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## Copy of a Letter from HM Chargé d'Affaires to Persia, Henry Willock, in Tehran, to Major-General Sir William Grant Keir

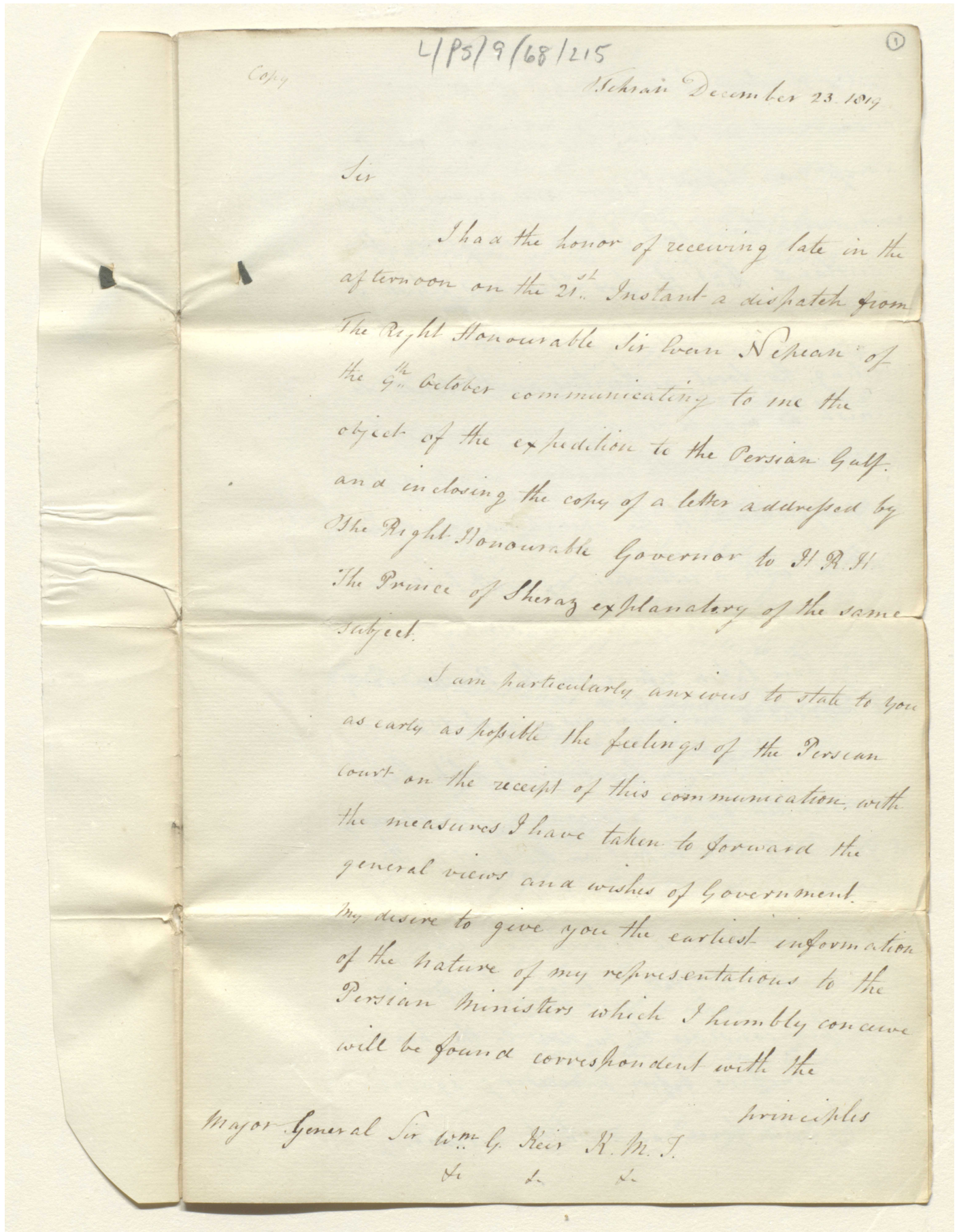
<b>Holding Institution</b>	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
<b>Reference</b>	IOR/L/PS/9/68/215
<b>Date(s)</b>	23 Dec 1819 (CE, Gregorian)
<b>Written in</b>	English in Latin
<b>Extent and Format</b>	1 item (3 folios)
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### About this record

