

ENGLAND AND RUSSIA

IN

CENTRAL ASIA.

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BY

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WITH TWO MAPS AND APPENDICES.

(One Map being the latest Russian Official Map of Central Asia.)

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APPENDIX A.

RUSSIA AND PERSIA.—THE TREATY OF GULISTAN.

THEIR Majesties the Emperor of Russia and the King of Persia, actuated by their affections towards their respective subjects, are anxious to commute the present hostilities, so repugnant to their disposition, to an amicable understanding. With this view, Lieutenant-General Ritscheuf, Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief in Georgia, the line of Caucasus, Laghoo, and Astrachan, and Commander-in-Chief of the Caspian Fleet, Knight of the Order of Alexander Neuski, of the First Order of St. Anne, and Fourth of the Military Order of St. George, and of the Sword of Bravery, is fully empowered to treat on the part of His Majesty the Emperor of Russia. His Excellency Mirza Abul Hussein Khan, late Ambassador to the Courts of Constantinople and London, of noble descent, etc. etc. etc., is appointed Plenipotentiary on the part of His Majesty the King of Persia. The Plenipotentiaries having met at the Russian camp on the banks of Zuivan, near Gulistan, in the district of

Karabagh, and having exchanged their credentials in the name of their respective Sovereigns, whom they severally represent, hold themselves bound religiously to observe for ever the articles and conditions here entered into.

ART. 1.—After the conclusion of this treaty the hostilities which have hitherto existed between the States of Russia and Persia shall cease, and peace shall be established between the respective Sovereigns and their allies for ever.

ART. 2.—The *status quo ad presentem* having been agreed on as the basis of treatment in virtue of this arrangement, the several districts hitherto possessed by the respective States shall remain under their subjection, and the frontier is determined in the manner under-written. The line of demarcation is to commence from the plain of Aduna Bazar, running direct towards the plain of Mogham to the ford of the Anas at Yuln Bulook, up the Anas to the junction of the Capennuk Chace at the back of the hill of Mekri; from thence the boundary of Karabagh and Nukshivan is from above the mountains of Alighuz to Dualighuz, and thence the boundary of Karabagh, Nukshivan Erivan, and also part of Georgia and of Kuzah and Shums-ud-deen-Loo, is separated by Eishuk Meidaun; from Eishuk Meidaun the line is the chain of mountains on the right, and the river of Humya Chummun, and from the tops of the mountains of Alighuz it runs along the village of Shoorgil and between those of the village of Mystery until it reaches the river of Arpachahi; and as the district of Talish

during the hostilities has been partially subjected by the contending parties for the purpose of strengthening mutual confidence after the conclusion of the treaty, Commissioners shall be appointed respectively, who, in concurrence with each other and with the cognizance of the governors concerned, shall determine what mountains, rivers, lakes, villages, and fields shall mark the line of frontier, having first ascertained the respective possessions at the time of making the treaty, and holding in view the *status quo ad presentem* as the basis on which the boundaries are to be determined. If the possessions of either of the high contracting parties shall have been infringed on by the above-mentioned boundaries, the Commissioners shall rectify it on the basis of the *status quo ad presentem*.

ART. 3.—His Majesty the King of Persia, in demonstration of his amicable sentiments towards the Emperor of Russia, acknowledges, in his own name and that of his heirs, the sovereignty of the Emperor of Russia over the provinces of Karabagh and Georgia, now called Elizabeth Paul, the districts of Shekie Shiriwan, Kobek, Derbend, Bakoobeh, and such part of Talish as is now possessed by Russia, the whole of Degestan, Georgia, the tract of Shoorgil, Achook, Bash, Gooreea, Mingrelia, Abtichar, the whole country between the boundary at present established and the line of Caucasus, and all the territory between the Caucasus and the Caspian sea.

ART. 4.—His Majesty the Emperor of Russia, actuated by similar feelings towards His Majesty of Persia, and in the spirit of good neighbourhood wishing the

Sovereign of Persia always to be firmly established on the throne, engages for himself and heirs to recognise the prince who shall be nominated heir-apparent, and to afford him assistance in case he should require it to suppress any opposing party. The power of Persia will thus be increased by the aid of Russia. The Emperor engages, for himself and heirs, not to interfere in the dissensions of the prince unless the aid of the Russian arms is required by the king of the time.

ART. 5.—The Russian merchantmen on the Caspian sea shall, according to their former practice, have permission to enter the Persian harbours, and the Persians shall render to the Russian marine all friendly aid in case of casualties by storm or shipwreck.

Persian merchantmen shall enjoy the same privilege of entering Russian harbours, and the like aid shall be afforded to the Persian marine by the Russians in case of casualties by storm or shipwreck.

The Russian flag shall fly in the Russian ships-of-war which are permitted to sail in the Caspian, as formerly; no other nation whatever shall be allowed ships-of-war on the Caspian.

