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About this record

Administration Report on the Persian Gulf Residency and Maskat [Muscat] Political Agency for 1903-1904, published by the Office of the Superintendent of Government Printing, India (Calcutta), forming part of the Selections from the Records of the Government of India, Foreign Department, and based on reports sent to Government by the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf and the Political Agent at Muscat. Folios 165 and 166 are copies of notes, dated 18 April 1904 and 18 May 1904 respectively, sent by Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Arnold Kemball, Officiating Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, and Captain William George Grey, His Britannic Majesty's Consul and Political Agent, Muscat, to Louis William Dane, Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, submitting their respective annual administration reports.

The Administration Report is organised as follows:

1. *General Summary* submitted by Kemball (folios 167-69), including reports on: the year's rainfall and harvest; the governorship of Bushire and Gulf ports; public health, with details of outbreaks of cholera and plague; settlement of claims; the Viceroy of India, Lord Curzon's visit to the Gulf, including details of the itinerary; the British Minister at the Court of the Shah of Persia's visit to the Gulf; and the postal service. The *General Summary* also includes summaries for towns and regions, as follows: Oman and Muscat; Oman and the Pirate Coast, with an assessment of the pearling season, incidents of piracy and tribal relations; Bahrain [referred to as Bahrain], with an assessment of the pearling season; El Hassa [Al-Hasa] and El Katif [Al-Qatīf]; Koweit [Kuwait] and Nejd, with an update of the struggle between Abdul Rahman bin Feysul el Saood [Ibn Sa'ūd] and the Emir of Nejd, Ibn Rashīd; Persian Arabistan; Fars and the Persian Coast, with separate routes from Shiraz, Lingah [Bandar-e Lengeh], and Bunder Abbas [Bandar-e 'Abbās]; Persian Baluchistan; the slave trade, including numbers of slaves manumitted; incidents of piracy; movements of British naval vessels; reports on changes in British officials; and visits made by foreign representatives. An appendix to part 1 (folios 168-70) comprises statistical tables with meteorological data for the region.

2. *Administration Report of the Muscat Political Agency, 1903-04* , submitted by Grey (folios 170-77), including an account of the tribal politics of Oman; a detailed account of Lord Curzon's visit to Muscat, including copies of the addresses presented to Lord Curzon by the community of British subjects and other British protected persons in Muscat, and Sultan Seyyd Faisal [Sa'id Fayṣal], and Curzon's replies to each. The report also includes details of the Resident's visit to Muscat; political tours made by the Muscat Agent; administration of customs; Gwadur [Gwadar] customs; arms trafficking; health; law; building work in Muscat; improvements to the coal depot at Makullah cove; marine incidents, principally the wrecking of the French steamship *Amiral Gueydon* ; naval movements at Muscat; the slave trade, including numbers of slaves manumitted at Muscat; and changes to official personnel at Muscat.

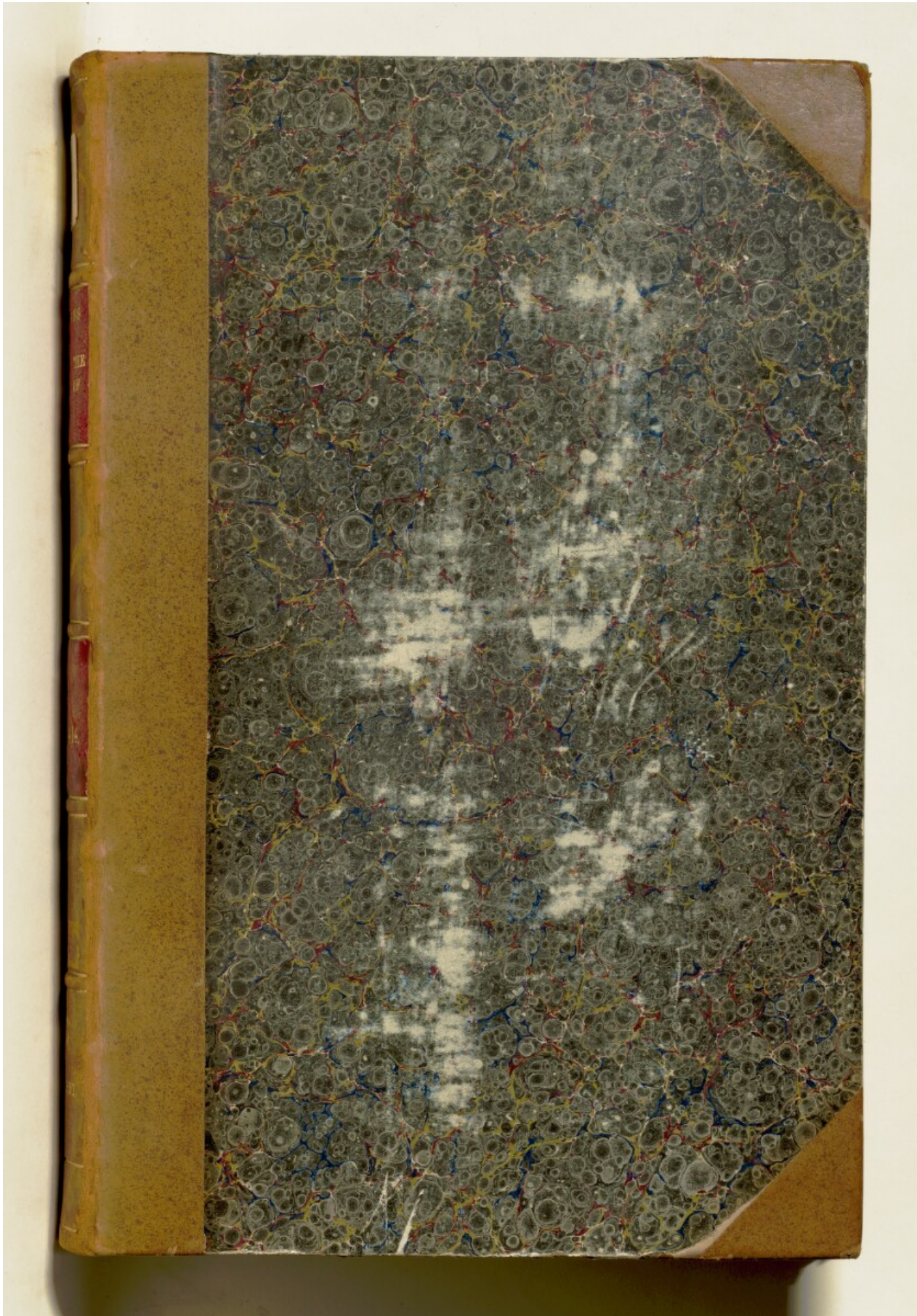
3. *Report on the Trade and Commerce of the Persian Gulf for the Year 1903* , submitted by Kemball (folios 178-87), including general remarks on trade, and more detailed remarks on customs tariffs; imports and exports; tea; indigo; exchange; freight and shipping. Two appendices to part 3 contain tabular data on the value and quantities of imports and exports into Bushire and other Gulf ports, as well as data on the numbers, tonnage and nationality of visiting vessels.

4. *Trade Report for Muscat, 1903-1904* , submitted by Grey (folios 187-91), containing details on imports and exports at Muscat, and followed by an appendix with trade statistics.

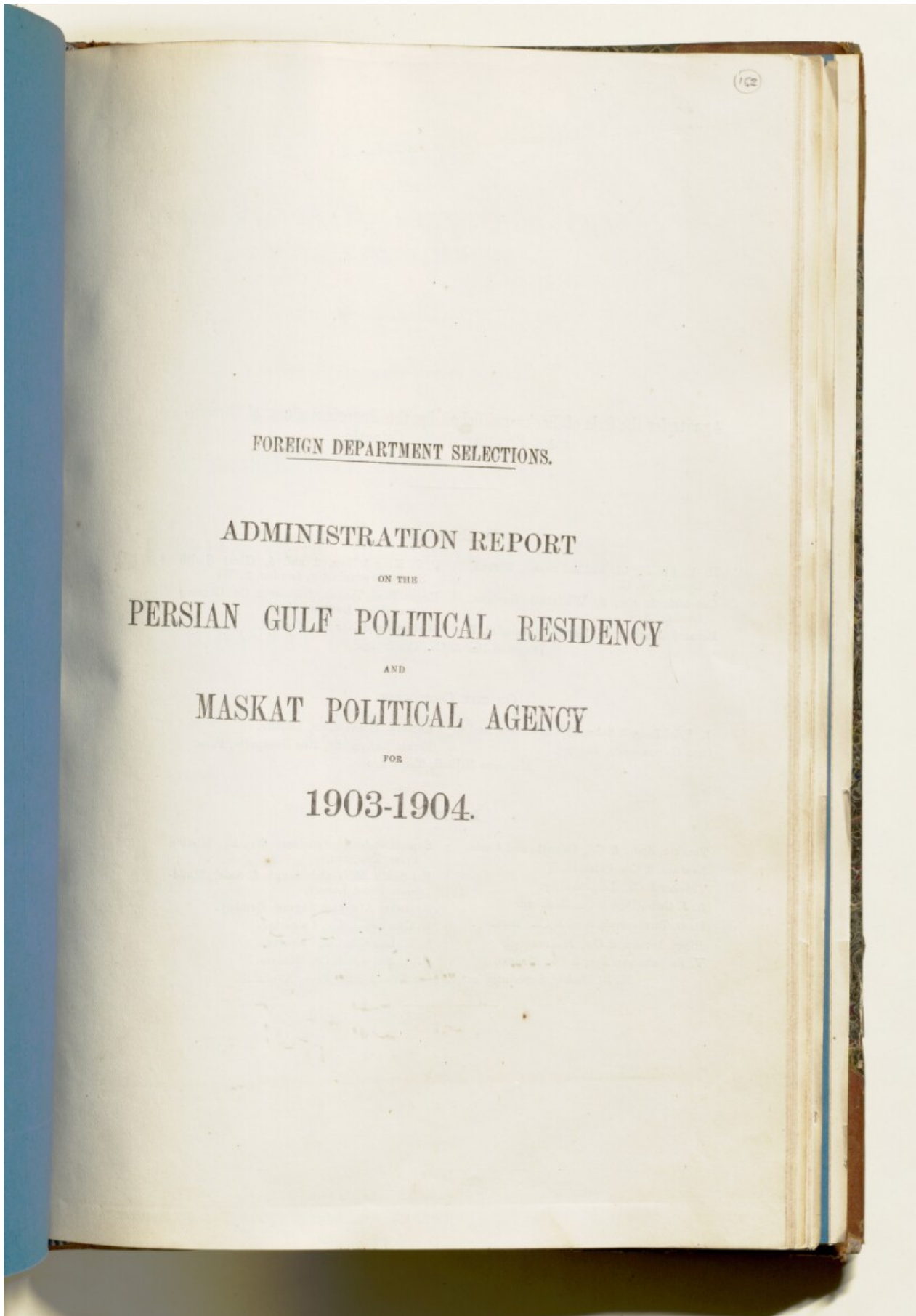
5. *Report on the Trade of Mohammerah [Khorramshahr] for the Year 1903* , submitted by William McDouall, His Britannic Majesty's Vice-Consul, Mohammerah (folios 190-92) with summaries on: exchange; shipping; caravan routes; and agriculture. An appendix follows the report, containing trade data in tabular format.

6. *Trade Report of Bundar Abbas [Bandar-e 'Abbās] for the Year 1903* , submitted by Arthur Prescott Trevor, His Britannic Majesty's Vice-Consul, Bandar-e 'Abbās (folios 193-96), with summaries on: openings for British trade; mistakes made by British traders and their foreign competitors; the progress of rival trade; obstacles to trade; changes to trade tariffs; communications; exchange; and shipping. An appendix follows the report, containing trade data in tabular format.

7. *Report on the Trade of the Bahrein Islands for the Year 1903* , submitted by John Calcott Gaskin, Assistant Political Agent, dated 9 January 1904 (folios 196-99), with details on: cotton, rice and coffee imports; lantern manufacture in Bahrain; assessment of the pearling season; the oyster shell export trade; boatbuilding activity; exchange; and shipping. An appendix follows the report, containing tabular data on the principal imports and export at Bahrain.









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For All See 402.

(163)

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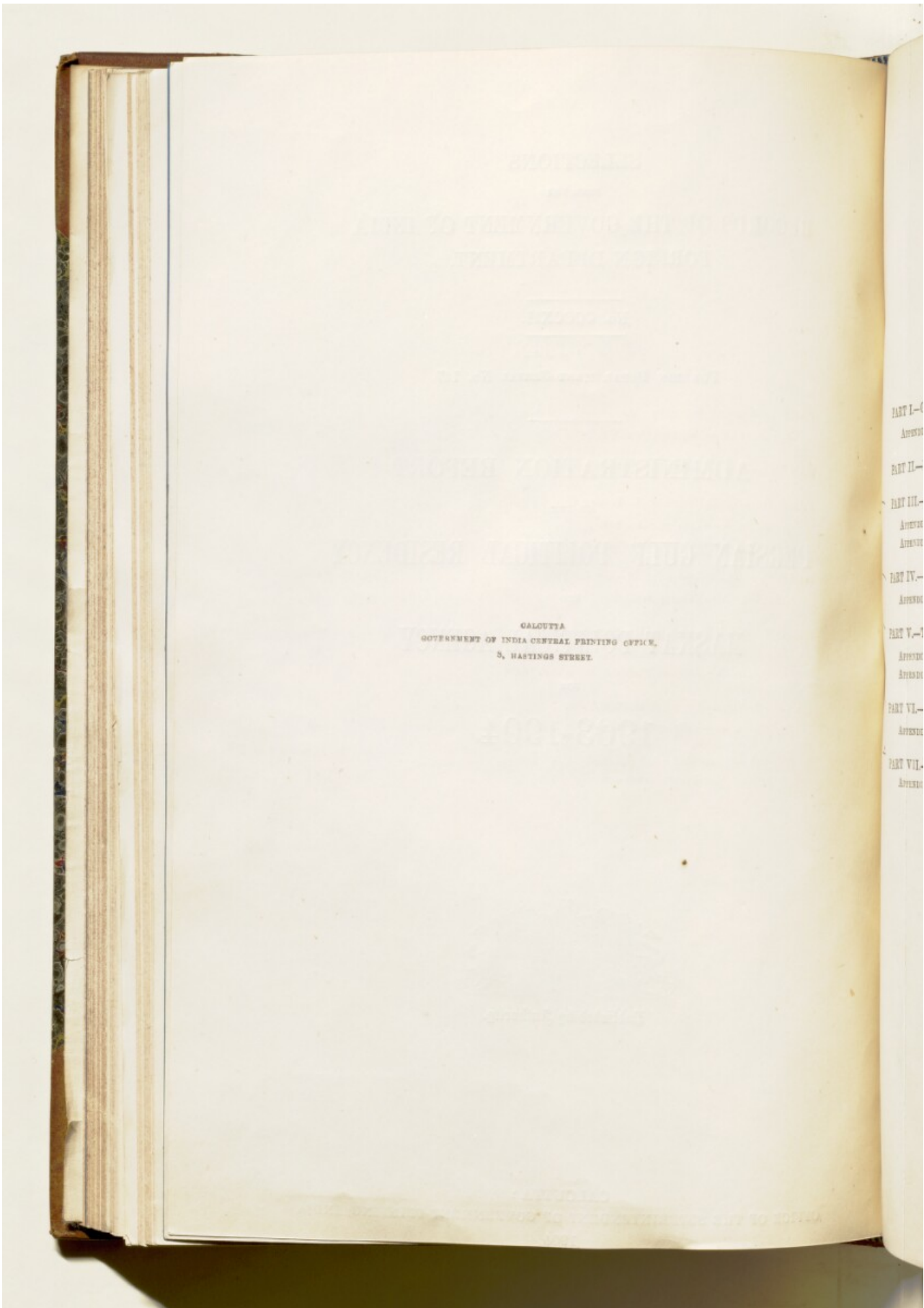
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ADMINISTRATION REPORT
ON THE
PERSIAN GULF POLITICAL RESIDENCY
AND
MASKAT POLITICAL AGENCY
FOR
1903-1904.



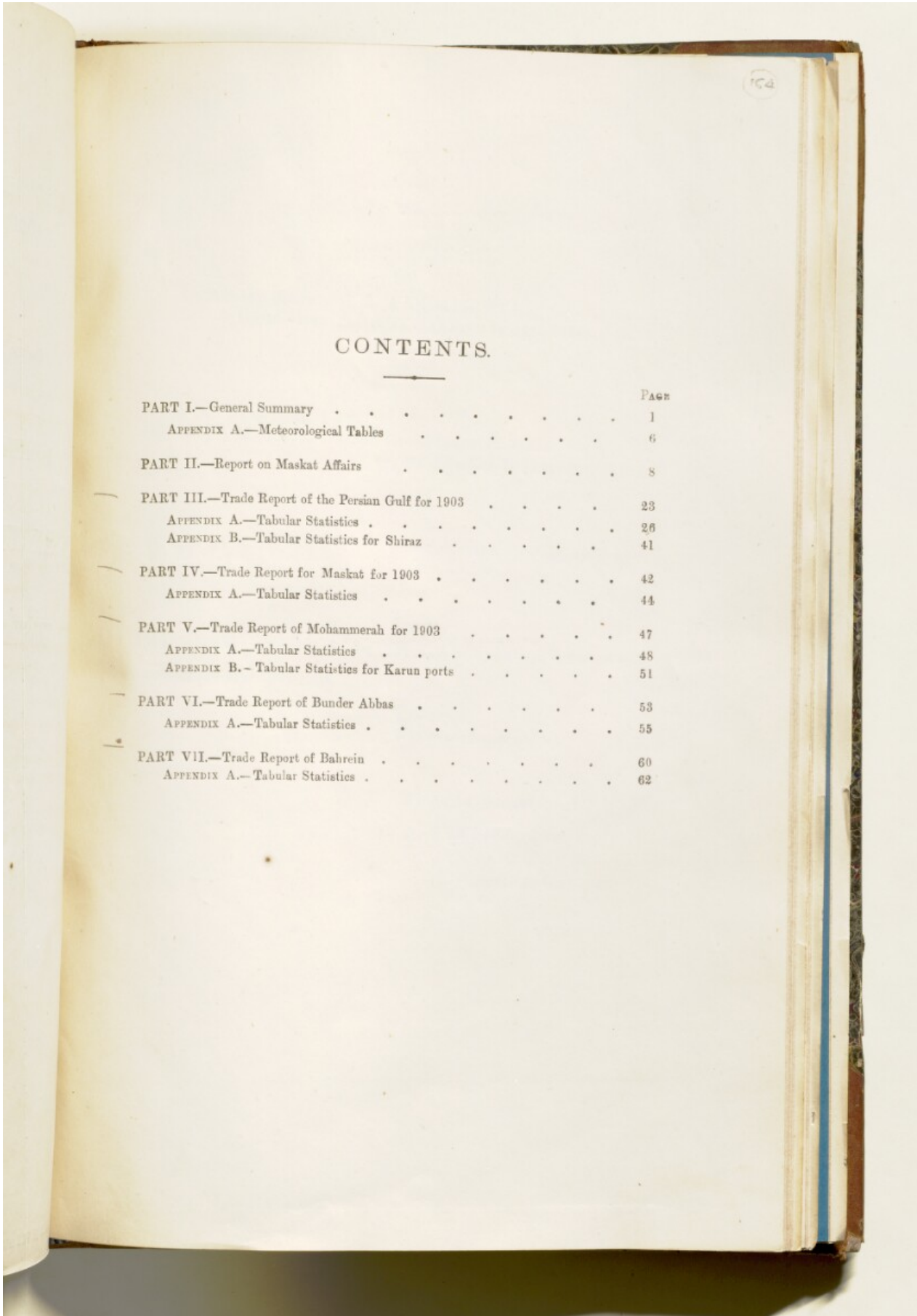
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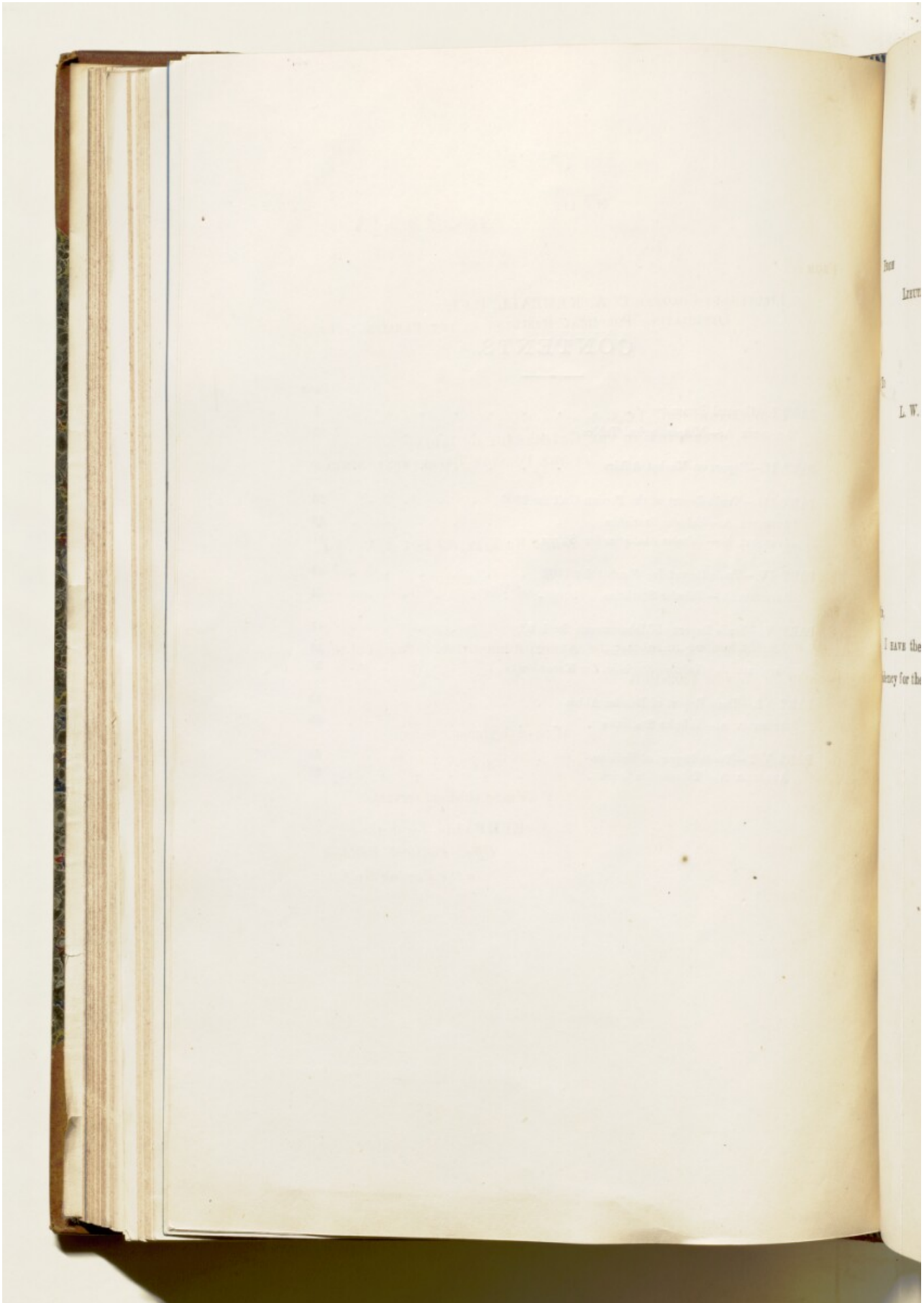
PART I.-
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No. 112.

FROM

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL C. A. KEMBALL, C.I.E.,
OFFICIATING POLITICAL RESIDENT IN THE PERSIAN GULF,

TO

L. W. DANE, ESQ., I.C.S.,
SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
IN THE FOREIGN DEPARTMENT, SIMLA.

Dated BUSHIRE, the 18th April 1904.

SIR,

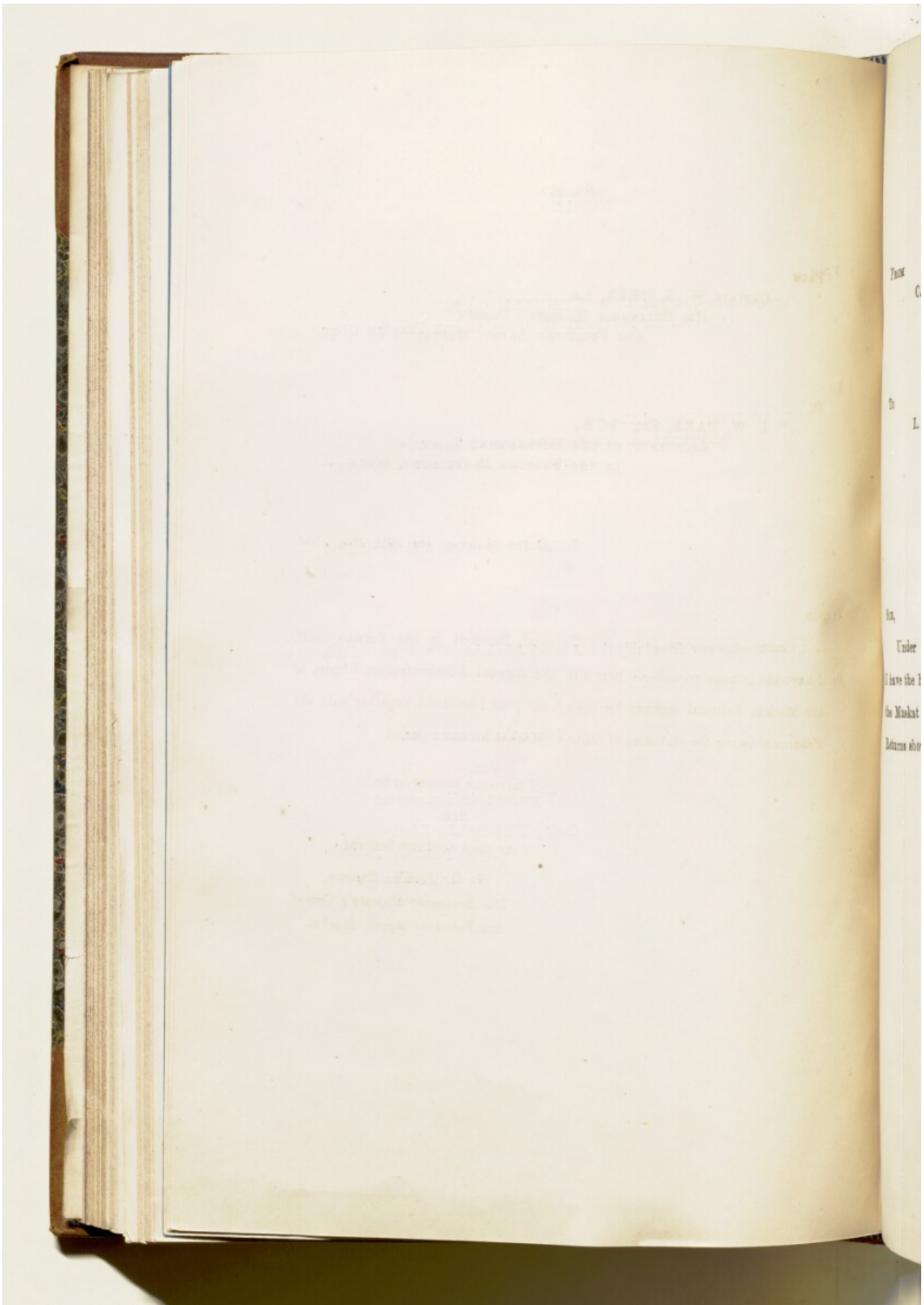
I HAVE the honour to submit the Annual Administration Report of this
Residency for the year 1903-1904.

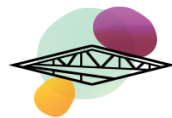
I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

C. A. KEMBALL, *Lieut.-Col.,*
Offg. Political Resident
in the Persian Gulf.





No. 228.

FROM

CAPTAIN W. G. GREY, I.A.,
HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S CONSUL
AND POLITICAL AGENT, MASKAT,

TO

L. W. DANE, Esq., I.C.S.,
SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
IN THE FOREIGN DEPARTMENT, SIMLA.

Dated MASKAT, the 18th May 1904.

SIR,

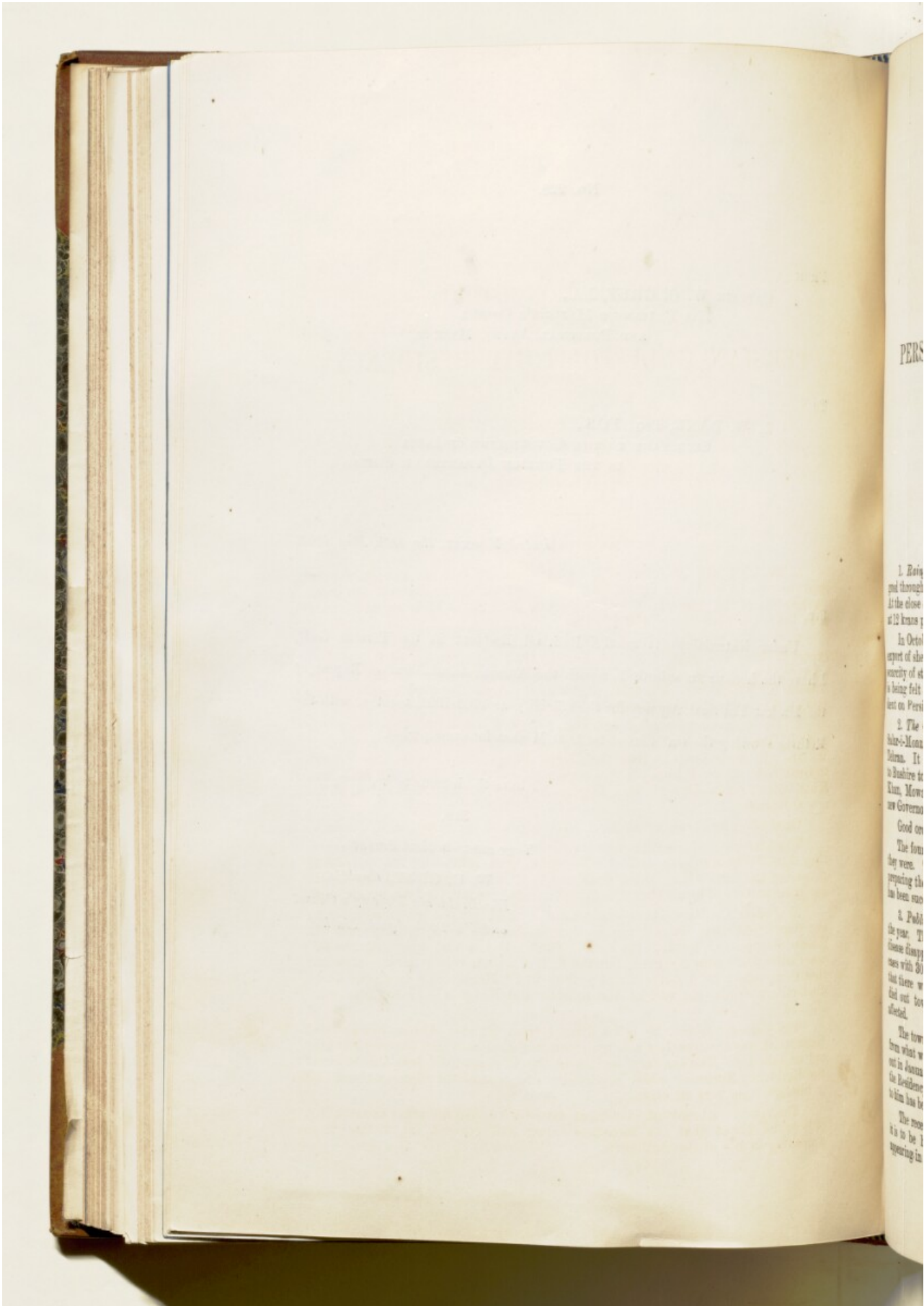
Under instructions from the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
I have the honour to submit herewith the Annual Administration Report of
the Maskat Political Agency for the official year 1903-1904, together with the
Returns showing the statistics of trade at Maskat for same period.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

W. G. GREY, *Captain,*
His Britannic Majesty's Consul
and Political Agent, Maskat.



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ADMINISTRATION REPORT
ON THE
PERSIAN GULF POLITICAL RESIDENCY
AND
MASKAT POLITICAL AGENCY
FOR
1903-1904.

PART I.—GENERAL SUMMARY.

1. *Rainfall and Harvest.*—The rainfall though late has generally been good throughout Southern Persia, and the prospects of the harvest are good. At the close of the year wheat was selling in Bushire at 17 krans and barley at 12 krans per hasmi maund of 124 lbs.

In October 1903 the Persian Government imposed an embargo on the export of sheep and goats from the Persian Gulf ports, owing to the alleged scarcity of stock in the interior. Considerable inconvenience on this account is being felt at Bahrein and other places on the Arab Coast which are dependent on Persia for their meat supply.

2. *The Governorship of Bushire and Gulf Ports.*—His Excellency the Salar-i-Moazzim left Bushire in the end of March, having been recalled to Tehran. It is understood that the Derya Beggi is on his way from Tehran to Bushire to succeed him. The Foreign Office Agent, Mirza Ali Mahomed Khan, Mowaker-ed-Dowleh, is acting as Governor pending the arrival of the new Governor.

Good order has been maintained in Bushire and the surrounding districts.

The four guns of position mentioned in last year's report remain where they were. The Artillery Officer who came from Tehran for the purpose of preparing the forts where these guns are to be placed died in August. He has been succeeded by another man, but the forts have not yet been constructed.

3. *Public Health.*—There was an outbreak of plague at Bahrein during the year. The first cases occurred during the first week in May and the disease disappeared towards the end of June. It has been estimated that 600 cases with 301 deaths occurred, but the figures are not very reliable. It is said that there was a mild outbreak of plague in El Hassa early in April which died out towards the end of the month; and Katif is said to have been affected.

The town of Minab, 50 miles distant from Bunder Abbas, has suffered from what was apparently a severe epidemic of cholera which however had died out in January. The sanitary service in the Persian Gulf is in the hands of the Residency Surgeon, whose supervision and that of the officers subordinate to him has been very effective.

The recent outbreak of cholera at Basra is a cause for some anxiety, but it is to be hoped that the measures taken will prevent the disease from appearing in any of the Gulf ports.

