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Enclosure in Letter from Henry Willock to the Secret Committee of 26 Dec 1820

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	IOR/L/PS/9/69/51
Date(s)	17 Dec 1820 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 item (6 folios)
Copyright for document	<u>Unknown</u>



About this record

A translation of a note from Hajee Mahomed Hussein Khan [Hājī Mohammad Husayn Khān Isfahānī], Sudr Aazim [Sadr-e 'Azam, Prime Minister] of Persia [Iran], and Mirza Abdul Wahab [Mīrzā Abdul Wahāb Nishāt Isfahānī], Moatemed ed Dowleh [Mu'tamid al-Dawla, Foreign Minister], to Henry Willock, HM Chargé d'Affaires in Persia, received 17 December 1820.

In response to Willock's letters (IOR/L/PS/9/69/49-50), the Ministers remonstrate with Willock regarding the entry of British ships into Persian ports without permission, assert Persian sovereignty over Kishm [Qeshm] and Hengaum [Hengām], and protest the landing of British troops on Kishm, arguing that the security of the Gulf should be secured by the Prince [Prince-Governor] of Fārs rather than British forces. They also condemn the actions of William Bruce, Resident in Bushire [Būshehr], in relation to Charak [Bandar-e Charāk] and Lingua [Bandar-e Lengeh], demand compensation from Bruce for Persian subjects, and refuse the cession of an island for a British base in the Gulf.

The letter was enclosed in Willock's letter to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors of the East India Company dated 26 December 1820 (IOR/L/PS/9/69/46).

LPS/9/69/51 ①
Translation of a note from their Excellencies the
Persian Ministers to H. M. Maj. Charge d'Affaires.
Received the 17th December 1820.

His M. Maj. Charge d'Affaires
stated, that he did not ask permission
for British Ships of war to enter the
Persian Ports, but, no direct request
to this import was made, but from
the general tenour of the note, request
for permission might be understood,
and although it was not directly
expressed, a notification of the pro-
ceeding implies absence of permission.
He does not know why, H. M. Maj. Charge d'
affaires should disavow this
approach act on his part.

His Majesty's Charge d'Affaires
has stated that the 11th article of the
Treaty refers only to the case of affes-
-tance required by the Persian Govern-
-ment; this is plain to logicians
that if it was necessary that British
Ships of war should require permission
to enter the Persian Ports when
assentance

assistance is required, certainly the same permission is necessary when no demand for assistance has been made.

H. B. Metg's Charge d'Affaires has stated, that the British Government in India did not know that Kishom and Rangam belonged to Persia. This fact is certainly established, since H. Metg's Charge d'Affaires has sent the information and no doubt orders have been issued to the troops to leave it. If they were ignorant of the claims of Persia to Kishom, certainly they were aware that Bunder Akapri and Muscat are subject to Persia and it is very plain that these Islands are dependencies of Bunder Akapri and governed by the Usman on the part of Persia.

It was stated, that the British Government in India had every inclination to cultivate the strictest relations of amity with Persia; certainly it must be so.

the

the Government in India a separate ⁽²⁾
state that they should not act in con-
formity with the policy of the British
Government in England. The friend-
ship of the two states is too well esta-
blished to require mutual professions
on this head.

H. Mtys's Charge d' Affaires
has requested that the Mission of a
Persian Officer to Reshm may be
postponed. Yes, it is sufficient
that we have informed H. Mtys's
Charge d' Affaires of our sentiments;
but it is necessary that the Prince
of Pers should with despatch
direct the Soumaum of Muscat to
inform the officer at Reshm not
to erect any buildings on the Island
nor unnecessarily to place his
Government to expence on this head.

