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'Persian Gulf in 10 Volumes Vol: 1'

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	IOR/F/4/1767/72461
Date(s)	6 Sep 1837-20 Feb 1839 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 item (39 folios)
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About this record

This item consists of copies of political letters from the Government of Bombay [Mumbai], and one letter from the Court of Directors of the East India Company. The enclosures to these letters are contained in the subsequent items. It is the first in a series of ten items on the Persian Gulf (the others are IOR/F/4/1767/72462, IOR/F/4/1767/72463, IOR/F/4/1767/72464, IOR/F/4/1767/72465, IOR/F/4/1767/72466, IOR/F/4/1767/72467, IOR/F/4/1767/72468, IOR/F/4/1767/72469, and IOR/F/4/1767/72470).

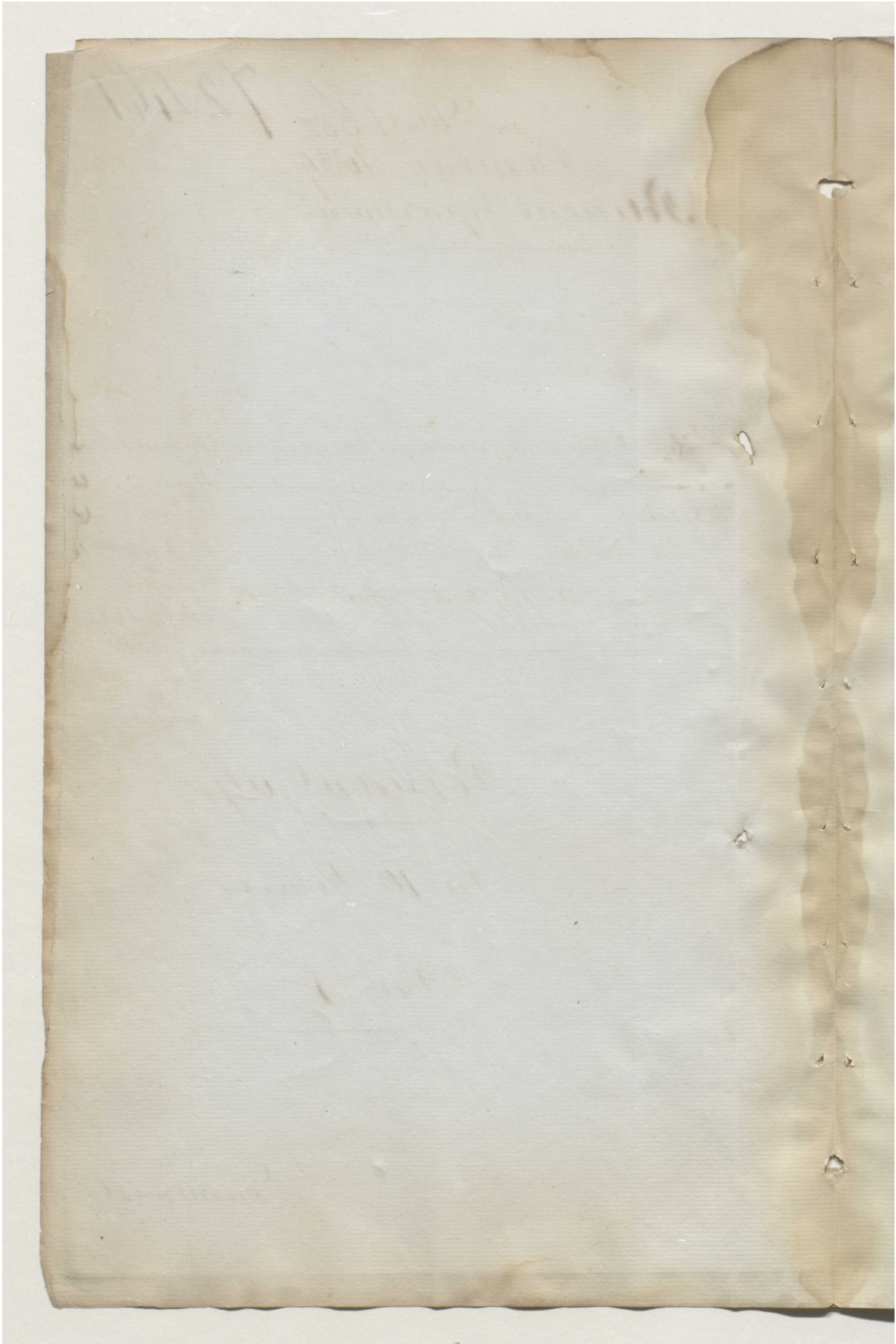
The item concerns:

- An act of 'piracy' carried out on the bugla [baghlah] *Duria Dowlat* [*Darya Dowlat*] by the Beni Yas, and arrangements for Shaik Shakboot of Aboothabee [Shaikh Khalifah bin Shakhbut Al Nahyan of Abu Dhabi] to repay the loss
- The loss of a vessel from Karrack [Jazīreh-ye Khārk] in suspicious circumstances, and the subsequent arrest of a man from Shargha [Sharjah]
- An act of 'piracy' carried out on the cotteya [kuttiya] *Luxoomee Pursad* [*Lakshman Parsad*] by the Binee boo Aly [Bani Bu Ali] tribe and inhabitants of Zoor [Sur]
- An act of 'piracy' carried out on the *Fatelkear* [*Fateh ul Khyr*] by the inhabitants of Zoor

- Aggression towards the shroff [banker] of the Bushire [Bushehr] Residency
- The movement of Esa ben Tareef [Shaikh 'Isa bin Hamad bin Tarif Al Bin 'Ali al-'Utbi] and his followers from Bahrein [Bahrain] to Aboothabee
- The flight of Sheik Nassir [Shaikh Nasir II Al Mazkur], the Governor of Bushire, from Bushire due to his impending arrest by the Government of Fars.

The item contains a contents page, and the title page of the item contains the following references: 'Draft 550, 1839, P.C. [Previous Communication] 2491'.

'Persian Gulf in 10 Volumes Vol: 1' [588v] (2/78)

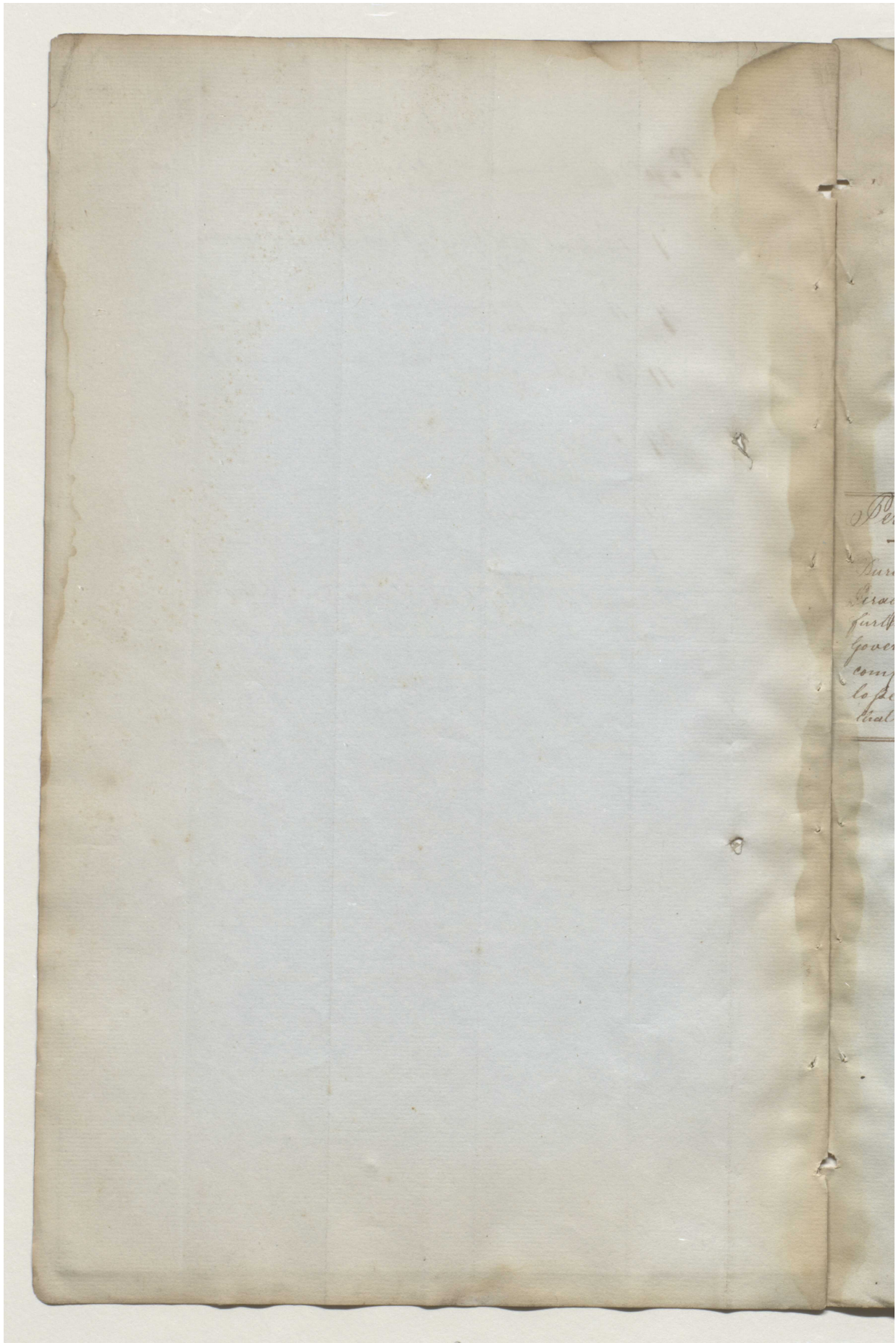


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'Persian Gulf in 10 Volumes Vol: 1' [589v] (4/78)



Persian Gulf Copy N. 370 of 1838
vol. 1

Political Department
To The Honble the Court of Directors
for affairs of the Honble East India
Company.
London.

Honble Sirs,

Persian Gulf, 1. With reference to our
Daria Dowlat, Bugla despatch dated the 7th December, 1835,
and the further proceedings of 1835, paras: 39 @ 89, reporting the
government in obtaining compensation for the losses sustained on
that occasion. — piracy committed on the Daria Dowlat
Bugla (under English colors, and belong-
ing to Bombay) by a large Benijas
Bugla called the "Kombassa" under
the Command of Mahommed bin
Sugur bin Jab, on the 27th March 1835,
and the measures adopted by this
Government for obtaining reparation
for the outrage in question, we now beg
to submit to your Honble Court our
further proceedings consequent thereto. —

2. In the 7² para. of the
above

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above despatch, we reported to your Honorable Court the engagement entered into by Shaik Shakhoot Father of the Aboothabee (Chief,) to make good whatever amount of actual loss might be proved to have accrued to the Cargo of the "Duria" Dowlut, such deficiency being discharged by yearly instalments of 5000 German Crowns payable on the 21st December, for the due execution of which agreement the Benyaff & Vepels "Mombassa" "Gharung" and "Ballay" were placed in Captain & Kennell's hands under a stipulation that they would become forfeited if any instalment remained unpaid three days after it became due.

3. The value of the Cargo on Board the "Duria Dowlut" at the time of her quitting Bombay entered on the Customs records.

Amounted to _____ Rupees 122,524⁰⁰ ..

Whilst the claims advanced by
Shippers

Shippers amounted to—Rupees—1440521—
 Shewing an excess in the value
 of Cargo claimed, compared
 with that entered on the
 Custom House records—Rupees—211123 1—
 In addition to these demands,
 claims were advanced by the
 Passengers and crew of the
 Duma Dowdul, for losses sus-
 tained by them on the occasion
 of her capture, to the extent
 of—Rupees—44709 10 3.
 We deemed it but just that
 in awarding compensation to
 the sufferers by this piracy,
 that the Resident should be
 guided in its amount by the
 official records of the Custom
 House, and not by the mere
 assertion of those interested in
 the award.

4. No satisfactory proof
 could be tendered of the actual value

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of the Property belonging to the crew
and Passengers Captain Hennell &
considered the claim advanced by them
Rupees 44,709 " 10 " 3/ to be quite pre-
posterous, that he could not give a
more decided proof of the exaggerated
nature of these demands, than by
bringing to the notice of Government,
the fact that among the claims put
forth by these Individuals was one
by a person named Goolam Hoopsein,
amounting to Rupees 7,672 " 8 " that
upon examination of the articles given
up by the Berijas, certain ornaments
belonging to this person were discovered,
and upon application restored that
previously however to their being
given up, he (Captain Hennell) had
them valued by experienced persons,
who estimated them at 740 Sahib,
Keroon, while in the list of claims
preferred by the owner these identical
jewels had been estimated at the
value

value of Rupees 2800, and that applying this difference to the aggregate of Goolam Hoossein's demands instead of Rupees 7672 they ought not to exceed Rupees 1236, or less than one sixth of what he stated to have been his losses.

5. There could not be the least doubt that the demands of every individual who was unable to produce documents to establish his claim, were if not to the same extent as the above still very & greatly exaggerated. Independently of the over valuation of the articles lost, it appeared that out of the Rupees 14,700.00 claimed by the Passengers and crew upwards of Rupees 12000 worth of property consisted entirely of merchandize for sale, all of which must have been smuggled on board and consequently debarr'd the owners of such property to any legitimate claim for compensation. This amount being deducted the balance

on
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on this head become reduced to
Rupees 32,709. 10. 3 This sum we directed
should at the least be reduced by
one third, a reduction we doubted not
very much under the amount overcharged
since a great number of the crew and
passengers at the time of going in
their demands expressed their readiness
to take half the sum they demanded.

Under this decision, the
total amount for which the Benyas
Ruler was held answerable was
Rupees 144,435. 7. 1.

To meet this demand
goods were recovered from the Pirates
to the extent of Rupees 109,287. 13. 5. &
Cash, Pearls and ornaments obtained
from the Benyas realised a sum of
Rupees 13,840. 10 thus leaving a
balance of Rupees 21,307. 8. 10 to be
recovered in instalments.

