

1494

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FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 28.2.1851, No.4 contd.

...

only presented him with some Horses and other articles, and for the balance made excuses. This year they gave him a horse and promised ~~to~~ pay the remainder hereafter. They are not now inclined to give any thing more.

Your Instructions not to interfere in the dispute about the Aboothabee slave will be obeyed. Every thing is quiet both by sea and Land, the people of Lahsah report that Fysul has prepared a Force.

(True translation)

sd/-James Edwards,
Accountant &ca.

/True copy/

sd/-S.Hennell,

Resident in the persian Gulf.

/True copy/

sd/-A. Malet,

Chief Secretary.

....

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FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 28.2.1851, No.3.

...

No.241 of 1850.

To
Secret Department,
A. Malet Esquire,
Chief Secretary to Government,
Bombay.

To
Lieutt. Colonel S. Hennell,
Resident in the Persian Gulf,
Dated 30th November 1850.

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No.5 dated the 30th Ultimo and in reply to inform you that your endeavours therein reported, to reconcile the Chief of Bahrein and his exiled opponents, are approved by Government.

Bombay Castle,
30th November 1850.

I have the honour to be &ca.
Signed/-A. Malet,
Chief Secretary.

/True copy/

Sd/-A. Malet,
Chief Secretary.

....

1496

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. "28.2.1851, No.1-2.

...

No.1. Official No.34.

Duplicate

No.23 of 1851.

From

A. Malet Esquire,
Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

To

Sir H.M.Elliot K.C.B.
Secretary to the Government of India
with the Governor General.

Dated 29th January 1851.

Secret Department.

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honourable the
Governor in Council to transmit to you for submission
to the Most Noble the Governor General, copy of a corres-

From the Resident in the persian Gulf No.5, dated 30th Octr/50 with enclosures.	pondence as noted in the margin, relative
Reply to, No.241, d/30th Novr./50	to the settlement of
From the Resident in the persian Gulf. No.117, d/21st Novr., with enclosures.	a dispute between
Reply to -	sheik Mahmud ben Khaleefa

Chief of Bahrein, and his relations on the Island of Keun.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Bombay Castle,

sd/-A.Malet

29th January 1851.

Chief Secretary.

....

1497

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 28.2.1851, Nos.1-2. contd.

...

No.2.

Office No.406 of 1850

Cons.No.5 of 1850.

From

Lieutenant Colonel Hennell,
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

To

A. Malet Esquire,
Chief Secretary to Government,
Bombay.

Secret Department,

Dated Bushire, 30th October 1850.

Sir,

I have the honor to report for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, that a few days ago Sheik Busheer, the son of the famous pirate Ramah ben Jubbar, paid me a visit, His object was to represent the distressed conditions of the sons of the late Ex-Chief of Bahrein, Sheik Abdoollah ben Ahmed, and to induce me to interest myself with the present Rulers of that Island, to settle an annual allowance for their subsistence, on the condition of their dwelling quietly in Kenu, and giving up all further schemes for reestablishing themselves in Bahrein.

2nd. As it appeared to me that an arrangement of this nature would not only relieve us of much responsibility but would relieve us of much responsibility, but would

1498

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 28.2.1851, Nos.1-2. contd.

....

preventing the re-establishment of Al Adeed, I readily consented to sound the sheiks of Bahrein on this point. I have accordingly addressed the letter, of which the accompanying is a translation, to sheik Mahomed ben Khu-leefa. I should however have been more sanguine of success, had the overture been made before the Bahrein sheik had opened negociations, with Ben Ayoon, the shareef of Mecca, as reported to government in my Despatch No.3, Secret Department, dated the 18th Instant, still the advantage of coming to an amicable arrangement with their expatriated relatives is so obvious, that I am not without hopes that my suggestions may meet with a favourable reception.

Residency in the
persian Gulf,
Bushire, 30th October 1850.

I have the honor to be,
signed/-S.Hennell,
Resident in the
persian Gulf.

Translation of a letter from Lieutenant Colonel Hennell Resident in the persian Gulf to sheik Mahomed ben Khuleefa Chief of Bahrein dated 30th October 1850.

After compliments,

At the time I had the pleasure of an interview with your Brother sheik Ally touching the people of Kenu and their schemes. I was given to understand, that his object as well as your own was to be freed from all further annoyances and anxiety on account of their designs against

1499

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 28.2.1851, Nos.1-2. contd.

....

certain advantageous arrangement might be made tending to put an end to disorder and disturbance. There are that you should assign a fixed annual allowance to your * Cousins, the sons of Sheik Abdoollah ben Ahmed, who are residing in the Island of Kenu. They are your near relations and although hostility and enmity have arisen between you, yet your sense of propriety will hardly allow you to permit them to perish by starvation, or to subsist by begging. The advantage of such an arrangement would be the cessation of all further intrigues on their part, and put a termination to their schemes against Bahrain when their claims are given up, those of the other residents in Kenu, of course fall to the ground as the former are the chiefs, and the latter are mere dependents. On the other hand, you will be relieved from the necessity of incurring such heavy disbursements on account of the Bedowins; and both parties will rest tranquilly in their respects places. Accordingly, I now address these lines to you, in order that if you view this subject in the same light as myself and desire that it should be put into execution, you should let me know that I may communicate with them, and settle the conditions upon which the proposed arrangement should be carried into effect.

*The sons of the Ex-Chief sheik Abdoollah ben Ahmed.

/True copy/

/True translation/

Sd/-S.Hennell,

Sd/-S.Hennell,

Resident in the persian gulf. Resident in the persian Gulf.

/True copies/

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FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 25.7.1851, No.6.

...

Office No.2573. Duplicatd. No.128 of 1851.

