

The support which the cause of the British Government in India has received during the last two anxious years from the Bombay Government and its officers, stands upon record, and will, I am confident, meet with its just reward. For myself, I shall never cease to remember with admiration the boldness and readiness with which that support was given; but, whilst I entirely concur in the estimate which Lord Elphinstone has formed of the individual services of those who were under the immediate orders of his Government, I must observe that to Lord Elphinstone himself, foremost of them, and above them all, is our debt of gratitude due.

I have long ago expressed my sense of the degree to which India is indebted to the patriotic and unselfish aid which came to us from the Governors of the Cape of Good Hope and of the Mauritius—Sir George Grey and Sir James Higginson,—and it only remains for me to declare my entire concurrence in all that Lord Elphinstone and his Council have said on this head.

I cannot doubt that Her Majesty's Government will adequately appreciate the cordial spirit of friendliness which the Governor-General of Portuguese India, the Viscount de Torres Novas, has evinced towards the traditional Allies of his country in the time of their difficulty.

CANNING.

September 17, 1859.

Minute by the Right Honourable the Governor of Bombay, dated the 18th August 1859.

THE Governor-General in Council having called upon us for a Report upon the claims of persons who have rendered good service to the State, otherwise than in the field, during the late troubles, for transmission to Her Majesty's Secretary of State, I beg to submit the names of those who seem to me best entitled to this distinction.

From the extract from Lord Stanley's letter of the 1st of June, which has been sent for our information, I perceive that the persons, and the services performed, are to be classified under four different heads:—

1st. Civil servants.

2d. Persons unconnected with Government, who have rendered valuable assistance.

3d. Military officers employed on civil duty.

4th. Military officers who have rendered service in their military capacity, which, though not such as to render them eligible for promotion, or the distinction of the Bath, is of as high an order as service performed in action against the enemy, and not less worthy of honourable distinction.

Under the first head I should have placed the name of Sir Bartle Frere, the Commissioner in Scinde, but he has already received the thanks of Parliament and the honours of the Bath; it would therefore be a work of supererogation. I beg however, respectfully, to submit for the most favourable consideration of Her Majesty's Government the services of Mr I. N. Rose,—as the chief civil officer in Sattara. Mr Rose was placed in a position of great difficulty, and in which he was able to render most valuable service.

The annexation of Sattara was far from being popular among the people of that province. The upper classes especially regarded the introduction of British rule with dislike, and all classes of Mahrattas looked with regret upon the extinction of the line of the great freebooter who delivered them from the Mahometan yoke, and laid the

foundation of that wide-spread confederacy which has been called the Mahratta Empire.

No wonder, then, that the eyes of the disaffected throughout this part of India were turned towards Sattara. The widows of the two last Rajahs, with their adopted sons, had been permitted to occupy the palaces of the Rajah, and to keep up a certain amount of royal state. The disturbances had hardly broken out in the north-west when Mr Rose discovered that a plot, for the restoration to the Gudi of the adopted son of the elder branch, had been for some time hatching. Soon afterwards, overtures were made by the conspirators to a sepoy of the 22d Native Infantry, who was to sound his comrades, and to promise rewards and promotion if the regiment only remained neutral, while all the Europeans at the station (including their own officers) were being murdered.

Mr Rose immediately took the most vigorous measures, and recommended the removal of the widow and adopted son of the elder Rajah from Sattara. This measure he carried out with great prudence and judgment. The Ranees and her adopted son, with their principal advisers, were arrested and conveyed out of the town, without the people being aware of it; but, in the excited state of people's minds, a rescue might have been attempted, and to prevent this, European escorts had been secretly posted all along the road to Poona; a distance of upwards of 70 miles.

It was afterwards found that the presence of the rival pretender to the Gudi (the adopted son of the last Rajah) encouraged the hopes of the disaffected to our rule; and he and his adoptive mother were also successfully removed from Sattara.

Throughout the whole of the period which intervened between the seizure of Delhi by the mutineers, and recapture of Gwalior by Sir Hugh Rose, there was great excitement in the province of Sattara, and if any outbreak had occurred there, it must have extended to the other Mahratta provinces of this Presidency, and probably to Holkar's, and to the Gackwar's States, and we are mainly indebted to Mr Rose for the frustration of these intrigues, and for the preservation of tranquillity in the Deccan.

Many other civil servants rendered useful service, but the only ones whom it seems to me should be brought to the notice of Her Majesty's Government are Mr Seton Karr, who, during the early part of the period of disturbance, was Political Agent in the S. M. country, and who, as collector and magistrate of Belgaum, showed great coolness and tact in dealing with the disaffection which undoubtedly prevailed in that part of the country, and especially in Belgaum itself; and Mr Chapman, who was wounded in an affair with the Bheels in the neighbourhood of Nassik.

I presume, however, that under the first head should be entered the names of gentlemen who are in the service of Government, but who are neither military officers nor civil servants, in the ordinary sense of the term. If so, I would beg to bring the meritorious services of Mr Souter, the Superintendent of Police in Belgaum, and Mr Forbett, the Deputy Commissioner of Police in Bombay, to the notice of Her Majesty's Government.

In the second category, it does not occur to me that there are any persons in this Presidency who have a claim to be inserted.

I now come to military officers in civil employ. The valuable services of Major-General Sir H. Roberts and Brigadier-General Le Grand Jacob, as Political Commissioners in Guzerat and the Southern Mahratta country, have already been