

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 26.12.1846, No.31. contd.

...

the Right Honourable the Governor General in the event of that Government evincing a disposition to do so.

4th. In soliciting instructions on this point I am directed to observe that the Persian Government might probably be influenced to espouse the Ex Chief's cause by a desire of establishing its supremacy over Bahrein, to which it has more than once laid claim; the Governor in Council considers that the attainment of this object would be prejudicial to our interests in the Persian Gulf and should therefore, if possible, be frustrated.

5th. A copy of my reply to Major Hennell of this date, is enclosed, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor General.

I have &c.,

Sd/- A. Malet

Secy. to Government.

Bombay Castle,

the 7th November 1846.

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 26.12.1346, No.32.

...

No.32.

(Office No.257 of 1346)

(Consultation No.263 of 1346)

From

Political Department

Major Hennell,

Resident in the Persian Gulf,

To

A. Malet Esquire,

Secy. to the Govt. of Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit for the information of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council, the accompanying translation of a Ruckum (which was shown me confidentially) from the Regent of Fars, addressed to Sheik Nasir the Ex-Chief of Bushire, directing him to send, and invite Sheik Abdoollah ben Ahmed the Ex-Chief of Bahrein to come over to Bushire, and reside there at the expense of the Shiraz Government, until arrangements could be made to carry his object into effect.

2nd. The evident allusion to the desire expressed by the Ex-Chief about two years ago, to obtain the aid of the Persian Authorities, in the attempt to re-establish his authority over the Island of Bahrein, would seem to indicate some designs on the part of the Shah upon that quarter.

من الرائد هينيل المندوب البريطاني في الخليج الفارسي الى السيد ايه ماليت وكيل حكومة  
بومبائي - الشيخ ناصر رئيس بوشهر السابق يدعو الشيخ عبدالله بن احمد رئيس البحرين السابق  
الشيخ عبدالله بن احمد الى ان يتركه في الكويت ويريد الامير فيصل

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 26.12.1346, No.32.

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الى ان ياتي به الى فارس ليعيش في بيتهم في فارس - الشيخ عبدالله الآن في الكويت ويريد الامير فيصل

POLL.FORE. DEPTT. 26.12.1846, No.32 contd.

....

3rd. I entertain great doubt however, whether Sheikh Abdoollah will accept this invitation. His former experience of Persian faith, and Persian friendship, is by no means such as to induce him readily to place much reliance in either one or the other, while he is fully aware, that our influence, and perhaps something more would be thrown into the scale against him, were he to attempt any aggression upon Bahrein from the Persian Coast.

4th. Sheik Abdoollah ben Ahmed is still living in Koweit, By the latest accounts from that place I learn, that its Chief, Sheik Jabir, is disposed to take up his cause so far, as to enforce the restitution of his private property from the present ruler of Bahrein. It is also reported, that Ameer Fysul, intends to relocate him in the Fort of Duman, a measure which would be exceedingly injurious to the interests of Sheik Mahomed ben Khuleefa.

I have &ca.

Sd/-S. Hennell,

Resident in the Persian Gulf.

Residency in the Persian Gulf

Bushire,

the 17th June 1846.

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...

Translation of Ruckeem from the Governor of Fars, to Sheik Nasir dated Jumadee-Ool Uwoul June 1846.

A.C. (After Compliments)

Know, that it has been reported, that in the time of Government of the Amaar-e-Daewan, Sheik Abdoollah ben Sheik Ahmed, who is one of the Governor, and principal men of Bahrein, seeking the aid of this enduring Government, came to him, and remained for some time in these parts. He returned without obtaining his object. It is altogether inconsistent with the beneficence and kindness of H.M. the Shah, that such a person should despair accordingly you are directed to make the necessary enquiries, and observe the aforesaid Sheik may be, let him know, and bring him to you, I will myself undertake for all his expenses, and necessaries, without the very slightest wish for a return. Let him remain for a certain period in Bushire until time and opportunity arrive, God Willing, I will make the necessary arrangements for the promotion of his objects - Assuredly you will not be remiss or neglectful in bringing him over and treating him with Kindness.

/True copy/

/True Translation/

Sd/-S.Hennell,

Sd/-S.Hennell,

Resident in the Persian Gulf.

Resident in the Persian Gulf

/True copies/

Sd/-A.Malet,

Secy. to Govt.

....

# 5

FORE.POLL.DEP'T. 26.12.1848, No.33.

No.33.

(Office No.283 of 1846)

(Consultation No.71 of 1846)

Political Department.

From

Major Hennell,

Resident in the Persian Gulf.

To

A. Malet Esquire,

Secy. to the Govt. of Bombay.

Sir,

Adverting to my despatch to your address No.63 in this Department under date the 17th ultimo, reporting the particulars of an invitation given by the Governor of Shiraz to Sheik Abdoollah ben Ahmed to Ex-Chief of Bahrein, to leave Koweit, and come over to Bushire, I have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of the Honourable the Governor in Council, that in a late interview with Sheik Nasir, he informed me, that to his surprise and regret, the Sheik had accepted the invitation, and had despatched a man with his reply announcing his approaching arrival.

