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Enclosure in Letter from Henry Willock to the Secret Committee of 8 Jan 1924

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	IOR/L/PS/9/69/141
Date(s)	31 Dec 1823 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 item (6 folios)
Copyright for document	Public Domain



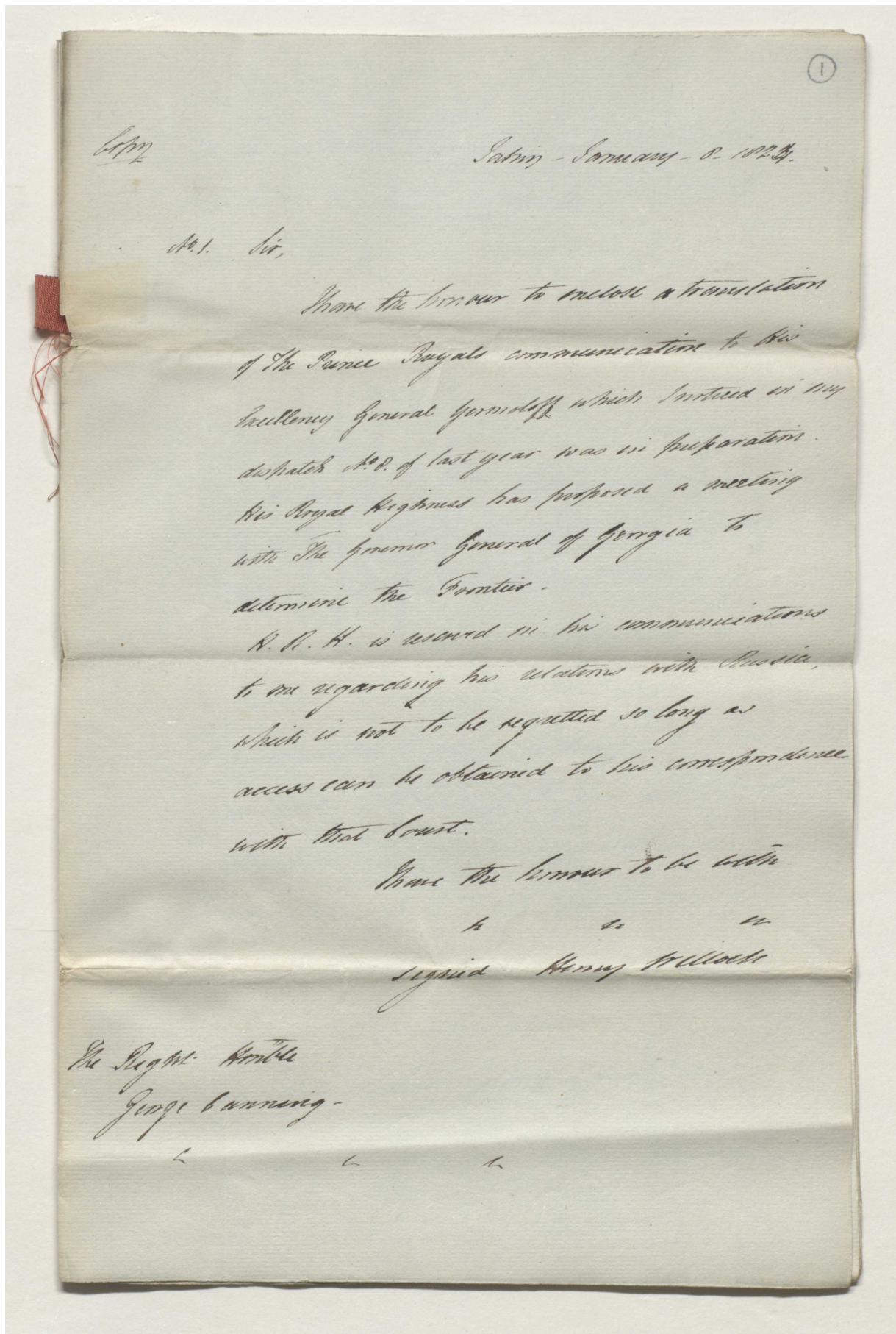
About this record

A copy of a letter from Henry Willock, HM Chargé d'Affaires in Persia [Iran], to George Canning, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, sent from Tabriz and dated 8 January 1824. The letter forwards a translation of a letter from the Prince Royal ['Abbās Mīrzā, Crown Prince] of Persia to General Yermoloff [Alexey Petrovich Yermolov], Governor-General of Georgia, dated 31 December 1823, enclosed.

