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**Political No. 188 of 1873, Forwarding Copies of Papers Relating to an
Arrangement for the Maintenance of Eleven Liberated 'Slave' Children Now
Residing in the Good Shephard Convent at Aden**

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	IOR/L/PS/6/112, ff 344-350A
Date(s)	16 Oct 1873 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 item (10 folios)
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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 16 October, forwarding copies of papers regarding an arrangement for the maintenance of eleven formerly enslaved children now residing in the Good Shepherd Convent at Aden. The papers chiefly comprise correspondence of the Secretary to the Government of Bombay [Mumbai]; the Lady Superior of the Good Shepherd Convent; HM Envoy Extraordinary on Special Mission to Muscat and Zanzibar; and the Political Resident at Aden. The despatch is with reference to the correspondence ending with Secret No. 57 of 16 June 1873. There are two copies of the despatch. The covering letter of the first copy of the despatch is missing.

Political No. 188 of 1873, Forwarding Copies of Papers Relating to an Arrangement for the Maintenance of Eleven Liberated 'Slave' Children Now Residing in the Good Shephard Convent at Aden [344r] (1/20)

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Enclosure No. 1.

No. 4960, dated 8th August 1873.

From—Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

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

I AM directed to forward to you, for submission to the Government of

* Letter from the Lady Superior of the "Good Shepherd" Convent, Aden, dated 26th March 1873.
Letter from the Lady Superior of the "Good Shepherd" Convent, Aden, dated 16th April 1873.
Letter from the Resident at Aden, No. 152-602, dated 28th May 1873, with accompaniment.
Letter from the Resident at Aden, No. 187-747, dated 5th July 1873, with accompaniment.
Report by the Acting Director of Public Instruction, No. 238, dated 19th April 1873.

India, the accompanying copy of correspondence* regarding the "Good Shepherd" Convent at Aden.

2. His Excellency in Council has been pleased, subject to confirmation by the Government of India, to sanction with retrospective effect a maintenance allowance of Rupees 4-4 per mensem for each of the eleven liberated slave children now in the above convent, as recommended in the Resident's General Department letter No. 152-602 of 28th May last.

3. I am to state that His Excellency in Council concurs in the Resident's opinion as to the inexpediency of establishing at Aden an institution of the kind proposed by the Lady Superior.

4. The above-mentioned children are referred to in Appendix A of Sir Bartle Frere's report on the East African slave-trade.

Dated 26th March 1873.

From—Lady Superior, "Good Shepherd" Convent, Aden,
To—Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

In forwarding the accompanying copy of correspondence, I beg leave to request that you will be pleased to submit and recommend for the favorable consideration of His Excellency the Governor in Council, that a grant may be made for the erection of a convent and school at Aden, as the house at present occupied does not afford the requisite accommodation for the number of inmates, there being at present 18 girls, children of deceased soldiers and other Government employés, besides 11 Negresses who were rescued from slavery by Her Majesty's ships-of-war in 1868-69; and if the accommodation would admit of it, the benefits and advantages of the establishment could be considerably extended.

Under these circumstances, I earnestly hope that His Excellency the Governor will be pleased to deem the subject worthy of consideration and deserving of support, and sanction the grant solicited, for which act the community will, as in duty bound, ever pray.

Dated H. M.'s Ship *Enchantress*, 11th January 1873 (Demi-official).

From—Private Secretary to Sir Bartle Frere,

To—Lady Superior, "Good Shepherd" Convent, Aden.

In connection with the visit paid by Sir Bartle Frere at Aden to the convent under your guidance, I am now directed by His Excellency to write and ask you for information of the following points:—

- 1.—The number of African and Abyssinian children under your charge.
- 2.—The usual time that they stay with you, and their usual destination when they leave. On leaving you what is generally their future settlement in life. Do they get early married?
- 3.—What is their usual age when received by you?
- 4.—What are the particulars of their individual history obtained from themselves as to their recollection of their life before capture; their native country, their parents, the circumstances attending their capture, their journey to the coast, and their release?

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- 5.—The way in which they came into your hands.
- 6.—Their general disposition as to intelligence, obedience, and capability of earning their own livelihood.
- 7.—The maximum number of children for which you could find accommodation.
- 8.—The average cost *annually* of each child under your charge.
- 9.—Any other remarks you might have to make that would be useful in promoting a knowledge of these slaves, and of the best means of training and employing them.

Should you see no objection I should be obliged if you would communicate these questions to the Reverend Father in charge of your joint establishment at Aden, and tell him how obliged I shall be for any similar information he can afford to Sir Bartle Frere.

Dated January 1873.

From—Lady Superior, "Good Shepherd" Convent, Aden,

To—Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary on Special Mission to Muscat and Zanzibar.

On the 29th instant we received Your Excellency's letter of enquiries, dated 11th January 1873, and written by Major C. B. Evan Smith. Most willingly do we comply with all your requests.

- 1st.—The number of African girls under our charge at present is eleven.
- 2nd.—These children remain with us until we can have them married or placed in service; those who wish to remain always, should they be useful and submissive, are never forced to leave.
- 3rd.—Their ages when we receive them vary from six to eleven years.
- 4th.—As regards their individual history, each has her own. Before capture they relate to have lived with their parents and families, and followed a mode of life not very laborious, employing themselves in providing the necessaries of life, reared fowls, grew rice, maize, vegetables, and in some places fruits grew spontaneously. They also state to have had a Chief to govern them. From the description they give of the persons who stole them, they must belong to the hordes of men we call Bosjemans or bushmen, the children call them Massiah. These men are clad merely in sheep skins, and are employed by a Chief. From their description he ought to be a Kaffir. At the time of capture some were at a distance from their homes when they were seized upon and carried off. They submitted themselves without resistance, as anything like self-defence was punished by immediate death.

They have not all come from the same country; two state to have come from a place called Gumassa, and travelled on foot during six months before they reached the coast of Zanzibar; others were only three months, and travelled through Abyssinia, where the bushmen secured others. On their arrival at Zanzibar they were all embarked pell-mell, but for where they did not know.

After a few days' sail an uproar broke out amongst the boat's crew, on seeing a man-of-war in view; they cried in despair, "the English will take us now;" some of the poor captives expressed their desire to be free, and with the white men, but their want of prudence was punished by stripes.

It appears to have been a delightful moment for nearly all the poor slaves when they boarded the English steamer and ours, speak with gratitude of the treatment which they received during the voyage to Aden. They occasionally amused the captain and officers by singing and dancing after the fashion of their different countries.

