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'Trade of United Kingdom and India with Persian Gulf ports.'

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About this record

The papers constitute a report, prepared by Henry John Tozer of the Revenue and Statistics Department of the India Office in April 1909, of trade between the United Kingdom and India, and the ports of the Persian Gulf. The contents of the report are as follows:

- A summary with tabulated figures (folio 13), for the value of trade between the United Kingdom and India, and the Persian Gulf ports of Bushire, Bunder Abbas [Bandar-e 'Abbās], Lingah [Bandar-e Lengeh], Arabistan [Khuzestan], Oman and Bahrein [Bahrain], for the period 1907-08;
- A report of trade with Persia (folios 14-15), which includes figures for Russian trade into and out of Persia;
- Copies of memoranda (folios 16-17), dated 15 July 1908, concerning Indian trade with the Persian Gulf;
- A report of the trade of England and India with the Persian Gulf (folios 18-20), covering the period 1895-1907;
- Muscat trade (folios 21-22), including a summary and tabulated data for the period 1896-1907;

- Bahrain trade (folios 23-24), including a summary and tabulated data for the period 1897-1906.

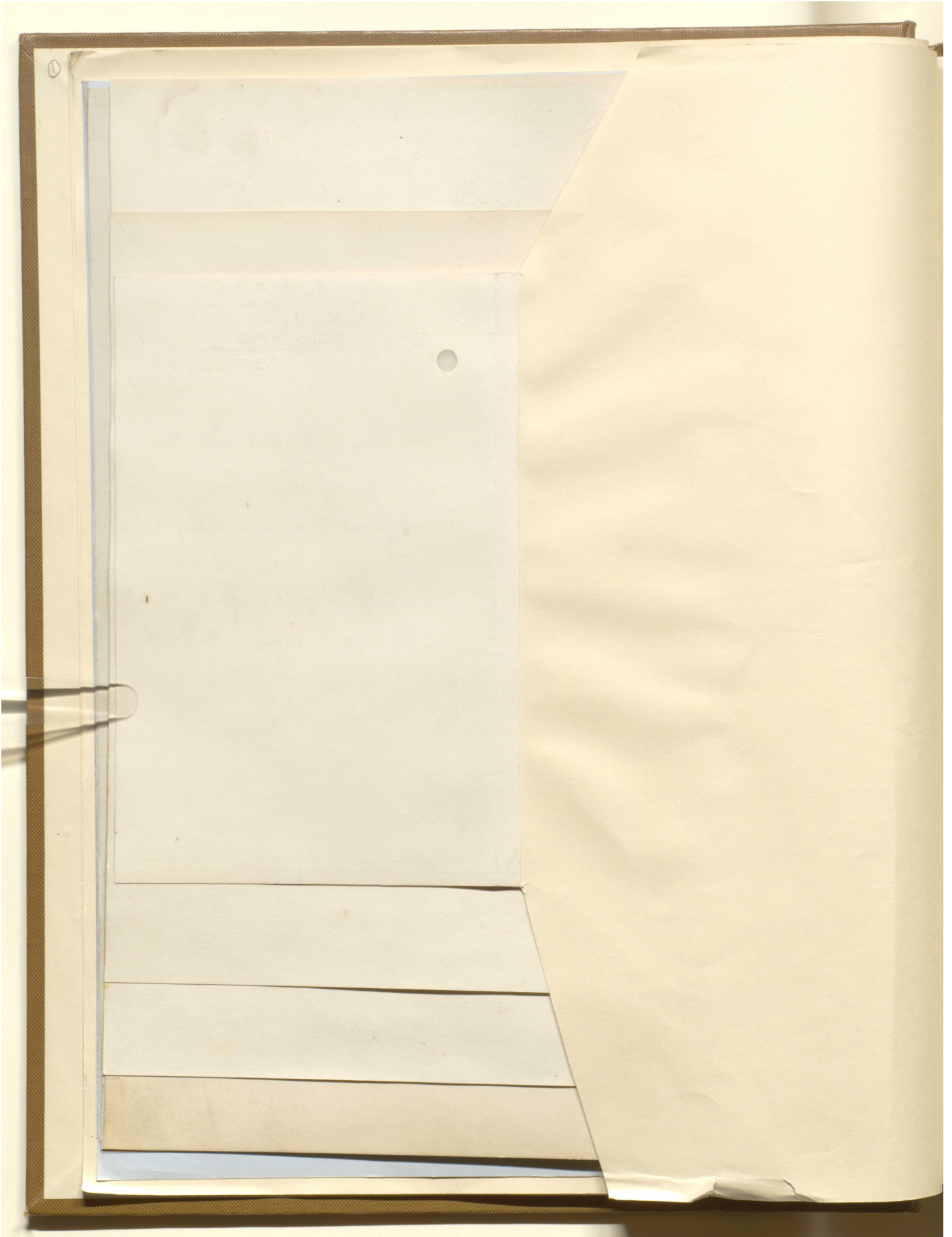
Preceding the report is a note (folio 12), whose author is unknown, which summarises the proportion that the Persian Gulf trade represents to the total trade to the United Kingdom and India.

Sir R. Nichol
Dorset House
then figures while
was away. 27
INDIA OFFICE.
WHITEHALL, S.W.
22/11/07

The trade of the U.K. with the Persian Gulf (nearly all with Persia) is about $\frac{1}{8}$ per cent. of the total trade of the U.K.

The trade of India with the Persian Gulf (of which about a third is with Persia) is about $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. of the total trade of India.

'Trade of United Kingdom and India with Persian Gulf ports.' [12v] (2/26)



'Trade of United Kingdom and India with Persian Gulf ports.' [13r] (3/26)

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Memo. B 205

Trade of United Kingdom and India with
Persian Gulf Ports.

