

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 15 JANUARY 1835 , Nos.25-29. contd.

...

marched down in the direction of Caramania, destined it is said, to relieve other detachments, but it is expected that they have another destination.

Extract of a letter from Syria dated Damasucus 10th September 1834.

The posts has a large naval and military force and the Russian a reserve in the Blackades.

The influence of England and France alone restrains the Sultan from falling on Mahomed Ali.

~~/True copies/~~

Sd/-R.Taylor, Lieutt.Coll.

Poll.Agent Turkish Arabia.

/True copies/

Sd/- W.H. Wathen,

Secretary to Government.

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 15 JANUARY 1835, No.25-29. contd.

...

No.29.

No.67.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Political Department,
Bombay.

Sir.

No.1 & 2.

I have the honour to forward the enclosed intelligence just brought to intelligence just brought to me from Damascus by a messenger in seventeen days.

I immediately communicated it to the Pacha and a conversation took place, during which some interesting facts were elicited, and which were received not only from him but from a capigi now here from Constantinople.

They asserted positively that there would be no war with England and France, as Ambassadors have been sent to both powers to prepare them for a declaration if hostility with Mahomed Ali and the advance of a Russian fleet to Constantinople, and that as they were not to pass the Dardanellis, those powers had agreed to those steps, as to the advance by Dianbekie of a Russian contingent in aid of Reshid Pacha against Syria.

They asserted that any French or British armaments were merely intended for observation, and that they had every confidence that by a due attention to stipulation the peace of Europe would be preserved.

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 15 JANUARY 1835, Nos.25-29. contd.

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In any other case, the Pacha still begged, that I would not move that we were too distant from the theatre of war to be affected by its commotions, and there solemnly asserted, raising his right hand to his head, on my head but if any harm happen to you or your people or the rights of freidnship be violated; may if these relations be not increased between "us". He then particularly gave it in charge to Hamdi Beg, a near relative of his and an individual who has always been most friendly to us, to go and assure us of his sentiment in any way that might be most convincing and satisfactory to us.

Under this state of things and the vital importance, in the present position of affairs of early and certain intelligence, and the best means of communication with the theatre of future operations, I shall not think of moving from hence.

Moreover this contingency is by no means new to the records and annals of this Residency where the British representative in the Pachalic has, more than once, retained his position securely honourably and beneficially, in the midst of hostilities between Britain and Turkey.

Should a Russian military contingent aid Reshid Pacha against Syria, and the Egyptians not be similarly assisted by France, Ibrahim Pasha will, in all probability fail in the inland war, though on the Coasts and maritime cities of the Medeterranean, he may be a more equal match

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 15 JANUARY 1835, Nos.25-29. contd.

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In the event of a war with the Turks, against such active interference of Russia, would government be disposed to take up some position at the lower part of the Euphrates, on its Delta, in the Chaab territory, as a check to the ultimate encroachments of Russia, or even to attempt arrangements in this part of the Pachalic ? as relating to this subject I submit a copy/ of my reply to a series of questions lately proposed to me from high official authority.

The Amezeh Arabs lately called into guall the Jerbah tribe, have on this turn become troublesome; whence it has been deemed necessary to send a force against them under the Kohayah, who is the shortly to commence his march.

I am anxiously waiting advices of ulterior events from Constantinople, Syria and Egypt, but in the mean time may I suggest the expediency of instructing the Resident in the Persian Gulf to comply with a requisition for the services of a vessel of war, should such at any time in the course of events become necessary.

I have &ca.

Baghdad,

Sd/-A. Taylor, Lt.Coll.

10th October 1834.

Poll.Agent Turkish Arabia.

Extract of a letter from Syria dated Damascus 21st Sept.1834.

Intelligence has reached Ibrahim Pacha that the Sultan has declared war against Mahomed Ali, while an army

FORE.POLL.DE TT. 15 JANUARY 1835, Nos.25-29. contd.

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for the conquest of Syria, while we were startled by the news, a French man of war was dispatched from the fleet at Smyrna on the 22nd Ultimo and arrived very recently at Beyroot, Communicating the important intelligence that the Russians had arrived war the Bophorous and that the Furkish Fleet was ready to sail down the Baidanellis.

