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Letter from Samuel Manesty to Marquess Wellesley

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About this record

A copy of a letter from Samuel Manesty, Resident in Bussora [Basra], to Marquess Wellesley, Governor-General of Bengal, sent from Maghil [Al Ma'qil] and dated 31 May 1803.

The letter concerns a dispute between Manesty and the Bacha [‘Alī Pāshā al-Kahyah, Governor of Baghdad] arising from the detention in Bussora of an Egyptian woman living with a British sailor (see IOR/L/PS/9/76/299). In particular Manesty criticises the conduct of Harford Jones, Resident in Bagdad [Baghdad], during the dispute.

Included in the letter are:

- Correspondence between Manesty and Harford Jones dated 15-24 May 1803
- A translation of a letter from the Bacha to Jones concerning the incident in Bussora, received on 13 May 1803. A Farsi version is catalogued as IOR/L/PS/9/76/317.
- A translation of a letter from Jones to the Bacha dated 14 May 1803. A Farsi version is catalogued as IOR/L/PS/9/76/311.
- A ‘form of a letter’ demonstrating what Manesty believes Jones should have written to the Bacha.

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To
His Excellency The Most Noble The Marquis Wellesley
Governor General &c. in Council
at Fort Williams.
In the Political Department.

It was with very great Reluctance that
yielding, unavoidably, to the Pressure of official Business in
the Political Department of the Recovery, I then declined to comment
on the Communications made to your Excellency and to myself
by Mr Jones in the 2^d and 5th Instant. I have now the honor to
transmit duplicates of my Answers, of the 14th and 15th following
containing Transcripts of those Communications, and I beg for
your Excellency's Information a Letter from Me, to Mr Jones dated
the 21st Instant; the Contents of which clearly express my
Sentiments.

To
Harford Jones Esq.
Resident
at Bagdat.
Sir.

I beg leave to inform You that on the 13th
and 15th Instant I received your Communications of the 2^d and 5th
preceding, which I shall herein reply in rather considerable detail.

I have maturely considered the Sentiments
which You have expressed of my Conduct, in making direct
Communications to the Pacha on the Subject of the inextinguishable
Security lately offered to the British Nation in Aspora; and these

estimated the consequences of the Measures which You have adopted in consequence, of the Receipt of my advice to You of the 18th Ultimo.)

Your Sentiments are incorrect and your Measures likely to counteract, the spirited Representations which I have made to the Basha.

In your Letter to His Excellency, the Most Noble the Governor General in Council of the 9th May You inform him of my having made direct Application to the Basha for Reparation without transmitting my Letter thro' your hands, or expressing a desire that You should support my demands, intimating that my Conduct therein has been irregular, predicting that the Basha has sufficient knowledge of diplomatic Etiquette to determine him to agitate the important Point in discussion thro' You the acknowledged national Resident at his Court, and declaring that if application be made to you on the Subject by the Basha You will at all Risks enter into Negotiation with him, for the attainment of requisite Satisfaction.

In your Letter to me You declare on your Honor as a Gentleman that You have neither directly nor indirectly prevented nor impeded the transmission by the Basha to me and his Elevation of the customary Presents of a Pelisse, Horse, and Furniture and You give assurances of a zealous desire to assist in obtaining Redress for the public Injuries sustained at Basra and You report your offer to proceed for that purpose to the Basha's Camp, hinting that I seem to consider You as actuated by inclinations of a contrary tendency and Nature.

I am concerned, that You have forced me to enter into the following explanation.

I have a variety of substantial Reasons for having determined, to make direct Communication to the Basha on the Subject of the inufferable Inults lately offered to the British Nation and British Flag in Basra, many of which I shall here state to You.

I consider myself, as much an acknowledged British Resident with the Basha, as you are; for it must be admitted that until your arrival on a specific extraordinary and temporary Mission at Bagdat the Resident at Basra was considered as the sole Representative of the British Nation in these Countries, that the orders issued by Government to me, and

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your Appointment to the Mission directed Coheration between
us with the Pacha for the attainment of a particular Object, that
the subsequent Commands of our Noble Employers have never found
a direct Intercourse between me and the Pacha, without which
indeed I could not possibly obtain even a chance of effectually
controlling any unfavorable disposition of a Muzulim or of
possessing any official weight or consequence, with the Mysora
Government.

The important nature of the Complaint to
be preferred to the Pacha rendered a direct communication
with him on the Subject of it indispensabl.

A humble or retarded Representation would not
have made any beneficial Impression on the Mind of the Pacha.

