

(2012)

A few words will suffice to relate the proceedings of Shaikh Saeed bin Sahnoun in the year 1851. He concluded a peace with Shaikh Sultan bin Suggur notwithstanding the intrigues set on foot by Shaikh Mukhtoom to prevent it.

He proceeded to the assistance of the Bahrain Shaikhs in their struggle with the Wahabee ruler and through his good offices it was that matters were brought to an amicable settlement¹ between the Belligerent parties and finally in the operation carried on by H. H. Imam and the Shaikh of Debaie against the ill starred Syud Gis, the chief of Sohar, the part sustained by Shaikh Saeed bin Tahnoon was somewhat selfish and mean, and savored rather we think of duplicity than honesty.

The next occurrence worthy of notice connected with this Tribe is a case of maritime irregularity that took place in early in the spring of 1852 which would seem to have been committed by orders of Shaikh Saeed himself the circumstances attending the affair were these.

On the 31st March 1852, a person called Abreed bin Butye an inhabitant of Dubai called upon Hajee Yakoob our British Agent at sharjah and informed him² that having a boat which he was desirous to sell, he had embarked in her for Biddah with this object, and that after disposing of her there he embarked on board o Buggalah belonging to Zaal of Beni Yas tribe located at Biddah in order to return to his home.

When they arrived opposite Aboothabee so near as to discover the place a Buggarah came out by order of Saeed bin Tahnoon, and seized two Boat and conveyed her into that Port when they hauled her on shore and appropriated to themselves whatever was in her. From the people of Debaie they took two slaves, five Kerans, 2 Abbas, and an Arab Headdress³, releasing to men who belonged to that place and sending them away in a Buggarah but hey detained 2 of the crew belonging to Biddah whose slave they also took Saeed bin Tahnoon observed to the people of the Boat that he had received orders from Ameer Fysul bin Saud to seize all Beni Yas vessels he might find at sea unless they return to Aboothabee.

¹ in July 1851

² Letter from Hajee Yakoob to Capt. A. B. Kemball dated April 2nd 1852

³ Extract from British Agent Letter April 2nd 1852 continued

(2013)

The crew of the Boat that issued from Aboothabee consisted of 23 men.

A letter of remonstrance was addressed to the Beni Yas Chief calling upon him to afford redress for so open a case of infraction of the maritime truce and desiring the immediate restitution of all the property and individuals that had been so unlawfully seized. Commodore Robinson followed in the wake of a letter with a view in event of continuacy being displayed by the delinquent Chief to give weight by his presence to the requisition preferred against him and to warn him of the consequences which must ensue from such a willful disregard of his engagements with the British Govt.¹

Such were the steps adopted to bring Shaikh Saeed bin Tahnoon to account and nothing could exceed the readiness exhibited by him to obey the Resident's instructions. Before the arrival of the Commodore immediately on receipt of Capt. Kemball's letter he despatched² a special messenger to Hajee Yakoob for the purpose of handing back the property plundered and of intimating his intention to restore the slaves he had taken, so soon as they return from the Pearl Banks.

But two more points remain to be noticed ere we draw this sketch to a close. Towards the end of the present year³ the Beni Yas espoused the cause of Shaikh Saeed bin Butye the New Shaikh Debaie⁴, whose right to the chiefship being disputed by the sons of the late Shaikh Makhtoom his brother, had led to the latter fleeing for protection to Shaikh Sultan bin Suggur and craving his assistance towards regaining the seat they had so lately won but were unable to retain.⁵

In the spring of the ensuing year on the occasion of the advent to Brymee, of Abdullah bin Fysul, with a considerable Nedjdee force the course pursued by Shaikh Saeed bin Tahnoon was diametrically opposed to that of the Joasmee, finding that the latter was doing all in his power to induce the Ameer's son to invade the districts of Batinah he at once

¹ No. 139 of 1852 from Capt. A. B. Kemball to Commodore I. P. Porter and May 12 1852 an exchange of Commodores took place at this season.

² Vide Letter No. 101 of 1852 From Commodore Robinson to Capt. A. B. Kemball June 2nd 1852

³ December

⁴ Vide Debaie page

⁵ Vide Debaie page 17 1853

(2014)

expressed his strong disapproval of the proposed plan⁶ by dismissing to their homes the larger portions of his followers and begging⁷ if the expedition were finally determined on to be permitted to withdraw.

The measures adopted by the Resident coupled with the above show of opposition and the assumption of a hostile attitude by H. E. Syud Soweeynee dictated to Abdullah bin Fysul the advisability if not the necessity, of abandoning the project of the attack of the Imam's Territories and satisfying himself with demands for payments of an increased amount of Tribute.¹

When matters had been brought to a settlement, Shaikh Saeed bin Tahnoon returned to Aboothabee to wait upon the Resident who was off that Port on his tour of the Gulf and on arrival² did he subscribe to the new Treaty of Peace¹ concluded by the Maritime Chiefs of Oman for a complete cessation of hostilities forever at sea.

True Sketch

Signed H. F. Disbrowe

Assistant Resident PG

⁶ No. 31 of 1853 from Capt. A. B. Kemball to A. Malet Esquire

⁷ No. 35 of 1853 from Capt. A. B. Kemball to A. Malet Esquire

¹ Vide Muscat

² May 11th 1853

(2015)

Duplicate
No. 344 of 1839

Bombay Castle
12th February 1839

Secret Department
Sir,

I am directed by the Hon'ble, The Governor in Council to transmit to you for the purpose of being submitted to the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India copy of a communication from the Acting assistant Resident in charge of the Cutch Residency, dated the 31st Ultimo regarding certain arrangements made for the protection of that province, and of my reply thereto of this date.

I have the honour to be,

Sir
Your Most Obedient Servant
Signed
Secretary to Government

To,
The Secretary with the Right Hon'ble
The Governor General of India
Camp

2021

(2016)

No. 80 of 1839

Residency in the Persian Gulf

Karrack 3rd September 1839

Political Department

Sir,

I have the honor to forward for the information of the Honourable the Governor in Council the accompanying Extract of a letter from my Bushire Correspondent reporting the receipt of intelligence from Shiraz of the departure of Teresdoon Mirza from the City and the near approach of the Heir apparent to assume the Government of Fars.

I have the honour to be

Signed

P. Hennell

Resident in the Persian Gulf

To

L. R. Reid Esquire

Acting Chief Secretary to Government

Bombay

(2017)

No. 93 of 1839

Secret Department

To,

L. R. Reid Esquire

Acting Chief Secretary to the Government

Bombay

Sir

I have the honour to forward for the information of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council copies of my several Despatches to the Honourable the Secret Committee as noted in the margin¹

I have the honour to be

Signed

S. Hennell

Resident in the Persian Gulf

Residency in the Persian Gulf

Karrack 13th September 1839.

¹ Residency Persian Gulf

31st August 1839

2nd September 1839

2nd September 1839

6th September 1839

7th September 1839

7th September 1839

9th September 1839

(2018)

Secret Department

To

The Hon'ble The Secret Committee

London

Honourable Sirs

By the overland mail via Baghdad, which reached this place in the 2nd Instant, I had the honour to receive your letter of the 15th July transmitting for my information and guidance copy of a letter addressed to Lieut. Colonel Sheriff the Commanding Officer at Karrack.

In Reply I have the honour to state that the right Hon'ble the Governor General of India having taken the same view with reference to the correspondence between myself and Lieut. Colonel Sheriff as that expressed in the enclosure of your letter now acknowledged His Lordship has anticipated the Instructions of your Hon'ble Committee by conveying his sentiments upon the subject in question to that officer through the Hon'ble the Governor in Council of Bombay.

I have the honour to be

Signed

S. Hennell

Resident in the PG

Residency in the PG

Karrack 9th September 1839

True Copy

Signed

S. Hennell

Resident in the PG.

(2019)

Secret Department

To

The Hon'ble Secret Committee of the Hon'ble the Court of Directors of the East India company

London

Honourable Sirs

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 11th July enclosing an extract of a letter addressed by your Hon'ble committee to the Governor General of India in Council on the Subject of the affairs of Bushire and Bahrain.

