

dered it necessary that we should have a still stronger military force stationed here. To this they threw out many objections, very naturally, and it was not until the arrival of the armament under Sir John Keane, from Bombay, and Sir Willoughby Cotton, from Bengal, that we were able to exact a compliance.

The Chiefs of the different districts held meetings, the object of which was to devise plans to oppose the progress of the British power, and to prevent any further encroachment upon their possessions. The Treaties already referred to, still remaining in full force, were, in consequence of these meetings, considered by us politically to be broken, and to give reasons sufficiently strong for recognizing the Rais no farther. The Court was soon, in consequence, separated, and the British bound themselves to support each Ameer in his Territory, and also bound the Princes to support our Troops, by paying an indemnification of several lacs* of rupees per annum. They were to keep what Troops they liked, subject to our approval—to coin their own money, and levy taxes on all, except merchandize brought in for our use—and to continue their amicable correspondence with us, as friends and relatives. To render this Treaty (or rather Treaties) more binding, one was entered into with every Chief except one, and countersigned by their still privately acknowledged Rais, Meer Roostoom. Meer Shere Mahomed, a man of most

* A lac is a hundred thousand.