

aid; and how the Russian General, taking off his hat, with earnest gesticulations and raised voice called on his men to fight bravely, and with their lives to maintain untarnished their proud name and the honour of their country. And he described how his master, Alím Culí, at this moment led a charge which was the signal for all the rest to fall on and annihilate their prey, when a few skirmishers thrown out brought him to a stop by a chance ball through his belly. His fall was followed by a short commotion, and his retreat from the field. The news was immediately spread through the assailing host, and as immediately its disorderly crowds turned and fled, each its own way; and in less than an hour not a vestige remained of that vast multitude which, in the name of Islám, had come out to devour the "infidel Urús." And thus that brave band of Russians passed from the jaws of death to the security afforded by a complete victory, with the capture of 200 muskets taken and a loss of 300 men killed inflicted upon the retiring enemy.

The wounded Alím Culí was carried off the field by his Commandant of Artillery, one Nabbí Baksh, a native of Sialkot in the Panjáb, who, since the days of the Sikh campaign, had found a livelihood here in the courts of Bukhárá and Khokand successively. He now took his master up in his lap and galloped off the field as fast as his horse could carry the double load, leaving his guns and everything else to take care of themselves. Alím Culí died in Táshkand the same evening, and an assembly of the chiefs in consultation then decided on sending for aid to Bukhárá, and in the meantime to continue the defence under Mirzá Ahmad *Koshbegi*, and Atá Beg *Dádkhwáh* who was formerly the Governor of Piskak Fort when it was taken by the Russians in August 1860.

Rom.

To intercept the aid summoned from Bukhárá, the Russians on the 29th May marched to Zínchata on the Bukhárá road and took possession of Chináz, whilst the Bukhárá army advancing to Samarcand occupied the frontier forts on the Syr Daryá (the Syhon or Jaxartes).

On this the Russians advanced against Táshkand and invested the city on three sides during the 18th-19th June. A couple of days later the Khokand Khán, Sultán Murád, with 200 followers quitted the city by night, and at the same time Iskandar Beg with a small Bukhárá force entered it. The Russians consequently stormed the town on the night of the 26th-27th June, and after a desperate resistance captured the city and during the next two days disarmed its people, 29th June 1865.

T.S.

On the death of Alím Culí his chiefs, as above stated, held on in the fort, and by mutual consent sent the *Aksakál* of the city to Bukhárá for aid. The Amír Muzaffaruddín forthwith advanced to Samarcand, and sent off Allahyár Beg, Governor of Oratappa, and Sher Ali *Dádkhwáh* of Táshkand who was at the time with Khudáyár at Jizzák, to hold the place. On arrival at Táshkand they seized Syad Sultán Khán, the puppet of Alím Culí, and sent him off under escort to Muzaffaruddín who had by that time arrived at Jizzák. He kept Syad Sultán prisoner in his camp, and started off Khudáyár from his retreat there with an army to recover Khokand. He was welcomed at Náo by the Governor, Múlán *Dádkhwáh*, who surrendered the fort to him; and Khudáyár, securing it with a garrison of his own, went on to Khujand where the people hailed his return with joy, and installed him in the citadel; where Khudáyár at once set to fortify himself.

Meanwhile the usurpers in Khokand had set up Khudá Culí Beg, the son of Macsúd Beg who was the uncle of Sher Ali Khán, as Khán of the Kirghiz and Kapchák. Khudáyár consequently invoked the aid of Muzaffaruddín who at once marched from Jizzák to Khujand, where he was joined by Sultán Murád fleeing from Táshkand. He detained Murád as a prisoner, and sent Khudáyár with an army against the rebels. On his arrival at Besharie, Khudá Culí with his Kapchák and Kirghiz fled to Marghinán, and Khudáyár taking possession of Khokand called up the Amír of Bukhárá to hold it while he went in pursuit of the fugitives.

As he set out from the capital the rebels retired to Mádí beyond Osh, and there held fast. Khudáyár advanced against them, and defeating their outpost of a