

Political Department

To,

J. P. Willoughby Esquire

Secretary to the Government

Bombay

Sir,

Residency Persian Gulf
reporting upon the Island
of Bahrein and its resources.

In my letter N^o 13 in this Department, dated the 22nd ultimo, I had the honor of submitting to the Honorable the Governor in Council, my opinions, touching the expediency of allowing the Sheik of Bahrein to connect himself with the British Government, in the event of his wishing to do so.

2^d Agreeably to the instructions conveyed in your letter N^o 5176 Political Department, I have now the honor to lay before the Government, all the information I possess, and have been able to acquire, regarding the resources of that Island.

3^d Situation and description of Bahrein

Bahrein is situated in the centre of a deep triangular shaped bight,

on

on the Arabian Coast, lying between Ras
 Peccan, and Ras Teinoora. The access to
 it, owing to the Shoals in the neighbourhood,
 (more particularly those known by the name
 of the "Debit" and "Teignmouth") is not
 unattended with risk, although no material
 obstacles offer to Vessels navigated with average
 skill and caution. When within these Shoals,
 the Harbour is good, and well sheltered,
 The Island itself is about thirty miles in
 length, and from nine to six in breadth.

It does not appear that grain is cultivated to
 any extent, but the place abounds with date
 groves, gardens, and fields of clover, which are
 unusually productive, owing to the facility of
 irrigation afforded by the numerous springs
 of fresh water on the island -

As no duties or customs are levied
 upon the Imports and exports of Bahrain,
 the revenue of the Sheik is principally derived
 from the produce of the date plantations, nearly
 the whole of which have been seized from
 the original owners, by the Mtoobees. The total

Revenue of the Island

sum

sum realized from this source may amount to 100000 Crowns per annum, but as this is divided in different proportions among the numerous relatives, and connexions of the Mithoobe Chief, it is impossible to say what portion reaches his own Coffers. Sheikh Abdollah, however derives a small income from the pearl boats, each of which pays him, from five to ten crowns, according to its, on its return from the Banks.

Exports and Imports

The chief Articles of Export from Bahrein consist of Pearls, dried dates and Bullion. Of the former about 350000 Crowns worth are annually collected by the Neseels belonging to the place, and something more than that quantity is brought in from other parts of the Gulf for sale. The total amount of the Exports may amount to about eight lacs of dollars annually. The Imports are principally from India, and are composed of rice, Cotton Cloths, Callicoes Spices &c to the extent of perhaps 600000 Dollars each year. Of these articles one fourth may be expended in Bahrein, the remainder being re-exported to the different ports.

ports in the Gulf about thirteen years ago
the Sheik began to levy regular customs upon
the commerce of Bahrein, but after a trial of
seven years, the attempt was abandoned as a failure.

6th The only Towns of any size are *Towns and population*
Manama, and Muharag, near the Harbour,
and two smaller ones called Ruffa and
Jow, situated at some distance inland.

It is said that formerly Bahrein possessed
upwards of 300 Villages, but at present there
are not above 50 Hamlets, averaging about
20 Houses each; no fixed Taxes are taken
from the Inhabitants, but whenever the
Sheik requires money, he levies forced con-
tributions, particularly on the Bahreynian
aborigines of the Island, who being descendants
of the old Persian Settlers, and consequently Sheiks
in their religious tenets, are greatly oppressed. This
clan, perhaps, consists of about Fifteen thousand in-
dividuals, while the Arab Inhabitants calling themselves
Mudobees may be reckoned at an equal number,
altho those really belonging to the Tribe do not
actually exceed a thousand.

7th

Nasal resonance of
Bahama

2080

The Utterbee Chief can muster a large number of vessels than any other prince in the Gulf. He has twelve large Buglas which are never employed in trade, and in cases of emergency he prohibits the departure of the Merchant Buglas which traffic with India, these consist of twenty five, some of them of the first class, and most of the others of a respectable size. In addition to the above twelve Bateels and Ghanchars are engaged in the Indian trade. The boats employed in the Pearl Fisheries may be reckoned at about eight hundred.

Climate

The climate of the Bahama is bad and the Inhabitants suffer more than those of other places, when any contagious disease appears in the Gulf. The ravages of the cholera when it breaks out, are very much greater there than any other part of the Arabian or Persian coasts. The Gulf Fever, is also prevalent at certain seasons, and strangers sleeping on shore, are liable to suffer from its deadly effects. Upon the

2080

the whole with the exception of Muscat, Hishu, and Bassadore, I am disposed to consider Bahrein as the most unhealthy place in this quarter of the globe.

