

This PDF was generated on 17/04/2022 from online resources of  
the **Qatar Digital Library**

The online record can be viewed at:

[http://www.qdl.qa/en/archive/81055/vdc\\_100038378586.0x000436](http://www.qdl.qa/en/archive/81055/vdc_100038378586.0x000436)

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

**Copy of Dispatch No. 88 from the East India Company Envoy to Persia,  
Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonald Kinneir, in Tabreez, to the  
Governor-General of India**

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>Holding Institution</b>    | British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers |
| <b>Reference</b>              | IOR/L/PS/9/71/192  |
| <b>Date(s)</b>                | 12 Mar 1828 (CE, Gregorian)                              |
| <b>Written in</b>             | English in Latin   |
| <b>Extent and Format</b>      | 1 item (4 folios)  |
| <b>Copyright for document</b> | <a href="#">Open Government Licence</a>                  |



**About this record**

Copy of Dispatch No. 88 from the East India Company Envoy to Persia [Iran], Lieutenant Colonel John Macdonald Kinneir, in Tabreez [Tabriz], to the Governor-General of India, of 12 March 1828. Macdonald Kinneir reports his having negotiated for the British Government to pay some of the reparations owed by Persia, as stipulated in the peace treaty ending the war between Russia and Persia [Russo-Persian War, 1826-1828], in return for the immediate evacuation of Azerbaijan [Azerbaijan], with the exception of Khoee [Khoy], by Russia and the abrogation of the third and fourth articles of the Definitive Treaty existing between Britain and Persia. Macdonald Kinneir indicates that he has given the Prince Royal, Abbas Meerza [‘Abbās Mīrzā Qājār, Crown Prince of Persia], an order on the Chairman and Secret Committee of the Court of Directors of the East India Company to cover the necessary sum, and also reports that he has been overseeing the payment of the first instalment of the reparations by Persia on behalf of Abbas Meerza, and that the Russians are duly preparing to withdraw from Azerbaijan.

The letter originally enclosed copies of a personal bond from Abbas Meerza to Macdonald Kinneir and a letter from General Paskevitch [General Ivan Fyodorovich Paskevich-Erivansky, Governor-General of Georgia] to Macdonald Kinneir (now catalogued as IOR/L/PS/9/71/193-194).

This document was originally enclosed, numbered 1, in Macdonald Kinneir’s letter to the Secret Committee of 12

March 1828 (IOR/L/PS/9/71/191).

Copy of Dispatch No. 88 from the East India Company Envoy to Persia, Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonald Kinneir, in Tabreez, to the Governor-General of India  
[1r] (1/8)

no 88 (copy) 4/PS/9/71/192 ①  
The Right Honourable  
The Governor General  
of India  
Fort William.

My Lord.

Deeply penetrated with the importance not only to Persia but to us of securing the prompt evacuation of this Province by the Russian Troops, and perceiving at the same time no practicable mode of otherwise accomplishing this desirable end, the Shah having declared his intention to give no more than six Lacs towards depaying the indemnity, I have traced the resolution of intimating to the Contracting parties my willingness to contribute on the part of the British Government the sum of 200,000 Tomans, with the proviso on the one hand that the Country should be immediately abandoned, and on the other that the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Articles of our definitive Treaty with The Shah should be expunged.

Copy of Dispatch No. 88 from the East India Company Envoy to Persia, Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonald Kinneir, in Tabreez, to the Governor-General of India  
[1v] (2/8)

expunged from that document, and that the stipulations therein contained be hence forward deemed null and void.

This offer was rejected by both parties and many days were consumed in unprofitable altercation, the Russians refusing to recede from their engagements, while the Persians stedfastly adhered to their original demand of 200,000 Tomans in return for the release of our obligations.

I at length however succeeded in persuading General Paskevitch to consent to quit Azerbajan (with the reservation of Khose) on the receipt of six crores and a half of Tomans, and His Royal Highness to accept the sum proposed by the Court under a condition that in the event of the British government hereafter signifying its assent to increase the amount, the balance should be carried to the credit of Persia.

