Appendix III

Tod’s Memorandum on the Tribal Mhairs of Mhairwarra, IOR MSS EUR E 293/47 (22 folios)

Oodipoor, 25 November 1821.

GEORGE SWINTON, Esq.,
Secretary to Government in the Political Department.

Sir,

[MEYWAR AFFAIRS] 1. I have the honour to report at length on a subject which has nearly engrossed all my time and attention since my return to Meywar.

2. I mean my arrangements for the suppression of the Predatory Tribes of Mhairs, subject to this state in the extensive tract termed Mhairwarra.

3. It is a subject which involved so many changes in its progress to final success, requiring plans to be altered and adapted to circumstances as they arose, that I was averse to troubling the most Noble the Governor General in Council with progressive details, but to avoid encroaching on his Lordship’s time by a condensed relation of the final, general result with remarks and observations towards the elucidation of the subject.

4. It will be in the recollection of the most Noble the Governor General in Council the anxiety with which I gave myself up to this subject from a very early period with the palliative measures I had seen adopted for checking an evil which the poverty or spirit of this state could not cure.

5. The various dispatches already before Government [folio 2] will render it unnecessary my employing much introductory matter to preface this dispatch, but as it is a subject of great importance extending far beyond mere locality and the result now obtained to be considered final, I shall take the liberty of prefixing a few remarks to obviate the trouble of general reference to former dispatches which were of date as per margin.* *
APPENDICES

** [note** folio 2: August 11, 1818, para 34, addressed, of the Resident Delhi. February 20, 1819, J. Adam Esq., with sketch.]

6. With the last of these dispatches a Sketch of Mairwarra accompanied such as I had been enabled to draw out from Information, and that on too small a scale to give a minute idea of these tracts or from the nature of the materials to be very correct, yet sufficiently so in both to elucidate my remarks. To this letter I may beg leave to refer to for the description of the Range and its inhabitants, with their mode of life.

7. I have little doubt that the Mhairs are the aborigines of the country, and that their Conquerors, the Rajpootts, expelling them the lowlands, compelled them to dependence on the Mountains for protection, and in these they have continued to maintain themselves against all their efforts, doubtless aided by the necessity of a mutual good understanding [in?] the long period of Musulman domination.

8. They are, prior to the conquest of Hindostan described as pursuing the same lawless habits of plunder as they continued to the present time, and in the Epic Poem of the Wars of Pirthi Raj, the Chohan Sovereign of Delhi, the opponent of Shahaboodeen, they withstand him for a whole day in defending the passes of the Arabullah in [folio 3] his march to attack the prince of Mundore.**

** [note ** folio 3: Capital of Marwar, previous to the settlement of the Rahtores, and some centuries ere Jodpoor was built.]

In this they are described as ‘the manly Mhair’, a Stranger to fear, who brings the spoils of the Plains to the recesses of the Mountains, who owns neither Lord or Law.

9. The most powerful of the Ranas of Mewar had compelled a sort of feudal subjection, and established a paramount authority or supremacy acknowledged in forms of fealty, homage and annual gifts in token of vassalage common to rude nations. The respect they paid the Princes of Meywar in honor of the ancient and noble birth of the Family is remarkably illustrated in the recorded vicissitudes of this House and perhaps to this respect may be attributed reasons for alacrity in performing service stronger than those which arose from their power.

10. There is besides singular coincidence [sic] in religious tenets common to both: the inclusive worship of the Sun once common to this House is still the chief emblem of adoration and invocation amongst these mountaineers; and their spiritual directors are the Kanfutta Jogies still revered by the Seesodias, whose Head was himself styled, in ancient times, Jog-Ender or Lord of the Jogas.

11. In consequence in all reverses of this family [Seesodias], they were faithfully and honorably served by them [the Mhairs], and our understanding or compact on the basis of mutual aid was that which unites them superadded to a knowledge of supremacy. From their fidelity and the like sentiment of the other wild tribes in these tracts impossible to large armies, the Ranas of Oodipoor were indebted to the mountaineers, [folio 4] for their
independance; for independance it may be called, tho' destitute of power, which preferred the life of the Forrest Bheel to slavish subjection to the will, religious doctrines, and consequent debasement of another [Muslims], its antipode in every thing sacred or profane.