The power of the Bahrein Chief has of late years been much weakened by the contumacious conduct of his sons and the dissensions which have arisen among his other relatives. some of them, particularly the family of his nephew Abulcafa, are supposed to be friendly disposed towards the Imam. the secession of Esa ben Saif with 400 followers, has also been productive of injurious consequences to Sherh Abdolla, the more so, as that person, who is a man of great courage and energy, has now closely connected himself with the government of Muscat, and through its influence will probably act materially in promoting the views of Khair Shid Pasha on Bahrein.

The power of the Bahrein chief diminished by the dissensions in his own family.

What amount of subsidy will Abdollah ben Shaid, to save himself from coming under the much dreaded yoke of the

summary resins of the Ottoman chief.

19

2082

the Viceroy of Egypt, might be disposed to
promise for the protection of the British
Government, is impossible to say, without
entering into communication with that
Chieftain, but I am inclined to think,
that under present circumstances he could
not afford to pay from the revenues of
Bahrein a larger sum than ten thousand
Crowns per annum. It is however asserted
by some that the Ottoman chief possesses
a private hoard to the value of several
hundred thousand Dollars. If this be true, he might
perhaps be induced by the difficulties of
his present position, to offer a considerable
sum in ready money with the view of
securing the safe and uninterrupted posses-
sion of his territory and Treasury.

Residency in the Persian Gulf
Bushire 2^d March 1839

I have the honor to be &c

Wm. S. Merrill
Resident in the Persian Gulf

2/
No. 14 of 1839.

To,

Political Department,
J. P. Willoughby Esq.
Secretary to Government.

2083

1/2/

Enclosed I have the honor to forward for the information of the Honble the Governor in Council, translations of two letters from the Agent at Bahrein, reporting upon the subject of the state of affairs in that quarter, and the ~~ap-
parent determination of Sheikh Abdulla~~ bin Ahmed to decline a compliance with Khorsid Pasha's requisitions.

2. That the Bahrein Chief may attempt to play off the Persian Government against that of Egypt, in order to avoid submission to a power he dreads so much as that of Mahomed Ali Pasha is. I think very probable, but I question whether his pretended connexion with this country will have much influence in changing the views of

of the Pasha, who in the protection af-
forded to so influential a person as Omar
ben Afesari and the retention of the
Fort of Taroot is not without grounds to
justify his enforcing his demands upon
Bahrein whenever he may be prepared
to do so.

2084

3. The accompanying is a trans-
lation of a letter to my address from
Sheik Abdollah ben Ahmed, requesting
my advice as to the expediency, or other-
wise, of his sending a member of his fa-
mily to meet Khorsheid Pasha at Lahsa
as requested by the latter. Not being my-
self aware of the light in which the
British Government is disposed to con-
template the successful progress of Ma-
homed Ally Pasha's arms in Arabia, I
have hitherto when addressed upon the
subject, avoided as far as possible giving
a direct opinion. In my reply therefore
to the communication from the Bahrein
Chief (a copy of which is now enclosed)

3/4/

I have still maintained the same tone of caution. Viewing the question however solely with reference to the effects likely to be produced by the firm establishment of the authority of the Egyptian ruler over the maritime Tribes of the Arabian Coast, I should be disposed to consider that the salutary control of a comparatively fixed and stable Government over them, would, by repressing their perpetual Feuds, and quarrels ~~add~~ ^{add} increased efficacy to the measures we have so long and hitherto successfully pursued, for the suppression of piracy, and the gradual improvement of their former lawless habits and pursuits.

Residency in the Persian
Gulf Bosphorus
11 February 1839

I have the honor to be
signed/ J. Hennell
Resident in The
Persian Gulf

N^o. 1.

2086

Translation of a letter from Mulla Allahomed Ali
Agent at Bahrain to the Resident in the Persian
Gulf dated 21st Zulkhad or 7th February 1839.

The Egyptian Commanders
have sent three messengers with letters
to Shaik Abdolla bin Ahmed, the
last arrived on the 17th Zulkhad with
a demand that Osman bin Ufeisan
should be sent to Lahsak in order that
he may be treated according to his deserts.