On the other hand a formidable French Squadron left Tontan for the levent on the 7th ultimo another is coming out from England and the Pacha's fleet will move very shortly to Caramania, I presume to offer cooperation It is also affirmed tht 20,000 French troops have arrived at Napoli De Romania whose object will doubtless be to proceed up the Dardanelles should the Russian and Turks continue their present hostile attitude.

Extract of a letter from Syria dated Damascus 22nd
September 1834.

Since writing the within Mr. Consul General Farren has communicated to me the following intelligence just received it appears by a Frenchman of War dispatched on purpose to Beyroot and Alexandria and arrived direct from the French Fleet at Smyrna which she left on the 22nd August, at that date the Russian fleet had arrived near the Bophrens. The Sultan had declaredd war against Mahomed Ali and his fleet was ready to Sail from the Daodanelles.

FORE.POLL.DEPTT 15 JANUARY 1835, Nos.25-29. contd.

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Aforemidable French Squadron sailed from Tanton on the 7th August for the Levant, and an English fleet is coming out the Egyptian Squadron is at Sea and it is said waiting for reinforcements whom it will proceed to the Coast of Caramania.

Moreover, I have learned that 20,000 French troops are landed at Napoli De Armania the capital of Greece from whence they can proceed against Turkey and Russia in a few days.

In the meantime as the Grand Vizier has approached to Diarbekir with 50,000 men Ibrahim Pacha is dispatching to our Suethun frontier all the cavalry and infantry that he can spare ammunition &c. &c. Regiments of the former passed through for Homa a few days ago and a Regiment of Infantry leaves this on Wednesday for the same direction.

Question 1st. Is it your opinion that the different Ports of the Pachalic of Baghdad will adhere together under the present system of government.

Answer 1st.-

Decidedly I think they would remain as they now are in the same relative position provided no external disturbing force, exert a fatal influence. The Government and finances of the country are in the most wretched condition. Obviously beaving it a weak and trembling viction to any external evemy. The only now probable agents of destinction may, perhaps be contemplated in Russia and the

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 15 JANUARY 1835, Nos.25-29. contd.

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the egyptian Pacha while the Court of Constantinople can assert it right as it now does to the Pachalic, I know of no native power within the boundaries of the this lack, which is likely to dispute the Imperial title; its present habit of adhesion in the component parts, the result of the Ottoman authority unquestioned for so many ages, will retain the compound mass in its existing state, as long as the source whence the law emanated continues to live.

Question 2nd - In the event of further ~~Con~~versions in the Turkish Empire, do you think that the Pashalic has the means of maintaining a separate and independent existence.

Answer 2nd. - She possess in abundance all the physical means, but the moral power derivable from an efficient and wise government she decidedly has not; nor do I know of any one within its bosom who possesses the character which could fit him to become the saviour and regenerator of this country if the dominant power in the capital falls. I believe that if not seized by some sovereign and external power, - the two for instance above named, she will revert to a state of districts divided between the Arab and Kurdish tribes of the country, which her past history shows has more than once been the case. Even now during the temporary feebleness of the existing local administration such is the appearance

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 15 JANUARY 1835, Nos.25-29. contd.

....

the extent of the weakness of the government and the encreasing power and audacity of the native tribes.

Question 3rd. - Does it appear to you that the Inhabitants of the Pachalic, including those along the lives as far as the Gulf of Persia are desirous of placing themselves permanently under the dominion of Mahomed Ali, or would they rather submit to the rule of a European powers and what are the feelings towards England, France and Russia respectively?

Answer 3rd. - I think that the inhabitants of the Pachalic generally would rather be subject to the settled, powerful though rigorous, rule of the Pacha of Egypt than the weak and rapacious administration to which they are now exposed of France, they know little Russians detested by all but a few of the dependents of government, who are clearly influenced by the example of the capital, England is certainly the power best known and most desired, and I apprehend but little difficulty in producing the change, should it ever be an object of public importance to our country.

Question 4th. - Are the commercial relations between India and Baghdad still of much importance and extent ?