2. With reference to the second para of the enclosure above alluded to regarding the hostile relations existing between Esa bin Tareef and his former Superior Shaikh Abdoollah bin Ahmed of Bahrein, your Hon'ble committee will learn with satisfaction that I have reason to believe a correspondence is now carrying on between these two chiefs having for its object and adjustment of their respective differences and the return of the Ali Ally to their allegiance by settling either at Bedda or Nukirah, places on the Guttur Coast of this Gulf and dependencies of Bahrein. Esa bin Tareef has already informed me of his readings to remove from Aboothabee and take up his residence in the Uttoobee Territories provided the property taken from him by the Al-e-Khuleefa be returned. The Bahrein Shaikh been at the present time involved in a very serious quarrels with his own sons and nephews, has not only threatened but actually commenced preparations to expel them from the Island by force. The hope therefore of strengthening himself by the return of a brave and numerous tribe, like that of the Al-e-Ally may induce him to make overtures to Esa bin Tareef of a more favorable nature than his excessive pride would perhaps otherwise admit of. I am very anxious a reconciliation should take place, if possible, without our interference, and am not without hopes that a mutual sense of self-interest may effect what all our endeavours have hitherto failed to do.

3. Touching the re-establishment of the British Residency at Bushire as adverted to in the third paragraph of your letter, I beg to state that, subsequently to the mission of Houssein Khan Sardar, no application has been received from the Persian authorities on this subject. Your Hon'ble

(2020)

Committee has already been made aware of the removal of Mirza Assadoollah the offending Governor of Bushire from his situation and had it not been for the unexpected events which have taken place in Shiraz, I believe it was the intention of the authorities of Fars to make overtures for the return of the Residency to Bushire, but in the present disorganized state of affairs it is improbable that any further steps for the attainment of this object will be taken, at least for sometime under any circumstances, I shall of course await the instructions of the Government of India or Her Majesty's Charge d' affaires at court of Persia, before resuming my former position at Bushire

4. It affords me much gratification to find that my humble efforts upto the 4th May to carry into effect the views of the government in regard to the advance of Egyptian Forces in this direction have been honoured by the approval of your Hon'ble Committee and I sincerely trust that the steps I have subsequently taken may be equally fortunate in meeting your sanction.

I have the honour to be etc.

Signed

S. Hennell

Resident

Residency in the PG

Karrack 7th September

True Copy

Signed

S. Hennell

Resident in the PG.

(2021)

Secret Department

The Hon'ble the Secret Committee of the Hon'ble the court of directors of
the East India Company London

Honourable Sirs,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt on the 2nd instant of your
secret letter under date the 2nd July, transmitting for my information and
guidance a copy of a letter addressed to the Governor General of India in
council and calling my particular attention to the injunctions therein made,
in regard to the observance of strict secrecy in respect to confidential
communications.

2. In respectfully assuring your Hon'ble Committee that so great a breach
of confidence as of transmitting copies of official correspondence to
private friends in land has never been committed by me since I have
had the honor of serving the Govt. in my present situation I need not
add, that the injunctions of your Hon'ble Committee contained in the
enclosure of your letter now acknowledged will be strictly attended to.

I have the honour to be etc.

Signed

S. Hennell

Resident

Residency in the PG

Karrack 7th September

True Copy

Signed

S. Hennell

Resident in the PG.

(2022)

Secret Department

To

The Hon'ble The Secret Committee

London

Honourable Sirs,

On the 2nd instant I had the honour to receive by the overland mail via Baghdad, your two letters of the 1st and 5th July on the subject of the proceedings of Mahomed Ali in respect to Bahrein and the shores of the PG, and also conveying the approval of your Hon'ble Committee of the removal of the Residency from Bushire to Karrack under the circumstances which led to that event, as connected with the insulting conduct of the Persian Governor towards Rear Admiral Sir Frederick Maitland.

I have the honour to be etc.

Signed

S. Hennell

Resident in the PG

Residency in the PG

Karrack 6th September

True Copy

Signed

S. Hennell

Resident in the PG.

2028

(2023)

Secret Department

To the Hon'ble the Secret Committee

London

Honourable Sirs,

I have the honour to report for your information, that subsequently to the date of my last letter of the 12th ultimo to your Hon'ble committee on the subject of the state of affairs in the court of Persia Mirza Mohammed Houssein the Governor of Bushire, has been forcibly deposed from his office, and compelled to take refuge in the Cazees House at the risk of his life¹ by Shaikh Houssein who has assumed the chief authority in that port himself. The current belief is, that this individual, will attempt to resist the entrance of Shaikh Nasir (his nephew) in the event of the latter been appointed to the Govt. of Bushire by the Shah.

2. The State of Persia would appear to be daily becoming more disturbed. The expected collision between the Prince of Shiraz and the citizens of that town has taken place and blood been shed. According to the last accounts from the news writer, the portion of the town called the "Naruug Killa" was held by the Prince with the Shiraz while the remainder of the city was in the possession of the town's people, both sides being as it were in a state of siege. It is generally reported that the shah has superseded the present region of Fars by the Wulee Ahad or Heir Apparent, who is to govern that province under the ministry of Khosroo Khan, a relative of the Muutamid oo Doulut and formerly Governor of Isfehan.
3. My last letters from Bushire and Shiraz inform me that the Citizens of Cazeeroon, Koom and Cashan have expelled their respective governors. The letter it is asserted in consequence of the secret instigations of Mirza Agacy the Prime Minister.
4. Since the date of my letter to your Hon'ble Committee of the 12th August, four European soldiers of the Field Force stationed on Karrack have died. The cholera has, I regret to add, made its appearance among the native inhabitants of the town and carried off about 38 individuals. Only one casualty from this disease has yet taken place among the

¹ The brother of late Shaikh Abdool Russool and uncle of Shaikh Nasir the hereditary governor of Bushire.

(2024)

5. Sepoys in Camp, and as its violence has considerably abated I trust that it will disappear without occasioning any greater immortality.

I have the honour to be etc.

Signed

S. Hennell

Resident in the PG

Residency in the PG

Karrack 2nd September

True Copy

Signed

S. Hennell

Resident in the PG.

(2025)

Secret Department

To

The Hon'ble the Secret Committee

London

Honourable Sirs

In my letter to you of the 12th ultimo I had the honour to report the receipt of intelligence from Bahrein of the departure of Saeed bin Mootluk from the Coast of Oman. Since that date I have received communications from the native agent at Shargah, upon the same subject, with the additional information that the Egyptian Agent on his voyage to Ajeir, landed on the Persian island of Kinn and plundered the unfortunate inhabitants of 400 sheep besides other property, this gross and unprovoked aggression upon the subject of a friendly power I shall take an early opportunity to bring to the notice of Colonel Kemball Her Majesty's Agent and Consul General in Egypt, for the information of Mohammed Ally. Considerable apprehensions appear to be entertained by the inhabitants of Shargah and Rasel Khymah lest Saeed bin Mootluk should be sent back at the head of a large force by Khorshid Pasha in which case they dread becoming the sufferers in a collision between the Govt. of Great Britain and Egypt. From the terror however of a letter from the Egyptian Commander which was delivered to me by his messenger Abdool Lateef on the 27th Instant I do not think the Pasha will carry on any overt operations in that directory until the receipt of definite instructions from Mohamed Ally. I take the present opportunity of enclosing a translation of the Pasha's letter together with a copy of my reply thereto, which I trust will meet the approval from your Hon'ble Committee.

2. According to the latest accounts Khorshid Pasha was at His Head Quarters of Shurmidah I learnt from Abdool Lateef that he was preparing to move with all his disposable force, against the Oojman, a powerful tribe, occupying the desert between Lahsak and Koweit, whether this movement covers any secret designs upon the latter port or Bussorah, remains to be seen. I was further informed by the Individual above alluded to, that the appointment of Ameer Khaled to

(2026)

The govt. of Nedjd, was a mere form, as there was no intention of withdrawing the Egyptian Forces from Central Arabia, where the supreme authority would always be retained in the hands of one Mohamed Ally's own officers.

