

This PDF was generated on 29/01/2022 from online resources of  
the **Qatar Digital Library**

The online record can be viewed at:

[http://www.qdl.qa/en/archive/81055/vdc\\_100038378586.0x00001d](http://www.qdl.qa/en/archive/81055/vdc_100038378586.0x00001d)

It contains extra information, high resolution zoomable views and transcriptions.

## Extracts of Letters enclosed in Sir Harford Jones's Letter to Lord Dundas, President of the Board of Control

<b>Holding Institution</b>	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
<b>Reference</b>	IOR/L/PS/9/67/25
<b>Date(s)</b>	26 Apr 1808-Dec 1808 (CE, Gregorian)
<b>Written in</b>	English in Latin
<b>Extent and Format</b>	1 item (8 folios)
<b>Copyright for document</b>	<u>Unknown</u>



### About this record

Extracts of six letters received at Bushire [Būshehr], presumably by the British Resident at Bushire, in April 1808, mostly relating to French influence in Persia [Iran]. The writer or writers of the letters are not identified. The first three letters are stated to have been sent from Sehraze [Shīrāz, also spelled Sehgras and Seherauze in this item].

The extracts of letters were enclosed in a letter from Sir Harford Jones, British Envoy Extraordinary to Persia, to Lord Dundas, President of the Board of Control, of 2 June 1808, which was received in December 1808.

Extracts of Letters enclosed in Sir Harford Jones's Letter to Lord Dundas,  
President of the Board of Control [1r] (1/16)

4PS/9/67/25

①

Extract of Letter dated Seharax the 19<sup>th</sup> Seffer and received at  
Boushire 17 April.

The natives knowing of my Character  
Convinced by deeds, & not by words therefore I now find  
out that the whole of the Inhabitants including of  
all Ranks, swore to each other to break the yoke of  
thier the moment the Seire with an opportunity  
they will disposes. they do not care whether they  
become subject to the Rufians or the French, the  
report of the arrival of the British Squadron  
Rejoying them beyond measure for they prefer  
the English to all the world having an Experience  
of the Character of the English by the liberal &  
behaviour of our Gallant friend Colonel Malcolm  
who acquired immortal reputation in this  
Country -

His Royal Highness was much  
alarmed to hear the arrival of 10 men of war off  
Bunder abassy, he sent for me but I was warned  
of your advice in due time I satisfied the Prince,  
but the Return of the men of war soon &  
Convinced his Royal highness of the truth of my  
report, the Prince loves you beyond measure he was  
rejoyed to hear of Colonel Malcolm's arrival,  
after he praised the much he asked me who was  
the best man among his servants to sent as &  
Mahmandar to abushire, to entertain the Colonel,  
I replied his Royal Highness knows best upon  
his entreating me to let him know the opinion  
I told him because I already know the &&  
Instruction of the Ministry that Mohomed  
Sheriff

Sheriff Khan is best man because the Colonel  
has great for him, and frequently wrote his  
Complements to him in my letters I enclose a  
letter written by Mohomed Sheriff Khan to the  
Colonel Congratulating upon his arrival -

Extract of Letter dated Schyras the 13<sup>th</sup> Seffer and received  
at Peshawar 17<sup>th</sup> April 1808

I had great Satisfaction in <sup>the</sup> reading your favor of the 8<sup>th</sup> Seffer brought to  
me by the said horseman I assure you my dear  
Sir for I was not, so merciful in my life as am  
now at the intelligence which you was so  
obliging as to write me regarding the arrival  
of our noble generous our Gallant friend  
Colonel Malcolm. Joyful news happy joyful  
news our inestimable friend, and my  
Patron the Colonel is coming to Persia and no  
man in the world is so well adapted for an  
Ambassador to Persia, as our Colonel,

I waited today upon Mahomed  
Rushaim Bey who informed me of the  
resolution of his father the Prime minister  
that if in case the King of Persia, not complies  
with the Proposals of Colonel Malcolm and  
allows the French army to pass through the  
Persia to invade India then of course the  
British Government will be obliged to take  
necessary

