CHAPTER III

ESTABLISHMENT OF CAPT. MEADOWS TAYLOR'S AUTHORITY

Taylor Reduces the Rani

When Capt. Meadows Taylor replaced Gresley he received no specific instructions from the Resident except the expression of a pious hope that he would be able to support and establish Pid Naik as divan by his judicious conduct and 'moral influence', without recourse to extreme measure or coercion of parties opposed to the divan. We shall presently see whether this hope was sincere and whether Taylor's initial success was not more due to the presence of British bayonets than his supposed 'moral influence'.

Taylor arrived at Surapur with an armed escort on 10th December 1842. On the way he met Capt. Gresley at Coddur, and took charge of all relevant papers. Gresley briefed him, exaggerating the defiance of the Rani. On his arrival Taylor was pleasantly surprised that Pid Naik could arrange his meeting with the chiefs of the sibaddi including Bedar leaders. He explained to them individually and at great length why they must submit to Pid Naik and they agreed with the exception of four of them. At any rate Taylor saw no danger of immediate confrontation between the Rani and Pid Naik. The following day in his interview with the Rani he found her preparing a long statement explaining the difficulties of the samadhan and her own position right from the days when her husband was alive. She gave a verbal account of it to Taylor, conceded to Pid Naik's divan, and on her own agreed not to shield Chanbasappa. Taylor discerned her cleverness in turning points under discussion to her advantage and assured her that Pid Naik
would not either confiscate her imagined or extort her alleged wealth. Though she appeared sincere in all she said Taylor did not believe that a woman of her energy, determination, cunning, keenness and cleverness would easily give up. Pid Naik himself was surprised at her submission. A couple of days later, she gave to Pid Naik Rs. 30,000 for current expenses of the samasthan and agreements to serve him signed by sikhani chiefs and Telanga nizams of Wandur. Meanwhile the Resident returned the Rani's letter to him unopened and instructed Taylor that in answer to the minor Raja's request for being vested with full powers he should be told that the divan was the proper channel of communication and that a boy of his age could not be vested with full powers.

Having made sure of the services of armed men in Surapur and elsewhere in the samasthan to Pid Naik many of whom the Rani herself had made over, Taylor, with the approval of the Resident, now launched upon a series of high-handed measures to strip the Rani of all authority, and even punish her for her alleged resistance. Neither the Rani nor Chanbasappa had ever meant to defy and were wisely willing to bow down to superior force. Their actions indicated nothing else throughout. But, prejudiced against them by the maliciously false propaganda of Lakshmangir Gosain, who was even more active now that Pid Naik was established as divan, Taylor all along viewed them with suspicion. The Gosain had even greater success with Taylor; for Greasley had highly recommended him to Taylor and apparently he was only helping Pid Naik to secure the divan which was the main task entrusted to Taylor.

The Rani and Chanbasappa were reported to be secretly recruiting Arabs and Rohillas at Hyderabad. On the contrary,
Chanbasappa had made an agreement much earlier to discharge the additional *sibandi* engaged during Hanamappa Naik's threatened disturbances. Presumably he was only waiting for enough collections in the treasury so that they could be discharged with their arrears. Taylor had proposed his seizure but he surrendered himself seeking nothing but a fair hearing. Taluqdar, possibly earlier appointed at his suggestion, were now changed, but the new taluqdar found no difficulty in collecting revenue. Taylor demanded from the Rani the agreement executed by Bedars to serve her. To his surprise she readily handed it over. Taylor enquired from the Resident whether he should not call her to account for her 'deceitful conduct' since she had assured Greeley, after taking the said *mumhalka*, that administration had been transferred to Pid Naik. In the agreement her name was not mentioned at all, and she had taken it so that the Bedars should serve her son, the recognized Raja. She had dreaded that Pid's son somehow would supersede her own son. The Resident wisely restrained Taylor with a view to preventing immediate excitement or disturbances among the Rani's Bedar adherents and instructed that the divan could remove her or take other measures if the Rani disturbed peace in future. Despite the fact that he had encountered no armed or unarmed resistance to his proceedings so far, Taylor requested for the continuance of the detachments guarding the ferries bordering Surapur. Fears of the Rani's defiance were so exaggeratedly reported that the Government of India permitted march of troops to Surapur if required, thus quashing their earlier caution.
Pid was now well-settled in his position. At Pid's request Taylor undertook examination of treasury accounts. An abstract for Faali 1251 indicated more than Rs. 30,000 as due from the Rani. He now proceeded to act on the unwarranted presumption that the Rani was accountable for all monies in the treasury and that any lapses should be made good by her. Though her personal accountability was extremely limited she offered to pay Rs. 1½ lakhs which she had expected to be in the treasury, but which otherwise she would manage by raising a loan on her assets worth Rs. 75,000. Finding that she was prevented from raising the amount from bankers she agreed to pay Rs. 1 lakh and in return demanded Channasappa's release and a share in the administration. Taylor answered by securing a peremptory letter from Hyderabad Government threatening her with confiscation of her jagirs if she interfered in the administration or refused to pay up. An imposing array of British forces under Brig. Tomkyns was ordered to Surapur to reduce the Rani to submission. She was no longer in a position to ask for any terms; she raised Rs. 75,000 by pledging her personal jewelry and pleaded for a week's time to raise the rest, but Taylor was not prepared to wait for more than 2½ hours. The Rani thereupon managed to raise the remaining Rs. 25,000, presumably by selling her jewels. "Helpless as I am it is necessary to preserve your favour ... To provide for such a sum (viz. Rs. 1 lakh) as this is hard on my life and on my property and nothing will remain to me; therefore please to take care that there may be no further demand on me, and thus endure a good name". She pleaded piteously in vain. Taylor demanded another Rs. 70,000 from her on account of arrears of extra girdani she was alleged to have employed, excessive tankhas during Faali 1250-51.
and so on and proceeded with immediate military occupation of her jagir villages under the pretext that she was evading enquiry into accounts! His demands upon the Rani were based not upon any detailed examination of treasury accounts but mere guesswork. While sending the abstract accounts to the Resident he himself admitted that they had not been checked with daftar accounts, that credit side in them was fair enough. "I send the estimate not as a correct account but to serve as a guide to the present state of my demand against the Rani" he confessed. Meanwhile the Nizam's officials obligingly sent one Sonagir Gosain 'who could be used in any way Taylor wanted', obviously a professional witness who was prepared to testify to any charges of embezzlement that Taylor might choose to prefer against Chanbasappa. Chanbasappa had been removed to Lingsugur, beyond the boundaries of Surapur. The Resident authorised Taylor to banish the Rani too if necessary while restoration of a jagir earlier sequestered by Hyderabad to the Machiavellian Lakshmangir was recommended for his 'services'.

The Rani now pressed for a detailed examination of treasury accounts as she was sure that there were no dues on her side. "Sarkar was angry because she assumed authority; she would never do so in future", she promised. It now began to dawn on Taylor that the Rani might not have been responsible for illegal exactions or irregularities during her husband's regime. The Resident directed that she was accountable for whatever public revenue had been collected when she exercised supreme or principal power whether it was before or after her husband's death, but that it was useless to demand what she couldn't pay. Taylor was to restore her jagir if she had
justly obtained them. The Resident reasonably instructed that past irregularities could be raked up only if it helped the principality's finances; the principle should be to regulate the future. In any case Taylor was able to report that the Rani "by the entire loss of her power and the temporary sequestration of her jagirs is convinced of the futility of opposing the wishes of Government which can at any time reduce her still further".

