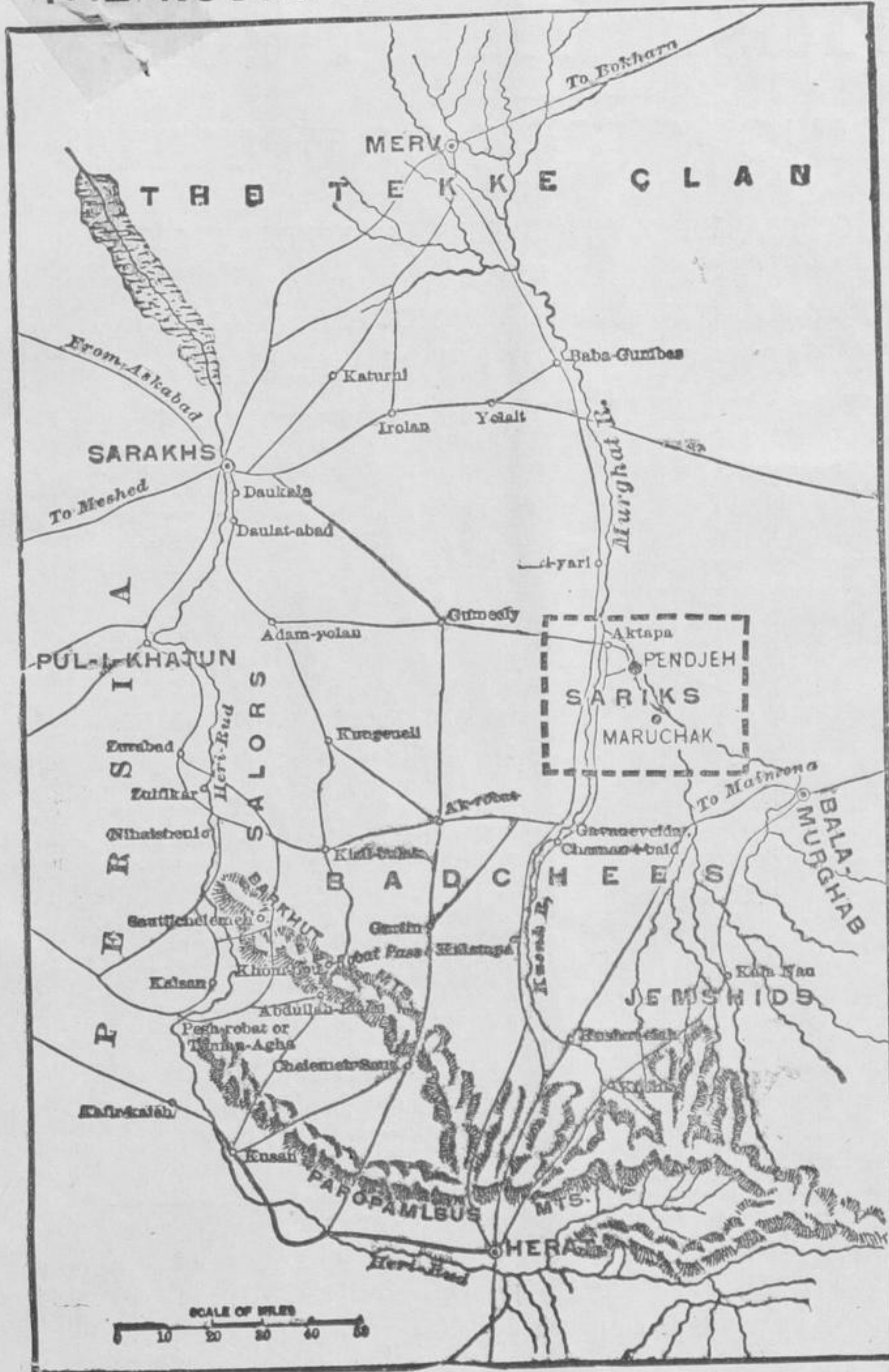


# THE RUSSO-AFGHAN DIFFICULTY.



Map of the Probable Seat of War.