An exertion of a fixed determination in the
event of his refusing to accede to my just demands, to proceed
in Person to the Presence of His Excellency the Most Noble the
Governor General for the purpose of urging him to take effectual
measures for the attainment of full and adequate Reparation for
the public Injuries sustained at Mysora if entirely made by me
and you to the Pacha, would have been little reasonably to doubt
and disbelief, it required to be made in warm and animated
language under my own Seal in order to awaken his fears and to
influence him to an active Propriety of Conduct.

Our Ideas on the Subject of Intercourse between
the Turkish Government of these Countries and British Representation
totally differ.

You generally adopt a humble, mild, compliant
mode of negotiating with the Pacha and his Ministers, giving way
however occasionally to ungovernable Intemperance and Passion, the
effects and consequences of which can only be averted by a Return
to an excess of Moderation ill adapted to your station, and the
Character of a British Gentleman in Office.

I observe in my intercourse with the Pacha
and his Servants at Mysora the dignified Degree of high
Spirit and determined Resolution required from a public Ambassador
of the first Nation of the World, qualified however, by Command
of Temper, and by Inclination to benefit and oblige.

Had I, in consequence of the Occurrences here
temperately stated to You their nature in detail, simply recommending
to You application on the Subject of them to the Pacha, and pointing

out to You the political necessity of obtaining Reparation, what would have been the consequence of the Arrangement. You in a lukewarm way would have stated to the Pacha generally, the eligibility of preserving to himself the Friendship of the British Nation and the consequent Propriety of his granting some Redress for the Insults and Injuries experienced and sustained; and the Pacha would consequently have been hardy and indecisive in the Settlement of an affair to the issue of which You and myself had manifested a kind of indifference.

My measures have produced happier consequences. The Energetic Representation which I have made, in a direct Communication to the Pacha and the expression of my determination to proceed in Person to Fort William in the event of his declining to punish the delinquents and to restore the injured Workmen and the plundered Property, have roused You & agitated your feelings. They have influenced You to assure His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General of your zeal for the public Interests and of your devotion to the Honor of your Country. They have induced You to make me unequivocal offers of Cooperation and Support, they have impelled You to send a spirited message to the Wainacum and to think of preparing for a Journey to the Pacha's Camp. And they will compel the Pacha to a necessary act of Justice.

The Recollection of the unfortunate event at Bagdat in 1801, influenced me in determining to open a direct Communication with the Pacha on the late occasion. Could I suspect that a Person who remained at Bagdat had submitted to insufferable Insults from Seliman Pacha the acknowledged Friend of the British Nation would possibly exert himself with effect in the attainment of Reparation from his Successor whose disposition towards our Country is not doubtful for injuries done in Suflora to me as a national Representative.

If in 1801 the spirited exertion of my personal influence could alone extricate You from a most unpleasant and mortifying public Situation and establish You in local Credit at Bagdat, a fact which is incontrovertible, am I to expect from You essential official Support on an occasion of importance without making spirited efforts myself.

The Knowledge which I long ago obtained of the nature of your actual Situation with the present Pacha would

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would have alone proved sufficient to influence Me to a direct Communication with his Excellency respecting late Events. Can You imagine that the Basha is ignorant of the aid and assistance which You afforded the Janissaries whilst exerting themselves during the existence of the serious troubles which agitated Bagdad early after the death of Soliman Basha to deprive him of Life, of your nocturnal interviews with his great opponent the Janissary Aga, at your own request, of your cooperation with the Janissary party, in his desire to bring Abdulla Aga from Horden to Bagdad for the purpose of making him Basha, and can I suppose if he possess a knowledge of these Circumstances that he will ever listen cordially to Representations from You.

The foregoing, Sir, are some of the substantial Reasons which have led to direct Communication with the Basha.

Your Inference drawn from the Circumstances of my having directly communicated with the Basha and declined to request your interference and cooperation in the attainment from His Excellency of requisite Redress and Reparation, that I was desirous that You should not take any Part, in respect of Discussion is an incorrect one. Had I entertained such a desire I should have made my direct Communication in question, without writing to you on the subject, or furnishing You with the various Papers which accompanied my Letter of the 18th Ultime. Sir, I did not wish you totally to decline interference or discussion; I only meant by my Arrangements towards You delicately to leave your Conduct to your own Choice and decision, soliciting to hint the propriety of your obtaining from the Manifestation to the Basha or his Ministers of the ideas which You have long entertained and lately expressed to His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General on the Subject of exclusive Right to agitate political questions at his Court, on the Part of the British Government.