Detailed examination of accounts took some time and till then, i.e. for 4 months the Rani's jagirs remained under British military occupation. When the accounts for Fasli 1290-51 were more thoroughly investigated Taylor found no error or overcharge in spite of minute checking. The Rani had not employed a single anna from the State treasury for herself. In fact she was not at all responsible for state expenditure so long as the late Raja was alive. Thereafter she was responsible for only payment of arrears to sibandi amounting to Rs. 10,577-2-3 and she signed up a formal agreement to pay that amount. Even then her jagirs worth only Rs. 18,000 were restored to her whereas their original value was Rs. 27,093. The Resident directed that if fortified places within them could be retained for the samsthap without offence it should be arranged; she was not to have any assignments on sindal and betel-leaf contract which she used to enjoy earlier nor any nasranas from samatdary. Similarly Chanbasappa was released when it was confirmed that he had not misappropriated any public funds; in fact he had no share in state expenditure at all.

The grave injustice done to the Rani and Chanbasappa was realized by Taylor only after a couple of years. At the
time his actions were motivated not by malice but by suspicion sedulously tended by Lakshman Gir Gosain. The banker's gross exaggeration of the couple's wealth which he alleged was hoarded through embellishment, his mischievous propaganda that they were recruiting mercenaries, the false rumours of their illicit liaison, misrepresentation of their real motives for opposing Pid Saik - these were the basis of Taylor's proceedings. The Resident was anxious to crush the Rani's resistance with a view to installing Pid in office and quite pleased that Taylor succeeded in it. The Government of India's appreciation of Taylor's 'firmness, judgement and temper' depended entirely on the Resident's reports who in turn believed in Taylor's letters who in his turn acted upon the Gosain's advice. There was some at the time to commend the couple's restraint, honesty, integrity, co-operation with Taylor despite ill-treatment and wisdom in submitting to superior force in the interest of the samasthan. The Court of Directors also approved Taylor's treatment of the Rani.

Taylor's Other Immediate Measures

(1) Question of Refund of Impost Secured by Violent Methods

After a preliminary examination of accounts Taylor reported that a lakh of rupees had been violently extorted from some villages in the samasthan in the past year. Accounts had not been kept properly; collections had been made carelessly and a scramble among servants of the samasthan to grab whatever they could was discernible. The Resident directed a thorough enquiry into the violent impost which on further checking up turned out to be actually about
Taylor had at first suspected Chanbasappa and the Rani to be responsible for it. Investigation, however, revealed that the Rani had nothing to do with it and Chanbasappa was only one among many other officials of Raja Krishtappa who himself had authorized this forcible levy to meet the pressing demand from Hyderabad Government for kista which had fallen due. Normal revenues of the samasthan were inadequate to meet the Nizam's demands; so villages were secretly surrounded at night by the late Raja's troops, and money, gold etc. was extorted. It was not embezzled but credited to the State treasury. The Government of India authorized Taylor to return such amount as was recoverable to concerned villagers. But the Resident raised doubts that as such extortions were common in Indian States, the British Government would have to intervene in all such cases; once such a principle was accepted in this instance. The Court of Directors directed that if reparations were inexpedient at least future revenue claims on the affected villagers should be lenient.

(ii) Retrenchment of Sibandi

Taylor had suggested clearance of arrears of the State sibandi immediately after his first meeting with the Rani. This was necessary to divert their allegiance from the Rani to Pid Naik. He secured the initial amount for the purpose from Andola, possibly because he was not yet sure of what was available at Surapur treasury. Later he proposed that the samasthan's armed force should be reduced by half, a measure much to the liking of the Resident. It would reduce the nuisance value of not only the Rani but whoever
ruled the sansthan and the resulting savings could be utilized for payment of the principalities' dues. The measure could be carried out only after paying off the dues of the forces to be disbanded. The Government of India already having burnt their fingers in guarantees to the Gosain bankers strictly ordered Taylor not to stand guarantee to sabukars on this account. "On no account will the British Government engage in any further guarantees for the repayment of money that may be advanced by Sabukars to Native States" was the firm principle enunciated. The arrears amounted to Rs.20,000 and it was to be paid by the Diwan if and when he could. The Resident though in favour of disbandment did not desire it to lead to disturbances. However, he was particularly keen about dismissal of Rohillas and Arabs in state forces in keeping with his general policy of curbing the power of these mercenary trouble-makers throughout Hyderabad. As humurati Bedars and Telingas of Wandurgh held lands for military service it was easy to send them back to agriculture and they were agreeable to it. Taylor's original idea was that the Rani should pay for the arrears. She later agreed to do so. But in the meanwhile Pid Naik paid off from present receipts in the treasury. Taylor, with Pid's consent, now managed to retrench more than half of the santhan's forces. The measure was unnecessary so far as settling Pid Naik in office was concerned, and Taylor had no mandate for it. It was his own idea for which he must be given credit and which he cleverly carried through thereby reducing chances of armed hostility by the santhan against the British in future.
(iii) Arrangements to pay Nizam's Dues

Among other immediate tasks of Taylor, one Pid's authority was established, was the one relating to arrangements for paying off Hyderabad's dues. This had been all along the basis for British intervention. Taylor at first questioned the Hyderabad Government's claim to 5 lakh rupees as arrears from Surapur and eloquently pleaded that only 2 lakhs should be agreed, of which the Rani could pay one and Pid the other lakh of rupees. Finding the Resident adamant on the question he forwarded the lakh of rupees extorted from the Rani. He was also directed to see to it that Pid Naik paid the balance and gave security for Rs.40,000 on account of Andola-Nilogi. Taylor found that it would be impossible for Pid to pay as the estimated total revenues were only Rs. 1,30,000 with other claims to be settled besides the Nizam's. He was, however, permitted to restore jagirdars in Nilogi and Pid was allowed to send Rs.40,000 (on Andola-Nilogi account) directly to Hyderabad instead of paying through the Nizam's naik. Taylor held Nilogi revenue in deposit in Surapur treasury to be paid to Gosain bankers when the question was settled. He conveyed Pid Naik's reluctance to pay to the Nizam for the plunder of Hemapur and seemed to agree with him saying that Pid was not responsible for it. But the Resident did not agree and the Court of Directors sided with the Resident. Taylor also sent the list of about 400 villages in the Nizam's dominions on which Surapur had rusum baxa. These had been transferred to the Nizam for collection according to Gresley's settlement. A few Maratha sardars had assignments on them. The Resident directed that Surapur should arrange to pay them and the rusum baxa be
transferred to Hyderabad in toto. Taylor had also to secure the Nizam's orders to his officials to apprehend some people of Andola-Milli who had taken refuge in the Nizam's domains after committing depredations.