3. Sheikh Khuleefa bin Shakboot, the Chief of Aboothabee, has I regret to state, been committing a series of unprovoked aggressions upon the Naeem tribe, indirect violation of the promises and pledges both written, and verbal, which he gave me on the occasion of my interview with him on the 4th July last, and as I have good grounds for believing, in pursuance of a secret understanding come to with Saeed bin Mootluk, previous to his departure from the Coast of Oman, by which the Beniwas Chief engaged to harass Brymee until the return of the former, with reinforcements from Khorshid I have suggested to the authorities in India, the expediency of taking severe notice of this treacherous and faithless proceeding of Shaikh Khuleefa.
4. I am happy to be able to add that the Truce established by sea, has been observed by all the contracting parties without the slightest interruption, and that owing to this, cause, and the favorable weather experienced, the present is likely to prove one of the most successful seasons for pearls which has been known for many years.

I have the honour to be etc.

Signed

S. Hennell

Resident in the PG

Residency in the PG

Karrack 2nd September

True Copy

Signed

S. Hennell

Resident in the PG.

2032

(2027)

To

S. R. Reid Esquire

Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay

Sir,

I am directed to request that you will submit to the Hon'ble the Governor in Council, the accompanying communications¹ from the Hon'ble the Secret Committee upon the positions in which Lieut. Colonel Sheriff ought to stand in regards to the Resident in the PG, and committing upon the differences which have taken place between these two Officers, in which the conduct of Lieut. Colonel Sheriff has appeared to the Committee as it appeared to the Governor General, to be open to strong observations.

2. It seems that the Hon'ble Authorities have further seen reasonable to doubt the propriety of leaving an officer in command at Karrack, whose mistaken views as to the extent of his authority have already induced a degree of collisions between him and the political officers resident there. The recurrence of which might under contingencies, prove especially detrimental to the interest of the public service.
3. His Lordship would gladly indulge the hope that Lieut. Colonel Sheriff has become conscious of his positions in regards to the Resident and that a cordial understanding subsists as present. Hon'ble the Governor in Council should have any reasons to doubt the Return of this God felling, His Lordship would beg him to take an early opportunity of relieving Lieut. Colonel Sheriff from the commands of the Troops at Karrack in the manner which may be least painful to that officers and most convenient to the public service.

Simla, The 23rd September 1839.

A True Copy

Maddock

I have the honour to be

Signed

H. Maddock

Officer Secretary to the Govt. of India

With the Governor General

Officer Secretary to the Govt. of India

With the Governor General.

¹ Dated 11th July 1839

(2028)

Translated Extract of Letter from M. M. A. Malcolm an Armenian Merchant at Bushire to the Resident in the Persian Gulf, dated 27th August 1839.

A Cossid has arrived this day from Shiraz, with information that on the 3rd September the eldest son of the King, who has the title of "Wullee Ahud" or Heir Apparent, was to arrive at Shiraz, and assume the functions of Firman Firms of Fars. His Royal Highness is accompanied by Mirza Thaghy the Kuwamoo Dowla as Wuzeer and the Eel Khan - Mirza Mahomed Ally Khan is to be deputy Wuzeer. Accordingly, His Royal Highness Fereedoon Mirza having by the order of the King been deposed from His authority in the Government of Fars, has left Shiraz, and taken his quarters in the Garden of Hafiz, about a Farsak from that Town.

It is further reported that Mirza Ahmed Khan, who was in Abadan (a place about 6 stages distant from Isfehan) was by the orders of the Mauatmad apprehended by the brother of Eel Khan, and sent to Isfehan - It is further said, that the Mauatumed having heard that to Bales of Cashmeer Shawls and 20,000 Tomans belonging to Mirza Ahmed Khan were in charge of a merchant, has taken possession of them, and sent the whole to the King.

True Translation

Signed Peter Stephen

True Copy

Signed S. Hennell

Resident in the PG.

(2029)

Copy

Erzeroom 24th July, 1839

No. 56

My Lord,

I have the honour to transmit for your Lordship's information copies of the letters addressed by me to Meerza Massood, Persian Minister for Foreign Affairs, in answer to the letters received from him in which the Persian Government declines to give satisfaction for the forcible occupation of Major Todd's house, and the ill-treatment of the Residency Banker of Bushire.

I have the honour to be Sir

Signed Justin Sheil

To the Right Honourable

The Lord Viset Pahuerstow

(2030)

No. 79

To

S. R. Reid Esquire

Acting Chief Secretary to Govt. Bombay

Sir,

With reference to my letter No. 75 in this Department dated the 26th instant, I have now the honour to forward for the information of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council the accompanying translation of a communication from Mirza Raza our new writer in Shiraz reporting the state of affairs in that Quarter.

I have the honour to be Sir

Signed

S. Hennell

Resident in the PG

Residency in the PG

Karrack 31st August 1839

Translation of a letter from Mirza Rex news writer at Shiraz dated 8th Jamadee-ool-Sanee on 8th August Agreeably.

(2031)

No. 1013

From Captain A. B. Kemball

Resident in the PG

To

William Taylor

H. Royal Highness Charge d' Affaires at the Court of Persia, Teheran

On board of U. C. S. Clive

Bassidore Roads 2nd October 1834

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose for your confirmation copies and translations of two communications I received simultaneously on the 26th ultimo from His Highness the Imam of Muscat, on the subject of the affairs of Bunder Abbas bring the our a reply to my letter to his addresses referred to in my Despatch No. 5 of 6th ultimo, the other to that of which you were advised in my previous Despatch No. 255 of 26th July last.

You will observe that His Highness in somewhat emphatic terms has declined to adopt the suggestion made to him to depute an Agent to Teheran for the purpose of negotiating an arrangement of his differences with the Persian Government though he professes willingness to accept your mediation so far as it may be available to restore matters to their former footing without any increase of rent or tribute, would seem to rely with greater confidence upon the sufficiency of his grievances. He states his conviction in short that the Persians must be the principal sufferers from a continuance of the control and as if to wash his determination to try the fortune of arms rather than listen to any other terms of accommodation both overlooks my proposal to wait upon him at Muscat in order to discuss the subject and makes his visit to Kishm dependent upon the necessity which may arise of repelling aggressions upon the disputed territory.

The discouraging tour of the communications would not have deterred me however from trying the effect of personal persuasion upon H. H. had not the apprehended march of a considerable body of troops from Shiraz upon the Bunder Abbas of which intelligence has

(2032)

been lately received convinced me as well of the irrepediency as of the futility at present at further interference and accordingly you will I trust approve of my abstaining from pressing the question more seriously upon the Imam with the result of the movement is known as until it should appear that the Persian Government is willing to suspend offensive operations. In the meantime you are probably aware that all intercourse has by no means ceased between the belligerent parties but continues to be maintained in an indirect manner through Hajee Abdool Mahomed the Mulikoot teyjar of Bushire.

It is satisfactory to observe that in neither of his letters does His Highness the Imam again refer to the proposed blockade of Bushire though should his forces be compelled to give way before the Persians at Bunder Abbas it is to be feared that he will revert to this measure and insist upon his right to carry it into execution.

I have the honour to be

Signed

A. B. Kemball

Resident PG

True Copy

Signed

A. B. Kemball

Resident in the PG.

(2033)

Persian Department

Substance of a letter from His Highness the Imam of Muscat to the Honourable the Governor, dated 25th Rubuool uval (8th June) and received 28th June 1839

Before this we sent your Honour a letter in charge of Captain Cogan.

We now inform your Honour of what we have heard. An army from Mohammad Ali Pacha has appeared in the Arab country. We understand that he intends to demand some thing from us¹, or some assistance.

We therefore ask your advice whether we should accord to his proposals or decline acceding thereto, for your Honour is aware of the affairs of the Turks. We beg your Honour will let us know what course you may deem proper for us.

Signed/ W.S. Boyd
Acting Secretary

True Copy

Secretary to Govt.

¹. This probably implies Tribute

(2034)

No. 609

Duplicate
Bombay Castle
22nd March

1839

Secret Department.

Sir,

With reference to my letter dated the 21st Ultimo, I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you for the purpose of submission to the Right Honourable the Governor General of India, copy of a letter from the Honourable the Secret Committee dated the 21st January last, forwarding copy of a further instruction which has been addressed by the Right Honourable Lord Viscount to Her Majesty's agent and Consul General in Egypt relative to the progress of the Egyptian Troops in the direction of the Persian Gulf.