2nd. In the course of conversation Sheik Nasir mentioned that an erroneous impression existed, that he had been the means of putting the scheme of bringing over the Ex-Chief, under the consideration of the Governor of Shiraz. He begged however most solemnly

من الراءد هينيل المندوب البريطاني في الخليج الفارسي الى السيد ايه ماليت وكيل حكومة

FORE.POLL.DEPT. 26 DECEMBER 1846, No.33. contd.

...

solemnly to assure me that this was not the case, that the day previously to his departure from Shiraz, Houssein Khan, had sent for him, and made many enquiries regarding the present position of Sheik Abdoollah ben Ahmed and concluded by saying that he did not like to send a direct invitation to the Ex-Chief to come over, lest it should not be accepted, but that he would address a Rukum to the Sheik, upon the subject; Sheik Nasir added, that he felt perfectly certain that Houssein Khan was acting in compliance with orders which had been transmitted to him from Tehran on this subject.

3rd. I have addressed a letter to the Ex-Chief intimating that if he determines to come over and settle in Persia contrary to his promise, he must be prepared to restore the vessels belonging to Bahrein, which he was permitted to capture on the faith of the understanding between us, that he would permanently locate himself on the Arabian Coast.

Residency in the Persial  
Gulf, Bushire,  
the 13th July 1846.

I have &ca.

Sd/-S.Hennell,

Resident in the Persian Gulf

/True copy/

Sd/-A.Malet,

Secretary to Government.

FOREIGN POLL. DEPTT. 26 DECEMBER 1846, No. ~~35~~ 37. 34..

...

(Office No. 296 of 1846)

(Consultation No. 75 of 1846)

No. 38.

From

Major Hennell,  
Resident in the Persian Gulf

To

A. Malet Esquire,  
Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Sir,

Adverting to my Despatches to your address No. 63 and 71 in this Department under the respective dates of 17th ultimo, and 13th Instant, regarding the invitation given by the Governor of Shiraz through Sheik Nasir to the Ex-Chief of Bahrein Abdoollah bin Ahmed, to leave Koweit, and take up his residence in Bushire, I now do myself the honour to transmit for the information of the Honourable the Governor in Council, the accompanying copy of a letter to my address, from Her Majesty's Minister at the Court of Persia, dated the 15th instant on the above subject.

2nd. At present I am unable to offer even a surmise as to the real objects of the Persian Authorities in inviting the Ex-Chief to Bushire, but I shall not fail to keep a watchful eye upon their proceedings.

Residency in the Persian Gulf,

I have &ca.

Bushire,

Sd/- S. Hennell

The 19th July 1846

Resident in the Persian Gulf.

8 74

من الراءد مينيلا المندوب البريداني في الخليج الى السيد الوالي في البحرين



№ FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 26.12.1846, No.34.

...

To

Major Hennell,  
Political Resident - Bushire.

Sir,

With reference to your despatches No.153 and 154 of the 15th and 16th of June announcing the invitation given by the Governor of Fars to Sheik Abdoollah bin Ahmed, Ex-Governor of Bahrein, to proceed to Bushire, although you offer no surmise of the object of this urgency on the part of Hoossain Khan, it has occurred to me that it may be in connection with some design in contemplation against that island - should it therefore appear that preparations are making for a combined expedition against Bahrein, I request you will send me the earliest intimation on the subject. I need not say how necessary it is that your information should be precise and positive so that any needless and ~~xxx~~ unprofitable discussion with the Persian Ministers may be avoided.

The Agent at Shiraz has informed me that it was by the special desire of the Governor of Bushire that this invitation has been conveyed to Sheik Abdoollah.

Camp near Tehran,  
the 15th July 1846.

/True copy)

Sd/-S. Hennell,

Resident in the Persian Gulf. Secy. to Government.

I have &ca.

Sd/-Justin Sheil

/True copies/

Sd/-A.Malet,

45 9

من الرائد هينين الى ايه مانيت : امير البحرين السابق قبل نعوة حاد م شيراز لمعادره  
الكويت . يحيل أيضا الى مراسلته مع أمير البحرين السابق حول هذا الموضوع -

- 16 -

FOREIGN POLL. DEPT. 26.12.1846, Nos.35-37.

...

No.35.

Office No.317 of 1846)

(Consultation No.79 of 1846)

From

Major Hennell,  
Resident in the Persian Gulf

To

A. Malet Esquire  
Secy. to the Govt. of Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to my despatch to your address No.75 in this Department, under date the 28th ultimo, on the subject of the Governor of Shiraz having invited Sheik Abdollah ben Ahmed to leave Koweit and settle in Bushire, it is with much satisfaction I have the honour to report for the information of the Honourable the Governor in Council, that for the present, the ex-Bahrein Chief has given up his intention of accepting the invitation.

2nd. In his letter to the Governor of Bushire, Sheik Abdollah bin Ahmed simply states, that certain circumstances have induced him to change his mind in respect to leaving Koweit; but in his communication to my address of which a translation is now enclosed for the information of the Government, he expresses himself with much earnestness, and at considerable length upon the hardship of our interfering to prevent his availing himself of the offers of the Shah of Persia to aid him in the re-

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 26.12.1846, No.35-37. contd.

