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Reference	IOR/F/4/1990/88113
Title	'Relating to the Slave Trade Vol: 2'
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About this record

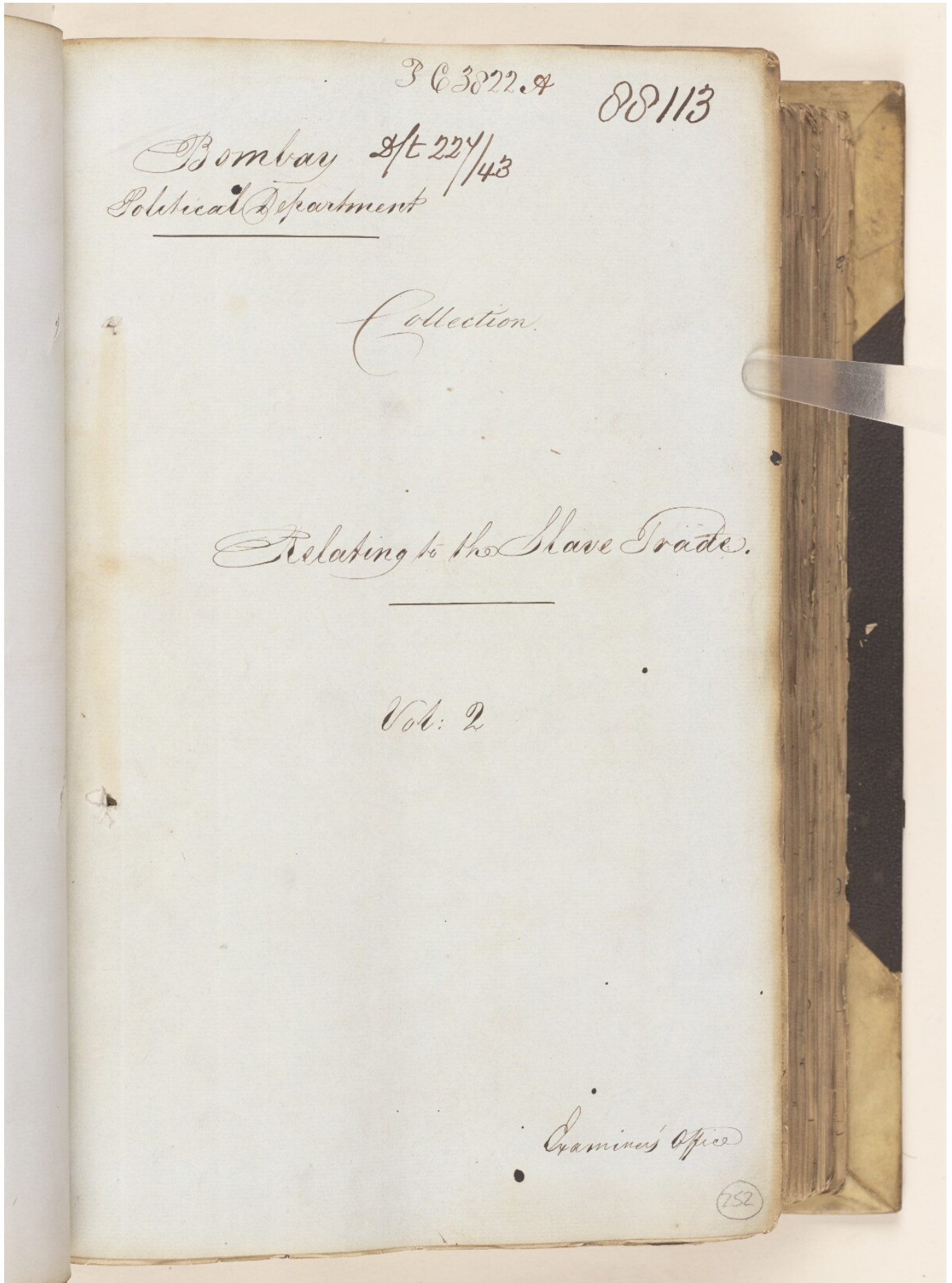
This item consists of copies of correspondence cited in, or enclosed with, political letters from the Government of Bombay [Mumbai]. The correspondents are: the Board of Control of the East India Company; the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, George Hamilton-Gordon, 4th Earl of Aberdeen; Ali bin Nasir, an envoy from the Imam of Muscat; Sayyid Sa'id bin Sultan Al Bu Sa'id, the Imam of Muscat. It is the second in a series of two items on the trade in enslaved people (the other is IOR/F/4/1990/88112).

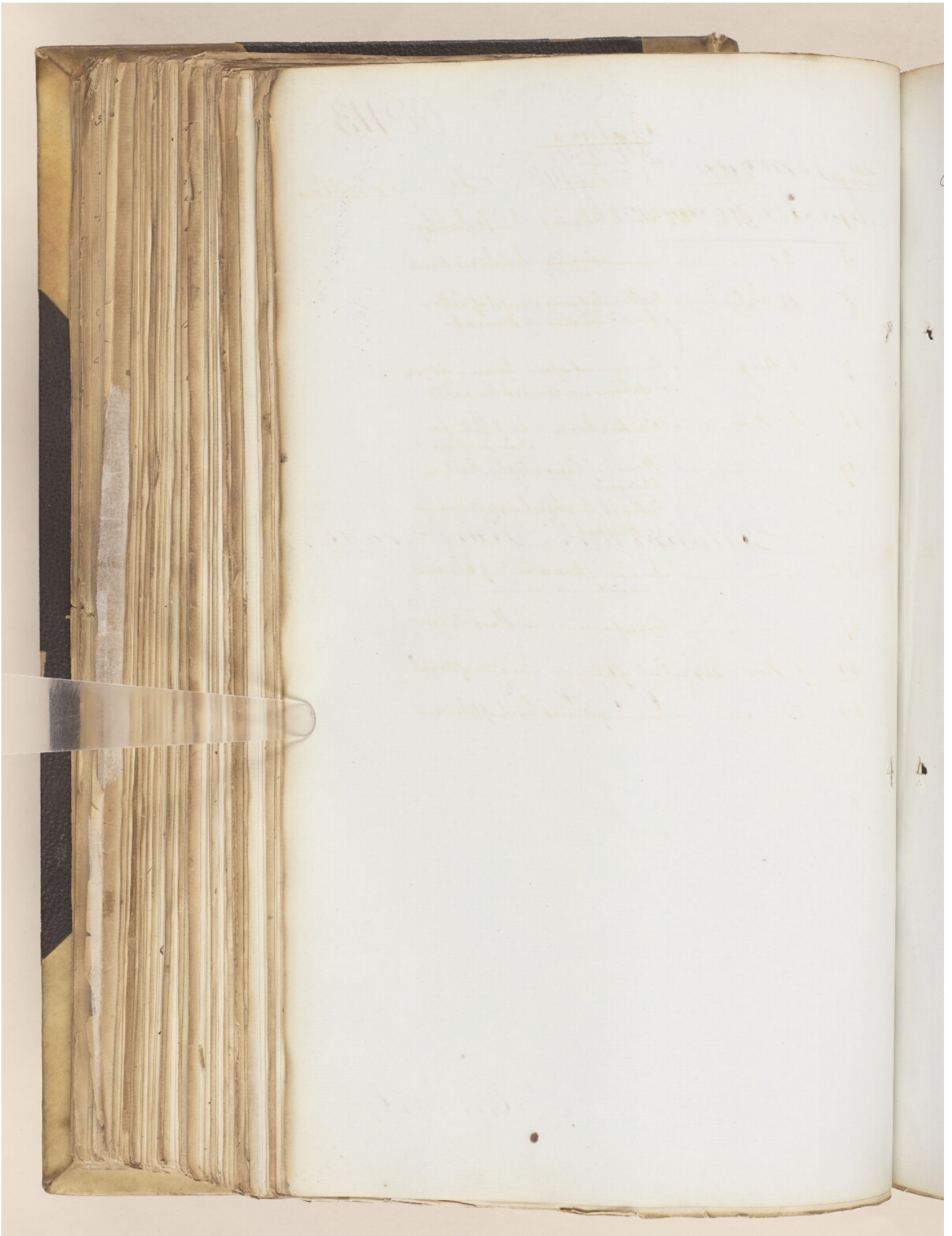
The item contains the correspondence between the Earl of Aberdeen and Ali bin Nasir during the latter's embassy to London on behalf of the Imam of Muscat.

The item concerns:

- The limits on the trade in enslaved people which the British Government wished the Imam of Muscat to impose in his territories
- Complaints from the British that the Imam had not fulfilled his treaty obligations
- Complaints from the Imam that the British had not fulfilled their treaty obligations.