Copy of the above dispatch has been forwarded to the Resident at Bushire.

I have the honour to be Sir,
Your most obedient servant
Sd. Secretary to Govt.

To,

The Secretary with the Right Honourable The Governor General of India

(2035)

No. 1655

Bombay Castle

13th November 1839

Secret Department

Sir,

I am directed by the Hon'ble the Governor in Council to transmit to you for the purpose of being laid before the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India, copies of the despatches noted in the margin¹, received this morning from the Resident in the PG by the merchant ship "Sir Herbert Compton"

2. Any remarks which may occur to this Govt. on the several points adverted to in these despatches will be hereafter communicated for the information of His Lordship.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

Assistant Chief Secretary

...cary with the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India.
Camp.

¹ Secret Department dated 17th October 1839 No. 102,
18th October 1839 No. 105,
20th October 1839 No. 106
Political Department dated 18th October 1839 No. 98,
18th October 1839 NO. 99,
24th October 1839 No. 100

(2036)

Duplicate

No. 1107

Bombay Castle

20th July 1839

Secret Department

Sir,

I am directed to transmit to you for the purpose of submission to the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India, translation of a letter from His Highness the Imam of Muscat, to the address of the Hon'ble the Governor, dated 8th ultimo, stating that he has received information that an Army from Mahomed Ali Pacha has appeared the Arab Country and that it is his intention to demand some assistance from His Highness and requesting advise, as to the course, which he should adopt, should such an application be made to him.

To,

The Secretary with the Right Hon'ble

The Governor General of India

Simla

2. It has appeared highly expedient to the Hon'ble the Governor in council, that no delay should take place in replying to His Highness' letter - advising him to resist the Pacha's demands to the utmost, and to do all in his power to preserve the integrity and independence of his Dominions but no hopes been held out to His Highness, of any assistance being afforded to him by the British Government.
3. His communication to His Highness, will it is hoped, be approved by the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India and be considered in accordance with the spirit of the

(2037)

instructions contained in the despatch addressed to His Lordship by the Hon'ble the Secret Committee on the 11th May last, to resist the designs of Mahomed Ali, in the PG, and in Arabia.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your Most Obedient Servant
Secretary to Govt.

2043

(2038)

Secret

To,

The Right Honourable

The Governor General in Council at Bombay

In reference to our letter¹ of the 3rd ultimo, we transmit to you for your information and guidance, copy of a further instruction which has been addressed by Viscount Palmerston to Her Majesty's Agent and Consul General in Egypt relative progress of the Egyptian Troops in the direction of the PG.

East India House

London

21st January 1839.

We are

Signed I. L. Lushington

R. Jerkins

¹ 15th January (No. 1) 1839

(2039)

No. 1.

Colonel Campbell

Sir,

With reference to my despatch No. 30 of the 29th November directing you to ask Mohamed Ali whether the rumours which had reached Her Majesty's Government of a movement of Egyptian Troops across the Peninsula of Arabia, were well founded, I enclose for your information a copy of a Despatch¹ from the Resident of the East India Company at Baghdad, containing some further particulars on that subject, by which it appears that even if Egyptian Troops have not actually appeared on the shores of the PG, the Districts of Lahsa and Kuteef on that Gulf have been occupied by Arab Tribes in communication with the Commander of the Egyptian Forces in the Nedjd, and that the Egyptian Commander has moreover addressed a requisition for supplies to the Chief of a District near the mouth of the Euphrates dependent on Bussorah.

I have to instruct you to ask Mohamed Ali for information and explanation as to the proceedings.

Foreign Office

15th January 1839

I am

Signed Palmerston

True Copies

Secretary to Govt.

¹ 11 November (No. 36) 1838

(2040)

No. 15 of 1839

Political Department

To,

I N Willoughby Esquire

Secretary to the Government

Bombay

Sir,

Adverting to my letter No. 12 in this Department under date the 5th instant, reporting the preparations making by Shaikh Sultan bin Suggur for a Aaval Expedition against the Shahaheen Tribe, it is with satisfaction that I have now the honor to forward, for the information of the Honourable the Governor in Council, the accompanying translation of a communication form the British Agent at Shargah, intimating that alarmed at the recent successes of the Egyptian Forces in Nedjd, the Joasmee Chief has abandoned his hostile intentions against the Shahaheen, having concluded an amicable and I trust permanent arrangement with that Tribe.

Residency in the PG

Bushire 12th July 1839

I have the honor to be

Signed S. Hennell

Resident in the PG

(2041)

Translation of a letter from Moollah Hussain Agent at Sharjah, to the Resident in the PG dated 27th Shawal A. H. 1245 or 14th January 1839 --

Shaikh Sooltan bin Suggur has abandoned his expedition against the Shahaheen, and he and all others intend remaining at their homes in consequence of the intelligence just received from Bahrein of Khorshid Pacha and Khaled bin Saud having subdued Nejd and captured Ameer Fysul bin Toorkee, and sent him to Egypt. The Chiefs of Nejd who were partisans of Fysul are completely dispersed and Bin Ufeezean after having been defeated retired on Ladesah from which place he wrote to Shaikh Abdoollah bin Ahmed and the sons of Khuleefa bin Sulman asking for advice to enable him to escape from Khaled and the Egyptian troops. When the people of this country learnt that the authority of Khaled and the Egyptians was firmly established and paramount in Nejd, they become anxious and perplexed and feared that the next step would be to send a force against Brymee, they have a great disinclination to becoming subject to Egypt. Shaikh Sooltan bin Suggur after sitting in Council with the elders of the tribe determined to abandon the design of making war on the Shahaheen, to enter into negotiations with them, and to send an Envoy to make an amicable arrangement - Mahomed bin Suleyman was sent on this mission and on his arrival amongst them quickly concluded a peaceable arrangement as both parties were averse to war. Lastan Bin Suggur agrees to restore their country to them and they are to make him some honorary presents. After Sooltan of Debayee who came to Rassel Khymah with about twenty followers and thence proceeded on a friendly mission to

(2042)

the Shahaheen, who in return despatched a friendly mission to Shaikh Sooltan bin Suggur.

On this occasion Shaikh Sooltan bin Suggur and Mukhtoom consulted on the approaching war between the Al Ali and Bahrein - they are both of them desirous of aiding Bahrein but require that the Shaikh shall first of all agree to reimburse them for all expenses that may be incurred by so doing. As yet they have sent no communication to Bahrein, but Shaikh Sooltan intends, after hearing what is going on at that place, to send Mukhtoom thither he (Mukhtoom) has returned to Debayee and three of his vessels are being prepared to set out to Bahrein about the end of the month of Shawal, about which time Sooltan bin Suggur intends coming to Sharjah and collecting his forces to observe the movements of the Egyptian army.

Sooltan bin Suggur has at length allowed the vessels to proceed to Barbera and Sowahil, which he formerly objected to, and this is in consequence of their owners having given him some presents - Twelve vessels of Amulgavine, Sharjah, Rasul Khymah and Ejmaun are employed in trading to Barbera and Sowahil.

After Hajee Bushab returned from visiting you the Bahrein Shaikh forced their people to send any of their vessels to sea and desired them to prepare for going to war with the Al bin Ali and Beniyas - The inferior Shaikh the sons of Khuleefa bin Sulman and his own sons, went to Shaikh Abdoollah bin Ahmed at Khore Hussein to see what was to be decided on with regard to preparing for war. Since the news from Nejd arrived they have been thinking of other things.

Esa bin Tareef went to Muscat, and returned from thence to Kishm where he purchased the large Beniyas Bugla from Shaikh Abdool Rahman and intends taking her to Muscat to be fitted out.

(2043)

It is reported that a Buggara belonging to Esa bin Tareef returning from Muscat with arms on board was caught in a storm and wrecked near Rums.

No one has lately come from Aboothabee to this place but I have heard from Debayee that there has arisen some misunderstanding between Shaikh Khuleefa bin Shakboot (Chief of the Beniyas) and his brother Sooltan bin Shakboot. Shaikh Khuleefa did intend to send his father to Bahrein but now it is not known what will be done.

