

(7)

K. W.

POLITICAL A., FEBRUARY 1875.

Nos. 281-288.

3799

*From Political Resident, Persian Gulf, No. 1265-262,
dated 31st October 1874.*

*Telegrams from Political Resident, Persian Gulf, dated
18th and 19th November 1874.*

* Polt. A., September 1874, No. 354.

† Polt. A., October 1874, No. 94.

‡ Paragraph 11 of Colonel Ross' letter No. 1265, dated 31st
October.

§ Colonel Ross' telegram of 18th.

|| Fahad bin Abdoolla whose probable release was reported in
Colonel Herbert's No. 57, dated 18th August?

Proceedings of the Turks in Nejd.

ABDOOL RAHMAN BIN FEYSUL, the Wahabee Prince, who was released from detention, at Baghdad on the 13th* August last, arrived at Bahrein on his way to Riadh towards the close† of the same month. There he remained until the 24th‡ October, waiting until he ascertained that the state of the factions on the mainland would permit his descent on the Nejd Coast. Since his descent he is said§ to have cut off communication between Kateef and El Hassa, in consequence of which the Turks are sending two Infantry Regiments by sea to Kateef with a Squadron of four vessels. Troops are also preparing to march to Nejd by land. It is added that the Turks blame the Chief of Bahrein for his conduct regarding Abdool Rahman. Three days before the latter left the island a messenger had arrived bringing a letter from the Deputy Governor of Kateef in which the Chief of Bahrein was charged with assisting Abdool Rahman and Fahad|| bin Suneythan in the collection of 400 or 500 rebellious men, with the view of creating disturbances against the Turkish Government. The Kaim Makam's letter is menacing in tone and calls on the Sheikh to declare for peace or war.

According to Colonel Ross the Chief of Bahrein regarded Abdool Rahman in the light of a visitor, and knew nothing of his hostility to the Turks, the more specially as the latter had voluntarily released their prisoner from Baghdad. He returned a verbal message to this effect to the Turkish Governor of Kateef, at the same time referring the matter to Colonel Ross, who proposes recommending the Chief to send a short reply in polite terms disclaiming responsibility in the matter of Abdool Rahman's movements and expressing his desire and intention to avoid any proceeding which could justly give offence, &c.

This appears very judicious; but one point attracts attention. It is said that three days after the receipt of the Turkish Deputy's letter Abdool Rahman left Bahrein *with his followers* and landed near Ojair. Does this mean that he took with him a large party? If he did then I think the Turks have fair ground for suspicion. Colonel Ross himself suggests in his 9th paragraph that the Governor of Kateef took alarm or pretended to do so *at the enquiries made by Abdool Rahman's messengers*. It is hard to believe that political intrigues of this kind were unknown to the Chief of the island. And looking to what has followed, the Turks are naturally enough enraged that Bahrein should have been made the nest for the hatching of Abdool Rahman's hostile plans.

The point requiring immediate decision is the strength of our squadron in the Gulf.

Colonel Ross, in his telegram of the 19th, presumes that Government would wish at least two vessels of the Royal Navy to be actually in the Gulf while these operations are going on. The *Philomel* has gone to Bombay. The *Nimble* is at Bahrein. The *Maggie* was at Jask, but telegraphed on the 18th that the Commander wished to proceed to Kurrachee to give the crew leave. Colonel Ross, however, summoned the vessel to Bushire, and wishes neither her nor the *Nimble* to leave the Gulf until the *Philomel* arrives or another ship in her place. He suggests that the naval authorities should be advised accordingly.

20-11-74.

(Sd.) F. H.

Exd.—J. D. G.

सुरक्षित राष्ट्रीय अभिलेखागार
भारत सरकार के आधीन

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The important facts in this case are that the Turkish authorities having invaded Nejd, and treated Saood bin Feysul as an enemy, eventually occupied the sea-board of Nejd, and took Saood's brother, Abdool Rahman, prisoner. They then deported Abdool Rahman to Baghdad. Meantime Saood managed to possess himself of the capital of Nejd on its environs. Matters being in this state the Turkish authorities of their own free will release Abdool Rahman, and he proceeds, as might have been expected, to return to his native country. Uncertain, however, as to what might be the present position of parties in Nejd, he puts in to the friendly port of Bahrein, and there remains until he can satisfy himself as to his probable safety in Nejd.

Eventually, that is to say, after what seems to have been a sojourn of a month or so, Abdool Rahman embarks with his following and proceeds to Nejd. Whereupon the Turkish Deputy Governor of Kateef writes a menacing and violent letter to the Chief of Bahrein, endeavours to cast on the Chief all the blame of Abdool Rahman's alleged proceedings after departure from Bahrein, and threatens the Chief with war.

The Chief sends at once a polite verbal reply, and refers to the Resident for advice before committing himself to a written answer. The Resident suggests to the Chief politely to disclaim responsibility.

It appears to me that in releasing Abdool Rahman, the Turkish authorities must have expected that he would join his brother, and that they have no one but themselves to blame if he did so. According to Arab rights of hospitality the Bahrein Chief could not have refused to receive Abdool Rahman in his territory; and there is nothing to show, nor is it likely that the Chief who is and long has been in abject fear of being dragged into a quarrel by the Turks, would in any way willingly commit himself to aiding or abetting a raid (if raid there really have been) on Turkish or Wahabee soil.

By the word "*following*" I understand the servants, slaves, and retainers who almost invariably accompany any Arab Chief when moving, even from one house to another.

I think the Bahrein Chief appears to have acted in conformity with the advice uniformly afforded by British authority; and I think that the Resident's advice to him was equally conformable with precedent and prudence.

But from my knowledge of Turkish modes of proceeding in respect to the Bahrein islands, and from my acquaintance with the intrigues which have long been afoot for bringing Bahrein under Turkish rule, and aiming a blow at British prestige in the Gulf, I am led to surmise that this release of Abdool Rahman and the subsequent demonstration on the part of the Turkish troops may have been premeditated acts having for their object a renewed attack on Nejd and a pretext for implicating Bahrein. The fact is *the Turks want a sea base of operations*, and they can nowhere find this unless in the sheltered and secure anchorages of the fertile, wealthy, and well watered islands of Bahrein.

It is unnecessary to add that this is precisely the season of the year when the Turks would find it practicable to renew their aggressions in Nejd and on the shores of the Persian Gulf.

I recommend that at least two of our gun-boats, with an experienced Political officer be present at Bahrein during the present operations or complications; and that the course we took on a similar occasion shortly before I left the Gulf, be now adopted.

(Sd.) L. P.

22-11-74.

محتويات الوثائق التاريخية موجزاً

تتعلق هذه الوثيقة بالأوضاع المتقلبة في منطقة نجد، فقد قام الأمير الوهابي عبد الرحمن بن فيصل بقطع المواصلات بين القطيف والأحساء، فأرسلت الحكومة التركية للتغلب على الأوضاع جيوشه إليها عن طريق البر والبحر وهي ترى أن رئيس البحرين منحاز إلى عبد الرحمن بن فيصل. كما تشير أيضاً إلى إعتقال عبد الرحمن في بغداد على يد الأتراك ثم قيامه في البحرين بعد اطلاق سراحه.

٣٨٠٦ . ٣٨٠١

تتحدث هذه الوثيقة عن رسالة كتبها الأمير الوهابي عبد الرحمن بن فيصل إلى المقيم البريطاني في خليج فارس يحدث فيها عن ازدهار حكومته في الرياض كما يلتمح إلى أن المقيم لم يرد على رسالة سابقة له. الحكومة الإنجليزية تؤدي مندوبها بأنه لا مانع له من الرد على خطاب عبدالله بن فيصل، فإنه أمير مملكة قديمة خارجة من السلطة التركية قد انتخبه الناس أميراً عليهم بطواعية قلوبهم.

٣٨٠٩ . ٣٨٠٧

هذه الوثيقة أيضاً تتعلق بالأوضاع السياسية لمنطقة نجد وبخاصة بعد موت سعود بن فيصل في شهر يناير لعام ١٨٧٥ م و ساعة موته خلف أخوين : عبدالله بن فيصل و كان منشقاً عليه في حياته و كانت له علاقات ودية مع الأتراك، من هنا لم يكن محبوباً لدى القبائل العربية، و أما أخوه الأصغر عبد الرحمن بن فيصل فقد كانت له مواقف جريئة لرد عدوان الأتراك فاخترته القبائل أميراً لهم بعد وفاة سعود بن فيصل، و كانت الرياض عاصمة له ولكن أخاه عبدالله لم يزل يحيك له المكائد حتى نجح في إطاعة سلطته و الاستيلاء على مدينة الرياض، ثم صالح مع أخيه عبد الرحمن و أقربائه الآخرين.

