

THE INDIAN NEWS,

AND
CHRONICLE OF EASTERN AFFAIRS.
LONDON, 17th APRIL 1851.

Published on the arrival of each Overland Mail—Price Twelve Shillings per Annum, payable in advance.

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Dates of Arrivals.

The Overland Mail from India arrived in London yesterday, the 16th instant, bringing advices to the following dates:—

China	27th February.
Calcutta	7th March.
Madras	14th do.
Bombay	17th do.
Ceylon	14th do.

Letters for India, *via* Southampton, can only now be forwarded on the 20th of every month, and they require to be posted at the Post-office in London before 8 o'clock on the morning of that day. The mails *via* Marseilles continue to be forwarded, as usual, on the evenings of the 7th and 24th; but when these dates happen to be Sunday, then on the Monday following.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC NEWS.

"Peace," says the *Bombay Times*, "continues to reign supreme throughout our eastern empire." But the fact is, that our gallant enemies the Wuzerees, who have so long supplied a bugbear for the Indian papers, have relinquished fighting for the more undignified occupation of robbing. Whilst the 2nd Punjab Cavalry was on its march from Nurree to Bunnoo, firing was heard in the rear. Lieut. Eckford was sent back to ascertain the cause, when he found that 300 Wuzerees had made a dash at the rear-guard, in the hope of carrying off the baggage. The guard, consisting of only fifty sepoy and fourteen sowars, had faced about, and showed a firm front. On Lieut. Eckford's arrival at the scene of action, he immediately attacked the marauders right and left, and drove them up the mountains; and, skirmishers having been thrown out in front, the cavalry made their way through the pass. The Wuzerees, halting at a considerable elevation, seemed to invite our troops to attack them; but nothing was to be gained by this, and the rear-guard were ordered to rejoin the head-quarters of the regiment, which they effected with the loss of a sowar's horse, notwithstanding an incessant fire of jezails.

Capt. J. Grantham, of H. M.'s 78th, had been severely wounded by the Affreeds. He was riding out with Miss Curling, when they were attacked by five men, who compelled the lady to dismount; and on Capt. Grantham resisting, they wounded that officer so severely in six or seven places, that his life was despaired of. The horses were then carried off, and the robbers made their escape, Miss Curling being compelled to return to cantonments on foot. Although the outrage occurred about dusk, Capt. Grantham was not brought into Peshawur till eleven o'clock p.m. It has since been found necessary to amputate his hands at the wrist, and but faint hopes are entertained of his recovery. It is rumoured that negotiations have been opened between the

Governor-General and Dost Mahomed Khan for the surrender of the treacherous Affghan, Sultan Mahomed Khan. Our Indian readers will remember that this chief was entrusted with a high command at Peshawur at the outbreak of Chuttur Singh's rebellion, and that he had the baseness to betray Colonel and Mrs. Lawrence, with their family, into the hands of the rebel Sikh chief. The punishment of this act has always been an object with the Indian Government; and, notwithstanding the relationship between the traitor and Dost Mahomed, it is said that the Governor-General's demands are likely to be acceded to; in which case, amicable relations may again be established with the Affghans.

One of our most active and zealous allies in the Punjab war is at Bombay, on his way to England, viz., Peer Ibrahim Khan Bahadoor, the confidential agent of the Rajah of Bhawalpore, whose fidelity and bravery are recorded by Lieut. Lake in the Punjab *Blue Book* of 1849. This gentleman should receive a hearty welcome on his arrival. His object is to be present at the Hyde Park Exhibition. The Governor-General was at Husun Abdal on the 28th of February, and would reach Peshawur by the 16th of March. He is expected to be at Simla by the middle of May. The Commander-in-Chief reached Delhi on the 14th of March, and Sir Walter Gilbert arrived at the same place on the 6th; the former on his way to Meerut, the latter to Calcutta. The Lieut.-Governor of the North-West-Provinces returned to Agra on the 1st of March.

A conspiracy has been formed in Nepal to assassinate Jung Bahadoor, the late Nepalese Ambassador to this country, but like most oriental conspiracies, it failed from the treachery of one of the conspirators; these were the brothers and relatives of the Maharajah. The troops remained firm to the minister, who is *de facto* ruler of the country, and, perhaps, after this display on the part of the reigning family, *de jure* also, i. e. by right of the strongest.

It appears from the *Bombay Times* that one of the chief complaints against Sir Charles Napier, relative to the march of the 78th from Kurrachee to Sukkur, is an extract from a volume published in 1846, entitled the "Camp and Barrack Room." We well remember reviewing this volume at that period, and the more so, as the publishers, in consequence we suppose of our comments, have never, from that day to this, sent us another of their publications for review. We shall not even look over our file for that review, but if our readers choose to take the trouble to look over theirs, they will find that we then gave our opinion, formed on pretty long practice in such matters, that the author of that book was much better acquainted with the localities of Fleet Ditch than with those of the "Camp and Barrack Room;" our intention being to convey the impression, from the intrinsic evidence of the book itself, that it was a publisher's "spec," written by some of those ingenious gentlemen with whom obscure quarters of the city abound, for the purpose of attracting notice from its anti-flogging diatribes—flogging in the army being just then the favourite public crotchet. And such is the evidence brought forward of Sir Charles Napier's incapacity, or something worse, as a military commander. The gallant veteran, if he thinks such attacks worthy of his notice, may well take the malice of a portion of the Indian press as a compliment, since the above proves that matters injurious to his high reputation have been diligently sought for;—the above being a specimen of what has been found.

We learn from the Calcutta papers that an order is about to be promulgated prohibiting military officers from taking any share whatever in the management of joint-stock companies. For the sake of the officers themselves, we rejoice at this, as, in most cases where their reputation has been called in question, they have only been the dupes of others, from their own incompetence in matters of business.

The Calcutta papers are indignant at the treatment of Admiral Austen, the naval commander-in-chief, he having been compelled to go to Spence's hotel. The military secretary is said to have told him, that, Sir John Littler's house being under repair, he could not have that; and Government-house in the Fort being in a like predicament, he could not have that either; whilst Lord Dalhousie had left stringent orders that no one should occupy Government-house *par excellence* on any account; so that, with three public mansions, there is no place to be found for the naval commander-in-chief. It might have been thought that the stringency of Lord

Dalhousie relative to his own residence was unnecessary, as he neither occupies it nor intends so to do.

