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Reference	Mss Eur F111/174
Title	'1904. THE LORD CURZON. TELEGRAPHIC CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.'
Date(s)	1905? (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 volume (202 folios)
Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
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About this record

This volume consists of printed copies of telegraphic correspondence, dated 1 January to 11 December 1904. The correspondence is between: Lord Curzon of Kedleston, Viceroy and Governor-General of India, and (William) St John Fremantle Brodrick, Secretary of State for India, from 1 January to 30 April 1904; and between Brodrick and Lord Ampthill as acting Viceroy from 30 April to 11 December 1904.

The start of the volume includes a detailed index of names, places and subjects (ff 3-12). This is followed by telegrams from Brodrick to Curzon (ff 13-39) and then Ampthill (ff 40-75), numbered 1-406, and telegrams from Curzon (ff 77-127) and then Ampthill (ff 128-200) to Hamilton, numbered 1-592.

A wide variety of subjects are covered, including matters relating to the following:

- The Aden Protectorate, in particular the delimitation of Aden
- Afghanistan, notably Russian movements on the Afghan frontier, and correspondence between the Amir [Amīr Ḥabībullāh Khān] and the Viceroy
- Army matters, including reinforcements for India
- Bahrein [Bahrain] affairs
- The wreck of the steamship *Baron Inverdale*
- The Burma [or Myanmar]-Chinese frontier

• The appointment of Curzon as Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports

• The proposed appointment of Mr J Cogswell as Controller of Stationery and Printing

• Henry Robert Conway Dobbs, in particular the question of his withdrawal from the Herat frontier, and his visit to the Amir of Afghanistan

• The state of affairs on the Herat frontier

• Calcutta [Kolkata] High Court appointments

• Persia [Iran], notably consular guards for Persia, and a British loan to Persia

• The Indian Police Commission

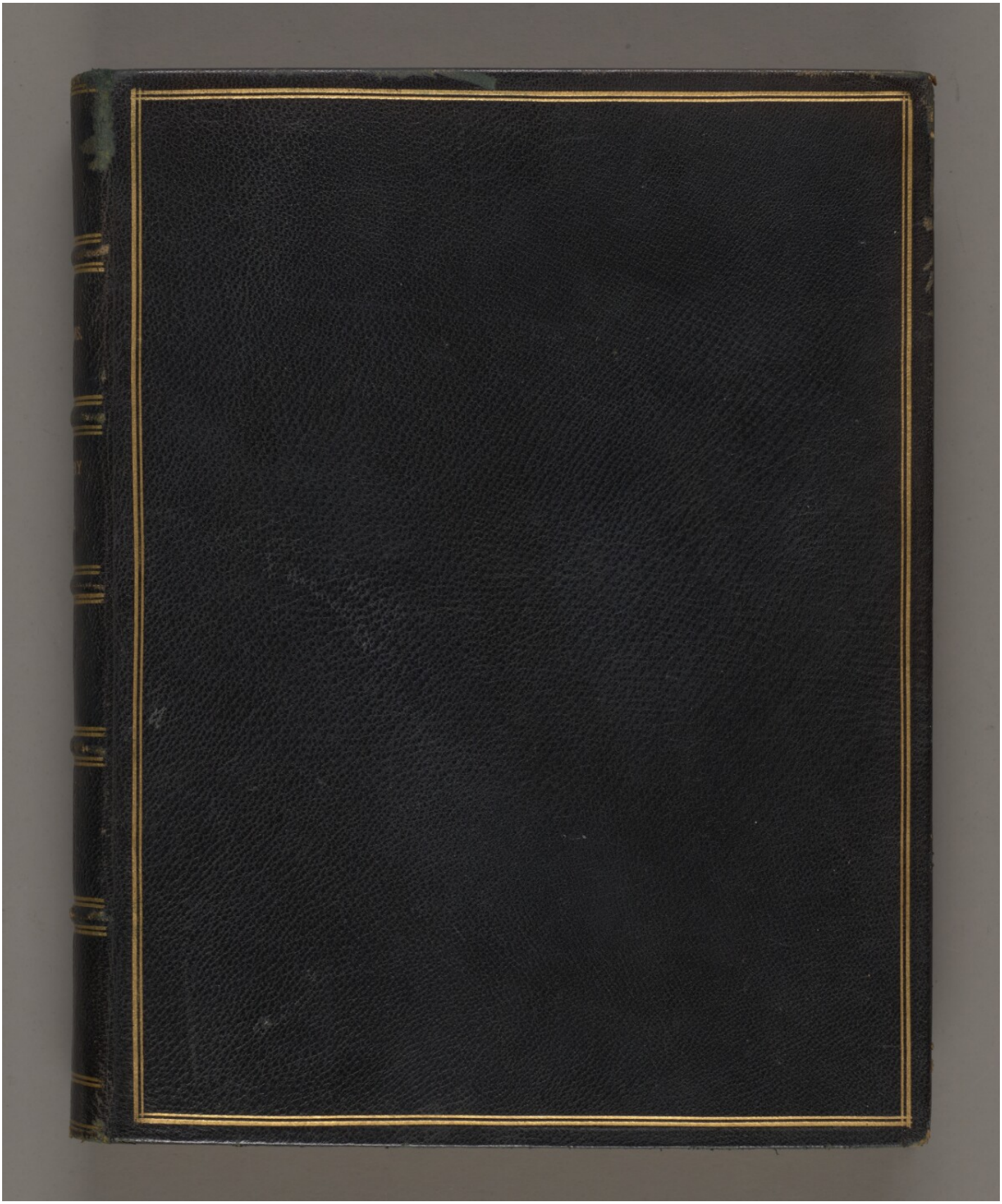
• Russian military activities in Central Asia

• Indian Army involvement in the Russo-Japanese War

• Seistan [Sistan], including the telegraph line to Seistan, and demarcation of the Seistan boundary

• The Tibet Mission [the Younghusband expedition], including fighting and casualties at Guru, the attitude of Tibetans towards the Mission, reinforcements for the Mission, treaty negotiations between Great Britain and Tibet, and the occupation of the Chumbi Valley

• The Convention between Great Britain and Tibet, the indemnity to be paid by Tibet, the Adhesion Agreement, Chinese suzerainty over Tibet, the Tibet Blue Book, and other issues concerning Tibet.



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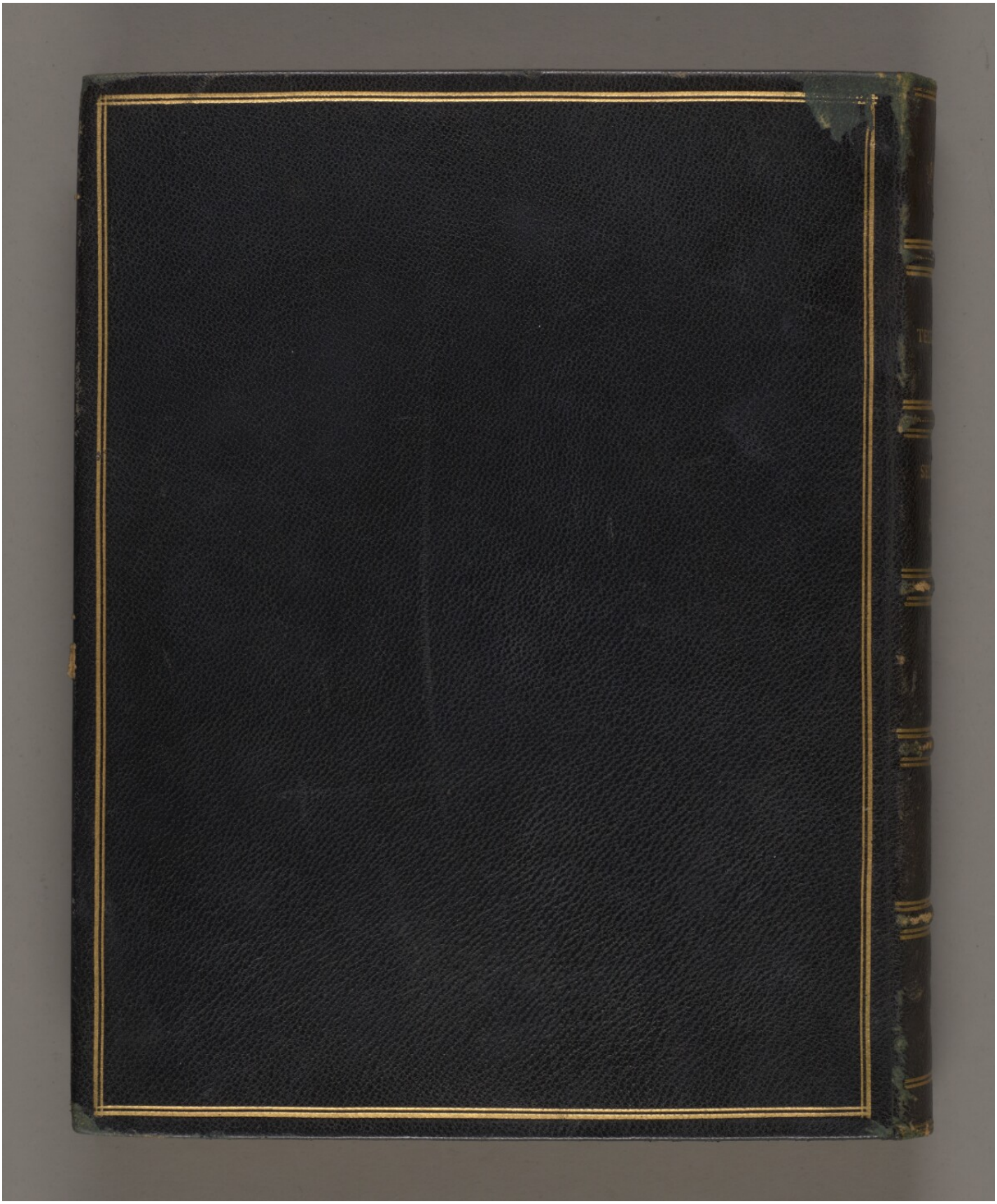

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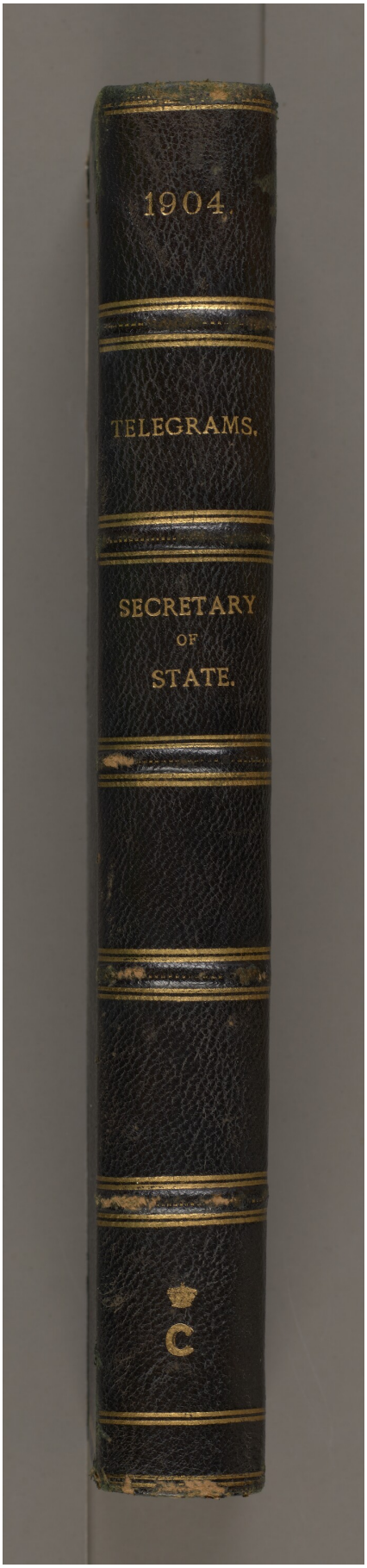

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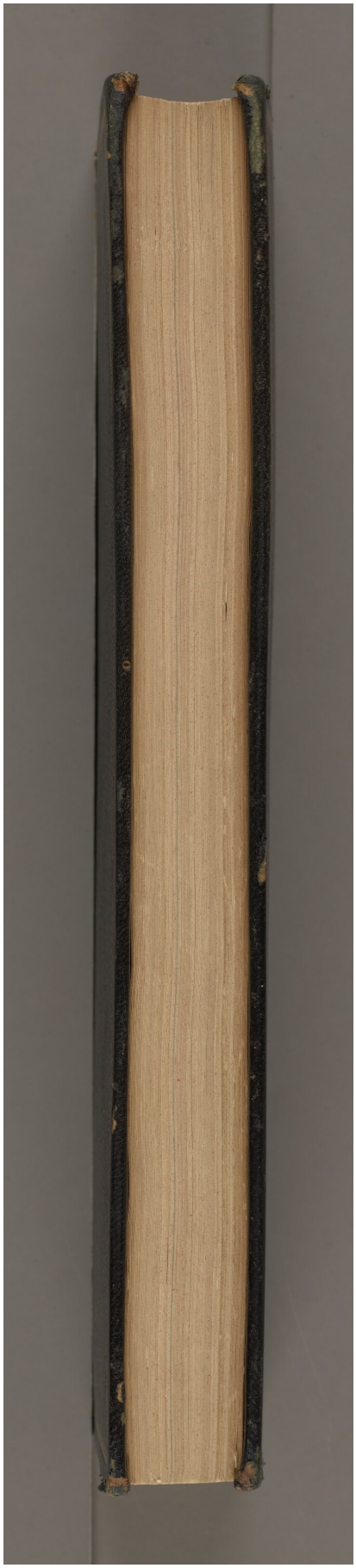

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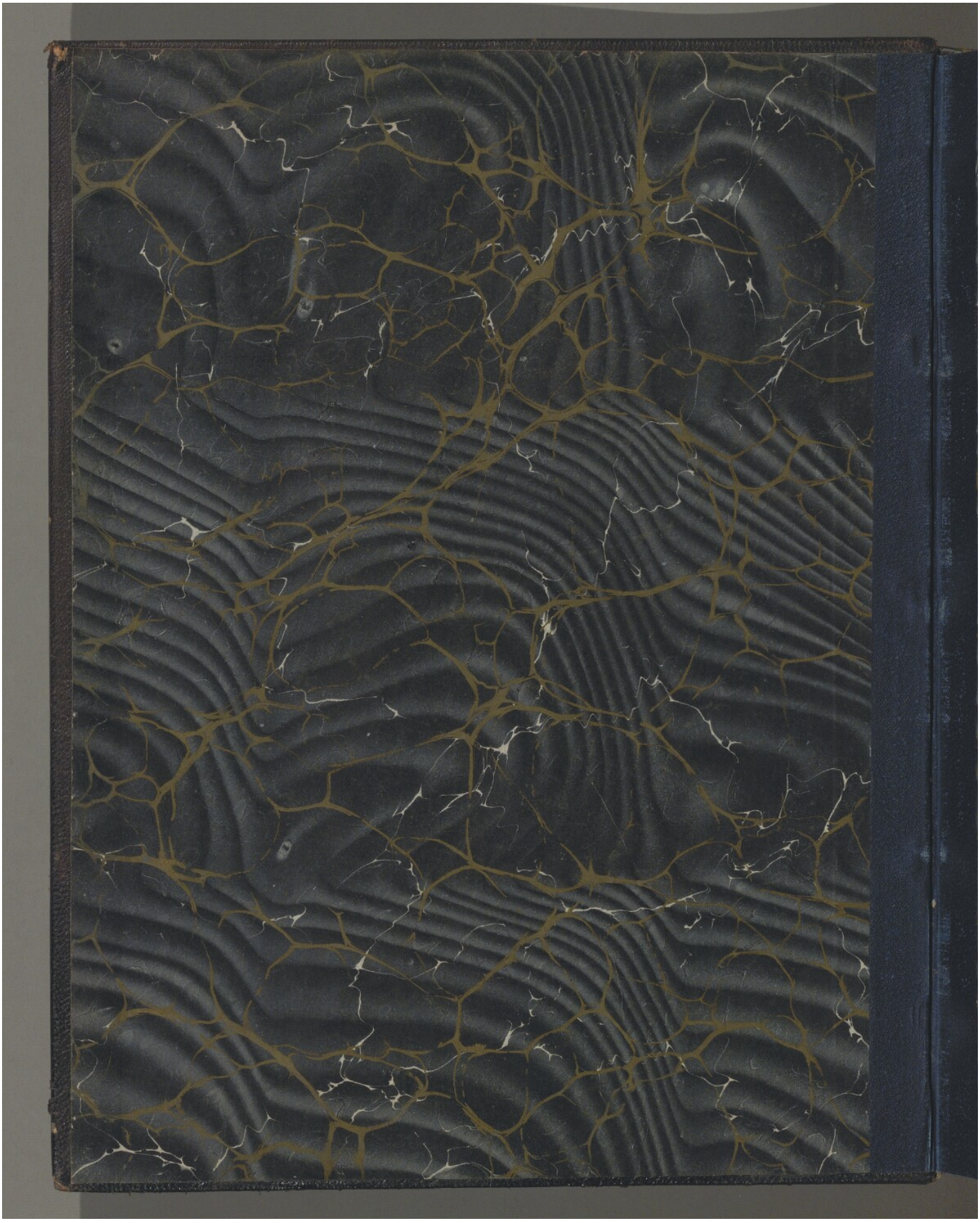

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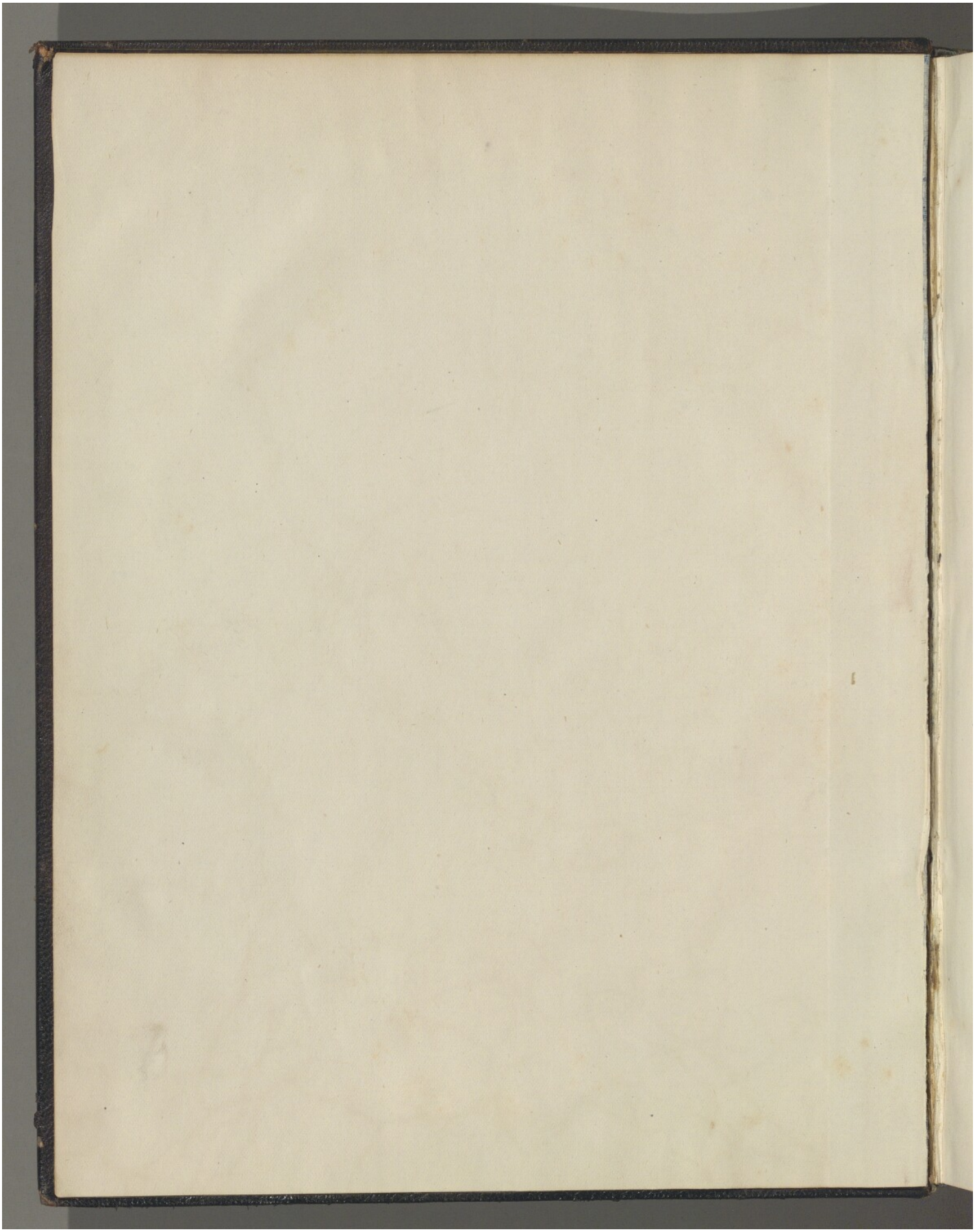

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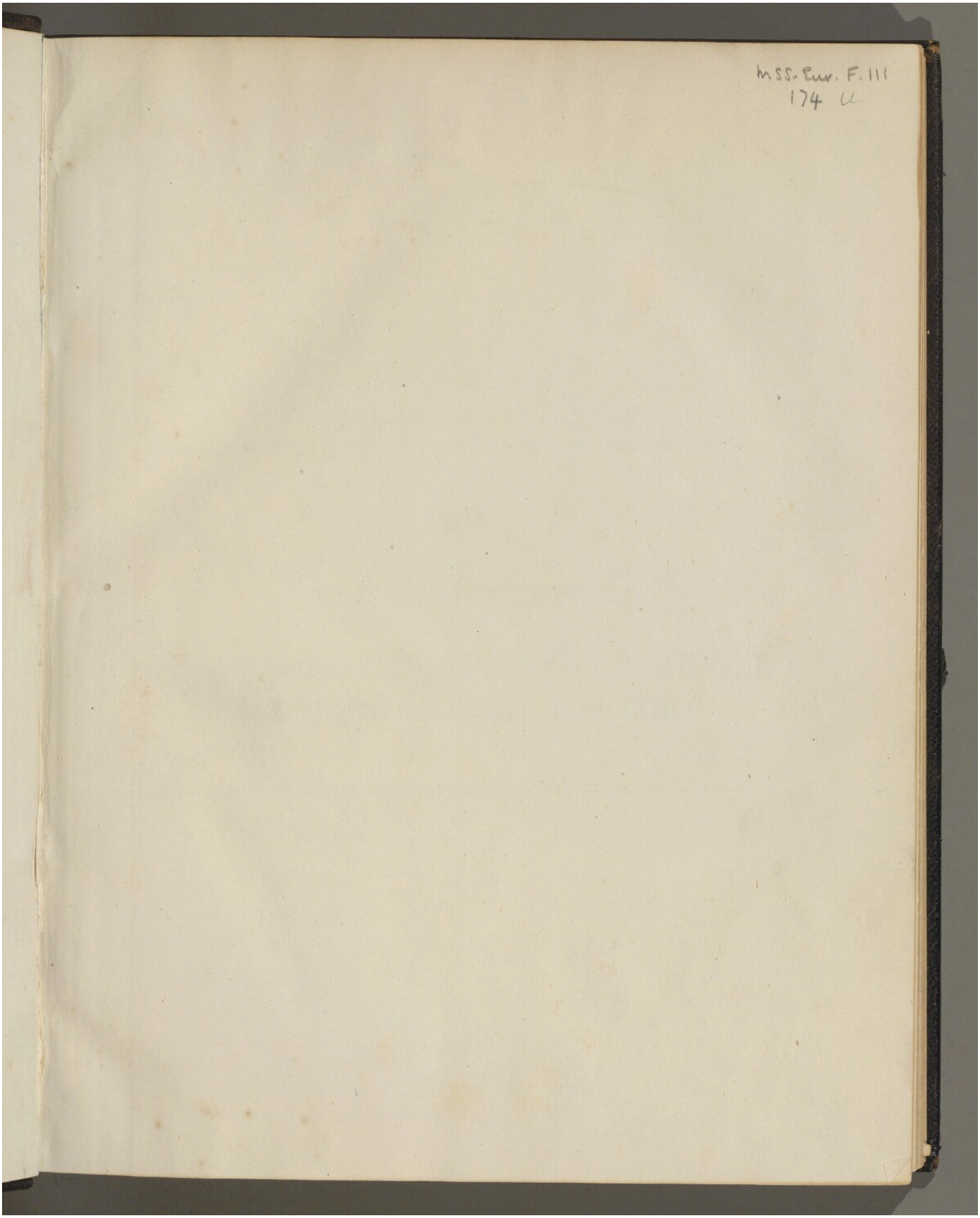
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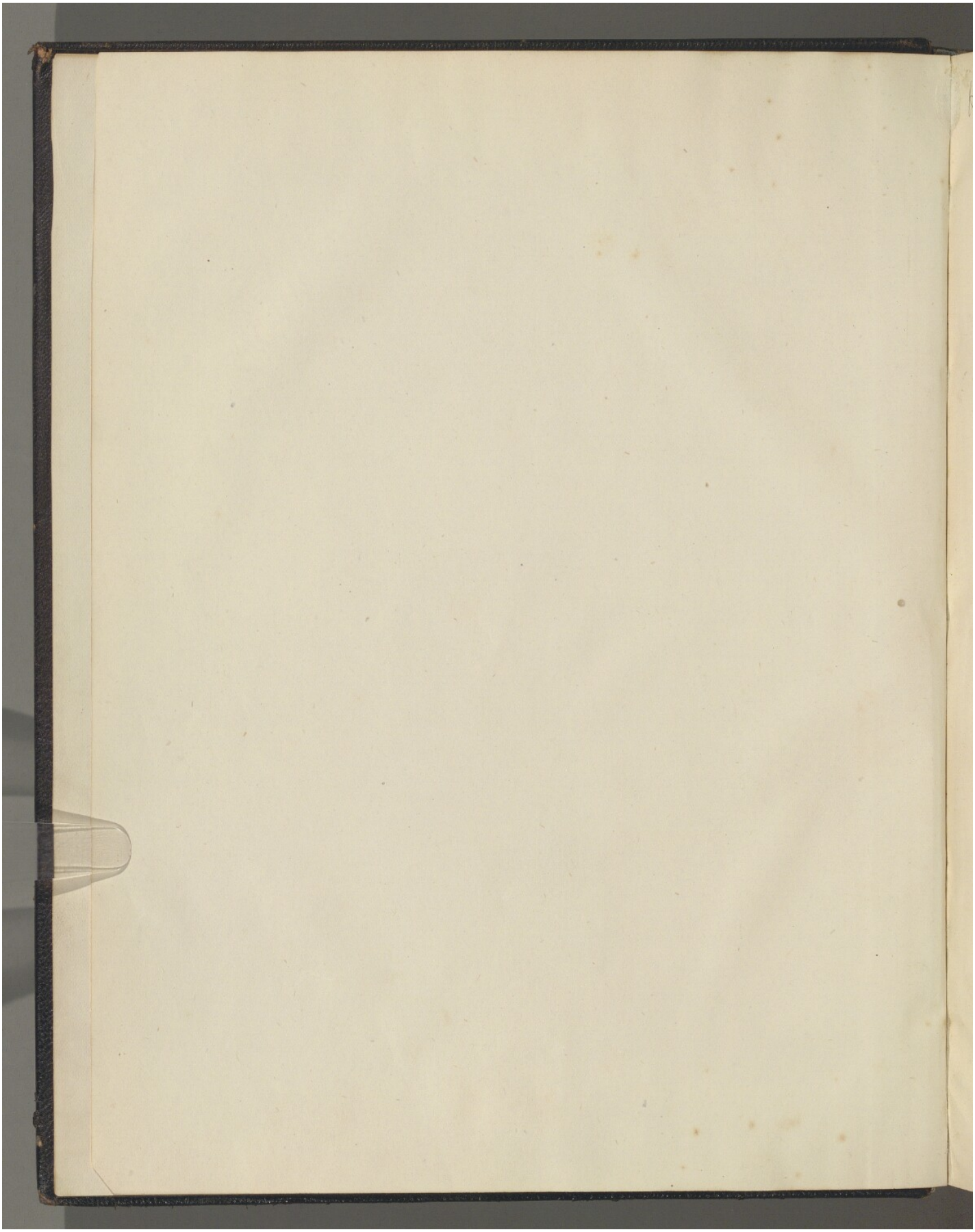

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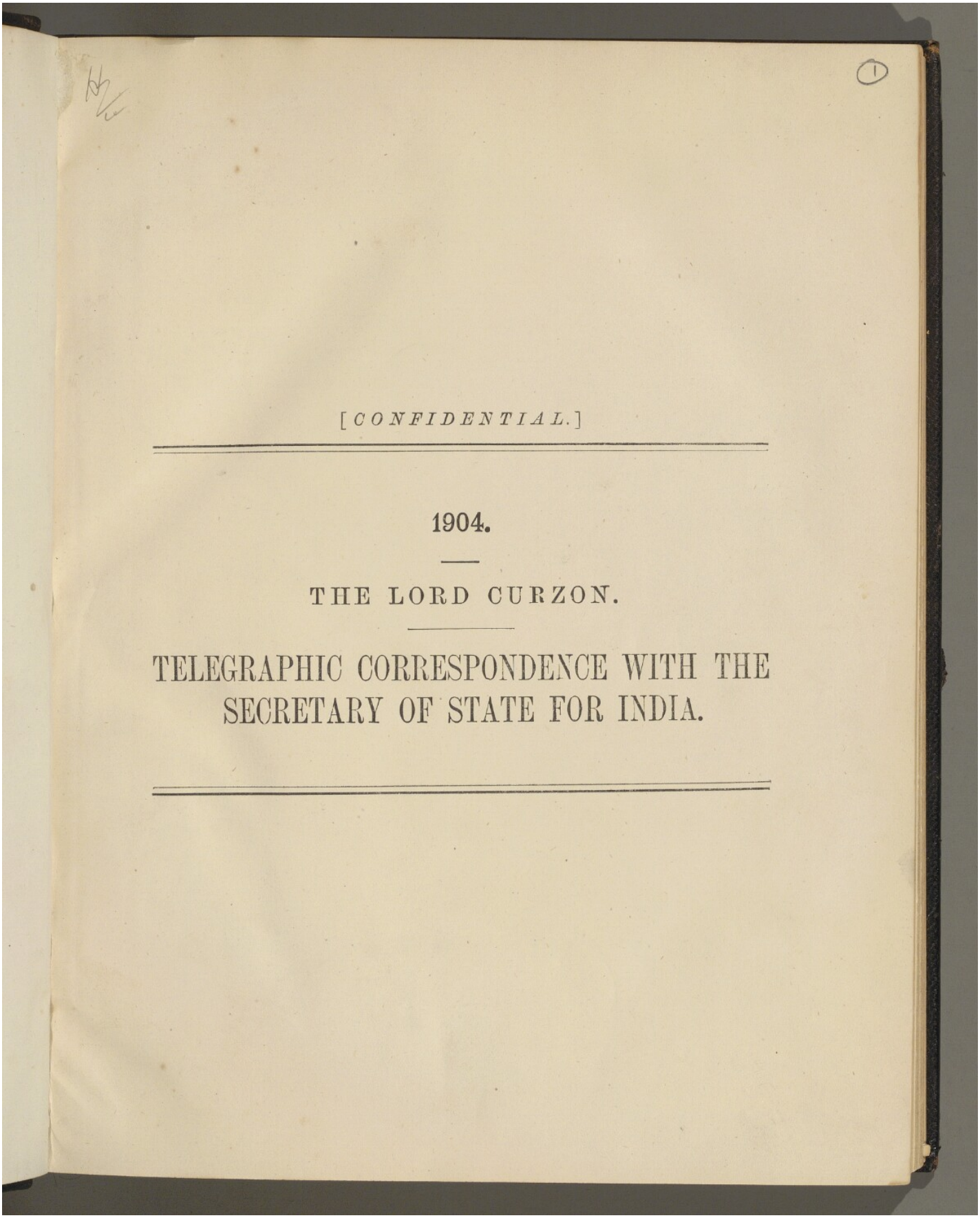

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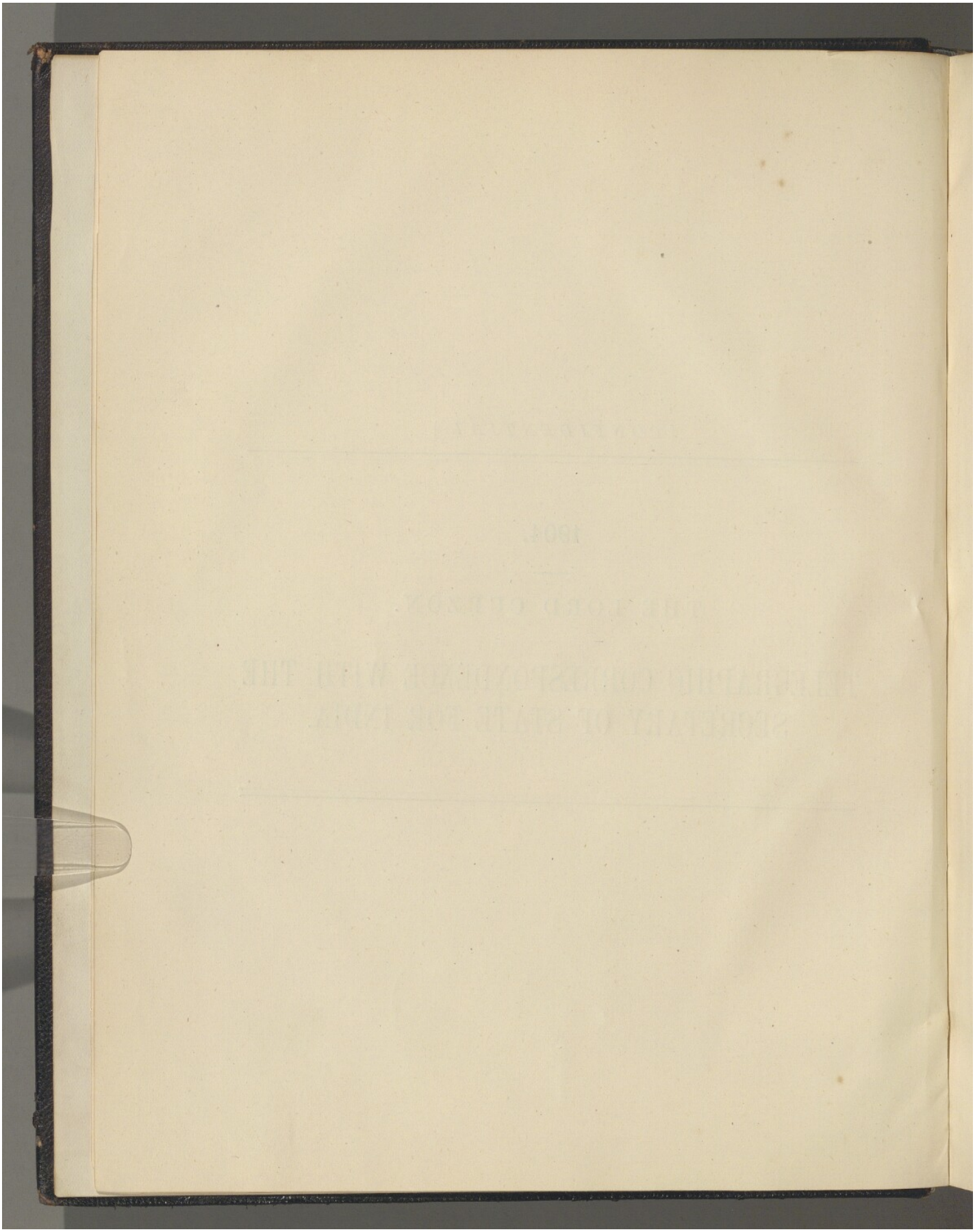
1904.

THE LORD CURZON.

TELEGRAPHIC CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.



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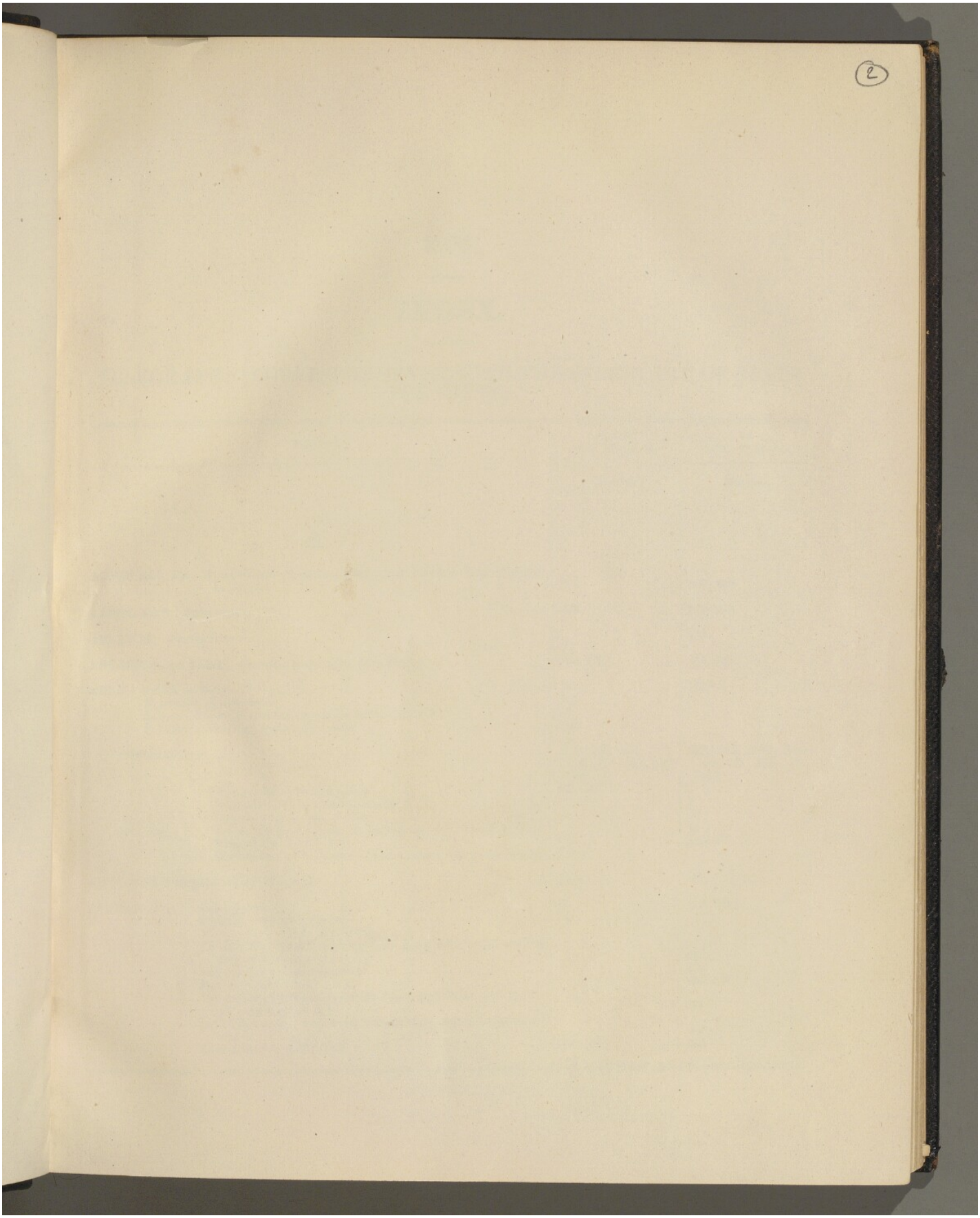
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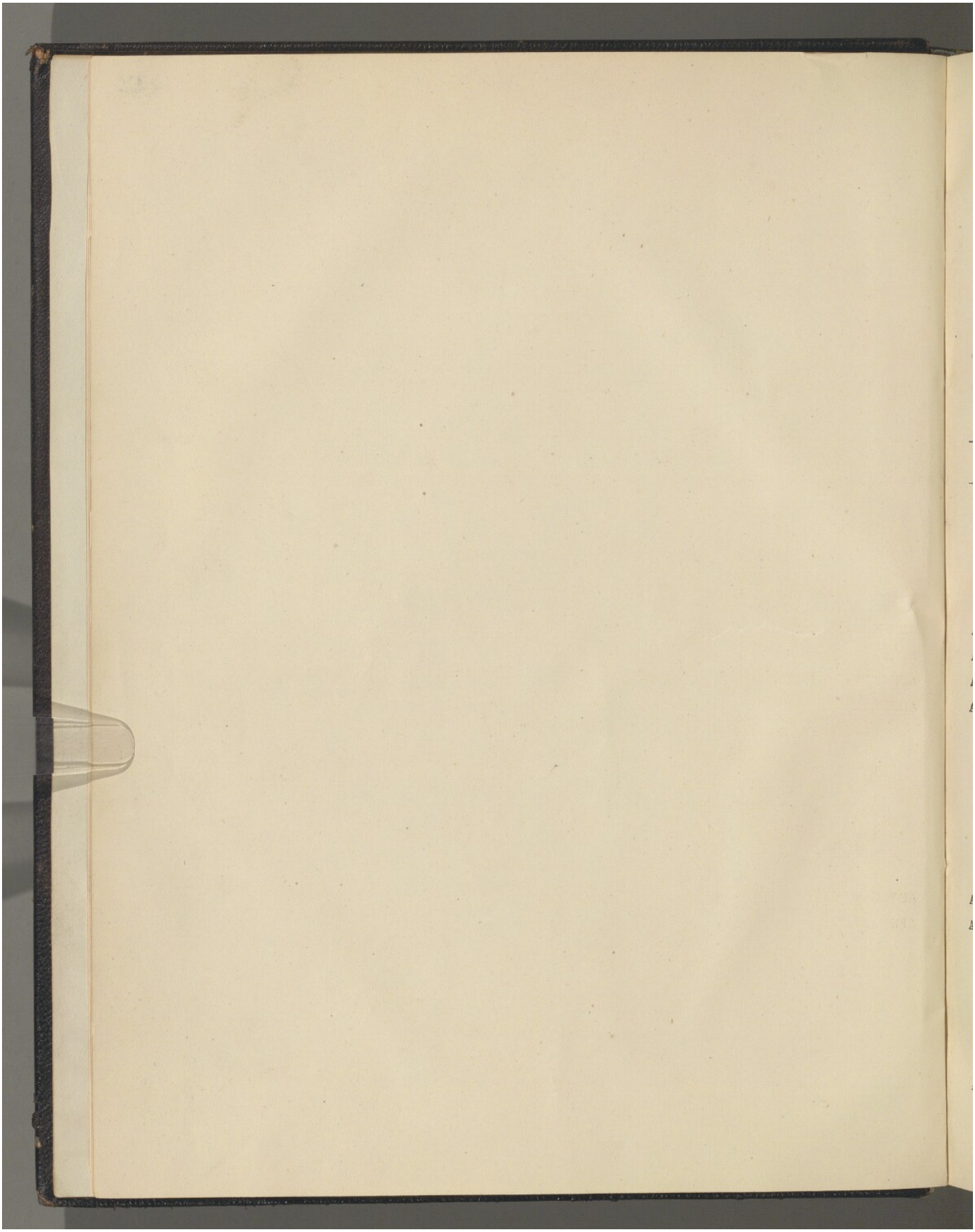

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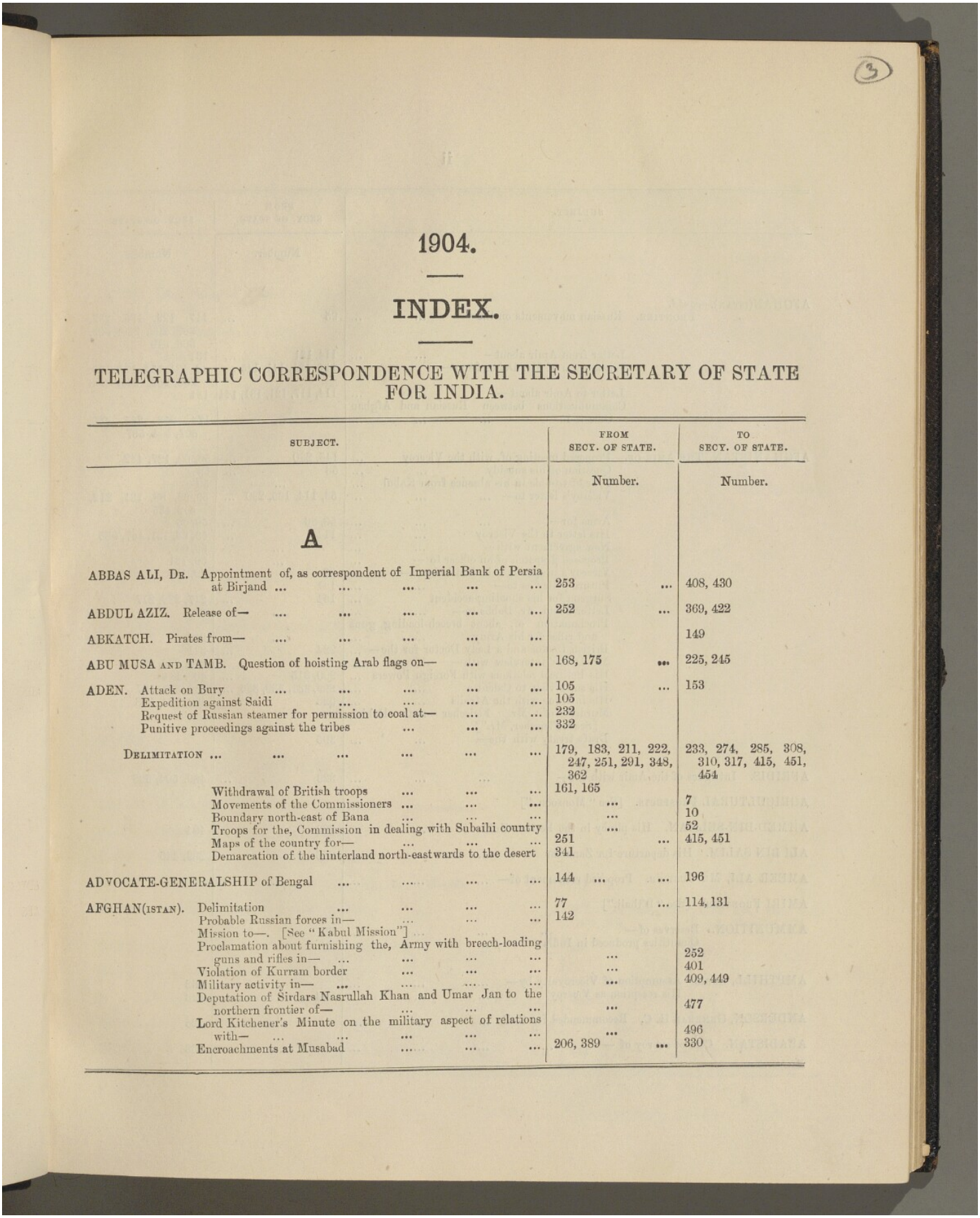

1904.

INDEX.

TELEGRAPHIC CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.

SUBJECT.	FROM SECY. OF STATE.	TO SECY. OF STATE.
	Number.	Number.
A		
ABBAS ALI, Dr. Appointment of, as correspondent of Imperial Bank of Persia at Birjand	253 ...	408, 430
ABDUL AZIZ. Release of—	252 ...	369, 422
ABKATCH. Pirates from—		149
ABU MUSA and TAMB. Question of hoisting Arab flags on—	168, 175 ...	225, 245
ADEN. Attack on Bury	105 ...	153
Expedition against Saidi	105	
Request of Russian steamer for permission to coal at—	232	
Punitive proceedings against the tribes	332	
Delimitation	179, 183, 211, 222, 247, 251, 291, 348, 362	233, 274, 285, 308, 310, 317, 415, 451, 454
Withdrawal of British troops	161, 165	
Movements of the Commissioners	...	7
Boundary north-east of Bana	...	10
Troops for the, Commission in dealing with Subaihi country	...	52
Maps of the country for—	251 ...	415, 451
Demarcation of the hinterland north-eastwards to the desert	341	
ADVOCATE-GENERALSHIP of Bengal	144	196
AFGHAN(ISTAN). Delimitation	77 ...	114, 131
Probable Russian forces in—	142	
Mission to—. [See “Kabul Mission”]		
Proclamation about furnishing the, Army with breech-loading guns and rifles in—	...	252
Violation of Kurram border	...	401
Military activity in—	...	409, 449
Deputation of Sirdars Nasrullah Khan and Umar Jan to the northern frontier of—	...	477
Lord Kitchener’s Minute on the military aspect of relations with—	...	496
Encroachments at Musabad	206, 389 ...	330

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SUBJECT.		FROM SECY. OF STATE.	TO SECY. OF STATE.
		Number.	Number.
AFGHAN(ISTAN)—*contd.*			
FRONTIER.	Russian movements on the—	95 ...	117, 123, 135, 237, 288, 292, 299, 302, 306, 319
	Letter from Amir about—	114, 131 ...	131
	Withdrawal of Mr. Dobbs from— ...	114, 131, 141, 145 ...	62, 131, 154, 174, 193, 206, 253, 265, 268
	Letter to Amir about—	114, 117, 121, 131, 141	131
	Communications between Russian and Afghan Officers in—	...	174, 253, 265, 460, 507, 545, 567
AFGHANISTAN, THE AMIR OF.	Proposed meeting of, with the Viceroy ...	145, 290 ...	59, 63, 127, 442
	Question of his subsidy	53 ...	59
	Fear of trouble in his absence from Kabul ...	...	59
	Viceroy's letter to—	53, 114, 135, 290 ...	59, 63, 88, 131, 212, 442, 435
	Arms for—	53, 86 ...	59, 63
	His letter to the Viceroy	114 ...	59, 63, 131, 187, 265
	New agreement with—	...	59, 63
	Proposed despatch of an officer to — ...	...	59, 131
	Viceroy's proposals to be laid before — ...	89 ...	59, 127
	Future policy as to—	141	
	Surgeon for his shooting accident ...	164 ...	217, 232, 277
	Letter about Mr. Dobbs to—	...	212
	Proclamation of, about breech-loading guns and rifles for his Army	...	252
	British Doctor and a Lady Doctor for the— ...	224 ...	341
	Mr. Dobbs' interview with—	...	370, 376, 384
	His Political relations with Foreign Powers ...	299, 315 ...	460, 484
	His son's visit to Calcutta	299, 331, 339, 356 ...	460, 522, 527
	His intrigue with the Afridis	323 ...	489, 504, 508
	Murder of Mr. Fleischer near Dakka. [See "Fleischer, Mr."]		
	Draft treaty with the—	395	
AFRIDIS.	Intrigues of the Amir with the—	323 ...	489. 504, 508
AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS.	[See "Monsoon."]		
AHMED-BIN-SELMAN.	His piracy in the Persian Gulf	289 ...	404
ALI BIN SALIM.	His departure for Zanzibar	286	293, 446
AMEER ALI, MR. JUSTICE.	Proposed retirement of—	...	65
AMIRI FRONTIER.	[See "D'thali."]		
AMMUNITION.	Reserves of—	88	
	Quantities produced in India	88	
AMPTHILL, LORD.	Assumption of Viceroyalty by—	...	262
	His reception as Viceroy	284 ...	428
ANDERSON, GENERAL H. C.	Recommended for C. B.	...	125
ARABISTAN.	Cost of survey of —	...	538

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SUBJECT.	FROM SECY. OF STATE.	TO SECY. OF STATE.
	Number.	Number.
ARMS. Illicit traffic in, in the Persian Gulf ... ... [See also "Jibuti," "Muscat," "Nepal."]	17	
ARMY. Reinforcements for India	1, 2, 91, 112, 134, 355, 386, 393	19, 143, 179, 544, 576, 591
Indian coast artillery	5, 11 ...	13, 41
Artillery re-armament	6, 16, 19, 31, 57, 74	21, 33, 85
Defence vessels	14	
Council appointments	45	
Expenditure	87, 272 ...	418
Lord Kitchener's order to the, and statement of Staff	45 ...	238
Modification of Brigade Scheme		26
Mobilisation stores	237, 250, 349 ...	362, 377, 389, 535
Lord Kitchener's scheme	227, 237, 396, 406...	362, 592
Purchase of rifles for the—	264, 269 ...	406, 433
Redistribution scheme	272, 283, 304a, 309, 349, 402	418, 463, 473, 535, 565
Reorganisation scheme	273, 374 ...	411
Brigading of British and Native Infantry	383	
Native Regiments. Changes in the—	382	
Maxim guns for the—	396, 406 ...	592
ARNOLD, Mr. T. W. Appointment of his successor as Professor, Lahore College...	...	16
ARTILLERY Re-armament	6, 16, 19, 31, 57, 74	21, 33, 85
ASHGAR ALI. Nominated as Vice-Consul at Bam	...	157
ASIA, Central. Russian activities in—[See "Russia."]		
ASIATIC Affairs. Uncertain state of—	...	59
B		
BAHREIN	66, 191, 265 ...	54, 298, 322, 388, 431.
BAM. Telegraph line from, to Koh-i-Malik Siah	72	
Appointment of Vice-Consul at—	...	157
BANERJEE, Justice Gooroo Dass. Appointment of his successor — ...	4	
BANK, Imperial, of Persia. [See "Persia."]		
BANKS, Presidency. [See "Presidency Banks."]		
BARNES, Sir Hugh. Proposal to send him to the Kabul Mission	317	169
BARON INVERDALE, S. S. Wreck of—	287, 310, 329, 353, 390, 399.	448, 494, 498, 520, 540, 570, 589, 590.
BARR, Colonel Sir D. W. K. Extension of his service	33	44
BATH. Companionship of the— [See "C. B."]		
Grand Cross of the. Insignia of—	400	
BEHAN-AL-KASAB Treaty	...	36
BENGAL, Advocate-General. Retirement of Mr. Woodroffe	144 ...	196

SUBJECT.	FROM SECY. OF STATE.	TO SECY. OF STATE.
	Number.	Number.
BENGAL Police. Mr. Horne's appointment to the—	...	72
BHUTAN. Survey and construction of road up to Di Chu or Amo Chu ...	...	144
Subsidy to the Envoy	...	144
BIN RASHID. Turkish support of—	296	
BIN SAUD. Turkish invasion of the country of—	296	
BIRD, Major. Deputed to Kabul as Surgeon to the Amir	164 ...	232, 277
His return from Kabul...	...	301
BLECHYNDEN, Mr., and the Royal Commission, St. Louis Exhibition ...	9	
BLOXAM, Mr. Proposed the appointment of, as Chemist for Sibpur ...	127*a*, 163 ...	213, 244
BODILLY, Mr. Frank. Appointment of, as Judge of the Calcutta High Cour ...	62	
BOMBAY, Bishop of. Furlough for the—	301, 303 ...	470, 481
BUBIAN Island. The Sultan's claim to—	167, 192, 217 ...	249, 258, 410
BUNDER ABBAS Telegraph	...	320
BURMA. Cotton cultivation in. [See "Cotton"]		
Minining lease in, by Great Eastern Mining Co.	325, 345 ...	488, 509
BURMA-CHINESE Frontier	103, 193, 281, 391 ...	1,56, 458, 585
BURMA-CHINESE Railway	266	
BUSHIRE. Quarantine at—	280, 294 ...	444, 525
Incident. Viceroy's tour in the Persian Gulf	26	39, 42
Harbour, Survey of—	308, 354 ...	410, 485
BUTCHER, Mr. J. G. Named as Law Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council	22	
C		
CACHAR. Conduct of Gurkha Military Police at —	233	367
CALCUTTA High Court. [See "High Court."]		
CAMBRIDGE, The Duke of. Mourning on account of the death of— ...	123	164
CAMPBELL, Major-General R. D. Recommended for C. B.	...	325
C. B. Recommendations for—	202	325
CHAMBERS, Major-General B. R.	325	
CHAMIER, Mr. E. M. DesChamps. His candidature for a Judgeship in the Calcutta High Court	...	75
CHAPLAINCY. The Revd. F. E. Markby recommended for a— ...	67	125
CHEFOO Convention. Abrogation of additional article of—	71	119
CHEMIST for Sibpur	127*a*, 163 ...	213, 244

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SUBJECT.	FROM SECY. OF STATE.	TO SECY. OF STATE.
	Number.	Number.
CHINA (ESE). Opium taxation	71	119
Burma frontier	103	1
Indemnity from, for Tibet Mission	...	343, 467
Telegraph Convention. Modification of —	375	581
Opium monopoly scheme. [See "Opium."]		
CINQUE PORTS. Appointment of the Lord Warden of the—	110, 116, 135, 138 ...	158, 171, 190
CLARKE, MR. R. T. The case of—	108	
CLEVELAND, MAJOR H. F. Sent to Kabul as Doctor	...	341
COAST ARTILLERY, Indian—	5, 11	13, 41
COCHIN, THE RAJA OF. Bestowal of French Order on the—	267	354
COGSWELL, MR. M. J. Appointment of, as Conptr. of Stationery & Printing ...	75, 119, 132, 151 ...	124, 141, 155, 167, 194
CONSULAR GUARDS FOR PERSIA. [See "Persia."]		
COOPER'S HILL COLLEGE. Closing of the—	171	
COTTON CULTIVATION in India and Burma	80, 124 ...	136, 184, 202
Scheme for a, improvement Syndicate	124, 136	
COUNCIL, THE VICEROY'S EXECUTIVE. Law Membership of the—	22, 45, 55 ...	38, 47
Additional Member for the— ...	30	66
Question of Scientist Member in the— ...	30 ...	66
COUNTERVAILING SUGAR DUTIES. [See "Sugar."]		
CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT. Appointments of Director and Deputy Director of —	166	
CURZON, LORD. His re-appointment as Viceroy by Royal Warrant	284 ...	428
Postponement of his return to India	305, 330	
D		
DAKKA. Arrest of a Shinwari at Darband by the Sarhang of —	...	400
DALAI LAMA. [See "Tibet Mission."]		
DANE, MR. L. W. His appointment as head of the Tibet Mission. [See "Tibet Mission."]		
DARBAND. Arrest of a Shinwari by the Sarhang of Dakka at—	...	400
DAVIDSON, MR. W. E. Named as Law Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council	22 ...	47
DEFENCE (s) VESSELS	14	
Special—	6, 16, 19, 31, 74 ...	21, 32, 85
QUESTIONS: Conference of the Defence Committee with Lord Curzon on —	142 ...	209
Nomination of an officer to represent Lord Kitchener at the Conference	142	
COMMITTEE. Secretaryship of the—	384	

SUBJECT.	FROM SECY. OF STATE.	TO SECY. OF STATE.
	Number.	Number.
D'HOEDT, Mons. His attitude towards the British Consul at Seistan ...	25 ...	9, 53, 70
DIR Agency. Disturbance in—	...	577
DOBBS, Mr. H. R. C.	53	60, 62
Question of his withdrawal from Frontier	114, 131, 141, 145 ...	62, 131, 154, 174, 193, 206, 253, 265, 268
His visit to the Amir of Afghanistan	141, 145, 149, 265...	203, 316, 338, 364, 370, 376, 384
Instructions to him about Afghn matters	141, 145, 149 ...	203
Letter to the Amir about—	...	212
His departure from Herat	...	327
His departure from Kabul	...	378
His Memorandum on Herat affairs	...	384, 426
His arrival at Landi Kotal	...	392
DORAN, Mr. E. A.	...	15
DOUGLAS, Major. Attacked by the Lurs	360, 373 ...	546
DOVER Harbour Board	138	
D'THALA. Retention of troops and an officer at—	307, 351 ...	462
Seizure of Turkish subjects by Turkish force near Kataba ...	312 ...	479, 501
Violation of the Amiri Frontier by the Turks	312 ...	479, 501, 553
DUM DUM Bullets. Question of using them by the force with the Tibet Mission [See "Tibet Mission."]		
DUTIES. Countervailing sugar.—[See "Sugar."]		
DUTY on tea. [See "Tea."]		
on Malwa Opium. ["See Opium."]		
E		
EDUCATION Resolution. Publication of—	39, 44, 81 ...	46, 99
EL-KATR	...	49
F		
FAMINE Insurance Grant	90	91, 115
FANCOURT, Lieut.-Colonel St. John M. Recommended for C. B. ...	202	
FANSHAWE, Sir A. U., K. C. I. E.	21	15
FARS and the Persian Gulf	209, 248 ...	224
FINANCE(IAL). Statement	87, 127 ...	129, 188
Estimated total expenditure	87	129
Army expenditure	87	129, 188
Estimated surplus	87	129
FISCAL Matters. Despatch to Secretary of State on—	51	172
Sir E. Law's Minute on—	51	
FLEISCHER, Mr. Murder of—	364, 370 ...	550, 552, 557, 559

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SUBJECT.	FROM SECY. OF STATE. Number.	TO SECY. OF STATE. Number.
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT. Reorganisation of—	3, 37, 150 ...	6, 73, 185, 214, 219
FRANCE. Recognition of a British Protectorate over Muscat by— ...	70	110
Concurrence by, in the suppression of arms trade at Muscat ...	...	110
G		
GEIDT, THE HON'BLE MR. Appointment of, as Judge of the Calcutta High Court	169	
GERARD, SIR M.	83	120, 137
GHULAM HUSSAIN. His attitude towards British subjects and Afghan traders...	...	9
GOGUYER, M. Expulsion of, from Muscat	...	110
GOUGH, CAPTAIN H. A. K. Appointed as Vice-Consul, Kermanshah ...	...	139
GRANT, MR. A. H. Appointed as Assistant with the Kabul Mission ...	343	512
GREAT EASTERN MINING COMPANY. [See "Burma."]		
GURKHA MILITARY POLICE, CACHAR. Conduct of the —	233	367
H		
HABIBULLA KHAN. His proposed return to India from Constantinople ...	246	383, 414
HAFFKINE, DR. Appointment of—	1	
HASHMAT-UL-MULK. His arrival at Tehran from Seistan	...	116, 160
Removal of—	340	526
HASHTADAN	206	330
HAZARA PIONEER BATTALION. Raising of the—	236	
HEDJAZ RAILWAY. Turkish medals in connection with the —	...	17
HERAT FRONTIER. State of affairs in—	53	59, 60, 62, 68, 107, 358, 394.
Withdrawal of Mr. Dobbs from the—	53, 114, 131 ...	62, 131, 154, 174, 193
Mr. Dobbs' Memorandum on the—	...	384, 426
HIGH COURT, CALCUTTA. Appointments	4, 28, 48, 62, 125, 169	27, 37, 65, 75, 140
Additional Judge of the—	15	
HILL, MR. JUSTICE C. H. Appointment of his successor	28, 48, 62 ...	27, 75
HINTERLAND. Withdrawal of troops from—	226	
HONOURS. Appointments	115, 130 ...	166
HORNE, MR. His appointment to the Bengal Police	29	73

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SUBJECT.	FROM SECY. OF STATE. Number.	TO SECY. OF STATE. Number.
HOWARD, Mrs.	108	
HUNZA-Chinese Frontier		403
HYDERABAD. Colonel Barr's extension of service as Resident at—	33	44
I		
IMPERIAL Bank of Persia. [See "Persia."]		
INAYAT-ULLAH KHAN. His visit to Calcutta	299, 331, 339, 356	460, 522, 527
His movements from Dakka		579
INDIA. Reinforcements for—	1, 2, 91, 112, 134 355, 386, 393	19, 143, 179, 544, 576, 591
Russian inivasion of—		268
INFANTRY, British and Native. Brigading of—	383	
INVESTITURES. Postponement of, till appointment of Governor-General	238	
IRRIGATION at Karun		538
J		
JAMES, Genl. H. H. Recommended for C. B.		325
JAMRUD. Railway extension from—	134	
JAPAN. Restrictions on British Military Officers whilst on leave visiting—		112
JAPANESE War. [See "Russo-Japanese War."]		
JENKINS, Sir L. Named as Law Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council		38, 47
JIBUTI. Suppression of arms traffic at—		110
Deputation of an officer to report arrival of Russian ships-of-war at—	274	
JUDGES. Court dress for Chief Court—	40	28
K		
KABUL. Proposed despatch of an officer to—		59, 187
Telegraph line from, to Landi Kotal		59
Fear of trouble in Amir's absence from—		59
Mr. Dobb's visit to— [See "Dobbs, Mr."]		
Request of the Amir to send Medical Officers to— [See "Afghanistan, Amir of—"]		
Mission to—	317, 322, 331, 339, 350, 352, 368, 379, 380, 395	163, 168, 178, 483 489, 491, 516, 524 547, 548, 551, 566
Appointment of Mr. Grant as Assistant with the—	343	512
Announcement in newspapers about the—	331	
Instructions to the Envoy with, as to general policy		516
Mr. Dane's appointment as British representative		519
Personnel of the—		522, 524
Aide-Memoire for Mr. Dane	350, 368, 380, 395	547, 566

SUBJECT.	FROM SECY. OF STATE.	TO SECY. OF STATE.
	Number.	Number.
KABUL—*contd.*		
Captain Turnbull's appointment as Medical Officer with the—	...	524
Date of departure from India of the—	...	551
Mr. Danes' designation as Head of the—	352 ...	524
Draft treaty with the Amir of Afghanistan	395 ...	566
Movements of the—	...	578, 583
KARUN IRRIGATION	358, 363, 378 ...	538, 555, 584
K. C. I. E. for Sir T. Prinsep	130 ...	166
K. C. S. I. for Mr. T. Raleigh	115 ...	166
KERMANSHAH. Cholera in—	152	
Quarantine at—	170 ...	227
Vice-Consulship	...	139
KHOR HINDIAN Abode of pirates in—	...	149
Despatch of gun-boat *Lapwing* to—	109 ...	149
KISCH, MR. H. M. Named as Indian delegate to the Postal Congress ...	...	51
KITCHENER, LORD. His Memorandum as to carrying powers of Russian Railway and probable Russian Forces in Afghanistan ...	142	
Nomination of an officer to represent, at the conference of the Defence Committee	142 ...	209
His order to the Army and Statement of Staff ...	45 ...	238
His Army scheme	227, 237, 396, 406 ...	362, 592
His Minute on the military aspect of relations with Afghanistan	...	496
KLEMM, M. His tour to Northern India	...	45, 84, 100
KOH-I-MAIIK SIAH. Telegraph line from, to Nasratabad	18 ...	3, 11, 20
„ „ „ Ban to Nasratabad	72	
„ „ „ to Seistan	...	3, 20, 43, 94
KOTAIBI. Affairs in—	226 ...	373
KOWEIT. Appointment of a native medical subordinate to charge of the Post Office at—	69 ...	34
The Sultan's claim to Bubiyan Island	167 ...	249, 258
Defeat of Hosein Jerad by Abdul Aziz-el-Saud	...	235, 272
Importation of arms at—	212 ...	304
Postal arrangements at—	217, 333 ...	478
Assistant Surgeon for the Post Office at—	241, 333 ...	347, 478, 510
Captain Knox's visit to—	...	396
Turkish quarantine against—	...	510
Survey of, harbour	308, 354 ...	410, 485
Turkish complaint against Major Knox	385 ...	573
Appointment of Political Agent at—	387, 392 ...	561, 574
KOWEIT (THE SHEIKH OF). His complicity with Sadun Pasha in committing raids on the tribes	47, 93 ...	89, 101
Proposed warning to—	47, 93 ...	89, 101
Imprisonment of the Agent of—	...	369
Arrest of Turkish soldiers for murders by the Agent of, at Fao.	366 ...	506
KURRAM BORDER. Violation of, by the Afghan troops	...	401
KUSHK. Russian activity near—	...	183

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SUBJECT.	FROM SECY. OF STATE. Number.	TO SECY. OF STATE. Number.
L		
LADIS. Telegraph line *viâ*, to Sandak	18, 35	
LAHORE COLLEGE. Appointment of Professor in succession to Mr. Arnold in the—	...	16
LANDIKOTAL. Telegraph line from Kabul to—	...	59
Road through Mullagori country from, to Peshawar ...	...	402
LAW, SIR E. His Minute on fiscal matters	51	
LETTERS, PRIVATE. Between Secy. of State and Viceroy. Question of printing—	23 ...	50
LINOTYPE MACHINE for trial in the Government Central Press, Calcutta ...	205, 231 ...	324, 352
LLOYDS, BAVARIAN. Claim of—	...	4
LOAN, RUPEE. Publication in the Press of the amount of —	120	108, 159, 168
To Persia. [See "Persia."]		
LORIMER, LIEUT. Attacked by the Lurs	360, 373 ...	546
LURISTAN OUTRAGE	360, 373 ...	546
M		
MAHMUD KHAN. His return to India from Constantinople	246	383, 4.4
MAIL CONTRACT. Indian—	12, 107 ...	30
MALACCA S. S. Instruction to refuse coal or supplies to—	234	
MALWA OPIUM. [See "Opium."]		
MANIPUR. Unrest in—	...	495, 499
MANSFIELD, COLONEL H. Recommended for C. B.	...	325
MARINE, ROYAL INDIAN, VESSELS. [See "Vessels."]		
MARKBY, REVD F. E. Recommended for a Chaplaincy	67	125
MASTERS, COLONEL A. Recommended for C. B.	...	325
MAYNE, MAJOR A. B. The case of —	58, 65 ...	97
MEDALS, FOR THE TIBET FORCES. [See "Tibet."]		
MEDALS, TURKISH. [See "Hedjaz Railway."]		
MESHED-SEISTAN TELEGRAPH. [See "Telegraph."]		
MILITARY POLICE, SILCHAR. [See "Cachar."]		
MINING LEASE in Burma by Great Eastern Mining Company. [See "Burma."]		
MITRA. THE HON. MR. SARODACHARAN. Appointment of, as Judge of the Calcuttta High Court ...	169	

SUBJECT.	FROM SECY. OF STATE. Number.	TO SECY. OF STATE. Number.
MOBILISATION, STORES. [See "Army."]		
MOHMAND FRONTIER. The Amir's reply to the Viceroy's letter	...	187, 269
Postponement of demarcation of —	140, 141, 189 ...	187, 269
MONSOON AND AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS. Statement of progress of — ...	245 ...	391, 476
MOURNING on account of the death of H. R. H. The Duke of Cambridge ...	123 ...	164
MULKOWAL INCIDENT	160 ...	247
MULLALY, COLONEL. Selected to discuss Defence questions	...	209
MUSABAD. Afghan encroachments at—	206, 389 ...	330
MUSANDIM. Lighthouse on—	...	469
Flag-staffs on—	...	549
MUSCAT. Recognition of a British Protectorate by France over —	70 ...	110
Abrogation of the Treaty of 1862	...	110
French concurrence in the suppression of arms trade at— ...	...	110
Expulsion of M. Goguyer from —	...	110
Draft article regarding —	139 ...	226, 236
Wreck and plunder of a boat in Dubai territory	162 ...	197
Loan to the Sultan of —	...	399
Customs	335 ...	505
ARBITRATION. Signing of Agreement with the French Government ...	342, 394 ...	530
N		
NASRATABAD. Telegraph line from Koh-i-Malik Siah to—	18 ...	3
NASRULLAH KHAN. [See "Afghanistan."]		
NATIVE LABOUR in Transvaal	34 ...	5
REGIMENTS. Changes in the—	382	
NAUS, MONS.	...	9, 53
NEJD. Question of entering into closer relations with—	50, 196, 212 ...	
Fighting at—	196 ...	250, 304
NEPAL (ESE). Exclusion of, communications from the Tibet Blue Book ...	27 ...	58
Purchase of plant for the manufacture of arms and ammunition by the, Government	78 ...	234
NICHOLLS, MR. Detained at Chumbi [See "Tibet Mission."]		
O		
OFFICIAL SECRETS BILL.	94, 96 ...	130
O'KINEALY, MR. P. Appointment of, as Advocate-General of Bengal ...	144 ...	196

SUBJECT.	FROM SECY. OF STATE. Number.	TO SECY. OF STATE. Number.
OPIUM, Malwa. Reduction of duty on—	180 ...	243, 274
Monopoly scheme in China	381, 404 ...	582, 588
Taxation. Chinese—	71 ...	119
ORENBURG-TASHKEND Railway	129 ...	182, 309
mRLEANS, The Prince of. His proposed visit to India through some prohibited Passes	8, 92 ...	22
P		
PEARSON, Brigadier-General A. A.	...	325
PERIM. Request of Russian steamer for permission to coal at—	232	
PERSIA(ns). Réglement	159 ...	18, 122, 221, 283, 420
Revenue administration	...	138
Customs	...	148
Sanitary arrangements in—	...	162, 393
Establishment of Branch of Imperial Bank at Birjand ...	253 ...	167*a*, 408, 430
Financial reform in—	178 ...	254, 323
Russian Loan contract with —	...	289
Establishment of Branch of Imperial Bank at Bunder Abbas ...	...	457
Consular guards for—	221, 256, 258, 318, 344	303, 359, 387, 438, 529
Loan	209, 225, 235, 248, 260, 278	365, 386, 424, 441
Slave trade in—	328 ...	521, 541
PERSIAN GULF. Illicit traffic in arms in the—	17	
Viceroy's tour in the : Bushire incident	26 ...	39, 42
Naval bases in the —	102 ...	121, 240
Telegraphs in the —	102 ...	121, 240
Fars and the —	209, 248 ...	224
Suppression of piracy in the —	289 ...	404
Light-house on Musandim	...	469
PESHAWAR. Railway from, to Shinpokh	134	
Road through Mullagori country from Landi Kotal to — ...	...	402
PLAGUE. Mulkowal incident	160	
POLICE, Bengal. [See "Horne"].		
POLICE COMMISSION. Report : publication of the —	20, 36, 54, 59, 64, 73	24, 76, 93, 98
Decision as to —	36, 54 ...	76
Question in Council as to—	59 ...	93, 98
Question answered by the Secretary of State *re* — ...	64	
POLICE, Gurkha Military, Cachar [See "Cachar".]		
POSTAL Congress. Indian delegates to the —	21 ...	15,51
Postponed	32	
Haly's invitation to India	...	51
PRESIDENCY Banks	359, 376, 397 ...	562

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Subject.	From Secy. of State.	To Secy. of State.
	Number.	Number.
PRESS, Calcutta, Government. Linotype machine for — [See "Linotype."]		
PRINSEP, Sir Henry. Appointment of a successor to—	125 ...	140
K. C. I. E. for —	130 ...	166
PRINTING and Stationery. Appointment of Mr. Cogswell as Controller of —	75, 119, 132 ...	124, 141, 155, 167
PUBLIC WORKS Programme	76, 100 ...	83*a*, 108, 109
PULLEY, Colonel C. Recommended for C. B.	202	
PUNJAB GOVERNMENT. Removal of, from Simla	90, 97 ...	91, 115, 126
Q		
QUARANTINE at Bushire	280, 294 ...	444, 525
Against Koweit	...	510
QUARTER-MASTER-Generalship of India	128, 137 ...	175, 186
Leakage of news *re* —	128	
R		
RAILWAY Programme	76, 100 ...	83*a*, 108, 109
Orenburg-Tashkend	129	182, 309, 443, 511
From Peshawar to Shinpokh	134	199
Extension from Jamrud	134	199
Russian: Carrying powers of the—	142	
Samarkand-Oxus—	...	382
Burma-Chinese—	266	
Kohat-Thal-Parachinar. Conversion of narrow-gauge to broad-gauge	304	443
RALEIGH, Sir T. Question of his successor	22	38, 47
K. C. S. I. for —	115	166
RANSOME, Mr. J. The case of —	52, 85 ...	86, 133
RICHARDS, Mr. H. Erle. Appointed as Law Member of Viceroy's Executive Council	22, 45 ...	47
Date of his arrival in Bombay	55	
Question of his accommodation in Simla ...	55, 63	96
RIFLES. Purchase of, for the Indian Army	264, 269 ...	406
ROGERS, Mr. J. D. His candidature for a Judgship in the Calcutta High Court...	28	75
RUPEE LOAN	120, 215 ...	108, 159, 168, 326
RUSSIA (n). Movements on the Afghan frontier	95, 201 ...	117, 123, 135, 237, 288, 292, 299, 302, 306, 319, 394
Railway: carrying powers of the—	142	
Probable, Forces in Afghanistan	142	
Intrigue in Tibet. [See "Tibet."]		
Disarming of Akhal Turkomans by the —...	...	134, 152, 180
Communication between the, and Afghan officers in Afghan frontier	...	174, 253, 265, 268, 460, 507, 545

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Subject.	From Secy. of State.	To Secy. of State.
	Number.	Number.
RUSSIA (n)—*contd.*		
Invasion of India by—	...	268
Activities in Central Asia	201, 271, 276 ...	292, 299, 302, 306, 319, 375, 434, 455, 465, 466, 490, 532, 575
Request of, steamer to coal at Aden or Perim	232, 274	
Volunteer Fleet	234, 274	
Chinese frontier	254	
Question of its Political relations with Afghanistan ...	299, 315 ...	460, 484
RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR. Proclamation of neutrality	56, 255	
Accommodation in India of Russian crews of vessels destroyed in	60	103
Representation of the Indian Army in the— ...	68, 79, 83, 98, 101, 106, 111, 113, 143, 147	87, 104, 111, 120, 142, 147, 176, 151, 220
Press correspondents with the—	157	198
S		
SANDAK. Telegraph line *vid* Ladis to—	18, 35	
SARODA CHARAN MITRA. [See "Mitra"]		
SCALLON, COLONEL R. I. Recommended for C. B.	202	325
SCHALCH COLONEL V. A. Recommended for C. B.	...	326
SCLATER, MAJOR-GENERAL H. C., C. B. Appointed as Quarter-Master-General in India	128, 137 ...	175, 186
SECRETARY OF STATE. Question of printing private letters between Viceroy and —	23	50
SECRETS, OFFICIAL. ["See Official Secrets."]		
SEISTAN. Telegraph line to — 18,	146 ...	3, 11, 20, 71, 94, 170, 173, 192, 204, 536
Attitude of the Custom authorities towards the British Consul at —...	25, 61 ...	9, 53, 70, 113
Demarcation of, boundary	146 ...	201, 435, 452, 468, 543, 563
Bank. Acquisition of land for the premises of the—	...	57
Arrival of Hashmat-ul-Mulk at Tehran from—	...	116
Sale of revenue grain at —	...	118, 154
Revenues	...	138
Mission	...	270
SHATT-EL-ARAB. Piracy near —	109	149
SHAW WALLACE & Co., MESSRS. Their scheme for a cotton improvement Syndicate	124, 136	
SHEEP ISLAND. Erection of flag staffs on —	270	572
SHEIKH SAID. British Commissioner's visit to Commandant of—	388	
SHERIFF, MAJOR-GENERAL J. P. Recommended for C. B.	...	325
SHINPOKH. Railway from Peshawar to —	134	

SUBJECT.	FROM SECY. OF STATE Number.	TO SECY. OF STATE. Number.
SIAM	82	145, 189
Proposed appointment of Vice-Consul at Lakon—	172, 177 ...	255, 297, 321
Chiengmai Consular Staff	177 ...	255, 297, 321
SIBPUR. [See "Chemist."]		
SILCHAR, MILITARY POLICE. [See "Cachar."]		
SIMLA. Removal of the Punjab Government from —	90, 97 ...	91, 115, 126
SLAVE TRADE IN PERSIA. [See "Persia."]		
SOMALILAND. Diminution of live stock in, prohibitive measures	24	79
Policy as to—	122, 133 ...	177
Value to India of retaining—	122, 133 ...	177
Charge to India of the cost of—	122, 133 ...	177
Affairs in —	405	586
SOMERS-COCKS, MR. C. S. [See "Foreign Department."]		
STEVENS, MR. JUSTICE H. L. Appointment of his successor.	48	37
ST. LOUIS EXHIBITION AND MR BLECHYNDEN	9	
STATIONERY AND PRINTING. Appointment of Mr. Cogswell as Controller of—	75, 119, 132, 151 ...	124, 141, 155, 167, 194
SUBAIHI BOUNDARY	251 ...	361
SUGAR DUTIES. Countervailing—	7	29
SZECHUAN, EASTERN. Exploration of—	...	14
T		
TAGHDUMBASH PAMIR, WESTERN. Rights exercised by Kanjutis in— ...	254	
TAMB AND ABU MUSA. Hoisting of Arab flags at —	168, 175, 186 ...	225, 245, 259.
TANG, MR. His arrival in Calcutta	398	564
English copies of Tibet Convention and Adhesion Agreement for— ...	401	580
TASHKEND-ORENBURG RAILWAY	129	182, 309, 443, 511
TEA, INDIAN. Enhanced rate of British import duty on—	...	242, 248, 271
TELEGRAPH CONVENTION, CHINESE. Modification of—	375	581
ISLAND. Erection of flag staffs on—	270	572
LINE TO SEISTAN	18, 377 ...	3, 11, 20, 71, 83, 94, 170, 173, 192, 204, 536
To Landi Kotal from Kabul	...	59
From Koh-i-Malik Siah to Nasratabad	18 ...	3, 11, 20
via Ladis to Sandak	18, 35	
From Bam to Koh-i-Malik Siah	72	
In the Persian Gulf	102, 154 ...	121
Bunder Abbas—	...	320

Subject.		From Secy. of State.	To Secy. of State.
		Number.	Number.
THOMAS, Mr. K. B.	His candidature for the post of Controller of Stamps and Stationery	132	
TIBET(an, ans).	Question of annexation of, or establishment of British Protectorate over—	173, 174 ...	260
	Russian intrigue in —	...	2, 77
	Meeting of the, at Guru	...	48, 55
	Route to the Chumbi Valley through Bhutan ...	...	106
	Postponement of forward movement of the, for tens days at Tuna—	...	181
	Proposed appointment of a Resident at Lhasa ...	214	
	Terms of the Treaty with the—	220, 223, 230, 239, 240, 243, 244, 249, 316, 320	334, 355, 356, 357, 360, 374, 380, 407, 412, 425, 437, 450, 523
	Signature of Convention between Great Britain and—...	239, 259, 285 ...	372, 416, 419
	Arrival of, delegates at Gyantse	...	346
	Ratification of Convention with the—	259, 268 ...	379, 405, 515, 542
	Trade negotiations with the —	275 ...	423, 461, 487
	Question of indemnity from the—	279, 293, 296, 298, 306, 314, 320	407, 419, 425, 445, 450, 453, 456.
	Opening of trade marts in—	279, 288, 361 ...	425, 429, 436, 440 487, 518
	Mining rights in	282 ...	429
	Refusal to accept the terms of the Treaty by the — ...	...	407, 412
	Adhesion Agreement	285, 311, 313, 316, 324, 337, 347, 369	417, 450, 464, 467 486, 556.
	Revision of the Trade Regulations	346, 403 ...	417, 427, 453, 461, 472, 487, 532.
	Conclusion of the agreement with the—	292, 295, 361 ...	450
	Congratulations to Colonel Younghusband on conclusion of the agreement with the —	292, 295 ...	482
	Treaty between Russia and China about—	...	439
	Draft agreement with the—	...	445
	Tashi Lama as Head of Buddhist Church	...	447
	Reduction of the indemnity	296, 298, 320, 361, 369	453, 461, 465, 472, 487, 515, 523, 556, 587
	Chinese suzerainty over —	311, 313, 316, 321 ...	464, 467, 472, 475, 480, 497, 542,
	Chinese objection to sign the Adhesion Agreement ...	311, 313, 316 ...	464, 467, 472, 475, 480, 487, 497, 542
	Return to India of troops from —	...	487, 502
	Communiqué to English newspaper as to the scope of the agreement with the—	319	
	Objection of other Powers to the terms of the treaty with the	313, 316, 337, 347...	492, 497, 503, 534
	Amendments to the, Convention	324, 313, 316, 337, 347	497, 503, 523, 531, 534
	Negotiation of the Adhesion Agreement at Peking or Calcutta	313, 316, 324, 337, 347, 371	503, 534
	Report of Trade Agent at Gyantse	...	518
	Ratification of the, Convention by the Viceroy ...	361, 372 ...	554, 587
	Publication of the, Convention	372	554
	Declaration of, as a Province of the Chinese Empire ...	357, 365 ...	542
	Rumours of resumption of hostilities by the — ...	...	560, 568, 571
	Declaration appended to the Convention ...	...	587
Blue Book.	Exclusion of Nepalese communications from the— ...	27 ...	58
	Compilation of—	27, 42, 43, 46, 49, 229	58, 78, 80, 81