٣٨١٣ . ٣٨١٠

تتحدث هذه الوثيقة عن الطلب الذي تقدمه عبد العزيز إلى الحكومة الإنجليزية، فقد طلب منها أن تقدم بدور الوسيط في اصلاح ذات البين و المصالحة بينه و بين أخيه سعود تركي حتى يسمح له بالإقامة في مسقط، و لكن سعود تركي لم يرض بهذا الطلب.

٣٨١٥ . ٣٨١٤

تتحدث هذه الوثيقة عن اطلاق سراح عبدالرحمن بن فيصل أخي سعود بن فيصل الذي كان اعتقله الأتراك في مدينة بغداد و بعد اطلاق سراحه توجه إلى جزيرة البحرين و منها

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No. 281

Telegram, dated 14th November 1874.

From—Political Agent, Turkish Arabia, Baghdad,
To—Foreign Secretary, Calcutta.

FRESH disturbances occurred in Nejd. One regiment infantry left Bus-sorah for Kateef on the 12th, and another regiment with 150 policemen started hence this morning.

No. 282

Telegram, dated 18th November 1874.

From—Political Resident, Persian Gulf, Bushire,
To—Foreign Secretary, Calcutta.

BUSHIRE 18th. Consequent on report that the Wahabee Prince Abdool Rehman bin Feysul has cut communication between Kateef and El Hassa, Turkish authorities are sending two infantry regiments by sea to Kateef with squadron of four vessels. Troops also preparing to march to Nejd by land. Turkish authorities blame Chief of Bahrein's conduct regarding Abdool Rehman. Have reported by letter dated 31st October on this complaint.

No. 283

Telegram, dated 19th November 1874.

From—Political Resident, Persian Gulf, Bushire,
To—Foreign Secretary, Calcutta.

DURING Turkish operations in Gulf I presume Government would wish at least two vessels of Royal Navy Squadron actually in Gulf. *Philomel* has proceeded Bombay, *Nimble* is at Bahrein, *Maggie* telegraphed from Jask yesterday. Wishing to proceed Kurrachee to give crew leave, but I have requested Commander to come here instead. I would wish neither vessel to leave Gulf until return of *Philomel*, or another vessel in her place. If Government approve, it might be well to intimate so to Naval authorities.

No. 284

No. 1265-262, dated Bushire, 31st October 1874.

From—Her Britannic Majesty's Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
To—Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

I HAVE the honor to transmit herewith, for the information of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India in Council, a translation of a letter addressed by the Turkish Governor of Kateef to the Chief of Bahrein.

2. It will be in the recollection of Government that the young Wahabee Prince Abdool Rehman having proceeded to Baghdad some two years ago was detained there under surveillance until the end of last August, when he was permitted to leave Baghdad.

3. In my letter as per margin I reported the release of Abdool Rehman, and his arrival at Bahrein apparently *en route* to Nejd.

No. 1053-217, dated 18th September 1874.

संश्लेषिकाद सुरक्षित राष्ट्रीय अभिलेखागारा
भारत सरकार के कार्यालय

4. Since that time he has been residing quietly at Bahrein, taking no part in the affairs of that island, and regarded by the Chief simply in the light of a visitor.

5. Under the circumstances attending the arrival of Abdool Rehman at Bahrein there seemed to be no reason why the Chief should concern himself regarding his movements, and as the Turkish Government had voluntarily permitted him to return to his native land, it could scarcely be supposed that he was in a hostile attitude towards that Government.

6. Considering the distracted state of Nejd and the existing hostility between the factions of the Ameers Saood and Abdullah, it was natural that Abdool Rehman should observe some caution before venturing himself amongst the Nejdian tribes. Hence his delay at Bahrein.

7. Recently this young Chief had sent messengers to the Nejd Coast at Ojair to ascertain the feeling of the tribes there, and whether he could land with safety. I understand his messengers reported the Arabs favorable to the Saood party to which Abdool Rehman adheres. He consequently decided to proceed to that point of the Coast.

8. With their deliberations and proceedings I am assured the Chief of Bahrein had nothing to do. He had no intimation that Abdool Rehman's presence at Bahrein was displeasing to the Turkish authorities, nor that they objected to that young man's return to Nejd. The presumption was rather that they calculated on his proceeding to Nejd.

9. It appears, however, that the Governor of Kateef either took alarm, or pretended to do so, at the enquiries made by Abdool Rehman's messengers, and perhaps at the attitude of the tribes friendly to Saood bin Feysul. Accordingly the said Governor (or Kaeem Makam), by name Khizr Effendi, despatched the threatening letter now under report.

10. Sheikh Esau has frequently been advised by the British Resident to be extremely cautious in his communications with Turkish authorities, and has been in the habit of asking advice before replying to letters from that quarter. On the present occasion he has, in pursuance of this course, referred the Turkish Governor's letter to me before sending a written reply. He has, however, I understand, verbally informed the Turkish messenger that he had nothing to do with Abdool Rehman, and had given him no assistance beyond the courtesy due to him as a visitor.

11. Three days after the receipt of the Turkish Deputy's letter Abdool Rehman left Bahrein with his followers and landed near Ojair.

12. It is well, I think, that this young Chief has quitted Bahrein before further complications could arise. From what I gather of the temper of the Nejd tribes at present, and the anxiety existing in the minds of the Turkish authorities in that province, it is probable the latter would have made efforts to re-arrest Abdool Rehman and pressure brought to bear on the Chief of Bahrein.

13. It is not improbable that an attempt may be made to saddle the Bahrein Chief with responsibility for the after proceedings of Abdool Rehman, but it is quite clear that this would be unjust.

14. As regards the reply to be made by the Chief of Bahrein, as I am about to visit the island, I shall confer with him personally on the subject. There could be no advantage in the Chief entering into any lengthy discussion with so subordinate a Turkish official on so important a point; but I purpose recommending the Chief to return a short reply in polite terms disclaiming responsibility in the matter of Abdool Rehman's movements, and expressing his desire and intention to avoid any proceeding which could justly give offence to the Turkish Government.

15. I shall also take the opportunity of repeating the counsel so often given to the Chief to keep as far as possible clear of all mainland complications and to observe a conciliatory behaviour in every respect.

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16. A copy of Captain Salmond's letter forwarding the Turkish Governor of Kateef's letter to Sheikh Esau is attached.

N.B.—Copies will be forwarded to Bombay Government and India Office direct.

No. 285

Translated purport of a letter from the Kaem Mukam of Kateef to the Chief of Bahrein, dated 8th Ramadhan 1291=20th October 1874.

I HAVE received intelligence that in these days Abdur Rahmal al Feysul and Fahad bin Suneythan are at Bahrein, and their wicked thoughts prompt them to create disturbances against the Turkish Government, and their conduct also tends towards rebellion, that you are assisting them in making preparations by gathering 4 or 500 rebellious men. Let this, then, be known to you that if it be proved to us that you are helping or preparing any vessels or doing the most trivial thing which will be a help to them to carry on their weak designs, be sure that you will be taxed by the Turkish Government for everything that might happen. It was therefore necessary that I should warn you in writing, through Hassan Effendi, an officer of the Imperial Troops. As soon as you are informed you are instantly required to tell us whether you wish to be at war with the Turkish Government, or not. We have given injunctions to this officer not to remain more than one day with you for your reply as to your resolutions that we might know how to act accordingly.

Dated H. M.'s S. *Maggie*, Bahrein, 22nd October 1874.

From—CAPTAIN H. SALMOND (demi-official),
To—Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

LAST night at 9-30 the Sheikh sent to say he wished to consult with me regarding a letter he had just received from the Deputy of Kateef, a copy of which I enclose.

The men meant are Abdool Rehman bin Feysel and Fahad, who were detained in Baghdad by the Turkish Government for more than two years, and were lately released, arrived here on the 25th August last on their way to Nejd; they are still here, but intended leaving last evening for the above place.

A Turkish messenger sent by the Deputy of Kateef bringing the aforesaid letter for the Sheikh of Bahrein. I advised the Sheikh to send the messenger back, saying a reply would be sent after communicating with you. The Sheikh desired me to say he had given these men no assistance, only treating them as ordinary people visiting Bahrein, and as he has no communication with Turkish authorities, he wishes to know what answer he had better send.

