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Letter from Samuel Manesty to Ali Pasha

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Date(s)	12 Oct 1804 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
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About this record

A translation of a letter from Samuel Manesty, Resident in Bussora [Basra], to the Bacha [‘Alī Pāshā al-Kahyah, Governor of Baghdad], dated 12 October 1804.

The letter concerns a dispute between Harford Jones, Resident in Bagdat [Baghdad], and Coja Johannes Rafail Babick [Khawājah Hovhannes Rafael Babik, Armenian merchant in Trieste] arising from the commission charged by Jones to execute the estate of Babick’s late brother, Coja Stephen Rafail Babik [Khawājah Stepan Rafael Babik, Armenian merchant in Baghdad].

A Farsi version of this letter is catalogued as IOR/L/PS/9/76/361.

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Translation.

Letter to His Excellency the Pacha of Bagdat. dated 19th Oct. 1801.

I have had the honor to receive your Excellency's Note, the contents of which have commanded my particular attention, and made a very forcible Impression on my Mind.

It is not necessary that I should trouble your Excellency, by an intimation on the general tenor of your Commodification, and I shall therefore here, confine myself, to the expression of my entire Conviction of the uniform Inclination of your Excellency to manifest your Attachment to the British Nation, by correctness of Conduct towards its official Representatives, and of my Opinion in reply to your Excellency's Solicitation on the subject of the eligible Settlement of the existing Dispute between Mr. Jones, and Aga Chahanned Rafic Pasha, on the subject of the Commission charged by the former, as the late Agent for the Estate of the deceased Brother of the latter.

Convinced by the judicious and moderate Sentiments expressed by your Excellency on this subject, in the concluding part of your Note, that you are particularly anxious to effect the Termination of the Dispute, in question, on just and equitable grounds, I thought it expedient to endeavor to obtain, by letter, such Explanations from him, respecting it, as I deemed likely to contribute to the attainment of that Object; and accordingly, yesterday Evening addressed a Letter to Mr. Jones, which has been in expectation of the Receipt of a Reply, which, that I have delayed to the present. I must address your Excellency

S^t

As however I am to conclude from
the Silence of Mr Jones, that it is not his Intention,
to give Me, the Explanations which I have requested
from him, and in longer Delay, in the Expressions
to your Excellency of the Opinion which you have
requested. As to give might wear the Appearance
of Inattention and Disrespect, I shall now
communicate it, in detail.

In the course of my whole life
I do not recollect, either hearing or reading, that
any Person, having a pecuniary Subject of
Controversy with another, has ventured to apply
that the world, not submit the Decree between
them, to equitable Decision, either by the modes
of Arbitration, or Citation of Reference to Friends,
or of the Laws and Regulations of the Land, and
then not on just reasonable Grounds Mr Jones,
can refuse to accede to an Investigation of his
Right to possess the Commission to which he
considers himself to be entitled.

As however your Excellency very
justly considers yourself, to be unpleasantly
situated, in respect to the Affair, under considerable
urgency on the one hand by Obedy to enforce the
Execution of the Imperial Commands, directing
the Recovery from Mr Jones of the whole of the
Property in his hands belonging to the Estate of the
deceased Coja Shepher, Afsail Nabick and
restrained in the other by the obligations of
Friendship and Attachment to the British Nation,
from proceeding to Compulsive Extremities
against Mr Jones, I am of Opinion, that the
Conduct now most advisable to be pursued by
your Excellency is as follows.

That without further Delay, your
Excellency cause it to be officially signified to Mr
Jones