8. We feel considerable
pleasure in being able to inform your
Honble

Honorable Court, that this sum has
been recovered with the exception of
Rupees 2,310, and this sum Captain
Hennell in his last despatch on the
Poll. Consul. 1837. subject dated the 4.th October 1837 stated
No. 10.th N. 5084 he entertained no doubt would be
paid at the end of the Pearl fishery.
(all paid - vide colon ad finem)

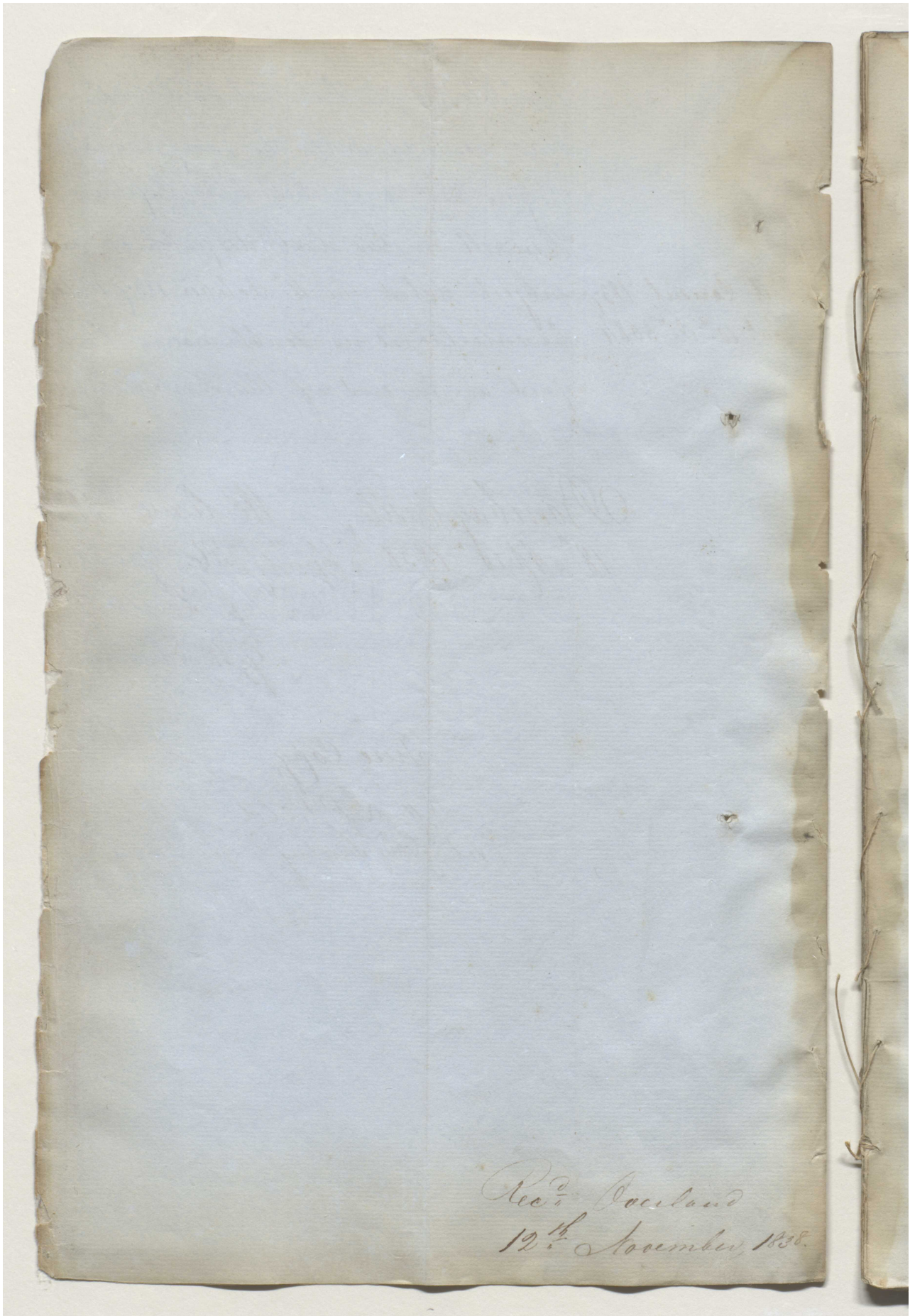
Bombay Castle, We have ^{per} ^{gr} ^{gr}
18.th April 1838. signed of R. Grant.
" J. Farish,
" G. W. Anderson.

True Copy
" A. Reid
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

Ed
M. [unclear]

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'Persian Gulf in 10 Volumes Vol: 1' [593v] (12/78)



Duplicate. 9

N^o. 61. of 1838.

Political Depart^t.

To The Honble the Court of Directors
For affairs of the Honble East India
Company -
London.

Honble Sirs

Persian Gulf
affairs of

1. With reference to your
Honorable Court's despatch dated the
6th September N^o. 2 of 1837, on the affairs
of the Persian Gulf, we have the honor
to transmit to your Honorable Court
copy of a communication from the
Officiating Resident at Bushire dated
the 15th May last on the subject.

2. In transmitting the above
despatch, we beg to observe that we have
approved of Captain Hounell's
suggestion as contained in the last
paragraph of his letter namely that
in the event of the Arabian Chiefs
applying (594)

applying for permission to declare war
against each other at any future period,
a written and formal recognition of
the restrictive line and neutral ground
shall be required from each Shaikh, &
preparatory to the authority requested &
being afforded.

We have the honor to be
with the greatest respect.

Honble Sir,
Your most faithful and obt.
humble Servants.

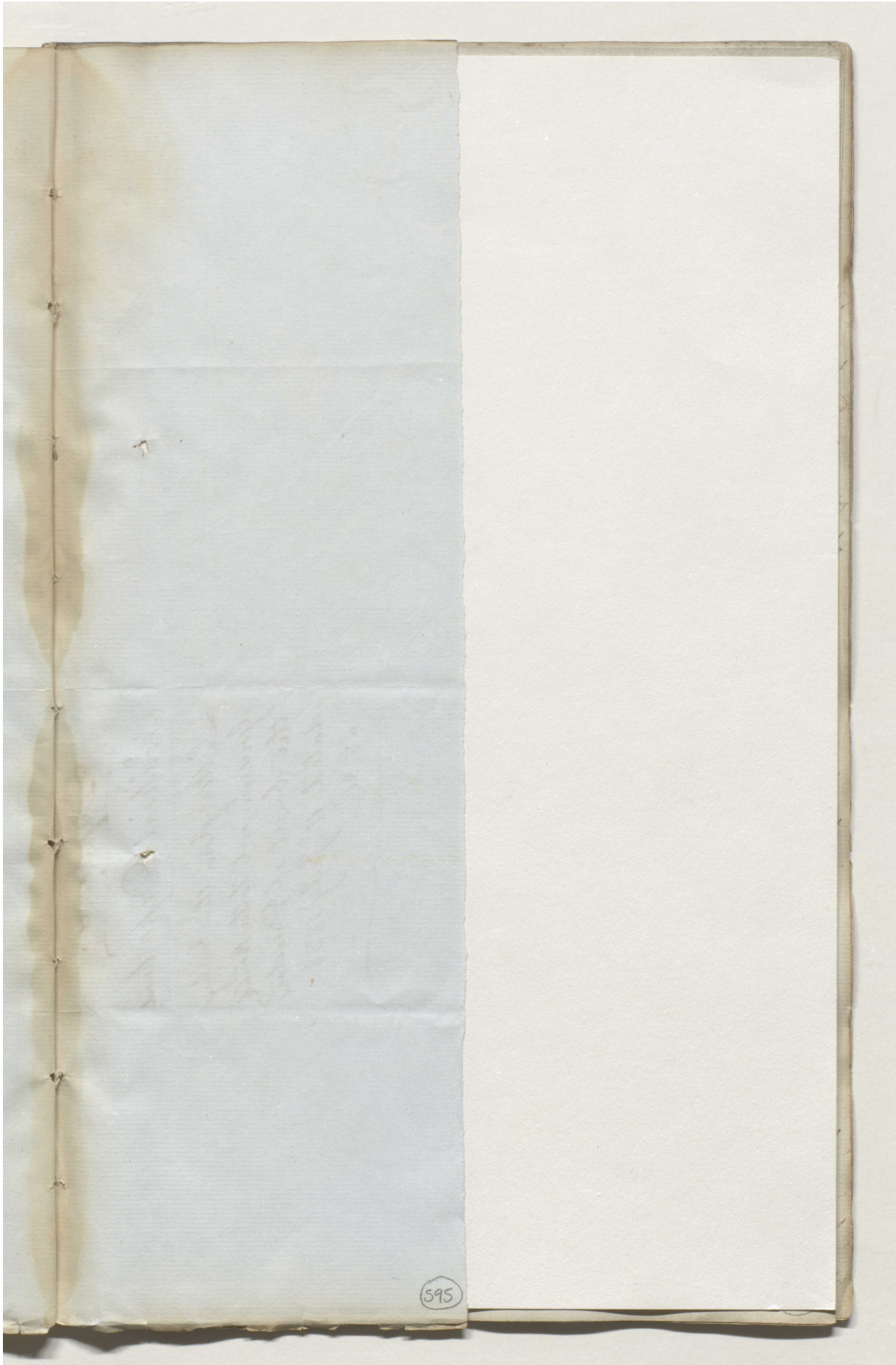
" Harris

" Fairbank

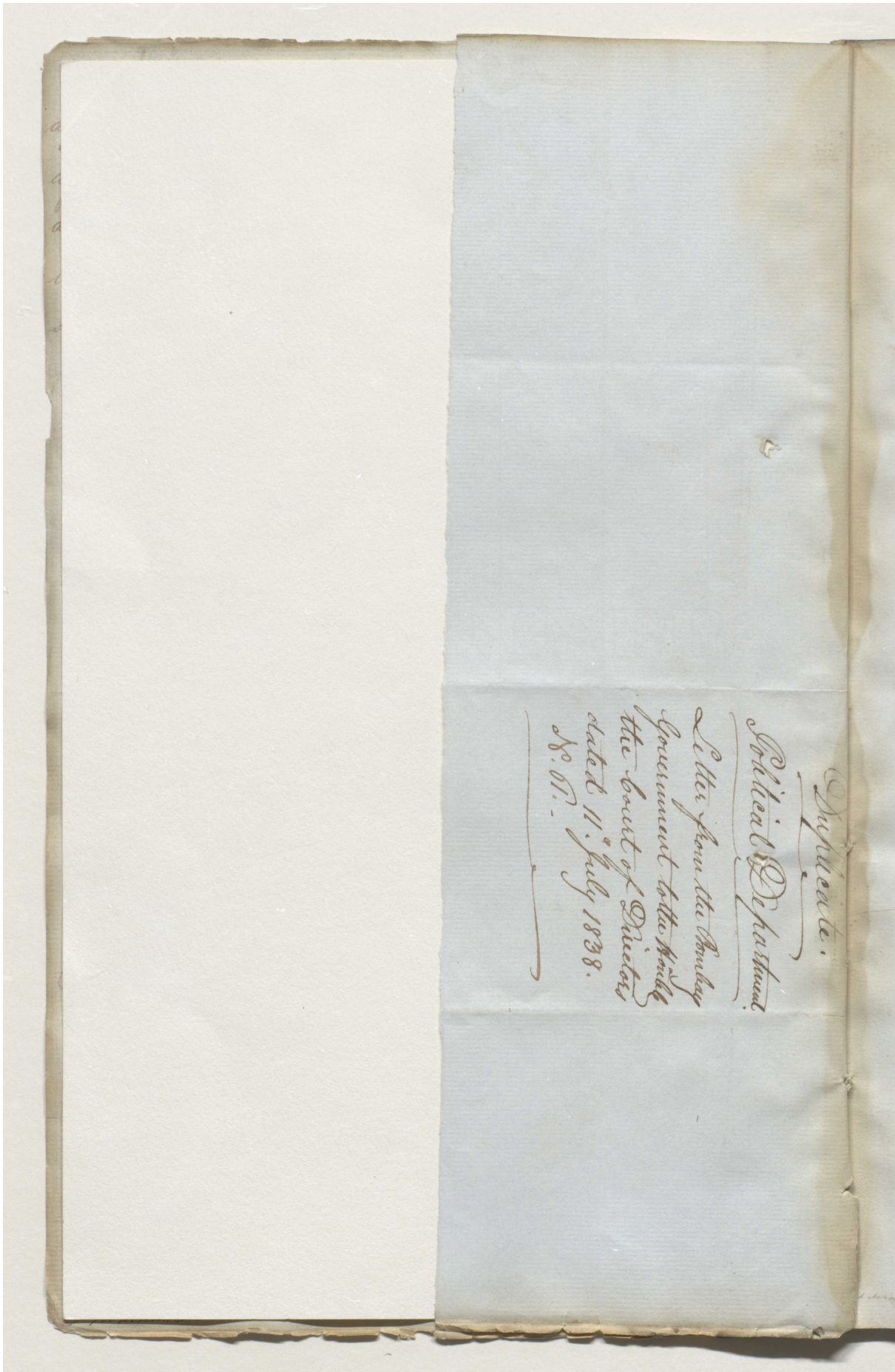
Bombay Castle
11th July 1838

By
The Command

'Persian Gulf in 10 Volumes Vol: 1' [595r] (15/78)



'Persian Gulf in 10 Volumes Vol: 1' [595v] (16/78)



11

Extract Political Letter from Bombay
Dated 30th September 1838

Persian Gulf Para: 87 With reference to your
 Honorable Court's Letter dated the 6th
 September 1837 regarding the
 affairs of the Persian Gulf, we have
 now the honor to transmit herewith
 copy of a despatch from Captain Hammett
 then officiating Resident at Bushire,
 dated the 5th May last, observing
 on the expediency of the principal
 line of traffic in the Gulf being
 between the Persian Coast and
 the Islands of Suvadiv and
 Bamosa being declared neutral
 ground, and to inform your
 Honorable Court that we have
 approved of the suggestion
 contained in that Officer's last
 para: that in the event of the
 Arabian Chiefs applying for permission
 to declare war against each other
 ad.

Duplicate.

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at a future period, a written
and formal recognition of the
restrictive line and neutral ground
should be required from each of
them

88 We have the honor to
report to your Honorable Court,
the total loss under exceedingly
suspicious circumstances of a
Kharrack Boat, carrying a crew
of six men with eleven passengers
and said to have on board a
valuable cargo in specie and property.
The particulars connected with this
mysterious affair, as deposed to
before Captain Bennett, officiating
Resident in the Persian Gulf, by
several witnesses, are as follows.

89 Some months since, on
the approach of the Pasha of
Bagdad's Army against Meshuriah,
an Arab merchant of that
place, named Hajee Ahmed bin
Amara, sought refuge with his
family

Col. Com. 1838
4th July
No 3122 B
3124

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family and property in the
Islands of Kharrack. Shortly
subsequent to the evacuation of
Choab by the Turkish forces
and the re-establishment of
Shahs Samus in his Government,
Maje Ahmed returned to his
native place and finding
affairs sufficiently settled, directed
his family to rejoin him,
accordingly on the 5th March
last, having hired at Kharrack,
a Bangarrah commanded by
Nakhoda Mirhad, and carrying
a crew of six men, the
eleven individuals composing the
family of Ahmed-bin Amara
with a quantity of valuable
property embarked therein and
sailed for their destination in
company with ^{four} other vessels, on
arriving off Penhockhan near
"Indian" the Kharrack boat separated
from the rest, intending to proceed
to

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to Dhorah by the channel called
"Khor Moosa". From this period
nothing further was heard of her,
until a report was received, that
on the 10th March, two bodies covered
with wounds had been found by
the fishermen of "Indiam" entangled
in their nets, and from the
description given of their dress,
there was reason to believe them
to be those of Mustard, and Hussein
Ibrahim two of the crew of the
missing vessel. It was also reported
that two other bodies, with a
water-tank, had been cast ashore
some where in the same neighbourhood.
These circumstances gave rise to
strong suspicions that the Kharrack
Buzgarah had been plundered, ^{scuttled} and
all on board murdered, by some
of the Oman Arabs resorting to
the Islands of Boonaband Deerah
for the purpose of collecting fish
and shark-fins. It was recollected
that the day before this ill-fated boat
left.

15

left Kharrack two strange Buggaraks
and a Bateel sailed for the
northward and that previously to
their departure while the goods and
valuables of Ahmed bin Amara
were being embarked, a man belonging
to one of them was noticed making
enquiries regarding the destination of
all this property.

90 Notwithstanding however every
search was made, the fate of the
missing boat still remained undiscovered
until the beginning of April, when
two Lingah Vessels which touched
at Faleegah brought information
that upon the small Island of
Derah near "Indran" they had
found the dead bodies of three
female slaves (without appearance of
wounds) and four newly made
graves; at no great distance
from these, was discovered part
of a Writing Desk, and a quantity of
Account Books and papers scattered
about

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about, some of which, with an anger gy anchor
they had brought away with them.
Upon examination several of the
documents were found to bear the
seal of Hajee Ahmed-ben-Amara,
and the anger was recognized by H anchor
some Kharrack people, as having
belonged to the missing boat.