From

A. Malet Esquire,
Chief secretary to the Govt of Bombay.

To

Sir H.M. Elliot K.C.B.,
Secretary to the Governmet of India
with the most noble the Governor General,
Dated the 15th June 1851.

political Department,

Sir,

With reference to my letter dated the 7th Instant, No.123 forwarding copy of one from the Resident in the persian Gulf, reporting on the position of affairs between Anser Fysul, the Wahabee Ruler, and the Chief of Bahrein, I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, to transmit to you, for submission to the Most Noble the Governor General of India, copy of a previous communication from Lieutenant Colonel Hennell, dated the 3rd March last, No.46, forwarding translation of two letters from the Native Agent at Bahrein, reporting the advance of Anser Fysul to the Coast, and his hostile intentions towards that Island.

Bombay Castle,
15th June 1851.

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

Sd/-A. Malet,

1501

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FORE. POLL. DEPT. 25 JULY 1851, No. 7.

...

Office # No. 46 of 1851.

Cons. No. 7 of 1851.

From

Lieutenant Colonel Kennell,
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

To

Arthur Malet Esquire,
Chief Secretary to Govt.

Political Department.

Bombay.

Bushire, 3rd March 1851.

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to forward for the information of the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council, the translation of the substance of two letters from the Agent at Bahrein dated the 13th and 24th February, reporting the advance of Ameer Fysul, the Wahabee Chief to the Fort of Cojear opposite Bahrein.

2nd. The views of the Ameer would appear from the tenor of these reports to be decidedly hostile to the present Rulers of Bahrein. How far he is, likely to be successful in the attainment of these views, depends in a great measure upon his means of effecting a landing in Bahrein, or his being able to establish his authority over the Court of Guttur. Both these objects would be greatly facilitated if he be joined by the sons of the Ex-Chief sheik Abdollah ben Ahmed, and their adherents

1502

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FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 25.7.1851. No.7.

...

not however think the latter will, under the interdiction, of the British Govt. venture to proceed over to the Arabian Coast in a Fleet; but if Sheik Moobaruk ben Ahmed succeeds in joining the wahabee Chief, or in locating himself on the Guttur coast, his dependents will, I dare say, follow him by degrees. In such a case the position of Sheik Mahomed ben Khuleefa, the present Ruler of Bahrein would be one of danger.

Residency in the persian I have the honor to be, &ca.

Gulf, Bushire,

Sd/-S.Hennell.

3rd March 1851.

Resident in the persian Gulf.

Translation of a letter from Hajee Jassem Grief Agent at Bahrein to Lieutt.Coll.Hennell, Resident in the persian Gulf, dated 13th February 1851.

After compliments,

When you were here I reported to you that Fysul ben Saood had arrived at a place called Joodah between Kateef and Lahsah and that he had with him a great number of Bedoreins from Nedid and Lahsah and of the Amaeer Tribe, from what I hear he is inwardly at enmity with the sheiks of Bahrein. Those who arrive from Fysul assert, he will certainly come to the Gutter. coast. He says the Bahrein sheiksh have squandered their property on my subjects and given them. Horses in order to attach them to their own side, while they excuse themselves from paying

1503

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 25.7.1851, No.7. contd.

....

and reply to Sheikh Ally's speech. It is said that the latter chief once remarked to a messenger from Fysul. He will not be on good terms with the Ameer unless he relinquishes the 4,000 Dollars that he annually demands from us, for we are not Jews that we should pay tribute if he will give up this claim we will be one with him, but if not we will oppose him in Gutter. This is the cause of Fysul's displeasure. The Bedowins with him advise him to send some of them to attack Bahrein and the Ameer Tribe is urgent with him to take the Island. They tell the Ameer that they will easily capture Bahrein if he will only proceed to Gutter. But the chiefs of Lahsah are anxious for peace and have written to that effect to Fysul; there are however at present many incendiaries who are trying to embroil affairs. The Beni Hajj and its Chief Shafee, were formerly on the coast of Gutter with Ally ben Khuleefa the former has proceeded to have an interview with the Ameer, and the latter has left Biddah. Sheikh Mahomed ben Khuleefa has interdicted his subjects and others from communicating with Kateef and Ajeer. He has launched a Bug and two Batees and prohibited the vessels of his subjects from visiting India a second time this season. His intention is to ascertain the designs of Fysul and await the receipt of letters from his Brother Ali. When Ben Saood is at a distance Sheikh Mahomed ben Khuleefa boasts greatly of his own power, but now when it is known the Wahabee ruler is full of fear and trouble as he

1504

FCRE.POLL.DEPTT. 25.7.1851, Nos7. contd.

....

as he has no supporters at present. Formerly he had the Bedovins the vessels of his subjects, and the people of Gutter. But when the Bedovins found that he was at enmity with Fysul, they deserted him, and now most of his subjects are absent on voyages. The intentions of the Gutter, Tribes are not known, but they are not trustworthy should an attack be made on Bahrein they will assist the invaders sheik Mahomed is now so situated that he has neither men nor money, having squandered all his coin on the Bedovins. At present it is his intention should hostilities; breakout between him and ben Saoud, and the latter make preparations for an attack, to assemble all the vessels belonging to his subjects, at their own expense As yet ben Saoud is at a place near Kateef, He has summoned the chiefs of the former, town to wait on him. It is reported by persons from Kateef that a shooes had arrived at that port from the sons of sheik Abdollah be Ahmed with letters from Fysul. The contents had not transpired The shooes is still at Kateef waiting for Fysul's reply.

(True translation)

Sd/-J. Edwards,

Accountant &c.

(True copy)

Sd/-S. Hennell,

resident in the Persian Gulf.

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 25.7.1851. No.7. contd.

.....

Translated substance of a letter from Hajee Jasssem Agent at Bahrein to Lieutt. Coll. Hennell Resident in the Persian Gulf dated 24th and received 27th February 1851.

