted its dependance in any point of view to the Paishwa, the dispatches of my predecessor have corroborated. Under these circumstances it appears almost certain that the Paishwa disappointed in his hopes of ample personal compensation will at length refer to the arbitration of the British Government.

To this medium the Guicawar Government is ready to resort. It looks with confidence to the justice of the British Government,

and to the deliberate investigation of the statements circumstantially afforded in the dispatches to which I have had the honour to advert

The administration do not feel it necessary to offer any detailed remarks on the obvious advantage and policy of confirming the farm of Ahmedabad in the hands of the Guicawar. The interests of the Company as well as those of the Paishwa seem to require that this measure be effected. The important consideration that the arrangements concluded with so much trouble and expense in Kattywar under the public faith of the British Government, will become seriously affected by the substitution of any other authority in Ahmedabad than that now subsisting added to the consequences of any change to the general condition and tranquillity of Guzerat appear also to demand that as the farm of Ahmedabad in the hands of the Guicawar has contributed in a much superior degree to the general advantage of the Paishwa's Government than other means of management of the system now existing, it should not be disturbed. The reasoning by Lieutt Colonel Walker on this important question will be found in the dispatches before mentioned and has already led to the strong expression of a desire on the part of the Hon ble Court of Directors that the farm of Ahmedabad be renewed to the Government of the Guicawar.

Under the view which Mr Elphinstone appears to take of this part of the subject, it is here hoped that the Paishwa will be induced to consent to this indispensable arrangement for the good of all parties interested. The mismanagement of His Highness' possessions of Dubhoy, Jumbooseer etc now in the charge of his immediate servants afford a melancholy evidence of the misery and oppression which will follow the reversion of the Ahmedabad farm to the Paishwa's personal dependants particularly as the dependency is more difficult of Government from the numerous mowasee tribes pervading it and its insulated situation than any other possessions of the Paishwa in this province.

Before I conclude I have to communicate the earnest desire of Fetteh Sing that the stay of Gungather Shastry at Poona may be as limited as possible. This request naturally arises from the considerable period (now 3 years) of Bapoo Meyraul having been detained at the Paishwa's Durbar, and the necessity of the Shastry meeting with the ready attention which the Paishwa's recent impatience would indicate both on account of the value of his services at Baroda and the expense attending the mission of this person, which the finances of the Guicawar is so incapable of unnecessarily sustaining.

No 124—The Resident requests sanction for Rs 20 000 for presents to be given to the Peshwa on his wife coming of age

**FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE,
TO—MR SECRETARY ADAM.**

Poona, 19 December 1813

Sir,

It was long since suggested to me, that it would be proper to make presents to the Paishwa on his wife's coming of age which took place some time since. Not being struck with the necessity, I did not address you on the subject, but the Paishwa has now invited me to an entertainment on the occasion, which I find it would be indecent to accept without having performed my part of the ceremony. At the same time I observe that the custom alluded to has hitherto always been conformed to. I am therefore obliged to incur the expense without waiting for the sanction of Government, which I trust in such circumstances will be approved.

The expense is fixed by former practice at about 20,000 rupees

No 125—The Resident requests Mr Strachey to take steps to prevent Sindhia's depredations against Peshwa's possessions in the north

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—R STRACHEY, RESIDENT WITH
DAULUT RAO SINDHIA.**

Poona, 21 December 1813

Sir,

A complaint has been preferred by this Government against Dowlut Row Sindia's officers for menaces which they have held out to the Killehdar of the fort of Mullarghur belonging to the Oodaycur*

The Paishwa's Ministers maintain that Dowlut Row Sindhia can have no just pretensions on Mullarghur which belongs exclusively to the Poona Government and they suggested the expediency of adopting some effectual means for repressing the violent conduct of Sindia's Government towards the Paishwa's possessions lying to the North of the Nurbudda. As this appeared to me a fit subject for amicable negotiations I informed the minister that I would take an opportunity of requesting your support to the representations which the Paishwa's Vakeel might be instructed to make to Dawlut Row Sindia on this subject if they should appear in your judgement to be well founded

* Oodaycur perhaps means Odhekar

No 126—The Resident communicates the Peshwa's consent to receive the Shastri's mission after reconsidering the question at a fresh meeting. The Peshwa intimated his unwillingness to continue the management of the Ahmedabad farm with the Gaikwad.

**FROM—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE,
TO—FRANCIS WARDEN CHIEF SECRETARY TO
GOVERNMENT**

Poona, 5 January 1814

Sir,

As I long ago announced the intended mission of Gangadhar Shastry to the Paishwa without His Highness's showing any repugnance to it, I was much surprised to receive a message three days ago acquainting me that His Highness would not receive that Minister. I immediately applied for an audience of the Paishwa which the occurrence of some religious festival prevented my obtaining till yesterday evening.

I then took occasion to point out in moderate terms the unreasonableness of the Paishwa's intended conduct, the affront which it would offer to His Highness the Guicawar and the embarrassment in which it would place the British Government, through which the Shastry's mission had originally been arranged. After which I said I had no doubt the Paishwa would reconsider the subject and come to a resolution more consistent with the circumstances of the case. In reply to this, various arguments were brought forward by the Minister against the legality of the Shastry's appointment to the office of Dewan to the Guicawar, a situation which he maintained was in the Paishwa's gift and had been conferred by His Highness on the family of Rowjee Appajee, but the Paishwa laid much greater stress on the dishonour which he would incur by receiving as a Minister a person who had been notoriously attached to his mortal enemies the family of Phurkia. I endeavoured to persuade him that the Guicawar could have no intention of exposing him to any dishonour, that it was that prince's obvious interest to conciliate His Highness, and that it was probably with a view to doing so that he had sent the person most in his confidence to this Court, that if the Shastry had ever been in the service of the Phurkia's it was in some subordinate situation which did not implicate him in their designs, that he had risen to his present high station entirely by his own abilities without any patronage from the family in question, and that he was very far from harbouring any feeling towards His Highness except a wish to obtain his favour. I then recurred to the argument that

it was now too late to retract, and enquired how His Highness could explain away his former consent or what I was to say to His Highness the Guicawar to account for a refusal to receive his ambassador, especially after his mission had been formally announced and agreed to. A great deal of conversation passed on this subject and His Highness at last said he would consider of it and let me know his decision.

His Highness having lately reminded me of his intention to resume Ahmedabad at the end of the Hindoo year I took opportunity of again touching on that subject. I said that his right to Ahmedabad was entirely undisputed, and if he was resolved to resume it, it would of course be given up without a moment's delay or a word of objection. All that would be expected of His Highness was that he would maintain the engagements which had been concluded for the benefit of the country, for although His Highness's right to resume Ahmedabad was admitted, it by no means followed that it was his interest to do so, and I then went into all the arguments that occurred to me to dissuade him from wishing to exercise a divided authority in a remote, unsettled and expensive province. His Highness said he would not fail to give an attentive consideration to all the arguments I had stated, and that if he resumed the province, he would be well disposed to attend to the engagements alluded to, but that in his present state of ignorance regarding them he could make no promise. I said I did not require any promise at this time, that I indeed expected that His Highness would resolve to continue the Guicawar's lease. I then urged again the arguments I have alluded to, putting them in every light that I thought likely to strike the Paishwa, and I found His Highness generally disposed to dwell in his replies on the loss of credit which he would suffer by allowing another prince to govern his territories and on the chance of its being forgotten that he had any right to govern them himself. He continued to promise that he would not come to any resolution without full deliberation, but it appeared to me that he was pretty well determined already and that it would not be easy to get him to alter his resolution.

I have since received his final answer on the subject of the Shastry whom he agrees to receive but protests against his reception of him being construed into an acknowledgment of his appointment as Dewan.

As I am not acquainted with the Shastry's pretensions to that office, it was impossible for me to object to His Highness's resolution, nor did it appear prudent to exasperate him by any contest.

on a subject which had so little connection with the real object of the mission

No 127—The Resident communicates the four points submitted by the Peshwa for settlement.

FROM—THE RESIDENT, POONA,
TO—HIS EXCELLENCY THE EARL OF MOIRA.

Poona, 6 January 1814

My Lord,

Nothing worthy of your Excellency's notice has occurred since the date of my last dispatch, although I have had four interviews with His Highness the Paishwa in the course of that period. The first was for the purpose of delivering your Lordship's letter which the Paishwa received with great respect the second was to make the presents the necessity of which was stated in my letter to Mr Adam dated the 19th of December last the third was at an entertainment to which I was invited by His Highness the last interview was on business, which I shall proceed to state to your Excellency

His Highness lately sent me a memorandum of certain subjects on which he was desirous of coming to some settlement before he sets out on his annual pilgrimage The first of these related to the mission of a Vakeel from Baroda, and the second to the farm of Ahmedabad, on which subjects I take the liberty to refer your Excellency to the enclosed letter to the Chief Secretary at Bombay

The second was the surrender of Ahmednuggur to His Highness, on which I said that I had submitted the demand to your Excellency, and would no doubt receive orders regarding it in due time

The third was the dismissal of Appa Dessye to his Jageer, to which I consented on condition that the Paishwa should undertake for his peaceable behaviour towards the Raja of Colapore

The last was the punishment of Maddoo Row Raste for his repeated failure to furnish his contingent for service as reported in my dispatch The Paishwa proposed that the whole of his Jageer should be confiscated, except the portion allowed for his personal support I endeavoured by all means to persuade His Highness to be contented with a more moderate punishment but without the least effect Rastia having broken the engagement, the observance of which is the condition of the British Government's guarantee of his lands I had nothing to oppose to His Highness's resolution but arguments addressed to his forbearance and mercy, and I

could gain no more than a suspension of the execution of his threats until his return from pilgrimage one month hence

Appa Sahib Putwurdhun died at Jumkundee since my last report He was succeeded by his infant son, under the guardianship of Appa Saheb's brother Maddoo Row Dadjee.

No 128—The Resident communicates to Government Amrit Rao's request for restoring to him the guns deposited by him in the fort of Ahmednagar The Peshwa did not support the request

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—MR SECRETARY ADAM**

Poona, 6 January 1814

I have the honour to forward for the information of His Excellency the Governor General, a translation of a statement which was sometime ago presented to me by Amrut Row's agent at this place

I should not have delayed so long in forwarding it to you, had I not been desirous that it should be accompanied by some explanation on the part of the Paishwa, but His Highness's Minister having declined, notwithstanding my repeated instances, to furnish me with any written document on the subject, I have thought it unnecessary to retain the paper longer in my possession

All that I have been able to procure from this Durbar is a verbal declaration that the disputed guns did belong of right to the Paishwa, by whom they were attached to certain battalions under Amrut Row's command for the service of His Highness's Government

No 128 A

Translation of a statement concerning Amrut Row's guns in Ahmednuggur, presented to Mr Elphinstone by Bapoo Chitnaveese dated Sullaas Ashar Muatyne oo Aulif or 1213 Arabic, (i e 1812)

When the treaty was concluded between me and the Honourable Company and the Paishwa, through the agency of General Wellesley, it was first agreed that no mention should be made by the Paishwa or the Row Saheb of any losses which either party might formerly have sustained or of any articles of property, all which were to be left in the state in which they were found That what had passed was to be forgotten, and that in future no differences were to be occasioned on that account, or there was nothing to be gained by the revival of past disputes This is what passed at the time of the negotiations

Sungumnair and the Gosayns overran the country, they were defeated and tumbrils with four small guns and other plunder were taken from them. Fifteen guns of all sizes including those formerly belonging to the battalions with stores, were deposited in the fort of Nuggur, with the exception of the gun named Shah-Secundur they had all been in the Row Saheb's possession for a long time before, and he carried away no guns from the Paishwa's Arsenal in Poona during the time of Holcar's disturbances. After making a full enquiry into this matter, let the guns and stores which have been brought away to Poona be replaced in the fort of Ahmed-nuggur.

On a full consideration of the preceding four articles, let the question concerning the guns be finally determined.

A true translation,
Signed Robert Close,
Assistant

N B—There is no mention in the treaty between Amrut Row and Lord Wellington such as is described in the commencement of this paper.

No 129—The Resident communicates the convenient time for the Peshwa to receive the Shastri at Poona.

**FROM—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE,
RESIDENT, POONA.
TO—FRANCIS WARDEN, CHIEF SECRETARY,
BOMBAY**

Poona, 7 January 1814

Sir,

I have had the honour to receive your letter dated the 13th instant.

It does not appear to me that the Peshwa can intend seriously to set up any claim to interference in the appointment of His Highness the Guicawar's Dewan, further than regards the privilege of investing him with a Khellut or some other of those lucrative functions which pervade every part of the Maharatta Government. Should His Highness however bring forward such a pretension, it would be proper to protest against it and on that occasion I would not fail to avail myself of the rights furnished in your despatch. In the present case the alleged right of investiture was only adduced by the Paishwa as a pretext for refusing to see the Shastry, and when His Highness consented to receive that

No 131—A list of presents made to the Peshwa worth Rs 20,000 is submitted to the Governor General.

FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE,
TO—MR SECRETARY ADAM.

Poona, 13 February 1814

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 7th Ultimo, and to acquaint you, for the information of His Excellency the Governor General, that the sum of 20,100 rupees was expended in the presents which were lately made to His Highness the Paishwa, according to the enclosed List.

No 131A

List of Presents given to His Highness the Paishwa and his three ladies on the 26th December 1813, as follows:

1 Gold embroidered Dooputta and	Rs }	1,200	
1 Turban			
1 Piece of Kincob		300	
2 pieces of cloth of gold		200	
Jewels			
1 Serpeach and 1 jeega of Diamonds .		2,600	
1 Pair of gold bracelets set with diamonds and rubies		6,400	
1 String of pearls		3,200	
		—————	13,900
For His Highness's three ladies			
3 Saries and 3 choolies		1,700	
3 Ornaments of diamonds and pearls .		4,500	
		—————	6,200
			—————
	Rupees		20,100

No 132—The Resident recommends peremptory recall of Govind Rao Banduji

FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE,
TO—FRANCIS WARDEN

Poona, 17 February 1814

Sir,

I have the honour to receive your letter dated the 14th instant I have since ascertained that Govindrao is in Poona and that

he endeavours to keep his residence here a secret, but I have as yet no information regarding his proceedings, and it is possible I may not succeed in obtaining any certain accounts regarding him, if however he is still under the control of the British or Gaikwad Government, the importance of the negotiation which he is supposed to obstruct, might perhaps appeal to the Right Honourable the Governor to justify a peremptory order for his recall, even if no further proofs should appear against him. Unless a step of this kind can be taken it may be apprehended that he will meet with encouragement from the Peshwa's Government to which he will probably be able to give information that will be useful during the approaching discussions.

No 133—The arrival of Gangadhar Shastri at Poona, the renewal of the Ahmedabad farm and the measures needed for the repression of the Pindaries are the topics discussed and communicated in this letter.

**FROM—THE RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—HIS EXCELLENCY THE EARL OF MOIRA, K. G**

Poona, 26 March 1814

My Lord,

I was about to report to your Excellency on the current affairs of this place when I had the honour to receive your instructions conveyed in Mr Adam's dispatch dated the 26th ultimo. I shall therefore proceed with that report before I refer to the subjects connected with your commands.

Gungadhur Shastri the minister from His Highness the Guickwar arrived here some time since (end of February), but the Peshwa's Minister was prevented receiving him by indisposition, and His Highness himself was absent on a pilgrimage. As soon as the Minister was recovered a meeting took place, at which I was present in consequence of the Shastri's earnest request. It passed to the satisfaction of both parties and they immediately after opened the business of the negotiation.

I have had constant intercourse with the Shastri since the day of his arrival and have more than once discussed with him the plans he wished to pursue. He early declared that no adjustment of the disputes between the Governments could be brought without our interposition, unless he were to bribe the Peshwa's Ministers and favourites, a course which he was not disposed to adopt even if it were in his power. That he, therefore, considered it as a thing settled that the disputes would ultimately be referred to the British Government, but that he nevertheless thought it requisite that the

Guickwar should make such proposals to the Paishwa as might give him the choice of adjusting matters by reference to arbitration. He would therefore, he said, communicate with the Minister and would not require my interference till his attempts to negotiate should have failed. He, however, wished me to examine his arguments and those of the Paishwa and to concert with him the best means of pleading the Guickwar's cause when the matter should come to an arbitration. This I declined as being obviously inconsistent with the character of arbitration, which he knew, belonged to the Government I represented. At the same time I explained that I admitted no such proposals from the Paishwa's ministers.

The next topic discussed was the renewal of the farm of Amedabad, which the Shastry said he considered as the principal object of his mission. I urged the necessity of speedily bringing the affair to a settlement, as the expiration of the lease was so near at hand and as the Paishwa would certainly insist on the place being made over to him, if the lease was not renewed before that period arrived, but the Shastry contended that it was impolitic to show any anxiety for the renewal of the lease, and did not agree with me respecting the necessity of making over the country to the Paishwa at the expiration of the term. He defended his opinion on the ground of some ambiguity in that article of the late lease, by which the British Government engages for the restoration of Ahmedabad at the end of the prescribed period, and on the fact, that without the assistance of British Government the Paishwa could never have recovered it at all. As I still maintained that the country must be given (if the Paishwa demanded it) on the day of the expiration of the lease the Shastry said, if that was the case, he might give up all hopes of success in the negotiation, for that, all depended on the British Government telling the Paishwa in a firm tone that the renewal of the lease was for his good and must be granted, and that I was much mistaken if I thought the Paishwa was to be prevailed on to renew the lease by civil speeches. I said I was aware of the difficulty of procuring the object in view, but that if it could not be attained by fair persuasion, it must be abandoned. The Shastry insisted on the importance of the point, and on the consequence attached to it, by the Court of Directors, and earnestly requested me to write to your Lordship for fresh instructions, which I declined, saying I was well aware of your Lordship's wish for the renewal of the lease, and of your conviction that it would be equally beneficial to the Guickwar, the British Government and the Paishwa, but that I was also certain that Your Lordship would never sanction any language towards the Peshwa which bore the least appearance of intimidation. The Shastry on this professed to consider the question of Ahmedabad as lost, but he has since appeared more sanguine. His plan

now is to combine the renewal of the lease with the payment of a certain sum on the score of the Paishwa's demands, and all he asked of me was, to endeavour to show the Paishwa the advantage of the course proposed. I am afraid he will meet with considerable difficulties, but he professes much acuteness and ability, and he shall want no assistance which I can with propriety afford him.

Another point on which Holkar's vakeel has been pressing me is the investiture of his master by the Paishwa, a subject which has never been dropped by Holkar's Government, but which has lately been more insisted on than before. I have within these few days received letters both from Holkar and Meer Khan on the subject the former in the usual style and the latter remarkably civil and friendly, but very earnest on the point in question. I replied to both nearly in the terms of my letter to Holkar dated June 22nd 1811 which has been sanctioned by Government. I received another letter from Holkar on the day before yesterday of which I have the honour to enclose a translation. The Vakeel's carkoon who brought it also read several letters to his principal, one of which was a reply to the Paishwa's letters regarding the Pindaries. It did not directly notice His Highness's request that Kareem might be kept a prisoner, but observed on the unreasonableness of the Paishwa's expecting Holkar to restrain the Pindaries, while he did nothing against them himself, threw out hints that the Paishwa had encouraged by negotiating with them and ended by saying that Holkar was nevertheless anxious to suppress the Pindaries and with that view was doing everything to conciliate the goodwill of Kareem, who would be able to restrain his own bands and also to repress the excess of those commanded by Seetoo. Another letter contained instructions to the Vakeel to renew his application about Amber and a third to press for the liberation of Ahmed Khan Bungush and Daudun Khan which had been requested in Holkar's letter to me. I answered most of these applications briefly. I said I should write a reply to Holkar's letter respecting the investiture, that I had done all that I could with propriety in the affair of Amber in forwarding the Vakeel's application to Raja Govind Buksh, the Raja had declined on very rational grounds, and if Holkar's Government was not satisfied with his decision, it ought to apply to His Highness the Nizam and to the British Resident at Hyderabad through its own minister at that court. I added that it was not quite reasonable in Holkar's Government to expect foreign powers to take so much interest in the quiet of its possessions at a time when it was about to let loose a determined enemy to the tranquillity of all established states. I then argued against the release of Kareem, the Vakeel sometimes admitting that he was likely to be set free and at others denying that his Government had any such intention.

with respect to the release of Daudun Khaun and Bungush I said I had nothing to add to what I had expressed on former occasions I would however report the application to Your Lordship

I waited on the Minister on the 24th and arranged everything to secure his concurrence in the matter of the Pindaries I also pressed him to attend to the efficiency of the Paishwa's troops on the frontier, observing that it was very desirable to do so from time to time even if there was no prospect of their being actively employed The Minister promised great attention in this respect and said that the Paishwa's force on the frontier actually amounted to 12000 men and was rated at double that number Judging, however, from the lateness of the season and the rate at which native forces in such circumstances dwindle away, I should think the real numbers can scarcely be more than half the number mentioned by the Minister

I took this opportunity of noticing the report of His Highness the Paishwa having sent a vakeel to the Pindaries which the minister solemnly denied, observing that such a measure on the Paishwa's part would have been a direct infraction of his treaty with the British Government I said in answer that I had felt satisfied that His Highness would not have taken such a step without the consultation required by the treaty, but I begged to know whether no vakeel from the Pindaries had been received by any of His Highness's officers without His Highness's orders The Minister protested his ignorance of any such reception, but said he would write to the Paishwa to know whether anything of the sort had taken place At the same time he declared that to the best of his knowledge the Paishwa had no intercourse with the Pindaries since I had recommended his abstaining from it, as before reported I am inclined to think the Minister's statement in a great degree correct, for though I have long since heard of vakeels from the Pindaries having waited on Trimbucjee Dainglia who lately commanded the Paishwa's force on the frontier, I have not heard that they received any sort of encouragement from the Government The Minister next spoke of communications which he had received from Sindhia and Holcar in answer to His Highness' letters about the Pindaries and also of a letter or message from the Raja of Berar on the same subject Holcar excused himself and said nothing *satisfactory* and said the Raja merely solicited assistance, but Sindhia spoke in the most serious terms of his designs against the Pindaries and Meer Khan also, if he afforded any support to those freebooters The Minister said some reply would be necessary to those communications and desired my opinion on what was most suitable I said I thought the most general recommendation would

be to discourage and repress the zeal of the Pindaries That would be sufficient for Sindhia and Holcar and that I thought he ought to be cautious how he addressed the Raja of Berar on the present subject, lest he should inspire hopes of assistance from the allies against Meer Khan or the Pindaries, which in the present circumstances I thought exceedingly unlikely to be realized The Minister said he would send me drafts of the letters he proposed to submit to the Paishwa and that I should again see those adopted by His Highness before they were dispatched

No 134—Progress of vaccination by Surgeon Coats is reported

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—MR SECRETARY ADAM

Poona, 4 May 1814

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose a copy of a return of the persons vaccinated by Mr Surgeon Coats within the last year with a report from that gentleman on the progress of vaccination

No 135—The past history of Cursetji Shet an employee of the Residency and the charge of dissimulation urged against him by the Shastri are reported in this letter by the Resident.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—JOHN ADAM

Poona, 7 May 1814

Sir,

I have the honour to report for the information of His Excellency the Governor General in Council the substance of various conversations which I have had with Gangadhar Shastri on a subject on which he has repeatedly enjoined me to observe the utmost secrecy, the early conversations as reported from notes taken on the 31st of March I did not mention before, expecting that the affair referred to would assume some more determinate shape As I have been disappointed in this particular and as the Shastri's intercourse with the Paishwa is now about to commence, I think it necessary no longer to defer giving an account of circumstances which may eventually become important in the further progress of the negotiation

On th 28th of March the Shastri said he had an important communication to make which he feared might give offence, and though

assured he ran no such risk, he maintained silence on the nature of his intended communication. In the course of this conversation he said he had information that the Paishwa had declared that he would enter on no negotiation with the Guickwar until he had received the order for surrendering Ahmedabad on the 29th. We sent Mr Stephens his interpreter to say that he had not full confidence in Bappoo Myraul, the Guickwar's Resident Vakeel and would come without him to make the proposed disclosure. On the 30th he came and after much preface about the delicacy and importance of the part he had to act, asked me what I thought were the obstacles to the Paishwa's granting a renewal of the lease of Ahmedabad. I replied that I thought the Paishwa took a particular interest in his territories in Guzerat, that he wished to enjoy his sovereignty over them, that he thought he could draw a greater revenue thence than the Guickwar paid him, and that he was afraid if he continued to grant long leases to the Guickwar, the renewal could at length come to be a matter of course and that Ahmedabad would become a tributary province instead of one held in absolute sovereignty. The Shastri then asked if I thought nobody was active in instilling these notions into the Peshwa's mind. I said I had no doubt but his whole court was so, for there was no man about it who did not hope for some profit or patronage to himself or some of his family from the resumption. The Shastri asked if I knew of no other obstacle. I said no, that as soon as the question had arisen I had begged of Bappoo Myraul to endeavour to discover the cause of the Paishwa's disinclination to renew this lease, observing, until that was done we could not tell what measures to adopt for its removal, and that Bappoo Myraul after a long interval, declared he could discover no cause beyond those which were obvious. The Shastri then asked how I intended to counteract the opposition which I had to expect. I said I saw no way but by endeavouring to impress on the Peshwa's mind that however advantageous the resumption might be to his ministerial officers, the evils of a divided authority and the necessity of maintaining a military force in the district, would prevent its being of any advantage to himself, while the vicinity of the Guickwar's possessions enabled him to hold the district without adding to his army, and this circumstance joined to his undivided authority put it in his power to give a better rent than any other person without distressing the subjects or impoverishing the country. I told the Shastri that from the Peshwa's well known pertinacity and his prejudices against the Gaikwad, it was very doubtful what impression these arguments might make. They were however all that had occurred to me and if the Shastri had any other to suggest, I should be much obliged to point them out, provided they did not require

a tone of authority, which it was contrary to our policy and to natural justice. The Shastri then observed that he had a plan to propose if it would not offend me, but that he must premise that I was not to expect proofs of his assertions as their nature would not admit of it. To this I replied by saying that I should be glad to hear anything he had to say, but if he could not produce proofs he must allow me to form my own opinion on the probability of the facts he stated. He then went on to say that his plan was to associate the Sait (Cursetjee Sait Mody the head servant of the Residency) in his negotiations. He said he observed that the Sait was not in my confidence, that a disaffected servant was worse than an enemy, that when a person was employed in any negotiation, it was prudent either to give him entire confidence or discard him altogether, that he knew I wished to remove the Sait, but was prevented by the circumstance of his being a public servant and the necessity of bringing proofs against him of which the nature of his situation prevented the discovery that it would therefore be a good plan to caress him and give him an interest in the success of the negotiation. I denied the distrust and asked the Shastri if it was real, what effect it could have upon his negotiations. He replied, that the Sait was the principal agent of the Residency, and yet that he was not present at negotiation and was not trusted, that he could judge from his own feelings how grating such treatment must be felt, and that the Sait possessed great influence with the Peshwa, and would be tempted to employ it in thwarting our views. To this I replied that the Sait's exclusion from private conferences was not at all the result of any distrust of him, but had originated in my habits of transacting business. I said if he had the influence ascribed to him, I was sure he would not use it against the British Government, he had filled his present station for 30 years to the entire satisfaction of all the gentlemen under whom he had served, I had myself many opportunities of examining into his conduct, and that my enquiries always ended in proof of his fidelity, that, however if he (the Shastri) had any suspicions against the Sait, I should listen to them with the greatest attention. The Shastri then said, that he could produce no proofs but that he had information of the Sait's wish to have the farm of Ahmedabad granted to a person of the name of Wittul Narsing who was to hold it for the Sait under the name of Trimbuck Danglea, that the Sait was in terms of great intimacy with the Peshwa, who paid him frequent secret visits at night and who would certainly dispose of the farm in any manner that the Sait might recommend. He likewise insinuated something indistinctly, regarding the ascendancy which the Sait and the Bhow had acquired over the Peshwa's mind by working on his fears, and said, the Minister owed his present station entirely to the awe in

which the Peshwa stood of our power and to the fears which were instilled into his mind of offending us were he to displace a Minister in whom we had such confidence. He recurred to his original proposal of leading the Sait into a false opinion of his being principal actor in the negotiation, but this I rejected. He then begged I would keep his present conversation a profound secret and said that in time proofs might be obtained to satisfy my mind, that nevertheless, it would be a harsh measure to institute too severe an enquiry against an old and respectable servant, and that his object was to unite the preservation of the Sait's character with the removal of the obstacles of which he had been complaining that an examination would deprive me of the option of showing him any indulgence as I should then be obliged to proceed to extremities against him. I stated, I should not for the present mention the subject, but that I should be anxious to know what the Shastri could further allege to substantiate his opinion of the Sait's disaffection, because if he brought forward any proofs I should feel myself obliged to mention them to the Sait and hear what he had to say in his defence before I proceeded to take any steps to his prejudice.

I have since asked the Shastri if he had made any discoveries of the nature above alluded to, to which he has always replied in the negative. I yesterday renewed my enquiry and found that the Shastri had acquired no additional proofs and spoke rather lightly of his former information, though he owned that his opinion had undergone no change.

Cursetjee Sait the Parsee person so often mentioned in the conversations I have reported, came to Poona with Sir Charles Warre Malet and was at first employed as accountant to the Residency, but afterwards as a sort of agent with the Darbar, in this capacity he rendered himself very useful at the time preceding the treaty of Bassein when direct communication between the Peshwa and the Resident was very difficult, and he was in consequence much employed by Sir Barry Close, but still in a subordinate and ministerial situation, in this manner he continued to be employed

occasion to inquire into charges brought against him, I have always found them unfounded, nor during a period of several months that he was absent from the Residency did any one come forward to reflect upon his conduct

No 136—The Peshwa's aversion to Gangadhar Shastri, his reluctance to renew the Ahmedabad farm his claims on the Nizam and the temporary suspension of the Pindari raids are the topics discussed by the Resident in his interview with the Peshwa and reported by him in this communication. The pros and cons on the renewal of the Ahmedabad farm are particularly instructive in the discussion

**FROM—THE RESIDENT,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL**

Poona, 11 May 1814

My Lord,

His Highness the Paishwa arrived on the 2nd instant and was received with the usual honours. His Highness's own Brigade was drawn out on this occasion and its appearance was very satisfactory, and very creditable to Captain Ford and the officers under his command

On the 5th I accompanied Gungadhur Shastri on his visit to the Paishwa. No business was done at this interview, except that I said a few words to open the Shastri's negotiations and to dispose the Paishwa to regard him favourably. I, however, took occasion to request to see His Highness on business. His Highness fixed the next day but one for that purpose but he was afterwards obliged to excuse himself in consequence of the death of his father in law and at length fixed yesterday evening when I attended him at his palace

The principal object I had in view was to endeavour to persuade His Highness to renew the lease of Ahmedabad which expires early in the next month. For this purpose after several consultations with the Shastri, I drew up a paper of which the enclosed is a translation, containing the principal arguments for continuing the lease, and after some preliminary observations I begged the Paishwa to hear it read. His Highness was evidently reluctant to listen to any arguments on the subject and uneasy at the prospect of its being discussed, and accordingly instead of reading the paper, he said that he had the most perfect dependence on the good faith of the British Government, and was confident it would never wish to avoid the fulfilment of its engagement for the evacuation of Ahmedabad at the end of the lease. I told His Highness that the British

Government had not the least hesitation about performing the engagement His Highness alluded to, which I admitted in the most unqualified terms, but that it was for His Highness to consider whether he would find most advantage in resuming the farm or in continuing it to the Guickwar I then brought forward some of the arguments contained in the paper, to all which His Highness gave the same answer, that it was a reproach to him to give up the management of his own territories, and that he had given a lease of Ahmedabad for ten years to oblige us, and hoped we would now oblige him by allowing him to resume it I at last prevailed on him to hear the paper read by the Minister when he came to the part where an increase of the rent is mentioned among the inducements to a resumption, he said, that consideration had no weight at all with him and when the Minister had got a little further, he stopped him, began to answer the arguments that had been read, and interrupted the further persual of the paper He was very animated and earnest throughout, and said he was convinced I had his interests in view in what I said, but that he was surprised I could not enter into his motives Finding that I could make no impression on him, I did not run the risk of irritating him by continuing the discussion, but begged His Highness to give my paper a careful and candid persual before he went any further in the matter, which he repeatedly promised he would do

The adjustment of the Guickwar's disputes being mentioned, I took the opportunity of telling the Paishwa how agreeable it would be to your Lordship if the two Governments could settle them among themselves

I am not at all surprised at the Paishwa's obstinacy regarding Ahmedabad By the dispatches of the late Sir Barry Close, he seems to have evinced the utmost reluctance to the arrangement when first proposed, and he has never since mentioned it but in terms of strong dislike The Shastri is to see His Highness this evening, and will have opportunities of pleading the cause of his Government, but unless he can find some way of greatly altering His Highness's sentiments, I do not think the lease will be renewed The old Maratta practice of bribing the Ministers would probably be of no avail

After this subject was concluded, the Paishwa began upon his own affairs He said he supposed I had heard how Gokla had behaved to him, that he had refused to allow his troops to be mustered unless every facility was given to his imposing a false muster on the Government, and that, when this was prevented, he could only muster 800 horse out of 3000 that were due His Highness enumerated the favours he had conferred on Gokla who he said had

appropriated the Prittee Niddee's treasures and exacted great sums from his country annually for five years, that at the end he had received an addition to his Sirinjaumy lands, and had been granted a further sum of 16 lakhs of rupees as a gratuity for his services, and yet when called on to serve he did not produce a third of his contingent. As all his kindness had failed, His Highness said, he would now try severity and was resolved to resume one half of Gokla's Jageer as a warning to his other subjects. He then threw some reflections on the Putwurdhuns, renewed his complaints against Rastia, and ended by saying that these people had fed on him for years and made him no return except by insulting his authority. I replied to this by observing, that the British Government took an interest in the efficiency of his army, not inferior to what he felt himself, that it was highly desirable to make an example of such Sirdars as failed to furnish their contingents, but that moderation ought to be observed in all punishments. It ought first to be ascertained whether the conduct complained of was a departure from ancient practice and next the punishment ought to be proportioned to the offence and ought not to go the length of destroying the offender in a case where there was no appearance of disaffection to the Government. I then mentioned the case of Rastia, communicated the substance of your Lordship's instructions to me, and again endeavoured to prevail on His Highness to mitigate the punishment he had intended, and content himself with sequestering one half of Rastia's Jageers but His Highness was inflexible. He said he thought it no small proof of moderation to leave him his personal allowances and but for the British Government he would not have left him a foot of land. He then returned to Gokla and said, that he would certainly seize half his jageer, give part to his relation Esajee Punt Gokla, and apply the rest to maintaining troops in his own immediate establishment. I gave no decided answer about Rastia from a faint hope, that His Highness if he took more time to consider might yet relax in his determination. About Gokla, I said that his conduct appeared unjustifiable but as his lands were guaranteed by the British Government, I must first enquire into the circumstances and then refer to your Lordship for orders to which the Paishwa agreed.

It is necessary to mention (with reference to a passage in Mr Adam's letter regarding Rastia) that that Chieftain has long expressed his readiness to furnish his contingent, but as the Paishwa had previously declared and steadily adhered to a resolution not to accept its services, there was no opportunity of judging of Rastia's sincerity. It is, however, probable that he was sincere, as he was well aware of the danger to which he was exposed.

Gokla's affair, I understand, is as follows —In consequence of my applications, when the subsidiary force was ordered to be put on the field establishment, the Paishwa had ordered musters to be taken of all the troops on the frontier, and sent a person to muster those belonging to Gokla which had remained at Poona. The person sent was Trimbukjee Dainghia, one of those low men (generally menial servants) who rise into consequence at all native courts, by turning informers on pretence of zeal and attachment to the Prince's person. He appears to have received no gratification from Gokla and either to punish that omission or to show his zeal, he seems to have determined to conduct the muster with great rigour. Gokla, however, having an understanding with the Minister, was under no apprehension but completed his contingent by borrowing and hiring troops for the occasion in Poona and its vicinity. This practice is the prevailing abuse of irregular armies, and most of their muster regulations are designed to prevent its occurrence. For this purpose an accurate description is taken down of every man and horse with the age and time of entertaining, and any alteration that takes place between musters, must be carefully noted down for the inspection of the government officers. Trimbukjee availed himself of this practice in his affair with Gokla, and declared his intention of seizing every horse for the Paishwa's benefit, the appearance of which did not correspond to the description rolls. On this Gokla refused to allow the muster, the Minister interposed in his favour, but Trimbukjee adhered to his resolution and discovered that many of the horse in his own service had contributed to Gokla's false muster with a view of detecting and proving his intended fraud. If the above statement be correct, there can be no excuse for Gokla, who has been treated with extraordinary indulgence, and is reckoned the richest individual in the Paishwa's service. I shall, however, learn what he has to say in his defence before I make my final report to Your Excellency.

At the end of my interview with the Paishwa, His Highness adverted to his claims on the Nizam noticed the length of time that had elapsed, and said he hoped your Excellency would now direct them to be enquired into. I replied to this by alluding to the many causes that had contributed to obstruct this investigation since its first commencement, by assuring him of your Lordship's determination to do him justice, and by adverting to the progress now making in the examination of his claims on the Guickwar which had lain over for an equal period of time. I would, however, beg leave to suggest to your Excellency the expediency of a speedy enquiry into the claims in question the difficulty of adjusting them must be increased by every day's delay, and although the Paishwa

has had too many proofs of the friendship of the British to allow of his suspecting us of indifference to his interests in this particular, yet his attention is constantly drawn to it by petty disputes with the Nizam's Government, and I find it almost impossible to offer any explanation that shall be entirely satisfactory of the long delay that has taken place since his proofs were first called for in the administration of Sir George Barlow

I have lately received another visit from Holcar's Vakeel, who came to read letters from his Court, claiming the merit of the late dissensions among the Pindarries, desiring that Sindia might be directed to co-operate against those freebooters, asking the advice of the Paishwa and the British Government with respect to the propriety of pursuing the remains of Seetoo's force, and denying all intention of attacking Nagpore. The Vakeel also, showed a desire to discover our intentions in respect to the Raja of Berar. I replied to the Vakeel by stating that the Resident with Sindia had already used his influence to induce that Government to co-operate against the Pindarries that with respect to pursuing those freebooters, as the Vakeel stated them to have retired into Sindia's territories and not into ours or those of the allies, I had no opinion to offer on the subject. In answer to the professions about Nagpore, I said, I had never called for explanations on that head, but was happy to hear that the tranquillity of the Deccan was not likely to be disturbed and I added that I had no instructions regarding the Raja of Berar's affairs, the conduct of which as far as regarded the British Government belonged to Mr Jenkins

No 136 A

Substance of a paper delivered by Mr Elphinstone to His Highness the Paishwa on the 10th of May 1814

In the Arabic year 1204 the Paishwa granted a lease of 10 years for the farm of Ahmedabad to the Guickwar. It was then agreed to by the Honourable Company, that on the expiration of that period, the Guickwar should deliver up the place to the Paishwa. A few days only of the lease now remain and it is therefore necessary for the Maharajah to consider whether it is most for his advantage to renew the lease to the Guickwar or to take the management of the country into his own hands. The following are the reasons which offer themselves against renewing the lease viz first, a renewal of the lease will tend to produce a confirmed custom, and the Paishwa will not be able to resume the country as long as the Guickwar pays his rent. Secondly, by the resumption, the Paishwa will derive a greater revenue from the country. Thirdly, by dis-

continuing the farm, the Paishwa will have it in his power to grant it to some person whom he wishes to favour. Fourthly, by resuming the country from the Guickwar, the Paishwa's authority throughout Guzerat will be extended and confirmed. There seem to be no other arguments against renewing the lease, but if these on a full consideration should appear to be just, it will be obvious that the lease ought not to be renewed. It will, however, be proper to examine them and consider how far they are valid.