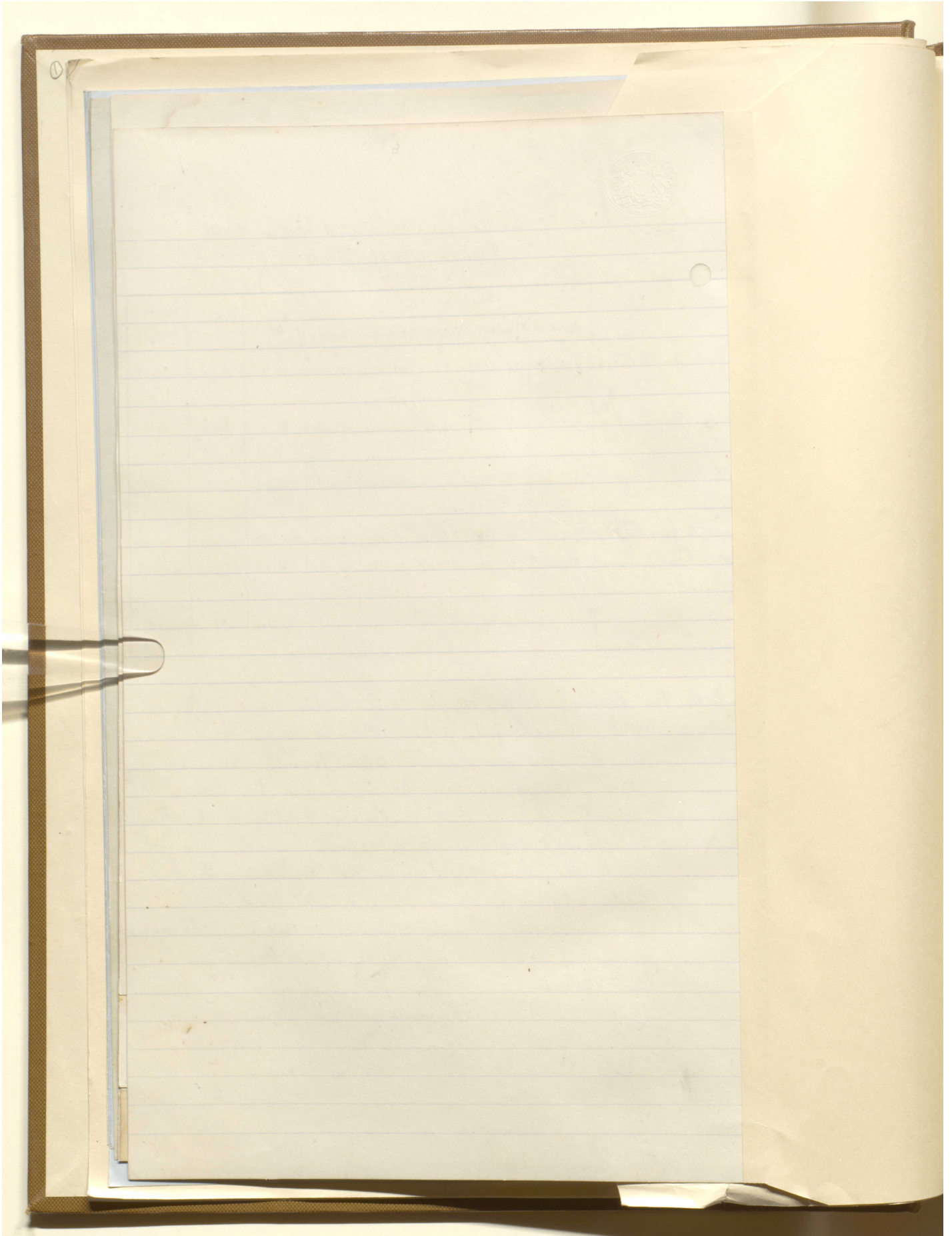
	Persia.					Oman	Bahrein.	Grand Total
	Bushire.	Bunder Abbas.	Lingah.	Arabutan.	Total.			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Imports from U.K. into	572,113	165,698	3,669	135,793	877,273	102,766	13,485	993,524
Exports to - from	245,794	9,793	4,067	97,749	357,403	None	None.	357,403
Total U.K. trade with	£817,907	175,491	7,736	233,542	1,234,676	102,766	13,485	1,350,927
Imports from India into	355,166	160,065	98,520	107,574	721,325	296,313	497,069	1,514,807
Exports to India from	84,007	85,734	85,228	36,966	291,935	198,650	936,564	1,427,149
	£439,173	245,799	183,748	144,540	1,013,060	494,963	1,433,633	2,941,656

N.B. The figures are for 1907-8 except in the cases of Bunder Abbas and Lingah, where the period is the calendar year 1907. The statistics are taken from the consular reports. No figures can be furnished for Basra or Baghdad. A large but unknown portion of the trade with India consists of re-exports of goods from or to the United Kingdom and other countries. The Indian trade returns for 1907-8 show a total trade in merchandise with Persia, Oman and Bahrein of £2,529,763, of which £729,260 represented re-exports from India to those countries.

(Sdld.) H. J. Y.

5/4/09

'Trade of United Kingdom and India with Persian Gulf ports.' [13v] (4/26)



TRADE WITH PERSIA.

The Persian trade returns for 1906-7 show that the percentage of trade with the chief countries was as follows:-

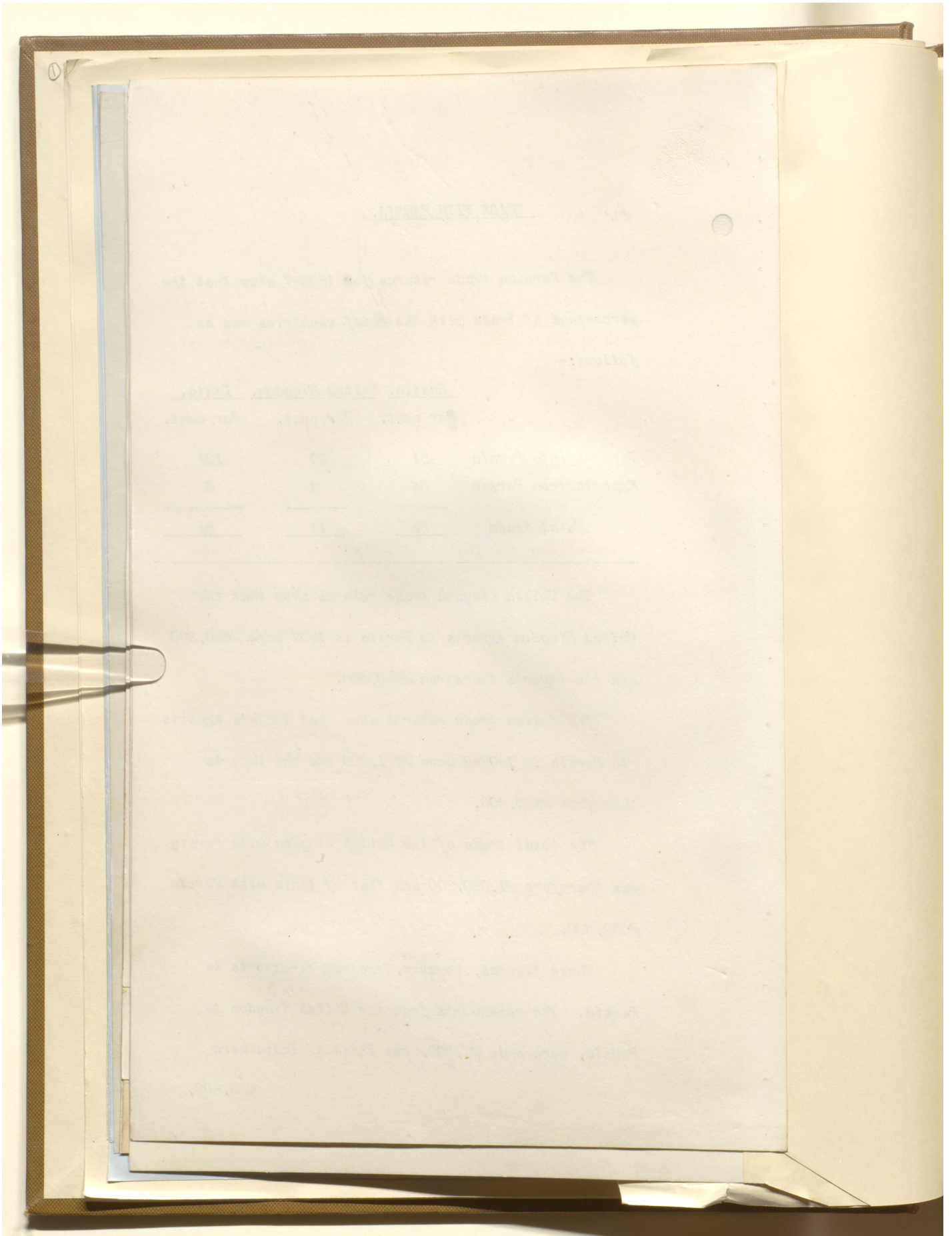
	<u>Russia.</u>	<u>United Kingdom.</u>	<u>India.</u>
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Imports into Persia	51	20	10½
Exports from Persia	64	4	6
Total trade	<u>57</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>8½</u>

The United Kingdom trade returns show that the United Kingdom exports to Persia in 1907 were £690,300 and the imports therefrom £390,600.