- 5th.—In the years 1868 and 1869 Government brought slaves to Aden, it was at this time they came into our hands.

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6th.—Their general dispositions previous to instruction are indolence, sullen and morose tempers, without however being vindictive; these passions we attribute to their total ignorance, for after instructions and application to labour, the reverse makes its appearance. We enclose you a time-table showing how time is regulated for them. By being thus brought up here they can at a future period gain their own livelihood, for which they show a desire. They are for the most part intelligent, but require time and trouble to form them.

7th.—We could not give accommodation to more than fifty of these poor children, as their locale is part of our own convent. Should Your Excellency wish to place a larger number, we should solicit to have a school built for them.

8th.—The average cost of each child per annum is £7. For Government children we would accept them for £5 annually, counting on their labour to supply the rest.

The most successful ways of reclaiming the Negresses are mildness and firmness. For very bad conduct, separation from their companions never fails to bring them to a sense of their duty.

As for means of employing them, they can be brought up to the ordinary duties of females. For example, some of ours can cook, wash, do fancy work, while all do good plain sewing. We have one who understands how to use a sewing machine.

According to your wish we have communicated with the Reverend Father, whose answer is enclosed.

Hoping Your Excellency finds the climate of Zanzibar agreeable, and that you have scope enough to carry out your praiseworthy undertakings.

No. 233, dated Camp Sirey, 19th April 1873.

Report by Acting Director of Public Instruction.

THE undersigned has the honor to report that if the application is made under the grant-in-aid rules, the Lady Superior should first state the amount raised by subscriptions. A sum equal to the amount so raised can be allotted from the grant-in-aid of buildings for 1873-74.

2. A copy of the grant-in-aid rules is appended. The rules give full information as to the aid ordinarily given by Government.

3. At the same time the undersigned begs to point out that the terms of the application seem to imply that the Lady Superior expects a grant from Government without any equivalent private contribution.

Any such aid granted by Government would be extra, and in addition to the provision made for buildings in 1873-74.

4. In any case a plan and estimate approved by a Government Engineer would be necessary.

(Sd.) K. M. CHATFIELD,

Acting Director of Public Instruction.

Dated 16th April 1873.

From—Lady Superior, "Good Shepherd" Convent, Aden,

To—Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I BEG to request that you will do me the favor of submitting and recommending for the very favorable consideration of His Excellency the Governor in Council, that a monthly allowance may be granted to the convent under my charge for the maintenance of each of the eleven little Negresses rescued from slavery by Her Majesty's ships-of-war in 1868-69, and brought to Aden, and have been inmates of the convent since that date.

It is found that the expense on account of these poor children is a heavy item on the very limited means of the convent, and we do hope that His Excel-

Political No. 188 of 1873, Forwarding Copies of Papers Relating to an Arrangement for the Maintenance of Eleven Liberated 'Slave' Children Now Residing in the Good Shephard Convent at Aden [345v] (4/20)

lency will deem them worthy of consideration and grant them a maintenance allowance, for which act of charity the community will, as in duty bound, ever pray.

No. 152-602, dated 28th May 1873.

From—Political Resident at Aden,

To—Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your endorsement*
* Herewith returned. No. 1525 of the 2nd May 1863, forwarding, for my report, a letter from the Lady Superior of the "Good Shepherd" Convent at Aden, requesting that a monthly allowance may be granted to the convent for the maintenance of eleven little Negresses who were rescued from slavery in 1868-69, and who have been brought up by herself and the nuns since that time.

2. In connection with this subject, I would beg to annex copy of a communication, dated 2nd April 1873, recently received from His Excellency Sir Bartle Frere, in which I have been requested to make over to the Lady Superior any slave girls that may hereafter be manumitted at Aden, and it is obvious that proper provision must be made for the maintenance of such children.

3. In the Appendix A to Sir Bartle Frere's memorandum of the 17th April 1873, copy of which is doubtless in the possession of Government, His Excellency notices that the Lady Superior would gladly receive all children at £ 5 a head, which is an extremely moderate charge in Aden, and I would recommend to Government that the Lady Superior be allowed say Rupees 4-4 per mensem for each child, which can be supplemented by local subscriptions.

4. The Lady Superior states that the average cost of maintaining the children under her charge has been Rupees 7 per mensem since 1868-69.

5. It would be a great encouragement to the Lady Superior and the nuns of the Convent if Government would be pleased to allow the monthly grant recommended to have retrospective effect.

Dated H. M.'s Ship *Enchantress*, 2nd April 1873.

From—Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary on Special Mission to Muscat and Zanzibar,
To—GENERAL SCHNEIDER, C. B., &c. &c., Aden.

THE maintenance of slaves captured by Her Majesty's cruisers and liberated at Aden has for some time been a question of some difficulty owing to but few of them being required at Aden itself as servants or laborers, and to the want of means of housing them until employment is found for them, or till they can be shipped to Bombay.

For many of the young girls you will no doubt be able as hitherto to provide an asylum with the Roman Catholic Sisters of Mercy; for others and for some of the boys and adults you will be able to find a home under respectable and responsible masters as domestic servants or otherwise. But the majority, I am of opinion, will be best disposed of at Zanzibar, at Johanna, and at the various missions established on the mainland of Eastern Africa. I have informed Her Majesty's Consul at Zanzibar of my views on this subject, and suggested to him the means of disposal which seemed to me most likely to ensure the welfare of liberated slaves. I have accordingly now to request that, pending orders from the Home Government, you will forward to Zanzibar by the first suitable means of transport, all Negroes who may be handed over to your charge by the commanders of Her Majesty's cruisers, and for whom you are unable to ensure speedy and suitable employment at Aden, always bearing in mind that this should be done as economically as possible.

Political No. 188 of 1873, Forwarding Copies of Papers Relating to an Arrangement for the Maintenance of Eleven Liberated 'Slave' Children Now Residing in the Good Shephard Convent at Aden [346r] (5/20)

No. 187-747, dated 5th July 1873.

From—Political Resident at Aden,

To—Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 471* in the Educational, and No. 3816 in the Political Department, respectively, dated the 5th May and the 20th June 1873, and to state that I have been in communication with the Lady Superior of the "Good Shepherd" for some time past regarding her application for a building grant-in-aid from Government for the erection of a convent and school at Aden.

* Accompaniments returned.

2. The Lady Superior does not appear to be prepared to raise any sum by subscription, and expresses a "hope that Government will undertake the entire cost of the building, as it is intended solely for the reception and education of the daughters and orphan girls of soldiers and others in Government employ in India and for emancipated slaves."