1st As long as the restoration of the place is guaranteed by the British Government, there can be no fear that a custom, such as is apprehended will be allowed to form in the Guickwar's favour. However, if His Highness has still any apprehension, the rent must be raised and the grant of the farm formerly issued to the Guickwaur, might be made out in the name of another person of his family. By this means the precedent would be destroyed.

2nd With respect to obtaining an increase of revenue, the Guickwaur will give as much rent as any other person, otherwise the lease ought not to be continued. Whatever revenue can be drawn from the country consistently with the maintenance of Sebundeas and the prosperity of the country, will readily be paid by the Guickwaur, and if any person engages to pay more, he may succeed for a year but will fail in the end.

3rd The Maharauj, it is said above, might confer the farm on whomsoever he favoured, but the Guickwaur has always been a well-wisher of the Paishwa's as must be well known to His Highness, for when no other chiefs showed their attachment, the Guickwaur came forward and afforded every necessary protection to His Highness's possessions in Guzerat, comprehending Jumboosir, etc and gave several other proofs of fidelity and attachment. The present discussions must likewise evince to the Maharauj the good will of the Guickwaur towards him. He is not disposed to raise any altercation regarding it, and he is likewise prepared to enter on a fair adjustment of all other demands of the Sircar against him. With regard to the increase of the Paishwa's authority which it is supposed would attend the discontinuance of the farm the Guickwar says that he always complies with the wishes of the Sircar in the same manner as any renter could do who should be appointed immediately by the Paishwa, and that if any differences should have arisen, he is ready to afford every explanation that should be required of him, and that, as the Soubah of Ahmedabad is contiguous to his own possessions he can have no difficulty in maintaining His Highness's authority, whereas if the farm should be granted to any other person, he will be obliged to maintain troops, without which the Paishwa's authority would be altogether lost. Thus are

the four arguments replied to which are stated above. The two following considerations may be added.

1st If the farm should be renewed to the Guickwaur there can be no disturbances in the country, whereas if the jurisdiction is divided, there must be perpetual ground of dispute. This must be well known to His Highness from former experience.

2nd The Guickwaur for ten years past has exerted himself in procuring such securities from the ryots as were necessary for establishing the tranquillity of the country, but if the farm should now be taken from him those arrangements will be entirely set aside, and it will require a period of ten years more to restore them, as it will be necessary to obtain fresh securities. The country even then will not prosper because of the territories which are adjoining it, as Cattywaur, Palanpoor, the Babee Mhaults, Cutch, Sind, Nowanuggur, Joonagur, and others. A military establishment will be required independently of Sebundees. If troops are sent from hence, there must be a deficiency here, and if new levies are raised the revenue of the country will be wasted and no advantage will be gained from it. From a full consideration of all that has been said, it seems of most advantage that the farm of Ahmedabad should be continued to the Guickwaur. My opinion on this subject is not suggested by any partiality to the Guickwar but from a firm persuasion that it is for the advantage of the Sircar to continue the farm in his hands. It must also be owned that the British Government is not without an interest in the present question, for it could not view without uneasiness an arrangement calculated to keep constant quarrels between two States so closely connected with it as the Guickwaur and the Paishwa, and moreover, the troops of the British Government have for a long time been annually employed, together with those of the Guickwaur in the settlement of Guzerat. By these means things have been put in train for future tranquillity and treaties have been concluded with various chiefs under the Company's guarantee which might be affected by the resumption of the farm, whereas if that be continued for some years longer, the tranquillity of the country will be effectually secured, and His Highness may take it into his own hands with much greater advantage. It is for His Highness to decide on the question as he thinks proper, but for the reasons above stated the British Government would without doubt derive much satisfaction from a renewal of the lease. If it shall be resolved not to renew the lease, the country will be restored at the time agreed on. His Highness is master in his own affairs, and will determine as he thinks proper, but it is hoped he will be guided in his decision by a regard for the true interests of his own Government.

No 137.

Extract of a letter from the Hon'ble Court of Directors in the Political Department dated 19th of May 1815

From the documents referred to in the 22nd and 23rd paragraphs respecting the reciprocal claims of the Paishwa and Guickwaur States on each other, it may be inferred, that in consequence of the negotiation at Poona, which was shortly to take place under the mission, on the part of the Guickwaur Government, of Gungather Shastry, the result will at no distant period be submitted to the final award of your Government, agreeably to the stipulation of both parties for this purpose

It is greatly to be regretted that His Highness the Paishwa has not been prevailed upon to consent to a renewal of his lease to the Guickwar Government of the farm of Ahmedabad, at least to the extent of the period when the decennial engagements concluded by the Guickwar in 1807, under the Company's guarantee, will expire. We trust that Mr Elphinstone, our Resident at Poona will use his utmost endeavours for the accomplishment of an object, to which so much importance has been deservedly attached

In our last dispatch in this department, of the 4th November 1814, we expressed our regret at the unjustifiable conduct on the part of the Raunee of Sawunt Warree, in the seizure of the fort of Burreetghur, which was in the possession of the Rajah of Colapore under the Company's guarantee, and our approbation of your having taken prompt measures for securing the fort and of your having entered into a negotiation with the Raunee, with a view not only of adjusting the differences which have arisen between her and the Rajah of Colapore, but also for the attainment of other objects of our interest in that quarter

Although the further proceedings upon this subject referred to in the paragraphs before us, have not yet been transmitted, the narrative contained in the paragraphs bears ample testimony to the moderation of the proposals that were made to the Raunee of Sawunt Warree under your direction, for an amicable adjustment of the several points in difference, and her repeatedly refusing even to acknowledge the receipt of those proposals, notwithstanding the remonstrances which were made to her, fully justified the assumption on the part of our troops, of the districts of Maloondy and Varada, and we have much pleasure in the information contained in the 42nd para that the inhabitants of these districts expressed the greatest degree of satisfaction at the change of their Government, we have the further pleasure to learn by the 47th paragraph, that the Raunee has lately evinced a more friendly disposition towards

the Company, and that she has disbanded many of her troops Upon the receipt of the treaty offered by Colonel Dowse to the Raunee's acceptance, referred to in the 35th paragraph, and of your final proceedings herein, we may probably have occasion to resume the subject

No 138—The Resident reports that the Shastri's negotiations have been obstructed by a mysterious communication from Baroda.

**FROM—THE RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT.**

Poona, 25 June 1814

Sir,

In conformity to the intention noticed in my last despatch to His Excellency the Governor General I have this day furnished the Paishwa's officer appointed to the charge of His Highness's share of Ahmedabad with a letter to the Resident at Baroda requesting him to procure the surrender of the place I have the honour to enclose a copy of that letter and I trust the Right Hon'ble the Governor will approve of my having addressed the Resident directly as it would have had an appearance of procrastination to have referred the Paishwa's officer to Bombay, considering the time which has already elapsed since the expiration of the lease

I take this opportunity of mentioning an obstruction which Gungadhur Shastery has met with in his negotiations of which I obtained intelligence some time ago, but which I was not inclined to believe till lately when it was confirmed by the Shastery himself The Right Hon'ble the Governor is already apprised of the intrigues of Govind Row Bundojee at this place to counteract the views of the administration of Baroda That person continues to have secret meetings with the Minister and he has presented a letter purporting to be from Futty Sing Guickwar to the Paishwa disavowing the Shastery's mission, lamenting the ascendancy acquired by that Minister in the Guickwar state and entreating the Paishwa's aid in releasing him from the thralldom in which he is kept by the influence complained of

The Shastery has seen the original of this letter and declares it to be a forgery The Paishwa himself must also view it with distrust as in all his objections to the Shastery he has never expressed a doubt of his competency to treat on the Guickwar's part

The Shastery I understand has reported the circumstances to his Government and he is desirous that the subject should not be stirred at this Durbar till he receives an answer from Baroda

No 139—The Resident communicates the present stage of the Shastri's negotiations and proposes British arbitration as the only possible solution. The settlement of the Ahmedabad farm is also reported for being acted upon.

FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE,
TO—FRANCIS WARDEN, CHIEF SECRETARY.

Poona, 12 July 1814

Sir,

I have had the honour to receive your letters dated the 30th June and 7th of July enclosing copies of dispatches from the Resident at Baroda

The first of these dispatches relates to the future administration of the Government of Ahmedabad and to the ratification by the Paishwa of the treaties which we have guaranteed in Kattiwaur

It seems very important that the rights of the two Maratta States over Ahmedabad should be fixed with precision at an early period, and that the most convenient mode of exercising them should be agreed on by both parties. With a view to these objects I have consulted the Paishwa's and the Guickwar's ministers and have received some account of the rights and pretensions of their respective Governments. These may be divided into their claims on the city or the neighbouring petty states. The Paishwa's Minister represents the government of the city as vested entirely in his master's officers but allows that the Guickwar shares in the collections and is entitled to station a person in every public office to ascertain the amount of the taxes, fees and other branches of revenue collected, and thus prevent the embezzlement of the Guickwar's share by the Paishwa's officers. The Guickwar's Minister on the other hand claims a larger share of the Government than is allowed him by the above statement and the question requires further investigation. I have called on the Paishwa's Minister to produce all the agreements regarding Ahmedabad which have been concluded between the two Governments, and I hope before long to be able to give clearer account of the subject. In the country the Paishwa's and the Guickwar's villages are intermixed but those chiefs do not appear ever to participate in the Government or collections of the same village except in the case of the town of Patlad.

The two Governments derive distinct tributes from the petty states in the neighbourhood and each realizes his own demands by the means that he thinks the most advisable.

It will be easier to point out the best mode of exercising these rights when our information on the subject shall be more complete, but at present it appears to me impossible to prevent a direct intercourse between the officers of the two Governments employed in the city and the surrounding country. The most we can expect is that each Government shall strictly enjoin its officers to push no dispute to extremities without a reference to the British Government. Such disputes when they arise ought in my opinion to be referred to the Resident at Baroda an arrangement to which the Paishwa can scarcely object as his officers will always retain the power of referring to their own Government if they think their interests suffer in the mode of adjustment proposed by the Resident.

With respect to the petty states it is highly desirable that the Paishwa's Government should be guided by the advice of the Resident at Baroda or even that it should commit the whole conduct of its transactions to the control of that officer. Such a step would certainly be much at variance with the usual Maratta practice, but I do not think the attainment of it entirely hopeless (if the Right Honourable the Governor should desire it), as the Paishwa would thereby acquire a great accession of weight with the petty states and might even be assisted by the British troops in cases where they were employed to enforce the Guickwar's rights against persons who were also liable to demands from the Paishwa. This advantage would be of more consequence to the Paishwa as he is not by treaty entitled to the aid of our troops in Moolkgeery or collections of tribute. The plan however even if acceptable to the Paishwa may be liable to objections on other grounds and I shall take no step in it till I learn the Right Honourable the Governor's pleasure. This is all that I can at present offer on the subject of Ahmedabad.

The Right Honourable the Governor may depend on my exertions to procure the ratification of the Kattiwaur treaties which seem essential to the maintenance of the national reputation. Besides the communication which I formerly made on this subject to the Paishwa, I have had a conversation on it with the Minister in which I said, that this was a point which we must carry and that I hoped it would not injure the Paishwa's own interests to afford us this proof of his friendship. The Minister said that if the treaties were made in a spirit of good faith by the Guickwar they could not be otherwise than advantageous to the Paishwa, who was entitled to a fixed share of all the tribute the Guickwar obtained by them, but that he understood the Guickwar had in some cases (or in all cases) compounded with the petty states for a small tribute on condition of a secret payment to himself, in which the Paishwa would not be admitted to share. To this I answered that such a proceeding

would give the Paishwa a claim on the Guickwar but none on the tributaries who could not be required to pay twice because the tribute was embezzled by the Paishwa's agent, that His Highness could therefore have no objection to ratify the treaties and that if (contrary to my belief) any stipulation such as he alluded to had been made by the Guickwar, it must be known to us who guaranteed the treaty and he knew our Government too well to suppose it would consent to such a transaction or allow the Guickwar to retain the money so unjustly acquired

It would facilitate my proceedings in this affair if I were furnished with copies of the treaties to submit to His Highness for his acceptance

The second dispatch refers to the Paishwa's claims on the Guickwar and the necessity of a speedy adjustment of the points in dispute so as to allow of the return of Gungadhur Shastry and Baupoo Myraul I shall first state the present progress of the negotiation of those Ministers and then submit my opinion as to the best means of bringing them speedily to a close

The claims and counterclaims of the Paishwa and the Guickwar have long since been interchanged in writing and no further progress has been made regarding them since the Shastery's arrival That Minister's plan was to open a confidential communication with the Minister though he was not of opinion that such an intercourse or indeed any other means would succeed in effecting an amicable arrangement In pursuance of his plan he has repeatedly sent Baupoo Myraul to Seddasheo Maunkaisur and many friendly professions have passed between those ministers, but in the actual negotiation they have confined themselves to calling on each other to propose terms which neither party seems willing to do It is obvious that this course can never lead to any termination and that it is necessary for one of the parties to make some overture to the other The Paishwa's Minister has shown an inclination that way, by telling the Guickwar's, though in very general terms that his Government was prepared to make a large remission of the payments which were justly due to it and, as it seems to be admitted on all hands that the Paishwa will have something to receive I have done all in my power to encourage this disposition in his Minister and have pressed the Shastery to meet him by showing a similar readiness to make some sacrifice If this were once done with frankness on both sides, there would only remain to settle through common friends what the Guickwar would give and what the Paishwa would be content to receive, and the negotiation would be concluded or broken off in the course of a few days But Gungadhur Shastery though he admits his readiness to pay a very considerable sum, will give no

hint of his disposition to the Paishwa's Minister, who, on the other hand, will say nothing specific respecting the amount to be remitted by the Paishwa.

The only plan therefore that occurs to me for the speedy termination of the discussion is for the British Government to accede to the desire so strongly expressed by both Governments and take the arbitration of their differences on itself.

In that case I do not think there will be anything to apprehend from the procrastination of the Court of Poona; as in this instance at least His Highness the Paishwa shows a sincere desire for the speedy adjustment of the dispute. The Right Hon'ble the Governor is already apprized that the delay in settling the question about Ahmedabad was solely to be ascribed to my endeavours to avoid the necessity of calling on the Guickwar to surrender the Paishwa's share of that city. The Paishwa himself had nothing so much at heart during the whole of the discussions as the prompt execution of the engagement concluded by means of Sir Barry Close.

Before I close this dispatch I must remark on the Resident at Baroda's objection to the Paishwa's claims on the ground of the injustice of the means by which they were created. This probably alludes to the perfidious seizure of Damajee Guickwar which has often been alluded to by the Guickwar's Vakeels, but those ministers seemed to bring forward that transaction with the intention only of rendering the Paishwa's claims odious and of securing a favourable hearing to their own, and by no means to have entertained any thoughts of denying the validity of those claims altogether. The principle on which they are now contested is one of great importance to the Paishwa, since if it were acted upto and His Highness compelled to part with all that has been acquired by the violence or bad faith of his ancestors, he would be stripped of the greater part of his dominions and his title to the remainder would be very doubtful. But, even if the foundation of the Paishwa's rights over the Guickwar could reasonably be denied, I apprehend that the British Government is no longer at liberty to dispute them after its recognition of them in the 14th article of the treaty of Bassein and still more explicitly in the 8th article of the treaty of Salbye.

P. S.

Since I finished the above I have ascertained that the Paishwa's and Guickwar's Ministers agree in their accounts of their rights in Ahmedabad, which are as I have stated with this addition that one of the gates of the city belongs to the Guickwar.

No 140—Govind Rao Bundooji could not be removed from Poona without sufficient proof of his guilt, writes the Resident

**FROM—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT,
TO—FRANCIS WARDEN, CHIEF SECRETARY.**

Poona, 7 August 1814

Sir,

I yesterday evening received a visit from Gungadhar Shastery. He came to inform me of the result of an interview between the Paishwa's Minister and Baupoo Myraul which I am sorry to say is unfavourable to the mode of adjustment desired by the Right Hon'ble the Governor.

It appears that in the beginning of the conference each party pressed the other to make some distinct proposal and that Baupoo Myraul having at length professed the inability of the Guicawar to pay anything, the Paishwa's Minister had proposed to refer the matter to the British Government to which the other consented with a show of reluctance.

I shall probably receive some message on this subject from the Paishwa in the course of this day, but I shall withhold any formal acceptance of the office of arbitrator by the British Government until there shall have been time to allow the Right Hon'ble Governor to receive Captain Carnac's answer to the reference made to him and to direct if necessary a further trial for an accommodation by means of an offer on the Guicawar's part. The Shastery, however, is of opinion that the Guicawar will be unwilling to consent to any such experiment and in that case it will be difficult to avoid entering on the arbitration without delay.

I take this opportunity of acknowledging your letter dated 8th ultimo on the subject of Govind Row Bundoojee, that person is still at Poona, but I have not thought it expedient to make any demand for his removal as Gungadhar Shastery strongly objects to the measure and I concur in his principal reason that it should be almost impossible to bring any proof of Bundoojee's guilt sufficient to secure the fulfilment of a demand for the seizure of his person.

No 141—Facilities for the Peshwa purchasing timber at Bombay for his palace at Poona are requested by the Resident

**FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—MR CHIEF SECRETARY WARDEN.**

Poona, 29 August 1814

Sir,

A quantity of teak timber being required for His Highness the Paishwa's new Palace in this city, a person named Lukshmun

Govind attended by another Carcoon is now sent to effect the necessary purchases from the timber merchants at Bombay. On completing their arrangements they are directed to return to Poona bringing with them the timber required for His Highness' use and a request is urged that any facilities which may be required and can conveniently be granted may not be withheld and likewise that no impediments may be offered on account of duties.

I request this letter may be submitted to the notice of the Right Hon'ble the Governor.

No 142—The Resident communicates his advice to the Peshwa to accept what the Gaikwad could afford to give and rest content. How the dispute began to be aggravated becomes clear.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY WARDEN

Poona, 29 August 1814

Sir,

The Paishwa's Soobehdar being on the eve of his departure for Ahmedabad I thought it expedient once more to impress on His Highness the necessity of giving such orders as might prevent disputes between His Highness's officers and those of the Guickwar State. I accordingly obtained from His Highness a renewal of his promise that all differences should be referred to Captain Carnac and an order to his Soobedar to forbear from all interference in Kattiwaur till the questions relating to the treaties made under our guarantee should be finally settled.

I then told him that the Guickwaur had completed his arrangements for the transfer of His Highness's share of Ahmedabad and would deliver it up as soon as his officers should present themselves, but that Gungadhur Shastery had begged me once more to endeavour to procure a renewal of the farm for the Guickwar, if it were only for one year and at a rent of eight lacs of rupees, an offer which appeared so advantageous for His Highness that I thought myself bound to let him know of it. The Paishwa, however, declined the offer in the most pointed terms. He said he had given up his share of Ahmedabad with great reluctance at first for the sole purpose of obliging the British Government, that he had looked forward ever since to recovering it and that he should be an object of derision to other powers if he gave up a plan of ten years standing for a trifling pecuniary profit or changed his mind to oblige Gungadhur Shastery after he had withstood the wishes of the British Government who were his best friends.

I then entered on the subject of the Paishwa's disputes with the Guickwar and prepared the way for some specific offer on the

part of the latter Prince by endeavouring to impress on His Highness the impossibility of his realizing all his claims even if they were all admitted and the Guickwar's whole country sequestrated for the payment

I explained to him in general terms the income and expenditure of His Highness the Guickwar and the amount of his existing debts and showed how small a fund remained to satisfy the Faishwa's demands after which I reminded him of the probability that many of those demands might be set aside in the arbitration His Highness replied that he was prepared to make large remissions on account of the Guickwar's poverty, but that he conceived it was a previous step for the British Government to decide according to the treaty of Bassein the amount to which he was justly entitled, after which he would determine in concert with the British Government the degree of consideration that was to be shown to the Guickwar beyond the line of strict justice

I assured him that if negotiation failed, the Right Hon'ble the Governor would examine the justice of his demands, taking a general view of all the circumstances that bore on the case, but I added that he had better reflect that by the result of an arbitration he could not gain more than the Guickwar had to give, and he might gain less, it would therefore be prudent to close with any offer of the Guickwar's which might appear proportioned to his means without caring whether it approached the amount claimed by His Highness or not

I shall hereafter open this subject further but the above was all that passed at my last visit

No 143—The Resident is informed that the compromise suggested by him for adjusting the dispute between the Peshwa and the Gaikwad, was favourable to the latter, but needed the sanction of the Supreme Government before being guaranteed

**FROM—THE SECRETARY,
TO—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE**

Bombay Castle, 23 September 1814.

Sir,

The short period within which you require a reply to this proposition, combined with a knowledge of the extent of the offer to which the Baroda state had appeared determined to remit the amount of the compromise, as already communicated to you, has involved the Governor in Council, in some difficulty as to the propriety of affording you an explicit and final reply to those propositions

In as far as however, the Governor in Council has investigated the claims of the Paishwa on the Guicawar state, he is disposed to consider the payment of fifty lacs of rupees as a final adjustment of those claims and with consideration of the farm of Ahmedabad being continued for five years longer, a rent of eight lacs of rupees per annum as an arrangement favourable to the Guicawar state

But, as in any adjustment of this description this Government must guarantee the payment of the amount of the compromise the Governor in Council cannot on the ground of the financial measures of this Government being entirely under the control of the Supreme Government afford any positive pledge for the fulfilment of that arrangement without the sanction of the Supreme Government.

If therefore you could conclude an arrangement subject to that confirmation the Governor in Council will as far as it may depend upon his authority, readily support it by the recommendations of this Government as being a compromise in every respect favourable to the Guicawar state

I enclose a report from the Resident at Baroda which will afford you the fullest information into the state of the Guicawar finances and have the honour to be etc

No. 14—A strong iron-rope to be supplied for the passage of boats during monsoon time between the Residency and the Cantonments is sanctioned by the Resident.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—MR CHIEF SECRETARY WARDEN

Poona, 26 September 1814

Sir,

Considerable inconvenience having been experienced from the length of time required for crossing the ferry between the Residency and cantonments especially during the last season when the number of passengers was from different causes considerably increased, I some time ago requested one of the Engineers attached to the subsidiary force to enquire into the practicability of fixing a rope across the river to facilitate the passage of the boats. This object was difficult to attain from the breadth and rapidity of the

river but a plan was at last arranged which appears well adopted to the purpose. The expense exclusive of a cable and some trifling articles (all of which can be furnished from the stores) will not much exceed Rs 300 and I have therefore been induced to sanction the requisite amount which in all the circumstances of the case, I trust will meet with the approbation of the Right Honourable the Governor.

No 145—How the Peshwa's claims upon the Gaikwad were obstructed by the British Government is explained in this communication of the Resident to the Bombay Secretary

**FROM—THE RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY WARDEN**

Poona, 18 October 1814

Sir,

On learning the proceedings that had been adopted against Seetaram at Baroda, I consulted Gungadher Shastri on the steps to be taken in regard to Govind Row Bundoojee and I entirely concurred in his opinion that Bundoojee had already done his worst and that to demand his seizure or expulsion from Poona at this period would be attended with no benefit to the Guicawar Government, while the first of these demands was likely to irritate the Paishwa and the second to induce a suspicion that the Guicawar was afraid of exposing his disputes with the Paishwa to the eye of a person so experienced as Bundoojee. It was therefore determined to mention this last idea to His Highness and tell him that the Shastri intended to prove how little he heared a scrutiny into the Gaikwad's accounts by allowing Bundoojee to remain here till the present negotiations were concluded, that however he trusted to the Peshwa's good sense for weighing that emissary's sentiments and that I should reserve the right of demanding his seizure if I found his intrigues continued.

and tribute to the Peshwa, but I denied His Highness's right to nominate the Gaikwad's Dewan and observed that if he had such a right, he had not exercised it in the case of Seetaram and even if he had done so, it would not justify that person in his attempts to disturb his master's Government. I added that I had heard reports of His Highness having encouraged him in his intrigues, but that I had too high an opinion of His Highness's good sense and good faith to believe them. This did not repress the tone which His Highness was adopting, for he went on to assert his right to interfere in the affairs of his subject or vassal, the Gaikwad, and said that the present was a case where his interference was especially required as the Gaikwad himself was suffering the utmost oppression. He added that if I would retire to another room he would show me Hoojrahs and other confidential messengers of the Gaikwad, from whose accounts I would be convinced that the present administration of Baroda was framed entirely by the intrigues of Gangathur Shastri and was introduced with the utmost violence to the feelings of Anund Row or of both the Gaikwads. I answered that I could see none of the persons mentioned, whom His Highness had no right to receive, that I had ample means of knowing the falsehood of their statements by the communications of the British Resident at Baroda, and that I was astonished to perceive that His Highness, while engaged in a negotiation with the Government of Baroda under the mediation of the British, was clandestinely encouraging a separate correspondence, directed to the subversion of that very Government. The Peshwa defended himself against this charge by alleging that the treaty of Bassein established our right to arbitrate the differences between him and the Gaikwad, but nowhere contained any insinuation to the prejudice of his sovereignty over that chief, and that he did nothing inconsistent with his negotiations regarding his pecuniary disputes when he exercised his undoubted right of interfering to preserve the Gaikwad family, but that if the British Government was resolved to deny his rights over all his sudars in turn, he had nothing left but to submit to their decision. I told him that the British Government had given repeated proofs of a disposition very inconsistent with any encroachment on his rights and that I begged he would reconsider the claims he was advancing as they were destructive of the treaty of Baroda which His Highness had recognized and even of some material articles of the treaty of Bassein. His Highness agreed to my proposal and said he hoped to see me again in two or three days when we would both have maturely considered the subject. I said I should be very happy to attend His Highness, but I thought the present subject of discussion had better not be revived, as His Highness's claims were inconsistent

with the established relations between the states concerned and incompatible with the existence of the Gaikwad state

Though there was no sign of ill humour in the Peshwa's manner during the above conversation, yet it will be obvious from the nature of the arguments used by His Highness that there was no chance of advantage from opening the Gaikwad's proposals for compromising the Peshwa's claims. It even appears doubtful how far it will be prudent to bring them forward at all while the Peshwa's extravagant pretensions and his determined enmity to the Shastree give so little prospect of his attending to any offer that that Minister may propose.

No 146—An acrimonious discussion on the subject of the Peshwa's paramount authority over the Gaikwad took place between him and the Resident and is reported in this letter to the Secretary.

FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE,

TO—MR. SECRETARY BABINGTON, BOMBAY.

Poona, 27 October 1814.

Sir,

On the 20th I waited on the Peshwa's Minister and told him that I had received an invitation to meet the Peshwa and that as His Highness might renew his claim to a right of interference in the Gaikwad's domestic transactions I wished to give the Minister an opportunity of persuading him to forbear from doing so and of pointing out the impossibility of my admitting his pretensions.

The Minister answered that without renouncing the Peshwa's right, he would say that His Highness had no wish to interfere in the ordinary internal concerns of the Gaikwad Government, but that when the Gaikwad himself was a prisoner, it was time for His Highness to interpose to preserve the existence of his feudatory state. I soon discovered that the Minister really believed that Anundrao Gaikwad had been placed in confinement at the same time with Seetaram and, on my expressing my astonishment at his giving credit to so idle a story, he read me a letter from one of the persons who was sent to receive charge of Ahmedabad in which it was stated that the Gaikwad was under a guard and that all access to him was entirely cut off. On my utterly denying the truth of this statement the Minister proposed that I should send a person along with two Hoojras of the Peshwa's who should be admitted to the presence of Anundrao and should ascertain from his mouth whether he was or was not under restraint. I said nothing would be easier than to afford such a proof of the Gaikwad's freedom, but that considering the view His Highness had

taken of his connection with the Gaikwad, it was necessary to be guided in our proceedings by the treaties relating to that prince, and these did not appear to me to authorize any interference on His Highness's part

This led to a discussion respecting the Peshwa's rights over the Gaikwad in which the Minister maintained that the Peshwa was the Gaikwad's sovereign and his natural protector, and that this relation was proved by the agreement drawn up by the last Gaikwad Govindrao. He produced this agreement, in which it was admitted that the Gaikwad's lands belonged to the Peshwa and were to be held by the Gaikwad in virtue of His Highness's grant, it also stipulated for the Gaikwad being allowed to call one of his own ministers to account for some malversations and for the Peshwa's non interference in his disputes with two of his own relations. The Bhow contended that none of these powers of the Peshwa's were affected by our treaty which was avowedly entered into without any design of interfering with his rights, and that His Highness was therefore still bound to protect the Gaikwad.

In reply I observed that the object of the 14th article of the treaty of Bassein clearly was the acknowledgment of our treaty with the Gaikwad by His Highness and that object was not to be defeated by any phrase incidentally introduced into the preamble, that His Highness's rights therefore were only to be preserved as far as they were consistent with the treaty of Baroda and that from the language of the 14th article I should have understood that His Highness did not, at the time it was signed, pretend to any rights incompatible with that engagement, that his present pretensions however, were entirely inconsistent with its existence, as a chief in a state of such immediate and strict dependance would have no means either of making or keeping a treaty.

The Minister said that to keep a treaty the Gaikwad must be free and asked who was to interfere in his favour in case he were imprisoned, and on my answering that the treaty of Baroda expressly assigned that duty to the British Government, he asked who then claimed the sovereignty over the Gaikwad State. I told him the British Government advanced no such pretension, that the Gaikwad was undoubtedly dependent on the State of Poona though I could not pronounce on the degree of his dependence while the subject was likely to come under the arbitration of the British Government, but that I had no hesitation in saying that the Gaikwad was his own sovereign as far as regarding the administration of his Government, as was indeed sufficiently evident from the nature of the treaty he had concluded with us.

The Minister now said that at all events this independent sovereignty (if it existed) ought to reside in the Gaikwad and not in Gangadhar Shastri, and he went into a declamation on the thralldom to which the Gaikwad was reduced and the hardships he suffered from the overgrown power and the insolence of his minister, which I interrupted by observing that considering the Bhow's acquaintance with the nature of our engagements to the Gaikwad and with the state of our power at Baroda, I could not but regard his present statement as a reflection on the British Government and that I was certain the Governor General would be surprised to hear of such an imputation in a member of the Peshwa's Government

The Minister recurring once more to the Peshwa's sovereignty and the necessity it imposed on him of interposing in favour of the Gaikwad, and enlarging on the hardship of supposing that His Highness lost any part of his authority by a treaty between his dependent and a power so friendly as the British, I was obliged to remind him that when the treaty of Baroda was concluded the Maratta Government was in the last stage of a decay which had commenced long before the present Peshwa's accession, that all the great branches of the empire had fallen off and established separate governments with the sole exception of the Gaikwad, whose connection with the Pashwa (as far as it still subsisted) was entirely owing to the treaty of Baroda. It would therefore be in the highest degree unreasonable in His Highness to complain of the loss of some of his rights, the sacrifice of which had been the means of preserving all the rest. I added that I was not certain that the rights he claimed had ever existed, but if they had, His Highness should have taken his resolution concerning them before he agreed to the 14th article of the treaty of Bassein and not to have abandoned them at that time and now renewed them after a silence of eleven years. I concluded by saying that it was fruitless to pursue the discussion as it related to a subject on which I could make no concessions without shaking the foundations of the present order of things. The Minister however repeated some of his former arguments and after some more conversation the subject was changed.

At the time when the report of the officer sent to Ahmedabad was under discussion, I took occasion to remonstrate on the disrespect shown by that officer to Captain Carnac and to complain that, in spite of my advice to select a man of a conciliating disposition for the charge of Ahmedabad, a man had been sent who before he received possession had behaved with rudeness to the British Resident and had endeavoured by false reports to destroy

the Peshwa's confidence in the administration at Baroda. The Minister expressed great sorrow that any offence should have been given to Captain Carnac and promised to take care that nothing of the sort should occur again. With respect to the report he said a few days would show whether it was true or false.

In the course of the evening I alluded to the Peshwa's wish that I should accompany him to Sendoor and said the only thing that prevented my doing so was the impossibility of leaving Gangadhar Shastri here, and I urged the expediency of his being granted his audience of leave as the friendly negotiation with which he was entrusted seemed utterly to have failed, while the care of the Gaikwad's interests in case of an arbitration, was to be committed to other hands and the Shastri's presence was urgently required at Baroda where much inconvenience was experienced from his absence. The Minister after some opposition agreed to submit this question to the Peshwa and we soon after parted for that day.

Before I waited on the Peshwa I saw the Shastri who urged that his abrupt departure at present would destroy the merit of his former patience, wished me not to urge his dismissal while there was a chance of success in his negotiations and offered to accompany the Peshwa if His Highness would promise to consider the Gaikwad's ability when the settlement came to be made.

I had an interview with the Peshwa on the 21st at which no mention was made of His Highness's rights over the Gaikwad. I concluded from this that the Peshwa had now abandoned his extravagant pretensions and might be brought to listen to the Gaikwad's offers. I therefore announced the Shastri's consent to accompany His Highness, and in explaining the conditions I said that if His Highness was sincerely disposed to negotiate, I had in my hand the accounts of the Gaikwad's Government furnished me from Bombay, and could explain to him in ten minutes the resources of that Government and the extent of its means of satisfying His Highness's demands. I pointed out that this would show the utmost that His Highness could gain by the uncertain event of an arbitration and that I was sure that the Shastri was disposed to go as far as those means would allow to satisfy His Highness and to bring all the present discussions to a conclusion. His Highness did not seem at all tempted by this overture. He said his rights were not affected by the state of the Gaikwad's revenue, that he hoped to obtain them all sometime and was not impatient for their immediate adjustment.

I said if that was the case, it was quite unnecessary to detain the Shastri and that I thought His Highness ought immediately to dismiss him. The Peshwa for a long time evading this advice

without holding out any hope that he would negotiate, I told him that, as the affair concerned the Gaikwad Government and not mine, I should not at that time insist on the Shastri's dismissal, but would wait on His Highness again after consulting that minister

The Shastri was still of opinion that it would be precipitate to break off the negotiation in its present stage and accordingly I told His Highness at a meeting I had with him yesterday evening that the Shastri would stay to gratify His Highness and in the confidence that he would on his return come to an immediate settlement suitable to the resources of the Gaikwad state

The Peshwa expressed himself much pleased with this arrangement and added that he wished I would also take some measures in consequence of what he had said in favour of the Gaikwad's freedom. I replied that the British Government was bound by every principle to protect the Gaikwad and that I begged him to believe that both the chief members of that family enjoyed all the privileges of their station as much as any prince in India. The Peshwa said he had no doubt about the intentions of our Government, and proposed to remove all dispute, that the Gaikwad should come to Poona to receive investiture, to which the Minister added that though the Gaikwad was not confined he was watched and under restraint, that the Sastri had justified himself by acknowledging the orders of Fatesing but that there was some doubt whether Fatesing was more at liberty than Anundrao. I told the Peshwa that the Gaikwad's coming to Poona depended on himself, but that His Highness could not expect us to countenance an arrangement which originated in suspicions of our faith and doubts of our statements. The Peshwa disclaimed all intention of throwing the slightest imputation on the British Government but said the Gaikwad's coming would be honourable to us as showing that we were again cementing the fragments of the Maharatta Empire.

