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**‘Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon’ble  
Company’s Brig of War “Euphrates”. Vol: 12.’**

<b>Holding Institution</b>	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
<b>Reference</b>	IOR/F/4/2112/99473
<b>Date(s)</b>	1844-1845 (CE, Gregorian)
<b>Written in</b>	English in Latin
<b>Extent and Format</b>	1 item (22 folios)
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**About this record**

This item consists of copies of correspondence, consultations, and minutes cited in, or enclosed with, political letters from the Government of Bombay [Mumbai]. The correspondents are: the Government of Bombay; Captain Stafford Bettesworth Haines, Political Agent at Aden; Augustus Le Messurier, Advocate General at Bombay; Lieutenant Alexander Henry Gordon, Commanding the Honourable Company’s brig of war *Euphrates* ; and Commander Carless, Senior Naval Officer at Aden. It is the twelfth in a series of seventeen items on the trade in enslaved people (the others are IOR/F/4/2112/99462, IOR/F/4/2112/99463, IOR/F/4/2112/99464, IOR/F/4/2112/99465, IOR/F/4/2112/99466, IOR/F/4/2112/99467, IOR/F/4/2112/99468, IOR/F/4/2112/99469, IOR/F/4/2112/99470, IOR/F/4/2112/99471, IOR/F/4/2112/99472, IOR/F/4/2112/99474, IOR/F/4/2112/99475, IOR/F/4/2112/99476, IOR/F/4/2112/99477, and IOR/F/4/2112/99478).

The item concerns the seizure of the kotia [kutiyya] *Runchore Parsand* by Lieutenant Gordon because there were three enslaved women on board. The circumstances of why the women were on board is discussed, and the item contains depositions from those involved in the case.

The item contains a contents page, and the title page of the item contains the following references: ‘Draft 872/45, P.C. [Previous Communication] 5013, Collection No 1 of No 55’.

PC 5013  
Vol: 12.

Dt 072  
/45

99-473

Collection N<sup>o</sup> 1. of N<sup>o</sup> 55

Bombay

Political Department.

Letter from, dated 19<sup>th</sup> May 1845.

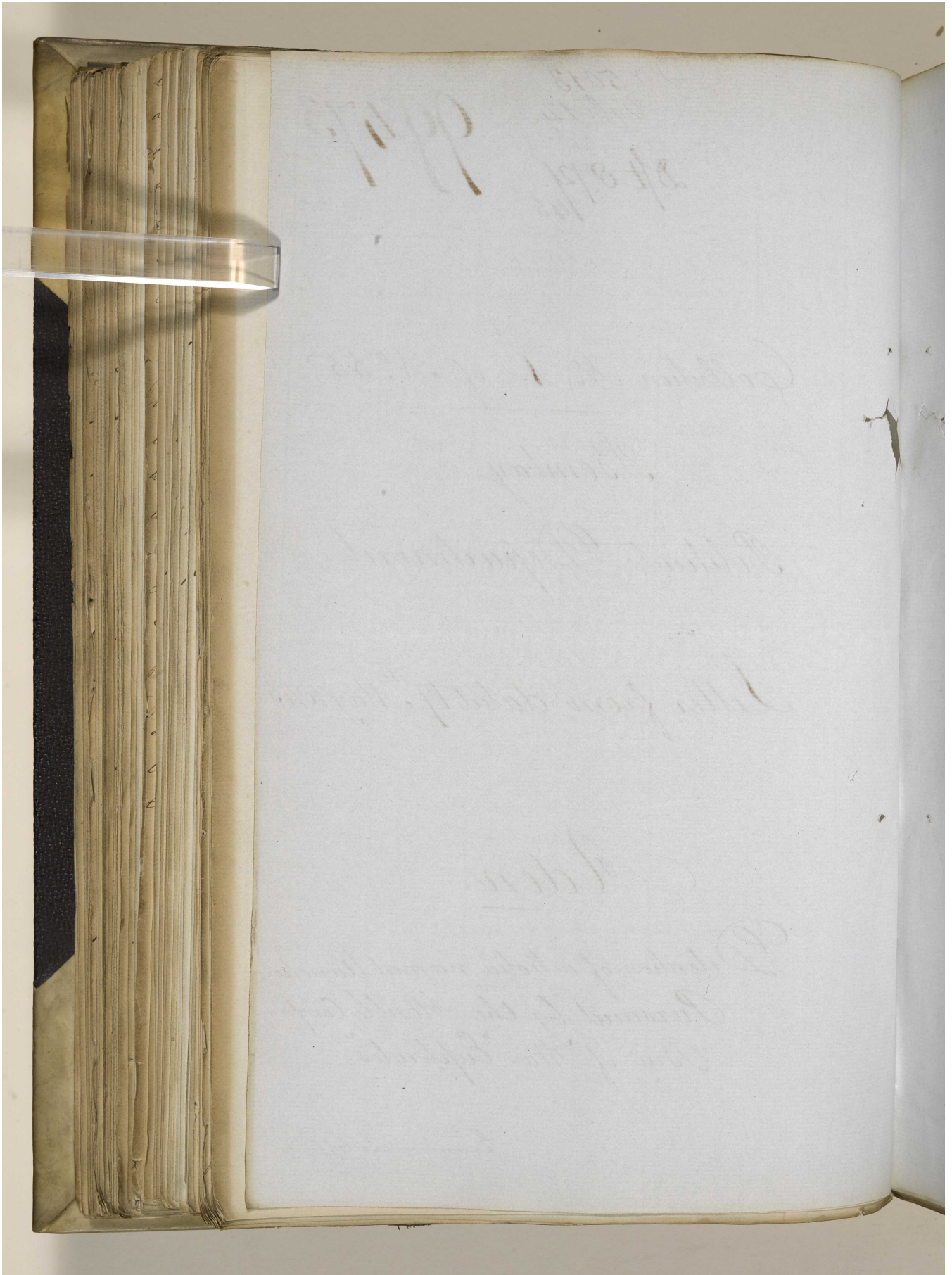
Aden.

Detention of a Kotia named Runchore  
Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's  
Brig of War "Euphrates".

Examiner's Office

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'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursaud by the Hon'ble Company's Brig of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [203r] (3/44)

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No	From	To	Subject	Page of Print	Page of Consul.
<u>Aden</u>					
			Detention of a Kotia named "Runchore Pursaud" by the Honorable Company's Brig of War "Euphrates"		
1	Poll. Agent Aden	Chief Secy.	Reports the return to Aden from Berbera of the Honorable Company's Brig of War "Euphrates" after having executed the duties on which she was recently despatched by him to that quarter, and submit certain documents connected with the detention by that vessel of a Kotia named "Runchore Pursaud" in consequence of her having had three female slaves on board while at anchor in the Port of Berbera	1845	1845
2			Report by the Advocate General	Apr. 29	May
3			Minute by the Honorable the Govr. concurred in by the Commander in Chief and the Honorable Mr. Reid	May 25	Apr. 27/21
				May 17	Apr. 17/22
4	Chief Secy. Aden	Poll. Agent Aden	Informing him that Govt approves of his proceedings on the above occasion, and transmitting for his information	15	Apr. 17/23

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'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [204r] (5/44)

Extract Bombay Political. Consult: May 1845

Number 41 of 1845. N<sup>o</sup> 1 Number 25 of 1845.  
Political depart<sup>ts</sup> From

N<sup>o</sup> 4721. S. B. Harris Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Capt<sup>n</sup> Indian Navy and Political Agent  
Aden

To The Honble J. P. Willoughby Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Chief Secy<sup>r</sup> to Government - Bombay  
Dated at Aden April 29<sup>th</sup> 1845

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that  
the Pol<sup>l</sup> Agent reports having requested the services of the "Euphrates" to proceed to Berbera.

Letter N<sup>o</sup> 27 Naval Dept<sup>ts</sup> as per Margin. The "Euphrates" having executed the duty upon which she was sent returned to Aden on the 4<sup>th</sup> Instant, when I received the copy of the report of her Commander Lieut<sup>nt</sup> J. H. Gordon annexed and marked N<sup>o</sup> 1.