H. Mtys's Charge d' Affaires has
thought it necessary to offer assurances
of the purity of the views of his Govern-
ment, for this there was no occasion,
as the Persian Government has always
recognized the principles of the
British

British Government and if any distrust
 existed on our part, on the first expedi-
 tion, when British Ships of War entered
 all the Persian Ports to destroy the pirates
 without the permission of the Persian
 Government, objections would have been
 offered to such proceedings and what
 is now stated regarding the landing of
 the Troops at Bushahr does not proceed
 from any unfavourable suppositions
 in our mind, but from a conviction,
 that our mutual interests require the
 explanation and that the security of
 the seas will be better preserved for the
 intercourse of our Merchants, if the
 power of the Prince of Pers in the Gulf
 be better established, and we consider
 that if the British Government in
 India wish still to check piracy, the
 obligations of our alliance require, that
 the security of the Gulf should be
 preserved, by the Prince of Pers and
 not by the establishment of a British
 force in the Gulf.

H. Willock's Charge d'Affaires
 has

③
has agreed that the Piracy of the inhabitants
of the Persian Coast may be checked by
H. B. Highknefs, but did not consider the
the Arabs of Fars capable of contending
with the Jaermes. He before explained
that orders would be issued to the
Prince to make maritime preparations
and now that the Jaermes are reduced,
we can preserve tranquility by sea and
land, and every exertion will be used to
effect this object, and if by accident
any assistance should be necessary from
India, at such a period, it will be re-
quired and undoubtedly the expense
of equipment attending such an
expedition will be less than the con-
tinued residence of British Troops
in the Gulf, and exertions on the part
of the Prince of Fars are more particularly
necessary as the pirates have not the
power of molesting British Ships and
their depredations are exercised on the
inhabitants of the Persian Coast.

H. M. G. 's Charge d' Affaires
made

made some observations in defence of Mr Bruce, but as he has acknowledged the destruction of the hongs and the Charack boats, he will certainly not desavow Mr Bruce's Mission to Bahrein, and his mediating to effect the views of the Sheiks of Bahrein. The exculpation of Mr Bruce's conduct is, that the hongs and Charack boats were destroyed by the Captains of the British Ships. According to the representations of the Shera Government Mr Bruce superintended the destruction of the Charack vessels; if this duty was effected by others, as the officers from India were not acquainted that the people of these parts were subjects of His Persian Majesty; but acted from the information which Mr Bruce gave them, he must repair the loss occasioned to Persian Subjects.

+ W. B. Moly's Charge's Affairs has noticed in his former statements relating to this affair - True - but in this manner, that the ships of the people of hongs and Charack

+ Reported request of the repetition to the Persian Minister, amongst the rest the actual destruction of the hongs & Charack boats, and no complaint was uttered. In Mr Bruce's letter to the King amount at Shiran when the repetition had yielded the fault. But the Persian Government if they did not transcribe date and circumstances, could not order the late copy from the approbation consistent with their present amonstration. Henry Willock

④

in retaliation for the offences committed
by them and for their disobedience to the
orders of the Prince of Pers and their
connexion with the Jaanemes will be
destroyed." The answer to this commu-
nication was, that the Arabs of the
three parts on the subjects of Persia,
and if they have offended they are
amenable to the Persian Government.
The punishment of the Jaanemes is the
province of the British, the offences
of the Arabs of the Persian Coast must
be stated to the Prince of Pers, who
will punish any that may have
offended against British Subjects.

H. M. G. Charge d' Affaires
continued the former address to the
officer commanding the fleet and
the mark of the Prince's favour to Mr.
Bruce to an approbation of the services
of the expedition - Yes - The officer
Commanding (before the transactions
ascribed to Mr. Bruce) in a letter to the
Shah detailed his services in de-
stroying the Jaanemes, which were
worthy of the approbation of His
Persian Majesty and, as Mr. Bruce
had,