That the Fort of Dumassi should be
given up to them - and that one of
the Shaiks should proceed to visit them
at Lahsak. It appears that Shaik ab-
dolla bin Ahmed intends putting a
stop to all communication between
Bahrain and Lahsak and it is also
apparent that he is much afraid of the
Egyptian power, and is desirous of al-
liance with Persia: with the latter
he

he has exchanged several letters and speaks highly in praise of the Persians. The whole of the large vessels now at Bahrein have been prevented going to sea. A boat has arrived from Bushire bringing letters to several Arab Merchants from their friends, to the effect that the Prince of Fars intends setting out for the Dashtee and Dashtestan Country and assembling his Forces at Kungoon about the "Novruz" (New Year's Day the 21st of March). There are two accounts as to the destination of this Force, one being that they are intended to surprize the Troops at Karracki when off their guard at night and thus to destroy them - the other that an expedition to Bahrein is contemplated. -

Two days ago it was very generally reported that a misunder-

misunderstanding had arisen between Shaik Kuleefa bin Shakiboot and Esa bin Jarief, and that the latter could no longer hope for assistance from the Bonyas, who were desirous of arranging a peace with Shaik abdoolla bin Ahmed.

The Mohurrak people have this day reported the arrival of two vessels belonging to the al ali in the neighbourhood of Bahrein, which has scared away the fishing boats.

As yet abdoolla bin ahmed has taken no further steps than that of preventing the large vessels from putting to sea - all the vessels the property of the Shaikhs are drawn up on the beach.

As yet no one belonging to the Egyptian army has visited Bahrein the Messengers who have arrived

arrived are all of them Nejde Arabs. -
 Muktoom Chief of Debarj
 arrived at Bahrein with Three Bugga-
 ras on the 17th of Zilkhad and im-
 mediately went to visit Abdoolah bin
 Ahmed he brought two female Camels
 with him, one of which he presented
 to Abdoolah bin Ahmed and the other
 to Allahomed bin Kuleefa whose guest
 he is - As yet no return has been
 made and it appears that Abdoolah
 bin Ahmed has no faith in the pro-
 fessed friendship of the people of
 Oman (Goasmees). It is said that
 an Egyptian Army 9,000 strong has
 arrived at Rasf and that they de-
 sign the conquest of Bussora, whether
 this is true or false I know not. -

True Translation

(signed) J. Edmunds

Assistant Resident

13 / N^o 6 of 1839.

2090

Political Department

To

J. P. Willoughby Esquire

Secretary to the Government

Bombay

Sir,

Adverting to my letter N^o. 3
in this Department under date the 21st
Instant, reporting the capture of the Ed
Wahabie Chief Ameer Fyzah by Khorsid
Pasha, and the fall of Dillum, Lahsah,
and Hateef. I now do myself the honor
to enclose a translation of a letter received
from Sheik Sultan ben Suggur the Head
of the Joasme Tribes, requesting to know
if they may look to us for support in case
of their subjugation being contemplated by
the Pasha of Egypt. In reply to this
communication I have confined myself
to

to stating that as the British Government had hitherto abstained from interfering in the internal affairs of Nedgd I did not consider it likely that it would do so on the present occasion, but as the subject of the Sheikh's letter was one of importance, I should take an early opportunity of submitting it to the consideration of the Honorable the Governor in Council.

Residency in the Persian Gulf, Bushire } I have the honor to be very
 29th January 1839 } Resident in the Persian Gulf.

Translation of a letter from Gooltan bin Suggur Chief of the Joasmefs to the Resident in the Persian Gulf - dated 7th Rumaizan or 26th November 1838.

In times of trouble it is expedient that people endeavour to arrange their affairs in such a manner that misfortunes shall not reach them & so

for us who inhabit this part of the
Country, any intention of shewing hos-
-tility towards others, is as distant as
is the east from the West, but we fear
that some of the Great Sovereigns intend
extending their conquests to our Country.
We know full well that the end of
this affair will be treachery, and on
this account we give you information
thereof and request your advice, for
we have hope only in the Almighty,
and you We wish to be made acquainted
with your intentions as to whether in
case we are attacked by these Great
Sovereigns

Sovereigns you will afford us aid or
 not, and whether you are empowered to
 give us an answer to this or not, in
 order that while there is still opportunity
 we may arrange our affairs - If you
 recommend it, I will send a person to
 the Governour of Bombay to consult
 with him.

True Translation

/signed/ J. Edmunds

Assistant Resident

True Copy

/signed/ S. Hennell

Resident in the Persian Gulf

True Copy

"H. W. Houghton
 Secy to Govt."

4/

2094

N^o 12. of 1839

Political Department

Sr,

J. P. Willoughby Esquire

Secretary to Government

Bombay.

Sir,

Enclosed I have the honor to forward for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council, the accompanying translated extract of a letter from the British Agent at Shangah reporting the steps taken by Sheikh Sultan ben Suggur against a Tribe called the Shakakeen, residing in Casaab, Coonza, and Ras Mupendom, places situated on the northern extremity of the province of Oman.