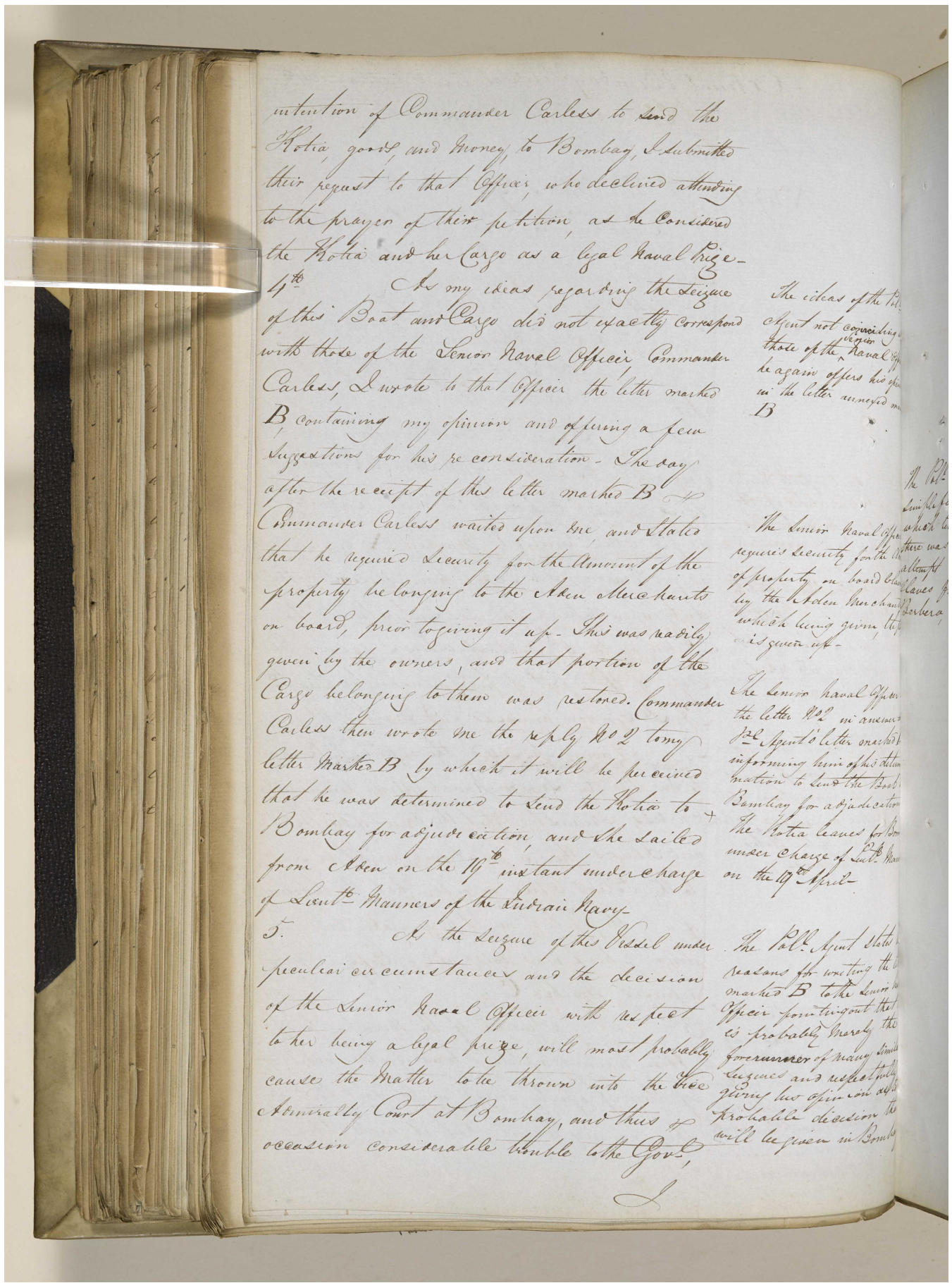
The Pol<sup>l</sup> Agent having perused the report proposed to take the depositions of all parties concerned relative to the capture of the Kotia Runchore Pursand. I, having perused the report forwarded to me by the Senior Naval Officer, Commander Berbery, requested that the Crew of the Kotia, and Slaves therein mentioned, might be sent to the Police Office, in order that the depositions of all the parties, might be severally taken down, which was done, and a Copy is now annexed, marked C.

At the request of several Aden Merchants who had property on board the Pol<sup>l</sup> Agent submitted their Petition to the Senior Naval Officer, who declined complying with their prayer as he considered the Kotia a legal prize -  
Several of the Merchants of Aden having applied to me for the restitution of their property seized in the said Kotia, they having learnt that it was the intention

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'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [204v] (6/44)



intention of Commander Carless to send the  
Kotia, goods, and money to Bombay, I submitted  
their request to that Officer, who declined attending  
to the prayer of their petition, as he considered  
the Kotia and her cargo as a legal Naval Prize.  
As my ideas regarding the seizure  
of this Boat and Cargo did not exactly correspond  
with those of the Senior Naval Officer, Commander  
Carless, I wrote to that Officer the letter marked  
B, containing my opinion and offering a few  
suggestions for his consideration. The day  
after the receipt of this letter marked B  
Commander Carless waited upon me, and states  
that he required security for the amount of the  
property belonging to the Aden Merchants  
on board, prior to giving it up. This was readily  
given by the owners, and that portion of the  
Cargo belonging to them was restored. Commander  
Carless then wrote me the reply No 2 to my  
letter marked B by which it will be perceived  
that he was determined to send the Kotia to  
Bombay for adjudication, and she sailed  
from Aden on the 17<sup>th</sup> instant under charge  
of Lieut. Manners of the Indian Navy.

The ideas of the P. L. Spent not considering those of the Senior Naval Officer he again offers his opinion in the letter annexed marked B

The Senior Naval Officer requires security for the property on board which being given, the Kotia leaves for Bombay.

The Senior Naval Officer the letter No 2 in answer to P. L. Spent's letter marked B informing him of his determination to send the Kotia to Bombay for adjudication. The Kotia leaves for Bombay under charge of Lieut. Manners on the 17<sup>th</sup> April.

5. As the seizure of this vessel under peculiar circumstances and the decision of the Senior Naval Officer with respect to her being a legal prize, will most probably cause the matter to be thrown into the Admiralty Court at Bombay, and thus on occasion considerable trouble to the Gov<sup>ts</sup>,

The P. L. Spent states reasons for writing the letter marked B to the Senior Naval Officer pointing out that it is probably merely the Government of making similar seizures and respect fully giving his opinion as to the probable decision that will be given in Bombay.

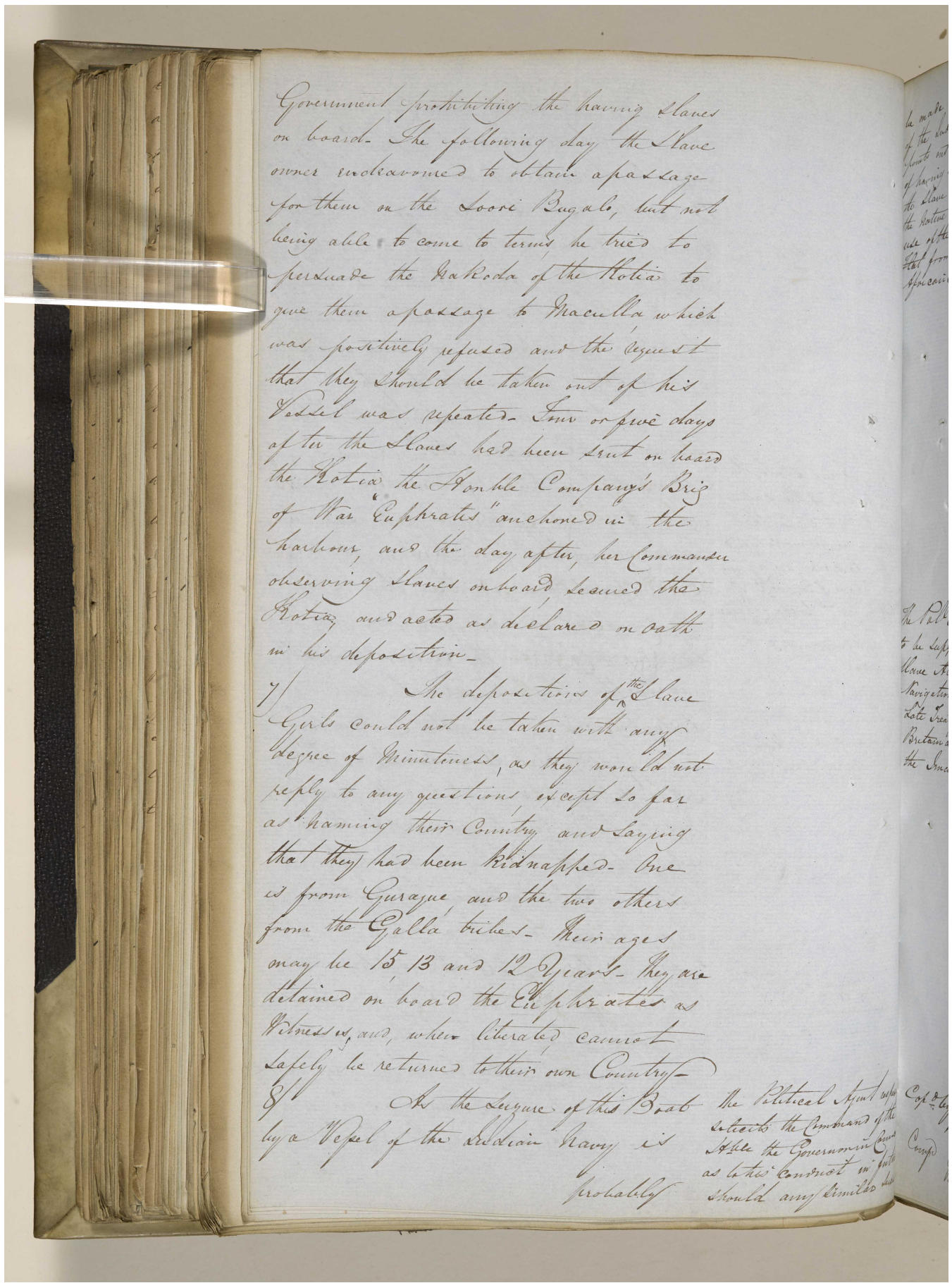
I







'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [205v] (8/44)



Government prohibiting the having Slaves on board. The following day the Slave owner endeavoured to obtain a passage for them on the Soori Bagale, but not being able to come to terms he tried to persuade the Dakota of the Kotia to give them a passage to Maculla which was positively refused and the request that they should be taken out of his Vessel was repeated. Four or five days after the Slaves had been sent on board the Kotia the Hon'ble Company's Brig of War "Euphrates" anchored in the harbour, and the day after her commander observing Slaves on board seized the Kotia, and acted as declared on oath in his deposition.

