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'Aden. Copies of treaties entered into with the Sultan of Lahedge called for by the Government of India'

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| Holding Institution | British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers |
| Reference | IOR/F/4/2122/100073 |
| Date(s) | 23 Jan 1838-31 Dec 1844 (CE, Gregorian) |
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About this record

The item consists of copies and extracts of correspondence and minutes cited in, or enclosed with, an Extract Bombay [Mumbai] Political Consultation dated 31 December 1844. The contents are a continuation of enclosures to a Political Letter from the Government of Bombay to the East India Company Court of Directors, 10 June 1845, which can be found at IOR/F/4/2122/100072.

The item consists of a letter from Captain Stafford Bettesworth Haines, Political Agent at Aden, to the Government of Bombay, 25 November 1844. This letter contains copies of numerous bonds and a treaty made between Sultan M'Houssain Fudthel of Lahidge [Sultan Muḥsin bin Faḍl al-'Abdalī, Sultan of Lahij] and Haines between 1838 and 1844, all of which relate to the transfer of Aden from Sultan M'Houssain Fudthel to the East India Company. Haines also provides a background narrative to the bonds and treaty, mentioning the blockade and storming of Aden by the British in November 1838-January 1839, as well as numerous attempts by the Sultan to recover Aden from the British 1839-1840.

The item also contains instructions from the Government of Bombay to send a copy of Haines's letter to the Government of India.

The title page of the item contains the following references: 'Bombay Political Department', 'P.C. [Previous Communication] 5061, Coll[ection]: 20, Vol: 2, Draft 29/46', 'Collection N. 2 of N. 59' and 'Examiner's Office'.

'Aden. Copies of treaties entered into with the Sultan of Lahedge called for by
the Government of India' [350r] (1/22)

005061 Coll: 20
Vol: 2

100073

Dt 29/46

Collection N. 2 of N. 59.

Bombay -
Political Department.

Letter from - dated 10th June 1845.

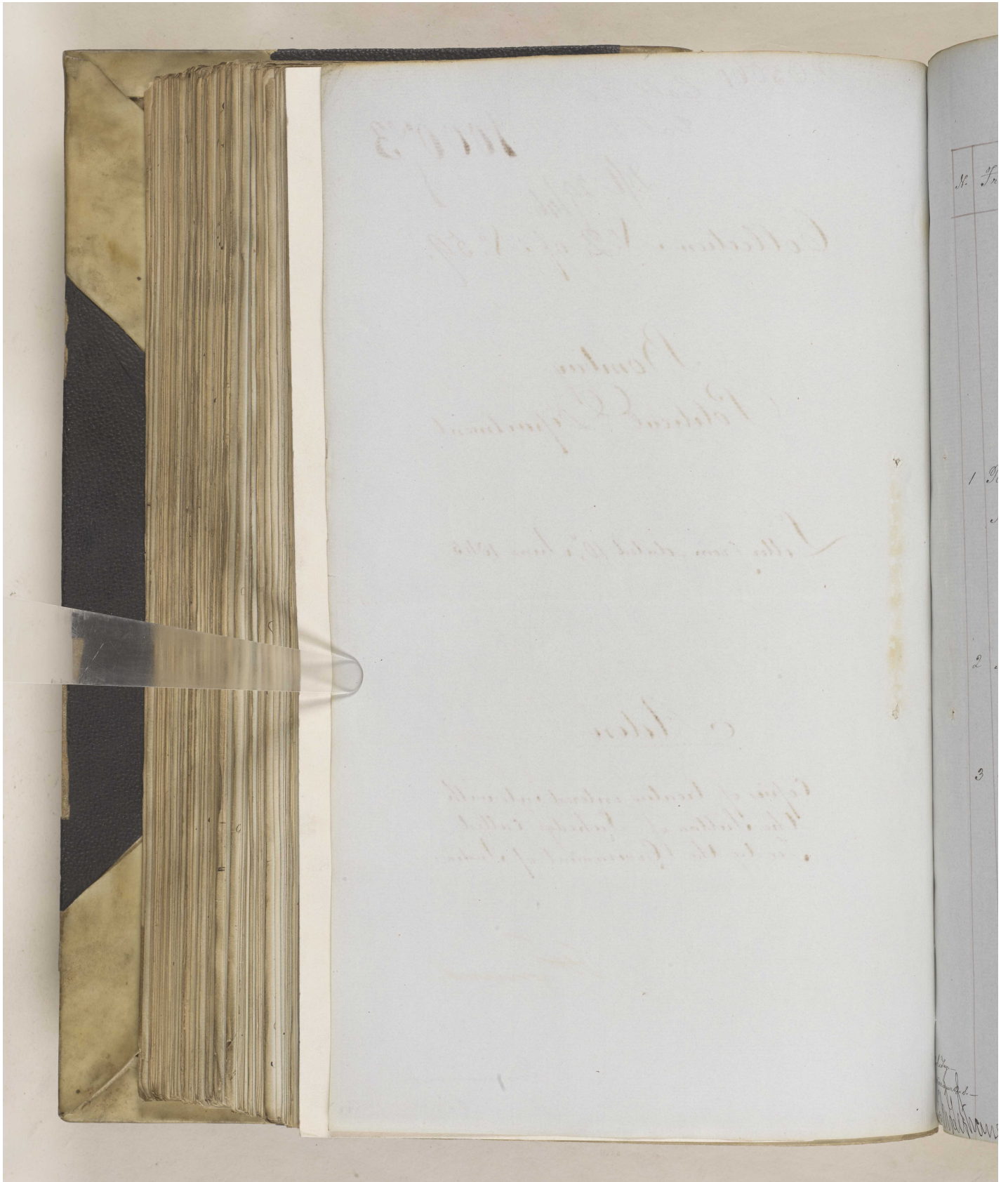
Aden.