The Hyderabad Government also suggested cession of additional territory worth Rs. 1,20,000 from Surapur, as it complained that revenues from territory ceded by Gresley's arrangement (viz. Devadurg) did not amount to Gresley's estimate. Taylor strongly pointed out the inadmissibility of this further demand of the Nizam. "His excessive demands alone prevented Surapur from discharging its engagements punctually". As a matter of fact Badun Khan, Nizam's taluqdar of Devadurg, agreed to pay to Hyderabad only a small amount putting forth the excuse of decreasing revenues. In reality he had farmed it out at a much higher rate and wanted to pocket the difference. Hyderabad did not gain by transfer of Devadurg to it, thanks to its own officers. It could restore the district to Surapur, which would be most welcome to the royal family which always regretted the cession, and enter into a fresh agreement with Pid for modified tribute. The Resident, however, stuck to Gresley's settlement and did not countenance either Taylor's suggestion of retransfer of Devadurg or Hyderabad's additional demand.

**Plea for Permanent British Officer in Surapur**

Taylor's initial mission of supporting and settling Pid Naik in the office of Diwan had now come more or less to an end. The Resident would have recalled him if he had reported total success. Under the circumstances, it was no wonder if he now diverted his attention to stabilising his own position after having taken such an active part in Surapur
affairs. He had sent for money from Andola in his own name to pay the siband to begin with and had issued jagirs for sequestering the Rani's jagirs jointly in his and Pid's name. The Resident had frowned upon this and he had sent apologetic explanations. Thereafter he had repeatedly emphasized his limited advisory role and reported how actual administration was carried on by Pid Naik. Hyderabad Government had conferred the title of Raja and a khilat upon Pid. Taylor had no official position as such in state administration. He was only carrying out his task of strengthening Pid's hands. Taylor's first impression of Pid was that he did not lack resolution and could have established himself had the parties been balanced. Shortly he reported that Pid was shaping out well as divan. His having been able to bring Bedar headmen to meet Taylor, his estimate of revenues, seeking permission to transmit revenues directly to Hyderabad, refusal to pay for plunder of Hemapur, drawing up a detailed list of what according to him was rightly due to the Rani as jagirs and perquisites - these were signs of his interest in administration. On the other hand he asked Taylor to check up accounts and agreed to reduction of armed forces without a second thought. He now himself approached Taylor to look after the administration and this offered the opportunity for which Taylor appears to have been waiting to plead the need for a British officer to be permanently associated with Surapur administration during the Raja's minority. Taylor argued that he had closely watched the divan for the past 4 months, supported him in every possible way but that Pid Naik had not really succeeded in administration owing to his lack of firmness, steadiness and influence. He was weak, timid, vacillating, and easily exploited by designing persons.
There was none among his people trustworthy, influential or competent enough to assist him. They only indulged in low intrigues and nursed jealousies. Pid Naik himself had spent his life in sensual indulgence so far, had no experience of public business and was ignorant of accounts. Taylor did not discern the irony of emphasising the inability of the man whom he was supporting.

Taylor in arguing for British management, had to refute arguments advanced by Gresley against such a measure. More enthusiastic and confident than his predecessor, he pointed out its many advantages; regular liquidation of the Raja's dues, increase in revenues, abatement in crime, curbing the evil of 

sabukars upon whom Pid was sure to fall back soon if left to himself. While the previous Raja could do as he pleased so long as he fulfilled financial obligations, Pid having been settled in office by the British had to be continuously supported on account of his inability. Warming up, Taylor concluded that by looking after Surapur administration the British would make up for the injustice committed by them towards Surapur in the past! He recommended that British management should not be fitful but unbroken till the end of 72 the Raja's minority.

Resident Fraser would have welcomed some such arguments in favour of British management from Capt. Gresley himself. He had given enough indication of his inclination while informing the Government of India of Gresley's appointment. He had also informed them that services of a British officer would have to be retained to liquidate the loans of Motigir Gosain given under British guarantee. It is no surprise, therefore, if the Resident now lent his full support to Taylor's plea, adding that Gresley's former objections were overcome.
with the late Raja's death. Moreover, Taylor had strengthened his case by quoting concrete examples of Pid Naik's extravagance and mismanagement by forwarding past and present treasury accounts.

The Government of India agreed and 'most reluctantly' as they put it, transferred the administration authority in Surapur to the British Officer, but they directed that Pid Naik be put forward as the head of the State as far as possible during the minority of the Raja and undertook as a solemn pledge to hand back a prosperous, well-ordered State when the minor became a major. The British Officer was to act in concert not only with Pid Naik but conform to wishes of the most influential persons of Surapur. Taylor's services so far were warmly appreciated, but curiously enough the order did not specifically mention him as the British Officer in charge. The wording in the Government of India's letter 'authorising the Resident to adopt such measures as were necessary for fulfilling the above objects' appears to leave the appointment to the Resident's discretion. Taylor was on the spot, had been so far successful and was the obvious choice. But he became British Political Agent to Surapur during the Raja's minority by implication rather than by a direct order of the Government of India.

Conflict With Pid Naik

Although Taylor thus became associated with Surapur administration for the entire minority of the young Raja, his position was not as tenable as it ought to have been. The Government of India's letter did not either define his precise position nor demarcate his functions. It could be assumed that he was to have a prominent part in the government but
it was not so clearly stated. Particularly his position

\textit{vis-a-vis} Pid Naik remained vague and undefined. Friction is inevitable among two administrators even if they are working towards the same objects and even if their respective positions and functions are clear and well-defined, when such officials differ temperamentally. It now became all the more so when British notions of administration were sought to be grafted upon a Bedar raj which had carried on in its own way for almost two centuries. Added to it were the personal factors. Pid Naik had frankly admitted his inability and could never be expected to match Taylor's zeal. Taylor, therefore, expected him to remain a figurehead allowing him virtual control over administration. But the Divan's private advisers, possibly to gain their own ends, were making him believe that he was now supreme and responsible to none. He now no longer cared to heed Taylor's advice as at the beginning of his association.

Taylor, therefore, took advantage of his visit to Hyderabad to lay his complaints before the Resident, and got from him a letter issued to the Divan in which Taylor's superior position in practical administration was made clear. The Divan was directed to act in conformity with Taylor's advice, instructions and judgement. He was to obtain Taylor's consent for all expenditure. He was to practise rigid economy and in particular was not to increase establishments or armed levies, without Taylor's concurrence. He was to present all accounts and musters whenever called for by Taylor. There was to be only one \textit{daftar} for the entire revenue. Pid of course, had always been agreeable to leave revenue settlement to Taylor who was to sign the \textit{kowla} to be sealed by the Divan.
The ryats had not enough confidence in the Divan to accept his kowla and Pid had neither the ability nor the inclination to undertake the troublesome task of jatbandi. What Taylor had found was waste and extravagance in disbursements by Pid Naik. Best villages had been set apart for jangdariyana or private treasury which was the main source of wasteful expenditure. Disbursements had to be brought under unified control so that they could be equitable on all establishments. Pid Naik was treating the treasury as his own and spending as he pleased. Taylor was seeking to control expenses so that if a balance was not left in the treasury at least it would equalise the receipts. The Government of India regretted that occasion had arisen to issue such instructions but "would be glad to hear that these had been attended to".