The depositions of the Slave Girls could not be taken with any degree of Minutness, as they would not reply to any questions, except so far as naming their Country, and saying that they had been Kidnapped. One is from Gurague and the two others from the Gulla tribes. Their ages may be 15 13 and 12 Years. They are detained on board the Euphrates as Witnesses, and, when liberated cannot safely be returned to their own Country.

As the Surge of this Boat is a Vessel of the Indian Navy is probably

The Political Agent expects the Command of the Ship the Government as to his Contract in should any similar

he made of the end of the out of having no slave the Kotia case of the East from Africa

The Pol to be safe have the Navigator date was Britain's the Ince

Cop. of the Comp



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [206r] (9/44)

be made by the vessels  
of the Indian Navy, and  
to have out the great advantage  
of having certain clauses of  
the Slave Act printed in  
the native language for the  
use of the large annual  
fleet from India to the  
African Coast -

probably but the forrunner to similar  
Capture in future, I would respectfully  
solicit the orders of the Honble the  
Governor in Council as to the Manner  
in which I should act with reference  
to any future prize taken on the sea  
adjacent to Aden, and I would  
further with deference suggest the  
advantages that would be derived,  
were certain clauses in the Slave  
Laws published in the native &  
languages for the information of the  
large fleet of Country Crafts that  
annually trade between India and the  
East Coast of Africa

The Polt Agent requests  
to be supplied with the  
Slave Act.  
Navigation Act  
Treaty between Great  
Britain and His Highness  
the Imam of Muscat.

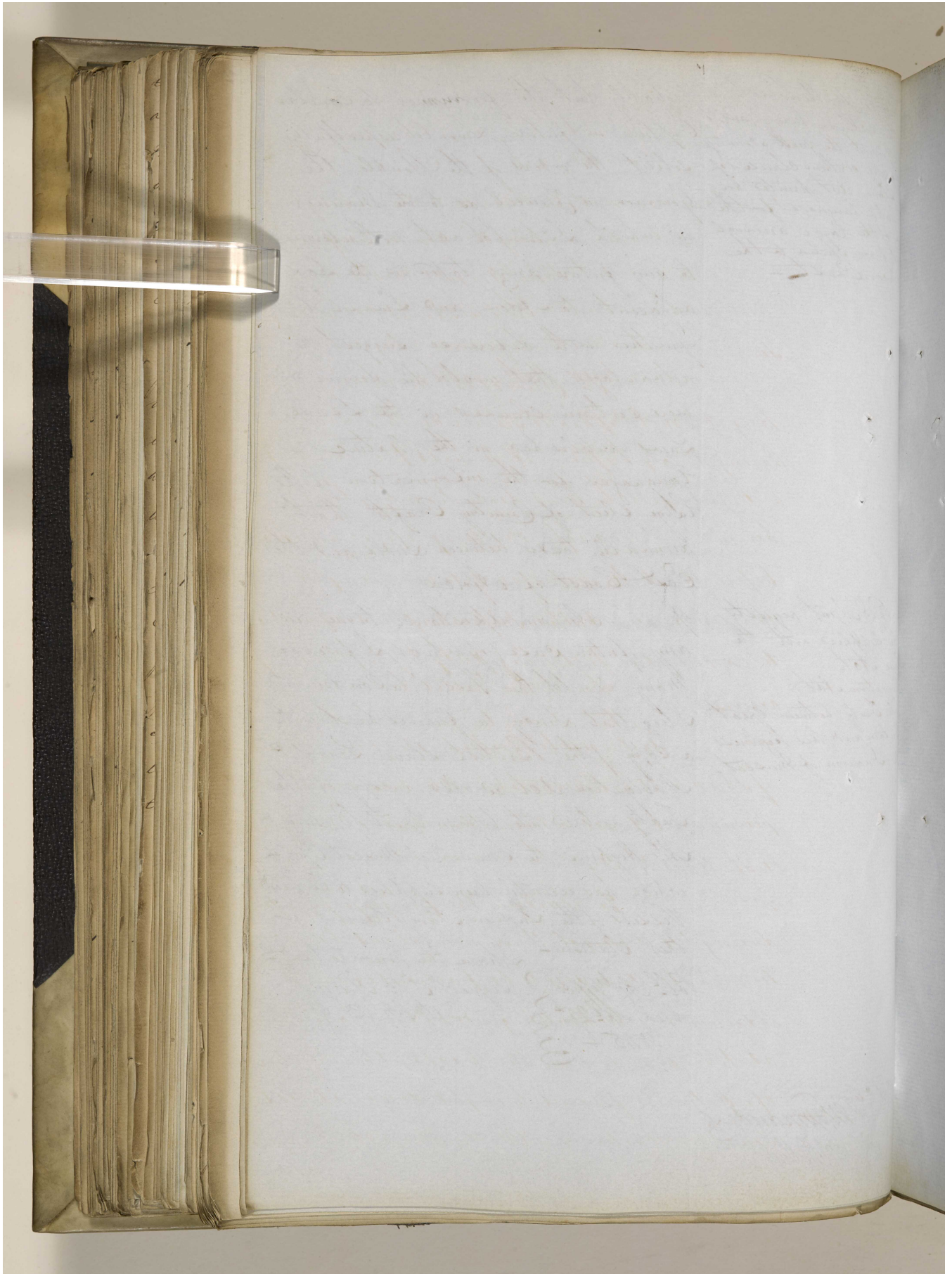
I. As an assistance to me in  
any future case (of which I foresee  
many, should this vessel be condemned)  
I beg that I may be furnished with  
a copy of the British Slave Laws &  
Navigation Act, as also a copy of the  
Treaty entered into between Great Britain &  
His Highness the Imam of Muscat, Copy of  
which has recently been supplied to certain  
Vessels of the Indian Navy serving in  
this Station - I have the honor to be  
Pol. Agent's Office  
Aden 27<sup>th</sup> April  
1845 -  
Signed J. B. Haines, Esq.  
Capt. R. Pol. Agent at Aden

Cop. by W. H. Mansel  
Comp. M. P. H. Mansel

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'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [206v] (10/44)





'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [207r] (11/44)

No 27 of 1845

Naval Department.

To Commander T. G. Charles Indian Navy  
Commanding the Honble Company's  
Steam Frigate "Luskland", and  
Senior Naval Officer Aden

Sir,

The period of the Honble Company's  
Brig of War "Euphrates" service on this Station  
having nearly expired, it is most probable that  
a Vessel will be sent from Bombay to relieve  
her in time to enable the Brig to reach India  
before the S. W. Monsoon sets in - May I  
therefore request the Services of the Euphrates  
to execute the following duty before her relief  
arrives

1<sup>st</sup> To proceed to Berbera, and there ascertain  
if Sheikh Ali Shermarkhi Ali has made a  
permanent peace between the Aial Ahmed and  
Aial Unes Tribes

2<sup>nd</sup> To ascertain the progress of Trade  
during the Annual Fair now about to  
terminate, and also to be particular in  
obtaining correct intelligence of the Slave Trade  
at Berbera and on the Coast - the number  
of Males and females brought down at each  
Town for Barter, and the number exported and

to (101)



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [207v] (12/44)

to which Ports or places

300 I should also wish to know  
if it is Sheikh Shermarkhi's intention  
to form a permanent Town at Berbera,  
and also the state of the 3 Towns he has erected  
for the protection of the Trade and whether  
any other permanent buildings have been  
created to indicate his intention of holding  
possession throughout the year - Also if  
there is any news from Suksbar

Having accomplished this  
duty the Brig of War can return to Aden

I have the honor to be you

(Signed) S. B. Harries

Captain S. B.

Political Agents Office } Political Agent Aden  
Aden 28<sup>th</sup> March 1845

(True Copy)

(Signed) S. B. Harries

Captain S. B.

Political Agent - Aden

Copied by You

Comp<sup>d</sup>  
A. Harries



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [208r] (13/44)

No 34 of 1845. 9

To  
Commander J. G. Barless J. C.  
Commanding the H. C. Steam Frigate  
"Auckland"  
Senior Naval Officer Aden

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No 31 dated April 11<sup>th</sup> 1845 wherein is stated the course you intend to pursue in reference to the Kessel and Cargo brought to Aden from Berbera by the Honorable Company's Brig of War Euphrates Lieut Gordon Commanding.

Many of the Resident Merchants of this Town having property on board the said Kessel, which by reason of the seizure they cannot obtain possession of. I feel it incumbent on me to propose the following suggestions

In the first instance there exists no evidence to prove that the Kessel (called a Kotia) had traded or was prepared to trade in Slaves.