P.S.—This is sent by special boat, steamer having left before letter arrived.

No. 286

No. 2549P., dated Fort William, 24th November 1874.

From—Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department,
To—Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your communications marginally noted relative to the operations of the Turks in Nejd, and their complaints against the Chief of Bahrein for his hospitable treatment of the Wahabee Prince Abdool Rehman.

Letter dated 31st October 1874,
No. 1265-262.
Telegram dated 18th November 1874.
Ditto " 19th " "

वर्षाधिकार सुरक्षित राष्ट्रीय अभिलेखागार
भारत सरकार के अधीन
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2. His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council approves of your proposal to visit the island of Bahrein and to advise the Chief to send a civil reply to the letter of the Deputy Governor of Kateef, as also to abstain from all communications with affairs on the mainland.

3. With reference to the remark in paragraph 11 of your letter, No. 1265-262, dated 31st October 1874, that Abdool Rehman left Bahrein with his followers three days after the receipt of the Turkish Deputy's letter, I am directed to request that you will ascertain and report, for the information of His Excellency in Council, whether Abdool Rehman's followers came with him from Baghdad, or were collected at Bahrein, what was their number, and whether they were armed.

4. As desired by you, the Marine Department will be addressed with the view of instructions being issued to the Naval authorities to have two vessels of the Royal Navy stationed at Bahrein for the present.

No. 2550P.

COPY of the above, and of the communications marginally noted, forwarded to the Marine Department for information, with a request that the necessary orders may be issued to the Naval authorities, with the view of having two vessels of the Royal Navy stationed at Bahrein for the present.

Letter from Political Resident, Persian Gulf, No. 1265-262, dated 31st October 1874.
Telegram from Political Resident, Persian Gulf, dated 18th November 1874.
Telegram from Political Resident, Persian Gulf, dated 19th November 1874.

No. 2551P.

Copy also forwarded to the Government of Bombay for information.

4
Exd.—J. M.

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No. 287.

No. 220, dated Fort William, 11th December 1874.

From—Government of India,
To—Secretary of State for India.

WE have the honor to forward, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, copy of the papers enumerated in the accompanying Abstract of Contents, relative to the operations of the Turks in Nejd, and their complaints against the Chief of Bahrein for his hospitable treatment of the Wahabee Prince Abdool Rehman who was lately released from detention at Baghdad.

2. We invite Your Lordship's attention to the papers forwarded with our Secret despatches Nos. 25 and 37, dated respectively the 10th April and 28th February 1873, and to the proceedings of the Government of India marginally noted, for the circumstances connected with the deputation of Abdool Rehman bin Feysul to Baghdad as the Agent of his brother, Saood bin Feysul, the Wahabee Ameer, and of his subsequent detention there by the Turkish authorities.

Politi. Progs. A., July 1873, Nos. 100-116.
" " Oct. " " 437-441.
" " Nov. " " 6-15.
" " Dec. " " No. 122.

No. 288.

Abstract of the Contents of a Despatch to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, No. 220, dated 11th December 1874.

No. 1.—To Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, No. 220, dated 11th December 1874. Forwards copies of the undermentioned papers:—

No. 2. _____ Abstract of Contents.

No. 3.—From the Consul General, Baghdad, to Her Majesty's Ambassador, Constantinople. With reference to his No. 44, dated 9th September 1873, reports that Abdool Rehman bin Feysul of Nejd, set at liberty under orders from the Porte, left Baghdad *en route* for his native country on the 13th instant.

18th August 1874, No. 57.
Proceedings, Political A., September 1874, No. 354.

No. 4.—From the Political Resident, Persian Gulf. With reference to his letter No. 874-93, dated 23rd July 1873, reports that the Turkish authorities have released Abdool Rehman bin Feysul, the brother of Saood. States that he has arrived at Bahrein and is reported to be on his way to Riadh.

18th September 1874, No. 1053-217.
Proceedings, Political A., October 1874, Nos. 93-94.

No. 5.—Telegram from Colonel C. Herbert. Reports that fresh disturbances have occurred in Nejd, and that troops have left for Kateef.

14th November 1874.

No. 6.—Telegram from the Political Resident, Persian Gulf. Reports that consequent on the rumours that the Wahabee Prince Abdool Rehman bin Feysul has cut communication between Kateef and El-Hassa, Turkish authorities are sending troops to Kateef, and that the Turks blame the Bahrein Chief's conduct regarding the Prince.

18th November 1874.

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No. 7.—Telegram from the Political Resident, Persian Gulf.

19th November 1874.

Presumes that during Turkish operations in Gulf, Government would wish at least two vessels of the Royal Navy Squadron actually in Gulf; and states that if Government approve, it might be well to address the naval authorities.

No. 8.—From the Political Resident, Persian Gulf.

31st October 1874, No. 1265-262.

Forwards, for information, translation of a letter addressed by the Turkish Governor of Kateef to the Chief of Bahrein regarding the Wahabee Prince Abdool Rehman who was lately permitted to leave Baghdad by the Turkish Government, and who remained at Bahrein for a short time on his way to Riadh.

No. 9.—To the Political Resident, Persian Gulf.

24th November 1874, Nos. 2549P.-2551P.

Communicates the orders of the Government of India on the three foregoing communications.

(Copy to Marine Department and Government of Bombay.)

①

SIMLA
K. W.

POLITICAL A., SEPTEMBER 1875.

Nos. 53-58.

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*From Political Resident, Persian Gulf, No. 702-179,
dated 7th July 1875.*

Political A., February 1875, Nos. 312, 313, 314.

Letter from Abdool Rahman bin Feysul to Colonel Ross.

COLONEL ROSS forwards translation of a letter from the Wahabee Chief, Abdool Rahman bin Feysul, stating that his affairs are prosperous, alluding to a former letter which he had written to Colonel Ross, and hoping that the latter would be favourably disposed towards.

Colonel Ross presumes he is not to answer this under existing circumstances. It will be seen that Government approved of his not having answered a former letter.

(Sd.) A. C. T.

30-7-75.

CIRCUMSTANCES, however, have very greatly changed since then. At that time Abdool Rahman was an unsuccessful insurgent against the Turks in Lhassa. He is now Ameer of the powerful kingdom of Riadh, having been chosen by the general consent of the people to succeed Saood bin Feysul. The Turks have no authority over the Wahabee kingdom; and I see no reason why our Political Resident should not enter into a merely complimentary correspondence with its Ameer. To refrain from acknowledging Abdool Rahman's letter under circumstances as they now are might possibly be to repeat the famous Abyssinian mistake; and would certainly not promote good feeling between us and the Wahabees. No harm could result so far as I can see from sending a civil reply to the communication from Abdool Rahman as ruler of Riadh.

(Sd.) F. H.

31-7-75.

HIS EXCELLENCY.

I THINK we had better have nothing to say to him; if we correspond with him, we shall weaken our hands at Aden.

(Sd.) C. U. A.

2-8-75.

COLONEL ROSS should not reply.

(Sd.) N.

6-8-75.

Exd.-J. T. P.

(3)

Letter from Abdool Rahman bin Feysul to Col. Ross.

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No. 53.

No. 622-161, dated Bushire, 18th June 1875.

From—LIEUT.-COL. E. C. ROSS, H. B. M.'s Political Resident, Persian Gulf,
To—C. U. AITCHISON, Esq., C.S.I., Secy. to the Govt. of India, Foreign Department.

I HAVE the honor to transmit herewith, for the information of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India in Council, copy of a letter from Lieutenant E. A. Fraser, Acting 2nd Assistant Resident, with translation of a letter addressed by Abdool Rahman bin Feysul to the News Agent at Bahrein, from which it appears that the death of Saood bin Feysul has resulted in the younger brother, Abdool Rahman bin Feysul, attaining the ascendancy amongst the Nejdian tribes and being established at Riadh for the present.

N.B.—Copies forwarded to Bombay Government and India Office direct.

No. 54.

No. 6, dated on Board *Hugh Rose*, 6th June 1875.

From—LIEUTENANT E. A. FRASER, Acting 2nd Assistant Resident, Persian Gulf,
To—LIEUT.-COL. E. C. ROSS, H. B. M.'s Political Resident, Persian Gulf.

