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S C I N D E.

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 22 June 1852;—for,

COPIES “ of all CORRESPONDENCE between the Bombay Government and the
Indian Authorities at Home, in relation to the TRADE of *Scinde*, and the
Establishment of an ANNUAL FAIR at the Port of *Currachee* ; with Copies
of Enclosures contained in such Correspondence.”

East India House, }
29 June 1852. }

JAMES C. MELVILL.

(*Mr. James Wilson.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
30 June 1852.

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East India House, }
29 June 1852. }

T. L. Peacock,
Examiner of the India Correspondence.

COPIES of all CORRESPONDENCE between the Bombay Government and the Indian Authorities at Home, in relation to the TRADE of *Scinde*, and the Establishment of an ANNUAL FAIR at the Port of *Currachee*; with Copies of Enclosures contained in such Correspondence.

EXTRACT Revenue Letter to Bombay, dated 13 November (No. 10) 1850.

15. WE do not observe in the papers before us any evidence of an increasing demand for English piece goods, either for the consumption of the province itself, or to supply the wants of Central Asia. On the contrary, the trade returns of the Shikarpore collectors show a large importation of piece goods across the frontier, mostly from Khorassan, and all apparently, it is stated, of foreign manufacture.

16. This result would appear to arise from the circumstance that the English goods hitherto sent to Sindh have been worse in quality and less suited to the tastes of the consumers than those supplied by Russia. A report furnished to the collector of Shikarpore by five of the principal merchants of that place, and one from the Punjab, states: "As for Bombay goods, that is, European piece goods, they do go to the N.W., and will do so; but they are very inferior to Russian fabrics of the same description, being flimsy, and not wearing so well. Russian chintzes come down here, and sell for 15 per cent. more than English (Bombay) goods. These Russian goods come down from Kurrachee (Khorassan), where they are received in barter, and sell here for more money than goods from Bombay."

17. It is of great importance, both on political and commercial considerations, that our manufactured goods should be generally diffused over Central Asia; but, to effect this, it will be necessary to consult the tastes of the consumers, both as to quality and pattern. With this view we desire that specimens of the most approved Russian and other foreign fabrics to be found in the markets of Sindh, whether in cotton, silk, or wool, may be transmitted to us, accompanied by a statement of the prices at which they are commonly sold in the bazaars, and that a similar set of samples may be submitted to the Chamber of Commerce at Bombay.

18. We shall bring these specimens under the notice of the manufacturers of this country, in the hope that they will produce articles which, as regards quality, pattern, and price, may enter into successful competition in the markets of Sindh with those foreign fabrics which now appear to obtain the preference.

Territorial Department, Revenue, 25 March (No. 43) 1851.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable East India Company, London.

Honourable Sirs,

WITH reference to paragraphs 15 to 18 of your Despatch (No. 10), dated the 13th November 1850, relative to the import of Russian chintzes and other foreign fabrics into the market of Upper Sindh, we beg to transmit the accompanying documents, as noted in the margin,* on the subject.

* See below.

2. We

* Letter to the Commissioner in Sind, No. 437; dated 17 January 1851. Letter to the Conservator of Forests, No. 438; dated 17 January 1851. Letter from the Conservator of Forests, No. 146; dated 13 March 1851. Letter to the Secretary to the Governor-general of India, No. 3,200; dated 20 March 1851. Letter to the Commissioner in Sindh, No. 3,201; dated 20 March 1851.

2 CORRESPONDENCE ON THE TRADE OF SCINDE, AND

SCINDE.

2. We shall again address your Honourable Court on receiving a reply from the Commissioner in Sindh to our secretary's letter of 17th January last.

Bombay Castle, 25 March 1851.

We have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby.*
D. A. Blane.

No. 437 of 1851, Territorial Department, Revenue.

To *H. B. E. Frere*, Esquire, Commissioner in Sindh.

Sir,

I HAVE been directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit for your information the annexed (extract paragraphs 15 to 18) of a despatch from the Honourable the Court of Directors (No. 10), dated the 13th November 1850, and to request you will be good enough to inquire into and report on the subject as soon as practicable, forwarding in triplicate to Government the samples ordered in paragraph 17, and the statement of prices in the Sindh bazaars.

Bombay Castle, 17 January 1851.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. E. Goldsmid*,
Secretary to Government.

No. 438 of 1851, Territorial Department, Revenue.

To *A. Gibson*, Esquire, M.D., Conservator of Forests.

Sir,

I HAVE been directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you the annexed extract (paragraphs 15 to 18) of a despatch from the Honourable the Court of Directors (No. 10), dated the 13th November 1850, and to request that you will have the goodness to submit to Government any information you may be able to collect on the subject thereof during your visit to the province of Sindh.

2. A copy of my letter of this day's date, No. 437, to Commissioner in Sindh, is also annexed; it might be as well were you to furnish him with copy of the memorandum you may make on the subject, or of the letter you send Government.

Bombay Castle, 17 January 1851.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. E. Goldsmid*,
Secretary to Government.

No. 146 of 1851.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Sir,

WHEN departing for Scinde I was honoured by the commands of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to make inquiry touching the import of Russian chintzes and white goods into the markets of Upper Scinde.

2. On this subject I beg to express my regret that from accidents of adverse weather on the Indus, and the advanced state of the season rendering my presence in India necessary in order to bring up my arrears of public business, I was unable to proceed to the great mart of Shikarpoor, as I had intended to do. I therefore turned back from Sehwan.

3. From inquiries which I made at Kurachee, Hyderabad, Tatta, and Sehwan, I am led to believe the state of the case as regards Russian fabrics to be as follows :—

1st. That Russian chintzes are imported both to Shikarpore and Pechawur.

2d. My informants stated that they were not aware of any Russian white goods being imported to either of these places.

3d. None

3d. None, either chintz or white, appear to be brought by the caravans which annually reach Kurachee from Kabul.

4th. Also, I could not learn that any were imported either to Hydrabad, Sehwan, or Tatta.

5th. From what the Kurachee people state, I believe that the great increase of white piece goods brought from Bombay, and the moderate rate at which these are priced, must swamp any competition from beyond the Caspian Sea.

6th. With respect to chintzes, I would from the specimens which I saw (in the apparel of a Pechawur merchant, and some others) doubt as to whether, for brightness and fastness of colour, our English chintzes could bear comparison with them.

3. The superiority of the Russian colours may be due to the freshness of the dying material when applied. It is well known that the brilliancy of many of these vegetable dyes soon fades by their being kept in contact with the air, and not fixed in cloth or paper.

4. In fact a chemical change takes place in the composition of the dye under the influence of light and air.

5. The Russians have the advantage of many of the vegetable colouring matters growing in their own wilds; ours in England are probably mostly imported.

These speculations I with some hesitation offer, as I have not minute acquaintance with the necessary details.

6. The colours, as fixed at some of the factories on the Coromandel coast, appear to approach nearer to those of Russia than the English colours do.

7. Hence (I have understood) they are now preferred to English chintzes in Persia, where (as in Cabul) a chintz garment is worn till it rots.

I think that it might be worth while to have a parcel of these Russian chintzes purchased and despatched to the Coromandel coast, in order that the pattern (which is rather unique and sharply cut) should be taken advantage of.

There is one other suggestion which I deem of importance in relation to this subject.

8. The Cabul merchant complained heavily of the risk and delay incident to a voyage to Bombay from Kurachee. They also state that when at Bombay they are entirely at the mercy of the Dulals and native dealers; obliged to sell their produce at any price in order to save the short season for a return investment. I am of opinion, that if an annual fair could be established at Kurachee, the benefit of it would be immediately felt, not only by all the up-country dealers from Kabul and Kashmere downwards, but by the merchants of Arabia and Southern Persia, as Captain Pottinger observes (Travels in Beloochistan, p. 344) of Kurachee.

9. Its "advantage of situation, lying as it does nearly central, between India and the whole of the dominions of the King of Cabul, together with Persian Khorassan, Balkh, Bokhara, &c." To such an authority I need not add my feeble recommendation, but would simply remark that were Government to see fit to establish a fair at Kurachee, it should be on such a scale and of a duration similar to the very successful one established at Maijee in Kandes. That for the first three years some advantage should be given to merchants and others desiring to transport themselves and their goods to Kurachee, such advantage to consist in the temporary use of such appliances as may be at the command of the Naval department. This is the substance of the suggestion which I respectfully submit to the consideration of Government.

10. I may add, that on mentioning the same to the Commissioner in Scinde, that authority was pleased to express a verbal opinion as to its feasibility.

I have, &c.

(signed) A. Gibson, Conservator of Forests.

Nular, 13 March 1851.

4 CORRESPONDENCE ON THE TRADE OF SCINDE, AND

SCINDE.

No. 3,200 of 1851.

From *H. E. Goldsmid*, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to Sir *H. M. Elliot*, K.C.B., Secretary to the Government of India with the Most Noble the Governor-general.

Sir,

Revenue Department.

I HAVE been directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit you, in order that they may be placed before the Most Noble the Governor-general, the accompanying documents* relative to the import of Russian chintzes and other foreign fabrics into the markets of Upper Sindh. On receipt of a reply from the Commissioner in Sindh, to my letter of 17th January last, a further communication will be made to you on the subject.

I have, &c.

(signed) *H. E. Goldsmid*, Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 20 March 1851.

No. 3,201 of 1851, Territorial Department, Revenue.

To *H. B. E. Frere*, Esq., Commissioner in Sindh.

Sir,

I HAVE been directed to transmit the annexed copy of a letter from Dr. Gibson (No. 146), dated the 13th inst., regarding the import of Russian chintzes and other foreign fabrics into the market of Upper Sindh, and to inform you that the Right Honourable the Governor in Council will be glad to receive, at an early date, a reply to Government Letter of 17th January last (No. 437), to your address on the subject.

I have, &c.

(signed) *H. E. Goldsmid*, Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 20 March 1851.

(True Copies.)

H. E. Goldsmid, Secretary to Government.

Territorial Department, Revenue, 18 June (No. 89) 1851.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable East India Company, London.

Honourable Sirs,

WITH reference to our letter of the 25th March last (No. 43), and to paragraph 58 of our letter of the 26th ultimo (No. 83), we do ourselves the honour to transmit herewith copies of our further proceedings (as per margin)† relative to the import of Russian chintzes and other foreign fabrics into the market of Upper Sindh.

† See below.

2. Two sets of the samples received from the collectorates of Hydrabad and Shikarpore, and one set of the samples received from the Commissioner of Sindh, will be sent to your Honourable Court by ship.

We have, &c.

(signed) *D. A. Blane*.

A. Bell.

Bombay Castle, 18 June 1851.

* Extract paragraphs 15 to 18 of a despatch from the Honourable Court, No. 10; dated 13 November 1850. Letter to the Commissioner in Sindh, No. 437; dated 17 January 1851. Letter to the Conservator of Forests, No. 438; dated 17 January 1851. Letter from the Conservator of Forests, No. 146, dated 13 March 1851.

† Letter from the Commissioner in Sindh, No. 697; dated 1 May 1851, with enclosures. Letter from the Commissioner in Sindh, No. 769; dated 18 May 1851, with enclosure. Minutes by the Honourable Board; dated 31 May 1851. Letter to the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, No. 6,535; dated 19 June 1851. Letter to the Commissioner in Sindh, No. 6,542; dated 19 June 1851, with enclosures. Letter to the Deputy Collector of Customs in Charge, No. 6,545; dated 19 June 1851.

EXTRACT paragraph 58 of Revenue Letter to the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated 26 May, No. 83 of 1851, alluded to in Revenue Letter, dated 18 June, No. 89 of 1851. SCINDE.

WE beg to refer your Honourable Court to our letter (No. 43) dated the 25th March 1851 ; our further proceedings on this subject will be reported in due course.

Paragraphs 15 to 18, Import of Russian chintzes and other foreign fabrics into the market of Upper Sindh.

No. 697 of 1851, Territorial Department, Revenue.

From the Commissioner in Scinde to the Right Honourable Lord Viscount Falkland, Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

My Lord,

IN obedience to the instructions contained in Mr. Secretary Goldsmid's letter (No. 437) of the 17th January, regarding the consumption of Russian goods in Scinde and Khorassan, I have the honour to state, that I called for reports on the subject from the collectors of Shikarpoor, Hyderabad, and Kurrachee, and requested the last-mentioned officer to associate with himself his deputy in charge of Customs, and Mr. MacIver, a respectable merchant in the place ; and have now the honour to submit copies of the reports received from Hyderabad and Kurrachee, and the samples and price lists from Hyderabad, in triplicate.*

2. These specimens, it will be seen, are not of Russian, but of Bhawalpoor, Khorassan, Cashmere, and Bokhara manufacture. They will, nevertheless, doubtless, be useful for the purposes for which they are required by the Honourable Court.

3. The Report of the Kurrachee Committee embodies much useful information.

4. The Committee contend, in the first place, that the information before the Court of Directors must have been defective, inasmuch as there is evidence of an increasing demand for English piece goods in Scinde, as shown by an importation increasing from 2,66,383 rupees' worth in 1842, to 12,00,000 rupees' worth in 1850, and that this increase has possessed a degree of steadiness, "only found where trade is of a healthy character."

5. That this conclusion is further borne out by an equally uniform increase of the principal article of the return trade (Khorassan wool), which has steadily risen from the value of rupees 559 in 1843, to the value of rupees 2,34,547 in 1849-50.

6. After a good description of the mode in which this trade is carried on, the Committee admit that "Russian piece goods are often of patterns and colours more adapted to the taste of the people (of Affghanistan) than British fabrics of the same kind," but contend "that the Russians are undersold, that their trade is greatly on the decrease, and that, at no very distant period, it will cease to be productive."

7. When at Shikarpoor I made particular inquiry from the merchants there, who are generally the heads of the Hindoo houses, by whose capital the trade of Central Asia is carried on, and who have agents as far as Meshed and Bokhara, and correspondents at a much greater distance.

8. I found their statements, both as to opinions and facts, agreed with those expressed by the Kurrachee Committee. Indeed, so identical were they, that finding them clearly and succinctly summed up by the Committee, I forbear to draw on my own notes of what the Shikarpoor traders told me.

9. "He wears Russian chintz" is, I am told, the proverbial expression in Scinde, for a very well-dressed man. But, at the time I was in Shikarpoor, I could not find any for sale, except what had been already made up into linings for pelisses, &c., which are often imported ready-made from Kandahar.

10. Dr. Gibson, in his memorandum already before Government, gives the probable reasons for the preference of Russian fabrics. The patterns forwarded will enable home manufacturers to decide whether any other cause has escaped his observation.

11. As

* From the Collector of Hyderabad, No. 252 ; dated 8 April 1851, with enclosure. From the Collector of Kurrachee, No. 787 ; dated 22 April 1851, with enclosures.

SCINDE.

11. As regards measures for the further development of our trade with Kandahar, the Committee's suggestions are,

1st. "To establish a proper understanding with the Khan of Kelat, the only native State between our frontier and Kandahar."

12. They recommend that he should "still derive some advantage from the transit duty," a source of income which, they very justly observe, the state of his finances will not allow him to abandon; but that he should be called on to "put down or keep in due subjection," several petty chiefs within his territory, who now levy black mail.

13. No one knows the Khan, his subjects and neighbours, and their views and feelings, better than Major Jacob; and, from various communications I have had with him on this and similar subjects, I gather that he is of opinion that the adoption of a liberal policy on our part, in abolishing our frontier duties, would have much effect on the Khan, and make him desirous, even if he were, from poverty, not able at once to comply with any wishes of the British Government, and to reduce the burdens on transit trade in his own dominions.

14. I do not see any objection to empowering Major Jacob to bring the matter to the Khan's notice, and use his influence, which is very great, to induce the Khan to reduce the taxes on trade *in transitu*, as low as is consistent with the due protection of the road, pointing out to him the advantage his subjects would derive, in increased exports, and employment for themselves, as the principal carriers of the trade in question.

15. It is, I find, the impression not only of Major Jacob, but of every one, native or European, who is well acquainted with the state of the frontier, and the countries beyond on this side of Kandahar, that their quiet and well-being mainly depend on the strength of the Khelat government; that all disorders are traceable to the weakness of the Khelat government, and its weakness to its poverty; and that though this poverty was mainly attributable to our interference in its affairs while we occupied Kandahar, the Khelat government is nevertheless now most anxious to consult our wishes, from a conviction that we have no wish to repeat the error of so meddling again; that we might be relied on, as disinterested allies, and are the only power whence they could hope for aid against the ever-dreaded aggressions of the Kandahar Affghans.

16. Major Jacob has long been of opinion that it would be a wise and humane policy to aid the Khan with something more than advice and moral influence in establishing his authority over the turbulent tribes who now keep his side of the frontier in a state of perpetual alarm and frequent bloodshed, waste some of his best provinces, and, but for the ever vigilant activity of the Sindé irregular horse, would do the like on our side.

17. The amount of pecuniary assistance he would extend to the Khan is so small, compared with the probable benefits to be expected, to a state which has many claims on our consideration, that I cannot but think the experiment worth trying; but this is not the place to discuss the merits of such a suggestion, further than as being, in the opinion of one so well qualified to judge, the most effectual measure we could adopt to improve a good market for our goods.

18. The second measure which the Committee consider likely to promote the development of our trade with Central Asia, is "the establishment of a market here (at Kurrachee) for the purchase of the produce of Central Asia, and for the sale of British manufactures adapted to these markets."

19. This they consider "time alone can effect, and no direct act of Government is likely to advance it."

20. They enumerate, however, four modes in which Government may aid the object in view.

21. Among these, they do not notice Dr. Gibson's plan for an annual commercial fair at Kurrachee, at which the Affghan traders could supply themselves with goods without visiting Bombay. Dr. Gibson personally mentioned his plan to me just after we left Kurrachee, and I made it a point to ascertain the views of the principal members of the different commercial communities which I visited during my subsequent tour.

22. I found them generally express themselves in favour of the plan much more strongly than is usually the case when any novelty is broached.

23. This was especially the case at Shikarpoor, where the members of the commercial punchayet assured me they would all send their agents, and went so far

far as to suggest what they thought the best means of giving effect to the proposition, viz., to give them copies of a proclamation that the fair would be held at a given time, and that all frontier duties would be remitted during the three months for which the fair would be open. This proclamation they said they would circulate in Afghanistan and Khelat, whence they expected traders would flock in great numbers.

24. I do not think these opinions were expressed merely out of complaisance, to meet what they fancied was the pet scheme of the moment. For, at Hyderabad, Aliqur Ka, Tanda, and the towns on the left bank, which are supplied from Mandavie, and direct from India, *via* Luckput, Vikkur, and Ghorabaree, the traders frankly stated their opinion (which is no doubt just) that such a fair at Kurrachee would not materially facilitate their trade.

25. I have myself no doubt whatever that Dr. Gibson's is a feasible and practicable suggestion, and that the results of the measure he advises would be most beneficial.

26. Much, however, will depend on the spirit in which the proposition may be met by the Bombay mercantile community; and I would recommend that the plan be communicated to the trading members of that body, and their views ascertained.

27. Beyond propounding the scheme, and giving it publicity both in Western India and Central Asia, and making proper sanitary and police arrangements when the traders assemble, the only active measure which occurs to me as being in the power of Government, and likely to promote the object in view, is to make available more extended means of steam transport from Bombay to Kurrachee at the first opening of the fair.

28. It may be that the steamers in the hands of private companies or individuals may be insufficient for the purpose, in which case a spare Government steamer or two, temporarily hired to the managers of such companies, would increase their means of accommodation at no expense to Government.

29. Horses form an important article of export from Khorassan, and are, I believe, purchased in Bombay to a considerable extent for the army remounts, to make up deficiencies in the supply of the better bred Gulf horses. They might be purchased from the Hafiors at Kurrachee in better condition and cheaper than after they have made the voyage to Bombay, and might, to a considerable extent, supply the wants of horse artillery and light field batteries in Scinde, as well as of the mounted corps at Rajcote, Deesa, Neemuch, Nussarabad, &c.; all that would be requisite would be a committee to make the purchases, and qualified members might be readily found among the officers in Scinde, including the irregular horse, or in the cavalry regiments at Rajcote or Deesa.

30. To return to the report of the Kurrachee Committee. Their four specific suggestions are—

“1st. Proper accommodation for the Patan traders.”

31. I have already brought to the notice of Government, in my letter noted in the margin, the absence of any public shelter, however wretched, for native travellers, and suggested that the present gaol should, when vacated for the new one which must be built, be converted into a serai. This would supply the defect noticed by the Committee.

No. 414 of the
18 March, General
Department.

“2nd. That the Kurrachee harbour be rendered more accessible than at present, and the half-finished mole completed.”

32. In the letter noted in the margin, I have applied for sanction to the expenditure of one thousand and five hundred rupees* to bore into the bar of the harbour and ascertain its nature. This will be the first step towards learning how and at what expense it can be removed, and the harbour made accessible to large ships at all times of the tide.

No. 427 of the
19 March, Marine
Department.