91 Although it appeared to
Captain Kennell still uncertain whether
the Kharrack's Bugarak might
not have been lost in the neighbourhood
of Derak, and the bodies and
papers cast on shore at being
opened that wrecks are not
uncommon in that part of the
Gulf, Captain Kennell still
considered the ground of suspicion,
that a piracy had been committed
upon her were sufficiently strong
to render it incumbent upon him
to take every step likely to
elicit the real facts of the
case. He therefore despatched a
copy to Singapore with communications.

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to Malhah Shupani our Agent
at Shargah acquainting him
with all the circumstances connected
with the affair which had
come to his (Captain Kennell's)
knowledge, and directing the Agent
to make strict enquiries into
the proceedings of all the Vessels
which were known to have
lately returned from Bounah
and Derah, these Islands being
mostly frequented by the Singah
Debye, and Shargah Boats.

92 On the 28th May last,
Sheikh Abdvallah the uncle of the
Governor of Bushire called upon
Captain Kennell, with a message
from the latter to the effect, that
the persons concerned in the
supposed piracy upon the Kharrack
Bangorah having been seized, he
had sent ^{them} over to the officiating
Resident to know how they were
to be disposed of - upon enquiry
Capt. Kennell was informed
that

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that the day before, two Singah
Boats had touched at
Sharrack, and the suspicions of
the inhabitants having been excited,
they were detained and searched,
when several articles, consisting
of a sword, a Koran, a
Mortar and Iron baking plate,
some clothes, a quantity of
plank, and part of the stern
sheets of a boat, were found
on board, all of which had been
recognised as belonging to the
missing vessel; having ascertained
these particulars to be substantially
correct, Captain Stennell interrogated
the Mahomedan, and others of the
Singah Boats, as to the manner
in which these suspicious articles had
fallen into their possession. The explanation
given was as follows. That they left
Singah on the 3rd March for the
purpose of proceeding to the northward
to collect a cargo of fish and
shark-fins; on arriving off
Kalelah

19

Halelah, the violence of the wind
compelled them to take shelter in
that Bay; while at anchor there
the Nakhoda proceeded by land
on the 20th March to Bushere,
and obtained from Sheikh Napiro
a written document permitting them
to carry on their fishing without
molestation near the Islands of
Boonah and Derab. They reached
the latter place on the 23rd of
the same month and found the
wreck of a boat lying on the
N.W. point of the Island. An
examination it proved to be the
stern sheels and a portion of
the side of a Bugarah, which appeared
as if it had been divided from
the remainder by a saw. In
the wreck were found an axe, and a
piece of rope, beneath it a sword,
a morban, and an anchor. The
clothes found in their boat, were
taken from the bodies of four female slaves,
who were lying dead, but without any appearance

600

Halelah
Governor
of Bushere

of wounds. The Koran was picked up near three recently made graves. It was further stated that upon their first reaching Boorah, a Bunganah belonging to a resident of Singah of notoriously bad character, named Abdool Rausman bin. Sahar was lying off the Island. This boat sailed the next morning leaving behind on shore three bags of dates, four large jars and three bags of fine Channam, which were taken possession of by the people of Singah. The deponents concluded by stating that having remained sufficiently long in the neighbourhood of Boorah and Derah to fill up their cargo of fish, they were on their return to their own port, when they were seized and detained by the inhabitants of Tharrack.

93. The next morning Lieutenant Edmunds the Assistant Resident accompanied by the Residency Arabic Muzai and some of the Tharrack people, proceeded on board

91

board the two Singah boats for the purpose of instituting a stricter search than had hitherto been made. They were found to be completely laden with salted fish and shark-fins, and with the exception of a few of the boards of the wrecked boat, and the several articles already referred to, contained nothing of a suspicious nature. The only arms found on board were a few spears.

94. Any doubts which might have been entertained as to the innocence of the crew of the two Singah Boats, were completely removed by the arrival on the 1st June of Haged & Mahomed and other of the principal inhabitants of Kharrack, who waited upon Captain Kennell to state that the result of their enquiries to the northward was such, as completely exonerated the individuals detained, from the suspicion of any participation in the piracy upon their Boat, as they had now strong

grounds
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grounds for believing that Abdool
Rahman bin Suchan of Singah,
was the perpetrator of this atrocious
act. They further intimated that
it was their intention to proceed
to Singah and the Arabian Coast,
for the purpose of following up
the clue they conceived they had
obtained and that they were now
about to return to Bhrarrack in
order to prepare their Batees
for this voyage: when ready, they
said, they wanted touch at
Bushree, and having been joined
by the two detained Boats sail
in company with them to Singah.
Several days however having elapsed
without their making their appearance,
Captain Kennell acceded to the
request of the latter to be permitted
to return to their own port, for
which they accordingly took their
departure.

95 On the 5th July the officiating
Resident reported that on the 19th June
Prel. Cons. 1838
22nd Aug^o
7024058
60
preceding

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preceeding a Boat arrived from Singah bringing a communication from Shaikh Said bin Gazyeb the Chief of that place sent with an Arab named "Sultan bin Suher" who had been seized at Suerah on the Batenah Coast under strong suspicions of being the perpetrator of the atrocious and cold blooded piracy upon the Kharrack boat near the Island of Derah; accompanying this prisoner was an Abyssinian Girl who had been found in his possession, and recognized as belonging to the family of Ahmed bin Amara.

96 . At the date when the Singah Boat reached Bushire, Captain Hennell was absent at Kharrack, and on his return he found "Sultan bin Suher" a prisoner in the Residency, and the Abyssinian Girl lodged with the family of one of that officer's servants. On being brought before the officiating Resident, she made the following statement, - that her name was "Jufferan", and that she was a member of the family of Ahmed bin Amara which had embarked on the

(602)
Kharrack

A Kharack boat for the purpose of proceeding
 to Dorack to rejoin her master, that on
 the evening of her departure they anchored
 in sight of land, and shortly after
 sun-set a boat came alongside of them,
 and Sultan bin Suker with two Slaves
 jumped on board, that she had only
 time to observe that the Kharack boatmen
 crouched down as if from fear, when
 she was seized, rolled up in a sail
 and fastened to the Mast of the strange
 vessel - that consequently she could see
 nothing of what was going on, but
 she heard a confused noise as of a
 scuffle, and cries "Oh Ally! Oh Ally!"
 "we shall never see our home again"
 that she remained fastened in the manner
 described until the next morning, when
 being liberated, she found herself alone
 with Sultan bin Suker, and his two
 Slaves - upon this she made enquiry as
 to what had become of the other boat
 with her mistress and family, and was
 told in reply by her Captor, that it
 had proceeded on its voyage. The only
 articles

25

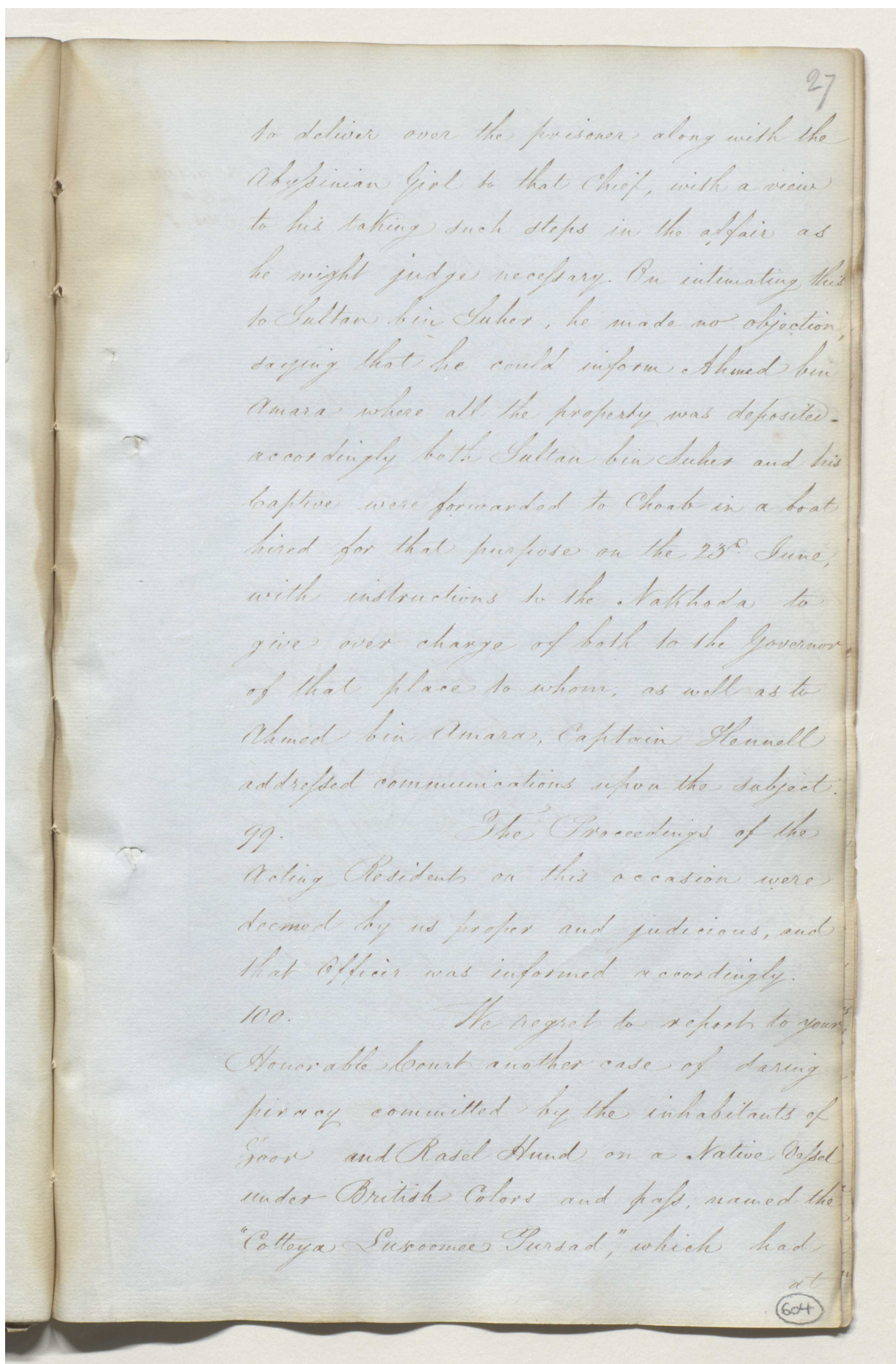
articles she saw belonging to her master on board the pirate Bugarah were some large copper pots - she added that Sultan had threatened her life, if she divulged any thing of what had taken place, and had instructed her to say that the Kharrack Boat had been wrecked upon the Island, and that he had rescued her from thence.

¶ The Statement made by "Sultan bin Suher" when interrogated by Captain Hennell, as to the manner in which this Girl had fallen into his possession, was that on his voyage to the Northward, he had touched at Wargoo (off Kharrack) for water, and two days afterwards reached the Island of Derah, where he found the wreck of a boat - that after anchoring, the Abyssinian Girl in question came towards them, supported on a stick, and that by means of a rope which he threw to her he was enabled to get her on board. that two days after Abud bin Haudie from Singah, and Abdoola bin Ahmed from Ormooy, arrived with their boats, and the latter

perdon
603

person carried off nearly the whole of the property to a very large amount, and all that he had received were some Copper pots, and that Obed bin Hunder had some clothes and a Halboa for his share. On being asked whether on his first reaching the Island he had seen any bodies, he replied yes, that there were some dead female slaves lying about, but that all the free women had been buried. As he did not say how he became acquainted with this last fact, the natural conclusion was (Captain Hennell observed) that the prisoner must have buried them himself.

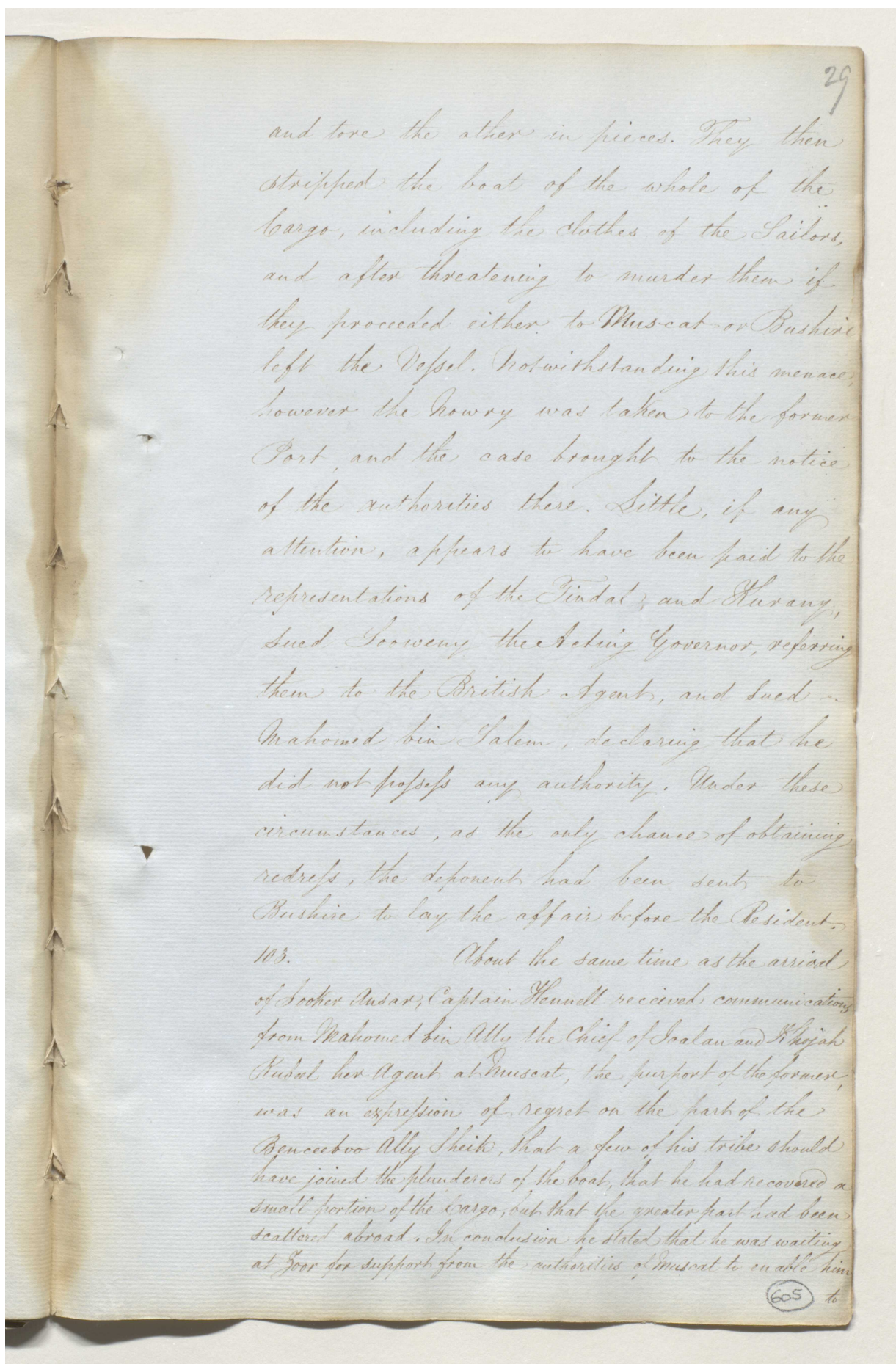
98. Upon the whole Captain Hennell had not the slightest doubt in his own mind regarding Sultan bin Luber being the perpetrator of the piracy upon the Gharrack boat. As Ahmed bin Amara and his family ^{were} subjects of Shaikh Samoor the Ruler of Choab (who had written to the Officiating Residents upon the subject of this atrocious case of robbery and bloodshed) he, (Capt. Hennell) considered it advisable to



at the time a valuable cargo on board.

