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1832.

Leave, we understand, was at the same time given to move to set aside this judgment, and we believe the matter will be brought forward for argument during the next term.—*Bombay Cour. Sept. 17.*

Ceylon.

A grand farewell dinner was given to Sir Edward Barnes, on the occasion of his quitting the government of Ceylon to become commander-in-chief in India, by the judges, the commander-in-chief, the members of council, and a numerous body of civil and military servants of government. Mr. Justice Marshall presided.

After dinner the chairman proposed the health of Sir Edward Barnes, expatiating upon the benefits which the colony had derived from his government; of the stupendous works carried on under his superintendence for the civilization of the island, as well as the facility given to the commercial interests of the inhabitants, both in the interior and maritime provinces, and remarked the system of security given to the British government by the existence of these works, thereby confirming the stability and permanency of its rule.

Sir Edward, in return, addressed the company as follows: "Gentlemen, although I do not presume to doubt the sincerity of my learned friend, still I cannot take to myself all the compliments which he has so bountifully lavished upon me. I have, nevertheless, abundant gratitude to feel most sensibly the terms in which he has depicted my administration of the government of this island, and the manner in which you have been pleased to receive and adopt them. I need not point out to you the great difference between this and all other colonies belonging to his Majesty. In them the landed proprietors and principal inhabitants, forming the superior classes of society, are Europeans, and are affected by the measures of government, their interests are personally concerned. Here the landed proprietors are Indian natives: so that you, gentlemen, who have done me the honour this day of assigning to me so distinguished a place at your table, could in no way be affected by the measures of my government. How much more gratifying, then, to me, is a compliment coming from you, who can have no bias, whose motives must be pure and disinterested, and whose judgment is unquestionable.

"I thank my learned friend for the allusion he had made to the measures of my government; if they have in any way contributed to the interest and benefit of the island, and welfare and happiness of the people, it is highly gratifying to me to

know it. But it is a matter of great regret to me, that where so much more might have been done so little has been accomplished; and this I attribute principally to the repeated changes that have taken place in his Majesty's government at home. In the last eight years there have been no less than five changes in the head of the colonial office. This naturally leads to a diversity of sentiment, and distraction in the systematic carrying on of public measures.

"I can assure you, gentlemen, that it affords me the highest satisfaction to look round and see so many of my friends assembled. That I shall leave some enemies behind me, on quitting the island is most true: but I deem myself more honoured by the want of their friendship than by the enjoyment of it; and if I had participated in it I should have rendered myself unworthy of your's, and should have disqualified myself for the high honour you have this day assigned me. I shall now, gentlemen, detain you no longer, except for the purpose of returning you my most grateful thanks for the kindness and cordiality with which you have been pleased to drink my health."

Other toasts and sentiments succeeded, and the company did not break up till the approach of morn.

Sir E. Barnes was expected at Calcutta about the middle of October.

Malacca.

NANING.

The following account of the rise and progress of the present dispute with the panghooloo, or chief, of Naning, is given in the *Singapore Chronicle*, as "a fair and impartial statement of the question at hostile issue between the Malacca authorities and that chief."

It appears, the Portuguese, when their power was paramount in these regions, first conquered the district of Naning from the Malays, and subjected it to their authority at Malacca. This must have been previous to the year 1640, when the Dutch took Malacca from the Portuguese by siege. After the Dutch had fixed themselves at Malacca, they sent a commissary to the panghooloo, confirming him and his empat sookoo, or four councillors, in their offices and dignities; the commissary at that time entered into a regular agreement or engagement with the panghooloo, that he must subject himself to the orders of the Dutch government, and pay annually, as a tributary prince, 400 gantans of paddy, six dozen of fowls, and a certain number of buffaloes, besides which, every boat coming down with fowls,

fruits, vegetables, &c., from Naning to Malacca, must pay a duty of 45½ cents. At that period the rivers were the only means of conveying produce from the interior, there being no roads.

