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Copy of a Letter from the Chief Secretary at Bombay Castle, Francis Warden, to Major-General Sir William Grant Keir

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	IOR/L/PS/9/68/253
Date(s)	15 Dec 1819 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 item (4 folios)
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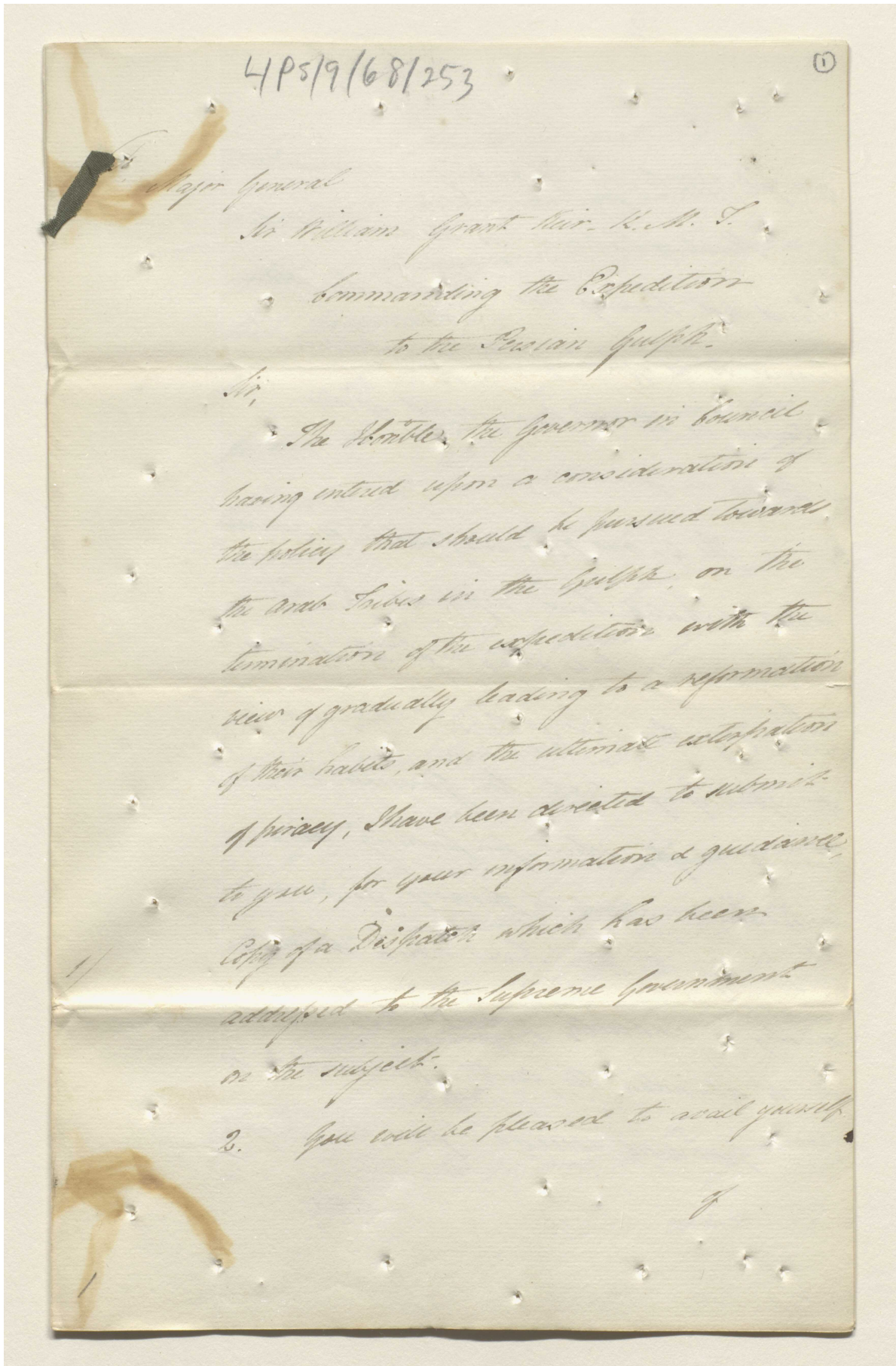


