

7. 2 (Pol)

1875.

ASSAM SECRETARIAT.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

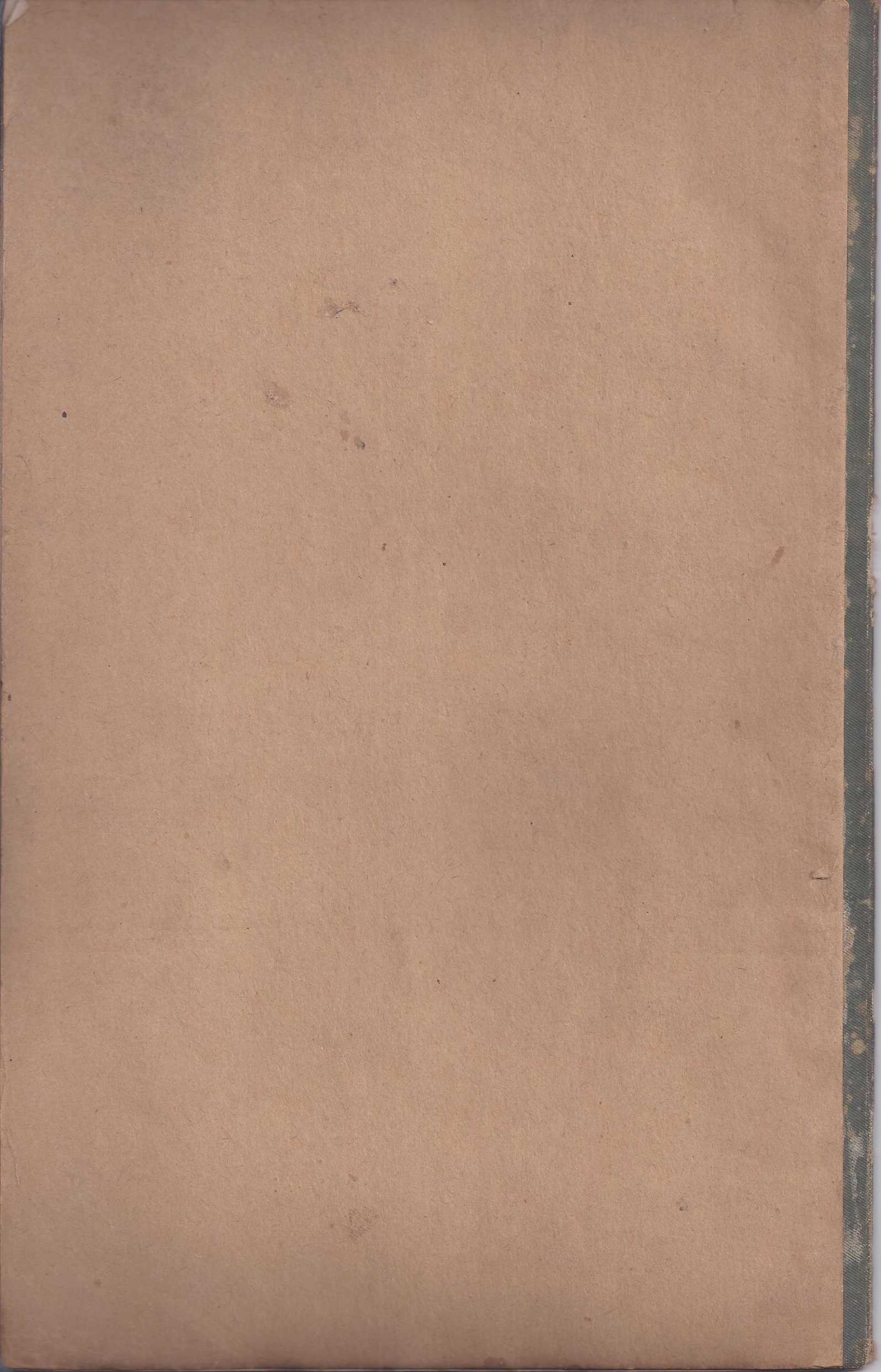
FILE No. 86J.

Naga Raids on the Northern Frontier of Manipur.

Governor's Secretariat
States Records.

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REFERENCES TO FORMER CASES.

1875.

ASSAM SECRETARIAT.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

FILE No. 86J.

Naga Raids on the Northern Frontier of Manipur.

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NOTES.

FILE No. 86J. OF 1875.

Nos. 1-34.

Naga Raids on the Northern Frontier of Manipur.

FROM THE POLITICAL AGENT, NAGA HILLS, No. 331, DATED THE 24TH DECEMBER 1874.

States that he has already written to Dr. Brown on the subject of meeting him after the conclusion of the exploration survey.

FROM THE POLITICAL AGENT, MANIPUR, DATED THE 6TH JANUARY 1875.

Forwards copy of his letter to Political Agent, Naga Hills, concerning an attack on the village of Oklong, situate in Manipur territory, by certain Nagas in the jurisdiction of the Political Agent, Naga Hills.

FROM THE POLITICAL AGENT, MANIPUR, No. 12, DATED THE 23RD JANUARY 1875.

Forwards copy of his letter No. 11, dated the 23rd instant, to the Political Agent, Naga Hills, informing him that Lumdailoo, a native of the Naga village of Lalung, has lodged a complaint against two Nagas of Paplongmai, saying that they have extorted from Lalung villagers Rs. 7 as a tribute for the last year and have again asked for the amount this year.

Chief Commissioner,
Perusal.
5th February 1875.

H. LUTTMAN-JOHNSON.

Secretary,

In so unsettled a country our endeavour should be to maintain all customs not actually vicious that have any authority or prescriptive custom. This payment appears to be nothing new, and, if so, should be continued quite independently of any new boundary we may have drawn through the country.

9th February 1875.

R. H. KEATINGE.

FROM THE ASSISTANT POLITICAL AGENT, IN CHARGE NAGA HILLS AGENCY, No. 351, DATED THE 8TH JANUARY 1875.

Forwards extract, paragraph 3, from letter No. 126, dated the 22nd December last, from the Political Agent, Manipur, reporting the murder of one Assaso, and requests Chief Commissioner's instructions as to what steps should be taken in the matter.

FROM THE POLITICAL AGENT, NAGA HILLS, No. 353, DATED THE 19TH JANUARY 1875.

Forwards copy of a letter from the Political Agent, Manipur, confirming the murder of Assaso, a Manipuri subject, and requests Chief Commissioner's orders in the matter.

Secretary,

There is nothing to be done now; doubtless these subjects have been neglected in consequence of the survey. Say to Political Agent that as soon as Captain Butler is free from survey work, he must give his attention to the matter.

I shall probably arrange a meeting between Butler and Brown for next cold-weather each with men at his back when these matters must be squared up if they cannot be done sooner.

12th February 1875.

R. H. KEATINGE.

[To the Political Agent, Manipur, No. 526, dated the 15th February 1875.]

[To the Political Agent, Naga Hills, No. 562, dated the 19th February 1875.]

[Memorandum to the Political Agent, Manipur, No. 563, dated the 19th February 1875.]

FROM THE POLITICAL AGENT, MANIPUR, No. 42, DATED THE 20TH APRIL 1875.

Forwards statement of two Nagas belonging to the village of Phweelong or Togwema on the Naga's attack on a village in Manipur territory, and having wounded some men and carried away two heads.

Chief Commissioner,

Another raid by one of the Konoma clans on a Manipuri village.

4th May 1875.

H. LUTTMAN-JOHNSON.

Secretary,

Tell Captain Butler I await his report.

5th May 1875.

R. H. KEATINGE.

Refer to his No. 331, dated the 24th December. Say Chief Commissioner awaits his further report.

7th May 1875.

H. LUTTMAN-JOHNSON.

[To the Political Agent, Naga Hills, No. 1476, dated the 8th May 1875.]

FROM THE POLITICAL AGENT, MANIPUR, No. 46, DATED THE 25TH APRIL 1875.

Forwards copy of letter sent to Political Agent, Naga Hills, that a party of 50 Nagas visited the villages of Threloh, Seeramba, and Paubrem, and killed some pigs and fowls, etc.

Chief Commissioner,

From Cachar we have already vague reports of attacks on the villages near the frontier. We have asked for further information.

13th May 1875.

H. LUTTMAN-JOHNSON.

I have no doubt Captain Butler will do what he can. These people require looking up next cold season.

14th May 1875.

R. H. KEATINGE.

FROM THE POLITICAL AGENT, NAGA HILLS, No. 36, DATED THE 7TH MAY 1875.

Submits certain statements made to him *anent* a most unwarrantable insult offered by the Mezoma Nagas to the protected village of Sitikema.

FROM THE POLITICAL AGENT, NAGA HILLS, No. 37, DATED THE 11TH MAY 1875.

Forwards copy of letter from Political Agent, Manipur, regarding the raid of Nagas on Manipur villages, with his report, and solicits the Chief Commissioner to pass some stringent orders on the subject.

Chief Commissioner,

Letter dated the 7th May 1875.—This is worth reading through; it is a good account of the evil doings of Mezoma and Konoma.

Chief Commissioner has to give orders as to what is to be done about Mezoma's ill-treatment of Sitikema—damages I suppose.