	Subject.	From Secy. of State.	To Secy. of State.
		Number.	Number.
TIBET Mission.	Tibetan Commissioner for the —	10	
	A sensational press message stopped	38 ...	67
	Safety of the—	41	
	Instructions to Colonel Younghusband about the— ...	41, 228, 230, 261, 263	353, 397, 398
	Estimate of the cost of the—	49, 185 ...	95
	Parliamentary question *re* allowances for equipment of the—	104	
	Fighting and casualties at Guru	153, 156 ...	205, 207, 210, 216, 223, 228, 229, 230, 231.
	Arrival at Gyantse	155 ...	222, 246
	Movements of Dalai Lama	176 ...	239, 407, 500, 523
	Move to and arrival at Tuna	...	8, 12, 25, 35
	Arrival at Phari	...	23, 31
	Meeting of the Lhasa emissaries at Tuna ...	...	40, 61, 105
	Probable attack at Guru on the —	...	69, 395
	Attitude of the Tibetans towards —	...	64, 74, 90, 92, 246, 280, 331, 397, 398.
	Debate in Parliament on the —	155 ...	77, 229, 312
	Attitude of the Dalai Lama towards the— ...	...	82
	Allowances to the members of the—	...	146
	Amban's inability to meet the—	...	161, 191, 211
	Arrival at Guru	...	200
	Request of delegate from Amban to return to Yatung ...	...	215
	Confiscation of the property by the Tibetans of the Generals and Lama killed in the Guru fight ...	...	218
	Congratulatory letters from Tongsa Penlop and Trimpuk Jongpen on the victory at Guru	...	241
	Proposal to move to Lhasa	181, 184, 185, 187, 188	251, 261, 266, 295
	Present and a letter from Dharm Raja of Bhutan ...	...	257,
	Despatches from Amban to Colonel Younghusband ...	...	256 263, 267
	Gathering of Tibetan troops near Karo La ...	...	264' 273
	Fighting at Gyantse	...	266
	Reinforcements for the—	188, 190, 197, 216 ...	281, 290, 291, 311, 337, 340.
	Period allowed before move to Lhasa—	187, 195 ...	276, 279, 333
	Fighting near Karo La	...	273
	Advance to Lhasa	195, 203, 213 ...	276, 332, 353, 360
	Russian rifles and ammunition found at Karo La ...	...	278
	Estimated cost of reinforcements	185 ...	282
	Formal notice to the Amban before move to Lhasa ...	194 ...	295
	Rumoured presence of Russians north of Phari ...	...	286
	Situation at Gyantse of the—	...	287, 294, 305
	Formal notice to the Chinese Government about last date of negotiation at Gyantse	185, 198, 200 ...	307
	Question in Parliament about position of the— ...	199	
	Question of using Dum Dum bullets by the force with the—	204 ...	318
	Additional Company of Native Mounted Infantry for the—	...	300
	Warning of troops for service with the—	...	313
	Delivery of Ultimatum to the—	...	314
	Tongsa Penlop's letter to the Dalai Lama	...	315
	Question in Parliament about whereabouts of Colonel Younghusband and General Macdonald	207 ...	328
	Casualties in connection with the—	208 ...	329
	Orders as to immediate information to Secretary of State of British casualties in the—	210	

Subject.		From Secy. of State.	To Secy. of State.
		Number.	Number.
TIBET MISSION—*contd.*			
	Treaty negotiations	218, 261, 263, 398 ...	333, 336, 339, 342, 345, 363. 368, 381, 397, 398, 429, 432 564
	Winter occupation of Lhasa	219	335, 344
	Telegram for transmission to Amban from the Chinese Government	242	
	Indemnity from the Chinese	...	343, 467
	Capture of the Gyantse fort	...	348, 349, 350
	Ta Lama's flight	...	351
	Arrival at Nagartse of the—	...	371
	Colonel Younghusband's correspondence with Dalai Lama	...	381, 385
	Arrival at Lhasa	...	390, 397, 398
	Desirability of sending in cipher telegrams to Secretary of State about—	257 ...	413
	Situation at Lhasa of the—	261 ...	397, 398
	Denunciation of Dalai Lama	276 ...	417, 421, 447
	Amban's visit to Colonel Younghusband ...	...	395
	Conference of the Acting Regent, the Tongsa Penlop and the Nepal Representative at Lhasa	...	419
	Hostages for attack on the Medical officers with the —	...	427
	Occupation of the Chumbi Valley	293, 296, 306, 311, 314, 320, 361	453, 461, 472, 487, 587
	Exchange of release of prisoners of war	...	459
	Troops remaining at Lhasa to secure treaty obligations	296, 297 ...	461
	Medals for the Force	300, 336 ...	471
	Survey of Gartok	302 ...	440, 486, 514, 533
	Visit to the Monasteries and Cathedral	...	474, 486
	Colonel Younghusband's disobedience to orders of the Home Government	314, 316, 320 ...	531
	Views of Government of India on formal notes exchanged by Colonel Younghusband with the Amban ...	313, 316 ...	492, 497, 528
	Escort of the Trade Agent at Gyantse	327, 338 ...	513
	Reuter's statement about occupation of Chumbi Valley for 75 years	334	
	Detention of Mr. Nichols at Chumbi	367	558
TRANSVAAL.	Question of native labour in—	34 ...	5
TURKISH MEDALS.	[See "Hedjaz Railway."]		
TURNBULL, CAPTAIN.	Appointed as medical officer with the Kabul Mission ...	...	524
U			
UMAR JAN.	[See "Afghanistan."]		
V			
VESSELS, R. I. M.	Precise distribution of, in time of war	84 ...	128
	Defence	14	
VICEROY(ALTY), THE.	Payment of his passage to England during leave ...	13 ...	
	Question of printing private letters between Secretary of State and —	23 ...	50
	His tour in the Persian Gulf: Bushire incident	26 ...	42

SUBJECT.	FROM SECRETARY OF STATE. Number.	TO SECRETARY OF STATE. Number.
VICEROY (ALTY), THE—*contd.*		
His letter to the Amir of Afghanistan	53 ...	59, 63
Proposed meeting of the Amir with the —	.....	59, 63
Letter from the Amir of Afghanistan to —	.....	59, 63
Question of his leave	99 ...	132
Appointment of, as Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports ...	110, 116, 135, 138	158, 190, 171
His engagements in England	118 ...	165
Date of departure from Bombay of —	.....	150
Lord Ampthill's assumption of —	.....	262
Re-appointment of Lord Curzon as—	284 ...	428
Reception of Lord Ampthill as Viceroy	284 ...	428
Postponement of Lord Curzon's return to India as — ...	305, 330	
W		
WARNEFORD, CAPTAIN. Arrest of his murderer	326 ...	493, 517
WOLFE-MURRAY, MAJOR-GENERAL SIR J. His appointment to the Army Council	45	
WOODROFFE, MR. J. T. Retirement of, from Advocate-Generalship of Bengal...	144 ...	196
Y		
YAMIN-I-NIZAM. Appointment of—	340 ...	526
YOUNGHUSBAND, COLONEL F. E. [See "Tibet Mission."]		
Z		
ZANZIBAR. Arrival of Ali Bin Salim at—	286 ...	293

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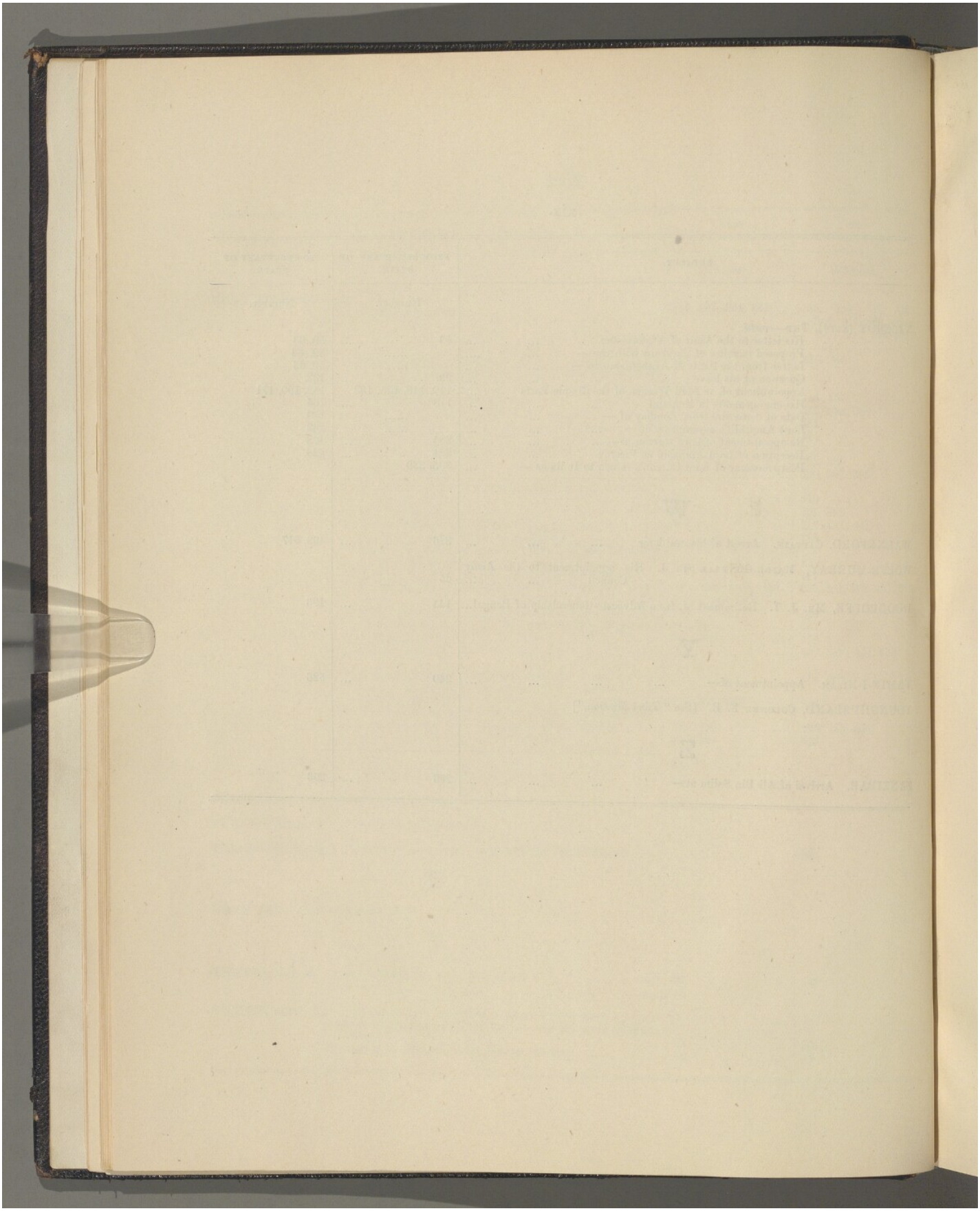

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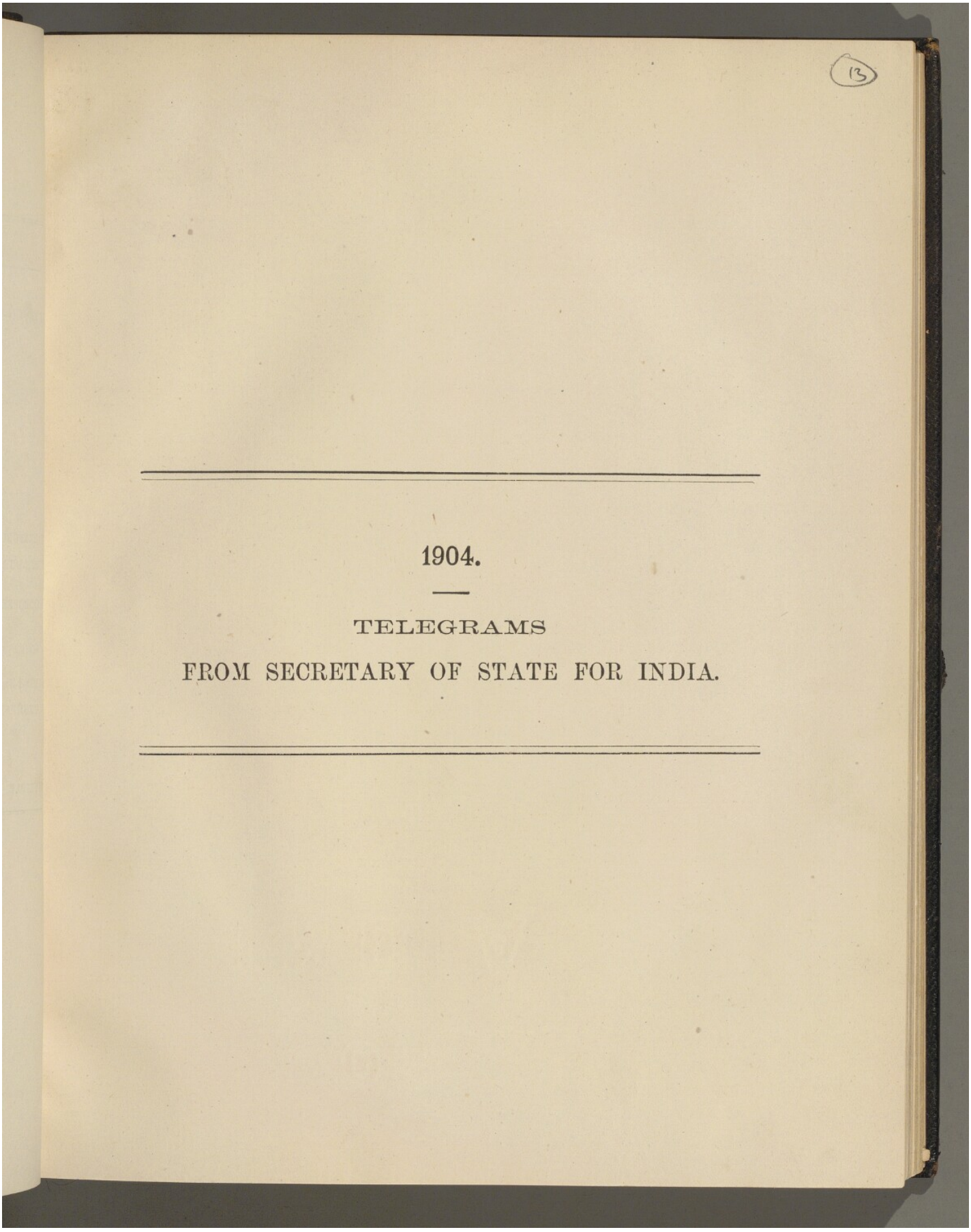

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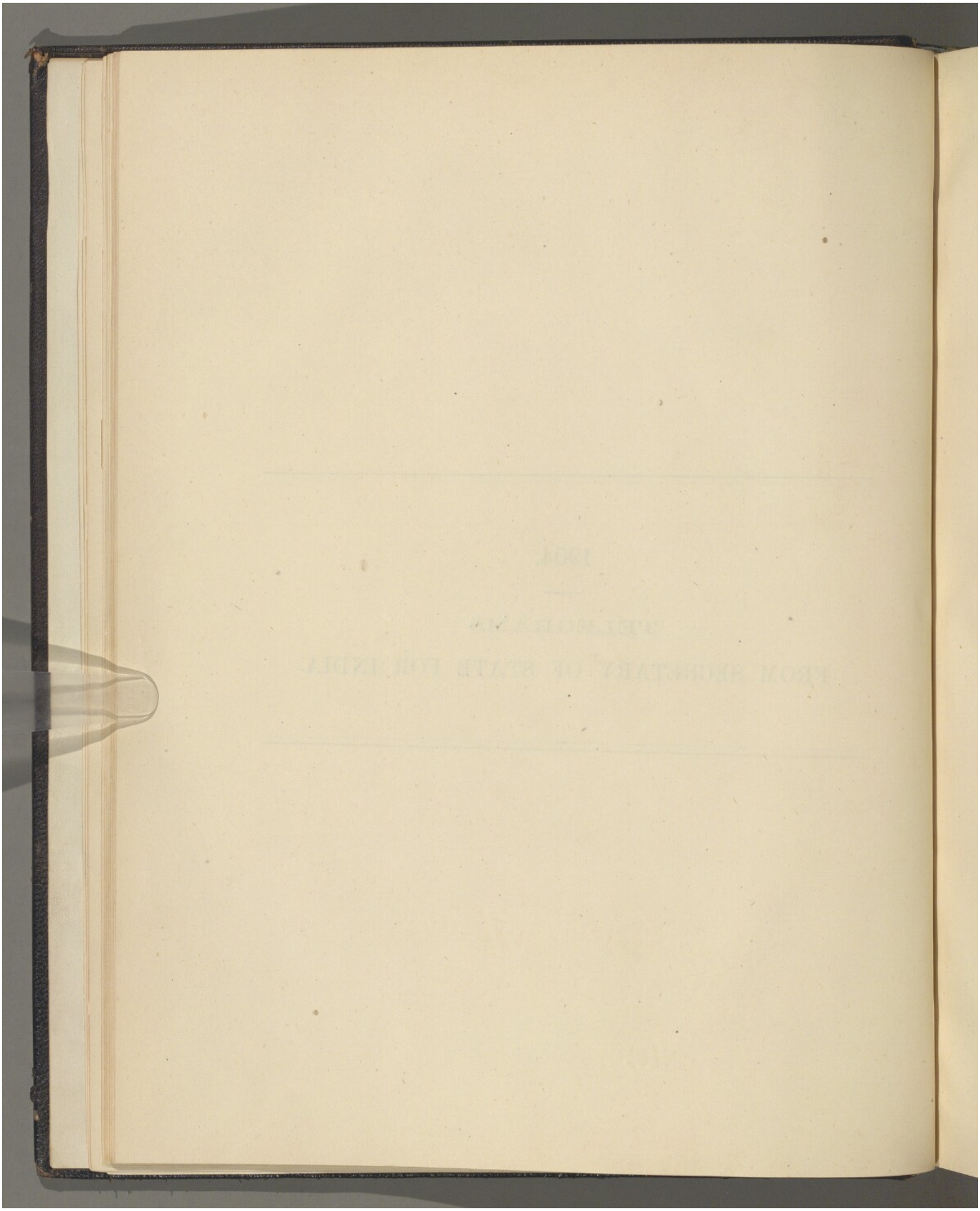
1904.

TELEGRAMS

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.



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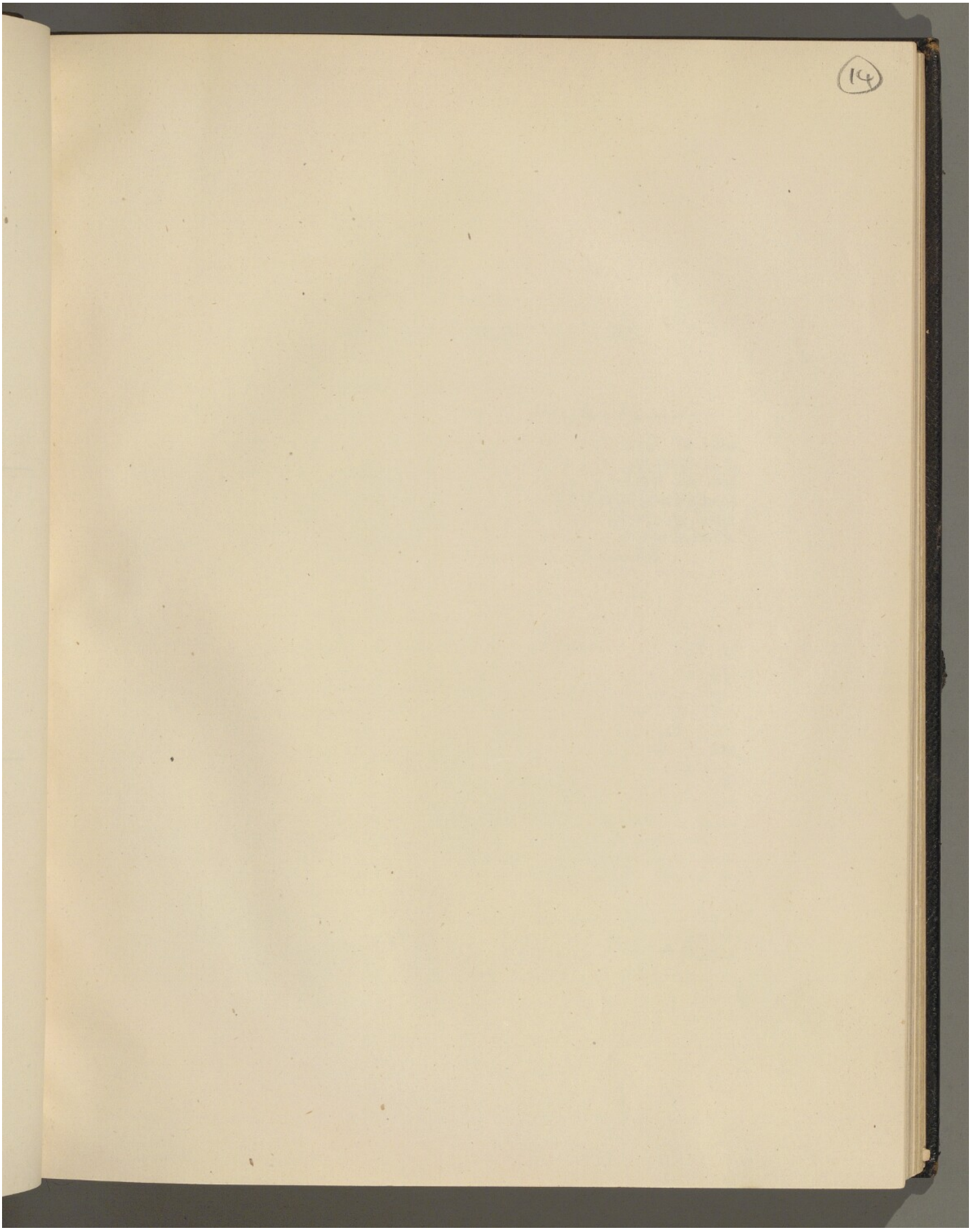
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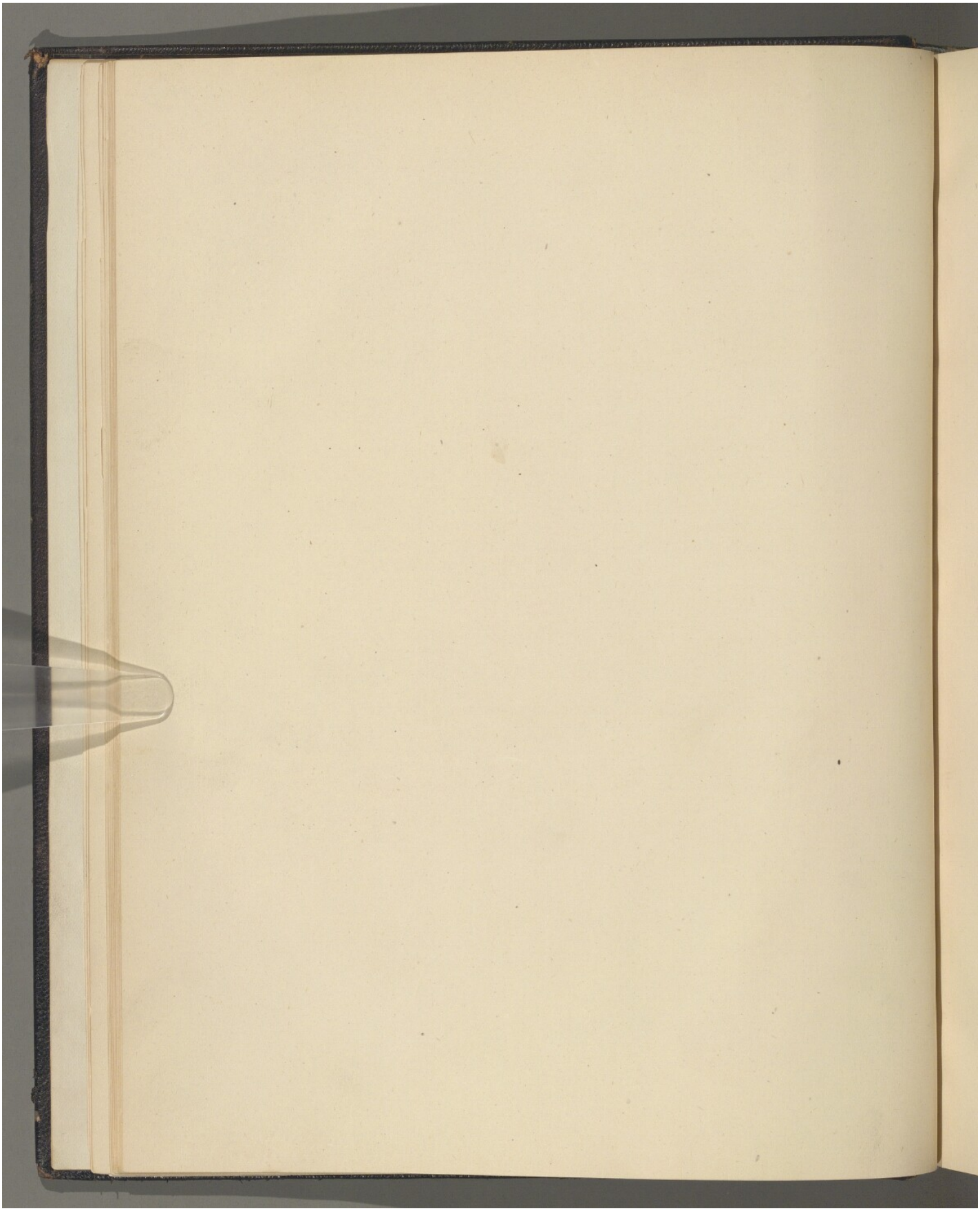

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(15)

1904.

TELEGRAMS

FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.

No. 1.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 1st January 1904, 5-55 p. m. (Recd. 2nd, 6 a. m.)

Please refer to your Home Department letter of 12th November. In view of your distrust of Haffkine's administrative capacity, I accept your proposal to confine him to expert work, though I regret the necessity. I feel sure that every possible consideration will be shown him on account of past eminent services, and, after what has now occurred, there is no likelihood of his being employed in association with Bannerman. I learn privately that it is desirable that Haffkine should take furlough to Europe on account of his health.

No. 2.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 4th January 1904. (Recd. 5th.)

Reinforcements for India. Immediate and Secret. Referring to Government of India Despatch No. 83, dated 14th May, as to suitability to Indian conditions of organisation laid down in "War Establishments, 1898," the War Office have enquired whether any further communication has since been received from you. They say also that, in the event of war with Russia, it has been estimated for Committee of Imperial Defence that it will be necessary to despatch from home, as soon as maritime conditions admit of their safe transport by sea, a first reinforcement of 30,000 men, of whom 12,000 would be needed to make good the wastage of Indian Field Army in the opening stages of the war, and that, within six months of the commencement of hostilities, it will be necessary to despatch further reinforcements amounting to 70,000 men, of whom 25,000 would be needed to make further wastage good. Replies to the following questions are then asked for:—

(*a*) What should be the composition by arms of the service organised units amounting to a strength of 18,000 men, who are to be sent out to India with the first reinforcement, and what is to be the proportion of the different arms in remaining 12,000 men who will be despatched in the form of drafts ?

(*b*) Similarly, what is to be the organisation by arms of the service of 45,000 men in units and of the 25,000 men in the form of drafts who will form the second contingent?

(*c*) Should the two reinforcements of 18,000 and 45,000 men, respectively, who will be despatched in the form of organised units of the different arms be given any higher organisation, such, for instance, as Army Corps, Divisions, or Brigades?

(*d*) Should the reply to question (*c*) be in the negative, will any General Officers or Staffs be required? If so, in what proportion should they be provided?

(*e*) In view of the decision given in the Government of India's Despatch of 14th May on the subject of transport for reinforcements, will any *personnel* of Army Service Corps be required?

(*f*) Apart from Army Service Corps, what proportion of other departmental Corps should be included in each reinforcement?

In view of the situation in the Far East, please let me have a very early reply by telegraph.

No. 3.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 4th January 1904, 7-20 p. m. (Recd. 5th, 7 a. m.)

Private. Foreign Department reorganisation. Your private telegram of 2nd instant. The Foreign Office here are looking favourably on lending a man. I hope to submit names in a short time.

No. 4.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 5th January 1904, 5-30 p. m. (Recd. 6th, 7 a. m.)

Please refer to your telegram, dated 29th December, regarding the High Court of Judicature in Bengal. I agree to the appointment *vice* Banerjee, but for any further vacancy the condition referred to holds good.

No. 5.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 5th January 1904, 10 p. m. (Recd. 6th, 7 a. m.)

Please refer to your telegram of the 4th instant. I am unable to sanction that part of your scheme which substitutes Native for British Garrison

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Companies at Calcutta and Bombay, but I am willing, if you desire it, to sanction the organisation and distribution of Coast Artillery recommended in your Despatch No. 38 of March 5th last, provided there is no reduction in the present establishment of British Artillery at the two ports. I am unable to concur in the view expressed in paragraph 4 of your letter of August 20th. A despatch goes to you by this mail on the subject.

No. 6.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 5th January 1904, 10-5 p. m. (Recd. 6th, 9-50 a. m.)

Private. Artillery Rearmament. Please see your private telegram of 28th December 1903. The Council recognise the character of the difficulties in assigning surplus revenue for defence expenditure over several years, but think it possible that your proposals may in some degree be met. Your surplus appears likely to exceed any sum which can be otherwise required. The War Office will supply the remainder of the 50,000 rifles, alluded to by you, before 31st March. If you will agree, they can also supply early next financial year 50,000 of the newest pattern rifles in addition to the 21,000 already ordered by you, and out of surplus an advance of £200,000 could be made and expended on these by 31st March. They can also promise 18 Field and 3 Horse Batteries new guns with ammunition next year, costing, say, £500,000, and if required, more rifles. Surely it will be well to undertake the payment of £200,000 this year and £500,000 next year, out of balances, to secure the principle of priority and prompt rearmament under the present conditions in the East. The New Indian Factory could not supply guns for two or three years, and you will require 32 more batteries and reserves which, for a considerable time, would occupy the Indian factory. If I hear from you at once that you can support this, I will try and do my best with the Council to secure a considerable portion of the surplus being made available for defence purposes; but, apart from this, I do not think that the above offer should be refused. The matter is urgent, as, in a few days, the Army estimates will be closed, and on January 12th I shall telegraph officially.

Above telegram made official, *vide* telegram of 12th February 1904.

No. 7.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Financial Dept.)

Telegram, 6th January 1904, 5-55 p. m. (Recd. 7th, 10-45 a. m.)

Your Despatch dated 3rd December. Countervailing sugar duties. British Customs enquire whether remission of duty applies to beet sugar refined in the United Kingdom, as British refiners have difficulty in furnishing required declaration. Customs have advised them to add date of actual production sugar

to the particulars endorsed on Form C, your Notification 4439. Please telegraph whether you concur.

No. 8.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 7th January 1904, 4-20 p. m. (Recd. 8th, 7-15 a. m.)

Prince of Orleans. Please see your telegram of the 28th November. Your objections to the use of the Kilik and neighbouring passes have been explained to the Prince. He has abandoned the route originally planned, and now wishes to enter India by the Karakoram Pass and Leh next autumn. I assume that the objections do not extend to this route, and propose to tell the Prince that facilities will be accorded to him.

No. 9.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Rev. & Agrl. Dept.)

Telegram, 8th January 1904, 6-5 p. m. (Recd. 9th, 7-15 a. m.)

Your telegram dated 28th December. Royal Commission cannot be increased, but Foreign Office is giving Blechynden letter of introduction to Ambassador at Washington, who has been instructed to give all possible help.

R.

No. 10.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 11th January 1904, 1-20 p. m. (Recd. 12th, 7 a. m.)

Tibet. The Chinese Ambassador informed Lord Lansdowne, on the 22nd December, that a Tibetan official called Kopbutung had been nominated by the Amban as Tibetan Commissioner, and that as soon as the appointment was sanctioned by the Dalai Lama, the Amban will proceed with him to Yatung to negotiate the settlement of all pending issues with the British Commissioner.

No. 11.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 11th January 1904, 1-55 p. m. (Recd. 12th, 6-30 a. m.)

Please inform me, at an early date, whether you desire to proceed with the scheme for Indian Coast Artillery on the lines indicated in my telegram of the 5th instant. The War Office represent the importance of the scheme as affecting the security of Naval bases especially Singapore.

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(17)

R.

No. 12.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 11th January 1904, 1-15 p. m. (Recd. 12th, 6-30 a. m.)

Private. Indian Mail Service. The Inter-Departmental Committee strongly lean to a 5 years' extension of the existing contract, with 24 hours' acceleration each way; no extra subsidy. What is your feeling? If we terminate the contract, I doubt our materially improving the terms.

No. 13.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 11th January 1904, 9-25 p. m. (Recd. 12th, 6-30 a. m.)

Private. If you prefer to come home in a Peninsular and Oriental Ship instead of an Indian Marine Ship, I have ascertained that the Council are disposed to assent to the payment of your passage to England; also of that of Lady Curzon and family. But before treating the matter as finally settled, please let me know what number of passengers, including attendants, this would involve, and what classes.

No. 14.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P Telegram, 12th January 1904, 3-5 p. m. (Recd. 13th, 7 a. m.)

Defence vessels. With reference to your telegram of 27th April 1903, the Admiralty now offer £21,000 for the four torpedo boats. I am disposed to accept. Have you any remarks? *Assaye* and *Plassy* will be sold at best price obtainable by the Admiralty.

No. 15.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P Telegram, 12th January 1904, 4-40 p. m. (Recd. 13th, 7 a. m.)

Additional Judge of the Calcutta High Court. Please refer to your telegram of the 30th ultimo. Also see correspondence ending with Sir H. Fowler's Despatch, No. 2, of the 24th January 1895. Could not some permanent Judge of the High Court be deputed to inspect and report on establishments to Government and High Court? In that case, there is no objection to the appointment in his place of an Acting Judge.

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No. 16.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 12th January 1904, 7-5 p. m. (Recd. 13th, 9-15 a. m.)

Artillery Rearmament. Please refer to your Financial Despatch No. 333. In connection with your proposal to create a special fund for the Defence Scheme, I have had under consideration an offer from the War Office to supply India with 50,000 new pattern rifles for delivery early next financial year at an approximate cost of £200,000, these being distinct from the 21,000 rifles already ordered, and 3 horse and 18 field batteries, new pattern artillery, for delivery during 1904-5, at an approximate cost of £500,000. To the acceptance of this offer I attach great importance, as establishing the principle that India should receive priority of supply. If, as I hope, you concur, then, having regard to the expected surplus for 1903-4, although I regret that I am unable to sanction the proposals contained in your Despatch No. 333, I am prepared to agree that any expenditure on special defence works, as proposed by your Government, which may be incurred before March 31st, 1905, and any purchases of Field or Horse Artillery or rifles of the newest pattern which may be made before that date, shall be met, so far as they are not paid for before March 31st, 1904, from balances existing at that date, and that a sum not exceeding one crore and twenty-five lakhs out of the surplus for 1903-4 shall be regarded as appropriated for this purpose, and so described in your next Financial Statement, though not, till the expenditure is actually incurred, charged against revenue.

No. 17.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 12th January 1904, 7-50 p. m. (Recd. 13th, 7 a. m.)

Following telegram received from the Consul-General at Marseilles :—

Begins. I am secretly but reliably informed that one case, supposed to contain boots for Bushire, to be shipped 31st December at Marseilles per *Sharistan*, chartered by Bucknall, was accidently found to contain revolvers. *Ends.*

Please inform the Resident in the Persian Gulf.

R.

No. 18.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 12th January 1904, 10-45 p. m. (Recd. 13th, 8-40 a. m.)

Seistan Telegraph Line. Your telegram of the 2nd instant. Sir A. Hardinge has been instructed, on the 5th January, to press for the immediate

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extension from Koh-i-Malik Siah to Nasratabad, on the assumption that the construction will be entrusted to the Indian Telegraph Department. In the meantime the construction party may be kept on as proposed in your telegram of the 9th instant. Please refer to your telegram of the 4th instant. There are strong objections to carrying the Central Persian three-wire line to Nasratabad. I am inclined to prefer the alternative suggestion in your telegram of 25th December, namely, to connect Quetta-Seistan and Central Persian lines at Sandak *viâ* Ladis, even if a Persian single-wire line has to be made between Ladis and Koh-i-Malik Siah hereafter.

No. 19.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 12th January 1904, 3-35 p. m. (Recd. 13th, 7 a. m.)

Private. Many thanks for your private telegram of the 9th instant. The Council have today agreed to a telegram practically accepting the arrangement privately discussed between us. One and a quarter crores had previously been named; but if you press for one and a half crores, I have little doubt that it will be granted.

No. 20.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 12th January 1904, 3-35 p. m. (Recd. 13th, 7 a. m.)

Private. Report of the Police Commission. Your private telegram of 11th instant. I understand that my predecessor objected to publication until a decision was given. I am expediting this as much as possible, and hope that, before Parliament meets, we may be able to publish it.

No. 21.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

Telegram, 16th January 1904, 7-10 p. m. (Recd. 17th, 7 a. m.)

Your telegram dated 5th January. Postal Congress. Fanshawe is recovering satisfactorily, but prefers, on account of eye-sight, to resume ordinary duties at the end of next month.

No. 22.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 18th January 1904, 3-25 p. m. (Recd. 19th, 6 a. m.)

Private. Law Membership. Please see your private telegram of the 16th instant. I have several good candidates. The Law Officers press Richards, not the Member of Parliament. The Chief Justice and Lord

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Lansdowne urge Davidson, who wants the appointment. But for your letter I should have appointed him, as his capacity struck me at the Foreign Office. Butcher cannot leave York. I shall be glad to have your views on these by telegram.

No. 23.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 19th January 1904, 9-40 p. m. (Recd. 20th, 8-15 a. m.)

Private. I have received by last mail printed copies of my private letters to you. Many of my observations in these letters are personal and for your own eyes only, especially those concerning recent events here. My letters to you will be seriously curtailed if they are printed.

R.

No. 24.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 22nd January 1904, 12 midnight. (Recd. 23rd, 7 a. m.)

I am informed by the Foreign Office that, in consequence of the serious diminution of live stock in Somaliland, it is proposed to prohibit the sale, for slaughter or export, of females of sheep, goats, and camels. In view of the effect on the price of meat for troops at Aden, please let me know if you have any observations to offer on this proposal.

Repeated to Aden. Please repeat to Bombay Government.

No, 25.]

Secretary of State to Viceroy.

Telegram, 23rd January 1904, 4-45 p. m. (Recd. 24th, 7 a. m.)

I shall be glad to receive reports from H. B. M.'s Consul in Seistan referred to in your telegrams of 3rd and 22nd January last.

No. 26.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 24th January 1904, 12-55 a. m. (Recd. 12-5 p. m.)

With reference to your telegram of the 18th January regarding the Bushire incident, His Majesty's Government will await your Despatch before giving

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(19)

effect to a telegram already sent to Mr. Grant Duff for Sir A. Hardinge's guidance, of which the following is the substance :—

Telegram begins. The matter is not one in which we can demand a formal apology. International practice does not justify the claim that the Viceroy should be treated as the representative of the Sovereign when visiting the dominions of an independent Sovereign at whose Court His Majesty is represented by an accredited Envoy. All that could be asked would be that the Viceroy should be treated as an official of the highest rank. Under Turkmanchai protocol, an Ambassador is to be met by the Governor of the Province and conducted to the lodging prepared which is the ceremonial insisted on by the Shah. There is no precedent for the claim that a Governor should conduct a Foreign official of whatever rank to the Consulate of his country and there pay the first visit. The creation of such a precedent would apply to Russian high officials. It would be an extremely difficult argument that there was any want of courtesy in the programme proposed by the Shah as it was accepted in the Viceroy's telegram of 29th October to Mr. Grant Duff which was communicated to the Persian Government and has been produced here by the Persian Minister.

In reply to the communication made by the Persian Minister complaining of the Viceroy's want of consideration, it has been thought best to say that His Majesty's Government share the disappointment of the Persian Government at the failure of the visit, that they appreciated the desire of the Shah to accord His Excellency a reception suitable to his rank, but that, unfortunately, the arrangements on the spot were not such as to correspond with that intention, that it is difficult at this distance to discuss details, but it is clear that the Viceroy, who remained on board two days in a heavy sea, was animated with the best intentions, and that, without blaming any individual, His Majesty's Government feel that the responsibility for the failure rests with the Persian Authorities. Attention is called to the omission of the Ala-ed-Dowleh to return the visit of the British Admiral as requiring an apology.

The Persian Minister has suggested that Sir A. Hardinge should have an audience with the Shah to dispose finally of the incident. Sir A. Hardinge is of course to be careful to avoid anything like an apology. *End of telegram.*

The papers were submitted to the King, and the decisions arrived at were approved by His Majesty.

R.

No. 27.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 25th January 1904, 11-55 p. m. (Recd. 26th, 10 a. m.)

Private. Tibet. Please see your private telegram of the 23rd instant. The Nepalese communications named by you have been cut out. The preliminary revise should reach you on the 27th instant.

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R.

No. 28.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 25th January 1904, 11-55 p. m. (Recd. 26th, 10 a. m.)

Private. Bengal High Court, Judicial vacancy *vice* Hill. Have you any Barrister you specially desire to put forward? Among many others, J. D. Rogers, of Balliol, is a candidate for the vacancy.

R.

No. 29.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 25th January 1904, 11-55 p. m. (Recd. 26th, 10 a. m.)

Private. Horne. Please see my private telegram of the 21st December. Please let me know, as soon as possible, what can be done in the matter.

No. 30.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 25th January 1904, 11-55 p. m. (Recd. 26th, 10-50 a. m.)

Private. Additional Member of Council. Your proposal went to the Law Officers to see if legislation is necessary. If so, I will press on a Bill. Before drafting it, I should like to know if you would support a suggestion made to me that some Scientist of eminence should be added to the Council, either permanently or *ad hoc*, when medical or sanitary questions are involved. Cholera, when rampant, kills sometimes 20,000 people a week, plague at present nearly as many. Famines occur at intervals. Dealing with a population which resents interference, the tendency must be to treat the disease from political stand-point. I venture to propose this additional appointment to you before consulting the Council here, because I believe it would, apart from its merits, be very well received and facilitate carrying the Bill. The exact form of the appointment would depend upon your wishes in the matter.

R.

No. 31.] Secretary of State to Viceroy (Finance Dept.)

P * Telegram, 26th January 1904, 1-55 p. m. (Recd. 27th, 7 a. m.)

Please refer to your telegram of the 15th instant, on the subject of special Military Expenditure. I have informed the War Office that the offer of 50,000

rifles, and 3 Horse Batteries, and 18 Field Batteries, is accepted. The 125 lakhs, referred to in my telegram of the 12th instant, was for expenditure on new Artillery, and on the special Defence scheme sanctioned in Military Despatch, No. 90 of 3rd July 1903. Do you wish to be allowed to devote a part of this sum, and the additional 25 lakhs for which you ask sanction, to other purposes for which provision has not yet been made? If so, please let me have the details of your proposals. The meaning of the word "capitalise" in your telegram is not clear, since no entry will be made in this year's accounts.

No. 32.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Finance Dept.)

Telegram, 26th January 1904, 7-10 p. m. (Recd. 27th, 7 a. m.)

Your telegram dated 21st January. Postal Congress has been postponed until April 1905.

No. 33.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

Telegram, 26th January 1904, 10-20 p. m. (Recd. 27th, 7 a. m.)

Your telegram dated 18th January. Resident at Hyderabad. Your proposal is approved.

R.

No. 34.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 26th January 1904, 10-20 p. m. (Recd. 27th, 7 a. m.)

Private. Question of Native labour for the Transvaal. I have only just received Milner's reply, and as soon as I receive the covering letter from the Colonial Office I will telegraph to you.

R.

No. 35.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

Telegram, 27th January 1904, 6-55 p. m. (Recd. 28th, 6-15 a. m.)

Your telegram of 25th ultimo, and my cipher telegram of 12th January. Construction of Central Persia Telegraph having reached point of junction of alternative routes is now suspended. Please telegraph your views regarding route *viâ* Ladis to Sandak. Construction across deserts impracticable this season unless very early orders issued.

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No. 36.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 27th January 1904, 5 p. m. (Recd. 28th, 6-15 a. m.)

Private. Police Commission Report. Please see my private telegram of January 12th. We regard it as essential to have some decision which can be announced at the same time as the publication. Your despatch leaves many questions still open. How long do you expect it would take to consult Local Governments and obtain replies from them?

No. 37.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 27th January 1904, 8-50 p. m. (Recd. 28th, 7-40 a. m.)

Private. Mr. G. S. Somers-Cocks is recommended by the Foreign Office for your proposed addition to the Foreign Department. He has ten years' service, including Secretary to Sir James Mackay in China, 1901, and is now Secretary to Earl Percy. All, including Mackay, speak most highly of his ability. The Foreign Office would second him for three or five years. The pay should not exceed one thousand or twelve hundred pounds. It is understood that, if made, he is willing to accept the offer. He could scarcely start before the end of March at the earliest, and it might be convenient to you to see him here before the matter is finally settled. What are your wishes? Please bear in mind that the Council has not yet approved this scheme.

R.

No. 38.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 28th January 1904, 9-55 p. m. (Recd. 29th, 7 a. m.)

Private. Tibet. Your private telegram of the 27th instant. The message you refer to was not published here. It, however, got through on Tuesday afternoon to the *Daily Express*, who brought it to the India Office, and, acting on our advice, withheld its publication.

No. 39.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 29th January 1904, 3-25 p. m. (Recd. 30th, 7 a. m.)

Private. Educational Resolution. Please refer to your private telegram of January 19th. The Despatch is now before Council. I will telegraph on Tuesday the result.

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No. 40.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 29th January 1904, 3-35 p. m. (Recd. 30th, 7 a. m.)

Private. Please refer to your private telegram of January 12th. The ruling of the Lord Chamberlain is as follows :—Judges of the Chief Court of Burma and the Chief Court of the Punjab having no Charters should wear the same Court dress as that laid down in the regulations for Judges in the Colonies.

R.

No. 41.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 30th January 1904, 7-30 p. m. (Recd. 31st, 7 a. m.)

Please refer to your telegram of January 28th. Tibet. General Macdonald's telegram of January 27th. Although every safeguard should be employed for the security of the Mission, it should be made clear to Colonel Younghusband that he must observe the spirit of his declaration conveyed in your telegram of December 6th; and that, unless he is attacked, or unless he is in danger of being cut off from his base, he must not take hostile action.

R.

No. 42.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 30th January 1904, 7-30 p. m. (Recd. 31st, 7 a. m.)

Private. The Blue Book on Tibet is substantially what was sent by Mr. Ritchie to Mr. Dane on January 8th, with minor but not important alterations and addition of your telegrams of this year, dated 3rd, 4th, 11th, 12th, 14th, 16th, 17th, 25th, 27th, and 28th January, ending with my telegram of today. It is doubtful whether we shall publish your telegram of the 2nd instant, and the last sentence of your telegram of the 12th instant. For diplomatic reasons, I have taken upon me to tone down some of the references to China in your Despatches. Have you any objection to what was sent on January 8th? The papers are promised in the King's speech, and on Tuesday next will be pressed for.

R.

No. 43.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 1st February 1904, 5-20 p. m. (Recd. 2nd, 6 a. m.)

Private. Tibet Blue Book. With reference to your private telegram of 31st ultimo, I hardly see how apprehension of Russia could be more frankly stated than in the papers proposed. The conversations between Lord

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Lansdowne and Benckendorff are unusually explicit. I see no objection to including your telegram of the 2nd ultimo, and last sentence of your telegram of the 12th ultimo. If you will designate by telegraph other documents which you would include, I will endeavour to meet your views, but we must this week publish it.

No. 44.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 2nd February 1904, 10-20 p. m. (Recd. 3rd, 8-10 a. m.)

Please refer to your Education Despatch, No. 13 of 5th November 1903. A Despatch goes by next mail approving the Resolution subject to the modifications as follows :—

Paragraphs 9, 10, and 11 deal with a subject on which I desire more information before coming to a final decision, and should be omitted. Paragraphs 12 and 43 should be expanded to show that the dangers of the new system are fully recognised, and how you propose to meet them. Paragraph 25 is correct as to Government schools, but not necessarily correct as to aided institutions in which education is not purely secular. The paragraph might be expanded to make this more clear. Paragraph 45. It is not in accordance with the Resolution, of the 23rd July 1896, to describe the Provincial Service as a lower service: also it seems to me that the reference to discontent is inexpedient and unnecessary, and that in what follows as to the work of educational officers, the matter is dealt with too exclusively from the point of view of men recruited in England. I think it should be made more clear that Government does not rely upon European assistance alone. Also same paragraph. It seems to me unnecessary to mention in this Resolution the procedure to be adopted for obtaining candidates in England, and, as drafted, the description is hardly correct.

No. 45.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 2nd February 1904, 3-40 p. m. (Recd. 3rd, 6-30 a. m.)

Private. The appointment of Mr. H. Erle Richards as Legal Member of Council has been approved by the King. The Attorney-General and Solicitor-General bear the highest testimony to his ability, tact, and legal knowledge. I shall announce the appointment in tomorrow's papers.

The Secretary of State for War wishes you to know that he has offered the fourth place on the new Army Council to Major-General Sir J. Wolfe-Murray, K. C. B.

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R.

No. 46.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 2nd February 1904, 10-20 p. m. (Recd. 3rd, 7-30 a. m.)

Private. Blue Book, Tibet. I propose to make official the first and last sentence but one of my private telegram of October 29th and to publish it in the Blue Book. The paraphrase is as follows:—

"Telegram from Secretary of State for India to Viceroy, dated October 29th, 1903. Your telegram of October 26th. Though I fully appreciate the force of the reasons which cause you to urge an immediate advance to Gyantse, I see from my predecessor's telegram to you, of the 1st October, that the advance was contingent on a rupture of negotiations which has not yet taken place. Please let me have a full estimate of expenditure involved and a statement of troops necessary to maintain communications."

No. 47.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 3rd February 1904, 1-25 p. m. (Recd. 10 p. m.)

Please refer to paragraph 12 of your Secret Despatch No. 196, dated the 17th December. Sir N. O'Conor reports that the Sheikh of Koweit is, in all probability, abetting Sadun Pasha, and is likely to be involved with him in raids on the tribes under Turkish protection. Kemball should take an early opportunity of warning him once more that the good offices of His Majesty's Government can only be extended to him if he is guided by their advice and refrains from aggression. The Sheikh is reported to have sent, immediately after your departure, a propitiatory telegram to the Sultan.

R.

No. 48.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

Telegram, 3rd February 1904, 3-5 p. m. (Recd. 4th, 7 a. m.)

Your telegrams dated 12th and 16th January. High Court of Judicature in Bengal. No objection to temporary appointment *vice* Stevens. As to the appointment of a Barrister Judge *vice* Hill, will communicate later.

R.

No. 49.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 3rd February 1904, 10-5 p. m. (Recd. 4th, 9-30 a. m.)

Private. Tibet Blue Book. With reference to your private telegram of yesterday, I have carried out all your suggestions in the text except the proposal to omit the estimates of strength and cost in C. 72.

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As regards C. 75, you will have realised, from my private telegrams and letters, how strong the feeling of the Cabinet was against the advance unless under strict limitations as to the action and cost. I wish I could meet your views, but the omissions you propose would cause a prompt demand for the estimates supplied. The question was discussed at the meeting of Cabinet Ministers specially summoned today, and C. 75 must stand, it being held that, if new facts transpire, and your apprehensions of Russian interposition are established, we can modify the decision.

Reference in the penultimate paragraph of C. 70 is omitted.

Please send me the nearest estimate of the cost that can be obtained at present.

No. 50.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 8th February 1904, 10-15 p. m. (Recd. 9th, 8-20 a. m.)

Please refer to letter No. 36, dated 6th January, from your Foreign Secretary to Kemball. No steps should be taken to enter into closer relations with Nejd, or send Agents there without the sanction of His Majesty's Government being previously obtained.

No. 51.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 8th February 1904, 7-40 p. m. (Recd. 9th, 6-30 a. m.)

Private. Your Despatch on fiscal matters, with Sir E. Law's Minute, was today presented and distributed.

No. 52.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Public Works Dept.)

P * Telegram, 9th February 1904, 7 p. m. (Recd. 10th, 9-30 a. m.)

With reference to your telegram of the 29th December, Mr. Ransome's solicitor refuses to disclose the restrictive covenants of the sale agreement, and names £5,000 as the minimum compensation, but does not bind his principal to accept even that sum. As I am not prepared to pay this amount, I am of opinion that Mr. Ransome should be retained, unless he becomes liable to dismissal by committing a breach of his agreement.

I am sending you by first mail the correspondence on the subject.

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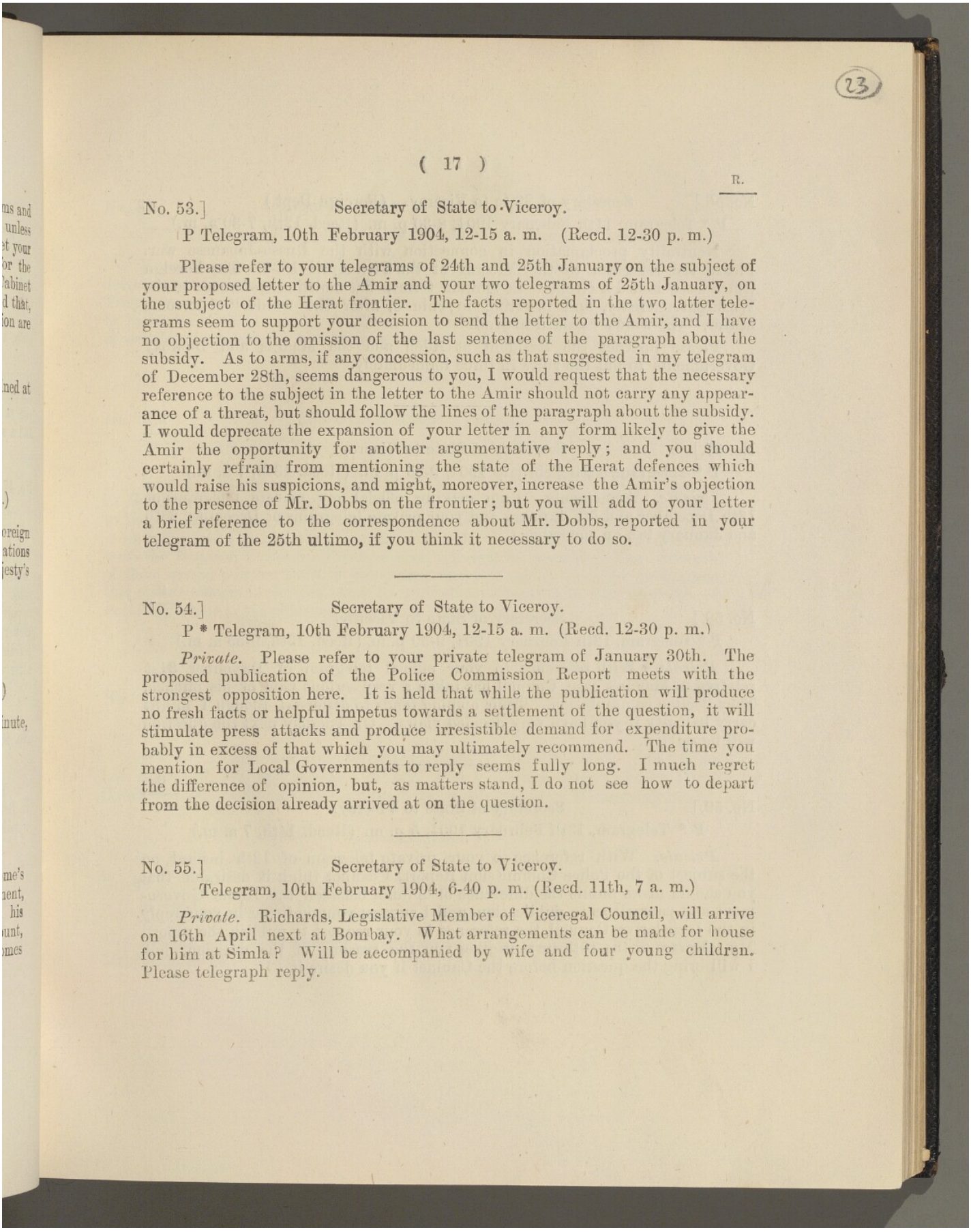

R.

No. 53.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P Telegram, 10th February 1904, 12-15 a. m. (Recd. 12-30 p. m.)

Please refer to your telegrams of 24th and 25th January on the subject of your proposed letter to the Amir and your two telegrams of 25th January, on the subject of the Herat frontier. The facts reported in the two latter telegrams seem to support your decision to send the letter to the Amir, and I have no objection to the omission of the last sentence of the paragraph about the subsidy. As to arms, if any concession, such as that suggested in my telegram of December 28th, seems dangerous to you, I would request that the necessary reference to the subject in the letter to the Amir should not carry any appearance of a threat, but should follow the lines of the paragraph about the subsidy. I would deprecate the expansion of your letter in any form likely to give the Amir the opportunity for another argumentative reply; and you should certainly refrain from mentioning the state of the Herat defences which would raise his suspicions, and might, moreover, increase the Amir's objection to the presence of Mr. Dobbs on the frontier; but you will add to your letter a brief reference to the correspondence about Mr. Dobbs, reported in your telegram of the 25th ultimo, if you think it necessary to do so.

No. 54.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 10th February 1904, 12-15 a. m. (Recd. 12-30 p. m.)

Private. Please refer to your private telegram of January 30th. The proposed publication of the Police Commission Report meets with the strongest opposition here. It is held that while the publication will produce no fresh facts or helpful impetus towards a settlement of the question, it will stimulate press attacks and produce irresistible demand for expenditure probably in excess of that which you may ultimately recommend. The time you mention for Local Governments to reply seems fully long. I much regret the difference of opinion, but, as matters stand, I do not see how to depart from the decision already arrived at on the question.

No. 55.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

Telegram, 10th February 1904, 6-40 p. m. (Recd. 11th, 7 a. m.)

Private. Richards, Legislative Member of Viceregal Council, will arrive on 16th April next at Bombay. What arrangements can be made for house for him at Simla? Will be accompanied by wife and four young children. Please telegraph reply.

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No. 56.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 11th February 1904, 8-30 p. m. (Recd. 12th, 7-30 a. m.)

Neutrality proclamation in connection with the Russo-Japanese war. Please see telegram to the Viceroy of the 24th April 1898. The Foreign Office have issued a circular in similar terms, but omitting reference to the Washington Treaty, and inserting in rule 3, after the words “ or to some nearer, ” the words “ named neutral.”

Please instruct the Resident at Aden and the Madras and Bombay Governments to put the rules in force immediately.

R.

No. 57.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 12th February 1904, 9-35 p. m. (Recd. 13th, 7 a. m.)

Private. Armaments. I am making official my private telegrams of 13th December and 5th January and your private telegrams of December 28th and January 9th on the subject.

R.

No. 58.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 12th February 1904, 9-50 p. m. (Recd. 13th, 9-55 a. m.)

Private. With reference to your official telegram of December 31st relative to Mayne’s case, Council has taken a very serious view of his offence. They decline commutation. Their opinion tends to dismissal, though I might carry half pay if you have very decided views. On Tuesday next the question will be settled.

R.

No. 59.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 13th February 1904, 5 p. m. (Recd. 14th, 7 a. m.)

Private. With reference to your private telegram of 12th instant, on the subject of the Police Commission Report, I cannot think it desirable that you should make public the difference of opinion between the Home Government and yourself as to publication, and I suggest your omitting in your reply in the Legislative Council the reference to your request to publish the report. My telegram of the 10th instant gives you the reasons of the decision, but I will bring the question before the Cabinet if you desire it.

R.

No. 60.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (F. O.)

P * Telegram, 15th February 1904, 7-25 p. m. (Recd. 16th, 8 a. m.)

Russo-Japanese War. 325 Russians belonging to the crews of the vessels destroyed at Chemulpo have taken refuge on board a British man-of-war. They must be interned until the conclusion of the war. Could arrangements be made for their reception and charge in India? Owing to the great difficulty in providing guards, the Colonies are not available for this purpose.

No. 61.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 15th February 1904, 8-40 p. m. (Recd. 16th, 7-30 a. m.)

Seistan. Please see your telegram of 29th January. The action reported in Hardinge's telegram of 4th February, No. 14, is satisfactory. With reference to the last sentence of Hardinge's telegram, His Majesty's Government consider it essential that His Majesty's Consuls in Persia should endeavour to establish with the Belgium Customs officials as good relations as possible. The strength of their special position must be recognised, and it would be desirable to impress this on our officers in Seistan, and to call their attention to the necessity of avoiding, as far as possible, petty disputes with them.

R.

No. 62.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 15th February 1904, 8-40 p. m. (Recd. 16th, 7 a. m.)

Private. Please see your private telegram of 30th January. The King has approved the appointment of Mr. Frank Bodilly to the Calcutta High Court *vice* Mr. Hill. I shall announce the appointment on Wednesday next.

R.

No. 63.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 16th February 1904, 4-20 p. m. (Recd. 17th, 7 a. m.)

Private. With reference to your private telegram of the 13th instant, Mr. Richards accepts.

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R.

No. 64.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 16th February 1904, 11 p. m. (Recd. 17th, 11-5 a. m.)

Private. Police Commission Report. Please see your private telegram of the 15th instant. I much regret to find myself in disagreement with you, but it would surely be impossible to carry on the Government of India, if, when opinions differ in India and Downing Street, the difference were made public. In the Prime Minister's absence I have put the question before Lord Lansdowne, who entirely agrees with the view taken here as to the publication of the Report before we are able to announce the action to be taken in consequence of the recommendations. He feels most strongly that differences of opinion between your Government and the India Office should not transpire. I have answered a question today to the effect that neither the Report nor the decision can be expected at present. My telegram of the 12th ultimo was sent at a time when I hoped it might be possible to formulate at once some decisions on the Report. Subsequent communications proved this impossible, and my predecessor's views, which were unshaken on this subject by the strong pressure you exerted, are shared by everyone in this country who has seen the documents.

No. 65.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Mily. Dept.)

P * Telegram, 18th February 1904, 3-35 p. m. (Recd. 19th, 7 a. m.)

Please refer to your telegram of the 31st December last. Unless they had full knowledge of the facts, there could be no valid condonation of Major Mayne's offence by his superior officers, and their condonation could not bind your Government. In addition to other difficulties, your proposal would contravene the spirit of Section 141, Army Act. Under all the circumstances, I have decided in Council that Major Mayne should be called upon to show cause why he should not be dismissed. When his statement is submitted, any observations of your Government will be considered.

No. 66.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 18th February 1904, 9-45 p. m. (Recd. 19th, 7 a. m.)

With reference to your telegram of the 23rd ultimo, please await my despatch by this mail regarding Bahrein.

No. 67.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 18th February 1904, 6 p. m. (Recd. 19th, 7 a. m.)

Private. The Bishop of Durham has strongly recommended to me the Revd. F. E. Markby, missionary at Cochin, for a chaplaincy. I would appoint him to Madras, *vice* Blair, if he is well reported on locally.

R.

No. 68.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 18th February 1904, 6 p. m. (Recd. 19th, 7 a. m.)

Private. Please refer to your private telegram of February 10th. The War Office, who are sending Nicholson and nine officers to be attached to the Japanese forces, ask India to appoint one officer, who, on arrival at Tokio, must report himself to Nicholson. Sir Ian Hamilton, who left for Japan unofficially on February 6th, much desires the appointment. You may perhaps be prepared to nominate him, as he served with Lord Kitchener and was so many years in India. I am pressing for a larger proportion of Indian officers, in case the Russians agree to the officers joining their forces.

No. 69.] Secretary of State to Viceroy (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 19th February 1904, 1-25 p. m. (Recd. 20th, 7 a. m.)

Koweit. Please see your telegram of the 16th ultimo. Your proposal to appoint a Native medical subordinate to charge of the Post Office is approved. But the Sheikh should undertake not to allow other Post Offices being established.

No. 70.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 19th February 1904, 8-25 p. m. (Recd. 20th, 7 a. m.)

Confidential. In the general arrangement now being negotiated with France the Foreign Office are trying to find an opportunity of including Muscat. They will press for? the recognition of a British Protectorate by France, but if this be found impossible, they ask whether there is any smaller concession which would be worth trying for.

I shall be glad to have your views by telegraph.

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No. 71.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Rev. & Agrl. Dept.)

P * Telegram, 20th February 1904, 1-50 p. m. (Recd. 21st, 7 a. m.)

Please see the correspondence regarding Chinese Opium taxation which accompanies Revenue Secretary's letters, 163, dated January 23rd, and 303, dated February 5th, and inform me by telegraph whether you would object to the course recommended by the Foreign Office, namely, that in case of emergency, the British Minister should be given discretion to threaten to abrogate the additional Article. All three of the conditions stated in your telegram of 19th December 1903, are, it would seem, fulfilled, as would appear from the Foreign Office letter of 2nd February.

R.

No. 72.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 23rd February 1904, 5-20 p. m. (Recd. 24th, 7 a. m.)

Please refer to your telegram of the 13th instant. I approve of the proposal for a temporary telegraph line from Bam to Koh-i-Malik-Siah. The Director-in-Chief, Indo-European Telegraph Department, has been instructed accordingly, and my approval has been communicated to Lord Lansdowne.

R.

No. 73.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 23rd February 1904, 5-50 p. m. (Recd. 24th, 7 a. m.)

Police Commission Report. Please refer to your Judicial Despatch, No. 28, dated 19th November last. After full consideration in Council, I concur with the decision of my predecessor, as conveyed in his telegram of the 28th July 1903, that the Report should not be published at present. A Despatch follows on the subject.

R.

No. 74.] Secretary of State to Viceroy (Finance Dept.)

P * Telegram, 23rd February 1904, 7-15 p. m. (Recd. 24th, 7-30 a. m.)

With reference to your telegram of the 8th instant, on the subject of Armaments and Special Defences, I regret I cannot approve the proposed arrangement for entering expenditure under Deposits in Part II of first

appendix to the Financial Statement. My intention was that you should insert a paragraph in the body of the Statement, explaining that a portion of the cash balances received from the surplus of 1903-1904 is regarded as allocated for the expenditure on special objects in 1904-1905. Then in the Budget Estimate for 1904-1905 you should show in Part I, appendix I, as expenditure chargeable against revenue, the amount that will probably be spent. In the Home Estimates will be included £500,000 for Artillery, £200,000 for Rifles, and about £150,000 for Special Defences. The payment for rifles will be made next year, as delivery will not be begun till then. If you include in the Budget the 125 lakhs mentioned in my telegram of the 12th ultimo, *plus* 30 lakhs for rifles, you will have a margin of 27½ lakhs for expenditure on Special Defence works in India, and I should be unwilling to sanction provision in excess of 155 lakhs, unless you think that you can advantageously spend more than this.

No. 75.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 23rd February 1904, 1-10 p. m. (Recd. 24th, 7 a. m.)

Private. The proposals contained in your Despatch, No. 251, dated the 13th August, will, almost certainly, be approved. For the post of Comptroller, Sir E. Law recommends Mr. M. J. Cogswell, now Manager of the *Pioneer* Press at Allahabad. Please enquire privately, and let me know whether you think him suitable, or if you would prefer a man from England. I cannot at present make any definite offer.

No. 76.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Finance Dept.)

P * Telegram, 24th February 1904, 2-20 p. m. (Recd. 25th, 7 a. m.)

Please see your telegram of the 24th instant regarding Public Works Programme. Is the 37 millions additional to remittances for the Gold Reserve Fund?

R.

No. 77.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 24th February 1904, 6-15 p. m. (Recd. 25th, 7-30 a. m.)

Afghan Delimitation. Do you contemplate that it will be necessary to delimit along the Safed Koh west of Sassobi? The Khyber Diaries, dated the

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2nd and 9th January, seem to show that the Afridis are alarmed at the prospect of the survey party entering their territory. I observe that in your letter to the Amir, dated 26th August, you accepted his proposal for demarcation to Sikaram, subject to limitations necessitated by the nature of ground. You will recollect that in 1894 the Amir was informed that the crest of the range from near Sassobi along the Safed Koh forms the boundary to Sikaram, and it was said that it was not intended to demarcate along that portion of boundary in paragraph 5 of your letter of March 26th, 1894, to the Government of the Punjab.

No. 78.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 26th February 1904, 10-10 p. m. (Recd. 27th, 9 a. m.)

I have received private information, not verified at present, that the Nepal Government are purchasing, through a London Agent, plant for the manufacture of rifles and ammunition. Are the transactions known to you?

R.

No. 79.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 26th February 1904, 10-10 p. m. (Recd. 27th, 7-30 a. m.)

Private. With reference to your private telegram of 22nd instant, the War Office state that they are limited to ten officers of whom five were sent to Japan and attached to the Japanese army in September last: one is a Medical officer; one, a Royal Artillery officer to report on Field Howitzers; one, an officer who knows Japanese, Chinese and Russian. Of the remaining two, one is to be Indian, one Canadian, for political reasons. The Japanese decline to receive more. I am dissatisfied with the distribution, but see no means of amending it now. May instructions be given to Hamilton?

R.

No. 80.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 29th February 1904, 4-50 p. m. (Recd. 1st March, 7 a. m.)

Private. Cultivation of Cotton. On Saturday last, I received a large deputation in Manchester, representing Liverpool, Burnley, Oldham, and other centres. They strongly pressed immediate steps to increase the area under

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cotton in India, and attempts to diffuse improved methods of cultivation in cotton-growing districts. The result of our conclave was that the following proposals will be put before you:—(1) A section of the Agricultural Department to be devoted exclusively to cotton culture, and the Lancashire Cotton-Growing Association to send out experts to advise and act in concurrence with the Agricultural Department. (2) If a tract of land could be taken up and utilised for cotton-growing anywhere within your jurisdiction, they are prepared to try cultivation on a large scale. Burma has been suggested as a possible sphere, and if the land could be made available, it is presumed your Government would assist in recruiting coolie labour. (3) More seed farms to be started in various centres. The present shortage of cotton in Lancashire is acute and much short time is being worked. It seems clear that the cotton production of the world is insufficient, and that there is a real opportunity for developing an important Indian industry. Lancashire has great confidence that Indian Government will meet them, sympathetically especially under your Viceroyalty. Any prompt steps that you can take will be greatly appreciated here.

No. 81.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 1st March 1904, 10 p. m. (Recd. 2nd, 7-30 a. m.)

Please see your telegram of the 19th ultimo, on the subject of the Education Resolution, paragraphs 9, 10, and 11. I consent to the publication in view of the strong opinion of Your Excellency's Government.

No. 82.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 1st March 1904, 10 p. m. (Recd. 2nd, 7-30 a. m.)

Please refer to my Secret telegram of 22nd September last regarding Siam. I presume you have now received Paget's No. 115 of 17th December last, and will shortly be in a position to state your views on the subject.

R.

No. 83.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 1st March 1904, 10 p. m. (Recd. 2nd, 8 a. m.)

Private. Your private telegram of the 27th ultimo. After considerable further discussion on the subject with the War Office and the Japanese Government, the following concessions have been obtained. If India will nominate Ian

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Hamilton, the Japanese Government will accept him additional. One Indian officer can be attached to him and a second can be sent to act under the orders of Nicholson. The Secretary of State for War will send instructions to Nicholson to substitute this latter officer, as opportunity offers, for one of the four now in Japan at the front. Three officers are accepted by Russia: War Office offer two of these to India. I suggest your considering as senior officer Sir M. Gerard, who is a *persona grata* in Russia. It is not possible for me to get better terms.

No. 84.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Military Dept.)
P * Telegram, 2nd March 1904, 1-40 p. m. (Recd. 3rd, 6 a. m.)

The Admiralty think it necessary, with reference to Section 6 of the Indian Marine Service Act of 1884, to have a clear understanding as to which vessels of the Royal Indian Marine would be placed in time of war under the Naval Commander-in-Chief. Please telegraph your opinion on the precise distribution of the vessels of the Marine for this purpose as soon as possible.

No. 85.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (P. W. Dept.)
P * Telegram, 2nd March 1904, 1-40 p. m. (Recd. 3rd, 6 a. m.)

With reference to my telegram of 9th February, Mr. Ransome's Solicitor presses on his behalf for an early decision. Please consider and let him and me know the result as soon as it is possible for you to do so.

R.

No. 86.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.
P * Telegram, 2nd March 1904, 5-30 p. m. (Recd. 3rd, 6 a. m.)

Malleson's letters to Wace, dated September 9th and November 19th, 1903. Amir's Armaments. No information is obtainable here. Can it not be supplied by Frank Martin ?

No. 87.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Financial Dept.)
P * Telegram, 2nd March 1904, 8-35 p. m. (Recd. 3rd, 6 a. m.)

With reference to the Financial Statement, I should be glad to receive, as soon as possible, by telegraph a forecast of (1) estimated total expenditure and Army expenditure 1904-05; (2) estimated surplus of 1904 and 1905. Also, if available, any other important details.

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No. 88.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Military Dept.)

P * Telegram, 2nd March 1904, 8-35 p. m. (Recd. 3rd, 6 a. m.)

I shall be obliged if you will let me know by telegraph what reserves of gun and rifle ammunition are kept in India, and state what quantities can be produced in India.

R.

No. 89.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 2nd March 1904, 11-15 p. m. (Recd. 3rd, 8 a. m.)

Referring to your letter to the Amir of 4th February, and to the last sentence of your telegram of January 24th, I should be glad to have a statement of your proposals without awaiting the Amir's reply, as they will require careful consideration, and the time is getting short, if the Amir accepts.

No. 90.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 2nd March 1904, 12-30 p. m. (Recd. 3rd, 6 a. m.)

Private. The Punjab Government question referred to in your private telegram of the 28th ultimo will, I hope, be decided next week. Much difficulty is raised as to the expenditure and small relief to over-crowding Simla. I will expedite as much as possible the question of the Famine Fund.

R.

No. 91.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 3rd March 1904, 10-20 p. m. (Recd. 4th, 8-45 a. m.)

Secret. With reference to the secret telegram from you of January 8th, the Committee of Imperial Defence desire the following further information :—

1. What reserve of small arms and what reserves of artillery and small arms ammunition are maintained in India? During a war what would be the maximum out-put of ammunition from Indian factories?

2. With reference to paragraph 3 of the Despatch from the Government of India No. 83, of May 14th last, has a satisfactory scheme been prepared for the provision of the transport needed: (*a*) for the Indian Field Army, (*b*) for the reinforcements from home of 30,000 and 70,000 men?

3. With reference to the same letter, are the arrangements for the supply of remounts for Indian Field Army complete? Can horses be provided by you for the various mounted troops forming part of the 100,000 men from home?

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4. Would you be able to provide the whole force or any portion of it with supplies from your reserves of clothing and boots, and for how long?

5. Would you propose that tinned provisions or other supplies should be sent from home?

I am addressing you by secret Despatch, but if you are able to furnish me with any information by telegraph, in the meantime, I should be much obliged.

No. 92.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 4th March 1904, 12-50 p. m. (Recd. 5th, 7 a. m.)

With reference to your telegram of the 10th January, the Orleans Prince is now starting for Bombay to proceed direct to Kashmir, as the Russian Government object, on acconnt of the war, to his entering Turkistan. Please inform Bombay of the visit, and afford facilities to the Prince.

No. 93.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 4th March 1904, 12-50 p. m. (Recd. 5th, 7 a. m.)

Koweit. Your telegram of the 11th ultimo. Further warning is, for the present, unnecessary.

No. 94.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Legislative Dept.)

Telegram, 4th March 1904, 3-50 p. m. (Recd. 5th, 7 a. m.)

Question in Parliament 9th March next: Has Official Secrets Bill been passed? If not, when will it be finally considered in your Legislative Council.

R.

No. 95.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 4th March 1904, 6 p. m. (Recd. 5th, 7 a. m.)

With reference to your telegram of March 3rd His Majesty's Government know of no unusual movements of the Russian troops in the Khusk districts. We shall be glad to hear any further reports. If it became desirable to make a counter-demonstration, you will, no doubt, consider, with Commander-in-Chief, what steps would be most suitable.

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No. 96.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 4th March 1904, 12-25 p. m. (Recd. 5th, 7 a. m.)

Private. Are you quite satisfied that it is necessary to adhere to the provisions in the Official Secrets Bill, to which the minority of the Select Committee took exception, especially in relation to the disclosure of information other than that obtained in a wrongful way?

No. 97.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 4th March 1904, 9-25 p. m. (Recd. 5th, 7 a. m.)

Private. With reference to your private telegram of 3rd instant, regarding the removal of the Punjab Government from Simla, I think I have managed to avert an adverse decision. The Despatch will merely ask you to reconsider the matter with a view to a more comprehensive and effective scheme which, if you think fit, may include the removal of the Punjab Government. I cannot, of course, answer for the result, but this is what I believe can be done.

R.

No. 98.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Mily. Dept.)

P * Telegram, 5th March 1904, 1-20 p. m. (Recd. 6th, 7 a. m.)

Secret. As I understand from private communications that you nominate Sir Ian Hamilton to represent India with the Japanese Army, I am communicating the appointment to him. On the 7th March he touches Hong Kong, S. S. *Armand Behic;* on 10th Shanghai, Woosung, and on the 16th Yokohama. I have told him to expect instructions from you. Sir M. Gerard leaves here next week. Will it not be well for him to travel by the Siberian railway, if possible?

R.

No. 99.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 7th March 1904, 3-35 p. m. (Recd. 8th, 7 a. m.)

Private. Please refer to your private telegram of the 6th instant. In my opinion it is most important that you should return this summer. I know that Mr. Balfour and others think that the opportunity of consulting you on Eastern Affairs will be invaluable. The present tension is not unlikely to last throughout the war, which may be prolonged.

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No. 100.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 8th March 1904, 5-25 p. m. (Recd. 9th, 7 a. m.)

With reference to your telegrams of February 24th and 25th on the subject of the Public Works Programme. On the understanding that you can meet 38 millions Bills in 1903-4 and 1904-5, I sanction programme of 1,265 lakhs. Drawings for 1904-5 will be taken in Home Estimates at 17 millions, instead of 15½ millions shown in telegram of 1st March. With reference to your telegram of the 22nd February, allotment of 10 lakhs for Burma Railway extensions should be restored, and, if possible, increased. It is a project to which we are committed, and it must, therefore, be preferred to other projects which can be postponed for the present.

R.

No. 101.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 8th March 1904, 7-10 p. m. (Recd. 9th, 7 a. m.)

With reference to my telegram of the 5th instant, please nominate one officer of the Indian Army for the Russian Army, and two for the Japanese Army. Two latter officers will be attached to Sir Ian Hamilton and Sir W. Nicholson respectively. The War Office wish to have the names as soon as you can send them.

No. 102.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 8th March 1904, 8-15 p. m. (Recd. 9th, 7 a. m.)

The Foreign Office are in communication with Tehran on the subject of your telegram of the 3rd instant. Sir A. Hardinge now proposes, in the first instance, to inform the Persian Government of our intention to re-establish Henjam station, and to ask for permission to extend to Bunder Abbas. He will then communicate with you as to the despatch of the necessary officers and material to Henjam. I have agreed to leave the matter to his discretion. The Foreign Office and Admiralty have the question of a Naval base under consideration.

No. 103.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 9th March 1904, 2-15 p. m. (Recd. 10th, 7 a. m.)

Please see paragraph 5 of Sir E. Satow's Despatch, No. 415 of the 5th December last, on the subject of the Burmo-Chinese frontier. It would be

desirable, with special reference to Chinese claims based on the alleged administration of the country, to furnish to Sir E. Satow any evidence obtainable, supplementing that contained in the Burma letter, No. 127, dated 3rd May 1900.

R.

No. 104.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

Telegram, 9th March 1904, 7 p. m. (Recd. 10th, 7 a. m.)

Tibet Mission. Question in Parliament tomorrow, Thursday. Is it the case that allowances for equipment are given to Civilians, but not to soldiers? If so, why is this?

No. 105.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 10th March 1904, 7 p. m. (Recd. 11th, 6-30 a. m.)

Aden. Please refer to the Resident's letter No. 21 of January 24th, regarding the attack on Bury. Before effect is given to the proposal contained in paragraph 7, for an expedition against Saidi in the autumn, I presume I shall be consulted.

R.

No. 106.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 10th March 1904, 10-40 p. m. (Recd. 11th, 7-30 a. m.)

Please refer to your telegram of the 9th instant. With regard to Major Home's going *viâ* Tientsin at once, the War Office state that no guarantee can be given in this case that he will be allowed to join the Russian forces, as all foreign officers appointed are to leave St. Petersburg for the front on March 18th. In these circumstances would you prefer to nominate an officer from England or Russia? A blue or green uniform, not khaki, must be taken by any officer joining the Russian Field Force.

R.

No. 107.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 11th March 1904, 8-50 p. m. (Recd. 12th, 7 a. m.)

Since the 4th March last, when the Despatch forwarding the correspondence on the Eastern Mail question issued, the Treasury have agreed that the contract shall be made with the P. & O. S. N. Co. with 24 hours' guaranteed acceleration both ways for 3 years with option to the Government of extension. It is proposed to regulate India's share by the Morley award.

No. 108.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 14th March 1904, 10-20 p. m. (Recd. 15th, 7 a. m.)

Private. Please refer to your private letter of the 23rd February to Sir A. Godley, enclosing a letter from Mrs. Howard. All the original papers for which she asks were returned to you with my predecessor's Despatch on Mr. Clarke's case, dated the 21st August 1903, see last paragraph. In these circumstances, I shall assume that you will answer her unless I hear to the contrary. She also asks what is your decision. Care of London and County Bank, 21, Hanover Square, is her address.

No. 109.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 15th March 1904, 8-45 p. m. (Recd. 16th, 8-30 a. m.)

Secret. With reference to your telegram of the 12th March, the Admiralty have instructed the *Lapwing* to proceed to Khor Hindian, and search as quickly as possible.

No. 110.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 16th March 1904, 5-30 p. m. (Recd. 17th, 7 a. m.)

Private. The Prime Minister, with the King's permission, desires me to propose to you the office of Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, in succession to Lord Salisbury. The appointment, if you accept it, will show how highly His Majesty's Government appreciate your devoted and successful discharge of duty as Governor-General, which entitles you to be enrolled amongst the illustrious men who have held the post of Lord Warden.

R.

No. 111.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Military Dept.)

Telegram, 17th March 1904, 2 p. m. (Recd. 10 p. m.)

Your telegram of the 9th March. I have accorded sanction to the following rate of pay for Gerard and Hamilton. £5-10-0 per day with £3 per day allowance, and for junior officers rate of pay laid down in Article 115, Royal Warrant, scale b, as far as applicable, with £1-10-0 per day allowance, and actual travelling expenses for all. Hamilton will draw pay from arrival in Japan.

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R.

No. 112.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Mily. Dept.)

P * Telegram, 18th March 1904, 2-25 p. m. (Recd. 19th, 7 a. m.)

Secret. With reference to your telegram of the 9th March, I shall be glad to know what would be the estimated cost of keeping an additional 12 months' stock of materials for manufacturing warlike stores in India. We understand that at the ordinary rate of production the stock is two years in advance.

R.

No. 113.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Mily. Dept.)

P * Telegram, 18th March 1904, 2-25 p. m. (Recd. 19th, 8 a. m.)

The War Office have instructed Sir M. Gerard, as the senior British Officer with the Russian Forces, to send all reports direct to them. Similarly, Sir W. Nicholson being senior in Japan, Sir Ian Hamilton's reports will pass through him. Will this arrangement meet with your views, and fall in with any instructions you have sent to Gerard or Hamilton? In regard to Major Home's joining the Russian forces *viâ* Tientsin, we can get no answer from St. Petersburg.

R.

No. 114.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 18th March 1904, 5-50 p. m. (Recd. 19th, 7 a. m.)