Finding His Highness still persevering in this demand, I declared that the matter was too serious for me to decide on that if His Highness wished it I would submit it to His Excellency the Governor General and wait his orders, but if I referred to it I should let it be known that I did so with utmost reluctance not because I thought His Highness's application advisable but because I was compelled to forward it. The Peshwa on this explained that he only wished to have my opinion, that as I was so much against the Gaikwad's coming, he would give up his plan and only send a Hoojra with a letter to the Gaikwad stating the complaints that reached him, and desiring the Gaikwad to inform him of his own

sentiments This I said was as objectionable as the Gaikwad's being invited to Poona as it implied the same suspicion

I then said I would advise His Highness on my own part to enquire a little into the truth of the stories that had been told him, if they were communicated to the Governor General I observed, they would of course displease him and as they would ultimately prove to have originated in falsehood and imposture, the result would neither be pleasant nor honourable to His Highness

The Peshwa then consented to put off all further mention of the subject which I trust will not be renewed

No 147.—In reply to the Governor's enquiry the Resident gives it as his opinion that Gangadhar Shastri may be allowed to stay longer in Poona until the return of the Peshwa from his tour

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—MR SECRETARY BABINGTON**

Poona, 31 October 1814

Sir,

The Right Honourable the Governor having desired my opinion on the question whether any inconvenience would arise from withdrawing Gungadhar Shastery from Poona at this time, I have the honour to acquaint you, that the Shastri having agreed to remain here till the Paishwa's return, it would perhaps be advisable to permit him to await that event, but if the Paishwa does not when he arrives, show a more sincere desire to negotiate than he has hitherto, I think it would highly be expedient to recall the Shastri without loss of time

No 148.—The Resident requests the Bombay Government to permit him to make good his promise to the Peshwa, to supply him ammunition without an additional charge

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—MR SECRETARY BABINGTON**

Poona, 12 November 1814

Sir,

The Paishwa having now instructed the officer commanding his Brigade to take up the stores granted for His Highness's service I take this occasion of adverting to the last paragraph of Mr Warden's dispatch dated the 22nd August 1814

Nothing can be more reasonable than that native princes who are permitted to purchase stores from our arsenals should pay the 25 per cent which is necessary to indemnify the Honourable Company for the actual expense incurred in procuring those articles

I shall take care to impress on the Paishwa that he will be liable to this charge in future and that even then the supply of stores is an act of disinterested friendship for his state, but in the present instance, I hope, there will appear to the Right Honourable the Governor to be sufficient reason for dispensing with the demand I long since authorized Captain Ford to promise the Paishwa that the stores required for the two new Battalions on the formation of which he was then deliberating, should be furnished free of all deductions as had been the case with those originally supplied and I beg leave to submit to the Right Hon'ble the Governor the anxiety I am under that I should be enabled to make good that promise in such a manner as to allow no ground of complaint on the Paishwa's part

Captain Ford will take this opportunity of receiving charge of the remaining Europeans of the number which the Right Honourable the Governor was formerly pleased to permit to serve with His Highness the Paishwa's Brigade

No 149—The Resident requests the Bombay Government to provide four elephants to remove the heavy battering guns belonging to the Poona Subsidiary Force

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—MR SECRETARY BABINGTON**

Poona, 9 December 1814

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose a copy of a letter from the Officer commanding the Poona Force stating the extreme inconvenience to which he is exposed from the want of elephants to assist in moving his battering guns I am sorry to say that all my endeavours to procure him assistance from the Paishwa have been unsuccessful, His Highness being at present absent on a journey and having taken with him all his elephants that were fit for service This is the second time that I have experienced this difficulty from the same cause, though on the former occasion it was got over by taking elephants which were in such a state that it was dangerous to use them at present not even these are to be obtained Besides the actual disappointments of this kind to which we are occasionally liable, it is unpleasant to depend on His Highness the Paishwa for any thing essential to the efficiency of the force and it is not consonant to the spirit in which our alliances are carried on to call on His Highness for any assistance beyond what he is bound by treaty to furnish I therefore beg leave respectfully to recommend to the consideration of the Right Hon'ble the Governor the expediency of attaching four elephants to the establishment of the Subsidiary Force

SECTION—3

MURDER OF GANGADHAR SHASTRI

1815

No 150—The Resident reports to the Bombay Government his conversation with the Peshwa's minister about the failure of the Shastri's mission and his dismissal from Poona for returning to Baroda

FROM—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY WARDEN

Poona, 19 February 1815

Sir,

I had the honour of mentioning on a former occasion that a person named Bhugwant Row Guicawar had appeared at this place and begun an intrigue against the Government of Baroda His Highness the Paishwa, however, had promised not to see him without previous consultation with me and as His Highness showed an evident reluctance to entering on the subject, I hoped that the discussion would be allowed to die away as that of Scetaram's affairs was formerly

I was therefore much surprised to learn that His Highness the Paishwa had allowed Bhugwant Row to be presented to him in a very full Durbar on the occasion of the festival of Bussunt Panchamee in the presence of Gungadher Shastry and Baupoo Myraul Next morning I received a message from His Highness the Paishwa stating that Bhugwant Row's appearance had not been sanctioned

by His Highness and on the same day I received accounts of his having paid a visit of ceremony to the Minister

From this it was evident that the intentions of the Paishwa's Durbar were very different from what I imagined and that stronger measures than had yet been adopted were necessary to bring it to reason and eventually to prevent its occasioning disorders in the Government of Baroda I therefore took the earliest opportunity of paying a visit to the Minister which took place last night I began by pointing out the little regard that had been paid to the Paishwa's promise and the insecurity in which everything depending on the good faith of His Highness's court had in consequence been placed, and then proceeded to say that as His Highness had resolved by so decided a step to call off all discussion on the policy he had adopted towards the Guicawar, it only remained for me to acquaint him with the necessary consequences of the measures he was pursuing I said I had before applied to His Highness to permit the Shastry to take his leave, that I must now insist on it, as his longer stay at Poona would be degrading to his own Government and not honourable to ours I said the British Government had prevailed on the Guicawar to send a person in his confidence to adjust the Paishwa's claims on him, and that the advantage the Paishwa had taken of this act of justice and goodwill on the Guicawar's part, was to dispute his title to his dominions to affront the minister and to endeavour to stir up dissensions in his own family, after that I said His Highness could not expect that the Guicawar would allow His minister to remain or that we should wish him to do so All hope of a friendly adjustment was, therefore, at an end and the Paishwa's hopes of recovering his demands must rest on the arbitration of the British Government His claim to this arbitration was founded on the same article of the treaty of Bassein, by which he recognised the existence of our treaty with the Guicawar and consequently acquiesced in the new order of things which that treaty established The arbitration was necessary under this change in his relations to the Guicawar, since without it he could have no means of recovering his demands and a new order of things was no less necessary to render the arbitration of the British Government effectual If as His Highness alleged, he had a right to appoint the Guicawar's Ministers and even to displace the Guicawar himself, it was obvious that no award would be acted on that was not agreeable to His Highness it would indeed be absurd for a third power to settle His Highness's right to demand a part of the Guicawar resources when it admitted that he was entitled at any time to deprive him of the whole It was therefore actually out of the power of the British Government to undertake the arbitration while His Highness maintained his present pretensions, but

even if there was no incompatibility between his pretensions and our arbitration, it would still be most unreasonable to expect that we should act on an article of agreement which His Highness had violated or at least had declared his intention of rendering nugatory. His Highness must therefore expect no assistance from the British Government in realising his primary claims on the Guicawar until he had given up his pretensions to the absolute dominion of Guzerat.

This declaration led to a restatement of the argument so often urged by the Minister to prove that His Highness the Paishwa had always possessed the full rights of a master over the Guicawar, that he still retained those rights notwithstanding our treaties and that there was nothing in this incompatible with the treaty of Bassem, the terms of which gave us a right to arbitrate the Paishwa's pecuniary claims on the Guicawar, but did not entitle us to interfere with his other rights. I need not trouble the Right Hon'ble the Governor with the discussion which followed it was in the same strain with those I have detailed on former occasions, but more full, the treaty of Baroda being read over and the circumstances which led to it with the results which it produced examined at much length. At the conclusion I said that I must again repeat the declaration with which I began, which was made with no intention of offending the Paishwa but rendered absolutely necessary to prevent detriment both to the Guicawar and the British Government, that I hoped His Highness would give the Shastry his dismissal in form, but that if he did not, the Minister would set off without it and I should make no attempt to detain him.

I made this last communication after a consultation with the Shastry, who said he would answer for its being agreeable to the Government of Baroda. I hope it will meet with the approbation of the Right Hon'ble the Governor as well as my refusal to enter on the arbitration until the Paishwa withdraws his pretensions to a right of interference in the internal administration of the Guicawar Government. I trust His Highness will see his own interests sufficiently to prevent the negotiations breaking off at this point, if he should not, His Highness will be the only loser by the suspension of the arbitration if it should never be removed, even His Highness the Paishwa must in time be sensible of the anxious desire the British Government has shown to procure an equitable adjustment and of the moderation with which it submitted for so long a period to the counteraction it experienced from His Highness's Government.

Trimbuckjee Daingla was present at this meeting and both he and the Minister spoke with much earnestness of the Paishwa's anxiety for some settlement respecting Kattywar and Mahee Kaunta. I pointed out the unreasonableness of their impatience

and assured them that they might rely on receiving whatever they were ^{*}entitled to claim if the Right Hon'ble the Governor did not accept the terms agreed on

No 151—The Governor in Council advises recall of the Shastri's mission from Poona He also directs that the Peshwa should discountenance the visit of Bhagwant Rao Gaikwad

**FROM—F. WARDEN, CHIEF SECRETARY,
TO—THE RESIDENT AT POONA.**

Bombay Castle, 19 February 1815

Sir,

I have had the honour of receiving your letter of the 8th instant and in answer to that part of it which has relation to the mission of Bugwunt Row Guicawar I have been instructed by the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council to acquaint you that he feels great satisfaction in observing the able and judicious manner in which you have combated the arguments of the Paishwa and his Minister on the propriety of His Highness's receiving this mission, under the circumstances in which it has been attempted to be introduced

Since that letter was received a despatch, of which the enclosed is a copy, has reached me from the Resident at Baroda dated 12th instant and I cannot better explain to you the views which have been taken by the Governor in Council of the course of proceeding proper to be adopted than by drawing your attention to the contents of my reply to Capt Carnac on this subject

From the open and unreserved manner in which Futteh Singh has communicated the information he had received on the subject to Capt Carnac, no doubt can remain in the mind of the Governor in Council that the proceedings of Bugwunt Row Guicawar at Poona have been adopted without the knowledge or consent of His

Bugwunt Row and Bundooje, the Governor in Council cannot but entertain a hope that His Highness the Paishwa will not object to the arrest and conveyance to Baroda of the persons abovementioned, who have thus deceived His Highness for the attainment of objects not directed to the advantage of the state to which they belong, but for satisfying the private objects of a party directed to the annihilation of the Shastry's authority with a view to their personal advantage

The Governor in Council is aware of the repugnance the Paishwa may manifest to the adoption of the measure which has been suggested. But His Highness, after a moment's reflection, ought to recollect that his affording protection and countenance to persons thus circumstanced would be nothing short of encouraging the intrigues of persons inimical to the interests of the Baroda Government, over the proceedings of which it cannot be admitted that His Highness has any degree of control

You will be pleased to understand that the employment of Gungadher Shastry in the confidential situation he now holds in the Baroda Government, was an act of His Highness Futteh Sing alone, and that so far as this Government is apprised, no symptom of dissatisfaction has at any time been manifested by His Highness of the proceedings of the Shastry

If any assumption of undue authority should at any time have been exercised by that Minister, or his conduct in the administration of public affairs had been disapproved by Futteh Sing, this Government would have felt no disposition to uphold him. But whatever may ultimately appear to have been the case, it is evident that no satisfactory result can be expected from the Shastry's remaining at Poona, and as his longer continuance there would be attended with an expense not only inconvenient but unnecessary to be incurred by the Guicawar State, the Governor in Council has suggested the propriety of recalling him

The explanations which His Highness Futteh Sing will probably obtain from Anund Row in respect to the proceedings of Bundoojee and Bugwunt Row will, it is hoped, lead to a disclosure how far Seetaram Rowjee may have been concerned directly or indirectly with the present mission, and will consequently determine the course of proceeding to be adopted in respect to this person, who, there is reason to believe, has contrived to preserve a considerable degree of influence over Anund Row and has secretly been countenanced in his proceedings to be restored to the exercise of his former authority

No 152—The Bombay Government send their views on the pretensions of the Peshwas sovereignty over the Gaikwad

**FROM—FRANCIS WARDEN, CHIEF SECRETARY,
TO—THE RESIDENT AT POONA**

Bombay Castle, 27 February 1815

Sir,

You will perceive by my letter which accompanies the opinions which had been formed by this Government on the subject of the proceedings of Bhugwunt Row Guicawar at Poona, previously to the receipt of your letter of the 19th instant

Although the disposition of the Paishwa in respect to the mission of this person had been sufficiently manifested, yet the Governor in Council could hardly have supposed that His Highness would have so far departed from the course of proceeding which had been agreed upon, as to have permitted the presentation of Bhugwunt Row at his Durbar, or to have claimed a right of interference in the internal administration of the Baroda Government, but since His Highness has thought fit to put this question to issue, the Governor in Council is decidedly of opinion that this pretension should be steadily resisted

It is hardly necessary to recapitulate the arguments you adduced in your last communication with the Minister of His Highness, to combat this extraordinary pretension. The Governor in Council would have thought that your observations on this important subject would have proved so convincing as to have induced His Highness and his Minister to have abandoned the claim. But should His Highness continue to manifest a different conduct, he must be left to take the course which may appear to be most effectual for establishing it

The explanation which His Highness has offered in respect of the appearance of Bhugwunt Row at his Durbar, might have been satisfactory, had not his general line of conduct in respect to this person been otherwise so exceptionable, and in case circumstances should have occurred subsequent to your late interview with the Minister of His Highness, that may render it prudent to take a different course, the Governor in Council is decidedly of opinion that Gungadher Shastry ought without delay to leave the Court of Poona, where as you will perceive by my letter already referred to, it had before appeared to him that the presence of this minister could be of no utility

The Governor in Council can hardly suppose that His Highness the Paishwa will suffer the discussions to terminate in their pre-

sent state and rest under the expectation that he shall very shortly receive some further communication from you on the interesting subject. Should he be disappointed, however, in his expectations, the Governor in Council entirely approves of your declining to enter into any further discussions with His Highness or His Ministers in respect to his claims on the Baroda State, which would under circumstances which have occurred, be compromising the good faith of the British Government and sacrificing the interests of its ally.

No 153—Elphinstone asks the Peshwa to dismiss Gangadhar Shastri and reports the matter to Bombay Govt.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—SECRETARY WARDLN

Poona, 1 March 1815

Sir,

Having received no answer to my application for the dismissal of Gungadhur Shastery, I yesterday waited on the Minister to learn the Paishwa's pleasure on that subject. I found him as I expected anxious to detain the Shastery and disposed to give up his demands respecting Bugwunt Row, but although willing to forbear the exercise of his right in this instance he still maintained the entire sovereignty of the Paishwa's Government over the Gykwar, and though earnest in his assurances that the Paishwa would now negotiate with candour and directness, he still avoided fixing the basis of the negotiation. The consequence was that after a very long conversation, nothing was settled but that the Paishwa should at all events dismiss the Shastery before he went to Copergaum, and that he might employ the interval in negotiation if he pleased. H H is expected to leave this in a week or ten days at farthest.

In the course of the above conversation I had many opportunities of explaining the grounds on which the British Government withheld its arbitration in the present circumstances and of proving the justice of its proceedings in this respect.

I this morning received your letters dated the 19th and 27th Ult and I have in consequence sent to desire an immediate interview with the Shastery, intending with his concurrence to demand the seizure of Bugwunt Row Bundugee according to the Gykwar's wish notified in your dispatch. I shall also apprise this Government of the positive recall of the Shastery and shall solicit his immediate dismissal unless all the demands I have to make are complied with.

No 154—Escort is provided for Jubai Fadnis to proceed to Wai.

FROM—THE RESIDENT,
TO—ENSIGN J. ADDISON.

Poona, 17 March 1815.

Sir,

I have the honour to acquaint you that Jewoo Bye the widow of the late Nana Furnaveese has intimated a wish to visit Wahe and to be allowed a small guard to attend her on her journey which will probably occupy one month

It is my desire therefore that you will comply with her wish, by appointing a Naique and four sepoy's to proceed with her accordingly, and that you will also station two sepoy's at her house during her absence

No 155—The Resident asks Col Smith to send estimates for repairing the fort of Ahmadnagar.

FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE,
TO—COL. SMITH.

March 1815

Sir,

I propose to take an early opportunity to communicate the intended change of the cantonment here to the Paishwa and to proceed to change it as soon after as may be found convenient, and some time will be required to obtain ground and for other previous arrangements but I hope not so much as to prevent the troops being covered in before the rains

I beg you will have the goodness to issue orders immediately for beginning on such repairs at Ahmadnagar as are necessary to prevent its falling into rapid decay and to secure it against attack For the first of these purposes it would probably be sufficient to repair the parts of the counterscarp that have fallen or are likely soon to fall It ought also to be early considered whether there be an urgent necessity for repairing the flag-staff tower and for pointing the works and what would be the expense attending those operations

For the second purpose I should think it would be necessary to repair the gates and desirable to build banquettes (?) to the parapets as well as to put up palisades and make traverses in the correct way and still more to repair or remove the ravelin in front of the gateway, but some of these improvements might be too expensive or might attract too much attention and I am afraid removing the ravelin would appear to the natives to be weakening the places

and would thus lead to discussions that ought to be avoided. The same reason applies more strongly to cutting down the towers. Widening the terreplein of the rampart, completing the glacis and opening the aqueduct, would lead to more expense than I am empowered in present circumstances to authorize. I beg however that you will order estimates to be made out of all the expense requisite to put the fort in a perfect state of repair and to complete its defences for the purpose of being laid before the Governor General. On the other points to which I have alluded, you will be the best judge and I have no doubt you will perceive the necessity of avoiding all appearance of extraordinary preparation about the fort and everything that is likely to attract attention to it.

P S I beg you will have the goodness to direct any deficiencies there may be in the stores and provisions of the Brigade at this place to be made up before you march and that you will inform me whether you have received the 8 inch mortars and whether you wish them to be applied for again, if you have not.

No 156—The Resident reports the death of Khursetji Modi at Poona on 27 February 1815 from the effects of poison, administered, as the enquiry proved by Suleman Beg.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—MR SECRETARY ADAM

Poona, 19 March 1815

Sir,

I have the honour to acquaint you with the death of Khorshedjee Sait Modi, to whom the Right Honourable the Governor General was so lately pleased to grant a pension. His death took place very suddenly, on the 27th ultimo, while he was preparing for his departure to Cambay, and from the manner of it, led to surmises of poison which even reached the Paishwa. Suspicions falling on a Bramin belonging to the Residency and on various persons, I thought it necessary to make a full enquiry into all the circumstances of the case. The result was such as to acquit all whose names were mentioned, except a Mussulman adventurer named Solemaun Beg, who had maintained a great ascendancy over the deceased by working on his superstition, and who appears to have endeavoured to strengthen his influence by convincing the Sait that he had been enchanted and had been saved from death by the magical skill of Solemaun. With this view he seems to have administered some drug to him which contrary to the intention of the prescriber, operated fatally. Solemaun Beg being in His Highness the Paish-

wa's service, it rests with him to order a full investigation into his conduct I mean to take no further step in the affair, except mentioning to the Minister the result of my enquiries

No 156A—The circumstances of the death of Khursetji Modi are enumerated in this paper

**PRESENT MR ELPHINSTONE, MR. JEFFRYS,
CAPTAIN CLEILAND AND MR CLOSE**

March 1st 1815, quarter past 7 P M

Hormusjee Sait was called in and examined He gives the following account He says he came with the Sait to the Residency in the morning of the day of the Sait's death That they remained as usual in the office until 5 o'clock in the evening That about four o'clock the Sait received a letter from Mirza Solymaun Beg saying that the present day was pregnant with danger to him and he ought therefore to take care of himself and begging that he would come to his house bringing with him some lime, cinnabar,* needles, oorud, musoor and some old goor which he was to obtain from Bapoo Saunee's house Accordingly he sent a man to Baupoo Saunee's and that man is now forthcoming The Sait left the Residency, Hormusjee remaining behind He first went to his own house where he procured the necessary articles and after staying there about half an hour he went to Solymaun Beg's Hormusjee heard of this afterwards at the Sait's house on entering Solymaun Beg's house The Sait and the Mirza retired together having ordered every other person to withdraw Solymaun Beg then cut the lime and applied the cinnabar to it and concealed the needles within the lime He also took goor and making it up into a ball he gave it to the Sait, who took it asking what it was he was giving him, to which the Mirza answered that it would do him good and desired him to eat it After waiting a little time, the Sait said he felt himself unwell and left the house in his palankeen When he came out he told his servant that from what the Mirza had given him he felt a violent heat in his throat and his stomach He desired him to give him his shawl with which he wrapped himself up, and to carry him quickly home to his own house

The foregoing account Hormusjee received from the Sait's servant He was himself present when the Sait returned to his own house The Sait did not go to the place where he usually sat, but went to his sleeping room in the upper part of the house He sent for Hormusjee to come up to him, when he found him seated in a chair and his woman with him (Here Capt Cleiland left us) All three were then seated together The Sait then addressed them and

*Red mercuric sulphide

said, "I now tell you two that somebody has bewitched me this day as the Mirza tells me, I shall vomit blood and be otherwise unwell, but do not be alarmed and be quiet, stay near me and send accounts of everything that passes to the Mirza." The Sait said this with an appearance of suffering in his face and immediately lay down on his cot. He afterwards became very cold and then began to perspire. Both the cold and perspiration continued to increase and he said his tongue felt as if contracted, his throat excessively heated and his body as if pricked with needles. His under garment required to be twice changed on account of the perspiration. About a quarter of an hour after he had an evacuation. Hormusjee had gone out of the room for a little time and in his absence as he afterwards heard, the Sait called his Khidmutgar (either Ooma or Maloo) and desired him to go to Solyman Beg and tell him that he felt himself extremely unwell, to forgive him any fault he might have committed, to come soon and give him relief as he was in great agony. Hormusjee returned and the Sait said to him, "Write to the Mirza and tell him whatever I may have done, to come and assist me." (Hormusjee afterwards corrected himself and said that the words 'Whatever I have done' were in the Sait's message by the Khidmutgar and not in the note which he sent.) He then wrote a letter to that effect. The Mirza then came and sat by the Sait on his cot. The Mirza asked him what was the matter and he replied, "What is the matter with me? I am in great pain, forgive me and cure me." Before the Mirza's arrival he had sent Hormusjee a note in answer to his telling him not to be alarmed for that the Sait would recover and enclosing two small papers with something written on them which he desired to be washed in 4 or 5 pice weight of ghee which was to be given to the Sait, and if he refused he was at all events to be made to take it. Hormuz and the Sait's woman were desired in the letter to remain near the Sait and to allow no one else to approach him. When the Mirza came, he asked Hormuz what had been done with the papers he had sent and finding that one of them had been given as he directed, he mixed the other himself in 4 or 5 pice weight of ghee and gave it to the Sait. The Sait afterwards was seized with a violent and lasting fit of vomiting followed by several evacuations. (Solyman in his note had desired that the Sait's vomit and whatever he might pass, should be kept till he should see it. At the same time he sent three wicks and desired they should be burned in ghee and not in oil. He also desired a seer of ghee to be procured, half of it to be thrown out near Bapoo Saunee's door and the other half to be brought back and given to the Sait and burnt as above directed—which was done.) At one time the Sait became senseless, when he came to himself he complained much of the pain he suffered. By this time it was eleven o'clock and more at night

During the Sait's swoon, the people of the house began to lament loudly and the Mirza told them not to be alarmed as the Sait would certainly recover, he desired they might be sent away that they might not disturb the Sait with their cries. Some went away and some stayed. The Sait fainted a second time while Hormuz was below, but he was called up to bring a bottle of Eau-de-Luce* which he wished to apply to the Sait's nose during his first swoon but was forbidden by Solymaun Beg. It was now applied but without effect. Among others who held the Eau-de-Luce to the Sait's nose was a Parsee Hakcem, but it had no effect and they suspected

(Incomplete)

No 157—The Resident requests the Governor to consider the proposal of the Peshwa for cession of territory by Gaikwad in commutation of former's demands on him.

**FROM—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY WARDEN**

Poona, 8 April 1815

Sir,

A long period has elapsed since I did myself the honour of addressing the Right Honorable the Governor on the subject of Gungadher Shastry's negotiations. After the date of my last dispatch I told the Paishwa's ministers that the Shastry must march after the festival of the Holi, that if they choose to give up Bhugwunt Row in the interim the Shastry would negotiate with them as long as he stayed, but that he would not enter in any conference without such a proof of their sincerity. After the Shastry marched (I said), all hope of an amicable adjustment with the Guickwar was at an end and the realization of the Paishwa's claims would depend on the arbitration of the British Government, that the British Government would enter on an arbitration so soon as the Paishwa should renounce his pretensions to a right to remove the Guickwar, to interfere in his domestic arrangements and should shew that he renounced his design of fomenting discontent in the Guickwar's family by sending Bhugwunt Row and Bundoojee back to Baroda, but that as long as His Highness maintained the pretensions alluded to, the British Government would not consider itself bound to interfere. The Paishwa's Ministers paid me many visits to induce me to recall this declaration, and either to commence arbitration or desire the Shastry to negotiate, but I contented myself with requesting at each interview, that His Highness would give the Shastry his dismissal in form as I should be sorry he were obliged to

* An antidote to snake-bites

march without it. At length the Paishwa's Ministers endeavoured to engage the Shastry in a separate negotiation which was to be conducted without my knowledge or participation, and as this was the sort of negotiation which it was the object of the Shastry's mission to bring about, I assented to his commencing it. He did so about ten days ago. He has since been honourably received and entertained by the Paishwa, and has had frequent interviews with his Ministers. He has employed those opportunities with the utmost assiduity to discover the real disposition of the Paishwa's Ministers, and he is now persuaded that they are sincerely inclined to treat with him for the adjustment of their master's claims, although they may differ from him about the terms proper for the one party to give and the other to receive. His own conjecture is, that the Paishwa expects about a crore of rupees for arrears and about ten lacs of annual tribute hereafter, but that His Highness's desire of extending his dominions is so great, that he would be contented with cession of territory yielding seven lacs in lieu of all demands. The Shastry concurs with me in opinion that this last arrangement would be very beneficial to the Guickwar, but the prejudices of his Durbar against cessions of land are so great, that he cannot venture upon it without stronger support than I can promise him. He observes that the undisputed balance of the last account is thirty-nine lacs of rupees, the interest of which alone would amount to nearly as large an annual payment as he thinks might satisfy the Paishwa both for the past and the future, and also that even if he could obtain a deduction for Baroach and a remission of tribute in other accounts, there would still remain at least a third of the present tribute which is as much as he now proposes to give. Altogether for these reasons he is anxious that I should write to the Right Honourable the Governor, *and request his sanction to the proposed arrangement.* I am aware of the embarrassment it may occasion to the Right Honourable the Governor to be called upon to decide on so important a point for another state, but the adjustment in question would remove so many difficulties, both present and future, that I am certain the Right Honourable the Governor will be disposed, as far as in his power, to facilitate it. Reference to Baroda is entirely out of the question as I do not think the present conferences would go on for a week longer without a reference to me which would entirely change the character of the proceedings, and oblige me to return to my former demands as a condition of the Shastry's continuing his intercourse or else to give them up at once. I hope, therefore, to be early favoured with the sentiment of the Right Honourable the Governor.

I must observe before I conclude this letter, that it is by no means impossible that the Paishwa may reject the intended offer. The

Shastry himself is not positive that it will be accepted, but he is led to propose it by his zeal for the Guickwar's service which indeed he spares no opportunity to promote

Should His Highness the Paishwa show a desire for an immediate payment, part of the territory might be commuted for a sum of ready money, and I would be happy to know the utmost, in money which the Right Honourable the Governor would think it for the Guickwar's advantage to pay for a general discharge of his arrears and what it would be desirable to agree to for his future tribute

No 158—The Governor of Bombay signifies his assent to the offer of cession of territory by the Gaikwad and mentions certain considerations to be kept in view in effecting the transfer

**FROM—THE CHIEF SECRETARY,
TO—THE RESIDENT AT POONA.**

Bombay Castle, 11 April 1815

Sir,

I have been directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 8th of this month, submitting a proposition originating with Gungadhar Shastry for the cession to the Paishwa of territory yielding seven lacs of rupees in liquidation of the claims of His Highness against the Guickwar state

The Governor in Council by no means regrets that the negotiation should have formed itself into its present shape, thereby leaving on this Government the least degree of responsibility that could possibly fall on it in the adjustment of those claims

In the letter from Mr Secretary Adam of the 6th of May last a copy of which is already in your possession, it will appear that the Supreme Government has been extremely desirous that the settlement of those claims should be left, if possible, to the native Governments immediately, under an impression that any arrangement that could be made by this Government for adjusting those claims could certainly not be satisfactory to both parties and probably to neither

With respect to the adjustment proposed by the Shastry, it is to be observed that he admits the sum of thirty-nine lacs of rupees to be justly due to the Paishwa on the settlement of the last account, the interest of which he states, would alone amount to nearly as large an annual payment as he thinks might satisfy the Peshwa both for the past and the future and also that if he could obtain a deduction for Broach and a remission of tribute on other account,

there would still remain at least a third of the present tribute which is as much as he now proposes to give altogether

The Shastry, it is to be presumed, possesses so complete a knowledge of the merits of the different claims of the Paishwa and of the arguments that are to be opposed to them, that any opinion given by this Government would be less likely to be correct than the opinions he has formed. On taking, however, a general view of all that has hitherto passed upon this important question, the Governor in Council is very much disposed to think that if the Paishwa should accede to the propositions, it would be a very advantageous compromise to the Guickwar of his complicated claims, especially if in the compromise all demands past and future, be comprehended such as the payment of Nuzzurrannahs on the investiture of succeeding Guicawars

The Governor in Council is aware that strong objections will be likely to be made by the Baroda Government to a relinquishment of any part of its territory. Everything, however, has an intrinsic value, and if its cession of territory should tend to the liquidation of claims considerably beyond its value, it would in the opinion of this Government be far better to alienate such part of its dominions as would satisfy the Paishwa than to allow the finances of the state to be permanently loaded with a debt and tribute perhaps equal to an absorption of the revenue of more than double the extent of territory proposed to be ceded

It has hitherto been the policy of this Government to endeavour to exclude, as far as might be practicable, the increase of the authority of the Paishwa in Guzerat and to the wisdom of this policy the present Government fully subscribes, notwithstanding however these objections, no pecuniary arrangement could in his opinion be made with equal facility and advantage for releasing the Guickwar state from the claims the liquidation of which has been assented to by the Paishwa

During the course of your proceedings with the Poona Government detailed in your present and in your preceding despatches on this important subject, the Governor in Council has only to assure you that they have met his entire approbation, and that he attributes to your firm and steady line of conduct this disposition which has recently manifested itself in the Poona Government, not only to enter into a negotiation with Gungadher Shastry, but to receive him with that attention and those marks of respect, which are due to the accredited Minister of an Independent State

What the precise time may be in which you may disclose your knowledge of the proceedings of Gungadher Shastry must be left to your decision. It will, however, be difficult for the Poona

Government to assign any reasonable cause for the secrecy with which the negotiations have hitherto been conducted, but as our great object is finally to adjust them, it seems of little consequence to this Government by what means that adjustment may have been brought about

After these observations it will hardly be necessary to add that in the event of the Paishwa's acquiescence with the Shastry's propositions, the Governor in Council will be ready to exert his best endeavours in prevailing on the Guickwar to accede to them, and to induce the Supreme Government to confirm the proceedings, a reference to which authority, it would appear by Mr Adam's letter above adverted to, will be requisite before any final adjustment shall take place

Even, however, if the Paishwa should accede to the proposition of receiving a cession of territory in full and perpetual sovereignty yielding an annual revenue of seven lacs of rupees in discharge of all his past and future claims of whatever nature on the Guickwar, the Governor in Council is apprehensive that some difficulty will be experienced in the selection of the districts to be made over to the Paishwa. On this important point of the negotiation, it may not be undesirable that some of the Purgunnahs belonging to the Honourable Company which are inconveniently situated for our control and management should be included in the cession, in lieu of which we might receive territories in exchange from the Guickwar more centrally situated. The British territories in Guzerat are already too much intersected by those of the Paishwa and in any arrangements that may be made for territorial cessions in that province, it would be desirable to circumscribe rather than to extend that evil. At the same time it would be more advantageous to the Baroda state that the British, rather than the Paishwa's territories, should come in contact with those of the Guicawar

which the claims have been advanced and opposed This explanation has been entered into with the view of meeting any argument which the Paishwa may eventually advance in support of his claims formed upon the offers already made for their compromise as acquiesced under by the British Government

No 159 —A state of great efficiency to which the Peshwa's Brigade was brought by Major Ford is reported by the Resident to the Governor General

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE VICE-PRESIDENT IN COUNCIL

Poona, 28 April 1815

Sir,

Major Ford having expressed a wish to show me His Highness the Paishwa's Brigade under his command, I yesterday proceeded to Dappuree for the purpose of inspecting it As the success of this corps is of importance both to the character of our own officers and to the strength of our ally, it gives me great satisfaction to be able to submit to His Excellency the Governor General the most favourable accounts of the state of discipline to which it has attained The men having been mostly raised in Hindostan are remarkable in this part of the country for their size and appearance and their appointments are in the best order As far as I can judge the marching firing and manoeuvring of the Brigade was such as would be respectable in any native battalion The Artillery was well served and the whole performance of the corps was such as to reflect the greatest credit on Captain Ford and the officers under his command especially when their small number and the other disadvantages under which they laboured are taken into account I also visited the Arsenal where a gun-carriage and a tumbril had just been finished in a style of great perfection by artificers in His Highness the Paishwa's service under the orders of Captain Hew, and the Hospital which was remarkably clean and regular On the whole I feel confident that whenever His Highness the Paishwa's Brigade shall be inspected by a competent judge of military subjects, it will be found equal to any expectations that can have been formed of it

P S For the fuller information of His Excellency the Governor General I have the honour to enclose a return of the Paishwa's Brigade

No 160—The Resident forwards the proposal for consideration about cession of territory by the Gaikwad to meet the Peshwa's demands.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY.

Poona, 29 April 1815.

Sir,

Since I had last the honour to address you, the negotiations between the Paishwa and Guickwar Ministers have made considerable progress. The Shastry having thrown out a hint that he might be able to prevail on his master to agree to a cession of territory, the overture was early seized on by the Paishwa and after much discussion the amount of seven lacs of rupees was agreed on by both parties. As it was thought that the situation of the lands in question might be left with more advantage to future arrangement, the negotiation might be considered as brought to a close if the Paishwa did not still continue to demand the service of a body of the Guicawar Horse. His Highness agreed that this contingent should only serve when he should take the field in person, and said he only insisted on its attendance as an admission of his sovereignty and the Shastry replied that the Guicawar would acknowledge his sovereignty by receiving investiture from him, provided it were always conferred on the nearest heir and without a nuzzeranah, but said the expense of the horse was more than the Guicawar could afford. This difficulty, it is to be hoped, will soon be surmounted, but the negotiation has received a much more serious check from intelligence that has reached the Shastry from Baroda, of the repugnance of His Highness Futteh Sing Row to any arrangement on the basis of a territorial cession.

This information has occasioned considerable perplexity and disappointment to the Shastry whose negotiations were so rapidly drawing to a close, he still entertains a hope, his eyes to his own interest, but in the meantime he feels that he will be compelled to throw (?) delays in the way of a final adjustment which risk the ultimate success of all his measures. An opportunity is offered of suspending the negotiation in consequence of the great desire evinced by the Paishwa to make a pilgrimage to the Krishna which will occupy him for a fortnight. I have hitherto discouraged this design but shall now agree to it and I hope by the time His Highness returns that a more favourable answer may have arrived from Baroda. The Shastry has written to Futteh Sing stating his opinion that if all the Guicawar claims are admitted there will re-

main an arrear of one crore and a half of rupees, that if the Paishwa allows a remission of one half, there will remain a sum of which the annual interest will be eleven lacs of rupees. That even if the indemnity for Baroach and a deduction on account of the expense of the Baroda Subsidiary Force should be allowed, the Guicawar would not expect his tribute to be reduced more than one half, and that he would therefore have seven lacs to pay besides the eleven lacs of interest, altogether a sum of eighteen lacs on account of demands which his Highness the Paishwa is willing to compromise for seven lacs.

The Shastry desires that this communication may not be considered as precluding him from opposing the whole of the Paishwa's demands in case of an arbitration but at the same time he wishes it to be known to the British Government and hopes the Right Hon'ble the Governor will join the weight of his opinion to induce the Guicawar to accede to a settlement so much for the real advantage of his own state.

No 161—Elphinstone reports his proposed journey to Nasik in the company of the Peshwa and the Shastry.

**FROM—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY WARDEN.**

Poona, 3 May 1815

Sir,

The Paishwa has completed his pilgrimage to Wahee at an earlier period than I expected and is now desirous of setting out on his usual journey to Nasik, from which he has been detained much beyond his usual time by his transactions with Gungadher Shastry. As it is by no means desirable to interrupt the pending negotiation in its present stage, it becomes necessary either to prevail on His Highness to give up his intention or to accompany him to Nasik. His Highness is very anxious for this last arrangement, which is also wished for by the Shastry. It appears to me to be even unreasonable to prevent His Highness's proceeding on a journey to which he attaches so much importance when the delay in the final adjustment of the Guicawar's affairs is so little to be ascribed to him. I have therefore determined to accompany him and shall set out on the 7th instant with the Shastry and the Paishwa's ministers. I expect to be absent from two to three months during which time Lieut. Pottinger will remain in charge of the local duties of this Residency.

No 162—The Bombay Government disapproves of the Shastri's going beyond his powers and handling the question of the Peshwa's sovereignty over the Baroda State

RESOLUTIONS

10 May 1815

Ordered that in acknowledging the receipt of the letter from the Resident at Poona of the 29th of last month, a copy of the despatch from Captain Cainac above recorded be forwarded to Mr Elphinstone that he may be apprized of the strong disinclination manifested by Futteh Sing to transfer of territory to the Paishwa of the annual rental of seven lacs of rupees in commutation of His Highness's claims upon the Baroda State

Notwithstanding that objection, however, the Governor in Council would have been disposed to have used his influence with the Guicawar to overcome those scruples, under a conviction that an adjustment of that description would have been substantially advantageous to the interests of His Highness the Guicawar, had not other pretensions been brought forward by the Paishwa to which this Government cannot lend its countenance or support in the terms in which they have been proposed

Gungadher Shastry was deputed to Poona "to examine into and adjust various demands and papers of accounts" subsisting between the Government of His Highness the Paishwa and the Sircar of the Rajah Anund Row Guicawar, but it never was in the contemplation either of the Supreme or of this Government, and certainly beyond the extent of any powers vested in that *native officer by his own Government to bring into discussion any question on the Rights of Sovereignty which may be claimed by the Poona Darbar over that of the Baroda state, much less was he warranted in proceeding the length of stating that the Guicawar would "acknowledge his sovereignty by receiving investiture from the Paishwa provided it were always conferred on the nearest heir",—an admission which affects the basis upon which the treaty of alliance between the Hon'ble Company and the Guicawar has been concluded and acknowledged by the treaty of Bassein. It embraces a direct acknowledgment of the right of the Paishwa to interfere in the domestic concerns of the Guicawar, and its effects at this moment from the disposition recently manifested by the Paishwa to encroach upon the rights of the Guicawar, can hardly be calculated upon*

The Governor in Council considers it proper therefore to request that Mr Elphinstone will be pleased to express to Gungadher

Shastry the concern of this Government that he should have proceeded to the length of discussing the question of sovereignty between the two states, and to restrict his future discussions to a consideration of the pecuniary demands and papers of accounts subsisting between the two Governments, but under the want of discretion which has been manifested by the Shastry in this instance, it would rather be desirable that he should terminate his mission as soon as possible and return to Baroda, in order that the Guicawar state may be relieved from the unprofitable expense which his Highness incurs for maintaining the mission without any prospect of effecting an adjustment upon any satisfactory principles

No 163—Elphinstone explains why he countenanced the Peshwa's claim of investiture in the succession of the Baroda State

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY WARDEN**

Bailmaree (?) 11 May 1815.

