

1265  
-224-

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 26 DEC. 1846, Nos. 264-265.

...

No. 264.

Office No. 3859 Duplicate

No. 343 of 1846.

From

A. Malet Esquire,  
Secretary to Government of Bombay.

To

F. Currie Esquire,  
Secretary to the Govt. of India,  
With the Right Honourable the  
Governor General,  
dated 13th October 1846.

Political Department,

Sir,

I am directed by the Hon'ble the Governor in Council to transmit to you for submission to the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India, copy of a letter from the Resident in the Persian Gulf, No. 82, dated the 17th August last, reporting the arrival of the son of Saeed Bin Mootluck at Phargah and Beyne and the proceedings of that person at those places.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Bombay Castle,

Your most obedient servant,

12th October 1846

Sd/-A. Malet, Secretary to

Government of Bombay.

...

1266

- 225 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 26.12.1846, Nos. 264-265. contd.

..

No. 265.

Office No. 322 of 1846

Cons. No. 82 of 1846.

From

Major Hennell,  
Resident at the Persian Gulf.

To

A. Malet Esquire,  
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,  
Bushire, 17th August 1846.

Political Department,

Sir,

I have the honor to report for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council that about the end of June Shaik Musharee, the son of notorious Saedben Mootluk, arrived at Shargah, having embarked at Ajeer on board a Koweit vessel as the Shaiks of Bahrein had forbidden their subjects to furnish him and his companions with a passage to the coast of Oman, Musharee brought with him letters from Ameer Fysul addressed to the Imam of Muscat, and all the chiefs of Oman and Batinah. He had also three <sup>Plates</sup> (Plates) intended as Presents from the Ameer to the Imam, the Wahabee Governor and the Chief of Bryme.

End. On landing at Shargah the son of Saed bin Mootluk was received by Shaik Sultan bin Sauggur with

To the extreme mortification



1267  
- 226 -

FORE. PODL. DEPT. 26.12.1846, Nos. 264-265, contd.

...

course of the first public interview, Mashree produced and handed to him his own original letters addressed to Ameer Fysul accusing Saed ben Mootluk of having been guilty of every species of tyranny, oppression and extortion, during the period he had acted as the Wahabee Agent at Bryanee. It appears that on the recall of Ben Mootlook to Nedgd, he presented Ameer Fysul with 250 of the finest camels, together with a large amount of valuables of every description, which he had collected while at Brymee. This unexpected liberality so pleased the Ameer, that he gave Ben Mootluk one of his best Mares, and invested him with full authority over all the province of Oman, He also handed to him all the letters written by Shaik Sultan bin Suggur and others in his disparagement, which had been forwarded by them to Nedgd, while he was stationed at Brymee. Ben Mootluk's surprise on inspecting these documents as said to be have been very great, as he had always been on most intimate terms with the Joasmee Chief, and always forwarded his interests. He requested and obtained the permission of the Ameer to forward them to Shargah by his son, in order that they might be placed publicly before him. This was done, but the Shaik contrived to make his peace with Musharee, with whom he sent his son and a party of horse as an Escort of Brymee.

1268

- 227 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 26.12.1846, Nos. 264-265. contd.

...

3rd. On arriving at that place the first thing done, was to effect a reconciliation between Ul Ujajee the former Wahabee Governor, and the Seiny as Chief; the latter having exposed the side of one of the Shaiks of the Naeem, Fazal bin Mahomed, against the sons of Ally bin Humood of the same tribe, whose cause had been taken up by the Wahabee agent Shaik Saed bin Talmoon having received a safe conduct, has proceeded to Beymee, with a large party of his followers. It is reported that on leaving that place, he will join the forces of Shaik Sultan bin Suggur in the vicinity of Debaye, in which case some attempt upon either that town or Amulgavine, may not be unlikely unless discouraged by Musharee, whose father was always opposed to the extension of the authority of the Joasmee Shaik over the Minor chiefs on the coast.

Residency in the  
Persian Gulf, Bushire  
17th August 1846.

I have the honor to be,  
sd/-S. Hennell,  
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

/True copy/

sd/- A. Malet,  
Secretary to Government.

....

1269

- 229 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 16 MAY 1845, Nos. 28-29.

...

No. 28. Office No. 2105 No. 345 of 1845.

From

The Chief Secretary to the  
Government of Bombay.

To

F. Currie Esquire,  
Secretary to the Govt. of India,  
Fort William,

Dated the 28th April 1845.

Political Department.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honorable the Governor in Council to transmit to you for submission to the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council, translation of a letter from the Acting Native Agent at Muscat, dated the 28th ultimo, reporting certain hostile proceedings of Saeed bin Mootluk in Sohar, and the measures adopted in consequence by the family of His Highness the Imam of Muscat.

Bombay Castle,  
28th April 1845.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,

Sd/-J.P. Willoughby,

Chief Secretary to the  
Government of Bombay.

....

1270  
- 230 -

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 16 MAY 1845, Nos. 28-29. contd.

...

No. 29.

Persian Department,

Substance of a letter from Heskeal bin Yusooob (acting) Native agent at Muskat, to the Persian Secretary to Government, dated 28th March and received 9th April 1845.

In my last letter I informed you of the resolution to which the Members of the Imaum's family and Syud Hamood bin Uzan had come I now beg to inform you that before Suif bin Ally Zahiree had communicated their reply to saud bin Mootluk, he marched against Sohar and having attacked on the morning of the 14th instant, a fort situated on the western side of Mujis, killed men, women and children, about 200 in number. It is reported that Saud also suffered a loss of 60 men in killed. Afterwards Saud attacked a fort situated in the eastern side of Mujis but the people within it fought with him until their powder was exhausted. Afterwards they send for peace and paid him 400 Dollars. The same day Saud Hamood bin Uzan returned to Sohar and Having observed the state of things there deputed Saleh bin Saud Boosydee to Saad when Saleh bin Saud spoke to Saad in behalf of Syud Hamood and the members of the Imaum of Muskats' family, he replied he had nothing to do with the Imaum of Muscat with whom Imaum Fysul would make a settlement. Afterwards Saleh bin saud arranged that Syud Hamood should immediately give Saad 1000 Dollars 300 Mooras of

1271

--231--

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 16 MAY 1845, Nos. 28-29, contd.

...

Syud Ehoenee who had as I informed you in my last letter gone to Burka, returned to Muskat on the 17th instant and the next day he had 100 mooras and 10 bags of rice, 6 packages of sheet lead, a number of earthen pots containing powder, 10 mauds of coffee and a bag of sugar sent on board the Moosuffar on the 19th instant, when Syud Thooenee received the above news, he ordered the Moosuffa to sail for Sohar. Afterwards when he received a letter from Syud Hamood stating what had taken place in Sohar he despatched a messenger on the 21st instant, to take the Moosuffa and the troops back to Muskat. On the 22nd instant, a messenger arrived from Suck with news that when Suif bin ally zahereee was returning to muskat having with him a man of the munaseer tribe and letters from Saud he was attacked and killed together with his companions by the Buddoos of Khoozra, that the Buddoos opened and read the letters and that therefore the letters which he/the messenger/ brought for Syad Thoosaneer was open. Afterwards however a man came from Suifally bin Zahuree saying that none of them had been killed but that they had been wounded and were in Zium. The Buddoos acted thus because they heard that Hillol bin Mahomed had written to the people of the west to rise against them, the Buddoos. It is also reported that some letters written by Saad bin Moosluk and others to Syud Hillol bin Mahomed which give room for such belief, have come to

1272  
- 232 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 16.5.1845, Nos. 28-29. contd.

...

Saud bin Mootluk to the address of Syud Hoosenee contained nothing of this kind. Saud merely narrated what had taken place in Mujis and enquired of Syud Hoosenee why he had created enmity among Musselmans. Saud further stated he had forgiven him Syud Thooenee for Syud sueda sake and that he had marched against his/syud 'hoonees/ enemy. The members of the Imaum's family with the view of signifying the Saud the pleasure derived by them from his communications sent him 300 mcoras of rice 3 turees of coffee, 150 Dollars/ coat, some shawls, a piece of ambergris, a piece of wood aboes &ca. These articles were despatched on the 27th instant in a Buggarra belonging to Syud Theonee ally bin Mahomed bin Muzroo the messenger from Saad went in charge of them. The Buggard sailed for Shenas that the articles might thence be taken to Saad at Braimee.

The 100 men who had been sent to Sohar returned to musket on the 23rd instant, and the Moosuffa returned on the 25th instant. On the 26th instant men were despatched to strengthen the garrison at Suck, as Syud Hillol apprehended danger from the Buddoos.

Signed /-W. Escomb,

Secretary to Government.

/True copy/

Sd/-J.P. Willoughby,

Chief Secretary.

1273  
-233-

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 12 AUGUST 1848, Nos. 41\_42.

...

No.41.

Office No.3121

No.133 of 1848.

From

A. Malet Esquire,  
Chief Secretary to Govt. of Bombay.

To

H.M. Elliot Esquire,  
Secretary to the Govt. of India  
Fort William,

Dated 28th July 1848.

Political Department,

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to transmit to you for submission to the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council, translation of a letter from the Acting Native Agent at Muscat dated the 19th May last, communicating intelligence from that quarter up to that date.

I have the honor to be,

Bombay Castle,  
28th July 1848.

Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,

Sd/-A. Malet,

Chief Secretary.

....



1274  
- 234 -

FO E.POLL.DEPTT. 12.8.1848, No.21-42.

...

No.42.

Persian Department.

Substance of a letter from Heskeal bin Yusoof Acting native agent at Muscat to the Persian Secretary to Government dated 19th May and received 28th June 1848.

