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**Copy of Dispatch No. 64 from the East India Company Envoy to Persia,  
Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonald Kinneir, in Camp near Tabreez, to the  
Chief Secretary to the Government of India, George Swinton**

<b>Holding Institution</b>	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
<b>Reference</b>	IOR/L/PS/9/71/41
<b>Date(s)</b>	5 Sep 1827 (CE, Gregorian)
<b>Written in</b>	English in Latin
<b>Extent and Format</b>	1 item (4 folios)
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**About this record**

Copy of dispatch No. 64 from the East India Company Envoy to Persia [Iran], Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonald Kinneir, in camp near Tabreez [Tabriz], to the Chief Secretary to the Government of India, George Swinton, of 5 September 1827. Macdonald Kinneir gives a detailed account of the victory won by Persian troops, led by Prince Abbas Meerza [Crown Prince of Persia, 'Abbaṣ Mīrzā Qājār], over Russian forces near Eutch Keleesia [an Armenian religious site, possibly at present-day Vagharshapat] during the ongoing war between Russia and Persia [Russo-Persian War, 1826-1828] (see IOR/L/PS/9/71/39). The account gives details of the troops involved, the events of the battle itself and the losses incurred by both sides, and includes a brief annex of the Persian troops present, detailing their numbers and where they were from. Macdonald Kinneir also praises the recent performance of Abbas Meerza's troops, whom he notes have been trained by British officers, particularly Major Isaac Hart, and indicates that the victory has given confidence to the troops and will help to improve Abbas Meerza's reputation in Azerbaijan [Azerbaijan].

The letter includes a list of papers concerning the battle, which were originally enclosed (now catalogued as IOR/L/PS/9/71/42-46).

This document was originally enclosed in Macdonald Kinneir's letter to the Secret Committee of the East India Company of 5 September 1827 (IOR/L/PS/9/71/38).



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L/PS/9/71/41 ①

No 64

To George Swinton Esq  
Secretary to Government  
Political Department  
York Buildings

Sir

referring to my dispatch  
No 63 I have herewith the honour to  
transmit to you for submission to  
the Right Honble the Governor General  
in Council the papers specified in  
the margin -

1. The translation copy  
of an order from  
A. N. Abbas Murza  
to the Shah an  
nominating his military  
near Kutah Kalesia.

2. A letter from A. N. M.  
to myself written  
in his own hand  
from the field of  
battle.

3. A letter from  
Koopein Khan  
to Meerza Mulla  
Meerza.

4. A message from  
Meerza Shool  
Koopein Khan.

5. A message from  
the Mulla of  
Sambah.

6. The report of an  
Persian officer  
who has deserted  
from Sheerka to  
the Royal Camp.

All subsequent reports agree  
in estimating the Persian loss at not  
less than 15 or 1600 men less combat  
excess of the wounded who made  
good their retreat into Kutah Kalesia.  
The loss on the side of the victors I have  
not yet learnt but it has doubtless  
been proportionately heavy.

No troops by all accounts  
could have behaved better than did  
those of the Prince on this occasion.  
Indeed the Infantry and Artillery formed

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by British Officers - and for many years past under the personal superintendance of Major West. - The merit of all that has been done since the opening of the Campaign is indeed solely due to the men of Azerbaijan. - They defended Erivan, they repulsed the attempt of General Meda-toff to force the passage of the river at the bridge of Khada Sufereen, they lately expelled the Russian detachment from Gordaobad, and they have at length been the conquerors in a general action. -

The only affair, namely that of Abbasabad in which the army of the Shah took part, was attended by disaster and defeat - and his Majesty's forces have not since that period ven-

tered even to approach the banks of the river. -

I annex a return\* of the Russian troops present in the battle. The force of the Russians on that day is variously stated at from 8 to 5,000 men mostly infantry of the line with

* Khepke or Tabreez Regt	
officers	200
Marzha do	300
Makand do	300
Bosoomia do	1000
Karmasand	800
Khaci do	500
Erivan do	500
<u>Total</u>	<u>6100</u>
Cavalry	4000
Artillery - Pieces	22

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(2)

