

PROCLAMATION OF THE KING OF PERSIA.—We learn from the statements of a man come from the Punjab that the King of Persia has issued a proclamation, of which the following is the purport :—

"Let all the troops assemble at different places on the frontier of Persia to resist these enemies professing an antagonistic faith, *viz.*, the English. It behoves the Arab tribes to act up to the precept of the prophet, (blessed for ever be he and his offspring!) 'Slay all those who have caused you affliction in the same way that they intended to 'afflict you.' It is now necessary that old and young, high and low, wise and foolish, peasant and soldier, should all without hesitation rise to the assistance of their co-religionists, assume arms, arise the Mahomedan standard, and inform the members of their tribes of the declaration, in the name of God, of a religious war of extermination, for God will bestow the fruition of their hopes on those defenders of the faith who will thus exert themselves, and we too will be much pleased with them. I have sent the Noble amongst Nobles Mirza Muhammad Jan Koshakchi Sabahi; the Champion of the Nation, the Chief Mir Ali Khan; and other Generals Officers and Chiefs, with 25,000 troops, to different parts of Persia. The Prince Nawab Shamsir-ud-dowlat has been sent as Commanding Officer with a force of 30,000 men to Bushire, the place from which the English ran away to Bombay. Ghulam Hasan Khan, Duffadar, and Jafar Kuli Khan, Mir Panja have been sent with the cavalry regiments of Kurrachi Diggir te Kirman.

Twenty thousand troops, well equipped and appointed, have been sent to Azibia and Karibia, and the Nawab Ahsan-us-Sultanat, with a force of 30,000 men, 40 guns and other munitions, has been detached in the direction of Kutch and the northern provinces of Sindh. These forces have been thus distributed that they may conquer the provinces of Afghanistan and then move onwards. The Chief Sultan Ahmad Khan, Shah Dowlat Khan, Sultan Ali Khan, and Muhammad Alam Khan have been appointed to join in the conquest of India in posts subordinate to the above officers. It is fully to be expected, from God's blessing, that they will be victorious, and that they will not leave the English any resting place this side of London. Accordingly, now is the time for all the people of that country, all the tribes of Afghanistan, and the inhabitants of India who believe in the Kuran, and walk in the precepts of God's prophet, to join openly in the religious war of extermination, to stand by their faith, and to hold out the hand of support to their brother Mahomedans, for by doing so they will reap advantages both temporal and eternal. It is incumbent on all Mussulmans to assist with zeal and energy in this matter. Moreover, let it be known to all the tribes of Afghanistan and India, that it is no intention of the King of Persia to conquer and annex Afghanistan as a dependency; but that, on the contrary, his real desire is that Kandahar should be subject to the Chiefs Rahimdil Khan and Kohundil Khan; Cabul to the Amir Dost Muhammad Khan; and India to the house of Taimur. It is incumbent on the Amir personally to adopt the counsels of his relations and assist the Mahomedans, and to expel from his heart the avarice of getting a lakh of rupees a month, according to the tradition that it is a saying of the prophet, that he who will assist a member of the faith will receive a good reward for doing so. Hitherto previous to the publication of this notice Amir Dost Muhammad Khan used always to say that if the armies of Persia should go against a people of a different religion, he would join them with armies and money. It is manifest that now the time he used to speak of has arrived, so let the Amir exert every energy in his power to kill the enemies of the Mahomedans, for no blessing can be greater than the opportunity to do so. If he is killed he will be venerated as a martyr, if he lives he will be called a defender

of the faith. In every point of view a religious war of extermination is a meritorious undertaking. But, (and God forbid it should be so) if the Amir act in a different way, he will to a certainty be called a Christian, and the wrath of God will shortly fall on him. The King of Persia has sent also the following letter to the Amir Dost Muhammad Khan. "Oh! Amir! have you joined the English, and become a renegade from your faith! I, as a Mussulman, counsel you to separate yourself from this people, and to join me and contrive means for their ruination. Know, moreover, that all the Mussulmans complain that the Amir, by joining the English, has brought disgrace on the true religion. If avarice is the cause of your conduct take twice the amount of gold from me. And have you not heard what breaches of treaties and engagements this race have practised with the princes and chiefs of Hindustan?" The Amir evinced much respect for this letter, and resolved on coming in this direction himself accompanied by the Chief of Swat. The King of Persia has entered Herat, and the troops at Kandhar have totally cut up the English, who had gone forward in advance."