Sir,

I should have concurred in censuring the indiscretion of Gungadher Shastry if he acknowledged the test of sovereignty which the Paishwa has been, for some time, claiming and which had been so decidedly opposed by the British Government, but at present he has only agreed to admit it as relates to the Paishwa's right of conferring investiture on the legal successor to the Musnud, the test of sovereignty exercised over the Paishwa himself by the Rajah of Sattara

On this subject I beg leave to refer to the letter from the Supreme Government dated December 15th 1802, an extract from which was sent to me from Bombay for my guidance in the present discussions, the 17th paragraph is peculiarly applicable to the case in point That despatch was written at the time of the Governor General's satisfaction of the treaty with the Guicawar or at all events nearly about that period and 15 days before the conclusion of the treaty of Bassem It must therefore be considered as a most authentic exposition of the intentions of the British Government in concluding those engagements It expressly admits the Paishwa's right to grant investiture to the Guicawar and declares that right to be nowise incompatible with our treaty with the latter prince It is therefore to be apprehended that we should be obliged to recognize this right even in the event of an arbitration I beg leave here to explain that the pretensions of the Paishwa, to which I so often objected, relate to a right of interfering in the domestic con-

cerns of the Guicawar and not to his right of investiture, which has never been called in question

With respect to the power with which the Shastry is invested I possess no information, but I may be permitted to remark that there is nothing to limit his powers in the treaty of Bassein. That engagement constitutes the British Government arbitrator of the Paishwa's pecuniary claims, but by no means declares that he has no other claims, and as the Shastry's mission was designed to effect a compromise between the two states, it might be supposed to embrace a general adjustment of all claims and pretensions. This was the light in which I always regarded it and it was owing to this circumstance, that I expressed no disapprobation of the Shastry's proceedings

The principal question still appears to me to be, whether the proposed territorial exchange is really advantageous, if so it would be advisable for the Guicawar to try to procure the removal of the offensive conditions regarding the investiture, rather than throw away all the benefit of the arrangement. To me it appears peculiarly advantageous even in its present state, for although it retains the Paishwa's connection with the Guicawar in name, it is the only equitable arrangement that occurs to me for entirely abolishing that relation in reality. The Guicawar and the Paishwa would henceforward be absolutely unconnected states and the British Government would be released from the duty of procuring the annual service of the Guicawar's troops and the payment of his tribute. On this principle a similar territorial cession has been strongly recommended by the Supreme Government as the best mode of adjusting the Paishwa's claims on the Nizam, and however strong His Highness the Guicawar's repugnance to it may be, I should hope it might be overcome by reflection and by the weight of the Right Honorable the Governor's advice. His Highness Futteh Sing's objection, however, may possibly be not to the nature of the territorial cession, but to the amount. On this I do not venture to offer an opinion. I have implicitly taken my own from the Shastry who is better able than I am, to judge of the extent of Guicawar's resources and the validity of the Paishwa's claims. I must, however, observe as much stress is laid on the smallness of the Guicawar's means, that it will be impossible to convince the Paishwa that after 13 years of the Company's protection and of our economical arrangement, the Guicawar's Government can be in a worse state than during the period of waste and civil war, when Rawjee Appajee paid 60 lacs of rupees in 1798

In the event, however, of the Guicawar deciding to break off the present negotiation, the arbitration of the British Government may

be easily recurred to. It is an arrangement of which the Paishwa has from the first, professed himself desirous. He was led into the present negotiations with the Shastry by my telling that our arbitration would be withheld unless he delivered up Bhugwunt Row or otherwise effectually renounced all right to interfere in the Guicawar's domestic affairs. This he thought humiliating at first, but he has now been led to accept the last of these steps by his hopes of territorial acquisition and I doubt not he would renounce his pretensions in form as soon as he found the present negotiation broken off and the arbitration suspended. That done the British Government would be bound in faith to forget all his former intrigues and to judge between him and the Guicawar with perfect impartiality. It may be questioned whether this course of action would not be more advantageous to the Paishwa than the present one.

As the Right Honourable the Governor does not positively desire the Shastris to withdraw, I shall suspend the communication of his sentiment on that subject until I hear from him again. I beg leave to suggest that when the Shastris is removed, it be done by a positive order direct from Baroda, as the interruption of the negotiation by the British Government while it is going on well between the parties, would be objectionable on many accounts besides unnecessarily drawing on us an odium would embarrass our other affairs at this Durbar.

No. 164—The Governor approves the course followed by the Resident in the negotiations of the Shastris with the Peshwa's Government.

FROM—FRANCIS WARDEN, CHIEF SECRETARY,
TO—M. ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT POONA.

Bombay Castle, 31 May 1815

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th May on the subject of the negotiations carrying on by Gungadher Shastry for the settlement of the Paishwa's claims on the Guicawar.

I have been instructed to observe that in using my expression contained in my letter of the 8th of May that this Government could not lend its support to the pretensions of the Paishwa in the terms in which they had been proposed, the Governor in Council had fully under his consideration the despatch of the Governor General in Council of the 15th of December 1802 which clearly defines the degree of supremacy which the Poona Government may claim the right of exercising over that of Baroda.

At a time, however, when His Highness the Paishwa manifests so active a disposition to introduce an authority over His Highness the Guicawar of a more controlling nature and more paramount than the existing treaties warrant, the admission of a disposition which will be found to have displayed itself by His Highness' predecessors when the treaties of Porunder and of Salbye were negotiated, it appeared to the Governor in Council to be necessary to receive any propositions from His Highness in which the question of sovereignty was brought forward in terms not sufficiently explicit with every degree of caution, and by these impressions alone was the Governor in Council influenced in directing the communication of the observations contained in my letter of the 8th May

Under the explanation, however, which you have afforded in your letter of the 11th, the Governor in Council approves of your having suspended the communication of his sentiment to the Shāstry, and in the event of his recall becoming necessary, your suggestion that it would be required by a positive order from Baroda will be attended to

The Governor in Council has only to repeat his opinion that if the claims of the Paishwa could be adjusted by a territorial cession yielding an annual rental of seven lacs of rupees, it would be highly advantageous to the Guicawar whose acquiescence in such an adjustment, this Government entertains a hope, may though not without difficulty, be obtained, it, therefore, upon the whole appears desirable that the Shastri should press his negotiations, the early termination of which, however, is desirable on many accounts, and particularly on that of expense. Adverting to the observation contained in the 5th para of your letter, "that it will be impossible to convince the Paishwa that, after 13 years of the Company's protection and economical arrangements, the Guicawar Government can be in a worse state than during the period of waste and civil war when Rowjee Appajee paid sixty lacs of rupees in 1798", the Governor in Council refrains from entering into an explanation of the motives which influenced that Minister in making so large a payment to the Paishwa, but when he considers the state to which the Guicawar finances were reduced by that donation, by Kanojee's and Malhar Row's rebellion, by the large arrears due to the Arabs, and by the degree of confusion and peculation which pervaded the whole of the administration of the Guicawar when the interposition of our authority was solicited, the impoverished state of that Government can no longer be a matter of doubt or of surprise, that it has not yet recovered from its distresses. The despatch that accompanied my letter of the 23rd September last, will have sufficiently proved, whilst, if the effects of the Company's protection and of our

economical arrangements should have hitherto only proved the means of having preserved this branch of the Mahratta Empire from annihilation, it is all that could reasonably have been expected, even in the course of the thirteen years during which our influence has extended in the management of the affairs of the Guicawar, during which period a loan of nearly a crore of rupees from the Honourable Company has, it should be recollected, been punctually paid by that Government and liquidated at an interest of 8 per cent

No 165—The Resident reports several claims tendered by the Peshwa for settlement, his unexpected journey from Nasik to Pandharpur and the unsettled state of the Gaikwad dispute

**FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL**

29 June 1815

My Lord,

Since the date of my last dispatch to Your Excellency H H the Paishwa unexpectedly left Nassik x x x x after a stay of less than a month *

No progress was made in the settlement of the Guickwaur's affairs during His Highness's stay at Nassik and the negotiation regarding them is still suspended until the decision of the Government of Baroda shall be known Your Excellency will have observed the issue of the remonstrance which I delivered at Nassik by the different letters I addressed on the subject of it to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay and to the Resident at Nagpore

The confirmation of the engagements concluded with the Chiefs of Katteewaur is still a subject of constant discussion The Paishwa's ministers now declare that H.H consents to confirm the engagements verbally but is averse to executing any written agreement As this arrangement even if entered into with sincerity would not satisfy the Boomeeas, I have acquainted the ministers that unless we are enabled to assure those chiefs of the observance of the present settlement on H H's part, we shall be compelled to do so on our own and thus to guarantee the Boomeeas against any unjust demands from His Highness

I have communicated Your Excellency's sentiments on the subject of the duties levied by the Killahdar of Severndoorg and have received assurances that strict orders shall be issued against the practice

*The Peshwa reached Nasik on 26th May and left it on 10th June

The Paishwa's ministers have lately applied to me more than once for an account of the Paishwa's territory in Bundelcund that remained after the cession of a country producing 36 lacs to the Company I shall address a separate dispatch on this subject to Mr Adam

They have also renewed the mention of a settlement of their claims on H H the Nizam and promised to appoint commissioners without delay to accompany Capt Close to Hyderabad

The ministers are urgent respecting the Paishwa's claims in Hindostan and have applied in express terms for our consent to H.H's granting sunnads for his possessions of Dhar †

No 166—In the absence of Elphinstone his Asst Henry Pottinger reports to Government the murder of Gangadhar Shastri.

**FROM—HENRY POTTINGER, ASSISTANT IN CHARGE,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY WARDEN.**

Poona, 23 July 1815

Sir,

It is with the greatest concern I report to you for the information of the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council that authentic intelligence has this instant reached me through the Guicawar's Vakeel at this place of Gungadher Shastry having been murdered at Punderpore on the night of the 19th instant

Baupoo Myraul (the Guicawar's Vakeel) brought the only letter that has yet been received at Poona relative to this nefarious transaction and read it to me It merely says that the Shastry had proceeded to the Pagoda with a very few (five or six) attendants at the request of Trimbuckjee Dainglia and that on his way back to his camp he was fallen upon (by whom or what number the letter does not state) and found dead with six sabre wounds by his own people who went out to search for him, supposing he might have missed his road

I shall do myself the honour of reporting further particulars as I obtain them, but in the meantime as I conceive it of importance for the Right Hon'ble the Governor and the Resident at Baroda to have the earliest intimation of this event I despatch this letter by express The enclosed letter is from the Guicawar's agent and addressed to a relation of the Shastry's at Baroda and I have to beg that it may be transmitted by the express if any is dispatched from Bombay

†See letter dated 24 Dec 1815

No 166A

Resolutions of Boribay Council

Resolved that a copy of Lieut Pottinger's letter be forwarded by express to the Resident at Baroda for the information of Futteh Singh and the Guicawar Government expressing the deep concern with which this Government has received the communication of this atrocious proceeding which has deprived the Baroda Government of one of its most intelligent officers, assuring His Highness at the same time that the Governor in Council will use every exertion for the discovery of all the circumstances which have led to this lamentable occurrence as well as of the perpetrators of this atrocious act, in order that the most exemplary punishment may be inflicted on the persons concerned, and every reparation be made to the Baroda Government for so flagrant a violation of the principles by which the representatives of a Government are protected among civilised nations

In the present state of things however Captain Carnac should not be hasty in advising the nomination of a successor, and rather dissuade Futteh Sing from taking any measures for that purpose until the Resident had had an opportunity of submitting his opinions on the course most advisable to be adopted on the occasion

Any further particulars that may be received will be communicated to the Resident at Baroda, to whom the letter for the Shastry's relations received under a private cover from Lieut Pottinger is to be transmitted for delivery, and Captain Carnac to be informed that we are desirous to receive information of the members of the Shastry's family and of the state of his pecuniary circumstances

No 167—The action taken by the Resident upon receiving the intelligence of the Shastris murder is reported by him in this letter.

**FROM—THE RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY WARDEN.**

Ellora, 25 July 1815

Sir,

I yesterday received with deep concern the intelligence of the murder of Gungadher Shastry I shall return to Poona tomorrow and hope to be there in little more than a week His Highness the Paishwa will not arrive for as much longer, but I am not sorry to have some time for enquiry before he arrives I have the honour to enclose a translation of a letter I this day addressed to His Highness and sent by the direct route to Punderpore

No 167A

Substance of a letter from Mr Elphinstone to His Highness the Paishwa dated Ellora 25 July 1815

Last night I received with astonishment and concern the intelligence of the murder of Gungadher Shastry, His Highness the Guicawar's Prime Minister at Punderpore. The circumstances of this case affect the British Government as much as if this calamity had befallen a minister of its own. The Governor General will therefore look to your Highness for discovering and punishing the authors and instigators of this atrocity perpetrated on the person of a Public Minister in the midst of your Highness's Court. From my knowledge of your Highness's justice and wisdom I doubt not that your Highness will leave no exertion untried to afford the retribution which the allied Governments are entitled to claim at your hands, and to wipe off the stains which the detestable transaction has cast on your Government. As I suppose Your Highness will have quitted Punderpore before I could reach that place, I shall immediately repair to Poona when I shall have the honour of waiting on your Highness on your arrival. I trust that event may soon take place.

No 168—The murder of the Shastri and its probable consequences are communicated to the Governor General by the Governor of Bombay

FROM—SIR EVAN NEPEAN, THE GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY,

TO—EARL OF MOIRA K G, GOVERNOR GENERAL

Bombay Castle, 28 July 1815

My Lord,

It is with great concern we communicate to your Lordship the enclosed copy of a letter which has this day been received from the Resident in charge of the Residency at Poona conveying the melancholy intelligence of the murder of Gungadher Shastry at Punderpore on the night of the 19th instant.

Your Lordship will no doubt recollect that Gungadher Shastry was the native agent of this Government at the Darbar of Baroda and that at the desire of Futteh Sigh he was nominated in the month of May 1813 to a confidential situation under His Highness, in both of which characters he acquitted himself with so much ability and zeal as to obtain the approbation of the Residents at Baroda and Poona the Supreme Government and of the Hon'ble the Court of Directors.

On the nomination of Gungadher Shastry to conduct the negotiations respecting the adjustment of the pecuniary claims of the Poona

and Baroda states against each other, His Highness the Paishwa manifested, as Your Lordship is aware, a decided reluctance to his reception, principally on the ground of the dishonour His Highness will incur by receiving as a minister, a person notoriously attached to his mortal enemies, the family of Phurkia

Those objections were, however, removed by the explanation and assurances afforded by the Resident at Poona, that no offence could be intended to be offered by the Guicawar in the nomination of the Shastry, that it was then too late to retract as it would be impossible to account to the Guicawar for a refusal to receive his ambassador after his mission had been finally announced and agreed to, and the Paishwa in consequence received the Shastry though not without protesting against his being accredited as the Dewan of the Baroda state

Having thus briefly stated the character of the Shastry and the circumstances attending his recent mission to Poona, it would be improper for us to offer any opinion on the probable causes of this atrocious act, especially as we have been informed that His Highness's prejudices had been entirely removed and that overtures had even been made by him to entertain the Shastry in his service

The circumstances which have already been communicated to us by Lieut Pottinger are however sufficient to induce a belief that political considerations alone have occasioned this inhuman proceeding and we trust that His Highness will not only adopt such measures as may be effectual to the discovery of the instigators and perpetrators of the murder but inflict that exemplary punishment on the offenders, which crimes of such enormity so justly deserve

No 169—Further information on the subject of the murder is communicated.

**FROM—THE ASSISTANT IN CHARGE OF THE RESIDENCY AT POONA,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY WARDEN**

Poona, 2 August 1815

Sir,

In conformity with the intention expressed in my letter to you of the 23rd ultimo I have now the honour to forward for the information of the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council, an abstract translation of a report drawn up by the Karkoons who accompanied Gungadher Shastry to Punderpore and delivered to me yesterday by the Guicawar Vakeel at this place

The Right Hon'ble the Governor will observe that no material light is thrown on any of the circumstances which led to the assassi-

nation of the Shastry by the document, but it will be perhaps satisfactory to Government in the absence of further particulars, and I trust that patient investigation and offers of large rewards will hereafter ensure a full discovery of the instigators as well as the perpetrators of this atrocious act, the plan of which seems to have been concerted and carried into execution with the most inveterate malignity

I expect Mr Elphinstone to arrive at the Residency about the 5th instant, and I have already communicated to the Guicawar's Vakeel in the name of that gentleman the determination of the British Government to consider the calamity that has befallen the Baroda Government by the murder of the Shastry in the same light as if a similar event had occurred to one of its own public officers

No 170—The Governor General approves the conduct of the Resident in his dealings with the Peshwa on the subject of the Shastri's murder, gives him further directions and conveys him authority to call for military aid should it become necessary. The document is a masterpiece of Adam's penmanship and British diplomacy

**FROM—JOHN ADAM, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
TO—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT POONA.**

Futtyghur, 15 August 1815

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 23rd of July to the address of the Governor General reporting the assassination of Gungadher Shastry, and the measures taken and those contemplated by you in consequence. Mr Pottinger's despatch of the 21st July had previously made His Excellency acquainted with that event

The Governor General has learned of the perpetration of this atrocious act with the utmost concern and astonishment deeply aggravated by the consideration of the strong grounds of suspicion which exist of the participation of Trimbuckjee Dainglia in the guilt of that horrid transaction

Before I proceed to convey to you the instructions of the Governor General on the distressing subject to which the dispatches above acknowledged refer, I am directed by His Excellency to express to you his entire approbation of your communication to the Paishwa, and of your injunctions to Mr Pottinger for the eventual security of the persons and property of the Baroda Mission, as well as of your proceedings generally as reported in your despatch. His Lordship desires that you will signify to Mr Pottinger his approbation of the measures adopted by that officer previously to his receipt

naturally demand the severest retribution. But supposing the Paishwa to act in the manner now presumed, though in strictness no more than his duty, it will probably be a justifiable consideration for His Highness's feelings to remit the capital part of the sentence on the condition of Trimbuckjee being surrendered to the British Government to be confined for life. If therefore the expression of an earnest desire on the part of the Paishwa that the life of Trimbuckjee should be spared, be conveyed to you under the circumstances supposed or if on other grounds that degree of lenity appears to you likely to be beneficial, His Lordship authorizes you to extend it to the criminal on the condition stated.

In either of the other cases supposed—excepting the escape of Trimbuckjee without the knowledge and connivance of the Paishwa, His Highness will become distinctly and unequivocally responsible for the act of his servant and the punishment of the actual perpetrators of the crime, which should not however be lost sight of will become in a political point of view a question of secondary importance.

The Governor General is willing to hope that the Paishwa's reflection aided by the effect of your representations, will deter him from adopting a course which will involve him in irretrievable ruin. A knowledge of the peculiarities of His Highness's character with his notorious attachment to Trimbuckjee satisfy the Governor General that His Highness might be led astray to a certain degree without any determinate purpose. And at the same time a confidence in His Highness's regard for the principles of the alliance founded on his personal experience of its benefit, however his conduct may exhibit instances of inattention to them, will dispose the Governor General to allow His Highness the utmost advantage of time for consideration, and if you should be called on to act before this despatch reaches you, His Lordship has no doubt that on the same grounds you will have omitted no effort of persuasion or remonstrance to induce the Paishwa to act in a manner conformable to his genuine interests and unquestionable obligations before you proceed to the extremity which must be the alternative of his persevering neglect of them. It occurs to the Governor General that a letter from His Lordship to the Paishwa might be of use in confirming the impression of your personal representations and a letter to the effect of the enclosed draft will be prepared and transmitted to you by the Persian Secretary. You will exercise your own judgment with regard to presenting or withholding it.

Should His Highness by pertinaciously supporting Trimbuckjee or the other perpetrators of the murder of the Shastry, compel the British Government to consider His Highness as having set the British Government at defiance, the affair will then become of a still

more serious nature involving questions and interests of the highest magnitude and importance. The precise course of proceeding in such a case must be a subject of the maturest deliberation and must be determined on a full examination of all the facts and bearings of the question. It will not fail to occupy His Lordship's serious thoughts although he trusts that the extremity will not arise. For the present it will be sufficient to signify to you in general terms His Lordship's decided resolution in either of the cases supposed and after full time shall be allowed to him to reflect on the consequences, to consider the Paishwa as having placed himself in the light of a public enemy of the British Government and that Government to have acquired the right to pursue those measures which may be dictated by its own sense of what is due to its interests and dignity. In what manner that resolution shall be practically followed up must, as already observed, be the subject of future deliberation, and the progress of your proceedings will probably afford information and suggestions which will enable his Lordship to shape his ultimate determination on this point. Your intention of discontinuing all intercourse with the Paishwa in these circumstances is entirely proper, but His Lordship would not wish any active measures to be taken until the receipt of instructions to that effect, unless the state of affairs should be such as to render it hazardous to the public interests to delay them. Of this character would be in His Lordship's opinion any indication of a design to undertake active measures on the part of the Paishwa or the entering on negotiations or intrigues tending to excite other states against us or otherwise of a nature prejudicial to our interests. Either of these cases would justify and demand recurrence to measures calculated to prevent the mischief of such a procedure by anticipating the design. In any event you will consider the means of securing His Highness's person an object of primary consideration and you will not hesitate in the case contemplated or under any demonstration of an intention to quit Poona connected with the designs here supposed, to take measures for preventing him from quitting the capital. You will of course endeavour in the first instance to effect this object by persuasion, setting before the Paishwa the unavoidable construction which the Governor General will put upon such an act at such a time, and the positive obligation on His Highness to remain at Poona for the purpose of satisfying the British Government on a point so essential to the national interest and honour. The forcible detention of the Paishwa will amount to an open rupture and must of course be accompanied with measures and arrangements suited to that state of things, but it will still be desirable to avoid as long as possible, consistently with the security of the public interests, the resort to further measures of hostility.

These are the only instructions which the Governor General feels himself able to give to you in the present state of his information and with reference to the different aspects which the affair may assume according to the line of conduct adopted by the Paishwa. While His Lordship has stated the general colour of his views of this case, you will be pleased to understand that it is not his wish to shackle your judgment which your own sense of expediency, aided by observation on the spot and knowledge of the characters of the personages concerned may suggest to you.

You will observe that in the preceding discussion His Lordship has not adverted to the possibility of His Highness the Paishwa being personally involved in this abominable affair. His Lordship cannot admit such a suspicion into his mind without the most direct proof of guilt or that inevitable presumption of it which would arise from His Highness's open and avowed protection of the murderers. Should the actual inculpation of the Paishwa be the result of the investigation the instructions in the preceding paragraphs referring to the case of His Highness's protection of the murderers will afford a rule for your guidance.

In the event of Trimbuckjee's sudden departure and endeavour to raise an insurrection in the country, or to escape into the territories of a foreign state, there can be no question in the first instance of the necessity for resorting to immediate measures for attacking and destroying him and you will of course, if this shall have occurred previously to your receipt of these instructions, have taken the necessary measures for putting in motion the troops under the command of Colonel Smith and eventually the force under the command of Colonel Doveton for the accomplishment of that object.

If Trimbuckjee should escape into the territories of a foreign power the Governor General will be prepared to demand his surrender or to take such other step as may be judged suitable to the occasion.

In order to afford you the aid of an efficient military force in the execution of the measures which may arise out of the transaction referred to in this dispatch, I am directed to convey to you the authority of the Governor General for applying to the Governments of Fort Saint George and Bombay or the Officers of those Governments respectively and to Colonel Doveton for such aid as you may require. I am instructed to transmit to you under open covers letters addressed to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George and to Colonel Doveton which may be transmitted with your application to those quarters. Every aid will of course be furnished by the Governor in Council of Bombay to whom a copy of this dispatch will be transmitted. The Resident at Hydera-

bad will also be prepared to take himself and to recommend to the Government of the Nizam the adoption of such measures as may be suggested by you to him in any of the emergencies now contemplated

The Governor General's entire reliance on your discretion ability and energy leaves him no hesitation in committing to you the exclusive control of the operations which may become necessary under the instructions and the progress of the events to which they relate

No 171—This important communication testifies to the zeal and foresight exercised by the Resident under the most trying circumstances attending the Shastri's murder

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—HIS EXCELLENCY THE EARL OF MOIRA**

Poona, 16 August 1815

My Lord,

After I had the honour of addressing you from Ellora I considered the course I was to pursue with all the deliberation which the importance of the subject merited. The accounts received from Poona and Punderpore left no doubt on my mind that Trimbuckjee was the author of the Shastry's murder. The same accounts as well as the language held by the pilgrims whom I met returning from Punderpore, proved that the belief in his guilt was universal and his crimes had excited a general clamour throughout the country. Suspicions were even thrown without disguise against the Paishwa as having approved, if he had not instigated, the assassination. The principal points I had to consider were whether I should call for an enquiry or wait for your Excellency's orders and if I called for an enquiry how I was to support my demand. It would have been very satisfactory to me in a case of such moment to have been able to wait Your Lordship's instructions, but the course appeared to me to be neither safe nor honourable. If Trimbuckjee expected to be accused by our Government and nothing but the deepest dissimulation on my part could have prevented his doing so, he would probably employ the interval in perverting the Paishwa's mind and engaging him either in acts of violence at home or such foreign negotiations as are inconsistent with the alliance. This would be facilitated by the circumstance of the Paishwa's remaining so long in suspense and doubtful whether the accusation when it came might not be against himself. It was uncertain what were Trimbuckjee's ultimate designs in the murder of the Shastry, and there appeared strong ground to suspect that his proceeding at Baroda would lead to a crisis even if we were to remain passive

It also seemed to me certain that my instructions when they arrived, would be to call on the Paishwa for justice and as no period would be less inconvenient for such a demand than the present, *nothing would have accrued from the delay but the disgrace of appearing to doubt whether your Excellency would resent the murder of a public Minister invited hither under solemn and repeated promises of the protection of the British Government* The advantages of the present period are that the Subsidiary Force can be spared from the frontier without the least inconvenience, a consequence of which is that it can return into cantonments without creating suspicion and alarm The season is discouraging to any attempt of Trimbuckjee to break into open violence, as the state of the rivers is equally unfavourable to his obtaining foreign assistance and his turning a plunderer by himself It is also desirable to commence while the popular clamour is loud in our favour and before Trimbuckjee has time to silence his enemies and to remove the most formidable of them especially the Bhow, whose influence would decline as long as Trimbuckjee was unopposed, if indeed his personal safety were not precarious which the sudden and unaccountable deaths of several persons who stood in Trimbuckjee's way render by no means improbable

These considerations but chiefly the dishonour of remaining silent when the whole country cried out induced me to determine on accusing Trimbuckjee as soon as I had an opportunity and these motives are sufficient to supersede all other considerations But after the measure is determined on I may be allowed to examine whether the line of conduct I have adopted is as consistent with our immediate interest as it is essential to our permanent honour and prosperity It may be in Your Excellency's recollection that at the time of Trimbuckjee's elevation, I stated my opinion that he was totally unfit to be the Minister of a state in alliance with us and that I only acquiesced in his appointment because I knew that I could not oppose him successfully without employing means inconsistent with the principles of our declared policy I must however confess that I did not anticipate anything like the administration which I have witnessed for the last six months The experience of that time puts it beyond a doubt that Trimbuckjee had prevailed on the Peishwa to revive the old Maratha policy from which we have succeeded in delivering the greater part of India His system was uniformly to endeavour to keep things quiet at Poona by fair professions to the British Government, and to carry all his points abroad by open violence or by a very barefaced fraud Some of the proofs of this are to be found in his occupation of the Nizam's posts at Mulhavia(?) and Dhoolghaut on pretence of treaties made in opposition to a fundamental article of the alliance, -his

superfluous if it were not imprudent to push any enquiries into his share of the transaction

Having determined on the propriety of immediately calling for justice it remained to fix on the extent of my demand and the means of enforcing it. In the first I determined to confine myself to the arrest of Trimbuckjee and his probable accomplices, leaving the final decision on his guilt to Your Excellency. The usual practice of imprisoning a man accused of murder was rendered doubly necessary in this case by the violence of the disposition of the accused and the power he possessed of disturbing the public tranquillity as well as of intimidating all who are likely to bear witness against him. I thought it best to say nothing of further enquiry as well because I thought the guilt of the accused established, as because I was unwilling to alarm the Peishwa, who whether guilty or innocent might dread the result of future and uncertain investigations. I intended at first to have taken no precaution against the possible consequences of this demand except putting the Brigade at Poona and the Residency on the alert against any sudden attack that Trimbuckjee might attempt when his case was desperate (a course which experience shows natives in his circumstances frequently to adopt) and directing one of the Battalions at Poona to be relieved, by which arrangement I should have the means of obtaining a reinforcement by detaining the relieved Battalion in case the attacks of Trimbuckjee's troops should oblige us to dislodge them from the town. But on communicating this plan to Col Smith that officer was decidedly of opinion that the Brigade at Poona was inadequate even for defence, and on full consideration of the circumstances it appeared to me highly imprudent to trust to it alone for maintaining our interests at this place. It would be Trimbuckjee's most obvious interest to bring about a struggle with our troops such as might compel the British Government to act against his master, and this would be easily within his reach as he commands all the Peishwa's own troops, and has acquired such an ascendancy over His Highness, that everything His Highness possesses may be considered at his disposal. The strength of the Brigade at the time I speak of was under one thousand firelocks and it was situated in a straggling cantonment close to the town, on which it was entirely dependent for its daily supplies of all descriptions. There were no bullocks for the tumbrils or stores and those for the guns were kept at some distance from the cantonment. It was separated from Seroor by two rapid rivers, and the boats even at the nearest were too far off to be protected by the Brigade. In these circumstances it was in Trimbuckjee's power to reduce this Brigade to extremities without striking a blow and almost without avowing his enmity, and it was impossible to remedy the evils without disclosing our weakness or

seizure of the town of Babee (?) and Bhowan Bheer (*) from the garrisons of the same prince, the tone of defiance adopted by his agent when he expelled the Nizam's troops and Mr Jenkins' agents from the Raja of Berar's village of Stewacar (?), his instigating the Raja of Noanuggur's dependants to rebellion and after disavowing that proceeding and promising to rectify it, his sending a body of horse under the nephew of his principal officer in Guzerat to assist the rebels against the British troops his granting asylum to notorious plunderers and instigating various chiefs in Kattywar to rebel his perfidious seizure of the chief of Patree and of Jetta Mehta contrary to the engagements with the Boornia which are admitted even by the Peishwa to be binding for three years the aggression of his deputy at Savnore on the Company's territory as well as his depredations on the lands of the Putwurdhuns his intrigues to subvert the Government of Baroda and finally his atrocious murder of a public Minister all these are in themselves infractions of the treaty of Bassein and they besides show principles so incompatible with our alliance that it is obvious our connection with the Peishwa could not long continue while he had such a minister Trimbuckjee's treachery violence and cruelty towards the Killedar of Darwar towards Appajee Row Nimbalkar and other persons unconnected with our Government as well as the language held by him and his agent on the subject of the chouth of Bengal, the tribute of Mysore and the Peishwa's right to be consulted in all our political proceedings, though not infractions of treaty, are full proofs of this spirit It follows therefore, that we must soon have demanded this man's dismissal, and that we could not have entered in any war or any serious enterprize as long as he was in power Our demand, however, was most likely to be produced by his conduct as a minister in forwarding some of the Peishwa's claims which would have connected his cause with his master's interests and with the object of excluding our interference in His Highness' internal Government It was scarcely to be hoped that he should give us an opportunity of demanding his punishment for his crimes as a man and in a case where the whole country is with us and the Peshwa has himself no interest and no concern that he can avow

I have hitherto said nothing of the charge against His Highness the Peishwa for participating in the murder Though there are circumstances unfavourable to his innocence there is nothing like the direct proof that exists against Denglia, and the murder of a Brahmin and of a person whose death was likely to be revenged, is besides so totally inconsistent with his character that I cannot believe him guilty At all events nothing could be done if he were connected beyond punishing his instruments and it is therefore

*Possibly this is Bhongir

superfluous if it were not imprudent to push any enquiries into his share of the transaction

Having determined on the propriety of immediately calling for justice it remained to fix on the extent of my demand and the means of enforcing it. In the first I determined to confine myself to the arrest of Trimbuckjee and his probable accomplices, leaving the final decision on his guilt to Your Excellency. The usual practice of imprisoning a man accused of murder was rendered doubly necessary in this case by the violence of the disposition of the accused and the power he possessed of disturbing the public tranquillity as well as of intimidating all who are likely to bear witness against him. I thought it best to say nothing of further enquiry as well because I thought the guilt of the accused established, as because I was unwilling to alarm the Peishwa, who whether guilty or innocent, might dread the result of future and uncertain investigations. I intended at first to have taken no precaution against the possible consequences of this demand except putting the Brigade at Poona and the Residency on the alert against any sudden attack that Trimbuckjee might attempt when his case was desperate (a course which experience shows natives in his circumstances frequently to adopt) and directing one of the Battalions at Poona to be relieved, by which arrangement I should have the means of obtaining a reinforcement by detaining the relieved Battalion in case the attacks of Trimbuckjee's troops should oblige us to dislodge them from the town. But on communicating this plan to Col Smith that officer was decidedly of opinion that the Brigade at Poona was inadequate even for defence, and on full consideration of the circumstances it appeared to me highly imprudent to trust to it alone for maintaining our interests at this place. It would be Trimbuckjee's most obvious interest to bring about a struggle with our troops such as might compel the British Government to act against his master, and this would be easily within his reach, as he commands all the Peishwa's own troops, and has acquired such an ascendancy over His Highness, that everything His Highness possesses may be considered at his disposal. The strength of the Brigade at the time I speak of was under one thousand firelocks and it was situated in a straggling cantonment close to the town, on which it was entirely dependent for its daily supplies of all descriptions. There were no bullocks for the tumbrils or stores and those for the guns were kept at some distance from the cantonment. It was separated from Seroor by two rapid rivers, and the boats even at the nearest were too far off to be protected by the Brigade. In these circumstances it was in Trimbuckjee's power to reduce this Brigade to extremities without striking a blow and almost without avowing his enmity, and it was impossible to remedy the evils without disclosing our weakness or

showing alarm which was the surest thing to bring on an attack. Even if he gave up this advantage and merely fled with his troops like Maheput Row with the real or pretended countenance of the Peishwa it would be in his power to throw the whole country into confusion before we could bring any troops against him. To guard against these evils I determined in recalling the force to Seroor the effect of which I thought would be to overcome all disposition to attempts of the nature I have described as well as to render them of little consequence if they actually broke out. I therefore requested Col Smith to order the force into cantonments taking every precaution to prevent the measure being attributed to any unusual motive. On the next day I sent a message to the Peishwa to explain that in consequence of Your Excellency's instructions and the state of affairs to the northward the force was no longer required in advance and would return to Seroor. I accompanied this with such communications as were most likely to prevent his thinking the march of the troops directed against him. I adopted the measure of ordering back the force with great hesitation. I was sensible that as His Highness was ignorant of my views it would be possible for designing persons to inspire him with alarming notions of the intention of the movement, and as he was at Punderpore at the time he might easily prolong his absence from the neighbourhood of our troops by feigning sickness or other affected delays. It nevertheless appeared certain that sooner or later the force must be ordered back and that it would create still more alarm after our discussions were begun than at an earlier period. After these measures I proceeded on my journey to Poora where I arrived on the 6th instant. I found the people of the city in a state of great alarm and looking forward with uneasiness to Trimbuckjee's return. Several persons had been arrested for reflecting on his conduct to the Shastry. All mention of the murder was forbidden by the Government and persons coming to the Residency had been stopped and had their names taken down before they were allowed to proceed. The Gykwar's vakeel and the whole of the mission had for some time been in the greatest consternation. They had now been in some measure reassured by the judicious measures of Captain Pottinger but their situation was still uneasy and the opinion of the hostility of Government to them was so strong that they were shunned by all the people of the city and even their most intimate connections only visited them by stealth. His Highness the Peishwa had not yet arrived but I received full accounts of his proceedings at Punderpore. Shortly before the Shastry's death His Highness had adopted strong measures for the protection of his person. These were redoubled after the murder new troops were entertained and removed from a distance on purpose to

guard His Highness and when he travelled his palanquin was closely surrounded by a thousand Carnatic peons, which was the more remarkable as it was his former custom to allow no troops to come within a certain distance of him while on the line of march. His Highness appeared surprised when he heard that I was coming back to Poona on account of the Shastry's murder, but he did not express any uneasiness at the return of the troops.

On the day of my arrival at Poona I received a visit from Bapoo Myral who was no sooner alone with me than he accused Trimbuckjee Denglia of the murder of his colleague and threw out strong imputations against the Peishwa. His charge, however, was principally directed against Trimbuckjee from whom he said his Government would expect retribution. Next day I was visited by Hurri Abba, Trimbuckjee's principal agent, who remained in charge of the Government during the Peishwa's absence. I immediately addressed him on the subject of an enquiry into the Shastry's murder to which he made a confused and incoherent answer. When I enquired what investigation had taken place, he replied that he had done all that was in his power at Poona without success, and when questioned regarding the proceedings at Punderpore, he referred me to Trimbuckjee and the Peishwa on their arrival. I enquired whether the steps I had repeatedly recommended had been taken to obtain proofs, if any existed, against Govind Row Bundoojee. He said he did not know where Bundoojee was and again advised me to wait the Peishwa's arrival. On the same day I received a verbal message from Trimbuckjee in answer to my letter to the Peishwa to the effect that he had done his utmost to find out the murderers without success, that the Shastry had many enemies, and could not be dissuaded by Trimbuckjee's advice and entreaties from going slenderly attended, that he would soon be in Poona and would communicate all he knew. On the same night he arrived and next morning sent a person to me, from whom I learned that he had no proceedings to show respecting the Shastry's murder as there had not been a single person examined on the subject. He apologized for Trimbuckjee's not visiting me on pretence of sickness.