ART. 6.—The whole of the prisoners taken either in battle or otherwise, whether Christians or of any other religion, shall be mutually exchanged at the expiration of three months after the date of the signature of the treaty. The high contracting parties shall give a sum to each of the prisoners for his expenses, and send them to Kara Ecclesia; those charged with the superintendence of the exchange on

the frontier shall give notice to each other of the prisoners being sent to the appointed place, when they shall be exchanged; and any person who either voluntarily deserted or fled after the commission of a crime shall have permission to return to his country, [or] shall remain without molestation. All deserters who return to their country shall be forgiven by both contracting parties.

ART. 7.—In addition to the above Articles, the two contracting Sovereigns have been pleased to resolve to exchange ambassadors, who at a proper period will be sent to their respective capitals, where they will meet with that honour due to their rank, and due attention shall be paid to the requests they may be charged to make. Mercantile agents shall be appointed to reside in the different cities for the purpose of assisting the merchants in carrying on their trade; they shall only retain ten followers; they shall be in no way molested; they shall be treated with respect and attention, and parties of either nation injured in the way of trade may by their interference have their grievances redressed.

ART. 8.—With regard to the intercourse of caravans, the merchants of either country must be provided with a passport, that they may travel either by sea or land without fear, and individuals may reside in either country for the purpose of trade so long as it suits their convenience, and they shall meet with no opposition when they wish to return home. In regard to merchandise and goods brought from Russia to Persia, or sent from Persia to Russia, the proprietors may at

their own discretion either sell or exchange them for other property. Merchants having occasion to complain of failure of payment, or other grievances, will state the nature of their cases to the mercantile agents; or, if there are none resident in the place, they will apply to the Governor, who will examine into the merits of their representations, and will be careful that no injustice be offered this class of men. Russian merchants having entered Persia with merchandise will have permission to convey it to any country in alliance with that State, and the Persian Government will readily furnish them a passport to enable them to do so. In like manner, Persian merchants who visit Russia will have permission to proceed to any country in alliance with Russia. In case of a Russian merchant dying in Persia, and his goods remaining in Persia, as they are the property of a subject of a friendly State, they shall be taken charge of by the proper constituted authorities, and shall be delivered over, on demand, to the lawful heirs of the deceased, who shall have permission to dispose of them. As this is the custom among all civilised nations, there can be no objection to this arrangement.

Art. 9.—The duties on Russian merchandise brought to Persian ports shall be in the proportion of five hundred dinars (or five per cent.) on property of the value of one toman, which, having been paid to one city, the goods may be conveyed to any part of Persia without any further demand of duty being made on any pretence whatever. The like per-centage, and nothing more, will be paid on exports. The import

and export duties from Persian merchants in Russia will be levied at the same rate.

ART. 10.—On the arrival of goods at the sea-port towns, or such as come by land-carriage to the frontier towns of the two States, merchants shall be allowed to sell or exchange their goods without the further permission of the Custom House officers, because it is the duty of Custom House officers to prevent all sorts of delay in the prosecution of trade, and to receive the King's customs from the buyer or seller, as may be agreed between them.

ART. 11.—After the signature of this treaty the respective Plenipotentiaries shall immediately announce the peace to the different frontier posts, and order the suspension of all further hostilities; and two copies of this treaty being taken, with Persian translations, they shall be signed and sealed by the respective Plenipotentiaries, and be exchanged. They must then be ratified by the signatures of their Majesties of Russia and Persia, and the ratifications shall be exchanged in the course of three months.

Done in the Russian camp, at the River
Zuisan, near Gulistan, in Karabagh.

The 12th October 1813. The 29th Showal, 1228.

Higira.

(Signed
and
sealed.)

NICHOLAS RITISCHEUF.

(Signed and sealed) MIRZA ABUL.
HUSSEIN KHAN.

APPENDIX B.

RUSSIA AND PERSIA.—TREATY OF TURKOMANCHAI.

IN the name of Almighty God. His Majesty the Most High, Most Illustrious, and Most Powerful Emperor and Autocrat of all the Russians, and His Majesty the Shah of Persia, equally animated by a sincere desire to put a period to the evils of a war entirely contrary to their mutual wishes, and to re-establish on a solid basis the former relations of good neighbourhood and amity between the two States through the medium of a peace comprising in itself the guarantee of its duration by the removal of all causes of future difference and misunderstanding, have appointed the following Plenipotentiaries charged with the execution of this salutary work, namely, on the part of His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, the Sieur Jean Paskevitch, General of Infantry, and Aide-de-Camp General, Commander of the Corps detached from the Caucasus, Superinten-

dent of the civil portion of Georgia, and of the administrations of Astracan and of the Caucasus, Commandant of the Flotilla of the Caspian sea, Knight of the Diamond Orders of St. Alexander Newsky, of St. Anne of the 1st Class, of St. Vladimir of the 1st Class, of St. George of the 2nd Class, decorated with two swords of Honour, one of which bears the inscription "for valour," and the other bedecked with diamonds, Knight of the Foreign Orders of the Red Eagle of Prussia of the 1st Class, of the Crescent of the Sublime Ottoman Porte, and of many others; the Sieur Alexander Obuskoff, Counsellor of State and Chamberlain, Knight of the Order of St. Vladimir of the 3rd Class, of St. Stanislas of Poland of the 2nd Class, and of St. John of Jerusalem; and on the part of His Majesty the Shah of Persia, His Royal Highness the Prince Abbas Mirza, who, after having met at Dekhargane and exchanged their full powers, which were found in good and due form, have adopted and concluded the following Articles.