The Indian trade returns show that India's exports to Persia in 1907-8 were £371,200 and the imports therefrom £288,400.

The total trade of the United Kingdom with Persia was therefore £1,080,900 and that of India with Persia £659,600.

These figures, however, exclude re-exports to Persia. The re-exports from the United Kingdom to Persia, were only £7,700, but those of India were
£428,400,



£428,400, of which a large proportion was probably
British in origin.

Again, both British and Indian goods reach Persia
via Asiatic Turkey (Baghdad) and are credited to the
latter.

The Persian returns, which take account of all
goods reaching Persia from England or India, by whatever
route, show that the United Kingdom ^{trade} is about 50 per cent.
greater than the Indian, and the United Kingdom and
Indian returns, so far as they go, support the view
that British trade is considerably larger than Indian.

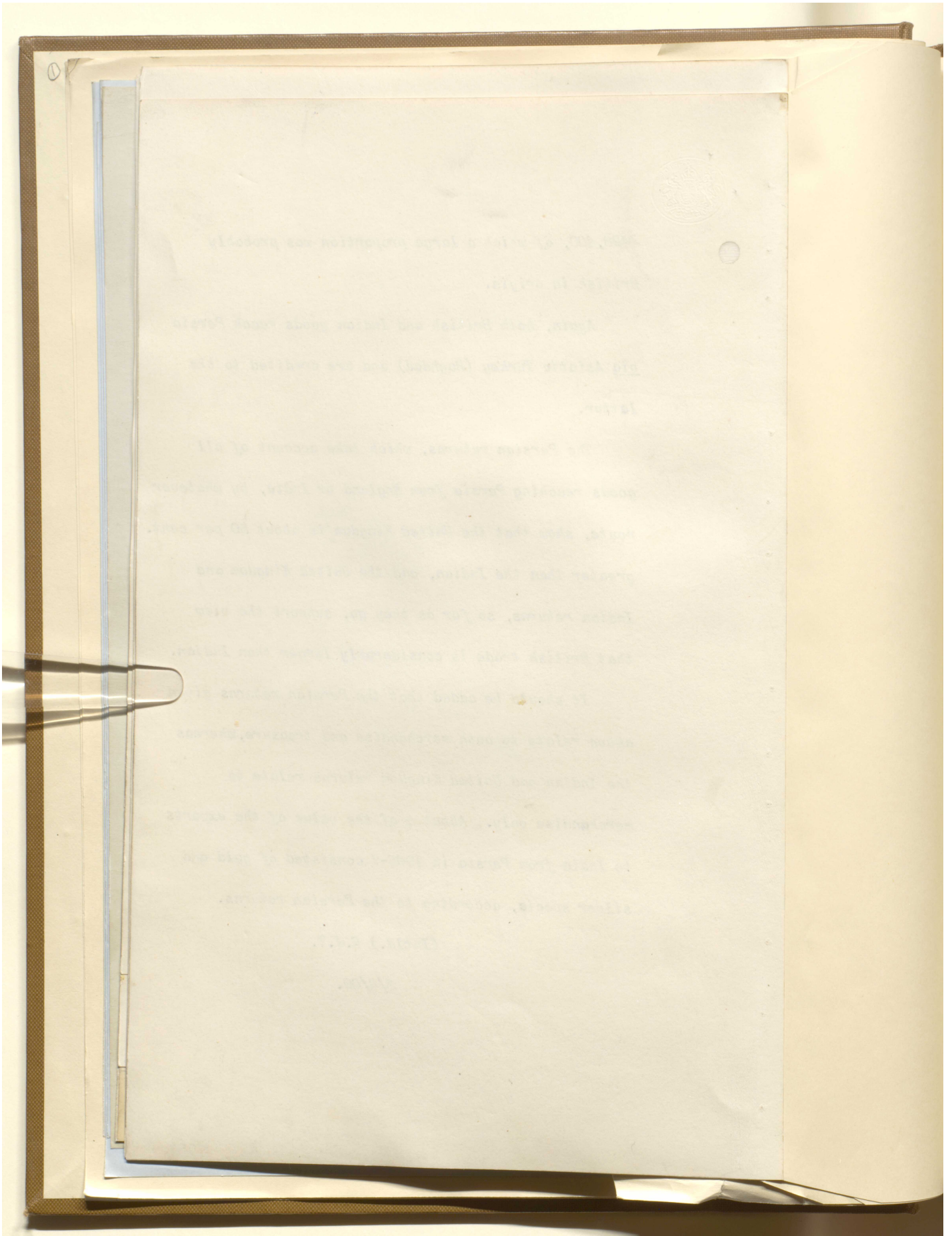
It should be added that the Persian returns given
above relate to both merchandise and treasure, whereas
the Indian and United Kingdom returns relate to
merchandise only. About $\frac{1}{2}$ of the value of the exports
to India from Persia in 1906-7 consisted of gold and
silver specie, according to the Persian returns.

(Intld.) H.J.T.

5/4/09.

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Sir T. Holderness,

Secretary of State would like to have statistics, for a sufficient period of time to show what progress is being made, of Indian trade with the Persian Gulf and Mesopotamia.

(Initialled) F.A.H.

15/7/08.

Please see subjoined statement which has been compiled in consultation with Sir R. Ritchie. So far as any clear inference can be drawn from the figures, it would seem that

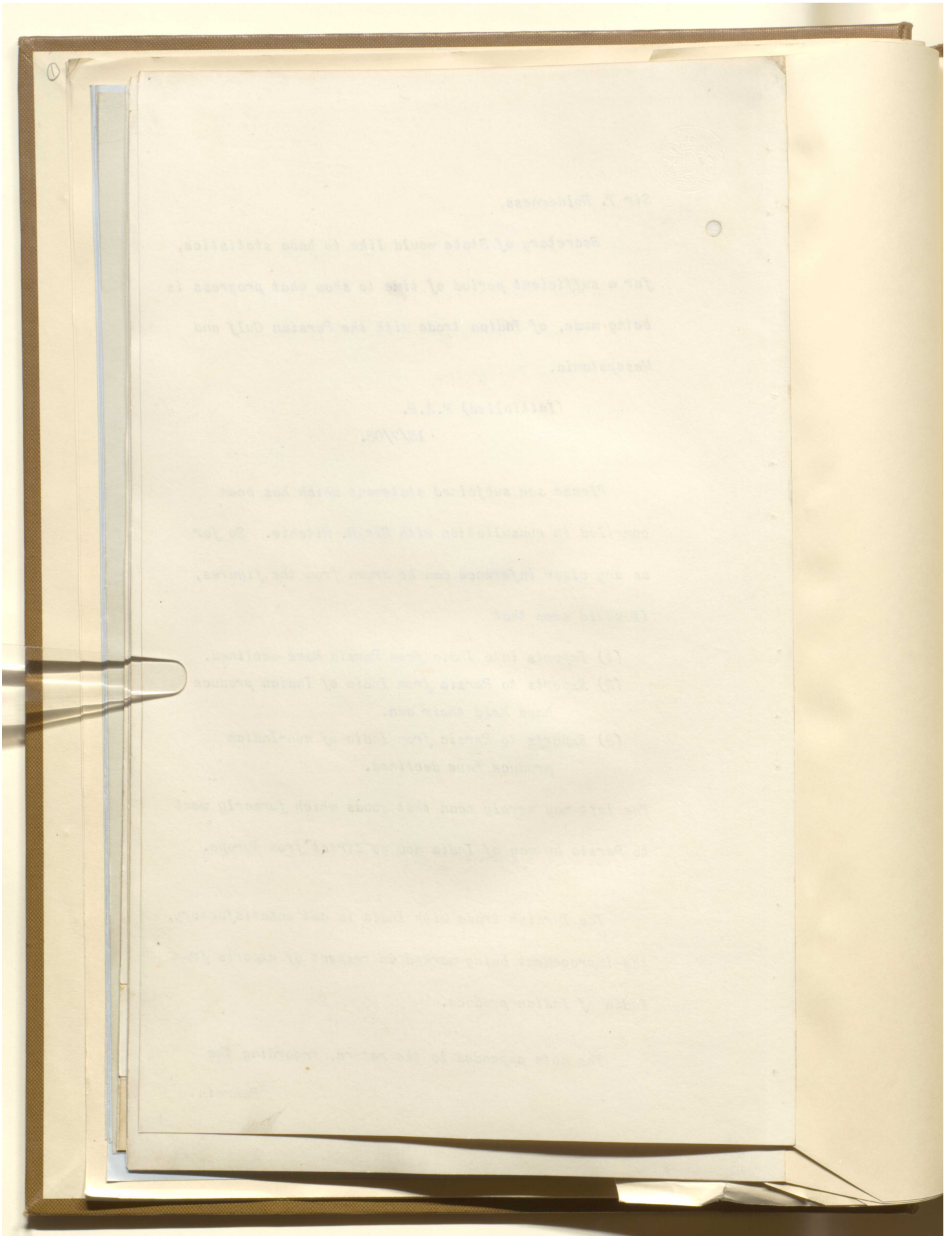
- (1) Imports into India from Persia have declined.
- (2) Exports to Persia from India of Indian produce have held their own.
- (3) Exports to Persia from India of non-Indian produce have declined.


