

P. 5

B. H. Andersen
Lijona

1883
19

~~1883~~
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3 Meadows beyond Lashon
ridings up the river 11000 ft
June 7/29

My dear Dodger

I received your much
kind & welcome letters of 10th & 26th
at the same time, & on the same day
as that on which I wrote last to
you.

In this you will learn that you
have 'entirely hit the mark about
the Paper. This (& together too undoubtedly)
elucidate on the plain N. of the
main range. & there is no part of
of Choke along that main deep
meridional range. This makes me
more than ever doubt certain
information - Vint's, Phelps & the
Dunham etc ~~independently~~ work
of bearing of one another, at months
intervals pointed out. The routes are
miles wide of the mark - I don't think
= but is 1/2 by West. Wagon's Post-hurry

I am now doing my best to
find out the Pass of Lashon. Will do
unreceptfully. I am striving every

never, the more so, as Casabelli
evidently thinks my giving up
the Chin. & telling Meeko that
~~and~~ would not enter Thibet, a
dead end of caste. I am very sorry
indeed, really vexed, not at the loss
credit, but that very thing I have
done should be a difference from
his opinion. He particularly dwells
on my having "promised sub-t-
foot: Chin" - he combats none of
my reasons for giving that promise,
& I would still hope he may reverse
his sentence. Every day more than
ever convinces me I was right in
giving up Thibet, & in ^{then} declaring my
~~that~~ having no intention to crop.

In the first place the Rajah forbid it,
that is little to me, but every thing to
our Mission. 2. Meeko was threatened
with the most severe punishments
should I crop the border - 3. I heard that
both Lachen & Ladang were large villages
of Bhootians who came out for the

Rajah & would interfere with any
going to the Paps at all. 3. My intention
of cropping the border was taken for
granted, by Rajah, Meeko & people
& the first question put to me by Meeko,
on agreeing to let me to Lachen, was,
if you go there "will you crop the border"
I answered as you know, & Meeko's warning
was expressing my intention not to do
I had no choice but to give up or
wade - I decided in the hope of something
turning up. Not only nothing turned
up favorable, but every thing against
it - a written order to be read to me
by Meeko - the intelligence of the
hostility of the people to my seeing the
papers at all. & Meeko's constant state
of hurrap & alarm. Now - against the
hostility of the people Meeko was my
only fence, & to expect his help when
my views were threatening him with
severe punishments was absurd. I
knew full well that one bridge removed
on route, just Chompton, would cut
me off from the papers. & that the Rajah
would never blame the people for doing it.

not have reached Lachen. village, still
Up have the hope & still intention of
finishing the Pass.

The great-talking Soubah guide, who
I blamed as well as Maku for clubbing
with. The Lachen Soubah, is I find a
quack & had never been here in his
life. he staid away & with his
ignorance. This I learnt from ^{minutes} ~~tricks~~
who is keeping a very sharp look out.
Mepo, as I know, is profoundly ignorant.
I am in great perplexity here, not knowing
where I am. This is the greater side
branch, & I presume the Lachen, but
the people say, some no & some yes &
there is another name for it.
Campbell's route says ^{the inferior} one, route is
up the Lachen. You old woman told
us there was a route up here, long
appreciated & 2 deep marsh.
we have now made 2 deep marsh
where the river turns up due W.
for 6 or 8 miles! Opposite ^{we} ~~there~~ are some
deserted huts, & a shallow Pass

