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EAST INDIA (EUROPEAN TROOPS).

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 22 May 1862,—for,

“COPY of any CORRESPONDENCE with the Government of *India*, relating to
the Number and Expenses of the EUROPEAN TROOPS now doing Duty in
India.”

(*Mr. Henry Seymour.*)

India Office, S. W., }
26 May 1862. }

T. T. PEARS, Major General,
Military Secretary.

[*Mem.—The following Despatch should have been inserted in page 50, of
Parliamentary Paper, No. 298.*]

COPY MILITARY DESPATCH to the Government of India, No. 446, dated
15 November 1861.

To His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor General of India in
Council.

My Lord,

Para. 1. In your Despatch, No. 80, dated 18th May 1861, paragraph 32, you expressed an opinion that the number of regiments of European Cavalry in Bengal might be reduced to six, as soon as the season should arrive in which a regiment can be sent to England.

2. The proposed establishment of six regiments for Bengal is lower than has been yet recommended by any of the Military authorities.

3. At the time when you were authorized to form three regiments of Cavalry for general service, from the European Cavalry of the Bengal Army, Her Majesty's Government had reason to suppose that a greater number of regiments of Cavalry would, in your opinion, be required as an adequate force for that Presidency, and I should wish you to communicate further with His Excellency the Commander in Chief, before a final decision is made as to the requisite number of regiments for Bengal.

4. In reference to that question, I do not clearly understand your instructions about the Lahore Light Horse.

5. I can hardly consider this as an equivalent for an English regiment, and yet they appear to me to be nearly as expensive, man for man. The duty which they perform may be, I should think, as easily done by native troopers.

6. I think, therefore, that the first reduction should be made by discontinuing this corps.

7. You will then report to me more fully your opinions on the ~~v~~ ~~h~~ ~~e~~ ~~r~~ ~~e~~ ~~h~~ ~~e~~ ~~r~~ ~~s~~ ~~o~~ ~~f~~
298—I.

2 CORRESPONDENCE :—EAST INDIA (EUROPEAN TROOPS).

European Cavalry required for service in Bengal; and, in the meantime, the regiment of Cavalry, which you propose to send home, should be retained in India. If six regiments of Cavalry suffice for Bengal, it may be necessary to reduce one regiment of Cavalry.

8. In this case, the 21st, being the youngest in the service, would, according to the rule and practice of Her Majesty's service, be the one to be disbanded; and as it appears from the latest returns that there are not men enough of the Bengal Light Cavalry in India for three complete regiments, it will be better not to complete the 21st until it is decided what number of European Cavalry regiments are to be maintained in Bengal.

9. If the ultimate decision should be that six regiments are enough, and the 21st should be disbanded, an unnecessary expense would have been incurred by sending a regiment home, which would have to be sent back to India on the disbandment of the 21st.

10. With reference to the proposed embarkation of one Infantry regiment from Madras during the present cold season, I learn from the Secretary of State for War that no provision has been made in the estimates of the current financial year for this regiment, which will become, from the date of embarkation, chargeable to Imperial revenues.

11. With a view to diminishing this charge, as well as the expense of transport, as much as possible, every facility should be offered to the men belonging to the regiment about to return to volunteer into those remaining in India.

12. I request that you will forward the earliest possible information of the regiment selected for return to England from Madras, the place and probable date of embarkation, and also of the result of the volunteering.

I have, &c.
(signed) C. Wood.

EAST INDIA (EUROPEAN TROOPS).

**COPY of CORRESPONDENCE with the Govern-
ment of *India*, relating to the Number and
Expenses of the EUROPEAN TROOPS now doing
Duty in *India*.**

(Mr. Henry Seymour.)

**Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
2 June 1862.**

EAST INDIA. (EUROPEAN TROOPS).

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 23 May 1862;—for,

‘ COPY of any CORRESPONDENCE with the Government of *India*, relating
to the Number and Expenses of the EUROPEAN TROOPS now doing
Duty in *India*.’

India Office, S.W., }
26 May 1862. }

T. T. PEARS, Major General,
Military Secretary.

(*Mr. Henry Seymour.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
2 June 1862.

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