Sungie Baroo, Sungie Petter, and several other districts, were then under the authority and jurisdiction of the panghooloo of Naning, but they were thinly inhabited. Subsequently, however, the Dutch gave away a portion of those lands to several individuals, inhabitants of Malacca, while the remainder continued under the direction and authority of one panghooloo or another. Those were appointed by the Dutch in the following manner: the *ampat sookoo* came down to Malacca with the person they wished to appoint, and having called on the Malay capitan, government, on the recommendation of the latter, confirmed the chosen individual in the office of panghooloo.

In this manner matters continued during the Dutch time, with the exception that the tax or tribute of buffaloes was dispensed with. In 1795 the Dutch gave over the place, on the same conditions, to the British authorities. In 1802, when Col. Taylor was governor or resident of Malacca, the old panghooloo, appointed during the Dutch time, died, and the four *ampat sookoo*, before burying his remains, came down immediately with the present chief, whose name is Siaboo, wishing him to be appointed the successor. The captain Malay took them to Colonel Taylor, when Siaboo was appointed panghooloo of Naning, on condition that the old Dutch *chap* (seal or badge) should be changed for an English one. On the part of the panghooloo, it was agreed that he should continue in possession of the rights and privileges granted him by the Dutch, and that he was to continue to pay the 400 *gantans* of paddy, six dozen of fowls, and the duty of 45½ cents. for every boat coming down the river; this impost, however, was subsequently withdrawn in 1807, by Colonel Farquhar.

During the Dutch time, the panghooloo was allowed the right to punish and put to death his own people, which power he continued to possess until Colonel Farquhar, when the English ruled Malacca, went up to Naning, in 1809, and prevented the panghooloo from inflicting any more summary punishments on his own authority.

When the Dutch got possession again of Malacca, in 1818, the same panghooloo continued to enjoy the same privileges; but governor Timmerman Thysen, in 1822, caused a statement to be made of the quantity of fruits, paddy, &c. produced at Naning, and sent it to Batavia, with a view to obtain the sanction of the governor general of Netherlands India to impose some duty thereon; but before an

answer came from Batavia, news were received that the settlement was to be given over again to the English, so no further notice was to be taken of the matter at that period.

In 1825, Malacca was given over again to the British, as also was Naning.

Under every government, whether Dutch or English, when the authorities at Malacca requested the attendance of the panghooloo, he was always ready to await their orders. During the last Dutch government, several murders and robberies were committed at Naning, the perpetrators of which were sent down to Malacca to be tried and punished by the authorities there. In 1828, however, when the British authorities at Malacca sent for the panghooloo, he positively refused to come. It must be observed that it was at this period the duty of ten per cent. was first levied on the produce of all lands within the jurisdiction of Malacca, and the panghooloo, we suspect, shrewdly considering that a similar measure was about to be enforced with regard to Naning, kept out of the way of being either persuaded or forced into an agreement. In 1829, Mr. Church, the deputy resident of Malacca, was sent to Sungie Petter, with six *sepoys* and an interpreter, to confer with the panghooloo. The latter met Mr. Church at that place, accompanied by 200 men. Mr. Church's instructions were to give an order for levying ten per cent. upon the produce of Naning, which was to be sent to Malacca, and to inform the panghooloo that he must not exercise the power of punishing or even fining the people, but that all cases of delinquency must be sent to Malacca to be tried. In consideration of the losses which the panghooloo would suffer by the transfer of his privileges, and the power of levying his per-centage on the produce, Mr. Church was authorised to offer him and the *ampat sookoo* pensions from government. The panghooloo, however, refused every thing, and insisted that matters should remain according to former agreement and old custom. In this mood they parted, the panghooloo returning to Naning, and Mr. Commissioner Church to Malacca.

Shortly after, Mr. Fullerton arrived at Malacca, when he wrote to the panghooloo to come to the town, but the latter still refused. It was at this period, we believe, that a military expedition similar to the one recently mentioned by us as being about to be dispatched to Naning to subdue its obstinate ruler, was prepared and ready to march at a moment's notice; but, from some cause or other, whether owing to a misgiving of conscience, or lenity, or the unpopularity of the measure, the troops (200 or 300 men) did not proceed on the intended campaign, and the panghooloo continued in full possession of all his pri-

vilages, and in an exemption from the ten per cent. duty.