ART. 1.—There shall be established from this day, peace, amity, and perfect understanding between His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias on the one part, and His Majesty the Shah of Persia on the other part, their heirs and successors, their respective States and subjects, in perpetuity.

ART. 2.—Considering that the hostilities between the high contracting parties, now happily terminated, have caused the suspension of the obligations imposed on them by the Treaty of Gulistan, His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias and His Majesty the Shah

of Persia have deemed it proper to replace the said Treaty of Gulistan by the clauses and stipulations, which are intended to regulate and consolidate more and more the future relations of peace and amity between Russia and Persia.

ART. 3.—His Majesty the Shah of Persia, as well in his own name as in that of his heirs and successors, cedes in full right and property to the Empire of Russia, the Khanate of Erivan on either side of the Araxes, and the Khanate of Nakhitchevan. In consequence of this cession, His Majesty the Shah engages to cause the delivery to the Russian authorities, within the space of six months at farthest from the signature of the present treaty, of all the archives and public documents concerning the administration of the two khanates above mentioned.

ART. 4.—The two high contracting parties agree to establish, as the frontier between the two States, the following line of demarcation:—Commencing from that point of the frontier of the Ottoman States which is the nearest in a direct line to the summit of Little Ararat, this line (of demarcation) shall proceed as far as the top of that mountain, whence it shall descend as far as the source of the river called Karasson inferior, which flows from the southern side of Little Ararat, and shall pursue its course down to the river's mouth in the Araxes opposite to Cherour. At this point the line shall follow the bed of the Araxes as far as the fortress of Abassabad; above the exterior works of this place, which are situated on the right bank of the Araxes, there shall be drawn a radius of

half an agatch, or three and a half Russian versts, which will extend in every direction; all the territory comprised in this radius shall belong exclusively to Russia, and shall be marked out with the greatest exactness within the period of two months from this date. From the point where the eastern extremity of the radius shall have joined the Araxes, the frontier line shall continue to follow the bed of that river as far as the ford of Jediboulouk, whence the Persian territory shall extend along the bed of the Araxes over a space of three agatch, or twenty-one versts, below the confluence of the two little rivers called Obinabagar and Sarakamyche, and shall proceed along the right bank of the eastern stream of Obinabagar up to its source, and thence as far as the apex of the heights of Djikoir, so that all the rivers which terminate in the Caspian sea shall belong to Russia, and all those whose course (or disemboguemment) is on the side of Persia shall belong to Persia. The boundary of the two States being here marked by the ridge of mountains, it is agreed that the declivity on the side of Talische shall belong to Russia, and the opposite declivity to Persia. From the ridge of the heights of Djikoir the frontier shall proceed as far as the summit of Kamar Konia, the mountains which separate Talyche from the district of Archa. The ridges of the mountains forming the separation on both sides, the course of the rivers shall determine here the frontier line in the same manner as is above indicated in regard to the distance comprised between the source of Obinabagar and the heights of Djikoir. The frontier line shall then proceed from the summit

of Kamar Konia, the ridge of mountains separating the district of Gouvant from that of Archa to the limits of Welkedge, always conformably to the principle laid down respecting the course of the rivers; the district of Gouvant, with the exception of the portion situated on the opposite side of the apex of the said mountains, shall fall to the share of Russia. From the limits of the district of Welkedge, the frontier line between the two States shall follow the summits of Klopontz, and the principal chain of mountains which intersect the district of Welkedge as far as the northern source of the river called Astara, always observing the principle regarding the course of the rivers; thence the frontier shall follow the bed of that stream to its embouchure in the Caspian sea and complete the line of demarcation, which shall henceforward separate the respective possessions of Russia and Persia.

ART. 5.—His Majesty the Shah of Persia, in testimony of his sincere friendship for his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, solemnly recognises the present article, in his own name and in that of his heirs and successors to the throne of Persia, the appertainment for ever to the Empire of Russia of all the countries and the islands situated between the line of demarcation indicated by the preceding article on one side and the ridge of the Caucasian mountains and the Caspian sea on the other, as also the wandering tribes who inhabit those territories.

ART. 6.—With a view to compensate for the considerable sacrifices which the war between the two

States has occasioned to the Empire of Russia, as well as the losses and injuries which have resulted therefrom to Russian subjects, His Majesty the Shah of Persia engages to make good these by the payment of a pecuniary indemnity. It is agreed between the two high contracting parties that the amount of this indemnity is fixed at ten crores of tomans, or thirty millions of silver roubles, and that the mode, time, and guarantee in respect to the payment of this sum shall be regulated by a separate arrangement.

