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**Political No. 22 of 1873, Forwarding Papers Relative to the Proffered
Co-operation of the Rao of Kutch in the Efforts Now Being Made for the
Suppression of the Slave Trade**

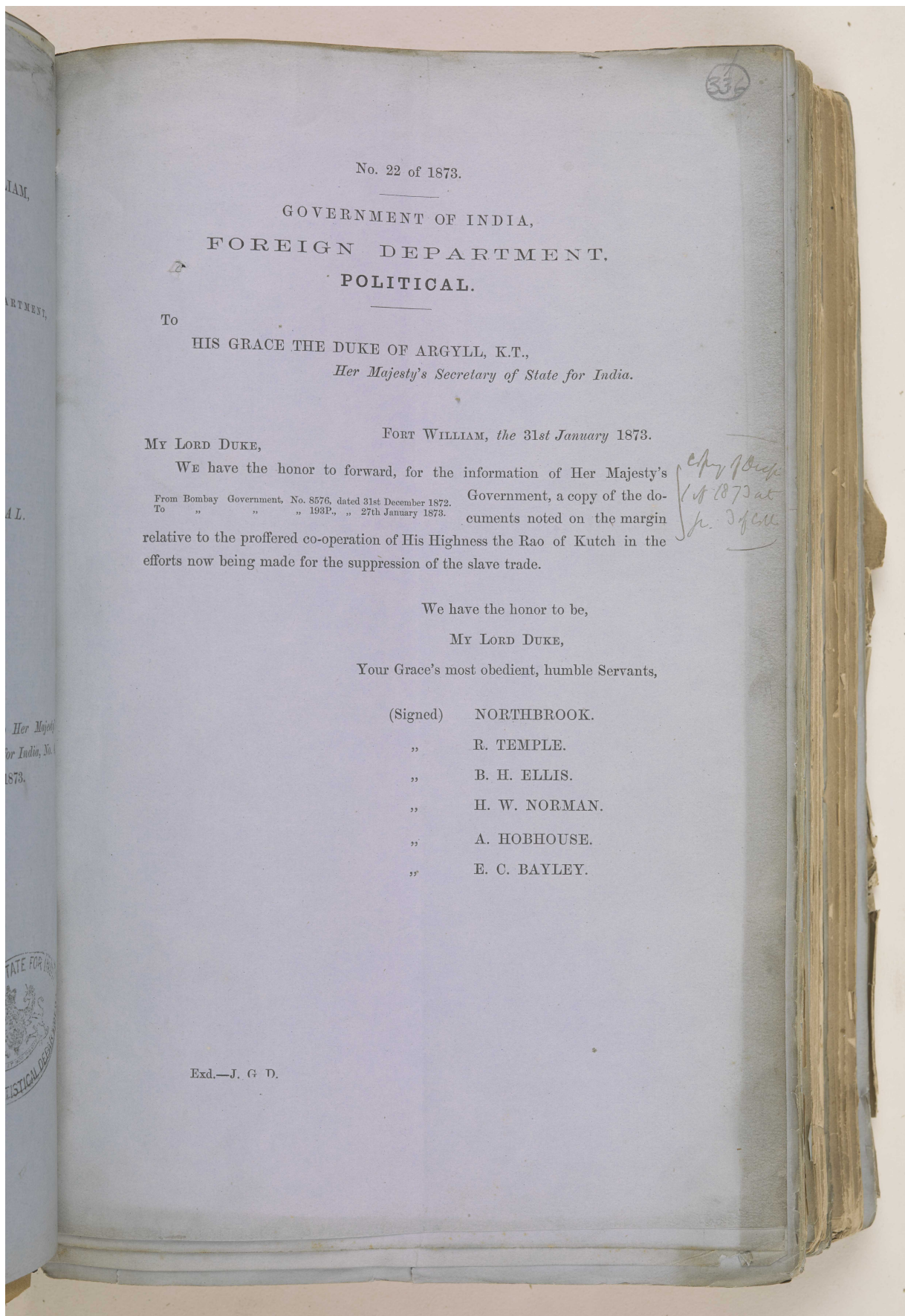
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| Holding Institution | British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers |
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| Date(s) | 31 Jan 1873 (CE, Gregorian) |
| Written in | English in Latin |
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About this record

This item consists of copies of a Political Despatch from the Government of India Foreign Department to the Secretary of State for India, dated 31 January 1873 and received via Brindisi on 24 February 1873, forwarding papers relative to the proffered co-operation of the Rao of Kutch in the efforts now being made for the suppression of the trade in enslaved people.

Political No. 22 of 1873, Forwarding Papers Relative to the Proffered Co-operation of the Rao of Kutch in the Efforts Now Being Made for the Suppression of the Slave Trade [336r] (1/16)



No. 22 of 1873.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT,
POLITICAL.

To
HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ARGYLL, K.T.,
Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

FORT WILLIAM, the 31st January 1873.