* Rs. 1,500.

33. It is, however, not the bar only which is an obstacle to vessels frequenting the port.

34. The track of vessels to and from Bombay lies along the coast of Kattiwar and the Delta. This coast requires careful navigation, both on account of the lowness of the land, and the changeable currents which run strongly, and are much affected by the uncertain tides, and consequent variable indraught and outset of the Gulfs of Cutch and Cambay.

35. Yet here, where the most minute surveys and careful sailing directions are peculiarly wanted, none are to be obtained. A very intelligent officer com-

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manding one steamer frequenting the port told me he could never obtain in Bombay chart or sailing directions of any kind, and he had none on board. Another had sent to England for the latest edition of Horsburgh, dated, I think, 1849, but "Kurrachee" did not appear there at all. Under the head of "Carotchee," or "Crotchee Bunder," were only the old surveys of Lieutenant Carless, taken, I believe, before we first had a force here, and now, owing to alteration of landmarks, and changes in the river mouths, probably more dangerous than if there were none at all.

36. This is the more to be regretted, because, I believe, very complete and admirable surveys exist in manuscript, the publication of which would probably repay its expense; at all events, they might be made accessible to shipmasters who might wish for a tracing, and, if the matter were brought to the notice of the Commodore of the Indian Navy, I am sure he would speedily find means to remedy the defect.

37. At present the surveys in question are viewed as official documents, and the copies in the hands of officers of the Indian Navy are guarded with an extreme jealousy, most commendable as long as they are papers entrusted to Government servants under the seal of official secrecy. But Government might reasonably authorize a relaxation of such strictness as regards surveys of coasts, to which it is intended to attract mercantile shipping.

No. 612 of the
19 April, General
Department.

38. In the letter noted in the margin, I have urged the necessity of a small immediate grant to recommence the suspended works of the half-finished mole, with a view to its early completion. The whole sum required is under a lac of rupees, and I have calculations to show that, with a trifling addition for water pipes, Government would repay the whole outlay in five years by savings in the single item of expense in conveying water to the shipping.

39. I also pointed out that by leaving the mole in its present half-finished state, the former facilities of landing have been materially decreased, and the harbour, so far, made worse than before.

40. Pending the completion of the mole, the existing facilities would be greatly increased by posting a common dredging machine in the harbour.

41. By dredging the present creek, now nearly dry at low water, the Bunder might be made accessible to small boats at all times of the tide, as it was formerly; and by simply conveying the matter raised across the mole, and discharging it on the southern or inner side of the mole, ground would be raised for the deposit of goods, and something done towards the attainment of the third object of the Committee's recommendation, viz., "Facilities for the landing and shipment of goods."

42. These can, however, never be afforded to the extent or in the manner required till the mole is finished. Among the facilities required, the greatest would be a line of common tram rails laid down between the camp and the head of the mole.

43. Something of the same kind would be the best means of effecting the fourth object pointed out by the Committee as desirable, with a view to facilitate trade, viz., "the improvement of the present communication by land with Tattah and other portions of Scinde."

44. A level country, where rain is almost unknown, where the formation of good metalled roads is a matter of great difficulty, and where the rails might be laid for miles almost on the ordinary surface of the ground, point out a tramway as being the next step which should be taken in Scinde whenever the traffic along any line becomes sufficient to require something beyond mere clearing and smoothing the surface, and bridging the canals.

45. The expenses of every kind which must be incurred on such a road are all, except rails, probably lower in Scinde than in any other country; an amount of traffic, therefore, smaller than would pay for constructing a tramway elsewhere, will pay for one in Scinde; and I believe the existing traffic on the Tattah and Kurrachee, the Shikarpoor and Sukkur, and other roads, is far nearer the paying point than would be supposed.

46. This, however, is not the place to enter into any details on the subject, and I will, therefore, only remark that, considering what natural facilities exist for making roads passable for wheeled carriages throughout Scinde, the present state of the roads is not creditable to a civilized government.

47. The

47. The sum of rupees 9,500 lately sanctioned by Government for clearing the road from Kurrachee will effect nearly as much as can be done, short of the expenditure necessary to lay down a tram way, and I may mention, as an instance of the immediate effect of such measures, that before the contracts for clearing the road under the above sanction could be completed, I had more than one tender of contracts to horse the dawk to Hyderabad, and one to run a wheeled carriage.

48. I have not yet received the collector of Shikarpoor's report, but as I had myself made inquiry from the traders there, I thought it well no longer to delay replying to the reference. A few specimens of Russian fabrics purchased there, are also forwarded, as per annexed list. There were but few in the market, and thinking it well to send the pieces entire, as they are sold, I could not furnish them in triplicate.

I have, &c.

(signed) *H. B. E. Frere*, Commissioner.

Kurrachee, 1 May 1851.

No. 252 of 1851, Territorial Department, Revenue.

From the Collector of Hyderabad to the Commissioner in Scinde, Kurrachee.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to forward in three separate packages the triplicate samples of manufacture called for in your letter, No. 135, of the 24th of January last; each sample is ticketed with a ticket, showing its nature and value, and I besides enclose a list showing these particulars as regards the whole.

2. I have had, for convenience sake, the samples packed separately, each large package thus contains a single sample of each article.

3. As regards Russian manufactures, the state of the Hyderabad bazaar is very different from that reported of the Shikarpoor bazaar, in their respect, for not only have Russian manufactures made no way here, but I could not find a single piece of Russian chintz for sale in the place, nor, I am told, is there any here disposed of. The whole of the cotton goods that are sold here are English, with the exception of a few native articles made here and at Bhawulpoor, and even in respect of the articles made here English yarn has almost entirely superseded native, the latter being now only used for the most inferior cloths.

4. I can very well understand, however, why Russian chintzes should be much more valued than English, for they are from the texture necessarily double the strength of the latter, and must last I should imagine more than twice as long. The English chintz is made in the manner called plain wearing, that is, with warp and weft, consisting of single threads; but the Russian chintz that I have seen was double woven, much in the manner of the cloth called here American drill. If therefore our manufacturers would wish to supplant the Russians in the sale of this article, their first business should be to change the mode of weaving it in the manner I have explained. This, however, would obviously add considerably to the cost of making, and would leave perhaps on the article a smaller margin of profit than is made on the common single wove chintz sent from England at present.

I have, &c.

(signed) *A. B. Rathborne*, Collector.

Hydrabad, Collector's Office, 8 April 1851.

MEMORANDUM of Articles composing the Triplicate Samples forwarded in conformity with the Instructions contained in the Commissioner's Letter (No. 135,) dated 24th January 1851.

The *Loonghee* is a cotton fabric, with mixed silk and cotton borders along one of the sides, and at both ends, so as to admit of two pieces being sown together by the sides without the borders, and the borders then forming a square around the garment; each piece is about seven yards in length, and 22 inches in breadth.

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The rates in the Hyderabad bazaar of the nine specimens forwarded are as follows :—

					Rs.	a.	
1st specimen	-	-	-	-	3	4	the piece.
2d ditto	-	-	-	-	3	6	"
3d ditto	-	-	-	-	2	8	"
4th ditto	-	-	-	-	2	8	"
5th ditto	-	-	-	-	3	3	"
6th ditto	-	-	-	-	3	3	"
7th ditto	-	-	-	-	3	3	"
8th ditto	-	-	-	-	3	4	"
9th ditto	-	-	-	-	5	-	"

Loonghees are manufactured in Bhawalpoor, and are worn by most of the respectable natives of Scinde as a shoulder cloth. They are in great demand.

Kunavaiz is a fabric of unmixed silk; a piece, as manufactured, is generally about 25 yards in length, and from 30 to 32 inches in breadth. The rates in the Hyderabad bazaar of the five specimens forwarded are as follow :—

					Rs.	a.	
1st specimen, consisting of 2 yards	-				1	$\frac{1}{2}$	- the yard.
2d ditto	"	2 yards	-		1	$\frac{1}{2}$	- "
3d ditto	"	2 yards	-		1	11	"
4th ditto	"	2 yards	-		1	12	"
5th ditto	"	13 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches	-		1	12	"

Kunavaiz is manufactured in Bhawalpoor, and is used as an article of dress both by males and females in Scinde. By males it is in request; head-cloths, or turbans, and cotton quilted coats, are made of it. By females it is used in boddices, or loose upper garments, and also as a sheet or covering for the head. It is in great demand.

Gurbee is a fabric of mixed silk and cotton; each piece is five yards in length and about 32 inches in breadth. The rates in the Hyderabad bazaar of the 15 specimens forwarded are as follows :—

					Rs.		
1st specimen	-	-	-	-	7		the piece.
2d ditto	-	-	-	-	6	$\frac{1}{4}$	"
3d ditto	-	-	-	-	8	$\frac{1}{2}$	"
4th ditto	-	-	-	-	7	$\frac{1}{2}$	"
5th ditto	-	-	-	-	6	$\frac{3}{4}$	"
6th ditto	-	-	-	-	7		"
7th ditto	-	-	-	-	9		"
8th ditto	-	-	-	-	7	$\frac{1}{2}$	"
9th ditto	-	-	-	-	7	$\frac{1}{4}$	"
10th ditto	-	-	-	-	6	$\frac{1}{2}$	"
11th ditto	-	-	-	-	7		"
12th ditto	-	-	-	-	8	$\frac{1}{2}$	"
13th ditto	-	-	-	-	8	$\frac{3}{4}$	"
14th ditto	-	-	-	-	7		"
15th ditto	-	-	-	-	7		"

Gurbees are manufactured in Bhawalpoor, and in Scinde are used both by males and females, converted into puggamas, or drawers. Being used by all classes who can afford them they are in considerable demand.

Gurbee (different specimen from the above) is a fabric of mixed silk and cotton. The dimensions of each piece are the same as above. The price of the specimen forwarded, in the Hyderabad bazaar, is 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ rs. This description of gurbee is used only in *pyrans*, or loose shirts; it is manufactured in Bhawalpoor. It is not in very great demand in Scinde.

Goal-Budhun is a fabric of unmixed silk, and is of the same dimensions as gurbee, and in Scinde is also used for the same purpose. It is of Bhawalpoor manufacture, and the price of the specimen forwarded, in the Hyderabad bazaar, is 7 rs.

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The *Duputah* is a fabric of unmixed silk, with border of a different colour from the body of the texture, so as to admit, as in the loonghee, of two pieces being sewn together. The larger of the two specimens forwarded is seven yards in length and about 22 inches in breadth; and the smaller, with the same breadth, is but five yards in length. In the Hyderabad bazaar the price of the former is 7 rs., and of the latter, $4\frac{1}{2}$ rs. per piece. They are of Bhawulpoor manufacture, and in Scinde are used by males, as the loonghee is, thrown across the shoulder, and by females as a loose covering over the head. Duputahs are in demand by such as can afford them.

Chuddur, or sheet, is a fabric of unmixed silk, and is five yards in length, and about three-quarters of a yard in breadth. The price in the Hyderabad bazaar is 4½ rs. the piece. It is of Bokhara manufacture, and in Scinde is used solely by females as a loose covering over the head. It is not in such demand as the loonghee, &c., being used only on occasions of marriages, or in the houses of the wealthy.

The *Carpet* is composed of cotton and wool. Its dimensions are about seven by four feet. The price in the Hyderabad bazaar of the specimen forwarded is 7 rs. It is of Bhawulpoor manufacture, and is used by the natives of Scinde, either spread on the ground, or on their charpaees or cots. It is in pretty considerable demand.

Kosals is a fabric manufactured from goats' hair, and is composed of two pieces sown together, as described in the loonghee. Each of these pieces is $5\frac{1}{2}$ yards in length, and about 30 inches in breadth, the united garment thus forming a breadth of about five feet, and selling in the Hyderabad bazaar for 25 rs. It is of Khorasan manufacture, and in Scinde is used by males in the winter season, in the same manner as the loonghee, thrown across the shoulder. Its high price prevents its being in demand to any considerable extent, but it is in great request by persons of respectability who can afford it.

Mahoat is a fabric manufactured from goats' hair. Each piece, as manufactured, is generally about $4\frac{1}{2}$ yards in length, and about 20 inches in breadth, and in the Hyderabad bazaar sells for 11 rupees. The value of the specimen forwarded, being one-third of a whole piece, is Rs. 3. 10. 8. It is manufactured in Cashmere, and in Scinde is used by males only, either in the manner of the loonghee (three pieces being sewn together across the length), over the shoulder, or made into a loose cloak. It is not in much demand, probably owing to its dearness putting it beyond the means of all but the very wealthy natives.

Burk is a fabric composed of camel wool. Each piece, as manufactured, is about $7\frac{1}{2}$ yards in length, and 18 inches in breadth, and is sold in the Hyderabad bazaar at 5 rupees the piece. The value of the specimen forwarded (one-third of a whole piece) thus being Rs. 1. 10. 8. It is manufactured in Khorasan, and, by the natives of Scinde is used converted into loose cloaks. It is not in much demand.

Moza, i. e. *Stockings*, are manufactured from goats' hair, and are sold in the Hyderabad Bazaar at Rs. 1. 4. the pair. They are of Khorasan manufacture, and in Scinde are in pretty considerable demand by the better class of natives.

Dustana, i. e. *Gloves*, are manufactured from goats' hair, and sell, at Hyderabad, at 8 annas per pair. They are of Khorasan manufacture, and in Scinde are in considerable demand.

(signed) A. B. Rathborne, Collector.

Hyderabad, Collector's Office, 8 April 1851.

(True Copies.)

(signed) H. B. E. Frere, Commissioner.

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List of Russian, &c., Fabrics, purchased by the Commissioner in Shikarpoor.

	Rs.	a.
One piece striped Russian manufacture	-	10 -
One do. white	-	10 -
One do. "Abrah Pushmee," Kurmem manufacture	20	-
One silk handkerchief, Bokhara manufacture	-	4 8
One do. do.	-	4 8
One do. do.	-	3 -
One do. do.	-	3 -
One piece silk "chinni," made at Musheed	-	6 8
	Rs. 61	8

Kurrachee, 1 May 1851.

(signed) *H. B. E. Frere*,
Commissioner in Scinde.

No. 787 of 1851, Territorial Department, Revenue.

From the Collector of Kurrachee to the Commissioner in Scinde.

Sir,

IN compliance with the instructions contained in your letter (No. 136) of the 24th January last, I have the honour to forward the Report of the Committee appointed by you, to ascertain the best mode of extending the trade with Central Asia, together with the accompanying depositions of two merchants conversant with the trade of Kelat, Khandahar, &c.

I have, &c.

Kurrachee, Collector's Office,
22 April 1851.(signed) *H. W. Preedy*, Captain,
Collector of Kurrachee.

P.S.—The specimens of silk, cotton, and woollen piece goods of Russia manufacture, which should have accompanied this Report, have been applied for from Shikarpoor, but have not as yet been received; these will, however, be forwarded to you as soon as they arrive.

(signed) *H. W. Preedy*, Captain,
Collector.

REPORT of the Committee appointed by the Commissioner in Scinde, to ascertain and Report on the best method of extending the Trade with Central Asia.

It is apparent, from the general tenor of the Court's despatch, that an unfavourable opinion exists on the state of our trade with Central Asia; the particular points on which this opinion would appear to be founded, are first, that the papers then before the Court gave no evidence of an increasing demand for English piece goods, either in Scinde itself, or in Central Asia; and that the cause of this want of demand would, in the opinion of the Court, appear to be, that the British goods hitherto sent to Scinde must have been either worse in quality, or less suited to the taste of consumers than those supplied by Russia. It is further stated, that the returns of the Shikarpoor Collectorate show a large import of goods from Khorasan into Scinde, all apparently of foreign manufacture.

The inference naturally drawn from the position here taken, is that Russian goods are not only successfully competing with British produce in the markets of Central Asia, but are crossing over our frontier, and are contending for the superiority in Scinde itself.

To test the correctness of this view of the subject, we will commence by taking a glance at the trade return of the two principal articles of exchange between the British Provinces and Central Asia, viz., piece goods of British manufacture on the one hand, and wool, the produce of Khorasan, on the other:

In 1842 we imported, by the sea face of Scinde,	Rs.
piece goods to the value of	2,66,383
In 1846	8,54,315
In 1850	12,00,000

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The intervening years show a considerable fluctuation, owing to the presence of a large army at one period, and its withdrawal at another ; but the demand has, taking all things into consideration, maintained a degree of steadiness which will only be found where trade is of a healthy character.

The importation into Scinde from Khorasan, for the same period, are yet more favourable. The chief produce of these countries is wool ; with a view to the encouragement of the trade of which, the frontier duty was, in 1844, abolished at the requisition of Sir Charles Napier.

In 1843 there arrived across the Scinde boundary, from Khandahar and Khelat, wool to the value of

	550 Rupees.					
In 1844	-	-	-	-	-	15,120 „
In 1845	-	-	-	-	-	55,139 „
In 1846	-	-	-	-	-	1,52,769 „
In 1847	-	-	-	-	-	1,81,592 „
In 1848	-	-	-	-	-	1,52,321 „
In 1849-50	-	-	-	-	-	2,34,547 „

This, it must be confessed, is yet more satisfactory, but more especially as so little has yet been done by the British authorities to give facility to the trade.

The manner in which the markets of Khorassan are supplied with British goods appear (from the Court's despatch) to be very imperfectly understood, and a few words tending to throw light on this subject may not be amiss. The chief traders are, perhaps, the Baabee merchants of Khelat, who conduct the trade between Khandahar and Bombay, and *vice versa*. They arrive here yearly, in the months of October, November, December, and January, bringing wool, dry fruit, drugs, dyes, and cloth of native manufacture. Finding no market for these articles in Scinde, they are obliged to proceed to Bombay, the great mart of all Western India. There they are able not only to sell their goods, but are also enabled to invest the proceeds in piece goods, hardware, and other articles for which there is a demand in Khorasan. The present necessity for this sea voyage is the great drawback to the full developement of the trade with Khorasan.

It will be observed that the native merchants who supply the markets of Central Asia with British produce are fully aware of the articles likely to meet a speedy sale ; and it being their interest to invest their money to the greatest advantage, they doubtless do so. They have an abundant opportunity of selection from the stores of the European houses, and that they take full advantage of their opportunity, the state of the trader is the most satisfactory proof. It cannot be denied, however, that the Russian piece goods purchased in the bazaars of Khandahar and Cabool are too often of pattern and colour more adapted to the taste of the people of these countries, and that they are therefore held in higher degree of estimation than British fabrics of the same kind ; but if such be the case, it is also acknowledged that the Russians are undersold, that their trade is yearly on the decrease, and that at no very distant period it will cease to be productive.

The Affghan trader has much to contend with. He has not only a long line of desert country to pass through, but he is subject to heavy transit dues, enough in themselves to severely affect his profits. Several times has he been obliged to seek a new route from this cause ; he was driven from Scinde by the exaction of the Ameers ; he then took the line *via* Beila to Sonmeeanee, from which he was driven by the oppression of the Chief of Wudd. Since the occupation of the province by the British Government, he has sought a direct line from Khelat to Kurrachee. But to show more forcibly with what he has to contend, even in these improved times, we will accompany him from Khandahar to the frontier of the British provinces. On leaving Khandahar, he pays an export duty of five per cent. *ad valorem*. At Khelat, he pays seven rupees on each load, whatever it may be. This should protect him through the Khans territories, but it does not. He pays black mail at four different places between Khelat and Kurrachee, the amount of which is never under four rupees each camel. On his return with British produce, he pays at least five rupees black mail on each camel between the Hubb and Khelat. At Khelat, he is called on to pay to the Khan ten rupees on each load of piece goods, and seven on each

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load of sundries. At Khandahar, he has the usual import duty of five per cent. to meet.

To place this important traffic on a footing that would bear down all competition from foreign produce, the first step would appear to be to establish a proper understanding with the only native state between our own frontier and Khandahar—that is, with the Khan of Khelat. This in itself is by no means difficult of accomplishment, and the Khan is already alive to his own interests, and is anxious to study the goodwill of the Indian Government. The transit duty is, however, one of the main sources of his revenue, and it is absolutely necessary that he should derive some advantage from it in return for the protection his countenance may afford the traders while passing through his territories. He must, however, be called on to put down, or to keep in due subjection, his more powerful followers, such as Oomeid Alee of Shah Bellawul, and the petty Belooch chiefs, of whom there are four, who levy black mail between Khelat and our frontier.

The last great measure time alone will effect, for no direct act of Government is likely to advance it; we advert to the establishment of a market here for the purchase of the produce of Central Asia, and for the sale of British manufactures adapted to these markets. Were this once fairly established, and the road open to Khandahar, we should be able to compete with Russia throughout the whole of Central Asia, even as far as the frontier of Persia, to the full realization of the political and commercial considerations adverted to in the 17th paragraph of the Court's Despatch.

Though this object will take time for its full accomplishment, yet we venture to express an opinion that much may be effected by a liberal Government towards its attainment, and we would beg respectfully to suggest—

1st. That measures might be adopted for securing proper accommodation for the Patan traders on their arrival in Kurrachee.