True Translation

Signed T. Edmund

Assistant Resident

True Copy

Signed S. Hennell

Resident in the PG

(2044)

Translated Extract of a letter from Moollah Hussein Agent at Shargah to the Resident in the PG dated 12th Shawal A. H. 1254 or 30th December 1838.

There is now a misunderstanding between Sooltan bin Suggur and the Shahaheen tribe, the former determined some time ago to send down armed vessels to establish his authority amongst the Shahaheen, but afterwards abandoned the idea on account of its being the month of Ramazan - Many people were desirous of bringing about a peaceable arrangement but the Almighty willed to otherwise. Subsequently, to the above the Shahaheen demanded from Sooltan bin Suggur the restoration of the property which he has seize from them to this Shaikh Sooltan would not agree but on the country committed new aggressions by land. The Shahaheen are very strong by land and are continually making inroads in the direction of Dibha carrying off cattle, sheep etc. - Sooltan bin Suggur assembled his forces with all the people of Dibha and its neighbourhood in order to destroy the date groves and of the Shahaheen who as well as the Kusub and Kumzar people and also those who frequent the sea, were unwilling to lose their dates, they assembled together and took an oath of unanimity and mutual protection, and about the end of Ramazan, they sent six of their boats to Muscat and the Batinah, for the purpose of procuring rice and dates. When Sooltan bin Suggur heard of this on the 4th of Shawal, he sent to his on Suggur and to his brother Saleh desiring them to despatch twelve vessels to Rasul Khymah, which are accordingly to be sent Sultan bin Suggur intends sending twenty vessels - Buggaras and Bateels - to sea half of them to be sent to intercept the boats of the Shahaheen which have been gone to Muscat, and the remainder to cruise off their coast - When I heard of this I remonstrated with Sooltan bin Suggur

(2045)

telling him that to undertake such enterprises by sea was contrary to rule and illegal, but he would not listen to my advice nor to that of several of his wisest advisers who fear that he may call down upon himself punishment from the English Government. As these vessels were leaving Shargah it so happened that, a storm arose which prevented their leaving the creek, they have therefore delayed their departure with the weather cleared up Saleh bin Suggur by no means approves of these doings but he is possessed of no power. Sooltan bin Suggur made a requisition on Shaikh Mukhtoom of Debayee for two Buggaras for the expedition, but he excused himself saying that his people were Bedouins and were not accustomed to go to sea during the winter season.

True Translation

Signed T. Edmund

Assistant Resident

True Extract

Signed S. Hennell

Resident in the PG

(2046)

No. 10 of 1839

Secret Department

To

I T Willoughby Esquire

Secretary to Government

Bombay

Sir,

Accompanying, I have the honor to forward for the information of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council, a copy of a report made by me to the Hon'ble the Secret Committee of the Hon'ble the court of Directors, upon the subject of the late successes of the Egyptian Army in Nedjd.

Residency in the PG

Bushire

25th January 1839

I have the honour to be

Signed S. Hennell

Resident in the PG

Secret Department

To,

The Hon'ble the Secret Committee the Hon'ble the Court of Directors of the East India Company

London

Hon'ble Sirs,

Although I had the honor of addressing your Hon'ble Committee so lately as the 11th Instant, I have considered it my duty to lose no time in reporting the receipt of authentic intelligence from Nedjd via Bahrein of the success of the combined Forces of Khorshid Pasha, and Ameer Khaled engaged in the siege of Dillum, Ameer Fysul the Wahabee Chief, having given up that place, and surrendered himself a prisoner, about the end of December last. The capture of Dillum was immediately followed by the submission of Lahsa and Kuteef. It further appears that a special messenger has been sent by the Pasha,

(2047)

with letters desiring the attendance of one of his sons at Lahsa and likewise calling upon him for the payment of the same amount of Tribute, as that formerly received from the Uttoobee Sheikh by Ameer Toorkee the late Father of Ameer Fysul as head of the Wahabee Sect. Whether these requisitions will be complied with, is at present uncertain. I am inclined however to doubt if even submission to the authority, of the ruler of Egypt will save the Chief of Bahrein, the Imam of Muscat has for a long period coveted that Island, and having failed in several attempts to obtain his wish by means of his resources, His Highness, as I have been misinformed, and made overtures about three years ago to Mohamed Ally Pasha, offering to pay a considerable sum annually if put in possession of the place in question. His proposition I have understood was favorably received by the Pasha, and it would not therefore cause me any surprise, if H. H. the Imam were by the offer of his Fleet, to obviate the greater obstacle which at present exists to the invasion of Bahrein by the Egyptian Forces. It is asserted, but I am not aware with what degree of truth, that the Chief of Bahrein has applied to the Persian Government for permission to place himself and his Island, under its protection, in the event of any expedition against his territory being contemplated from Nedjd.

In the 6th paragraph of my report to your Hon'ble Committee stated the 11th instant, I intimated that I had brought the unfriendly conduct of the local authorities to the notice of the Prince of Shiraz - In reply to this communication, I have been honoured by an unusually friendly and condescending letter from His Royal Highness, to the effect, that my representation should be attended and to, and the prohibition upon the transport of supplies and provisions from Bushire removed. Notwithstanding

(2048)

however, the conciliatory tone of this document, I have many reasons for doubting the sincerity of the intentions and the sentiments therein avowed by His Royal Highness, and even some grounds for thinking, that an expedition ostensibly destined for Bahrein, but in reality against, Karrack, is in agitation at present however my information upon this point is too scanty for me to do more than allude to it, but a short time will probably show whether the private hints given me touching such a scheme be well founded or otherwise, when I shall do myself the honour of making a more detailed report to your Hon'ble Committee on the subject.

Residency in the PG
Bushire
24th January 1839

I have the honor to be,
Signed S. Hennell
Resident in the PG

True Copy
Signed S. Hennell
Resident in the PG

(2049)

No. 65 of 1834
Bushire Residency
10th December 1834
Political Department
Sir,

It is with much satisfaction that I have the honour to enclose for the information¹ of the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council, a copy of a report from Captain Pepper of the Hon'ble Company's Sloop of War Amherst, detailing the particulars² of the measures pursued by him with the Vessels under his command when off Debayee and the full attainment of the objects of his mission to that Port without the necessity of having recourse to force.

2. The promptness and decision displayed by Captain Pepper in carrying his instructions into effect cannot fail to produce a most satisfactory impression upon the minds of the neighbouring maritime Tribes, and will I trust effectually check the predatory spirit previously displayed by the Inhabitants of Debayee.

I have the honour to be
Sir,
Your Most Obedient
Servant
Signed S. Hennell
Assistant in charge of the
Residency in the PG.

To Charles Norris Esquire
Chief Secretary to Government
Bombay

¹ Residency in the PG: Reporting the successful result of the measures against Debayee.

² Copy of a Report from Captain Pepper forwarded.

(2050)

No. 1634

Bombay Castle

3rd September 1836

Political Department

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council to transmit to you for the information of the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India Council, the accompanying copy of a letter from the acting Resident in the PG, dated the 1st June last, and of its enclosure - reporting the conclusion of a Peace between the Shaikh of Bahrein and the Wahabee Chief.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

Signed

Secretary to Government

To The Secretary to the Government of India
Fort William

(2051)
NO. 39 of 1836

Political Department

I P Willoughby Esquire
Secretary to Government
Bombay
Sir,

I have the honour to enclose for the information of the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council the accompanying translation of a letter from the Agent at Bahrein, reporting the conclusion of a peace between Shaikh Abdoollah bin Ahmed, Chief of Bahrein, and Shaikh Fysul, the Head of the Wahabee sect.