The item includes a contents page and the title page of the item contains the following references: 'Draft 227, P.C. [Previous Communication] 3822A, [Season 18]43'.

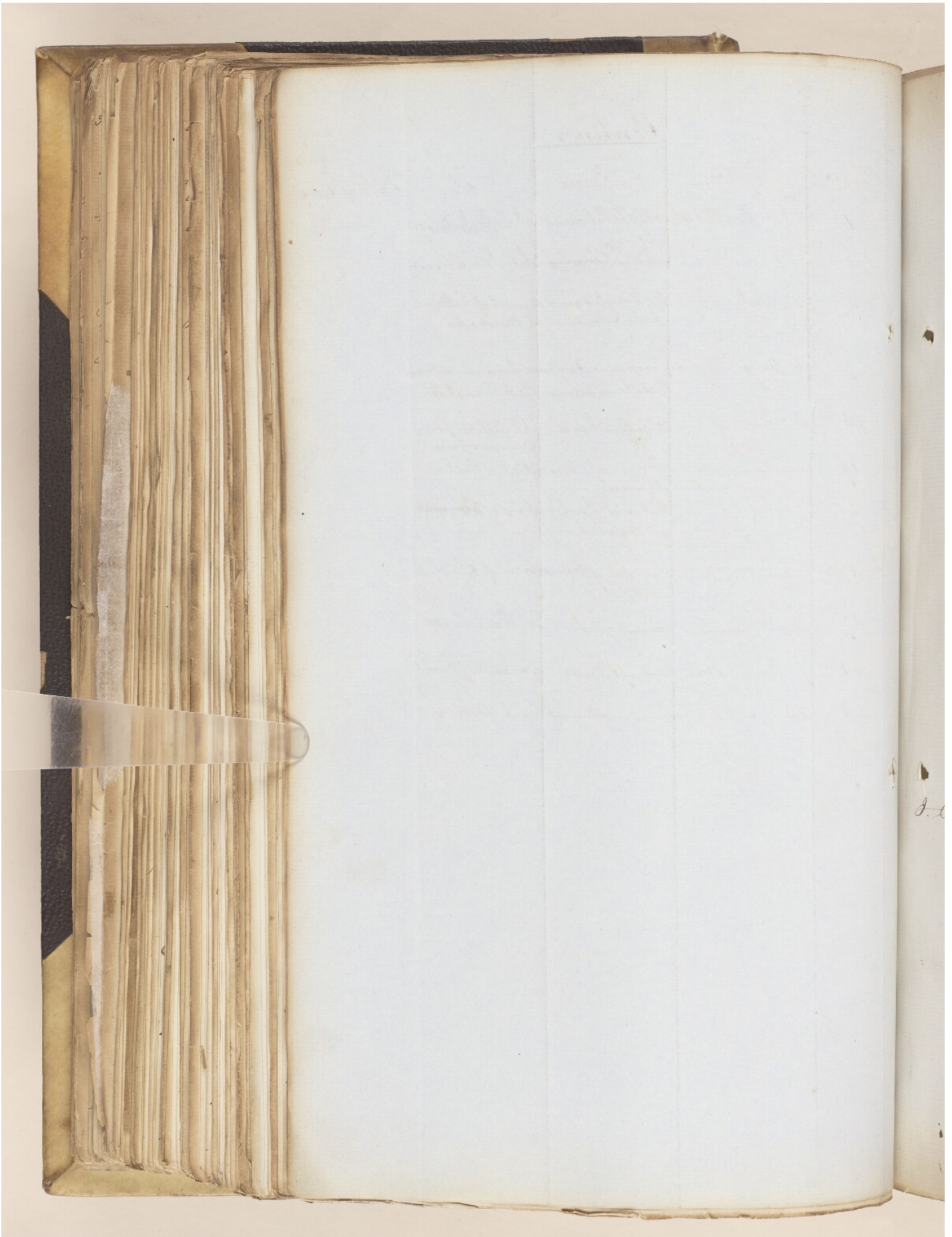






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P.M.

India Board

31st December 1842

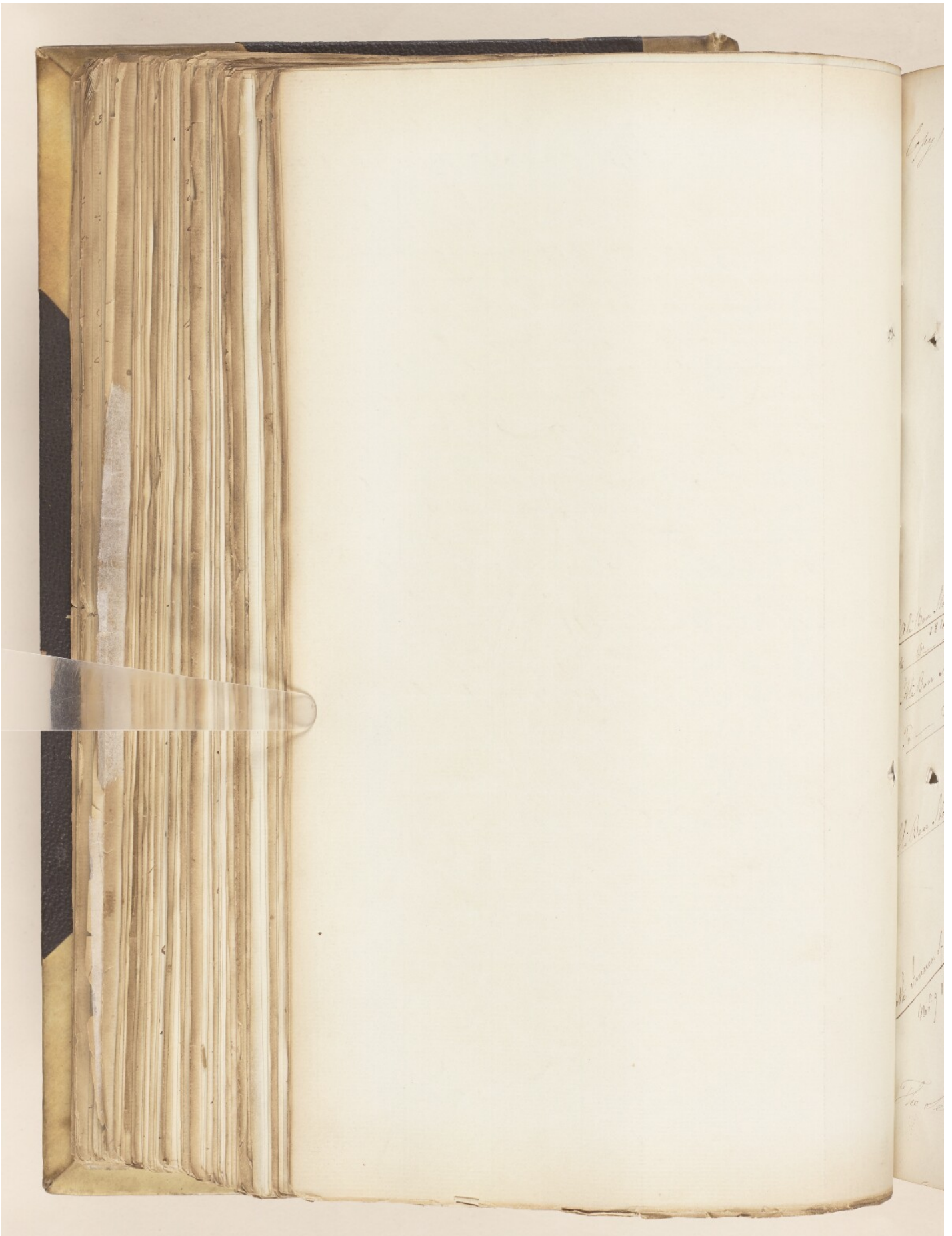
Sir,

I am directed by the Commissioners for the Affairs of India to transmit to you, for the consideration of the Court of Directors of the East India Company, a copy of a correspondence which has passed between Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Ali Ben Hussein, the Envoy from His Highness the Imam of Muscat, relating to the Slave Trade carried on from His Highness's dominions, and to certain complaints which the Imam makes against the Company's Officers.

I am, &c
(Sig^d) W. B. Baring

J. C. Melville Esq^r

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Copy

Foreign Office
December 21st 1842.

Sir,
With reference to your letter of the 14th June last, on the subject of the Mission from His Highness the Imam of Muscat to Her Majesty, and to your letter of the 12th July last, on the subject of the exportation of Slaves from Muscat and Ashir to Shirazee, I am directed by the Earl of Aberdeen to transmit to you, for the information of the Commissioners for the Affairs of India, the accompanying copies of a correspondence which has passed between His Lordship, and Ali Bin Naser, the Envoy from His Highness the Imam.

