

Victoria, Tuesday, 14th April, 1846.

Office "Friend of China,"
Tuesday, 14th April 1846.

IMPORTANT NEWS FROM INDIA.

From an extra of the Singapore Free Press of the 26th Ult., we learn that a fourth battle had been fought with the Sikhs, in which they were totally defeated. The British army crossed the Sutledge, and by despatches from Lahore, dated the 20th of February, which appeared in an extra of the Englishman of the 2d March, the capital of the Punjab was in possession of the British troops. We re-publish the whole of our contemporary's extra, which appears to contain full details from the Bengal papers.

Opium Sale, 23rd February.

	Chests	Highest	Lowest	Average.
Behar,	2,165	1,540	1,450	1,476
Bengal,	800	1,350	1,320	1,326

THE BATTLE OF HUREEKE.

(From the Friend of India, Feby. 26.)

A fourth battle has been fought with the Sikhs on the British territories, more disastrous to them, and more triumphant on our part than of our preceding engagements.

At present it is sufficient to state, that on the arrival of the heavy guns and mortars, it was determined at once to storm the Sikh entrenchments and drive them across the river. On the 9th of February, the Governor-General left Ferozepore with his staff, and rode to Hureeke, a distance of about thirty miles, to the Commander-in-Chief's encampment, where the plan of operations for the approaching battle was settled. If we are to credit the sketch of the entrenchment of the Sikhs which has been circulated in the form of a crescent on the left bank of the Sutledge, at a place where the river describes a bend, so as to present an unbroken front, bristling with cannon, to any attack which might be made on them. Our reconnoitring parties appear to have discovered that the weakest point in their works, was that portion which rested on the Sutledge to their right, and H. M.'s 53rd supported by native troops, was selected for the duty of penetrating it. It is said that on the evening of the 9th the Generals of division and the Commanders of Brigades attended the Governor-General's tent, when the arrangements for the engagement were explained, and their several duties allotted to them. The next morning, the 10th, the troops were under arms at an early hour, and the action began by a heavy cannonade from our great guns and mortars, which was replied to by the Sikhs with the utmost resolution. All the ammunition of the mortars is stated to have been expended in two hours; and then the Sikhs manned their works, and our troops advanced to attack them at the point of the bayonet. It will not escape remark that throughout this war, we have unfortunately been weakest, and the enemy strongest in artillery; that our casualties have been chiefly occasioned by the superiority of the enemy's guns, and that our triumphs have been achieved by the bayonet, and the unflinching courage with which it was wielded. On the present occasion it was found that the entrenchments of the Sikhs had been constructed with the highest military skill, under the direction, it is supposed, of a Spanish officer, Col. de Alcantara. During the whole of our career in India our troops have seldom, if ever, been called to storm works so formidable, and defended by such determined valor. A deep ditch in front effectually prevented the advance of Cavalry into the Sikh encampment, and the glory of the day was thus left to the Infantry. While the battle was raging at all points, and the various Brigades were emulating each other in their attempts to storm and enter the enemy's entrenchments, it appears that H. M.'s 53rd approached the weak point of the Sikh encampment, wading ankle deep through the sands of the Sutledge, and advanced amidst a tempest of balls with the most admirable steadiness to their object. An attempt was made by the Sikh Cavalry to check their advance, but the steady front they exhibited induced the enemy to retire, when they continued their march. The Sikhs, seeing a British force thus established between their main army and their reserve, and pressed at the same time by our divisions in front, were seized with a panic, abandoned their works and made for the river, the bridge over which had been rendered unserviceable by our guns. Then commenced a scene of carnage such as no field in India has presented since the battle of Panipat. Our Infantry exhausted their ammunition on the enemy, and our field pieces then took up and completed the work of destruction. The Sikhs fell like stalks of wheat under the stroke of the sickle. The entrenchments were filled with heaps of slain, and the Sutledge was choked with the dead and dying. At the lowest computation, Ten thousand of the enemy perished in this terrific slaughter. The route was complete. The whole of their encampment, with their standards, guns, ammunition, and provisions fell into our hands. Our own loss, though not to be compared with that we sustained at the less skillfully managed and less auspicious battle of Ferozeshahr, has also been very severe. The number of officers killed is said to have amounted to Fifteen, among whom are Sir Robert Dick and Col. Taylor of H. M. 24th; and the officers wounded are stated at Twenty-five; but the exact number cannot be ascertained till the dispatches are published. The number of rank and file and non-commissioned officers killed and wounded is by some given at only Five Hundred, while others swell it to Two Thousand. Great as have been the exertions of our troops in the successive engagements we have fought with the Sikhs, no battle does there appear to have been so extraordinary a display of devotedness, courage, and resolution, and no battle in this campaign has been marked by more consummate generalship.