I before reported that Fysul ben Saood had arrived at Joodah, from whence he marched ~~via~~ Muleya to Khubrah near Ajiir where he has assembled a large force when Shaffee the Chief of the Beni Hajir joined Fysul, the later mediated a peace between him and the Ojman and Moorrah Tribes. He has ordered Shaffee to collect all the horses given to the Hawajir Tribes by the Sheiks of Bahrein. It is said that Shaffee requested the Ameer to meet Sheik Ally ben Khuleefa but he would not consent no information has been as yet received from Sheik Ally by his brother, Sheik Mohamed, who is waiting for his advices, before he takes any steps in respect to hostilities with Ben Saood. The Sheiks have however received a report that the Family of the late Abdooliah ben Ahmed in Keun had informed Fysul, that as soon as he had conquered Gutter Biddah and Dowah they would proceed with their adherents and locate themselves at those places. The terms are these - that on their first arrival at Gutter they are to pay 10,000 Dollars, to Fysul should Bahrein be conquered for them by him they are either to give a fixed annual tribute, or otherwise to make over the income of the present chiefs, while they themselves will enjoy the share they formerly possessed in Horses and Vessels. It is reported that Fysul enquired of them whethe

1506

FORE.POLL.DEPT. 25.7.1851. No.7. contd.

...

whether they are under any apprehensions from the English on the seas. They in reply informed him they had no fears after they had once located themselves on the coast of Gutter. It was in this way they said that their father had been conquered. When the affair is finished excuses can be made vessels that have arrived from Kenna do not mention any of these particulars. There are two reports regarding the stay of Fysul in these parts. Some says he intends to proceed to Adeed and Gutter, as a messenger had arrived on the 15th Shabeeool Sane from Sultan ben Suggur and Muktoom with letters intimating their desire to have an interview with him at the former place to consult about proceeding with his forces to Oman. The second report as communicated to Mahomed ben Khuleefa, is that Fysul has given up Nedjd; and intends to go to Dumain, as the ruler of Kasseem has formed the former province. This however does not appear probable but sheik Mahomed believes it to be true, He has therefore, as a precaution launched his vessels, and has sent small boats to the coast of Gutter to collect information. It is reported the Ameer is much displeased with the sheiks on account of sheik Mahomed bin Khuleefa having spoken disparagingly of him to the Bedowins who used to visit Bahrein. Shaffee tried to apologise for this language telling him that the family of Khuleefa were, his (the Ameer's) sons and begging him not to punish them. He replied they the offspring of the devil, I have not come for 4,000 Dollars after having already spent 20,000. Had they sent me a piastre and other

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 25.7.1881, No.7. contd.

....

other triffl'es, and asked foregiveness, it would have been granted. But their attack upon my reputation has brought to me to these parts. Could Horsemen have reached them they should have felt the consequence before this, but I will remain here until a favourable opportunity offers. These particulars have been derived from men of information. Sheik Mahomed is in much anxiety and trouble, regarding Fysul, In his speeches he is all boasting, but in reality he is under much fear and dread. He is quite at a loss what what steps to take, and has resolved upon nothing with the exception of launching his vessels.

(True translated substance,)

Sd/-James Edwards,
Accountant &ca.

(True copy)

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

/True copies/

Sd/-A. Malet,
Chief secretary.

...

1508

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 21.3.1851, No.7.

.....

Office No.42. Duplicate No.30 of 1851.
Secret Department.

From

A. Malet Esquire,
Chief Secretary to Government,
Bombay,

To

Sir H.M. Elliot K.C.B.,
Secretary to the Government of India,
with the most noble the Governor General,
Dated 10th February 1851.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No.108, dated the 3rd October last; I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, to transmit to you for submission to the most noble the Governor General of India, copy of a communication from the Resident in the Persian Gulf, dated the 3rd Ultimo, reporting the failure of his endeavours to induce the eldest son of the late Shekh of Bahrein, to accept a provision of four or five thousand German crowns per annum, for the maintenance of the family from the present chief of that Island; together with a transcript of my reply of this date.

Bombay Castle,
10th February 1851.

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

Sd/-A.Malet,

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. .21.3.1851. NO.8.

...

Office A.

Cons.No. 1.

From

Lieutenant Colonel Hennell,
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

To

A. Malet Esquire,
Chief Secretary to Government,
Bombay.

Secret Department,

H.C.S. Frigate Auckland
Bassadore Roads,

3rd January 1851.

Sir,

On the 6th Ultimo, I had the honor to receive your despatch No. 184 in this Department of the 3rd October last: at the date of its receipt I was confined to my room from the effects of a severe surgical operation I had lately undergone, and which prevented me from embarking on board the H.C.S. Frigate Auckland before the 23th last month, for the purpose of proceeding to Muscat on the mission indicated in the 4th para. of your letter above referred to.

2nd. Shortly before my departure from Bushire I received a letter from Shaik Moobaruk bin Abdulla the eldest son of the late ex-chief of Bahrein, expressive of the pleasure with which he had learnt from his friend Shaik

FORE.POL.DEPTT. 21.3.1851, No.8. contd.

...

on behalf of himself and brothers, and their readiness to accept such arrangements as I might make, as they felt certain I would propose nothing inconsistent with their claims or positions.

3. Encouraged by the tenor of this communication to hope I might be able to affect an amicable settlement between the hitherto divided members of the Al Khulleefa family I determined to avail myself of the present opportunity of touching at the Island of Kenn, and having a personal communications with Shaik Moobaruk.

4. The Frigate reached Kenn on the morning of the 1st January and having sent my arabic secretry Hajee Mahomed on shore he speedily returned with sheiks Moobaruk, and Mahomed bin Khulleefa. After the usual compliments I entered into the object of my visit. I found them opportunity quite willing to admit the principle of accepting an annual allowance from the shaik of Bahrein, in return for the resignation of their claims upon that Island; but when I mentioned that I thought I could ensure them 4,000 Crowns per annum they at once intimated that so small a sum was willy inadmissible. I tried every argument to impress upon them the expediency of their availing themselves of the present opportunity, and promise. to use my utmost endeavours to induce the Shaik of Bahrein to give them a yearl. income of 5,000 D^ollars, but my efforts were all in vain. Rather, they said, than agree to accept a sum which would scarcely find themselves and

FORE. POLL. DEPT. 21.3.1851, No.8. contd.