ART. 7.—His Majesty the Shah of Persia having deemed it expedient to nominate as his successor and heir-presumptive his august son the Prince Abbas Mirza, His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, with a view to afford to His Majesty the Shah of Persia a public testimony of his amicable disposition, and of his desire to contribute towards the consolidation of this order of succession, engages to recognise henceforward in the august person of His Royal Highness the Prince Abbas Mirza the successor and heir-presumptive of the Crown of Persia, and to consider him as the legitimate Sovereign of that kingdom from the moment of his accession to the throne.

ART. 8.—Russian merchant-vessels shall enjoy as formerly the right of navigating in freedom the Caspian sea, and of landing on its coasts. They shall find in Persia aid and assistance in case of shipwreck. The same right is granted to Persian merchants' vessels of navigating on the *ancient footing* the Caspian sea, and of landing on the Russian banks, where in case of shipwreck the Persians shall receive aid and assistance

reciprocally. With respect to ships of war, those carrying the Russian military colours being *ab antiquo* the only vessels which have had the right of navigating the Caspian sea, that exclusive privilege is for this reason now equally reserved and secured to them, so that, with the exception of Russia, no other Power shall be able to have ships of war in the Caspian sea.

ART. 9.—His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias and His Majesty the Shah of Persia, cordially desirous of drawing closer by every means the bonds so happily re-established between them, have agreed that the ambassadors, ministers, and charge d'affaires, who may be reciprocally delegated to the respective High Courts, whether on a temporary mission or for the purpose of residing there permanently, shall be received with the honours and distinctions due to their rank and suited to the dignity of the high contracting parties, as well as to the sincere friendship which unites them and the usages of the countries. In this respect the ceremonies to be observed on both sides shall be agreed upon by means of a special Protocol.

ART. 10.—His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias and His Majesty the Shah of Persia, considering the re-establishment and extension of the commercial relations between the two States as one of the principal benefits which the return of peace should produce, have agreed to regulate all the arrangements relative to the protection of commerce and the security of their respective subjects, as stated in a separate Act hereunto annexed, concluded between

the respective Plenipotentiaries, and which shall be considered as forming an integral part of the present Treaty of Peace. His Majesty the Shah of Persia reserves to Russia as formerly the right of appointing consuls or commercial agents wherever the good of commerce may require, and he engages to allow these consuls or agents, each of whom shall not have a suite of more than ten individuals under his protection, the enjoyment of the honours and privileges due to their public character.

His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias promises on his part to observe a perfect reciprocity in regard to the consuls or commercial agents of His Majesty the Shah of Persia; in the event of any well-grounded complaint on the part of the Persian Government against any one of the Russian consuls or agents, the minister or charge d'affaires of Russia residing at the Court of His Majesty the Shah, and under whose immediate orders they shall be placed, will suspend him from his functions and confer the charge provisionally on whomsoever he may think proper.

ART. 11.—All the affairs and demands of their respective subjects, suspended by the event of the war, shall be resumed and settled conformably to the principles of justice after the conclusion of peace. The debts which their respective subjects may have contracted among themselves shall be promptly and wholly liquidated.

ART. 12.—The high contracting parties agree, with a view to the interests of their respective subjects, to fix a term of three years in order that those who

possess simultaneously immovable property on either side of the Araxes may have the power to sell or to exchange the same freely. His Imperial Majesty of all the Russias excepts, nevertheless, from the benefits of this arrangement (as far as it respects them) the late Eriven Surdar Hossein Khan, his brother Ha Jun Khan, and Kurreem Khan, formerly Governor of Nakhitchevan.

ART. 13.—All prisoners of war made on either side, whether in the course of the last war or before, as well as the subjects of the two Governments who may have fallen into captivity at any period whensoever, shall all be delivered over within the term of four months, and after having been supplied with provisions and other necessary articles they shall be sent to Abassabad to be there made over to the commissioners respectively deputed to receive them and to take measures for their conveyance to their homes. The high contracting parties will adopt the same course in regard to all prisoners of war, and all Russian and Persian subjects reciprocally found in captivity who may not have been restored within the term above mentioned, either by reason of the distance at which they may have been, or owing to any other cause or circumstance whatever. The two Governments expressly reserve to themselves the unlimited right of claiming them at any time, and they bind themselves to restore them reciprocally as soon as they shall present themselves or shall be claimed.

ART. 14.—The high contracting parties shall not demand the surrender of refugees and deserters who

may have passed under their respective dominations before or during the war.

With a view, however, to prevent mutually the prejudicial consequences which might result from the communication which some of these refugees may maintain with their old compatriots, the Persian Government engages not to tolerate within its possessions situated between the Araxes and the line formed by the river called Tehan, the lake of Aroomiah, the river of Djikaton, and by the river named Higil Ogane as far as its confluence with the Caspian sea, the presence of the individuals who shall be designated by name now, or who may be so indicated hereafter.

His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias promises equally on his part not to permit Persian refugees to settle in the Khanates of Karabagh and Nakhitchevan as well as in the portion of the Khanate of Erivan situated on the right bank of the Araxes. It is understood, however, that this clause is not, and shall not be, obligatory except in regard to individuals invested with a public character, or of a certain dignity, such as khans, begs, and spiritual chiefs or mollahs, whose personal example, instigations, and clandestine communications might have a prejudicial influence on their old compatriots. As far as concerns the mass of the population in the two countries, it is agreed between the high contracting parties that their respective subjects who might have already passed, or who may hereafter pass, from one State into the other, shall be free to settle or sojourn wherever the Government

under whose authority they may place themselves shall deem proper.