For the odd 50,000 Tomans still wanting to complete the six crores and a half, the Prince has given me his personal bond.

Copy of Dispatch No. 88 from the East India Company Envoy to Persia, Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonald Kinneir, in Tabreez, to the Governor-General of India  
[2r] (3/8)

②

Bond payable in two months - an ar-  
 rangement which has enabled me to satisfy  
 the General more especially as the Russians  
 continue to hold and to administer to their  
 sole profit the rich and fertile district of  
 Khoss in guarantee for the Balance of the  
 Light Coes - namely 900,000 Tomans.

Taking into consideration  
 the important results of the two great objects  
 effected by this arrangement, I indulge the hope  
 that the measure will be viewed by your Lord-  
 ship, as a subject more of approbation than  
 censure.

It is not my province to  
 intrude an opinion on this point, but were it  
 required I should without hesitation pronounce  
 that the Honourable Company have made a  
 most advantageous bargain. The boundary  
 line between Russia and Persia in as far as  
 regards Gulish may still give rise to future  
 disputes, and this with the mutual animosi-  
 ties and lawless habits of the border chiefs  
 may again involve the rival Nations in war.  
 In such a case we are no longer fettered  
 by

Copy of Dispatch No. 88 from the East India Company Envoy to Persia, Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonald Kinneir, in Tabreez, to the Governor-General of India  
[2v] (4/8)

by engagements calculated to operate on the one side as an incentive to hostility, and on the other to engender a feeling of jealousy.

Fearing lest I should put the Honourable Court to inconvenience by drawing bills of exchange upon them for the sum in question, I endeavoured to raise it by Drafts on India, but owing to the distracted state of the times and the flight of the richest Merchants I soon found this plan utterly impracticable, and have been constrained by want of an alternative to grant to Abbas Meerza an order on the Chairman and Secret Committee of The Honourable The Court of Directors payable at three months after sight.

On the return of Abbas Meerza to Tabreez, and his resumption of the Civil Administration of the Province, the public confidence and tranquility will speedily be restored. Then, but not till then will he be enabled to obtain that credit which is necessary to give him the power of realizing on the security of the revenues the sum  
still

Copy of Dispatch No. 88 from the East India Company Envoy to Persia, Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonald Kinneir, in Tabreez, to the Governor-General of India  
[3r] (5/8)

③

still due to Kapiin. The payment of the two last boxes will not I imagine be insisted on by His Imperial Majesty, but reserved as a boon to be granted to The Prince on His Highness's arrival at St. Petersburg to which city it is his wish to repair in the beginning of Summer.

Having been duly authorized in writing by The Prince Royal and Meerza Abul Hassan Khan to make over to The Kapiin Plenipotentiaries the first instalment of the indemnity money, I left Soos Komanchai on the 29<sup>th</sup> February and on the first instant arrived at this city, which I had scarcely reached when I received a letter from General Kaskevitch whereby it appears that I had hardly quitted the place of conference when the two parties began to quarrel.

I happily succeeded in adjusting this dispute to their mutual satisfaction, and since that time the Treasure has been regularly delivered over to the Provisional Government by Major Monteith, Capt. Macdonald & Sir Keith Jackson, the gentlemen nominated

Copy of Dispatch No. 88 from the East India Company Envoy to Persia, Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonald Kinneir, in Tabreez, to the Governor-General of India  
[3v] (6/8)

nominated by me as a committee for that purpose in virtue of the full powers vested in me by the Persian Government.

The Russians continue to hasten their preparations of departure, the troops are retiring from Shiraz and Isfahan. A small Division has already left Tabreez for Karabagh, while the Moscow Regiment of Imperial Guards, some Brigades of Artillery, and a Regiment of Heavy Dragoons are under orders to form the escort of the four boxes in gold, as soon as the money is packed and prepared for the journey.