Secondly. The fact that confusion and alarm prevailed on shore, appears to me to confirm the statement on our

(108) that



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [208v] (14/44)

that the slave Guls were sent on board  
for protection, merely to await the  
cessation of hostilities, or until another  
Vessel was engaged to convey them  
to Maculla. Should this assertion of the  
Nacodah and others prove entirely correct.  
I have no hesitation in saying, Should  
any British Vessel of war would  
have received the Slaves in a similar  
manner, though of course she would  
not have restored them to any owner.  
she certainly would not have abandoned  
them to the reckless multitude on  
shore or forbore to act in the cause  
of benevolence.

Thirdly. It must be observed a  
Native usually has no farther acquaintance  
with the slave Laws and their interdictions  
than the simple understanding that  
should he purchase, or sell a slave, or  
carry them from Port to Port, he  
renders himself amenable to punishment.

many reasons might and  
will no doubt be brought forward  
tending to the same point by those  
well conversant in the Law at Bombay  
I will therefore only remark that it really  
appears to me, that in this case the  
transgression



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of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [209r] (15/44)

transgression of the party on board  
or belonging to the Kotia in permitting  
the slaves to remain for upwards of  
24 hours on board, and not reporting  
the circumstance to the Commander  
of the Hon'ble Company's Brig of War  
"Euphrates", was but an error in  
judgment; and by the deposition  
made on oath originated in a  
benevolent intention from ignorance  
of the whole liabilities & technicalities  
of the Slave Laws - more especially  
shewing itself in the fact of their  
having been sent on board the Kotia  
without the Nacodah or Master's  
permission - He found them in his  
keel, and scrupled not to save them.  
If therefore the depositions are to  
be relied on, it seems evident the  
Nacodah had no intention of venturing  
on the prohibited traffic - and another  
testimony in favor of the prisoners  
with reference to the 3 Slave girls arises  
in the refusal of the Nacodah to convey  
the slaves to Maculla.

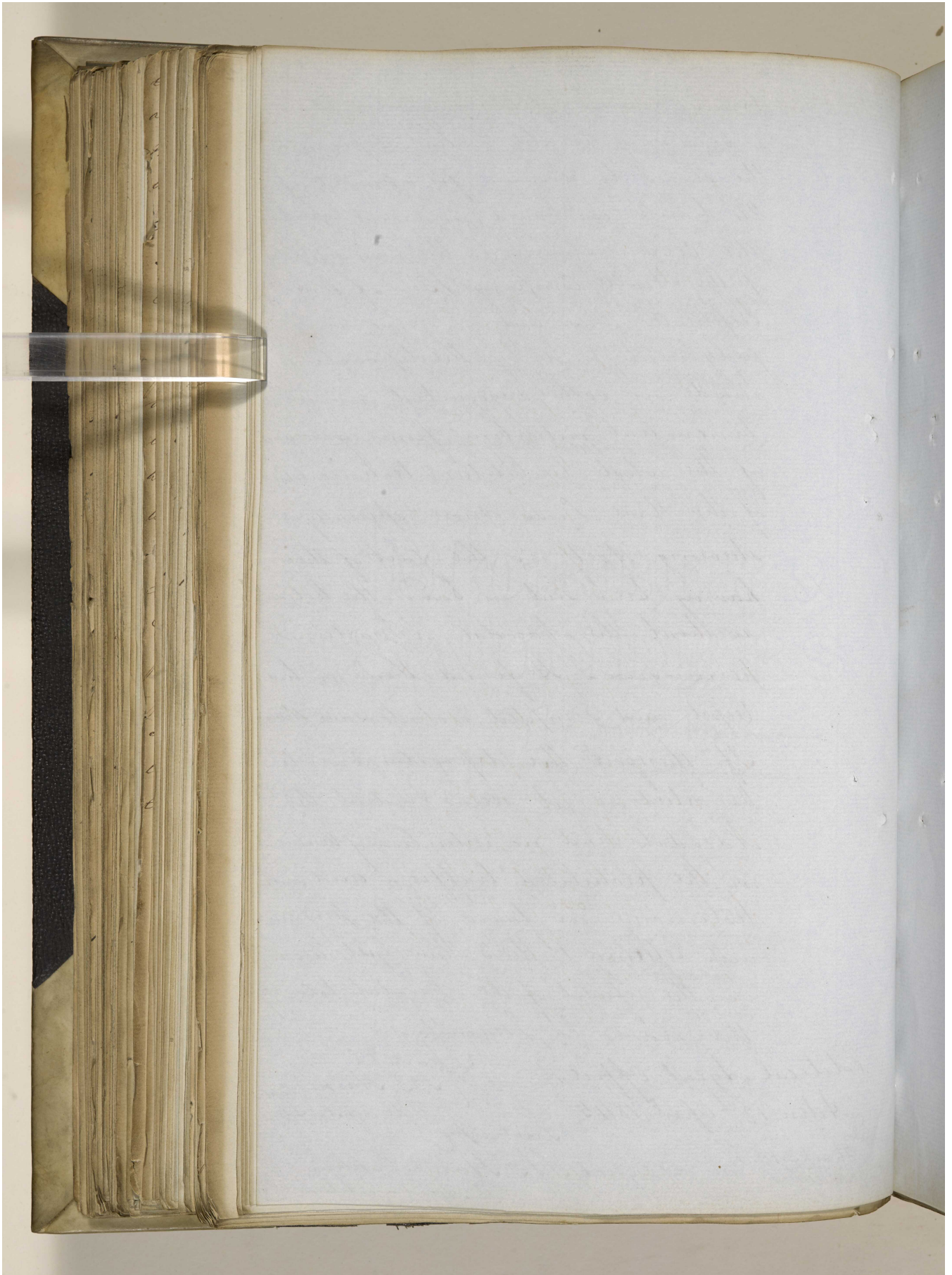
Political Agents Office  
Aden 12<sup>th</sup> April 1845.

Copied by  
Pursand  
Rushker B.  
W. J. P. P.

I have the  
sig<sup>d</sup> of J. B. Haines Captain  
Poll Agent - Aden

True copy  
/signed/ J. B. Haines Captain  
Poll Agent - Aden. (259)







'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [210r] (17/44)

13.  
Aden 7<sup>th</sup> April 1845

The information and Depositions of  
Alexander Henry Gordon Esquire, Lieut<sup>nt</sup> in the  
Indian Navy Commanding the East India Company's  
Brig of War "Euphrates" taken upon oath before us  
Stafford Bylesworth James Esquire, Captain in  
the Indian Navy and Pol<sup>l</sup> Agent at Aden & Charles  
Joseph Cruttenden Esq<sup>r</sup> Lieut<sup>nt</sup> in the Indian Navy  
and Ass<sup>t</sup> Pol<sup>l</sup> Agent at Aden at the Town of Aden  
in Arabia on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of April 1845, who  
on his oath saith. -

I am a Lieut<sup>nt</sup> in the Indian Navy and in  
Command of the E. I. Company's Brig of War  
Euphrates - On the 31<sup>st</sup> of March last, when the  
Vessel was at Anchor in the Port Berbera on  
the Coast of Africa, I was pulling round the  
Native Craft at Anchor in the said Harbour,  
and on board one observed some females - In  
consequence of my suspecting them to be slaves  
I went on board, I found the Naodah on board -  
He told me the Vessel was of ind belonging to  
Cutch Mandavie she had 3 females on the Deck -  
She had no colors flying - I asked him what  
colors he was under and where his papers  
were - He told me he was under English colors  
but he had lost both his colors and his papers  
I ordered him to get under weigh & drop down  
near the Brig - when he got down near the  
Brig, he hoisted red Native colors - I sent an  
officer on board (Mr<sup>r</sup> Rankin Midshipman)

to



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of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [210v] (18/44)

to search for any colors he might find & bring on  
board the Macodah & any Panians that might be  
on board. The Officer brought me the Macodah,  
and the English Flag.

The Macodah then told me that these were  
his colours and I desired him, if they were his  
colours to hoist them, which he did. I then enquired  
of him what the Slavers were doing on board a  
vessel under English Colours. He told me the Slavers  
had been brought on board the day before for  
protection during a fight on Shore. That he had  
told the man who brought them, not to bring  
them on board, as it was against the orders of the  
English Gov<sup>t</sup> & that he had requested him to take  
them on Shore that day. - On enquiring of the mate  
what the Slavers were doing on board. He told  
me they had been on board 3 or 4 days. That they  
were brought on board by two Arabs who<sup>se</sup> they  
on board. This conversation occurred in Hindoostan  
& I have given it as near as I could understand  
I am certain that this is the meaning of  
what they told me. -

I then told them that as the vessel was  
under English Colours, and had Slavers on  
board I should detain her, and take her across  
to Aden. I then sent a guard on board and  
took possession. On my arrival at Aden I  
reported the circumstance to the Senior  
Naval Officer. -

Taken before us this | Signed J. D. Gordon Lieut. R. N.  
date above mentioned. | Command. R. E. S. Co's Brig  
of War Euphrates  
Signed S. B. Haines  
Capt. R. N. &  
Political Agent at Aden  
Signed C. J. Crutenden Lieut. R. N.  
& Assist. Pol. Agent at Aden



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [211r] (19/44)