The last may merely mean that goods which formerly went to Persia by way of India now go direct from Europe.

The Turkish trade with India is not unsatisfactory, the improvement being marked in respect of exports from India of Indian produce.

The note appended to the return, regarding the

Bahrein



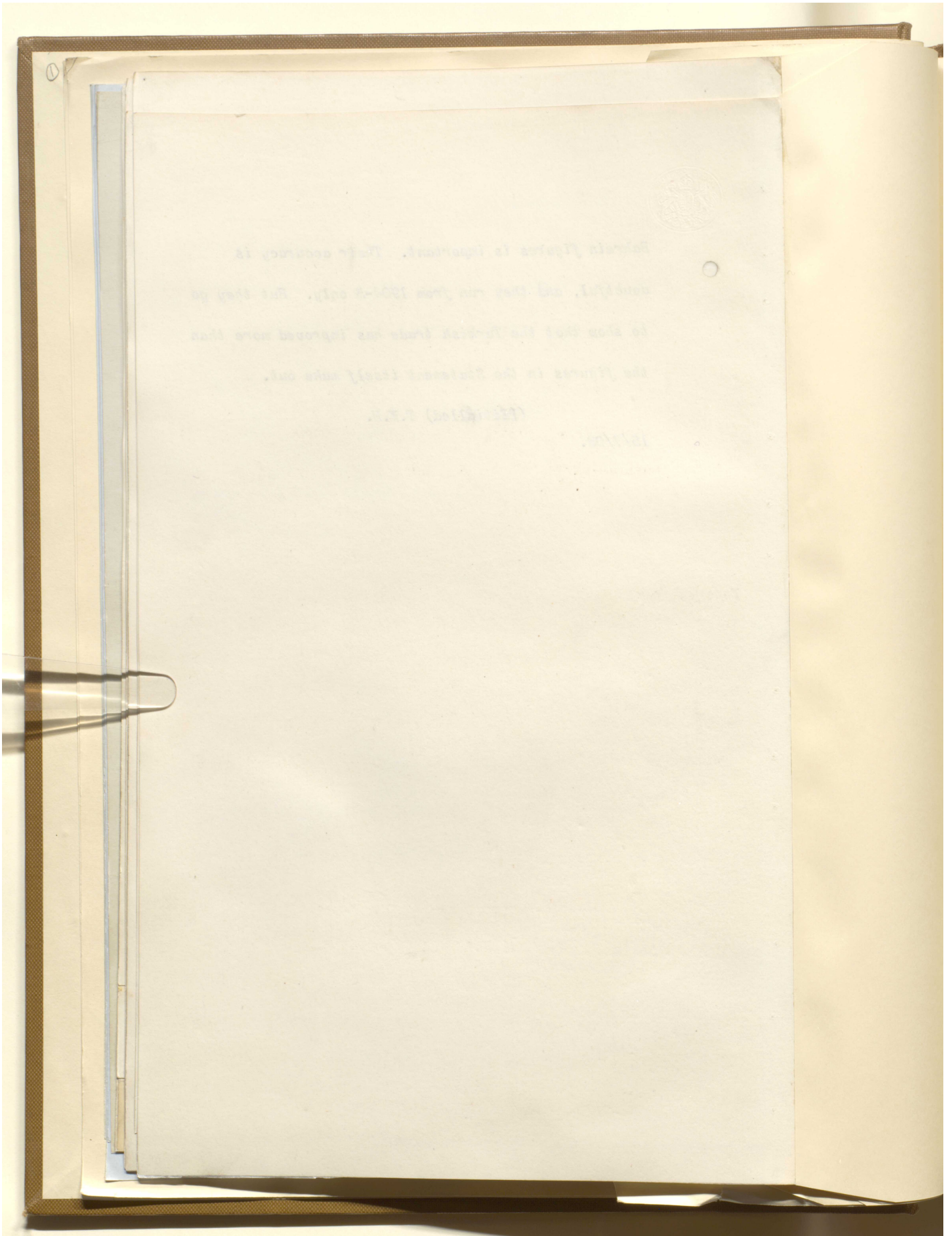
 Bahrein figures is important. Their accuracy is doubtful, and they run from 1904-5 only. But they go to show that the Turkish trade has improved more than the figures in the Statement itself make out.

(Initialed) T.W.H.

15/7/08.