The ship *Buckinghamshire* has been burned at anchor off Diamond Harbour. Two invalids of H. M.'s service, and three or four of the crew, are lost. The remainder of the crew and passengers were saved by the steamer *Dwarkanauth*. As usual, the catastrophe is suspected to have been the work of the Lascars, several of whom are in custody. The lady passengers exhibited an amount of calmness highly praiseworthy. Scarcely an article of any description was saved. A subscription has been set on foot for the sufferers.

The directors of the North-West Bank have appointed an inspector, Mr. Joseph Smith, a gentleman well known for his integrity and commercial experience. Major Angelo and Captain Blair have been acquitted, and the former officer is about to proceed to the Cape on sick leave.

Madras is newsless, the papers being almost entirely occupied with the proceedings of the other presidencies. The Annual Horticultural Exhibition had passed off with *éclat*. A commission had been appointed to inquire into the state of public works at the presidency; Major Balfour of the Artillery, Mr. Bourdillon of the Civil Service, and Capt. F. Cotton of the Engineers, have been appointed the commissioners. The Commander-in-Chief, Sir G. Berkeley, has had a severe attack of illness, but is in a fair way of recovery. It is said that he has applied to be relieved about June next.

At Bombay a similar order to that of which we have already spoken as affecting military officers figuring in banks, &c., is about to be issued. The Manchester commissioner has taken his departure for the cotton districts, expecting to return to the presidency in May. Sir Erskine Perry has, at his own expense, had a well dug on the Esplanade; great fears being entertained as to the supply of water on the island. Lord and Lady Falkland were about to proceed to the hills.

The intelligence brought by the China mail is of small importance. Her Majesty's ship *Enterprise*, which left England in 1849 in search of Sir J. Franklin, arrived at Hong Kong on the 15th of February. She will sail again for the Polar Seas after refitting. The *Investigator* too was fallen in with on the 4th of August to the westward of Point Barrow.

Chin-Apoo, one of the murderers of Lieut. Da Costa, has been captured and identified. He will be tried during the present month. Pirates still abound in the China waters, causing great destruction to commerce.

On the 22nd of February, Major-General Staveley, under warrant from Prince Albert, invested Governor Bonham as Knight Commander of the Bath. General Staveley has left for Bombay.

Casualties by death in the armies of India, reported since the departure of the mail on the 3rd March:—

H. M.'s Troops.—Major-General Sir Dudley St. Leger Hill, K.C.B., Col. of the 50th Foot, commanding the Sirhind Division of the Bengal army, at Umballah, on 21st Feb.

Bombay.—Surg. Fraser, 6th N.I., at Bombay, on 14th March.

Bengal.—Capt. J. D. Cunningham, of the Engineers, on special duty at Umballah, in camp near Umballah, on 28th Feb.—Surg. Pearson, Bengal army, at Barrackpore, on 5th March.

The steamer *Haddington* left Suez on 8th Feb., and arrived at Madras on 2nd March, and left the same day for Calcutta. The following is a list of her passengers:—

From Suez to Aden.—Lieut. Brackenbury; Rev. M. and Mrs. Mitford and child; Miss Clarke; Mrs. Sandwith; Mr. Grant; Capt. Sweet; Messrs. Collier, Boyce, Salmon, Soppitt, Gifford, Tighe, Pintry, Lockett, Cattel, Mills, Bosworth, Sibthorp, Moleworth, Fawcetts, N. S., Chichester, Descencay, and Tiffalarley; Mrs. Tice; Miss Clarke; Capt. Watson; Capt. and Mrs. Tyndall; Col. Cumming; Dr. Kraff; and Mrs. O'Brian.

From Suez to Ceylon.—Mr. Leece; Mr. W. H. Williams; E. Rowland and wife (P. and O. servants); and Miss Johnson.

From Suez to Singapore.—Messrs. Tillson, Lowden, Conperas, and Swairing.

From Suez to Hong Kong.—Messrs. Odell, Marshall, Bridges, McLeod, Edmonds, and Forbes.

From Suez to Madras.—Major Hecker; Mr. and Mrs. Cotton and infant; Lady Rawlinson and infant; Mr. and Mrs. Clarke; Capt. Coxwell; Miss Scott; Miss Lichfield; Capt. Macleod; Messrs. Kerakoosse, Robinson, Gordon, Smyth, Richards, Aitcheson, Lane, Baker, Bantflower, Urquhart, Payton, Renton, Tennent, Heathcoate, Lumsdane, and Wedderburn.

From Suez to Calcutta.—Mr. and Mrs. Unwin; Mr. Gossett; Messrs. Larpent, Campbell, Shelley, Armstrong, Hale, Gillespie, Osborne, Sweetnam, Manderson, Bramley, Sheriff, Hunter, Fitzgerald, Sitwell, Phaire, and McFarland, cadets; Messrs. Malcolm and Lowe, writers; Mr. Amesbury, assist.-surg.; Misses Hickey and L. Hickey; Miss Hennessey; Mr. and Mrs. Oldham; Mr. and Mrs. Tucker and two children; Mr. and Mrs. Hay; Messrs. Biddle, Seagrave, Roods, Ross, Tucker, Hawkins, Hawkins, jun., McCullum, Spencer, and Colvin.

From Galle to Calcutta.—Messrs. Blyth and Cavenagh.

From Madras to Calcutta.—Capt. R. Crewe; Mr. C. Taylor; Lord F. Kennedy; Mr. Trotter; Mrs. Hill, Master Hill, and three children.

From Calcutta to Madras.—Mr. Pringle; Mr. and Mrs. Western; Mr. Donovan; and Mr. Woolley.

From Calcutta to Galle.—Mr. and Mrs. Colvin; Lady Buller and two children.

From Calcutta to Suez.—Mr. Finlay; Mr. Gladstone; Mr. H. Richards; Mr. J. Allan; Col. Tait; and Mr. J. M. Wright.

From Calcutta to Alexandria.—Mr. John Freeman and Mr. Begbie.

From Calcutta to Malta.—Mr. Boyle and Mr. Stevenson.