3. I forward a plan submitted by the Lady Superior showing the accommodation she requires for a new convent and school. If such a building were erected on an elevated site at Steamer Point, the cost, Lieutenant-Colonel Goodfellow estimates, would be about a lakh of rupees, and if constructed between the Hujjuff and the Main Pass, it would probably come to Rupees 75,000.

4. I beg to point out to Government that no slaves have been brought to Aden by Her Majesty's cruisers for adjudication before the Vice-Court of Admiralty since the year 1868, and as treaties have been concluded with the Sultans of Muscat and Zanzibar and others for the total abolition of the slave-trade, it may be expected that few slaves hereafter will be released at Aden, and I am not prepared to recommend to Government the ambitious proposition put forward by the Lady Superior. No provision appears to be necessary at Aden for the reception and education of the daughters and orphan girls of soldiers and others in Government employ.

5. Before any action is taken towards providing further accommodation for liberated slave girls at Aden, I think Government should await the result likely to follow from the treaties above alluded to. In the meantime I beg to renew the application contained in my letter No. 152-602 of the 28th May last, for the maintenance of the Negresses now supported in the convent.

6. The Lady Superior has mentioned in her letter to Sir Bartle Frere that she could now accommodate about fifty slave girls, and I believe there are only 13 under her charge at present, including the two imported into Aden in the buggalow *Fateh Raheeman*.

Enclosure No. 2

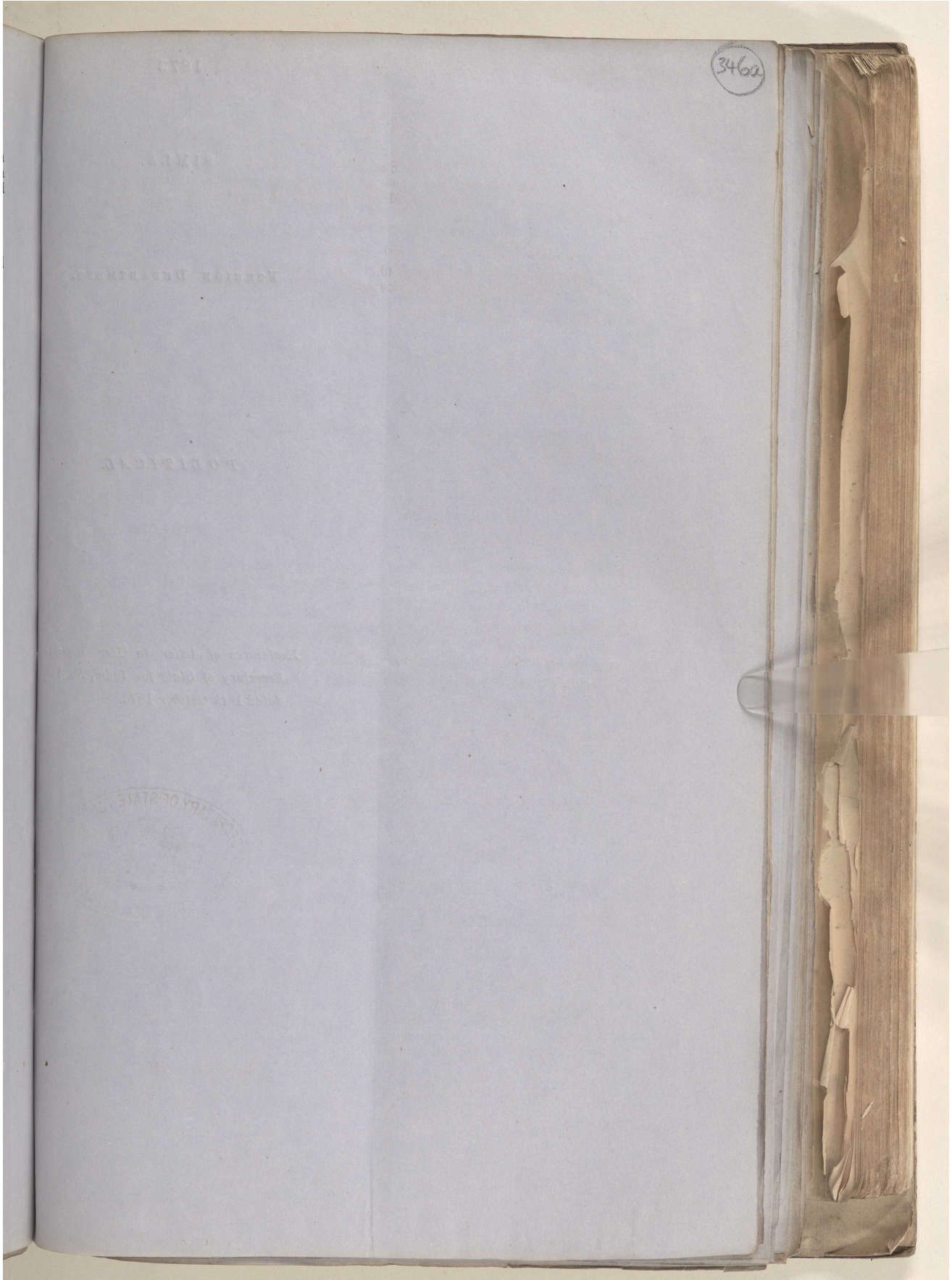
No. 2390P., dated Simla, 8th October 1873.