②

necessary measures to interrupt the French Army  
which they are in Persia, then the minister  
will publickly join the English to act off the  
Convey of the French army as the Prince &  
minister is being the Chief of the sel of &  
Caragozlo or Tribe consisting of 12000 twelve  
thousand horsemen, this he is the ambitious  
as the rest of his Countrymen but I must  
do him the justice to declare that he is very  
anxious to sever the English & is most &  
earnestly attached to our Interest this not only  
for the sake of friendship but with the hopes  
of gaining great wealth because repeatedly  
being told by me of the generosity of our  
Government particularly towards those who  
reced them. says Mohomed Ruchain beg,  
that his father became so impatient to seen  
the English owing to what I had frequently  
Communicated to him of the benefit confered  
on my family by the English Government even  
after the death of my father and also the &  
minister seems me with what respectability  
I maintain my family at Scheraure from  
the supplies I regularly receive from the  
English on account of my fathers services to  
Hem

Extracts of Letters enclosed in Sir Harford Jones's Letter to Lord Dundas,  
President of the Board of Control [2v] (4/16)

them says Kushan Beg, that the Minister loves  
the English of course he will receive the same  
attention from the English & the ministers  
family to most undoubtedly suppose by our  
Government equal to my Father family &  
being protected by the Generosity of the English  
Government.

Short time ago another chipac  
arrived from the Capital I was told upon  
enquiry of the Treaty being concluding &  
between the King of Persia & the French &  
the Papers signed by the French Ambassadors  
on their side of the Persians signed by  
meera & Raju Mahomed Rofain Khan &  
delivered to each other, the King engaging to  
allow the French army to pass through the  
Persia the particulars of which I already  
stated in my last to you communicated  
to me by Saft ali Beg as he was present at the  
ministers office in the Capital when the said  
papers were written says the Saft ali Beg that  
he has read the said Papers himself I wrote to  
the Capital to send the Copy of this treaty  
which I hope to receive.

Napuralla Khan is of opinion  
that the King will deceive the French as  
soon

(3)

soon as the Russians are removed from Persia  
the King has only agreed to the proposals of the  
French with a view of the removal of the  
Russians from Persia.

I am sorry for the Conduct of the  
last horseman, who displeas'd you tho' I had  
advised him now to behave as a bushire yet  
he shown his ambition as the rest of his Countrymen  
there is no dealing with the natives of this  
Country the reason of my employing them,  
was the Safety of the letters which the Frenchmen  
were in this Country as I know not the  
Character of the Cossits I therefore employ'd  
my own people but since you Command  
me not to send horsemen except on  
important Occasions (besides the Frenchmen  
to are gone to yare, to find out the best road  
for the Passage of their Army by way of  
Kerman to Sindhia, as these two promises  
bordering each other) I hired a Cossit now to  
sent my letters to you as desired.

Considering what fee these  
Frenchmen were to draw 2000 Piasters from  
the Prince for their Travelling Charges -

I am told the French Servants  
insulting the Persians frequently in the  
Capital the King taking no notice of the  
insult waiting for the removal of the Russians  
says the King very justly of his be the character  
of the handful Frenchmen but when their  
grand

grand Army Comes to Persia what usage the poor  
Persians are to expect from them to which a  
meerza shafy replying that it appears by their  
conduct the intelligence written by Masudulla  
Khan regarding of their Character, seems to be  
just & true,

Extract of Letter dated Deherawuz 24<sup>th</sup> Duffer received at  
Peshawar 26<sup>th</sup> April 1808.

He says the King not agree in  
the beginning to allow the French army to  
pass through the Persia, but as last many  
proposals were made by the King of which it  
is impossible for France to agree to it should  
they Consent to it their army should be  
permitted to pass through Persia.

Extract of Letter received at Peshawar 26<sup>th</sup> April 1808.

With respect to the things  
specified if they should not be procurable give  
the value in money, and as I have at the  
present time a great necessity for Cash, the  
more you can send the better along with  
sufficient Broad Cloth to make two coats  
a shawl for the head also and as much Cash as  
you can obtain In the space of four or five  
days more I shall obtain the letters for the  
Isle of France which I will send you with  
this agreement however that the present  
for them shall not be less than for the others