MY LORD DUKE,

WE have the honor to forward, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, a copy of the documents noted on the margin relative to the proffered co-operation of His Highness the Rao of Kutch in the efforts now being made for the suppression of the slave trade.

From Bombay Government, No. 8576, dated 31st December 1872.
To " " " 193P., " 27th January 1873.

*copy of Brief
of 1873 at
p. 3 of file*

We have the honor to be,

MY LORD DUKE,

Your Grace's most obedient, humble Servants,

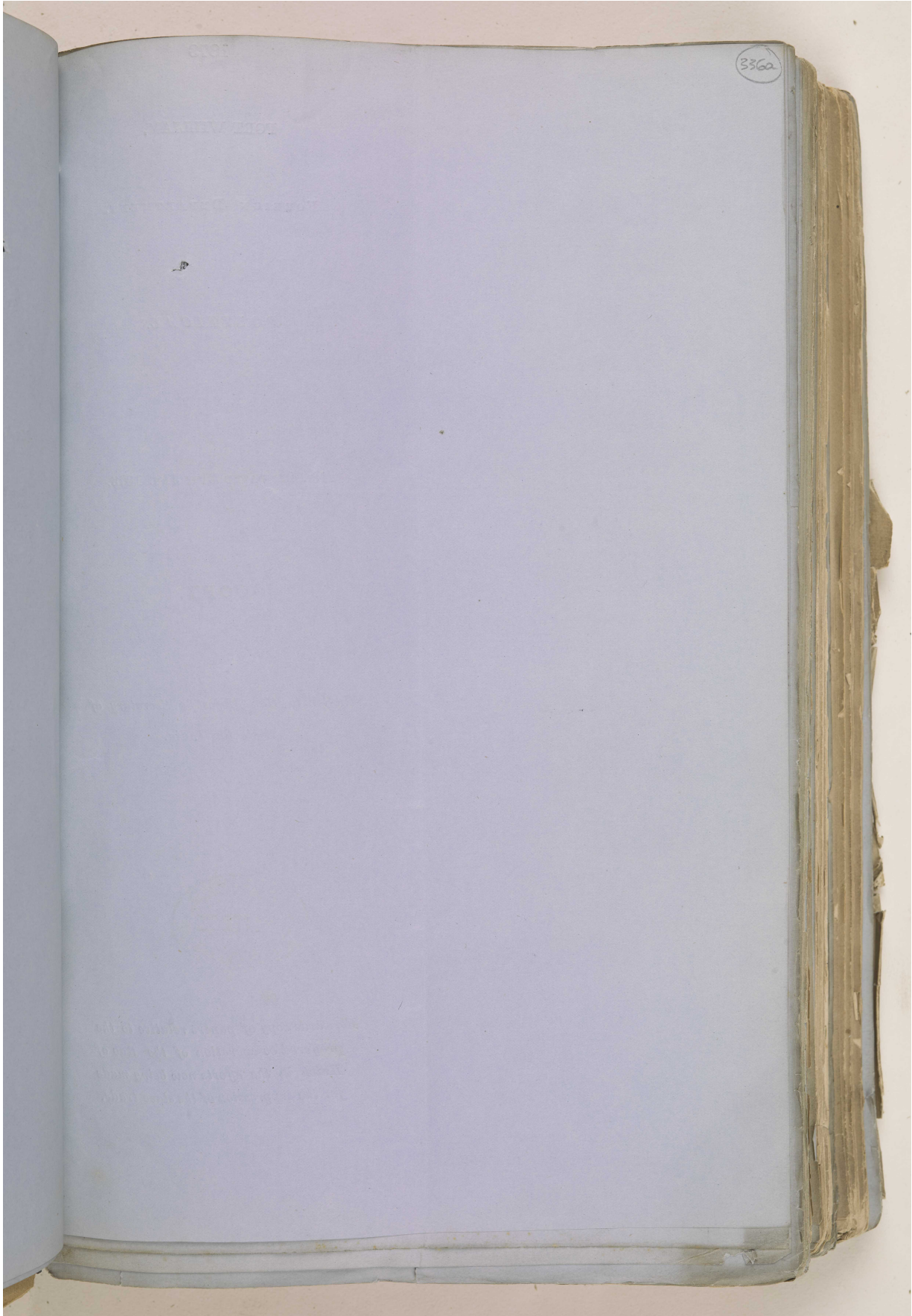
(Signed) NORTHBROOK.
" R. TEMPLE.
" B. H. ELLIS.
" H. W. NORMAN.
" A. HOBHOUSE.
" E. C. BAYLEY.

Exd.—J. G. D.