Although the Shakakeen are completely enclosed on the land side by the territories of Sheikh Sultan, whose alleged authority over them was believed acknowledged by H. H. the Imam to

Major

Major Morrison in 1836, still, that Tribe
has long continued to maintain a sort
of independence, and keeping up a friend-
ly communication with the authorities
of Muscat; has hitherto exhibited little
disposition to submit to the claim of
supremacy advanced by the Joasme
Chief.

The immediate cause
out of which the present quarrel has
arisen was the treacherous surrender
of one of the Shahaheen Forts by its com-
mander to the Raib of Sheikh ben Sug-
-our (residing in Kibba) who imme-
-diately dismantled it. This act was
followed by skirmishes, and predatory
incursions on either side, until the Joas-
-me Chief finding that he could make
but little impression by land, has
according to the report of our agent,
determined to attempt the establishment
of his authority over the Shahaheen,
by sending a naval expedition to
blockade

3

2096

blockade their ports and cut off their communication with Muscat. In a letter dated the 11th November last Sheikh Sultan intimated to me that these people being his subjects (as acknowledged by a former resident) it was his intention to reduce them to obedience by force of arms. To this I made no objection in my reply, not being then aware that it was his plan to dispatch a Naval Armament for the attainment of the object he had in view. On the receipt of our Agents report (now enclosed) I considered it necessary to point out to the Joosmee Chief, that his commencing operations by sea without first intimating his purpose to me, was irregular. It did not however appear to be an affair calling for further interference, and I therefore contented myself with warning the Sheikh, to be most careful to impress upon all his people, the necessity of their studiously avoiding the commission of any acts of aggression upon

upon the Vessels and property of others than the immediate enemies against whom he was about to proceed. For the purpose of giving weight to this re-commendation, I have taken advantage of the present interval, when no movements appear to be in preparation at Shiraz, to despatch the H. E. Sloop of War Olive to Shargah, in order to convey the Communication above referred to, as well as a number of letters to the chiefs of the Arabian Coast, which have been for some time awaiting an opportunity for their transmission.

Residency in the Persian Gulf Bushire 5th February 1839. I have the honor to be Sir Signed J. Hennell Resident in the Persian Gulf.

410

सर्वाधिकार सुरक्षित नसिंहलाना
 भारत सरकार

2098 ✓

St

His Excellency
Vice Admiral
Sir John Gore K. B.

Commander in Chief of H. M.
Naval Forces in the E. I.

Recd
18th May

W. M.

W. M.

We have had the
honour to receive Your Ex-
cellency's letter dated the
11th ultimo forwarding Copy
of a report from Captain
Aunt of Her Majesty's
Ship *Argo* on the
subject of *Red High*

the Emperor of Muscovy
 Treaty with the Americans
 and his offer of the "Liverpool"
 for the service of His Majesty
 and in reply we have to in-
 form Your Excellency, that
~~as this is a subject which~~
~~is not in the hands of~~
~~the Government of the~~
~~Government your letter~~
 has been forwarded to
 His Excellency the Right
 Honorable the Governor General.
~~from whom you will receive~~
~~your answer~~

We have etc.

J. Williams
8th May 1834

✓
✓
~~3000~~
2100

Translation through the medium
of Persian, of an Arabic
Letter from Soliman
superintendent of the
affairs of Jeddah to the
address of His Excellency
the Right Honorable
the Governor General.

Received 28 February 1835.

After Compliments.

At a happy and
propitious moment
your

your Lordships Letter
having arrived has
strengthened the founda-
tions of our reciprocal
friendship. - I have fully
understood the contents
of your Letter, and
our friend Tohis Ali
has on his safe arrival
communicated to me
all the circumstances
which your Lordship
was pleased to entrust
him with. - I treated
him with every degree
of

3007
2101

of respect and regard,
as I thought it was
necessary for me to
do so, since your
Lordship wrote that
a friend of one state
is to be considered a
friend of the other,
which is very right,
and moreover my
Master Mohummud
Ali Pasha Governor
of Egypt gave me a
peremptory instruction
directing that I should
attend

~~3002~~
2102

attend to all the
commands of the

British Government.

Your Lordship is exceed-
ingly high in power,

and we are ready to

serve you with great

pleasure - The marks
of respect and esteem

with which I treated

our friend Saher Ali

will, I am sure be made

known to your Lordship

by his communication.

and I beg to assure

your

3003
2103

your Lordship that your

Commands will be always

duly executed by me -

The particulars of
my Affairs will I presume,
be fully made known to
your Lordship by the verbal

Communications of other
persons who may wait
upon you from this
quarter.