About this record

Copy of a letter from the Chief Secretary at Bombay Castle, Francis Warden, to the commander of the British expedition to the Persian Gulph [Persian Gulf], Major-General Sir William Grant Keir, of 15 December 1819. The letter encloses a copy of the letter of the Governor of Bombay [Mumbai] in Council, Mountstuart Elphinstone, to the Governor-General of the Presidency of Fort William, of 15 December 1819 (not included in this item, see IOR/L/PS/9/68/252), to which it refers. The letter gives instructions to Keir for the prosecution of the expedition against the al-Qawasim and their allies, whom the British accuse of piracy, including:

- The reduction of Ras-il-Khyma [Ra's al-Khaymah]
- To provide military assistance to the Imaum [Imam] of Muscat
- The conduct of offensive operations against ports on the Persian [Iranian] coast
- To maintain a battalion of 'native infantry' on Kishma [Qeshm].

The letter was enclosed in Elphinstone's letter to HM Chargé d'Affaires to Persia, Henry Willock, of 15 December 1819 (see IOR/L/PS/9/68/251).



Copy of a Letter from the Chief Secretary at Bombay Castle, Francis Warden, to
Major-General Sir William Grant Keir [1v] (2/8)

of a fit opportunity of making a communication
to the Sheikh of Bahrein, in the event of the
Island not having been reduced by the
British, to the effect of the suggestions
contained in the 2^d paragraph of the
dispatch in question.

3. The 4th and 5th Paragraphs in
of that dispatch have reference to the
arrangements to be formed for the future
control of the Port of Harir, Buzura, on
the efficacy of which the Governor in
Council chiefly relies for putting an
immediate check to piracy, and in
compelling the other Tribes which have
directly or indirectly followed or promoted
it, to abandon the further prosecution of
it. You will receive from the Chief

Who

Copy of a Letter from the Chief Secretary at Bombay Castle, Francis Warden, to
Major-General Sir William Grant Keir [2r] (3/8)

(2)

who may be placed in authority in the
Principality of Beer an obligation to the
effect of the suggestions contained in
these paragraphs -

4. By the 8th paragraph you will
perceive the nature of the relations which it
appears to the Governor in Council to be
expedient that we should form with
the Amir of Muscat, and you will
understand His Highness's assistance
he may require for the purpose of rendering
his maritime force more efficient, to be
employed in cooperation with our
ships of war and cruizers, for maintaining
the future tranquillity of the Gulf, in
which the security and prosperity of His
Highness's extensive commercial concerns
so much depend.

5. The 9th and 11th paragraphs
relate

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relate to the interests of Russia, and you will
be guided in the prosecution of your operations
in your negotiations with the Ports and
Islands which may be disposed to acknowledge
its allegiance, by the communications
which you may receive from the Army
at Schiras -
Should you however have been
compelled to prosecute hostilities against
any Ports on the Persian side of the Gulph,
or any Islands which may have thrown
off their dependence on Russia since the
ascendancy of the Mahomedan power, you will
transfer such as you may reduce, or such
as may voluntarily surrender their ports
and consent to acknowledge the
Supremacy

2

3

supremacy of India, to the Shikhs of Kashmir
as dependencies on that Government.

4. You will observe from the 13th
Paragraph that it is the intention of
the Governor in Council to reduce the
force under your Command, and to
return it to the Presidency, at as early
a period as practicable after the main
objects of your instructions shall have
been accomplished, leaving as you are
authorized to do, one Battalion of Native
Infantry and a detail of artillery, should
you judge it necessary, at Mishma, or
any other eligible Island until further
orders, with the view of overawing the
Arab Tribes, and enforcing by the
presence

2

Copy of a Letter from the Chief Secretary at Bombay Castle, Francis Warden, to
Major-General Sir William Grant Keir [3v] (6/8)

presence of such a body of troops in the
Gulph, those arrangements which are to
be formed for its future tranquillity.—

P.S. You will be so obliging as to submit
this despatch to the perusal of Captain
Sollyer.