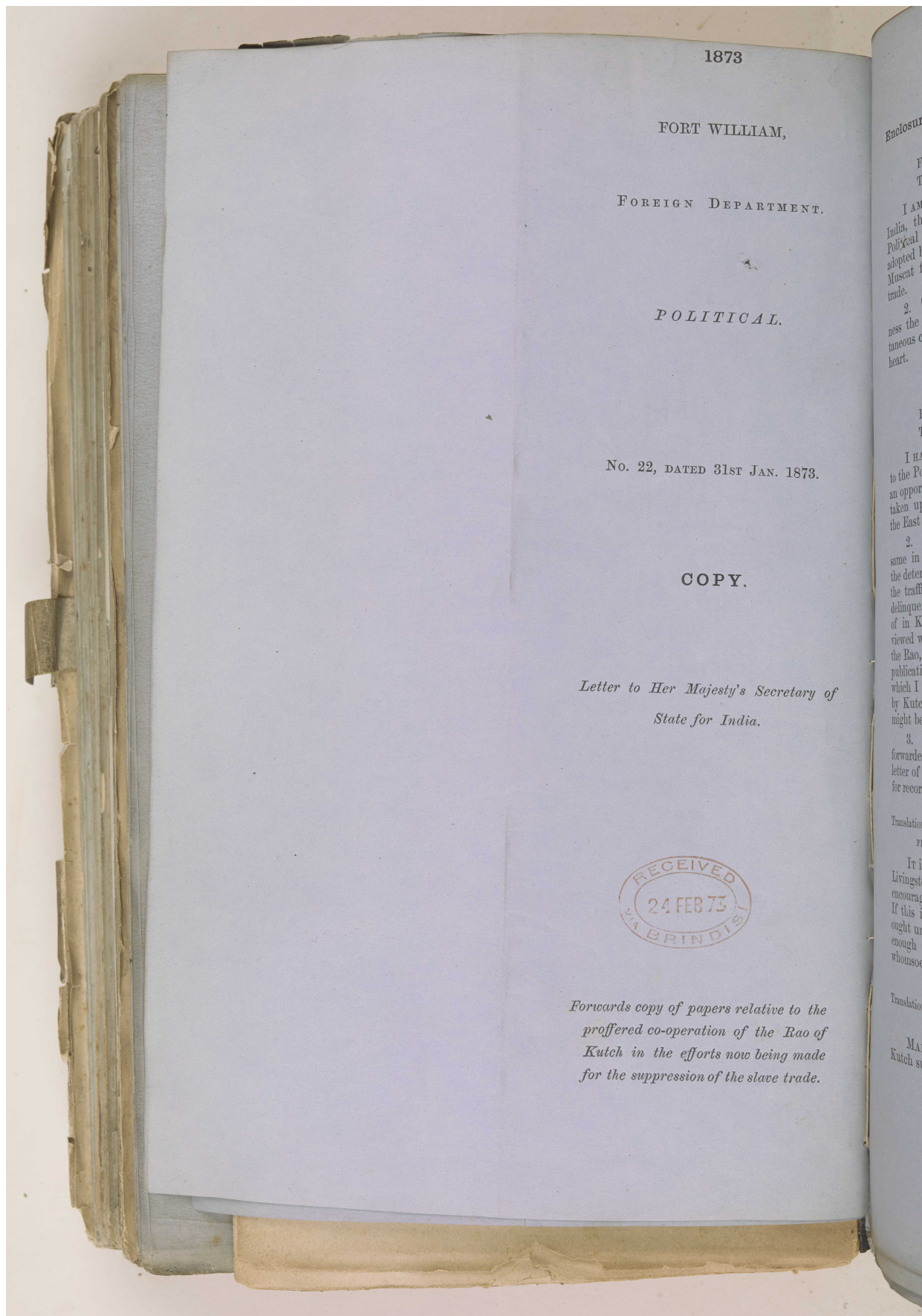
**Political No. 22 of 1873, Forwarding Papers Relative to the Proffered Co-
operation of the Rao of Kutch in the Efforts Now Being Made for the Suppression
of the Slave Trade [336v] (2/16)**



Political No. 22 of 1873, Forwarding Papers Relative to the Proffered Co-
operation of the Rao of Kutch in the Efforts Now Being Made for the Suppression
of the Slave Trade [336ar] (3/16)



Political No. 22 of 1873, Forwarding Papers Relative to the Proffered Co-operation of the Rao of Kutch in the Efforts Now Being Made for the Suppression of the Slave Trade [336av] (4/16)



Political No. 22 of 1873, Forwarding Papers Relative to the Proffered Co-operation of the Rao of Kutch in the Efforts Now Being Made for the Suppression of the Slave Trade [337r] (5/16)

337

Enclosure No. 1.

No. 8576, dated Bombay Castle, 31st December 1872.

From—Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
To—Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

I AM directed to forward herewith, for submission to the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a letter, with enclosures, from the Acting Political Agent, Kutch, No. 157, dated the 17th instant, reporting the measures adopted by His Highness the Rao for preventing his subjects in Zanzibar and Muscat from being engaged in, and mixed up with, the East African slave trade.

2. The Acting Political Agent has been directed to express to His Highness the Rao the warm thanks of this Government for his hearty and spontaneous co-operation in a cause which the British Government has so much at heart.

No. 157, dated Bhooj, 17th December 1872.