Soon after Taylor’s return from Hyderabad to Surapur there was a quarrel between his chunrasi and a Bedar in the bazar leading to loss of a limb by the former. Pid Naik was out shooting. When he came back Taylor told him that the offending Bedar must be confined and answerable for murder if the chunrasi died. The other Bedars who sheltered the offender, however, surrendered him and he was put in irons. Taylor asked the troops which had come to relieve his escort to stay on for a while for protecting his person. At the moment he was only apprehensive of Bedar disturbances and Pid Naik promised to take agreements from Bedar chiefs for future peaceful conduct. At a much later date Taylor reported that it was an attempt on his life engineered by one Krishnayya Namad with Pid’s connivance which had, luckily for him, misfired.
Any way the Resident's instructions were of little avail. For, Taylor's administrative report for 1843 A.D. which he submitted on his own to the Resident is one long recital of complaints against Pid Naik. The Divan's advisers continued to mislead him with the notion that so long as he set apart some revenue to meet Government demands he could do as he pleased with the rest. Ready money contracts wholly and land revenue partly had been anticipated against his advice. At the same time dues of the jamehendi, the stipendiaries and Rani Ishwaramma had remained unpaid. The treasury contained only a few hundred rupees. To give a fair trial to the Divan Taylor was not insisting upon his consent to every item of expenditure. This was exploited and money was freely spent during his absence on jamehendi tours. Peculation and corruption were rife among servants of the State and the Divan gave no co-operation in checking them. He did not hold cutcherry to redress public grievances. Neither he nor aadadars would assist Taylor in ascertaining government's claims. They took whatever the corrupt pahs gave and relied on plunder for more. For expenditure they desired a blanket sanction from Taylor. Insistence upon itemised estimate produced a list swollen with obsolete claims. It only created discontent among the concerned as great partiality was shown and no principle was adopted. Customs and excise contracts had been farmed out at a low rate by accepting bribes. The Divan agreed to measures of improving the revenues or the administration with irritating delay and indifference. Evil influence of conservative brahmpan durbaria and mutsadds was all-pervasive. Pid was made jealous of head maguddar Bhaskar Rao who was honest and competent.
When Pid prepared an estimate of expenses for 1844 A.D., it came to Rs. 2,18,887 including the remittances to the Nisam and Gosain bankers. The head daftar's estimate, on the other hand, was more fair, amounting to Rs. 1,53,832. Taylor proposed to cut down yearly expenses on establishment to Rs. 1 lakh by curtailing stipends by half and servants' allowances by one fourth. He solicited instructions whether he could retrench 50 Arabs employed by Pid to guard his house when Taylor was away at Hyderabad. The Resident agreed but not if they were absorbed in the population by intermarriage and were willing to submit to Government's authority and not exclusively to that of their imadars. The Resident's answer to Taylor's grievances against the Divan, which Taylor said were 'not complaints but facts and revelation of character', was that he might be given a further trial before the Resident wrote to him. The Resident, of course, could see little proof of Pid's ability or energy. Some daftar's, however, guardedly pledged support to Taylor in checking the confusion created by Pid and his clique.

But the year 1844 was even worse for Taylor - Pid relations. Taylor's complaints against the Divan became more clamorous. The Divan was now completely under the thumb of low favourites who only indulged in intrigues and whom he refused to dismiss. He spent most of his time in the zenana or drinking bouts. At least on yusadi day he was expected to hold a durbar to bring forth the young Raja but did not care to do so. Taylor's verbal exhortations were as fruitless as his memo urging regular outcherry, check on unauthorised private expenditure from public treasury, prevention of frequent changes in personnel or interference by favourites.
He thought that a stern letter from the Resident or Hyderabad Government might work. The Resident asked him to suggest another Divan, and wanted to know possible reactions in Surapur to vesting Taylor with full authority. Taylor found no suitable substitute. In a middle course between Pid's retention and removal be proposed a set of articles binding on Pid which aimed at divesting him of all authority. Only then would Taylor be able to implement his schemes of improving state administration. The Resident observed that no set of articles, however judiciously drawn up, could permanently bind the contracting party without natural disposition to abide by them. In view of Pid's incapacity, obstinacy, total inattention to government, and the obstacles he threw in Taylor's way for smooth administration, the Resident submitted the question of exclusive British management of Surapur to the Government of India. The latter asked the Resident whether the Nizam would agree to it. The Resident repeated that Taylor could take over full responsibility, but the Government of India kept silent over the proposal. Meanwhile Taylor reported on the finances for Fasli 1253 in which estimated revenues were Rs. 2½ lakhs of which Pid had already recklessly spent away more than 1½ lakhs without providing for many claims upon the State. "It is to be deeply regretted that the result of Raja Pid Naik's management after all the assistance which has been rendered him should have proved so miserably defective", he lamented, "and I can see no hope for the future but in Government assuming a very firm and decided tone towards him if indeed it should be considered at all possible to continue him in his present situation". Since the Supreme Government had not decided
upon it, the Resident could only advise repetition of his earlier instructions to the Divan. But the Divan remained as evasive as ever.

Throughout 1844 Taylor had been hinting to the Resident about intrigues at Hyderabad by Pid Naik's agents against him with a view to securing exclusive authority for the Divan. He now reported that during Dasara festival of that year an attempt on the young Raja's life and other violent disturbances were in the offing. He warned Pid Naik in advance and the festival passed smoothly due to timely precautions and proximity of British troops. He had already submitted a long report on the misdeeds, mischief and intrigues of Lakshmangir Gosain from beginning to date who was currently active at Hyderabad. Taylor became aware of the ambitious and wicked nature of the banker now that his own authority appeared to be in danger of subversion. He submitted another report on the intrigues of Krishnayya Namad whom he had confined. The Resident, however, ordered Namad's release for want of positive proof. He advised Taylor not to undertake minute enquiries into mean intrigue as it led nowhere and diverted attention from measures for improving the administration. Similarly, though he attended to Taylor's requisition for troops during the Dasara festival, he directed their quick withdrawal to headquarters. He moralised, "... it is less by force and intimidation that we should endeavour to regulate affairs than by calm, friendly and conciliatory system of management".

While submitting made up accounts for Fasli 1253, (he had received none from Pid for the preceding year despite repeated requests) Taylor pointed out that the actual amount
spent by Pld was Rs.1,27,328, less than what he had estimated earlier as spent, but he also believed that he would be required to spend additionally about half a lakh on clearing arrears of establishment. Vouchers for the expenses were unsatisfactory, and Taylor sought to know whether Pld should be made to reimburse. On his personal account the Diwan had spent only Rs.5,396. He had now been sending all orders on the treasury for Taylor's sanction. His intrigues and daftardars' obstructions had stopped. He himself was requesting Taylor to regulate expenses which Taylor estimated for the following year to be around Rs.1,10,000. Assuming the receipts to be the same as last year viz. Rs.2,23,800 it was hoped to save about Rs.1,15,000. With better season the revenues could be more. With this fair prospect, indications that the Diwan would be abiding by Taylor's advice and looked like economizing in future, the Resident ordered that Pid need not reimburse monies already spent.