Letter dated the 11th May 1875.—Butler clearly means to take a decided line and punish offending villages. He is not strong enough for this, unless he has a military guard at Samaguting. So anything in this line must stand over till next season.

Perhaps, meantime, we should make a full report to India about these raids. It would point Chief Commissioner's policy in regard to the extension of the boundary further east.

21st May 1875.

H. LUTTMAN-JOHNSON.

FROM THE POLITICAL AGENT, NAGA HILLS, No. 40, DATED THE 12TH MAY 1875.

Reports that he has just been informed of the total destruction of Naga village Thekro-jinoma.

Secretary,

Both from the season of the year and other considerations it is very undesirable to commit ourselves to anything likely to cause a row on the border or the necessity for an expedition; still we cannot pass the matter over. Instruct Political Agent to demand Rs. 30 as damages.

P.S.—Say that in all such cases Political Agent should make a distinct recommendation.

22nd May 1875.

R. H. KEATINGE.

Secretary,

Captain Butler's generalities are in the main sensible, but he does not say a word about having ascertained the truth or otherwise of the statements made by the Manipur Nagas. Our political history is full of errors we have committed from not hearing both sides of the question. Say I am quite unable to answer until I know that he has in some degree verified the accusation.

26th May 1875.

R. H. KEATINGE.

[To the Political Agent, Naga Hills, No. 1738, dated the 26th May 1875.]

[Memorandum to the Political Agent, Manipur, No. 1739, dated the 26th June 1875.]

[To the Political Agent, Naga Hills, No. 1742, dated the 26th May 1875.]

FROM THE POLITICAL AGENT, NAGA HILLS, No. 66, DATED THE 24TH MAY 1875.

Forwards statement of Captain Butler's servant on his return from his village in the Naga Hills, inasmuch as he was all but murdered.

Chief Commissioner,

Perusal.

1st June 1875.

Seen.

2nd June 1875.

H. LUTTMAN-JOHNSON.

R. H. KEATINGE.

FROM THE POLITICAL AGENT, NAGA HILLS, DATED THE 25TH MAY 1875.

Forwards copy of a letter from the Political Agent, Manipur, intimating the insults offered by the Nagas of Konoma to the Manipur Nagas.

FROM THE POLITICAL AGENT, MANIPUR, No. 78, DATED THE 5TH JUNE 1875.

Forwards copy of a letter addressed to Political Agent, Naga Hills, regarding the raids of the Mozema Nagas on the Manipur Naga village.

Chief Commissioner,

18th June 1875.

H. LUTTMAN-JOHNSON.

Secretary,

It is quite impossible from a one-sided statement of the affair to judge the real cause of the row. I remark that no life was taken.

19th June 1875.

R. H. KEATINGE.

FROM THE POLITICAL AGENT, NAGA HILLS, No. 72, DATED THE 4TH JUNE 1875.

Reports on the subject of his intended visit to the frontier with a view of meeting the Political Agent, Manipur, and requests Chief Commissioner's further orders on the subject.

FROM THE POLITICAL AGENT, NAGA HILLS, No. 106, DATED THE 12TH JUNE 1875.

Forwards copy of letter from Political Agent, Manipur, stating that the meeting cannot take place before November 1875, and requests to be informed of the Chief Commissioner's intentions with regard to the turbulent Naga tribes to which particular attention is requested.

Chief Commissioner,

Perusal. Brown and Butler say they can meet on the frontier next cold weather about the raids and counter-raids.

Then they ask supposing they meet, and enquire into all cases which have occurred, what then?

In reply perhaps we may send them India's last—"the Government of India is determined that the Manipur Raja shall not cross the frontier laid down, and, on the other hand, accepts no responsibility for conduct of Nagas north of it."

I have before pointed out that we should submit an account of these raids if we want India to revise its policy.

Meantime tell Political Agents it is proposed they should meet here in September to discuss this and other subjects.

22nd June 1875.

H. LUTTMAN-JOHNSON.

Yes; but say demi-officially that, in the event of war with Burma, Dr. Brown could probably not leave Manipur.

23rd June 1875.

R. H. KEATINGE.

[To the Political Agent, Naga Hills, No. 2233, dated the 25th June 1875.]
[Memorandum to the Political Agent, Manipur, No. 2234, dated the 25th June 1875.]

FROM THE POLITICAL AGENT, MANIPUR, No. 114, DATED THE 21ST JUNE 1875.

Reports on Naga disputes got out for levying a tax of Rs. 7 on Lalung villagers.

Take care about drafting from my notes. What I said in my note is the bare fact regarding India's policy, but if they ever see our letter, they will not approve of the bold manner in which their policy is expressed. As Dr. Brown may communicate the contents of the letter to Manipur which may lead to complications, cancel the letter and send another with the office diary, sentence cut out.

9th July 1875.

H. LUTTMAN-JOHNSON.

[To the Political Agent, Naga Hills, No. 2406, dated the 10th July 1875.]

[To the Political Agent, Naga Hills, No. 2407, dated the 10th July 1875.]

[To the Political Agent, Manipur, No. 2408, dated the 10th July 1875.]

FROM THE POLITICAL AGENT, MANIPUR, No. 133, DATED THE 19TH OCTOBER 1875.

Forwards, for information, copy of his letter No. 132, dated the 19th October 1875, to the Political Agent, Naga Hills, on the subject of the raid on the village of Phweelong, situate in the Manipur territory, by the Nagas of Mezoma and Paplongmai, Naga Hills district.

Chief Commissioner,

Nine raids in Manipur. But he was to try and squelch Mezoma, but now that things have gone away about the survey expedition, I suppose we must put it off for another year.

8th November 1875.

H. LUTTMAN-JOHNSON.

Secretary,

I do not remember that any movement against Mezoma was contemplated until survey was finished.

11th November 1875.

R. H. KEATINGE.

Has Chief Commissioner any orders?

12th November 1875.

H. LUTTMAN-JOHNSON.

No orders.

13th November 1875.

R. H. KEATINGE.

FROM THE POLITICAL AGENT, MANIPUR, No. 236, DATED THE 28TH OCTOBER 1875.

Reports that war has broken out between Kohima and Mezoma, that Kidima and Sakhabama have also recommenced hostilities, and that he has reiterated the orders prohibiting all fighting on the Government high road.

Chief Commissioner,

6th November 1875.

H. LUTTMAN-JOHNSON.

Secretary,

Make a laconic report forwarding this; merely say the villages are situated about such a distance from Samaguting, and Kohima is on the road from that place to Wokha.

8th November 1875.

R. H. KEATINGE.

[To the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 3769, dated the 10th November 1875.]

FROM THE POLITICAL AGENT, NAGA HILLS, No. 256, DATED THE 6TH NOVEMBER 1875.

Forwards copy of a report from the Assistant Political Agent regarding Naga feuds.

Chief Commissioner,

Perusal.

16th November 1875.

H. LUTTMAN-JOHNSON.

Send copies to Foreign for information. Say I am very anxious not to enter on any operations that will delay the Naga Hills survey, as I much desire to bring it to a conclusion this year. It does not, however, appear that we can continue much longer to take no notice of these feuds.

18th November 1875.

R. H. KEATINGE.

[To the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 3935, dated the 22nd November 1875.]

FROM THE ASSISTANT POLITICAL AGENT, IN CHARGE, NAGA HILLS, No. 350, DATED THE 9TH NOVEMBER 1875.

Forwards copy of letter No. 132, dated the 19th October 1875, addressed to him by the Political Agent, Manipur, reporting the occurrence of a fresh raid on the village of Phweelong or Togwema, in Manipur territory, by the Nagas of Mezoma and Paplongmai in the Naga Hills district, and solicits instructions in the matter.

Chief Commissioner,
No orders?
20th November 1875.
None at present.
25th November 1875.

H. LUTTMAN-JOHNSON.

R. H. KEATINGE.

FROM THE ASSISTANT POLITICAL AGENT, IN CHARGE, NAGA HILLS, No. 262, DATED THE 15TH NOVEMBER 1875.

Reports the circumstances of the raid committed by Mezoma on Togwema.

Chief Commissioner,
26th November 1875.

H. LUTTMAN-JOHNSON.

This should go to Foreign with reference to the statement made in one of the letters lately, that the definition of the boundary between us and Manipur did not entail our coercing the savages on our side when they make attacks across the border. Ask how this case should be dealt with if Manipur desires satisfaction. Are we to punish the raiders or should we permit Manipur to cross the boundary and do so?

30th November 1875.

R. H. KEATINGE.

[To the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 4147, dated the 6th December 1875.]

FROM THE POLITICAL AGENT, NAGA HILLS, No. 268, DATED THE 29TH NOVEMBER 1875.

Reports the murder of a man, four women, and a child belonging to Nerhama by a war party from the village of Konoma.

Chief Commissioner,
7th December 1875.
Send copy to Foreign without any remarks.
8th December 1875.

H. LUTTMAN-JOHNSON.

R. H. KEATINGE.

[To the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 4256, dated the 10th December 1875.]

ASSAM SECRETARIAT PROCEEDINGS.

FILE No. 86J. OF 1875.

Naga Raids on the Northern Frontier of Manipur.

Serial No. 1.