This peace similar in character to those usually concluded between the Arab tribes, will not of course last an instant longer than suits the conveniences of either one or other of the parties. But I am inclined to think that Shaikh Abdoollah would never have consented to acknowledge the supremacy of the Wahabees by paying tribute, had he not been alarmed by a revival of the claims of Persia upon Bahrein, in consequence of a communication having been addressed to him by the Mootameed-oo-Dawla of Shiraz, calling upon him as a Persian subject to send in his submission to the reigning Shah, although under present circumstances he has nothing immediate to apprehend, yet the determination and severity displayed by the Mooatamed in the administration of Fars, so opposed to the imbecility of the late Government, induces the Arab Chief to think that he has more reason to be alarmed at the tone now held towards him by the Shiraz authorities than he had formerly - Influenced therefore by these considerations, and the possible contingency of His Highness the Imam cooperating with the Persian Govt. in an attack upon Bahrein, Shaikh Abdoollah has taken the only means

(2052)

in his power of meeting such an event, by submitting to the Wahabee Chief, and thus engaging his assistance and support in case of an invasion.

Residency in the PG
Bushire
1 June 1836

I have the honour to be Sir
Signed S. Hennell
Agent and Acting Resident in the PG

Translation of a letter from the Agent at Bahrein, to Captain S. Hennell, assistant and acting Resident in the PG dated 19th Moharram or 6th May 1836.

I have the honour to report that few days after your departure from Bahrein, an Agent of Shaikh Fysul, the Wahabee Chief, arrived here having the letters from his master for Shaikh Abdollah bin Ahmed, there is every reason to believe that the latter has made peace with the Head of the Wahabee sect, having consented to pay him 2000 crowns - In the Course of a short time one of the Uttoobee chiefs sons, will proceed to Riaz with the view of offering the Fort of Tirhoot as a present to Shaikh Fysul, in acknowledgement of the kindness displayed towards them in the affair with the Esa bin Tareef. The conditions of peace appear to be, in the first place, that in the event of the Wahabee Chief proposing to attack Muscat, Shaikh Abdollah shall not be called upon to assist him in the enterprise in the second, that should the Imam of Muscat attack Bahrein the Wahabees shall furnish a contingent of Troops to assist in repelling the invaders - The Uttoobee has concluded this peace

(2053)

solely through his apprehensions of an invasion from Persia, which has induced him to make up his quarrel as far as possible with the Arabs on the mainland. The communication with Ajeer and Kuteef is now quite uninterrupted.

True Translation

Signed S. Hennell

Assistant and Acting Resident in the PG

True Copies.

(2054)
Duplicate
No. 673 of 1839

Bombay Castle
1st April, 1839

Secret Department
Sir,

With reference to my letter dated the 5th December last
No. 577. In which I directed you, to the Hon'ble the Governor in Council
in the PG dated the 22nd February last No. 13, and the 2nd ultimo
No. 15 the former submitting his opinion on the expediency or
otherwise of the Island of Bahrein being placed under British
protection and the latter containing a general report upon that
Island and on its resources, together with copy of the reply
returned thereto.

2. In a further letter from the Resident dated the 2nd ultimo No.
14 that officer forwards translation of a letter to his address
from His Excellency Khorshid Pasha, the commander of
Egyptian Forces in Nedjd, intimating his intention of taking
possession of the Island of Bahrein by Force, and explaining
his reasons for so doing, and of the reply returned by Captain
Hennell to that communication.

To
The Secretary with the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of
India

(2055)

3. In forwarding copy of the instructions this day issued to Captain Hennell on the subject for the information of the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India, I am desired to state that it does not appear to the Governor in Council that any more decisive orders can be given until this Government is favored, with the sentiments of His Lordship connected therewith.
4. In a letter dated the 1st ultimo No. 17 Captain Hennell forwards translation of a Ruckhum to this address from His Royal Highness the Prince of Fars, which the Resident states he entertains no doubt has been sent preliminary to a request for the aid of our vessels of War in the projected expedition against Bahrein therein alluded to.
5. With a further letter from Captain Hennell dated the 2nd ultimo No. 19 that officer forwards translation of a letter from the news-writer at Shiraz, dated the 19th February last, conveying that latest intelligence of the state of affairs in that quarter.
6. With reference to the 3rd para of my letter dated the 28th ultimo No. 644, I am directed to transmit for the information of His Lordship copy of the reply received from Captain Smith, in charge of Her Majesty's ships "Volage" and "Cruizer" to my communication of the same date placing the latter vessel at the disposal of this Government for the purpose of proceeding with despatches to the Gulf, and to state that the Cruizer will leave Bombay for that quarter this evening.

(2056)

7. The early sentiments of the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India are solicited on the proceedings now submitted on the receipt of which it is proposed by this Government to request Captain Smith to proceed with the Volage under his Command to the Gulf should such an arrangement be approved by His Lordship and no more important service arise in the interim for that vessel.

I have the honour to be,

Sir

Your most obedient servant

I P Willoughby

Secretary to Government

(2057)

No. 81

Political Department

To,

L. R. Reid Esquire

Acting Chief Secretary to the Government

Bombay

Sir,

I have the honour to report, for the information of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council, that Shaikh Saleh bin Suggur, the Brother of the Joasmee Chief, having severely wounded himself in the hand, by the accidental discharge of a pistol, while at Shargah, left that place and arrived at this Island on the 16th June (accompanied by his nephew Shaikh Majid bin Sultan) for the purpose of seeking surgical assistance.

2. The care and skill of Mackenzie, the Civil surgeon of this Residency, have and I am happy to say, saved the Shaikh his hands and probably his life.

3. Having made the requisite preparations for his return to Shargah, Shaikh Saleh this day paid his farewell visit. He was, as usual, profuse in his declarations of attachment to the British, and his desire to be guided, in all his proceedings entirely by their views. These professions however, like those of all his countrymen, can only be depended upon so long as his fears and interest combine to make him adhere to them, beyond this, not the least reliance can be placed on the promise of a Maritime Arab.

(2058)

4. I observed, from the conversation of the Shaikh, a strong disinclination to the establishment of an Agent on our part at Brymee, probably under the apprehension lest any intrigues, which his brother Shaikh Sultan may be carrying on in that quarter, should come to light, I omitted to mention in my former despatch, upon the affairs of Oman, that Mahomed bin Salonin, the individual selected for the situation of Agent by Moollah Houssein, had declined proceeding to Brymee, before he had seen me, he accordingly made his appearance at Karrack on the 31st Ultimo - As so much delay has intervened in the despatch of this person to his Post, I have considered it, upon the whole advisable, to detain him at this place, until I hear from India, how far the proposed arrangement may meet the approval of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council.

Residency in the PG
Karrack
6th September 1839

I have the honour to be
Signed S. Hennell
Resident in the PG.

(2058)

No. 592 of 1839

Bombay Castle

18 March 1839

Secret Department

Sir,

I am directed by the Hon'ble the Governor in Council to transmit to you for the purpose of submission to the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India, copies of the letters from the Resident in the PG with enclosures, dated the 25th January last and 11th ultimo the former transmitting copy of a despatch addressed by that officer to the Hon'ble the Court of Directors under the date the 24th January last on the subject of the late successes of the Egyptian Army in Nedjd and the latter forwarding translations of two letters from the Agent at Bahrein reporting upon the state of affairs in that quarter upto the 7th ultimo.

2. With reference to my letter dated the 25th ultimo No. 475 transmitting copy of a letter from Captain Hennell dated the 21st January last, reporting intelligence of the capture of Ameer Fysul by the troops of the Pacha of Egypt, and the complete establishment of His Highness's supremacy over the whole of Nedjd by the submission of Lahsa and Kuteef. I am directed to forward to you copy of a further letter from that officer dated the 29th January last submitting translation of a letter from Shaikh Sultan bin Suggur, Chief of the Joasmee tribes, requesting information as to whether those tribes may look to the British Government for support should their subjugation be contemplated by the Pacha of Egypt.

2

2058

(2059)

3. I am further desired to forward to you for submission to the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India copies of two further letters from the Resident in the PG dated the 5th and 12th ultimo, on the subject of a Naval Expedition which was being prepared by Shaikh Sultan bin Suggur against a tribe called the Shahaheen residing in Casaab, Coonza and Ras Mussendour, places situated in the Northern extremity of the Province of Oman, but which design the Shaikh has abandoned in consequence of his being alarmed at the recent successes of the Egyptian forces in Nedjd, and has concluded an amicable arrangement with that tribe.
4. In reply, Captain Hennell has been informed that he should lose no opportunity of encouraging the Chiefs of Arabia to unite and resist the encroachments of the Egyptian Forces.
5. Since the despatch of the above letters, the Resident in the PG will have received my communication dated the 21st ultimo forwarding copy of the despatch from the Hon'ble the Secret Committee dated the 3rd December last, regarding the reported intentions of Mahomed Ali to advance his troops to the shores of the PG and stating the objections of the Home authorities to such proceedings -- copy of this despatch was forwarded to you with my letter dated the 26th ultimo No. 489.