Question- 5th. - What are the amount of revenues actually received by the Pasha and what they may be under a peaceable government oppressing the Inhabitants of

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 15 JANUARY 1835, Nos.25-29. contd.

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Answer 4th.- The Commerce of the Pachalic with India may in capital value on an average, be about forty lacs rupees yearly, much however of which formerly was supplied from India is now received via Damascus, aleppo and Orfah from England, the exports received from the Pachalia remain nearly the same as they have been for years.

Answer 5th. - The present sources of Revenue are confined to Bushara and Baghdad almost exclusively; and amount to nearly thirty lacs rupees under proper government, and taking every fair advantage of the general resources of the country without the Shadow of oppression, they might easily be made to produce a million of pounds sterling yearly, with every prospect too of improvement.

Payment to public officers are made in ruinous grants of lands, monopolies are granted at half their price, Kuovary in collection and bringing to accounts is connived at to an enormous extent; and bribery encouraged as greatly all this losses fall upon the Treasury and might be saved to the Government with perfect case.

/True copy

/True copies/

Sd/-R.Taylor,

Sd/-W.H.Wathen,

Lieut. Coll.

Secy. to Government.

Poll.Agent Turkish Arabia.

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 9. MAY 1836, No.s9-11.

...

No.9.

No.600

To

The Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir,

From the Civil Surgeon,
In charge dated 5th
Sept. 1835 with
enclosure.

From the Resident
in the Persian Gulf
dated 27th Oct.
1835.

Reply to 21st Decr.
1835 from the Resi-
dent in the Persian
Gulf dated 31st
Jany 1836 with encl-
osures.

Do- do- dated 24th
February 1836.

I am directed by the
Right Honorable the Governor
General in Council to transmit
to you for the purpose of sub-
mission to the Right Honorable
the Governor General of India
in Council copies of despatches
dated as per margin relative to
the state of affairs in the neigh-
bourhood of Bahrein in the Persian
Gulf.

2nd. In forwarding the above despatches the Gover-
nor in Council requests to be furnished with such instruc-
tions as the Government of India may see fit to issue.

I have &ca.

Poll.Deptt. Bombay Castle,
13th April 1836.

Sd/-J.P. Willoughby
Secy. to Government.

FORE.POOL.DEPTT. 9 MAY 1836, Nos.9-11. contd.

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No.10.

No.51 of 1835

Political Department

To

W.H.Madanaghten Esquire,

Chief Secretary to Government of India

Fort William.

Sir,

In doing the myself the honor of submitting for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council the accompanying translation of a letter from the Government Agent at Bahrein relative to the present state of affairs on that quarter, I beg leave to promise as in some measure connected therewith, that about two and half months ago, a person named Abdullah bin Musharie, at one time a very respectable merchant of Barhein arrived at Muscat from Mecca bearing letters, it is said from Ahmed Pasha to the Imam of Muscat, Abdulla bin Ahmed Sheikh of Burhein and Fasil bin Turki chief of the Wahabees intimating to them that he had been pleased to part Katif to Abdullah bin Musharie at a stated revenue (according to one account 20,000 Dollars another 24,000 annually) and directing he might be permitted to take possession of and keep the territory committed to his charge without molestation.

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2nd. By the Imam he was received and treated with much courtesy furnished with a Batil and provisions by to convey to Katif and letters to Fasil bin Turki and Sheikh Abdulla ben Ahmed, the general tenor of which was represented to be conciliatory and peaceful, and the object to establish a good understanding between all parties, and to this supposition the mutual presents and apparent good feeling of the Imam, and Sheikh Abdullah towards each other seemed to give an air of probability while on the other hand the machinations of the Imama in other quarters the repeated messengers between him and the Wahabee chief the amicable relations and close alliance supposed to have been entered into by them would tend much more to awake suspicious ~~xxxxx~~ of a treaty having been concluded between them on the terms of mutual aid in the advancement of their respective schemes, vizt. the Imam to reduce Humood ben Azam and the Wahabee Chief to subjugate the Uttobees.