12. Alla Oodeen** attempted the subjection and conversion of the Mhairs tho' with but partial success and has left marks of the universality of his conquest even in this chain.

** [note 1, folio 4: about A.D. 1300]

13. The great Sowaee Jey Sing of Ambere in the zenith of his power when wielding all the forces of the Empire, failed in that [subjecting the Mhairs?]; and the repeated endeavours of the various Mahratta Soubadars since Ajmere fell into their hands were alike futile, they could not even protect Ajmere from their excesses [of the Mhairs]. [Sowaeejer?] Nanah, certainly one of the ablest officers of the Mahrattas, with every means at his disposal had but partial success, and without adding more, I shall conclude with Jesswunt Rao Holkar, who was compelled to pay for a free passage across the mountains during the League of 1806 against Jodpoor.

14. When the predatory Bands which roved over this distracted country had reduced its Prince to the condition of a Prisoner within this narrow valley, the miseries of the inhabitants were increased by the descent of the Mhairs, who then issued into the plains. At this period of general confusion, of which they took advantage, they adopted a measure of systematic exaction, which [folio 5] possibly [might?] have terminated in an establishment of Rule to the expulsion of the Rajpoots, becoming unwarlike in spirit and scanty in numbers, from increasing affliction and oppression.

15. Parallel with the range, each Community [of the Mhairs?] had its advanced post in the plains, from whence they carried on their depredations even to the Eastern and opposite mountainous confine. In these posts the head of a community resided, who exacted a regular contribution from all the villages in the neighbourhood. In some they held lands even, and the worn out Thakoors were compelled to pay them for abstinence from plunder. They had indeed exactly reversed the order of things. Estates [Escheats?] on their confines which were granted expressly for the purpose of protecting the interior and whose proprietor in better terms established marks of Paramount Control over them, were now compelled to buy their goodwill by the surrender of a portion of what the Mahratta might spare them.

16. Such was the state of things before the events of /17 [1817?] These acted like a spell even on the savage of the Arabullah, or the Bheel of the West; they withdrew to their retreats and for a time seemed to forget the habits of rapine which sprung up with their birth. But as I remarked in a former dispatch, this impression could not be expected to be lasting, if the means to keep it alive were not exhibited, and with the causes of failure, my letter of the 29th November to Mr. Secy [Secretary] Metcalfe would fully have informed the most Noble the Governor General in Council.
17. I need not recapitulate here the plans adopted [folio 6] and detailed in my dispatch, or the local means at disposal for carrying them into execution, and afterwards maintaining them, these are therein fully described, and were at best but a palliative to the evil and ceased even to be so from the motives described in my letter of 29th November last. I need not therefore go over this ground for in this dispatch is contained all the causes which led to failure and the necessity of adopting measures of a more rigorous description which should quel an evil which I felt assured the policy of Government both from desire of good order and humanity would not tolerate.

** [note folio 6: dispatch of 20th February 1819]

18. Strong therefore in the confidence of the support and approbation of the Most Noble the Governor General in Council, I determined to crush at once the evil, and tho’ averse as I have always evinced to calling out our troops, its necessity was too invincible to make me hesitate when the massacre at SHAK [Jhak?] called for decision and prompt punishment. The supineness and apathy of the Courts on each side the range merited and received no delicacy of consultation for consent from me, and the note N6 which I addressed to the Ranah on the occasion will show the tone on which I took up the subject.

19. The suspicions I described in this letter, of Ajeet Sing [Deewan of Mewar] being the immediate tho’ hidden cause of the revolt, appeared well founded, and the most circumstantial evidence short of proof was produced in the course of operations and which I shall revert to with transcripts of Information furnished by the Officer Commanding in the late operations in MAIRWARRA.

20. In the 10th, 11th and 12th paragraphs of this letter, [folio 7] will be found what more immediately relates to the result and massacre at JHAK. Therein I mentioned the superintendent of Ajmere [Mr Francis Wilder] having called for the aid of our own troops, and of my having furnished the unlimited permission of the Ranah to punish all those of Meywar who had been associated in it.