In his general report for 1844 A.D. however, Taylor once again repeated his complaints against the Diwan, adding that he was now given to heavy drinking lying in alcoholic oblivion for days together. Taylor was now on the best of terms with him privately. But in two years of close acquaintance with him the Diwan had failed to rise in his esteem or that of the people by any single act or measure. Politically he was useless, but Taylor continued to hope and employ entreaty and persuasion. The Resident could only sympathise with Taylor as the Diwan's removal was not possible without the Government of India's and the Nizam's consent, neither of which was forthcoming.
While Taylor was busy with his philippics against Pid Naik his own position came under a cloud in the first half of 1845. On 18 April 1845 the Government of India unanimously resolved to replace Taylor by another able, intelligent and experienced officer unconnected with Surapur in any way to superintend its administration in all branches during the minority of the young Raja. The reasoning behind the Government's resolution was a complete mystery to the Resident as well as to Taylor. Actually it was linked up with the payment of Rs. 5 lakhs by Surapur to the Nizam as arrears due to Hyderabad State.

As we have seen before, the Hyderabad Government had accepted Gresley's arrangement on condition of payment of these arrears. As it was, Surapur was in no position to pay such a huge amount. Raja Krishtappa's sudden death made it impossible for Capt. Gresley to make any arrangement regarding it. The Rani as regent had sought exemption on compassionate grounds. Pid Naik had agreed to pay in instalments mainly with a view to securing the divani and not because he was in a position to do so, but his authority itself had yet to be established. Gresley doubted the accuracy of the claim but more concerned with the immediate problem of settling Pid Naik in office, he merely demanded the amount from the Rani as directed by the Resident. It was left to Taylor to question the claim, point out the gross injustice perpetrated upon Surapur by Hyderabad with British aid, and to plead eloquently for settling the claim at 2 lakhs. Once again the Resident took the view that this would mean setting aside Gresley's arrangement which had been
accepted by all concerned. On his insistence Taylor had
remitted Rs. 1 lakh extorted from the Rani. But the Court
of Directors, appalled at continual extortions by the
Hyderabad Government throughout on account of which Surapur
itself had to use violence on its subjects to meet the Nizam's
demands, repeatedly ordered that the Nizam should relinquish
the claim to any arrears. They were surprised that the
Resident should have supported the demand.

The Resident's stand was strictly legalistic and
formal. It was open to the Government of India not to have
approved Gresley's arrangement if they were not agreeable to
the payment of arrears, sine qua non by the Nizam for
acceptance. Once having accepted it the British Government
could not arbitrarily cancel it without the Nizam's consent
which was wanting. The claim had its basis in the huge
amount of nasrana imposed by Hyderabad earlier. While
demanding nasrana might be unjust in British eyes it was
customary in Hyderabad. No appointments, high or low, were
ever made without it. The nasrana in respect of Surapur had
ceased with Gresley's arrangement but cession could not be
given retrospective effect. The Resident even dragged in
principles. If this principle of retrospective effect was
extended to other Indian States it would lead to a mass of
inextricable difficulties, he said. Instead of treating
the demand as cancelled by an ex parte decision of the British
Government the Nizam's consent to it could be invited. But
if he refused it could not be justly forced upon him. He
could be asked to treat Gresley's arrangement as cancelled
but in that case there would be increasing friction between
Hyderabad and Surapur. The latter might revolt and the
former would seek armed aid from the British. The British were treaty-bound to support the Nizam. Refusing such aid would encourage disturbances not only in Surapur but in the entire Hyderabad domains. Granting it without investigation would mean further injustice upon Surapur, which the Court wished to avoid. The investigation had been made by Gresley and accepted by all. Now the Nizam's claim to arrears could not be set aside justly. It would suffice here to say that the Resident's arguments had, perhaps, law on his side, but not justice.

With the totally contrary views of the Resident and the Court of Directors the Government of India were compelled to take the subject of British relations with Surapur into consideration for the first time in its entirety right from the beginning to date. Governor-General Hardinge himself had to spare time out of his many preoccupations. It was not physically possible for him to go through all the papers so he relied upon the Under Secretary's memo which extracted important portions from past correspondence and recent letters. A study of these papers convinced him, as much as the Court of Directors, of the injustice inflicted upon Surapur by the Nizam through British agency. But he came to the conclusion that if the Government of India had acquiesced in these unjust proceedings it was mainly due to the misleading reports of the British agents concerned and their bungling the whole affair. Particularly Taylor himself had confessed that Gresley as well as he were imposed upon (by Lakshmangir Gosain). He, therefore, came to the resolution already referred to. As for the payment of arrears he endorsed the Court's views. Though he was against altering Gresley's arrangement he opined that the Nizam
ought not to be paid any arrears. The fears of consequences that would flow from such a decision were exaggerated by the Resident. The decision could be safely effected. F. Millet, another member of the Board, devoted his attention in depth, made his own calculations and suggested that the Nizam need be paid only Rs. 80,000 as arrears. While the Governor General was agreeable to this proposal he felt that the Court's observations being decisive another reference to them was necessary. George Pollock, the third member of the Governor General's Council, studied only the Under Secretary's memo, and the minutes of the others. He agreed with the Governor General. If the Court of Directors needed further investigation for final decision besides all these papers which were being sent to them, the officer replacing Taylor could be entrusted with the enquiry.

The Court of Directors stuck to their view, were happy that the Governor General defended it and refuted those of the Resident. The Resident's fears were indeed exaggerated. The protected state of Hyderabad had to meekly abide by the decision of its mighty suzerain while maintaining the appearance of the 'faithful ally'. As a concession it was allowed to retain Rs. 1,66,000 already received relinquishing the rest.

As for Taylor, his position was saved on account of the mention of his meritorious services in the Court's despatch which arrived soon after the Government of India's resolution regarding removal. The resolution was, therefore, first suspended and then lapsed and Taylor was allowed to continue. Later on the Court of Directors clarified that they did not wish to fetter the Government of India in the
choice of their agent at Surapur. But by then Taylor was firmly in the saddle and continued to be so till the end of the Raja's minority.

The Government of India while trying to correct the injustice done to Surapur so far were ironically enough in the very course of their doing so committing another act of injustice in proposing to remove Taylor. It did not occur to them that the original sin was committed in the Treaty of 1800 itself by which the British Government agreed to help a far bigger State against a much smaller State without any provocation on its part towards the British and ignoring its double tributary status. British officers subsequently helped to implement the provision in the Treaty with greater or lesser degree of competence. Resident Martin aggravated the sin by agreeing without enquiry to an impossibly large masana. It was not for the following officers to question it. When Gresley was asked to investigate he did point out in his report continual extortions by the Nizam with British aid. He did not hesitate to question the Nizam's claim to any arrears which was accepted by the Resident so that Gresley's settlement, approved by the Supreme Government, could be implemented. Gresley was later deceived in his notion of the Rani's character and competence. But he was not aware of the deceit. Taylor, too, became aware of it only after 2 years, but he honestly confessed it. And the strange reward for his honesty was his proposed removal! Though the Governor General admitted that Taylor could write a good letter he found his reports conflicting and contradictory and his conduct in other matters far from satisfactory. Hardinge could not have read Taylor carefully before expressing such
an opinion. Had he done so he would have found Taylor consistent in his tirades against the Divan and in his concern for the finances of the samasthan; he had already commenced many measures for improving them. Nor did the Governor General care to cite any instance of Taylor's 'unsatisfactory conduct'.