(True Translation)

W. Newby

Deputy Secretary to the Court

3005
2105

To
The Honorable
Sir Charles J. Metcalfe Bart
Vice President in Council
Calcutta

Sir,
I transmit herewith, for the
information of the Right Honorable The
Governor General in Council, a copy of the
Report made to me by Captain Hart, upon
his return to Bombay, from executing the
Mission upon which he had been deputed
to the Emperor of Persia; and I have
every reason to be perfectly satisfied with
having so ^{happy} a result.

I have sent a similar report
to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

3006
2106

and requested their Lordships decision respecting the Liverpool; in the mean time I shall be very glad to have the opinion of the Supreme Council upon the expediency of accepting the Inaund's offer in how much it may compromise me respecting his breaking the Treaty with the Americans.

Yours Very

John Jay

Vice Admiral and
Commander in Chief

Malville in Madras Roads
11th April 1834

Copy

His Majesty's Ship Inoene

At sea 10th Febry 1834

His Excellency

Vice Admiral

Sir John Cow K. C. B.

Commander in Chief

Sir

In pursuance of your
Excellency's

3007
2107

3

No. 1. Maum's Original
Treaty with the Ame-
ricans in Arabic &
English.

No. 2. Copy of D. in
English.

No. 3. List of the Squadron
of His Highness
the Imam.

No. 4. Declaration of His
Highness the Imam
to Captain Hart
(written in Arabic)
with a translation
in English.

Excellency's Orders of the
14. Utterance. I have to state
my proceedings with His
Highness the Imam of
Muscat and the informa-
tion I have obtained re-
specting his Power, Influ-
ence and Trade throughout
his Dominion, and its
neighbourhood, and also
the fact, and particulars
of the Treaty lately made
by His Highness with
the Americans, and which
I now forward, with encls.
sent as per margin.

In execution of the
orders, I left Bombay on
the 15. January, and ar-
rived at Zanzibar, after a
passage of fifteen days,

3008
2108

in the evening of the 20th. We came to anchor
off the Mauna Palace, alongside of the Levee
pool 1/4 Jund, His Highness's flag ship, carry-
ing a Red flag at the main. This is not
the usual place of anchorage, and only made
use of by the Mauna Men of War, in conse-
quence of its being immediately opposite his Palace,
which stands on the beach, about a quarter of
a mile from the Ship. We found at this anchor-
age, besides the ~~Mauna~~ two flagates, two
Comettes, and a Brig for the number, three,
Donnaji, state, age, and condition of His
Highness's Squadron, I beg to refer your Excellency
to enclosure No 3.

At the anchorage off the Town
which is about five miles from this, there were
lying, one English Merchant Brig, one Ame-
rican Merchant Ship, and two Brigs, with
several small craft of the Country. Before
we had anchored, His Highness sent off a
Captain of one of his flagates to welcome
us.

2009
2109

as, in our arrival (and) to express His High-
ness great pleasure in seeing an En-
glish man of that. I thanked him for
his attention, (and) said I was sorry it
was after dark, as it could not salute His
Highness until early the next morning, when
I could do so with 21 guns. He said they knew
our custom very well, (and) that their Flag Ship
was ready to return our salute whenever we
would begin. He saw me on shore, (and) I begged
him to state to His Highness that I was
sent to pay respects to him, (and) to enquire
after his health, (and) that I had also depated
at which I would deliver, at any time His High-
ness would do me the honor to receive me. The
next morning at day light, we fired a Royal
salute, which was taken up by the Flag Ship
immediately after our first gun, and in the
same time, it also appeared a continuation
of the same salute, (and) this exactness of a
travelling salute, they observed in all sub-

- sequent

2070
2110

report firing, taking it up, at our last gun.
 Mr. Clock, the Captain returned, bringing
 with him a present which he said His High-
 ness had sent for the Captain, consisting of two
 Bullocks and Vegetables, with a quantity of
 Spirit, sufficient for a ~~part~~ for the whole
 Crew after they had devoured one of the Bullocks.
 The ~~present~~ ~~was~~ brought in a message to say
 that with a Highness would be ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~company~~ whenever
 next convenient to myself, I mentioned Mr Clock
 and at that time went on shore. His Highness
 with his Officers received me at the steps of the
 House, in the most courteous and kind manner
 coming up to shake hands, and pointing out the
 way I was to go, followed me to a long room,
 at the head of which he placed me on his
 right. He conversed through his Interpreter,
 Captain Mason, of His Highness's Navy,
 who though an Arab, was educated at Cambridge
 and writes English well, and is His
 Highness's Confidential Secretary. Captain
 Mason

appeared a very pleasant, mild, gentlemanly
 man, and very partial to the English, has
 been much at Bombay, Calcutta, and various
 parts of India, and is appointed by His High-
 ness as Agent to the English, and it is
 through him alone, that any thing can be
 done. After many exposures of my health, and
 hoped that I had not suffered by the Voyage,
 he convinced by saying how pleased he was
 to see an English Ship, and when he heard
 his fire, you he was delighted as he was
 sure she was a Man of War. He always con-
 sidered the English as his best friends, and was
 happy to see them at all times, and when in his
 power to shew them every possible attention. I told
 him, the friendship was mutual, that the
 English had a great regard for him, and his
 Subjects, and we were glad to shew our sin-
 cerity whenever we had an opportunity, and that
 in saying this, I was only speaking the
 sentiments of my country towards him. We
 played