21. The troops after the punishment of the villages of Ajmere, were rapidly withdrawn to Cantonment without any notice being paid to the equal capability of the MHAIRS here which compelled me to urge the necessity of return, that it might not be thus limited to the few villages dependent on Ajmere. Items 1 & 2

** [note folio 7: 21st and 29th November 1820]

are copies of my letters to the Superintendent of Ajmere pointing out the necessity of a more general example being made.

22. Colonel MAXWELL was consequently sent with the disposable force of Hyderabad, with instructions from Brigadier General KER to correspond and attend to MY wishes.
23. ATHOON stood an assault but was abandoned in the night and on the 2nd December [1820!] in possession of our troops. The details of operations would have been communicated in the military department and are of consequence only for their result, for there was scarcely a show of opposition subsequent to that of ATHOON. The other place BORWAH implicated in the affairs of JHAK fled on the approach of the troops.

24. As however no adequate punishment had yet been inflicted either to person or property, I felt assured that without something more than merely expelling them from their haunts was done, it was less than useless; for it would only reanimate them [folio 8] and add to their audacity by impunity. Besides the case with regard to this extensive horde in Meywar was widely different from Ajmere, where a mere nook of Mairwarrah tracks that province with about half a dozen villages dependent on it. Here the whole Western frontier is inhabited by them.

No. 3**

** [note** folio 8: dated 5 December 1820] contains my opinions at this period to Mr. WILDER, and I determined to complete the work I had begun by continuing the aid of the British troops.

No. 4**

** [note ** folio 8: 9th December 1820]

is a copy of my letter of Instructions to Lieut Col Maxwell directing his movement on the three principal communities of the Central part of the range. He reached Bairar on the 20th and its inhabitants fled almost on the formation for the attack after a few rounds from the guns. Bairwana and Mundilla were also similarly evacuated. Still no blow had been struck which could assure me of future tranquillity. They were merely roused and exasperated, for few had been killed.

25. During these operations in Meywar, I had been urging on Mr. WILDER's attention the necessity of attacking the places of MARWAR, especially culpable with the others and this officer had at long the instructions from the Resident at Delhi to carry this into execution. I found myself under the necessity however of detaining the force in MEYWAR for sometime after this permission was obtained for reasons detailed in No 5.**

** [note** folio 8: 2nd January 1821.]

Previous however to its movement towards the Marwar zone, an excellently well planned and well conducted alert was given, which reflected great credit on Captain HALL of the Quarter Master General's Department [folio 9] with whom it originated, and was conducted and proved of more use in installing dread with the Mhairs than all the previous operations. It taught them they were tangible, the first impression necessary to have the desired effect.
APPENDICES

26. On the 11th January [1821], Lieut. Colonel Maxwell moved with his Force to chastise the Mhairs, and however leaving at my desire 5 Companies with a troop of Cavalry and Brigade of Guns at Mundilla, to prevent the chance of any reaction until the fortifications erecting were forward, and on the 20th of that month [January 1821] another right enterprize was undertaken, and most successfully executed against the Khan of ATHOON with his followers from Meywar, and in which he and about 200 men were killed, and many of their headmen made prisoners.

27. Added to the expulsion of the Marwar depredators, nothing was now wanting to complete the impression made by this well conducted affair under Captain Glover of the 17th Native Infantry. Again aided by the excellent infantry of Captain Hall in person. The moral effect produced by the death of the Khan of Athoon was in itself equal to the extermination of a whole community, and from the prominent part he had acted and his reputation as chief of the whole Range, it was putting the seal to complete success. It had its effect also with the suspected [Mhairs] at this capital who saw their plans not only frustrated but punished.

28. Shortly after this, the chief part of the Force under Lieutenant Colonel MAXWELL returned to Cantonment but I detained 5 Companies to complete my [folio 10] arrangements, which I shall now describe to you.

29. These arrangements may be considered as two fold, external and internal. External as regards the dependence of the Mhairs either from pecuniary obligations or those of mutual understanding in the chiefs whose Estates adjoin their respective communities.