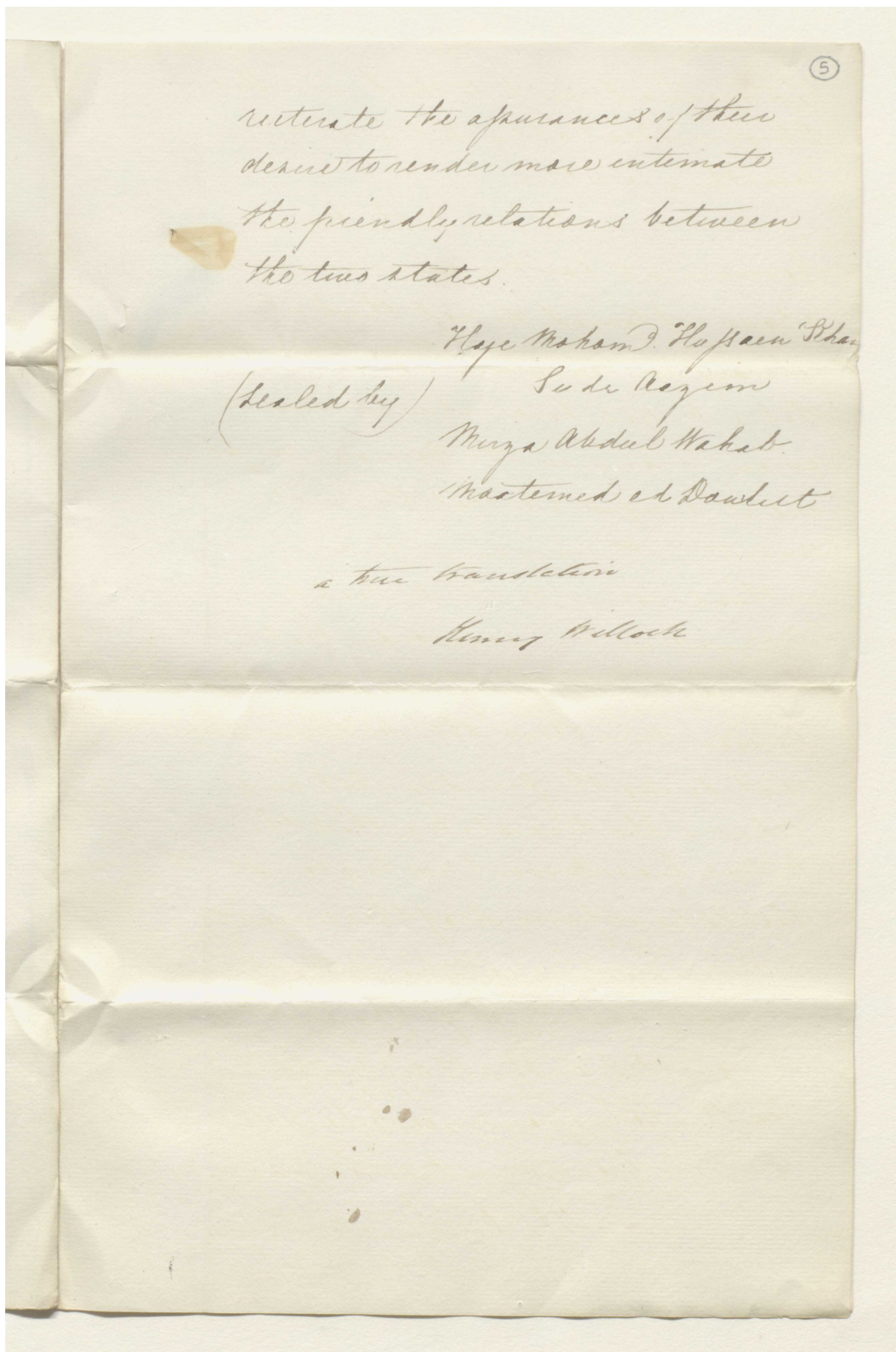
had,

The late collection of the observations emitted with this packet amounting to Henry Willock