Saying paid my respects to  
meerza moosa settled the Government's  
Concerns

④

Concerns with which I had been entrusted and left at liberty to act I lost no time in ascertaining the particulars of the French mission agreeable to the promise I had made you I proceeded therefore to the House of the Prime minister where I had the pleasure of meeting with the french and immediate began to establish a friendly intercourse with the General the most distinguished person among them and with Monsieur Jonanie who with the King of France is held in higher estimation and Confidence than even the General himself and from the King of Persia also has received greater honors & attentions Monsieur Jonanie is residing in the House of Meerza Boozrooy the Prince Minister to the Shah apparent in Aderbejan, and I lost no time in laying the foundation of a friendly intercourse with him by frequent visits where I had secured myself pretty firmly in his good opinion, Some day mentioned to him that I had the pleasure of knowing Monsieur Trevel in Tars, where we were living in the same house together that he had written a letter to him and intrusted it to my Care which I dispatch by so and so, a messenger belonging to Prince that at the time I took of Monsieur Trevel he requested I would take charge of the answer from him and dispatch it to him Monsieur Jonanie was extremely obliged to me for these attentions and immediate began to write some long Private and

Confidential



and Confidential Communications which  
this day Monday the 3<sup>d</sup> Mohurrum I have  
received sealed and taken care of

As far as is yet known of the affairs  
of the French here, the following are the  
particulars besides the General there are  
Eleven other Gentlemen who are allowed  
to sit on Chairs on Saturday the last day  
of the month of Delhadje. His Majesty  
returned from his hunting excursion to  
Tobrasan but he did not Command the  
Ambassadors to appear before him. I have  
ascertained however that heretofore whenever  
these Gentlemen have had the honor of paying  
visits to the King they have never been allowed  
to sit and that they stood the whole time they  
were in his presence when they paid visits  
however to the Meir apparent they were allowed  
to sit down,

Their wishes as far as they are  
yet known, are that they may be permitted  
to march an army thro Persia for the  
purpose of taking possession of  
Hindoostan and that His Majesty the  
King of Persia will assist them in the  
expedition as yet however their wishes have  
not been complied with and His Majesty  
has made some demands which it will  
be impossible to grant from the King of  
France, some of the abovementioned Ambassadors  
have

⑤

have been dispatched to France with the articles of a treaty to be ratified between the two States and if the Terms therein specified are Complied with by the King of France their desires from His Majesty the King of Persia will also be granted but not otherwise.

I understand that these ~~of~~ ambassadors are to remain Twenty / 20 years in Persia and to the present time this is the extent of my information.

In the second place, the French Gentlemen at Sohran have not found any degree of Intimacy with any one, nor has any person formed any friendship with them, indeed they seem particularly to avoid any familiar intercourse with us, I swear by heaven and by the sincere ~~of~~ friendship I bear towards you that I have taken infinite pains and trouble to establish little by little, the intimacy which I have now obtained with them I have twice entertained monsieur Jonannie who is by far the most clever, respectable and Confidential man among them, at my House and there is at present the warmest friendship subsisting between us, God willing I will hereafter realize all the promises I made you with respect to that packet written by Monsieur Jonannie in the Possession of the Lieutenant Governor of the Empire (Pasworulla Khan) which you were so anxious to obtain, I am now  
in

Extracts of Letters enclosed in Sir Harford Jones's Letter to Lord Dundas,  
President of the Board of Control [5v] (10/16)

in possession of one more important than that, & I am in hopes that I shall yet obtain others which I will dispatch to you very soon by a Confidential Servant of my own if I canst,

This day Monday the 23<sup>d</sup> of Mohurum being the Festival of the Annual Equino the General with the eleven other Gentlemen who set on Chairs were honored by Khelats from H. Majesty's Cheraugh Ali Khan Jussawal Pusshie Carried their into the enlightened Presence of the Sovereign, where they stood for about half an hour when they were permitted to depart and returned back to their own dwelling -

Two days ago I hinted to the General's Private Secretary (another person not Monsieur Lorraine) my wish respecting the Moore's Isle of France Papers he replied "I must first of all obtain permission from the Prime Minister, and then I will write them" I told him it was very well and that I myself would speak to the Minister on the subject which I had no doubt would be Complied with the Private Secretary said, "I will apply to the minister myself thus a few days delay have been Caused and the writing of those letters postponed it is necessary therefore that I myself apply to