With reference to your telegram of the 6th instant, on the subject of the Herat Frontier, I agree that it is undesirable to withdraw Mr. Dobbs, though his continuance on the frontier, in existing circumstances, does not strengthen our position. It is not improbable that the Amir may refuse your proposal, which would expose us to a rebuff which we could hardly accept. Yet you will feel as strongly as His Majesty's Government that this would be a bad moment to bring matters to an issue with him. Another difficulty is that Mr. Dobbs does not appear to be an officer of the temperament requisite for communication on delicate matters with the Amir, and it is mostly unlikely that the appointment of an additional officer in whom you have more confidence would be acceptable. Would it not be best plan for you to state that, owing to delay which has occurred, you will order Mr. Dobbs to go direct to Kabul and communicate personally with the Amir before completing the inspection of the frontier. Mr. Dobbs should be instructed to act merely as a machine for receiving the Amir's views, and to return at once to India to impart them to

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your Government. I make these suggestions as being likely to involve less danger of misrepresentation than the return of Mr. Dobbs after a refusal by the Amir of your proposals. I wish further to suggest that, in writing to the Amir, you should consider whether the following points should not be put to him in order to make him face the situation. Mr. Dobbs was sent to Herat to make clear the line of his frontier, and thus avoid complications with Russia, which could not but be injurious to his interests. He was sent for no other purpose; and if the Amir regards his interests as better served by leaving the matter to the Russians alone, we see no reason to put ourselves to the inconvenience and cost of maintaining a Mission on his North-West Frontier. At the same time, if the Amir attaches value to our promised assistance in resisting Russian aggression, it is hardly wise to thwart proceedings originally undertaken at his request, and which have no other object than to further his interests and secure his throne. You will judge as to the form in which this can be put to the Amir, if you agree.

R.

No. 115.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 18th March 1904, 3-35 p. m. (Recd. 19th, 7 a. m.)

Private. Proposed K. C. S. I. for the Hon'ble Mr. T. Raleigh is approved by the King, who suggests your investing him before he leaves India. In regard to the date of announcement, please let me know your wishes.

No. 116.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 18th March 1904, 3-35 p. m. (Recd. 19th, 7 a. m.)

Private. I am communicating to Lady Curzon the liabilities of the appointment referred to in your private telegram of the 17th instant. The upkeep of the Castle and grounds is about £450 a year; subscriptions £150. A Local Agent, at a reasonable fee, is required to represent the Lord Warden who is Lord Lieutenant of Seven towns, appoints Magistrates and is responsible for Dover harbour. Lord Salisbury attended no functions except the installation. One or two annually would be valued and maintain the great influence, political and social, which the Lord Warden had in Lord Granville's time. It is customary to take over the furniture from your predecessor, which should not exceed £2,000, as Smith left many heir-looms. There are no other liabilities.

R.

No. 117.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 18th March 1904, 5 p. m. (Recd. 19th, 7 a. m.)

Private. The suggestions in my Secret telegram of today for your letter to the Amir of Afghanistan come from the Prime Minister direct.

No. 118.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 18th March 1904, 5-50 p. m. (Recd. 19th, 7 a. m.)

Private. Will you please reserve for me Wednesday evening, the 18th May?

R.

No. 119.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 18th March 1904, 10-30 p. m. (Recd. 19th, 7 a. m.)

Private. Please refer to your private telegram of 16th instant regarding Mr. Cogswell. I understand that he cannot apply, under the rules of his present employment, without incurring dismissal. He is well spoken of by Edge and Crosthwaite, who knew him at Allahabad. I presume you have consulted Sir E. Law. I have no wish except that you should secure best available man.

No. 120.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 19th March 1904, 2-30 p. m. (Recd. 20th, 7 a. m.)

With reference to the publication of the amount of the Rupee Loan, there is no objection to your proposal. I trust that the loan will not be less than 2½ crores, as proposed in your telegram of the 24th February. If this gives more than is needed for your requirements as shown in the Budget, it may be possible to remit excess, so as to reduce borrowing in England as shown in the Home Estimates. This is very desirable.

R.

No. 121.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 19th March 1904, 7 p. m. (Recd. 20th, 7 a. m.)

Please see my Foreign Secret telegram of yesterday. Amir of Afghanistan. Before making any communication, please telegraph fully the substance of what you propose to say for approval.

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No. 122.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 20th March 1904, 8-50 p. m. (Recd. 21st, 7 a. m.)

Private. As the ensuing spring in Somaliland will relieve the Mullah of the difficulties of locomotion, the Secretary of State for War has just circulated to the Cabinet the proposal that if he is not captured in the attack shortly to be made, we should cease to pursue and should hold the Berbera-Burao-Bohotle line with detachments in Nogal and Hargeisa. For this the garrison at first needed would be, one Indian Native Cavalry Regiment, two Indian Native Infanfry Regiments. Subsequently they ask for 600 Indians only and Native troops. The Secretary of State for War urges that the normal cost of the Indian troops employed should be borne by India, in the view that the operations are conducted mainly, if not entirely, in the interests of India. He proposes, if we decline this responsibility, to withdraw all the troops to the Coast leaving the tribes, in the guaranteed area, to defend themselves. I shall be glad if you will telegraph to me confidentially, before Wednesday's Cabinet, your views as to the value to India of retaining Somaliland, and the extent to which you would be willing to bear the normal cost.

Secret. I have had no consultation with Secretary of State for War, and until I hear from you, I shall give no opinion.

R.

No. 123.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Home Dept.)

Telegram, 21st March 1904, 6-20 p. m. (Recd. 22nd, 7 a. m.)

Your telegram dated 19th March. Lord Chamberlain issues orders for Court mourning till 29th April next. Half mourning from 8th April next. No general mourning has been announced. Army Order directs Officers in uniform to wear crape on left arm until 24th March next.

R.

No. 124.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 21st March 1904, 9-55 p. m. (Recd. 22nd, 9-55 a. m.)

Private. Please refer to your private telegram of 7th March on the subject of cotton improvement. I learn that Greenway, of Messrs. Shaw Wallace, has submitted to you a scheme for forming a cotton improvement Syndicate, provided that the Lancashire Association will subsidise experimental work up to £5,000 or £6,000. I understand that the Lancashire Association

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will not find this money, though ready to assist in its development, if suitable cotton be grown. If you approve the scheme, which seems promising, will you consider whether aid might not be given by your Government, either (1) by subsidy to enable the work to be started this year, or (2) by Government carrying out the scheme, which gives details of experimental work and estimates the cost at £6,533 with a set-off of £3,600 ? Should you consider such support warranted, I am ready to move the Council here. I understand that an early decision is essential. The formation of a Syndicate might save Government expenditure on other direct experiments and give a better result. Please let me have your views by telegraph.

R.

No. 125.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Home Dept.)
Telegram, 22nd March 1904, 6-30 p. m. (Recd. 23rd, 7 a. m.)

Your telegram dated 8th March. Prinsep. Appointment may be made in his place.

No. 126.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Home Dept.)
P * Telegram, 22nd March 1904, 6-50 p. m. (Recd. 23rd, 7-30 a. m.)

Please refer to your Despatch No. 2, dated February 4th, Sanitary. It has been ascertained that the General Medical Council will, in all probability, refuse to act, as the case is not one of professional misconduct, or supported by criminal conviction. Unless I hear further from you, I do not propose to act on your letter.

No. 127.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.
P * Telegram, 22nd March 1904, 8 p. m. (Recd. 23rd, 7-30 a. m.)

Private. In your Budget telegram of yesterday you explained that the increase of military expenditure in 1903-4 and 1904-5 is partly due to the Seistan, Tibet, and Aden Missions. This explanation will be omitted from the summary sent to the newspapers here. In order to prevent anything in your financial statement being quoted as showing that these Missions are military expeditions, will you please make a suitable early explanation ?

No. 127*a*.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Home Dept.)
Telegram, 22nd March 1904, 10-10 p. m. (Recd. 23rd, 7-35 a. m.)

Your Home Secretary's letter dated 3rd March last. Chemist for Sibpur. It is quite impossible to procure man to arrive in time named. If Bloxam,

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who acted in Madras 1901-02, is still in India, perhaps he might suit. Please telegraph reply.

No. 128.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 23rd March 1904, 10-35 p. m. (Recd. 24th, 8 a. m.)

Private. Please refer to your telegram of the 22nd instant. Quarter-Master-General. I am sure you do not realise that this proposal has been communicated by War Office and appeared in newspapers before sanction was asked. Could you not hint to Commander-in-Chief that, according to established practice, applications for officers must be made through India Office. Abrogation of the rules, even in the case of an officer of Colonel Sclater's ability will form awkward precedent, but I will refer it to Council, and do what I can, feeling sure that you will see that matters in the future run in the ordinary course.

R.

No. 129.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 25th March 1904, 12-50 p. m. (Recd. 26th, 7 a. m.)

Secret. With reference to your telegram of the 24th instant, regarding the Orenburg-Tashkend Railway, Scott forwarded on February 16th an extract from the *Novoe Vremya*, reporting the opening of the Petrovsk station, and stating that there remained 329 versts of rails in all to be laid on both sections of the railway. The northern section had early in November almost reached Kazaliask.

R.

No. 130.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 25th March 1904, 1-55 p. m. (Recd. 26th, 7 a. m.)

Private. With reference to your private telegram of 19th instant, His Majesty the King approves K. C. I. E. for Sir Thoby Prinsep. I will announce both decorations on Monday, the 28th instant.

R.

No. 131.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 25th March 1904, 10-10 p. m. (Recd. 26th, 7-30 a. m.)

Private. Please refer to your private telegram of the 22nd instant regarding Mr. Dobbs. We find it difficult to understand what advantage Mr. Dobbs can gain for us by remaining on the frontier against the Amir's wish. The Amir's letter of the 13th February, read by the light of your telegraphic

summary of his letter of March 1st, would justify his subsequently disclaiming the liability if anything happened to Mr. Dobbs. The view of the Prime Minister and Lord Lansdowne is that we cannot maintain him to demarcate the frontier against the Amir's wish; but if we withdraw him, it is a question whether to show displeasure by not making any reply to the Amir, or to reply somewhat in the terms suggested in my telegram of the 18th instant. These are points on which I shall be glad to have your opinion.

Above telegram made official, *vide* telegram of 7th April 1904.

R.

No. 132.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 25th March 1904, 10-15 p. m. (Recd. 26th, 7-30 a. m.)

Private. Please refer to your private telegram of 19th instant. Mr. Cogswell would be unlikely to accept terminable engagement. I have no credentials from his employers to help decision. I suggest that the preferable course would be to appoint Thomas Controller, sending out a Master Printer and a Stationery expert from England; men combining a full knowledge of both trades are rare. Please consider and let me know your views on the subject.

R.

No. 133.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 25th March 1904, 10-20 p. m. (Recd. 26th, 7-30 a. m.)

Private. With reference to your private telegram of 22nd instant, regarding Somaliland, I placed your view and my own forcibly before the Cabinet, but was a good deal pressed on normal charges on the ground that the agreements with the tribes were originally made by India. No decision was taken, and the Council here would be hardly likely to agree to any charge in any case.

R.

No. 134.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 28th March 1904, 12-15 p. m. (Recd. 29th, 11-25 a. m.)

Private. Please refer to your letter dated 11th March. Lord Kitchener's enclosures are being carefully investigated. Have you considered with Kitchener the desirability of extending the railway from Peshawar to Shinpokh, or do you favour further extension from Jamrud? How would activity in this quarter affect the Amir? The Defence Committee are very anxious on both these points. Do you think it desirable to increase the manufacturing stocks referred to in your telegram of 23rd March?

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No. 135.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 28th March 1904, 6-10 p. m. (Recd. 29th, 7 a. m.)

Private. Please refer to your private telegram of 26th instant. Your appointment was announced today. The Provost of Eton urgently presses for your presence on the 4th June next.

R.

No. 136.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Rev. & Agrl. Dept.)

Telegram, 29th March 1904, 12-15 a. m. (Recd. 10-15 a. m.)

Messrs. Shaw, Wallace propose scheme for the encouragement of cotton-growing by means of Syndicate, provided that your Government bear the cost of pioneer work. Should British Cotton-Growing Association approve scheme and contribute one-half cost, would you be prepared to cooperate to similar extent ?

No. 137.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Mily. Dept.)

P * Telegram, 29th March 1904, 12-15 a. m. (Recd. 10-15 a. m.)

Please refer to your telegram of the 22nd instant regarding Colonel Sclater. Having now received the recommendation of Your Excellency's Government, I am willing, under the circumstances, to agree to the relaxation of the rule. Please adhere in future to the established practice under which Your Excellency's Government submits to me and, through me, to the War Office, the wishes of the Commander-in-Chief.

No. 138.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 29th March 1904. (Recd. 30th, 6 a. m.)

Private. Following from Mowll, Registrar, Dover :—

"The Committee of Dover Harbour Board, at their meeting today, desired me to convey to Your Excellency their heartiest congratulations on your appointment as Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, and their deep appreciation of the invaluable assistance you will render them as Chairman of Board."

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No. 139.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 30th March 1904, 12-5 a. m. (Recd. 10 a. m.)

Secret. The French Ambassador, in the course of general negotiations, proposes to substitute for the impending arbitration a draft article regarding Muscat to the following effect:—

Clause I.—A renewal of the reciprocal engagements of March 10th, 1862, and August 5th, 1890.

Clause II.—An engagement for the future not to issue French flags to the subjects of the Sultan without a previous understanding with him: His Majesty's Government, on the other hand, agreeing to recognise French protection of Muscat subjects residing in or owning property in French Colonies.

Clause III.—Proprietors of French protected dhows to be under French protection, both on land and at sea, but their immoveable property on land to be subject to local laws, protection to be extended to families in direct descent from French protégés.

Clause IV.—The masters and crews of French-protected dhows to be under French protection only at sea, subject to the provisions of the Brussels Act.

Clause V.—The French Government to furnish, within two months, a complete list of its Muscat protégés which will be subject to examination. In case the title should, in any case, be shown to be defective, the French papers will not be renewed.

Do you consider it would be possible to amend this article in such a manner as to make it acceptable? Please telegraph, as soon as possible, your views on this subject.

R.

No. 140.] Secretary of State to Viceroy (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 30th March 1904, 10-15 p. m. (Recd. 31st, 7 a. m.)

Mohmand Frontier. Your telegram of March 25th. I agree.

R.

No. 141.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 30th March 1904, 10-15 p. m. (Recd. 31st, 6-30 a. m.)

Private. The Cabinet considered today your private telegram of 28th instant, and the general line of your proposed reply to the Amir is approved. Mr. Dobbs should be instructed to confine himself, in conversations with the Amir, to statements of fact about the frontier; he should not undertake any

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negotiation and should act simply as a Post Office for any communication that the Amir may wish to make to you. Mr. Dobbs should remain in Kabul for the shortest time possible. We agree to postpone the demarcation of the Mohmand boundary. It is undesirable to discuss other questions with the Amir, and I suggest that your communication to him should be as brief as is consistent with courtesy. We can fully discuss future policy as to the Amir when you arrive here.

Above telegram made official, *vide* telegram of 7th April.

R.

No. 142.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 30th March 1904, 10-15 p. m. (Recd. 31st, 7-30 a. m.)

Private. As soon as you arrive in England the Defence Committee desire to confer with you on all defence questions which have recently been discussed between us. Lord Kitchener's recent Memorandum as to the carrying powers of the Russian Railway and the probable Russian forces in Afghanistan raises most important questions. As by Statute Lord Kitchener cannot join you in the deliberations here, could he nominate some officer in his confidence, who has been working with him on this subject, who could be present with you and save much correspondence. Would the Adjutant-General be suitable? The officer nominated should be in England by the 1st June.

R.

No. 143.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Mily. Dept.)

P * Telegram, 31st March 1904, 5-10 p. m. (Recd. 1st April, 6 a. m.)

With reference to your telegram of 22nd instant, Sir M. Gerard and Sir W. Nicholson will be instructed to send copies of all reports direct to the Commander-in-Chief in India. Sir Ian Hamilton's reports will be sent by Nicholson, as he is serving under him.

R.

No. 144.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 31st March 1904, 10-30 p. m. (Recd. 1st April, 7-10 a. m.)

Private. Advocate-General, Bengal. Please act as you propose in your private telegram of 29th instant.

R.

No. 145.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 31st March 1904, 10-30 p. m. (Recd. 1st April, 7-30 a. m.)

Private. With reference to your private telegram of today, regarding Mr. Dobbs, I should ignore altogether the question of the Amir's coming to India, as suggested in No. 2 alternative of your Foreign Secret telegram of 21st instant.

R.

No. 146.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 4th April 1904. (Recd. 5th, 7 a. m.)

Seistan Boundary. Please refer to your telegram of the 31st March. I approve of your proposed brief reply to the Amir regarding Colonel McMahon. I am pressing the Foreign Office to support your views with the Persian Government respecting the telegraph, but a little soreness with the Shah still exists.

R.

No. 147.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Mily. Dept.)

P * Telegram, 5th April 1904, 5-40 p. m. (Recd. 6th, 7 a. m.)

With reference to your telegram of 11th ultimo, the British Ambassador at St. Petersburg telegraphs that Admiral Alexeieff, having been informed of the intended arrival of Major Home *viâ* Tientsin, will take steps to facilitate his journey without fail.

No. 148] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 6th April 1904, 6-5 p. m. (Recd. 7th, 7-30 a. m.)

Lord Lansdowne is pressing for your reply to my telegram of the 30th ultimo regarding Muscat.

R.

No. 149.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 7th April 1904, 12-50 p. m. (Recd. 8th, 7-30 a. m.)

Private. I approve of the telegrams, mentioned in your private telegram of 1st instant about Mr. Dobbs, being made official.

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No. 150.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 7th April 1904, 12-50 p. m. (Recd. 8th, 7-30 a. m.)

Private. Mr. Somers Cocks. Please refer to your private telegram of 24th ultimo. I am very sorry that the Foreign Office omitted to inform him that he was needed before the hot weather; he would consequently miss you. In these circumstances the Foreign Office ask would it not be best for him to await your return? He would rather not go before the autumn. I should be glad to know your wishes in the matter.

R.

No. 151.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 11th April 1904, 7-55 p. m. (Recd. 12th, 7-30 a. m.)

Private. With reference to your private telegram of the 28th ultimo, will you please offer to Mr. Cogswell, Allahabad, the post of Controller, tenable during pleasure, but not beyond a term of three years: the holder to be eligible for re-appointment at the end of that time.

No. 152.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 13th April 1904, 9-30 p. m. (Recd. 14th, 7 a. m.)

Cholera in Kermanshah. Sir A. Hardinge's telegram No. 43, dated April 10th. Please report the steps you are taking to send a Doctor to take Scott's place. The matter is urgent.

R.

No. 153.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 13th April 1904, 9-30 p. m. (Recd. 14th, 7 a. m.)

Secret. With reference to your telegram of today, how many (? Tibetans) at Guru were killed and wounded respectively ?

R.

No. 154.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 13th April 1904, 9-30 p. m. (Recd. 14th, 7 a. m.)

Private. As regards the Persian telegraph, Sir A. Hardinge asks us to await his letter of March 23rd before pressing him further, but believes he will succeed ultimately. On its receipt, and after consideration with Lord Lansdowne, I will telegraph again.

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R.

No. 155.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 13th April 1904, 9-30 p. m. (Recd. 14th, 7 a. m.)

Private. Tibet. The news of the arrival of the Mission at Gyantse, which is most satisfactory, reached us just before the debate. Policy was affirmed by the House of Commons by 270 to 61, after assurance that the principle laid down on the 6th November would be maintained. Warm tributes were given in the debate to your Viceroyalty.

R.

No. 156.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 14th April 1904, 3-30 p. m. (Recd. 15th, 7-30 a. m.)

It is stated in the *Times* that the Tibetans lost 200 killed on the 8th April at or near Red Idol gorge. Please inform me as to facts of the case.

R.

No. 157.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 15th April 1904, 12-50 p. m. (Recd. 16th, 7 a. m.)

Please see your telegram of April 12th. The Army Council have decided to forbid British Officers proceeding to the seat of war during leave.

See also your Military telegram of 30th March about Colonel Hawkins. The Army Council cannot sanction an Officer on half pay acting as correspondent for a newspaper.

No. 158.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Military Dept.)

P * Telegram, 15th April 1904, 12-50 p. m. (Recd. 16th, 7 a. m.)

The *Times* of yesterday gives details, dated Simla, April 11th, of an important order by Lord Kitchener to the Army in India and statement of staff sanctioned by the Secretary of State. Please let me know what foundation there is for this.

R.

No. 159.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

Telegram, 15th April 1904, 5-5 p. m. (Recd. 16th, 7 a. m.)

Your telegram dated 12th April. Persian Réglement. See later papers forwarded with letter of 31st March last from the Revenue Secretary at the India Office. Have you any remarks to make?

R.

No. 160.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 15th April 1904, 5-5 p. m. (Recd. 16th, 7 a. m.)

With reference to your telegram of the 24th December, on the subject of the Mulkowal incident, I have decided to adopt the second alternative suggested in paragraph 16 of your letter No. 18 of the 12th November. Scientific data have accordingly been extracted from the Reports, evidence, and correspondence, to be communicated confidentially to the Lister Institute as a basis for experiments with a view to precautions against future contamination and to standardisation. The Institute applies for the services of Douglas, Indian Medical Service, to assist in the experiments; he will probably be required for 6 to 12 months. Can you spare him after the expiration of his present sick leave? I shall be glad to receive a reply as soon as possible from you.

R.

No. 161.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 15th April 1904, 10-55 p. m. (Recd. 16th, 10 a. m.)

Please refer to the Resident's telegram of April 11th. Aden Delimitation. In view of the approach of the hot season, which will necessitate the withdrawal of troops and prevent regular delimitation, His Majesty's Government have accepted the suggestion of Sir N. O'Conor that FitzMaurice should ride with one of the Turkish Commissioners along the frontier to the sea, fixing the general boundary line to be demarcated later, and that he should take the opportunity to note specially all Subaihi claims on the territory between Turba and Sheikh Said. Please instruct Commission accordingly.

Repeated to Resident.

No. 162.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 15th April 1904, 11-15 p. m. (Recd. 16th, 7 a. m.)

Please refer to your telegram of the 30th March last. Debai. The French Government were unaware of the treaty engagements with the Sultan (? Sheikh), but now agree to the settlement of the incident by His Majesty's Government without their intervention. They ask that the Sultan (? Sheikh) may be caused to give satisfaction at once, and that we should then inform them of the settlement. Meantime they will arrange to delay the arrival of the Cruiser, which has not reached Muscat yet. Will you please have the necessary instructions issued?

No. 163.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 15th April 1904, 12-5 p. m. (Recd. 16th, 6 a. m.)

Private. Chemist for Sibpur. Please see your telegram of the 6th instant. Mr. Bloxam. After taking into consideration Sir William Ramsay's strong testimony in favour of Mr. Bloxam, forwarded to Mr. Miller by mail of the 18th March, do you adhere to your decision with regard to him?

No. 164.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 18th April 1904, 3-30 p. m. (Recd. 19th, 7 a. m.)

Please refer to your telegram of the 16th instant. I entirely approve of your action in sending Major Bird to the Amir.

R.

No. 165.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 18th April 1904, 3-30 p. m. (Recd. 19th, 7 a. m.)

Aden Delimitation. Resident's telegrams of 10th, 11th, and 18th April. Please let me have your views as to arrangements for withdrawing British troops. Having regard to climatic conditions, early decision desirable.

Repeated to Aden; addressed to the Viceroy.

No. 166.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Home Dept.)

P * Telegram, 19th April 1904, 5-25 p. m. (Recd. 20th, 7 a. m.)

Criminal Intelligence. Please see your Financial Despatch, No. 51, dated 11th February. Appointments of Director and Deputy Director sanctioned as proposed. Despatch follows by next mail as to the other proposals.

No. 167.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 22nd April 1904, 5-15 p. m. (Recd. 23rd, 9 a. m.)

Your Foreign Secret letter 4th February last regarding Bubian island has been communicated to His Majesty's Ambassador, Constantinople. His view is that the Porte will resent, as strongly as in 1902, the claim by His Majesty's Government that the island is the property of the Sheikh of Koweit, and he points out that the occupation of the post on the north of the island on behalf of the Sheikh would be contrary to the principle of maintaining the *status quo* on which he based the representation to the Porte referred to in his

Despatch No. 2, dated 4th April 1902. But he thinks it would be possible to press for the withdrawal of the Turkish post from the island and to inform the Porte, after some months, if this representation should produce no result, that unless the Turkish force is withdrawn, we shall be constrained to support the Sheikh in establishing a post on (? the island). He suggests, however, as the number of troops in occupation has been reduced during last two years from 20 to 6, that the whole force will probably be removed before very long if the question is allowed to lie dormant; and he asks that it may be ascertained definitely whether any Turkish troops are still on the island. Please furnish this information and let me have your opinion on Sir N. O'Conor's views. He also points out that the request for the evacuation of Bubian, without the mention of Umkasr, will be taken by the Turks as a practical abandonment of the Sheikh's claim to the latter by His Majesty's Government.

No. 168.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 22nd April 1904, 6-55 p. m. (Recd. 23rd, 7 a. m.)

Please see your telegram of April 13th, and Sir A. Hardinge's of April 20th. Tamb and Abu Musa. Have you any information beyond that contained in Secretary's letter of June 18th, 1903, and correspondence in the Proceedings for September 1888, E. 102—104, as to invalidity of the Persian claims and the rights of the Sheikh of Shargah ?

R.

No. 169.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 22nd April 1904, 2-55 p. m. (Recd. 23rd, 7 a. m.)

Private. High Court, Calcutta. Your Judicial Despatches Nos. 6 and 8. The King approves appointments of Mitra and Geidt, in place of Banerjee and Stevens. I will announce the appointments on Saturday.

No. 170.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

Telegram, 25th April 1904, 8-20 p. m. (Recd. 26th, 7 a. m.)

Your telegram dated 14th April. Quarantine at Kermanshah. Burden declines. Please select and appoint another Officer.

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No. 171.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (P. W. Dept.)

P * Telegram, 26th April 1904, 1-45 p. m. (Recd. 27th, 7 a. m.)

A despatch on the subject of Cooper's Hill College went by last mail, informing you that, after very full consideration of the Report of the Committee and your observations thereon, I had decided, in Council, that in the public interests it was necessary to close the College. Details of the procedure and the date of closing are under consideration and will be shortly announced, and the papers will be presented to Parliament at an early date. I should have preferred not to publish the decision until a despatch had reached you; but in view of the commencement of the term at the College, it is necessary to take steps which must cause the decision to become known; and I propose when promising the papers tomorrow to announce it in answer to the question in Parliament.

No. 172.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 26th April 1904, 8-40 p. m. (Recd. 27th, 9 a. m.)

Please refer to the Chiengmai Consul's Despatch to the Foreign Office, dated February 17th, 1904, regarding Siam. The Foreign Office, for financial reasons, prefer the proposal for Vice-Consul at Lakon, who would pay regular visits to Scott and Raheng. What are your views? We shall presumably be asked to share the cost on Chiengmai precedent if the appointment is sanctioned. I shall be glad of an early reply.

R.

No. 173.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 26th April 1904, 3-25 p. m. (Recd. 27th, 7 a. m.)

[*Private.*] *Foreign. Secret.* It is of great importance that [? we should] receive adherence of other Powers to the new Egyptian arrangements. There seems a fair prospect of Russia giving hers. It would, however, be much improved, if we were able to reassure her as to our intentions with regard to Tibet. The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has told the Russian Ambassador that he cannot undertake to announce the action which we might take in the event of the Tibetans continuing to keep us at arm's length. He has said that, in such an event, the Government of India would, no doubt, make recommendations as to the best mode of dealing with the situation, and that he cannot anticipate those recommendations, or manner in which they might be dealt with here. Can

you suggest any form of words which, without risk of embarrassing ourselves hereafter, would disarm Russian suspicions and carry out our view that we should not annex the country or establish a British protectorate over it? In view of the possible opposition of other Powers, we are anxious to bring Russia into line as to Egypt, if this can be done without injury to the interests of India.

R.

No. 174.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 26th April 1904, 6-5 p. m. (Recd. 27th, 7 a. m.)

Private. Please treat as private my Foreign Secret telegram of today regarding Tibet.

No. 175.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 27th April 1904, 8-55 p. m. (Recd. 28th, 7 a. m.)

Please see your telegram of April 25th regarding Tamb. Wilson's letter of May 1895, and Meade's of December 13th, 1898, cannot be traced here. Please send them.

R.

No. 176.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 28th April 1904, 8-50 p. m. (Recd. 29th, 7 a. m.)

Tibet. With reference to your telegram of April 21st, the Foreign Office, in view of the consequences in the event of the Dalai Lama's flight, telegraphed to Sir E. Satow, on April 23rd, to ask whether it would be possible for the Chinese Government to explain, through the Amban at Lhasa, that we have no desire to remain in Tibet, but are prepared to withdraw the Mission if the Tibetan Government will conclude Convention as to trade and frontier, make suitable reparation for recent outrages, and undertake to abstain from aggression in future. Sir E. Satow replied, on April 26th, that the Chinese Government is quite unable to exercise influence through the Amban, that they regard the Military incidents of advance with indifference, if not with satisfaction, as conducing to the recovery of their lost authority, and that, if the Dalai Lama has fled to Russia, they would probably set up, in his place, some more amenable person.

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1904.

TELEGRAMS FROM
THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA
TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE LORD AMPTHILL, G. C. I. E.

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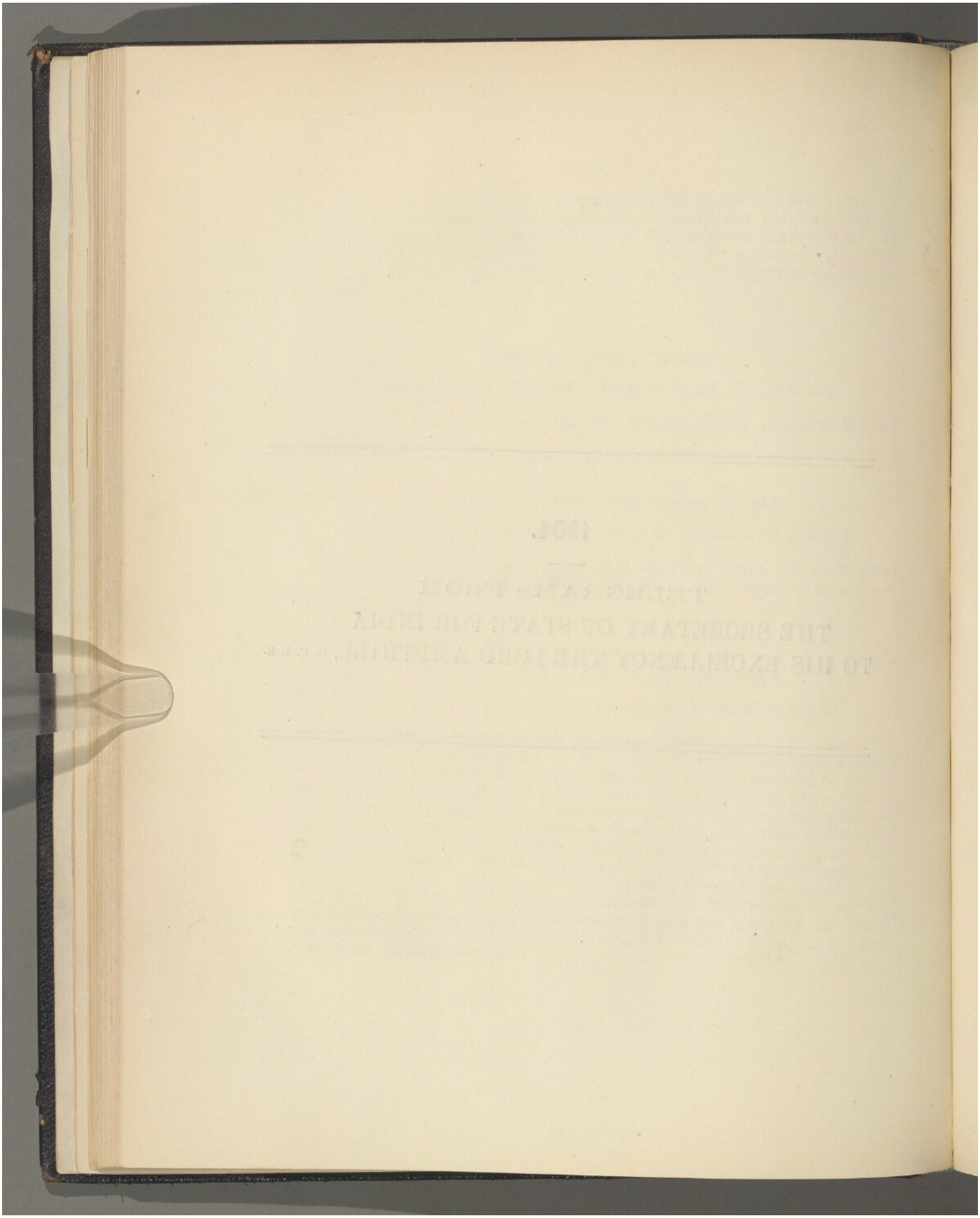

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No. 177.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 30th April 1904, 5-55 p. m. (Recd. 1st May, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Siam. Please see your telegram of yesterday. Consul's letter stated copy was being sent to the Government of India, under flying seal to the Chief Secretary, Burma. Secretary's letter of 29th April enclosed a copy for you.

No. 178.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.
P * Telegram, 30th April 1904, 8-35 p. m. (Recd. 1st May, 7-30 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see your telegram of 28th April. Sir A. Hardinge's Despatch No. 56 is enclosed with Secretary's letter dated the 29th April. It does not give details of the scheme, which had not then been made public, but asks for instructions as to the attitude he is to take. With reference to your telegram of the 8th ultimo, he points out that the proposal is not to transfer collection of provincial revenues to Belgians, but to use the latter as channel for remittance to Treasury at Tehran of fixed sums collected by Governors. He suggests we should take the line of favouring the gradual application of the scheme, beginning with the central provinces, where the Tehran Government is strongest, and extending it slowly and by the light of experience to outlying provinces, such as Arabistan and Seistan. What are your views as to this? His Majesty's Government cannot commit themselves until they know precise scope and details, but they can hardly oppose the principle of the scheme, which appears to be a genuine attempt at reform, although, as no other Europeans are available, it involves increase of Belgian influence, to which, apart from our political objections, an influential section of the population are intensely opposed.

R.

No. 179.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 2nd May 1904, 8-20 p. m. (Recd. 3rd, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see your telegram of the 16th ultimo regarding Aden Delimitation. On return from the Somali Coast His Majesty's Ship *Porpoise* proceeded on the 29th April to Perim.

No. 180.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Finance Dept.)
P * Telegram, 3rd May 1904, 6-25 p. m. (Recd. 4th, 7 a. m.)

Duty on Malwa Opium. I have no objection to the proposal contained in your telegram of the 23rd ultimo.

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No. 181.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 9th May 1904, 8-5 p. m. (Recd. 10th, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. With reference to your telegram of the 6th instant, please reply as soon as possible to the following questions. What estimate have you formed as regards proposed advance to Lhasa? Please state the probable time after the expiration of month for preparation, cost, and force required. What has been the cost of the Mission up to date?

No. 182.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 9th May 1904, 9-40 p. m. (Recd. 10th, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Afghanistan. Your telegram of 6th May. His Majesty's Government approve of the proposal to inform the Amir at once and without comment that, in accordance with His Highness's desire, Mr. Dobbs has been instructed to proceed to Kabul by Hazarajat route.

R.

No. 183.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 10th May 1904, 1-50 p. m. (Recd. 11th, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram of March 2nd to the Resident at Aden and the final paragraph of your letter No. 774 E. A. to Bombay of March 8th regarding Aden Delimitation. Sir N. O'Conor has addressed the Foreign Office urging again the importance of actual delimitation of the line north-east from Wadi Bana to the desert, which he considers would be much more satisfactory than a notification to the Porte of the line we propose in accordance with the terms of the *Iradé*. He thinks that it would be most unwise to trust solely to the geographical position of the Hadramaut to prevent the Turks gaining a footing there. He suggests that Fitzmaurice, after an interval for rest, should be invited to undertake the duty in concert with a small Turkish Commission, and that his opinion should be obtained as to whether a large escort is necessary, and whether opposition from the Turks or local Chiefs is to be feared. Sir N. O'Conor thinks Fitzmaurice is specially qualified by his intimate acquaintance with the way of Turkish officials and the knowledge that he has now acquired of the language and character of the inhabitants. What are your views? In what position is the treaty with Beda? Please repeat to the Resident at Aden.

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R.

No. 184.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 12th May 1904, 4-50 p. m. (Recd. 13th, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. His Majesty's Government have considered your telegram of the 6th instant about Tibet, and agree that recent events make it inevitable that, unless the Tibetans consent to negotiate at Gyantse, the Mission must advance to Lhasa. You are therefore authorised to give notice to the Chinese Amban that we shall insist on negotiations at Lhasa itself, unless a competent Tibetan negotiator appears at Gyantse in conjunction with him within a month or such further period as will be necessary to complete the preparations for advancing. His Majesty's Government, however, wish that the Government of India should clearly understand that they do not intend to depart in any way from the policy laid down in my telegram of the 6th November 1903.

R.

No. 185.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 12th May 1904, 8-15 p. m. (Recd. 13th, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. Your telegram to me of today has crossed mine to you. Preparations on the scale proposed should be made at once. Please forward, with as little delay as possible, an estimate of the cost.

R.

No. 186.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 14th May 1904, 6-35 p. m. (Recd. 15th, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. With reference to your telegram of April 29th regarding Tamb, Sir A. Hardinge has been authorised to make representations to the Persian Government as suggested in his telegram of the 20th April.

R.

No. 187.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 14th May 1904, 6-35 p. m. (Recd. 15th, 7 a. m.)

Please refer to my telegram of May 12th regarding Tibet. You will no doubt telegraph to me the period to be allowed before advance is begun as soon as you have fixed it. I shall state that the period has not yet been fixed in answering a question in Parliament next Monday.

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R.

No. 188.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 15th May 1904, 1-5 p. m. (Recd. 16th, 7 a. m.)

With reference to your telegram of the 14th instant covering General Macdonald's, I trust that the Military Authorities will take care that, in view of the facts detailed in these telegrams, sufficient reinforcements are made available at once.

R.

No. 189.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 16th May 1904, 10-55 p. m. (Recd. 17th, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Mohmand demarcation. Your telegram of May 7th. Your proposal to send no reply to the Amir at present is approved.

R.

No. 190.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 17th May 1904, 7-10 p. m. (Recd. 18th, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please telegraph when reinforcements will start for Tibet and when they are timed to reach Kalatso. Is the Commander-in-Chief satisfied as to the numbers which it is proposed to send, and is sufficient transport available?

No. 191.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 17th May 1904, 10-55 p. m. (Recd. 18th, 7 a. m.)

Secret. Please see the final clause of paragraph 2 of my Secret Despatch No. 11, dated February 19th last, regarding Bahrein. Has it been ascertained whether the individuals mentioned in the enclosures to Sir N. O'Conor's No. 50 were those actually concerned in the murder of Sheikh Selman, and has the Bahrein Sheikh been informed of the Turkish statement? If so, is he satisfied? See enclosure 1 of my Secret Despatch No. 16, April 1st last. Sir N. O'Conor hesitates to carry out the Foreign Office instructions of April 12th till an answer to these questions is received.

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R.

No. 192.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 18th May 1904, 1-20 p. m. (Recd. 19th, 7 a. m.)

Secret. Bubian Island. Please refer to your telegram of April 27th. Sir N. O'Conor has been authorised to make representations to the Porte as suggested in the 4th paragraph of his Despatch No. 249, dated 5th April last; see Secretary's letter No. 17, dated the 22nd April. The active measures for supporting the Sheikh of Koweit's authority, recommended in your Secret Despatch No. 25, dated 4th February last, will be further considered if these recommendations should remain for some time without effect.

No. 193.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 18th May 1904, 5 p. m. (Recd. 19th, 7 a. m.)

Secret. I shall be glad to receive your views on the Chinese Note enclosed in Sir E. Satow's Despatch No. 86, dated the 14th March last, regarding the Burma-Chinese Frontier.

R.

No. 194.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 21st May 1904, 4-55 p. m. (Recd. 22nd, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. I agree to the procedure proposed in your telegram of the 20th May.

R.

No. 195.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 25th May 1904, 12-45 a. m. (Recd. 10-10 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Your telegram of the 20th instant. Tibet. Please repeat to Sir E. Satow my telegram of the 12th instant conveying the decision of His Majesty's Government and yours of the 14th May reporting instructions to Colonel Younghusband. Also inform him of the date on which the Mission will decline to negotiate at Gyantse. Am I right in assuming from your telegram of the 20th instant that this will be the 15th June?

No. 196.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 25th May 1904, 12-45 a. m. (Recd. 10-50 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Nejd. Your telegram of 20th May. Sir N. O'Conor made representations to the Porte on your telegram of the 28th ultimo, and renewed them on hearing from the Vice-Consul at Jedda that troops were assembling at Medina to assist the Amir of Nejd. He says that these representations may perhaps make the Sultan reluctant, but will hardly turn him from the course which, he can fairly urge, is calculated to prevent internal troubles and a disturbance of the *status quo*. He adds that he does not see on what grounds he can press the Turks to desist from helping the Amir, who is the party attacked, without appearing as a distinct partisan of Bin Saud. He also points out the objections on general grounds of policy against preventing the Turks from assisting the Amir against Bin Saud whose apparent object is to re-establish the Wahabi dynasty throughout Central Arabia, the result of which might be fraught with serious consequences in the near future, and might imperil our authority at Koweit which, in the existing condition of affairs, is yearly growing stronger. Sir N. O'Conor's idea is that we should confine ourselves for the present to maintaining intact the territory of Koweit and awaiting developments, but that if the Turks persist, as he anticipates, in assisting the Amir, it might be expedient to reconsider the question of appointing a Resident at Koweit. Please let me have your views on the above questions. In view of our declared policy of prohibiting the traffic in arms, how would you propose to help in interfering with the importation of arms for Bin Saud.

R.

No. 197.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 27th May 1904, 1-20 p. m. (Recd. 9-15 p. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. I approve of the decision to send an additional company of Native Mounted Infantry. We should run no risks as to force in view of the increased activity of the enemy.

R.

No. 198.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 27th May 1904, 8-25 p. m. (Recd. 28th, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see my telegram of the 24th instant. Tibet. Sir E. Satow has been instructed by telegram, dated May 26th, to make a formal notification to the Chinese Government to the same effect as notice which is to be given to the Amban by Colonel Younghusband.

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R.

No. 199.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 28th May 1904, 6-15 p. m. (Recd. 29th, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Question in Parliament on May 31st regarding Tibet asks for latest information as to the position of the Mission there. Please telegraph.

R.

No. 200.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 2nd June 1904, 10-10 p. m. (Recd. 3rd, 10-15 a. m.)

The following telegram regarding Tibet was sent to Sir E. Satow on the 1st June, before the receipt of your telegram of the same date :—

Begins. Your telegram 129. It is important as a matter of form that we should acquaint the Chinese Government with the course we are pursuing, and it may be necessary at some future stage to avail ourselves of the position of China as Suzerain if we find it impossible to come to terms with the Tibetans. You should, therefore, as soon as you learn date from India, make communication as instructed by way of information. You need not ask Chinese Government to communicate with Amban. *Ends.*

R.

No. 201.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 6th June 1904. (Recd. 7th, 7 a. m.)

Secret. Please refer to your telegrams of the 21st and 27th May. The Military Attaché at St. Petersburg was informed at General Staff on June 1st that there is no question of mobilisation in Central Asia and that the situation there is normal. He considers the reports contain errors and exaggerations lending colour to the supposition that the informant is oriental and that they should not be literally interpreted.

R.

No. 202.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 8th June 1904, 2 p. m. (Recd. 9th, 7 a. m.)

Your Despatch No. 214 of 1903 gives four names for the Companionship of the Bath and three names are left over from previous Despatches: Fancourt, Pulley, Scallon. There are nine vacancies. Please telegraph completing list at once.

R.

No. 203.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 9th June 1904, 1 p. m. (Recd. 10th, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. Please see your telegram of 7th June. His Majesty's Government approve of June 25th as the date on which the Mission is to be authorised to proceed to Lhasa if the Tibetan Government has not by then sent a competent negotiator with the Amban to Gyantse. Communicate, as you propose, with Captain Parr and Sir E. Satow.

R.

No. 204.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.
P * Telegram, 9th June 1904, 7-15 p. m. (Recd. 10th, 7 a. m.)

Is the force in Tibet using Dum-Dum bullets? If so, on what ground is this being done?

R.

No. 205.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.
Telegram, 9th June 1904, 10-25 p. m. (Recd. 10th, 7 a. m.)

Linotype Company represent that certain machines sent to India for trial in Government Central Press, Calcutta, are being returned. They make most favourable proposal for further extended trial and undertake the removal of machines if large economy is not produced. Please stop the removal of machines.

No. 206.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 16th June 1904, 1-5 p. m. (Recd. 9 p. m.)

Secret. Sir A. Hardinge's telegram of June 10th. Hashtadan. Please repeat, with statement of your views, Minchin's telegram of June 9th.

R.

No. 207.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.
P * Telegram, 16th June 1904, 8-50 p. m. (Recd. 17th, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. There will be a question in Parliament on Monday next regarding Tibet. Please telegraph where Colonel Younghusband and General Macdonald now are respectively. Is it possible, as the question suggests, that delay in negotiations may be caused by their distance from the main body of the Mission?

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R.

No. 208.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

Telegram, 17th June 1904, 2-10 p. m. (Recd. 18th, 7 a. m.)

Tibet. Please telegraph any available information regarding casualties up to date in connection with Mission and sickness subsequently to your telegram dated 24th April. Question in Parliament, Tuesday, 21st June next.

R.

No. 209.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 22nd June 1904, 12-5 a. m. (Recd. 10-40 a. m.)

Secret. Please refer to your telegram of the 18th May. It does not seem necessary to inform the Russian Government of the meaning we attach to the phrase "Fars and the Persian Gulf." The question, in any case, should first be settled by mutual agreement, if possible, between the British and Persian Governments. Sir A. Hardinge will be instructed to settle the question, if satisfactory assurances are not received shortly from the Persian Government, by notification to them of our view, with an intimation that in the event of Persia attempting to ignore the rights of His Majesty's Government necessary steps will be taken to ensure respect for them.

R.

No. 210.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Mily. Dept.)

Telegram, 23rd June 1904, 12-40 p. m. (Recd. 24th, 7 a. m.)

Tibet. Your telegram in the Foreign Department dated 20th June last. Names of five officers only have been telegraphed as wounded and no deaths from disease. Please issue needful orders that all British casualties should be telegraphed to me immediately as imperfect information occasions inconvenience.

R.

No. 211.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 23rd June 1904, 8-40 p. m. (Recd. 24th, 7 a. m.)

Please refer to your telegram of the 5th instant regarding Aden. It is understood that the Porte will object to London. His Majesty's Government

consider that if the work cannot be effectively carried on at Sana it would be preferable to decide on Constantinople. After receipt of the Report, I shall be glad if you will telegraph your views on the boundary as soon as possible.

Repeated to the Resident at Aden.

No. 212.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 24th June 1904, 12-55 p. m. (Recd. 25th, 7 a. m.)

Secret. With reference to your telegram of the 29th ultimo regarding Nejd, Sir N. O'Conor has been instructed to address a representation to the Porte making such use of the arguments stated by you as he may think judicious. You are authorised to send an officer immediately to Koweit as Political Agent. Fresh measures for the prevention of the importation of arms at Koweit, referred to in paragraph 5 your Secret Despatch No. 76, March 31st last, will be deferred for the present.

R.

No. 213.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 25th June 1904, 5-15 p. m. (Recd. 26th, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. Please see your telegram of the 24th June. If there is reasonable expectation of the early arrival of the Amban and competent Tibetan Envoys at Gyantse, His Majesty's Government approve of the postponement of the advance of the Mission to Lhasa; but if Envoys arrive there we think that advance to Lhasa should not be undertaken, unless there is sufficient ground for doubting the earnestness of the Tibetan Government or the competence of the Envoys. It should be made clear to Envoys that the advance to Lhasa will forthwith take place unless they satisfy us as to the good faith of the Tibetan Government. From your telegram of the 12th May I understand that the latest date on which the advance should commence is July 10th.

R.

No. 214.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 27th June 1904, 12-30 p. m. (Recd. 28th, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram of yesterday regarding Tibet. Colonel Younghusband should clearly understand that no suggestion

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of a Resident at Lhasa should be made to the Tibetans pending the receipt of your despatch and instructions from His Majesty's Government. Other points in your telegram require careful consideration and he should be very guarded in reference to them.

No. 215.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Finance Dept.)

P * Telegram, 28th June 1904, 3-5 p. m. (Recd. 29th, 7 a. m.)

Please see your telegram of 18th June. Your proposals regarding the Rupee loan are approved, and the loan will be advertised on the 2nd July in London.

R.

No. 216.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Military Dept.)

P * Telegram, 30th June 1904, 1-5 p. m. (Recd. 1st July, 7 a. m.)

Please refer to your telegram of the 29th instant about Reinforcements for Tibet. Should order to rejoin be given to Officers on leave from units?

No. 217.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 1st July 1904, 1-30 p. m. (Recd. 10 p. m.)

Secret. Koweit. Please refer to my telegram of February 19th. Sir N. O'Conor, though he does not question the advantage of the new postal arrangement, considers that its execution should be delayed until the Porte has replied to his representations regarding Bubian Island. Have any steps been already taken to select an officer and establish the post office? In any case his arrival at Koweit should be deferred in order to avoid any appearance of an infringement of the *status quo* while negotiations are in progress regarding Bubian.

R.

No. 218.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 1st July 1904, 5-20 p. m. (Recd. 2nd, 7 a. m.)

Secret. Please telegraph the latest available information in time for an answer to a question in Parliament on Monday next as to the negotiations in Tibet.

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No. 219.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 1st July 1904, 10-5 p. m. (Recd. 2nd, 7-45 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. Please wire me fully the opinions of Lord Kitchener as to the military considerations which render it undesirable to occupy Lhasa throughout the winter. Must communications be kept up throughout the winter, or could the force be provisioned beforehand? Would the force be insecure, or would it be hemmed in involving a consequent rescue in the spring? If no Tibetan authority is found at Lhasa to negotiate, does Lord Kitchener advocate the retreat of the force, and would such retreat be back to India or to some intervening point? If the latter, to what point? I should be glad to know the opinion of General Macdonald also.

R.

No. 220.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 4th July 1904, 9-20 p. m. (Recd. 5th, 7 a. m.)

Secret. Tibet. As it is possible that the Envoys may, at any moment, propose terms to Colonel Younghusband, he should clearly understand that no terms should be named by him without our sanction. In certain particulars the terms named in your telegram of the 26th June seemed to us excessive.

No. 221.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 5th July 1904, 10-15 p. m. (Recd. 6th, 7-30 a. m.)

Secret. With reference to the question of the Persian Consular Guards, please telegraph your views on the rearrangement proposed in Sir A. Hardinge's No. 15 of the 30th April last to your Government, part of which only is dealt with in your telegram of the 29th May. I have only just received from the Foreign Office a copy of Sir A. Hardinge's scheme.

R.

No. 222.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 5th July 1904, 12-15 p. m. (Recd. 6th, 9-30 a. m.)

Secret. Following telegram, dated 1st July, received from Sir N. O'Conor regarding the Aden Boundary :—

Begins. Please let me know, as soon as possible, whether Government of India accept the frontier proposed by the British Commission from Mudariba

to Jebelhosisi on the sea. If so, I think I can get Turkish Government to acknowledge, as against another Power, our lien on the country south-east of Akama, Akka, and Kuddan. I beg that Government of India may be requested to prepare frontier maps as soon as possible. *Ends.*

Subject to anything you may have to say, I am disposed to accept the line proposed by the Commission. You should telegraph your views at the earliest possible date.

R.

No. 223.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 6th July 1904, 11-5 p. m. (Recd. 7th, 12 noon.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. The terms for communication by Colonel Younghusband to the Tibetans should be as follows. In case advance to Lhasa becomes necessary they will be subject to alteration, and the Mission will not be precluded from advancing in case of dilatory tactics by the Tibetans.

1*st.*—No Resident to be demanded at Lhasa or elsewhere;

2*nd.*—We require Tibetans and Chinese to undertake that no portion of Tibetan territory shall be ceded to a Foreign Power without previous British consent and that no such Power shall be permitted to intervene in Tibetan affairs;

3*rd.*—Colonel Younghusband should ask for the production of the two Lachung men (British subjects) who were taken and for pecuniary reparation if they have been ill-treated. As regards indemnity he will be guided by circumstances; no sum should be asked which it is not believed that the Tibetans can pay by instalments, if necessary, spread over three years;

4*th.*—All fortified positions which are accessible between the point reached by the Mission and the frontier to be razed;

5*th.*—Trade mart to be established at Gyantse, as well as Yatung, under similar provisions to those now existing at Yatung. British and Tibetan subjects to have free access to it; and the road to Gyantse from the frontier to be kept clear of obstruction. The Tibetan Agent to be established at Gyantse as at Yatung to receive any letters from British Agent and to be responsible for sending them to the Tibetan as well as the Chinese Authorities and transmitting replies;

6*th.*—Sikkim Boundary. The Boundary pillars which have been pulled down to be rebuilt by Tibetans;

7*th.*—Trade and Customs. On the general lines of the Regulations attached to the old Convention;

8*th.*—Chumbi Valley to be occupied as security for payment of the indemnity and for the fulfilment of the provisions as to opening markets, and

to continue in our occupation either until the markets have been effectively opened for three years, or until the indemnity has been paid, whichever is the later date.

(See also Telegram dated 26th July.)

R.

No. 224.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 7th July 1904, 2-15 p. m. (Recd. 9-45 p. m.)

Foreign. Secret. I agree to your telegram of the 3rd instant regarding a British Doctor and Lady Doctor for the Amir.

R.

No. 225.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 7th July 1904, 9-40 p. m. (Recd. 8th, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see Sir A. Hardinge's telegram of the 5th July last, No. 74, regarding loan to Persia. The matter may become urgent at any moment, and I should like to know your views as soon as possible.

R.

No. 226.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 8th July 1904, 5-25 p. m. (Recd. 9th, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Kotaibi. With reference to the Resident's telegram of July 6th, His Majesty's Government, while accepting the necessity for precautionary measures, desire to have a statement of the circumstances. No military expedition should be undertaken without their sanction. See my telegram of March 10th last about Saidi. What is the present force at D'thali and on the lines of communication? When do you expect that all troops may be withdrawn from Hinterland? Please see my Despatch, Secret, 1st April last, No. 15.

Repeated to the Resident at Aden.

R.

No. 227.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.
P * Telegram, 9th July 1904, 12-30 a. m. (Recd. 11-40 a. m.)

With reference to your private telegrams, the points in Lord Kitchener's scheme which immediately press for a decision are:—

(1) Is it desirable to proceed at once with the provision of a portion of the stores and transport now deficient? If so, what money will be available during the current financial year?

(2) If British troops can be landed from England within three months to complete the 9th Division, would the Indian Government contemplate adding British troops to the permanent Indian Establishment as proposed?

(3) If Lord Kitchener's scheme were accepted *en bloc*, are funds available to meet it within three or five years without resorting to increased taxation?

The main points of the scheme should, Lord Curzon considers, be held over for discussion in the autumn, but guidance is needed on the above points. Lord Roberts is disposed to favour all that is necessary being provided for mobilisation of the 9th Division, but the extra British troops to be provided on the occurrence of an emergency.

R.

No. 228.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 12th July 1904, 1-5 p. m. (Recd. 9-40 p. m.)

Foreign. Secret. His Majesty's Government approve of your instructions to Colonel Younghusband mentioned in your telegram of the 10th instant about Tibet.

R.

No. 229.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 12th July 1904, 1-10 p. m. (Recd. 13th, 7 a. m.)

Secret. Before the House rises I shall have to present a further Blue Book about Tibet. It will include a selection from the papers sent home with the Foreign Secretary's weekly letters. Both Blue Books have contained papers thus received down to and including those sent with Foreign Secretary's letter No. 12-M., dated the 24th March last. Please let me have formal letter forwarding for information further correspondence since March 24th, 1904, on the lines of the Government of India's letter in the Foreign Department, No. 196, dated the 26th October 1899, in regard to Waziristan. Any papers not hitherto sent but which you may think it desirable to add to the Blue Book should also be sent.

R.

No. 230.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.
P * Telegram, 13th July 1904, 8-50 p. m. (Recd. 14th, 6-30 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your three telegrams of July 11th about Tibet. His Majesty's Government's views as to the modification of the terms prescribed in my telegram of the 6th instant will be communicated to you with as little delay as possible. Meantime, the instructions in your

telegram of July 9th [? July 11th] to Colonel Younghusband in reply to his No. 517 are approved with the exception that he should make no increased demands till the views of His Majesty's Government are received, save in respect of the amount of the indemnity.

R.

No. 231.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Finance Dept.)

Telegram, 15th July 1904, 1-15 p. m. (Recd. 10 p. m.)

Your telegram in the Financial Department, dated 8th July last. Linotype. Question under consideration here. . Please defer action pending receipt of a further communication from me.

R.

No. 232.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 15th July 1904, 2 p. m. (Recd. 16th, 6-30 a. m.)

I sent the following telegram to the Resident at Aden yesterday :—

Begins. Foreign. Secret. Should a Russian steamer belonging to the Volunteer Fleet apply for permission to coal at Aden or Perim, you are to refuse supplies and to refer home for instructions at once. You should in so doing give fullest particulars available. *End of telegram.*

No. 233.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 15th July 1904, 10-15 p. m. (Recd. 16th, 7 a. m.)

Please furnish me by mail, as soon as possible, with full report as to conduct of Gurkha Military Police, Cachar, on or about the 11th June, or else refer me by telegraph to some correct report already published or on its way home.

R.

No. 234.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 18th July 1904, 7-25 p. m. (Recd. 19th, 7 a. m.)

I have today sent the following telegram to the Resident at Aden :—

Begins. Foreign. Secret. Please see my telegram of the 15th instant. Pending further instructions, you should refuse coal or supplies to *Malacca* or to any other British or Foreign merchant ships which the vessels of the Russian Volunteer Fleet have taken as prizes.

This telegram has been repeated to the Government of India. *Ends.*

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R.

No. 235.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 20th July 1904, 5-20 p. m. (Recd. 21st, 6-30 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. If you have not already done so, please repeat to Sir A. Hardinge your telegram of July 18th regarding the Persian Loan.

R.

No. 236.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 22nd July 1904, 1-30 p. m. (Recd. 8-45 p. m.)

I sanction the proposal in your Military Despatch, dated June 16th, to raise Hazara Pioneer Battalion at once, subject to the arrangements indicated in paragraph 5 of the Despatch being eventually carried out.

R.

No. 237.] Secretary of State to Viceroy (Mily. Dept.)

P * Telegram, 22nd July 1904, 1-30 p. m. (Recd. 10-20 p. m.)

Urgent. With reference to your telegram of July 15th, I agree to an expenditure during the current financial year up to one crore for mobilisation stores. Please let me know your requirements at once. I await your final recommendations in regard to the remaining proposals after you have consulted with the Local Governments. To avoid delay I will endeavour to arrange with the War Office the transfer from home of stocks of Ordnance Stores if you think it desirable to fill up deficiencies in them at once.

R.

No. 238.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

Telegram, 26th July 1904, 1-20 p. m. (Recd. 8-45 p. m.)

Your telegram dated 21st June. Investitures. The King wishes Investitures postponed till Governor-General has been appointed.

R.

No. 239.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 26th July 1904, 4-10 p. m. (Recd. 11-50 p. m)

Foreign. Secret. I concur in the proposals contained in your telegram of the 25th instant about Tibet that terms be embodied in Convention between Great Britain and Tibet to be signed by Colonel Younghusband and by the Dalai Lama or by his accredited representative, and that the Chinese Amban sign a separate agreement.

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R.

No. 240.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 26th July 1904, 8 p. m. (Recd. 27th, 9-15 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your three telegrams dated the 11th July and that dated the 13th July regarding Tibet. Your views have been carefully considered by His Majesty's Government and they approve of the following modifications of the terms stated in my telegram dated the 6th July which will now run as follows :—

Clause I will remain unaltered.

Clause II.—The Tibetans and the Chinese should be required to undertake—

(*a*) that without the previous consent of the British Government no portion of Tibetan territory shall be ceded, sold, leased, mortgaged or otherwise given for occupation to a Foreign Power;

(*b*) that no intervention in Tibetan affairs by any such Power shall be permitted;

(*c*) that without the previous consent of the British Government no representatives or Agents of a Foreign Power shall be admitted to Tibet; that without such previous consent no concessions for railways, roads, telegraphs, mining or other rights shall be granted to a Foreign Power, or the subject of a Foreign Power. [In the event of such concessions being granted to a Foreign Power or the subject of a Foreign Power] *If consent be given to such concessions,*† similar or equivalent concessions shall be granted to the British Government;

(*d*) that without the previous consent of the British Government no Tibetan revenues, whether in kind or in cash, shall be pledged or assigned to any Foreign Power or subject of a Foreign Power.

Clauses III & IV will remain unaltered.

Clause V.—In the first sentence after the word "Gyantse" the following groups should be inserted :—"and Gartok." *Ends.*

In the second sentence insert the following groups after the word "obstruction" :—"and in a state of repair suited to the needs of the trade" (*ends*); and at the end of the clause add the following :—

Begins. "The British Agent shall have the same right of access to Gyantse as to Yatung under the existing regulations." *Ends.*

After Clause V insert a supplementary Clause as follows :—

Begins. V(*a*) :—"In addtion to establishing a mart at Gyantse the Tibetan Government should undertake to place no restriction on the trade by

† The words in italics were substituted for the words in brackets—*Vide* Secretary of State's Telegrams of 29th and 30th July 1904.

existing routes and to consider the question of establishing fresh marts if development of trade requires it." *Ends.*

Clause VI.—The Tibetans should recognise the boundary of Sikkim and Tibet as being that defined in the Convention of 1890 and boundary pillars should be erected accordingly.

Clause VII.—Add. *Begins*:—The Tibetan Government should undertake to levy no dues of any kind other than those provided for in the tariff to be mutually agreed upon.

Clause VIII will remain unaltered. *Terms end.*

From the information received here it is not clear what settlement you desire as regards the boundary cases in Kumaon. The cases seem to occur in British territory. Could not Tibetan claims be settled on a suitable opportunity by local action of our officers without being included in the present negotiations?

There is no objection to consulting Colonel Younghusband as regards the definition of the boundaries of Tibet for purposes of Clause II, but it would not be safe to adopt a definition without full and reliable information. Nothing on this point should be done without consulting me.

As regards Clause IV the point as to fortifications seems sufficiently met by the proviso in Clause V that the road from the frontier to Gyantse is to be kept clear of obstruction. I agree that it is not necessary to insert [specific]* conditions to give effect to the proposal in order to guarantee Tibet against Russia. [Younghusband should be very careful not to commit us to any engagement, express or implied, in the nature of guarantee. He should only use intimations to the Russian Ambassador of February 11th and February 18th, and the Russian Ambassador's statement of April 8th, that in no case does Russia contemplate interference in Tibet.] †

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* Omitted. *Vide* Secretary of State's Telegram of 29th July 1904.
† Added. *Vide* Secretary of State's Telegram of 29th July 1904.

No. 241.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 28th July 1904, 2 p. m. (Recd. 9-40 p. m.)

Secret. Koweit. Please refer to your telegram of the 4th instant. It was not contemplated by my telegram of the 1st instant that a Political Agent would be detained at Koweit but only an Assistant Surgeon for the Post Office. Captain Knox should proceed at once to survey in such a manner that unnecessary attention may not be attracted.

R.

No. 242.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 29th July 1904, 1-15 p. m. (Recd. 10 p. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. With reference to your telegram of the 21st July regarding Tibet, the Foreign Office instructed Sir E. Satow on the 21st July to make representations to the Chinese Government. On the 27th July he reported that he is sending you a telegram from the Chinese Government for transmission to Amban instructing the Amban in the desired sense.

R.

No. 243.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 29th July 1904, 8-55 p. m. (Recd 30th, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. See my telegram of July 26th.

In the last sentence omit the word “Specific”. At the end of the last sentence add the following:—“Younghusband should be very careful not to commit us to any engagement, express or implied, in the nature of guarantee. He should only use intimations to the Russian Ambassador of February 11th and February 18th and the Russian Ambassador’s statement of April 8th that in no case does Russia contemplate interference in Tibet.”

In Clause II *c*. substitute “If consent be given to such conditions [concessions †], similar, &c.,” for the words “When if granted similar, &c.”

† *Vide* telegram from Secretary of State dated the 30th July 1904.

R.

No. 244.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 30th July 1904, 3-15 p. m. (Recd. 11-55 p. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. Please refer to my Secret telegram, dated the 29th July 1904. For the word “conditions,” please read “concessions” in the last sentence.

No. 245.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Rev. & Agrl. Dept.)

Telegram, 30th July 1904, 3-15 p. m. (Recd. 11-55 p. m.)

Please telegraph by 11th August next brief statement regarding progress of monsoon and agricultural prospects.

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No. 246.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 2nd August 1904, 12-50 a. m. (Recd. 9-45 a. m.)

Please refer to paragraph 3 of your Secret Despatch of February 11th last, No. 41. Habibulla Khan and Mahmud Khan, being at end of their resources, have applied to Ambassador at Constantinople for assistance to enable them to return with their families to India or to bring their condition to the knowledge of Amir's Agent at Calcutta. What line do you recommend should be taken by O'Conor ?

R.

No. 247.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 2nd August 1904, 11-25 a. m. (Recd. 8-37 p. m.)

Foreign. Secret. With reference to your telegram dated the 14th July regarding the Aden Delimitation, His Britannic Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople has been instructed to secure, if possible, Sheikh Murad as point on the sea to which the line from Kewah should be drawn. As regards the frontier north-east to the desert, Sir N. O'Conor will endeavour to have the places named in Convention, but, in the event of the Porte refusing, Sir N. O'Conor has been instructed that we should be prepared to abide by the terms of the original *Iradé*. Should the Porte refuse to agree to our proposal Sir N. O'Conor has been informed that it would be desirable to explain clearly that not only all the Upper Yaffai and the Upper Aulaki, with their respective dependencies, but also all the tribes who are situated to the south and east of the line drawn north-east from Lakmat-es-Shub to the desert, even if they may not belong to the Yaffai or the Aulaki, are regarded by His Majesty's Government as British.

Repeated to the Political Resident at Aden.

R.

No. 248.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 2nd August 1904, 5-10 p. m. (Recd. 3rd, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram of the 18th ultimo and to Sir A. Hardinge's telegram of July 22nd regarding the Persian Loan. The reply of the Persian Government to Sir A. Hardinge's note as to the phrase "Fars and Gulf" (see his telegram of 20th June) has been received and Lord Lansdowne will settle the question by taking note of admissions in the Persian reply and making to Persian Government the notification described in my telegram of 21st June. This materially alters our view as to definition of the security to be named in the agreement for the advance of the

further £100,000, and I am disposed to agree to the advance on the same security as in 1903 in accordance with proposals in Sir A. Hardinge's telegram of July 5th. Is there any objection to this course?

R.

No. 249.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 4th August 1904, 1-15 a. m. (Recd. 12 noon.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram, dated the 1st August, regarding Tibet. The words which you propose to leave out from the terms of Clause 5 seem to us necessary, but we will not insist on them if you think that rights of access to Gyantse are sufficiently secured by the Agreement of 1893.

The decision not to demand right of access to Lhasa for our Agent at Gyantse is adhered to by His Majesty's Government: the intention is that the functions of the Agent should be essentially commercial and the addition you propose would result in assimilating his functions to those of a Political Resident which is what we wish to avoid.

To reserve the right of constructing roads, railways, &c., in the Chumbi Valley even after evacuation, would be inconsistent with the policy laid down in my telegram dated the 6th November 1903, as to withdrawal as soon as reparation is obtained.

His Majesty's Government see no reason why withdrawal should not be complete if indemnity has been paid and condition as to effective opening of marts for three years fulfilled.

As regards Clause 4, should it appear that fortifications were being erected by the Tibetans on the road to Lhasa the prohibition proposed in this respect would leave us no alternative but to intervene at perhaps an inconvenient moment. Object of His Majesty's Government throughout has been to avoid the necessity for intervention as far as possible.

R.

No. 250.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Mily. Dept.)

Telegram, 4th August 1904, 6-25 p. m. (Recd. 5th, 7-50 a. m.)

Your telegram dated 31st July. Mobilization Stores. Does urgency justify enhanced prices in order to secure early supply? Gallwey not available till September. Field Hospital Stores cannot be purchased until then. Materials fer batteries and ammunition: I await indents.

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R.

No. 251.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 10th August 1904, 2-30 a. m. (Recd. 11-45 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to the telegram from the Political Resident, Aden, dated the 31st July. With reference to the last sentence of Sir N. O'Conor's telegram dated the 29th July, No. 32, to Mr. FitzMaurice, Sir N. O'Conor has now been informed that His Majesty's Government agree with the Government of India in approving the Subaihi boundary including the Mudariba-Turbat Abul Esrar Section as proposed by the Commission with the exception that south of Kawe the line should not run to Hasisi, but to Murad. Mr. FitzMaurice should be informed of this decision and he should be asked to report whether he sees any difficulty in proceeding on these lines with the Turkish Commissioners. With a view to commencing the final negotiations with the Porte, Sir N. O'Conor is anxious to receive maps as soon as possible. Mr. FitzMaurice should be instructed to report what maps will be needed for the purpose, what maps have already been sent to Constantinople, and when the remainder are expected to be ready.

Repeated to the Political Resident at Aden.

No. 252.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 10th August 1904, 2-30 a. m. (Recd. 11-45 a. m.)

Secret. With reference to the Foreign Secretary's letter, dated the 8th August 1903, to Lieutenant-Colonel Kemball, regarding Abdul Aziz, the French Ambassador has presented a Memorandum in which he asks that the interdict on Abdul Aziz visiting the Sultan of Maskat, which causes inconvenience to the French Consulate, might be withdrawn in view of the good relations which now exist between the British and the French Consulates. Please let me know what your views on the subject are.

R.

No. 253.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 10th August 1904, 2-30 a. m. (Recd. 11-45 a. m.)

Secret. Please refer to your telegram of March 19th. The Imperial Bank of Persia have sanctioned as an experimental measure the appointment of Dr. Abbas Ali as their correspondent at Birjand without asking for any guarantee; they are also considering the desirability of opening a Branch at

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Bunder Abbas. If, as seems probable, a guarantee is required for latter, would you be prepared to give it? The Foreign Office consider that Indian rather than Imperial interests are affected by the proposal.

No. 254.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 10th August 1904, 2-30 a. m. (Recd. 12 noon.)

Secret. Your Despatch No. 70, Secret, dated March 24th last. Northern frontier. His Majesty's Government consider that it will not be advisable to make to the Chinese Government any communication on the subject of boundary unless the Government of India are able to exercise effective control up to frontier claimed. In the meantime, please report as to extent to which rights in Western extremity of Taghdumbash Pamir have been recently exercised by Kanjutis and as to measures which it would be practicable to adopt for effective assertion of Hunza's rights in that territory. In the event of China acting inconsistently with such rights, as well as for securing the observance of frontier, we propose to treat as having been accepted by China. In Satow's Despatch to you of May 29th I observe statement that the Russo-Chinese frontier has not been officially settled south of Uzbel Pass.

No. 255.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 10th August 1904, 2-30 a. m. (Recd. 12-50 p. m.)

Please refer to my telegram dated the 11th February 1904. Rule 3 of the rules for the observance of neutrality which were published in the *London Gazette* of the 11th February 1904 laid down the extent to which coal might be supplied during the present war to the belligerent war-ships in British ports. It must, however, be borne in mind that the reason of practically admitting belligerent vessels of war into neutral ports arises out of the exigencies of life at sea and the hospitality which it is customary to extend to the vessels of friendly Powers, and that this principle does not extend the claim of such vessels to utilize a neutral port directly for the purpose of hostile operations.

His Majesty's Government have decided that the above-quoted rule is not to be understood as having any application to the case of a belligerent fleet proceeding either to the seat of war or to a position or positions on the line of route with the object of intercepting neutral vessels on suspicion of carrying contraband of war. Such a fleet cannot be permitted to make use of a British port in any way for the purpose of coaling either directly from the shore or from colliers accompanying the fleet, whether the vessels of the fleet present themselves at the port at the same time or successively.

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His Majesty's Government further direct that the same practice be pursued with reference to single belligerent vessels of war if it be clear that they are proceeding for the purpose of belligerent operations as defined above. This rule should not be held to apply to the case of a vessel putting into port on account of actual distress at sea.

Repeated to the Political Resident at Aden.

R.

No. 256.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 10th August 1904, 10-15 p. m. (Recd. 11th, 6-20 a. m.)

Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 6th August regarding Katif. A despatch issued by last mail in which it is stated that His Majesty's Government agree with Sir N. O'Conor that consideration of the proposed Consular appointment should be deferred till result is seen of representations which have been addressed to the Turkish Government in regard to the grievances of Indian traders at that place. The despatch also approves your proposal to appoint to Bahrein an officer of the graded list of your Political Department but it is not thought desirable that Vice-Consular jurisdiction in El Hasa District should be given to him.

R.

No. 257.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 11th August 1904, 12-15 p. m. (Recd. 7-45 p. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Ought not the greater part of your *en clair* telegram dated 6th August, regarding Tibet, to have been sent in cipher? Please give instructions that in all references to political matters the cipher should be used.

R.

No. 258.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 12th August 1904, 11-50 p. m. (Recd. 13th, 9-25 a. m.)

Secret. Persian Consular Guards. Please refer to your telegrams dated May 29th and July 12th. Sir A. Hardinge has been instructed in accordance with your views. Make necessary arrangements in communication with him. Your telegram of the 6th instant is not clearly understood. Is the travelling escort required for the Consul at Bunder Abbas or for the Vice-Consul at Bushire? In former case why is the increase proposed for Bushire instead of Bunder Abbas? In either case cannot the escort be supplied without a further especial increase? Report to me after consulting Sir A. Hardinge on these points.

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R.

No. 259.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 13th August 1904, 7-15 p. m. (Recd. 14th, 6-30 a. m.)

Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 1st August regarding Tibet. The Convention with China which is to be signed by the Amban should follow the precedent of 1890, ratifications being exchanged in London. Colonel Younghusband should ascertain whether the Amban has proper authority from the Emperor of China to sign Agreement. Convention to be signed by Colonel Younghusband and the Dalai Lama or his duly accredited representatives may be ratified by Viceroy in the way proposed by you. In the case of Indian and Arabian treaties to which you refer is it usual that ratification should be communicated to other party?

R.

No. 260.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 13th August 1904, 7-15 p. m. (Recd. 14th, 6-30 a. m.)

Secret. Your telegram of the 6th instant. Persian Loan. Foreign Office telegraphed to Sir A. Hardinge on August 11th that we are now prepared to make the advance as stated in my telegram dated 2nd August, it being understood that revenues of Posts and Fisheries are exhausted.

R.

No. 261.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 14th August 1904, 4-45 p. m. (Recd. 15th, 7-10 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Your telegrams, dated the 13th and 14th August regarding Tibet, will be replied to tomorrow after Cabinet Council.

R.

No. 262.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Military Dept.)

P * Telegram, 16th August 1904, 12-5 a. m. (Recd. 9-15 a. m.)

Please see paragraph 19 of your Despatch dated the 21st July, No. 99. Understanding that rifle and machine gun ammunition only is referred to, the War Office state that of this ammunition the approved reserve is one hundred and ninety-five and three quarter million rounds. Details are being sent by post.

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R.

No. 263.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 16th August 1904, 12-5 a. m. (Recd. 11-25 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. With reference to your telegram of 13th August regarding Tibet, His Majesty's Government approve of the general scope of your instructions to Colonel Younghusband. They wish them to be embodied in the following specific form for the guidance of Colonel Younghusband and General Macdonald.

1. Troops to start back on day to be named by Military authorities in communication with Colonel Younghusband.

2. His Majesty's Government, considering the probability of such a proceeding delaying or compromising the withdrawal of the main force, think it undesirable to engage a force in pursuit of the Dalai Lama.

3. An ultimatum to be framed to the Dalai Lama as to the penalties which will be inflicted in case the Dalai Lama will not return and treat or give the requisite authority to sign Treaty.

4. Steps to be taken to inform the Dalai Lama of these penalties and whatever time is possible should be given to him to treat before exacting them.

5. As to penalties. (*a*) It is impossible for us here to give specific directions as to what buildings should be destroyed if destruction unfortunately becomes necessary. We suggest demolition of Arsenal gateways and the walls of the town or any buildings destruction of which will have most permanent effect. You are of course aware of the objection that exists to any avoidable affront to Buddhist religion and to the destruction of ancient and historical monuments. You will, however, be supported in any course you think that the case requires. (*b*) We see no objection to taking valuables or treasure as security but the propriety of this course and the nature of the treasure to be taken can only be judged on the spot. In no case must there be looting by the troops. (*c*) Representative hostages to be taken back to Gyantse.

6. Colonel Younghusband should insist on release of two British subjects as in clause 3 of the terms.

7. Should it be impracticable to conclude a Treaty with Amban and Dalai Lama jointly a Treaty should in any case be made with Amban on the lines of the terms in my telegram of 26th July. Suggest to Colonel Younghusband that so far as is possible he should in all measures associate Amban officially with the course to be taken and obtain his assent, if practicable, in written language.

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R.

No. 264.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 16th August 1904, 7-25 p. m. (Recd. 17th, 6-30 a. m.)

Urgent. The War Office state that large numbers of rifles are available and ask whether we desire any beyond the number already ordered this year. What reply shall I give?

No. 265.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 17th August 1904, 10-20 p. m. (Recd. 18th, 6-45 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Bahrein. The French Government wish to know whether their proposal to include Bahrein in the Bushire Vice-Consulate District is objected to by us. The reason which they have given is that French subjects have come to Bahrein to establish themselves and carry on pearl fishing. I shall be glad to learn your views by telegram. On condition that any representations by the French Vice-Consul will be addressed to the Political Agent, the Sheikh having placed his foreign relations in our hands, I am inclined to agree to the French proposal.

No. 266.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 19th August 1904, 7-25 p. m. (Recd. 20th, 6-30 a. m.)

Secret. Lord Lansdowne has sent the following reply to Sir E. Satow's telegram, No. 646, dated the 1st July, regarding the Burma-Chinese Railway:—

Unless the required capital is forthcoming for the construction of the Railway, of which there is no present prospect, concession can hardly be applied for by us as suggested. But should it appear to you that the French Government intend to ask for branch lines to the neighbourhood of the Burma frontier, the Chinese Government should be reminded of our right to equality of treatment with the French in the matter of railway construction in Yunnan which would be rendered illusory by the grant of such concessions.

No. 267.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 19th August 1904, 7-20 p. m. (Recd. 20th, 6-40 a. m.)

Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 11th July. His Majesty's Government see no reason to treat the case of the Raja of Cochin and his officers exceptionally. I am therefore not prepared to recommend that permission may be granted to them to accept the French Order.

R

No. 268.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 20th August 1904, 5-50 p. m. (Recd. 21st, 6-30 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. Please refer to your telegram of 17th August. Colonel Younghusband will, doubtless, avoid any mention of a ratification of the Convention which can possibly give the Tibetans an excuse for thinking that the agreement signed by Colonel Younghusband and themselves will, before taking final effect, require any further formalities.

R.

No. 269.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 23rd August 1904, 6-45 p. m. (Recd. 24th, 6 a. m.)

With reference to your telegram of the 17th instant, further new pattern horse and field guns are also offered by the War Office. Do you require any? If you do not require any, please state how soon it is expected that Government factories in India will begin to turn out guns.

No. 270.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 24th August 1904, 10-40 p. m. (Recd. 25th, 8-45 a. m.)

Secret. Please refer to paragraph 5 of your Secret Despatch No. 16, dated the 21st January. On the understanding that care will be taken to erect them in the manner best calculated to avoid arousing undue attention, His Majesty's Government approve of your proposal to erect flag staffs on the Isthmus between Elphinstone and Malcolm inlets, on Telegraph Island, and on Sheep Island.

R.

No. 271.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 24th August 1904, 10-45 p. m. (Recd. 25th, 9-45 a. m.)

Secret. Russian preparations in Central Asia. Please refer to my telegram of 6th June. The Intelligence Department have recently received reports that there are now over 100,000 men in the Turkestan Military District, that 80,000 men are concentrated on the Afghan frontier and that they are

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to be increased to 120,000 on the opening of Orenburg-Tashkend line. Batoum and other fortified harbours are being placed in preliminary state of siege. They consider that the reports have some foundation but that the object is rather political demonstration than strategical.

R.

No. 272.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 25th August 1904, 2-25 p. m. (Recd. 10-25 p. m.)

Please furnish me with details of the changes referred to as involving no extra expenditure in your telegram of the 23rd instant.

R.

No. 273.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 25th August 1904, 8-35 p. m. (Recd. 26th, 7 a. m.)

With reference to your telegram of the 19th instant, I approve your proposals for the addition to reserve of two thousand horses, &c.

R.

No. 274.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 27th August 1904, 3-40 p. m. (Recd. 28th, 7 a. m.)

I have sent the following telegram today to the Political Resident at Aden :—

Begins. The Admiralty request that you should send a trustworthy agent to Jibuti without delay with orders to remain there and report to the Admiralty by telegraph the arrival and departure of all Russian men-of-war or armed merchant cruisers. Such information should be repeated to you by telegraph or letter at the earliest opportunity and then transmitted by you to the Naval Commanders-in-Chief, East India, and the Cape of Good Hope; also to the Admiralty, London. The Agent should also report if any coal or other stores are shipped by these vessels. This telegram has been repeated to the Government of India. *Ends.*

R.

No. 275.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 28th August 1904, 11-15 p. m. (Recd. 29th, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. I agree to your proposals contained in your telegram dated the 27th August regarding the Tibet trade negotiations.

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R.

No. 276.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 28th August 1904, 11-15 p. m. (Recd. 29th, 7-40 a. m.)

Please refer to your telegram dated the 25th August regarding Tibet. Enquiries are being made at Peking by Sir E. Satow if the Amban has made proposal and what they think of it. Sir E. Satow deprecates pressing the Chinese Government. The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs concurs with Sir E. Satow fearing that attempt might be abortive. If Colonel Younghusband is convinced, I am inclined, in view of your telegram dated the 26th August, to press Sir E. Satow further in the matter.

R.

No. 277.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 29th August 1904, 8-40 p. m. (Recd. 30th, 6-50 a. m.)

Secret. Russian activity on Afghan frontier. Please refer to my telegram of the 24th instant.

Following telegram, dated August 26th, has been received from the Ambassador at St. Petersburg.

Begins. With reference to your telegrams No. 164, dated August 22nd, and No. 165, dated August 25th, I today mentioned to Count Lamsdorff the reports which Your Lordship had received regarding concentration of troops on the Afghan frontier, and I asked His Excellency if he could give me any explanation of such movements. Count Lamsdorff replied that he had no knowledge of any concentration. He would readily believe that from time to time there were movements of troops in Turkestan, but he could at once categorically deny that there had been concentration of troops on the Afghan frontier with an aggressive intention, and he begged me to convey this assurance to Your Lordship. He said he had received no communication on the subject from Benkendorff. *Ends.*

R.

No. 278.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 30th August 1904, 8-40 p. m. (Recd. 31st, 6-30 a. m.)

Secret. Persian Loan. Please see your telegram of August 27th. Sir A. Hardinge has been finally instructed to carry through the agreement for the advance of £100,000 subject to a satisfactory settlement of the question of "Fars and the Persian Gulf" on the lines of Lord Lansdowne's Despatch No. 121 of August 8th to Sir A. Hardinge, a copy of which was forwarded to the Government of India with letter No. 33, dated the 12th August 1904, from the Political Secretary.

R.

No. 279.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 31st August 1904, 8-45 p. m. (Recd. 1st Sept., 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. Please repeat the name of the mart in return for which Colonel Younghusband proposes to reduce indemnity. The name has reached us as Zagal. Is it a centre of any appreciable amount of trade at present?

R.

No. 280.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 31st August 1904, 8-45 p. m. (Recd. 1st Sept., 6 a. m.)

Secret. Please refer to Sir A. Hardinge's telegram 90, dated the 22nd August, regarding Bushire quarantine. I shall be glad to know what your views are.

No. 281.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 31st August 1904, 8-45 p. m. (Recd. 1st Sept., 6 a. m.)

Secret. Burma-Chinese boundary. I shall be glad to receive your views on Despatch No. 226, dated the 22nd June 1904, from Sir E. Satow.

R.

No. 282.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 31st August 1904, 10 p. m. (Recd. 1st Sept., 7-30 a. m.)

Please refer to your Foreign Secret telegram of the 30th August. Our object throughout has been while incurring the minimum of future liability to obtain the maximum of reparation. However desirable fresh marts and mining rights may be in the abstract they can only be made effective by protection of traders and miners and by keeping roads open. Unless the disposition of the Tibetan Government becomes very different in the future from their feeling in the past, we apprehend that each fresh mart and mining enterprise will raise questions between India and the Tibetan Government and will at intervals necessitate support and pressure from us. We think that the indemnity suggested is altogether excessive, but a substantial sum paid by the Tibetans would make them realise the danger of provoking

us; also additional treaty concessions which they may endeavour to evade like those of 1893 would probably involve us in more trouble in future while they would cost them less now.