I am at the same time to transmit to you, to be laid before the Commissioners, a copy of a letter which His Lordship has addressed to the Imam, in reply to the letter from His Highness, inclosed in Ali Ben Naser's note of the 3rd of November last.

I am
Signed) Ganning

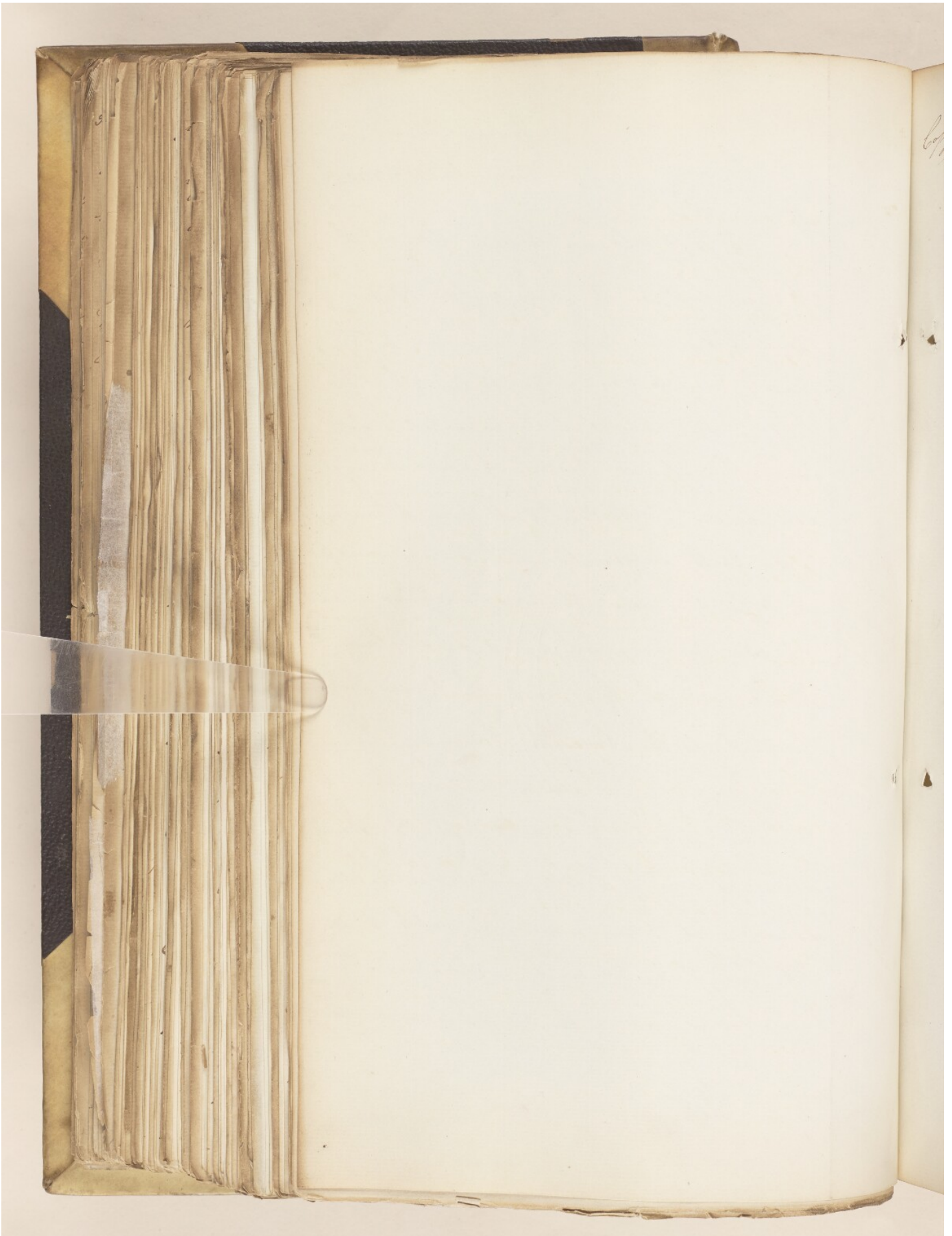
The Secretary to the India Board

To Hon. Major Genl. 12
1842, Aug. 6 1842
To Hon. Major Genl. 3
1842

To Hon. Major Genl. 23
1842

To Imam of Muscat
Nov 9 1842.

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Copy

5.

The Undersigned has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from His Highness the Imam of Muscat, which has been presented to him by Saad Ali Bin Maser's Envoy on a special mission from his Highness.

Her Majesty's Government have learnt with regret that financial difficulties are likely to interfere with the enlightened views of H. H. the Imam, and to check him in the humane and liberal course upon which he has entered, with regard to the Slave Trade.

Her Majesty's Government acknowledge with pleasure the readiness with which H. H. has already co-operated with Her Britannick Majesty by Treaty for the suppression of that Trade, and it will be their duty, and their constant care, by means of Her Majesty's forces in the Indian Seas to carry out the object of the Engagements to which Her Majesty is a party, viz: effectually to

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to suppress the traffic in those waters, and under those Flags over which Treaties have given her authority.

But, neither the Duty of Her Majesty's Government, nor the feelings of the British Nation will allow them to rest satisfied with an imperfect execution of this great work.

His Highness is aware that it is the object of Her Majesty's Government to extend the measures for the suppression of the Slave Trade to the Seas immediately adjoining the African and Arabian Coasts.

For this purpose it is most desirable that Her Majesty should receive the co-operation of His Highness; and although, at first sight there may appear to be difficulties in the way of the Emancipation to such measures, Her Majesty's Government feel confident that, upon a closer view, these difficulties will be found to be temporary and insignificant; and that if, in the first instance, some sacrifice of Revenue should be necessary, the loss will speedily be compensated by the establishment of a legitimate commerce,

for



far more profitable to the Revenue, and beneficial to the Population of His Highness's Dominions, than the inhuman one which now occupies its place.

Under this conviction, Her Majesty's Government would be willing to assist the same in meeting the first deficiency, which may arise from the loss of duties hitherto levied upon the Slave Trade, and they invite H. H. to communicate to them without delay, the terms upon which he would be willing to take a share in the proposed measures, both as regards the amount of the payment to be made to His Highness, and the time during which it is to continue.

Her Majesty's Government make this proposal in the full persuasion that His Highness will acknowledge the friendly interest by which it is dictated, and in the hope that it will be met with a determination to come to such an agreement as shall be at once consistent with the dignity of His Highness as an independent sovereign, and efficient for the object which Her Majesty and Her Majesty's subjects

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subjects have most at heart, and for the attainment
of which Great Britain will never cease to
employ all the means which the possession of
great maritime power has put into her hands

The Undersigned

Foreign Office July 12th 1842. Signed) Aberdeen.



Copy

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Slave Trade

The Undersigned has the honor to inform Saïed Ali Ben Vasser &c, that Her Majesty's Government have recently received information that Slaves are continually carried to Kurachee and Davel, from places in the dominions of the Amour of Muscat: and the Undersigned will now proceed to give to Saïed Ali Ben Vasser the particulars of several cases of this nature, and which the Undersigned requests may be brought to the knowledge of His Highness the Amour, in the hope that he will use his endeavours to put an end to practices so much at variance with the letter and spirit of the Articles which by the consent of his Highness the Amour, were added on the 1st December 1839 to the Treaty concluded with His Highness by Captain Moresby on the 29th August 1822.

In the first of the cases above referred to, a Boat belonging to the people of Kurachee

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Kurachee, with a Steerage named Nadeer Alee
Bootyjan, carried from Muscat to Kurachee
18 Slaves, seven of whom belonged to Nadeer Alee
Bootyjan, four to a Muscat Banian Merchant
named Kokeel, Agent of Ugo, and seven to
Kankoo, a Banian residing at Kurachee:

Secondly - On the 16th January 1842
a Bugla belonging to Mahomet Beer Solomon
of Nisheen proceeded to Kurachee with an
inhabitant of Hyderabad and thirteen Slaves -
nine of these Slaves were Abyssinians, and
four of them negroes, these Slaves had been
purchased by Mahomet Beer Solomon -

Thirdly - On the 20th January
1842, a Bugla belonging to Ally Causim of
Nisheen, sailed to Kurachee, with three
Sindians and thirty five Slaves; These Slaves
were partly Abyssinians and partly negroes,
and had been purchased by the Sindians, for
whose account they were put on board the
Bugla.

Her Majesty's Government
regret



regret to have to observe that these Acts are in
direct contravention of the engagements of the
Imaun.

For by the additional Articles of the
14th December 1849, the Imaun empowered
British Government Cruizers to seize and
confiscate vessels belonging to his Subjects
found engaged in Slave Trade beyond a
direct line drawn from Cape Delgado's passing
two degrees seaward of the Island of Soatra,
and ending at Papein.