B



4. *Administration of Customs in the Persian Gulf.*—The year has been marked by the general extension of the authority of the Imperial Customs Administration throughout the Gulf, several of the minor ports, where the Customs were in the hands of the Local Chiefs, having been taken over by the Department.

Some captures of arms have been made in the vicinity of Bunder Abbas and elsewhere. There is little doubt that the gradual extension of the Customs Administration under European management is making the smuggling of arms into Persia more difficult.

The new Persian steamer the *Mazafferi* has done some useful work for the Customs Department during the year.

It will be seen from the Trade Report that the new tariff has not as yet affected British trade adversely. Tea, on which the duty was greatly increased, shows a fair increase; and indigo, on which the duty was also considerably enhanced, shows an improvement. The decrease in the import of Manchester piece-goods is probably due to an overstocked market.

5. *Settlement of Claims.*—The new Karguzar referred to in last year's Report proved unsatisfactory and did nothing towards the settlement of outstanding claims. Some of these, however, have been disposed of during the year by the efforts of His Majesty's Minister at Tehran.

6. *The Viceroy's visit to the Persian Gulf.*—The most noteworthy event during the year was the visit to the Persian Gulf of His Excellency Lord Curzon, Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

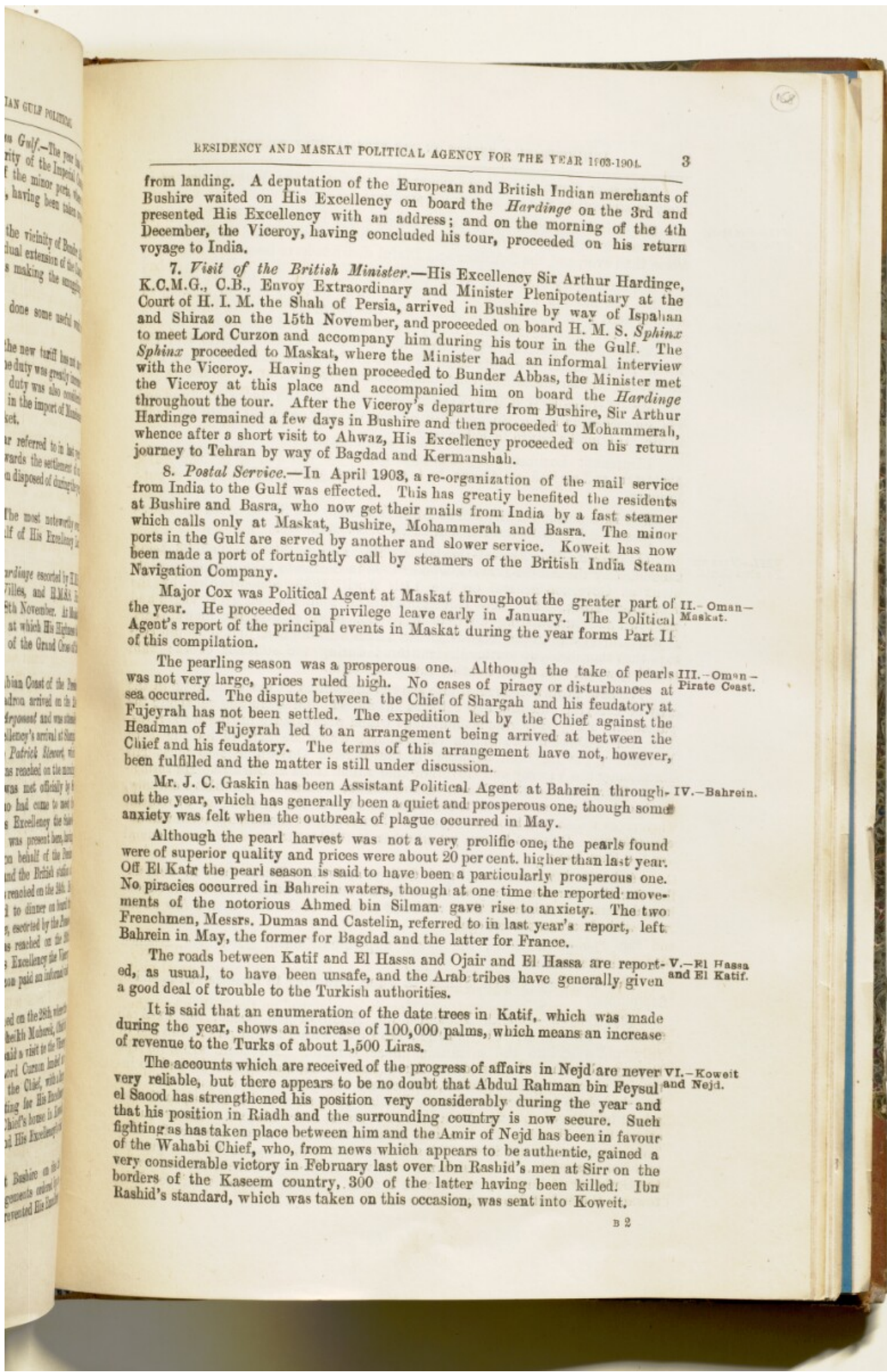
His Excellency the Viceroy in the R.I.M.S. *Hardinge* escorted by H.M.S. *Hyacinth*, flagship of Rear-Admiral Atkinson-Willes, and H.M.S.S. *Fox*, *Pomone* and *Argonaut*, arrived at Maskat on the 18th November. At Maskat a grand durbar was held on board the *Argonaut* at which His Highness the Sultan of Maskat was invested with the insignia of the Grand Cross of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire.

The next place visited was Shargah on the Arabian Coast of the Persian Gulf, where the Viceroy with the escorting squadron arrived on the 21st November. A durbar was held on board H.M.S. *Argonaut* and was attended by all the Trucial Chiefs who were awaiting His Excellency's arrival at Shargah on board the Indian Government Telegraph Ship *Patrick Stewart*, which had been deputed to collect them. Bunder Abbas was reached on the morning of the 22nd November, and here His Excellency was met officially by Sir Arthur Hardinge, British Minister at Tehran, who had come to meet the Viceroy and accompany him during his tour. His Excellency the Salar-i-Moazzim, Governor of Bushire and the Gulf Ports, was present here, having come in the *Persepolis* to welcome the Viceroy on behalf of the Persian Government. After visiting the adjacent islands and the British station at Bassidore, the Viceroy proceeded to Lingah, which was reached on the 24th. His Excellency the Salar-i-Moazzim was here entertained to dinner on board the *Hardinge*. Leaving Lingah on the 25th, the *Hardinge*, escorted by the *Pomone* and the *Sphinx*, proceeded to Bahrein, which was reached on the 26th. Sheikh Isa, Chief of Bahrein, was received by His Excellency the Viceroy on board the *Hardinge*, and in the evening Lord Curzon paid an informal visit to Manameh, where he was received by the Chief.

Bahrein was left on the 27th and Koweit was reached on the 28th, where the rest of the escorting squadron had already arrived. Sheikh Mubarek, Chief of Koweit, accompanied by his eldest son Sheikh Jaber, paid a visit to the Viceroy on board the *Hardinge*, and on the following day Lord Curzon landed at a point three miles from Koweit, where he was met by the Chief, with a large following of mounted men. A carriage was in waiting for His Excellency who, accompanied by the Chief, was driven to the Chief's house in Koweit. The route throughout was lined by crowds of Arabs, and His Excellency's visit was marked by much enthusiasm.

The *Hardinge*, with the squadron, arrived at Bushire on the 2nd December. Here, unfortunately, a hitch in the arrangements ordered by the Persian Government for the reception of the Viceroy prevented His Excellency

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from landing. A deputation of the European and British Indian merchants of Bushire waited on His Excellency on board the *Hardinge* on the 3rd and presented His Excellency with an address; and on the morning of the 4th December, the Viceroy, having concluded his tour, proceeded on his return voyage to India.

7. Visit of the British Minister.—His Excellency Sir Arthur Hardinge, K.C.M.G., C.B., Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of H. I. M. the Shah of Persia, arrived in Bushire by way of Ispahan and Shiraz on the 15th November, and proceeded on board H. M. S. *Sphinx* to meet Lord Curzon and accompany him during his tour in the Gulf. The *Sphinx* proceeded to Maskat, where the Minister had an informal interview with the Viceroy. Having then proceeded to Bunder Abbas, the Minister met the Viceroy at this place and accompanied him on board the *Hardinge* throughout the tour. After the Viceroy's departure from Bushire, Sir Arthur Hardinge remained a few days in Bushire and then proceeded to Mohammerah, whence after a short visit to Ahwaz, His Excellency proceeded on his return journey to Tehran by way of Bagdad and Kermanshah.

8. Postal Service.—In April 1903, a re-organization of the mail service from India to the Gulf was effected. This has greatly benefited the residents at Bushire and Basra, who now get their mails from India by a fast steamer which calls only at Maskat, Bushire, Mohammerah and Basra. The minor ports in the Gulf are served by another and slower service. Koweit has now been made a port of fortnightly call by steamers of the British India Steam Navigation Company.

Major Cox was Political Agent at Maskat throughout the greater part of the year. He proceeded on privilege leave early in January. The Political Agent's report of the principal events in Maskat during the year forms Part II of this compilation.

The pearling season was a prosperous one. Although the take of pearls was not very large, prices ruled high. No cases of piracy or disturbances at sea occurred. The dispute between the Chief of Shargah and his feudatory at Fujeerah has not been settled. The expedition led by the Chief against the Headman of Fujeerah led to an arrangement being arrived at between the Chief and his feudatory. The terms of this arrangement have not, however, been fulfilled and the matter is still under discussion.

Mr. J. C. Gaskin has been Assistant Political Agent at Bahrein throughout the year, which has generally been a quiet and prosperous one, though some anxiety was felt when the outbreak of plague occurred in May.

Although the pearl harvest was not a very prolific one, the pearls found were of superior quality and prices were about 20 per cent. higher than last year. Off El Katir the pearl season is said to have been a particularly prosperous one. No piracies occurred in Bahrein waters, though at one time the reported movements of the notorious Ahmed bin Silman gave rise to anxiety. The two Frenchmen, Messrs. Dumas and Castelin, referred to in last year's report, left Bahrein in May, the former for Bagdad and the latter for France.

The roads between Katif and El Hassa and Ojair and El Hassa are reported, as usual, to have been unsafe, and the Arab tribes have generally given a good deal of trouble to the Turkish authorities.

It is said that an enumeration of the date trees in Katif, which was made during the year, shows an increase of 100,000 palms, which means an increase of revenue to the Turks of about 1,500 Liras.

The accounts which are received of the progress of affairs in Nejd are never very reliable, but there appears to be no doubt that Abdul Rahman bin Feysal el Saoud has strengthened his position very considerably during the year and that his position in Riadh and the surrounding country is now secure. Such fighting as has taken place between him and the Amir of Nejd has been in favour of the Wahabi Chief, who, from news which appears to be authentic, gained a very considerable victory in February last over Ibn Rashid's men at Sirr on the borders of the Kaseem country, 300 of the latter having been killed. Ibn Rashid's standard, which was taken on this occasion, was sent into Koweit.

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III.—Oman—
Pirate Coast.

IV.—Bahrein.

V.—El Hassa
and El Katif.

VI.—Koweit
and Nejd.

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Political Agency for 1903-1904' [168v] (16/80)



Matters at Koweit have been generally quiet and the Wahabi success is likely to strengthen Sheikh Mubarek's position.

VII.—Persian Arabistan.

His Royal Highness the Salar-ed-Dowleh has been Governor-General of Arabistan throughout the year. The state of the province is said to have been worse than ever, and the Shushter and Dizful districts have been very unsafe.

His Excellency the Sirdar Arfa, Governor of Mahommerah, has been for the last few months in camp on the Karun, where he is engaged in making an arrangement with the Beni Truf Arabs for the payment of their outstanding revenue. At one time it seemed likely that hostilities would be resorted to, and some soldiers with guns have been sent from Bushire and Shushter to join the Sirdar Arfa. Later accounts seem to point to the likelihood of the Beni Truf submitting and an amicable arrangement being arrived at.

Mr. McDouall, H.B.M.'s Vice-Consul, proceeded on leave in June and was succeeded by Major Burton, 17th Bengal Cavalry, who left again for India on Mr McDouall's return in February.

Lieutenant Lorimer, I.A., was appointed His Majesty's Vice-Consul for Arabistan, and arrived at Ahwaz to take up his appointment in the end of January.

The Russian Consul-General at Bushire visited the Sirdar Arfa in March and presented him with the Russian Order of St. Stanislas.

VIII.—Fars and Persian Coast.

(1) *Shiraz*.—The Asaf-ed-Dowleh left Shiraz on the 26th March 1903, being succeeded by the Ala-ed-Dowleh, who arrived in Shiraz to take up his appointment as Governor-General on the 17th April 1903, accompanied by the Kawam-ul-Mulk. The new Governor-General soon showed his strength and the town and surrounding districts have not been so safe for many years. It was entirely due to the Ala-ed-Dowleh's firm attitude and judicious proceedings that there was no outbreak in Shiraz during the summer of the Babi troubles, which took place in other towns of Persia.

The new Governor-General also showed himself to be most energetic in the way of carrying out sanitary reforms in Shiraz, and generally repairing the palace and other Government buildings which were rapidly falling into ruins. The Ala-ed-Dowleh left Shiraz for Bushire, where he arrived on the 15th November, having been deputed by the Persian Government to meet His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India at Bushire. He returned to Shiraz on the 23rd December and left for Tehran on the 21st February, having been summoned to the capital to attend the meeting of Provincial Governors which had been convened for the purpose of considering certain financial reforms. It is not known yet whether he will return as Governor-General for the New Year.

A deputation from the Aligarh College arrived in Shiraz early in September for the purpose of explaining to the Shirazis the advantages of the educational system at Aligarh. They returned to India in October with a few pupils who wished to join the college.

Mr. George Grahame, the newly appointed Consul for Shiraz, reached Shiraz in November.

The Resident visited Shiraz in June, returning to Bushire at the end of September.

(2) *Lingah*.—Sheikh Mahomed bin Khalifah bin Saeed, the ex-Arab Chief of Lingah, arrived from the Arab Coast with 12 followers in the end of July, and went into the mountains near Lingah. He then wrote to the Deputy Governor, the Residency Agent and others, stating that he had no intention of creating disturbances, but merely wished to lead a quiet life and he asked them to intercede with the Persian authorities on his behalf, so that he might be allowed to settle down in some place near Lingah. Later on he asked Syed Hashim, the leading Mulla, to obtain a safe conduct for him. This was done but the Sheikh refused to trust it without some further guarantees for his safety. Some sirdazes with the Mujir-es-Sultaneh, the brother of the Governor of Bushire, were sent to Lingah. Sheikh Mahomed left for Katr towards the end of November.

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(3) *Bunder Abbas*.—Captain W. G. Grey was H.B.M.'s Vice-Consul during the year. He left in January to act as Consul at Maskat during Major Cox's absence, and was succeeded by Captain Trevor.

Mr. H. Whitby Smith was in political charge of the Mekran Coast during the year. IX.—Persian Baluchistan.

Sirdar Syed Khan has been reinstated as Chief of Gaih.

Sixteen slaves were manumitted during the year, of whom 7 took refuge at Lingah and 9 at Bahrein. X.—Slave Trade.

Two piracies were reported to have occurred in the third week of August on the bar of the Shatt-el-Arab. One of the pirated boats belonged to Koweit, and representations were made on behalf of Sheikh Mubarek to the local authorities. XI.—Piracies.

In February a sailing vessel belonging to Karachi was attacked and scuttled 20 miles beyond the outer buoy on the Shatt-el-Arab, two of the crew being killed and 400 baskets of dates and the ship's gear taken. It is believed that the pirates had followed the ship down the river and attacked her when she had got outside and out of sight of land. The Government of India have offered a reward of Rs. 1,000 for information which may lead to the discovery and conviction of the offenders.

The following ships of His Majesty's Navy visited the Gulf during the year:— H. M. S.S. *Hyacinth* (flagship), *Argonaut*, *Fox*, *Pomone*, *Perseus*, *Sphinx* and *Lapwing*. No Foreign ships of war visited the Gulf. XII.—Navy.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. A. Kemball, C.I.E., was Resident throughout the year. XIII.—Official Changes.

Captain Vere de Vere Hunt was First Assistant, and Captain de Vere Condon was Residency Surgeon.

Herr Von Mutius was Consul for Germany during the year. Monsieur Chaloin was Vice-Consul for France and was also in charge of the Netherlands Consulate. XIV.—Foreign Representative.

Monsieur Ovseenko, the Acting Russian Consul-General, left Bushire towards the end of July, having been relieved by Monsieur Passek, who is now Consul-General for Russia.

Messieurs Passek, Chaloin and von Mutius visited Shiraz during the summer.

The results of the daily observations are recorded in a tabular statement marked Appendix A. XV.—Observatory.

C. A. KEMBALL, *Lieut. Col.*,
Offg. Political Resident in the
Persian Gulf.

BUSHIRE ;

The April 1904.



APPENDIX A TO PART I.

TABLE No. 1.

Table showing the Force and prevailing Directions of the Wind and recorded Rainfall at Bushire for the year 1903-1904.

MONTHS.	Mean daily movements in miles.	PERCENTAGE OF EACH DIRECTION.													Rain.					
		Calm.	N.	N. N. E.	N. E.	E. N. E.	E.	E. S. E.	S. E.	S. S. E.	S.	S. S. W.	S. W.	W. S. W.		W.	W. N. W.	N. W.	N. N. W.	
April 1903	146.1	27	26	..	17	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	3	7	..	3	..	10	..	In. Cts.
May	185.4	6	23	..	20	10	8	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	29	3	..	0.71
June	261.2	20	20	7	..	..	..	7	..	7	..	..	..	..	3	..	38	..	..	..
July	185.5	23	23	..	10	..	..	10	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	31	..	..	..
August	131.6	42	16	..	10	..	3	..	7	..	3	..	6	3	..	..	10	6	..	..
September	196.6	23	..	3	24	3	..	3	3	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	24	..	..
October	138.1	13	8	26	8	6	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	40	..	..
November	148.5	7	7	33	20	7	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	16	..	..
December	142.8	10	..	26	16	6	8	16	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	13	2.63	..
January 1904	185.1	..	..	20	10	16	3	3	..	13	..	..	..	..	3	..	3	29	0.84	..
February	196.5	7	..	21	10	4	3	10	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	31	0.33	..
March	235.3	3	..	10	10	13	..	10	16	6	..	..	..	3	..	..	23	6	0.75	..
FOR THE YEAR	179	15	9	12	13	5	2	4	4	2	1	1	1	1	1	0	15	14	5.25	..

Rainfall during Cultivation Season of .	Inches.	Cts.
1894-95	26	63
1895-96	4	90
1896-97	7	99
1897-98	7	0
1898-99	7	26
1899-1900	14	21
1900-1901	8	88
1901-1902	3	13
1902-1903	10	86
1903-1904	5	25



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TABLE No. 2.
Abstract of Meteorological Observations for the year ending 31st March 1904 taken at the Residency Observatory, Bushire.

MONTHS.	READING OF BAROMETER.	DRY BULB	WET BULB.	SELF-REGISTERING THERMOMETERS.				Day or days on which temperature of air rose highest.	Day or days on which temperature of air fell lowest.
				MAXIMUM DRY.		MINIMUM DRY.			
				Mean.	Highest.	Mean.	Lowest.		
	8 A.M.	8 A.M.	8 A.M.	8 A.M.	8 A.M.	8 A.M.	8 A.M.		
April 1903	30.026	72.5	64.8	77.9	88.4	65.9	53.4	9th . . .	1st.
May "	29.680	82.7	70.8	89.6	103.4	76.3	60.6	28th . . .	3rd.
June "	29.732	86.8	77.9	93.6	108.8	81.1	75.4	9th . . .	30th.
July "	29.630	88.9	79.5	95	103.6	82.7	75	20th . . .	7th.
August "	29.696	95.3	82.3	99.6	108.	85.3	79.4	15th . . .	26th.
September "	29.864	86.7	79.7	94.7	102.71	80.7	75.5	19th . . .	20th.
October "	30.014	75.9	68	85.2	90.8	68.6	62	5th . . .	29th.
November "	30.195	68.6	57.9	75	87.2	58.6	47.6	2nd . . .	22nd.
December "	30.219	56.6	53.4	68.	78.3	52.9	45.8	18th . . .	9th.
January 1904	30.175	55.6	53.3	65.3	78.8	52.2	41.2	31st . . .	17th.
February "	30.173	57.8	55.5	66.2	80.2	58.7	45.7	27th . . .	4th.
March "	30.049	64.1	60.4	72.9	91.7	60.1	53	24th . . .	1st.
FOR THE YEAR	29.954	73.9	67	81.9	108.8	68.2	41.2	9th June .	17th January

RESIDENCY AND MASKAT POLITICAL AGENCY FOR THE YEAR 1903-1904.



PART II.—ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF THE MASKAT POLITICAL AGENCY, 1903-1904.

The tribal politics of Oman.

In the matter of internal politics the year under review would have furnished a generally satisfactory record had it not been for the sinister activity of the sons of the Sultan's old enemy, the late Saleh-bin-ali-al-Harhi, leader of the rebellion of 1895.

Since their father's death in 1896, his three sons, Aysa, Ali, and Ahmed have seldom allowed many months to pass without seeking unpleasant notoriety of one kind or another, and making themselves a source of expense and anxiety to the Sultan. The two younger brothers are restless ne'er-do-wells of a troublesome type but possessed of little personal reputation or influence except among such kindred spirits of their own and allied clans as are ready to respond to their call when any convenient opportunity arises for committing depredations upon ill-protected or unsuspecting neighbours.

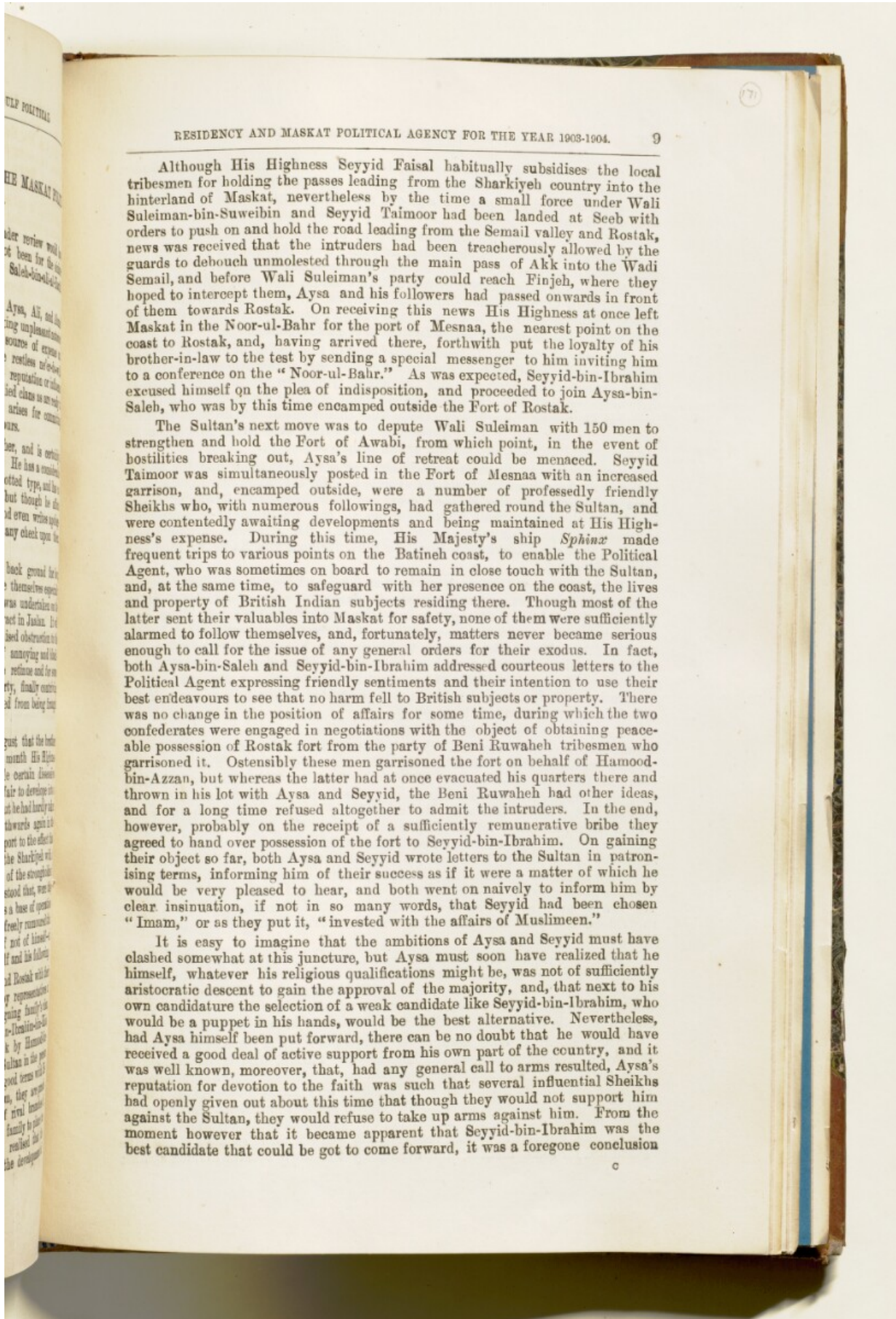
The eldest of the three, Aysa, takes after his father, and is certainly a more dignified and serious character than his brothers. He has a considerable reputation for asceticism and piety of a somewhat bigotted type, and has no small confidence in his own astuteness as a politician, but though he affects to disapprove of the turbulent vagaries of his brothers and even writes apologetically of them, he appears unable or disinclined to put any check upon them, even if he does not give them secret encouragement.

As before stated the family seldom remains in the back ground for long together, but the last occasion, upon which they made themselves especially conspicuous, was in 1901, when the first expedition was undertaken on the Sultan's behalf to explore the reported coal bearing tract in Jaalan. It will be remembered that on that occasion, realising that organised obstruction to the geologist's movements afforded a convenient means of annoying and black-mailing the Sultan, the brothers collected a considerable retinue and for some weeks altogether barred the progress of the exploring party, finally contriving a treacherous ambushade which only good luck prevented from being fraught with serious consequences.

During the present year it was in the month of August that the brothers first drew public attention to themselves. During that month His Highness the Sultan had proceeded to Soor to endeavour to settle certain dissensions between the two clans inhabiting that port which bade fair to develop into a sanguinary feud which might have continued indefinitely, but he had hardly taken the matter in hand when he was obliged to hurry northwards again in the "Noor-ul-Bahr" owing to the receipt of a disquieting report to the effect that the sons of Saleh-bin-Ali had suddenly migrated from the Sharkiyeh with a strong following, and were plotting to possess themselves of the strongholds of Hazm and Rostak. It was in the first place well understood that, were they to succeed in this enterprise, they would make the Forts a base of operations for organised annoyance to the Sultan, and it was further freely rumoured that Aysa aspired to set up a religious Imam in the person—if not of himself—of some puppet who would be in the leading strings of himself and his following.

It may here be explained that the Forts of Hazm and Rostak with their environments have been held for some generations past by representatives of the "Azzan" and "Kais," collateral branches of the reigning family's clan, the Al-bu-Seyyid. Hazm being now held by Seyyid-bin-Ibrahim-bin-Kais, whose sister is one of Seyyid Faisal's wives, and Rostak by Hamood-bin-Azzan. The genealogies of both unite with that of the Sultan in the person of Ahmed-bin-Seyyid "Al Imam." Though outwardly on good terms with His Highness, and in receipt of honorific allowances from him, they are practically independent of his authority, and being members of rival branches of the family, it has never been safe for the present reigning family to place too much store on their loyalty. Aysa-bin-Saleh no doubt realised that the atmosphere of Hazm and Rostak was a congenial one for the development of his designs.

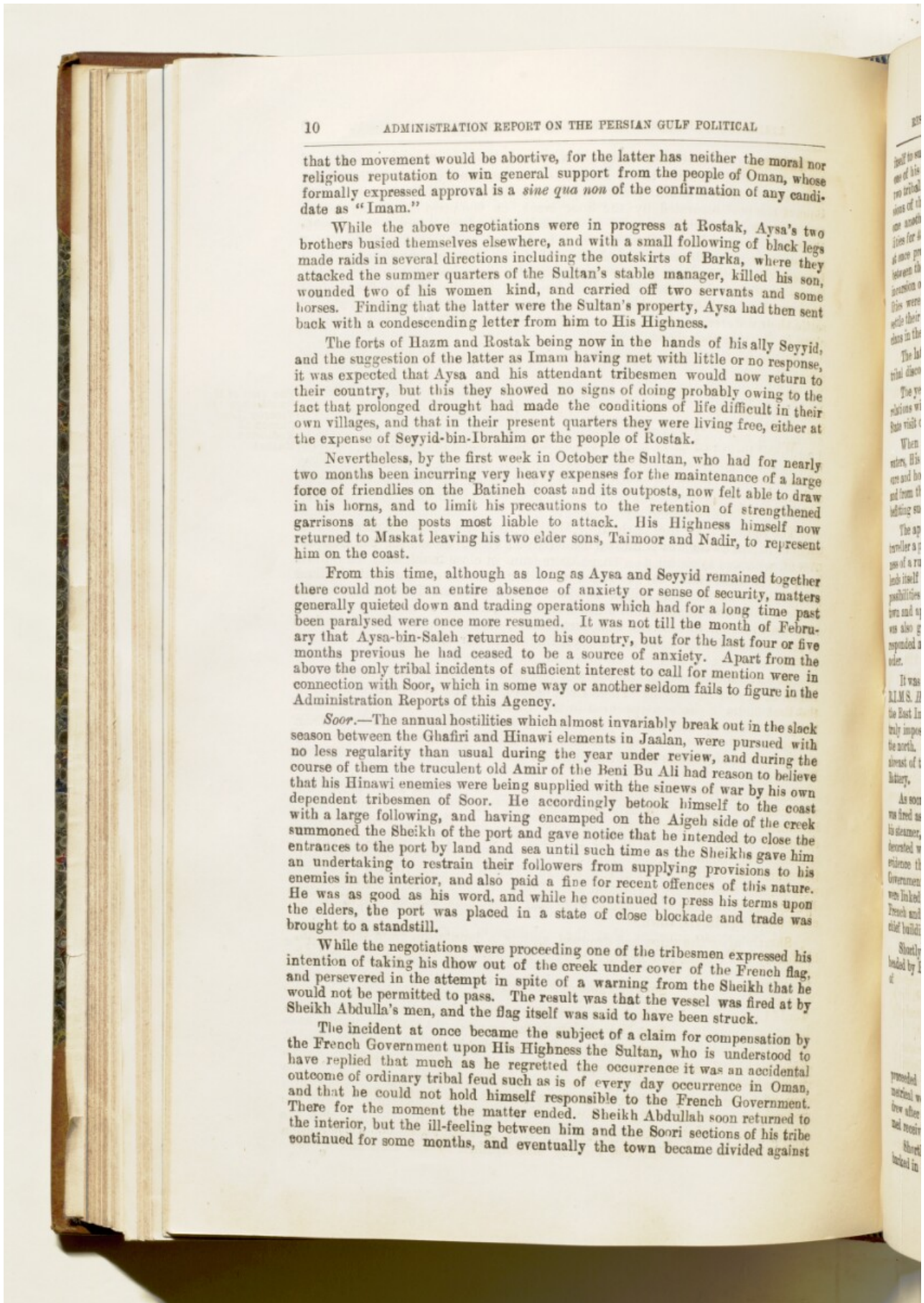
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Although His Highness Seyyid Faisal habitually subsidises the local tribesmen for holding the passes leading from the Sharkiyeh country into the hinterland of Maskat, nevertheless by the time a small force under Wali Suleiman-bin-Suweibin and Seyyid Taimoor had been landed at Seeb with orders to push on and hold the road leading from the Semail valley and Rostak, news was received that the intruders had been treacherously allowed by the guards to debouch unmolested through the main pass of Akk into the Wadi Semail, and before Wali Suleiman's party could reach Finjeh, where they hoped to intercept them, Aysa and his followers had passed onwards in front of them towards Rostak. On receiving this news His Highness at once left Maskat in the Noor-ul-Bahr for the port of Mesnaa, the nearest point on the coast to Rostak, and, having arrived there, forthwith put the loyalty of his brother-in-law to the test by sending a special messenger to him inviting him to a conference on the "Noor-ul-Bahr." As was expected, Seyyid-bin-Ibrahim excused himself on the plea of indisposition, and proceeded to join Aysa-bin-Saleh, who was by this time encamped outside the Fort of Rostak.

The Sultan's next move was to depute Wali Suleiman with 150 men to strengthen and hold the Fort of Awabi, from which point, in the event of hostilities breaking out, Aysa's line of retreat could be menaced. Seyyid Taimoor was simultaneously posted in the Fort of Mesnaa with an increased garrison, and, encamped outside, were a number of professedly friendly Sheikhs who, with numerous followings, had gathered round the Sultan, and were contentedly awaiting developments and being maintained at His Highness's expense. During this time, His Majesty's ship *Sphinx* made frequent trips to various points on the Batineh coast, to enable the Political Agent, who was sometimes on board to remain in close touch with the Sultan, and, at the same time, to safeguard with her presence on the coast, the lives and property of British Indian subjects residing there. Though most of the latter sent their valuables into Maskat for safety, none of them were sufficiently alarmed to follow themselves, and, fortunately, matters never became serious enough to call for the issue of any general orders for their exodus. In fact, both Aysa-bin-Saleh and Seyyid-bin-Ibrahim addressed courteous letters to the Political Agent expressing friendly sentiments and their intention to use their best endeavours to see that no harm fell to British subjects or property. There was no change in the position of affairs for some time, during which the two confederates were engaged in negotiations with the object of obtaining peaceable possession of Rostak fort from the party of Beni Ruwaheh tribesmen who garrisoned it. Ostensibly these men garrisoned the fort on behalf of Hamood-bin-Azzan, but whereas the latter had at once evacuated his quarters there and thrown in his lot with Aysa and Seyyid, the Beni Ruwaheh had other ideas, and for a long time refused altogether to admit the intruders. In the end, however, probably on the receipt of a sufficiently remunerative bribe they agreed to hand over possession of the fort to Seyyid-bin-Ibrahim. On gaining their object so far, both Aysa and Seyyid wrote letters to the Sultan in patronising terms, informing him of their success as if it were a matter of which he would be very pleased to hear, and both went on naively to inform him by clear insinuation, if not in so many words, that Seyyid had been chosen "Imam," or as they put it, "invested with the affairs of Muslimeen."