.....

re-establishment of his authority over his former possessions of Bahrein. What grounds Sheik Abdollah has for the assertion that His Persian Majesty is prepared to aid him to this extent, I am at a loss to conceive, for excepting an obscure allusion by the Governor of Shiraz in his order to Sheik Nasir to invite the ex-Chief over, no other hint of such a nature has so far as I am aware, been given from any quarter. Even to the present time, I am doubtful whether Houssain Khan has been acting in this affair under instructions from Tehran, or whether the idea of inviting Sheik Abdollah originated with himself or was suggested to him. Under any circumstances, the residence of this Chief in Bushire and the consequent necessity of our opposing his meditated aggressions upon Bahrein, would have proved an endless source of embarrassments, which I trust is now obviated by his Change of Plans.

3rd. The letter from me to his address, which the ex-Sheik has considered as an interdiction to his acceptance of the Persian invitation simply intimated, that in case of his leaving Koweit and coming over to Bushire, it would be necessary for him to restore to Bahrein, those vessels which he had been permitted to capture on the understanding he was to remain on the Arabian Coast.

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 26.12.1846, No. 35-37. contd.

....

4th. In my reply to „Sheik Abdoollah's communication I have explained to him that he is under an error in supposing that the British Government has any wish to prevent his attempting the recovery of his former possessions provided only such attempts be made while he resides on the Arabian Coast. I have further informed him, that no interdiction exists to his availing himself of the aid of Ameer Fysul, or the Sheik of Koweit in the attainment of his objects, but, that he can hardly suppose Sheik Jabir would afford him the protection of his port while he committed aggressions upon those with whom his host chose to remain upon friendly terms.

5th. The ex-Sheik of Bahrein's desire to revenge himself on his successful Kinsmen, blinds him to the fact that in affording him aid against Bahrein, the Persians would use him only as a tool to be cast away immediately they had established themselves in the possession of that Island. As such a result would however be quite opposed to our views, I see no reason for changing the policy hitherto pursued towards Sheik Abdoollah ben Ahmed; nor can I consider that the British Government lies under any obligation to afford him that assistance in the recovery of his lost territories which he now considers the Shah of Persia is disposed to afford him, and from the acceptance of which he is debarred by our interference.

I have &ca.

Residency in the Persian Gulf  
Bushire,  
the 11th August 1846.

Sd/-S.Hennell, 12  
Resident in the Persian Gulf. 18

FOREIGN POLL. DEPTT. 26.12.1846, No.35-37. contd.

....

Translation of a letter from Sheik Abdoollah bin Ahmed  
Ex-Chief of Bahrein to Major Hennell - Resident in the  
Persian Gulf dated August 1846.

After Compliments,

I have received your letter and understood its contents, particularly that part in which you consider it advisable that I should not at present visit Bushire, and that I should remain at a distance from the shade of the protection of His Majesty the Shah of Persia. You know that it has always been my custom to be obedient to you, and to be guided entirely by your views. As a proof of this I may mention, that when last year I had an interview with you, you consented to my residence in Nabend and\* to my cruizing against Bahrein alone within the restrictive line, but after some time, you inter-<sup>upon</sup>dicted me from any aggression/that place, unless I settled upon the Arabian Coast. I abided your orders and took up my abode in Koweit, as being on the Arabian Shore. You then prohibited me from plundering unless I settled somewhere on the Arabian Coast instead of Koweit. You must be aware, that those parts of that side of the Gulf which are desert, and have no inhabitants can be of no service to me nor any one else. While those which are occupied and subjected to others, are, like the Guttur Coast in the hands of my enemies, the sons of Khuleefa. Under these circumstances, I have been at a loss how to act,

ترجمة رسالة الشيخ عبدالله بن احمد امير البحرين السابق الى الرائد هينيل المندوب البريدياني  
LB

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 26/12/1846, No. 35-37.

.....

during the long time, and have taken no active steps, solely in obedience to your orders and my desire to avoid opposition to you; while the subjects of my enemies go every where in peace and safety, without one of them being injured by me although were I to annoy them I have every cause, considering how they have dispossessed me of my country and lawful property. You know all this fully and are moreover aware, that I am neither a robber nor a pirate. On the contrary, I have rights of which I have been deprived. These I try to recover by my own endeavours seeking aid from God and from Princes like the England. But when I am interdicted from seeking my rights they must perish, and I am oppressed. Since then when the favor of the Shah has descended on me, and I have been invited to put myself under his protection to be looked upon with the eye of consideration, and to experience his kindness, in rising up and aiding me with every sort of munition &c. &c. which I may require for my objects at such a time, I receive your letter interdicting me from accepting his offers or entering into his views, although I am reduced to such necessity. Thus the hopes I had entertained are destroyed. It is well known that the power of the British is founded upon justice both in their orders and in their affairs, and it is not right that this justice which is universally exercised, should be restricted from me. Let there be no injustice in the orders of Government. I have obeyed your instructions in giving up my intention of coming over to the Persian Coast, and therefore in the way of equity

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 26.12.1846, No.35-37. contd.