Now in all the cases above
cited the Slaves were purchased in Muscat
& were carried from thence to a place beyond
the prescribed limits.

It is true that in the first
mentioned case the transport was effected
in a boat of Shirackee, yet the Subjects of
the Imaun were implicated in the transaction
and in the two cases last cited, the vessels
in which the Slaves were transported actually
belonged to Subjects of His Highness residing at
Mishkeen.

Now although, as stated by the
Undersigned

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Undersigned in his note to Saïed Ali Ben
Nasser of the 19th Ult^m. Her Majesty's Government
wants, on the extinction of the Slave Trade of
Muscat, be willing to assist the Sannaun in
meeting the first deficiency which may arise
from the loss of duties hitherto levied on that
Slave trade, the Undersigned begs that Saïed
Ali Ben Nasser will distinctly understand
that such assistance can be given only on
condition that the export trade in Slaves from
the dominions of His Highness, whether to
Christian or Pagan Countries, shall be entirely
prohibited, and that the Sannaun will, in
addition to the power which he has conferred
upon British Cruizers, exert his own authority
in punishing those of his subjects who may
be found carrying on the Slave Trade in
places beyond the dominions of His Highness.

The Undersigned &c
Signed (Aberdeen.

Foreign Office. August 6th 1843.



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copy

To

The Rt Honble

The Earl of Aberdeen &c.

H.M. Principal Secretary of State for
Foreign Affairs.

London Nov^r 3^o. 1842

My Lord,

The repair and outfit of the Ship
"Sultana" being, now, by your Lordships favor
and liberality, fully complete, I am anxious
with your Lordships permission, to take my
departure for Zanzibar, to lay before my Sovereign
the Annex of Muscat, the result of my
Mission to England.

I was about to reply to your
Lordships' friendly note of the 12th July when
I received with concern your Lordships further
note of the 6th August corresponding so much
with Lord Palmerston's communication of the 8th
of June 1841, through Lord Leveson to the Gov^r
Gen^l of India - which gave His Highness so much
uneasiness,

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uneasiness, and caused so much alarm in his mind, that he immediately ordered me to proceed to this country without having time to furnish me with copies of that, and various other documents necessary for my guidance, which however I have since received from Zanzibar, and by Your Lordship's permission I have had access to Captain Molesby's treaty on the subject of the Slave trade of August 1842, which I am instructed by H. H. to say, had been strictly adhered to on his part, but whether it has been so on the part of the British Gov^{ty} will hereafter appear.

I have no knowledge of any other treaty, or of the alterations of the Molesby treaty, as stated, in your Lordship's vote of the 6th August, to have taken place with H. H.'s sanction in December 1839.

But even admitting the alteration of that treaty, by substituting the limit from Sorotra to Papena, instead of from Sorotra to Die Head, it does not appear that any infringement of the treaty, in letter or spirit can attach

to



Vol. 1

to H. H. or His Government, as will appear
by the annexed memorandum explanatory of the
cases set forth in your Lordship's note of the 6th
Aug^o—

H. H.'s Cruizers and those of the
East India Company had the right of search, and
enforcing the penalty of confiscation if called for,
a right which it would seem had not been a very
scrupulously exercised, seeing that a vessel
belonging to one of the Emperor's subjects, carrying
his own flag, was boarded and searched without
opposition, in his harbour of Zanzibar, by one
of H. H.'s Cruizers, at the suggestion it is understood
of the British Consul in violation of the treaty.

Nor is this the only instance of
Disrespect offered to H. H. by the British Authorities
to his degradation in the eyes of his subjects, and
his extreme mortification considering the friendly
relations which have subsisted between the two
Governments for so long a period, and which it
has been H. H.'s anxious wish should continue
to exist as heretofore and for ever.

H. H. is well aware of the
Strength of the British Govern^{mt} by sea and land,
and



and that when exercised in the cause of justice
and humanity, its power must render God be
irresistible, but he confidently trusts that it
will not be put forth to oppress the weak and
unoffending. - With regard to the proposals contained
in your Lordships' Notes, I can only say that
on my arrival at Tanzebar I shall lay them
before H. H. for consideration, and he will no
doubt communicate with your Lordship thereon,
but in the mean time it may be satisfactory to
your Lordship to be put in possession of the accompanying
extract from H. H.'s instructions to me, as
setting forth his distress of mind under the
treatment he has recently met with; but at
the same time evincing his firm attachment
and devotion to the British Government, and his
confidence in its friendship -

In further proof of the sincerity
of these sentiments on the part of H. H. I have been
to lay before your Lordship a letter lately received
from him to your Lordships' address, asking your
advice upon a subject of importance to the interests
of both Parties, but which H. H. will not move
in

W. B.

W. B.

W. B.



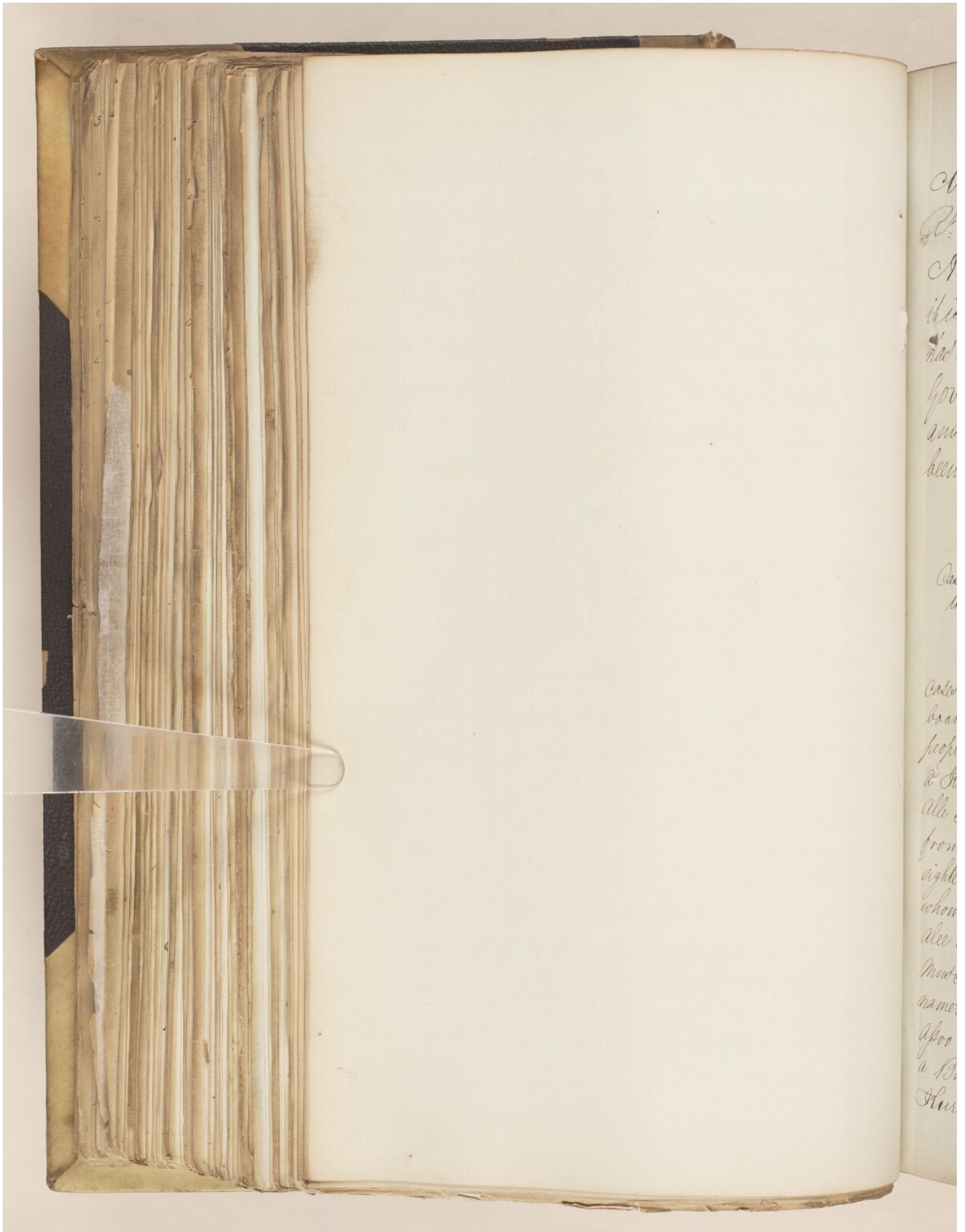
in, without Your Lordship's concurrence.