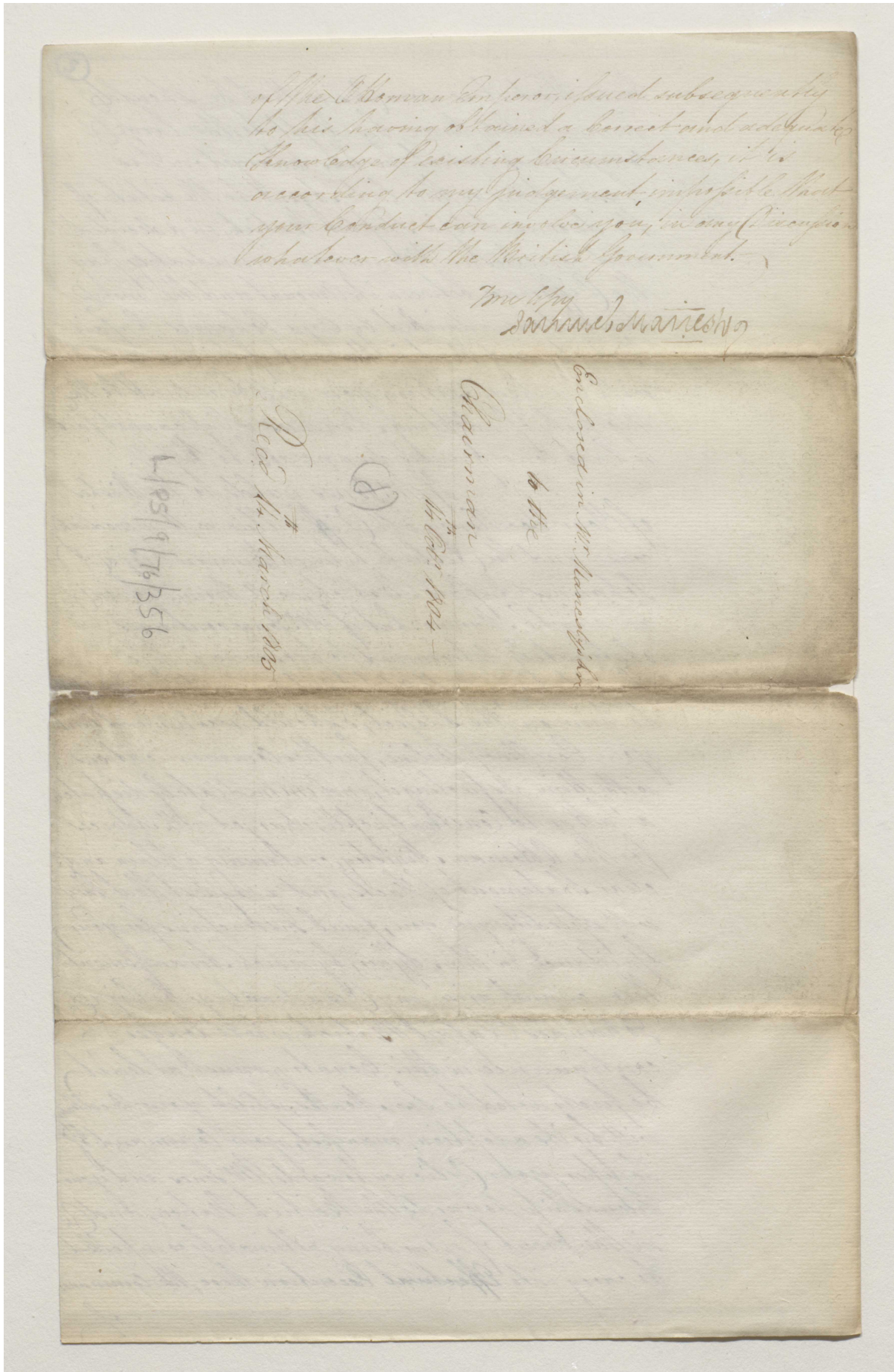
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Jones, that it is your desire that he should
 immediately prove his right to the large
 Commission, which he has charged in his
 Transactions as the late Agent, to the Estate of
 the deceased Coja Stephen Rabich, in a decided
 and conclusive Manner, or immediately pay
 the Difference between the amount and the money
 disbursed, as admitted by Coja Johannes Raphael
 Rabich; and that in the event of his non-compliance
 with the foregoing, you will be reduced to the
 necessity of a deputation, because which cannot fail
 to have consequences disagreeable to him.

If Mr. Jones yields to the wishes
 of your Excellency all Difficulties will immediately
 cease and the Dispute between him, and Coja
 Johannes Raphael Rabich, will terminate in
 an eligible Manner: but if Mr. Jones continues
 obstinately determined to persevere in his
 Neglect of all Applications and Appeals, as
 to him on the Subject, I should recommend that
 your Excellency decline further Communications
 with him respecting it, and immediately dispatch
 a Vali or Consul at Constantinople, charged with orders
 for the Ottoman Ministry, containing a plain and
 clear Statement of Facts, and a request that they
 will speedily give you, final Instructions for your
 Guidance in the affair, by which arrangement
 there cannot arise any disadvantage to Coja
 Johannes Raphael Rabich, whose longer
 continuance in this Country, must at least
 be protracted to six Months, whilst your Resolution
 will by its adoption, manifest your Command
 & Temper, your Celerity towards Mr. Jones and your
 Friendship towards the British Nation, and by
 in the event of your being ultimately compelled
 to carry into Effectual Execution here, the Commands

of

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of the Ottoman Emperor, issued subsequently
to his having obtained a correct and adequate
knowledge of existing circumstances, it is
according to my judgment, impossible that
your conduct can involve you, in any dispute
whatsoever with the British Government.

7th July
I am Sir Samuel Manesty's

Enclosed in Mr Manesty's

to the

Chairman

14th Oct 1804

(S)

Recd by Ali Pasha

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