You seem on a first Consideration of Circumstances to have understood the intentions explained in the foregoing Paragraph; and prudently to have determined on the 2^d Instant to await the application which You then predicted would be made by the Basha to You, as the acknowledged British Resident at his Court, requiring explanation of the Representations which I have made to him, and offering to open with You a negotiation on the Subject of them: but your offer made by message to the Hakimacem on the 3^d Instant or on the following day

day to proceed in a certain case to the Pacha's Camp, is
contradictory departure from that Determination, argues that your
apertions to His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General respecting
your exposure to the Suspicion of intrigue, had suddenly washed
your memory and with according to my Judgement, prove to be
a most premature, injudicious and injurious measure.

If indeed instead of offering to proceed to the Pacha's
Camp a movement which must necessarily lead to a general opinion
amongst the inhabitants of Bagdad that you are conscious that the
conduct during the occurrence of late events of the British Gentlemen
at Basra was faulty and required the Support of personal & verbal
explanation, Interest, and Solicitation and establish in the mind of the
Pacha an unfortunate belief that You are not convinced of the
integrity and truth of my Representations to him: You had declined to
make that offer, and by a strong worded letter to himself, not by a
Message to the Chahmaccam Basha as all Messages are to miscomprehension,
misconception, and mistake You had backed these Representations
by an assertion that unless His Excellency acceded without delay
to my demands You would be compelled by duty, which I
proceeded to Fort William to repair to Constantinople with
Views similar to mine, and with a determination, if requested
to extend your Journey to England in order there effectually to
explain to His Majesty's Ministers the absolute and indisputable
Necessity of influencing His Britannic Majesty to demand from
the Ottoman Emperor his immediate Removal from office, for having
neglected to punish the Basra culprits and to restore the
injured Woman to Liberty, You would have acted with an
creditable degree of Energy and Political Prudence.

It seems necessary here to request, that
in the event of this letter reaching You at Bagdad previously
to the execution of your intention, to proceed to the Pacha's
Camp You will understand that I publicly and officially protest
against the measure, as one replete with danger to the public Safety
and the public honor in this Country, and as degrading in the
extreme to Yourself personally and to the office which You hold.

I am much inclined to think, that your
Prediction on the Subject of the Pacha's probable Conduct, and
the Receipt of my letter will prove an unfounded one; unless
your ill timed offer to proceed to his Camp accidentally induces
him to a Negotiation and intercourse ^{with you} on the Subject of the injuries,
truly

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ably sustained by the British Nation in Basora. His knowledge of real diplomatic Etiquette may possibly lead him to give a direct Reply to a direct Communication made by a diplomatic Agent independent of You, longer if not more regularly established and acknowledged in this Country than Yourself, and under whom, You have been employed at his own Court.

I have already herein mentioned, your sudden departure from the Resolution which You had formed on the 2^d Instant, not to propose to the Bagdat Government any interference on your Part between me, and the Pacha in the settlement of depending matters.

You erred in forming that Resolution, for it was evidently your duty on the Receipt of my letter of the 18th April immediately to back my Representations to the Pacha of which that letter gave You a knowledge in the manner which I have herein described; or at least by hinting to him by letter the impossibility of your remaining at Bagdat in the event of his forcing me from Basora by declining to accede to my demands.

It is impossible for You to prove either from my Conduct in making an effort to obtain Redress from the Pacha by a direct Communication with him or from the Contents of my letter to You of the 18th April that I ever thought You could under existing Circumstances be indifferent to the Situation of these national affairs here, or be disinclined to afford official assistance in the Resistance of public Insults and Indignities offered to the Basora Factory. Indeed it is evident that a Regard for your own public Situation must unite with self interest, in dictating to You the necessity of Cooperation for the attainment of Reparation for these insults and injuries from a Government with whom You have immediate official Connection.

The allusion to unpolitic and impolitic Intrigues at Bagdat have reference to You Sir, and to You only; and I shall be really happy if they never existed. Indeed Liberality commands me, to give faith and Credit, to the very solemn assurances which You have given me on your honor as a Gentleman that You have neither directly nor indirectly interfered to prevent or impede the Receipt by ^{my} the Pacha of the customary Present on his elevation of a Pelisse, Horse, and Furniture, although ^{my} my suspicions on the subject originating in Reports and Reports from various Quarters and apparently corroborated by event, were natural and

and justifiable ones.