Saud Hamood bin Uzan having refused to pay the annual demand of Saad bin Mootuk and his son Syud Suif having ill treated the messenger, Saad bin Mootluk ordered mahomed bin Suif Ijajee to proceed with a body of 400 troops and to commit plunder in Syud Hamood's territory; when Syud Suif hears of this movement, he collected about 300 men and obtained the assistance of Kuktan Boosydee - on the 9th instant news was received that on the 4th instant a battle was fought at Wasil, that both parties suffered loss in killed and wounded, and that Mahomed bin Suif Ijajee retreated and went to Braimee

On the 11th instant the curten belonging to His Highness the Imam arrived from Zanzibar. It is reported that the people of seven have thrown off their allegiance to His Highness the Imam, and that His Highness has written to Sheiwa for some troops, Eleven Shaiks of the Buddoo tribe, whom Syud Thooenee had sent to Zanzibar sometime back, arrived here in the above vessel.

/true copy/

Signed/ A.Malet,

Sd/-A. Malet,

Chief Secy.

Chief Secy.



1273  
-233-

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 12 AUGUST 1848, Nos. 41\_42.

...

No.41. Office No.3121

No.133 of 1848.

From

A. Malet Esquire,  
Chief Secretary to Govt. of Bombay.

To

H.M. Elliot Esquire,  
Secretary to the Govt. of India  
Fort William,

Dated 28th July 1848.

Political Department,

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to transmit to you for submission to the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council, translation of a letter from the Acting Native Agent at Muscat dated the 19th May last, communicating intelligence from that quarter up to that date.

I have the honor to be,

Bombay Castle,  
28th July 1848.

Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,

Sd/-A. Malet,

Chief Secretary.

....

1274  
- 234 -

FO E.POLL.DEPTT. 12.8.1848, No.21-42.

...

No.42.

Persian Department.

Substance of a letter from Heskeal bin Yusoof Acting native agent at Muscat to the Persian Secretary to Government dated 19th May and received 28th June 1848.

Saud Hamood bin Uzan having refused to pay the annual demand of Saad bin Mootuk and his son Syud Suif having ill treated the messenger, Saad bin Mootluk ordered mahomed bin Suif Ijajee to proceed with a body of 400 troops and to commit plunder in Syud Hamood's territory; when Syud Suif hears of this movement, he collected about 300 men and obtained the assistance of Kuktan Boosydee - on the 9th instant news was received that on the 4th instant a battle was fought at Wasil, that both parties suffered loss in killed and wounded, and that Mahomed bin Suif Ijajee retreated and went to Braimee

On the 11th instant the curten belonging to His Highness the Imam arrived from Zanzibar. It is reported that the people of seven have thrown off their allegiance to His Highness the Imam, and that His Highness has written to Sheiwa for some troops, Eleven Shaiks of the Buddoo tribe, whom Syud Thooenee had sent to Zanzibar sometime back, arrived here in the above vessel.

/true copy/

Signed/ A.Malet,

Sd/-A. Malet,

Chief Secy.

Chief Secy.

1275  
- 235 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 2 MAY 1845, ZNos. 35-39.

...

No. 35.

Office No. 1902 No. 312 of 1845

From

The Chief Secretary to the  
Government of Bombay.

To

F. Currie Esquire,  
Secretary to the Govt. of India

Dated 18th April 1845.

Political Department,

Sir,

I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you for submission to the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council copies of the documents noted in the margin relative to a suggestion made by the Resident in the Persian Gulf, that in consequence of the Establishment of the Wahabee Power in Oman and the entire submission of all the maritime arabian chiefs to the authority of Saeed bin Mootluk, the Honorable Company's Sloop "Clive" be filled out to take the place of the "boete" previous to the departure of the latter vessel from the Persian Gulf which however for the reasons, stated in my letter to that office of this date has not been adopted.

Bombay castle,

18th April 1845

I have the honor to be,

Sd/-J.P. Willoughby

Chief Secretary.

1. Letter from the Persian Gulf dated 28th February last No. 103.  
2. Letter from dated 14<sup>th</sup> ultimo No. 126  
3. Letter from the Supt. of the I.N. dated 12th Instt. No. 255.  
4. Letter to the Resident in the Persian Gulf of this date.

1276

-236-

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 2.5.1845, Nos. 35-39. contd.

...

No. 36.

Office No. 103 of 1845

Consul. No. 29 of 1845

From

Major Hennell,  
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

To

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

Dated 28th February 1845.

Political Department.

Sir,

I have herewith the honor to enclose for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council the accompanying copy of instructions dated this day issued by me to Mr. Acting Master Latchfield, Commanding Honorable Company's Schooner "Emily" to proceed to Bassadore with the views of his being despatched to the Residency by the senior officer Indian Navy at that station agreeably to the routine sanctioned by government in your despatch to my address No. 2609 in this Department under date the 1st July.

2nd. As the Honorable company's sloop of war "Coote" may be expected to arrive in Bombay from this station about the beginning of May next, (in the event of no

1270

1277  
- 237 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 2.5.1845, Nos. 35-39, contd.

...

necessary I would respectfully suggest for the consideration of the Honorable the Governor in Council the expediency of instructions and company's sloop, "Clive" (at present out of commission) being placed in such a state of forwardness for sea as may ensure her despatch from the Presidency after the arrival of the Cootee in sufficient time to make this direct passage across to Muscat so as to accomplish the principal object of the arrangements sanctioned for the routine relief of the vessels composing the Persian Gulf squadron namely the presence during the Pearl Fishing season of these effective vessels of war.

Presidency in the  
Persian Gulf.  
Bushire,  
28th May 1845.

I have the honor to be,  
Sd/ S. Hennell,  
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

/true copy/

Sd/ -J.P. Willoughby  
Chief Secy. to Govt.

.....

1071

1278  
- 238 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 2.5.1845, Nos. 35-39. contd.

...

No. 102 of 1845

From

Major S. Hennell,  
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

To

Mr. Acting Master Lutchfield  
Commanding Honorable Company's Schooner,  
" EMILY",  
Bushire,

Dated 28th February 1845.

Sir,

Winds and weather peculiary you will be good enough to proceed to sea tomorrow morning with the H.C. Schooner "Emily" to the best of your way to Bassidore. On your arrival there the senior officers of the Indian Navy has been requested to furnish you with sailing orders to proceed to the Presidency without delay touching at Muscat on your way down.

In the event of all the H.C. Vessels of war being absent and there being no senior officers of the Indian Navy present at Bassidore on your reaching that station, you will be pleased to consider this letter as your authority for the presentation of your voyage to Bombay, furnishing the acting superintendent of the Indian Navy with a copy of the same on your

1272

1279  
- 239 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 2.5.1845, Nos. 35-39. contd.

...

No. 37.

Office No. 106 of 1845

Consultation No. 34 of 1845.

From

Major ~~W~~S. Hennell,  
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

To

J. P. Willough, by Esquire  
Chief Secretary to the Government  
of Bombay,

Dated the 14th March 1845.

Political Department,

Sir,

Adverting to my letter to your address No. 29  
in this department, under date the 28th ultimo, intimating  
the probability of the arrival of the Honorable Company's  
sloop "Coote" in the Bombay about the beginning of May  
next, I have now the honor to report for the information  
of the Honorable the Governor in Council that in conse-  
quence of the recent establishment of the ~~Nahabee~~ Power  
in Oman, and the entire submission of all the maritime  
arabian chiefs to the notorious Saed bin Moortuck since  
the occupation of the forts of Brymee, I do not consider  
it would be prudent to despatch the most efficient of  
the only two vessels of war now in this quarter to the  
presidency until the nature of the designs of the

1273

1280

- 240 -

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 2.5.1845, Nos. 35-39. contd.

....

Under these circumstances I would respectfully suggest for the consideration of the Honorable the Governor in council the expediency of ordering to the Gulf as early as the convenience of the service will admit the Honorable Company's sloop Clive or any other vessel of war assigned to the relief of the Coote. Her arrival would produce all the good effects to be derived from the exhibition of a strong force, and enable me to despatch the latter ship to Bombay shortly afterwards.

Residency in the  
Persian Gulf,  
Bushire,  
14th March 1845.

I have the honor to be,  
Signed/- S. Hennell,  
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

/True copy/

Sd/- J. P. Willoughby  
Chief Secretary.

....

1274



1281  
- 241 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 2.5.1845, Nos. 35-39. contd.

....

No. 38.

No. 255 of 1845

From

Captain John Pepper  
Acting Superintendent Indian Navy.

To

Colonel the Honourable  
Sir George Arthur Bt. H.C.H.  
President and Governor in Council

Dated 12th April 1845.

Honorable Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of two communications from the Resident in the Persian Gulf to the address of the Chief Secretary, Government dated respectively the 28th February and 14th March last, relative to the Honorable Company's Sloop "Clive" being filled out to take the place of the "Coote" prior to the arrival of the latter vessel in Bombay referred for my report under Mr. Chief Secretary Willoughby's endorsement No. 1754 of the 10th Instant.

In reply I have the honor to state to your Honorable Board that the Clive is now laid up in ordinary but she can be brought forward for commission and when ready despatched to the Persian Gulf to replace the Coote, I however, deem it my duty to represent to your Hon'ble Board that this addition to the number of

1282  
- 242 -

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 2.5.1845, Nos.35-39,contd.

...

No.62 of 29th August 1845, published in government  
general order No.133 of the 5th November 1841.

3rd. If the Coote were to arrive in Bombay early  
in May as stated in the 2nd paragraph of the Political  
Residents' letter of the 28th Feby. she could be  
refitted and despatched to rejoin the gulf squadron  
prior counsulling in of the south west Monsoon.

Superintendent's Office, I have the honor to be,  
Bombay 12th April 1845. Sd/-John Pepper,  
Captain & Acting Supdt.

/True copy/

Sd/-J.P.WILLOUGBY

Chief Secretary.

...

1283  
- 243 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 2.5.1845, Nos. 35-39, contd.

....

No. 39.

No. 1900 of 1845.

From

J. P. WILLOUGBY Esquire,  
Chiefs Secretary to the  
Government of Bombay.

To

Major S. HENNELL,  
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

Dated 18th April 1845.

Political Department,

Sir,

I am directed by the Honorable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 28th February last and 14th ultimo, No. 103 and 126 suggesting that in consequence of the establishment of the Wahabee Power in Oman and the notice submission of all the maritime Arabian chiefs to the authority of Saeed bin Mooltuck, the Honorable Company sloop "Clive" be fitted out to take the place of the "Coote" previous to the departure of the latter vessel from the Persian Gulf.