For., A, Jan. 1875,
No. 5.

No. 331, dated Samaguting, the 24th December 1874.

From—Capt. in J. BUTLER, Political Agent, Naga Hills,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1186 of the 16th instant, and enclosures, and to state, in reply, that I have already written to Dr. Brown on the subject of meeting him, after the conclusion of this season's exploration survey, and will report further hereafter.

Serial No. 2.

Dated Camp Kala Naga, Manipur Hills, the 6th January 1875.

Memo. by—The Political Agent, Manipur.

Copy of letter No. 1, dated the 6th January 1875, forwarded for the information of the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

No. 1, dated Camp Kala Naga Manipur Hills, the 6th January 1875.

From—R. BROWN, Esq., Political Agent, Manipur,

To—The Officiating Political Agent, Naga Hills.

I have the honour to inform you that information has just been received from Manipur confirming the report of an attack on the village of Oklong, situated in Manipur territory, by Nagas in your jurisdiction. The following is the account given by the deputation from Oklong.

2. Gnowlong, Gnowba, and Chururang, three inhabitants of Oklong state:—
“About 15 or 16 days ago (from 1st January), about 200 men of Sammoomai (one of the Konoma clans), headed by one Tubaleng, came and attacked our village, they killed two and wounded three of our men, they also destroyed our houses, grain, fowls, etc. We speared one of their men, but as they had about thirty muskets with them, we could not make a stand. We have had no quarrel with them recently. About ten years ago they came to attack our village, and we killed two of them; since then up to the present time nothing has occurred between us.”

Serial No. 3.

For., B, Feb. 1875,
No. 47.

No. 12, dated Manipur, the 23rd January 1875.

Memo. by—The Political Agent, Manipur.

Copy of letter No. 11, dated the 23rd January 1875, forwarded for the information of the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

No. 11, dated Manipur, the 23rd January 1875.

From—R. BROWN, Esq., Political Agent, Manipur,

To—The Officiating Political Agent, Naga Hills.

I have the honour to inform you that a deputation from the Naga village of Lalung, about one and a half day's journey from the northern frontier and in Manipuri territory, appeared before me to-day with a complaint to the following effect.

2. Lumdailoo, a native of the above village, states that “two Nagas of Paplongmai or Konoma, one named Loonghanglong, the other's name unknown, came to our village last year and extorted rupees seven from us as tribute. This year they have again sent to us through another village for the money, and threaten to destroy our village should we not pay it. We have refused payment until we saw the Political Agent here.”

Serials 3-6. Naga raids on the Northern frontier of Manipur.

3. It appears that this tribute money has been regularly exacted for years, and as, under present circumstances, the threat of destroying the village by the Nagas of Konoma is quite likely to be carried out, I have advised the complainant to pay the money, trusting to have it again refunded should the matter be taken up by you, which I hope will be the case.

Serial No. 4.

No. 351, dated Samaguting, the 8th January 1875.

For., B, Feb. 1875.
No. 184.

From—F. J. NEEDHAM, Esq., Assistant Political Agent in charge of the Political Agency, Naga Hills,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

In forwarding you a copy of paragraph 3 of a letter which I have just received from the Political Agent of Manipur, I have the honour to enquire what steps the Chief Commissioner would wish me to take in the matter.

2. The village of Viswemah is situated to the south of Kohima three days' journey.

An extract of paragraph 3 from letter No. 126, dated the 22nd December 1874, from R. BROWN, Esq., Political Agent in Manipur, to F. J. NEEDHAM, Esq., Officiating Political Agent of the Naga Hills.

3. This day a complaint has been laid before me which I trust will receive your attention and enquiry. The complaint is laid by Senaputti Chawba of Maow Khoolel who states that one Assaso of his village went on a visit to the village of Tangal or Viswema on the British side of the boundary, and while refreshing himself in the house of one Veeekhanee, another villager named Haiphumi attacked and killed him. It is also rumoured, but without confirmation at present, that a village in Manipur territory named Oklong by the Manipuris, and situated not far from Phweelong or Togwema, has been attacked and destroyed by Nagas from British territory.

Serial No. 5.

No. 353, dated Camp Borpathar, the 19th January 1875.

From—The Assistant Political Agent in charge of the Naga Hills Political Agency,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

In continuation of my No. 351, dated the 8th instant, forwarding you a copy of paragraph 3 of a letter received by me from the Political Agent, Manipur, on the subject of a Manipuri subject by name Assaso from Maow Kholel, in Manipur territory, having been murdered by one Haiphumi, a Naga of Tangal or Viswemah on the British side of the boundary, I have the honour to forward herewith copy of another letter just received from that officer confirming the second outrage alluded to by him in paragraph 3 of his former letter, and to state that I await the Chief Commissioner's orders before taking any step in the matter.

[No. 1, dated Camp Kala Naga, Manipur Hills, the 6th January 1875.—Same as Serial No. 2.—(Not printed.)]

Serial No. 6.

No. 526, dated Shillong, the 15th February 1875.

For., B, Feb. 1875,
No. 43.

From—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam,

To—The Political Agent, Manipur.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 11, dated the 23rd January 1875, reporting that a deputation from the Naga village of Lalung had complained to you that some Nagas of Paplongmai or Konoma had levied rupees seven from their village as tribute. In so unsettled a country as the Naga Hills, the Chief Commissioner thinks we should endeavour to maintain all customs not actually serious that have any authority or prescriptive right in their favour, and as it appears from your report that this payment is nothing new to the men of Lalung, it should be continued quite independently of any new boundary we may have laid down through the country.

Naga raids on the Northern Frontier of Manipur.

Serials 7-8.

Serial No. 7.

For., B, Feb. 1875,
Nos. 184-186.

No. 562, dated Shillong, the 19th February 1875.

From—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam,
To—The Political Agent, Naga Hills.

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your No. 351, dated January 8th, and your No. 353, dated January 9th, on the subject of the murder of one Assaso of the Maow-kholel village at Viswema. The Political Agent at Manipur has also reported an attack by one of the Konoma clans on Oklong. It is impossible that measures can be taken just now to put a stop to these outrages. In my No. 1186, dated the 16th December 1874, to which your No. 331, dated December 24th, 1874, is a reply, you were advised to visit the frontier after the conclusion of the exploration survey. Until you have visited the frontier and conferred with Dr. Brown, the Chief Commissioner cannot pass orders.

No. 563, dated Shillong, the 19th February 1875.

Memo. by—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

Copy of letter No. 562, dated the 19th February 1875, forwarded to Dr. Brown, with reference to his memorandum of January 6th, and his No. 1, dated the 6th January, to Naga Hills.

Serial No. 8.

For., B, May 1875,
No. 17.

No. 42, dated Manipur, the 20th April 1875.

Memo. by—The Political Agent, Manipur.

Copy of letter No. 41, dated the 20th April 1875, with its annexure, forwarded for the information of the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

No. 41, dated Manipur, the 20th April 1875.

From—R. BROWN, Esq., Political Agent, Manipur,
To—The Political Agent, Naga Hills.

I have the honour to forward, for your information, the statement of two Nagas belonging to the village of Phweelong or Togwema in Manipur territory.

2. I have only to add that I have examined the wounds of Tikpa and find them to have been caused by gunshots. Also that I have authorised the Manipuris to place a guard in or near the above village of Phweelong should they consider such a step necessary.

The statement of two Nagas of Phweelong or Togwema in Manipur territory.

Gnowba of Phweelong (Togwema) and Tikpa, *alias* Murramtulah, of the same village, came and lodged before me the following complaint:—

About two months ago the Nagas of Rakoomai (one of the clans of Konoma), about 20 in number, came in the morning about 11 o'clock and attacked our village. Our villagers were almost all out in their fields. I (Tikpa), my father, Hang-sooboo, and five others were in the village in charge of the women and children. My father was taking his meal when a shot was fired upon him which went through his chest, he fell down and died, his head was carried off. My brother's son Kangow, aged eight years, was speared to death. I received three shots (shows the wounds) and fled and hid myself behind a tree. After a short stay in the village, the Rakoomais retired, they carried off no property with the exception of two *choongs* (shields) and three cloths, they did not fire the village. I cannot say whether the villagers of Paplongmai were amongst them.

Two men of Leeang were sent by our villagers for the heads carried off, but they refused to give them up.

They threatened to destroy our village again in case we failed to pay the tribute demanded. This tribute was first asked for last year, but we refused; one of our village clans, named Sungkong, paid them Rs. 4.

(True statement.)

R. BROWN,
Political Agent.

Serials 9-11. Naga raids on the Northern Frontier of Manipur.

Serial No. 9.

For., B. May 1875,
No. 18.

No. 1476, dated Shillong, the 8th May 1875.

From—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam,

To—The Political Agent, Naga Hills.

Referring to your letter No. 331, dated the 24th December 1874, I am directed to say that the Chief Commissioner awaits the further report therein promised on the feasibility of your visiting the frontier, after the survey operations had been closed, to meet Dr. Brown.

Serial No. 10.

For., B. May 1875,
No. 71.

No. 46, dated Manipur, the 25th April 1875.

Memo. by—The Political Agent, Manipur.

Copy of letter No. 45, dated the 25th April 1875, forwarded to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam for information.