I will make this telegram official as soon as I have consulted my Colleagues: meanwhile I send it as an indication of my views.

R.

No. 283.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 1st September 1904, 6-30 p. m. (Recd. 2nd, 6 a. m.)

Redistribution scheme. With reference to my military telegram of the 25th August, any measures which do not involve expense may be proceeded with.

No. 284.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 2nd September 1904, 9-45 p. m. (Recd. 3rd, 6 a. m.)

In reply to your enquiry of the 30th August the re-appointment of Lord Curzon will be by Royal Warrant. The usual procedure for reception should be adopted.

R.

No. 285.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 2nd September 1904, 9-45 p. m. (Recd. 3rd, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. Please refer to your Despatch No. 148 Secret, dated the 11th August 1904. The draft is approved, but it should be called an Agreement throughout as it is between the Governments as distinguished from a Convention between the Heads of States. In the preamble for the words "full power" substitute the word "authority." The Adhesion Agreement is approved subject to the same amendments in the form, and the addition suggested in your telegrams, dated the 22nd and 31st August 1904, is also approved, but in the latter after the words "His Britannic Majesty" insert the word "Government." Insert the sentence "The present Agreement shall be ratified by His Britannic Majesty and by His Majesty the Emperor of China and the ratifications shall be exchanged at London as soon as possible" at the end of the Adhesion Agreement. Colonel Younghusband's attention should be drawn again to the instructions about the guarantee against Russia, which were contained in my telegram dated 29th July 1904.

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No. 286.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 3rd September 1904, 1-25 p. m. (Recd. 9-30 p. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 19th May. Ali Bin Salim, who has fulfilled the objects of his visit to Zanzibar, wishes to return to Maskat. Have you any objection to this?

R.

No. 287.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

Telegram, 5th September 1904, 2-55 p. m. (Recd. 11-30 p. m.)

Wreck of the S.S. *Baron Inverdale* near Kuria Muria. Owners have heard through Aden that the Political Agent and His Britannic Majesty's Consul at Maskat reports massacre by natives of crew of boat which reached Masirah, one boy alone being saved. Please telegraph full particulars together with your views regarding any action to be taken.

R.

No. 288.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

Telegram, 5th September 1904, 2-55 p. m. (Recd. 11-30 p. m.)

Please refer to your telegram dated the 2nd September. My private telegram dated the 31st August which conveys the general view of His Majesty's Government as to Colonel Younghusband's suggestions may be treated as official. If an opportunity presents itself of obtaining on easy terms a mart in Eastern Tibet we make no objection, but unless this is done with the good will of the Tibetan Government and under circumstances not likely to entail future trouble we do not desire to add to the marts already named.

No. 289.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 7th September 1904, 9-20 p. m. (Recd. 8th, 6 a. m.)

Secret. Please refer to your telegram, dated the 17th August, regarding piracy in the Persian Gulf. I approve your instructions to Major Cox. Instructions have been issued to Sir N. O'Conor to represent facts of the case to the Porte and to press for the adoption of immediate and energetic measures in concert with His Majesty's ships for the suppression of these depredations.

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R.

No. 290.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 8th September 1904, 10-40 p. m. (Recd. 9th, 7-45 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 5th September. Your proposed amendment to draft letter to Amir is accepted and we concur in your view that an invitation to the Amir may produce disagreeable refusal. But would it not be better so to word the closing portion of paragraph 3 as to avoid the appearance of inviting the Amir? I suggest that after the word "point" the paragraph should read as follows: "it would have been best that Your Highness should have met Lord Curzon personally and discussed all pending questions with him and, had Your Highness been able to leave Kabul, I am sure that Lord Curzon would have tried to arrange, &c."

R.

No. 291.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 12th September 1904, 1-55 p. m. (Recd. 11-30 p. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to my telegram dated the 2nd August regarding the Aden delimitation. The Turkish Government object strongly to Sheikh Murad. Prolongation of discussion with them may lead to the proposal for lien on the country south of the Akama-Kuddam line becoming known, and consequently to failure to secure concession of lien from the Porte. His Majesty's Government have therefore instructed Sir N. O'Conor that he may accept Jebel Hasisi as terminus of the line, provided that the lien above referred to is secured.

Repeated to the Political Resident at Aden.

R.

No. 292.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 12th September 1904, 10-35 p. m. (Recd. 13th, 7 a. m.)

I heartily congratulate Colonel Younghusband on the conclusion of the Agreement with Tibet. His action will be supported. The conduct of the expedition and negotiations must be equally satisfactory to your Government and to those whom you selected to represent you.

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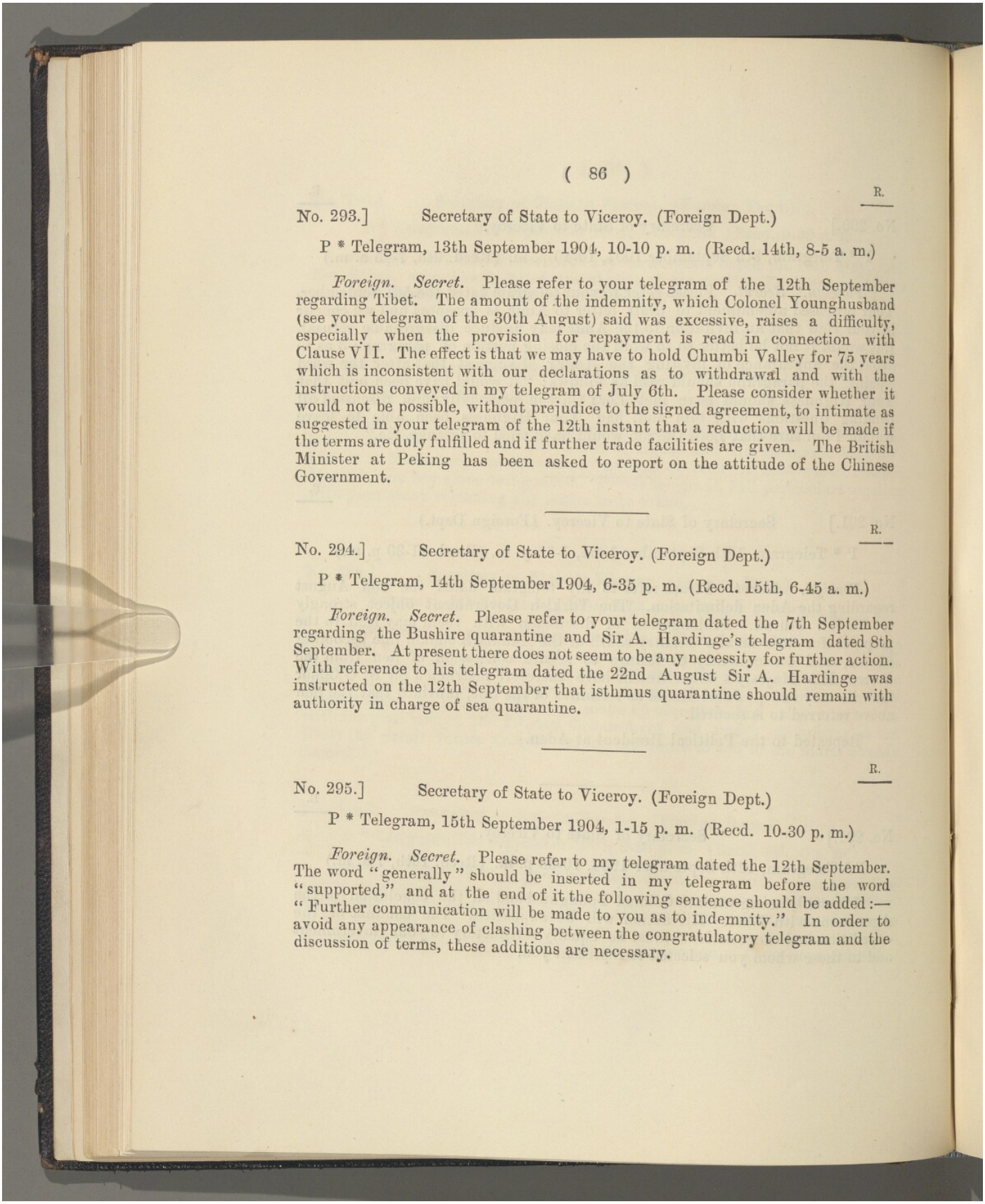

R.

No. 293.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 13th September 1904, 10-10 p. m. (Recd. 14th, 8-5 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram of the 12th September regarding Tibet. The amount of the indemnity, which Colonel Younghusband (see your telegram of the 30th August) said was excessive, raises a difficulty, especially when the provision for repayment is read in connection with Clause VII. The effect is that we may have to hold Chumbi Valley for 75 years which is inconsistent with our declarations as to withdrawal and with the instructions conveyed in my telegram of July 6th. Please consider whether it would not be possible, without prejudice to the signed agreement, to intimate as suggested in your telegram of the 12th instant that a reduction will be made if the terms are duly fulfilled and if further trade facilities are given. The British Minister at Peking has been asked to report on the attitude of the Chinese Government.

R.

No. 294.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 14th September 1904, 6-35 p. m. (Recd. 15th, 6-45 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 7th September regarding the Bushire quarantine and Sir A. Hardinge's telegram dated 8th September. At present there does not seem to be any necessity for further action. With reference to his telegram dated the 22nd August Sir A. Hardinge was instructed on the 12th September that isthmus quarantine should remain with authority in charge of sea quarantine.

R.

No. 295.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 15th September 1904, 1-15 p. m. (Recd. 10-30 p. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to my telegram dated the 12th September. The word "generally" should be inserted in my telegram before the word "supported," and at the end of it the following sentence should be added:— "Further communication will be made to you as to indemnity." In order to avoid any appearance of clashing between the congratulatory telegram and the discussion of terms, these additions are necessary.

R.

No. 296.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 16th September 1904, 9-30 p. m. (Recd. 17th, 8-10 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 14th September 1904. The suggestions which you make for the reduction of the indemnity appear to us to afford a basis for a more satisfactory settlement on this point. We feel that it is highly undesirable to fix a term for the payment of the indemnity which would relieve the Monasteries and those responsible for the present troubles from any present sacrifice, and throw it on a future generation. We do not desire that the indemnity should take the form of a tribute, which would be regarded as permanent, and whether such an arrangement would be acceptable to China is open to question. It is essential therefore that the sum fixed should be one which can be liquidated within a moderate period. You are authorised to reduce the amount of the indemnity from Rs. 75,00,000 to Rs. 25,00,000 to be charged on the security of the customs. Under the Convention the Chumbi Valley is to be occupied until the markets have been effectively open for three years and until indemnity has been paid, whichever is the latest. It would be necessary to alter the conditions to a certain extent by providing that the occupation should cease after the customs arrangement as well as the opening of the marts has been effectively working for a period of three years provided that say Rs. 5,00,000 of the indemnity have been paid. As a set off to the reduction of the indemnity Colonel Younghusband would be at liberty to obtain any, or all, of the concessions named in your telegram cited above, but in no case should the force remain longer at Lhasa for the purpose of improving the bargain which has been arrived at already.

R.

No. 297.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 18th September 1904, 8-45 p. m. (Recd. 19th, 6 a. m.)

Please refer to your telegram dated the 17th September. We see no objection to Colonel Younghusband remaining back at Lhasa in order to complete the negotiations, if you are satisfied as to his safety, but it must be understood that he does not remain later than the date named by you.

R.

No. 298.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 19th September 1904, 4-15 p. m. (Recd. 20th, 6-30 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see your telegram of 18th September. We prefer that 25 lakhs should be demanded as indemnity with prompter payment. I approve Colonel Younghusband's language to the Amban.

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R.

No 299.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 19th September 1904, 10-10 p. m. (Recd. 20th, 6-30 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Amir. Your telegram of the 17th September. Lord Curzon entirely agrees as to proposed reply. I approve the course suggested, and on the other point raised by your telegram am communicating with Foreign Office.

R.

No. 300.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Military Dept.)

P * Telegram, 19th September 1904, 10-10 p. m. (Recd. 20th, 7-15 a. m.)

Tibet. His Majesty wishes a special medal to be struck for the Tibet Force. Have you any remarks to offer?

No. 301.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 19th September 1904, 10-10 p. m. (Recd. 20th, 7-15 a. m.)

The Bishop of Bombay has reported to me the circumstances of his having left India. Why was leave refused? I am advised that it was possible to have granted him extraordinary furlough.

R.

No. 302.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 20th September 1904, 9-15 p. m. (Recd. 21st, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 3rd September regarding Tibet. We have no objection to Mr. Wilton returning by either of the routes proposed. Please see my telegram dated the 16th September as regards the proposed survey to Gartok.

No. 303.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 22nd September 1904, 1-10 p. m. (Recd. 23rd, 6 a. m.)

Furlough for the Bishop of Bombay. I am advised that Rule 6(*a*) is not limited by the Royal Warrant. Extraordinary furlough should, I think, be granted to him with retrospective effect.

No. 304.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 22nd September 1904, 8-10 p. m. (Recd. 23rd, 6 a. m.)

Please refer to your telegram dated the 5th September 1904. Kohat-Thal-Parachinar Railway. Proposed survey approved.

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No. 304*a*.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 22nd September 1904, 11-20 p. m. (Recd. 23rd, 7-30 a. m.)

With reference to your private telegram of the 17th instant, the changes which you propose to give effect to the Redistribution Scheme at once which do not entail expense have been brought before Council here, and I approve your proceeding at once.

No. 305.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 24th September 1904, 10-45 a. m. (Recd. 7-30 p. m.)

The postponement of Lord Curzon's departure can be announced by you.

R.

No. 306.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 24th September 1904, 8-5 p. m. (Recd. 25th, 6-15 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 23rd September. I have no doubt that you have explained to Colonel Younghusband that the provisions respecting the indemnity are regarded by His Majesty's Government as contravening their instructions of the 26th July. We are not prepared to occupy Tibetan territory indefinitely and the present good feeling of the Tibetans towards us may, as his telegram indicates, be temporary and cannot be relied upon. We are involved by the Treaty as signed in the annual collection of a tribute for 75 years which could give occasion for difficulties to arise and for interference in Tibetan affairs which it was the object of the instructions conveyed on the 26th July to avoid. The Cabinet carefully considered the instructions and in regard to any of the more important provisions they are not prepared to modify them.

R.

No. 307.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 26th September 1904, 1-20 p. m. (Recd. 11-15 p. m.)

Foreign. Secret. With reference to your telegram dated the 17th September and Secret Despatch dated the 21st July regarding D'thali, the proposal to retain temporarily a British Officer and a small body of troops at D'thali, also the draft treaty with the following alteration in clause 9, have been approved by His Majesty's Government. Full stop should be substituted for comma in line 3 after "agree to" and for the words from "to be employed" to "this force" should be substituted the following: "so long as this force is maintained in a state of efficiency to the satisfaction of the Resident". An advance copy of my Despatch was sent on the 23rd September.

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No. 308.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 26th September 1904, 8-55 p. m. (Recd. 27th, 5-45 a. m.)

Please refer to your Secret Despatch No. 76, dated the 4th June 1903. The Persian Government wish to know whether the proposed survey of the Bushire Harbour will involve them in any expense. Please communicate to me the necessary information by telegram and repeat your message to Sir A. Hardinge.

R.

No. 309.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Military Dept.)

P * Telegram, 28th September 1904, 2-30 p. m. (Recd. 29th, 6-10 a. m.)

I sanction the proposals regarding the Madras Command made in your telegram of the 23rd instant.

No. 310.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

Telegram, 29th September 1904, 8-25 p. m. (Recd. 30th, 6 a. m.)

Your telegram dated 9th September. Has any news been received of crew *Baron Inverdale?*

R.

No. 311.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 1st October 1904, 12-55 a. m. (Recd. 11-45 a. m.)

Secret. On the 29th September, Sir E. Satow was instructed as follows: "Please see your telegram No. 207, dated the 27th September, regarding the Tibet Convention. I think it should be possible for you to reassure the Chinese Government and to convince them that they need have no misgivings as to the effects of the Convention on the Treaty rights of Foreign Powers. Chinese suzerainty is scrupulously respected and no appropriation of Tibetan territory is involved by the temporary occupation of the Chumbi Valley, pending the payment of the indemnity which will be fixed at an extremely moderate amount and made repayable within a short term of years. As to the claim of foreign countries you can say that the Convention does them no harm whatever. The new trade marts will be open to all lawful trade and the tariff dues will be the same for all imports and exports, no matter of what origin. As to Article 9, owing to the geographical position of Tibet, British predominance is essential. In reply to the objection of Foreign Powers on the

ground that the Convention has infringed the Most-Favoured-Nation treatment clauses, you can refer the Chinese Government to instances of similar special arrangements between limitrophe countries. In this connection please see Sikkim Treaty of the 7th March 1899, Article 4, and 1 to 6 of Regulations appended thereto, the 5th December 1893; also Burma Treaty of the 1st March 1894, Article 8. Version of the Convention published in Press here is somewhat misleading as to the above points. In these circumstances you should press the Chinese Government to give their early adhesion. If despatch of special Envoy should involve further delay it would be most unfortunate."

R.

No. 312.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 1st October 1904, 12-55 p. m. (Recd. 8-45 p. m.)

Secret. Please see your telegram of the 26th instant regarding the violation of the Amiri frontier. Sir N. O'Conor has been instructed to request the Turkish Government to telegraph such orders as will insure that their local authorities shall, in all such cases, address the Amir of D'thali, or if necessary the British Officer stationed there, and that they will refrain from taking themselves any action beyond the frontier.

R.

No. 313.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 1st October 1904, 1-35 p. m. (Recd. 9-45 p. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see Sir E. Satow's telegram No. 207, dated the 26th September, regarding Tibet. I am disposed to think that the negotiation of the Adhesion Agreement should now be transferred to Peking, in which case Sir E. Satow might be instructed to accept the addition of clause acknowledging in express terms the suzerainty of China and, if necessary, to accept the addition of a reservation to the effect that Article IX should not be so interpreted as to deprive other Powers of their rights under existing treaties. Please communicate your views. In Sir E. Satow's No. 206 reference is made to Colonel Younghusband's letters to the Amban; please let me know what letters Sir E. Satow alludes to.

R.

No. 314.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 3rd October 1904, 1-55 p. m. (Recd. 11-30 p. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 30th September regarding Tibet. Colonel Younghusband's reply to your telegram of the 19th

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September is very unsatisfactory. He has given no explanation of his reason for disregarding the instructions of His Majesty's Government in regard to the indemnity which bound him to ask no sum which could not be paid within three years. These instructions were given on the 26th July and repeated by Despatch dated the 5th August and in subsequent telegrams. Colonel Younghusband's telegram appears to show that having signed a Convention binding Tibet to pay a tribute for 75 years he has left Lhasa without an attempt to modify it as directed. I am consulting the Foreign Secretary as to the possibility of amending the Convention through China but the question cannot be postponed till the eventual revision of the Trade Regulations that Colonel Younghusband proposes.

R.

No. 315.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 3rd October 1904, 2-15 p. m. (Recd. 11-30 p. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Amir. Your telegrams of 30th September. I approve your reply to Amir. Lord Lansdowne will speak to Russian Ambassador about communications made to Amir. I am communicating at once with Lord Curzon as to deputing a representative to Kabul and as to the instructions to be given for his guidance. Lord Curzon was preparing a paper on this subject for the consideration of the Prime Minister, but has been unable to complete it or I should have communicated with you before.

R.

No. 316.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 3rd October 1904, 10-45 p. m. (Recd. 4th, 9-20 a. m.)

Secret. With reference to my telegrams of the 1st October and your telegrams of the 29th September and 30th September regarding Tibet, Sir E. Satow was informed on the 1st October of the proposed modifications of the Adhesion Agreement with China and that your views on them were being awaited. The Agreement must now necessarily be negotiated at Peking, as Colonel Younghusband has left Lhasa. Sir E. Satow has been instructed that the argument based on your telegram of the 29th September should be used with caution, as it apparently conflicts with our repeated admissions of Chinese suzerainty and our insistence on Chinese adhesion but that the precedents cited are useful. Sir E. Satow has further been instructed that unless the Chinese refer to it the suggestion to spread payment of the indemnity over 75 years should not be mentioned to the Chinese Government and he has been authorised to hint that we shall nevertheless consider the terms of the Agreement binding on Tibet if Chinese Government continue refusal of their adhesion.

R.

No. 317.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 4th October 1904, 1-40 p. m. (Recd. 9-35 p. m.)

Afghanistan. Please see your Foreign Secret telegram of the 30th September regarding the Amir. Lord Curzon hopes to leave for India in three weeks' time and proposes to send Sir H. S. Barnes to Kabul; the Mission starting about the middle of November. Do not act on this till you receive instructions.

R.

No. 318.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 4th October 1904, 8-30 p. m. (Recd. 5th, 6-30 a. m.)

Secret. I approve proposals contained in your telegrams of August 6th and September 3rd regarding Persian Consular Guards.

R.

No. 319.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
Telegram, 5th October 1904, 1-25 p. m. (Recd. 9-45 p. m.)

Following *communiqué* has been issued and appears in to-day's London papers:—With reference to statements which have been telegraphed from India as to the general scope of the agreement signed at Lhasa between the British Commissioner and the Tibetan authorities, I am informed that the Convention still awaits ratification by the Viceroy of India and the terms are not yet finally settled.

R.

No. 320.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 5th October 1904, 4-50 p. m. (Ante-dated 3rd; recd. 6th, 6-15 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. We have carefully considered what should be done with regard to indemnity. In this respect Convention has been framed by Colonel Younghusband in defiance of express instructions. We adhere to the policy which we have impressed repeatedly on the Government of India since the 6th November 1902, which is to avoid interference in the internal affairs of Tibet and to deal with the situation created by breaches of the old Treaty by the Tibetans in a manner best calculated to attain this object. Colonel Younghusband has carried out our instructions as to Treaty in a manner which enables us to approve the general terms of the Convention. But in one most important particular, by accepting the Tibetan proposal to spread the payment

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of the indemnity over a long period, he has contravened our instructions, which were to limit the indemnity to a sum which could be paid within three years and to cease to occupy the Chumbi Valley when the markets should have been effectually opened for three years and the indemnity paid. On the 16th September I authorised you to reduce the indemnity of 75 lakhs by 50 lakhs, 5 lakhs of the balance to be paid before the Chumbi Valley was evacuated, and if our orders had not been disobeyed, this mode of payment might have been insisted on. Colonel Younghusband's leaving Lhasa has unfortunately lost the opportunity. But we do not, on that account, propose to modify the cardinal principles of our policy, and we altogether decline to make any stipulations requiring us to occupy Chumbi Valley for more than period named in my telegram of 26th July, and if the Tibetans hereafter refuse to pay their annual instalments or in any other way break treaty, the situation will have to be reconsidered. In the meantime we cannot accept the position which our Agent has created for us by his disobedience to orders and in ratifying the Convention it must be amended so as to carry out the decision of His Majesty's Government.

Please repeat to the British Minister at Peking.

R.

No. 321.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

* Telegram, 7th October 1904, 3-5 p. m. (Recd. 11 p. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see your telegram of the 6th October regarding Tibet. There is no objection to your deferring the expression of your views until the text of the formal notes exchanged has been received and until such time as Colonel Younghusband arrives in Simla.

R.

No. 322.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

* Telegram, 7th October 1904, 3-15 p. m. (Recd. 11 p. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Mission to Kabul. I agree to the reply proposed in your telegram of the 5th October.

R.

No. 323.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 8th October 1904, 7-50 p. m. (Recd. 9th, 6-20 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Afghan intrigues with Afridis. Your telegram of the 5th instant. I agree that, pending despatch of Mission, which will be announced in a few days, no action should be taken.

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R.

No. 324.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 10th October 1904, 1-35 p. m. (Recd. 10-45 p. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see Sir E. Satow's telegram No. 215, dated the 5th October, regarding Tibet. His language to Prince Ching has been approved and he is authorised to hold similar language to Tang. It is proposed to instruct our Minister that the Adhesion Agreement with China should be negotiated and signed at Peking. I have agreed to this proposal. The Foreign Office have also suggested that amendments in the Convention should be negotiated in India. I have replied that the procedure indicated in your telegram of the 14th September should be sufficient and that no negotiations will apparently be necessary. I have added that it would be inexpedient in any case to conduct negotiation with the Chinese Official in the absence of the Tibetan representatives. Before, however, I express a final opinion I will await your views on the subject.

No. 325.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Rev. & Agrl. Dept.)
P * Telegram, 10th October 1904, 5-10 p. m. (Recd. 11th, 6 a. m.)

Please see your telegram of the 1st instant. The following is confidential. The Share Guarantee Trust is virtually a one man concern representing a Company promoter and financier who is of no great standing. Its nominal capital is £100,000 in £1 shares; subscribed £40,000 of which 17 shillings paid up. It was registered in 1903. Bank reference shows that the Trust has been successful in some promotions. Bank doubts whether the Trust would guarantee £25,000 unless well covered. Do you wish the Trust to be approached?

R.

No. 326.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 12th October 1894, 1-15 p. m. (Recd. 9-15 p. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Murder of Mr. Warneford. Please refer to your telegram dated the 6th October 1904. Before sanctioning any action please report the result of the enquiries.

R.

No. 327.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 14th October 1904, 3-35 p. m. (Recd. 10-40 p. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. With reference to your telegram dated the 13th October, I shall be glad to be informed why three companies have been

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kept at Gyantse and for what period it is proposed to maintain them at that place.

No. 328.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 16th October 1904, 6-40 p. m. (Recd. 17th, 6-15 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Slave trade in Persia. Please refer to Sir A. Hardinge's letter No. 27, dated the 29th August 1904 to the Resident in the Persian Gulf. I presume that I shall shortly receive the views of the Government of India on the suggestion that the matter should be placed in the hands of the Belgian Customs.

No. 329.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

Telegram, 17th October 1904, 2-5 p. m. (Recd. 10 p. m.)

Your telegram dated 11th October. *Baron Inverdale.* Owners asking whether it is proposed to exact monetary compensation for relatives murdered men. Would it be practicable?

R.

No. 330.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

Telegram, 19th October 1904, 2-25 p. m. (Recd. 10-20 p. m.)

Following announcement will be published in the daily newspapers tomorrow:—

Begins. In consequence of the state of Lady Curzon's health Lord Curzon has postponed his departure for India until end of November. *Ends.*

R.

No. 331.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P Telegram, 19th October 1904, 5 p. m. (Recd. 20th, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. The following announcement will appear in tomorrow morning's newspapers:—

Since the accession in 1901 of the present Amir of Afghanistan there has been no opportunity hitherto for a meeting for the discussion of general topics between His Highness and a representative of the Government of India. The Amir has now proposed to send his eldest son, Sardar Inayat Ulla Khan, to meet Lord Curzon on his return to India, and will receive at Kabul an official of the Government of India authorised to discuss with His Highness questions concerning his relations with the British Government. The officer deputed for the purpose will proceed to Kabul at the end of November.

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R.

No. 332.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 19th October 1904, 7-40 p. m. (Recd. 20th, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Aden. Please see my telegram dated the 12th October. No punitive proceedings against any sections of the tribes should be taken without my previous sanction having been obtained. In this connection please refer to the letter from the Government of Bombay, dated the 14th September, a copy of which was enclosed with the letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Political Secretary at the India Office, No. 38-M., dated the 22nd September.

No. 333.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 19th October 1904, 7-40 p. m. (Recd. 20th, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 26th September regarding Koweit. The Assistant Surgeon may go there but only in a professional capacity. His Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople does not consider that time has come for the opening of a Post Office at Koweit.

R.

No. 334.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
Telegram, 20th October 1904, 1-30 p. m. (Recd. 9-45 p. m.)

Foreign. Following official announcement has been made in to-day's papers :—

Begins. The statement circulated by Reuter's Agency that there is an intention of occupying the Chumbi Valley for 75 years is entirely incorrect. *Ends.*

No. 335.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 21st October 1904, 12-45 p. m. (Recd. 8-45 p. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Maskat customs. Please refer to your telegram dated the 16th October 1904. How would you get over the difficulty created by Clause 2 of the Charter of the Imperial Bank of Persia which limits their operations to the business of Banker in Persia but nowhere else?

R.

No. 336] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Mily. Dept.)
Telegram, 22nd October 1904, 2-50 p. m. (Recd. 10-30 p. m.)

Your telegram dated 22nd September. What terms do you propose for grant of Tibet Medal?

R.

No. 337.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 24th October 1904, 3-35 p. m. (Recd. 25th, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegrams dated the 10th and 13th October, regarding Tibet. Pending consideration of your opinion after consultation with Colonel Younghusband which we are awaiting, no further mention of the reservation as to Article IX will be made to the Chinese Government. Though it can be maintained generally that privileges secured by Convention do not involve any denial of the Treaty rights of other Powers, yet existence and extent of those rights as far as Tibet is concerned is an open question and discussion on the subject is undesirable at present. His Majesty's Government cannot use arguments founded on contrary hypothesis, as they have admitted the dependence of Tibet on China. It is therefore proposed to defend the Convention on the ground that the special privileges secured by it are those which we have a right to claim as entitled by our geographical position to a preponderating political influence in Tibet and that injury to other Powers is not likely to be caused by the exercise of these privileges. Moreover evidence seems to show that the Chinese Treaties with other Powers have not been operative in Tibet, and as you point out it seems inadvisable to admit even by implication that such Powers, by virtue of their Treaties with China, possess now any rights in Tibet. As regards the Adhesion Agreement, the view that it must be negotiated at Peking, though not till the amendments of the Tibet Convention have been settled, is adhered to by His Majesty's Government.

R.

No. 338.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 24th October 1904, 4-45 p. m. (Recd. 25th, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 21st October regarding the Gyantse Escort. I approve provided that the Military authorities are confident that the escort is sufficient for the purpose for which it is intended.

R.

No. 339.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 24th October 1904, 5-10 p. m. (Recd. 25th, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Kabul Mission and visit to India of Amir's son. Please refer to last paragraph of Mr. Dane's demi-official of September 21st. Lord

Curzon will receive the Sardar at Calcutta. But he sees objection to postponement of Sardar's departure from Kabul until after the arrival there of Mission, since if negotiations go badly the Amir may not allow him to leave. For political reasons also it would be useful that Sardar should be our guest while negotiations are proceeding. What are your views? Would it be possible to ask the Amir to send the Sardar leaving Kabul early in December? Please inform us who you propose should compose the Mission.

No. 340.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 24th October 1904, 5-30 p. m. (Recd. 25th, 6 a. m.)

Hashmat-ul-Mulk. Mr. Grant-Duff's telegram of 24th September. After consultation with Sir A. Hardinge representation was made to Persian Government to the effect that disturbance of *status quo* by the removal of the Hashmat-ul-Mulk or by the transfer of the Acting Governorship from his son will not facilitate the fulfilment of Shah's wish for McMahon's withdrawal. The reply which was given here by the Persian Minister on October 20th deprecates interference in internal affairs and contains no satisfactory assurance regarding Hashmat-ul-Mulk. In reply Lord Lansdowne informed the Minister that the Hashmat-ul-Mulk's dismissal would be attributed to the good-will evinced by the latter to us and would have a most unfortunate effect and further would create a situation which might compel His Majesty's Government to alter fundamentally their policy as to Seistan and adjoining regions. Grant-Duff has been instructed to use similar language. See also Meshed telegram, October 20th, as to Yamin-i-Nizam being appointed Governor. Please let me have your views.

R.

No. 341.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 24th October 1904, 9-40 p. m. (Recd. 25th, 7 a. m)

Foreign. Secret. Aden Delimitation. I have approved the proposal of the London Foreign Office which was made on the recommendation of His Britannic Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, that Mr. FitzMaurice should, on leaving Perim, proceed to Calcutta in order to discuss with your Government the question of demarcation of the hinterland north-eastwards to the desert.

Repeated to the Political Resident, Aden.

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No. 342.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 24th October 1904, 9-40 p. m. (Recd. 25th, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Maskat Arbitration. Formal agreement with the French Government was signed on the 13th October. The text of the agreement embodying marginal alterations is as in the draft sent with the Secretary's letter dated the 29th July 1904.

R.

No. 343.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 25th October 1904, 5-15 p. m. (Recd. 26th, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Kabul Mission. Your telegram of 20th October. Grant accepts, and starts this week.

R.

No. 344.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 25th October 1904, 6 p. m. (Recd. 26th, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see Mr. Grant-Duff's telegram dated the 22nd October regarding the proposal to withdraw our Consular guards if Russia does the same. I shall be glad to be informed of your views on the subject.

No. 345.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Rev. & Agric. Dept.)

Telegram, 25th October 1904, 6 p. m. (Recd. 26th, 6 a. m.)

Your telegram dated 17th October. I have seen counterpart Agreement relating to provision of working capital up to £25,000 by Share Guarantee Trust. Agreement itself can be seen in India. Trust confirm Agreement to provide working capital in manner specified in addition to the expenditure already incurred.

R.

No. 346.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 26th October 1904, 3-20 p. m. (Recd. 10-50 p. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 30th September, and send me draft of the new Tibet Trade Regulations, which is referred to in your telegram dated the 19th September to Colonel Younghusband, British Commissioner for Tibet Frontier Matters.

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.R

No. 347.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 26th October 1904, 7-35 p. m. (Recd. 27th, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please repeat to Sir E. Satow my telegram dated the 24th October regarding the Tibet negotiations.

R.

No. 348.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 26th October 1904, 7-35 p. m. (Recd. 27th, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Aden Delimitation. Instructions have been issued to H. B. M.'s Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople to inform the Porte that the question, which has been amicably settled after much negotiation between the two Governments, cannot be allowed by His Majesty's Government to remain open and that they propose to send a ship of war to watch over British interests. As regards the sending of ships, the Admiralty are communicating with His Excellency the Naval Commander-in-Chief of the East Indian Station.

Repeated to the Political Resident at Aden.

R.

No. 349.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 27th October 1904, 9-10 p. m. (Recd. 28th, 6 a. m.)

Secret. In view of present crisis can the Military Authorities say in general terms what would be most urgent additional requirements in case of mobilisation and what transport they would propose to purchase ?

The provision of stores for the special crore is proceeding satisfactorily and shipments will shortly begin.

R.

No. 350.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 28th October 1904, 2-15 p. m. (Recd. 29th, 6.a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Afghanistan terms. Your telegram of 21st October. I sent you by last mail a preliminary *Aide Memoire* for Dane. A revised copy with formal despatch is being sent today. The main points are as follows :—

We propose that the former agreement should be renewed in treaty form as regards Foreign relations and military support, this being more calculated

to impress the Russians with our intention to protect Afghanistan. The treaty will be personal to the Amir. Other subjects to be dealt with in a supplementary agreement, *viz.*, subsidy same as now; all outstanding questions—Afridis, Mohmand Boundary, treatment of Agent—to be satisfactorily settled; if so the sum in respect of arrears to be given spread over short term of years. We deprecate increasing the power of the Afghan Army or drilling troops who may be turned against us, but Amir should be impressed with his military weakness. Arms may be obtained through India to any reasonable extent. No allusion to Helmund. Our strategic railways will be explained to Amir and suggestion made as to lending officers temporarily to survey the country between Kabul and Herat.

I suggest that before telegraphing your views, you should see text which is not changed in second copy except in regard to Treaty.

R.

No. 351.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 31st October 1904, 9-35 p. m. (Recd. 1st November, 6-30 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Aden. Please refer to my telegram dated the 26th September. Lord Lansdowne has instructed postponement of the despatch of a ship of war, in consequence of the earnest representations of the Turkish Ambassador who promises an answer on the 3rd November.

Repeated to the Political Resident, Aden.

R.

No. 352.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 1st November 1904, 1-35 p. m. (Recd. 9 p. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Kabul Mission. Please refer to your telegram dated the 27th October. I agree that Mr. Dane should go in his capacity as Foreign Secretary, without further designation, as representing the Government of India.

No. 353.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

Telegram, 1st November 1904, 9-35 p. m. (Recd. 2nd, 7-40 a. m.)

Baron Inverdale. I agree to the proposals made in your telegram of 24th October last for the punishment of murderers and others concerned. Please send home relics.

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No. 354.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 1st November 1904, 9-40 p. m. (Recd. 2nd, 7-40 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Survey in vicinity of Koweit. Please refer to your telegrams dated the 19th August and 1st October [? 30th September.] From Marine Department to Director, Royal Indian Marine which was forwarded with the Foreign Secretary's letter No. 40-M., dated the 6th October. His Majesty's Government approve your proposals to which His Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople sees no objection.

R.

No. 355.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Military Dept.)

P * Telegram, 2nd November 1904, 5 p. m. (Recd. 3rd, 6 a. m.)

In the event of war the Army Council propose to act, as far as possible, on your secret telegram of the 8th of January last. Please specify the order in which you would wish to receive the troops. An immediate reply is pressed for by the War Office. This is only a precautionary communication.

R.

No. 356.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 2nd November 1904, 6-45 p. m. (Recd. 3rd, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see your telegram of the 28th October. The Amir offered to send his son seven days after the arrival of Lord Curzon, who will reach Bombay on the 9th December. If the Amir's son left a week later he would apparently be able to attend the *Id* and to reach Calcutta before the end of the year. His Highness should be held to his offer and his son should be invited to arrive at Calcutta in the last week of December so as to be there by the 1st of January.

R.

No. 357.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 2nd November 1904, 6-45 p. m. (Recd. 3rd, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see Sir E. Satow's telegram of November 1st regarding Tibet and the Chinese intention to declare Tibet to be a province of the Chinese Empire. The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs suggests that Sir E. Satow should be authorised to warn China, if he thinks it desirable, that such action would not be regarded as modifying the situation or calling for any departure from the policy announced by His Majesty's Government. What are your views on the point ?

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R.

No. 358.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 3rd November 1904, 9 p. m. (Recd. 4th, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 2nd November regarding the Karun Irrigation Scheme. Please inform me what the nature of the survey proposed by you is. The cost appears to be large.

No. 359.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Finl. Dept.)

* Telegram, 4th November 1904, 1-50 p. m. (Recd. 10 p. m.)

Presidency Banks. With reference to your Financial Despatch No. 264, dated the 21st July, I presume that you have not consulted representatives of the Exchange Banks. I propose to invite their observations before measure is actually introduced as it seems to me that it would be politic to do this in this country unless you see any strong reason why it should not be done.

No. 360.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 5th November 1904, 3-45 p. m. (Recd. 6th, 6 a. m.)

Secret. Please see Mr. Grant-Duff’s telegrams of the 2nd November regarding the Luristan incident. His action has been approved. He has been instructed to express indignation and to say that we hold the Persian Government responsible and expect them to put an end to the state of things prevailing in the south-west Persia.

R.

No. 361.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 7th November 1904, 10 p. m. (Recd. 8th, 8-15 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. His Majesty’s Government have considered your telegram of the 21st ultimo and Secret Despatch dated 6th October regarding Tibet. They approve the form of declaration to be made to the Tibetans as to the indemnity, when you ratify the Convention, but it should be so worded as to maintain the stipulation that the Chumbi Valley is to be occupied as a security for the fulfilment of provisions as to marts until they have been effectively opened for three years. His Majesty’s Government have decided to disallow Agreement giving the Agent at Gyantse right of access to Lhasa. It seems to them unnecessary and inconsistent with principle on which our policy

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has been based throughout. It would also open the door to others who desire access to Lhasa, on commercial matters with the intention of using it for political purposes. I suggest that you should inform the Tibetans that you do not consider it necessary to embody this provision in a formal undertaking and that you appreciate the good feeling shown by their acceptance of the Agreement.

No. 362.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 9th November 1904. (Recd. 10th.)

Please see my telegrams of the 26th and 31st October regarding Aden delimitation. H. M. S. *Proserpine* has been despatched to the Red Sea to watch over British interests under the instructions of Lord Lansdowne.

R.

No. 363.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 9th November 1904, 5-15 p. m. (Recd. 10th, 6-30 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Karun irrigation. Lord Lansdowne's view is that the Officer selected should start as soon as possible and report himself to the Consular Officers at Mohammerah and Ahwaz and discuss with them the line to adopt with Persians. He might, should Lorimer be absent, address Wilson, Lynch's Agent, who would render assistance, but in that case he should not mention the proposed loan to Persia but should merely say that as he happened to be coming to Persia he was requested by the Government of India to study the question of the Ahwaz dam and to ascertain the feasibility of Van Roggen's scheme. On his arrival in Persia it is proposed to inform the Persian Government confidentially of the Mission of Engineers. These instructions seem inconsistent with the survey on the scale which is apparently contemplated in your telegram of the 2nd November. Please reply as soon as possible to my telegram of the 3rd November.

R.

No. 364.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 9th November 1904, 6-15 p. m. (Recd. 10th, 6-30 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Your telegram of to-day. In view of enquiries which the German Government may probably make about Fleischer's death you have no doubt pressed the punishment of offenders on the Amir.

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R.

No. 365.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 10th November 1904, 4 p. m. (Recd. 11th, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Pleas see your telegram of the 5th November regarding Tibet. Instructions in the sense indicated in my telegram of the 2nd November were sent to Sir E. Satow on the 8th November.

No. 366.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 10th November 1904, 8-50 p. m. (Recd. 11th, 7-30 a. m.)

Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 16th October regarding the Agent of the Sheikh of Koweit at Fao. Instructions have been given to His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople to make representations as suggested by you. Lord Lansdowne agrees that the Agent should, if he takes refuge on one of His Majesty's ships, be received, and that he should not, without further instructions from His Majesty's Government, be surrendered.

R.

No. 367.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 11th November 1904, 11-15 p. m. (Recd. 12th, 9 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. The American Ambassador states that Mr. Nichols, who is an American citizen and an explorer under the auspices of the American Geographical Society, is detained at Chumbi and he asks whether Mr. Nichols may not be allowed to continue his journey. Please send your reply by telegraph.

R.

No. 368.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 11th November 1904, 11-15 p. m. (Recd. 12th, 9-30 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Kabul Mission. Your telegram of the 8th instant. Please refer to the *Aide-Memoire*, in final form, as sent with the Despatch dated October 28th. A draft treaty is enclosed and the question of Consular protection of Afghans abroad is dealt with. As regards the appointment of a British Officer on the frontier and the Military Agreement, His Majesty's Government are not prepared to go beyond the terms of the *Aide-Memoire*. With reference to the appointment of Native Agent at places named His Majesty's Government decided to omit reference to it in the *Aide-Memoire*.

Apart from the points named in paragraph 13, they are opposed to making anything in the nature of a direct request except in the cases where the Amir shows disposition to agree. There is no objection to the proposed extension of country to be surveyed beyond Kabul but the country in which we are really interested for purposes of defence is that between Kabul and Herat.

R.

No. 369.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 12th November 1904, 5-50 p. m. (Recd. 13th, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. Please refer to paragraph 4 of your Secret Despatch dated the 6th October, and telegraph the substance of your telegram of the 15th September which is referred to in your telegram No. 3069-E. B. of the 16th September to Colonel Younghusband, also the substance of your telegram No. 2980-E. B. of the 10th September which is referred to in his telegram No. 781 of the 18th September. These cannot be traced in the correspondence sent home with the Foreign Secretary's weekly letters. I shall be glad to know when I may expect the enclosures to your Secret Despatch dated the 6th October 1904.

R.

No. 370.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 14th November 1904, 2-55 p. m. (Recd. 15th, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. In reply to a request made by the Saxon Government on behalf of the family of the late Mr. Fleischer that his body should be conveyed to Dresden, the Minister has given an assurance that due solemnity would be observed at the burial of remains.

R.

No. 371.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 14th November 1904, 4 p. m. (Recd. 15th, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. On the 11th November Sir E. Satow was informed by telegraph that, having regard to his strong opinion in favour of your view, His Majesty's Government have decided that negotiations shall be conducted at Calcutta and that he should so inform the Chinese Government.

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R.

No. 372.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 14th November 1904, 4 p. m. (Recd. 15th, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. Please refer to your telegram of the 11th November and send by post the text of letter and declaration annexed to the Convention. Question of publication must be considered in connection with selection of papers to be included in the Blue Book.

No. 373.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 14th November 1904, 1-35 p. m. (Recd. 15th, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Luristan outrage. In reply to his telegram of the 10th November, Mr. Grant-Duff has been authorised to send Mr. Lorimer and Lieutenant-Colonel Williams to Khoremabad, provided that their functions are strictly limited to watching and if necessary advising. In no case are they to mix themselves personally in any punitive operations which the Persian Government may undertake.

R.

No. 374.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 15th November 1904, 7-50 p. m. (Recd. 16th, 12 noon.)

Secret. Reorganisation Scheme. Please refer to your Military Despatch No. 138 of the 29th September last. I sanction the general principle as now proposed. It is not desirable at present to provide for the cost of the three British Battalions which would not be immediately required on outbreak of war. The provision of these battalions must be reconsidered when the other portions of the scheme have been carried through. The proposals regarding an extra regiment of Native Cavalry and six Mountain Batteries are approved. As regards financial points I agree to your providing in the Budget of 1905-6, three crores for special military expenditure besides the balance, if any, of the one hundred and fifty-six lakhs from this year. As your Despatch states that the total cost of the scheme has not been accurately ascertained, a full financial review must be made. The possible increased charge to meet the suggestions of Local Governments and additional officers for British regiments must be considered. The relation of the cost of new cantonments to the total of the scheme must also be reviewed before final assent can be given to this expenditure. Before the end of this and each successive financial year you should submit for my approval a schedule of the proposed special military expenditure for the coming

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year. A forecast of the additional expenditure on stores in England to supplement figures in advance paragraph of your Military Despatch forwarded on the 20th October should be telegraphed as soon as possible in order that the necessary sum may be entered provisionally in estimates of the Home Treasury. Sub-heads for reorganisation will be opened in Home estimates and accounts and may be opened in your estimates and accounts. The special entry of unspent grants in the statements appended to the Financial Statement appears to introduce complication and to obscure the actual transactions of the year without any corresponding advantage and to offend against the principle that expenditure incurred in any one year should be brought to account in that year.

No. 375.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 15th November 1904, 10-10 p. m. (Recd. 16th, 9-30 a. m.)

Chinese intention to modify the Telegraph Convention of the 6th September 1894. Please see Sir E. Satow's Despatch No. 225 of the 18th October to Lord Lansdowne. What are your views on the subject? If negotiations take place in China, do you agree to the deputation of an Indian Telegraph official? Please refer also to the correspondence ending with the letter dated the 22nd July 1904, from the Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma, to Consul-General Wilkinson.

No. 376.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 15th November 1904, 10-25 p. m. (Recd. 16th, 11-30 a. m.)

Presidency Banks. Pending the receipt of your reply to my telegram of the 3rd instant, no action is being taken on the subject.

No. 377.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 16th November 1904, 9-5 p. m. (Recd. 17th, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. In reply to his telegram of the 12th November, Mr. Grant-Duff was instructed on the 14th November to inform the Persian Government that if they accept the Russian signallers for the Meshed-Seistan telegraph line, an equal number of British signallers on the same line will be demanded by us.

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R.

No. 378.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 16th November 1904, 9-55 p. m. (Recd. 17th, 9-45 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram of the 12th November regarding the Karun irrigation scheme. In the circumstances His Majesty's Government think it necessary to be content with scheme of mere inspection such as you describe. In accordance with the instructions contained in my telegram of the 9th November, please arrange for the early start of an Engineer.

R.

No. 379.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 16th November 1904, 10 p. m. (Recd. 17th, 9-45 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see my telegram of the 11th November regarding the Kabul Mission. His Majesty's Government consider it desirable that the Amir should be sounded cautiously as to his possible willingness to accept cooperation on Helmand for the protection of the Seistan frontier. Mr. Dane will, however, understand that if the Amir's diposition is unfavourable, there is no intention of pressing him on this point. The same applies to the deputation of officers to examine the northern frontier which may include country suggested in your telegram dated the 8th November 1904.

R.

No. 380.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 17th November 1904, 3-55 p. m. (Recd. 18th, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your letter dated the 27th October, regarding the Kabul Mission. Please telegraph statement of any points, in addition to those mentioned in the *Aide-Memoire*, which you think might be put to His Highness the Amir without departing from the general policy laid down by His Majesty's Government; also of points which you think require modification.

R.

No. 381.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.
P * Telegram, 17th November 1904, 4-15 p. m. (Recd. 18th, 7 a. m.)

Opium. Lord Lansdowne asks whether, if put forward officially by the Chinese Government, you will consider favourably the monopoly scheme described in Sir E. Satow's telegram of November 9th to the Foreign Office. I should be obliged if you will reply by telegram.

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R.

No. 382.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 17th November 1904, 6-55 p. m. (Recd. 18th, 7 a. m.)

Native Regiments. Please refer to your telegram of the 8th instant. The proposals require full examination in consultation with the Local Governments concerned. Prior to consideration by the Government of India on re-assembling at Calcutta I suggest immediate reference to the Local Governments. We are anxious to facilitate the Commander-in-Chief's proposals wherever possible, but examination is required of changes of the character proposed.

R.

No. 383.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 17th November 1904, 8-45 p. m. (Recd. 18th, 8-30 a. m.)

Secret. Please see your Military Despatch dated the 20th October 1904 relative to the brigading of British and Native Infantry. The proposed change is undoubtedly most important and has received my most careful consideration. The views expressed by certain officers of the Indian Army, to which you allude, are not given but on the other hand, the opinion of Indian authorities, both Military and Civilian, in this country appears to be unanimous and very strong in favour of the present system which has stood the test of experience and has many obvious reasons to recommend it. In these circumstances I should wish, before considering further such a radical change, to be furnished with any arguments and reasons which Your Excellency's Government may desire to forward together with the opinions of those whom you consult on the subject.

No. 384.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 18th November 1904, 5-30 p. m. (Recd. 19th, 6 a. m.)

Please refer to your telegrams of the 19th ultimo and the 11th instant. Lindsay. On the 24th October last I communicated your selection and my concurrence to the Secretary to the Defence Committee and assumed that the matter was settled, but I was informed, on the 15th November, that a Staff College certificate is considered necessary for a Junior officer. It has, however, been agreed, first, that as India has hitherto had no Staff College, secondly, if no officer so qualified is available and Lord Kitchener thinks Lindsay the most suitable man, his appointment shall, under the circumstances, hold good for one year. The postponement of his departure till the 15th December can be approved.

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No. 385.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 18th November 1904, 9-45 p. m. (Recd. 19th, 8-45 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see my telegram of the 11th instant regarding Koweit. The Turkish Government have complained that Major Knox had with him eight sepoys, that he had engaged a Secretary named Abdullah, that he had entered into relations with the Natives, that he was interfering in the affairs of the administration, and that he had hoisted the English flag over his residence. Will you please report the facts of the case? My telegram of the 28th July directed Major Knox to proceed to Koweit in such a manner that unnecessary attention would not be attracted.

No. 386.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 18th November 1904, 9-45 p. m. (Recd. 19th, 10 a. m.)

Secret. The latest estimate from Lord Kitchener, in the telegram of 5th November, of reinforcements, makes a total with Departments of nearly 160 thousand men. Would you kindly inform me on the following points:—

(1) Can the basis of the new calculation be given as it is far in excess of previous estimates? On what basis has the number of the drafts been taken? What proportion of reinforcements will be required for the field and for garrison duty respectively?

(2) Prior to the completion of the new strategic Railways what proportion of these men can be used in Afghanistan in addition to the Indian nine Divisions?

No. 387.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 21st November 1904. (Recd. 22nd, 8 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Koweit. Please refer to your telegram dated the 19th November 1904. With my Secret Despatch of the 11th November 1904 I have forwarded a copy of correspondence with the Foreign Office showing that in order to avoid diplomatic difficulties, Lord Lansdowne wishes the appointment of an Agent at Koweit treated on the lines laid down in the last paragraph of his Despatch dated the 20th August 1903, to Sir N. O'Conor, a copy of which was forwarded to you with the Political Secretary's letter No. 38, dated the 4th September 1903. It is not intended that the present withdrawal should be otherwise than temporary, nor should it be carried out in haste or in a manner to lead the Sheikh to think that it takes place otherwise than in the exercise of our own discretion, or that it implies any change in the attitude of His Majesty's

Government. Throughout the correspondence it has been recognised as undesirable to raise the whole question of our position at Koweit, and His Majesty's Government consider the present an inconvenient time to do so. Please therefore consider the question of the date and the manner of Major Knox's withdrawal temporarily from Koweit, so as to give effect to the policy of His Majesty's Government and communicate your proposed action to me.

No. 388.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 21st November 1904, 7-30 p. m. (Recd. 22nd, 8 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Proposal by Officer Commanding His Majesty's ship *Preserpine* to pay friendly visit with British Commissioners to Commandant of Sheikh Said has been negatived as inexpedient having regard to attitude of the Porte and interest taken by French Government in Sheikh Said. Fitzmaurice should be instructed that it is not desirable that any visit should be paid to Sheikh Said.

Repeated to Aden.

R.

No. 389.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)
P * Telegram, 22nd November 1904, 9-35 p. m. (Recd. 23rd.)

Foreign. Secret. Musabad. Your telegram of the 2nd instant. The instructions which you propose to give to Dane are approved, but it seems desirable that he should frankly tell the Amir that Russia, in all probability, is encouraging Persia in the matter with a view to provoking a collision in which she will back Persia. It might also be hinted to the Amir by Dane that award may not altogether meet his views if facts in your knowledge make this expedient.

No. 390.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.
Telegram, 23rd November 1904.

With reference to the enclosures to your Foreign Secretary's letter No. 43, October 27th last. *Baron Inverdale.* Number on board at the time of wreck apparently thirty-two not fifty-two. Master of *Prome* in deposition to Board of Trade states he rescued eight men, all Greeks, from wreck, not from boat. Rescued men state number of hands thirty with one passenger which is corroborated by owner's estimate, and that all except eight left wreck 6th August last in two boats. Can you obtain authentic information regarding occupants of second boat or as to the identity of party murdered? Enclosure Grey's letter, 11th October last, states there were thirteen Englishmen. Is this beyond all doubt?

No. 391.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

* Telegram, 26th November 1904, 1-30 p. m. (Recd. 27th, 7 am.)

Secret. Burmah-Chinese Frontier. Please telegraph your views on Sir E. Satow's telegram of November 19th, No. 249.

No. 392.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 26th November 1904, 8-50 p. m. (Recd. 27th, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram of the 19th November regarding Koweit affairs. His Majesty's Government adhere to the view expressed in my telegram of the 21st November as to the inexpediency of treating the deputation of Captain Knox as a permanent appointment; but, having regard to the recent conduct of the Turkish Government as to the Aden *Iradé* and the occupation of the Island of Babian, Captain Knox may remain at Koweit for the present. After the lapse of a reasonable interval he should be withdrawn, but instructions might be given to him to inform the Shaikh before leaving that he will repeat his visits and that the date of his return will depend on the course of events. He might add that the Shaikh should address the Resident, Bushire, if events should occur or communications be made tending to affect the position of the Shaikh in regard to Turkey or any Foreign Power. Please consider what will be the most convenient date for the withdrawal of Captain Knox.

R.

No. 393.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Military Dept.)

P * Telegram, 26th November 1904, 8-50 p. m. (Recd. 27th, 10-30 a. m.)

Please refer to your secret telegram of the 5th November regarding reinforcements. Information on the following points is required by the War Office:—

1*st.*—What are the periods of time within which the Contingents, under headings (1), (2) and (3), are required?

2*nd.*—Are the units asked for to go to the front as they arrive or will they replace, in Indian garrisons, the units which have been or may be sent to the front?

3*rd.*—State your requirements in field companies and field troops, Royal Engineers, if any, with each Contingent.

4*th*.—As you will not require complete ammunition columns and medical units as laid down in British War Establishments, state your actual requirements in each with each Contingent. Will you require any medical *personnel* other than medical officers?

5*th*.—Are the Cavalry and Infantry drafts to be spread equally over all units in India; or

6*th*.—Are they intended for certain units sent to the front, if so, those units should be specified?

7*th*.—It is presumed that riding horses for all mounted officers and men will be required.

8*th*.—As regards the transport, it is presumed from paragraph 3 of your Despatch No. 83, 1903, that with the exception of Pom-Pom and Machine-Gun horses, Artillery guns and horses, Artillery and Engineer technical carriages and their horses, all transport of every kind will be provided in India including that for Infantry entrenching tools, small arm ammunition and conveyance of sick.

9*th*.—As regards the Army Service Corps Transport *Personnel*, state definitely what Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Artificers, if any, you require with each Contingent.

10*th*.—As regards the Army Service Corps Supply *Personnel*, it is proposed to send Officers with a complete staff of clerks, butchers and bakers for each Division and Brigade.

11*th*.—Is the whole of the Mobilisation equipment, other than transport and the harness for it, namely, entrenching tools, blankets and ground sheets to be taken by units?

12*th*.—Are tents or appliances for erecting blanket shelters required?

13*th*.—What provision, if any, of reserve gun carriages, ammunition, arms, clothing and equipment will you require with each Contingent?

14*th*.—It is presumed that after landing in India, you will provide for all the feeding of the men and horses.

No. 394.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 26th November 1904, 11-10 p. m. (Recd. 27th, 7 a. m.)

Secret. Please see your telegram of the 28th October. His Majesty's Government have approved your proceedings in regard to the question raised by the American Consul in connection with the Maskat Arbitration. Secretary of State will again press for a list of French flag-holders.

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R.

No. 395.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 28th November 1904, 6-45 p. m. (Recd. 29th, 7-30 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Kabul Mission. Your telegram of November 23rd. The following are the views of His Majesty's Government:—

Draft Treaty. Firstly. The Treaty may be signed by the Envoy and ratified by the Viceroy. Secondly. The name of the Amir may be inserted in order to mark the personal character of the treaty. Thirdly. The Treaty shoud be with the British Government in accordance with the precedent of the Gandamak Treaty. British Government, for purposes of treaty, means the Government of India acting in consultation with His Majesty's Government. Fourthly. The proposed clause should not be added to the treaty which is intended to be a renewal, in more solemn form, of engagements with the late Amir. In our opinion the effect of the treaty would be weakened by the clause which as you point out would require to be worded most guardedly in order to reserve our complete discretion as to the form of assistance to be given. If pressed Dane should say that the form of assistance must depend on circumstances if they arise, but that for assistance to the Amir we must be free to advance troops into Afghanistan. The Amir's refusal to admit our troops for this purpose would be virtual repudiation by him of the treaty. As to the subordinate agreement:—Firstly. There is no objection to Native newswriters at the places named, but we would not press the proposal against the Amir's wishes. Secondly, and Thirdly. See paragraph four and eleven of the *Aide-Memoire*. We would not go further than is laid down there as to strategic examination, by British officers, of the country beyond Kabul and as to the periodical visits of British officers when required by circumstances. Fourthly. We leave to your discretion all the five points mentioned, but with regard to the right of way along the Helmand, Dane must use his discretion as to the best manner of carrying out the instructions contained in my telegram of November 16th. He should also speak to the Amir as to the possible appointment of an Irrigation officer on the Helmand under McMahon's Arbitral award but he should say nothing as to the bund being at Kohak instead of at Kamal Khan, pending further instructions which will be sent as soon as possible.

No. 396.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 28th November 1904, 7-30 p. m. (Recd. 29th, 7 a. m.)

I enquired in my Despatch No. 148, dated the 18th November last, whether the further Maxim guns, demanded in Lord Kitchener's scheme, are required promptly. Full sum voted for artillery will not be expended this year and Maxims are obtainable. Will you please let me know if we are to order them?

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No. 397.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Finance Dept.)

P * Telegram, 29th November 1904, 6-20 p. m. (Recd. 30th, 7 a. m.)

Your telegram of the 19th instant has been carefully considered by me and in view of all the circumstances I have thought it advisable to invite observations, privately, at this stage, from the National Bank of India, Hong-Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, and the Mercantile Bank of India, on the proposals contained in paragraphs 9 and 10 of your letter No. 264, dated 21st July 1904.

R.

No. 398.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 29th November 1904, 9-5 p. m. (Recd. 30th, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see your telegram of the 21st November. Tang expects to arrive in about eight weeks at Calcutta.

No. 399.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

Telegram, 1st December 1904, 10 p. m. (Recd. 2nd, 7 a. m.)

Your telegram dated 24th October. *Baron Innerdale.* Please report by telegraph punishment inflicted.

R.

No. 400.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 2nd December 1904, 3-10 p. m. (Recd. 3rd, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. The Insignia of the Grand Cross of the Bath has been sent by today's mail.

R.

No. 401.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 6th December 1904, 8-10 p. m. (Recd. 7th, 7 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see your telegram of the 3rd instant about Tibet Agreements. Yes.

No. 402.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Military Dept.)

Telegram, 6th December 1904, 8-15 p. m. (Recd. 7th, 7 a. m.)

Your telegram dated 23rd November. Hay, Hepburne and additional appointments. I sanction your proposals.

R.

No. 403.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Foreign Dept.)

P * Telegram, 7th December 1904, 12-45 p. m. (Recd. 8th, 6 a. m.)

Foreign. Secret. Secretary's letter No. 44 with Tibet Trade Regulations received. Article I. Is it intended to claim that our goods and subjects shall have the same treatment as the Chinese? Article 13. With regard to veto on monopolies you will bear in mind that we are pledged to non-interference in internal administration of the country.

No. 404.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Financial Dept.)

P * Telegram, 7th December 1904, 9-35 p. m. (Recd. 8th, 7 a. m.)

Please refer to your telegram of the 3rd instant on the subject of opium. Paragraph 2, clause 4, of your Financial Secretary's letter of the 9th June. Conditions specified in the telegram of 18th April 1901 seem incompatible with State monopoly. Would you approve of condition that preference or advantage shall not be given to native opium under the Opium Excise Regulations for working the monopoly?

No. 405.] Secretary of State to Viceroy. (Mily. Dept.)

P * Telegram, 7th December 1904, 9-35 p. m. (Recd. 8th, 7 a. m.)

Affairs in Somaliland. The Senior Naval Officer at Perim has received the following telegram from Swayne:—

Begins. Services of ship urgently required to warn *Pestalozza* at Illig of recurring acts of hostility which may involve danger for him, Call here on the way for letters. *Ends.*

The Admiralty have directed the *Proserpine*, the only ship available, to proceed to Illig, and as the ship is one subsidised by you, your concurrence is requested.

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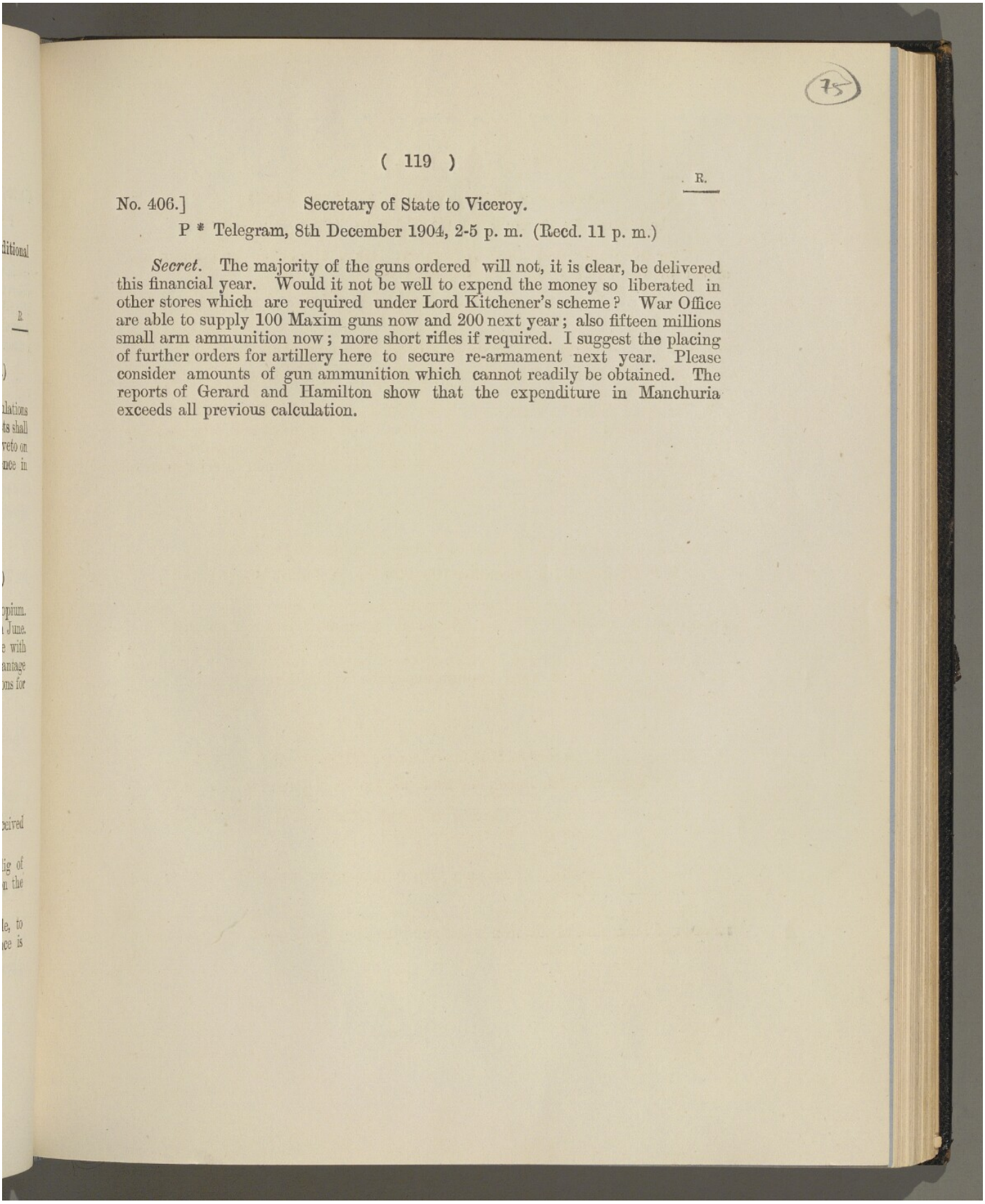

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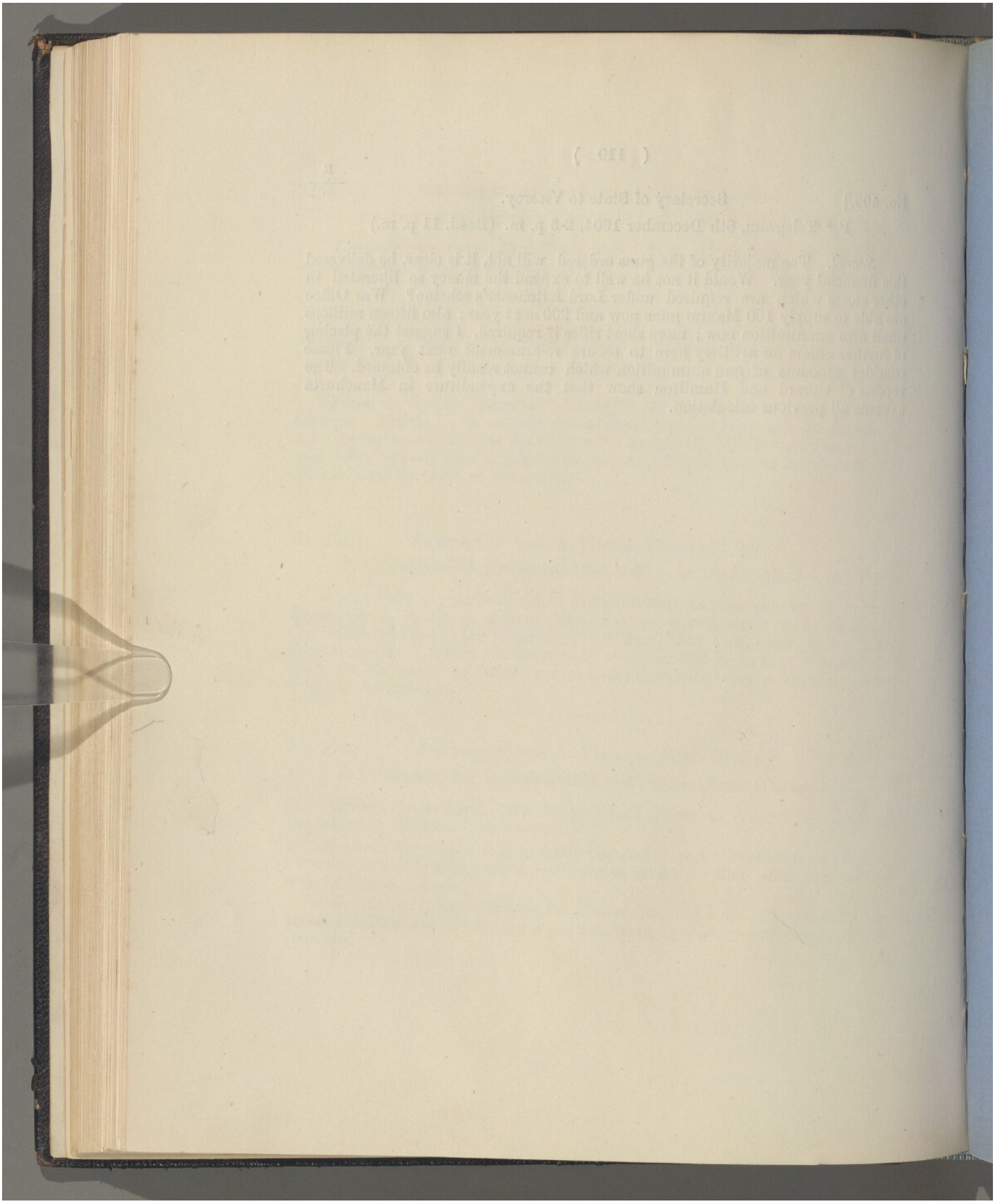
R.

No. 406.] Secretary of State to Viceroy.

P * Telegram, 8th December 1904, 2-5 p. m. (Recd. 11 p. m.)

Secret. The majority of the guns ordered will not, it is clear, be delivered this financial year. Would it not be well to expend the money so liberated in other stores which are required under Lord Kitchener's scheme? War Office are able to supply 100 Maxim guns now and 200 next year; also fifteen millions small arm ammunition now; more short rifles if required. I suggest the placing of further orders for artillery here to secure re-armament next year. Please consider amounts of gun ammunition which cannot readily be obtained. The reports of Gerard and Hamilton show that the expenditure in Manchuria exceeds all previous calculation.



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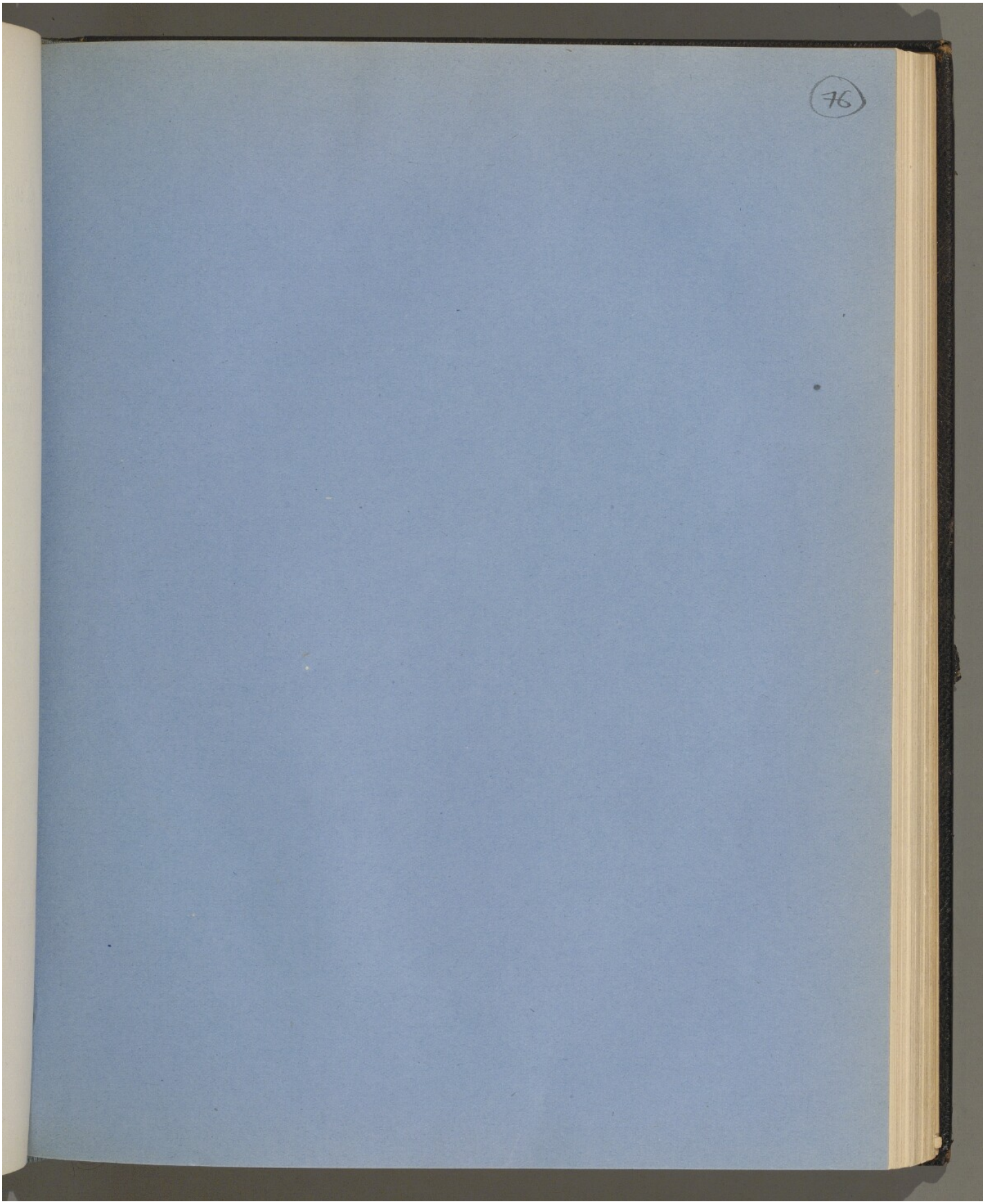

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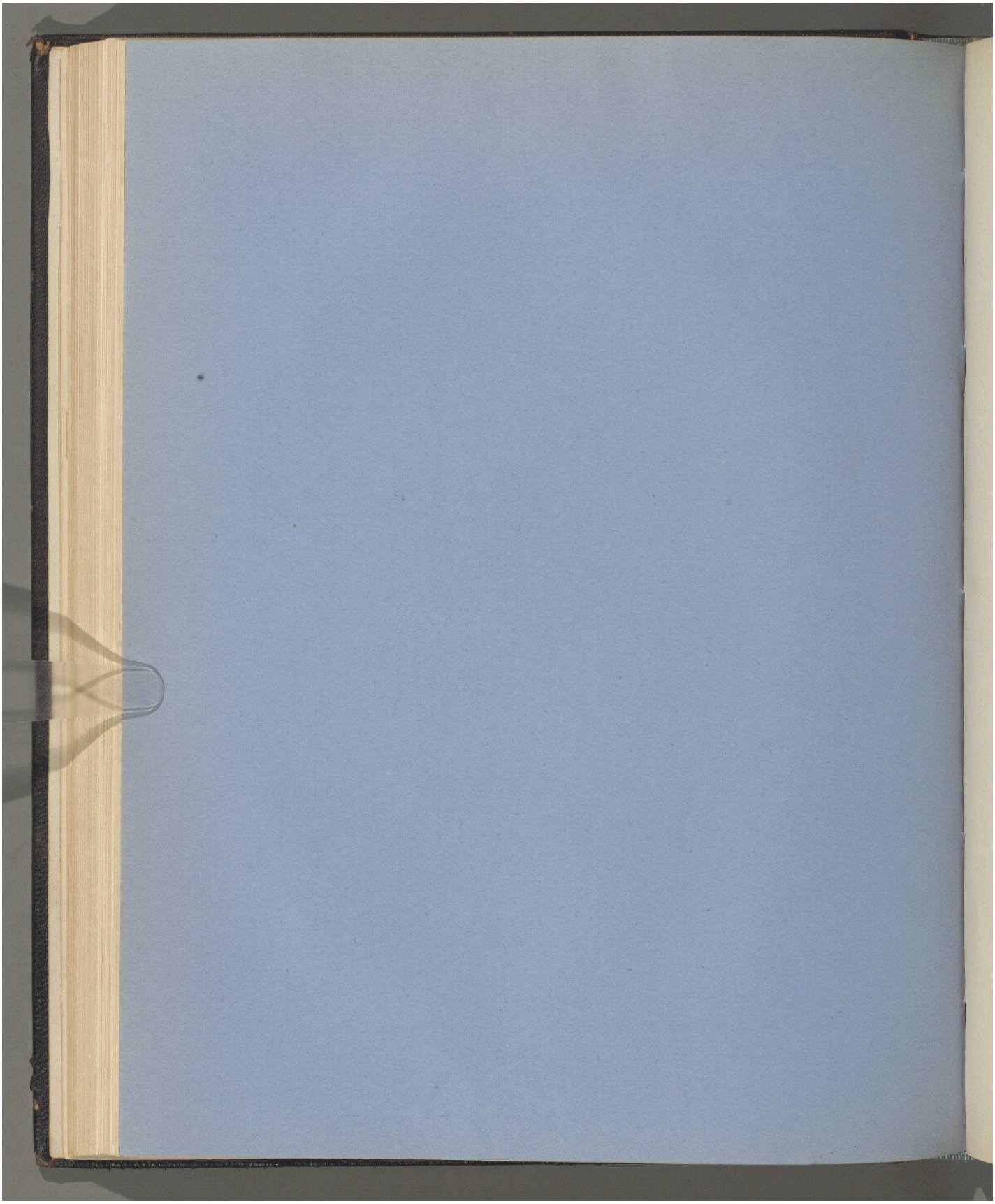

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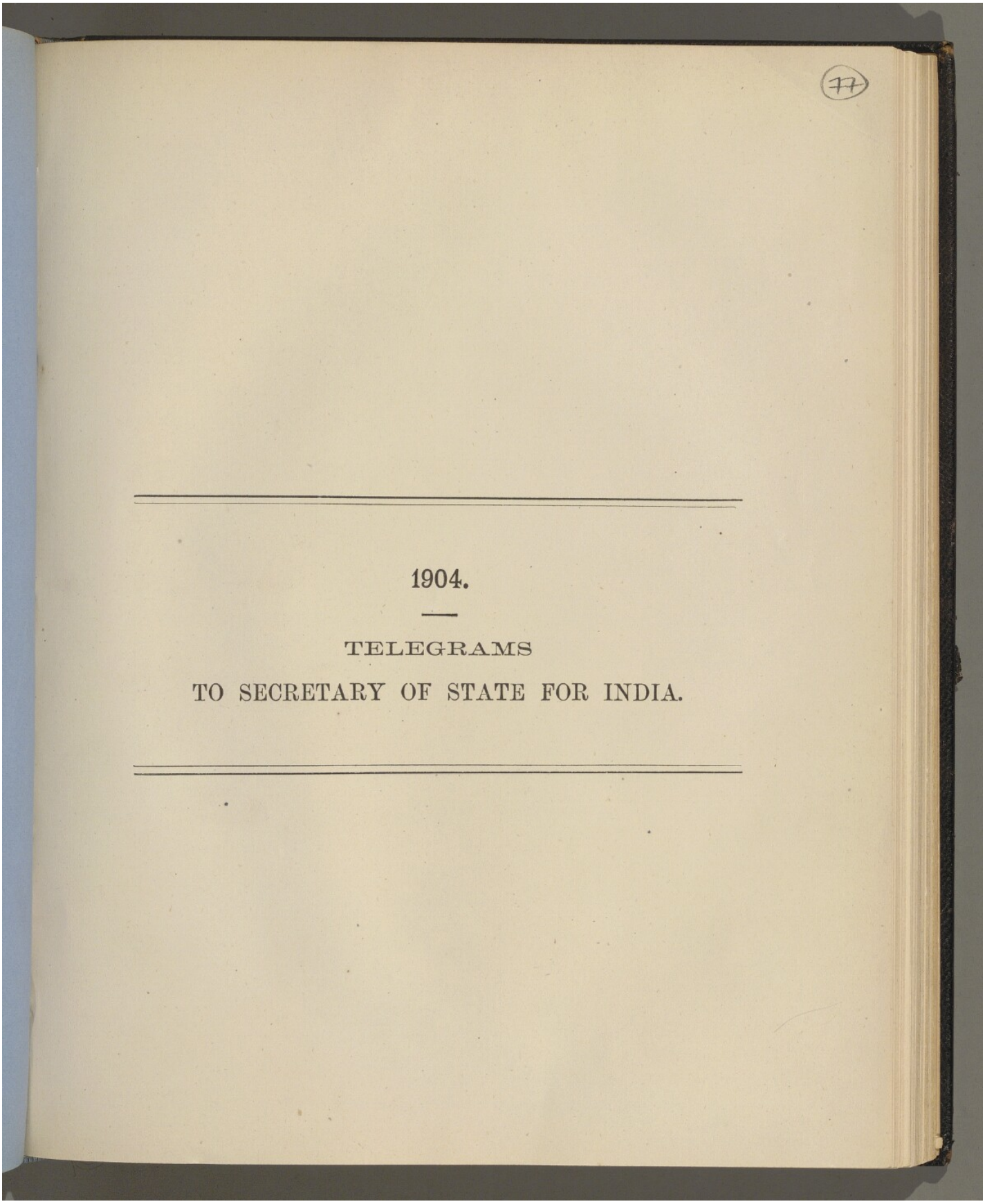
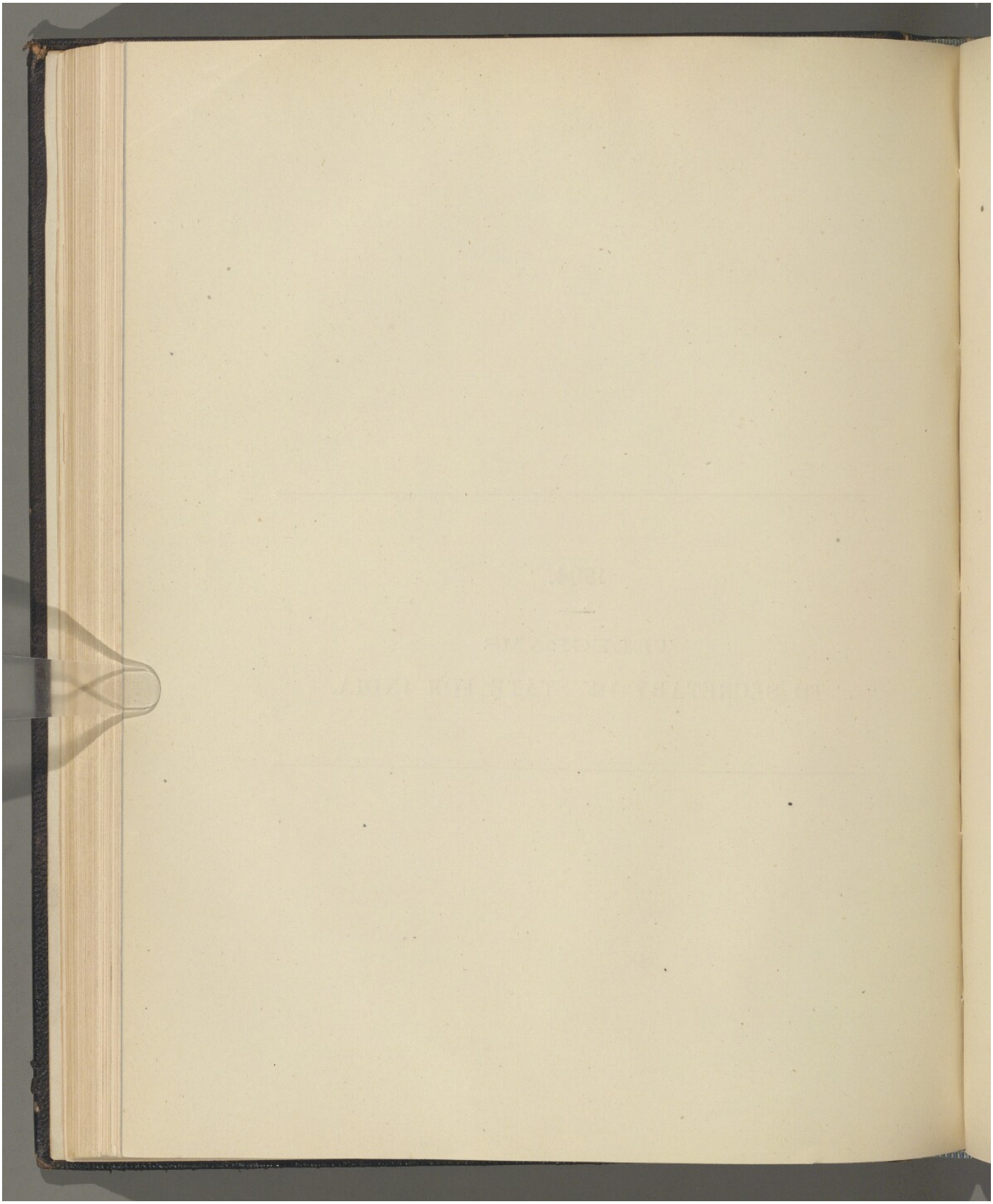


77

1904.