....

remaining in their present position, waiting to see whether a kind providence might not have better prospects in store for them with the expression of this determination and a hint that an offer adequate to their claims and expectations would not be rejected they took their departure.

5. I confess I was by no means prepared for so unfavourable a termination of the negotiations which had been apparently opened under such satisfactory auspices. Shaik Busheer bin Rehamat the friend and relation of Shaik Moobaruk and his brothers, had, in his interview at the Residency given me fully to understand, that an income of 5,000 Crowns per annum, would be readily and thankfully accepted by the family of the ex-Chief of Bahrein, provided their feelings were spared by the arrangement being made through the mediation, and by the advice of the British Government.

6. I am not altogether without hopes, that in a short time Shaik Moobaruk and his relations may regret their abrupt refusal of the offers made by me. At present however, it would seem as if the indomitable pride of the Father (and which in a great measure proved his ruin) has descended to the sons. I do not think it likely that Shaik Mahomed bin Khuleefa of Bahrein can be persuaded to give a larger sum than 5000 crowns per annum, but should circumstances permit me to have an interview with him, before my return to Bushire, I will not fail to avail myself of any opening

1572

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 21.3.1851, Nos.8. contd.

....

more favorable terms for his fugitive relations than those proposed in the first instance by me.

I have the honor to be &ca.

Signed/-S. Hennell

Resident in the persian Gulf.

/True copy/

Sd/-A. Malet,

Chief secretary.

....

FORE.POL..DEPTT. 21.3.1851, No.9..

...

No.41 of 1851,

Secret Department.

FROM

A. Malet Esquire,

Chief Secretary to Government

Bombay.

TO

Lieutt. Colonel S. Hennell,

Resident in the persian Gulf.

Dated the 10th February 1851.

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 3rd ultimo, reporting the

1513

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FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 21.3.1851, No.9. contd.

....

the unsuccessful result of an interview you had with Shekh Moobaruk bin Abdulla, on the subject of an annual allowance from the Sheikh of Bahrain.

2nd. In reply, I am desired to express the regret of government at the failure of this negotiation and to request that you will not fail to take any opportunity of renewing it.

Bombay Castle,
10th February 1851.

I have the honor to be,

sd/- A. Malet

Chief Secretary.

/True copy/

sd/- A. Malet,

Chief Secretary.

....

1574

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 20.6.1851, No.2.

...

Office No.2404

No.21 of 1851

Political Department.

From

A. Malet Esquire,
Chief Secretary to Government,
Bombay.

To

F.J. Halliday Esquire,
Secretary to the Government of India,
Dated 7th June 1851.

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you for the information of the Government of India copy of a letter from the Resident in the Persian Gulf, No.139 dated the 5th ultimo with enclosure submitting the latest intelligence which had on that date reached him relative to the state of Affairs in the Arabian Coast.

Bombay Castle
7th June 1851.

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

Sd/-A. Malet
Chief Secretary.

....

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 20.6.1851, No.3.

...

Office No. 139 of 1851

Cons. No. 35 of 1851.

political Department.

From

Lieutenant Colonel Hennell,
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

To

A. Malet Esquire,
Chief Secy. to Government,
Bombay.

Bushire, 6th May, 1851.

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to transmit for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, the accompanying translation of an Extract of a letter from the Native Agent at Shargah dated the 20th March reporting upon the state of affairs on the Arabian Coast.

2nd. Although no occurrences of any great interest have taken place, it will be pleasing to His Lordship in Council to learn the continued absence of all acts of maritime aggressions and piracy in this greater I hardly expect the negotiations between Sheik Sultan ben Suggur and Sheik Saed ben Tahnoon for a renewal of friendly relations will end in placing matters in a permanently amicable footing between them; still as indices of a desire for peace

1576

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 20.6.1851, No. 3. contd.

...

3rd. By late advices from Lingah I learn that ~~z~~ sheik Saud ben Guzrah having come to a settlement with the commander of the persian Forces, he has dismissed his Arab allies, who have returned to Rasel Khymah and Shargah, under their leader sheik Abdoollah bin Sultan.

Residency in the
persian Gulf.

I have the honour to be &ca.
sd/- S. Hennell

BUSHIRE, 6th May 1851.

Resident in the persian Gulf.

Translation of an Extract of a letter from Moollah Houssain Agent at Shargah to Lieutenant Colonel Hennell Resident in the persian Gulf dated 20th March 1851.

I beg to report that sheik Sultan ben Suggur carries on an extensive correspondence with Fysul ben Toorkay, the sheikhs of Saarein, Syed Ges ben Azan, with Syed Sowenee and also with his own son Abdoollah ben Sultan. He has written to sheik Hamdan ben Tahnoon on the subject of peace. When sheik Sased the brother of the latter returned to Aboothabee, he was pleased at this circumstance and addressed the former chief regarding a reconciliation. This communication be dispatched by Moobarek ben Suroor the Chief of the Monasir with instructions to observe the state of sheik Sultan's affairs, and whether he was really inclined to be on friendly terms.

1517

FOREIGN POLL. DEPT. 20.6.1851, No.3. contd.

...

On the delivery of the letter to Sheik Sultan, he expressed his pleasure and wrote a conciliatory reply. On his return to Aboothabee, Moobarek ben Suroor visited Debaye, where he was forcibly detained by sheik Mukhtoom, who sent a message to sheik Sultan ben Sugur, to the effect that if he wished to remain on good terms with him, he must neither allow Moobarak ben Suroor to return to Aboothabee, nor make peace with Saeed ben Tahnoon until the termination of the affairs of Fysul ben Toorkee with Bahrein. Apparently the sheik complied with the wish of sheik Mukhtoom, and sent his secretary Mahomed ben Ali Booshalabee to Debaie to take back his letter to the address of sheik Saeed ben Tahnoon. On the return of his secretary, to Shargah, sheik Sultan entrusted this communication to a man of the Boo Hey and despatched it to the chief of Aboothabee.