2nd. In reply, I am desired to observe that by adopting your suggestions the establishment directed to be maintained for the Indian Navy by the Hon'ble the Court of Directors would be exceeded and the

Council does not consider that the present

1284.

- 244 -

FORE. POL. DEPT. 2.5.1845, Nos. 35-39, contd.

...

present is a sufficient emergency to justify that measures.

3rd. Copy of a letter on this subject from the Officiating Superintendent of the Indian Navy dated the 12th instant No. 255 enclosed for your information.

Bombay Castle,  
18th April 1845.

I have the honor to be,

Sd/ J. P. Willoughby

Chief Secretary.

/True copy/

Signed/ J. P. Willoughby

Chief Secretary.

---

1285  
- 285 -

FORE.POLL,DEFTT. 13 JUNE 1846, No.51-52. contd.

...

No.215 of 1845

No.51.

Secret Department.

From

E.H. Townsend Esquire,  
Secretary to Government.

To

F.Currie Esquire,  
Secretary to Government of India,  
Fort William,

Dated 4th August 1845.

Sir,

I am directed by the Hon'ble the Governor in Council to transmit to you copies of the six despatches, noted in the margin\* from the Resident in the Persian

- Dated 22nd May 1845, No.54 Gulf received Her Majesty's Schoop of War "Pilot"
- Dated 27th May 1845, No.57
- Dated 25th June 1845, No.67 and to state that any remarks which this Govern-
- Dated 14th July 1845, No.81
- Dated 14th July 1845, No.84 ment may have to offer on the points noticed
- Dated 18th July 1845, No.86 in these communications, will hereafter be

communicated to you for submission to the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India in Council.

Bombay Castle,  
4th August 1845

I have &ca. &ca.  
Sd/-E.H.Townsend,  
Secy. to Govt.

....

1286  
- 246 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos. 51-52. contd.

...

Office No. 2297 1/2 Cons. No. 54 of 1845

Political Department.

From

Major Hennell,  
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

To

J. P. Willoughby Esquire,  
Chief Secy. to Govt. of Bombay,  
Bushire, 22nd May 1845.

Sir,

Herewith I have the honour to transmit for the information of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council the accompanying translation of a letter from Moollah Hoossein the Native Agent at Shargah, dated the 29th ~~May~~ reporting the proceedings of Saad bin Mootluk subsequent to the capture of ~~Muxikere~~ Mukees on the coast of Batinah.

2nd. It would appear from Moollah Hoossein's account, that Syed Humood bin Azam was engaged in making preparations to repel the invasion of his territories by the Wahabees when the principal men of Sohar waited upon him, and representing the injuries and losses his people would be exposed to by a further prosecution of hostilities, against Saad bin Mootluk, as well as the tenor which that leader had inspired by his sanqui-

1287

- 247 -

FORE.POLL.DEPTT.13.6.1846, Nos.51-52. contd.

....

at once. This counsel was well received by their chief, who forthwith opened negotiations, and peace was finally concluded by the payment of two thousand Crowns down, and a quantity of Rice white a further sum of three thousand crowns was to be paid on the termination of the Date season. Mukees to remain as a possession of the victorious Wahabee. On these terms being settled Saad bin Mootluk returned to Beymee.

3rd. Our Agent further reports the probability of the schemes of conquest entertained by Saad bin Mootluk, meeting a check by the resistance of the Bani Saued a powerful and united tribe of some 12,000 fighting men which occupying the trust between the territories of the Imam and those of Sohar has hitherto maintained a qualified independence. The Beni Saad are said to have returned an answer of Defiance to the demands made upon them by the Wahabee for the payment of tribute and acknowledgement of submission.

4th. It appears to me very evident that one of Saeed bin Mootluk's paramount objects is to require the control of the principal seaports of Oman, so as if possible to avail himself of their maritimes resources for the prosecution of his ulterior views. His haughty exulting and over bearing conduct has however occasioned deep disgust in the minds of many of the Shaiks

1288

- 248 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 13.6.1846 ,No.51-52.contd.

....

far from sorry to learn our determination to prevent their naval means from being deserted from the legitimate objects of trades and commerce to those of plunder and piracy. But although these may be the sentiments of the Sheiks, it is certain that a large portion of their followers views the ascendancy of the Wahabees power with pleasures, and will afford their support and aid to it even in direct opposition to the wishes and policy of their feudal superiors. Backed however by our influence and support, I trust, the intrigues and machinations of the disaffected as well as the schemes of Saed bin Mottluk may be rendered altogether impotent.

Residency in the Persian Gulf,  
Bushire,  
22nd May 1845.

I have the honor to be  
Sd/-S.Hennell,  
Resident in the  
Persian Gulf.

....



FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos. 51-52. contd.

....

suppose Eyed bin Mootluk to join him and prepared for the battle; upon this the elders of Sohar waited in a body upon him and urged the necessity of appealing Saad bin Mootluk and coming to terms with him by acceding to the tribute and other demands he had made upon them in order to secure from injury their dependants and subjects who would at the present time be great sufferers from the prosecution of hostilities as the harvest of fruits dates &ca. was at hand and the forces of Saad bin Mootluk being warlike could inflict severe loss upon them, Humood bin Huzar coincided in their suggestions and tendered submission to Saad bin Mootluk consenting to furnish tribute and subsidy whereon they sent Saleh bin Saeed accompanied by some of the principal men to Saad bin Mootluk for the purpose of arranging matters and making peace; and I have learnt that an agreement was entered into that the tribe of Humood bin Azan and those dependant upon him should pay over to Saad bin Mootluk 5000 Reals and 200 Bugs and 30 guinnies of rice and that the people of Mugees and of its immediate neighbourhood conquered by Saad bin Mootluk and his forces in battle should return to their possessions and Date groves, rebuild their houses and be thenceforth his subjects and that Humood bin Azan should be in no way connected with nor receive Revenue from the said territory or its inhabitants. I have ascertained that Saleh bin

1292  
- 252 -

FORE POOL. DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos.51-52. contd.

....

averse to him and disgusted at his coming and settling in the province of Oman repenting of their exertions and inclination in his favour. He has now subjected them all. On his return to Beyemee he send Ali bin Muzrooh to the authorities of Muscat calling upon them to act up to their promises lately made and send him 1000 Bags and some gonees of Rice also 1000 Reals and other necessaires. Syed Sawynee and Mahomed bin Salim are now apparently cajoling Saad but Mootluk for his messenger Ali bin Muzrooh and his attendants are still at Muscat and they have complied with none of the above mentioned demands. Saad bin Mootluk sent also a messenger on his own part to the Benni Saad a numerous tribe stated to have 12,000 fighting men holding together in Peace and war who from older times have acknowledged allegiance to neither Syed Saeed nor Syed Humood bin Azar. Some time the allies of the former, sometimes of the latter but paying no tribute whatever to either. Their territory on the sea coast extends from Khuthrah to Musnaad and they possess also lands and strong forts in the interior. Saad bin Mootluk sent a messenger to demand tribute of them, whom the tribe ejected telling him that they would pay no tribute whatever and that they desired nothing but hostilities and fighting with them and defied them their anger. On the return of his messengers from the Beni Saad with this defiance Saad was against them and thereon

1289  
- 249 -

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos.51-52. contd.

....

Translated substance of a letter from Moollah Hussein Agent at Shargah, to Major Henell, Resident in the Persian Gulf dated 20th Rubbee-ool- Awal (29th March 1845).

I beg to report the proceedings of Saad bin Mootluk and his forces subsequent to this operations against the people of Mugees, in continuation of the account given in my letter of the 10th Instant (19th March). At that time the people of Batinah inhabiting the sea coast and others in the Interior were greatly terrified at the enormities functioned by them upon the people of Mugees in the slaughter of the men, women and children, the burning their houses and vessels, the plunder of their property and carrying away their slaves which filled their hearts with fear and terror of Saad bin Mootluk, At the present time they are trembling and quaking.

Saad bin Mootluk and his forces after the affairs at Mugees established themselves on the ground whence they plundered the territories of Humood bin Azan and laid waste the country when the roads became impassable and people were prevented from entering and leaving the country of Humood bin Uzan by land or by sea. Humood bin Azan after the sack of Mugees remained at Sohar and summoned his subjects

1291

- 251 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos. 51-52. contd.

....

agreed to those terms with Saad bin Mootluk whereon Humood bin Hazan and his elders, delivered over to Saad bin Mootluk 2000 Dollars and the 200 Bags and 50 gunnies of rice promising to pay up the balance of money on the gathering in the harvest of dates. Saad bin Mootluk and his forces after settling their affairs with Humood bin Azan and exacting these above stated sum left the territory of Sohar and marched for Beymee. Passing on the road the Towers of Shoojeyree which Humood bin Azan had years ago captured from the Naaem he rased them to the ground and carried away the guns to Beymee. On his arrival there he sent messengers into all the countries to announce the glad tidings "that Saud bin Mootluk and his forces had captured Magees and the Country around belonging to it", his object in this measure being of course in the first instance to raise and extend his fame in the province of Oman and secondly to court money. His Envoy's leaving from 100 to 200 Keroonees upon each territory then entered from Rasul Khyrna to Aboothabee. When Saud bin Mootluk took possession of the parts of Beymee and established himself in the Province of Oman the people both Citizens and Bedowins, submitted but most of the tribes on perceiving his designs the nature of his operations against the people of Mugees, his proceedings and bearing towards the inhabitants and his desire to bring all under controul



1293  
- 253 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos. 51-52. contd.