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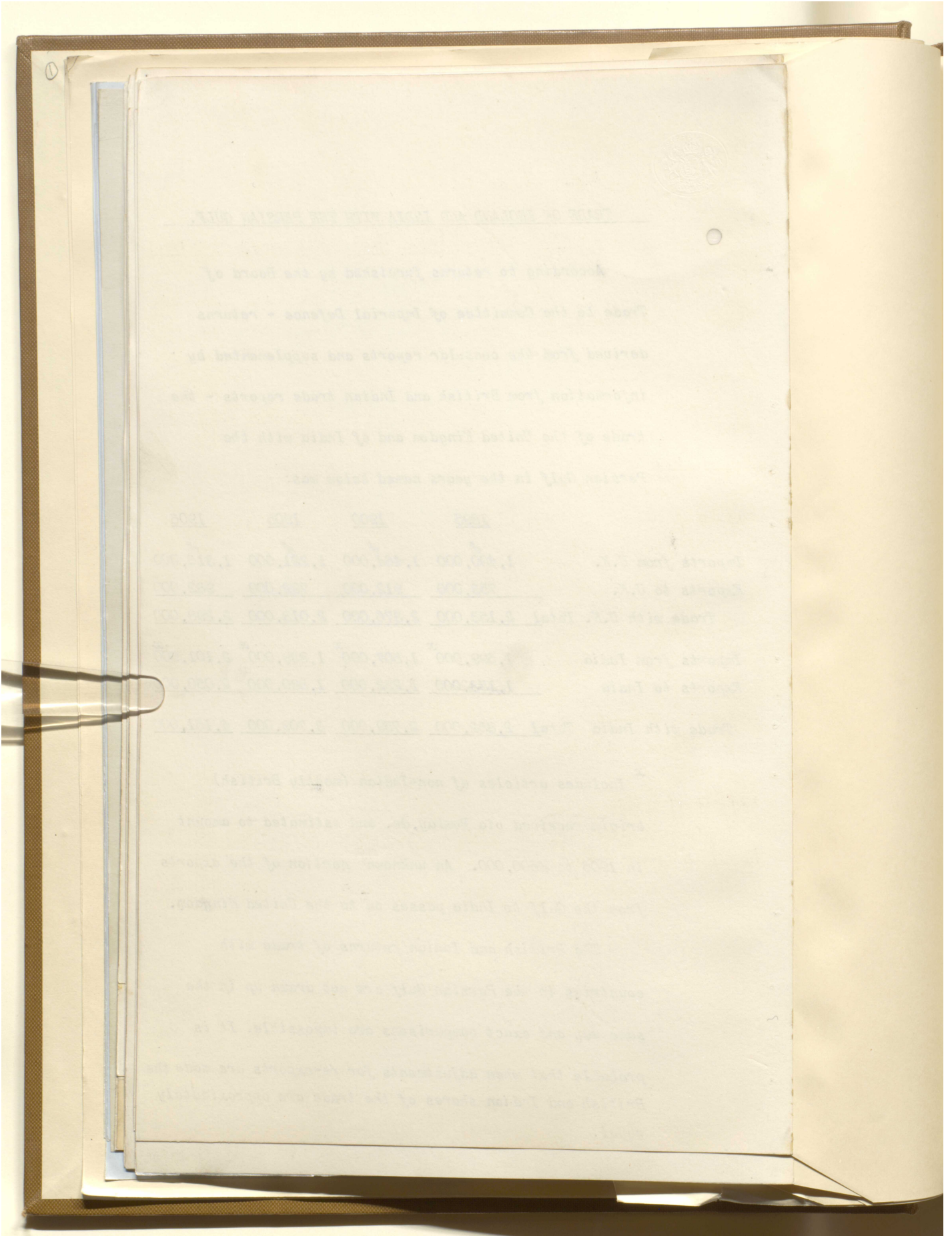
TRADE OF ENGLAND AND INDIA WITH THE PERSIAN GULF.

According to returns furnished by the Board of Trade to the Committee of Imperial Defence - returns derived from the consular reports and supplemented by information from British and Indian trade reports - the trade of the United Kingdom and of India with the Persian Gulf in the years named below was:

	<u>1895</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1905</u>	<u>1906</u>
Imports from U.K.	1,400,000 [£]	1,464,000 [£]	1,221,000 [£]	1,316,000 [£]
Exports to U.K.	753,000	912,000	792,000	982,000
Trade with U.K. Total	2,153,000	2,376,000	2,013,000	2,298,000
Imports from India	1,699,000 ^x	1,507,000 ^x	1,829,000 ^x	2,101,000 ^x
Exports to India	1,153,000	1,252,000	1,880,000	2,050,000
Trade with India Total	2,852,000	2,759,000	3,709,000	4,151,000

^x Includes articles of non-Indian (mostly British) origin received via Bombay, &c. and estimated to amount in 1906 to £600,000. An unknown portion of the exports from the Gulf to India passes on to the United Kingdom.

The British and Indian returns of trade with countries in the Persian Gulf are not drawn up in the same way and exact comparisons are impossible. It is probable that when adjustments for re-exports are made the British and Indian shares of the trade are approximately equal.



'Trade of United Kingdom and India with Persian Gulf ports.' [19] (15/26)

India's Trade with the Persian Gulf

in 000s £.

	1899-00	1900-1	1901-2	1902-3	1903-4	1904-5	1905-6	1906-7
<u>Persia.</u>								
Imports from:-	552	476	452	432	292	294	288	318
Exports of Indian Produce to:-	244	344	366	422	314	365	216	258
	796	820	818	854	606	639	504	576
Re-exports (i.e. of non-Indian Produce) to:-	497	539	451	382	421	372	409	359
	1,293	1,359	1,269	1,236	1,027	1,011	913	935

Turkey in Asia.

(Mainly Basra & Baghdad)

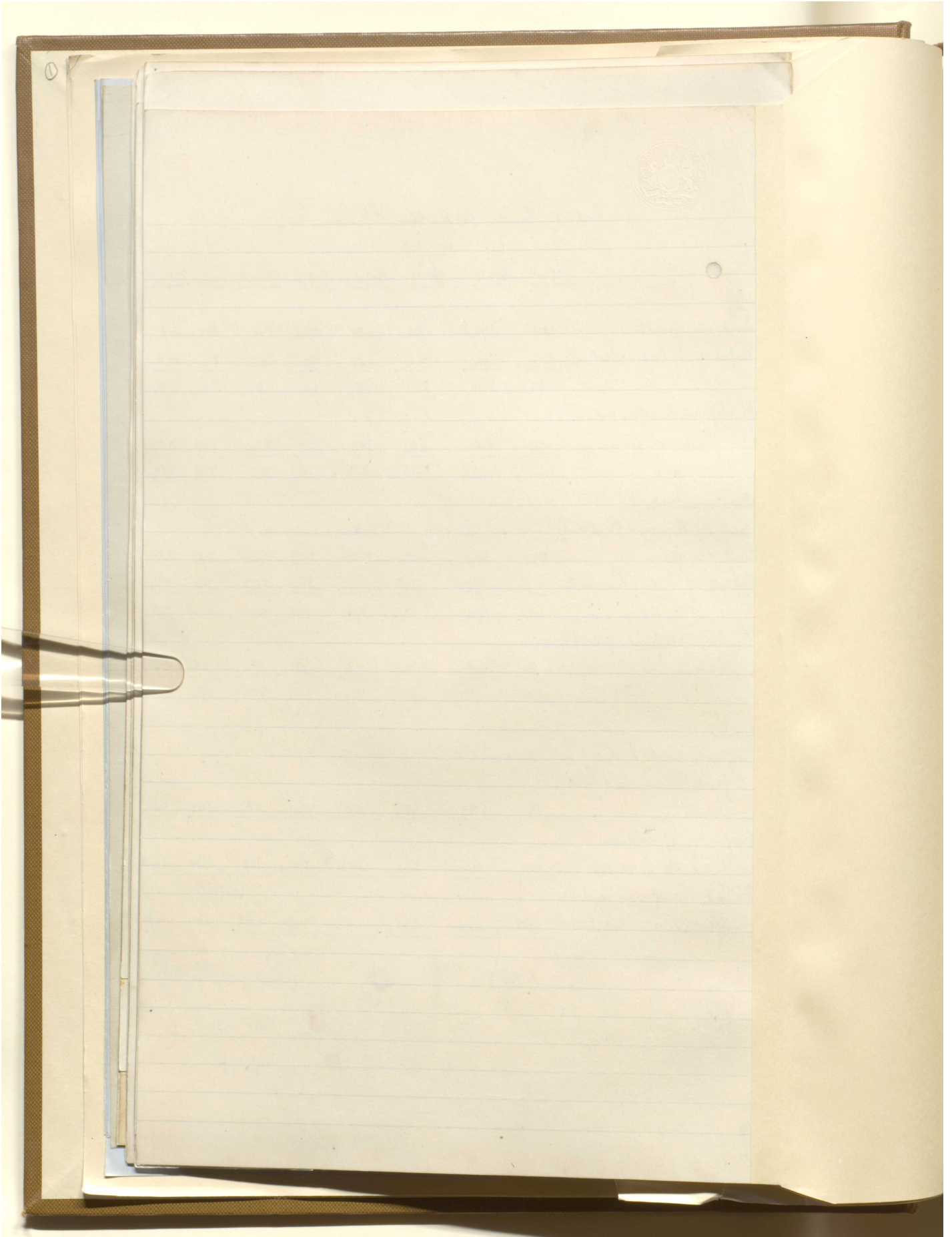
Imports from:-	288	357	206	123	249	243	297	330
Exports of Indian Produce to:-	167	197	248	270	257	267	312	382
	455	554	454	393	506	510	609	712
Re-exports (i.e. of non-Indian Produce) to:-	91	105	114	82	121	91	121	109
	546	659	568	476	627	601	730	821