(2060)

6. In forwarding these communications, I am desired to state that the Governor in Council is desirous of being favored with the instructions of His Lordship in detail as to the line of Policy to be pursued by this Government in respect to the Egyptian forces and the measures which should be adopted to prevent their further encroachments.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed)

Secretary to Govt.

(2061)

Copy of a letter from Captain John Pepper Commanding the Hon'ble company's Sloop of war, Amherst to T. Elwon Esquire commodore of the Indian Navy in the PG -- Dated Bassadore Roads 25th November 1834.

Sir,

I have great pleasure to inform you of the return of the Ships of War Amherst and Elphinstone in these roads from the expeditions to Debaye and to report the services as detailed in your orders dated 19th November 1834 having been performed as follows:

On reaching the port of Debaye, an immediate compliance to the extracts of the Assistant Residents demands, was forthwith called for, at the responsibility of their Government to which hesitations and evasive replies were tried, quite untenable to the object of the expeditions that I found it necessary to resort to measures which offered in my opinion the best possible means of assuring the Chiefs as well as the Inhabitants of this port of the earnest determination to punish all designing perpetrators of piratical acts and give security to the more peaceful Arabs in these seas by detaining mine individuals subjects of this Chief all night on board this had the effect I anticipated so soon as the intelligence reached the shore and early in the morning I received two of his confidential subjects on board, after much discussion of the inability of the Chiefs as well as the acts alleged to have been done by his subjects having been perpetrated by others and many other unnecessary observations that I deemed it fit to put a stop to useless and

(2062)

inadmissible questions by assuring them that if the amount was not brought to me within twenty-four hours, I should hold them as enemies, and the two ships would be brought in for the purpose of annihilating them altogether, and I desired them to leave; after a little conversation they departed promising with Gods will that the amount should be forthcoming in the following morning they were punctual and brought on board Sahib Keroons (1450) equal to 406 Dollars, and Pearls valued to the amount of 520 Crowns but as I had no means of ascertaining their real value, beyond the opinion of the Agent to myself, and the reluctance with which they parted with them requesting that they might be received as a pledge for the amount 520 Crowns which sum should be paid into the British Residency in 8 Months this appearing to me not at all unreasonable I was induced to receive the pearls at that values.

On the subject of the surrender of the Crew of Moowajca's Boat and the person of Abdullah-bin-Cuddar, I am induced to believe if their persons were forthcoming (this part of the Assistant Resident's demands) would have instantly been complied with but the former they asserted were not in Debaye and the latter (a very unfavorable feeling prevails at this place) it appears he not only committed piracy on the high seas but absolutely has plundered at Debaye two camels and others property and walked off a letter on the subject of the above individuals to the address of the Assistant Resident (Captain Hennell) I have the pleasure to forward, whose name echoes with the respect they proclaim for it this forcible struck me.

(2063)

In the performance of the above duty I feel it incumbent on me to bring to your notice the attention I have received from Captain Sawyer throughout nor can I omit the services of this indefatigable and valuable servant of the Hon'ble Company (Moollah Hussain) Agent at Shargah, and the assistance I received from his being on board the Amherst on this important duty.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Signed
John Pepper, Captain

True Copy

Signed Thomas Elwon Commodore

True Copy

S. Hennell.

Assistant in Charge of the Residency in the PG.

(2064)
No. 344 of 1839

Bombay Castle 12th February 1839

Secret Department

Sir,

I am directed by the Hon'ble the Governor in Council to transmit to you for the purpose of being submitted to the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India, copy of a communication from the Acting Assistant Resident in charge of the Cutch Residency, dated the 31st ultimo, regarding certain arrangements made for the protection of that province, and of my reply thereto of this date.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant
Secretary to Govt.

To,

The Secretary with the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of
India.

Camp.

(2065)
No. 84 of 1839

Political Department

To,
L. R. Reid Esquire.
Acting Chief Secretary to Government
Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward for the information of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council the accompanying copy of a letter from Commodore Brucks, enclosing a report from Lieutenant Winn, the officer commanding the Hon'ble Company's Sloop of War Clive, of his proceedings on the Arabian coast.

2. The irregular conduct of Shaikh Khuleefa bin Shakboot with reference to the Beni Naim of Brymee has already been brought to the notice of the Government.
3. Regarding a Charrack vessel having captured a Boat belonging to the Bin Hamood, I beg to observe that the latter tribe resides at Towana on the Persian Coast, at no great distance from the former Town. The occurrence referred to by the Lieut. Winn arose from a feud, which has broken out between the Shaikhs of these two places. Hitherto, we have not interfered in these local disputes, among the maritime subjects of the Shah of Persia, further than by bringing them to the notice of the Shiraz Government, under existing circumstances however, and more particularly advertng to the present disorganized state of affairs in Fars, such a reference would be altogether useless -- at the same time these irregularities on the Persian Coast are exceedingly likely to extend themselves, and render unsafe the principal commercial truck of the trading vessels from

(2066)

India and the Southern Ports, it is therefore very desirable they should be repressed, and if the Persian Government possess neither the power nor inclination to do this it appears to me, that seeking only the general benefit of the community we should be justified in taking steps to put them down ourselves. It may perhaps be worthy of considerations whether any future engagements or Treaties which may be entered into with Persia, by Great Britain a Clause should not be inserted, giving us the right, to repress all proceedings of a piratical or predatory tendency which may take place on the Persian Coast of this Gulf. The advantages and protection which would be derived by the mercantile and trading interests of that country from such an arrangement would I should think, be so obvious, as to remove any objections which might otherwise be offered to it by the Court of Teheran.

I have the honour to be
Sir
Signed
S. Hennell
Resident in the PG.

Residency in the PG
Karrack 12th September 1939

(2067)

Translation of the extracts from a letter received from Teheran, latest date 11th Rabbeos Sannee or 21st June 1839.

On the 7th/17th June, letters which give the following intelligence arrived from the Asefood Dowleh (in Khorassan) that the English had positively taken Candahar, and that Candahar, and that Kohendil Khan and his brother Mehrdil Khan had fled to Cabool -- Sixty thousand tomans had arrived at Heart (from the English) for the poor and oppressed of that place. An Englishman by name Rawlinson, who was coming to Heart had written a letter while on the route to the Asef, "stating Ghorian belongs to Afghanistan and you must therefore evacuate it, and at all hazards it must be so"-- the Asef has likewise written as follows, that emissaries from the English Army are (already) in Khorassan, and that if it (the Army) comes nearer, people of rank and others will surely got to join the English, that he himself form fear of the people of Khorassan and likewise lest the Afghans and Hezarehs should come plundering that country, had retired with all his troops and artillery to Zoorbut Shaikh I am -- "Now (the Asef's letter continues) your Majesty best knows your own Government, I am on the brink of destruction, and whatever your Majesty intends to do, do it quickly" --.

This Government consulted the Russian Minister about sending an army to Khorassan, and Fars, he advised them to evacuate Ghorian, and he would be security that the English Army would not move beyond the Afghan territory, that there would be no harm in increasing their troops to keep down their own subjects. As yet nothing is determined, but, the Hajee is daily assuring Omar Khan (Son of Kohendil Khan) not to be afraid or uneasy as he will send thirty thousand men with artillery to assist his father.

(2068)

After the lying letters lately receive4d from Houssein Khan and Meerza Jaffer (Ambassador at the Porte) Lord Palmerston's communication arrived most opportunity, there is no mistaking its meaning -- there were letters too, from Houssein Khan.

