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wealthy Mogul merchants, some little curiosity
was doubtless manifested at first, but now even
that appears to have died away. —

4 From the date of the Prisoners' arrival here,
up to the end of last April, they were lodged
some in tents surrounded by Stanants, &
others in a position of the Main Guard which
was partitioned off for their use. —

5 These temporary arrangements did
not afford comfortable, or suitable accomodation,
but they were the best that could be made under
the circumstances of the unexpected arrival of
the prisoners, & the uncertainty of their final
destination, as soon as it was desired that
Rangoon was to be their resting place, no time
was lost in erecting their present dwelling
house. —

6 The house is situated within a few yards
of the Main Guard, & like wooden houses of the
country is considerably raised off the ground. It
is in an enclosure 100 ft square, & is surrounded
by palisading 10 ft high. The accomodation
consists of 4 rooms each 16 ft square, one of which
is allotted for the use of the Emperor King, another
is occupied by Jauan Bukt & his young Begum
a third is appropriated by the Begum Janat
Mahal, to each of these rooms a bathing is
attached, Shah Abbas & his mother occupy
the remaining room.

7 The attendants either lounge about the
Verandahs or put up underneath the house
which is covered with pounded bricks &

Keep

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Keep the place dry, a drain all round the house also contributes to this object. There are two bath rooms & a double necessary for the use of the servants, also a place to cook in. —

The Verandahs in the Upper Story of the house are surrounded with chinks battened down, here the old an enfeebled King, & his sons generally sit, and as the floor of the upper story is raised nearly to a level with the palisading, they enjoy the benefit of the prevailing sea breeze, and also an extended & cheerful view — Watching the passers by, & gazing at the shipping, somewhat relieves the monotony of their prison life, & reconciles them in some measure to their present quarter.

8 Within the enclosure at opposite angles, are two sunshades sufficiently large to enable the European sentries to walk about without being exposed to the heat or ~~and rain~~ — & in the other two angles, are placed sentry boxes for the use of night sentries. Two sentries mount guard by day, & usually three at night, but the officer commanding the main guard whence the sentries are detailed, has the option of placing a 4th sentry on duty, whenever the nights are very dark & rainy. It is his duty also to visit the prisoners twice a day.

9. The cost of dieting the prisoners sixteen in number greatly exceeds here
What

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what it would be in India averaging about
11 Rs a day, & as provisions are rising in
price, it is probable the daily expenditure
will in future rather exceed that amount.

10. Since I have taken charge, one
extra Rupee is allowed them every Sunday
& on the 1st of each month 2 Rs extra, this
enables them to indulge in a few articles
for the toilet without the necessity of
asking me for every trifle in that way
they may require. Pen, ink, paper are of
course strictly prohibited.

11. Previous to my taking charge they had
supplied themselves with many little
necessaries, they required, & also their
entire wearing apparel from their own
resources, but now they state that all these
funds are expended, an assertion which
may admit of some doubts. I daily as-
certain both by personal inspection &
enquiry that the food supplied them
is sufficient & good. A supply of clothes
has recently been provided, but their old
stock being in a very dilapidated state,
I shall presently be obliged to replenish
it still further.

12. The establishment kept up for the
Prisoners is upon the lowest possible
scale, & consists of one Bhupprassie
whose business it is to procure their
daily supplies, & he is a sort of con-
fidential Agent between myself & them.
The man I at present have is a Burman

but

but speaks Hindoostani sufficiently well to receive orders from the prisoners regarding their bazar requirements. His pay is rather higher than what I could get a Hindoostani man for, but I thought it advisable to employ a man of a different race, where such constant intercourse was requisite. — The only other servants employed are a Bheetic, Shoby & Sweeper, these are necessarily Hindoostani men, but they are all attached to my service, & as I oblige them all to live in my compound which is next to the prisoners, I thus have them constantly at hand & can also keep a close supervision over them. The public are of course not allowed to hold intercourse with the prisoners, & the servants can only gain admission under a pass from myself which is issued daily & must be inspected by the officer on Main Guard, or they gain admission, & for better security, these tickets are printed & checked by a system of numbering in addition to my signature.

13. The health of the Ex-King is now tolerably good, Dr Dickenson the Civil Surgeon, who has Medical charge of the state prisoners had formed a decidedly unfavourable opinion of the Ex-King's health shortly after his arrival here, but since his rem

has from his former confined quarters, his health has considerably improved, and although much enfeebled, yet he is not more so than might be expected from a native of India at the advanced age of 86. His memory is still good, when time is allowed him to fix his ideas, but this articulation is indistinct consequent on the lop of the teeth. He certainly does not now give the impression of being capable of any extended mental energy or capacity, but on the whole he appears to bear his weight of years remarkably well, he passes his days in listless apathy manifesting considerable indifference to all external affairs. This apparently has been his normal state for a long time past, & may continue so for some time to come, until all of a sudden his career may come to a close, without taking any one by surprise.