2d. That the Kurrachee harbour be rendered more accessible than it is at present, and that the half-finished mole be completed.

3d. That facilities be afforded for the landing and shipment of goods at Kurrachee.

4th. That the present communication by land with Tatta, and other portions of Scinde, be improved.

What those measures should be, we will not presume to say, as they must be left to the wisdom of Government and its representatives, who are fully competent to decide on them.

(signed) *H. W. Preedy*, Captain, Collector.
J. MacLeod, Deputy Collector.
D. McIver.

Kurrachee, 19 April 1851.

INFORMATION given by *Gloolam Mahomed*, *Abdool Hamed*, and *Abdool Azur*, Merchants of Khelat.

Kurrachee, 31 March 1851.

Trade. Khandahar to Bombay.	WE are natives of Khelat, and have for the last six years been regular traders between Khandahar and Bombay. We arrive in Kurrachee with wool, munjeet, jeera, kismis, peesta, and other articles; but we cannot find sale for them here, though we would gladly do so. We therefore go on to Bombay, taking our goods with us. We have suffered great losses at sea, and many of our people have been drowned. When we reach Bombay, we apply to an agent, who passes our goods through the Custom-house, and finds us parties to buy them.
Articles of Trade.	
Sea Voyage. Bombay.	
Return Investment.	The proceeds, when realised, we invest in such articles as are in demand in Kelat and Khandahar; the piece goods we at times get in the bazaar, and frequently we purchase direct from the European houses. We buy all sorts of goods, for people of every grade, poor as well as rich; and in Bombay we are able to select such as we believe to be best adapted for the wants and tastes of our customers. We return to Scinde generally by native vessels, the freight on our goods being moderate; it ranges from eight to 12 annas a bale. Should the weather be rough, we are obliged to go by steamer, which is very expensive, as on every bale we pay from 3½ to 5 rupees.
Sea Voyage back. Freight.	

The

The Khandahar market is supplied in part with Russian goods, and partly with British goods. The former are disappearing, as they are more expensive than the British, and they would, we think, soon be driven out of Khandahar altogether, if the Bombay market was more accessible. There are now seven pieces of English cloth in the Khandahar bazaar for one of Russian. The English cloth is not of such good quality as it was formerly; but some of it, such as the Gooldar, sells higher than the Russian cloth of the same name. The Russian cloth is also not so good as it used to be, and cannot be sold at the same price as the English. The supply of Khandahar with Russian goods is a separate trade from ours; it is conducted by Khandaharees, who are exposed to great trouble on the road. They carry gold and such valuable articles as may be easy of transport; they also take Cashmere shawls. Their route lies through Herat, Mushed, and Astrabad; their purchases are made in Tehran. The customs at Mushed are $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and at Herat 5 per cent. on all articles, besides 5 per cent. at Khandahar. The import of Russian piece goods at Khandahar yearly are estimated at one lac of rupees, but we think this is high.

Khandahar Market.

Russian Trade.

When we leave Khandahar for Bombay we pay five Indian Kuldar rupees as customs on every camel, no matter what he is laden with. When we reach Khelat we pay five Kuldar rupees to the Khan. We pay this even on munjeet, a load of which is not worth above 40 rupees. We pay to five different parties between Kelat and the Scinde frontier; to Balaach, 8 annas on each camel; to Rahmut, 8 annas; to the other Balaach, 8 annas; and to Arab, 8 annas. They do nothing for us; but if we do not meet their demands, a camel is sure to be stolen during the night. Oomeid Allee obliges us to pay on each camel rupees 2. 4. before crossing the Scinde frontier.

Taxes and Black Mail *en route* to Bombay: at Khandahar. at Khelat. Twenty per cent. on Munjeet.

On returning the transit duty is yet heavier. Oomeid Allee charges rupees 3. 4. on every load of English cloth, and on all other loads, rupees 2. 4. To the four petty Belooch chiefs we pay, as before, 8 annas each; to the Khan of Khelat we pay 10 rupees on every load of cloth, and 6 rupees on a load of any other kind; and when we arrive at Khandahar, we pay five per cent. on our goods, which are there valued at the market rate.

Return to Khandahar.

Hubeh Hajee Khan Mahomed, a native of Khandahar, states: I see this chintz; it is of Russian manufacture; there is much of it to be found in the Khandahar bazaar. The pattern is in favour, and it is to be met with of all colours. Russian fabrics are preferred in the Khandahar market; in the first place the cloth itself is stronger; the colours are faster, and seldom wash out, which is not the case with the generality of English goods. I am now going to Bombay to lay in a stock of cloth. I always purchase the best qualities, as the higher classes like to dress well; and by paying a suitable price, I can get cloth of English manufacture as good as that of Russian. The red dyed cloth is the most prized among the English goods; it is preferred to the Russian. The Goollee (a cloth of red dye) was formerly all supplied by Russia; an English cloth, of the same kind and pattern, has driven it out of the market within the last two years.

Russian Fabrics, No. 3, Shawl Pattern, prized.

I have now a petition to make. There are difficulties between this and Khandahar. On each load of piece goods we pay 15 rupees before we reach Khandahar. This is too much. The Khan of Khelat now makes us pay ten rupees; it was not so formerly; for but a few years back, merchants had to give him one Kurreem Kanee rupee on each camel load.

Road between Khandahar and Kurrachee.

Kurreem Kanee, 100, 101, 920 d.

(signed) *H. W. Preedy*, Captain,
Collector.

(True Copies.)
(signed) *H. B. E. Frere*, Commissioner.

No. 769 of 1851.

From the Commissioners in Scinde to the Right Honourable Lord Viscount Falkland, Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

My Lord,

With reference to my letter (No. 697), dated the 1st instant, I have the honour to submit, for the information of your Lordship in Council, copy of a report, 561.

B 4

(No. 313),

SCINDE.
—

(No. 313), dated the 5th instant, from the Acting Collector of Shikarpoor, with enclosures, on the subject of foreign manufactures.

2. This document, I am of opinion, reflects much credit on Lieutenant Lester, in charge of that collectorate.

I have, &c.

(signed) *H. B. E. Frere*, Commissioner in Scinde.

Kurrachee, 13 May 1851.

No. 313 of 1851.

From the Deputy Collector in Charge to the Commissioner in Scinde.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter (No. 134), of the 24th January last, with its enclosures, relative to the import of Russian piece goods into this province.

2. I beg to annex a tabular comparative statement of the trade in British and foreign manufactured piece goods during the years 1848, 1849, and 1850, and to transmit also as requested, in triplicate, samples of Russian and other foreign fabrics found in the Upper Scinde markets, together with a statement of the prices at which they are generally sold in the bazaar.

3. From the comparative statement it would appear that during the last three years the trade in English piece goods has been active and steadily increasing, the value of imported goods amounting in the aggregate to (6,00,000) six lacs of rupees; while the exports of the same material, during that period, are valued at 291,583. 8., showing that about one-half of the importations have found a market in this province, while the remainder, which may be considered a very fair proportion, was in good demand in foreign territory.

4. The importation of piece goods from Russia and Central Asia has been gradually getting less and less important. The statement shows that within the same period (1848, 49, 50) the value of imported foreign piece goods does not exceed rupees 40,875. 10., or rather less than 1/14 of the value of British manufactured piece goods.

5. Adverting to the report made by some of the Shikarpoor merchants to Major Goldney, to the effect that Russian fabrics are of firmer texture, and therefore of much greater value than English piece goods, I beg to inform you that a similar statement has been made to me, in a recent conversation, which I had with some of the principal merchants of Shikarpoor. With a view, however, to ascertaining precisely in what the actual difference lay, and to having some more substantial evidence than the verbal opinion of these merchants, I placed in a heap several samples of both foreign and British manufacture, and desired each merchant separately to divide the home from the foreign goods, and then to explain wherein the difference lay. This they did very readily, and informed me that the value consisted in the strength and durability of the Russian fabric over the British goods.

6. They seemed well aware, however, of the vast increase in the import of English manufactured goods, and so much has the import trade with Central Asia deteriorated, that the general opinion among the merchants here is, that in the course of a few years, the importation of piece goods from Central Asia will have nearly ceased.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. F. Lester*, Deputy Collector in Charge.

Shikarpoor, Collector's Office,
5 May 1851.

(True Copy.)

(signed) *H. B. E. Frere*, Commissioner in Scinde.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT showing IMPORTS and EXPORTS from and to *Central Asia*, crossing the Frontier of the Shikarpoor Collectorate; also, the Import of ENGLISH PIECE GOODS to *Shikarpoor* for 1848, 1849 and 1850.

YEAR.				Estimated Value.	Particular Remarks.	General Remarks.
	IMPORTS from Central Asia to Shikarpoor:			R. a. p.		
1848	Silk - - -	407 pieces	3,757 15 -			
"	Woollens - - -	1,703 "	5,050 7 -			
"	Chintz, Russian - -	4 "	38 - -	8,846 6 -		
1849	Silk - - -	812 "	6,486 6 -			
"	Woollens - - -	6,185 "	10,744 2 -			
"	Chintz, Russian - -	17 "	143 - -	17,323 8 -		Among the woollen goods is included a large number of Shawls, varying in price from 10 to 25 rupees each; of these musters cannot be procured; also the Fur Cloaks called Posteens.
1850	Silk - - -	1,516 "	7,425 14 -			
"	Woollens - - -	3,353 "	7,279 14 -	14,705 12 -	- - Owing to the disturbed state of the Punjab in 1849, parties who were in the habit of carrying their goods there, brought them to Upper Scinde instead.	
	EXPORTS to Central Asia from Shikarpoor:					
1848	English Piece Goods - - -	- - -	- - -	55,559 6 -	- - Rupees 1,44,853 worth of Europe piece Goods passed through Upper Scinde to Central Asia, the owners taking this route from Calcutta in preference to the usual one through the Punjab, owing to its unsettled state this year.	It would appear that Central Asia is supplied largely with English piece goods through the Khyber Pass, greatly exceeding what goes through the Bholan Pass.
1849	Ditto - ditto - - -	- - -	- - -	1,76,757 2 -		
1850	Ditto - ditto - - -	- - -	- - -	59,297 - -	- - N. B. Exclusive of Cloth of Scinde manufacture, which for the three years was exported to the value of two and a-half lacs.	
	IMPORTS from Bombay to Shikarpoor:					
1848	184 Bales English Piece Goods - - -	- - -	- - -	1,10,400 - -		
1849	382 Ditto - ditto - - -	- - -	- - -	2,29,200 - -		
1850	434 Ditto - ditto - - -	- - -	- - -	2,60,400 - -		

(True Copy.)

(signed) H. B. E. Frere,
Commissioner in Scinde.

(signed) J. F. Lester,
Deputy Collector in Charge.

MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor, dated 31 May 1851, subscribed to by the Honourable Messrs. Blane and Bell.

Paragraphs 15 to 18 of the Honourable Court's Despatch of 13 November 1850, to be sent Chamber of Commerce, as also copy of Government letters of 17 January 1851 (Nos. 437 and 438); copy of Dr. Gibson's letter (No. 146), dated 13 March 1851.

2. Of the Commissioner's letter, I think we may send the following paragraphs to the Chamber of Commerce:—1 to 11; 18 to 20, and part of 29, 30 and 31; 42 to 45; 47 and 48.

The following transfers should be made for consideration and disposal in other departments:—Political paragraphs, 12 to 17; Judicial paragraph, 31; General paragraphs, 561.

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paragraphs, 38 to 41, for transfer to Marine department of such portions as may not be disposable of in the General department; ditto, 42 to 47; Military paragraph, 29; Marine paragraphs, 34, 35, 36, and 37.

3. The letters from Collectors of Kurrachee (dated 22d April 1851) and Hyderabad (dated 8th April 1851) should also be forwarded with accompaniments.

4. Of the Committee's Report, paragraphs 1 to 10, and part of paragraph 11, and paragraphs 12, 13, and 14, may be sent Chamber of Commerce.

5. Paragraph 11, of Committee's Report, to be transferred to Political department, as also paragraph 13 to the General and Marine departments.

6. As regards Mr. Frere's 26th paragraph, I cannot but think that the views of the mercantile parties we have the opportunity of consulting, will be opposed to any measures calculated to withdraw the trade from Bombay itself. I am, however, much in favour of a market and commercial fair being established, either at Kurrachee or some better adapted spot in Sindh, and would authorise the Commissioner to take the necessary measures for the purpose. He may be furnished with copy of the correspondence on our records, relative to the Majjee fair (in Khandesh); the question however is, why should Kurrachee be preferred to Upper Sindh for the fair?

7. Copy of Lieutenant Lester's Report, dated 5 May (No. 313), also to be sent to the Chamber of Commerce.

8. One set of the samples from Hyderabad and Shikarpoor to be sent to the Chamber of Commerce, as also pieces to be cut for the purpose from the samples sent by the Commissioner. Copy of the tickets affixed to the latter being attached to the former.

9. Copy of the whole of the correspondence to be sent the Honourable Court by Overland Mail, with, by ship, two sets of the samples from Hyderabad and Shikarpoor, and the one set of sample received from the Commissioner himself.

10. Copy of correspondence immediately to be sent to the Most Noble the Governor-General and the Government of India.

(signed) *Falkland.*
D. A. Blane.
A. Bell.

31 May 1851.

No. 6,535 of 1851.

From Mr. Chief Secretary *Malet* to the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,

I HAVE been directed to request you will have the goodness to lay before the Chamber of Commerce the documents noted in the margin,* and move that body to favour the Right Honourable the Governor in Council with their opinion on such of the samples received from Sindh as are herewith forwarded.

I have, &c.

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 19 June 1851.

* 1. Paragraphs 15 to 18 of a Despatch from the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated 18 November 1850 (No. 10). 2. Government letters of 17 January 1851 (Nos. 437 and 438), to the Commissioner in Sindh and Conservator of Forests. 3. Letter from the Conservator of Forests (No. 146), dated 13 March 1851. 4. Extract (paragraphs 1 to 11, 18 to 28, part of 29, 30 and 31, 42 to 45, 47 and 48,) of a letter from the Commissioner in Sindh (No. 697), of 1 May 1851. 5. Letter from the Collector of Hyderabad (No. 252), of 8 April 1851, with enclosure. 6. Letter from the Collector of Kurrachee (No. 787), of 22 April 1851. 7. Extract of the Committee's Report (paragraphs 1 to 10, part of paragraph 11, and paragraphs 12, 13, and 14. 8. Letter from Lieutenant Lester, Deputy Collector of Shikarpoor in Charge (No. 313), of 5 May 1851.

No. 6,542 of 1851.

SCINDE.

From Mr. Chief Secretary *Malet* to the Commissioner in Sindh.

Sir,

I HAVE been directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letters noted in the margin, and to state, with reference to paragraph 26 of your letter (No. 697) of the 1st ultimo, that the Right Honourable the Governor in Council cannot but think that the views of the mercantile parties he has the opportunity of consulting will be opposed to any measures calculated to withdraw the trade from Bombay itself. His Lordship in Council is, however, much in favour of a market and commercial fair being established, either at Kurrachee or some better adapted spot in Sindh, and has been pleased to authorise you to take the necessary measures for that purpose.

No. 697, dated 1 May 1851, with accompaniments; No. 769, of the 13 May 1851, with accompaniments.

2. Copy of the correspondence * on the records of Government, relative to the Mhujee fair in Khandesh, is herewith forwarded; it appears, however, to Government, questionable whether Kurrachee should be preferred to Upper Sindh for the fair, and on this point your further opinion is requested.

3. From the accompanying copy of resolutions you will learn that some of the subjects you have brought to notice have been transferred for consideration to other departments.

4. Copy of my letter to Chamber of Commerce is also enclosed.

I have, &c.

(signed) *A. Malet*,

Bombay Castle, 19 June 1851.

Chief Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT Paragraphs 46 to 51 of a Letter from the Collector of Khandesh, dated 1st October 1834, to the Revenue Commissioner.

Paragraph 46. I shall also take this opportunity of pointing out another circumstance tending much to extend the resources of the country, and raise the value of its production by furnishing a market. I allude to the great annual fairs which occur in this province. These are three; the Mhujee in Jamnair purgunnah. The Sankhe in Yanull, and the Dhoolia fair which takes place at the head station.

47. The most extensive of these is the Mhujee fair, which was celebrated many years ago as one of those Jathras which almost revoked Hurdwar; but the famine and Pindaries and Bheels had so effectually scared the merchants, that till within the last ten years they had lost all confidence in the safety of the journey, as well as the tranquillity of the country when they had arrived on the spot.

48. I had heard much of the concourse of people, and the great quantity of merchandize which were now annually assembled, and determined this year to attend the fair as a point of duty; and certainly whatever anticipations I might have formed as to the magnitude of the assemblage, they were infinitely less than the reality. I found an extensive plain, entirely covered with streets of shops; the number of persons collected was estimated by the natives at one lack and

* Extract (paragraphs 46 to 51) of a letter from the Collector of Khandesh, dated 1 October 1834, to the Revenue Commissioner. Extract (paragraph 17) of a Government letter to the Revenue Commissioner (No. 1,575), dated 14 July 1835. Extract (paragraphs 23 and 24) of a letter from the Collector of Khandesh to the address of the Revenue Commissioner, dated 1st September 1835. Letter from the Register to the Court of Suddur Foujdaree Adawlut (No. 2,150), of 10 December 1841, with enclosure. Letter to the Register to the Court of Suddur Foujdaree Adawlut (No. 4,919), dated 28 December 1841. Letter from the Register to the Court of Suddur Foujdaree Adawlut (No. 440), dated 18 March 1842. Letter from the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India (No. 66), dated 22 April 1842. Letter to the Register to the Court of Suddur Foujdaree Adawlut (No. 1,194), dated 26 May 1842. Letter from the Register to the Court of Suddur Foujdaree Adawlut (No. 1,124), dated 30 June 1842. Letter to the Register to the Court of Suddur Foujdaree Adawlut (No. 1,574), dated 14 July 1842. Letter from the Register to the Court of Suddur Foujdaree Adawlut (No. 1,616), dated 30 September 1842, with enclosure. Letter to the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India (No. 18), dated 11 October 1842. Letter from the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India (No. 174), dated 28 October 1842. Letter to the Register to the Court of Suddur Foujdaree Adawlut (No. 2,687), dated 20 December 1842. Letter from the Register to the Court of Suddur Foujdaree Adawlut (No. 476), dated 29 February 1844, with enclosure. Letter to the Register to the Court of Suddur Foujdaree Adawlut (No. 831), dated 23 March 1844.

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and 25,000, and the value of property, exclusive of coined money, at 10,00,000 (ten lacs) of rupees.

49. The advantages of such an opportunity for general barter are too obvious to dwell upon; the nature of the business transacted is chiefly that of a mutual exchange by the holders of goods, of the produce of their own country, for that commodity which it does not furnish. Thus the indigo of Candeish is bartered for the coarse cloths of Nagpoor; a reciprocal advantage is gained, and life and vigour is instilled into the minds of the producer by the circulation of capital, and the facility of finding a market which these fairs ensure.

50. I found at Mhujee dealers and shops of all descriptions, from Bombay, Aurrungabad, Hingoolie, Nagpoor, Hyderabad, Indore, Poona and Surat.

51. I had always supplied a guard of horsemen and of the local corps during the Mhujee fair, for the protection of property, but I find that the fair has so much increased that I intend, for the sake of security, and for increasing the confidence of the merchants, placing a strong guard of regulars in addition, during the time it lasts, which is from 15 to 20 days.

EXTRACT Paragraph 17 of a Government Letter to the Revenue Commissioner, No. 1,575, dated 14 July 1835.

Paragraph 17. The account which Mr. Boyd gives of the Mhujee fair is very interesting. The plan proposed by that gentleman for the increased security of the fair, is sanctioned; but the Governor in Council desires me to observe, that it is not by active measures of protection and patronage that Government best promotes the prosperity of fairs and markets, but by fostering and developing the productive resources of the country.

EXTRACT Paragraphs 23 and 24 of a Letter from the Collector of Khandesh, to the Address of the Revenue Commissioner, dated 1 September 1835.

Paragraph 23. Adverting to Paragraph 17 of Mr. Reid's letter on the subject of fairs, I only meant in my report to remark, that by rendering the transit of merchandise safe, and its exposure at market secure, we encourage merchants to repair to certain spots to barter, which otherwise they would not do, and by these means enhance the value of our own productions by securing the means of disposing of them.

24. This effect has been produced, and this last fair (which I attended myself), was visited by a still greater concourse of buyers and sellers than the last, entirely owing, as I was informed by the merchants themselves, to the confidence they now felt from the measures Government had adopted in their behalf.

No. 2,150 of 1841.

Bombay, Sudder Fouzdaree Adawlut, 10 December 1841.

To the Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Judicial Department.

Sir,

In submitting for the consideration of the Honourable the Governor in Council, copy of the correspondence noted in the margin,* which has passed between the magistrate of Candesh and the Court on the subject of an assessment on the stalls of the Mhajee fair, I am instructed by the judges of the Sudder Fouzdaree Adawlut to state, that the project appears to be very desirable, and the mode for introducing it fair and proper, and that they would therefore recommend that the plan suggested by the magistrate be carried into effect if practicable.