-like glen, going due N. we think
that may lead to the Pass, but have
failed in our attempts to cross the
river, which is very broad & rapid.
The broad are infernal; over great
bed of snow & what is worse through
thunder. people: there is no path,
cut branches alone point out the
direction & we see ourselves along like
Japs. The huts are stupendous & we
are clearly close to the crest of the
Himal. but whether if we cross, ~~the~~
a path will lead up the glen, or whether
we should follow the Lachen due W.
& seven miles (2 more as some) I
cannot say. Minko & I to day
traveled along one marsh & came
late in the evening to an impassable
defile, through which the river runs
from under a great bed of snow.
beyond. I have therefore halted here
& sent back for more food.
when that arrives if we cannot
bridge the river I will follow it

wh, with Gimbis & Meebo,
carrying nothing but your blanket,
blanket & food for 3 days. No one
shall say that I gave in about
Thibet from any other, though possibly
a mistaken notion, of expediency &
propriety. I could not have had
^{shorter} less opposition than now under
any circumstances, would I not
have had more & could I have
commanded my guides aid, had
the expectation of my crossing the
border been held? - I have not set
down from 8 this morning till 6 P.M.
& shall be up at day break tomorrow
& the hills behind us for a view.

Then shall try to cross the river
I see no signs of another pass, for
the Larkhen must come from near
Krichin, & a branch ^{only} from Amshells
Lake at Cholamas, if this be the Larkhen.
That may be the branch from Cholamas
^{the valley} running up opposite me, & if so that
branch on the Larkhen plain is probably
the Sikkim & Bhote frontier.

I have very fine weather here &
am getting a noble collection of alpine
plants & drawings. There is not a
beast or bird to be seen. The fir woods
at Chomgtam are far richer & better
than those wild bleak mountains.
I have only 3 coolies here the route
is so bad & country so wild - one bed,
one ^{for} tent, some food & cooking. Indeed
I have long given up the wish that you
should travel in Sikkim, up to us
the Snow. I would dread to express
~~that~~ you do the malarial for me.
The difficulties at this season, with
the fully leaved trees, the twigs, and
the path, the rocks, rain, deep mud,
slippery rocks & torrents are a fearful
aggravation of the toils insupportable
from any route at any season -
I have wrenched my back trying to
save myself from falling, had many
falls & my skins are covered with scars
& bruises. Nevertheless my back has
been so frequent & long that I cannot
call my work severe on the whole
& I am amply repaid in Kistang.

Thank you very much for writing
to my Father, I have been too busy
of late to do so as often as I ought.

Indeed I leave Cheen alone, but
when asked pointedly by every person
who comes to Salaman, I must evade, &
as I said above, so great is the dread
that evasion is acknowledged. I have
no authority with me. Muelpro is gone
here any more than the Navildon was
at Wallam Choon. Every soul takes for
granted you want to go into Cheen.

I doubt if any one could at this
season do so, armed with any thing
short of engineers & bridges the tonnets.

The alarm is up the moment your footsteps
sound in their valleys. I do solemnly
declare that no one could reach the
paper at this season, but by avoiding
giving up Cheen - I did so before I was
required to - because I saw, that if I put
it off till absolute necessity demanded,
I should be held as having been
forced to give up an intention & that
it would be far worse I should

paper (I see, than that he thinks
I have committed.

Answer your letter of 20th - now do I
wonder and the Siberian pass about potatoes
rather than state it to be immediately
on your opinion of the Rajahs & Semas
grounds for opposing my even touching
the frontier. Both these functionaries
know that our name is a curse along
the whole frontier, the Choon, the
Sama told me plainly that if the
Chinese frontier were invaded by me
the paper would probably be shut to.
Their trade is old bones, Manis &c.
I assure you I avoid all allusions, but
the Rhethoras of Lachen & regard me
with perfect aversion & a man will
if possible avoid me from the Lating
pass. - Muelpro says he can make nothing
of them, I give medicine, show my
drawing, &c & M. praises me up, calls
me the Rajah's friend, & tells me but
adds there are not 1000000000 they
could ever make salaman & are
little better than beasts, have not
scrub of cultivation & live in the
most wretched squalor filthy & want.
Cheen is their ali & ali & they did not

like the Rajahs were visiting Latany
last year & may be brought over on the
land & themselves. I do not think this
an affair of the Sikhs I never at all.
The Rajah is as you are always supposed
afraid of his Chinese connexion
commercial & ecclesiastical being hurt
by a hated Pekingian coming by way
of his court.