From—Acting Political Agent, Kutch,
To—Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I HAVE the honor to forward, under flying seal, two letters addressed by me to the Political Agents at Zanzibar and Muscat, so that Government may have an opportunity of judging of the spirit in which His Highness the Rao has taken up the question of Kutch subjects being engaged in, and mixed up with, the East African slave trade.

2. The Notifications now issued by His Highness the Rao are much the same in purport to that issued in 1869, but contain only further warning and the determination of the Rao to co-operate with Government in stamping out the traffic, so far as his subjects are concerned, by carrying prosecution against delinquents to the extent of the confiscation of property they may be possessed of in Kutch. This action on the part of His Highness will, I feel sure, be viewed with satisfaction by Her Majesty's Government, and I may here add that the Rao, on the subject first attracting public attention in September last on the publication of Dr. Livingstone's letters, sent me a yad, copy of translation of which I also enclose, calling for full information on the reported slave dealing by Kutchees that His Highness might be in a position to act in any case that might be brought to his notice.

3. Should Government approve my letters enclosed, I trust they may be forwarded, copies of translation of His Highness' proclamations and yadee, and letter of instructions to his Prime Minister, Kazee Shaboodeen, being attached for record.

Translation of a yad from HIS HIGHNESS SHREE PRAGMULJEE, Rao of Kutch, to CAPTAIN GOODFELLOW, Acting Political Agent in Kutch, No. 465, dated 5th September 1872.

It is published in certain newspapers, on the authority of a letter from Dr. Livingstone that has appeared in one of them, that the people of Kutch give encouragement to the slave trade in Zanzibar and other places on the coast. If this intelligence be true, we cannot attempt its prevention as much as we ought until we are in possession of its details. Will you therefore be good enough to obtain and furnish to us sufficient information on the subject from whomsoever you think proper.

Translation of a Proclamation, dated 16th December 1872, issued by His Highness the Rao of Kutch to his subjects in Zanzibar.

MAHARAJA Dhiraj Mirza Maharao Shree Pragmuljee Bahadoor, to all the Kutch subjects residing at Zanzibar. To wit, that it has come to our knowledge

Enclos. to
India Office
Letter to Govt
1873 transfer
to Secret Dept

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Secretary
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relative to the
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now being made
the slave trade.

Political No. 22 of 1873, Forwarding Papers Relative to the Proffered Co-operation of the Rao of Kutch in the Efforts Now Being Made for the Suppression of the Slave Trade [337v] (6/16)

that you carry on at Zanzibar the trade of buying and selling in slaves. This is a most horrible thing, and by the desire of the Honorable Government to put a stop to this practice, we as well as our revered father have before this time issued Proclamations. Notwithstanding these, you have not abandoned this horrible trade, which is very bad on your part. You are, therefore, hereby commanded not to persist in this trade at all events, and if you are practising it, to abandon it at once on receipt of this command. He who in spite of this shall follow this trade, or in any way abet or assist in the same, shall be punished severely by the Honorable British Government, considering him to be their own subject, by virtue of the power given them for the purpose, and this Durbar will confiscate all his property situated in Kutch. Therefore take strict warning. Given in His Highness' presence this Monday, the 1st Magsur Vud, Sumbut 1929 of the Vikram era, corresponding with 16th December 1872.

Translation of a Proclamation, dated 16th December 1872, issued by His Highness the Rao of Kutch to his subjects in Muscat.

MAHARAJA Dhiraj Mirza Maharao Shree, Pragmuljee Bahadoor, to all the Kutch subjects residing at Muscat. To wit, that it has come to our knowledge that you carry on at Muscat the trade of buying and selling in slaves. This is a most horrible thing, and by the desire of the Honorable Government to put a stop to this practice, we as well as our revered father have before this time issued Proclamations. Notwithstanding these, you have not abandoned this horrible trade, which is very bad on your part. You are, therefore, hereby commanded not to persist in this trade at all events, and if you are practising it, to abandon it at once on receipt of this command. He who in spite of this shall follow this trade, or in any way abet or assist in the same, shall be punished severely by the Honorable British Government, considering him to be their own subject, by virtue of the power given them for the purpose, and this Durbar will confiscate all his property situated in Kutch. Therefore, take strict warning. Given in His Highness' presence this Monday, the 1st Magsur Vud, Sumbut 1929 of the Vikram era, corresponding with 16th December 1872.

Translation of yad, No. 692, dated 16th December 1872, from His Highness the Rao of Kutch, to CAPTAIN GOODFELLOW, Acting Political Agent, Kutch.

I HAVE addressed you a yad, No. 465, dated 5th September last, soliciting certain details in connection with the slave trade. On receipt of the information I will make the necessary arrangements. In the meantime I forward you two Proclamations, and request you to make arrangements through the Consuls of Zanzibar and Muscat for the publicity of one of them to my subjects in Zanzibar, and the other to those in Muscat, with a view to produce a good effect.

I also forward, for your information, copy of a letter addressed on this subject to my Minister, Kazee Shaboodeen, who proceeds there as an Attaché to the Commission appointed in England. Dated Monday, the 1st Magsur Vud, Sumbut 1929, corresponding with 16th December 1872.