Taylor in Full Charge

...Happily for Taylor, and for Resident Fraser as well who had every confidence in his agent and supported him throughout despite his differences on the question of arrears, the storm blew over. At the very time when the clouds had gathered Taylor had the opportunity to exercise full powers on account of Pid Haik's illness which later proved to be fatal. Taylor began to look after current business and when the Divan's illness grew so severe that he lost his mind Taylor began to use his seal. He secured the consent to do so in one of the Divan's rare, clear moments but restricted its use for routine transactions till the Government of India ordered the Divan's removal altogether. Even while Pid was lying dangerously ill he complained against the Divan's wasteful expenditure and sought orders whether he should be made to refund some monies spent! It sheds curious light on Taylor's ambition for power disguised in the bureaucratic garb of sense of duty. However, decorum did deter him from promulgating orders of Pid's removal during his last days. He did so after the Divan's death on 8th August 1845. Since Taylor was already acting as virtual Divan the change-over involved only a few formalities in connection with the daftar, the treasury and the cutcherry. He was extremely grateful to the Resident for entrusting him with the full
Diwan Pid Naik had left little by way of personal property. It shows that howsoever wasteful the Diwan's treasury management might have been he had not amassed a private fortune at public expense. His tax-free jagirs and other affairs were managed after his death by Taylor with the Resident's approval. By upbringing the Diwan had not been trained for administration nor had he any latent talent for it. He became Diwan by fortuitous circumstances but never coveted the gadi for himself or his sons though the Rani had been apprehensive about it. In fact he was as eager as other members of the family to place the young Raja formally upon the gadi. He occasionally displayed a little ability but on the whole remained under the influence of liquor, opium and self-seeking advisers who indulged in intrigue. Taylor has a few kindly words for him in his autobiography and private letters but none in official reports and despatches.

Taylor's Later Relations with Rani Ishwaramma

Although Taylor's authority became firmly established with Pid's death till the end of the young Raja's minority he was never free from the fear that Rani Ishwaramma might succeed in subverting it some day. As we have seen before, after the restoration of her jagirs in the early half of 1843 Rani Ishwaramma was completely reconciled to the loss of her position as regent and consequent loss of power and authority. Her main anxiety in opposing Pid Naik's Divani

* See also Appendix II.
was that he being her enemy might confiscate her jagirs and that he might attempt to upset the succession of her son to the gadi putting forth his own son. The restoration of her jagirs appears to have so pleased her that she expressed her gratitude to Taylor by sending him baskets of delicious mangoes. She must have been very happy with the formal accession ceremony of her son which took place shortly afterwards. Relations between her and Taylor must have improved considerably after Taylor's realisation that he was deceived as to her character and competence by Lakshmangir Gosain's intrigues. He had already realized that the Rani had not amassed any private fortune during her short-lived management, but had on the contrary sold some of her jewels and pledged others, to meet the Nizam's dues. During his jamabandi tour in 1844 Taylor came to know how excellent her falsely alleged paramour Chanbasappa's revenue management had been of those parts which were under his charge. When the Rani, therefore, applied for public funds to redeem her jewels pledged to meet Hyderabad's demands in 1251 Faali Taylor wholeheartedly supported her. There were no funds in the treasury for the purpose so the Resident initially asked him to wait but later on advanced money from the Residency treasury to be refunded by Surapur when its financial position improved. During his continual conflict with Pid Haik Taylor even told the Resident that there was no one in Surapur whom he could trust except perhaps the Rani who was better than Pid. She might have troubled the Divan and Taylor in some local matters too trifling to be reported but on the whole their relations appear to have been quite smooth otherwise.
After the death of Pid Naik, however, Taylor began to suspect that she was carrying on intrigues to regain power. Though he did not pay much attention to them he was quite disgusted with reports of her immoral conduct, Victorian moralist that he was. The possibility of her banishment to put a stop to both her moral and political indiscretions occurred to him then but he did not take up the matter officially with the Resident. In fact throughout 1846 Taylor made no reference to the Resident on the subject nor did he discuss it with the Rani. It was in his general report for 1846 submitted on 12th February 1847 that Taylor first broached the topic. Therein he admitted that the Rani professed interest in and affection for her son and pressed his attention to studies more in the past 6 months than previously. What he was worried about was the Rani's reported liaison with one Kasima, who was trying to gain ascendancy among the Sarnaubat Bedars of which he was a member, and its pernicious influence on the morals of the young Raja. The Rani was reportedly lavishing *jasirs* and presents on the Sarnaubat besides Kasima, so that they were becoming her firm adherents. She had been managing her dead sister's *jasirs* as well and promised but did not show its accounts to Taylor. Taylor toyed with the idea of taking the management of these *jasirs* in his own hands and proposed that her jewels which had yet to be redeemed be kept in the state treasury after redemption as strictly speaking it was not her private jewelry. He also suggested that her allowance could be partly resumed for this purpose. The Resident advised him to proceed cautiously regarding resumption of *jasirs* or allowances. In another 4 months Taylor was
convinced that the Rani ought to be temporarily banished to Ratnagiri, her father's place. He found the factious spirit among the various Bedar clans growing and he did not find it easy to control them. He believed Kasimah and the Rani to be responsible for what he regarded as his weakening hold over the Bedars. He admitted, however, "The Raneeh has committed no overt act. She does not now interfere or attempt to interfere with the administration of affairs and therefore it [her banishment] could be only on the ground of her vicious and disreputable connection with Kasima (in my opinion ample as being disgraceful to herself a reproach to the Sumasthan, and most injurious to her son), that she should be removed, and her muchalka formerly given, which I believe [is] in the possession of the Nizam's Govt. binds her to submit to any punishment directed in case of misbehaviour". He drafted a fresh muchalka to be executed by the Rani agreeing to surrender of Kasima, resumption of jasire granted by her to him and other favourites, surrender of redeemed state jewels, and substitution of cash allowance in lieu of her own jasire.

The Resident suggested that resumption of the latter be temporary, their restoration subject to her future discreet conduct. The Government of India approved her removal but with due courtesy, and directed that she should be given an adequate cash allowance the continuance of which should be dependent on her future conduct.

Taylor personally went to Hyderabad in the beginning of October 1847 to plead for a strong British detachment to effect the Rani's removal as it was likely to be opposed by the Bedars, particularly the Sarnaubats. The Resident
was agreeable to provide only an armed escort to conduct the Rani to Ratnagiri but insisted that it had been effected quietly without exciting any provocation. How to accomplish it was left to Taylor’s discretion. Taylor’s return to Surapur was delayed by his illness. Meanwhile an attack on the government dak-runner, the culprits of which escaped, was attributed by Taylor to the Rani-Kasima party. Taylor’s unavoidable continued stay at Hyderabad gave rise to all kinds of rumours in the principality. When Taylor showed to the Resident the young Raja’s message in which danger to his own life, that of Taylor and some others, was conveyed the Resident agreed to employment of force and decided to supervise the Rani’s banishment personally by going to Surapur. Taylor, however, went in advance, surrounded the palace by trustworthy Bagurati Bedars and the Wandurg sibandi and cut it off from any possible attack by the large number of armed Bedars who had started gathering in the town. Taylor ordered their dispersal, which, however, took another day and 25 Bedar leaders surrendered themselves. These were later on sent to Lingesur for trial by a Commission of Enquiry. When the Resident arrived in Surapur he found the Rani not only reconciled to her banishment but already on her way to Ratnagiri. He attributed this ‘favourable end to a very threatening affair entirely to Taylor’s judgement and excellent management supported as he was by the rapid advance and near approach of British troops’ which Taylor had been authorised to requisition.

