



This PDF was generated on 08/03/2022 from online resources of
the **Qatar Digital Library**

The online record can be viewed at:

http://www.qdl.qa/en/archive/81055/vdc_100038378586.0x000371

It contains extra information, high resolution zoomable views and transcriptions.

**Copy of Dispatch No. 46 from the East India Company Envoy to Persia,
Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonald Kinneir, in Tabreez, to the Chief
Secretary to the Supreme Government of India, George Swinton**

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Holding Institution | British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers |
| Reference | IOR/L/PS/9/70/226 |
| Date(s) | 9 May 1827 (CE, Gregorian) |
| Written in | English in Latin |
| Extent and Format | 1 item (3 folios) |
| Copyright for document | Open Government Licence |



About this record

Copy of dispatch No. 46 from the East India Company Envoy to Persia [Iran], Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonald Kinneir, in Tabreez [Tabriz], to the Chief Secretary to the Supreme Government of India, George Swinton, of 9 May 1827. The letter concerns the ongoing war between Russia and Persia [Russo-Persian War, 1826-1828], detailing battles between the two sides including the unsuccessful attempt by General Madatoff [General Valerian Madatov] to cross the Araxes [River Aras] in Carabaugh [Karabakh]. The letter also reports the Russians having appointed the Archbishop of Tiflis [Tbilisi] to officiate as the Primate of the Armenian Church, details of Russian military logistics, and the replacement of General Yermoloff [General Aleksey Petrovich Yermolov] as Governor-General of Georgia by General Peskowitch [General Ivan Fyodorovich Paskevich].

This document was originally enclosed in Macdonald Kinneir's letter to the Secret Committee of the East India Company of 10 May 1827 (IOR/L/PS/9/70/225).

Copy of Dispatch No. 46 from the East India Company Envoy to Persia, Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonald Kinneir, in Tabreez, to the Chief Secretary to the Supreme Government of India, George Swinton [1r] (1/6)

(copy)
No 46
L/PS/9/70/226^①

To
George Swinton Esq.
Secy to Govt & Co Secy
Fort Williams

Sir

If you will do me the
favour to lay the accompanying papers,
being copies of a dispatch to the Honble the
Chairman and Secret Committee of the
Court of Directors, before the Right Honble
the Governor General in Council.

On the 25th of April the
division of Prince Sewidjemizoff estimated
at 6000 troops of the line, and 4 or 5000
Cossacks, with six pieces of cannon, broke
up from their winter Cantonments at Lori,
and advanced to Eutahkelesia the residence
of the Armenian Patriarch, in the neighbour-
hood of Erivan, where it still was, when
the last accounts came away. - A strong
detachment which had been sent to re-
-connaitre the fort of Sirdarabad, returned
the following day, after firing a few shots
at the place. - During the passage of the
Karassu, a river which crosses the road between
Eutahkelesia and Sirdarabad, the Cossacks
were attacked by the Persian Horse, who
according to their own report, killed about
twenty.

Copy of Dispatch No. 46 from the East India Company Envoy to Persia, Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonald Kinneir, in Tabreez, to the Chief Secretary to the Supreme Government of India, George Swinton [1v] (2/6)

twenty men, and took some horses. - The fire of the Infantry and Artillery from the opposite bank, is said to have saved the Russian Cavalry on this occasion from a more severe loss. -

In Carabagh the Corps of General Madatoff approached the arched near the bridge of Khoda Aferin on the 2^d instant, and on the following day, made several unsuccessful attempts to repair the broken bridge. - On the morning of the 4th they endeavoured to construct a floating bridge of rafts, but the Russians keeping up a very heavy fire of musquetry from behind the rocks that come down nearly to the waters edge, killed or wounded many of the soldiers thus employed, and forced the remainder either to return to their own encampment, or throw themselves into the river, where numbers are said to have perished from their inability to stem the strength of the current. - At this moment, two light pieces of Artillery which had arrived during the night, opened on the Russian Camp, which would seem to have been pitched within range of their shot, since the whole Army retired with great precipitation, leaving several of their tents, all the timber they had brought for the reparation of the bridge, their boats, and

Copy of Dispatch No. 46 from the East India Company Envoy to Persia, Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonald Kinneir, in Tabreez, to the Chief Secretary to the Supreme Government of India, George Swinton [2r] (3/6)

and rafts in possession of the Persians. —
They retreated to a village called Kany-e-
Librael about seven or eight miles
from the scene of action, and subsequent
intelligence announced their return to
Akoglan in the vicinity of Assandoo. —

It is not known what
loss the Persians may have sustained in
this affair, but an officer of distinction with
50 or 60 men are said to have been killed,
exclusive of those who perished in the
streams. — Their force was reckoned at
5000 regular Infantry, and about an equal
number of other troops, with the usual com-
plement of artillery, which from the high
and rugged nature of the grounds on the
southern bank, was of no service to
them. — The Persian Army consisted of
the regiments of Karadagh and Marand,
with about 2000 Irregulars, belonging
to the Ghilakchianloo and other border tribes.

