

tween the Governor-General and his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. During the period of occupation the native troops will continue to receive Sinda pay and allowances.

It is by the valour and discipline of the British troops, led by their distinguished commanders, that these important and complete successes have been gained; and the Governor-General is confident that, during the temporary occupation of the fortified town of Lahore, the troops will prove, by their good conduct, that they are as generous and humane after victory as they are brave and invincible in the field of battle.

By order of the Right Honourable the Governor-General of India,

F. CURRIE,

Secretary to the Government of India,
with the Governor-General.

Memorandum of the proceedings of a Durbar held at Lahore, on the 9th of March 1846.

AT four, P.M., of the 9th of March, a public Durbar was held in the state tent of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, at which His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and staff, His Excellency the Governor of Sinda and staff, with the British and Native Officers invited in the Governor-General's order, dated 8th instant, attended.

The young Maharajah of Lahore, attended by the Minister Rajah Lal Singh, Rajah Goolab Singh, the Commander-in-Chief of the Lahore Army, Sirdar Tej Singh, and about 30 other Sirdars and Civil Officers, with their suites, were present.

After the treaty of peace was ratified and exchanged with the usual ceremonies, the Governor-General addressed the Chiefs in the following terms, the address being translated, sentence by sentence, by the Secretary to the Government of India, Mr. F. Currie :

"On this occasion of ratifying the treaty of peace between the British Government and the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh, in the presence of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, His Excellency the Governor of Sinda, and the Officers of the British Army on the one hand, and the Sikh Chiefs on the other, I have to repeat the assurances which have so often been given by me and by my predecessors, of our desire that peace and friendship may always subsist between the two Governments.

"The British Government desires to see a Sikh Government re-established which may be able to control its army, protect its subjects, and willing to respect the rights of its neighbours.

"By this treaty, the Lahore Government has sufficient strength to resist and punish any Native Power which may venture to assail it, and to put down all internal commotions.

"Wisdom in council, and good faith in fulfilling

its engagements, will cause the Sikh Government to be respected, and enable it to preserve its national independence.

"For forty years, it was the policy, in Runjeet Singh's time, to cultivate friendly relations between the two Governments, and, during the whole of that period, the Sikh Nation was independent and happy. Let the policy of that able man towards the British Government be the model for your future imitation.

"The British Government in no respect provoked the late war. It had no objects of aggrandizement to obtain by hostilities. The proof of its sincerity is to be found in its moderation in the hour of victory.

"A just quarrel, followed by a successful war, has not changed the policy of the British Government. The British Government does not desire to interfere in your internal affairs. I am ready and anxious to withdraw every British soldier from Lahore. At the earnest solicitation of the Sikh Government, I have, reluctantly, consented to leave a British force in garrison at Lahore, until time shall have been afforded for the reorganization of the Sikh army, by which assistance the stipulations of the treaty may be more easily carried into effect.

"In no case can I consent that the British troops shall remain in garrison for a longer period than the end of this year.

"I state this publicly, that all the world may know the truth, and the motives by which I am actuated in this matter.

"The Sikh army must, according to the treaty, be immediately reorganized, by reverting to the same system, and rate of pay, as in Runjeet Singh's time.

"If the friendly assistance now afforded by the British Government, be wisely followed up, and honest exertions made by the Chiefs without delay, you will become an independent and prosperous State.

"The success or failure is in your own hands; my co-operation shall not be wanting; but, if you neglect this opportunity, no aid on the part of the British Government can save the State.

"I leave my Political Agent, Major Lawrence, assisted by Major McGregor, and a most able General Officer, Sir John Littler, to command the British troops. These Officers possess my entire confidence.

"Again I repeat, my anxious desire is to see a Sikh Government strong and respected, an obedient army, patriotic chiefs, and a happy people.

"I trust the reign of the Maharajah will be long and prosperous, and celebrated for the happiness of his people under a just and pacific Government."

At the close of this address, the Sirdars expressed in warm terms their gratitude to the Governor-General, and their resolution to follow the advice His Excellency had given them.

The usual presents were then given, after which the Durbar broke up.