The enclosed letter concerns efforts to delineate the border between Persia and the Russian Empire in the Caucasus and proposes a meeting to settle the issue.

The letters were enclosed in Willock's letter to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors of the East India Company dated 8 January 1824 (IOR/L/PS/9/69/140).

Enclosure in Letter from Henry Willock to the Secret Committee of 8 Jan 1924
[1r] (1/12)



Copy

Salem - January - 8. 1924.

No. 1. Sir,

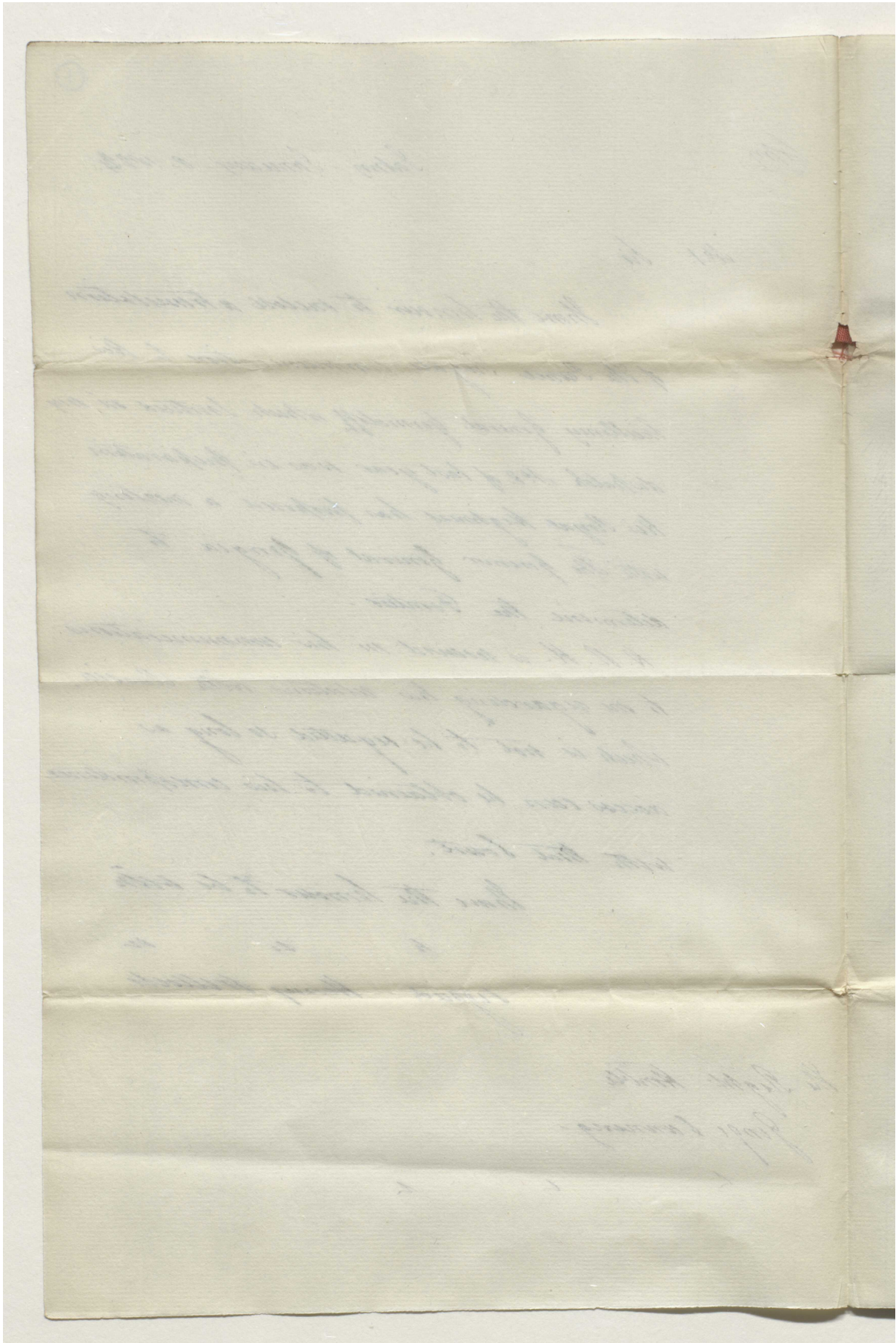
I have the honour to enclose a translation
of the Prince Royal's communication to his
Excellency General Gromoff which I noticed in my
despatch No. 2 of last year was in preparation.
His Royal Highness has proposed a meeting
with the Premier General of Georgia to
determine the frontier.