I have, &c.

(signed) G. Grant, Register.

* See below.

* Messrs. Marriott, Bell, Giberne, and Greenhill.—Extract paragraph 3d of a letter from the Khandesh magistrate, dated 29th September 1841. Register's letter, 8th October 1841, to the Khandesh magistrate. Reply thereto, dated 16th September 1841.

EXTRACT Paragraph 3d of a Letter, being Police Report from Magistrate of Khandesh, dated 29 September 1841.

Paragraph 3. A considerable increase is observable in the cases of cattle stealing. This is owing partly to the great fair of Myjee occurring within the first half of the year. On this occasion traders are assembled from all parts of Western India, and the number of cattle collected for the transport of merchandise is very great. These are allowed to graze by day and night in the wild Babool jungles surrounding for many miles the place where the fair is held; a favourable opportunity is thus offered for the exercise of the thieving propensities of the many doubtful characters congregated at such a place of resort. In addition to the precautions taken for keeping the peace in the interior of the fair, patrols of horse and foot scour the surrounding jungles at intervals, and several offenders were apprehended by them this year; but during the six weeks the fair lasts it is impossible to keep up a sufficient force for the complete supervision of these jungles, without incurring risk by withdrawing them from other parts of the district where their services are needed. The object might perhaps be obtained by exacting a small ground-rent from the stalls at the fair, and appropriating the proceeds to the allowance of the neighbouring jungles, and the maintenance of a temporary Bheel police.

No. 1,778.

Bombay Sudder Fouzdaree Adawlut, 8 October 1841.

To the Magistrate, Candeish.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 29th ultimo, reporting on the police of your zillah during the first six months of the present year.

With reference to your suggestion for establishing a temporary addition to the police management at the fair of Myjee by exacting a small ground-rent from the stalls at the fair, as contained in paragraph 3d of your letter, I am instructed to request that you will submit a specific plan for carrying the same into effect.

I have, &c.,

(signed) *G. Grant*, Register.

No. 463 of 1841.

To the Register Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut, Bombay.

Sir,

In reply to your letter (No. 1,778), dated the 8th ultimo, I have the honour to state my opinion that an assessment of one rupee on each stall at the Myjee fair would not be objected to by the traders if its objects were fairly explained. The produce of such a tax might amount to from five to six hundred rupees, which would be sufficient to maintain a temporary police of 100 Bheels during the continuance of the fair, with perhaps a small surplus for clearing the surrounding jungles, and cleansing the streets in the fair, which would conduce much to the health and comfort of those who frequent it. The assessment might be levied and appropriated to these purposes of the district police officer, who is always in attendance during the fair, under the orders of the assistant magistrate and Bheel agent, to whom the general superintendence of the arrangements on that occasion are entrusted.

I have, &c.

(signed) *R. K. Pringle*, Magistrate.

Candeish Magistrate's Office, Dhoolia,
16 November 1851.

SCINDE.

No. 4,919, Judicial Department.

To the Register of the Suddur Foujdaree Adawlut.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter (No. 2,150), dated the 10th instant, with its enclosures, suggesting the expediency of levying a tax on each stall at the fair held at Mhyjee, in the Candeish Collectorate, to be appropriated to the maintenance of a temporary Bheel police for the prevention of robberies during its continuance, and to provide a fund for defraying the expense of cleansing the streets and clearing the surrounding jungles.

In reply, I am instructed to inform you that the Honourable the Governor in Council considers that the imposition of the proposed tax would be a desirable measure, but he entertains a doubt as to whether Government could legally impose it. He, therefore, requests that the judges of the Suddur Foujdaree Adawlut will be pleased to report their opinion on this point, after having ascertained from the magistrate of Candeish whether any custom exists in that collectorate which would authorize the adoption of the arrangement recommended by the Court.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby,*
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 28 December 1841.

No. 440 of 1842.

Bombay Suddur Fouzdaree Adawlut, 18 March 1842.

To the Secretary to Government, Judicial Department, Bombay.

Sir,

Messrs. Bell,
Giberne, and Pyne.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 28 December last (No. 4,919), on the subject of the levy of a tax on the stalls at the Myjee fair for the maintenance of a temporary police for the prevention of robberies, and with reference to the same, to submit the accompanying copies of a letter to my address from the magistrate of Candeish, dated 1st instant, and of its enclosure.

2. In transmitting these papers for the information of the Honourable the Governor in Council, I am desired to state that the judges see no objection to the proposed measure provided the fee is paid voluntarily, and to add that the satisfactory arrangements made by Lieutenant Auld, and which produced such favourable results, will no doubt prove highly gratifying to the Honourable Board.

I have, &c.

(signed) *G. Grant,* Register.

No. 93 of 1842.

To the Register Suddur Fouzdaree Adawlut, Bombay.

Sir,

IN reply to your letter (No. 30), dated the 11th January last, with accompaniment from the Secretary to Government, I have the honour to state that I am not aware of any assessment at present existing in this collectorate precisely similar in its nature and objects to that which it is proposed to establish at the Mhyjee fair, but I see no reason to apprehend that its novelty would be a bar to its acceptance with the people in a case where the utility was so obvious.

2. A somewhat analogous proposition has been voluntarily made to me by the inhabitants of the Dhoolia Peth, which I will take occasion separately to submit for the consideration of the judges.

3. To afford some idea of the importance of the Mhujee fair, and the necessity of adequate measures for the protection of the persons and property there collected, I herewith enclose a copy of a report from the assistant magistrate, Captain Auld, on the meeting at that place this year, which has just terminated, and in referring to this document I have much satisfaction in bringing

ing to the notice of the judges the success of Captain Auld's arrangements, and the vigilance and activity of the police, especially as exhibited in the absence of cattle stealing, which was formerly so prevalent.

SCINDE.

I have, &c.

(signed) *R. K. Pringle*, Magistrate.

Candeish, Circuit Office, Camp, Erondole,
1 March 1842.

To *R. K. Pringle*, Esq., Magistrate, Candeish.

Sir,

I do myself the honour to report that the Mhyjee fair has this day ended, and that I have in consequence informed Ensign Millar, the officer in command of the detachment 22d Regiment, N.I., that he may proceed with his men, on route to Dhoolia, to-morrow morning.

2. The detachments of the Bheels and Auxiliary Horse will take their departure from this the following morning (the 28th).

3. Although the fair has not been so fully attended this year as last, owing principally, if not entirely, to the late disturbances in Berar, still, nevertheless, there has been a great assemblage of merchants from all other quarters, and business has been carried on briskly to the advantage of the buyer and seller.

4. The yearly increased demand for ground for shops has rendered it necessary for me to mark out two new streets, and I can confidently assert that the importance attached by the native merchants to this thriving and advantageous market will in a very few years increase the number yet an hundred fold.

5. Before I proceed I may here take occasion to remark, that the existence of this great annual Juttra is far from generally known at the Presidency, yet upwards of seven thousand bullock loads of merchandise, (valued at 5 lacs of rupees) from Bombay alone, changed owners in the course of a few days, having either been purchased or exchanged for up-country produce.

6. I would therefore respectfully beg leave to recommend an application be made to Government that a proclamation be issued throughout the Presidency, giving notice when the fair takes place, some months before the next annual meeting; the business done in the fair during the month it lasted, was estimated at about twenty lacs.

7. It affords me much pleasure having in my power to state that not a single head of cattle has been carried off, neither has there been that amount of petty thefts that might reasonably be expected to occur where so many people are assembled, and where of course there are a due porportion of doubtful characters; the whole amount of the property (actually stolen from the fair) has been valued at rupees (75) seventy-five, of which thirty-one was recovered, and delivered back to the lawful owners again.

8. In conclusion I must add, too much praise cannot be offered to the troops and police for their zeal and vigilance in its protection, and for their exemplary behaviour in every other respect; to the praiseworthy exertions and excellent arrangements of Mahadarow Govind Mamlutdar, I attribute much of the decrease of crime this year, but his numerous public services are already so well known to you that I consider it almost superfluous my now bringing him to your favourable notice.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. W. Auld*,
Assistant Magistrate.

Camp Koorunjee, 26 February 1842.

(True Copy.)

(signed) *R. K. Pringle*, Magistrate.

(True Copies.)

(signed) *G. Grant*, Register.

SCINDE.

Judicial Department.

No. 66.

To *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government of Bombay.

Sir,

WITH reference to your letter (No. 702), dated the 6th instant, with enclosures, I am directed by the Honourable the President in Council to inquire if the land on which the fair held annually at Mhyjee, in the Candeish Collectorate, is Government property, so that a rent may be demanded for the temporary use of it by the stall-keepers during the fair, and whether there is any objection to such a measure.

I have, &c.

(signed) *F. J. Halliday*,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of India.

Fort William, 22 April 1842.

No. 1,194.

To the Register of Suddur Fouzdaree Adawlut.

Sir,

WITH reference to your letter (No. 440), dated the 18th of March last, with enclosures, stating that the judges see no objection to the levying of a fee on the stalls at the fair held at Mhyjee, in the Candeish Collectorate, provided the same is voluntarily paid, I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you copy of a letter from the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 22d ultimo, and to request that the judges of the Suddur Fouzdaree Adawlut will be pleased to furnish Government with the information therein required.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 26 May 1842.

No. 1,124 of 1842.

Bombay Suddur Fouzdaree Adawlut, 30 June 1842.

To the Chief Secretary to Government, Judicial Department.

Sir,

Present, A. Brec,
G. Giberne, Esqrs.

WITH reference to Mr. Secretary Willoughby's letter (No. 1,194), of the 26th ultimo, forwarding copy of one from the Government of India, dated the 22d April last, I am directed by the Judges of the Suddur Fouzdaree Adawlut to request that you will lay before the Honourable the Governor in Council the annexed copy of a communication from the Magistrate of Khandeish, No. 272, of the 23d instant, to my address, furnishing the information required by the Supreme Government relative to the land on which the fair at Mhyjee in that collectorate is annually held.

I have, &c.

(signed) *W. H. Harrison*, Register.

No. 272 of 1842.

To the Register Suddur Adawlut, Bombay.

Sir,

IN reply to your letter (No. 950), dated the 3d instant, with accompanime nt from the officiating Secretary to the Government of India, I have the honour to report that the land on which the Mhyjee fair is held is Government property, and I am not aware that there would be any objection to exacting a rent for it, but to be productive, for the purpose for which it was imposed, it would require to be assessed at a heavier rate than similar land appropriated to agriculture.

I have, &c.

(signed) *R. K. Pringle*, Magistrate.Candeish, Magistrate's Office,
Dhoolia, 23 June 1842.

(True Copy.)

(signed) *W. H. Harrison*, Register.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A FAIR AT CURRACHEE.

25

No. 1,574.

SCINDĒ.

To the Register of the Suddur Foudaree Adawlut.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 1,124, dated the 30th ultimo, with its enclosure, from the Magistrate of Khandesh, stating that the land on which the Mhyjee fair is held is Government property, and that in his opinion there is no objection to exacting a rent for it, but that it should be assessed at a higher rate than similar land appropriated to agricultural purposes, in order to answer the object for which it is to be imposed.

In reply, I am desired by the Honourable the Governor in Council to request that the Judges of the Suddur Foudaree Adawlut will be pleased to favour Government with their opinion on the measure proposed by the Collector of Khandesh, and to ascertain from him what amount of assessment would be necessary to levy on the land in question to defray the expense of maintaining a temporary police, as suggested, during the continuance of the fair.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby,*
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 14 July 1842.

No. 1,616 of 1842.

Bombay Sudder Foudaree Adawlut, 30 September 1842.

To the Secretary to Government, Judicial Department.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 14th July last, No. 1,574, regarding the establishment of a temporary police for the protection of property during the continuance of the Mhyjee fair.

Present, G.
Giberne, J. Pyne,
and B. Hutt, Esqrs.

2. In reply to paragraph 2d of your letter under acknowledgment, I am instructed to state that the amount of assessment reported by the Magistrate of Candeish, as necessary to defray the expense of a police, is at the rate of four annas per "hath" of frontage of the ground occupied by the stalls, the depth of which is uniform at 12 "haths," or at one anna for three square "haths," the produce of which on 750 stalls, to which the number last year had increased, would yield rupees 867. 8., as per accompanying copy of a statement furnished by Mr. Pringle.

3. The Judges direct me to add, that they see no objection to the adoption of the measure in the manner proposed.

I have, &c.

(signed) *W. H. Harrison, Register.*

Number of Stalls.	"Haths" of Frontage, Length of each Stall.	Total "Haths" of Frontage Length.	Amount of Ground Tax at Four Annas per "Hath" of Frontage.		
			R.	a.	p.
150	2	300	75	—	—
110	3	330	82	8	—
150	4	600	150	—	—
150	5	750	187	8	—
75	6	450	112	8	—
35	7	245	61	4	—
30	8	240	60	—	—
30	10	300	75	—	—
15	12	180	45	—	—
5	15	75	18	12	—
750	—	3,470	867	8	—

(signed) *R. K. Pringle, Magistrate.*

(True Copy.)

(signed) *W. H. Harrison, Register.*

SCINDE.

No. 18, Judicial Department.

To *F. J. Halliday, Esq.*, Officiating Secretary to the Government of India in the Judicial Department.

Sir,

IN acknowledging the receipt of your letter, dated the 22d of April last (No. 66), requesting information whether the land on which the fair held annually at Mhyjee, in the Candeish Collectorate, is Government property, I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you, for submission to the Honourable the President in Council, copies of two letters from the Register of the Suddur Adawlut, dated the 30th of June last, and 30th ultimo, with enclosures furnishing the required information.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 11 October 1842.

No. 174.

From Officiating Secretary to the Government of India to *J. P. Willoughby, Esq.*, Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Sir,

Dated Fort William, 28 October 1842.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter (No. 18), dated the 11th instant, with its enclosures, and, in reply, to state, for the information of the Honourable the Governor in Council, that under the explanation now furnished, the Honourable the President in Council is pleased to approve the proposal of levying a rent for the ground occupied by the stalls at the fair annually held at Mhyjee, in the Candeish Collectorate, to be appropriated for the maintenance of a temporary police during the continuance of the fair.

I have, &c.
(signed) *F. J. Halliday*,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 2,687, Judicial Department.

To the Register of the Suddur Foujdaree Adawlut.

Sir,

WITH reference to your letter (No. 1,616), dated the 30th of September last, I am directed to transmit to you copy of a letter from the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, in the Judicial Department, dated the 28th of October last, and to inform you that the Honourable the Governor in Council is pleased, with the concurrence of the Government of India, to sanction the proposition for levying a rent for the ground occupied by the stalls at the fair annually held at Mhyjee, in the Candeish Collectorate, for the maintenance of a temporary police during the continuance of the fair.

2. I am, therefore, desired to request that the judges of the Sudder Court will be pleased to authorize the magistrate of Candeish to employ the requisite police force during the continuance of the Mhyjee fair; and to inform you that the necessary instructions will be issued from the Revenue department for levying the rent on the ground occupied by the stalls, for the purpose of defraying the expense of the police establishment.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 20 December 1842.

No. 476 of 1844.

SCINDE.

To the Secretary to Government, Judicial Department.

Sir,

In submitting, for the purpose of being laid before the Honourable the Governor in Council, copy of a letter to my address from the magistrate of Khandeish, dated the 15th instant,* with its accompaniment, reporting the completion of the fair at Mhyjee, I have the honour, by direction of the Judges, to remark, that the arrangements made for the peaceable conduct of this great meeting, appear to have been quite as good as those effected last year.

Referring to the 5th paragraph of Mr. Secretary Escombe's letter, No. 1,281, of the 17th June last,† I am instructed to convey the recommendation of the Court that a reduction in the rates of taxation be made, and that the levy be one extending to all classes who frequent the fair.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. H. Harrison,*
Register.

Bombay, Suddur Foujdaree Adawlut,
29 February 1844.

No. 47 of 1844.

To the Register Suddur Foujdaree Adawlut, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to forward an original letter from the Bheel agent, Captain Morris, reporting the termination of the Mhyjee fair.

2. The judges will observe that this great meeting passed off in a most peaceable manner, and there is also additional evidence in Captain Morris's report of the very great commercial advantages which it affords to the whole of the surrounding country.

3. Notwithstanding the outcry against the stall-tax, which formed the subject of discussion last year, it will be found that the realizations amounted at the late meeting to the sum of rupees one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two, or rupees two hundred and twelve, annas fifteen, above those of last year, which, if we consider that the fair was, according to Captain Morris's report, well attended, and trade carried on with spirit, is a sufficient proof that this impost is quite unobjectionable. Its object, that of providing for the protection of property, must be recognized by all the better classes of the traders, and will no doubt recommend itself to the whole tribe of "Kasars," and other petty merchants noticed by Captain Morris, in paragraph 4 of his letter. I would, therefore, advise the taxation of the Kasars in the same manner as other occupants of stalls.

4. I would recommend the balance, rupees five hundred and seventy-one, annas ten, being applied in the mode suggested by Captain Morris in paragraph 5.

5. The circumstances mentioned in the last paragraph as requiring investigation are of a very gross character, and include, in charges of corruption, a great number of the government native officers of the Jamnair Talooka, from the Mamlutdar downwards. It appears that large sums have been annually extorted, under various pretexts, from the people attending the fair, and appropriated, and that this system has been going on for years. Under such circumstances it certainly is not wonderful that an outcry should have been made against the stall-tax. The wonder is that the fair has held together at all.

6. I beg to report that the Mamlutdar Moro Govind has been suspended from office, and that I have directed Captain Morris to prosecute his inquiries into this, and a great variety of other cases of corruption and abuse which have been brought forward in the Jamnere district. Mr. Inverarity, who has already been very

* Reporting the completion of the Mhyjee fair. Detailing the amount of assessment collected on account of the stalls at the Mhyjee fair, and other matter connected with the meeting.

† Stating that in the event of the future assessment equalling or exceeding that already collected, a reduction in the rate should form a subject for consideration.

SCINDE.

very actively engaged in the same necessary duties, has received instructions to devote the greatest portion of his time this season to the district in question.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. W. Reeves,*
Magistrate.

Khandeish Circuit Office, Camp Dhurrungaum,
15 February 1844.

To *H. W. Reeves*, Esquire, Magistrate of Kandeish, Dhoolia.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report to you that the annual fair held at Chezkhera, Talooka Jamnair, and called the Mhyjee fair, ended this day, and the detachment of the 22d regiment N. I., under the command of Lieutenant Hesnan, marched on Malligaum this morning; the detachments of the Bheel corps and auxiliary horse will march from this on the 10th instant to their respective head quarters at Dhurrungaum and Dhoolia.

2. The fair has passed off very peaceably and quietly, and not a single robbery of moment has occurred, and the two robberies that have happened were merchant partners, who robbed property of their own shop.

3. The fair was well attended, and trade has been carried on on a large scale in all its several branches; cotton was this year disposed of at 18 rupees and 17½ rupees per pulla, and found a rapid sale at this rate; the best staple in the market was that of Khandes, and I am assured that attention to the cultivation of this article in this province is alone required to equal it to Berar, and the Ryuts finding so central a mart for their produce are saved much trouble and loss of time.

4. The stall-tax amounts this year to rupees 1,852; the several heads under which it has been collected will appear in the subjoined abstract. The Kassars have had their tax pardoned, but it has led this year to much discontent; it appears that there are nominally five castes, but in reality eight of this class, as enumerated in the margin, of which the "Kassars," "Wotarees," "Munears," "Jorees," and "Tumbutgars," are pardoned the tax under the plea of their being pardoned all village and other taxes, both by our Government and foreign states. Now, I have been petitioned to pardon the "Soee Pots," "Ultarees," "Putwahs," "Borahs," and "pearl merchants;" and although half the fair petitioned Captain Auld to exempt the Kassar castes from the tax, they are now jealous of this kindness; and as this tax is a peculiar one, for a purpose distinct from village calls, I am disposed to suggest that the voice of the people of the fair be taken again next year on this subject, and the exemption or non-exemption be enforced according to the prevailing opinion.

No.1. Kassars.
Tambutgars.
2. Munears.
3. Joree.
Soeepot.
4. Wotarees.
5. Utar.
Putwah.

5. The balance in hand of this tax amounts to rupees 571. 10., which I have to suggest may be laid out in making the road from the fair to Dhurrungaum, passing through Errondole; it is the high road to Dhoolia as far as the latter Kusbah, and to Scindwah through the former.

6. The road now making from this to Burgaum, from last year's surplus of stall money, is being made entirely by Bheels, and progressing rapidly.

7. I am sorry to bring to your notice circumstances, having been reported to me to have existed in the fair, requiring investigation; and, as in duty bound, I made a full and strict inquiry about them. I will lay the whole of them before you, for the information of Government, as soon as complete.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. J. Morris*, Assistant Magistrate.
H. W. Reeves, Magistrate.