12 Pieces of Artillery. —

Two Battalions of that regi-  
-ment of Imperial Guards sent into  
Georgia last year under suspicion  
of being concerned in the disturbances  
at St Petersburg, were in the course of  
the fight gallantly charged by the Khass  
(Caucasian Guards) and the Regiment of  
Manand. — The numbers on both  
sides were equal, the ground fair and  
even. — The Russians met the charge  
with their usual steadiness, the bayonets  
were crossed, and the four battalions  
were for some time so intermingled  
as to be hardly distinguishable. — At  
length after severe contest, the Russians  
giving way, were borne down by the  
Persians, and the left of their line  
completely turned. —

From that moment  
victory declared for the Prince who  
had not yet brought his reserve of  
3000 men into action. — The retreat  
of

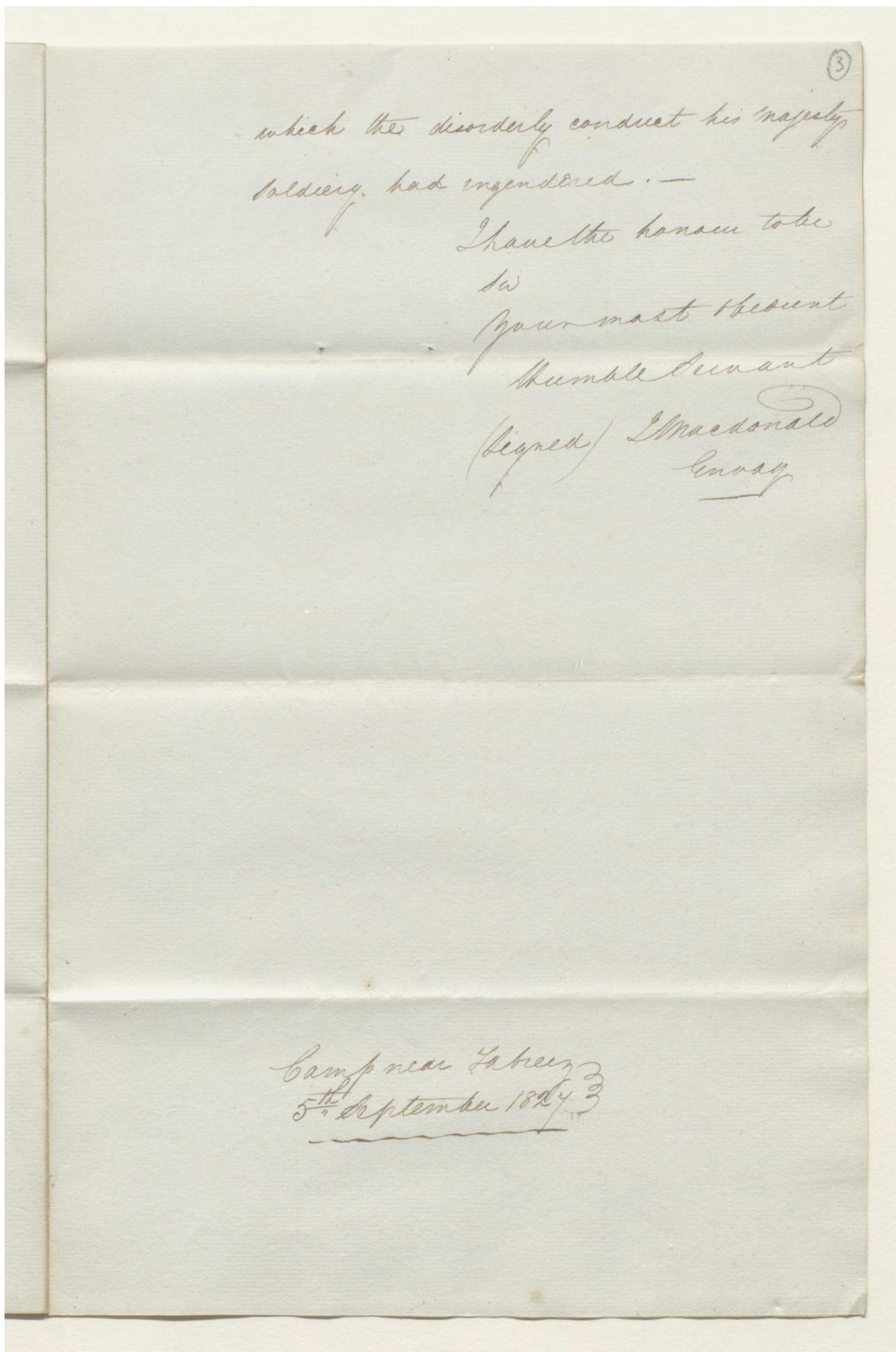
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of the vanquished was covered by their  
artillery which the Cavalry of the Sirdar  
repeatedly charged without effect - and  
by a body of 500 Infantry detached from  
Lutsk relieved by General Sevudzmitzoff.