A. N. H. is asked in his communications
to me regarding his relations with Russia,
which is not to be repeated so long as
access can be obtained to his correspondence
with that Court.

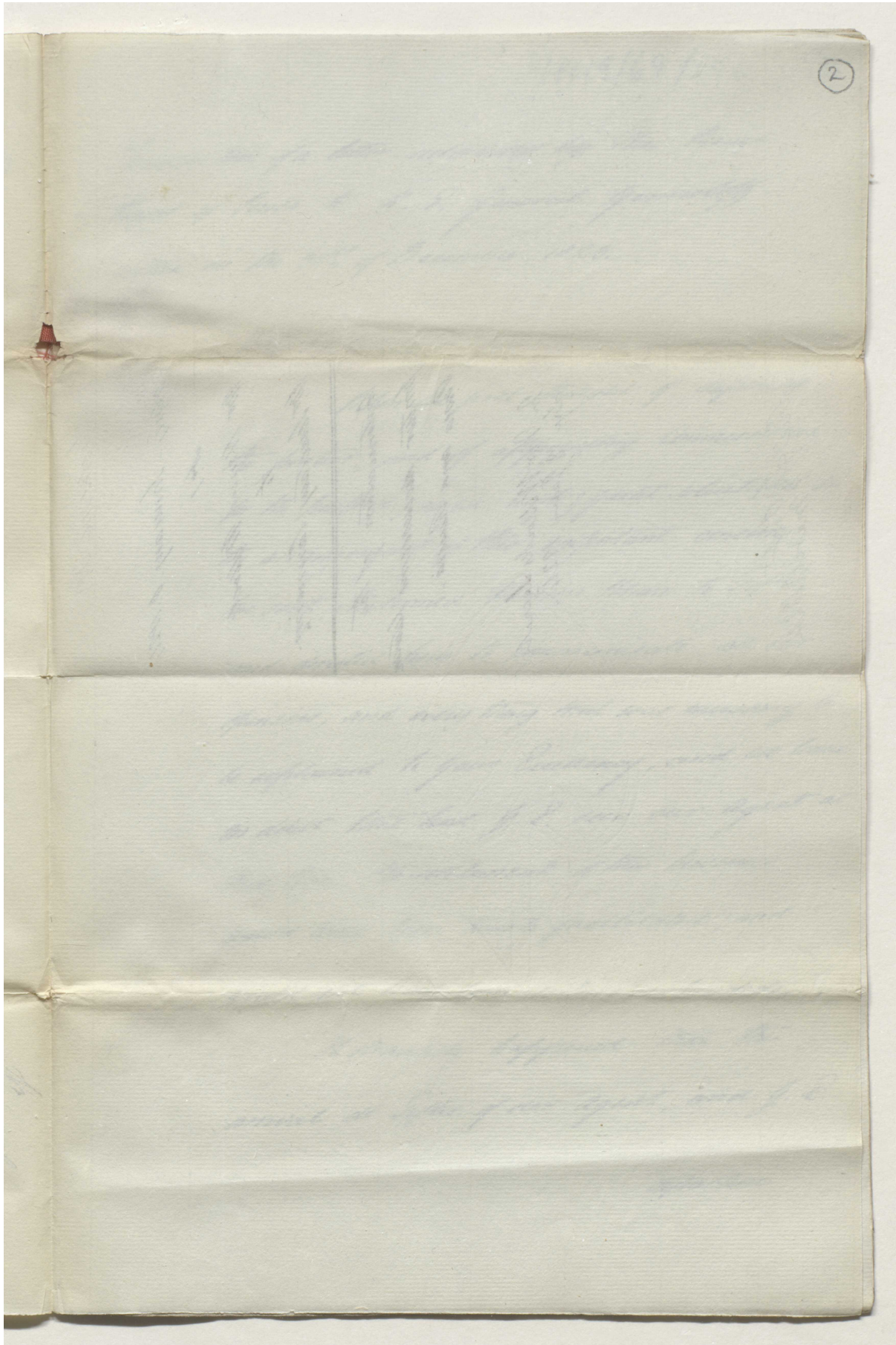
I have the honour to be with
respect,
Signed Henry Willock