The Rani preferred to go to Bangalore rather than Ratnagiri where she was apprehensive of her father’s reproach. At Bangalore she was unable to live within the
small cash allowance of Rs.500 p.m. and contracted a huge debt. Meanwhile the Commission of Enquiry after examining 56 witnesses, hundreds of depositions and documents in a trial lasting from 13 September 1848 to 3 May 1849 absolved the Rani and all the prisoners of any guilt. Many of the documents proved to be forgeries, and a number of confessions were extorted with violence by a daftardar to whom Taylor had entrusted the preparation of preliminary documents for the trial. Taylor admitted that he was entirely deceived by the daftardar, but continued to differ from the Commission of Enquiry which held that the assembling of Bedars at Surapur on 4th and 5th February 1848 did not amount to an insurrection. The Resident inquired from Taylor whether he wanted a fresh trial of the prisoners on this charge, but he did not pursue it saying that execution of agreements by them for future good conduct would suffice.

Despite the Resident's defence that Taylor had only been misled and deceived and his testimonial that 'no man can be more eminently distinguished than he is for honourable principles and the strictest probity' the Government of India severely censured Taylor, when the voluminous proceedings of the Commission of Enquiry reached them. They ordered that the Rani be restored at Surapur with all due respect and that those who had forged the documents and brought undue pressure upon the prisoners and others to give false testimonies be tried again. The forgers were accordingly tried and punished.

After the Rani's return to Surapur a great deal of correspondence ensued on the subject of her jastir and the liquidation of debts which she had contracted so far. Taylor and Resident Fraser decided amongst themselves that
she should be paid a cash allowance of Rs. 1000 p.m. in lieu of jadive, only those debts which could be
legitimately charged to the Surapur exchequer be liquidated and that her request to stay outside Surapur territory
or to go on a pilgrimage to Tirupati be turned down, so that she would not get an opportunity to incur more debts and would remain under Taylor's control incapacitated for any mischief. The Government of India concurred in the Resident's views and even the Court of Directors withdrew their earlier sanction to her residence outside Surapur samsthan thus merely agreeing to the arrangements approved by the Government of India. The Rani's debts remained unsettled as neither she nor her creditors were in a position to press their claims. She died on 27 May 1853 just before the young Raja received his full powers and while Taylor still continued at Surapur.

Notes and References:

1. FPC, 18 Jan. 1843, No. 51.

2. Taylor to Fraser, 10 Dec. 1842, FPC, 1 Feb. 1843, Nos. 51-7. Details of talk with Gresley narrated in *Story* (p. 145) are not reported in the letter.

3. Ibid., T. to F., 12 Dec. 1842. *In Story* he says "Pid Naik stayed away, and I was glad he did not come" (p. 147). As Taylor did not know Kannada (*Story*, pp. 148, 219-20) it may be inferred that homily to Bedar chiefs must have been delivered through Pid Naik as interpreter.

4. Ibid., T. to F., 13 Dec. 1842. Cf. slanted version in *Story* (pp. 147-8) stressing his triumph.

5. Ibid., T. to F., 15 Dec. 1842.

7. FPC, 1 Feb. 1843, Nos. 51-7, T. to F. 16 Dec. 1842 and Ibid., No. 59. The contents of the latter fairly corroborate the Story, pp. 149-51.

8. Taylor realised this only a couple of years later and confessed to it in FPC, 23 May 1845, No. 116.

9. FPC, 1 Feb. 1843, No. 59.

10. FPC, 23 May 1845, No. 116, para. 15.

11. FPC, 1 Feb. 1843, No. 59. Chanbasappa's secret resistance to Taylor while in his custody reported in Story (p. 152) is not corroborated by any official letter.

12. Ibid., Nos. 59 and 63. 13. Ibid., No. 59.

14. Enclosure to above. 15. FPC, 23 May 1845, No. 116, para. 15.

16. FPC, 1 Feb. 1843, No. 60.

17. Ibid., No. 63. The ferries were being guarded earlier not by Oresley (Story, p. 144) but by Fraser's explicit instructions (FPC, 30 Nov. 1842, No. 221).

18. FPC, 1 Feb. 1843, Nos. 51-7, T. Edwards to Fraser, 9 Jan. 1843. Taylor quotes in the Story (p. 152) only that part of the letter which concerns him.

19. FPC, 22 Feb. 1843, Nos. 116-20. The forces mustered to 1300 bayonets in all. FPC, 19 Apr. 1843, No. 87.


24. Ibid., No. 123.

25. Ibid. A cavalry detachment was provided by Hyderabad Govt. and the Resident directed his removal there (FPC, 1 Feb. 1843, No. 67). Cf. Story (p. 153) "I therefore determined to send Chan Basappa at once to Lingsugar ... One of my chanfrassia or messengers knew the road perfectly".

26. Ibid., No. 125.

27. FPC, 1 Mar. 1843, No. 74.

28. Ibid., No. 69.

29. FPC, 15 Mar. 1843, No. 68.

30. FPC, 12 Apr. 1843, No. 67.

31. FPC, 14 June 1843, No. 426.

32. Ibid., Nos. 425-6.

33. Ibid. The documents contain only the Resident's query to Taylor whether Chanbasappa was to be released, but unfortunately Taylor's reply is missing. The Story (p. 179) says he was set free. But Taylor's remark therein that he was guilty of extravagance, if nothing else, is contradicted by Taylor's own letter dt. 24 Apr. 1843 to the Resid (FPC, 14 June 1843, No. 426).
However, the Story has good words for Chanbasappa’s later conduct for which documents are missing.