TELEGRAMS

TO SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.



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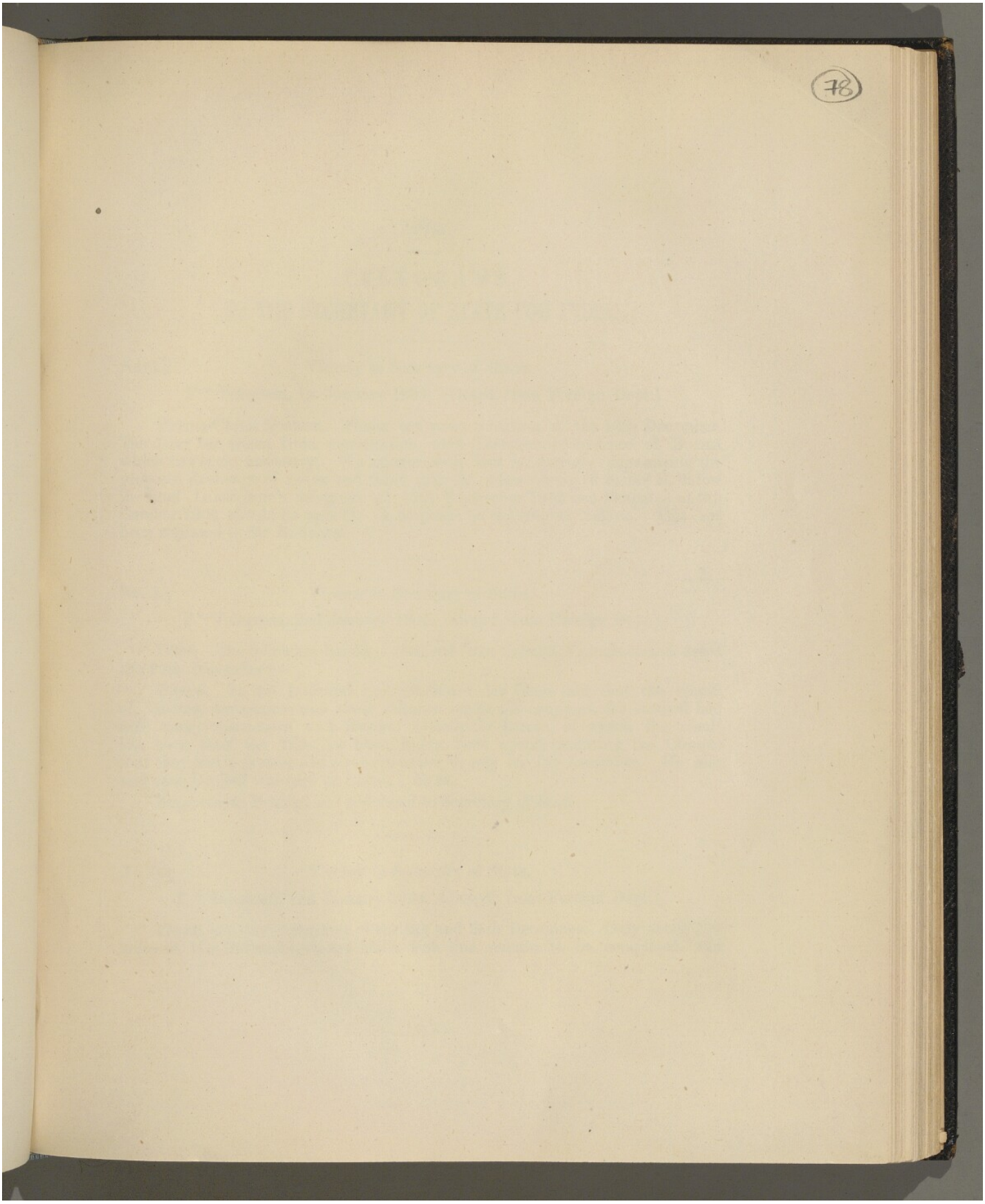

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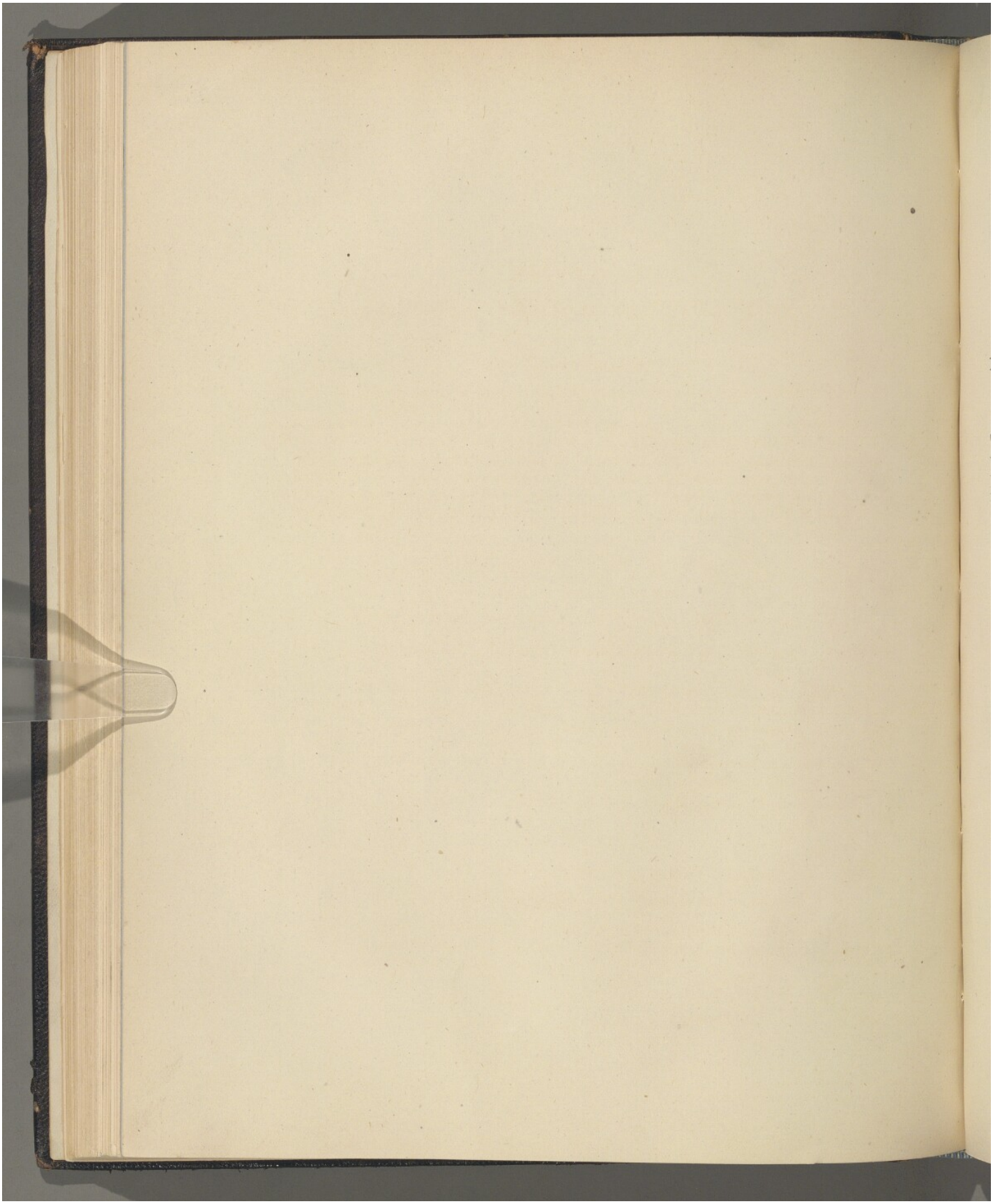

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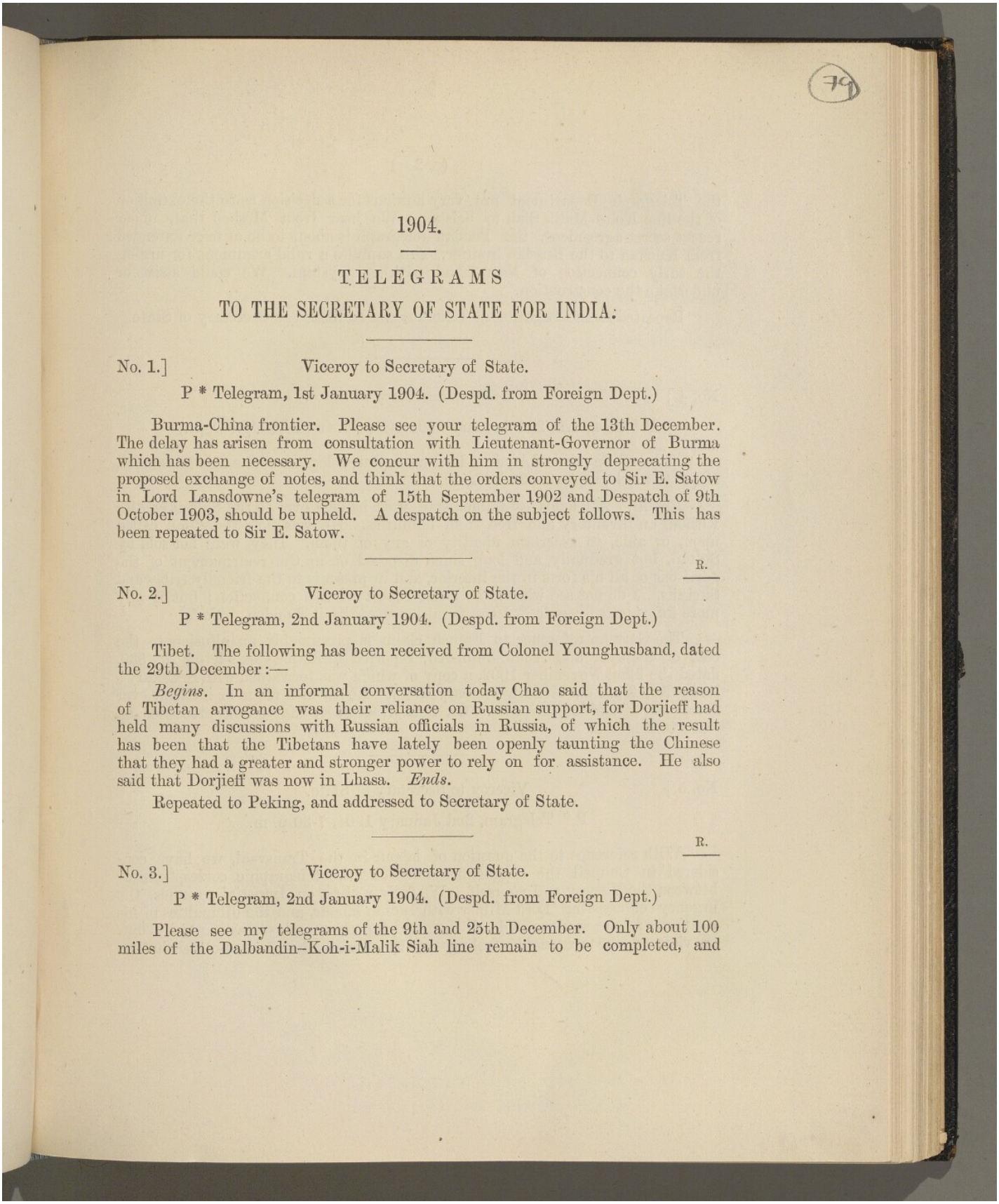

79

1904.

TELEGRAMS

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.

No. 1.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 1st January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Burma-China frontier. Please see your telegram of the 13th December. The delay has arisen from consultation with Lieutenant-Governor of Burma which has been necessary. We concur with him in strongly deprecating the proposed exchange of notes, and think that the orders conveyed to Sir E. Satow in Lord Lansdowne's telegram of 15th September 1902 and Despatch of 9th October 1903, should be upheld. A despatch on the subject follows. This has been repeated to Sir E. Satow.

R.

No. 2.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 2nd January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Tibet. The following has been received from Colonel Younghusband, dated the 29th December :—

Begins. In an informal conversation today Chao said that the reason of Tibetan arrogance was their reliance on Russian support, for Dorjieff had held many discussions with Russian officials in Russia, of which the result has been that the Tibetans have lately been openly taunting the Chinese that they had a greater and stronger power to rely on for assistance. He also said that Dorjieff was now in Lhasa. *Ends.*

Repeated to Peking, and addressed to Secretary of State.

R.

No. 3.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 2nd January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please see my telegrams of the 9th and 25th December. Only about 100 miles of the Dalbandin–Koh-i-Malik Siah line remain to be completed, and

the Telegraph Department are very anxious for a decision as to the extension of the line Koh-i-Malik Siah to Seistan. We hear from Meshed that, under recent secret agreement, the Persian telegraph is about to be at once extended from Kuchan to the Russian frontier. This supplies a valid argument for urging the early connection of Nasratabad with our system. We could assist or undertake the construction.

Repeated to the Legation at Teheran, and addressed to Secretary of State.

No. 4.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 2nd January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Claim of Bavarian Lloyds. Please see your telegram of the 21st December. Major Cox telegraphs on 24th idem :—

Begins. All arms *ex* Baluchistan were handed over to the Sultan *en bloc* without an inventory and free from liabilities. He was not, therefore, called upon, or able, to ascertain identity of any of them. They were not sold by Sultan, but gradually and long since disposed of in the re-armament of the garrisons of all his forts in the interior, and in presents to the friendly tribes and Sheikhs. I do not see what more I can report in this connection; but if any more information required, I can furnish personally in London. *Ends.*

The German reference to French claim is presumably an allusion to the case of Goguyer and Abdulla-bin-Ali, reported in Major Cox's letter No. 539, dated the 22nd November 1902, a copy of which was forwarded with Secretary's letter No. 3-M, dated 15th January 1903. No French claim or incident ever arose out of Baluchistan case. On 28th December, Major Cox proceeded on leave to England.

R.

No. 5.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 2nd January 1904, 7-30 p. m.

With reference to the question of labour in the Transvaal, we have considered in Council the suggestions made in the telegraphic correspondence between the Viceroy and yourself. We fully realize, on Imperial grounds, the urgency of assisting Lord Milner with Indian labour, and the difficulties of his position, and are anxious to do all that we properly can do to assist him: but, in view of the reasonable feelings of the Indians here, we also feel that we

should not be justified in supplying the labour unless we can show that we have obtained, in return, substantial modifications of the restrictions at present imposed on their brethren in the Transvaal. We think that the following concessions, which are based upon the proposals already made by you, are the least that would supply this justification :—

(1) The Transvaal Legislature to be asked, without delay, to include Indian languages in the literary test to be applied to immigrants ;

(2) Only those Indians to be compelled to reside in locations whose residence it is desirable to restrict on sanitary grounds ;

(3) Licenses to be given to all Indian traders who had established business under the former Government, whether with or without licenses, allowing them to retain their present places of business.

(4) All Indians of the superior class, including all respectable traders and shop-keepers, to be exempted from the pass-law, the curfew system, and other restrictions at present imposed on the non-white population in connection with the use of foot-paths, public conveyances, the higher classes in railways, and the like.

We are prepared, if allowed to publish the grant of these concessions, to permit the recruitment in India of twenty thousand coolies for labour under Government on railways in the Transvaal, the force to be indentured for a period of two years only, and the indentures to terminate in India. The Government of India will be able, at the end of that time, to judge the effect both of the concessions granted and of the experiment made, and will reconsider the matter in the light of the position as it then stands.

We are prepared to appoint an experienced Indian Officer as Protector of Indians in the Transvaal, and to lend a few Officers as Magistrates ; but we consider that, all responsibility for the recruitment and management of the coolies should rest with the Colonial Government, as in Uganda and similar cases.

No. 6.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 2nd January 1904, 5 p. m.

Private. Foreign Department reorganisation. Please see your private letter of the 20th November. I should be obliged by your letting me know whether any proposals about a Foreign Office man from England are likely to reach us

before long. If not, I must put forward, without delay, a scheme for reorganisation here, as the department is being absolutely broken down with the extra work now imposed upon it, for which I sought relief nearly, 8 months ago.

R.

No. 7.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 3rd January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Aden Delimitation Commission's future movements. Please see your telegram of the 13th December, Colonel Wahab's telegram No. 353, and General Maitland's telegram of the 29th December. We agree with General Maitland, *vide* his telegram of the 16th December, that opposition may be expected from the Subaihi, but we consider it highly undesirable to leave any part of Haushabi or Subaihi border undemarcated, and we propose to approve of the Commission's proceeding as suggested by Colonel Wahab through these countries.

We have just received a report of two outrages committed by a section of the Subaihi on the line of communications. These cannot be overlooked, and we have approved the Bombay Government's proposal to exact retribution, subject to condition that the Commission's future movements will be facilitated, and not impeded, thereby.

Addressed to Secretary of State; repeated to the Resident at Aden and the Bombay Government.

R.

No. 8.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 3rd January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Tibet. The following has been received from General Macdonald:—

Begins. New Chumbi, No. 515-T., 30th December. I am arranging to move the Mission on to Thuna, 17 miles beyond Phari, leaving here on the 4th January, arriving Thuna on the 8th, accompanied by a flying column. The Mission will remain at Thuna with an escort of 4 companies of the 23rd Pioneers, British Machine gun section, one 7-pounder gun, the 8th Gurkhas, and Sapper, Medical, and Supply detachments. After establishing the Mission at Thuna, the remainder of the troops, forming a flying column, will return with me to Phari, and, if necessary, here, until sufficient supplies can be collected at Phari for a further advance. All is reported well at Phari, where a few Lama and Chinese officials from Lhasa had arrived. Major Ray joined on the 29th, and is appointed to officiate as Deputy Assistant Quarter-Master-General to the force. The weather continues fine. *Ends.*

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R.

No. 9.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 3rd January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please see my Secret Despatch, No. 182, Frontier, dated the 5th November, and Lord Lansdowne's telegram of the 16th September to Sir A. Hardinge. The Consul in Seistan reports that on the 21st December, on his intervening with the Customs authorities on behalf of the Afghans, D'Hoedt declined to accept the representations made officially, but offered to discuss matters if the Consul went to see him personally. The Consul did this, and the Afghan case was arranged. I suggest that M. Naus be asked the reason of his subordinate's attitude, which places the Consul in a derogatory position. The Consul further reports that Ghulam Hussain, the new passport officer, bullies British subjects and Afghan traders, and has exacted passport fees from members of the Arbitration Commission; he has also addressed a grossly impertinent letter to the Consul, couched in the tone of a superior to a subordinate. This man was hostile to us before while employed in the Customs House, and was notoriously in Russian pay. Would it be possible for the Minister to obtain the dismissal of this official for unauthorised action as regards the Mission and impertinence to the Consul?

Repeated to Legation at Teheran, and addressed His Majesty's Secretary of State.

R.

No. 10.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 3rd January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Boundary north-east of Bana. Please see your telegram of the 13th December, General Maitland's telegrams 20th and 29th December, and Colonel Wahab's No. 352. Before deciding what frontier to claim, we would await the result of the projected north-east survey and the conclusion of the treaty with Beda.

Repeated to Bombay Political and Resident at Aden.

R.

No. 11.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 4th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please see my telegram of the 2nd January. Colonel McMahon reports that the Persian telegraph line reached Nasratabad on the 21st December, but there seems no immediate intention of extending it southwards. He strongly urges the meeting at Nasratabad of the Central Persian and Indian lines.

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R.

No. 12.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 4th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Tibet. Colonel Younghusband telegraphs that his present plans are to leave Chumbi on the 4th January, arrive at Tuna beyond Tangla on the 8th, halt at Tuna for one week, and thence march to Kala Tso, and halt for, say, three weeks, reaching Gyantse by the middle of February.

Repeated to Peking, and addressed to Secretary of State for India.

No. 13.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 4th January 1904. (Despd. from Mily. Dept.)

Our Military Despatch No. 155, 20th August last. Anxious for decision in view to budget provision.

No. 14.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 4th January 1904, 3 p. m.

Exploration of Eastern Szechuan. Your telegram of 1st December. Barnardiston sailed per S. S. *Arathoon Apcar*, on the 19th December, with the following party:—5 Military Surveyors and 5 Sepoy helps; 1 Surveyor and 1 Khalassi from the Survey Department; 2 Khalassis who were privately engaged by Barnardiston; and an escort of 3 Gurkhas.

No. 15.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 5th January 1904. (Despd. from Finl. Dept.)

Postal Congress. We hope propose delegates of whom Fanshawe should be senior, if able and willing to act. Please ascertain from him whether he expects to be sufficiently recovered; if so, he should not return to India until after Congress. If unable give definite reply, we shall submit proposals upon the assumption that Fanshawe is unable to serve. For second delegate we beg to nominate Doran, who should be placed on special duty for some time before Congress begins.

R.

No. 16.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 6th January 1904, 6-10 p. m.

Private. Mr. Arnold's successor. Please see your private telegram of the 29th December. He should be a graduate, with honours, of a British University, and should be qualified to instruct up to the M. A. degree in Philosophy, including Logic, Psychology, Ethics, Natural Theology, and History of Philosophy, and he should be competent to give instruction in English Literature also.

No. 17.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 7th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Turkish medals in connection with Hedjaz Railway. Please see your Despatch of the 20th November and your telegram of the 5th December. We agree with Sir Nicholas O'Conor, and consider it most inadvisable to accede to the Turkish request, especially as we usually discountenanced the wearing of foreign medals and decorations by Indians.

R.

No. 18.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 7th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to my telegram of 31st July regarding interpretation of the phrase "Fars and the Persian Gulf." It seems unlikely that Persia will now ask for the balance of the loan of £100,000, and as *Réglement Douanier*, with accompanying lists, has been under consideration for some months, we suggest that Sir A. Hardinge might now take up this question independently of an interpretation of the general engagements undertaken by the Persian Government. This is especially necessary if, as indicated in Mr. Grant-Duff's telegram of the 26th December, a further Russian loan is being arranged. We hold that the phrase is merely a loose equivalent for the Customs of Southern Persia, as stated in my telegram of the 5th July. We believe that in Fars proper there are no Customs, and, unless our interpretation is accepted, the term has no meaning.

Repeated Teheran, and addressed Secretary of State.

No. 19.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 8th January 1904, 3-15 p. m.

Secret. Please see your telegram of 4th January, on the subject of reinforcements for India. Assuming, in the first place, that the strength of the reinforcements required for India have been calculated to meet the case of aggression by Russia in the immediate future, and before the Orenburg-Tashkend line is completed; *secondly*, that the numbers are based on an intimate knowledge of Russian power of offence and probable plan of operations; and, *thirdly*, with the full knowledge of the strength and organisation of our present Indian Field Army, which consists approximately of 11,500 sabres, 50,000 infantry men, and 250 guns; our replies to your questions are as follow:—

(*a*) Organised units—16 battalions of infantry, 2 cavalry regiments, and 6 field batteries, 2 companies of railway and 2 divisions of telegraph engineers. Drafts—10,000 infantry reservists, 800 cavalry reservists, and 1,200 artillery reservists, with a due proportion of officers.

(*b*) Organised units—36 battalions of infantry, 9 regiments of cavalry, 3 batteries of horse artillery, 20 batteries of field artillery. Drafts—20,000 infantry, 2,000 cavalry, and 3,000 artillery, with a due proportion of officers.

(*c*) No higher organisation to be given.

(*d*) General Officers and staffs in the same proportion as if troops sent out were organised in brigades and divisions. Artillery should be accompanied by brigade staff and ammunition columns.

(*e*) Army Service Corps *personnel* in the same proportion, and

(*f*) Medical and Veterinary *personnel* also in the same proportion.

We shall require, in addition to the above, 650 Captains and Subalterns for the Indian Army, 200 Medical Officers, and 40 Veterinary Officers.

R.

No. 20.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 9th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Seistan Telegraphs. Please refer to our telegram of the 4th January. The Director-General of Telegraphs reports that the Nushki line will be completed to Koh-i-Malik Siah on the 18th January, at which time the construction party will only have ten days' supplies left and, unless it is required at an early date for the extension to Nasratabad, must be withdrawn. The withdrawal now would involve considerable delay and extra expense later on. We

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hope that you have pressed for early construction, and will authorise us to keep the party. May we ask for a speedy reply?

Repeated to Mr. Grant-Duff, Teheran, Colonel McMahon, Seistan, and addressed to the Secretary of State for India.

No. 21.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 9th January 1904, 10-30 p. m.

Private. Artillery Rearmament. Please refer to your private telegram of the 5th instant. After full consideration of your further arguments, we are willing to put aside one and a half crores from surplus for combined heading defences and armament. We should prefer to spend out of this only half on rifles and field artillery, retaining half for coast defences and their armament. If this is accepted, we could take 50,000 rifles, 12 Field Batteries, and 3 Horse Artillery Batteries. If, however, you attach great importance to our taking the 18 Field Batteries, we will meet your views. The 50,000 rifles would include the 11,000 odd demanded in our annual consolidated indent for 1904-5, for which provision made. The extra cost would, therefore, be, under our proposals, rifles £156,000, guns £360,000; or, under yours, rifles £156,000, guns £500,000. Our total demand for rifles would then be 71,500 odd.

Please let me know if we can now make public this series of telegrams.

Above telegram made official, *vide* Secretary of State's telegram of 12th February 1904.

No. 22.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 10th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Prince of Orleans. Your telegram 7th January. No objection.

R.

No. 23.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 11th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Following received from Colonel Younghusband, dated January 8th :—

Begins. Arrived Phari on 6th. People friendly and Chinese officials also professedly friendly, but three high Lhasa Monks most unfriendly. They are preventing people selling things and refuse to come and see us. I am taking measures to overcome this obstruction. Amban is said to be detained owing to difficulty in obtaining transport from Tibetans. Temperature at night minus seven. In day time bright sun and warm. No snow. *Ends.*

Addressed to Secretary of State, and repeated to the British Minister at Peking.

No. 24.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 11th January 1904, 5 p. m.

Private. Report of Police Commission. With reference to the concluding part of paragraph 9 of our Home Department Despatch of the 19th November, please let me know if we may hope for early permission to publish. The Indian papers continue to attack Government for the delay in the appearance of the Report, which is attributed to us, and is nowhere understood. As your predecessor consented to publication, there is nothing to be gained by further delay in the matter.

R.

No. 25.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 12th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Telegraphic information received shows that the Tibet Mission and escort left Phari on 7th, and, after crossing the Tangla, reached Tuna, 17 miles from Phari, on the 8th. Three Lamas from Lhasa, who were at Phari, left with the local Depon on the 8th. There was a slight fracas, as the latter was leaving, and some stones were thrown. Lieutenant Grant, of the 8th Gurkhas, was injured by a stone, but is doing well.

Younghusband reports from Tuna, on 10th January, that a Camp of two thousand Tibetans has been located by mounted infantry 10 miles north-west from that place. The whole attitude of the Tibetans is so hostile, and their reliance on Russian support so complete, that he sees no chance of effecting a settlement until the power of the Lhasa Monks is broken, but he will do his best by peaceful means to effect a settlement.

Addressed Secretary of State; repeated to the British Minister at Peking.

No. 26.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 12th January 1904. (Despd. from Mily. Dept.)

With reference to paragraph 24 of your Military Despatch No. 97, 24th July last, and paragraph 17 of 139, 20th November last. Commander-in-Chief, India, has had introduction of brigade division organisation for artillery in India under consideration ever since he arrived in this country. He has pointed out grave objections, in some cases, to introduction of this measure in India. War Office letter 102 Artillery, 927, 2nd July last, shows that for Royal Horse Artillery in England the system is only applied to batteries included in Army

Corps formations; and as no such formations exist in India Royal Horse Artillery, brigade divisions are not required. As regards Field Artillery in India, certain number of batteries are allotted to obligatory garrisons, which have no parallel elsewhere. Commander-in-Chief, India, does not see his way to incorporate these in brigade divisions, but is quite prepared to introduce the system for Field Batteries of Field Army, provided he may have power of transfer of batteries from one brigade division to another, as is done by battalions in infantry brigades: firstly, for convenience in internal reliefs; secondly, to interchange batteries between obligatory garrisons and field army; thirdly, when changes are required by exigencies of the public service. There appears to be no likelihood that our howitzer batteries will be employed on Indian frontier as complete brigade division. Therefore, on principle of War Office ruling about Horse Artillery, Commander-in-Chief, India, sees no reason to incorporate them in time of peace in a formation which would not be employed in time of war. Reliefs to and from England could be carried out on the brigade division organisation. Notwithstanding non-introduction of complete brigade division organisation in India, Commander-in-Chief, India, can employ, for supervision and instruction of artillery and for practice camps, as many Lieutenant-Colonels and Adjutants, including staff of eleven brigade divisions Royal Field Artillery for Field Army, as would be required for complete introduction of that system for both Horse and Field Artillery. We submit above modification of Brigade scheme for the consideration of His Majesty's Government.

R.

No. 27.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 12th January 1904. (Despd. from Home Dept.)

Your Despatch, dated 11th December, No. 39. Mr. Hill, Judge of the High Court, Bengal, has applied to retire from the service from the afternoon of 16th March next. We have considered your telegram of 5th instant, regarding Banerjee's successor. But reasons given in our telegram, dated 29th December, still hold good, and we therefore press for authority to appointment *vice* Hill.

No. 28.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 12th January 1904, 6 p. m.

Private. At Levées and on ceremonial occasions, both in England and here, the Judges of Indian High Courts wear scarlet robes. The question has now been raised as to whether the Judges of the Chief Courts of the Punjab and Burma, which have no charters, are entitled to wear the same costume, or

whether they should wear black robes over their Court suits like Colonial Judges. Can you procure a ruling on the point for me?

No. 29.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 13th January 1904. (Despd. from Finl. Dept.)

Your telegram of 6th instant. Countervailing sugar duties. Remission of duty applies to sugar refined in the United Kingdom from raw sugar which was produced after 31st August last. Date of production refers to production of raw sugar. If this is declared by refiners, it will be sufficient for our purposes.

R.

No. 30.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 13th January 1904, 5-35 p. m.

Private. Your private telegram of 11th January. Mail Service. The strongest objections are held here to a longer extension than three years with only 24 hours' acceleration. I fully concur. Long before 1910 the service would be quite out of date. Three years' extension with an increase of ten thousand for 24 hours' acceleration throughout is far preferable; and if further acceleration is now impracticable, this might be accepted. Rather than be bound for five years with only 24 hours' acceleration, which offers no improvement upon the timing already established during some six months of the year, we would prefer to let the Contract lapse.

R.

No. 31.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 14th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Tibet. General Macdonald reports from Phari on the 11th instant that he returned there on that date, having left the Mission with all available supplies in a strong position in Thuna, in a walled enclosure containing some houses and a well. The following were left as an escort under Lieutenant-Colonel Hogge:—4 companies of the 23rd Pioneers, one 7-pounder gun, a Machine gun section of the Norfolks, 20th Madras Sappers, and Medical and Supply detachments. The Tibetans intimated that no hostilities were intended unless the Mission advanced to Kala Tso. For political reasons Colonel Younghusband is halting at Thuna. Strong winds and severe cold have tried both the men and the animals, but there have been no casualties amongst the former.

Repeated to Peking and addressed to Secretary of State.

No. 32.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 14th January 1904, 7-10 p. m. (Despd. from Mily. Dept.)

Defence vessels. With reference to your telegram of 12th January, we are not in a position to criticise the offer and recommend acceptance of it.

R.

No. 33.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 15th January 1904, 5-30 p. m.

Please refer to your telegram of 12th January on the subject of Artillery Re-armament. We propose, in accordance with your instructions, to capitalise $1\frac{1}{4}$ crores out of this year's surplus for special military expenditure during next financial year; and also to pay £200,000 on account of the new rifles before the close of the present financial year. But we strongly urge that we may be permitted to raise the $1\frac{1}{4}$ crores to $1\frac{1}{2}$ crores.

No. 34.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 16th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Koweit. In answer to the Sheikh's request for a post office made in January 1902, and renewed while I was at Koweit, we propose, now that a regular steam service has been established to Koweit, to appoint a Native medical subordinate to hold charge of the post office, and also to do medical work, for which I ascertained that there was much need. Do you approve of this proposal?

R.

No. 35.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 16th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Tibet. Colonel Younghusband at Thuna reports that there are rumours of opposition ahead, but that the villagers are friendly and furnishing supplies. On the 12th instant the Lhasa officials and Depon sent a message asking to see Colonel Younghusband, who fixed noon for a reception. At the appointed hour several hundred men appeared on the plain below the village, and a message arrived asking Colonel Younghusband to meet them half-way. Colonel Younghusband replied that if they desired to see him, they were welcome at his camp at any time.

Repeated to Peking, and addressed to Secretary of State.

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R.

No. 36.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 16th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Behan-al-Kasab treaty. Please see General Maitland's telegram of the 3rd January. The following message was sent to him on the 10th instant:—

Begins. Behan treaty. In submitting the convention for ratification, please explain fully its bearing on the question of the frontier north-east from Bana. It is hoped you have assured yourself that the action taken will not commit us to an undue extension of the border to the north. Do you intend to send Bury and the survey party to Behan-al-Kasab as indicated in your letter of 13th June, 1903? If so, he could at same time conclude the treaty sanctioned with the Beda. *Ends.*

R.

No. 37.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 16th January 1904. (Despd. from Home Dept.)

In continuation of our telegram dated 12th January. Mr. Stevens, Judge of the High Court, Bengal, has applied to retire from the service from 12th March next. We press for authority to appointment *vice* Stevens.

No. 38] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 16th January 1904, 10 a. m.

Private. Mr. Raleigh's time, as Law Member, is up on the 3rd April. It would be desirable that the new Member should come here to take over from him, and to receive instructions about the Civil Procedure Code. If you find it difficult to secure a suitable candidate at home, Sir Lawrence Jenkins, Chief Justice, Bombay, is possible, and would be first rate. But I doubt his accepting, unless he were promised the reversion to Sir Francis Maclean in Bengal, and not then perhaps.

No. 39] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 16th January 1904, 6 p. m.

Private. There will reach you, on January 24th, a further Despatch from me on the Bushire incident, exposing certain of the Persian falsehoods. I shall be glad to know what action, if any, it is proposedto take in the matter.

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R.

No. 40.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 17th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Tibet. The following has been received from Colonel Younghusband:—

Message begins. Tuna, January 13th. The Lhasa emissaries having asked that I would go out to meet them, I sent O'Connor out. They again urged us to go back to Yatung, but eventually said they would discuss matters here. This is a distinct improvement on their attitude at Phari, and O'Connor says their general demeanour was much more cordial. They have returned with all their following to Guru, six miles down the valley, and the camp on our flank has also retired. They told the Munshi they would prevent us advancing any further than this, and that they were tired of the Chinese, and were quite capable of concluding a treaty by themselves. They also abrogated the Sikkim Convention. They also told O'Connor that if we advanced and they were defeated, they would fall back on another Power, and things would be bad for us. *Message ends.*

Repeated to Peking, and addressed to Secretary of State.

No. 41.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 17th January 1904, 11-30 a. m. (Despd. from Mily. Dept.)

Indian Coast Artillery. With reference to your telegram of the 11th instant, we intended awaiting the receipt of the despatch promised in your telegram of 5th January before replying. As at present advised, we are not in favour of proceeding on the lines mentioned, and adhere to our original proposals, which we still hope may be sanctioned. We fail to see the advantage of administering a corps which will not be under our command, and which we shall have no means of inspecting. We do not understand how the security of naval bases can be affected by a simple transfer from charge of War Office to India.

No. 42.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 18th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

With regard to the Bushire incident, and with reference to Sir A. Hardinge's telegram of the 13th January on the subject, please see my Secret Despatch No. 4 (External) of the 7th instant, now on its way home.

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R.

No. 43.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 18th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Telegraph line from Dalbandin to Robat (Koh-i-Malik Siah), 250 miles, completed on January 15th. Work commenced on 16th November.

Addressed Secretary of State; repeated Mr. Grant-Duff, Tehran.

No. 44.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 18th January 1904, 6-5 p. m.

Private. Sir D. Barr. May I hope for an early reply to my Foreign Secret telegram of the 29th December last?

No. 45.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 19th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

With reference to my telegram of December 21st, M. Klemm has informed the District Magistrate, Poona, that he intends shortly to proceed to Northern India on a tour of several months' duration. His Secretary, Wygornitzky, who in December visited Delhi, Jeypur, and Benares, will carry on Klemm's duties. We consider that a lengthy tour of this description by a Russian holding an official position as Consul is undesirable, and that the long-standing trouble caused by Klemm should be stopped.

No. 46.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 19th January 1904, 7 p. m.

Private. Education. With reference to our Despatch of November 5th, I hope we may shortly receive permission to publish Resolution on Education. Early in February I have to make an important speech on Education, and should like to refer to our general policy on the subject.

No. 47.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 19th January 1904, 8 p. m.

Private. Please refer to your telegram of 18th January. Law Membership. Neither Raleigh nor I have heard of Richards: but he concurs with my view about Davidson. Jenkins, being universally respected and popular, would be greatly preferable to either, if he could be persuaded to accept.

R.

No. 48.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 20th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Younghusband wires as follows :—

Begins. Tuna, January 14th. Yesterday I, with O'Connor and Sawyer, paid unceremonial visit to Tibetans at Guru, six miles below here, to assure myself by informal discussion of their real attitude. There were present 1 Lhasa General, 3 Lhasa Monks, 3 Shigatse Generals, 1 other Shigatse delegate. Since deposition of Councillors these are the leading men in Tibet and most representative body ever met by Europeans. The Generals were well bred and polite, the Monks were low bred, rude, insolent, and intensely hostile. Lhasa General acted as spokesman, but Monks had ruling influence, and loudly clamoured for our withdrawal to Yatung, and said that for preservation of their religion they could allow no European in Tibet. They probably meant preservation of their priestly influence. There were six hundred soldiers, grinning affable yokels of yak driver type armed with matchlocks and spears. No breech-loaders were seen. There were no defences, and they were without military precautions in a death trap where a company could annihilate them. General seemed to me to have no nerve, and to be more afraid of their own people than of us. They had no news when Amban would arrive, and affected no regard for him. *Ends.*

Addressed to the Secretary of State, and repeated to Legation at Peking.

R.

No. 49.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 20th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to O'Conor's 598 to Lord Lansdowne and Kemball's reports, dated the 2nd October, regarding El Katr, forwarded by our Foreign Secretary on 22nd October and 17th December, transmitted on 14th January. We hope that His Majesty's Government will press for the actual cancellation of the letter of appointment issued by the Mutasarrif to Abdul Rahman, of which intimation should be sent to El Katr formally.

No. 50.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 20th January 1904, 7-45 p. m.

Private. With reference to your private telegram of the 19th January, the practice of printing letters between Secretary of State and Viceroy has been followed here since Northbrook's day, and has only once, in 1897, resulted

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in abuse or disclosure. The practice of sending home printed copies of Secretary of State's letters originated at Hamilton's request in Elgin's time. No letters, however, are printed here that you send to me in separate private envelope: and personal observations can always be so treated. I wrote to you a similar letter last week, which was seen by no one and was not printed. This was the practice pursued by Elgin, and should sufficiently safeguard communications of a really confidential character.

No. 51.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 21st January 1904. (Despd. from Finl. Dept.)

Your telegram of 16th instant. Postal Congress. We propose Kisch as senior delegate. With reference to letter from Italian Embassy forwarded with letter of your predecessor, 87 Political, 2nd October last, we request that Italy may be informed that India accepts the invitation, and is sending two delegates.

R.

No. 52.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 21st January 1904, 5 p. m.

With reference to our Secret telegrams of the 30th July and 2nd October last, and yours of the 25th September last. In order to increase the force available at Aden to support the Boundary Commission in dealing with Subaihi country, we have, at General Maitland's request, despatched on the 14th, in the *Hardinge*, to Aden a wing of the 94th Russell's Infantry.

No. 53.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 22nd January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to my telegram of the 3rd January. In Sir A. Hardinge's Despatch No. 142, dated 15th September, to the Marquess of Lansdowne, he reports that Mons. Naus knew nothing of any fresh instructions to the Belgians in Seistan to assist the passport officer. D'Hoedt, who has been intervening in passport cases against British subjects, has written officially to the Consul that his intervention is in accordance with a telegram from Mons. Naus to Castaigne of 20th June.

Addressed to Secretary of State; repeated to Tehran.

R.

No. 54.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 23rd January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Bahrein. Please refer to your telegram of the 3rd November last. Colonel Kemball telegraphs as follows:—

Begins. I propose to visit Bahrein early next month. May I tell the Chief that he may take his own steps for the purpose of obtaining satisfaction from the Behaih? *Ends.*

May the proposed communication be made to the Chief?

R.

No. 55.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 23rd January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Two letters have been written by Younghusband from Thuna, dated January 11th and 15th, describing the meeting with the Lhasa officials, already reported to you in my telegram of 20th January, and discussing the general situation. He reports the attitude of the Lhasa Monks as absolutely impracticable and despairs of a settlement by peaceful means. Colonel Chao and Major Li admit the impotence of the Chinese, and say that the Tibetans openly taunt them with weakness, and declare that they are looking to Russia, not China, for assistance. This information is confirmed from Lhasa, where the Tibetan Government has refused to supply transport to the Amban, and where the Nepalese representative informs us that administrative chaos prevails. Younghusband repeats that the smallness of the British force is a source of contempt, and that we have not one ounce of prestige. He, therefore, advocates a more militant attitude, the dispersion of the Tibetan forces in front of the Mission, and the occupation of Gyantse before negotiations are commenced there. He anticipates no result until the advance is ultimately continued to Lhasa. We do not think that any fresh instructions or change of attitude are at present required. Younghusband has authority to advance to Gyantse as soon as he can, and to fight if attacked. We are more likely to be delayed in getting there by difficulties on our side than by Tibetan opposition.

It will be sufficient to settle future policy when more experience has been gained. The ignominious local position of the Chinese will, however, probably compel us to act in independence of them, and no support from their authority is to be expected.

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No. 56.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 23rd January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Burma-China frontier. Please see your telegram of the 22nd December last. We know of only one map, namely, the one appended to the Convention as published in the "Treaty Series."

R.

No. 57.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 23rd January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Seistan Bank. Consul in Seistan reports that the site allotted, comprising a little over one acre, is inadequate for the Bank premises and residences of officials. Difficulty has also been caused by the Karguzar as to the measurements and proposals of the Russians to acquire the adjoining land for a serai, which would render the Bank uninhabitable in summer. We suggest that a suitable site should be demarcated by the Consul and the Bank Manager with the Governor and the Karguzar, the area of this to be calculated in zar dimensions, hitherto adopted, and the price paid at double rate given for Consulate land, *i. e.*, 4 krans per zar against 2. Traders pay 5 krans. The area required is 15,000 zars, equal to 4 acres, but the Bank might be asked if they will meet the cost of this. In order that the houses may be completed before the summer, an early decision is desirable.

Repeated to Tehran and Consul, Seistan; and addressed Secretary of State.

R.

No. 58.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 23rd January 1904, 5 p. m.

Private. In an interview with me today the Nepalese Minister urged strongly that no disclosure should be made of the communications from the Nepalese Agent at Lhasa. Should the Tibetans hear of it, his position and that of the Nepalese subjects in Lhasa would be very disagreeable. I gave this assurance, which, in preparing Parliamentary papers, you will doubtless bear in mind.

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R.

No. 59.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 24th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to your telegram of the 28th December and despatch of 25th December regarding Afghanistan. Mr. Martin, who has just returned from Kabul, says that the Amir would like to meet me in the spring, and is beginning to be anxious about the subsidy. This is corroborated from other quarters. The only real deterrent is the fear of trouble in his absence, as to which rumours are most conflicting. In these circumstances, I deprecate the first course recommended in the above telegram and despatch, which is to leave the Amir's letter unanswered, to give way both as regards arms and subsidy, and to promise the arrears of the subsidy independently of the meeting. I propose accordingly to take advantage of the permission given me in the concluding paragraph of the despatch and to issue a draft reply generally as approved by you adding as reasons for an early meeting: (1) the desirability of my being able to report a new agreement to His Majesty's Government when I return in May; (2) the uncertain state of Asiatic affairs; (3) the information as to the defences on the Herat border. I propose, however, to omit the concluding sentence of the penultimate paragraph about the arrears of the subsidy, since it would remove the principal inducement to the Amir to come, and one of the strongest means of pressure if he does. Should he again refuse, I anticipate no loss of prestige, but I shall consult the Government while in England, as to the confidential despatch of an Officer to Kabul in the autumn to explain the situation to the Amir. In reply to paragraphs 11—16 of your despatch, if Amir accepts invitation, I will submit by telegraph sketch of the proposals to be laid before him. But I have never contemplated that these should include railways, roads, or telegraphs, unless a telegraph from Kabul to Lundikotal should be desired by the Amir himself.

R.

No. 60.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 25th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

With referenceto my telegram of December 6th, I have received the following from Mr. Dobbs, dated 1st January :—

Begins. The Herat Agent reports, under date December20th, that the Governor of Herat has publicly ordered the Afghan officials of Karatappa to reply to the Russian letters regarding certain thefts perpetrated by the Afghans. In the present juncture, this action seems defiance of both the Amir's and British policy, and will be widely interpreted as such. *Ends.*

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I do not propose to take action, pending full report and further development of question regarding direct relations between Afghans and Russians.

R.

No. 61.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 25th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Tibet. The following has been received from Colonel Younghusband :—

Begins. Tuna, 21st January. The Lhasa General visited me today, saying he was most anxious to make a friendly settlement, but that we must first go back to Yatung. I replied I must give him a friendly warning that the time was past for talk like this, that instead of going back we were going on, and I would ask him to advise his Government to take a more serious view of the situation. He said he could report nothing to his Government, except from Yatung, and that if we went on, there would be trouble. I said we were not afraid of trouble, though we would like to make a settlement without trouble if that were possible. He said he would tell the Lhasa monks at Guru of my reply, and communicate with me again. The interview was conducted with good temper throughout, and the Lhasa General evidently represents the moderate party; he is over-weighed by irreconcileable monks. *Ends.*

Repeated to British Ambassador, Peking; and addressed to Secretary of State.

R.

No. 62.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 25th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to my telegram of the 18th December regarding the Herat frontier. The Amir has replied to my letter of the 26th December to the effect that, as the Russians have rebuilt pillars on correct sites, and it is not very necessary to examine others, especially in present severe season, Mr. Dobbs should now return to Meshed; and next year, if anything is required to be done, His Highness will inform me. I am replying expressing disappointment at the tenor of his letter, and proposing that, as the winter season is more than half spent, Mr. Dobbs should remain in winter quarters until the beginning of March, when he can resume the work of examining and repairing the pillars. Meanwhile, as I have good reason for hoping that the Amir's assent may be given, I am instructing Mr. Dobbs to stay where he is, pending further instructions.

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No. 63.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 25th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to my telegram of the 24th. Afghanistan. A further letter has been received from the Amir on the 23rd, acknowledging, in a not very courteous manner, our purchase of Guthrie's cartridges, and adding—"Henceforth I shall buy all cartridges and warlike materials, &c., which the Government of Afghanistan might hereafter require, from the merchants of the illustrious British Government, which is my friend and ally. No doubt the high officials of the said Government will, in accordance with the terms of the existing agreements, not interfere in their purchase and importation into Afghanistan." In my draft reply to the Amir I propose to make the discussion of this point an additional reason for a conference and a new agreement with His Highness.

R.

No. 64.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 27th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

The following has been received from Colonel Younghusband, dated Tuna, January 23rd:—

Begins. Parr says that the Amban has been prevented by Tibetans from proceeding to meet me, and that the Dalai Lama has told the Amban that he does not intend to give him opportunity of selling Tibet to the British, and that the Tibetans intend to fight. Parr thinks that the Tibetans mean to make a stand at Kala Tso. *Ends.*

Addressed to the Secretary of State, and repeated to the British Minister at Peking.

No. 65.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 27th January 1904. (Despd. from Home Dept.)

Mr. Ameer Ali, Judge of the High Court, Bengal, has given notice of present intention to retire 1st July next, but does not wish finally to commit himself. He wishes matter kept confidential at present.

No. 66.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 27th January 1904, 4-45 p. m.

Private. Member of Council. Please see your private telegram of January 25th. I am grateful for your promise to legislate, if necessary. I am

afraid I could not support the suggestion of a scientific Member, which I think that all Indian experts would deprecate, as unnecessary and unwise. I will write by post full reasons.

R.

No. 67.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 27th January 1904, 5 p. m.

Private. Affairs in Tibet. One of the Press correspondents in Chumbi has wired from Darjeeling a sensational message to the English Press that a Russian force is advancing to attack Colonel Younghusband, and that reinforcements have been ordered to his support. We have stopped all these messages on the wire. Should any of them get through and be published in England, a contradiction may be issued at once, since the rumour is apparently an entire fabrication.

Official enquiry into the action of the correspondent is being made.

R.

No. 68.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 28th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to my telegram of the 25th January. Herat frontier. Mr. Dobbs telegraphs that the Amir has ordered that the pillars in the Andkhoi direction are not to be repaired, and that sanction to reconstruct others without Russian cooperation has not yet been received. He adds that many facts point to the intention of the local authorities to obstruct by constant references to Kabul, and that this is possibly due to secret cooperation between the Governor and the Russians. From Mr. Dobbs' diary, ending the 15th December, and his telegram of the 9th January, it appears that many pillars, both near Maruchak and towards Andkhoi, have been destroyed, and in my letter to the Amir I have pointed this out.

R.

No. 69.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 28th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Tibet. General Macdonald telegraphs on the 27th January from Chumbi as follows :—

Begins. News received from Tuna, and supported by bazaar rumours from Phari, that the Tibetans at Guru, reinforced by infantry, cavalry, and a

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small number of guns, threaten trouble, should the Mission and escort refuse to withdraw. Further reinforcements are reported *en route* from Lhasa and Shigatse, so an attack on the Mission is possible shortly. Lieutenant-Colonel Hogge, 23rd Pioneers, Commanding at Tuna, and Colonel Younghusband, are quite confident of the security of the position, but I have a column of one thousand men and three guns ready to move to their support at short notice. There has been slight snow on the passes, and the weather looks more threatening. Am continuing improving roads, and pushing on supplies to Phari. *Ends.*

Repeated to British Legation at Peking, and addressed to Secretary of State.

No. 70.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 29th January 1904.

Please refer to your telegram of January 23rd. My telegram of 3rd January was a summary of the Seistan Consul's telegraphic reports, which are amplified in his diary for the period ending December 24th, copy sent India Office with Secretary's letter No. 2-M., dated January 14th. My telegram of 22nd January summarized Consul's letter 733, December 24th, copy sent with Secretary's letter No. 3-M., January 21st. Colonel McMahon writes in his diary of 17th December that Passport Officer is working independently of the Seistan authorities, that he admitted to Native Officer of McMahon's party that he had not intended to commence passport operations until after the Id, but had been urged by Dr. Miller and D'Hoedt to do so, and that he (McMahon) believed the passport system had been instituted in Seistan at the instigation of the Russians, or Meshed, to cause annoyance and irritation on the Afghan border with a view to hampering our trade. In subsequent letter of 13th January McMahon says that, as regards passport arrangements, he anticipates the necessity for a vigorous protest.

R.

No. 71.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 29th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to your telegram of January 27th. If the Nushki line can be continued to Seistan, we will agree to the construction of the Central Persian line to Saindak *viâ* Regan or *viâ* Shurgez and Ladis, as may be preferred. Otherwise we should press for the construction of the line from Fahraj to Koh-i-Malik Siah *viâ* Nasratabad Ispe, which Moore's report shows to be quite feasible. Our main object is to prevent the prolongation of the

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Meshed line under Russian auspices to Ladis. Our construction party is waiting, at great expense, at Koh-i-Malik Siah, and it is desirable to have early orders.

R.

No. 72.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 29th January 1904, 6 p. m.

Private. Mr. Horne. Please refer to your private telegram of January 25th. A mistake was made by the Bengal Government in issuing the Notification, but our action was taken in deference to the strong wishes expressed by the Prime Minister and the late Secretary of State. In order to avoid invidious comments, if Notification is now cancelled, and appointment afterwards made, would it not be best to condone error, and let orders stand as though Horne, when appointed, had been in the country.

No. 73.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 29th January 1904, 10 p. m.

Private. With reference to your private telegram of January 27th, I shall be very glad to take Somers Cocks at £1,200, if approved by your Council. He should come out at the end of March, so as to be in Simla for the last fortnight of April to receive instructions before I sail. I would suggest that, if the experiment is mutually satisfactory, the term of appointment should be for two years, extensible to five.

R.

No. 74.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 30th January 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Colonel Younghusband telegraphs as follows:—

Begins. Tuna, 27th January. The Lhasa Depon says he has communicated to the Lhasa monks the substance of our last interview, and they say that they are unable to make any report of my views to the Lhasa Government until we have retired to Yatung. *Ends.*

Addressed to Secretary of State, and repeated to the Legation at Peking.

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R.

No. 75.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 30th January 1904, 11-45 a. m.

Private. Bengal High Court, Judicial vacancy *vice* Hill. Your private telegram of January 25th. A really strong Barrister Judge is urgently required, and could do great good. Rogers is a man of considerable ability, but neither Raleigh nor I know anything of his judicial capacity. If no really good man is available from home, I would suggest Mr. E. M. DesChamps Chamier, Barrister-at-Law, now Judicial Commissioner, Oudh. MacDonnell, LaTouche, and Stanley entertain a very high opinion of him.

R.

No. 76.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 30th January 1904, 4-30 p. m.

Private. Police Commission Report. Please refer to your private telegram of 27th January. To postpone the publication until a decision can be announced on the main recommendations will mean indefinite delay. Local Governments, who must consult local officers freely, will take at least six months to reply: and still longer on the main question of general organisation. We should then have to consider the replies and address you, so that the proposal means the postponement of the publication for another year. We have again considered the matter in Council, and again unanimously solicit permission for immediate publication. Much resentment will be caused if the publication is delayed until all points of importance have been settled. A free expression of native opinion will be helpful to us and will do much to win support for the reforms contemplated.

R.

No. 77.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 31st January 1904, 10-20 p. m.

Private. Tibet. I respectfully urge His Majesty's Government to be very cautious about giving any pledges as to future action in Tibet in the Debate on the Address. Informant from St Petersburg staying with me, who is an intimate friend of Russian officials, and whose name is known to Chirol, says there is no possible doubt as to the relations between Russia and Tibet, and that the highest Russian authorities have frankly told him that complete accomplishment of their plans, which required three more years of preparation, has only been frustrated by our advance. The aim of our Mission cannot, therefore, be limited exclusively to minor objects for which it was undertaken. It must also safeguard Tibet from wider danger which the latter is too weak to resist.

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Lhasa must be either under Russian or British political influence. Third alternative of independence under fiction of Chinese suzerainty has broken down. Matters have not yet advanced far enough to make clear how we shall ultimately proceed. But I earnestly entreat that nothing may be said now about early retirement or keeping no agent in Tibet, or abstaining from future intervention in Tibetan affairs. Such assurances are not demanded by any engagements entered into by us, and may be most embarrassing in future. If the advantage of priority, which accident has given us, were thrown away, it would be very unfortunate.

R.

No. 78.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 31st January 1904, 10-20 p. m.

Private. Tibet Blue Book. With reference to your private telegram of yesterday, we have just completed the examination of the proofs sent by Mr. Ritchie and have several most important recommendations to make. If you cannot wait for the post, I will telegraph these, but it will be very expensive. I have complete confidence in any toning down that you may think necessary. I would strongly advise the publication of my telegram of 2nd, and last sentence of telegram of 12th instant, since I doubt if the public have any idea of the imminence of the Russian peril, and the elimination of all evidence bearing upon it seems to me to be the weak point of the Blue Book.

R.

Viceroy to Secretary of State.

No. 79.] P * Telegram, 1st February 1904, 5-30 p. m.

With reference to your telegram of the 22nd January, we have no objection to the prohibition of the export of female live stock from Somaliland. Prices in Aden will not be seriously affected by it.

R.

Viceroy to Secretary of State.

No. 80.] P * Telegram, 1st February 1904, 6-30 p. m.

Private. Affairs in Tibet. There is one point which has not been sufficiently brought out in the Blue Book or in official communications. Russian territory nowhere touches Tibet, and the nearest point of her border is 1,000 to 1,500 miles distant from Lhasa. Any interest arising from limitrophe position cannot, therefore, be claimed by Russia.

R.

No. 81.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 2nd February 1904, 9 p. m.

Private. Papers on Tibet. I suggest the following alterations :—

First copy of Blue Book sent by Ritchie on 1st January. Include 2 first paragraphs of Cuningham's letter, Enclosure 6 in 25, and my letter to Dalai Lama of 11th August 1900. Surely this is the most important link in the narrative.

Second copy of Blue Book sent by Ritchie on 15th January. Page 113. Enclosure 2 in 31. Omit reference to Bolton's letter, which has not been included.

Page 139, No. 41, line 34, substitute "are conceded" for "we conceded." Line 39, omit sentence about strategical knowledge.

Page 141, for the words "from except" in line 19, to "stops" in line 23, substitute the following: "The Russian border nowhere even touches that of Tibet, and that the nearest point of Russian territory is"

Page 232. Diary of 11th September. Omit reference to Nepalese representative.

Combined list of papers in violet ink sent by Ritchie on the 15th January :

C. 37. Omit last sentence of paragraph 3 about threat.

C. 70. Omit reference in penultimate paragraph to 3 weeks.

C. 72. Omit composition of force and estimate of cost: latter already exceeded.

C. 75. For the reasons stated in my private telegram of 31st January, I strongly urge that this telegram should stop at the word "Gyantse." If this is not acceded to, I urge that the words in line 5, about permanent intervention in Tibetan affairs in any form, may be omitted. They may be most embarrassing, and are likely to be rendered nugatory by the march of events. I urge that the concluding sentence about permanent Mission and trade facilities be in any case omitted. The passage appears to recede from the right, which we enjoy under the existing Convention, to place permanent Agent at trade mart in Tibet, and would greatly retard any chance of settlement in present case.

C. 94 should certainly appear, omitting first paragraph and substituting the words "from Lhasa" for the words "of Nepalese representative."

Your private telegram of 1st February. Our apprehensions of Russia are frankly stated, but the evidence upon which they are based has been mostly cut out.

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R.

No. 82.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 4th February 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Colonel Younghusband telegraphs as follows :—

Begins. Tuna, 31st January. The following is the present situation :—

Dalai Lama has taken all authority in his hands, has imprisoned his Councillors, has ignored the Chinese, has defied us, has thrown in his lot with the Russians, and is entirely confident in his power to remove us from Tibet and to maintain traditional policy of keeping us absolutely at arm's length. This confidence in Tibetan strength and British impotence is shared by officials and people. As a consequence, Lhasa Generals and monks, sent by Dalai Lama as delegates, with supreme superciliousness refused to negotiate anywhere but at Yatung, and demanded our withdrawal there with insolent assurance. At the same time I detect no sign of national opposition to us on the part of the people as a whole. The ordinary people are perfectly friendly. Even the officials are most indifferent. The real opposition is from the Lhasa monks headed by the Dalai Lama, who says that they wish to preserve their religion, but in reality their priestly influence by which the Tibetans are at present strangled (*sic*). Chinese influence under present weak Amban in presence of young headstrong Dalai Lama has altogether disappeared. New Amban, expected to arrive at Lhasa in a few days, is unlikely to raise it, as he is not supported by forces from China. We must, therefore, rely on ourselves to influence Dalai Lama. Negotiations either here or at Kala Tso would lead to no results, though present informal discussions might continue as a means of feeling our way. A move to at least Gyantse is necessary. Such a move, Macdonald says, cannot take place till middle of March. It will probably be opposed at Kala Tso, but Tibetan Generals have so little nerve or military experience, and their soldiers are so poorly armed, opposition cannot be serious. Perhaps when Tibetans have seen how powerless they are to oppose our advance, and how little material help can be expected from Russia, they may be more amenable on our arrival at Gyantse, but I do not expect we shall be able to really influence this inflated and implacable, hostile Dalai Lama till we go to Lhasa itself. Meanwhile Mission is in excellent position here, keeping offensive Lhasa delegates well at distance from Chumbi (Valley), where our military preparations can mature. Though minimum temperature has been minus sixteen, and height of Tuna is fifteen thousand and nineteen feet, health of the troops, with exception of Madras Sappers and Miners, who were returned yesterday, is good, and worst month is now over. Fuel in any quantity is obtainable, and grass sufficient for some weeks yet. The Tibetans precipitately retreated from their camp on our flank, and our convoy and dâk passes to and from Phari without hindrance. *Ends.*

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Nepalese Minister at interview with me yesterday also stated that Tibetans were determined to oppose Mission. If they attacked us, and were severely punished they might be willing to negotiate at Gyantse, but otherwise he thought we might have to go to Lhasa to conclude treaty.

Addressed to Secretary of State, and repeated to British Minister at Peking.

R.

No. 83.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 4th February 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

With reference to my telegram 29th January, Mr. Moore, the Telegraph Master, has examined the Shurgaz-Haiderabad-Ladis route, and is inclined to favour the Nasratabad-Ispe route from the construction point of view, though a fact which he thinks, worthy of consideration, is that the Haiderabad route is 60 miles shorter. His full report has not yet been received.

Repeated to Sir A. Hardinge; addressed to Secretary of State.

No. 83*a*.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 5th February 1904. (Despd. from Finl. Dept.)

Your Despatch No. 15, dated 15th January. Railway programme, paragraph 12. We do not anticipate difficulty in meeting Council Bills for thirty-five and a half million pounds sterling in 1903-04 and 1904-05. Position is more favourable than was estimated in November last, and we propose shortly request you re-consider reduction of programme.

No. 84.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 6th February 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

With reference to my telegram of January 19th, I have to report that Mons. Klemm, accompanied by Count Dunin de Soligotowski, left Bombay on tour on the 2nd February, proceeding to Gwalior first.

R.

No. 85.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 8th February 1904, 7-20 p. m.

Please refer to your telegram of January 26th, and to your Despatch No. 16, dated 15th idem, on the subject of armaments and special defences. We used the word “capitalise” in our telegram of 15th, following a word in your telegram of 12th, which was deciphered incorrectly as “capitalisation.” We do not propose to devote any part of the 1½ crores to other purposes than

armaments and coast defences. The total cost of armaments to be incurred in 1904-05, exclusive of £200,000 for rifles to be paid in the current year, is 75 lakhs. The balance of coast defences is estimated at 120 lakhs; total 195 lakhs, which exceeds the sum of 1½ crores which we desire to set aside from the surplus of 1903-04.

We cannot exactly say what sum will be spent in 1904-5; a more or less considerable amount will probably remain over from the appropriation. Your instructions preclude charging any expenditure against revenue until actually incurred, and further lay down that expenditure is to be met from balances. Appendix I, Part I, Financial Statement, deals only with carefully estimated prospective revenue and expenditure, and no part of prospective revenue can be earmarked or considered as appropriated for a particular head of expenditure. We are therefore debarred from making any entry in Part I. The alternative is to set aside, as a deposit in Part II, the sum of 1½ crores, and when the amount actually expended in 1904-05 is known, to enter that amount in the revised estimate under proper heads. Do you approve of this arrangement?

No. 86.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 9th February 1904. (Despd. from P. W. Dept.)

We should be glad to know the present position of negotiations for termination of Mr. Ransome's agreement, and when may we expect a reply to our telegram of 29th December last.

No. 87.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 10th February 1904, 5 p. m.

Private. It is thought desirable by the Commander-in-Chief that the Indian Army should be represented in the Russo-Japanese War, and he says that he will be prepared to nominate two or more officers with the opposing forces. Can you, if you approve, obtain the permission necessary?

R.

No. 88.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 11th February 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please see your telegram of 10th February regarding my letter to the Amir. Not hearing from you for ten days, I assumed that you had no objection to the course proposed in my telegram of the 24th January, and I despatched the letter on February 4th, according to the permission given me in

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your Despatch of the 25th December. The reference to arms merely mentioned the desirability of discussing the matter in conference, and making proper arrangements. The letter was not expanded in any argumentative form. But a reference to the Herat frontier was included in the following terms:—

Begins. "I desire particularly to discuss the state of Afghan defences on the Herat frontier, where the position is not one that can give confidence either to Your Highness or to the British Government." *Ends.*

In my view this reference was of importance, and I do not anticipate the results apprehended. A copy of the letter was posted to you by today's mail.

No. 89.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 11th February 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

With reference to your telegram of 3rd February, Colonel Kemball reported on the 8th January that, accompanied by Crow, he had visited Koweit, and warned the Sheikh against involving himself with Sadun. Mubarek stated he had no sympathy with Sadun, who had applied for his protection, and had been replied to unfavourably.

R.

No. 90.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 11th February 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

I have received the following from Younghusband:—

Begins. Tuna, 9th February. Lhasa delegates on 7th sent two Captains with message, that if I wished, as I had said, to make a peaceful settlement, I must retire to Yatung. I replied that I had come to negotiate, but that none of the officials at Guru had brought any letters from Dalai Lama or Amban, empowering them to negotiate with me, nor did they appear to have sufficient authority, for they had refused even to report to their Government the substance of the conversation I had with the Lhasa Generals in my camp. I yesterday sent my Tibetan Munshi with a letter to the above effect. The Munshi reported that the Lhasa officials declined to receive the letter, and said that they would send other messengers to ask me to name a date for our withdrawal from Tuna. It seems that Tibetan army are finding difficulties in supporting themselves, and certain Generals are pressing Lhasa Generals to attack us. *Ends.*

Repeated to the British Minister at Peking, and addressed to Secretary of State.

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No. 91.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 11th February 1904, 4 p. m.

Private. I shall be glad to know if we may expect to receive orders before the end of the Calcutta season on our Despatch of May 28th, 1903, about the Famine Insurance Grant; and our Despatch of September 24th, 1903, about the move of the Punjab Government from Simla.

R.

No. 92.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 12th February 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Tibet. The following has been received from Colonel Younghusband:—

Begins. Tuna, February 10th. Two messengers arrived yesterday, from the Lhasa delegate, to ask when I would retire to Yatung, and to say that, if I did not retire, there could be no peaceful settlement. I asked what precisely was meant by the last phrase. They said the matter would be handed over to Generals and military arrangements made. I asked whether by that was meant that war would be declared upon the British Government They said that the Generals would do what they would do. I then told the messengers to take back my message that I had no intention of retiring from here, that I had come here to negotiate, and if the Tibetan Government refused to negotiate, but intended to declare war upon the British Government, a high official should come and tell me so, or write me a letter to that effect; I would only warn them that the number of soldiers I had with me now were merely what was required for my protection during peaceful negotiations; but that if they declared war upon the British Government, thousands more soldiers were prepared to come from India. I doubt if the Tibetans will have the nerve to make a serious attack on us; but if they do, we have nothing to fear. *Ends.*

Repeated to Peking, and addressed to the Secretary of State.

R.

No. 93.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 12th February 1904, 5 p. m.

Private. Police Commission Report. Notice has been given of a question to be asked by a Native Member at Legislative Council next Friday, why the Police Commission Report has not been published, whether it is

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intended to publish it, and if so, when. I propose to reply that the Government of India forwarded the Reports on the 19th November last, with the request for permission to publish the Report and our letter; but that the publication is withheld under your orders until the replies of Local Governments upon the reference to them have been received, and until you have passed orders. Do you approve? The reasons for non-publication given in your private telegram of 10th instant are not acquiesced in by any of my Colleagues; and, as the decision causes much feeling here, I would once again urge a reconsideration.

R.

No. 94.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 13th February 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to Sir A. Hardinge's telegram of February 10th. I concur in the proposal to construct a temporary line by the shortest route from Bam to Koh-i-Malik Siah, but trust that the transparent excuse of illness of the Minister of Telegraphs may not prevent our bringing the strongest pressure to bear on the Persian Government to secure permission to extend our line to Seistan. In the present situation, this may at any moment become of the greatest importance. I propose to retain construction party at Koh-i-Malik Siah, if there is any prospect of an early decision.

Repeated to Teheran and addressed to the Secretary of State.

R.

No. 95.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 13th February 1904, 10-30 a. m.

Private. Please see your private telegram of February 3rd. Tibet. The latest estimate of the cost of the Mission, military and political, is £ 300,000 to the end of current financial year.

R.

No. 96.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 13th February 1904, 5-30 p. m.

Private. Please refer to your private telegram of February 10th. Under arrangements made two years ago, a charming house called "Windcliff,"

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belonging to Government, is available for Richards, and contains sufficient accommodation for him and family. It is already furnished by Government, and the recent occupant, Daly, is leaving, for optional purchase by the new tenant, complete sets of curtains, lamps china, glass, and four rickshaws, which are accessories that Government does not provide.

No. 97.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 13th February 1904, 10-30 p. m.

Private. Major Mayne. We do not understand the proposal in your private telegram of 12th February. Half pay will leave Mayne with £173 per annum, with no obligation to repay Kota, which would presumably devolve upon the Government of India. Under our scheme, Mayne, having commuted his pension in order to repay Kota, will be left with £44 out of £250 per annum. Previous recommendation is, therefore, adhered to by our Military advisers.

R.

No. 98.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, Chittagong, 15th February 1904, 2-20 p. m.

Private. Police Commission Report. Please see your private telegram of February 13th. If His Majesty's Government decide not to accept the earnest and repeated representations of the Indian Government on a matter so Indian in concern as date of publication, I think that they should be willing to let the fact be known: since it is hardly fair that we should be credited with responsibility for a decision which we earnestly deprecate and which public opinion here unanimously condemns. The question seems to us one not of constitutional principle, but of expediency; and in our view suspicions aroused by prolonged delay in publication greatly outweigh the advantages to be gained by such a course, if any exist, which we do not admit. If the point at issue were that of withholding the Report altogether, larger question of principle would be involved. But this was settled in the negative by your predecessor. We shall be glad, therefore, to accept decision either of the Prime Minister or of the Cabinet. If answer cannot be given before Friday, I would ask to be informed, since Member must be requested to postpone question from that date. Our views were summarised in our telegram of 25th July 1903, and I would remind you that, in your private telegram of 12th January, you led me to hope for publication before Parliament assembled.

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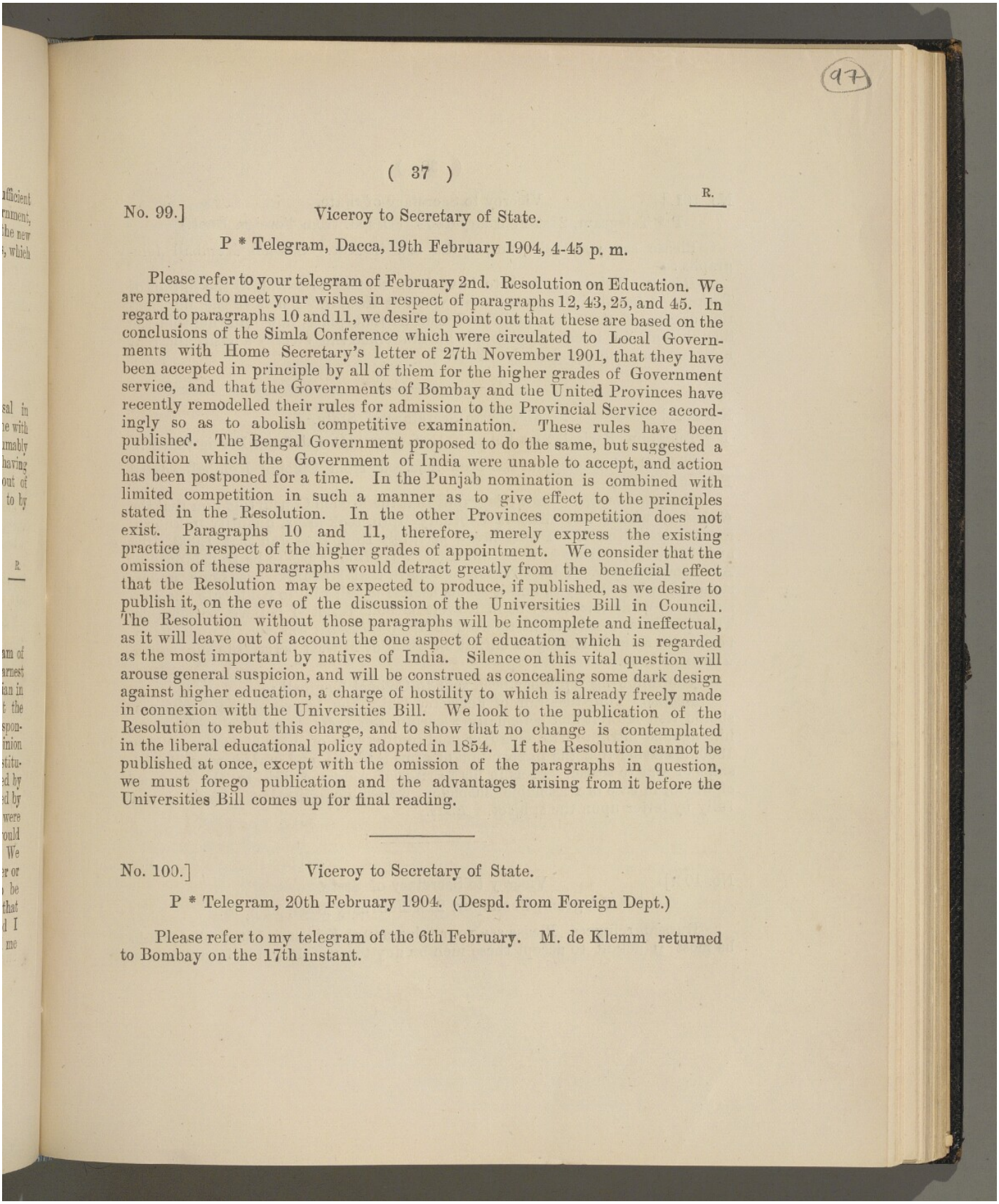

R.

No. 99.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, Dacca, 19th February 1904, 4-45 p. m.

Please refer to your telegram of February 2nd. Resolution on Education. We are prepared to meet your wishes in respect of paragraphs 12, 43, 25, and 45. In regard to paragraphs 10 and 11, we desire to point out that these are based on the conclusions of the Simla Conference which were circulated to Local Governments with Home Secretary's letter of 27th November 1901, that they have been accepted in principle by all of them for the higher grades of Government service, and that the Governments of Bombay and the United Provinces have recently remodelled their rules for admission to the Provincial Service accordingly so as to abolish competitive examination. These rules have been published. The Bengal Government proposed to do the same, but suggested a condition which the Government of India were unable to accept, and action has been postponed for a time. In the Punjab nomination is combined with limited competition in such a manner as to give effect to the principles stated in the Resolution. In the other Provinces competition does not exist. Paragraphs 10 and 11, therefore, merely express the existing practice in respect of the higher grades of appointment. We consider that the omission of these paragraphs would detract greatly from the beneficial effect that the Resolution may be expected to produce, if published, as we desire to publish it, on the eve of the discussion of the Universities Bill in Council. The Resolution without those paragraphs will be incomplete and ineffectual, as it will leave out of account the one aspect of education which is regarded as the most important by natives of India. Silence on this vital question will arouse general suspicion, and will be construed as concealing some dark design against higher education, a charge of hostility to which is already freely made in connexion with the Universities Bill. We look to the publication of the Resolution to rebut this charge, and to show that no change is contemplated in the liberal educational policy adopted in 1854. If the Resolution cannot be published at once, except with the omission of the paragraphs in question, we must forego publication and the advantages arising from it before the Universities Bill comes up for final reading.

No. 100.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 20th February 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to my telegram of the 6th February. M. de Klemm returned to Bombay on the 17th instant.

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No. 101.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 21st February 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please see your telegram of the 3rd instant. Colonel Kemball telegraphs :—

Begins. Telegram said to have been sent by Mubarak to the Sultan of Turkey. I heard nothing about this when at Koweit. I believe the information originated at Basrah, and the Consul at that place now tells me that the Sheikh sent no telegram through Basrah since the Viceroy's visit, and that information is not confirmed. *Ends.*

No. 102.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, Barisal, 21st Feby. 1904, 8 p. m. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

The following telegram has been received from Colonel Kemball, dated February 18th :—

Telegram begins. Grey telegraphs that the French Consul told him that the *Gulistan*, which left Muscat February 16th, took arms, quantity unknown, for Goguyer, Koweit. I have heard privately from Bussorah that 1,000 rifles and 300,000 cartridges were on their way from Paris to be transhipped at Aden for Goguyer. I have reason to believe that Mubarak has some understanding with Goguyer, and it seems useless to tell him to confiscate the consignment, while seizure by us in Koweit harbour is not, I believe, permissible. The previous consignment referred to by *Chindwara* was not, I understand, taken at Koweit, having been put off again at Muscat before the ship sailed. *Telegram ends.*

The following reply has been sent to Colonel Kemball :—

Begins. Your telegram of February 18th. You, or one of your assistants, should visit Koweit and personally ascertain the facts from Mubarak, warn him against intrigue with Goguyer, and remind him of his agreement of May 1900, declaring that the importation of arms is illegal, and empowering British ships of war to search vessels in his territorial waters, a right to the exercise of which, in case of reasonable suspicion, we see no objection. Please report fully by letter upon the subject. *Ends.*

R.

No. 103.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, Chandpur, 21st February 1904, 11 a. m.

Russian refugees. Please see your telegram of February 15th. We should be most reluctant to accept these men on any terms. It would be difficult to

guard a large number of Russians on parole, and it would be a source of political inconvenience, particularly if they included officers. The only safe conditions would be if we might treat them as prisoners of war. But is this possible? Would not Ceylon be preferable to India?

R.

No. 104.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, Singarkaty, 22nd February 1904, 9 a. m.

Private. Please see your private telegram of February 18th. We think your proposals hard on the Indian Army, but shall be prepared to take Sir Ian Hamilton as our representative if you will allow us to attach two Officers of the Indian Army to him to report on details required here. Otherwise we would prefer not to accept.

R.

No. 105.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 23rd February 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Tibet. The following has been received from Colonel Younghusband:—

Begins. Tuna, 22nd February. At the request of the Bhutan Envoy the Lhasa delegates have twice visited him. He asked them to make a peaceful settlement, but they still persist in demanding our withdrawal to Yatung. The Bhutan Envoy says that they have decided not to attack us here, but to oppose us if we advance. He returns to Phari today. *Ends.*

Repeated to Peking, and addressed to Secretary of State.

R.

No. 106.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 23rd February 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Tibet. The Bhutanese Envoy has met Colonel Younghusband at Phari, and has promised a sealed declaration that the Bhutanese have no hostile intentions, and a sealed permit for an engineer to survey through Bhutan along the line which, judging from the preliminary report by a native surveyor, we believe may possibly furnish an improved route from the plains to the Chumbi Valley, with better gradients and lower altitudes, than the existing tracks over Jelap La and Nathu La, and giving through the malarious zone a shorter distance.

R.

No. 107.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 23rd February 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to my telegram of the 28th January. The following messages have been received from Mr. Dobbs, dated January 20th :—

Begins. As the Amir's orders to build without the Russians have not yet arrived, I anticipate that the latter, who are probably being kept posted by the Governor of Herat, concerning all correspondence, will inform the Afghans that they intend to repair the remaining pillars, and invite them to cooperate ignoring me. The best course, in this event, seems that we should ignore the Russian communication, and begin building at some point other than that specified by the Russians. But the Afghans will certainly refuse to adopt this course without fresh orders from Kabul. I trust the Amir may be induced either to issue the orders which I suggested in my telegram No. 29, of the 12th January, to the effect that the Afghans should take my advice, or to issue clear orders providing for the contingency which I suggest. *Ends.*

From the same, dated 9th February :—

Begins. My prediction has been exactly fulfilled. The Russians have written from Sheikh Junaid to the Governor of Herat and to Ghaus-ud-din, informing them that they are ready to repair the remaining pillars, and asking them to cooperate. This news was supplied to me by an informant, who was present when the Russian letter was read by the General, but the latter has not yet told me about this. Until I hear from you, I shall advise the Afghans to send no answer, and not to meet the Russians, but to inspect the pillars with me after the latter have gone. After all this waiting, if I were to humbly meet the Russians and take a subordinate place, British prestige would suffer even more severe a blow than has already been inflicted. The Governor of Herat has undoubtedly been manœuvring for this result throughout. The Russians will, however, hardly venture to choose a new site for pillar No. 35, without the British or the Afghan representatives, and we may bring them to book over this. No orders to build without the Russians have apparently yet been received from the Amir, or I should try, in order to save our faces, to insist on our building some pillars immediately without them. *Ends.*

The following reply was sent to Mr. Dobbs today :—

Begins. Your telegram of the 9th February. Until you have proof of Russian proposals to repair pillars, or of Afghan intended compliance with the proposals, we cannot press the Amir further than has been done in the Viceroy's letter of January 28th, to which we ought shortly to receive a reply. Pending further orders, you should continue to advise the Afghans to refuse to cooperate with the Russians in repairing pillars, in case the Afghans should consult you. *Ends.*

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99

No. 108.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 24th February 1904, 11-30 a. m.

Public Works Capital Programme. Please refer to our telegram of 5th instant. According to latest calculations, after paying 22½ million sterling Council Bills, our balances on the 31st March will be 1,600 lakhs. If the programme be raised to 1,265 lakhs, and if the whole increase be in the Indian portion, we can, with a loan of 1½ crores, meet Council Bills in the two years to amount of 37 millions, without reducing the balance below 850 lakhs on 30th November. We can meet drawings to the extent of 38 millions with loan of 2½ crores. We strongly recommend an extension of the programme as now proposed. Please reply by telegraph as soon as possible.

No. 109.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 25th February 1904. (Despd. from Finl. Dept.)

Your telegram of 24th instant. Railway programme. 37 million pounds sterling and also 38 million pounds sterling are in addition to remittance for Gold Reserve Fund.

No. 110.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 27th February 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

With reference to your telegram of February 19th, regarding Muscat, we can think of no satisfactory solution of the Muscat question short of the recognition of British Protectorate, or rather the abrogation of the Treaty of 1862. There are smaller matters for which we have frequently pressed, such as French concurrence in the suppression of the arms trade at Muscat, *vide* our Despatch of July 30th, 1903, and the expulsion of Goguyer, to which might be added the suppression of most pernicious arms traffic at Jibuti in accordance with clause 6 of the Anglo-French Agreement of 1888, to neglect of which the attention of the French Government was drawn in 1901 by Monson. But these matters would perhaps form the subject of more ordinary diplomatic negotiations, as they are hardly of the character to which reference is made.

R.

No. 111.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 27th February 1904, 11-50 p. m.

Private. Please refer to your private telegram of February 26th. Considering the preponderating interests of India East of Suez, and that

Indian troops are usually requisitioned by the War Office for any operations in those parts, the proposed arrangement by which the representation of the Indian Army and the means of obtaining most necessary information for the Indian Intelligence Department have been so restricted, appears to our Military advisers and myself most prejudicial to the Indian service. A Japanese officer has recently arrived here as Military Attaché, but we have no corresponding officer with the Japanese Army. Is there any reason why the five officers sent by the War Office in September last, long before hostilities broke out, should not now be replaced by Indian officers, thus giving India half representation? We hope you will urge, as strongly as possible, our claims on the War Office.

R.

No. 112.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 28th February 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Is it considered necessary by His Majesty's Government to place restrictions on British Military Officers visiting, whilst on leave, Japan or Manchuria?

No. 113.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 28th February 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

With reference to your telegram of February 15th, on the subject of Seistan, I had already issued instructions in this sense, on the 31st January, to Colonel McMahon and the Consul in Seistan, and am repeating them. I think at the same time that we have strong corroboration of the view expressed by the Consul and McMahon that the Belgian Customs Officers are infected by strong prejudice against our commercial interests in Seistan. Please refer to my Secret Despatch of the 4th February, No. 29, Frontier.