The Right Honble
George Banning

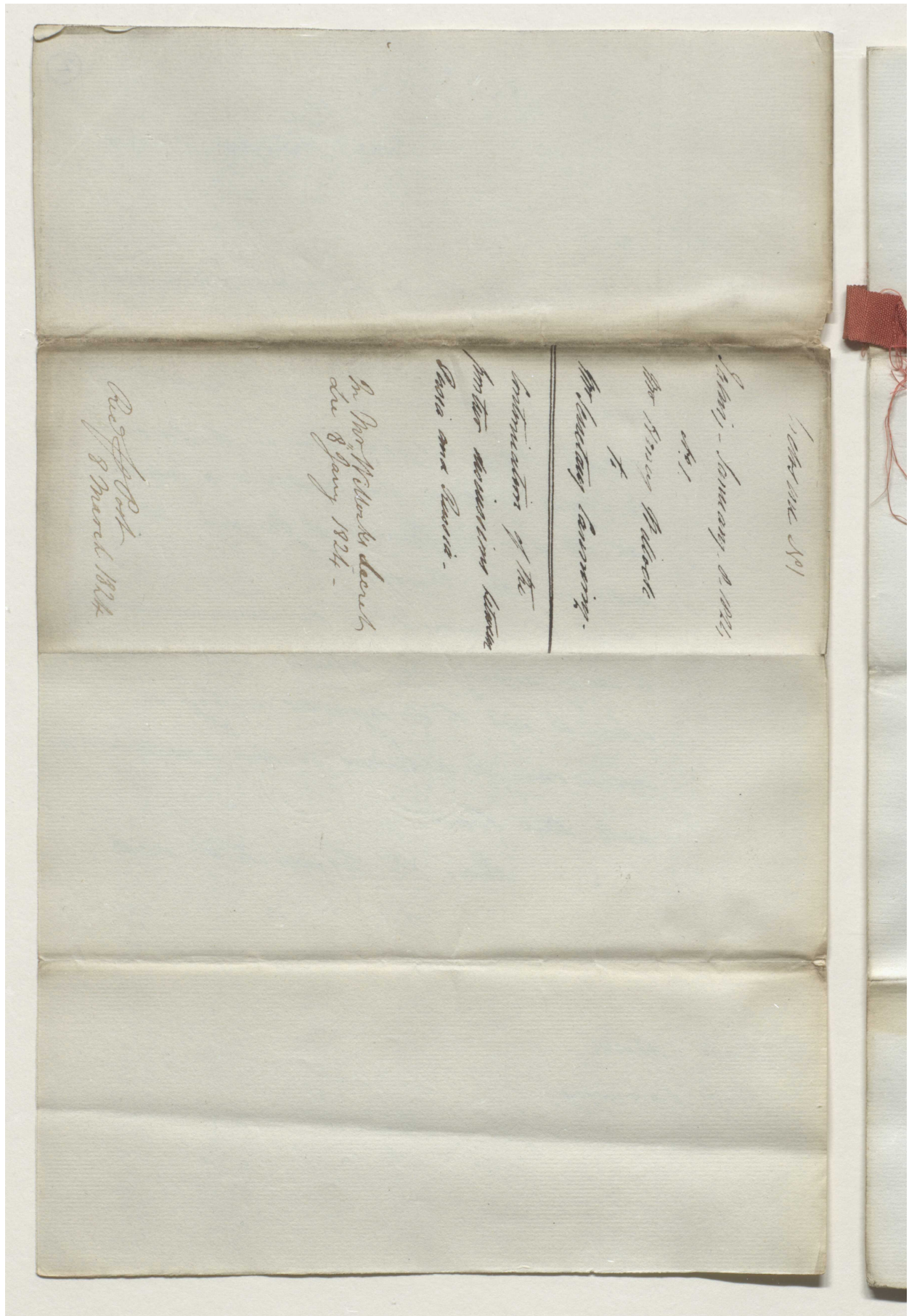
Enclosure in Letter from Henry Willock to the Secret Committee of 8 Jan 1924
[1v] (2/12)