Total Trade

Imports into India
from Persia and Turkey

in Asia	840	833	658	555	541	537	585	648
Exports of Indian Produce to ditto	411	541	614	692	571	612	528	640
Re-exports of non-Indian Produce to ditto	588	644	565	465	542	463	530	468

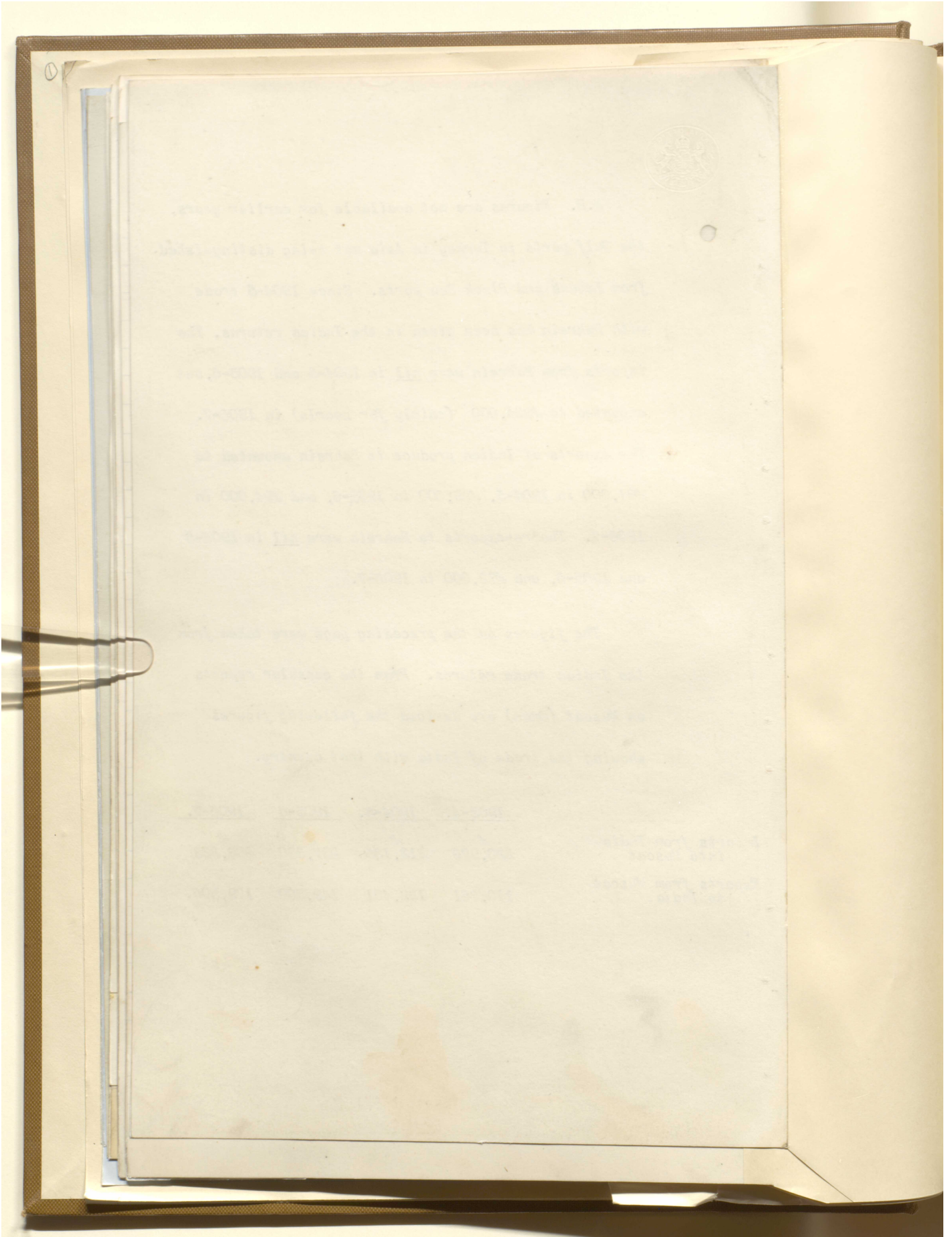
N.B.



N.B. Figures are not available for earlier years, the Gulf ports in Turkey in Asia not being distinguished from Levant and Black Sea ports. Since 1904-5 trade with Bahrein has been given in the Indian returns. The imports from Bahrein were nil in 1904-5 and 1905-6, but amounted to £334,000 (mainly for pearls) in 1906-7. The exports of Indian produce to Bahrein amounted to £81,000 in 1904-5, £99,000 in 1905-6, and £94,000 in 1906-7. The re-exports to Bahrein were nil in 1904-5 and 1905-6, and £72,000 in 1906-7.

The figures on the preceding page were taken from the Indian trade returns. From the consular reports on Muscat (Oman) are derived the following figures showing the trade of India with that country.

	<u>1903-4.</u>	<u>1904-5.</u>	<u>1905-6</u>	<u>1906-7.</u>
Imports from India into Muscat	220,972 [£]	212,135 [£]	237,320 [£]	288,333 [£]
Exports from Muscat to India.	170,761	139,461	149,800	179,506.