....

thereon deputed Seyf bin Ali Jowahiree and 30 men with him to the authorities at Muscat enjoining them to hasten the despatch of the Rice &ca. and to forbid all their people and dependants in the province of Batinah and at Birkah and the Fort of Muscat from and engaging in commerce and traffic in grain &ca. with the tribe Bein Saad Syef bin Ali and his companions on the 18th Rubee ool awul (27th March) accordingly left Beymee for Muscat which coming to the ears of the Beni Saad and that their mission referred to hostilities with themselves they sent a body to lie in wait for them on the road who seized syed bin Ali and his attendants and obtained the letter of Saaud bin Mootluk regarding them, they desired to kill them, but Seyf bin ali and his companions sought the protection of one of their elders who save their lives. It is reported that Seyf bin ali received three wounds on the occasion and that those with him were also wounded. Saad bin Mootluk on learning of these occurrences determined upon prosecuting hostilities against them but he is now engaged in the erection of houses and the repair of the forts expecting the return of messengers from Muscat. Ali bin Muzrooh and his companions. He has applied also to the Sheikhs of these ports and the elders of the Bedowins for aid and assistance against the Beni Saad, further desiring them to send him such horses as they might have but it strikes

...ent time the season of the Pearl

1294  
- 254 -

FORE.POOL.DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos.51-52. contd.

...

Pearl Fishing being at hand, the tribes being all seafaring people whose livelihood depend upon the fishing and their mercantile transactions unable therefore to carry on war by land a misunderstanding will arise between him and one of the chiefs of the coast such as Sultan bin Suggur or Kulleefa bin Shakboot a report has reached me from credible sources that Saad bin Mootluk has not the means and power to prosecute hostilities against the Beni Saad who are brave and unanimous. Those conversant with affairs suppose that the authorities of Muscat are conciliating Saad bin Mootluk I before informed that an agreement had been made between them and Syed Humood bin Azan that if Saad bin Mootluk should not be satisfied with little, both parties should coalesce against him, but their reply to the latter was opposed to this and further, they did not until after the attack upon Mugees, send vessel to Sohar with stores, by way of fulfilling the said agreement.

True translated substance,

Sd/-A.B. Kemball,

Assistant Resident in Persian Gulf.

/True copy/

Sd/-A.B. Kemball,

Assistant Resident in Persian Gulf.

....



1295  
- 255 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos. 51-52. contd.

...

Office No. 237 of 1845, Cons. No. 57 of 1845.

Political Department.

From

Major Hennell,  
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

To

J. P. Willoughby Esquire,  
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay,  
Bushire, dated 27th May 1845.

Sir,

Referring to my despatch to your address No. 54 under date the 22nd instant on the subject of the proceedings of Saed bin Mootluk I regret to have to report for the information of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council that I learn from a communication received yesterday from the Agent at Muscat dated the 2nd Instant, that notwithstanding the engagements entered into by the Wahabee Agent, with the authorities of that place / to abstain from any acts of hostilities pending the receipt of an answer from His Highness the Iamum to the reference made to him regarding the Wahabee's claims / the neighbourhood of Birka has been ravaged by a detachment of 600 camel; and 40 horsemen, despatched from Brymee for that purpose. The information of this foray had been received from his Highness Syed Soowoony, who had proceeded to Berka. The agent does not mention



1296  
- 255 -

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos.51-52 contd.

....

mention whether any steps were taken by His Highness  
in consequence of this unexpected inroad into his  
neighbourhood.

Residency in the  
Persian Gulf,  
Bushire,  
27th May 1845.

I have the honor to be &c.  
Signed/- S. Hennell,  
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

/True copy/

sd/-S.Hennell,  
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

....

1296  
- 256 -

FORE.POLL.DEPTT, 13.6.1846, Nos.51-52 contd.

....

mention whether any steps were taken by His Highness  
in consequence of this unexpected inroad into his  
neighbourhood.

Residency in the  
Persian Gulf,  
Bushire,  
27th May 1845.

I have the honor to be &c.  
Signed/- S. Hennell,  
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

/True copy/

Sd/-S.Hennell,  
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

....

1297

- 258 -

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos.51-52. contd.

....

Office No.289 of 1845

Cons.No.69 of 1845.

From

Major Hennell,

Resident in the Persian Gulf.

To

J.P. Willoughby Esquire,

Chief Secretary to Govt. of Bombay,

Bushire, 25th June 1845.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt by Her Majesty's sloop "Pilot" on the 20th instant, of your despatch No.2415 on this department under date the 19th ultimo transmitting a copy of a letter from the Secretary to the Government of India dated the 6th May last, No.1285, containing the general views of the Right Honourable the Governor General in Council on the line of policy which should be observed by the British Government towards the Wahabee rulers and further directing me to submit to government with as little delay as possible my opinion on the several points therein alluded to and especially whether I consider that a mere declaration of the views of the British Government, or Naval operations alone, will be sufficient to deter that chief from active operations against the possessions of His Highness

1298  
- 258 -

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos.51-52. contd.

....

His Highness the Imam of Muscat. By the same opportunity I also received your letter No.2513 dated the 24th May last, referring me to the above communication and intimating the despatch of Her Majesty's sloop "Pilot" to this quarter to be followed by the Hon'ble Company's Brg. "Euphrates".

2nd. Although I cannot but consider the reestablishment of the Wahabee power over Oman, particularly under the guidance of an intriguing and imprincipled leader like Saed bin Mootluk, is greatly to be regretted as re-kindling the feuds and jealousies, which under a long course of maritime peace and tranquility, were gradually softening down still being satisfied, that with due vigilance and precaution on our part, our interests in respect to the Arabian Chiefs on the coast are not likely to suffer nor our measures for the suppression of Piracy to be seriously affected, by the extension of the authority of Ameer Fysul, it appears to me to be unquestionably the soundest policy to refrain as long as we passsibly can, consistently with our character and honour, from mixing ourselves up in the struggle for power and supremacy which now agitated this part of Arabia considering however our long and intimate connection with the Imam of Muscat, and the readiness at all times exhibited by His Highness

1299  
- 259 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos. 51-52. contd.

....

our views it can hardly I think be doubted, that our reputation would suffer were we to look quietly on without interfering while his authority as an Arabian Prince is overthrown and his independence annihilated by the rapidly extending power to the Wahabees.

3rd. Assuming therefore that regard to our own credit, and consideration for the Iman, renders it advisable that he should not be altogether deserted by the British Government in his present extremity, the next point for consideration is, how will a due respect to our own interests His Highness may be best supported and aided, under such threatening circumstances; and this it must be acknowledged is a question of considerable difficulty and embarrassment. The employment of troops in any inland operations, is a measure so objection in almost every point of view, that it need hardly be adverted to ~~as~~ while as the Wahabees at present hold no part of the Arabian Coast in actual occupation, they are not directly tangible by our Naval means alone. I am however of opinion that a firm and decided intimation of the displeasure with which the British Government has seen the encroachments made upon the independence of its old and attached ally the Imam of Muscat, and the aggressions committed upon his territories by Saed bin Mootluk, would

1300

- 260 -

FORE.POLL.DEPTT.13.6.1846, Nos.51-52. contd.

....

would have powerful effect upon Ammer Fysul whose long residence in Egypt as a prisoner, has made him much better acquainted with our power and influence, than any of this predecessors could have been. He is fully aware that the overthrow of the authority of Mahomed Ally Pasha in Syria and Arabia was brought about by England alone, and therefore I look upon it as very unlikely that he would venture to commit himself to a line of direct opposition to our policy when once distinctly pointed out to him.

4th. The imminent danger threatening the Muscat Territories is such as to leave no time for a further reference to Government upon this subject, and as a considerable period must inevitably elapse before any reply could be received from India, I have determined to take upon myself the responsibility of acting to a certain extent without further orders. Accordingly I have addressed a letter to Ameer Fysul (of which the accompanying is a translation) which without in any way compromising the British Government or pledging it to the adoption of ulterior measures, will, I have every expectation, induce the Wahabee leader to order his Agent saed bin Mootluk to cease from his aggression proceedings towards the authorities of Muscat. I have included Saed Hamood bin Azan in my requisition because he is so intimately connected with the Imam by

1301

- 251 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos. 51-52. contd.

.....

by relationship alliance and position as to make it impossible to separate their interests. The communication to Amer Fysul will be conveyed to Bahrein by Her Majesty's sloop "Pilot" and despatched via Kateef or Ageer to its destination. In the meanwhile pending the receipt of a reply I shall gladly avail myself of the presence of Her Majesty's sloop in this quarter, and on the arrival of the Honourable Company's Brg. of War "Euphrates" it is my intention to request Captain Jervis to accompany a Commodore Hawkins with the squadron of the Indian Navy under his command, to Shargah. On his arrival there the commodore will despatch a communication from myself to Saed bin Mootluk (of which the accompanying is a translation) and then proceed to Sohar with the squadron to await the answer of the Wahabee agent. On the receipt of his reply His Majesty's sloop will take his departure for Bombay carrying a copy and translation of the documents which will enable the Hon'ble the Governor in Council to judge how far the measures adopted are likely to undue the Wahabee Agent to suspend his operations. It is my intention to suggest to Commodore Hawkins, the expediency of leaving one of the vessels of the squadron to cruise along the Batinah Coast between Sohar and Muscat, and I am induced to hope that the report of the appearance of so strong a Naval Force at Shargah, and the former place, combined with the effect of a cruiser on the Muscat Coast to prevent



1302

- 262 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos. 51-52. contd.

...

any maritime aggression in that quarter, may produce the result of at least suspending hostilities for the present, and thus affording time for the adoption of any further measures the Government may considered advisable. I could wish to have felt myself authorized to adopt a more decided and preemptory tone in my letters to Ameer Fysul and Saed bin Mootluk, but I felt that in doing so I might commit the Government to a more active interference in the impending struggle than would be consistent with its views.

5th. In conclusion I regret to be obliged to remarks that the imbecility and suprieness of the Muscat Authorities in the present serious crises is perfectly unaccountable; and renders it nearly hopeless to look to them for any efficient aid or support in such steps as the government may see fit to authorize for the maintenance of the integrity of the Arabian possession of its faithful ally Syed Saed. No attention appears to have been paid to the particular injunction of His Highness for strengtening the important position of Burka, Ismail, and Nukhul while the few additional men entertained in Muscat and elsewhere have deserted their posts in disgust no consequence of all-treatment and starvation.