Many thanks for the good things you
have sent me - it is very kind of you
& I hope still to have something
worth your knowing from this side
the frontier. You will I never make
charitably of my giving up Thebes.
Although a country so hostile it is, as
this season especially impossible,
without engineering powers. - I cannot
wonder at your taking such steps
as you did on the receipt of T.
subscription paper. - Staying as he
was with you, it was most laudably
vicarious, putting all other matters
& considerations on one side. But
I do assure you I never saw a
subscription paper circulated for
the benefit of the author that did

give up a great deal of stick -
metaphorically as well as substantially.
Had I been Taylor the very least.
I should have done would have
been inserted your name with my
own hand for 2 copies & sent the
two filled up paper with a note
of explanation & request of your acceptance
of the same. - Nothing will I hope ever
compel me to expiate my hands
with a subscription list. - I offered
long ago to take for self & friends 6
copies of a lithograph of K. never
dreaming of a higher price than
10/- a quire. - C. has kindly modified
it to 3, on the occasion of the new terms
price, which quite prevents my
asking my friends to take it off my
hands. For whoever gave more than
£1. for the most superb lithograph of
a first rate master. The price however
will not break me, but the reason he
gives, "that it is injurious to the credit
of an artist to publish cheap" is the
most odious piece of selfishness &
vindictive vanity I ever heard of =

= treated - what a compliment to
his written articles - to authors &
every one who has the good of the
Public at heart & puts in their
pockets as well as ~~for~~^{to} - I am
sure Taylor cannot think what he
does - the pricing his own vanity
is monstrous, & yet he is the last man
to mean it so.

My journal is rather behind, but
I am getting it up, & hope to send it
with something of note etc. I am
very anxious till I hear your verdict
on my conduct - if you agree with
Campbell I must be hold myself
wrong - & do better with my remaining
days & weeks. - You will I never tell
me exactly what you think & feel
on your affectionate & grateful

J. D. Hooker

Gen. H. Private.

I had a nice bit of the private, & should
be for embracing you soon to me - and
sincerely - I read such demonstrations of true
brotherly kindness with equal sympathy, &
pleasure & pride at being thought truly
I do not like to think of the calculation of
the world, & the real heads of expenses
for many people, & the payments to differ.
If there be one thing I know then less
regret, it is an assurance, & it is my
exception of so large a share of your means,
time, mind & truly thing: it is in the
purpose & purpose of the other unselfishness
of your very action towards me, & generosity
with me & generosity towards me. I often
ask myself if I could be as disinterestedly
kind to another - Val. I can see & see, I do
not think I ever would, but when they
after their example I now should.

I do not remember what was Campbell
said, but thought Campbell mentioned it
at breakfast to us, it was something
about Mrs. D. again flitting since her
union with Mr. D. perhaps it was
Taylor told me. I had heard you say what
a good spirit Mrs. C. was & kind in all things
to it - my impression still is that whatever
it was, was told you & me together.

I think you have hit Taylor's character

off to an end. He cannot think properly
& I often think over our comparison of his
& "Attendant" happiness, & wonder which will
last longest. With you I can admit I
"do as you think" style but do not say it
one bit.

I do take C's. Disapproval of my anxiety
~~giving up~~ the declaring my having no
intention to cross the frontier, as they said,
from him, though I dare say he does
not think what is consistent it is. The
giving the promise to satisfy a poor, honest
& scrupulous, anxiously pleased man, who meets
not stern & musters, he consents into
an admission or giving way, I should
not have much now, putting Calcutta
& what I regard as the positive expressing
& accepting for or doing on one side, is it
for him to rebuke it? - who for O'Leary
has been put up with every sort of
contempt & violence, who cannot get
an answer in 3 weeks from a distance 3
days off, in whose person official
communications have been grossly
misused for so long, which he never
lifted his hand or voice, to convey or
avert, wrongs which affect equally the post.
he serves & the dignity of his own position.

Will you appreciate
Please let C. see the first part of this post, my apology for telling me that &c. etc.
John Abolter
with this letter