I HAVE the honor to forward translated purport of a letter written to the News Agent at Bahrein by Abdool Rahman bin Feysul. While at Bidda Mahomed bin Thani informed Agha Mahomed Rahim that Abdool Rahman is on friendly terms with all his relations excepting his brother, Abdoollah, who with a small following is a fugitive in the desert, and his cause unespoused. All the tribes have declared for Abdool Rahman, who has been installed Ruler of Nejd, and has taken up his residence in the capital, Riadh.

No. 55.

Translation of a letter from ABDPOOL RAHMAN BIN FEYSUL to AGHA AHMED ABDPOOL RUSOOL, News Agent, Bahrein, dated 23th Safar 1292 (6th April 1875).

SOME time ago I wrote you a letter dated 8th Mohurram. I have now to tell you the good news that God has assisted me and granted me victory. We reached with our Arabs, the Kahtan and Muteyn, and encamped at Sarmadee. There we found Mahomed bin Feysul and Toorkee bin Abdoollah and their followers. We attacked them, and fired at them with our guns. Many of them were slain. They implored us to spare them and we did so, and they came out to us and made a compact to be obedient to us. We honored them and made them reside with us. Everything that they had with them, horses, camels, tents, standards, &c., fell into our hands. Abdoollah bin Feysul heard of all this and fearing greatly fled. We pursued him, and trust ultimately to capture him by the grace of God.

No. 56.

No. 702-179, dated Bushire, 7th July 1875.

From—LIEUT.-COL. E. C. ROSS, H. B. M.'s Political Resident, Persian Gulf,
To—C. U. AITCHISON, Esq., C.S.I., Secy. to the Govt. of India, Foreign Dept.

I HAVE the honor to transmit herewith a translation of a letter received from the Wahabee Prince, Abdool Rahman bin Feysul. I presume that under existing circumstances Government would wish me to refrain from making any reply to this communication.

Dated 28th Rabea, either 3rd June 1875, or 4th May 1875.

सर्वाधिकार सुरक्षित राष्ट्रीय अभिलेखागार

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Letter from Abdool Rahman bin Feysul to Col. Ross.

No. 57.

Translation of a letter from ABDOOL RAHMAN BIN FEYSUL to LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. C. ROSS, Her Britannic Majesty's Political Resident, Bushire, Persian Gulf, dated 28th Rabea, either 3rd June 1875 or 4th May, 1875, received 3rd July 1875,

MY object in writing to you is to strengthen the feelings of friendship and concord subsisting between us, and should you wish to know how I am situated, I am (God be praised) well and happy, and my affairs in a prosperous state in every respect. I some time ago sent you a letter by Abdool Rahman el Ashkar with a message for the purpose of consolidating (the) friendship (such) as existed between you and Saood. I maintain such friendship, nay (I may say) more. I trust you will be favorably disposed towards us as has hitherto been your custom. May you always remain prosperous and happy.

No. 58.

No. 2262P., dated Simla, 13th August 1875.

From—F. HENVEY, Esq., Under-Secretary to the Govt. of India, Foreign Dept.,
To—LIEUT.-COL. E. C. ROSS, H. B. M.'s Poltl. Resident in the Persian Gulf.

IN reply to your letter No. 702-179 of the 7th July 1875, I am directed to state that no reply should be sent by you to the letter from the Wahabee Prince, Abdool Rahman bin Feysul, a translation of which was forwarded with your communication under acknowledgment.

Exd.—J. T. F.

From Political Resident, Persian Gulf, No. 1205-281,
dated 6th November 1875.

OFFICE NOTE.

Nejd Affairs.

COLONEL Ross forwards translations of two news-reports received from the News Agent at Bahrein respecting Nejd affairs. The only point in them calling for notice relates to the proceedings of the Wahabee Chief, Abdoolla bin Feysul. Concerning him we have the following information on record:—

Saood bin Feysul, Imam of the Wahabees, died* on the 25th of January 1875, leaving behind him a brother named Abdoolla bin Feysul, with whom he had frequently contended for the ascendancy in Nejd, and also a younger brother, named Abdool Rahman bin Feysul.

On the death of Saood the tribes espoused the cause of Abdool Rahman bin Feysul, elected him their ruler, and established him at Riadh, the capital of Nejd.† Abdoolla bin Feysul appears to have been unpopular on account of his friendly relations with the Turks. Abdool Rahman, on the other hand, had attempted to stay their aggressions in the province of Nejd.

News-reports received from time to time have shown that Abdoolla bin Feysul resenting his supersession was doing his best to oust his brother, a measure which he at last effectually accomplished; for on the 18th September 1875 Colonel Ross reported that Abdoolla bin Feysul had succeeded in collecting a considerable force with which he attacked and captured Riadh defeating his brother's troops. It was said that Abdoolla bin Feysul held absolute authority at the capital, and was on friendly terms with Abdool Rahman bin Feysul and his other relatives.‡

In the news-reports now received it is said that all the tribes, with the exception of the "Ejman," have acknowledged Abdoolla bin Feysul's supremacy, and that he has exhorted the members of his family to adopt a union of action. "If," he said,

"we had agreed instead of quarrelling, Kateef and Lhassa would not have passed away from our possession nor become Turkish territory."

It is also said that after his occupation of Riadh he wrote to Mazzyad, the Governor of Lhassa, professing himself to be a Turkish subject, and stating that he had not been rebellious or disaffected towards that power as his brothers, Saood and Abdool Rahman, had been. Mazzyad replied that he could be a Turkish subject, provided that he sent his relatives to

* Political A., May 1875, Nos. 373-376.

† Political A., September 1875, Nos. 53-58.

‡ Political A., October 1875, Nos. 100-101.

2-3811

"a distant place" and paid a visit himself to Lhasa. It is not expected that he will accede to these terms.

No orders required.

21-12-75. (Sd.) W. F. P.
22-12-75. (Sd.) F. H.

3812

No. 53.

No. 1205-281, dated Bushire, 6th November 1875.

From—LIEUT.-COL. E. C. ROSS, H. B. M.'s Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
To—C. U. AITCHISON, Esq., C.S.I., Secretary to the Govt. of India, Foreign Dept.

I HAVE the honor to forward, for the information of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India in Council, translations of two reports received by me from the News Agent at Bahrein respecting the state of affairs in Nejd.

No. 54.

Translation of a letter from the News Agent, Bahrein, to COLONEL ROSS, Political Resident, Bushire, No. 99, dated 10th October 1875.

I HEAR from Lahsa arrivals that Mazzyad, the Governor, marched thence with 100 of the Muntafij tribe and some of the Chief of the Ejman tribe and 400 Turkish soldiers for the space of three hours and then returned, when he told his Council that Bin Muneykhar had heard of his expedition against him and fled. The Lahsa arrivals, however, say that the cause of his return was the dissatisfaction of the Turkish soldiers, who told him they were not ordered to do such things. The arrivals say that Mazzyad's object was to go to Joodah, where there are springs of water and where resides Bin Muneykhar, to get horses and camels, and thought when Bin Muneykhar heard of his move that he would send the animals required and ask for quarter. This place, Joodah, is one day's journey from Lahsa.

I hear that previous to marching out Bezyyad got 400 camels from the people of Lahsa for draught, and on his return, returned them to the owners till required again.

I hear that when Abdullah bin Feysul went to Riadh a correspondence passed between him and Mazzyad, and in some of his letters he wrote to Mazzyad that he was a Turkish subject, and that he had not been rebellious or disaffected towards that power as his brothers, Saood and Abdoo Rahman, had been. It is said that Mazzyad, among other things, told him that "know that you can be a Turkish subject on the following conditions:—That you hinder Abdoo Rahman bin Feysul and Saood's children, and remove them from you to a distant place; 2ndly, that you come yourself to Lahsa on a visit.

"If you act in accordance with the above terms, it will be good for you, otherwise not.

It is said that it is impossible Abdullah bin Feysul should go from Riadh to Lahsa.

Travellers from Lahsa tell me Abdullah bin Feysul had gone to Zawayliat near Kharj and sent his brother, Mahomed, to Kharj to Mahomed bin Saood and Abdool Azecz with the following message:—"Let bye-gones be bye-gones. I am now your father. Your welfare shall have my first consideration. I shall retire apart and you shall preserve and guard the country. Your uncles, Abdoo Rahman and Mahomed, shall assist me and we shall be as one. If we had agreed instead of quarrelling, Kateef and Lahsa would not have passed away from our possession, nor become Turkish territory."

It is said that Mahomed and Abdool Azecz thereupon went to him and made peace.

Abdoo Rahman bin Feysul was with Abdullah when he entered Riadh.