101. In his letter dated the 12th ^{Col. Con. 1838}
June last, the officiating Resident in ^{July 11th}
the Persian Gulf, reported that he was ^{No. 3104 J}
on the preceding day waited upon by
a person named "Gooker Ansar" who
had come from Muscat to Bushire for
the purpose of bringing to that Officer's
notice the particulars of the piracy
committed on the vessel in question.

102. From the statement made
by this individual (who was the
Surance on board the plundered vessel)
it appears that the "Hootayya Surance
Pursad", cleared out from Bombay under
British pass and colors in February last,
and having taken a cargo of 1,800 bags
of Rice on board at Mangalore, she
proceeded on her voyage to Muscat.
Upon her arrival off Rufful head,
she was unfortunately dismasted, and
when in that helpless condition, was boarded
by about twenty one boats, the crews of
which, so far from exhibiting any regard
to her pass and flag, took away the one,
and



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and tore the other in pieces. They then
stripped the boat of the whole of the
cargo, including the clothes of the Sailors,
and after threatening to murder them if
they proceeded either to Muscat or Bushire
left the Vessel. Notwithstanding this menace,
however the Rowry was taken to the former
Port, and the case brought to the notice
of the authorities there. Little, if any
attention, appears to have been paid to the
representations of the Fındal, and Husany,
Sued Soowey, the Acting Governor, referring
them to the British Agents, and Sued
Mahomed bin Salem, declaring that he
did not possess any authority. Under these
circumstances, as the only chance of obtaining
redress, the deponents had been sent to
Bushire to lay the affair before the Resident,
105.

About the same time as the arrival
of Sooper Rudar, Captain Humeall received communications
from Mahomed bin Ally the Chief of Soalan and Khojah
Rudal her Agent at Muscat, the purport of the former,
was an expression of regret on the part of the
Benevolvo Ally Sheik, that a few of his tribe should
have joined the plunderers of the boat, that he had recovered a
small portion of the cargo, but that the greater part had been
scattered abroad. In conclusion he stated that he was waiting
at Soor for support from the authorities of Muscat to enable him

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to proceed with effect against
the principal actors in this
affair. The agent in transmitting
copies of his correspondence with the
Soalan Chief upon the above subject,
intimated that he did not believe
the latter would give up any portion
of what he had collected unless his
so doing was firmly insisted upon.
Khoja Rubel added that the
Beneboo Ally tribe were concerned in the
piracy only to a small extent, the
inhabitants of Zoor being the
principal actors in the affair, and almost
all the plundered property having been
disposed of in that place.

104. Captain Hennell was
of opinion that some decisive measures
should be taken to put down the
predatory spirit lately exhibited by
the Arabs residing in Zoor. "This post,"
(the

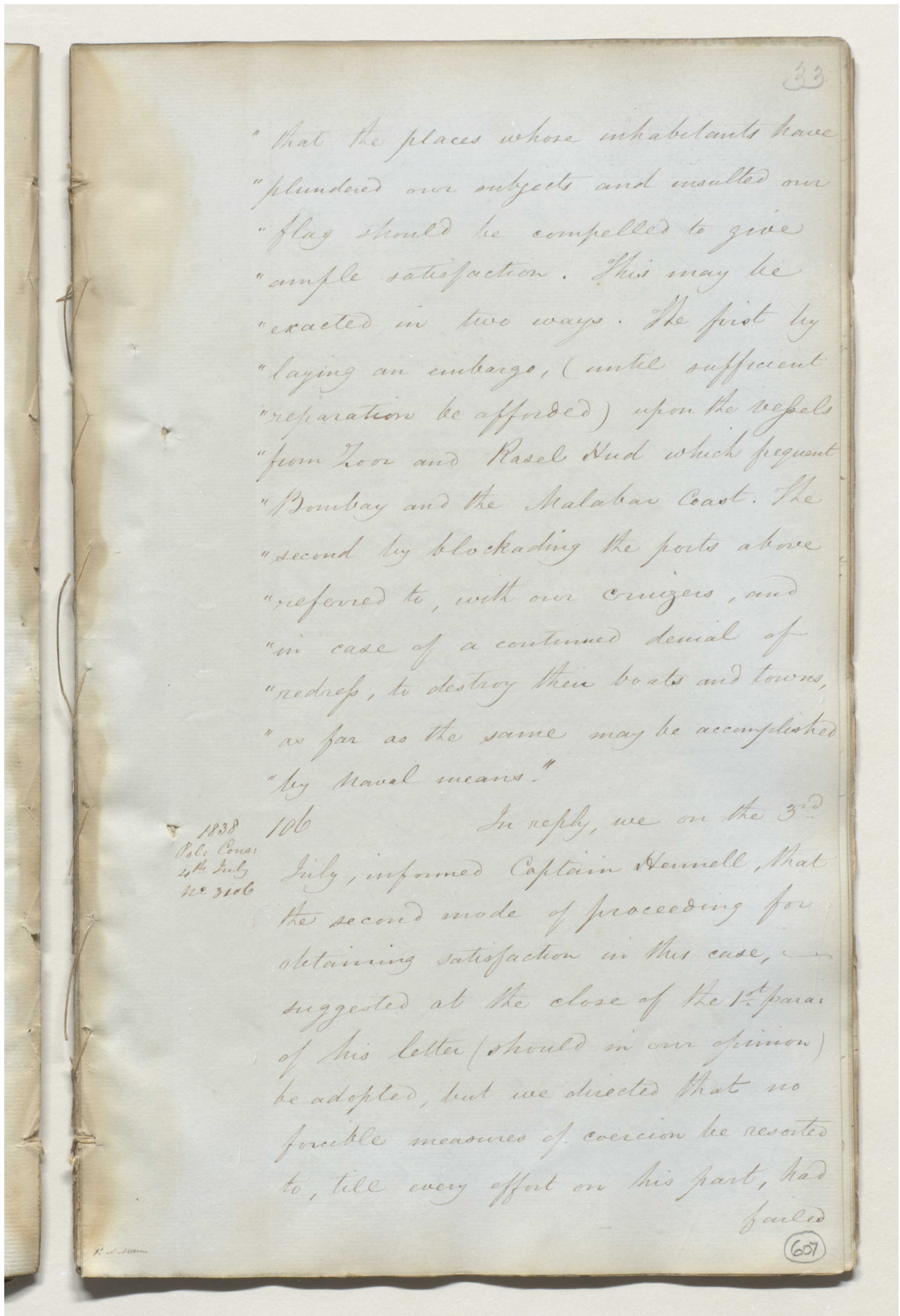
31

(he observes) "was formerly nominally
"at least under the authority of His
"Highness the Imam, and I am
"inclined to think, that a sort of Agent,
"from Syed Swamy still resides
"there; I do not however believe that
"at present the Muscat Government
"either does or can exercise any
"control over its inhabitants."

105. Captain Hennell then
proceeded to state (para 5) "I regret
"much to observe the degree of
"indifference manifested by the present
"authorities of Muscat to the cases
"of aggression which have been brought
"to their notice since the departure
"of His Highness the Imam, and
"I venture to think that for the due
"maintenance of our policy in these
"quarters it is highly expedient that
"a proper understanding should be
"come

(606)

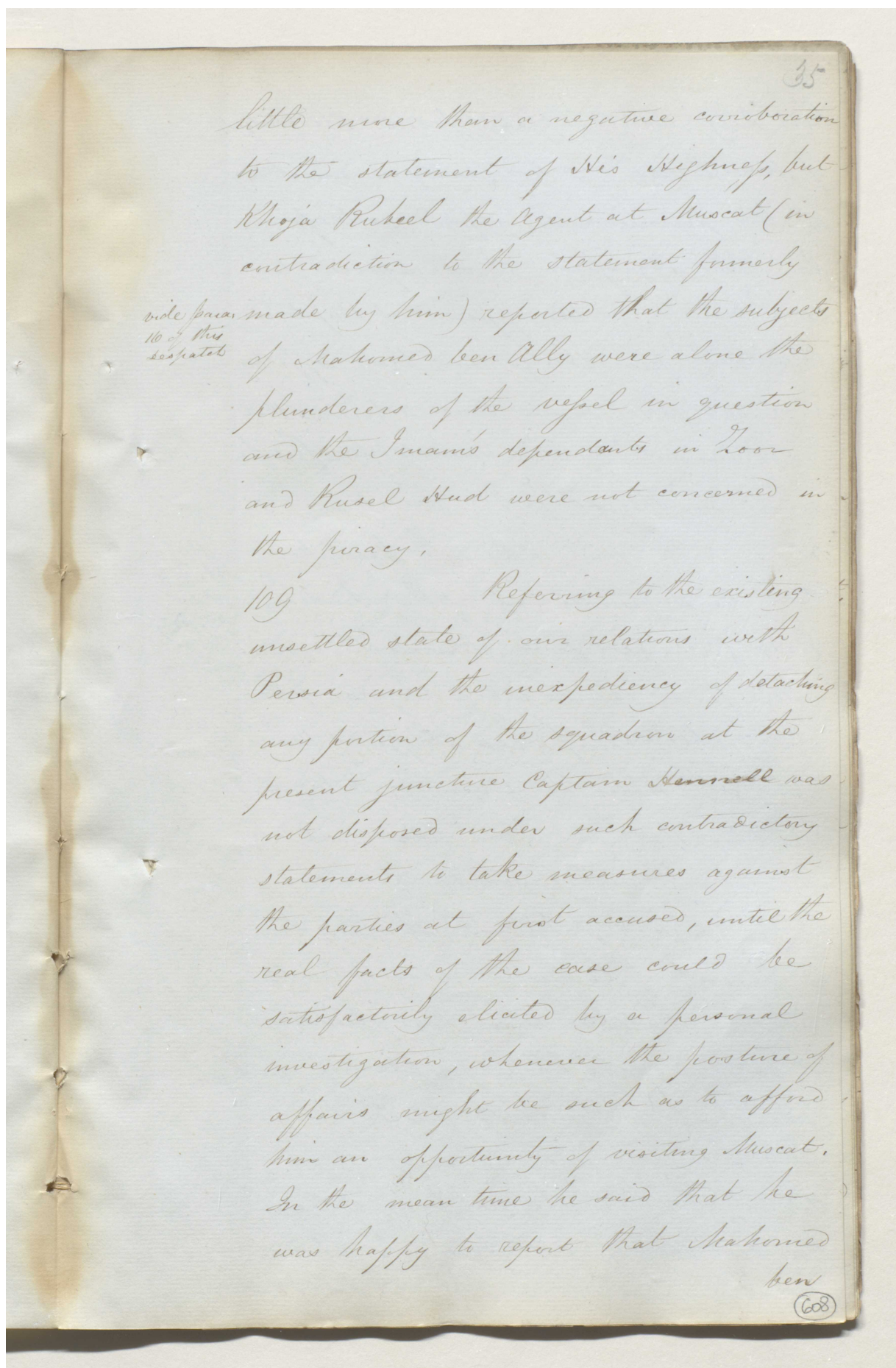
" come to on this subject. With this view,
" I have addressed a letter to Sa'ud
" Sa'ud, the Acting Governor of the
" Sa'ud's Capital, in which I have
" taken up a rather more decided tone
" than has hitherto characterized our
" correspondence with that now
" imbecile and feeble Government. If its
" supremacy over Zoor and Rasal Hud
" be acknowledged by the local
" authorities, and they be made like all the
" other Maritime rulers on the Arabian
" Coast, answerable for the act, of their
" own dependents, a sense of self interest
" may induce them to take more effectual
" and vigorous measures for putting an
" end to these lawless and irregular
" proceedings. - If on the contrary, any
" control or authority over the two ports
" above referred to, be disavowed, I
" think that it is due to our own character
" that



failed to bring the authorities of Zoor
and Rasel Hud by milder means, to
a proper sense of the enormities they
had countenanced and to make full
reparation.

107 These efforts we further
directed should in the first instance
be used with the Government of
Muscat, which we hoped would
interpose with its authority to enforce
our just demand. These instructions
were approved by the Right Honorable
the Governour General of India in Mr. 1838
Secretary Macnaghten's letter dated 23rd 29th Aug. 1838
July last. N^o 4205

108 On the 22nd August Captain 20
Stennel reported that Saed Sooverny the 19th Sept
Acting Governour of Muscat, denied the 45078
participation of the inhabitants of Zoor
and Rasel Hud in the piracy committed
on the "Calleya Laxamon Persad" and
forwarded copy of a letter from Mahomed
ben Ally, Chief of Soalan to prove the
truth of his statement. This letter afforded
little



been fully would appear from the contents
of two letters to be really earnest
in his promises to afford redress
for the aggression above referred to.

110. We approved of Captain
Stennell's proceedings and that officer
was at the same time informed that
Government would await his further
report on the subject.

111. On the 14th December 1837
last the Superintendent of the Indian Pol. Comm.
Navy forwarded to Government a 36th Sect
letter from Commander Rogers of the No. 6906 97
Honourable Company's Sloop of War
"Munster" dated 6th November last,
reporting that on his arrival at
Muscat he was informed that a
Bugla named *Satelkear* belonging to
a person of *Columbee* near *Calicut*
on the *Malabar Coast*, was plundered
of various goods by the people of
Zoor about a hundred miles below
Muscat.

112. The *Nakhoda* of the
Bugla stated, that formerly she
sailed

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sailed under English Colours and pap,
but that in consequence of her trading
for the last four years in the Red
Sea, she sailed under the Arab flag.

113 The *Tutelkear* left Mocha
for Colundee about the 3rd September
and afterwards touched at Zoor for water
and provisions, from whence she
sailed about the 10th or 12th October
on the following day, three boats
were observed coming towards her from
the land, one of which came along
side, having a crew of 35 or 40 men
amongst whom were many that the
Makoda had seen at Zoor. They
at first asked for a passage for two
or three of their people to Muscat,
and after some conversation fifteen
armed men jumped on board the
Tutelkear, wounded two of her crew,
and plundered the goods. They then quitted
the *Phigla* and proceeded towards
the land along with the other two
boats.

114 On the 18th October

(69) the

the *Fatelkear* reached Muscat, and five days after named the *Shark* of Zoor arrived there bringing with him the articles plundered from her by his people.

115 We requested the acting Assistant Resident in charge of the Bushire Residency, to investigate this case of piracy and report the result to Government.

116. In his letter dated the 1838
28th June, Captain Stennell stated ^{P.L. Cons.} ^{22 Aug.} ^{N:3756@8}
that the report made by Commander Rogers, regarding the plunder of the *Colundee Bugla* was correct.

"Some years back
"(observes Captain Stennell) Zoor, was
" unquestionably under the authority
" of the Imam of Muscat, but since
" the departure of his Highness the reins
" of Government have been held so
" loosely by the Regency left behind
" him, that it is difficult to say
" what may be the exact nature of the
" relations between that port and
" the

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the Muscat authorities as they exist at
"present".

117 Captain Hennell suggested
that if measures were to be adopted
for repressing the predatory spirit lately
manifested by the Inhabitants of those
two places, in the event of the
Muscat Regency disclaiming any authority
over them, the value of the goods of the
Colindee Bugla still remaining unreturned,
might be included in the list of claims
now existing against them.

118 In reply we approved
of the above suggestion and Captain
Hennell was at the same time
referred to the Government instructions
of the 3rd July, last, alluded to in
para: 106.107 of this despatch, which
appeared to us equally applicable
in the present case.