3012
2112

played at compliments for some time; in a very pleasant
and good humoured manner, when the Interpreter
said, that His Highness was more pleased than
ever from the beginning to the end, and requested
I would ask for every thing wanted. This
was a good opportunity to change the subject
and I then stated that the ship required to be
supplied with Beef, Vegetables, Wood and Water.
His Highness ordered the boats off immediately
and they brought off a quantity of Water in the
course of the afternoon. As this was our
first interview, I could not very well introduce
what I wished we therefore spoke about the
ships of his Squadron I admired the Liverpool
a very fine ship of 74 guns, and told him, she
was very like the Melville, he said she was
English and all that they said or did was good
I told him we had on board the Imogene
guns on a new construction, and if he would
do me the honor of visiting the ship, I should
be glad to show him them, tho he was quite
ready

ready to do, and Monday was fixed to be the day.
 Having gone thro' the ceremony of drinking
 Coffee and Sherbet, I took my leave and went
 on board. The next day I went to introduce
 the Affairs to Mr. Stegness, who was happy to
 see them, receiving us at their door, and we were
 shown into the same room as yesterday and dined
 with Coffee and Sherbet. Mr. Stegness and
 the young Prince, his two Sons, shaking hands
 in the most good humoured manner with all who
 offered to do so. When this was over he told the
 Interpreters to take a Chair near him and be-
 gan in an under voice saying that his Agent
 had been writing to him, about Mr. Steg-
 ness having made a Treaty with the Ame-
 ricans, that he had done so, it was true, but
 not with any intention of injuring, or forgetting
 his best friends the English, to whom he felt
 himself so attached, that he was willing to give
 them every thing, even his Country, if they
 wished it. That as for the Americans he
 could

could nothing for them, they were nothing to him, his attachment was to the English, he would show me the treaty (and if there was any thing in it I objected to, he would immediately alter or break it, and send it to America, as he thought nothing of it: and this was the subject upon which I felt most interested, and as the Officers were all present, and he speaking in an under voice, I proposed sending them away, as putting him more at his ease. This was the time of their great fast called Ramadan, during which they fast all day, and had frequent prayers, the hour for which was now approaching and he requested I would come the next day at 3 or 4 o'clock, which was always the hours appointed by him, for an interview, we consequently took leave, and returned on board. The next day I went on shore, and after the compliments of the day, His Highness gave me the American Treaty, which he requested I would read, and take on board and give him my opinion

and

and that he would make any alteration, or break
 it if I wished. He asked if the Americans come
 to attack me, will the English give me their
 supports. I told him that as I had not yet read
 the Treaty, I could not say any thing about it,
 but as for the latter question, it required some
 consideration to answer. It was a great pity, he
 had made a Treaty without consulting his
 greatest friends, the English, that he had
 no occasion to have made any, and that he
 could have told them he was very glad to see
 them made, but as for a Treaty he could not, and
 would not make one without the consent
 and approbation of his great allies the English.
 He said that is all very right and true and
 in future if any one comes to me to make
 a Treaty I will send them off directly to Rom.
 by telling them I will sign any thing
 my good friends the English agree to, but it
 is now too late and the question is what
 can I do? If you tell me to break the
 Treaty

3016
2116

Treaty, I will do so, but will the English support me, in case the Americans come to attack me? I began ~~and~~ was going to say if he had asked the English and taken their advice he might have had better reasons to expect their support, but he stopped me short, and holding up both his hands ~~and~~ laughing said "No, no, no excuse, no excuse, will the English support me? I will do any thing you like and break the Treaty tomorrow." I told him it was a question I had no power to answer, and at present, I had not even read the Treaty. He repeated his wish for me to take it on board and give him my opinion, and advice what to do. I now took leave, promising carefully to read the Treaty, ~~and~~ went on board.