....

equity and justice, it is only right that you should make good to me that favor and aid which I was promised should be afforded from the Kindness of the Shah. In this case I shall come under your protection and be ever under your obligation. God forbid you should oppress me by causing me to lose by obeying your orders, and being more submissive to you than any others, those advantages which I was to obtain from the Shah. On the contrary I hope you will look upon me with the eye of favour, and that you will take such measures as your superior wisdom and intelligence may dictate, in recovering my rights from the hands of my enemies. By God's blessing your wisdom will not fail in this, but will attain the object sought for with ease and celerity. You will thus place me under a perpetual obligation, and your justice and equity will be evident to all. In short way everything is in the hands of God. May I request you will favor me with a reply to this letter, and whatever may be the result, I only hope you will not turn away your countenance from me, and will not call me to account for those steps I may take against my enemies above within the restrictive line.

/True translation/

Sd/-S.Hennell,

Resident in the Persian Gulf.

/True copy/

Sd/-S.Hennell,

Resident in the Persian Gulf.

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 26. 12. 1846, Nos. 35-37. contd.

....

Translation of a letter from Major Hennell Resident in the Persian Gulf to Sheik „Abdoollah ben Ahmed ex-Chief of Bahrein dated 11th August 1846.

Your letter, dated August, has been received, and its contents understood, particularly that part in which you allude to having been interdicted from plundering the Bahrein Boats while residing at Nabend, afterwards you left that place and settled in Koweit, a further prohibition having been issued against your committing any aggressions upon Bahrein, unless you removed from that Port, and took up your abode in some other place upon the Arabian Coast.

Your observation that the British Government prohibited you from carrying on aggressions upon Bahrein, while you were residing at Nabend is certainly correct, as neither yourself nor any other Chief, can be allowed to seek the Shelter of the Persian Coast, to plunder and injure those enemies who are located on the Arabian side of this sea, I am not however aware that any interdiction exists to your attempting the reconquest of your possessions while residing at Koweit, or on the Arab Coast. If either Sheik Jabir, or Ameer Fysul think proper to take up your cause, and wish to aid you in re-establishing your authority over Bahrein, the British will offer no opposition to their doing so. But if the Koweit Chief does not consider it advisable to declare war against Sheik Mahomed ben Khuleefa, on your behalf, but on the



FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 26.12.1846, No.35-37. contd.

....

the contrary, desires to remain on amicable terms with the Bahrain authorities, how can you suppose he will give you the protection of his Port; while you commit aggressions on the commerce of his friends; your own sense and judgement ought to make you see that this is impossible. I will lay your letter before the Government, but I cannot hold out any hope to you, that they will interfere to enable you to recover your Territories. Under any circumstances however, I am satisfied you have taken the most prudent course in determining to remain on the Arabian Coast, instead of coming over to Bushire.

/True Transkion/

Sd/-S.Hennell,

Resident in the Persian Gulf.

/True copy/

Sd/-S.Hennell,

Resident in the Persian Gulf.

/True copy/

Sd/-A.Malet,

Secy. to the Govt.

...

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 26.12.1846, No.35-37. contd.

...

No.36.

(No.1207 of 1846)

From

A. Malet Esquire,  
Secy. to the Govt. of Bombay.

To

Major S. Hennell,  
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 17th June, 13th and 28th July and 11th August last, No.63, 71, 75 and 79 on the subject of the invitation given by the Govt. of Shiraz to the Ex-Chief of Bahrein, to leave the Arabian Coast, and take up his residence in Bushire.

2nd. In reply, I am desired to inform you that the Honorable the Governor in Council approves of your proceedings reported in these letters, except that his Honour in Council considers the allusion in your letter to the ex-Chief of Bahrein dated the 11th August last, to Ameer Fysul and the Chief of Koweit had better have been omitted, since it is not desirable that those persons should take part in the Ex Chief's quarrel.

Bombay Castle,  
the 7th Novr. 1846.

I have &c.  
Sd/-A. Malet,  
Secy. to Govt.

/True copy/

Sd/-A. Malet,

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 26.12.1846, No.35-37. contd.

....

No.37.

(Copy) (No.2536 of 1846).

From

The Under Secy. to the Govt. of India,  
With the Governor General.

To

The Secy. to the Govt. of Bombay.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch dated the 7th November last with enclosure on the subject of the Ex Chief of Bahrein's reported intention of Proceedings to Bushire, and requesting the instructions of the Govt. of India in the event of the Persian Government espousing the cause of the Ex-Chief and assisting him in recovering possession of Bahrein.

2nd. In reply I am desired to state that the Governor General considers that the Resident in the Persian Gulf should in no way connect himself with Ex-Chief of Bahrein or lend that Chief any countenance in his designs against Bahrein if such are entertained.

3rd. With regard to the instructions required I am desired to state that as Persia is connected by Treaty with Great Britain and as Her Britannic Majesty has a Plenipotentiary at the Court of Tehran all such questions as that now referred by the Govt. of Bombay should in the Governor General's opinion be submitted to Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary, who will doubtless take all necessary measures for the due protection of British interests under the instructions of Her Majesty's Ministers. 25 19

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 26.12.1846, No.35-37. contd.