Camp, Hunmuntkhera, 8 February 1844.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A FAIR AT CURRACHEE.

29

ABSTRACT of the Annual Stall Tax collected at the Mhyjee Fair for 1844.

SCINDE.

								AMOUNT.		
								Rs.	As.	Ps.
Amount realized from registered stalls	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,682	-	-
Amount realized from unregistered stalls	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	170	-	-
								1,852	-	-
DEDUCT.										
Amount returned to Kassars	-	-	-	-	-	-	260	6	-	-
Amount paid to temporary police	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,020	-	-	-
								1,280	6	-
Balance in the Mamlutdar's Treasury	-	-	-	-	-	-	Rs.	571	10	-

(signed) *W. J. Morris*,
Camp, Hunmuntkhera,
8 February 1844. Bheel Agent and Assistant Magistrate.

H. W. Reeves, Magistrate.
(True Copies.)
(signed) *W. H. Harrison*, Register.

No. 831 of 1844, Judicial Department.

From Mr. Secretary *Escombe* to the Register of the Suddur Foujdaree Adawlut.
Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter (No. 476), dated the 29th of February last, with its enclosures, and to request that the Judges of the Suddur Foujdaree Adawlut will be pleased to convey to the magistrate of Khandesh, an expression of the satisfaction of Government at the peaceable manner in which the fair at Mhyjee has, under the judicious arrangements of Captain Morris, this year passed off.

2. Adverting to the fifth paragraph of Captain Morris's letter to the magistrate of Khandesh, of the 8th ultimo, I am instructed to inform you, that the Honourable the Governor in Council is pleased to authorize the surplus from the proceeds of the fair, amounting to rupees 571 and 10 annas, being applied, as therein suggested, in making the road from the place where the fair is held, to Dhurrungaum.

3. I am further desired to intimate that, in future, the rate of stall tax is to be reduced from four to three annas, for every "hath" of frontage; and the magistrate of Khandesh should adopt measures for making the reduction generally known. The Governor in Council likewise approves of the suggestion submitted in the third paragraph of Mr. Reeves' letter to your address (No. 47), of the 15th ultimo, that "Kassars" be hereafter subjected to taxation, as well as other occupants of stalls.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Escombe*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 23 March 1844.

No. 6,545 of 1851.

From Mr. Chief Secretary *Malet* to the Deputy-Collector of Customs in Charge, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE been directed, by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, to request you will have the goodness to forward, by the first vessel that may leave this port for London, the accompanying three boxes, addressed to the Honourable the Court of Directors, reporting your having done so, for the information of Government.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 19 June 1851.

(True Copies.)
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary to Government.

SCINDE.

Territorial Department, Revenue, No. 99 of 1851.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable East India Company, London.

Honourable Sirs,

WITH reference to paragraph 2 of our letter (No. 89), dated the 18th ultimo, we do ourselves the honour to transmit herewith a bill of lading for three boxes of samples of Russian and other foreign fabrics, forwarded to your Honourable Court per ship "Tinto."

Rs. 58. 10. 2. The expenses incurred on account of freight for, and insurance on, these packages, amounting to rupees fifty-eight and pies ten, have been sanctioned.

Bombay Castle, 4 July 1851.

(signed) D. A. Blane.
A. Bell.

Territorial Department, Revenue, No. 116 of 1851.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable East India Company, London.

Hnoura ble Sirs,

IN continuation of our letter (No. 89), dated the 19th ultimo, we have the honour to transmit, for the information of your Honourable Court, copy of the papers as per margin,* relative to the importation of Russian chintzes and other foreign fabrics into the markets of Upper Sindh.

Bombay Castle, 25 July 1851.

We have, &c.
(signed) D. A. Blane.
A Bell.

No. 2,132.

From Sir *Henry Elliot*, K.C.B., Secretary to the Government of India with the Governor-general, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

Foreign Department.

YOUR two despatches of 20th March and 19th June last (Nos. 3,200 and 6,544), relative to the importation of Russian chintzes and other foreign fabrics into the markets of Upper Scinde, have been duly received and laid before the Governor-general. His Lordship has had much satisfaction in perusing these reports, which contain so much valuable and interesting information respecting the trade of Scinde, and he requests the Government of Bombay to convey to Mr. Frere his thanks for the communication which has proceeded from him.

2. The means which Mr. Frere suggests for still further promoting the interests of the province, and at the same time extending the trade of the mother country, are simple. The Government of Bombay will no doubt be ready to consider them favourably, and the Governor-general will readily afford the aid of the Supreme Government in effecting public objects of so valuable a character.

I have, &c.

Simla, 3 July 1851.

(signed) H. M. Elliot,
Secretary to the Government of India with the Governor-general.

MINUTE by the Honourable Board, dated 18 July 1851.

To be communicated to Mr. Frere, and to the departments to which transfers of portions of former Correspondence have been made, as also to the Honourable Court, by next mail.

18 July 1851.

(signed) Falkland.
D. A. Blane.
A. Bell.

* From the Secretary with the Governor-general, No. 2,132, dated 5 July 1851; Minute by the Right Honourable the President, concurred in by the Honourable Messrs. Blane and Bell, dated 18 July 1851. To the Commissioner in Scinde, No. 7,572, dated 23 July 1851. Resolution, No. 7,573, dated 23 July 1851.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A FAIR AT CURRACHEE.

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No. 7,572 of 1851.

SCINDE.

From Mr. Chief Secretary *Malet* to the Commissioner in Scinde.

Sir,

ADVERTING to my letter of the 19th ultimo (No. 6,542), I have been directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit, for your information, copy of a despatch from the Secretary to the Government of India with the Governor-general, No. 2,132, dated the 3d instant, on the subject of your reports relative to the importation of Russian chintzes and other foreign fabrics into the markets of Upper Scinde.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle, 23 July 1851.

(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 7,573 of 1851.

RESOLUTION, 23 July 1851.

Ordered, with reference to the Resolution in this department (No. 6,536), dated the 19th ultimo, that copies of a letter from the Secretary to the Government of India with the Governor-general (No. 2,132), dated 3d instant, and of a letter of this date to the Commissioner in Scinde, be transferred to the Political Department for information.

(signed) *A. Malet*,

Chief Secretary to Government.

(True Copies.) *A. Malet*,

Chief Secretary to Government.

Territorial Department, Revenue, No. 134 of 1851.

Honourable Sirs,

WITH reference to our letters noted in the margin,* we have the honour to lay before your Honourable Court copies of one from the Commissioner in Sindh, (No. 1,466), dated the 26th ultimo, and of the communication therewith, forwarded from Major Jacob, relative to the establishment of a commercial fair in that province.

See below.

2. We also annex transcript of our Secretary's reply to Mr. Frere (No. 8,612), dated the 29th instant.

We have, &c.

(signed) *Falkland*.

D. A. Blane.

A. Bell.

Bombay Castle, 30 August 1851.

No. 1,466 of 1851.

From the Commissioner in Scinde to the Right Honourable Lord Viscount *Falkland*, Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

My Lord,

WITH reference to Mr. Chief Secretary Malet's letter (No. 6,542), dated the 19th ultimo, on the subject of extending our trade with Central Asia, I have the honour to submit, for the information of your Lordship in Council, copy of a communication from Major Jacob, Political Superintendent on the Frontier, affording his opinion relative to the establishment of a commercial fair in this province, as proposed by Dr. Gibson.

No. 159, dated 16th instant.

2. As regards the situation for a fair, such meetings are useful wherever two lines of commerce join, or rather, where the "Beats," so to speak, of two distinct classes of traders, meet.

3. Both

* No. 43, dated 25 March 1851. No. 83, dated 26 May 1851, p. 58. No. 89, dated 18 June 1851. No. 99, dated 4 July 1851. No. 116, dated 25 July 1851.

SCINDE.

3. Both Kurrachee and Shikarpoor are so situated, and both, therefore, are well suited for the purpose. Lord Ellenborough, I believe, considered Sukkur, which may be looked on as the river port of Shikarpoor, where all the great merchants live, the best place for a commercial emporium and place for periodical mercantile meetings, such as Dr. Gibson proposed.

4. In speaking of such fairs, Major Jacob writes as if some artificial means were to be used to promote them ; such however was not, I imagine, the intention of Dr. Gibson. It was merely intended to give every facility to commerce to take its own natural course.

5. With reference to Major Jacob's sixth paragraph, I would observe, I did not understand the Committee alluded to as speaking of the abolition of all frontier duties, but merely those on wool.

6. In the rest of Major Jacob's remarks, from paragraph 7 to the end, I entirely and fully concur, and would very earnestly recommend them to the attention of your Lordship in Council, as embodying the opinions of an officer of unequalled experience and local knowledge of the countries in question, as acute an observer of all that relates to matters of commerce as if he made them his exclusive study, and one who reasons on what he sees and hears with a severe sobriety of judgment which is well known to your Lordship in Council, in matters relating to his own profession, and is, as far as I can judge, not less remarkable in his opinions on every subject to which he turns his mind.

I have, &c.

(signed) *H. B. E. Frere,*
Commissioner in Scinde.

Kurrachee, 26 July 1851.

No. 159 of 1851.

From Major *Jacob*, Political Superintendent and Commandant on the Frontier of Upper Scinde, to the Commissioner in Scinde.

Sir,

Dated 16 July 1851.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter (No. 1,289) of the 5th July 1851, to my address, with accompaniments herewith returned.

2. After perusal of these documents, and due consideration of the subject of which they treat, I am of opinion that the establishment of a commercial fair of the description proposed by Dr. Gibson, might possibly be found of advantage to the British trade with Central Asia ; but, if it be determined to establish such a fair, I am clearly of opinion that the place of assembly should be Shikarpoor, and not Kurrachee.

3. However, on the whole view of the question, it appears to me that the establishment of this fair is, perhaps, not required for the improvement of trade with Central Asia, &c.

4. I am of opinion that trade can never be forced with permanent advantage, but that whether the proposed fair be established or not, our commerce with Kho-rassan and the countries beyond will be best aided by simply removing the obstacles and difficulties which now beset the path of the trader, and leaving all else to find its level according to the natural actions and reactions of demand and supply.

5. I quite agree in opinion with the Committee assembled by the Commissioner in Scinde at Kurrachee, to report on the best method of extending the trade with Central Asia, as to the principles which should guide our proceedings, but the Committee is, in some respects, mistaken as to the facts of the case.

6. For instance, the Report of the Committee sets forth that the frontier duties were abolished, in 1844, by Sir C. Napier ; this is not the case. Import and export duties have always been and are still levied on this frontier, and are most vexatious and injurious to the trade.

7. These duties, those levied in the Khelat territories, the dangers caused by predatory tribes infesting the road of the Bolann, and the want of direct and good roads through Scinde, are the chief obstacles to a thriving trade in this part of the world.

8. Remove these obstacles, and the commerce would speedily flourish.

9. The British Government can, with the greatest ease, effect all that is required. But we can hardly, with common decency, call on the Khan of Khelat to forego his duties on merchandise passing through his territories, while we

we levy similar contributions on the same goods ourselves, and even collect those vexatious dues within the Khelat territory, we having maintained for some years past a custom-house establishment at Rojaun.

10. We can hardly, with propriety, find fault with the Khelat government for not putting a stop to the levy of transit duties (or, as the Committee styles them, black mail) by petty chiefs within its territories, when the weakness of the Khelat government has been solely caused by our own acts, as has been repeatedly urged by his Highness the Khan, when begging for aid to enable him to control his turbulent and rebellious subjects, the Murrees, &c.

11. On the other hand, his Highness the Khan of Khelat is most willing and anxious in all things to be guided by the wishes of the British Government, and the peaceable condition of Cutchee and the neighbouring mountains is of quite as much importance to us as to the Khan.

12. Wherefore, the wise and proper course to be pursued appears to me to be clear. Afford the Khan of Khelat sufficient assistance, countenance, and support, to enable him to put down the only tribe of plunderers which still troubles his territory. Treat him as he deserves to be treated, as an humble subordinate, but most friendly ally of the British, and then, with regard to this trade, induce him, by quiet advice and argument, to reduce the Government duties levied on goods passing through his territories to a moderate and reasonable amount, entirely to abolish all dues collected on such goods by petty chiefs and others, and to afford proper protection to the merchants themselves and their goods.

13. The artificial and political difficulties besetting the trader passing through the Khelat territory would then cease to exist. Natural difficulties there are none; the road through the Bholann Pass is perfectly good and practicable, even for wheel carriages, from Dadur Khunda; the country is a level plain, presenting no physical obstacle whatever.

14. This is the natural route of commerce from Khorassan to the sea, instead of that *via* Khelat and Soumeanee.

15. Having smoothed the way so far through the whole length of the Khelat territory from Shawl to Kunda, our business is now with our own territory.

16. All our duties levied on this frontier should be immediately abolished. The amount collected is not of any great importance, while the injury done to the trade by the vexation and annoyance of the impost is great. Let all be free, going and coming.

17. Next let good roads with bridges over the canals be made from Khyree Gharree to Shikarpoor, and also to Larkhana; direct roads have been lately sanctioned from Khanghur to those two places, and these will complete all that is required so far.

18. From Larkhana make a good road with bridges over everything to Sehwan, and thence direct to Kurrachee through the hills, with a good permanent cut over the Lakkee Pass. The expense of all this will be trifling compared to the important results.

19. Next make a good road from Kotree to Tatta, and thence to Kurrachee. Lastly, complete the Bunder at Kurrachee, and improve that seaport as much as can be conveniently done. Having provided a good, safe and free road for the merchants and their goods, Government has, in my opinion, done all that it should do for the trade. If there be a word of truth in the principles of political economy, nature will best do all else, and further interference would in all likelihood prove injurious.

I have, &c.

(signed) *John Jacob*, Major,
Pol. Superintendent and Commander on the
Frontier of Upper Scinde.

(True Copies.)

(signed) *H. B. E. Frere*,
Commissioner in Scinde.

MINUTE by the Honourable Board.

COPY of this will be transferred to Political and General departments for such notice and measures as may appear necessary.

Mr. Frere may be told that in so far as the Revenue department is concerned,
561. E he

SCINDE. he has been already authorized (L. 19 June 1851, No. 6,542,) to take the measures necessary for establishment of a fair.

18 August 1851.

(signed) *Falkland.*
D. A. Blane.
A. Bell.

No. 8,612 of 1851.

From Mr. Secretary *Goldsmid* to the Commissioner in Sindh.

Sir,

I HAVE been directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter (No. 1,466), dated the 26th ultimo, and of the communication therewith forwarded from Major Jacob, relative to the establishment of a commercial fair in Sindh.

Government Letter
of 19 June 1851,
No. 6,542.

2. In so far as the Revenue department is concerned, you have been already authorized to take the measures necessary for the establishment of a fair.

3. Copy of your letter and this reply will be transferred to General and Political departments for such notice and measures as may appear necessary.

I have, &c.,
(signed) *H. E. Goldsmid,*
Secretary to Government.
Bombay Castle, 29 August 1851.
(True Copies.)

A. Malet,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Territorial Department, Revenue, No. 143 of 1851.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable East India Company, London.

Honourable Sirs,

WITH reference to our letter (No. 89), of the 18th June last, we have the honour to lay before your Honourable Court, copy of a letter containing the opinion of the Chamber of Commerce on the samples of manufactures received from Scindh.

2. One set of the samples from Hyderabad and Shikarpore was sent to the Chamber, as also pieces cut for the purpose, from the samples sent by the Commissioner in Sindh, copy of the tickets affixed to the latter having been attached to the former.

3. Copies of our letters to the Secretary to the Government of India, to the Secretary with the Most Noble the Governor-general, and to Dr. Gibson, are annexed.

We have, &c.,
(signed) *Falkland.*
D. A. Bane.
A. Bell.

Bombay Castle, 11 September 1851.

No. 59 of 1851.

To *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour, by direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, to acknowledge receipt of your letter, dated 14th July, and numbered 7,273 of 1851, in reply to mine of date the 9th idem, and to thank the Right Honourable the Governor in Council for the additional paper then furnished in continuation of yours, dated 19th June, and numbered 6,535 of 1851, accompanied by papers relating to trade in the North and North Western parts of India, to which I had the honour of partially replying, by direction of the Committee of the Chamber, under date the 9th of July, before mentioned.

2. In farther reply to those communications, I am now directed to say, that from inspection of the samples of manufactures submitted to them, the members of the Chamber in general see nothing to confirm the impression which appears to

to have been made on the Honourable the Court of Directors, and some officers of this Government, that the introduction of Russian manufactures into Central Asia and Scinde is proceeding in a way detrimental to British interests. On the contrary, judging by the documents which his Lordship in Council has been pleased to lay before them, and particularly referring to the report of the Committee appointed by Mr. Frere, Commissioner in Scinde (para. 3, &c.), it would seem that the British trade with those parts is greatly increasing.

3. As to the samples of supposed Russian manufacture, which his Lordship in Council has been pleased to forward to the Chamber, I am directed to say that the only articles resembling, or likely to compete with, English manufactures, are the narrow twills and the chintzes. The former, from their very superior and expensive quality, the Chamber would suppose to be in limited demand. The latter appear to resemble in all respects goods printed in Manchester or Glasgow, and the Chamber has little hesitation in saying that they are not of Russian, but British origin.

4. Were that otherwise, I am directed to add, the members of the Chamber are satisfied that such articles or better could be produced in Manchester or Glasgow more easily than in Russia, whenever it is shown that the production of them would lead to a profitable trade.

I have, &c.
(signed) *John Connon*, Secretary.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce,
26 August 1851.

No. 9,023 of 1851.

From Mr. Chief Secretary *Malet* to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir,

WITH reference to Mr. Secretary Goldsmid's letter (No. 6,543) of the 19th June last, I have been directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit, for the purpose of being laid before the Honourable the President in Council, the accompanying copy of one from the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce (No. 59), of the 26th ultimo, relative to the samples of manufactures received from Scinde.

2. One set of the samples from Hyderabad and Shikarpoor was sent to the Chamber, as also pieces, cut for the purpose, from the samples sent by the Commissioner in Scinde, copy of the tickets affixed to the latter having been attached to the former.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 9 September 1851.

No. 9,024 of 1851.

From Mr. Chief Secretary *Malet* to the Secretary to the Government of India with the Most Noble the Governor-general.

Sir,

WITH reference to Mr. Secretary Goldsmid's letter (No. 6,544) of the 19th June last, I have been directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit, for the purpose of being laid before the Most Noble the Governor-general, the accompanying copy of one from the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce (No. 59), of the 26th ultimo, relative to the samples of manufactures received from Scinde.

2. One set of the samples from Hyderabad and Shikarpoor was sent to the Chamber, as also pieces, cut for the purpose, from the samples sent by the Commissioner in Scinde, copy of the tickets affixed to the latter having been attached to the former.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 9 September 1851.

SCINDE.

No. 9,025 of 1851.

From Mr. Chief Secretary *Malet* to the Conservator of Forests.

Sir,

WITH reference to your letter of the 13th March last (No. 146), I have been directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit for your information copies of my letter, No. 6,535, of the 19th June last, and of its enclosures, together with transcript of the reply from the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce (No. 59), dated the 26th ultimo, relative to samples of manufactures received from Scinde.

2. One set of the samples from Hydrabad and Shikarpoor was sent to the Chamber, as also pieces, cut for the purpose, from the samples sent by the Commissioner in Scinde, copy of the tickets affixed to the latter having been attached to the former.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 9 September 1851.

(True Copies.)

A. Malet,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Revenue Department, 14 January (No. 1) 1852.

Our Governor in Council at Bombay.