They (the Persian Govt.) have not written a satisfactory answer (to Lord Palmerston's letter) Meerza Masood wrote the letter -- your friend here say that you have given up Persian entirely -- Why do they (the English) no ask for his the (Prime Minister's) dismissal? Is the expulsion of the Resident from Bushire considered of no importance. The Hajee sent dresses of honour and decorations to the people who were active on that occasion, and a thousand times daily the Hajee (Prime Minister) utters improper expressions respecting the Queen of England -- Besides all this one (of the Ministers) is mad, and the other is a creature of Russia -- were all present difficulties removed the Hajee (Meerza Aghasee) would never work kindly with any servant of the British Govt.

Information has just been received that English troops had landed at Bahrein, another letters states by invitation of the Chief of that island, and are guaranteed in the European For (an old Dutch Work).

Jamal Khan has just arrived from the Imam of Muscat, and brought one thousand muskets, as a present to the Shah -- The Khan has promised the Hajee to purchase4 ships of war for him -- The Khan wishes to be made Governor of Bushire. H e has likewise promised to purchase and send to Persia thirty thousand Muskets.

Information from Resht states that the Russians have increased their army at Mugushlak and that a Russian, Kerline, by name, in a merchant vessel with much goods, had been sent to trade in the desert of the Toorkomans, and that by

(2069)

means of giving things away to the Toorkomans, they should be brought to submit to Russia.

Sending Kumbur Ally Khan to Baghdad has been postponed -- he is not to go till autumn -- This Government now intends to send some one to Mohamed Ali Pasha as a mark of friendship and to say now that your army has approached near our territory and your ships have come to the Persian Gulf, give orders that your people do not disturb, or interfere with our shores and islands. They also intend to send fifty youths to Egypt for their education.

Monsieur Barasheem (supposed Borre) and some other French people, officers, physicians, and surgeons, have written to the Shah that they wish to come to Persia to introduce order into the affairs of Persia and to instruct the people -- The Shah has written in reply, that miners and setters of iron are, and ship builders chintz, and broad cloth makers -- iron smiths - military instructors, and also surgeons and manufacturers of medicine should come.

Two Azerbaijan Battalions have arrived at Sooltanich where they have been ordered to stop till the Shah arrives. The Shah intended to go to Shemeeran (near Teheran) for a few days, and from thence go to Sooltanich, but his old complaint (Govt.) attacked him and going to Shemeeran has been delayed.

A few days ago the arsenal was inspected, and one hundred and forty guns of which one hundred have men and horses, are ready -- no expenditure of any sort takes place except for the arsenal, no person receives pay.

(2070)

Meerza Masood is greatly disgusted with the Russians, and wishes to attack himself to you.

Meerza Alexander (Mr. Khoozko the Russian Consul in Geelan) is really Governor of Geelan, he gives offices, and takes them away at his pleasure.

Translated by

Signed

I P Reach.

(2071)
No. 13 of 1839

Secret Department

To,
I P Willoughby Esquire
Secretary to the Government
Bombay

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 517 C¹ in the Political Department, under date the 5th December 1838, requesting me in the event of my receiving any overtures from the Shaikh of Bahrein, to connect himself with the British Government, to submit any opinion upon the expediency of their being acceded to.

^{2nd} Subsequent to the indirect communication² made to me by Suleyman bin Jassim, as reported in my letter of the 15th October last, no reference upon the above subject has been received from Shaikh Abdoolah bin Ahmed, and the only grounds I have for supposing that Chief to be still desirous of our interference, is his request for my advice, touching the reply he should return to one of the requisitions preferred by Khorshid, as brought to the notice of Government in my despatch of the 11th instant. In this latter communication I ventured to submit an opinion, that apart from considerations of more general policy, I am disposed to consider the establishment of a regular and permanent authority over the maritime Arabs of the PG, as rather conducive than otherwise to our views for the suppression of piracy and the continued tranquillity of this quarter. The

¹ Residency Persian Gulf: Regarding the expediency or otherwise of Bahrein being taken under British protection.

² No direct overtures made on the subject by Bahrein Shaikh.

(2072)

extension of such an authority over the petty states, would probably be attended with the great advantage of putting an end to their perpetual feuds and quarrels, which have tended perhaps more directly than any other cause to cherish predatory habits.

3rd There can be little doubt, however, that if no events occur in Europe¹ to shake the power of Mohamed Ally Pasha in Egypt, and Syria, his Authority will be gradually but surely extended over the Tribes inhabiting the Coast of Oman, it must therefore be admitted that in some points of view there would be an advantage in counterbalancing his increased and increasing influence in this quarter, by maintaining the independence of the Shaikh of Bahrein, the only power in the Gulf who might be supported by our Naval means alone, and perhaps without any considerable expense being incurred in addition to that which our policy in this quarter at present involves.

4th The question² however for consideration appears to me to be, whether the advantages to be derived from Bahrein becoming tributary to the British Govt. in return for being guaranteed against all external enemies, would afford an adequate equivalent to the constant embarrassments which so close and intimate a connection with an Arab Chieftain occupying the position of Abdollah bin Ahmed, would certainly create, I confess that I am disposed to think they would hardly do so, even were the Shaikh able of willing (which is doubtful) to pay a sufficient subsidy for his island being taken under our protection. The amount of the annual tribute, agreed to be given to His Highness the Imam of

¹ The independence of Bahrein in certain respects to be desired.

² but the expediency of guaranteeing its integrity against all enemies doubtful.

(2073)

Muscat, by the Uttoobee Chief, prior to the expedition undertaken by His Highness against Bahrein in 1828, was nine thousand¹ crowns, which is perhaps the extent the Shaikh could afford to discourse for our support. This small sum, even supposing it to be regularly paid, would I am inclined to think, hardly compensated for the embarrassing entanglements in which we should find ourselves involved by an engagement guaranteeing Shaikh Abdoollah against the attacks of his enemies. His possessions on the mainland (which could not be protected solely by our Naval means) being open to the inroads and incursions of the neighbouring Tribes, would necessarily lead to disputes and feuds, while upon all occasions of either insult, or injury, whether real or imagined, he would consider himself entitled to claim our support and aid so long as our views coincided with his own, all would proceed smoothly, but the moment they became opposed more particularly, in questions touching his Arab prejudices, the Shaikh would look upon himself as an injured person, and it is not unlikely that our attention and means would be as much engaged in compelling him to abide by our decisions, as in protecting his territories against foreign aggression. In taking Bahrein under British protection it must moreover be borne in mind that we place ourselves in direct collision with the claims upon that Island, entertained by the Govt. of Persia and Muscat, claims the justice of which, if we have not openly acknowledged, we have assuredly never opposed.

5th In considering this subject, I have assumed that if Bahrein becomes tributary to the British Govt. we bind ourselves to protect it from all external aggressions, and it is their point to view that the principal objections to our interference would seem

¹ 9,000.

(2074)

to be. But I do not myself perceive the necessity of affording any such general guarantee. If it be considered an object of importance to check the extending influence of Mahomed Ally Pasha in this quarter, and to prevent the establishment of his authority over Bahrein, we might afford our influence to shield the Uttoobee Chief against his encroachments alone, but without binding ourselves down to interference in the views of any other power. An intimation from the British Govt., that Bahrein is under its protection, and that any attack upon it would be viewed as an act of hostility towards itself, would I doubt not be sufficient to put an end to the designs of the Egyptian ruler, upon the Island. The only other enemies likely to afford Shaikh Abdoollah any uneasiness, are the Persian Govt. and the Imam of Muscat. The former, power, however from its want of naval means, and the latter, from its deficiency in military force, have hitherto failed in every attempt to wrest Bahrein from its present chief and I see no reason, why the same causes should not continue to operate against the success of any future projects of a similar nature. The knowledge that we are opposed to the ambitious views of the Pasha of Egypt towards the territories of the Uttoobee Chief, would be sufficient to prevent the Imam from the indulgence of any troops of obtaining possession of Bahrein through the instrumentality of Mahomed Ally, while admitting the bare possibility of the Persian Govt. carrying an expedition against Shaikh Abdoollah to a successful termination, I do not consider that our interests, either political or commercial, would be at all affected thereby so long as we continue to maintain our naval supremacy in this Gulf.

(2075)

6th In doing myself the honour to intimate, that the 3rd para of your letter now under reply regarding the resources of the Island of Bahrein will form the subject of a separate communication.

I have the honour to be,

Sir

Signed

S. Hennell

Resident in the PG.