30. I need not repeat the obstructions thrown in the way of my former or present plans, from the supineness in attention or interested view of the chiefs on the question so often alluded to, these have been often repeated. It is sufficient to state that with perhaps but one exception and this now doubtful, none received the measure of the [toll? total?] subjugation of this row to the Rana's authority with cordiality, and tho' each chief had a separate cause for dissent, yet they were all equally strong.

31. To some, a good understanding with the Mhairs was or had been of advantage in yielding a place either of refuge or defiance against their own Princes. To others, again it was profitable by sharing in the Plunder of Merchants, or by having established some marks of supremacy in tribute or Service. Rawut Gokul Dass of Deogurh had all these motives combined to make him dislike the plan. For three generations his family had been in rebellion. He has the regular chauth on all thefts even, since my arrival in Meywar, and had also established a certain right of revenue on various villages adjoining his estate. The stolen property found a ready market in his town of DEOGURH, and in one list of twenty-five Robberies committed, [folio 11] in his Estate, he pleaded inability to punish as the sole excuse.

This was admitted, and the whole of the villages inhabited by Mhairs in this Estate reclaimed to the Rana's authority. He had erected a fort about 30 years ago, when in rebellion in the centre of the Range, and here reside two desperate outlaws of Marwar, who conveyed to it the spoils
and even inhabitants of Marwar who were ransomed for their liberty. The Rawut [of Deogurh] was repeatedly warned of this ere I went to KOTAH last year, but falsehoods in reply were all that could be urged, and when inquiry was warm, he managed to remove them. The Presence of the force was sufficent to arrange the Mhair community here and they are now in allegiance to the Ranah. The outlaws fled on the approach of the detachment to Mundilla, and the garrison of the Ranah took possession of Gokulgurh, thus left entirely unoccupied. It will be a most convenient Port, and completely keeps in subjection the Mhairs of the most southern part of the range.

32. Thus in some shape in either [or other?], all had some reasons for not wishing to see the plan executed to its full extent.

33. Such being the case, the first thing I urged to the Rana’s notice was the indispensable necessity of separation in perpetuity of all community of interest between the chiefs and the Mhairs.

34. In effecting this, distinctions were drawn and a regard to Justice observed. As to Deogurh, his conduct was meriting the severest punishment, and [folio 12] all advantages he derived reverted to the Ranah, without any compromise or stipulation whatever. To those who have bravely maintained or conquered rights, notwithstanding the unsettled state of things, such will be preserved, tho’ as well as those villages having Mhair population even if included by grant, it is intended to render KHALSA giving an equivalent elsewhere.

35. In the minor advantages tho’ by any Thakoor of Pride still clung to, such as acknowledgement of supremacy by unusual force, from a sum of money to a Horse, a Bullock or Hare, such will be preserved, the remembrance recorded by a sealed attestation, but the personal rights of levy to cease and to be paid by the officer of Government. In short, every link of connection between them [between the Mewar chiefs and the Mhairs] to be severed, for by this alone we can hope for Peace and Tranquillity for the purpose of discharges of the defensive duties of the Thakoors, in which terms alone they held grants of their Estates. [Tod was careful to sever links of collaboration and combined insubordination to the Rana of Mewar, by the Mewar Thakoors and the Mhair chiefs.]

36. The Internal Arrangements are simple yet efficient, uniting sincerity for the future with the reclaiming of old habits to make their industry not only support themselves but the Force which keeps them in subjection and even to leave an annual increasing balance to the State.

37. All this is in a fair train of success, and I am not too sanguine when I say I have little doubt with other efficient charges in the Government, it will be permanent.

38. FEAR is the Engine which is to work this reform. Hopes on any other foundation would but lead to disappointment. This passion has had full sway [folio 13], for independent of the two brilliant [allowances?] specified, the LOSS in battle train and effects by every kind will outlive the present generation, and be handed down as the heaviest calamity which
ever befell a Race. The most obnoxious and turbulent and whose enormities were pro-eminent, had their houses levelled to the ground, their crops destroyed, and themselves only saved by flight. At one period the central and northern Communities were entirely expelled. But they soon found they had no refuge in Marwar for the capacity of the officers of that State, tho’ the sole stimulus to exertion, was of use in shewing them this stay was gone.