- Trade of Sinde: Paragraph. The letters noted in the margin supply the information relative to the trade through Scinde with Central Asia, which was called for in our despatch of the 13th November (No. 10) 1850.
- Letters dated
25 March (No. 43) 1851. 2. The subject is one to which we attach much interest, and we need not repeat our earnest desire to encourage the development of the resources, as well commercial as agricultural, of the province of Scinde.
- 18 June (No. 89) 1851. 3. The Governor-general, in reviewing the proceedings, considers that the suggestions of Mr. Frere for extending the trade of the mother country, and for promoting the interests of the province, are simple and salutary, and has no doubt they will be favourably regarded by the Bombay Government. He offers the assurance that the aid of the Supreme Government will be afforded to effect public objects of so valuable a character.
- 4 July (No. 99) 1851. 4. The dislike of Asiatics to travelling by sea, more particularly of those classes who, from their inland position, only learn its wonders and terrors by report, is proverbial, and not easily to be overcome; accordingly we find that the merchants of Central Asia complain of the loss of life, time, and property, to which the voyage to Bombay and back subjects them; that they are at the mercy of the Dulals and native dealers at Bombay, and are obliged to sell their goods at any price, being pressed for time to purchase a return investment; they also complain of the heavy charges of freight by steam, if they are disposed to avail themselves of the more expeditious mode of transport. In recognising this deep-rooted feeling, and in acknowledging the convenience to which the Asiatic dealer is subjected in seeking a market so far from home, the Committee of Inquiry have recorded the opinion, that "this sea voyage is the great drawback to a full development of the trade with Khorasan" (meaning thereby the interior of Asia).
- 25 July (No. 116) 1851. 5. We notice with pleasure that you have authorized Mr. Frere to take measures for the establishment of a fair in Scinde, and we proceed to explain why we consider Kurrachee the most eligible site for its formation. The Commissioner says, "As regards the situation for a fair, such meetings are useful wherever two lines of commerce join, or rather where the "beats," so to speak, of two different classes of traders meet. Both Kurrachee and Shikarpore are so situated, and both therefore are well suited for the purpose."
- 30 Aug. (No. 134) 1851. 6. It is of importance that the convenience of both parties bringing merchandise to the fair, viz., the traders from Central Asia, and those who come by sea to the port, should be consulted. The Kandahar and Khelaut merchants are accustomed, when *en route* to Bombay, to visit Kurrachee; no change of practice
- 11 Sept. (No. 143) 1851.

tice is therefore called for, in their continuing to do so, and this is always an important consideration. The merchants attending the fair by sea, from ports at a greater or less distance, will be pleased to find that their goods may be disposed of at the place of their first landing, and to those classes an inland journey to Shikarpore, with the additional expense of transport, would entail difficulties which it would be well to avoid; and we therefore concur with Dr. Gibson and Mr. Frere in preferring Kurrachee to Shikarpore, as the site of the fair, leaving, however, the final decision of this part of the subject to your Government, after communication with the Government of India.

7. We think that the offer of the Commercial Punchayet at Shikarpore, to circulate copies of a proclamation through all parts of Central Asia, notifying that the fair would be held at a given time, and that all frontier duties would be remitted during the three months for which the fair would be open, should be accepted, and that copies of the said proclamation in Persian, Arabic, and Hindostanee, should be sent to all the ports of Persia, Arabia, and Africa, in the Persian and Arabian Seas, and very generally to the most eastern ports of our Indian possessions.

8 The Commissioner and Dr. Gibson consider that extended means of steam transport from Bombay to Kurrachee should be available to the public at the opening of the fair, and we trust that you will give every assistance consistent with the public interests in affording such accommodation.

9. To afford facilities to the general commerce, immediate attention to the improvement of the port of Kurrachee is imperatively called for; but on this point we have only to observe, that our sanction to the completion of the whole was given in the public despatch to Bombay, dated the 5th March last (No. 4), provided it shall be ascertained that the work can be accomplished for an amount not materially exceeding the original estimate.

10. The Commissioner observes that another obstacle besides the condition of the harbour exists to prevent vessels from frequenting the port. The track of vessels to and from Kurrachee is along the coast of Kattywar and the Delta, and the navigation is difficult, both on account of the lowness of the land and the changeable currents, which run strongly. No minute surveys or careful sailing instructions, he states, are accessible to the public. Complete and admirable surveys exist in manuscript, of which copies are in the hands of the officers of the Indian navy; but they are guarded by them, as official documents, with extreme jealousy. The Commissioner very justly observes that Government should authorize the publication of the survey of a coast to which it is intended to attract mercantile shipping; and he is of opinion that the expense of printing would be met by a sale of the chart. We desire that this suggestion may be attended to.

11. Both the Committee and the Commissioner are of opinion that with a view of attracting commerce to the port, facilities should be afforded for the reception of Patan traders. All large towns in Turkey, Persia, and Central Asia, have ample caravanserai accommodation for the lodging of travellers and traders, and affording a receptacle for their merchandize; and we observe that the Commissioner has suggested that the old gaol may be converted into a serai. A small levy might be made from the occupants to cover the expenses of the maintenance and repairs of the building.

12. It is also suggested by the Commissioner that a military committee should be appointed to attend at the fair for the purchase of horses to supply the artillery and field batteries of Scinde, and the mounted corps at Rajcote, Deisa, Neemuch, Nusseerabad, &c.

13. Major Jacob observes, that one of the great obstacles to a thriving trade in this part of the world is the want of good direct roads through Scinde, and points out the different directions where their formation is particularly called for. The Commissioner quite coincides in this opinion, and concludes by remarking, that considering "what natural facilities exist for making roads passable for wheeled carriages throughout Scinde, the present state of the roads is not creditable to a civilized government."

14. The duties levied on merchandize passing between Candahar and Kurrachee most seriously interfere with the due development of the trade, and it behoves the more enlightened government, by the abolition of duties on their own frontier, practically to show the native chiefs that they will best promote their own interests by reducing their transit charges. It is the only appeal likely

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to prove efficacious. Major Jacob says, "All our duties levied on this frontier should be abolished. The amount collected is not of any great importance, while the injury done to the trade by the vexation and annoyance of the impost is great. Let all be free, coming and going." This is a principle which has operated successfully in other portions of our dominions; and the remission of frontier duty on the single article of wool, has been followed by so enormous an increase of its import, that we have every encouragement to prosecute the experiment in other branches of commerce. The importation of wool from Candahar and Khelaat, in 1843, amounted in value to rupees 559. The frontier duty on it was abolished in 1844. Its supply has annually increased, and in 1849-50, its value amounted to rupees 2,34,547.

15. Major Jacob says, "the Khan of Khelat cannot be asked to renounce transit duties, while we levy similar contributions, and even collect these vexatious dues within the Khelat territories, we having maintained for some years past a custom-house establishment at Rojaun." On this point we require information, as we are aware of no reason to justify our maintaining so anomalous a position.

16. Major Jacob thinks we should assist the Khan of Khelat in establishing his authority over the turbulent tribes of his territory; to this suggestion we are decidedly opposed, being of opinion that all interference in the dissensions of the tribes bordering on Scinde should be avoided. He also suggests a small pecuniary assistance to the Khan, which is less objectionable, if it tends to produce salutary effects on the trade. The Commissioner, in recommending the extension of this mode of conciliation, does not state in what way it is likely to prove beneficial.

17. The general aspect of our trade with Central India is more satisfactory than we were led to expect from the vague and insufficient reports heretofore transmitted to us. It is still shown that Russian piece goods have the preference in the market as regards pattern, colour, and durability, but there is evidence of their being undersold by English commodities, and of their import being on the decline. It is, therefore, highly probable that if some of the obstacles which at present depress the trade are removed, and if attention is paid by our manufacturers to the taste of the population of Central Asia, the preponderance of supply may be furnished by Great Britain even in the markets of Herat and Meshid.

18. To effect this desired end we should wish you to obtain for us, from the bazaars of the two latter cities, further samples of Russian goods in brocades, silks, thread, wool, and cotton, and in hardware, and particularly of goods mixed with silk and cotton, which are in very general use with Mahomedans; and also specimens of such fabrics manufactured in Bokhara and Central Asia, as may have a chance of being successfully imitated in England.

19. We have reason to suppose that much blue and white glazed paper of Russia, suited for the reed, used by Asiatics in writing, is consumed throughout Central Asia; and this article, we are of opinion, might successfully be supplied by England; of such paper we desire to be furnished with specimens.

20. There are many useful suggestions brought to your notice by the several authorities in Scinde, which have not been here adverted to, but which are well deserving of attention; amongst these is Dr. Gibson's wish, that specimens of Russian chintzes should be sent to the Coromandel coast, in order that improved patterns may be copied by the native fabricators. We observe that the consideration of these important matters is transferred to the General and Political departments for such notice and measures as may appear necessary. If preparatory arrangements are sedulously worked out, we conceive that there is ample time for the due organization of the first holding of the fair during the autumnal and winter months of 1852.

21. We anxiously look for further reports of your proceedings, and we direct your continued attention in pursuit of an object to which we attach the utmost importance.

We are, &c.

(signed) *J. Shepherd,*
J. W. Hogg,
 &c. &c.

London, 14 January 1852.

Territorial Department, Revenue, No. 165 of 1851.

SCINDE.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable East India Company, London.

Honourable Sirs,

WITH reference to our letter (No. 89) of the 18th June last, we have the honour to transmit herewith further samples, which we have received from Scinde, of fabrics of foreign manufacture.

2. The silk specimens have been cut in halves crosswise, to preserve the width, and labelled. The other half has been sent by us to the Chamber of Commerce at this Presidency.

3. We annex, for the information of your Honourable Court, copies of our proceedings subsequent to our despatch of the 11th September, No. 143.*

I have, &c.
(signed) *Falkland.*
D. A. Blane.
A. Bell.

Bombay Castle, 4 November 1851.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of Government in the Territorial Department, Revenue, dated 8th October 1851. (V. 16,872 to 16,877.)

No. 1,637 of 1851.

From the Commissioner in Scinde to the Right Honourable the Governor and President in Council, dated 21st August 1851.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to submit, with reference to paras. 1 and 4 of my letter (No. 1,466), of the 26th ultimo, copy of a communication from the Collector of Kurrachee (No. 1,639) dated the 29th idem, conveying his opinion with regard to the establishment of a commercial fair in this province.

V. 16,872.

2. I take this opportunity of offering a few remarks with reference to the question generally, and more especially to para. 1st of Mr. Chief Secretary Malet's letter (No. 6,542) of the 19th June last.

3. It appears to me that the degree of benefit to be expected from such a fair as that proposed by Dr. Gibson at Kurrachee depends mainly on the extent to which the Bombay traders are willing to enter into the plan, as there can be no reasonable doubt of the attendance and co-operation of the traders of Scinde and Afghanistan.

4. The fair is intended to be to traders between Central Asia and Bombay what a "clearing-house" is to bankers, or an exchange or bazaar to merchants in general—a place where people who have wants, which they can mutually supply for each other, may meet, and save time, trouble, and money, which would be otherwise expended by each individual going round to the others individually.

5. But where such meeting is arranged for the benefit of two classes, it will be of no service if one only attends; and unless the Bombay merchants will come with their hardware, piece goods, and woollens, it will be of little use for the Affghan, Sindee, and Belooch traders to congregate, with their wools and furs, dyes, drugs, and raw produce.

6. In para. 1 of Mr. Chief Secretary Malet's letter, allusion is made to an apprehension which may arise on the part of the Bombay merchants, that this would withdraw trade from Bombay.

7. My own belief is, that it would have a contrary effect, and that it would tend to retain in the hands of Bombay merchants a trade in which they may any day find formidable rivals, should they neglect as they have done hitherto, to attend to its full development.

8. The Bombay merchant may ask, "Why should I go to meet the Affghan, when the Affghan trader now comes to me?"

9. To this I answer, that the Affghan trader goes to Bombay from necessity, because he cannot supply himself nearer home. But for a non-maritime people

to

* Rev. Cons., 8th October 1851, V. 16,872 to 16,877; 22d October 1851, V. 17,572 to 17,574; 22d October 1851, V. 17,642 to 17,647.

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to go by sea beyond the bounds of their own language, and to be exposed to the privations and impositions which an Affghan suffers in Bombay, and on his way thither from hence, is a serious drawback. It must limit the number of adventurers. It must contract trade, enhance the prices of goods, and diminish the profit at which they can be resold.

10. A Borah, Banian, or Parsee, still more an European, can put himself and his goods on board a pattimar or steamer, visit Kurrachee, dispose of his goods there, and return to Bombay, far more easily and with less risk and discomfort, than the Affghan can perform the reverse process; and if the meeting be arranged beforehand by some such contrivance as a commercial fair, he will not lose so much time by the trip as the Affghan would in his, consequently the price which the Affghan will take for his goods, in consideration of being saved the voyage, will be reduced to a greater extent than will cover the enhancement of price which the Bombay trader must demand for his goods, in consideration of his extra trouble, and the difference will remain in the shape of an increased profit in the pocket of the merchant who is content to take the trouble from which the other wishes to be free.

11. In other words, I believe that if an active Bombay merchant could meet the Affghan trader on the coast of Scinde, buy the Affghan's wool with the piece goods he had himself brought up, and carry the wool back to Bombay, he would find that, after paying himself fairly for extra risk, trouble, and expense, he had got his wool cheaper than if he had bought it from the Affghan at the lowest price the latter would accept in Bombay; because the additional journey he takes himself, and which he saves to the Affghan, is a matter of comparatively less risk, trouble, and expense to him than it is to the Affghan, and therefore what is bare compensation for it to the Affghan is compensation and extra profit to him.

12. To the profits so accruing, must be added those derived by principals dealing with principals, as they might in a fair at Kurrachee. For I need hardly observe, that every hand saved between producer and consumer is a profit saved, and either increases the total profits, or the total extent of the trade in the article.

13. I believe, therefore, that the plan of a Kurrachee fair would be advantageous to the Bombay merchant, and there can be no doubt that it would cause the whole trade (greatly enhanced in extent as I believe it would be by such a change) to concentrate finally in Bombay, as it does now, instead of being in part, at least, diverted, as it might be in any day, by any American or other trader who might chance to put in here in December or January, with a cargo well assorted for exchange in this country.

14. At any rate, I am respectfully of opinion, it might be well to lay the matter before the mercantile community in Bombay, after which, Government will have done all they can be expected to do, and may leave the matter to the judgment of the parties interested.

15. As an example, tending to show that the views I have set forth are not purely theoretical, I would refer to the Berbera trade, on the African coast, which was conducted at an annual fair lasting two or three months, and was for a long time, and very possibly is still, monopolized by Cutch merchants; this was a trade which would seem to belong to Arab and Zanzibar merchants, and would certainly have never, of its own accord, have come direct to Cutch. But, by attending the fair with well assorted cargoes, the Cutch merchants made it ultimately concentrate at Mandvie without the fair; the Berbera trade would have been a mere trifle, and none of it would ever have gone to Cutch.

16. With regard to the steps I would propose to take, they would be all intended simply to clear away obstacles, and none to force trade, publicity as to time and place of meeting, order, and good police regulation for the Cafilas after they arrive, facilities for traders to meet and see each other's goods, and whatever else may tend to save time and trouble.

17. I have not the least doubt but that the effect on trade generally, in this and the neighbouring provinces, would be very great, by bringing into the field a large number of traders who are now quite deterred by the voyage, and who consequently buy at second or third hand.

18. The case of any fair in Upper Scinde is somewhat different, and I see no reason whatever why one should not exist there, almost contemporaneously with one at Kurrachee.

19. The

19. The classes of traders who will meet at the two places, will be in some respects different.

20. At Kurrachee they will be on the one side Affghan, Scinde, and Punjabee traders; on the other Bombay and other Western Indian merchants.

21. In Upper Scinde they will be on the one side the merchants of Khelat, Khondabar, the Punjaub, and Bhawalpoor; on the other, those of Rajpootanah and Scinde. It will be too far for the Bombay traders to attend generally in person, and the goods, therefore, in which they deal will reach such fair at second hand.

22. After much consideration and consultation with all within reach, whose opinions I thought likely to be valuable, I have come to the conclusion that Sukkur will be the best locality in Upper Scinde; the following are among my reasons:

1st. It is the most clearly-defined frontier, so to speak, of the different classes of traders; at least, clearer than any other spot in Scinde, Kurrachee excepted. The greater part of the articles of commerce in Upper Scinde change hands there or at Shikarpoor, of which Sukkur may be regarded as the port.

2d. It is a spot where, if goods do not change hands, a large portion of them must change carriage, from land carriage to boats, or *vice versa*.

3d. Even goods going up and down the river, and passing Sukkur, frequently change boats at Sukkur, as the character of the stream there changes, and the upper and lower portions of it require different kinds of boats.

4th. Sukkur and Roree are points to which more lines of traffic converge, and where the east and west lines which intersect the great north and south stream are more important than at any other spot, from Attack to the sea.

23. I have every reason to think that all classes of traders concerned would at once gladly avail themselves of the opening of a fair at Sukkur.

24. If the time of meeting were fixed about six weeks later than at Kurrachee many of the Scinde traders might attend both, and the Bombay goods bought at Kurrachee might, many of them, be resold to the northern traders with the least possible loss of time.

25. In addition to the arrangements above pointed out as desirable at Sukkur, I would propose to convert into a serai, and make over to the use of the traders attending the fair, a portion of the European barracks lately condemned and ordered to be demolished. In my letter (No. 1,738) of this day's date, and its enclosures, I have stated some of the many profitable and useful purposes to which they could be made applicable. The materials of which they are built (Cutch brick and common jungle wood) will be next to useless if they are pulled down; and I feel convinced that their destruction would be a measure of most questionable economy.

I have, &c.

(signed) *H. B. E. Frere*,
Commissioner in Scinde.

Kurrachee, 21 August 1851.

No. 1,639 of 1851.

From the Collector of Kurrachee to the Commissioner in Scinde.

Sir,

IN acknowledging the receipt of your letter (No. 1,290) of the 5th instant, transmitting copies of correspondence as per margin,* and requesting my opinion as to where and under what regulations it would be advisable to establish a commercial fair of the description proposed by Dr. Gibson in his report (No. 146), dated 13 March last, I have the honour in reply to observe that I fully concur with Dr. Gibson in opinion that Kurrachee is the most eligible position in which to establish the proposed fair.

2. Shikarpoor,

* From Government, No. 3,201; dated 20 March 1851, with enclosure from Dr. Gibson. To Government, No. 697; dated 1 May 1851. From Government, No. 6,542; dated 10 June 1851, with enclosure.

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2. Shikarpoor, Sukkur, and Hyderabad will, doubtless, have their respective advocates, and it must be allowed that the two former places are admirably adapted for Affghan and Punjabee traders, and for the merchants of Bahawulpoor and other states on the left bank of the Indus, but as Kurrachee is the only accessible part in Scinde for ships and steamers, and consequently the only place to which it is probable that the merchants of Bombay can be induced to resort with their goods, I consider that it should have the preference.

3. I may mention that there are two places in Scinde where, as I am informed by the merchants of Kurrachee, commercial fairs are or were held annually, viz. at Dadwae, a place in the Hyderabad collectorate, distant about 24 miles from Sehwan, and situated near the frontier which divides our territories from those of Khyrepoor, and at Bulleree, situated also in the Hyderabad Zillah, distant about 28 miles from Tatta. The former I am told has been discontinued during the last two years, but the latter is said to be still kept up, and much resorted to. My informants state that this fair commences in September and lasts fifteen days, during which period it is frequented by at least 20,000 persons. I never before heard of either of these fairs, and it would perhaps be desirable to call upon the collector of Hyderabad to report on them, and also on the cause of the discontinuance of that of Dadwae. It may be possible to induce the merchants who usually frequent that of Bulleree to resort to Kurrachee instead.

4. With regard to the regulations to be adopted I am of opinion that similar rules to those laid down for the management of the fair of Mhajjee, would be found to answer equally well for the fair which it is proposed to establish at Kurrachee, with the exception perhaps of the levying of an assessment on shops. This might, I think, be dispensed with for the present until the fair is thoroughly established, and until its advantages are developed and fully appreciated.

5. The merchants of Kurrachee express their willingness to do all in their power to promote the wishes of Government, but they at the same time candidly state their opinion that without the cordial co-operation of the merchants of Bombay and the liberal aid of Government, the fair can be but partially successful.

6. With regard to the time for the establishment of the fair, perhaps December or January would be the best months. The Kafilahs from Affghanistan and Kelat usually commence arriving towards the end of October, and continue to arrive until the end of January. The Patan merchants usually return from Bombay in February and March.

7. In conclusion, it will perhaps not be deemed irrelevant if I recommend that a proclamation of the wishes and intentions of Government be issued and extensively circulated throughout the countries to the north and west, as also amongst the petty states on the left bank of the Indus, and that the same be published in the Government Gazette and in the newspapers.

I have, &c.

(signed) *H. W. Preedy*, Captain,

Kurrachee, Collector's Office, 29 July 1851.

Collector.

(True Copy.)

(signed) *H. B. E. Frere*, Commissioner.

MINUTE by the Honourable Board, dated 26th September 1851.

V. 16,874.

THE permission given in para. 1 of Government letter (No. 6,542), dated 19th June 1851, to the Commissioner to take the necessary measures for the purpose of establishing a market and commercial fair in Sindh, may be held by the Commissioner to apply to two places, one in Lower Sindh, the other in Upper Sindh; he may also be authorized to make such communications on the subject as he deems proper to parties in Bombay; the native merchants, through Mr. Young, would be better persons I think to communicate with than the Chamber of Commerce, and this may be suggested to Mr. Frere.

The question relative to frontier duties is now, I believe, before the Governor-general; his instructions may be requested, para. 16 of Major Jacob's letter

letter, dated 16 July 1851, being brought to his notice in forwarding him copy of present and former papers and our replies.

Questions relative to means of communication between Upper and Lower Sindh must be considered and disposed of in General Department, to which copy of present letter and our reply should be immediately transferred in continuation of transfer of 29 August 1851.

(signed) *Falkland.*
D. A. Blane.
A. Bell.

SCINDE.

No. 9,678 of 1851.

From Mr. Chief Secretary *Malet* to the Commissioner in Scinde.