From Calcutta to Southampton.—Mr. John Anderson; Dr. Batt; Mr. Clifton; Lieut. Turner; Col. Monteith; Mrs. Melville, two children, and infant; Mr. J. J. Rivas; Mrs. Rivas and three children; Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Heyland; Dr. Graham; Mr. Cullimore; Mr. and Mrs. Taylor and one child; Mrs. Col. Hawkins; Mr. J. Hills; Mr. Cathcarrs; Mr. and Mrs. J. Dougal; Miss Dougal; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas; Mr. Udney; Major Younghusband; Major Uddleston; Major Kennedy; Lieut. E. D. Money; Mr. W. S. Kelley; Dr. and Mrs. Goodeve; Mr. W. C. Currie; Mr. H. T. Higginson; Mrs. H. Hyslop; Mr. Willis; Capt. Roney; and Capt. O. Donnell.

From Madras to Southampton.—Col. J. Bell; Col. G. Conran; Mrs. S. Smyth and child; Ven. Archdeacon Shortland, lady, and child; Rev. C. Rhenius, lady, and three children.

From Madras to Malta.—Miss Williams; Major G. Logan; and J. C. Wroughton, Esq.

From Madras to Suez.—Capt. W. P. Cust.

From Madras to Singapore.—Ensign A. Drury.

The following is a list of the passengers who arrived at Bombay by the steamer *Victoria*, on the 8th March:—

Col. G. P. Le Messurier, Bo. Art.; Capt. H. W. Evans, Bo. Art.; Mr. Parsons; Mr. Crispe; Mr. Clarke Buckmaster; Mr. Dodson; Mr. Sconce, Midshipman Indian Navy; Madame Casimier and four children; Monsieur Casimier; and W. Penton, from Aden.

Landed at Aden.—J. S. Child, Esq., M.C.S.

The following is a list of the passengers who left Bombay on 17th March by steam-frigate *Moozuffer*, for Aden and Suez:—

Mrs. Larken and two children; Mrs. Tice; Dr. Tice, H.M.'s 8th Foot; Major F. D. George, C.B., H.M.'s 22nd Foot; Capt. Wilkie, Bengal Army; G. Morphet, Esq.; H. Scott, Esq., Bengal C.S.; H. Thornhill, Esq., Bengal C.S.; Lieut. Pogson, 8th Foot; Major Clark, H.M.'s 14th Dragoons; H. Scott, Esq., merchant.

The following passengers left Hong Kong on 27th Feb. by steamer *Malla*:—

For England.—Lady Bonham and child; Mr. T. D. Neave; Major Staveley; and Mrs. and Miss Saul.

For Suez.—Mr. and Mrs. Mackean and child; Mrs. Birley; Messrs. N. de St. Croix; W. Pustau; F. Chapman; and P. Jenny.

For Ceylon.—Lieut. Rutherford.

For Bombay.—Major-General and Mrs. Staveley; Capt. Gordon; Mrs. Granet and child; Messrs. A. Rustomjee; and M. Dadabhoj.

For Singapore.—Mr. G. Peabody.

DETAILS FROM THE PAPERS.

THE PUNJAB.

A correspondent informs us, that the Governor-General and party arrived at Maree on the 13th ultimo, and remained until the 17th. They had experienced very unpleasant weather and heavy rain, which detained them some time on the road; the morning they came in was gloomy but after their arrival the weather cleared and became fine. The valley in which the camp was pitched is described as very beautiful; the hills all round covered with every variety of limestone, and some beautiful crystals of quartz.—*Delhi Gazette*, March 8.

A letter from Peshawur mentions that Sir C. Campbell, accompanied by Major Fisher of the 15th Irregulars, had left for the purpose of meeting the Governor-General at Husun Abdal; the whole party was expected at Attok on the 4th, and Peshawur on the 9th. It is fortunate for them that the moonlight nights are coming on, or the Afreedees and midnight marauders, who commit such havoc among the residents, might reap a rich harvest in the camp of the noble visitor. His lordship does not make any stay at Peshawur.—*Ibid*.

A correspondent at Lahore says:—"General Battine arrived here on the 28th ultimo; he will, I believe, take the command of the station and force here, in the room of General Gilbert, gone to Calcutta. H. M.'s 96th are expected at Lahore in two or three days; the treasure party going hence towards Peshawur will not be moved, it is rumoured, till their arrival. The treasure has been ready for transmission some days; the amount which will be despatched is between forty and fifty lakhs, and the train of camels employed in conveying it will extend to at least a mile and a quarter. Why are not all the movements of a treasure party kept secret, till the hour of the formation of the escort and the despatch of the treasure? The European Artillery, I hear, will, in the course of a few days, return to their old quarters at Anarkullee, in consequence of their barracks at Mean Meer not being ready, and the hot weather coming upon us so suddenly. Robberies are of not uncommon occurrence here; several gentlemen's houses at Anarkullee have been entered and robbed of much valuable property; and on the roads leading to Lahore several merchants have been stopped and robbed of their merchandize and cash by bands of dacoits."—*Ibid*.

The Camp of the Governor-General was, on the 28th of February, at Husun Abdal, once more on the direct road to Attok and Peshawur.—*Lahore Chronicle*, March 5.

An occasional correspondent at Peshawur furnishes the following communication, for which we are much obliged. He promises to send us an account of the doings during the stay at Peshawur of the Governor-General, and we look forward to his favours with pleasure. We are glad

arrived at Madras on the 12th March, and on the 8th. The following is a list of the

ERS:—

to learn that the fears entertained in respect to Capt. Grantham's recovery have proved groundless :—