39. Punishment having been complete, the impression deeply felt, which was to mould them to ulterior views, while the ends of Justice and society were attained by the suppression of crime, it became necessary on furnishing sufficient securities for the future to grant an amnesty for the past, and to heal those wounds which Justice had inflicted. [Author’s note: Tod was in favour of reconciliation with the Mhairs.]

40. Proclamations were accordingly distributed throughout the [ZILLAH?] inviting them to return and people their dwellings on the following conditions:

1. To give up their arms.
2. To pay fines for their misconduct.
3. To become Ryots to the Ranah and pay regular share of the harvest.
4. To pay arrears of Revenue as might be demanded.
5. To give up Hostages from each Community to be detained in Pledge for their conduct and fulfilment of all their stipulations.

   [folio 14] There was a 6th stipulation** which was at first demanded, but became inoperative when success gave the right to execute it without. I mean the erection of Posts in the Centre of their Communities.

   ** [note** folio 14: There might be added another stipulation, which will be [legally?] inforced with making good all thefts. Since I arrived in Meywar, it has been agreed and put in force.]

41. All these conditions were rapidly acceded to, and the work of disarming and repopulating has been going on with every success that could be expected.

42. The whole FINES is acted from the three central communities of [Beewar? Beawar? Bairar?], Bairewarra and Mundilla, of 5000 rupees each have been paid, with about 15,000 more of arrears of Revenue from these and smaller detached villages in their neighbourhood.

43. The early submission of the most southern MHAIRS saved them from a similar imposition and those to the North of ATHOON and Borwah have acceded to all the terms, given Bonds for their Fines, but are not sufficiently settled yet to have it collected.

44. The RANGE is for the present subdivided into three portions, the southern, central and northern. The two first are entirely settled and the Mhairs busily employed in repairing their losses and attending to CULTIVATION. The northern has been delayed as being the most guilty, to the last to be
received into terms, but their longer detention in misery would have com-
pelled them to pursue the course these measures of severity were intended
to destroy [plunder].

45. In this place I beg leave to refer you to the Schedule accompanying which
is [in?] one view shews [shewing?] what an extensive arrangement this has
been, which has brought a tract, [folio 15] which will in a short period
equal in value any single possession of MEYWAR entirely under subjection
to the Ranah.

46. It exhibits a total of 17 towns, 113 villages and 28 hamlets, having about
200 leaders or Rawuts, the population of which cannot be short of 35,000
souls, I might allow more, but I mentioned the smallest number till time
supplies better information.

47. The Fines and arrears of Revenue which may be considered in the same
light amount to 70,000 rupees, exclusive of what may be settled from
ATHOON and BORWAH, but probably the whole of this may not be real-
ized, while a settlement for the ensuing Sumbat Year has been made for
Cheetore, Rupees 62,000.

48. It will require to be seen hereafter whether this has been or not too
heavy: but happens what will a FUND has already been provided which
has prevented the ruin of a body of 700 PATHANS, without the erection of
three fortresses being any burthen whatever on the Rana's finances and in a
like manner it is satisfactory to know the arrangement must benefit them
for the future.

49. The list of ARMS** of which about 4000 of every kind have been surren-
dered is but a small portion of what ought to be expected, but not a fifth of
the population has yet returned, and doubtless they will try to evade it as
much as possible to prevent which heavy penalties have been attached.

** [note** folio 15:Many were taken by the troops and not included
in this.]

50. In addition to this assessment or said tax, is the transit trade, which law-
less as they were was never [folio 16] shut up, and whose duties were a
great source of profit to these communities, and a part of which for its
effectual protection, it may be wise to continue to conciliate the Mhairs,
as give [conference? offence?] to the [CAREEN? caravan?]. This trade tho'
confined to the internal consumption of the inhabitants in each side the
Range, was very brisk, the general transit and foreign trade was always by
the pass of DEOGURH.