The Governor-General appears to have returned after the engagement to Ferozepore, and four Regiments were sent across the river on the night of the 10th. They were followed the next morning by a larger number and then the right bank of Sutledge was gained, and our camp established in the enemy's territories. The defeat at Hureeke appears to have effected such a conversion into the minds of the Sikhs as to break up all their plans. It has placed the Punjab at our feet. Our troops have since crossed at other points without any further opposition, and

are now in full march for the Capital. Not a Sikh is left on the British side of the Sutledge. The two Envoys whom the Minister, Rajah Golab Singh had sent to the Governor-General to propose terms of peace were left at Ferozepore when his Excellency pushed on to Hureeke, and we may easily imagine the length of their countenances when Sir Henry Hardinge returned in the glow of victory, and admitted them again into his presence.

KILLED.

Major General Sir R. Dick, K C B Comdg. 3d Division.
Col (Brigadier) C C Taylor, C, B, H. M. 20th foot, Comdg. 2d Brig. 2d Division.
Lieutenant Col G. L. Davies, H. M. 2nd foot.
Lieutenant Col Thos. Ryan, K. H. M. 50th foot.
Captain G. Edward D. Warren, H. M. 53d foot.
Lieutenant H. E. Y. Faithful, H. A.
Lieutenant F. W. A. Hamilton, 1st Eur. Lt. Inf.
Brev. Capt. Fletch Shuttleworth, 1st Eur Lt. Inf.
Captain Rob. Hay (50th N I) Adj. Nusseree Battalion.
Ens. Gord H. Davidson, 1st Eur. Lt. Inf.
Captain John Fisher, (23d N I) Comdg. Sirmoor Battalion.
Lieutenant John S. Ray, 63 N I.
Lieutenant W. Tyler Bartley, H. M. 62nd foot.
Captain G. McLeod Tew, H. M. 50th foot.
Lieutenant Andrew McQueen, 42nd Light Inf.

WOUNDED.

Major General Sir John Littler, K C B, Comdg. 4th Division.
Major Genl. W. R. Gilbert, Comdg. 2d Division.
Major Chas. Grant, H. Artillery.
Lieutenant Col Gough H. M. 3d Drag Offg. Qr. Master General (through both legs.)
Lieutenant Col Gold, H. M. 53 foot.
Lieutenant W. D. Playfair, 33d N I (ditto.)
Lieut. and Adj. Dunning H. M. 53 foot (ditto.)
Lieutenant A. B. O. Stoken, H. M. 53rd foot shot in the breast.
Capt. Thos. Smart, A. M. 53d foot, leg amputated.
Lieutenant John Chester, 11M 53d foot, shot through the lungs and back.
Ens. Henry Lucas, H. M. 52d foot, slightly by a bayonet in the leg.
Lieut. Robt. N. Clarke, H. M. 53d foot, badly.
Lieutenant Colonel M. Barr, Offg. Adj. Genl. H. M. Forces, lost an arm.
Lieutenant John Becheer, Engrs.
Captain W. H. Halford, 41st N I.
Captain John Cumberlege, 41st N I severely.
Lieutenant M. F. Kemble 41st N I.
Lieutenant A. W. Onslow, 41st N I.
Captain Aenay Alpe, 41st N I.
Brig. Penoy Comdg. Nusseree Bat., slightly.
Brigadier Jas McLaren, Comdg. 3th Brig 2d Division.
Lieut. C'Brien, Adj. Nusseree Battalion,
Capt Nerdham, H. M. 50th Foot.
Major Polwhele, 42d Light Infantry,
TOTAL Killed and Wounded 2383.