Copies of treaties entered into with
the Sultan of Lahedge called
for by the Government of India.

Examiners
Office

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'Aden. Copies of treaties entered into with the Sultan of Lahedge called for by
the Government of India' [350v] (2/22)



'Aden. Copies of treaties entered into with the Sultan of Lahedge called for by the Government of India' [351r] (3/22)

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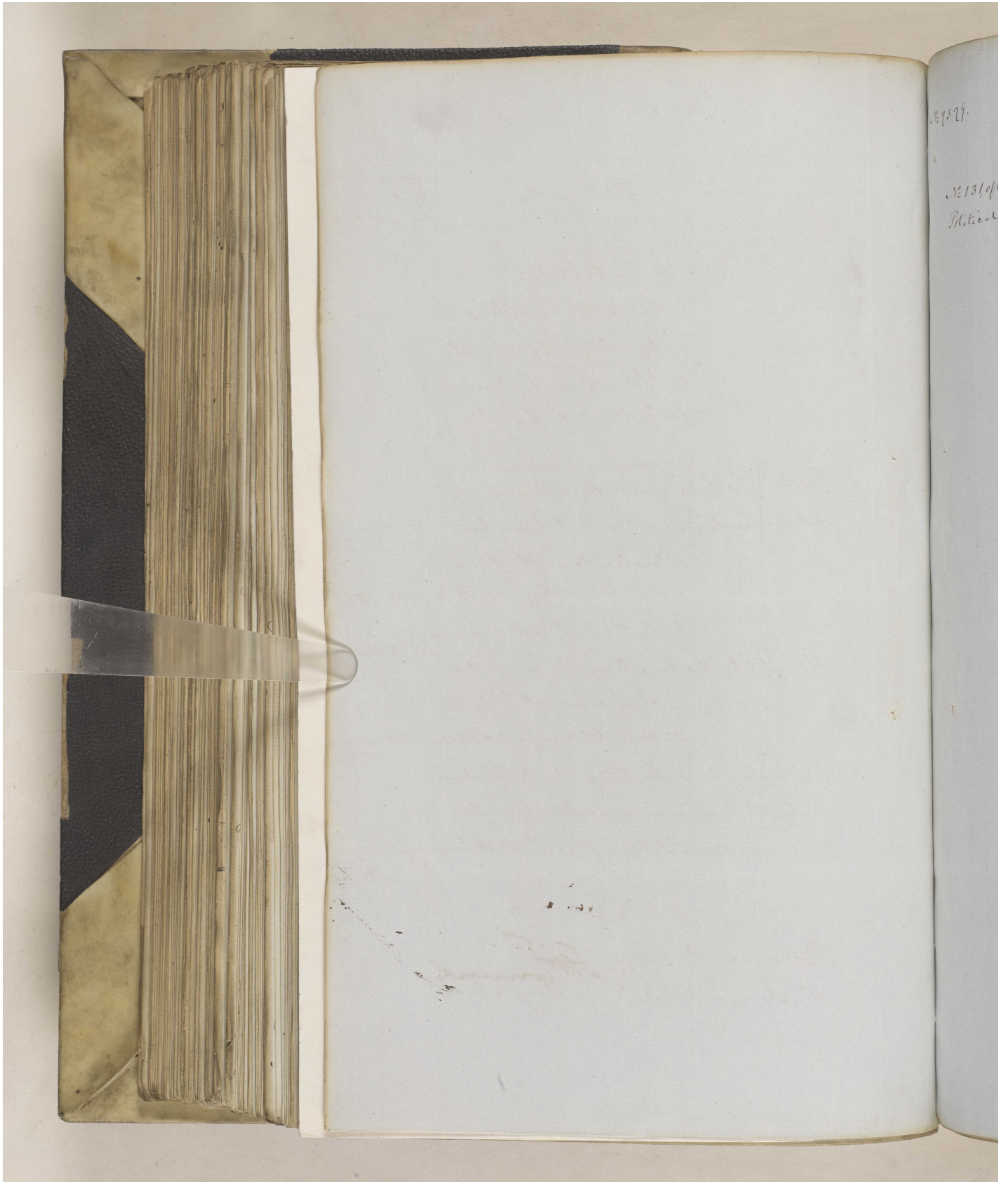
| No. | From | To | Subject. | Date of document | Date of Cons. |
|---|-----------------|------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------|
| <i>Aden.</i> | | | | | |
| <i>Copies of treaties entered into with the Sultan of Lahedge called for by the Govt. of India.</i> | | | | | |
| 1 | Pol. Agt Aden | Chief Secretary | Forwards Copies of all Treaties that have been entered into with the Sultan of Lahedge, as called for by the Govt. of India. | Nov. 25 th No. 79 | Dec. 31 st No. 7879 |
| 2 | | | Minutes by His Excellency the Commander in Chief, concurred in by the Honble Mr. Crawford & Reid. Dated | — — — — — No. 7330 | |
| 3 | Chief Secretary | Secy to Govt. of India | Submitting Copy of the above communication from the Political Agent at Aden | Dec. 29 th — — — — — No. 218 No. 7381 | |