I cannot conclude this letter
without expressing my high sense of gratitude
for the kind attention and liberal consideration
bestowed upon me by Your Lordship during my
stay in England, and which it will be my
pleasing duty to report to my Sovereign on my
return to Arabia.

I have &c

P. Ala Ben Nazer

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No 1

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Memorandum explanatory of the cases cited by the Rt Honble the Earl of Aberdeen in his note to Alee Ben Nazir, dated 5th August 1842 wherein it is inferred that A. N. the Imam of Muscat had not adhered to his Engagements with the British Government under the Moresby Treaty of 1822 and certain additional Articles said to have been agreed to by A. N. in December 1839.

Cases cited by the Rt Honble the Earl of Aberdeen.

Explanation by Alee Ben Nazir

In the first of the cases above referred to a boat belonging to the people of Hurachee with a Hurachee named Nader alee Soolijan carried from Muscat to Hurachee eighteen Slaves, seven of whom belonged to Nader alee Soolijan, four to a Muscat Baniaw Merchant named Hokeel Agent of Afoo and seven to Haneh a Baniaw residing at Hurachee.

Hurachee was taken possession of by Admiral Maitland in February 1839 and has since remained under British control, consequently the transit of Slaves from Muscat to that place involved a risk that would in itself prevent the probability of such an occurrence, inasmuch as the parties exposed their vessel and Slaves to the
(263) chances



chances of seizure - by
both the Governments
of Great Britain and
Muscat, and on reaching
Surabee the Slaves
would become free,
on landing, and the
parties would be subject
to the consequences of
their illicit traffic; the
detail of the case, however
being so minutely stated
leaves but little doubt
that it did take place
and Ali Bin Raziv
can only assure Lord
Aberdeen that it is at
all times a matter of
great solicitude with
his Sovereign to adhere
to and enforce in letter
and in spirit his treaties
with the British
Government, and that
he will punish any
of his subjects who
may



may be detected in the infraction of them.

Secondly - on the 6th of January 1842 a Bugla belonging to Mahomed Bin Sooleman of Hishen proceeded to Surachee with an inhabitant of Hyderabad and thirteen Slaves. Nine of these Slaves were Abyssinians and four of them negroes; the Slaves had been purchased by Mahomed Bin Sooleman.

In this instance it is not stated that the Bugla sailed from Muscat to Surachee, but that she belonged to Hishen, and may have taken the Slaves from that place to Surachee - Hishen is a town situated about four hundred miles to the North East of Aden, on the Arabian Coast, and has not for many years been subject to the immediate control of the Muscat Government, consequently M. N. the Imam cannot be compromised in this transaction.

Trucey

The
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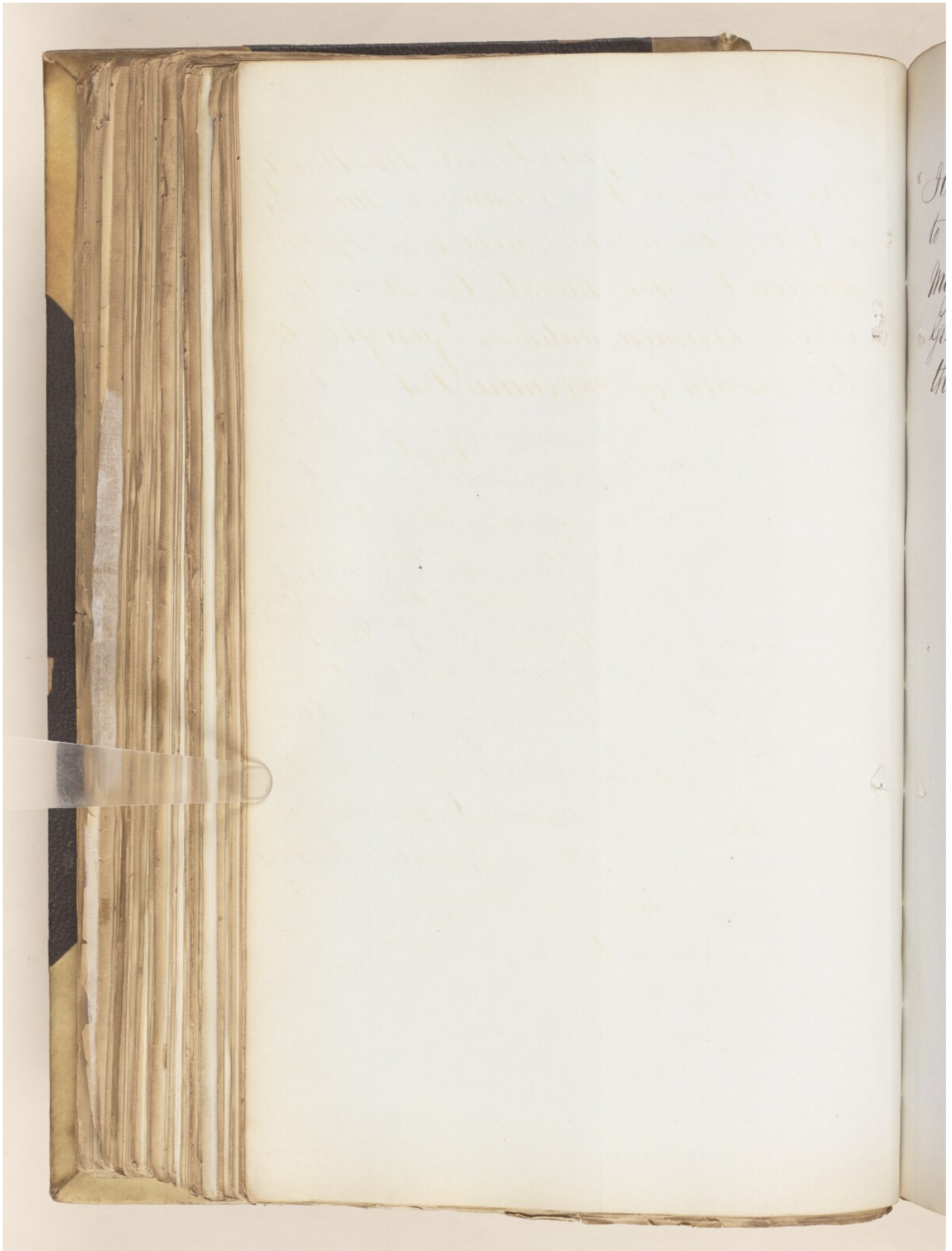
Thirdly - On the 20th of January 1842 a Buzla belonging to ally Cassim of Husheem sailed to Surackee with three Scindians and thirty five Slaves. These Slaves were partly Abyssinians and partly Negroes and had been purchased by the Scindians, for whose account they were put on board the Buzla.

The foregoing reasoning will equally apply in this instance. But here it is necessary to observe that although the people on the Coast of Arabia from Muscat southwards to Maculla, inclusive recognised for many years the Sovereignty of Muscat yet for some time past that control has become gradually weakened, whilst the direct communications held on various occasions by the British Government with several petty Chieftains on this part of the Coast has virtually confirmed their independence, and consequently rendered the Muscat Government irresponsible for their acts etc



Ali Bin Nazir can
only again assure the
Earl of Aberdeen of his
Sovereign's anxiety to meet
the wishes of the British
nation on all occasions
consistently with the
independence of his
Government and the
welfare of his Subjects and
that he will zealously
co-operate in giving effect
to such arrangements
as he may have duly
entered into with the
British Government.

(Signed) Ali Bin Nazir





No. 2.

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Extract from the Instructions of
His Highness the Imam of Muscat
to Ali Bin Nasir, Envoy on a Special
Mission to Her Majesty the Queen of
Great Britain, dated at Zanzibar in
the month of February 1842.

In the name of God!

We command our friend Alee bin
Nasir as follows. Let him proceed
to the presence of the Illustrious
Vizier Lord Aberdeen (may God most
high protect him!) and say to him
thus:

Saeed has desired me to say to you
Has there appeared any breach on
our part of the agreement which
passed between us through Captain
Moresby, as to the prohibition of the
selling of Slaves to all sects of
Christians. If they say "there has not"
then tell them. Saeed says: "From
the time when an Agreement was
formed

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formed between us and you, through
the Governor of Bombay Duncan,
in the 1223rd year of Hejrah (1808) being
now nearly thirty four years ago, we
do not think we have opposed you
in any thing which you desired
of us, nor did we indeed experience
on your part anything but perfect
honor and respect during twenty
two years of that time

But, during the last twelve
years, we bear witness to having
received treatment the reverse of what
it was before, and we are not aware
of any fault on our part, nor
are we conscious of any blame. Neither
do we know that any one has reported
to you any thing concerning us, which
we did not do.