R.

No. 114.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 28th February 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

The question of delimitating on the high mountains west of Sassobi to Sikaram, referred to in your telegram of 24th February, is quite an open one, and we are not committed in any way. Our object in accepting the Amir's proposal in full was to leave him no ground for objecting to the demarcation.

We intend to see how work proceeds on the northern sections, and, if there is any risk of trouble, we can always decline to go beyond Sassobi on the ground of physical difficulties. You will see from the Viceroy's letter of 13th February, sent with the Secretary's letter of 18th February, that the Amir's recent attitude suggests the possibility of his receding from the demarcation which he himself proposed. We need not object to this, as we are already in possession of the important strategical points near Shilman Ghakka, which are essential for future railway construction, and the need for concessions in the Bohai Dag would also probably be escaped.

No. 115.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 28th February 1904, 2-15 p. m.

Private. May I soon expect a reply to my private telegram of 11th February about Famine grant and Punjab Government?

R.

No. 116.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 29th February 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

I have received a telegram from McMahon, dated the 21st February, stating that the Hashmat-ul-Mulk has definitely decided to go to Tehran and starts soon in order to arrive by Nauroz (21st March). He proposes to leave his two sons each in charge of half of Seistan.

Addressed to Secretary of State, and repeated to Tehran.

R.

No. 117.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 29th February 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Minchin telegraphs from Meshed, 23rd February, on reliable reports, that, while no abnormal movements of troops are in progress, the Russians are making every preparation, by collection of transport, stores, &c., for mobilizing quickly a force of from forty to fifty thousand men on the Afghan frontier.

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R.

No. 118.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 29th February 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Will you please refer to Grant Duff's Despatch No. 199 of 8th December 1903, on the subject of the sale of Seistan revenue grain. The Consul-General, Meshed, reports that Abdul Karim, an employé of Muavin-ut-Tujjar, who is believed to be acting on behalf of the Russian Bank, passed Turbat-i-Haidari on his way to take over grain.

I trust that Sir A. Hardinge will take all possible measures to prevent any such transfer, especially just as the Hashmat is leaving for Tehran.

Addressed Secretary of State for India, and repeated to Tehran.

No. 119.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 1st March 1904. (Despd. from Finl. Dept.)

Your telegram dated 20th February. Under the circumstances set forth we agree to British Minister being given discretion to threaten to abrogate additional article of Chefoo Convention.

R.

No. 120.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 2nd March 1904.

Private. With reference to your private telegram of 1st March, we are much obliged for the concessions obtained by you, and accept Hamilton with Japanese, and Gerard with Russians. Instructions will be drawn up by us for these officers of special information required. We are nominating three officers, one for Nicholson, one for Hamilton, one for Gerard. Please make arrangement official, and say when they should join.

No. 121.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 3rd March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

With reference to our Secret Despatch 16 (External), dated 21st January 1904, regarding Naval bases and telegraphs in Persian Gulf, please let me know if we may expect a reply soon.

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R.

No. 122.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 3rd March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

With reference to Sir A. Hardinge's telegram of 20th February, regarding the *Réglement Douanier*, we have already stated in our Secret telegram, dated 8th September 1903, that we have no objection to the substance of the regulations. We would, however, draw attention to the classification of Customs posts in Southern Persia into Arabistan—Sud and Seistan Baluchistan. We have repeatedly urged the view that, under Persian engagements summarized in Hardinge's letter No. 69, dated 14th May 1903, the Customs of all Southern Persia are pledged to us. If there is any risk that the Sud group may be taken to represent the Customs so pledged, we trust that strongest protest may be made against any such classification. The Persian Government have admitted our interest at any rate in the Customs of Fars and the Gulf of Fars. But there appears to be no such group of Customs posts, and several Gulf ports, including Muhammerah, are shown in Arabistan. As to the geographical argument, we would draw attention to the fact that the Persian Government, in notifying their adherence to the Postal Union, sent to the International Bureau at Berne a table of Persian Post Offices, of which a copy was transmitted to us on 10th September 1903. The geographical grouping there adopted included *Golfe Persique*, embracing Muhammerah, Bushire, Lingah, Bunder Abbas, Jask, Chahbar, and Gwetter. We consider that the description of the Gulf in the case of Customs should be the same as for post offices, under which Muhámmerah is admitted to be a Gulf port. The Customs of Ahwaz, Dizful, and Shuster are an integral portion of Muhammerah Customs, and are only separately collected for the convenience of traders.

Addressed Secretary of State; repeated to Sir A. Hardinge.

R.

No. 123.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 3rd March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Russian movements on Afghan Frontier. Please see my telegram of the 29th ultimo. The following has been received from Colonel Minchin, dated March 1st:—

Begins. Please see my telegram of the 23rd February. I have received a report from our news-writer at Krasnovodsk, in which he states that during the week ending the 21st February, 1,250 cavalry 8,000 infantry, 60 railway wagons of ammunition, and 322 wagons of supplies passed through Krasnovodsk for Askabad and Khushk. A camel owner, who left Askabad

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about the 22nd February, to avoid his camels being commandeered, also states that troops and stores in large numbers have been sent to the Afghan Frontier, and that all camels and other transport are being seized for military service. A third report from the Armenians here says that 8,000 troops are going to Khushk. It is confirmed from many sources that the transport of all goods, except mails and military stores, by steamer across the Caspian Sea and by the Trans-Caspian Railway, has been stopped for the present. Personally, I think the above reports are reliable, but in a few days our Agents at Askabad and Merv should corroborate them. *Ends.*

Have His Majesty's Government any corroboration of the report that Russia is massing on the Afghan border an unusually large body of troops?

No. 124.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 3rd March 1904, 4-10 p. m.

Private. With reference to your private telegram of 23rd February regarding Cogswell, I have enquired, and I think him suitable for the proposed appointment.

No. 125.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 3rd March 1904, 4-30 p. m.

Private. I have ascertained that the Revd. Markby is well qualified for Chaplaincy. *Vide* your private telegram of the 18th February last.

R.

No. 126.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 3rd March 1904, 5-45 p. m.

Private. With reference to your private telegram of the 2nd instant, on the subject of the removal of the Punjab Government, the vital points are these. The only chance of regulating the growth of Simla in future is that it should be taken over entirely by the Supreme Government, which, as long as Local Government resides there, is impossible. Relief caused by its departure will be greater than mere numbers imply. For (1) it will release a large number of European houses for which there is most need; (2) it will reduce the crowd of persons who are drawn to Simla in the wake of the Local Government. Further, it is my belief that, unless we get the buildings vacated by the Punjab Government to utilise for Imperial purposes, the Supreme Government, which is

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already ill-equipped and inconveniently scattered, and which is perpetually expanding, will shortly come up for expenditure at Simla much greater than any likely to be caused by the present transfer. Adverse decision would, therefore, in my opinion, be serious administrative blunder, as well as rebuff to unanimous recommendation of Government of India, backed by the present Lieutenant-Governor, Sir C. Rivaz, and the probable future Lieutenant-Governor, Sir D. Ibbetson. If this were likely, I would prefer that, until I can discuss it with you, you held over the matter.

R.

No. 127.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 4th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to your telegram of the 2nd March. A statement of the proposals seems unnecessary, as recent information indicates that the Amir will not visit India this spring.

No. 128.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 4th March 1904, 1-45 p. m.

With reference to your telegram of March 2nd, we have just sent you a Despatch, Marine, No. 2, dated 3rd instant, proposing, in case of war, to place the Royal Indian Marine Ships *Hardinge* and *Dufferin* unreservedly at the disposal of the Naval Commander-in-Chief, and requesting that, in such contingency, arrangements should be made under the provisions of the Indian Marine Service Act, 1884, for the necessary Order in Council or Proclamation.

No. 129.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 5th March 1904.

With reference to your telegram of the 2nd instant, the figures in the following message are in hundreds of pounds sterling omitting (00). Including corrections in the home estimates advised in your telegram of the 1st instant, our present forecast for next year is as follows: Total revenue 79,820,9; total expenditure 79,062,0; Surplus 758,9. Expenditure includes special Defences 256,7; Army 19,091,1, including 493,9 for increased pay, British Soldiers; 700,0, new rifles and artillery; and 351,7 for other measures for

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improving efficiency. The total provision for new armaments and Defences is 956,7, and for improving efficiency 666,7, of which 111,7 is under Marine and 203,3 under Military Works. The price of Bengal opium is taken at rupees 1,250 per chest. Please do not consider as final any of the above figures.

No. 130.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 5th March 1904, 9-25 p. m.

With reference to your telegram of the 4th instant, the Official Secrets Bill was passed into law yesterday, without final division. Some of the Native Non-official Members moved amendments, a few of which only were accepted. The European Non-official Members, with one exception, and some Natives supported Government.

R.

No. 131.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 6th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

No. 951-F. A. I have received a long and argumentative letter from the Amir in reply to mine of 28th January, about Dobbs. Though he originally pressed for a British officer to go to the frontier to examine the pillars, he now says that no benefit will result from the inspection of a house when the rats from the other side, by which he means the Russians, have already gained access to the grain inside, and have carried it off. The way to secure the safety and honour of the British and Afghan Governments is not by such tours, but by the removal of former misunderstandings. The British Government have left the lifeless body of Afghanistan in front of the enemy, and call this an arrangement, while they ignore real arrangement. He hopes, therefore, we will desist from the repair of pillars of clay, and renew the pillar of heart. If I consider Dobbs' return to Seistan a detraction from the honour of British Government, he will permit him to come to Kabul and communicate all he has seen on the frontier, while the Amir will also tell him all that is necessary. The object of the Amir is apparently to get our officers away from the frontier, to throw the responsibility for its weakness upon us, and to force us into a renewal of the old agreement without a fresh meeting or terms. I am opposed to any such surrender. The withdrawal of Dobbs would be most unfortunate, particularly as the Russians have renewed the invitation to the Governor of Herat to cooperate in the repair of the remaining pillars, and the Governor, who is a strong Russian partisan,

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and has treated Dobbs with discourtesy, is evidently anxious to place us in a false position. Moreover, the obligation to defend the Herat frontier is a serious responsibility in view of its lamentable condition and the strong Russophile tendencies of the border population. I am inclined to inform the Amir that, in view of the renewed Russian proposal about the pillars and the concentration of troops on the border, I think it desirable that the British officers should not be withdrawn, but should proceed with the examination and, if possible, the repair of the pillars; but that, as he desires to receive from Dobbs a full report on the frontier, I shall be glad if he will issue orders for the latter to proceed with the object originally desired by himself towards the Oxus, whence he could return *vid* Mazar-i-Sharif to Kabul. Dobbs could not, of course, conclude anything at Kabul on our behalf. But the Amir might speak more freely to him than in correspondence, and we could send an officer to meet him there with the authority to make some explanations. The attitude of the Amir, who has further returned no reply about the Seistan boundary or the Mohmand demarcation, is very unsatisfactory, and I have little doubt that he is trying to drive us into a corner. I think that this policy should be met by firmness and patience, and that later on some plain speaking about the onesidedness of frontier obligations may be desirable.

No. 132.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 6th March 1904, 9-30 p. m.

Private. Owing to affairs in the Far East, do you think that there is the least fear that I may be unable to come home this summer? Do not mention to any one else, but please answer frankly.

No. 133.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 7th March 1904. (Despd. from P. W. Dept.)

Your telegram of 2nd March 1904. Proposal to cancel Ransome's agreement dropped.

R.

No. 134.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 7th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Major Minchin wires, on March 4th, that the Russians are disarming the Akhal Turkomans.

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R.

No. 135.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 7th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

We have considered question referred to us in connection with your telegram of 4th March. With the exception of the mobilisation of a division at Quetta, or Peshawar, or both, no counter-demonstration seems possible. Any such step might further have an unfortunate effect on the Amir, and in the present state of affairs we would not advise it.

R.

No. 136.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 7th March 1904, 12 noon.

Private. With reference to your private telegram of February 29th on the subject of cotton, we will await your proposals, will lend all assistance in our power in respect of land and seed, and will welcome Lancashire experts and funds. But the following considerations should be borne in mind:—

(1) The problem is largely a commercial one; that is cotton cultivation will expand only if cotton is made more profitable to cultivators than other crops, and long staples will be grown only if more profitable than short staples for which there is already considerable foreign market. Even for long staples Indian market may be expected to compete.

(2) Experiments will probably be more successful through existing cultivators than with indentured labour. It would be most undesirable to create another Assam Labour question.

(3) We are quite ready to take such prompt steps as may be possible, but quick results can hardly be expected.

(4) We will gladly help Lancashire in so far as this is consistent with Indian interests which have not always received in the past sympathy from Lancashire.

R.

No. 137.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 7th March 1904, 6-45 p. m.

Private. I should be obliged by your informing me when Sir M. Gerard starts, and by what route he joins the Russian forces? The Commander-in-Chief suggests *viâ* Shanghai and Tientsin, where our officer could join him with instructions.

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No. 138.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 8th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

The following, dated 1st March, has been received from Colonel McMahon :—

Begins. I learn from the Hashmat-ul-Mulk that one of the questions to be brought forward at the ensuing Conference of Governors at Tehran is that of placing under Belgians the revenue administration. Every effort should, I consider, be made to prevent this change. The danger to British interests, which the susceptibility of Belgians to Russian influence affords, is sufficient justification for a protest by us. Whatever may be the case elsewhere, Seistan revenues cannot safely be trusted to Belgian charge. *Ends.*

On September 3rd last, Sir A. Hardinge telegraphed that the Grand Vizier repudiated all intention of placing Seistan revenues under Belgian supervision. But please see Sir A. Hardinge's despatch to the Marquess of Lansdowne No. 5, dated 4th January 1904, in which he foreshadows possibility of financial reforms being placed in hands of Belgians. I concur with Colonel McMahon that this would constitute a grave danger to British interests, particularly in Seistan. We should, I think, object in strongest terms, if such a change is contemplated.

Repeated to Sir A. Hardinge and addressed Secretary of State.

No. 139.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 8th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Vice-Consul, Kermanshah. Captain H. A. K. Gough has been appointed. Kindly obtain recognition of the Persian Government to this. Sir A. Hardinge proposes that his jurisdiction should include the provinces of Kermanshah, Malair, Hamadan, and Kurdistan. We agree to the proposal.

R.

No. 140.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 8th March 1904. (Despd. from Home Dept.)

Your telegram dated 3rd February. Sir Henry Prinsep, Judge of the High Court, Bengal, has applied to retire from the service from 30th March 1904. We solicit authority to appoint in his place.

R.

No. 141.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 8th March 1904, 8-45 p. m.

Private. With reference to my private telegram of the 3rd instant regarding Mr. Cogswell, please hold over the question until you hear further from me about it.

R.

No. 142.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 9th March 1904, 6 p. m.

With reference to your telegrams of the 5th and 8th instant, the following are nominated to accompany Sir Ian Hamilton, Sir M. Gerard, and Sir W. Nicholson, respectively:—Major Crawford, 2nd Battalion, 5th Gurkha Rifles; Major Home, 2nd Battalion, 2nd Gurkha Rifles; Lieutenant-Colonel Tulloch, 126th Baluchistan Infantry. Major Home goes by Tientsin at once, and takes instructions for Sir M. Gerard, a duplicate copy being posted to latter at St. Petersburg, if he goes *viâ* Siberia. We presume you are deciding terms of pay for Sir Ian Hamilton and Sir M. Gerard.

R.

No. 143.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 9th March 1904, 10-15 p. m.

Secret. The following are the replies to your telegram of 3rd March:—

First.—(*a.*) At present the authorised reserve of small arms is about 68,000, but there will be a deficiency of about 29,000 when the demands for 1903-04 are completed. For next year our demand is 71,573 (*vide* Despatch 198 of 29th October 1903, and telegram of 23rd February 1904).

(*b.*) The reserves of ammunition are at present as follows:—

Gun ammunition.—Reserve, including battery equipment for Siege, Heavy and Mountain Artillery, 500 rounds per gun: for Horse and Field Artillery in existing field army 1,000 rounds per gun.

Small arms ammunition.—Including ammunition with units, the reserve is about 124 million rounds.

(*c.*) *Manufacturing power.*—The annual out-turn from Indian factories will be as follows, provided that our annual consolidated indents for raw material are regularly and promptly complied with:—

Gun ammunition.—For three inch and under, 72,000 rounds; for four inch, five inch, and six inch, 20,000 rounds, except cordite cartridges, which cannot be manufactured until 1905-06.

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Small arms ammunition.—Sixty-five million rounds.

All reinforcements despatched from England or the Colonies should be provided with 1,000 rounds per rifle or gun.

Artillery ammunition should be sent complete with shells, cartridges, fuzes, &c.

Second.—The Transport organisation is only prepared for the existing field army of four divisions, but we can obtain camels and other local transport for additional units.

To enable us, however, to place eight divisions in the field, 21,000 mules would be required as a first instalment, and we should require the War Office to purchase these at once. In addition to these, mule transport according to Indian Equipment Tables will be required for all reinforcements; and to replace casualties, large numbers will be required.

Third.—Remounts: The requisite horses should be brought by all mounted units.

Fourth.—Clothing: Indian field service clothing sufficient for one year's supply should be provided with all reinforcements.

Fifth.—Tinned Stores and other Supplies: Yes, including medical stores.

All reserves are only calculated on the field service scale for our field army of 4 divisions, and ordinary for remainder. We have now, however, under our consideration, a scheme under which 8 or 9 divisions would be placed in the field. Large increases of equipment and reserves would become necessary if this were done.

R.

No. 144.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 10th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Colonel Younghusband communicates the following :—

Begins. Tuna, March 7th. Bhutan Envoy has handed Walsh permit sealed with red official seal of Dharma Raja for survey and construction of road up either the Di Chu or Amo Chu. The red seal had been specially sent for as making permit more formal. Envoy has been given the subsidy of Rs. 50,000. He has asked to come and see me again before leaving on the 10th to have more information about the Tibetan negotiations. He also wishes me to tell him whether Bhutan should pay this year's tribute to Tibet or not. I shall tell him that is a matter for their own decision. He further says Tongsa Penlop is anxious to come and see me, but as Timpek Jongpen has already come, does not like to without an invitation from me. This I will give. Envoy has also expressed hope to see Walsh in Bhutan when this Tibetan affair is satisfactorily settled. *Ends.*

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Before our occupation of the Chumbi Valley, the attitude of Bhutan, if not hostile, was certainly suspicious. Now that we are placed on the best route to the interior of Bhutan, the Bhutanese officials are very amenable.

Repeated to British Minister at Peking; addressed Secretary of State.

No. 145.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 11th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to your telegram of March 1st regarding Siam. Paget's letter reached us through Burma on 6th March. We will shortly send you our views.

R.

No. 146.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 11th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

In view of special conditions, outfit allowances were granted to all members, Military and Civil, when the Tibet Mission was first organised at Khamba Jong. When, owing to the refusal of the Tibetans to negotiate, the escort was increased and an advance was ordered, concessions, which do not include outfit allowances, were granted to Field Force scale.

R.

No. 147.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 11th March 1904, 4 p. m. (Despd. from Mily. Dept.)

With reference to your telegram of 10th instant, Major Home has started to join the Russian forces, *viâ* Tientsin. He could not, under any circumstances, join Sir M. Gerard at Petersburg on 18th instant. We do not propose to appoint another officer, but the fact that Major Home may be expected to join from India, *viâ* Tientsin, should be communicated to the Russian Military authorities at St. Petersburg.

R.

No. 148.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 12th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

With reference to Sir A. Hardinge's telegram of 4th March 1904, the contention of the British Government has consistently been that our interests in Persia cannot be restricted to the Persian Gulf Coast and the Province of

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Fars, as stated in Sir C. Scott's memorandum of 19th February 1900 to Count Mouravieff. If the Persian Government try to argue this on the strength of Durand's note of April 1899, we think that we should fall back on Spring Rice's pro-memoria of the 22nd March 1900, in which the Minister for Foreign Affairs was informed that His Majesty's Government would hold the Persian Government to the strict observance of the pledge of 23rd October 1897. Though Spring Rice agreed to treat this as *vivâ voce*, a Persian translation of the note was given to the Minister, and Lord Salisbury's warning was expressly communicated to M. Naus and General Schindler, and was fully discussed with the Sadr-i-Azam, so that the Persian Government cannot repudiate all knowledge of it. That discussion is also useful as proving that, with the concurrence of Naus, we have always claimed Mohammerah as a Gulf Port. This renewal of the pledge of October 1897, that the customs of South Persia should, under no circumstances, be given as security for a foreign loan, was mentioned by Lord Lansdowne to the Atabeg-Azam on 18th August 1902, and the latter admitted that the assurance existed in writing, *vide* despatch of that date to des Graz. It would be a pity if the discussion of the case were to degenerate into what is little better than a verbal quibble. Our contention is that we are entitled to rely, as we have always done, on the pledge of 23rd October 1897, which is antecedent to all Russian engagements, and we think that the Persian Government should be held to the strict observance of that pledge as stated by Lord Salisbury in 1900.

Repeated to Sir A. Hardinge, Teheran, and addressed to the Secretary of State.

No. 149.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 12th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

I have received the following telegram from Colonel Kemball :—

Begins. Recent piracy near bar Shatt-el-Arab. Crow telegraphs that he is informed that pirates came from Abkatch in Khor Hindian, and that stolen property is still there. He adds caution is necessary in informing Sheikh of Mohammerah as he is likely to conceal things. I propose, with your approval, sending a gun-boat to search the place. *Ends*.

An account of the case was sent with the Secretary's letter of 25th February 1904. We propose to approve of the suggested action, *vide* Lord Lansdowne's Despatch of the 4th April 1903 to Sir A. Hardinge.

Repeated to Tehran; addressed to Secretary of State.

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No. 150.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 12th March 1904, 5 p. m.

Private. I propose to sail on the 30th April from Bombay.

R.

No. 151.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 14th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

With reference to the question of British Military Officers visiting Japan, Manchuria, or Korea, may I expect soon to receive a reply to my telegram of the 28th February?

R.

No. 152.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 14th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

I have received a telegram, dated the 10th March 1904, from Lieutenant-Colonel C. F. Minchin, Meshed, which is as follows:—

"Except thousand men left at Merv to strengthen garrison, reinforcements mentioned in my telegram of 1st March have all gone beyond Merv, it is said to Tashkend. There has been no increase of the garrisons at Panjdeh or Kushk. The majority of the Ashkabad garrison is also reported to have been sent in the same direction. See my telegram of the 4th March also. It appears certain that not only Akhal Turkomans, but all Turkomans, have been disarmed. The reason is said to be that they refused to supply twenty thousand horsemen for duty of guarding the Manchurian Railway."

R.

No. 153.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 15th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

With reference to your telegram, dated the 10th March, regarding Aden, no action will be taken against the Saidis without His Majesty's Government being consulted.

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R.

No. 154.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 16th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

I have received the following from Minchin, dated Meshed, 14th March :—"Enquiries are being made here by the Russian Bank Manager regarding the possibility of buying a large quantity of wheat, &c., and he states that a very large force is to be mobilised in Turkestan. It is rumoured here that Russian force is to be moved to Seistan as an answer to McMahon's Commission. The purchase of Seistan revenue grain may have some connection with this possibly."

R.

No. 155.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 16th March 1904, 9 p. m.

Private. With reference to my private telegram of the 8th instant, I have endeavoured, without success, to ascertain further about Cogswell. He declines to apply himself, and consequently I have not seen the testimonials he possesses.

R.

No. 156.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 17th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

The following has been received from Mr. Dobbs, dated Kila Nao, 7th March :—

"Many circumstances now point to joint Russian and Afghan project to get me out of Afghanistan and build all remaining pillars in concert immediately after my departure, before British Government receives information, or has time to protest. They would then refuse, on various pretexts, to allow the re-entry of a British officer to inspect the pillars after repair, and the diplomatic triumph of Russia would be complete. I am sending a letter giving the ground for my belief."

No. 157.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 17th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

With reference to Sir A. Hardinge's letter of November 29th, we propose to send Ashgar Ali, lately Agent at Bampur, from Kerman to be Vice-Consul at Bam. Estimated annual cost Rs. 4,488 divisible equally between India and Home Treasury. Please obtain recognition if you agree.

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No. 158.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 17th March 1904, 4 p. m.

Private. With reference to your private telegram of 16th March, I am profoundly sensible of the great and unexpected compliment paid me by the Prime Minister, with the King's permission, of the offer of the Lord Wardenship, and of the honour of being added to so illustrious a roll. But I am ignorant of the obligations as to resi ence or maintenance. May these be communicated to Lady Curzon, so that she may advise ?

No. 159.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 18th March 1904. (Despd. from Finl. Dept.)

We ask permission to publish amount of loan to be raised in India as soon as fixed. We will telegraph you amount, and, having done so, communicate same evening to local Press for publication on the following day.

R.

No. 160.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 18th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to my telegram of February 29th. The Hashmat-ul-Mulk left Seistan for Tehran on March 10th.

Repeated to Tehran and addressed to Secretary of State.

R.

No. 161.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 19th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

I have received reliable information from Lhasa, that the old Amban has received special orders from the Emperor of China to go personally and meet the Mission. He made several attempts to carry out the instructions, but the Tibetans would not furnish the carriage. On receipt of the news that the Mission had reached Phari and halted there, he tried to collect the carriage himself and start, whereupon the Tibetans peremptorily refused to allow him to carry out the Emperor's orders. It might be well to bring the fact to the knowledge of the Chinese Government. We have now authorised Colonel

Younghusband to advance without further delay to Gyantse, after informing the new Amban of his intention to do so, and reminding him of Wai Wupu's orders to him and his own statement to Townley in January 1903. He will start in few days' time.

Repeated to the British Minister at Pekin; addressed to Secretary of State.

No. 162.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 19th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to Colonel Kemball's letter, dated February 3rd, to Sir A. Hardinge, copy of which was forwarded with the Secretary's letter of the 18th February. We consider that a vigorous protest should at once be made against the disturbance of the existing sanitary arrangements, which were recently accepted by the Sanitary Board at Constantinople as wholly satisfactory, *vide* Clemow's report to O'Conor, dated January 13th, 1904.

Repeated to Sir A. Hardinge, Tehran; addressed Secretary of State London.

R.

No. 163.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 19th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to our Despatch, No. 41, Secret, Frontier, dated February 11th, and Sir N. O'Conor's No. 34 of January 25th to the Marquess of Lansdowne. If the Ambassador sees reason to suppose that the Mission to the Amir is likely to be despatched, I think the Sultan should be reminded of the agreement of 1880 with the Amir, whereby the latter is precluded from holding political relations with any Foreign Power except the English. Attention is invited to Sir P. Currie's telegrams to Foreign Office of 23rd August and 7th September 1897 on the subject.

R.

No. 164.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 19th March 1904, 5 p. m.

Please telegraph the duration of official and private mourning and any other instructions on account of the death of H. R. H. The Duke of Cambridge.

No. 165.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 19th March 1904, 4-10 p. m.

Private. Your private telegram of 18th instant. I will, with pleasure, reserve May 18th for you.

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R.

No. 166.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
P * Telegram, 19th March 1904, 5-30 p. m.

Private. I am greatly obliged for your private telegram of 18th March about Mr. Raleigh. May I submit a further suggestion? I entertain at a farewell dinner on the same night, as Mr. Raleigh, Sir Thoby Prinsep, who is also retiring. He is the senior Civilian in India, having arrived 48 years ago and served for 25 years as a Judge of the High Court. The honour of a K. C. I. E. would be a very appropriate and popular recognition of a unique career. If His Majesty sanctions this honour, I would invest both recipients after dinner on 28th March, and the honours should be announced on that day in the morning.

R.

No. 167.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
P * Telegram, 19th March 1904, 5-40 p. m.

Private. Please refer to your private telegram of the 18th instant. I have consulted Sir E. Law, who recommends Mr. Cogswell, but is in rather a difficult position, because Mr. Cogswell married his niece. I think you should decide upon credentials as known in England. If a man in India is to be appointed, Mr. Cogswell is probably the best available. Could he not be appointed on a terminable engagement in the first instance?

No. 167*a*.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
Telegram, 19th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Proposal to establish Branch of Imperial Bank of Persia at Birjand. Please refer to letter from Imperial Bank to Foreign Office, dated 2nd September 1903. I understand that Mr. Emmerson has reported favourably on the prospects of banking business, and the Russian Bank has already established a branch there. It would be well in my opinion to press Bank to follow Russian example. If guarantee is required, we are prepared to contribute half of the subsidy which may be finally decided upon, provided that His Majesty's Government will undertake to pay the other half, and subject to condition that amount of subsidy proposed be first telegraphed to us for our concurrence.

No. 168.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
Telegram, 20th March 1904. (Despd. from Finl. Dept.)

Your telegram of 19th March. Rupee loan. On latest Estimates we propose to fix amount at three crores, half of six. We shall communicate to Local Press this evening for publication tomorrow.

R.

No. 169.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 20th March 1904, 5-30 p. m.

Private. Please refer to my Foreign Secret telegram of today about the Amir of Afghanistan. If the Envoy to Kabul is required either now or in the autumn, I should propose to send Barnes. He is the only officer in India whom I could thoroughly trust. Present Foreign Secretary would never do. No objection from the Amir is anticipated by the Afghan Envoy here.

R.

No. 170.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 20th March 1904, 6-10 p. m.

Private. Please refer to my Foreign Secret telegram of today about Seistan Telegraphs. I hope you will support us in resisting Sir A. Hardinge's indifference about Seistan. He is angry with our officers there, and we get no backing from him. The developments of policy on the Russo-Afghan frontier will steadily increase the importance of Seistan, and we should adhere to the position which Lord Lansdowne has frequently taken up.

No. 171.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 20th March 1904, 6-30 p. m.

Private. Please refer to your private telegram of March 18th. In accepting the office of Lord Warden, I desire to express my profound acknowledgments of the great and undeserved honour bestowed upon me, and my desire to maintain at the proper level the responsibilities and obligations of the position.

No. 172.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 20th March 1904, 6-45 p. m.

Private. With reference to your private letter of March 3rd, I shall be very glad to have, for examination before I leave India, your and Austen Chamberlain's remarks upon our fiscal despatch.

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R.

No. 173.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 21st March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to Sir A. Hardinge's telegram of 17th March regarding Seistan telegraphs. The line for which we are pressing has nothing to do with the Persian Telegraph Convention, but is an extension of the Indian field telegraph line from Robat to Nasratabad. *Vide* Godley's letter to Foreign Office of 20th January. Sir A. Hardinge agreed with me in the Gulf that, in view of the secret concession to the Russians of the line from Bajgirhan to Kuchan, and of the Persian concession about Russian signallers, this could not be refused. *Vide* my telegram of 9th December. Nevertheless, it is now proposed to drop it on a plea which is surely irrelevant. We press strongly for reconsideration. The extension is further justified by the necessity of communicating with McMahon, detained in the interests of the Persian Government in Seistan, and a refusal would seem to be almost an unfriendly act. The withdrawal of our telegraph party from the frontier would have a most unfortunate local effect while the Mission is still in the neighbourhood. We presume Sir A. Hardinge's remarks do not apply to the extension of the Central Persian line to Koh-i-Malik Siah by Nasratabad-Ispe, which is within the terms of the Convention as admitted by him in the telegram of the 6th October. Pending the decision of the other point, the telegraph party might be employed on the commencement of this line from the eastern end, for which two months of good weather remain. Repeated to Sir A. Hardinge.

R.

No. 174.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 21st March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Affairs in Afghanistan. Please refer to my telegram of 17th March about Mr. Dobbs; also your telegrams of the 18th and 19th March. Reports from Mr. Dobbs show that constant communications are proceeding between Russian and Afghan officers on the Herat Frontier, that the Afghan Governor and General are both involved in the intrigue, and that Mr. Dobbs' departure is being urged to pave the way for Russo-Afghan re-erection of pillars as soon as he has gone. This seems to render the immediate withdrawal of Mr. Dobbs very undesirable. The situation must further be viewed in the light of a long letter from the Amir, dated the 1st March, in reply to my letter of the 4th February. A copy left Bombay the day before yesterday. The Amir declines the invitation to India, not directly, but by implication. He does not mention the 1880 Agreement, but argues that the 1893 Agreement

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is still standing, that there is no need for a new Agreement, and that if the old one is cancelled, what hope can there be for the permanence of the new? He then develops his interpretation of the existing Agreements, which is that we should provide arms and money, while he will do the fighting. He intimates that the Afghans cannot join with people of other nationalities, the meaning of which, according to his Envoy here, is that the British are in no circumstances to enter Afghanistan. The Amir states his intention to meet the Russians in the battlefield, and gives a long account of alleged military preparations so as to enable the Afghans to fight the Russians in the hill country. He anticipates, however, that they may be destroyed because of insufficient ammunition, in which case the regret and repentance will be ours. He says that he recently proposed to his people protective measures, including railroads and telegraph from Kabul to Herat and Kandahar, but that they would not have them. I regard this passage as an intentional warning to us against asking for a similar concession. Finally he invites me to tell him our arrangements and to send an early reply. This communication seems to place future relations with the Amir on a somewhat different basis, and suggests the undesirability of our continuing to be bound by obligations which our ally does not wish us, and which local conditions render it impossible, to discharge. It provides an escape from the necessity of going to war with Russia over an invasion of Afghanistan, unless for other reasons we choose to do so. My inclination would be to point out to the Amir the serious nature of his proposals, particularly as regards his advanced frontiers, and if he persists, then to accept release from the liability which we are no longer desired to fulfil, and to conclude new and more restricted arrangements with him for the future. Perhaps the best plan would be to send a brief reply informing the Amir that, as he is unable to come to India, the invitation is no longer pressed, and that after I have consulted His Majesty's Government in England, I propose to send an officer to Kabul in the autumn to discuss matters with him. This would enable an exhaustive examination of future policy to be conducted between us in London. Should Russian complications be feared in the interim, an officer might proceed to Kabul at an earlier date. But he could hardly leave before I start, and I should be anxious about negotiations under these conditions.

Alternative plans of action would appear to be—

(1) To tell the Amir plainly that if he maintains present attitude, and declines to make a new Agreement in place of the old ones, he will endanger friendly relations. I entertain little doubt that this plan would be effective. But in the present position His Majesty's Government will probably be unwilling to adopt it.

(2) To send no reply to the contentious letters of the Amir and to leave him to infer our displeasure and to take the next step.

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(3) To give way altogether and accept a renewal of old engagements and subsidies without modification. Such a course might have been possible with a strong man like the late Amir. But with the present Amir it would seem to be attended with grave drawbacks. For it means the pouring into Afghanistan of unlimited arms and ammunition with our consent, and acceptance of undefined responsibility for the defence of a country which is incapable of defending itself, and will not let us defend it. Moreover it would render the Amir unmanageable. Pending further instructions from His Majesty's Government, our reply about Mr. Dobbs is temporarily suspended.

No. 175.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 22nd March 1904. (Despd. from Mily. Dept.)

Commander-in-Chief in India recommends Sclater, Royal Artillery, for appointment Quarter-Master-General in India. He has not qualifications laid down, has not passed language test, nor served in India. Commander-in-Chief in India points out that his subordinates Mullaly, Fenton, both specially experienced Indian conditions; and there is no other officer of the British Army in India of requisite rank whom he can nominate, or in England as good. We support recommendation and agree there is no other officer of the British Army in India equally fitted for post.

R.

No. 176.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 22nd March 1904, 2-10 p. m. (Despd. from Mily. Dept.)

With reference to your telegram of the 18th instant, the Commander-in-Chief has directed Sir M. Gerard and Sir Ian Hamilton to report to him direct. Sir M. Gerard might send copies of his reports to the War Office. In regard to Sir Ian Hamilton the Commander-in-Chief considers, and we agree, that it will be best for Sir Ian Hamilton to report to India independently of Sir W. Nicholson. The Intelligence Branches, India and England, will, by the exchange of independent opinions, be mutually benefited.

R.

No. 177.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 22nd March 1904, 2 p. m.

Private. I am much obliged to you for giving me an opportunity of expressing an opinion regarding Somaliland, which I do after consultation with Lord Kitchener and Sir E. Elles. We concur in thinking that Indian interests

are not concerned in Somaliland. The transfer to the Foreign Office was proposed by Lord Salisbury on account of Abyssinia and the Valley of the Nile, and the views of the Indian Government about obligations in the interior were stated in Lord Elgin's Despatch of the 22nd April 1896. We had no idea that the recent operations had been conducted mainly, if not entirely, in the interests of India, for we do not remember ever being consulted or expressing an opinion on the matter. We do not think that Indian interests justify any expenditure of Indian money in Somaliland. Even if it were given up, the only result to India would be that Aden supplies would cost more. If any proposal to make us pay is made, I hope that you will resist it.

R.

No. 178.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 22nd March 1904, 5-30 p. m.

Private. Mission to Kabul. If my proposals as regards the despatch of a Mission in the early autumn are accepted, would it not be well that Mr. Dobbs should be kept on the Herat frontier during the summer, in view of the critical condition of affairs there, and that he should come down to join our Envoy at Kabul in the autumn? Whether he is required to do anything on the frontier or not would depend on the Amir, and perhaps also on developments of the war between Russia and Japan.

Made official, *vide* Telegram from Secretary of State, dated 7th April 1904.

R.

No. 179.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 23rd March 1904. (Despd. from Mily. Dept.)

Secret. Please refer to your telegram of 18th instant. We cannot say offhand, owing to the transition state of the factories, what would be the cost of keeping an additional twelve months' stock of materials, but the annual average cost of stores imported amounts to £276,000. Stock of material in advance for rifle and gun ammunition is twenty-one months': for other articles fifteen months'.

R.

No. 180.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 23rd March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Minchin wires from Meshed, dated 20th March, as follows:—

"On March 6th complete battery of 8 guns with horses reached Merv by rail from Askabad direct. Fifty Cossacks left Merv for Kushk the same day. On

March 10th five big and eight ordinary guns and three hundred cases of rifles arrived at Krasnovodsk from Russia, followed on March 12th by 2,500 Infantry. Arrangements are being made in Krasnovodsk for the accommodation of a large number of troops.

507 Infantry have left Krasnovodsk detachments for Russia."

R.

No. 181.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 24th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

I have received the following from Younghusband :—

Begins. Thuna, 23rd March. Captain Parr has informed me that new Amban is using great effort to make Dalai Lama reasonable. Parr has written to warn Amban of extreme seriousness of situation, and urged him to use every coercive measure possible with Dalai Lama. Parr asks me to postpone forward movement for ten days, as he believes that there is chance of Amban being successful. I have replied agreeing not to advance from here for ten days from date of his letter, 19th March. I have added that we shall certainly fight if opposed, but Government are anxious to avoid such necessity, and I would be glad if he would make renewed effort for peaceful settlement. Our own account shows new Amban to be stronger than last one, and I am regaining hope we may get Mission to Gyantse without fighting. *Ends.*

Repeated to the British Minister at Peking. Addressed to the Secretary of State.

R.

No. 182.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 24th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please see Mr. Spring Rice's letter to the Foreign Office of the 26th October last. Can you procure any later information on the subject of the Orenburg-Tashkend railway ?

R.

No. 183.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 24th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

The following has been received from Mr. Dobbs, dated Kila Nao, 14th March :—

Begins. With reference to the report of Russian movements sent for my information by the Consulate-General, Meshed, an Afghan sowar, who left Chahkolari today, tells me he learnt yesterday from the shepherds, who were at

Karatapa on March 12th, that the ordinary Russian garrison of two thousand men at Sheikh Junaid has been reduced to a thousand during the past month; that there is no sign of reinforcement; and that this fact is notorious all along the Kushk frontier. There are also no signs of the collection of camels by the Russians near Kushk. I believe that information in possession of the Afghan authorities with us is the same as above. *Ends.*

R.

No. 184.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 24th March 1904, 1-20 p. m.

Private. Please refer to your private telegram of 21st instant on the subject of Cotton Improvement. My advisers had already recommended the rejection of Greenway's scheme when your telegram arrived. I have persuaded them to agree to give £3,000 to the scheme on the condition that Lancashire does the same. It is really too strong that Lancashire people should press us to take these steps in their interest, and then expect us to bear the entire cost. The real explanation of their attitude, according to Greenway, is that they are afraid if we grow long stapled cottons that India, and not Lancashire, will be the market. Were it not for your appeal, I would not support the proposals in which I have no great belief at all, and I would prefer to spend money under the control of our Agricultural Department on increased cotton production.

No. 185.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 24th March 1904, 5 p. m.

Private. Please inform me of the date of arrival of Somers Cocks.

No. 186.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 24th March 1904, 5 p. m.

Private. With reference to your private telegram of March 23rd, regarding the Quarter-Master-General, I entirely agree and have spoken to Kitchener. The explanation is that he resents doing anything through the Military Department, and is constantly acting in irregular manner at its expense. I have only supported Sclater, whom I do not know, because Elles concurs with Chief that we have no qualified man in India.

R.

No. 187.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 25th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Afghanistan. The Amir has replied in his usual style in a long letter, dated March 13th, to my letter of the 13th February, about the Mohmand frontier. The letter contains little but verbal quibbles, says nothing about sending Afghan Commissioners, and endeavours to hang the question of demarcation on to prior re-acceptance of the 1893 Agreement. Meanwhile Colonel Deane strongly recommends that the demarcation be dropped for the present, on the grounds that intrigue has been proceeding among the tribes; that if Mission is strictly to follow the Durand line, arrangements will have to be made with certain of these which will involve further delay and possible trouble; and that the attitude of the Amir does not suggest the prospect of an advantageous agreement. Colonel Deane does not think that the interests of Government would be in any way injuriously affected by abandonment. I concur with him. Our Commissioners have already been waiting at Peshawar for two months, and nothing has been done. Even if they now set to work, little could be accomplished before the hot weather, and obstruction may be anticipated. I therefore think that the best plan will be to inform the Amir that, owing to delays and to the approach of the hot weather, it seems desirable to postpone demarcation till the autumn. The matter could then be taken up after deputation of an officer to Kabul. The Amir's object is very clear. It is to make the settlement of all minor objects dependent upon a renewal of old agreements without qualification. So long as this is his spirit, I do not think that the demarcation will lead to any practical result: and I would prefer to avoid additional cause of friction.

May I intimate the postponement briefly to the Amir?

No. 188.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 25th March 1904, 3 p. m.

Private. Please refer to your private telegram of 22nd instant. Under our rules the charges for escorts accompanying political missions must appear under Army. But we do not think that any attention will be called to the fact in India, or that it would be expedient to give a special explanation.

No. 189.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 26th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please see your telegram of 1st March on the subject of Siam. The Lieutenant-Governor of Burma considers that the surrender of removal

clause in Article VIII of Agreement of 1883 is most undesirable, and that the proposed Legal Adviser would be an inadequate substitute for this. In view of the fact that restrictions of acquisition of land in the Treaty of 1856 are quite out of date, and subjects of other nations are not liable to such restrictions, he suggests the revision of the Agreement of 1883 as proposed by Beckett with revision of the Treaty of 1856 to get rid of these disabilities. I concur with the Burma Government unless indeed the fact that nationals of other Powers can acquire lands has already, under Article X of the Treaty of 1856 by which we are entitled to most favoured nation treatment, modified restrictions of clause IV. Matters might be left as they are, if this can be successfully asserted.

No. 190.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 26th March 1904, 2 p. m.

Private. Has my appointment as Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports been announced? If not, when is announcement likely to be made?

R.

No. 191.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 27th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Colonel Younghusband reports, on the information received from a Chinese official, that under 3,000 armed Tibetans available between Tuna and Kala Tso, and that there is no unusual gathering at Gyantse or Lhasa. The Amban is having difficulty with the Dalai Lama, but is endeavouring to come to meet Colonel Younghusband.

Repeated to Peking; addressed to the Secretary of State.

R.

No. 192.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 28th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to Sir A. Hardinge's telegram of 22nd instant, regarding affairs in Seistan. Continued inaction is greatly to be regretted. The Seistan line is at present more important than the Henjam connection, where, owing to the failure of Indo-European authorities in London to send stores, there may be some delay. Surely the presence of McMahon's Commission is a good reason for the extension of the telegraph there; and if there is a transient objection to the construction to Nasratabad, the line might be taken to McMahon's Camp, and afterwards diverted to the capital. The Moharrum is just

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over, and an early decision seems desirable. In the meantime what is our construction party to do?

Repeated to Sir A. Hardinge, and addressed to the Secretary of State.

R.

No. 193] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 28th March 1904, 4 p. m.

Private. Please refer to your private telegram of the 25th instant regarding Mr. Dobbs. The advantage of his retention on the frontier is, that as long as he is there, the Russian and Afghan officials cannot proceed in combination to re-erect the remaining pillars, and that the local Russo-Afghan intrigues are thwarted. I am quite willing, however, to address the Amir in the sense of your telegram of the 18th instant, and propose following as general line :—We sent Mr. Dobbs to the frontier at the urgent request of the Amir himself, both to repair pillars and to prevent intrigues of Russians, at which His Highness had expressed himself seriously disturbed. Mr. Dobbs, since he has been there, has discovered that a large number of pillars are broken down, or no longer exist ; that the Russian authorities are making overtures to restore them with the Afghans as soon as Mr. Dobbs has gone, the danger of which must be obvious to the Amir ; that the local tribes are favourably disposed to the Russians, and have entered into close trading relations with them ; that the Russian correspondence with the Afghans, which the Amir has so frequenly denounced, is constantly proceeding ; and that the defences of the frontier are very weak. The opportunity of using these arguments to advantage is afforded by a friendly letter, just received from the Amir, dated the 16th March, accepting Colonel McMahon's Seistan boundary. In this letter the Amir describes the trickery of the Russians on the Herat border in persuading Afghan subjects to sell lands to them, and adds that in two years' time he expects to be at war with Russia. This remarkable announcement enables us to fortify the Amir's own argument by Mr. Dobbs' experience. I would then say that, in these circumstances, we had thought that the presence of Mr. Dobbs on the frontier and demarcation by him would have been welcome to the Amir himself. But if he does not desire that we should protect his interests in the quarter, or does not attach as much importance as ourselves to the maintenance of the *status quo* there, we are ready to withdraw Mr. Dobbs at once, and to order him to proceed to Kabul, where he can give personal explanations to the Amir. The latter, however, will realise that the responsibility for this decision, and its consequences on the frontier, will not be ours. We will instruct Mr. Dobbs as soon as we hear what His Highness' present wishes are.

Above telegram made official, *vide* telegram from Secretary of State of 7th April 1904.

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R.

No. 194.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 28th March 1904, 5-45 p. m.

Private. With reference to your private telegram of the 25th March, Mr. Thomas would not do. He is an ex-policeman, and has no expert knowledge of printing business. Nor do we want a Master printer from home, having already several of this class. Sir E. Law says Mr. Cogswell will accept a terminable engagement, and in our despatch we proposed a three years' term. I suggest offer to Mr. Cogswell in these circumstances.

No. 195.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 29th March 1904. (Despd. from Home Dept.)

Your telegram dated 22nd March. Unless Elliot publishes, we do not propose to take further action.

R.

No. 196.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 29th March 1904, 4-15 p. m.

Private. The Advocate-General of Bengal, Mr. Woodroffe, proposes to retire on 28th April next. Mr. O'Kinealy, formerly Standing Counsel, is unanimously recommended to me for the post, which, under the terms of your predecessor's Despatch of 2nd November 1899, is of 5 years' duration. May I make him the offer of the appointment?

No. 197.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 30th March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

We have received from the Political Agent at Muscat telegraphic information that the French Consul there has pressed the Sultan to forward a strongly worded letter from him to the Sheikh of Debai on the Trucial Coast concerning a boat sailing under the French flag, alleged to have been wrecked and plundered in Debai territory. The *Infernet* is expected at Muscat shortly, and, it is believed, will proceed to Debai. Colonel Kemball believes that the French Consul is unaware of the engagements of March 1892, by which the Trucial Chiefs are precluded from corresponding with any Foreign

Power, and proposes to inform him, expressing willingness to make enquiry and to do his best to settle the matter if particulars are furnished. I have authorised this step.

With a view to prevent a disagreeable situation arising, I would suggest the desirability of the situation being explained to the French Government.

R.

No. 198.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 30th March 1904, 4-30 p. m.

The *Pioneer* has selected Colonel Hawkins, Artillery, Half Pay, as correspondent, and he has started for Japan. Have His Majesty's Government any objection to this arrangement?

R.

No. 199.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 30th March 1904, 8 p. m.

Private. With reference to your private telegram of the 28th March, we have carefully considered the question of extending the railway beyond Peshawar. Lord Kitchener traversed the ground last spring, accompanied by officers with railway experience, and I explained the matter at length in private letters to Lord George Hamilton. Our conclusions were:—

(1) Not to extend the line beyond Jamrud;

(2) To consider the construction of a new broad gauge from Peshawar to Warsak near Michni, thence by the right bank of the Kabul River to Kam Shilman, and through Loi Shilman over Shilman Gakhe down to Kam Dakka.

From such observation as could be made, the Commander-in-Chief regarded this as a practicable alignment for broad gauge throughout, with possibly two reversing stations. The tribes are anxious that the line should be made. The question has been suspended, because we hoped to get an outlet at Kam Dakka as the result of the Mohmand demarkation with the Amir, and were awaiting the meeting with him to make full explanations. Without these, the undertaking would certainly be regarded by the Amir as menacing Kabul. The work could hardly be commenced before the autumn, but should probably be first sequel to arrangement with the Amir.

We regard the increase in manufacturing stocks, that is raw materials referred to in our telegram of March 23rd, as essential, and necessary calculations are in hand. But at the present juncture we consider it of still greater importance to obtain, firstly, imported stores for mobilisation equipment for units

comprised in Lord Kitchener's proposed field army over and above the existing Field Army; secondly, Ordnance Field Park for extra divisions and Cavalry Brigades, and 12 months' imported stores for maintaining the army in the field. The cost of Ordnance stores would be £480,000, excluding raw material. Full statements can be sent from Simla for both Ordnance supply and medical. Lord Kitchener's proposals for redistribution and increased field army leave this mail; also a Memorandum on preparations for war. We are consulting Local Governments.

R.

No. 200.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 31st March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

I have received the following from Colonel Younghusband, dated 31st March :—

Begins. Force advanced towards Guru today. Lhasa General met me, and asked us retire Yatung to negotiate. I replied we had tried for fifteen years make settlement at Yatung, and I had waited eight months in Tibet. I had lately informed Amban I was going to advance Gyantse, and today I was going to Guru. If they opposed us, General Macdonald would have to clear a passage for Mission. Lhasa General then retired and force advanced. I asked General Macdonald to order troops not to fire unless Tibetans fired. Tibetans cleared out of Sangars without firing. We are now moving to Guru itself. *Ends.*

Repeated to Peking; addressed to Secretary of State.

R.

No. 201.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 31st March 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Seistan Boundary. The Amir has answered my letters of the 22nd November 1903 and 15th February 1904. He explains the delay as having been caused by local references, and accepts Colonel McMahon's award, though it involves a loss of 176 square miles, on the ground that the Afghans ought to have erected boundary pillars in accordance with Goldsmid's line and occupied up to it. If Colonel McMahon had persisted, however, the Persians would have called on the Russians, who would have gained influence from ultimate concession of Colonel McMahon. The latter, therefore, acted with discretion.

The above passage has a rather ironical appearance. The Amir then asks me to instruct Colonel McMahon not to stay further in Seistan but to return to India. He deprecates the erection of any boundary pillars, because Goldsmid erected none, and because of his experience of Russian trickery on the Herat border, where the Afghans have been persuaded to mortgage lands to the Russians. This, he thinks, will end in hostilities with Russia before two years. If Afghanistan is destroyed, what good would pillars be? If Afghans win, they will resume the lands forfeited by the award. He therefore hopes that Colonel McMahon will not use words describing his award as final and perpetual. *Ends.*

It is, of course, impossible for Colonel McMahon to leave without demarcating the boundary. Further, the Amir has forgotten that the irrigation questions, mentioned in my letter to him of November 24th, have not been settled. The Persian Government attached more importance to these than to the boundary.

I propose to reply briefly that I am glad the Amir accepts the award, and that I will order Colonel McMahon to return, as soon as he has carried out the above objects, which are necessary to prevent a revival of disputes.

R.

No. 202.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 31st March 1904. (Despd. from Rev. & Agrl. Dept.)

Should British Cotton-Growing Association approve scheme and contribute half cost of pioneer work, Government of India will contribute similar amount not exceeding £3,000.

R.

No. 203.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 31st March 1904, 3 p. m.

Private. With reference to your private telegram of March 30th, regarding Mr. Dobbs, I am addressing the Amir as instructed. Am I to understand that no *ad interim* reply is to be sent to him on the general question, as suggested in my telegram of 21st March? If such a reply be sent, no mention need perhaps be made of the despatch of an Envoy; since before the autumn the Amir may have altered his views about a personal visit: and it would be sufficient to say that after consultation with His Majesty's Government, an answer will be made to him.

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R.

No. 204.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 1st April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to Sir A. Hardinge's telegram of 29th March. Seistan telegraph. McMahon has still to demarcate the frontier and to settle water disputes which was the main object for which the Persian Government pressed for British intervention. These proceedings will occupy several months. Now that our telegraph has reached the borders of Seistan, it does not appear unreasonable to ask that the British Camp, or preferably the Seistan Capital, should be connected with the Indian line. As soon as the Mission has finally withdrawn, the Persians will find excellent excuses for a refusal, and we may fail altogether. The Shah is not, as a rule, very punctilious about his verbal promises to us. I am sorry to appear insistent. But may I expect any support from the Foreign Office in this matter ?

This telegram is not repeated to Sir A. Hardinge.

R.

No. 205.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 1st April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

I have received the following from Colonel Younghusband, dated March 31st.

Begins. Guru village offered some resistance, but has been occupied. Advanced supply depôt will be established there, and force returns here this evening. Tibetans have lost three hundred or more killed and many wounded and captured. We have no killed, and only a few wounded, none except Candler, *Daily Mail* correspondent, severely. Lhasa General and another General were among killed. Fight took place at post which they had recently built actually on the roadway. Here they were surrounded to the extent that our Sepoys' rifles were pointed over the wall into their camp. Troops exercised utmost restraint, and no violence was used, while O'Connor informed Lhasa General that his men must give up their arms in which case they would be allowed to retire. Lhasa General continued his foolish ineptitudes. Order was then given by General Macdonald to actually commence disarming Tibetans. This they resisted, attacking the troops with swords and firing. Firing on our side then commenced. It was entirely due to the Tibetans being utterly unable to realise, even with our troops all round them, how serious the situation was. Three Russian rifles were observed in their hands. *Ends.*

Repeated to Peking; addressed to Secretary of State.

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R.

No. 206.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 1st April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

I have received the following from Minchin, Meshed, dated 30th March 1904. "My telegram March 29th. Herat Agent states that the arrival of guns at Sheikh Junaid from Merv is reported by Afghan frontier officers. I believe that Dobbs is purposely misinformed by Afghans lest he should make arrival of Russian reinforcements excuse for stopping longer on frontier."

R.

No. 207.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 1st April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

I have received the following telegram from General Macdonald, dated Thuna, 31st ultimo :—

Begins. I moved to Guru this morning to establish a supply depôt at that place, taking the following force with me :—Two guns, No. 7 Mountain Battery; two 7-pounders, 8th Gurkhas; one-and-a half companies, Mounted Infantry; three companies, 23rd Pioneers; four companies, 32nd Pioneers; two companies, 8th Gurkhas; machine guns, Norfolks, and section field hospital. We moved out of Thuna at 8 A.M., the ground being covered with snow, about two inches of which fell last night. Colonel Younghusband accompanied me. When we had moved about four miles across the plain, we were met by a deputation of Tibetan leaders who demanded our retiring to Yatung, and threatened trouble if we advanced. Colonel Younghusband replied that we would proceed to Guru, and asked if they were prepared (*sic*) to oppose us, to which no definite answer was given. Colonel Younghusband accordingly asked me to refrain from firing till fired at. A large number of armed Tibetans, estimated at about 2,000, were observed on a hill, jutting out into the plain, some 4 miles short of Guru, where they occupied sangars and a high wall commanding the road. I advanced in attack formation, shouldering the Tibetans off the hill and outflanking them on the plains without firing, the troops exercising the greatest restraint. The result was that 1,500 Tibetan troops collected behind the high wall blocking the road and refused to budge. They were informed that they would have to lay down their arms, and an attempt was accordingly made to disarm them, a portion of the reserve being moved up for the purpose. The Lhasa leaders then incited an attack upon us, the Lhasa Depon firing the first shot and the Tibetans firing point-blank and charging with swords. They were, however, so hemmed in that they could not make use of their numbers, and after a few minutes were in full retreat under a heavy fire of guns, maxims, and rifles which caused them heavy loss.

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The 2nd Mounted Infantry were despatched in pursuit, and the balance of the troops, re-forming, pushed on to Guru. The two eastern Guru villages were evacuated, but the western one was held, and, after being shelled, was taken by the 2nd Mounted Infantry and Gurkhas, the garrison surrendering. This ended the engagement, except that the 1st Mounted Infantry continued the pursuit for some miles further. Our casualties are—Major Wallace Dunlop slightly wounded; Mr. Candler, *Daily Mail* correspondent, severely wounded, and seven sepoys wounded. The enemy's loss is nearly 500 killed and wounded, and 200 prisoners; all their camp and baggage, about 60 yaks and 30 mules, with 2 jingals and a large number of matchlocks and swords, together with a few breech-loaders, two of which were of Russian make. Amongst the Tibetans killed was the chief Lhasa Depon and the Lama representative of the Golden Monastery; also one Shigatse Depon; whilst the Phari Depon was captured severely wounded. Two companies, 32nd Pioneers, and the 2nd Mounted Infantry are established at Guru as an advanced post, the remaining troops returning to Thuna by 7 P.M., after a long and trying day, having marched 21 miles and fought two engagements. Fuller details follow. I am writing a report. All Tibetans wounded have been brought in and are being attended to. Addressed Adjutant-General; repeated Quarter-Master-General; Military; Military Secretary, Viceroy; Military Secretary, Chief; Foreign; Political, Bengal. *Ends.*

R.

No. 208.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 1st April 1904, 3-30 p. m.

Private. Had not we better make official my private telegrams of 22nd and 28th March and your replies of 25th and 30th March about Mr. Dobbs?

R.

No. 209.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 1st April 1904, 8-50 p. m.

Private. With reference to your private telegram of March 30th, I shall be very happy to confer with the Defence Committee. Kitchener will depute Colonel Mullaly, who has worked at the subject with him, but in regard to any subject on which he has not stated his own views, he asks not to be bound by Mullaly's opinion.

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No. 210.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 4th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Colonel Younghusband telegraphs from Thuna, 1st April :—

Begins. Appears from reports of officers who first approached Tibetan post on road that Tibetans were just commencing to stream away when Lhasa General rode through them and made them remain. Troops in clearing sangars on hillside simply made Tibetans move on, but allowed them to retreat without firing. It was when a report was brought to General Macdonald that Tibetans in the post, which actually blocks the thoroughfare, were refusing to retreat, though surrounded at point-blank range, that Macdonald and I agreed they must be disarmed. Lhasa General himself tried to prevent disarmament and shot sepoy with his revolver. This is believed to be the first shot. The Lama representative of the Golden Monastery was among the killed. He was the most insolent of three Lamas I saw at Guru in January, and a thorough-going obstructionist. I trust the tremendous punishment they have received will prevent further fighting and induce them at last to negotiate. The ordinary soldiers were before this only half-hearted, and I doubt if Lhasa authorities will be able to induce them to face us again. We shall advance from here in two or three days. *Ends.*

No. 211.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 5th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Colonel Younghusband wires from Thuna, 3rd April :—

Begins. I have received despatch from Amban in reply to mine. He says he was most anxious to come and meet me on his first arrival, but Dalai Lama refused him transport. He now intends to come and meet me as soon as possible. In view of Tibetan obstinacy he says there is no help for it but I must go to Gyantse, though Dalai Lama has written to him that I should go back to Yatung. Messenger, who brought this despatch, saw Tibetans flying from fight in abject terror, but no enemy met. I have written to Amban, giving him short account of fight, saying I shall be in Gyantse in another week's time, and hope to meet him with high Tibetan official there to make a settlement, and prevent further bloodshed. Addressed Foreign; repeated Viceroy. *Ends.*

R.

No. 212.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 6th April 1904.

A letter about Mr. Dobbs, on the lines approved by His Majesty's Government, has been sent to the Amir.

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No. 213.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 6th April 1904. (Despd. from Home Dept.)

Your telegram dated 22nd March. Chemist for Sibpur. Bloxam demands monthly salary of Rs. 1,000. We consider this too high, and have suggested to Government of Bengal that Tate's furlough should be deferred until selection by you of substitute on the usual-terms.

No. 214.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, Ramshai, 7th April 1904, 11-15 a. m.

Private. May I ask for a reply to my private telegram of 24th March about Mr. Somers Cocks ?

R.

No. 215.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P Telegram, 8th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

I have received the following from Colonel Younghusband, dated Guru, 4th April. *Begins.* Ma, a delegate from the Amban, in place of Ho Chao, and Li, arrived here from Lhasa with the usual request that we should return to Yatung. He says he saw 200 Tibetan troops between here and Gyantse. *Ends.*

The above has been repeated to Sir E. Satow.

R.

No. 216.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P Telegram, 8th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Telegraphing from Kalatso on the 6th April, Colonel Younghusband reports that a Lhasa Major, who is in hospital there, informed him that at the engagement at Guru, the Tibetans had orders not to fire, but were told that if they retreated, or did not stop us, they would have their throats cut. He believes that this is probably a correct account. There are no signs of serious opposition between Kalatso and Gyantse. There are several villages in the neighbourhood of Kalatso whose inhabitants, including women, are now returning to their homes. They are friendly, and are bringing in fodder for which they are paid.

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R.

No. 217.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 9th April 1904.

British Agent reports that while Amir was out shooting on 28th, gun burst slightly injuring left hand, splinter just missing face. I am instructing Agent to convey my congratulations on His Highness' escape.

R.

No. 218.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P Telegram, 9th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Colonel Younghusband reports that the Amban delegate Ma says the property of the Generals and Lama killed at Guru has been confiscated by the Lhasa Government because of their failure to stop us, and that 1,000 Tibetans are collected thirteen miles beyond Chalu and reinforcements are hastening up; but he does not know if they really intend to fight.

R.

No. 219.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 9th April 1904, 10 a. m.

Private. With reference to your private telegram of the 7th instant, I agree that, in the circumstances, Mr. Somers-Cocks should postpone his departure till early in the autumn.

R.

No. 220.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 12th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

I should be glad of an early reply to my telegram of the 28th February, regarding British military officers visiting Japan, Manchuria, or Korea.

R.

No. 221.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 12th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to Sir A. Hardinge's commercial Despatch No. 2 of 30th January to the Foreign Office. If the penalties proposed to be included in the *Règlement Douanier* are intended to apply to all merchandize and not only to contraband, and if it is proposed to impose them for the minor offence of entering or

leaving Persia by other than recognized routes, I consider that there are strong objections. The customs authorities in Seistan are already levying heavy fines on caravans using unauthorized routes, and M. D'Hoedt recently threatened the imprisonment of a British subject on an alleged case of contraband, but the penalties now apparently proposed for using unauthorized routes would be out of all proportion to the offence. Apparently the rules are not enforced against Russian subjects, and the procedure followed in their case should hold good with British traders also. We do not object to a reasonable punishment for contraband trading, but the present almost unlimited powers of harassment possessed by Belgian customs officers should be curtailed.

Repeated to His Britannic Majesty's Minister, Tehran, and British Consul, Seistan; addressed Secretary of State for India.

R.

No. 222.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 13th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Clear the line. Foreign. Following from Younghusband dated Chalu, 13th April:—

Begins. Gyantse, 11th, by Chinese couriers.

General Macdonald has brought Mission here without loss single man. Tibetans who opposed us highly demoralised. This valley covered with well-built hamlets, cultivation everywhere, and numerous trees. Inhabitants mostly fled, but few who remain say this is on account of heavy demands of their own Government. News just arrived Tibetans are fleeing from fort, two Tibetan Generals have left, and Chinese delegate Ma with Tibetan Jongpen have come in. Ma says Amban will come as soon as he can arrange with the Dalai Lama, and that four Tibetan delegates of unknown position are on their way. Jongpen is in great fear, and will doubtless surrender fort tomorrow. *Ends.*

R.

No. 223.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 13th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

A full report of the Guru incident has been received from Colonel Younghusband. The essential points are the following:—1,000 yards from the spot where the Tibetans had erected sangars, Colonel Younghusband met the Lhasa General in Conference, told him we had no wish to fight, and would not if the Tibetans did not oppose us: but he must remove his soldiers from their position, or the military would have to clear the way. The Lhasa General replied by familiar appeals to retire to Yatung. The Conference having

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proved abortive, Colonel Younghusband asked General Macdonald, while advancing the troops, to order them not to fire until the Tibetans fired. The troops advanced with perfect discipline, not firing a shot and expecting at any moment a heavy fire from the sangars. The Tibetans showed great indecision, but were eventually outflanked, and retired from the sangars. An exception occurred in the case of the party occupying post on the plain who were made to return by the Lhasa General, and, though surrounded, declined to leave the wall built across the road. Colonel Younghusband and General Macdonald agreed that the only resource was to disarm them and let them go, and sent Captain O'Connor, who speaks Tibetan and was on friendly terms with the General, to inform him that this would be done. He remained sullen, and did nothing, but when after a pause disarmament commenced he threw himself upon a sepoy, drew his revolver, and shot him in the jaw. Other shots were immediately fired by the Tibetans. Their swordsmen made a rush out; and not till then did the British troops commence firing. Colonel Younghusband adds that the occurrence was one which he deeply regretted, and had laboured incessantly to avoid. It was entirely due to the gross ignorance of the Tibetans and the stubborn hostility of their leaders from Lhasa. As soon as the firing was over the Tibetans were treated with the utmost consideration, the prisoners were released, and the wounded were collected and cared for; and the entire medical staff was sent out to tend them.

We join with Colonel Younghusband in deploring the occurrence, which we had delayed for months and exhausted every effort of diplomacy in our anxiety to avoid. But we acquit our forces of all blame in the matter, and we think that in the circumstances of unparalleled rigour and difficulty, where the troops have had to be on the watch against assault, night and day, with the thermometer below zero at an elevation where fighting has never before taken place, they have shown exemplary patience and fortitude. Moreover, in advancing without firing a shot right up to a position held by 2,000 armed Tibetans, they incurred the risk of a military disaster to the British force, for which they would certainly have been blamed, but which they were willing to run in the supreme desire to avoid bloodshed. The effects of the Guru incident are seen in the the advance to Gyantse, where the force arrived two days ago.

R.

No. 224.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 13th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to Sir A. Hardinge's telegram, No. 58 of 31st March. Fars and Persian Gulf. We have no copy of Durand's Note of 19th January 1900, and would ask for this. As no ports exist in the present province of Fars,

the term 'ports of Fars' would cover the customs of old Fars, that is all Southern Persia. If the note merely repeated the intimation of the 8th April 1899, the Persian contention appears untenable. That intimation did not refer to customs at all, but merely informed the Persian Government that the interests of His Majesty's Government were incompatible with the control of a European Power over ports of the Persian Gulf. Lord Salisbury's telegram of the 21st March 1899, which was also formally communicated to the Sadr-i-Azam, distinctly mentions the customs of the Southern ports of Persia. Neither of these telegrams purported to cancel or limit our lien over all the Southern customs, and the Shah in his reply to the note of 21st March 1899 also spoke of the customs of Southern Persia. It is noteworthy that while the terms of the loan were being settled, Durand, on the 10th December 1899, gave the Sadr-i-Azam copy of the pledge of 1897 as indicating our claims. In the face of this and of Spring-Rice's protest of the 27th March 1900 and the admission of the Mushir-ed-Dowleh thereon, it would appear to be impossible for the Persian Government seriously to contend that by the words 'Fars and Gulf of Fars' they did not mean the Southern customs, and that Muhammerah was not included in the pledge to us.

Repeated to Teheran ; addressed to the Secretary of State.

No. 225.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 13th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Colonel Kemball telegraphs as follows:—

Begins. Having received information that Persian Government ship *Muzaffar*, which was on tour of Gulf with the Director-General of Customs intending to place Customs guards upon the Island of Tamb, I sent *Lawrence* to visit island. She returned today, and Commander reported that he found new flag-staff erected on the island with Persian flag flying, the old flag-staff with Arab flag which had been flying there having been forcibly removed. Two Persian Tufangchis were there, who showed papers, dated 31st March, signed by Director-General, appointing them guards on the island. They said that guards had also been posted on Bumusa. *Lawrence* did not visit this island, but I have received confirmation from somebody on board the *Muzaffar*, which returned to Bushire after the *Lawrence* had left. Persian flag is said to have been hoisted on Bumusa. It is very important that these guards should be removed at once, and that Persian flag should be taken down, Arab flag being reinstated. *Ends.*

The flag of the Sheikh of Shargah was formally hoisted in the summer of 1903 on Abu Musa and Tamb with the approval of the Government of

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India, *vide* papers forwarded with Secretary's letter of the 18th June 1903. We propose to request the Admiral to send a gunboat with representative of the Sheikh to haul down the Persian flag and replace Arab colours, and to remove the Persian guard to Persian territory. Please telegraph. if you approve. This unwarranted infringement of the rights of a British protected Chief may prove useful in the event of Persian remonstrance regarding the removal of the flag-staff standing on the plinth of the old telegraph station at Henjam, mentioned in paragraph 9 of our Despatch, dated the 21st January 1904, No. 16, Secret, External.

Repeated to H. B. M.'s Minister, Teheran, and to Naval Commander-in-Chief, East Indies Station.

No. 226.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 13th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to your telegram of the 30th March regarding Muscat. It has been impossible to reply owing to the absence of the Political Agent from Muscat. He has not yet returned, and we have no indication of his views or those of the Sultan. It is also important to consult Cox, who is on the sea returning to India. However, we strongly deprecate any such arrangement as that proposed, for the following reasons:

(1) Reference to Hague Arbitration can hardly be cancelled without the consent of the Sultan, who would almost certainly object to the proposed solution, and would consider that we had again given him away;

(2) We have no record of the reciprocal engagement of August 5th, 1890, and do not know what it was. At the very time when we have been trying to escape from dual control, it would seem to be most unfortunate to renew the declaration of 1862, which would indefinitely postpone any solution such as we desire.

(3) The arrangement seems altogether one-sided. The French offer a list of flag-holders in two months' time, although the Ambassador told Lord Lansdowne that it was already prepared on 18th May 1903. They also repeat the promise to issue no more flags without understanding with the Sultan which was reported by you on 26th May last. In return for this we are to recognise the French right to protect, both on land and in territorial waters, not only the owners of dhows carrying the French flag, but the Sultan's subjects residing or owning property in French colonies, such protection to be extended to families. This would seem to involve the full concession of French claims, which Lansdowne on the 19th May 1903 said His Majesty's Government were quite unable to understand. Further, we do not grasp the proposal not to renew the papers if the title is defective. Would they be cancelled at the

(121)

end of the year, or would the permission last for the life-time of the flag-holders ? We do not see what protection is required for French flag-holders beyond that conferred by Article XXX *et seq.* of Brussels Act. From every point of view it would seem preferable to persist in the reference to the Hague Tribunal, rather than make an arrangement which is sure to be regarded locally as a British surrender, and which will, in future, give infinite trouble.

No. 227.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 14th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Quarantine at Kermanshah. Please refer to Sir A. Hardinge's telegrams of the 9th and 10th of April. We understand that Captain H. Burden, I. M. S., now on leave, is desirous of service in Persia, and we suggest your ascertaining if he is willing to return from furlough to proceed to Kermanshah. We are addressing you by despatch regarding a permanent Consulate Surgeon for Arabistan and Kermanshah, and Captain Burden might subsequently fill this post. We propose pay of a second class Agency Surgeon *plus* Rs. 200 local allowance, divisible equally between Imperial and Indian revenues.

The above has been repeated to Sir A. Hardinge.

R.

No. 228.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 14th April 1904, 11-15 a. m.

Private. Please delete the word "unopposed" from my telegram of yesterday regarding Tibet which was based on the telegram from Colonel Younghusband making no mention of resistance. General Macdonald's telegram describing the action arrived subsequently.

R.

No. 229.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 14th April 1904, 3-30 p. m.

Private. Tibet. Please see your private telegram of 13th April. The division was most satisfactory. I am grateful for kind references to myself.

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R.

No. 230.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 15th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Your telegram 14th April. Please see our military telegram, dated 14th, giving information furnished by Macdonald received after despatch of my telegrams of 13th.

R.

No. 231.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 15th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Your telegram 13th April. Guru incident. Macdonald's full report just received states total of Tibetans killed and wounded left on field 628; prisoners, some of whom were slightly wounded, 222; and doubtless a number slightly wounded escaped. This includes total casualties during fighting at wall and in subsequent pursuit and attack on Guru village. Tibetans numbered 3,000, of whom 2,000 were actually engaged, half being regular soldiers.

R.

No. 232.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 16th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

The Amir has asked for a Surgeon to attend him for injuries sustained in a gun accident. He writes that he is well, but that the middle finger of the left hand is crooked. I am sending my Surgeon, Major Bird, who is nominated as Professor of Surgery, Calcutta Medical College, and is a most excellent and trustworthy officer. He will, of course, not discuss any political matters, but on his return will report confidentially what he sees and learns with regard to the health of the Amir and his brothers, and will convey any personal message to me which the Amir may desire to send. He starts from here tomorrow.

I trust that you will approve of these arrangements.

R.

No. 233.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 16th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to Wahab's telegram 28th. In view of the importance of completing survey before the heat renders further proceedings impracticable, we agree as to the advisability of sending a ship of war.

Repeated to Resident at Aden and to the Bombay Government; addressed to the Secretary of State for India.

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No. 234.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 19th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

With reference to your telegram of the 26th February last, the Nepal Minister gives an unqualified denial to the report that the Durbar are purchasing plant for manufacturing rifles and ammunition.

50,000 cap chambers have lately been sent out to Nepal to replace a like number, sanctioned in 1902, lost in transit. *Vide* letter No. 40-M., dated the 2nd October 1902, from the Foreign Secretary.

No. 235.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 19th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

A letter has been forwarded by Colonel Kemball from Sheikh Mubarek, covering one from Abdul Aziz-el-Saud, in which he reports that on the 7th February he defeated Husein Jerad, leading supporter and near relative of Ibn Rashid, at Faizel-us-Sir, and destroyed his whole force, comprising 300 men of Hayel and 100 others. Sheikh Mubarek anticipates that Ibn Rashid will now be attacked by el-Saud.

No. 236.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 20th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to my telegram of the 13th April regarding Muscat. Major Cox telegraphs—

Begins. I respectfully urge the Government of India to press for adherence to the Hague arrangement. *Ends.*

No. 237.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 20th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

I have received the following telegram from Colonel Minchin, dated Meshed, the 18th April 1904.

"According to reports for last fortnight of March, 238 Cossacks and 1,420 Infantry left Krasnovodsk in detachments for Russia. It is reported that all men over three years' service are being withdrawn from Trans-Caspia for

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Manchuria. About 1,500 Infantry arrived from Russia at Krasnovodsk, and apparently proceeded to Merv. 2,000 cases of rifles, four big guns, and a considerable quantity of gun and rifle ammunition was despatched eastwards from Krasnovodsk and apparently beyond Merv. 200 Cossacks arrived at Merv by road. Out of the 2,500 Infantry reported in my telegram of March 20th as having arrived from Russia at Krasnovodsk, 1,000 are reported to have gone to Askabad, and 1,500 to have remained in Krasnovodsk."

No. 238.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 20th April 1904, 6-20 p. m.

With reference to your telegram of the 15th instant, the statement of Staff referred to is that sanctioned by your telegram of the 1st March last. The rest of Lord Kitchener's order deals with the distribution of Staff duties and the war training of troops.

No. 239.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 21st April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

The following telegram has been received from Younghusband, dated Gyantse, April 16th:—

Begins. There are no signs of either the Amban or Tibetan delegates appearing, and there is a rumour among the Chinese that the Dalai Lama, after resisting to the utmost, intends to flee to Russia, and is already preparing for this. *Ends.*

Repeated Peking and addressed Secretary of State.

R.

No. 240.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 21st April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to your telegram of the 8th March. Telegraphic communication with Henjam was established on the 19th instant.

R.

No. 241.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 22nd April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Following telegrams received from Younghusband, dated Gyantse, 16th and 18th April, respectively :—

Begins. I have received letter from the Tongsa Penlop and Trimpuk Jongpen congratulating me on the victory over the Tibetans, who, they say, had sold themselves to us by their bad conduct. They previously had written to the Lhasa Government, urging them to make a settlement, but had received no answer. They ask me to remain at Gyantse Fort for the present, and the Tongsa Penlop says he will certainly visit me here. *Telegram ends.*

Second telegram begins. Lhasa delegates, who were reported to have been coming, are of low rank, and since receiving news of fighting have halted on their way to receive orders. Headmen here express willingness to sell supplies, which are beginning to come in regularly. There is every sign of this district quietening down. *Ends.*

Repeated Peking.

No. 242.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 23rd April 1904. (Despd. from Finl. Dept.)

With reference to reported enhancement of two pence per pound import duty on tea, Indian Tea Association strongly protest against enhancement as calculated seriously to injure Indian tea industry. We think this anticipation well founded, and we should be glad if His Majesty's Government can refrain from imposing increase of duty. Please refer to my telegram dated 22nd January 1902.

No. 243.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 23rd April 1904, 3 p. m.

Malwa Opium. Will you please refer to our telegram of October 27th 1897, advising the last change in duty? On the reduction of the duty, the price immediately fell and reached its lowest point in Bombay in July 1898. From that time it began to rise, and the prices have been well maintained since September 1899, the last reported average being Rs. 1,393. The exports

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to China have also increased from 17,432 chests in 1897-98 to 25,718 chests in 1903-04; and the trade has recently been exceptionally active. The prices at Hong-Kong are also high, the price in January 1904 being as high as before the last reduction. We infer that the reduction of duty has now been absorbed by the dealers, and does not lower the price in the Chinese market. We therefore propose, in pursuance of our policy to raise the duty as much as the trade will bear, to enhance the duty at once by Rs. 100 a chest. Please let me know if you approve of this proposal.

No. 244.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 24th April 1904, 6-40 p. m.

Private. With reference to your private telegram of 15th, Mr. Bloxam left Calcutta for Europe on 12th April, and his services could not therefore be secured even if it were thought advisable to do so. On receipt of a report expected from Bengal, an official communication will be made about the arrangement for Sibpur.

R.

No. 245.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 25th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Your telegram 22nd April. Please see the papers cited in my telegram of 23rd to Sir A. Hardinge. These conclusively disprove Persian claims. We have since heard that Kemball has received a letter from the Chief of Shargah regarding Tamb. The Chief says he cannot tolerate Persian action, and as he enjoys treaty relations with the British, appeals to us to take the necessary steps to prevent such interference with his territory. The Chief does not mention the Abu Musa incident, of which, apparently, he had not then heard. The Commander of the *Lawrence* reports that, at Tamb, three retainers of the Sheikh of Debai were in charge of the Joasmi flag which was flying at the time of *Mozaffar's* visit. The Persians hauled down the flag, forcibly uprooted the flagstaff from its firm cement foundation, and told the Sheikh's men to leave the island, which they did, taking with them the Sheikh's horses placed there in their charge.

Repeated His Britannic Majesty's Minister, Tehran; addressed Secretary of State for India.

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R.

No. 246.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 25th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

The following four telegrams have been received from Younghusband :—

First telegram begins. Gyantse, 22nd April. I have not yet received any communication from the Amban or the slightest intimation that he or a proper Tibetan representative is about to meet me. Everything here is very quiet, and the camp besieged with Tibetans selling country produce, carpets, and trinkets. Sick and wounded are also coming in to be treated by Wilton. Monks in various monasteries visited by O'Connor show perfect politeness, and no signs of essential hatred. General attitude is acceptance of inevitable, combined with relief at flight of oppressive Lhasa officials. *Ends.*

Second telegram begins. Gyantse, April 22nd. I have received a despatch from Amban in which he says he will certainly arrive here within the next three weeks; that he has insisted on the Tibetans giving him transport, and they have agreed; and that he has insisted also on competent and trustworthy Tibetan representatives accompanying him. He does not state specifically what representatives will accompany him, but the official who brought the despatch says that one of the Councillors acting in place of the imprisoned Councillor is coming. Official also says that among the common people at Lhasa there is not much excitement, as they are aware that even if we did go there we would not harm them, but that the Tibetan officials at Lhasa are greatly perturbed, and are begging the Amban to come here and settle the matter. The official saw seven hundred Tibetan troops about 60 miles from here and another camp nearer to Lhasa; excepting these there was not a sign of military preparation. *End of second telegram.*

Third telegram begins. Gyantse, April 22nd. My previous telegram regarding Amban's despatch was sent as post was leaving after only hurried perusal of despatch by Wilton. Following are further noticeable points in it. Amban says Lhasa General was aggressor in Guru affair, but my compassion in releasing prisoners and in caring for the wounded, and my humane motives of sternness and mercy, have conferred incalculable blessing on Tibet. He says Dalai Lama is now roused to sense of our power, but since the former Councillors are imprisoned, there are few capable Tibetan officials to negotiate. Amban adds that he does not speak insincerely like his predecessor. *End of third telegram.*

Fourth telegram begins. Gyantse, April 22nd. Daily bazar now established outside Camp. Today 177 Tibetans, mostly women, were selling their goods there. Scene presented was very remarkable and significant. British officers and soldiers, Sikhs, and Gurkhas, and Bhutias, bargaining away peaceably with their

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foes of a fortnight ago, and giving sharp Tibetan traders exorbitant prices for vegetables, eggs, condiments, matches, cigarettes, carpets, trinkets, cotton goods, cooking utensils, even penny whistles. Tibetans are no fighters, but are evidently born traders, and they are already sending to Phari for more goods from India. 223 maunds of bhoosa and 560 pounds barley were also brought for sale to the Commissariat by sixteen different villagers today. *Ends.*

No. 247.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 25th April 1904. (Despd. from Home Dept.)

Your telegram dated 15th April. We agree to Douglas' deputation for six months from 8th June next.

No. 248.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 26th April 1904. (Despd. from Finl. Dept.)

In continuation of our telegram, dated 23rd April, following telegram received from President, Chamber of Commerce, Bengal:—

Begins. At a largely attended public meeting, following resolution was unanimously passed. This meeting views with grave apprehension and alarm decision of Ministers of His Majesty to enhance British import duty on tea, and while fully alive to difficulties of present financial situation and to need for additional revenue, is distinctly of opinion that British-grown tea is already bearing more than its full share of the burden, and most emphatically protest against any addition being made thereto, the industry being absolutely unable to bear any further taxation. Copies of this resolution to be forwarded to Government of India, Chambers of Commerce, and to the leading Indian and English newspapers. *Ends.*

No. 249.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 27th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Your telegram of 22nd April. Bubiyan island. An enquiry has been made through the Resident in the Gulf if there are still Turkish troops on the island. The case of the Government of India is stated in paragraph 5 of our Despatch of 4th February 1904. Sheikh Mubarak's claim to Um Kasr has been weakened by acquiescence in the occupation of that place by the Turks,

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who have constructed a considerable fort there, apparently in infringement of the *status quo*. As His Majesty's Government were only prepared in 1902 to resist the Turkish advance on Subieh, I did not suppose that the Sheikh's claim to Um Kasr would be supported, more especially as it rests mainly on his ancestral connection with the place, which ceased in the 17th Century. His claim to Bubiyan is much stronger, while the Turkish claims and *de facto* position there are much weaker. Moreover, there is a substantial geographical distinction between the mainland, where the Turks have long been in the neighbourhood, and the island, where they are not known ever to have been at all. I would urge that the matter be not allowed to rest, and that the Turks should either be required to withdraw their troops and destroy their post on Bubiyan, and to recognise this as an integral portion of the Sheikh's possessions, or that he should be allowed to erect a post on the island as proposed by us. His claims to Um Kasr might be utilised to secure this result. If the present position continues much longer after the matter has been prominently brought to notice during my tour to the Gulf, it will be almost impossible hereafter to assert the claims of the Sheikh to the island, on which our right to be consulted in any railway scheme affecting Khor Abdulla could most easily be based. If we do not secure the Sheikh's rights about which he spoke to me, our influence will certainly be weakened in Koweit and its neighbourhood.