In reading the Treaty, I found that His Majesty had not only given the Americans free liberty to live ~~and~~ to dwell at any place they pleased, in his Dominions ~~and~~ to have Consuls, or ~~form~~ Establishments at

15 2117
3017

at any Port but that he had also signed away
his own right to fix a value; on any Cargo
imported or exported; that the Americans are
to pay 5 per Cent upon all goods, Imported
wherein 5 per Cent is to cover all charges of
Exportation as well as Importation, including
Pilotsage, Tonnage, Anchorage, and Licence
to Trade; nor is any other charge whatever
to be made, and although the Americans agree
to pay 5 per Cent upon their Import Cargoes
yet the Value of such Cargoes are to be
fixed by themselves, and neither the Maam
or the Officers of his Customs are to interfere
All the right, opinion, and authority of His
Highness or his Officers, are to be subservient
to the will of the Master of the American
Merchant Vessels, and he must take his per
centage upon what value they choose to
put upon their Cargoes. And whilst the Mas-
ter of the American Vessels are thus left
to pay what they please, the Treaty gives
And

3018
2118

Art 8. to the Emperor, as an indulgence, leave to
Trade to America, in his paying the Duties, and all other
charges - His Highness says he did not understand the
Treaty, and if there is any thing required to prove this,
on that point a most far fetched and over reaching
Treaty, nothing more is necessary than the above
fact, or the production of the Treaty itself -

In the course of the day
Captain Hagan came on board, he lives here,
and was not at Muscat when the Treaty was
made. He had been present, and was Interpreter
at all the interviews I had with His High-
ness, and therefore knew all that had passed. He
said, what a pity it was, that His Highness
had not done, as I had said, and as he ought
to have done, it would have been so easy, and
to accomplish ~~the~~ ~~things~~ ~~and~~ ~~what~~ ~~had~~ ~~gone~~
off so smoothly. That His Highness knew that
now, but the time was gone past, and what
His Highness wished to know, was, what he
could do now. It was that, which the Emperor
wished

3019
2119

wished me to tell him - I said it was easy
to have avoided making the Treaty, but when
once made it was not so easy to break it.
He said that was very true - He now sat down
to read it ~~over~~ ^{over} Article by Article, he explaining
the Arabic to me, and I the English to him.
He was surprized, and said the Imam could
never have understood it. It was now 10 O'clock
and as the Imam was to visit the Ship
at 3 P. M. he went on shore, to attend
His Highness on board the Ship, in compli-
ment to His Highness, had been dressed in
Colours, since 8 in the Morning, and at the
appointed time, all the Pirates attended to
escort His Highness on board, he coming off
in the Barge which hoisted his Red Flag,
the other Boats attending and forming in two
lines. He was received with a Royal Salute,
and the Officers in full uniform, and was atten-
ded on board by two of his Sons, the Governor
/ who is his Uncle / and several Officers. From

the

the quarter deck, went to the Cabin, where they
all took seats, and sat for some time. refresh-
ments were offered, but it being the great fast
of Ramadan, none were accepted. His High-
ness frequently thanked me for my great kindness
and attention, that he could not sufficiently
express all he felt, but that it came from his
"inside" and from the bottom of his heart. As
the Liverpool was laying close under our
stern, our attention was called to her, I admired
her magnificent appearance, and repeated his great kindness
to the Melville. He said she was a very fine
Ship, and built by the English, and that nothing
would please him so much, as for the English
to have her, that if they would accept of her,
he should be very happy. I thanked him, and
told him, I would faithfully report his mani-
fested offer to my Admiral. He said that is what
I wish, and to the Admiralty, and to the King.
I show in very good emotion but is too large for
the Service of Muscat and of the King of
England

2020
2/20

England will accept of her, it will make me very happy, I will send her to Bombay or if you like, will give her to you here. — We then went round the ship, and returned to the Cabin for a short time, when he took his leave, apparently highly pleased, and with every expression of thanks and gratitude. He proceeded to the Show, under a Royal Salute the Boats attending in the same manner as they brought him off. The next day I went on show to see the Ammiral, upon the subject of the Treaty, which I had now read. His Highness began our interview by saying that Mr Edmund Roberts, who was the American Ambassador upon the occasion, began his Mission by requesting His Highness to pay him some money due to him from His Highness's subjects upon some commercial transaction, which took place five or six years ago, when Mr Roberts was trading upon that coast — that he His Highness had refused

3022
2/22

to do this, and then Mr. Edmund Roberts commenced making the Treaty, and said you allow other ships and people, to go, and settle at Gungahbar, what fault have we done, that we may not do the same, our little ships go trading all round the world; and we are now come to shew that great ones can, and will follow them. His Highness laughed, and said this was alluding to the Corvette, and Schooner; but we had seen much larger Ships. He said, I only tell you this that you may know, that this was the beginning of the Treaty. Mr. Edmund Roberts, was an old, fat, blustering Man, and I was glad to sign the Treaty to get rid of him as I did not think it of any importance. I never saw Mr. Edmund Roberts sign it, nor any one else, nor had it any witnesses they brought the paper to me, and I signed it. I told His Highness that he had done very wrong, in making any Treaty, he