Enclosure in Letter from Henry Willock to the Secret Committee of 8 Jan 1924
[2r] (3/12)



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[2v] (4/12)



LPS/9/69/141

(3)

Translation of a letter addressed by The Prince
Royal of Persia to H. E. General Gromoff -
written on the 31st of December. 1883.

After Compliments.

When we first thought of appointing
the painter, and of appointing Commissioners
for the purpose, as we had great solicitude in
the arrangement of this important concern,
we sent Mohammed Hussein Khan to Tiflis,
and directed him to communicate all our
opinions, and every thing that was necessary to
be explained to your Excellency; and we have
no doubt that had G. E. seen our agent at
that time, the settlement of this business
would have been much facilitated, and
would not have been so long suspended.

It strangely happened that the
arrival at Tiflis of our agent, and G. E.

departure

departure was simultaneous, and our
interview did not take place. He had no
opportunity of communicating the object of
his mission and returned, and from
the want of necessary explanations which it
was our study to make, the Commissioners
on the frontier of Surin could not determine
the sovereignty of a span of ground. As they
advanced they drew surveys and wrote papers, and
neither of the parties took into consideration the
respective claims and the arguments by which
they were supported.

We heard of the mode pursued, and
did not think it likely to produce the object
proposed, and we had not the power of
communicating with G. L. as you were
employed

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[4r] (7/12)

④

employed in England. Our only resource
was to proceed to the banks of the Aras, and
we decided Mr. Ambourger to accompany us.
We exerted our utmost to effect a settlement,
our efforts were not successful, but they were
useful in preventing a disagreeable result.
To be ~~sure~~ anxious that G. E. should
not be without intelligence of the consequences
of the Commission, we have decided Henri Albadan
Bey to deliver this letter, and not to return
without an answer.
We wish to apprise G. E. who are
opinioned on political subjects, that the
definition of the boundary of the two Empires
although it may be regarded by others as
unimportant, is in our sight of the
utmost moment. It is in the power of
Sovereigns

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[4v] (8/12)

Sovereigns to make concessions of Territory, but
servants of the State in whom the confidence
of their Sovereign is reposed, cannot without
legitimate proof of pretensions advanced give
up a single handful of earth, and it is
their duty to be most particular and urgent in
supporting the rights of their employers. But
if justice is made the basis of their
proceedings, the mutual strife and contention
which has marked the conduct of our Commissioners
in the definition of the Frontier, where differences
are so likely to arise, ought to be avoided,
and cannot prove of benefit to either State.

To examine the country, to traverse hills
and dales, to make charts, are the duties
of Surveyors, but to negotiate with justice,

to

(5)

to respect each others rights, to arrange the
affairs of the State without litigation and
strife, are provinces of higher authorities,
and can only be determined by a meeting
between us, and by an ultimate reference
to the Treaty, and to the Courts; - then by
rejecting the idea of separate interests, and by
substituting an unity of sentiment, without
litigation, and without a violation of right
on either side we may settle these
important concerns.

If your Excellency thinks it more
advisable to refer the business of the State
to the State, and to withdraw ourselves from
the weight which these duties impose, a
Minister shall be sent from this Court
to St. Petersburg to acquaint His Imperial

Magistry

Majesty of the discussions which have arisen
in the discussion of our respective pretensions,
and we will refer the decision of this momentous
affair to the justice of H. S. M., in order that
if H. M. shall accede to our wishes, the weight
of the obligation may be light, or if H. M.
has expectations of us, our acquiescence
may be rendered easy, or if His Majesty is
influenced by justice, that our objects may
be attained.