From—Under-Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department,

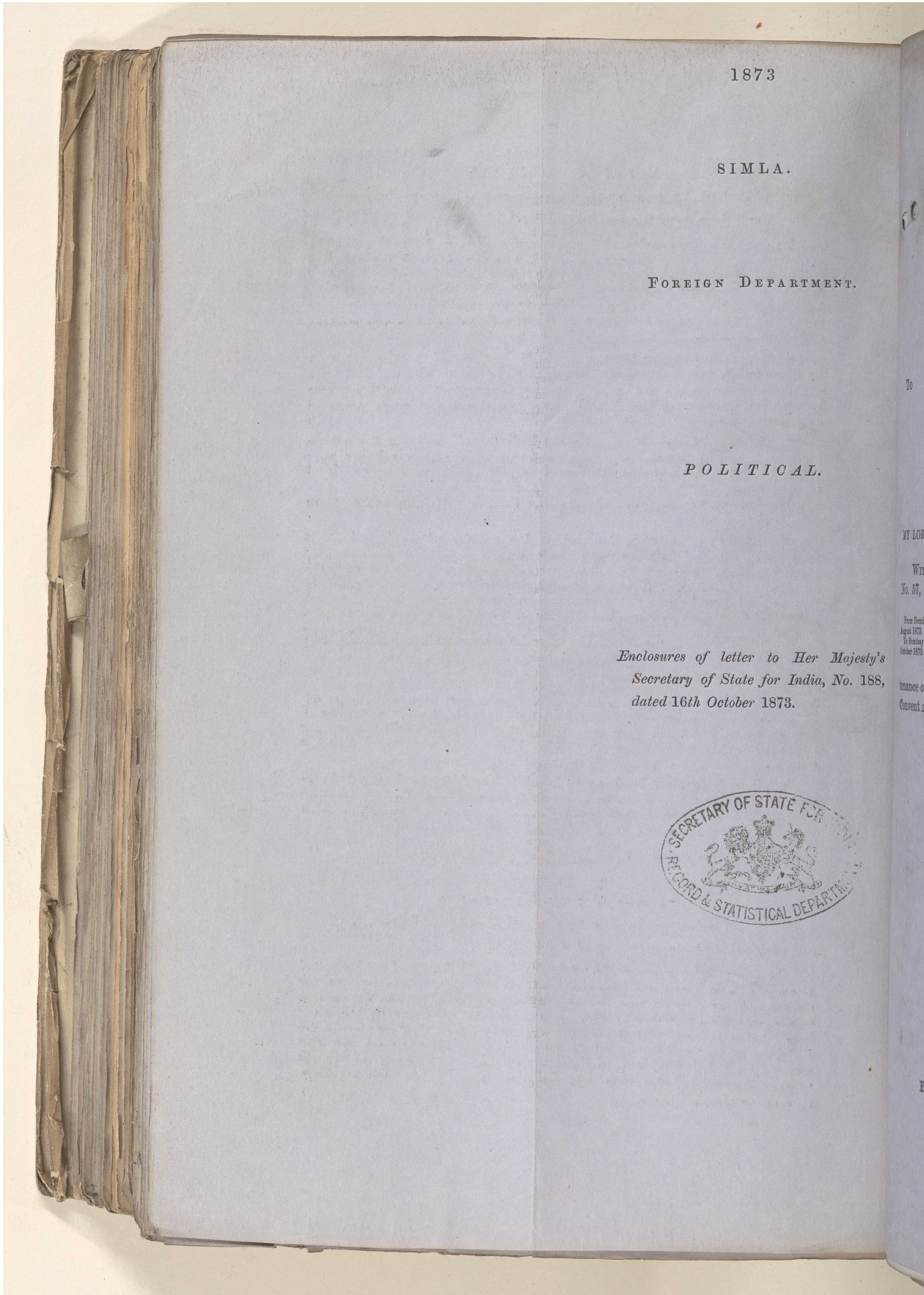
To—Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

IN reply to your letter No. 4960, dated the 8th August, I am instructed to state that, pending the final decision of Her Majesty's Government on the question of the disposal of liberated slaves, His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council is pleased to confirm the sanction accorded by the Bombay Government to an expenditure, with retrospective effect, of Rupees 4-4 per mensem on account of each of the eleven liberated slave children now residing in the "Good Shepherd" Convent at Aden. This expenditure will eventually be recovered from the Imperial treasury.

Political No. 188 of 1873, Forwarding Copies of Papers Relating to an
Arrangement for the Maintenance of Eleven Liberated 'Slave' Children Now
Residing in the Good Shephard Convent at Aden [346ar] (7/20)



Political No. 188 of 1873, Forwarding Copies of Papers Relating to an
Arrangement for the Maintenance of Eleven Liberated 'Slave' Children Now
Residing in the Good Shephard Convent at Aden [346av] (8/20)



Political No. 188 of 1873, Forwarding Copies of Papers Relating to an Arrangement for the Maintenance of Eleven Liberated 'Slave' Children Now Residing in the Good Shephard Convent at Aden [347r] (9/20)

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No. 188 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.

SIMLA, the 16th October 1873.

MY LORD DUKE,

WITH reference to the correspondence ending with our Secret Despatch No. 57, dated the 16th of June 1873, we have the honor to forward, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, a copy of the papers marginally noted, having reference to an arrangement which we have sanctioned for the maintenance of eleven liberated slave children now residing in the "Good Shepherd" Convent at Aden.

From Bombay Government, No. 4960, dated 8th August 1873.

To Bombay Government, No. 2390P., dated 8th October 1873.

We have the honor to be,

MY LORD DUKE,

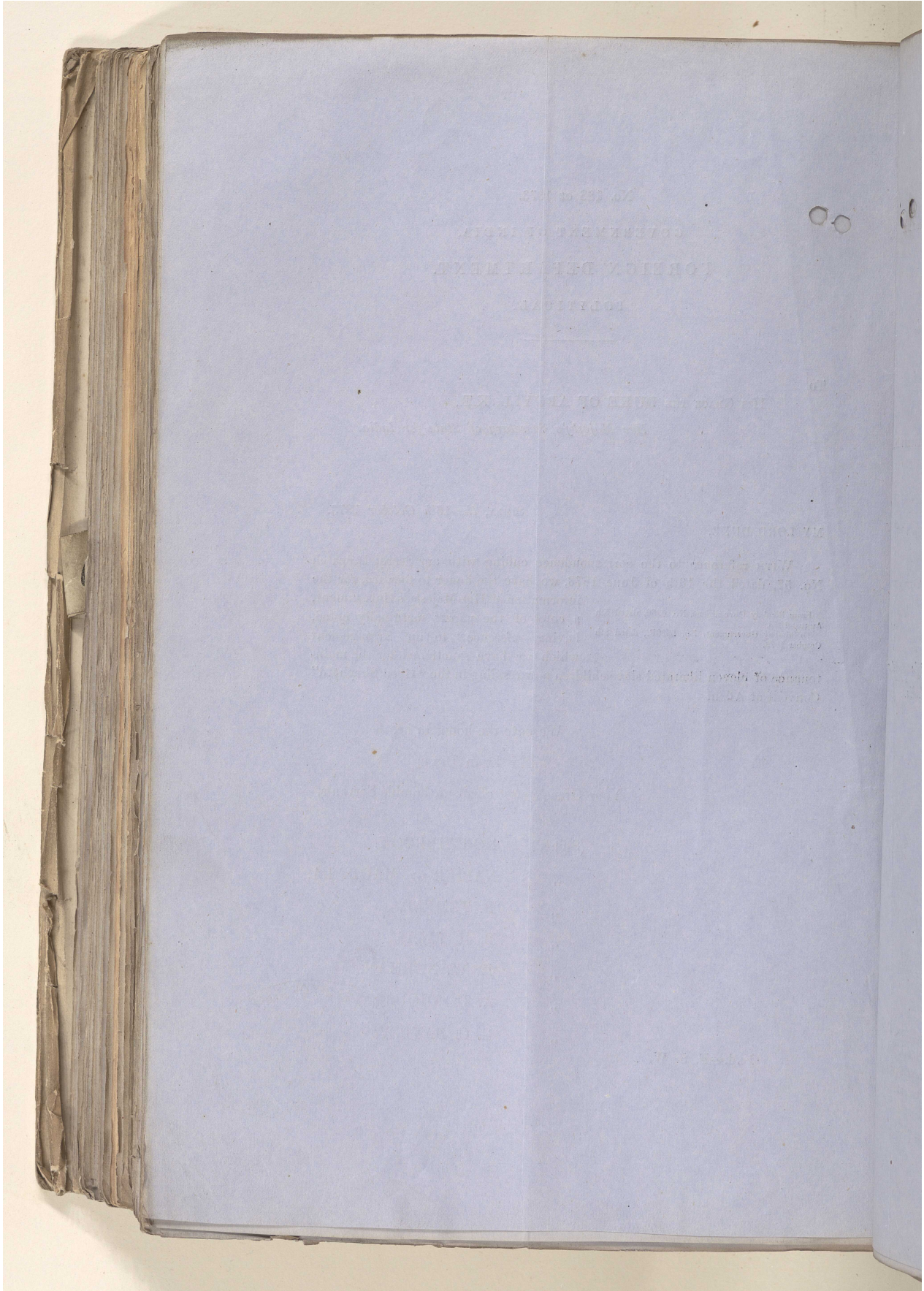
Your Grace's most obedient, humble Servants,