All the Arab tribes of Nejd, except the Ejman, have acknowledged Abdullah's supremacy.

P.—53-55—Dec.

Ed. — J. T. F.

अधिकार, मुद्रित राष्ट्र शासक

भारत सरकार के शासन

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No. 55.

Translation of a letter from the News Agent, Bahrein, to COLONEL ROSS, British Resident, Bushire, No. 104, dated 28th October 1875.

I HEAR from Lahsa travellers to-day, who had received news from Nejd, that it was certain Abdullah bin Feysul had made peace with Saood's sons, and that he (Abdullah) had told them (the sons) that he was now stricken in years, and that he had no male offspring but one child, who was blind, and that he wished for nought but to retire from the Government, and vest all power in them.

They now manage affairs of State and military expeditions, and supreme power is in their hands. Abdullah is to marry their mother (Saood's widow), and they (Mahomed and Abdool Azceez) are to wed Abdullah's daughters.

Travellers from Koweit tell me that Bin Battal, one of the grandees of Nejd, came thither and informed the Chiefs of the reconciliation between Abdullah bin Feysul and his nephews. They were much delighted, and presented the messenger with a robe of honour. Also that all the Arab tribes acknowledge Abdullah except the Ejman tribe. To them he wrote asking them why they did not come to Riadh, as he and they were all Turkish subjects. I hear that Abdullah wrote in this strain, because he knew the Ejman would take the letter and show it to Mazyiad, Governor of Lahsa. As Abdullah had anticipated, they showed his letter to Mazyiad, who said to them—"Do you think Abdullah is my enemy, while this his letter indicates his submission to the Porte?"—They replied—"His declaration is false and hypocritical; he well knew we would show you the letter. Oh Mazyiad! Did you not hear from us, when the children of Saood and Abdullah were disunited and dispersed, the request that you should give us two regiments, and that you should sally forth against them, and that we should seize them for you? Have you not heard of the wars waged by Abdullah against your country and against the Muntafij? Now there is no use (in opposing them), for they are united, and the Arab tribes that held aloof have joined them."

I hear that some of the Kahtan tribe, who are friendly to the Nejd dynasty, came to Lahsa. On arrival Mazyiad requested them to tell him who had given them permission to come, and who was security for their safety. They replied that they had come to trade, and were not aware of having done anything wrong. He then told them they must pay a fine of a dollar on each of their camels which they agreed to do, but in the evening they all fled. Some of the Ejman tribe went in pursuit, but failed to overtake them. It is said that the Ejman Chiefs with Mazyiad are Hazam bin Hothlem and Lail-el-Multakem, who are, and have been for years, in bad terms with the leading Sheikh of the tribe named Bin Muneikhhar.

It is reported that when Abdullah bin Feysul entered Riadh in triumph, he wrote letters to the Pasha of Baghdad, and Naser Pasha Muntafij and others, sending them to Mazyiad to be forwarded. This was before his reconciliation with his nephews. After hearing of this reconciliation Mazyiad discontinued correspondence with him, and caused the following proclamation to be read aloud in the bazaars of Lasha:—

"Woe! Woe to him who comes here from Nejd or goes thither."

It is said Abdullah bin Feysul also wrote letters to Egypt.

①
K. W.

3814

POLITICAL A., FEBRUARY 1874.

No. 315.

OFFICE NOTE.

*From Political Resident, Persian Gulf, No. 124-26, dated
31st January 1874.*

Abdool Azeez.

PLEASE see K.W. withinfold.

The present letter relates to the first of the three requests preferred by Abdool Azeez, *viz.*, that Government would effect a reconciliation between him and Syud Toorkee, and obtain permission for him to reside at Muscat.

Although there appeared little or no chance of a reconciliation with Toorkee, yet in order to avoid giving any occasion for complaint, the Political Agent at Muscat was desired to consult Toorkee on the subject.

This has accordingly been done, and Colonel Ross now submits the result of an interview between Syud Toorkee, Major Miles, and himself at which opportunity was taken to introduce the question of reconciliation.

From the tone of Toorkee's reply, Colonel Ross says that both he and Major Miles are fully convinced that His Highness is not disposed at present to become reconciled to his brother, and that he will not consent to Azeez's residing at Muscat or any place in his dominions.

COPY to Commissioner in Sind with reference to paragraph 3 of our letter No. 99P., dated 10th January 1874.

19-2-74.

(Sd.) F. C. D.

20-2-74.

(Sd.) C. U. A.

(2)

3815

No. 315.

No. 124-26, dated Muscat, 31st January 1874.

From—Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
To—Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your No. 100P., dated 10th instant, and copy of a letter, No. 99P., of the 10th idem, to the Commissioner in Sind.

2. On the 28th instant I took an opportunity, when visiting His Highness Syud Toorkee with Major Miles, to sound His Highness on the subject of paragraph 2 of the letter above quoted. From the tone of His Highness' reply Major Miles and I were fully convinced that Syud Toorkee is not at all disposed at present to a reconciliation with his brother, Abdool Azeez, and that accordingly His Highness would not consent to Abdool Azeez's residing at Muscat or any place in his dominions. His Highness remarked that "fire and gunpowder cannot safely be kept together"

N.B.—Copy forwarded to Bombay Government.

No. 516P., dated Fort William, 24th February 1874.

Endorsed by Foreign Department.

COPY forwarded to Commissioner in Sind for information, with reference to paragraph 3 of the letter from this Office, No. 99P., dated 10th January 1874.

No. 93.

No. 1053-217, dated Bushire, 18th September 1874.

From—Her Britannic Majesty's Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
To—Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

I HAVE the honor to report, for the information of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India in Council, that the Turkish authorities have released Abdur Rahman bin Feysul, the brother of Saood, whose detention at Baghdad was reported to Government in my letter as per margin.

Vide enclosure to my letter No. 874-93, dated 23rd July 1873.

2. Abdur Rahman bin Feysul has arrived at Bahrain, and is reported to be on his way to Riadh.

3. I enclose copy of a letter he has addressed to me from Bahrain with copy of my reply.

N.B.—Copies forwarded to Bombay Government and India Office direct.

No. 94.

Translated purport of a letter from ABDUR RAHMAN BIN FEYSUL to the British Resident, Persian Gulf, dated 18th Rajub 1291=31st August 1874.

I ARRIVED, thank God, safely at Bahrain. On leaving Baghdad I had it in my mind to come after my arrival at Bussorah on board the steamer to Bushire, having also a letter with me addressed to you by the Resident at Baghdad. Coming to Bussorah I found the steamer had started before my arrival. Not being able to delay, I enclose to you the abovementioned letter, hoping you will not dismiss me from your mind, nor deprive me of the enjoyment of some joyful news respecting yourself.

No. 395, dated 25th Rajub 1291=7th September 1874.

From—Her Britannic Majesty's Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
To—ABDUR RAHMAN BIN FEYSUL.

I HAVE received with much pleasure your letter dated 18th Rajub 1291, and its enclosure, and I am much pleased to hear the news of your health and welfare, and I shall always rejoice to hear good news of you.

No. 364.

No. 925-185, dated Bushire, 19th August 1874.

From—Her Britannic Majesty's Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
To—Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

I HAVE the honor to transmit copies of correspondence as per margin, which I have received from Major S. B. Miles, Her Britannic Majesty's Political Agent and Consul, Muscat, on the subject of the allowance to be made by His Highness Syud Toorkee to his brother, and I trust the view I have taken of this matter will be approved by Government.

From Major Miles, No. 288-121, dated 26th June 1874, and accompaniments.
My reply No. 854-417, dated 4th July 1874.
From Major Miles, No. 297-126, dated 6th July 1874.

2. His Highness just before my departure for Muscat informed me that the allowance of His Highness Abdool Azeez will be fixed at \$500 per mensem from date of his arrival at Muscat. With this, I understand, Abdool Azeez is quite satisfied.

N.B.—Copies forwarded to Bombay Government and India Office direct.

No. 365.

No. 288-121, dated Muscat, 26th June 1874.

From—Her Britannic Majesty's Political Agent and Consul, Muscat,
To—Her Britannic Majesty's Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

I HAVE the honor to report for your information that some days since His Highness Syud Abdool Azeez communicated confidentially with the Agency Moonshee, Mirza Dervish bin Ahmed, requesting him to ascertain from me whether any mention had been made or previous arrangement entered into by His Highness Syud Toorkee concerning the allowances he (Syud Abdool Azeez) was to receive at Muscat in the event of his consenting to leave Kurrachee and assist his brother in the government.