3rd. That those are object earnestly desired by the two personages mentioned is well known but that the Imam would not only consent to but actually aid in the aggrean-
dishment of so powerful and dangerous a neighbourhood as the Wahabee would be to display a want of foresight of which he can hardly be considered capable and the conclusion of a peace in the Humood ben Azan, if the professions of the parties be sincere would at once seem to negative such a supposition.

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 9 MAY 1836, Nos.9-11. contd.

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4th. Shortly after the arrival of Abdullah ben Mushairie at Katif and the receipt by the Seikh of Burhain of the letters addressed to him by Ahmed Pasha and Seid Seid, messengers were despatched from both parties with letters to Fasil ben Turki, and that chieftains ~~does~~ not seem to have kept either long in suspense as to the course he determined to pursue or to have given other reply than by marching about 100 cavalry and 600 Infantry without delay to assert his right of superiority over and shew his resolution to keep Katif and the surrounding districts so unceremoniously granted to another by Ahmed Pasha.

Abdullab ben Musharie fled on hearing of the approach of Fasils Troops and the accompanying enclosure gives an account of their subsequent operations and the consequences far as I have learned of their attempt to Capture Terhoot, which it may be remarked fell under the sway of the Uttoobees during the confusions that ensued on the violent death of the present Wahabee chief's father and while his arms were engaged in asserting his right of succession to the disputed authority of his paternal inheritance.

Residency in the Persian Gulf.

I have &ca.

Bushire, 5th September 1835..

Sd/-T. Mackenzie

Civil Surgeon.

In charge.

L. P.

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 9 MAY 1836, Nos.9-11. contd.

...

Translation of a letter from the Agent at Bahrein to the Acting Resident in the Persian Gulf dated 4th Jumadee ul uwwul or 29th August 1835.

After compliments,

I beg leave to inform you that about 14 days ago information reached this that about 500 Infantry issued out from Katif with the hope of Capturing Terhoot. The garrison on the forts on the part of Abdullah ben Ahmed opposed them and three men fell on the side of Fasils troops and a few were wounded when they returned to Katif. Formerly there was intercourse between Bahrein and Katif but now vessels are prohibited from proceeding to the latter place, two boats from Katif with dates came to Bahrein, both of which were plundered by order of Sheikh Abdullah and warning has been given that all boats proceeding to Ajeer shall be burnt. It is the intention of the Bahrein Sheikhs to send two small Buglas to prevent any one coming from Katif to Terhoot. Hajee alis Bugla which conveyed a present of two horses from the sons of Khuleefa ben Suleeman to such Seid, has returned from Muscat bringing two female camels, fifty bugs of rice, two of coffee and some dresses from Seid Seid in return, Great friendship now exists between them. Vessels have now been sent to put a stop to all communication between Katif and Terhoot as likewise a vessel to intercept all who may be

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 9 MAY 1836, Nos.9-11.contd.

....

may be proceeding to Ajeer.

/True translation/

Sd/-T.Mackenzie,

Civil Surgeon,

In Charge.

/True copy/

Sd/-T.Mackenzie,

Civil Surgeon,

In charge -

2/No.60 of 1835

Political Department.

To

Charles Norris Esquire,

Chief Secretary to the Government,

Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to Mr. Mackenzie's communications dated 5th ultimo, I regret having to state for the further information of Government, that up to the latest accounts disturbances continue to exist in the neighbourhood of "Bahrein", and that "Kuteef" was still blockaded by "Sheikh Abdoola ben Ahmed through I am happy to state without as yet displaying that character of ferocity, which on a former occasion distinguished similar proceedings on the part of that chief.

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 9 MAY 1836, Nos.9-11. contd.

...

2nd. The person named Abdoolah Bin Musharee adverted to in the above despatch, seems to have actually made his appearance in this quarter as a dependent of Ahmed Basha and to have been treated as such with distinguished kindness, by His Highness the Imam, but although he may in some measure, have been the immediate cause of the collision which has lately taken place between the Shaikh of Bahrein and the Wahabee Chief by attracting the attention of the latter towards "Kateef" and the recovery of the Island of Terhoot it does not appear from any authentic information. I have yet been able to obtain that such collision really originated through any machinations on the part of that individuals.

