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EAST INDIA (BOOTAN).

PAPERS RELATING TO BOOTAN.

(PRESENTED TO PARLIAMENT BY HER MAJESTY'S COMMAND.)

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## APPENDIX (A).

From *T. A. Donough*, Esq., Deputy Magistrate of Julpigooree, to Colonel *Henry Hopkinson*, Commissioner of Assam and Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier; (No. 126), dated 25th July 1864.

Sir,

With reference to your demi-official letter of the 30th ultimo, I beg to submit the following information respecting the Western Doors of Bootan, which I have collected from several sources. I believe its general correctness may be relied on. I am preparing a rough sketch map of the country from the foot of the hills down to our own frontier, which I shall send to you as soon as it is ready.

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTRY.

The country from the foot of the hills extending southwards to its junction with our territory has numerous streams running through it (from the north) in a south-easterly direction. Many of these during the dry months have little or no water in them. The largest are those named below:—

*The Shonkosh* شونکوش.—Lower down this river is called the Monass مناس.

*The Guddadhur* گدادهر.—This river is narrow, but exceedingly deep, and somewhat rapid.

*The Raedak* رای دک.

*The Deema* دیما.—Lower down this stream is called the *Kalijan* کالیجان and is navigable during eight months of the year up to a place called *Chichakhata* چیچاخاباتا.

*The Torsha* تورشا.—Navigable during eight months of the year for small boats up to *Bala* بالا.

*The Joldhaka* جلدهاکا.

There are no roads, and yet there are no serious impediments to troops passing through the country from south to north. The nullahs and rivers are all fordable during the dry season.

The country undulates from the foot of the hills in a southerly direction, and as it extends south the undulations gradually cease and the country becomes flat.

The greater portion of the country from the foot of the hills down to within a few miles of the British frontier is covered with what may not be properly called "jungle." It consists of long coarse grass, reeds (including a kind of wild sugar-cane), and wild cardamums. These are all known to the natives as *Bhabni* بهابنی, *Pharah* بهارا, *Moonja* مونجا, *Khagrah* کهاگرا, *Nickrah* نکرا, *Tara* تارا, or *Poondie* پوندی.

There are no extensive swamps. There are *Mydans* at *Amliah* املیا, *Kiranti* کیرانتی, *Chacklah* چاکلا, *Sharipokhary* شاری پوکهری, *Domohonee* دوموهنی, all in the *Dalingkote* Dooar دوالینگکوت.

At *Poorn Tondo* پوران توندو, *Ramahah* رامشاد, in the *Jamrikote* Dooar جامری کوت.

At *Deopani* دیوپانی, *Bonarchang* بونارجانگ, *Bosherchang* بوشیرچانگ, in the *Chamoorchee* Dooar چامورچی.

At *Bancha Mech* بانچھا میچ, *Shena Thakoor* شینا تھاکور, *Madaree* مدارے, *Dhooogooree* دھوگووری (where there is a bamboo stockade), in the *Bala* Dooar بالا.

At *Shookoor Thakoor Bary* شوکور تھاکور باری, *Roop Thakoor Bary* روپ تھاکور باری, *Chichakhata* چیچاخاباتا, where there is a bamboo stockade. There is a sandy plain at a place called *Pareparah* پاراپارا or *Nepaniah* نیپانیا, but there is no water procurable there. *Dooardarerbary* دوار دازیر باری, these are all in *Buxsha* Dooar بخشا.

In this Dooar where it enters the hills there is a place called *Theliagaon* تھیلیگاؤن situated either on a hill or the spur of a hill, which overlooks a pass through which the

rhinoceros, wild buffaloes, tigers, bears, pigs, wild dogs called by the natives Koochok كچوك, deer of various kinds, and other animals too numerous to detail.

Under the head of *Probable Resources* of the country, I may state every description of agricultural produce, dhan, jute, mustard, kalai of every kind, bajrah, joar, wheat, sugarcane, pyrah (a sort of wheat), mokai, cheenali, narwah, cotton, pan, betel-nut, bamboos, pumpkins (some of a magnificent size), oranges, melons, wild strawberries, wild raspberries, wild pears, &c. &c., all of these the soil is capable of producing; but only about a quarter (if even so much) of the country is under cultivation.

## REVENUE AND POPULATION.

On these points it is impossible to obtain any but very limited information. That which I have obtained is in respect to the country under the rule of the Soubah of Mynagooree and the plains, Gopalgunge, Chengmaree, and Dalingkote.

There were in Karzibosh Talook attached to Mynagooree 700 families paying land rent. Of these 300 families absconded or deserted, and the lands they cultivated are now lying waste. The remaining 400 families pay annually rupees 18,177 Narainee.

In Bhothati Debowtee Talook there were 280 families; and in Julpeshur Deoran (Chakran) there were 35 families; total 315 families. Of these 140 families have absconded, 175 families remain, and they pay annually 3,764 rupees Narainee.

In Chengmaree there were 150 families, 30 absconded, leaving 120 families, who pay annually 1,426 rupees Narainee.

A sort of toll-bar tax is levied at Bhothati in the Mynagooree Elakah on travellers; it yields annually about 100 rupees, and at Karzibosh about 300 rupees; total, 400 rupees Narainee.

The tax levied at Hâts, viz. :—

	Rs.
At Bothati Hât - - - - -	30
„ Poubdebor Hât - - - - -	60
„ Mynagooree Hât - - - - -	100
„ Kamshah Hât - - - - -	30
Total - - -	<u>Rs. 220</u>

Then there is a tax on ploughs, 18 annas each, which yields about 700 rupees Narainee yearly.

Tax on bullocks, eight annas each, which yields about 200 rupees a year.

Tax on buffaloes, and grazing tax, eight annas a pair, which yields about 1,000 rupees yearly.

Tax on carts conveying timber, 10 annas per each cart, yields about 500 rupees a year.

The total revenue of Mynagooree is about 27,487 rupees Narainee per year, but a very great deal more is screwed out of the ryots on the most trivial pretences. For instance, the Deb Rajah sends down a piece of cloth, or a pony, or a few baskets of oranges, to the ryots of each talook every year, and the amount collected from them in return is 3,000 rupees; this is fixed.

	Rs.
Gopalgunge yields as land-revenue per year about -	4,135
Doongarhaut tax - - - - -	100
Plough tax - - - - -	500
Total - - -	<u>Rs. 4,735</u>

Mynagooree and Gopalgunge are not attached to any of the Doorns.

	Rs.
The land revenue of Dalingkote is annually - -	15,000
Dangerghat (tax) - - - - -	1,300
Hal piâl (plough tax) - - - - -	2,000
Moish piâl (buffaloe tax) - - - - -	200
Timber piâl - - - - -	700
Bullock piâl - - - - -	60
Domobaree hât tax - - - - -	100
Total - - -	<u>Rs. 10,200</u>