2. Syud Abdool Azeez added that since his arrival in Muscat he had received no allowance whatever from his brother, Toorkee, nor had the subject been broached between them, and that he was considerably embarrassed how to provide for his own expenses.

3. The Moonshee was instructed to inform His Highness Syud Abdool Azeez in reply that, so far as I was aware, the subject of his allowance had not been mentioned or considered in the discussion of the arrangements regarding his return between yourself and His Highness Syud Toorkee.

4. A few days after I received another message from Syud Abdool Azeez, to the effect that nothing had been done about his allowance, and requesting advice how to act, as his embarrassments were increasing, and I then suggested the propriety of his mentioning the subject to his brother personally or by letter instead of through the medium of a third person, and I trusted the result would be satisfactory.

5. Syud Abdool Azeez accordingly wrote to His Highness Syud Toorkee, and His Highness referred the question to me in a letter, copy of which is attached. I did not reply to this letter, but communicated personally with His Highness Syud Toorkee, and informed him that I had no instructions whatever on the subject, but that it appeared to me that when His Highness recalled his brother from India, the latter's position became entirely altered, and the arrangements made consequent on the intervention of the Government of India come to an end, and that I looked upon the question of Syud Abdool Azeez's pecuniary affairs in Muscat as one solely for His Highness' consideration.

6. His Highness Syud Toorkee replied that he quite understood me, and added that he would make a suitable and satisfactory provision for his brother,

3818

Monthly allowance to Syud Abdool Azeez.

Abdool Azeez, and I thought the matter was disposed of. Two days later, however, I received a second letter from His Highness Syud Toorkee on the subject, copy and translate of which, together with my reply thereto, are herewith submitted for your information, and I now await the favor of your instructions in the matter.

Translated purport of a letter from His HIGHNESS SYUD TOORKEE, Sultan of Muscat, to Her Britannic Majesty's Political Agent and Consul, Muscat, dated 2nd Jemadi-ul Awul 1291=16th June 1874.

WHAT I am writing is not hidden from you, and I have deliberated on the subject of the allowance of my brother, Syud Abdool Azeez, and have come to the conclusion that it would be both for the benefit of my brother as well as for myself were the money paid through the Government as heretofore, and I pray you will now agree to this request, and salaam.

Dated 4th Jemadi-ul Awul 1291=19th June 1874.

From—Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Poltl. Agent and Consul, Muscat,
To—His HIGHNESS SYUD TOORKEE, Sultan of Muscat.

I HAVE had the honor to receive Your Highness' letter of 2nd Jemadi-ul Awul on the subject of His Highness Syud Abdool Azeez's allowance, and requesting that it may continue to be paid through us as formerly. Your Highness is already in possession of my views on the subject, and, as Your Highness is aware, I am unable to take upon myself the payment of the allowance without the authorization of Government, I shall do myself the honor to refer Your Highness' request to the Political Resident, Persian Gulf, accordingly, and salaam.

No. 366.

No. 854-417, dated Muscat, 4th July 1874.

From—Her Britannic Majesty's Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
To—Her Britannic Majesty's Political Agent and Consul, Muscat.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 288-121, dated 26th ultimo.

2. I quite concur in the view you have taken regarding the provision to be made by His Highness for his brother Abdool Azeez, as expressed in paragraph 5 of your letter under reply, and I could not undertake to recommend His Highness' proposal to Government.

3. I request you will be so good as to reply in this sense to His Highness, and I trust he will then see the propriety of adhering to his first promise.

No. 367.

No. 297-126, dated 6th July 1874.

From—Her Britannic Majesty's Political Agent and Consul, Muscat,
To—Her Britannic Majesty's Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter No. 854, dated 4th July 1874, and in accordance with the instructions contained therein, I have the honor to report that I have addressed His Highness Syud Toorkee in the sense desired by you, and beg to append copy of my letter for your information.

3819

Monthly allowance to Syud Abdool Azeez.

No. 47, dated 6th July 1874=21st Jemadi-ull Akhir 1261.

From—Her Britannic Majesty's Political Agent and Consul, Muscat,
To—His Highness the Sultan of Muscat.

WITH reference to Your Highness' letter of the 16th ultimo, I have the honor, under instructions from the Political Resident, Persian Gulf, to acquaint Your Highness that the question is not one in which the British Government could be expected to intervene, and that it would be more desirable that the arrangements for a provision for Your Highness' brother, Syud Abdool Azeez, should rest with Your Highness, and salaam.

No. 368.

No. 926-186, dated Bushire, 19th August 1874.

From—Her Britannic Majesty's Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
To—Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

I HAVE the honor to submit, for the information of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India in Council, copy of a letter as per margin which I have received from the Political Agent, Muscat, and my reply, regarding the arrangements made by His Highness the Sultan of Muscat for a monthly allowance of \$500 to be paid to his brother, Syud Abdool Azeez.

No. 344-141, dated 5th August 1874, from Major S. B. Miles, Political Agent, Muscat.

My reply No. 914-454, dated 19th August 1874.

N.B.—Copies forwarded to Bombay Government and India Office direct.

No. 369.

No. 344-141, dated Muscat, 5th August 1874.

From—Her Britannic Majesty's Political Agent and Consul, Muscat,
To—Her Britannic Majesty's Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

I HAVE the honor to report that in the month of March last, when His Highness Syud Toorkee was paid an advance of the Zanzibar subsidy for six months, I deducted from the amount of dollars twenty-thousand the sum of dollars three thousand on account of the allowance payable to Syud Abdool Azeez at dollars three hundred per mensem for ten months, viz., from September 1873 to July 1874, the period to which the advance extended.

2. Syud Abdool Azeez returned to Muscat on the 10th May 1874, having been only eight months resident within British territories at Kurrachee and the amount of dollars six hundred being two months' allowance over recovered remained in this treasury due to His Highness.

3. His Highness Syud Toorkee having arranged to pay Syud Abdool Azeez the sum of dollars five hundred monthly commencing from the 10th May, and His Highness having expressed himself much in need of the above dollars six hundred to settle the amount due to his brother from that date, I have refunded the same to His Highness, and I trust that I shall have your approval to having done so.

No. 370.

No. 914-454, dated Bushire, 19th August 1874.

From—Her Britannic Majesty's Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
To—Her Britannic Majesty's Political Agent and Consul, Muscat.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 344-141, dated 5th instant.

वर्षाधिकार, सुरक्षित राष्ट्रीय अभिलेखागार

3820

Monthly allowance to Syud Abdool Azeez.

2. Your having refunded the portion of His Highness Abdool Azeez's pension over recovered and due to His Highness the Sultan has my entire concurrence.

No. 371.

No. 2099P., dated Fort William, 24th September 1874.

From—Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department,
To—Her Britannic Majesty's Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letters marginally noted, No. 925-185, dated 19th August 1874. reporting that His Highness Syud Toorkee has No. 926-186, dated " " " fixed the sum of \$500 as the monthly allowance of his brother, Syud Abdool Azeez, during his residence at Muscat.

2. The Viceroy and Governor-General in Council is glad to learn that this arrangement has been made, and that the connection of the Government of India with the payment of Abdool Azeez's stipend has ceased. His Excellency in Council also approves of Major Miles' proceedings in paying to His Highness Syud Toorkee the balance in hand of the advance of the subsidy which was kept back for the adjustment of the allowance payable to Abdool Azeez while in India.

K. W.

3821

POLITICAL A., SEPTEMBER 1874.

Nos. 364-371.

OFFICE NOTE.

Monthly allowance to Syud Abdool Azeez.

For an account of Syud Abdool Azeez's return to Muscat and his reconciliation with his brother, Syud Toorkee; see paragraph 275 of Muscat Précis put up

The correspondence now submitted by the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf refers to the allowance to be granted to Abdool Azeez during his residence at Muscat. It appears that this subject was not considered at the time that negotiations were being carried on for the return of Abdool Azeez. Recently Abdool Azeez represented to Major Miles his embarrassed circumstances and his inability to meet his own expenses.