On the 9th the Peishwa arrived in a close palanquin without giving notice of his approach and without being met by any of his chiefs. Strong guards mounted at night over his Palace and Trimbuckjee's house, and I now learned they were afraid of being assassinated by some of the Shastry's soldiers in retaliation for his blood. The 9th* was the great day of the Deccan, a festival at which many thousand Brahmins are assembled to receive charity from the Peishwa and at which all the inhabitants of Poona are collected

*Shravan Shudh 5 the day of Dakshana

and His Highness never fails to attend. He did not however attend on this occasion. On the 11th I applied for permission to wait on the Peishwa and on the 12th I received an answer which apparently had been studiously delayed that His Highness was unwell, but that in a few days he would send Hurree Abba to me. On the next day when I again applied for an audience I found that His Highness the Peishwa's infant daughter had unfortunately died; the loss of female children from various circumstances in Brahmin manners, especially from their marrying into other families in their infancy, is not considered as a great misfortune and is not thought worthy of one of the frequent visits of condolence, but it renders the father impure for three days and consequently in this case it afforded a good excuse for not receiving me for that period. I was not allowed to expect an audience even at the end of that time, but was told that in three days I should be visited by Trimbuckjee, and on the 6th day I should see the Peishwa. I had waited with great anxiety for an interview from an apprehension that if Trimbuckjee discovered the extent of my designs before I had opened them to the Peishwa, he would not fail to poison His Highness's mind and might perhaps induce him by his representations to quit the city and might bring on embarrassments by such an attack as I have before alluded to, and now saw no prospect of concealing my views much longer. I had spent the first days in examining the Guicawar's people and had sent daily messages to the Peishwa's ministers to press enquiry, but having now obtained full information, I thought decency required me to discontinue those requests and to decline receiving Trimbuckjee though without assigning the cause.

I therefore became more anxious than ever to communicate with the Peishwa and I resolved to do so by means of a writing (No. 1) which I had intended to have presented at my audience. I found it however almost as difficult to convey my letter to His Highness as to see him myself. I had relied on the Bhow for undertaking this office, but I found that person though still nominal Minister, was under too great dread of Trimbuckjee to venture and that he would be exposed to actual danger if he fell under the suspicion of having any understanding with me. I also found that none of the Peishwa's personal associates could be induced by money or otherwise to present a letter from me unknown to Trimbuckjee, and I was therefore obliged to send it openly by a native writer of my own with orders to deliver it into the Peishwa's own hand. It happened that Trimbuckjee was absent yesterday when the latter went on a visit to a temple about twelve miles from Poona. His Highness at first refused to see my writer on the ground of his absence, the writer persevering in begging to be admitted, His Highness referred

him to the Bhow who refused to receive the letter on various frivolous pretences. To remove the odium that might be cast on the Bhow for delivering my letter I directed the writer to warn him in my name that it was a letter of the first importance and that he would be responsible for the consequences if he failed to deliver it into the Peishwa's hand. But even this did not overcome the Ministers' apprehension. In the meantime I was visited by Hurree Abba and Annund Row on the part of His Highness the Peishwa. They came to ascertain the business on which I had addressed His Highness. I told the former that after what had passed I ought not to receive him but that as his Highness had sent him before he knew my sentiments I should not refuse. I then addressed my discourse to Annund Row and said everything I thought likely to soothe the Peishwa's mind to convince him of the unaltered friendship of the British Government and to prevail on him to read my letter. After these ministers were gone, my messenger returned with my letter from the Bhow's and was sent back again with a more serious message than before. The letter was now taken and conveyed to His Highness. Parties of horse were sent out to reinforce Trimbuckjee all the evening from the time of the interview with the Ministers and the Peishwa is said to have passed the night with the utmost anxiety. Trimbuckjee came in today, but I have not yet heard the result of his councils. My only fear is that he may persuade His Highness to quit Poona, but as His Highness came in while the force was advancing and while he was uncertain that my suspicion did not point at him, it is impossible that he should fly now that he sees himself exempt from suspicion unless he is determined to go the utmost lengths for Trimbuckjee, and in that case it is obvious there is no way to maintain our present friendly footing with him except by consenting to close our eyes to his favourite's atrocities which would be but a very short lived expedient even if it could be reconciled to the honour of the British Government.

Precautions which I had before concerted with Col Leighton the Officer Commanding at this station have been adopted for the security of the *Brigade the Residency and the boats*. They are not however of a nature to excite the smallest alarm and as a Battalion marched from this today for Seroor the 1st/2nd relieved by the 1st/3rd I should hope His Highness can be under no apprehension of any violent measures on our part. The Gykawar's Vakeel intended to have encamped today in the neighbourhood of the Residency for safety, but he has been prevented by a mutiny among his troops which he ascribes to treacherous connections with the Peishwa's people.

I intended to have made Your Excellency acquainted with the circumstances of the Shastry's murder by submitting the detailed account drawn up by the Gykwar's vakeel and some other papers, but as those documents are confined to the mere circumstances of the assassination, I find myself obliged to trespass on Your Lordship's time with a narrative of the event and the transactions that led to it. Your Excellency is already well acquainted with the hostility evinced towards the Shastry by a party in the Peishwa's Durbar which was headed by Trimbuckjee and encouraged by the Peishwa. Their bold intrigues at Baroda, their demands for a change in the Gykwar Government, their negotiations with Bundoojee and their reception of Bhugwunt Row, have all been submitted to Your Lordship. At that period the Shastry received frequent intelligence of plans to murder him, which I always encouraged him to treat with disregard and which for the time were attended with no visible result. This state of things terminated in the rupture of the Gykwar's negotiation and the demand for the Shastry's dismissal, and it was succeeded by secret overtures from Trimbuckjee to the Shastry and by a negotiation between those Ministers without my participation for the settlement of the Peishwa's claims. This led to a degree of intimacy and cordiality between Trimbuckjee and Shastry such as I have not known between natives in their situation in life. It was during this period of confidence that Trimbuckjee avowed to the Shastry that he had before the reconciliation been engaged in plans for cutting up his party and for making away with him by assassination. It seems impossible that such an avowal should have been made unless the reconciliation had been sincere, and I am inclined to believe that it was so to a certain extent. I imagine that all intentions of acting against the Shastry by direct force were laid aside and that it was now designed to gain as advantageous terms as possible from the Gykwar by working on the ambition and levity of his Minister and at the same time to ruin the Shastry with the Gykwar and the English by leading him into a line of conduct inconsistent with his duty or even to get him entirely into the Peishwa's power by engaging him in His Highness's service. To effect this object which the Peishwa certainly thought essential to the accomplishment of his views in Guzerat, every means were taken to gain over the Shastry. His Highness offered his sister-in-law in marriage to the Shastry's son and Trimbuckjee persuaded the Shastry that it was the Peishwa's wish to invest him with the principal conduct of his affairs, an offer with which the Shastry (being a native of this place) was unreasonably dazzled, though I do not believe that he had made up his mind to accept it. At this time it was agreed between the Shastry and Trimbuckjee that the Peishwa should forego his claims on the Gykwar for territorial ces-

sion worth seven lacs of rupees and that as soon as the Gykawar should consent to this arrangement the marriage already alluded to should take place. I imagine the Peishwa's Government was sincere in wishing for this arrangement, which would have afforded a present profit and a prospect of further advantages consequent to the union of the Shastri.

If these plans were really entertained I imagined they were overturned by an accident that took place at Nassick. At that time the Gykawar's consent to the proposed cession was hourly expected and as the marriage was to take place as soon as the news arrived both parties took their families to Nassick and much expense was incurred for the purpose of celebrating the ceremony with splendour. But when it appeared that the Gykawar's consent was not likely to arrive while the Court was at Nassick, the Shastri became anxious to avoid a connection which would have had an appearance of neglecting his master's interest to provide for his own and accordingly he desired that the marriage might be put off for the present. About the same time the Shastri declined engaging in the Peshwa's negotiations with me in consequence of my rejecting his interference and pointing out in strongest light the imprudence of his making himself a Minister of the Peishwa. The failure of his designs must have irritated Trimbuckjee but above all the rejection of marriage which had been negotiated through Trimbuckjee and which could not be broken off or suspended after the bride had been brought out and the preparations made without great disgrace to the Paishwa. Unfortunately the Shastri heightened this feeling by starting other objections to the connection on the ground of his reluctance to expose his own wife to the scenes of shameless debauchery practised in the Paishwa's palace which made it disgraceful for any woman to resist those of His Highness's family. These affronts as I understood at the time made a deep impression on Trimbuckjee, while his conduct on the occasion was inconsistent and unaccountable. He mentioned the Shastri's conduct to me as an instance of gross breach of faith and as involving him in the utmost disgrace but at the same time he professed his entire forgiveness of it and in fact he said little on the subject to the Shastri but continued to treat him with more apparent kindness and affection than ever. During this journey to Nassick reports were widely circulated at Poona that the Shastri had been seized by Trimbuckjee and as I treated them with entire disregard I could not but be surprised at the earnestness with which Trimbuckjee and Hurree Abba endeavoured to convince me that they were mere popular rumours and were not founded on any measures or designs of theirs.

The journey to Panderpore soon followed that to Nassick. On this occasion the Shastry peremptorily refused to allow his colleague Baupoo Myraul to accompany him to Punderpore, although the latter expressed great fears for his safety. This was naturally attributed at the time to Trimbuckjee's influence, as that person had all along shown a dread of the wary and circumspect character of Baupoo Myraul and had insisted on his exclusion from the conferences with his colleague. His interposition was more open in prevailing on the Shastry to leave behind the best part of his escort and in dissuading me from accompanying His Highness by urging that the Paishwa would be averse to my accompanying him on his pilgrimages and that His Highness wished me not to go on this occasion on the journey to Punderpore. Trimbuckjee was followed by Govind Row Bundoojee who had been neglected during the time when the plan was to conciliate the Shastry, but who was still connected with Trimbuckjee and who had a person on his part stationed with him for protection. The man came to Punderpore with great secrecy but his arrival was discovered by the Shastry immediately before his death. Two days preceding that evening guards were posted and great precaution taken about the temple and the Paishwa's house and the alarm of the Punnee(?) assassins was once more set on foot. The existence of this conspiracy of the name of which so much use has been made, has lately been fully disproved by Mr Russell's enquiries at Hyderabad, and it may therefore be fairly assumed that the Paishwa's alarms on the subject of it are either feigned or inspired by those about His Highness to cover any measures the motives of which it is inconvenient to avow. In this case the alarm afforded a pretext for increasing the guards and a way of accounting for the Shastry's murder. Strict orders were also issued against bringing armed men to the temple.

The following account of occurrences on the day of the Shastry's death is extracted from a narrative of his proceedings drawn up by Baupoo Myraul and translated by Captain Pottinger immediately after the return to Poona of the party who had accompanied the Shastry to Punderpore and was transmitted to me on my journey from Ellora. "On the 14th (of ashad sudh) the Shastry went to an entertainment given by Ramchunder Goossayne Patunker to the Paishwa and on his return home complained of fever and desired that if any person came to request him to go to the temple, they might be told that he was indisposed. In the course of half an hour one Luxman Punt came on Trimbuckjee Dinglah's behalf to invite him to join in the devotions, and he said

* This perhaps refers to some Pathans of the name of Panni

party and three of the attendants who attempted to stay by the Shastry were wounded, on which his friends, Mussalchees and followers ran away and left him in the hands of the murderers who mangled him in the most shocking manner and one of them exclaimed 'We have now finished him' This was overheard by one of the wounded The assassins then threw down two sword scabbards and made their escape and the Shastry's people who were following with the old man already alluded to saw five men with swords run away towards the temple They also observed the flambeaus lying extinguished and smoking on the ground and became much alarmed, but not knowing what had taken place two or three of them ran home to the Shastry's house and learning he was not there they returned to search for him and found his corpse in the road almost cut to bits They took the pieces up and carried them home This was about half past eight o'clock at night

The intelligence was immediately conveyed to the Paishwa who ordered additional precautions about his own person and shortly after one of Trimbuckjee's people came to enquire what had happened The police officer also attended to see the corpse and returned to report to the Paishwa, observing that one of the assassins had been seen near the river and had thrown down his sword and escaped in the crowd, but that the sword had been carried to Trimbuckjee The news shortly reached the Guicawar camp and some of the principal Sirdars came to the town to take measures for burning the Shastry's remains, and obtained permission from His Highness the Paishwa for the Shastry's people to have free ingress and egress to and from the town The following day some of the Shastry's Carcoons went to Trimbuckjee Dinglia and told him it behoved him as the friend of the deceased and also the Minister of the Paishwa to make enquiries towards ascertaining the cause of the Shastry's murder, to which Trimbuckjee answered 'I am doing so but on whom can I breathe suspicion? I have no clue to guide me The Carcoons again observed "It is due to the Shastry and also to the honour of your Government to discover the origin of what had happened Trimbuckjee replied in terms of civility and declared that the Paishwa was greatly grieved by the event that had happened but that the Shastry was wrong to venture abroad without a number of attendants, fifty or an hundred The Carcoons replied that he considered himself in the house of his friends and besides it was not usual to bring many people on such an occasion "You know", added they "who are the Shastry's enemies the assassins appeared to be Carnatic men" He replied, "What you say is true but how could I avert what fate had decreed? There is the Purooe (Seetaram) and you have placed one of the Guicawars (Kannojee) in the Carnatic though I cannot take

the name of any enemy You must now look yourselves but depend on my friendship He who protected you all is now no more and I will do so to the utmost of my power" The Shastry's Carcoons then left the place and the following day they obtained through Trimbuckjee the Paishwa's private permission for the Baroda people to return to Poona It was at this time intimated to them that they need not attend again at either Trimbuckjee's quarters or the Peshwa's house

The murderers appeared to be dressed in short breeches such as are worn in the Carnatic but spoke in the Mahratta language when they exclaimed, as already stated, "We have now finished him"

In this narrative it is impossible not to be struck with Trimbuckjee's solicitude so disproportioned to the occasion, about the Shastry's coming to the temple and with the proof that he was expected by the murderers, which in all the circumstances of the case was almost impossible to have happened, had they not been acquainted with what was passing between him and Trimbuckjee By the question asked in the streets the murderers appear to have been posted before he left his house and must have been so soon after, for his whole absence up to his death did not exceed three quarters of an hour The want of enquiry also is very remarkable It might have been expected that Trimbuckjee would have hastened to the spot where the murder was committed or at all events that he would have sent people to make enquiries from the passers-by and trace out which way the assassins had taken, that he would have summoned the neighbouring shop-keepers and Shastry's attendants to ascertain the dress and appearance of the murderers, that he would have apprehended the Shastry's known enemies and encouraged his family to point out all on whom their suspicions fell that he would have offered a reward to discover the murderers and that their detection would have been the principal object of his attention for a considerable time, instead of which he neglected every sort of enquiry and contented himself with stopping all letters and all news for the first day, after which he arrested several persons for reflecting on him He allowed the men on whom suspicion would most naturally fall to go unquestioned and exercised his ingenuity in finding out other persons likely to have committed the murder and reasons why it should have happened as a matter of course He then employed himself busily in writing dispatches to his turbulent Deputy at Ahmedabad of which we have yet to hear the effect and afterwards forbade the Shastry's name to be mentioned This conduct is the more remarkable from the extraordinary exertions which are made by the police of native Governments in all cases where the chief has an interest and the success with which acts of violence are generally kept under in the Pai-

shwa's cities Bundoojee respecting whom the Paishwa's Ministers long affected entire ignorance is now returned to Poona where both he and Bhugwunt Row reside at large One of the two was, I understand secretly visited on the night before last by Trimbuckjee on his way to the temple from which he this day returned

No 172—The danger in which Bapu Myral the Gaikwad Vakil at Poona was involved is reported by the Resident

**FROM—THE RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY WARDEN**

Poona 18 August 1815

Sir

I have the honour to acquaint you for the information of the Right Hon ble the Governor that in consequence of the present state of affairs here Baupoo Myraul, finding it difficult to procure cash for the expenses of the Guicawar mission, I have taken up fifty thousand rupees (50,000) for him and have granted a bill for the amount on the Right Hon ble the Governor I have also to inform you that serious mutiny having broken out among the troops composing Bapoo Myraul's escort, which, there is every reason to believe, was excited by Govind Bundoojee if not by Trimbuckjee Daungla I considered it of the utmost importance to extricate Bapoo Myraul from the difficulties, or I may say, the danger in which these seditious proceedings involved him I recommended him therefore to use every means in his power to pacify the mutineers and to place himself under the protection of the Residency With this view he has settled the demands of his troops and has disbursed the sum of rupees seventy five thousand (75 000) which I have likewise obtained for him He is to give me bills on Baroda for the cash he has thus received from me

No 173—The Resident reports of his having demanded from the Peshwa the arrest of Trimbakji Denge

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE EARL OF MOIRA, K G,
GOVERNOR GENERAL**

Poona, 18 August 1815

My Lord,

Among the precautions against the probable effects of my complaint against Trimbuckjee, I recommended to the Guickwar Vakeel Baupoo Myraul, to quit the city with the Shastry's family, and to encamp near the Residency explaining at the same time to the Government that the Vakeel was not going to leave the Durbar, but merely to send off the Shastry's women and children He

was fortunate enough to get out of the city unobstructed but it soon appeared that the precautions that had been taken were by no means premature, for when he attempted to come to the Residency on the day after his leaving the city, a great part of his troops mutinied, and refused to allow him to move. It was soon discovered that many of the party, especially a detachment of the Guicawar's Paugah or Stable Horse, had been in the habit of corresponding with Bundoojee, and that Trimbuckjee had requested an interview with one of the principal Sirdars in the camp. A message was also received from Bundoojee by a Brahmin of great sanctity who had accompanied the Shastry but who was respected by all parties advising him to quit the camp without delay as Baupoo Myraul would be cut off that night. Next day the Stable Horse were by far the most active in the mutiny, but as they made a demand for an advance of pay the pretext of their violence, they were joined by many who are not in the conspiracy, some remained steady to their duty, but they were few in number and cut off from the Vakeel.

This state of things lasted all the night of the 16th. It was impossible for us to receive Baupoo Myraul as he was surrounded by mutineers with lighted matches who would probably have put him to death if any attack had been made on them and there was an equal danger that if our troops acted against them, the Paishwa would think himself attacked and would quit Poona as soon as he heard the firing. I however sent proper persons to endeavour to impress on the mutineers that the Vakeel was under the protection of the British Government, and to pledge my word for any money he might find it necessary to promise them. After two deputations of this sort the part of the troops which had only mutinied for pay, was satisfied to receive an advance of four months, and to move with the Vakeel, but the conspirators although they took the same pay, refused to obey orders. Some of them refused to permit Baupoo Myraul to leave them and one of them was on the point of drawing on him when he finally set out which was not till late yesterday evening. He is now encamped close to the Residency with about three hundred horse and as many foot on whom he can depend. He does not now think it safe to send off the Shastry's family.

An emissary of Bundoojee's has fortunately been apprehended by one of Baupoo Myraul's officers whom he attempted to corrupt and I hope something may be found out from his confession. I have advanced a lakh and twenty five thousand rupees to the Vakeel to enable him to pay his troops and am to receive bills on the Guicawar for the amount.

Reports were current before this occurrence that the Paishwa had intended to detain the Shastry's family by force, and it is worthy of

remark that the intrigues with the Guicawar's troops must have taken place before my design of requiring Trimbuckjee's imprisonment was known

I was yesterday visited by Annund Row who came from the Minister to acquaint me that the Paishwa had given the fullest attention to my letter that he had ordered Bhugwant Row Guicawar and Govind Row Bundoojee to be confined and that the ministers would make a fuller communication to a native agent whom he desired me to send him in the evening I took the opportunity of Annund Row's visit to convey such messages to the Paishwa as were likely to soothe him and prevent his entertaining the slightest alarm for himself or supposing that it was designed to carry the object now demanded by force At the same time I did not directly allude to the possibility of his having imbibed such apprehensions Annund Row having talked of an interview with the Minister on a distant day and of an audience with the Paishwa at some definite period, I observed I was exceedingly anxious to wait on His Highness and that I should always think myself honoured by a summons to attend him, but that I must point out to His Highness the total impossibility of attending his Durbar while I was liable to meet in it persons whom I had on good grounds accused of treachery and assassination I sent this message because I was desirous of showing the other ministers my unqualified resolution to drive Trimbuckjee from his office, and the incompatibility of his remaining in power with the British Government Some such pledge alone could encourage his rivals to oppose him and induce them to shew the Paishwa all the danger of supporting him

I have every reason to think the message I have received from the Minister entirely insincere The guards over the streets inhabited by Bhugwant Row and Bundoojee belong to Trimbuckjee and are as probably sent to protect them as to prevent their escape I am also credibly informed that Bundoojee had an interview with Trimbuckjee last night after the guards were posted The channel by which the message was communicated is also suspicious The minister is not himself in the Paishwa's confidence, Annund Row is disqualified by his age and infirmities from taking an active part in any negotiation and the native I was requested to send is in a like situation I therefore sent a person to whom the Minister delivered a very long message from the Peshwa professing strong attachment to the British Government, expressing his disbelief of Trimbuckjee's guilt and pointing out the injustice of proceeding against him on mere popular rumour, but promising that if I was ready to prove my charge, he should be immediately arrested, the Paishwa added, that if the fact of Trimbuckjee's three summons to the Shastry to come to the temple with few attendants could be

proved, he would punish him immediately as convicted of the crime, and the Minister said that if I could not prove the murder but merely objected to Trimbuckjee as an improper man to do business with, he was sure His Highness would consent to remove him by degrees from all concerns in my affairs. The Minister also entered into a long reply to one of the arguments I had stated as proving Trimbuckjee's guilt. It was that of having neglected to make enquiry, and the answer was that Trimbuckjee was so busy in washing the temple that he had no time for enquiry, he did not even know that the Shastry was the person murdered for some time, and as soon as he did he was summoned to post guards on the Paishwa's palace, by the time that was done, it was too late for enquiry and therefore none was made. I took no notice of this defence which is a strong confirmation of Trimbuckjee's guilt, but replied to the Paishwa's message by saying that I was certainly prepared to make good my charge and had already furnished His Highness with proofs that would satisfy any mind that I hoped he would therefore fulfil the promise of arresting Trimbuckjee and I again warned him at some length of the danger to which the alliance was exposed from the intrigues and violence of that person, as he was allowed to remain in power.

His Highness the Paishwa's professions bear a most flattering appearance, but I am afraid they are not to be relied on. My intelligence leads me to think that His Highness feels all that infatuation for Trimbuckjee which was easily to be inspired by the prospects of power and aggrandizements which that Minister had held out to him. With Trimbuckjee he must give up his hopes of reducing Guzerat to a dependent province, of cajoling the British Government of intimidating the Nizam and perhaps of, in due time, restoring the old Mahratta confederacy with His Highness at its head. I therefore expect that His Highness will recede from his present offer and that it will be with the utmost reluctance that he will order Trimbuckjee to be confined, but it is a great point gained that he should have entered into a calm negotiation and allowed time for consultation and reflection, the effects of which must be favourable to our success.

The first division of the Subsidiary Force consisting of the cavalry and horse Artillery reached Seroor yesterday morning, the second composed of His Majesty's 2nd Battalion of the 56th Regiment and Light Battalion will be in on the day after tomorrow, and Colonel Smith, with four Battalions and the Park and Commissariat will arrive on the 22nd, having performed his march with extraordinary expedition and without any appearance of unusual haste.

No 173 A

Substance of a note presented by Mr Elphinstone to His Highness the Paishwa through Sadasew Maunkaisur on the 19th of August 1815

I understand troops are assembling in Poona which occasions me much uneasiness. It shows that Trimbuckjee has made impressions on His Highness very different from what the real state of affairs justifies. His Highness may be assured that we have no intentions of coming to extremities. The march of a battalion from Poona within these few days is a sufficient proof of this. When a body of troops is assembled here, material suspicions must exist, and it will be no difficult matter for Trimbuckjee to bring about a quarrel. The only dangers to which the British Government is exposed by such a proceeding is that of an interruption in its old and well cemented friendship with His Highness, but that event would be a source of deepest regret both in India and in England. I therefore entreat the Paishwa to consider to what the measures he is adopting tend, and to compare the evils attending a full consent to my demands with those which must follow a rupture between the Governments. I beg him to reflect in such an event that the loss must be the Paishwa's and the gain if there was any must be entirely Trimbuckjee's, since my present demand affects the interests of no other person. His Highness will thus perceive, whether in giving counsels of a tendency to distrust the alliance, Trimbuckjee is actuated by any concern for His Highness's welfare, or solely by a wish to preserve his own power for a short interval by the sacrifice of His Highness's most important interests. At the same time I beg him to believe that there is not the most distant intention on the part of the British Government of proceeding abruptly against him or of breaking a friendship which has taken so long to form at a short warning, and I most earnestly hope that His Highness will countermand the preparations suggested by the ill disposed and negotiate as hitherto on a friendly footing until he shall have made up his mind to arrest the cause of these discussions, and thus terminate all differences in a manner equally consistent with the honour and advantage of both states.

No 173 B

The paper sent to the Peshwa

I have the honour to answer the Bhow's message sent through Kishen Row but as it was verbal something may have been omitted. It were to be wished that the Bhow would communicate in writing, which means, he would be certain that all he said reached me.

His Highness observes that if he should be impressed with the same conviction that I have of Trimbuckjee's guilt in the murder of the Shastry, that person should certainly be imprisoned

The case I have stated is not a mere matter of opinion. No reasonable man will deny that there are strong appearances of Trimbuckjee's guilt

His Highness however calls for direct proof that the assassins were Trimbuckjee's servants or that they were instigated by Trimbuckjee

But it is the Government of the country alone that can search out criminals and discover their associates. Had any enquiry been made after the assassins on the night of the murder, they might have been taken up and their instigators discovered. Such would have been the natural course for Trimbuckjee as the Shastry's friend and His Highness's Prime Minister, but as he failed to make this enquiry and afterwards forbade the subject to be spoken and imprisoned those who did not attend to his prohibition, the very absence of all direct information about the crime constitutes a strong proof of his guilt. How am I to bring forward the assassins? If they were not connected with Trimbuckjee it might be possible for me to do so, but if they are connected with him, it is evident I never can, as long as he remains in full power as Prime Minister. How can I get evidence? Who will dare to stand against a powerful Minister? Even the witnesses I have already examined are afraid to stand forth and avow their assertions. What chance therefore is there of new ones appearing?

The Bhow says that on the day the Shastry was assassinated Trimbuckjee did not send three messages to him inviting him to the temple, but that the Shastry sent to Trimbuckjee to enquire whether he should come to the temple or not, to which he answered that he might come and nothing more but that nevertheless, if it could be proved that Trimbuckjee sent three times to call the Shastry that person should be imprisoned

I undertake to prove the three summonses. All that were present at the time gave this account at first and their statements have been taken down in writing. I confess I have doubts whether those who reside in the city will now venture to tell the truth, but those who are exempted from the dread of Trimbuckjee's power are still ready to appear. Moreover if the Shastry sent to ask Trimbuckjee, Trimbuckjee will be able to mention whom he sent

The Bhow remarked by His Highness's direction that he has understood it to be the custom according to the English laws when a person is suspected of murder to confront him with witnesses and then to imprison him that afterwards the fullest investigation is

made, and if the prisoner is found guilty he is punished but if not he is released, that in the present instance no witnesses have been produced against Trimbuckjee and that His Highness cannot therefore imprison him

I beg leave to acquaint His Highness that by the English laws a person accused of murder is immediately apprehended and committed to prison, after which a court sits to ascertain whether there is sufficient ground for suspicion for bringing him to a regular trial. When the guilt is fully established in this last trial he suffers death. Now all that I at present demand is the imprisonment of Trimbuckjee

His Highness has remarked that I have demanded the confinement of Trimbuckjee because I was persuaded of his guilt from the strength of the suspicions that had fallen on him, but without producing any proof of his criminality. That His Highness however had no such conviction and it is asked what the Governor General will say on hearing of this

His Highness may be assured that I have fully considered that question, and that I would not press a demand which appears so disagreeable to His Highness if I were not certain that His Lordship would regard my neglecting to do so as an abandonment of the honour of his Government. I beg His Highness to believe that the last thing I should wish would be to push any negotiation further than was required by my instructions as next to the approbation of my own Government I am solicitous of His Highness's favourable opinion. I beg therefore that he will not consider any opposition I may be obliged to make to him in the discharge of my public duty as an offence of a personal nature. I must, however, be permitted to hope that His Highness will consider my communications as those of the Government by which I am accredited until he has some reason to think otherwise. It would have become His Highness's friendship when I charged a man with so enormous an offence in the name of my Government to have arrested him, but if His Highness wishes to hear the Governor General's sentiments from himself he must wait. I have no wish or intention to employ force of my own authority to procure Trimbuckjee's imprisonment. If the safety of British troops is endangered by the assembling of armies at the suggestion of the ill-disposed I shall be obliged to adopt corresponding precautions and when armies are drawn up on both sides the consequence is uncertain but if His Highness's troops are not assembled those of the British Government will remain as they are and the Governor General's orders will be expected in quiet. I however solemnly apprize His Highness that the measure I have recommended ought on all accounts to be speedily

adopted Any delay will be injurious to His Highness's character, offensive to the Governor General and dangerous to the alliance. However anxious His Highness may be to preserve the friendship between him and the British Government, yet there can be no doubt that every hour that Trimbuckjee remains at large will be employed to destroy it. He will fill His Highness's mind with false suspicions he will assemble troops on false pretences. He will write to foreign powers in His Highness's name and he will miss no opportunity of bringing about a rupture by still more open means. The blame of all this will attach to His Highness and the alliance will be dissolved contrary to the wishes of both parties, by the mere employment of this man as a Minister.

His Highness has observed that if the English on bare suspicions and without any proof of Trimbuckjee's guilt demand his imprisonment now, they may do the same with any future Minister who may be disagreeable to them and that in such circumstances His Highness's dignity would be lost for ever.

The conduct of the British Government which has never interfered with His Highness's Ministers during an alliance of 12 years' standing, ought to remove that apprehension. At present Trimbuckjee's confinement is demanded because there is strong ground of suspicion against him for the murder of an Ambassador who came here under the protection of the British Government. This case is surely not likely to recur often. I should be more justified in arguing that if one Ambassador were murdered with impunity to-day, another may be murdered tomorrow and no one would be safe who was disagreeable to His Highness's minister.

I request that at my audience of the Painswa neither Trimbuckjee nor any of his adherents might be present to which His Highness has only replied that Trimbuckjee has for 5 or 6 months conducted His Highness's affairs with me, and that if during that period he has insisted in the enforcement of any measure inconsistent with the treaty he shall be punished.

It would be easy to point out numerous cases where the treaty has been infringed by Trimbuckjee not by negotiation but by open force, but for these acts I have never desired his exclusion from the Durbar and the most I should ever have demanded would have been his removal from stations where he had the power to injure the British affairs. I now demand his exclusion because it would be indecent in me to associate with him after I had accused him of murder, and because I think it becomes His Highness to remove him for his crimes and to commit him to prison. In the meantime I hope His Highness will be pleased to provide means of keeping

up the communication by appointing some persons possessing his entire confidence and not connected with Trimbuckjee to confer with me on the present subjects of discussion I am persuaded that in the event of such an arrangement, I should be able to show His Highness how much his honour and advantage are involved in his adopting the course I have pointed out how great a calamity he will incur by following the interested advice of the ill disposed

No 173 C

**FROM—THE RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY WARDEN**

Poona, 22 August 1815

Sir,

My letter of the 18th instant will have informed you of the arrangements to which I consented to supply Baupoo Myraul with cash for expenses of the Guicawar mission

I have now to acquaint you that he has since requested that no communication might be made to Baroda for the present in consequence of these arrangements as he hoped he should have it in his power to repay at this place the sums which I have advanced to him.

No 174—An intercepted letter proving Trimbakji's complicity is forwarded to the Govt. by the Resident.

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT POONA
TO—JOHN ADAM, SECRETARY**

Poona, 23 August 1815

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose a translation of a letter intercepted at Baroda which I yesterday received from Baupoo Myraul and which appears to throw light on the conduct of the Paishwa's Court during the last month preceding the Shastry's death It is from Bundoojee to Tucketbye, a courtesan, who has a great ascendancy over Annund Row Guicawar, and who is well known as the patroness of Seetaram's faction at Baroda It was received by the Shastry before he set out for Punderpoor, and communicated by him to Trimbuckjee, who could therefore be no stranger to the colour that was given to his protection of Bundoojee, and whose continuance of that protection especially after the Shastry's murder, is a clear

proof of the existence of some more intimate tie between those persons that has ever been allowed

The result of the examination of the spy seized in the Guicawar camp has been to establish the steps taken by Bundoojee to corrupt the soldiers of Baupoo Myraul's party. His last message to his partisans directed them to refuse to march to the British Residency, as orders would soon be received from Baroda the arrival of which they ought to await. Though Trimbuckjee is known to have had constant secret intercourse with Bundoojee, yet there is no direct proof of his connection with the mutiny except his declared intention of preventing the departure of the Guicawar's mission, and his sending for Yoceroo Jemadar a principal officer of the party who behaved with great fidelity and flatly refused to attend him. Captain Pottinger has received a private letter from the Resident at Baroda in reply to one which he addressed to him on the 24th of last month, apprizing him of the numerous despatches sent by Trimbuckjee to Ahmedabad and of the reports of Poona that a conspiracy was formed at Baroda to take advantage of the Shastry's death. The Resident's letter was dated so late as the 11th instant, in which period I am happy to say no disturbance had broken out and measures had been taken to prevent such an occurrence.

No 174 A

Translation of an intercepted letter from Govind Row Bundoojee at Poona to Tucket Bye Saheba at Baroda

After compliments

Your message sent through Doolajee Bargeer has reached me, as well as your letter to which every respect has been paid. I have written fully by the Hircarrahs but Rajasree Seetaram will give you an account of the bill for 10,000 rupees which was drawn by Bye Saheb. I trust that you will make a favourable representation on these points to Baba Saheb and that the business will be settled. Bills have been drawn for Durbar Khurch including my expenses for 16 months. Since the arrival of Caulay and Paundray (i.e., Black and White, bearing an allusion to the complexions of Baupoo Myraul and the Shastry), lakhs of rupees have been and still continue to be spent in pleasure and enjoyment, but people say it has been to no purpose, and that nothing has been gained by it. Shreemant has merely scattered sugar, the result will be known hereafter.

Do you be easy, if by giving encouragement to Baupoo and by urging Baba Saheb, this business should be carried through, the Shastry will never more look that way. I have written this in full consideration, but it depends on the pleasure of you three persons.

No 175—Bajrao's attitude towards the question of the arrest of Trimbuckjee Denge his assembling of troops and professions of friendship to the British Govt are explained by the Resident for the information of the Governor General

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Poona, 23 August 1815

My Lord,

On the evening of the 20th His Highness the Peishwa sent for Major Ford and conversed with him on the subject of the present discussions. He spoke much of his friendship for the British Government and said that if I would bring any sort of proof of Trimbuckjee's guilt, he would punish him immediately. He promised to send my letter to Major Ford that he might judge of the grounds on which Trimbuckjee was accused. He then complained that his affairs had not gone on so well, nor had his honour and interests been so much consulted since I took charge of the Residency, as in Sir Barry Close's time, and expressed his wish that Major Ford would assist in bringing things into a train by which his object might be amicably attained. Major Ford very properly abstained from entering into a discussion on the principal subject of dispute, but said a great deal to soothe the Paishwa, and to convince him of the friendship of the British Government, and of the improbability that it could be brought to recede from its present demand. He also said he could assure His Highness from his own knowledge, that it was my most anxious wish to conciliate His Highness, although from the nature of the affairs to be negotiated, I had often been obliged to oppose His Highness's wishes. The Paishwa then said he intended to see Major Ford two or three times more after which he would receive my visit. The Bhow and a relation of His Highness Dhoondée Raj Bhow were the only persons present at this interview. The Paishwa asked Major Ford towards the close of it, if he would see Trimbuckjee, and hear his innocence asserted from his own lips, but Major Ford said there was no necessity for any person unfolding the affair which His Highness himself had explained. His Highness appeared to be perfectly composed during this conversation, and there was no alteration in his usual manner. It gives an unfavourable impression of the sincerity of his promise to punish Trimbuckjee if his guilt is proved, to consider that when he said this, he had already promised to confine him if I was ready to accuse him and to punish him if I could prove his three summonses to the Shastry and that I had taken up this pledge, and called on him to fulfil his part of the argument by committing Trimbuckjee to prison.

On the 21st I received a message from His Highness in reply to my memorandum of the 19th, in which he disavowed that any troops were raising and said that the assembling of troops from all quarters at Poona was no unusual occurrence. All the rest of his message is quoted in the accompanying paper, which also contains my answer and to that I beg leave to refer Your Excellency. It was yesterday sent to the Minister who said he would deliver it to the Paishwa in the evening. The 1st and 2nd paragraphs of the paper require no remark, the facts alluded to in the 3rd are proved in the fullest manner by the evidence of Rowjee Mahratta of Moro Pundit a respectable native in the Shastry's service, and of Raghoo, one of his Chuprasis. I have examined these persons myself and I understand that the same facts were stated by Baupoo Chiploonkur to the Paishwa, and by Baul Achauree to Baupoo Myraul. I hope to have an opportunity of examining this last person myself. In all disadvantages under which an investigation must be conducted which is so violently opposed by the Government, it is singularly fortunate that I should be able to obtain direct and positive proof of the fact which His Highness has himself selected as the test of Trimbuckjee's guilt. His Highness has four times declared in the most express terms that he so considers it, and that he will punish Trimbuckjee as a murderer the moment the truth of it is established. I have not, however, the slightest hopes that my success in proving this decisive point will have any effect on His Highness's decision. I was glad of the opportunity afforded by the 5th to endeavour to remove the impressions of my disposition towards His Highness's affairs which was mentioned by Major Ford. I find those impressions still continue. I shall take care to let the Paishwa know that the evil he complains of may be easily remedied if he will only keep on good terms with the British Government. I was also happy to have an opportunity of removing all apprehensions of military violence, and of pointing out as I had done with less force in my first papers, that everything depended on Your Excellency's decision. The rest of the paper needs no comment.

Notwithstanding His Highness's assurances, there can be no doubt that His Highness is both raising and assembling troops. Col Smith himself met persons going with orders to recall 2000 men from beyond the Godavery. Other officers have met parties of different strength coming into Poona. Several bodies have publicly entered the city within these few days. Hircarrahs stationed in the roads report the continual passage of small parties, some ordered in and others coming for service, and His Highness has certainly made advances of money to different people to enable them to recruit. All these appearances give grounds for supposition that

the Paishwa is determined to make a common cause with Trimbuckjee, and rather to break with the Company than allow him to be brought to trial. It was, however, to be expected that he should make some stand for his favourite, and I cannot yet believe that he will come to extremities in a cause so little connected with his own interests, and so odious to the whole of his subjects. It is difficult indeed to imagine why he should do so, when there is so little pressure on him. My demand was only for the confinement of Trimbuckjee until Your Lordship should decide what course was to be taken, and His Highness has been repeatedly assured that his rejection even of that moderate demand will lead to no decisive measure until Your Lordship's commands are received. It is therefore more than probable that His Highness will alter his views in the end. If the present accusation of Trimbuckjee should lead to a rupture with the Government, I am fully sensible of the greatness of the misfortune of losing such an ally at this period, but I am convinced from Trimbuckjee's measures and conduct, that the present crisis must equally have taken place if the Shastry's murder had been passed over, and that we should only have gained a truce of a few months by sacrifice of our national reputation.