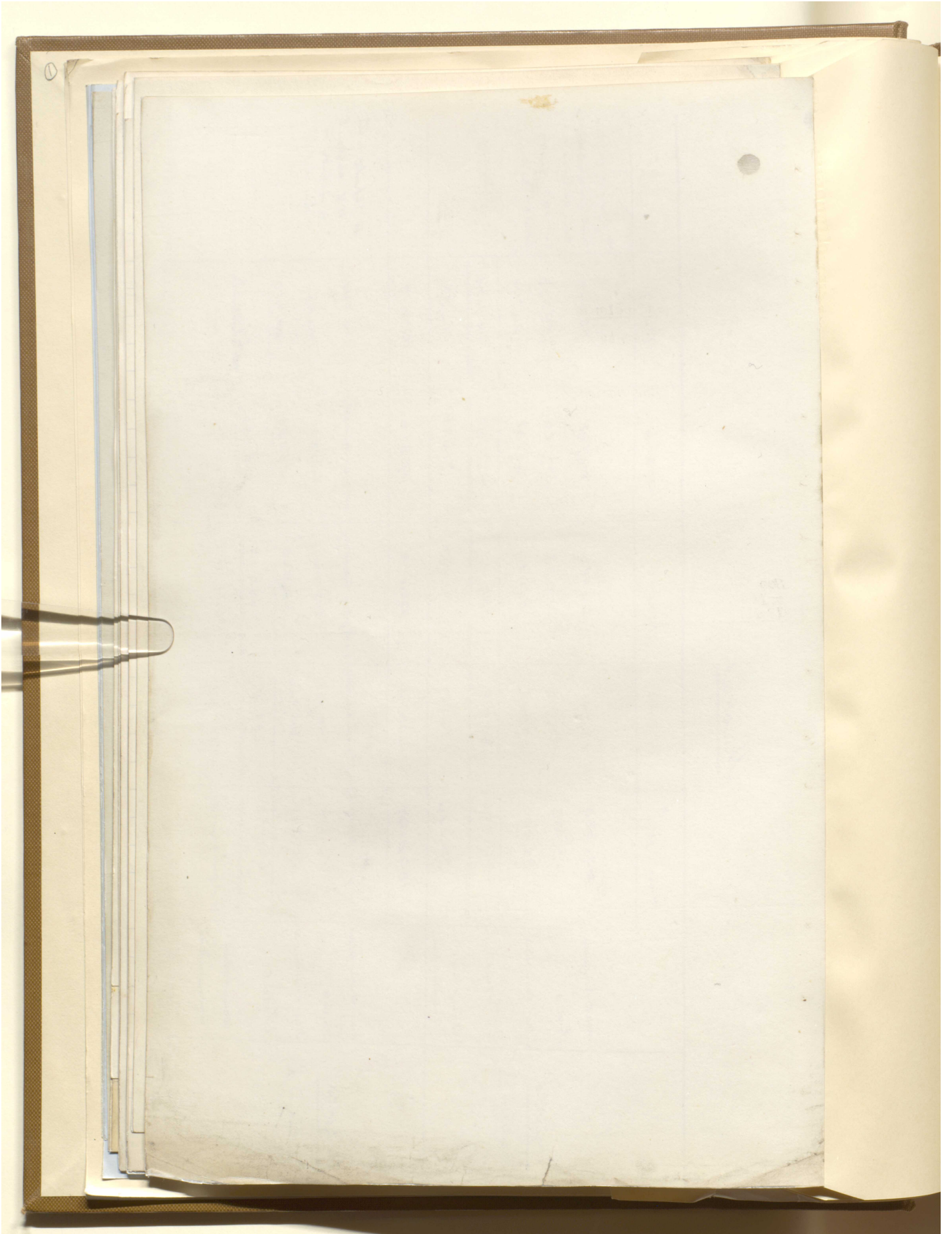


Muscat.

	1896-97.*	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7.	
<u>Imports</u> (Value in £)	United Kingdom	46,841	66,033	69,793	52,993	* figures for this year converted from dollars at the rate of 100 dollars = 130 Rupees.
	India	220,972	212,135	237,320	288,333	
	Other countries	87,908	80,959	64,832	120,099	
	Total	355,718	359,127	371,945	461,425	
	Arms and Ammunition.	79,007	110,993	71,625	112,338	
<u>Exports</u> (Value in £)	United Kingdom	170,761	139,461	149,800	179,506	* Exports to the U.K. appear to include in other countries.
	India	64,340	48,848	28,250	66,749	
	Other countries	235,101	188,509	178,050	246,255	
	Total	470,202	376,818	356,100	492,510	
	Arms and Ammunition.	(- do. -)	(- do. -)	(- do. -)	(- do. -)	

(2)

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MUSCAT.

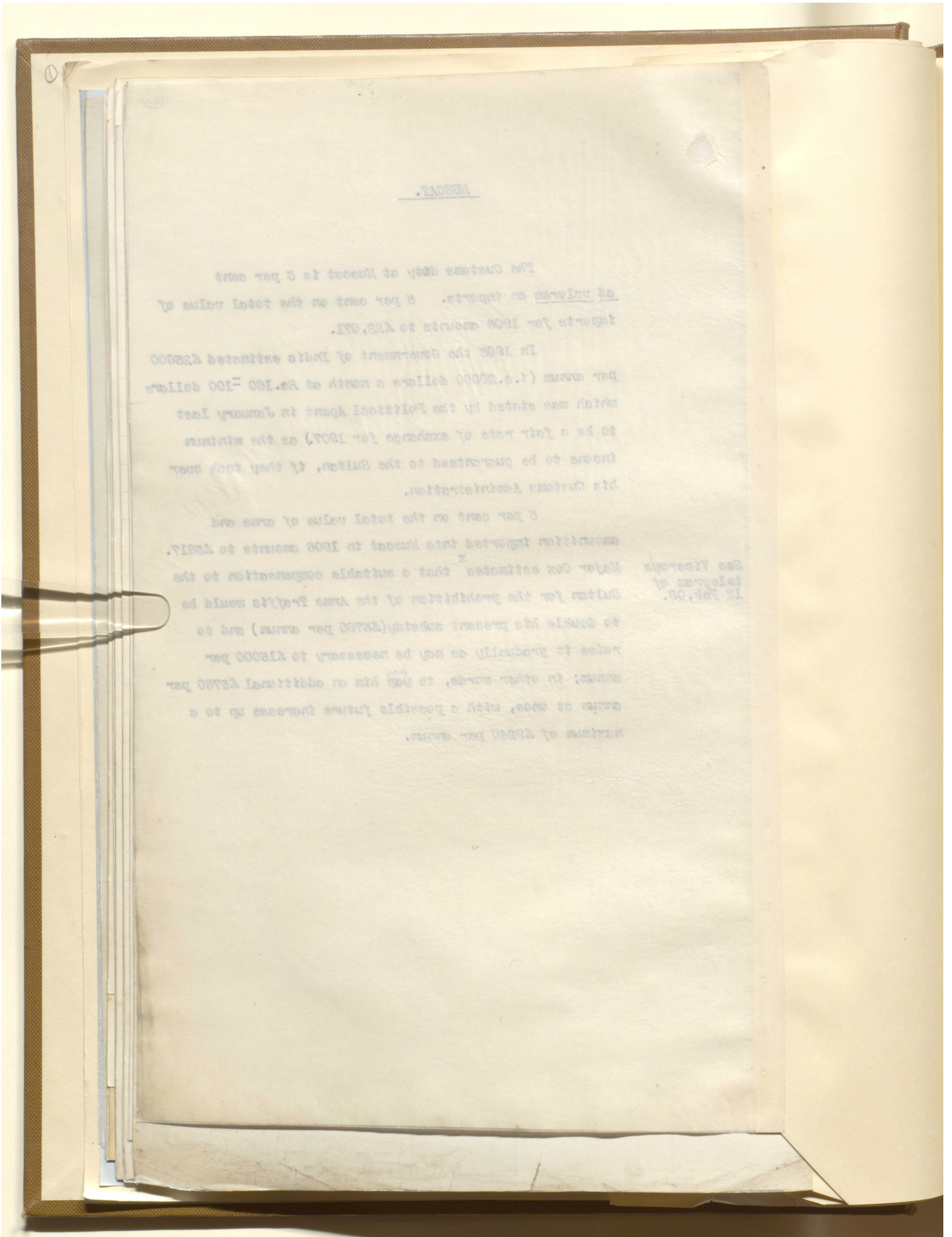
The Customs duty at Muscat is 5 per cent ad valorem on imports. 5 per cent on the total value of imports for 1906 amounts to £23,071.

