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تحتوي النسخة الإلكترونية على معلومات إضافية ونصوص وصور بدقة عالية تسمح بإمكانية تكبيرها ومطالعتها بسهولة.

"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع لكبحها"

المكتبة البريطانية: أوراق خاصة وسجلات من مكتب الهند

IOR/L/PS/18/B83

٢٩ أكتوبر ١٨٦٩ (ميلادي)

الإنجليزية في اللاتينية

مجلد واحد (٣٤ ورقة)

الملكية العامة

المؤسسة المالكة

المرجع

التاريخ/ التواريخ

لغة الكتابة

الحجم والشكل

حق النشر



حول هذا السجل

هذا الملف يحتوي على نسخ من مراسلات بين مسؤولين بريطانيين تتعلق بمحاولات بريطانيا حظر
الإتجار بالرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا، العلاقات بين بريطانيا وسلطنة زنبار، وعلاقات
زنبار مع مسقط. يعود تاريخ المراسلات للفترة ما بين سبتمبر ١٨٦٦ ويوليو ١٨٦٩.

يحتوي الملف على نسخ مترجمة عن المراسلات بين سلطان زنبار، ماجد بن سعيد ونائب الملك في
الهند، جون ليرد مير لورانس، وكذلك مراسلات مترجمة بين موفد سلطان زنبار ووزير الدولة
البريطاني للشؤون الخارجية، اللورد إدوارد هنري ستانلي.

في الورقة ٤٢و، يحتوي الملف على ترجمة لإحدى الرسائل من الملكة فيكتوريا إلى سلطان زنبار،
ماجد بن سعيد. تؤكد الرسالة على علاقات الصداقة بين الدولتين وتُبلغ السلطان بأن سيفاً قد

صنع خصيصاً له كهدية.

يحتوي الملف كذلك على مراسلات مترجمة بين سلطان جزيرة أنجوان [وهي الآن جزء من جزر القمر] وهنري أدريان تشرشل، الوكيل البريطاني في زنجبار.

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Printed for the use of the Foreign Office. October 29, 1869.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Papers respecting the Slave Trade on the East Coast of Africa,
and the System pursued for its Suppression.

No. 1.

Memorandum on Mr. Seward's Despatch of September 9, 1866, relative to the Protest of the Sultan of Zanzibar against Interference of British Cruizers with Slave Vessels in Zanzibar Waters.

IN order to enable Lord Stanley to deal with this despatch, it will be necessary to give a short account of our relations with the Sultan of Zanzibar in regard to Slave Trade matters.

By the terms of an Agreement signed at Zanzibar in 1845, to come into force the 1st January, 1847, the Sultan engaged—

1. To prohibit, under the severest penalties, the exportation of slaves from his African dominions, and to issue orders to his officers to prevent and suppress such Trade; and—

2. In Article 3, to grant to the ships of Her Majesty's navy, as well as those of the East India Company, permission to seize and confiscate any vessels the property of His Highness or of his subjects carrying on Slave Trade, excepting only such as were engaged in the transport of slaves from one part to another of his own dominions in Africa, between the port of Lamoo to the north, and its dependencies, the northern limit of which is the north point of Kuyhoo Island, in 1° 57' south latitude, and the port of Keelwa to the south, and its dependencies, the southern limit of which is Songa Manara, or Pagoda Point, in 9° 2' south latitude, including the Islands of Zanzibar, Pemba, and Monfia. By the terms of an Agreement signed the 6th May, 1850, the Imaum of Muscat further consented that the ships of Her Majesty the Queen of England should be allowed to enter the creeks, rivers, and harbours in his territories in which slaves were shipped contrary to his orders, and that the vessels found engaged in the Slave Trade might be seized and the barracons destroyed.

For some time after the conclusion of these Agreements, the attention of the Commanders of British cruizers was directed chiefly to preventing the export of slaves by European slave-vessels intended for the supply of the Brazilian and Cuban markets, and comparatively few native vessels were captured engaged in supplying the slave markets in the Persian Gulf and Red Sea.

As, however, the demand for the Brazilian and Cuban markets decreased, it was found that the Slave Traffic in native vessels considerably increased.

In 1861, Colonel Rigby, the British Consul at Zanzibar, and Brigadier Cogan, the British Resident at Aden, called the attention of Her Majesty's Government to the great extent to which the export in slaves was being carried on from the East Coast of Africa, the numbers exported being variously estimated by different authorities at from 30,000 to 40,000 annually.

The greater portion of the slaves thus exported from the mainland were derived from the territories of the Sultan of Zanzibar, and those not derived from this source, from the Portuguese territories.

They were carried chiefly to the Persian Gulf and Red Sea, probably two-thirds going to supply the slave markets in those localities, whilst from 6,000 to 8,000 remained in the Island of Zanzibar, and the balance found their way to Madagascar, the Comoro Islands, and indirectly to the French Possessions in the Indian Ocean under the name of free labourers.

The Commanders of British cruizers found great difficulty in dealing with the native
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vessels engaged in this Traffic, in consequence of some of them claiming to belong to the Sultan of Zanzibar, and others to be engaged in removing slaves from one part of His Highness' territories to another (that is to say, from the mainland to the adjacent islands), and as none of these vessels carried papers, it was found impossible to distinguish between those vessels that were really engaged legally in carrying slaves coastwise from one part of the Sultan's dominions to another, and others actually employed in taking slaves to the Persian Gulf and Red Sea.

Under these circumstances, Colonel Rigby was, in 1861, instructed to express to the Sultan the regret of Her Majesty's Government that the stipulations of the Treaty between Great Britain and Zanzibar, by which His Highness was bound to prevent the exportation of slaves from his dominions, had not been more faithfully observed, and he was directed to point out that, so long as the Coast Traffic in Slaves was permitted, it would be impossible for His Highness, or for the Commanders of British cruisers, to prevent slaves from being exported from the Zanzibar territory.

It was therefore suggested to His Highness that he should give orders prohibiting, under severe penalties, the transport of slaves coastwise from one portion of his dominions to the other; and it was also proposed to him that he should conclude an Additional Article to the Treaty between Zanzibar and Great Britain, authorizing British cruisers to seize and detain all vessels under the Zanzibar flag engaged in the coasting trade on board which slaves might be discovered.

The Sultan for some time demurred to these demands; but upon their being renewed with greater earnestness in 1862, and its becoming apparent, even to His Highness, that the Coasting Slave Trade along the shores of his dominions was carried on mainly for the supply of the Persian Gulf and Red Sea, he, in 1863, consented to prohibit entirely the transport of slaves from port to port in his dominions during the months of January, February, March, and April, those being the months that the northern Arabs from the Persian Gulf and Red Sea frequented the coasts of the Sultan's territories for the purpose of procuring slaves.

His Highness also, in 1864, instituted, at the suggestion of the British Naval Officers, a system of passes to be issued to all vessels legally engaged in trade under the Zanzibar flag, and he further consented to allow British cruisers to seize and detain all Zanzibar vessels not furnished with these papers, as well as all Arab vessels engaged in the Slave Trade, even within His Highness' territorial waters.

It is under the foregoing circumstances that British cruisers have for the last few years been engaged in the suppression of the Slave Trade on the East Coast of Africa. The Traffic has been unquestionably considerably diminished, but our cruisers have found great difficulties in the execution of their duties, chiefly owing to the system of passes not being found to work well, slavers having been found with passes given to other vessels, and also on account of the inability of the Sultan and his authorities to cope with the northern Arabs who come down in such numbers when the monsoon suits, as to intimidate the authorities unless a British ship-of-war is at hand to support them.

In fact, in the town of Zanzibar itself, the Arabs have hitherto been in the habit of making raids and carrying off the negroes into slavery, and considerable numbers are undoubtedly carried off annually in this manner by the northern Arabs.

We are now asked by the Sultan to forego the exercise of the right of search and detention in Zanzibar waters, and His Highness claims the sovereignty over the whole area of water inclosed within lines drawn parallel to the African coast from the outside of Pemba and Zanzibar Islands to Cape Delgado and Lamoo. This practically amounts to a claim on the part of the Sultan to jurisdiction over the waters for a distance of ten miles from the coast, and as all the native vessels engaged in the Slave Traffic keep close in shore, the claim if acquiesced in would render any further attempt on our part to prevent the exportation of slaves from the Sultan's dominions perfectly useless, and would undoubtedly lead to a very considerably increased traffic.

I would very deferentially venture to submit that we should refuse to acknowledge the Sultan's pretensions, and hold His Highness to the strict letter of his engagements for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

Any concessions on our part would be mistaken by the Arab slave-dealers, and would be looked upon as a tacit permission on our part to continue the Traffic.

But it will be seen that Mr. Seward, in his despatch dated 10th September, recommends the abandonment altogether by our squadron of operations for the suppression of the Slave Trade on the coasts of the Sultan's territories, on the ground that it should be our policy to strengthen His Highness' position as a Ruler on the African coast, whereas our operations for the suppression of the Slave Traffic have tended to weaken his power and to discredit him in the eyes of his subjects. A further reason alleged why we should

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abandon our present policy is, that while, on the one hand, our cruizers are engaged in capturing native vessels carrying slaves, on the other hand, British capital and enterprise are both engaged in the Island of Zanzibar in encouraging the Slave Trade by employing slave-labour; and this discrepancy in our proceedings is stated to be the subject of comment to our discredit among the natives and authorities in the Sultan's territories.

To deal with this latter point first, I would say that only a few years since we compelled our Indian subjects, of whom there are a great number settled at Zanzibar, to manumit some thousands of slaves who Colonel Rigby found were held by them in bondage in that island. And as regards British capital and enterprise being employed in encouraging slave-labour, I take it Mr. Seward alludes to the firm of Fraser and Co., who have recently taken some large sugar estates on lease from the Sultan, and have contracted for a supply of slave-labour, and our answer to this is that as soon as Her Majesty's Government were aware that British subjects were thus indirectly encouraging the Slave Trade and violating the provisions of British laws, no time was lost in warning the firm in question of the penalties they were incurring by their proceedings.

This despatch only went off a few weeks since, and could not, therefore, have been received by Mr. Seward when he wrote his despatch of the 10th September.

There is not, therefore, a shadow of a pretext for accusing Her Majesty's Government of inconsistency in regard to their proceedings for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

With regard to the statement that it should be our policy to strengthen the Sultan in the eyes of his people, I would observe that this may be true, but it can hardly be held that, in order to strengthen the position of the Sultan, we are to connive at his subjects carrying on the Slave Trade to an unlimited extent in violation of His Highness' engagements towards this country for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

The Sultan has, in fact, been maintained on his Throne mainly by British influence, and we should unquestionably be open to the charge of inconsistency if we continued our support, and at the same time tacitly acquiesced in his subjects engaging in the Slave Trade to an unlimited extent. In proof of the extent to which slaves are now introduced into Zanzibar from the mainland, I would quote Mr. Seward's own Report dated in May of this year, in which he states that 72,000, or an annual average of 14,400 slaves have passed through the Zanzibar Custom-house during the last five years as imports.

Now, it is notorious that the island cannot utilize the services of all these negroes, and therefore there can be no doubt that the majority of the slaves imported are again exported to the Persian Gulf and Red Sea. As every slave introduced into Zanzibar pays a certain duty to the Sultan, and Mr. Seward's statistics are taken from the Custom-house Returns, there is little doubt that the numbers are not exaggerated.

The Sultan has been warned on many occasions that he must not reckon on the Slave Trade as a source of revenue, and that the sooner he made arrangements for abolishing the Traffic in Slaves between the mainland and Zanzibar, the better it would be in the end for him; for that the time would come when we should feel obliged to put a stop entirely to the export of slaves from the African Coast.

It would seem, however, that although the export of slaves from the Portuguese Possessions on the East Coast has very considerably decreased, the numbers exported from the Sultan's territory, must have considerably augmented, and Mr. Seward's suggestions, if carried out, would increase the Traffic still more.

There remains now to deal with the suggestion contained in Mr. Seward's despatch of the 20th of September: viz., that we should obtain possession of the Island of Abel-Kury, near the Straits of Socotra, and establish a depôt there, where captured slave-vessels might be deposited and our cruizers coaled, instead of having to proceed, as they are obliged to do now, some 1,200 to 1,500 miles away from their cruizing-ground whenever fuel is required or a capture of slaves is made.

I can only say that I entirely concur in this suggestion, and have no doubt that if it is intended to put a stop to the Slave Traffic on the East Coast, we shall sooner or later be compelled to adopt some such measure as is now recommended, and that it will be good economy in the long run to do so.

I think, also, it would be a very good plan, and in fact they have recommended it to the Admiralty, that during the months of January, February, March, and April, when the monsoon suits for the Arabs to run their cargoes to the Persian Gulf and Red Sea, our cruizers should be concentrated in the Straits of Socotra, as all the native vessels are compelled to pass those Straits to make for the northern ports; and therefore if an efficient watch is kept there, it would be impossible, or very nearly so, for a single slaver to escape, but during the remainder of the year I think our cruizers should be employed on the African Coast; as if that coast were abandoned altogether, the traffic from the Portuguese

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territories would doubtless be considerably augmented, and the Slave Markets in Madagascar, the Comoro Isles, and elsewhere, receive a great stimulus.
Foreign Office, December 8, 1868.

P.S.—It will be right to explain that since the Agreements of 1845 and 1850 were concluded with the Imaum of Muscat. His territories were, on his death, which took place in 1859, divided between his two sons, the African Dominions going to the present Sultan of Zanzibar, and the Arabian to the Sultan of Muscat.

No. 2.

Mr. Egerton to Mr. Merivale.

Sir, *Foreign Office, January 8, 1868.*
I AM directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you, to be laid before Secretary Sir Stafford Northcote, the accompanying copy of a despatch from Mr. Churchill, Her Majesty's Consul at Zanzibar, inclosing copies of a correspondence which has passed between the Viceroy of India, the Sultan of Zanzibar, the Government of Bombay, and Mr. Churchill, having reference to the subsidy which the Sultan of Zanzibar is bound by his Treaty engagements to pay to the Sultan of Muscat.

In submitting these papers for Sir Stafford Northcote's consideration, I am to state that Lord Stanley would be glad to be informed whether, apart from the consideration that the Treaty which stipulates for the payment of this subsidy was negotiated under the auspices of the Indian Government, there are any Indian interests involved in the political relations between Zanzibar and Muscat which render it advisable for the British Government to require the Sultan of Zanzibar to continue the payment of this subsidy to Muscat.

Should Indian interests not require the enforcement of this payment, I am to observe that there are considerations connected with Imperial interests which would seem to Lord Stanley to warrant our leaving the Sultan free to act as he may think fit in this matter.

Sir Stafford Northcote is aware that a very extensive Traffic in Slaves is carried on from the territories of the Sultan of Zanzibar, and that considerable pressure has been brought to bear upon His Highness with the view to induce him to put a stop to this Traffic.

By the Treaties existing between Great Britain and Zanzibar, the Sultan is bound to use his utmost efforts to prevent the exportation of slaves from his dominions; but these Treaties do not prohibit the removal of slaves coastwise, from one part of the Sultan's dominions to another, nor the importation of slaves from the mainland into the Island of Zanzibar.

It is found, however, practically impossible to prevent the exportation of slaves from Zanzibar territories to foreign parts, so long as the Traffic coastwise, and the importation of slaves from the mainland into Zanzibar, is permitted to exist, for the masters of vessels engaged in this coast Traffic when met with by British cruisers carrying slaves, allege that they are taking them to Zanzibar, when in reality they may be bound to the Persian Gulf, or the Arabian Coast, and even when passes are issued to vessels legally employed in carrying slaves, these passes are often subsequently found in the possession of vessels engaged in the foreign Slave Trade.

Sultan Majid, there is every reason to believe, is anxious to act up to his Treaty engagements for the prevention of the export of slaves from his dominions to foreign parts, and indeed, with a view to put a stop to this Traffic, he has, within the last few years granted important concessions to British cruisers, beyond what his Treaty engagements require him to concede. But, on the other hand, His Highness requires slaves to cultivate his own estates, and to supply the labour market in Zanzibar; and as a considerable duty is levied on the importation of every slave into Zanzibar, he is thus pecuniarily interested in the introduction of as large a number as possible into that island. In fact, His Highness derives an important part of his revenue from this source, and his means would be materially crippled if it were put a stop to. The consequence of this state of things is, that from 13,000 to 14,000 slaves are imported into Zanzibar annually, a number far exceeding the requirements of the island, the excess being carried off by the northern Arabs to supply the slave-markets in the Persian Gulf, the Arabian Coast, and the Red Sea, these Arab slave-dealers finding it easier to escape the vigilance of the British cruisers when they ship

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their slaves from Zanzibar, than when they embark them from the coasts of the main-land.

It is evident, therefore, that if effective measures are to be taken for the suppression of the Slave Trade on the East Coast of Africa, it will be necessary to put a stop to the carriage of slaves coastwise from one part of the Sultan's dominions to another, and also to limit the number of slaves into Zanzibar, with the view, if possible, eventually to put a stop to the importation entirely.

But it cannot be expected that Sultan Majid will make the requisite concessions in this matter, unless some means are found to compensate him for the diminished income which must necessarily be the consequence of his losing the capitation tax on slaves introduced into Zanzibar.

This loss would, however, in a great measure, be made up to him if he were not compelled to pay the subsidy of 40,000 dollars annually to the Sultan of Muscat; and considering the conduct and character of that Chief, Lord Stanley is of opinion that Her Majesty's Government would be perfectly justified in declining to use their influence to compel Sultan Majid to continue the payment of this subsidy, and more especially as the Sultan of Muscat has not kept his Treaty engagements with us for the suppression of the Slave Trade, his own vessels having been captured by British cruisers engaged in the Traffic in Slaves.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. C. EGERTON.

No. 3.

Mr. Egerton to Mr. Merivale.

Sir, *Foreign Office, January 30, 1868.*
WITH reference to your letter of the 6th June, I am directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you, for the information of Sir Stafford Northcote, copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Zanzibar, suggesting that the Order of the Star of India should be conferred upon the Sultan of Zanzibar as a mark of the Queen's approbation of His Highness' conduct towards distressed British seamen, and of other praiseworthy acts for which it had already been decided to make him a suitable present; and I am to request that you will move Sir Stafford Northcote to favour Lord Stanley with his opinion upon this suggestion of Consul Churchill.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. C. EGERTON.

No. 4.

Mr. Merivale to Mr. Egerton.—(Received February 21.)

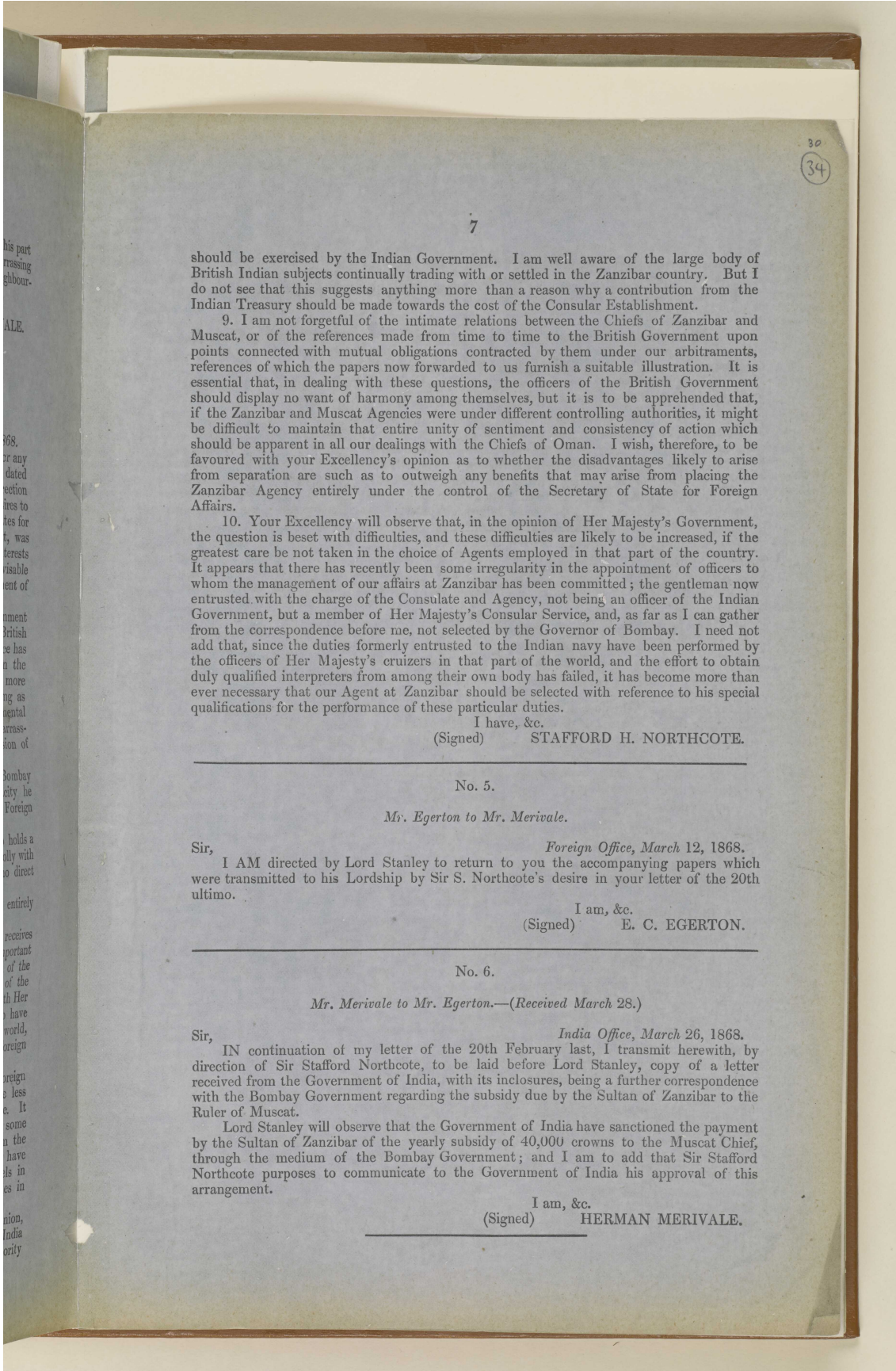
Sir, *India Office, February 20, 1868.*
WITH reference to your letter of the 8th ultimo, I am directed by Sir Stafford Northcote to state, for the information of Lord Stanley, that the whole question of British relations with the Chiefs of Zanzibar and the Persian Gulf has, during the last month, been under his deliberate consideration in Council, and that, adverting to your letter now under reply, he has addressed a despatch to the Government of India (a copy of which is inclosed) calling for the opinion of the chief Indian authority with respect to certain matters connected with the present question, regarding which more accurate information must exist in India than in this country.

With respect to the specific question contained in your letter of the 8th ultimo, "whether apart from the consideration that the Treaty, which stipulates for the payment of 'the Zanzibar subsidy' (to Muscat) was negotiated under the auspices of the Indian Government, there are any Indian interests involved in the political relations between Zanzibar and Muscat, which render it advisable for the British Government to require the Sultan of Zanzibar to continue" to pay the "subsidy," Sir Stafford Northcote observes that, on this point, he will doubtless receive a full exposition of the views of his Excellency the Viceroy. In the meanwhile, I am directed to forward the accompanying papers recently received from the Government of Bombay, in which it will be seen that the non-payment of

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should be exercised by the Indian Government. I am well aware of the large body of British Indian subjects continually trading with or settled in the Zanzibar country. But I do not see that this suggests anything more than a reason why a contribution from the Indian Treasury should be made towards the cost of the Consular Establishment.

9. I am not forgetful of the intimate relations between the Chiefs of Zanzibar and Muscat, or of the references made from time to time to the British Government upon points connected with mutual obligations contracted by them under our arbitrations, references of which the papers now forwarded to us furnish a suitable illustration. It is essential that, in dealing with these questions, the officers of the British Government should display no want of harmony among themselves, but it is to be apprehended that, if the Zanzibar and Muscat Agencies were under different controlling authorities, it might be difficult to maintain that entire unity of sentiment and consistency of action which should be apparent in all our dealings with the Chiefs of Oman. I wish, therefore, to be favoured with your Excellency's opinion as to whether the disadvantages likely to arise from separation are such as to outweigh any benefits that may arise from placing the Zanzibar Agency entirely under the control of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

10. Your Excellency will observe that, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, the question is beset with difficulties, and these difficulties are likely to be increased, if the greatest care be not taken in the choice of Agents employed in that part of the country. It appears that there has recently been some irregularity in the appointment of officers to whom the management of our affairs at Zanzibar has been committed; the gentleman now entrusted with the charge of the Consulate and Agency, not being an officer of the Indian Government, but a member of Her Majesty's Consular Service, and, as far as I can gather from the correspondence before me, not selected by the Governor of Bombay. I need not add that, since the duties formerly entrusted to the Indian navy have been performed by the officers of Her Majesty's cruisers in that part of the world, and the effort to obtain duly qualified interpreters from among their own body has failed, it has become more than ever necessary that our Agent at Zanzibar should be selected with reference to his special qualifications for the performance of these particular duties.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STAFFORD H. NORTHCOTE.

No. 5.

Mr. Egerton to Mr. Merivale.

Sir, Foreign Office, March 12, 1868.
I AM directed by Lord Stanley to return to you the accompanying papers which were transmitted to his Lordship by Sir S. Northcote's desire in your letter of the 20th ultimo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. C. EGERTON.

No. 6.

Mr. Merivale to Mr. Egerton.—(Received March 28.)

Sir, India Office, March 26, 1868.
IN continuation of my letter of the 20th February last, I transmit herewith, by direction of Sir Stafford Northcote, to be laid before Lord Stanley, copy of a letter received from the Government of India, with its inclosures, being a further correspondence with the Bombay Government regarding the subsidy due by the Sultan of Zanzibar to the Ruler of Muscat.

Lord Stanley will observe that the Government of India have sanctioned the payment by the Sultan of Zanzibar of the yearly subsidy of 40,000 crowns to the Muscat Chief, through the medium of the Bombay Government; and I am to add that Sir Stafford Northcote purposes to communicate to the Government of India his approval of this arrangement.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

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Inclosure 1 in No. 6.

The Governor-General of India in Council to Sir S. Northcote.

Sir, *Fort William, January 14, 1868.*
WITH reference to paragraph 3 of our despatch No. 107 dated 22nd June last, we have the honour to forward copy of a further correspondence with the Bombay Government regarding the subsidy due by the Sultan of Zanzibar to the Ruler of Muscat.
2. You will observe that we have agreed to His Highness' proposal to make the necessary payment through the Bombay Government.

We have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN LAWRENCE.
W. N. MANSFIELD.
G. N. TAYLOR.
W. MASSEY.
H. M. DURAND.
W. MUIR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 6.

The Secretary to the Government, Bombay, to the Foreign Secretary, India, Calcutta.