No. 45, dated Manipur, the 25th April 1875.

From—R. BROWN, Esq., Political Agent, Manipur,

To—The Political Agent, Naga Hills.

I have the honour to forward, for your information, the statement of a deputation of Manipuri Nagas taken before me on the 20th of this month; the complaint is by the headmen of the villages of Threlah, Seeramba, and Paubrem.

"A party consisting of about 50 men of Konoma, headed by Sekumbah's sons, Khoodinung and Kuteerungbah, came lately and visited our villages, as well as Somburom and Tieburom (situated on the Kala Naga and Khebu Ching range of hills); they killed some pigs and fowls of the villagers and fed themselves, when our Kongjai neighbours (the villagers of Easwteh and Pakhoomang), who were informed of their arrival, arrived at the spot and told the Konoma people to leave the villages at once. This they did, seeing our party to be a large one, and having gone a short distance, they shook their spears towards us and threatened that they would come back again the next month and will destroy our villages."

2. The most important part of this information has reference to the close proximity to the Cachar frontier of these threatened villages; the nearest point of the Jheerie river which forms the boundary is only distant from the village of Tieburom or, as Pemberton writes it, Teeron, by the map some six miles. I have warned Mr. McWilliam, Deputy Commissioner of Cachar, on the point.

Serial No. 11.

For., B. May 1875,
No. 73.

No. 36, dated Samaguting, the 7th May 1875.

From—Captain J. BUTLER, Political Agent, Naga Hills,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Chief Commissioner, copies of certain statements made to me *anent* a most unwarrantable insult lately offered to the protected village of Sitikema by the men of two of the clans of Mezoma, and shall feel obliged by your soliciting the Chief Commissioner to be pleased to pass such orders in the matter as he may deem necessary.

2. The facts of the case are as follows:—About the first week in April last, two war parties from the Vihutsuma and Nisonoma clans of Mezoma, headed by Niphu and Chajili, respectively, proceeded to Siduma, a village about 12 miles north-east of Samaguting, which they attacked and burnt to the ground, killing some 18 women and children. After committing this raid, and on their return, they entered the protected village of Sitikema, causing a regular panic amongst its inhabitants, most of whom fled precipitately into the jungles, where they remained hiding all night. The Mezoma men then appear to have behaved in a most uproarious manner excited with victory, and probably half drunk with liquor, they helped themselves freely to such beer, fowls, pigs, etc., as they found in the houses of such villagers as had fled at their first approach, and otherwise ill-treated, threatened, and abused the remaining villagers, and subsequently extorted the sum of Rs. 10 from one of the head men.

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3. They remained in the village all that night and left the next morning, threatening to return, should it subsequently come to their notice that the Sitikema men had complained of their conduct to the Political Agent.

4. Now, as regards what transpired at Siduma and the cruel butchery of 18 of its inhabitants, we have no concern whatever, reluctant and grieved though I am to say so, but the orders of Government forbidding any interference in the intestine quarrels of village *versus* village are so plain that, I feel I have no choice in the matter but to stand aloof with the sad knowledge that my "advice and remonstrance" (the only means, I am allowed to employ against these turbulent Nagas) has been utterly discarded by them. On the other hand, however, the Mezoma men's subsequent conduct at the protected village of Sitikema is of the greatest concern, for, were such an insult as the one above described lightly passed over, there is no saying what interpretation might not be put upon the matter by one and all of the other villages protected as well as independent, more especially as Mezoma, the village in fault, is and always has been a very powerful village and one which is inclined to boast of its high-handed acts over its neighbours, and I, therefore, consider it of great importance that speedy and severe notice should be taken of their misconduct, in having so openly and daringly insulted a village under our immediate protection, although I am inclined to believe that the cowardice of the Sitikemaites, when they first perceived the Mezoma men approaching, accounts in a great measure for the latter's conduct.

5. You will observe the Mezoma men have apparently no intention whatever of denying the part they enacted at Sitikema, but, on the contrary, are willing to admit everything, and the only question therefore to be decided is the punishment which should be inflicted on the two clans complained against, and on this point I now await the orders of the Chief Commissioner.

6. In conclusion, I would invite attention to the extensive raids that have been committed in the Katcha Naga Hills during the past cold season in which some 5 villages appear to have been attacked and destroyed. This, however, as you are aware, is no new matter.

Report from Katiram, Inspector, to the Political Agent, Naga Hills.

I beg to report, for your information, that after leaving Samaguting, I passed through Sitikema and reached Cheduma. The houses of the latter village I found had been all burnt to the ground except some six small huts. I called upon the headman of the village and asked him the cause of what I saw. He said that one Naga of his village took away the eldest sister of Seleje, whereupon all the members of the Vihutzema khel of Mezoma of which Lulinu (one Naga dobahasia) is one, attacked and burnt the village, and the number of persons, of all ages and sexes, murdered were 18, and the houses burnt, 37, in all. I also learnt from one Phoitu Naga that a party of 120 had come to destroy the village.

Further, I beg to report that some Nagas of Siduma took refuge in the village of Sitikema. At 8 a.m. some Mezoma men entered into the latter village and the villagers all left the village and concealed themselves, but being assured that they need not fear being murdered, the inhabitants came back to their village, and the Mezoma men ate the flesh of fowls and pigs, etc., which they killed at the time with the men of their own *khel*. But Siduma men still kept to the jungle, and as they could kill none of them, they plundered all they could, such as axes, kodaulis, etc., and then went away.

বিপোর্ট অজ্ঞাধিন ত্রী কটিৰাম ইনচপেক্টৰ আৰজ এই—খোদাওন্দা অধিন ইয়াৰ পৰা জায় চেটীকেমা গাঁও এৰি জায় চেডুমা গাঁও পায় দেখিলো যে সেই গাঁওৰ সকলো ঘৰ পুৰিলে কেবল ছোট ৬ টি ঘৰ মাত্ৰ আছে। সেই ঘৰ পোৰা দেখি ময় সেই গাঁওৰ গাঁওবুড়াক মাতি সোধাত সি কলে বোলে মালে যে নাগয়ে বায়ে কক এই গাঁওত এতা নাগাই আসিছে। সেই বাবে মজমা গাঁওৰ লুভিনিউ জাগায় বিহুচুমা খেলৰ মানুহে আহি পৰিলে আৰ চোট বড় ১৮ জন মানুহ মাৰিলে সৰু মোটি ৩৭ ঘৰ পুৰিলে। তাত দেখি হববক জানালো, কিন্তু নগাৰ মুখে শুনিলা গাঁও ভাঙ্গিবলৈ ১২০ জন মান মজমা নাগা আহিছিল।—ইতি সন ১৮৭৫ ৩০শে এপ্রিল।

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পুঃ।—খোদায়গান ঐ সেতুমা গাঁওৰ কিছুমান নগা চেটেকেমা গাঁওতে আহে নাগা মাৰিবৰ নিমিত্তে ঐ মজমা নাগা আহি ৮ বজাত গাঁও সোমোৱাত সকলো নগা পালাল, কিন্তু পাছত নামাৰ বুলি মাতি অনা খেলৰ নগাক আনি গাহৰি কুকুৰা মদ ইত্যাদি কুটি খায় যি পায় লুট কৰি নিলে কিন্তু সেতুমা গাঁওৰ মানুহ মজমা নগা উলতি নে জোয়া তক হাবিতে থকা বাবে মাৰিবলৈ নে পালে কেবল লুট কৰি কোঁৰ, কুঠাল ইত্যাদি ঝাল নিলে।—ইতি।

শ্ৰীকান্তিৰাম,

ইন্সপেক্টৰ।

Forwarded to the Assistant Political Agent for early careful enquiry and report.

J. BUTLER,

*The 30th April 1875.**Political Agent.*

The Assistant Political Agent will also enquire into the raids recently committed in the Kutcha Naga Hills.

J. BUTLER,

Political Agent.

With reference to the above order the undersigned begs to forward herewith a statement made to him by the headman of one of the clans (Vihutsema) implicated in razing the village of Seduna to the ground, etc., alluded to by the Inspector overleaf, from which it will be seen that the Mezoma men have no intention of denying the affair. This man's statement, if true, renders the Mezoma men's acts, so far as this affair is concerned, justifiable from a Naga point of view, not so, however, their subsequent acts, viz., the extortion, by threats, from the Sitikema men of Rs. 10 in cash as also the seizing by force of pigs, fowls, etc., from the village, which the Political Agent will observe is not denied, but, on the contrary, admitted to be true by Mezoma, and the undersigned is decidedly of opinion that speedy notice should be taken by us of such latter conduct with a view to punishing the offending parties for daring to molest the inhabitants of a village known to be under our immediate protection, for otherwise our silence may be misinterpreted by both parties and advantage taken by Mezoma, who has ever been inclined to be high-handed, to insult similarly some of the other protected villages.

It is somewhat strange that no complaint about this matter was made direct by the Sitikema men, but I attribute this to fear, and should my surmise prove correct, it behoves us to take notice of the Mezoma men's conduct even more promptly than we should otherwise have done.