ART. 15.—With the benevolent object of restoring tranquillity to their States, and removing from their subjects all that can aggravate the evils inflicted on them by the war to which the present treaty has so happily put an end, His Majesty the Shah grants a full and entire amnesty to all the inhabitants and functionaries of the province called Azerbegan. None of them, without any exception, shall be persecuted or molested for his opinion, acts, or conduct, either during the war or during the temporary occupation of the said province by the Russian troops. There shall be granted to them further the term of one year from this date to remove freely with their families from the Persian dominions into the Russian States, to export or to sell their property without the slightest opposition on the part of the Government or the local authorities, or the imposition of any duty or fee on the effects or articles sold or exported by them. With regard to their immovable property a period of five years shall be granted to them for its sale or disposal, according to their pleasure. From this amnesty are excepted those who may be guilty within the period above mentioned of one year of any crime or misdemeanour liable to penalties inflicted by the tribunals.

ART. 16.—Immediately after the signature of the present Treaty of Peace, the respective Plenipotentiaries shall lose no time in transmitting to every quarter the necessary advices and instructions for the immediate cessation of hostilities.

The present treaty, drawn up in two parts of the same tenor, signed by the respective Plenipotentiaries, impressed with their seals, and exchanged between them, shall be confirmed and ratified by His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias and His Majesty the Shah of Persia, and the solemn ratifications bearing their own signatures shall be exchanged between their Plenipotentiaries within the term of four months, or earlier if possible.

Signed by the Plenipotentiaries of the high contracting parties, Camp, Turkomanchai, the 21st February, 1828.

APPENDIX C.

A FRENCH OPINION UPON ENGLAND AND RUSSIA
IN CENTRAL ASIA.

THE "Journal des Débats," in a long and exhaustive article published during the spring of 1878, from which it would appear that the eventuality of a Russian campaign against our Indian empire is one of the most improbable, if not impossible, undertakings that could well be imagined, notwithstanding the enormous numerical strength which Russia is supposed to possess in her army, gave the following account of the present positions and numbers of the Russian forces in Asia:—

"The Russian army in Asia is divided into four parts, corresponding to the administrative divisions of the country—namely, those of the Caucasus, Orenburg, Turkestan, and Fergana, leaving out of the calculation the troops disseminated in the various governments of Siberia, which, in consequence of the

distance, disposition of the country, and the smallness of their effective, could not take part in any operation. The army of the Caucasus on a war footing at the outset of the recent war numbered one hundred and fifty-five thousand three hundred and ninety-nine regulars, and forty thousand nine hundred and thirty-two irregulars. The field artillery amounted to three hundred and forty-four guns. The army of Orenburg numbered, in both regular and irregular troops, about eighty thousand men with sixteen guns. That of Turkestan, about fifty-two thousand men and sixty-four guns. To these may be added between three and four thousand sailors on the Caspian and Aral seas. We thus get a total of two hundred and sixty-four thousand, with four hundred and twenty guns. The troops occupying Khiva and Fergana are not comprised in these figures, as there are no official documents showing their number, but, taking them approximatively, they would probably bring up the whole of the Russian troops in Asia to two hundred and eighty-thousand men and four hundred and eighty-eight field guns.

“ We will now consider what portion of these troops it would be possible to devote to an expedition against an English army in position on the frontiers of India, or taking the offensive by debouching through Afghanistan upon the Russian possessions of Asia. Taking the Turkestan army first, which is nearest to the scene of operations, Colonel Weninkof, of the Russian artillery, calculated six thousand men, and M. Stumm, a Prussian officer who accompanied the expedition to

Khiva, a competent judge, calculated seven thousand five hundred men—that is to say, twenty-six per cent. of the whole effective. This small number is not astonishing if we consider that the Turkestan army is spread over the enormous area of sixteen thousand and thirty-seven geographical square miles, and that it has to watch over turbulent populations incompletely subjugated. The troops of the government of Orenberg, which are spread over a surface of twenty-two thousand and twelve square miles, we do not suppose could provide a greater per-centage than that of Turkestan, but we will suppose that they could furnish twenty-thousand men, and this figure is certainly exaggerated. Of the districts of Khiva and Fergana we will reckon a third of the effective, although this is also much exaggerated for a country which is only partly subjugated, and where struggles are continuing between the populations. We thus obtain a total of disposable forces of thirty-three thousand four hundred men, which is twenty-five per cent. of the whole. In reality we do not think that this force would attain, and certainly not exceed, fifteen thousand men. But we will take the above figure of thirty-three thousand four hundred. This is all the Russian armies of Asia can furnish, all that they can concentrate with the view to offensive operations. If Russia would attack India, or contend in Afghanistan against an English army coming from the Indian frontier, she will have, by counting everything at the best, thirty-three thousand four hundred men to sustain the shock—about the same number which the Turks placed *hors de*

combat in the three assaults on Plevna. The army of the Caucasus is not included in this calculation, because it has on hand all that it can do at present. During the present war it never furnished more than one hundred and twenty thousand disposable men, and then only by borrowing from the European army. War and sickness have certainly reduced it a third. The eighty thousand men which thus remain would be absolutely required on the spot in case of war with England—partly to watch the eastern coasts of the Black sea, and partly for the occupation of the newly-acquired provinces, to watch the Turkish frontier in Asia, and to prepare to encounter any offensive operations on the part of England coming from the Persian gulf. We doubt even whether the army of the Caucasus would suffice for such a complex task.