3rd. It may have been an object of policy on the part of Ahmed Pasha, to engage Fuzil Bin Toorkee, the present Wahabee chief in operations towards the North-East, whilst he was prosecuting his conquests in the South - West quarter of the Arabian Peninsula, at the same time the Imam might have been equally interested in drawing the attention of the same warlike sect in a direction opposite to his own dominions, nor is it unreasonable to suppose that His Highness might wish to see his ancient enemy "Shaikh Abdullah" engaged in renewed hostilities with so powerful an opponent as the Chief of the Wahabees and which surmises may in some measure identify "Abdoolah Bin Musharee" who is still at "Kuteef" with the late events in that direction in communication with the Imam.

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 9.5.1836, Nos.9-11. contd.

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4th. Whether such identify be established or otherwise it must however be an object of some importance to watch any active movement, or aggression on the part of "Fuzel Bin Toorkee" towards the Coast or which brings him into more immediate ascendancy over the maritime arab tribes; as if once in possession of resources to prosecute his enterprises by sea there is little doubt but that he might not only conquer Bahrein, but at no distant period assume a position in the Gulf which no native chief in this quarter could hope to contend against.

5th. The possible contingencies attendant upon such accession of means has already been fully entered upon by Mr. Blane in his report dated 19th May 1834 though with common vigilance on the part of the Resident at this place it is hardly possible that even this fanatical sect can ever attain so decided a preponderance as to be able to extend their excursions to the Court of Persia, without Government being made aware of such in time to adopt any measures that circumstances, or our then relationship with the court of Tehran might point out as most desirable or expedient.

6th. I have been unable to obtain any information from the Records of this office, regarding the personal qualities of the present Head of the Wahabees, upon which the future influence of that body must so materially depend - but report speaks most favorably of him, as a chief of

FORE.POL. DEPTT. 9 MAY 1826, Nos.9-11. contd.

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~~byxxxx~~

by the decisive measures he adopted under very disadvantageous circumstances to avenge his fathers' death as well as in asserting and making good, his right of succession to the late Toorkee Bin Saood.

7th. As it must however be desirable that we should possess better information regarding the Chieftains his present resources and views, and which can be so much better ascertained from those who came more immediately within the scope of his policy, I propose proceeding in the direction of Bahrein and Kuteef, so soon as the Honorable Company's sloop of War Elphinstone can be spared from this station, and when I trust I shall be able to form a more correct opinion on these heads or of any intrigues or hostilities which may have been lately carried on in that part of the Gulf.

Residency in the Persian Gulf.

I have &c.

Bushire 27th October 1835.

Sd/-J.Morison,

Resident in the Persian Gulf.

3/ No.1641 of 1835.

To

The Resident - Persian Gulf.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 27th ultimo reporting on the continued disturbed state of the Persian Gulf and to acquaint you

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 9 MAY 1836, Nos.9-11. contd.

....

that the Right Honorable the Governor in Council approves of your intention to proceed to Bahrein and Kuteef as stated in the 7th paragraph of your letter.

Bombay Castle,

I have &ca.

21st December 1835.

Sd/-J.P. Willoughby,

Secy. to Govt.

4/No.12 of 1836

Political Department.

To

J.P. Willoughby Esquire,

Secretary to Government,

Bombay.

Sir,

1. Adverting to my despatch dated 27th October last, I have the honor to report that I visited Bahrein in proceeding towards Abothabee and on my return thence.

2. I had however the disappointment of finding Shikh Abdoolah absent upon both occasion as in the first instance he had proceeded in pursuit of his rebellions son /Ahmed bin Abdoolah/ who had made his escape from the Coast of Khils and proceeded to Muscat for the avowed purpose of soliciting His Highness the Imaum to espouse his cause, and on my second visit the Saik was absent blockading Howila where another of his son supported by

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 9 MAY 1836, Nos.9-11. contd.

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*Note Isa bin Jaif and Sultan bin Salama uncles of the sons now in rebellion against Shaikh Abdoola and formerly subjects of Bahrein is already stated in 2nd para: of Report dated 3rd November last.

by the Chiefs of that place* had established himself in opposition to his father's authority having also obtained the aid of several hundred men from the Mahibee Chief by

which he was not only able to set the power of Abdoolah at defiance but had lately captured several Boats belonging to Bahrein within a short distance of that Island.