Sheik Mukhtoom has been communicating with Fysul and the Bahrein Sheiks, apparently with the view of negotiating a peace, His real object is to have an interview with the former in order to advise him as to his future proceedings, His Cassids have returned with letters from both quarters, the former writes word that he is waiting for a meeting on the subject they had previously discussed. As far as I can learn the Sheiks of Bahrein, do not wish his presence at that, Island, as they suspect he inclined towards Fysul ben Toorkee, and that he is doing all this for the purpose of obtaining an interview

1578

FORE.POLL.DEPPT. 20.6.1851. No.3. contd.

...

communicating to him who are his friends and foes. The sheiks having intimated this to him, Sheik Mukhtoom has laid aside his intention of proceeding to Bahrein and having an interview with the Wahabee ruler some time ago Syud Thowanee having written to sheik Mukhtoom to send his brother to muscat for the purpose of arraning terms of peace, he intends to despatch his brother saeed ben Butye to the port. The sheiks Humeid ben Rashid to return to Ejman without having an interview with the Wahabee Chief Sheik saeed ben Tahnoun has sent saeed ben Mahomeh to Bahrein with letters for the sheik on the subject of the assistance he had promised them on their dispute with Ameer Fysul.

/True Translated Extract /

sd/-James Edwards,

Accountant &Ca.

/True copy/

sd/-S.Hennell

resident in the persian Gulf.

/True copies/

sd/-A. Malet,

Chief Secretary.

...

1519

FCRE.POLL.DEPTT. 18.7.1851, No.30-31.

...

No.30. Office No.2399 Duplicate. No.123 of 1851

From

A. Malet Esquire,

Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

To

Sir H.M. Elliot, K.C.B.,

Secretary to the Government of India

with the most noble the Governor General.

Camp, dated the 7th June 1851.

political Department,

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to transmit to you for submission to the Most Noble the Governor General of India, copy of a letter from the Resident in the Persian Gulf, No.130 dated the 3rd ultimo, forwarding copy of communication from the Native Agent at Bahrein dated the 25th of April last, reporting on the position of affairs between the Wahabee Ameer and the Chief of that Island.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Bombay Castle,

Your most obedient servant,

7th June 1851

Sd/-A. Malet,

Chief Secretary.

....

1520

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. ~~152~~ 18.7.1851, No.30-31. contd.

...

No. 31.

Office No.119 of 1851.

Cons.No.30 of 1851.

From

Lieutenant Colonel Hennell,
Resident in the persian Gulf.

To

A. Malet Esquire,
Chief secretary to Government,
Bombay.

political Department, dated Bushire, 30th April 1851.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council the enclosed copy of a reply dated the 10th Instant from Her Majesty's Minister at the Court of persia to my despatch* to his address No.47 of the 5th March on the subject of the claim made by Hajee Mirza Reza and his son, for the interference of His Excellency to recover certain property of which they had been deprived by the persian Authorities at Meshed.

*Enclosure No.4 in letter to Govt.No.10 P.O. Deptt. dated 22nd March 1851.

2nd. His Lordship in Council will observe that for the reasons given Colonel Sheil declines to interfere in this case.

Residency in the persian Gulf, Bushire 30th April 1851. I have the honor to be, Sir,
sd/-S. Hennell
resident in the persian Gulf.

FORE. POL. DEPT. 18.7.1851, No. 30.31. contd.

....

To

Lieutenant Colonel Hennell,
resident,
Beshire.

Sir,

It appears to me with reference to your despatch No. 47 of the 6th of March that I cannot interfere in the case of Hajee Muerza Reza and his son. The first has no claims on the British Government and from his own showing it appears he acted as spokesman for the Salar on the occasion of a conference with an Agent from the Shah. It is idle in him to assert that he was under compulsion when he performed that office. It is evident that under such circumstances he could have made his escape to the besieging camp, and it is difficult to credit that the Salar would have employed a compulsory Agent to conduct a negotiation of the terms of his reconciliation.

With regard to the son of this person, he has written a Persian letter to me declaring that the property belonging to his mother was bequeathed by her to his father. It is true that in a subsequent part of the letter he asserts that the property was his; but this portion of his communication is neither signed nor sealed.

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 13.7.1851, Nos.31-contd.

....

Be this as it may any steps I might take in the present stage and with my present information would be ineffectual. If his claims are of the nature he has put forth through you, he acted injudiciously in not applying to me when he was in Tehran the reasons he assigns for not doing so appear to me frivolous, and tending to disprove the validity of his pretensions.

I have the honor to be,
signed/-Justin Sheil.

Tehran,

10th April 1851.

/True copy/

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

/True copies/

Sd/-A. Malet,
Chief Secretary.

.....

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 18.7.1851, No.32.

....

No.32.

Office No.130 of 1851

Consul. No.31 of 1851.

political department.

From

Lieutt.Col.Hennell,

Resident in the persian Gulf.

To

Arthur Malet Esquire,

Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Bushire 23rd May 1851.

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to forward for the information of the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council, the accompanying translation of the substance of a letter dated the 26th ultimo from the Native Agent at Bahrein, reporting the position of affairs between the Wahabee Ameer and the Chief of that Island.

2nd. From the Agent's statement it would appear, that sheik Mahomed bin Khuleefa had been persuaded, against his better judgement, by the merchants of Bahrein /who were apprehensive of being deprived of this, seasons pearl Fishery/ to reopen negotiations with the Ameer, and make him an offer of 2000 ~~comms~~, and two horses for this year's tribute.

3rd. This proposition has produced the effect which might have been anticipated Ameer Fysul has now the impress-

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FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 18.7.1851, No.32. contd.

...

sense of his inability to contend against him. He has consequently resumed his former arrogant tone, and now insists upon the delivery of 10 Horses, 10 Camels, and 4,000 Crowns, as the only basis upon which he will treat for peace.