Such Intrigues could well agree, and correspond with past Circumstances.

Can You deny that it is the favorite Trade of your Heart to increase your own official Consequence, in this Country by undermining and diminishing mine? or that You have by artful Representations successfully led the Honble the President in Council to the adoption of measures of a similarly injurious nature? No, Sir, You cannot do so - There are ¹²Proofs of Your Conduct and their Credibility in this Respect on Record.

Your Ideas of the Causes which prevented the Nacha sending me a Relife, Horse, and Furniture in the Month of January last, are certainly very wonderful ones. Is it possible for Governments to forget requisite and intended Arrangements? To forget is the Error of Individuals, not of States; and You may be assured, that the Omission did not originate in the Want of Recollection.

I am sorry that You have deemed it necessary to support these Ideas by a Relation of the Conduct of the Nacha in receiving your application to him between the 9th & 21st January on the subject of requisite Communications to be made by him to His Excellency the Ambassador at the Sublime Port. I was previously acquainted with the difficulties which Your experience in your official intercourse with the Nacha, but I was not aware that You did not possess sufficient Influence with him to induce him to write a necessary letter, during a Period of two and seventy days. British Residents ought to establish themselves in Reputation and Importance by the uniform manifestation of public Spirit and active Energy, as to give themselves the Power of commanding effectual attention to their reasonable Wishes and to their judicious and necessary Representations.

In the present State of the depending Discussion with the Nacha, I have not any specific Request to make to you on the Subject of it.

Have the Honor to be with great Truth and Regard,

Maskeil
The 21st May 1809.

Sir,
Your very obedient humble Servant
Samuel Manesty.

On the 23rd Instant I received advice from Mr. Jones, dated the 15th preceding, which very strikingly confirmed

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my Opinion expressed to him on the 21st preceding of his mistaken
mode of conducting official Intercourse with the Pasha and his
Minister. I have the Honor to transcribe an extract from these
Advices, and Translations of Correspondence between M. Jonas and
the Pasha, which will be followed by copies of my Letter to M. Jonas
of the 24th Instant, and by a form of a Letter to the Pasha therein
mentioned.

Extract from a Letter from the Resident at Bagdat, dated
the 15th May 1803.

Conceiving it may be useful to you to
receive the enclosed Copies and Translations of Letters to and from
from his Highness the Pasha, I now return your Messengers of
the 5th. In the Translations I have endeavoured, as far as my
knowledge of Persian goes, to be correct to the meaning; if you
in any part of them find me otherwise, you will of course have
the goodness to correct the Papers before they proceed to India,
and to communicate to me your Corrections.

The Nature of these Papers may perhaps
make you desirous of transmitting me a speedy Reply; and I hope
you will attribute it to a proper Motive, if I venture to
recommend in case of the Pasha adopting the Measure, I have
pointed out to him, that you consent to leave the other part
of the Business to be finished at his Return to Bagdat.

I feel I should do wrong, not to communicate to
you that from Information of undoubted Authority I apprehend the
State of Affairs is such at Constantinople, that our Superiors
and particularly the King's Ministers wish at present to avoid all
Manner of disagreeable Discussions with the Pasha.

Translation ad Sensum of a Letter from Ali Pasha received
the 15th May 1803.

After Compliments.

By the Letters which have just reached
us your friend from Basora, it appears that an unpleasant
business which was carried to some length, had taken place
between the Captain of one of the English Vessels, lately arrived
there, and the Inhabitants of Basora, which from the manner
in

in which it was taken up by the Nagpaleon and the Resident, became in the end, most serious.

We must therefore suppose that before now a distinct and detailed account of this affair has been given to you. At all events, that such an accident should have happened between the subjects of two states who are in such perfect and strict Alliance, and in a place where both parties are so mutually impressed with sentiments of reciprocal friendship, is most unfortunate and much to be lamented; nevertheless, the imprudent acts of inexperienced persons, will not destroy those ties of friendship and good understanding which have been formed by the wisdom of both states, particularly, as we determine after a careful investigation of both sides of the Question, to inflict punishment where it may appear necessary, which done, every trace of this unpleasant affair, will of course be wiped from the hearts of both parties, for certainly such conduct on the part of the inhabitants of Nagpore, without reason, can never be approved by us, and as certainly, it is not usual for persons of your Station, to misbehave themselves so greatly.

However, it is the positive duty of those who are the well wishers of both states and whose councils are disinterested, strictly to examine who was the first occasion of this unpleasant business; and by punishing him or her who may, to prevent an affair so disagreeable being prolonged, and by that means, prevent also, future misunderstandings.