It is easy to imagine that the ambitions of Aysa and Seyyid must have clashed somewhat at this juncture, but Aysa must soon have realized that he himself, whatever his religious qualifications might be, was not of sufficiently aristocratic descent to gain the approval of the majority, and, that next to his own candidature the selection of a weak candidate like Seyyid-bin-Ibrahim, who would be a puppet in his hands, would be the best alternative. Nevertheless, had Aysa himself been put forward, there can be no doubt that he would have received a good deal of active support from his own part of the country, and it was well known, moreover, that, had any general call to arms resulted, Aysa's reputation for devotion to the faith was such that several influential Sheikhs had openly given out about this time that though they would not support him against the Sultan, they would refuse to take up arms against him. From the moment however that it became apparent that Seyyid-bin-Ibrahim was the best candidate that could be got to come forward, it was a foregone conclusion



that the movement would be abortive, for the latter has neither the moral nor religious reputation to win general support from the people of Oman, whose formally expressed approval is a *sine qua non* of the confirmation of any candidate as "Imam."

While the above negotiations were in progress at Rostak, Aysa's two brothers busied themselves elsewhere, and with a small following of black legs made raids in several directions including the outskirts of Barka, where they attacked the summer quarters of the Sultan's stable manager, killed his son, wounded two of his women kind, and carried off two servants and some horses. Finding that the latter were the Sultan's property, Aysa had then sent back with a condescending letter from him to His Highness.

The forts of Hazm and Rostak being now in the hands of his ally Seyyid, and the suggestion of the latter as Imam having met with little or no response, it was expected that Aysa and his attendant tribesmen would now return to their country, but this they showed no signs of doing probably owing to the fact that prolonged drought had made the conditions of life difficult in their own villages, and that in their present quarters they were living free, either at the expense of Seyyid-bin-Ibrahim or the people of Rostak.

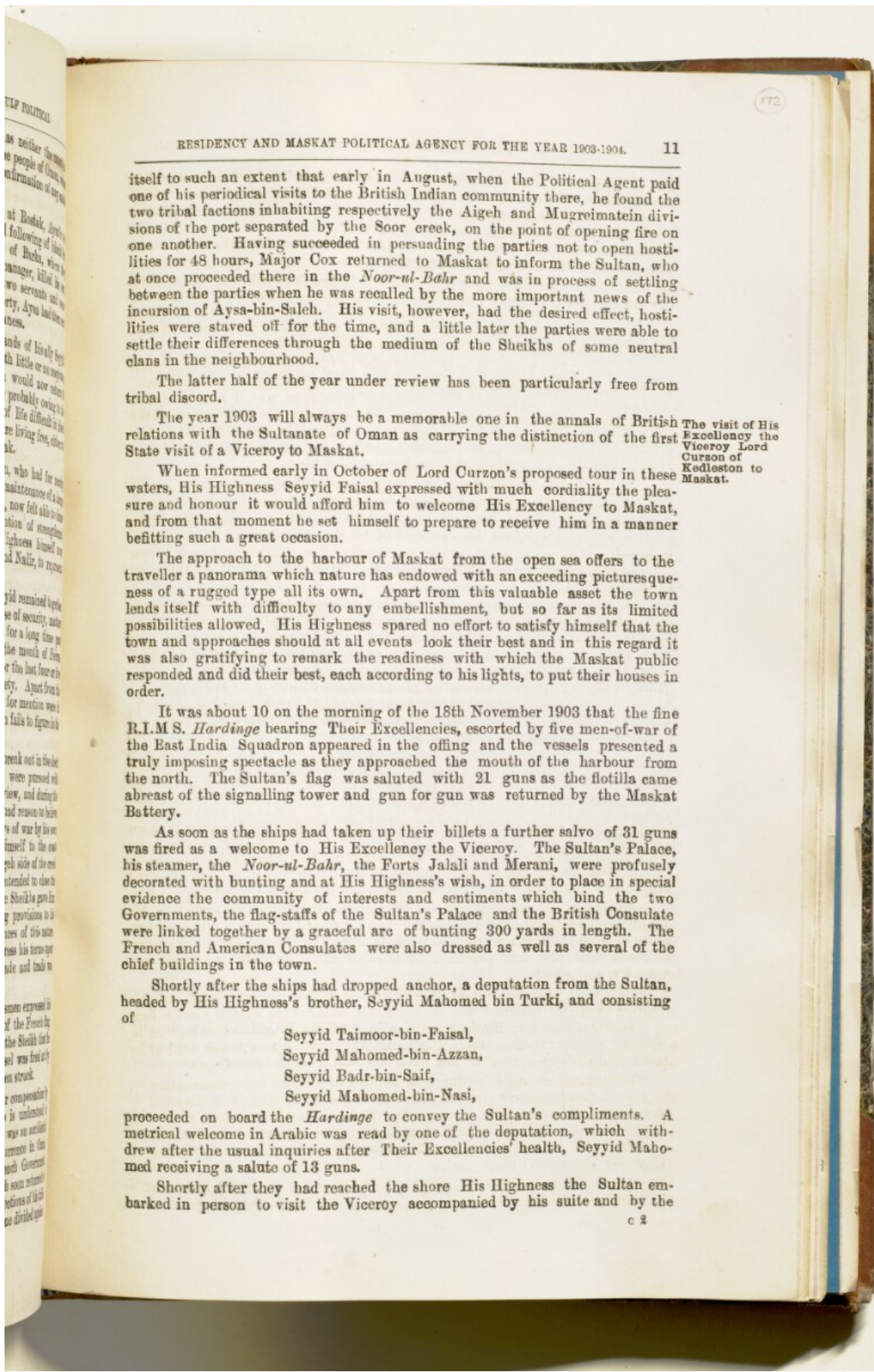
Nevertheless, by the first week in October the Sultan, who had for nearly two months been incurring very heavy expenses for the maintenance of a large force of friendlies on the Batineh coast and its outposts, now felt able to draw in his horns, and to limit his precautions to the retention of strengthened garrisons at the posts most liable to attack. His Highness himself now returned to Maskat leaving his two elder sons, Taimoor and Nadir, to represent him on the coast.

From this time, although as long as Aysa and Seyyid remained together there could not be an entire absence of anxiety or sense of security, matters generally quieted down and trading operations which had for a long time past been paralysed were once more resumed. It was not till the month of February that Aysa-bin-Saleh returned to his country, but for the last four or five months previous he had ceased to be a source of anxiety. Apart from the above the only tribal incidents of sufficient interest to call for mention were in connection with Soor, which in some way or another seldom fails to figure in the Administration Reports of this Agency.

Soor.—The annual hostilities which almost invariably break out in the slack season between the Ghafiri and Hinawi elements in Jaalan, were pursued with no less regularity than usual during the year under review, and during the course of them the truculent old Amir of the Beni Bu Ali had reason to believe that his Hinawi enemies were being supplied with the sinews of war by his own dependent tribesmen of Soor. He accordingly betook himself to the coast with a large following, and having encamped on the Aigeh side of the creek summoned the Sheikh of the port and gave notice that he intended to close the entrances to the port by land and sea until such time as the Sheikhs gave him an undertaking to restrain their followers from supplying provisions to his enemies in the interior, and also paid a fine for recent offences of this nature. He was as good as his word, and while he continued to press his terms upon the elders, the port was placed in a state of close blockade and trade was brought to a standstill.

While the negotiations were proceeding one of the tribesmen expressed his intention of taking his dhow out of the creek under cover of the French flag, and persevered in the attempt in spite of a warning from the Sheikh that he would not be permitted to pass. The result was that the vessel was fired at by Sheikh Abdulla's men, and the flag itself was said to have been struck.

The incident at once became the subject of a claim for compensation by the French Government upon His Highness the Sultan, who is understood to have replied that much as he regretted the occurrence it was an accidental outcome of ordinary tribal feud such as is of every day occurrence in Oman, and that he could not hold himself responsible to the French Government. There for the moment the matter ended. Sheikh Abdullah soon returned to the interior, but the ill-feeling between him and the Soori sections of his tribe continued for some months, and eventually the town became divided against



itself to such an extent that early in August, when the Political Agent paid one of his periodical visits to the British Indian community there, he found the two tribal factions inhabiting respectively the Aigeh and Mugreimatein divisions of the port separated by the Soor creek, on the point of opening fire on one another. Having succeeded in persuading the parties not to open hostilities for 48 hours, Major Cox returned to Maskat to inform the Sultan, who at once proceeded there in the *Noor-ul-Bahr* and was in process of settling between the parties when he was recalled by the more important news of the incursion of Aysa-bin-Saleh. His visit, however, had the desired effect, hostilities were staved off for the time, and a little later the parties were able to settle their differences through the medium of the Sheikhs of some neutral clans in the neighbourhood.

The latter half of the year under review has been particularly free from tribal discord.

The year 1903 will always be a memorable one in the annals of British relations with the Sultanate of Oman as carrying the distinction of the first State visit of a Viceroy to Maskat.

The visit of His Excellency the Viceroy Lord Curzon of Kedleston to Maskat.

When informed early in October of Lord Curzon's proposed tour in these waters, His Highness Seyyid Faisal expressed with much cordiality the pleasure and honour it would afford him to welcome His Excellency to Maskat, and from that moment he set himself to prepare to receive him in a manner befitting such a great occasion.

The approach to the harbour of Maskat from the open sea offers to the traveller a panorama which nature has endowed with an exceeding picturesque-ness of a rugged type all its own. Apart from this valuable asset the town lends itself with difficulty to any embellishment, but so far as its limited possibilities allowed, His Highness spared no effort to satisfy himself that the town and approaches should at all events look their best and in this regard it was also gratifying to remark the readiness with which the Maskat public responded and did their best, each according to his lights, to put their houses in order.

It was about 10 on the morning of the 18th November 1903 that the fine R.I.M.S. *Hardinge* bearing Their Excellencies, escorted by five men-of-war of the East India Squadron appeared in the offing and the vessels presented a truly imposing spectacle as they approached the mouth of the harbour from the north. The Sultan's flag was saluted with 21 guns as the flotilla came abreast of the signalling tower and gun for gun was returned by the Maskat Battery.

As soon as the ships had taken up their billets a further salvo of 31 guns was fired as a welcome to His Excellency the Viceroy. The Sultan's Palace, his steamer, the *Noor-ul-Bahr*, the Forts Jalali and Merani, were profusely decorated with bunting and at His Highness's wish, in order to place in special evidence the community of interests and sentiments which bind the two Governments, the flag-staffs of the Sultan's Palace and the British Consulate were linked together by a graceful arc of bunting 300 yards in length. The French and American Consulates were also dressed as well as several of the chief buildings in the town.

Shortly after the ships had dropped anchor, a deputation from the Sultan, headed by His Highness's brother, Seyyid Mahomed bin Turki, and consisting of

- Seyyid Taimoor-bin-Faisal,
- Seyyid Mahomed-bin-Azzan,
- Seyyid Badr-bin-Saif,
- Seyyid Mahomed-bin-Nasi,

proceeded on board the *Hardinge* to convey the Sultan's compliments. A metrical welcome in Arabic was read by one of the deputation, which withdrew after the usual inquiries after Their Excellencies' health, Seyyid Mahomed receiving a salute of 13 guns.

Shortly after they had reached the shore His Highness the Sultan embarked in person to visit the Viceroy accompanied by his suite and by the

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Political Agent. After steaming round the entire squadron and acknowledging the compliments of the crews of His Majesty's ships, His Highness drew up alongside the *Hardinge*, where he was received by the Foreign and Military Secretaries and members of the Viceroy's Staff, and was by them conducted into His Excellency's presence on the quarter-deck of the *Hardinge*, which had been fitted up as a state reception room.

Greetings were exchanged and a short conversation took place after which the members of the Sultan's suite were severally presented to His Excellency.

Refreshments were then served and a few minutes later the Sultan took his departure under a salute of 21 guns.

Between 12 and 1 o'clock the Consuls of France and America at Maskat proceeded on board to pay their respects and were accorded interviews by His Excellency, and the salutes of their rank on departure.

About 2 o'clock the Viceroy, accompanied by His Excellency Rear Admiral Atkinson-Willes and Staff, landed at the jetty which had been temporarily erected for the purpose at the customs wharf and were received there by the Resident in the Persian Gulf and the Political Agent.

As His Excellency disembarked the ships of the squadron were dressed and manned and the Viceregal salute of 31 guns fired. From the jetty the Viceregal party walked through the narrow but gaily decorated street to the British Consulate, where the Political Agent was honoured by their company at lunch.

At 3-15 p. m. a representative deputation from the various denominations of British subjects and protected persons dwelling in the Sultan's territories waited upon His Excellency with an address which was read in English by Mr. Purshotam Dhanjee, representative of a local Hindoo trading firm. It was then presented in a silver casket of local design and manufacture representing a led camel standing beneath the shade of a palmtree, the trunk of which formed the receptacle for the vellum. Having accorded a pregnant and sympathetic reply to this representation, Lord Curzon returned by sea to the jetty at the head of which he was received on arrival by the Sultan. A Guard-of-honour of British Marines with a band were in attendance at the customs wharf and from that point the street through which the party would pass was lined on both sides by the Sultan's Arab Askaris. His Highness thence conducted the Viceroy and his suite to the Audience Chamber in the Palace and on arrival there led his guest to a seat on his right on a raised dais at the head of the room. Seats were provided for His Excellency's suite and the Sultan's Chief Officers of State along the two sides of the room while in the further end and body of the hall were accommodated 70 or 80 Sheikhs and representative men from various parts of the interior who had been invited in for the occasion.

A striking feature in the room were a number of loyal inscriptions in English capitals on coloured ground which freely adorned the walls.

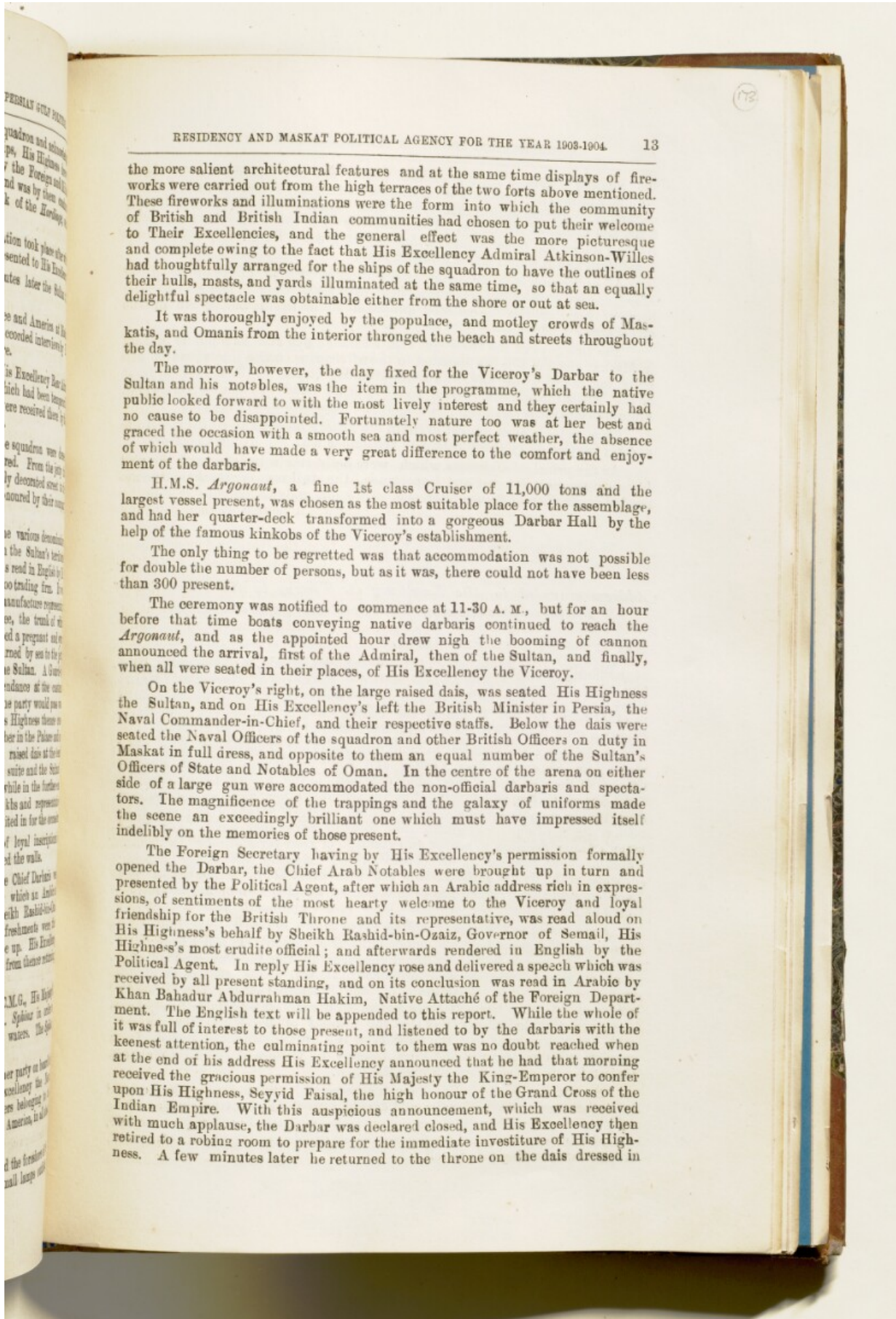
As soon as formal greetings had been exchanged the Chief Darbaris were brought up and presented by the Political Agent after which an Arabic address of welcome was read on the Sultan's behalf by Sheikh Rashid-bin-Ozaiz and was cordially acknowledged by the Viceroy. Refreshments were then passed round and a few minutes later the Darbar broke up. His Excellency being escorted back to the Pier-head by the Sultan and from thence returning on board the *Hardinge*.

In the meanwhile Sir Arthur Hardinge, C.B., K.C.M.G., His Majesty's Minister at Tehran, had arrived in Maskat in H.M.S. *Sphinx* in order to confer with the Viceroy, before his entry into Persian waters. The *Sphinx* brought the number of British vessels present up to 8.

That evening Their Excellencies gave a large dinner party on board the *Hardinge*, to which Sir Arthur Hardinge, His Excellency the Naval Commander-in-Chief and Staff, the Senior Naval Officers belonging to the squadron and the Consular representatives of France and America, in all about 70 persons, were invited.

During and after the dinner the Portuguese Forts and the foreshore of the harbour were brilliantly illuminated with myriads of small lamps outlining

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the more salient architectural features and at the same time displays of fireworks were carried out from the high terraces of the two forts above mentioned. These fireworks and illuminations were the form into which the community of British and British Indian communities had chosen to put their welcome to Their Excellencies, and the general effect was the more picturesque and complete owing to the fact that His Excellency Admiral Atkinson-Willes had thoughtfully arranged for the ships of the squadron to have the outlines of their hulls, masts, and yards illuminated at the same time, so that an equally delightful spectacle was obtainable either from the shore or out at sea.

It was thoroughly enjoyed by the populace, and motley crowds of Maskatis, and Omanis from the interior thronged the beach and streets throughout the day.

The morrow, however, the day fixed for the Viceroy's Darbar to the Sultan and his notables, was the item in the programme, which the native public looked forward to with the most lively interest and they certainly had no cause to be disappointed. Fortunately nature too was at her best and graced the occasion with a smooth sea and most perfect weather, the absence of which would have made a very great difference to the comfort and enjoyment of the darbaris.

H.M.S. *Argonaut*, a fine 1st class Cruiser of 11,000 tons and the largest vessel present, was chosen as the most suitable place for the assemblage, and had her quarter-deck transformed into a gorgeous Darbar Hall by the help of the famous kinkobs of the Viceroy's establishment.

The only thing to be regretted was that accommodation was not possible for double the number of persons, but as it was, there could not have been less than 300 present.

The ceremony was notified to commence at 11-30 A. M., but for an hour before that time boats conveying native darbaris continued to reach the *Argonaut*, and as the appointed hour drew nigh the booming of cannon announced the arrival, first of the Admiral, then of the Sultan, and finally, when all were seated in their places, of His Excellency the Viceroy.

On the Viceroy's right, on the large raised dais, was seated His Highness the Sultan, and on His Excellency's left the British Minister in Persia, the Naval Commander-in-Chief, and their respective staffs. Below the dais were seated the Naval Officers of the squadron and other British Officers on duty in Maskat in full dress, and opposite to them an equal number of the Sultan's Officers of State and Notables of Oman. In the centre of the arena on either side of a large gun were accommodated the non-official darbaris and spectators. The magnificence of the trappings and the galaxy of uniforms made the scene an exceedingly brilliant one which must have impressed itself indelibly on the memories of those present.

The Foreign Secretary having by His Excellency's permission formally opened the Darbar, the Chief Arab Notables were brought up in turn and presented by the Political Agent, after which an Arabic address rich in expressions, of sentiments of the most hearty welcome to the Viceroy and loyal friendship for the British Throne and its representative, was read aloud on His Highness's behalf by Sheikh Rashid-bin-Ozaiz, Governor of Semail, His Highness's most erudite official; and afterwards rendered in English by the Political Agent. In reply His Excellency rose and delivered a speech which was received by all present standing, and on its conclusion was read in Arabic by Khan Bahadur Abdurrahman Hakim, Native Attaché of the Foreign Department. The English text will be appended to this report. While the whole of it was full of interest to those present, and listened to by the darbaris with the keenest attention, the culminating point to them was no doubt reached when at the end of his address His Excellency announced that he had that morning received the gracious permission of His Majesty the King-Emperor to confer upon His Highness, Seyyid Faisal, the high honour of the Grand Cross of the Indian Empire. With this auspicious announcement, which was received with much applause, the Darbar was declared closed, and His Excellency then retired to a robing room to prepare for the immediate investiture of His Highness. A few minutes later he returned to the throne on the dais dressed in



his robes of a Grand Master of the Order, and the Chapter having been formally opened the Sultan was conducted before the Viceroy with the usual ceremony by the Foreign Secretary and duly invested with the Ribbon, Badge, Star, and Collar of the Order. The gathering then broke up, His Excellency leaving under the same salute as that which greeted his arrival, followed by the Sultan and Admiral a few minutes later.

After leaving the *Argonaut* the Sultan proceeded direct on board the *Hardinge* for a short personal interview with Lord Curzon, and also to take leave of him, as His Excellency proposed to leave in the course of the afternoon.

The two days of the Viceregal visit had been observed as a public holiday in Maskat and the fete culminated in the afternoon, while the squadron was preparing to get under way, in a series of native dances on the strand in front of the British Consulate, where some 20 or 30 bands of nimble dancers in grotesque costumes and disguises disported themselves until nightfall.

Thus ended a most august event in the history of Maskat which the Ruler and his subjects have every reason to remember with the liveliest pleasure.

As the principal addresses which were delivered in the course of the visit have a permanent interest and importance, the full text of them is here appended for facility of future reference.

I.

*Address presented to His Excellency the Viceroy by the Community of
British subjects and other British protected persons in Maskat.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We, the entire community of British subjects, Hindu, Muhammadan, Parsi, and other British protected persons, settled in the towns of Maskat and Mattra, most respectfully beg, on behalf of ourselves and our fellow subjects residing in other parts of His Highness the Sultan's dominions, to offer Your Excellencies a most heartfelt welcome on the occasion of your visit to Maskat.

In doing so, we venture to congratulate Your Excellency, with much respect, on being the first Viceroy and Governor-General of India, since the passing of the destinies of the Indian continent to the British Crown, to visit these distant shores, and to have thus inaugurated a new and vigorous political departure in a sphere where so many Indian interests are involved; and it has been a source of enhanced gratification to us to know that since Your Excellency's happy decision to accept an extension of your term of office (a decision which has been received by all classes of His Majesty the King-Emperor's subjects with lively satisfaction), the first great act of policy which Your Excellency has undertaken has been this most auspicious tour in the Gulfs of Oman and Persia.

Accustomed as the races peopling these shores are to receive impressions from outward appearances, we cannot but feel confident that this happy undertaking will prove to be an epoch-making event in the progress and enhancement of British prestige and influence. It will serve, too, as an abiding demonstration to the inhabitants of the littoral that the preponderating influence of Great Britain in these waters is no shadowy or remote force, but a lively and dignified reality, and that the Viceroy of the King-Emperor, who holds benevolent sway over the millions of the vast continent of British India watches with no less zeal and keen interest the welfare of His Most Gracious Majesty's subjects scattered all over the Gulf.

Except to give Your Excellencies a respectful and hearty welcome, and to give expression to our loyalty and devotion to the great Government whose subjects we are, we have little cause to trespass on Your Excellency's time, and, so far as our own local and particular needs and circumstances are concerned, have an encouraging tale to tell.



We enjoy in Maskat the rights and privileges of the most favoured nation, our interests are carefully guarded by our Consular authorities, and we experience complete toleration in matters of religion. There is an absence of unnecessary litigation amongst us, British subjects, and justice is readily and promptly obtainable in the Agency Court.

In matters connected with our dealings with the natives of Oman, while we are accustomed to receive a courteous hearing from His Highness, nevertheless we often experience difficulty in obtaining relief, and this is partly owing no doubt to the unsettled state of the interior. In this latter connection, we make bold to explain to Your Excellency that, whereas, considering the degree of enlightenment among the Bedouin Arabs, inter-tribal strife and turbulence are within the nature of things, and when they are limited to the interior of the country do not immediately affect our welfare any more than that of other peaceable members of the community; nevertheless, when, as is sometimes the case, the scene of the strife is transferred to the coast ports, or their immediate neighbourhood, our commercial interests do immediately suffer; and we are put to anxiety for the safety of the lives and properties of our fellow-subjects. For, as Your Excellency is aware, at many of the coast towns of Oman (often far removed from the capital) small communities of British Indian subjects reside, in whose hands all the local trade is centred, and who, in however humble a capacity, are the pioneers of British Indian commerce in these waters.

Thanks to the vigilant activity of successive Political Agents and of British Men-of-war at seasons of unrest, there is little actual danger to the lives and properties of these our fellow-subjects, but the detriment to their trading operations and ours is great, and we venture to hope that Your Excellency's Government will see its way, either by strengthening the hands of the ruler, or by active interference on the coast where necessary for the preservation of British interests, to take measures which will deter the unruly tribesmen of Oman from disturbing the commerce of the country by their dissensions.

In matters of commerce generally, we continue to prosper, and though during the last few years signs have not been wanting of foreign competition, Indian imports rule the market.

There is one depressing factor, however, of comparatively recent growth to which we make bold to draw Your Excellency's benevolent attention, and that is the demoralising fluctuations in the silver exchange. Since the closing of the Indian mints in 1893, and the consequent fall in the price of silver, the local Dollar exchange has not ceased to exhibit remarkable fluctuations, which greatly prejudice and impede the local import trade, from the fact that the currency value of the rupee is fixed and that of the Maskat Dollar is not. We therefore humbly commend the matter to Your Excellency's wise consideration in the hope that, in co-operation with the local Government, some means may be devised of bringing about a better state of things.

In conclusion, we beg to reiterate our welcome, and to assure you that this visit of Your Excellency and your gifted Consort will be a landmark in the history of Maskat and will live green in our memories; and it is our earnest prayer before the Supreme Being, in whose hands the destiny of all of us lie, to vouchsafe to Your Excellency a continuance of bodily health and strength to enable you to render further great services to the Empire and to bind fresh laurels on your brow.

We beg to subscribe ourselves Your Excellency's most humble servants.

II.

His Excellency's reply to the foregoing.

GENTLEMEN,

It is with much pleasure that I have received the loyal and well composed address which has just been read, and that on crossing the sea from India to



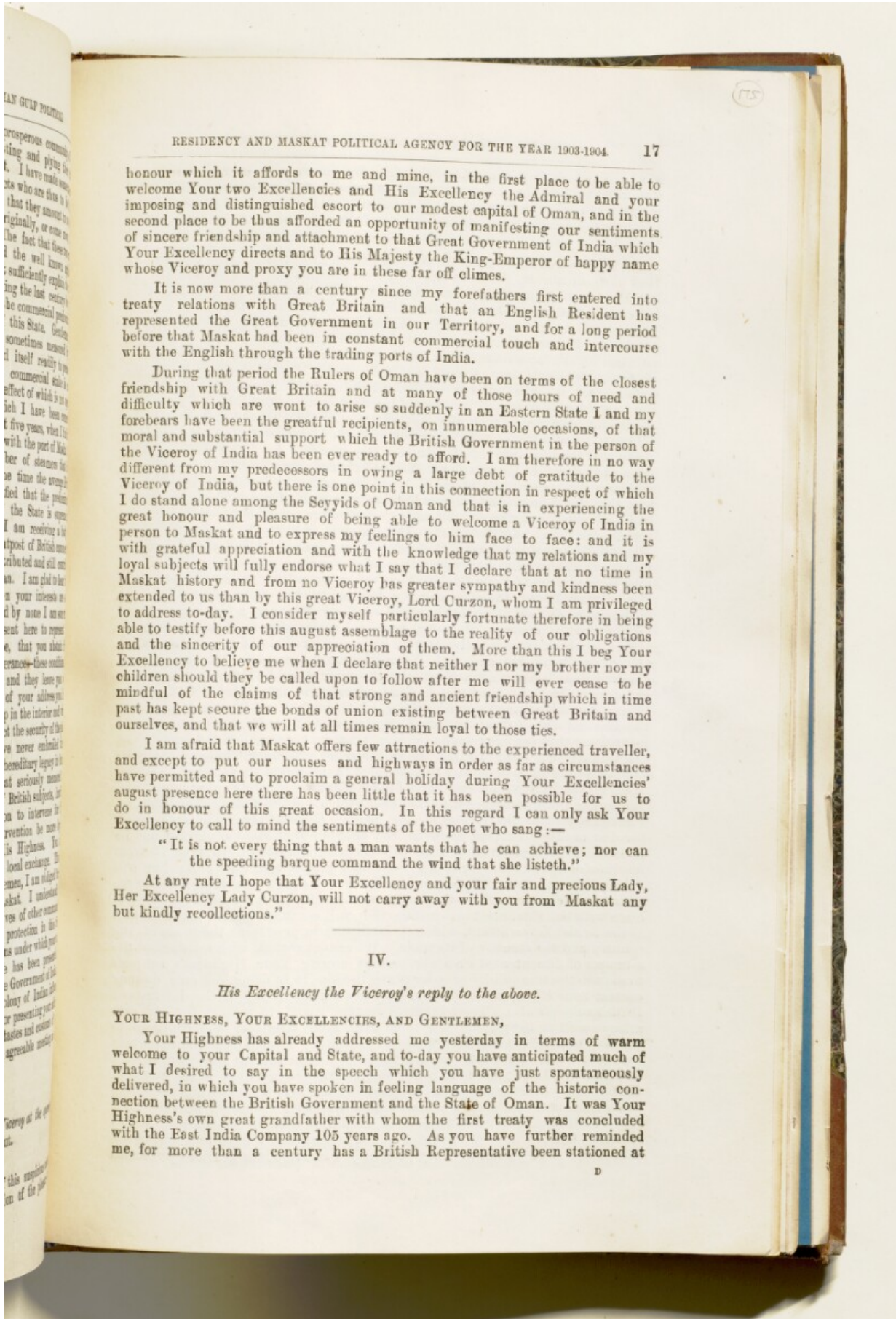
the shores of another country I find a large and prosperous community of the subjects of His Majesty the King-Emperor existing and plying their trade here in conditions of security and contentment. I have made some attempt to ascertain the numbers of British Indian subjects who are thus to be found in Maskat and other parts of Oman, and I find that they amount to no fewer than 1,300 persons, the majority of whom came originally, or come now, from the opposite shores of Sind and Kathiawar. The fact that these two coasts face each other at so inconsiderable a distance and the well known aptitudes of the particular communities that you represent sufficiently explain the close mercantile connections that have grown up during the last century between Maskat and India and leave one in no surprise at the commercial predominance of Great Britain in the trade and shipping of this State. Gentlemen, the political stake of one country in another is sometimes measured by its commercial interests, but does not always lend itself readily to precise or mathematical definition; on the other hand, the commercial stake is more easily reduced to figures and calculations, the effect of which is not open to dispute. I will take, for instance, the time in which I have been connected with the Government of India, namely, the last five years, when I find that during that period the British proportion of trade with the port of Maskat has averaged 84 per cent., and that of the total number of steamers that have entered and cleared from this port in the same time the average British percentage in each year has been 97. I am satisfied that the predominance of Great Britain in the mercantile interests of the State is supreme and incontestable, and I realise that in addressing you I am receiving a body of gentlemen who represent a not unimportant outpost of British commercial enterprise in the East and whose labours have contributed and still contribute in no small degree to the material welfare of Oman. I am glad to hear from you that in the pursuit of this peaceful avocation your interests are safeguarded by the successive Political Agents—and by none I am sure more diligently than by Major Cox—who have been sent here to represent the Government of India. That you obtain justice, that you abstain from litigation, and that you enjoy complete religious tolerances—these conditions are all favourable to the success of your operations, and they leave you with little ground for complaint. In one paragraph of your address you have spoken of the disturbances that sometimes spring up in the interior and which occasionally travel down to the coast ports and affect the security of the places in which you reside. The British Government have never embroiled themselves in this internal strife which appears to be a hereditary legacy in Oman, but undoubtedly if it were to reach a point that seriously menaced the interests or imperilled the lives and property of British subjects, lawfully trading upon the coast, we should feel called upon to intervene for their protection, and by no one I am sure would such intervention be more loyally welcomed or more cordially assisted than by His Highness. You have referred in your address to the depreciation in the local exchange. This is a matter which I will take into consideration. Gentlemen, I am obliged for the kind words in which you have welcomed me to Maskat. I understand that among those who present the address are representatives of other communities, such as the Portuguese of Goa, who enjoy British protection in this State. To all of you I wish a continuance of the conditions under which your trade exists and flourishes in Oman, and I rejoice that there has been presented to me the opportunity, while I am the head of the Government of India, of testifying the interest which I feel in this outlying Colony of Indian influence and trade. It only remains for me to thank you for presenting your address in a specimen of silver work so characteristic of the tastes and customs of the locality. It will always be a memento of this agreeable meeting on the occasion of my present visit to Maskat.

III.