4th. The scheme of destroying Bidia and removing all the inhabitants to Bahrein, in the event of their fidelity not being assured in a war with Fysul, is the best which under all the circumstances of the case the sheik could adopt. although doubtless open to many objections. Not the least of these will probably be the immediate occupation of that excellent Harbour and position, by the sons of the late Ex-Chief of Bahrein, and the other Uttoabee Refugees at present on the Island of Keun.

I have the honor to be,

sd/-s. Hennell,

Resident in the Persian Gulf.

Residency in the Persian Gulf,

Bushire,

3rd May 1851.

Translated substance of a letter from Hajee Jasseem, Agent at Bahrein to Lieutt. Coll. Hennell Resident in the Persian Gulf, dated 24th Jumadee Ool Saneh or 26th April received 2nd May 1851.

As previously reported to you the arrival of Fysul in this quarter, where he still continues. Peace has not been concluded as yet between him and the sheikhs

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 18.7.1851, No.32. contd.

....

despatch of a messenger named Sheikh Rashid, a moollah to the Wahabee ruler by the sheik. This person has now returned and has not settled affairs. He remained there one day, Fysul has written a reply to the letter of Sheikh Mahomed ben Khuleefa and verbally told the bearer not to delay the answer more than four days. The Ameer demands as a fine 10 horses and 10 camels and 4000 Dollars as the Zukat. When this message was delivered by the Cashed to Sheikh Mahomed, the latter determined on hostilities, affirming he would rather consent to be driven from Bahrein, than comply with such terms. Further Fysul desired an interview with one of the two sheiks, if they consented they were to come in their own vessel opposite to Ajeer, and he would send on board his brother Julawee, or his son Abdooliah ben Fysul as a hostage, while the sheik landed and met him. On receiving this proposal Sheikh Mahomed sent his uncle to Biddah to consult with his Brother, and intimated his own intention of making war. Sheik Ally was instructed to ascertain whether the people of Biddah would fight should they however be likely to betray the cause, he would send vessels to destroy Biddah and bring away all the inhabitants to Bahrein. He would then blockade Kateef and protect Bahrein with his vessels against Ameer Fysul, Sheikh Mahomed was rather displeas'd with the merchants for having advised him to open a negotiation with the Wahabee chief against his own inclination. They replied that their intention in proposing a peaceable

1526

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 18.7.1851, No.32. contd.

.....

peaceable arrangement was on account of the poor people, who would otherwise be deprived of the pearl Fishery, but that now his offer had been rejected, they were ready to stand by him with their lives and property. Some time ago sheik Saeed ben Tahnoon sent a bugarah to sheik Ali at Biddah and wrote to him to the effect that if Ben Saood should march towards Guttur, he was ready to afford aid if called upon. This boat has been detained at Biddah until news be received of Ben Saood's movements should he advance, it is the intention of sheik Ali to send back the Bugarah to Aboothabee for the aforesaid assistance, as it is now determined by the sheik to resist by all means the aggressions of Ben Saood - God knows best how it will end.

/True translated substance/

sd/-James Edward

Accountant.

/True copy/

sd/-S.Henell,

Resident in the Persian Gulf.

/True copies/

sd/-A. Malet, Chief Secretary

to Government of Bombay.

...

FORE.POLL.DEPTT.1 AUG. 1851. No.18.

...

Office No.2690. Duplicate
No.137 of 1851.

From

A. Malet Esquire,
Chief Secy. to the Government of Bombay.

To

Sir H.M. Elliot K.C.B.
Secretary to the Government of India
with the Most Noble the Governor General

Dated the 23rd June 1851.

political Department,

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you for submission to the Most Noble the Governor General of India, copy of a letter from the Resident in the Persian Gulf No.96 dated the 8th April last, reporting the measures adopted by him with the view of effecting a reconciliation between the sons of the Ex-Chief of Bahrein and the present Chief of the port, together with a copy of my reply thereto No.2689 of this date.

Bombay Castle,
23rd June 1851.

I have the honour to be
Your most obedient servant,

Sd/-A. Malet,
Chief Secretary.

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 1. 8. 1851. No.19.

...

Office No.96 of 1851

Cons.No.25 of 1851.

From

Lieutt. Colonel Henneil

Resident in the persian Gulf.

To

A. Malet Esquire,

Chief Secretary to Government.

Dated 8th April 1851.

Sir,

I have the honor to report that on the 2nd and 5th of the present month, I had an interview with Sheiks Mahomed, and Humud, sons of the ex-chief of Bahrein, the late Abdoolah bin Ahmad. They were accompanied by Sheik Busheer (the son of the famous pirate Rahmah ben Jabir) and Sheik Ally ben Sultan.

2nd. The object of the Shieks was to explain to me the great distress to which they were now reduced and to beg me, either to interfere in their behalf with the present chief sheik Mahomed ben Khuleefa to assign for their subsistence the revenues of three or four of their patriominical villages in Bahrein, on the condition of their dropping all their schemes for the reconquest of that Island, and living with him on terms of friendship and good will or in the event of this reasonable proposal being rejected, to send a vessel of war to convey themselves

1529

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 1.8.1851. No.19. contd.

...

then withdrawing all further interference leave them to settle their quarrel with the Sheik of Bahrein.

3rd. As there appeared nothing unreasonable in this proposition I have strongly recommended Sheik Mahomed bin Khuleefa to comply with their application and by making over to them a portion of their patrimonial estate, not only relieve himself from all further apprehension of injury from the schemes and intrigues of his fugitive relations, but also add greatly to his own reputation and credit by such an act of liberality and justice.

4th. I now await the reply of Bahrein Sheik to the proposal should he decline, it, I shall fairly lay before him the alternative and under his continued refusal, I propose authorizing the ex-chiefs family and dependents quitting the Island of Kena, and proceeding over to the Arabian Coast for the purpose of locating themselves in the port of Kateef. In this case, I should think it advisable to send one or two vessels of the Squadron with them, for the purpose of preventing their making a descent on Bahrein on routine or committing any aggressions on the mercantile marine of that Island.

Residency in the Persian Gulf.
Bushire, 8th April 1851.