(From the Englishman, Feby. 26.)

Letters received to-day from the Frontier state that the treaty was already signed on the 10th inst. The portions of the country already mentioned in the two proclamations are ceded, and the Sikhs agree to pay the expenses of the war estimated at two Crores of Rupees which are stated to be already packed at Lahore, where the Governor-General was expected to arrive and to receive the money on the 20th.

Our letter says—"The country between the Sutledge and the Beas is the most fertile in the whole Punjab; it gives us two or three hill stations. The unfortunate Sikhs have been made to pay for their amusement. The territories confiscated on this side the Sutledge will yield twenty lakhs a year, and I think those between the Sutledge and the Beas twice as much." Another letter says: "The Khalsas may make a disturbance again, but I fancy they will not fight, having had more than they liked at Hureeke; our loss has been very heavy certainly. In the Despatch of the Ferozeshahr affair they put down the numbers of killed and wounded at 3,250, whereas a true account was 4,250! pretty well out of 15,000."

(From the Englishman, March 2.)

The Delhi Gazette Extra, which we republished yesterday, confirms the accounts received by letters, the contents of which appeared in our Saturday evening's paper. Our own Correspondent anticipates a serious resistance at Umritsir, so that the whole of the work is not yet done, and the season is rapidly advancing. What is to be done with the Khalsa troops? their present dispersion will not prevent them from re-assembling and again overcoming their own government, if some force be not permanently stationed in the Punjab of a totally different character. There have been enough of subsidiary armies, and we think that our Government will hardly wish to increase their number. The Punjab, however, must be protected against internal as well as external enemies, and an army of some kind formed. It is to be hoped that foreign adventurers will be preemptorily excluded for the future, and the hope so long entertained of establishing a French India in the north-west finally extinguished. The last three months must have taught the British Indian Government a lesson, which it will long remember, and enable people in England to estimate the dangers from which we have escaped, more correctly than before.

The Delhi Gazette mentions a report that the territory between the Sutledge and the Beas is also to be annexed to the British dominions. As the Beas falls into the Chenab, the river boundary must be carried down to the junction of the latter with the Sutlej at Hureeke; this would bring our British frontier very near that of the new acquisition, that it would be more convenient to add a little bit more of the Dewan's territory, so as to make the whole river communication under our own flag land. A proposition with the extreme moderation of 1845, is proposed, it may be concluded that it is a reasonable, or has arisen from GUANAL field out in case of a projected resistance.

The Delhi Gazette mentions half a crore less than we stated on Saturday evening, so the reported contribution agreed to. The smaller sum will be sufficient

to afford the army a very handsome battle or donation, which it most richly deserves; and which, however liberal, will hardly repay to many officers losses they have sustained in the campaign. We expect to receive further news in the course of the day.

Monday February 23rd.—A letter received from the Governor-General's Camp, the previous afternoon, dated the 13th instant, states that the Governor-General was to cross the Sutledge the following day.

Thursday February 26th.—The despatched relative to the battle at Sobraon, together with the Governor-General's proclamation are published this day.

(From the Englishman, March 3.)

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.
GENERAL ORDER OF THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA.
Foreign Department, Camp Lahore, 20th Feby.
—The Right Honorable the Governor General, requests that the Commander-in-Chief will cause the following arrangements to be made for escorting His Highness the Maha Raja Duleep Sing to his Palace in the Citidela of Lahore this afternoon. The Escort will consist of
2 Regiments of European Cavalry.
2 Regiments of Native Cavalry—the Body Guard to be one.
1 Regiment of Irregular Horse.
2 Troops of Horse Artillery—1 European—1 Native.