No. 176—The Hyderabad Resident is asked to keep the Nizam's Subsidiary Force ready for any emergency.

FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE,
TO—H. RUSSELL.

Poona, 27 August 1815.

Sir,

From the present state of affairs at this court I think it highly probable that unless H. H. the Peshwa is determined to support Trimbuckjee Dainglia against the British Government, the latter person may fly from Poona and set up on his own account like Maheput Ram with or without encouragement from his master. In this event it would be of infinite importance that he should be early crushed and the strength of the cavalry with the Peshwa's Government does not render such a result probable from its unassisted exertions.

I therefore beg leave to suggest the expediency of your directing Col. Doveton to hold such of his cavalry and light troops as can be spared in readiness to undertake the pursuit of Trimbuckjee in case he should fly towards the northward and to follow him wherever he may go within the territories of the allies, till his party be

cut up or dispersed and if possible till he himself be taken. If the Paishwa should support Dainghia as above alluded to, it is unnecessary to observe that the assistance of the nature described will be still more required.

No 177—The Resident reports his interview with a deputation sent by the Peshwa to explain why he was averse to arrest Trimbakji before proof was produced.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—THE EARL OF MOIRA, GOVERNOR GENERAL

Poona, 27 August 1815

My Lord,

I have the honour to acquaint Your Excellency that I was yesterday visited by a deputation from His Highness the Paishwa, consisting of Balloba Vinchoorkar, Moro Dikshit, Chimnajeel Narrain, Gopaul Row and Annund Row. Major Ford was also present by His Highness's desire. The first of these persons is one of the most experienced and respectable of the Paishwa's servants. He is Dewaun to the Jageerdar of Vinchoor, and from the long minorities that have taken place in that family for these fifteen or twenty years, he has acquired all the consideration that could be due to the Jageerdar himself. Gopaul Row is the Vakeel attached to Major Ford's Brigade, and Annund Row has long been His Highness's agent with the Residency.

After the usual civilities and a good deal of friendly conversation, the deputies began on business, but were long, before they came to anything sufficiently distinct to be reported at length. They began on the old ground of want of proof, and I recapitulated all the arguments already used to establish Trimbuckjee's guilt, they taking notes of what appeared to them to be new. I then said Trimbuckjee had denied ever sending for the Shastry, and had represented that Minister as having applied for permission to come, and that His Highness had four times assured me, that if I could prove the three messages attributed to Trimbuckjee (or even one of them) he would consider that person as convicted, and deal with him accordingly, that I now held the proofs in my hand of Trimbuckjee having sent four messages by four different persons whom I named, and pledged myself to make it good as soon as Trimbuckjee was arrested, that I did not, however, give the names of those persons as witnesses, being convinced that most, if not all, of them could immediately take their oaths that they knew nothing about the matter, that

I must even decline giving the names of my own witnesses, as neither they, nor I, had confidence in their personal safety if they were to appear against Trimbuckjee as long as that person remains in power. The deputies said that I might easily inspire them with confidence by assuring them of the protection of the British Government, to which I replied that the dependence formerly placed by His Highness's subjects on the protection of the British Government had naturally been withdrawn, since that protection was found of so little avail to secure the Prime Minister of a foreign state, himself closely connected with the British Government and invited here for the Paishwa's benefit under the most solemn assurances of our support. I went on to explain that the guarantee of the British Government had never yet been violated with impunity, and that in consequence many States and innumerable individuals in Hindoostan and the Deccan had consented to hold their rights on the security of the word of the British Government that if it were now to appear that a little violence was all that was required to set aside our guarantee, the whole country would be thrown into confusion, that this was one principal reason for my urging the Paishwa so strongly to punish the Shastry's murderers, since, if I failed, our reputation for good faith must be lost and with that reputation a principal source of our greatness. The deputies replied that the Paishwa was ready to punish the murderers when they should be detected. I said that this detection was incumbent on His Highness's Government, which had done nothing whatever to effect it, and that it made no difference in the danger to which Ministers were exposed whether that Government was willing to punish assassins, or unwilling to detect them. Balloba then remarked that the only difference between me and the Paishwa was, that I was for confining Trimbuckjee before the trial, and the Paishwa for doing so after conviction. I replied by appealing to Balloba who had often held governments and commands whether if a common labourer was to charge another person before him with murder, he would immediately arrest the accused, and on his admitting that he would, I went on to ask whether it was reasonable to refuse to arrest a person accused of such a crime in the name of the British Government when strong grounds of suspicion (to say the least) had been exhibited against him, when I had pledged myself to prove the fact on which His Highness rested his guilt, and when it was apparent that until he was arrested no direct evidence could be produced.

The deputies saying that they would report what I had stated to His Highness and let me know his answers, I took occasion to urge the evils of delay. I repeated that I should not hasten the termi-

nation of the present crisis by any measures of hostilities, but that unless Trimbuckjee was arrested, he would collect troops, correspond with foreign states, and commit other acts of enormity, or at best he would fly and assume the character of a freebooter for which acts Your Excellency would be obliged to hold His Highness responsible, since after the intimation I had given they could not take place without His Highness's concurrence

I am not without hopes that this conference may have a favorable effect on His Highness, though there is no appearance of its having been undertaken on the Paishwa's part with any serious design. The speakers throughout were Moro Dikshit and Gaupal Punt, neither of whom are men of any reputation. Balloba who was the only man of character among them, evidently avoided discussion, and the little he said related to the Paishwa's desire to preserve the alliance, and other general topics, so that it appeared to me that he was unwilling to lend himself to a design of gaining a little time by a false negotiation. This supposition agrees with my private intelligence which represents His Highness as intending to direct Trimbuckjee to fly from the city as soon as troops are collected, and to set up a pretended rebellion in which he is to receive every assistance from His Highness. No favourable effect has yet been felt from the conversation, on the contrary the Paishwa appears to increase his measures of distrust and hostility in proportion as I succeed in removing his fears of an attack by our troops. I had occasion two days ago to complain that the practice of taking down the names of persons coming to the Residency was renewed, and I received assurances that it should be discontinued. This day, however, several writers and other persons in the service of the Residency, were refused leave to go without express permission from the person in charge of the city, and since I have remonstrated on that head, one man has been refused permission to come here at all. I shall of course take most serious notice of a step so unfriendly, and so much calculated to excite distrust of the designs which such violent measures are taken to conceal. The Paishwa still continues to recruit but, since my remonstrances, his troops rendezvous at a place within 20 or 25 miles of Poona instead of the city itself. Numerous reports are spread of the Paishwa's designs amongst which is that of his intention to open a correspondence with the other Mahratta States, and particularly a rumour of Trimbuckjee's having invited the Pindarees across the Nurbudda with whom it appears certain that, he has long kept up a communication. None of these however, are sufficiently established to authorize any direct remonstrance from me or even to report them to Your Excellency as matters of fact.

No. 175—The Peshwa's assent to confine Trimbakji in the fort of Wasantgarh instead of handing him over to the Resident, is reported to the Governor General.

FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE EARL OF MOIRA, K. G.

Poona, 6 September 1815

My Lord,

Since I had last the honour to address Your Excellency, I have had many overtures through various channels which appeared to be authorized by the Paishwa, but which were declared to be merely the suggestions of the persons by whom they were communicated. They were, 1st, that the Paishwa should send Timbuckjee to command the army before Dharwar or to take charge of the fort of Rajghur about twenty miles to the southward of Poona, by which means his trial might go on without fear on the part of the witnesses 2nd, that while the trial lasted he should be removed from his command of the troops raised to serve with the Subsidiary Force, and from charge of affairs connected with the Residency, but should retain all his other offices 3rd, that he should be forbidden the Durbar during the trials (perhaps in addition to the deprivations mentioned in the last article) 4th, that he should retire from Poona during the trial giving the security of some chief for his good behaviour 5th that he should retire during the trial, and in the event of an acquittal should remain at a distance from the court though without any other deprivation

Major Ford also who was frequently sent to me by the Paishwa, and who spared no pains to soothe His Highness's mind, and convince him of the impolicy of opposing my demands

At the time of the threatening message sent to me by the Bhow, and while I was still receiving daily intelligence of His Highness's preparations, I sent a message to that Minister to tell him that unless there was alteration in the proceedings of His Highness's Government, I should be compelled to put the British troops into a fit state to secure our interests in all events. This message had the desired effect, and was soon followed by a deputation of the same persons as before, who were directed to explain the Paishwa's proceedings, to assure me of his pacific intentions, and to prevail on me to promise that I would move no troops towards Poona without previously giving notice to His Highness. To this I replied that as my measures must be regulated by His Highness's conduct, I could not bind myself by any promise but that the language of His Highness's court being considerably altered, I could say, I had no intention at the time of moving any troops. At this and at another meeting of the same kind I took occasion to enforce all my former arguments and to press the Paishwa to come to an early resolution, but when I found that there was no chance of the Paishwa's taking any steps against Trimbuckjee without stronger measures than I had adopted, I was not in reality sorry to admit of as much delay as was consistent with decency to allow time for me to receive Your Lordship's instructions. On the night of the 1st instant I had the honour to receive Mr Adam's despatch of the 15th August, on the grounds of which I drew up a note to His Highness of which the enclosed paper contains the substance. Some arrangements respecting intelligence which I was anxious to complete before I made His Highness acquainted with Your Excellency's decision, obliged me to put off the delivery of it till the 4th instant, during which time there was an appearance of an unfavourable change in the Paishwa's disposition. He was understood before that period to have intended to allow Trimbuckjee to escape and horses were posted, six at each station, from Poona to the Camp at Asee-Omree which appeared to indicate some such intention, but it was now reported that the Paishwa had determined not to part with Trimbuckjee, that he had promised to stand or fall with him, and that he had brought about a reconciliation between Trimbuckjee and Gokla who, like everybody else about the Court, had been injured and aggrieved by the favourite. At the same time it was stated on good authority that His Highness was showing great anxiety to make up his disagreement with his brother Chimnajeel whose adherence, it was said, he wished to secure in case of a flight, and I believe it is certain that

No. 178—The Peshwa's assent to confine Trimbakji in the fort of Wasantgath instead of handing him over to the Resident, is reported to the Governor General

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—THE EARL OF MOIRA, K. G

Poona, 6 September 1815

My Lord

Since I had last the honour to address Your Excellency, I have had many overtures through various channels which appeared to be authorized by the Paishwa, but which were declared to be merely the suggestions of the persons by whom they were communicated. They were 1st, that the Paishwa should send Trimbuckjee to command the army before Dharwar or to take charge of the fort of Rajghur about twenty miles to the southward of Poona, by which means his trial might go on without fear on the part of the witnesses 2nd, that while the trial lasted he should be removed from his command of the troops raised to serve with the Subsidiary Force, and from charge of affairs connected with the Residency, but should retain all his other offices 3rd, that he should be forbidden the Durbar during the trials (perhaps in addition to the deprivations mentioned in the last article) 4th, that he should retire from Poona during the trial giving the security of some chief for his good behaviour 5th that he should retire during the trial, and in the event of an acquittal should remain at a distance from the court though without any other deprivation

The first and second and fourth of these propositions are purely nugatory and the third was rendered equally so by the obvious partiality which the Paishwa retained for Trimbuckjee, and by the probability that he would still keep up a close communication with the Paishwa notwithstanding of his being restrained from public intercourse with His Highness. The offer contained in the fifth is liberal in case of an acquittal, but the essential part of it (as of all the rest) depends on the nature of the trial which (as I shall show in another despatch) would have been mere mockery. The result indeed might be foretold without difficulty from His Highness's repeated declaration, that the facts I had brought forward did not afford the slightest ground of suspicion against Trimbuckjee. I therefore refused to consent to any of these proposals. I also rejected an offer from Trimbuckjee himself to produce the real criminals if I could drop my proceedings against him. It was always in his power to have produced the real criminals if doing so had a tendency to acquit him, and I was not disposed to secure to him exemption from punishment on condition of his giving up his accomplices. Many of these overtures were made to

Major Ford also who was frequently sent to me by the Paishwa, and who spared no pains to soothe His Highness's mind, and convince him of the impolicy of opposing my demands

At the time of the threatening message sent to me by the Bhow, and while I was still receiving daily intelligence of His Highness's preparations, I sent a message to that Minister to tell him that unless there was alteration in the proceedings of His Highness's Government, I should be compelled to put the British troops into a fit state to secure our interests in all events. This message had the desired effect, and was soon followed by a deputation of the same persons as before who were directed to explain the Paishwa's proceedings to assure me of his pacific intentions, and to prevail on me to promise that I would move no troops towards Poona without previously giving notice to His Highness. To this I replied that as my measures must be regulated by His Highness's conduct, I could not bind myself by any promise but that the language of His Highness's court being considerably altered, I could say, I had no intention at the time of moving any troops. At this and at another meeting of the same kind I took occasion to enforce all my former arguments and to press the Paishwa to come to an early resolution, but when I found that there was no chance of the Paishwa's taking any steps against Trimbuckjee without stronger measures than I had adopted, I was not in reality sorry to admit of as much delay as was consistent with decency to allow time for me to receive Your Lordship's instructions. On the night of the 1st instant I had the honour to receive Mr Adam's despatch of the 15th August, on the grounds of which I drew up a note to His Highness of which the enclosed paper contains the substance. Some arrangements respecting intelligence which I was anxious to complete before I made His Highness acquainted with Your Excellency's decision, obliged me to put off the delivery of it till the 4th instant, during which time there was an appearance of an unfavourable change in the Paishwa's disposition. He was understood before that period to have intended to allow Trimbuckjee to escape, and horses were posted, six at each station, from Poona to the Camp at Asee-Omree which appeared to indicate some such intention but it was now reported that the Paishwa had determined not to part with Trimbuckjee, that he had promised to stand or fall with him and that he had brought about a reconciliation between Trimbuckjee and Gokla who, like everybody else about the Court, had been injured and aggrieved by the favourite. At the same time it was stated on good authority that His Highness was showing great anxiety to make up his disagreement with his brother Chimnajeel whose adherence, it was said he wished to secure in case of a flight and I believe it is certain that

His Highness had preparations made for a journey and was one night on the point of starting for the fort of Poorunder, but he was dissuaded from this step, which Trimbuckjee strongly recommended, by the representations of Gokla and perhaps by his own reflections. On the 4th instant my note and Your Lordship's letter were delivered accompanied with assurance of an intention to avoid all precipitation, but also with a declaration that I must take the measures referred to in my note if Trimbuckjee were not seized in the course of the next day. I also begged the Minister as a friend to point out any steps consistent with my declaration that he might think conducive to the amicable adjustment of our disputes.

The Paishwa spent a great part of the night of the 4th in consultation with the Bhow Gokla and Billoba, and on the 5th I received a message from the Bhow acquainting me that His Highness had been prevailed upon to agree to imprison Trimbuckjee on condition that the British Government should not hereafter demand his capital punishment, or his surrender to its own officers, and also that the British Government would call for no further inquiry about the murder. The Minister stated that His Highness's great anxiety was to preserve his quiet which he hoped would not be disturbed by any further discussions on the subject. To these conditions I at first answered that I could enter on no further discussions till Trimbuckjee was seized, but on reflecting that the Paishwa's reluctance to give him up might originate in the same motives which occasioned his aversion to enquiry, I thought it best to satisfy the Bhow by an unofficial communication that there was no design of requiring Trimbuckjee (when in our custody) to discover his accomplices, and that even the voluntary declarations of a person in his situation would not be much attended to, if they went to implicate persons instrumental to his confinement, that with respect to further enquiry enough would be done for the honour of both States by the surrender of Trimbuckjee to the British Government, and by giving up Bundoojee and Bhugwaunt Row to their own sovereign, and it would be unnecessary for the British Government to make any unusual exertions for the discovery of Trimbuckjee's accomplices, though if any were hereafter detected, we must insist on their punishment. As to giving further trouble about this affair to His Highness, I said, it was impossible to tell what orders Your Lordship might have issued to me on hearing of His Highness's behaviour subsequent to the Shastry's murder, that even if Trimbuckjee were surrendered, I would not precisely say what your final orders might be, but that from my knowledge of Your Lordship's friendship for the Paishwa, I was confident that they would

not be such as to occasion any serious shock to the alliance I took this occasion to give notice that I should order in the advance of the Subsidiary Force and encamp it within four miles of the city where it would receive charge of Trimbuckjee if given up, and where it would otherwise remain until further orders

On the night (the 5th) the Paishwa had a long consultation with the persons before mentioned, at which he finally determined to send Trimbuckjee to a hill fort The Bhow withdrew after this decision and Trimbuckjee was sent for He was admitted to the Paishwa's presence, and His Highness communicated his resolution with many assurances of a nature to soothe his feelings, and promises of protection for his family Trimbuckjee then set off in a palankeen followed by two others containing clothes and provisions, and accompanied by two hundred Arabs and a party of horse He was sent to Wassanth Ghur a hill fort near Sattarah, which the Bhow says was fixed on at his recommendation

This morning I received a message from the Bhow acquainting me with what had happened and requesting me, now that all was settled, to prevent the Guicawar's vakeel from setting out, and to make him recommence his negotiations I replied that I was happy to hear that His Highness had separated Trimbuckjee from his person, which I considered as a sign that he was not inclined to pursue his pernicious counsels, but that your Lordship's demand for his surrender to the British Government was not fulfilled, and could not be given up, that I hoped His Highness would accomplish it before any other orders arrived, and that in the meantime I begged leave to observe that as Trimbuckjee was His Highness's prisoner, it was plain he could not recover his liberty without His Highness's permission, and also that as it was known how little the troops under his command were attached to him, Your Lordship would consider any movement of theirs in a body or individually for the purpose either of disturbing the country or of assembling round Trimbuckjee, as the result of order from His Highness In the course of the day I received an answer from the Bhow stating that I did not know the trouble it had cost to get His Highness to consent to Trimbuckjee's imprisonment, and that I really must forbear giving him any further uneasiness I stated in reply that orders of a serious nature had most probably been issued by Your Lordship in consequence of my reports, and would reach me ere long, that if Trimbuckjee were imprisoned in the interim, I might be able to suspend their execution until I heard from Your Excellency again, but I requested the Bhow to inform me what I was to say to Your Lordship if your demand had not been complied with To this message I have as yet received no answer

It is one of the consequences of the Paishwa's double dealing that nobody believes him when he is sincere, and perhaps it is to this course we are to attribute the pretty general persuasion that Trimbuckjee's confinement is merely pretended, and that he will soon be allowed to escape and be suffered by the Paishwa in a feigned rebellion. The manner of his seizure and the situation of his agents who are allowed to carry on all his affairs and those of the governments with which he was charged exactly as if he were at large, in some measure justify this suspicion but as the Paishwa has large arrears of revenues to recover from Trimbuckjee it is natural that he should be averse to a sudden resumption of his farms, which would prevent a good deal of the money due on them from being realized. It is certain that his confinement is not very rigorous, but I should think the Paishwa must have a sufficient regard to his own interest to take care that he does not escape during the present crisis. Another native report indeed ascribes his reluctance to give him up to us solely to his dread of the disclosures which would follow and insinuates that if the demand for his surrender be pressed means will be found to remove him, under colour of his having taken poison or to come to some other untimely end. In the meantime the advance of the Subsidiary Force composed of the Horse Artillery Cavalry and Flank Battalion, will be here to morrow under personal command of Colonel Smith, by which we shall be enabled to take immediate steps for acting against Trimbuckjee, should he prove to be at large, and for any operations that circumstances may render necessary.

Troops are still levying in some parts of the Paishwa's territories but there has not been time to know what change may be produced in this respect by His Highness's resolutions.

Col Doveton was at Marsee on the 3rd instant, and intended to move by moderate marches towards Jaulnah, where his presence will be attended with the best effect.

No 178A

Substance of a note sent to His Highness the Paishwa by Mr Elphinstone on the 4th of September 1815

I have formerly had the honour to submit to Your Highness such remonstrances and demands as appeared to me to be required by my duty and by a regard to the probable sentiments of Government I represent. I have now received a letter from the Governor General to Your Highness which I have the honour to present with a Marathi translation. I have also received precise instructions from His Excellency and I think I cannot better consult his wishes and

Your Highness's welfare than by communicating to Your Highness without reserve such parts of them as bear on the present state of affairs

His Lordship begins his commands by observing that there appear to be strong grounds to suspect Trimbuckjee Dainglia, but that without more decisive grounds of inculpation, it would not be just to assume his guilt and act on that assumption. The course to be pursued, His Excellency observes, is to call on Your Highness to investigate the case and discover the perpetrators. His Excellency the Governor General had no doubt that Your Highness would honestly and sincerely apply yourself to the detection of the guilty and that whoever they might be, they should suffer the severest punishment that can be inflicted on a criminal. By such a course, His Lordship declares, that you would wipe off the stain which has fallen on your Government and perform the part of a faithful friend and an ally of the British Nation. His Excellency, however, has taken the precaution to furnish me with instructions for every possible case including what must have appeared to him the most improbable. His Lordship has contemplated the possibility of an enquiry being eluded, or conducted in such a manner as to render it nugatory and of Trimbuckjee being permitted, though his guilt should be established, to escape and to excite disturbances in the country, in all which cases His Lordship declares that he must hold you distinctly and unequivocally responsible for the act of your servant

His Lordship's instructions were written immediately on the receipt of a letter I addressed to His Excellency from Ellora on the day preceding that on which I had the honour to address Your Highness. At that time there was but a vague suspicion against Trimbuckjee, few of the facts that have since appeared were known and there was no reason to expect the extraordinary neglect of all measures for discovering the murderers which has since occurred. It will be a source of equal surprise and affliction to the Governor General to find that Your Highness has actually adopted two of the courses which His Lordship regards in so serious a light. When His Lordship is apprized of this unexpected circumstance he will doubtless issue orders that will leave me no discretion. It would indeed be only a strict obedience of His Lordship's commands if I were now to break off all further communication with Your Highness's Government but as I am well aware of the desire of His Excellency to preserve a friendship that has subsisted so happily for so long a period, I trust I shall not attract the displeasure of Government by consulting my own inclination and allowing Your Highness an opportunity of correcting the mistake into which you

have fallen, before His Lordship's final orders shall be received. After the proofs that have been exhibited of Trimbuckjee's guilt and his own obstinate refusal to submit to an enquiry, the plain tenor of the Governor General's instructions authorizes me to demand his immediate execution, but as in the event of a sufficient alteration in Your Highness's disposition evinced by your delivering up Trimbuckjee Dainglia even at this late period, an expression on Your Highness's part of anxiety to save the life of the criminal might induce His Lordship to mitigate punishment that is due to him. I content myself with demanding that Trimbuckjee shall be made over to the British Government to be detained in prison until there shall have been time for consultation between Your Highness and the Governor General. Anything that Your Highness may then have to offer for the consideration of the Governor General will be instantly forwarded to him and fully attended to but no further proposition can be received by His Lordship until this has been accomplished. I hope Your Highness will immediately act on this request. I shall be obliged to consider your omitting to do so as a decided negative and to assemble troops to meet the preparations which Your Highness has made, but if Your Highness does not begin hostility or quit Poona, I shall take no other measure until the Governor General's final orders arrive.

I earnestly entreat Your Highness once more to consider the situation in which you stand, to reflect on the length and cordiality of friendship which your bad advisers call on you to sacrifice, and to remember that opposing yourself to demands sanctioned by every law divine and human, has as little to recommend it to your honour as to your policy and that it is no more sure to bring ruin on your affairs than eternal disgrace upon your name.

No 179—The Resident communicates to Col Doveton the arrest and imprisonment of Trimbakji Denge on the night of 6th September

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—COL DOVETON.

Poona 7 September 1815

Sir,

I have had the honour to receive your letter of the 3rd. It gives me much satisfaction to hear of the movement on which you have so promptly determined.

Trimbuckjee Dainglia was on the night before last, dispatched under a guard to Wassantghur a hill fort near Sattara. I am not quite certain whether his confinement is real or feigned, but in the

first case he may still be allowed to escape in order to avoid a compliance with my demand that he should be delivered up to the British Government and if he should escape or if he is not in reality under restraint, it seems more than probable that he will endeavour to excite disturbances in the country. In that case your presence at Jaulna could not but be highly advantageous whether Trimbuckjee should fly at once in a northerly direction or stir up an insurrection in the south.

I shall have the honour to address you again as soon as anything precise is ascertained.

P S No Pindarries have appeared in this neighbourhood and I apprehend that those alluded to in Col Walker's dispatch must have been a party that lately advanced to the Tapti and returned after plundering in the neighbourhood of Boorhaunpoor.

No 180—The Resident explains the tortuous manner in which the Peshwa's consent was obtained for handing over Trimbakji to the British Authorities.

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL**

Poona 10 September 1815

My Lord,

On the morning of the 7th I received the Bhow's answer to my message of the preceding day. The substance of it was that it was only by taking it upon himself to engage that no further demands should be made on the part of the British Government, that he had prevailed on the Paishwa to imprison Trimbuckjee, and that if my demands were continued, he saw no way of escaping the difficulties with which he was surrounded except by taking poison. He therefore entreated me to rest satisfied with what had already been done and to bury the past in oblivion. As I had stated my demand to His Highness the Paishwa in writing as the utmost concession I could make consistently with your Lordship's orders, and as that twice between the delivery of my note and Trimbuckjee's imprisonment (sic) peremptorily rejected the compromise which was now proposed it seemed to me incredible that the Bhow should have engaged for such a concession on my part or that the Paishwa should have believed him if he had done so. At all events it was on every consideration impossible to recede from the grounds then taken up. I therefore replied that even if I were to abandon my present demand, Your Lordship's orders founded on my preceding despatches would still arrive and I requested the Bhow to inform me what I was to do in such a case if I had not before received

the satisfaction required by Your Lordship. Nearly a similar interchange of messages took place on the 8th. On that day I received an account from my Moonshee of an application made to him by Dhondoo Punt Nuggurker and Moro Dikshit, two of the Paishwa's personal associates, and Ureshunt Row, these persons came to him by night in disguise and desired him to acquaint me that whatever the Bhow or the world might think, His Highness had not imprisoned Trimbuckjee at that Minister's persuasion but of his own accord, that he had a thorough distrust and dislike of the Bhow and only kept him in place because he thought removing him would be disagreeable to the British Government that the Bhow had assured His Highness that Trimbuckjee's imprisonment had given me complete satisfaction, and that if this was not the case, His Highness was disposed to enter into a secret negotiation with me in which everything should in reality be arranged while I went through the ceremony of negotiating with the Bhow. Being uncertain of the real intention of these intrigues I desired the Moonshee to abstain from all further concern in them and to say on my part that I objected to an underhand negotiation, which was useless if the communications through both channels were the same and hurtful if they differed that I had told His Highness that the British Government pretended to have no concern with his ministers, and that if he wished any person to negotiate with me he had only to send him properly accredited and I would immediately attend to him. The same persons on this came to the Moonshee again and told him that the Paishwa had merely sent the message of the night before to discover whether my demands were instigated by the Bhow, that otherwise His Highness had no objection to that Minister except what arose from his having been censured in a letter from the Earl of Minto (?) three years ago. I report these intrigues as they happen, though just now I do not see the drift of them in the idea that they may hereafter throw light on some of the Paishwa's future proceedings. The last message was communicated to the Moonshee on the night of the 8th and yesterday morning I received a message from the Bhow in which he stated that the arrival of the advance of Colonel Smith's force at Poona and my insisting on new demands after all the objects of the British Government had been attained by the imprisonment of Trimbuckjee, had caused great doubts in the Paishwa's mind regarding the ultimate designs of the British Government, that he therefore begged I might send the troops away which would prevent His Highness calling any of his troops in and that I might rely on it that Trimbuckjee would not be released without the consent of the British Government. He also mentioned the Paishwa's wish if I agreed to it to write a letter to Your Excellency for me to

forward and that pending these discussions he hoped Bapoo Myraul might not be allowed to leave Poona. I sent a message in answer to this explaining that I had never advanced a new demand after a former one had been agreed to, but that the Paishwa's rejection of my proposals had obliged me to take greater precautions as I saw less ground for confidence, that if the Paishwa would comply with my present demands before first October, I did not think anything further would be demanded than satisfaction for the Guicawar or some other minor sacrifice, that His Highness therefore need apprehend no hidden designs, that I had sent for the troops after repeated notifications at a time when I thought His Highness would have given up Trimbuckjee and that I saw no ground for sending them back at present that I advised His Highness not to call in troops which would only tend to disputes, but above all I earnestly recommended to him not to quit Poona. While he was here, I said, one word from him could at once restore things to their old footing, which, if he once left Poona would no longer be possible. I said His Highness ought undoubtedly to write to Your Excellency in answer to your letter and he might state everything he wished to say to you on that occasion, but that it was requisite he should give up Trimbuckjee in the meantime to show that his object was not merely to gain time.

My objection against quitting Poona originated in very prevalent reports that His Highness had that intention. I was even assured on very high authority that His Highness had determined to fly to Wye where he meant to assemble all his troops, and where he expected to be joined by Appa Dessaye, and there was no doubt that troops were raising as fast as the limited numbers of the soldiers in the country would admit. His Highness indeed appears to have been in great agitation and to have wavered between a wish to go to Wye rather than give up Trimbuckjee and a desire to return to his old footing of tranquillity, to have sometimes expressed perfect confidence in the moderation of the British Government and at others to have thought only of escaping beyond the reach of its power.

Before I had despatched my message to the Bhow, the Paishwa sent for Major Ford and after receiving him at his palace retired and left him to consult with Moro Dikshit and Chumnajee Narayan on the best way of restoring the former harmony between our Government and his own. Major Ford took this opportunity of recommending an unconditional surrender of Trimbuckjee to the British Government as the only means of accomplishing His Highness's wish. The two persons already mentioned retired to report

what had passed to His Highness and returned in half an hour with the Paishwa's consent to the suggestion. This communication was accompanied by an assurance that the Paishwa had no knowledge of Trimbuckjee's guilt and that after he was surrendered, I might push my inquiries to the utmost or let them drop as I thought proper. Much conversation followed interrupted by occasional references to His Highness in which great anxiety was expressed concerning the safety of Trimbuckjee's life and the treatment he might receive when in our hands, although it was declared that the Paishwa made no conditions on this head. A great solicitude was also shown to know whether the surrender of Trimbuckjee would ensure the maintainance of the alliance. The manner of Trimbuckjee's surrender also was settled at this period and it was fixed that a party of Major Ford's Brigade should receive charge of him at Bussuntghur and make him over to a British detachment. The strength of Major Ford's party was to be fixed by him in concert with me but a wish was expressed that it should not be such as to draw any extraordinary attention. His Highness the Paishwa himself returned before Major Ford withdrew, confirmed what had been said by his agents and made Major Ford engage that if Your Excellency's orders should have arrived before he could return to the Residency, they should still be suspended. His Highness also desired Goupal Punt the Vakeel with Major Ford's Brigade who had been present during the whole discussion, to return with that officer to the Residency and to acquaint His Highness with my sentiments on the present communication. I received Gopal Punt after hearing Major Ford's account of the interview and told him that when Trimbuckjee was given up everything should be as heretofore, that I should suspend the execution of any orders issued previously to this resolution of the Paishwa's and apply for further instructions upon them, that I could not say what the ultimate instructions might be, as far as respected satisfaction to the Guicawar and other matters of the same nature, but that I would venture to assure His Highness that they would not affect the existence of the alliance which Your Lordship was anxious to preserve with His Highness, as Trimbuckjee was made over subject to Your Lordship's decision, but that Your Lordship would rather mitigate than aggravate his punishment, that I therefore ventured to answer for the safety of his life and that the practice of our Government enabled me to say that he would be exposed to no severities that were not implied in a strict imprisonment.

This message appears to have afforded great relief to the Paishwa's mind and he this morning sent Moro Dikshit and Chimnajee Narayan to assure me of his sincere desire to recover the confidence

of the British Government I gave them the same assurance that I had given to Gopaul Punt and took the opportunity of expressing my desire to wait on His Highness with which they appeared to think His Highness would be much gratified They spoke of the manner in which Trimbuckjee was to be made over and told me that His Highness had no objection to a British Detachment accompanying Major Ford's, but this I declined, because I thought it unnecessary and because it was desirable that the surrender of Trimbuckjee should appear to be made cordially and thought the agency of His Highness's own troops, a Detachment consisting of 850 men, will march to-morrow morning, and they ought to receive charge of Trimbuckjee in the course of five days more It is my wish if the Right Hon'ble the Governor should approve of it, to send Trimbuckjee to Bombay He would be as secure at Ahmudnuggur but his residence within the Paishwa's Dominions and in the neighbourhood of a road often travelled by His Highness, would probably keep up the feelings which these transactions must have excited and which it is now a great object to allay

I hope it may be reckoned certain that His Highness is now sincere so far at least as to put his breaking the alliance entirely out of the question There can, however, be no doubt that he did meditate such a design, and that he only forbore to enter on it in consequence of his own conviction strengthened by the opinions of his Sardars that his means were inadequate to the undertaking This conviction and the recollection of the uneasiness he has just undergone will probably for a long time deter him from indulging any resentment which he may harbour in consequence of the violence that has been put on his inclination and before that apprehension wears off, the passion which it is required to restrain will in a great measure have subsided It will hereafter be necessary to keep the Brigade at this place in a state of greater efficiency than has been usual, especially when the force is in the field and to keep a watchful eye on the Paishwa's proceedings and to check the revival of that spirit of encroachment which His Highness has manifested ever since he began to recover his strength through the operation of this alliance but in other respects I should think it advisable to treat him with the same confidence as before and to endeavour to reconcile his mind by every mark of friendship and goodwill It seemed to me as I have before intimated, that the return of confidence might be delayed by the impressions his mind has taken up of my disposition towards him This appeared in His Highness's communication with Major Ford and more obviously on other particulars of which I had intelligence It is also quite in the spirit of the personality that characterises the natives I therefore thought it

advisable to request His Highness through Gopal Punt to say candidly whether there was anything arising from the nature of the discussions I had with him that made him desire a change in the channel of his communication with the British Government, assuring him that if there was, I would take measures to effect it. I also assured him that his answer would not give me any offence as my remaining at this place was a matter of perfect indifference to me. His Highness replied to this by a positive denial of the feeling ascribed to him and an assurance that he was satisfied the same affairs would have led to the same dispute with any other public officer. I hardly expected that His Highness would have frankly avowed his wishes, if they were against my remaining, but at all events it must soothe and flatter him to have it placed at his disposal and must convince him of the importance attached by the British Government to the preservation of a cordial intercourse with him.

No. 181—This paper contains a weighty pronouncement by the Supreme Government on the conduct of the Resident in handling the delicate situation created by the Shastri's murder. His conduct has been highly commended.

**FROM—J. ADAM, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
TO—THE RESIDENT AT POONA.**

Ghazeepore near Ganges, 10 September 1815.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch to the Governor General of the 16th ultimo reporting the result of your enquiry into the circumstances of Gungadhur Shastry's murder and the measures adopted by you under the conviction of Trimbu-ckjee Dainglia being the author of that atrocious act, and detailing the other events and transactions connected with that unfortunate affair.

The Governor General directs me to convey to you the expression of his unqualified approbation of the spirit and energy, decision and judgment which have distinguished your conduct in the delicate and embarrassing circumstances described in your despatch. It is the firm persuasion of His Lordship that if this affair be brought to a favourable issue (as His Lordship sees confident ground to hope from the manner in which you have taken up the question) the satisfactory result will be mainly attributable to the promptitude, ability and firmness of your proceedings.

The Governor General fully concurs in the propriety of your determination not to delay the demand for an enquiry into the circumstances of the Shastry's murder nor the adoption of the measures which might become necessary to support that demand or to supply that defect of enquiry on the part of the Paishwa's Government and the justice and wisdom of the grounds on which that resolution was taken by you, appear to His Lordship to be incontrovertible

Any delay in that indispensable proceeding beyond what the nature of the case itself required, or any attempt on our part to dissemble our just abhorrence and indignation at a crime of such an atrocious nature deeply affecting the honour and the interests of the British Government, would have been as ineffectual for the attainment of the proposed object as unworthy of our character and injurious to our name. All the ill consequences predicted by you as resulting from delay, must have been incurred without any compensatory benefit while on the other hand the advantage of seizing the moment for demanding justice when the public voice was with us and the general posture of affairs presented peculiar facilities for the execution of the plan which it might become necessary to adopt was incalculable. These practical advantages would have been lost by delay, while our national reputation must have suffered in proportion as our apparent laxity would have afforded room for suspicion, that we were negligent or indifferent concerning an event no less shocking in its nature than striking directly at our own honour and character

Your immediate demand on the Paishwa, therefore, for enquiry into the circumstances of the murder with a view to the detection and punishment of the perpetrators was a measure of clear and indisputable propriety and the subsequent specific demand for the arrest of Trimbuckjee, Bhugwant Row, and Govind Row Bundoojee founded on the facts within your knowledge became under the total neglect of any enquiry, on the part of the Paishwa's Government, a measure of indispensable duty. The tenor of your written address to the Paishwa and the mode adopted by you of conveying it to His Highness when a personal meeting was unattainable, are entirely approved. That paper exhibits a just and forcible representation of the guilt of Trimbuckjee of the imperative obligations on His Highness to adopt the procedure urged by you as indispensable for removing from himself and Government the imputation which must otherwise attach to him of participation in Trimbuckjee's crime, and of the irretrievable embarrassment into which he must plunge himself by a vain effort to screen his profligate favourite from the consequences of his atrocity

A less explicit and unreserved declaration of your opinion, while it would have weakened the effect of the proceeding and compromised our reputation, would have been fruitless with reference to the conciliation of either the Paishwa or Trimbuckjee himself. It is plain that however free from guilt the Paishwa may be personally considered, his blind attachment to Trimbuckjee would induce him to employ at least every means consistent with his own safety, to avert from his favourite the disgrace and punishment due to his crimes. It was even probable that in pursuit of this object the Paishwa might risk a rupture with the British Government the prospect of which as inevitable in that course, it became necessary therefore to bring before him in a way not to be misunderstood. On the other hand, the Paishwa could not have remained ignorant of our conviction of Trimbuckjee's guilt, and he would only have been able to reconcile that conviction with our forbearance from declaring it and demanding the punishment of Trimbuckjee by ascribing to us motives the suspicion of which would be alike injurious to our honour and interests as involved in the issue of the present affair and fatal to the success of our future measures at the Court of Poona.