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

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 1.8.1851. No. 20.

...

No. 268 of 1851

From

A. Malet Esquire,

Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

To

Lieutenant Colonel S. Hennell,

Resident in the Persian Gulf,

Dated the 23rd June 1851.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 96 dated the 8th April last reporting the result of your interview with the sons of the ex-Chief of Bahrein and to express the hope of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council that your recommendation of their proposal to the Chief of Bahrein may have the effect of causing a reconciliation between the parties.

2nd. Should you however not succeed in this, His Lordship in Council is of opinion, that as Government prevents a descent from Kenn on Bahrein it will be but just that it should secure a safe peaceable transit for the fugitive to the Arabian Coast as proposed in the 4th paragraph of your letter.

Bombay Castle,

23rd June 1851.

I have the honour to be,

sd/-A. Malet, Chief Secretary.

§ True copy/

sd/-A. Malet, Chief Secy.

1531

FORE.POLL.DEP'TT. 1 AUGUST 1851, No.25.

....

Office No.2741 Duplicate No.143 of 1851

From

A. Malet Esquire,
Chief secy. to the Govt. of Bombay.

To

H.M. Elliot, K.C.B.,
Secy. to the Government of India
with the most noble the Governor General
Dated the 27th June 1851.

Political Department,

Sir,

With reference to my letter, dated the 16th instant, No.128, I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you, for submission to the Most Noble the Governor General of India, copy of a letter from the Resident in the Persian Gulf, No.158, dated the 27th ultimo forwarding translations of two letters from the Native Agent at Bahrein, reporting the failure of all negotiations for peace, and the immediate prospect of hostilities between the Chief of that Island and Ameer Fysul, the Ruler of Nedjd.

Bombay Castle,

27th June 1857.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant

sd/- A. Malet,

Chief Secretary.

...

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 1 AUGUST 1851, No.26.

...

Office No.158 of 1851

Consul: No.39 of 1851.

From

Lieutenant Colonel Hennell,
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

To=

A. Mallet Esquire,
Chief Secretary to Government,
Bombay.

Dated 27th May 1851.

Political Department,

Sir,

Herewith I have the honour to forward for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, a translation of the substance of two letters from the Native Agent at Bahrein, dated the 12th and 13th Instant, reporting upon the failure of all negotiations for peace, and the prospect of immediate hostilities between the chief of that Island and Ameer Fysul the ruler of Nedjd.

2nd. On sheik ally ben Khaleefa sending the inhabitants of Bidda, in respect to their removal to Bahrein, they at once refused to consent to any such scheme; but they promised to fish in the vicinity of that port, and to return for the defence of Bidda immediately notice should be received by them that the Wahabee Ameer

1541

FORE.POLL.DEPTT.24.10.1851, No.64. contd.

....

3rd. I replied, that the communication from the Commander of the English ship of war referred to by him must have been written under a complete misapprehension, as no instructions or authority had ever been given by me for such a letter to be sent, or such a prohibition to be given. Respecting the second point however, I observed, that the report made to the Ameer of the Maritime chiefs of the Arabian Coast having been interdicted from assisting him with their vessels was correct. that this arose from no unfriendly feeling towards H.H. but solely for the object of preserving the peace and tranquillity of these seas. These chiefs I said, had entered into engagements with the British Government and with each other, not to present maritime hostilities, and therefore, as the Beni yas Chief would undoubtedly oppose by force of arm any naval support given by either Sheik Sultan ben Saggur or Sheik Mukhtoom to the Ameer, the policy so long and beneficially maintained by the British Govt. in this gulf would be at once completely compromised. Relative to the aid given by Saeed ben Tahnoon to the Bahrein Sheiks, I remarked that this had not been done at our suggestion, but purely from a regard to his own safety and preservation, as he was well aware that one of the great objects of Ameer Fysul was to crush his power and if possible to destroy him.

1542

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 24.10.1851, No. 64. contd.

...

4th. To these observations, Abdool Azeez replied by asking what possible objection, the British Government could have to Ameer Fysul putting down and punishing the rebellion of his subjects in Bahrein. I answered, that on this point it was best to state explicitly, that my government did not acknowledge the authority of the Ameer over Bahrein, or the Maritime states of the Persian Gulf. All these states had to my now personal knowledge been considered and treated by the British Govt. as independent powers for nearly thirty years, and that in respect to Bahrein more particularly, the vigorous opposition offered by the English to the aggressive proceedings of Mahomed Ally Pasha and Ameer Khalid in 1839 proves the desire always entertained by us, that the Island in question should not be taken out of the possession of the Uttoobee Sheiks.

5th. Sheik Abdool Azeez, then asked what steps I purposed taking in the event of the Ameer prosecuting his claims against Bahrein, I answered, that considering the friendly relations existing between His Highness and the British Government, the contingency of his acting so completely or provided for. That as long as his hostilities were confined to the Uttoobee possession on the main, I was certain no interference would take place. Touching Bahrein itself I added, that I could not say what instructions the Sirkar might see fit to issue on receiving my report of the actual posture of affairs, but that I was

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 24.10.1851. No.64. contd.

....

I was certain no interference would take place. Touching Bahrein itself I added, that I could not say what instructions the sirkar might see fit to issue on receiving my report of the actual posture of affairs, but that I was well assured they would not view with indifference that Island being taken possession of by any other powers.

4th. After giving this explicit intimation, I was rather surprised to find my visitor change his ground, and begin to speak at considerable length and much ambiguity of the high estimation the Ameer placed upon the friendship of the British government the great weight my opinions would always have with him how readily all these difficulties might be smoothed down by our coming to a mutual understanding that although His Highness had every right to demand from the chiefs of Bahrein the 40 or 50,000 crowns he had expended in his present movement, yet that, in consideration of the English he would waive this claim, that one good great object of His Highness in undertaking this expedition was to compel the sheiks of Bahrein to execute the engagement they had entered into to restore the property and Estates of the sons of the Ex-chief but as it now appeared that this desirable end was likely to be attained, through the mediation of the British Resident a great obstacle to a satisfactory adjustment of differences would be removed. The sum total of sheik Abdool Azeez long speech appeared to me to be, that Ameer Fysul having committed himself

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 24.10.1851, No.64. contd.