Residency in the Persian Gulf, I have the honor to be,

Sd/-S. Hennell,

Bushira, 25th June 1845.



1303  
- 263 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos. 151-52, contd.

....

Translation of a letter from Major Hennells Resident in the Persian Gulf, to His Highness Ameer Fysul, Chief of the Wahabees, dated 25th June 1845.

After compliments,

As it is a long time since I have had the pleasure of hearing from Your Highness or being made acquainted with your welfare, I therefore gladly take the present opportunity of renewing the expression of my friendly sentiments towards you, and at the same time proceed to explain the object of this communication.

Your Highness is doubtless measure that out of regard to the friendship so long subsisting between the British Government, and your father, no objection has been made to the gradual establishment and extension of Your Highness authority, especially as you had in your former communications, so explicitly expressed your desire to join in the views and policy of England and aid in the prosecution of the same objects namely the maintenance of tranquillity and the removal of all causes of disturbance and ~~anarchy~~ confusion. Relying confidently in the integrity of Your Highness intentions, no opposition was offered to the despatch of your people to Beynee, as it was considered unlikely that any line of conduct would be pursued by them at variance with the former possessions of Your Highness

Under the present circumstances the British Government has

1304  
- 264 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos. 51-52. contd.

...

has learnt with deep concern, the forays made with  
into and the aggressions committed upon the territories  
of His Highness the Imam of Muscat, without cause  
or provocation, by Saed bin Mootluk particularly in  
the capture by assault of Mugees, with its accompani-  
ments of slaughter rapine and violence. Your Highness  
is doubtless aware, that Syed Saed, and his relative  
Syed Humood bin Azan, have ever been the attached friends  
of the British Government and that as the warmst interest  
is taken in their affairs, it cannot view with undiffere-  
ence any proceeding likely to be productive of injury  
to them, or disturbance to their dominions. Accordingly  
when the intelligence above referred to was received,  
together with a report that certain boats had been  
despatched by the Shaiks of Oman, for the purpose of  
plundering the coasts of Batinah, orders were immediately  
issued to the Government vessels of war, to proceed to  
that quarter with instructions seize all those who  
might be found so employed. In full reliance on the  
friendly professions of Your Highness towards the  
British Government, and the wish formerly expressed  
by you to concur in its objects and policy, I now do  
myself the honor to address you, for the purpose of  
requesting  
~~requesting~~ your immediate reference to put an end to the  
irregular proceedings of Said bin Mootluk, in plundering  
the territories of His Highness the Imam, and Syed Humood

1305

- 255 -

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos.51-52. contd.

....

should determine to permit the continuance of such conduct towards its friends, the British Government will doubtless feel deeply hurt, and it is to be feared that the friendly and amicable relationship which have hitherto so happily subsisted with Your Highness, will be interrupted. I request Your Highness will favour me with an early reply and as I have the means of communicating with Saed ben Mootluk without delay. I beg you will forward to me your letter to that person, upon the subject now brought to Your Highness' notice for transmission to its destination continue to receive &c. &c.

/True Translation /

Signed/- S. Hennell,

Resident in the Persian Gulf.

/True copy/

Signed/-S.Hennell

Resident in the Persian Gulf.

...

1306  
- 286 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos. 51-52. contd.

...

Translation of a letter from Major Hennell Resident in the Persian Gulf to Saed bin Mootluk Commander of the Wahabee Forces in Bymee dated 25th June 1845.

After compliments,

I have lately learnt with extreme surprise and concern of the inroads made by your troops into the Districts of His Highness Ameer Fysul with a communication from myself upon the subject of these aggressions, upon the territories of the friend and ally of the British Government. In the mean while it is incumbent upon ~~me~~ you to restrain your people from these irregular proceedings until you receive the further instructions of Ameer Fysul. This letter will become conveyed by the commodore to Shargah for dispatch from that place and he will afterwards proceed with the vessel of war to Sohar where he will avail the receipt of your reply. I take this opportunity of intimating to you, that any boats from the coasts of the Persian gulf from cruising off the ~~British~~ Batinah coast, with hostile or piratical designs against the Imams subjects or territories will be capture or destroyed by the British Cruisers which will be stationed in that quarter.

/True copy/

Sd/-S. Hennell,

Resident in the Persian

/True translation/

Ed/-S. Hennell,

Resident in the Persian Gulf.

1307  
- 267 -

FORE. POLL. BEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos.51-52.

....

Office No.320, of 1845 Cons.No.81 of 1845.

Political Department.

From

Major § Hennll,  
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

To

J.P. Willoughby Esquire,  
Chief Secretary to Govt. of Bombay,  
Bushire, 14th July 1845.

Sir,

In acknowledging the receipt of your Despatch No.2556 in this Department under date the 26th May last, transmitting extract of a letter No.31 from Captain Hamerton His Majesty's Consul at Zanzibar, dated 14th August reporting the course His Highness the Imaum purposes to pursue with reference to the demand made upon his son at Muscat for money, Horses stores, &c. &c. by the Wahabee Agent, Saad bin Mutlik, I have the honour to report for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council, that my advices from Muscat inform me that His Highness has authorized the local government of that place to pay an annual sum of 5,000 Crowns to the Waahabee Chief, which may upon emergent cause arising be increased to 6,000 should this after however not be accepted by the Wahabee

to be made to it but the subject

1308

- 268 -

FORE.POLL.DETT. 13.6.1846, Nos.51-52. contd.

.....

2nd. In respect to his relations Syed Humood bin Azen , His Highness has directed that so long as he does not separate voluntarily from the Imam's party his interests are to be considered as identical with those of Muscat.

Residency in the  
Persian Gulf,  
Bushire,  
14th July 1845.

I have the honor to be &ca.  
Sd/- S. Hennell,  
Resident in the  
Persian Gulf.

/True copy/

Sd/- S. Hennell,  
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

....

1309  
- 269 -

FORE.POLL.DEPPT. 13.6.1846, Nos.51-52. contd.

...

Office No.328 of 1845

Cons.No.84 of 1845.

From

Major S. Hennell,  
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

To

J.P. Willoughby Esquire,  
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay.

Dated 14th July 1845.

Political Department,

Sir,

With reference to my despatch to your address No.69 in this department under date the 25th Ultimo, I now do myself the honor to transmit for the information of the Honourable the Governor in Council the accompanying copies of letters of this date addressed by you to commodore Hawkins and Captain Jervis of Her Majesty's sloop "Pilot" relative to the Assembling of the squadron of the Indian Navy at Shargah and Sohar. The favourable reports made by my Assistant Lieutenant Kemball regarding the cessation of the aggressive proceedings of Saad bin Mootluk against the Imaum of Muscats territories have induced me to change my intention of addressing that person, so far as to make the transmission or not



1310

- 270 -

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos.51-52. contd.

.....

2nd. I entertain sanguine before that the measure now about to be carried into effect with from advantage to the public interest and further the political views entertained by the Indian Government, in respect to the affairs of the Persian Gulf so far as they are connected with the extension of the power of the Wahabees in Oman, and its prospective effect upon the independence of our old ally the Imaum of Muscat.

Residency in the Persian Gulf,  
Bushire, 14th July 1845.

I have the honor to be,  
Sd/-S.Hennell,  
Resident in the Persian  
Gulf.

.....



1311  
- 271 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos. 51-52. contd.

...

No. 329 of 1845.

To

Commodore Hawkins,  
Commanding Indian Naval Squadron,  
Persian Gulf.

Sir,

Although the reports lately received from the Arabian Coast regarding the proceedings of the Wahabee Chiefs Lieutenant Saed bin Mooltuk are of a more favourable character than those brought up from Muscat by the Her Majesty's sloop "Pilot" had led me to hope for. I am still of opinion that considerable advantage would attend a naval demonstration, the coasts of sea and Batinah at the present juncture I have accordingly the honour to request that you will be pleased to issue instructions for the Honorable Company's sloop "Coote" to proceed to sea on the 17th instant and at the same time to make such arrangements as in your opinion will enable all the respects of the squadron of the Indian Navy in the Gulf, to renderous at Shargah, as far as this, can be done without involving a greater delay than two or three days.

2nd. On the arrival of the squadrons of Shargah you will be good enough to ascertain from Moollah

1312  
- 271 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos. 51-52. contd.

...

collecting troops and making preparations for an invasion of the territories of the Imaum of Muscat or those of his relation Syed Humood bin Azen, I request you will do me the favor to direct the British Agent to despatch the enclosed letters addressed to the Wahabee Lieutenant by trustworthy messengers to Beymee with instructions to press for a reply without delay and on receiving it to proceed direct to Sohar on the coast of Bailandi - should you however ascertain that Bin Moolauk is stated quietly engaged in the repairs of the forts of Beymee. I beg you will retain the letter in question under either of the above contingencies however the squadron will move with as little delay as convenient from Shargah to Sohar where its appearance will I feel assured produced a decided impression on the minds of the Wahabee Agent and his adherents.

3rd. Captain Jervis with Her Majesty's sloop "Pilot" under his command with at my request join the squadron at Shargah and Sohar and thus add to the good effect I anticipate there from I have further the honor to request you that in the event of your falling in with the Honourable Company's Brig. "Euphrates" (whose arrival in the gulf may be readily looked for) either at Bassadore or elsewhere that you will direct her also to join the squadron until the

1313

- 272 -

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos.51-52. contd.

...

4th. In the event of the state of affairs at P<sup>e</sup>ymee, rendering the despatch of my communication to Saed bin Mootluk necessary and his reply thereto being received at Sohar, previously to the departure of the Her Majesty's sloop "Pilot" for Bombay, I request that it may be opened and a copy with translation forwarded by that vessel to the Bombay Government, I shall avail myself of the opportunity now afforded to forward by the "Coote" the sum of (210) two hundred and ten crowns (being the amount of certain fines levied upon the Boats concerned in the plunder of sea of the fugitives from Mugees /to Syed Hamood bin Azen the Governor of Sohar for distribution among such of those unfortunate individuals as may be residing under his authority.