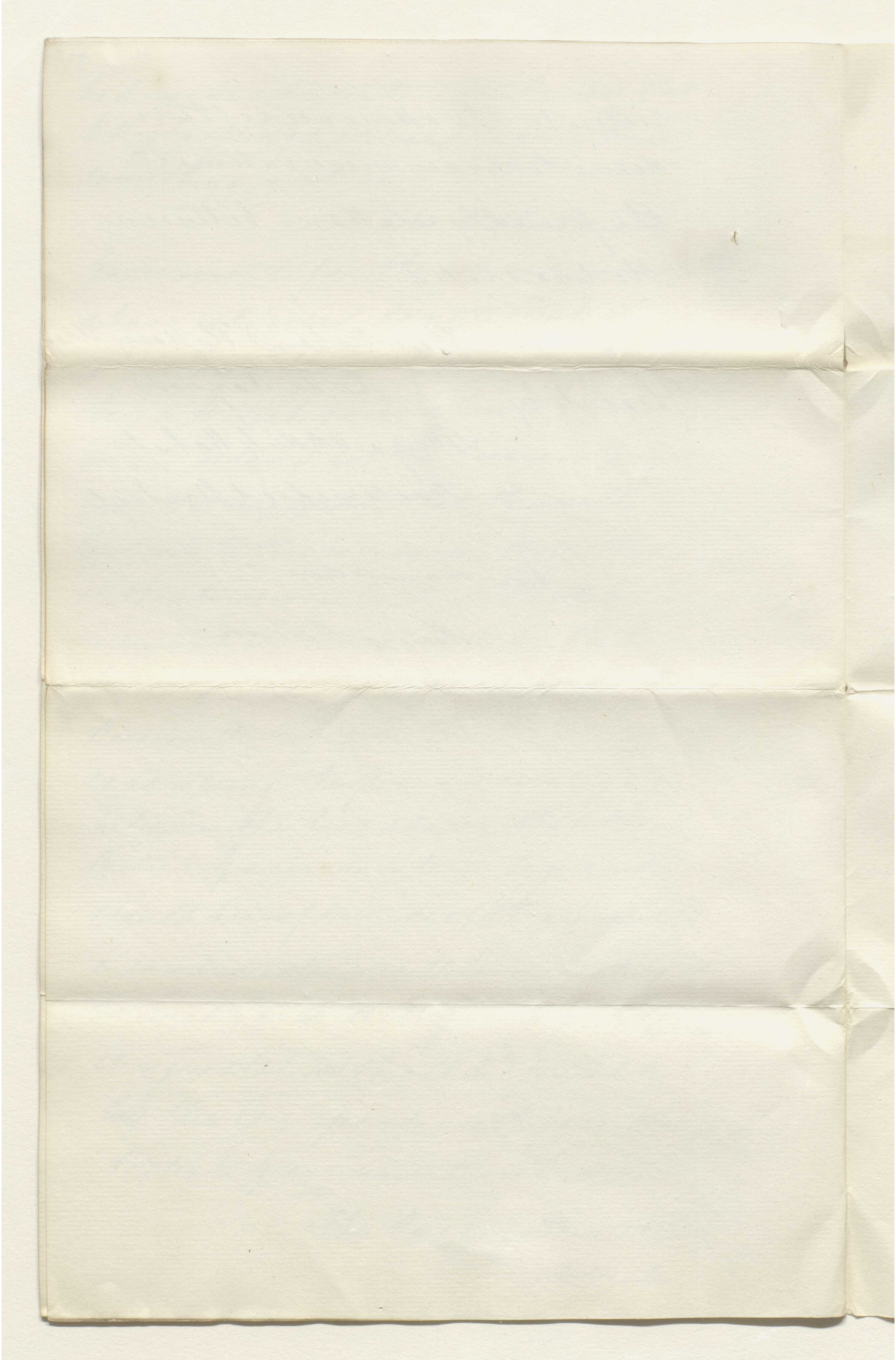
had made a present to the Prince His
Highness was obliged to give him
something in return.

In short the Persian
Government for the several reasons
above explained do not think it
expedient for the interests of either state
that a British force should remain
on an Island in the Persian Gulf
and it is impossible that they will
consent to this measure. State this
without reserve to the British Go-
vernment in India, in order that
they may renounce the idea. As the
Persian Ministers think it necessary,
considering the friendly relations
between the two states, that the
British Government in England
should be informed of these facts,
a communication will immediately
be made, and H. Mr's Charge d'Affaires
is requested with all despatch to
lay this Correspondence before the
British Government in India.