I have the honour to remain  
with the greatest respects

My Lord

Your Lordship's most obedt.  
and very humble Servant

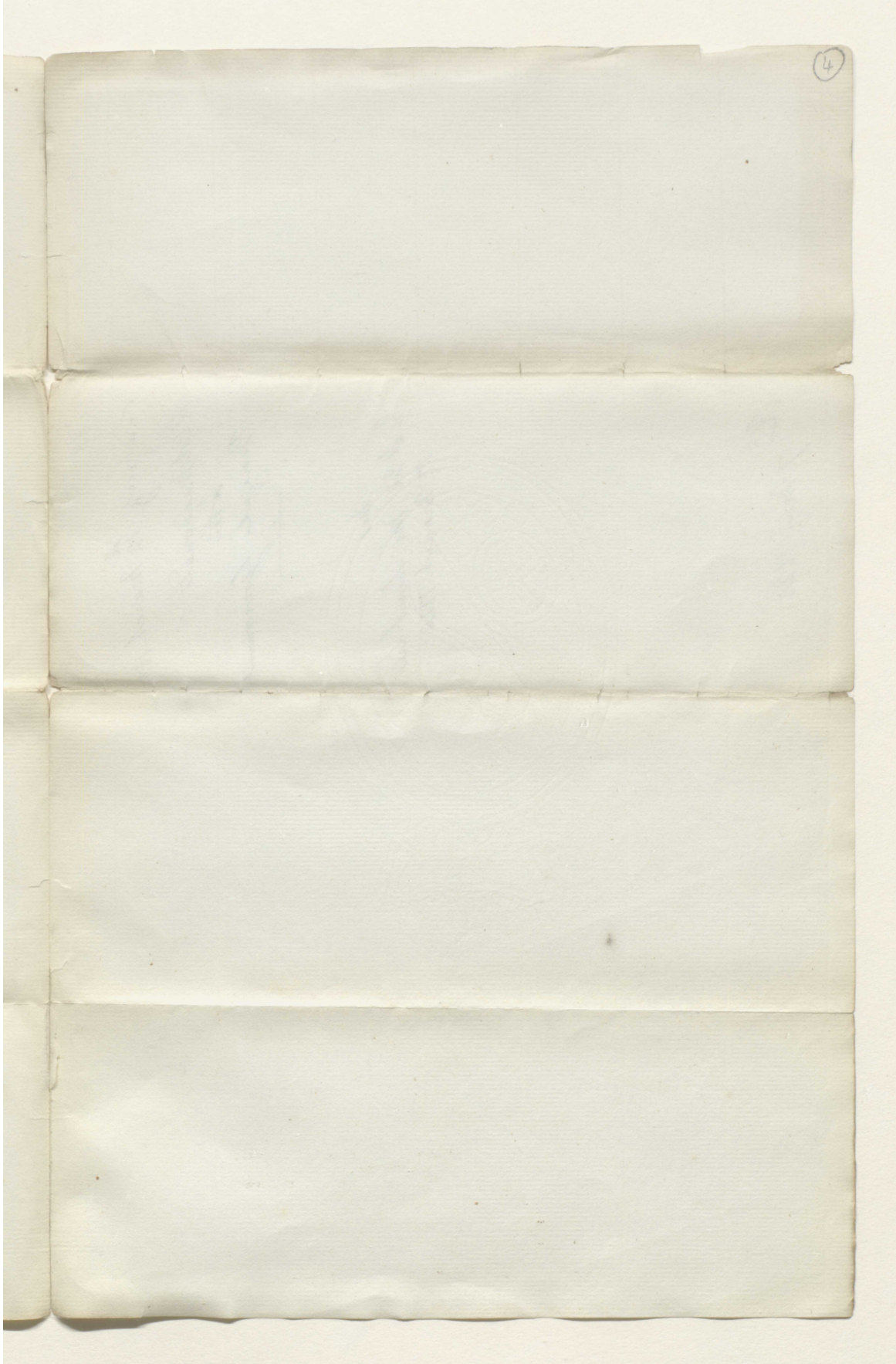
(Signed)