1838
Col. Coms.
23rd May
N^o 229788

119. We have the honor to
bring to the notice of your Honorable
Court, that on the 29th March last
D^r. Mackenzie then Acting Assistant
in charge of the Bushire Residency,

reported
(60)

reported that a complaint was made to him by the Residency Shroff of his having been struck in the public street, by a man named Alli Haman, and of an attempt having been made by the same individual to compel him to appear before Shaik Sulman, for the decision of a claim which he said he had against him the Shroff.

120 Upon this D^r. Mackenzie addressed a note on the 23rd March to Shaik Napiir, the Governor of Bushire, pointing out the irregularity of the proceeding and requesting that after satisfying himself of the fact a suitable punishment might be inflicted on the offender.

121 On the day following D^r. Mackenzie received a message from Shaik Napiir, admitting the fact of the assault, but endeavouring to excuse the offender on the plea of insanity or very great folly, and assigning as a reason for the aggression that he had a claim against the Shroff on account of
of

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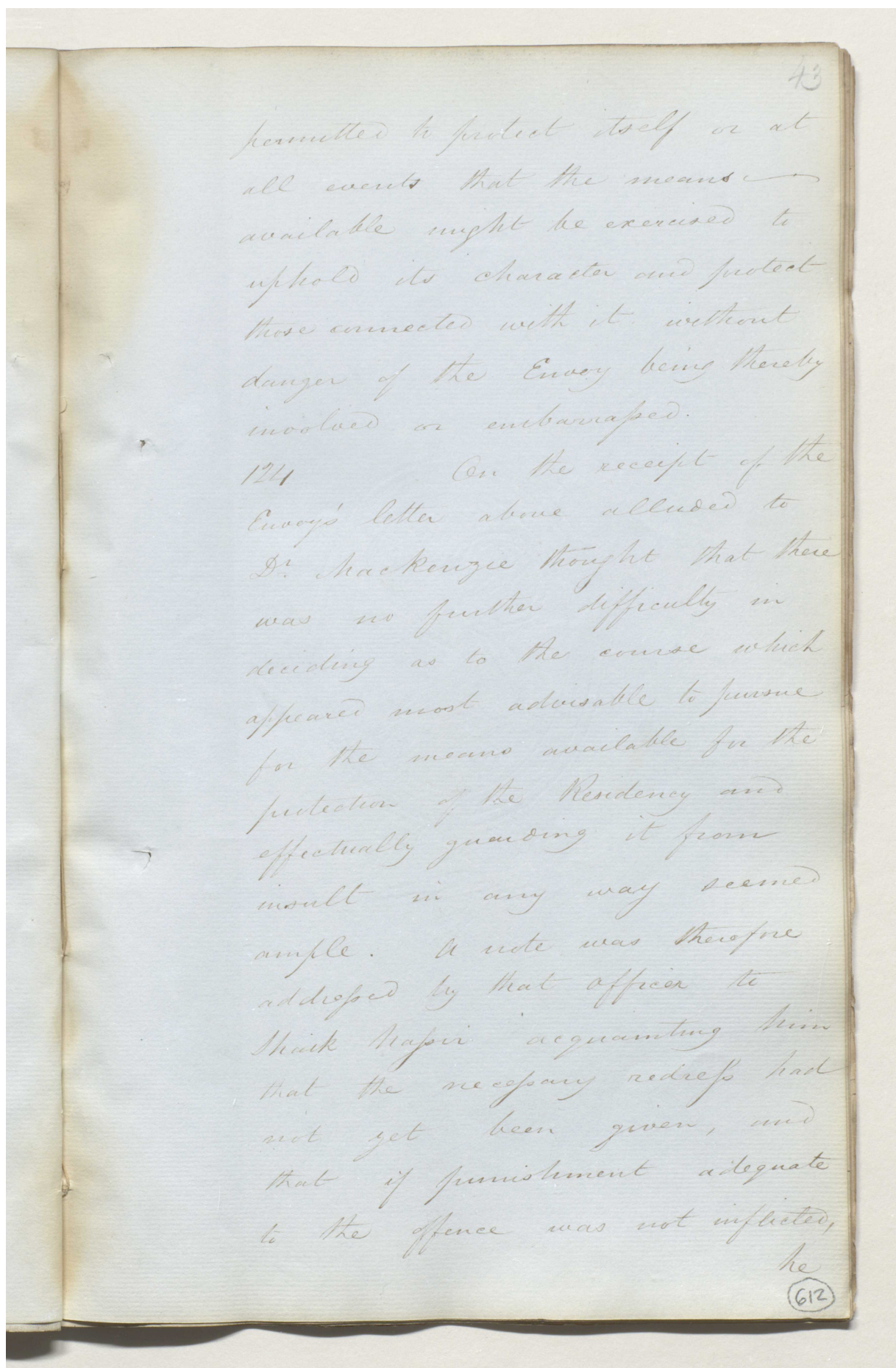
of money that had been entrusted to his father many years ago. In reply D. Mackenzie intimated to the Shaik that the claim preferred appeared very questionable, for notwithstanding both parties had been in Bushire during the last five years, nothing had been said regarding it, and at all events the irregular way in which it was attempted to recover it could not be allowed; that an offence had been committed and that if the offender was really insane he ought to be placed under restraint, but if his madness was feigned a suitable punishment should be awarded.

122 Perceiving from the above message from Shaik Napii a disposition to avoid, punishing a Mahomedan when only a Jew had suffered and consequently of granting the redress required. D. Mackenzie stated that he felt somewhat at a loss how to act - a reference to Tehran under the existing state of affairs in that quarter appeared to that officer very ineligible, for although every support and protection that could possibly be rendered had on every occasion been granted by the

(61)

the Ambassador, a delay must have necessarily occurred tending to strengthen an impression which the Dr. Mackenzie feared had already begun to prevail, that the people of the Residency might be insulted with impunity, an impression which it appeared to him most desirable to remove or at least to convince those unfavorably disposed towards the Residency that they could not, either at Shaik Suliman's instigation or trusting to the support they might receive from him to satisfy their own inclinations, maltreat those connected with it with entire impunity.

123 On the 28th March Dr. Mackenzie received an unsatisfactory note from Shaik Napiq. It appeared doubtful whether any punishment had been inflicted on Alli Laman: In the mean while Dr. Mackenzie received a letter from the British Envoy at the Court of Persia intimating that he had informed the Persian Government that he could not be responsible for any disturbance that might occur at Bushire, and in the event of violence being offered force would be repelled by force. From this Dr. Mackenzie concluded that the Residency was permitted



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permitted to protect itself or at all events that the means available might be exercised to uphold its character and protect those connected with it, without danger of the Envoy being thereby involved or embarrassed.

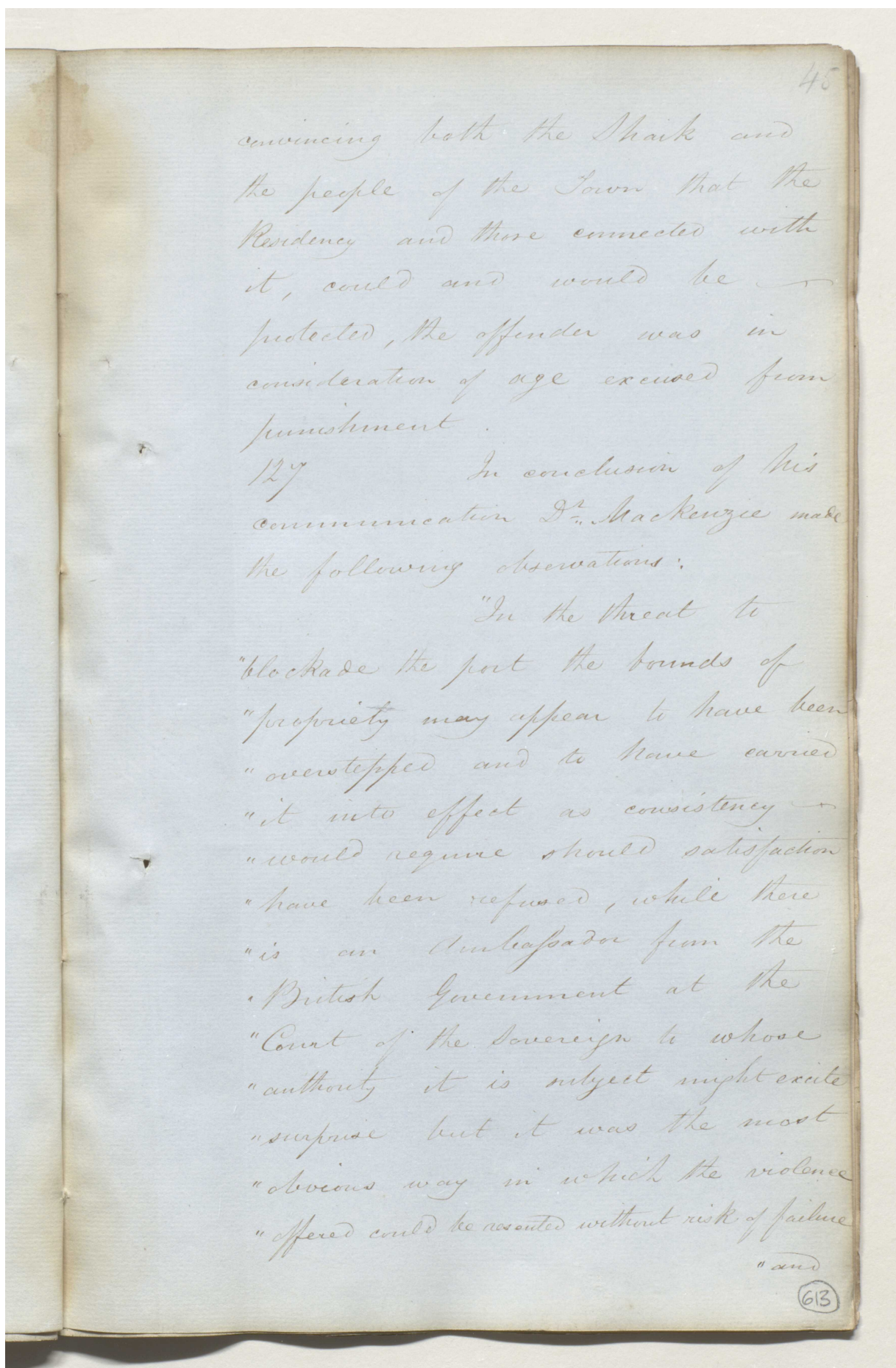
124 On the receipt of the Envoy's letter above alluded to Dr. Mackenzie thought that there was no further difficulty in deciding as to the course which appeared most advisable to pursue for the means available for the protection of the Residency and effectually guarding it from insult in any way seemed ample. A note was therefore addressed by that officer to Shaikh Nafir acquainting him that the necessary redress had not yet been given, and that if punishment adequate to the offence was not inflicted, he

(612)

he (Dr Mackenzie) would consider it necessary to remove from the place and endeavor to enforce compliance by blockading the port.

125 The remonstrance Dr Mackenzie stated, soon produced the desired effect. Alli Haman was immediately imprisoned and on the 29th of March he was sent to the Residency to be dealt with in whatever way might be deemed proper.

126 Dr Mackenzie conceived that although the measures adopted towards the offender by Shaik Majid, tended to encourage rather than prevent acts similar to the one complained of the circumstances of the affair having become generally known and the principal object having been attained of convincing



"and I conceive that it was
" following the course indicated
" by His Excellency the Ambassador
" whose judgment I presume
" not to question. The menace
" was severe but would on
" that account be the more
" impressive, and so far it
" was the more eligible, as the
" conviction on the minds of those
" to whom it was held out, that
" what was threatened would
" also be executed would it was
" believed almost to a certainty
" more, the non necessity of
" coercive measures being at all
" resorted to while ^{one} in its consequences
" less to be dreaded might have
" failed in its object, and in the
" sequel proved embarrassing. It
" may therefore I humbly think, be
" viewed as an act rendered
" expedient by the peculiar circumstances
" of the case and dictated
" by

47
"by policy not altogether
"indefensible.

"No apprehension is
"entertained of the affair being
"made the subject of complaint to
"the Persian Government. Sufficient
"advantage being derived by
"Shah Nasser from his pretended
"influence with the British Government
"through the Residency to render him
"more anxious to conceal than divulge
"such an occurrence.

128. We did not think that
"L^o Mackenzie was justified in resorting
"to the extreme measure he did, except
"with the previous concurrence of the
"Envoy in Persia and with ample
"means at his disposal to carry it
"into effect.

129. It is true that the
"threat had the desired effect, but
"had redress been refused L^o
"Mackenzie would in our opinion
"have placed both himself and Government
"in an embarrassing predicament. (24)

130

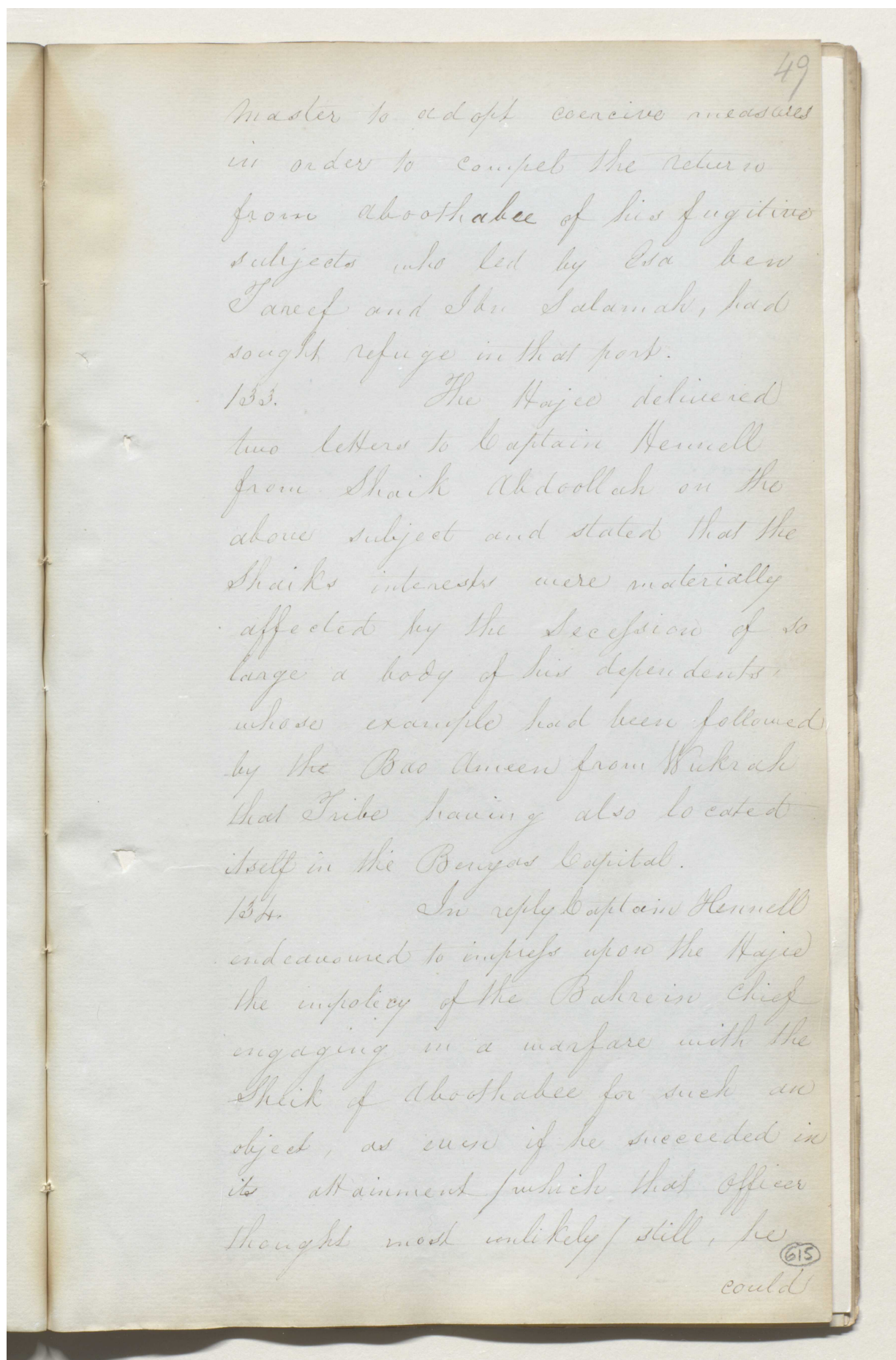
130. In these sentiments
 the Right Honorable the Governour
 General of India fully concurred
 and remarked that Dr Mackenzie
 took a dangerous step and had
 thereby laid himself open to censure
 in threatening on his own individual
 responsibility a blockade of the
 Port of Bushire.