My private information
states, that the Persians now at Kutahkiesia,
brought with them Karses Seikhishop of
Tiflis, who is for the present to officiate as
Patriarch of the Armenian Church, the
Khalifa being too old and infirm for the
exercise of his duties. — That they were drawing
their supplies from Lari, and depositing
them

Copy of Dispatch No. 46 from the East India Company Envoy to Persia, Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonald Kinneir, in Tabreez, to the Chief Secretary to the Supreme Government of India, George Swinton [2v] (4/6)

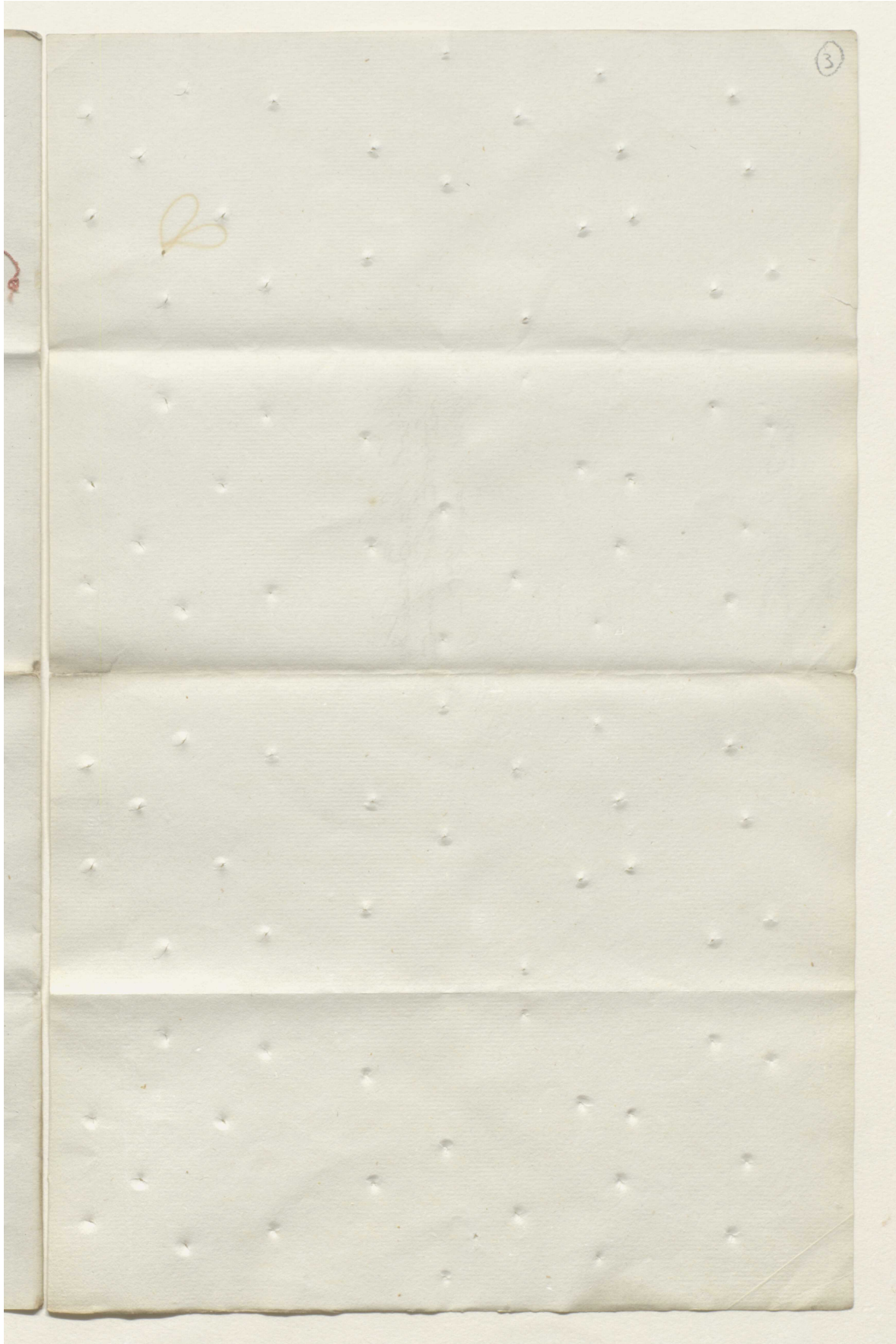
them in the very extensive warehouses of the
episcopal establishment, the walls of which
had been made sufficiently strong to resist
any Persian force that might be sent against
it. - That the adjacent country is almost en-
tirely inhabited by Armenians, who have
several considerable villages within a few
miles of the convent, and that the latter is
not only capable of lodging from 2 to 3000
men without inconvenience, but also affords
excellent accommodations for the sick or
wounded. -