Sir,

I HAVE been directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter (No. 1,637), dated the 21st August last, and to inform you that the permission given you in para. 1st of Government letter (No. 6,542), dated 19th June last, to take the necessary measures for the purpose of establishing a market and commercial fair in Sindh, may be held by you to apply to two places—one in Lower Sindh, the other in Upper Sindh, and to authorize you to make such communications on the subject as you deem proper to parties in Bombay. The Collector of Customs, Mr. Young, would, in the opinion of his Lordship in Council, be a preferable channel for your communication with the native merchants than the Chamber of Commerce.

V. 16,875.

2. The question relative to frontier duties is before the Governor-general, whose instructions have been requested.

3. Questions relative to means of communication between Upper and Lower Sindh must be considered and disposed of in the General department, to which copies of your present letter and this reply have been transferred.

I have, &c.

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 8 October 1851.

No. 9,680 of 1851.

From Mr. Chief Secretary *Malet* to the Secretary to the Government of India with the Most Noble the Governor-general.

Sir,

WITH reference to your letter of the 3d July last (No. 2,132), I have been directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit herewith copies of the documents noted in the margin,* and in bringing to the notice of the Most Noble the Governor-general para. 16 of Major Jacob's letter of 16th July last, a copy of which accompanied Mr. Frere's letter of the 26th idem, (No. 1,466), to request his Lordship's instructions on the question relative to frontier duties in Sindh, alluded to in the correspondence ending with my letter of the 30th June last, No. 6,811.

V. 16,876.

• See below.

I have, &c.

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 8 October 1851.

No. 9,681 of 1851.

RESOLUTION, 8th October 1851.

IN continuation of the transfer made to the General Department, under date 29th August last (No. 8,614), ordered that copies of a letter from the Commissioner

V. 16,877.

* Letter to the Commissioner in Sindh, No. 7,572, dated 23d July 1851. Letter from the Commissioner in Sindh, No. 1,466, dated 26th July 1851, with enclosure from Major Jacob, Political Superintendent and Commandant on the frontier of Upper Sindh. Letter to the Commissioner in Sindh, No. 8,612, dated 29th August 1851. Letter from the Commissioner in Sindh, No. 1,637, dated 21st August 1851, with enclosure. Letter to the Commissioner in Sindh, No. 9,678, of this date.

SCINDE.

missioner in Sindh (No. 1,637), dated 21st idem, and of its enclosure, and of the reply thereto of this date (No. 9,678), be transferred to that department for consideration and disposal of the questions relative to means of communication between Upper and Lower Sindh.

(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of Government in the Territorial Department,
Revenue, dated 22nd October 1851. (V. 17,572 to 17,574.)

No. 3,008.

From the Secretary to the Government of India with the Governor-general to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Sir,

V. 17,572.

I HAVE received and laid before the Governor-general your letter, dated 9th instant (No. 9,024), forwarding copy of one from the Chamber of Commerce, containing their opinion on the samples of manufactures from Scinde which had been submitted for their inspection, and in reply am directed by his Lordship to observe that the Government of Bombay will no doubt communicate this information to the Court of Directors.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. M. Elliot*,
Secretary to the Government of India
with the Governor-general.

Simla, 25 September 1851.

MINUTE by the Honourable Board, dated 11th October 1851.

V. 17,573.

THIS was done in despatch No. 143, dated 11th September 1851.

(signed) *Falkland*,
D. A. Blane,
A. Bell.

No. 10,071 of 1851.

From Mr. Chief Secretary *Malet* to the Secretary to the Government of India with the Most Noble the Governor-general.

Sir,

V. 17,574.

I HAVE been directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter (No. 3,008), dated the 25th ultimo, and to state, for the information of the Most Noble the Governor General, that the subject therein referred to has been reported by this Government to the Honourable Court in despatch No. 143, dated the 11th idem, a copy of which was sent to you with my letter (No. 9,345), dated the 23rd of the same month.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 21 October 1851.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of Government in the Territorial Department,
Revenue, dated 22d October 1851. (V. 17,642 to 17,647.)

No. 1,971 of 1,851.

From the Commissioner in Scinde to the Right Honourable the Governor and President in Council.

My Lord,

V. 17,642.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for submission to your Lordship in Council, eight specimens of various kinds of China silk, which are of the descriptions most in demand by the Patan traders, received from the Collector of Kurrachee.

2. These

ESTABLISHMENT OF A FAIR AT CURRACHEE.

45

2. These specimens should have accompanied the Committee's Report, submitted under date the 1st May last, with my letter No. 697, but by some oversight in the Collector's office, they were mislaid until now.

SCINDE.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. B. E. Frere*, Commissioner.

Kurrachee, 23 September 1851.

MINUTE by the Honourable Board, dated 6th October 1851.

THERE are nine specimens, one being a cotton fabric of British manufacture, and the only one in duplicate.

V. 17,643.

These are apparently the specimens alluded to in the postscript to the Collector of Kurrachee's letter (No. 787), of 22d April last, appended to Commissioner's letter of 1st May, No. 697.

The silk specimens should be cut in halves crosswise, to preserve the width, and one piece of each sent to the Honourable Court, and the other to the Chamber of Commerce, and labelled alike to the latter, for the purpose indicated in Government letter (No. 6,535), of 19th June last, and to the Honourable Court, with reference to the Despatch (No. 89) of 18th June last, the samples to the Honourable Court being sent overland, as they are light.

One specimen of the cotton sample to be sent at the same time, and for the same purpose, to the Chamber of Commerce, the other to the Honourable Court.

(signed) *Falkland*.
D. A. Blane.
A. Bell.

No. 1,990 of 1851.

From the Commissioner in Scinde to Mr. Chief Secretary *Malet*.

THE Commissioners in Scinde has the honour to forward the foregoing true copy and samples to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, in reference to Mr. Chief Secretary Malet's letter (No. 8,337), dated the 19th ultimo.

V. 17,644.

(signed) *H. B. E. Frere*,
Kurrachee, 24 September 1851. Commissioner in Scinde.

No. 650 of 1851.

From the Collector, Upper Scinde, to the Commissioner in Scinde.

Sir,

IN acknowledging the receipt of your letter in the Revenue Department, (No. 1,829) of the 8th instant, with its enclosure, from the Chief Secretary to Government (No. 8,337), under date the 19th ultimo, I have the honour to forward, as requested, the duplicate samples of the Russian manufacture sent to you in July last; on future occasions of transmitting such articles of foreign manufacture they will be sent in duplicate.

V. 17,645.

2. Two pieces only have as yet been received in Shikarpoor, of which these are portions; they, however, promise to be much in request, and more have, I believe, been written for. They are considered to be of the same texture; the one of the brightest colours being a little narrower than the other.

3. The camp merchants pronounce it to be a harsh texture of muslin de-laine, and much inferior to French and English, but superior as regards colour.

I have, &c.
(signed) *T. R. Stewart*, Captain,
Collector, Upper Scinde.

Shikarpoor Collector's Office,
19 September 1851.

SCINDE.

MINUTE by the Honourable Board, dated 6 October 1851.

V. 17,646.

THE samples to be sent to the Chamber of Commerce, with copy of this letter.
Copy of this letter to be sent also to the Honourable Court.
See minute, dated 9th August, on Commissioner's letter (No. 1,449) of 25th July last.

(signed) *Falkland.*
D. A. Blane.
A. Beil.

No. 10,122 of 1851.

From Mr. Chief Secretary *Malet* to the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce.

Sir,

V. 17,647.

WITH reference to the correspondence ending with your communication of the 26th August last, No. 59, I have been directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit herewith, for the purpose indicated in the Government letter (No. 6,535), of the 19th June last, copies of the documents noted in the margin,* together with the samples therein alluded to.

* See below.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 22 October 1851.

(True Extracts.)
H. E. Goldsmid, Secretary to Government.

Territorial Department, Revenue, No. 185 of 1851.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable East India Company, London.

Honourable Sirs,

† See below.

WE annex, for the information of your Honourable Court, our proceedings noted in the margin,† in continuation of those which accompanied our despatch (No. 165), dated 4th ultimo, relating to trade in Scinde and the north-western countries of India.

We have, &c.
(signed) *Falkland.*
D. A. Blane.
A. Bell.

Bombay Castle, 3d December 1851.

No. 94 of 1851.

To *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour, by direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter (No. 10,122 of 1851), in the Territorial Department, Revenue, and dated the 22d ultimo, in continuation of correspondence which has recently passed between Government and this Chamber, relating to trade in Scinde, and the north and north-western countries of India.

2. I am directed by the Committee to return their best thanks to Government for their continued supply of information and attention in this matter.

3. The

* Letter from the Commissioner in Scinde (No. 1,449), dated 25 July 1851. Letter from the Commissioner in Scinde (No. 1,971), dated 23 September 1851. Memorandum from the Commissioner (No. 1990), dated 24 September 1851, with Enclosure.

† Letter from the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay (No. 94), dated 11 November 1851. Minute by the Right Honourable the Governor, dated 27 November 1851. Minute by the Honourable Mr. Blane subscribed to by the Honourable Mr. Bell, dated 27 November 1851. Further Minute by the Right Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Honourable Messrs. Blane and Bell, dated 30 November 1851. Letter to Secretary to Chamber of Commerce (No. 11,340), dated 2 December 1851. Letter to Commissioner in Scinde (No. 11,341), dated 2 December 1851.

3. The samples of Russian and other manufactures which accompanied your communication under acknowledgment have, with the letter, been duly circulated among the members of this Chamber, as were the former samples; and I am instructed to say, that the Chamber sees no reason to alter the opinion which I had the honour of conveying to you under date the 26th August last, in respect of the interference of Russian manufactures with those of Great Britain.

4. The Committee of the Chamber direct me at the same time to express their gratification at the interest being manifested by Government, and by the Commissioner in Scinde, in the condition and extension of trade in those parts, and I am to request, should his Lordship in Council see no objection, that a monthly statement of exports and imports at Kurrachee be furnished to the Chamber; also, annual statements of the merchandise passing through Scinde, and of the progress of cotton cultivation in that province.

5. It has been suggested, that Government might erect cotton packing presses in Lower Scinde, where cotton is now being grown, so that it may, from the first, have the advantage of being protected as much as possible from external causes of damage in transmission to Bombay, and at once acquire a good name for cleanliness, at least, in the European markets. On the Kattiwar coast, to the north of Mowah, all cotton is packed in bags, tramped in very lightly, and to this may perhaps be attributed the preponderance of black leaf in the cotton from thence, it being obvious that loosely packed cotton must absorb more moisture during the sea voyage than such as is firmly compressed into bales by machinery.

6. The Chamber avail of this opportunity, also, to express their great satisfaction at the consolidation and extension of a system of steam communication along the Indus into the Punjaub, which the present Government of India has accomplished; and with reference to a suggestion made by Dr. Gibson, Conservator of Forests, in a report by that gentleman to the Government of Bombay, dated "Bulsar, 13 March 1851," which was among the papers on this subject supplied to the Chamber by Government, with your letter, No. 6,535 of 1851, and dated 19th June last, in which report Dr. Gibson suggested the establishment of periodical fairs at Kurrachee, the Chamber would be glad to know if anything is being done to carry out that proposal, of which they highly approve.

7. It would appear, however, from the series of papers, furnished by Government, to the last of which the Chamber is now replying, that there yet remain great obstacles to the progress of trade in those parts, among which I am directed to allude more particularly to the heavy transit duties on goods passing from Khandahar through the Khan of Khelat's territory to Kurrachee, or *vice versa*, and it is hoped that Government will use its influence to induce native chiefs to remove such serious obstacles to the progress of trade instead of obstructing it in this way.

8. The Committee at the same time think it not less desirable to have removed those obstacles to the export trade in sheep's wool, which it is in the power of the Government of India itself to do. This is a trade, I am directed to say, which has been growing in importance for a series of years, and only requires the total abolition of export duty, as has already been recommended by the Court of Directors, along with the opening up of the country by roads, and the other facilitations alluded to, to ensure its farther great and lasting extension.

I have, &c.
(signed) J. Connon, Secretary.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce,
11 November 1851.

MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor, dated 27 November 1851.

THE monthly statement required in para. 4, to be obtained and furnished, as also the annual statements in so far as they can be supplied by the Commissioner under the contemplated arrangement of abolishing frontier duties.

2. The Chamber to be furnished with information as to the correspondence which has taken place with Mr. Larking and the authorities in Sindh relative

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to cotton cultivation in that province, and informed that the return they ask for at close of their fourth paragraph will be obtained and furnished to them. The necessary orders to be at once issued to the Commissioner, who should be furnished with the form of Annual Statement obtained from our older provinces.

3. The Chamber to be informed that the suggestion in their fifth paragraph will have our immediate attention. In the first place it will be necessary for us to ascertain in what localities cotton is produced in any quantity in Upper and Lower Sindh, and at what places it obtains water carriage. We may inform the Chamber of Commerce that we fully concur with them as to the desirableness of at once taking precautionary measures against injury to the cotton from careless or fraudulent packing, or accident, &c., during transit.

4. The Chamber of Commerce to be informed that under date 19th June, the Commissioner in Sindh was authorized to take the necessary measures for establishing a market and commercial fair at Kurrachee, and under date 8th October last, for establishing a commercial fair in Upper Sindh, and that under the latter date he was authorized to make such communications as he might consider proper to parties in Bombay, to the native merchants there, through Collector of Customs. Their attention to be requested to the notification by Commissioner in Sindh in this day's Government Gazette.

5. With reference to para. 7 of their letter, we may inform the Chamber of Commerce that the abolition of frontier duties by the East India Company is now under the consideration of the Most Noble the Governor-general, and that the hindrance to trade caused by the heavy exactions made in the Khan of Khelat's territories is engaging the attention of Government in the Political department.

6. In reply to para. 8, we may inform the Chamber of Commerce that under date 10th April 1848, on receipt of a most able paper from Mr. Young, we pressed on the Government of India the advisableness of abolishing export duties on all save a few articles, and that consequent on a further letter, dated 21 October 1851, from the same officer, and our own strong opinions on the subject, we have again urged on the Government of India the abolition of export duties on all save a few articles.

(signed) *Falkland.*

27 November 1851.

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Blane*, dated 27th November 1851, subscribed to by the Honourable Mr. *Bell*.

I THINK the last paragraph might be omitted, as such intimations are calculated to cast a certain degree of odium on the Government of India, in case of their seeing reasons for not complying with the proposal.

(signed) *D. A. Blane.*
A. Bell.

FURTHER MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor, dated 30th November 1851, subscribed to by the Honourable Messrs. *Blane* and *Bell*.

PARA. 8 of the Chamber's letter may be altered as in accompanying draft.

(signed) *Falkland.*
D. A. Blane.
A. Bell.

30 November 1851.

No. 11,340 of 1851.

From Mr. Secretary *Goldsmid* to the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce.

Sir,

I HAVE placed before the Right Honourable the Governor in Council your letter (No. 94), dated 11th ultimo, on the subject of the trade with Sindh.

2. In reply I have been directed to inform you that the Monthly Statement required in your fourth paragraph will be obtained and furnished to the Chamber,

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as also the annual statements of the merchandize passing through Sindh, in so far as the latter can be supplied by the Commissioner under the contemplated arrangement of abolishing the frontier duties in that province.

3. Respecting cotton cultivation in Sindh, I have been directed to state, for the information of the Chamber, that in a letter written to Lieutenant-colonel Outram, under date 4th July 1850, Mr. Larking, a gentleman engaged in the cultivation of cotton in Egypt, expressed as his opinion, that, in preference to the cotton-growing districts in the Southern Mahratta country, the Indian Government ought to turn its attention to Sindh for the successful development of the cotton plant. This opinion was communicated to the Commissioner in Sindh, who, in the month of February last, suggested that experiments be accordingly tried in that province with the New Orleans, Egyptian, and Sea Island cotton seed, but particularly with the two latter species, as they were considered by the Collector of Hyderabad to be admirably fitted for the climate of Sindh. Approving of these experiments being made, Government procured for the purpose some Egyptian cotton seed from Mr. Larking, through the Honourable East India Company's agent at Alexandria, as also a memorandum showing the mode of cultivating cotton in Egypt, and forwarded the same to the Commissioner on the 5th April last. A quantity of New Orleans cotton seed was also obtained from Belgium and sent to that officer, who will moreover be supplied with some Sea Island cotton seed that has arrived from England by the ship "William Darnley."

4. The Chamber will be informed of the success of the experiments made with each of the above varieties of cotton seed on the results being communicated to Government by the Commissioner.

5. The return which the Chamber ask for at close of your 4th paragraph, relative to the progress of cotton cultivation in Sindh, will be obtained and furnished.

6. The suggestion in your 5th paragraph will have the immediate attention of Government. Government fully concur with the Chamber as to the desirableness of at once taking precautionary measures against injury to the cotton from careless or fraudulent packing, or accident, &c., during transit.

7. With reference to your 6th paragraph, I have been directed to state, for the information of the Chamber, that under date 19th June, the Commissioner in Sindh was authorized to take the necessary measures for establishing a market and commercial fair at Kurrachee, and under date 8th October last, for establishing a commercial fair in Upper Sindh. Under the latter date, also, that officer was authorized to make such communications as he might consider proper to parties in Bombay, to the native merchants there, through the collector of customs. The attention of the Chamber is requested to a notification on this subject, published by Mr. Frere in the Government Gazette of the 27th ultimo.

8. With reference to paragraph 7 of your letter under acknowledgment, I have been directed to inform you that the abolition of the frontier duties in Sindh, by the East India Company, is now under the consideration of the Most Noble the Governor-general, and that the hinderance to trade caused by the heavy exactions made in the Khan of Khelat's territories, is engaging the attention of Government in the Political department.

9. A proposition for abolishing export duties on all, excepting a few articles, has for some time been before the Government of India, and the subject will again be brought to their notice.

I have, &c.

(signed) *H. E. Goldsmid*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 2 December 1851.

No. 11,341 of 1851.

From Mr. Secretary *Goldsmid* to the Commissioner in Sindh.

Sir,

I HAVE been directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to forward herewith, for your information and guidance, copies of a letter from the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay (No. 94), dated 11th ultimo, and of my reply thereto (No. 11,340) of this day's date.

561.

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2. You

SCINDE.

2. You will be pleased to obtain and furnish to Government, for transmission to the Chamber of Commerce, the statements referred to in paragraphs 2 and 5 of the latter communication. The statement alluded to in paragraph 5 should be furnished after the accompanying form of annual statement obtained from the older provinces.

3. In order that Government may be enabled to consider the suggestion in paragraph 5 of the letter from the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, herewith forwarded, it will be necessary for you to ascertain and report to Government in what localities cotton is produced in any quantity in Upper and Lower Sindh, and at what places it obtains water carriage.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. E. Goldsmid,*
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 2 December 1851.

STATEMENT showing the Extent of Land cultivated in *A. D.* _____, with Country and Foreign Cotton, the Number of Gins in use, and the Prospects of the Season, &c., in the Collectorate of _____.

TALOOKA.	Extent of Cotton cultivation in <i>A. D.</i> _____ .					Number of Gins in use.			Prospects of the Season, as regards Cotton Crops.	Period when the packing of each description of crop commences and ends.
	Lands Paying Assessment.		Lands wholly or partially exempt from Assessment.		Total extent of cultivation.	Worked by private individuals.	By Government.	Total Gins in use.		
	Country Cotton.	Foreign Cotton.	Country Cotton.	Foreign Cotton.						
	Beegas.	Beegas.	Beegas.	Beegas.	Beegas.					

(True Copies.)
(signed) *H. E. Goldsmid,*
Secretary to Government.

Territorial Department, Revenue, No. 45 of 1852.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable East India Company, London.

Honourable Sirs,

No. 75, dated 27 February 1852.
No. 16, dated 27 March 1852.

IN continuation of our letter (No. 185) of the 3d December last, we have the honour to forward herewith two patterns of coloured satin sent to us by the Commissioner in Scinde, together with copies of Mr. Frere's letter submitting them, and from the Chamber of Commerce, stating their opinion thereon.

2. Our proceedings consequent on the receipt of your Honourable Court's despatch (No. 1) of the 14th January last, will be hereafter reported to you.

We have, &c.
(signed) *A. Bell.*
John Warden.

Bombay Castle, 25 March 1852.

No. 75 of 1852, Revenue Department.

From the Commissioner in Scinde to the Right Honourable Lord Viscount *Falkland*, Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

My Lord,

WITH reference to the correspondence on the subject of the consumption of Russian goods in Scinde, I have the honour to forward two patterns of coloured satin, price five rupees per yard, which I have just bought from the Shikarpoor bazaar,

bazaar, bearing the usual trade marks woven in the Russian character on the pieces.

SCINDE.

2. Similar marks, I recollect, were on some of the patterns sent by me last year, though they were printed on paper and pasted on the piece of goods, and possibly got rubbed off.

3. Otherwise I think they must have escaped the notice of those to whom the patterns were submitted, as I observe the fact of the patterns being of Russian manufacture was very generally questioned.

4. Of course it is possible that the Russian marks may be imitated by our own manufacturers; but in that case it is hardly to be wondered at that the marks deceived the traders here as well as me.