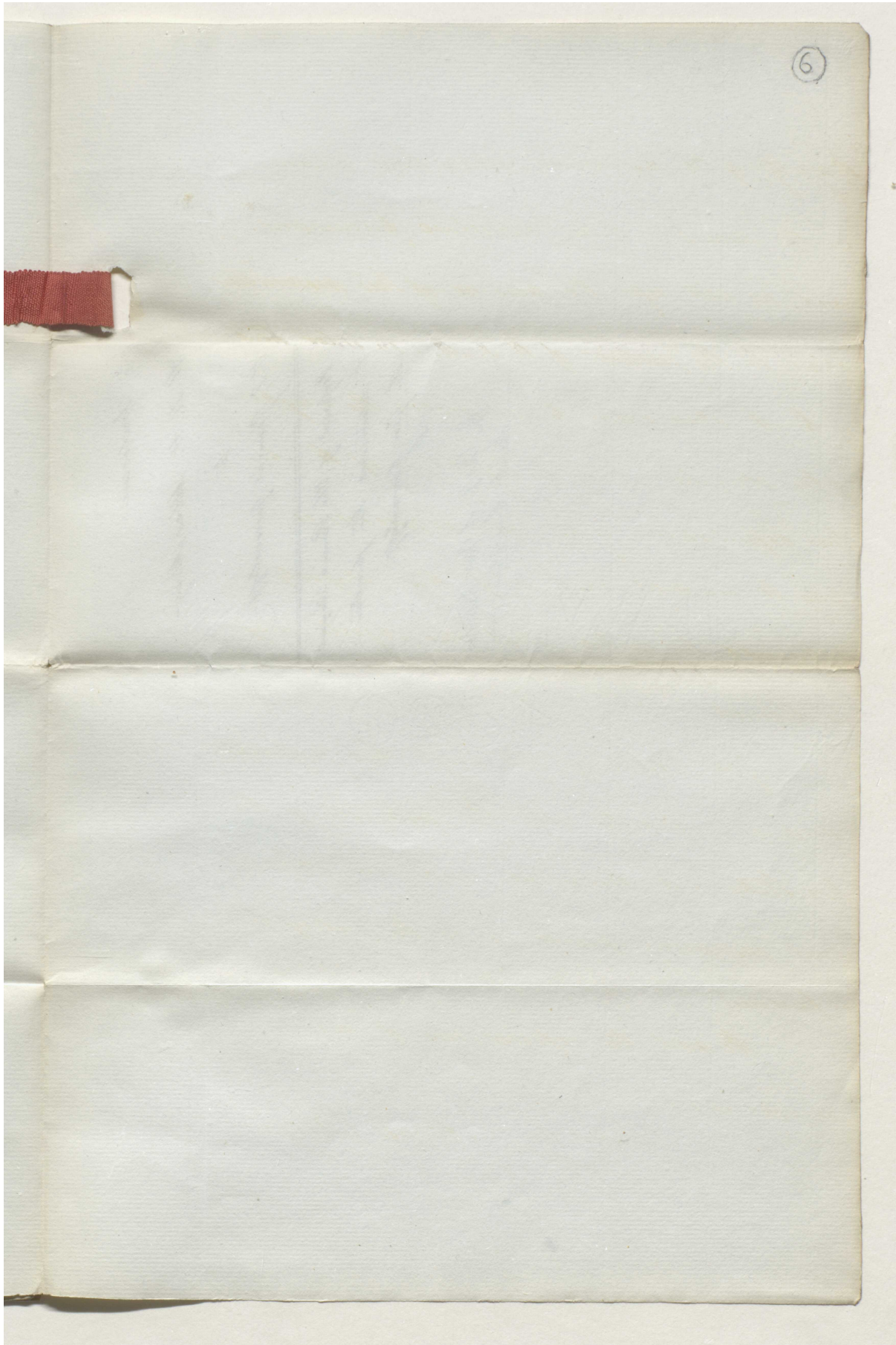
Your Excellency will weigh these propositions,
and in conformity with the interests of the
two States will determine, and will give us
your unswerving opinion as to the policy to
be pursued.

We add the expressions of our
consideration.

Signed by. Abbas Meiza.

(true translation)
George Willock.

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[6r] (11/12)



Enclosure in Letter from Henry Willock to the Secret Committee of 8 Jan 1924
[6v] (12/12)