Dated Bhooj, 16th December 1872.

From—MOTIRAM DULPUTRAM,
To—KAZEE SHABOODEEN.

I HAVE the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your two letters dated respectively the 1st and 7th ultimo, and, in reply, I am instructed by His Highness to request that you will be good enough to furnish us with the following information:—

Where the slave trade is carried on, the locality should be mentioned.

Political No. 22 of 1873, Forwarding Papers Relative to the Proffered Co-operation of the Rao of Kutch in the Efforts Now Being Made for the Suppression of the Slave Trade [338r] (7/16)

The names of the persons engaged in this trade, as well as their respective castes.

The number of them belonging to Kutch, with their respective places of residence in Kutch.

At the same time you will be good enough to favour us with your opinion as to what measures should be adopted on our part to suppress this horrible traffic in human beings. His Highness is very anxious to do everything in his power to put a stop to this trade. I believe you are aware that His Highness' revered father and he himself had formerly rendered all possible assistance to prevent the Kutchees from dealing in this abominable trade, and His Highness is very much concerned to learn how that the Kutchees residing in Muscat and Zanzibar have not as yet given up this trade; he therefore empowers you to prosecute any Kutchees who have been trading in slaves in contravention of former Zahirnama. Under instructions from His Highness I enclose two Proclamations, one for Muscat and the other for Zanzibar, and trust you will have them published in such a way that our Kutchee subjects may become cognizant of them.

Further instructions will be sent to you on the receipt of the information called for above.

The former correspondence with regard to the slave trade has already been sent to you with Mr. Juverilal's letter, and His Highness wishes you to answer that letter.

Enclosure No. 2.

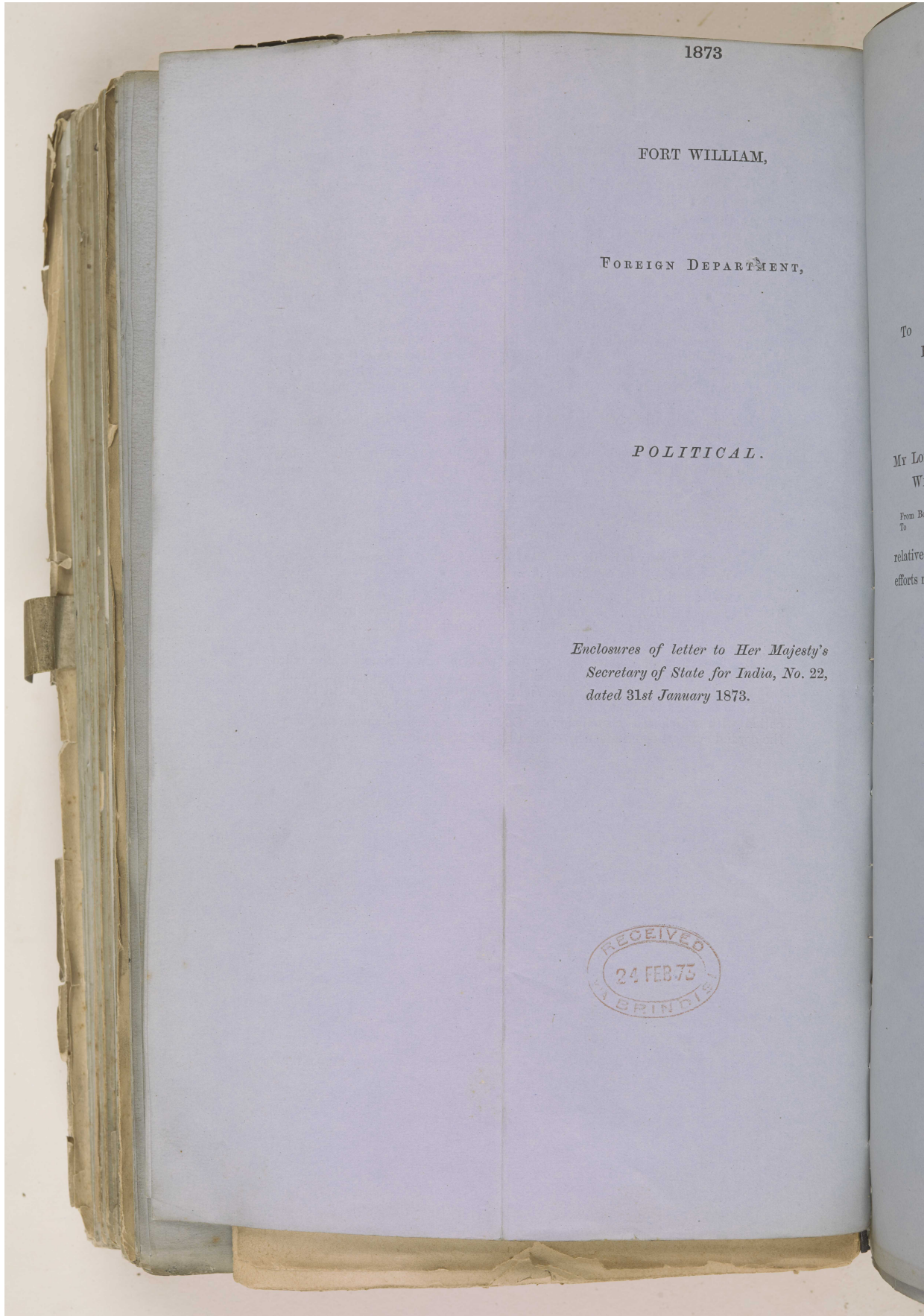
No. 193P, dated Fort William, 27th January 1873.