....

4th. The Governor General observes that in addition to the reasons which render it inexpedient that the Govt. of India should interfere in this matter that Major Hennell being in communication with Lieutt. Colonel Sheil the orders of the Home Government can actually be received by Lieut. Coll. Sheil and communicated to Major Hennell with as much speed as any suggestions offered by the Government of India in a matter which rests entirely with the Home Government and not that of India.

I have &ca.

Sd/-W. Edwards,

Camp Bhyrowal Ghat,  
the 21st December 1846.

Under Secy. to the Govt. of  
India with the Govr. Genl.

/ True copy /

Sd/-W. Edwards

Under Secy. to the Govt. of India  
with the Governor General.

FORE.POLL.BOMBAY LETTER TO COURT, 17 SEPT. 1849, No.95.

.....

No.95.

No.95 of 1849

Political Department.

To

The Honourable the Court of Directors,  
for Affairs of the Honourable  
East India Company,  
London,

Dated Bombay, 17th September 1849.

Honourable Sirs,

Collection No.1.

1. We beg to forward copy of a letter from Major Hennell, Resident in the Persian Gulf, dated the 10th April last, reporting the particulars of an interview which he had on the 7th of the same month with two of the principal (late/ Seceders from Bahrein, who waited on that officer for the purpose of complaining of alleged oppressive treatment they have experienced in the instances which they enumerated, from the present ruler of that Island. We have approved of Major Hennell proceedings on this occasion.

Collection No.II.

2. With reference to Enclosure No.17 to Collection No.I accompanying our despatch to your Honourable Court, dated the 31st March No.29 of 1849. We beg to forward copy of a letter from Major Hennell, dated the 26th of the proceeding month, submitting translation of a communication to his address from the Chief of Bahrein, expressing regret (in reply to the remonstrance of Major Hennell) at his having permitted a fugitive pirate from Aboothabee 27

BOMBAY LETTER TO COURT, 17 SEPT. 1849, No.95. contd.

...

named Khuleefa bin Mukhash to escape from the Island of Bahrein at the same time promising that he will now adopt measures with the view of capturing this offender, and that for the future he will be careful not to afford grounds for similar complaints on the part of the British Government.

Collection No.III.

3. In continuation of the 2nd para: of our despatch dated the 30th November, No.169 of 1848, we beg to forward copy of a letter from Major ~~H~~<sup>H</sup>ennell dated the 3rd July last, reporting that he has reason to believe that the Chief of Bahrein has now abandoned, if ever be contemplated, the idea of undertaking maritime operations against Oman.

Collection No. IV.

4. With reference to the 5th paragraph of our despatch dated the 31st March last, No.29, we beg to forward copies of 3 letters from Major Hennell at the 15th February and 12th and 13th March last affording further information in the subject of the late hostilities between the confederate Chiefs in the Wahabee interest and Sheik Saed bin Tahinor of Aboothabee, reporting the conclusion of peace between the combatants.

Collection No.V.

5. With reference to enclosure No.12 to Collection No.3 accompanying our despatch, dated the 31st March, No.29 of 1849, we beg to forward copy of a letter from Major Hennell, dated the 8th of the same month, submitting a report from Lieutenant Gardner of the Indian Navy, late Senior Naval Officer in the Persian Gulf, of the particular

BOMBAY LETTER TO COURT. 17 SEPT. 1849, No.95. contd.

...

particular of a recent Cruise by that officer in that quarter, and reporting the occurrence of some collision at Sea between subjects of the Chiefs of Debaye and Aboothabee In a subsequent letter dated the 2nd April last, Major Hennell has reported the satisfactory adjustment of these disputes.

Collection No.VI.

6. In collection No.6, we beg to forward copies of various letters addressed between the 14th February and the 13th June last, by Major Hennell and by his Assistant, Lieutt. Kumball, (during the period the latter officer was in temporary charge of the Residency while Major Hennell was performing his annual tour of the Gulf) to Lieutenant Colonel Parrant, her Majesty's Charge d' affaires at Tehran, on subjects in which the interests of the Persian Government or of its subjects were involved.

Collection No.VII.

\*Dated 17th Jany.  
No.4 of 1849  
para: 4.

Dated 31st March  
No.20 of 1849  
para:6.

7. In our despatch\* noted in the margin we alluded to a correspondence which had lately passed between Major Hennell and Major Rawlinson C.B. Political Agent in Turkish Arabia, on the subject of a requisition preferred by him on Major Hennell, to despatch the Honourable Company's Sloop of War "Elphinstone" and Brig. "Euphrates" to Mohumra to give effect to certain remonstrances which the former officer had addressed to the chief authorities of that place on the subject of vexatious opposition having been offered to the trade of British Subjects with that Port. We at the same time stated that we had

BOMBAY LETTER TO COURT. 17 SEPT. 1849, No. 95. contd.