His Highness Seyyid Faisal's public address to the Viceroy at the opening of the Darbar on H.M.S. Argonaut.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I trust it will not be amiss if I take advantage of this auspicious occasion to convey to Your Excellency some public expression of the pleasure and



honour which it affords to me and mine, in the first place to be able to welcome Your two Excellencies and His Excellency the Admiral and your imposing and distinguished escort to our modest capital of Oman, and in the second place to be thus afforded an opportunity of manifesting our sentiments of sincere friendship and attachment to that Great Government of India which Your Excellency directs and to His Majesty the King-Emperor of happy name whose Viceroy and proxy you are in these far off climes.

It is now more than a century since my forefathers first entered into treaty relations with Great Britain and that an English Resident has represented the Great Government in our Territory, and for a long period before that Maskat had been in constant commercial touch and intercourse with the English through the trading ports of India.

During that period the Rulers of Oman have been on terms of the closest friendship with Great Britain and at many of those hours of need and difficulty which are wont to arise so suddenly in an Eastern State I and my forebears have been the grateful recipients, on innumerable occasions, of that moral and substantial support which the British Government in the person of the Viceroy of India has been ever ready to afford. I am therefore in no way different from my predecessors in owing a large debt of gratitude to the Viceroy of India, but there is one point in this connection in respect of which I do stand alone among the Seyyids of Oman and that is in experiencing the great honour and pleasure of being able to welcome a Viceroy of India in person to Maskat and to express my feelings to him face to face: and it is with grateful appreciation and with the knowledge that my relations and my loyal subjects will fully endorse what I say that I declare that at no time in Maskat history and from no Viceroy has greater sympathy and kindness been extended to us than by this great Viceroy, Lord Curzon, whom I am privileged to address to-day. I consider myself particularly fortunate therefore in being able to testify before this august assemblage to the reality of our obligations and the sincerity of our appreciation of them. More than this I beg Your Excellency to believe me when I declare that neither I nor my brother nor my children should they be called upon to follow after me will ever cease to be mindful of the claims of that strong and ancient friendship which in time past has kept secure the bonds of union existing between Great Britain and ourselves, and that we will at all times remain loyal to those ties.

I am afraid that Maskat offers few attractions to the experienced traveller, and except to put our houses and highways in order as far as circumstances have permitted and to proclaim a general holiday during Your Excellencies' august presence here there has been little that it has been possible for us to do in honour of this great occasion. In this regard I can only ask Your Excellency to call to mind the sentiments of the poet who sang:—

"It is not every thing that a man wants that he can achieve; nor can the speeding barque command the wind that she listeth."

At any rate I hope that Your Excellency and your fair and precious Lady, Her Excellency Lady Curzon, will not carry away with you from Maskat any but kindly recollections."

IV.

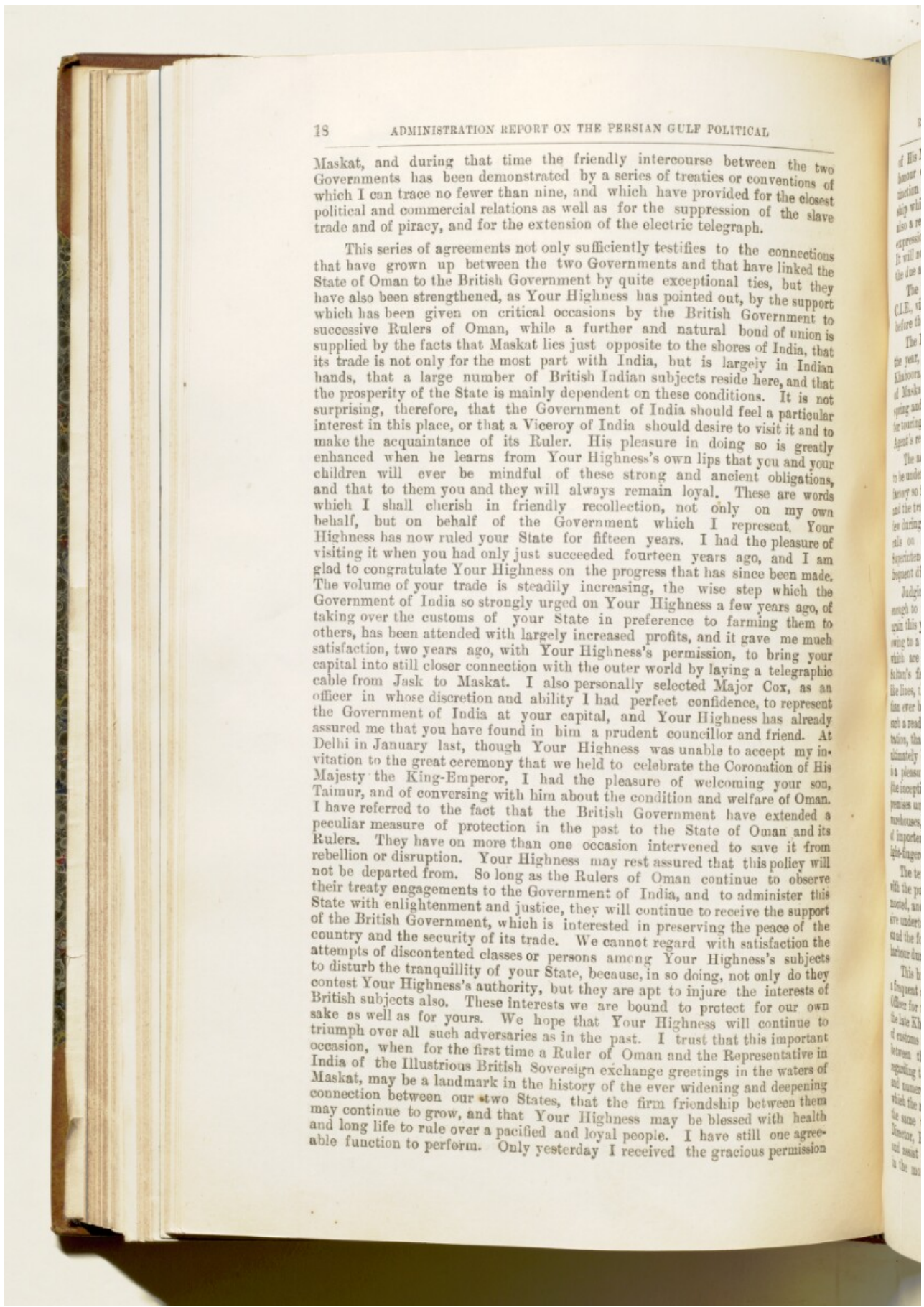
His Excellency the Viceroy's reply to the above.

YOUR HIGHNESS, YOUR EXCELLENCIES, AND GENTLEMEN,

Your Highness has already addressed me yesterday in terms of warm welcome to your Capital and State, and to-day you have anticipated much of what I desired to say in the speech which you have just spontaneously delivered, in which you have spoken in feeling language of the historic connection between the British Government and the State of Oman. It was Your Highness's own great grandfather with whom the first treaty was concluded with the East India Company 105 years ago. As you have further reminded me, for more than a century has a British Representative been stationed at

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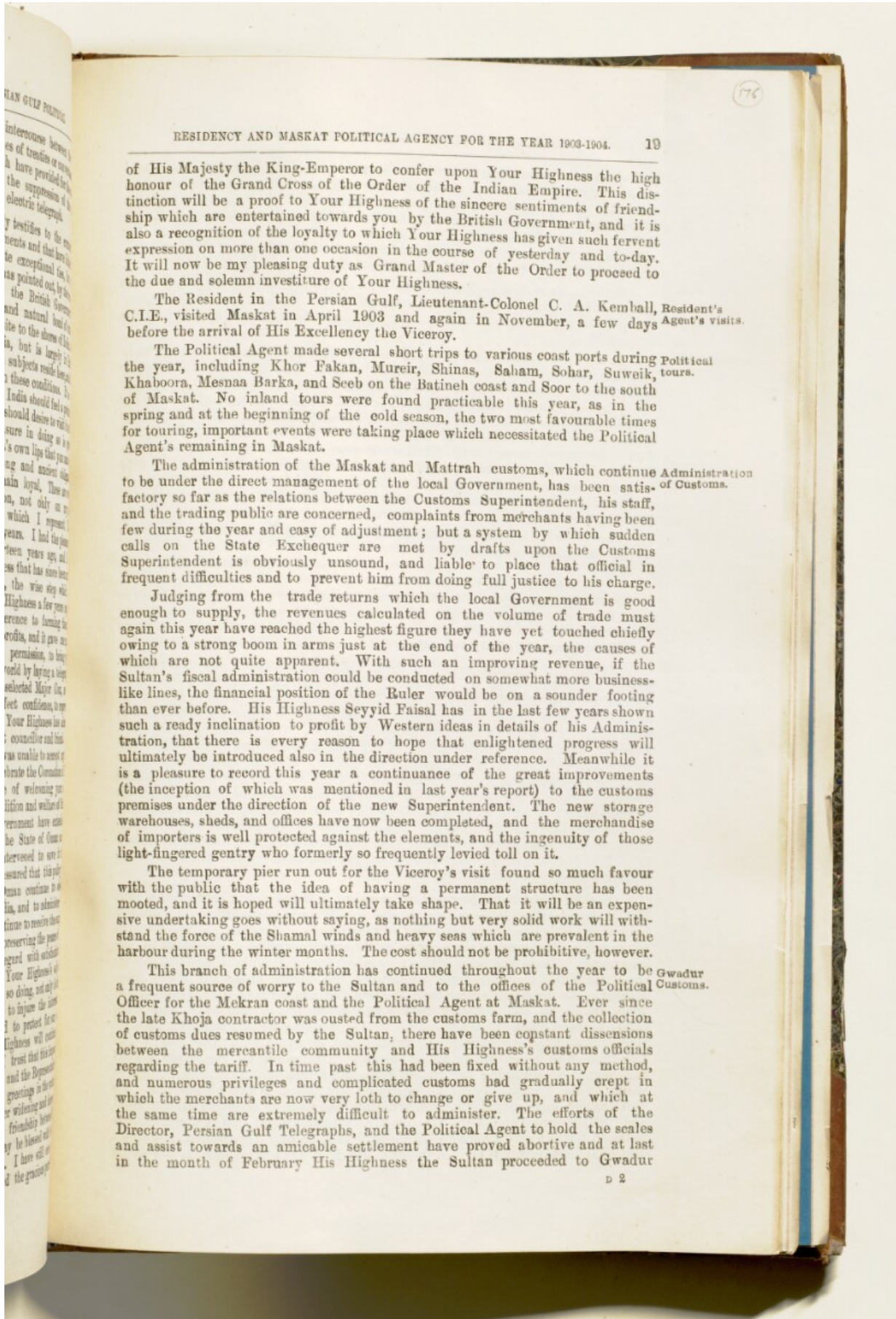
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Maskat, and during that time the friendly intercourse between the two Governments has been demonstrated by a series of treaties or conventions of which I can trace no fewer than nine, and which have provided for the closest political and commercial relations as well as for the suppression of the slave trade and of piracy, and for the extension of the electric telegraph.

This series of agreements not only sufficiently testifies to the connections that have grown up between the two Governments and that have linked the State of Oman to the British Government by quite exceptional ties, but they have also been strengthened, as Your Highness has pointed out, by the support which has been given on critical occasions by the British Government to successive Rulers of Oman, while a further and natural bond of union is supplied by the facts that Maskat lies just opposite to the shores of India, that its trade is not only for the most part with India, but is largely in Indian hands, that a large number of British Indian subjects reside here, and that the prosperity of the State is mainly dependent on these conditions. It is not surprising, therefore, that the Government of India should feel a particular interest in this place, or that a Viceroy of India should desire to visit it and to make the acquaintance of its Ruler. His pleasure in doing so is greatly enhanced when he learns from Your Highness's own lips that you and your children will ever be mindful of these strong and ancient obligations, and that to them you and they will always remain loyal. These are words which I shall cherish in friendly recollection, not only on my own behalf, but on behalf of the Government which I represent. Your Highness has now ruled your State for fifteen years. I had the pleasure of visiting it when you had only just succeeded fourteen years ago, and I am glad to congratulate Your Highness on the progress that has since been made. The volume of your trade is steadily increasing, the wise step which the Government of India so strongly urged on Your Highness a few years ago, of taking over the customs of your State in preference to farming them to others, has been attended with largely increased profits, and it gave me much satisfaction, two years ago, with Your Highness's permission, to bring your capital into still closer connection with the outer world by laying a telegraphic cable from Jask to Maskat. I also personally selected Major Cox, as an officer in whose discretion and ability I had perfect confidence, to represent the Government of India at your capital, and Your Highness has already assured me that you have found in him a prudent councillor and friend. At Delhi in January last, though Your Highness was unable to accept my invitation to the great ceremony that we held to celebrate the Coronation of His Majesty the King-Emperor, I had the pleasure of welcoming your son, Taimur, and of conversing with him about the condition and welfare of Oman. I have referred to the fact that the British Government have extended a peculiar measure of protection in the past to the State of Oman and its Rulers. They have on more than one occasion intervened to save it from rebellion or disruption. Your Highness may rest assured that this policy will not be departed from. So long as the Rulers of Oman continue to observe their treaty engagements to the Government of India, and to administer this State with enlightenment and justice, they will continue to receive the support of the British Government, which is interested in preserving the peace of the country and the security of its trade. We cannot regard with satisfaction the attempts of discontented classes or persons among Your Highness's subjects to disturb the tranquillity of your State, because, in so doing, not only do they contest Your Highness's authority, but they are apt to injure the interests of British subjects also. These interests we are bound to protect for our own sake as well as for yours. We hope that Your Highness will continue to triumph over all such adversaries as in the past. I trust that this important occasion, when for the first time a Ruler of Oman and the Representative in India of the Illustrious British Sovereign exchange greetings in the waters of Maskat, may be a landmark in the history of the ever widening and deepening connection between our two States, that the firm friendship between them may continue to grow, and that Your Highness may be blessed with health and long life to rule over a pacified and loyal people. I have still one agreeable function to perform. Only yesterday I received the gracious permission

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of His Majesty the King-Emperor to confer upon Your Highness the high honour of the Grand Cross of the Order of the Indian Empire. This distinction will be a proof to Your Highness of the sincere sentiments of friendship which are entertained towards you by the British Government, and it is also a recognition of the loyalty to which Your Highness has given such fervent expression on more than one occasion in the course of yesterday and to-day. It will now be my pleasing duty as Grand Master of the Order to proceed to the due and solemn investiture of Your Highness.

The Resident in the Persian Gulf, Lieutenant-Colonel C. A. Kemball, ^{Resident's} C.I.E., visited Maskat in April 1903 and again in November, a few days ^{Agent's visits.} before the arrival of His Excellency the Viceroy.

The Political Agent made several short trips to various coast ports during ^{Political} the year, including Khor Fakan, Mureir, Shinas, Saham, Sohar, Suweik, ^{tours.} Khaboora, Mesnaa Barka, and Seeb on the Batineh coast and Soor to the south of Maskat. No inland tours were found practicable this year, as in the spring and at the beginning of the cold season, the two most favourable times for touring, important events were taking place which necessitated the Political Agent's remaining in Maskat.

The administration of the Maskat and Mattrah customs, which continue ^{Administration} to be under the direct management of the local Government, has been ^{of Customs.} satisfactory so far as the relations between the Customs Superintendent, his staff, and the trading public are concerned, complaints from merchants having been few during the year and easy of adjustment; but a system by which sudden calls on the State Exchequer are met by drafts upon the Customs Superintendent is obviously unsound, and liable to place that official in frequent difficulties and to prevent him from doing full justice to his charge.

Judging from the trade returns which the local Government is good enough to supply, the revenues calculated on the volume of trade must again this year have reached the highest figure they have yet touched chiefly owing to a strong boom in arms just at the end of the year, the causes of which are not quite apparent. With such an improving revenue, if the Sultan's fiscal administration could be conducted on somewhat more business-like lines, the financial position of the Ruler would be on a sounder footing than ever before. His Highness Seyyid Faisal has in the last few years shown such a ready inclination to profit by Western ideas in details of his Administration, that there is every reason to hope that enlightened progress will ultimately be introduced also in the direction under reference. Meanwhile it is a pleasure to record this year a continuance of the great improvements (the inception of which was mentioned in last year's report) to the customs premises under the direction of the new Superintendent. The new storage warehouses, sheds, and offices have now been completed, and the merchandise of importers is well protected against the elements, and the ingenuity of those light-fingered gentry who formerly so frequently levied toll on it.

The temporary pier run out for the Viceroy's visit found so much favour with the public that the idea of having a permanent structure has been mooted, and it is hoped will ultimately take shape. That it will be an expensive undertaking goes without saying, as nothing but very solid work will withstand the force of the Shamal winds and heavy seas which are prevalent in the harbour during the winter months. The cost should not be prohibitive, however.

This branch of administration has continued throughout the year to be ^{Gwadar} a frequent source of worry to the Sultan and to the offices of the Political ^{Customs.} Officer for the Mekran coast and the Political Agent at Maskat. Ever since the late Khoja contractor was ousted from the customs farm, and the collection of customs dues resumed by the Sultan, there have been constant dissensions between the mercantile community and His Highness's customs officials regarding the tariff. In time past this had been fixed without any method, and numerous privileges and complicated customs had gradually crept in which the merchants are now very loth to change or give up, and which at the same time are extremely difficult to administer. The efforts of the Director, Persian Gulf Telegraphs, and the Political Agent to hold the scales and assist towards an amicable settlement have proved abortive and at last in the month of February His Highness the Sultan proceeded to Gwadar

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and spent some time there himself, and it was confidently hoped that he would then arrive at a satisfactory understanding with the Gwadar public and fix a workable tariff. Unfortunately just at the close of the year a fresh batch of disputes have arisen which will further delay settlement, meanwhile the Sultan has lost and is losing a considerable amount of revenue and on the other hand the merchants there remain dissatisfied with the state of things, and are inclined to transfer their trade to other ports.

Seif-bin-Yaarub, who has acted as Wali at Gwadar during the year, seems to be giving satisfaction in the discharge of his duties, and the frequent complaints which were made against his predecessor do not appear to arise against him.

Arms Traffic.

It will be observed from the trade returns that the volume of trade in arms and ammunition increased considerably during the year, the total value thereof being 861,850 dollars, representing an increment of 427,900, or 93 per cent., on the previous year's figures. The local market was normal during the first nine months of the year, but during January, February, and March, the demand suddenly increased and exceeded the supply to such an extent that during January the ordinary retail rate per rifle in the bazaar rose from 32-35 to 50-55 dollars, and consignments in transit from Europe were sold in advance at rates varying from 42 to 48 dollars per weapon. In consequence of this sudden boom practically no stock in hand remained on the merchants' books at the end of the year under report.

The following are the proportions of the trade taken delivery of by the several nationalities concerned in it:—

	Per cent.
Arab subjects	15½
British do.	35½
Foreign do.	49

These figures tell their own tale.

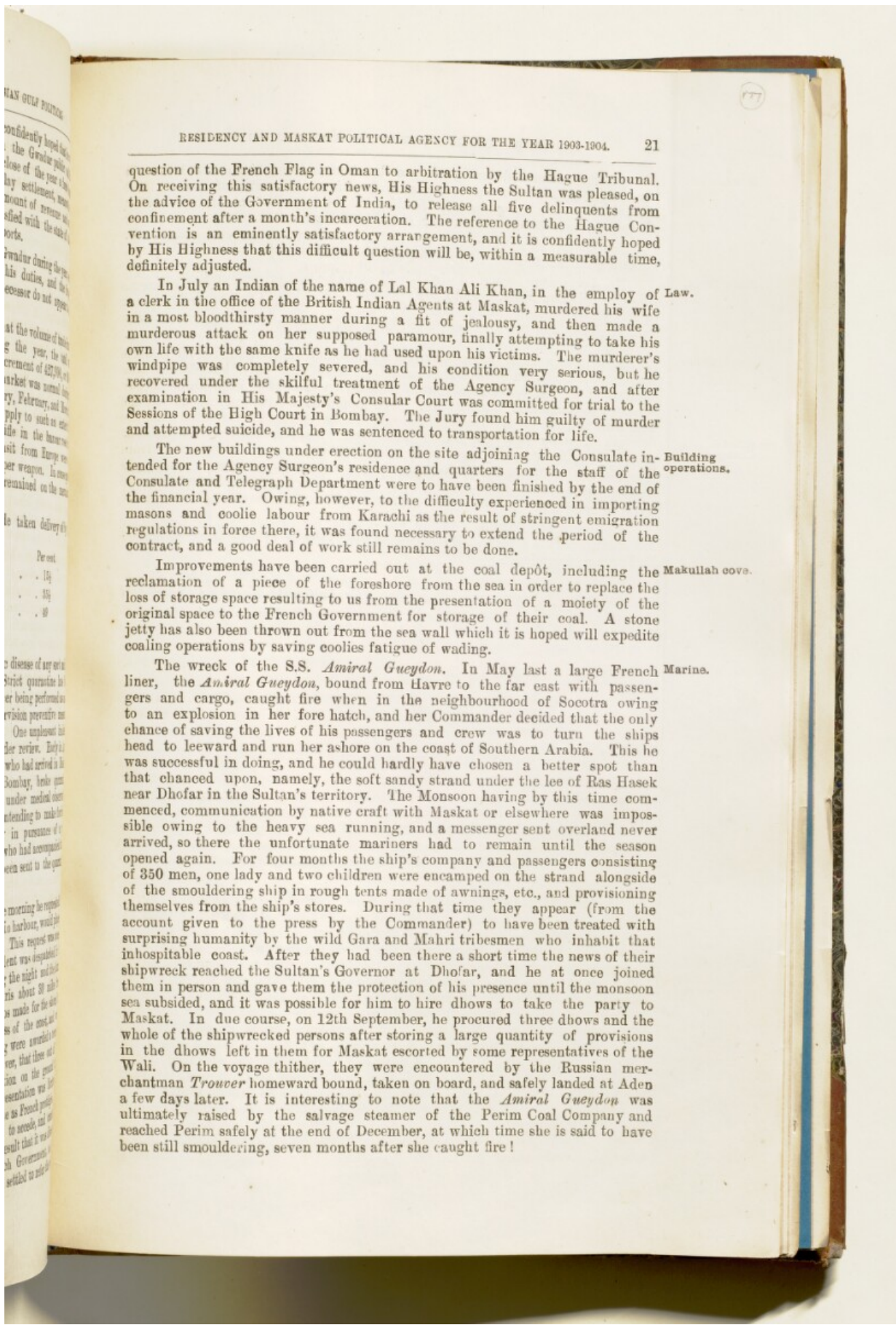
Health.

Maskat has remained quite free from epidemic disease of any sort and the public health has been on the whole good. Strict quarantine has been maintained against India, the duties of Health Officer being performed as usual by the Agency Surgeon, under whose careful supervision preventive measures were carried out with an entire absence of friction. One unpleasant incident, however, occurred at the beginning of the year under review. Early in April three Soori subjects of His Highness the Sultan who had arrived in Maskat as 2nd class passengers by the mail steamer from Bombay, broke quarantine while undergoing the usual period of detention under medical observation and absconded after dark in a native sailing boat, intending to make for Soor. On the way they called at Bunder Jisseh evidently in pursuance of a pre-arranged plan, and picked up two fellow tribesmen who had accompanied them from Bombay, but who being deck-passengers had been sent to the quarantine lazaretto a couple of miles down the coast.

On their flight being reported to the Sultan in the morning he requested that His Majesty's ship *Perseus*, which was then lying in harbour, would place her launch at his disposal for the pursuit of the truants. This request was acceded to, and His Highness's Arab quarantine Superintendent was despatched in her in pursuit. There had been little or no wind during the night and the launch came up with the small dhow containing the Sooris about 30 miles from Maskat. As the steam-cutter hove in sight the Arabs made for the shore, but were unable to escape owing to the precipitousness of the coast, and were safely brought back to Maskat, and in the morning were awarded a term of imprisonment by the Sultan. It turned out, however, that three out of the five claimed to be exempt from the Sultan's jurisdiction on the ground that they owned dhows flying the French Flag, and a representation was forthwith made by the French Consul demanding their release as French protégés. To this request, however, His Highness did not feel able to accede, and consulted the British Government in the matter, with the result that it was discussed between His Majesty's Foreign Office and the French Government, and an amicable arrangement arrived at, by which it was settled to refer the whole



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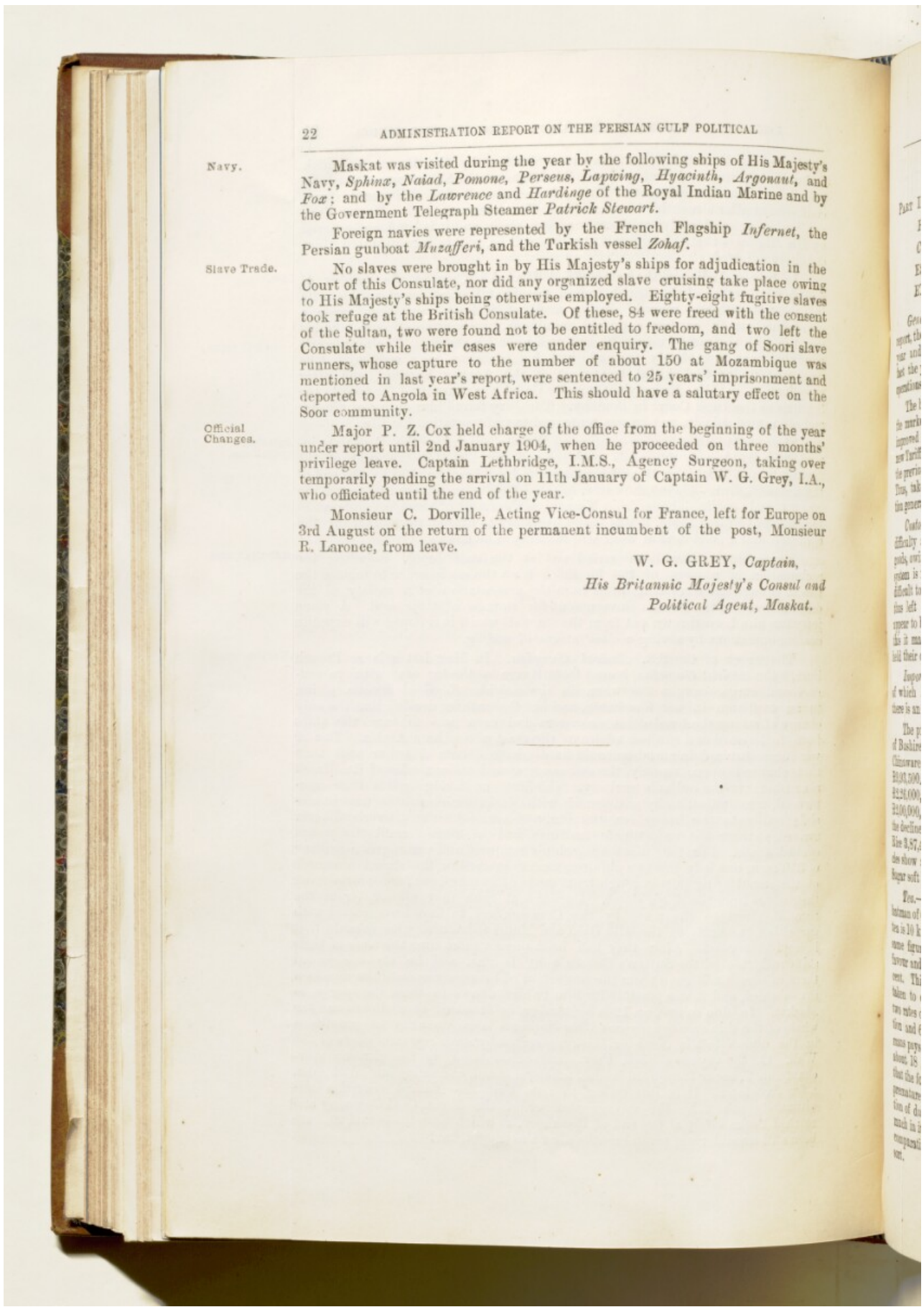
question of the French Flag in Oman to arbitration by the Hague Tribunal. On receiving this satisfactory news, His Highness the Sultan was pleased, on the advice of the Government of India, to release all five delinquents from confinement after a month's incarceration. The reference to the Hague Convention is an eminently satisfactory arrangement, and it is confidently hoped by His Highness that this difficult question will be, within a measurable time, definitely adjusted.

In July an Indian of the name of Lal Khan Ali Khan, in the employ of Law. a clerk in the office of the British Indian Agents at Maskat, murdered his wife in a most bloodthirsty manner during a fit of jealousy, and then made a murderous attack on her supposed paramour, finally attempting to take his own life with the same knife as he had used upon his victims. The murderer's windpipe was completely severed, and his condition very serious, but he recovered under the skilful treatment of the Agency Surgeon, and after examination in His Majesty's Consular Court was committed for trial to the Sessions of the High Court in Bombay. The Jury found him guilty of murder and attempted suicide, and he was sentenced to transportation for life.

The new buildings under erection on the site adjoining the Consulate in- Building operations. tended for the Agency Surgeon's residence and quarters for the staff of the Consulate and Telegraph Department were to have been finished by the end of the financial year. Owing, however, to the difficulty experienced in importing masons and coolie labour from Karachi as the result of stringent emigration regulations in force there, it was found necessary to extend the period of the contract, and a good deal of work still remains to be done.

Improvements have been carried out at the coal depôt, including the Makullah cove. reclamation of a piece of the foreshore from the sea in order to replace the loss of storage space resulting to us from the presentation of a moiety of the original space to the French Government for storage of their coal. A stone jetty has also been thrown out from the sea wall which it is hoped will expedite coaling operations by saving coolies fatigue of wading.

The wreck of the S.S. *Amiral Gueydon*. In May last a large French Marine. liner, the *Amiral Gueydon*, bound from Havre to the far east with passengers and cargo, caught fire when in the neighbourhood of Socotra owing to an explosion in her fore hatch, and her Commander decided that the only chance of saving the lives of his passengers and crew was to turn the ships head to leeward and run her ashore on the coast of Southern Arabia. This he was successful in doing, and he could hardly have chosen a better spot than that chanced upon, namely, the soft sandy strand under the lee of Ras Hasek near Dhofar in the Sultan's territory. The Monsoon having by this time commenced, communication by native craft with Maskat or elsewhere was impossible owing to the heavy sea running, and a messenger sent overland never arrived, so there the unfortunate mariners had to remain until the season opened again. For four months the ship's company and passengers consisting of 350 men, one lady and two children were encamped on the strand alongside of the smouldering ship in rough tents made of awnings, etc., and provisioning themselves from the ship's stores. During that time they appear (from the account given to the press by the Commander) to have been treated with surprising humanity by the wild Gara and Mahri tribesmen who inhabit that inhospitable coast. After they had been there a short time the news of their shipwreck reached the Sultan's Governor at Dhofar, and he at once joined them in person and gave them the protection of his presence until the monsoon sea subsided, and it was possible for him to hire dhows to take the party to Maskat. In due course, on 12th September, he procured three dhows and the whole of the shipwrecked persons after storing a large quantity of provisions in the dhows left in them for Maskat escorted by some representatives of the Wali. On the voyage thither, they were encountered by the Russian merchantman *Trower* homeward bound, taken on board, and safely landed at Aden a few days later. It is interesting to note that the *Amiral Gueydon* was ultimately raised by the salvage steamer of the Perim Coal Company and reached Perim safely at the end of December, at which time she is said to have been still smouldering, seven months after she caught fire!



Navy.

Maskat was visited during the year by the following ships of His Majesty's Navy, *Sphinx*, *Naiad*, *Pomone*, *Perseus*, *Lapwing*, *Hyacinth*, *Argonaut*, and *Fox*; and by the *Lawrence* and *Hardinge* of the Royal Indian Marine and by the Government Telegraph Steamer *Patrick Stewart*.

Slave Trade.

Foreign navies were represented by the French Flagship *Infernet*, the Persian gunboat *Muzafferi*, and the Turkish vessel *Zohaf*.

No slaves were brought in by His Majesty's ships for adjudication in the Court of this Consulate, nor did any organized slave cruising take place owing to His Majesty's ships being otherwise employed. Eighty-eight fugitive slaves took refuge at the British Consulate. Of these, 84 were freed with the consent of the Sultan, two were found not to be entitled to freedom, and two left the Consulate while their cases were under enquiry. The gang of Soori slave runners, whose capture to the number of about 150 at Mozambique was mentioned in last year's report, were sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment and deported to Angola in West Africa. This should have a salutary effect on the Soor community.

Official Changes.

Major P. Z. Cox held charge of the office from the beginning of the year under report until 2nd January 1904, when he proceeded on three months' privilege leave. Captain Lethbridge, I.M.S., Agency Surgeon, taking over temporarily pending the arrival on 11th January of Captain W. G. Grey, I.A., who officiated until the end of the year.

Monsieur C. Dorville, Acting Vice-Consul for France, left for Europe on 3rd August on the return of the permanent incumbent of the post, Monsieur R. Laronce, from leave.

W. G. GREY, *Captain*,
His Britannic Majesty's Consul and
Political Agent, Maskat.



PART III.—REPORT ON THE TRADE AND COMMERCE OF THE PERSIAN GULF FOR THE YEAR 1903, BY LIEUTENANT-COLONEL C. A. KEMBALL, C.I.E., HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S ACTING CONSUL-GENERAL FOR FARs, KHUZISTAN, ETC.

General remarks.—Contrary to the hope expressed in the previous year's report, there was a considerable decline in the amount of imported goods in the year under review as compared with the previous year; but despite that fact the year 1903 may be said to have been more favourable for trade operations.

The harvest was normal and the cultivators were in a position to put on the market their surplus stuff at fairly remunerative prices. The consequent improved condition of the cultivators combined with the introduction of the new Tariff proved a welcome boon to importers who netted handsome profits on the previous year's stocks and otherwise did fairly good business in new goods. Thus, taken all round, the year 1903 may be safely said to have given satisfaction generally.

Customs Tariff.—The unpleasant feature of the new Customs Tariff is the difficulty and delays which are experienced by the merchants in clearing their goods, owing to the bulk of the imports having to pay duty by weight. This system is more harassing to Persian and British Indian merchants, who find it difficult to understand the intricacies and details of measurement, etc., and are thus left at the mercy of the Customs officials. Apart from this it does not appear to have in any way affected the trade of the Gulf. As an example of this it may be pointed out that Tea and Indigo, which are heavily taxed, have held their own in the year under review.