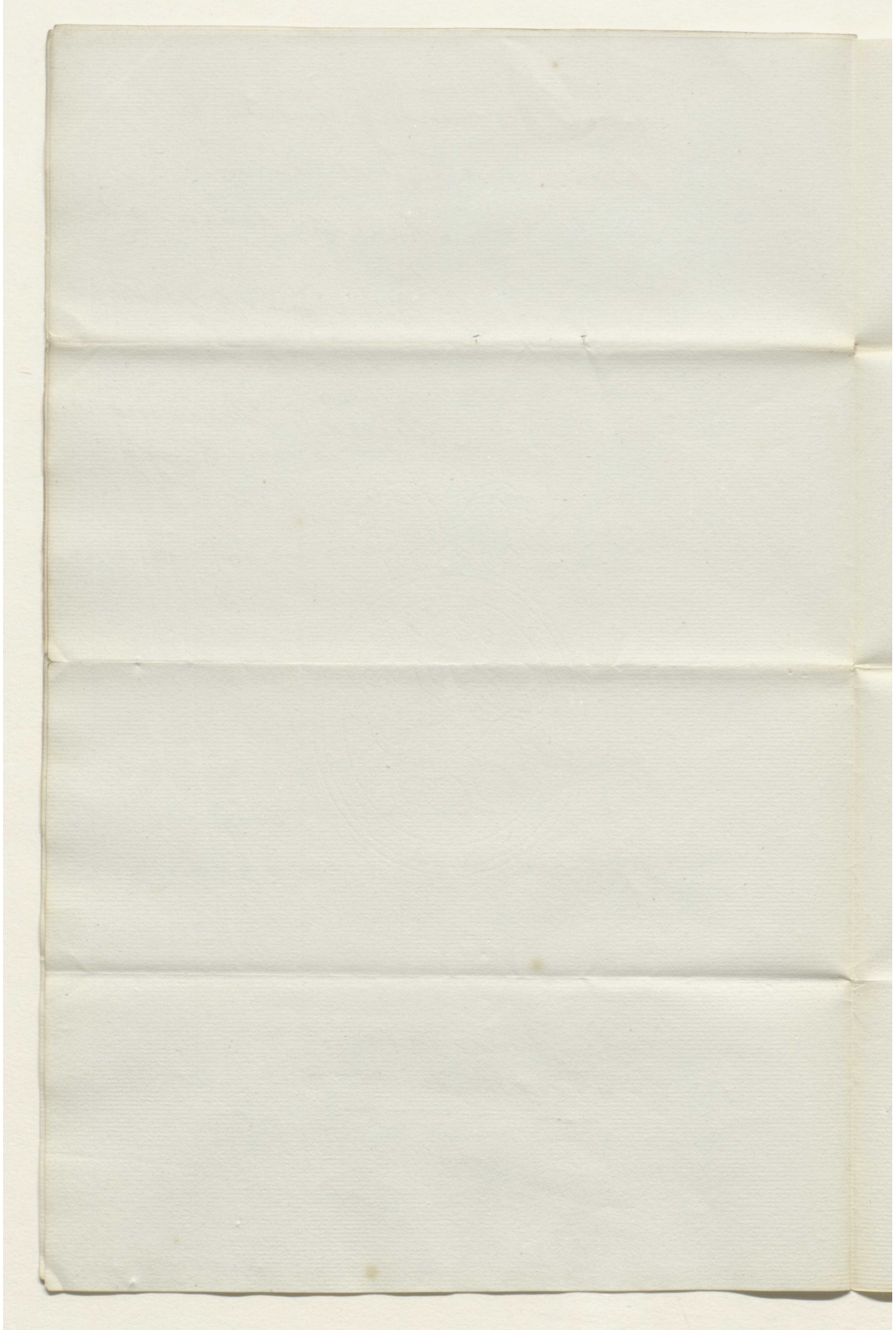
The probability is as  
stated by Abbas Meerza that the whole  
of the Corps would have been either taken  
or destroyed had not the friendly walls  
of the Armenian Sanctuary afforded  
them a safe and seasonable shelter.