No. 250.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 28th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Colonel Kemball telegraphs:—

Begins. I have received the following telegram from the Consul at Basrah—"I have sent the following telegram to the British Ambassador at Constantinople, No. 18. Fighting at Nejd. Please see my Despatch No. 20, dated the 11th April 1904. A battalion will be sent to Samawa on Saturday. It is reported that four battalions will be sent there shortly to help the Amir against Binsaod and expel him from Aneyza. The Sheikh of Koweit should keep clear. He seems much compromised already." So far as I know, Koweit has done nothing of a compromising nature recently, but I will make sure, and, in any case, I will repeat to the Sheikh the advice given to him on a previous occasion. That the Turks should commence moving their troops at this hot season of the year seems unlikely. *Ends.*

Newmarch telegraphs:—

Begins. It is reported that Ibn Saud has captured Riadh and driven out Ibn Rashid, who is now near a place called Samawa on the river Euphrates. Four Turkish Infantry regiments, each 600 strong, are under orders for

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Samawa, and 4,000 lira, 800 Martini-Henry rifles, and 1,000 Snider rifles with 60,000 rounds of ammunition have been sent to Ibn Rashid by the Turks. The money, rifles, and ammunition left Baghdad three days ago. It is also contemplated to send Ibn Rashid three new guns lately received from Constantinople and three mountain guns. The Artillery men are practising at these guns daily. *Ends.*

I would suggest that the Turks might again be warned against direct interference in the affairs of Nejd or it may be necessary for measures to be taken to protect British interests in those regions by His Majesty's Government.

R.

No. 251.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 28th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

I have received the following from Colonel Younghusband, dated Gyantse, 22nd April :—

Begins. Present indications seem to point rather to collapse of Lhasa authorities than a further determined resistance. We have, *firstly*, Amban's statement that Dalai Lama is now aroused to a sense of our power; *secondly*, statement of Chinese official who brought the despatch that Tibetan officials are begging Amban to intercede; *thirdly*, same official's statement that common people do not resent our appearance, even at Lhasa; *fourthly*, his further statement that there are few troops between here and Lhasa. The fact that Lhasa authorities could not, after many months, raise more than about five thousand men between here and Tuna to oppose us, and also that people here, even including Monks, have quietly accepted our presence, further indicates present impotency of Lhasa authorities. We have the game then entirely in our own hands, and must be careful Amban does not carry off advantage we have gained, by force of our arms, great expenditure of money, unexampled forbearance in past, and present moderation after victory. In present crisis Amban is showing his usual dilatoriness: doubtless during negotiations he will show still more, and attempt to delay us through best season for military movements, and he will, even now, be unaccompanied by Tibetans of sufficient authority or position, because the four Councillors have all been imprisoned. Government will, of course, be on guard against such tactics, and I believe best way to meet them is to move Mission straight to Lhasa at earliest moment when military preparations can be completed and negotiated at capital instead of at half-way house. This would be quickest, cheapest, most effectual, and only permanent way of clinching matters. By carrying Amban with me I could probably manage it without further fighting, or, at any rate, without any serious collision. The people are not against us, the soldiers do not want

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to fight, the Lamas are stunned, the Dalai Lama is preparing to bolt, the Russians are engaged, our prestige is at its height, Bhutan and Nepal are with us. A decisive move now would procure a permanent settlement agreeable to the masses of the Tibetan people, which Monks would probably shrug their shoulders at and accept, and which would prevent Lhasa Lamas ever again usurping monopoly of power to ruin of their country and detriment of British interests. I thus early recommend matter for consideration in order that full use may be made of present favourable season, and that psychological moment for action may not be allowed to pass unprofited by. In meantime I will receive Amban and see what power he and Tibetan representative really have to effect a thorough settlement. *Ends.*

No decision seems necessary until the views of the Amban and the credentials of the Tibetan delegate have been ascertained. The chances of further opposition will probably be deduced from their attitude.

Repeated Peking; addressed Secretary of State.

No. 252.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 28th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

The Amir has circulated throughout Afghanistan a proclamation to the effect that the army is to be furnished with breech-loading guns and rifles from the Kabul Arsenal, and that obsolete weapons now in possession of the troops will be made over to the Khassadars. We have received copies from Kandahar and Kurram, and Dobbs, who says it has been posted in the principal villages of the Herat province, adds that it has caused much excitement among the soldiery and the rumour of war with Russia. The Amir apparently intends acting up to the proclamation. Many breech-loaders have been sent to Kandahar, and preparations for their general distribution are in progress at Kabul.

No. 253.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 28th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

The following telegram has been received from Dobbs:—

Begins. Kala Nau. No. 55, April 19th. The following information as to the history of secret negotiations between Russians and Afghans has been

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obtained by Major Wanliss from independent and unimpeachable source :— Shortly after our departure from Herat the Governor of Herat wrote to the Russians, asking them to meet us and build the remaining pillars. The Russians replied that they had built four pillars, and had no leisure to build more. Subsequently the Governor wrote that, if the Russians did not send representatives, he feared he could not prevent the repairing of the pillars by British and Afghan Commissioners independently. The Russians replied that they would not send representatives as long as the British Commission stayed in the country, but would restore pillars in cooperation with Afghans on the departure of the British officers. They added that if we went to frontier to build pillars independently, consequences would result. A copy of the correspondence was sent to the Amir by the Governor, and His Highness ordered that we should be got away from vicinity of frontier at all costs, but that we must be kept in good humour. The Afghans are now directing their whole energies to inveigling us over Paropamisus. *Ends.*

No. 254.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 28th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

I have not received Hardinge's Despatch No. 56 referred to in his telegram of 11th April regarding financial reform in Persia, and the latest details which I possess are those contained in his Despatches No. 19 of 30th January and 40 of 29th February 1904. Consequently I am unable to criticise the Prime Minister's scheme in detail, but I maintain the view expressed in my telegram of 8th March regarding grave objection to placing the financial reforms in the hands of the Belgians.

Addressed to Secretary of State; repeated to H. B. M.'s Minister at Tehran.

No. 255.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 29th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Siam. Your telegram 26th April. Please send me a copy of the Consul's letter of 17th February 1904, which has not been received.

R.

No. 256.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 29th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Colonel Younghusband telegraphs as follows :—

Begins. No. 203-G., Gyantse, April 26th. I have received despatch from Amban in reply to one written after my arrival here. He says he has

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sent to Dalai Lama copy of my despatch, asking if he knew and approved of Monks fighting against us. Amban also urged him to appoint competent and trustworthy official suitably empowered, and at same time pressed him to furnish transport, but he had had no reply yet from Dalai Lama. Amban adds, delay is due to Dalai Lama having to consult national assembly, that he has exhausted himself in talking to the Tibetans, and trusts I will see difficult nature of circumstances. *Ends.*

Repeated to the British Minister at Peking.

No. 257.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 29th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Colonel Younghusband telegraphs as follows:—

Begins. No. 202-G., Gyantse, April 25th. Dharm Raja of Bhutan has sent a small present and written me a letter in which, referring to the Guru affair, he says—*Begins.* On hearing that my friends had won the victory, I was greatly rejoiced. Now-a-days England and Bhutan have established a firm friendship. Although the small officials at Guru would not hear what we had to say, I have thought that the higher officials might do so, and have, therefore, written a letter to the Dalai Lama, and am in hopes of speedy reply. On its arrival I will at once send a man to you. May there be faith and friendship between the English and the Bhutanese! Please let me know if there is anything you require from the Bhutan Government. *Ends.*

Repeated to the British Minister at Peking.

No. 258.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 29th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

With reference to my telegram, dated the 27th April 1904, the Assistant Superintendent of Telegraphs, Fao, reports that there are ten Turkish soldiers, under the command of a Non-Commissioned Officer, on Bubiyan Island. They live in a tent and are relieved by other men from the Fort at Fao every month.

R.

No. 259.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 29th April 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to your telegram of the 27th April. Tamb and Abu Musa. I will send by next mail copies of the letters required.

R.

No. 260.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 29th April 1904, 5-30 p. m.

Private. Tibet. Your private telegram of the 26th April. Our policy, as viewed here, should be as follows. We have no desire to annex any portion of Tibet, except the Chumbi Valley, which is on our side of the watershed, is inhabited by a distinct race, unfriendly to the Tibetans, and of which the permanent occupation will be essential. Our political influence in Tibet must, however, be both exclusive and supreme. If we can secure this without a Protectorate, we will willingly dispense with the latter; if not, we shall be driven to it. The answer to the question is really in the hands of Russia, whose complete desistence from political, commercial, diplomatic, or religious interference would relieve us from the necessity of a protectorate, whereas the resumption of secret embassies, negotiations, and intrigues would compel it. As regards the immediate situation, we desire, firstly, to conclude a satisfactory Convention with Tibet; secondly, to procure adequate guarantees for its due observance in the future and for the avoidance of further expeditions. My own view is that even if the Convention can be concluded at Gyantse, which is not very likely, it should probably be signed by the Dalai Lama at Lhasa, to which a portion of the Mission should advance peaceably for that purpose after the conclusion of agreement. Whether the observance of the treaty and of the political predominance of Great Britain at Lhasa will necessitate an Agent in Tibet, I cannot at present say. I am inclined to think that it will. I hope that nothing may be said to prevent the move to Lhasa if essential, or the appointment of an Agent. Russia not being a limitrophe power cannot advance a corresponding claim. Our present position is one of such unique advantage that it would be a pity to compromise it in any way.

R.

No. 261.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 30th April 1904, 12-30 p. m.

Private. Tibet. I have received the following confidential telegram from Younghusband, just as I am starting :—

“ My latest views are that Dalai Lama will remain sulky and obstinate, and if we advance will attempt futile resistance, which people will not support, that resistance will collapse, and Dalai Lama flee. Suitable Regent may then be found, and normal system of Government be re-established without him. Amban may be willing to meet me, but evidently has no power over Dalai Lama. I would suggest parallelism between my Mission and Lord Elgin’s to China for consideration.”

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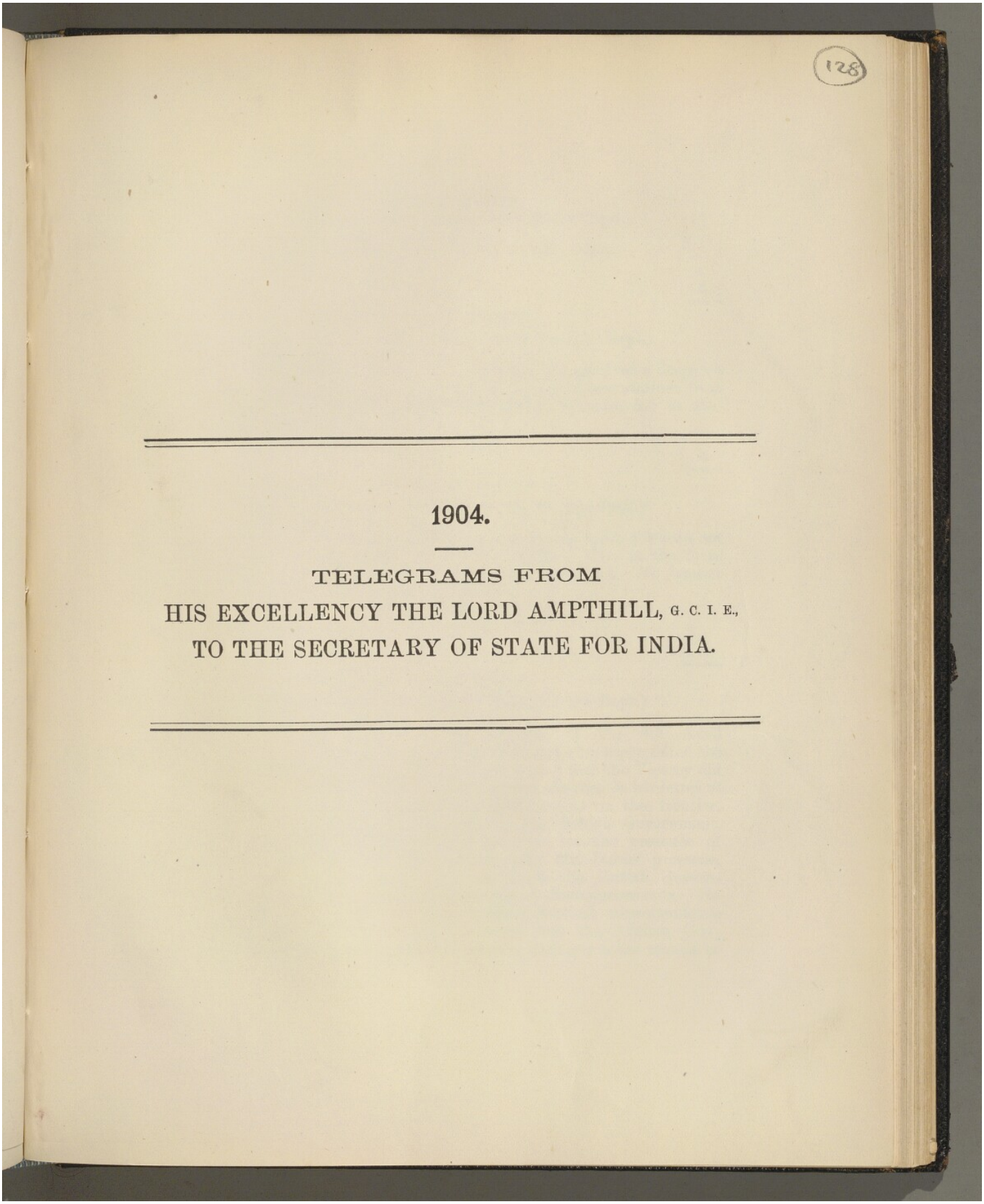
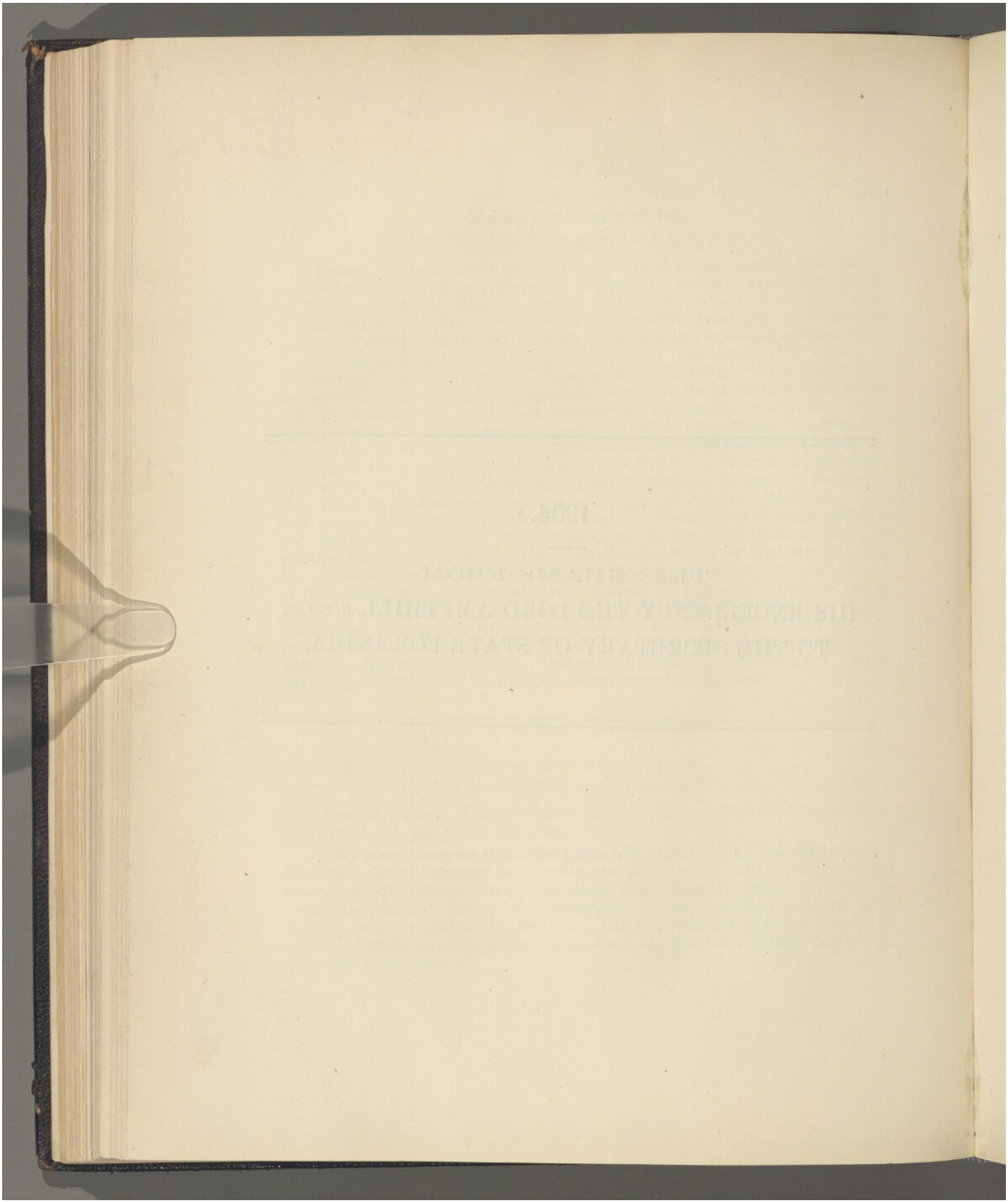


128

1904.

TELEGRAMS FROM
HIS EXCELLENCY THE LORD AMPTHILL, G. C. I. E.,
TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.



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No. 262.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
Telegram, 30th April 1904. (Despd. from Home Dept.)

Lord Ampthill assumed the office of Viceroy today.

R.

No. 263.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
P * Telegram, 2nd May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. Colonel Younghusband has received a despatch from the Amban, saying that he cannot get a reply to his representations from the Dalai Lama, and explaining that delay is due to the latter having to consult the National Assembly.

R.

No. 264.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
P * Telegram, 5th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Colonel Younghusband reports that 1,500 Tibetans are sangared on the far side of Karo La, due east of Gyantse. This is the force mentioned in his telegram of April 22nd recently strengthened. No further communication has been received from the Amban.

Repeated to Peking, and addressed to Secretary of State.

R.

No. 265.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
P * Telegram, 6th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to our telegram of the 6th April regarding Mr. Dobbs. The Amir has sent a long argumentative reply, dated the 27th April, to our letter of April 1st. He expresses regret that the Viceroy did not consider the schemes for strengthening the frontier, detailed in his letter of 1st March, but merely replied that unless Mr. Dobbs remains on the frontier, the responsibility for its protection will not rest on the British Government. He says that existing agreements make no provision for the presence of an officer on the frontier, that harm has resulted from Mr. Dobbs' presence, and while he cannot agree to his staying there, he holds the British Government responsible for carrying out the full terms of those agreements. He says Russia's most cherished wish is to open up direct political correspondence with Afghanistan, but he gives a positive assurance that the Afghan Government will not speak to Russia in political matters with any other mouth or

tongue than that of rifle and sword, and warns us that India is Russia's real objective as soon as she can patch up an arrangement with Japan. He adds that he asked for Mr. Dobbs to go to Herat to prevent direct political relations with Russia, but he now sees that if Mr. Dobbs restores the pillars without the Russians they will pull them down, and so on until direct relations are secured. Hence he desires Mr. Dobbs' recall, as his presence is otherwise injurious. He professes also to fear that the Russians may cause injury to be done to him by Turkoman robbers, and, in conclusion, repeats the request that Mr. Dobbs may be ordered to proceed to Kabul, either by the Hazara or Kandahar route. Considering the time that the Amir has taken in replying, I think my answer can well be deferred, if necessary, until His Majesty's Government have considered the case with Lord Curzon in the light of the Amir's answer sent home on the 5th. If an answer should be sent at once, I would simply say that Mr. Dobbs has been instructed to proceed to Kabul by the Hazarajat route. I may mention that it is desirable that we should know something about this route, concerning which we have practically no information. Instructions would be sent to meet Mr. Dobbs at Kabul, based on your telegram of 30th March.

R.

No. 266.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 6th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. The Mission Camp at Gyantse was attacked at 4-30 A. M. on the 5th by a force of 700 Tibetans from Shigatse commanded by a Lhasa General, accompanied by clerks of the Dalai Lama and representatives of Gaden Lhasa Monastery. The attack lasted up to 6-30 A. M., and was repulsed with loss to the enemy of 250 killed and wounded near the post. Our casualties are two wounded. Intimation of the attack was given by the patients of our dispensary. Chinese gave no warning.

Colonel Younghusband and the Officer Commanding consider the post perfectly safe. The former hopes that the Chinese Government may be held strictly to account for the failure not only to prevent attack, but even to give warning. He adds that the attack confirms the impression he had formed that the Lhasa Government are irreconcilable.

We have discussed the situation in Council, and cannot but fear that this view is correct, and we suggest that some definite limit of time should now be imposed, and that, unless proper representatives of Chinese and Tibetan Governments with full powers arrive at Gyantse within that time, a further advance should at once be made. Military preparations for a further advance would take one month.

Repeated to Peking; addressed Secretary of State.

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R.

No. 267.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 7th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Following telegram received from Younghusband :—

Begins. Gyantse, May 3rd. I have received despatch from Amban, dated April 29th, saying he sent a translated copy of my despatch of April 24th to Dalai Lama and also summoned councillors and representatives of three great Monasteries, urged them to at once send fully empowered delegates, stated he had decided to leave on May 3rd and demanded transport. On 27th Amban received replies from Dalai Lama and representatives of the three great Monasteries denying that they had known of or encouraged monks taking up arms against us, but not mentioning a word about transport or the other matters. Amban is at loss to understand this, and has written again to Dalai Lama, and, on receiving reply, will communicate with me. So my fourth despatch to present Amban has produced no more result than previous three, and I have not slightest hope that proper Tibetan delegate will be sent. *Ends.*

Addressed to Secretary of State; repeated to Peking.

R.

No. 268.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 7th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to my telegram of the 28th April. The following telegram has been received from Minchin :—

Begins. I have received the following from Dobbs for transmission to you : *Begins.* No. 57. Kala Nau, April 29th. Informant reports that a letter was brought yesterday from Governor of Panjdeh to General Ghaus-u-din by a Turcoman messenger. Letter begins by asking for explanation of the large escort with us, and states that the Russians are so busy with Japanese war that they will be unable for twelve years to take action on Afghan frontier. When they are again at leisure, they will be ready to do boundary work, provided that no British Officers are present. The only object of British in coming is to create dissensions between Russians and Afghans, and to spy out the land, and they should, therefore, be expelled from Afghanistan. The letter adds that the Russians have no intention of fighting with Afghans, but only with British, and that there are other roads to India than those through Afghanistan. I think it is probable that the Russians wrote this letter at the instigation of the Herat authorities in order to strengthen the hands of the latter with the Amir in insisting on our early withdrawal. *Ends.*

That Mr. Dobbs has good secret information is proved by the detailed customs and revenue particulars forwarded by him, but that Russian intrigues with Herat officials have proceeded to such lengths seems hardly credible.

R.

No. 269.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 7th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. At the close of his letter of the 27th April the Amir writes as follows in reply to my predecessor's letter of 1st April, on the subject of the Mohmand demarcation, sent home with the Secretary's letter of the 14th April:—

Begins. In the second letter Your Excellency mentions about the delay in the demarcation of the boundary in the east. As I have, in my letter dated the 25th Zilhaj 1321 H. (=13th March 1904), given full details and particulars regarding this subject, and have explained the causes of the delay, therefore, if I were to write again now on the subject, I would be repeating the same thing, which will cause trouble to Your Excellency. *Ends.*

He does not notice the suggestion that the demarcation should stand over until the autumn, but endorses his former view that, unless we accept as binding all conditions of agreement of 1893, including those about subsidy and arms and ammunition, he is not prepared to carry out conditions for demarcation. The answer, if any, to be sent to this part of the letter depends upon the general decision of His Majesty's Government as to the future relations with the Amir, and I propose, with your approval, to send no reply at present.

R.

No. 270.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 7th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Mr. Dobbs reports a rumour that the Russians are preparing transport for Hashtadan, possibly for a Mission to arbitrate between the Persians and Afghans on the analogy of our Seistan Mission. Sir A. Hardinge and Minchin doubt the likelihood of any such movement, though both believe that the Sipahsalar's presence in Meshed is connected with defences of Persian eastern frontier. The Amir has not answered the Viceroy's letter of 23rd October 1903 about Hashtadan. We have again asked for a report from Winter on the position there, which might give serious trouble in the event of disputes between the Afghans and Persians. Pending further information, no other action seems possible.

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131

No. 271.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 7th May 1904. (Despd. from Finl. Dept.)

My telegram dated 26th April. Following telegram received from the Chief Commissioner of Assam :—

Begins. At the instance of Chairman, Assam Branch Tea Association, I beg to urge that imposition of additional two pence import duty on tea can hardly fail to affect very injuriously the interest of tea industry and this Province. It appears probable that at least a moiety of this tax will fall upon producer, and that rise in the price will produce further injurious effect by limiting consumption. Tea growing in Assam has only just emerged from period of great depression, and it seems hardly fair to dock profits immediately they have appeared. *Ends.*

No. 272.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 9th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. I presume that information of the details of Turkish preparations to assist Ibn Rashid against El-Saud has reached you from Constantinople. Both Mr. Crow and Major Cox think that, if the Turks help the former, Sheikh Mubarak, if he is to retain influence with the tribes, may be compelled to assist the latter.

R.

No. 273.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 9th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. I have received the following telegrams from Colonel Younghusband :—

First begins. Gyantse, 2nd May. Colonel Brander is of opinion that as, firstly, the force located on the Karo La threatens our line of communications by road leading from that pass direct to Kangma, where there is only one company; secondly, the Tibetans are reported to be also along that road; thirdly, the Lhasa Government is sending round this district collecting troops and assembling them at Karo La position; fourthly, these troops fired on our reconnoitring party in spite of strict injunctions to the contrary from the chief Chinese official here, it is advisable to go out and attack them before they can attack our communications and before the gathering can assume more threatening proportions. He accordingly leaves here tomorrow for that purpose, and is confident that he can easily defeat the Tibetan force, and that the Mission

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left here will be safe. I have raised no objections on political grounds, because I see not the smallest signs of any intention on the part of the Lhasa Government to send anyone to negotiate with me, while, on the other hand, I do see signs that they are recovering from the shock of our first encounter, and I believe that, unless such gatherings are checked before they come to a head, we may have trouble hereafter. *Ends.*

Second begins. Colonel Brander has successfully cleared a very important gathering at Karo La, consisting of 2,500 men headed by many influential Lhasa Lamas and officials. The effect will be of the greatest value in checking the recent resuscitation of Lama influence. Our loss is four killed and 14 wounded, among the former being Captain Bethune, who commanded the Mission Escort at Khamba Jong and whose loss his country has great cause to regret. The enemy held a very strong position most stubbornly and were armed with many Lhasa-made and foreign rifles. Colonel Brander will return here tomorrow or next day having most effectually carried out his object of removing threat to the line of communication. *Ends.*

The first news of this movement was received by Army Head-Quarters. General Macdonald, who had returned to Chumbi, telegraphed that he had wired to stop it, and we at once wired to the same effect, asking Colonel Younghusband for an explanation which he had meanwhile given in the first of the above quoted telegrams. The movement appears to have been necessary for the safety of the communications.

The attack on the Gyantse camp, reported in my telegram of the 6th, must have taken place during the absence of the detachment at Karo La. We shall consider further what measures are necessary in consequence of the now aggressive hostility of the Tibetans, but meanwhile have ordered General Macdonald to take all measures necessary for the safety of the Mission and their communications, but not to advance on Lhasa Colonel Younghusband will resume control if and when negotiations commence, but at present military considerations must preponderate.

I think you will wish to have General Macdonald's account verbatim. It is as follows :—

Begins. 8th May. Colonel Brander wires on May the 6th that my telegram unfortunately reached him after he was too far committed to turn back without serious effect on the Tibetans. He accordingly attacked the Tibetans' entrenched position beyond Karo La, and was met by a heavy and well-aimed fire from Jingals, many breech-loaders and match-locks, which checked his frontal attack until wide flanking movements dislodged the enemy from the sangars. After four hours' stubborn fighting the enemy were dislodged and retreated, pursued by the Mounted Infantry. The enemy's strength was 2,000 men, which was further reinforced during the engagement up to 2,500; his loss has not yet been accurately ascertained. Regret to report our loss was

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Captain Bethune and three men 32nd Pioneers killed, thirteen men 32nd Pioneers wounded, and one man 8th Gurkhas wounded. Deeply regret loss of Captain Bethune who was a most gallant and reliable officer whom I recently mentioned in despatches: he was killed whilst gallantly storming a sangar. Colonel Brander's moveable column is believed to have consisted of four companies Infantry, forty Mounted Infantry, two seven-pounders, and two Maxims. It is reported that the enemy opposing us at the Karo La contained a considerable number of men from Kham; if this is so their defeat should produce a wholesome effect on Eastern Tibet. Major Murray, 8th Gurkhas, commanding at Gyantse, wires on May 6th all quiet at that place. *Ends.*

We join in regretting deeply the death of Captain Bethune.

Repeated to Peking and addressed to Secretary of State.

R.

No. 274.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 10th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. The Government of India concur in the views expressed in Colonel Wahab's telegram No. 32 of 28th April in connection with Aden Delimitation.

Repeated to Resident at Aden, and Bombay Political; addressed to Secretary of State for India.

No. 275.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 10th May 1904. (Despd. from Finl. Dept.)

Your telegram dated 3rd May. Duty on Malwa opium increased by Rs. 100 per chest, with effect from 7th May.

R.

No. 276.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 12th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. With present situation in Tibet you are fully acquainted. The Mission is practically cut off from communication with surrounding country by hostile bands, and reports show that large numbers of Tibetan troops are concentrating. There is no reasonable prospect of negotiations being opened at Gyantse; and unless the Mission is to be withdrawn or to be

kept inactive over the next winter, the only possible course is to bring pressure to bear by a military advance on Lhasa. We assume that neither of the two former alternatives will commend itself to His Majesty's Government, and we have therefore no hesitation in repeating our suggestion that the Tibetans should be given a definite time, say one month, to open negotiations in a satisfactory form, and that if they fail to do so the advance on Lhasa should at once commence.

The latest date on which such an advance should be commenced would be the 10th July, so that if this course be decided on, it would be necessary to commence preparations within three weeks from now; but it is very desirable to commence at once and get up the reinforcement before the rains break in the Teesta Valley. General Macdonald estimates the reinforcements required from India at four Companies British Infantry, four Campanies Native Infantry, two 10-pounders Royal Artillery, two 7-pounders (Mule guns), and one Mule Corps. He thinks that starting on the 10th July he could occupy Lhasa by the end of the month. Allowing August and September for the negotiations, there would be only two months left for the return march before climatic conditions became a serious difficulty. An early decision is therefore of vital importance.

The estimates of cost will follow as soon as possible.

We deeply regret that military operations should have become practically inevitable, but we are convinced that anything short of early and decisive assertion of British power can only result in serious loss of prestige throughout the Indian Empire, and in the near future greater trouble and expense.

R.

No. 277.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 13th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Major Bird has operated on the Amir's hand, amputating a part of the middle finger and greatly relieving the pain. The Amir converses freely with Major Bird and is much gratified.

R.

No. 278.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 13th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. A telegram received from Colonel Younghusband reports that Brander returned with the column from Karo La on the 9th. A quantity

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of Russian rifle and revolver ammunition was found at Karo La but none of British manufacture. It appears that the new monk member of the Tibetan Council, previously supposed to be on his way to negotiate, was actually collecting troops at Nagartse. A Chinese official informs Colonel Younghusband that Parr's Chinese guard has been beaten by the Tibetans and two Bhutia servants brutally murdered, their limbs being hacked off one by one. Some Mission servants spending the night in town were also murdered. The Chinese official says that General Ma knew of the intended attack on the Mission and could have saved Parr's servants, but he took no action. General Ma and all the Chinese officials at Gyantse are now practically besieged and dare not leave their quarters. Recent events, in Colonel Younghusband's opinion, indicate, *first*, that the people of Tibet are friendly; *second*, the Lamas are inveterately hostile; *third*, material aid in arms and ammunition has been received by the Tibetans from Russian territory. The Tibetans may also have obtained from Russia or elsewhere both skilled mechanicians and expert military advice. He reminds us that the Russian Buriat Dorjieff is in charge of the Lhasa arsenal.

Repeated to Peking; addressed to Secretary of State.

R.

No. 279.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 14th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Your telegram of the 12th May has been repeated to Colonel Younghusband and we have given him the following instructions:—

Begins. You should at once give notice to the Amban as directed by the Secretary of State, and specify as the date on which you will decline to negotiate at Gyantse the day on which Macdonald says that he can advance. You will of course understand that pending negotiations the orders issued as ot control of military operations conveyed in my telegram of the 8th May must hold good. *Ends.*

R.

No. 280.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 14th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. On May the 11th Colonel Younghusband reported that 3,000 Tibetans were said to have left Khamba Jong for Gyantse. Wilton learns from a Chinese source that the representatives of these great Lhasa monasteries have represented to the Amban that the Dalai Lama has no power

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to ratify a treaty without their concurrence, that the Amban might negotiate with the British, but the Tibetans would not have anything to do with them. The Amban was warned against making a treaty allowing the British to proceed beyond Yatung. The Amban is reported to have expressed the opinion that the only way to deal with the Tibetans was by physical force.

Repeated to Peking; addressed to the Secretary of State.

R.

No. 281.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 14th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. General Macdonald telegraphs as follows:—

Begins. Brander reports from Gyantse morning 11th reconnoitred enemy's position 10th and destroyed village, threatening our right at 1,500 yards, but found Jong is now too strongly sangared and walled for assault without strong artillery support. No further casualties our side but the enemy maintained an annoying and accurate fire with Jingals and many modern rifles from Jong Hill at 1,400 yards to which our 7-pounders cannot reply effectively. He asks for reinforcements of two companies Infantry, two 10-pounders and fifty Mounted Infantry, apparently to assault Jong. I am sending him one company Infantry and half company Sappers with 20 Mounted Infantry, but as 10-pounders have no common shell I am not sending them at present as they could be more useful in field if I have to clear communications. Would strongly urge that the additional troops, guns and transport asked for be sent without delay as everything points to enemy making concentrated effort at Gyantse, with which place communications may be interrupted soon. Gyantse post itself with present garrison should easily hold out. Communications our weakest point and accumulation supplies *en route* necessarily slow. Until sufficient stores are accumulated at Tuna, Kalatso and Kangma a premature advance on my part would upset communications for a month as I would again have to withdraw nearly all mules from lines. Tibetans led by Russians. If true, this would account for greater skill and vigour shown by Tibetans. *Ends.*

Orders have been given for reinforcements to start without delay.

Repeated to Peking; addressed to the Secretary of State.

R.

No. 282.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 14th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram of May 9th. The estimated cost of reinforcements is—Initial £25,000, Recurring £3,900 monthly.

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(134)

The total estimated cost of the Mission up to 1st April is—Military £300,000, Political £8,500. If the Mission can be withdrawn in October, the cost, both Military and Political, for financial year 1904-1905, including terminal charges, will be about £340,000.

R.

No. 283.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 14th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Persian *Réglement.* Your telegram of the 15th April. We have no further observations to make except as regards penalty clauses, which we consider extravagantly severe. Article 93B treats all cases of import or export by unauthorised routes as fraud, and directs the confiscation of goods and transport. Penalties in the case of contraband are more severe than those imposed in India under the Sea Customs Act. Apparently also there is a fixed fine in each case, and not a maximum only, and the same with regard to the term of imprisonment. We consider that the latter should be resisted altogether, and that in place of the confiscation in all cases where fraud cannot be proved, there should be an alternative penalty of a fine not exceeding a stated sum.

Repeated to Sir A. Hardinge; addressed to the Secretary of State.

R.

No. 284.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 15th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Brander reports dated Gyantse, 13th. One sepoy, 32nd Pioneers, severely wounded by jingal ball. Tibetans expect reinforcements from Kham to arrive at Gyantse 14th. More jingals have been mounted in Jong and large gun is expected from Lhasa which he hopes to capture *en route.* Hostile parties previously reported on Ralung-Kangma road are said to have retired over Karo La as result of fight on 9th. Macdonald is sending him two 10-pounder guns, draft 32 Pioneers, half company Sappers and 20 Mounted Infantry. These should reach Gyantse on 24th. With these Brander can hold his own and continue harassment of enemy.

R.

No. 285.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 16th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram of 10th instant. I will defer answer about survey and delimitation to the North East until I

receive the opinion of the Commission, but I agree in thinking that it will be best to let Fitzmaurice and Tandy visit Simla or Constantinople to complete the maps and reports before undertaking further work in the field. Wahab and Tandy have for a long time been employed in trying circumstances, and the former must have leave which we are granting, and the latter requires rest. Possibly Simla would be more convenient than Constantinople at the present stage. I will address you again on the subject of the composition of the Commission to conclude the work.

Repeated to the Resident at Aden and to Bombay; addressed Secretary of State.

R.

No. 286.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 16th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. On the 13th Colonel Younghusband telegraphs rumours, through Bhutan sources, of the presence of 1,000 Russians ten marches north of Phari. He doubts the truth of this, but adds that the officers present at Karo La are of opinion that the Tibetans there had aid and probably leadership of men versed in European warfare.

Repeated Peking; addressed Secretary of State.

R.

No. 287.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 18th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. On the 14th May Colonel Younghusband reported as follows. The Mission has been fired on continuously for ten days and the number and weight of enemy's guns is increasing. The Mission is perfectly safe, but it is besieged as far as the enemy dare besiege it. A Tibetan informant says there are four white men in Jong.

Repeated Peking; addressed Secretary of State.

R.

No. 288.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 18th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. I have received the following from Minchin, dated Meshed, 16th May:—

Begins. During the last fortnight of April, 450 men arrived from Russia and proceeded apparently to Chardjui, the garrison of which place, numbering

about 900, went on in the direction of Tashkend. Seven 4-inch guns, ten small guns, apparently mountain battery guns, 10,000 rifles, and 2,000 cases of rifle ammunition arrived at Krasnovodsk and seem to have gone in Tashkend direction. Six guns reported sent from Sarakhs to Ak Robat. 227 Infantry left Krasnovodsk for Russia. *Ends.*

R.

No. 289.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 18th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Sir A. Hardinge's Despatch No. 61 of 30th March 1904. Under Article 14 of the Russian Loan Contract, 1902, all doubts and differences that may arise in the execution of the contract must be settled by an understanding between Russia and Persia. May not Russia under this clause insist on deciding with Persia the meaning of term "Fars and the ports of the Persian Gulf"? If so, would it not be necessary to communicate any decision as to its meaning to the Russian Government?

Repeated to Tehran; addressed Secretary of State.

R.

No. 290.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 18th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Reinforcements for Tibet. Please refer to your telegram of the 17th instant. These are exactly in accordance with Brigadier-General Macdonald's demands, *viz.*—

8 Mountain guns.
4 Companies British Infantry.
4 Companies Native Infantry.

They have already started and are due at Chumbi on the 8th June. From Chumbi to Gyantse is ten marches. Kalatso is merely an unimportant point in between.

In addition to the above we have sanctioned on the Commander-in-Chief's recommendation the move of ½ Battalion British Infantry to Darjeeling in support, and it is also proposed to send ½ Battalion of Native Infantry to Chumbi.

General Macdonald's demands for transport have been complied with in full.

The above arrangements are considered by the Commander-in-Chief to be sufficient.

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R.

No. 291.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 18th May 1904, 5-20 p. m.

Tibet. Please refer to our telegram in the Foreign Department dated the 12th instant. In the event of an advance to Lhasa we shall send up 8 additional guns, and not 4 as reported previously.

R.

No. 292.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 19th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. The following information has been received from Central Asia by the Intelligence Branch here by telegram in secret language from a reliable source :—

Begins. The railway line from Krasnovodsk eastwards (up to Askabad) shows signs of being rapidly improved, that is with such abnormal haste as to indicate that the Russians anticipate possibility of taking action shortly. Considerable numbers of troops are moving eastwards. The garrisons in Central Asia have been increased. The tone of the Russians is hostile and suspicious. There does not appear to be any reason to believe that they contemplate any movement on Seistan. The supply of rolling-stock on Central Asian railway appears ample for mobilisation purposes. *Ends.*

No. 293.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 19th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. I have received the following telegram from the Political Agent, Maskat, dated May 17th :—

Begins. Ali Bin Salim leaves for Zanzibar *viâ* Bombay by today's mail. *Ends.*

Repeated to the Consul-General, Zanzibar; addressed to Secretary of State.

R.

No. 294.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P Telegram, 20th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. General Macdonald reports that the general situation is unchanged. The convoy from Kangma arrived safely at Gyantse on the 16th. One thousand Lhasa troops with two guns shortly expected Gyantse. The supplies now in Gyantse are sufficient to last the present garrison for three months. All is quiet on the lines of communication.

Repeated Peking; addressed Secretary of State.

R.

No. 295.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 20th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram of the 14th instant. General Macdonald says he can commence the advance to Lhasa on the 15th June unless unexpected complications arise. The Military authorities consider this oversanguine. Colonel Younghusband, however, says that he has no means of communicating with the Amban as any messenger would undoubtedly be murdered as were Parr's servants. We have told Colonel Younghusband that it is essential that he should make every endeavour to despatch his letter to the Amban in order that the formality of giving notice may be complied with. We have suggested that he should send it to the Commander of the Tibetan forces with a covering letter explaining the nature of the communication. This, we think, would be sufficient compliance with the necessary formality, but we have also instructed Colonel Younghusband to write to the Dalai Lama in the same terms as to the Amban in order that the Tibetans may be fully aware of the decision of the British Government.

Repeated Peking; addressed to the Secretary of State.

No. 296.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 20th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Following telegram received from Cox :—

Begins. I have received a telegram from the Consul at Basrah reporting that 4,000 Turkish troops with ten guns left Samawa on the 8th May in order to support Bin Rashid. I have now received a letter dated the 2nd May from Bin Saud in which he protests against Turkish invasion and begs for British protection for himself and his country. Finally he urges the use of the telegraph in obtaining a reply from the British Government. Sheikh Mubarak forwards to me at the same time an original letter from Bin Saud to himself of the same date as mine in which Bin Saud reminds Mubarak that last year when the Russian and French men-of-war visited Koweit estate, the Russians pressed him, Bin Saud, to take the protection, and that on that occasion, and also subsequently when the Russian Consul at Bushire repeated the overture, he gladly rejected the offer altogether in consultation with Mubarak. He continues that the offer of assistance made by the Russians recurs to his mind now, but that it is not palatable, and he prefers following the example of Mubarak, and has therefore asked for British protection. If our reply proves discouraging he will doubtless try the Russian Consul. I request early instructions, and the presence of a gunboat may be necessary in connection with affairs of Koweit owing to the *Lawrence* not being here. *Ends.*

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We should be glad to know if representation was made to the Porte as suggested in our telegram of the 28th April, and, if so, with what result. If the Turks persist in armed intervention in this quarter, it may become necessary to revive the proposal to post a British Resident to Koweit to watch events, but we could hardly interfere to prevent arms being imported for Bin Saud.

R.

No. 297.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 21st May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Chiengmai Consular Staff. Please see your telegram of the 30th April. The opinion of the Burma Government has been asked for by telegram and I will telegraph my views as soon as I receive it.

R.

No. 298.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 21st May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Bahrein. Please see your telegram of the 17th May. We are enquiring from the Resident who, in connection with proposals contained in our Secret External Despatch 85, dated 21st April, has already been instructed to withhold authorisation of retaliatory measures by Sheikh for the present.

R.

No. 299.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 21st May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to my telegram of the 19th May. The Intelligence Branch here have received a further Secret telegram from the same authority to the following effect. The reserves of army of Trans-Caspia have been mobilised and sent eastward of Askabad with other reserves from European Russia in order to bring cadres of Turkestan Army up to war strength. The carrying capacity of the Central Asian Railway is now twenty trains each way daily, and nearly that number is now running. The block system has been established and cross sidings six miles apart are in use. Most unusual activity prevails at Krasnovodsk; stores arriving in large quantities. At least 3,000 railway wagons parked there, and nine ocean-going steamers are simultaneously

discharging. Wharfage exists for 12 such steamers to discharge at once, which is done direct into railway trucks run alongside. Engines and rolling stock are of light military pattern. The Russians are most suspicious and closely shadow the informant, who is proceeding with reserves eastwards.

R.

No. 300.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 25th May 1904, 4 p. m.

Tibet. As mounted troops have proved of great value, we have decided to send an additional company of Native Mounted Infantry to Tibet in view of casualties and the increased activity of the enemy.

R.

No. 301.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 27th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Amir being now convalescent, Bird proposed leaving Kabul about 24th May.

R.

No. 302.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 27th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to my telegram of the 21st instant. The Intelligence Branch here have just received by telegraph from Meshed the following information from the same correspondent who has reached Samarkand. The army of Turkestan is fully mobilized. All reserves have been called out and strong reinforcements sent to all posts on the Afghan frontier. Six battalions and two batteries have gone to Pata Kesar. There seems to be a lull in arrangements, as though all transport stands ready warned, none has been actually collected, nor is any field army massed at any one point. The Amu Darya flotilla has been much augmented, some twelve steamers being now in service. The proposed railway, Samarkand to Oxus, has not been commenced. New sidings have been completed on the Askabad-Samarkand section of the Railway, as on western section, and all preparations made for twenty trains daily both ways. Great activity is manifest everywhere.

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R.

No. 303.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 29th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Consular guards for Persia. Please refer to your predecessor's Despatch of 18th September 1903. It is reported that sowars at Muhammerah would be of little use, so with the consent of Sir A. Hardinge we propose to send 8 sowars to Kermanshah instead of 6 to Muhammerah, and to add 12 men for Vice-Consul, Arabistan, who requires a guard for his personal safety owing to the disturbed state of the country. We trust this arrangement is approved by you.

No. 304.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 29th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. With reference to your telegram 25th May, please see our Secret Despatch No. 69 of the 24th March which explains our position in regard to Nejd affairs. Sir N. O'Conor might represent that so long as the Turks refrained from interference in Nejd affairs, we also abstained from intervention; that we have no desire to assist Bin Saud directly or indirectly; but that our interests in Eastern Arabia are such that we cannot view with indifference intervention on behalf of one of the parties contending for supremacy in Nejd which must affect the tribes with which we have relations; that of the two contending parties the relative rights are so equal that in the interests of peace and with a view to avoidance of internal troubles the better course would be to leave both sides alone. It might further be pointed out that in 1902 the Turks were unable to prevent a filibustering expedition against Koweit starting from Turkish territory, and present support of Bin Rashid may strengthen him beyond Turkish powers of control and produce a situation which, having regard to our relations with Mubarak, we could not view with indifference. As to Sir N. O'Conor's view of the general political aspect of the situation our opinion is as follows: The growth of our influence with Sheikh Mubarak has been concurrent with the success of his friend Bin Saud, and our prestige at Koweit must suffer materially if through our active intervention to prevent Mubarak assisting Bin Saud, and to prevent importation of arms, we permit Turkish influence to determine the supremacy of a Turkish nominee against Bin Saud, which on the analogy of the El Hasa case of 1871 would probably mean the absorption of Nejd by the Turks. A natural result of Turkish supremacy in Nejd would be the destruction of Mubarak's influence and a possible attack from a direction which has not hitherto been contemplated on Koweit territory, the limits of which towards

the interior are not defined. We might thus be forced again to assist Mubarak actively against the Turks. The re-establishment of the Wahabi dynasty, which is now rather territorial than fanatical, would in our opinion be open to less objection than this. We cannot agree therefore that our authority at Koweit would be imperilled by the success of Bin Saud or that we can preserve Koweit territory intact better than by preventing Turkish intervention on behalf of Bin Rashid. We quite agree as to posting a Political Agent to Koweit (see my telegram of 20th May), and will, if you approve, immediately select one. We think it not improbable that such action might have a wholesome effect upon Turkish attitude of mind.

The importation of arms is briskly proceeding and up to the present no arrangements have been made with the Porte for combined suppression of the traffic. It is not therefore a case of authorising Mubarak to import arms or even of relaxing existing measures for prevention of traffic but merely of allowing matters to remain as they are. If the Turks protest, we can offer to do our best to prevent the trade if they will co-operate in the manner suggested in our Despatch of the 31st March 1903, and will refrain from interfering in Nejd affairs. Such a protest would involve an admission of our supremacy in Koweit that would be useful to us.

R.

No. 305.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 30th May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. Your telegram 28th May. The position of the Mission is as follows:—From 23rd May to 28th May communication was interrupted because, owing to insecure state of roads between Gyantse and Kangma, the regular daily post was discontinued. On the 29th we received several telegrams from Gyantse brought by convoy to Kangma on the 28th. Information regarding the attack on Pala village on the 26th and the strength of Gyantse garrison which has now been practically besieged since 23rd has already been communicated to you by Military. It is not expected that General Macdonald will be in a position to advance till the 25th June; the precise date will be communicated as soon as possible. A Chinese informant told Colonel Younghusband that the Amban having failed to obtain transport sent an official to explain, but the latter was afraid to come owing to disturbed state. Further reinforcements were said to be coming from Lhasa, but Younghusband on the 29th reports that the capture of Pala was a great shock to the Tibetans. The Tongsa Penlop has written to General Macdonald and Colonel Younghusband expressing a desire to meet them and has been told that they will be glad to see him.

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R.

No. 306.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 31st May 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. In continuation of my telegram of the 27th May, further news from the same informant of the Intelligence Branch, dated Tashkend, 21st May, confirms previous reports and shows that hurried preparation and improvement of Railway extend to Tashkend. There is no sign of Russian troops being withdrawn for service in the Far East. He believes Russians are in communication with important personages in Afghanistan. The relations of Afghans and Russians on the frontier are of an intimate and friendly character. The early replacement of Ivanoff, Governor-General of Turkestan, is probable. This is significant as Ivanoff has hitherto been regarded as a peace administrator, who, in the event of active operations being really contemplated, would make way for another.

R.

No. 307.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 1st June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Telegram 129, dated 27th May, from Sir E. Satow to the Foreign Office, has been repeated to us. We agree with him that, for the reasons he gives, it is unnecessary and undesirable to make a special communication to the Chinese Government regarding the advance to Lhasa to negotiate there. It is open to the Amban and Captain Parr to report by our telegraph line the message which Colonel Younghusband sends to the former. As Captain Parr has been continued as one of the Chinese delegates, it might perhaps be well to let him have a copy of the message to the Amban, and he can communicate this or not, as he thinks best, to the Peking Government.

Repeated Peking; addressed Secretary of State.

R.

No. 308.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 2nd June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Commission's telegram 37. Aden. I shall be glad to know if you approve recess at Simla proposed in my telegram 16th May.

Repeated to Bombay, Political; addressed to Secretary of State for India.

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R.

No. 309.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P Telegram, 4th June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to my telegram of the 31st May. The same informant telegraphs through Meshed that the Orenburg-Tashkend Railway will be finished in three months and in full running order in six. The belief at Tashkend is that an Anglo-Afghan war is imminent and the Russians claim to have an understanding with the Amir and Indian Princes. The informant considers that there is no immediate risk of war with Russia. Ishak Khan is at Samarkand and his sons are at Tashkend.

R.

No. 310.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 5th June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Will you please refer to the telegram of the 2nd June from the Resident at Aden? I do not object to the suggestion that the Commission should recess in London if this is considered desirable, but trust that the opinion of the Government of India, after seeing the report and maps, will be awaited before a final decision is arrived at on the subject.

R.

No. 311.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 5th June 1904, 12 noon.

The following additional troops with necessary field hospitals, transport, &c., have been warned for service in Tibet:—

19th Punjabis, 33rd Punjabis, No. 1 company 1st Sappers and Miners, 2 sections No. 27 Mountain Battery.

R.

No. 312.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 6th June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. In an interview with Mr. Walsh the Tongsa Penlop, who has been in correspondence with the Dalai Lama, admitted that the Tibetans were foolish and unreasonable and ascribed their attitude to the bad advice of dismissed Kazis. He said that the delay in the appointment of new Kazis

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was due to the Emperor of China whose approval has been asked for; and that the Dalai Lama in a letter to him had declared his intention of refusing to negotiate or to receive any communication whatever from the Government of India. The Penlop added that the advance would be strongly resisted and that the Dalai Lama and his Government would desert Lhasa before the arrival of the Mission. Rumours of a successful Russian invasion of India are current in Bhutan and presumably also in Tibet. This is weighty confirmation of other forecasts.

Repeated to Peking; addressed to the Secretary of State.

R.

No. 313.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 7th June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Will you please refer to my telegram of the 5th June mentioning the troops warned for service in Tibet. The action was taken in case Colonel Younghusband and General Macdonald in consultation represent the necessity for a larger force which at present we do not anticipate. Colonel Younghusband reached Kangma on 6th June on his way to meet General Macdonald and consult with him.

R.

No. 314.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 7th June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegrams of the 12th and 25th May. Colonel Younghusband telegraphs that on the 1st of June he wrote informing the Amban and Dalai Lama that unless the Amban and competent Tibetan negotiators appeared at Gyantse by the 25th June we should insist upon the conduct of negotiations at Lhasa. Both communications were sent by a prisoner with an open covering letter giving the purport to the Tibetan Commander, who next morning returned the letters saying that it was not their custom to receive communications from us. Subsequently the Tibetan General sent a messenger saying that he would despatch a Chinese official to receive letters from Colonel Younghusband and requesting an armistice meanwhile. Colonel Younghusband replied he would respect a flag of truce but would be obliged to fire on occupied places in the vicinity of the Mission camp, if the Tibetans went on fortifying them. We have not yet heard of the arrival of the Chinese official as promised, but the Tibetan

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General doubtless immediately reported the contents of Colonel Younghusband's communications to Lhasa, and failing the prompt attendance of the Chinese official we propose to treat the 1st of June as the date of the delivery of the ultimatum and to authorise advance on the 25th unless the Amban and competent Tibetan delegates have reached Gyantse by that date, which allows ample time for their arrival seeing that the recent despatch from the Amban reached Colonel Younghusband in five days. If you approve the information will be sent to Sir E. Satow and a copy of the messages will be delivered to Parr, the local Chinese delegate.

Repeated Peking; addressed Secretary of State.

R.

No. 315.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 7th June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. The Tongsa Penlop had an interview with General Macdonald at Chumbi on the 6th June and on the 7th sent a letter to the Dalai Lama by the Dugyjongpon and Lama Serkhangtulku advising him to send a properly qualified representative to Gyantse by the 25th June or otherwise it will be war. He has sent a similar letter by another official to the Ta Lama, the senior Kazi, who is at Shigatse, he says with powers to negotiate.

Repeated Peking; addressed Secretary of State.

R.

No. 316.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 8th June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Mr. Dobbs telegraphs on the 2nd June from Herat that the Governor and officials have received him with almost extravagant cordiality, and the Governor shows unaccountable reluctance to further his early departure for which he has pressed. He hoped to leave Herat on the 5th June and reach Kabul about the 5th July next.

R.

No. 317.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 9th June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. My telegram 16th May. Owing to ill-health we have allowed Wahab to proceed on leave at once, giving charge to Fitz-Maurice.

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R.

No. 318.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 14th June 1904. (Despd. from Mily. Dept.)

Your telegram dated 9th June. No Dum Dum ammunition issued to troops Tibet. All Dum Dum ammunition in stock issued for practice only under stringent orders. General Macdonald wires that none has been used or is in the possession of force, but worse bullet being used by enemy in breech-loaders.

R.

No. 319.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 14th June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. With reference to your telegram of the 6th June, the Intelligence Branch informant sends a further message dated the 7th June:— Things are beginning to quiet down somewhat; some reservists stationed on the Afghan frontier are being allowed to return to their homes at Tashkend. The Cossacks in Semirechia are mobilized and garrisons there certainly strengthened. He gathers there is soreness about our action in Tibet and that the Russians possibly contemplate a movement against Kashgar in certain eventualities. They attach great importance to the completion of the Orenburg Railway, as whilst heavy embankment work is being energetically pushed on, sleepers and rails are being simultaneously laid across the flat, as a temporary line, to get military trains through in advance of the regular opening of the line. The natives of Trans-Caspia, Bokhara and Turkestan are very disaffected, but so terrorized by the Russians as to be incapable of action. The bridge at Charjui is strongly guarded. The survey for the railway from Samarkand to the Oxus is completed, but pending completion of the Orenburg line, its construction is deferred.

R.

No. 320.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 15th June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Bunder Abbas telegraph. Please refer to Sir A. Hardinge's telegram of 26th May 1904. We consider that the line or cable and the office at Bunder Abbas should be constructed and worked by the Indo-European Telegraph Department as integral parts of their system. If necessary, this line might be substituted for the line which under the Convention of 2nd April 1868 we are entitled to make from Jask towards Bunder

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Abbas, *vide* paragraph 12 of our Secret Despatch of 21st January 1904. The Shah could hardly object as the result might be the construction of a land line from Jask to the Consulate and a cable thence to Henjam as apparently contemplated by the Convention.

If this is not approved, the alternative suggested at the end of Sir A. Hardinge's message seems preferable. It is understood that except at Bunder Abbas the employés would be appointed by the Indo-European Telegraph Department. In clause 4 of the draft Agreement the words "less cost of maintenance" should apparently be added. "Previous concurrence" might be preferable to "previous understanding." As no objection has been raised to the landing of a cable at Henjam, our position as regards the Bunder Abbas connection with reference to the Convention seems very strong, as there is no telegraph near that place except the Indo-European system.

Repeated Tehran; addressed to the Secretary of State.

No. 321.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 17th June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Siam. Your telegram 26th April. We think that Vice-Consuls should be posted both at Lakon and Chengrai, but if only one officer be appointed we would place his head-quarters at Chengrai to allow of constant touch with the French frontier and Kengtung.

No. 322.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 17th June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to my telegram of the 21st May. Cox telegraphs on the 14th June as follows:—Today I have received the further report called for from Bahrein regarding the murder of the kinsman of the Sheikh. It is to the effect that the tribe concerned has never left the territory of Al Hasa and Katr and is now in the latter district. Its purport in no wise supports the assertion made by the Wali of Basrah as to the subsequent destruction of the perpetrators of the outrage. By next mail I shall send you full particulars on the subject.

R.

No. 323.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 17th June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram of the 30th April, asking for our views on the Persian scheme of financial reform. The details of the

scheme explained in Sir A. Hardinge's Despatch No. 72, dated 25th April, confirm our objections, already expressed, to placing financial reforms in the hands of the Belgians, who are thus afforded an opportunity of controlling the administration, with danger to British interests. The fact that large payments are being demanded from the new Governor-General indicates that there is but little hope of any real reform, and we are afraid that the net result will be political rather than financial, but in view of the sympathy in the principle of the scheme expressed by His Majesty's Government in Foreign Office telegram of 12th April 1904, and of the qualified approval to the general lines of the scheme already given by Sir A. Hardinge, we can only advise that the British Minister should insist on having a voice in the settlement of the details.

The scheme provides that no new Belgians will be appointed to the provincial treasuries, and where none exist the duties will be performed by Persians.

The observance of the full spirit of this condition should be rigorously demanded, especially as reports from Meshed of the rumoured arrival of more Belgians show that it is unlikely that it will be adhered to.

If it is not, we would suggest the possibility of revising the Customs administration on the lines of the Chinese Maritime Customs, so as to ensure that no one Power had an undue preponderance of influence.

Further, as suggested by Sir A. Hardinge in Despatch No. 56, dated 28th March, we should endeavour to secure that the scheme be introduced into Seistan, Baluchistan and Arabistan, only after experience has been gained in the central Provinces and after consultation as to details with the British Minister.

Repeated to Tehran; addressed to Secretary of State.

R.

No. 324.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 17th June 1904. (Despd. from Finl. Dept.)

Your telegram dated the 9th June. Linotypes. Prolonged trial has been given these machines, and we are quite satisfied they are not only costly to work, but quite unsuited for class of work we require. We deprecate therefore any further trial. Contract terminated on 31st May last, and Superintendent, Government Printing, India, under orders of the Governor-General in Council, gave notice to Company's Agent to remove them. Latter replied he had no instructions. Machines are still lying in Press, establishment having been withdrawn. If we admit any variation in terms of contract we anticipate difficulty and possible claims by Company. Therefore we strongly recommend

discontinuance negotiations and permission to enforce the removal of machines. We would suggest your obtaining confidentially the opinion of Messrs. Harrison, Government printers, on suitability of machines for Government work.

R.

No. 325.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 17th June 1904, 5-45 p. m.

Please refer to your telegram of the 8th instant. Order of the Bath. The Commander-in-Chief recommends the names of the following Officers lately appointed Honorary Colonels of Native Regiments :—

Generals H. C. Anderson and H. H. James.
Major-Generals R. D. Campbell and B. R. Chambers.
Lieutenant-General J. P. Sheriff.

These Officers are on the Unemployed Supernumerary List, and we note the decision in paragraph 12 of your Despatch No. 143 of December 1901 and paragraph 5 of Despatch No. 18 of the 30th January 1903; but the Chief considers that, as they are eligible under Statute, he ought to put the names forward owing to their recent appointment as Honorary Colonels of Regiments. We see no special objection to this consideration. For the five vacancies we recommend, as alternative names, the following :—

Brigadier-General A. A. Pearson, and Colonels R. I. Scallon, V. A. Schalch, A. Masters, and H. Mansfield.

No. 326.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 18th June 1904, 5-30 p. m.

It is proposed to issue a Rupee loan of three crores and not to reserve the right to declare a minimum. The dates to be the same as in the draft accompanying Mr. Baker's demi-official to Abrahams, No. 3193, dated 19th May.

Please number the Notification 3912, and substitute, for the first three lines of paragraph 9, the following :—*Begins.* The minimum rate at which tenders will be accepted will be recorded under the signature of the Comptroller-General and. *Ends.*

R.

No. 327.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 19th June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to my telegram of the 8th June. Minchin telegraphs report from the Herat Agent that Messrs. Dobbs and Wanliss left Herat on the 6th June. From Dobbs himself I have heard nothing.

R.

No. 328.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 19th June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram of the 16th June. Both Colonel Younghusband and General Macdonald are at Pharijong *en route* to Gyantse where the main body of the Mission is. Younghusband's temporary absence from Gyantse has placed no obstacle in the way of negotiations, as Wilton and O'Connor remained there. On the contrary, Younghusband's return to Chumbi afforded a better chance of getting into direct communication with the Dalai Lama and inducing him to send an envoy than there had been before, for it was there that he met the Tongsa Penlop of Bhutan who came to tender his friendly offices. After the interview with Younghusband the Tongsa Penlop sent special messengers to the Dalai Lama urging him to negotiate and these messengers will of course reach Lhasa before the 25th. Younghusband, as you know, had no certain means of communicating with the Dalai Lama himself, while the Tongsa Penlop has been in friendly correspondence with him direct.

R.

No. 329.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 20th June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Your telegram 17th June. Tibet. Following is list of casualties to 10th June :—War casualties : killed—British Officers 2, Native Officers 1, Native rank and file 20, followers 2. Wounded—British Officers 9, Native Officers 2, Native rank and file 65. Deaths other than war casualties : British Officers 2, men 1, Native Officers 1, Native Warrant Officers 1, Native rank and file 63, followers 116. Invaliding—British Officers 1, men 6, Native Officers 1, Native rank and file 125, followers 193.

No. 330.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 22nd June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram of the 16th June regarding Musabad. The following is a repetition of Minchin's telegram of the 7th June (no telegram dated the 9th June was received) :—

Begins. Agent at Karez reports, 29th May, Afghans have sown seven acres land at Musabad. *Ends.*

Paragraph 12 of Maclean's report of the 6th July 1891 indicates that Afghan shepherds were then in occupation of the Sargardan basin up to Musabad, and Winter's report of the 7th April 1904 shows that the Afghans have been in possession of the Musabad fort for the past eight years, so the erection of a new post is not strictly encroachment, but new cultivation is an alteration of the *status quo* likely to move the Persians to action. I am addressing the Amir again on this point and the Persian Government may be asked to await the result. The Amir has not replied to the letter of the 22nd October though he has been reminded through the Envoy. I suspect he would strongly object to our undertaking the demarcation if we proposed it. It is difficult to make any proposal till we know precisely what line the Persian Government claim. Can this be ascertained ?

Repeated to Tehran ; addressed Secretary of State.

R.

No. 331.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 24th June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. On returning to Gyantse Colonel Younghusband reports that the officers of the posts on the road say that the attitude of the local people is very friendly, though they are afraid of the Lhasa officials and monks.

Repeated to Peking ; addressed Secretary of State.

R.

No. 332.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 24th June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. In continuation of our telegram of today we are strongly of opinion that the advance to Lhasa should anyhow take place

as the Tibetans have disregarded the ultimatum. To attempt negotiations at Gyantse and refrain from the advance to Lhasa would merely be to encourage dilatory tactics. With your approval we propose to tell the Mission to advance on the 30th whatever happens, and, if they present themselves at all, to invite the Tibetan and Chinese Envoys to accompany the Mission. We consider that this would be the only sure means of bringing about a speedy settlement. I shall be glad of an immediate reply.

R.

No. 333.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 24th June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Colonel Younghusband wired on the 23rd instant as follows :—

Begins. Have heard from Tongsa Penlop that Ta, Councillor, and Kallan, Lama, are coming to Gyantse and that parcel of silk cloth from Lhasa has arrived for me. Tongsa Penlop also wishes to come to Gyantse to see me. This may be sign that Tibetans are at last anxious to make terms. I would therefore recommend that five days' period of grace be given and the advance be deferred till after 30th, in which case issue of proclamation would also be deferred. *Ends.*

The following reply has been sent :—

Begins. Your telegram of 23rd June. If you have reliable information of early arrival of competent Tibetan negotiators, you may certainly defer advance until 30th June. *Ends.*

Repeated to the British Minister at Peking; addressed to the Secretary of State.

R.

No. 334.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 26th June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. The following telegram has been sent to Colonel Younghusband :—

Begins. At present we are not in a position to send final instructions as to the terms which should be demanded when negotiations begin, but are today

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posting copy of despatch to the Secretary of State discussing the question. The points on which negotiations have so far been authorised by His Majesty's Government are stated in telegrams from the Secretary of State dated the 6th and 30th November 1903. The despatch contains the following proposals :—

(1) We have explained that it may become necessary to post a Resident at Lhasa, but on this point we reserve final opinion pending receipt of your views after arrival at Lhasa. Failing this it has been suggested that an Agent be posted at Gyantse with the right of proceeding to Lhasa as occasion may require to discuss matters with the Amban or Tibetan officials. The latter arrangement would be accompanied by reservation of the right to post an Agent at Lhasa, should the Tibetan Government hereafter abandon its attitude of isolation from European Powers.

(2) That we require from Tibetans and Chinese the formal recognition of exclusive British political influence and an engagement not to admit to Tibet the representative of, not to cede any portion of Tibetan territory to, and not to enter into relations about Tibet with, any Foreign Power without previous British consent.

(3) That we demand an indemnity from both Tibetans and Chinese. We have not discussed the amount in the despatch but think it should be at the rate of £100,000 for every month from the date of attack on the Mission at Gyantse, *i. e.*, the 4th May, until one month after signature of the Convention—one month's instalment to be paid down and guarantees taken for future payments.

(4) That the Chumbi Valley be occupied for requisite period as security for payment of indemnity and fulfilment of treaty.

(5) That all fortified positions which might impede communication between Lhasa and the frontier be razed and no arms be imported or manufactured without British permission.

(6) That trade marts be established at :—

(*a*) Gyantse,
(*b*) Shigatse,
(*c*) Lhasa (in the event of Agent being posted there),
(*d*) Gartok in Western Tibet, and
(*e*) at such other places as may hereafter be found suitable in Eastern Tibet.

(7) That details, including trade regulations, terms of customs duties, mining rights, and Sikkim and Garhwal boundary settlements, stand over till after discussion with Tibetans.

You should clearly understand that these demands have not yet been approved by His Majesty's Government, and you should confine yourself to

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ascertaining how they are likely to be regarded without committing the Government to them. If you have any suggestions to offer as to other ways of securing reparation and satisfaction the Government of India will be glad to learn them and to receive your matured opinion on the policy recommended in the draft despatch. *Ends.*

R.

No. 335.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 28th June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. I have sent the following telegram, dated June 24th, to Colonel Younghusband :—

Begins. The question of Mission wintering at Lhasa has been carefully considered and the military objections appear overwhelming. You must therefore shape your course of action with a view to a return to Gyantse, but Government of India will not make any final decision until you have reported from Lhasa. *Ends.*

R.

No. 336.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 29th June 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Colonel Younghusband telegraphed on the 28th to the effect that the Tongsa Penlop was expected to arrive at Gyantse on the 30th, and that letters had been sent by him to Ta Lama, who was said to be at Shigatse, and to Shape at Nagartse Jong, saying that the Tongsa Penlop had told him that they wished to come to Gyantse but that they were afraid, and that if they had proper credentials to effect a settlement he would guarantee their safety and treat them with respect, but that the Mission was about to move on to Lhasa, and that, therefore, they must come at once. Colonel Younghusband telegraphed today that the Tibetans seized the messenger whom he sent with these letters and brought him to Jong, and that the Tibetan leaders, after perusal of the message, held council and sent messenger with a flag of truce this morning asking for armistice till Ta Lama who is at Penam, which is half way to Shigatse, and Shape, who is at Nagartse, could arrive to negotiate. The Dalai Lama is said to have empowered the Ta Lama and Shape to treat. Colonel Younghusband, after consulting General Macdonald, has replied that armistice will be granted till sunset of the 30th June for the purpose of enabling Ta Lama to reach Gyantse, but that as Tibetans without any provocation had made an attack on the Mission on May 5th, and had occupied the Jong and

fired into the Camp ever since, General Macdonald, who had to answer for the safety of the Mission, demanded withdrawal within reasonable time of all armed force beyond Karola, Yangla and Dongtse.

Repeated to Peking Legation.

R.

No. 337.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 29th June 1904, 5-20 p. m.

It has been considered advisable to strengthen General Macdonald's force by the addition of the 19th Punjabis and 2 guns from the 27th Mountain Battery with the necessary transport. They were warned in my telegram of the 5th June last to be in readiness in case they were required.

R.

No. 338.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 1st July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to my telegram of 19th June. Mr. Dobbs and Major Wanliss reached Doolatyar on the 21st June and expected to arrive on the 5th July at Kabul.

R.

No. 339.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 2nd July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

With reference to your telegram 1st July. On the 1st July the Tongsa Penlop showed Colonel Younghusband a letter from the Dalai Lama to the effect that fighting was bad both for men and animals, and as we were prepared to negotiate by given date the Tongsa Penlop was asked by him to assist in bringing about a peaceful settlement and had appointed Shape Ta Lama, the Grand Secretary, and representatives of three great Monasteries to negotiate. Some silk was also presented as from the Dalai Lama, but Colonel Younghusband refused to accept this unless it was accompanied by a letter or presented by an official of the Dalai Lama. He added that, though date had passed, British Government were willing to extend the term allowed for negotiation if the envoys who were now on their way could give proof of the earnestness of the Tibetan Government and their own powers and readiness to negotiate.

Ta Lama reached Gyantse yesterday afternoon, and was received this morning by Colonel Younghusband together with the Tongsa Penlop and six representatives of three Lhasa Monasteries. A letter from the Dalai Lama to the Tongsa Penlop is their only credential, and no eagerness for a settlement is displayed by them. They were told by Colonel Younghusband to discuss matters with the Tongsa Penlop and to come again tomorrow. He has asked the Tongsa Penlop to impress upon them the extreme gravity of the situation and the necessity that exists for an assurance of the earnestness of their desire to treat and of the good faith of their Government if they wished postponement of the advance to Lhasa. I will telegraph without delay any further information that may be received.

Repeated to the Peking Legation.

R.

No. 340.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 2nd July 1904, 7-45 p. m.

Please refer to your telegram of the 30th ultimo regarding Tibet.

Lieutenant-Colonel Wilmer (if medically fit), Captain Churchill, and Lieutenant Tancred, all of the 19th Punjabis, should be ordered to rejoin.

R.

No. 341.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 3rd July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

The Amir has asked through the Envoy for the services of a British doctor and lady doctor, for a native lady doctor, and for two native Assistant Surgeons. If Amir makes three years' engagement, I propose to send Major Cleveland, I. M. S., Bombay, on Rs. 2,000, and Miss Browne of Dufferin Fund on Rs. 500 a month.

R.

No. 342.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 3rd July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

I have received a report from Ugyen Kazi that the Tongsa Penlop believes that the delegates are really anxious to make a settlement, and without reference to the Chinese. He suggests that a written paper stating the exact demands should be given to them by Colonel Younghusband.

Repeated to the Peking Legation.

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R.

No. 343.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 3rd July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to Sir E. Satow's telegram No. 142 of 29th June 1904. As explained in my despatch, a copy of which has been posted to H. B. M.'s Minister at Peking, the Chinese as signatories of the Agreements of 1890 and 1893 cannot be absolved from liability for present situation, and it seems likely that our claim to indemnity may form a useful lever to induce them to continue giving us a free hand and to concede formally in the final settlement exclusive rights which we desire.

Repeated to Sir E. Satow.

R.

No. 344.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 4th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to your telegram dated the 1st July 1904. For the following reasons His Excellency Lord Kitchener is opposed to winter occupation of Lhasa: First, such a course would cause a serious drain on our resources, and the transport necessary for the purpose will reduce the transport left in India to two mule corps only. Secondly, the isolation of a small force at Lhasa for a long period might lead to disaster, communications would have to be kept open in some degree, and difficulty would be great owing to climatic reasons. Thirdly, General Macdonald has consistently advocated return to Gyantse before the winter stating that the occupation of Lhasa would be risky and likely to lead to disaster. Lord Kitchener therefore thinks that the force should return to Gyantse. Our power of going to Lhasa will have been shown, and if still recalcitrant, threat of returning next year may bring the Tibetans to reason. If serious negotiations are begun at Lhasa, they can, if incomplete, be concluded at Gyantse. If no negotiation is undertaken at Lhasa and the force remains there during the winter, difficulties of subsequent withdrawal will probably be increased and a further drain will thereby be entailed on our military resources. The force could not be provisioned beforehand unless the question is decided at once and sending forward of supplies now begun. Unless we find that Lhasa is capable of providing a greater amount of supplies than is considered likely it would be too late to defer the decision until the force arrives there.

R.

No. 345.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 4th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

The following telegram has been sent to Colonel Younghusband:—

Begins. Your treatment of the Tibetan delegates and of the conditions which you have imposed in order to satisfy yourself of their good faith are

fully approved by the Government of India. Great hopes are entertained by them of your success in your present endeavours to initiate regular negotiations, but they rely on your discretion to frustrate any attempts on the part of the delegates of purely dilatory tactics. *Ends.*

R.

No. 346.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 4th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

The Tibetan delegates arrived one and half hours late for the Durbar, but were received at 4 P. M. yesterday. No business was apparently transacted, but, in order to prevent a risk of further attack on the Mission, Colonel Younghusband told the delegates that the Jong must be evacuated by noon on the 5th if they really wished to negotiate at Gyantse and so prevent the military advance on Lhasa. Colonel Younghusband thinks that the Dalai and Ta Lamas desire settlement, but that the Grand Secretary, who was wanting in respect at Khamba Jong, is pursuing the same obstructive tactics as he did formerly.

Addressed to His Majesty's Secretary of State for India, and repeated to Sir E. Satow.

R.

No. 347.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 4th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to your telegram, dated the 1st July 1904, regarding Koweit. The Assistant Surgeon for the Post Office is at Bushire and he was to start forthwith with Major Knox who has been selected for the Political Agency in compliance with the instructions contained in your telegram of 24th June. The departure of both has been deferred, but we trust that, in view of the reported arrival of Turkish troops at Hail, which is a serious disturbance of the *status quo*, the Porte will be pressed for a very early reply about Bubiyan or that the officers may be allowed to proceed to Koweit. It is worth mentioning that the Turkish Consul-General at Bushire is claiming to represent a Koweit Arab, though the Persian Governor is prepared to recognise the right of the British Consul-General to protect him.

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R.

No. 348.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 5th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Colonel Younghusband reports that today he sent two messengers warning the Tibetans that a signal gun would be fired at 12 noon, and that, if the fort was not then surrendered, fire would commence at 12-30. The Tongsa Penlop and General Ma were informed of this, and the delegates were warned to leave the fort and secure the removal of women and children. At 12-38 fire on the fort was commenced, no notice having been taken by the Tibetans.

Repeated to the Peking Legation.

R.

No. 349.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 6th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Colonel Younghusband in his Report, dated the 4th July, states that the delegates asked the Tongsa Penlop that before evacuating the fort they may be given time to refer the question to Lhasa. Colonel Younghusband advised immediate compliance in the matter. The delegates feared that even if they complied with the orders we should still go to Lhasa and they wanted an assurance that we really wished for a settlement. Colonel Younghusband pointed out to the Tongsa Penlop that fact that he was still in charge showed that the object of the Mission was peaceful and that it was not a military expedition.

Repeated to the Peking Legation.

R.

No. 350.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 7th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Colonel Younghusband reports that immediately the Jong was captured he asked the Tongsa Penlop, by whom he was congratulated, that messengers may be sent to the Ta Lama and the Shape at Nagartse to say that he was still ready to negotiate but that they must come at once, otherwise he would go to Lhasa.

Repeated to the Peking Legation.

R.

No. 351.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 8th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

A wire was received from Colonel Younghusband on the 7th July to the effect that the Ta Lama has fled, but that the Tongsa Penlop is sending messengers after him. The Tongsa Penlop is also writing to the Dalai Lama, who is said to be already anxious for a settlement, to tell him that Colonel Younghusband is still ready to negotiate. The Tongsa Penlop was an onlooker to the action of the 6th, and was greatly impressed and the delight of the Bhutanese, at the turn events have taken, is apparently great.

Repeated to Sir E. Satow.

R.

No. 352.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 8th July 1904. (Despd. from Financial Dept.)

Our telegram, dated 17th June. Linotype. We have received letter from Director-General of Stores, 9310, dated 10th June last, containing the outlines of Company's proposal for the installation of sixty machines for two years, and demonstrating saving of £4,000 per annum. Further details not yet received. This offer is merely continuation of prolonged trial already given, which has fully satisfied us that linotypes are unsuitable for our work. We therefore ask permission to inform Company's Agent that, unless machines are removed within one week, they will be held at risk of Company, and rent charged for care and warehousing. In any case the Company's proposal, if accepted, would entirely disorganise our Press.

R.

No. 353.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 10th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

On the 7th July we asked Colonel Younghusband for his opinion as to the Mission advancing to Lhasa. On the 8th, before receipt of his reply, owing to the Tibetans having failed to comply with the conditions which were precedent to the negotiations at Gyantse, it was decided, after full deliberation in Council, that the advance was inevitable, and that it should not be delayed as the Ta Lama and Shape evidently had neither intention nor authority to negotiate, as the settlement would admittedly not be binding unless the Dalai Lama himself signed it, and as for the sake of avoiding future misconception, demonstration of our power to advance to Lhasa was essential. Colonel Younghusband

was informed accordingly and instructions were given to him to shape his action with a view to return to Gyantse before the winter set in. Subsequently we received Colonel Younghusband's answer to our telegram of the 7th; it ran thus "I understand that military objections to remaining in Lhasa for length of time that may be required for negotiations are overwhelming; Macdonald tells me that risks of even temporarily advancing have been underestimated; His Majesty's Government do not wish me to demand Resident either at Lhasa or here. In these circumstances, as so little is to be demanded of Tibetans, as military risks are represented as so great, and as Tibetans have already been severely punished, it seems neither advisable nor necessary to advance Mission to Lhasa till it has been proved that Tibetans will not negotiate here. If they will not negotiate here, His Majesty's Government will, I presume, demand more severe terms, and if military are prepared to keep Mission at Lhasa during time required to negotiate these more severe terms, I would recommend Mission should advance to Lhasa, negotiating on way if negotiators come in." In reply I have confirmed the previous instructions, as military authorities advise that the advance ought not to commence later than the 10th July, and I added that if the Dalai Lama's delegates came in *en route*, they should be invited to accompany the advance of the Mission to Lhasa, the terms for which we stipulate should be explained, and a warning should be given that further resistance would involve a less favourable settlement.

Repeated to Sir E. Satow.

No. 354.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 11th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

The President of the French Republic has conferred on the Raja of Cochin the decoration of La Croix de Commandeur de L'Ordre du Cambodge on the occasion of the Raja's recent visit to Pondicherry, and that of Officer of the same Order on the Elaya Raja and the Dewan of the State. We are not prepared to recommend permission; please take His Majesty's pleasure as to whether the decorations may be accepted.

R.

No. 355.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 11th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Colonel Younghusband telegraphs that the Tongsa Penlop has spontaneously mentioned his belief that the Dalai Lama is now anxious to make friends with the British if we would protect him against the Russians as he

has found the latter useless as protectors against us. If the Dalai Lama proposes this, Colonel Younghusband suggests that the following might be added at end of clause 2 of the proposed terms :—

Begins. The British Government will, if a Foreign Power attempts to intervene, take such steps as they may consider necessary to assist the Tibetan Government to exclude such intervention. *Ends.*

There hardly seems any necessity for inserting a specific condition which might prove embarrassing with the Chinese and other Powers. The intimations which Lord Lansdowne conveyed to the Russian Ambassador on the 11th and 18th February 1903 and his declarations after prolonged consultation with the Russian Government should be sufficient, when illustrated by the terms now proposed, to prove to the Tibetans that intervention of Russia will be energetically excluded. This might be pointed out by Colonel Younghusband to the Tibetans and translations of relevant portions of the Blue Book might be given to them by him.

Addressed to His Majesty's Secretary of State for India and repeated to the Peking Legation and the British Commissioner for Tibet Frontier Matters.

R.

No. 356.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 11th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Following telegram has been received from Colonel Younghusband :—

Begins. Gyantse, July 9th. Could I be informed what alterations in terms would be made ? Firstly, if delegates meet me negotiate on march and prevent further opposition. Secondly, if advance is opposed. Information on these points would enable me effect settlement more quickly. *Ends.*

The reply I have sent is as follows :—

Begins. We are referring your enquiry to His Majesty's Government but meanwhile you may act on the following instructions. If delegates meet you to negotiate on the march and prevent further opposition you should adhere to the terms specified in the telegram from the Secretary of State of the 6th July. If advance is opposed no final orders can be given until extent and character of the opposition is known. It is, however, open to you to increase the amount of your demand for an indemnity and reserve right of British Government to establish additional trade marts at Shigatse, Gartok and in Eastern Tibet.

There are no other means of enhancing terms without departing from main principles of settlement desired by His Majesty's Government, but if unforeseen circumstances should seemingly necessitate change of policy you must of course report and await orders.

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Government of India hope that you will have no difficulty in securing terms now proposed when you get into touch with Lhasa authorities. *Ends.*

Has this your approval?

R.

No. 357.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 11th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to your telegram, dated the 6th July 1904, regarding Tibet. Orders received, understood and communicated at once to Colonel Younghusband for his information and guidance. Some minor points in regard to which your telegram is silent, possibly because the telegraphic abstract of our Despatch was not sufficiently explicit, are suggested by the Government of India for consideration of His Majesty's Government. They are as follow: in clause 2 of the proposed formal Convention the condition against ceding Tibetan territory should presumably be amplified in the usual way, and it would be well expressly to secure that no representatives or agents, commercial or other, of other Foreign Powers should be admitted to Tibet, that no concessions for railways, roads, telegraphs, mining or other rights should be granted, and that no Tibetan revenues, whether in kind or cash, should be pledged or assigned to any Foreign Power or subjects of such without the previous consent of British Government. This condition seems necessary to prevent the intervention of Foreign Powers, and cannot well be regarded as interference with the internal administration of Tibet. In view of the action of the Russian Government about railways in Persia it is improbable at any rate that the Czar's Government could question the condition.

In clause 4 there should be a condition prohibiting the future erection of fortifications which may impede the course of free communication between our frontier and the point reached by the Mission.

Many difficulties experienced in the past will be obviated by the establishment of a trade mart at Gyantse under conditions applicable to a mart at Yatung and the provision for transmission of correspondence through the British and Tibetan Agents there, but we trust that a subordinate mart may be opened at Gartok in Western Tibet for the reasons specified in our Despatch.

We bring to your notice the question of securing at an early date, and before the question has been further complicated, definition of boundaries of Tibet for the purposes of clause 2. All that would be required would be a written recognition by the Chinese and Tibetan Governments of what these boundaries are, at any rate upon the north, and Colonel Younghusband will probably be able to supplement hereafter our inadequate information on the point.