Col^l Coors
 11 July 1838
 No 32148/18

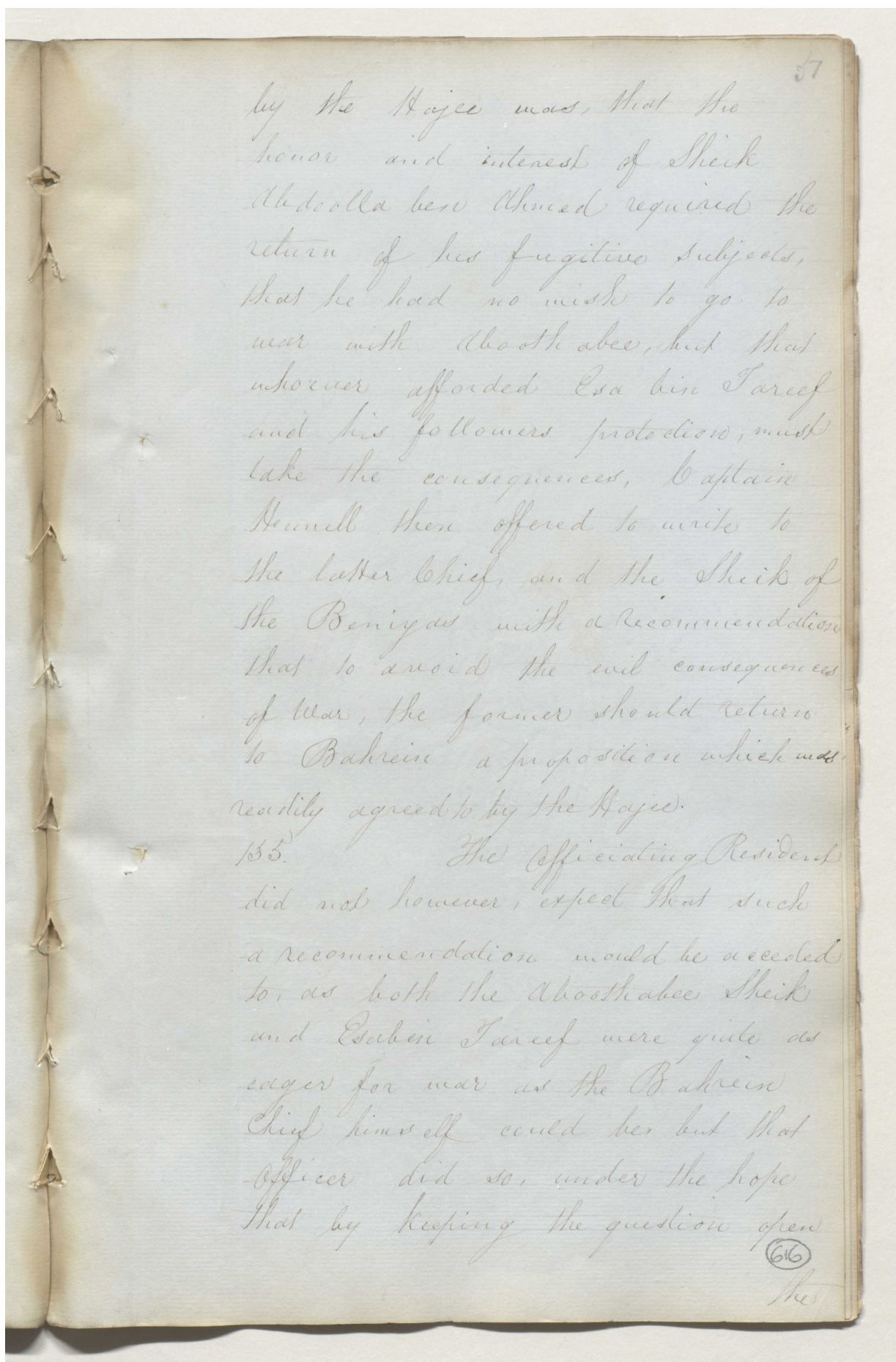
131. We caused a copy
 of the communication containing His
 Lordships sentiments on the above
 subject, to be transmitted to the
 officiating Resident in the
 Persian Gulf on the 7th July last.

132. In his letter dated
 the 9th June last the officiating
 Resident in the Persian Gulf reported
 the arrival at Bushire on the day
 preceding of Hajee Boos Shadab
 the confidential Minister of
 Shaik Abdoola besi Ahmed, the Chief
 of Bahrein the object of whose
 mission was to obtain the permission
 of the British Government for his
 Master

Col^l Coors
 18 July 1838
 No 34538/18



could not conceive what advantages Sheik Abdoolah anticipated from the relocation within his own Dominions of a large body of discontented and disaffected men, as compared with the serious evils which must arise from the injury sustained by the mercantile interests of his Island in such a contest. Captain Hennell acknowledged, he said that Khalefa ben Shakhboor, even when joined by Esben Fareef had no naval Force that could contend with that which the Mtooshee Chief could assemble, but as the bulk of the Inhabitants of Bahrein were Traders whereas those of Aboothabee were little if at all engaged in commercial pursuits, the traffic of the former, would be completely cut up by the numerous small boats of the latter without any opportunity for Retaliation being afforded. To these arguments the only reply made
by



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by the Hajee was, that the honor and interest of Sheikh Abdolla ben Ahmed, required the return of his fugitive subjects, that he had no wish to go to war with Absoothabee, but that whoever afforded Esa bin Farcef and his followers protection, must take the consequences, Captain Kemell then offered to write to the latter Chief, and the Sheikh of the Beni Yas with a recommendation that to avoid the evil consequences of war, the former should return to Bahrein a proposition which was readily agreed to by the Hajee.

135. The officiating Resident did not however, expect that such a recommendation would be acceded to, as both the Absoothabee Sheikh and Esa bin Farcef were quite as eager for war as the Bahrein Chief himself could be, but that officer did so, under the hope that by keeping the question open

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the

The chances of collisions during the Pearl Fishery might be diminished.

130. Captain Hennell stated that as far as he could judge of the views and feelings of the two parties he was of opinion that war would eventually be inevitable between them, that both Esabeen Foreef and Abu Salamanah had suffered too many and grievous wrongs from the hands of the relatives of the Bahrein Chief ever to rest quietly while they remained unredressed and unavenged that for the last two years they had unceasingly importuned to be allowed to obtain justice for themselves by force of arms, but that the impropriety of permitting every discontented or disaffected subject to withdraw himself from his own Country and seek the shelter of an ostensibly unfriendly Port, to commit aggressions upon

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upon his legitimate rules was too evident, for the permissions sought for by the two fugitive chiefs to be afforded that the circumstances however were since materially altered. The Sheikh of Bahrein not only refused to redress the injuries they complained of, but had made a formal demand for our sanction to his attempting to bring them back to his territories "West Arvid" under these circumstances therefore it appeared to Captain Hennell we should be only acting in consonance with the line of policy we have hitherto pursued to withdraw after due warning from all further interference.

13th. Under this view of the case, Captain Hennell very properly refused compliance with the Bahrein Chiefs request, and we entirely approved of the measures adopted by that Officer on the 617 occasion.

occasion which appeared to us
to be the best which could be
adapted under the circumstances
stated.

138 We have the honor ^{Cal. Co. 1888}
to bring to the notice of your Honorable ^{July 1888}
Court that on the 29 May last, ¹⁸⁸⁸
Sheik Nasser, the Governor of Bushire,
accompanied by his two Uncles
Shaik Abdoola and Shaik Hussain
having previously embarked their
wives, families and property left
the Town and proceeded on board
their Vessels, consisting of two
Buglas then lying in the Inner
Roads.

139 The ostensible reason
of this abandonment of his
Government on the part of Shaik
Nasser was the officiating Resident
stated his alleged inability to
meet the large demands of the
Ministers of the Prince of Shiraz,
who so far from making any
remission from the annual Tribute
fixed

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fixed for Bushire, on account of the almost total failure of the crops in the low country for the last season, had called upon the Shaik to pay the arrears of the abatement made for the past year, and an additional sum in the shape of Presents.

140 The immediate cause however, of the Governor's flight was the approach of a person of some consequence, named Mirza Abbas despatched by the Fars Government with a *Khelat*, or dress of honor for Shaik Kasir, who had received private information that this individual carried secret instructions for his arrest and subsequent transmission to Shiraz as a prisoner.

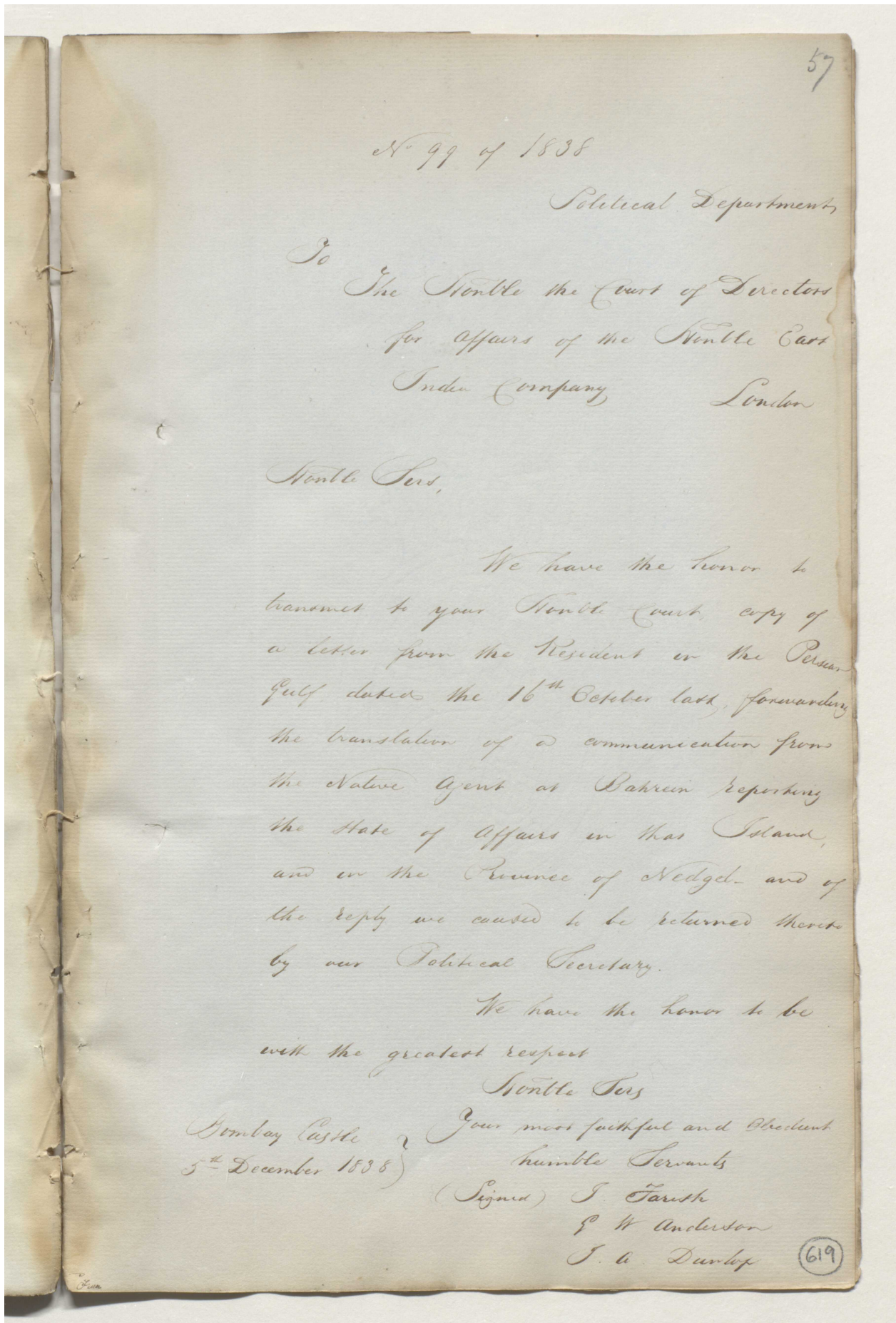
141. Mirza Abbas as expected
Off. Comm.
 Feb'y 1838 entered the Town of Bushire on
 No 308/1838 the afternoon of the 31st May and assumed charge of the duties of the chief authority there.

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142.

142 It was the belief
of the officiating Resident that,
if Shaik Nasser had not escaped
in time he would have been seized
and sent a prisoner to Shiraz as
the official documents exhibited
by Mirza Abbas provided for his
taking upon him the Government of
Bushire as a temporary arrangement
until the fate of the former ruler
should be decided upon.

143 We caused the
above circumstances to be communicated
for the information of the Right
Honorable the Governor General of
India, in our Secretary's letter
dated the 30 June last.



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N. 99 of 1838

Political Department,

To
The Honble the Court of Directors
for affairs of the Honble East
India Company, London

Honble Sirs,

We have the honor to
transmit to your Honble Court, copy of
a letter from the Resident in the Persian
Gulf, dated the 16th October last, forwarding
the translation of a communication from
the Native Agent at Bahrain reporting
the state of affairs in that Island,
and in the Province of Wedjel, and of
the reply we caused to be returned thereto
by our Political Secretary.