“Now, let us consider how long it would take to concentrate this army of thirty-three thousand four hundred men. Two points of concentration have been before adopted for attacking India from the north. These are Cabul from Fergana, and Samarkand and Candahar coming from Khiva. Besides these two points no others exist, as will be seen by consulting a good map. We will first suppose a concentration of troops in Fergana, say at Tashkend, either with the view of massing troops nearer to India, or at Samarkand, or even at Balkh. According to the calculation of Lieutenant Stumm, under the most favourable circumstances it would take a column on the march, accompanied with the necessary convoys, four months

and a third to get from Orenburg to Tashkend. Admitting, therefore, that it would only take two-thirds of a month for the concentration of the Orenburg contingent at Orenburg and that of Tashkend at Tashkend, which would be absurd, and counting that contingent at twenty thousand men, which is an exaggeration, and supposing the mobilisation to be already accomplished, we arrive at this—the orders for concentration having reached all the fractions of the armies of Turkestan and Orenburg, five months after, under the most favourable circumstances, they would have concentrated at Tashkend twenty-seven thousand four hundred men. We must count another month for mobilisation and the distribution of orders, which to any military man would appear very short, thus making the delay six months for the concentration of the above forces at Tashkend. The five thousand five hundred men of the Turkestan army who formed the expeditionary force to Khiva in 1873 were concentrated at Djizak about the 10th March, and reached Khiva the 9th June, reduced to three thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight men. The movement of concentration upon Djizak having commenced in the beginning of January, by inverse calculation we find that it would take five months for the Khiva troops to reach Turkestan *via* Djizak.

“ We arrive, therefore, at this conclusion, that everything going on well, a favourable season being chosen, the Asiatic populations remaining quiet, the Russians could group at Tashkend, for offensive or defensive operations against the English, a total of thirty-three

thousand four hundred men (on paper) the first day of the seventh month after the declaration of war, or rather after the arrival of the orders for mobilisation and concentration at Orenburg and Tashkend. We shall see further on the terrible difference of time within which the English could bring a minimum of sixty thousand men to Cabul, and it will be seen that the struggle in Central Asia will not be that of the horse and the fish, but of the waggon against the locomotive.

“In order to form an idea of the difficulties of locomotion between Russia, the Caucasus, and the governments of Orenburg and Turkestan, it will suffice to consider the following figures. Lieutenant Stumm, who travelled by post from St. Petersburg to Tashkend, fixed as the absolute maximum quickness of a courier between those two points at twenty days. M. Weninkof calculated the cost of transport of twenty-four bushels of corn to the Orenburg garrison at nine silver roubles. From Samara to Orenburg is only the sixth part of the distance from Orenburg to Tashkend, and by this an idea may be gained of the cost of transport of millions of bushels of provisions that would have to be sent to Tashkend if the Russians had to concentrate there an army of one hundred and fifty thousand men in order to meet the British army of India. Besides horses which would provide remounts for the Russian army, the possessions of Central Asia offer no resources whatever. Everything would have to be brought from Europe. Supposing that the disposable troops in Asia should number

forty thousand men provided with everything necessary for a long campaign against a European army, the Russians would still have to take one hundred and ten thousand men direct from Europe, with material and provisions."

The same paper followed up its analysis of the resources of Russia in Central Asia by examining the military resources of the British Empire in Asia, of which the following is an extract:—

"We will suppose that a Russian army has assembled in Turkestan with a view to an attack upon India. At Tashkend this army will be supposed to possess its material, and it will have its front extending from the south-west to the north-east, indicated by the localities Samarkand, Djizak, Ouratipa, and Khodjent. Such an army starting from this point would have to take up a position somewhere between Cabul and Kandahar, in order to commence active operations against India. To do this it would have to march a distance of four hundred and fifty miles as the crow flies. The mean distance of the points from which the Russian army would have to march between Samarkand and Khodjent to Cabul—the nearest point to their objective—is six hundred miles in a direct line. From the course of the river Ak-Darya, which is fifty kilometres distant from Samarkand, the Russians would enter upon an unsubjected country. From the course of the Oxus at two hundred and forty kilometres from Samarkand the Russians would enter upon Afghan territory. From whatever point the Russians might start—admitting even that the unsubjected populations and the

Afghans, far from being hostile to them, facilitated their march across their territory—they would have at least eight hundred kilometres, as the crow flies, to march across countries without roads and without resources, before they could be within a distance which would enable them effectively to attack India. One of the most competent men to give an opinion upon this subject—a conqueror of India, who has conducted offensive expeditions all over this region—Sultan Baber, says:—‘The country of Cabul is naturally fortified, and difficult to assail. The chain of the Hindoo Koosh rises between Cabul on the one side and Badakshan on the other.’ We must remember that it is precisely this chain which the Russians coming from Samarkand would have to cross in order to reach Cabul.

