

Mutiny spread by false reports. Gwalior troops. to get the *οί πολλοί* to believe anything favourable to our cause; and how they swallow such ridiculous reports as are spread by the rebels. In fact this Mutiny has been spread by a clever system of unlimited lying and working upon the timidity of the people.

Indore troops. Troops at Gwalior seem again to be, after much altercation, subservient for the time to Scindia, and may not march till after the Dasserah. The Indore men still at Dholepore. We shall see the effect of the Delhi news on them.

I send a brief message for the telegraph, this letter to be forwarded as usual by post to the Governor-General.

W. MUIR.

J. W. SHERER, Esq.

LXVIII.

AGRA, 22 Sept. Morning.

MY DEAR SHERER,—

A. H. Cocks. Ghaus Mahomed. False rumours spread by natives. As illustrating the "system of unlimited lying" practised by our opponents, I may mention that two days ago Cocks intercepted a proclamation sent for publication throughout the country by Ghaus Mahomed, stating that on the 14th and 15th we had been completely routed, that the King's Forces were now in complete possession of our Camp on the heights, and that the "Infidels" were exterminated. It is by such deliberate and prodigious falsehoods that the simple population have been misled. More, I hope, during the course of the day.

W. MUIR.

LXIX.

AGRA, 22 Sept. 1857. 4 p.m.

MY DEAR SHERER,—No letter has yet come in from Delhi, so I send another copy of yesterday's, in case any mischance has occurred to those already sent.

Gwalior troops. Indore troops. There is little to add from here, excepting as to the Gwalior and Indore troops; of the former we hear continued favourable accounts. They appear to be all for the present amenable to Scindia's influence, and therefore are not likely to move before the Dasserah. The Fifth Regiment and the Cavalry are said to have declared even that they would fight for the Maharajah against the others. Meanwhile they are collecting bullocks, etc., to be ready for a start. But the news of Delhi will interfere no doubt with their plans. The Indore men, though they have

no idea yet of the state of things at Delhi (at least, they had not up to a day or two ago), yet begin to shake. They seized our Tehsildar and Thannadhar in Kheyragurh down in their direction. They got away and have come in. They describe their condition as very wretched. Many of the Sowars finding no provisions or means of feeding their horses at Dholepore, are going back to Gwalior.

The party that passed lately through to Gwalior from Delhi as an escort to Captain Jehangeer and a Shahzada excited an uneasy apprehension amongst them, that all was not going on prosperously at Delhi. They begin to repent their position, and evinced an ill-concealed desire for restoration to the favour of Europeans.

Captain
Jehangeer.

If any such overtures do come they will of course be met by Mr. Reade in the spirit of the Governor-General's resolution. As yet they have not assumed any tangible shape of any sort.

After writing the above, a letter from the Rajah of Bullubgurh was received, praying for orders to spare his buildings in the City. The King, he says, and his servants are alone in the Fort. The Army outside. The City in great distress.

Rajah of
Bullubgurh.

Major Macpherson's news-writer's report has also come in, and I give an outline of it in the absence of our official record. (Translation):—

"On the 17th the King held a Durbar, and a great many officers of the Army were presented. They urged that numbers of their Force were running away; and begged that H.M. would make arrangements for the security of the Fort. H.M. replied: 'Attend you to the protection of the people, the security of the Fort will be my care.' The officers retired in wrath.

Position of the
King at Delhi,
17th May 1857.

"100 Cavalry and 500 sepoy were observed flying across the bridge. H.M. ordered them to be brought back. When they had come into the Royal presence H.M. thus addressed them: 'You have introduced confusion into this City, and turned the whole country upside down, and now you are running off! This shall not be. Fight it out as best you can with the European soldiers;' so they were obliged to encamp under the walls of the Fort.

"The European Force holds half the City—the environs of the Canal, the Lahore Gate, and *the Chandnee Chauk*. The Rebel Force holds the quarter of the Hauz Cazee; the Khass Bazar,¹ the space outside the Palace, and Duryao Gunge; the English

Position of
European force
inside Delhi.
Khass Bazar.

¹ Khass Bazar was the main street which led from the Delhi Gate of the Fort to the Jumma Musjid. After the Mutiny it was entirely cleared away to make the esplanade.—W. C.

camp is as before, on the ridge. The ryots are fleeing in all directions. Those that remain conceal themselves in their houses—having provided themselves with a week's supplies—and do not venture out. Doors of the Fort and City shut. H.M. is in the Fort. The confusion in the City is beyond description. The entrenchments of the English extend from near the Fort to the Lahore Gate. The general belief is that in 2 or 3 days—or a week at most—the City and the Fort will be entirely carried.

Disensions
between
Hindoos and
Mahom-
medans.

"There is great contention between the Hindoos and Mahommedans. The latter accuse the former of not assisting them in the battles with the English.

Rajah of
Patiala.

"It is reported that the English will put the King to death, and give the throne and the country to the Raja of Pattiala. This rumour is a cause of grief to the King; and the Shahzadas, hearing it, are flying from the Fort.

Bankers in
Delhi.

"The Europeans have occupied 2 or 3 of the large Bankers' houses and made excellent arrangements for the protection of the people, so that no Sepoy or King's servant can molest them. Two or three of the great Bankers are still in confinement in the Palace, but it is said they will be soon released. The Sepoys are committing great excesses among the inhabitants.

"The European Army is in great strength, and advances with fearful force.

Gwalior and
Indore troops.

"Three regiments of Sepoys and 1000 Cavalry have gone off towards Mewat and Bullubgurh, in the direction of Agra. Day and night they desert. The Gwalior and Indore troops have not yet made their appearance. When they arrive, we shall see *what* they can effect."

King of Delhi. Is not this a vivid picture of confusion and distress? The wretched King! If he had only thought of it before.

W. MUIR.

LXX.

TELEGRAPHIC MESSAGE—W. MUIR TO FOREIGN SECRETARY.

No letters received to-day.

A khureeta from Raja of Bullubgurh and the Gwalior news-writer's report have come in, both dated 17th. They concur in showing that our position advances, and that of the enemy becomes weaker. Rebels continue to fly in great numbers. Intense confusion in Palace and City.

W. MUIR.