....

was himself by his present advance could not withdraw without the loss of much reputation and influence, unless an adequate cause could be exhibited for his so doing, and this cause would be provided by the expression of the wishes of the British Government.

7th. After some little consideration I saw no objection to receiving this overture in the same spirit in which it was offered. I said therefore that I would address a letter of advice to the sheik of Bahrein recommending him to remember the favour he had formerly received from Ameer Fysul, and to take steps for a renewal of those friendly relations which had originally subsisted between them, at the same time, I said, I would write to the Ameer explaining the views of the British Government and expressing the great desire felt that the peace and tranquillity of those seas should be maintained by his uniting with us in the attainment of so important and laudable an object.

8th. This intimation appeared to afford much satisfaction to the Wahabee Envoy, who expressed his sanguine hope and expectation, that affair would shortly be brought to a favourable termination.

9th. In his visit this day Sheik Abdool Azeez adverted to the difficulty and delay that would attend his waiting for an opportunity to rejoin his Chief by the way of Koweit, as that of Kateef being blockaded by the Bahrein Fleet, would be necessarily closed to him, if in a native way.

1545

FORE.POLL.DEPTT 24.10, 1851, No.64. contd.

...

At the same time he dwelt upon the great advantage that would attend the early delivery of my reply and verbal communication to Ameer Fysul. I impressed by these considerations. I at once determined to offer the envoy as a mark of respect to the Wahabee chief, a passage to Kateef in one of the vessels of the squadron. This offer he most readily and thankfully accepted.

10. In closing for the information of government translations of my letters to Ameer Fysul and the Sheik of Bahrein, I venture to hope that His Lordship in Council may not consider that I have expressed myself too strongly in regard to the independence of Bahrein, and the adverse views of the British Government to its conquest and occupation by the Wahabee Ruler. After the withdrawal from the coast of the troops of Khorshid Pasha (the Commander of the Egyptian forces in Nedgd) in consequence of the earnest protest made against his attacking Bahrein, I was instructed by Government to keep a watchful eye upon the movements and intrigues of Ameer Khalid the then dominant Arab Chief in Nedgd. Of the connexion subsisting between Ameer Fysul and the Ottoman Porte, there can, I think exist no doubt Sheik Abdool Azeez while at Koweit, passed himself off to the sheik of that place as an Envoy from Abbas Pasha of Egypt, and he also informed me, that messengers from the Viceroy were now present with the Ameer.

vide letter No. 1109 dated Depart. Secret 30th July 1840 & No. 126 Secret Deptt. 1st Jan. 1841.

1546

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 24.10.1851. No.64.contd.

...

The British Government having distinctly refused to acknowledge the pretensions put forth by Turkey over Bahrein, and the Arabian Coast of this Gulf. I trust I was justified in assuming its unwillingness to see Bahrein fall into the possession of a quasi dependent of that power.

Residency in the persian Gulf. I have the honor to be, &ca.
Bushire, 24th June 1851. Sd/-S.Hennell,

Resident in the persian Gulf

Translation of a letter from Lieutenant Colonel Hennell president in the persian Gulf to His Highness Ameer Fysul Regent of Nadgd dated 24th June 1851.

After compliments. Your Highness letter of the 31st Ultimo despatched by the hand of your trusted Envoy Sheik Abdool Azeez. has been received. Its contents have been understood, and I was much gratified by receiving such favourable accounts of your Health and welfare. Your Highness complains of the proceedings of the Agents of the British Government. I trust you are mistaken in supposing they would act in the manner alluded to by you. I can only say, they have never been authorized by me to do so. In respect to Bahrein your Highness is doubtless aware, that many powers lay claim to that Island, but that such claims have never been acknowledged by the British Government with which has had treaties and engagements with the Uttoobes chiefs of Bahrein for nearly

FORE.POLL.DEP'T. 24.10.1851, Nos.64. contd.

...

nearly 30 years. I may mention in particular Mahomed Ally Pasha and Ameer Kholud who advanced claims upon and wished to take possession of this Island, but in consequence of the remonstrances of the English Sirkar they left it ~~remee-~~ ~~stareee~~ unmolested under these circumstances, it must be apparent to your Highness that the British Government could not see with indifference Bahrain in the possession of any other than that of the Uttoobee Sheiksh. I have reason to believe that one of the principal reasons of your Highness coming down to the Coast was on account of the sons of the late Abdooliah ben Ahmed. I am happy to inform you, that through my mediation, there is a proper prospect of an amicable arrangement being made between them and the Ali Khuleera, by which an ample and satisfactory yearly allowance will be made for their support and provisions. It would appear however from what I am told, that the present sheiks of Bahrain have not acknowledged the kindnesses they formerly received from your Highness as they sought to have done, and as it is obviously to their interest that they should be on friendly terms with a chief of the rank and power of your Highness, I have written a friendly letter of advice to them upon this subject. Your Highness is aware of the great desire of the British Government that the peace and tranquillity of this Gulf should be maintained intact, and that no door should be opened to admit the return of anarchy and confusion. I trust therefore that you will unite with it in promoting this

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FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 24.10.1851, No.64. contd.

....

this desirable object and that as a proof of your friendship you will receive the friendly overtures of Sheikh Mahomed ben Khulasefe in a reciprocal spirit. Thus through the efforts of your Highness and myself, affairs may speedily be arranged in a manner satisfactory to all parties.

Your envoy sheik Abdoola Azoz has verbally delivered the messages entrusted to him by you and having received full replies will I could not communicate their contents to your Highness.

/True Translation /

S/-S. HANSEN,

Resident at Persian Gulf.

(True copy)

Signed/-S. HANSEN,

Resident at the Persian Gulf.

....