Which done, and the present heat of the business being allayed, it will be necessary for us to examine most minutely and carefully the bottom of the Business.

And in truth you our friend are one of the well wishers of both states and whose counsel to us we always disinterested, and who are placed with us, by appointment by your advice, the mutual advantages and interests of both States, we have thought it indispensably necessary, to make the matter immediately known to you and require it of you, by whatever means shall occur to you, as comprehending the interests of both states, to stop and allay the present heat of this affair until we, by Gods blessing, shall return with our Army to Nagpore, which will early take place.

We will then personally confer on this affair, examine it and take those measures which appear to us, necessary for punishing the guilty, in this affair, and proceeding

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in future that similar accidents shall arise from the imprudence of unexperienced persons.

Assuredly, most assuredly, you will not neglect immediately by such means, as shall appear to you equally advantageous to both parties, to prevent this affair becoming more difficult and embarrassing to us, and you; and what friendship and good will towards us require you will perform.

Besides which we desire you to give us every information on this affair, which has come to your knowledge and to assist us with your advice and counsel, as to the manner of finishing it.

(Signed) Ally.
Governor of Baghdad.
True Translation
Stanford Jones.

Translation of a Letter from the Resident to Ali Muzah dated the 14th May.

After Titles & Compliments,

That the Honor to receive your Highness's Commands, in the moment of dispatching a Packet for Europe, the contents of which I have well understood.

In truth, the account of the unpleasant business which has happened at Baspora, reached me some days ago, and astonished and surprised me beyond measure, for on the one hand I can never believe, that without good and sufficient reason, such a discord on our part could have happened, and on the other hand that the inhabitants of Baspora should behave so ill to the Resident and English Captain, in twenty years that I have been in these Countries, is what I never heard of, nor even read an account of, in the Records of the Factory at Baspora. At all events it is ten thousand pities, that such an accident should have happened, in the beginning of your Highness's Government.

As your Highness has desired me to inform you of what I know of this matter, I enclose the Copy of a note from the Resident at Baspora, to the Mesopotamia. This is the account of the affair, by the Resident of Baspora, it is true, but of whomsoever I enquire, no one pretends to deny the smallest

smallest particle of it, nor has any one as yet been able to find the smallest or most trifling excuse, for the Muzallem's behaviour. This being the case, the affair does not appear to me, to be attended with any difficulty, for who was the occasion and cause of it, is most evident, and according to Your Highness's own words, he ought to be punished: and this punishment is entirely in your Highness's hands.

It is now twenty years, since the acquaintance and friendship of the Resident at Basra, and myself commenced; and during that time I never remember his wishing to injure any one, nor to demand the thing that was not just; and to my certain knowledge two of the principal Actors, in this disturbance, owe their lives and fortunes to his interference and humanity. Gratitude however is the fruit of the tree of Wisdom, and not of the tree of folly.

I do not conceive the Resident at Basra, or his Superiors would require the punishment of any person, without a previous investigation of the Crime of which he is accused, yet in the present instance, my fear is that investigation will only prove, that the Inhabitants of Basra and the Muzallem are more criminal, than they appear at present.

To a Person of your Highness's Wisdom and understanding, it is scarcely necessary to observe, that Basra is a Port, and that therefore; Accidents of this sort, must be highly detrimental to your Highness's Interest. My opinion is, that the sooner the Business is finished the better on all accounts, more particularly as I see from the Resident at Basra's letter, that all intercourse between him and the Muzallem has ceased, as well as all intercourse between our Captains and the inhabitants of Basra. My Lord, this should not continue.

As your Highness has required of me to give you my opinion how the heat of this matter may be allayed until your return to Bagdad, I conceive it would be very eligible for your Highness immediately to call Muzallem's Reg from Basra to Bagdad, to address a friendly, and kind Letter, to the Resident at Basra, and to send it to him accompanied by a Relique, Horse, and furniture, under the charge of a person of note; and to order the money to be taken

taken from the Captains house to be immediately returned.

In this case I may well entertain hopes that the remaining part of the Business will be easily settled on your Highness's arrival, and shall immediately write to the Resident at Bagdad, and send him a copy of your Highness's letter to me, and I will give him my opinion on this Subject in such a manner, that perhaps, he will accept the modification proposed.