Bombay Castle
10th June 1845. } *W. G. ...*
Secretary to Govt.

Handwritten notes and signatures in the bottom left corner.

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'Aden. Copies of treaties entered into with the Sultan of Lahedge called for by
the Government of India' [351v] (4/22)



N^o 7379.

Extract Bombay Political
Consultation 31st Dec^r 1844

N^o 131 of 1844.

N^o 79 of 1844.

Political Department.

From, Captain S. B. Haines, J. A.
Political Agent at Aden.

To, The Honble H. B. Willoughby, Esq^r
Chief Secretary to Government
Bombay.

Dated Aden Nov^r 25th 1844.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward the
Treaties or Bonds that have been entered
into between Sultan M^o Hossain Fudhul
of Lahedge and myself as Political Agent
at Aden, with a brief index or rather an
introductory Notice of the events which
led to the formation of the respective
Treaties.

2. The information required in the
Under Secretary to the Government of
India's Circular N^o 692, dated the 9th Sept^r
1843, and transmitted with your Circular
N^o 2458, of 1843, dated Oct^r 13th 1843, is nearly
completed and shall be transmitted as early
as possible.

Pol^l Agent's Office }
Aden 25th Nov^r 1844.

I have the honor to be Sir

(Signed) S. B. Haines,
Captain J. A.
Pol^l Agent at Aden.

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'Aden. Copies of treaties entered into with the Sultan of Lahedge called for by the Government of India' [352v] (6/22)

The 1st promise of
transferring Aden to the
British. Received by
Captain S. B. Haines I. N.
at Aden on the 2³^d of
January 1838.

To,
Capt^m Haines.

The peace, mercy, &
blessings of the Almighty
be with you.