No 83

125

Political Department

3023
2123

Sir

L. R. Reid Esquire

Acting Chief Secretary

Bombay

Sir

In doing myself the honor to enclose for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council, the accompanying translation of a letter from my Bushe correspondent, giving the particulars of another disturbance at Shiraz, I beg to add, that rumours are very current, that an earthquake has taken place in Tehran, which had assumed so serious an aspect, that the Shah had been under the necessity of shutting himself in the Ark, or fortified Palace, and was still there when the copy which brought this intelligence came away.

2
So little belief can be placed in the exaggerated reports usually floating in

Bushe

3024
2124

Pushire, that it is difficult to say whether
this one is more deserving of credence than others;
but the proceedings of the Firman Forma
at Shiraz, would seem to indicate, that he
was under little apprehension of either speedy
or severe notice being taken of them by the
Shah.

Residency in the Persian Gulf } I have the honor to be signed
9th September 1839 } Resident in the Persian Gulf.

Enclosure No. 1

Translation of a letter from Mr. A. Malcolm
an Armenian Merchant of Pushire to the
Resident in the Persian Gulf dated 7th
September 1839.

I hope you have received
all my former reports.

The reason of my not
reporting in my last letter the return of
Mirza Ghad to Shiraz - the fortifying the
towers of the citadel by mounting guns & by the

orders of the Firman Firma, the firing ¹²⁷
the whole night, a Shirazy being wounded
and the next morning the citizens killing
one of the Shirazy was, that I concluded
these circumstances would have been brought
to your knowledge by your news-writer at
Shirazy.

3025
2/25

The deposed Governor

On the 3^d Instant Baker Khan accompanied by Mirza Mahomed ^{Hasidini} and his suite, left Bushire, and proceeded to Tungaetan.

The terms entered into by Shaik Houssein with the Tungaetan Chief were arranged by Mollah Beyzad (the Moonshiee of the latter) the Shaik giving a bond promising to pay 1000 Tomans to Baker Khan for the assistance already given by him, and an additional 50 Tomans for the negotiators trouble.

The Tungaetan Chief has publicly declared that he will give his aid to Shaik Nasir should he be appointed to Bushire.

His

His object is to put an end to the custom
of Governors being sent down from Shiraz,
as he is constantly put to much expense in
furnishing them assistance in horses &c &c
whereas, on the contrary, he will always
be able to extract money, either directly or
indirectly, from Shah Nafir. Notwith-
standing these intentions, he keeps upon
friendly terms with the late Persian
Governor of Bushire, under the apprehension
lest the latter may be reappointed to
his former post.

The Cossid who arrived this
day from Shiraz states, that the Firman
Firman had sent a message to Shah Aboo
Fherat (the Chief Moollah) intimating
that A. R. H. previously to his departure
was desirous of having an interview with
25 or 30 of the most influential Inhabitants
of the city for the purpose of being reconciled
to them, accordingly a deputation composed of these
individuals proceeded to the cirk, but on their

2/26

way learnt that the Prince intended to act treacherously towards them; they consequently returned back and raised a greater tumult —

Upon this the Troops opened a fire from the Ark which the Citizens returned. In this riot they lost on either side from 20 to 30 men.

The Sorman Fama having been informed that the Sardar with his Troops was within a few Fursukhs of Shiraz, sent 30 Horsemen with orders to him to hasten his entrance into the City and take possession of its Gates and Towers. The citizens getting intelligence of this, armed themselves and proceeded out for the purpose of disarming the Sardar and his Force. the result is not yet known.

True Translation.

(Signed) P. Stearns.

(True Copy)

(Signed) S. Hennell.

Resident in the Persian Gulf

2128

Ms. A. 1. 1. 1.

Pat. 1830 Dept. 15

Chief Secy Bombay

14th March

1830

(7-9)

Submits with the reply copy of a Dispatch from the Govt on the question of referring the resolution of Peace between the Senam of Marat and the City of Bhatnagar.

No. of 1830

Political Department

To,
Charles Norris Esq
Chief Secretary to the Government
Bombay.

Sir

I have the honor to enclose
for the information of the Honble
the Governor in Council, the accom-
panying translation of a letter from
His Highness the Imam of
Muscat announcing that peace has
been concluded between His Highness
and the Chief of Bharain.

The enclosed translation
of a letter from the Agent at
Muscat shows that the terms of
this peace are similar to those
which