Copy of a letter from HM Chargé d'Affaires to Persia [Iran], Henry Willock, in Tehran, to Major-General Sir William Grant Keir, of 23 December 1819. The letter concerns the planned British expedition, of which Grant Keir is a commander, to the Persian Gulf to attack the Juwasemees [al-Qawasim] and their allies, and communicates Willock's expectation of receiving from the Persian Government their acquiescence to the expedition attacking ports on the Persian coast accused by the British of piracy. The letter also reports the offence taken by the Persians at not being fully consulted about the expedition and cautions against the apathy of the Prince of Sheraz [Shiraz] towards the expedition.

The letter was enclosed in Willock's dispatch No. 31 to HM Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Viscount Castlereagh, of 26 December 1819 (see IOR/L/PS/9/68/209).



L/PS/9/68/215

Copy

Tehran December 23. 1819

Sir

I had the honor of receiving late in the afternoon on the 21<sup>st</sup> Instant a dispatch from The Right Honourable Sir Evan Nepean of the 9<sup>th</sup> October communicating to me the object of the expedition to the Persian Gulf and enclosing the copy of a letter addressed by The Right Honourable Governor to H. R. H. The Prince of Sheraz explanatory of the same subject.

I am particularly anxious to state to you as early as possible the feelings of the Persian Court on the receipt of this communication, with the measures I have taken to forward the general views and wishes of Government. My desire to give you the earliest information of the nature of my representations to the Persian Ministers which I humbly conceive will be found correspondent with the principles

Major-General Sir Wm G. Keir R. M. J.

W. G. K.



principles which had actuated the British Government in India, has induced me to address you before I receive any answer to my communications, but I have been given to understand that the two Firkans which I have requested may be transmitted to you, directing the local authorities on the coast to furnish as may be required, provisions for the Troops at a reasonable valuation, and to afford every assistance to the operations you superintend, with a restriction against protection being afforded to such Suwasemie pirates as may have taken refuge in the Persian Ports, will be sent to me tomorrow or next day.

The Persian Government while they feel wounded by an appearance of a deficiency of formality and respect on the part of the British Government in India, in not having called upon them to redress the excesses of their reputed Subjects, a token of deference which they consider to <sup>have</sup> been due to the head of a large Empire, before proceeding against them by open force, and which testimony of



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(2)

of consideration has never been paid to them during the period of my service in Persia, yet actuated by their inability to oppose the measures we contemplate, will I believe direct the cooperation of The Prince of Sheraz, but the jealousy of this Prince, will in my opinion, prevent any effectual assistance on his part, yet the lukewarmness of G.R.A. will, I trust, be of little detriment as the British force seems ample to the realization of all the objects which it is in contemplation to effect.

I have the honor to enclose a Persian translation of my official note to the Ministers, which circumstances may render advisable to communicate to G.R.A. H. A. Mirza.