PESHAWUR, 27th Feb. 1851.—“As you inserted my last letter, I am tempted to write again about our sayings and doings here; but first let me tell you that Captain Grantham, of whose serious injuries I sent you a last account, is going on very favourably, no bad symptom having as yet shown itself; the first and middle fingers of the right hand have necessarily been amputated. His horses have been traced some seven miles up the Khyber Pass, where they are completely out of our reach. I hear, however, that the Governor-General is very much annoyed at the affair, and it is to be hoped that the attention of the authorities being thus forcibly drawn to the subject, some stringent means will be adopted to secure us against the murderers and robbers who now seem to have it all their own way. The thieves have been less active than usual this month; the moon, “the parish lantern,” always interferes with the amusements of these gentry, who by no means delight in “a shiny night,” and the nights have been particularly clear lately, notwithstanding which, however, they have made some daring attempts; one, to break into the room occupied by the lady who was with Captain Grantham when he was attacked, and who would be able to identify two of his assailants. A guard is now placed over the house. A night or two ago some fellows forced off the lock of the stable door of an officer of the 98th, but were disturbed before they could carry off any booty. A servant of another officer of the same regiment was shot dead near the city gate; and a scoundrel, who was challenged by a sentry of the Guide Corps, fired on him, but was immediately captured, together with a trumpet he had stolen from the artillery. I suppose his only punishment will be two years on the roads, where he will smoke his bubble-bubble, and take a little gentle exercise. The rufians should be killed without mercy, not captured. So much for serious matter. In the way of amusement we have been especially dull, the talk-of balls have not yet taken place. We are waiting for the completion of the Artillery mess-house, in which is a capital room. The Artillery give a house warming, and then the Queen's regiments give their ball, but the sooner these things take place the better, as the weather is becoming very hot,—weather wise folk say that March will be cool again. It is to be hoped it will; hot weather in Peshawur is no joke. Talking of balls, I would just hint to some young gentlemen that it would be well to practise the waltz and polka in private, before having the assurance to make public exhibitions of themselves, as well as of the ladies who are only too kind in dancing, or rather attempting to dance, with them; a great source of discontent is, that the ladies engage themselves some days before a ball for all the dances; at the last ball it was very amusing to see the rush made to the door on the entrance of some ladies who had held themselves disengaged until they made their entrée. There have not been any performances among the gentlemen amateurs this month, but the men of the 61st and 98th regiments have acted the “Wreck Ashore” and the “Queer Subject,” and very well indeed they did it. The theatre is a fine large building in the 98th lines, and the roof is really handsome; the scenes are good, and the drop scene, a view on the Rhine, is very creditable to the talent of the artilleryman who painted it. By the way, it is rather a curious fact that theatres are generally built in a station long before churches; such is the case both here and at Rawul Pindie, and apropos of churches, on the road between the 98th and 61st lines, there is a pretty specimen of the different amount of zeal evinced by Catholic and Protestant clergymen. On the left hand side of the road we see the Catholic church rapidly rising, and the padre living in a tent by its side, nearly opposite, on the right hand, we have the residence of the Protestant clergyman nearly completed, but, as far as I am aware, no signs of a church yet. Mathews used to say that ‘comparisons are odious,’ but these things will force themselves on our observation. In expectation of the Governor-General's arrival there has been no end of drillings and inspections. On the 3rd we had a grand day with blank ammunition, and yesterday, the 26th, another parade for all the troops, but without ammunition. I hear that the Goorkas, who arrived on the 18th, marched past in very good style. The people in the city are daubing their houses with whitewash, and we are all looking forward to great doings. The station now presents a very different appearance to what it did at this time last year. There are now plenty of bungalows, but unfortunately they are in general very much crowded together. We have some good roads in progress, and the lines of the 61st will soon be ready for them. The women of the 98th are already in their new quarters, but the men will have to remain in the old uncomfortable temporary barracks built for the Bombay Fusiliers. There was a report here that the 53rd were to relieve the 61st and the 32nd the 98th, but it seems that such a change is not practicable until next cold weather, and as it is now so late in the season, it is probably better to leave matters as they are, and to hope that next summer may be less sickly than the last: the European hospitals seem to be built on a very bad plan, and are, from all accounts, more suited for winnowing floors than for the accommodation of sick. Among the amusements, I omitted to state two great sources of pleasure. The bands of H. M.'s 61st and 98th, which each play twice a week, the former on Mondays and Thursdays, the latter on Tuesdays and Fridays! The 61st play overtures, the 98th deal more in polkas, quadrilles, and waltzes, but both are very well attended. As a last bit of news, I will whisper to you, that a little love making has been going on, which has ended in an engagement, and will of course conclude in marriage. I will give you an account of what may happen during the Governor-General's visit.—Yours very truly, —M.”

“N. B.—Thorough good draining is the thing most wanted at this station, and no flooded grounds should be allowed within some distance of the cantonments.”

The remarks of our correspondent, regarding the apathy shown in the case of church building in general are, we regret extremely to say, but too well founded. With the exception of Sealkote and Jullunder, we know of no other station in the Punjab where the chaplain has put his shoulder to the wheel, with the zeal that would command success. At Lahore we seem further than ever from the consummation, so devoutly to be desired, of having a suitable house set apart in which to attend divine service. It is not creditable to the Protestant clergy that such comparisons as the above should be so frequently drawn, but the blame is their own, and with them it must rest. Wherever a zealous originator has taken the scheme into his own hands, the lay public have liberally responded to the call.—*Ibid.*

It appears from a communication elsewhere inserted, that a skirmish

has occurred, at no great distance from Mitenkot, between the party of the 3rd Rissla (probably a detachment of Capt. Prendergast's Punjab Cavalry), posted at Sungur, and a party of Belooch cattle lifters, who got the worst of it, and were obliged to fly, leaving their booty behind them. We have no means of affording “An Observer” any information as to the intentions of the authorities, regarding the removal of the troops from Dhera Ghazee Khan. Seeing that the stations of the Punjab Irregular force have been very recently “settled,” we deem it, however, unlikely that any such change will be determined upon.—*Ibid.*

LAHORE.—The treasure detachment, consisting of five companies of H. M.'s 24th Foot, a wing of the 9th Regt. N. I., two horse artillery guns, and a proportion of Irregular Cavalry, move to the old race-course, and are to march on the 6th (to-morrow). Lieut. Drew of the 24th, is appointed detachment staff, Capt. Simpson, assistant commissary-general, has gone to Umritser, on temporary leave, Lieut. Glover to Jullunder, on the same account, and Lieut. Hill to Umballah. The military authorities have received instructions to pay to the president of the Board of Administration, the compliment of the salute of his rank on all usual occasions. A slight improvement is visible in the Anarkulee cantonments as to cleanliness, but much remains to be done. The enclosures round the trees are still made receptacles of filth. If a few of the servants who use them for such purposes were fined for so doing, the sanitary condition of the cantonment would undergo a still further improvement.

It has been definitively determined that the foot artillery shall return for the present year from their camp at Meean Meer, to their late quarters at Anarkulee.—*Ibid.*

NORTH-WEST PROVINCES.