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

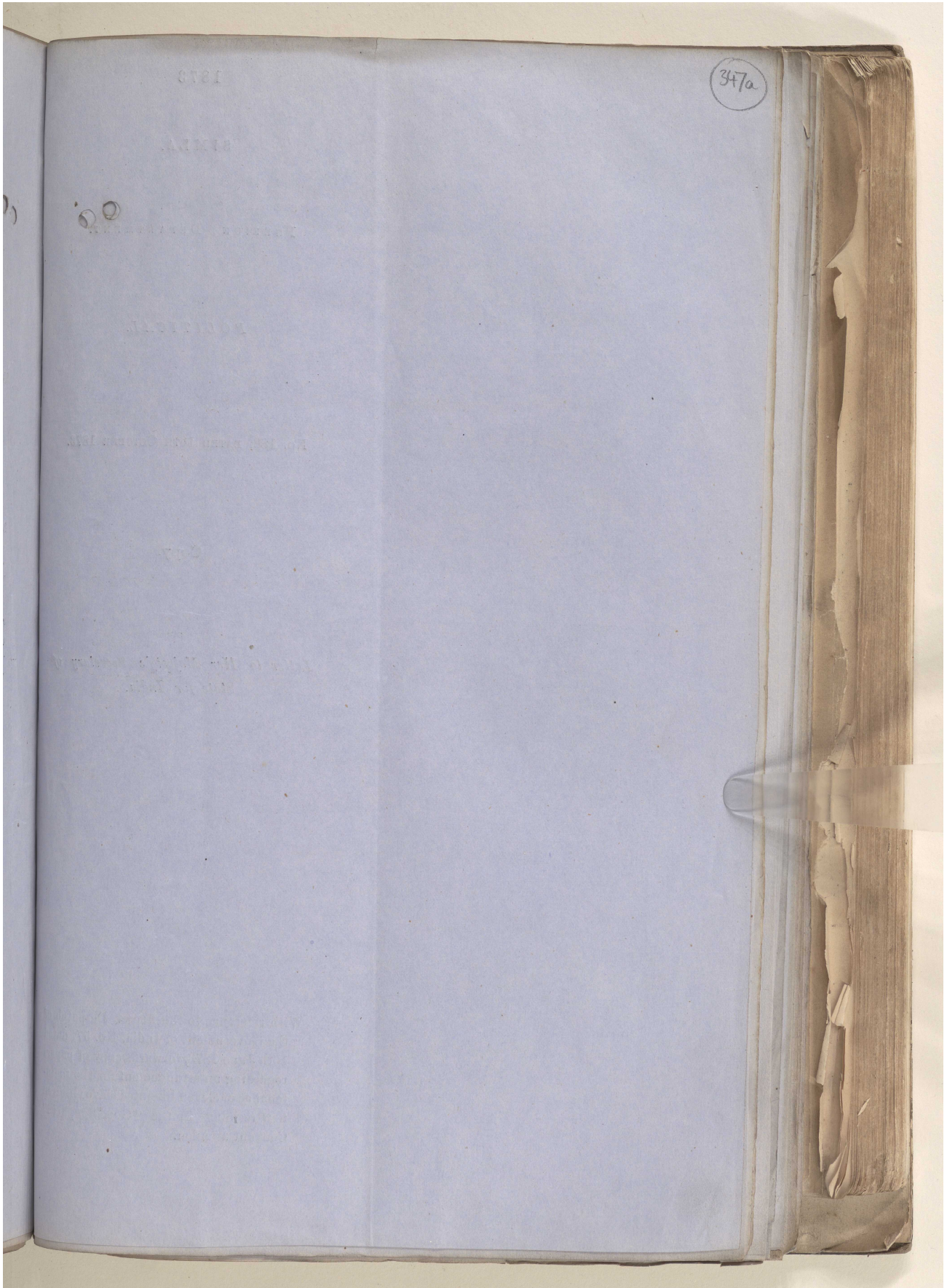
Exd.—F. S. W.