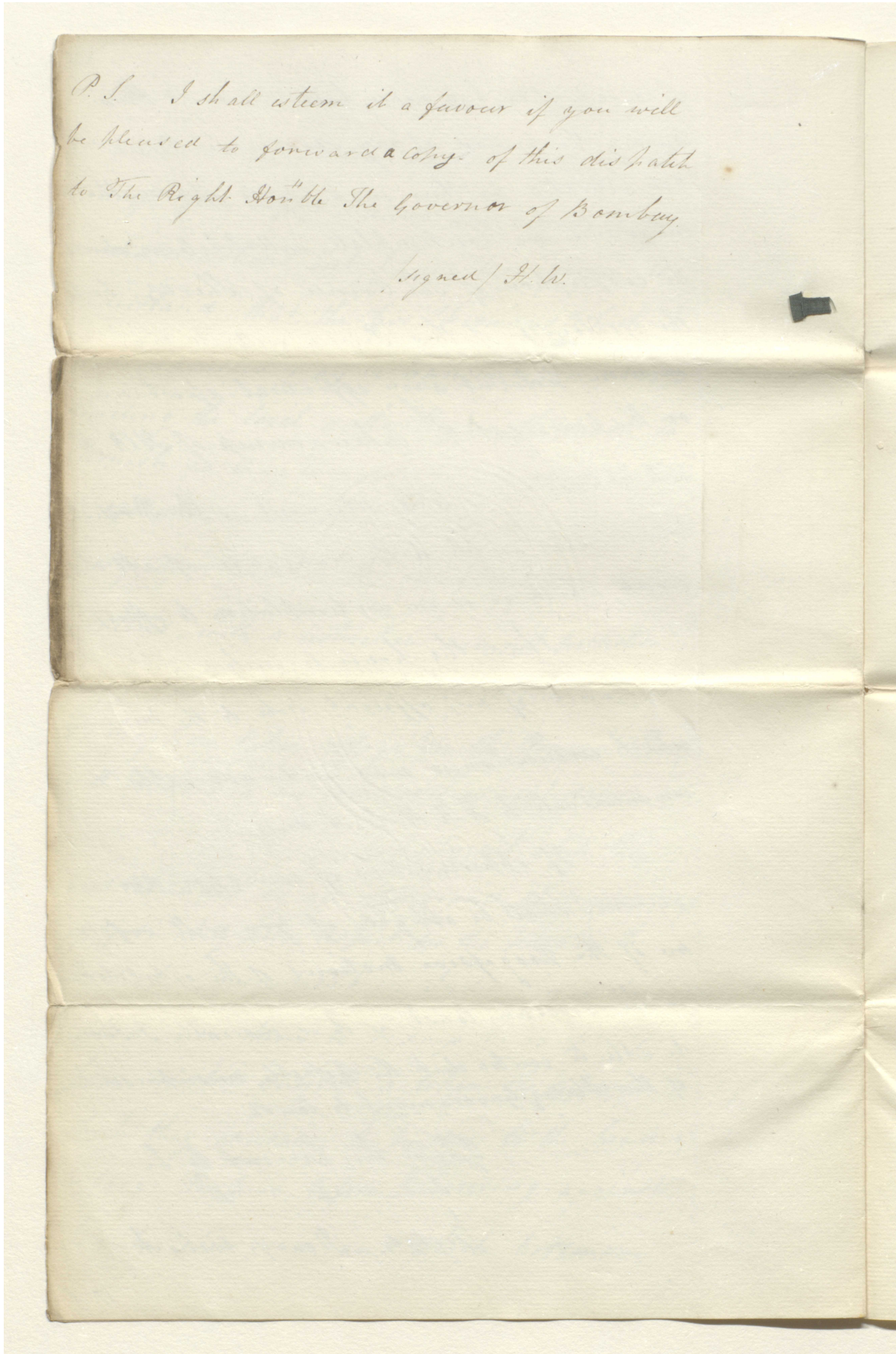
If opportunities of correspondence occur I shall be obliged if you will inform me of the progressive motions of the expedition on the Persian coast, as it is desirable I should be able to contradict the possible misrepresentations of the Sheraz Government to court.

I have the honour to be  
Yours faithfully  
[signed] Henry Willock

P.S.