With regard to Trimbuckjee it is unreasonable to suppose that we should gain him by any affected blindness to his participation in the murder even if our credit and just feelings would permit us to dissemble our belief and abhorrence of his guilt. He would infallibly ascribe our forbearance to conscious inability to pursue those measures which he must know our natural feelings and clear policy would dictate, while his animosity would be sharpened by his knowledge of our internal conviction of his atrocity, and he would thus be encouraged to undertake measures more directly aimed against ourselves.

In the decided and manly course adopted by you on this occasion, therefore, His Lordship recognises the characteristic merits of your public conduct, which have in no instance during the period of your mission been more conspicuously displayed than in the present crisis.

There are reasons of a more general nature for adopting the direct line of accusing Trimbuckjee and consequently demanding his arrest and exclusion from the administration. The view which you have taken of Trimbuckjee's character and conduct, and of political principles founded on the experience of his past administration justifies the most unfavourable construction of his proceedings and designs, and leaves no room to doubt that his turbulence violence and total inability to comprehend the true principles of the alliance,

would at a very early period have produced a crisis of affairs replete with embarrassment and danger. Independently, therefore, of the demand on our justice and honour for the adoption of that procedure which the undisguised guilt of Trimbuckjee loudly calls for, our political interests as involved in the stability and efficient operation of the alliance with the Peshwa, urge the expediency of seizing the opportunity now afforded of separating the cause of Trimbuckjee from that of his master, in order to avert the ruinous consequences of his continued exercise of the power of the State of Poona and in securing our own interests to rescue the Peshwa from the baneful ascendancy of a favourite whose profligate and desperate counsels must irretrievably involve His Highness in the most serious calamities. These considerations strongly support the justice and expediency of your procedure and would, even excluding the contemplation of the present case, justify a demand for the removal of Trimbuckjee from the Peshwa's councils and powerfully combine with the other causes which urge the adoption of the course we are now pursuing.

In every point of view, therefore, the resolution adopted by you was that which justice, policy and a regard for the national reputation equally prescribed, and it has been carried into effect in a manner no less honourable to your character than becoming the dignity of the Government which you represent.

The precautions adopted by you for placing the Brigade at Poona and the British Residency in a condition of security against any desperate attempt which Trimbuckjee might meditate, your measures for securing the safety and allaying the fears of the Baroda mission, for tranquillizing the public mind and restoring the confidence of the Peshwa himself and, for placing the essential interests of the two states beyond the reach of hazard by the recall to Seroor of the Subsidiary Force without any parade which could produce observation and awaken disquietude, are deemed by the Governor General proofs of your correct judgment, sound discretion, and just and accurate conception of real character of the recent transactions. A view so consonant to true policy demands His Lordship's unqualified commendation.

On a review of all your proceedings and the principles by which they have been regulated and on comparing them with the tenor of the instructions communicated to you in my despatch of the 15th ultimo, His Lordship has the satisfaction to reflect that the consistency of your proceedings with His Lordship's views and wishes is such as to render unnecessary any additional instructions

for the regulation of your future conduct. No case as far as His Lordship can discern is likely to arise in which the application to the circumstances of the moment, of the general principles stated in that dispatch and those which have hitherto governed your conduct will not readily furnish a rule for your guidance such as you will be able to act upon with the confidence of securing the sanction of the Governor General.

There is one point only to which it may be proper to advert, more specially you will probably infer from the tenor of the instructions of the 15th ultimo, the wish of the Governor General that you should proceed to pronounce finally on the guilt of Trimbuckjee Dainglia and those his accomplices against whom proof may have been obtained calling on His Highness the Peshwa to inflict on them the punishment due to their crimes. His Lordship is far from disapproving of your having deferred any proceeding of that nature until the receipt of instruction from hence. If you should not already under the authority conveyed in my dispatch of the 15th ultimo have proceeded to demand the punishment of Trimbuckjee and his convicted accomplices, the Governor General desires that you will do so on the receipt of this despatch. You will observe that His Lordship considers the guilt of Trimbuckjee to be so firmly established by prominent evidence which he has not even attempted to rebut, as to leave no necessity for further enquiry. At the same time if with a view to the satisfaction of the public mind a further examination and enquiry appear to be called for, they may be entered on. The mode of proceeding in this case must be regulated by your discretion. The more nearly it is assimilated to the form of proceeding in use among Marhattas, so long as the ends of public justice are not compromised, the more satisfactory it will probably be with reference to its proposed object. But under the unalterable conviction founded on incontrovertible circumstantial evidence, which His Lordship entertains of the criminality of Trimbuckjee he will not suffer a difference of forms to impede the course of substantial justice, and if any attempt be made to save Trimbuckjee by taking advantage of the opening which such a course of the proceeding may present, His Lordship relies on your vigilance and firmness to detect and frustrate the design. You are already in possession of His Lordship's sentiments respecting the measure of punishment to be inflicted on Trimbuckjee if regard for the Peshwa's feelings shall operate to spare his life. His Lordship would scarcely think it safe in that event, that Trimbuckjee should be left in the custody of the Peshwa's officers, but on this point your satisfaction with respect to his personal security would constitute that of His

Lordship. The most expedient plan however would be to remove him to the Honourable Company's territories, unless there be some objection to that measure not immediately within His Lordship's contemplation.

With respect to Bugwunt Row Guykwar and Govind Row Bundoojee they must under any circumstances be removed from Poona and retained in close custody either in the territories of the Honourable Company or of the Gykawat whose subjects they are. Their implication in the guilt of the Shastry's murder rests for the present only on suspicion and presumption, tho' both strong in their degree, and the ultimate disposal of their persons will be decided by the result of the enquiry into their supposed share in that transaction. The confinement of their persons will, however, be indispensable as a matter of precaution under any issue of that enquiry and their former conduct and intrigues and their undisguised hostility to the Guykwar Government abundantly warrant the measure. On the subject of these two persons you will probably think it proper to correspond with the Government of Bombay.

The Governor General is not prepared to give any orders relative to the subordinate instruments of the assassination further than that every effort should be made to discover them with a view to their conviction and punishment.

With respect to the criminals generally, you will consider yourself to be at liberty either to proceed at once to deal with them in the manner which will be required by their relative degrees of guilt adverting to the preceding remarks and to those contained in the 6th paragraph of my dispatch of the 15th ult. or to reserve the cases of all, or any of them for the final orders of the Governor General or the Governor General in Council, should you deem the latter course likely to be more impressive or otherwise preferable.

The Governor General has purposely excluded from his consideration of this case any reference to the possible personal criminality of the Peshwa. It is very satisfactory for His Lordship to find that notwithstanding some circumstances of a doubtful nature you have discovered no ground for charging His Highness with such an atrocity, while your knowledge of his character leads you to reject the suspicion. It is manifestly desirable in every point of view to avoid any indication of a belief so injurious to the Peshwa and to avoid pushing an enquiry which were it to terminate in the establishment of his guilt, would not tend to the furtherance of the ends of justice. His Lordship therefore highly commends the prudence and caution observed by you with relation to this branch of the affair.

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No 182—Bapu Myral, the Gaikwad vakil is advised to stay at Poona

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE,
TO—MR WARDEN.**

Poona, 13 September 1815

Sir,

In consequence of the resolution which H H the Paishwa has taken to grant the reparation for the murder of Gungadhur Shastri that has been demanded by the Bombay Government, I have suggested to Baupoo Myral that there is now no longer any necessity for his leaving this capital. I have at the same time acquainted him that his remaining here under the appearances which affairs have lately assumed, would be in conformity to the sentiments both of the Governor General and of the Right Hon'ble the Governor and he has accordingly resolved to continue at Poona, acquainting his Government with the circumstances which have led to this determination.

I have the honour to inform you that I have received from Baupoo Myraul the sum of 1,25,000 rupees in repayment of the cash which I formerly advanced to him. It is my intention to deposit this sum in the treasury of the Paymaster to the Subsidiary Force for the use of the troops.

I shall have the honour to transmit a copy of this letter for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor General.

No 183—The Resident requests the Government of Bombay to arrange for the safe custody of Trimbakji Dengle either at Bombay or Tanna.

**FROM—THE RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY WARDEN.**

Poona, 13 September 1815

Sir,

His Highness the Paishwa having promised to deliver up Trimbuckjee Dinglia to the British Government, I beg you to submit to the Right Hon'ble the Governor my request that when he is made over he may be imprisoned in the fort of Bombay or in that of Tanna. If the Right Hon'ble the Governor approves of this arrangement, I shall send Trimbuckjee to whichever place he may fix on under an escort. The Right Hon'ble the Governor will have observed that I have given the Paishwa reason to expect that Trimbuckjee will meet with no severities that are not implied in a strict imprisonment and although the enormity of his crime would justify the most rigorous treatment, it will be consistent with the

dignity of the British Government to show him as much humanity as may be possible consistently with the perfect security of his person and with an effectual restraint on his correspondence

I give this early notice in the idea that some preparation will be required for his reception, but he cannot reach Bombay in less than three weeks at the earliest

No 184—The Governor General accords his approval to the measures taken by the Resident to prevent disturbance by Trimbakji Dengele

FROM—J ADAM, SECRETARY,
TO—THE RESIDENT AT POONA.

Patna, 20 September 1815

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor General to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatches communicating the details of further events and transactions at Poona connected with the demand made by you for the arrest of Trimbuckjee Dainglia and the other individuals suspected of being accomplices in the murder of Gungadher Shastri

The Governor General perceives with concern the reluctance of the Paishwa to withdraw his protection from Trimbuckjee, but for reasons already known to you that circumstance has not excited His Lordship's surprise, nor has it in any respect occasioned an alteration in His Lordship's view of the case as communicated to you in my late dispatches

The Governor General is disposed to indulge a favourable anticipation of the Peishwa's ultimate decision from the time which has been afforded to His Highness to reflect on the perilous consequences of a continued support of Trimbuckjee, whatever may be His Highness's final decision. However, it is not to be expected that Trimbuckjee, possessing as he does the means of resistance, will quietly submit to the disgrace and punishment which await him, and the most favourable as well as the most probable issue of this affair contemplated by the Governor General is the escape of Trimbuckjee followed by an attempt to create disturbance in the country and to take his chance of a successful opposition to our arms and perhaps his ultimate flight to the territories of a foreign state

Under this impression His Lordship views with great satisfaction the state of preparation in which we stand for pursuing Trimbuckjee with vigour and effect and for dispersing and destroying the force which he may collect

The presence at Seroor of the Poona Subsidiary Force and its actual augmented scale, and the liberation from other urgent service of Colonel Doveton's force by the happy result of the late discussions at Hyderabad, combined with the judicious postponement by the Government of Bombay of the projected expedition to Cutch and the consequent additional disposable force thus obtained, leave to His Lordship no room for doubt as to the early suppression of any insurrection which may be incited by Trimbuckjee

With regard to the measures and proceedings adopted by you as reported in the dispatches now acknowledged, His Lordship has nothing to add to the instructions already transmitted to you excepting the renewed expression of his approbation of your conduct and of his confidence of the successful issue of this unfortunate affair under your able, judicious and energetic management

No 185—Trimbakji Dengle is arrested and sent to Thana for confinement

**FROM—THE RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY WARDEN.**

Poona, 24 September 1815

Sir,

I have the honour to acquaint you that Bhugwunt Row Guicawar has been delivered up to me by His Highness the Paishwa and I expect Govind Row Bundoojee to be likewise surrendered in the course of today

Trimbuckjee Daingha is also to be made over to a detachment from Colonel Smith's corps on the morning of the 26th when all three will proceed to Panwell They will probably reach that place about the 1st

They are to be guarded by the Battalion from the Light Companies (700 strong) and to be accompanied as far as the Ghauts by a troop of cavalry and two Galloper guns

I beg leave to suggest that an escort should be ready at Panwell to receive charge of the party and convey them to Tannah I have undertaken that Bhugwunt Row Guicawar and Govind Row Bundoojee shall be delivered to His Highness the Guicawar and his receipt obtained for them I beg therefore that such a document may be procured and sent to me on their arrival at Baroda

The Right Hon ble the Governor will no doubt give such orders as he may deem necessary for the security of Trimbuckjee's person and to prevent his corresponding

No 185 A

Resolution

Bombay, 4 October 1815

Ordered that the receipt of the letter above recorded be acknowledged and that the Resident at Poona be informed that in compliance with his suggestions, arrangements will be immediately made for receiving charge of the three prisoners on their arrival at Panwell and for conveying Trimbuckjee to Tannah. It is intended that Bhugwunt Row Guicawar and Govind Row Bundoojee should be sent from hence to Baroda for the purpose of being delivered up to the Guicawar Government and the Resident has been instructed to obtain a receipt for their persons which will be transmitted to Mr Elphinstone

The Governor in Council is desirous, however, of being informed whether any and if so what conditions have been entered into by Mr Elphinstone with the Poona Government respecting Bundoojee and Bhugwunt Row beyond that of their being delivered up to the Guicawar authorities

In reference to the concluding paragraph of the Resident's letter he is to be informed that the Commandant at Tannah has received strict orders to prevent any correspondence being carried on with Trimbuckjee Dainglia

Resolved that the Commanding Officer of the Forces be instructed to provide an European Guard under the command of an European officer for the purpose of proceeding to Panwell and receiving charge of Trimbuckjee Dainglia, late Minister to the Paishwa, from the officer who may command the detachment under whose charge he may arrive at that place, and convey him to Tannah where he is to be delivered over to the custody of the Commandant of the garrison from whom the officer is to obtain a receipt for his person

The Superintendent of the Marine is to be instructed to provide the boats requisite for the execution of this duty and for concerting with General Boye in respect to the period of their departure, which should take place in the course of tomorrow. The Tindals are to be placed under the orders of the European officer, as in

the event of the prisoners not reaching Panwell by the 1st of the ensuing month it will be necessary to await their arrival

The Commanding Officer of the Forces is to be also instructed to send a small European detachment to Tannah to be employed with the aid of the invalids and veteran Company at that Garrison under the orders of Col Hunt in securing the person of Trimbuckjee Damgha till some permanent arrangement may be made for that purpose The detail may be relieved monthly or otherwise as General Boye may judge proper

Ordered that the Commanding Officer of the Forces be further requested to provide a second party from the Marine Battalion under the command of an European officer, who is also to proceed to Panwell and receive charge of the two other prisoners named Bhugwunt Row Guicawar and Govind Row Bundoojee, who are to be brought to Bombay and put on board a vessel which the Superintendent of the Marine will provide, for conveying them to Broach to which Garrison the officer appointed to receive charge of them is to proceed and to deliver them to the custody of the Commandant of Broach obtaining a receipt from him for their persons

The Governor in Council is uninformed whether any domestics will accompany the prisoners destined to Broach It will therefore be necessary that the officer proceeding with them should direct the necessary supplies of provisions and water for the passage to be provided being careful to consult the prejudices of these natives in the execution of this part of his duty Should, however, any difficulties be experienced in this respect or delay in the immediate departure of the vessel to Broach, General Boye will be pleased to apply for further instructions of the Government

Ordered that the Commandant at Tannah be advised of Trimbuckjee's expected arrival and of the measures which have been taken to convey him to Tannah, being instructed at the same time to adopt the necessary measures to prevent any correspondence being carried on with the prisoner

The Commandant of the Garrison at Broach is to be informed of the arrangements made for placing Bhugwunt Row and Bundoojee under his charge for the present and directed to prevent their holding any correspondence whilst in his custody

The Resident at Baroda is also to be advised and informed that he will hereafter be apprised of the conditions under which they have been given up to the Baroda Government

No 186—The Resident reports that after the turmoil over the arrest of Trimbuckjee affairs at Poona were assuming their normal aspect

FROM—M. ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

Poona, 26 September 1815

My Lord,

I have had the honour to acquaint Your Excellency with the delivery of Trimbuckjee Dainglia to a detachment of His Highness the Paishwa's Brigade commanded by Captain Hicks I have now to report his delivery to a detachment of British Troops

Bhugwant Row Guicawar and Govind Row Bundoojee were surrendered on the day before yesterday for the purpose of being made over to the Guicawar and all the three prisoners set out this morning for Thannah under an escort composed of the Light Battalion and a troop of the 3rd native cavalry

The detachment under the personal command of Colonel Smith will return to Serool on the 30th instant or 1st of October and the Subsidiary Force will be ready to return to the frontier as soon as Your Excellency commands or the state of season shall require its advance, its recall into cantonments has been the principal cause of the attainment of Your Excellency's demand The measure was suggested by Colonel Smith and is one of many instances in which I am indebted to his zeal and judgment

The Paishwa is still laying in stores and provisions at his principal forts and still gives some attention to his army, but all accounts attribute those measures to his fears for his own safety rather than any hostile designs On this ground I think it best not to oppose them but to allow them to relax of themselves as His Highness recovers his confidence I shall however urge His Highness to send back to the frontier the force that was originally designed to co-operate with Colonel Smith and which has now been recalled to Poona

His Highness is slowly appointing other officers to the places of trust which were held by Trimbuckjee A defalcation amounting, it is said, to 25 lakhs of rupees, has already appeared in that Minister's accounts and this loss would probably be increased if all his farms were at once resumed

Sedasheo Manukaisur lately sent to me to say that the Paishwa by his late measures had made all Trimbuckjee's adherents his enemies and that His Highness wished me to declare whether if the provinces of Ahmedabad or Savanore or any fort of consequence such as Kooshigal, should hold out for him, the British

channel of communication with the Residency, but His Highness evidently entertains the utmost distrust of him and keeps up a separate intercourse with me by means of Major Ford whom he sometimes sees himself, but oftener sends to him through Chimna-
jee Narrain, Moro Dikshit and Gopal Punt His Highness has sometimes endeavoured through this channel to ascertain the part the British Govt would take in the nomination of his minister and I have given him to understand that Your Excellency would object to none on whom his choice fell unless there were obvious grounds for thinking his appointment would be injurious to the alliance His Highness also communicates with me through a person named Raghoo Punt who attends at the Residency on His Highness's part and this man of no consequence has attended on His Highness from his infancy These numerous channels are productive of inconvenience but it is not perhaps easy to find any remedy with a person of so suspicious a turn of mind as His Highness the Paishwa

I did myself the honour of waiting on His Highness about a fortnight ago during the celebration of a great festival at his Durbar, but the occasion did not admit of any conversation on business

I have received repeated intimation through the Minister, Major Ford and Raghoo Punt of the Paishwa's desire of an enquiry into Trimbuckjee's conduct, but none of these overtures are made in the form of direct demands, and they are accompanied by circumstances which render me uncertain whether His Highness is really desirous of an enquiry or only wishes to discover whether there is any intention on our part of pushing the matter further I however replied that I had promised His Highness to drop all further proceedings against Trimbuckjee if he was given up and that I saw no occasion for more enquiry, being convinced of his guilt and satisfied with his punishment, that if his His Highness wished to enter fully and sincerely into an investigation to punish Trimbuckjee when his guilt was legally proved and to search out his accomplices and bring them to justice, I thought such a proceeding would have the best effect for his reputation, but that unless he was prepared to enter cordially on the enquiry I would advise him to leave things as they were, since any attempts to suppress evidence or to screen the guilty would lead to discussions similar to those which had just terminated His Highness has now dropped the subject, but I imagine he has still hopes or apprehensions of a further investigation, for he has within these days sent for the deposition mentioned in my letter of the 6th instant to Mr Adam which had been allowed to remain in the hands of the person who fabricated it till now

Government would assist His Highness in reducing them. I replied that if His Highness had sincerely and heartily taken measures against Trimbuckjee, the British Government would assist him in any undertaking that seemed so much for his own strength, but that it would not take on itself to quell every trifling instance of opposition. To this extent we are already bound by the 9th and 18th articles of the treaty of Bassein.

There is no particular reason to expect any rebellions of the kind described, but they are not unlike the usual proceedings of Marathas and there are some points regarding them on which I may require to be furnished with express instructions especially as the places alluded to are scarcely within the reach of the Subsidiary Force.

A rebellion of His Highness's Sirsoobehdar at Ahmedabad would be attended with such bad consequences to us and to the Guickwar that it would be absolutely necessary to crush it without delay. At the same time the scene of it would be too remote to admit of His Highness taking any effectual measures for that purpose, but the cordial support afforded by the Right Honourable the Governor of Bombay to all operations arising from our alliance with this state and the promptitude with which he was able on the late occasion to turn the whole military resources of the Presidency to the maintenance of our interests in the Paishwa's dominions leave little doubt that the rebellion alluded to would be speedily suppressed.

From the statements contained in Mr Strachey's letter to me dated the 11th instant, it appears that the reduction of Savanore if it were to throw off the Paishwa's authority, would be attended with more difficulty. To employ the Subsidiary Force in that quarter would only be expedient in a case of extreme necessity. The Paishwa ought no doubt to exert himself to the utmost, but as he has been occupied for near a year on the siege of the single and unassisted fort of Darwar, an object he had very much at heart I do not think we could reckon on his success in reducing Coosigul and dispersing a body of rebels at once. The defensive measures which seem to be alluded to in Mr Strachey's despatch, might secure the British territory from depredation, but the southern part of the Paishwa's country, and that of the Jageerdars would in all probability soon fall into great confusion. I beg therefore to be honoured with Your Excellency's instructions on the course to be pursued in the event of such an occurrence.

Nobody appears as yet to have succeeded Trimbuckjee Dainglia in the Paishwa's confidence. Sedashiv Mankaisur is the nominal

channel of communication with the Residency, but His Highness evidently entertains the utmost distrust of him and keeps up a separate intercourse with me by means of Major Ford whom he sometimes sees himself, but oftener sends to him through Chimna-
jee Narrain, Moro Dikshit and Gopal Punt His Highness has sometimes endeavoured through this channel to ascertain the part the British Govt would take in the nomination of his minister and I have given him to understand that Your Excellency would object to none on whom his choice fell unless there were obvious grounds for thinking his appointment would be injurious to the alliance His Highness also communicates with me through a person named Raghoo Punt who attends at the Residency on His Highness's part and this man of no consequence has attended on His Highness from his infancy These numerous channels are productive of inconvenience, but it is not perhaps easy to find any remedy with a person of so suspicious a turn of mind as His Highness the Paishwa

I did myself the honour of waiting on His Highness about a fortnight ago during the celebration of a great festival at his Durbar, but the occasion did not admit of any conversation on business

I have received repeated intimation through the Minister, Major Ford and Raghoo Punt of the Paishwa's desire of an enquiry into Trimbuckjee's conduct, but none of these overtures are made in the form of direct demands, and they are accompanied by circumstances which render me uncertain whether His Highness is really desirous of an enquiry or only wishes to discover whether there is any intention on our part of pushing the matter further I however replied that I had promised His Highness to drop all further proceedings against Trimbuckjee if he was given up and that I saw no occasion for more enquiry, being convinced of his guilt and satisfied with his punishment, that if his His Highness wished to enter fully and sincerely into an investigation to punish Trimbuckjee when his guilt was legally proved and to search out his accomplices and bring them to justice, I thought such a proceeding would have the best effect for his reputation, but that unless he was prepared to enter cordially on the enquiry I would advise him to leave things as they were, since any attempts to suppress evidence or to screen the guilty would lead to discussions similar to those which had just terminated His Highness has now dropped the subject, but I imagine he has still hopes or apprehensions of a further investigation, for he has within these days sent for the deposition mentioned in my letter of the 6th instant to Mr Adam which had been allowed to remain in the hands of the person who fabricated it till now

A short period will probably show the turn His Highness's mind is likely to take in consequence of the late transactions. His discontent must be great but after the concession he has made, it is unlikely that he will venture on any immediate measures inconsistent with the interests of the British Government. I hope at all events to discover his intentions in this respect before the Subsidiary Force is required to leave Scroor.

No 187—The Resident at Baroda communicates to the Governor General the grounds urged by Fate Singh Gaikwad for proving the Peshwa's complicity in the Shastry's murder, and the reparations he was now demanding.

FROM—THE RESIDENT, BARODA,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Baroda, 30 September 1815

Sir,

In pursuance of the orders communicated in your letter dated the 20th instant, I have apprised Futteh Sing in the interview which took place yesterday of the great satisfaction the British Government has received from the conduct and professions of His Highness on the late unfavourable appearances with the Paishwa and the hopes we entertain of full satisfaction for the murder of Gangadher Shastry.

This communication had led to discussion of what His Highness considers to be the reparation for the insult offered to the allied Governments in the instance above noticed. He extolled the firmness which has been manifested in demanding satisfaction to the British Government for the shameful disregard of its guarantee, which must satisfy the powers in Hindustan that it could never be set aside with impunity.

While His Highness urged this part of the subject, he said, that it was not possible for him to divest his mind of the Paishwa's implication in the crime for the reasons which I shall class under the following heads.

His Highness urges that it cannot be believed that the acting minister of the Paishwa and his acknowledged favourite, should venture to murder a public minister of a foreign power negotiating under the guarantee of the British Government, without the tacit sanction of his sovereign.

Secondly That the Shastry was assassinated in the midst of the Paishwa's court and in the immediate neighbourhood of His Highness's residence.

Thirdly That the Paishwa had posted guards two days previous to the murder around his palace

Fourthly That after the murder, the Paishwa increased precautions of his personal safety, instituted no enquiries on the accounts rendered His Highness personally by Bappoo Chiplunkar, for the apprehension or knowledge of the perpetrators, detached a body of troops under Gokla to overawe the Guicawar camp during the funeral of Gungadher Shastry and prohibited the ingress of the Guicawar people into the town of Punderpore

Fifthly That the religious principle in the Paishwa did not avail in inducing an enquiry into the murder of a Brahmin and one of the Paishwa's own caste

Sixthly That the Paishwa desired the Shastry to bring only a small retinue from Poona and on reaching Punderpore forbade the entrance of armed men except his own into the town

Seventhly His Highness the Paishwa on his return to Poona took measures before unknown for the protection of his person

Eighthly That His Highness though urged by the Resident at Poona evaded enquiries into the murder, and refused on the clearest evidence against Trimbuckjee to cause him to be confined preparatory to his trial

Ninthly That the persons who gave evidence in writing of the proceedings immediately preceding the melancholy end of the Shastry were threatened by the Paishwa's minister Sadasheo Mankeysur, and urged to prepare fresh statements which would not implicate Trimbuckjee Dainglia

Tenthly That the Paishwa from avowed animosity against the Shastry suddenly manifested but a short time before the murder of that Minister, the utmost regard and consideration to the extent of a show of offering the sister of his wife in marriage to the Shastry's son

Eleventhly That His Highness secretly encouraged, while professing attachment to the Shastry and a desire to bring his negotiations to the most honourable termination to all parties, the emissaries Bhugwunt Row and Bundoojee, and that the latter was at Punderpoor in His Highness's court in a clandestine manner at the time of the assassination of the Guicawar Minister

Lastly That the criminal Trimbuckjee Denglia has only been surrendered by the Paishwa in consequence of the decisive measures of the British Government, not by His Highness's goodwill, but the dread of his further support of his favourite leading to the overthrow of His Highness's Government

Under these circumstances Futteh Sing proceeded to say that the surrender of Trimbuckjee Denglia though extremely honourable to the English name, could never be considered as any adequate satisfaction for the assassination of the Guicawar's confidential and most able public servant. His Highness described himself as impressed with profound sentiments of respect for the acts of the British power, and observed that this feeling generated an implicit reliance on its justice to the Guicawar state, if circumstances rendered it inexpedient to prosecute the investigation of the Paishwa's criminality on the strong presumption of guilt which the whole tenor of his conduct has produced.

His Highness adverted to the treacherous acts of the Poona state, since the origin many years ago, of its connection with the Guicawar, setting forth the seizure of Damajee Guicawar in violation of the plighted faith of the Paishwa in person, and the consequent partition of territory in Guzerat which placed Ahmedabad in the hands of the Poona Government. The perjury committed on that memorable occasion led the Guicawar to assert the privilege rigidly exercised of saluting the Paishwa with the left hand and the late assassination of the Minister justified the dissolution of any connection which such perjury had created.

Such were the sentiments and opinions repeatedly avowed by Futteh Sing and which he pointedly expressed his wish to be made known to the British Government. His Highness afterwards enumerated the conditions with which he would feel satisfied or in the event of their entire rejection by the Paishwa, the Guicawar state solicits the countenance of the British Government in such events as might be produced from the footing on which the relations of the two states would consequently be placed. The conditions stated by Futteh Sing are comprised —

First The Peshwa's renunciation of all pecuniary claims on the Guicawar including the past and future.

Second That in lieu of the Guicawar claim for Bioach, the Talooka of Ahmedabad be surrendered to the Guicawar for ever, in the event of the British Government considering the demand unreasonable, that the Paishwa farms his possessions in Guzerat to the East India Company at an equitable standard. This measure, His Highness remarked was essential for the tranquillity of Guzerat which had been subverted from the hour of the Paishwa's resumption of his possessions.

In the event of the Paishwa's compliance with these demands the Guicawar is willing from its acknowledged allegiance to the Sahoo Rajah, to discharge the sum of five lacs of rupees for clothes of investiture on the advancement of a legitimate member of the

Guicawar family to the Baroda Gadee and the service of 1000 horse, whenever the Mahratta Empire is engaged in an important enterprise

His Highness concluded by telling me that in preferring the present important demands, his honour was involved in a superior degree to his interests. The Shastry's situation in the Guicawar Government and moreover his having been vested with unlimited powers in his mission to Poona, required that his murder was marked by consequences consistent with the sacred obligation of safety to the public functionaries of Governments, and that it was incumbent to show the world the importance attached to the manner of the Shastry's death. This he submitted with becoming confidence to the justice and honour of the British Government, relying on the full influence of those feelings excited by the atrocious act at Punderpore

No 188—The Resident seeks the Governor General's instructions on the subject of settling the Peshwa-Gaikwad dispute in the new situation created by the Shastri's murder

**FROM—THE RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—JOHN ADAM, CHIEF SECRETARY.**

Poona, 5 October 1815

Sir,

Bapoo Myraul at a visit he paid me yesterday evening expressed a great desire to be made acquainted with the view the British Government took of the present state of the Paishwa's demands on the Gykwar Government. He said the Paishwa's claims on the Gykwar were first established by perfidy and were maintained by mere force that many circumstances had occurred to weaken them in late years, but that the Gykwar had still sent a minister here to negotiate a settlement of them, that the murder of that minister had put an end to all relations between the Governments, and that if any were to be renewed they must be purchased by some sacrifice on the Paishwa's part. In short, he said, the Paishwa ought to renounce all his demands on the Gykwaur and to cede his share of Ahmedabad to that Government, otherwise the mission ought to return to Baroda. He, however, professed his readiness to remain at Poona if I required it, or to take any other course that was agreeable to the British Government

I declined giving the opinion required by Bapoo Myraul, observing that the late transactions had changed the circumstances of His Highness the Gykwar's case, and that I was under the necessity of waiting for instructions adapted to the present state of things,

that His Excellency the Governor General had in an early stage of the discussion on the Shastry's murder declared that if Trimbuckjee was punished and given up, the negotiation ought to continue, that I wished to know whether he still adhered to those sentiments, and in the meantime that the door was kept open for any demand His Excellency might sanction, by my express reservation of the Gykavar's claim to satisfaction when I engaged that no disturbance should take place in the alliance between His Highness and the British Government. On my remarking on the claim advanced to a renunciation by the Paishwa of arrears amounting to four crores of rupees and of a future tribute of fifteen lacs together with a cession of half of Ahmedabad, Baupoo Myraul appeared to admit that the demand was excessive and said that at least the Guicawar ought to have a discharge in full of all claims and the farm of Ahmedabad for a long period. He acknowledged that even this farm would be in the highest degree displeasing to the Paishwa and that it would never be obtained but by a decided tone on the part of the British Government, but he contended that the division of authorities in Guzerat was so constant a source of disputes that anything ought to be done to put an end to it. He said there was no other way of preventing the mixture of authorities but a renewal of the farm, as the situation of the Gykwar's capital in the immediate neighbourhood of his frontier towards the Paishwa rendered it impossible to consolidate the territories of the two powers by mutual cessions.

I should be happy to receive His Excellency's instructions on the manner in which the Paishwa's relations to the Gykavar are to be considered affected by the murder of the Shastry and the Paishwa's neglect of enquiry. If the discussions are to be renewed at all, the first question is whether the two states ought to negotiate directly as before, or to refer at once to the arbitration of the British Government. It is very doubtful whether they can possibly come to an agreement between themselves.

Notwithstanding all that has happened, I am by no means convinced that the Paishwa was insincere in his proposal to accept a country worth seven lacs of rupees in lieu of all demands, I rather think he would now take less than that but that the Gykwar had always a great repugnance to that mode of adjustment, which is probably increased since the subject was last agitated, and I know no other arrangement which has a chance of being agreeable to both parties. The affair must therefore in all probability come to an arbitration. In that event it becomes a question whether any compensation is to be awarded to the Gykavar for the murder of the Shastry and if there is, what it is to be. Various

modes of compensation might be suggested some of which are the following —

The Paishwa might send a mission of condolence to the Gykwar, but I imagine the latter prince would rather decline it from a fear of its being made the channel of intrigues

The Paishwa might pension the Shastry's children

He might renew the farm of Ahmedabad, or at least of Kattywaur, or he might agree to the arrangement already proposed for the settlement of Kattywaur and enter into such engagements regarding Ahmedabad as might prevent future disputes

His Highness might agree to such arrangements as may be desirable for settling the Gykawar's relations towards him in a manner that may prevent future disputes

He may renounce his claims on the Gykawaur for the past or the future or both or part of each or of either

Other modes of adjustment might perhaps be suggested, but none occur to me

No 189—The Resident explains the Peshwa's political situation and advises preparations to meet possible disturbances

**FROM—THE RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—THE CHIEF SECRETARY MR WARDEN**

Poona, 9 October 1815

Sir,

I have had the honour to receive your letter dated 4th instant

The principal points to which it adverts are the state of preparation of the Subsidiary Force, the establishment to be left at Seroor, the depot at Soneghur and the probability of any such occurrences in the Maratta country as may require the detention of the force under the command of Colonel East from the exhibition for which it is at present designed

The maintenance of the field part of the force in its present state of preparation, appears to be absolutely necessary both to secure the internal tranquillity of the Paishwa's dominions and to the attainment of the objects averted to in the Governor General's despatch of the 30th March

The addition to the establishment of the Poona brigade is no less necessary in the present uncertain state of the Paishwa's mind, especially as it cannot be resumed if once laid aside without immediate bad consequences

A detachment of 500 native infantry would be ample for the protection of Seroor after the advance of the force now at that station

I was induced to advert to the probability of the depot being formed immediately at Soneghur or Surat in the idea that the practicability of collecting grain at those points on a sudden might be uncertain, or at all events that there might be particular times when it could be done with more ease and at less expense than at later periods. If that should appear to be the case, it would not be necessary to form any depot until there was a greater certainty that it would be wanted, but in either event it is advisable that the steps to be eventually adopted should be concerted early and I shall therefore speedily do myself the honour of submitting my opinion on the subject on which it is required in your despatch

With respect to the probable designs of the Marattas it seems certain that the chiefs of Malwa and Berar were much alive to the late disputes between our Government and that of Poona, I do not however suppose that they will proceed to aggression, now that things have reverted to their former footing. The Paishwa's late conduct makes it evident that he was then unwilling to hazard a war with us, and though he continues to call all the troops he can collect into Poona, I do not imagine that he has now any hostile design. It is impossible to say what turn his mind may take when his present agitation subsides, but I do not expect it to be unfavourable. I should therefore suppose that the Maratta chiefs, if left to themselves, would not break into open war with us until some better opportunity. The Pindarees will of course continue their depredations, and probably with more boldness than before and in the event of His Excellency the Governor General's resuming the exertion of his design for restraining them, the probability of a war with Sindia and Holkar will be greater than it was last year, but the Right Honourable the Governor will probably have time to learn His Excellency's views on this subject as well as to observe the conduct of the Maratta Chiefs before the time for the opening of the campaign in Cutch shall arrive. I shall not fail to transmit all the intelligence that comes to my knowledge of a nature calculated to influence his decision. Supposing the Maratta Government to remain quiet, it is still possible that the tranquillity of Guzerat may be disturbed by a rebellion of the Paishwa's Sirsoobehdar at Ahmedabad and such a disturbance, if not soon suppressed, might in the present unsettled state of affairs lead to serious embarrassment. I am not in possession of any information that renders it particularly probable if the Paishwa is sincerely desirous of preventing it but perhaps the Resident at

alone and unconnected with any wish on the Paishwa's part to disturb the alliance

Trimbuckjee has arrived at Tanna and is now in close confinement I thought it prudent after the indefinite and contradictory communications I had received from His Highness about instigating a regular enquiry into Trimbuckjee's conduct to say once more, that I thought no investigation necessary or admissible and that I desired to know explicitly whether His Highness entertained any desire or expectation of such a proceeding To this His Highness distinctly replied in the negative It may be proper to notice that Trimbuckjee while in Captain Hick's custody protested his innocence, but admitted that he knew the murderers who, he said, were in the Gykwaur's camp close to the Residency and who were instigated, as he stated by Bhugwunt Row and Bundoojee He said he would undertake to convict those persons within three weeks He further stated that he had not been aware of the Paishwa's intention in sending him to Wussuntghur, that he went there not as a prisoner but on duty and that if he had chosen he could have raised forty thousand men and fled from the country

It may be a question for Your Lordship's decision whether it will be advantageous to allow Trimbuckjee to remain where he is or to remove him to some place more distant from Poona His Highness the Paishwa was anxious at first that he should be sent to Benares, which is a desirable residence for Hindoos In all circumstances I entered into no discussion on this subject, though the fort of Chunar or that of Allahabad might perhaps have been unobjectionable He has since dropped the subject and perhaps would now be averse to Trimbuckjee's removal from an idea that the prospect of his liberation would thereby be entirely precluded, but I do not suppose His Highness would object to any destination your Lordship might judge expedient for him

No 101—The measures taken for securing Trimbakji Dengle are reported

**FROM—MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE,
RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY WARDEN,**

Poona, 11 October 1815

Sir,

The measures adopted by Colonel Hunt for the security of the prisoner and the restraint on his correspondence, appear to be judicious and I cannot venture to recommend any relaxation in the

arrangements which the Colonel considers necessary for those purposes. The sums allowed for Trimbuckjee's subsistence ought, in my opinion to be charged to the British Government, the Paishwa being considered as having renounced all connection with that offender.

No 192—The Resident suggests to the Bombay Government that the Gaikwad be advised to desist from pressing an inquiry into the Peshwa's participation in the Shastri's murder.