At the advice of Major Miles, Abdool Azeez communicated with his brother who referred the matter to Major Miles. The Political Agent informed Syud Toorkee that he could do nothing as he had received no instructions from Government on the subject, and that the question was solely for His Highness' consideration. Syud Toorkee subsequently proposed that the allowance to his brother should be paid through the British Government. Major Miles, under instructions from Colonel Ross, informed Syud Toorkee that the question was not one in which the British Government could be expected to intervene. On this Syud Toorkee fixed his brother's allowance at \$500 per mensem, with which sum Abdool Azeez is satisfied. In the second letter Colonel Ross forwards a communication from the Political Agent at Muscat reporting that Abdool Azeez had received his allowances from the 10th May, the date he landed at Muscat. A sum of \$600 which was in deposit in the Muscat Treasury on account of Syud Abdool Azeez's allowances* while in British territory, was refunded to His Highness the Sultan to enable him to settle the amount due to his brother.

THE matter has been satisfactorily arranged, Toorkee paying Azeez 500 dollars and our connection with Azeez's stipend ceasing; and the proceedings of Colonel Ross and Major Miles may be approved.

21-9-74.

(Sd.) F. H.

21-9-74.

(Sd.) C. U. A.

From Political Resident, Persian Gulf, No. 925-185, dated 19th August 1874.

From " " " " 926-186, "

* Being the balance of a sum of money deducted from the Zanzibar subsidy on account of the allowance payable to Abdool Azeez during his residence in India. Political Agent kept back more than was due and has now handed over the balance to Toorkee.

5
End.—R. T. B.

वर्नाधिकार सुरक्षित राष्ट्रीय अभिलेखागार
भारत सरकार के अधीन
National Archives
India.

No. 122.

No. 50, dated Baghdad, 31st October 1873.

3822

From—Consul-General, Baghdad,

To—Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 44, dated 9th ultimo, I have the honor to report that Mahboob, formerly Wuzeer to Feysul, Ruler of Nejd, and later occupying the same post under Abdoollah, arrived at Baghdad about ten days ago.

It appears that, under instructions from His Excellency Redif Pasha, Munsoor Pasha, pensioned Ex-Sheikh of the Montefik, wrote to Abdoollah bin Feysul inviting him to come in and confer with His Excellency, and that Mahboob is the bearer of his reply, in which he states that he dare not trust himself in the power of the Ottoman authorities in whom he has no confidence; that when he sought their assistance against his brother, Saood, they sent troops and took possession of the places that were in his hand, causing his ruin and bringing upon him the reproach of his people; and that he hears of the treatment of his young brother Abdool Rehman and his relative Fahud bin Abdoollah; but that if the Government is really inclined to aid him, they should write orders to the Chiefs of Hasa and Kateef to submit themselves to him and make over to him those districts for which he will pay any revenue they may demand, and further refers questions of detail to his confidential Envoy, Mahboob.

The latter awaits at Baghdad the return of Redif Pasha, who is at present absent.

Abdoollah is said to be encamped with a few followers at some wells in the desert in the neighbourhood of Angareh, about 8 hours' distance from Koweit.

I understand that the distress of Abdool Rehman is greatly increased by the non-payment of the small subsistence allowance allotted to him by the local Government, in consequence of which he is wholly without means and dependent on the aid of Arab friends to procure the necessaries of life.

Fahud bin Abdoollah is still in confinement.

REFERENCES TO FORMER CASES.

Poltl. A., May 1871, Nos. 144-147.
 S. I. of 1871 " 581-655.
 Poltl. A., March 1867 " 120-122.
 S. H. of 1871 " 114-120.

GOVT. OF }
 INDIA. }

1871

{ FOREIGN
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SECRET.

3823

AUGUST.

REFERENCES TO LATER CASES.

SIMLA RECORDS.

Nos. 147-301.

TAKEEDS

DATED.

Turkish Expedition to Nejd.

8011
 1923

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(1.) Note	" 232-272.
Orders on face of No. 278,	" 278-279.
" " " 293,	No. 293.

No. 147.—From Acting Secy. to Govt. of Bombay, No. 2169 of 26th May 1871—Replies to letter No. 817P. of 1871, relative to Wahabee affairs in Arabia.

Nos. 148 & 149.—From Poltl. Agent, Turkish Arabia, No. 16 of 11th May 1871—Forwards copy of his despatch No. 17 of 10th May 1871 to Her Majesty's Ambassador at the Porte, reporting preparation at Bussorah for the Turkish Expedition to Nejd.

Encl. to above.

No. 150.—Tel. from Poltl. Secy., Bombay, of 11th June 1871—Col. Pelly telegraphs as follows:—"It is not the case, as far as I am informed, that Saood left Bahrein as supposed, and I would suggest a reperusal of the Poltl. Agent's paragraph. The tribes alluded to are tribes of the mainland. My series of reports for the past 10 months have told Govt. all I know. So strict have been my orders for neutrality that even by letter received to-day the Asstt. Resident evades right of Saood's messenger, and asks whether sending Saood's letter by Bahrein boat would commit Bahrein."

No. 151.—Tel. from Poltl. Secy. to Govt. of Bombay of 17th June 1871—Following from Bushire Residency:—"Native letters from Kateef confirm capture of that port by Turks, as reported by Col. Pelly on the 10th instant. Capture of Demaum and release of Mahomed, brother of Abdoollah bin Feysul, also reported, and that Commander of Turkish troops was on 8th June about proceeding to El Hassa, whither he had invited Abdoollah bin Feysul to meet him. No disturbances at sea."

No. 152.—Tel. from Poltl. Secy. to Govt. of Bombay of 20th June 1871—Communicates following message from Bushire Residency:—"Major Smith writes, 8th June, off Kateef, that town of Kateef surrendered to Turkish troops on 3rd instant after breach had been effected in the walls; that Demaum was taken on 5th; and that three Turkish steamers, a barge, and about 300 Native crafts were lying off Kateef. Up to 13th June there would seem to have been no disturbances at sea. Her Majesty's ship *Bullfinch* and gun-boat *Hugh Rose* were at Bahrein on that date."

No. 153.—From Poltl. Agent, Turkish Arabia, No. 17 of 24th May 1871—Assurance received from Govr.-Genl., Turkish Arabia, that Officer commanding the expedition had been strictly ordered to abstain from any operations against Bahrein.

No. 154.—Tel. from Poltl. Secy., Bombay, of 25th June 1871—Communicates following message from Bushire Residency:—"Native boat arrived from Kateef brings intelligence to 21st instant. Turkish troops were at Kateef on that date intending shortly to move to El Hassa. Saood and Abdoollah were preparing for war in Nejd. No hostile movements at sea."

No. 155.—Tel. from Poltl. Secy. to Govt. of Bombay of 26th June 1871—Forwards following message despatched from Bushire, 25th, and received from Col. Pelly:—"Bahrein, 19th June.—Am here with *Maggie Bullfinch*, and *Hugh Rose*. Have renewed assurances to the Chiefs. All quiet by sea. Position of affairs at Kateef and Nejd as when last reported."

KEEP-WITHS NOT PRINTED.

Tel. from Private Secy. to Govt. of Bombay of 25th June 1871, No. 154.
 Tel. from Private Secy. to Govt. of Bombay of 26th June 1871, No. 155.
 Tel. from Poltl. Secy. to Govt. of Bombay of 27th June 1871, No. 157.
 Tel. from Poltl. Secretary to Govt. of Bombay of 1st July 1871, No. 159.
 File of Tel. from Govr.-Genl. & d-o from Hon'ble Mr. Stephen of 2nd July 1871, Nos. 159-62.
 Tel. from Poltl. Secy. to Govt. of Bombay of 21st July 1871, No. 179.
 (2.) To Acting Secy. to Govt. of Bombay, } Nos. 189-225.
 No. 1747P. of 18th Aug. 1871, }
 (3.) Printed copy,
 Tel. from Poltl. Secy. to Govt., Bombay, of 30th July 1871, No. 229.
 (2.) Printed copy, Nos. 232-272.
 Tel. from Poltl. Secy. to Govt. of Bombay of 31st Aug. 1871, No. 273.
 Tel. from Poltl. Secy. to Govt. of Bombay of 12th Aug. 1871, No. 287.
 Rough draft of Abstract of Contents, No. 301.