Sejeli of Sepema's statement *anent* these two affairs has already been forwarded to the Political Agent,

F. J. NEEDHAM,

*The 1st May 1875.**Assistant Political Agent.*

N. B.—The headman of the Vihutsema clan of Mezoma's statements regarding the recent raids by Konoma on certain Kutcha Naga villages have been recorded on the accompanying papers according to orders of the Political Agent given to undersigned yesterday.

J. NEEDHAM,

*The 1st May 1875.**Assistant Political Agent.*

Luvunu Naga of Mezoma States :—

It is quite true that some few days back a hundred or more men from the Vihutsema (my clan) and Nisonoma clans of Mezoma attacked Siduma, killing eighteen women and children, wounding two others, and burning the whole village to the ground.

Q. What was the origin of this attack ?

A. I will explain it, but you will have to follow me through a somewhat lengthy story about the time when Soppema was first formed; a number of men from each of the clans above mentioned emigrated from Mezoma and located themselves

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there. They remained in perfect friendship with the other villagers thereof until the end of the year before last (1873) when a dispute arose regarding the right to a

* Field.

certain "arrah"* contiguous to the village which had been lying fallow for many years. The Mezoma immigrants declared it was theirs, while the other villagers denied that they had any right to it, and as neither party would give way to the other, a fight ensued, in which the Mezoma men got worsted and they were eventually expelled the village by the Seppemaites, and on being so expelled, they returned with such belongings as they were permitted to carry off by the latter to their old village Mezoma. On hearing their tale, their clansmen were naturally incensed against Seppema and war was accordingly shortly afterwards declared against that village, and about a month afterwards, a war party, composed of the *ex*-Seppemaites and their Mezoma clansmen proceeded to Seppema to avenge the former's expulsion from the village; in this affair, however, the Mezoma men were worsted, and they lost two men, *viz.*, one belonging to each clan engaged.

This victory the Seppemaites followed up by murdering, shortly afterwards, one Vewheje of the Vehutsema clan of Mezoma in an "arrah" near Pherimah, to which latter village he had emigrated many years before. It was this affair which induced Pherima to pay revenue to the "Sirkar," for they were apprehensive, lest they might be hauled into the scrimmage going on between the two villages owing to the murder of Vewheje while living with them.

Shortly after Vewheje's murder, another Mezoma man, by name Vivocha and of

* Mewhima ?

the Nisonoma clan, was murdered by the Seppemaites at the village of Newema* where he had emigrated years

before. From the above it will be seen that the Seppemaites were getting the better of us inspite of our being numerically stronger, and it is easy to understand, under these circumstances, that the Mezoma men's blood was up.

Well, shortly after the murder of the lastmentioned man (Vivocha), it came to the ears of the Mezoma men that one Pusilhu of Seduma had been instrumental in the man's death, inasmuch as he had pointed out the man's whereabouts to the Seppemaites, as also that he had lent a gun to Seppema to be used against us, and this information naturally incensed Mezoma against the village of Seduma.

We would have attacked it at once, only that many obstacles lay in our way, so we tried negotiations which occupied some 3 or 4 months.

These failed utterly, and instead of getting any satisfaction, we found that the Seduma men had begun to talk very loud, so we determined to attack them, and did actually do so with the above stated results.

I was not with the party who attacked Seduma. I did not go, because the Political Agent has forbidden *dobashas* leading war parties. Two of our men were wounded in the fight with Seduma.

Q.—A complaint has been made by the Sitikema men against the war party which attacked Seduma, to the effect that they visited their village on their return march and extorted Rs. 10 out of the headman of the village by threats, as also that they seized pigs and fowls and carried them off.

What do you know regarding this assertion on the part of Sitikema against your clansmen and those of Nisonoma ?

A.—The assertion made by the Sitikema men is correct, I believe. I heard from some of my clansmen that the Mezoma war party halted for the night at Sitikema on their return march from Seduma, and that they took Rs. 10 from the headmen, as also some pigs and fowls from the villagers by force. I will return the money if you wish.

Q.—Who were the heads of the war parties that went to Seduma ?

A.—One Niphu of Vihutsema was one, Chugile of Nisonoma, the other.

Q.—Do you know anything *anent* the late raid on the Kutcha Naga village of Phuima by men from the Merhema "khel" of Konoma ?

A.—I only know of the affair from hearsay. I heard that some two moons ago the men of the Merhema khel of Konoma attacked and looted Phuima, killing 5 or 6 men, but sparing the village. The origin of the affair is said to be owing to Phuima having attacked the Kutcha Naga village of Dupema, which was under the Merhema clan of Konoma's protection.

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Q.—Do you know why the Kutcha Naga village of Tapama was attacked and burnt by Konoma men?

A.—Yes, one of the other *khels* of Konoma, I don't know the name, burnt it to spite the men of the Merhema khel of their village, they being of opinion that the latter had wrongfully attacked the village of Phuima in not having previously consulted the remaining *khels* of Konoma. Tapama is under the protection of the Merhema clan of Konoma. In this affair one Tapama man, I hear, was killed, and one of the Konoma men wounded. The village was all burnt.

Q.—What do you know regarding the smashing up of the Kutcha Naga village of Josama?

A.—Nothing beyond that it is true that, the village was burnt and some three or four men killed, and that it happened some two moons ago. I can give no reasons for the affair, as I have not heard them.

Q.—Wasn't the Kutcha Naga village of Inkema burnt some ten or twelve days ago?

A.—Yes, by the men of the Vihutsema khel of Konoma. I have heard that one man was killed.

Q.—Do you know why the village was so served?

A.—Yes, the abovementioned clan of Konoma has been at war with this village for years and as the former are stronger, they attack and destroy the latter periodically. Several attempts at reconciliation have been attempted, but failed.

Q.—You have stated above that the Kutcha Naga village of Tapama as also Dopema are under the protection of the Merhema clan of Konoma. What do you mean by that?

A.—One and all of the Kutcha Naga villages bordering on the boundary between their country and the Angami pay tribute to certain villages of the latter clan to secure them from being attacked and ransacked by villagers, either Angami or Kutcha more, powerful than themselves, and the two villages you allude to pay their tribute to the Merhema clan of Konoma for this purpose.

Q.—Do you know the kind of tribute paid?

A.—Yes, it is usually paid in salt. I can't say how much.

The 29th April 1875.

F. J. NEEDHAM,
Assistant Political Agent.

Janguli Naga of Seduma says:—

About seven days before the last new moon, some hundred or more men from Mezoma came and attacked our village and burnt it to the ground. The Mezoma men came in the early morning and attacked us, and without any notice at all; when we first saw them coming, we all ran out the village, carrying off as many women and children as we could; some 18 of the latter, however, were left behind and the whole of these were slaughtered by the Mezoma men. We have never had any disputes with Mezoma before, but we are friendly disposed towards Sepema having relations there, and that is why Mezoma attacked and burnt our village. The Mezoma men did not carry off the heads of the women and children they slaughtered. They carried off their ears and one of the women's toes.

The 26th April 1875.

F. J. NEEDHAM,
Assistant Political Agent.

Huveli Naga of Seduma states the same as Janguli.

The 26th April 1875.

F. J. NEEDHAM,
Assistant Political Agent.

Duthala Naga of Seduma corroborates the story told by the other two men.

The 26th April 1875.

F. J. NEEDHAM,
Assistant Political Agent.

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Segele Naga of Sepema states :—

Some ten or twelve days ago a war party, consisting of a hundred and twenty men, from the Vihutsema and the Nisonoma clan of Mezoma went to the village of Seduma, which lies due north of my village some six miles, and burnt it to the ground, killing some thirty odd of the inhabitants. I saw the Mezoma men while they were on their way to the village, and I have since seen the village of Seduma in ruins. I can't say why Mezoma attacked Seduma unless it was because that village is favourably inclined to us. Mezoma never had any row with it before.

I have heard that, while on their return from Seduma, the Mezoma war party visited Sitikema and frightened the people thereof so much that the greater portion of them fled into jungle. I also heard that the Mezoma men extorted Rs. 10 from the headman of Sitikema, as also that they took pigs, fowls, etc., by force and carried them off with them.

The 27th April 1875.

F. J. NEEDHAM,
Assistant Political Agent.

The Assistant Political Agent will take down the statement of Lushemo, the Phuima of Sitikema, who I have summoned in, and will resubmit the papers as soon as possible.

The 1st May 1875.

J. BUTLER,
Political Agent.

Lushemo Naga of Sitikema states :—

A war party from Mezoma went to Seduma some days ago, I can't say how many, and burnt the village to the ground, and on their way back home, they rested in our village for the night. They came there of their own accord, and we were all very frightened, so much so that more than half the villagers ran away into the jungles. On the villagers running away, the Mezoma men went into their houses and seized their pigs and fowls and drank all their beer, they made a great row in the village all night; but did not threaten to burn it. They said we must be their friends and we agreed to, and then Janguli, one of the "gaonburas," gave Niphu (gaonbura of the Vihutsema khel) Rs. 10 and said the Sitikema men are your friends. The Mezoma men left early the following morning and took away some pigs and fowls and stole Re. 1-8 from one of our villagers. I saw Janguli give Niphu the Rs. 10 and I also saw the Mezoma men seize and carry off our pigs and fowls; the Mezoma men did not extort the Rs. 10 by threats.

The 2nd May 1875.