We have received
the letter, which through
Jaffer you have written
concerning our agreement
about Aden on the 5th of
Shooval: but you must
know, that we have
claims upon that place,
as also have the tribes,
and Sultans around it
about the delay of the
two months Shelkua deh
and Shelk'ejeh, to which
you and I have agreed
before the transfer, we
earnestly desire, that
it be observed, you will
go to Bombay, and there
consult

In the month of
October 1837 Captain
S. B. Haines of the Indian
Navy, was despatched
by order of the Governor
in Council of Bombay
on a mission to
Aden with instructions
to obtain by purchase,
or by monthly payment,
the transfer of the
Town of Aden with
its harbour to the
British; after
considerable trouble
and perseverance
against the objections
stated by the Arabs,
Captain Haines
succeeded in obtaining
from Sultan M' Hussein
Fudhel, a bond, by
which

'Aden. Copies of treaties entered into with the Sultan of Lahedge called for by the Government of India' [353r] (7/22)

which he engaged on himself to make over the place on the following Conditions, viz:—

That the annual stipend money (which was to include all payments to the Allooce, Hanshebee, a meer and Fouathelee tribes) should be 8,700. German Crowns per Annum, and that he should be allowed 2 months to explain, and amicably arrange the transfer with the divisions of his tribes.

Having completed this duty Captain Gains returned to Bombay in February 1838.—

In explanation of the payments to be made to the other tribes it may be requisite to remark, that the Sultan of Aden, when through the assistance of these tribes he conquered the place, agreed

consult the Bombay³ Government, while we will consult our people, the Princes, and Sheikhs, and prepare their minds; then we and you the Commissioner of the Company will carry into effect the delivery of the Fortress of Aden into your hands and ratify the expenses of the tribes and Sultans, the regulations and

manner of proceeding of every thing connected with the Town, the War by land and Sea, then you as the Commissioner shall receive a true and full account and ratified transfer of the Fortress of the Town.— As far as said Customs one half will be upon you, and the other half upon us.— After the two months, if it is agreed upon between us. On your arrival (353)

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the Government of India' [353v] (8/22)

arrival we will treat
about the monthly or
annual stipend - But
the terms of the present
Treaty must remain
under our name, and
our jurisdiction, all
other people will be
your subjects: and while
you are treating after
the delay of two said
months, you must not
act aggressively against
us, or wrest any part
of Aden from us, if you
did not observe the delay
of two months, we will
not be responsible to
you for any thing that
may happen -

Witness

Rashed bin Abdulla -

Seal of Sultan
W. Houssein
Fudhail -

After the two months we
will speak and treat with
Captain Haines and no
other person -

Second

'Aden. Copies of treaties entered into with the Sultan of Lahedge called for by the Government of India' [354r] (9/22)

Unavoidable on
circumstances caused
some delay in taking
possession of Aden, and it
was not till September 1838,
that Captain S. B. Haines
was again sent to Aden,
having with him a body
guard of 30 Europeans (the
Bombay Regiment now
Fusiliers) under Lieutenant
Evans, with Lieutenant
Western of the Engineers.
He reached Aden on the
24th October, when the
Sultan in defiance of
his former promise,
refused to act up to his
agreement, and demanded
Captain Haines' Authority
for demanding this
transfer. This was
forwarded but with no
effect. Threats were used
in case Captain Haines
attempted to land, and
all supplies for the 18
Gun Sloop of War, Coote,
that brought him, were
refused.

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Second Bond.
Received from Sultan
M' Houssein after
Aden was in possession
of the British, on his
signing which he was
paid the 1st stipend.

Sultan M' Houssein
and his Sons Sultan
Fudhel, Ali, Abulla,
and Fudhel enter
into a Treaty of peace
and friendship on
the part of their Govt
and Captain S. B.
Haines S. V. Political
Agent at Aden on
the part of the Govern
of the East India
Company.

1. Sultan M' Houssein,
and his Sons engage
themselves to keep
their territory and
roads in peace and
Security, so that
the weak and poor
people may communicate
in

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in safety with each or other, the Sultan being responsible for every wrong done on the road by any of the Sultan's people, the Sultan will always preserve peace and friendship with the British Government, their interests being united by the British possessing Aden in perpetuity. —

2. Captain Haines agrees to pay the stipends of Fauthelce, Yaffai, Housheber, and Ameer Tribes as originally paid by Sultan W. Houssein of Lahedge. —

3. Captain Haines agrees to pay the Sultan W. Houssein, and his descendants the sum of German Crowns 0500 from the month of Dhu-kaadi 1254. —

4. From There on Mukia towards Lahedge

refused. From the 24th Oct^r to the 20th November, every exertion was made by Captain Haines to obtain the quiet transfer of the place, agreeably to the bond given by Sultan W. Houssein Fudhel, but in vain, on the latter day the Pinnance of the Coote was fired upon without any provocation by the Redoubt of the Sultan, and pierced by several balls. The fire was promptly returned by Captain Haines' orders, and the port placed under a strict blockade by the H. C. Sloop of War Coote and her boats, and the H. C. Schooner Mahi.