From—Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department,
To—Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

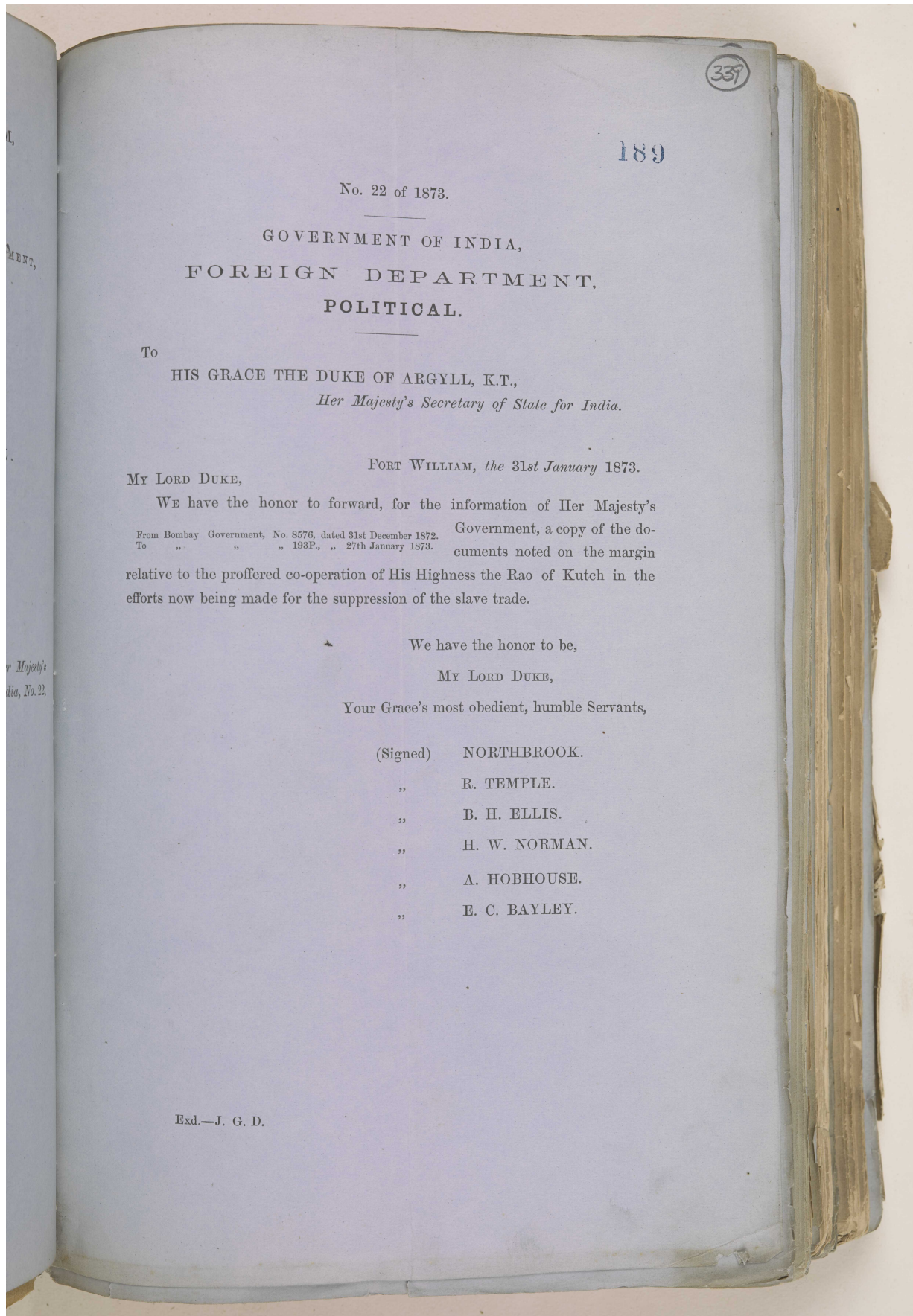
I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 8576, dated 31st December 1872, submitting copy of proclamations issued by the Rao of Kutch to his subjects in Zanzibar and Muscat prohibiting them from engaging in the slave trade.

2. This prompt co-operation on the part of His Highness in the endeavours which are being made by the British Government to suppress an inhuman traffic are highly appreciated by the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council, and I am directed to request that the Rao may be informed of the deep gratification with which His Excellency in Council has received the intelligence of the cordial support spontaneously offered by His Highness.