F. J. NEEDHAM,
Assistant Political Agent.

Jetovi Naga of Sitikema States :—

The other day in the morning a large number of Mezoma Nagas came into our village. They were in full war costume, and as I heard that they had just come in from burning Seduma, I was frightened and ran away into the jungles with a number of others of the village. I remained in the jungle all night and only returned to the village the next morning after the Mezoma men had left. I can't say what the Mezoma men did in the village, but I have since heard that they got Rs. 10 from our "gaonbura" and carried off some fowls and pigs by force.

The 2nd May 1875.

F. J. NEEDHAM,
Assistant Political Agent.

Higeto Naga of Sitikema states :—

He did same as Jetovi when he saw Mezoma men arrive at his village. He knows nothing of what happened in the village that night, but states that he heard what Jetovi did next morning.

The 2nd May 1875.

F. J. NEEDHAM,
Assistant Political Agent.

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Returned to Political Agent. The undersigned has examined two other Sitikema Nagas who accompanied Lushemo, but they cannot depose too much.

Lushemo spoke very reluctantly against Mezoma, and he declares even now that the Rs. 10 given to Mezoma was given voluntarily. He at first denied that they had taken off fowls and pigs by force.

The 2nd May 1875.

F. J. NEEDHAM,
Assistant Political Agent.

Serial No. 12.

No. 37, dated Samaguting, the 11th May 1875.

For., B, May 1875,
No. 80.

From—Captain J. BUTLER, Political Agent, Naga Hills,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

I have the honour to submit herewith copy of a letter, No. 41, dated the 20th ultimo, from the Political Agent, Manipur, with enclosure, reporting an attack having been made by one of the clans of Konoma upon the village of Togwema, and solicit the instructions of the Chief Commissioner as to what steps he would desire me to take in the matter.

2. I would also invite attention to the letters Nos. 351 and 353, dated, respectively, 1st and 9th January last, referring to other attacks made across the border, regarding which no action has been taken at present, and I would here venture to suggest that it is now full time that we should take up some decided line of action regarding this very troublesome question. Remonstrances and warnings, oft repeated, have been carried to the utmost extent they can be, and may hence be said to have had their day, and in my humble opinion we must now make up our minds for more active measures. On the occasion of our identifying and fixing, once for all, the boundary between Manipur and the so-called British territory, in the quarter where raids have now been committed, all the tribes, on either side, were most distinctly warned that the past must be forgotten, but that for the future any quarrels which arose between Nagas on this side of the boundary and Nagas on the other must be laid before their respective Political Agents for such orders as they might deem it right to pass, and that any village found discarding these orders, and taking the law into their own hands would be severely punished, and I certainly consider that disobedience of those orders should not be lightly passed over now.

[No. 41, dated Manipur, the 20th April 1875.—Same as Serial No. 8.—(Not printed.)]

Serial No. 13.

No. 40, dated Samaguting, the 12th May 1875.

For., B, May 1875,
No. 73.

From—Captain J. BUTLER, Political Agent, Naga Hills,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

In continuation of my letter No. 36, dated the 7th instant, I have the honour to report, for the information of the Chief Commissioner, having just received information of the total destruction of Thekrojinoma (a village about 4 miles nearly due south of Piphema), and the murder of one man there by the Sepama and Seduma clans in revenge for the destruction of the latter village by Mezoma.

Serial No. 14.

No. 1738, dated Shillong, the 26th May 1875.

For., B, May 1875,
No. 74.

From—The Assistant Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam,

To—The Political Agent, Naga Hills.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 37, dated the 11th May 1875, and enclosures, from the Political Agent, Manipur, reporting an attack made by one of the clans of Konoma upon the village of Togwema. In reply, I am to say that the Chief Commissioner is quite unable to answer your letter until he knows that you have in some degree verified the accusation of the Manipur Naga. There is nothing in the correspondence under notice to show that any enquiry has been made into the truth or otherwise of this statement.

Naga raids on the Northern Frontier of Manipur. Serials 14-16.

No. 1739, dated Shillong, the 26th May 1875.

Memo. by—The Assistant Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

Copy of letter No. 1738, dated the 26th May 1875, to Dr. Brown, for information with reference to his No. 41, dated the 20th April 1875, to the Political Agent, Naga Hills.

Serial No. 15.

No. 1742, dated Shillong, the 26th May 1875.

For., B, May 1875,
No. 75.

From—The Assistant Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam,

To—The Political Agent, Naga Hills.

Referring to your letter No. 36, dated the 7th May 1875, forwarding copies of certain statements made to you concerning a most unwarrantable insult lately offered to the protected village of Sitikema by the men of two of the clans of Mezoma, I am directed to say that the Chief Commissioner is of opinion that both from the season of the year and from other considerations it is very undesirable to commit ourselves to anything likely to cause a disturbance on the borders or the necessity for an expedition; still he thinks that the matter should not be passed over, and directs you to demand Rs. 30 from the men of the clans of Mezoma as damages.

2. The Chief Commissioner also directs that in all such cases you should make a distinct recommendation.

Serial No. 16.

No. 66, dated Samaguting, the 24th May 1875.

For., B, June 1875,
No. 83.

Memo. by—The Political Agent, Naga Hills.

Copy of the following forwarded to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam for information.

Jakahe Naga States :—

I am an inhabitant of Sakrabama, and have been Captain Butler's servant, off and on, for over a year. The other day I got 8 days' leave from my master and started for my village. A head constable of the Naga Hills Police, called Guzram, accompanied me as far as Kiruphema, where I left him, as he had duty there. I then went on to Jotsoma, where some men told me I had better not go home, as my village was at war with Kohima, as I might be seen by some of the latter villagers while on my way and killed. I said "I don't care," "I am the *sahab's* servant." I will go on, "as no one will touch me," so I left Jotsoma for my village. When I got near Kohima, I came suddenly on a lot of the villagers hiding in the jungle and they seized me. On hearing I was from Sakrabama, though I told them I was the Political Agent's servant, some said "kill him at once," but others said "no! we must find out first whether he is in service with the Political Agent as he says." "If we find that he has cut his name, then we will kill him." They then took me into the village and put me into a "dobasha," by name Lurkhe, house. Then a lot of men came round it and said "spear him." "His story about serving the Political Agent is a lie," but Lurkhe said "you have sent him into my house, you shall not kill him inside and make a mess; it's dirty outside, so that is the proper place to despatch him." Then there was a great deal of talking; some were for despatching me straight off, but others were for enquiry into the truth or otherwise of my late prior to doing so. Those who were in favour of killing me at once said "what does it matter whether he is the Political Agent's servant or not, let's kill him, we shall only be fined. How often have the *sahab's* people been killed, and only fines, etc., inflicted in consequence and words to this effect." It was about 10 a.m. when I was first seized and taken to Lurkhe's house; at about 4 p.m. while the conversation about killing me was still going on, Guzram, head constable, with three constables, arrived and saved my life, for, as soon as he was known to be in the village, the Kohima men all fled from the vicinity of the house where I was imprisoned. I tried to go to my village after this and succeeded. I was there one day only, and then came back here to my work. I then learnt that my village had been at war for about two months previous to my arrival there. We have been on bad terms with Kohima for a long time back.

Serials 17-18. *Naga raids on the Northern Frontier of Manipur.*

Serial No. 17.

Dated Samaguting, the 25th May 1875.

Memo. by—The Political Agent, Naga Hills.

Copy of letter No. 45, dated the 25th April 1875, forwarded to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam for information. This letter, though dated the 25th April, was only received to-day.

[No. 45, dated Manipur, the 25th April 1875.—Same as Serial No. 10.—(Not printed.)]

Serial No. 18.

No. 78, dated Manipur, the 5th June 1875.

For., B. June 1875,
No. 81.

Memo. by—The Political Agent, Manipur.

Copy of letter No. 77, dated the 5th June 1875, forwarded to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam for the information of the Chief Commissioner.

No. 77, dated Manipur, the 5th June 1875.

From—R. BROWN, Esq., Political Agent, Manipur,

To—The Political Agent, Naga Hills.

I have the honour to report, for your information, that a deputation of Nagas belonging to the Manipuri hill village of Lalung arrived in Manipur a few days ago with the following complaint.

2. The village of Lalung is not to be found on any map in my possession, but it is within Manipur territory, and not far from Phweelong or Togwema. The tribute money of Rs. 7 alluded to in the latter part of the narrative was recommended to be paid as a precautionary and temporary measure, which proceeding was approved of by the Chief Commissioner (letter No. 526 of 18th February 1875).

3. Lumdailoo, Wokum, and Hoorow Nagas, inhabitants of Lalung, make the following statement :—

About 23 days ago, a party of Peefutchumai Nagas (one of the clans of Mozema), consisting of about 40 or 50 men, headed by Nookhiah and Haibeeree, came and plundered our village. They captured four of our villagers, *viz.*, Sooleelong, his wife Noongbeelong, a boy named Paowgajeenong, and a woman named Loongleelong. Of these four captives, Sooleelong escaped, and the rest were restored by paying Rs. 21 as shown underneath as their ransom :—

					Rs.
Sooleelong's wife Noongbeelong	...	...	...	...	6
Boy Paowgajeenong	...	...	...	...	4
Woman Loongleelong	...	...	...	...	11

They also captured one bullock, one cow, five goats, and 10 dogs, the property of our villagers, and threatened to set fire to our houses. On the payment of a sum of Rs. 47, they returned the animals and desisted from their work of destruction.