Imports.—The net decrease as gathered from the statistics is R52,28,730, of which Bushire is responsible for R22,53,644 and Lingah R31,63,631; while there is an increase of R1,88,545 in the imports into Arab Coast.

The principal articles which contributed towards the decline in the imports of Bushire are: cotton piece goods R19,40,000, rice R3,50,000, porcelain and Chinaware R43,500, provisions R3,00,000, loaf sugar R2,72,800, and soft sugar R9,93,500. The following articles show an increase in Bushire, *viz.*, Indigo R2,26,000, Hardware R3,09,600, Matches R65,800, Candles R42,800, Metals R2,00,000, and Specie R5,36,400. The chief articles which contributed towards the decline in Lingah are Pearls R22,95,000, Wheat R2,98,400, Barley R74,100, Rice 3,87,400, Provisions R83,000, and Tobacco R43,100. The following articles show an increase in Lingah, *viz.*, Coffee R2,06,000, Sugar loaf R27,500 and Sugar soft R48,800.

Tea.—According to the new Tariff the duty on Indian tea is 6 krans per batman of 6½ lbs. which works out at about 50 per cent., while the duty on white tea is 10 krans per batman, and the percentage works out more or less to the same figure. But it may be noted that the Batavia tea, which is coming into favour and forms the bulk of import under China tea, pays duty at about 38 per cent. This is due to the fact that for duty purposes a chest of Batavia tea is taken to contain 20 per cent. of white leaves and 80 per cent. black, and thus two rates of duty are charged, *viz.*, 10 krans per batman on the former proportion and 6 on the latter, or, in other words, a chest taking it to contain 10 batmans pays a duty of 68 krans. Roughly speaking, the price of Batavia tea is about 18 krans per batman and that of Indian 12 krans. It will be thus seen that the former enjoys a decided advantage over the latter, but it would be premature to hazard an opinion as to the ultimate effect which this differentiation of duty will have upon the import of Indian tea. There is, however, this much in its favor, that it is consumed by the mass of the people who find it still comparatively cheaper and are not therefore likely to favour the superior sort.



In the year under review the Indian tea has held its own and the total imported as shown in the statistics is R9,74,034, or an increase of R52,474 over the previous year; while the total quantity of Batavia tea imported is R3,83,104, or an increase of R1,80,288.

Indigo.—The duty on this article, according to the new Tariff works out at about 31 per cent. instead of the 5 per cent. *ad valorem* which used to be paid in former years. Notwithstanding this heavy duty, the imports into Bushire amounted to R32,00,000 or an increase of R2,26,130 over the previous year. This substantial increase shows that the duty under the new Tariff is not likely to affect its importation injuriously, and the more so because of the strict prohibition enforced against the importation of aniline dyes, which to a great extent used to affect the trade in this article in former years.

Exports.—There was a marked increase in the exports from Bushire and Arab Coast amounting in the former place to R12,32,605, and in the latter to R10,77,375. The items which contributed towards the increase in Bushire are: Horses R30,000, Coffee R1,15,700, Grain R1,15,200, Gum and Mastics R2,05,000, Hides and Skins R65,900, Opium R4,81,000, Tobacco R60,700, and woollen piece goods R2,43,500. The increase in the Arab Coast is mainly due to pearls, *viz.*, R10,00,000; while in the exports from Lingah there was a net decrease amounting to R34,26,970, of which pearls alone are responsible for R33,00,000. The decrease in the exportation of pearls from Lingah is due to their having been sent direct to India from the Arab Coast, instead of being brought to Lingah and then re-exported as used to be the case in former years. The reason for this direct shipment was to avoid the payment of 5 per cent. duty which the Customs authorities demanded instead of the nominal duty which used to be paid formerly. But the chief cause which induced the direct shipment was the imposition at Lingah of 5 per cent. duty on dollars, which used to be largely imported there for the purchase of pearls. The Customs authorities having found out their mistake, abolished the duty, but the abolition does not appear to have had the desired effect, as direct shipments from the Arab Coast continued on a larger scale in the year under review.

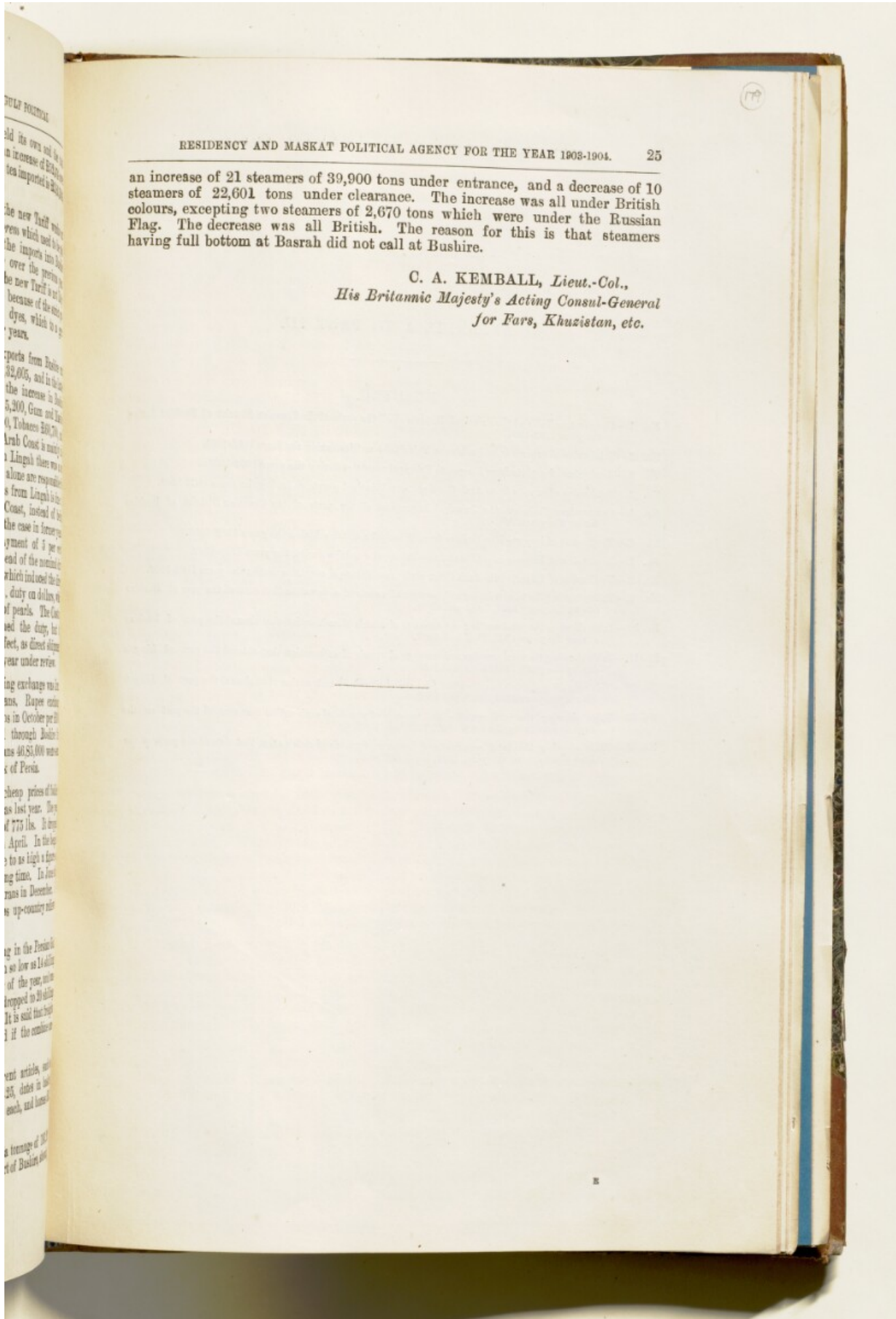
Exchange.—The highest point reached in the Sterling exchange was kran 59½ in February, and the lowest in October 55½ kran. Rupee exchange varied between 398½ kran in February and 368½ kran in October per R100. Bar silver to the value of R19,95,000 was imported through Bushire for despatch to the Imperial Mint at Tehran. Also kran 46,85,000 were sent up-country to the various branches of the Imperial Bank of Persia.

Transport.—Owing to the abundant supply and cheap prices of fodder, mule hire from Bushire to Shiraz has not been so high as last year. The year opened with a quotation of kran 150 per 100 maunds of 775 lbs. It dropped to 75 kran in February, but rose again to kran 130 in April. In the beginning of May, mules were not available and the rates rose to as high a figure as kran 170, but were not maintained at this figure for a long time. In June the rates dropped to 85 kran and touched the lowest at 65 kran in December. It is said that the cessation in forwarding of telegraph stores up-country relieved the pressure on transport and consequently the rates fell.

Freights.—The three British lines of steamers plying in the Persian Gulf having formed a combine, the freights which had fallen so low as 14 shillings in the previous year, rose to 25 shillings in the beginning of the year, and continued steady during the first seven months, when they dropped to 20 shillings for a short time rising at the end of the year to 27s. 6d. It is said that freights have been fairly remunerative throughout the year, and if the combine continues, will pay all the three lines in the end.

Freights to India are charged according to different articles, such as general cargo at R10 per ton scale, skin and leather R25, dates in baskets R12, rosewater in cases R1 each, in carboys annas 8 each, and horses R35 each.

Shipping.—Hundred and fifty-nine steamers with a tonnage of 195,292 entered, and 111 with a tonnage of 116,365 cleared the port of Bushire, showing



an increase of 21 steamers of 39,900 tons under entrance, and a decrease of 10 steamers of 22,601 tons under clearance. The increase was all under British colours, excepting two steamers of 2,670 tons which were under the Russian flag. The decrease was all British. The reason for this is that steamers having full bottom at Basrah did not call at Bushire.

C. A. KEMBALL, *Lieut.-Col.*,
His Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul-General
for Fars, Khuzistan, etc.



APPENDIX A TO PART III.

BUSHIRE.

- No. 1.—Comparative Table of the Principal Exports at all the ports of the Consular District of Bushire during the years 1902-1903.
- No. 2.—Total value of exports from Bushire to Principal countries during the years 1902-1903.
- No. 3.—Total value of exports from Lingah to Principal countries during the years 1902-1903.
- No. 4.—Total value of exports from Arab Coast ports to Principal countries during the years 1902-1903.
- No. 5.—Comparative Table of the Principal Imports at all the ports of the Consular District of Bushire during the years 1902-1903.
- No. 6.—Total value of imports into Bushire from Principal countries during the years 1902-1903.
- No. 7.—Total value of Imports into Lingah from Principal countries during the years 1902-1903.
- No. 8.—Total value of Imports into Arab Coast ports from Principal countries during the years 1902-1903.
- No. 9.—Table showing the total number and tonnage of vessels of each nation that entered the port of Bushire during the years 1901, 1902, and 1903.
- No. 10.—Table showing the total number and tonnage of vessels of each nation that cleared the port of Bushire during the years 1901, 1902, and 1903.
- No. 11.—Table showing the total number and tonnage of vessels of each nation that entered the port of Lingah during the years 1901, 1902, and 1903.
- No. 12.—Table showing the total number and tonnage of vessels of each nation that cleared the port of Lingah during the years 1901, 1902, and 1903.
- No. 13.—Table showing the total number and tonnage of vessels of each nation that entered the port on the Arab Coast during the years 1901, 1902, and 1903.
- No. 14.—Table showing the total number and tonnage of vessels of each nation that cleared the ports on the Arab Coast during the years 1901, 1902 and 1903.

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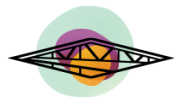


RESIDENCY AND MASKAT POLITICAL AGENCY FOR THE YEAR 1903-1904.

TABLE No. 1.
Comparative Table of the Principal Exports at all the Ports of the Consular District of Bushire for the years 1902-1903.

ARTICLES.	PORT.	Description of Quantity.	Average for the five preceding years.	QUANTITY.		Increase or decrease in 1903, compared with 1902.	CHARACTER OF TRADE.
				1902.	1903.		
ANIMALS—							
Horses	Bushire	Head	183	315	468	+153	Exported to Bombay.
Donkeys	Arab Coast	"	5	...	...	...
Mules	Do.	"	69	56	40	-10	
	Bushire	"	35	161	1	-100	Last year they were exported for the use of the Government of India.
Camels	Arab Coast	"	23	15	17	+2	
CANTAS (SAIL)	Lingah	cwts.	626	890	1,055	+105	None exported owing to embargo.
CATTLE	Bushire	Head	4,720	2,000	...	-2,000	
	Lingah	"	400	...	...	...
COFFEE	Bushire	cwts.	162	...	2,480	+2,480	All exported to Bahrain.
	Lingah	"	2,125	50	7,500	+7,450	
	Arab Coast	"	484	700	700	...	
COIR AND COIR ROPE	Lingah	"	494	450	1,000	+550	
COTTON PIECE GOODS—							
White and grey shirtings	Bushire	Bales	219	242	508	+164	
	Lingah	"	186	75	127	+52	
	Arab Coast	"	765	2,205	2,200	-5	
Prints	Lingah	Bales	218	5	729	+724	
	Arab Coast	"	420	1,305	1,400	+95	
Dyed shirtings	Lingah	Bales	149	34	65	+81	
	Arab Coast	"	1,185	3,610	3,700	+100	
Other sorts of piece goods	Bushire	Packages	8	1	...	-1	
	Lingah	"	358	51	140	+89	
COTTON (RAW)	Bushire	cwts.	5,354	5,071	555	-4,516	The decrease is nominal. A large quantity was exported to Odessa by Russian steamers for which statistics are not available.
	Lingah	"	240	20	110	+90	
COTTON (YARN AND TWIST)	Bushire	"	233	489	...	-489	
	Lingah	"	122	25	130	+105	
DATES	Bushire	"	9,822	3,361	2,380	-981	
	Lingah	"	28,428	22,500	8,000	-14,500	
DATEJUICE	Do.	"	99	...	...	...
DRUGS AND MEDICINES	Bushire	"	254	605	4,414	+3,609	Principally exported to India.
	Lingah	"	1,449	1,100	1,445	+345	
	Arab Coast	"	823	2,505	2,600	+95	
DYEING AND COLOURING MATERIALS.	Bushire	cwts.	729	608	1,307	+699	
	Lingah	"	1,093	285	719	+484	
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES—							
Almonds	Bushire	"	5,239	5,864	5,892	+28	Principally exported to India. The decrease is due to the fall in price in London and India, and the crop was below the average.
	Lingah	"	913	230	30	-200	
Almond kernels	Bushire	"	4,270	4,158	985	-3,173	
Raisins and Currants	Do.	"	791	411	1,867	+1,456	
	Lingah	"	1,883	295	330	+35	
Other sorts of Fruits	Bushire	"	2,680	430	2,091	+1,661	
	Lingah	"	1,041	405	290	-145	
FUEL	Do.	Tons	967	25	20	-5	
	Arab Coast	Rs.	1,765	2,505	1,400	-1,105	
GRAIN AND PULSES—							
Wheat	Bushire	cwts.	891	8	28,744	+28,738	Principally exported to India, United Kingdom and Persian ports. Increase is due to a good harvest.
	Lingah	"	2,992	9,200	9,750	+550	
	Arab Coast	"	1,720	1,400	...	-1,400	
Barley	Bushire	"	2,196	27	9,726	+9,699	
	Lingah	"	18,108	13,500	3,400	-10,100	
Rice	Bushire	"	5,065	93	114	+51	
	Lingah	"	100,612	144,100	124,650	-19,450	
Other sorts of Grain	Arab Coast	"	4,828	2,300	2,500	+200	
	Bushire	"	897	897	500	+108	
	Lingah	"	3,265	850	500	-350	

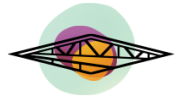
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Political Agency for 1903-1904' [180v] (40/80)**



*Comparative Table of the Principal Exports at all the Ports of the Consular District of Bushire for
the years 1902-1903—contd.*

ARTICLES.	PORT.	Description of Quantity.	Average for the five preceding years.	QUANTITY.		Increase or decrease in 1903, compared with 1902.	CHARACTER OF TRADE.
				1902.	1903.		
GUM	Bushire .	cwts.	22,146	12,566	17,889	+5,273	Principally to United Kingdom and India. The duty on this article is abolished, and as there was a steady demand in Europe, larger shipments were made.
Mastics and other sorts .	Do. .	"	4,165	4,187	3,490	-647	
	Lingah .	"	146	350	550	+200	
HARDWARE	Do. .	"	1,376	1,500	1,120	-380	
CUTLERY	Do. .	Cases	88	80	35	-45	
HIDES AND SKINS	Bushire .	Bundles	3,154	4,264	3,421	-843	Principally exported to India and France.
	Lingah .	"	6,870	8,010	...	-8,010	
JEWELLERY AND SILVER-WARE.	Bushire .	Rs.	22,540	10,305	860	-9,535	
JUTE AND MANUFACTURES OF—							
Gunnies	Arab Coast	Bundles	1,520	1,500	1,700	+100	
Other manufactures .	Lingah .	cwts.	264	130	144	+14	
	Arab Coast	Rs.	2,640	2,010	2,000	-10	
MATS AND MAT BAGS .	Lingah .	Pieces	4,144	6,000	4,500	-1,500	
METALS—							
Copper	Bushire .	cwts.	86	150	...	-150	
	Lingah .	"	108	63	17	-46	
Other sorts of Metals .	Bushire .	"	47	17	...	-17	
	Lingah .	"	1,214	360	115	-245	
OILS—							
Kerosine	Bushire .	Cases	...	...	6,002	+6,002	Transhipped to Bahrain from Indian bottoms.
	Lingah .	"	4,157	3,000	3,580	+500	
Other sorts of oils .	Arab Coast	Rs.	4,645	7,995	8,000	+5	
	Lingah .	cwts.	605	580	470	-110	
	Arab Coast	Rs.	2,220	3,210	3,500	+200	
OPIUM	Bushire .	cwts.	5,507	4,115	4,850	+744	Chiefly exported to United Kingdom and China, and Belgium also took a certain quantity. There were no shipments to Egypt this year. The market in Hong Kong being remunerative a larger shipment than last year was made to that place. The new tariff which is now 20 per cent. instead of the 5 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> which was previously charged, does not seem to have affected the export of this article.
	Do. .	Rs.	8,715	1,725	...	-1,725	
	Lingah .	"	43,38,630	2,00,000	49,05,000	-32,95,005	
	Arab Coast	"	49,54,620	8,00,010	9,00,000	+51,00,990	
PERFUMERY—							
Rosewater	Bushire .	Packages	15,460	13,688	20,300	+6,621	Exported principally to India, Turkey, and Zanzibar. There is a good demand for rosewater in India.
Other sorts of perfumery	Lingah .	cwts.	79	75	100	+25	
	Bushire .	"	12	...	33	+33	
	Lingah .	Ounces	65	80	250	+170	
PROVISIONS—							
Ghee	Bushire .	cwts.	307	145	504	+359	
	Lingah .	"	1,265	1,565	1,100	-465	
	Arab Coast	"	26	15	10	-5	
Sugar (loaf and soft) .	Bushire .	"	2,054	2,998	1,919	-1,079	
	Lingah .	"	4,952	7,600	9,250	+1,650	
Tallow	Do. .	"	617	520	...	-520	
Tea	Bushire .	"	53	27	1,327	+1,300	
	Lingah .	"	87	115	160	+45	
Limes (dry)	Do. .	"	862	890	250	-540	
Other sorts of Provisions	Bushire .	Packages	644	535	468	-67	
	Lingah .	cwts.	4,476	13,515	17,700	+4,185	
	Arab Coast	"	7,228	6,500	5,500	...	
SALT	Lingah .	Tons	3,248	4,000	...	-4,000	

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Comparative Table of the Principal Exports at all the Ports of the Consular District of Bushire for the years 1902-1903—concl.

ARTICLES.	PORT.	Description of Quantity.	Average for the five preceding years.	QUANTITY.		Increase or decrease in 1903, compared with 1902.	CHARACTER OF TRADE.	
				1902.	1903.			
SEEDS— Linseed	Bushire	cwts.	2,808	3,048	3,141	+ 93		
	Lingah	"	1,200	...	150	+ 150		
	Bushire	"	4,882	5,558	4,421	- 987		
Other sorts of seeds	Bushire	"	208	500	412	- 88		
	Arab Coast	Rs.	2,700	3,405	3,000	- 495		
SHELLS (MOTHER-O'-PEARL)	Bushire	cwts.	29,200	10,048	10,375	+ 227		Exported principally to United Kingdom. France also came to the market this year. There is a decrease in the exports to Germany.
	Lingah	"	5,141	7,200	8,900	+ 1,700		
	Arab Coast	"	3,000	2,000	4,000	+ 1,000		
SILK (RAW)	Bushire	Bundles.	108	25	...	- 25		
	Lingah	B.	280	250	150	- 100		
SILK MANUFACTURES OF— Silk piece goods	Bushire	Cases	2	2	10	+ 8		
	Lingah	Pieces	516	1,700	650	- 1,050		
	Do.	Rs.	2,100	3,000	2,200	- 800		
Silk apparel	Do.	"	950	980	833	- 97		
TIMBER AND WOOD— Planks and Beams	Do.	Rs.	12,875	16,005	37,600	+ 21,595		
	Do.	"	10,140	11,400	11,000	- 400		
TOBACCO	Bushire	cwts.	13,480	8,968	12,870	+ 3,016	Principally exported to Turkey, Egypt, and Cyprus. The trade in this article being a monopoly the supply is controlled by the demand.	
	Lingah	"	4,562	5,500	44,000	+ 38,600		
	Arab Coast	"	492	440	700	+ 250		
WOOL	Bushire	cwts.	6,268	1,788	1,455	- 333	Principally exported to United Kingdom. The decrease is due to the fall of price in London, which prevented shipments, and the stock was used in the country for making carpets and gilims. The market has now improved in London, and hopes are entertained of larger shipments and good profits.	
	Lingah	Rs.	4,215	6,000	3,000	- 3,000		
WOOLEN GOODS— Carpets	Bushire	Packages	583	387	625	+ 238	Principally exported to United Kingdom, India, and Egypt. A certain quantity was also exported to Turkey.	
	Lingah	"	83	72	105	+ 33		
	Bushire	"	7	8	9	+ 1		
Other sorts	Lingah	Rs.	4,185	6,000	3,500	- 2,500		
	Arab Coast	Pieces	2,792	3,350	3,140	- 210		
SPECIE	Bushire	Rs.	5,12,745	1,98,000	3,88,698	+ 1,90,698		
	Lingah	"	24,42,540	30,30,000	29,03,270	- 1,26,730		
	Arab Coast	"	4,26,090	4,13,010	5,12,000	+ 68,990		
ARTICLES NOT SPECIFIED ABOVE.	Bushire	"	87,060	1,02,480	77,714	- 24,766		
	Lingah	"	29,790	12,995	22,500	+ 9,505		
	Arab Coast	"	17,475	18,495	16,000	- 2,495		

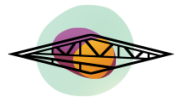


TABLE 2.

Total Value of Exports from Bushire to Principal Countries during the years 1902-1903.

Country.	VALUE.	
	1902.	1903.
	Rs.	Rs.
United Kingdom	13,57,898	7,78,540
India	12,78,125	13,78,976
France	5,390	27,465
Germany	35,486	15,857
Turkey	2,07,719	3,85,916
Egypt	2,01,476	4,15,377
China	17,95,430	27,89,600
Belgium	24,400	1,37,825
Malta . . . . .	.....	300
Cyprus	1,050	5,265
Maskat	14,260	45,741
Zanzibar	12,540	6,740
Bahrein	57,443	2,23,926
Arab Coast	22,164	61,913
Persian Ports	2,09,644	1,81,503
Japan . . . . .	.....	1,150
Singapore . . . . .	.....	306
Holland . . . . .	.....	4,125
Batavia . . . . .	.....	75
TOTAL	52,23,025	64,55,630

TABLE 3.

Total Value of Exports from Lingah to Principal Countries during the years 1902-1903.

Country.	VALUE.	
	1902.	1903.
	Rs.	Rs.
United Kingdom	74,400	40,500
India	85,55,710	52,27,122
Turkey	1,02,580	1,74,212
Maskat	36,775	66,100
Bahrein	31,000	1,15,425
Arab Coast	39,33,275	37,29,111
Persian Ports	4,71,415	4,19,205
Germany	8,500	15,000
Egypt	5,000	10,000
TOTAL	1,32,23,655	97,96,675

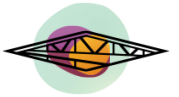


TABLE 4.
Total Value of Exports from Arab Coast Ports to Principal Countries during the years 1902-1903.

Country.	VALUE.	
	1902.	1903.
	Rs.	Rs.
Turkey	77,250	77,900
Maskat	3,23,550	3,13,800
Zanzibar	750	600
Bahrein	55,500	86,000
Persian Ports	82,87,725	41,93,850
India . . . . .	.....	51,00,000
TOTAL	86,94,775	97,72,150

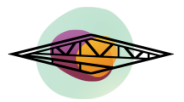


TABLE No. 5.

Comparative Table of the Principal Imports at all the Ports of the Consular District of Bushire for the years 1902 and 1903.

ARTICLES.	PORT.	Description of Quantity.	Average for the five preceding years.	QUANTITY.		Increase or decrease in 1903, compared with 1902.	CHARACTER OF TRADE
				1902.	1903.		
ANIMALS—							
Horses	Bushire	Head	4	2	5	+3	
Donkeys	Lingah	"	59	55	53	-2	
Camels	Do.	"	24	16	21	+5	
Mules	Bushire	"	...	...	34	+34	
Other sorts of animals	Lingah	"	4	4	4	...	
APPAREL, WEARING							
	Bushire	Packages	128	187	116	-71	
	Lingah	"	255	300	200	-100	
	Arab Coast	Pieces	373	300	370	+70	
BOOKS AND PRINTED MATTER.							
	Bushire	Cases	225	222	114	-108	
	Lingah	"	35	38	25	-13	
	Arab Coast	"	628	1,040	2,800	+1,760	
BUILDING MATERIALS							
	Bushire	Bundles	4,320	...	...	...
	Lingah	Tons	2,160	15,000	20,000	+5,000	
	Arab Coast	"	878	250	800	+550	
CANDLES							
	Bushire	cwts.	1,650	402	1,614	+1,212	Chiefly imported from United Kingdom, India, and Belgium. Holland also came into the market this year. Austrian candles were less imported this year. The increase is due to an extensive market at the close of the previous year.
	Lingah	"	135	56	58	+2	
	Arab Coast	"	54	36	36	...	
CANVAS (SAIL CLOTH)							
	Bushire	Bundles	43	107	74	-33	
	Arab Coast	cwts.	913	870	1,070	+200	
CATTLE							
	Do.	Head	4,732	3,500	4,500	+1,000	
COFFEE							
	Bushire	cwts.	268	167	250	+83	
	Lingah	"	4,608	8,400	7,568	-832	
	Arab Coast	"	8,831	8,075	7,145	-930	
COIR AND COIR ROPE							
	Bushire	"	361	409	407	-2	
	Lingah	"	1,392	2,400	1,015	-1,385	
	Arab Coast	"	6,740	6,500	6,600	...	
COTTON PIECE GOODS—							
Principally from United Kingdom and India. The decrease is due to the overstocked state of the market in the previous year.							
White and grey shirtings	Bushire	Packages	20,483	14,951	10,611	-4,340	
	Lingah	"	406	650	760	+110	
	Arab Coast	"	329	275	275	...	
Prints	Bushire	"	5,619	7,708	5,312	-2,391	
	Lingah	"	415	350	560	+210	
	Arab Coast	"	130	130	130	...	
Dyed shirtings	Lingah	"	279	225	500	+275	
	Arab Coast	"	103	100	100	...	
Other sorts of cotton piece goods	Bushire	"	110	7	339	+332	
	Lingah	"	774	730	1,095	+365	
	Arab Coast	"	777	913	940	+27	
COTTON (RAW)							
	Bushire	cwts.	132	4	...	-4	
	Lingah	"	417	283	168	-120	
	Arab Coast	"	333	400	250	-150	
YARN AND TWIST							
	Bushire	Packages	794	1,080	1,036	-44	
	Lingah	cwts.	822	1,284	1,357	+73	
	Arab Coast	"	266	250	180	-70	
DATES							
	Bushire	"	7,908	227	6,026	+5,799	
	Lingah	"	38,808	21,800	9,400	-12,400	
	Arab Coast	"	97,080	68,000	73,000	+5,000	
DATEJUICE							
	Bushire	"	920	1,000	500	-500	
	Arab Coast	"	921	800	700	-100	

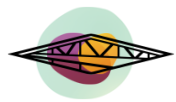
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RESIDENCY AND MASKAT POLITICAL AGENCY FOR THE YEAR 1903-1904.

Comparative Table of the Principal Imports at all the Ports of the Consular District of Bushire for the years 1902 and 1903—contd.

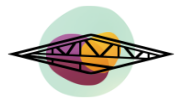
ARTICLES.	PORTS.	Description of Quantity.	Average for the five preceding yrs.	QUANTITY.		Increase or decrease in 1903, compared with 1902.	CHARACTER OF TRADE.	
				1902.	1903.			
DRUGS AND MEDICINES—								
Casia	Bushire .	cwts.	856	815	1,121	+306	Chiefly from United Kingdom and India.	
	Arab Coast	Value Rs.	75	105	...	-105		
	Bushire .	Cases	29	19	29	+10		
Quinine	Lingah .	Value Rs.	1,815	1,595	4,600	+2,005		
	Arab Coast	"	210	185	300	+105		
	Do. . . .	"	210	380	300	-190		
Asafetida	Bushire .	Packages	2,355	1,756	1,994	+208		
Other sorts of drugs, etc.	Lingah .	cwts.	484	416	574	+158		
	Arab Coast	"	422	420	4,030	+3,610		
DYEING AND COLOURING MATERIALS—								
Indigo	Bushire .	cwts.	2,743	670	2,560	+1,890	All from India. The increase is due to the strict prohibition enforced against aniline dyes.	
	Lingah .	"	51	91	88	-8		
	Arab Coast	"	102	100	100	...		
COLOURS AND PAINT								
	Bushire .	Packages	231	168	318	+150		
	Lingah .	cwts.	35	15	20	+5		
	Arab Coast	Drums	202	210	2,000	+1,790		
Other sorts of dyeing and colouring materials.	Bushire .	Packages	507	299	506	+207		
	Lingah .	cwts.	1,460	1,300	1,640	+240		
	Arab Coast	"	502	495	500	+5		
EARTHENWARE (POTTERY)								
	Lingah .	Value Rs.	4,695	6,250	4,700	-1,555		
	Arab Coast	"	8,745	9,705	10,800	+1,095		
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES—								
Almonds	Arab Coast	cwts.	194	200	150	-50		
	Do. . . .	"	535	1,700	100	-1,600		
Haisins and Currants .	Lingah .	"	502	1,450	1,800	+350		
Other sorts of fruits, etc.	Arab Coast	"	1,425	1,200	800	-400		
FUEL—								
Coal and charcoal	Bushire .	Tons	1,278	371	1,104	+733		
	Lingah .	"	696	455	310	-175		
	Arab Coast	"	159	50	75	+25		
Firewood	Bushire .	"	7,529	9,008	4,806	-4,202		
	Lingah .	"	10,660	17,000	7,000	-10,000		
	Arab Coast	"	1,440	600	600	...		
FURNITURE								
	Bushire .	Packages	227	503	164	-399		
	Lingah .	Value Rs.	7,005	10,000	12,000	+1,995		
	Arab Coast	Pieces	338	700	700	...		
GLASS AND GLASSWARE—								
Glassware	Bushire .	Cases	715	471	444	-27	Principally from United Kingdom and India. No import from Belgium this year.	
	Lingah .	Value Rs.	3,045	1,995	5,000	+3,005		
	Arab Coast	"	2,015	2,400	2,700	+800		
Glass (window)	Bushire .	Cases	1,607	1,779	935	-844		
	Lingah .	Value Rs.	825	255	150	-105		
	Bushire .	Cases	147	91	331	+240		
Other sorts of glass .	Lingah .	Value Rs.	4,605	4,925	2,000	-2,925		
	Arab Coast	"	1,230	1,200	1,300	+100		
GOLD LACE AND THREAD—								
Chiefly from India.								
Gold Lace	Bushire .	Cases	1	6	...	-6		
	Lingah .	lbs.	221	400	200	-200		
	Arab Coast	Tons	300	4,500	5,500	+1,000		
Gold Thread	Bushire .	Cases	10	4	25	+24		
	Lingah .	lbs.	190	400	300	-100		
	Arab Coast	"	156	250	200	-60		
GOLD EMBROIDERED CLOTH								
	Bushire .	Cases	2		
	Lingah .	Pieces	150	100	80	-20		
GRAIN AND PULSE—								
Chiefly from India and Turkey. There being a good crop in the year there was no necessity of importing from other countries.								
Wheat	Bushire .	cwts.	96,911	7,041	4,802	-2,140		
	Lingah .	"	48,524	79,740	37,000	-42,740		
	Arab Coast	"	24,362	26,000	28,500	+2,500		
Barley	Bushire .	"	66,016	11,085	6,088	-4,597		
	Lingah .	"	21,807	21,200	7,082	-14,120		
	Arab Coast	"	5,472	1,900	2,250	+350		



Comparative Table of the Principal Imports at all the Ports of the Consular District of Bushire for the years 1902 and 1903—contd.