I trust that this  
unexpected success will not betray  
his Highness into negligence or induce  
him to attempt more than he is  
able to accomplish. - It has infused  
confidence and spirits into the minds  
of his troops dejected by the affair  
of Abbasabad, redeemed his now faded  
reputation, and will go far to remove  
that rising feeling of disaffection  
amongst the people of Azerbaijan,  
which

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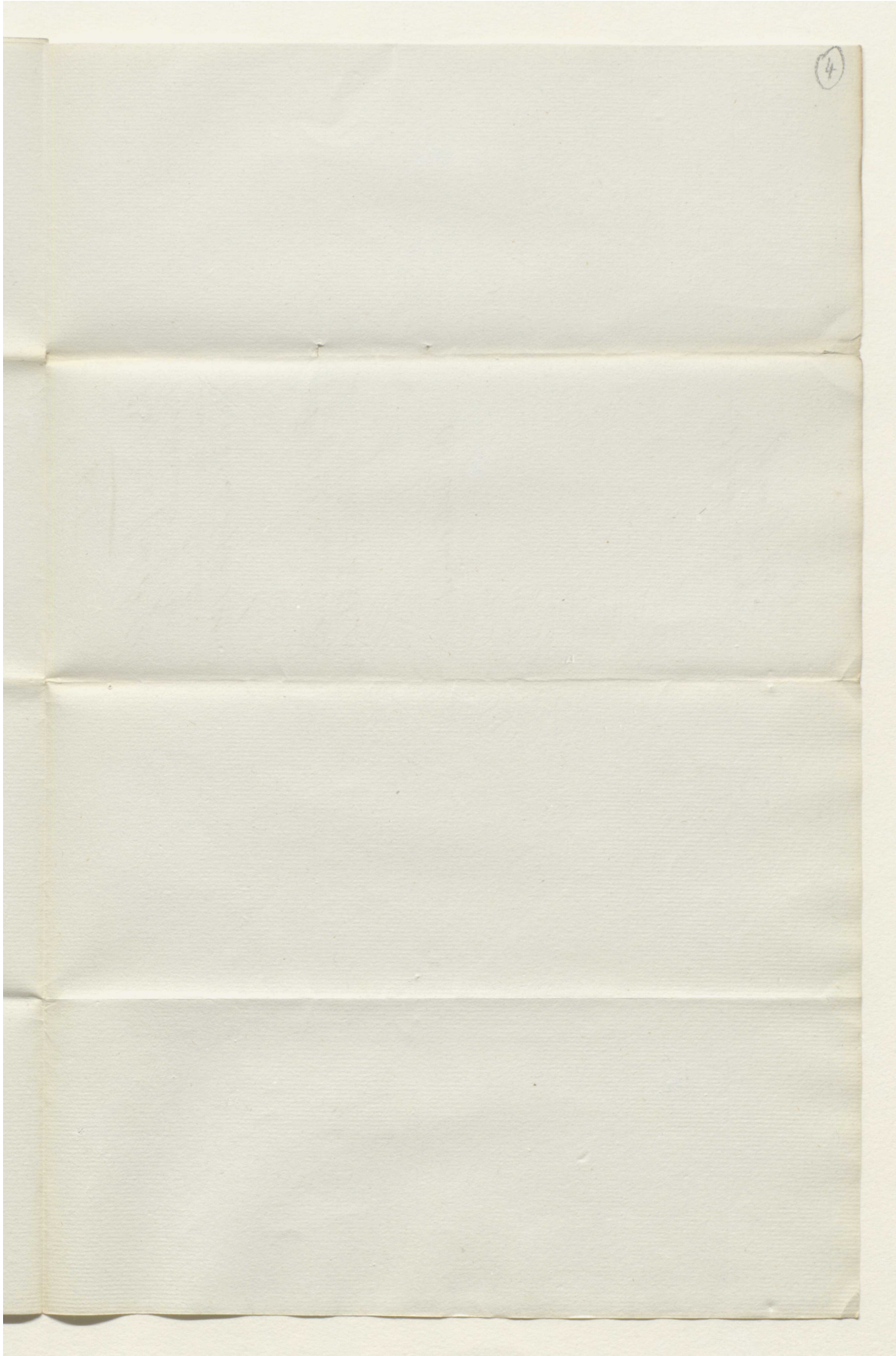


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