6

to the Prime Minister in order that these  
Papers may be obtained that by the time my  
Mepenger returns they may be ready. The  
Packet which I have obtained possession of  
I now sent to you by my own servant &  
Mohomed Ibrahim as I have fulfilled my  
promises to you it now rests with you to  
do the same towards me, and send a present  
agreeable to the undermentioned articles on  
the receipt of which I will send you the  
Packet for the Mauritius with &  
whatsoever Intelligence I might be able  
to Collect I be assured I shall exert myself  
to the utmost in the execution of your  
wishes when you send me the & &  
undermentioned articles take a receipt  
for the same from my servant, enclose  
it in your letter to me with respect  
to the present of money, the more it  
is the better, and, as I have at the present  
time great occasion for Cash I hope you  
will be able to satisfy my wants if any  
of the articles I specified should not be  
procurable send me price of them in  
Cash in order that I may purchase them  
here as a good Shawl for the head is not  
here procurable & as I am lately promoted  
to the Rank Major it is necessary  
that I should wear a good Shawl round  
my head - hence I take the liberty of  
mentioning it to you if therefore you  
should

Extracts of Letters enclosed in Sir Harford Jones's Letter to Lord Dundas,  
President of the Board of Control [6v] (12/16)

should be able to procure me a good one, either  
 Red, Blue, or orange of a superior Quality send  
 it me as a present. If money should not be  
 procurable send me some desirable Indian  
 Cloths but let them be very fine, I have  
 agreed to give the Bearer a salary of 35  
 Tomans of month and whatsoever you  
 may give to him I shall Carry to ~~an~~  
 account if these salary appears to you  
 great do you yourself appoint a ~~an~~  
 Confidential man who will be able to execute  
 the business if you deem it necessary to send  
 this messenger to Pushiro do so, with a  
 guide in order that may go, & return  
 without Officially if however you do not  
 think it advisable that he should ~~an~~  
 proceed there send the Packet by a Coped  
 of your own & when he hereafter brings  
 to you the Packet for the Isle of France  
 he Can himself go down with it to Pushiro  
 act indeed in whatsoever may you like  
 best It is absolutely necessary however that  
 the utmost prudence and Caution be ~~an~~  
 observed in keeping this matter secret for it  
 is of the greatest importance I will not  
 trouble you with any more at present  
 except that I have purchased a horse  
 for the messenger for 20 Tomans which  
 I have to request you will also Pay to him,

Extract

Extracts of Letters enclosed in Sir Harford Jones's Letter to Lord Dundas,  
President of the Board of Control [7r] (13/16)

Extract of Letter received at Bushire 25<sup>th</sup> April 1808. ⑦

I before had the pleasure of writing to you in detail, which you have no doubt received, and Affairs are now in the same state they were at that time I have just heard & however that the French Ambassador has expressed a wish that his Majesty, the King of Persia will bring matters to a Conclusion but he has not yet given him a decisive answer. The Ambassador gave a promise that the Russians should quit the Frontiers of Persia after the Termal Enquiries but has they have not yet done it, His Majesty is aware that the Ambassador is & deceiving him and entertains bad suspicions in consequence advise answer to the demands of the French has not however yet been given. The King is anxious that some of the Ambassadors suite, may go to see the different sea, Ports and then return these have now proceeded towards you & Kerman perhaps they wish to survey the Roads, I will hereafter write you whatever may occur, but do not let any one know what I write one an early answer —