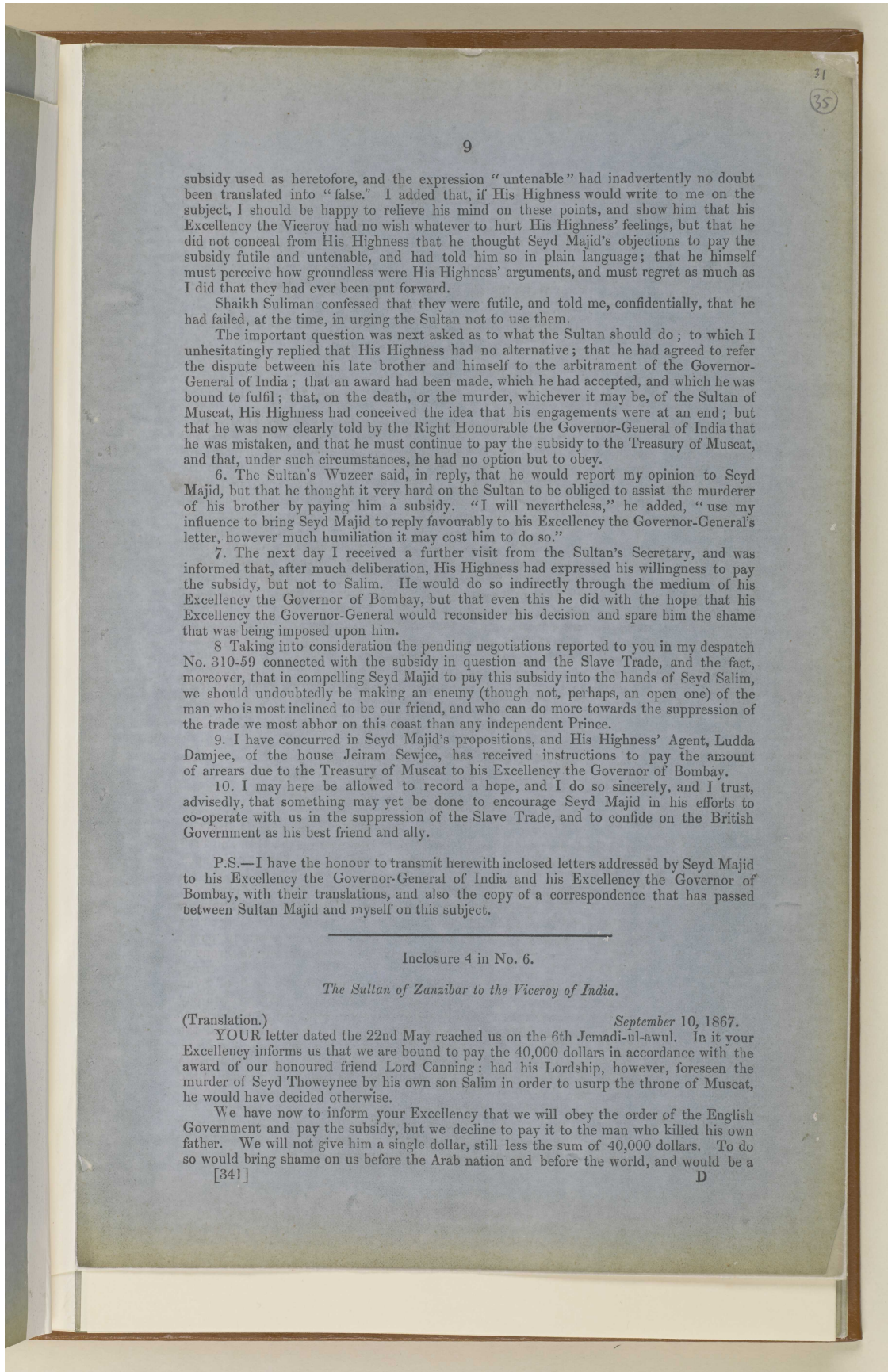
(No. 274.) *December 10, 1867.*
I AM directed to transmit copy of a letter from the political agent at Zanzibar, Nos. 334-64, of the 16th September last, inclosing a reply from the Sultan of Zanzibar to the khureeta from his Excellency the Governor-General of India, forwarded with your letter dated the 22nd May last, No. 493. A translation of the letter is inclosed.
2. With reference to the intimation conveyed by the Sultan regarding the payment of the arrears of subsidy due to Muscat, I am to state that, should the money be offered to this Government by the agent of His Highness, it will be received; but no demand for payment will be made pending the receipt of instructions from the Government of India.

Inclosure 3 in No. 6.

Mr. Churchill to the Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

(No. 334.) *September 16, 1867.*
1. I RECEIVED by the mail that reached this on the 2nd instant your despatch No. 1939 of the 6th June, relative to the subsidy to be paid by the Sultan of Zanzibar to the Treasury of Muscat.
2. The subject, as you are aware, is a peculiarly tender point with Seyd Majid, and in His Highness' present state of health, I thought it well to prepare him for the reception of his Excellency the Governor-General's decision.
3. It was, therefore, only the third day after the arrival of the mails that I placed the Viceroy's letter into Seyd Majid's hands.
I remained several days without knowing, or making any efforts to ascertain, the effect that his Excellency's firm injunctions had produced on the mind of His Highness, refraining from making any inquiry lest he should be led to suppose that I entertained a sort of doubt as to his complying with his Excellency's recommendations.
4. After three days' meditation Sultan Majid sent me his Secretary to read to me the Viceroy's letter in Arabic. Shaikh Suliman, having drawn my attention to the words "kharaj" and "bee tassaduk" contained therein, observed that the Sultan was as much affected and pained by the terms in which his Excellency the Viceroy's letter was couched as by its purport, for he was not only requested to pay the subsidy, of which he had hoped the English Government would have spared him the shame, but this subsidy was now, for the first time, called "tribute," and his representations to the Government of India were said to be "false," or "not to be believed."
5. I replied to Shaikh Suliman that I had carefully read the Viceroy's letter sent to me in English, and that I had reason to believe His Highness' impression of the tenor of Sir John Lawrence's letter was incorrect, but that the erroneous impression was solely to be attributed to the translation in Arabic, for, in the English copy, I found the word

"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع
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subsidy used as heretofore, and the expression "untenable" had inadvertently no doubt been translated into "false." I added that, if His Highness would write to me on the subject, I should be happy to relieve his mind on these points, and show him that his Excellency the Viceroy had no wish whatever to hurt His Highness' feelings, but that he did not conceal from His Highness that he thought Seyd Majid's objections to pay the subsidy futile and untenable, and had told him so in plain language; that he himself must perceive how groundless were His Highness' arguments, and must regret as much as I did that they had ever been put forward.

Shaikh Suliman confessed that they were futile, and told me, confidentially, that he had failed, at the time, in urging the Sultan not to use them.

The important question was next asked as to what the Sultan should do; to which I unhesitatingly replied that His Highness had no alternative; that he had agreed to refer the dispute between his late brother and himself to the arbitration of the Governor-General of India; that an award had been made, which he had accepted, and which he was bound to fulfil; that, on the death, or the murder, whichever it may be, of the Sultan of Muscat, His Highness had conceived the idea that his engagements were at an end; but that he was now clearly told by the Right Honourable the Governor-General of India that he was mistaken, and that he must continue to pay the subsidy to the Treasury of Muscat, and that, under such circumstances, he had no option but to obey.

6. The Sultan's Wuzer said, in reply, that he would report my opinion to Seyd Majid, but that he thought it very hard on the Sultan to be obliged to assist the murderer of his brother by paying him a subsidy. "I will nevertheless," he added, "use my influence to bring Seyd Majid to reply favourably to his Excellency the Governor-General's letter, however much humiliation it may cost him to do so."

7. The next day I received a further visit from the Sultan's Secretary, and was informed that, after much deliberation, His Highness had expressed his willingness to pay the subsidy, but not to Salim. He would do so indirectly through the medium of his Excellency the Governor of Bombay, but that even this he did with the hope that his Excellency the Governor-General would reconsider his decision and spare him the shame that was being imposed upon him.

8. Taking into consideration the pending negotiations reported to you in my despatch No. 310-59 connected with the subsidy in question and the Slave Trade, and the fact, moreover, that in compelling Seyd Majid to pay this subsidy into the hands of Seyd Salim, we should undoubtedly be making an enemy (though not, perhaps, an open one) of the man who is most inclined to be our friend, and who can do more towards the suppression of the trade we most abhor on this coast than any independent Prince.

9. I have concurred in Seyd Majid's propositions, and His Highness' Agent, Ludda Damjee, of the house Jeiram Sewjee, has received instructions to pay the amount of arrears due to the Treasury of Muscat to his Excellency the Governor of Bombay.

10. I may here be allowed to record a hope, and I do so sincerely, and I trust, advisedly, that something may yet be done to encourage Seyd Majid in his efforts to co-operate with us in the suppression of the Slave Trade, and to confide on the British Government as his best friend and ally.

P.S.—I have the honour to transmit herewith inclosed letters addressed by Seyd Majid to his Excellency the Governor-General of India and his Excellency the Governor of Bombay, with their translations, and also the copy of a correspondence that has passed between Sultan Majid and myself on this subject.

Inclosure 4 in No. 6.

The Sultan of Zanzibar to the Viceroy of India.

(Translation.)

September 10, 1867.

YOUR letter dated the 22nd May reached us on the 6th Jemadi-ul-awul. In it your Excellency informs us that we are bound to pay the 40,000 dollars in accordance with the award of our honoured friend Lord Canning; had his Lordship, however, foreseen the murder of Seyd Thoweynee by his own son Salim in order to usurp the throne of Muscat, he would have decided otherwise.

We have now to inform your Excellency that we will obey the order of the English Government and pay the subsidy, but we decline to pay it to the man who killed his own father. We will not give him a single dollar, still less the sum of 40,000 dollars. To do so would bring shame on us before the Arab nation and before the world, and would be a

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sin in the sight of Government, for, by our law, such an one shall not inherit his father. But if the English Government insist on our paying the subsidy, we will do so to them, but not to Salim, our brother's murderer. Let the British Government then, if it so please, bring on us shame by paying this money to Salim. We have ordered our Agent in Bombay to pay the said subsidy to the Governor of Bombay at any time he may demand it.

11th Jemadi-ul-awul, 1284.

This is from your friend Majid bin Saeed.

It is true.

(Signed) MAJID BIN SAEED, with his own hand.

Inclosure 5 in No. 6.

The Sultan of Zanzibar to the Governor-General of India.

(Translation.)

11 Jemadec-ul-awul, 1284 (September 11, 1867).

BY the blessing of God I am well. May your Excellency continue to enjoy good health. Your Excellency's letter of the 22nd May reached me on the 4th Jemadec-ul-awul. In that letter your Excellency writes to say that it is incumbent upon me to pay 40,000 kursh, as decided by Lord Canning. I beg now to observe that, had Lord Canning been able to know that Saulem would kill his father Thoweynee, and succeed to the gудdee of Muscat in the place of his father, his Lordship would have never recorded such decision.

I acknowledge that I am under the orders of the British Government, but I shall not pay even one kursh, not to speak of 40,000 kursh, to one who has slain his father; for if I pay him this sum, I shall perpetrate a deed which will be held ignominious in the eyes of the people of Arabia, and other places. I am also not justified by the laws of God to pay this money to him (Saulem), for, according to the Mahometan law, he, as he has killed his father, cannot succeed him. But if the British Government considers it incumbent upon me to pay 40,000 kursh, I shall pay this sum to that Government, not to Saulem, who has slain my brother. If the British Government wishes to expose me to shame, it is in its power to pay the said sum to Saulem. I have directed my Vakeel at Bombay to pay the above sum to the Governor of Bombay when it may be demanded from him.

Inclosure 6 in No. 6.

The Governor-General of India to the Sultan of Zanzibar.

KHUREETA.

Fort William, December 24, 1867.

I HAVE received the letters addressed to me by your Highness on the 10th and 11th of September last, and am glad to hear of your Highness' welfare, and I trust that such good health will continue.

I regret to learn that the payment of the yearly subsidy by the State of Zanzibar to the Muscat State, to which your Highness was pledged by the decision of Lord Canning, should have proved distasteful to you; but I cannot modify the terms of the engagement by which your Highness consented, in behalf of yourself and your successors, to pay a yearly subsidy of 40,000 crowns to Syud Thoweynee, and his successors, on the throne of Muscat.

Your Highness refers to circumstances alleged in connection with the death of Syud Thoweynee. My friend, this question does not affect your Highness' engagement to pay the yearly subsidy to the Muscat State. Syud Saulem was placed on the throne of Muscat not by the British Government, but by the Arab Chiefs, soldiers, and people, and the leading men of Muscat have exonerated him from the guilt imputed to him.

Syud Saulem is now the Imaum of Muscat; he is therefore entitled to all the rights and privileges appertaining to that principality, and as such he has a just claim to the stipulated payment from Zanzibar.

My friend, I am satisfied that a sense of honour alone has led you to demur to the discharge of this obligation; but it is an obligation which your Highness is bound by your own engagement to fulfil; and your Highness' honour will in no way be tarnished by the fulfilment of your engagement, but remain bright and resplendent as of yore.

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My friend, I consent to your proposal that the Bombay Government should receive the subsidy from time to time, and pay the amount to the Muscat State.
(Signed) JOHN LAWRENCE.

Inclosure 7 in No. 6.

The Foreign Secretary, India, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

(No. 1,277)

Fort William, December 24, 1867.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 10th instant, with inclosures, and, in reply, to forward, for delivery to the Sultan of Zanzibar, a khureeta addressed to His Highness by the Governor-General.

2. A copy of the khureeta is inclosed for the information of the Bombay Government.

No. 7.

Mr. Egerton to Mr. Merivale.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 31, 1868.

I HAVE laid before Lord Stanley your letter of the 26th instant, inclosing a copy of a despatch from the Government of India, from which it would appear that the Government has sanctioned the payment by the Sultan of Zanzibar of the yearly subsidy of 40,000 crowns to the Chief of Muscat through the medium of the Bombay Government; and you add that Sir Stafford Northcote purposes to communicate to the Government of India his approval of this arrangement.

Lord Stanley desires me, in reply, to suggest whether it might not be expedient to defer expressing any opinion upon this arrangement until a reply is received to the despatch which was addressed to the Government of India on the 15th of February last, asking whether, "apart from the consideration that the Treaty which stipulates for the payment of a subsidy by the Sultan of Zanzibar to the Sultan of Muscat was negotiated under the auspices of the Indian Government, there are any Indian interests involved in the political relations between Zanzibar and Muscat which render it advisable for the British Government to require the Sultan of Zanzibar to continue payment of the subsidy to Muscat."

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. C. EGERTON.

No. 8.

Mr. Egerton to Mr. Merivale.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 27, 1868.

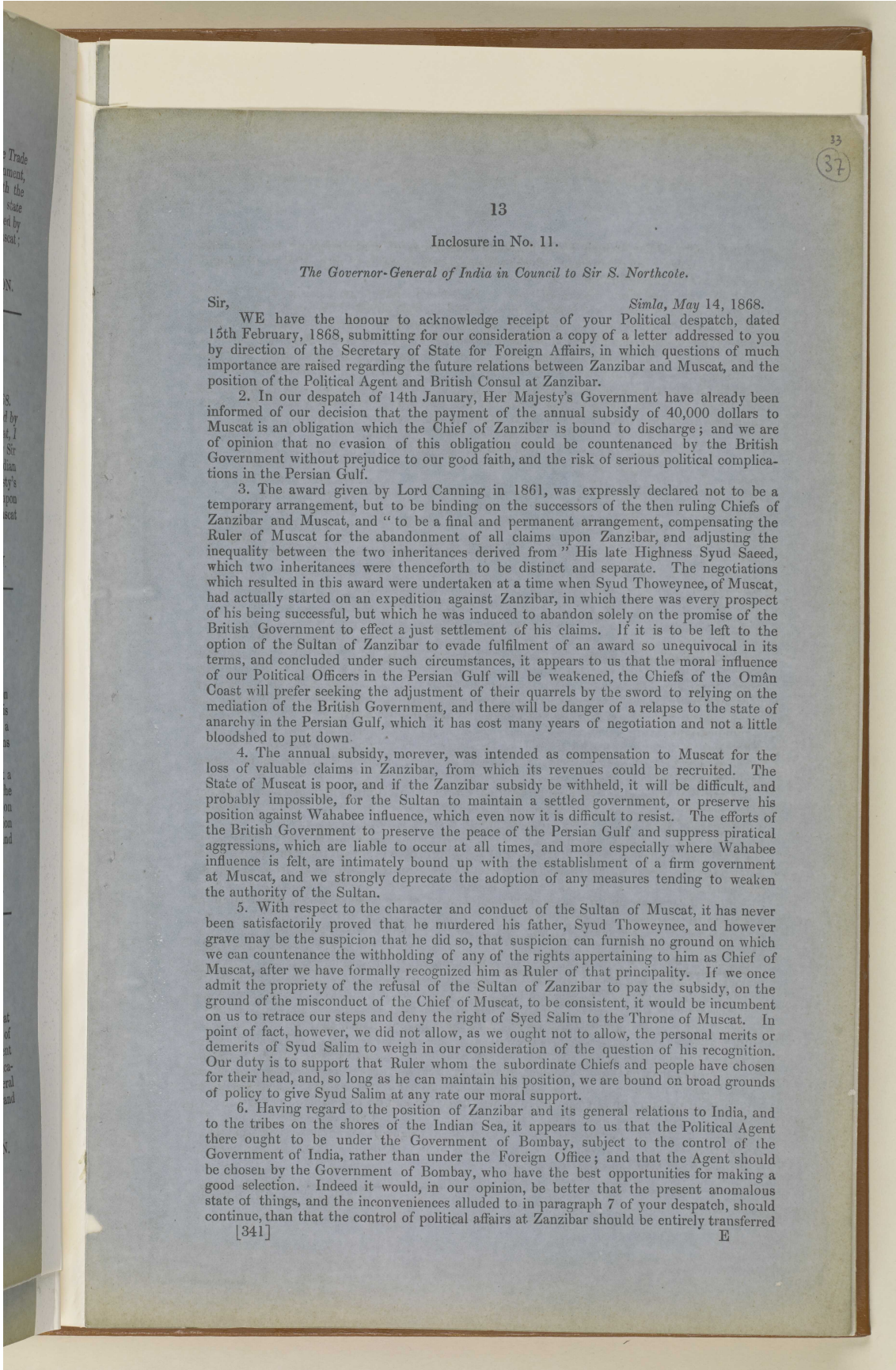
WITH reference to the correspondence as marked in the margin* which has passed between this Department and the India Office upon the subject of the subsidy awarded by the Indian Government to be paid by the Sultan of Zanzibar to the Sultan of Muscat, I am directed by Lord Stanley to acquaint you, for the information of Secretary Sir Stafford Northcote that Her Majesty's Consul at Zanzibar has communicated to his Lordship a copy of a despatch which, under date of the 26th of February last, he addressed to the Secretary of the Bombay Government relative to the payment of this subsidy.

It would appear from this despatch, copy of which is inclosed, in case it should not already have been received at the India Office, that it is only in consequence of pressure put upon the Sultan of Zanzibar by the Indian authorities, that His Highness consents, under protest, and then only indirectly through the medium of the Bombay Government, to continue to pay this subsidy, and further that he contemplates sending envoys to India and to this country with the view to represent the indignity which he considers is put upon him by being compelled to subsidize the murder of his own brother.

Although this is a matter in which Indian interests would, at first sight appear to be exclusively involved, I am to state that, as was pointed out in my letter of the 8th of

* To India Office, January 8; India Office, February 20; to India Office, March 12; India Office, March 26; to India Office, March 31, 1868.

"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع
لكبحها" [٣٧ و] (١٣/٧٢)



"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع
لكبحها" [٣٧ ظ] (١٤/٧٢)

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to the Foreign Office, which could not take cognizance of cases affecting the interests of Indian subjects, and subjects of neighbouring allied States, with the rapidity and convenience that are desirable.

7. At the same time we are of opinion that the inconveniences arising from double references, and the risk of conflicting orders, would be best obviated by causing the Agent at Zanzibar to discontinue his direct correspondence with the Foreign Office. No real loss of time would ensue from the transmission of communications affecting European subjects through the Bombay Government; and there can, in our opinion, be no more reason for direct communication with the Foreign Office from Zanzibar than from Muscat, where the Agent enjoys no such privilege. On the other hand, if Muscat be under the Government of India, and Zanzibar be under the Foreign Office, there will not only be a conflict of directions, but, sooner or later, also a probable conflict of policy.

We have, &c.
(Signed) J. LAWRENCE.
G. N. TAYLOR.
H. M. DURAND.
H. S. MAINE.
JOHN STRACHEY.
R. TEMPLE.

No. 12.

Mr. Egerton to Lord Clinton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 16, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you to be laid before Secretary Sir Stafford Northcote, in the event of his not having already received a communication on the subject from the Government of India, the accompanying copies of a despatch and its inclosures from Her Majesty's Consul at Zanzibar, reporting that Sultan Seyd Majid has determined to burn, for the future, all Northern Arab dhows arriving in the ports of his dominions, and stating that His Highness has come to this determination with the view to put a stop to the export of slaves from his territories, it being notorious that the Northern Arabs repair to the East Coast of Africa with no other motive than that of procuring slaves.

Lord Stanley desires me to observe that, however notorious it may be that the object of the Northern Arabs in visiting the African Coast is to procure slaves, such a proceeding on the part of Seyd Majid as the indiscriminate destruction of all Northern dhows visiting his coasts would doubtless be open to grave objections, and might possibly compromise His Highness with European States in the not improbable event of the Arab shipmasters procuring the shipment on board their vessels of property belonging to a European merchant as a colourable pretext for their voyage.

But whilst deprecating the high-handed course of proceeding which the Sultan of Zanzibar proposes to adopt, Lord Stanley is nevertheless of opinion that the British Government is bound to render every possible assistance to His Highness in his endeavours to put a stop to the export of slaves from his dominions, and his Lordship with this view would suggest for Sir Stafford Northcote's consideration whether it would not be right and expedient that instructions should be addressed to the British agents at Muscat and in the Persian Gulf, directing them to warn the native Chiefs on the coast of Arabia, and in the Red Sea, and in the Persian Gulf, that they will be held responsible to Her Majesty's Government for the due and strict fulfilment of the engagements which they have contracted with the British authorities for the prevention of the African Slave Trade, informing them at the same time that the Sultan of Zanzibar has determined to put a stop to the export of slaves from his dominions, and that British cruisers having received orders to support His Highness in carrying out this determination, all Arab vessels found engaged in, or equipped in any way for the Slave Trade, will be seized and destroyed.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. C. EGERTON.

"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع
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No. 13.

Mr. Egerton to Lord Clinton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 3, 1868.*
WITH reference to my letter of the 16th instant, relative to the determination of the Sultan of Zanzibar to burn all Northern Arab dhows arriving in the ports of his dominions I am directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you the accompanying copies of a further despatch and its inclosures from Her Majesty's Consul at Zanzibar relating to this matter; and I am to request that, in laying these papers before Secretary Sir Stafford Northcote, you will state that Lord Stanley is glad to learn that His Highness Seyd Majid has amended the order which he had given for the indiscriminate burning of Northern Arab dhows arriving in the ports of Zanzibar.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. C. EGERTON.

No. 14.

The Sultan of Zanzibar to Lord Stanley.

(Translation.)

In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate.

To his Excellency Lord Stanley, the honoured.

A SALUTATION, more gentle than the zephyr, sweeter than a shower received by the meadows and the hills, more fragrant than ambergris mixed with musk, and more diffusive than combined civet and aloes-wood, and a compliment brighter than the beaming light, and more resplendent than the leafy flowers, are offered to his Excellency, who possesses perfection and superiority, who unites greatness with virtues, his Excellency the most noble, the most illustrious, the happiness of the age, the rarity of the times, the pillar of the body of Ministers, him in whom the exalted men of counsel glory, the arranger of the jewels of the kingdoms, to whom the least and the greatest give attention, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the tongue of the exalted British Government. May God preserve his noble person and his beauteous ascendancy. And may his penetrating views continue to clear up the intricacies of contentions, and the beams of his genius to cast light upon the darks points of opinions. Amen.

And, then, next, the main design and general purpose is to inquire after the health of your noble self, after the equability of your exquisite condition. May you continue in blessings and joy, in honour and happiness. And may your hours never be void of greatness and good fortune, and your days be sheltered from disasters and vicissitudes. Amen.

And if the perfumed mind vouchsafe in kindness to inquire after the friendship of the sincere one, and the affection of the devoted one, then, thanks be to God, the King of Glory, he is in health and well-being, and in abundant blessings from the Lord, persistent in that friendship and sincere unanimity which he has undertaken, erect for the performance of such prayers and requests as are meet, upholding the palms of supplication and entreaty for the eternization of your exalted Government.

And, again, that which we submit to your high station, and to your exalted rank, is, that I have dispatched and sent to your Lordship's Excellency the son of my paternal uncle, Muhammad, son of Salim, and those who are with him of the personages of our Kingdom, in the first place to have an interview with you. And I have charged them with the representation of certain matters unto you, for the purpose of which I have sent them. And I have commanded them to represent those matters to your Lordship's Excellency.

I request, then, that you will receive them, and turn upon them your regards, as my opinion of you as fore-reckoned, and my opinion of you is good and commendatory.

Thus much. And may you continue in health, wealth, and abounding blessings.

Written in Jumada, 1 Aweval, 1285 (18th August, 15th September, 1868).

This is from the true and sincere loving and affectionate friend, Majid, son of Said, son of Sultan.

This is valid.

Your friend,
(Signed) MAJID, Son of Said, Son of Sultan.

(L.S. His servant, the supplicant unto God for protection,
Majid, Son of Said, Son of Sultan.)

"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع
لكبحها" [٣٨ ظ] (٧٢/١٦)

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No. 15.

Mr. Melvill to Mr. Egerton.—(Received October 24.)

Sir,
India Office, October 22, 1868.
I AM directed by the Secretary of State for India in Council to forward, for the consideration of Lord Stanley, and for such remarks as his Lordship may think fit to communicate to Sir S. Northcote, copy of papers reporting the late proceedings connected with Zanzibar and the Comoro Islands.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. COSMO MELVILL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 15.

The Government of Bombay to Sir S. Northcote.

(Extract.) *February 29, 1868.*
WE transmit also, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, copy of a letter from Mr. Churchill, dated 29th November last, with accompaniment, reporting the establishment of a Vice-Admiralty Court at Zanzibar.

Inclosure 2 in No. 15.

Mr. Churchill to the Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,
Zanzibar, November 29, 1867.
I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor of Bombay, copy of a despatch I have sent to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, with reference to the Vice-Admiralty Court at Zanzibar.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY A. CHURCHILL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 15.

Mr. Churchill to Lord Stanley.

My Lord,
Zanzibar, November 30, 1867.
TAKING into consideration the important fact of Sultan Majid's having acquiesced in writing to the establishment of a Vice-Admiralty Court at Zanzibar, provided always that a Delegate of His Highness be present when ships of his subjects are brought to the said Court for adjudication, I have taken upon myself the responsibility of waiving Dr. Seward's objections to the establishment of the Court in question at Zanzibar, as reported in his despatch, and have condemned two dhows engaged in the Traffic of Slaves, which have recently been seized by Her Majesty's ship "Penguin," the one off the coast of Madagascar, and the other in the River Sindy, within the dominions of the Sultan of Zanzibar.

Although the latter belonged to Arabs of the Coast of Arabia, the capture having been made within the Sultan's territorial waters, it appeared to me expedient to invite the Sultan's Delegate to be present at the adjudication; and I learn that His Highness was highly gratified at this mark of deference.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY A. CHURCHILL.

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لكبحها" [٣٩ و] (٧٢/١٧)

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Inclosure 4 in No. 15.

The Secretary to Government, Bombay, to the Foreign Secretary, India.

Sir,
I AM directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a letter, and of its inclosure, dated the 29th November last, from the Political Agent at Zanzibar, regarding the establishment of a Vice-Admiralty Court at Zanzibar.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. WEDDERBURN.

Inclosure 5 in No. 15.

The Government of Bombay to Sir S. Northcote.

(Extract.)
September 7, 1868.
WITH reference to the papers forwarded with our despatch dated the 29th February last, we have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a letter, and of its inclosures, from the Political Agent at Zanzibar, dated the 3rd March following, connected with the establishment of a Vice-Admiralty Court at that place.

Inclosure 6 in No. 15.

Mr. Churchill to the Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,
I HAVE the honour to transmit to you, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, a copy of a despatch, together with its inclosure, that I have latterly received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, relative to the establishment of a Vice-Admiralty Court at Zanzibar, and the erroneous view taken by the late officiating Political Agent of the matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY A. CHURCHILL.

Inclosure 7 in No. 15.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Churchill.

