

succession to Turgháy. But anarchy and disorder soon spread all over the country, and brought about the invasion of Toghlúc above noticed. Tymúr, after his escape from Samarcand, wandered a toilsome and adventurous month in the desert, where he was captured by the slave-hunting Turkmán. He, however, effected his escape with Olja, and returning secretly to Kish, raised a band of adventurers, and sought a career for himself by a raid into Sístán. Here he was wounded by an arrow in the right foot and lamed for life, and thus got the name of Tymúr Lang="Tymúr the lame," the famous Tamerlane of history.

V.B.

Whilst he was laid up with this wound Amír Husen seized Balkh, and Tymúr joined him there. At this time their united forces numbered only fifteen hundred men. Ilyás Khoja sent a force against them, but it was defeated near Kundúz in 765H.=1363 A.D., and as he presently heard of the death of his father, Toghlúc, Ilyás hurried off from Samarcand to secure the throne at Almáligh. Tymúr on this drove the Jattah out of Máwaránahar, and returning from Táshkand entered Samarcand, and was well received. He held a *Curultáy* and set Kábil Sháh on the throne.

In the following spring Ilyás returned with a large army to recover Máwaránahar, and was met in opposition by the Amírs Husen and Tymúr. A battle ensued on the muddy plain of Láe="Mud" on the banks of the Bádám river between Chinás and Táshkand in *Ramazan* 766 H.=1364 A.D. In the fight Husen quarrelled with Tymúr, and quitting the field, retired to Sále Saráe. Tymúr thus deserted withdrew to Karshí and Balkh, whilst Ilyás advancing set siege to Samarcand. A plague now broke out in his camp, and he was forced to retreat as best he could, having lost many men and most of his cattle.

T.R.

Tymúr and Husen now warred for the mastery, and, finally, after years of alternate reconciliations and hostilities, Husen surrendered at Balkh, and was there executed 771 H.=1369 A.D. Tymúr now held a *Curultáy*, and in Turk fashion was raised aloft on a white felt, and proclaimed King of Máwaránahar as Amír Tymúr Gúrikán, with the title of Sháh Sáhibi Karán, on Wednesday, 12th *Ramazan* of the same year (Z.N.T.). From this he crossed to Samarcand, and fixing it as the capital of the Chaghtáy Empire now revived in his person, built its fort, and established the *Yúsáo* of Changíz as the law of the land (T.R.).

V.B.

In the winter following this the restless Jattah again invaded Máwaránahar. Tymúr drove them across the Syhon, and subjugating the Kumza and Ortagtamúr tribes on the frontier, returned to his capital. Whilst he was absent on this expedition the Sháh of Badakhshán, Shekh 'Ali, invaded Kundúz, and plundered the country; consequently Tymúr at once set out again to punish him.

T.R.

He marched by way of Tálkhán and Kishm, forced the obstinately defended passes of Gokus and Jurm, and came up with the Badakhshi Sháh in the deep and strongly barricaded glen of Artunj-darra, at the junction of two swift torrents. Tymúr drove him from this position to Canagh Aolang, where crossing the head waters of the Jyhon, the fugitive King stood to defend its passage. Sheik 'Ali was here taken prisoner, and his army dispersing for the most part escaped into the neighbouring glens. In the pursuit Tymúr got entangled in the mountains, and was surrounded and nearly captured in a deep and winding defile by a party of the Badakhshí highlanders.

Z.N.T.

His escape was merely due to the impudent temerity of his few attendants, who rushing in amongst the ignorant Tájík, slapped them in the face, and with affronted dignity demanded if they knew who it was they dared to press around so disrespectfully. On hearing the already dread name of the rising conqueror, the simple mountaineers at once tendered submission, and suing for pardon, restored the prisoners and captives they had captured. Tymúr in after years often referred to this fight as the hardest and most perilous of the many he had engaged in, and the country as the most rugged and difficult of any he had seen in all his varied experiences. Yet he did not fail to punish in an exemplary manner his soldiers who, on this occasion, allowed themselves to be captured by the enemy.