The Anglo-Afghan Frontier Agreement

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to me only after the publication of my book on the 'Indus Delta,' a circumstance the more unfortunate that the discovery of Idrisi's Khur is all in favour of the views put forward therein as to the site of Dewal. I may mention, however, that since that little work appeared, I have come upon further evidence which points to a position for the old port some miles farther east than that fixed upon by me, but which cannot be discussed on the present occasion.

Colonel Holdich's location of the mediæval *Manhabari* (said to be two stages from Dewal, on the Makran route) at Pir Manga (vulg. Muggur Peer) is founded on a mistake. It was the Manhabari, or Manjabari, *on the Indus* that was "surrounded with gardens, fountains," etc. Nothing is said of the surroundings of the place on the Makran route, and there are some reasons for thinking that that route ran far to the north of Pir Manga.

It may be noted that *Yusli*, *Kirusi*, *Labi*, and some other names found in Idrisi's work and in the geographers' maps, are corruptions; also that the *Kalmati*, sometimes called the *Karmati*, who are found in South-Eastern Makran and Lower Sindh, are Baluch originally from Kalmat, on the Makran coast, and are in no way connected with the famous sectaries known as *Karmati* (or *Karamita*) in the ninth and tenth centuries A.D. On the collapse of the sect individual members of it fled no doubt in all directions, and especially to Sindh, the great refuge of the rebellious and the heterodox. If those fugitives have left behind them memorials indicative of artistic taste, it can only be said that they must have been men differing widely in type and tendencies from the older Karamita.

M. R. HAIG, Major-General.

POSTSCRIPT.—Since the above was written and despatched, it has occurred to me that I have perhaps been too hasty in saying that Colonel Holdich is in error in placing the eastern Fahraj in Karman, while it is, in fact, in the middle of Makran. I referred to the Makran of mediæval times, then, as we know, far more extensive than the modern province. But it may be that the Persian Baluchistan of to-day, which has absorbed so large a portion of old Makran, and includes the eastern Fahraj as well as a wide extent of territory between it and Kalati Baluchistan, is administered as subordinate to the government of Karman, and Colonel Holdich may have written in that sense. The latest maps, however, that I have seen, so far as they indicate an eastern limit of Karman, place it far to the west of Fahraj. It is at the same time fair to say that, on a further examination and comparison of the Arab writers, it appears to me not improbable that in their day the eastern Fahraj was an outlying dependency of Karman. Confusion on the subject has been occasioned by the fact of there being two places of this name, a circumstance of which Ibnu Khurdadbeh, for instance, was apparently not aware, he having been only a compiler, and under the necessity of trusting to the reports of others. I cannot, however, ask for further space to deal with this question, which must be left to some other opportunity.

M. R. H.

The Anglo-Afghan Frontier Agreement.

In an article in the current number of the *Geographical Journal* (p. 547) exception is taken to a statement made recently by Lord George Hamilton in regard to the Bashgul and Arnawai valleys draining into the Kunar river. The statement in question arose out of a controversy about the Durand Agreement and the boundaries of Kafiristan. The *Geographical Journal* says, "It will be apparent . . . that Lord G. Hamilton's statement is not clear; in fact, it seems based on inaccurate topography. . . . Mr. McNair and Colonel Woodthorpe's information shows clearly that the Arnawai valley lies west, and not east, of the

Kunar river." It now appears that Lord G. Hamilton's statement was correct. In old maps the alternative name "Arnawai" is wrongly given to the Bashgul valley. It is a separate valley which lies east, not west, of the Kunar river.* The true facts of the case were made known by Sir George Robertson. He says, "The gallant McNair . . . never entered the real Kafir country at all; he only succeeded in reaching some of the Kalash villages of Chitral, which he mistook for the true Kafiristan" (*Geographical Journal*, Sept. 1894, p. 194).

STEPHEN WHEELER.

MEETINGS OF THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, SESSION 1895-1896.

Eleventh Ordinary Meeting, April 27, 1896.—CLEMENTS R. MARKHAM, ESQ.,
C.B., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

I may mention that it is the intention of the Royal Society of Canada to have a celebration of the fourth centenary of the discovery of North America by John Cabot, and, in writing to wish them all success in this laudable intention, I ventured to say—and I hope I was right—that my feeling would be shared by all the Fellows of this Society, with regard to the efforts of their fellow-subjects in Canada. We might have a celebration of John Cabot's discovery somewhat earlier in the year, say the time of his sailing from Bristol, in the early part of May, 1497; and we will not forget, next year, that splendid old navigator, Vasco da Gama, who sailed on March 25, 1497.

ELECTIONS.—*Charles Mylne Barker; Alexander Duncan Gordon; William Leathern; James Macredy, M.A.; Giovanni Pelleschi; Charles Salmon.*

The Papers read were:—

1. "Journeys in the Native Malay States." By Hugh Clifford, Esq.
2. "A Journey round Siam." By J. S. Black, Esq.

Twelfth Ordinary Meeting, May 11, 1896.—CLEMENTS R. MARKHAM, ESQ.,
C.B., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

ELECTIONS.—*George Thomas Baron; Robertson Fuller Bertram; Herman Bicknell; Major G. Cunningham; John Gordon Douglas; Captain Eustace Guinness, R.A.; Michel G. Holban; Captain Richard Abercrombie Irvine (Donegal Artillery); George Henry Judd; Captain S. L. Norris, R.E.; Commander Herbert Edward Purey-Cust, R.N.; Thomas Thynne, J.P.*

The Papers read were:—

1. "Through the Central Sudan to Sokoto." By William Wallace, Esq.
2. "Hausaland." By Rev. Chas. H. Robinson.

Thirteenth Ordinary Meeting, May 18, 1896.—CLEMENTS R. MARKHAM, ESQ.,
C.B., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

ELECTIONS.—*George Rourke Bryant; Lieut. E. H. Cator, R.E.; The Earl of Crewe; G. Beresford Fitzgerald; Charles Paul Mackie; Captain E. J. Medley (17th Bengal Cavalry); Sir Montagu Frederick Ommanney, K.C.M.G.; Lieut. Gerald Christopher (1st Batt. Wilts Regiment); Henry B. Simonson; Charles Lindsay Temple.*

The Paper read was:

"Journey from Talifu to Assam." By H.R.H. Prince Henry of Orleans.

* 'Parliamentary Papers.' East India (north-west frontier, Bashgal valley), 1896.

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