

**BARODA INTRIGUES AND BOMBAY  
KHUTPUT; BEING AN EXPOSITION OF THE  
FALLACIES, ERRONEOUS STATEMENTS,  
AND PARTIAL QUOTATIONS RECENTLY  
PROMULGATED; IN A "LETTER TO THE  
EDITOR OF THE DAILY NEWS."**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649482467

Baroda Intrigues and Bombay Khutput; Being an Exposition of the Fallacies, Erroneous Statements, and Partial Quotations Recently Promulgated; In a "Letter to the Editor of the Daily news." by Mrs. Lestock Robert Reid & Outram

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

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**MRS. LESTOCK ROBERT REID & OUTRAM**

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## PREFACE.

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THE Letter to the Chairmen of the Honorable Court of Directors of the East India Company, placed at the commencement of the following pages, explains the circumstances under which they were written. It will also suggest an explanation of the fact that four-fifths of the present Pamphlet have been in print for many weeks.

Conscious of his own literary imperfections, the Author has freely availed himself of the readily accorded aid of several of his friends; but for all that is stated in the following pages he, and he alone, is responsible.



TO

J. RUSSELL ELLICE, ESQ. AND MAJOR OLIPHANT,

CHAIRMEN OF THE HONORABLE COURT OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
EAST INDIA COMPANY.

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ORIENTAL CLUB, June 15th, 1853.

SIRS,

I respectfully solicit your acceptance of the accompanying printed document, containing a refutation of certain statements and insinuations to my prejudice, promulgated by Mr. Lestock Robert Reid, late of the Bombay Civil Service, in a Letter addressed by him to the Editor of the Daily News.

Soon after the publication of that Letter, I intimated to Mr. Reid my intention to publish a vindication of myself from its allegations. But the representations of several friends to whose judgment I deemed it my duty to defer, induced me for awhile to forego my original intention. They urged—and it appeared to me with much reason—that only those who had already studied the Parliamentary Papers relative to Baroda, were likely to peruse the effusions either of Mr. Reid or

myself; and that no one who *had* studied the Parliamentary Papers would deem a reply from me necessary.

There were, however, others entitled to my respectful attention, who held that I should act unfaithfully to myself, and to those interests of which I was formerly the official guardian, and which I can never view with indifference, if I failed to meet Mr. Reid's Pamphlet with a full and satisfactory refutation. In conformity with their views—which were identical with my own—I resolved on printing. And being solicitous to avoid aught that could possibly be construed into disrespect to my Honorable Masters, I solicited the permission of the Court of Directors to search their records, with a view to carry out my resolution with certainty and precision. Free access to the Record Room of the India House was promptly accorded; but I was informed that the Honorable Court could not *officially* sanction or give their countenance to the *publication* of a controversial work on official topics. This intimation I conceived to imply that the Honorable Court did not desire to interfere with my individual liberty of action, in a matter closely affecting my personal feelings. And those who at first dissuaded me from replying to Mr. Reid, taking the same view, not only ceased to urge their dissuasions, but encouraged me in the prosecution of my task. They, however, suggested that my object would be effected, and at the same time a token of my respect to my Honorable Masters be afforded, if, instead of *publishing* my reply to Mr. Reid, I simply submitted it



to the Chairs and the Court, and such friends as had kindly taken an interest in my own case, in its relations to the subject of Mr. Reid's Pamphlet.

Influenced by these representations, I have completed, and now beg respectfully to submit to you, my reply to the statements affecting myself, contained in Mr. Reid's Letter, and as I could not expect you to read it in a manuscript form, I have put it into print: solely, nevertheless, for the purpose of vindicating my own character as a public servant, and of placing the service to which I had the honour to belong, in a light due to itself, and I hope useful, when occasion may require, to the public, both Indian and English.

I have the honor to be,

SIRS,

With unfeigned respect,

Your obedient humble servant,

JAMES OUTRAM, Lieut. Colonel,

*Late Resident at Baroda.*



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## CHAPTER I.

### PRELIMINARY EXPLANATIONS.

On the 30th of June 1852, the House of Commons, on the motion of Mr. Anstey, ordered a return of—

“Copies of all Correspondence and Papers on the subject of Colonel Outram's removal from the office of Resident at the Court of the Guicowar; or on the alleged corruption of Officers of the Bombay Government with bribes from Baroda.”

Late in October, the Return was published.\* On the 23rd, 24th, and 25th December its contents were subjected to analytical and critical notice in the “Daily News.” And, on the 31st of January 1853, these Notices, revised, enlarged, and corrected throughout, were republished in the form of a Pamphlet, bearing the signature of “Indus.”†

The original critiques contained very severe strictures on the conduct of several high Indian functionaries. The Pamphlet of “Indus” was still more specific in its charges, and copious in its illustrations. Foremost amongst those on whom judgment was passed, stood Mr. Lestock Robert Reid, late Member of the Bombay Council. And on the 2nd of March that gentleman put forth a “LETTER” to the Editor of the “Daily News,” in

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\* Parliamentary Paper, No. 560, of Session of 1852.

† BOMBAY BRIBERIES, a Tale of the Present Charter. Inscribed to the Right Hon. Sir C. Wood, Bart., M.P., President of the Board of Control. By “Indus.” Effingham Wilson, 11, Royal Exchange, London.