

I now proceed to the Rajah's other objects.

Third. An engagement not to interfere in favor of the King of Caubul to prevent his aggressions against the King's dominions.

On this subject I have lately been informed by Mr. Elphinstone that he is not entrusted to offer the mediation of the British Government to the King of Caubul. The caution, therefore, which I thought it my duty to observe on this point has been unnecessary; but as no difference would be made in the state of affairs here, by agreeing to enter into a positive engagement to the effect proposed, and as the negotiation is at a stand on another question, I have at present no inducement to alter the language that I have hitherto held on this demand.

The fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh articles of his proposals can, I conceive, be easily arranged; but it will be very satisfactory to me to receive any instructions which the Right Honorable the Governor-General may be pleased to issue upon them, especially with reference to the mode in which it may be deemed expedient to comply with them.

Eighth. Stipulating against the slaughter of cattle for beef in the Rajah's dominions;—

A verbal assurance to this effect, if deemed proper, will, I imagine, be sufficient.

Ninth. Stipulation that the British Government will never entertain any Sikh in its service;—

This has been withdrawn, but it may be brought forward again. It was mentioned as a condition of the Rajah's concurrence in the proposed co-operation against France. It would be very satisfactory to have instructions for the guidance of my conduct in case that it should be advanced again. I conceive that the Right Honorable the Governor-General in Council will not assent to it, and that Runjeet Singh, much as he may wish it, will not insist upon it. If it is mentioned again before me, I shall suggest that probably the British Government will demand from the Rajah as an equivalent that he shall never take