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Government, that every thing is tran-
 -quil here there is probably no objec-
 -tion to the "Ajdahad" temporary absence,
 the schooner replacing her here, in
 which case I would advise that, on the
 arrival of the "Semiramis" from
 Busrah that vessel together with the
 "Ajdahad" and "Falkland" proceed at
 once to Demam, where should their
 presence, coupled with all pacific
 means fail to induce the Al Ali
 to abandon that locality, that an
 immediate attempt be made with
 the Gun Boats of the three vessels -
 ten in number, for the ships cannot
 be got nearer than 6 miles - to drive
 them out by bombarding the town and
 Fort of Demam, after this is effected
 should they still refuse to proceed
 to Jera or other place you may select,
 the only plan of action left for us
 to pursue is to blockade the Port
 and destroy on the spot all boats
 that may be captured belonging to
 the Tribe. -

4. To establish however, an ef-
 -fectual blockade would require one
 small steamer or two sailing vessels
 and as I cannot recommend the
 employment of the Semiramis on
 this, for reasons I will hereafter
 explain and as the Squadron
 consists of only two of the latter class
 I do not see in the event of its being
 necessary, how the blockade could
 be maintained without additional
 vessels, unless indeed, the police
 duties on the Persian Banks and
 lower

covered part of the Gulf, as also the search for slaves, be altogether abandoned, which would be for you to determine.

The "Seymour", even should events happen which her services would no longer be required at Buzhirc, is too expensive for cruising and too large and unhandy to blockade a place like Demann surrounded as the neighbourhood is by so many reefs and shoals.

With regard to the "Semiramis" I necessarily took her under my orders on her arrival, altho' no allusion was made to her in her sailing orders or in the a single line for our excellency the Commodore in which with reference to her, as if of otherwise, but you will have observed by Commodore Gardiner's sailing orders, that he was directed to return to Bombay after receiving your replies to letters of which he was the bearer.

When you made a Requisition for the services of this vessel to proceed to Buzhirc, with an important Packet for the Honble Mr Murray, I was under the impression that she would proceed to Bombay immediately on her return, but as I see by your letter under reply, you contemplate retaining her on this station for an indefinite period (where I fully agree with you her services are greatly needed) I consider it my duty to inform you of its having come to my knowledge.

From

from reliable sources that the whole
of her spars had rotted a part of
the mainmast is off, and her copper
much torn, which happened when
she grounded in the Red Sea about
seven or eight months ago, as
the damage had not as yet been
repaired, I am of opinion that it
will be highly injurious to keep
her much longer on this station
for the operations of the destructive
worm Teredo Navalis I think is the
name which abounds in all these
Eastern Seas, must be daily adding
to the injury she has sustained. I
would under these circumstances,
recommend that she be sent to
Roughy on your return from the
tour of the Gulf, or as early as possible
I should you have any propo-
sals regarding the expedition to
Derramis, which would only occupy
a few days, I would suggest that
you proceed in the "Alaba" on your
tour of the Gulf, from that place
and the Derramis to Bushir, where
in the event of the arrival of any
important Packet for India, you
either Derramis or Bushir, she
could proceed with it.

I have the honor to be
Yours faithfully
R. B. Theobald

(From the
flight of the
Alaba to the Red Sea)

617 High Street, Glasgow
James Watson

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General No 15 of 1856.

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Secret Department

From
Commander F. W. Jones J. N.

Acting Resident Persian Gulf

Commodore R. Elthersey J. N.

Commanding Indian Naval

Squadron in the Persian Gulf.

Bushire Roads.

Dated 24th April 1856.

Sir
I am desirous of calling your attention to the subject of the Al Ali migration, now that a Resolution of Government under date 8th April, has reached me in respect to the course to be pursued with the Tribe.

2. The terms dictated to the Al Ali are already in your possession under date 6th November last, since which period its members have not exhibited a symptom of compliance. On the contrary I have lately heard that they are employed in permanently locating themselves at Demauin.

3. The tranquillity of the Gulf

must