A glance at the district outlined around Penjdeh will show the relative positions of Russians and Afghans before the late engagement. Komaroff's attack on Penjdeh may possibly have been provoked by the Afghan garrison. But it is in suspicious consonance with the spirit that has animated the eastern movement of the Czar's armies. When Russia began her eastward march from the Caspian Sea it was known that she would not stop until she reached the gate of India. Khiva, Bokhara, Balkh, Merv fell into her hands, and her troops went southward from Merv toward Herat. Herat was admittedly Afghan, and therefore under British protection. But just to the north of Herat, in the valley of the Rivers Murghab and Hari-Rud, there were many places which, as some said, belonged to Afghanistan, and as others said, belonged to Turkestan. If they belonged to Afghanistan, then England claimed their protectorate. If they belonged to Turkestan, then Russia claimed their possession. A commission was appointed to determine the ownership of these places, and Sir Peter Lumsden, an Anglo-Indian official, represented English interests in this body. While it was preparing to survey the ground the Afghans seized and occupied Penjdeh, one of

the disputed posts, and the Russians seized and occupied Pul-i-Khatun another of the disputed posts indicated on the map. A loud cry was raised in England concerning the actions of the Russians, and just when it reached its loudest pitch General Komaroff, the Russian commander, fought an engagement with the Afghans. Whereupon England demanded that General Komaroff should make an explanation, and that his troops should withdraw from the debatable region. The objective point of both English and Russians will be Herat, the "Key to India." The topographical features of the district surrounding this city show that the appellation "Hill Throned Herat" is not unmerited. The Robat Pass between the Barkheet mountains to the south-east of Penjdeh, is a narrow defile through which the Russian armies must reach Herat. The latest cables announce that Sir Peter Lumsden is actively engaged fortifying this point. If this be true there is little danger of a Russian coup de main, as this defile, walled in by unscalable precipices, could be held against an army by a handful of men. If the Afghans are as friendly to England as Abdurrahman, their Ameer, asserts, then Sir Peter Lumsden, the British Commissioner, will have no difficulty in occupying this strong position and preparing to stand a siege within its walls. He will then wait for reinforcements from India.

## Paying a Scoundrel.

Alexander Dumas contributes to the *Curieux* an anecdote told him by the late Henri Didier, who was a Deputy under the Second Empire. Didier's father was Secretary to the Minister of the Interior at the time when the Duchess de Berri was arrested at Nantes at the end of her attempt to raise the country against Louis Philippe and in favor of her son, the Count de Chambord. The traitor, Deutz, agreed to tell to the Government the secret of her hiding places for 500,000 francs, and it was the elder Didier's duty to pay the scoundrel for his dirty work. He took his son Henri into the office and said: "Look well now at what passes, and never forget it. You will learn what a lache is, and the method of paying him." Deutz was then brought into the room where M. Didier was standing behind the desk on which were placed two packets, each containing 250,000 francs. As Deutz neared the desk, M. Didier made a sign for him to stop; then, taking a pair of tongs, he extended the packets one after the other into the hands open to receive them. Not a word was spoken; and, when the transfer was effected, M. Didier pointed to the door.

## A Petrified Forest.

The petrified forest near Corizo, on the Little Colorado, is a sight which travellers should not miss. The visitor to the forest begins to see the signs of petrification hours before he reaches the wonder. Here and there, at almost every step in the road, small pieces of detached limbs and larger stumps of trees may be seen, almost hidden in the white sand. The road at a distance of ten miles from Corizo enters an immense basin, the slope being nearly a semicircle, and this is enclosed by the high banks of shale and white clay. The petrified stumps, limbs, and, in fact, whole trees, lie about on all sides; the action of the waters for hundreds of years has gradually washed away the high hills round about, and the trees that once covered the high tablelands now lie in the valley beneath. Immense trunks, some of which measure over five feet in diameter, are broken and scattered over a surface of 300 acres.

It's no secret that Dr. Pierce's Compound Extract of Smart-Weed is composed of best genuine French Brandy, distilled Extract of Smart-Weed and Jamaica Ginger Root, with Camphor Essence, and constitutes, therefore, the best remedy yet known for colic or cramps, cholera morbus, diarrhoea, dysentery or bloody-flux, or to break up colds, fevers and inflammatory attacks. 50 cents. By druggists.

The burglar, like his friend the philosopher, "takes everything just as it comes."

"The leprous distilment, whose effect holds such an enemy with blood of man, that, swift as quicksilver, it courses through the natural gates and alleys of the body," and causes the skin to become "barked about, most lezar-like, with vile and loathsome crust." Such are the effects of a diseased and morbid bile, the only antidote for which is to cleanse and regulate the liver—an office admirably performed by Dr. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery."