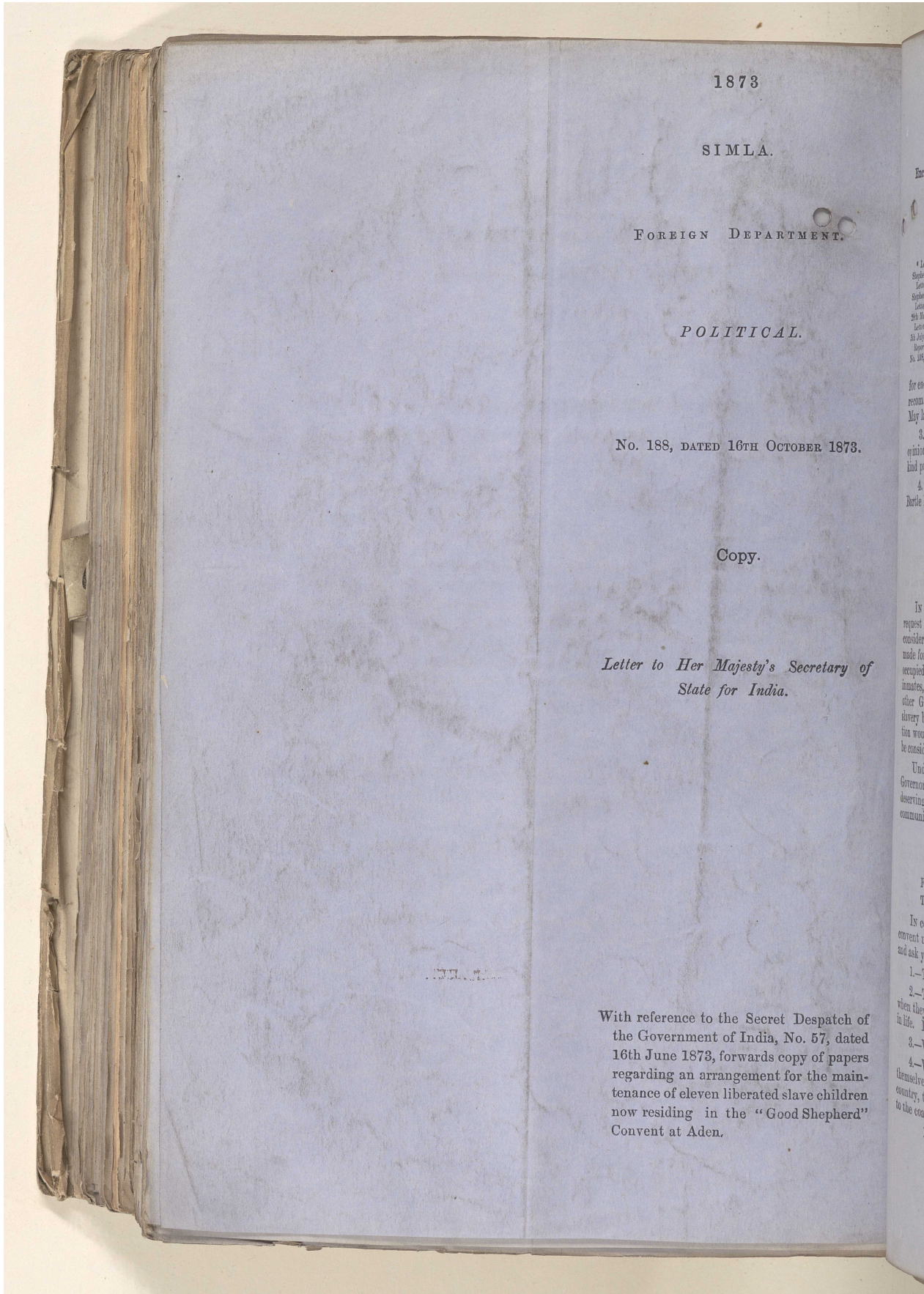
Political No. 188 of 1873, Forwarding Copies of Papers Relating to an
Arrangement for the Maintenance of Eleven Liberated 'Slave' Children Now
Residing in the Good Shephard Convent at Aden [347v] (10/20)



**Political No. 188 of 1873, Forwarding Copies of Papers Relating to an
Arrangement for the Maintenance of Eleven Liberated 'Slave' Children Now
Residing in the Good Shephard Convent at Aden [347ar] (11/20)**



Political No. 188 of 1873, Forwarding Copies of Papers Relating to an Arrangement for the Maintenance of Eleven Liberated 'Slave' Children Now Residing in the Good Shephard Convent at Aden [347av] (12/20)



Political No. 188 of 1873, Forwarding Copies of Papers Relating to an Arrangement for the Maintenance of Eleven Liberated 'Slave' Children Now Residing in the Good Shephard Convent at Aden [348r] (13/20)

348

Enclosure No. 1.

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From—Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

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

I AM directed to forward to you, for submission to the Government of

* Letter from the Lady Superior of the "Good Shepherd" Convent, Aden, dated 26th March 1873.

Letter from the Lady Superior of the "Good Shepherd" Convent, Aden, dated 16th April 1873.

Letter from the Resident at Aden, No. 152-602, dated 28th May 1873, with accompaniment.

Letter from the Resident at Aden, No. 187-747, dated 5th July 1873, with accompaniment.

Report by the Acting Director of Public Instruction, No. 293, dated 19th April 1873.

India, the accompanying copy of correspondence* regarding the "Good Shepherd" Convent at Aden.

2. His Excellency in Council has been pleased, subject to confirmation by the Government of India, to sanction with retrospective effect a maintenance allowance of Rupees 4-4 per mensem

for each of the eleven liberated slave children now in the above convent, as recommended in the Resident's General Department letter No. 152-602 of 28th May last.

3. I am to state that His Excellency in Council concurs in the Resident's opinion as to the inexpediency of establishing at Aden an institution of the kind proposed by the Lady Superior.

4. The above-mentioned children are referred to in Appendix A of Sir Bartle Frere's report on the East African slave-trade.

Dated 26th March 1873.

From—Lady Superior, "Good Shepherd" Convent, Aden,

To—Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

IN forwarding the accompanying copy of correspondence, I beg leave to request that you will be pleased to submit and recommend for the favorable consideration of His Excellency the Governor in Council, that a grant may be made for the erection of a convent and school at Aden, as the house at present occupied does not afford the requisite accommodation for the number of inmates, there being at present 18 girls, children of deceased soldiers and other Government employés, besides 11 Negresses who were rescued from slavery by Her Majesty's ships-of-war in 1868-69; and if the accommodation would admit of it, the benefits and advantages of the establishment could be considerably extended.

Under these circumstances, I earnestly hope that His Excellency the Governor will be pleased to deem the subject worthy of consideration and deserving of support, and sanction the grant solicited, for which act the community will, as in duty bound, ever pray.

Dated H. M.'s Ship *Enchantress*, 11th January 1873 (Demi-official).

From—Private Secretary to Sir Bartle Frere,

To—Lady Superior, "Good Shepherd" Convent, Aden.