14. The King's wife "Zenat Mahal" is described by Mr. Davies who occasionally visits both the Begums as a middle aged woman, she enjoys very good health, I have had several conversations with her from behind the screen, she frequently enlarges on the step she took at the time of the outbreak at which in writing to the late Mr

Colvin

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Colvin the Lieutenant Governor of the N. W. Provinces, begging of him to come to her assistance implying thereby that at that time the Royal family were at the mercy of the Rebels, & she constantly avers that they were thus helpless even to protect the unfortunate European Girl who sought her protection. She also frequently alluded to the loss of her private Treasure & Jewels, & states that Major ~~Hodson~~ pledged his word & gave her a written document as security for the safety of her personal property I am unacquainted with the exact particulars, but agreeably to the tenor of Para V of the before mentioned act, I consider it as well to relate the Begum's version of this circumstance. She states that her property was not ~~disturbed~~ till after Major Hodson's death, when she was required to give up the document he had given her as a protection, she was then dispossessed by Mr. Samuels the Commissioner at Delhi of all her valuables to the extent of twenty Lacs 200,000 Rs in value, & he refused to return her the document.

I have explained to her that on her husband being convicted of Rebellion all the property of the became escheated to the Government.

That

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a that her establishment being distinct from
the Kings & her residing in a separate
Inahal has nothing whatever to do with
it, she seems however to think that the Sep-
-stration of her private property is some-
-what contrary to Custom. However I gave
her no hopes of ever being placed in a
position by the possession of wealth, to
work the mischief her talents might
render possible, were she so inclined for
she appears to be a woman of a masculine
turn of mind judging from her conver-
-sation & deportment, and of the two
most probably had more to say to the
intrigues of the Rebels than her in-
-decile husband. The statement of
prisoners must of course always be
received with caution, but in connec-
-tion with the loss of her treasure, a
certain person named Zan-oolah
Khan appears to have had a hand,
at last all the prisoners are very bitter
against him, & assert that this individ-
-ual who was the Kings Akkem &
adviser was the principal person through
whose insidious counsel the destruction
of the European prisoners was brought
about. This is believed contrary to
fact, but it is not improbable this
man may have given some inform-
-tion regarding the secreted treasure
incurred the enmity of the

Queen's

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Queen's party, However this may be thus
Hakeem from the account appears
to have gained the confidence of the
British authorities at Delhi no doubt
with good & sufficient reason, & the
spleen displayed by the Begum, &
her associates only adds to confirm
this opinion. —

16. The younger Begum "Jumanae"
the wife of Juwan Bukt is described
as quite a young & pretty woman,
probably not more than 15 years old
although she has already been the
mother of two children. She appears
to feel the restraint of prison life,
rather more than the others, this
may partially be the result of a
delicate state of health consequent
on her accouchment, which took
place shortly after her arrival here.
The child I understood from Lieut.
Ormaney was a male one, & was
still-born. Both the old King & his
daughter in law are particularly
fond of soliciting the services of the
Dr upon every trifling occasion,
and the young lady is very solici-
-ous of being allowed to go out for
an airing occasionally.

17. The two sons are both healthy
and rather promising youths dif-
fering somewhat in bearing & manner

The

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The elder Juwan Bukat exhibits an appearance, & deportment of Superiority, this is induced probably more from his present recognised position in the family, rather than from any ^{decided} Superiority in his character and attainments, he having been born a prince, whereas his less fortunate half-brother is but the son of an handmaiden, both are extremely ignorant, the attainments of the elder embracing merely a slight knowledge of reading & writing in the Persian character, & when interrogated on the most ordinary topics, their want of knowledge is very apparent, even the boundaries of their native country are wholly unknown to them.

18. I fulfil my duty as the only medium by which their wishes can be heard, to record for the information of Govt the very laudable desire both these ladies exhibit to learn; they have frequently expressed a very earnest wish to acquire a knowledge of the English language in particular, & they seem to be fully aware that by so doing they will have adopted the very best course for removing the misfortune, if not disgrace attendant on their present state of ignorance, & they state they expressed a wish to the Commissioner of Delhi, to be sent to England in

Preference

11/18
preference to any other place. Both the
Parents of the lads have talked to me on the
subject, & all appear anxious that a com-
mencement should be made. The lads are posse-
ssed of sufficient intelligence to warrent a
hope of speedy progress and have promised
me earnestly to apply themselves if Government
permits the scheme to be undertaken. I told
them I would communicate their wishes for
the consideration of Government.

19. With regard to the attendants all
I can say is that they are a low set, dirty
in their habits, & much inferior to the
ordinary class of domestics in the officer's
household. The only exception is perhaps
Ahmed Beg. — he seems a respectable old
man, & could have had no motive for
attending the ~~king~~ than fidelity
with the Begums attendant, Abdool
Kahman, the case is somewhat different
he is a low cunning fellow, & I am not
quite satisfied as to what relationship
he stands in towards the Queen,
whether attendant or something
more.

Rangoon 3rd August 1859

I have the honor to be &c
(sd) H. Nelson. Davies
In charge of the State Prisoners

How the Off. Agent to the G. G. Rajpootana.