The information and Disposition of *Walter Gargile*  
Rankin Midshipman Indian Navy taken upon  
oath before us, Stafford Battersworthaines Esq  
Capt<sup>n</sup> Indian Navy & Polk Agent at Aden & Charles  
John Cruttenden Esquire, Sixth Indian Navy and  
Assutt<sup>n</sup> Polk Agent at Aden at the town of Aden  
in Arabia on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of April 1845, who on  
his oath saith. -

I am a Midshipman in the Indian Navy  
and belong to the E. I. Company's Brig of War  
Euphrates - On the 21<sup>st</sup> of March last when the  
Vessel was lying in the Port of Berbera, I was  
ordered by Lieut<sup>nt</sup> A. D. Gordon Commanding  
the Vessel to go on board a Bungalow, and search  
for the English Colours, to bring them on board  
if found, with the Nacodah & any Banians  
I might find there - I went on board & after  
searching on the Poop for some time, I was  
asked by the Nacodah what I was looking  
for - I told him for the English Colours - He then  
opened a Chest on the Poop & gave them to me,  
I took him and the Colours on board - I had  
forgotten to ask if there were any Banians  
on board, & went back to do so - When going  
back I was desired by Lieut<sup>nt</sup> Gordon to take  
the Nacodah with me and to tell him to  
hoist his proper Colour - I went on board  
& told him - He asked which he was to hoist  
I told him "his pleasure" - He immediately  
hoisted the English - I took him on board the  
Brig & also a Banian - I observed 3 women  
on the Poop of the Bungalow. -

Taken before us the 7<sup>th</sup> day of April 1845  
date above mentioned } Signed W. C. Rankin  
Midshipman  
{ Signed J. B. Daines Capt<sup>n</sup> & Polk Agent at Aden }  
{ Signed C. J. Cruttenden Lieut<sup>nt</sup> & Assutt<sup>n</sup> Polk Agent at Aden }  
Belonging to the S. S. Euphrates  
(21)



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [211v] (20/44)

Question - Are these <sup>the</sup> women that were in the Boat?

Answer - Yes they are.

Question - How many and what Colours had the Boat?

Answer - I saw three, one English Ensign, one plain red, and one red and white.

The Information and Deposition of Moora  
Cuttee, Nacoda, of the Kotia Runchore Pursand  
taken upon oath before us, Stafford Kettleworth  
Ammers Esq<sup>r</sup> Capt<sup>n</sup> Indian Navy & Pol<sup>o</sup> Agent  
at Aden & Charles John Cruttenden Esq<sup>r</sup> Lieut<sup>t</sup>  
Indian Navy & Assist<sup>t</sup> Pol<sup>o</sup> Agent at Aden - at  
the town of Aden in Arabia on the <sup>11</sup> day  
of April 1815, who on his oath saith -

I am a Nacodah of the Kotia Runchore  
Pursand - The owner is Damothur Mojee of  
Mandavie I brought her from Cuttee to Maculla  
& thence to Aden - From Aden I went to Berbera  
with a Cargo chiefly composed of Cloths belonging  
to 3 or 4 Merchants - At Berbera I shipped  
on board a quantity of Coffee, and Gum -  
Two days before the vessel of war arrived, two  
Arabs, who are now prisoners brought 3  
bundles of Coffee on board and afterwards  
brought 3 slaves - They told me they wanted  
to go to Maculla, and I said I would not go  
to Maculla but to Bombay - They remained  
in the Boat, and employed themselves in  
sowing up the Coffee in Bags and putting  
marks upon them - The day after the ship  
anchored - The Captain of her came on  
Board and seeing the slaves asked whose  
they were - I told him they belonged  
to

Copies of this  
Deposition  
Examined



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [212r] (21/44)

17  
to some Arabs - I have 3 flags on board  
one is the Arab flag - our is what we  
call Curpully (red and white striped)  
our is something like the English  
flag - The owner of the Boat (another  
mowjar gave me this English flag  
and told me to go to Bombay and  
take out a new Pass I was to go to  
Bombay on the return voyage - The  
Kotia has a number on her main  
beam - I imagine the number was  
put on in Bombay - I have never made  
this voyage before - I have no papers  
of any kind - The Kirain has them  
all - I never keep papers - I am aware  
of the penalties for slaving or for  
having slaves on board - I was in  
the habit of wearing the Arab flag in  
Berbera - I went into Berbera with  
the English flag flying - I did not feed  
these women - They brought their own  
provisions they brought enough for 10  
days - I did not know that they were  
slaves - I did not make any agreement  
with



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursaad by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [212v] (22/44)

with the arabs for the freight of the coffee  
I left that to the Kurani.

The mark of Moora Cutchee  
taken before us the  
date above mentioned

Signed / S. B. Haines Capt. Lt.

Political Agent at Aden

Signed / C. J. Cruttenden Lieut. Lt.

Assistant Political Agent

The information and deposition  
of Nannaldas Bannia Kurani of the  
Kotia Runchore Pursaad taken upon  
oath before us Stafford Betherworth  
Haines Esquire Captain Indian  
Navy and Political Agent at Aden  
and Charles John Cruttenden Esq.  
Lieutenant Indian Navy and  
Assistant Political Agent at Aden  
at the town of Aden in Arabia on  
the 7<sup>th</sup> day of April 1845, who on his  
oath saith -

I am the Kurani of the  
Kotia Runchore Pursaad - The owner

is



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [213r] (23/44)

19

is Another Narrative of Mandavia  
We went from Mandavia to Maculla  
thence to Aden, thence to Berbera. At  
Berbera we shipped some Cargo  
belonging to some merchants. The  
town was in a very disturbed state  
and many of the people brought  
Merchandise on board the boat for  
security. Two Arabs came with some  
Coffee to be carried to Bombay they  
brought afterwards 3 Slaves. I was  
on shore when they brought them  
we were bound to Maculla for water.  
These Arabs had also about 25 bundles  
of Mats on board which were to be  
discharged at Maculla from our  
boat. They themselves were going in  
another boat on account of these Slaves.  
Besides the Coffee and Mats these Arabs  
had 4 or 5 Jars of Oil and Sycease  
25 or 30 Jars. The Arabs never told me  
that they were going to send the Coffee  
to Bombay or to Maculla. They only brought  
it on board. I supposed it was meant  
for Bombay. The rest of their goods is for Maculla.



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [213v] (24/44)

We have 3 Flays- one an Arab Flay, one  
a Butcher Flay, and one a English Flay-  
We lost our English papers in Berbera  
this time. I carried them on shore and  
some how lost them. I cannot tell how  
they were lost. We went into Berbera  
with the Butcher Flay flying at the mast  
head, and the Arab Flay at the Insign  
staff. I never recollect seeing the English  
Flay flying at Berbera. we always use  
the English Flay in Bombay. —

taken before us the date signed The Mark of of  
above mentioned } Kermoodah

signed) S. B. Haines Capt. Lt.

Political Agent at Aden

signed) C. J. Brenttenden Lieut. Lt.

Assistant Pol. Agent at Aden

The information and Deposition  
of Amher bin Abdulla Inhabitant of  
Maaculla taken upon oath before us  
Stafford Batterworth Haines Esquire Captain  
Indian Navy and Political Agent at Aden  
and Charles John Brenttenden Esquire  
Lieutenant Indian Navy and assist.  
Political Agent at Aden at the town  
of Aden in Arabia on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of  
April 1845 who on his oath saith. —

I saw an inhabitant of Maaculla  
I went to Berbera with my Brother in  
a Soori Buzalo of which a man named  
Lumah was Kermoodah my brother and  
the



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [214r] (25/44)

21

the Macodah brought these 3 Girls at  
mocha. My brother gave me one. I  
lived on shore with the 3 Women - when  
the disturbance took place amongst  
the Loualies I went on board the  
cutchee boat whose name I do not  
know and took the slaves with me  
The Macodah wanted me to land them  
but gave me leave to keep them on  
board till my boat came. I took them  
off to the Bugalo fearing that I should  
lose them on shore. Two of the girls  
are from Gurague and one is a  
Galla. I was going to sell them at  
Maulla or Shahr. The cargo I had  
on board the Cutchee Boat was about  
24 or 25 jars of grease - some coffee  
some bundles of mats, a little lychee  
and some gums. The coffee alone  
was for Bombay. It belonged to  
me alone. I cannot recollect the  
name of my agent in Bombay. The  
slaves were brought on board by me  
and kept on board for 2 1/2 days -  
when a boat from the ship of War  
came and asked whose slaves those  
were. The Hinder Macoda said they  
belonged to the arabs when the vessel  
was made prisoner

Taken before us the dates / signed / The mark of of Amherst  
above mentioned } bin Abdulla

(214)



signed / S. B. Haines Capt. Lt.  
Political Agent at Aden  
signed / G. J. Cruttenden Lieut. Lt.  
Assistant Coll Agent at Aden

The information and Deposition of  
Abdulla bin Salam taken upon oath before  
us Stafford Bretesworth Haines Esquire  
Captain Indian Navy and Political Agent  
at Aden and Charles John Cruttenden  
Esquire Lieutenant Indian Navy and  
assistant Political Agent at Aden at  
the town of Aden in Arabia on the 7 day  
of April 1845. who on his oath saith -