5th. While the squadron is off-Sohar, I request the Commanding Officer will ascertain whether the neighbouring sea port of mug ees is occupied by a Wahabee garrison, and also how far the place may be tangible by a Naval force, should it on any future period be considered expedient by the government to direct operations against it.

6th. Any armed vessels belonging to the maritime Arabs of the Persian Gulf, found cruising on the Batinah

1314

- 278 -

FORE.POOL.DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos.51-52. contd.

...

detained and sent into Baddadore - should ~~it~~ be ascertained that Said bin Mootluk still maintain on ~~his~~ hostile attitude towards the Imam of Muscat and his expedients it may perhaps be advisable that one of the vessels of the squadron should be left in that quarter to cruise along the Batnah coast between Muscat and Sohar for the space of a month. At the expiration of this period, she should return to Bussadore, and her reports be brought up to Bushire by the vessel in whose terms it may be to proceed to the upper part of the Persian Gulf. It is however to be hoped that the state of affairs at Beymae, and the Batinah coast may render this arrangement unnecessary.

7th. The principal object being attained of a strong naval force having been shown off Shargah and Sohar there will be no necessity for the squadron remaining at the latter port behind three or four days, after which it will return to Bussadore, and the Honorable company's sloop "Coote" be dispatched with the reports and letters to Bushire. In respect to the remaining vessels I would suggest that after refitting one of them should be directed to proceed to this quarter, sailing along the Arabian Coast ~~and~~ the Pearl Banks, taking the same track as that proceed by you in your late voyage up the gulf. This

... following by the others at intervals of

1315

- 274 -

FORE. POLL. DETT. 13.6. 1846, Nos. 51-52. contd.

...

of our ships on the banks during the Pearl testing season.

Residency in the Persian Gulf., I have the honor to be,

Bushire, 14th July 1845.

Sd/-S.Hennell,

Resident in the Persian  
Gulf.

/ True copy/

Sd/-S.Hennell,

Resident in the Persian Gulf.

...

1316  
- 275 -

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos.51-52. contd.

....

To

Captain Jarvis,  
Commanding Her Majesty's  
sloop of War "Pilot"  
Bushire Roads.

Sir,

The squadron of the Indian Navy in the Persian Gulf being about to proceed to Shargah and Sohar I am of opinion that the effect of its appearance in those quarters should be greatly heightened were it to be joined by Her Majesty's sloop under your command. May I therefore request the favour that on your voyage to Bombay you will do for deviate from the direct route as to touch at the time places above referred to, at the time that they are visited by the gulf quadron. Independently of the advantages impress on likely to be made by the temporary addition to the naval force, Her Majesty's sloop will be enabled to convey to Bombay the latest intelligence of the state of affairs in that quarter respecting which make interest is at present taken by the Indian Government.

2nd. In acquainting you that the Hon'ble Company's sloop "Coots" will leave Bushire on the 19th instant on this service.

Residency in the Persian gulf,

I have the honor to be,  
Sd/-S. Hennell, 1312

1317  
- 276 -

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos.51-52. contd.

...

Office No.333 of 1845.

Cons.No.86 of 1845.

Political Department.

From

Major Hennell,  
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

To

J.P. Willoughby Esquire,  
Chief Secretary to Govt. of Bombay,  
Bushire,  
dated 18th July 1846.

Sir,

Adverting to the 4th paragraph of my letter to your address No.69 Political Department under date the 25th Ultimo and the 1st paragraph of my dispatch No.84 in the same department dated the 14th instant, both on the subject of the measures proposed to be taken consequent upon the threatened aggressions by the Wahabeas on the territories of His Highness the Imaum of Muscat, it is with much concern that I have now to enclose for the information of the Honourable the Governor in Council the accompanying copy of a letter addressed to me by Mr. Faithful the assistant Surgeon En charge of the Honourable Company's sloop "Coote" in which that officer, states his decided opinion, that from the nature of the attack under which Commodore



1318

- 277 -

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 13.6.1845, Nos. A 51-52. contd.

...

Commodore Hawkins is at present labouring the only chance of saving his life is by an instant removal from the Gulf to a Cooler climate.

2nd. With reference to therefore to the more than common Heuts on the Arabain Coast at this season, and particularly in the neighbourhood of Sohar, where the light and buffling nature of the winds, is likely to cause a considerable detention, I have considered that the chance of saving the life of such an old and valuable officer as Commodore Hawkins, is of sufficient importance to justify me in asking Captain Jarvis of Her Majesty's sloop "Pilot" not to act upon my requisition of the 14th instant, but to proceed direct to the Presidency provided his so doing any may such his own views and convenience.

3rd. Trusting that under these peculiar circumstances the alteration I have made in the proposed arrangements so furious they relate to Her Majesty's sloop "Pilot" visiting the Arabian Coast, may meet the approval of the Honourable the Governor in Council.

Residency in the Persian Gulf.

Bushire,

13th July 1845.

I have the honor to be,

Sd/-S. Hennell,

Resident in the

Persian Gulf.

...



1319

- 278 -

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 13.6.1846, Nos.51-52. contd.

...

To

Major Hennell,

Resident at the Persian Gulf.

Sir,

In forwarding the accompanying certificate I have the honor to bring to your notice, that I deem an immediate removal from the Gulf essential for the necessary recovery of Commodore J.C.Hawkins, and the safety of his life, and therefore most respectfully to request that if practicable a vessel may be spared to convey him forthwith and direct from this to Bombay.

Bushire,

July 18th, 1845

I have the honor to be,

Sd/-John J.Faithfull,

Assistant Surgeon.

H.C. Sloop Coote.

/True copy/

Sd/-S.Hennell,

Resident in the Persian Gulf.

I hereby certify on my hand ~~xxx~~ that Commodore John Craft Hawkins, commanding Persian Gulf Squadron is in such a state of health, that he is totally incapable of undertaking any responsible duty or of proceeding on that and required of him by Government

1320

- 278 -

FORE.POLL.DEP'TT.13.6.1846, Nos.51-52. contd.

.....

instructions dated 14th July 1845, and further that I deem it essentially requisite for the safety of his life that he should leave the Gulf from Bombay forthwith.

Bushire,

July 18th, 1845.

Signed/- John J. Faithfull,

Assistant Surgeon.

H.C.Sloop "Coote"

/ True copies/

Sd/-A. Malet,

Chief Secretary to Govt.

.....

1321

- 279 -

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 13.6.1846. No.51-52. contd.

..

No.52.

Office No.3844

No.527 of 1845.

From

E.H. Townsend Esquire,  
Secretary to the Government,  
Bombay.

To

F. Currie Esquire,  
Secretary to the Government of India  
Fort William,

Dated the 13th of August 1845.

Political Department,

Sir,

With reference to the dispatch from Major  
Hennell, Resident in the Persian Gulf, dated the 25th  
June last, No.69, a copy of which was forwarded with  
my letter to your address dated the 4th instant, No.215  
stating his opinion in regard to the measures which  
should be adopted by the British Government to check the  
operations and proceedings of the Wahabees in Oman, and  
to prevent their further encroachments in the possessions  
of His Highness the Imaum of Muscat, and submitting trans-  
lations of two letters of remonstrance addressed by him  
to Ameer Fysul the Wahabee Ruler and his Agent Saed  
bin Moorluk. I am directed to state for the information

1322

- 280 -

FORE.POLL.DEPTT.13.6.1846, Nos.51-52. contd.

...

information of the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council that the Honourable the Governor in council approves of the term of the letters addressed by Major Hennell to Ameer Fysul and his agent from which this Government hopes for beneficial results.

2nd. The Governor General in Council however regretted to learn from a subsequent communication\* that the

\*Dated the 14th July No.84 of 1845- a copy of which was forwarded to the Govt. of India with my letter dated the 4th August No. 216 of 1845.

Resident had changed his resolution in regard to the letter of Saed bin Mootluk making its transmission

dependent on further information. These letters I am desired to observe council the government to nothing, but merely intimate in General terms, its displeasure at the unjustifiable proceedings of that individual.

3rd. On the general question this government would strongly deprecate the extension of Wahabee influence and power beyond its original limits more especially the encroachment by the Wahabee Ruler on the territory and independence of our old and faithful ally the Imaum of Muscat and his relation the Chief of Sohar. On this ground the retention of Junkees on the coast of Batinah by the Wahabees seems to this government to be very undesirable - any encroachment on the maritime arabs

which is feared by the Governor in Council

1323

- 281 -

FORE.POLL.DEPIT. 13.6.1846, Nos.51-52. contd.

...

council lead to injurious consequences.

4th. On the other hand the Right Honourable the Governor General in Council will not fail to observe the great difficulties which exist against a successful resistance to Wahabee aggression should Ameer Fysel persevere and support the acts of his agent, the weakness and imbecility of the authorities now in charge of His Highness the Imam's interests at Muscat, also greatly add to these difficulties.

5th. Captain Hamerton, Her Majesty's consul and Honourable Company's Agent in the Dominions of His Highness the Imam has been furnished with copies of the despatch your Majesty will be bringing to Her Highness interests in his arabian possessions, with instructions to make His Highness fully acquainted with the state of his affairs in that quarter.

6th. The Honourable the Governor in Council has resolved not to reply to Major Hennell's present despatch until this Govt. is favored with an exposition of the views of the Right Hon'ble the Governor General in Council on the policy to be pursued towards the Wahabee Chiefs.

Bombay Castle,  
13th August 1845.

I have the honor to be sir,  
Your most obedient servant,

Sd/-E.H.Townsend,

Secretary to Govt.

1324

- 282 -

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 15.2.1841, Nos.126.

....

No.1660

To Bombay Castle, 27th July 1840

H. Torrens Esquire,

Officiating Secretary to Government,

of India,

Political Department,

Sir,

I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 22nd Ultimo and in compliance with the request therein preferred to transmit to you as per accompanying List, copies of the correspondence which has passed between this government and Captain Hennell connected with the Treaties concluded in July 1839, with Rasul Khyman and other arab chiefs for the suppression of Slavery.