Major Kennedy, though compelled by ill-health to leave India during the present month, has held the office of railway engineer long enough to make several remarkable discoveries. He finds that the Dunwah Pass, over which it has all along been proposed to carry the threatened railway, is more than a thousand feet high; that it would be “unadvisable” to attempt to “bridge the Soane where it is three miles wide,” and that the Soane is less than a mile in width near its juncture with the Ganges. Had Major Kennedy been appointed consulting engineer to Government five years ago instead of yesterday, our railway prospects would have been better. Unfortunately, however, for Major Kennedy's reputation for originality, the same opinions have long been held and boldly promulgated by a reflective and yet communicative cooly, who superintends the “means of communication” across the Soane at Dearee. We are sorry to say that this bare-legged philosopher has a very low opinion of the *loha ka surruk wallas* as a body. Major Kennedy's departure is very much to be regretted on every account, for it was only his accidental presence at head-quarters when Mr. Simms went away, that prevented the repetition of the job by which Mr. Simms has got his appointment. Mr. Simms' notable scheme for improving the navigation of the Ganges, and the gigantic plan of Calcutta, which might have been executed quite as well by a common road surveyor, seem to be all the advantages obtained from an appointment which cost the Government upwards of two lakhs of rupees.—*Majusillite*, March 7.

Colonel Low, resident at Ajmere, started from Bhurtpore for Kerowlie a few days since, and has not yet returned. We hope to get the particulars of the outbreak at the latter place in the course of a few days.—*Delhi Gazette*, Feb. 26.

We understand that Sir Walter Gilbert intends to make some stay at Mussoorie, where he has taken a house. The gallant general will not go to Calcutta till he is wanted in council, and may serve a very useful purpose, by residing where he can give his relative, Sir William Gomm, the advice and assistance of which he will naturally stand so much in need.—*Ibid.*

We are very glad to find that the design of erecting a Christian college at Agra has been extensively forwarded by the public. About 14,000 rs. is now in the hands of the treasurer, and 15,000 rs. is ready to be appropriated from friends in trust at Calcutta, which, with the balance of sums to be received, places the success of the project beyond all question. The Rev. Mr. French and the Rev. M. Steuart, who are to conduct the establishment, have arrived at the scene of their future labours. The building will be commenced before the ensuing rains.—*Ibid.*

The Lieutenant-Governor and the new head of the army, met for the first time on Friday last at Muttra, and dined together in the evening, the heads of departments, civil and military, being invited on the occasion. Mr. Thomason had some difficulty in reaching Muttra on Wednesday, the bridge over the Jumna at that place having been swept away on the previous evening by a sudden rise of the river. The elephants attached to the camp swam across the stream, and boats were provided for his honour and suite, who, with their multitudinous followers, were landed on the other side without accident.—*Ibid.*

As we had previously announced in anticipation, the Commander-in-Chief reached Muttra on the morning of Friday last (the 21st), he was received by a guard of honour consisting of a squadron of the 9th Light Cavalry, and the usual salute from the horse artillery. The customary levee was held in the afternoon, and next morning the troops of the station were inspected. His Excellency was accompanied by the Rajah of Bhurtpore as far as Deeg, where the Rajah was to have remained to receive the Lieut.-Governor, who left Muttra on Saturday morning. The portion of the Bhurtpore territories traversed by the British camp is described as very fairly cultivated, extensive fields of young corn were frequently seen, and where the properties of the soil and water made the preparation of salt more profitable than husbandry, there the people seemed busily employed in the manufacture. The peasantry of Bhurtpore are well clad, generally in comfortable wadded garments, and they spoke well of their rulers, which is not invariably the case in states under the gubernation of native princes. Bulwunt Sing seems to be liked by his subjects, and many of them appear anxiously to look forward to the period when he shall be presented with an heir to his possessions, which event is expected shortly to take place. One of the Ranees is represented to be in a very interesting condition, and he, of course, is desirous to have a son born unto him, whilst the priesthood hope for great things for themselves (in the way of presents and endowments) when the auspicious occurrence comes to pass.—*Ibid.*

A correspondent favours us with a letter from Nowgong from which we make the following extracts :—“On the 18th ultimo Mr. Bushby, the

Governor-General's agent, arrived at this station, on a tour through these provinces, and was feted for some days. On the 21st, however, sudden orders were issued for the immediate despatch of a force of two guns No. 16 Light Field Battery, a squadron of the 3rd Light Cavalry, and two companies of the 55th Native Infantry, under the command of Major Drummond, 3rd Light Cavalry, to Alipoor, a fort and town 12 miles hence, to depose a usurper named Bhugut Singh, who has, for the last five years, held forcible possession of the Alipoor guddee, to the exclusion of Rao Hurdeo Put the rightful owner.

"The usurper has been several times ordered by the Supreme Government to abdicate, but that worthy declines to obey. He has been busy collecting men and munitions of war, to resist any attempt at compulsion. Mr. Bushby, with his usual decision, resolved 'to take time by the forelock,' consequently the quiet of our pleasant little station was disturbed by the sudden order. Upon the arrival of the troops at 9 o'clock on the morning of the 22nd the rebel chief showed the white feather to the disappointment of aspiring subalterns. The detachment returned victorious, the enemy having the prudence not to show themselves, and thus ended the Alipoor campaign. This Rajah burdened country of Bundelkand is however in an excited state, and the paucity of the British troops, barely sufficient for station duty, encourages the numerous sovereigns (bless the mark!) to show spirit and independence."—*Agra Messenger*, March 1.

A Bundelkandian writes us as follows:—Mr. Bushby came into Nowgong a short time since, and remained till the 24th, when he marched for Jeitpore, Chirkarree, &c., on his way to Jhansi. On the 22nd a detachment marched to Alipoor, but returned next morning, there being no work for them. The detachment consisted of one squadron of the 3rd Cavalry, one company of the 55th N. I., and two guns: Mr. Bushby accompanied them.—*Delhi Gazette*, March 8.