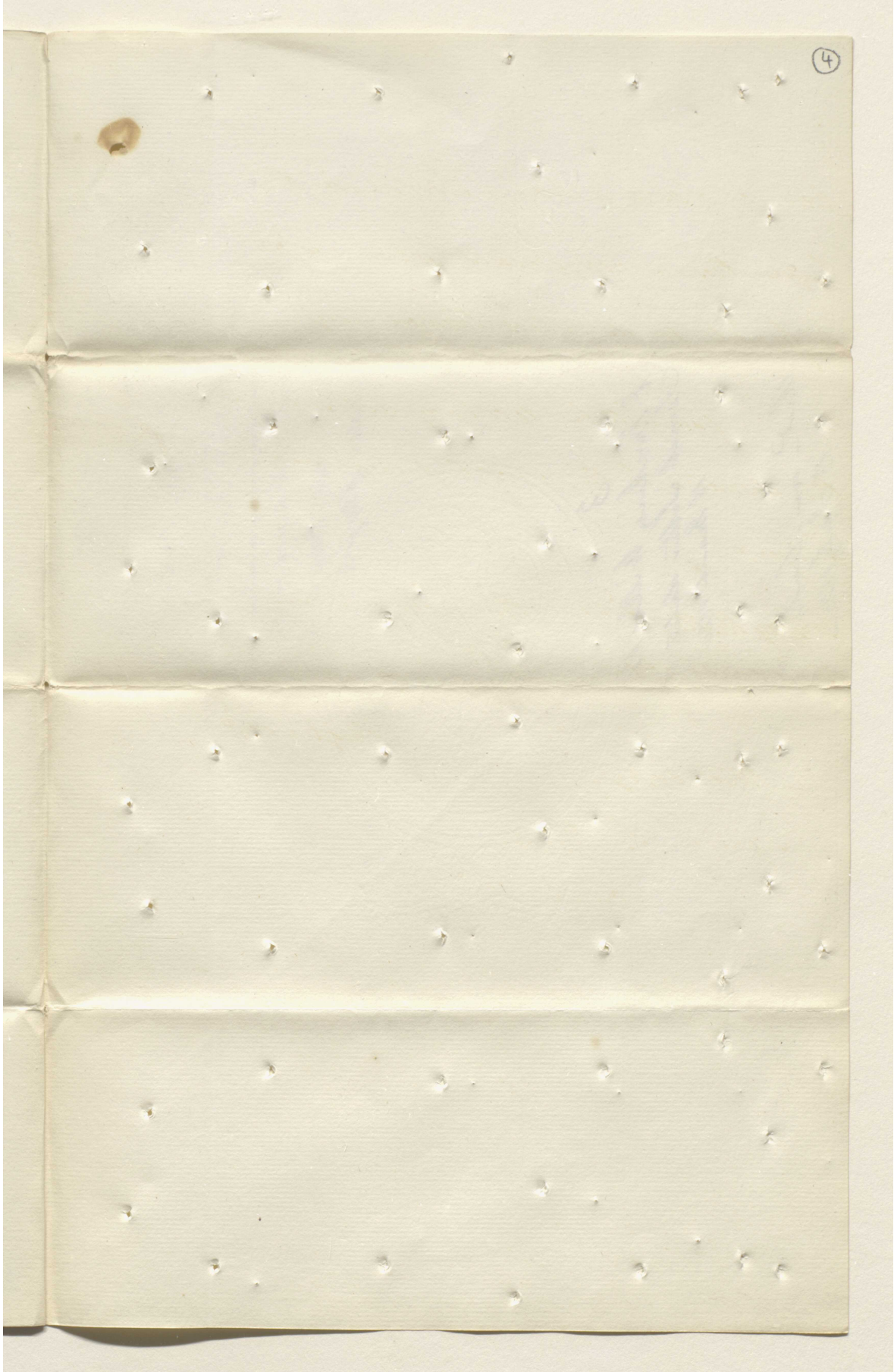
Bombay Castle. I have the honor to be
15. December. 1844.

signed - F. Warden
Chief Secy.