IN connection with the visit paid by Sir Bartle Frere at Aden to the convent under your guidance, I am now directed by His Excellency to write and ask you for information of the following points:—

- 1.—The number of African and Abyssinian children under your charge.
- 2.—The usual time that they stay with you, and their usual destination when they leave. On leaving you what is generally their future settlement in life. Do they get early married?
- 3.—What is their usual age when received by you?
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Political No. 188 of 1873, Forwarding Copies of Papers Relating to an Arrangement for the Maintenance of Eleven Liberated 'Slave' Children Now Residing in the Good Shephard Convent at Aden [348v] (14/20)

- 5.—The way in which they came into your hands.
- 6.—Their general disposition as to intelligence, obedience, and capability of earning their own livelihood.
- 7.—The maximum number of children for which you could find accommodation.
- 8.—The average cost *annually* of each child under your charge.
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Should you see no objection I should be obliged if you would communicate these questions to the Reverend Father in charge of your joint establishment at Aden, and tell him how obliged I shall be for any similar information he can afford to Sir Bartle Frere.

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To—Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary on Special Mission to Muscat and Zanzibar.

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1st.—The number of African girls under our charge at present is eleven.

2nd.—These children remain with us until we can have them married or placed in service; those who wish to remain always, should they be useful and submissive, are never forced to leave.

3rd.—Their ages when we receive them vary from six to eleven years.

4th.—As regards their individual history, each has her own. Before capture they relate to have lived with their parents and families, and followed a mode of life not very laborious, employing themselves in providing the necessaries of life, reared fowls, grew rice, maize, vegetables, and in some places fruits grew spontaneously. They also state to have had a Chief to govern them. From the description they give of the persons who stole them, they must belong to the hordes of men we call Bosjemans or bushmen, the children call them Massiah. These men are clad merely in sheep skins, and are employed by a Chief. From their description he ought to be a Kaffir. At the time of capture some were at a distance from their homes when they were seized upon and carried off. They submitted themselves without resistance, as anything like self-defence was punished by immediate death.

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Political No. 188 of 1873, Forwarding Copies of Papers Relating to an Arrangement for the Maintenance of Eleven Liberated 'Slave' Children Now Residing in the Good Shepherd Convent at Aden [349r] (15/20)

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6th.—Their general dispositions previous to instruction are indolence, sullen and morose tempers, without however being vindictive; these passions we attribute to their total ignorance, for after instructions and application to labour, the reverse makes its appearance. We enclose you a time-table showing how time is regulated for them. By being thus brought up here they can at a future period gain their own livelihood, for which they show a desire. They are for the most part intelligent, but require time and trouble to form them.

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Any such aid granted by Government would be extra, and in addition to the provision made for buildings in 1873-74.

4. In any case a plan and estimate approved by a Government Engineer would be necessary.

(Sd.) K. M. CHATFIELD,

Acting Director of Public Instruction.

Dated 16th April 1873.

From—Lady Superior, "Good Shepherd" Convent, Aden,

To—Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I BEG to request that you will do me the favor of submitting and recommending for the very favorable consideration of His Excellency the Governor in Council, that a monthly allowance may be granted to the convent under my charge for the maintenance of each of the eleven little Negresses rescued from slavery by Her Majesty's ships-of-war in 1868-69, and brought to Aden, and have been inmates of the convent since that date.

It is found that the expense on account of these poor children is a heavy item on the very limited means of the convent, and we do hope that His Excel-

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lency will deem them worthy of consideration and grant them a maintenance allowance, for which act of charity the community will, as in duty bound, ever pray.

No. 152-602, dated 28th May 1873.

From—Political Resident at Aden,
To—Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your endorsement* No. 1525 of the 2nd May 1863, forwarding, for my report, a letter from the Lady Superior of the "Good Shepherd" Convent at Aden, requesting that a monthly allowance may be granted to the convent for the maintenance of eleven little Negresses who were rescued from slavery in 1868-69, and who have been brought up by herself and the nuns since that time.

2. In connection with this subject, I would beg to annex copy of a communication, dated 2nd April 1873, recently received from His Excellency Sir Bartle Frere, in which I have been requested to make over to the Lady Superior any slave girls that may hereafter be manumitted at Aden, and it is obvious that proper provision must be made for the maintenance of such children.

3. In the Appendix A to Sir Bartle Frere's memorandum of the 17th April 1873, copy of which is doubtless in the possession of Government, His Excellency notices that the Lady Superior would gladly receive all children at £ 5 a head, which is an extremely moderate charge in Aden, and I would recommend to Government that the Lady Superior be allowed say Rupees 4-4 per mensem for each child, which can be supplemented by local subscriptions.

4. The Lady Superior states that the average cost of maintaining the children under her charge has been Rupees 7 per mensem since 1868-69.

5. It would be a great encouragement to the Lady Superior and the nuns of the Convent if Government would be pleased to allow the monthly grant recommended to have retrospective effect.

Dated H. M.'s Ship *Enchantress*, 2nd April 1873.

From—Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary on Special Mission to Muscat and Zanzibar,
To—GENERAL SCHNEIDER, C. B., &c. &c., Aden.

THE maintenance of slaves captured by Her Majesty's cruizers and liberated at Aden has for some time been a question of some difficulty owing to but few of them being required at Aden itself as servants or laborers, and to the want of means of housing them until employment is found for them, or till they can be shipped to Bombay.

For many of the young girls you will no doubt be able as hitherto to provide an asylum with the Roman Catholic Sisters of Mercy; for others and for some of the boys and adults you will be able to find a home under respectable and responsible masters as domestic servants or otherwise. But the majority, I am of opinion, will be best disposed of at Zanzibar, at Johanna, and at the various missions established on the mainland of Eastern Africa. I have informed Her Majesty's Consul at Zanzibar of my views on this subject, and suggested to him the means of disposal which seemed to me most likely to ensure the welfare of liberated slaves. I have accordingly now to request that, pending orders from the Home Government, you will forward to Zanzibar by the first suitable means of transport, all Negroes who may be handed over to your charge by the commanders of Her Majesty's cruizers, and for whom you are unable to ensure speedy and suitable employment at Aden, always bearing in mind that this should be done as economically as possible.

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No. 187-747, dated 5th July 1873.

From—Political Resident at Aden,

To—Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 471* in the Educational, and No. 3816 in the Political Department, respectively, dated the 5th May and the 20th June 1873, and to state that I have been in communication with the Lady Superior of the "Good Shepherd" for some time past regarding her application for a building grant-in-aid from Government for the erection of a convent and school at Aden.

2. The Lady Superior does not appear to be prepared to raise any sum by subscription, and expresses a "hope that Government will undertake the entire cost of the building, as it is intended solely for the reception and education of the daughters and orphan girls of soldiers and others in Government employ in India and for emancipated slaves."