In 1905 the Government of India estimated £25600 per annum (i.e. 20000 dollars a month at Rs.160 = 100 dollars which was stated by the Political Agent in January last to be a fair rate of exchange for 1907) as the minimum income to be guaranteed to the Sultan, if they took over his Customs Administration.

5 per cent on the total value of arms and ammunition imported into Muscat in 1906 amounts to £5617.

See Viceroy's telegram of 13 Feb. 08.

Major Cox estimates^x that a suitable compensation to the Sultan for the prohibition of the Arms Traffic would be to double his present subsidy (£5760 per annum) and to raise it gradually as may be necessary to £15000 per annum; in other words, to ~~pay~~^{pay} him an additional £5760 per annum at once, with a possible future increase up to a maximum of £9240 per annum.



BAHREIN.

The Customs duty at Bahrein is 5 per cent
ad valorem on imports.

The total value of imports for 1906 (excluding
pearls and specie, which are known to be non-dutiable^x)

was £579,466. 5 per cent

^x It seems likely that some other
articles are also admitted free of
duty, but no detailed information
is available. Col. Kemball spoke in
1904 of "non-dutiable articles, such
as pearls and specie".

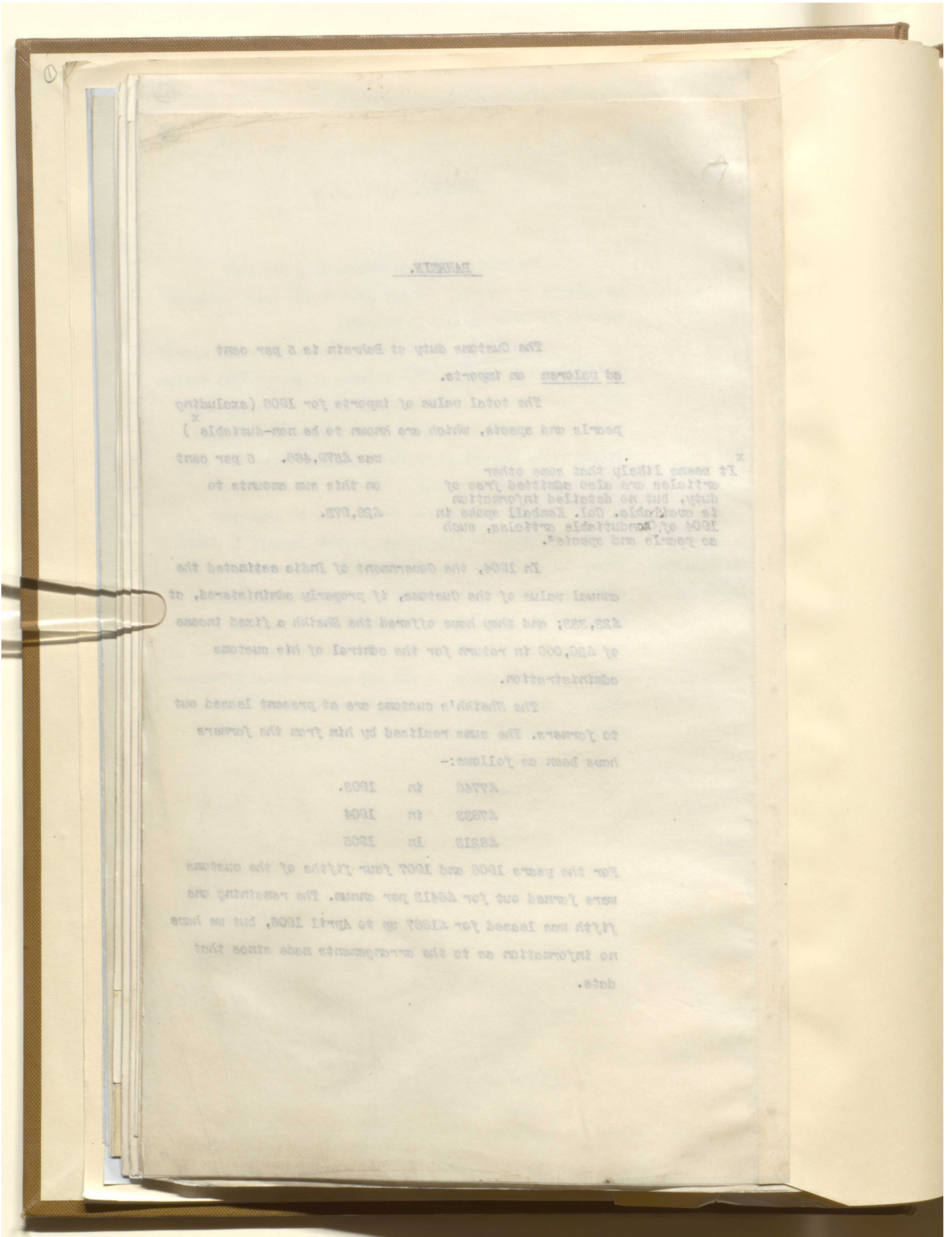
on this sum amounts to
£28,973.

In 1904, the Government of India estimated the
annual value of the Customs, if properly administered, at
£23,333; and they have offered the Sheikh a fixed income
of £20,000 in return for the control of his customs
administration.

The Sheikh's customs are at present leased out
to farmers. The sums realised by him from the farmers
have been as follows:-

£7746	in	1903.
£7833	in	1904
£8213	in	1905

For the years 1906 and 1907 four fifths of the customs
were farmed out for £6413 per annum. The remaining one
fifth was leased for £1867 up to April 1906, but we have
no information as to the arrangements made since that
date.



BAHRAIN.

The Customs duty of Bahrain is 5 per cent
ad valorem on imports.
 The total value of imports for 1908 (excluding
 pearls and opiate, which are known to be non-taxable)
 was £278,408. 5 per cent
 on this amounts to
 £28,823.
 It seems likely that some other
 articles are also admitted free of
 duty, but no detailed information
 is available. Col. Campbell speaks in
 1904 of "non-taxable articles, such
 as pearls and opiate."
 In 1904, the Government of India estimated the
 annual value of the Customs, if properly administered, at
 £25,383; and they have offered the British a fixed income
 of £20,000 in return for the control of the customs
 administrator.
 The British's customs are at present leased out
 to foreigners. The sum received by him from the foreigners
 has been as follows:-

1903	in	£1790
1904	in	£2833
1905	in	£2212

 For the years 1906 and 1907 few titles of the customs
 were leased out for £2412 per annum. The remaining are
 left was leased for £1807 up to April 1908, but we have
 no information as to the arrangements made since that
 date.

Bahrain.

	1897.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
<u>Imports.</u> (Value in £)					
United Kingdom	23,313	-	153	23	-
India	289,829	579,536	592,299	686,715	814,281
Other countries.	190,112	448,028	399,793	933,363	822,745
<u>Total</u>	502,954	1,027,564	992,275	1,620,101	1,637,026
Perls & Specie	201,219	586,317	522,404	1,050,947	1,057,560
Arms and * Ammunition	30,649	240	240	297	-
	1897.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
<u>Exports.</u> (Value in £)					
United Kingdom	-	4,274	4,332	428	682
India	248,981	709,332	676,555	861,517	943,935
Other countries	218,393	151,728	217,312	501,431	872,904
<u>Total</u>	467,374	865,334	900,499	1,363,376	1,817,521
Perls & Specie	317,872	715,650	749,770	1,209,733	1,337,412
Arms and * Ammunition	23,106	133	8	-	-

* The prohibition on the Arms & Specie came into force in 1898.