About 2 months ago / the month  
of August / I went in Company with Amber  
and a man named Monim a Cutchee  
to Berbera I was a Porter formerly in  
Aden and I agreed to go with them  
for 5 dollars for the trip and a dress -  
we lived in one house on shore

Disturbances arose amongst the  
Somalis on the day of the fight &  
Amber and Monim with the three  
slaves that are now here, and who  
were purchased at Berbera, went on board  
the Cutchee Boat which has since been captured

by  
C. J. Cruttenden  
S. B. Haines



23

by the English Ship. Two days afterwards  
when I went on board I found the women  
living there. A boat came 2 days after  
this from the English Ship and demanded  
to know whose slaves those were. He was  
told they belonged to the Arabs and  
went away. Monia immediately left the  
boat, and went on shore. Monia the  
night before went on board a Soori  
boat that had brought him away from  
Maculla to pay for these slaves. He got  
the Money in a Bag. and brought it on  
board the Cutchee Boat. Monia when  
on board the Soori wished to make  
arrangements for the conveyance of the  
3 slave Girls in his Bugale to Maculla  
which he agreed to at the rate of 1 dollar  
a head. Monia demurred and offered  
 $3/4$  - They could not come to terms and  
Monia returned to the Cutchee Boat.  
I heard the Cutchee Macodah say that  
he was going to Aden and therefore  
would not carry any slaves. These are  
the three slave Girls that I saw taken  
on board the Cutchee Boat at Berbera,  
and that I found on board altogether.  
I saw one of the girls bought by Monia

at (215)



at Berbera myself. Momiad's Brother who  
had left for Zanzibar brought the other  
two. Money to defray their Cost was sent  
from Maculla by Jumah a partner of  
Salla Lotee at Maculla by the hands  
of a Soori Macodah.

The Cutcher Boat generally  
hoisted an Arab Flag when the ship's  
Boat came and ordered them to hoist  
their flag, they hoisted an English  
flag.

Taken before us the date } signed The Mark X of  
above mentioned } Abdulla bin Salem  
signed J. B. Haines Captain S.A.

Political Agent at Aden

signed C. J. Crutenden Lieut. S.A.

Assistant Pol. Agent Aden

The information and Deposition  
of Arab a Calafsee, taken upon oath  
before us, Stafford Bettesworth Haines  
Esquire Captain Indian Navy and Pol.  
Agent at Aden & Charles John Crutenden Esq. Lieut. Indian N. & Assistant Pol. Agent at Aden  
at the town of Aden  
in Arabia on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of April 1865  
who on his oath saith.

I had seen the English Flag  
and the Arab Flag both in the Vessel.  
I am only a Calafsee and not the  
Macodah



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [216r] (29/44)

25  
Nacodah and therefore I know nothing  
about it I believe the boat has no Hole-  
tation before us the date signed The Mark X of  
above mentioned - } Arab Gulafsee  
signed S. B. Haines Capt. I. N.

Political Agent at Aden  
signed C. J. Cruttenden Lieut. I. N.  
Assistant Polt. Agent at Aden

The information and Deposition  
of Esa Maslim of the Kotia Runchore  
Pursand, taken upon oath before us,  
Stafford Bettesworth Haines Esquire  
Captain Indian Navy and Political  
Agent at Aden, and Charles John  
Cruttenden Esquire Lieutenant Indian  
Navy and Assistant Political Agent  
at Aden, at the Town of Aden in  
Arabia in the 7<sup>th</sup> day of April 1845  
who on his Oath saith -

I am the Maslim of the  
Kotia Runchore Pursand. I came in  
her from Mandance. I came to Aden  
from Maculla in her - We came  
in to Aden under Arab Colours - At  
Berbers we carried the Arab Flag -  
I never have seen the English Flag  
flying (216)



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [216v] (30/44)

flying on boards of her until the  
other day, when she was ordered to  
hoist in Berbera. Had we not been  
Captured we were going to Maculla  
as is always the Custom to fill up wood  
and water, we Certainly should not  
have Carried the slaves. We are all  
aware of the English Laws regarding  
slave Trade. I do not know if the  
Bugalo has a "Kole" or not. This is  
my first voyage in the Vessel  
Taken before us the date } signed The Mark of  
above mentioned } Esa Maulin  
signed S. B. Haines Capt. S. N.

Political Agent <sup>at</sup> Aden

signed C. J. Cruttenden Lieut. S. N.

Political Agent at Aden

/ True Copy /

signed S. B. Haines Capt. S. N.

Poll. Agent at Aden.

Copied by  
[Signature]  
S. B. Haines



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [217r] (31/44)

No. 1

27

To,

Commander J. G. Carliss J. A.  
Commanding the Steam Frigate "Auckland"  
&  
Senior Naval Officer at Aden.

Sir,

I have the honor to report the arrival  
of the A.C. Brig Euphrates under my command  
from Berbera, which port I left at noon on the  
1<sup>st</sup> instant.

In obedience to your orders dated 28<sup>th</sup>  
March, I sailed from Aden in the A.C. Brig Euphrates  
on the morning of the 29<sup>th</sup> and arrived at Berbera  
at 5<sup>h</sup> 30<sup>m</sup> P. M. on the 30<sup>th</sup> ultimo;

I beg to forward the information which  
I obtained there on the points mentioned in the  
extract of Captain Haines letter sent to me for  
my guidance.

Sheikh Ali Shermarkhi Ali has not  
made a permanent peace between the Ayal Ahmed  
and Ayal Urms Tribes, on the afternoon of my  
arrival, there was a fight between them, some of  
the Baurian Merchants applied to me to protect  
them in getting their things off from the shore, in  
consequence of which I landed and went to both  
parties, where I succeeded in making a truce  
for two days to enable the British subjects to ship  
their



their property, since that time Shermarkhi has made a truce for 5 days, and by that time he expects the Ajal Unus party will have left Berbera - During the fight on the 30<sup>th</sup> there were 5 men killed on the Ajal Unus side, and two men and a woman on the Ajal Ahmed's side.

Sheikh Ali Shermarkhi informed me the trade had been very prosperous during the fair, more so than for the last three or four years, the number of slaves exported this year from Berbera, he stated has not been so great as usual, he thinks about two hundred male and female, chiefly to Muscat, Mocha, Hodeida, and Juddah, he is unable to state the number exported from the different ports on the coast.

I heard from another source that the trade had been so prosperous this year as usual on account of the disturbances the Ajal Ahmed and Ajal Unus tribes, several of the larger Kafilas have not arrived this year, and with regard to the slave trade, I heard the numbers were supposed to be as follows.

600 By the Hurur Kafila, consisting of Gallas and Christian Children from Shoa  
600 from Tajura port brought by water,  
and the rest by the Kafila.

250



29

200 from various other ports, and of these  
1200 were female children. I saw one Arab boat  
there belonging to Lingar with from 50 to 60 female  
slaves on board.

The 3 Towers Shermarkhi erected  
at Berbera are still standing, and a fourth  
is half finished but he has done nothing  
to it for the last 3 or 4 months, he is  
waiting for Rafters &c with reference  
to making a permanent residence at  
Berbera. Shermarkhi told me he  
would give Captain Staines an answer  
on that point when he comes over to  
Aden, which would be as soon as the  
fair was over, he also informed me that  
there was no news from Adobur.

During my stay at Berbera  
I detained a Catch Boat under  
English colours for having three  
female slaves on board, I have  
brought her across to Aden for  
trial.

I should have left Berbera  
a day earlier, but I thought it proper



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [218v] (34/44)

to remain till the Runians had shipped  
all their property.

Alc Brig Euphrates } I have the honor to  
Aden Back Bay } (Signed) A. St. Gordon  
April 4<sup>th</sup> 1843 } Lieut. Commanding

(True Copy)

(Signed) J. G. Carles Commr  
Senior Naval Officer at Aden

(True Copy)

(Signed) J. B. Haines

Captain I. S.  
Political Agent at Aden.

Certified  
by  
J. B. Haines  
11. 10. 1843



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [219r] (35/44)

No 2.

31

To, *No 34. of 1845.*  
Captain S. B. Haimes. I. N.  
Political Agent

Aden.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge  
the receipt of your letter dated April 12<sup>th</sup> 1845,  
favoring me with your suggestions relative to the  
Tutch Boat lately seized by the F. C. Brig  
Euphrates for having slaves on board.

It appears to me unnecessary  
at present to enter into any lengthened  
discussion on the subject, but I beg to remark  
that the evidence given in the Depositions is  
very contradictory in many instances, and that  
by the confession of the parties they have been  
guilty of aiding and abetting others, if they  
have not actually been engaged themselves in  
this disgraceful and inhuman traffic - Under  
this impression, I conceive it is my duty to  
send the Boat and her Crew to Bombay to be  
dealt with as the Government may direct, but  
in order that the Aden Merchants who have  
petitioned for the restoration of their property,  
may suffer as little loss or interruption in their  
mercantile pursuits as possible - I have directed  
Lieutenant

(219)



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [219v] (36/44)

Lieutenant Gordon to make over to them, the  
whole of the Cargo, to which they lay claim on  
their furnishing security for the value.

I have the honor to be &c

H. C. Strausfrigate (signed) T. G. Carless.

Anchland, Aden } Senior Naval Officer.  
Back Bay. 16<sup>th</sup> }  
April 1845. } Aden

(True Copy)

(signed) H. B. Haines.