34. FPC, 23 May 1843, No. 116.
35. Letter to Fraser, 9 Jan. 1843, FPC, 1 Feb. 1843, Nos. 51-7.
36. PLFC, 6 Nov. 1844.
37. FPC, 8 Mar. 1843, No. 110.
38. FPC, 22 Feb. 1843, No. 124.
39. FPC, 12 Apr. 1843, No. 70.
40. FPC, 14 June 1843, No. 426.
41. FPC, 8 Mar. 1843, No. 114.
42. FPC, 14 June 1843, No. 424.
43. PLFC, 6 Nov. 1844.
44. FPC, 1 Feb. 1843, Nos. 51-7, T. to F., 15 Dec. 1842.
45. FPC, 22 Feb. 1843, Nos. 124-5.
46. FPC, 1 Mar. 1843, No. 76.
47. Iden., No. 71.
48. Iden., No. 76.
49. Iden., No. 75.
50. FPC, 8 Mar. 1843, No. 111.
51. FPC, 15 Mar. 1843, No. 68.
52. Iden., No. 67.
53. FPC, 14 June 1843, No. 426.
54. FPC, 19 Apr. 1843, No. 89.
55. Iden., No. 68.
56. FPC, 8 Mar. 1843, No. 110.
57. FPC, 19 Apr. 1843, No. 90.
58. FPC, 12 Apr. 1843, No. 65.
59. Iden., No. 66.
60. Iden., Nos. 68 and 69 and FPC, 3 May 1843, Nos. 32, 34 and 36. The Resident’s sanction on these points is wanting in the documents but may be presumed by his silence.
61. FPC, 14 June 1843, No. 427.
63. PLFC, 6 Nov. 1844.
64. FPC, 3 May 1843, Nos. 32, 34 and 36.
65. FPC, 8 Mar. 1843, No. 109.
66. FPC, 3 May 1843, Nos. 32, 34-6.
67. FPC, 1 Feb. 1843, No. 63; FPC, 15 Mar. 1843, No. 69; FPC, 12 Apr. 1843, No. 67.
68. FPC, 19 Apr. 1843, No. 90. Though this had taken place earlier Taylor mistakenly places it after his visit to Hyderabad (Story, pp. 166-7) which is fitting only artistically speaking. His footnote that ‘Raja’ meant ‘Regent’ is also not accurate.
69. FPC, 1 Feb. 1843, Nos. 51-7, T. to F., 12 Dec. 1842.
70. FPC, 12 Apr. 1843, No. 67. 71. FPC, 24 May 1843, No. 60, Appendix A.
72. FPC, 24 May 1843, No. 60.
73. FPC, 3 May 1843, No. 31, para 4.
74. FPC, 24 May 1843, No. 59. 75. Idem, No. 61.
77. The Court of Directors were certainly more clear. They regarded Pid as the ostensible head and directed that the British officer must participate in managing every department. But as this directive was sent only towards the end of 1844 it could not serve any immediate purpose. FPC, 6 Nov. 1844.
78. He was summoned as a witness in a trial. Story, p. 163. It did not turn out to be a court-martial as mentioned in the Story but a commission of enquiry. The accused was Capt. W.B. Jackson, former Commanding Officer at Matkhal and the charge was embezzlement while at Surapur. Though he was acquitted (Letters to Heavey, pp. 90-1, 93, 104, 105, 111) it throws lurid light on British relations with Surapur during Raja Krishtappa's regime.
79. FPC, 26 Aug. 1843, Nos. 62-5.
81. FPC, 23 May 1845, No. 139. This has been described vividly and in greater detail in Story, pp. 167-71, an amazing instance of Taylor's memory.
82. FPC, 9 Mar. 1844, Nos. 89-95, T. to F., 18 Jan. 1845.
83. Idem, F. to T., 1 Feb. 1845.
84. Idem, T. to F., 9 Mar. 1845, postscript.
85. FPC, 23 May 1845, Nos. 108-13, 117, 125.
87. Idem, Nos. 127-135. Taylor forgets in the Story (p. 189) that he himself had requisitioned additional troops from the Resident.
96. "... my two last letters will have been full of all sorts of speculations on the probable cause of my projected removal, and I know you will have felt with me that it was anything but pleasant to be hustled out of one's apt., in a mysterious and unsatisfactory manner, without any sort of reason being given by Govt. ..." Letter No.41 to Reeve. Rumours were thick and Taylor had heard them. His own speculations, anxieties, fears and hopes are vividly reflected in this and other letters to his cousin (Nos. 39-43, 45-6) and Story pp.204-6. His unofficial efforts to retain the post have been frankly described. The Nizam's letter in favour of him mentioned therein, however, is not to be found among the records of either Hyderabad Residency or Foreign Dept.

97. PLFC, 15 Nov.1843, 27 Mar and 6 Nov.1844.

98. FPC, 23 May 1845, Nos.108,122.


105. FPC, 12 Sep.1845, No.81.

106. Taylor requested this too to be refunded. FPC, 22 Aug. 1846, No.97. His fear that the Nizam might revive the demand after British withdrawal was set at rest. Vide FPC,14 Apr.1849, No.96.

107. PLFC, 19 Mar.1845. It was received overland on 21 May 1845 and is substantially the same as given in Story, pp.210-1, with minor mistakes and wrong numbering of paragraphs. Para 66 has been only partly extracted on p.211, para 68 therein ought to have been para 69 while para 68 approving grant of tagavi advances to ryats has been deleted. John Stuart Mill, well-known philosopher and Pol.Secy at India House takes some credit for laudatory expressions therein and for Taylor's continuance. Story, pp.xxxviii-ix. Henry Bruce hints at secret forces at work against Taylor. His suggestion that Taylor's post was coveted by covenanted servants (Idem) was discounted by Taylor's own letters to Reeve (Nos.39, and 42).

108. PLFC, 2 Jan.1846, para 9.

109. Cf. "... for I believe it not only the best but most necessary policy rather to acknowledge an error freely than to leave it to Govt. to find it out and rap one's knuckles for it". Letter to Reeve, No.45.

110. FPC, 23 May 1845, No.147.

111. FPC, 18 July 1845, Nos. 172-6, and 25 July Nos. 41-3.

112. FPC, 29 Aug.1845, Nos. 82-3, and 5 Sep. 1845, No. 92. The smooth change-over is also confirmed by letter to Reeve, No.41. But Cf. Story, p.213, "There was at first some difficulty with the heads of departments". These difficulties must have been trifling as none were reported officially.
FPC, 29 Aug. 1845, No. 86, and 29 Nov. 1845, Nos. 253-4.

114. FPC, 24 May 1843, No. 61. Cf. Story, p. 157, "he was very cool about the ceremony of placing the young Raja on his gadli. He made many excuses".


116. On 12 June 1843, FPC, 5 July 1843, No. 23. The ceremony has been graphically described in Story, pp. 158-9. The shawls mentioned therein had to be deposited in Residency toshakhanas as the Company strictly forbade its servants from accepting presents by native chiefs. FPC, 5 July 1843, Nos. 24-5.

117. FPC, 29 Nov. 1845, No. 249. Also confirmed by Story, pp. 179-90.

118. FPC, 22 Aug. 1846, No. 97.


120. Letter to Reeve, No. 30. 121. Idem, No. 45.


124. Originally the cavalry wing of Bedar army, JHSK.


131. FPC, 7 Apr. 1848, Nos. 254-6. The prince's letter was addressed not to him as mentioned in the Story (p. 244) but to Ramrao, his tutor in English.

132. FPC, 7 Apr. 1848, Nos. 259, 263, 267. There is no reference in these to Rani-Karima quarrel described in Story, (p. 246).


135. FPC, 3 Nov. 1849, Nos. 98-100.

136. FPC, 25 Aug. 1849, Nos. 56-75. Taylor has not only not bothered to give their version but even what little has been mentioned is contrary to official proceedings. Cf. Story, p. 253.


140. FPC, 8 Dec. 1849, No. 118.

141. FPC, 3 Nov. 1849, Nos. 97-101; FPC, 1 Nov. 1850, Nos. 161-4; FPC, 30 May 1851, No. 140; FPC, 20 Feb. 1852, Nos. 185-7; FPC, 18 Dec. 1850 (paras 50-1), 5 Nov. 1851 (paras 45-6) 24 Nov. 1852, para 38.

142. Story, p. 275, but not on the way to 'a pilgrimage to one of the great temples in the south of India' as mentioned therein which is contradicted by the foregoing.