ARTICLES.	PORTS.	Description of Quantity.	Average for the five preceding years.	QUANTITY.		Increase or decrease in 1903, compared with 1902.	CHARACTER OF TRADE.
				1902.	1903.		
GRAIN AND PULSE—contd.							
Rice	Bushire .	cwts.	21,453	80,921	12,609	-48,312	
	Lingah .	"	183,017	208,485	154,837	-53,948	
	Arab Coast	"	122,124	142,500	142,500	...	
Other sorts of grain, etc.	Bushire .	"	3,305	1,725	2,505	+780	
	Lingah .	"	4,484	1,397	1,098	-299	
	Arab Coast	"	2,167	2,100	2,000	-100	
HABERDASHERY							
	Bushire .	Cases	179	225	359	+184	
	Lingah .	"	44	150	100	-50	
	Arab Coast	Value Rs.	2,985	3,405	3,500	+95	
HARDWARE AND CUTLERY—Hardware							
	Bushire .	Packages	1,503	1,426	12,886	+11,460	The bulk of the import is from United Kingdom and India.
	Lingah .	cwts.	2,850	2,500	1,200	-1,300	
	Arab Coast	Value Rs.	20,850	21,000	21,000	...	
Cutlery	Bushire .	Cases	76	30	53	+23	
	Lingah .	"	20	50	90	+40	
	Arab Coast	Value Rs.	1,830	1,800	2,200	+400	
JUTE AND MANUFACTURES OF—Gunny bags							
	Bushire .	Packages	399	229	278	+49	
	Lingah .	"	71	109	84	-25	
Other sorts of manufactures.	Bushire .	Cases	141	38	50	+12	
	Lingah .	cwts.	670	150	195	+45	
	Arab Coast	Value Rs.	2,250	1,200	1,400	+200	
LAMPS AND LAMPWARE							
	Bushire .	Cases	92	52	112	+60	
	Lingah .	Value Rs.	1,125	855	600	-255	
	Arab Coast	"	3,120	4,005	4,500	+405	
LEATHER AND MANUFACTURES OF—Leather (tanned)							
	Bushire .	Packages	27	15	19	+4	
	Arab Coast	Value Rs.	22,560	27,495	18,000	-9,495	
Saddlery, Harness, Boots, etc.	Bushire .	Packages	242	136	70	-66	
	Lingah .	Value Rs.	7,470	18,500	7,000	-6,200	
	Arab Coast	"	2,180	1,050	1,500	+450	
LIQUORS, WINES AND SPIRITS—							
Chiefly from United Kingdom, India, and Franco. The decrease in the import is due to enhanced duty. Importers have cleared large profits on the previous year's stock.							
Whisky	Bushire .	Cases	1,159	992	404	-558	
Wines	Do.	"	802	1,201	277	-924	
Brandy	Do.	"	571	210	181	-29	
Champagne	Do.	"	64	64	24	-40	
Beer	Do.	"	174	228	79	-149	
Other sorts of liquors, etc.	Do.	"	208	59	84	+75	
	Lingah .	"	...	...	43	+48	
MATCHES							
	Bushire .	"	1,853	1,882	3,052	+1,670	Mostly from United Kingdom and India.
	Lingah .	"	196	210	137	-73	
	Arab Coast	Value Rs.	1,125	1,800	1,900	+100	
MATS AND MAT BAGS							
	Bushire .	Bundles	2,559	1,351	1,561	+210	
	Lingah .	Pieces	11,276	16,225	8,045	-7,580	
	Arab Coast	"	55,861	52,500	53,000	+500	
METALS—Copper							
	Bushire .	cwts.	3,714	2,998	5,861	+2,863	All the different kinds of metals are imported from United Kingdom and India, and all show an increase due to the general prosperity of the people.
	Lingah .	"	248	115	60	-55	
	Arab Coast	"	375	350	850	...	
Tin	Bushire .	"	885	1,540	1,875	+826	
	Lingah .	"	91	37	23	-9	
	Arab Coast	"	62	70	70	...	
Iron	Bushire .	"	11,279	5,505	13,821	+8,216	
	Lingah .	"	2,370	2,874	1,000	-1,874	
	Arab Coast	"	1,140	1,200	1,400	+200	
Brass	Bushire .	"	1,046	1,070	572	-498	
	Arab Coast	"	136	210	210	...	
Other sorts	Bushire .	"	1,229	3,695	2,020	-1,575	
	Lingah .	"	316	255	185	-71	
	Arab Coast	"	1,215	1,100	1,100	...	

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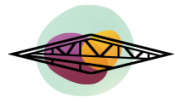


RESIDENCY AND MASKAT POLITICAL AGENCY FOR THE YEAR 1903-1904. 35

Comparative Table of the Principal Imports at all the Ports of the Consular District of Bushire for the years 1902 and 1903—contd.

ARTICLES.	PORT.	Description of Quantity.	Average for the five preceding years.	QUANTITY.		Increase or decrease in 1903 compared with 1902.	CHARACTER OF TRADE.
				1901.	1902.		
OILS—							
Kerosine . . .	Bushire .	cwts.	7,259	51	2,087	+2,036	Russian oil transhipped at Bombay. Figures of direct imports from Easton are not available.
	Lingah .	"	7,561	5,600	6,625	+1,025	
	Arab Coast	"	5,243	3,600	3,400	-200	
Other sorts of oils . . .	Bushire .	"	357	573	552	-21	
	Lingah .	Value Rs.	13,680	15,000	23,616	+5,616	
	Arab Coast	"	61,200	66,000	1,44,000	+84,000	
PEARLS . . .	Lingah .	"	43,03,680	72,00,000	40,05,000	-22,95,000	
	Arab Coast	"	78,390	60,000	...	-60,000	
PERFUMERY—							
Rosewater . . .	Lingah .	cwts.	126	220	237	+17	
	Arab Coast	Charboys	380	450	490	+40	
Other sorts of perfumery	Lingah .	Tolas	371	400	300	-100	
	Arab Coast	Value Rs.	37,545	37,995	39,000	+1,005	
PORCELAIN AND CHINA-WARE—							Principally from United Kingdom, India, and China.
China-ware . . .	Bushire .	Cases	1,369	2,010	243	-1,767	
	Lingah .	"	93	125	86	-39	
Porcelain . . .	Bushire .	"	499	31	324	+293	
	Arab Coast	"	15,224	11,400	11,500	+100	
PROVISIONS—							Mostly from India. The decrease in the majority of cases is due to a good harvest in Bushire.
Cocoanuts . . .	Bushire .	Bundles	174	60	118	+58	
	Lingah .	cwts.	1,128	200	105	-95	
	Arab Coast	Value Rs.	2,555	2,205	2,400	+195	
Dry Limes . . .	Bushire .	cwts.	575	319	634	+315	
	Lingah .	"	1,263	1,300	600	-700	
	Arab Coast	"	49	45	40	-5	
Flour . . .	Bushire .	"	8,909	20,173	7,695	-12,478	
	Lingah .	"	14,954	27,650	23,418	-4,232	
	Arab Coast	"	2,512	2,400	1,800	-600	
Ghee . . .	Bushire .	"	4,859	6,230	5,172	-1,058	
	Lingah .	"	1,724	5,000	4,645	-355	
	Arab Coast	"	2,704	3,000	5,100	+2,100	
Other sorts of provisions	Bushire .	"	4,380	5,720	5,826	+106	Mostly European stores imported from United Kingdom and India.
	Lingah .	"	6,322	6,425	5,300	-1,125	
	Arab Coast	Value Rs.	77,700	15,600	18,000	+2,400	
SALT . . .	Lingah .	cwts.	44,320	80,000	...	-80,000	
	Arab Coast	"	38,560	40,000	35,000	-5,000	
SEEDS—							
Linseed . . .	Lingah .	cwts.	1,200	...	...	...
	Do.	"	250	342	404	+62	
Simsim . . .	Arab Coast	"	27	20	5	-15	
Other sorts of seeds . . .	Lingah .	"	57	...	192	+192	
SHELLS, MOTHER-O'-PEARL	Bushire .	"	15,734	6,050	6,185	+85	
	Lingah .	"	5,381	7,125	9,600	+2,375	
	Arab Coast	"	8	40	...	-40	
SILK (RAW) . . .	Lingah .	"	6	8	10	+2	
	Arab Coast	"	18	16	10	-6	
SILK FINCS GOODS . . .	Bushire .	Cases	219	123	107	-16	Principally from United Kingdom, India, and Germany.
	Lingah .	Pieces	936	2,500	2,000	-500	
	Arab Coast	"	3,560	3,400	3,500	+100	
SILVERWARE AND JEWELRY.	Bushire .	Value Rs.	62,205	13,900	...	-18,900	
SPICES—							All the spices imported are from India.
Turmeric . . .	Bushire .	cwts.	2,881	3,302	2,587	-715	
	Lingah .	"	848	1,230	720	-510	
	Arab Coast	"	1,560	1,200	1,200	...	
Ginger . . .	Bushire .	"	724	871	1,986	+1,115	
	Lingah .	"	283	500	167	-333	
	Arab Coast	"	59	60	60	...	
Blackpepper . . .	Bushire .	"	1,932	1,374	4,034	+2,160	
	Lingah .	"	303	417	188	-229	
	Arab Coast	"	680	650	2,000	+1,350	
Other sorts of spices . . .	Bushire .	"	448	476	355	-120	
	Lingah .	"	434	995	450	-545	
	Arab Coast	"	1,016	900	1,000	+100	

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Comparative Table of the Principal Imports at all the Ports of the Consular District of Bushire for the years 1902 and 1903—contd.

ARTICLES.	PORTS.	Description of Quantity.	Average for the five preceeding years.	QUANTITY.		Increase or decrease in 1903, compared with 1902.	CHARACTER OF TRADE.	
				1902.	1903.			
STATIONERY . . .	Bushire .	Cases.	445	601	554	-107	Principally from France, Austria, and Egypt. The decrease is due to the overstocked state of the market. The trade in this article is purely speculative, and whenever there is a demand in this country or price in the producing countries declines, importers place orders very often in excess of the demand, and hence one year there is a large import and in the succeeding year a smaller one.	
	Lingah .	Value Rs.	2,910	10,005	13,000	+ 2,995		
	Arab Coast	"	3,975	4,995	5,000	+ 5		
SUGAR, LOAF . . .	Bushire .	cwts.	48,555	78,740	58,757	-19,982		
	Lingah .	"	2,131	487	2,400	+ 1,913		
	Arab Coast	Value Rs.	31,845	7,005	8,000	+ 995		
SUGAR, SOFT . . .	Bushire .	cwts.	73,171	139,052	38,309	-100,683		Principally imported from United Kingdom, India, and Austria.
	Lingah .	"	7,818	10,852	15,106	+ 4,344		
	Arab Coast	"	10,496	12,000	12,500	+ 500		
SUGARCANDY . . .	Bushire .	"	1,283	34	1	- 23		
	Lingah .	"	500	504	450	- 54		
	Arab Coast	Value Rs.	480	600	350	- 250		
TALLOW . . .	Lingah .	cwts.	483	700	485	- 215		
	Arab Coast	"	1,545	1,600	1,600	...		
TEA . . .	Bushire .	"	14,440	16,592	16,686	+ 94	Principally from India and China. China tea is coming more into favor, but tea imported from India also improved by Rs50,000.	
	Lingah .	"	519	982	500	- 482		
	Arab Coast	Value Rs.	4,245	5,205	5,300	+ 95		
TIMBER AND WOOD— Planks and Beams .	Bushire .	Pieces	8,570	5,439	5,561	+ 122		
	Lingah .	Value Rs.	24,485	30,000	56,000	+ 26,000		
	Arab Coast	"	18,495	16,500	14,000	- 2,500		
Rafters . . .	Bushire .	Pieces	20,806	51,000	32,200	- 18,800		
	Lingah .	Value Rs.	15,230	18,000	16,500	- 1,500		
	Arab Coast	Pieces	15,233	16,500	12,000	- 4,500		
TOBACCO . . .	Bushire .	cwts.	89	29	11	- 18		
	Lingah .	"	4,488	5,600	3,000	- 2,600		
	Arab Coast	"	198	230	200	- 30		
Manufactures of Tobacco	Bushire .	Cases	94	42	41	- 5		
	Lingah .	Value Rs.	3,825	7,005	5,000	- 2,005		
	Arab Coast	"	600	900	1,300	+ 300		
WATCHES AND CLOCKS .	Bushire .	Cases	52	48	51	+ 3		
	Lingah .	Value Rs.	2,040	1,995	6,500	+ 4,505		
	Arab Coast	"	690	706	1,000	+ 296		
WOOL . . .	Bushire .	cwts.	1,554	780	508	- 227		
	Lingah .	Value Rs.	5,565	6,000	7,000	+ 1,000		
	Arab Coast	cwts.	109	125	125	...		
WOOLEN PIECE GOODS— Shawls . . .	Bushire .	Packages	37	13	4	- 9		
	Lingah .	Value Rs.	4,995	...	...	...
	Bushire .	Packages	177	117	102	- 15		
Broad cloth and other Woollen Piece Goods.	Lingah .	Value Rs.	6,381	16,005	18,000	+ 2,595		
	Arab Coast	Pieces	257	280	290	+ 10		
	Bushire .	Packages	60	66	3	- 63		
Other manufactures of Wool.	Lingah .	Value Rs.	7,500	+ 7,500		
	Arab Coast	Pieces	266	300	1,270	+ 970		
	Bushire .	Value Rs.	20,50,275	25,36,505	30,72,946	+ 5,36,441		
SPECIE . . .	Lingah .	"	22,81,700	20,70,360	18,38,571	- 2,40,689	About Rs. 12,96,000 worth of Bar Silver was imported from the United Kingdom.	
	Arab Coast	"	7,50,505	3,57,000	9,20,000	+ 5,63,000		
	Bushire .	Value Rs.	1,34,490	2,07,182	1,17,347	- 80,835		
ARTICLES NOT SPECIFIED ABOVE.	Lingah .	"	31,880	27,900	38,876	+ 10,976		
	Arab Coast	"	32,130	44,000	44,500	+ 500		

United Kingdom
India
France
Germany
Austria
Turkey
Egypt
China
Belgium
Holland
Japan
Maskat
Zanzibar
Bolivia
Persian Gulf
Arab Coast
Ceylon
Austria
Total Fr
India
Germany
Turkey
Maskat
Zanzibar
Bolivia
Arab Coast
Persian Gulf
Russia
Total Value
India
Turkey
Maskat
Zanzibar
Bolivia
Persian Gulf



TABLE 6.
Total Value of Imports into Bushire from Principal Countries during the years 1902-1903.

Country.	VALUE.	
	1902.	1903.
	Rs.	Rs.
United Kingdom	83,70,733	69,74,434
India	39,25,511	47,59,784
France	13,98,603	6,86,522
Germany	8,16,962	78,381
Austria	1,40,896	1,01,027
Turkey	5,53,566	4,58,745
Egypt	23,960	14,250
China	2,05,928	4,02,124
Belgium	3,36,509	46,225
Holland . . . . .	.....	2,100
Japan	1,390	.....
Maskat	37,714	36,946
Zanzibar	20,800	24,150
Bahrain	52,850	32,203
Persian Ports	6,22,979	6,15,851
Arab Coast	200	4,090
Ceylon . . . . .	.....	10,309
Arabia . . . . .	.....	8,316
TOTAL	1,65,09,101	1,42,55,457

TABLE 7.
Total Value of Imports into Lingah from Principal Countries during the years 1902-1903.

Countries.	VALUE.	
	1902.	1903.
	Rs.	Rs.
India	52,49,535	43,14,318
Germany	6,000	3,000
Turkey	88,850	77,636
Maskat	2,50,237	3,35,800
Zanzibar	19,600	17,000
Bahrain	11,910	41,070
Arab Coast	68,76,640	47,57,750
Persian Ports	8,95,770	7,21,238
Russia	2,900	.....
TOTAL	1,34,31,442	1,02,67,812

TABLE 8.
Total Value of Imports into Arab Coast from Principal Countries during the years 1902-1903.

Countries.	VALUE.	
	1902.	1903.
	Rs.	Rs.
India	13,13,310	19,93,315
Turkey	1,74,390	2,33,760
Maskat	3,63,375	3,54,540
Zanzibar	9,400	11,500
Bahrain	56,800	74,290
Persian Ports	24,47,470	18,86,335
TOTAL	43,65,195	45,53,740



TABLE No. 9.

Table showing the Total Number and Tonnage of Vessels of each Nation that entered the Port of Bushire.

NATIONALITY.	SAILING.		STREAM.		TOTAL.		
	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	
British	1901	25	1,250	109	125,760	134	127,010
	1902	50	3,000	183	148,229	183	154,229
	1903	35	2,450	154	188,352	189	190,802
Austrian	1901	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1902	...	...	1	1,280	1	1,280
	1903	...	...	...	...	...	...
Turkish	1901	50	2,000	...	...	50	2,000
	1902	80	2,400	1	1,613	81	4,013
	1903	60	1,800	...	...	60	1,800
Maskat	1901	10	800	...	...	10	800
	1902	25	2,000	...	...	25	2,000
	1903	20	1,600	...	...	20	1,600
Arab	1901	80	3,200	...	...	80	3,200
	1902	150	4,500	...	...	150	4,500
	1903	70	2,100	...	...	70	2,100
Persian	1901	350	8,750	...	...	350	8,750
	1902	300	7,500	...	...	300	7,500
	1903	350	7,750	...	...	350	7,750
Russian	1901	...	...	3	4,513	3	4,513
	1902	...	...	3	4,270	3	4,270
	1903	...	...	5	6,940	5	6,940
TOTAL	1901	515	16,000	112	180,273	627	146,273
	1902	605	19,400	138	155,392	743	174,792
	1903	535	15,700	159	195,292	694	210,992

TABLE No. 10.

Table showing the Total Number and Tonnage of Vessels of each Nation that cleared the Port of Bushire.

NATIONALITY.	SAILING.		STREAM.		TOTAL.		
	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	
British	1901	25	1,250	107	126,499	132	127,749
	1902	50	3,000	117	133,083	167	136,083
	1903	35	2,450	106	109,425	141	111,875
Turkish	1901	50	2,000	1	1,342	51	3,342
	1902	80	2,400	1	1,613	81	4,013
	1903	60	1,800	...	...	60	1,800
Maskat	1901	10	800	...	...	10	800
	1902	25	2,000	...	...	25	2,000
	1903	20	1,600	...	...	20	1,600
Arab	1901	80	3,200	...	...	80	3,200
	1902	150	4,500	...	...	150	4,500
	1903	70	2,100	...	...	70	2,100
Persian	1901	325	8,430	...	...	325	8,430
	1902	280	7,000	...	...	280	7,000
	1903	300	7,500	...	...	300	7,500
Russian	1901	...	...	3	4,513	3	4,513
	1902	...	...	3	4,270	3	4,270
	1903	...	...	5	6,940	5	6,940
TOTAL	1901	490	15,680	111	132,354	601	148,034
	1902	585	19,900	121	138,966	706	157,866
	1903	485	15,450	111	116,365	596	131,815

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TABLE No. 11.
Table showing the Total Number and Tonnage of Vessels of each Nation that entered the Port of Lingah.

NATIONALITY.	SAILING.		STEAM.		TOTAL.		
	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	
British	1901	122	12,900	81	89,100	203	102,000
	1902	112	11,350	95	104,500	207	115,850
	1903	84	8,800	74	81,400	158	90,200
French	1901	8	640	...	...	8	640
	1902	6	480	...	...	6	480
	1903	4	320	...	...	4	320
Turkish	1901	41	3,400	...	...	41	3,400
	1902	49	3,960	...	...	49	3,960
	1903	37	4,250	...	...	37	4,250
Maskat	1901	50	2,000	...	...	50	2,000
	1902	40	1,600	...	...	40	1,600
	1903	25	1,000	...	...	25	1,000
Arab	1901	100	3,000	...	...	100	3,000
	1902	85	2,400	...	...	85	2,400
	1903	125	3,750	...	...	125	3,750
Persian	1901	120	5,160	...	...	120	5,160
	1902	95	4,085	...	...	95	4,085
	1903	120	5,040	...	...	120	5,040
Russian	1901	...	...	2	2,200	2	2,200
	1902	...	...	2	2,200	2	2,200
	1903	...	...	3	3,300	3	3,300
TOTAL	1901	441	27,100	83	91,300	524	118,400
	1902	387	23,875	97	106,700	484	130,575
	1903	395	23,160	77	84,700	472	107,860

TABLE No. 12.
Table showing the Total Number and Tonnage of Vessels of each Nation that cleared the Port of Lingah.

NATIONALITY.	SAILING.		STEAM.		TOTAL.		
	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	
British	1901	87	9,925	45	49,500	132	59,425
	1902	80	8,630	47	51,700	127	60,330
	1903	53	3,635	49	53,900	102	57,535
French	1901	5	400	...	...	5	400
	1902	6	480	...	...	6	480
	1903	4	320	...	...	4	320
Turkish	1901	26	2,350	...	...	26	2,350
	1902	21	2,000	...	...	21	2,000
	1903	17	2,850	...	...	17	2,850
Maskat	1901	30	200	...	...	30	1,200
	1902	40	1,600	...	...	40	1,600
	1903	20	800	...	...	20	800
Arab	1901	80	2,400	...	...	80	2,400
	1902	82	2,460	...	...	82	2,460
	1903	125	3,750	...	...	125	3,750
Persian	1901	80	3,440	...	...	80	3,440
	1902	75	3,225	...	...	75	3,225
	1903	100	4,200	...	...	100	4,200
Russian	1901	...	...	3	3,300	3	3,300
	1902	...	...	2	2,200	2	2,200
	1903	...	...	3	3,300	3	3,300
TOTAL	1901	308	19,715	48	52,800	356	72,515
	1902	304	18,395	49	53,900	353	72,295
	1903	319	15,555	52	57,200	371	72,755



TABLE No. 13.

Table showing the Total Number and Tonnage of Vessels of each Nation that entered the Ports of the Arab Coast.

NATIONALITY.	SAILING.		STEAM.		TOTAL.		
	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	
British	1901	5	750	6	5,220	11	5,970
	1902	5	750	21	21,000	26	21,750
	1903	6	900	24	24,000	30	24,900
Turkish	1901	10	300	...	...	10	300
	1902	15	450	...	...	15	450
	1903	17	570	...	...	17	570
Persian	1901	400	8,000	...	...	400	8,000
	1902	400	8,000	...	...	400	8,000
	1903	300	6,000	...	...	300	6,000
French	1901	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1902	2	200	...	...	2	200
	1903	3	150	...	...	3	150
Maskat	1901	200	5,000	...	...	200	5,000
	1902	250	6,250	...	...	250	6,250
	1903	250	6,250	...	...	250	6,250
Arab	1901	200	4,000	...	...	200	4,000
	1902	200	4,000	...	...	200	4,000
	1903	220	4,400	...	...	220	4,400
TOTAL	1901	715	16,050	6	5,220	821	23,270
	1902	872	19,650	21	21,000	893	40,650
	1903	796	18,270	24	24,000	820	42,270

TABLE No. 14.

Table showing the Total Number and Tonnage of Vessels of each Nation that cleared the Ports of the Arab Coast.

NATIONALITY.	SAILING.		STEAM.		TOTAL.		
	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	
British	1901	5	750	6	5,220	11	5,950
	1902	5	750	21	21,000	26	21,750
	1903	6	900	24	24,000	30	24,900
Turkish	1901	10	300	...	...	10	300
	1902	15	450	...	...	15	450
	1903	17	570	...	...	17	570
Persian	1901	400	8,000	...	...	400	8,000
	1902	400	8,000	...	...	400	8,000
	1903	300	6,000	...	...	300	6,000
French	1901	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1902	2	200	...	...	2	200
	1903	3	150	...	...	3	150
Maskat	1901	200	5,000	...	...	200	5,000
	1902	250	6,250	...	...	250	6,250
	1903	250	6,250	...	...	250	6,250
Arab	1901	100	2,000	...	...	100	2,000
	1902	100	2,000	...	...	100	2,000
	1903	120	2,400	...	...	120	2,400
TOTAL	1901	715	16,050	6	5,220	721	21,270
	1902	772	17,650	21	21,000	793	38,650
	1903	696	16,270	24	24,000	720	40,270



APPENDIX B TO PART III.

TABLE No. 1.

Comparative Table of the Principal Exports from Shiraz during the years 1902-1903.

Articles.		Average five preceding years.	Quantity.		Increase or decrease in 1903, compared with 1902.
			1902.	1903.	
Animals (horses and mules) .	Head	136	207	365	+ 158
Cotton (raw)	Bales	9,191	13,955	14,000	+ 45
Drugs and medicines	Packages	2,091	3,415	3,500	+ 85
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.					
Almonds	cwts.	12,637	8,748	7,500	- 1,248
Almond kernels	"	4,152	3,280	3,500	+ 5,220
Other sorts	"	8,674	4,790	5,500	+ 710
Gold and gold coins	Value Rs.	69,465	40,500	42,000	+ 1,500
Gum	cwts.	13,592	9,200	11,700	+ 2,500
Hides and skins	Bundles	10,100	7,800	5,500	- 1,800
Leather	Pieces	1,34,800	2,14,000	2,30,000	+ 16,000
Opium	Packages	4,167	5,300	4,950	- 350
Perfumery (rosewater)	"	6,530	7,450	6,500	- 950
Seeds	cwts.	4,964	4,970	7,500	+ 2,530
Silk, manufactures of	Packages	816	817	850	+ 133
Tobacco	Bags	32,244	32,300	37,250	+ 4,950
Woollen goods (carpets)	Packages	4,583	5,914	5,500	- 414
Articles not specified above .	Value Rs.	1,37,865	38,805	65,340	+ 26,535

TABLE No. 2.

Comparative Table of the Principal Imports into Shiraz during the years 1902-1903.

Articles.		Average five preceding years.	Quantity.		Increase or decrease in 1903, compared with 1902.
			1902.	1903.	
Candles	Cases	6,124	9,140	9,250	+ 110
Coffee	cwts.	650	930	380	- 550
Cotton goods	Bales	40,132	43,310	43,500	+ 180
Thread and Twist	"	2,039	3,215	3,300	+ 5,085
Drugs and medicines	Cases	2,502	3,750	2,250	- 1,500
Glass and glassware	"	666	1,720	250	- 1,470
Gold embroidered cloth	"	102	235	180	- 85
Gold lace and thread	"	81	35	85	...
Hardware and cutlery	"	1,219	2,435	250	- 2,185
Indigo	"	1,099	1,830	2,250	+ 420
Liquors, wines, and spirits	"	2,281	3,940	4,500	+ 560
Copper	cwts.	1,516	1,500	3,000	+ 1,500
Iron	"	3,527	2,710	5,500	+ 2,780
Tin	"	261	940	1,500	+ 560
Brass	"	403	450	900	+ 450
Oil, Kerosine	Cases	6,617	8,500	14,500	+ 6,000
Porcelain and Chinaware	"	648	1,500	850	- 650
Spices	Packages	4,032	3,200	6,500	+ 3,300
Sugar, soft	Bags	28,020	48,300	48,000	- 300
" loaf	Cases	23,860	43,500	60,000	+ 16,500
Tea	"	15,860	15,700	28,000	+ 12,300
Woollen goods	Packages	319	510	350	- 160
Kashmere shawls	Bales	4	24	...	- 24
Silver	Cases	126	630	900	+ 270
Articles not specified above .	Value Rs.	60,570	...	1,89,000	+ 1,89,000



PART IV.—TRADE REPORT FOR MASKAT, 1903-1904.

The total value of trade for the year according to the figures furnished by His Highness the Sultan's Customs Superintendent, is returned at 6,390,420 dollars as against 5,711,950 dollars of the last year, showing an increase of 678,470 dollars. This amount represents an increment of \$675,145 on the import side and \$3,325 on the export.

The imports exceed the exports by 1,371,100 dollars, and it would appear, therefore, that the balance of trade is against the country to this extent. This, however, is not the case, for owing to its geographical position and facility for call of steamers from Europe, Maskat serves as a port of entry for certain goods such as arms and ammunition, sugar, and piece goods, which are again exported to the Persian Gulf ports and about 30 per cent. of the sugar imported is despatched to Cutch and Kathiawar in India. The Customs authorities keep no record of this re-exportation, there being no duty leviable in it, and the figures given in the Return are consequently only approximate to the real exports of the country.

The last year's Return showed an increase over that of the previous year of \$208,747 on the import side; and this year's imports again give an increase over the last year's of \$675,145 or 21 per cent. This increase is shared as follows:—

	\$
United Kingdom	259,316
France	204,284
America	61,800
India	78,105
Persia	2,720
Other countries	103,750
Russia	105,500

(Turkey in Asia shows decrease \$7,930).

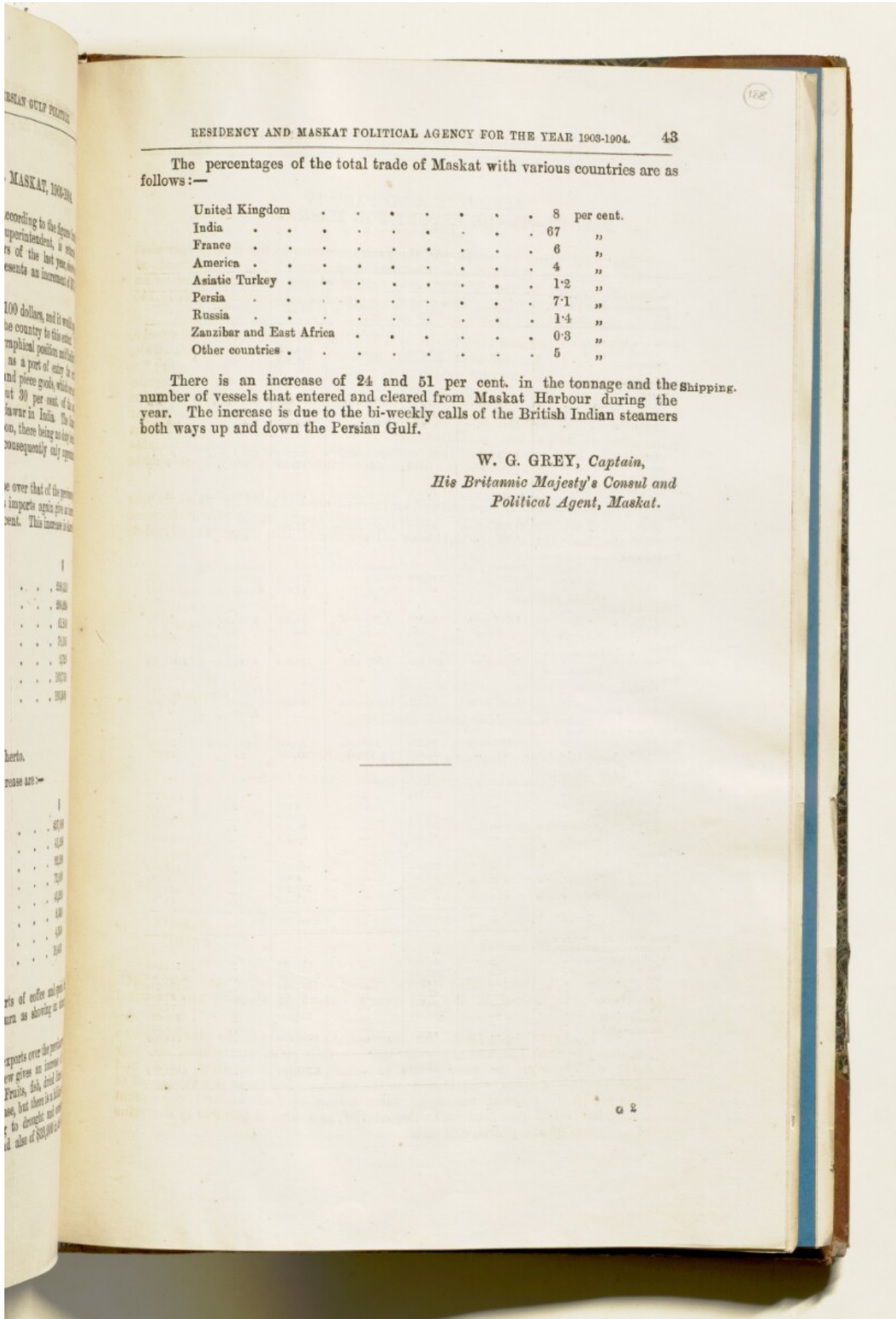
There had been no imports from Russia hitherto.

The chief items which contribute to the increase are:—

	\$
Arms and ammunition	427,900
Cereals	41,290
Rice	92,200
Sugar	72,000
Piece goods	40,200
Oil, etc.	8,300
Ghee	4,300
Articles, not specified	19,400

There is a great falling off in the imports of coffee and specie, both of these were noticed in the last year's Return as showing an abnormal increase.

In the year 1902-1903, the increase of exports over the previous year's amounted to \$865,439, and the year under review gives an increase of only 3,325 dollars over the past year's exports. Fruits, fish, dried limes, and miscellaneous articles contributed to the increase, but there is a falling off of \$159,450 in the value of export of dates owing to drought and consequent scanty harvest of date produce in the interior, and also of \$39,900 in the value of mother-o'-pearl, pearls, and salt.



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The percentages of the total trade of Maskat with various countries are as follows:—

United Kingdom	8	per cent.
India	67	”
France	6	”
America	4	”
Asiatic Turkey	1·2	”
Persia	7·1	”
Russia	1·4	”
Zanzibar and East Africa	0·3	”
Other countries	5	”

There is an increase of 24 and 51 per cent. in the tonnage and the number of vessels that entered and cleared from Maskat Harbour during the year. The increase is due to the bi-weekly calls of the British Indian steamers both ways up and down the Persian Gulf.

W. G. GREY, *Captain,*
His Britannic Majesty's Consul and
Political Agent, Maskat.

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APPENDIX A TO PART IV.

TABLE No. 1.

Imports into Maskat.