....

had informed Major Hennell that instructions from Her Majesty's Charge de'affairs at Tehran should have been awaited both by himself and Major Rawlinson in this affair, and that we were not disposed to approve of the despatch of the squadron to Mohumra, if acquiescence in Major Rawlinson's measures, should not have been intimated to him (Major Hennell) by Lieutenant Colonel Farrant, previously to its sailing. We now beg to forward copy of a further letter from Major Hennell dated the 1st May last, expressing a hope that for the reasons therein mentioned he may be relieved from all blame in the course he adopted on the above occasions.

8. Having submitted this correspondence to the most noble the Governor General of India, we were in reply informed under date the 23rd July last, that His Lordship considered the view which this Government had taken of Major Hennell's proceedings on the above occasion was

\*The Hon'ble Mr. Bl- perfectly correct. WE\* have accordingly informed Major  
ene for reasons  
mentioned in his Minute dt. the 9th  
June last, dissenting that they have been concurred in by the Most Noble  
from the opinion  
of the majority  
of the Board.  
Hennell that our sentiments on this subject remain unchanged  
the Governor General of India.

selection No. WIII. 9. In collection No. 8 we beg to forward translations  
of four news-letters from the Native Agent at Muscat  
communicating such intelligence as had reached him from  
various quarters regarding the state of affairs on the  
Arabian Coast, and in the Persian Gulf between the 9th



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FORE.POLL.DEPT. 3.1.1834, No.11.

...

No.1731

Bombay Castle,

12th December 1833.

To

The Secretary to the Supreme Government  
Fort William.

Political Department,

Sir,

With reference to my letter of the 15th ultimo, I am directed by the Right Honourable The Governor in Council to transmit to you for the purpose of being laid before the Right Honourable the Governor General in Council, the copy of a letter from the Resident in the Persian Gulf dated 31st October with enclosure, relative to the visit of two American ships of War to Muscat, and at the same time to observe that His Lordship in Council has no doubt of the fact of the Imam having entered into a treaty with the Americans, although His Highness' Agent in Bombay very lately assured His Lordship to the contrary.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Sd/-

Chief Secretary. 25 31

زيارة مركبين عسكريين الاميركيين في مسقط - يشير أن الامام قد دخل في الاتفاق مع الاميركيين  
بيد أن وكيل الامام بنك ذلك .

FORE.POLL. DEPT. 3 JANUARY 1834, No.12.

...

No.42 of 1833

Political Department.

To

Charles Norris Esquire,  
Chief Secy. to Government,  
Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit extracts of letters from the Government Agent at Muscat relating to a visit of two American ships of War to that Port.

2. The object in view appears to have been the establishment of an Agent at Sowahil on the coast of Zanzibar to which His Highness the Imaum is said to have acceded.

Bushire Residency.  
31st October 1833.

I have the honour to be,  
Sd/- D.A. Blane,  
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

2/

Extract translation of a letter from the Agent at Muscat to the Resident dated 5th Jumadee-ool Uwwul or 18th September 1833.

Two American men of war have- arrived here, a ship and Schooner. Two persons dressed like English officers came in a boat from the offing and applied for a Pilot which was furnished them. They enquired whether a return would be made if a salute were fired after entering the Harbour, the Captain together with an Envoy bring-

FORE.POLL.DEP'T. 3 JANUARY 1834, No.12. contd.

...

bringing a letter from the American Government, waited upon the Imam. They then mentioned that H.H. had addressed a friendly letter in English.....one of their vessels which they did not exactly comprehend but understood it to, express the wish of H.H. that American ships should not visit the coast of Zanzibar and that in consequence they had been sent for an explanation. His Highness assured them in reply that he had been entirely misunderstood that the two countries were as one, and that the Americans paid just the same duties as the English.

/True Extract Translation/

Sd/-S. Hennell,

Assistant to the Resident.

Extract translation of a letter from the Agent at Muscat to the Resident dated 22nd Jumadee-ool-Awwul or 6th October 1833.

The Amherst left on the 1st October after her departure the Imam paid a visit to the American ship where he was received with marked demonstration of honour and attention of friendly friendship has been concluded between the two governments, and the American are to have an Agent established in Zanguebar. The Imam will sail for that place about the 20th of this month.

His Highness presented the Captain of the American man of War and the envoy with a Gold mounted sword and a

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 3 JANUARY 1834. No.12 contd.

...

days ago for Zanzibar. H.H. has sent a person privately to make enquiries of me whether the English Government would be displeased or otherwise at the friendly footing he was now placed upon with the Americans.

/True Extract transaction/

Signed/- S. Hennell

Assistant to the Resident.

/True copies /

Sd/-D.A. Blane,

Resident in the Persian Gulf.

/True copies/

Sd/- Charles Norris,

Chief Secretary to Government of Bombay.

....

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FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 22 MAY 1834, No.16.

...

To (Copy) Madras April 12, 1834.

J. Macnaghten, Esquire,  
Political Secretary  
Neelgherries.

Sir,

Although I have judged it right not to trouble the Governor General in his present arduous position with any unnecessary papers, and have sent a copy of those relating to the Mission of Captain Hart to the Imam of Muscat to the Supreme Council in Calcutta, yet there is one point that I shall be glad to have the Governor General's opinion upon before I go to Mauritius, in order that a due advantage may be taken of the favourable season if required (i.e. the S.W. Monsoon).