Sir,
I HAVE had under my consideration, in consultation with the Queen's Advocate, the doubts raised by Mr. Seward in his despatch of the 30th May last, as to the competency of a British Vice-Admiralty Court to adjudicate, under present Treaty arrangements, within the Zanzibar territories, in the matter of confiscating vessels the property of subjects of the Sultan of Zanzibar, which have been seized by ships of Her Majesty's navy, on suspicion of being engaged in the Slave Trade within the Sultan's dominions; and I have to state to you, that Mr. Seward's doubts on this subject were not well founded, and that any decision he might have given as Judge of Her Majesty's Vice-Admiralty Court in the territories of Zanzibar, would have been perfectly valid.

I inclose, for your information, an extract of a letter from Colonel Playfair, to whom Mr. Seward's despatch was also referred.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

Inclosure 8 in No. 15.

Colonel Playfair to Mr. Churchill.

(Extract.)
September 1, 1867.
I HAVE read Dr. Seward's despatch which accompanied your note of the 19th ultimo. His objections to exercise Vice-Admiralty jurisdiction at Zanzibar, are quite incomprehensible to me.

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The first is, that he was not specially and personally appointed Judge. No one was. The Order in Council simply provided that Her Majesty's Consul should exercise Vice-Admiralty powers, and the explanatory clause stated that the word Consul should include any person exercising the functions of Consul (I quote from memory, as I have no copy here). Therefore, Dr. Seward was as competent to dispose of such cases as I or any one else could be. Again, he doubts whether captures made under the Treaty, can be adjudicated in Zanzibar. It appears to me beyond question that the Treaty which authorizes us to seize slavers also contemplates their adjudication, and that Her Majesty has as much right to establish a Vice-Admiralty Court at Zanzibar as one for the administration of ordinary civil and criminal justice.

If a vessel, even owned by a subject of the Sultan, be captured for slave-trading on the high seas, in virtue of the Treaty, it may surely be adjudicated in any competent Court, and the establishment of one at Zanzibar, instead of being regarded as a grievance, should be hailed as a proof of our desire to give the accused a fair hearing; formerly a prize was destroyed first, and adjudicated afterwards, in the absence of those concerned, now it would be brought to Zanzibar for adjudication, and all concerned would have a fair hearing.

Dr. Seward makes the remarkable statement, that if such cases are to be submitted to the new Vice-Admiralty Court, it will be a virtual extension to a British official on shore of that arbitrary power which naval officers may wield at sea. As well may he say, that because a criminal in England should not be tried and condemned by the police, therefore he ought not to be tried and condemned by a magistrate.

The Royal Navy ought not to have anything approaching to judicial functions; the Consul ought. The Naval Officer being the captors, and pecuniarily interested in the capture, ought to have no voice in its condemnation; while the Consul is presumed to be an officer of experience and integrity, with no interest in the capture, and therefore a proper person to exercise judicial functions.

Inclosure 9 in No. 15.

The Secretary to Government, Bombay, to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir,

Bombay Castle, April 30, 1868.

IN continuation of the letter from this Department, dated the 22nd January last, regarding the establishment of a Vice-Admiralty Court at Zanzibar, I am directed to forward, for submission to the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a letter and of its inclosures, dated the 3rd March, 1868, from the Political Agent at Zanzibar.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. WEDDERBURN,

For Secretary to Government.

Inclosure 10 in No. 15.

The Government of Bombay to Sir S. Northcote.

(Extract.)

September 7, 1868.

WE also forward, in continuation of the proceedings reported in our despatch dated the 26th May last, copy of a letter from Mr. Churchill, reporting the departure for Paris of Her Highness the Queen Fatima of Mobilla, to complain of the proceedings of the French naval authorities to the Emperor. Transcript of a letter dated the 23rd May last, from the Acting Assistant Resident in Charge, Aden, reporting his proceedings in connection with the arrival at that place of Queen Fatima on her way to Paris, is also inclosed for the information of Her Majesty's Government

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Inclosure 11 in No. 15.

Mr. Churchill to the Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

Zanzibar, May 8, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you with the departure for Paris of Her Highness the Queen of Mohilla, to complain of the proceedings of the French naval authorities to the Emperor.

The last arbitrary act of the French at Mohilla is the forcibly hauling down of the Mohilla flag, and the display of a white ensign with the French eagle in the centre. I have advised the Queen to protest against this encroachment of her rights to fly her own flag, and to abstain from hoisting the new colours in future.

The Queen takes letters from me to the Political Resident at Aden, and to Her Majesty's Ambassador in Paris.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY A. CHURCHILL.

Inclosure 12 in No. 15.

Bombay Castle, June 9, 1868.

THE Political Agent at Zanzibar, No. 30—100, dated the 8th May, 1868.

Announces the departure for Paris of Her Highness the Queen of Mohilla to complain of the proceedings of the French naval authorities to the Emperor, and adds that he has advised the Queen to protest against their encroachment of her right to fly her own flag, and to abstain from hoisting the white ensign which has been substituted for the Mohilla flag by those authorities.

Adds also that the Queen takes letters from him to the Resident at Aden, and to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris.

Resolution.—Copy of this letter should be forwarded to the Government of India and Her Majesty's Secretary of State.

Inclosure 13 in No. 15.

The Secretary to Government, Bombay, to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir,

Bombay Castle, June 9, 1868.

AS connected with the correspondence forwarded with my letter No. 85 dated the 7th April last, I am directed to submit, for the information of the Government of India, the inclosed copy of a letter from the Political Agent at Zanzibar dated the 8th ultimo, reporting the departure for Paris of Her Highness the Queen of Mohilla, to complain of the proceedings of the French Naval authorities to the Emperor.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. GONNE.

Inclosure 14 in No. 15.

The Acting Assistant Resident in charge, Aden, to the Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

Aden, May 23, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to report to you, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, the arrival here this day of the Sultana Fatima, Queen of Mohilla, with a letter of recommendation from Her Majesty's Consul at Zanzibar.

Her Majesty is *en route* for Paris, where she intends laying the subject of her complaint before His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French.

I have caused a house to be placed at her disposal during her sojourn here, and am granting a free passage for herself and attendants as far as Suez. I am at the same time writing to Her Majesty's Consul at Cairo to assist Her Majesty in the prosecution of her journey.

I have also paid her all the attentions due to her rank and position. Hoping these

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measures may meet with the approbation of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. L. NUTT.

Inclosure 15 in No. 15.

The Secretary to Government, Bombay, to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir,

Bombay Castle, June 9, 1868.

IN continuation of my letter of this date, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the inclosed copy of a letter from the Acting Assistant Resident in Charge, Aden, dated the 23rd ultimo, reporting his proceedings in connection with the arrival at Aden of the Queen of Mohilla on her way to Paris.

2. I am to add that the proceedings of the Acting Assistant in Charge have been approved by this Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. GONNE.

Inclosure 16 in No. 15.

Bombay Castle, June 9, 1868.

THE Acting Assistant Resident in Charge, Aden, No. 533—55 A, dated the 23rd May, 1868.

Reports his proceedings consequent on the arrival of Her Highness the Queen of Mohilla at Aden, on her way to Paris, for the purpose of laying the subject of her complaint before His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French, and expresses a hope that they may meet with the approval of Government.

Resolution.—The proceedings of the Acting Assistant Resident in Charge should be approved, and a copy of his letter forwarded to the Government of India.

No. 16.

Mr. Egerton to Mr. Melvill.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 27, 1868.

WITH reference to your letter of the 22nd instant, I am directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you, for the information of Secretary Sir S. Northcote, copy of an instruction with which his Lordship has furnished Her Majesty's Consul at Zanzibar for his guidance, respecting the affairs of the Queen of Mobilla.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. C. EGERTON.

No. 17.

Major-General Rigby to Lord Stanley.—(Received November .)

My Lord,

14, Mansfield Street, London, W., November 10, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, the arrival in London of a Mission from His Highness Sayyid Majid bin Said, Sultan of Zanzibar, on matters connected with the suppression of the Slave Trade within His Highness' dominions and on the East Coast of Africa.

2. The Mission was conveyed to Aden on board one of His Highness' ships of war, and thence came to Southampton by the overland route, and is now located at the Langham Hotel, Portland Place.

3. The Mission consists of Sayyid Mahommed bin Salim, the Envoy, who is one of the principal Arab Chiefs of His Highness' Durbar, Sayyid Ahmed bin Suleiman, also one

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of the highest Chiefs of Zanzibar, and Hajee Mahommed Bakushmir, the Private Secretary to His Highness, together with nine Arab attendants.

4. From the high rank and position at Zanzibar of the members selected to form this mission, it is evident that His Highness the Sultan attaches the highest importance to its being received with due consideration by Her Majesty's Government.

5. I herewith inclose a letter to your Lordship's address from Her Majesty's Consul and Political Agent at Zanzibar, which was conveyed by the Envoy.

6. The Envoy is the bearer of a letter from His Highness the Sultan to Her Majesty, and also of one from His Highness to your Lordship, and he has desired me to request your Lordship to kindly appoint a time for an interview to deliver them in person.

7. The Envoy has expressed to me the desire of His Highness the Sultan that I should officiate as the medium of communication between the mission and your Lordship, and I shall, therefore, be most happy to do so if it should meet with your Lordship's approval.

8. I have reported the arrival of the mission to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. P. RIGBY, Major-General,
Late Her Majesty's Consul and Political Agent, Zanzibar.

No. 18.

Mr. Egerton to Mr. Merivale.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 20, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you in original, to be laid before Secretary Sir Stafford Northcote, the accompanying despatch, and its inclosures, from Captain Atkinson, the Acting British Consul at Muscat, reporting that Syud Salim, the Sultan of Muscat, has been deposed by his brother-in-law Syud Azan bin Ghes, and expelled the country; and with reference to the correspondence as marked in the margin,* which has passed between this Department and the India Office upon the question of releasing the Sultan of Zanzibar from the obligation which His Highness is under to pay an annual subsidy to Muscat, I am to request that you will state to Sir Stafford Northcote that it appears to Lord Stanley that the deposition of Syud Salim offers a favourable opportunity for releasing the Sultan of Zanzibar from the obligation to pay the subsidy in question, and of thus enabling Her Majesty's Government to make terms with His Highness for the gradual abolition of the Slave Trade in his dominions.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. C. EGERTON.

No. 19.

Mr. Egerton to Major-General Rigby.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 21, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, announcing the arrival in London of a Mission from His Highness Sayud Majid bin Said, Sultan of Zanzibar, and requesting his Lordship to appoint a time for an interview; and I am, in reply, to request that you will be good enough to acquaint Sayed Mahomed bin Salim, the head of the Mission, that his Lordship will be happy to receive him and his suite at the Foreign Office on Wednesday next the 25th instant, at 1 o'clock.

I am further to request that you will express to Sayed Mahomed bin Salim, Lord Stanley's regret at the delay that has taken place in appointing a time to receive him, which has been caused by his Lordship's unavoidable absence from London connected with his election.

I am to add that it will afford his Lordship much pleasure to receive you as a medium of communication between the Mission and Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. C. EGERTON.

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* To India Office, June 4; India Office, June 25 and July 2, 1868.

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No. 20.

The Envoy of the Sultan of Zanzibar to Lord Stanley.

(Translation.)

The communication to his Excellency the Great Minister.

WE will explain to your Lordship that about which we are come.

In the first place, we are come, on the part of our Lord, the Brother, Majid, son of Seyd, Sultan of Zanzibar and its dependencies, for the purpose of inquiring after the health of Her Majesty the Queen, and of your noble Excellency.

And, secondly, the desire of our Lord, the Brother, Majid, from the exalted Government is, that they should not impose upon him anything injurious to him and degrading to him before man, and which is of no service to them, and these forty thousand prosperities which the Brother possessed be dimmed (?).

This then is that on which we have come.

Matters at this moment are weighty. For, as we are informed, the Kingdom has passed away from the children of the departed Sayyid Seyd, son of Sultan, unto others than them.

How, then, is the view of the exalted Government in this matter? And will it be possible that they will hold it proper for our Lord, the Brother, Majid, to go up against Uman (Oman), which was the dominion of his father, and for prosperity to be compassed through the honoured Government.

For, our Lord, the Brother, Majid, is reckoned among the loving friends of the Majesty of the British Government, as was his departed father most especially; and he hath left it as a bequest unto them that they should not lose sight of his children.

Now, then, is the time for sincerity, and for fidelity to the trust. And our Lord, the Brother, Majid, is overwhelmed with the favours of the Government: and ye are able to do this.

And we beg of your Lordship a speedy reply, as we have already expressed to the mutual friend, Colonel General Rigby.

Peace.

From the faithful loving friend,

(Signed) MUHAMMAD, Son of Salim, Son of Sultan.

9 Shaban, 1285 (November 24, 1868).

No. 21.

Mr. Egerton to Mr. Merivale.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 3, 1868.

WITH reference to my letter of the 20th ultimo, I am directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you, for the information of Secretary Sir Stafford Northcote, the accompanying copy of a further despatch from Captain Atkinson, the Acting British Consul at Muscat, containing further information respecting the state of affairs in that country.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. C. EGERTON.

No. 22.

Mr. Egerton to Mr. Merivale.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 5, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you, to be laid before Secretary Sir Stafford Northcote, the accompanying translation of a letter his Lordship has received from Sayed Mohammed bin Salim, who has arrived in this country on a Mission from the Sultan of Zanzibar, accompanied by Sayed Ahmed bin Suleiman, an Arab Chief of distinction, and Hajee Mohammed Bacushmir, who acts as Secretary to the Mission.

The principal object of Sayed Mohammed bin Salim's Mission would appear to be to procure from Her Majesty's Government the release of the Sultan of Zanzibar from the obligation which His Highness contracted under the mediation of the Indian Government, to pay to the Sultan of Muscat a subsidy of 40,000 dollars, regarding which obligation Lord Stanley's views have already been communicated to Sir Stafford Northcote in the letters addressed to the India Office on January 8, May 27, and June 4.

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I am to state that, as a correspondence relating to this subsidy has recently passed between the Sultan of Zanzibar and the Government of India, and as, moreover, the revolution that has within the last few weeks been accomplished at Muscat cannot fail to have an important bearing upon the relations between Muscat and Zanzibar, and between those countries and the Government of India, Lord Stanley is of opinion that any negotiations which may take place between the Sultan of Zanzibar's Envoy and Her Majesty's Government would, with more advantage to the public service, be carried on at the India Office than in this Department; and if, as his Lordship does not doubt, Sir Stafford Northcote concurs in this opinion, Lord Stanley will refer the Sultan's Mission to the India Office.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. C. EGERTON.

No. 23.

The Earl of Clarendon to the Envoy of the Sultan of Zanzibar.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December 9, 1868.*
I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that the Queen has been graciously pleased to accept Lord Stanley's resignation of the Office of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and to confide to me the seals of that Department.
I shall be happy to receive you at this Office on Saturday the 12th instant at 2 o'clock, in order to confer with you on any business upon which you may have received instructions from the Sultan of Zanzibar.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 24.

Major-General Rigby to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 12.)

My Lord, *14, Mansfield Street, December 11, 1868.*
I HAVE the honour to inform you that his Excellency Sayid Mahommed bin Salim, the Envoy to Her Majesty from His Highness the Sultan of Zanzibar, intends leaving London on Friday next the 18th instant, to return to his own country by the mail-steamer from Southampton.

2. The Envoy is deeply disappointed with the reception he has met with from Her Majesty's Government, and particularly that no notice whatever has been taken of the letter from His Highness the Sultan to Her Majesty which he presented to Lord Stanley.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. P. RIGBY.

No. 25.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Merivale.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December 15, 1868.*
I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you herewith, to be laid before the Duke of Argyll, copies of a letter which the Queen has addressed to the Sultan of Muscat, and of a letter which Lord Clarendon also has addressed to His Highness, in reply to the letters brought to this country by His Highness' Envoy.

I am at the same time to request that you will acquaint the Duke of Argyll, with reference to your letter of the 8th instant, that Lord Clarendon would recommend to his early attention the question respecting the subsidy payable by the Sultan of Zanzibar to the Ruler of Muscat, and the possibility of disposing of it in connection with an arrangement under which the Slave Trade still carried on at Zanzibar might be more effectively controlled, if not suppressed altogether.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

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لكبحها" [٢٤/٢٤] (٧٢/٢٤)

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No. 26.

Her Majesty to the Sultan of Zanzibar.

VICTORIA, by the grace of God, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c., to His Highness Majid, son of Said, Sultan of Zanzibar, our most distinguished and beloved friend, sendeth greeting.

We have received the letter which you addressed to us by your Highness' Envoy Mohammed, son of Salim, the son of your paternal uncle; and now that he is about to take his departure from our Court in order to return to your presence, we write to express the pleasure which it has afforded us to receive tidings of your health and welfare.

With regard to the special matters which more particularly formed the object of the Mission of your Highness relative to this country, we desire you to be assured that from the goodwill which we entertain towards you, our disposition is to view with favour the wishes of your Highness, so far as they are consistent with engagements which we have already contracted. In proof of our sincere regard for your Highness, we have ordered a sword to be prepared which we request you to accept as a mark of our friendship; and with our earnest wishes for the long continuance of your life and happiness, we recommend you to the protection of the Almighty.

Given at our Court at Windsor Castle, the 15th day of December, in the year of our Lord, 1868, and in the thirty-second year of our reign.

Your affectionate Friend,
(Signed) VICTORIA R.

(Countersigned) CLARENDON.

No. 27.

The Earl of Clarendon to the Sultan of Zanzibar.

Foreign Office, December 15, 1868.

THE Undersigned has the honour to acquaint your Highness that on entering upon the duties of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs he was informed by his predecessor, Lord Stanley, that, from circumstances beyond his control, he had been prevented from giving that attention to the wishes of your Highness regarding the matters which, in your Highness' letter to Lord Stanley, you had stated that you had commissioned your Envoy to explain to him, as under other circumstances he would most assuredly have given.

It was a great pleasure to the Undersigned, a few days after his appointment to the office which he now holds, to receive the Envoy of your Highness, and to assure him of the goodwill which was entertained towards your Highness by the Queen, his Sovereign, and by Her Majesty's Government, and to explain to him the regret that the Queen felt at not having been able to grant him an audience to receive from his hands the letter which your Highness had charged him to deliver to Her Majesty, and to express to him verbally what Her Majesty has now expressed in the letter which your Envoy will deliver to you, the great regard which Her Majesty entertains for your Highness.

The early departure of your Highness' Envoy from this country will prevent the Undersigned from discussing with him the questions which he was charged to bring before the British Government; but the Undersigned assures your Highness that full consideration will be given to those questions, with the nature of which Her Majesty's Government are well acquainted: and that Her Majesty's Government have every desire to view with favour the wishes of your Highness, so far as a compliance with them may be made consistent with any engagements which they may have heretofore contracted.

The Undersigned, &c. (Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 28.

The Earl of Clarendon to the Envoy of the Sultan of Zanzibar.

Sir, I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter from the Queen to the Sultan, together with another from myself to His Highness, in reply to the letters of which your Excellency was the bearer.

Foreign Office, December 15, 1868.

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There will also be forwarded to your care, as soon as it can be prepared, for delivery to the Sultan, a case containing a sword, which Her Majesty trusts His Highness will accept as an evidence of her goodwill towards His Highness.

The Queen has desired me to express to you her regret that she was prevented from receiving you at her Court, which Her Majesty much desired to do: and for myself, in wishing you a prosperous voyage to your home, I must add my regret that the shortness of your stay in this country, since my accession to office, has prevented me from having the pleasure of seeing you more frequently at the Foreign Office.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 29.

Mr. Otway to Major-General Rigby.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 16, 1868.

I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant, announcing the intention of Mohammed bin Salim, the Envoy to Her Majesty from His Highness the Sultan of Zanzibar, to leave London on Friday next, the 18th instant, on his return to his own country, and expressing his Excellency's disappointment at the reception he has met with from Her Majesty's Government.

I am, in reply, to request that you will express to the Envoy Lord Clarendon's sincere regret that the temporary illness of his predecessor in office, and the unavoidable interruption to business caused by the change of Government, should have prevented that attention being paid to his Excellency, and to the objects of his Mission, which, under ordinary circumstances, would certainly have been paid to the Representative of an old and valued friend of Her Majesty's Government, who has on every occasion given proofs of his friendship by the protection His Highness has afforded to British subjects.

You will also have the goodness to impress upon the Envoy that no disrespect was intended from the fact that no notice was taken of His Highness' letter to the Queen, the delay having been occasioned by circumstances beyond the control of Her Majesty's late or present advisers.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. J. OTWAY.

No. 30.

Mr. Otway to Mr. Merivale.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 17, 1868.

WITH reference to the letters addressed to the India Office from this Department on the 20th of November and 3rd instant, I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you in original, to be laid before the Secretary of State for India, to which Department Lord Clarendon is of opinion that the communication should properly have been addressed, the accompanying further despatch from Captain Atkinson, the Acting British Political Agent and Consul at Muscat, containing information relative to the affairs of that State, and the part taken by the Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Vigilant" during the revolution in which the Sultan was deposed from power.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. J. OTWAY.

No. 31.

Mr. Otway to Mr. Merivale.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 29, 1868.

WITH reference to your letter of the 22nd of October last, I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to acquaint you that his Lordship sees no objection to the proceedings of the
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Indian Government in the matter of the erection of a jail at Zanzibar, as reported in the letter from the Government of India dated the 8th of July last.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. J. OTWAY.

No. 32.

Mr. Otway to Mr. Merivale.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December 31, 1868.*

WITH reference to the correspondence as marked in the margin* which has passed between this Department and the India Office, upon the question of the policy of releasing the Sultan of Zanzibar from the obligation which he is under to pay an annual subsidy of 40,000 dollars to the Sultan of Muscat, I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you for the information of his Grace the Duke of Argyll, the accompanying copies of despatches from Mr. Churchill, British Political Agent and Consul at Zanzibar, containing matter which, in his Lordship's opinion, should be taken into consideration in dealing with the question of relieving Sultan Seyd Majid from his obligations towards Muscat.

I am to add that Lord Clarendon would be glad to be made acquainted with the decision which his Grace may come to in this matter, as the instructions which his Lordship proposes to address to Mr. Churchill for his guidance in his negotiations with the Sultan of Zanzibar for the suppression of the Slave Trade, will necessarily be materially affected by the question whether or not His Highness is relieved from the payment of the Muscat subsidy.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. J. OTWAY.

No. 33.

Mr. Otway to Mr. Merivale.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December 31, 1868.*

WITH reference to my letter of this day's date, inclosing copies of despatches from Her Majesty's Consul and Political Agent at Zanzibar upon the question of the payment by the Sultan of Zanzibar of the Muscat subsidy, and upon other matters connected with the suppression of the Slave Trade on the East Coast of Africa, I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you, to be laid before his Grace the Duke of Argyll, the accompanying copy of a letter from the Admiralty inclosing copies of a despatch and its inclosures from Commodore Heath, reporting what passed at an interview which he had with the Sultan of Zanzibar on the subject of the suppression of the export Trade in Slaves from his dominions, and containing some suggestions bearing upon this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. J. OTWAY.

No. 34.

Sir T. Buxton to Mr. Otway.—(Received January 18.)

Dear Mr. Otway, *23, Upper Brook Street, January 16, 1869.*

I GLADLY avail myself of your suggestion that I should put on paper some of the points that I had the pleasure of discussing with you on the 12th January in reference to the existing Slave Trade from the African Coast to the ports of the Red Sea and Persian Gulf. I abstain from saying anything in reference to the inherent cruelty of the Trade at every stage. The writings of Baker, Livingstone (*Zambesi and Tributaries*, ch. 18, 19, 29) and Waller, and the despatches of General Rigby, Consul Seward, and Brigadier Coghlan, have left no room for doubt on that point; but it has not been made so clear how great an injury to trade is produced by it.

In those districts of the interior which have not been touched by it, there is generally found an industrious population working iron and pottery, cultivating different kinds of grain, and showing anxiety to obtain a knowledge of European art and agriculture. (Livingstone letter, 2nd February, 1867.) Among these tribes cotton cloth is the article

* To India Office, June 4; India Office, June 25; July 2; to India Office, November 20, 1868.

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most in request. It is the very coin of the country. There cannot be a doubt that were there facilities for regular trade, there might be an almost boundless demand for such goods; but the Slave Trade makes it impossible. If we can rely upon the statements both of officials at Zanzibar and travellers in the interior, the supply of the Zanzibar markets requires a sacrifice of from 100,000 to 200,000 lives a year, and vast districts of the interior are kept in a state of insecurity that renders industry hopeless.*

Again, the natural channel for trade with the interior is the Zambesi, but this is rendered useless. General Rigby says of that river:—

"At the Portuguese Settlements the Slave Trade is carried on in the most shameless manner, all the Portuguese authorities aiding and abetting it, and dividing their nefarious gains."†

They well know that legitimate trade would injure it, and do all in their power, and with complete success, to hinder the former. Their treatment of ships from Natal has already occupied the attention of the Foreign Office.

Now if we look to the Island and Harbour of Zanzibar we find a rapidly increasing trade, which amounted in 1859 to 1,664,000L.‡ The town contains large and prosperous European firms, and also many thousands of British subjects from India, through whose hands passes nearly all the trade of the port, and who are rapidly acquiring all the wealth and property of the island. (Rigby, pages 4 and 5.)

The following passages show how much their interests are compromised by the piratical Arabs, whose only object is to carry on the Slave Trade:—

"During their presence Zanzibar resembles a city with a hostile army encamped in its neighbourhood. Every person who is able to do so sends his children and young slaves into the interior of the island for security. People are afraid to stir out of their houses after dark, and reports are daily made of children and slaves kidnapped; and in the suburbs of the town they enter the houses and take the children away by force."§

Captain Bedingfield writes:—
"By British protection alone is the Sultan kept on his Throne." "As soon as the Northern Arabs arrive, the people confine themselves to their houses." "They have complete command of the place, and were it not for the fear of the men-of-war, the lives of the British subjects would never be safe."||

In this state of things it is necessary to keep a naval force to maintain order and to protect British interests. This is a duty that must devolve upon our fleet; and I venture to point out that it would effect a distinct saving of naval expenditure to put an end to the Slave Trade at once, rather than to suffer it to continue, and, at the same time, to maintain a force to guard against one of its collateral evils.

But we cannot check it while the existing Treaties remain in force. By them our ships are prevented from seizing slavers along 420 miles of coast.¶ Sultan Syud Majid offers** to give up the Treaties, and I cannot but hope that Her Majesty's Government may be able to accept his offer. The only objection arises from the condition that he makes, viz., that we will cease to compel him to pay the subsidy of 40,000 dollars a-year to Sultan Syud Selim of Muscat. It is not pretended that we have any interest in this payment, but it is supposed by some that the Indian Government have guaranteed it. I cannot believe that the Governor-General ever incurred so great a risk, and there is strong ground for believing that he purposely avoided doing so.

In 1860, Brigadier Coghlan was sent out to investigate the merits of the dispute existing between the Sultans of Muscat and Zanzibar. After careful examination, and according to his instructions, he proposed terms of arbitration in four clauses, the third and fourth involving the payment of the subsidy.†† He then proceeds to say that, possibly, Sultan Majid may hereafter object to pay the subsidy, and in order to meet this contingency he proposed two more clauses.

On turning to the Resolution of the Honourable Board, dated 4th February, 1861, page 131, paragraph 16, I observe that the terms proposed by the first four clauses were adopted, but that the subsidiary clauses 5 and 6 were rejected without any reason

* Lieutenant-General Rigby's Report on Zanzibar, and Slave Trade Papers, 1867, Class A, Inclosure 5 in No. 76.

† Report on Slave Trade, by Brigadier Coghlan, paragraphs 5 and 8. (This Report has been moved for in the House of Lords, but never presented.)

‡ Report on Zanzibar, by Lieutenant-General Rigby, p. 21.