The Secretary to the Government of India, F. Currie, Esquire, will take charge of His Highness and his Suite, and will be accompanied by the Political Agent Major Lawrence, the Governor General's Secretary Charles Hardinge Esquire, the A. D. C. of the Governor General, the A. D. C. of the Commander-in-Chief, one A. D. C. from each General Officer of a Division in Uniform.

The Escort will be formed at the nearest convenient spot to the Governor General's Camp at 2 o'clock, and proceed to His Highness' Camp and thence to his Palace.

On Alighting from his Elephant a Salute of 21 Guns will be fired by the Horse Artillery.

His Highness the Maha Raja of the Sikh Nation, selected by the Chiefs as their Sovereign, having on the 18th instant, intimated his intention to proceed to the Governor General's Camp, at Lulleana, attended by His Highness' Wuzees Raja Golab Sing and other Chiefs, was received in Darbar on the afternoon of that day by the Governor General, the Commander-in-chief and the Staff being present. His Highness' Minister and Chiefs there tendered his submission and solicited the clemency of the British Government.

The Governor General extended the clemency of the British Government to a Prince the descendant of the maha Raja the late Runjeet Sing, for so many years the faithful Ally and Friend of the British Government, as the representative of the Sikh Nation selected by the Chiefs and People to be their Ruler, on the condition that all the Terms imposed by the British Government and previously explained to His Highness' Minister and Chiefs should be faithfully executed.

On withdrawing from the Darbar the Maha Raja received the usual salutes due to His Highness exalted rank.

His Highness has since remained near the Governor General's Camp, and as it will be conducive to His Highness' comfort that he should rejoin his family, the Governor General desires that he may with all honor and in safety be conducted by the British Troops to the Gates of his Palace this day.

The following Proclamation was issued on the 18th instant by the Governor General, promising protection to all persons at Lahore and elsewhere, who peaceably continue in their usual employments of trade and industry.

The Governor General is satisfied after the experience of this Campaign, that he can rely on the discipline of this invincible Army, as fully and securely as he has always been confident that the day of battle under their distinguished Commander would be one of victory.

He trusts at present that no Officers or Soldiers will pass the advanced Sentries of their encampment to enter the Town of Lahore, and he requests His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief to give the necessary instructions to carry this Order strictly into effect, as well as to protect all persons bringing provisions into Camp.

By order of the Right Honorable the Governor General of India,

F. CURRIE,
Secy. to the Govt. of India,
with the Governor-General.

PROCLAMATION BY THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA.

Foreign Department, Camp Lulleana, 18th Feb.

—The Chiefs, Merchants, Traders, Ryots and other Inhabitants of Lahore and Umritsir are hereby informed, that His Highness Maha Raja Duleep Sing has this day waited upon the Right Honorable the Governor-General and expressed the contrition of himself and the Sikh Government for their late hostile proceeding. The Maha Raja and Darbar having acquiesced in all the terms and Conditions imposed by the British Government, the Governor-General has every hope that the relations of friendship will speedily be re-established between the two Governments. The Inhabitants of Lahore and Umritsir have nothing to fear from the British Army. The Governor-General and the British Troops, if the condition above adverted to are fulfilled, and no further hostile opposition is offered by the Khalsa Army will use their endeavors for the re-establishment of the Government of the descendant of Maha Raja Runjeet Sing and for the protection of its subjects.

The Inhabitants of the Cities in Punjab will, in that case, be perfectly safe in person and property from any molestation by the British Troops, and they are hereby called upon to discontinue their opposition and to follow their respective callings with all confidence.

By order of the Right Honorable the Governor General of India,

F. CURRIE,
Secy. to the Govt. of India,
with the Governor-General.