And in return we expect
from you such friendship as
formerly existed, unless indeed some
fault had been committed by us
such



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Such as should give occasion for
such treatment, and that we deserve
it.

And further as to the prohibition
of Slaves being shipped. If you
ordered us to quit the country, we
would quit it. But then it is necessary
that you should consider our
condition at present and for the
future. Now if Slaves may be
prohibited the whole of the inhabitants
of the Country will be injured, and
the Revenue will entirely disappear.

First. They bring down Ivory from
the Country of Guibah and the
Coast, and they bring down the
Ivory and the Slaves together: so that
if you prohibit people from dealing
in Slaves you will prohibit them
from coming down and selling
Ivory.

Secondly. They bring beads down
from the Quarters of Yemen and India.
But if the bringing down of Ivory
and



and the dealing in Slaves be forbidden they will cease to bring those Articles
Thirdly. They come from Oman and from the Upper Country and in this way, most of them will cease to come and there will no longer remain any purchasers for the goods which come from Europe, such as Cotton Cloth &c. for the people of Zanzibar are satisfied with little: And if this takes place, there will no longer be any revenue at all.

We mention this by no means out of any unwillingness to proclaim the wishes of the Great Queen and Her people, but it is necessary that we should inform you of our condition and it is requisite that you should yourselves reflect on our State.

And in the letter of the Great Queen to the 'Lord General' of Calcutta last year, it is said that you will assist us every year with £2000 for three years in compensation of



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of our losses. But if we knew that
our losses and deficiency of Revenue
would only amount annually to
£ 10,000 we would not have
mentioned this.

It is also stated in the
Great Queen's letter - that it is your
wish they should search Vessels. Therefore
those which go from Zanzibar and
the quarters of Oman & Yemen, shall
be searched on suspicion, - fear it
not. But as to those which go to India
it is certain that they do not carry
Slaves; and it is well known that
those coming from Oman & Yemen
do not bring Slaves. And it is
necessary that the Captains should
be prohibited from giving trouble or
annoyance to the Crews of Vessels
not carrying Slaves.

two
And, if the great Niger
says to you - "what will satisfy her
with regard to the loss which will
come

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comes upon him? - Say to him
"I need cannot say any thing on this
subject which personally concerns
himself. The decision as to this rests
with you. But if it be possible, and
if it be not disagreeable to you, retake
possession for him of the Island
of Bahrein, and let the defence of
it, against the sects of Islam particularly
be upon you - I think Saecid
will be satisfied with this as
compensation for his loss."

Also Saecid has desired
me to tell you that if you
are satisfied with respect to him
then he hopes from you, that
those persons who are stationed
on your part, whether in
Zanzibar or in Muscat, shall
be people of discretion who shall
treat us kindly, and not with
harshness



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harshness and annoyance. For we
are certain that you will not
approve of what we experience
at present from your Agents
unless we had done anything
wrong that we should deserve
it

It is also necessary that
you enjoin him who shall be
stationed with us on your part
that he do not listen to the idle
talk of the Arabs or others in
any respect whatever.

If he should say what
has taken place on the part of
our Agents? say to him "If we
were to detail it a month would
not suffice."

Also that we wish of
the great Vizier that he would
strengthen and improve our relations
with the Government of India. And