51. Of the five Fortresses running along the ZILLOH, that of Gokulgurh, has
been mentioned, which situated in the heart of the Southern communi-
ties, will keep them in awe. That with North BHEEMGURH, was the for-
tress of ATHOON, taken from the KHAN, and now called after the Ranah.
The three central Forts are entirely new and almost finished and built on
elevated Peaks commanding the three principal and hitherto most turbu-
lent communities. His Highness the Ranah in sending his instructions to
his relation who commands in that quarter, did me the honour to give
my name to one of them. As the Garrisons for three Forts, 700 foreign Rajpoots and Puthans are distributed and the feudal quotas as amounting now to 800 Horse and Foot will be continually stationed under an officer of rank as to move on any point which may shew the slightest disposition of disaffection.

** [note ** folio 16: on monthly pay]

52. These arrangements have their importance, however chiefly by comparison, but should they be lasting as I expect, they will, I trust be considered by the Most Noble the Governor General in Council, as more worthy of his notice in their moral character and effect, than in their mere numerical, [folio 17] pecuniary result, which is a secondary consideration, and when it is asserted that not only the means will have been furnished by the EVIL itself for its permanent subjugation, but no small overplus left even, this will be [alluded? concluded? allowed?] to have been attained.

53. The vallies of Mair warra, though not extensive, are fertile in the extreme, watered with numerous perennial rills, and the Mhairs are most industrious cultivators: It is a tract exactly resembling that of Komulmair and indeed a prolongation of it, tho' their bad habits have not allowed their industry to equal that Pergunnah.

54. Such have been the escape and end of my plans to bring a most turbulent and daring race of Public Robbers to become peaceful and quiet, tax-giving subjects: I hope [they?] succeeded, and shall be most gratified to learn if the mode pursued to this end shall meet the approval of the Most Noble the Governor General in Council.

55. In my settlement with this rude people, in 1818/19, the Bow and Arrow or the dagger was the symbol of the ratification of engagements, and it may be regarded as a pretty strong demonstration of internal feeling their having discarded this, and substituted a more peaceful and fitting emblem the PLOUGH. I subjoin a copy of one of these agreements, as a matter of curiosity.

56. Mr WILDER did me the favor to communicate to me his sentiments and intentions as respected three villages subject to his authority at the same time requesting mine in certain points of a more general plan; for the immediate interest [folio 18] of AJMERE, except as regards to welfare, is very slight in this people.

57. My arrangements were not sufficiently advanced to reply decidedly, nor did they correspond sufficiently with Mr. WILDER's intentions. These were giving those of AJMERE up to the Thakoor of Mussooda, stipulating that they should never be reinhabited by the MHAIRS, whom he should establish in the plains, and people their haunts with the agricultural tribes, Jats and GOOJURS from thence.

58. The Plan, if it succeeds, will doubtless be a good one, and there may be facilities in Ajmere which are here wanting, indispensible to success.

59. Our Plans however differ in this most essential point: his [fixes? serves?] the interests of the THAKOOR, with this class, while mine has the
object, whether their abode is in the plain or the mountain, entirely
to sever whatever capacity any individual THAKOOR may possess to
restrain the excesses of a race born to plunder. Yet it is on a general prin-
cipal [sic] founded on experience equally visible to Mr Wilder as myself
in all these operations that not one THAKOOR in whatsoever of these
states who could be confided in, whose interests came in contact with
this BANDITTI, and the principle was found equally true of those who
had all their lives opposed them, as where they had acted with them, for
the time bent under them. Such being the case, the base and foundation
of my system and highly approved by the Ranah, has been to cut asunder
for ever all ties which connected them, whether the collusion arose as in
DEOGURH and most of the others [folio 19] from INTEREST, or as with
BEDNORE from REVENGE, in a long prosecuted feud with Athoon, and
it is a principle I am glad to say gratifying to the Mhairs, who have them-
sewly confessed as being induced to hold out by surest advice of those
interested.

60. It may be even expedient by and by to form a small corps of the Mhairs
themselves of parties from the most orderly communities with their own
Rawuts as officers, it will give employment and subsistence, and confi-
dence thus placed in a judicious selection, may be of very great conse-
quence to general amendment.