§ Report on Slave Trade, by Brigadier Coghlan, paragraph 16.

|| Slave Trade Papers, 1867, Class A, No. 76.

¶ Slave Trade Papers, 1861, Class B, No. 89; 1867, Class A, No. 81, Class B, Inclosures 1 and 3 in No. 120.

** Slave Trade Papers, 1867, Class B, Inclosures 1 and 3 in No. 120.

†† Proceedings of Committee, page 76, paragraphs 46 and 47.

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assigned. In the absence of any other explanation, it may reasonably be assumed that the Governor-General avoided involving the Government in any such guarantee, and preferred making no allusion to the possibility of non-payment.

Believing that the good faith of the Indian Government is in no way involved, I sincerely hope that this offer of a change in the existing Treaties may be accepted. To do so would facilitate the operations of Her Majesty's ships; it would help to maintain order in the harbour of Zanzibar, by checking the invasion of the Arab pirates; and it would tend to suppress the largest branch of the Slave Trade that exists.

The kindness and courtesy recently shown to the Zanzibar Envoys by Lord Clarendon and the Duke of Argyll, lead me to hope that the circumstances of the East African Slave Trade will receive their attention, and that they may before long take measures for its more effectual suppression.

Apologizing for the length to which this letter has run, I remain, &c.
(Signed) T. FOWELL BUXTON.

No. 35.

Dr. Kirk to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 23, 1869.)

(No. 43.)

My Lord,

Zanzibar, November 12, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, in translation from the Arabic, a copy of the Proclamation issued by His Highness Seyd Majid relative to the currency within the dominions of Zanzibar.

To avoid the confusion which might otherwise arise from the uncertain value of money in so small and rival a community, I have notified that in the settlement of claims before Her Majesty's Consular Court, after the expiry of one year from the present date, the intrinsic value of each coin, as determined by the Bombay Mint, will be adopted.

I herewith inclose a copy of the Consular notification above referred to, of which I have the honour to request your Lordship's approval, as required by Her Majesty's Order in Council of the 9th August, 1866, Section 2.

I also transmit a copy of my despatch to Secretary to Government, Bombay, on this subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN KIRK.

Inclosure 1 in No. 35.

Proclamation.

(Translation.)

SEYD MAJIB BIN SAIED, ro all who may see this, know that from this date, to the end of one lunar year, the American coin, and the coins of other countries, shall pass in our Kingdom at their present established values, and that after the end of one year from this date all money shall circulate at its market value without price fixed by us. Only the silver dollar, known as "shami" (or German crown) shall be our standard dollar and unit of account throughout our Kingdom.

Written by order of the Sultan, by his servant Suliman bin Ali.
25 Rejeb, 1285 (March* 11, 1868).

Inclosure 2 in No. 35.

Notice.

WHEREAS His Highness Seyd Majid has issued a Proclamation that, from the 25th Rejeb, 1285 (11th November, 1868), until the 25th Rejeb, 1286, the various coins now in use shall maintain their former values, but that after the 25th day of Rejeb, 1286, or twelve lunar months from the present date, the German crown known as "shami" alone shall be the dollar of Zanzibar and standard of account.

Notice is hereby given that in the settlement of claims before the British Consular Court within the next twelve months, as expressed in His Highness' Proclamation, each coin will be reckoned as formerly, but that after the 25th day of Rejeb, 1285, all money

* Query,—November.

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will be estimated at its intrinsic value as determined at the Bombay Mint, the German crown being the unit.

(Signed) JOHN KIRK,
Acting British Consul and Political Agent.

Zanzibar, November 12, 1868.

Inclosure 3 in No. 35.

Dr. Kirk to the Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

Zanzibar, November 12, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to communicate, for the information of his Excellency the Governor in Council, that the long debated question of the Zanzibar currency has at last been brought to an end.

The difficulties experienced in the settlement of this affair arose entirely from the conflicting interests of the various nationalities here represented. The Americans were naturally unwilling to lose the advantage they had gained, while French merchants, now the chief importers of coin, labouring under a serious disadvantage, were anxious for an immediate change.

As far as English interests were concerned, I believe we occupied a neutral position; what we lost by the undervaluation of a sovereign was far more than balanced by the premium on the rupee.

On the 1st of November, the agreement entered into by the Sultan and the American Council, and tacitly concurred in by the other Consulates, had expired, and as the Sultan showed little disposition to move in the matter as he had promised, I addressed a letter to His Highness requesting to be informed which coin had been decided on as the future dollar of the Zanzibar State, whether it would be the German crown as before, or the American dollar, now artificially its equivalent. I pointed out at the same time, through his Secretary, that on learning the unit of account selected by His Highness, I should be in a position to inform him as to the relative intrinsic value of the English and Indian coin.

His Highness intimated at once, through his Secretary, that the silver German dollar of Maria Theresa, known here as the "shami" dollar, had always been, and would continue to be, the money of Zanzibar; but he said that he found himself in a difficult position, as the Americans urged strongly for two years' delay previous to any change, and were prepared to assert that by equalizing their coin to the German dollar he had taken the American gold as the money of account in terms of which they had kept their accounts.

Such an act as this would amount to virtual repudiation of their debts, which are chiefly due to British Indians, to the amount of 2 per cent., for which there could be no remedy short of a lengthened lawsuit in America.

I therefore consented to a compromise, allowing one year to elapse before the commencement of the new rule, by which the black continues to be the standard of account throughout the Kingdom of Zanzibar; while all other money, of whatever nation, is left to take its market value, as is at present the case with the copper currency.

To this agreement the American and the German Consuls have placed their names, and I find the measure gives great satisfaction to the British Indian population, who by the sudden depreciation of the American coin would have been serious losers.

But little confusion is likely to be experienced by the fluctuation of coin. At the present day no one would think of making large payments in depreciated coin, which command almost their true value in the market.

In order to give confidence, and to save trouble in the adjudication of claims in Her Majesty's Consular Court after that date at their intrinsic value as determined by the Bombay Mint.

What the ultimate result of this measure of the Sultan may be it is difficult to predict. The Americans have ceased to import coin, finding cotton goods more profitable. While the French, even now under existing circumstances, have become the chief importers of coin.

I must state that, in my opinion, His Highness has done wisely in retaining the old German crown as his unit of account.

I have the honour to forward copies of His Highness' Proclamation and the notification
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tion published at the British Consulate thereon. The purport of which I venture to notice should be made known to the mercantile community of Bombay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN KIRK.

No. 36.

Dr. Kirk to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 23, 1869.)

(No. 44.)
My Lord,

Zanzibar, November 24, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I was waited on yesterday by Abdullah-bin-Omar, cousin to Sultan Abdullah of Johanna, the bearer of a letter from His Highness, in which I was told that Moosa, the leader of those Johanna men who deserted Dr. Livingstone near Lake Nyassa, and who returned to Zanzibar bearing the false tale of his murder, had been imprisoned in irons at Johanna for eight months, and was now sent to Zanzibar and placed in my hands for further punishment or liberation.

In reply, I informed King Abdullah's Agent that His Highness had, by the punishment inflicted on Moosa, anticipated the wish of Her Majesty's Government, and that now it would be my duty to set him free, but as one banished from his native land.

I assured the King's Envoy that Her Majesty's Government would receive with much satisfaction the assurance of friendship shown by this act, in having made an example of one who had caused so much grief and anxiety through his cowardly flight and base lies.

Accordingly, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the prisoner Moosa has been set at liberty, but cautioned not to return to Johanna without the King's permission.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN KIRK.

Inclosure in No. 36.

The Sultan of Johanna to Mr. Churchill.

(Translation.)
Sir,

Johanna, October 16, 1868.

SOME few days since I wrote you, by the brig "Africa," to the effect that when my dhow went to Zanzibar I would send you the leader of the gang that deserted Dr. Livingstone; he is now on board of her, and will be delivered to you for punishment in whatever form you may see fit.

I have ascertained that this man was the cause of all the trouble, beyond a doubt; therefore I send him alone to you. I have had him in irons for about eight months, as that was the only means of punishing him I had here. Sending him away will have the desired effect, I think, as people will have a horror of being sent away from their native home.

This man and, in fact, the whole party, are not fair specimens of Johanna men at all; they are nothing but bushmen, endowed with very little judgment and common sense.

This man will be delivered to you by my brother Abdullah-bin-Omar.

Any communication you may have for me please deliver to him.

(Signed) SULTAN ABDULLAH.

No. 37.

Mr. Churchill to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 23, 1869.)

(No. 46.)
My Lord,

Zanzibar, November 30, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of my despatch of the 30th instant addressed to the Secretary to Government, Bombay, relative to the policy of the French in connection with Mohilla.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. A. CHURCHILL.

Sir, The most to charge comma touchit the kin opporrt I Lamo. "Dag" succe Aden "Dag" havin which I sea th with sation affair he tr the e was I acted lady's Her to it Moh from addd Seyt rise he st kept Lamb intere waten presen for the object (No. 4 My Lo I address

"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع
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Inclosure in No. 37.

Mr. Churchill to the Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

Zanzibar, November 28, 1868.

THE state of my health had so much declined towards October, which is about the most trying part of the year at Zanzibar, that I was constrained to leave Dr. Kirk in charge of the Political Agency, and proceed to sea on board Her Majesty's ship "Star," commanded by Captain De Kantzow, whose instructions were to proceed to Aden, touching at the ports on the African coast lying to the north of Zanzibar. By accepting the kind invitation of Captain De Kantzow to proceed to Aden with him, I thus had an opportunity of visiting the various seaport towns on the coast.

I accordingly left Zanzibar on the 27th October, and after touching at Manbassa and Lamo, we reached Brava on the 4th November; there we came in with Her Majesty's ship "Daphne," engaged in catching slavers. She had already taken fifteen dhows, and succeeded in getting 320 slaves. As the "Daphne" proposed to proceed immediately to Aden, while Captain De Kantzow was to remain at Brava a few days, I passed into the "Daphne."

In the parallel of Madgeesha, the wind having unfortunately failed us and the ship having a very small quantity of coal left, we had to make our best way back to Zanzibar, which we reached on the 25th instant.

I am happy to report that my health has so far improved by this short trip out at sea that I now feel well enough to resume the duties of my office.

On my arrival at Zanzibar I found the French frigate "Armorique" in the harbour, with the Commander-in-chief of the station, Commodore Gisolme, on board.

When I called on him, this officer volunteered to inform me, in the course of conversation, that he had spoken very firmly to the Sultan of Zanzibar with reference to the affairs of Mohilla and to His Highness' policy relative thereto; he further observed that he trusted His Highness would not be induced, on any account, to allow Jumbi Fatama, the ex-Queen of that small island, to return to Mohilla in one of His Highness' ships. I was likewise informed that, in the opinion of the French Government, the ex-Queen had acted unwisely in rejecting the good advice given her in Paris, and it was hinted that this lady's pertinacity was, perhaps, due to a notion that she could count upon the support of Her Majesty's Government.

I told Commodore Gisolme, in reply, that the letters I had received did not lead me to infer that any interference on the part of the British Government in the affairs of Mohilla was contemplated, and I assured him that the Sultan should receive no advice from me tending to curtail the action of the French Government in these affairs; but I added that if the ex-Queen returned to Zanzibar she might prove a heavy burthen on Seyd Majid, if His Highness could not send her back to Mohilla in one of his own ships.

Commodore Gisolme's reply was to the effect that the least semblance of support gave rise to a hostile bearing in Mohilla towards France, and as an illustration of this assertion he stated that for a whole week after the "Daphne" visited the island the Mohilla people kept away from Mr. Lambert.

The policy of the French Government appears to be to maintain the integrity of the Lambert contract, and to oppose the ex-Queen so long as she remains hostile to French interests. To this end three French men-of-war have been told off to cruize about in the waters of Mohilla, and the Commander-in-chief proposes to establish his head-quarters at present at Mahé. It seems somewhat surprising that so great a force should be displayed for the accomplishment of so small a purpose, and it remains to be seen if some other object, connected perhaps with Madagascar, is not at the bottom of it all.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

No. 38.

Mr. Churchill to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 25, 1869.)

(No. 47.)

My Lord,

Zanzibar, December 18, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of my despatch No. 237 of the 12th December, addressed to the Honourable C. Gonne, Secretary to Government, Bombay, relative to

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Sultan Majid's protest against certain captures made by Her Majesty's cruisers engaged in the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 38.

Mr. Churchill to the Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir, Zanzibar, December 12, 1868.
NEWS was received a few days ago of Her Majesty's ship "Star" having destroyed thirty dhows, amongst which was a bungalow belonging to one of Seyd Majid sisters, which had some days previous to her destruction been arrested by Her Majesty's ship "Daphne," but was allowed to proceed on her journey for want of proof of her being a slaver.

His Highness the Sultan has addressed me a letter on the subject of these seizures, which he seems to consider as arbitrary. I have replied to His Highness; but in the absence of any positive information with regard to the proceedings of the "Star," my reply is necessarily evasive.

Were the "Star's" prizes brought before this Vice-Admiralty Court I should have an opportunity of doing justice to His Highness's demands, in the event of their being well-founded. This cannot, however, be done if the "Star" proceeds to Aden, where a defence cannot be insisted in the absence of the defendants. The Sultan is quite right, on the other hand, in saying that his dhows are fast quitting his protection for that of the French, whose flag protects the Slave Trade by its inviolability.

I have the honour herewith to transmit a copy of Seyd Majid's despatch to me on this subject, together with a copy of my reply.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 38.

The Sultan of Zanzibar to Mr. Churchill.

(Translation.)

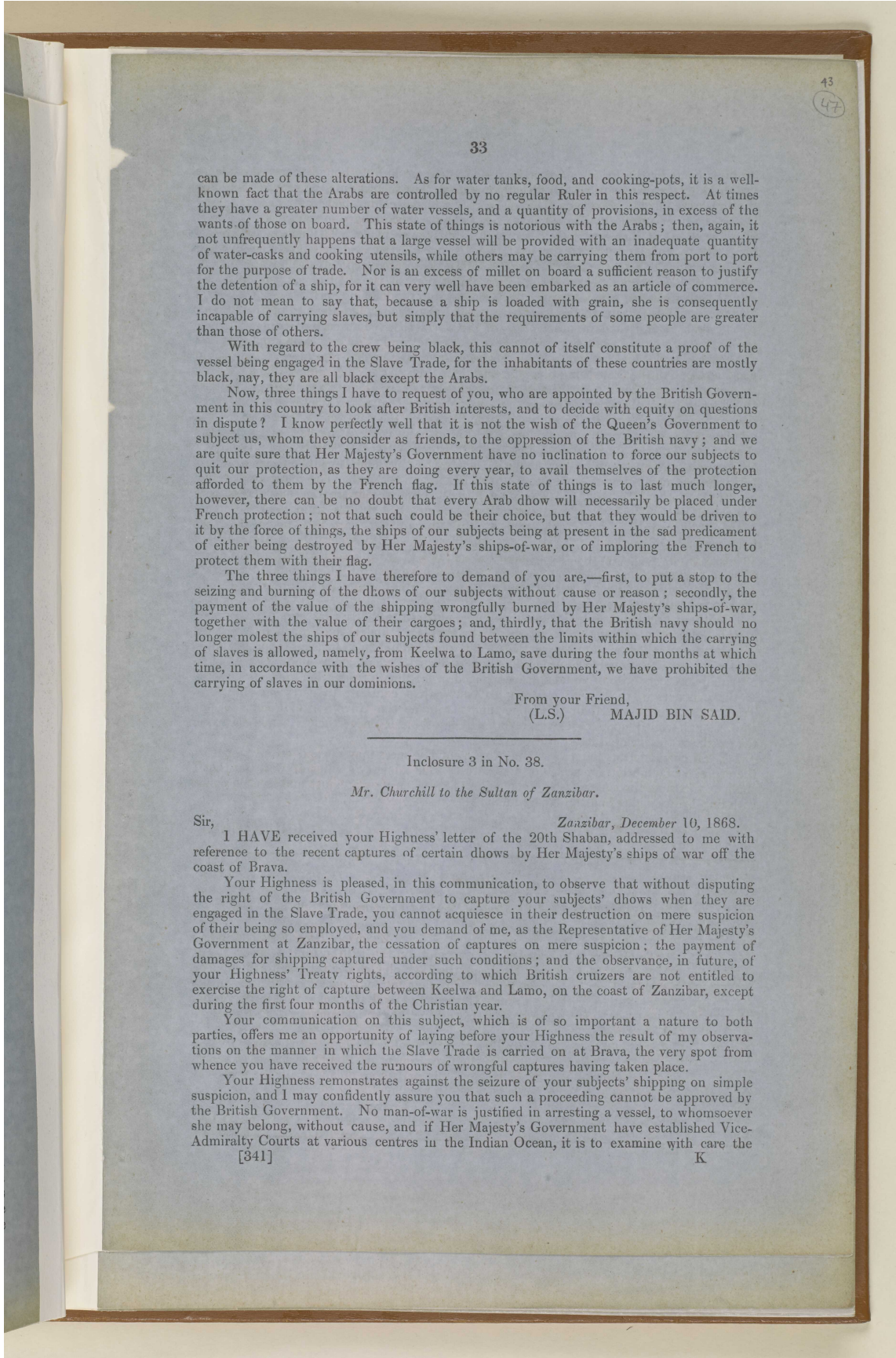
(After compliments.)

Zanzibar, Sharban 85 (December 1868).

ON a previous occasion I requested Sheik Suliman bin Ali to mention to you that some of our subjects' ships had been destroyed by Her Majesty's ships-of-war at the ports of M'gao without any show or reason for it. I now learn that the same ships-of-war have burned without causes several vessels belonging to our subjects in the neighbourhood of Brawa, even while riding at anchor in that harbour, and this solely on suspicion of their having carried slaves. I say nothing with regard to the dhows engaged in the Slave Trade, I merely refer to those that are legal traders. By Treaty Her Majesty's ships-of-war may arrest our vessels and our subjects' vessels engaged in the Slave Trade beyond the limits of Keelwa and Lamo, but they have no right to seize and burn our ships on suspicion only, even were they unprovided with passes, or had they tanks, millet, or negro sailors in excess on board, for suspicion is not a sufficient reason to justify capture, nor is it befitting a powerful Government to condemn on mere suspicion. Were such the case, what nation would exist?

At no period of time since the first days of our government has it been the custom with us to issue passes to our ships navigating within our own territorial waters, stating therein the number of their crews, the rank, age, distinctive marks, and wages of the same, and their passengers. Our habit has been to confine the issue of passes to the vessels of our subjects proceeding to foreign ports; and these were provided with papers stating the number of their crew, and the ports of clearance and destination only. Such has been the custom hitherto, and we have never adopted the rule stating the number of passengers on board, as such a course with us would be impracticable; for if a vessel with ten passengers, for instance, left Zanzibar for Pamba, and landed them there, and took on other passengers to Lamo, who is there at Pamba to note these changes? Our passes can only be written at Zanzibar, and our Seal of State cannot be entrusted out of our hands anywhere. Then with regard to the crews; they, like the passengers, are liable to be discharged, and others engaged in their stead, anywhere in our dominions, and no note

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can be made of these alterations. As for water tanks, food, and cooking-pots, it is a well-known fact that the Arabs are controlled by no regular Ruler in this respect. At times they have a greater number of water vessels, and a quantity of provisions, in excess of the wants of those on board. This state of things is notorious with the Arabs; then, again, it not unfrequently happens that a large vessel will be provided with an inadequate quantity of water-casks and cooking utensils, while others may be carrying them from port to port for the purpose of trade. Nor is an excess of millet on board a sufficient reason to justify the detention of a ship, for it can very well have been embarked as an article of commerce. I do not mean to say that, because a ship is loaded with grain, she is consequently incapable of carrying slaves, but simply that the requirements of some people are greater than those of others.

With regard to the crew being black, this cannot of itself constitute a proof of the vessel being engaged in the Slave Trade, for the inhabitants of these countries are mostly black, nay, they are all black except the Arabs.

Now, three things I have to request of you, who are appointed by the British Government in this country to look after British interests, and to decide with equity on questions in dispute? I know perfectly well that it is not the wish of the Queen's Government to subject us, whom they consider as friends, to the oppression of the British navy; and we are quite sure that Her Majesty's Government have no inclination to force our subjects to quit our protection, as they are doing every year, to avail themselves of the protection afforded to them by the French flag. If this state of things is to last much longer, however, there can be no doubt that every Arab dhow will necessarily be placed under French protection; not that such could be their choice, but that they would be driven to it by the force of things, the ships of our subjects being at present in the sad predicament of either being destroyed by Her Majesty's ships-of-war, or of imploring the French to protect them with their flag.

The three things I have therefore to demand of you are,—first, to put a stop to the seizing and burning of the dhows of our subjects without cause or reason; secondly, the payment of the value of the shipping wrongfully burned by Her Majesty's ships-of-war, together with the value of their cargoes; and, thirdly, that the British navy should no longer molest the ships of our subjects found between the limits within which the carrying of slaves is allowed, namely, from Keelwa to Lamo, save during the four months at which time, in accordance with the wishes of the British Government, we have prohibited the carrying of slaves in our dominions.

From your Friend,
(L.S.) MAJID BIN SAID.

Inclosure 3 in No. 38.

Mr. Churchill to the Sultan of Zanzibar.

Sir,

Zanzibar, December 10, 1868.

I HAVE received your Highness' letter of the 20th Shaban, addressed to me with reference to the recent captures of certain dhows by Her Majesty's ships of war off the coast of Brava.

Your Highness is pleased, in this communication, to observe that without disputing the right of the British Government to capture your subjects' dhows when they are engaged in the Slave Trade, you cannot acquiesce in their destruction on mere suspicion of their being so employed, and you demand of me, as the Representative of Her Majesty's Government at Zanzibar, the cessation of captures on mere suspicion; the payment of damages for shipping captured under such conditions; and the observance, in future, of your Highness' Treaty rights, according to which British cruisers are not entitled to exercise the right of capture between Keelwa and Lamo, on the coast of Zanzibar, except during the first four months of the Christian year.

Your communication on this subject, which is of so important a nature to both parties, offers me an opportunity of laying before your Highness the result of my observations on the manner in which the Slave Trade is carried on at Brava, the very spot from whence you have received the rumours of wrongful captures having taken place.

Your Highness remonstrates against the seizure of your subjects' shipping on simple suspicion, and I may confidently assure you that such a proceeding cannot be approved by the British Government. No man-of-war is justified in arresting a vessel, to whomsoever she may belong, without cause, and if Her Majesty's Government have established Vice-Admiralty Courts at various centres in the Indian Ocean, it is to examine with care the

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captures made by the British navy, and those Courts are in duty bound to award damages and costs to the owners of vessels illegally captured; but then it must be proved that such captures were illegal. Rumours alone or hearsay evidence cannot be accepted as testimony in the said Vice-Admiralty Courts, and from the experience I have in such matters, I may be allowed to say that a serious defence is scarcely ever made. The reason for this is generally to be attributed to the irrefutable nature of the evidence produced by Her Majesty's ships of war, the knowledge of which makes native captains decline any further pursuit of their rights. Then, again, in many instances, at the sight of a man-of-war, the dhows with their live cargoes on board are dashed into the foaming surf. Were they legal traders, would they thus themselves destroy their own property at the risk of their lives? It is usually maintained in other parts of the world that the absence of papers justifies the seizure of a vessel; but the Commodore of this station has given it as his opinion that the cruisers under his command should not capture dhows on that plea alone. Nor would the fact alone of the crew being black be a sufficient reason for condemning them. In the face of such exceptional difficulties, the commanders of Her Majesty's cruisers are obliged to resort to other means of detecting the true nature of the vessels they board, and in so doing they must necessarily be guided by the fittings of the said vessels and also by the admission of the slaves themselves, who do not usually conceal the fact of their being slaves. Out of the fifteen dhows captured off Brava by Her Majesty's ship "Daphne," three ran ashore and were broken to pieces before the ship's boats could get up to them; their cargoes, consisting of slaves, were driven inland and escaped. The remaining twelve, captured on the high seas, had slaves on board. I am not aware that any dhows were destroyed by the "Daphne" without slaves. Many had passes from your Highness showing them to be respectable traders, and the greater part had taken in other merchandize besides slaves. They had come from the south, where slaves were cheap, and were proceeding towards the Benadir (Somali coast), at which places they were dear; and the native captains of the dhows may very well have vested a little capital in a private speculation without the knowledge of the owners. This circumstance, however, cannot affect the legality of the prize.

Without pretending to point out to your Highness the course that should be pursued in the emergency of your subjects' vessels being placed under the French flag without your authority, allow me to observe that in my humble opinion it behoves your Highness to oppose so objectionable a proceeding, as well as to adopt such steps as will more effectually protect those of your subjects engaged in legitimate trade from the consequences of the evil acts of those who, contrary to your edicts, continue to carry on the Slave Trade; and I avail myself of this opportunity to name the Governor of Pemba as one who, though called upon to execute your Highness' orders, nevertheless sends slaves to the north, as the inclosed letter will prove.

I will conclude this letter by adding that your Highness may depend on my opposing the exercise of all arbitrary power on the part of Her Majesty's ships of war, but that I shall, at the same time, steadfastly uphold their acts when they are just and in accordance with our Treaty rights and the law of nations.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

No. 39.

Mr. Churchill to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 24, 1869.)

(No. 48.)

Zanzibar, December 21, 1868.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt, on the 19th instant, of your Lordship's despatch marked Slave Trade No 11 of the 17th of October relative to the Queen of Mohilla, by which I am instructed to avoid entering into any questions bearing on the relations of Queen Fatima with the French Government, and to decline to interfere in her affairs. In reply, I beg leave to assure your Lordship that the instructions I have received shall be strictly adhered to.

Your Lordship will be gratified to learn that the policy I had adopted consequent on the official information I had received from the Government of Bombay with reference to your Lordship's attitude in this affair, has been in perfect accordance with the wishes of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع
لكبحها" [٤٨و] (٧٢/٣٥)

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No. 40.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Churchill.

(No. 2.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, March 10, 1869.

I OBSERVE in your despatch to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay dated the 12th of December last, a copy of which you forwarded to me in your despatch No. 47 of the 18th of the same month, that you state that His Highness Sultan Majid is quite right in saying that his dhows are fast quitting his protection for that of the French, whose flag protects the Slave Trade by its inviolability.

I should be glad to receive any further information which you may be able to furnish me as to the extent to which the proceedings of British cruisers employed in the suppression of the Slave Trade have influenced the owners of Zanzibar vessels, or the vessels of any other native States in placing them under the French flag, as well as upon the point whether the French flag is used to cover Slave Traffic, and if so to what extent.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 41.

*Extract of a Memorial from the British Steam Navigation Company to the
Bombay Government.*

March 12, 1869.

WE have reason to suppose that on His Highness Syud Salim ceasing to be Sultan of Muscat, the Port of Bunder Abbas also may fall into the Persian Government, and we would avail ourselves of this opportunity for expressing our earnest trust that by the intervention of the British authorities this may not prove to be the case, for we can trade without much annoyance or risk of sudden loss where references have simply to be made to the Chief of Arab tribes, but that under Persian Governors the intrigues, irregularities, and obstacles thrown in the way of trade are destructive of all mercantile confidence, and are, we believe, unparalleled in our connection with the most uncivilized nations.

No. 42.

Mr. Churchill to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 30.)

(No. 25.)
My Lord

Zanzibar, January 22, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of my despatch No. 5 of the 22nd of Januar addressed to the Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, relative to the steps taken by me for carrying out the orders of his Excellency the Governor-General of India for the suppression of slave-dealing as carried on by Kutchees, &c., residing in Zanzibar.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 42.

Mr. Churchill to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

Zanzibar, January 22, 1869.

