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Enclosure in Letter from Henry Willock to Joseph Dart of 8 Feb 1821

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	IOR/L/PS/9/69/61
Date(s)	13 Oct 1820 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 item (2 folios)
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About this record

An extract of a letter from Captain Thomas Thompson, Commander of the British troops on Kishma [Qeshm], to Henry Willock, HM Chargé d'Affaires in Persia [Iran], sent from Muscat and dated 13 October 1821.

The letter reports the transfer of six companies of British troops from Deristan [Dayrestān] camp on Kishma to Muscat in order to assist the Imam against reported acts of 'piracy' in the area. It also describes a visit to Muscat by Persian envoys, during which the subject of the British presence on Kishma was discussed.

The extract was enclosed in Willock's letter to Joseph Dart, Secretary to the Court of Directors of the East India Company, dated 8 February 1821 (IOR/L/PS/9/60).

4PS/9/69/61 ①

Extract of a private letter from Captain
Thompson to Mr. Willock - dated Muscat
13th October, 1820.

My dear Sir,

In consequence of directions from
Bombay to enquire into certain piracies
reported to have been committed by a
tribe of Arabs on the outside of the Gulf
beyond Ras. il. Kad., and to act against
them in the event of the reports being
confirmed, six companies, with artillery
have been moved from this place, from
Deristan on the Island of Bishman, with
a view to cooperate with the Imam
against

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against the Arabs in question. Having
heard at Deristan that two Persian Messengers
had been sent to Muscat, I inquired of the
Minister of the Imam whether their communications
had any reference to the residence of the
British on the Island of Mishma. The Minister
informed me that they were the usual annual
Messengers sent to bring presents, and to receive
the rent for Mishma and Bender Abbas. —

That they bore no communication in writing
on the subject of the British Detachment, but
that they enquired verbally whether the British
had landed on Mishma, with the Imams
consent or without it. — On being told that

it

(2)

it was with his consent, they asked why
he gave permission, to which His Highness
replied, that having for upwards of twenty
years suffered from the depredations of the
piratical Tribes, and most particularly on
the Island of Liskma, and seeing no prospect
of this being put an end to by the interference
of the Persian Government, he had made an
application to the British which had
produced the effect desired. It occurred to me
that the knowledge of this reply might be
in some manner serviceable, and I have
reported it with accuracy as given by
the Minister or Principal Secretary. The
Imam's absence with his forces
Prevented

prevented me from hearing anything
from himself on the subject. -

Remain

signed - J. P. Thompson

Comm: & Agent at Deriston.

Recd from the
Genl of the Office
28th May 1821 -

In Mr. Willock's
to Mr. Henry Dart
28th & 29th 1821