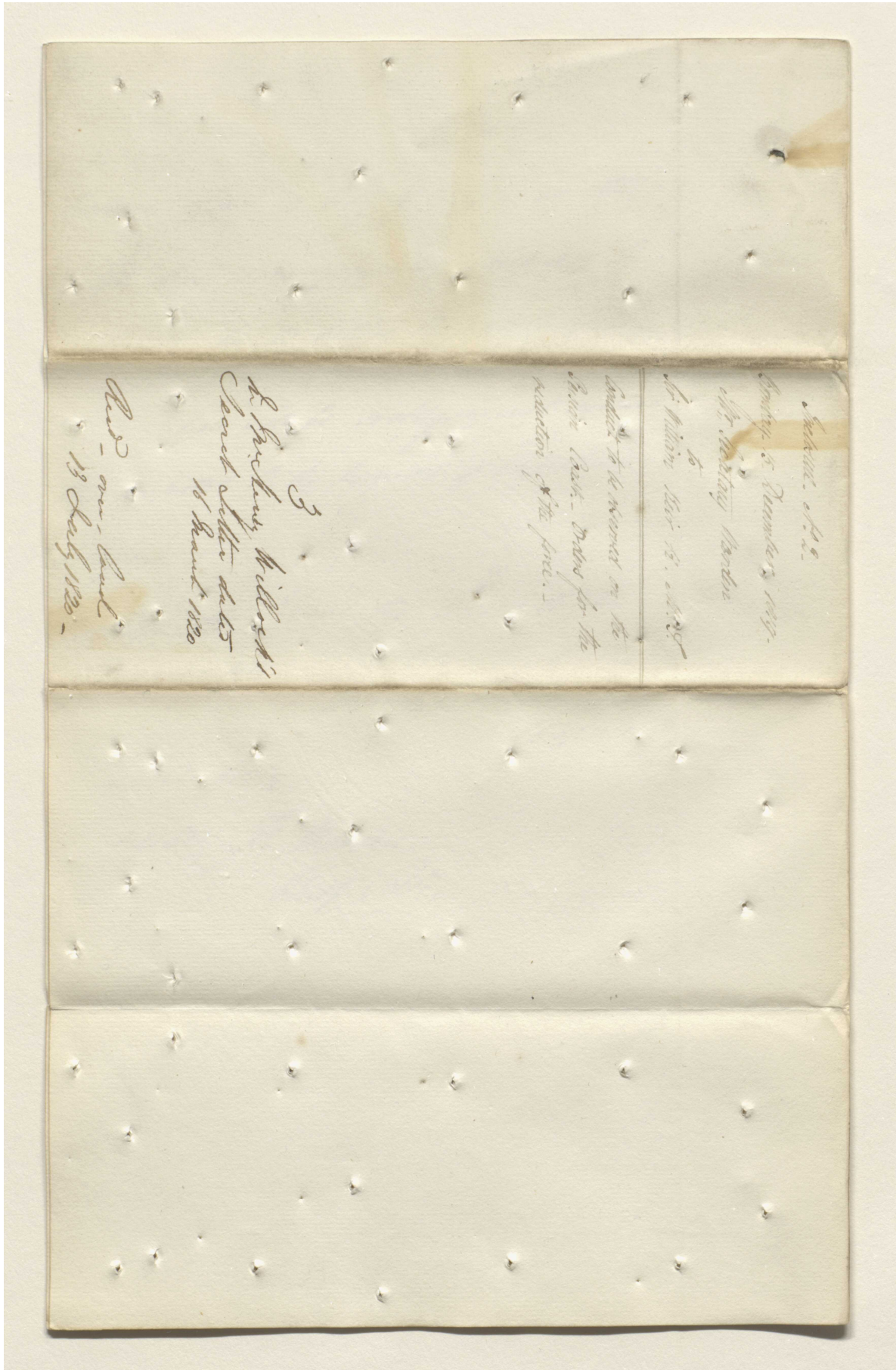
- three copies.

signed - F. Warden.
Chief Secy.

Copy of a Letter from the Chief Secretary at Bombay Castle, Francis Warden, to
Major-General Sir William Grant Keir [4r] (7/8)



Copy of a Letter from the Chief Secretary at Bombay Castle, Francis Warden, to
Major-General Sir William Grant Keir [4v] (8/8)



Extract. of No. 3.
Copy of Secretary's copy.
of the Secretary's letter
to Major-General Sir W. Grant Keir
dated 14th November 1825.
and to be forwarded to the
Major-General - drawn for the
attention of the force.
3
L. Francis Warden
Chief Secretary
16 Grant's 1825
Recd - from Genl
13 Aug 1825