Repeated and several very gallant skirmishes took place, especially that on the 11th November which was well fought on both sides, and in which two Europeans were wounded in boats, and about 20 Arabs killed

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killed and wounded in
the part of the enemy

On the 15th Jan^r
the following force under
Captain H. Smith Com^d
H. M. S. Volage were at
Aden. -

H. M. S. Volage 28 Guns.

H. C. S. Coote 18 Guns.

H. C. S. Cruizer 10 Guns.

H. C. S. Mahi 3 Guns.

also 300 men of the 1st
Bombay European Reg^t
(now Fusiliers) 4400 Natives
24th Reg^t Bombay Natives
under Major Dailie.

On this force reaching
Aden, Captain Haines
despatched a letter to
Sultan M' Houssein
Fudhel and gave him
24 hours to decide whether
he would fulfil his promise,
or stand the shock of an
attack; after much
prevarication he begged
for 8 days time, stating
that he required at least
that to pacify the Bedonins,
whereas it was in reality
merely

Lahedge is to be
under the jurisdiction
of the Sultan according
to the known confines
of Abdulle Territory.

5. If there happen
War against Abdulle
or territory of Lahedge,
or Aden, the
contracting parties
will assist each
other.

6. The subjects
of the Sultan entering
Aden will be under
the jurisdiction of
the British Govern^t
for the time, and the
British subjects
resorting to Lahedge
will be under the
jurisdiction of the
Sultan for the time
being.

7. Every thing
belonging to the Sultan
or his sons entering
or going out of Aden
will be free from
Custom duties.

(Signed) 355

'Aden. Copies of treaties entered into with the Sultan of Lahedge called for by the Government of India' [355v] (12/22)

(Signed) On Thursday
the 5th of Rabia thani
1255.-

Witnesses.-

Saffer, Native Agha
of Captain Haines.-

(Signed) Hassan Abdulla

Kattoeb.-

" Abdu Saffi
bin Abdulla

Rabia.-

" Ali bin Abdulla.-

Seal of Sultan
M' Houssein
Fudthel.-

merely a pretext to give time
to call in the assistance
of the Fouthel tribes.
Captain Haines refused
these terms, and directed
the place to be captured
giving his plan of attack
to Captain Smith which
was followed.-

Aden was taken
by storm on the 19th Jan^y
at noon, and after it had
fallen into the hands of
the British Sultan M'
Houssein Fudthel re-entered
Aden, apologized and laid
the whole blame of first
commencing hostilities
on his son Ahmed. He and
his tribe generally were
forgiven and the Bombay
Government generously
granted the original stipend
money agreed upon an
amounting 8700 dollars
per annum, 6 months
of which were paid up
at the time.-

This Treaty is made
by Sultan M' Houssein
Fudthel, his heirs and
successors, the Tribes
of the Azibee and Salamee

Sultan M' Houssein
had no sooner returned
in land with this money
than he entered into an
engagement with the
Fouthel

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Fudhlee Tribe to assist him in recovering Aden from the English by a sudden on night surprise, and as the payment for their services, he made over to them the whole sum just received from the Political Agent - secret intelligence was obtained by the Political Agent as to the time of the attack, and the outworks were strengthened - On the morning of the 11th Nov^r 1839 about 5000 men attacked the Wall and were defeated with severe loss. -

The second attack took place at 2 A.M. on the 21st May 1840, where they were again repulsed with loss - whilst on the side of the British but 6 men were wounded. -

On the 5th July 1840, at 2.45 A.M. a third attack was made, in which the enemy suffered severely and were compelled to retreat with the greatest haste - These repeated defeats proved to them that they had little chance of wresting Aden from the British by force - They therefore send for peace, and forgiveness which

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in their visit to Aden on Saturday the 27th day of Shar el Hadjel Haram. 1258. -

Being anxious to make peace with the British Government, Captain S. D. Staines, in the name of the British Gov^t, has given his consent, and has made peace with Sultan el Houssain Fudhlee, and his adherents, and on this Treaty has Sultan el Houssain Fudhlee placed his seal, and Captain S. D. Staines on the part of the British Government has set his seal. -