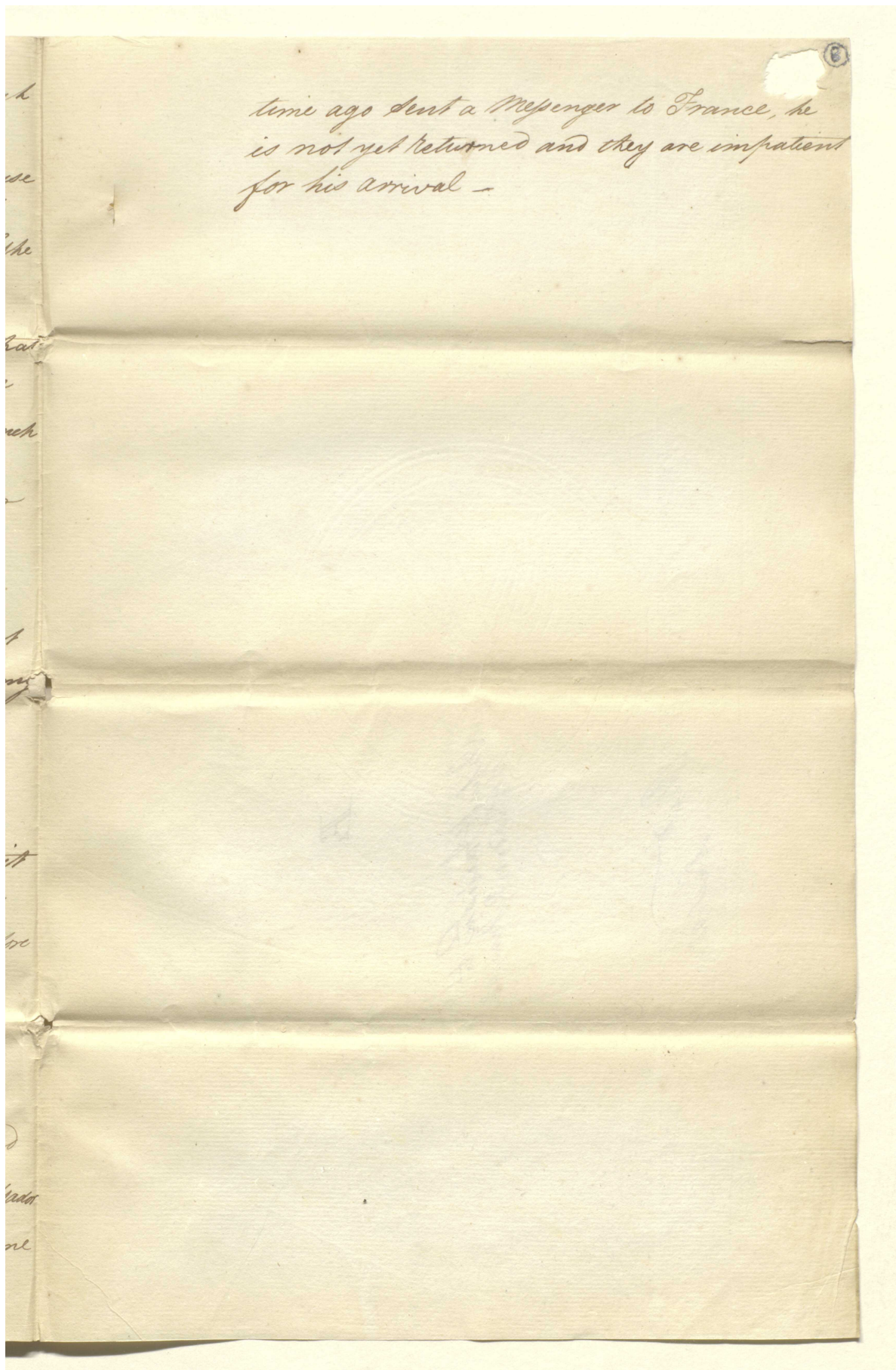
Extract of Letter received at Bushire 26<sup>th</sup> April 1808.

A Messenger is just arrived here from Sohran and brings the following intelligence. that His Majesty the King of Persia has given permission to

the French to march an army through  
his Dominions with his Proviso, that  
French Ambassador shall write, and Cause  
the Russians to quit the Frontiers of  
Persia the Confidential Ministers of the  
state deemed such an arrangement  
adviceable they imagine however that  
the English have entered into a league  
with the Ottoman Porte, and as the French  
army must necessarily pass through  
Turkey, that those two powers, the  
English & Turks, will undoubtedly  
endeavor to prevent them by every  
means in their Power, and will not  
permit the approach of a French army  
into the Dominions of Persia, at all  
events these are the suspicions of the  
Ministers at Court and the desirable  
object is, that the Russians should quit  
the Frontiers this intelligence you  
may rely upon as being true, and therefore  
I write it for your Information —

I had sometime ago the  
pleasure of writing you a detailed  
account of the news, in this quarter and  
expect your answer. the French ambassador  
has not yet left the Court. He being some  
time

Extracts of Letters enclosed in Sir Harford Jones's Letter to Lord Dundas,  
President of the Board of Control [8r] (15/16)





Extracts of Letters enclosed in Sir Harford Jones's Letter to Lord Dundas,  
President of the Board of Control [8v] (16/16)

