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From

Brevet Lieut-Col. F. Mackeson R.B.

14th Regiment Native Infantry @

Captain J. Ramsay

H.M. 22nd Regiment of Foot

Military Secretary & A.D.C. to the Governor General

To

The Most Noble

The Governor General of India

& & &

Dated London, July 6th 1850.

My Lord,

We have the honor to report for your Lordship's information, our arrival in England in H.M. Ship Medea on the 29th of June at Plymouth, from which place we reported our arrival to the Honble the Chairman of the Court of Directors, forwarding at the same time your Lordship's letters, that, to the address of the Honble the Chairman of the Court of Directors and, that, to the address of the Right Honble the President of the Board of Control; H.M. Ship Medea then proceeded, by order of the Admiral at Plymouth to Spithead, which place she reached on the morning of the 30th of June; and on the evening of July 1st, Mr. Onslow / the Private Secretary to the Honble the Chairman / arrived at Portsmouth with letters of instructions from the Secretary to the Court

of

of Directors, of which we enclose copies, directing us to proceed at once to London to the India House with our charge; in accordance with these instructions we quitted N. M. Ship Medea with our charge, on the morning of the 2^d July at half past 6 O'Clock A. M. and proceeded by railroad to London in company with Mr. Onslow, and delivered the gem called the Koh-i-noor into the hands of the Honble. the Chairman, and of the Deputy Chairman, of the Court of Directors in presence of Mr. Melvill the Secretary to the Honble Court, and we have the honor herewith to enclose their receipt.

2^d The day after having delivered over charge of the gem; it came to our knowledge that some discussion had taken place on the previous day in the Court, in consequence of the jewel not having been delivered over by us, in the identical boxes in which it had been confided to our charge viz in a despatch box and fire proof box under your Lordship's seal but in a small fire proof box, locked, but unsecured by any seal.

We immediately addressed a letter to Mr. Melvill the Secretary to the Court of Directors explaining fully the circumstances which obliged us to break your Lordship's seals and satisfy ourselves of the presence of the diamond in the fire proof box, when resuming charge of it from

The

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the Treasurer at Bombay; a copy of this letter is enclosed for your Lordship's information, and we have been verbally assured by the Secretary to the Court, on the part of the Chairman, that the explanation given is perfectly satisfactory, and that the circumstance of there being no Court to be held until the 10th Instant has alone prevented our receiving this assurance in writing. We from the first considered ourselves authorized to be guided by circumstances in the measures we might adopt for the safe custody of the jewel and under this feeling we did not deem it necessary when reporting to your Lordship our having conveyed the jewel on board the Medea in safety, to enter into the detailed explanation which has since been called for by the question having been raised in the Court.

3. We shall have the honor of forwarding the duplicate of the Chairman's receipt by the next mail, together with the copy of the answer that we may receive to our letter to the Secretary to the Court of Directors.

We have &c

By J. Mackeson B^t Lieut Col
14th Regiment A. I.
" J. Ramsay Captain
22^d Regiment
Military Secretary and A. D. C.
to the Governor Genl

Since

P.S. Since closing the above we have received the answer of the Secretary to the Court of Directors referred to in the last Paragraph No 3 of this letter, and have the honor herewith to annex a copy of it for your Lordship's information. —

By J. Mackeson 15th Lieut. Col
14th Regiment N. I.

J. Ramsay Captain 25th Regt.
Military Secy & A.D.C.

True copy

A. M. S. [Signature]

Secretary to the Govt. of India
with the Governor General

Camp [Signature]

Am. 2. Aug 1850. N. 33 & 34
W.H.

W.H.

Foreign 1850
✓
L. B. J.

Copy
of the
Report of the
Committee
of the
House of
Representatives
on
the
subject
of
the
gold
and
silver
mines
of
California
in
1849
&
1850.

Captain Pennington.

3 June

of
the
27th August

23. August

1850

Report their arrival in England
on 29 June with the Hon. Secy
and former receipt of the Chairman
and Deputy Chairman of the Court,
to whom the gem has been deli-
vered. Note a discussion which
had arisen consequent on the gems
not having been believed in the
identical ones in which it was
confessed to their case.

(Minute by the Hon. Secy. 15th August.)

NATIONAL ARCHIVES