I have, &c.

(signed) *H. B. E. Frere,*

Commissioner in Scinde.

Camp, Shikarpoor, 27 February 1852.

No. 16 of 1852.

To *H. E. Goldsmid*, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour, by direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, to acknowledge receipt of your letter, dated the 15th instant, and numbered 1,772 of 1852, in the Territorial Department, Revenue, accompanied by copy of a communication from the Commissioner of Scinde, and certain samples of supposed Russian manufactures, which latter are herewith returned as you request.

2. I am directed to express the best acknowledgment of the Chamber for the interest taken in the course of trade by the Commissioner of Scinde.

3. The Committee incline to the opinion expressed in my letter to the address of Mr. Chief Secretary Malet, No. 59 of 1851, and dated the 26th August of that year, as to the manufacture of these goods, but of course cannot take upon themselves to assert as positive in respect of it; at the same time, should they prove to be Russian, as thought in Scinde, the Committee do not hesitate to state that such goods can be produced in Lancashire or Glasgow, and at cheaper prices. A large trade, which necessarily comes into competition with Russia, is now carried on between England and the Levant, chiefly by the route of Trebizond, Teflis, &c., and it will no doubt be impossible for the traders to distinguish between goods of Russian and British origin coming from similar directions. The Committee believe that the consumption of such expensive fabrics is confined to few. The consumption of the masses, which only is of much importance to commerce, must be of cheaper articles.

I have, &c.

(signed) *John Connon*, Secretary.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce,
27 March 1852.

(True Copies.)

H. E. Goldsmid,
Secretary to Government.

Territorial Department, Revenue, No. 49 of 1852.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable East India Company, London.

Honourable Sirs,

WE have the honour to transmit herewith copies of the papers noted in the margin* relative to the American vessels visiting the port of Guader, to the westward of Somneanee, on the Mekran coast, for the purposes of traffic.

* See below.

We have, &c.

(signed) *A. Bell.*

John Warden.

Bombay Castle, 1 April 1852.

* Letter from the Commissioner in Scinde (No. 76), dated 27th February 1852, with Enclosures. Government Resolution, dated 24th March 1852.

SCINDE.

No. 76 of 1852, Revenue Department.

From the Commissioner in Scinde to the Right Honourable Lord Viscount
Falkland, Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

My Lord,

*See below.

I HAVE the honour to submit, for the information of your Lordship in Council, copy of documents noted in the margin,* on the subject of American vessels visiting the port of Guader, to the westward of Somneanee, on the Mekran coast, during the past season, for the purposes of traffic.

2. The facts mentioned by Mr. Macleod seem to have attracted much attention among the native merchants of Kurrachee; and one of the most intelligent wrote to me on the subject a short time ago, evidently thinking the matter one of much importance to him and his class.

3. It is also worthy of remark, that I was informed, on similar authority, of the Shah of Persia having offered to the Candahar government one of his frontier districts towards Mekran, on condition of their agreeing to protect the roads leading south and south-west from Candahar. The offer, it was added, was declined at the time, as the district in question was, in the opinion of the Candaharees, too far off to be of use to them; but the alleged offer is not the less worthy of note.

4. Mr. Macleod has not, I think, over-estimated the extent of the influence likely to be exercised over our trade by any such competition; and it cannot be too strongly impressed on our own merchants interested in the trade of Central Asia, nor too constantly be borne in mind by our own Government, and by all its servants,

1st. That the only means safely to defy such dangerous competition is to make the most of the great advantages afforded by the Indus as the high-way to Central Asia.

2dly. That this is to be done on the part of merchants by sending goods as much as possible direct to Kurrachee, so as to avoid the expenses of many changes of hands.

On the part of Government—

1st. By improving the port of Kurrachee, and making it safer, more accessible, and more commodious than it now is; and this, as I have already had the honour to state, can be done at an expense which is, compared with the object, very trifling.

2dly. By not only fostering, in the liberal manner already sanctioned, the steam communication along the river, but by improving the means of communication between Kurrachee and that point on the river (Jurruck), whence it becomes desirable to have a better and quicker means of communication with Kurrachee than is afforded by either the water carriage out at the mouth of the Indus, and so by sea to Kurrachee, or that through the tidal channels to Gizree.

3dly. By improving the roads in Scinde, both those which run at right angles to the river, and serve as feeders to it, and those which run parallel to it, and would help to convey goods up country by means less expensive than steam, and less tedious than tracking a boat against stream along the river; such roads would thus assist bulky goods imported by sea, to go up country, as much as the stream aids similar goods intended for export, to come downwards to the sea. The more important roads of both classes, as far as the right, or western bank of the river is concerned, are those recommended in my letter noted in the margin, and its enclosures.

I have, &c.

(signed) *H. B. E. Frere*, Commissioner in Scinde.

Camp, Shikarpore, 27th February 1852.

EXTRACT

No. 1,466 of 1851,
dated 26th July
1851.

* Extract paragraph 4 from the Digest of Intelligence of the Deputy Collector of Customs, ending 7th February. Letter from the Deputy Collector of Customs (No. 55), dated 12th February.

EXTRACT Paragraph 4 of the Digest of Intelligence of the Deputy Collector of Customs at Kurrachee, for the Week ending 7 February 1852.

SCINDE.
—

4. **THERE** is one point in a degree connected with the trade of the province which I deem it advisable to mention here, as it may affect our connexion with Central Asia.

It is known that ships under the American flag periodically visit Guader on the Mekran coast, with the object of exchanging piece goods for wool. Not above two vessels have as yet, as far as I can learn, taken advantage of this traffic annually, and little harm may have been effected. It is possible, however, that the trade has proved a paying one to each party; in which case it will surely increase, and if once its effects extend inland, there is no anticipating the result. An American ship-master will land a cargo on the Mekran coast at less expense than a cargo of British goods can be landed in Bombay. The American has his manufactured goods on the spot, and deals directly with the native holder of raw produce; not so the merchant of Bombay, with his expensive establishment, his brokers, landing, shipping, and storing charges, a Government duty of 5 per cent. to meet, and a position many hundreds of miles distant from the market, where he waits until purchasers find him out.

In 1844 American piece goods were imported here from Muscat, and found a sale notwithstanding the weight of duties to which they were subjected.

(True Extracts.)
(signed) *H. B. Ellis*, Assistant Commissioner.

No. 55 of 1852.

To the Collector of Kurrachee.

Sir,

REFERRING to my précis of intelligence of last week, I have the honour to inform you that from inquiries I have instituted here among parties connected with the Mekran trade, I have ascertained that during the past season four ships under the American flag visited Guader for the purposes of traffic; and that nine hundred packages of wool, valued at 15,000 reals, formed the main portion of their return cargoes.

The trade is described as one of barter, as far as can be carried on, the chief articles introduced being piece goods, iron ware, &c., and there being no lack of dollars when transactions could not be otherwise brought to a satisfactory termination.

I beg leave to call attention to the fact of four vessels having been engaged in the traffic during the bygone season; a proof in itself that it has been found to pay, and an earnest that it will be conducted this season with increased means and vigour.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Macleod*, Deputy Collector.

Kurrachee Custom House,
12 February 1852.

No. 272. General Department.

TRUE copy forwarded for the information of the Commissioner in Scinde, in continuation of my digest of intelligence for the week ending 7th February 1852.

(signed) *H. W. Preedy*, Collector of Kurrachee.
Camp, Jurruck, Collector's Office,
20 February 1852.

(True Copies.)
(signed) *H. B. Ellis*, Assistant Commissioner.

RESOLUTION of Government.

COPY of this letter and enclosures to be transferred to Political department, for consideration as to the expediency of applying to the Envoy in Persia for information on the points noticed in paragraphs 1 and 3.

2. Copy to Marine department for consideration with reference to the improvement of the port of Kurrachee.

SCINDE.

3. Copy to General department for consideration with reference to the question of improving the communications by land.

4. Copy to the Acting Reporter-general for report and opinion on such points as his department can take into consideration.

5. Extract paragraphs 1, 2, and 4, with the first two clauses of Commissioner's letter, and copies of both the enclosures, to be sent to the Chamber of Commerce for consideration and such observations as they may wish to offer.

6. Copy of the letter and its accompaniments, and of this resolution, to be sent to the Most Noble the Governor-general of India in Council, and to the Honourable Court.

(signed) *A. Bell.*
J. Warden.

24 March 1852.

(True Copies.)

H. E. Goldsmid, Secretary to Government.

Territorial Department, Revenue, 1st May (No. 59) 1852.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable East India Company.

Letter from the Acting Collector of Customs (No. 331) dated 14 April 1852.

To the Government of India (No. 2,764), dated 21 April 1852.

To the Acting Collector of Customs (No. 2,765), dated 21 April 1852.

Honourable Sirs,

IN continuation of our letter (No. 49), dated the 1st April 1852, we have the honour to forward copy of our further proceedings, having reference to the subject of American vessels visiting the port of Guader to the westward of Sonmeeanee, on the Mekran coast, for the purposes of traffic.

2. As regards the abolition of export duties, urged in paragraph 10 of Mr. Spooner's letter of 14th April 1852 (No. 331), we beg, with reference to the correspondence ending with our communication to your address (No. 193), dated the 17th December 1851 (paragraph 5), again earnestly to solicit your Honourable Court's attention to the several representations made by us on the subject.

3. Copy of a letter dated 2d January 1852 (No. 14), in reply to our letter to the Government of India of 15th December (No. 11,581 of 1851)* is annexed.

* See below.

We have, &c.

(signed) *D. A. Blane.*
A. Bell.
John Warden.

Bombay Castle, 1 May 1852.

P.S. We beg to forward copy of a letter from the Commissioner in Sindh, No. 124, dated the 10th ultimo, and just transferred to the Revenue from the Secret department, relative to the American commerce on the coasts of Sindh, and to state that we have informed Mr. Frere that the subject thereof will be considered when we receive a supply to the reference made by us under date the 12th ultimo, to Her Majesty's consul at Muscat.

No. 331 of 1852.

From *Richard Spooner*, Acting Collector of Customs, to *H. E. Goldsmid*, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of copy of correspondence, as per margin.†

† See below.

2. The subject is undoubtedly one of the greatest importance, and one which should not be lost sight of; but, at the same time, however, the information which has been afforded on the subject is not sufficient to enable me to form any decided opinion on the matter under reference.

3. The

* Of which copy accompanied our letter of 17 December 1851, No. 193.

† Apprehensions that our trade with Central Asia will be injured, if not entirely ruined, in consequence of the Americans having commenced trading at Guader, on the Mekran coast, and at Muscat. From the Commissioner in Scinde to Government (No. 76), dated 27 February 1852. Extract of a Digest of Intelligence of the Deputy Collector of Customs, Kurrachee, for the week ending 7 February 1852. From Deputy Collector, Kurrachee, to the Collector, Kurrachee, dated 20 February 1852 (No. 55). From Collector Kurrachee, to Commissioner, Scinde (No. 272), dated 20 February 1852. The above forwarded for report under Government endorsement (No. 2,183), dated 30 March 1852.

3. The value of the imports into Bombay from Meckran, which comprises the ports of Sonmееanee and Guader, was—

SCINDE.

in 1845-46	-	-	-	Rs. 24,528
in 1850-51	-	-	-	1,19,951

showing an increase, in the space of five years, of rupees 95,423. The trade consists chiefly of wool, fish-maws, shark-fins, cuppass and ghee.

4. The value of the imports from Sonmееanee alone was—

Sonmееanee.

in 1845-46	-	-	-	Rs. 14,416
in 1850-51	-	-	-	65,828

and the value of the imports from Guader was—

Guader.

in 1845-46	-	-	-	Rs. 10,111
in 1850-51	-	-	-	54,122

showing an increase in the trade of the former port, within the period indicated, of rupees 51,412; and, in the latter port, of rupees 44,011.

5. The above are the only ports in Meckran with which Bombay carries on any trade.

6. The value of wool imported into Kurrachee from Khorassan, was —

in 1845	-	-	-	Rs. 55,120
in 1849-50	-	-	-	2,34,547

an increase attributable, no doubt, to the abolition in 1844 of the duty on wool in Scinde. See Scinde Committee's Report,* dated 19 April 1851.

7. Such favourable results during so short a period tend, in some measure, to remove apprehension that American manufactures are likely, to any appreciable extent at least, to supplant those of Great Britain in Central Asia.

8. The American trade with Meckran must as yet be very trifling. It may, however, be extended, and the only way to prevent its affecting British interests injuriously, is by giving every facility to trade.

9. I fully appreciate all of the plans proposed by Mr. Frere for the improvement of Scinde, and the extension of her commerce.

10. Were Government to abolish all export duties (except in respect to the items noted in the margin), it would be a vigorous step towards the encouragement of trade. On the subject of the abolition of export duties, I would respectfully beg to refer to Mr. Young's letter (No. 814), dated the 21st October 1851.

1. Opium.
2. Salt.
3. Spirits.
4. Tobacco.
5. Cashmere.
shawls.
6. Indigo.

11. The trade of Central Asia would seem to be greatly impeded by the enormous transit exactions of native States through which it passes. I derive my information on this point from the Report of the Scinde Committee before adverted to; each camel load, it would appear from that Report, pays, between Kandahar and Kurrachee, "black mail" rupees 23, independent of an export *ad valorem* duty at Kandahar of 5 per cent. The return trade would seem to be still more heavily taxed.

12. With such drags as these on commerce, it cannot be a matter of surprise that traffic is so sluggish.

13. It would, I think, be highly advantageous if a proper understanding could be established with the chiefs of States through which traffic flows, with a view to the abatement of such ruinous exactions, and if the annual fairs proposed by Mr. Frere were permanently established.

14. I have been informed that American vessels engaged in traffic along the African, Arabian, and Meckran coasts, usually touch at the port of Muscat, where a large quantity of their cargo is landed, and from thence exported to Cutch.

15. As the Government have a Resident at Muscat, it may be deemed advisable to call upon that officer for information regarding the number of American vessels annually touching there, and the nature of their dealings with, and extent of their traffic, as regards the Meckran coast, Cutch, and other places.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Richard Spooner*,
Acting Collector of Customs.

Dated Bombay Custom House, 14 April 1852.

* Which formed one of the accompaniments to Government letter to the Chamber of Commerce, (No. 6,535), dated 19 June 1851.

SCINDE.

No. 2,764 of 1852.

From *H. E. Goldsmid*, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to
F. J. Halliday, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir,

IN continuation of my letter (No. 2,188) dated the 30th ultimo, having reference to American vessels visiting the port of Guader, to the westward of Sonmeanee, on the Mekran coast, I have been directed to forward you copy of the papers noted in the margin, for submission to the Most Noble the Governor-general of India in Council.

Letter from the Acting Collector of Customs (No. 331), dated 14th instant. Resolution passed by Government thereon this day.

2. As regards the abolition of export duties urged in paragraph 10 of Mr. Spooner's letter, I have been directed, with reference to the correspondence ending for the time with Mr. Under-Secretary Young's letter (No. 142), dated 13th February last, again earnestly to solicit the attention of the Government of India to the several representations made by this Government on the subject.

I have, &c.

(signed) *H. E. Goldsmid*,
 Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 21 April 1852.

No. 2,765 of 1852.

From Mr. Secretary *Goldsmid* to the Acting Collector of Customs, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE been directed to inform you that copies of your letter (No. 331), dated the 14th instant, and of this reply, will be sent to the Government of India and the Honourable the Court of Directors, and their attention will be again earnestly solicited to the several representations made by this Government on the subject adverted to in your tenth paragraph.

2. Extract (paragraphs 9, 11, 12, and 13) of your letter will be transferred to the Political department, and paragraph 9 will also be transferred to the General department, for early consideration.

3. The reference suggested in your fifteenth paragraph was made by me under date the 12th instant, to Her Majesty's Consul at Muscat.

I have, &c.

(signed) *H. E. Goldsmid*,
 Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 21 April 1852.

No. 14.

From *F. J. Halliday*, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, to *H. E. Goldsmid*, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Sir,

Home Department.
 Legislative.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 15th ultimo, and its enclosures, re-urging the wish of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, that export duty may be abolished on all articles, save those mentioned in the margin of the third paragraph of your letter, and recommending that the proposed measure of relief be considered by the Government of India before the draft Act, "for the consolidation and amendment of the laws relating to the Customs under the Presidency of Bombay," read on the 21st March last, becomes law.

2. The Honourable the Court of Directors, having in their despatch, dated the 31st December 1847, declined to entertain, under circumstances which cannot be considered to have changed, any proposition for the further abolition of export duties, the President in Council does not feel at liberty to enter upon the reconsideration of the question submitted by the Government of Bombay; but I am desired to state, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, that the recent correspondence on the subject will be brought specially to the favourable notice of the Honourable Court.

3. The draft Acts relating to the Customs under the Bombay Presidency have this day been passed into law as Acts I. and II. of 1852.

I have, &c.

(signed) *F. J. Halliday*,
 Secretary to the Government of India.

Fort William, 2 January 1852.

(True Copies.)

(signed) *H. E. Goldsmid*,
 Secretary to Government.

No. 124 of 1852, Secret Department.

SCINDE.
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From the Commissioner in Scinde to the Right Honourable Lord Viscount
Falkland, Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my letter, noted in the margin, I have the honour to forward, for the information of your Lordship in Council, an extract from the digest of the Deputy Collector of Customs for the week ending 20th ultimo, on the subject of the American commerce on these coasts.

No. 76, dated the 27 February, on the subject of American commerce on these coasts.

2. The following details regarding this trade were communicated to me by Mr. Puce, of the Custom-house here. They are taken from a letter written by Mr. George Apothecary, attached to the British Agency, to a friend here, under date, Muscat, 30th March. The writer appears to be an intelligent man.

3. From Muscat, the Americans take dates and tortoise-shell in exchange for unbleached cotton cloth of very coarse and cheap description, common clocks, spermaceti candles, and soap. There is also a large export of dates and salt to India, chiefly in exchange for rice.

4. At Gwader (Mekran coast), the wool is generally purchased with dollars.

5. French vessels call on this coast in ballast, from Mauritius and Bourbon, and take wheat, the produce of Scinde, dried fish from Soor, near Muscat, dates from Ooman, donkeys and horses, which generally come from Bushire. All these goods are usually paid for in dollars.

6. Probably if this harbour (Kurrachee) were made accessible to square-rigged vessels, a matter, I believe, by no means difficult to accomplish, these vessels would prefer taking in wheat at first, and they could be supplied with salt fish from this coast as cheaply probably as from Muscat.

7. The Custom duties at Muscat are farmed by two Banians from the Imaum for 96,000 dollars per annum, which may give some idea of the extent of trade.

8. The writer appends a list of eight American, and three French ships, which had called at Muscat since June 1851. Of the former, three had taken in cargo at Gwader, and four Muscat, three came from Bombay, one from Aden, and the rest from Zanzibar. All the French ships came from Bourbon or Mauritius.

I have, &c.

(signed) *H. B. E. Frere*,
Commissioner in Scinde.

Kurrachee, 10 April 1852.

EXTRACT from the Digest of Intelligence of the Deputy Collector of Customs, for the Week ending 20th March 1852.

By a vessel which left Muscat on the 1st and arrived on the 12th instant, the following intelligence has been received:—The Sultan has subdued the revolted provinces. The chief of Chooar, by a timely submission, has been granted more favourable terms than the other chiefs. He has been deprived of his possessions, but pensioned on a thousand reals per mensem, with choice of residence. A British cruizer is said to be off the coast, apparently watching the result of the conflict. A steamer from Bombay arrived at Muscat, and after remaining a day and a night returned.

Five square-rigged vessels were at Muscat when informant left that place. They are supposed to bear the American flag, and were taking in wheat, wool, ghee, fish, dates, donkeys, and hides (cow and sheep); one of the ships had completed a cargo of donkeys, for which animals there would appear to be a large annual demand by the Americans.* Informant cannot say what the inward cargo was, but it is supposed to have consisted of piece goods and dollars, and coffee from Yemen.

* French. (signed)
H. B. E. Frere.

A vessel which arrived from Choabur and Gwadur on the 20th instant, states that an American ship had touched at the former place for water. She was on her way to Bushire, and was fully laden with merchandize, consisting of piece goods, tents, cabinet ware, glass ware, gunpowder, cutlery, 10 dogs, and 2 cutters.

(True Extract.)

(signed) *H. B. Ellis*, Assistant Commissioner.

(True Copies.)

(signed) *H. E. Goldsmid*, Secretary to Government.

(signed) *T. L. Peacock*,
Examiner of India Correspondence.

East India House, 29 June 1852.

SCINDE.

COPIES of all CORRESPONDENCE between the
Bombay Government and the Indian Authorities
at Home, in relation to the Trade of *Scinde*,
and the Establishment of an ANNUAL FAIR at
the Port of *Currachee*; with Copies of Enclo-
sures contained in such Correspondence.

(*Mr. James Wilson.*)

*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
30 June 1852.*

[*Price 8 d.*]

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