61. It is rare indeed to find a Thakoor with sufficient talent or energy to manage
his own Estate, far less to curb the licentiousness of such Bands immersed
in sloth or voluptuousness. They leave all to low agents of Buniahs, who
only think of gain, and the shortest way to obtain this is considered the
best. I have found few men of this class hypocritical enough to deny that
they or their masters ever felt reluctance to this mode of adding to their
means, such were the times. The moral change in Rajwarra is great as the
Physical, and tho’ still in Infancy, yet improvement in both is undoubted,
and will proceed hand in hand. It is a common phrase which I may be par-
doned giving as it conveys with full force what I describe ‘you found us all
thieves, and made us honest men’ (Sahookars).

62. But we must not tr ust for such magical rapidity of reform, and I accord-
ingly prefer not throwing them in the way of temptation so depending
[folio 20] on their virtue in withstanding it.

63. But as it is situation and facility which make every class equally prone to
a life of spoil and plunder, I should not expect with the absence of means
of repressing it, either Jats or Goojurs, particularly the latter, would be less
prone thereto than their predecessors.

64. Independent of these reasons and much stronger than either, are others
which would operate to render the plan impracticable in Meywar.

65. Admitting that dread of extirpation could alter the habits of life, and that
the native of the mountain transplanted to the plain, might in time become
reconciled to his lot, there will be wanting the first incitement to success
in abandoning the place of birth, equally [operating? operation?] on the cul-
tivator of the plain supplanting them.
66. The strength of that first principle of nature, the attachment of LOCALITY
are well known, but when subjoined to these you add the right of prop-
erty in the soil, the chief and only efficient spur to industry, it may well
be doubted that with the removal of this stimulus, habits of life could be
altered. The Mhair might be driven down, but could the Tennant of Right
not of will be made to ascend? Could he by any effort be brought to aban-
don his patrimonial fields which he could pledge, mortgage or sell, and do
all but leave uncultivated at pleasure?**

** [note** folio 20: This he might even do paying the tax.]

67. Doubtless in Ajmere, the landed tenures under the Mogul Government
underwent a change and the Right of absolute property in the soil [folio 21]
might be frittered down to bare occupancy, which might induce the cul-
tivators there to exchange, here the principle is too well understood ‘Zumeen
Ryot ka, Fussel Raj ka’**

** [note** folio 21: The land is the subject’s, the tax to the Ruler.]

to expect such, and were it otherwise, there is sufficient waste and fertile
[infertile?] lands in the plain to stifle [sic] all desire of emigration to [work
it? towards it?].

68. Besides I never looked on the EVIL as one incurable, or where there existed
efficient control in the Government, not only to be subdued, but to be kept
under control, applications had already failed, but in the present the [Evil?
ROOT?] was finally cut which could hinder success; and as this efficient
control is also about being established, I trust to these arrangements being
permanently answerable to the end.

69. The Ranah has given me perfect control to prevent their [these?] retrograd-
ing to disorder, and I trust experience from what the Mhairs have suffered,
with the means to ensure obedience, will be effectual.

70. I had to regret being under the necessity of keeping out any part of the
troops so long, but I felt anxious to see the fortresses finished ere they
returned, and their presence materially added to the realization of the
fines. In a week or 10 days I shall entirely dispense with the service of the
detachment; but in a task of such magnitude I was desirous of being secure
beyond doubt.

71. I fear I may have been led to occupy too much of the time of His Excellency,
the most Noble [folio 22] the Governor-General in Council by these details.
They have here caused a considerable sensation and it cannot be unimport-
ant to notice, even in the chastisement of barbarous hordes, the charm
which seems to operate from the late events, both as it affects physical
and moral strength and opinion, nor is it any drawback to its intent, that
our troops met no opposition, for this forms the Chief part of the won-
der, while every one has his story of what these terrible communities had
done, how they had fought against the kings, how Princes and Chiefs had
fallen in attempting to subdue them, of the great Sowaee Jey Sing of Jeipoor
being foiled, and almost every Mahratta Subadar, and yet that they could not oppose but two Battalions of the British Government, this they say is wonderful, and from it extract a moral which may be turned to account, ‘that in the cause of Justice and Humanity, numbers are of no account’, throwing into the scale at the same time, however, the weight of compact physical FORCE.

I have the honor to be etc.
[signed]    JAMES TOD
Political Agent, Western Rajpoot States.

[Date at beginning of dispatch: Oodipoor, 25 November 1821]