2. I am at the same time desired to inform you that copies of the whole of the documents in question were previously forwarded to the government of India under the dates noted in the margin:

11th July 1838,	
12th Dece.1838	
24th Oct.1839	
4th May 1840.	

I have the honor to be, Sir  
your most obedient humble servant

Sd/-L R.Reid.

Chief Secretary.

...

1325

FOREIGN POLL. DETT. 15 FEB. 1841, Nos.127.

....

No.127.

No.84 of 1837

Political Department.

From

Captain S. Hennell,

Officiating Resident in the Persian Gulf

To

J.P. Willoughby Esquire,

Secretary to Government of Bombay.

Dated 24th September, 1837.

Sir,

Enclosed I have the honor to forward for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council the copy of a statement made to me by an individual named Abdullah ben Iwaz, who professes to be a person of some rank from the African Coast regarding the alleged outrageous proceedings of the Crews of some Jeasme Boats, in having carried off from Barburah 233 young girls, under the pretence of marriage, and subsequently disposing of them as slaves upon the return of their vessels to the Gulf.

2nd. Upon receiving this declaration I sent for Mahomed bin Iwaz, the agent of Sheik Sultan ben Suggur and having brought to his notice the 9th article of our treaty with the pacificated arabs, enquired whether he could afford any explanation upon the subject of Sheikh, Abdullah's complaint. In reply he denounced the whole statement, both with reference to the abduction of the

1821



FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 15.2.1841, No.127. contd.

....

voyage to Rasel Khymah as an unqualified falsehood. He said he did not deny the fact of slaves having been brought up from the Coast of Burburah, but he declared that they had been regularly purchased from two tribes in that neighbourhood at War with each other, who were in the habit of selling all the prisoners that fell into their hands. He concluded by saying that Abdoollah ben Iwuz was an imposter without any letters or credentials and that had sheik sultan been willing to make him a small present he would have taken his departure back to Muscat and said nothing further upon the subject, he (the Agent) was however quite sure that if the complainants statement could be proved to be founded on fact, that his superior the Joasme chief, would do anything that was just.

3rd. Although I do not think that the subjects and dependents of the Sheikh of Rasel Khymah are likely to be very scrupulous as to the means by which they obtain their slaves, still the statement of Abdollah ben Iwuz appears to me in some respects exceedingly improbable. I am inclined to suspect that the unfortunate individuals mentioned in the 1st paragraph were made prisoners by one of the belligerent tribes before adverting to, and actually sold by the victors to the Joasmees, and that Abdoollah ben Iwuz being in some way connected with the defeated party had been instructed by the friends



1327

- 3 -

FORE.POLL.DEP'T. 15.2.1841, No.127. contd.

.....

liberation from bondage; this however is mere conjecture but upon receipt of replies to the communications I have addressed to the Agent at Shargah and Muscat I trust that the real facts of the case may eventually be elicited. In the mean while I have informed Abdoollah ben Iwuz, that his statement would be laid before the government and that in the event of the robbery alleged to have been committed by the crew of the boat which conveyed him from Muscat being satisfactorily traced to any of the subjects of Sheik Sultan ben Sugar, steps would be taken to obtain either the restitution of his property on the payment of its value.

Residency in the  
Persian Gulf,  
Bushire,  
24th September 1837.

I have the honor to be,  
Signed/-S. Hennell,  
Offg. Resident in the  
Persian Gulf.

.....

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 15.2.1841, Nos.127. contd.

.....

Statement of Sheikh Abduollah ben Iwuz calling himself a native of the Coast of Barbarah, made to the Officiating Resident in the Persian Gulf, 23rd September 1837.

That about four months ago while he was on a visit to Muscat for the arrangement of some commercial affairs between his people and the Inaum's subjects, he received letters from Burbarah complaining that the Joasmees had carried off from that place 233 unmarried girls and having brought them up the Gulf had there disposed of them as slaves. These communications further directed him to proceed to Rasel Khymah, and in the event of Sheik Sultan ben Suggur not liberating the captives was to go on to Bushire and lay the whole of the circumstance before the Resident. That in pursuance of these instructions he had embarked in a Zaab boat with a crew of 7 men commanded by a man named Khumees said to be bound for Rasel Khymah. In the course of the voyage questions were put to him as to his objects in visiting the Joasmees Sheikh which he was imprudent enough to detail at length, the consequence was that the crew at first proposed to put him to death, but at the recommendation of the Nakhoda they contended themselves with stripping him of his property and letters and then putting him on shore in the neighbourhood of Ras Jebbl The Articles taken from him consisted

FORE.POLL.DEPT. 15.2.1841, Nos.127. contd.

'''

deponent continued his statement by saying that having procured a passage to Lingah he proceeded over from that Port to Rasel Khymah and made his complaint to Sheik Sultan ben Suggur who told him to have patience and he would afford him redress. In the mean while two individuals belonging to Rasel Khymah and Shargah shipped off the greater part of the girls who had been kidnapped on board a Bugla and Bateel and sent them to Rowet Bushire and Bussoorah for sale on this being reported to their chief he immediately ordered a list to be made out of the individuals in whose possession these unfortunate persons had been and under the pretence of affording compensation for the irregular conduct of his people, he made them pay him a fine of 10 Dollars upon each slave which he said was to be given to the complainant. This money however had no sooner been collected than the Sheikh offered the complainants 200 Crowns to say nothing further on the subject which offer was refused. The deponent further states that not the slightest attention was paid to his complaint regarding the treatment he had experienced from the people of the boat by the Joasme chief. At last finding he could gain redress from Sheikh Sultan, he proceeded on the Shargah and laid his case before Moollah Hoosein the Agent there who promised to write to the Resident upon the subject.

FORE.POLL.DEPTT.15.2.1841, Nos.127. contd.

...

Upon a cross examination the deponent at once acknowledge that the Joasmees had not carried off the girls from Burharah by force but that having persuaded them to come on board under a promise of making them their wives they had on their arrival in the gulf disposed of them as slaves. The deponent further stated that the Joasmees had bribed a native of Burburah named Muttur to write a letter to Sheikh Sultan ben Suggur to the effect that the girls carried away were all regularly purchased but that when the inhabitants of the place found out how they had been deceived and their relations made slaves, this person was immediately put to death by them for his treachery. The deponent concluded his statement by requesting that the Resident would take measures for obtaining the liberation of the individuals who had been carried away from their native country in this treacherous and shameful manners.

True copy of statement

Signed/-S. Hennell,

Officiating resident in the Persian Gulf.

....

1331

- 7 -

FCRE.POLL.DEPTT. 15.2.1841, No.127. contd.

...

No.2303 of 1837

Political Department.

From

J.P. Willoughby Esquire,  
Secretary to Government.

To

Captain S. Hennell,  
Acting Resident at Bushire

Dated 9th December 1837.

Sir,

With reference to your letter dated the 24th September last No.84 with enclosure, regarding the abduction of a number of girls from the coast of Burburra by the Joasmees and of their having been sold as slaves, I am directed to acquaint you that the Right Honorable the Governor in Council will await your further report on the subject. In the meantime however the Governor in Council requests that you will favor Government with your opinion as to the practicability or otherwise of inducing His Highness the Imaum of Muscat and Arab Chiefs on the Gulf to prohibit the traffic in slaves altogether.

Bombay Castle,  
9th December 1837.

I have the honor to be,

Sd/-J.P. Willoughby

Secretary to Government.

1332

- 8 -

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 15.2.1841, Nos.127. contd.

...

Political Department.

From

Captain S. Hennell,  
Acting Resident in the Persian Gulf.

To

J.P. Willoughby Esquire,  
Secretary to Government,

Dated 10th January 1838.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No.2363, in this department under date the 9th ultimo upon the subject of the alleged abduction of a number of girls from the coast of Burburra by the Joasmees (as reported by me in a former communications) and at the same time conveying the desire of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council that I should submit my opinion as to the practicability of otherwise of inducing His Highness the Imaum of the Muscat and the Arab chiefs in the Gulf to prohibit the traffic in slaves altogether.

2. In reply I have the honor to report for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council that not having yet received any answers to the enquiries I directed to be instituted by the Agents at Shargah and Muscat into the truth or falsehood of the



1333

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 15.2.1841, Nos.127. contd.

....

allegations made by Mahomed ben Iwaz (the professed Barburra, Agent) regarding the proceedings of the Joasmees on the African Coast it is not in my power at present to afford the Government satisfactory information upon thatpoint I trust however thatupon thatpoint I trust however that upon my arrival at Muscat when returning to Bushire I shall be enable to make a full report upon the subject.

3. With reference to the latter part of your communication it is with much difidence I state for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council that after much and deliberate consideration of the question I am reluctantly led to the conclusion that in the first place, it would be impracticable to induce His Highness the Imam of Muscat and the arab chiefs in the gulf, to put an end to the traffic in slaves without such a large pecuniary sacrifice being made on the part of the british Government as would most likely be considered altogether inexpedient and in the second place that were such a sacrifice made the humane and philanthropic objects of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council would still be defeated by further impediments and difficulties for which I fear no remedy could be found.

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 15.2.1841, Nos.127 contd.

....

4. Of the chief in the Persian Gulf with whom /unless as a matter of expediency alone/ we could assume to ourselves any right to interfere directly in the question of the slave trade the only ones as those who are member of the General Treaty negotiated in 1820 by Major General Sir W.G. Keir namely the Joasmee Beinyas and Uttobee shieks. The 9th article in the document declares the carrying off (Lity.plundering) of slaves men women and children from the coasts of Africa or else where and the transporting (let embarking) them in vessels is plunder and piracy and the friendly arabs shall do nothing of this nature (lit. shall not agree to this thing) this declaration however strongly the English translation may appear expressed was considered so ambiguous that it was not acted upon by the British officer who was appointed to the superintendence our political relations in the gulf shortly after the treaty had been signed by the respective chiefs before referred to, since that date a period of seventeen years has passed over without the question having been agitated and thus the several parties concerned have acquired a sort of prescriptive right to consider that the ninth article was inserted solely with the view of guarding against the forcible carrying away the individuals for the purpose of selling them as slaves, and not meant to prohibit altogether a traffic,



FORE.POLL.DEPTT.15.2.1841, Nos.127. contd.