It is further added that
General Gernatoff had arranged the plans
of the Campaign, and was to have proceeded
in person to Erivan, but that two days
before he set out, an order from St. Petersburg
directed his recall, and nominated General
Petrovitch to succeed him. - That only General
Gernatoff's original plans, the divisions
now at Lutsk were had been put in
motion, before the change of the Government
took place, and that the delay which has
since occurred, was produced by the necessity
under which Genl. Petrovitch had found
himself of making some arrangements previous
to his departure. - That the whole force destined
to march against Erivan, was about 20,000
men, of whom 15,000 are regular Infantry. -

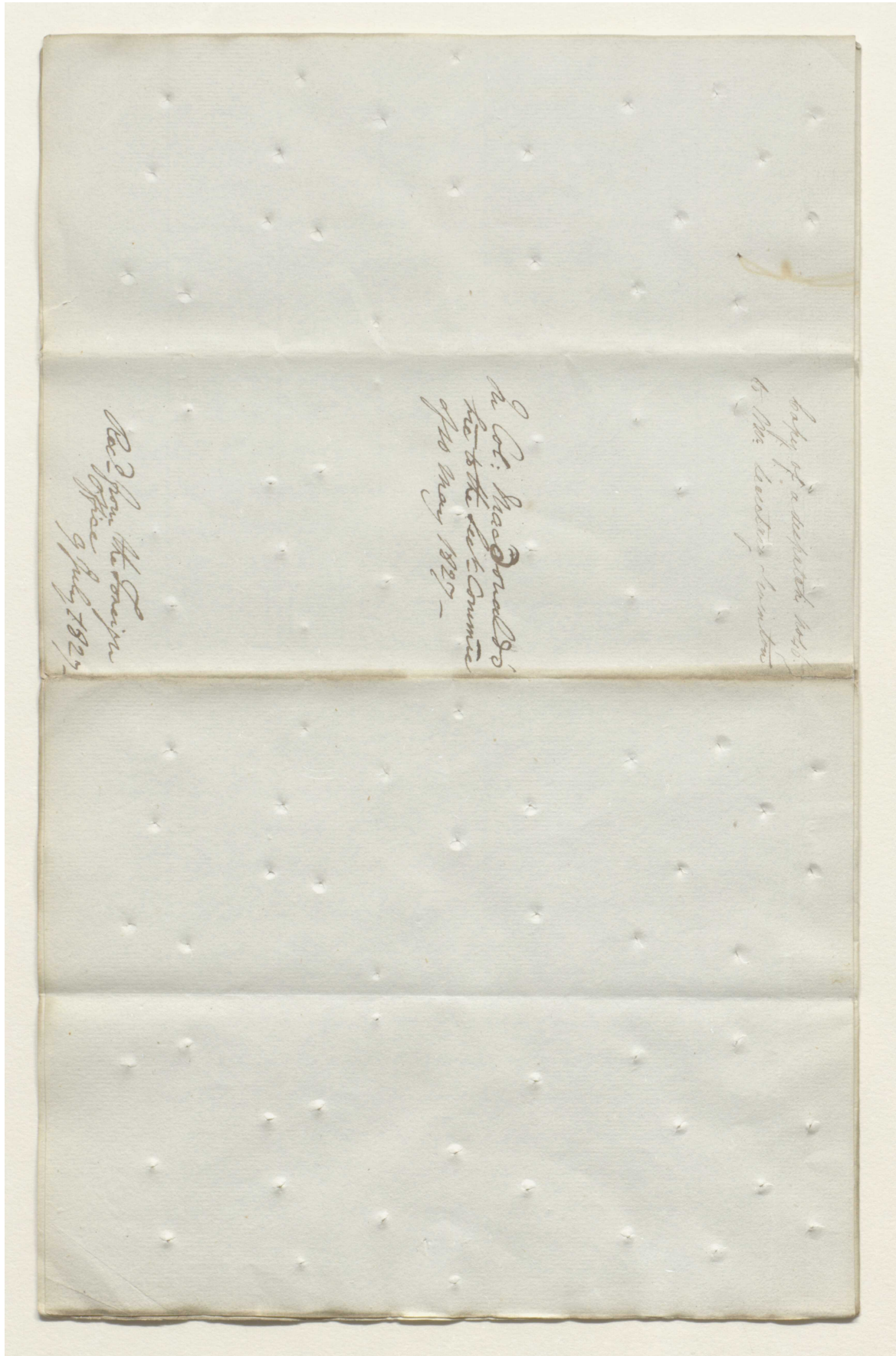
Shah the Khan
Kinneir Macdonald
Envoy

Tabreez - 23
9 May 1829

Copy of Dispatch No. 46 from the East India Company Envoy to Persia, Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonald Kinneir, in Tabreez, to the Chief Secretary to the Supreme Government of India, George Swinton [3r] (5/6)



Copy of Dispatch No. 46 from the East India Company Envoy to Persia, Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonald Kinneir, in Tabreez, to the Chief Secretary to the Supreme Government of India, George Swinton [3v] (6/6)



Recd from the Secretary
of the East India Company
9 July 1829

To Col. Macdonald's
the Secy to the Council
of the East India Company
9th May 1829

Copy of a dispatch
to the Secretary
of the East India Company