Miss-fortunes come to some men when they get married, and they don't mind it a bit.

Young men or middle-aged ones, suffering from nervous debility and kindred weaknesses should send three letter stamps for illustrated book suggesting sure means of cure. Address, World's Medical Association, Buffalo, N.Y.

Barkeepers should bear in mind, says some one, that when a man is loaded he should be fired. That is possibly true, but if the "popular barkeeper" charges him too heavily the chances are that he will "kick."

## What's the Use?

Why suffer a single moment, when you can get immediate relief from internal or external pain by the use of Polson's NERVILINE, the great pain cure? Nervi-line has never been known to fail. Try a 10 cent sample bottle. You will find it just as recommended. Neuralgia, toothache, cramps headache, and all similar complaints disappear as if by magic when Nervi-line is used. Large bottles 25 cents. Test bottles 10 cents, at druggists and country dealers.

## What he thought about it.

I am a commission merchant doing business in the West Indies. "I need some of your Patnam's Painless Corn Extractor when in Canada, and think it is the best cure for corns I have ever seen. Please send me a few dozen for friends and customers in South America and the West Indies." (Signed),

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Thousands of testimonials in addition to the testimony of druggists have been received and prove Patnam's Painless Corn Extractor to be Sure, Pop and Painless corn cure. Sold by country dealers in medicine and druggists everywhere. N. C. Polson & Co., proprietors, Kingston.

The guinea hen never lays a golden egg. The demand for the "Myrtle Navy" tobacco is still on the increase, and from every quarter the firm who make it are receiving unsolicited testimony of its growth in public favor. A gentleman from one of the mining islands of Lake Huron, writes:—"Your 'Myrtle Navy' is an invaluable solace to the loneliness of the miner's life. I don't know how our men could get along without it. If their stock ran out they would risk swimming to the mainland to replenish it, heedless of danger, and I believe they would cross the ice in winter on the same errand if it was not more than an inch thick. No other tobacco will satisfy them."

## Acoustic—A rafter. Don't give it away.

Yongue Head & Sons. The Voltaic Belt Co., of Marshall, Minn., offer to send their celebrated Electro-Voltaic Belt and other Electric Appliances on trial for thirty days, to men (young or old) afflicted with nervous debility, loss of vitality and manhood, and all kindred troubles. Also for rheumatism, neuralgia, paralysis, and many other diseases. Complete restoration to health, vigor and manhood guaranteed. No risk is incurred as thirty days trial is allowed. Write them at once for illustrated pamphlet free.

It's the man with the big head who has not room for a brick in his hat.

## Important

When you visit or leave New York City, save Baggage, Express and Carriage Hire and stop at GRAND UNION HOTEL, opposite Grand Central Depot. 450 elegant rooms, fitted up at a cost of one million dollars, reduced to 21 and upwards per day, including breakfast. Restaurant supplied with the best. Horse cars, stages and elevated railroads to all depots. Families can live better for less money at the Grand Union Hotel than at any other first-class hotel in the city.

A man lowers himself, even if he does get "high" on whisky.

## Catarra—A New Treatment.

Perhaps the most extraordinary success that has been achieved in modern science has been attained by the Dixon Treatment of Catarra. Out of 2,000 patients treated during the past six months, fully ninety per cent. have been cured of this stubborn malady. This is none the less startling when it is remembered that not five per cent. of the patients presenting themselves to the regular practitioner are benefited, while the patent medicines and other advertised cures never record a cure at all. Starting with the claim now generally believed by the most scientific men that the disease is due to the presence of living parasites in the tissues, Mr. Dixon at once adapted his cure to their extermination; this accomplished the catarra is practically cured, and the permanency is unquestioned, as cases effected by him four years ago are cures still. No one else has ever attempted to cure catarra in this manner, and no other treatment has ever cured catarra. The application of the remedy is simple and can be done at home, and the present season of the year is the most favorable for a speedy and permanent cure, the majority of cases being cured at one treatment. Sufferers should correspond with Messrs. A. H. DIXON & SON, 500 King-street West, Toronto, Canada, and enclose stamp for their treatise on catarra—*Most recent*

A. P. 227

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