They killed and ate 13 pigs and about 200 fowls during the period (3 days) of their stay in the village. On their departure from the village they carried off with them the following articles (the property of our villagers), and burned 17 *choongs* or shields :—

1 musket (flint).

1 „ without the lockplate.

5 spears, 7 *daos*, 30 hoes, 20 axes.

15 Women's *fanek*, and 10 *kess* or *chadars*.

3 shell necklaces, Rs. 5 worth of salt, and a maund of India-rubber.

I, Lumdailoong, and three of my villagers went on four different occasions to the villagers of Paplongmai or Konoma, and offered Rs. 7, the tribute demanded and ordered to be paid; they refused this sum, and wanted Rs. 20. We at last agreed, and Rs. 19 was paid, on the understanding that they will afford us protection from the inroads of the other Nagas. This they have not done.

Naga raids on the Northern Frontier of Manipur.

Serials 19-21.

Serial No. 19.

For., B. June 1875,
No. 90.

No. 72, dated Samaguting, the 4th June 1875.

From—Captain JOHN BUTLER, Political Agent, Naga Hills,
To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

In reply to your No. 1476, dated the 8th ultimo, desiring me to report upon the feasibility of my visiting the frontier with a view to meet the Political Agent, Manipur, I have the honour to report that very shortly after re-assuming charge of my office, namely, on the 29th April last, I addressed Dr. Brown on the subject, asking him to let me know when and where it would be most convenient to him for us to meet, but up to date I have received no answer, and it is now too late to move further in the matter with any hope of arranging for a meeting until the ensuing cold season.

2. I would, however, now solicit explicit instructions as to the measures the Chief Commissioner would desire me to take in conjunction with the Political Agent, Manipur, whose views in connection with the case appear to be in full accord with my own and are referred to in his letter No. 34, dated the 5th May 1874, to the address of Captain Johnstone, with a copy of which, I believe, you have already been supplied by Dr. Brown direct.

3. Of course, our first duty would be a careful local enquiry into all the facts of each case, but it is the question of what we are to do after that, that I wish for instructions, namely, the limits within which we are to act with regard to the final settlement of each case, especially if there be any deserving of punishment.

Serial No. 20.

For., B. June 1875,
No. 91.

No. 106, dated Samaguting, the 12th June 1875.

Memo. by—The Political Agent, Naga Hills.

Copy of a letter No. 67, dated the 23rd May 1875, in continuation of this office letter No. 72 of the 4th instant. The undersigned begs to invite particular attention to the concluding paragraph of the letter.

No. 67, dated Manipur, the 23rd May 1875.

From—R. BROWN, Esq., Political Agent, Manipur,
To—The Political Agent, Naga Hills.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 17, dated Samaguting, the 29th April last (only received yesterday), enquiring when it will be most convenient for me to meet you on the frontier between Manipur and the Naga Hills division.

2. It is now too late this season to do any thing, as the rains may be expected almost daily. It is my present intention to apply for three months' leave of absence from the 1st of December next, and if granted, I could meet you in November.

The village of Phweelong or Togwema, which seems to be about the centre of disturbances, would probably be found most convenient for a place of meeting.

3. I may add that I am without any instructions or information from the Chief Commissioner as to what line of policy is proposed to be carried out with regard to the Naga tribes.

Serial No. 21.

For., B. June 1875,
No. 92.

No. 2233, dated Shillong, the 25th June 1875.

From—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam,
To—The Political Agent, Naga Hills.

I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 72, dated the 4th instant. I am to say that the Chief Commissioner desires that you and Dr. Brown will meet at Shillong in September next to discuss the question of the best mode of putting a stop to the raids and counter-raids on the Naga-Manipur frontier. Full instructions can then be given to you by the Chief Commissioner on this and other matters.

2. I am to add that if war should break out with Burma, Dr. Brown very probably will be unable to leave Manipur.

Serials 21-24. Naga raids on the Northern Frontier of Manipur.

No. 2234, dated Shillong, the 25th June 1875.

Memo. by—The Assistant Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

Copy of letter No. 2233, dated the 25th June 1875, forwarded to Political Agent, Manipur, for information and guidance, with reference to his letter No. 67, dated the 23rd May last, to the address of the Political Agent, Naga Hills.

Serial No 22.

No. 114, dated Samaguting, the 21st June 1875.

For., B, July 1875,
No. 31.

Memo. by—The Political Agent, Naga Hills.

Copy of letter No. 77, dated the 5th June 1875, forwarded to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam for information and instructions.

2. The undersigned considers it is full time to put a stop once for all to these repeated outrages, either inflicting punishment ourselves in conjunction with Manipur, or letting that State settle the matter for itself without any further intervention on our part. We can scarcely go on as we have done of late, holding aloof ourselves and forbidding Manipur to cross the border.

3. The matter together with others that are still pending will be duly enquired into and a further report submitted hereafter, but at present and for the next month or two very little communication goes on between Samaguting and the higher ranges, and as it has been always considered politic to avoid summoning in the chiefs during the rains, it may possibly be prudent to wait until the cold weather sets in before the question is broken up.

4. It may also be observed that the Mezoma men are sure to acknowledge the fact, if it is true, and I have no reason to doubt it.

[No. 77, dated the 5th June 1875.—Same as Serial No. 18.—(Not printed)].

Serial No. 23.

No. 2406, dated Shillong, the 10th July 1875.

For., B, July 1875,
No. 36.

From—The Assistant Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam,

To—The Political Agent, Naga Hills.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 72, dated the 4th June 1875, and, in reply, to say that the Chief Commissioner desires that you and Dr. Brown will meet at Shillong in September next to discuss the question of the best mode of putting a stop to the raids and counter-raids on the Naga-Manipur frontier. Full instructions can then be given to you by the Chief Commissioner on this and other matters.

2. I am to add that, if war should break out with Burma, Dr. Brown very probably will be unable to leave Manipur.

Serial No. 24.

No. 2407, dated Shillong, the 10th July 1875.

For., B, July 1875,
No. 35.

From—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam,

To—The Political Agent, Naga Hills.

I am to request you to substitute the accompanying letter for my No. 2233, dated the 25th June.

2. A copy of the amended letter has this day been sent to the Political Agent, Manipur.

3. I am to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 77, dated the 5th instant, and to refer you to the accompanying letter.

No. 2408, dated Shillong, the 10th July 1875.

Memo. by—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

Copy of letter No. 2407, dated the 10th July 1875, forwarded to Political Agent Manipur, with request that he will cancel this office No. 2233, dated the 25th June, sent with memorandum No. 2234 of same date.

Naga raids on the Northern Frontier of Manipur.

Serial 25.

Serial No. 25.

No. 133, dated Manipur, the 19th October 1875.

Memo. by—The Political Agent, Manipur.

Copy of letter No. 132, dated the 19th October 1875, forwarded to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam for information.

No. 132, dated Manipur, the 19th October 1875.

From—R. BROWN, Esq., Political Agent, Manipur,

To—The Political Agent, Naga Hills.

I have the honour to report, for your information, the occurrence of another raid on the village of Phweelong or Togwema, situated in Manipur territory, by the Nagas of Mozema and Paplongmai residing in your jurisdiction. The statement of a deputation sent in to Manipur and taken down during my recent absence on duty, but subsequently confirmed by personal examination of the villagers, is as follows:—

“About a month and twenty days ago, the Nagas of Mozema and Paplongmai, about 500 men in number, came very early in the morning and attacked our village. Some 40 or 50 of them were armed with muskets, and they began to fire indiscriminately. Twelve of our villagers (two men and ten women) were killed, and two men and two women wounded. The wounded are in a dangerous state, and we cannot say whether they will die or live. Three men of Mozema, as we were told afterwards by the Nagas of Yang, have been wounded by our villagers. Five of the heads have been carried off, and more than half of our villagers' houses destroyed by fire; almost all our property has either been destroyed or carried off, many of the women and children are still concealed in the jungle and have not returned to their village.

We did not receive any previous information of this attack. We were lately on friendly terms with the above named villagers. Some four or five months before this occurrence, they assured us that they would commit no injury to our village. As they came all of a sudden and at a time when many of us were in bed asleep, we were unable to defend ourselves.

A thana was established in our village after the raid of the Rakoomai Nagas in April last, but as friendship was restored with the Mozema men and wine was drunk, we requested its removal. On *Asar* 3rd, the thana was withdrawn, and as soon as this was done, they came down upon us and committed the injuries above described.”

No. 236, dated Samaguting, the 28th October, 1875.

From—CAPTAIN JOHN BUTLER, Political Agent, Naga Hills,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

I REGRET to report that war has broken out between Kohima and Mezoma, and the latter has just lost five women brutally murdered by the Puchatchuma clan of the former village. One woman managed to escape into the jungle, and has got off with a severe wound.

2. Kidima and Sakhaboma have also recommenced hostilities, and each side is reported to have lost one man within the last month.

P S.—With reference to the above, I have reiterated the orders forbidding all fighting on the Government high road.