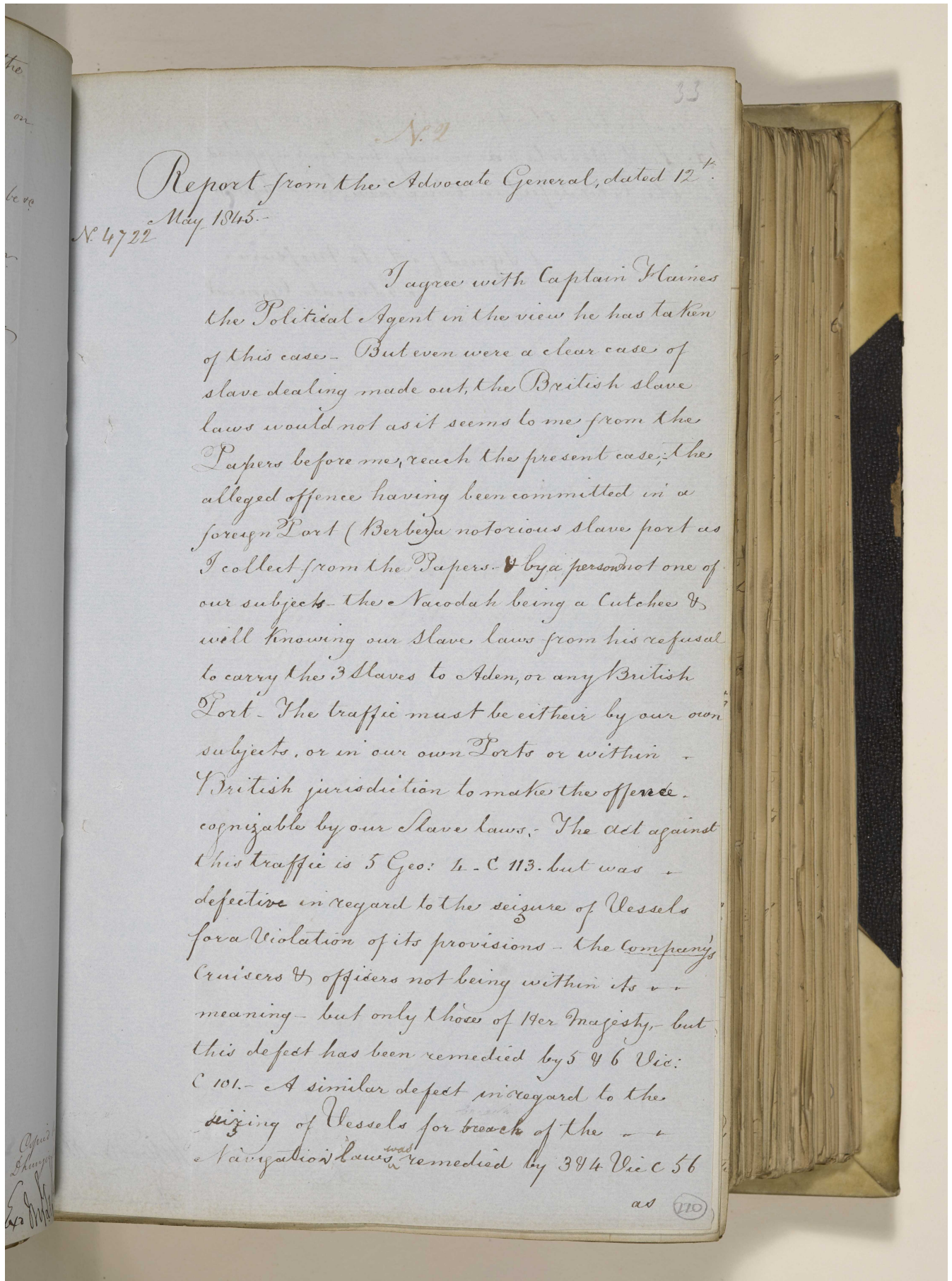
Captain I. N.

Political Agent

Copied by  
Shaykh  
E. B. Haines



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [220r] (37/44)



33

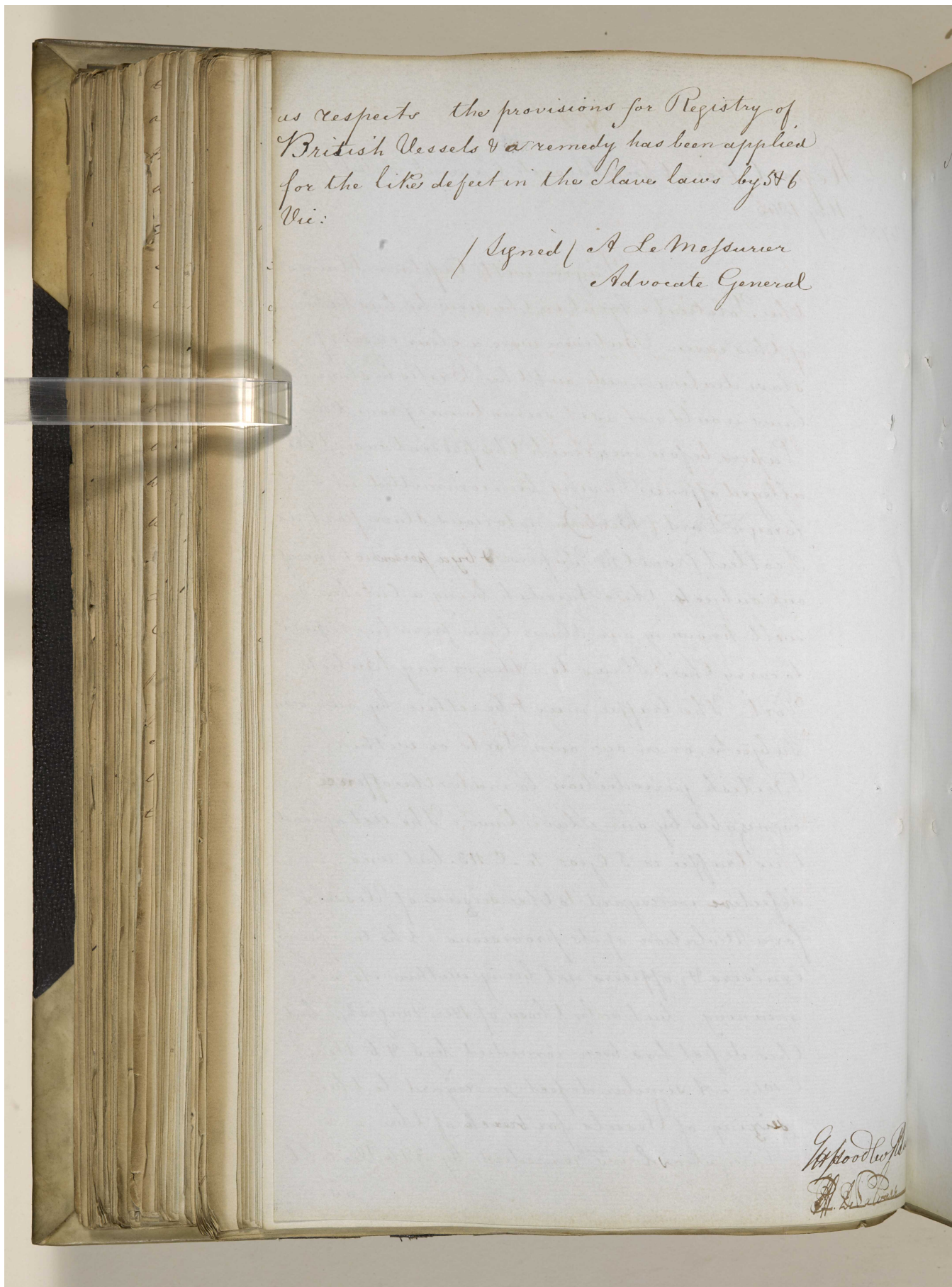
No. 2

Report from the Advocate General, dated 12<sup>th</sup>  
May 1815.  
No. 4722

I agree with Captain Haines  
the Political Agent in the view he has taken  
of this case. But even were a clear case of  
slave dealing made out, the British slave  
laws would not as it seems to me, from the  
Papers before me, reach the present case; the  
alleged offence having been committed in a  
foreign Port (Berbera) notorious slave port as  
I collect from the Papers. & by a person not one of  
our subjects. The *Karodah* being a Cutchee &  
well knowing our Slave laws from his refusal  
to carry the 3 Slaves to Aden, or any British  
Port. The traffic must be either by our own  
subjects, or in our own Ports or within  
British jurisdiction to make the offence  
cognizable by our Slave laws. The Act against  
this traffic is 5 Geo: 4. c. 113. but was  
defective in regard to the seizure of Vessels  
for a Violation of its provisions - the Company's  
Cruisers & officers not being within its  
meaning - but only those of Her Majesty, but  
this defect has been remedied by 5 & 6 Vic:  
c. 101. - A similar defect in regard to the  
seizing of Vessels for breach of the  
Navigation Laws <sup>was</sup> remedied by 39 & 40 Vic c. 56  
as (110)



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [220v] (38/44)