I RECEIVED your despatch of the 7th ultimo relative to the possession of slaves by the Kutchees residing in Zanzibar on the 4th instant, and although I took an early opportunity of communicating the decision of the Indian Government to His Highness the Sultan, who was on the Coast of Africa at Dar Selam spending the Ramadan, I thought it better to wait until the Sultan's return to Zanzibar, as the delay incurred by this means would have the effect of reconciling His Highness with the stringent measures that I purposed taking with regard to the natives of India under his protection; I trust that my having allowed the Indians this short respite as a mark of deference to His Highness the Sultan will not be disapproved by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, although it was, as I am aware, my duty to have acted upon the orders I had received without the least delay.

"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع
لكبحها" [٨ ظ] (٧٢/٣٦)

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On the day after the Sultan's return to Zanzibar, and immediately after the "Ides" of Ramadan, I drew up a notice informing the natives of India who had placed themselves under His Highness' protection, that they would no longer be allowed to purchase or sell slaves, and that they had to present themselves at the Consulate in order to enable me to determine whether the slaves in their possession were in domestic slavery or otherwise.

It will, I fear, be a difficult matter to distinguish between domestic slavery and the real Slave Trade, as the former may assume the character of the latter at any time if domestic slavery be not kept within certain bounds. Taking my stand, therefore, on the spirit if not the letter of his Excellency the Governor-General's opinion in this matter, I have decided that no Kutchee slave-owner should be allowed to hold more than a very limited number of domestic slaves, say two or three according to his circumstances.

I beg leave to forward, for the information of his Excellency the Governor in Council, a copy of my letter to Seyd Majid on this subject, together with two notices affixed at the Custom-house and at the Consulate, that I have addressed to the Kutchees under the Sultan's protection with reference to the carrying on of the Slave Trade by them.

I shall avail myself of the first opportunity to proceed along the coast in order to carry out more effectually the wishes of the Indian Government. The total absence at present of any British man-of-war renders my doing so, just now, impossible, and I doubt whether any of Her Majesty's ships would be available for this purpose as they come here with special instructions from the Commodore. I therefore strongly beg to suggest the expediency of sending to Zanzibar a small vessel of the Indian navy to be placed at the disposal of the Political Agent. There are many occasions on which a vessel of this kind would be invaluable at Zanzibar, and it would render the Governor's Agent much less dependent on the Sultan's goodwill in carrying out the orders of Government. A steamship would be preferable to a sailing-ship, but the latter would be better than none at all, and I urgently venture to press the matter on the consideration of his Excellency the Governor in Council.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 42.

Mr. Churchill to the Sultan of Zanzibar.

(After compliments.)

January 20, 1869.

WITH reference to your Highness' letter of the 23rd Shaban, 1284, relative to the natives of India under your Highness' protection being amenable to British law, I have the honour to inform your Highness in writing, as I have already done verbally, that the Government of India by no means recognize the claim set up by certain Kutchees and other subjects of the Protected States in India to be emancipated from all control over them by this Political Agency on the ground that they have neglected to inscribe their names in the Consular Registers; and I am enjoined to interfere authoritatively and by all the means at my disposal to put down slave-dealing when carried on by such persons.

The majority of the Kutchees engaged in this illicit trade having placed themselves under your Highness' protection, it is necessary to inform you that I have, by a public notice, posted up at the Custom-house and at the Consulate, ordered all Kutchees and other natives of India residing in your Highness' dominions who may possess any slaves, to present themselves at this Consulate without loss of time under pain of severe punishment, in order that I may be enabled to carry out the orders of the Government of India.

I have the honour to forward to you a copy of this notice, and trust that your Highness' will, on this occasion, as you have always done in other matters of a similar importance afford me your valuable co-operation in preventing the natives of India domiciled in your dominions from continuing a practice which inflicts incalculable misery on a weak and helpless population, and the existence of which is a source of much pain to Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع
لكبحها" [٤٩ و] (٧٢/٣٧)

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Inclosure 3 in No. 42.

Notice.

To all Natives of India in the Dominions of the Sultan of Zanzibar.

THE Government of India, having taken into their serious consideration the subject of the possession of slaves and the carrying on of the Slave Trade by Kutchees and other natives of India in the dominions of His Highness the Sultan of Zanzibar, have deemed it urgent to issue orders to the effect that, although domestic slavery may, for a time, be tolerated to a certain extent amongst those already possessing slaves, all attempts at purchasing, selling, or trafficking in slaves, shall be summarily put down; and the Indian Government will not entertain any claims for redress or compensation on this head.

In consequence of the issue of these orders, I, the Undersigned, Her Majesty's Political Agent and Consul at Zanzibar, do hereby command all natives of India who possess slaves in the dominions of His Highness the Sultan of Zanzibar, to present themselves to this Political Agency, either in person or by deputy, within a limited period of time from this date, namely, within fourteen days for the inhabitants of the town of Zanzibar, one month for those inhabiting the Island of Zanzibar, and two months for those residing out of the said island, with a list of the slaves in their possession, describing therein the age, sex, and name of each of their slaves in order that they may be dealt with in accordance with the commands of the Government of India.

After the lapse of time allowed to each individual according to his location, unless a good and sufficient excuse be afforded for non-appearance, all slaves found in the possession of natives of India shall be forthwith set free, and the owners thereof shall further be subjected to imprisonment, or to a fine of not less than 10 dollars for each slave so found, or both.

Given under my hand and seal this 20th day of January, 1869.

(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL,
Her Majesty's Political Agent and Consul.

Inclosure 4 in No. 42.

Notice.

THE Undersigned, Her Majesty's Political Agent and Consul at Zanzibar, deems it necessary to warn all natives of India residing within the dominions of His Highness the Sultan of Zanzibar that, in consequence of the orders of the Government of India published in Zanzibar on the 20th instant, the provisions of the Indian Penal Code are applicable from this date in all matters connected with the buying, selling, and trafficking in slaves by the said natives of India under whatever denomination they may be.

(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL,
Her Majesty's Political Agent and Consul.

Zanzibar, January 21, 1869.

No. 43.

Mr. Churchill to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 30.)

(No. 2.)

My Lord,

Zanzibar, January 25, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of my despatch No. 8 of the 25th January, addressed to Chief Secretary to Governor Bombay relative to the arrival at Zanzibar of the French iron-clad frigate "Belliqueuse," flying the broad pennant of Admiral Penhoat.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

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"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع
لكبحها" [٩ ظ] (٧٢/٣٨)

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Inclosure in No. 43.

Mr. Churchill to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Zanzibar, January 25, 1869.
Sir,
I HAVE the honour to report the arrival at Zanzibar of the iron-clad steam-ship "Belliqueuse," flying the pendant of Rear-Admiral Penhoat, Commander-in-chief of the French squadron in the Pacific.
Admiral Penhoat has come here from Bourbon on his return home, for the express purpose of pressing with the whole weight of his rank on Seyd Majid with a view to intimidate His Highness and oblige him to adopt a less friendly line of conduct towards Jumbi Fatima the ex-Queen of Mohilla.
The Queen arrived here from Aden in a native dhow a few days after the Admiral, and a few days after her arrival appeared the "Prequet," sent by the French Commodore of the station to look after the Queen.
The Sultan's reception of the Admiral has been more than usually courteous; on the other hand, His Highness has received the Queen of Mohilla with marked coolness, not having yet granted her an audience, and it is reported that Seyf, the Queen's son-in-law, who has succeeded in rendering himself objectionable to the French Government, and who is one of the Sultan's subjects, will be kept at Zanzibar. I am not aware of the intentions of the Queen, but I should think that she will, in the course of time, be allowed to return to Mohilla if she promises to remain quiet and not to interfere with the Government of that Island by her son and M. Lambert.
It appears that Jumbi Fatima was offered in Paris 2,000 dollars a year, or 40,000 dollars to go back to Mohilla and remain quiet, but she foolishly refused this, and has returned to Zanzibar without having obtained any satisfaction.
I have, &c.
(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

No. 44.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Churchill.

(No. 3.)
Foreign Office, April 5, 1869.
Sir,
I HAVE received your despatch No. 1 of the 22nd of January last, inclosing a copy of a despatch addressed by you to the Bombay Government relative to the steps taken by you for carrying out the orders of the Governor-General of India for the suppression of slave-dealing as carried on by Kutchees residing at Zanzibar.
As I am not aware of the nature of the decision which has been come to by the Indian Government in regard to slave-dealing and the holding of slaves by the subjects of Indian protected States, I shall be glad to be furnished with copies of any instructions on this subject which you may have received from the Government of India.
I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 45.

Mr. Otway to Mr. Merivale.

Foreign Office, April 5, 1869.
Sir,
I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you, to be laid before his Grace the Duke of Argyll, the accompanying copies of a despatch and its inclosures from Mr. Churchill, Her Majesty's Political Agent and Consul at Zanzibar,* reporting the steps taken by him for giving effect to the orders of the Governor-General of India in regard to the suppression of slave-dealing, as carried on by Kutchees, or by the subjects of other protected Indian States residing at Zanzibar.
I am to state that Lord Clarendon is not aware of the precise nature of the instructions on this subject which Mr. Churchill has received from the Government of India, but it would appear from the tenor of Mr. Churchill's despatch and its inclosures that it is proposed to tolerate, if not to recognize and allow, the holding of domestic slaves by Kutchees and other protected Indian subjects.

* No. 42.

"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع
لكبحها" [٥٠] [٧٢/٣٩]

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His Lordship desires me to observe that after having once manumitted all the slaves held by protected Indian subjects at Zanzibar, as was done a few years since by Colonel Rigby, to tolerate now the holding of Slaves by any Indian subjects, protected or otherwise, would be a material concession on our part towards slavery, likely to encourage the Slave Trade, and calculated to place us in a false position towards the Sultan of Zanzibar, whom we have been urging for some time past to adopt stringent measures for putting a stop to the Slave Traffic in his dominions.

Lord Clarendon would suggest, therefore, unless there are any Indian interests involved which would prevent the adoption of such a course whether a notice might not be issued prohibiting entirely the holding of domestic slaves by Indian subjects, or by the subjects of any Indian State under British protection, allowing them, however, should it be thought advisable to do so, a reasonable period for getting rid of the slaves that may be in their possession.

I am further directed to state that, if the Duke of Argyll has the means of furnishing it, Lord Clarendon would request to be supplied with a copy of such part of the Indian Penal Code as prohibits the holding or trafficking in slaves by Indian subjects.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. J. OTWAY.

No. 46.

Mr. Otway to Mr. Merivale.

Sir, *Foreign Office, April 10, 1869.*
WITH reference to your letter of the 6th of January last, and to former correspondence upon the question of relieving the Sultan of Zanzibar from the payment of the subsidy to Muscat, I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to request that you will move the Duke of Argyll to inform his Lordship whether any answer has been received to the despatch on this subject, which was addressed by his Grace on the 6th of January to the Governor-General of India.

I am to state that Lord Clarendon is very anxious that an early decision should be come to in this matter, as upon it will depend the measures necessary for the suppression of the Slave Trade on the East Coast of Africa.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. J. OTWAY.

No. 47.

Mr. Grant Duff to Mr. Otway.—(Received April 12.)

Dear Otway, *India Office, April 10, 1859.*
I HAVE vainly been hunting you for two days in the House of Commons, and now send the Memorandum which I had meant to give you.

Believe me, &c.
(Signed) M. GRANT DUFF.

Inclosure in No. 47.

Memorandum.

Mr. Otway,
NO despatch has been received from India in reply to ours of the 6th January, 1869, regarding the payment of the Muscat subsidy by the Sultan of Zanzibar; but a telegram was received on the 18th March, stating that one was on its way.

"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع
لكبحها" [ظ. ٥٠] [٧٢/٤٠]

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No. 48.

Mr. Churchill to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 17.)

(No. 3.)

My Lord,

Zanzibar, February 19, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of my despatch No. 12 of this day's date, addressed to C. Gonne, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, relative to the supposed survivors of the "St. Abbs."

I have, &c.
(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

Inclosure in No. 48.

Mr. Churchill to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

Zanzibar, February 19, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to report that Mr. Heale, the gentleman who was at Brava, has latterly written to me to say that he had been unable to learn anything respecting the men said to be in captivity in the Somali country. The sum of 100l. was offered for every captive, but no response was made during the six months that Mr. Heale was at Brava from any quarter, although the most influential Chief of Brava had made the offer known far and near.

I myself, when off Brava in November last, made many inquiries of the slaves and others on board Her Majesty's ship "Daphne," some of them had been in the Somali country, but only one had heard, some years ago, when he was at Merka, that a search was being made for certain white men said to have been enslaved in the interior, but he had heard nothing of the men themselves.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

No. 49.

Mr. Churchill to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 17.)

(No. 4.)

My Lord,

Zanzibar, February 24, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of my despatch No. 15 of the 24th instant, addressed to the Secretary to the Government, Bombay, relative to a dhow captured by Her Majesty's ship "Star," and supposed to have been the one taken by Majesty's ship "Wasp" in 1865, which escaped, carrying off three British seamen.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 49.

Mr. Churchill to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

Zanzibar, February 24, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith inclosed, for the information of His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, the copy of a despatch that I have had occasion to address to the Political Resident at Aden, with regard to an inscription found carved on the poop of a dhow latterly captured by Her Majesty's ship "Star," and supposed to have been made by one of the unfortunate seamen of the "Wasp," who were put on board a Soori dhow engaged in the Slave Trade on or about the 12th April, 1865, and of whose fate nothing is known. It was supposed at the time that the men had deserted, but from the information I have gathered, they seem to have been overpowered by the Arabs, and were taken north to Pemba. Nothing has ever been heard of them after they were seen at Pemba, and it is presumed that they must either have been murdered or be in captivity in some secluded part of Arabia.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع
لكبحها" [٥١] [٧٢/٤١]

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Inclosure 2 in No. 49.

Mr. Churchill to the Political Resident, Aden.

Sir,

Zanzibar, February 19, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th December, 1868, with reference to the capture of an Arab dhow by Her Majesty's ship "Star," in which was discovered a plank on her deck marked "'Wasp,' 11-4-65," supposed to have been written by one of the unfortunate seamen who disappeared towards that date in a dhow in which they had been placed as a prize crew.

From the depositions of the individuals sent by you as the Nakoda, and a seaman of the "Mambosasa," it would appear that this dhow formerly belonged to a native of Pemba named Rizk bin Ali.

In referring to the archives of this Consulate, I find that on the 11th April, 1865, two dhows were captured near Kokotoni and Oswaeremba Point by the pinnace and the two cutters of the "Wasp." Dhow No. 1 had 6 Arabs and 26 slaves on board. Dhow No. 2 had a large crew, and 6 women believed to be slaves. A prize crew was put on board of dhow No. 2, but was subsequently withdrawn to rescue one of the cutters attacked by two strange Arab dhows. As a security for the safety of dhow No. 2, thus temporarily abandoned, the master and another individual, supposed to belong to the crew, but who turned out to be a passenger, were taken away with the "Wasp's" boats. When the attacking dhows had been driven off, dhow No. 2 was nowhere to be seen. This dhow was, at the time, proved to belong to Rizk bin Ali of Pemba, and the Nakhoda thereof was imprisoned by His Highness the Sultan, simply because he had not his pass with him when his dhow was boarded.

In a letter of the 17th April, Captain Bowden, of the "Wasp," referring to this dhow, says that a boat was on that day sent after a dhow, which proved to be the prize No. 2 of the 11th April, whose Nakhoda was imprisoned. Captain Bowden adds, that he thinks the man had been treated unjustly, and offers to return to him his arms.

This dhow is evidently the one arrested by the "Star" on the 8th November last, and in all likelihood the carving was made by the "Wasp's" men when they were on board of her on the 11th April, 1865.

In the same letter of the 17th April, Captain Bowden informs Colonel Playfair that the missing dhow had not yet turned up; and it this missing dhow, boarded after the 11th April, and described as having a crew of 2 Arabs and 3 slaves only, of whom two were boys (and, consequently, different from the one that had a large crew and 6 women on board) that slipped off with a prize crew of three men who have never been heard of since. This dhow is further said to have had her yard damaged by a shot from the pinnace, a circumstance which is not mentioned in connection with dhow No. 2.

It was subsequently ascertained, I find, though it does not appear in the correspondence, that the crew of this latter dhow, having overcome the sailors, and having bound them hand and foot, and had proceeded to Pemba, where it was notorious at the time that three English sailors had been captured by some Soori Arabs.

Researches having been made on the Coast of Arabia, in consequence of Colonel Playfair's representations to the Government of Bombay, it was ascertained by Colonels Pelly and Disbrowe that this dhow belonged to one Rabai bin Alli, of Soor, who is now dead.

The prisoners sent down to Zanzibar declared in their depositions before me that, although eight of the "Mambosasa" crew were slaves, their dhow was not engaged in the the Slave Trade, and the Sultan purposes protesting against her being destroyed by Captain de Kantzow.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

No. 50.

Mr. Churchill to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 17.)

(No. 5.)

My Lord,

Zanzibar, February 25, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of my despatch No. 17 of this day's date, addressed to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, relative to the apprehensions of the Sultan in consequence of the suppression of slave-holding by Kutchees in Zanzibar.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

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"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع
لكبحها" [١٥١ ظ] (٧٢/٤٢)

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Inclosure 1 in No. 50.

Mr. Churchill to the Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Zanzibar, February 25, 1869.

Sir,

IN the course of a conversation I had with Seyd Majid, soon after the arrival of Her Majesty's ship "Nympe," His Highness having, with reference to the manner in which I proposed to carry out my instructions relative to the Kutchees under the Sultan's protection possessing slaves, expressed in strong terms his misgivings as to the friendly feelings of his subjects towards himself and the Europeans, because of the prevailing belief that Her Majesty's Government would sooner or later end in forcing His Highness to sanction the abolition of domestic slavery in his dominions, an event which would, said the Sultan, bring about the total ruin of the country. I deemed it advisable to request Commander Meara, of the "Nympe," to postpone his cruise south until I could see my way through the difficulty.

Finding, however, after a lapse of ten days, that His Highness' fears were groundless, inasmuch as the Arabs were quite indifferent if the natives of Kutch held slaves or not in Zanzibar, and that His Highness has merely wished to throw difficulties in my way, I authorized Commander Meara to proceed on his cruising tour.

I availed myself of his passing by Johanna to request him to grant a passage to Seyd Ali, the brother of the King of Johanna, who was desirous, with his cousin, to return to his native island.

I have the honour to transmit to you copies of the letters I addressed to Commander Meara on this subject, and I trust that my having detained the "Nympe," under the peculiar circumstances described, will meet with the approval of his Excellency the Governor in Council.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 50.

Mr. Churchill to Commander Meara.

Zanzibar, February 3, 1869.

Sir,

IN consequence of the very serious apprehensions apparently entertained by His Highness Seyd Majid, the Sultan of Zanzibar, as to the public tranquillity of the place, if I persevere in carrying out certain instructions that I have recently received from the Government of Bombay, connected with the suppression of the Slave Trade on this coast, and not feeling myself justified in deviating in the least degree from the line of conduct traced out to me, I deem it urgent to request you to postpone your departure from this until it may be seen how far the Sultan's apprehensions are founded.

Under any circumstances the presence of a British man-of-war in the port of Zanzibar at this season of the year, when the Arabs of the coast of Arabia visit these shores in vast numbers for the purpose of carrying away into slavery the black population of this country, is desirable; and I trust that these two reasons together will have sufficient weight in them to prevail upon you to remain here, for the present at all events.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 50.

Mr. Churchill to Commander Meara.

Zanzibar, February 12, 1869.

Sir,

THE apprehensions entertained by His Highness the Sultan as to the possibility of disturbances occurring at Zanzibar, having been found to be of an indefinite nature, and having failed to detect the specious grounds on which His Highness bases his fears lest a commotion should take place calculated to compromise the Sultan's position and the lives of the European inhabitants of Zanzibar, I beg you will consider yourself under no further moral obligation to remain here for the protection of the place.

In proceeding south you will necessarily pass by Johanna, an island whose Chief has

"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع
لكبحها" [٢٥] [٧٢/٤٣]

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invariably shown himself well-disposed towards England. The position of Johanna, moreover, in the close neighbourhood of the French possessions of Mayotta and Nosse-bé, renders it not a little desirable that we should propitiate this friendly feeling. I have therefore the honour to request that you will kindly give King Abdalla's brother, Seyd Ali, and his cousin, a passage to Johanna, if you can do so conveniently.

The King will, I feel sure, be glad to see you at Johanna should you call on him.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

No. 51.

Mr. Churchill to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 17.)

(No. 6.)

My Lord,

Zanzibar, February 26, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of my despatch No. 19 of the 26th instant, addressed to the Secretary to Government, Bombay, relative to the measures taken for carrying out the orders of the Government of India regarding Kutchees and other natives of India holding slaves in Zanzibar.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 51.

Mr. Churchill to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

Zanzibar, February 26, 1869.

REFERRING to the natives of India holding slaves in the dominions of the Sultan of Zanzibar, I had the honour, in my despatch of the 21st January last, to report the steps that I had taken with a view to put a stop to the Trafficking in Slaves by the same individuals within the jurisdiction of this Political Agency.

I was aware that I could not count upon the co-operation of Seyd Majid in carrying out my instructions; but, however much I required that co-operation, I was determined to do without it, if His Highness withheld it.

Soon after the publication of my notices (annexed to my despatch of the 21st of January), a native of Kutch was reported to me as having put up one of his slaves for sale in the market-place. The man was one of those protected by the Sultan. I caused him to be arrested, and brought to trial. He did not deny the fact, but laughingly declared that he ignored my power to punish him. I sentenced him to a fine of 500 dollars, and to imprisonment in the fort until I could send him out of the country.

This decisive measure, which I was prepared to follow up by others of the same nature, brought the Kutchees to their senses; and after a serious consultation, the principal amongst them came to the Consulate to declare the slaves they held; while the Sultan, careless of showing his vexation, addressed me a letter couched in very plain words, such as he is not in the habit of writing to this Political Agency, in which he protested with energy against my proceedings and threatened to report me.

I replied on the same day, expressing to His Highness my regret at the line of policy he had been pleased to adopt, but showing him that I would not abandon the position I had assumed.

I took an early opportunity to wait upon His Highness in person, to impress upon his mind the futility of opposing the fulfilment of my instructions; and, as in the course of this interview, His Highness urged the dissatisfaction of his subjects with himself and this Agency, and his distrust of the maintenance of the public peace if I persisted, I requested Commander Meara, of Her Majesty's ship "Nymphé," to remain at Zanzibar till further orders.

Matters were in this position, and I had made every preparation to avert the possibility of Kutchees engaging in the Slave Trade, by depriving them of the slaves in their possession, over and above a certain number, when, on the 13th February, I received your letter of the 16th January, by which I am informed that it is unnecessary to interfere with the existing arrangements, by which domestic slaves are now actually possessed by Kutchees at Zanzibar, for household purposes.

From the tenor of this Resolution, I concluded that I had misinterpreted the sense of

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the Governor-General's letter to the Bombay Government, of the 6th November, and that I was going too far in compassing the freedom of any of the slaves held by the Kutchees, although the possession of a large number of slaves would offer facilities to the traffic which I could not control, otherwise than by reducing the number of domestic slaves to a minimum, and getting a correct list and description of them.

I therefore called the Sultan's Secretary, and, without letting him know that I had overstepped the limits of my powers, I requested him to convey to the Sultan my wish to conciliate matters, and my readiness, considering the assistance we had invariably received from His Highness in putting down the Slave Trade, to abstain from interference with the slaves already in the hands of the Kutchees under his protection, provided His Highness would afford me his co-operation in punishing them if they sold or bought slaves in his dominions.

The Sultan appeared to be gratified at this concession; and on the 20th February I embodied my conditions in a letter to the above effect; to which Seyd Majid replied, by accepting my conditions provisionally, pending reference to the Government of Bombay.

I have the honour to forward herewith, inclosed copies of the correspondence above-mentioned.

As matters stand, I do not interfere with the slaves actually held by Kutchees protected by Seyd Majid, though I have established my right to jurisdiction over them in the event of their engaging in the Slave Trade. I have offered to press upon the consideration of his Excellency, the Governor of Bombay, our non-interference with them, if His Highness will punish them himself, whenever they purchase or sell slaves. I have reserved to this Agency the right to interfere in the event of His Highness being remiss in carrying out his engagements. I have further, in accordance with the views expressed by his Excellency the Governor-General, closed the door upon future arrivals from India being protected by the Sultan.

This latter clause is the one most objected to by the Zanzibar Government, for it will have the effect of restoring to the British Political Agency the influence and power it formerly possessed, which was beginning to diminish in consequence of our gradually losing the hold we had at one time over the Indian element of the population, which is not inconsiderable.

In reply that his Excellency the Governor-General will give to the Sultan's Deputy, will depend the question whether this influence is to be increased or totally annulled, in the course of time.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 51.

The Sultan of Zanzibar to Mr. Churchill.

(Translation.)

(After the usual compliments.) Zanzibar, 17 Shawal, 1285 (February 1, 1869).

YOU addressed us some time since with reference to the Indians under our protection and it was our intention to have answered you, when we learned that you had put up a notice at the Custom-house without waiting our reply, and now we are informed that you have imprisoned one of the Indians in question.

Now let it be known to you that we protest against this measure, and shall not assist you in compelling our subjects and those under our protection to free their slaves; and in the event of your forcing them to do so it will be against our will, and we shall be constrained to address a complaint of such proceedings to Her Majesty's Government.

Be this known to you.

Written on the 17th Shawal, 1285.

From your Friend,
MAJID BIN SAEED.

Inclosure 3 in No. 51.

Mr. Churchill to the Sultan of Zanzibar.

(After the usual compliments.)

Zanzibar, February 1, 1869.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Highness' letter of the 17th Shawal, relative to the measures that I have been instructed by the Government of India to take with a view to putting down the Trade in Slaves, which I lament to say is carried on in

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your Highness' dominions by certain natives of India under your Highness' protection. Your Highness has been pleased therein to protest against the adoption of such measures, and I am informed that I am not to expect any co-operation from you in carrying out my instructions, but that, on the contrary, you will be compelled to complain against me if I persist in freeing the slaves of the natives of India under your protection.

Your Highness will allow me, in the first place, to express my deep regret that ten days should have been allowed to pass without my being informed whether or no I could count upon your Highness' assistance in fulfilling the instructions of Government, and I now see with much pain that that assistance which you promised me when the question of the possession of slaves by the natives of India in Zanzibar was first mooted, is now withheld. I would now fain to bring to your Highness' recollection the agreement that was then made, namely, that the question should be referred to the Government of India for their decision, promising me your aid in carrying out the wishes of Government in the event of their being in conformity with my view of the question, and with this result in contemplation, your Highness was pleased to put up a notice forbidding all natives of India under your protection from selling their slaves, or otherwise getting rid of them before a reply came, and a list of the slaves of the said Indians was drawn up by your orders to serve as a check against their selling them. If now, after these promises, I do not receive at your hands that amount of assistance that is due to the Agent of the British Government to enable him to carry out his instructions in a proper manner, I shall be under the painful necessity of bringing the circumstance to the serious notice of Her Majesty's Government, who, it is needless for me to tell you, will be greatly pained to witness the attitude of your Highness in this matter.

This Agency does not in the least wish to interfere with your Highness' subjects, but the natives of India who, in order to carry on the Slave Trade, have placed themselves under your protection are not your subjects, and they cannot be admitted as such.

With regard to the individual whom I caused to be arrested for an attempt to sell one of his slaves, he is a native of India and amenable to British law, and it having been proved before the British Consular Court, in his own presence, and, furthermore, admitted by himself, that he purposed selling his slave in the public slave-market, by virtue of the powers vested in me by Her Majesty's Government, I have sentenced him to a fine of 500 dollars and to imprisonment until a suitable opportunity offers to send him to India.

Should your Highness object to keep the man in the fort you will be pleased to tell me so.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL,

Inclosure 4 in No. 51.

Mr. Churchill to the Sultan of Zanzibar.

(After the usual compliments.)

Zanzibar, February 20, 1869.