All this, however, your Highness will judge of the propriety of, but as you have demanded my advice, I have taken the liberty of giving it. I have only to add, that if your Highness wishes to see me personally, on your return to Bagdad, I have no objection to repair to Camp, for not only in this but in every other business which regards your Highness, I shall always think lightly of personal trouble. His command remains with your Highness.

(Signed)

Harford Jones
British Resident

To
Harford Jones Esq^{re}
Resident at Bagdad.

Sir,

With the accompanying letter dated the 21st Instant I transmit You a Copy of one received from Captain John White on the 15th Instant in Compliance with a verbal Requisition made by me to him in consequence of your Suggestion of the 5th preceding.

I am now to acknowledge the Receipt yesterday morning of your advice of the 15th Instant to which I hasten to Reply.

I have very particularly considered the Persian Copies and the translations of Communications between You and His Excellency the Basha, all which I shall transmit to India and to Europe.

In the Translation of the letter from the Basha to You I perceive a material addition to the Sent in the 11th 5th 6th and 7th lines of the 5th Paragraph beginning at the Words "And who are" and ending with the Words "both Shaks" and rather a material alteration in the sense in the concluding Paragraph of it.

The Translation of your Edition (See a Draft not)

(not letter) to the Pacha is in great measure clear and correct, but I have felt from reflection on the stile of the original composition, the very extreme of mortification. It confirms the ideas expressed by me, in the accompanying letter of the 21st instant on the subject of your mode of carrying on official intercourse with the Bagdat Government and naturally leads to the following question: Is the language of a servant to a master such as ought to be used by Mr. Jones to Ali Pacha? by a British Representative to an Ottoman Vizier?

The words Effendum Sultanum mean my Lord, and Master, my King "not Highness" which title might be well expressed by "Khalas Jah" although the Pacha has not any right to it, because it is "a royal one" — and the meaning of "Bunde" must be known to you. Richardson explains it "servant, slave, bondman, domestic".

I cannot command you to adopt a more proper and becoming mode of communicating with the Pacha but it is my duty strongly to recommend it — servility may answer a temporary purpose, but it must ultimately lead to dishonor and disgrace.

I deem the honor of the Pacha's letter to you as very satisfactory and highly creditable to himself. It argues an amicable disposition towards our Country, of which beneficial political use might have been by you very advantageously made. You have however failed to take advantage of favorable circumstances and in your reply to the Pacha's communication you have certainly adopted a mistaken policy.

I cannot better perhaps explain to you my most decided disapproval of part of the contents of your letter in question than by submitting to your consideration the enclosed form of one adapted according to my opinion to the occasion.

As the form of the letter in question will not however sufficiently explain to you the Chagrin which I personally feel from certain passages of your real letter to the Pacha, I must here more particularly express my sentiments.

I consider myself injured by your aspersions to the Pacha on the subject of my general character and conduct. Is my reputation of a dubious nature? Does it require foreign support? No Sir, it has uniformly demonstrated itself

in honorable and liberal act, and needs not your Certificate.

Does the important event now unfortunately in discussion with the Basha in any degree involve the question of Reputation. If the very worst Subject of His Britannic Majesty represented him at Baspora the Circumstances would not give to the Turkish Government, the Right of encroaching on British Local Privileges, by the Seizure of a Person under British Protection and the Honour of British Policy.

The advice given by You to the Basha on the Subject of Reparation to be granted for the insupportable Injuries and Insults lately sustained and experienced at Baspora is an indirect Censure of my Conduct in making an adequate Demand; and it will I am persuaded influence the Basha to determine finally and decidedly not to accede to them. If I mistake not, You Sir, will have caused by that advice and by the servile mode of its Communication, the irreparable disgrace of the British Nation and the British Establishment in this Country.

Will not the strange and wonderful Circumstances of your having neglected to point out to the Basha the urgent necessity of his giving instant orders to the Baspora Government for the Restoration to me of the injured Woman naturally lead him to imagine that You have reconciled to your mind the Circumstances of her Misfortune, Misfortune, which particularly excite Compassion, and determine him in lighted Indulgence of his religious Prejudices and in Opposition to required Justice, to retain and ultimately to compel her to embrace the Mahomedan Faith?

This omission on your Part is certainly inconsistent with your general assurances of a desire, effectually to assist in the attainment of Justice and Reparation, and militates decidedly against the spirit and letter of your private Communication to Me of the 5th Instant. What should You proceed to Camp, You will do all in your Power to procure my precise terms, and even go beyond them, by endeavouring a Person of consequence shall be sent down to Baspora!