Principal articles and principal countries from which imported.	1901-1902.		1902-1903.		1903-1904.	
	Quantity.	Value in dollars.	Quantity.	Value in dollars.	Quantity.	Value in dollars.
ARMS AND AMMUNITION—						
United Kingdom . . . . .	...	487,280	...	292,008	...	475,290
France . . . . .	...	116,700	...	141,987	...	386,600
CEREALS—WHEAT AND OTHER						
GRAINS—						
Asiatic Turkey	77 tons	1,174	16 tons	803	18 tons	970
Persia	904 "	48,215	25 "	1,200	71 "	4,220
India	1,031 "	54,019	3,330 "	113,300	3,590 "	148,400
COFFEE—						
India	4,728 cwts.	72,851	6,000 cwts.	84,700	5,800 cwts.	83,200
Asiatic Turkey	596 "	8,628	800 "	12,000	200 "	3,500
OIL OF ALL KINDS—						
India	34,914 gallons	35,517	43,700 gallons	54,600	60,400 gallons	62,000
GREASE—						
India	15,269 gallons	42,221	15,900 gallons	57,400	18,200 gallons	60,200
Persia	1,106 "	1,698	...	...	400 "	1,500
PIECE GOODS—						
India	thousand yards	149,833	thousand yards	132,200	thousand yards	140,500
America	37,967	47,200	43,400	52,400	50,200	72,600
TWIST AND YARN—						
India	3,633 cwts.	93,598	3,750 cwts.	97,400	3,800 cwts.	98,500
Persia	6 "	100	...	...	...	...
RICE—						
India	8,961 tons	841,619	9,500 tons	983,000	9,600 tons	1,075,200
SUGAR—						
Russia . . . . .	...	...	...	...	16,500 cwts.	105,500
India	12,326 cwts.	68,771	24,100 cwts.	136,400	11,200 "	67,300
United Kingdom . . . . .	...	...	...	...	5,100 "	25,700
SILK AND SILK GOODS—						
India	130 cwts.	28,210	140 cwts.	30,900	135 cwts.	30,300
Persia	66 "	17,858	70 "	19,400	80 "	22,600
ARTICLES NOT SPECIFIED ABOVE—						
India . . . . .	...	243,564	...	210,400	...	220,500
America . . . . .	...	...	...	9,400	...	9,600
Turkey in Asia . . . . .	...	11,085	...	15,200	...	16,600
Persia . . . . .	...	19,415	...	21,300	...	28,300
Other countries . . . . .	...	68,768	...	91,200	...	68,000
SPECIES—						
India . . . . .	...	235,805	...	328,595	...	308,500
Asiatic Turkey . . . . .	...	36,000	...	6,300	...	6,400
Persia . . . . .	...	198,225	...	197,200	...	185,200
Other countries . . . . .	...	600	...	12,550	...	23,500
TOTAL	...	2,896,688	...	3,205,435	...	3,880,580
TOTAL VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES—						
United Kingdom . . . . .	...	497,280	...	251,674	...	510,990
France . . . . .	...	1,961,157	...	2,332,495	...	2,410,600
America . . . . .	...	116,700	...	182,816	...	386,600
Asiatic Turkey . . . . .	...	47,300	...	61,800	...	84,200
Persia . . . . .	...	24,517	...	34,800	...	36,370
Russia	285,571	...	230,100	...	241,820
Other countries	64,263	...	103,750	...	105,500
TOTAL	...	2,996,688	...	3,205,435	...	3,880,580

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TABLE No. 2.
Exports from Maskat.

Principal articles and principal countries to which exported.	1901-1902.		1902-1903.		1903-1904.	
	Quantity.	Value in dollars.	Quantity.	Value in dollars.	Quantity.	Value in dollars.
DATES—						
India	14,700 tons	734,860	20,100 tons	836,860	15,200 tons	768,500
America	1,576 "	59,865	3,180 "	191,240	2,800 "	168,000
Turkey in Asia	548 "	27,223	664 "	40,040	420 "	21,250
Zanzibar	403 "	26,530	622 "	37,540	250 "	11,300
Other Countries	1,987 "	98,370	2,360 "	142,700	2,200 "	116,000
FRUIT—						
India	8,340 cwts.	27,354	3,130 cwts.	25,000	3,680 cwts.	35,800
Persia	70 "	570	90 "	730	70 "	880
FISH, LARGE AND SMALL—						
India	1,091 tons	21,558	1,231 tons	24,400	1,325 tons	25,640
Other Countries	11 "	220	49 "	975	42 "	910
LIMES, DRIED—						
India	12,205 cwts.	12,663	2,000 cwts.	4,000	1,540 cwts.	18,400
Turkey in Asia	554 "	700	1,110 "	1,620	950 "	9,750
Persia	9,528 "	12,040	20,000 "	31,360	2,500 "	30,000
COTTON AND COTTON FABRICS—						
Turkey in Asia . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...
Zanzibar and East Africa . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Countries	341 cwts.	4,400	70 cwts.	700	50 cwts.	500
MOTHER-O'-PEARL—						
India	4,961 cwts.	22,588	14,000 cwts.	70,500	12,500 cwts.	62,500
SALT—						
India	325 tons	1,450	531 tons	2,720	450 tons.	2,200
Zanzibar	250 "	1,300	361 "	1,440	80 "	310
Other Countries . . . . .	...	...	78 "	310	50 "	200
PEARLS—						
India . . . . .	...	25,000	...	52,000	...	22,000
ARTICLES NOT SPECIFIED ABOVE—						
India . . . . .	...	121,041	...	123,420	...	172,520
Turkey in Asia . . . . .	...	5,343	...	8,640	...	9,000
Zanzibar . . . . .	...	5,400	...	7,500	...	9,600
Other Countries . . . . .	...	16,141	...	51,200	...	55,400
SPECIES—						
India . . . . .	...	252,100	...	521,200	...	755,200
Persia . . . . .	...	150,200	...	310,000	...	180,200
Turkey in Asia . . . . .	...	1,900	...	3,100	...	9,800
Other Countries . . . . .	...	12,200	...	21,200	...	29,000
TOTAL	...	1,641,076	...	2,506,515	...	2,509,840
TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES—						
India . . . . .	...	1,218,614	...	1,650,150	...	1,862,540
America . . . . .	...	59,865	...	191,240	...	168,000
Turkey in Asia . . . . .	...	35,166	...	59,400	...	49,800
Persia . . . . .	...	162,510	...	349,000	...	211,180
Zanzibar and East Africa . . . . .	...	33,290	...	46,580	...	21,110
Other countries . . . . .	...	131,931	...	217,085	...	196,910
TOTAL	...	1,641,076	...	2,506,515	...	2,509,840

**'Administration Report on the Persian Gulf Political Residency and Maskat
Political Agency for 1903-1904' [189v] (58/80)**



TABLE No. 3.

Statement showing Total Number and Tonnage of Vessels of each Nation that entered the Port of Maskat.

NATIONALITY.		SAILING.		STEAM.		TOTAL.	
		No. of vessels.	Tons.	No. of vessels.	Tons.	No. of vessels.	Tons.
British	1901-1902	134	3,635	139	157,813	273	161,448
	1902-1903	140	3,800	137	156,775	277	160,575
	1903-1904	151	5,500	233	238,209	384	243,709
French	1901-1902	14	222	...	...	14	222
	1902-1903	9	180	...	...	9	180
	1903-1904	13	185	...	...	13	185
Turkish	1901-1902	33	780	...	...	33	780
	1902-1903	30	730	...	...	30	730
	1903-1904	32	900	...	...	32	900
Maskat	1901-1902	81	9,600	...	...	81	9,600
	1902-1903	95	2,500	...	...	95	2,500
	1903-1904	90	2,000	1	205	91	2,205
Persian	1901-1902	22	605	...	...	22	605
	1902-1903	20	550	...	...	20	550
	1903-1904	15	400	...	...	15	400
Russian	1901-1902 . . . . .	...	...	3	3,954	3	3,954
	1902-1903 . . . . .	...	...	5	5,879	5	5,879
	1903-1904 . . . . .	...	...	7	9,346	7	9,346
Other Countries	1901-1902 . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1902-1903 . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1903-1904 . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	1901-1902	283	14,842	142	161,767	425	176,609
	1902-1903	294	7,710	142	162,654	436	170,364
	1903-1904	301	8,994	241	247,940	542	256,934

TABLE No. 4.

Statement showing Total Number and Tonnage of Vessels of each Nation that left the Port of Maskat.

NATIONALITY.		SAILING.		STEAM.		TOTAL.	
		No. of vessels.	Tons.	No. of vessels.	Tons.	No. of vessels.	Tons.
British	1901-1902	134	3,635	139	157,813	273	161,448
	1902-1903	140	3,800	137	156,775	277	160,575
	1903-1904	148	4,324	233	238,209	381	242,533
French	1901-1902	14	222	...	...	14	222
	1902-1903	9	180	...	...	9	180
	1903-1904	13	185	...	...	13	185
Turkish	1901-1902	32	780	...	...	32	780
	1902-1903	30	730	...	...	30	730
	1903-1904	32	900	...	...	32	900
Maskat	1901-1902	81	9,600	...	...	81	9,600
	1902-1903	95	2,500	...	...	95	2,500
	1903-1904	81	9,600	...	...	81	9,600
Persian	1901-1902	22	605	...	...	22	605
	1902-1903	20	550	...	...	20	550
	1903-1904	15	400	...	...	15	400
Russian	1901-1902 . . . . .	...	...	3	3,954	3	3,954
	1902-1903 . . . . .	...	...	5	5,879	5	5,879
	1903-1904 . . . . .	...	...	7	9,346	7	9,346
Other Countries	1901-1902 . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1902-1903 . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1903-1904 . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	1901-1902	283	14,842	142	161,767	425	176,609
	1902-1903	294	7,710	142	162,654	436	170,364
	1903-1904	298	7,809	241	247,940	539	255,749



APPENDIX A TO PART V.

TABLE No. 1.

Comparative Table of the Principal Articles exported from the port of Mohammerah including transshipments from Karun Ports for the year 1903.

ARTICLES.		QUANTITY.			INCREASE OR DECREASE COMPARED WITH—		REMARKS.
		Average for five years.	1902.	1903.	Average.	1903.	
Animals	Head	1,634	1,895	28	-1,606	-1,667	Decrease. No export to India. Turkish duty being reduced, no horses brought from Turkey for shipment.
Cotton (raw)	cwts.	822	1,243	1,397	+575	+154	To India and Turkey.
Local piece goods	Value	1,553	2,505	2,139	+586	-364	Chiefly quilt covers printed at Shaster and quilts to Turkey and Persia.
Dates	cwts.	54,446	23,489	39,047	-15,399	-54,442	Figures not reliable.
Hugloss	"	1,169	1,256	1,844	+675	+588	Natural product. To India for medicinal purposes. Increase good season rains.
Ghee	"	75	59	445	+370	+386	Export to Maskat and India. Little export 1898-1902, owing short rains scarcity fodder.
Grain—Wheat	cwts.	...	...	70,958	70,958	70,958	No export since 1897 owing short crops and embargo. Principally to England.
Barley	"	...	...	3,745	...	...	To Gulf Ports. The duty prohibitive for shipments to Europe.
Gum, insoluble	Bundles.	4,198	4,507	8,893	+4,695	+4,386	Increase good rains.
Hides and skins	"	112	229	222	+110	-7	To India.
Oilseeds	cwts.	6,761	7,299	4,654	-1,807	-2,345	Decrease to Europe, crop small, not good quality. No sesame to Europe. Landed to England, India, Holland.
Reeds	Bundles	371	591	465	+94	-126	Natural product, for pens export to India.
Tobacco	cwts.	550	1,427	1,327	+777	-100	Export chiefly to Egypt.
Wool	"	5,605	4,029	3,864	-1,641	-165	Decrease on average. Flacks not yet recovered from losses by famine.
Carpets	Bundles	5	13	52	+47	+39	Increase. Few exported by this route of late years owing insecurity of road from Bushijerd.
Miscellaneous Specie	Value £	1,915	2,248	1,212	-703	-1,036	Decrease on average; smaller amounts to India. Increase over 1902. Persian Government shipments to Bushira.
		54,413	31,146	46,006	-8,407	+14,860	
	Average three years.						Following not exported before 1900. being Isfahan goods by Bakhtiari road.
Almonds	cwts.	397	677	470	+73	-207	To India.
Madder root	"	367	920	1,576	+1,209	+656	To England and France.
Opium	"	605	1,152	472	-133	-1,020	To England and Hongkong.
Gum, Tragacanth	"	149	196	484	+335	+238	Decrease. Increase Customs dues. Principally to England.

TABLE No. 2.

Comparative Table of Total Value of Exports including Specie from the Port of Mohammerah and Karun Ports to all Countries for the year 1903.

COUNTRY.	Average, five years.	1902.	1903.	INCREASE OR DECREASE COMPARED WITH—		REMARKS.
				Average.	1903.	
United Kingdom	£	£	£	£	£	
India and Aden	18,107	34,879	34,139	+16,032	-740	Decrease in opium, increase in wheat.
Turkey and Egypt	51,528	63,472	19,937	-31,591	-43,535	No export of horses.
France	3,342	3,091	4,597	+1,195	+1,446	
Persian Gulf	573	1,036	353	-215	-679	
Others	2,027	2,258	5,701	+3,674	+3,443	Increase in corn and clarified butter.
Hongkong	...	...	643	+543	+543	Small shipments to Netherlands and Germany.
	23,329	41,947	7,458	-15,871	-34,489	Opium only.
TOTAL	98,906	146,633	72,672	-26,234	-74,011	Decrease in horses and opium.

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RESIDENCY AND MASKAT POLITICAL AGENCY FOR THE YEAR 1903-1904.

TABLE No. 3.

Comparative Table of Principal Articles imported into Mohammerah including transshipments to Karun Ports for the year 1903.

ARTICLES.	QUANTITY.			INCREASE OR DECREASE COMPARED WITH—		REMARKS.
	Average five years.	1902.	1903.	Average.	1902.	
Coals . . . Tons	321	875	346½	+25½	-28½	For use of river steamers.
Coffee . . . cwts.	1,635	410	318	-1,217	-92	Decrease on average. None for Koweit. Increased customs dues.
Metals . . . "	...	...	...	...	...
Iron . . . cwts.	1,929	328	1,568	-361	+1,240	Increase due prosperous year.
Copper . . . "	538	275	735	+197	+450	" " " " " "
Others . . . "	437	597	259	-178	-338	Decrease in lead. Increased duty.
Metal manufactures . . . Value£	1,897	1,959	1,509	-388	-400	" " " " " " Increased duty.
Drugs . . . "	937	585	382	-565	-203	" " " " " "
Cotton goods . . . "	142,328	60,246	108,081	-84,247	+47,835	Increase on last year due to prosperity owing to export of grain. Decrease on average. None for Koweit and increased duty. Increase entirely in direct shipments from Manchester. 100 bales Russian goods imported.
Gunny bags . . . "	1,599	970	1,350	-249	+370	Accumulation during now. Export grain now required. From India and Basrah.
Kerosine oil . . . cwts.	1,541	2,571	2,900	+1,359	+329	Batonim oil.
Matches . . . Cases	191	159	483	+292	+324	Increase for Ispahan route.
Rice . . . cwts.	7,708	5,634	5,191	-2,517	-443	Decrease, none for Koweit and better local produce.
Silk goods . . . Value£	3,954	1,589	2,467	-1,487	+887	Increase due prosperous year. None for Koweit.
Spices . . . cwts.	900	879	867½	-22½	-12½	Increase prevented by rise in tariff.
Sugar, crushed . . . "	10,361	9,697	10,586	+225	+889	Increase due prosperous year. Beat, Austrian and German, cane sugar only 14 cwts. from Java.
Sngar, loaf . . . "	10,961	27,432	15,765	+5,404	-11,667	Decrease due higher tariff.
Tea . . . "	1,349	1,667	1,058	-291	-609	" " " " " " principally for Ispahan route.
Twist . . . "	1,587	1,232	2,018	+431	+786	Increase due prosperous year.

TABLE No. 4.

Comparative Table of Total Value of imports into Mohammerah and Karun Ports from all Countries during the year 1903.

COUNTRY.	Average five years.	1902.	1903.	INCREASE OR DECREASE COMPARED WITH—		REMARKS.
				Average.	1902.	
United Kingdom . . .	£ 75,831	£ 40,787	£ 89,636	+13,805	+48,849	Increase chiefly in Manchester goods. Some continental included.
India and Aden . . .	1,19,145	56,193	62,975	-56,170	+6,782	Partial recovery decrease in Manchester goods and India.
France . . .	16,031	10,583	6,298	-9,733	-4,285	Decrease, sugar, metals, coffee, increased duty.
Austria Hungary . . .	3,130	718	1,033	-2,097	+314	
Belgium . . .	1,465	5,434	...	...	...	Probably included in shipments from London.
Turkey and Egypt . . .	5,334	2,106	1,720	-3,614	-386	Decrease in sugar.
Persian Gulf . . .	2,454	3,550	2,597	+143	-953	" No shawls.
Russia . . .	...	3,900	3,914	+3,914	+14	
Others . . .	...	178	...	...	...
TOTAL . . .	2,23,390	1,23,449	1,68,173	-55,217	+44,724	Decrease on average due partly to Indian steamers now calling at Koweit.



TABLE No. 5.

Comparative Table of Steam Shipping at the Port of Mohammerah for the year 1903. No statistics of sailing crafts (native) obtainable.

ENTERED.

NATIONALITY.	Year.	No. of vessels.	Tons.	INCREASE OR DECREASE WITH—				REMARKS.
				Average.		1903.		
				No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	
SEA—	5 years' average.	96	107,296	Smaller vessels employed on weekly mail service.
British		107	120,403	+10	+22,207	-1	-7,661	
		1903	106	121,942	
Others	Average	106	1,314	All Russian, new quarterly service from Odessa.
	1902	1	1,598	+24	+3,673	+3	+3,389	
	1903	4	4,987	...	...	...	...
RIVER—	Average	24	3,213	Steamer running occasionally during second-half year owing to grain exported and supplemented by a launch and large seven trips.
British		24	3,272	+15	+2,500	+15	+2,441	
		1903	39	5,713	
				CLEARED.				
SEA—	Average	79	84,411	Russian.
British		86	89,990	+3	+4,386	-4	-1,197	
		1903	82	88,803	
Others	Average	1	1,270	Running extra trips to bring down cargo, also launch with barge.
	1902	1	1,598	+1	+1,056	+1	+728	
	1903	2	2,326	...	...	...	...
RIVER—	Average	23	3,128	Running extra trips to bring down cargo, also launch with barge.
British		24	3,272	+16	+2,585	+15	+2,441	
		1903	39	5,713	



THE PERSIAN GULF RESIDENCY
No. 5.
Information for the year 1903
not obtained.
E.E.O.

APPENDIX B TO PART V.

TABLE No. 1.

*Karun Trade (from statistics supplied by Messrs. Lynch Brothers).
Comparative Table of Exports from Karun Ports for the year 1903.*

ARTICLES.	Average, three preceding years.	QUANTITY.		INCREASE OR DECREASE COMPARED WITH—		REMARKS.
		1902.	1903.	Average.	1903.	
Almonds . . .	cwts. 455	520	333	—122	—187	To India.
Beans . . .	" 653	...	4,333	+3,670	+4,323	To United Kingdom and local.
Bazloss . . .	" 750	720	529	—221	—191	To India.
Carpets . . .	" 40	40	118	+78	+78	To United Kingdom, Turkey.
Cotton . . .	" 1,486	2,020	1,353	—133	—667	To United Kingdom, India, and Turkey.
Ghee . . .	" ...	...	864½	...	...
GRAIN—						
Wheat . . .	" 3,800	1,380	102,446	+68,646	+101,066	To United Kingdom and local.
Barley . . .	" ...	...	8,125	...	...	Ditto ditto.
Gum, Tragacanth . . .	" 183	350	370	+137	+20	Ditto ditto.
Gum, Insoluble . . .	" 5,838	4,580	5,593	—245	+1,013	Europe and India.
Madder root . . .	" 373	620	1,250½	+877½	+680½	India.
Piece goods . . .	" 1,410	1,460	854	—556	—596	Turkey and Persia.
Silk piece goods . . .	Value 1,690	786	2,762	+1,072	+1,976	Ditto.
Oil seeds . . .	cwts. 5,970	5,080	2,555	—3,415	—2,475	United Kingdom and local.
Onions . . .	" ...	...	805	...	...	Local.
Opium . . .	" 703	1,400	270	—433	—1,130	Hongkong and United Kingdom.
Skins and hides . . .	" 97	44	183	+86	+189	United Kingdom and India.
Tobacco . . .	" 1,108	2,160	738	—370	—1,422	
Wool . . .	" 5,810	2,650	4,921	—889	+2,271	United Kingdom and India. Partial recovery after famine losses.
Other articles . . .	Value £ 1,660	1,487	1,499	—161	+12	
Specie . . .	" 13,479	14,086	12,752	—727	—1,934	

TABLE No. 2.

Comparative Table of Total Values of Exports from Karun Ports for the year 1903.

Countries.	QUANTITY.			INCREASE OR DECREASE COMPARED WITH—		REMARKS.
	Average for three years.	1902.	1903.	Average.	1903.	
United Kingdom and Europe	£ 22,609	£ 35,178	£ 36,170	+13,561	+992	Increase in grain.
India and East	34,876	49,554	19,901	—14,885	—29,563	Decrease opium.
Turkey and Persia	18,999	11,782	37,855	+20,866	+26,123	Increase in grain, ghee, and silk.
TOTAL	71,484	96,464	94,016	+22,532	—2,448	Increase, good harvest, decrease, opium.



TABLE No. 3.

Karun Trade (from statistics supplied by Messrs. Lynch Brothers, Ahwaz).
Comparative Table of Imports into Karun Ports for the year 1903.

Articles.	Average, three years.	QUANTITY.		INCREASE OR DECREASE COMPARED WITH—		REMARKS.
		1902.	1903.	Average.	1902.	
Drugs	cwts. 552	340	449	-104	+109	Chiefly copperas.
Metals	" 2,305	1,230	2,046	-259	+816	" copper and iron.
Metal manufactures	Value £ 49	110	1,307	+1,267	+1,197	Increase, prosperous year.
Cotton goods	cwt. 5,936	8,470	10,130	+4,194	+1,660	" " "
Matches	" 166	200	895	+729	+635	" " "
Gunny bags	" 435	348	700	+265	+354	" required for grain.
Indigo	" 100	20	60	-80	+40	" " "
Sugar, loaf	" 15,720	11,660	9,578	-5,142	-2,082	" " "
" soft	" 7,597	11,030	5,058	-2,539	-5,972	" " "
Spice	" 298	815	401	+103	+86	" " "
Tea	" 876	1,170	1,384	+408	+214	For Isbahan.
Twist	" 960	1,070	1,744	+784	+674	Increase, prosperous year.
Dates	" 7,347	8,820	2,873	-4,474	-5,947	Decrease, other foods plentiful.
Grain	" 8,267	4,100	...	-8,267	-4,100	Crops good, none required.
Miscellaneous	Value £ 10,783	7,591	7,218	-3,564	-373	" " "
Specie	" 2,182	755	11,228	+9,046	+10,478	To buy grain,—from Basrah.

TABLE No. 4.

Comparative Table of Total Values of Imports from Karun Ports for the year 1903, except Specie.

Countries.	Average for three years.	QUANTITY.		INCREASE OR DECREASE COMPARED WITH—		REMARKS.
		1902.	1903.	Average.	1902.	
United Kingdom	5,770	6,772	7,751	+1,981	+979	Increase, prosperous year.
India or eid India	55,132	64,249	75,455	+20,324	+11,207	" " "
Turkey and Persia	5,797	6,311	1,950	-3,847	-4,361	Decrease. No import food stuffs.
Continent, Egypt, and Levant	13,269	8,566	8,392	-4,877	-174	Decrease sugar.
TOTAL	79,968	85,898	93,549	+13,581	+7,651	" " "

TABLE No. 5.

Table showing total tons of cargo carried on Karun between Mohammerah and Bunder Nasri from statistics furnished by Messrs. Lynch Brothers.

	1901.		1902.		1903.		REMARKS.
	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.	
By British steamer	1,660	823	1,074	792	1,302	3,493	1903 food stuffs exported, but imported in 1901 and 1902.
" Native sailing craft	1,361	505	1,219	510	525	2,469	
TOTAL	3,021	1,328	2,293	1,302	1,827	5,962	

RESIDENCY
PART VI.—THE
1. The year better rainfall, reacted on the 1903 amount 4,480,001 for the ally to the exports for 1904 average export Great Brit est. of the exp The subst est. of colozes ill towards ti depressed.
2. The ope impracticable; the coast, the sugar are pro There sho Bunder Abbas There is a ostroids from the new tariff, ion to develop seems favourab
3. Bunder Yed, and Cen Meshed. Ther this port sho from Yed and re in demand.
4. The im reason for the expense of Indi the matter. preferred to hi Four stea Persian Gulf considerable q cheap but of French sugar. Gulf, but was
5. The a Thets from li poor facilities, curiags, and Agents of the said it may be storing goods is under consid Sugar, gr Lighters. A e detection by p Some forr perhaps, be o shipments to



PART VI.—TRADE REPORT OF BUNDER ABBAS FOR THE YEAR 1903.

1. The year 1903 has been a good one for Bunder Abbas. There was a better rainfall, and consequently the condition of the people improved. This has reacted on the imports which show a marked improvement. The imports for 1903 amount to £449,145 against £399,291 last year, and an average of £430,991 for the past five years. The exports have increased also, owing principally to the abolition of export duty on the principal commodities. The exports for 1903 amount to £138,632 against £97,331 in 1902, and £148,499 average export for the past five years.

General Remarks.

Great Britain and India supply 72 per cent. of the imports and 58 per cent. of the exports of the port.

The substitution of a complicated tariff by weight in lieu of the old 5 per cent. *ad valorem* tariff does not seem to have affected the trade of this port till towards the end of the year under review, when trade became very depressed.

2. The opening for export of sulphur suggested in last year's report seems impracticable; the mines are farmed as a monopoly and are some distance from the coast, the cost of carriage is great, consequently the rates for shipping the sulphur are prohibitive.

Openings for British Trade.

There should be an opening for direct trade in Kerman carpets *via* Bunder Abbas to England.

There is a considerable export of raw cotton and wool, almonds, raisins, and asafoetida from this port. All these articles are free from export duty under the new tariff, and British Indian merchants might, perhaps, turn their attention to developing this trade with advantage, whenever the Indian market seems favourable for these commodities.

3. Bunder Abbas is primarily the port of entry for goods for Kerman, Yeẓd, and Central and Eastern Persia. Caravans also proceed to Seistan and Meshed. There is practically no local market, so that merchants trading with this port should study the markets of Central Persia and the Consular reports from Yeẓd and Kerman to ascertain their mistakes, if any, and what articles are in demand.

Mistakes of British Traders and of their Foreign Competitors.

4. The import of tea from Java appears to be steadily increasing. The reason for this increase is not clear, but as any such increase must be at the expense of Indian and Ceylon tea, Indian tea merchants might well look into the matter. A considerable quantity of the Java tea is "white tea," which is preferred to black tea by the better class Persians.

Progress of Rival Trade.

Four steamers of the newly established Russian line from Odessa to the Persian Gulf Ports called at Bunder Abbas during the year and brought a considerable quantity of petroleum and sugar to this port. The sugar is cheap but of poor quality and is not appreciated by the people, who prefer French sugar. Russian kerosine seems to have always been used in the Persian Gulf, but was previously brought in British vessels.

5. The arrangements for landing cargoes are still very unsatisfactory. Thefts from lighters are frequent; the customs pier and godowns offer very poor facilities for landing and storing goods, and finally the charges for landing, carriage, and storage are very high. The security of goods after receipt by the Agents of the Customs Department has greatly improved during the past year, and it may be hoped that cheaper and better arrangements for landing and storing goods will shortly be made by the Customs Department, as the matter is under consideration.

Difficulties in the way of trade.

Sugar, grain, flour, etc., in sacks are the commodities principally stolen from lighters. A considerable quantity may be removed without any chance of detection by piercing the sack with a fine-pointed scoop.

Some form of cheap bag which reduces the possibilities of this method may, perhaps, be on the market; if so, it would seem advisable to use such bags for shipments to the Persian Gulf.



Merchants are hampered by the absence of telegraphic communication. The nearest point at which a telegraph station exists is Jask, about 120 miles off. An extension of the land line from Jask to Bunder Abbas would be a great boon to the port.

Communication with Traders.

6. The Vice-Consul is ready to place British merchants in communication with local traders, or to give them any information in his power (subject to the general rules) on receipt of any enquiry.

Tariff Alterations, etc.

7. On the 14th February 1903 a new tariff was introduced by which import duties were in the main increased and export duties reduced. The import duties on wine and spirits, tea and indigo, and the export duty on opium were very largely increased.

Import of indigo was greatly reduced during the last year. The import of tea and export of opium, however, do not seem to have been affected until the new Tariff had been in operation about six months. Trade in both commodities was very brisk at the beginning of the year, but fell off greatly at the end of the year. During the first two months of this (1904) year trade in tea and opium has been practically at a standstill.

Merchants trading with Persia have doubtless studied the new Tariff Regulations, and noticed that with few exceptions the new duties are charged by weight and that such weights include the weight of all wrappings, boxes, bottles, barrels, etc., which according to ordinary trade custom change hands when the commodities are bought and sold. Merchants have doubtless taken steps to reduce any unnecessary weight in all coverings which are usually sold with the commodity.

To facilitate passage of goods through Customs it would seem advisable that merchants and shippers should take steps to have the weight with wrappings marked on piece goods, etc., and to show the weight of goods as well as value in invoices.

Communications.

8. Means of communication are very bad. The roads to Kerman and Yezd are by no means safe, though robberies were less frequent in 1903 than in former years.

The Persian Government Post was robbed once or twice during the year. The rates for carriage were comparatively low during the year. The rate to Yezd varied from 30* to 40 tomans per 100 Yezd maunds, that is about 1,400 lbs. The rate to Kerman varied between 16† to 18 tomans per 100 Tabriz maunds of 7 lbs. each, about 700 lbs.

At the date of writing (March 1904) rates to Kerman and Yezd are 8 and 25 tomans, very low owing to no merchandize having arrived here lately.

Exchange.

9. Exchange here is mostly with India, and rupees are in common circulation. Sovereigns are rarely seen. Exchange varied from kran 3½ to kran 3⅞ per rupee. In the annexed tables exchange is taken at 3½ kran per rupee equal to 52½ kran per sovereign.

Shipping.

10. The shipping table annexed shows the increase in tonnage of British shipping during the past year. In addition to the Steam Ship Companies mentioned in last year's report, the West Hartlepool Company has established a service of steamers from England to the Gulf, which call occasionally at this port.

Freights from Bunder Abbas to London have varied from 25 shillings per ton for gum, etc., to 36-6 per ton for carpets and valuable articles. Freights from Bombay to Bunder Abbas from R10 per ton to R12 per ton.

A. P. TREVOR,

*His Britannic Majesty's Vice-Consul,
Bunder Abbas.*

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APPENDIX A TO PART VI.

TABLE No. 1.

Comparative Table of the Principal Exports at the Port of Bander Abbas during the years 1902-1903.

Articles.	Average, five preceding years.	QUANTITY.		Increase or decrease in 1903, compared with 1902.	CHARACTER OF TRADE.
		1902.	1903.		
ANIMALS—					
Horses	Head	2	9	...	-9
Other sorts	"	16	22	45	+23
COTTON PIECE GOODS—					
White and grey shittings	Packages	69	9	41	+32
COTTON (RAW)	cwts.	5,972	1,922	202	-1,720
DATES	"	31,896	2,593	3,924	+1,331
DRUGS AND MEDICINES—					
Rose buds	cwts.	2,416	2,343	1,000	-853
Other sorts	"	8,720	1,826	13,735*	+11,909
* 8,080 cwts. of asafoetida to India. Considerable increase in amount of asafoetida exported in 1903, probably due to abolition of export duty.					
DYING AND COLOURING MATERIALS.					
	cwts.	7,451	3,644	8,813	+5,169
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES—					
Almonds	cwts.	20,259	19,492	15,573	-3,919
Decrease due to bad crop owing to ravages caused by locusts.					
Raisins and Currants	"	24,493	17,524	14,700	-2,824
Other sorts	"	7,468	2,000	3,997	+1,997
Ditto ditto.					
GRAIN AND PULSE—					
Other sorts	cwts.	814	760	163	-597
GUM					
	"	7,057	6,802	5,085	-1,717
HIDES AND SKINS					
	Packages	647	165	648	+483
MATS AND MAT BAGS					
	Bundles	543	166	66	-100
OPUM					
	Chests	468	324	938	+664
Chiefly exported early in the year before the introduction of the new Tariff to Hongkong <i>via</i> Bombay.					
PROVISIONS—					
Ghee	cwts.	386	10	1	-9
Other sorts	"	150	60	3	-57
SALT					
	Tons	14,247	180	28	-152
SEEDS—					
Other sorts	cwts.	1,528	1,080	4,157	+3,077
Increase due to good crop and abolition of export duty.					
SILK, MANUFACTURES OF—					
Silk piece goods . . . . .	"	...	...	...	...
SPICES					
	cwts.	1,113	733	72	-661
TIMBER AND WOOD—					
Planks and Wood	Value £	13	...	8	-8
TOBACCO					
	cwts.	1,298	718	587	-131
WOOL					
	"	8,861	750	4,218	+3,498
WOOLLEN GOODS—					
Carpets	Bundles	340	286	268	-18
Other sorts	"	149	82	13	-69
SPECIE					
	Value £	11,505	12,540	19,055	+6,515
Chiefly to India and Bushire.					
ARTICLES NOT SPECIFIED ABOVE.					
	"	277	163	343	+190



TABLE No. 2.

Total Value of Exports from Bunder Abbas to Principal Countries during the years 1902-1903.

Countries.	VALUE.	
	1902.	1903.
	£	£
United Kingdom	8,994	7,597
India	68,480	72,426
Russia	1,696	114
Turkey	4,739	775
China	3,200	38,890
Arabia	313	632
Turkish Arabia	1,592	6,324
Maskat	78	483
Bahrein	124	336
Aden . . . . .	...	20
Arab Coast . . . . .	...	1,170
Koweit . . . . .	...	141
Persian Ports	8,115	9,724
TOTAL	97,331	138,632

NOTE.—In addition to the above exports from Bunder Abbas the following articles have been exported from the islands and minor ports:—

- From Hormuz, 6,000 tons of red oxide of iron to London.
- " Kishm, 4,000 " salt to India chiefly.
- " Minab, a considerable quantity of dates is exported in baggalas chiefly to Maskat and India. Accurate information as to the amount is not forthcoming.

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TABLE No. 3.
Comparative Table of the Principal Imports at the Port of Bunder Abbas during the years 1902-1903.