3. I had hoped there was but little chance of the Imaum being induced to embark in any further combination against the Shaikh of Bahrein in the present weakened state of his own government, though the latter seemed so convinced of offensive designs being entertained against him by His Highness, that he had for some time past placed an embargo upon his vessels proceeding towards the lower end of the gulf, but I regret to find by a letter received, from the Agent at Musdat (of which an extract is enclosed) that Saed Saed in the meantime contemplated supplying the Bin "Tarif Party with Powder and shot, which cannot but be considered as a breach of neutrality on his part, towards his ancient opponent shaikh Abdoolah.

4th. On my late visit to Abothabee I also ascertained the Imaum had not only presented a supply of ammunition to Shaikh Khulleefa short time before but that the Benyas were entirely dependent, upon his generosity for the materials

FORE.POLL. DEPTT. 9 MAY 1836, Nos.9-11. contd.

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materials required to finish a large war boat now on the stocks at that place, whilst it ought to be made known to Government that both the Mombassee, and Buttalee by which the principal acts of Piracy were committed in the early part of last year, are also said to have been the Gifts of His Highness to the above Chief.

5th. Under the operation of our late change of policy towards the Imaum I however feel much reluctance in addressing a formal communication to him upon the latter subject more especially as the chiefs of Abothabee have long been considered as closely allied with the Muscat Government, and are indeed at the present moment almost indispensable towards the support of that state, as a counterpoise against the encroaching power of the Joasmee: who have of late years been but too much inclined to take advantage of its weakness.

6th. Supplying the chiefs upon the Coast of Arabia with vessels arms or ammunition, must however be considered as in some measure affording the means of continued dissension among themselves as well as for aggression in a more extended shape which ought not to be entirely overlooked and if therefore appears tome that it would be desirable if His Highness Generosity were infuture confined to less hurtful questionable gifts. With this object in view, it

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 9 MAY 1836, Nos.9-11. contd.

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it was my intention to have visited Muscat in a tour I proposed making towards the eastern side of the Gulf, at the end of the present month, but as the defective state of the Honorable Company sloop of War Elphinstone (reported in my letter of the 29th instant) renders it highly expedient she should also proceed to that place, at the earliest practicable moment, I have now the honor, to report my intention of embarking upon that vessel for the lower part of the Gulf on the 5th proximo.

Residency in the Persian
Gulf, Bushire,
31st January 1836.

I have &ca.
Sd/-J. Morrison,
Resident in the Persian
Gulf.

Translated/ extract of a letter from the Native Agent at Muscat dated 21st December 1835.

I have also to mention that a Bugarah from Howella from Bin Tarif Sultan bin Sulama, and the son of Shaikh Abdoolah had reached Muscat soliciting the aid of His Highness and informing him, that the present is the time for making himself master of Bahrein. They intimate to him likewise that assistance is now, and will in a short time be furnished to a greater extent by Fazil bin Toorkee, that His Highness is friendly towards both parties, but that he thinks it likely he (His Highness) will in the meantime supply the Bin Tarif Party ~~xx~~ ^{with} the powder and shot.

/True Translation/

/True copy/ (0 0

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 9 MAY 1836, Nos.9-11. contd.

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No.23 of 1836

Political Department.

To

J.P. Willoughby Esquire,
Secretary to Government,
Bombay.

Sir,

As connected with despatch No.12 of the 31st Ultimo, and my letter of yesterday's date I have the honor to forward a translated Extract of a late Report from the Agent at Bahrein the latter paragraph of which may also be deemed of some importance, in elucidating the state of affairs on the Western side of the Arabian Peninsula, and that the preponderating influence of Mahomed Ally Pasha may be considered as affording a salutary check in that direction upon the encroachments of the Wah^aabee sect towards the Coast of the Persian Gulf which late accounts show to be an object on the part of the present chief, Fazel Bin Torrkee and which at least for a time, could not fail of most seriously disturbing peace and good order in the latter quarter.