Political No. 22 of 1873, Forwarding Papers Relative to the Proffered Co-
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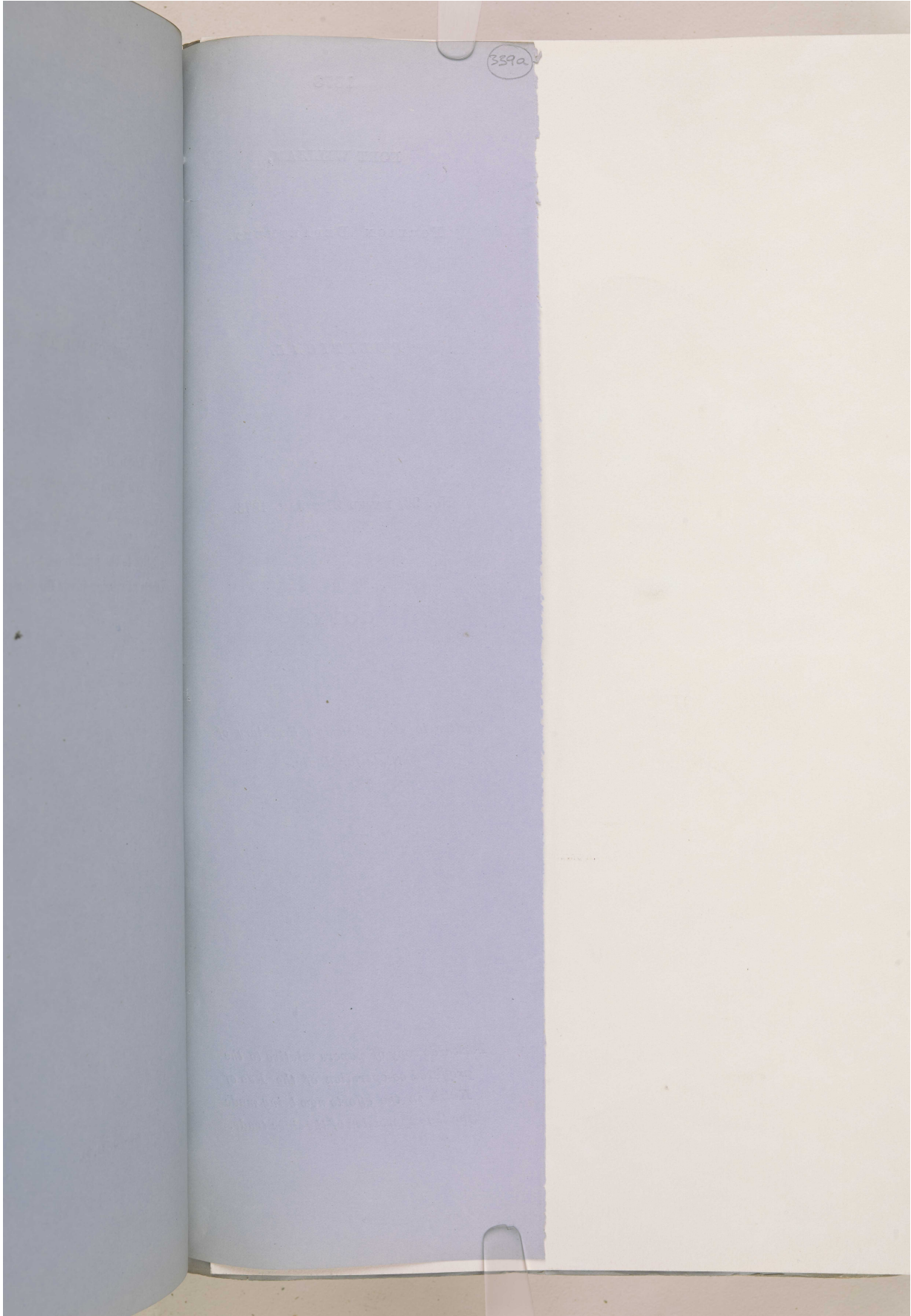