We believe that the Government have put Lieut.-col. Cautley and the Canal Department in an awkward position; the "passing order" enjoins an acquaintance with the native languages as an indispensable qualification for staff employ, but Colonel Cautley finds that the knowledge of engineering is, of the two requisites, far more essential than a thorough acquaintance with the Bag-o-Bahar. Some of his best assistants have not passed at all, and others can only hope to have their names inserted in a postscript to General Orders, whereupon the question arises, whether the man who knows nothing of canals, but a good deal of literature, shall be counted more efficient in the department than those who can merely construct roads and water-courses? There is not much doubt as to how the difficulty will be solved, and we may congratulate ourselves on the strength of the necessity which compels a modification of the order, since otherwise, nothing short of a letter of recommendation from noble friends might be allowed to avail the man who lacks the gift to acquire a language at three months notice. We are far from undervaluing the faculty to converse and write in Hindostani to the satisfaction of a committee, but should be very sorry to see it insisted upon in every case of staff employment. In making the required concession to the department of public works, Government will no doubt take care that the precedent shall not be too widely extended or needlessly acted upon.—*Ibid.*

In a late issue of the *Agra Messenger*, there appeared a paragraph to the effect that a party of workmen had been despatched from the Agra magazine, for the purpose of destroying the Sikh guns at Gwalior. We now learn that a party has been sent from the Delhi magazine, for the purpose of destroying the Sikh guns at Umballah.—*Ibid.*

DELHI.—His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief has been busily occupied in visiting the "lions"; the palace, Jumna Masjid, Magazine, &c., have fallen in for their share of admiration. This evening at 8 o'clock, Lady Gomm receives the ladies, and last evening the Maharajah Hindoo Rao gave an entertainment to his Excellency and most of the members of our "Society." The ball on Thursday night given by Sir Theophilus Metcalfe, Bart., was a very brilliant affair; the extensive grounds were illuminated, and the interior of the residency presented an appearance no less imposing. Dancing was kept up until a late hour. This morning at half-past six o'clock his Excellency, attended by General Sir Walter Gilbert, K.C.B., and Staff, is to review the troops at the station.—*Ibid.*

The Lieutenant-Governor arrived at this station on the 1st March. His stay, however, among us, is not destined to be long: for we hear that he intends to revisit the hills about the commencement of April.—*Agra Messenger*, March 8.

MURRA, March 5.—"To-night this 'loveliest village of the plain' has been thrown into a state of excitement by the escape of a rhinoceros, belonging to the well-known Arab merchant Zyn-ool-Addeen, which had been brought here, with a view to being sold to the Seth Luckmee Chund. It had not proceeded more than 200 yards from its place of confinement before it destroyed an unfortunate traveller, who from age and decrepitude was unable to get out of its way. A cry was soon abroad that a wild and dangerous animal was ranging the roads, and shortly after M. Balmain, of the 9th Cavalry, a well-known lover of sport, was in pursuit, rifle in hand. He succeeded in delivering two balls fully and fairly into the head of the beast, but as is sometimes the case with animals who rank far higher in the intellectual scale, that appeared by no means the most susceptible, and Goodman Rhinoceros proceeded with apparently no inconvenience. It was finally secured in a stable yard, in most dangerous proximity to the city, but without doing further mischief. The panic was soon over, but of course the nerves of the station remained for some time in an excitable state, and I am informed that when the evening gun exploded rather a general impression prevailed in all bungalows that 'the rhinoceros was coming.'"—*Ibid.*

SCINDE.

The river steamer *Nimrod*, Aers, commander, arrived at Ghizree on the evening of the 24th Feb., with grain, from Sehwan, and the following officers, passengers from the up-country:—Major Hlicks, Artillery, late Commissary of Ordnance at Mooltan; Lieut. Grant, 2nd Belooch battalion; Lieut. Clancy, H. M.'s 98th regt.; and Capt. Decon, H. M.'s 61st regt.—*Kurrachee Advertiser*, Feb. 26.

The unusual number of travellers arriving at Kurrachee from the Punjab and N. W. Provinces is a sure sign that the advantages which the Indus affords to all proceeding to Bombay or Europe is being felt; and we doubt not that ere long there will be calls for more steamers than

three on the line per month. We feel pretty certain that the advantage is being at present pretty considerably felt by one Company, and that is, the Bombay Steam Navigation Company. Formerly the different vessels of this Company brought up more passengers than they took away from Kurrachee; matters appear to be changing, however, fortunately, for the Company, which the last few steamers will instance, they having been crowded with passengers.—*Ibid.*

Amongst the departures by the steamer *Bombay* we notice that of Peer Ibrahim Khan Bahadoor. This gentleman has been long British agent at Bahawalpore, and during the late Mooltan campaign rendered good service to the cause of our Government. He proceeds to Europe on leave for two years, drawing his full salary for that period. His chief object is to be present in time to witness the grand exhibition. He is accompanied by Moonshee Syed Abdoolah, who is also in receipt of his full allowances for the same period as Peer Mahomed. The civility shown by the latter to all Europeans visiting Bahawalpore is well known in Scinde, at any rate, and the letters with which he is supplied will, we believe, obtain for him the same at the hands of our countrymen.—*Ibid.*

The road leading to the Bunder has, we hear, been made over to the superintendent of bazaars throughout the camp, a proportion of the convicts in the civil jail being placed under his orders to carry out the above work. Materials being scarce, it is hardly to be expected that we will for years have a proper road, but the article in present use, viz. the refuse of old tanneries, is supposed by some, competent to judge, to be as good as anything that can for the present be obtained.—*Ibid.*

Under the auspices of our new commissioner several improvements are talked of. The pier is to be finished, the road to Tattah commenced in earnest,—oh! not in the disgraceful way it is now being carried on. Hotels, travellers' bungalows, are also mentioned to be formed at Tattah. This is as it should be; but might we not go further, and recommend the establishment of a buggy, if not a horse-dak, to Hyderabad. Several persons have spoken to us on the subject, which is quite feasible, if the Government would give it their support, or even only encouragement.—*Ibid.*

That our new commissioner is eminently a practical man, is apparent from the changes passing daily under our observation. The public offices appear to have been altogether remodelled, and the senseless system, or want of system, introduced by Mr. Pringle, is about to be numbered among the things that were. We can heartily and honestly congratulate the Scinde community on the improved state of public affairs.—*Ibid.*

The hot weather may not be considered to have set in thoroughly, as yet the mornings and evenings are pleasingly cool. We do not wish to be troublesome to the authorities, but would venture to remind those who some years ago took an interest in Young Egypt, that the first view of it to the new arrival is far from prepossessing. After leaving the custom house bunder he encounters, right and left, pools of stagnant water, the bodies of dogs, cats, and minor animals, in a state of decomposition, and other offensive matters which need not be mentioned. The fishing village, with its narrow road and offensive puddles—offensive at all seasons of the year, for the sea is allowed to overspread all the lower portion of it. It was said that new lines of road had been laid down through the village, but the arrangements of the late commissioner appear to have paralysed the projected improvements. We rest in hope that, under the auspices of our new commissioner, we will have another description to give of the approach to Kurrachee by the sea.—*Ibid.*

On Saturday the 1st instant, a water tank was picked up at sea, in the direction of Hubb river. It was found on examination to have belonged to the *Kotia Luckmepursad*, which has been so long missing. It is now ascertained that the passengers on board this ill fated vessel consisted of the wife and three children of Mr. Lawrence, apothecary, Mr. Underwood, his brother-in-law, a daughter of Agha Khan, the Peer of the Khojas, a grand-daughter and fifty persons of that persuasion, as also about twenty sepoy and army followers.—*Kurrachee Advertiser*, Mar. 5.