2nd. By information received by me whilst at Bassadore, it also appeared that the Wah^aabee Naib at Beheme, had summoned the whole of the Arab chiefs upon the Coast in the name of his superior to repair to that place, as was stated for the purpose of calling upon them to furnish vessels for a meditated invasion of Bahrein, and which report I found to

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 9 MAY 1836, Nos.9-11. contd.

...

also confidentially informed by His Highness the Imam of a similar requisition having been made upon him for the use of his ships of war to assist ~~xxx~~ in attacking Saikh Abdullah; but which he had evaded for the present by stating in reply that he was not at liberty to employ his vessels in such enterprises, without the previous knowledge and sanction of the English Government - a plan which I have little doubt Sultan Bin Suggur and the principal chiefs will also be glad to avail themselves of as they dread the renewed extension of the Wahibee power and influence and I would beg respectfully to submit for the consideration of Government whether the prevalence of such a feeling as well as the present disorder attendant upon the intestine divisions of the Utobee Tribe do not afford a favorable opportunity for imposing the further restriction suggested in the 3rd paragraph of my communication to your address dated 21st January last which I have reason to believe would prove no less acceptable to the peaceful and well disposed, than calculated to promote the much more effectual and efficient exercise of our maritime Control, and avowed object of suppressing piracy and outrage in the Persian seas.

3rd. Adverting to the first paragraph of my letter no.12 above referred to, I have much satisfaction on further reporting that His Highness the Imam had not only declined taking any part in the disputes so unhappily existing between the Shaikh of Bahrein and a part of his

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 9 MAY 1836, Nos.9-11. contd.

...

his family but previous to my arrival at his capital, had fitted out one of his Frigates for the purpose of sending his son Saed ^I Kullal to mediate between the contending parties; appearing to be most fully empressed with the evils which must result to himself as well as others, from a fanatical sect like the Wahabee obtaining a footing in that quarter and the consequent means of maritime aggression in the Gulf, and at his request I not only exposed -tulated with Mahomed Bin Abdullah on the folly of his trying to effect his Father's downfall, but wrote to the Shaikh himself expressing a hope that the kind endeavours His Highness was about exerting with a view of putting an end to such unnatural desse~~x~~nsions would be crowned with success, and which if persisted in, could not but lead to the great detriment of not ruin of all parties concerned.

4th. I take this opportunity of also mentioning that upon introducing the subject of presents, adverted to in the last paragraph of my letter dated 31st ultimo, the Imaum at once admitted the objections urged in regard to his supplying the Arab Chiefs with vessels or munitions of War, and I trust hereafter His Highness munificence will be limited to less questionable gifts, the least wish of Government, appearing on all occasions to meet with the most cordial and ready acquiescence on his part.

I have &ca.

H.C.Schooner Byrene,

Sd/ J.Morrison,

at Sea 24th February 1836

Resident in the Persian Gulf

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 9 MAY 1836, Nos.9-11. contd.

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Translated Extract of a letter from the Agent at Bushire, to the Resident in the Persian Gulf dated 11th ^{Ska} Muwwal on 30th January 1836.

After compliments,

The news in this quarter are, that on the 29th of Ramzan the people of Howilla aided by some troops sent by Fazil Bein Toorkee the Wahibee Chief carried the Fort of Tweril by assault, killing 11 of the Bahrein Men and sparing the rest Ulia bin Afzan and Baddow with about 200 Horse and foot sent by Fazel being still at Howilla some time has now elapsed since Khoir Hassan has also been besieged by them from which at one time they succeeded in cutting off the supply of water which had to be furnished from Bahrein but the wells have been again recovered Shaikh Abdullah himself being now at Khoer Hassan, the son of Salama have cart anchor off Howilla, the people of which have always 5 or 6 Bezarahs cruising against the Bahrein Boats. Since the 20th of Ramzan 2 Bezarahs belonging to Bahrein have been plundered by the Howilla people on their way from Bussorah making in all 8 vessels which have shared a similar fate.