J Macdonald  
Kinneir

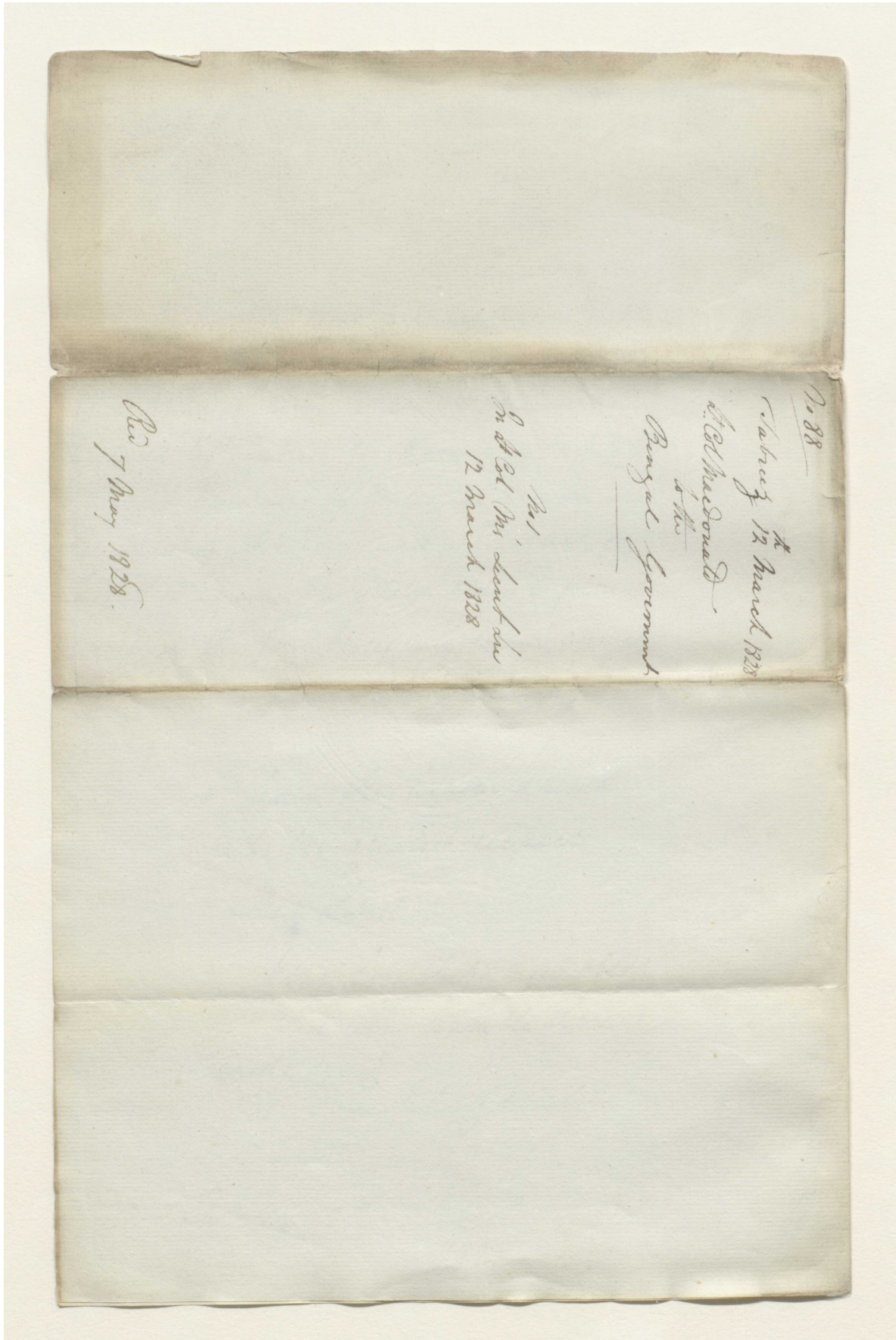
Tabreez 12<sup>th</sup> March  
1828



Copy of Dispatch No. 88 from the East India Company Envoy to Persia, Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonald Kinneir, in Tabreez, to the Governor-General of India  
[4r] (7/8)



Copy of Dispatch No. 88 from the East India Company Envoy to Persia, Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonald Kinneir, in Tabreez, to the Governor-General of India  
[4v] (8/8)



Recd  
7 May 1828.

No 1  
No 21  
12 March 1828

Bengal Government

to the  
Govt

12 March 1828

No 88