I have already expressed my Sentiments of your offer of proceeding to the Basha's Camp.

You must surely comprehend that if the Liberty of the injured woman be not obtained it will be impossible for a British Subject to reside in Baspora, with
personal

personal safety must be with Credit and honor, and therefore in your letter to the Pacha, You should have made the speedy Delivery to me of the injured Woman a primary Object, a sine qua non.

I cannot accede to the Proposition contained in the 3^d Paragraph of your letter of the 15th Instant, that the final arrangement of the affair be made on the Return of the Pacha from his present Expedition at Bagdat. His Excellency must unequivocally accede to the terms of my demands, as I have again stated to him in a second letter now transmitted to Bagdat.

You have not explained the State of political affairs at the sublime Porte to which You allude in the 4th Paragraph of your letter of the 15th Instant, and my Conduct will not be influenced by the hint, which You have given me. I should not facilitate the accomplishment, of the Political Views at Constantinople, of his Majesty's Ministers, by receding at Musora from the just demands which I have made on the Pacha, nor will I ever allow myself to relinquish my ardent desire to support, by the spirited assertion of British Rights and Privileges, entrusted to my Guardianship and Care, the Honor of my Sovereign, and the Interests of my Country.

I have the honor to be with great
Truth and Regard.

Maghit
The 24th May 1809.

Sr,
Your very obedient humble servant
Samuel Manesty.

Form of a Letter to the Pacha of Bagdat.

I have had the honor to receive Your Excellency's letter on the subject of the unfortunate business which as you have heard has happened at Musora, and I am happy to observe Your Excellency's Inclination to render justice to the injured Party and to preserve inviolate the good understanding and friendship which has so long, happily subsisted between the British and Ottoman Empires.

The information which I have obtained of the Causes of the late difference is contained in the accompanying Copy of a Letter from Mr. Manesty to the Hafaleem of Musora, and

and is confirmed by the Depositions of the Factory Surgeon,
the English Captain and his Servants.

On a Perusal of the Letter from Mr. Manesty
to the Ambassador of Russia, Your Excellency will readily comprehend
the insufferable nature of the injuries offered there to the British
Nation, and perceive the unavoidable necessity of immediately
granting requisite Reparation and Redress.

It becomes my duty to inform Your Excellency
that I naturally consider the Insult offered at Ruspore, as
affecting the Russian Nation and should You decline or delay
granting the required Redress, I shall certainly be reduced to
the necessity of taking such measures as may best tend to
support the honor of the British Flag, and probably be
compelled to withdraw myself from Your Excellency's Court.

Therefore beg leave to suggest the Expediency
of Your Excellency continuing to entertain the favorable Sentiments
expressed in the Letter which I have had the honor to
receive and your early Compliance with the demands made
by Mr. Manesty, particularly the Restoration of the cruelly
injured woman to Liberty and the enjoyment of the Religion
in which she has been bred; which must take place and
ought to be immediate. Such Conduct will secure to
Your Excellency a Continuance of the Friendship, and good
Wishes of the British Nation and will convince Your Lord
of Justice and your determination to punish those who under
your Government dare to infract the Treaty so solemnly
ratified between the two Nations at Constantinople.

Your Excellency will comprehend that
the foregoing advice which is founded on the most mature
Reflection and suggested by real Friendship has been offered
in Conformity to your Desire, and that it will afford me sincere
Pleasure to use my exertions for the Accomplishment of Your
Excellency's Wishes on all Occasions.

I have also the honor to transmit a Persian
Copy of my second Letter to the Pacha, mentioned in my
Letter to Mr. Jones of the 24th Instant, the Contents of which
will conform to Your Excellency, my decided Sentiments on the
Subject of the Reparation, to be required from the Pacha,
for the Insult offered in Ruspore to the British Nation and
the British Flag, in the Night of the 4th April, Reparation the
Amount

Attainment of which can alone enable the British Government
to continue their highly useful Establishment at Basra.

I have also the Honor to enclose Several
Copies of the Correspondence between the Pacha and Mr.
Jones, to the Title of which I respectfully claim your
Excellency's special Attention.