Inasmuch as peace is good and desirable for both parties, the Sultan el Houssain Fudhlee

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Fudhel of Lahedge which was granted, and
in the name of Sultan M'Isoussain
himself, heirs, or again entered Aden in
successors, and the January 1843, when the
Tribes of Belancee present treaty was drawn
and Azzeibee and up and agreed to, by a
Captain H.D. Haines the Sultan and his Tribe
on the part of on their part, and Capt^o
Her Most Gracious James Political Agent,
Majesty Queen as the Government or
Victoria 4th of Representative. It will
Great Britain be observed in this last
and Ireland, have treaty that the stipend
made this money is conditional on
Holy agreement, the Sultan's good conduct,
that between the and several articles in the
two Governments previous band, favorable to
shall exist a himself and his tribe, are
firm and lasting not included in this treaty,
Friendship on an account of his treacherous
that shall never conduct as manifested in
be broken from the foregoing paragraphs. -
the beginning Having signed this a
into the end of Treaty, he left Aden, throwing
all things, and himself on the generosity of
to this agreement the British Government,
God is witness. - who were to judge from
his future conduct, whether
his professions were sincere. -

Article 1st

'Aden. Copies of treaties entered into with the Sultan of Lahedge called for by
the Government of India' [357r] (15/22)

Article 1st //

In consideration of the respect due to the British Gov^{ty} Sultan M' Houssein Faathel agrees to restore the lands and property of all kinds belonging to the late Hassan Abdulla Kattab, Agent to the British at Lahedge, as after such property shall be proven. But the Sultan M' Houssein expects in return, that certain Revenue and Territorial Books styled "Deiras" said to be in the possession of the Kattab Family, should be restored to the Government of Lahedge, and then their persons shall be safe should they wish to go inland —

Article 2^d

The Sultan will on the same consideration, and has in the presence of Witnesses, settled all claims made by Shumail the Jew, and he will also attend to all claims that may be brought ⁽³⁵⁾ against

against him during his fifteen
days residence in Aden.

Article 3rd

Such transit duties as
shall be hereafter specified
shall be exacted by the Sultan,
who binds himself not to exceed
them. The Sultan will also by
every means in his power
facilitate the intercourse of
merchants and that he shall
in return be empowered to
levy a moderate export duty.

Article 4th

The Sultan engages to
permit British Subjects to
visit Lahedge for Commercial
purposes, and to protect them,
allowing toleration of religion,
with the exception of burning
the dead.

Article 5th

Should any British
Subject become amenable to
the Law, he is to be made over
to the Authorities at Aden and
in like manner are the subjects
of the Sultan to be made over
to his jurisdiction.

Article 6th

'Aden. Copies of treaties entered into with the Sultan of Lahedge called for by
the Government of India' [358r] (17/22)

Article 6th 13

The Bridge at Khor Muksa
is English property, and as
such shall be kept in order
by them, but should it be o
proved that it is destroyed by
the followers of the Sultan, he
shall repair it. -

Article 7th

The Sultan binds himself
as far as he can, to keep the
roads clear of plundering o
parties, and to protect all o
Merchandise passing through
his territories. -

Article 8th

British subjects may
with the permission of the Sultan
hold in tenure land at Lahedge,
subject to the laws of the Country
and in like manner may the
Ryots of the Sultan hold property
in Aden subject to the British
Laws. -

Article 9th

Such articles as the Sultan
may require for his own family
shall pass Aden free of Duty,
and in like manner all presents,
and all Government property
(358) shall

'Aden. Copies of treaties entered into with the Sultan of Lahedge called for by the Government of India' [358v] (18/22)

shall pass the territories of the Sultan free from transit duty.

Article 10th

With regard to the stipend of the Sultan, it entirely rests with Captain Haines and British Government. The Sultan considers the British his true friends and likewise the British look upon the Sultan of Lahedge as their friends.

This Treaty is concluded on the 11th day of Shar Moharrum el Haram Ashoor in the year of the Hejira 1258.

(Signed) Sultan M' Houssein Fudthel.

" S. D. Haines, Captain in V.
Rt. Agent Aden.

Seal of the Sultan
M' Houssein
Fudthel.

Seal of Captain
S. D. Haines,
Rt. Agent Aden.

A further Bond obtained by Captain S. D. Haines J. C. V. Rt. Agent at Aden, from Sultan M' Houssein Fudthel prior to granting him his monthly salary after his repeated attacks on Aden.