Articles.		Average, five preceding years.	QUANTITY.		Increase or decrease in 1903, compared with 1902.	CHARACTER OF TRADE.
			1902.	1903.		
ANIMALS—						
Horses	Head	...	1	...	-1	
Donkeys	"	244	264	237	-127	
APPAREL (WEARING)	Value £	261	353	371	+18	
ARMS AND AMMUNITION—						
Guns	No.	1	6	3	-3	
Cartridges . . . . .	"	...	...	1,500	+1,500	
BOOKS AND PRINTED MATTER	Packages	107	48	214	+166	
CANDLES	Cases	2,366	2,083	6,808	+4,719	
COFFEE	cwts.	369	416	424	+8	
CORD AND ROPE	"	183	218	77	-141	
COTTON FIBRE GOODS—						
White and grey shirting	Bundles	4,190	3,233	6,733	+3,500	
Other sorts	Bales	2,291	2,579	627	-1,962	
YARN AND TWIST	Cases	7,812	9,037	6,902	-2,435	
DATES	cwts.	146	5	...	-5	
DRUGS AND MEDICINES	"	1,307	1,288	366	-922	
DYEING AND COLOURING MATERIALS	"	3,135	1,366	541	-825	
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES	"	445	861	1,124	+293	
FURNITURE	Value £	911	627	680	-47	
GLASS AND GLASSWARE	Cases	476	240	138	-102	
GOLD LACE AND THREAD	Value £	101	46	47	+1	
GOLD EMBROIDERED CLOTH	"	32	...	9	+9	
GRAIN AND PULSE—						
Wheat	cwts.	7,717	24,977	24,590	-387	
Barley	"	60,426	422,564	21,998	-400,566	Decrease due to better rainfall and consequent disappearance of scarcity.
Rice	"	23,141	34,200	14,422	-19,778	Ditto ditto.
Other sorts	"	2,502	6,066	2,144	-3,922	
HARDWARE	Cases	103	42	66	+24	
HARDWARE AND CUTLERY	Packages	589	766	172	-534	
HIDES AND SKINS	Value £	338	61	214	+153	
JUTE AND MANUFACTURES OF—						
Gunny bags, etc.	Bundles	1,579	1,300	974	-325	
LAMPS AND LAMPWARE	Cases	7	6	12	+6	
LEATHER, TANNED	"	2	...	5	+5	
SADDLERY, HARNESS, BOOTS AND SHOES	"	4	...	14	+14	
LIQUORS, WINES, AND SPIRITS—						
Of all sorts	Cases	634	660	128	-532	Heavy duty now imposed on wines or spirits.
MATCHES	"	2,715	690	1,008	+318	
MATS AND MAT BAGS	Bundles	709	340	64	-276	
METALS—						
Copper	cwts.	807	822	1,321	+499	
Tin	"	200	66	1,050	+984	
Iron	"	4,172	11,974	15,540	+3,566	Large quantity of Telegraph stores imported, but there is a small but increasing demand for iron.
Brass	"	35	...	415	+415	
Other sorts	"	303	117	86	-91	
OILS—						
Kerosine oil	Cases	5,586	3,000	3,417	+417	
Other sorts	cwts.	127	253	350	+97	
PERFUMERY—						
Of all sorts	Cases	30	...	64	+64	



Comparative Table of the Principal Imports at the Port of Bunder Abbas during the years 1902-1903—contd.

Articles.	Average, five preceding years.	QUANTITY.		Increase or decrease in 1903, compared with 1902.	CHARACTER OF TRADE.
		1902	1903		
PORCELAIN AND CHINA-					
Ware—					
China ware	Cases	302	254	188	-66
Porcelain	"	94	59	50	-9
PROVISIONS—					
Cocoanuts	cwts.	259	420	527	+ 107
Dry Limes	"	128	42	35	-7
Flour	"	7,095	26,284	21,769	-4,525
Ghee	"	109	352	433	+101
Other sorts	"	12,030	88	75	-13
SILK PIECE GOODS					
	Value £	279	49	233	+234
SPICES—					
Turmeric	Cases	713	750	407	-243
Ginger	"	312	420	453	+ 23
Black Pepper	"	1,002	1,316	919	-397
Other sorts	"	2,410	3,576	5,065	+ 1,489
STATIONERY					
	Cases	110	99	140	+ 41
SUGAR, LOAF					
	cwts.	24,158	25,690	44,303	+ 18,673
SUGAR, SOFT					
	"	32,104	47,725	50,578	-17,147
SUGARCANDY					
	"	368	378	442	+ 64
TEA					
	"	36,181	20,321	23,234	+ 2,963
TIMBER AND WOOD—					
Planks and Beams	Value £	446	540	19	-521
Rafters	"	83	75	26	-49
TORACCO					
	cwts.	141	12	73	+61
WATCHES AND CLOCKS					
	Nos.	75	118	100	-18
WOOL					
	cwts.	40	16	29	+ 13
WOOLLEN GOODS—					
BROAD CLOTH AND WOOLLEN	Bales	60	37	71	+ 34
PIECE GOODS.					
SPICE	Value £	12,866	4,715	22,084	+ 17,369
ARTICLES NOT SPECIFIED	"	1,198	1,317	1,275	-42
ABOVE.					

TABLE No. 4.

Total Value of Imports into Bunder Abbas from Principal Countries during the years 1902-1903.

COUNTRIES.	VALUE	
	1902.	1903.
United Kingdom	£ 130,228	£ 161,211
India	187,277	171,056
France	23,543	40,209
Germany	1,843	434
Austria Hungary	29,250	21,633
America . . . . .	...	28
Russia	390	3,350
Turkey	1,180	304
China	13,781	20,606
Belgium	1,973	7,488
Japan	906	1,445
Java	5,368	9,986
Italy . . . . .	...	2
Egypt . . . . .	...	5
Sweden	363	1,464
Switzerland . . . . .	...	56
Arabia	303	495
Turkish Arabia	372	258
Maskat	984	1,187
Bahrain	10	47
Zanzibar	75	...
Persian Ports	1,446	8,922
TOTAL	299,291	449,145



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TABLE No. 5.
Return of all Shipping engaged in the Foreign Trade of Bunder Abbas during the years 1901-1903.

ENTERED.

NATIONALITY.	Year.	STEAM.				SAILING.				TOTAL.			
		Number of vessels.		Tonnage.		Number of vessels.		Tonnage.		Number of vessels.		Tonnage.	
		With cargo.	In ballast.	With cargo.	In ballast.	With cargo.	In ballast.	With cargo.	In ballast.	With cargo.	In ballast.	With cargo.	In ballast.
British	1901	159	...	143,100	...	16	...	1,440	...	175	...	144,540	...
	1902	193	...	156,330	...	5	2	450	180	200	2	156,780	180
	1903	171	...	215,000	...	6	...	540	...	177	...	215,540	...
Austrian	1901	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1902	1	...	2,000	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2,000	...
	1903	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Russian	1901	3	...	6,000	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	6,000	...
	1902	4	2	8,000	4,000	...	...	...	...	4	2	8,000	4,000
	1903	8	...	16,000	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	16,000	...
Turkish	1901	...	...	...	...	2	...	180	...	2	...	180	...
	1902	1	...	2,000	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2,000	...
	1903	1	...	2,000	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2,000	...
Maskat	1901	...	...	...	...	11	...	660	...	11	...	660	...
	1902	...	...	...	...	8	...	480	...	8	...	480	...
	1903	...	...	...	...	6	...	360	...	6	...	360	...
Arab	1901	...	...	...	...	7	...	980	...	7	...	980	...
	1902	...	...	...	...	6	...	840	...	6	...	840	...
	1903	...	...	...	...	10	...	1,000	...	10	...	1,000	...
Persian	1901	...	...	...	...	130	...	3,900	...	130	...	3,900	...
	1902	...	...	...	...	78	5	2,140	150	78	5	2,140	150
	1903	...	...	...	...	55	...	1,375	...	55	...	1,375	...

N.B.—No accurate statistics of sailing ship entering in or clearing from Bunder Abbas are available and the above numbers are only approximate.

TABLE No. 6.

Return of all Shipping engaged in the Foreign Trade of Bunder Abbas during the years 1901-1903.

CLEARED.

NATIONALITY.	Year.	STEAM.				SAILING.				TOTAL.			
		Number of vessels.		Tonnage.		Number of vessels.		Tonnage.		Number of vessels.		Tonnage.	
		With cargo.	In ballast.	With cargo.	In ballast.	With cargo.	In ballast.	With cargo.	In ballast.	With cargo.	In ballast.	With cargo.	In ballast.
British	1901	159	...	143,100	...	16	...	1,440	...	175	...	144,540	...
	1902	193	...	156,330	...	5	2	450	180	200	2	156,780	180
	1903	171	...	215,000	...	6	...	540	...	177	...	215,540	...
Austrian	1901	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1902	1	...	2,000	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2,000	...
	1903	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Russian	1901	3	...	6,000	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	6,000	...
	1902	4	2	8,000	4,000	...	...	...	...	4	2	8,000	4,000
	1903	8	...	16,000	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	16,000	...
Turkish	1901	...	...	...	...	2	...	180	...	2	...	180	...
	1902	1	...	2,000	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2,000	...
	1903	1	...	2,000	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2,000	...
Maskat	1901	...	...	...	...	11	...	660	...	11	...	660	...
	1902	...	...	...	...	8	...	480	...	8	...	480	...
	1903	...	...	...	...	6	...	360	...	6	...	360	...
Arab	1901	...	...	...	...	7	...	980	...	7	...	980	...
	1902	...	...	...	...	6	...	840	...	6	...	840	...
	1903	...	...	...	...	10	...	1,000	...	10	...	1,000	...
Persian	1901	...	...	...	...	128	...	3,840	...	128	...	3,840	...
	1902	...	...	...	...	79	5	2,170	150	79	5	2,170	150
	1903	...	...	...	...	55	...	1,375	...	55	...	1,375	...



PART VII.—REPORT ON THE TRADE OF THE BAHREIN
ISLANDS FOR THE YEAR 1903.

The trade of the Bahrein Islands has made a pronounced upward movement during the past year and shows an increase of over forty lakhs of rupees on that for 1902. The exports having risen by R19,27,210 and the imports by R20,92,850. The improved condition of the inhabitants of Katr and the decrease of lawlessness in the Al Hassa District have contributed largely towards this satisfactory result.

Cotton textiles nearly regained their former condition. About 20 per cent. of the cotton piece goods imported are of Indian manufacture and 80 per cent. of Manchester goods imported through Bombay firms. There is also an increase in yarns and twists. About 70 per cent. of the quantity are 6 S. of Indian make imported for the manufacture of sail-cloth or canvas and the balance is composed of 20 S. of Indian manufacture and 30 S. of Lancashire make for weaving into lungis, dhotis, and bed sheeting for native use.

Rice was also imported in larger quantities. The stocks of rice held at the close of the year were below the average quantity usually on hand at such seasons, and consequently it ought, in the absence of disturbing conditions, to show a further improvement in the future.

The transactions in coffee show a decline which ought not to have been the case. In the latter half of the year importers failed to arrange for the arrival of the bean in time to take advantage of the demand obtaining at the termination of the pearling season, as well as in the month prior to the Muhammadan fast when large purchases are made for the Al Hassa and Katr markets. A large stock was found on hand on the 31st December owing to late shipments from Europe. Better results are expected in the current year.

The manufacture of lanterns out of sheet glass and tin plate by Persians settled in this country within the past two years has affected detrimentally the importation of lamps and lampware. The trade in sheet-glass, however, benefited by it.

The Bahrein pearl banks proved less productive. The high prices paid by the dealers for the pearls made up the difference to the divers. The Katr banks were, however, more prolific and are said to have produced about 40 per cent. more pearls than the preceding season. Katr has added over one hundred boats to its fleet since the termination of the pearling operations in consequence. The Koweit fleet was also very successful and will probably increase its numbers. The transactions generally were of a speculative nature and the prices paid by the dealers were out of proportion to those ruling in Bombay at the time. A small improvement in the Bombay market allowed of limited profits being made on the small pearls; but the offers for the larger and finer pearls are said to be disconcerting and considerable losses are feared.

The shell trade for the year proved brisk and equally satisfactory to the divers and the exporters. The trade was a record one—more than twice the quantity of shells was exported than in any previous year. Germany took 67 per cent. and the United Kingdom 27 per cent. of the total quantity of oyster shells shipped. All who participated in this trade have realized fair profits. The factories absorbing shells in the United Kingdom and the Continent of Europe have expanded in recent years, and it is anticipated that their demand for this description of shell will be maintained. At the end of the year about 400 tons were in stock in Bahrein.

Bahrein is famous in the Persian Gulf for its boat building and the industry gives employment to about 200 native carpenters whose wages have doubled in recent years. Nearly 130 boats ranging from R300 to RS,000 in price were sold to Katr and the Arab Coast during the year under report. The nails employed in the construction are mostly of Indian manufacture and some are made locally. There will be a large demand for Indian woods and nails for this purpose in 1904.

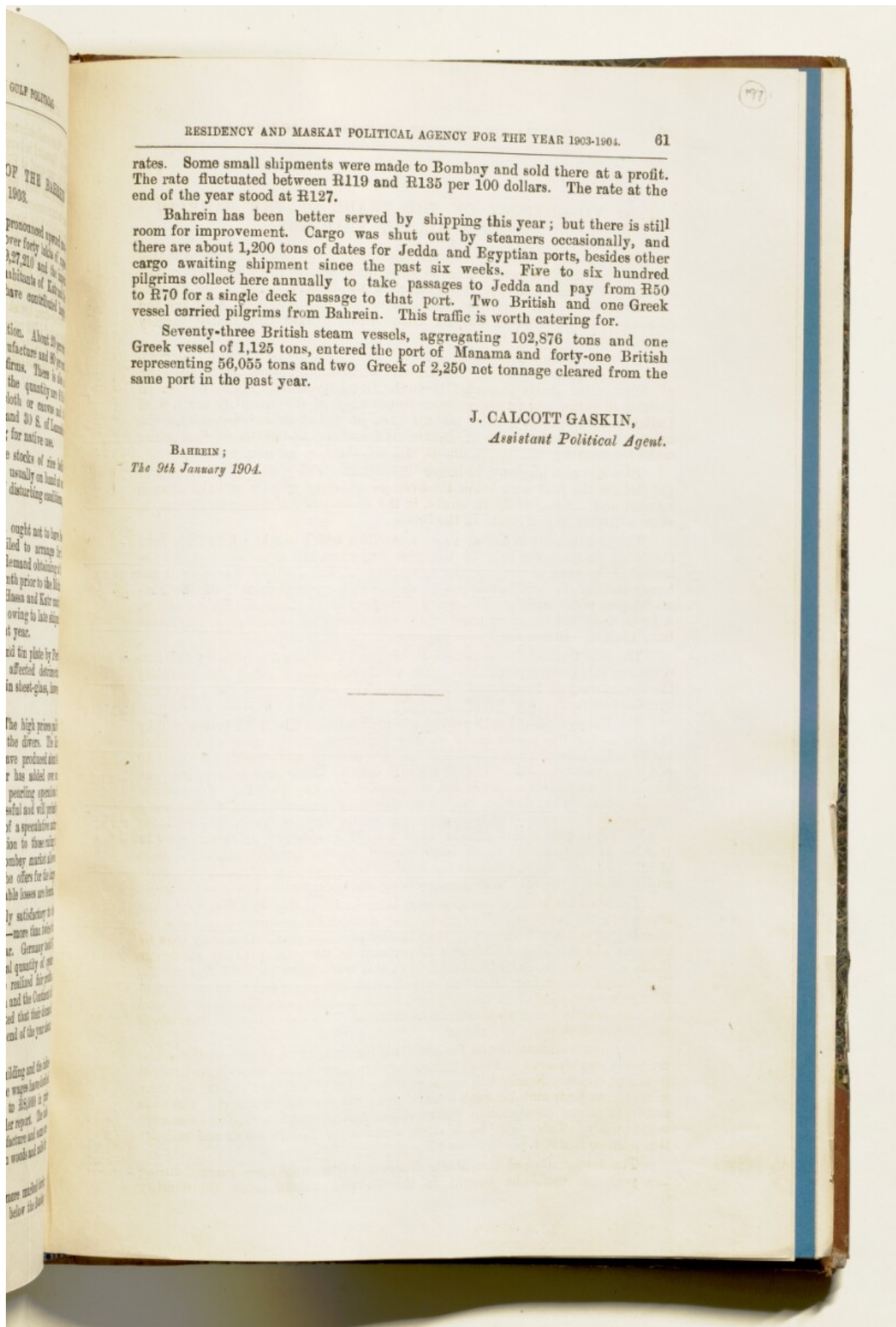
The depreciation of the Maria Theresa dollar was more marked during the year. It could be bought in the Bahrein bazaar below the Bombay

RESIDUE
rates. Some s
The rate that
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Seventy-f
Greek vessel of
representing 54
some part in th

BAHRAIN;
To 31st January



'Administration Report on the Persian Gulf Political Residency and Maskat Political Agency for 1903-1904' [197r] (73/80)



rates. Some small shipments were made to Bombay and sold there at a profit. The rate fluctuated between R119 and R135 per 100 dollars. The rate at the end of the year stood at R127.

Bahrein has been better served by shipping this year; but there is still room for improvement. Cargo was shut out by steamers occasionally, and there are about 1,200 tons of dates for Jedda and Egyptian ports, besides other cargo awaiting shipment since the past six weeks. Five to six hundred pilgrims collect here annually to take passages to Jedda and pay from R50 to R70 for a single deck passage to that port. Two British and one Greek vessel carried pilgrims from Bahrein. This traffic is worth catering for.

Seventy-three British steam vessels, aggregating 102,876 tons and one Greek vessel of 1,125 tons, entered the port of Manama and forty-one British representing 56,055 tons and two Greek of 2,250 net tonnage cleared from the same port in the past year.

J. CALCOTT GASKIN,
Assistant Political Agent.

BAHREIN;
The 9th January 1904.



APPENDIX A TO PART VII.

TABLE No. 1.

Comparative Table of the Principal Exports from the Bahrein Islands during the years 1902-1903.

ARTICLES	AVERAGE FOR FIVE YEARS ENDING 1902.		1902.		1903.		INCREASE OR DECREASE AS COMPARED WITH 1902.		CHARACTER OF TRADE.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	
ANIMALS—									
Horses	Heads	65	Rs. 23,760	36	Rs. 13,950	61	Rs. 15,900	+ 31	+ 4,850
Donkeys	"	109	6,615	61	4,530	27	1,320	- 40	- 3,210
Camels	"	2	420	4	945	2	600	- 2	- 345
Other sorts of animals	"	10	720	10	810	4	375	- 6	- 435
ARMS AND AMMUNITION	"	...	2,685	...	2,655	...	1,995	...	- 660
CANVAS	cwts.	1,108	75,185	980	68,595	666	33,570	- 314	- 35,025
CATTLE	Heads	104	615	...	...	...	...	...	Increased local demand absorbing the material.
COFFEE	cwts.	2,944	1,00,005	4,220	1,35,060	4,050	1,23,570	- 170	- 11,490
COIR AND COIR ROPE	"	397	4,470	456	5,025	985	8,865	+ 529	+ 3,840
COTTON PIECE GOODS	"	1,316	3,18,300	929	2,67,435	1,170	3,29,640	+ 241	+ 62,205
COTTON, RAW	"	38	870	46	1,050	49	1,470	+ 3	+ 420
YARN AND TWIST	Bundles	257	18,090	563	17,025	501	15,040	- 62	- 1,455
DATES	cwts.	62,575	1,83,315	95,545	2,95,460	1,13,780	3,41,430	+ 18,235	+ 55,970
DATE JUICE	"	2,989	12,450	3,559	13,230	1,540	8,475	- 2,019	- 5,755
DRUGS AND MEDICINES	"	...	9,045	...	9,660	...	10,755	...	+ 1,095
DYEING AND COLOURING MATERIALS	"	...	8,100	...	7,550	...	8,355	...	+ 1,005
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES—									
Almonds	cwts.	156	2,355	110	2,250	160	2,445	+ 10	+ 195
Raisins and currants	"	184	2,205	195	2,430	208	1,875	+ 13	- 555
Other fruits, etc.	"	...	10,675	...	8,940	...	9,750	...	+ 810
GRAIN AND FEED	"	...	5,02,995	...	2,26,000	...	6,28,530	...	+ 4,02,530
GUMS	"	...	735	...	660	...	705	...	+ 45
HARDWARE AND CUTLERY—									
Hardware	"	...	12,225	...	10,710	...	14,760	...	+ 4,050
Cutlery	"	...	375	...	390	...	465	...	+ 75
HIDES AND SKINS	"	...	23,790	...	22,230	...	36,045	...	+ 13,815
JUTE AND MANUFACTURES OF—									
Gunnies	"	...	10,575	...	12,080	...	10,620	...	- 1,470
Other jute manufactures	"	...	285	...	285	...	285	...	...
MATS AND MAT BAGS	"	...	3,510	...	4,260	...	3,600	...	- 600
METALS—									
Copper	"	...	3,590	...	3,400	...	8,940	...	+ 6,540
Other metals	cwts.	845	15,265	...	14,505	...	8,460	...	- 6,045
OILS—									
Kerosine	Cases	6,083	24,750	3,540	12,390	4,930	22,230	+ 1,800	+ 9,840
Other oils	"	...	5,370	...	6,225	...	5,220	...	- 705
OTIUM	"	...	150	...	180	...	225	...	+ 45
PEARLS	"	...	62,40,975	...	84,98,610	...	1,02,75,300	...	+ 17,70,690

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PERFUMERY—
Sandalwood 2 810 2,085 4,300 + 1,945
Other perfumery 5,745 5,405 5,445 + 30
Total 14,083 14,505 17,045 + 2,540
To Katif, Katr, and Al Hasa.
Chiefly to Al Hasa, Katif, and Persian ports.



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	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	
PERFUMERY—																														
Rosewater			810		2,955		4,200																							
Other perfumery			5,745		6,405		6,435																							
PROVISIONS—																														
Ghee		cwts.	328	14,985																										
Sugar (loaf and soft)		"	2,066	27,780	3,132	39,150	4,461	45,080	-1,329																					
Tea		"		795		1,155	20,200	7,575																						
Limes (dry)		"	116	2,805	154	2,355		2,415																						
Other provisions		"		32,556		32,980		35,130																						
SEEDS—																														
Linseed and other seeds		"		1,800		1,665		4,275																						
SHARK FINS		cwts.	544	12,765	516	10,320	430	9,680	-86																					
SHELLS (MOTHER-OF-PEARL)		"	6,958	59,565	35	2,490	11	780	-24																					
SHELLS, MUSSEL		"	1,055	21,780	670	14,745	859	7,330	-311																					
SHELLS, OYSTER		"	24,917	1,08,420	17,496	87,480	46,873	2,28,180	+29,380																					
SILK (RAW)		lbs.	1,308	11,490	1,424	10,605	1,052	7,455	-372																					
SILK, MANUFACTURES OF		"		20,310		21,225		40,660																						
SPICES		"		23,310	644	21,000	804	27,795	+160																					
TALLOW		"	302	6,900	316	8,370	277	5,550	-39																					
TIMBER AND WOOD		"		15,840		20,559		23,115																						
TOBACCO		"		8,240	1,367	35,195	1,800	48,525	+433																					
WOOL		"		7,020	263	7,365	810	9,300	+47																					
WOOLLEN GOODS		"		31,330		29,760		20,910																						
SYNTHETIC		"		11,12,355		9,78,500		4,59,540																						
ARTICLES NOT SPECIFIED ABOVE		"		59,880		69,825		50,955																						
TOTAL						1,10,53,800		1,29,80,010																						

TABLE No. 2.
Total value of Exports from Bahrain Islands to Principal Countries during the years 1902-1903.

Country.	VALUE.	
	1902.	1903.
United Kingdom	Rs. 64,110	64,110
India	86,95,555	1,06,39,980
British East Africa	1,710	.....
Egypt	.....	40,350
Turkey	16,55,200	16,08,435
Maskat	38,985	72,135
Zanzibar	31,580	29,760
Arab Coast	2,00,275	1,04,355
Persian Ports	4,30,515	2,64,915
Germany	1,55,070
France	300
TOTAL	1,10,53,300	1,29,80,010

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TABLE No. 3.
Comparative Table of the Principal Imports into the Bahrain Islands during the years 1902-1903.

ARTICLES.		AVERAGE FOR FIVE YEARS ENDING 1902.		1902.		1903.		INCREASE OR DECREASE, AS COMPARED WITH 1902.		CHARACTER OF TRADE.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
ANIMALS—											
Horses	Heads	41	13,770	23	8,100	48	14,400	+25	+5,300	From Al Hasa and Nejd.	
Donkeys	"	25	2,305	15	975	20	1,935	+5	+930	From Al Hasa and Katif.	
Camels	"	35	3,630	14	1,815	35	4,245	+21	+2,430	From Katr and Arab Coast.	
Other sort of animals	"	510	15,285	425	14,200	750	17,700	+325	+3,500	From Persian Ports and Katif.	
APPAREL, WEARING	"	...	15,815	...	17,050	...	17,955	...	+905	From India.	
ARMS AND AMMUNITION—											
Guns	Nos.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cartridges . . . . .	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other sorts of arms	"	...	4,260	...	4,310	...	3,600	...	-710	Decrease in demand.	
BOOKS AND PRINTED MATTER											
...	...	...	8,280	...	13,360	...	9,240	...	+2,590	Increase due to influx of Persians.
BUILDING MATERIALS											
...	...	...	13,615	...	18,550	...	16,080	...	-1,520	Decrease due to large importation of Kerosine oil.
CANDLES											
...	...	...	7,110	...	6,920	...	5,400	...	-1,520	From Persia, Katif, and Koweit large demand.
CATTLE											
...	Heads	26,744	86,970	21,975	75,075	33,000	1,23,000	+11,325	+47,925	Fall is due to over-stock from previous year.	
COFFEE											
...	cwts.	8,202	2,85,450	13,089	4,09,990	12,141	3,67,425	-948	-42,565	From India.	
COIR AND COIR ROPE											
...	"	3,620	37,275	4,229	46,520	5,166	46,905	+937	+385	Improved condition of Al Hasa.	
COTTON PIECE GOODS											
...	"	...	8,48,115	...	8,92,545	...	9,10,875	...	+18,330	Decrease is due to larger imports of the finished materials.	
COTTON (RAW)											
...	cwts.	2,130	45,080	564	14,100	400	11,280	-164	-2,820	Better demand for local manufactures.	
YARN AND TWIST											
...	"	1,022	60,420	1,175	38,200	1,593	46,320	+328	+2,010	(Good local crop of dates.)	
DATES											
...	"	100,694	3,51,750	212,180	6,93,400	146,250	4,32,555	-65,930	-2,50,845	Less demand.	
DATEJUICE											
...	"	2,608	11,655	6,000	21,000	4,500	24,000	-1,500	-3,000	Decrease is due to increasing imports of dyed piece goods.	
DRUGS AND MEDICINES											
...	"	...	22,680	...	15,640	...	20,430	...	+4,790	...	
DYEING AND COLOURING MATERIALS											
...	"	...	23,910	...	27,605	...	26,850	...	-755	...	
EARTHENWARE (POTTERY)											
...	"	...	9,465	...	10,610	...	6,150	...	-4,460	...	
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES—											
Almonds											
...	cwts.	533	7,725	108	1,100	101	1,800	-7	+710	From Persia. Increase in price.	
Balsam and currants											
...	"	483	5,295	500	5,140	562	5,010	+62	-130	From Persia. Fall in price.	
Other fruits, etc.											
...	"	...	16,375	...	23,080	...	24,825	...	+1,195	From India, Turkey, Maskat, and Persia.	
FUEL—											
Coal											
...	Tons	1,019	36,285	767	23,000	880	28,050	+113	+5,050	From India and Persia.	
Firewood											
...	"	...	41,655	...	50,500	...	49,500	...	-31,000	From Persia.	
FURNITURE											
...	"	...	4,605	...	6,330	...	3,630	...	-2,940	From India.	
GLASS AND GLASSWARE											
...	"	...	10,830	...	11,300	...	21,075	...	+9,775	From India. Demand due to improved condition of the people.	
GOLD LACE AND THREAD											
...	"	...	39,930	...	62,685	...	36,900	...	-25,785	Fall in price.	
GRAIN AND PULS—											
Wheat											
...	cwts.	49,600	2,23,815	55,640	2,79,960	43,170	1,72,680	-12,770	-1,07,280	Chiefly from Persia. Decrease due to larger importation of rice.	
Barley											
...	"	4,397	14,070	...	8,965	...	33,345	+2,351	+6,945	From Persia.	
Rice											
...	"	311,988	21,05,320	295,745	17,74,410	312,285	20,81,895	+16,540	+3,07,485	From India. Demand for re-export.	
Other sorts of grain											
...	"	...	16,200	...	40,010	...	36,630	...	-3,380	Fall in price.	
HARDWARE											
...	"	...	8,940	...	9,000	...	10,200	...	-1,260	From India.	
HARDWARE AND CUTLERY—											
Hardware											
...	"	...	36,795	...	50,110	...	68,445	...	+9,335	From India. Demand for re-export.	
Cutlery											
...	"	...	14,205	...	8,850	...	4,005	...	-4,845	From India. Over-stock from last year.	
HIDES AND SKINS											
...	Pieces	15,772	11,370	11,500	9,850	20,000	20,145	+8,500	+10,285	From Turkey for re-export.	
JUTE AND MANUFACTURES OF—											
Gunny bags											
...	"	...	6,105	...	6,615	...	13,500	...	+7,185	From India, mostly for the shell trade.	
Other jute manufactures											
...	"	...	7,590	...	7,500	...	2,010	...	-5,490	From India.	
LAMPS AND LAMPWARE											
...	"	...	3,900	...	3,950	...	3,190	...	-1,850	From India. Fall due to local industry.	
LEATHERS AND MANUFACTURES OF—											
...	"	...	5,965	...	7,090	...	6,015	...	-475	From India, Persia, and Turkey.	
LIQUORS, WINES AND BEERS											
...	"	...	660	...	14,430	...	...	...	...	Prohibited.
MATCHES											
...	Cases	214	8,580	850	34,400	340	15,000	-60	+1,170	Increase in price.	
MATS AND MAT BAGS											
...	"	...	19,965	...	19,375	...	19,530	...	+165	From Maskat. Demand in the shell trade.	
MEALS—											
Copper											
...	cwts.	170	11,805	130	7,800	410	24,000	+280	+16,800	From India. Local demand and re-export to Al Hasa and Katif.	
Tin											
...	"	74	6,705	76	7,350	41	3,990	-35	-9,660	Decrease due to over-stock.	
TOTAL											
...	"	...	2,441	21,000	2,320	12,000	2,520	21,150	-860	-8,500	Decrease due to larger imports of finished articles.
...	"	...	12	2,000	12	3,000	12	2,000	+12	+2,000	Increase in local demand.
...	"	...	998	10,915	880	40,400	13,770	68,075	+3,180	+1,845	Decrease due to larger imports of finished articles.
GRAND TOTAL											
...	Change	18,370	26,000	30,000	40,400	38,770	68,075	+2,000	+10,000	Increased local demand and exports.	

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TABLE No. 5.

Return for all the Foreign Shipping cleared from Bahrain during the years 1901-1903.

NATIONALITY.	Year.	STEAM.				SAILING.				TOTAL.			
		No. of Vessels.		Tonnage.		No. of Vessels.		Tonnage.		No. of Vessels.		Tonnage.	
		With cargo.	In ballast.	With cargo.	In ballast.	With cargo.	In ballast.	With cargo.	In ballast.	With cargo.	In ballast.	With cargo.	In ballast.
British	1901	25	...	38,757	...	21	...	2,315	...	56	...	41,102	...
	1902	39	4	36,540	8,989	17	...	1,955	...	56	4	38,495	8,989
	1903	37	4	56,055	8,841	24	2	2,763	106	61	6	58,818	8,947
French	1903	...	...	...	...	1	...	70	...	1	...	70	...
Austro-Hungarian	1901	1	...	1,750	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1,750	...
Turkish	1901	...	...	...	...	248	...	9,910	...	248	...	9,910	...
	1902	...	...	...	...	212	...	8,785	...	212	...	8,785	...
	1903	...	...	...	...	235	...	9,690	...	235	...	9,690	...
Greek	1903	1	1	1,125	1,125	...	...	...	...	1	1	1,125	1,125
Maskat	1901	...	...	...	...	15	...	440	...	15	...	440	...
	1902	...	...	...	...	17	...	505	...	17	...	505	...
	1903	...	...	...	...	19	...	563	...	19	...	563	...
Arab	1901	...	...	...	...	261	...	10,440	...	261	...	10,440	...
	1902	...	...	...	...	273	...	10,897	...	273	...	10,897	...
	1903	...	...	...	...	287	...	11,436	...	287	...	11,436	...
Persian	1901	...	...	...	...	187	...	4,843	...	187	...	4,843	...
	1902	...	...	...	...	209	17	5,269	420	209	17	5,269	420
	1903	...	...	...	...	221	23	5,972	526	221	23	5,972	526
TOTAL	1901	36	...	40,587	...	732	...	27,948	...	768	...	68,485	...
	1902	39	4	36,540	8,989	728	17	27,411	420	767	21	63,951	9,409
	1903	38	5	57,180	9,966	787	25	30,494	632	825	30	87,674	10,698

TABLE No. 6.

Return for all the Foreign Shipping entered Bahrain during the years 1901-1903.

NATIONALITY.	Year.	STEAM.				SAILING.				TOTAL.			
		No. of Vessels.		Tonnage.		No. of Vessels.		Tonnage.		No. of Vessels.		Tonnage.	
		With cargo.	In ballast.	With cargo.	In ballast.	With cargo.	In ballast.	With cargo.	In ballast.	With cargo.	In ballast.	With cargo.	In ballast.
British	1901	37	...	37,038	...	27	...	3,125	...	64	...	40,163	...
	1902	66	...	72,771	...	17	...	1,955	...	83	...	74,726	...
	1903	71	2	102,876	1,842	26	...	2,869	...	97	2	105,745	1,841
French	1903	...	...	...	...	1	...	70	...	1	...	70	...
Turkish	1901	...	...	...	...	269	...	10,880	...	269	...	10,880	...
	1902	...	...	...	...	215	...	8,665	...	215	...	8,665	...
	1903	...	...	...	...	241	7	9,540	215	241	7	9,540	215
Greek	1903	...	1	...	1,125	...	...	...	...	1	...	1,125	...
Maskat	1901	...	...	...	...	20	...	623	...	20	...	623	...
	1902	...	...	...	...	22	...	690	...	22	...	690	...
	1903	...	...	...	...	21	...	661	...	21	...	661	...
Arab	1901	...	...	...	...	203	...	9,626	...	203	...	9,626	...
	1902	...	...	...	...	301	...	11,055	...	301	...	11,055	...
	1903	...	...	...	...	305	...	10,987	...	305	...	10,987	...
Persian	1901	...	...	...	...	216	...	5,605	...	216	...	5,605	...
	1902	...	...	...	...	239	...	6,180	...	239	...	6,180	...
	1903	...	...	...	...	244	9	6,498	230	244	9	6,498	230
TOTAL	1901	37	...	37,038	...	795	...	29,859	...	832	...	68,897	...
	1902	66	...	72,771	...	794	...	28,545	...	890	...	101,316	...
	1903	71	3	102,876	2,966	838	16	30,625	445	909	19	133,501	3,411

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