The point is briefly this, the Imaum has (as I had been informed, but the Government of Bombay did not believe it) formed a Treaty with Captain Roberts of the American Frigate Peacock, granting to that subtle nation immunities and advantages of Trade with a Factory at Zanzibar, which may be come very inimical to our interests. His Highness sees his error, and repeatedly asked Captain Hart if the English could support him in breaking this Treaty, of course Captain Hart declined a reply, but promised reference and an answer.

جيد ميكناتن الموكيل السياسي بنيالجرى يقول أن امام المسقط قد أتم اتفاقية مع أميرالاي رابرتس  
من فرجاة اميريكية المسماة ببيكاك والآن أدرك الامام أنه قد أخطأ في ذلك .

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 22 MAY 1834, No.16. contd.

....

Some few years ( I believe three) past, the Imaum had a 74 Gun ship built at Bombay, at an enormous expense, of 1800 Tons. He finds her too large for his service, and he passes her upon me to take as a present to the King of England, and I feel that it will be safe and well to take such a ship out of his hands, to prevent her falling into worse. (He has several five <sup>fr</sup>igates, and is building another <sup>one</sup> ~~one~~ at Cochin). But I feel a hesitation in so doing as it may be construed into an intention to support him against the Americans, who have already began to quarrel with him, and no doubt may seize upon all his ships and wealth.

I shall be glad to know how far the Governor General thinks I may venture. I have no doubt on my own part.

The Magicianue would go to Zanzebar now in a month, and at the end of the S.W. Monsoon, late in October bring this Liverpool to Bombay in 14 days there to load with Teak Timber for England to sail in January under the care of the Magicienne.

If it will not commit the King's Government, or involve the Governor General in an intricate question, I should be disposed to adopt it, and send the Magicienne in Zanzibar in June to fit the Liverpool.

I send for your perusal the original Treaty herein spoken of copy of which has gone to Calcutta. Have the goodness to return it to me, with the answer to this and address-

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 22 MAY 1834, No.17. contd.

....

To

(Copy)

His Excellency,

Vice Admiral Sir J. Gore

Commander in Chief

His Majesty's Naval Force in India

Trincomalee.

Sir,

I have perused your Excellency's letter to the address of the Political Secretary under dated the 12th Instant in which you intimate a wish to obtain my opinion on the point therein referred to.

2. I request you will accept my best acknowledgements for this communication. The fact therein stated of a Treaty having been concluded between the Imaum of Muscat and the Americans had before been brought to my knowledge, and though I saw reason to regret that such an arrangement had been entered into yet I could not discover any tenable ground upon which our interference to annul or to modify its provisions could be exercised.

3. Viewing the offer of the Imaum of Muscat in connexion with the overtures made to Captain Hart I should very much doubt the propriety and expediency of accepting it. His Highness has not concealed his desire of breaking the Treaty into which he has entered with the Americans, who have already begun to quarrell with him, and if under these circumstances the 74 Gun ship were accepted as a

FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 22 MAY 1834, No. 17. contd.

....

a present for the King of England, it might certainly as your Excellency observes, "be construed into an intention to support him against the Americans," of which, as we should not be justified in putting it into practice it would be as well to avoid the appearance.

4. This is the conclusion at which I have arrived from the perusal of your Excellency's letter, and I shall be very glad to find that it is in concurrence with your own. If however your Excellency should still feel doubts as to the propriety of declining the offer I would venture to suggest that it be referred for the consideration of His Majesty's Government in case this course of proceeding should not involve a degree of delay which may be inconsistent with the views entertained by your Excellency.

5. The Treaty which accompanied your Excellency's letter is herewith returned agreeably to your request.

Ootacamund,

I have &c.

the 18th April 1834.

Sd/-W.C. Bentinck,

/True copy /

Sd/-W.H. Macnaghten,

Secy. to the Govr. Genl.

.....



يرد دبلير ايج ميكناتن الوكيل الحياي طي هذه المراسلة وثيقة اصلية من المطامدة بين  
الإمام و الأمير كيبيين الى امام المسقط

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FORE. POLL. DEPTT. 22 MAY 1834, No. 19.

...

(Copy)

Melville in Madras Roads,

16th April 1834.

To

W.H. Macnaghten Esquire,

Political Secretary,

with the Governor General

Neelgherries.

Sir,

Feeling myself called upon to reply to the  
Imaum of Muscat, and to return His Highness the Original  
Treaty, with the Americans, lest by retaining it he might  
supposed it was our intention to support him in breaking  
it, which he appears to anxious to do, I transmit to you,  
the draft of a letter I have made to His Highness, to be  
taken to him by Captain Plumridge, during the rains at Bomba  
which I request you will be pleased to lay before the  
Governor General of India, and solicit ~~xx~~ His Lordship's  
notice of it, to make any notes of alteration he may think  
fit, and return it to me at Trincomalee, that I may send  
it to the Earl of Clare at Bombay, His Lordship's will have  
the Kindness, as before, to have it duly translated, and  
enveloped, agreeably to the Oriental etiquette and at the  
same time give such reply to the Imaum's complaint to Captal  
Hart of Seven years neglect and indifference as His Lordship  
may think necessary.