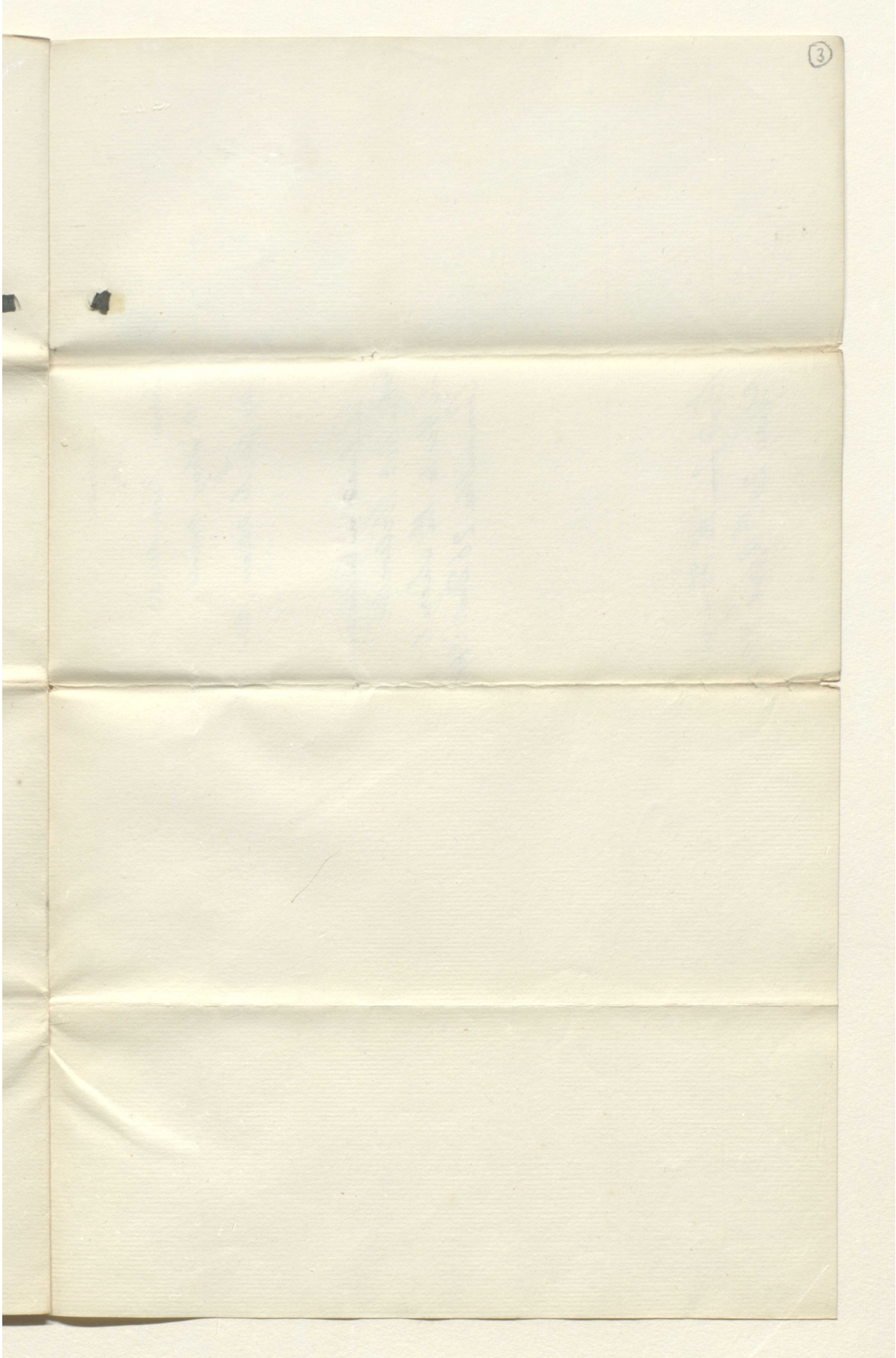


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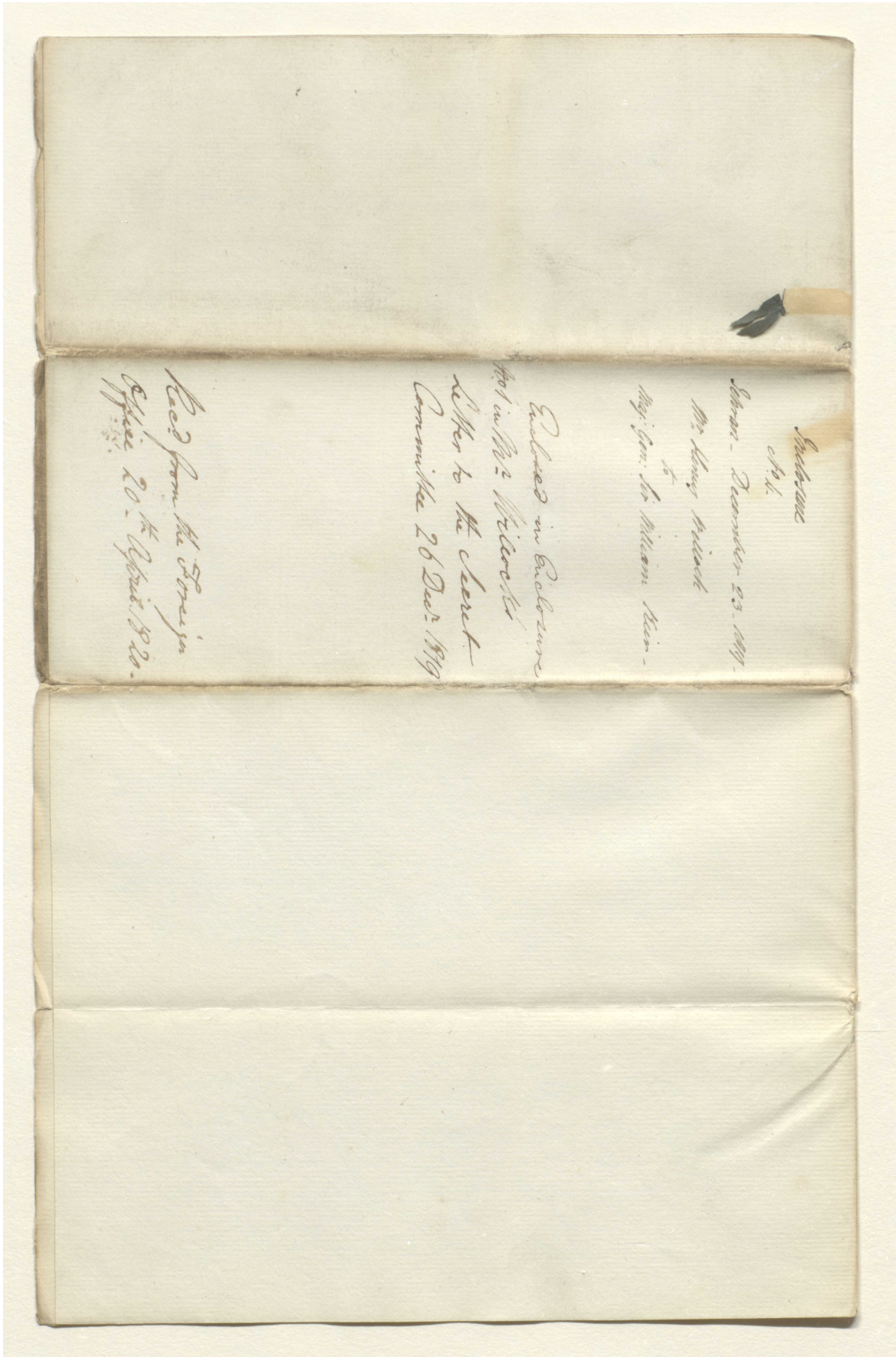


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to Major-General Sir William Grant Keir [3v] (6/6)



Enclosure

of 4

Tehran - December 23. 1879.

Mr. Henry Keir

Major-General Sir William Keir -

Enclosed in Enclosure

of 4 in No. 2 Willock's

Letter to the Chief

Committee 26 Decr. 1879

Recd from the Storage

Office 20<sup>th</sup> April 1880.