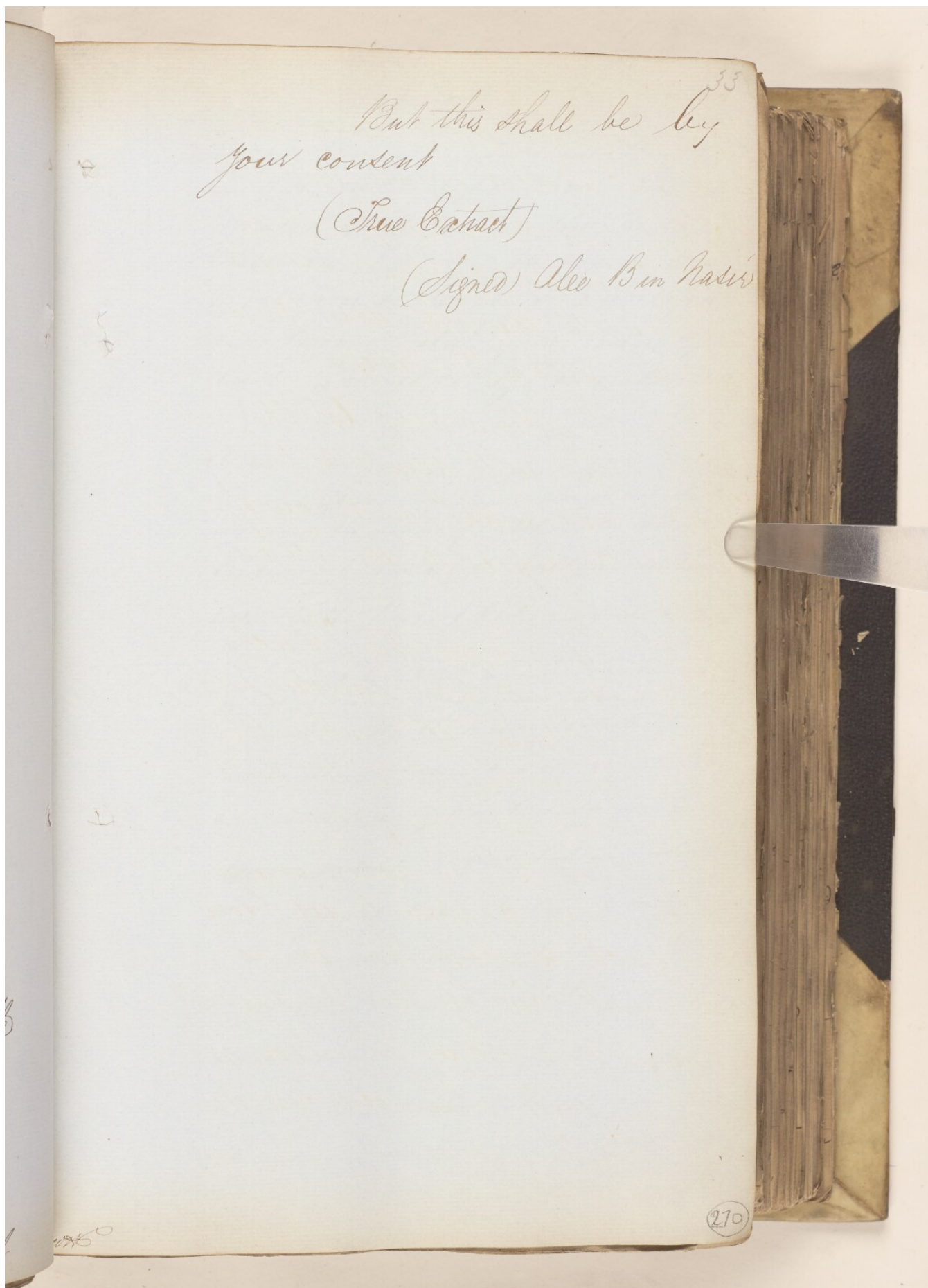


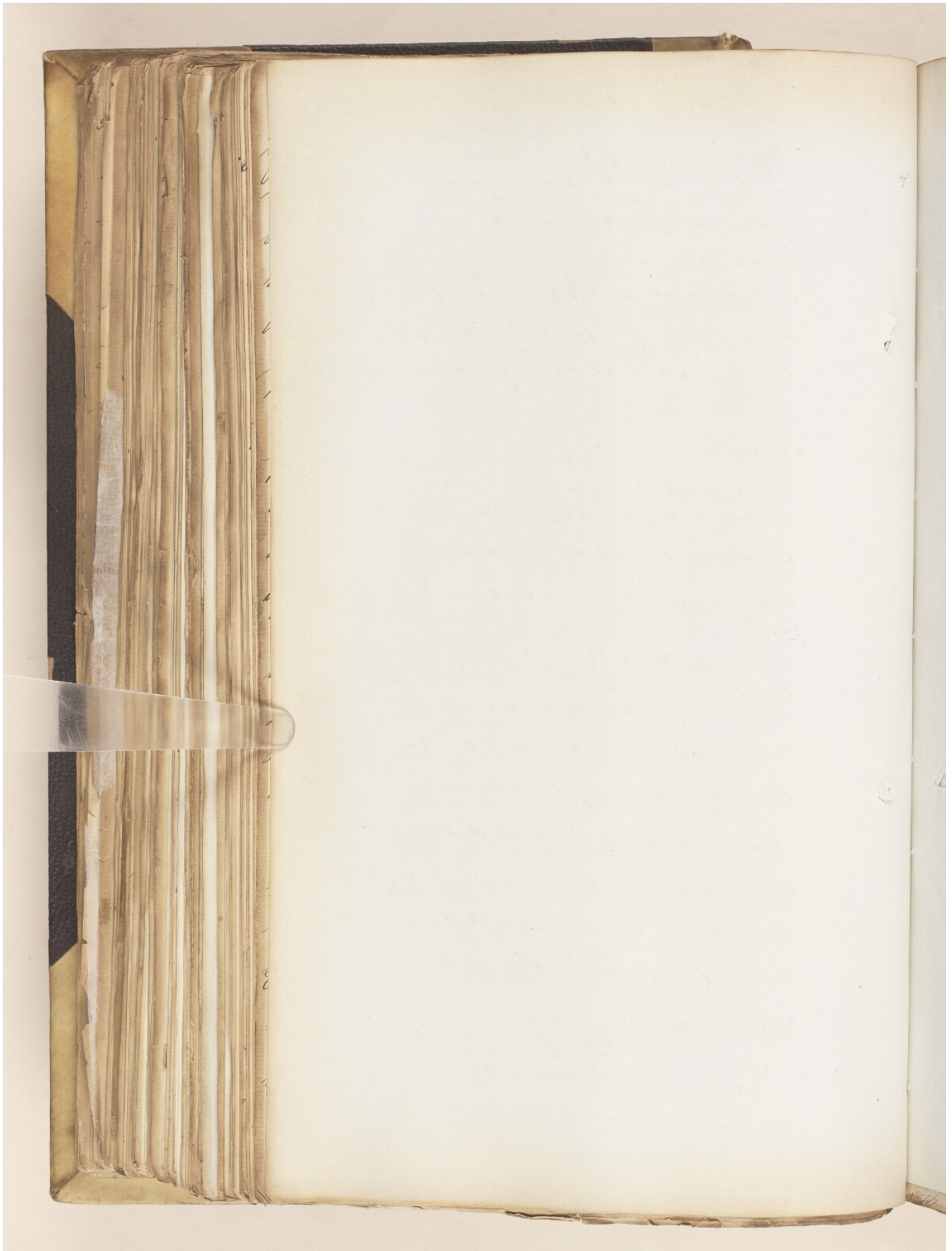
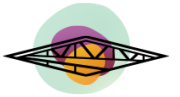
if he says "For what reason?" say
to him I cannot explain more than
this, lest there should happen to us
more than has happened and all
our thoughts towards you (please
God) are altogether good

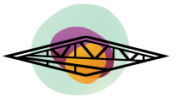
Mention also to the
Great Dixier with regard to the
French, and what we know of
them with respect to the islands
of Nosley

And now the French
have made us their enemies, and
there is no doubt that when they
are able to do any thing to hurt
us they will not delay it.

But let the whole injury
which may happen to us from
the French be upon the English
Government, and if this be disagreeable
to you, and you abandon us
then we will repair our condition
with the French in the best way







No. 3.

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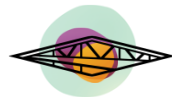
Translation of the substance of a letter
from H. H. Saeed Saeed Bin Sultan
Imaum of Muscat, to the Right
Hon^{ble} the Earl of Aberdeen Sec
Britannick Majesty's Principal
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs
dated Zanzibar 19th June 1842.

A. 6

It is sometime since we did
ourselves the honor of writing to your
Excellency by our Ship "Sultana" which
letter by the Grace of God, you have received.

The News in our Dominions
is Peace. We think it right to bring under
your Excellency's notice that the Territories
bequeathed to us by our Ancestors on East
Africa, extend, a great distance along
those Shores, but from Kofon (Cape Guardafui)
to Barbora, there is no controlling authority
on the Coast, nor is there protection for it's
inhabitants. These things have been a subject
of serious consideration with us, I have suggested
the extending our Government along the Coast

(17) 4



of Barbora.

By doing this, we would give protection to those who require it; and we would open the road to Commerce into the interior of that extensive Country to those who wish to engage in it, and we think such proceedings might be agreeable to Her Majesty's Government.

If, however, Her Majesty's Government does not approve of our intentions in respect to this matter, we trust your Excellency will have the kindness to inform us at your earliest convenience

Zanzibar 9th Jamadell Oual
1258 - Corresponding 19 June 1842.



Slave Trade

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The undersigned has received the Note which Ali Bin Nasir, charged with a Mission for His Highness the Imam of Muscat to Her Majesty the Queen, addressed to him on the 3^d Instant, together with the several enclosures annexed to that Communication

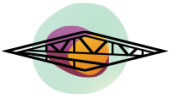
Letter to the Imam of Muscat Nov 29 1842

The undersigned herewith transmits to Ali Bin Nasir, for delivery to His Highness the Imam the answer which he has felt it a pleasing duty to return to the Letter which His Highness did the undersigned the honor to address to him on the 19th June 1842.

The undersigned trusts confidently, that this answer will be satisfactory to His Highness as being in unison with those sentiments of friendship & that good understanding which happily exist between His Highness & Her Majesty.

The undersigned is Comanded by Her Majesty to request that Ali Bin Nasir will express to His Highness a just expectation on the

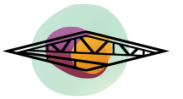
part (172)



part of Her Majesty's Government that His
Highness will himself faithfully observe, and
will cause to be observed by his subjects and by
all within the dominions of His Highness, the
several stipulations entered into on the part of
Her Majesty's Government with His Highness for the
suppression of the Slave trade,

There is a continual & increasing
and a most earnest desire in Her Majesty, in
the Government and the people of this Country, for the
total extinction of this odious traffic; the daily
occasion of incalculable misery to the human race.

His Highness has shown a benevolent
wish to cultivate the enlighten'd Arts of Peace,
to interchange kindly Offices, to promote good will,
whenever his influence extends, or his Arms have
penetrated, and it is the special duty of the
undersigned in the name of Her Majesty's Government,
to desire that Ali Bin Nasir will impress upon
His Highness the Imam of Muscat the fact that
nothing can so tend to secure those Blessings
to his subjects, nothing can so tend to exalt
the



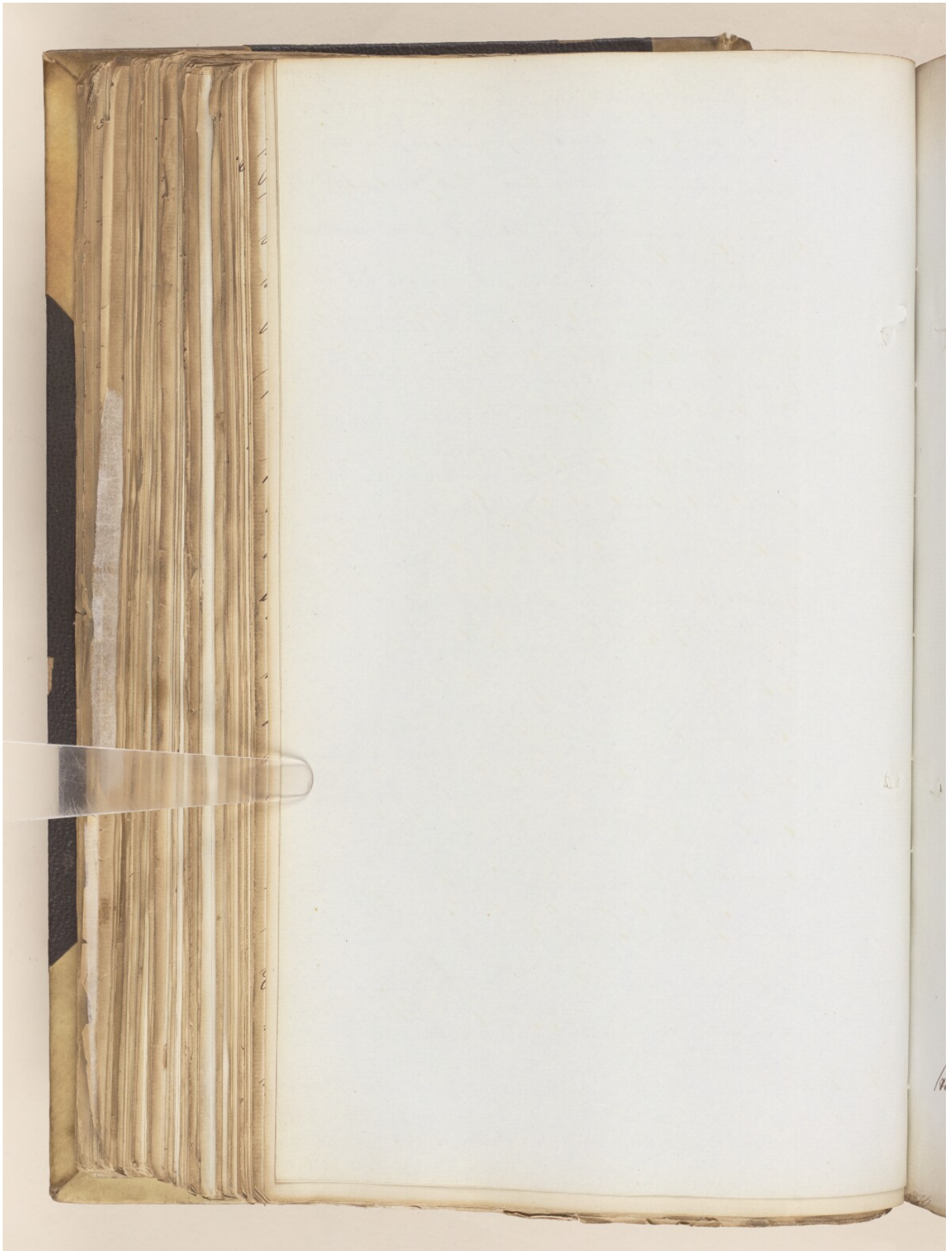
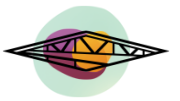
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the opinion of His Highness in this Country,
or to rivet the bonds of friendship which
exist between the Sovereign and Subjects of
Great Britain and of Muscat as an unvaried
endeavor of His Highness, by every means
within his power, to extinguish the revolting
Custom of Slave Trade.