I HAVE already conveyed to your Highness verbally, through your Secretary Suliman bin Ali, the course I propose to follow with reference to the Kutchees and other natives of India holding slaves in your dominions, and I now have the honour to inform you in writing that, taking into consideration your Highness' goodwill with regard to the ultimate abolition of the Slave Trade on this coast, I am anxious to carry out the instructions of the Bombay Government in a manner agreeable to your Highness.

With this object in view, I will not object to allow the Kutchees under your protection the possession of the slaves they now hold, as shown in the register kept by Suliman bin Ali, provided they do not buy any more or sell those they have. This concession will have the effect of covering your Highness' *amour propre*, for, so long as the Kutchees under your protection do not traffic in slaves, I shall not interfere with them; but in order to keep a check over them, I should wish your Highness to order them to give you the names and description of their slaves.

Any Kutchee under your protection purchasing a slave or selling one shall be deemed to have committed a heinous crime, and shall be amenable to British jurisdiction; but if your Highness will pledge yourself to punish such individuals condignly, I will gladly suggest to the Bombay Government our non-interference.

All future arrivals from India shall be deemed amenable to British law in every way, and there shall be no excuse for their purchasing or holding slaves in your Highness' dominions.

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I shall also suggest, in compliance with your wishes, that natives of Zanzibar born of Indian parents may be allowed to elect their nationality after coming of age ; and that the Kutchees settled in Zanzibar before 1836, the date of the Rao's Proclamation regarding the Slave Trade, may be permitted to enjoy all the privileges of your Highness' subjects.

(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

Inclosure 5 in No. 51.

The Sultan of Zanzibar to Mr. Churchill.

(Translation.)

(After the usual compliments.) Zanzibar, 12 *Thil Karda*, 1285 (February 26, 1869).

YOUR letter has reached us, and its contents have been understood. Our friend Soliman conveyed to us your verbal message, and it was in exact accordance with the purport of your letter, namely, that you would allow the natives of Kutch to keep what slaves they had as a mark of deference towards us. We have to express to you our sincere thanks for this ; we believe that you are well disposed towards us, and we earnestly trust that the friendship happily existing between us will increase daily ; but the correspondence that passed between our Government and Colonels Pelly and Playfair, some time back, acknowledges our right to protect all natives of Kutch whose names are not inscribed in the Consular Register Books kept in Zanzibar, and to consider them as our own subjects in every way. You, however, latterly wished to pursue another course ; and it was then agreed to refer the matter to the Indian Government. When, a few days ago, you insisted on taking active measures in the matter, we purposed sending some one to the Government of India to represent our case.

You further state that, in future, all new arrivals from India shall be amenable to British law. We can easily understand that the natives of Bombay and Surat, and other parts of India subjugated by Great Britain, should be subject to your jurisdiction ; but that those who come from States that have not been conquered should be amenable to British law is at variance with the explanations previously given by Colonels Pelly and Playfair, namely, that if they have not elected the protection of the British Consulate, by writing their names in the Consular Register, their status shall be that of the Arabs, our subjects. Now, however, with a view to the maintenance of the friendly relations between us, we are willing to accept the position assumed by you, as explained in your letter under present acknowledgment, until such time as our Envoy may return from India, when we trust that the most perfect understanding will be arrived at on this subject between us.

This is from your friend Majid bin Saeed.

No. 52.

Mr. Churchill to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 17.)

(No. 7.)

My Lord,

Zanzibar, February 27, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of my despatch No. 20 of the 27th February, addressed to the Acting Chief Secretary, Bombay, relative to the mission of Seyd Mahomed bin Salim to London and his return to Zanzibar.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HY A. CHURCHILL.

Inclosure in No. 52.

Mr. Churchill to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay

Sir,

Zanzibar, February 26, 1869.

MAHOMED BIN SALIM, the Sultan's Envoy to Her Majesty's Court in London, returned to Zanzibar on the 11th instant.

He has brought me no letters, so that I am unacquainted officially with the result of his mission ; but from the Queen's letter to Seyd Majid, and Lord Clarendon's communication to His Highness, of which I have been allowed to take copies, which I have the

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honour to forward to you herein inclosed, I gather that Seyd Mahomed's mission has not been very successful. The Envoy states, however, that after the letters above mentioned were confided to him, he was received by Her Majesty in a most flattering manner, and that he was told by his Grace the Duke of Argyll, with reference to the subsidy, that, viewing the turn affairs had latterly taken in Oman, it was not likely that Her Majesty's Government would press Seyd Majid to continue its payment, and that his Grace had written in that sense to the Government of India.

His Highness the Sultan appears to have derived much gratification from the hope that is thus thrown out to him of ridding himself and his successors of the payment of a subsidy to Muscat, and I learn that he purposes sending an Envoy to Bombay, to the Right Honourable Sir Seymour Fitzgerald to plead his case before his Excellency as well as with reference to the cessation of the subsidy as to the usurpation of Throne of Muscat by one who does not belong to the Bue-Facedi family, His Highness has expressed a wish that I should see the Arabs who have latterly come from the shores of Arabia to invite him to wrest the Throne of Muscat out of the hands of Azan, but I have refused to hear them lest they should be led to believe that the undertaking might possibly be allowed by Her Majesty's Government.

Indeed, I have expressed myself in strong terms against the very notion of an invasion of Muscat from Zanzibar, but I must admit that the feeling is strong in favour of an expedition to Muscat.

The Muscat refugees without exception—and they are not a few—assure the Sultan that he has only to present himself in Oman to assure success; and mistaking the Sultan's silent inclination to the scheme for his assent, they have spread the report that after the aid of Kourhan, a month hence, he is to lead an expedition to Muscat, and the scarcity of money in Zanzibar of late has given a colour to this extravagant notion, I am assured that however much the scheme is popular and feasible in the mind of Seyd Majid, His Highness would not think of embarking in so bold an undertaking without the consent of the British Government, and I have taken great care to let him understand that it would not be tolerated, and that if he made the attempt he might make up his mind never to return to Zanzibar.

I do not believe His Highness would allow himself to be carried away on so perilous an enterprise by the flattery with which he is surrounded, although he has at his disposal three sailing ships of war, mounting seventy-four guns, besides two steamers, of which one is the "Shenandoah," well known during the recent American war, and several sailing-vessels which might be employed as transports. It will end, I presume, by his emptying his packets of the superfluous gold into the greedy hands of his sycophants; but I am thinking that if any step antagonistic to the policy of Her Majesty's Government were really to be contemplated, I should, under present circumstances, without any vessel of war at my disposal, be somewhat at a loss to check it, or even to communicate with Aden or the Seychelles to give timely notice of its existence; and this is a state of helplessness that I venture to bring strongly to the consideration of his Excellency the Governor in Council.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

No. 53.

Mr. Churchill to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 17.)

(No. 8.)
My Lord,

Zanzibar, March 1, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of my despatch No. 21 of the 1st March addressed to the Acting Chief Secretary, Bombay, relative to a letter received by the Sultan of Zanzibar from the Sheikh Ibrahim, of the Beni Yaa's tribe in the Persian Gulf.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع
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Inclosure 1 in No. 53.

Mr. Churchill to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir, *Zanzibar, March 1, 1869.*
HIS Highness the Sultan has been good enough to permit me to take a copy of a letter he has received from Sheikh Ibrahim bin Sultan, Chief of the Beni Yaa's tribe, whose head-quarters are at Abu Phabbei, in the Persian Gulf.

The letter relates as much to the Slave Trade as to the feelings of the tribes on the coast of Arabia towards Seyd Majid as their future ruler.

The inducements to carry on the Slave Trade are brought out with great force in the Sheikh's letter. His inability to stop it may or may not be feigned, but the information conveyed to us by his remarks go far to show that, until serious measures are taken, as well in the Persian Gulf as elsewhere, to punish the individuals who engage in this Traffic it will continue its course unaffected by our efforts to annihilate it.

It comes, I am afraid, to this, that so long as domestic slavery is allowed to flourish, the Slave Trade will exist. In no Mahometan state with which Her Majesty's Government is in friendly relations should domestic slavery be tolerated. The alliance of England is worth the sacrifice. Until then, our endeavours, however active and energetic, will no more keep this trade down, than grass will be stopped from growing by being trampled upon. Like vice of every kind, it will crop up wherever it has not been thoroughly eradicated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HY. A. CHURCHILL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 53.

The Chief of the Beni Yaas Tribe of Abu Phabbei to the Sultan of Zanzibar.

(Translation.) *23 Ramdan, 1285 (January 7, 1869).*
(After the usual compliments.)

YOU are no doubt aware of the occurrences of Oman, and what has taken place at Muscat, but we are ignorant of your intentions, though the people of Oman are all looking towards you. We trust that you will let us know what you purpose doing. Seyd Salim has come to Abu Phabbei with the object of getting the people to rise in his favour, but we do not believe he will succeed in inducing them to fight for him, as his proceedings in past times were not of the best; however, everything is in the hands of the Almighty.

Your gracious letter has reached me, and I was pleased to receive tidings of your health. Its main purport, namely, that we should warn the Northern Arabs from going to Zanzibar, has been understood. We did warn them, oh, my brother, and sent people to tell them, and made public your letter; but it will, I am afraid, have but little effect in keeping them back. The gains are so enormous that it is hopeless to think of stopping them. With ten baskets' worth of dates, that a man gets on credit, he can get 20 slaves at Zanzibar, worth 1,000 dollars. God is great. You may punish them condignly, if you like, by burning their dhows, or by putting them in irons, but if you do not punish them you had better let them alone, for we cannot do it. The greatest offenders are the people of Ras-el-Kheyma; were they put down, the others would soon stop; but words are not sufficient; on the contrary, words will increase their daring; but your consideration is superior to all.

(Sealed) IBRAHIM BIN SULTAN.

No. 54.

Mr. Grant Duff to Mr. Hammond.—(Received April 22.)

Sir, *India Office, April 21, 1869.*
WITH reference to your letter of the 10th instant, and to my reply dated 12th idem, I am now directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Lord Clarendon, copy of a despatch just received from the Government of India, with inclosure from the Government of Bombay, on the subject of the Zanzibar subsidy.

I am, &c.
(Signed) M. E. GRANT DUFF.

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Inclosure 1 in No. 54.

The Secretary to Government, Bombay, to the Secretary to the Government of India.

(No. 86.)

March 10, 1869.

I AM directed to acknowledge your letter of 5th ultimo, forwarding copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Secretary of State relative to the annual subsidy paid by the Sultan of Zanzibar to the Sultan of Muscat, and requesting an expression of the views of the Bombay Government on the several points raised by his Grace the Duke of Argyll.

2. The first question is, how far the faith of the British Government in India is pledged to enforce payment of the subsidy by the Sultan of Zanzibar to the present Ruler of Muscat.

3. It is suggested that although it was expressly stated in Lord Canning's award that the annual payment of 40,000 crowns was not to be understood as merely personal between the two Sultans Majid and Thoweynee, but was to extend to their respective successors, yet the fact of the term "inheritances" being applied to the possessions of the two Sultans, the inequality in which was to be adjusted by the annual payment, makes it doubtful whether the subsidy should still be considered as due from Zanzibar after the changes which have occurred in the ruling power at Muscat.

4. If this question is to be settled by a reference to the intention of Lord Canning, so far as this can be ascertained, it will be difficult to support the view that the term "successors" should be interpreted with the limitation suggested. It was shown by General Coghlan that constitutionally there could not be such a thing as a succession by inheritance to the Sultanat of either Muscat or Zanzibar, the validity of each succession being dependent on the will of the Arab tribes. Moreover the question of the succession to Syud Majid was discussed and was disposed of by the Government of India saying, that to offer any opinion about the rule of succession in Zanzibar would be travelling beyond the bounds of the question submitted for arbitration. (*Vide* paragraph 6 of Government of India's letter of 2nd April, 1861.)

5. As further showing that the term "successors" was used without any limitation as to the mode of succession, it may be noted that the permanency of the subsidy was made an article of the award rather out of policy than as settling any point in the dispute between the two Sultans. The dispute which led to the arbitration arose out of an arrangement for the payment of the subsidy, of which General Coghlan wrote in his 45th paragraph: "The arrangement as it stands has respect to the two brothers only; no provision whatever being made that it should continue in force beyond their own lifetime." And he added that "the strict letter of all we know of the mutual agreement might be held to sanction that limitation;" but he then goes on to argue that the arrangement ought to have been made as between the two States, and not merely as between the two brothers Majid and Thoweynee. And this view was adopted by the Bombay Government, who wrote in paragraph 14 of their Resolution: "Syud Thoweynee can hardly with honour resign the claims of his country, not merely his own claims, for a payment which is to determine with his own life." It is clear, therefore, that the British Government, holding that it was for the true interests of both States that a permanent motive should be given to Muscat to abstain from ambitious movements against Zanzibar, and holding also that it was for their own interests that the power of Muscat in the Persian Gulf should be permanently increased by the subsidy from Zanzibar, supplemented the arrangement made between the two brothers by declaring that it should hold good between their successors as well as between themselves.

6. It must be observed, further, that, in stating the terms which he submitted for adoption in order to settle the dispute between the two Sultans, General Coghlan did not use the word "inheritances," or any expression tending to limit his recommendation to an arrangement between families of the two Sultans; and the Government of Bombay, in submitting their opinion to the Government of India, in accordance with General Coghlan's recommendations, in the same manner evidently contemplated a permanent arrangement in no way dependent on any question of succession by inheritance as regards either Oman or Zanzibar. General Coghlan, indeed, suggested, in order to prevent any reopening of the dispute between the two States, that the Government of India should insist upon a subsidiary term being adopted to the effect that no cause whatever, other than an open attempt on the part of Seyd Thoweynee or his successors to infringe the independence of Zanzibar sovereignty, should be held to justify Syed Majid or his successors in withholding the stipulated subsidy.

7. In dealing with the third paragraph of the Secretary of State's letter, it appears
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to his Excellency in Council that his Grace is under some misapprehension as to what has lately occurred at Muscat. His Excellency in Council thinks that he is premature in considering that Seyd Azan bin Ghes can be considered as the successor of Seyd Salim, although for the present he appears to have partially established himself at Muscat; and, at any rate, the revolution which has taken place cannot be considered as a conquest of Muscat by the Wahabee Arab of the interior. Although holding some religious tenets in common with them, he is, on the contrary, hostile to the Wahabee power, and it is probable that, if the deposed Sultan regains power, it will be owing to Wahabee aid.

8. Without, therefore, going so far as to say that it is impossible that any such changes or revolutions should occur in the ruling power of Muscat as to render the decision of Lord Canning inapplicable, his Excellency in Council is clearly of opinion that, under the circumstances which now exist, the subsidy has not ceased to be legally payable according to the terms of the arbitration.

9. The question how far the faith of the British Government in India is pledged to enforce payment of the subsidy by the Sultan of Zanzibar, as stated in paragraph 6 of the Secretary of State's despatch, does not present itself to his Excellency in Council exactly in the form suggested in paragraph 7. The Secretary of State intimates that the question will arise as to whether the Government would be justified in refusing to allow the Sultan of Zanzibar to get rid of his liability to pay the subsidy by war. It is probable, however, that, if British compulsion were removed, the Sultan of Zanzibar would simply cease paying the subsidy, and the question which the Government would have to decide would be, whether they would be justified in refusing to the Sultan of Muscat the opportunity of enforcing his rights by war. His Excellency in Council is of opinion that in such a refusal the Government would not be justified. In connection with this subject, I am directed to draw attention to a letter of 20th November last, from the Acting Political Agent at Muscat, herewith inclosed.

10. As regards the second of the two questions stated by the Secretary of State in his 6th paragraph, namely, how far we have any political interest in desiring that the subsidy should continue to be paid, it appears to his Excellency in Council that the same reasons which existed when the arrangement was made exist now, and therefore, as a matter of policy, the payment of the subsidy to Muscat ought to be continued.

11. The question then arises whether we ought to take this payment on ourselves. In his paragraph 9 the Secretary of State suggests that by doing so we might secure adequate advantage on the side both of Zanzibar and Muscat to compensate us for the sacrifice. He adds that the payment, if assumed by us, would be a charge on the Indian revenues.

12. The advantage to be gained as regards Zanzibar is certain concessions in respect to the Slave Trade to which Her Majesty's Government attach a high value. But it appears to his Excellency in Council that this is so clearly an object of Imperial interest, that the revenues of India could not be justly charged with any payment in order to secure it; and his Excellency in Council would add that he believes this is the first time that a proposition has been made to burden the Indian revenues for such an object.

13. On the side of Muscat, the Secretary of State intimates that we might obtain important conditions as regards the peace and security of the Persian Gulf, which would amount to an equivalent of the money expended. His Excellency in Council would, however, observe that we obtain these conditions already by Treaty, and he does not see what further concessions could be obtained from Muscat in this direction which we do not possess already. If it is argued that, beyond the conditions referred to, the payment of the subsidy to Muscat would be advantageous to India by preventing serious complications in the Persian Gulf, his Excellency in Council believes that the same amount might be expended much more advantageously by placing at the disposal of the Government a force sufficient to insure that the existing Treaty should be observed, and to prevent any complications arising that may disturb the peace in the Persian Gulf.

14. Reviewing the whole circumstances, his Excellency in Council does not hesitate to express the opinion that it is undesirable that the existing relations between Zanzibar and Muscat should be disturbed.

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Inclosure 2 in No. 54.

The Acting Political Agent, Muscat, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

(No. 523.)

November 20, 1868.

WHILE Saleh-ben-Ali was with me yesterday, as reported in my letter of this date, he led the conversation on the subject of Zanzibar by alluding to the mission of Mahomed-ben-Salim to England, for the purpose of relieving His Highness Seyd Majid, if possible, from further payments of the subsidy to Muscat. He also alluded to the property possessed there by Muscat people, and his fears that it might be confiscated by Seyd Majid. He ended by stating that an expedition to Zanzibar would be so popular that he would experience no difficulty in getting 50,000 men to take part in it.

2. I pointed out to him that the Government of India had insisted on Seyd Majid fulfilling his part of the arbitration agreement with this State by causing him to pay, much against his will, all arrears of subsidy due to Seyd Salim, and that, whilst he might rely on strict justice being meted out to this State in every dispute arising with Zanzibar, it was my opinion that the Government of India would at once put a stop to any movement against the territory of Seyd Majid.

3. I further told him that the wild talk in the town for the last fortnight had not been lost on me, but that I had already warned Government that some such undertaking was contemplated. He said he had not thought of sending a force, but of going himself to Zanzibar to look after his interests there, and asked, if he went down as passenger in a British ship, whether the British would prevent Seyd Majid seizing him. I answered, I thought it probable that the Political Agent at that place would himself surrender him to His Highness Seyd Majid if he attempted any such thing. He thereupon laughed and turned the conversation.

4. I have considered it my duty to bring this short conversation to the notice of Government, as, though it was not meant to be in the least official, it confirms my fears, as previously reported in my letter of the 14th November. It is evident to me that this people dread not only the loss of the annual subsidy but also the confiscation of the property in Zanzibar of its individual members. In their present temper, therefore, I am strongly of opinion that Government should, if possible, take the precaution of relieving their minds from all apprehensions on these points, as the departure of Mahomed-ben-Salim's mission to Europe has been unfortunately specially ill-timed; and if it is successful, and no compensation is given to this State for the loss of its subsidy, we could not with justice interfere to prevent the nation asserting their assumed rights by force. Seyd Majid would then, I am afraid, find that the annual payment of 40,000 dollars was a cheap premium to insure the peace of his dominions.

5. Whilst I bring my fears to their notice, I trust I can confidently assure Government that no expedition will be permitted to leave while I have the honour to represent them at Muscat; but, at the same time, I must point out that it will be impossible to prevent the departure of emissaries for Zanzibar if these people are goaded into taking extreme measures. I therefore earnestly beg of them to do their utmost to prevail on Seyd Majid to abandon all idea of being relieved from future payments of the subsidy, and advise him to take especial care not to irritate this people by proceeding to measures of confiscation, as in the case of Seyd Hillal—measures to support which he cannot have the pretence of a right to offer, and which cannot now be carried out with impunity, as in the time of the weak Seyd Salim.

Inclosure 3 in No. 54.

The Acting Political Agent, Muscat, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

(No. 516.)

November 14, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to address Government on a matter which I think should attract their attention, as it relates to a contingency by no means remote, viz., an attempt to revolutionize Zanzibar by the parties who have been so successful in this respect at Muscat. I am the more induced to bring my fears to the notice of Government, as I apprehend the events which have transpired here may cause Seyd Majid to confiscate the property of Sheikhs Saleh-bin-Ali and Saeed-bin-Ali, and others of the Al-Harth and different tribes who own large sugar and clove plantations in his territory. A reference to my letter dated 22nd June last, will show that His Highness Seyd Majid is not incapable of such conduct.

"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع
لكبحها" [٦٥٦ ظ] (٧٢/٥٢)

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2. As directly bearing on this point, I would refer the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to the views expressed by Sir W. M. Coghlan in the Proceedings of the Zanzibar Commission, in my humble opinion the soundest that have ever been written on all questions relating to Oman. On pages 69 and 70 he states:—"Colonel Rigby, in his account of the preparation made by Seyd Majid to resist the expected invasion, represents the means at the disposal of the latter as ample to destroy any force brought against him, dwelling especially on the enthusiasm of the people in his cause. Subsequently, however, and long after the expedition of Seyd Thoweynee had returned to Muscat, his report of the state of affairs at Zanzibar led Government to conclude that the position of Seyd Majid was not secure,* and later still, on the occasion of the outbreak, when the Al-Harth Arabs rose in support of Seyd Bargash, all the force which Seyd Majid could bring against them was ineffectual, and the rising was not suppressed until assistance from three British mer.-of-war had been sent to co-operate with them, when, as it is averred, the Arabs yielded because they would not fight against the British.† Subsequent inquiry confirms me, rather than otherwise, in the obvious drift of the foregoing quotation. The elaborate account given by His Highness Seyd Majid‡ of the insurrection at Zanzibar in October 1859, divested of its vain colouring, shows that he was hard pressed by the insurgents, and Colonel Rigby, in attempting to reconcile a former statement of his, that the faction opposed to Majid was utterly contemptible with the position which that faction had secured on the occasion referred to, renders it highly probable that, without the opportune assistance of the British, the struggle would have been prolonged and the final result at least doubtful.§

"38. On the other hand, it is by no means certain that the success of the insurgents would have placed Zanzibar in the hands of Seyd Thoweynee. Colonel Rigby is of opinion that the Al-Harth were actuated by private aims, and availed themselves of Seyd Thoweynee's antagonism to Seyd Majid, not for his sake, but for their own, anxious, if possible, to get rid of the whole family of the late Imam.'"]

3. I do not pretend to any knowledge of Zanzibar, or of the state of the parties there, but I would beg Government to remember that it is an open town; that danger threatened Seyd Majid, on the occasion above referred to, from the Al-Harth tribe, of whom Saleh-bin-Ali, the man who plotted and so successfully carried out the late revolution here, is an influential chief; that this man himself took an important part in those events, and had to leave Zanzibar on that account; and that it is by no means impossible that the religious sentiment which has lately been so conspicuous here will be carried across the ocean, and play a part equally remarkable amongst the Arabs on the continent of Africa.

4. I feel convinced that it is from no spirit of mere braggadocio that such a scheme is now openly talked of in Muscat, but that the idea has taken root in the minds of the Chiefs, and is popular with their followers. It can, moreover, I fancy, be easily worked out by those with whom it emanated, as a few emissaries sent to Zanzibar in the name of the Imam are likely to be all that is required. The priests would probably be easily gained over, and there, as here, the Chiefs and people would follow.

5. It is therefore from no idea of exciting alarm, or of exaggerating the power and objects of the late movement, that I have penned this Report, but to put Government on their guard against a contingency by no means remote, and with a hope that they will warn Seyd Majid that any infringement of international rights, as in the case of Seyd Hillal, who has been identified with this movement from the first, in the cases of any persons who have been concerned in bringing about the late revolution, will most probably be visited on his head, if not by expulsion, at least by an attempt on the part (*sic*) to subvert his authority.

* Resolution of the Honourable Board, November 16, 1859.

† Muscat Report, paragraph 24.

‡ Appendix L.

§ Appendix B, reply to Query 15.

¶ Appendix B, reply to Query 14.

"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع
لكبحها" [٥٧و] [٧٢/٥٣]

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No. 51.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Grant Duff.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May 5, 1869.*
WITH reference to your letter of the 21st ultimo, and to former correspondence, I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you, to be laid before the Secretary of State for India in Council, a copy of a despatch forwarded to this office by Her Majesty's Agent and Consul at Zanzibar, and addressed by that officer to the Bombay Government, on the subject of the Mission of the Zanzibar Envoy to England, and of its results; and referring more especially to the payment of the Zanzibar subsidy to Muscat, and to the relations of the two States towards each other.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 56.

Mr. Merivale to Mr. Hammond.—(Received May 11.)

Sir, *India Office, May 10, 1869.*
WITH reference to your letter of the 5th instant, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Lord Clarendon, draft of a despatch relating to the subsidy paid by the Sultan of Zanzibar to the Sultan of Muscat, which his Grace proposes to address to the Government of India; and I am to request that you will move his Lordship to favour this officer with any opinions he may have to express upon the question to which the draft refers. The letter, with inclosures, from the Government of India, to which the proposed despatch is a reply, was forwarded to the Foreign Office with my letter of the 21st ultimo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 56.

The Governor-General of India in Council to the Duke of Argyll,

(No. 103.)

My Lord Duke,

Fort William, March 20, 1869.

WE have the honour, in continuation of the telegram despatched on the 17th instant, to reply to your Grace's despatch of the 6th of January last, regarding the subsidy which, under an arrangement effected by Lord Canning in 1861, is paid by the Ruler of Zanzibar to the Ruler of Muscat.

2. As your Grace is aware, we awaited the views of the Government of Bombay on this important subject, before replying to the despatch in question; and we have now the honour of forwarding a copy of a letter from that Government of the 10th instant, in which the whole case, as between the two States, is argued at some length, and with great lucidity and force.

3. We adopt, in their entirety, the arguments set forth in the letter in question, and we only desire to add a few remarks of our own.

4. We can have no doubt whatever, from an attentive consideration of the Minute of Lord Canning of the 26th of March, 1861, and from the letter which, on the 2nd of April following, he caused to be addressed to the Government of Bombay, an extract of which is quoted in the margin,* that it was that Statesman's intention to create a real right in the State of Muscat to the subsidy as well as a real obligation on the part of the State of Zanzibar to pay it. In using the word "inheritances," Lord Canning, it seems probable to us, merely meant to indicate that the then disputant parties claimed to succeed by

* Enclosure 5 of Political Despatch No. 165 of 1861:—

"5. The annual payment of 40,000 crowns is not to be understood as a recognition of any dependence of Zanzibar upon Muscat, neither is it to be considered as merely personal between Syud Thowanee and Syud Majid, but as a permanent arrangement, compensating the Ruler of Muscat for the abandonment of all claims upon Zanzibar, and adjusting the inequalities between the two inheritances, which are to be henceforward separate.

"6. The Governor-General in Council offers no opinion about the rule of succession in Zanzibar. To do so would, he considers, be travelling beyond the bounds of the question submitted for arbitration."

"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع
لكبحها" [٧٥٧ظ] (٧٢/٥٤)

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inheritance; and it is expressly stated, too, that he offered no opinion whatever on the questions of succession.

5. We are further of opinion, that the recent events which have occurred in Muscat ought not to be considered as having altered the relations between the two States, as far as this subsidy is concerned. We also think that the honour and good faith of the British Government are pledged to the continued payment of the subsidy, and that the political reasons which induced Lord Canning to effect the arrangement still exist in all their force and intensity.

6. We also concur with the Bombay Government in opinion that the revenues of India cannot be burdened with any portion of this payment; and all things considered, we do not see any reason for recommending that the present arrangement be modified or annulled.