“ We will stop for a moment here, and consider what astonishing facilities we have accorded to the Russians in this supposed campaign. We have taken no account of the seasons; we have not said that in the government of Orenburg and in a large part of Turkestan the march of an army would be absolutely impossible except in the spring; that in the mountainous districts south of Turkestan it would be possible only in autumn. We will put these trifles on one side. The Russian army would be concentrated at Tashkend in six months. In one month, with extraordinary rapidity, they have taken up positions at Samarkand and Khodjent—total seven months. The seventh month has just fallen at the moment when the Russian army can cross the heights of Chebertau in

autumn. The populations of the country have remained tranquil, and have in no way embarrassed the operations of the Russians against their co-religionists, the Mussulmans of Turkey. The Russians, in order to overcome the religious scruples of these Mussulmans, have been able to offer them more money than the English could offer them in order to support the cause of Islam. These rapacious and impressionable barbarians have found it more to their interest to side with the Russian invader, who is assembling his army six hundred miles away from their country, than on the side of the English, who put before them the imposing spectacle of their army assembled within view and within gunshot of their mountains. The world, in fact, is turned upside down. The Asiatics are no longer Asiatics. The Afghans laugh at Islamism, at the rupees of India, at the sixty thousand Anglo-Mussulman soldiers, magnificently dressed, well equipped, and they take the part of the thirty thousand miscreants clothed in rags and without a sou in their pockets, who are roaming about in the wilds of Turkestan. The Russian army proceeds without difficulty from Samarkand to Cabul, and marches eight hundred kilometres, as the crow flies, by a single pass over four mountains, the least of which is as high as the Alps, in one month—total eight months. The army is concentrated, disposed, and marches as with the aid of magic. This is marvellous. The first day of the ninth month after the declaration of war one hundred thousand Russians are at Cabul, having left behind them sufficient forces to occupy and protect six hun-

dred miles of communication across deserts and mountains, amongst barbarous and ferocious peoples. Within eight months they have marched across those fearful deserts, amongst terrible mountains; where isolated travellers have before with difficulty only been able to conduct a few mules, they have transported millions of kilogrammes of munitions of war, ambulances, etc., without breaking a single wheel, and without dismounting a single cannon. These three impossible things having been accomplished, as well as the despatch of one hundred and ten thousand men with the necessary material from Russia in Europe to Tashkend, the assemblage of forty thousand men with the necessary material in the region between Tashkend and Samarkand, the march of one hundred and fifty thousand men with the immense material from Samarkand to Cabul over four chains of mountains, whose mean height is over nine thousand feet, and all this in eight months. Here are, then, one hundred thousand Russians, who we will suppose to be as fresh as when they started on their march, as well as horses, clothes, and material.

“During the time that these armies, more marvellous than the tales of Hoffmann, have been pursuing their course, the English will have had fully eight months for their preparations. We will now see what they have been able to do. Here we leave the domain of fancy, and, instead of enlarging the effectives we will reduce them as much as we can. Instead of making armies to fly as with wings, we will simply transport them by railway. As regards the question of money,

we will not discuss it; for whatever may be the expense which England may be put to in the event of an Asiatic war, we must consider that she is perfectly able to meet it. In the first place the Indian empire requires nothing from Europe in the shape of material. It has its grand central arsenal at Meerut, its depot of railway material at Allahabad, with eight thousand (?) European workmen. They make their own cannon, their locomotives, their cartridges, and have means for manufacturing everything necessary. They have stores of meat almost inexhaustible, of leather as much as they require, and of rice they can obtain within three months by sea from Cochin China enough to feed their Hindoos for a whole year of famine, if they will only pay for it. We will, therefore, admit, in the first place, as an axiom most easy of verifying, that the English army of India will find upon its own ground, and in abundance, all that is necessary in material and provisions. But even if this were not the case, and were it necessary to have recourse to Europe or to neighbouring countries or to other English colonies, a steamer to Kurrachee from England takes only about a month. And if we turn to a map of the railways of India we are struck with the fact that the English, who are people not indifferent to commercial matters, have constructed in India railways which are in no way intended to supply commercial, but rather military requirements—purely strategic railways. From Calcutta, from Bombay, from Kurrachee, all these lines meet (?) at one point—Peshawur. Now, Peshawur is a hut, but in that hut there are six regiments garri-

soned, and close to, at Kohat, which is a small village, there are six more regiments.

“ The most recent *Army List* which we have at our disposal is that of 1876, but at that time it may be seen that the Indian army was disposed with the view to what the Prussians call, in technical language, a defensive offensive. We will take for example the army of Bengal, and we will only speak of the native troops. This army comprises the army of Bengal proper; second, the Punjab Frontier Force; third, the Central Indian Corps; fourth, the Rajpootana Corps; and fifth, the Hyderabad Contingent. The three first of these corps form a total of twenty-five regiments of regular cavalry and of sixty regiments of regular infantry, with five batteries of artillery, one company of fortress artillery, and ten companies of engineers.