The Right Honorable the Governor^{General} of India having been graciously pleased to grant

'Aden. Copies of treaties entered into with the Sultan of Lahedge called for by the Government of India' [359r] (19/22)

At the expiration of ¹⁵ grant to me a monthly
a 12 month, Government Salary of 541 German
were pleased to grant Crowns so long as
Sultan M. Housain a I continue to act
monthly Salary of 541 honestly and amicably
German Crowns, and towards the British
generously allowed in every respect,
him to draw the same adhering to the terms
from the day that he of my late bond
last entered Aden, & dated February 11th
signed the Treaty, being 1843, especially
the 11th Feb^r 1843. and he sworn and delivered
thus had 12 months back to S. G. S. James Esq^r
allowance to receive. Captain in the S. V.
Captain James the Pol^t and Political Agent
Agent deeming ito at Aden.
necessary to bind
the Sultan down to
a strict adherence
to his bond, obtained
from him the annexed
accompaniment
to the Treaty of Feb^r
11th 1843 since this date
Aden has remained
at peace, and no
attempt has been
made to molest the
outworks. —

I hereby solemnly
attest the religious
Sincerity thereof,
and moreover declare
that in all things
relating to the peace,
progress, & prosperity
of Aden, I will use
every effort to avert
calamity, and lend
my utmost aid to
support the interests
of the British Flag,
and I will conform
in

'Aden. Copies of treaties entered into with the Sultan of Lahedge called for by
the Government of India' [359v] (20/22)

in all intention and purpose
to the articles specified in my
late bond dated 11th Feb^r 1843. -

I further bind myself
by Oath, that should any
breach of Faith or trespass,
on the aforesaid bond or
either as concerning myself,
Children, Chiefs, or any
other person or persons of
my Tribe, or those in my
pay, or any individual or
whomever in any way,
or by any means connected
with my Government, or
under my jurisdiction,
or should one or any of
the aforesaid persons be in
any manner convicted
of having been privy to, or
accessary to such breach
of faith, or trespass on the
Treaty, or of committing any
act of plunder whatever on
the roads leading into Aden
from the Interior, to take the
whole responsibility on
myself, and to be answerable
to the British, and if I or
other above mentioned or
either

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the Government of India' [360r] (21/22)

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either openly or by secret or
machination protect any
offender, and do not render
entire satisfaction to the British,
I freely and solemnly swear
to relinquish all claim to the
salary granted by the Right
Honorable the Governor General
of India, and declare myself
perjured before all men.

I further swear that, if
I do not strictly abide henceforth
by the bond dated 11th February
1843, and the above mentioned
conditions, all claims I may
have on the kindness, friendship,
and generosity of the British
Government is rendered null,
and consequently for any breach
of truth or aggression on
my part for the future I render
myself open to the severest
retribution.

(Dated Feb^{ry} }
20th 1844. - }

(Signed) Sultan M' Housain Fudthel
(True Translations)

(Signed) S. B. James
Captain S. B.
Public Agent at Aden

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'Aden. Copies of treaties entered into with the Sultan of Lahedge called for by the Government of India' [360v] (22/22)

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Minute by His Excellency the Commander in Chief, concurred in by the Honble Mr Crawford, and the Honble Mr Reid, without date.

Copy to be sent to the Government of India with reference to Mr Under Secy Edward's letter-dated the 9th September 1843, calling for this information.

(Signed) J. M. Mahon.

J. H. Crawford.

L. B. Reid.

N^o 3.

N^o 218, of 1844.

O: N^o 3908.

N^o 7381.

Pol: Department.

From,

J. P. Willoughby, Esquire.

Chief Secy to the Govt of Bombay.

To,

F. Currie, Esquire.

Secretary to the Govt of India.

Sir,

Dated 23rd December 1844.

I am directed to transmit to you for submission to the Right Honble the Govt Genl of India in Council, Copy of a letter from Captain Haines, dated the 25th ultimo, N^o 79, transmitting Copies of all Treaties that have been entered into with the Sultan of Lahedge as called for in Mr Under Secy Edward's Communication dated the 9th September N^o 594, of 1843.

Bombay Castle
23rd Dec^r 1844.

I have the honor to be Sir

(Signed) J. P. Willoughby,

Chief Secy

True Extract.

M. Howard
Secretary to Govt

Copies by
J. P. Willoughby