We have, &c.
(Signed) MAYO.
H. M. DURAND.
H. S. MAINE.
J. STRACHEY.
R. TEMPLE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 56.

Draft Despatch to the Governor-General of India.

May , 1869.

I HAVE read with much interest, and considered with all the attention which the importance of the subject demands, the despatch of your Excellency's Government No. 100 of the 20th of March, 1869, with inclosure from the Government of Bombay, respecting the existing relations between Muscat and Zanzibar, especially in regard to the continued payment of the subsidy by the latter to the former State.

Her Majesty's Government have never, at any time, regarded the agreement entered into by the sons of Syud Saeed, under the arbitrament of the British Government in the light of a personal compact; and they were not disposed, therefore, so long as any direct successor of that Chief, should hold possession of Muscat, to declare that in their opinion the Ruler of Zanzibar was no longer under an obligation to pay the annual subsidy. But they have not considered that this obligation was an inheritable one, which no circumstances could affect; that if Muscat should fall into the hands of a foreign ruler or one with no hereditary claims to its possession, it would be incumbent on the British Government to maintain the original award. It would not be without just ground of complaint that the Ruler of Zanzibar would, in such a case, find himself called upon to contribute to the support of a Chief who has no claim upon his friendship on the score of kindred, and whose interests may be altogether antagonistic to his own. It appears to me that it was always intended that some dynastical limitations should restrict the award, which originally was accepted as a family compact, and that it was not intended that the Muscat State should receive this contribution from Zanzibar, under all circumstances, whether the country be held by an Arab, a Persian, or a Turkish Chief.

The question then is as to the point at which the limitation should be fixed. Adverting to the circumstances out of which the arbitration arose, I cannot avoid the conclusion that it was intended to confer the right of succession to all the benefits of the award upon any of the descendants of Syud Saeed who might be recognized as Sultan of Muscat, but not to extend it to strangers or to members of the family in more remote degrees of consanguinity. In this view of the case I should not be prepared to enforce the payment of the subsidy to Syud Ajan, who, at the date of the last advices which I have received was the *de facto* Ruler of Muscat. But I am not unmindful of the fact that two of the direct descendants of Syud Saeed, viz., Syud Salim and Syud Toorkhee, are making demonstrations with the object of expelling Syud Ajan, and that another revolution may place one or other of these chiefs at the head of the Government of Muscat. Whilst affairs are in this unsettled state, it would obviously not be expedient to release the Ruler of Zanzibar from the payment of the subsidy, as circumstances might again render him justly liable to the disbursement, and if he should once receive an acquittance he might consider it a greater hardship than before to be called upon to make the payment. But as I understood that by a recent arrangement the money is now paid through the Bombay Government, it might be held in trust, pending the struggles for supremacy which are imminent, and the Sultan of Zanzibar might be informed that if the succession to the Chiefship of Muscat should pass out of the

Not secret

*Suere -
inalienable*

"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع
لكبحها" [٥٨و] (٧٢/٥٥)

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family of his father, the money deposited by him in the interim would be returned to him and he would be released from all further payments.

In such a case it would, of course, be necessary, to fix some period, at the end of which, if the family of Syud Saeed should not recover possession of Muscat, the subsidy payments should be restored to the Sultan of Zanzibar, but this might be left for future decision.

No. 57.

Mr. Otway to Mr. Merivale.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 29, 1869.

I HAVE laid before the Earl of Clarendon your letter of the 10th instant, inclosing the draft of a despatch which the Duke of Argyll proposes to address to the Government of India relative to the subsidy paid by the Sultan of Zanzibar to the Sultan of Muscat, and requesting to be favoured with any opinions which his Lordship may have to offer upon the questions to which the draft relates.

Lord Clarendon desires me, in reply, to state that he has some difficulty in offering an opinion upon matters on which he has not the same detailed information that is possessed by the Secretary of State for India, and on which, therefore, he has not the same opportunity of forming a correct judgment.

It appears, however, to his Lordship that it would be a more satisfactory solution of the Zanzibar and Muscat question if we were to accept the *de facto* state of things, and to declare that the arrangement which we brought about in 1861, between the sons of the late Imaum of Muscat, having lapsed by reason of the revolution that has recently taken place in that State, Her Majesty's Government no longer feel themselves called upon to compel the Sultan of Zanzibar to continue the payment of the subsidy to Muscat.

Lord Clarendon is of opinion that it is open to Her Majesty's Government to adopt this course, and that it would be good policy to do so, and thus to relieve the Indian authorities from an embarrassing engagement. His Lordship does not understand on what ground it is sought by the Indian Government to maintain that the payment of the subsidy by Zanzibar to Muscat is an engagement between State and State, and has no reference to family considerations. If Lord Clarendon is rightly informed, the arrangement in regard to the subsidy, which was originally made between the two sons of the late Imaum of Muscat, Sultan Majid and Sultan Thoweynee, had respect to the two brothers only, no provision whatever being made for its continuance beyond their own lifetime; and it was only by a decision of the Government of India that it was sought to extend the arrangement as between State and State. But, whatever may have been the considerations which at that time influenced the Indian authorities to extend a personal compact into an engagement between State and State, the revolution which has recently taken place in Muscat has entirely altered the state of things, and, in his Lordship's opinion, it would be manifestly unjust to compel Sultan Majid to pay a subsidy to the present Ruler of Muscat, who has no claims whatever upon him, and not only has deprived Sultan Majid's relatives of the Chiefship of Muscat, but has also, if Lord Clarendon is rightly informed, confiscated the private property of some of his relatives which fell into his power.

Lord Clarendon is glad to perceive, from the tenor of the proposed draft to the Governor-General of India, that the Duke of Argyll is not prepared to enforce the payment of the Zanzibar subsidy to Syud Azan the present Ruler of Muscat. His Grace, however, would appear to be of opinion that, as by a recent arrangement the amount of the subsidy is paid by the Sultan of Zanzibar to the Bombay Government, it might be held in trust by that Government during the struggles for supremacy in Muscat which are supposed to be imminent, to be returned to Sultan Majid, should the Chiefship of Muscat pass definitively away from his family.

Upon this point, Lord Clarendon desires me to submit, for the consideration of the Duke of Argyll, whether the fact of the subsidy being held in deposit by the Indian authorities for an indefinite period, on the chance of one of the direct descendants of Sayu Sayed regaining the Chiefship of Muscat, it may not be calculated to act as an inducement to the dispossessed Chiefs to attempt to reconquer the Throne of Muscat, and thus be the means of perpetuating hostilities which it might be better policy to discourage. His Grace will probably be better enabled to arrive at a correct judgment in this matter than Lord Clarendon. His Lordship desires me, however, to state that, as far as Imperial interests are concerned, it would materially assist Her Majesty's Government in making arrangements with the Sultan of Zanzibar for the suppression of the Slave Trade on the

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East Coast of Africa, if His Highness were absolved from the payment of this subsidy ;
and Lord Clarendon would, therefore, learn with satisfaction that it had been found
compatible with Indian interests and engagements to make this concession to the
Sultan.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. J OTWAY.

No. 58.

Dr. Kirk to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 8.)

(No. 9.)

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of my despatch No. 25 of the 5th of April,
addressed to C. Gonne, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay, relative to a compli-
mentary letter and present from the Sultan of Zanzibar to General C. P. Rigby, late Her
Majesty's Political Agent and Consul here.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN KIRK.

Inclosure in No. 58.

Dr. Kirk to the Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor
in Council, that His Highness Seyd Majid has addressed a complimentary letter to
General Rigby, formerly the Right Honourable the Governor's Agent here, and accompanied
this by a sword of honour, a piece of embroidered cloth, and an elephant's tusk of unusual
length and weight.

These presents His Highness intends as an acknowledgment of services rendered
spontaneously by General Rigby to his Ambassadors Seyd Mohamed bin Salem and suite
during their mission to Her Majesty in England.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN KIRK.

No. 59.

Dr. Kirk to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 8.)

(No. 10.)

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of my despatch No. 27 of the 6th of April,
addressed to the Secretary to Government, Bombay, relative to Mr. Churchill's departure
for Europe *vid* Cape of Good Hope on sick leave.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN KIRK.

Inclosure in No. 59.

Dr. Kirk to the Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of the Right Honourable the
Governor in Council, that H. A. Churchill, Esq., C.B., His Excellency's Agent here, has
been obliged, from bad health, to leave his post suddenly, and pass on his trust into my
hands.

You are aware that Mr. Churchill's health suffered severely in September last ; and
that he had in consequence to quit Zanzibar on medical certificate. He was then advised
to proceed to Bombay, it being the cool season there at that time, and not to return to the
African coast until his health should be re-established.

"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع
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We were therefore much disappointed to find that, deceived by the improvement he felt when at sea, Mr. Churchill returned to his duties after an absence of only one month, thus exposing himself to the hottest and most trying portion of the year at Zanzibar.

As had been anticipated by all the medical men who have had the opportunity of observing him, the improvement did not last long. Two months had not passed before he was again showing signs of a return of the former symptoms, and before three months had expired Mr. Churchill was prostrate; and from that time he has not been able to enter into business, or even to pass over the work in a regular manner.

Mr. Churchill's removal from Zanzibar is imperative. Another attack such as he has had would surely be the last, and such will undoubtedly return if he remains here. To go to Bombay is at present impossible, and, if practicable, it would be unadvisable during the hot season. Aden is equally inaccessible. Our isolated position here will be imagined when I mention that, for four months, we have not received an European mail, and have little prospect of getting our letters for several months to come. Therefore I have strongly urged Mr. Churchill to embark for the Cape of Good Hope on board of a fine, commodious steam-vessel, the "Tynemouth," which proceeds thither direct. From the Cape Mr. Churchill will proceed to London, and there report himself to the India Office.

Nothing but the most urgent necessity could justify such a course as this; but I trust that his Excellency the Governor will see that the necessity did exist, when I assure him that it is to save Mr. Churchill's life that this course has been followed; and I think that rest at home will save to Government an able servant, who has done good service in the East, long before he came to Zanzibar.

I have the honour to forward inclosed copies of documents to be placed before the medical authorities at home, with which Mr. Churchill goes provided.

In judging of my position, his Excellency, I trust, will bear in mind that, for the past month, I have carried on the daily work of the Agency single-handed, while in attendance also upon Mr. Churchill during his serious illness; and that I have taken over the accounts and work of the Consulate and Agency without having been able to ask my superior a question, or refer to him for advice; and I shall continue to administer the duties until his Excellency shall have time to communicate to me his wishes on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN KIRK.

No. 60.

Dr. Kirk to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 11.)

(No. 11.)
My Lord,

Zanzibar, April 16, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose under flying seal to the care of your Lordship for transmission to the High Court of Admiralty, the copies of decisions in favour of Captain Meara, the officers and men of Her Majesty's ship "Nymph," for the capture of ten dhows, which have been duly tried and condemned in this Vice-Admiralty Court.

I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the proceedings in this Court have been carefully watched by an Agent of His Highness the Sultan in defence of his subjects' property.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN KIRK.

No. 61.

Dr. Kirk to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 11.)

(No. 12.)
My Lord,

Zanzibar, April 16, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of my despatches of the 10th and 12th April, addressed to the Secretary to Government, Bombay, relative to the proceedings of Her Majesty's ship "Nymph."

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN KIRK.

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"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع
لكبحها" [٥٩ ظ] (٧٢/٥٨)

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Inclosure 1 in No. 61.

Dr. Kirk to the Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

Zanzibar, April 10, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, that Her Majesty's "Nympe," under the command of E. S. Meara, Esq., Commander in Her Majesty's Royal Navy, arrived in this port on the 9th instant, from a cruise off the north-west coast of Madagascar, and the coast of East Africa, between Delgado and Zanzibar.

Captain Meara has placed in my hands for adjudication, as Acting Judge in the Vice-Admiralty Court, sixteen dhows which he has taken and destroyed on the grounds that they were engaged in the Slave Trade. As many of these vessels were the property of wealthy natives, I anticipate considerable delay and trouble in the settlement of these cases.

Captain Meara tells me that to the south almost every dhow is now under the French flag; that when last year only five dhows with the French flag were seen by the "Nympe" during her cruise, in the same parts this year there are fifty, and that so well do the natives know with what jealousy France protects her rights, that dhow owners told him plainly that he no right to touch them even if they had a cargo of slaves, politely showing their papers at the same time.

These papers he found in all cases drawn up regularly.

There is no doubt that very soon the French flag will be the only one in use on this coast, giving, as it does, perfect protection alike to the honest trader and the regular slaver.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN KIRK.

Inclosure 2 in No. 61.

Dr. Kirk to the Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

Zanzibar, April 12, 1869.

IN continuation of my despatch of the April, 1869, I have now the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor in Council, what happened subsequent to the arrival of Her Majesty's ship "Nympe" at Zanzibar.

At about half-past 1 on the morning of the 11th instant, I received private information from Sheikh Suliman bin Ali Wizur to the Sultan, whose name, for obvious reasons, it is particularly desirable should not appear, that the northern Arabs were engaged in embarking slaves at a point within rifle-shot of the Consulate.

I at once communicated this to Commander E. S. Meara, of Her Majesty's ship "Nympe," requesting him to send boats immediately in order to learn the truth, and seize the dhow if found.

Before an hour had elapsed two cutters, commanded by Lieutenants Clarke and Hodgson respectively, were alongside a dhow on the spot indicated. She lay within twenty paces of the beach, where were assembled about thirty armed Arabs guarding a crowd of slaves.

On boarding the dhow, she was found to be half full of slaves. The few Arabs then in the vessel jumped overboard and swam on shore, leaving the dhow and slaves in the hands of the boats' crews.

The Arabs on shore then fired on our sailors, killing one seamen, and wounding Mr. Hodgson severely in the hand.

Under a murderous fire kept up from the beach, the boats' crews, behaving with the greatest coolness and gallantry, succeeded in towing off the prize.

When alongside the ship, I examined some of the slaves as to how they had been taken, and by whom, and I also seized thirty private letters, the greater part of which proved to be invoices and advices of shipment of slaves, with prices and charges on them.

This consignment was meant for Ras el Had and Jailan, the country of the Beni bu Ali and Beni bu Hassan, subjects to the Sultan of Muscat.

Part of the correspondence was of a political nature, which led to the immediate arrest of several influential men in town.

I have asked the Sultan to secure all those engaged in this shipment of slaves, as the originators of the outrage, and I feel assured that Seyd Majid will assist me in bringing them to judgment.

"أوراق تتعلق بتجارة الرقيق على الساحل الشرقي لأفريقيا والنظام المتبع
لكبحها" [٦٠] (٧٢/٥٩)

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His Highness has replied by placing the dhow and slaves at the disposal of Her Majesty's ship "Nymphe," although taken in his own harbour, and warmly approved of my proceedings, condoling with us on the loss we have sustained.

This dhow will accordingly be condemned in the Vice-Admiralty Court as a prize to the officers and crew of Her Majesty's ship "Nymphe."

His Highness' Secretary, Sheikh Suliman bin Ali, is now engaged in examining the slaves as to where, and by whom, they had been sold, in order that all concerned may meet with punishment.

I trust that His Highness' conduct on this occasion, and the gallantry of the officers and men engaged in this capture, may meet with the approbation of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN KIRK.

Inclosure 3 in No. 61.

Dr. Kirk to the Sultan of Zanzibar.

(After the usual compliments.)

Zanzibar, April 11, 1869.

IT is my duty to bring to your Highness' notice at the earliest opportunity, what happened last night between certain Arabs under your Highness' jurisdiction, and two boats' crews of Her Majesty's ship "Nymphe."

Having learned that certain Arabs were embarking slaves at Nasimoja at midnight, I gave information of the fact to the Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Nymphe," and requested him to send immediately for the purpose of learning the truth of the report.

Captain Meara at once sent two boats to the spot.

They had no sooner arrived and seen that, indeed, upwards of 100 slaves had been embarked, and that many more remained on shore, under guard of about thirty Arabs, than the Arabs fired upon the English boats from the shore, killing one man, and wounding most seriously one of the officers in command.

When attacked, the boats returned the fire on the Arabs and towed off the dhow, containing slaves numbering 135, notwithstanding the firing of the Arabs.

When first attacked, the boats were only thirty paces from the beach, so that every shot told against them; and I consider that the crews behaved most gallantly in thus succeeding in taking off the dhow and slaves.

I have now to demand of your Highness what I know it will be a true pleasure for you to grant; that is, the seizure of all suspected to have been engaged in this affair, and the punishment of those convicted.

The slaves now on board Her Majesty's ship "Nymphe" will identify the house in which they have been secreted, and which is well known, and the correspondence taken out of the dhow will throw more light still on the authors of this outrage.

I have the honour to inclose a list of those who shipped slaves in the dhow, that they may be seized.

(Signed) JOHN KIRK.

Inclosure 4 in No. 61.

Abstract of Correspondence seized on board of the Dhow taken on 12th April, 1869.

THE capture of correspondence intended for Arabia, which was made in the dhow taken on the morning of the 12th instant in Zanzibar harbour by Her Majesty's ship "Nymphe," shows clearly that the people of Jailan and Ras el Hadd, especially the Beni boo Hassan, are deeply implicated in the outrages yearly committed by the Northern Arabs who frequent these parts during the north monsoon for no other purpose but that of the Slave Trade.

One third of the letters taken contain lists and prices of slaves shipped in this dhow, and to whom they are consigned. Some refer to shipments that have already taken place. All complain of the present high price of slaves, and one man writes that, in consequence of Seyd Majid's vigilance, he cannot safely execute an order for slaves at the present time.

In general, the letters speak highly of the strength of Seyd Majid's Government,

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which they seem to regret. One, however, holding a contrary opinion, informs his friends in Jailan that "Majid's fire has gone out."

He prays that Argan bin Kees may long reign to conquer the world, and that soon they may divide the spoil of the enemy.

Treason such as this has met with a speedy punishment, only to be obtained in despotic countries.

The common opinion expressed in all is, that Majid's own wish is to attack Oman, drive out Azan bin Kees, and restore his own family to power; but no one professes to know when this expedition will take place, nor does any one say that Seyd Majid has ever openly declared his intention of going.

No. 62.

Dr. Kirk to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 11.)

(No. 13.)
My Lord,

Zanzibar, April 16, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of my despatch No. 134, of the 13th April, addressed to the Secretary to Government, Bombay, relative to a diamond ring presented by His Highness Seyd Majid to Mr. Churchill.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN KIRK.

Inclosure 1 in No. 62.

Dr. Kirk to the Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

Zanzibar, April 13, 1869.

ON Mr. Churchill's departure from Zanzibar, there was placed in my hands a letter from His Highness the Sultan, of which letter a translation is annexed, accompanied by a handsome diamond ring, which may be worth 2,000 rupees.

The Right Honourable the Governor in Council will observe, from the tenor of the Sultan's letter, that His Highness desires Mr. Churchill to accept this ring as a token of friendship, under the sanction of Government, pending which, I have placed the ring in the Agency Treasury.

His Highness' wish is, that the ring should not be sold or disposed of, as is usually the case with presents made to officers; but that being an heirloom of his father's, it may be returned should his Excellency the Governor in Council not permit Mr. Churchill's acceptance of it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN KIRK.

Inclosure 2 in No. 62.

Suliman bin Ali to Mr. Churchill.

(Translation.)

23 Shilhaj, 1285 (April 8, 1869).

(After the usual compliments.)
MY Master, His Highness Seyd Majid, desires your acceptance of the accompanying diamond ring. He wishes me to say that this ring has been worn by his father, Seyd Saeed bin Sultan, and by himself, and he would have you take it as a remembrance of himself.

His Highness hopes that the English Government may allow you to accept and wear this ring as a token of friendship.

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No. 63.

Dr. Kirk to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 23.)

(No. 14.)

My Lord,

Zanzibar, April 22, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of my despatch No. 35, of the 22nd April, addressed to the Secretary to Government, Bombay, relative to the Slave Trade, and outrage by slavers on a boat's crew of Her Majesty's ship "Nymphe," for which the Sultan of Muscat is answerable.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN KIRK.

Inclosure in No. 63.

Dr. Kirk to the Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

Zanzibar, April 22, 1869.

OWING to the absence of Her Majesty's cruisers at the time when the southerly monsoon first set in, many slaves had been taken north, previous to the arrival of Her Majesty's ship "Nymphe" at Zanzibar.

In consequence of the capture of slaves made on the morning of the 11th instant, which I have had the honour to report, and the strenuous exertions of Seyd Majid, the export of slaves was arrested; but it was known that many hundreds were secreted both in town and country, ready for shipment to Arabia, on the departure of Her Majesty's ship "Nymphe."

Captain Meara has accordingly sailed, ostensibly for Seychelles, having on board a general mail and passengers; but before proceeding thither, he will return to the African coast, and lay in wait for slave dhows to the north of Pemba.

As had been anticipated, on the night subsequent to the "Nymphe's" departure, when no danger was looked for by the Arabs, slaves were openly embarked; and I have much pleasure in bringing to the knowledge of his Excellency the Governor in Council, that one dhow, containing 50* slaves, was seized in harbour by Seyd Majid's soldiers.

This is a step which, I confess, I did not expect His Highness would have taken, in the absence of an English man-of-war, as these Northern Arabs are a turbulent race, ready to resist our own sailors when their slave-trading is meddled with.

It will be seen by his Excellency, from what has taken place this season, that the Northern Slave Trade is far from being suppressed, and that the means now adopted are quite insufficient to check it effectually. Every year, Arabs of Oman, subjects of the Sultan of Muscat, come to Zanzibar, with a few dates, cloths, and other trifling articles, which they exchange for slaves.

During the three months of their stay in Zanzibar, they are a constant menace to the Sultan, and should Seyd Majid attempt severe measures to stop their slavery, they would set his power openly at defiance.

The position of His Highness is, in this respect, one of peculiar embarrassment. Anxious to keep the good opinion of the English at a time when he has much to ask of us, he still hankers after a good name among the people of Oman, whom he looks on, and with justice, as a race superior to their descendants,—the Arabs of Zanzibar.

I do not myself believe that His Highness contemplates an expedition to Muscat, for the purpose of re-establishing his family on the Throne; but I have thought proper to make it plainly understood that no such adventure could be tolerated by the Indian Government; and it is the interest of Zanzibar to have as few relations as possible with Eastern Arabia.

As the late outrage on the boats of Her Majesty's ship "Nymphe," in which one seaman was killed, and two officers severely wounded, is clearly proved to have been the work of the Beni boo Hassan, a powerful Omanee tribe, of Ras el Hadd, subjects of Muscat, I would respectfully suggest that the Sultan of Muscat be held responsible for this act of his subjects, and called upon to bring this tribe to punishment by fine or otherwise.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN KIRK.

* It has since been ascertained that all these were stolen, not a single one bought. This dhow also belonged to Muscat Arabs.

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No. 64.

Dr. Kirk to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 28.)

(No. 15.)

My Lord,

Zanzibar, April 23, 1869.

I DO myself the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 2 of the 10th of March, relative to the rapid increase in the number of native craft under the protection of the French flag.

Your Lordship will find this subject alluded to in my despatch No. 30 of the 10th of April, addressed to the Secretary to Government of Bombay, of which a copy has been addressed to your Office.

I will add that, in consequence of the sudden departure of Her Majesty's ship "Nympe," I was unable to inclose a copy of the letter which Captain Meara proposed addressing to Sir L. Heath on this subject, and which will be accompanied by the depositions of the various boarding officers sent for the purpose of verifying the genuineness of the flag, when used in suspicious looking vessels.

I will mention that Captain Meara states that where there were five French flags last year, this season he found fifty, and that although he made a rule of boarding them, in no case did he find the ship's papers irregular. He was told, in at least one case, that although there were negroes on board, he had no right to inquire whether they were slaves or free, and he stated to me that if the system of getting the French flag continued much longer, our efforts in the seas between Zanzibar and Madagascar for the suppression of the Slave Trade would be fruitless.

Among the European and American merchants in Zanzibar there is now a demand for coasting craft under the French flag. In a native dhow there is always the risk that some one of the crew or passengers may buy a slave, and so compromise the freight which has been placed on board in good faith; and therefore a flag which defies scrutiny has obvious advantages.

Mistakes may also occur from a crew composed of negroes being taken for slaves; and there are cases still more difficult, in which the crew are slaves, but working for wages, a portion of which goes to the master; yet these slaves are sufficiently free to go to India and return to Zanzibar.

Of the fact that the French flag is rapidly covering the Arab native craft there can be no doubt, and it is greatly to be regretted that it has been found impossible to grant the English flag even to born subjects of British India who may enter into the coasting trade. These men are reduced to flying the red flag of the Arabs for want of a better, and this, in the eyes of our cruisers, is always a most suspicious colour.

Referring your Lordship, therefore, to the Commanders of Her Majesty's vessels in these seas, especially to Captain E. S. Meara of Her Majesty's ship "Nympe," for full particulars as to the use made of the French flag.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN KIRK.

No. 65.

Lieutenant-Colonel Disbrowe to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 31.)

(No. 247.)

My Lord,

Muscat, April 30, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, copy of a communication I have this day addressed to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, soliciting the opinion and temporary instructions of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, relative to the amount of jurisdiction that may be lawfully exercised by me over vessels captured on suspicion of being engaged in the Slave Trade within the dominions of the Sultan of Muscat.

2. No Sultan and no Government having as yet been recognized at Muscat by Her Majesty's Government, doubts have arisen in my mind as to how far I am justified in adjudicating in the matter of slavers or suspected slavers, seized within dominions appertaining to the sovereignty of Muscat.

3. I do myself the honour to solicit your Lordship's instructions on this subject, and as I have found it necessary to obtain advice and opinion from the Right Honourable the Governor in Council of Bombay for my temporary guidance, I venture respectfully to suggest, for your Lordship's consideration, whether it would not be to the interest of Her

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Majesty's service were transcript of your Lordship's instruction to me on this head communicated simultaneously to his Excellency the Governor in Council of Bombay.

4. All danger of misapprehension of instructions would thus be removed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT DISBROWE.

Inclosure in No. 65.

Lieutenant-Colonel Disbrowe to the Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

Muscat, April 30, 1869.

IN paragraph 29 of my printed instructions, making provision for the exercise of Consular jurisdiction in Muscat, and received from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, through Her Majesty's Government of Bombay, I find the following command:—

"And it is further ordered that Her Majesty's Consul within the dominions of the Sultan of Muscat shall, for and within the said dominions, and for vessels coming within those dominions, and in regard to vessels captured on suspicion of being engaged in the Slave Trade within those dominions, have all such jurisdiction as for the time being ordinarily belongs to Courts of Vice-Admiralty in Her Majesty's possessions abroad."

2. The order referred to being Consular, the course regular for me to pursue is to apply direct to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs for instructions, should doubt arise in my mind relative to action that may become necessary consequent upon the existing order. But as weeks must elapse ere I can receive replies from Her Majesty's Secretary of State, and as Her Majesty's steam-ship "Dryad," Royal Navy, is engaged at this instant on duties of Slave Trade suppression in Muscat waters, I have deemed it to the interests of Her Majesty's service that I should solicit for my guidance the opinion and instructions of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council on the following subject:—

3. No Sultan or Government having been recognized up to date at Muscat by Her Majesty's Government, have I or have I not the authority to adjudicate in the matter of vessels captured on suspicion of being engaged in the Slave Trade within the dominions of the Sultan of Muscat?

4. A copy of a communication addressed by me to-day to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs on this subject is inclosed for the information of his Excellency the Governor in Council.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERBERT DISBROWE.

No. 66.

*Mr. Otway to Sir F. Rogers.**

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 5, 1869.

I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to request that you will state to Earl Granville that the officer in command of Her Majesty's naval forces on the East Coast of Africa has applied to his Lordship through the Admiralty for information as to the condition and distribution of the slaves that have been liberated at the Mauritius and the Seychelles.