“ By consulting the disposition of this force, we find that fifty regiments are placed upon the railway line from Calcutta to Peshawur, that forty-one are stationed within a radius of one hundred and fifty miles, and seventeen within a radius of seventy-five miles of the frontier, and that the rest which are not upon the railway line are only at a distance of four days' march. The ten companies of engineers and the five batteries are upon the frontier itself. We will suppose that orders for concentration be given on the 1st of the month. On the evening of the 5th, or at latest the morning of the 6th, the whole of this force would be upon the railway line, and of the total force there are only twenty-seven regiments which are more than one hundred and fifty miles from the frontier. We will

reserve the railway line for them, and cause the others to march by the excellent roads which the British administration has created in India. By making the troops march about sixteen miles a day, and by commencing the movement on the morning of the 6th, on the 16th fifty-three regiments are upon the frontier. Nevertheless the railway has been at work, and it is not too great a task to impose upon a railway so well constructed as those of India to transport twenty-seven regiments at the rate of one regiment a day. Therefore on the 3rd of the second month there will be on the frontier sixty regiments of infantry, twenty-five of cavalry, five batteries of artillery, and ten companies of engineers, and we arrive at this by reducing the effective of the Indian regiments to six hundred men for infantry and three hundred men for cavalry. This gives forty-five thousand men in line of battle thirty-three days after the telegraphic order for their concentration. On the thirty-third day the railway line from Calcutta to Peshawur (?) is free, and can carry without interruption ammunition and other supplies which are stored in the vast military magazines of Mooltan, Lahore, and Jhelum.

“In order to obtain this result not a single man of the sixty thousand European troops of India has been moved from his place. Not a single man of the native troops of Central India, of Rajpootana, of Hyderabad, of the Bombay army, nor that of Madras, has left his station; not a reservist has been called up. There remain, therefore, to be disposed of sixty thousand men of European troops; and of native troops, the

army of Madras—four regiments of regular cavalry, two of irregular cavalry, forty-one regiments of regular infantry, and ten companies of engineers; and the army of Bombay—seven regiments of regular cavalry, thirty regiments of infantry, two companies of artillery, two squadrons of the train, and five companies of engineers. But of this force there are three regiments of cavalry and one of infantry, called the Scinde Frontier Force, stationed at Jacobabad, which form, in consequence of their position, the extreme left wing of the forty-five thousand men concentrated upon the north Indus. A French traveller, an excellent observer, and who is well acquainted with the country, assures us that the natives of the Government of Madras are absolutely devoted to England, and that that district might be completely denuded of troops without risk of temptation to the Indians, whatever might take place. These three thousand five hundred men, by sending them by railway from Madras to Calicut, by boat from Calicut to Kurrachee, and by rail from Kurrachee to the stations of the Scinde Frontier Force, would reach their destination certainly within a month. We therefore see that on the thirty-third day there could be fifty thousand men, native troops, at the disposal of the British commander upon the frontier of the Indus. Further, it is to be supposed that the metropolis will not have remained inactive. She could dispose immediately of five thousand men for reinforcements for India, and one month after this five thousand men would be at Kurrachee, and thus relieve an equal number of European troops

of the Bombay army, which a month after might have arrived at the general rendezvous on the north-west. The Governments of Madras and Bengal also could dispense with five thousand European troops, and could send them within a month also to the north-west. Within a month also in the large towns of England at least five thousand men could be recruited in order to be sent to Kurrachee, and a month after they could be dispersed among the regiments of India, so that an equal number of veteran troops, inured to the climate, could be spared to reinforce at the front the army.

“ We now find ourselves at the first day of the third month after the order for concentration shall have been given. There are along the frontier, so grouped as to be ready to march forward, sixty-five thousand men, of whom fifteen thousand are Europeans. Five thousand more Europeans are on the road to join them, and behind they have a reserve of fifty thousand Europeans and fifty-two thousand seven hundred native troops—in all one hundred and two thousand seven hundred men. The native troops despatched to the front are of the *élite*—Sikhs whose bearing and aptitude for military instruction have excited the admiration of all who know them; Gourkas, of whom our poor Jacquemont said, that with a battalion of these mountaineers he would hold in respect the whole of India; the 6th Sikhs Regiment, the 3rd Gourkas, which headed the column of assault at the breach of Delhi; the 4th Cavalry, the 17th and the 16th, both having been presented with an honorary standard for

having so bravely and faithfully defended Lucknow against the great insurrection. In fine, at the end of two months, when the Russians are only still carrying out the first movements of concentration, the English have sixty-five thousand good troops and inexhaustible supplies at the frontier, supported by two lines of railway."

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ERRATA.

- Vol. II. p. 69, line 13, *for* Frontiers *read* Feudatories.
„ p. 127, line 28, *for* uncle *read* brother.
„ p. 267, line 3, *for* Viceroys *read* Viceroy.

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