GWALIOR.

GWALIOR, 1st March 1851.—Where is your Gwalior correspondent? He appears to be asleep. One would almost imagine that there was no such place, or that nothing is, or has been, going on in that social spot. Such is not the case; business, combined with pleasure, has been carried on to a considerable extent. Many of the residents have been away; some of them have only just returned, some not yet.

What I have to say relates to the Moorar. I will say little of foreign affairs, beyond mentioning that the Maharajah has been out on a hunting expedition, and shot two lions (his first) near Nurwar. So to the point. Our force, and a very pretty force it is, has been performing a series of brigade movements in a most satisfactory manner, an account of which I was surprised not to have seen in your widely read paper. The 4th regiment was reviewed by our brigadier on the 26th, and No. 2 battery on the 27th; but what appeared to be looked forward to most, and to raise the highest expectations, was the artillery review, which was fixed for the 28th, and which took place accordingly yesterday, and if appearances go for anything, expectation was not disappointed; a better, or more satisfactory display of the sort, I have never witnessed, during a service of some years; and the enjoyment of the spectators, consisting of all the beauty and fashion (and by the same token no small show of the former) of our own cantonments, besides an innumerable concourse of natives of all sorts, appeared complete.

The Maharajah and his court attended, (his first appearance by the way in cantonments). The troops were drawn out in full dress to receive him, and punctually at half-past four P.M. he came, the line receiving him with presented arms, and the artillery booming forth a royal salute.

The young king dismounted from his elephant (a noble-looking animal) at his tents, which had been previously pitched for him, took a look at the siege-artillery, and at the line of pieces of artillery (fifteen 9-pounders and three 24-pounder howitzers), and returned to his tent to see the spectacle. *En passant*, I may say that it was generally remarked that his highness's tailor is none of the best, and that a change of snips might cause an advantageous change in his appearance. The Maharajah is a thin spindle-shanked, and apparently weakly slip of a lad, between seventeen and eighteen, and the Maharajah's tights do

not improve his appearance. The minister looks like a bunya, fat and greasy, and the whole court are a shabby-looking set.

The play was opened by a fire of round shot and shells from the light guns, at curtains: the practice was good, effective, and pleased the lookers on. After the light guns had shewn what they could do, the three howitzers were taken to the left of the heavy gun-battery, and placed in position for ricochet practice, and the siege-battery commenced with a fire from two 18-pounders, at a building prepared for the purpose, and filled with wood and kirby, followed up by a fire of shrapnel at a curtain from an 8 inch howitzer, and continued with one of shells from the mortars at the mine; after which the ricochet battery opened against the flank, of the enemy's works, represented by a succession of traverses.

The hot shot being the greatest novelty, all eyes were strained to see its effect. After some five or six rounds had been fired at the building, smoke began to issue from it, and shortly after a blaze, which sufficiently proved the complete success of the operation. Great interest appeared to be taken in this experiment, as its success was at first considered doubtful. While the hot shot was being fired, shells were being thrown from the mortars at the mine; several had been sent in good direction, but as yet without success; and as the flag-staff had been knocked down at an early period of the day, it became more difficult to get the proper direction; expectation was raised, but hope was soon fulfilled, for very soon after a shell fell on the mine, which exploded with grand effect.

The ricochet practice was beautiful, and attracted great attention. To see the shells hopping in and out, over the traverses, and bursting where they fancied, as it were, most people had concealed themselves behind the traverses, was delightful to behold, and drew forth applause. Shot, shells, and carcasses were fired till near dark, when the Maharajah and court went down the range to see the effect, which all allowed was very great. Guns were painted on the traverses, and the numerous holes through the trails, the wheels, and through the guns themselves, demonstrated to the meanest capacity what would have been the result had it been reality instead of "tamashah." The light field gun and heavy howitzer curtains shewed equally plainly what would have been the fate of any rash or unlucky body that would dare to stand before such a fire as could be sent from such pieces.

His Highness returned under a salute, as it was getting dark, impressed, no doubt, himself as well as his durbar, with some idea of what might happen to the Lushkar, if on any unfortunate day, he or his should prove "obstreperous." So ended the review of the siege artillery of Scindia's contingent.

Are you aware that the guns (old Maharajah's) now in the fort are to be broken up and sold? It is said the fort is to be dismantled and allowed to fall to ruin. This commanding position over the Lushkar should not be given up. The magazine is to be moved from the fort to cantonments,—a proper move, for it is now, and has always been, in a most dangerous and unarmy position. There is not much local news that I am aware of. We know nothing of the outbreak at Kurowlee on the Chumbul, and do not believe there is any, though it is said some mischief is brewing in Rajpootanah, and also in the Tehree district.—Yours ever—A LOOKER-ON.

P.S.—I forgot to mention, that the operation of throwing a rope by fixing it to a 5½ inch shell, from a mortar, was successfully carried out. The shell with the rope attached was thrown the full length of the latter, about 125 yards; a longer rope might have been thrown to a greater distance.

This is sometimes practised in Europe to rescue men from shipwreck. I have not seen it tried in India; but some of your readers may recollect, that when a force was despatched from Candahar in 1839, in pursuit of the runaway sirdars, and the river Helmund had to be crossed, a rope was sent across in this way and was found of great use in crossing troops over on rafts. Other occasions might again arise, on which a like operation might be found of great service.—*Delhi Gazette*, March 8.

NEPAUL.