The next mention we have of this sturdy Malayan chief is, that last year (1830) he went to a place called Panklangcha, and, on his authority, took possession of a darsan (hamlet or garden) which the Malacca authorities had taken over in 1828 from Inchi Surin, and which was acknowledged and found by title-deeds, dated 1606, to have belonged to Surin's great grandfather. Of this seizure Surin complained to government, and the government wrote to the panghooloo on the subject. In his answer, the latter stated that the land and the darsan belonged to him, and that he should keep possession of them.

Besides this piece of injustice, we learn that those inhabitants of Naning, who are not connected with the panghooloo, are very willing to allow the land being placed under the same regulations as exist with regard to all others taken over by the government; because the panghooloo's exactions and cruelties are intolerable, and when a man is unable to pay the demand made on him, his wives and children are seized as slaves, and become the panghooloo's property. Another "misdemeanor" is in not having paid the last annual tribute agreed; but this omission may have arisen on the panghooloo's part in a question whether, in the present state of things, such would be accepted by the government in lieu of the still greater demand of a tithe on the whole produce of the district. It is further stated, that all his replies to letters sent by the Malacca authorities are couched in impertinent and disrespectful language, and several are not answered at all.

The population of Naning is estimated, according to a census taken in 1829, at about 4,300 inhabitants, of whom 1,600 to 1,800 are capable of bearing arms. There are about 990 houses; the productions consist of about 300 piculs of tin, annually, with little or no gold; but there is an immense quantity of fine fruits, vegetables, &c. and about 16,000 gantans of paddy obtained from the land. Coir-ropes are manufactured there from the coco-nut tree, and excellent timber for beams, spars, &c. procured. Canes likewise are obtained in abundance. The panghooloo's revenue is about 9,000 gantans of paddy a year, with two fowls and two coco-nuts from each house. The fines, exactions, and presents form separate items in his civil list.

Such, in substance, is the history of the present dispute with the panghooloo of Naning, to end which by a summary military process 200 sepoy, two field-pieces with their appurtenances, four British officers, and a doctor have been despatched into the interior of the peninsula. Mr. W. T. Lewis, assistant resident, superintendent of lands at Malacca, and the prime mover

of the whole affair, we believe, acts as commissioner in concert with Captain Willie, the commandant of the troops.

Persia.

A private letter from Tabreez, published in one of the Calcutta papers, has the following passage:—"Our affairs, as you may imagine, do not go on well in Persia, and literally at the present moment we have no mission in Persia. Captain P. L. Campbell most unaccountably sticks up here, and has not seen the face of any Persian minister for the last eight months. The plea for this abstinence from his duties is, that he waits for his confirmation as minister, when he may appear at the court in full splendour! Yet at this moment deep designs are working; for the Emperor of Russia seeks the co-operation of Abbas Mirza to get possession of Khorassan, and to form a settlement at Khyva. One would think this a sufficient cause for activity on the part of the British agent here; but it does not appear to have this effect. Dr. M'Neill is at Tehran acting for Captain Campbell, who ought to be there himself. Have you heard that M'Neill is appointed resident at Bushire?"

"Since the Prince Royal's departure for the south, Tabreez can on no pretence be considered the proper place of residence for the chief of the mission. Abbas Mirza, after the murder of Yzed, proceeded to Reemon, where Hussan Alli Mirza waited upon him in a submissive manner. He has offered no opposition to his brother's progress; indeed he had not the means, and the people of Reemon also refused to defend the place in his favour; they would not allow him to destroy the contents of the premises. The prince of Shiraz has behaved with almost equal humility; we hear that he has sent one of his sons with provisions for Abbas Mirza's army, and the Prince Royal intends, I believe, to visit Shiraz on his way to Ispahan. He will not be a welcome visitor. The future movements of the Azerbaijan army will, it is rumoured, be directed towards Khorassan and Khyva, but the way and the day are distant which will allow us to see what may intervene."

Pachalik of Bagdad.

Native letters received in Calcutta from Busora, give a most awful account of the ravages of the plague at Bagdad.

A merchant at Busora sent a cosid to Bagdad in charge of letters from India, not one of several messengers whom he had previously despatched having return-