No. 3,769, dated Shillong, the 10th November, 1875.

From—H. LUTTMAN-JOHNSON, Esq., Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

I AM directed by the Chief Commissioner to forward, for the information of the Governor-General in Council, a letter, No. 236, dated 28th October, 1875, from the Political Agent, Naga Hills, reporting the outbreak of hostilities between the important villages of Kohima and Mezoma. I am to refer you to my letter No. 2,771, dated 10th August, 1875, and to the map which accompanied it. Kohima is on the present route from Samaguting to Wokha, and Mezoma a short distance to the south of it. They are both distant some thirty-four miles from Samaguting.

Serials 28-29. Naga raids on the Northern Frontier of Manipur.

Serial No. 28.

For., B. Nov. 1875.
No. 70.

No. 256, dated Samaguting, the 6th November 1875.

From—Captain J. BURLEIGH, Political Agent, Naga Hills,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

In forwarding you the accompanying copy of a report from the Assistant Political Agent, for the information of the Chief Commissioner, I have only to add that the interference referred to in the concluding portion of the 3rd paragraph thereof, to be of any use, must be in the form of a peremptory order, and that is a step my present orders altogether preclude. Remonstrance and advice they have already received, but I fear we cannot expect great results from such measures alone in the settlements of Naga feuds.

2. I regret also to have to report that Mezoma has again committed itself by a second attack upon Togwema, in which some 10 people were murdered, mostly women and children. This raid is said to have been undertaken in revenge for the attack made by Togwema upon some of the Konoma (or Paplongmai) people some time ago, the latter being in close alliance with Mezoma.

3. In conclusion, I may observe that there are several other feuds being actively waged, but I have not had the opportunity or time necessary to enquire fully into them yet, nor shall I have the chance of doing so now, as I propose to leave this to-morrow morning *en route* for Golaghat to take up my duties as Political Officer with the exploration expedition.

No. 11, dated Samaguting, the 4th November 1875.

From—F. J. NEEDHAM, Esq., Assistant Political Agent, Naga Hills,

To—The Political Agent, Naga Hills.

I deem it advisable to acquaint you officially with the following facts which I gleaned while recently inspecting the political path towards Nerhema.

2. A quarrel has broken out in Kohima between the "*khel*" of Resoma and Chutronoma, which not only bids fair speedily to swell into as serious a dispute as occurred at Mezoma some 12 years ago and break up the village as was the case in that instance, but will, I fear, end in the cruel butchery of a number of helpless women and children of either party and so increase the already too numerous blood feuds at present existing.

3. The quarrel is also greatly to be regretted on other grounds, *viz.*, that should it continue as it most assuredly will unless you deem it proper to interfere, it will deprive us of a large number of coolies for work on the political path to Wokha during the ensuing cold season. Up to the time I left the village, on the 30th ultimo, no blood had been shed, as both parties had up to that time confined themselves to throwing stones at each other, which is, I believe, the usual Naga precursor of blood shed, though two men of the former "*khel*" had been badly wounded thereby, and should either of them die, the use of guns and spears will speedily follow with their concomitant atrocities. I may mention that the heads of either "*khel*" anxiously begged me to interfere, and stated that without such interference it would most probably be war to the knife.

4. I was also informed that war had been declared against the village of Nerhema by the large and powerful village of Jotsoma, owing to the former having killed an old inhabitant of the latter in a recent raid committed by it on Konoma, to which village the man in question had immigrated and was living at the time of his death, and if this be true, and I certainly see no reason to doubt my informant (Sata of the Thekrenoma *khel* of Jotsoma); this feud will also very materially interfere with our roadwork to Wokha, for the village of Nerhema is not only contiguous to where the work is now being prosecuted, but I had hoped to get very material help from the inhabitants thereof, which, under existing circumstances, will be impossible.

Serial No. 29.

No. 350, dated Samaguting, the 9th November 1875.

Memo. by—The Assistant Political Agent in charge, Naga Hills Agency.

Copy of letter No. 132, dated the 19th October 1875, forwarded to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam, with a request that the Chief Commissioner may be solicited to state what steps, if any, he would wish the undersigned taking in the matter.

Naga raids on the Northern Frontier of Manipur.

Serials 29-32.

2. The undersigned has sent for the Mezoma dobasha, with a view to interrogating him about the matter, and will report the result in due time.

[No. 132, dated Manipur, the 19th October 1875.—Same as Serial No. 25.—(Not printed.)]

Serial No. 30.

For., B. Dec. 1875,
No. 23.

No. 262, dated Samaguting, the 15th November 1875.

From—F. J. NEEDHAM, Esq., Assistant Political Agent in charge, Naga Hills Agency,
To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

Referring to paragraph 2 of my memorandum No. 350, dated the 9th instant, forwarding a copy of a letter, No. 132, dated the 19th October 1875, from the Political Agent of Manipur, on the subject of a raid lately committed by Mezoma, in British territory, on Togwema, in Manipur territory, I have the honour to report that I have this day examined one of the principal men of the Vihutsema "*khel*" of Mezoma on the subject, and that he has admitted the Togwema men's story, as reported by the Political Agent of Manipur, to be true, though he denies that portion of it which asserts that peace had been made between his village and Togwema at any time prior to the attack.

2. His story is that a little over a year ago the villagers of Togwema murdered, in cold blood, a man from the Katcha Naga village of Konoma, who was formerly a member of the Phephutsema *khel* of Mezoma, while visiting their village with some others for the purpose of trade; that prior to taking any action in the matter, the Mezoma men came in to complain to Captain Butler, but not finding him at Samaguting they returned to their village and despatched a war party to Togwema to avenge their classman; that while *en route* for this purpose they became aware of a Manipuri guard having been established in the village of Togwema, so returned *and patiently awaited its removal*; and that some three months ago, hearing that it had actually been removed, they sent a strong force to Togwema with the result reported by the Political Agent of Manipur.

3. I may add that the murder of the Konoma man happened before Captain Butler's return from furlough to England, and while Captain Johnstone was in charge of the district. So that I cannot help thinking that the Mezoma men merely contemplated coming in to the Political Agent for advice regarding the murder of their clansman, but that they did not, as a matter of fact, do so.

Serial No. 31.

For., B. Nov. 1875,
No. 71.

No. 3935, dated Shillong, the 22nd November 1875.

From—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

No. 11, dated the 4th November 1875, from Mr. Needham, Assistant Political Agent, to the Political Agent, Naga Hills.

No. 256, dated the 6th November 1875, from the Political Agent, Naga Hills, to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

I am directed to forward, for the information of His Excellency the Viceroy in Council, copies of the correspondence noted in the margin, from the Political Agent of the Naga Hills, on the subject of feuds among certain Naga tribes. I am to say that the Chief Commissioner would not undertake any measures which might result in delaying the Naga Hills survey. Colonel Keatinge is desirous that this survey may be brought to a conclusion this year. He is, however, of opinion that we cannot continue much longer to take no notice of these feuds.

Serial No. 32.

For., B. Dec. 1875,
No. 24.

No. 4147, dated Shillong, the 6th December 1875.

From—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

I am to forward copy of a letter, No. 262, dated the 15th November 1875, from the Political Agent, Naga Hills, in which an account is given of a raid which has lately been committed by the inhabitants of Mezoma upon the village of Togwema in the Naga Hills. The village of Togwema lies on the south on Manipur side of the boundary of that State laid down in 1872-73. Mezoma is situated on the north side

Serials 32-34. Naga raids on the Northern Frontier of Manipur.

of the boundary. With reference to your letter No. 1345P., dated the 10th May 1875, I am directed by the Chief Commissioner to enquire how the Government of India would wish this case to be dealt with in the event of the Maharaja of Manipur desiring satisfaction. Should the Maharaja be permitted to cross the boundary and punish the people of Mezoma? I am to add that these raids across the border are of frequent occurrence. I am to refer you to my letter No. 3935, dated the 22nd November 1875, in illustration of this statement.

Serial No. 33.

No. 268, dated Samaguting, the 29th November 1875.

For., B. Dec. 1875,
No. 34.

From—F. J. NEEDHAM, Esq., Assistant Political Agent in charge, Naga Hills Agency,
To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

Referring to the Political Agent's No. 256, dated the 6th idem, forwarding a copy of a report from the Assistant Political Agent, Naga Hills, to his address, *anent* certain disturbances having recently taken place between the villages of Nerhema with Jotsoma and Konoma on the one hand and between two of the clans of Kohima on the other, I have the honour to report that a war party from the village of Konoma surprised and murdered four women, one child, and a man, belonging to Nerhema, about 6 days ago, in the vicinity of the latter's village, while they were in the act of carrying up newly-thrashed *dhan* from their *arrahs*.

Serial No. 34.

No. 4256, dated Shillong, the 10th December 1875.

For., B. Dec. 1875,
No. 35.

From—The Assistant Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

In continuation of my letter No. 4147, dated the 6th December 1875, I am directed to forward, for the information of His Excellency the Viceroy in Council, copy of letter No. 268, dated the 29th November 1875, from the Assistant Political Agent in charge of the Naga Hills Agency, reporting the murders of four women, one child, and a man belonging to Nerhema, by a war party from the village of Konoma.