I have &ca.

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الى نائب أمير الاسطول السير جيه جور - يقترح تعديل بعض البنود في مسودة الاتفاق بين طرفين  
مرتبة بالتقدمة من امام المسقط

- 40 -

FORE. POLL. DEPT. 22 MAY 1834, No. 19.

...

To / Copies Ø  
His Excellency  
Vice Admiral Sir J. Gore,  
Commander in Chief  
His Majesty's Naval Force in India.  
Trincomalee.

Sir,

I have perused the letter dated the 16th Instant which your Excellency had addressed to the Political Secretary together with its enclosures.

2nd. In the communication which I had the honour of addressing to you on the 18th instant I explained to your Excellency the view which took of the offer of the 74 Gun ship on the part of His Highness the Imaum of Muscat. Further reflection does not lead me to .....view of the case and I would therefore suggest for your Excellency's consideration whether it would not be expedient to alter that part of your draft which relates to His Highness' offer. It would be sufficient in my opinion were your Excellency to notice that branch of the subject by intimating to His Highness that you feel it to be your duty to decline the offer until you receive authority from England for its acceptance.

The other portions of Your Excellency's proposed letter (which is returned herewith) appears to me to be perfectly unexceptionable.

Ootacamund

I have the

21st April 1834. /True copy/

Sd/-W.C. Bentinck

FORE. POLL. DEPT. 5 DECEMBER 1836, No. 152.

....

No. 127.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Right Honorable  
the Governor General of India in Council in the General  
Department under date the 9th November 1836.

Seperate Department

Customs.

Read the following Papers

Letter from Aqa Kurbali Mahomed dated 25th October  
1836 forwarding a Petition from Hadjee  
Ibraheem, Nakhoda of the ship Prince of  
Wales belonging to the Imaum of Muscat.

Translations of two Petitions dated the 25th Ultimo  
From Ibraheem Jumal Nakhoda of the Ulut at Rahman.

Hoseen Ghuloom, Nakhoda of the Fyzool  
Ruhman.

Ubdoola been Ahmed Nakhoda of the Futteh  
ool Moobarruk.

Mohammud been Sued ben Muskul Nakhoda  
of the Kobras

Mahommed Yosuf of the Humayun Shah  
Daood of the Suleeman Shah

Ibrahim ben Hussein of the Prince of Wales

Resolution.

The Right Honourable the Governor General  
of India in Council having had before him the represen-  
tation of Aqa Kurbali Mahomed and also the Translations  
of two Petitions from the Captains of Arab ships frequen-  
ting this Port, representing the hardships and incon-  
venience they experience under the operation of the

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FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 5 DEC. 1836, No.152. contd.

...

the provisions of Act No.XIV of this year whereby Arab Ships which were before admitted to entry at the Custom Houses of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal on the same footing, and subject to the same duties as Vessels sailing under the British Flag, have been declared to be Foreign Vessels subject to double duties like Foreign European Vessels remarks and resolves as follows. The principle adopted in the Act referred to, was to equalize the rates of taxation upon the trade of Europe, and upon that which was heretofore called the country trade that is, the trade with places within the Company's limits, and to provide by an increase of the duties upon the former, a compensation for some part of the loss suffered through the abandonment of Transit and Town Duties. In the application of this principle to the trade of Calcutta  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent was fixed as the general duty upon imports and 3 per cent as the duty upon Exports in British Bottoms these rates being doubled upon foreign trade  $2\frac{1}{2}$  and 3 per cent were the rates heretofore levied on the trade with Europe, British and Foreign, but the country trade whether carried on in British Vessels or in those of any Native State were subjected to the rates of the transit duty Tariff, the lowest of which was 5 per cent and many articles were taxed  $7\frac{1}{2}$  and 10 per cent.

FORE.POLL.DEPTT. 5 DEC. 1836, No.152. contd.

...

If the trade carried on in Arab Vessels had been left on the same footing with that in British Vessels, the Arab Marchants would have gained upon most articles both of Import<sup>A</sup> and Export, a reduction of duty in the difference between 5 per cent the lowest former rate, and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  or 3 as their trade in common with other commerce had been relieved from all the vexations attending the levy of transit and town duties in the interior, it was considered that the additional levy that would attend the placing of them upon the footing of European foreign nations would be more than compensated by this great advantage but after the general scheme had been determined upon, several articles of the country trade including Coffee were placed on the Tariff assessed with the former rates of duty, that on Coffee being fixed at  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent and the principle upon which it had been deemed not inequitable to treat Arab traders as foreigners would evidently not warrant a duplication of this duty upon them so as to subject importation of Mocha Coffee to the high duty of 15 per cent when brought in Arab Ships, His Lordship in Council accordingly resolves that Coffee imported from Arabia in Arab Vessels shall be assessed at the same duty as heretofore, viz:  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent, the discriminative double duty being remitted in respect to this article.

1736