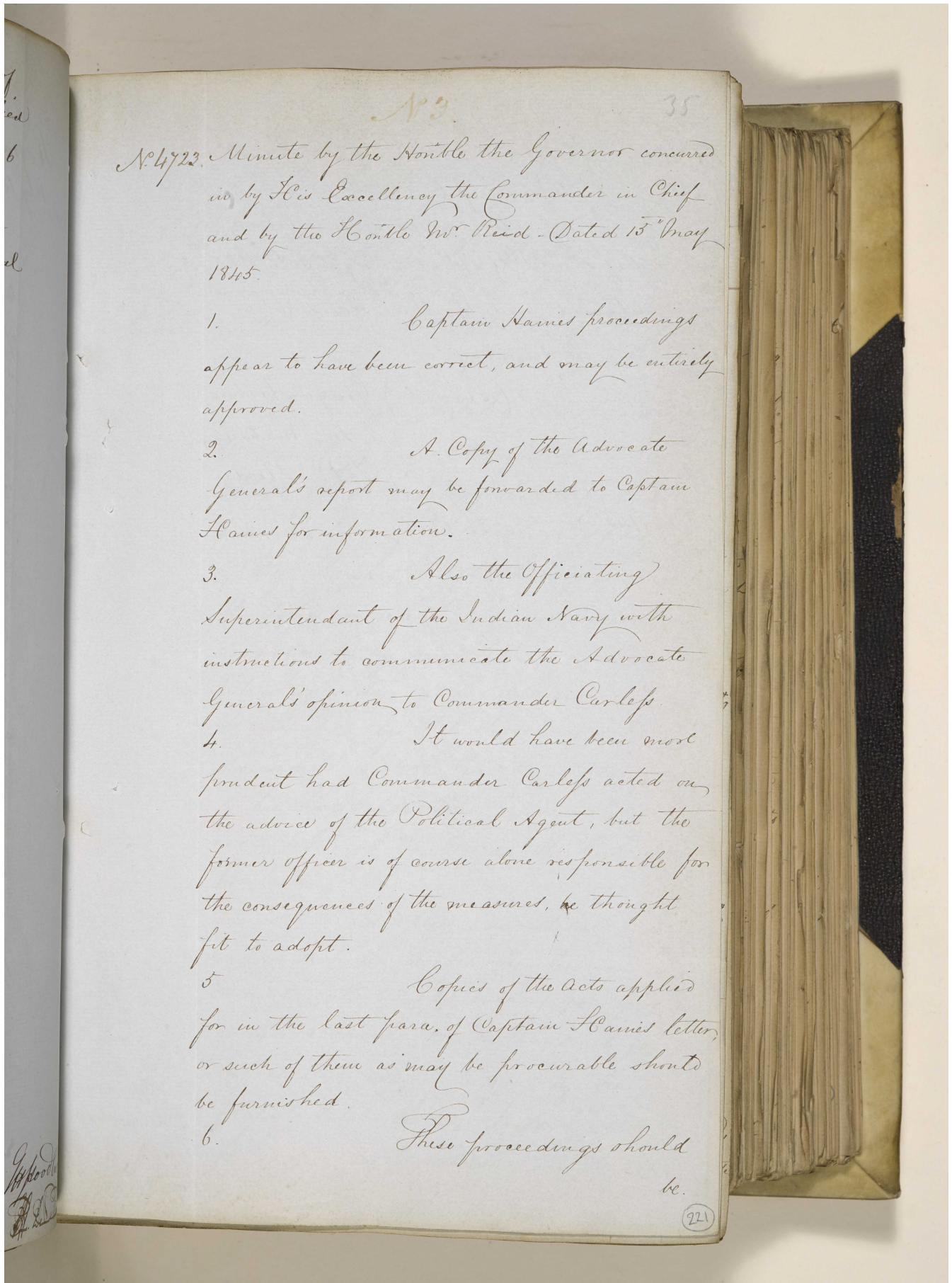
as respects the provisions for Registry of  
British Vessels & a remedy has been applied  
for the like defect in the Slave laws by 546  
Vic:

/ Signed / A Le Maffeur  
Advocate General

W. Hood  
A. Le Maffeur



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [221r] (39/44)





'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [221v] (40/44)

be reported to the Government of India and  
to the Hon'ble Court of Directors.

We can consider whether  
any orders should be issued in regard to the  
Kotia detained, and the three slaves, when  
they arrive in Bombay.

(signed) George Arthur

( " ) T. Ingham

( " ) L. V. Reid.

Dated  
15 May 1845

Copied by  
Shunji Hayashi  
E. M. A. S.



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [222r] (41/44)

N<sup>o</sup> 2416 of 1815. 37  
From The Chief Sec<sup>y</sup> to the Gov<sup>r</sup> of  
N<sup>o</sup> 4724. Bombay  
To Captain S. B. Haimes  
Poll<sup>r</sup> Agent at Aden  
Poll<sup>r</sup> Depart<sup>mt</sup> Dated the 19<sup>th</sup> May 1815.  
Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge  
the receipt of your letter dated the 29<sup>th</sup>  
Ultimo, N<sup>o</sup> 25, reporting the return to Aden  
from Barbera of the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates", after having executed  
the duties on which she was recently  
despatched by you to that quarter, and  
submitting certain documents connected with  
the detention by that Vessel of a Kotia  
named "Runchore Pursand", in consequence  
of her having had three female slaves on  
board while at anchor in the Port of  
Barbera.

2. In reply, I am desired to intimate  
to you, that the Hon'ble the Governor in  
Council entirely approves of your proceedings  
on this occasion, and to transmit for your  
information copy of a report by the advocate  
General dated the 12<sup>th</sup> Instant, containing  
his opinion on the above case, together  
with (in)

Copied  
Shewq  
to Mr. [unclear]



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [222v] (42/44)

with a copy of my letter of this date to  
the officiating Superintendent of the  
Indian Navy, on the subject.

3. With reference to the last  
para: of your letter, I am directed to  
inform you, that there are no spare  
copies of the documents therein applied for.  
Bombay Castle. I have the honor to be  
19<sup>th</sup> May 1845. Yours truly  
J. P. Willoughby  
Chief Secy.

No. 5. No. 2417 of 1845.

From, The Chief Secy to the Govt. of No. 4725.  
Bombay  
To, Commander H. B. Lynch  
offg. Superintendent of the Indian  
Navy  
Dated the 19<sup>th</sup> May 1845.

Sir,  
I am directed by the Hon'ble  
the Governor, in Council to transmit to  
you an extract paras. 1 & 8 of a letter  
from Captain Haines, Political Agent at  
Aden dated the 29<sup>th</sup> Ultimo, No. 26, relative  
to the detention by the Hon'ble Company's  
Brig of War "Euphrates" of a native vessel  
in consequence of her having had three  
female slaves on board while at anchor.



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [223r] (43/44)

39

in the Port of Barbera, together with a copy  
of a report on this case by the advocate Gen<sup>l</sup>  
dated the 12<sup>th</sup> Instant, and to request that  
you will be pleased to communicate Mr<sup>r</sup>  
L'Assesseur's opinion to Commander Carless,  
the senior Naval Officer at Aden.

2. With reference to the course  
pursued by Commander Carless in sending  
the detained Vessel and a part of the Cargo  
to Bombay as a legal Prize I am desired  
to observe that the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Governor in  
Council is of opinion it <sup>would</sup> have been more  
prudent had this officer acted in this  
case on the advice of the Port Agent at  
Aden. Commander Carless is however  
also responsible for the consequences of  
the measures he considered proper to adopt.

Bombay Castle. I have the honor to be Y<sup>r</sup>  
19<sup>th</sup> May 1845. B [signed] J. P. Willoughby  
Chief Secretary

N<sup>o</sup> 4726 From N<sup>o</sup> 381 of 1845  
to the Chief Sec<sup>y</sup> to the Gov<sup>t</sup> of  
Bombay  
J. Currie Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Sec<sup>y</sup> to the Gov<sup>t</sup> of India  
Date the 19<sup>th</sup> May 1845.  
I am directed by the Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
the



'Aden. Detention of a Kotia named Runchore Pursand by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates". Vol: 12.' [223v] (44/44)

The Governor in Council to transmit to you  
for the purpose of being submitted  
to the Right Hon'ble the Governor General  
of India in Council, copy of a despatch  
from Captain Haines Pol<sup>o</sup> Agent at Aden  
dated the 29<sup>th</sup> Ultimo 1845, relative to  
the detention by the Hon'ble Company's Brig  
of War "Euphrates" of a Native Vessel in  
consequence of her having had three female  
slaves on board while at anchor in the  
Port of Barbera, together with a copy  
of a report by the Advocate General  
at this Presidency dated the 12<sup>th</sup> Instant  
containing his opinion on this case.

2. Copies of the letters this day  
addressed to the Pol<sup>o</sup> Agent at Aden, and  
the officiating Superintendent of the Indian  
Navy on the above subject, are also enclosed  
for the information of His Excellency in  
Council.

Proabag Carter  
19<sup>th</sup> May 1846 B

I have the honor to be Y<sup>rs</sup>  
Signed / J. P. Willoughby  
Chief Secretary

True Extract -

J. P. Willoughby  
Chief Secretary

Copy  
of  
the  
despatch  
to  
the  
Gov<sup>o</sup> Genl  
of  
India  
in  
Council