....

and spirit of their religion but which long continuance and custom have rendered almost indispensable to their domestic comfort.

5. Assuming however that the ninth article of the document before referred to bears the interpretation best suited to our views and policy, and that our right to act upon it although allowed to lie so long in obedience is nevertheless liable to be called into operations whenever we may consider expedient to do so still it must be borne in recollection that even on the arabian side of the Persian Gulf, alone neither His Highness the Imam nor the Chiefs of Sohar Kuteef or Kowat are parties to this treaty and therefore their consent to a total prohibition of the traffic in our fellow creatures could only be obtained by means of negotiations and the offer of such advantages as would in their estimation compensation for the loss they sustained in the surrender of a practice uniting both profit and convenience. I believe myself that a great proportion of the income of His Highness the Imam is drawn from this source, and I understand he has declared that in consequence of his having allowed himself to enter into the agreement with Captain Moresby of the Royal Navy engaging to prohibit the slave trade with European Powers within certain limits he has sustained or demerit in his revenues to the extent of one hundred thousand crowns and that he

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 15.2.1841, No. 127. contd.

....

he is resolute in his determination not to afford any further concessions upon this point. But even admitting that either through our influence in the payment of an annual pecuniary compensation the parties alluded to consented to enter into an engagement for the total suppression of the slave trade, I fear that the attainment of the humane objects contemplated by the government would be still as distant as before. My reason for entertaining this opinion is that the effect of the prohibition on the Arabian side of the Gulf would be to throw the whole of His nefarious traffic, into the hands of the inhabitants of Bussorah and Muhamrah subjects of the Ottoman Ports and those of Bushire Congoon Aseeloo and Singah, the principal sea ports of Persia. It is unnecessary to observe, that in the present state of our relations with these governments, that no interdiction of the traffic in question could be carried into effect unless under the express sanction of their respective authorities. Taking however into consideration that the sale and purchase of slaves is not only permitted by the tenets of their faith but that the discontinuance would greatly abridge what habit and custom have led their subjects to value as a domestic convenience I venture to think that for sometime at least it is hopeless to look for such a sanction being afforded. In addition to these impediments I may also advert to the probability,

FORE.POLL.DEPTT.15.2.1841, Nos.127. contd.

.....

that were the Inhabitants in the gulf to relinquish the traffic at present carried on in slaves the place of their vessels would be immediately occupied by those from the red sea the coast of Mekran Scinde &ca., It may at the same time be reasonably anticipated, that even those powers whose consent to our viess may be exacted a pruchased will exhibit little more than a nominal adherence to their engagements, unless compelled to do so by our own maritime force. This however would involve the necessity of greatly augmenting the number of vessels of war employed in those seas, and in all probability be attended with the consent risk of entangling as in disputes with the local governments dependent upon Persia, Turkey and Egypt.

6th. I cannot conclude my observations without advert-  
ing to the opinion held upon the subject by the late Capt air  
Macleod when Resident in the Persian Gulf and as these are  
in a great measure corroborative of my own views I now  
respectfully submit an extract from a dispatch addressed  
by that officer to the government dated the 27th February  
1823. After alluding to the wording of the ninth article  
of our Treaty with the pacificated arabs captain Macleod  
continues as follows:

"But in whatever sense the words of the treaty may be  
understood by either party I am convinced that our utmost  
endeavour to abolish the slave trade amongst the parties  
as the other

1338

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 15.2.1841, No.127. contd.

.....

other powers of the gulf persist in it we may perhaps put a stop to the carrying off of slaves but their purchase and transport we can never prevent. The slaves will be disguised and concealed in a thousand ways so that it will be impossible for us to detect them and I doubt whether more harm than good might not be done to the cause of humanity, by stopping boats and searching them for slaves, because it would in all cases occasion such delays disgust and offence as would involve a great risk of a renewal of hostilities.

p19

as are fre-  
brought direct  
African

I do not believe that any of the parties to the treaty do carry off slaves \*all those they possess being purchased at Muscat and other places, but at all events it would be difficult even in the former case to detect them in the latter next to impossible and with all our efforts we shall find it impracticable to put a stop to a traffic which is sanctioned by their religion and by immemorial custom unless it were relinquished by the common consent of the whole of the chiefs of the Gulf."

"Convinced as I am of the inefficiency of this article of the treaty which has not yet been acted upon, and of the dangers of attempting to carry it into effect I am compelled with much reluctance to recommend that it should not be informed except in very glaring cases or at least that its sense should be considered as confined to t:

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 15.2.1841, Nos.127. contd.

....

to the carrying off of slaves and not including their purchase or transport.

"It\* is gratifying the humanity to know that slaves are not only extremely well treated and protected by their arab masters but that they even enjoy a very considerable degree of power and influence, I remarked that they were every where the stoutest and best fed men and that they seemed happy and comfortable I must not however omit to mention an exception which occurred at Bahrain, where two slaves sought refuge on board the Temate from the cruelty, as they said of their master, they were not however received and we had no means of ascertaining the merits of the case much as it is to be desired, that this horrid traffic should be abandoned throughout the world we must I fear confess that the cruel treatment of slaves has been the reproach rather of European than of Eastern nations.

Bombay,  
10th January 1838.

I have the honor to be,  
Sd/-S. Hennell,  
Acting Resident in the  
Persian Gulf.

....

My own personal observations fully confirms this statement.

1340

- 16 -

FORE.POLL.DEPTT.15.2.1841, No.127. contd.

.....

No.415 of 1838.

Political Department.

From

The Secretary to the Government,

To

The Resident in the Persian Gulf,

Dated 6th March 1838.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 10th ultimo on the subject of the alleged abduction of a number of girls from the coast of Barbarrah by the Joasmees and stating your sentiments as to the practicability of inducing His Highness the Imaum of Muscat and the Arab Chiefs in the Gulf to prohibit the traffic in slaves altogether and to communicate to you the following observations and instructions thereon.

2nd. Although the Governor in Council entertain little hope of pulling an edn to this execrable traffic in the gulf yet he desires me to request that you will, as far as may be in your power oppose any case of enmity that falls within your notice and that will on all occasions express to the Arab chiefs, the detestation with which the British Government behold in the slave trade the unoffending inhabitants of any country forcib-



1341

- 17 -

FORE.POLL.DEPTT.15.2.1841, Nos.127. contd.

...

from parents connexions and people and carried off to be sold as slaves to strangers in a distant land.

3. The Governor in Council will await you further report on the subject as stated in my letter of the 9th December last.

Bombay Castle,  
6th March 1838.

I have the honor to be,

Sd/-

J.P. Willoughby Esquire,  
Secy. to Govt.

....

No. 6 of 1837

Political Department.

From

~~J.P. Willoughby Esquire~~ T. Machenzie esquire.

Acting ~~Asstt.~~ Asstt. Incharge of the  
Residency in the Persian Gulf.

To

J.P. Willoughby Esquire,

Secretary to the government,

Bombay, dated the 28th February 1838.

Sir,

In advertence to Captain Hennell's letter dated

1341

- 17 -

FORE.POLL.DEPTT.15.2.1841, Nos.127. contd.

...

from parents connexions and people and carried off to be sold as slaves to strangers in a distant land.

3. The Governor in Council will await you further report on the subject as stated in my letter of the 9th December last.

Bombay Castle,  
6th March 1838.

I have the honor to be,

Sd/-

J.P. Willoughby Esquire,  
Secy. to Govt.

....

No. 6 of 1837

Political Department.

From

~~J.P. Willoughby Esquire~~ T. Machenzie esquire.

Acting ~~Asstt.~~ Asstt. Incharge of the  
Residency in the Persian Gulf.

To

J.P. Willoughby Esquire,

Secretary to the government,

Bombay, dated the 28th February 1838.

Sir,

In advertence to Captain Hennell's letter dated



FORE.POLL.DEP'TT. 15.2.1841, No.127. contd.

...

dated 24th September No.84 of 1837 in this Department relative to a complaint by a person named Abdulla ben Awuz of a number of young women having been carried away from the Coast of Barbarah by traders to that quarter of the Joasmee tribe and of his having been robbed and maltreated himself while proceeding to recover if possible those unfortunate individuals I have the honor to forward for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council the accompanying translated extracts of letters from the government agent at Muscat and Shargah.

2. The accusation of Abdulla Awuz is principally if not entirely directed against the Joasmees both as regards the abduction of the young women and the maltreatment of himself but as far as has not been ascertained that tribe either happens to be innocent of the offense with which it is charged or means have been found of concealing the truth from the Government Agent.

3. From the documents now forwarded however, it would appear evident that a disgraceful traffic in young females probably both by stealth and purchase is carried on from the Barbarah coast not only to the territories of the Joasmees but every port of consequence in the Persian Gulf.

1343

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 15.2.1841, Nos.127. contd,

.....

4th. In conclusure 3 evidence is adduced of an act which, if its truth could be satisfactorily established the 9th articles of the Treaty with the pacificated arabs would I conceive warrant its being viewed and treated as an act of piracy but the chief of Koweet against whose subjects the information is furnished is not a member of that treaty.

5th. I am not well aware of the state of those unfortunate creatures previous to their becoming the subjects of this nefarious traffic, but the result of some enquiry inclines me to believe that the Soomalees from whom a great part of the supply seems to be drawn are a free people, and cannot become the slaves without violence consequently those conveyed to the Persian gulf must be either kidnapped or purchased while prisoners of war. A practice to which even in the eyes of the generality of Mahomedans a degree of moral turpitude attaches which if insisted on would tend considerably to diminish the evil and I conceive that no means which can with propriety be used ought to be omitted of circumscribing and if possible abolishing a traffic, in itself most offensive, and probably rendered doubly grievous from its proving an incentive to war and all its concomitant miseries.