

From the National Archives of India

No. 956/E

FROM

C.A. BELL, Esq., C.S.,
POLITICAL OFFICER IN SIKKIM,

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA IN THE FOREIGN
DEPARTMENT.

Dated Gangtok, the 21st May, 1913.

SIR,

I have the honour to refer to the correspondence resting with my letter No. 300/E., dated the 26th February 1912, regarding a boundary dispute between Bhutan and Sikkim in connection with a tract of land near Gipmochi.

2. In accordance with my proposals, approved of by the Government of India, the Rhenok Kazi, on behalf of the Sikkim Durbar, and Raja Ugyen Dorje, on behalf of the Bhutan Durbar, were deputed to go over the area in dispute and demarcate the claims of each side, and, if possible, to try to settle the matter amicably between themselves.

3. The representatives of both the States have submitted their maps showing the claims of each side but have not been able to come to any settlement.

4. A part of the area in dispute, if not the whole, appears to form part of the tract which should have been included in British territory in 1865, but has been wrongly held by Bhutan since that date.

5. I am making another effort to have this question settled amicably. I have this time selected the Barmick Kazi, who is an old and experienced landlord of Sikkim, and a member of the State Council, to represent the Sikkim Durbar while Raja Ugyen, nobody else being available, will, as before, represent the Bhutan Durbar. The representatives, as on the previous occasion, will go over the area in dispute and will report their views to me. They will if possible, settle the matter between themselves.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant.

Political Officer in Sikkim.

T.T.