Letters of the 17th Feb. direct from Nepal, give particulars of a conspiracy for the assassination of Jung Bahadoor, just discovered. The murder was to have been committed on the day we have named, as the minister was on his way to the durbar. The conspirators were the Mahila Sahib, the Maharajah's brother, General Budea Nar Singh, his brother, General Jaie Bahadoor—the cousin of his intended victim, together with Khurbeer Khutree, one of the chiefs who accompanied the minister to Europe. The plot was discovered through the treachery of one of the conspirators, near midnight on the 16th, and the plotters, finding too much known for concealment, confessed the rest, in hopes of making the best of their case. The Rajah's brothers were dissatisfied with the jaghires which had been assigned them, and the minister's brother was induced to join them, having been detected in accepting bribes. The minister himself behaved with the utmost coolness and determination throughout, and next day rode up to the residency with a pair of Purdie's pistols, brought out with him, stuck in his belt, and gave an account of all that had happened. The troops proved staunch, they were in possession of the city, and everything was quiet and orderly at the date of the despatch from which our information is derived.—*Bombay Times*.

MAULMAIN.

The H. C. steamer *Hugh Lindsay* left her moorings this day (Feb. 18) at noon for Madras, with a detachment of the 50th N. I., under the command of Major Rose.

The following is a condensed epitome of the news contained in several letters received from Rangoon, and dated the 11th instant.

"This morning the English merchants visited the Governor, who asked the new arrivals several questions as to what they had come for—how many ships they possessed, and what amount of property they were worth? These questions being satisfactorily replied to, he told them he would write to the king to buy up their diamonds—offering at any time to render them every assistance in his power.

"Captain Potter's business came on next. Captain Potter first invited the Governor to be present at the launch of his new ship on the 17th instant. To this invitation the Governor observed he must first

settle the demand made against his vessel, which was noted down as follows:—

Tide tax 65 rs. per month	rs. 780
Burman flag	" 10
To the Deputy Governor	" 200
Sundry other fees	" 1010

Amounting in all to rupees 2000

"This includes the ship's port charges. Captain Potter said he would not pay, when the Governor told him that in that case his ship could not be launched.

"A great deal of discussion now took place, and both Captain Potter and the Governor agreed to refer the matter to Captain Cripps, who went over each item. For the sixty-five rupees tide tax he inquired of the Governor what the charge meant, since he had never known anything of the kind. The Governor said something about its being customary as his books would show—here the subject dropped. The Governor then complained about Captain Potter writing to Ava for the order for his stores to pass duty free, and also that he had heard Captain Potter had written to the Calcutta papers, stating he, the Governor, would detain his vessel at Rangoon in consequence of the king's vessel being detained at Calcutta, which, however, Captain Potter denied. The Governor brought out the Yandaboo treaty—why or wherefore nobody knows. The Governor at parting asked Captain Potter to call upon him in the evening in order to settle his business, so as not to detain the launch of his vessel."—*Ceylon Times*, Feb. 18.

BENGAL AND AGRA.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Our advices from Calcutta are to the 7th of March.

(From the *Hurkaru*.)

We announce with regret the sudden death of Major-General Sir Dudley Hill, K.C.B., commanding the Sirhind Division. He died from a fit of apoplexy, at Umballah, on the 21st ult.

Rear Admiral Austen, commanding in the Indian seas, is on a visit to Calcutta. He came in H. M. steamer *Sphinx*, the flag-ship *Hastings*, 74, following, but remaining at anchor off Saugor. The papers have expressed some dissatisfaction at his Excellency being obliged to take up his quarters at an hotel, because of Lord Dalhousie having prohibited the occupation of Government House by others than his own immediate representative without his special permission.

The ship *Buckinghamshire*, of 1,700 tons, one of the East India Company's old vessels, was entirely destroyed by fire just below Diamond harbour on the night of the 3rd inst. She was on her way to England, and had a large party of invalid soldiers on board. All hands, passengers and crews, were saved, except two of the invalids who leaped overboard and were drowned. The cause of the catastrophe has not been ascertained, but as a large portion of the crew were lascars, there is a suspicion of incendiarism.

Major Kennedy and Mr. Turnbull have returned from their surveying excursion up the right bank of the Ganges, with an impression that the best route for our railway is to the river at Rajmahal and thence up the valley to Mirzapore, rather than by the direct line through the jungles and hills to the last mentioned place. Major Kennedy, we are sorry to learn, is compelled by the state of his health to leave India by the out going steamer.

The acquitted accomplices of the boy Very in the Ice House murder, have been convicted on the charge of burglary, and sentenced to transportation for life.

Mr. Arathoon, the Armenian gentleman forcibly carried off from Chandernagore and arrested on the river, was released on the 20th ultimo, the Chief Justice virtually admitting his error in remanding the prisoner on a detainer after declaring the original arrest illegal.

The firm of Hickey, Bailey and Co., has been again before the insolvent court, on an application from the official assignee for a re-hearing of the case, founded on circumstances connected with the purchase of certain indigo factories from the Union Bank, and involving as was alleged a concealment of assets. The commissioner, Sir J. W. Colville, declined to pass any order in the matter. A full report of the proceedings will be found in subsequent columns.

The King of Oude gave a grand entertainment to the British residents on the 17th Feb., when every lady and gentleman guest was presented with "a silver garland." The entertainment consisted chiefly of tiger and buffalo fights. Lord Grosvenor was at the party.

Calcutta is now without ice, though there are two ice-shops in the city. This exhaustion of so precious a luxury occurs at a most unfortunate period; just as the warm weather is setting in.

It is said that the correspondence between the local Government and the Court of Directors on the subject has resulted in the determination of forming a retiring fund for the whole uncovenanted service.

The sites of the old police thanahs were sold by auction yesterday; some of them realised 35,000 rs. per cottah or twenty thousand pounds per acre.

The Court of Enquiry at Meerut on Captains Blois and Watt has closed its proceedings. Both are acquitted of all blame.

Major Angelo has got leave to the Cape.

The *Sphinx* steamer, with his Excellency Rear Admiral Austen, the naval Commander-in-Chief, anchored below the fort at 10 A. M. yesterday. He landed under the usual salute. The *Hastings* is at Saugor.

We are sorry to hear that Dr. Gopal Chunder Seal, has been dismissed the service, by order of the Governor-General for some misconduct.

The half yearly meeting of the I. G. S. N. Company took place yesterday. The directors, it is said, have evinced a disposition to burke all inquiry. The chairman has resigned. The secretary also has resigned, and the salary of the office is reduced to 500 rs. per mensem.

Jotepersaud's trial is again postponed at his own desire, as he wishes for time to summon a host of witnesses, amongst whom are Brigadiers Parsons and Dick. Major Ramsay, Colonel Lane, &c.

Since the murder at the ice-house, the natives have entertained a perfect horror of the sons of Neptune. The fact of one murder or robbery gene-