On the 24th Ramzan Shaikh Ahmed Bin Abdullah and Sultan Bin Salama returned from Muscat in a Batille belonging to Said Said accompanied on their return by a servant of His Highness to ensure them a safe passage and conveying a letter to Saik Abdullah intimating that however

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...

rebellious sons of the latter, it availed not.

On the 2nd instant information reached this from Lapa, that 5 Troopers arrived on the 14th Ramazan belonging to Alli Pasha army from Medina bringing a mandate for Fazil to proceed and meet Ibrahim Pasha with the probable view of enducing the Wahibee Chiefs to cooperate against the Assur Tribe.

Fazil excused himself on the plea of sickness but on the 16th sent his brother with 30 horses, some calalines and other articles as presents.

*Note the Tribe who defeated the Army of Ibrahim Pasha last year near Sennas.

A few days ago intelligence also arrived that 40,000 Troops had been concentrated on Median for the purpose of commencing operations against the Asseer* Tribe, upon whom it is said Mahomed Alli Pasha is resolved to be revenged.

This information is acceptable to the Bahrein Shaikh, as it encourages him to prolong the struggle, and depress, the hope of the other party.

/True translation/

Sd/-J. Morrison,

Resident in the Persian Gulf.

/True copies/

Sd/-J.P. Willoughby,

Secretary to Government of Bombay.

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No.11.

Ordered that the following letter be written in reply to Mr. Willoughby., to the Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay

To

J.P.Willoughby Esquire,

Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay.

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 13th ultimo, transmitting copies of the Despatches relative to the state of Affairs in the neighbourhood of Bahrein in the Persian Gulf and soliciting instructions.

2nd. In reply I am desired to observe that the particular point upon which instructions are required has not been ~~stated~~ stated, and His Lordship in Council is at a loss therefore to know the questions upon which his opinion is required. But I am directed to add that the Governor General in Council is only anxious that all measures should be avoided which may involve the Govt. of India in embarrassing engagements with any of the contending parties. He sees no reason to disapprove the measures adopted by the President which as far as His Lordship in Council can judge from the imperfect information possessed by him with regard to the Island of Bahrein appear to have been judicious and His Lordship in Council can only express his hope that they may have

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...

It will be desirable that the Government of Bombay in referring for instructions regarding the affairs of the Persian Gulf should always give their own opinion for the consideration of the Government of India.

I have the honor to be,

Sd/-W.H.Macnaghten,

Secretary to the Govt. of India.

Fort William,

the 9th May 1836.

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FORE. POLL. DEPT. SECT. E. JUNE. 1920. NOS. 1-152. Contd.

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C.O'H.T. - 17-1-19.

Yes. Home Department should see.

W.G. NEALE, - 18-1-19.

Home Department. (See page 31 of notes.)

Pro. No. 86.

TELEGRAM FROM HIS MAJESTY'S SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA,
DATED THE 16 (RECEIVED 17TH) JANUARY 1919.

Repeats a telegram which he has addressed to Baghded in
regard to dispute between King Hussain and Bin Saud.

Pro. No. 87.

TELEGRAM FROM THE POLITICAL RESIDENT IN THE PERSIAN
GILF, BAGHDAD, NO. 590, DATED THE 16TH (RECEIVED
17TH) JANUARY 1919.

FORE. POLL. DEPT. SECT. E. JUNE. 1920. NOS.1-152. Contd.

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Repeats a telegram which he has addressed to the Secretary of state regarding the desire of the Ajaimi to proceed to Iark.

Pr. No. 86 and 87 are submitted for information.

Pro.No. 86 puts an end to the controversy between

See Pro. No. 84 and 85 and notes pages Cairo and
32 to 34. Baghdad and

indicates that His Majesty's Government are prepared to let matters go their usual course. Bin Saud well, in the circumstances, not be given the ultimatum until the situation assumes a more distinctive character and shows more clearly who is in fault.

2. With the fall of Medina and the removal of all prospective help from Turkey Bin Saud is sure to act with more discretion unless he is hard pressed by the Sherifian authorities. May wait and see whether Cairo has anything further to urge.

3. Pro. No. 87 appears somewhat strong, it, however settles the enquiry and local advice must stand. No