

determination has been so powerful as to supersede every other consideration. The advantages of increased resources, the military strength of our frontier, and even our reputation, is sacrificed to it. To every argument that has been urged to dissuade the Governor-General from this determination, the same answer has always been given: "It is a fundamental principle of my administration, and to this all other considerations must yield."

If the Jumna was a river of such depth as to form a boundary, some reason might be supposed for making a boundary of it. But the fact is, it is everywhere fordable in all months excepting those during which, in common with it, every rivulet swelled by the rains is impassable. The lands to the west are as fertile, the people under good government would be as quiet, and the states with whom we have alliances are as good as elsewhere. What magic is it which shall make one bank of such a stream the object of dread and aversion, when the other is everything desirable? Why should an alliance on one side be useless, when on the other it is salutary? Why should influence to the right be dangerous, if to the left it is power and safety? Sir George Barlow in his closet, looking at a map, sees a black line marking the course of a river; he draws his pencil along this line, and says, "Thus far shalt thou go, and no farther;" and this forms a fundamental principle. I can fancy no other cause for his astonishing determination to keep nothing that he can get rid of on one side of the imaginary line. But he may as well set his chair on the sands of the sea, and order the waves to stop; for the influence of Britain will roll in spite of him beyond the Jumna, or else the Atlantic Ocean will be the Jumna which shall separate the states of India from the British Empire. This inflexible rule looks too much like a government of straight lines; it looks like a government which decides political questions by examining maps in a closet, without attention to the knowledge which is to be acquired by an extensive view of the whole field.

Sir George's fundamental principle in this policy is, perhaps,