Lord Clarendon has not the means of supplying the information asked for, but his Lordship is of opinion that it might be desirable that the Commanders of Her Majesty's cruisers engaged in the suppression of the Slave Trade on the East Coast of Africa should be in possession of the information applied for by the Commodore, in order that they may be enabled to exercise their judgment as to which place it may be most desirable to send the captured negroes; and Lord Clarendon would be glad, therefore, if Lord Granville would have the goodness to procure the required information from the Governors of the Mauritius and the Seychelles, and communicate the same to this Department, so far as the above-mentioned officers may have the means of furnishing it.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. J. OTWAY.

* A similar letter was addressed to the India Office.

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No. 67.

Mr. Otway to Mr. Merivale.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June 7, 1869.*
I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you, to be laid before the Duke of Argyll, the accompanying copies of a despatch and its inclosures from Lieutenant-Colonel Disbrowe, Her Majesty's Political Agent and Consul at Muscat,* stating that no Sultan and no Government having as yet been recognized by Her Majesty's Government in that country, doubts have arisen in his mind as to how far he is justified in adjudicating in the matter of slaves and slavers seized within dominions appertaining to the Sovereign of Muscat, and he accordingly requests instructions for his guidance on this subject.

His Grace will perceive, also, that Colonel Disbrowe has written in the same sense to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, and that he suggests that a transcript of the instructions which Lord Clarendon may address to him in this matter should be communicated simultaneously to the Governor in Council of Bombay.

Lord Clarendon desires me to state that he is not aware of the nature of the instructions referred to by Colonel Disbrowe as having been addressed to him by the India Office, in November 1867, No. 92; but his Lordship is of opinion that the fact of the present Ruler of Muscat not having been recognized by Her Majesty's Government in no way affects the policy to be pursued towards Muscat in regard to the suppression of the Slave Trade; and that Colonel Disbrowe should, therefore, continue to act as has heretofore been the custom in adjudicating in the matter of slaves and suspected slavers.

I am to add that, if the Duke of Argyll concurs in Lord Clarendon's views, his Lordship will instruct Lieutenant-Colonel Disbrowe accordingly; and I am to suggest that his Grace will probably think it right to send instructions in the same sense to the Government of Bombay.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. J. OTWAY.

No. 68.

The Earl of Clarendon to Dr. Kirk.

(No. 5.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, June 7, 1869.
I OBSERVE in your despatch No. 35 of the 22nd of April last, addressed to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, that you report that at Muscat a dhow containing 50 slaves, all of whom had been stolen by Northern Arabs in Zanzibar, had been seized in harbour by Sultan Majid's soldiers, and you add that this is a step that you did not expect His Highness would have taken in the absence of an English man-of-war.

I have to instruct you to take an opportunity of acknowledging and thanking His Highness, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, for this act of vigour on his part.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 69.

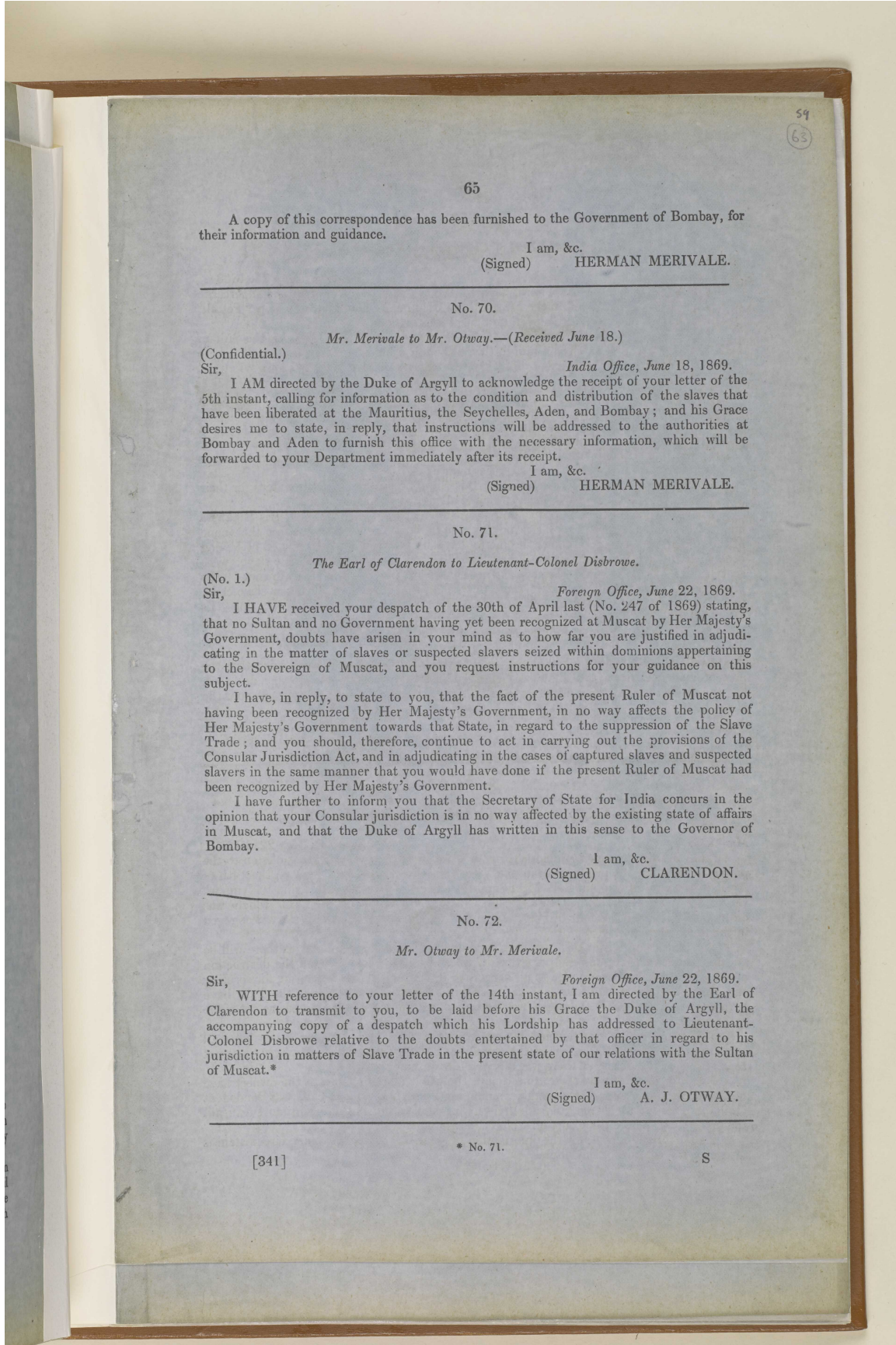
Mr. Merivale to Mr. Otway.—(Received June 15.)

Sir, *India Office, June 14, 1869.*
IN reply to your letter of the 7th instant, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to acquaint you, for the information of Lord Clarendon, that he entirely concurs in opinion with his Lordship, that Lieutenant-Colonel Disbrowe's Consular jurisdiction is in no way affected by the existing state of affairs in Muscat.

The instructions to which you refer, as communicated to Colonel Disbrowe in Bombay Political despatch dated 23rd November, 1867, consisted of the Order in Council of the 4th of November, 1867, regulating Consular jurisdiction in the dominions of the Ruler of Muscat, furnished to this Department from the Foreign Office in compliance with the request contained in Lord Clinton's letter of the 15th August, 1867.

* No. 65.

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A copy of this correspondence has been furnished to the Government of Bombay, for their information and guidance.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

No. 70.

Mr. Merivale to Mr. Otway.—(Received June 18.)

(Confidential.)
Sir,

India Office, June 18, 1869.

I AM directed by the Duke of Argyll to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant, calling for information as to the condition and distribution of the slaves that have been liberated at the Mauritius, the Seychelles, Aden, and Bombay; and his Grace desires me to state, in reply, that instructions will be addressed to the authorities at Bombay and Aden to furnish this office with the necessary information, which will be forwarded to your Department immediately after its receipt.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

No. 71.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lieutenant-Colonel Disbrowe.

(No. 1.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, June 22, 1869.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 30th of April last (No. 247 of 1869) stating, that no Sultan and no Government having yet been recognized at Muscat by Her Majesty's Government, doubts have arisen in your mind as to how far you are justified in adjudicating in the matter of slaves or suspected slavers seized within dominions appertaining to the Sovereign of Muscat, and you request instructions for your guidance on this subject.

I have, in reply, to state to you, that the fact of the present Ruler of Muscat not having been recognized by Her Majesty's Government, in no way affects the policy of Her Majesty's Government towards that State, in regard to the suppression of the Slave Trade; and you should, therefore, continue to act in carrying out the provisions of the Consular Jurisdiction Act, and in adjudicating in the cases of captured slaves and suspected slavers in the same manner that you would have done if the present Ruler of Muscat had been recognized by Her Majesty's Government.

I have further to inform you that the Secretary of State for India concurs in the opinion that your Consular jurisdiction is in no way affected by the existing state of affairs in Muscat, and that the Duke of Argyll has written in this sense to the Governor of Bombay.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 72.

Mr. Otway to Mr. Merivale.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 22, 1869.

WITH reference to your letter of the 14th instant, I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you, to be laid before his Grace the Duke of Argyll, the accompanying copy of a despatch which his Lordship has addressed to Lieutenant-Colonel Disbrowe relative to the doubts entertained by that officer in regard to his jurisdiction in matters of Slave Trade in the present state of our relations with the Sultan of Muscat.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. J. OTWAY.

* No. 71.

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لكبحها" [٦٣ ظ] (٧٢/٦٦)

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No. 73.

Dr. Kirk to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 1.)

(No. 19.)

My Lord,

Zanzibar, May 21, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to forward, inclosed, the evidence of the captain and supercargo of a dhow that was destroyed in the Mozambique Channel by Her Majesty's ship "Petrel," but of which we have received, as yet, no official information.

This evidence was taken before me at the express desire of His Highness the Sultan. I did not think it well to thwart him in this, although I am of opinion that what is here stated only confirms the suspicions on which the officers of Her Majesty's ship "Petrel" seem to have acted.

I have further to inform your Lordship that due notice was given at the time when the crew of this dhow came back to Zanzibar in the steam-ship "Tynemouth" that any appeal or statement must be made in time to be sent in the "Tynemouth" to the Cape of Good Hope, where, in all probability, this case would be tried before the Vice-Admiralty Court; but that His Highness and those concerned neglected this opportunity, although that vessel remained at Zanzibar for nearly a month.

I have warned those interested that by this wilful neglect of the proper steps for their self-defence, they have, in my opinion, forfeited all right to be again heard.

I have the honour to point out to your Lordship that what chiefly annoys His Highness and causes him to persist in representing this case to your Lordship, is the fact that none of those men who are now shown by me to have been slaves, were suspected of having been such by Her Majesty's ship "Petrel," as all, even including the female slave, were sent back to Zanzibar into slavery, and in charge of the agent of their owner. His Highness asserts, therefore, that it could not be on the ground of having a slave crew, that this dhow was destroyed, but for some other reason to him unknown; and His Highness desires that he may be informed what the grounds were on which the vessel of his subject has been burned, and if condemned in the Vice-Admiralty Court at the Cape, the reason why.

As to the Sultan's protest otherwise, I have already expressed my opinion that the present evidence shows this dhow was engaged in a very questionable voyage, and that, had the owners wished, they might have made their statement in time to appear before the Court at the Cape.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN KIRK.

No. 74.

Dr. Kirk to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 1.)

(No. 20.)

My Lord,

Zanzibar, May 22, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inclose for your Lordship's perusal, and transmission to the proper authorities, the proceedings in the Vice-Admiralty Court held here on the 14th of April, in the case of Captain E. S. Meara and the officers of Her Majesty's ship "Nymph" versus an Arab dhow, owned by Ali bin Nassur, Governor of Membas, which was destroyed in Kiswara harbour by ship "Nymph" on the supposition that she was engaged in the illicit Slave Trade.

As the decision has in this case been against Her Majesty's ship, and as there will be a claim founded thereon for compensation by those who have lost through the destruction of this dhow, I have given notice to all concerned to lay their claims before me for scrutiny and verification; but, unfortunately, as is usual in such cases, the people of the dhow have been sent on shore where the vessel was destroyed, and of them only one has as yet come to Zanzibar.

The dhow which was burned was of course a total loss, but the goods were all transhipped and sold at Zanzibar to the amount of 2,096 rupees, which, however, does not represent the total value, as there was a heavy loss on many articles.

It is impossible for me as yet to estimate the whole of the claims, as the owners have not returned, and part of the cargo, amounting I am told to one-half, was landed at Quiloa. This it will be my duty minutely to investigate, but in the meantime I transmit the proceedings before the Court on which the case must rest.

I shall briefly repeat, for the information of your Lordship, the chief circumstances attending the capture of this dhow.

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A Membas Arab, named Ali bin Nasser, was the owner, living at Membas. He sent his dhow to Zanzibar, with authority to his agent either to sell or charter her as seemed most profitable. Not finding a purchaser, she was chartered by a company of Membas Arabs, who sailed in her for Lindi, a port about fifty miles south of Quiloa. These Arabs placed on board a valuable cargo of cloth and powder, part of which seems to have been landed at Quiloa. On passing Kiswara harbour, which is about twenty miles south of Quiloa, they run out of water, having met with contrary winds. On entering the bay they found Her Majesty's ship "Nymphe" at anchor. Being ordered to go on board they lowered their boat and did so, but as the captain and most of the officers were out in the boats at the time, the captain of the dhow was detained until the following morning, when the dhow was burned after all the goods had been removed.

The captain and officers of Her Majesty's ship considered themselves justified in so doing, 1st, because there were on board six slaves, some of whom they say were to be sold on the African coast; 2nd, because she had slave papers on board; 3rd, because the cargo was for the purchase of slaves.

After a very careful examination of the evidence, I am convinced that this dhow was not engaged in the Slave Trade, nor is there any proof that she was intended for it, but on the contrary, that she was a legal trader.

The slave lists have been found to have no reference to this voyage; and it was the duty of the ship's interpreter to have pointed this out, as it is plainly written on the face of them that they are of old date, and both of them made out where slaving is allowed by Treaty, along 500 miles of coast.

In Court it appeared that this interpreter cannot read either Arabic or Sowaheli; even the Sultan's dhow pass given to the vessel, which he himself had assisted to destroy, he could not translate; and although he did know that the so-called slave papers were lists of names, he could not tell the date.

There being no proof that the cargo was for the purchase of slaves, and it being absurd to think that Zanzibar slaves would be sold at the coast, the only fact remaining was that this dhow had six slaves on board. Now, looked at in the spirit of the Treaties with Zanzibar, this is, in my opinion, a matter of no importance under the circumstances. These six slaves were domestic slaves of the Arab merchants on board; some had followed their masters on former voyages even as far as Arabia; others had been born in the family, and all had lived for a long time with those they now served. They were now going to a place where slaves could not be sold, and the season had passed for reaching Madagascar.

Being taken in one of the Sultan's harbours south of Quiloa, the capture could only be made under the letter of Seyd Saeed, of the 6th of May, 1850, wherein it is expressed: "All vessels found in these places (i.e., between Quiloa and Cape Delgado) to whomsoever belonging, if engaged in the Slave Trade, may be seized." Now, I am of opinion that no Arab, on signing such a concession, would for a moment think that the present case was one of slave-trading, nor would the summary destruction of such a dhow be justified, unless she had a full cargo of slaves, or could be clearly brought under the plain meaning of "slave-dealing."

I take this opportunity most respectfully to submit to your Lordship that under existing Treaties, the position of the Commander of one of Her Majesty's ships, or that of Judge in the Vice-Admiralty Court at Zanzibar is one peculiarly embarrassing and unsatisfactory.

Our naval officers work well in a difficult and responsible situation.

I am not aware that hitherto a single Zanzibar dhow has escaped condemnation; but it is to be remembered that before a Court at a distance, when all those interested have been sent on shore at the nearest point to which the dhow has been taken, a trial is *ex parte* and the prize must of necessity be condemned.

And it is a fact that I have just received from the Bombay Government thirty-six free men, negroes, but sailors, who had been passed to Bombay from Aden, among the sixty slaves taken last year by Her Majesty's ship "Star" near Brava. It is very singular indeed that upwards of half the so-called slaves should have to be sent back at Government expense to Zanzibar after the dhows from which they had been freed had been condemned.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN KIRK.

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لكبحها" [٦٤ ظ] (٧٢/٦٨)

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No. 75.

Lieutenant-Colonel Disbrowe to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 12.)

(No. 311.)

My Lord,

Muscat, May 28, 1869.

A SERIES of threats, culminating in open defiance of Seyd Azan, the *de facto* ruler of Muscat, by his Excellency the Viceroy in Council's commands, relative to the repose of the sea, compelled me, on the 24th instant, to transfer Her Majesty's flag on shore to Her Majesty's gun-boat "Clyde," anchored some 400 yards off the forts and town of Muscat.

2. Her Majesty's flag was again displayed from yesterday at this Consulate for the several reasons here beneath particularized, and I respectfully trust your Lordship will approve of my proceedings, and admit that in rehoisting Her Majesty's flag, I have acted in accordance with the dignity due to Her Majesty's Government.

٤. The reasons that actuated me are three in number.

1stly and chiefly. Seyd Azan apologized in writing for the insult offered.

2ndly. Seyd Azan gave written assurances of future respect towards Her Majesty's Representative here, together with protection of British subjects.

3rdly, and lastly. Lieutenant-Colonel Pelly, Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, mediated between Seyd Azan and myself, and requested me to rehoist Her Majesty's flag on shore.

4. It is impossible for me, by the mail-steamer leaving to-day, to submit for your Lordship's information, particulars. By the earliest opportunity offering, however, hereafter, I shall do myself the honour to submit correspondence in full on this subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT DISBROWE.

No. 76.

Mr. Melvill to Mr. Otway.—(Received July 13.)

Sir,

India Office, July 12, 1869.

WITH reference to your letter of the 29th of May I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward to you herewith, for the consideration of Lord Clarendon, draft of instructions relative to the present aspect of the Muscat-Zanzibar question, and its bearings on our policy in the Persian Gulf, which his Grace proposes to address to the Government of India, in substitution of those inclosed in the India Office letter of the 10th of May; and I am to add that his Grace will be glad to be furnished with the views of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs on this subject, with the least possible delay, as the Government of India are pressing for an answer to their despatches.

I am &c.

(Signed) J. COSMO MELVILL.

Inclosure in No. 76.

Draft Despatch to the Governor-General of India.

My Lord,

India Office, July , 1869. 4

HER Majesty's Government having taken into deliberate consideration the correspondence noted in the margin, relating to the affairs of Muscat and Zanzibar, especially as affected by the recent revolution at the former place, I now proceed to communicate to your Excellency their views of the important questions thus brought to their notice.

2. The events of this revolution, resulting as it did in a change of dynasty at Muscat, had involved the affairs of that State in such uncertainty, that, for some time, it seemed probable that each mail would bring to England intelligence of some new political vicissitude, which would render nugatory any instructions which Her Majesty's Government might communicate to you. But a sufficient period has now elapsed since the expulsion of Syud Salim from Muscat to make it appear to be little probable that he will ever recover the position which he has lost. The general aspect of affairs, indeed, both as represented in these papers and communicated to me by officers recently employed in the Persian Gulf,

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seems to be favourable to the permanent establishment of the authority of Azan-bin Ghés. Many of the most influential Chiefs are said to be among his supporters, and the resources neither of Syud Salim nor of Syud Toorkhee are such as to enable one or the other to subvert the power of the *de facto* Ruler of Muscat without external assistance.

3. If the anticipations, reasonably based on these statements, are realized, your Excellency's Government, in pursuance of the policy indicated in these papers, will formally recognize Azan-bin-Ghés as Ruler of Muscat, in accordance with the sovereign will of the people. This policy Her Majesty's Government approve.

4. But whilst Her Majesty's Government are thus willing to recognize a Chief acceptable to the people, though not a member of the ruling family with which we have so long had political relations, such recognition is not to be supposed to carry with it any obligations on our part to enforce or to support those external engagements with Persia and Zanzibar, which Syud Thoweynee had formed, and which were inherited by Syud Salim, as his son and recognized successor.

5. With respect to the relations of Muscat with Persia, I have already informed you by telegraph, that in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, Persia has an undoubted right to refuse to Azin-ben-Ghés the continuance of the Bunder Abbas lease. And I can see no reason why the British Government should interfere further in the matter.

6. I have now to advert to the question of the Zanzibar subsidy, respecting which there has been so much correspondence. Her Majesty's Government have taken the subject into their deliberate consideration with reference to the present posture of affairs at Muscat, and it appears to them that whatever might have been the obligation on the part of your Government, to exert your influence to maintain the continued and regular payment of the subsidy to the legitimate successors of Syud Saeed, it is not incumbent upon them to interfere any longer now that the succession has been interrupted by a revolution, which has placed the authority in the hands of a member of another family. Your Excellency may, therefore, inform the Sultan of Zanzibar, that the British Government are willing to consider the arrangement which was made in 1861, and communicated to His Highness in Lord Canning's letter of the 2nd of April of that year, to have lapsed on the expulsion of Syud Salim from Muscat, and that it will rest with him (Syud Majid) to enter into such engagements with the new Ruler of Muscat as, in the present altered circumstances, he may consider to be advisable.

7. But it will be your Excellency's duty at the same time to impress upon the Sultans of Zanzibar and Muscat, that it is the wish of Her Majesty's Government that peace should prevail between the Rulers of the two divisions of the old principality of Syud Saeed; and that, moreover, it will be incumbent upon you to interfere in the event of any naval operations being undertaken which will cause disturbances in the Persian Gulf. It is the desire of Her Majesty's Government that in the words of the concluding paragraph of your letter of the 10th of May, you should "allow your present orders to remain in force, which would, in the event of a maritime contest, or a contest, the materials of which were supplied from the shore, but which broke out actively by sea, necessitate a resort to forcible intervention by such naval means, however limited, as are at our disposal."

8. Your Excellency's Government, however, have brought to my notice that these means at present are inadequate; and you strongly impress upon Her Majesty's Government the existing want "of a properly organized naval force, capable of remaining on the coast at all seasons, sufficient to preserve order and tranquillity in the Persian seas, and to prevent the danger with which the properties of British subjects might, in that unsettled region, at any juncture be threatened." And you especially advert to a remark made by Commodore Sir L. Heath, in a letter to Colonel Disbrowe, to the effect that, at some seasons of the year, service cannot be performed by Her Majesty's ships, manned as they now are, without imminent danger to the health of the crews. With reference to these important considerations, I have to inform your Excellency that I have been for some time past, in communication with the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty with a view to the provision of an adequate naval force for service in the Persian Gulf, and in other waters over which your Government exercises supervision, and that I hope shortly to be able to communicate to your Excellency that arrangements have been made to place the maritime police of the gulf on a perfectly satisfactory footing.

I am, &c.

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No. 77.

Mr. Otway to Mr. Melvill.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 19, 1869.*
I HAVE laid before the Earl of Clarendon your letter marked Confidential of the 12th instant, inclosing for his Lordship's consideration a draft of instructions relative to the present aspect of the Muscat-Zanzibar question, and its bearings on our policy in the Persian Gulf, which the Duke of Argyll proposes to address to the Government of India in substitution of the instructions inclosed in the India Office letter of the 10th of May last; and in reply to his Grace's request to be furnished with Lord Clarendon's views on this subject, I am to state that with reference to the recognition of the present Ruler of Muscat by Her Majesty's Government, and as regards the relations of that state generally with Her Majesty's Government and with the Government of Persia, his Lordship is not in possession of any information which would enable him to speak with authority on these matters, and he would wish, therefore, to defer entirely to the Duke of Argyll's views.

But as regards the question of the Zanzibar subsidy, while entirely concurring with the Duke of Argyll in the propriety of releasing Sultan Majid from the payment of the subsidy to Muscat, yet Lord Clarendon would not recommend that this concession should be made without obtaining from His Highness some important concessions on his part limiting the Traffic in Slaves from His Highness' territories, and his Lordship would suggest, therefore, whether it would not be sufficient for the present for the Governor-General of India to inform the Sultan that Her Majesty's Government will not insist on the continued payment of the Muscat subsidy, on the understanding that His Highness consents to enter into negotiations for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade from his dominions, and that the terms which Her Majesty's Government would propose will be made known to him shortly.

There is one other point upon which Lord Clarendon would be glad to receive some information before expressing any opinion in the matter, namely, the question of the Bunder Abbas' lease.

In a Memorial from the British Steam Navigation Company to the Bombay Government dated the 12th of March, 1869, a copy of which was communicated to this Department in the Indian Office letter of the 18th of June, his Lordship observes that this Company strongly deprecate the surrender of the port of Bunder Abbas to Persia, and anticipate great difficulties in the way of trade from the intrigues and annoyance of the Persian authorities in the event of their resuming possession of the place.

It would appear, however, from the 5th paragraph of the proposed Instructions to the Governor-General that the Persian Government has refused to continue the lease of Bunder Abbas to Azin ben Ghes, the present Ruler of Muscat, and that his Grace sees no reason why Her Majesty's Government should interfere in the matter.

Lord Clarendon would be glad to learn from the India Office, whether, in the opinion of the Indian authorities, the fears expressed by the Company have any well grounded foundation.

I am, &c
(Signed) A. J. OTWAY.

X (Answered July 26.)

No. 78.

Mr. Otway to the Secretary to the Treasury.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 21, 1869.*
I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you the accompanying copies of two despatches, with their inclosures in original, from the Acting British Consul and Political Agent at Zanzibar,* reporting the proceedings which have taken place in the Vice-Admiralty Court in that island in the cases of several dhows captured and destroyed by Her Majesty's cruisers on suspicion of being engaged in the Slave Trade; and I am to request that, in laying these papers before the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, you will state to their Lordships that Lord Clarendon would be glad to receive any observations which the Legal Adviser of the Treasury upon Slave Trade matters may have to offer upon the cases to which these papers relate.

It will be seen that in the case of a vessel belonging to the Governor of Mombas, destroyed by Her Majesty's ship "Nymphe," judgment has been given in the Vice-

* Nos. 73 and 74.

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Admiralty Court against the captors, and Lord Clarendon fears that if the system of destroying vessels suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade which is now carried out to a very considerable extent by British cruisers on the East Coast of Africa is continued, not only will it give rise to large pecuniary claims on Her Majesty's Government, but in some instances vessels may be destroyed, and their owners, from not knowing where their case will be adjudicated, may be unable to obtain a hearing and defend their property; and thus injustice will be done to honest traders, a state of things which it is on every account the object of Her Majesty's Government to avoid.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. J. OTWAY.

No. 79.

Mr. Otway to Mr. Merivale.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 22, 1869.

I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to herewith a copy of a despatch, with its inclosures in original, from Colonel Disbrowe, Her Majesty's Political Agent and Consul at Muscat, relative to a difference which he has had with the *de facto* Ruler of that country, which difference induced him to withdraw from the town for a while, and to go on board Her Majesty's gun-boat "Clyde."

I am to request that, in laying this paper before the Secretary of State for India in Council, you will inform him that Lord Clarendon has informed Colonel Disbrowe that the matter has been referred to the India Office, it being one which will be dealt with by the India Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. J. OTWAY.

P.S.—Since the above was written, a further despatch has been received from Lieutenant-Colonel Disbrowe on the same subject, which is sent herewith, and it is requested that the inclosures in this letter, being sent in original, may be returned to this office when done with.

No. 80.

Mr. Otway to Lieutenant-Colonel Disbrowe.

(No. 2.)

Foreign Office, July 22, 1869.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 28th of May last,* reporting the circumstances under which a difference had arisen between yourself and the *de facto* Ruler of Muscat, which had induced you for a short time to retire from that place and to go on board Her Majesty's gun-boat "Clyde;" and I am to state to you that, this affair being one which, from its nature, must be exclusively dealt with by the Indian Government, his Lordship has referred your despatch above-mentioned to the Secretary of State for India.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. J. OTWAY.

* No. 75.

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