We have the honor to be
with the greatest respect

Honble Sirs

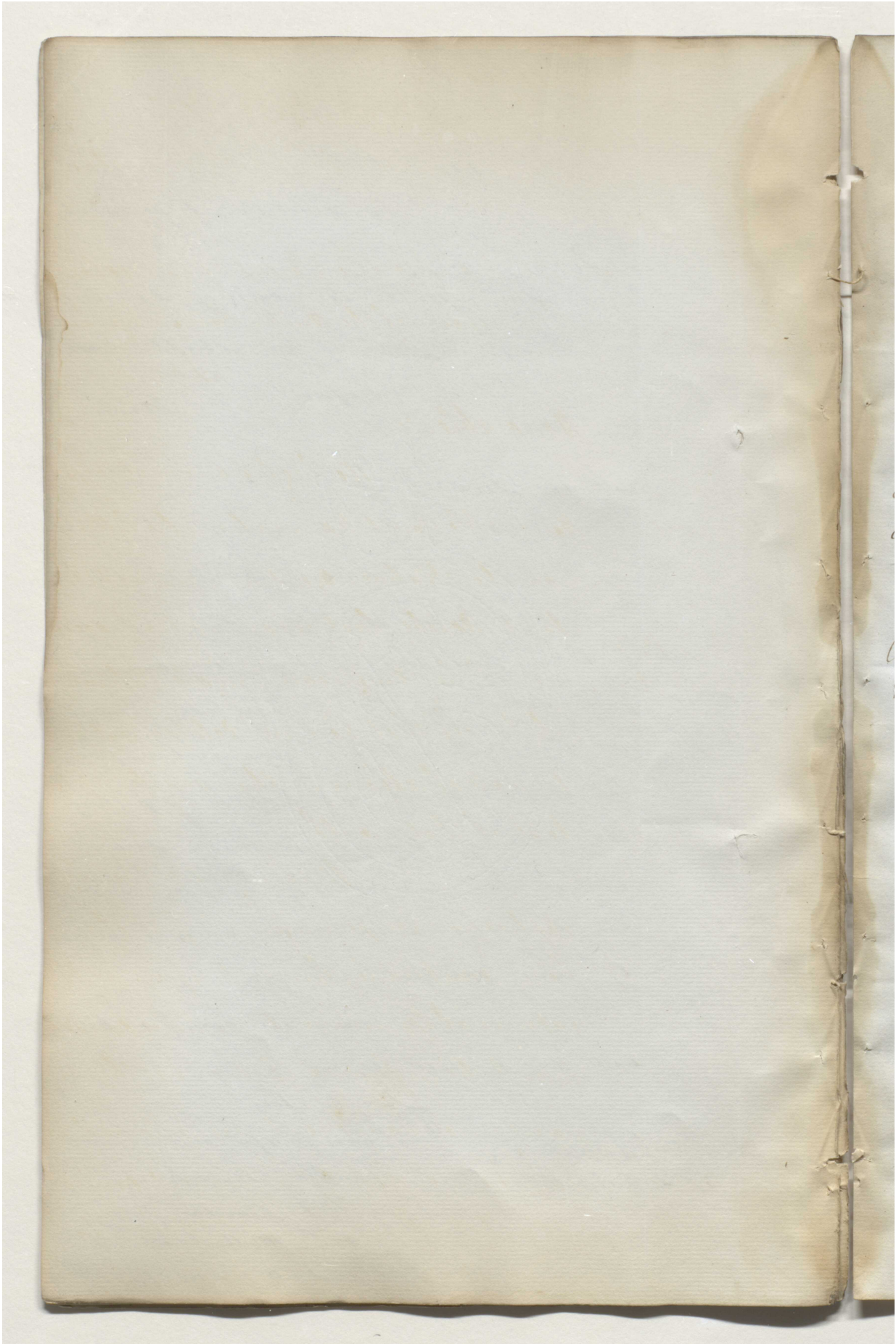
Bombay Castle
5th December 1838

Your most faithful and Obedient
humble Servants

(Signed) J. Farish
G. W. Anderson
J. A. Dunlop

619

'Persian Gulf in 10 Volumes Vol: 1' [619v] (64/78)



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Triplicate
No 108 of 1838
Political Department

No,

The Honble the Court of Directors
For affairs of the Honble East India Company
London

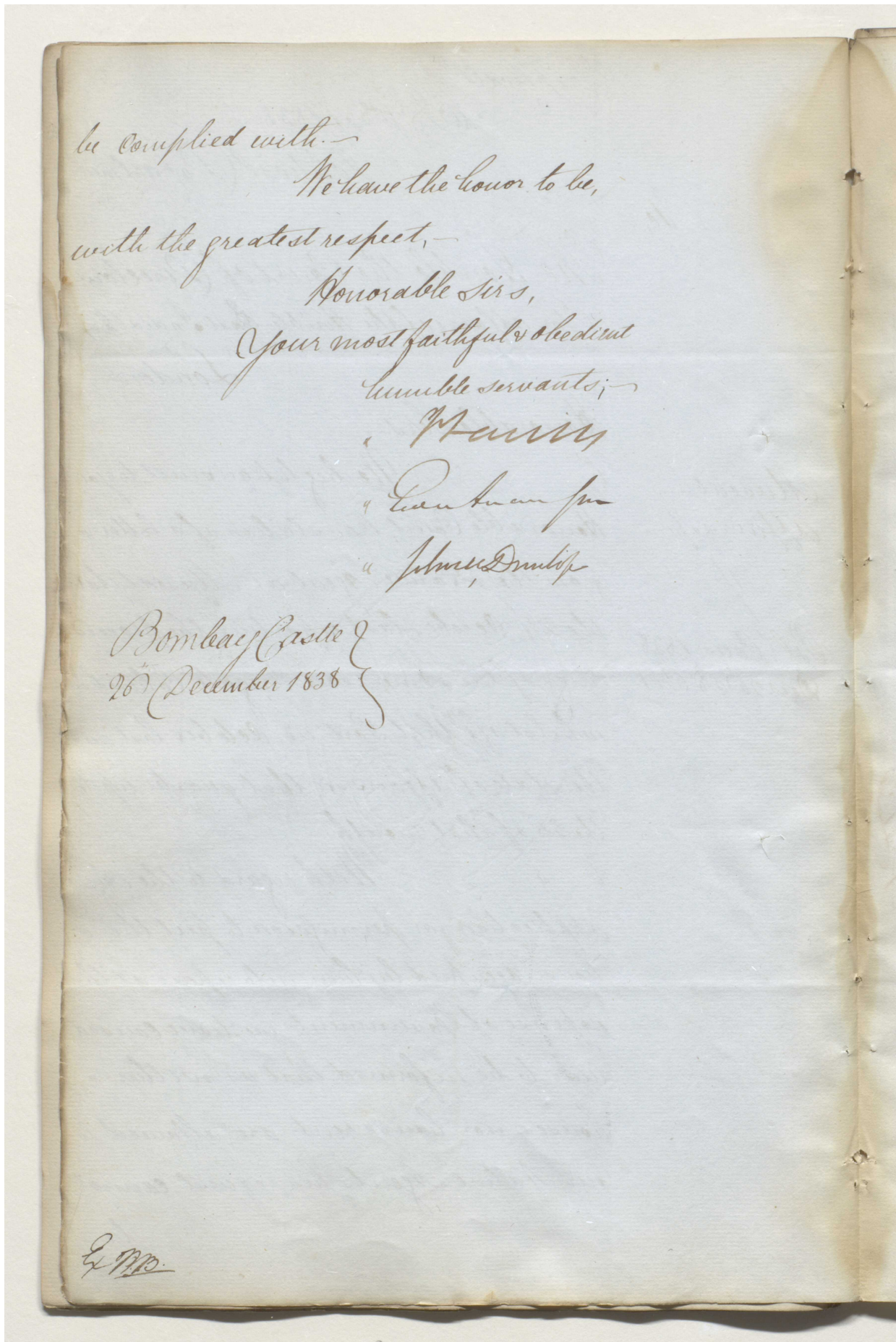
Honorable Sirs,

Muscat. Affairs of
Pol. Cou: 1838
Dec: 20th & 201.

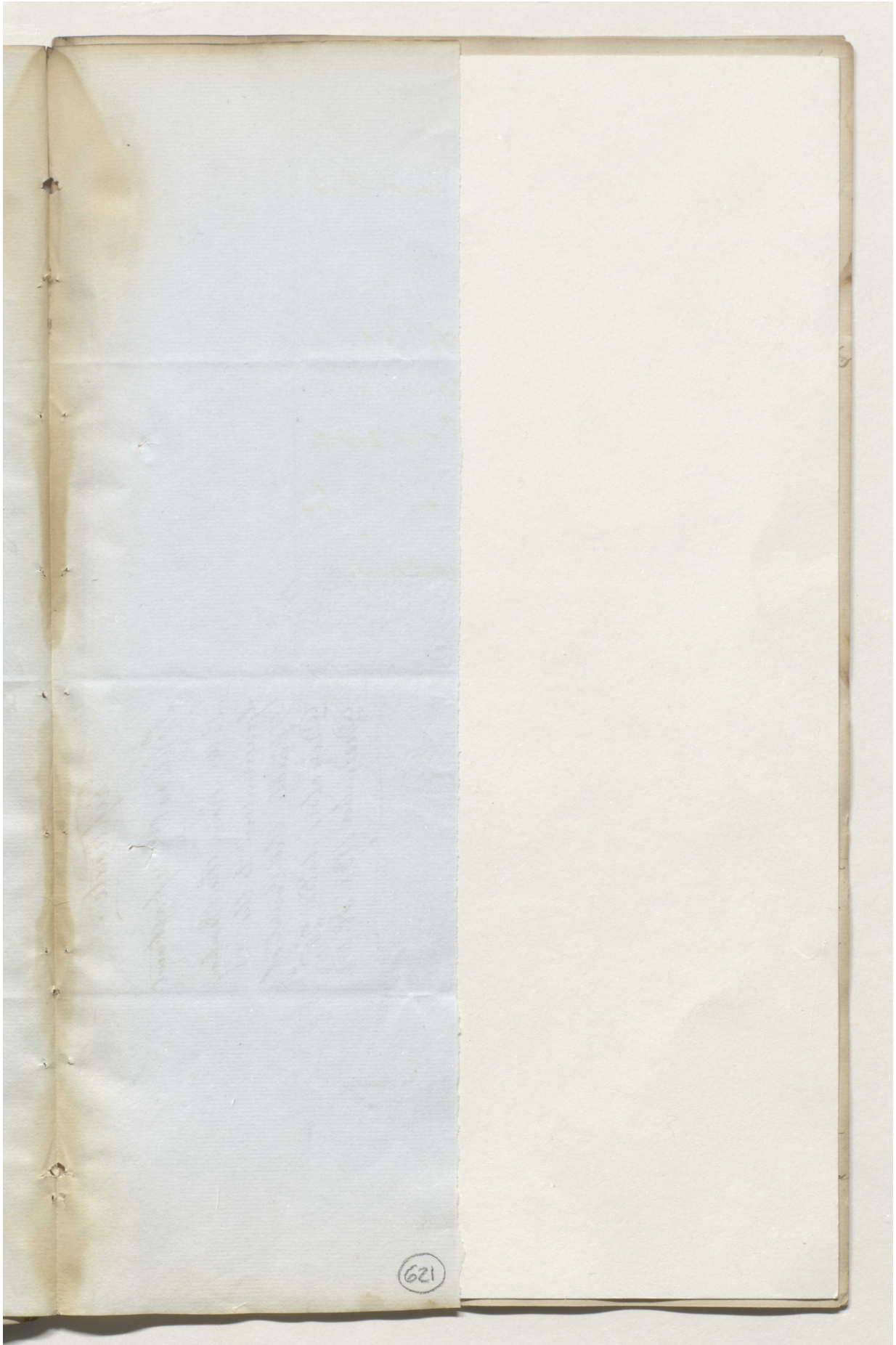
1st We beg to transmit to your
Honorable Court, translation of a letter
from the Native Agent at Muscat, dated
the 24th October last, reporting the proceed-
ings of the American Frigate "Columbian"
whilst off that Port in October last and
the state of affairs in that quarter up to
the 24th of that month.

2^d With regard to the Agent's
application for permission to put the
house occupied by him into repair at the
expense of Government, we have caused
him to be informed that as neither
houses nor house rent are allowed to
our Native Agents his request cannot
be

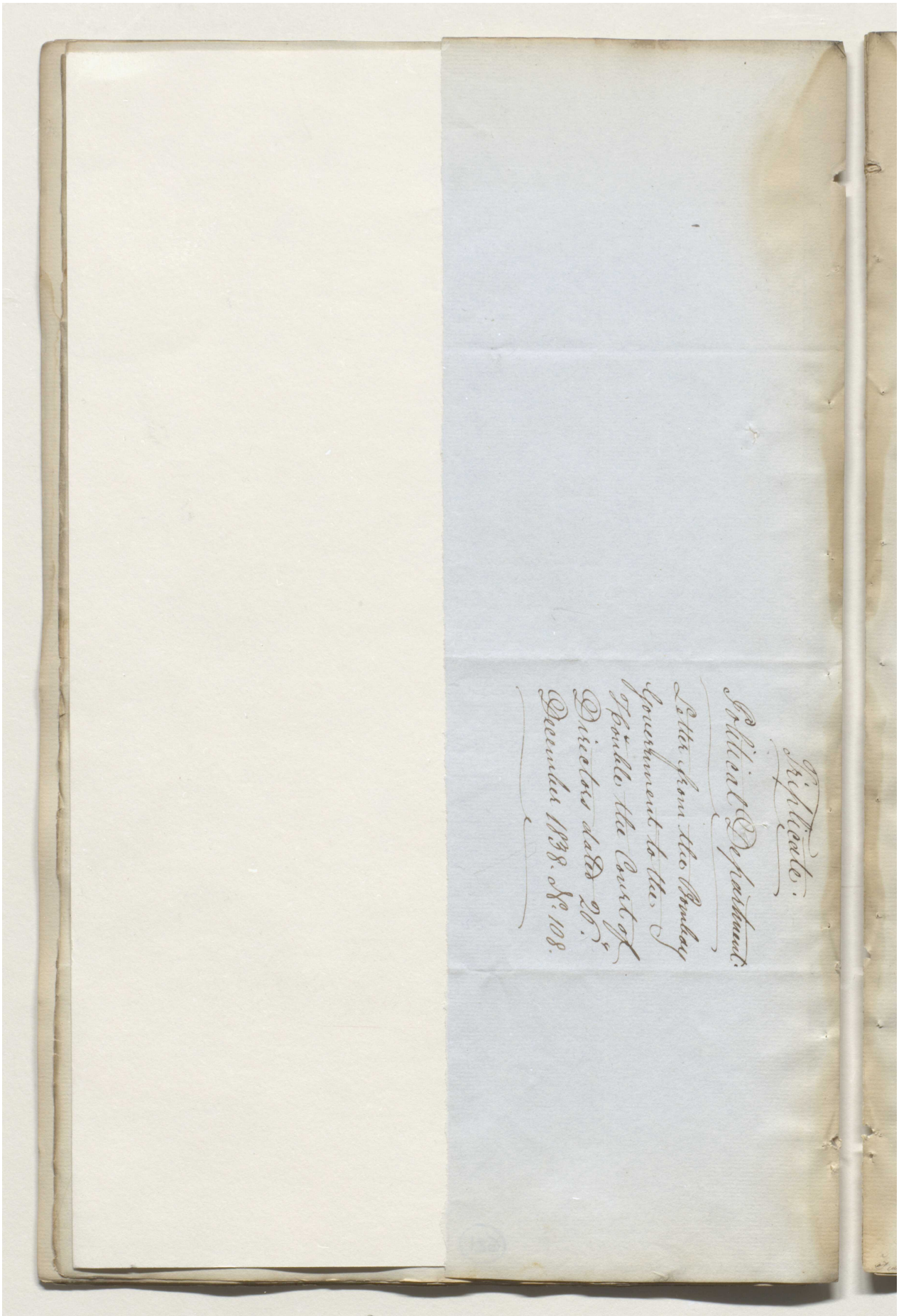
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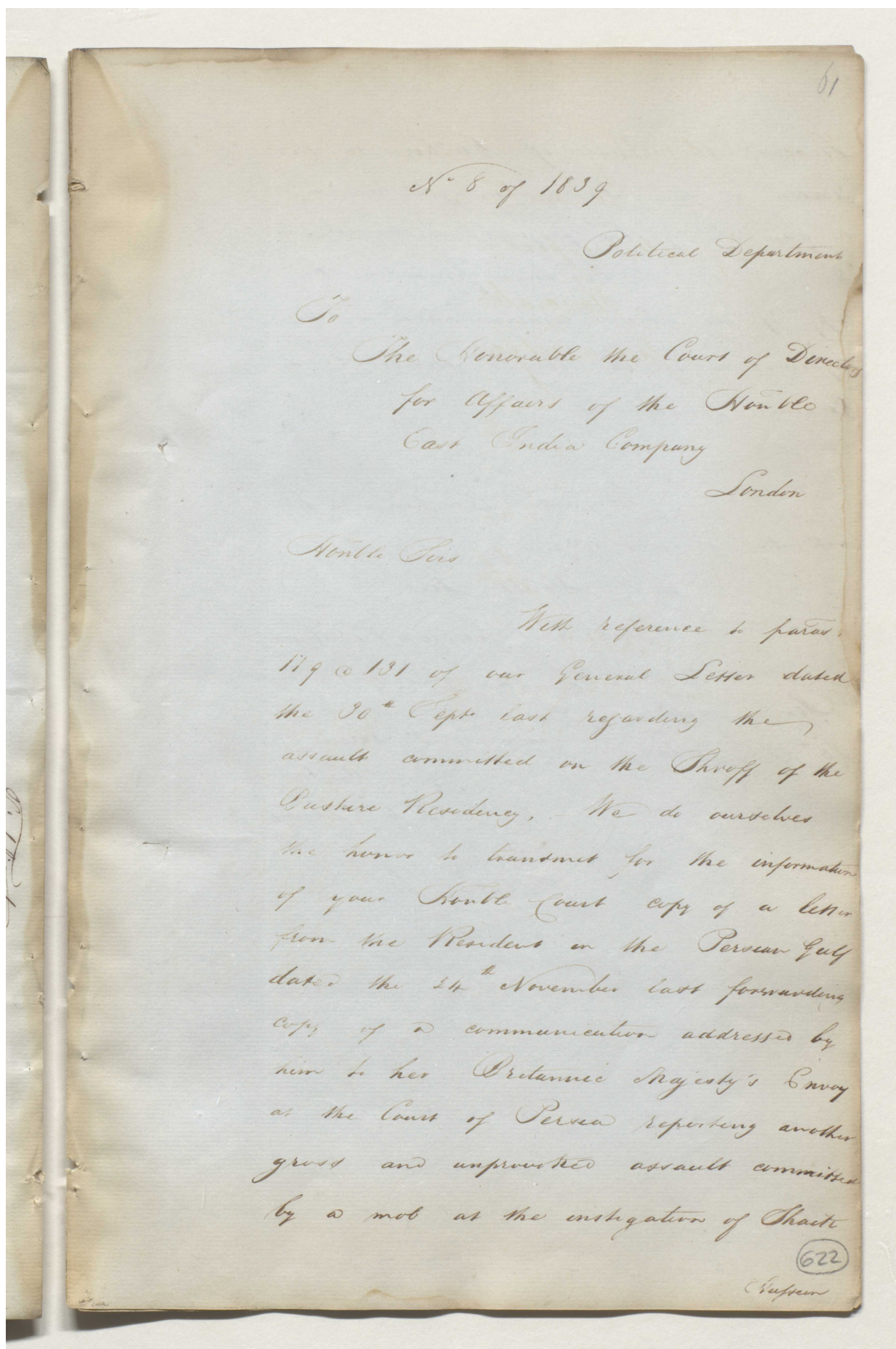