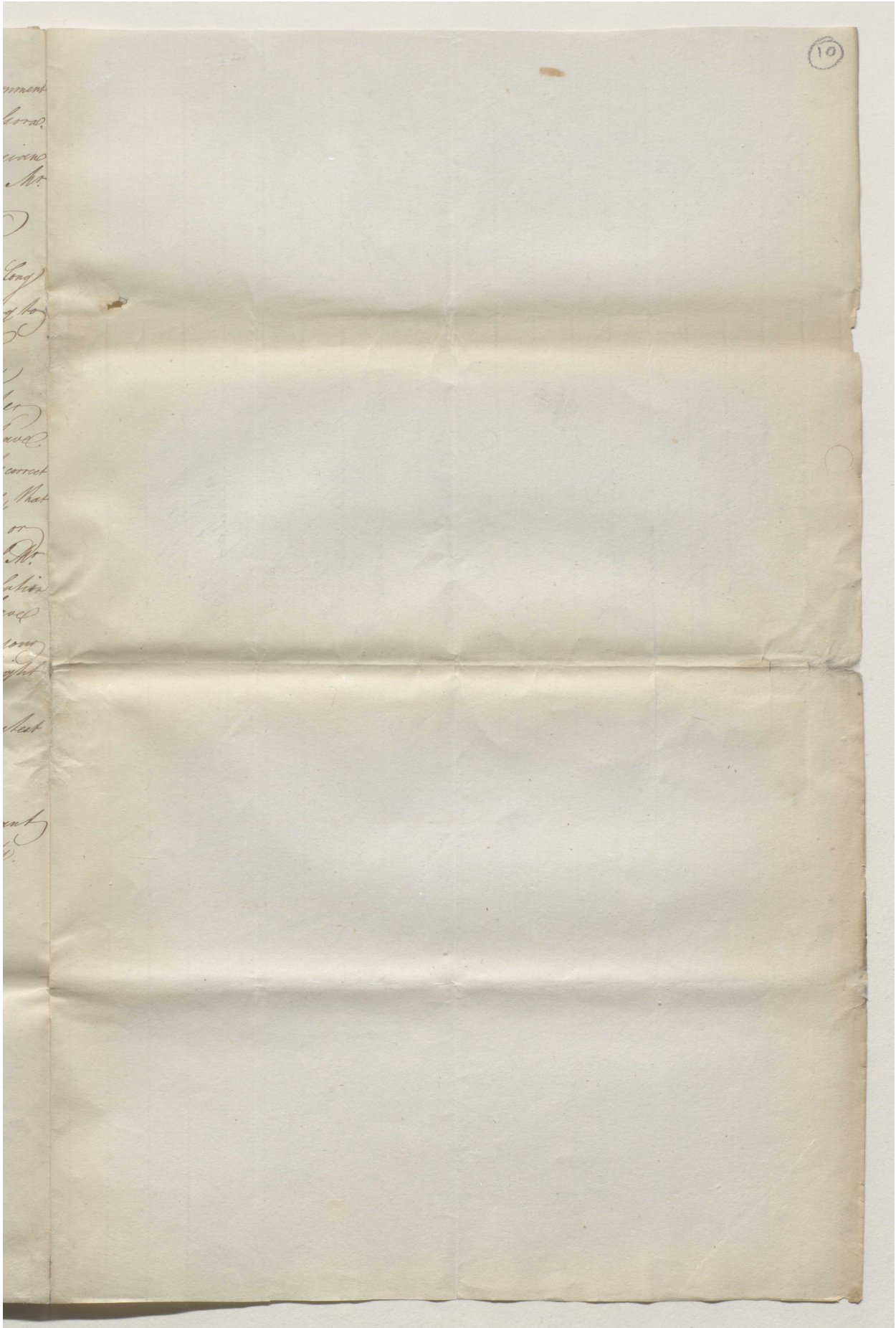
I now deem it necessary to bring this long
Address to a Close, protesting my Intention, of confining to
a separate Correspondence, the Relation of all Events and
Circumstances connected with the important depending
Discussion with the Pacha; and I might decline further
Observations on the present State of it, until I shall have
the Honor to resume the Pen; I am however impelled, by correct
and honorable Feelings here to declare, to your Excellency, that
I positively will not, permit either the Pride, Policy, or
Injustice of the Pacha, or the Weakness, or Timidity of Mr.
Jones, to divert me, from my fixed and determined Resolution
to obtain, the just and moderate Demands, which I have
made, or to quit Arabia, and personally transfer to your
Excellency at Fort William, the immediate official Receipt
of procuring, and establishing them.

I have the Honor to be, with the greatest
Respect,

Your Excellency's
Much devoted and obedient humble Servant
Samuel Manesty.

True Copy
Samuel Manesty

Masbil
the 21st May 1803.



Letter from Samuel Manesty to Marquess Wellesley [10v] (20/20)