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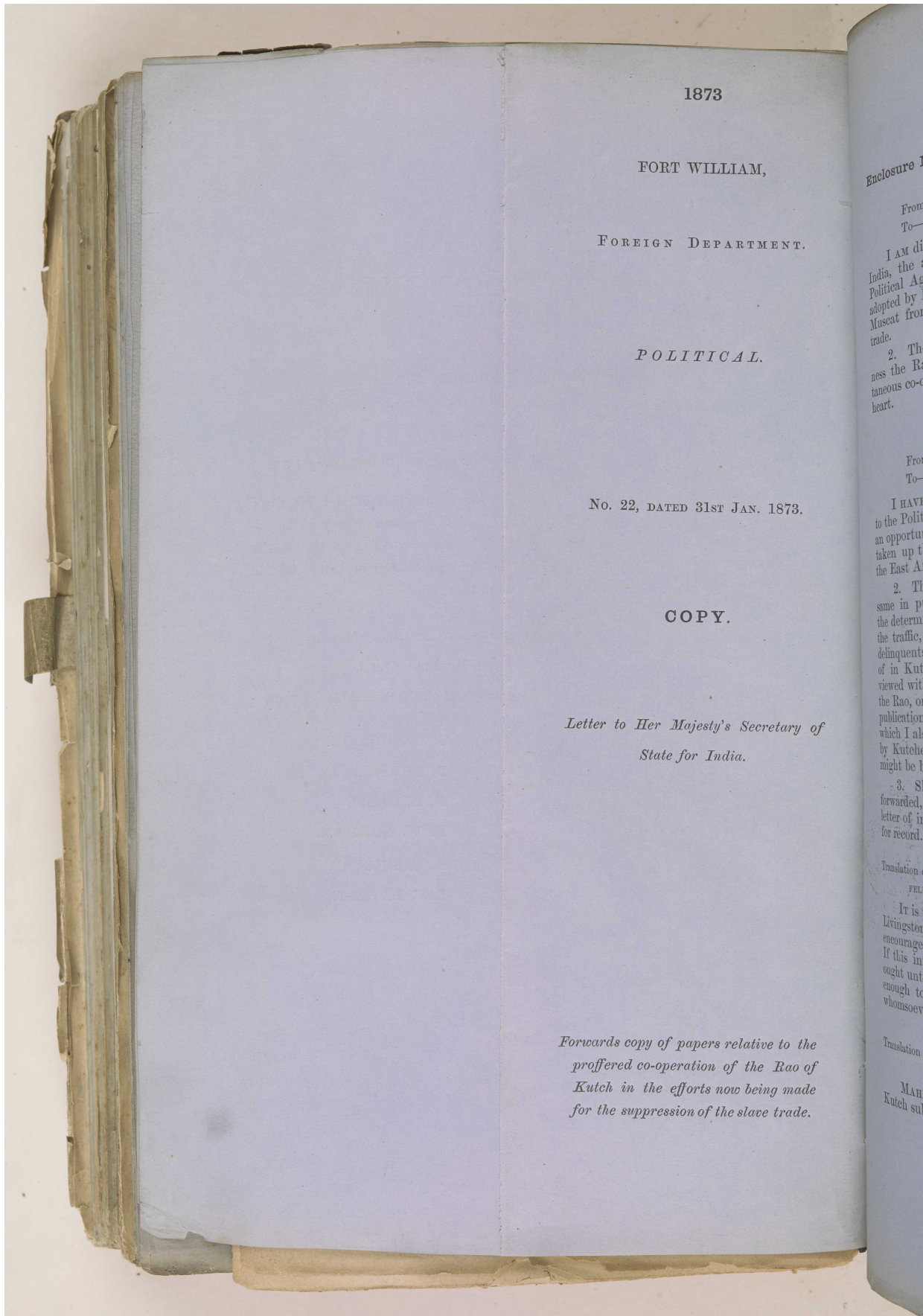
**Political No. 22 of 1873, Forwarding Papers Relative to the Proffered Co-
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**Political No. 22 of 1873, Forwarding Papers Relative to the Proffered Co-
operation of the Rao of Kutch in the Efforts Now Being Made for the Suppression
of the Slave Trade [339ar] (11/16)**



Political No. 22 of 1873, Forwarding Papers Relative to the Proffered Co-operation of the Rao of Kutch in the Efforts Now Being Made for the Suppression of the Slave Trade [339av] (12/16)



Political No. 22 of 1873, Forwarding Papers Relative to the Proffered Co-operation of the Rao of Kutch in the Efforts Now Being Made for the Suppression of the Slave Trade [340r] (13/16)

Enclosure No. 1.

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I AM directed to forward herewith, for submission to the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a letter, with enclosures, from the Acting Political Agent, Kutch, No. 157, dated the 17th instant, reporting the measures adopted by His Highness the Rao for preventing his subjects in Zanzibar and Muscat from being engaged in, and mixed up with, the East African slave trade.

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Political No. 22 of 1873, Forwarding Papers Relative to the Proffered Co-operation of the Rao of Kutch in the Efforts Now Being Made for the Suppression of the Slave Trade [340v] (14/16)

that you carry on at Zanzibar the trade of buying and selling in slaves. This is a most horrible thing, and by the desire of the Honorable Government to put a stop to this practice, we as well as our revered father have before this time issued Proclamations. Notwithstanding these, you have not abandoned this horrible trade, which is very bad on your part. You are, therefore, hereby commanded not to persist in this trade at all events, and if you are practising it, to abandon it at once on receipt of this command. He who in spite of this shall follow this trade, or in any way abet or assist in the same, shall be punished severely by the Honorable British Government, considering him to be their own subject, by virtue of the power given them for the purpose, and this Durbar will confiscate all his property situated in Kutch. Therefore take strict warning. Given in His Highness' presence this Monday, the 1st Magsur Vud, Sumbut 1929 of the Vikram era, corresponding with 16th December 1872.

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