'Persian Gulf in 10 Volumes Vol: 1' [621r] (67/78)



'Persian Gulf in 10 Volumes Vol: 1' [621v] (68/78)





Mussie, the Causee of Bushire, on the
person of the Shroff in question, and
a quantity of his property destroyed.

2. We have forwarded a
copy of the above communication for the
information of the Rights Honorable the
Governor General of India.

We have the honor to be
with the greatest respect,

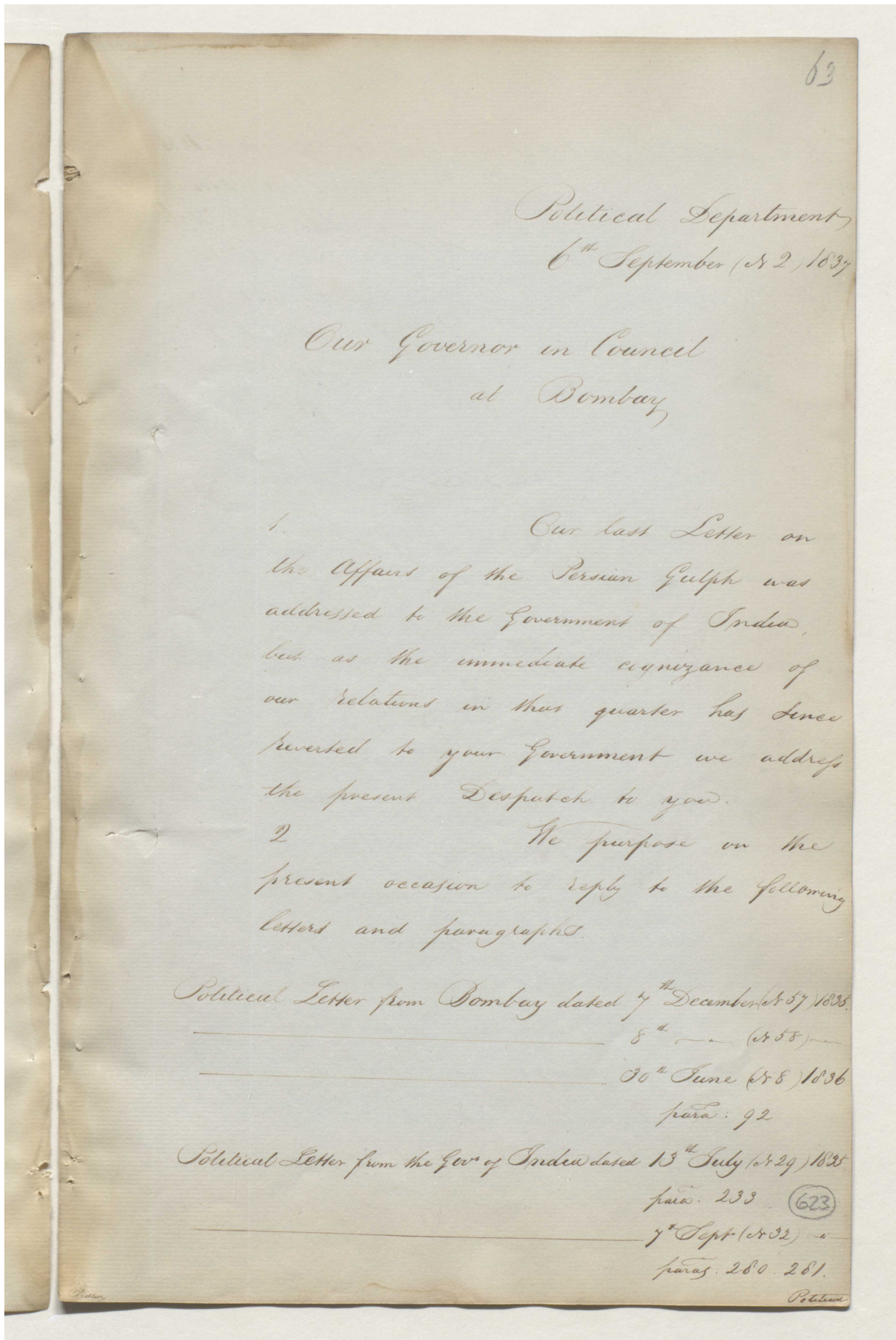
Humble Servs

Your most faithful & obedient,

humble Servants

Bombay Castle
20th February 1839

(Signed) J. Farist
J. W. Anderson
J. A. Dunlop

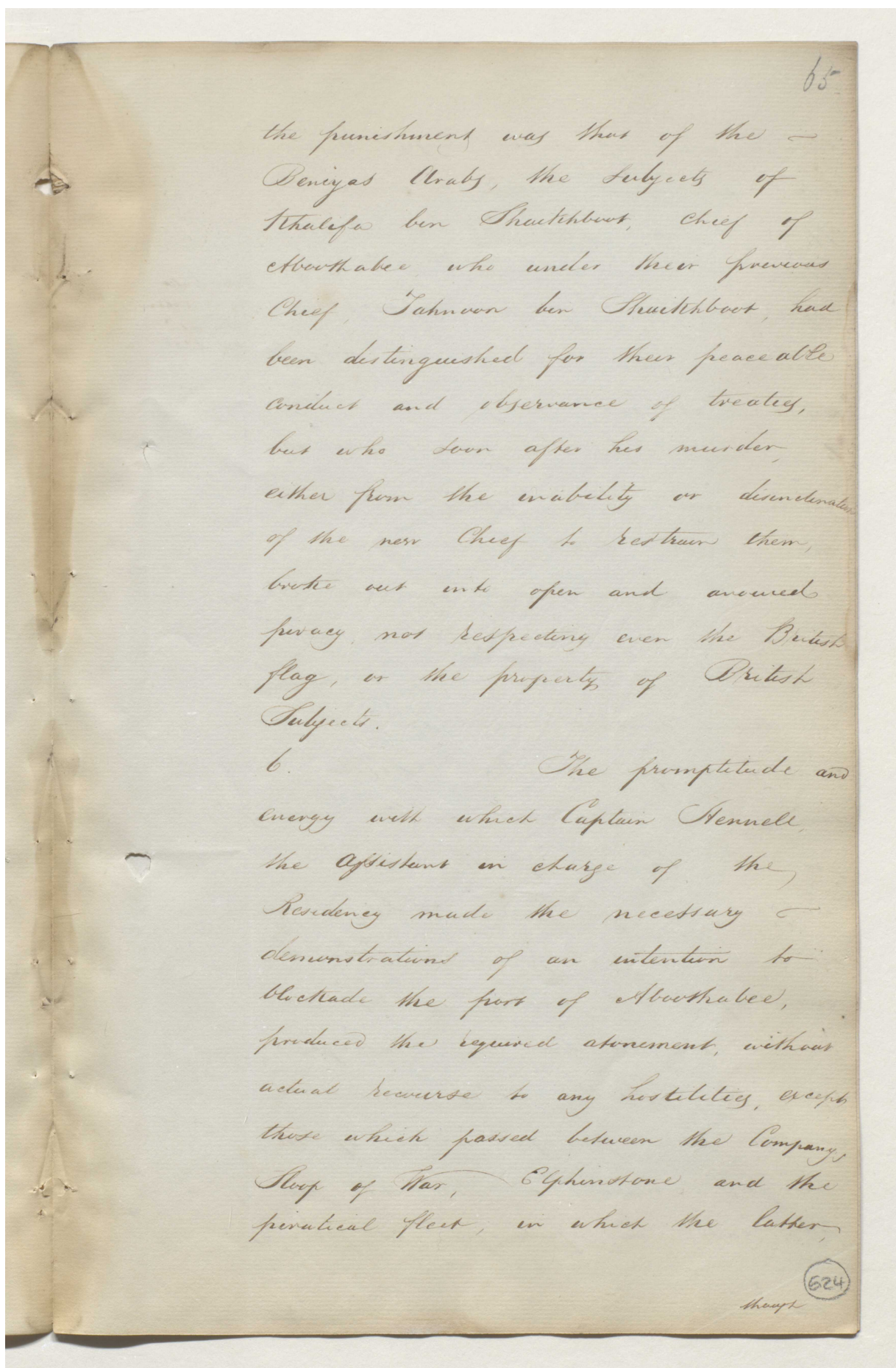


Political Letter from the Gov^t of India dated 28th Sept 1833, 1835
 paras: 313. 314
 15th Feby (1835) 1836
 paras: 10. 11.
 9th May (1810) 1836
 paras: 8. 9
 25th July (1820) 1836
 paras: 22

3. It is our agreeable duty to express our entire appreciation of the whole of the proceedings reported in the above communications.

4. The period of time included in them was one of unusual disturbance among the Arab tribes in the Gulf; and a far greater than the average amount of piracy was the consequence of this general state of disturbance. In every instance, however, means of repression were promptly resorted to and ample reparation exacted.

5. The most signal instance both of the offence and of



though none of their Ships were
 taken or sunk, received what they
 appear to have felt as a severe
 lesson. "as a summary" says
 Captain Hennell "of the reparation
 afforded by the Penyas, it may be
 stated that one Brig, seven Sugas,
 two Bateels, five Bigaraks, and the
 greater part of the goods on board
 the Lurrah Dowlut have been
 recovered, together with upwards of
 ten thousand German Crowns in
 cash and property besides an engagement
 for seven hundred more on the
 termination of the Pearl Fishery,
 towards the liquidation of the claims
 for the Cargoes of the Vessels
 destroyed and plundered. In addition
 to these, all the prisoners have been
 given up - the persons of the two
 pirates who headed the outrages
 upon the British Flag surrendered -
 and the three principal Vessels of the
 Penyas concerned in the late piracy
 put into our possession as pledges

Letter to Mr
 Sig. Ch. W. G. H. M.
 dated 21st
 May 1835

"for

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"for the Settlement of the balance
 "due on accounts of the English
 "Bugla. When to these items,
 "the punishment inflicted upon Shaik
 "Kulesfa's fleet by the Honorable
 "Company's Ship, *Elphinstone*, the
 "Seizure in Muscat of an *Abdhabee*
 "Bateel with a valuable cargo as
 "a compensation for the plunder of a
 "Bugla belonging to that Port, and
 "finally, the engagements offered by
 "Shaik Shaakiboot for the gradual
 "liquidation of the value of the
 "deficient cargo of the *Durat Dordas*
 "are added, I venture to hope that
 "the Right Honorable the Governor
 "General of India in Council will
 "consider that sufficient reparation has
 "been made by the offending tribe and
 "that effectual measures have been taken
 "for the complete suppression of the
 "lawless and piratical spirit lately
 "manifested."

4. Of the two pirates
 mentioned in the foregoing extract, one
 has been tried and convicted in the

(625)
Purim

Supreme Court of your Presidency,
but some points of law having
been reserved by the Court, judgment
has been suspended until His
Majesty's pleasure shall be known.
The other party could not in the
opinion of your law Officers, be
tried in the Supreme Court with any
prospect of success, but as there
was no doubt of his guilt he
was delivered to Sooban bin Suggior,
the Chief of Shargah (who from the
particular circumstances of the offence
was considered to have jurisdiction in
the case), with a recommendation that
he should be punished.

8. The feuds of the
various Arab Tribes and the
hostilities thence arising, being the
ordinary occasion and pretext of
persecutions, we highly approve of the
conduct of Captain Hennell in
availing himself of a favorable
opportunity for calling the principal
belligerent Chiefs together and endeavouring

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to effect a reconciliation: and though he did not succeed in this, yet by obtaining their consent to a truce for six months during the season of the Pearl Fishery, some good was accomplished, nor are we without hope from the temper manifested by the principal Chiefs, that this truce by successive renewals, may be improved into a lasting peace. Captain Pennell further suggested that the principal line of traffic in the Gulf (between the Persian Coast and the islands of Surdy and Bombay) should be declared to be neutral ground even in time of acknowledged war; whether which the belligerent tribes should be prohibited from cruising. This suggestion appears very valuable, if the line can be sufficiently defined, and if the consent of the Chiefs can be obtained to the proposition.

9. Captain Pennell is entitled to high praise for the efficient and judicious manner in which he

(626)
performed

performed the important duties which devolved upon him during the interval between Mr. Planis leaving the Gulf and Major Morrison's arrival, and in the peculiar circumstances of the case we approve of his having been permitted by the Supreme Government to draw the full Salary of the Office from the date of Mr. Planis's resignation to that of Major Morrison's assuming charge.

10. We regret to find that the latter Gentleman soon after having entered upon his office was compelled by the State of his health to obtain leave of absence to proceed to the Cape, and eventually to Europe.

We are
Your loving friends

London
{
6th September 1837

(Signed) J. R. Carnac

J. L. Sushington

do do