**FROM—THE RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY WARDLN**

Poona, 20 October 1815

Sir,

Bapoo Myraul lately applied to me to authorize his departure for Baroda on the ground of his having received no letter from his Government indicative of approbation of his having consented to stay. On my pointing out to him that the time for such a measure was past, since by delivering up Trimbuckjee the Paishwa had left no grounds for a rupture and that he ought now to wait the orders of his own court and the decision of the British Government on the new position of the Gykwar's negotiations, he consented to remain if I thought it necessary but he entreated me to announce to His Highness his intention of immediately departing and to consent as a great favour to his staying himself but sending off the Shastri's children and his own superfluous establishment, if the Paishwa should earnestly desire such an arrangement. I declined making this communication but consented to send a message to which he at length concurred. The message was that Baupoo Myraul was uneasy at having received no instructions from Baroda since he agreed to stay at Poona and that he was therefore anxious to retire, that I was of opinion he ought to stay until he did receive orders and ought in the meantime to send off the children and such other persons as he did not require and that I would recommend this arrangement to Baupoo Myraul if His Highness desired it. His Highness after some delay declared his approbation of the arrangement and his desire that Baupoo Myraul should stay. Accordingly he will now send off the children and make arrangements for his permanent residence subject to the final orders of his Government. He expresses great anxiety for letters from his own Government formally sanctioning his proceedings.

I take this opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of your letter dated October 11th enclosing a despatch from the Resident at

Baroda, adverting to the arguments of His Highness Futteh Sing Row to prove the Paishwa's share in the murder of the Shastry I beg leave to observe that no possible advantage can arise from His Highness's advancing such an accusation after satisfaction for the murder has been accepted on the principle of the Paishwa's innocence I am led to point out this fact from an apprehension that His Highness Futteh Sing Row may be inclined to search for further proofs of the charge he has brought forward and may thus be led into enquiries that would produce bad consequences at Poona He might for instance endeavour to obtain the desired proofs by examining Bhugwunt Row and Bundoojee on the subject of the Paishwa's participation in the offence of which they are suspected The Resident at Baroda would probably be determined by the tenor of my despatches to resist such a proceeding on His Highness's part, but as the adoption of it, if it came to the Paishwa's ears, would have the strongest tendency to disturb his mind and destroy his confidence, I beg leave to suggest that such communications should be made with Futteh Sing Row as may prevent any indiscretion on His Highness's part

No 193—The Shastry's family is being escorted back to Baroda.

**FROM—THE RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY WARDEN**

Poona, 22 October 1815

Sir,

Baupoo Myraul being about to send the children of the late Gungadhur Shastry to Baroda, has requested me to beg the directions of the Right Hon'ble the Governor, regarding the course they are to pursue and whether they ought to go to Bombay or proceed at once to Baroda. In the former case he is desirous that the troops which attend them should remain on Salsette as before intended, when he was himself about to leave Poona.

I propose furnishing the children with an escort from this to Panwell not on account of any real danger but to comply with the earnest wishes of Baupoo Myraul. He begs me to submit to the Right Hon'ble the Governor his request that a Guard from Bombay may be provided to escort the children after they are left by the one from this.

They will set out in two or three days and the people in charge of them will keep government acquainted with their progress.

No 193 A

Minutes

Bombay Castle, 27 October 1815

Ordered that the Resident at Poona be informed that the Governor in Council has determined that the children of the late Gungadher Shastry shall be accommodated in the first instance in the Government House at Tannah and that they shall be sent from thence to Baroda either by Cullian or Bassein as may be found the most convenient.

The Governor in Council apprehends the conveying of the Shastry's family by sea either to Surat or Broach would be considered objectionable and it does not therefore appear that any advantage would be derived from bringing them to Bombay whatever arrangement may be made.

The Guicawar troops which accompany the Shastry's family will be directed to encamp at Tannah in the neighbourhood of the Government House.

Under any circumstances, however, Bapoo Myraul may be assured that the best arrangements will be made for the speedy arrival of the parties at Baroda and that a suitable guard will be provided for their protection.

Baroda adverting to the arguments of His Highness Futteh Sing Row to prove the Paishwa's share in the murder of the Shastry I beg leave to observe that no possible advantage can arise from His Highness's advancing such an accusation after satisfaction for the murder has been accepted on the principle of the Paishwa's innocence I am led to point out this fact from an apprehension that His Highness Futteh Sing Row may be inclined to search for further proofs of the charge he has brought forward and may thus be led into enquiries that would produce bad consequences at Poona He might for instance endeavour to obtain the desired proofs by examining Bhugwunt Row and Bundoojee on the subject of the Paishwa's participation in the offence of which they are suspected The Resident at Baroda would probably be determined by the tenor of my despatches to resist such a proceeding on His Highness's part but as the adoption of it if it came to the Paishwa's ears would have the strongest tendency to disturb his mind and destroy his confidence I beg leave to suggest that such communications should be made with Futteh Sing Row as may prevent any indiscretion on His Highness's part

No 192 A.

Minutes

24 October 1813

Under all the existing circumstances it appears to the Governor in Council that it will be advisable to inform the Resident at Baroda that we approve of his proceedings reported in his letter of the 16th of this month in respect to the two prisoners Bhugwunt Row and Bundoojee who will in consequence be forwarded to Broach in the course of a few days, there to await the orders of the Gykwar

That the arrangement decided upon will be on many accounts the most desirable, as it will probably preclude the necessity of farther enquiry, which he will perceive by the letter from the Resident at Poona of the 20th of which a copy is to be furnished to him is anxiously wished to be avoided for the reasons assigned

With respect to Bapoo Myraul it will be proper Captain Carnac should be informed that under the views we have taken of the subject, the arrangement between that Minister and Mr Elphinstone ought to meet the approbation of the Baroda Government and that it would consequently be necessary Bapoo Myraul should be instructed to remain at Poonah as long as Mr Elphinstone should think it necessary to the general interests of the British and Guicawar Governments

No 193—The Shastry's family is being escorted back to Baroda

**FROM—THE RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—CHIEF SECRETARY WARDEN**

Poona, 22 October 1815

Sir,

Baupoo Myraul being about to send the children of the late Gungadhur Shastry to Baroda, has requested me to beg the directions of the Right Hon'ble the Governor, regarding the course they are to pursue and whether they ought to go to Bombay or proceed at once to Baroda. In the former case he is desirous that the troops which attend them should remain on Salsette as before intended, when he was himself about to leave Poona.

I propose furnishing the children with an escort from this to Panwell not on account of any real danger but to comply with the earnest wishes of Baupoo Myraul. He begs me to submit to the Right Hon'ble the Governor his request that a Guard from Bombay may be provided to escort the children after they are left by the one from this.

They will set out in two or three days and the people in charge of them will keep government acquainted with their progress.

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The Governor in Council apprehends the conveying of the Shastry's family by sea either to Surat or Broach would be considered objectionable and it does not therefore appear that any advantage would be derived from bringing them to Bombay whatever arrangement may be made.

The Guicawar troops which accompany the Shastry's family will be directed to encamp at Tannah in the neighbourhood of the Government House.

Under any circumstances, however, Bapoo Myraul may be assured that the best arrangements will be made for the speedy arrival of the parties at Baroda and that a suitable guard will be provided for their protection.

No 194—The Resident is informed that Baroda news confirms the complicity of the Peshwa in the murder of the Shastrī

**FROM—F WARDEN, CHIEF SECRETARY,
TO—THE HONBLE MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE**

Bombay Castle, 25 October 1815

Sir,

I am instructed by the Right Honble the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant, explaining the circumstances under which you had prevailed upon Bapoo Myraul to remain at the Poona Court, and referring to the despatch from the Resident at Baroda of the 30th ultimo, detailing the arguments which His Highness Futteh Sing had adduced in substantiation of the Paishwa's being accessory to the murder of Gungadhur Shastry

I have the honour to transmit to you the accompanying copy of a letter which has been this day forwarded to the Resident at Baroda by which you will be apprised of the course of proceedings which the Governor in Council has adopted in consequence of the arrangement you have concerted with Bapoo Myraul, and in order to put a stop to all further enquiry at Baroda regarding the murder of the Shastry

No 195

**FROM—F WARDEN, CHIEF SECRETARY,
TO—CAPTAIN J R CARNAC, RESIDENT AT BARODA**

Bombay Castle, 23 October 1815

Sir,

I am instructed to forward for your information, the accompanying copy of a letter from the Resident at Poona dated the 20th of this month, explaining the circumstances, under which he had prevailed upon Bapoo Myraul to remain at the Poona Court, and referring to your despatch of the 30th ultimo detailing the arguments which His Highness Futteh Sing had adduced in substantiation of the Paishwa's being accessory to the murder of Gungadhar Shastry

The Governor in Council has directed me on this occasion to inform you that the proceedings reported in your letter of the 16th instant regarding the future disposal of Bhugwant Row Guicawar and Govind Row Bundoojee have met with his approbation. My communication to you of the 24th of this month will have led you to expect that these prisoners would be forwarded to Broach in the

course of a few days, there to await the orders of the Guicawar Government

The arrangement now decided upon will be on many accounts the most desirable, as it will probably preclude the necessity of further enquiry, which for the reasons assigned by Mr Elphinstone, it is anxiously wished should be avoided

With respect to Baupoo Myraul it is proper that you should be informed, that under the view this Government has taken of the subject, the arrangement formed by that Minister under the advice of the Resident at Poona, is entitled to the approbation of the Baroda Government, and that it is consequently necessary that Bapoo Myraul should be instructed to remain at Poona as long as Mr Elphinstone may think his continuance there conducive to the general interests of the British and Guicawar Governments

No 196—The Resident reports his having advised the Peshwa to reduce the large assemblage of troops at Poona and send a part of it to the frontier in Khandesh

FROM—THE RESIDENT AT POONA,

TO—THE EARL OF MOIRA, GOVERNOR GENERAL

Poona, 25 October 1815

My Lord,

I have already had the honour to acquaint your Excellency with the military preparations carried on by His Highness the Paishwa after the termination of all disputes with the British Government. As it was possible that those proceedings might arise from the mere impulse of alarm and continued after the cause was removed, I did not think it expedient to take any decided measures for checking them. I contented myself with pointing out to the Paishwa by means of Major Ford the bad effects of leaving his country open to the Pindarries and the bad impressions created by his assembling an army at Poona. It appeared probable that time would tranquillize the Paishwa's mind and that the incursions of the Pindarries would oblige him to defend his frontiers. But a month has now elapsed since the termination of all discussions and the Pindarries have crossed the Nerbudda and even appeared above the Ghauts without any observable alteration being produced in His Highness's conduct. He still continues to raise and assemble troops and has now at least 11,000 Horse and 6,000 Infantry in the city, a large Detachment of Gokla's has come in within this last week. It is therefore plain that he has a deliberate plan of forming an army, and on the most favourable construction his motive can only be the hope that he will have more weight in

his negotiations with us if he is at the head of an army, or at least that he will derive more personal security in case of any hostile design on our part by keeping himself surrounded by troops. His conduct is liable to many more unfavourable interpretations, but even assuming those I have mentioned, it is not politic to let him encourage the hope of gaining anything from us by intimidation or the idea of his security depending on his means of opposing us in the field. At the same time it is not advisable to make any demand on him that shall show a spirit of jealousy on our part or excite a suspicion on his that we wish to have him in our power.

With these views I sent for Anund Row and begged him to acquaint His Highness that I perceived he had assembled a larger force in Poona than had been here since the city was attacked by Holcar, that in doing so he had left his northern frontier open to the Pindaries who were already beginning to appear and that the same arguments I was in the habit of using every year were now applicable to the necessity of protecting his dominions, that his retaining his troops here was now doubly objectionable on other grounds. His Highness had lately given Your Excellency good cause of dissatisfaction and at the same time intrigues were carried on in his name though probably without his authority, at various foreign courts, that the effects of His Highness's present measures were to prolong Your Excellency's uncertainty regarding His Highness's disposition and to give a countenance in the eyes of foreign princes to the overtures that had been made to them, that it was His Highness's true policy to endeavour by all means to bring things back to their old channel to avoid harbouring suspicions himself or exciting them in Your Lordship's mind, and that I would therefore advise him to send the number of troops agreed on last year to the frontier and to reduce his force at Poona to its ordinary establishment.

Some days past before I received any answer to this communication during which time I sent for Annund Row on other business and he told me that His Highness had said nothing in reply to my message. On the day before yesterday Gopaul Pundit the Vakeel to Major Ford's Brigade came to me and stated that he had a message from His Highness the Paishwa. I declined conversing with him on business until he should be regularly accredited as a channel of communication between His Highness and me, but I entered into conversation with him and pointed out the bad effects of His Highness's assembling troops at Poona and the expediency of his restoring the alliance to that state of harmony and cordiality under which his state had prospered so greatly. By what Gopaul Pundit said His Highness's plan appeared to be to employ the Puntwurdhuns to the north of the Godavery and Appa Dessye to the

south of the Kishna so as to leave all his other Jageerdars and all his own troops at Poona, but I did not enter into details of the plan as long as Gopaul Pundit was not officially employed

He came again yesterday accompanied by Annund Row who introduced him on the Paishwa's part. The same sort of conversation took place as before. Gopaul Pundit sometimes denied that there was any assemblage of troops and at others gave reasons why troops should be assembled. After a great deal of conversation he said the Paishwa had intended to inspect his army and to reduce part of it, but that to oblige me he would give up a measure that would take so long a time and that hereafter he would send some troops to Candeish and some to the Carnatic leaving only the usual number in Poona. He declined giving any information regarding the details of the arrangement or the time when it was to take place. I took great pains to impress on him the necessity of frankness and cordiality between Governments so closely allied and pointed out the bad effects that were already beginning to appear in His Highness's country in consequence of the apparent want of union of which His Highness's military preparations were among the principal causes.

It is reported that Gokla is to be appointed Bukshee and to command all his Highness's troops. That chief appears to be His Highness's principal adviser at this moment, but he does not interfere directly in H. H.'s communications with this Residency. These are conducted through the Minister and through another party consisting of Moro Dikshit and Chumnajee Narain of which Gopaul Pundit is the agent. This party appears to possess a considerable share in His Highness's confidence.

The garrison of Darwar lately sallied out, routed the besiegers and recovered some of the country round the fort. The Sirsoobedar's army afterwards mutinied and he was obliged to fly to the fort of Koosigul. He is said to impute his misfortunes to treachery on the part of Appa Dessye. His Highness is said to be negotiating with the Governor of Darwar through Gokla. Some other disorders are breaking out in the Carnatic (between the Kishna and the Toombudra). The Bheels have taken a post of His Highness's and cut up some of his troops in Bauglauna and the Abyssinians of Gingera have made some incursions into His Highness's possessions in the Concan.

Chintamun Row Putwurdhun and Madhoo Row of Merich have lately assembled troops in consequence of a claim of Chintamun Row to some lands held by Madhoo Row. I have spoken to the Vakeels of the parties and have written to both chiefs to dissuade

them from violence and to recommend their submitting their disputes to His Highness the Paishwa

Ballajee Coonjur having arrived at Nagpoor and visited the Raja, I have applied to His Highness for an explanation of his motions

No 197—News of Napoleon's defeat at Waterloo is dispatched to Poona

FROM—F. WARDEN,

**TO—THE HON'BLE M. ELPHINSTONE,
RESIDENT AT POONA.**

Bombay Castle, 27 October 1815

Sir,

I have been directed by the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council to transmit for your information, the following extract, being the 2nd and 3rd paragraphs of a letter from the native broker at Bussora dated the 1st of last month which has been received by a dow from Muscat

The packets from the Resident at Bagdad have not yet been received but may be expected by the Mercury Cruizer every hour

I am very glad to inform you that two packets arrived from Bagdad addressed to you There is very good news from Europe, and good news for us and misfortune to Napolean Bonaparte, the news which I received from John Hine Esq in the letter dated the 15th August, intelligence of Lord Wellington having completely beaten Bonaparte near Brussels and taken the whole of his artillery consisting of three hundred pieces of cannon

In the letter of 22nd August which I received on 29th of August is mentioned intelligence that Paris has capitulated to the English and Prussian armies and that Louis the XVIII was preparing to enter that city on the 6th July

No 198—The Resident reports instigations started by Balaji Kunjar among Maratha Chiefs to rise against the British power

FROM—THE RESIDENT AT POONA,

TO—THE EARL OF MOIRA, GOVERNOR GENERAL

Poona, 13 November 1815

My Lord,

On receiving a copy of Jenkin's despatch respecting the proceedings of Ballajee Coonjur, I immediately acquainted His Highness the Paishwa with the open interference of his Vakeel in disputes between Sindia and the Raja of Berar, which I observed was inconsistent with the treaty of Bassein I also avowed my suspicions

that he was intriguing against the British Government I pointed out the unfavourable impression this conduct must make when connected with the former applications in His Highness's name to the Maratta chiefs and his own military arrangements and recommended his countermanding the advance of Ballajee Coonjur as the only means of satisfying Your Excellency of His Highness's entire disapprobation of his conduct I am happy to state that His Highness immediately consented to forbid Ballajee's entering his dominions and at the same time disclaimed all knowledge of his proceedings

I replied to the communication of this design on His Highness's part by assuring him of the satisfaction his decision gave me and of my conviction that Your Excellency would be much gratified by this proof of his friendship and fidelity

His Highness has stopped his recruiting and has sent from 3 to 4000 troops on different detachments On the other hand some troops have come into Poona and the whole force here is probably still 15 or 16,000 men His Highness having promised to disperse his troops before long and having a proof of his good disposition in the affair of Ballajee Coonjur, I have left off pressing him on the subject after telling him that I expected to see his actions correspond with his promises

No 199—Several points in the general situation of Poona such as the outbreak of the Pindaris in the Deccan, the family dissensions of the Patwardhans the visit of Bapu Gokhale, are reported by the Resident

**FROM—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL**

Poona, 10 December 1815

My Lord,

On the 7th instant I received a visit from Bapuji Gunnessh Gokla who came to the Residency in great state attended by a party of two thousand horse

In the course of his visit he produced a paper given to him by the Duke of Wellington which bore testimony to his good conduct in the field and desired all officers to whom it might be shewn to consider him as the friend of the British Government Gokla said, he always preserved this paper with care as a valuable possession for himself and his family and begged me to be assured that he was still as faithfully attached to the British nation as he was when he was serving in its armies He made many declarations of this kind during his visit which lasted near two hours and

I replied by corresponding expressions of confidence and good opinion. Before he went, he invited me and all the gentlemen who were present to an entertainment at a garden of his and when he took his leave, I presented him and his company with the usual dresses and jewels.

I am sorry to report to Your Excellency that two inroads of the Pindaris have taken place since my last despatch. The first party followed the same tract with the one that took place last year while the Subsidiary Force was in the field but carried its ravages still further towards the south. It came up the Adjunta Ghaut, crossed the Godavery to the East of Toka and plundered a great deal of the Nizam's country and the districts on the south east of the Paishwa's especially about Aukulcote. It is then said to have passed to the southward of Hyderabad when it wheeled upto north-east and went off through Berar. The second party came up the Adjunta Ghaut, crossed the Godavery at Rakisbone about 10 days ago and afterwards broke into three or four divisions one of which appeared on the 2nd instant at Punderpoor and plundered the villages immediately round that city. On the fourth a body of horse which had been assembled to reduce a rebellious Zemindar at Barsee east of Punderpoor arrived in the neighbourhood of that city and the Pindaries drew off towards Solapoor. One of the other divisions appeared within 15 miles of Seroor on the 7th and carried off a few camels belonging to officers, the public cattle being too well protected. A third party appeared about the same time at Gardown on the Bheema 40 miles to the east of this city, another party swept the district of Ahmednuggur and returned to the northward through the Nimba Dera Ghaut towards that of Cassarbarry. Accounts of the Pindaries are also received from many other parts of the country and they seem to have committed unusual devastation. A body of horse has been sent out against them towards Gardown.

His Highness the Paishwa is neither raising nor discharging troops. He seems to feel perfectly secure from any hostility on our part. He has been changing the farmers of his districts, especially those who acted on the part of Trimbuckjee. His revenue has suffered much this year from deficiencies owing to Trimbuckjee's removal and to the high rate at which the farms had been granted. His Highness is anxious to set out on his annual tour, but defers his journey till he shall have received a communication of Your Lordship's sentiments on the conclusion of the late disputes.

A son of Mahadeo Row Rastia lately made his escape from Poona where he had suffered much from poverty and the importunity of his creditors. He was overtaken by the Paishwa's horse before he

crossed the frontier and brought back. It being reported that the Paishwa was about to send him to a hill fort, I interposed in his favour and the design if it had been entertained, was not executed. He is however still in confinement. Mahadeo Row himself continues to live at Poona in great distress. I have never ceased my instances with the Paishwa to mitigate his punishment in conformity to my instructions and I hope in time to succeed.

The Putwurdhuns having now been upwards of a year in the field, I have recommended to His Highness to relieve them and allow them to return for some time to their Jageers, with which His Highness has promised to comply. Chintaman Rao did not go into the field although he sent a large body of his troops and has lately shewn considerable zeal by sending another detachment to protect Punderpoor from the Pindaries, though he had no orders to do so. He has lately been involved in disputes with his cousin the chief of Merich and both parties levied troops to maintain their alleged rights. I wrote to them both to disarm and submit their disputes to the Paishwa and both complied, but Chintaman Row's answer was written in an extraordinary style of complaint and even taxed the British Government with having departed from its promises by neglecting the claims of the Jageerdars. I remonstrated with his Vakeel on this letter and called on him to point out instances of the neglect alluded to when he read a paper written by Chintaman Row complaining of the hardship suffered by Appa Saheb (his own mortal enemy) in being summoned to Punderpoor in 1812 and detained for some months notwithstanding the bad state of his health. His Vakeel knew of no other ground of complaint he had and it appeared to me that his conduct is to be attributed to the peculiarities of his temper. He seems equally obnoxious to the Paishwa with the rest of the Putwurdhuns and has nothing to depend on but our guarantee, yet he has quarrelled with every member of his own family and has done all in his power to offend the British Government. I have pointed out the absurdity of his behaviour to his Vakeel but as he seems to act from caprice and immediate feeling rather than from policy, I am not confident of his amendment.

I have lately received many messages from Appa Dessye professing his attachment to the British Government to which he owes his Jageer, and wishing to be restored to the footing on which he formerly stood. I have replied to these overtures by assurances of goodwill.

His Highness's claims on the Nizam having lately been mentioned, I took occasion to say that as Captain Close was leaving this part of India, I will if His Highness was really desirous of an enquiry into

his demands, apply to Your Lordship to know your pleasure regarding the appointment of a successor to him in the deputation to Hyderabad His Highness in reply requested that I might do so as he was desirous of bringing the arbitration to a close

No 200—The Resident reports the advice he gave to the Peshwa on the latter putting forth his claim to certain places and territories in Central India The Governor General's decision is requested

FROM—M LPHINSTONE,
TO—MR SECRETARY ADAM

Poona, 24 December 1815

Sir,

I have received a message from His Highness the Paishwa acquainting me that one of his Hoojras named Wittoba Naik Gykwaur had made a proposal to His Highness to farm the districts of Dhar, Seepree, Colauras, Dewree, Mulhaighur and Machulpoor which belonged to His Highness and were not disputed by any regular power but were held by various rebels and usurpers, that His Highness was inclined to agree to the proposal and to authorize Wittoba to entertain a body of horse for the purpose I argued against this arrangement on the ground that it would lead to extensive consequences which ought not to be brought on lightly I said I was not acquainted with His Highness's pretensions to the three first places, but should be glad to examine them whenever I should be furnished with the long promised statement of the Paishwa's possessions and of the grounds on which his right to them is founded But whatever his right might be, it was better to leave ~~the assertion of it to the Governor General~~ who had already undertaken the duty, than to begin it partially and feebly In the one case I said I had no doubt that all His Highness's just demands would be satisfied amicably and in the other it seems certain that His Highness's officers would be repelled by force to urge the adoption of the plan they had suggested and brought Wittoba Naik to me to explain the particulars of his place I found that he intended to levy from one thousand to two thousand men with which he was to attack the persons now in possession of the places in question and that he reckoned on being assisted by Sindia in the prosecution of his design He said that he had lately been sent by His Highness to Sindia's Camp with the Senaputty (whose son has been married to Sindia's daughter) and that he had taken occasion to speak to Sindia on the subject when that Prince made a solemn promise that if His Highness would send any person with proper authority to take charge of the places in question, he should be put in possession of them without delay I pointed out the fallacy of

any hopes founded on Scindia's promises and the improbability of his giving up so fine a field for extortion at the Paishwa's mere request when he so obstinately refused to abstain from plundering the Vinchoor Jageerdar even after the most serious remonstrances on the part of the British Government, and I strongly recommended that Wittoba's project should be dropped for the present. The Paishwa however continuing to urge the propriety of an opposite course and as the Paishwa's rights to several of the places claimed could not be denied, I said that the affair was of so serious a nature that it must in the first instance be submitted to the Governor General in which the Paishwa acquiesced. He has since within a very few days sent several messages to know whether I had written to the Governor General and when I might expect an answer. Mouchulpoor was ceded to the Paishwa in lieu of tribute by the Raja of Kerowly. The Paishwa's ministers state that it was mortgaged by the Paishwah to a person named Ramchunder Naik Pranjpey whose agent Maheeput Row Kutcheswar is still in possession but the territory having been neglected for 12 years, most part of it has been usurped by the Raja of Kerowly and other chiefs in the neighbourhood. The revenue is now believed to amount to 30,000 rupees.

Sepree and Colauras are represented by the Paishwa's ministers to be part of the Jageer of Jadoo Row a Sirdar of His Highness's and to have been usurped nine years ago by Scindia. They are reckoned to yield 5 lacs of rupees a year. Dhar is represented by the ministers to have been usurped by Holcar and Scindia. This may be the case with respect to some of the territory, but Dhar itself is still held by its own chief though I understand he is only a pageant in the hands of the agents of his Dewaun. The Dewaun is Setaram Rowjee the Minister at Baroda, who is at present under restraint. The Powars to whom Dhar belongs, were certainly Jageerdars of the Paishwa's but I do not know how lately they have been under his authority.

Deoree was held by the family of the Nygongkur and indisputably belongs to the Paishwah. The Paishwah considers the family extinct and has issued sunnuds for resuming the land, but Scindia has set up a claimant whom he alleges to have been adopted by the last of the line and whom he has put in possession without consulting the Paishwah. It is said to be worth 3 lacs a year. Mulhar-ghur was held of the Poona State by the family of Oreecur which resided at Poona and was clearly under the Paishwah till the death of the last member. The Paishwah then sent Ramchunder Bellall Achwul to resume it. He obtained possession but was soon after threatened by Scindia and called in Surwur Khaun a partisan of

Holcars to protect him Surwur Khaun seized the place and imprisoned Achwul I believe he is at present besieged in Mulhar-ghur by Baptiste

PS--I have omitted to observe that I pointed out in strong terms on this as well as on former occasions the great impropriety of the Paishwa's officers negotiating separately with Sindhia how contrary it is to the treaty and how impolitic it is on the Paishwah's part not to act in perfect concert with the British Government which is the only means of recovering his just rights in Hindostan

APPENDIX

A few important letters that were traced later have been printed here as appendix. All except No 2 are from Colebrooke's 'Life of Elphinstone, Vol I'

No 201 (*Elphinstone to G G, dated March 1815 Taken from Colebrooke, Vol I, pp 292-293*)

'The influence of the Minister, Saddasheo Mankeysur, has long been declining, but it is only of late that his authority has been openly encroached upon by the appointment of Trimbukjee Danglia to conduct the Peshwa's negotiations with this Residency Trimbukjee is a menial servant of the Peshwa, who first recommended himself to notice by carrying messages to his partisans at Poona during his Highness's flight to Bassein He has since increased his favour by disreputable means, the most public of which is his readiness in farming the revenue of different districts at a higher rate than any one else would offer, thus humouring the Peshwa's avarice, while he indemnifies himself by extortion from his subjects. but the great acts by which he has secured his master's confidence are his suppleness in adopting his Highness's views, and his boldness in attempting to carry them into execution "

No 202 *Substance of a paper addressed by Mr. Elphinstone to His Highness the Patshwa on the 15th of August 1815.*

I have waited with anxiety for your Highness's arrival at Poona to learn the enquiries that have been made into the atrocious murder of Gungathur Shastry as well before your Highness's receipt of my letter as since that period I now learn that no enquiries have taken place Your Highness's known and established reputation for wisdom, for attachment to your religion and for general benevolence convinces me that you feel as much detestation for the crime that has been committed (involving the murder of a Brahmin of your Highness's own caste) and as much anxiety for the detection and punishment of its authors as the Governor General himself can feel It was therefore a matter of great surprise to me that your obvious inclination should have produced no greater effect, but it now appears to me that means have been taken to prevent the truth from reaching your Highness and that the measures requisite to preserve the reputation of your Government are not to be expected until the truth shall have been conveyed to you by some channel not liable

to be obstructed by interested persons. The neglect that has taken place up to this time is to be imputed to your ministers. Your Highness has now an opportunity of showing your own abhorrence of a crime that tends to destroy all confidence between Government and Government and even between man and man. The universal voice of your Highness's subjects has from the first fixed the guilt of this transaction on Trimbuckjee Danglia. This of itself would have been a sufficient ground for me to apply to your Highness to order that officer to be brought to trial, but from the great power and influence which he has enjoyed and the terror with which he is generally regarded, it was obvious that a trial would have been only a mockery if the accused were permitted to remain at large and on the other hand it would have been harsh to deprive a minister of his honours and to throw him into confinement without some more distinct charge against him than could be afforded by popular rumour however loud and general. I have, therefore waited until I have obtained such accounts of the Shastry's murder as to leave no doubt that Trimbuckjee was the principal instigator of that atrocity. The former enmity of Trimbuckjee to the Shastry and his encouragement of Bundoojee and Bugwant Row in all their intrigues against him need not be enlarged on. It is sufficient to state that by Trimbuckjee's own avowal to the Shastry, his hatred of him was such as to have induced him to plot his murder. This enmity was followed by a sudden and violent friendship. But while Trimbuckjee treated the Shastry with the fondness of a brother, it is remarkable that he did not cease to maintain a secret connection with the mortal enemies of that minister, and that at that time it was constantly reported that he intended to murder the Shastry, Govind Row Bundoojee repaired to Trimbuckjee at Punderpoor and care was taken to separate the Shastry from his friends, from all this strongest suspicions are excited, but all doubt is removed when we consider what passed on the day of the murder. The Shastry was sick on that day and would not have quitted his house if he had not been repeatedly and earnestly entreated by Trimbuckjee to come to the temple. These extraordinary solicitations were accompanied by a request that he might bring few attendants. The Shastry accordingly went unattended to the temple and was murdered on his return. The assassins fled straight towards the temple with their naked swords where Trimbuckjee was with the main body of his guards. Yet neither there nor at any of the guards with which the streets were closed was any of them apprehended. Trimbuckjee's guilt is no less established by his conduct after the murder. If a robbery had taken place in a little town closely guarded by his troops Trimbuckjee would surely have ordered an immediate and strict enquiry

and would have taken up all suspected persons, but when his dearest friend and adopted brother was murdered he contented himself with sending a hercarrah to the Shastry's house some time after his death to ask what the matter was and when called on by the rest of the mission to institute an investigation he said it was in vain and that as the Shastry had so many enemies it was impossible to fix on any one. He afterwards threw out suspicions against Seetaram, who was a prisoner at Baroda and Cannojee who was a prisoner at Madras, against the Punnee Patans who never had any quarrel with the Shastry and against his enemies in general, but never hinted a suspicion of Bundoojee, his sworn foe, who was then in the town of Punderpore and to whom any person not anxious to conceal the truth would have directed his first suspicions. He also imputed the Shastry's murder to his negligence in going about unattended, contrary, as he says, to his advice, when in fact it was by his direction that the Shastry exposed himself in so defenceless a condition. The want of enquiry cannot be imputed to mere neglect as it was continued after my letter to your Highness and after repeated messages to Trimbuckjee through his agents, Hurry Abba and Tattia Gore, calling on him to arrest Bundoojee and Bhugvant Row, to seize their papers and examine their servants. The general clamour against himself for the murder would have induced him, if innocent, to seek out the real offenders, but it has only led to a prohibition against discussing the Shastry's murder in the city. On all these grounds I declare my conviction of Trimbuckjee's guilt and I call on your Highness to apprehend him as well as Bundoojee and Bhugvant Row and to deposit them in such custody as may be considered perfectly safe and trustworthy. Even if your Highness is not fully convinced of the guilt of these persons it must be admitted that there is sufficient ground for confining them and I only ask you to do so until His Excellency the Governor General and your Highness shall have an opportunity of consulting on the subject. I have to add my earnest desire that their apprehension may be immediate. A foreign ambassador has been murdered in the midst of your Highness's Court, a Brahmin has been massacred almost in the temple during one of the greatest solemnities of your religion and I must not conceal from your Highness that the impunity of the perpetrators of this enormity has led to imputations which are not to be thought of against your Highness' Government. Nobody is more convinced of the falsehood of such insinuations than I am, but I think it my duty to state them that your Highness may see the necessity of refuting calumnies so injurious to your reputation. I beg you also to observe that while Trimbuckjee remains at large his situation enables him to commit further acts of rashness which he may

undertake on purpose to embroil your Highness with the British Government. He is at the head of the administration at Poona and has troops at his command. He has likewise charge of your Highness's districts which are contiguous to the possessions of the Company, of the Nizam and the Guicawar and even though he should raise no public disturbances there, I cannot but consider with uneasiness and apprehension in what manner your Highness's affairs will be conducted. For these reasons it is absolutely necessary that immediate steps should be taken as your Highness will be held responsible by the Governor General for any acts of violence which Trimbuckjee may commit after this intimation. I, therefore, again call on your Highness to adopt the course I have pointed out to you as the only one which can restore confidence to the public ministers deputed to your Court. They cannot otherwise enjoy the security necessary to transact business with your Highness, nor can they with safety even reside in the city, and every body will be obliged to take such steps as he may deem necessary for his own protection. One consequence of this will be an interruption to your communication with the British Government until the measure I have recommended shall be adopted. I beg that your Highness's reply may be communicated through some person unconnected with Trimbuckjee Danglia. With respect to the ministers that are to succeed and the present ones I have nothing to say. It is not the wish of the Government ever to interfere in the nomination of your ministers. It never has done so, nor has it any such intention now, but an ambassador whose safety was guaranteed by the British Government having been murdered by one of your servants, that Government must insist on the apprehension of the offender. It leaves the choice of his successor entirely to you, being assured that you will make such a selection as will tend to preserve and improve the alliance.

No 203 *Extract of a letter from Elphinstone to Governor General, dated November 1815. Taken from Colebrooke's Life of Elphinstone, Vol I, Pp 287-289*

"The character of his Highness the Peshwa has always perplexed those who have been interested in discovering his sentiments or calculating on his conduct. This is partly owing to the inconsistency of many of his inclinations with his ruling passion of fear, and partly to the deep dissimulation which enables him to conceal his real feelings and intentions, and to display others which are foreign to his mind. If he were less deficient in courage, he would be ambitious, imperious, inflexible, and persevering, and his active propensities would probably overcome his love of ease and pleasure,

which are now so strong, from their alliance with his timidity. As it is, he is eager for power, though he wants the boldness necessary to acquire it, and is tenacious of authority, though too indolent to exercise it. Even his indolence is broken in on by his habits of suspicion and vigilance, and there is no part of his character that is to be found unmixed and entire. His love of consequence makes him fond of the company of low dependants, where he can enjoy his superiority unresisted. With them he is haughty and overbearing, and even with others he is proud and lofty on some occasions, but when it suits his purposes, there is no meanness to which he will not descend. Though capricious and changeable in his humours, he is steady in his serious designs. Concession encourages him to persevere, and opposition only increases his obstinacy, unless it operates on his fears. He is vindictive in the extreme, he never forgets an injury, and spares no machinations to ruin the object of his resentment. These arts indeed cost him little, for, to his habitual insincerity he joins a talent for insinuation, and a natural love of artifice and intrigue. With such qualities, it is not surprising that he should have a general distrust of others, and that nobody except Trimbukjee should ever have possessed his confidence, nor is it perhaps to be wondered at in such a character that, when he met with an instrument too low to be feared, too despicable to excite jealousy, and too servile to irritate by opposition, he should repay his apparent devotion by unbounded attachment and should lavish upon him the confidence which he withheld from all the rest of mankind.

To balance his vices, it must be admitted that Peshwa is by no means deficient in abilities, that he is scrupulously just in pecuniary transactions, humane when not actuated by fear or revenge, frugal but not parsimonious in his expenses, and at once courteous and dignified in his manners. Some other parts of the Peshwa's character must be mentioned, though they do not affect his public conduct. He is a slave to superstition, half his life is spent in fasts, prayers and pilgrimages. A large portion of his revenue is consumed in magical practices, and his life is disturbed by his attention to prodigies and omens. His superstition imposes no restraint upon his pleasures, and the greater part of his time that is not occupied by religion is devoted to vicious indulgences. Though he affects great purity in his own person, scarcely a day passes that he does not spend some hours with his favourites in large assemblies of women when he enjoys the coarsest buffoonery, and witnesses most disgusting scenes of debauchery. These parties are generally composed of women of rank, and his Highness's most implacable enmities are those which he bears towards Sirdars who refuse to allow their wives to join them. The

fall of Candee Rao Rastia originated in his obstinacy in this respect. The unrelenting persecution which is still carried on against Madhoo Rao Rastia is partly owing to the same cause, and Gocla's former disgrace and present favour are confidently ascribed to his tardy acquiescence in the dishonour of his family.'

No 204

'His Highness's method of resisting our proposals, when he cannot do it of right, is to throw all sorts of obstructions in the way of the affair we wish to carry. Sometimes starting objections, and at others professing great readiness to do as we desire, but thwarting us by some indirect channel, or letting the matter lie over in such a manner that, even when one is aware of the system it is difficult to say, in each individual case, whether the delay is the result of design or of the ordinary habits and vices of the Government. The late transactions may have altered the Peshwa's views of many of the subjects alluded to but it will be some time before the effect of these changes can be confidently spoken of. The state of our relations to the Peshwa has always been much influenced by his Highness's personal character, and it might be interesting to speculate on the form they might assume if the numerous claims and pretensions of this Government were to fall into the hands of an active and warlike Peshwa, who would attend to the improvement of his army, conciliate his Jageerdars, and encourage the former great feudatories of the empire to look on him as their chief. It is obvious that in the present state of India there are fine materials for a powerful confederacy under such a leader, but he must be an extraordinary genius who could start up with such a character from the midst of a long peace and of a Brahmin education.'

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