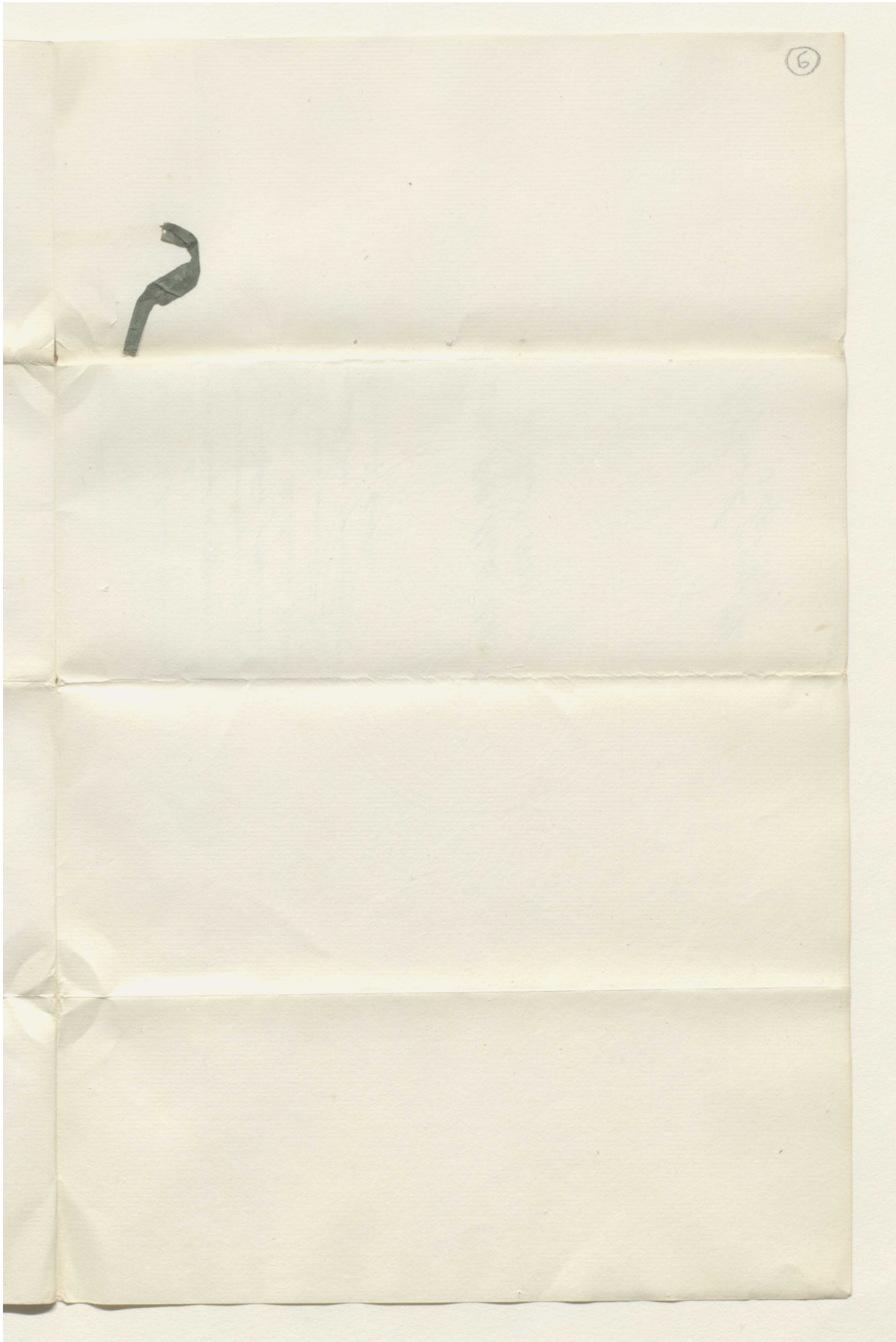
The Persian Ministers
reiterate



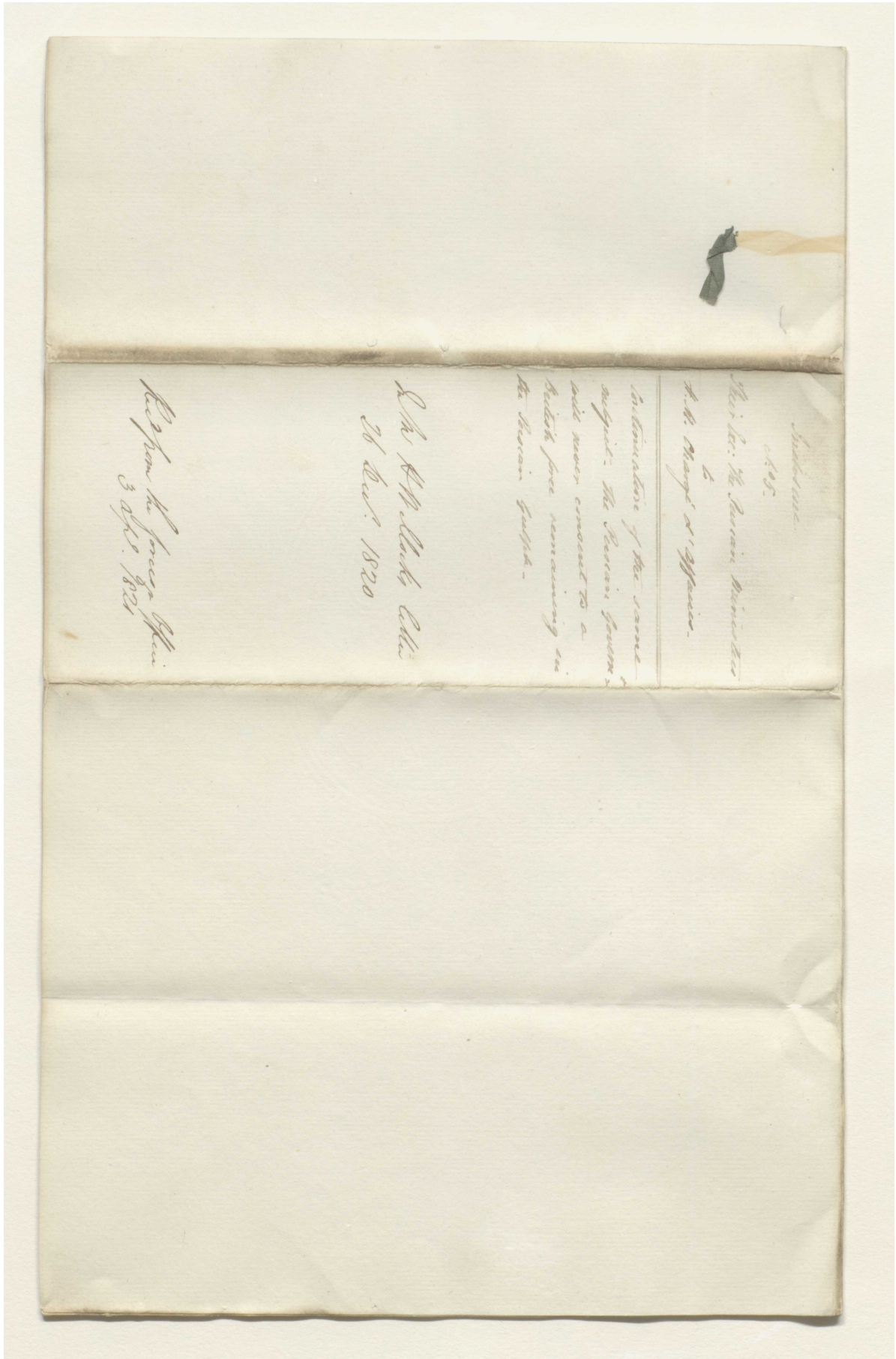
Enclosure in Letter from Henry Willock to the Secret Committee of 26 Dec 1820
[5v] (10/12)



Enclosure in Letter from Henry Willock to the Secret Committee of 26 Dec 1820
[6r] (11/12)



Enclosure in Letter from Henry Willock to the Secret Committee of 26 Dec 1820
[6v] (12/12)



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