3. I forward a plan submitted by the Lady Superior showing the accommodation she requires for a new convent and school. If such a building were erected on an elevated site at Steamer Point, the cost, Lieutenant-Colonel Goodfellow estimates, would be about a lakh of rupees, and if constructed between the Hujjuff and the Main Pass, it would probably come to Rupees 75,000.

4. I beg to point out to Government that no slaves have been brought to Aden by Her Majesty's cruizers for adjudication before the Vice-Court of Admiralty since the year 1868, and as treaties have been concluded with the Sultans of Muscat and Zanzibar and others for the total abolition of the slave-trade, it may be expected that few slaves hereafter will be released at Aden, and I am not prepared to recommend to Government the ambitious proposition put forward by the Lady Superior. No provision appears to be necessary at Aden for the reception and education of the daughters and orphan girls of soldiers and others in Government employ.

5. Before any action is taken towards providing further accommodation for liberated slave girls at Aden, I think Government should await the result likely to follow from the treaties above alluded to. In the meantime I beg to renew the application contained in my letter No. 152-602 of the 28th May last, for the maintenance of the Negresses now supported in the convent.

6. The Lady Superior has mentioned in her letter to Sir Bartle Frere that she could now accommodate about fifty slave girls, and I believe there are only 13 under her charge at present, including the two imported into Aden in the buggalow *Fateh Raheeman*.

Enclosure No. 2

No. 2390P, dated Simla, 8th October 1873.

From—Under-Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department,

To—Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

In reply to your letter No. 4960, dated the 8th August, I am instructed to state that, pending the final decision of Her Majesty's Government on the question of the disposal of liberated slaves, His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council is pleased to confirm the sanction accorded by the Bombay Government to an expenditure, with retrospective effect, of Rupees 4-4 per mensem on account of each of the eleven liberated slave children now residing in the "Good Shepherd" Convent at Aden. This expenditure will eventually be recovered from the Imperial treasury.

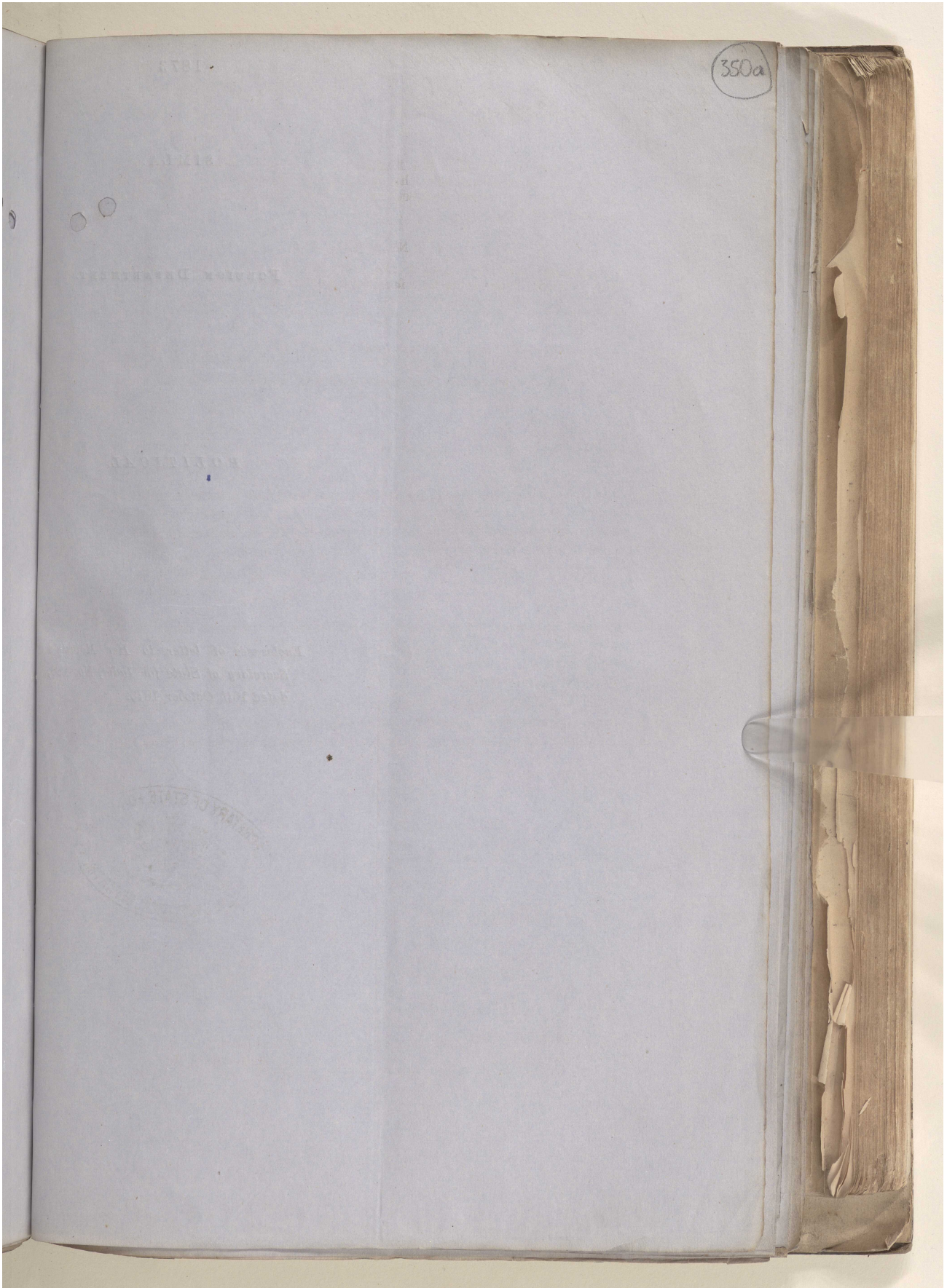
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2. I am to add that His Excellency in Council quite concurs with the Bombay Government as to the inexpediency of establishing at Aden an institution of the nature proposed by the Lady Superiress of the "Good Shepherd" Convent.

No. 2391P.

Copy, together with a copy of the letter to which it is in reply, forwarded to the Financial Department for information and further orders.

**Political No. 188 of 1873, Forwarding Copies of Papers Relating to an
Arrangement for the Maintenance of Eleven Liberated 'Slave' Children Now
Residing in the Good Shephard Convent at Aden [350ar] (19/20)**



Political No. 188 of 1873, Forwarding Copies of Papers Relating to an
Arrangement for the Maintenance of Eleven Liberated 'Slave' Children Now
Residing in the Good Shephard Convent at Aden [350av] (20/20)