- No. 156.—Tel. to Secy. of State, No. 1325P. of 29th June 1871—Pelly at Bahrein reports all quiet at sea. Turkish troops at Kateef intend to move to El Hassa. Saood and Abdoollah are preparing for war at Nejd.
- No. 157.—Tel. from Poltl. Secy. to Govt. of Bombay of 27th June 1871—Col. Pelly telegraphs on 26th June as follows:—"Foreign Secy.'s telegrams. I have visited Bahrein and given Chief assurances as instructed; Chief strictly neutral; land all quiet. I have visited also Kateef; Arab Sea Contingent of Turkish expedition estimated 300 crafts have now returned to their homes. Turkish force 3,000 strong with 1,500 Arabs, land Contingent, and nine guns were to move inland for Lahsa on 23rd. Letters from Saood, Bahrein Chief, are to effect that he had again beaten Abdoollah and received surrender of capital Riadh. Saood's present position not known. *Hugh Rose*, with Assistant Resident, and *Magpie* are cruising between Kateef and pearl banks with head-quarters of Bahrein. *Bullfinch* has brought me across to Bushire; she will carry provisions, &c., back to Bahrein, with request that one vessel may continue to cruise between Kateef and Bahrein pearl banks, and other vessels along pirate coast; *Hugh Rose* to be available for communications and miscellaneous requirements. Cholera prevalent at Bahrein and Kateef Coast. Bahrein Chief attacked, but recovered. Matters satisfactory down to date.
- No. 158.—Tel. to Secy. of State, No. 1320P. of 28th June 1871—Intimates Pelly telegraphs all quiet in Gulf. Contingent to Turkish Expedition, estimated 300 Native crafts, returned home. 3,000 Turkish troops with 1,500 Arab Contingent and nine guns about to move inland. Matters satisfactory on coast up to 26th instant.
- No. 159.—Tel. from Govr. of Bombay of 1st July 1871—Communicates following telegram from Col. Pelly dated this day:—"Commander, *Bullfinch*, in Bushire Roads, reports British ship *Snipe* arrived with Turkish troops for Kateef, and presumes she will not be allowed to proceed. Solicits instructions, and Col. Pelly telegrams, in reference to above, Commander of *Snipe* admits having some twenty Turkish troops on board for Kateef; she is anxious to proceed this afternoon. Please instruct me if I am to detain him as per my telegram of this morning." Telegram ends. States he has detained her, and requests immediate instructions.
- No. 160.—Tel. to Govr. of Bombay, No. 1356P. of 2nd July 1871—To direct Commander of *Bullfinch* to allow *Snipe* to proceed, but to warn the Master that he may be liable to hostile seizure.
- No. 161.—Tel. to Sir H. Elliott, Constantinople, No. 1357P. of 2nd July 1871—States British vessel *Snipe* bound for Kateef put into Bushire Roads on 1st July with Turkish troops on board. She was detained by Commander of *Bullfinch*, but released by my order. It would be desirable that the Turkish Govt. should abstain from employing British vessels in such a manner in the Gulf. Asks whether a friendly remonstrance can be made to that effect.
- (Copy to Bombay Govt. by docket No. 1358P. of 2nd idem.)
- No. 162.—Tel. to Secy. of State, No. 1360P. of 3rd July 1871—Informs on 1st July British vessel *Snipe* bound for Kateef with Turkish troops on board put into Bushire Roads. Commander of *Bullfinch* detained her. Has ordered detention to be removed, but Master to be warned that he may be liable to hostile capture. Informed Ambassador at Constantinople, and suggested to point out to Govt. of Porte the inexpediency of employing British vessels in such a manner in the Gulf.
- No. 163.—Tel. from Poltl. Secy. to Govt. of Bombay of 3rd July 1871—Communicates following message from Colonel Herbert of 2nd:—"Ottoman Govt. has engaged Ship *Snipe* bearing British flag, said to be property of Najee Jaber, Persian Govr. of Mohamrah, for conveyance of correspondence and commissariat supplies to Kateef under contract to reach on 4th instant having put into Bushire. She is reported as detained by Anglo-Indian authorities. Midhut Pasha requests she may be set at liberty. Please reply immediately."
- No. 164.—Tel. to Col. Herbert, Bagdad, No. 140SP. of 5th July 1871—States orders already issued to permit *Snipe* to proceed. Asks him to procure and forward certain information as to the nationality of that vessel, and whether she carries the British flags.
- (Copy to Bombay Govt. by docket No. 140SA.P. of 5th idem.)

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- No. 165.—Tel. to Col. Pelly, Bushire, No. 1409P. of 5th July 1871—Calls for report by telegraph as to nationality of Ship *Snipe* which has been engaged for conveyance of correspondence and stores to Kateef, and which has been detained at Bushire.
- No. 166.—Tel. to Poltl. Secy. to Govt. of Bombay, No. 1410P. of 5th July 1871—His tel. of 3rd. Herbert and Pelly have been asked direct to collect certain information about nationality of *Snipe*.
- No. 167.—Tel. from H. M.'s Ambassador, Constantinople, of 5th July 1871—Informs that orders have been sent to Midhut Pasha to abstain as much as possible from employing British vessels for transport of Turkish troops destined for Nejd Expedition.
- (Copy to Bombay Govt. and Poltl. Resident, Persian Gulf, by dockets Nos. 1434P.-1435P. of 8th July 1871.)
- No. 168.—Tel. to Col. Herbert, Bagdad, No. 1433P. of 8th July 1871—Communicates the above message.
- No. 169.—Tel. from Poltl. Secy. to Govt. of Bombay of 7th July 1871—Communicates the following message received from Col. Pelly:—"Hearing that Turkish detachment was moving in Steamer *Assur* for Guttur, I telegraphed to Herbert. Pasha replies *Assur* proceeding to Qair with stores for Lahsa. Pasha reiterates former assurances."
- No. 170.—Tel. from Poltl. Secy. to Govt. of Bombay of 16th July 1871—Forwards the following message from Col. Pelly dated to-day:—"Assistant Resident reports all quiet at Bahrein and by sea down to 10th instant. Turkish force said to have halted before reaching Lahsa, being doubtful of Arab tribes in rear. Saood said to be in force near Lahsa and reconciled with Abdoollah through influence of Priests. *Lyna* arrived at Angaam, where *Bullfinch* will rendezvous to-morrow. Learns privately from Busreh anxiety is felt concerning ultimate success of expedition. Much cholera at Kateef. Nasir bin Mobaruk had joined Pasha."
- No. 171.—Tel. to Secy. of State, No. 1502P. of 17th July 1871—Intimates all quiet to 10th. Turks halted before reaching Lahsa. Arab tribes in rear, said to be threatening, Saood in force near Lahsa, and said to be reconciled to Abdoollah. Success of expedition uncertain.
- No. 172.—Tel. from Poltl. Resident, Bushire, of 5th July 1871—Has no moral doubt of *Snipe* being property of Shaikh of Mohamrah, although she is registered in name of Zeinoolabmeen of Bombay. His attention has been given to the question, and he will report again.
- No. 173.—Tel. from Poltl. Agent, Turkish Arabia, Bagdad, of 5th July 1871—Informs of his having sent this morning the following message to Bombay:—"Correct particulars can be ascertained there from Sassoon. Govt. of Bombay's of 3rd. Has conveyed words of Pasha's message to him. On enquiry from Bussorah learns *Snipe* registered British ship, property of David Sassoon. Jaber's Agent says he is sole proprietor. Vice-Consul understood from Master that balance price unpaid, and that according to arrangement Sassoon continues registered owner till final settlement. Solicits orders concerning her."
- No. 174.—Tel. to Poltl. Secy. to Govt. of Bombay, No. 1516P. of 19th July 1871—Intimates receipt of news from Col. Herbert that *Snipe* is registered British ship, and belongs to Sassoon of Bombay. To make careful enquiries, and reply definitely by telegraph.
- No. 175.—Tel. from Poltl. Secy. to Govt. of Bombay of 18th July 1871—Col. Pelly telegraphs to-day as follows:—"Asstt. Resident telegraphs from Bahrein through Angaam that report says Gwuttur Chief excused himself to Turks; his son Jassim promised aid and hoisted Turkish flag on his own house. Major Smith purposed visit Gwuttur in *Hugh Rose* to ascertain facts. All boats out pearl fishery. Communication with Nejd interrupted. Exact position of contending parties uncertain. *Maggie* cruising off Bahrein. Land disturbance and collision between Debai and Aboothabee concerning Beraymee. All quiet at sea down to date."
- No. 176.—Tel. from Poltl. Secy. to Govt. of Bombay of 18th July 1871—Col. Pelly telegraphs to-day:—"Captain Lodder after visiting Gwuttur Coast reports Turkish flag at Biddah. Turkish steamer arrived off there with a Kowait Chief's boat. Boat went in with Kowait and Turkish officers. Turkish flag given to Biddah Chief. He was told he must hoist it. I think he did so willingly. *Lyna* goes to Bombay. I go to Lingah, meet mails, and return." Tel. ends.