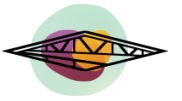
The undersigned, Ica

Signed) Aberdeen

Foreign Office -
November 9th 1842.

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Foreign Office, London
November 9 - 1842.

Sir, Your Highness,

I have had the honor to receive the letter which Your Highness wrote to me from Zanzibar on the 19th June 1842.

Her Majesty's Government have considered its contents with an earnest desire for the prosperity of Your Highness & for the welfare of your Dominions: and in that view Her Majesty's Government can have no objection to your Highness taking the proper steps for extending your Government, as you propose in your letter of the 19th June, along all that part of the Eastern Coast of Africa which comprises the territory bequeathed to your Highness by your Ancestors.

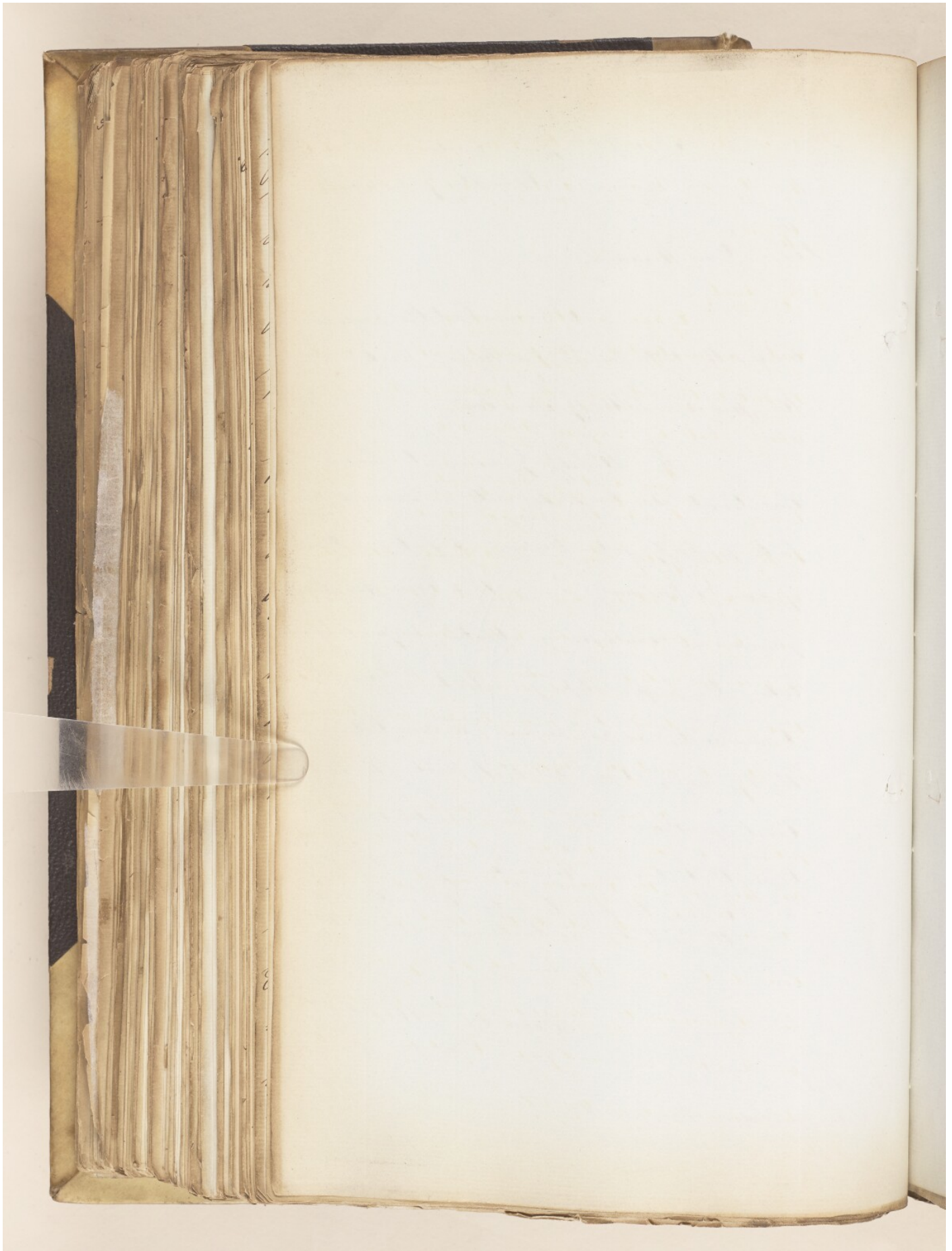
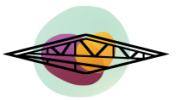
I have the honor to subscribe myself with the highest consideration and respect

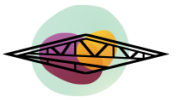
Sir Your

Signed / Aberdeen.

Your Highness
Saeed bin Sultan
Imam of Muscat.

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To The Right Honorable the Earl of Aberdeen K.T.
Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign
Affairs.

My Lord,

I have had the honor to receive your
Lordship's friendly letter of the 9th instant enclosing a sealed
Packet to the address of the Imam of Muscat,
which shall be carefully delivered to His Highness.

Your Lordship has afforded great relief
to my mind, upon the principal object of my Mission
to Her Majesty the Queen; and I doubt not the Letter
which your Lordship has addressed to the Imam,
will be most satisfactory to His Highness, as being
in unison with those sentiments of friendship &
that good understanding which happily exist between
Her Majesty and His Highness.

I can assure your Lordship that in
fulfilment of the expectation of Her Majesty's Government,
His Highness the Imam will himself faithfully
observe, and will also to the utmost of his power,
cause to be observed by his subjects, & by all within
his dominions, the stipulations entered into with
Her Majesty's Government for the limitation and
discouragement of the Slave Trade. Such
stipulations

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stipulations being comprised in the Treaty with
Captain Moresby of 1822, defining certain limits,
said to have been altered by Articles agreed to
by His Highness in 1839; - and I shall not fail
to impress upon His Highness the earnest desire
of Her Majesty, of the Government, and of the
people of this Country, for the total extinction of
the traffic.

The concluding part of your
Lordship's letter, cannot but prove very gratifying
to His Highness the Imam, who is most anxious,
by every means in his power consistently with
the independence of his Government, to rivet the
bands of friendship which exists between the
Sovereigns of Great Britain & Muscat.

Whilst thus expressing the
gratification afforded me by your Lordship's letter,
I cannot but feel rather disappointed that it
is silent on some points of minor importance,
although I trust not overlooked by your
Lordship.

His Highness, as stated in his
instructions to me, which I have had the honor
of



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of laying before your Lordship, has great
Cause of complaint against the British Consul
now at Zanzibar; who does not possess his
confidence, and whose conduct, in more
instances than one, has tended to lower His
Highness in the estimation of his subjects, & to
retard, rather than to promote the views of
Her Majesty's Government.

His Highness has also had
reason to regret the want of confidence and
consideration manifested towards him by the
East India Company's Government in India,
with which he has always been desirous of
maintaining the most friendly relations;
but, for many years past, he has not met
with a reciprocal feeling.

I have the honor to be with the
highest respect and Consideration,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient Servant.

Signed/ Saeed Ali Bin Nasir

London
Portland Hotel
23 November 1842.

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