

into his service any Europeans, nor any of the natives of the territories subject to the Honorable Company; and I think that that will be sufficient to stop the demand, as the troops on which Runjeet Singh places his chief dependence are from the Honorable Company's possessions; so are all the people employed in his intelligence department.

I shall do myself the honor, in a subsequent despatch, to submit the best information that I possess concerning Runjeet Singh's country, army, power, and resources.

Before closing this despatch, I beg leave to solicit the indulgence of the Right Honorable the Governor-General to the freedom with which I have offered my opinions on the points which are referred for his Lordship's decision. These I have thought it my duty to submit as the result of local observation, and I trust that in so doing I have acted consistently with his Lordship's wishes.

One subject remains as yet unnoticed, on which it will be very satisfactory to me to receive instructions. It relates to the eventual termination or prolongation of the services of this Mission. The suspicion and uneasiness at first displayed by Runjeet Singh at the presence of this Mission, seems to have subsided, but I cannot say that he has shown any eagerness for the continuance of it to an indefinite period. As his jealousy of the Mission on its arrival was too remarkable to escape notice, I have never even hinted at the question of its continuance, and he seems designedly to have been silent on the same point.

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TO N. B. EDMONSTONE, ESQ., CHIEF SECRETARY.

November 6, 1808.

SIR,—It appears to me to be proper at the present time, under the circumstance of the reference which has been made to the Right Honorable the Governor-General in Council, to submit for his Lordship's notice all the information that I pos-