Repeated to the Peking Legation and the British Commissioner for Tibet Frontier Matters.

R.

No. 358.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 12th July 1904.

British news-writer, Herat, informs Minchin, under date 27th June, that fifteen guns with hundred horses and sufficient Martinis for four regiments have arrived at Herat and that eight more guns are on way there.

R.

No. 359.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 12th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to your telegram 5th July. We consider it very desirable to maintain the strength of Consular escorts, Seistan, Turbat and Meshed, at twenty, twenty-five and twenty-three as originally sanctioned. The guards have reached Turbat and Meshed, and Minchin reports that 30 Cossacks are coming to latter place so that our guard there should not be reduced, more especially as the city is reported to be in disturbed state. At urgent request of Sir A. Hardinge we have already sent six sowars from Turbat to Tehran for Tabriz, but hope to replace them when Sir A. Hardinge can obtain permission for landing of men at Bushire. We are trying to arrange to raise Seistan guard to twenty by detaching six men from Cavalry escort with McMahon's Mission and anticipate no difficulty. We strongly object to sending six men to Shiraz from Meshed and Hardinge agrees that Shiraz may stand over for the present. We concur in rest of proposals except that it may be desirable to increase strength proposed for Bunder Abbas somewhat, but we will address you later as to this.

Addressed to Secretary of State; repeated to British Minister, Tehran.

R.

No. 360.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 13th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

The advance to Lhasa commences on the 14th July and the Proclamation is being issued explaining that if opposition is offered *en route* more stringent terms will be made. We presume that this will be done if the delegates only come in at the last moment before reaching Lhasa. Please communicate your decision on my telegrams of 11th July as to further terms to be required in event of opposition and the nature of assurances against foreign aggression which are to be given to the Dalai Lama. Colonel Younghusband is being authorised to sign and secure the signature of the Amban and Dalai Lama to

the Convention embodying terms finally approved subject to ratification by His Majesty's Government.

He asks that the Trade Agent at Gyantse might be authorised by the Convention to proceed to Lhasa when necessary. This might be made one of the more stringent terms to be exacted in the event of opposition.

It is understood that the full power to construct, at any time, suitable communications through Chumbi of whatever class may be held to be necessary, is reserved by us.

Repeated Peking and Tibet.

R.

No. 361.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 14th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to your telegram, dated the 5th July 1904, on the subject of the Subaihi Boundary. We agree that the claims of the Subaihis to Sheikh Said cannot now be raised owing to the regrettable omission in the past on the part of the local authorities to ascertain the true Subaihi Boundary and to the fact that the Turkish occupation of Sheikh Said has been accepted and more especially as Colonel Wahab has informed the Turkish Commissioners that our boundary begins at a point between Turba and the Turkish Fort. We however consider that it is necessary to point out clearly to the Porte that we are giving up territory to which apparently Subaihis have valid claims and that we should claim reversion of all territory up to the Akama-Akkan Kaddam line, including Sheikh Said, to which Subaihi claims are substantiated. We expressly claimed the village of Turba also, and as reported by Sir N. O'Conor in his Despatch No. 605, dated the 25th September 1903, the Porte declared that there were no Turkish troops there. We are of opinion that the line *x* should, if we are to give up the village, be drawn from Jebel Kuwah to Sheikh Murad so as to close any possible outlet from Khor Ghorera to the sea on the south to which great importance is attached by the Defence Committee. If an *Iradé* is necessary for the Kuwah-Hasisi line Mr. Fitzmaurice agrees that it would be well to claim the Kuwah-Sheikh Murad Boundary. Otherwise we agree with the Government of Bombay that the line suggested by the Commission for the Subaihi border should be accepted by us, subject to a reservation in favour of the tribe of any proprietary rights that the Subaihi may possess to the north of the territorial boundary. We would suggest that, in order to facilitate future survey and demarcation, the Porte should, in consideration of the fact that we are giving up a considerable area belonging to one of the nine cantons, be pressed to recognise by an *Iradé* that the frontier north-east to the desert from point I on the Bana, between Mares and Shaibi, is a line drawn in a general north-easterly

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direction from Lukhmat-es-Shub, but including on our side all the Yaffai-as-Suffal, with their dependencies, Rubeaten, Juban Nawa, Dthabiani and Beda, and all the Upper Aulaki tribes, including Behan-al-Khasab. Major-General Maitland and the Commission point out that demarcation of the border to the north-east would at present involve serious expenditure of money, and we would, pending personal discussion with Mr. Fitzmaurice, prefer to leave open the question of the date of effecting actual demarcation. If such an *Iradé* substantiating our claims were issued, it would greatly facilitate future demarcation. Mr. Fitzmaurice suggests that if the Turks prove obstructive the Haushabi border as proposed in paragraph 7 of the Commission's No. 19, dated the 15th March 1904, should also be rectified by taking it from Baresa along the crest of Jabal Am Amma and Jabal Jarban down to Jalisa. We would suggest that this matter might be left to our Ambassador at Constantinople.

Repeated Bombay and Resident at Aden.

N. B.—The Resident at Aden has been asked to send a copy by post to Mr. Fitzmaurice.

No. 362.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 15th July 1904, 4-45 p. m.

The financial aspect of Lord Kitchener's scheme was discussed this morning in Council. The answers to the questions you asked in your telegram of the 9th July are as follows :—

(1) A portion of the mobilization stores which are referred to in our Despatch No. 54 (Military) of 1904 should be provided at once. If the monsoon continues normal money up to a crore will be available during the current financial year.

(2) During the third trooping season of the scheme we propose to add 1,700 men for Mounted Infantry Battalions and signalling units. We consider that the three battalions which are required in order to complete the Ninth Division should not be added for five years, that is, until the scheme is complete.

(3) We estimate that in order to meet the cost of Lord Kitchener's scheme and of reduced Military Schedules, it will be necessary to provide three crores a year for five years. We anticipate, if normal conditions continue, that at least two and a half crores can be provided annually out of revenue on the existing basis of taxation, and the annual balance, if any, not found from revenue we propose to meet from borrowed funds.

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R.

No. 363.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 16th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

On the 14th July following telegram was received from Colonel Younghusband:—

Begins. I have written to Amban that as neither he nor Tibetan delegates with proper power and authority had come here I was advancing to Lhasa; that my purpose was still to negotiate but negotiations could now take place only in Lhasa. I have got Tongsa Penlop to write Dalai Lama informing him in outline of terms we will demand and adding that if further opposition is offered these terms will be enhanced. I have also got Tongsa Penlop to again write to Ta Lama that I will be ready to negotiate on road so that settlement may be ready for early signature at Lhasa. Tongsa Penlop himself will remain here till he hears from Tibetans that they still require him, but he is sending man with me to act as means of communication with Tibetans and he will rejoin me moment I ask him to. A Lama has arrived from Lhasa with letter from Dalai Lama to Tongsa Penlop. He says Dalai Lama is really anxious for settlement, and in letter Dalai Lama asked Tongsa Penlop to assist Councillors in their good work adding that it is pity there should be war in a religious country. Tomorrow proclamation will be posted everywhere. I have released Jongpen of Gyantse whom I had confined in this post just before attack on Mission when we first heard of hostile gathering. He has been reinstated in his post and will be intermediary between people and Officer Commanding here. Small bazar has been started, people selling country produce to soldiers. *End of telegram.*

R.

No. 364.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 18th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to my telegram of 1st July. Mr Dobbs and Major Wanliss arrived on the 8th July at Kabul. Their reception by Amir's official was cordial.

R.

No. 365.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 18th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please see your telegram of the 7th July 1904. We agree to complete full amount of £300,000 on the same security as was given before and on the

same guarantee from His Majesty's Government against loss to the extent of half the total amount of the loan. We concur that there is advantage in spreading repayment of this amount over a period of twenty years. The new method of paying the interest will necessitate revision of the agreement and we think that the present favourable opportunity might be taken to substitute for phrase "Fars and the Persian Gulf" (or "Gulf of Fars" as in the Persian) old expression "Customs of Southern Persia" which Persian Government now admit that they intended to exempt from Russian loans. We are no parties to those loans as Sir A. Hardinge points out, and relying on the anterior assurance of 1897 and the express pledge given in the present contract we should be able to reject any Russian claim to control any of Southern Customs which is a satisfactorily wide term. If Sir A. Hardinge could secure the Shah's assent to linking up the Persian telegraph with the Indan system at Koh-i-Malik Siah, we should be glad, but we would not make this a condition of the present advance.

R.

No. 366.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 18th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

On the 16th July Colonel Younghusband telegraphed that the Tongsa Penlop had received and forwarded to him the letters from the Dalai Lama, the Ta Lama and the Yutok Shape. The Dalai Lama says that the news of the capture of Jong had been communicated to him by the Ta Lama, and asks the Tongsa Penlop privately to request the British that his country may not be nibbled up, and that his influence with the British and the Tibetans may be used. He adds that negotiations for establishing friendship between the two Governments should be begun quickly as it would then be known who is in the right. In writing from Nagartse the Ta Lama and the Yutok Shape say that they were starting for Gyantse. They had come to Ralung, but that they had left the place on the 14th July without sending a message. They have been asked by the Tongsa Penlop not to fight but to effect a settlement. They know our terms, and before making further diplomatic move, Colonel Younghusband is awaiting definite advances from them, but in any case Colonel Younghusband and General Macdonald will continue the advance to Lhasa.

Repeated to the Peking Legation.

No. 367.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 18th July 1904. (Despd. from Home Dept.)

Silchar Military Police Battalion displayed gross insubordination having struck work on pretence of being insulted by battalion clerk. Battalion had

to be disarmed by volunteers who were relieved by Lakhimpur battalion. They afterwards returned to duty. It does not appear that insubordination was the result of preconceived plan but due to supposed failure of authorities to give consideration to their grievance. Government action has been hampered by Inspector-General of Police passing final orders and allowing men to resume duty of his own authority. Chief Commissioner proposes to dispense with services of three Native officers, transfer Assistant Commandant, Military Police, and gradually reduce battalion. We have approved of his proposals and are reverting to military employment officer commanding battalion.

Above telegram was about to issue when your telegram of 15th July was received. Full report will follow by next mail. We do not think that any correct report has been published.

R.

No. 368.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 20th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

In order to bring negotiations to a speedy conclusion, Colonel Younghusband telegraphs that Mr. Wilton has suggested that matters might be hastened if the Chinese Government were requested by Sir E. Satow to issue special instructions to the Amban enjoining expedition.

No. 369.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 20th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to the despatch from Mr. Crow, His Britannic Majesty's Consul at Basrah, dated the 12th May, a copy of which was received with the letter from the Secretary, Political and Secret Department, India Office, No. 26, dated the 26th June, regarding the imprisoned Agent of the Sheikh of Koweit. The Political Resident in the Persian Gulf also urges that, in order to secure the release of Abdul Aziz, early steps should be taken in the matter, and I would ask that the subject may be represented to Porte in a suitable manner.

R.

No. 370.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 22nd July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

My telegram 18th July. Amir accorded Mr. Dobbs his first interview on 12th July, when only remark of political nature by His Highness was that workshops were working at half power, since his friends refused to allow materials

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ordered from India to pass, while his enemies refused to sell him such materials. At the second interview on the 13th, which was of private character, Amir handed to Dobbs a file of the correspondence between Government of India and His Highness, desired him to master its contents, and after some days to visit His Highness again to hear his views and to narrate his own regarding Herat affairs. Mr. Dobbs informed Amir his instructions precluded his expressing opinions, or entering into any negotiations, and Amir said he understood this, and would express to him "the secrets of his heart," which he could not do in writing. Amir again referred to stoppage of ammunition and said that Afghanistan was India's shield, but we were making the shield of paper instead of steel. Mr. Dobbs suspects that the object of the Amir is to protract his stay and length of personal interviews, so that he may excuse himself hereafter from visiting Viceroy in India, or receiving important Mission, by representing that he has said all that he has to say to Mr. Dobbs, and that his people were disturbed by Mr. Dobbs' visit and that another Mission would be resented by them.

R.

No. 371.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 25th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Nagartse was reached by the Tibet Mission on 19th without further opposition from the Tibet Delegates. Colonel Younghusband was met by the Ta Lama, the Yutok Shape, and the Grand Councillor, but they refused to discuss terms and protested against the Mission proceeding to Lhasa for the following reasons. First, because it would lead to disturbances, and, second, as there would be no one there. They were informed by Colonel Younghusband that we must proceed to Lhasa, but that we did not wish to stop there longer than was necessary in order to conclude a settlement as duration and character of our stay depended on Tibetans themselves. The Delegates had learnt the general nature of our terms from the Tongsa Penlop. The seriousness of the situation still does not appear to be realized by the Councillors, though they are respectful.

Repeated to the Peking Legation.

R.

No. 372.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 25th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

We propose that our terms should be embodied in a Convention between Great Britain and Tibet to be signed by Colonel Younghusband and the Dalai

Lama and that a separate Agreement should be signed by Chinese Amban quoting the Convention of 1890 and the Trade Regulations of 1893, and recognising the validity of Anglo-Tibetan Agreement and binding Chinese Government to assist in securing fulfilment of its term by the Tibetan Government. The Agreement with Tibet would merely be a complement of the Convention of 1890.

Do you concur in these proposals or should the present Convention be tripartite and executed on behalf of Great Britain, Tibet and China? Objection to the latter course is that proceedings may be delayed by Chinese action whereas Colonel Younghusband may be able to conclude an Agreement with Tibet and, if Amban declines to adhere on behalf of China, further negotiations for ratification of Agreement with Tibetans can be conducted at London or Peking. To prevent future complication as to treaty ports it is desirable to emphasize special position of Tibet as distinct from territories under direct control of the Chinese Government. The attitude of China as regards treaties with Corea when under Chinese suzerainty leads us to hope that China would accept the first arrangement, as her suzerainty is recognised and the prospect of being held liable for indemnity in whole or in part might dispose her to acquiesce more readily in separate Adhesion Agreement which did not require her to pay this.

If you agree, instructions might perhaps be issued through Wai Wupu to Amban to accept, on behalf of China, Agreement to be concluded between Younghusband and Dalai Lama in amplification of the Convention of 1890 and in pursuance of Articles IV and VI of that Convention and of general Article II of Trade Regulations of 1893.

Repeated to the Peking Legation.

R.

No. 373.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 25th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

With reference to your telegram of the 8th July, please see the telegram from the Resident at Aden, dated the 10th July, which states the present strength of the troops at D'thala and on the lines of communication. Also see paragraph 5 of our Secret Despatch No. 130, dated the 21st July 1904, as regards the ultimate withdrawal of the troops from the Aden Hinterland.

Repeated to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay in the Political Department.

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R.

No. 374.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 26th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

See Despatch of Sir E. Satow to Lord Lansdowne, dated the 15th June. In order to save the special and exclusive privileges that we derive in Tibet we would suggest a modification of Satow's wording in draft note sent with above despatch. After the words "particular portions of the Chinese dominions" at beginning of fourth paragraph it might be sufficient to add the following "Under the direct administration of the Imperial Government" If our special trade marts in Tibet were regarded as treaty ports, it would be most unfortunate. Apart from this his proposals are concurred in by us.

Addressed Secretary of State, repeated to Sir E. Satow.

R.

No. 375.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 28th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Two British officers, one of whom is a Russian Interpreter, have just spent fortnight between Meshed and Tashkend. They report that they were closely watched, but formed impression that greater portion of Russian troops in Central Asia are now concentrated in Semirechia and Farghana ready for advance into Kashgaria. They found curious unanimity of opinion that Russia would be at war with us shortly, and operations would begin with the seizure of Kashgaria as a set-off to Tibet. The Russians everywhere were bitter against England, and the language of Chief of Staff, Turkestan Army, was very warlike. Russian Insurance Companies refuse to insure British goods coming *viâ* Batoum and Baku against war risks. The Political Agent, Tashkend, said Russians meant to establish a quarantine cordon along the Perso-Afghan frontier to prevent cholera spreading to Russian territory through Afghanistan. Cholera has broken out at Meshed; six deaths occurred on the 25th July.

R.

No. 376.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 28th July 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to my telegram of 22nd July. Dobbs's third interview with Amir took place on 18th July. The correspondence which Amir sent him for perusal consisted of recent letters regarding invitation to India, munitions of war, subsidy, Seistan award and Mohmand boundary, in addition to papers

about Dobbs's deputation to Kabul. The Amir asked him to give in writing his views about the state of Herat and the remedies to be applied. Dobbs said he could only report facts and that he had no authority to express opinions, &c. The Amir accepted this, but insisted on a written note, promising to regard as informal any writing which Dobbs gave him, and Dobbs promised to comply. He then tried to induce Amir to express his views on matters referred to in the correspondence; His Highness, however, said there was no hurry; he hoped to see Dobbs four or five times more, and asked him to have his Memorandum on Herat ready by 20th. The Amir said with emphasis that he had invited Dobbs to Kabul because he had been in Afghanistan a long time and understood Afghans, and that it would be useless for anyone else to visit Kabul who had not been a long time in the country. On the way to the Amir's residence, Dobbs was told by the interpreter that though the Amir could not say so himself the real reason why His Highness was absolutely precluded from accepting Viceroy's invitation, or proceeding more than 12 miles from Kabul, was fear of Bibi Halima and her son, Sardar Umar Jan. Dobbs says that this communication was obviously made by order of the Amir and that there is not a particle of truth in statement as to danger to be apprehended from Umar Jan. Dobbs repeats his suspicion of Amir's object as stated in the last paragraph of my telegram 22nd July.

I think that Dobbs is playing his part with great discretion and that we need not interfere to hasten his departure from Kabul. We had much better let the Amir play out his hand, if his game is as Dobbs supposes.

R.

No. 377.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 31st July 1904, 2 a. m. (Despd. for Mily. Dept.)

Mobilisation Stores. Please refer to your Secret telegram of the 22nd July. Please issue orders immediately for the supply of the following which are referred to in para. 1 (*a*) of our Secret Despatch No. 54 and our Despatch No. 84 of 1904.

Ordnance 4th. Four times column two, eighteen times column three, ten times column five, three times column six, eleven times column seven, nine times column eight, eighty-seven times column nine, six times column ten, five times column eleven, ninety-five times column twelve, four times column thirteen, eight times column fourteen, ten times column fifteen.

Ordnance 2nd. Once column two. The Director-General of Ordnance, as Ordnance first now at India Office is no longer correct, will send next

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mail a further list of requirements for Ordnance Field parks. These requirements should be complied with. The whole of the above should be distributed equally between Allahabad, Karachi, Quetta and Rawalpindi.

We agree to the transfer of War Office stocks Ordnance stores if they are of Indian pattern.

Supply and Transport. Hospital 1st sixteen times, Hospital 2nd forty times, Hospital 3rd four times, Hospital 4th eight times. Commissariat 1st five times, Commissariat 1st excluding men's rations $1\frac{2}{3}$ times, also excluding from both Commissariat 1st tobacco, condensed milk, mittens, Balaclava caps and jerseys.

Medical. Hospital 5th $11\frac{1}{5}$ times, Hospital 6th fifty-six times; 10 pairs Field medical panniers. Ten Field medical companions, ten Field surgical havresacks, one Field surgical Cavalry bag, 135,265 first Field dressings, twenty-five War Office Field pattern water analysis cases. Medical articles must all be of the pattern approved by Surgeon-General Sir T. Gallwey,—see our Despatch No. 95, dated 14th July 1904, para. 5.

Veterinary	1st	5	times.
Do.	3rd	230	„
Do.	4th	500	„
Do.	5th	1,700	„
Do.	6th	550	„
Do.	7th	75	„

Including Ordnance Field parks to follow, the total cost of above is estimated at £512,595 which includes freight and other charges ten per cent.

Heads of Departments concerned will notify direct to the Director-General of Stores the ports of destination.

We allot in addition £92,200 for material for eight $18\frac{1}{2}$ pr. Q. F. batteries. The Director-General of Ordnance addressed the Director-General of Stores last mail. We allot also £21,000 for imported materials for the manufacture of twenty million rounds of ·303 ammunition. The Director-General of Stores will be indented on by the Director-General of Ordnance.

R.

No. 378.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 1st August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Following from Dobbs, Kabul, 28th July:—*Begins.* We leave Kabul 1st August; hope reach Peshawar 12th. *Ends.*

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R.

No. 379.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 1st August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

I do not propose to incur the expense of telegraphing the draft Convention *verbatim* as it follows your instructions. With our despatch dated the 28th July we sent copies of the provisional draft Convention. You will no doubt telegraph instructions if ratification clause is necessary, but as the present Convention is supplementary to that of 1890, perhaps ratification by the Viceroy, who was charged with the carrying out of that Convention, may, as in the case of ordinary Indian and Arabian Treaties, be sufficient.

R.

No. 380.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 1st August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to your telegram dated the 26th July. The precise intention of the following words is not understood by us:—

Begins. The same right of access to Gyantse as to Yatung under existing Regulations shall be given to the British Agent. *Ends.*

As our rights at all trade marts to be established are sufficiently secured by Article I of the Regulations of 1893 we would suggest that the above quoted sentence might be omitted. Doubt might be thrown on the wider right of residence at both marts if express provision of mere right of access to Gyantse were made in the Convention.

(2) We propose to reserve the right for the construction of roads, of railways, of telegraphs, &c., in the Chumbi Valley whether before or after evacuation and to require the Tibetans to afford facilities in this respect.

(3) As regards Clause IV we would prefer express prohibiton of construction of fortification or the placing of armaments in future on the road from the frontier not only to Gyantse but also to Lhasa. The question whether a fortification commanding the road is an obstruction within the meaning of the clause seems to us to be open to argument.

(4) Finally we would ask His Majesty's Government, in view of further opposition encountered on the advance to Lhasa, to agree to the proposal contained in my telegram dated the 13th July that the Agent at Gyantse should, if and when necessary, have the right to proceed to Lhasa provided

that the Tibetans are willing to accept this condition without serious demur. If His Majesty's Government entertain objection to the mention of Lhasa the clause might run as follows:—The right of free access to the supreme Tibetan and head local Chinese authorities shall be possessed by our trade Agent at Gyantse who shall be treated with due respect by the authorities named.

Addressed to His Majesty's Secretary of State for India, and repeated to Sir E. Satow and Colonel Younghusband.

R.

No. 381.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 1st August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

On the 26th July Colonel Younghusband reports from Chaksam ferry that he has received a letter from the National Assembly by Dalai Lama's Chamberlain, asking him not to proceed to Lhasa and promising negotiations. Colonel Younghusband has replied to the Dalai Lama that he must go to Lhasa, but will not injure religious buildings not occupied by soldiers, or stay longer than is necessary to conclude a settlement, unless opposed. The Chamberlain has accepted this reply for delivery and sent it to Lhasa. The Chamberlain and Ta Lama were to have met Colonel Younghusband on the 27th July.

R.

No. 382.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 2nd August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Two native news-agents from Termez and Samarkand have reported to Meshed that the construction of the Samarkand-Oxus Railway has commenced. It takes off at Djuma and runs *viâ* Karshi, Kerki, and Kilif to Termez.

No. 383] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 4th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to your telegram of the 2nd August. I see no reason for giving Habibulla Khan and Mahmud Khan any pecuniary assistance but will inform Amir's Agent of their condition and communicate the result to you.

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R.

No. 384.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 4th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

On 20th and 27th July Dobbs had fourth and fifth interviews with Amir. On former date he presented written memorandum on Herat affairs. Amir spoke again strongly about the stoppage of war material and said that he had not been given the smallest inkling of our reasons. At later interview His Highness said that Colonel McMahon's Seistan award had caused him many sleepless nights, but that he was now disposed to consent to demarcation as we thought this good for Afghanistan. He handed to Mr. Dobbs a long written refutation of his statement as to the inclination of Herat population towards Russia, &c.; eulogy of Gladstone's policy of non-interference in Afghanistan, and his regret that ambitious and proud party are reversing this policy. Amir's memorandum further asserts his belief that his military arrangements for the defence of Herat which he has already explained to Government will be sufficient and concludes with suggestion that as Indian troops are being armed with Lee-Metfords, we might give him for the use of his people the discarded Martinis.

R.

No. 385.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 6th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Younghusband wired from Chaksam Ferry, July 29th, have had two visits from Ta Lama and one from Dalai Lama's Grand Chambaerlain who brought letter from Dalai Lama asking Younghusband not to proceed Lhasa. Chamberlain said he and Councillors ready negotiate at Chaksam Ferry, but our presence in Lhasa would so spoil religion that Dalai Lama might die.

Younghusband told delegates Mission must proceed Lhasa. He wrote second letter to Dalai Lama expressing hope that latter would appreciate inconvenience to Mission to halt this side Lhasa, now it had left Gyantse. Chinese merchant who arrived Chaksam Ferry offered sell us anything wanted at Lhasa. He saw no Tibetan troops on way. Sangpo valley most fertile; wheat, barley and peas abundant.

Despatch from Amban arrived answering Younghusband's from Gyantse. He said communicated purport to Dalai Lama. Bearer said confusion prevailed Lhasa; everyone shifting responsibility; Dalai in religious seclusion at private monastery 18 miles from Lhasa; has ordered monks to attend religious duties. Supplies abundant at Lhasa and people would sell readily. Amban anxious for settlement. Dorjieff believed to have returned to Siberia.

Addressed Secretary of State; repeated to Peking.

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R.

No. 386.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 6th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Persian Loan. Please refer to your telegram of 2nd August. If notification proposed is made to Persian Government we concur that loan may be completed by advance of £100,000 on same security as the original loan.

Addressed Secretary of State; repeated to Sir A. Hardinge.

R.

No. 387.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 6th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Consular Guards for Persia. Please see my telegram dated the 12th July 1904. Do you approve of the arrangements suggested in my telegram dated the 29th May 1904? Sir A. Hardinge approves of the proposal. We would increase the guard at Bunder Abbas to 4 Non-Commissioned Officers and 12 men; and 1 Non-Commissioned Officer and 3 sowars might be lent from Bushire to the Vice-Consul to enable him to tour, the guard at Bushire being increased by the latter number.

Repeated to His Britannic Majesty's Minister, Tehran.

R.

No. 388.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 6th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

I have received the following telegram, dated the 31st July, from Major Cox:—*Begins.* With reference to the Despatch of the Governnent of India in the Foreign Department, No. 74, dated the 31st March 1904, I have to report that eleven British Indian subjects of Bahrein have earnestly pressed for our protection at Katif. They have offered to pay an annual fee equivalent to Rs. 2,000 as a contribution towards the salary of a Consular Agent there. Can I safely give an encouraging reply to them? *Ends.*

R.

No. 389.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 6th August 1904. (Despd. from Mily. Dept.)

Your telegram dated 4th August. Mobilisation Stores. Urgency does not necessitate high prices. Indent materials for ·303-inch small arms ammunition has been sent to Director-General of Stores, India Office, by telegram. Director-General of Ordnance in India in communication with Director-General of Stores, India Office, regarding material for batteries.

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R.

No. 390.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 7th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

On the 3rd August at noon the Mission reached Lhasa without further opposition. The people are quiet. The Dalai Lama is in a private monastery which is situated a few miles off. The Amban visited Colonel Younghusband and expressed willingness to assist in a settlement. He has given a present of some food to the troops and has collected two days' supplies for them and promises more. The Nepal representative sent deputation and was to visit Colonel Younghusband shortly. The Tongsa Penlop is with Younghusband. Valley two or three miles in breadth and is well cultivated. Supplies are ample.

Repeated to the Peking Legation.

No. 391.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 10th August 1904. (Despd. from Rev. & Agrl. Dept.)

Your telegram dated 30th July. Monsoon and agricultural prospects. Monsoon set in about usual time and has been normal or above normal in East and South of India but below normal in Centre and North-West, deficiency being large in Gujarat, Berar and parts of Punjab. Recent rainfall better distributed and further forecast generally favourable. Crop prospects good or excellent throughout the country except South Gujarat, where normal area sown but rain is urgently needed, and in parts of Deccan, where early sowings deficient, and of Central Provinces and Punjab. Grain stocks sufficient or ample and prices normal or below normal everywhere. There is no present cause for anxiety.

R.

No. 392.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 10th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Dobbs and Wanliss arrived today Landi Kotal.

R.

No. 393.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 10th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

The following telegram has been sent to Sir A. Hardinge and repeated to the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf :—

Please refer to my telegram dated the 2nd July and to yours dated the 3rd July and the 1st August regarding quarantine arrangements in the

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Persian Gulf. In view of the active measures which are being taken by the Customs Officers, with the support of the new Governor, to oust our arrangements, we would suggest for your consideration, with due reference to the position which exists at Tehran, whether the presentation of your note, which presumably follows the lines laid down by Lord Lansdowne, should not be supported by the presence at Bushire of a ship of war. Similar action was successful in the case of the Aden Boundary dispute and, in order to secure a prompt and satisfactory reply to your note, possible suggestion of this alone might be sufficient.

R.

No. 394.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 11th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

In a telegram dated the 9th August Minchin reports that British newswriter at Herat has heard confidentially from office of the Governor of Herat that Governor has received letter from Governor of Askabad saying that a Russian officer accompanied by a doctor and four sowars will be sent to Herat to discuss certain matters with the Governor. The latter is asked to have the party conducted safely to Seistan from Herat. The Governor of Herat has sent on the letter to Amir and has replied that the intended visit of Russian officers should be postponed pending receipt of His Highness's orders. I am enquiring from Minchin whether this may not refer to Ovsienko, new Russian Consul for Seistan, who left Meshed some time ago. Possibly Russians proposed to depute him to Herat and, on proposal not being accepted, ordered him to proceed direct to Seistan.

R.

No. 395.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 11th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Following telegram received from Younghusband :—

Begins. Lhasa, August 5th. I yesterday returned Amban's visit, conducted by Amban's body-guard and escorted by one company Mounted Infantry and two companies Royal Fusiliers. Amban again expressed sincere intention induce Tibetans make speedy settlement. On return to camp I proceeded through heart of city; large crowds looked on apathetically. I have received visits from Tongsa Penlop, Nepalese representative, and two Shapes. It appears Dalai Lama is at Reteng* and has handed over his seal to a regent to carry on business. No further opposition seems likely and after

* There is a "Reting Gomba" some 50 miles north of Lhasa.

pressure from Amban, Tongsa Penlop, and Nepalese representative, Shapes were distinctly more subdued today than before and they presented me with 280 coolies loads of tea, flour, butter, dried fruits, sugar and peas, besides Rs. 1,500 for the troops and twenty yaks and fifty sheep, but they have not yet made signs of coming to business. I have, through Wilton, informed Amban's Secretary of terms of convention and have asked both Amban and Shapes to have Tibetan delegates for negotiations definitely appointed. Bazar has been opened outside camp and 340 Tibetan, Chinese, Nepalese and Kashmiri traders brought produce there this morning. *Ends.*

Addressed to Secretary of State; repeated to Peking.

No. 396.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 13th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Please refer to your telegram dated the 28th July. Captain Knox left Bushire for Koweit on the 5th August.

R.

No. 397.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 13th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. The following telegram was sent to Younghusband on the 12th August :—

"It is difficult for Government of India to estimate exact situation in absence of regular information, but as stay at Lhasa cannot be protracted and correspondence takes twelve days, they think that it may be of some help and guidance to you to know their present views in case you should have to take the responsibility of energetic action.

You have doubtlessly made up your mind as to action which should be taken if prospect of negotiating is hopeless and if it becomes necessary to requisition supplies by force. Government of India would approve of principal officials being made hostages for safety of force and for settlement and, if necessary, of their being taken back to Gyantse. You must of course take what supplies you require but nothing should be done in the nature of looting or destruction of religious property.

Would it be possible to bring in Dalai Lama or to ensure his seal being used under his authority ? Government of India would be quite prepared to approve of steps being taken to this end if necessity for it is well established."

Repeated to Peking.

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R.

No. 398.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 14th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. According to telegraphic reports received from Colonel Younghusband dated the 8th August all is confusion at Lhasa. His telegram also gives the following information: The Ta Lama is in disgrace and the Yutok Shape is ill. Of other Shapes one is hostile and the other useless; the Dalai Lama is three marches off. The National Assembly is in permanent session but neither authority will take any action. Force is openly recommended by the Amban, and the Tongsa Penlop and the Nepalese representative are in despair at the stupidity of the Tibetans. Though the Camp bazar is well attended, the villagers are not allowed by the authorities to sell grain and some has been requisitioned from the Depung Monastery. Colonel Younghusband had intended to occupy the Summer Palace as a residence for the Mission but, owing to the representation of the Tongsa Penlop that this was a specially sacred building, he abstained from doing so. The general attitude of the Tibetans is more futile than hostile, but Colonel Younghusband considers that it may be necessary to take more energetic action such as the seizure of the Potala.

Repeated to Sir E. Satow.

R.

No. 399.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 15th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your Secret Despatch No. 32, dated the 22nd July 1904. Please see correspondence forwarded under cover of the Foreign Secretary's letter No. 29-M., dated the 21st July 1904. His Highness the Sultan of Maskat has been granted a loan of Rs. 30,000 towards the expenses in connection with the marriage of his son Taimur, owing to the urgency of the request and the desirability of promoting good relations while the new commercial treaty and the management of the Customs are being negotiated. He has given an undertaking in writing to the effect that he will not borrow elsewhere till liabilities have been repaid.

R.

No. 400.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 15th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. A report has been received from Colonel Deane that the Sarhang of Dakka recently sent some khassadars to Darband, arrested a Shinwari

there for murder, and brought him to Dakka. The man is said to have been since released on paying a fine. Darband is inhabited by Loargai Shinwaris who are in receipt of Pass allowances from us. The late Amir claimed that Darband belongs to Afghanistan. Considerable correspondence took place during 1890-91 between the Commissioner, Peshawar, and Amir and Afghan Commander-in-Chief—see Proceedings Frontier A, June 1890, January and March 1891, and September 1892. At the time of the Durand Agreement the case of Darband was specially considered, and in the Agreement Map examined by the Amir the place is shown on our side of border. The Sarhang's action is similar to his action last year at Shinpokh, and we regard it as an attempt to prejudice the question as to Darband before demarcation takes place.

I am addressing the Amir, reminding His Highness of the correspondence referred to, pointing out that the Sarhang's action was calculated to produce dispute and perhaps conflict, expressing confidence that His Highness will agree with me that pending demarcation any departure from *status quo* is greatly to be deprecated, and inviting him to issue such orders as will prevent a recurrence of interference by the Sarhang. But for the desirability of preventing all friction, pending proposed negotiations with Amir, I should have been prepared to adopt firmer attitude as in the Shinpokh case last year.

R.

No. 401.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 15th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. On 15th July a serious violation of Kurram border occurred when Afghan troops who were patrolling the crest of the Paiwar ridge came a mile over the frontier, seized a quantity of goats belonging to Teri Mangals and fired on our people and Kurram Militia. The Political Agent heard of the affair, and personally verified facts on spot while firing was actually in progress. The Afghan Commandant is said to have been severely reprimanded by the Naib Hakim of Aryob. In view of the desirability of preventing friction at present, I am merely asking Amir to make enquiries, and expressing confidence that if action of the Hakim of Aryob has been correctly reported, His Highness will express his cordial approval.

R.

No. 402.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 15th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. We have sent by mail of 11th August a despatch reporting particulars regarding the construction of road through Mullagori country from

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Landi Kotal to Peshawar. The despatch also shows that on recommendation of Commander-in-Chief we ordered preliminary reconnaissance railway survey to ascertain the feasibility of the Loi Shilman route. We contemplated carrying the survey from Shilman Pass to Durand line towards Kam Dakka. I informed my Colleagues confidentially of policy which His Majesty's Government desire to adopt towards Amir as explained in your private letters and we have consequently stopped attempt to survey west of Shilman Pass, as the realisation of wishes of His Majesty's Government might possibly have been prejudiced thereby.

No. 403.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 16th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Hunza-Chinese frontier. I will reply as soon as possible to your telegram of 10th August after obtaining latest information as to collections by Hunza. Meanwhile, please see Gilgit Diaries 20th June and 1st August 1903. See also telegraphic correspondence with Resident in Kashmir, copy of which was sent with Foreign Secretary's letter 28th July, 30-M.

No. 404.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 17th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. The following telegram has been received from Major Cox:—

Begins. In spite of instructions purporting to have been issued to Turkish authorities at El Hassa in May last with a view to suppression piracy during present pearling season a well-known pirate, Ahmed-bin-Selman, with nine companions, has been allowed to commandeer dhow at Sanwa near Katif, and has already pirated one pearling dhow off Rasrayan. It is useless to hope local officials will take any steps in the matter and no satisfaction likely to be obtained unless imperative action is taken by Porte for capture of pirate. Addressed to India; copy Consul Basrah by mail. *Ends.*

We shall be glad if a representation on the subject is made to the Porte by His Majesty's Government. Major Cox has been instructed by us that, if necessary, he may invoke naval assistance.

R.

No. 405.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 17th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Your telegram dated 13th August. Younghusband informed accordingly. Copies of Indian and Arabian treaties as ratified by Viceroy are communicated to other party.

R.

No. 406.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 17th August 1904, 10-5 p. m.

With reference to your telegram of the 16th instant, we do not require any more rifles at present, but should be glad to have the 70,000 rifles of the new pattern already ordered as soon as possible.

R.

No. 407.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 18th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

In a telegram, dated Lhasa the 11th August, Colonel Younghusband telegraphed the following information. The Dalai Lama is at a place called Nagchuka which is at a distance of eight marches to the north of Lhasa, and it is believed that Dorjieff is with him. The supplies which I had requisitioned from the Depung Monastery are coming in. I have requisitioned further supplies from the Sera Monastery. The Mission has removed to the best house in Lhasa. On 10th August the Amban was visited by Colonel Younghusband who impressed on him the responsibility of the Chinese Government to make the Tibetans conclude settlement. The Amban stated that a message has been sent by him to the Dalai Lama asking him to return to Lhasa. The Amban said that he himself was most anxious to work with Colonel Younghusband.

The Amban has sent unofficially to Mr. Wilton the written reply of the Tibetans to our terms. It is highly unsatisfactory. The Tibetans have refused each point saying that indemnity is due from us to them, rather than from them to us, and they refuse to pay any. Rinchengong is offered by them as a mart and they refuse the future opening of others. They further argue about the boundary. The documents were returned to the Amban by Colonel Younghusband. Colonel Younghusband told the Amban that he could not officially receive so preposterous a reply.

We have communicated to Colonel Younghusband the instructions contained in your telegram dated the 16th August.

Repeated to Sir E. Satow (except the last paragraph).

R.

No. 408.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 18th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 10th August. We have not been consulted regarding the appointment of Abbas Ali as correspondent of the Imperial Bank at Birjand which you say the Bank have sanctioned. Unless this is the result of an arrangement agreed to by you with the Bank, I propose to inform His Britannic Majesty's Consul in Seistan that the Bank should not have employed a Government servant without our previous consent, and that this will only be given on clearest understanding that no responsibility for his acts is accepted by us. A reply about the proposed Branch at Bunder Abbas will be sent separately.

R.

No. 409.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 19th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. India Office letter to Foreign Office of 28th July. Military activity in Afghanistan. The information of the Russian Ambassador regarding railway material is without foundation, and at present there is no English Officer in Afghanistan. At same time considerable military activity is being evinced by Amir. It is reported that the Army is being increased by 32,000 men, and proclamations have been distributed throughout country calling up recruits. The response has been extraordinary at Kabul where at end of July 7,000 men arrived from the Kohistan and were enlisted; others were arriving in large numbers and the British Agent believed that the regiments so raised were to be sent to Herat. Breech-loaders from Kabul Arsenal are being distributed to troops everywhere. There is some excitement at Herat owing to the active measures taken to increase and re-arm garrison there. This seems however only a natural attempt to follow line which the Amir indicated in his letter of 1st March 1904, and I see no cause for anxiety on our part or on part of Russians, beyond the fact that a strong and well-armed Afghan force on Russian frontier would of course render collision between outposts more likely than when frontier was left in the condition which Mr. Dobbs described.

No. 410.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 19th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Sanction was accorded to the survey of the Koweit harbour in your Secret Despatch of 16th October 1903. The S. S. *Investigator*

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leaves on the 10th October for this purpose. Rear Admiral Atkinson-Willes asks that a survey may be made at same time for Khor Abdulla as far as the bar east of the island of Warba but including the channel round Bubiyan. On several occasions recently our ships have visited Khor and we consider the proposed survey very desirable; but we desire to know if there are any serious objections before issuing orders on the Admiral's proposal. The survey would be conducted without unnecessary parade and would stop several miles short of the Turkish post at Um Kasr, and as we claim an equal right of access to Khor with the Turks, we do not think that Turkish objections need prevent the work being undertaken. The Bubiyan case may have been settled by the month of October.

No. 411.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 19th August 1904, 6 p. m. (Despd. for Mily. Dept.)

We propose in connection with the Reorganisation Scheme to add to the reserve 2,000 horses and to raise 2 Cavalry brigade mule corps, 5 pack mule corps and 6 pack mule cadres. We should be glad to receive telegraphic sanction to this proposal.

R.

No. 412.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 20th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

On the 14th August 1904 the following news was received from Lhasa. Two Shapes, who visited Colonel Younghusband, stated that the first reply of the Assembly to our terms was only meant for the Amban in the hope that he would secure more favourable terms. Ta Rimpoche, who now holds the Dalai Lama's seal, but has no power to use it, and who presides over the Assembly, confirmed this statement. The Amban said he had returned the reply, informing the Tibetans that they must be more amenable. It is said that the Assembly are angry with the Dalai Lama over his flight to Nagchukha and possibly beyond and that they have written to him asking him to return. Colonel Younghusband has made it clear to the Tibetans that our terms are the minimum that we will accept. The Tibetans acknowledge their defeat and the common people are well disposed towards us. At Lhasa and on the route supplies are coming in well. The only opposition that has been met is from the monks, who begin to realize that the monasteries are at our mercy.

Repeated to His Britannic Majesty's Minister at Peking.

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R.

No. 413.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 20th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. With reference to your telegram dated the 11th August 1904 regarding Tibet, Colonel Younghusband's message of the 29th July was unfortunately delayed in transmission and most of the news in it had already appeared in Press telegrams. An abstract of his message was sent by Word Code in order to save further time. Such messages will invariably be sent in cypher in future.

No. 414.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 20th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see my telegram of August 4th. The Amir's Agent states that Mahmud Khan and Habibulla Khan had already written to him that they were not allowed by the Turkish Government to return to Kabul. They visited Kabul on the occasion of the Fateha ceremony after death of late Amir, and with permission of present Amir returned to Damascus to bring their families, receiving from His Highness sufficient money for travelling expenses for all. The Agent declines to give them pecuniary assistance for their journey to India, but would pay fare from port of landing to Kabul. We adhere to decision not to give them assistance.

R.

No. 415.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 20th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Aden delimitation. Please refer to your telegram dated the 10th August 1904, and Mr. Fitzmaurice's reply which was communicated to us on the 14th August 1904 by the Resident at Aden. Copies of the half-inch map referred to are being sent to you and Sir N. O'Conor by the mail of the 18th August 1904.

Copies of the large scale map of Sheikh Said will be sent as soon as they have been reproduced here. The Government of Bombay telegraphed on the 16th August 1904, that it is preferable to deal with the whole question comprehensively, as proposed by the Government of India and advised by Mr. Fitzmaurice even at the risk of prolonging the negotiations. The position would then be, that we should claim the Murad Kuwah line, coupled with an *iradeh* for the north-eastern boundary, with an intimation to the Porte

that if this is not agreed to, we must reconsider the question of the Subaihi Border in connection with the Kuddam line and also insist on a full demarcation of the north-east boundary though if possible it is desirable to avoid the latter.

We concur with the Bombay Government, and while fully recognising the difficulties of obtaining an *iradeh*, we venture to hope that before giving up present claims to the Kuddam line further efforts will be made to obtain an *iradeh*.

R.

No. 416.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 22nd August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 13th August. Our Despatch dated the 4th August with draft Convention should reach you tomorrow. As drafted the Chinese undertaking is unilateral and it would hardly be subject of dual ratification. We would propose to add for this the following clause at the end and Colonel Younghusband would sign it as principal:—

Begins. And I the said Colonel Younghusband on behalf of His Britannic Majesty hereby accept the said Convention duly confirmed by the said Yu Tai on behalf of the Chinese Government as aforesaid and the engagement herein made on behalf of the said Government to assist in securing the due fulfilment of the terms specified in the said Convention by the Tibetan Government in full settlement of the aforesaid dispute as to the Convention of 1890 and of all claims arising therefrom. *Ends.*

The usual bilateral ratification clause would follow.

Repeated to the British Commissioner for Tibet Frontier Matters and to His Britannic Majesty's Minister at Peking.

R.

No. 417.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 23rd August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. The following is the news from Lhasa up to the 17th August 1904. At the instance of the Amban the two Lachung prisoners have been released by the Shapes in open durbar. As the men were well and as 200 yaks were seized at Giaogong in retaliation, no further compensation is required. Supplies are coming in freely and the attitude of the Tibetan Government and of the people is much more satisfactory. The Amban recognises Ta Rimpoche

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as principal in the negotiations, but says that the seal he has is not sufficient for the purpose of the treaty. If the Dalai Lama does not obey his summons to return, he proposes to denounce him to the Emperor. This, he says, will reduce him to the level of a private person. Then he would, in accordance with precedent, invite the Tashi Lama from Shigatse to assume control of the Government. Colonel Younghusband has requested him to quote the precedents he refers to and has communicated to him for his remarks a rough draft of the Adhesion Agreement. Colonel Younghusband thinks that, even if the Dalai Lama does not return, a satisfactory Convention may be negotiated in the manner proposed by the Amban, that document being also sealed by the National Assembly and the heads of three great monasteries. The party in favour of settlement is growing in strength and Ta Rimpoche is making marked overtures to him. In return Colonel Younghusband is showing him special attention as the principal in the negotiations. It is hoped that even the Trade Regulations may now be revised at Lhasa.

Repeated to His Britannic Majesty's Minister at Peking.

No. 418.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 23rd August 1904, 1-35 p. m.

May we have your sanction to carry out the changes recommended in the Redistribution Scheme in which no extra expenditure is involved? The troops, Commandants and Staff could be detailed and trained, in many cases, by the General who would command them in the field in all probability.

R.

No. 419.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 25th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. The news which we have received from Lhasa up to the 21st August is to the following effect. A conference consisting of the Acting Regent, the Tongsa Penlop and the Nepalese Representative with Colonel Younghusband was held on the 21st. Willingness was expressed by the Regent to accept our terms, though the question of indemnity was, he said, difficult. Settlement would, he hoped, result in lasting friendship between Great Britain and Tibet. Similar hope was expressed by the Tongsa Penlop and the Nepalese Representative and it was observed that Nepal, Bhutan and Tibet were allied by religion, and looked on the British as powerful friends.

On the same date the Amban was visited by Colonel Younghusband. Papers containing suggestions regarding draft Convention were handed to Colonel Younghusband by the Amban. No objection of importance has been raised to any clause and none whatever to the provisions about marts. In the matter of indemnity Amban merely asked that consideration may be shown to the Tibetans.

R.

No. 420.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 25th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. We accept the arrangement proposed by Sir A. Hardinge in his telegram of 20th August regarding the *Réglement Douanier* but trust that in the case of ignorant camelmen and traders the rules will be worked liberally.

Repeated to Sir A. Hardinge.

R.

No. 421.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 25th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Following telegram has been received from Colonel Younghusband :—

Begins. Lhasa, 21st August. Amban has sent me for despatch from Gyantse telegram to Peking which he says contains denunciation of Dalai Lama. He asserts that if Emperor acts on this effect will be to make of Dalai Lama common monk. Amban will then recommend Tashi Lama as spiritual head of Tibetan church and invite him here. A regent will probably then be appointed to transact secular business. Amban tells me that Tibetans will be glad to be rid of Dalai Lama who has oppressed them. In reply to question Amban said that if Dalai Lama at any time affixes seal he had with him to agreement with foreign Powers that agreement would be invalid without ratification of Chinese Emperor. Amban thought Dalai Lama was not going to China but to North. Roundabout way of denunciation of Dalai Lama and exaltation of Tashi Lama would be more satisfactory solution of present difficulties and I would recommend that Minister at Peking be asked to urge Chinese Government to denounce Dalai Lama and to telegraph reply to Amban by India to save time. Amban informs me that he has been receiving no reply to telegrams sent from Lhasa 5th August by Gyantse to

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Waiwupu. He does not care to mention this to his own Government but is very anxious for reply. *Ends.*

The following reply has been sent to Colonel Younghusband :—

Begins. Has Amban satisfied you that there are precedents for Tashi Lama assuming place of Dalai Lama or for Emperor of China degrading the latter? Is it not possible that Chinese are endeavouring to exercise prerogative which they have never effectively possessed with intention of placing entire blame on us if Buddhists resent action taken? *Ends.*

Please see my telegram dated the 23rd August. I think that, failing a satisfactory reply from Colonel Younghusband, it would be better to leave the matter to the Chinese Government without pressing them to take action. But Sir E. Satow might enquire what they propose to do on the suggestion of the Amban.

Repeated to Sir E. Satow.

No. 422.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 26th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. With reference to your telegram dated the 10th August 1904 regarding Abdul Aziz, Major Cox wires as follows :—

Begins. I have received the following telegram from Captain Grey regarding the question of Abdul Aziz :

Begins. In order to avoid offending the French I am disposed to recommend that the question be politely shelved, pending a decision on the Hague Tribunal if possible. Otherwise the better course would be to decline on the ground of Abdul Aziz having a hatred for the English and of his having previously sown dissension between us and the Sultan of Maskat in consequence thereof. *Ends.*

I would go a little further and frankly intimate to them our inability to consider their request until the question of the French flag in Oman is finally settled by arbitration. Even the long promised list of *protégés* has not yet reached us and moreover there will be all the less chance of our achieving any success in regard to Maskat Customs, if Abdul Aziz has free intercourse with the Sultan. Surely the increased cordiality of Consulate relations rather furnishes us with good ground for us to request the French to cease altogether from employing in an official capacity an individual who was deported from Zanzibar on account of anti-English intrigue. Finally by the employment of another Dragoman the alleged inconvenience could be easily got over. *Ends.*

I agree with the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

R.

No. 423.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 27th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. We propose, as indicated in draft Convention forwarded with our despatch of 4th August, to negotiate details of trade regulations separately. Colonel Younghusband, however, proposes to arrange at once that Indian tea be admitted to Tibet at rate of duty not exceeding that at which tea is admitted into India. We propose to sanction this with your approval.

Repeated to Colonel Younghusband and Sir E. Satow.

R.

No. 424.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 27th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Persian loan. Please refer to Sir A. Hardinge's telegram of 19th August. The view expressed in the Viceroy's telegram of 6th August that the advance may be completed is adhered to by us.

Repeated to Sir A. Hardinge.

R.

No. 425.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 27th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. The following is the news from Lhasa up to the 20th August 1904:—

The Amban visited Colonel Younghusband on the 19th August 1904, and handed him the second reply of the Tibetans regarding our terms. The Amban took exception at first to the omission in the draft Convention of the mention of China but was relieved when it was explained to him that the terms "foreign power" did not include China. He raised no objection to the form of the Adhesion Agreement. The Tibetans practically agree to clause 9 of the draft Convention which was sent to you with our Secret Despatch No. 148, dated the 11th August 1904. They agree to pay a small indemnity if the boundary is fixed at Giagong, and also to destroy all sangared positions. Marts may be established below Phari but not anywhere else. If Chumbi is occupied we should pay for grass, water and fuel. No British official will be allowed to enter Tibet beyond the trade marts after the conclusion of the treaty. A monk ran amuck on the 18th August 1904, wounding Captain Kelly and Captain Cooke-Young, I. M. S. He was armed with a sword and under his robes wore

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chain armour. Colonel Younghusband summoned the Members of the Council before him, announced to them that the man would be hanged, and demanded a fine of Rs. 5,000 and a hostage from each monastery and from the National Assembly.

On the 20th August 1904 Colonel Younghusband reported that certain information had been received to the effect that the Dalai Lama left Nagchukha on the 18th August 1904 for the North. He has written to the National Assembly warning them to bind the crafty English very tight in any agreement that may be made and saying that he was going away to look after the interests of the faith. The Tibetans do not regret his departure.

Repeated to His Britannic Majesty’s Minister at Peking.

R.

No. 426.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 28th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to my telegram of the 4th August. We have now received final report by Dobbs of proceedings at Kabul and a copy was sent with Secretary’s letter of 25th August. In reply to Dobbs’ memorandum on the state of affairs at Herat, Amir handed him long discursive document of which following is brief summary.

Begins. He says that six mule batteries, 12 9-pounder guns, and over 12,000 Martinis have been sent to Herat; gives long account practically same as given in his letter of 1st March of arrangements which he is making for protection of Afghanistan against Russian advance; he expresses conviction that if British Government help him “at any point where it confronts the enemy,” he will be able to prevent Russians retaining a foothold in Asia, and that now is the proper time, while Russia has her hands full with Japan, as on the slightest movement by His Highness, Turkomans, Uzbegs, and the people of Chitral, Bajaur, Swat and Tirah would all join. He refutes Dobbs’ ideas as to inclination of his Herati subjects towards Russia, and with regard to trade says he knows it will all fall into Russian hands, and the only remedy is to wage open war as Japan is doing. He says that he cannot stop direct communications between his and Russian officers regarding commerce, but denies that such take place regarding political subjects without his permission. He inveighs against the departure from Gladstone’s policy of non-interference with Afghanistan, and says that the party at present in power regard Afghan Turkestan as lost, and thinks that if Kandahar and Kabul be occupied and strengthened by the British themselves they would then be secure from Russian attack. The party overlook the war-like qualities of the Afghans, and if they want a proof of Afghan good faith,

then "in the various places where the two powers are in opposition, and where the Russian forces are waiting, let Great Britain with a body of men, sit down and make a show, and let her allow Afghanistan to show herself to the enemy. This should be done instead of calling the King of Afghanistan (to India) in such critical circumstances for certain purposes which will ruin everything." The Amir, while observing that he does not want much help, asks for an advance of subsidy for twenty years, and for the Martinis discarded by our Indian Army; otherwise if Government do not consider immediate war necessary, falls back on the views expressed in his letter of 1st March last. *Summary ends.* On the 31st July at the farewell interview he asked Mr. Dobbs to deliver his messages to Government of India in such a way that the rift which had opened between them and himself would be closed. The Amir constantly alluded to the continued Japanese successes and is evidently much impressed by them.

R.

No. 427.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 29th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. On the 22nd August Colonel Younghusband telegraphed that four hostages he had demanded for the attack on our Medical Officers have been given. Seeing that the attack on the Mission was largely due to the Amban not having come to meet it, Mr. Wilton asked him why he raised objections to indemnity. The Amban replied that his suggestions were made only to show the Tibetans that he was doing something for them. He said that in reality he was most anxious to meet our wishes and to work on terms of both public and private friendship. Colonel Younghusband is of opinion that it will be possible to get the Trade Regulations through without much delay or difficulty. The question is being considered by us.

Repeated to His Majesty's Minister in China.

No. 428.] Govt. of India, Home Dept., to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 30th August 1904.

We presume that re-appointment of Lord Curzon will be by Royal Warrant as usual and that usual procedure for reception of a new Viceroy should be followed.

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R.

No. 429.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 30th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. The following telegram has been received from Colonel Younghusband :—

Begins. At present I am demanding indemnity of Rs. 50,000 a day dating from attack on Mission. This amount is excessive and I would not really press it but by giving way might possibly be able to secure mart in Zayal. Would Government approve ? Policy I would suggest is concession in regard to indemnity payment which would make us very unpopular and in place of indemnity secure additional trade facilities and possible mining rights. *Ends.*

Please say whether you think that the considerations which are now advanced by Colonel Younghusband render it desirable that any change should be made in the instructions contained in paragraph 8 of your despatch of 5th August 1904.

Repeated to Sir E. Satow and Colonel F. E. Younghusband.

R.

No. 430.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 30th August 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. My telegram August 18th. Consul, Seistan, deprecates appointment of Abbas Ali as permanent correspondent to Bank at Birjand on ground of his insufficient experience. Consul recommends that the Bank should appoint experienced man. I entirely concur in this.

No. 431.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 1st September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 17th August. Until our position as regards pearling banks is established, it would, in our opinion, be preferable to postpone the question of French Consular representation in Bahrein, more especially as it has been raised in connection with the proposed pearling enterprise of Frenchmen to which Arabs object. It is desirable also to defer decision until our Political Agent has established his influence at Bahrein and until we have secured authority from the Sheikhs, if this is necessary. Careful consideration in this important matter is warranted by the dilatory tactics of the French regarding M. Goguyer and the French Flag case. We would, if immediate action is necessary,

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only recognise a French Vice-Consul at Bushire as Vice-Consul for Manama on the clear understanding (1) that an exequatur for him be obtained from His Majesty's Government, (2) that his dealings shall be with the British Political Officer alone, and (3) that no extra-territorial jurisdiction shall be acquired by the French Vice-Consul; the British Political Agent exercising good offices as contemplated in the case of German subject Herr Wonckhaus, *vide* our Secret External Despatch No. 72, dated the 9th May 1901. Mention of the intended pearling operations not only affords a convenient opportunity but also seems to make it imperative to explain to the French Government the views of the Government of India as propounded in our Despatch dated the 10th March 1904, with such modifications, if any, as may be necessitated by the advice of law officers. Proposal may, if this is done, be dropped and this would, in our opinion, be the most satisfactory solution of the subject. If it is considered necessary to obtain from the tribes concerned precise delegation contemplated in the letter, dated the 30th June 1904, from the India Office to the London Foreign Office, you will, perhaps, telegraph to us orders on the subject.

R.

No. 432.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 1st September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. On the 26th Colonel Younghusband telegraphed that negotiations have not made much progress as the Amban is awaiting a reply from Peking. It should, Colonel Younghusband suggests, be ascertained from Peking if the Amban has powers to sign agreement and that if not these should be telegraphed. Since arrival of the Mission the Tibetans are paying more attention to the Amban and Colonel Younghusband has informed them that China and England are one in this matter. The Amban wished clause inserted to the effect that Tibet is under the sole protectorate of China but Colonel Younghusband thinks that it will be sufficient to state that China is not included in the term 'foreign power.' It now appears that the Nepal treaty does not bear the Dalai Lama's seal and that this is not essential to the agreement. General position at Lhasa is very satisfactory and the people there are friendly. Rs. 4,000 were distributed as alms to 12,000 poor of the city and neighbourhood which had excellent effect. The people are contrasting our conduct favourably with that of the Tibetan troops. Parties of officers are visiting the temples and institutions. *Ends.*

The reply from Peking was forwarded to the Amban on the 27th August. It would be well to make sure of the powers possessed by the Amban.

Repeated to Sir E. Satow.

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R.

No. 433.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 1st September 1904, 12 noon.

With reference to your telegram of the 23rd August, it is expected that during 1905-06 the Factories in India will turn out 8 Batteries. More guns will not therefore be required.

R.

No. 434.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 2nd September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Russian preparations in Central Asia. Your telegram 24th August. It is considered by Minchin and Intelligence Officer, Meshed, that present strength of Turkestan Army cannot exceed 75,000 men and that reports as to number of Russian troops concentrated on Afghan frontier are exaggerated. If by "Afghan frontier," Khushk, Pata Kisar and neighbouring frontier garrisons are meant, nothing like 80,000 are concentrated there, and probably not more than 25,000. Minchin has no precise information of garrisons between Samarkand and Andijan, or at Tashkend.

No. 435.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 2nd September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. In letter of 12th August (received 30th) Amir writes that in deference to the wishes of Government of India he unreservedly accepts McMahon's Seistan boundary award and agrees to demarcation. It is evident, however, that he does so with much reluctance and the letter is somewhat petulant in tone. He asks for details regarding disputed irrigation questions on which McMahon has yet to pronounce. McMahon thinks six weeks will suffice for demarcation, when a moderation of the present great heat allows of work being commenced.

R.

No. 436.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 2nd September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 31st August. The word in question should be 'Zayul' which is a fertile valley lying to the south of the main watershed on the border of Assam. Routes proceed thence to Batang and to Eastern Tibet. We have little information as to

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the amount of trade but I trust that the importance which may hereafter attach to our having a right of access to a mart in one of the routes which leads to Szechuan will not be overlooked by His Majesty's Government. We had given up the intention of pressing for a mart in Eastern Tibet but if an opportunity presents itself of obtaining one we may hereafter regret not having taken advantage of it.

R.

No. 437.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 3rd September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Colonel Younghusband telegraphs on the 30th August that the Amban has withdrawn his request for assurance that China is the sole protector of Tibet. The Acting Regent and Council visiting Colonel Younghusband with Amban have verbally agreed to Clauses 5, 8 and 9, Section 1 of Clause 2, and Section 3 of this Clause with the exception of the last sentence commencing with the words "and to." Considerable difficulty is anticipated by the Amban in securing the written assent of the National Assembly. The Dalai Lama has been seen in the company of Dorjieff on the Sining Road.

The general situation at Lhasa continues satisfactory and supplies are coming in regularly. Some five hundred Mongolians are reported to be at Reting but are not coming to Lhasa unless wanted. The Chinese and Kashmiri traders who are at Lhasa are anxious to open shops at Gyantse.

Repeated to Peking.

R.

No. 438.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 3rd September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Consular Guards for Persia. Please see your telegram of 12th August. Sir A. Hardinge concurs in the proposals for Bunder Abbas. The travelling escort is required for the Consul there, but it is more convenient to attach the men to the Bushire escort and arrange for periodical reliefs from there. I propose to proceed as stated in my telegram of 6th August to your address.

Repeated to Tehran.

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R.

No. 439.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 3rd September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Colonel Younghusband has telegraphed as follows :—
Begins. I hear that Acting Regent recently remarked that Dalai Lama has fled because he has committed himself with Russia without knowledge or sanction of National Assembly or Council, and he is consequently afraid of now binding himself in treaty with us. Reports had reached Lhasa that Czar had been converted to Buddhism and many Tibetans were in consequence inclined to turn towards Russia. *Ends.*

Colonel Younghusband further reports by letter having been shown a copy of the draft treaty between Russia and China which is now in the office of the Tibetan Executive Council, whereby Russia and China were to agree to protect Tibet, and Russia was to provide Tibet with drill instructors. He adds that at least two separate envoys were sent by the Dalai Lama to Russia since the Mission reached Khamba Jong last year.

Repeated to Sir E. Satow.

R.

No. 440.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 3rd September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Colonel Younghusband suggests that Wilton should return to China *viâ* Chiamdo and Batang or *viâ* Nagchukha and Gyekundo under Tibetan and Chinese passports and accompanied by two orderlies. An officer could be sent up Sanpo with survey party to establish mart at Gartok. He proposes to send Captain Rawling who is an experienced Tibetan traveller and Lieutenant Bailey of the 32nd Pioneers, with a geologist and a few orderlies, for this duty.

Provided Convention is first secured I consider that this proposal might be accepted on the understanding that the parties travel under Tibetan and Chinese passports and with Tibetan officials.

It would be well understood that Tibetans should not be approached on the subject until after the conclusion of the Convention.

R.

No. 441.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 4th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. With reference to Sir A. Hardinge's telegram of 28th August regarding the Persian Loan, I understand that His Majesty's Govern-

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ment contemplate sending an Indian Engineer to investigate the irrigation works in Arabistan. From information given by Lorimer and Burton, we see that the whole of the plain of Arabistan is irrigable from Karun and other rivers, and the Sheikh of Mohammerah has sounded Lorimer about the likelihood of Government assistance if he undertakes irrigation schemes. Though we are very shorthanded here, we will do our best to spare an irrigation engineer, if required, but he should go soon to start work in October. On the 1st November Willcocks from Egypt proposes to visit Mesopotamia. I would suggest that his opinion on the project, prepared by an engineer, might be obtained, as it would carry weight with capitalists.

Repeated to Tehran.

No. 442.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 5th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. By next mail we are sending despatch regarding the draft letter which you have sent me for despatch to the Amir. In view of the reiteration of his aversion to visit India (see summary of memorandum handed by Amir to Dobbs which was telegraphed to you on 28th August and which was not before you when the letter was drafted), we consider it very undesirable to despatch the draft, and are sending one which we hope you will allow us to despatch in substitution for it. We propose to acknowledge the Amir's memorandum and say that His Highness's views will receive fullest consideration and that it has been communicated to His Majesty's Government. Then follow paragraphs 1 and 3 of your draft, with following addition "while from the account which I have received from Mr. Dobbs of his interviews with Your Highness and from the memorandum above referred to, I gather that Your Highness fully shares the opinion of His Majesty's Government on this point. It would, I think, be best that Your Highness should meet Lord Curzon personally and discuss all pending questions with him and if Your Highness were able to do this I am sure that Lord Curzon would even try to arrange a meeting on the frontier so that Your Highness would not have to go more than a few paces out of your dominions." A reference would then be made to the passage in the above cited memorandum and regret expressed that Amir does not see his way to come and meet Lord Curzon, but since he considers that the situation is too critical to admit of his leaving Kabul at present, it would seem desirable that some high officer of the Government of India should be deputed to converse with him in person.

Our draft concludes by saying that although this would not be such a satisfactory arrangement to either country as a conference between Lord Curzon and the Amir, we are ready on hearing from His Highness to select an officer to represent our views.

We are unanimously of opinion that the Amir will not come to meet Lord Curzon even on the frontier, and that the renewal of invitation will be to court another refusal, which not improbably might be couched in terms so discourteous that we might be compelled to resort to strong measures. The Amir is intensely irritated at our present attitude, and is moreover possessed of the idea that Afghanistan can emulate the example of Japan and make herself independent of any other nation's control. While His Highness is in this mood, it is inadvisable to lay ourselves open to a further exhibition of his petulance, or to add any further cause of irritation.

R.

No. 443.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 5th September 1904, 8-45 p. m. (Despd. for Mily. Dept.)

In view of the closer proximity of the Russians to Kabul threatened by the completion of the Orenburg-Samarkand Railway and the commencement of the extension to Termez on the river Oxus, we concur in the strong recommendation of the Commander-in-Chief to undertake a Railway Survey for the conversion of the narrow-gauge to broad-gauge line from Kohat to Thal and for the extension of the Railway up the Kurram from Thal to Parachinar. We propose to commence the survey at once.

R.

No. 444.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 7th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram, dated the 31st August, regarding Bushire quarantine. Major Cox represents that as Bushire is practically an island quarantine on the isthmus must remain with the authority in charge of sea quarantine, otherwise endless friction will be caused by mixed jurisdiction. I concur with Sir A. Hardinge that failing compliance with the request that the Belgian Customs officers should abstain from interference with quarantine as authorized by Lord Lansdowne's telegram dated the 13th August 1903, it will be desirable to send a ship of war and land guards for quarantine officers in the Gulf. On the 2nd August 1903, latter course was suggested to Sir A. Hardinge by Lord Curzon as equivalent to Russian quarantine cordon in Khorasan. Please see also my telegram dated the 2nd July in which my views are explained.

Repeated to His Majesty's Britannic Minister in Persia.

R.

No. 445.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 7th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. On the 1st September Colonel Younghusband visited the Amban. The Acting Regent, Shapes, and most of the members of the National Assembly were present. The draft of the Convention was handed to them by Colonel Younghusband, who explained that if it were not agreed to within one week he would take measures to enforce compliance, but opposition to all the terms except the indemnity is practically overcome and the Tibetans have given written assurance accepting the ninth clause. The Nepalese representative believes and Colonel Younghusband thinks that, considering the wealth of the monasteries, the indemnity should be payable without undue hardship, and that if the terms are subsequently found to be really too severe, reduction, if any, would be more suitably made by the Viceroy.

Text of the agreement is being telegraphed to Wai-wu-pu by the Amban.

Repeated to His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

No. 446.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 8th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 3rd September, regarding the proposed return of Ali-bin-Salim to Maskat. There is no objection to his doing so.

R.

No. 447.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 8th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. With reference to telegram dated the 25th August 1904 the following telegram has been received from Colonel Younghusband :—

Begins. Lhasa, 2nd September. Your No. 2781-E. B. Tashi Lama would not assume place of Dalai Lama but in latter's absence would be head of Buddhist Church in Tibet. Sixth Dalai Lama was deposed by Chinese for licentious living. Buddhists here know well I was trying to get Dalai Lama to come and that it was on Amban's initiative he was denounced after he had definitely fled from country. Tongsa Penlop and Nepalese approve of denunciation and I personally think it very politic as showing impracticability of Tibetans resisting us and Chinese working together. *Ends.*

Repeated to Sir E. Satow.

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No. 448.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 9th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 5th September. On the 29th August information was received by us from Captain Grey of the wreck of the S. S. *Baron Inverdale* at Kuria Muria. On the 31st August Captain Grey reported the rumoured massacre near Maseirah of 17 survivors of the vessel. The *Dalhousie* from Aden visited the wreck and reported on the 1st September that she found the S. S. *Baron Inverdale* deserted. The official papers of the wrecked vessel were taken by the *Dalhousie*. An entry in its log states that on the 2nd August the Master and 22 men with one stow-away boy from Karachi left in a well-provisioned boat with the intention of landing and proceeding to Dhofar. On 1st September the Naval Commander-in-Chief despatched H. M. S. *Lapwing* to Maseirah to enquire into the matter, and the Political Agent at Maskat, who is about to proceed thither in H. M. S. *Merlin*, with His Highness the Sultan in his ship, has been instructed, if the reported massacre is found to be true, to secure and to arrange with His Highness for adequately punishing the offenders, reporting his proposals to us. The island of Maseirah is within the jurisdiction of the Sultan of Oman.

R.

No. 449.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 9th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Unusual military activity is reported from Afghanistan. In Durbar the Amir declared that he intended to raise his army armed with modern weapons from 1,40,000 to 2,00,000; these figures are probably much exaggerated. The son of the late Sipah Salar Ghulam Haidar and the present Sipah Salar Amir Muhammad have each offered 8,000 recruits from their tribes; 3,000 men have been raised in Khost; elsewhere recruiting is being actively pushed on, and seven regiments have been formed of the Kohistani recruits. Many men have been sent for training to Turkestan.

R.

No. 450.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 11th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Colonel Younghusband has informed me that he has reported to you direct that the Agreement with Tibet was signed in the Potala

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on the 7th September. The terms of the Agreement as signed are the same as those finally approved by His Majesty's Government except that the instructions contained in your telegram dated the 2nd September had not reached him and have not consequently been included in it. In the preamble Colonel Younghusband has substituted for the Dalai Lama the Ti Rimpoche, Representatives of the Council of the three Monasteries of Sera, Drebung, and Gaden, and of the ecclesiastical and lay officials of the National Assembly on behalf of the Government of Tibet. In Clause V of the Agreement the first sentence reads as follows:—"Roads to Gyantse and Gartok." In Clause VI the amount of the indemnity is entered as £500,000 payable in 75 annual instalments of one lakh of rupees each with effect from 1st January 1906. In Clause X before "Negotiators," the word "two" is omitted. The Agreement is sealed with the seals of the Dalai Lama, of the Council, of the three great Monasteries and of the National Assembly. The Amban was present and he is prepared to sign the Adhesion Agreement when he receives formal sanction from the Chinese Government to do so.

The Ti Rimpoche specially requested that the instalments of the indemnity should be fixed at one lakh of rupees a year. After considerable demur Colonel Younghusband had to agree to the Ti Rimpoche's request in view of the anxiety of the Tibetans to conclude the Agreement and of the necessity for its early signature. In these circumstances Colonel Younghusband begs that his action may be confirmed.

I consider that the Agreement should be accepted as it stands. If Tibetans are willing and able later on to pay more than a lakh of rupees a year this can be allowed, or the amount of the indemnity can hereafter be reduced if His Majesty's Government decide to do so, on their good behaviour and due fulfilment by them of the terms of the Agreement or in consideration of further trade facilities which may be obtained hereafter, but no immediate action on these points seems necessary.

Colonel Younghusband hopes to be able to leave Lhasa on the 20th September, and if the Amban has not signed the Adhesion Agreement before that date, he would accompany the Mission to Gyantse.

Repeated to His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

R.

No. 451.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 12th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to Sir N. O'Conor's letter to Lord Lansdowne, No. 628, dated the 3rd August 1904. The maps which have already been sent are only rough ones, and though they are correct as far as

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the delineation of the boundary goes, and sufficient as guide to settlement, they may differ in other details from the final maps now being drawn. This might be explained to Sir N. O'Conor to prevent future trouble when the Porte is presented with the final maps which will not be ready for three months.

Repeated to Sir N. O'Conor.

No. 452.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 13th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. My telegram 2nd September. In a telegram received on 7th from Colonel McMahon, dated Seistan, 5th September, he intimates that the Afghan Commissioner had not received authority to cooperate in demarcation and Colonel McMahon expresses fear that the Amir may defer giving authority on pretext that he awaits information about water rights. This seems not improbable and I am writing to the Amir explaining necessity for water award, and asking him to send early authority to his Commissioner to cooperate in delimitation, if he has not already done so.

Repeated to Colonel McMahon and Sir A. Hardinge.

R.

No. 453.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 14th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. We have already considered the suggestion made in your telegram of 13th September and recognise the necessity of avoiding appearance of an indefinite occupation of Chumbi. The Tongsa Penlop has suggested to the Tibetans that indemnity might be realised from customs collected by us at marts established under new agreement. We have very carefully considered this proposal to which the Tibetans are apparently willing to agree, but fear that objections may be made by the Chinese. We propose under Trade Regulations to agree to duty on imports and exports from and to India, and we hope to substitute one consolidated payment at the frontier in lieu of duty and irregular transit fees. If the Tibetans agree small customs posts would be substituted for existing trade registration posts on main trans-frontier routes leading to new marts, on Indian side of frontier, where duties would be collected and amount held at Tibetan credit. The collections in whole or part would be taken in reduction of indemnity. It might be necessary to guarantee a minimum annual revenue

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to Tibetans, but we leave this for further consideration. On basis of present trade we estimate total amount would be not less than one and a half lakhs a year. The arrangement would of course be entirely outside the Convention but Tibetans, who are reported now to be in a very friendly frame of mind, might welcome the proposal. Its advantages are:—

(1) that it will facilitate trade,
(2) that it secures and accelerates payment of indemnity,
(3) that it prevents friction and possible interference on our part in future.

We have told Colonel Younghusband that we are disposed to regard the proposal favourably and have instructed him to make further enquiries without committing us, pending your orders, as to whether the Tibetans in consideration of the remission of 25 lakhs from the indemnity as an act of grace, would be willing to agree to customs arrangements I have indicated, to trade mart in Zayul, and the survey mentioned in my telegram of 3rd September. If so the remission would be made by the Viceroy in ratifying the Convention.

A supplementary note to be attached to the Agreement giving effect to these conditions might permit the Tibetans to pay the balance of the indemnity in larger instalments the number of which need not be specified. Occupation of Chumbi Valley would thus not be indefinitely prolonged by the terms of the Convention.

We shall be glad to receive early reply to this telegram.

R.

No. 454.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 15th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Aden delimitation. Please refer to your telegrams dated the 2nd August 1904 and the 12th September 1904. As the line to Sheikh Murad, to which the Intelligence Branch attached much importance, is not being claimed, I trust that His Majesty's Government will attempt to secure the recognition of Juban, Nawa, Rubeaten, and Dthabiani as British.

Repeated to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay in the Political Department.

R.

No. 455.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 15th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Movement of troops towards Merv and Kushk stopped owing to severe epidemic of cholera which has broken out in Central Asia. Some

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6,000 troops are reported to be encamped in the immediate neighbourhood of Askabad.

R.

No. 456.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 16th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. In your telegram of 13th September you make a reference to the opinion of Colonel Younghusband as to the indemnity being excessive. As reported in my telegram of 7th September you will have seen that he altered this opinion and believes that the Tibetans could pay the amount fixed.

Repeated to Sir E. Satow.

R.

No. 457.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 16th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see your telegram of the 10th August. We are prepared to give the Directors of the Imperial Bank of Persia a reasonable guarantee in respect of the establishment of a branch at Bunder Abbas, but we consider that the Imperial Exchequer should bear half the cost.

No. 458.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 16th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Burma-China Frontier. Please refer to your telegram of 31st August. After consulting the Lieutenant-Governor of Burma the Government of India agree with Sir E. Satow, for reasons given by him, that we should resist the proposal made by the Chinese for another Frontier Commission. Please see Mr. Scott's report, which forms enclosure No. 21 to our Secret Despatch No. 105, dated 2nd August 1900. There are also objections of causing great expense and danger of conflict with the Was.

R.

No. 459.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 17th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. On the 7th September 1904, Colonel Younghusband reported that prisoners had been exchanged, General Macdonald releasing all

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the prisoners of war and the Shapes bringing in two men who had been imprisoned for 19 years for assisting Sarat Chandra Das and two others for helping a Japanese traveller named Kawaguchi. Colonel Younghusband also returned the fine imposed for the assault on British Officers by a Monk, but retained Rs 1,000 as compensation for the families of the two servants belonging to the Mission who were tortured to death by the Tibetans on the night of the attack on Gyantse. Hostages were released also.

On the 10th September 1904 the Tongsa Penlop informed Colonel Younghusband that the Tibetans were well pleased with the settlement arrived at and that he anticipates no further trouble. He thinks that the Dalai Lama is not far beyond Nagchuka and has been in communication with the people throughout, but that even if he were to return he would not be able to upset the Convention. The Nepalese representative holds the same opinion. As it is most desirable to secure a final settlement of the matters mentioned in my telegram dated the 14th September 1904, we have authorised Colonel Younghusband, in case of necessity, on the departure of the main force to remain at Lhasa for a reasonable time, retaining an escort not exceeding 500 men, or such smaller number as is necessary to support the negotiations.

Repeated to Sir E. Satow.

R.

No. 460.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 17th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to my telegram of the 11th August. Under cover of a letter, dated 8th September, Amir sends me original letter in Russian and Persian written on 4th July 1904 old style to Governor, Herat, from Major-General Prialof, Commandant of the Khushk Post, under orders of the Governor-General, Trans-Caspia, General Osskovsky, announcing decision to send to Herat Lieutenant-Colonel Shimansky, an officer of the General Staff, with a doctor, an interpreter and four sowars, to deliver a letter from Governor-General and to confer about certain essential matters mentioned in the letter regarding Russia and Afghanistan: afterwards this officer was to proceed to Afghanistan to the Russian Consulate at Nasratabad, Seistan. The Amir asks how the letter should be answered. He expresses his intention to thwart Russian designs; says that as the first step he is deputing Sardar Nasrulla Khan to make a tour throughout all the Afghan districts adjacent to Russian territory in order to comfort and reassure the people: he mentions the increase to the Afghan Army and its faulty armament, says that Osskovsky's letter is a political move to create discord between the British and Afghan Governments

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and produce situation of 1840 and 1880, and that in order to dispel the incorrectness of Russians' ideas and to proclaim to the world the friendship existing between our two countries he has arranged for his eldest son, Inayat-ulla, accompanied by some of his special servants, to proceed to India to meet Lord Curzon seven days after his return: His Highness enquires when this will be and where the meeting can take place.

On 3rd August our news-writer at Herat reported the receipt of this letter by Kazi Saad-ud-din and its despatch to Kabul, so the Amir must have had the Russian letter fully a month before he sent it to me. I propose to advise him to reply through the Governor of Herat that he is unaware of any question regarding affairs of Russia and Afghanistan which require personal discussion between a subordinate of Afghan Government and an official of Russian Government, and that as the Ruler of Afghanistan has no political relations with any foreign Power except British, any communication which the Governor-General, Trans-Caspia, desires to make regarding affairs of Russia and Afghanistan should be made to His Majesty's Government by the Government of Russia, and that in circumstances Amir is unable to agree to Shimansky's proposed visit to Herat. This affords an admirable opportunity of seeing whether Amir will accept our advice in important question affecting his external relations.

The Amir's reason for proposing the visit of his eldest son is "that our friendship may be proclaimed to the world and the ideas entertained by the Russians may be dissipated." We need not assume that His Highness's intention is anything more than he says or that he is suggesting that his son should negotiate. We consider that the visit of Inayat-ulla should not interfere in any way with our proposed Mission to Kabul, my letter concerning which has crossed the Amir's. If Lord Curzon is willing immediately after his return to receive a purely complimentary visit from Amir's son, I shall, with your approval, answer accordingly, adding that I am glad to see from His Highness's letter that he is anxious to settle pending questions with us, and that I therefore hope to hear soon when he will receive our Envoy at Kabul. I hope that Lord Curzon will agree to this and I strongly recommend him to do so.

We will address you later on on the subject of the overture made to the Governor of Herat under the direction of the Governor-General of Trans-Caspia as we consider that very serious representations should be made to the Russian Government on the flagrant breach of the understanding that they should abstain from interference in Afghanistan which this letter involves. In view of the reports of military activity in Turkestan and on the Afghan border the attempt of the Russians to enter into relations with the Afghan Governor of Herat may indicate serious possibilities in the future.

We shall be grateful if you will reply as early as possible.

R.

No. 461.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 17th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 16th September. I presume that there is no objection to Colonel Younghusband staying at Lhasa as long as it is necessary in order to carry out your instructions and to get the Trade Regulations accepted. Some time ago Colonel Younghusband was told by us that he might stay until the middle of October but that he should not remain later on any account. The bulk of the force will be withdrawn without delay and our present arrangement is that Colonel Younghusband should stay behind with a moderate escort. Unless Colonel Younghusband is allowed to do this it will be impossible for him to carry out your instructions regarding the proposed reduction in the amount of the indemnity and occupation of Chumbi. There was no time to consult you concerning the arrangements which we have made and I hope that you will agree to them.

Repeated to Colonel Younghusband and H. B. M.'s Minister in China.

R.

No. 462.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 17th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to our Foreign Department, (Secret External) Despatch, dated the 21st July 1904. It is now reported by the Government of Bombay that the Amir of Dthala is much agitated over idea of our withdrawing from Dthala and that he is opening relations with Turks in order to secure refuge in that event. The Government of Bombay urge that we should give early assurance to the Amir that we have no intention of leaving the place at any rate for some considerable time, and they believe that this assurance will quiet the Amir and have a pacifying effect on the whole countryside which is at present uncertain as to our real intentions. They think that a withdrawal would be disastrous to our prestige and seriously militate against our interest for many years to come. We concur in these views.

Repeated to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay in the Political Department.

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R.

No. 463.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 17th September 1904, 8-30 p. m. (Despd. for Military Dept.)

Lord Kitchener's Redistribution Scheme. Please see your telegram of the 25th August. The following are the changes to give effect as far as possible to the Redistribution Scheme without entailing expense, and for which we propose to give authority at once:— (1) Mobilisation Scheme for 7 Divisions to be issued; (2) Formation of nine Divisional Commands and areas, *vide* part II of the Redistribution Scheme; (3) changes in the 2nd class District Commands and Colonelcies on the Staff as follows:—

The rearrangement of 3 Station Commands, of 9 of the existing 2nd class Districts now commanded by Brigadiers, and of 8 of the existing Colonelcies on the Staff.

These changes will include the formation of 5 Cavalry Brigades; none of which exist at present.

R.

No. 464.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 18th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. We have received the following telegram from Younghusband:—

Begins. 786. *Clear the line.* Lhasa, 14th September. Amban today furnished me with copies of telegram from Wai-wu-pu ordering him not to sign the Adhesion Agreement as Convention robbed China of her suzerainty and objected to our making Convention with Tibet at all. I warned Amban that if China insisted on pressing her suzerainty rights to extreme, she will be surprised if we should lay full responsibility on her for acts of her vassal. Tibet had not in practice recognised China's suzerainty and China's inability to make Tibetans observe old treaty or negotiate a new one had cost us a million sterling. We had throughout respected the suzerainty of China and on the important occasion of signing Convention I had in his presence expressly declared to Tibetans that we recognised it. The preamble and first clause of Convention and fact that we were asking for an Adhesion Agreement at all were further evidence of our desire to acknowledge suzerainty. I thought, therefore, China would be wise to be content with what she had got and not force us to lay responsibility on her for neglecting duty of suzerain. Amban said that he quite agreed and that fact of his presence at signing of Convention was proof that he personally had no objections. He would represent matter again to Wai-wu-pu, but he feared to put it as strongly as I had and suggested that

our Minister should say to Wai-wu-pu what I had said to him. I would recommend that this course be adopted. Chinese Government should recognise that Amban's position till I arrived here was most precarious and that if I had gone without him instead of working with him and recognising him as representative of suzerain power he could not have remained here at all. Even now he is dependent on getting his money from India as Tibetans have refused to allow it to cross from China. I am addressing despatch to Amban reminding him that Tibetans have already signed Convention, that responsibility for any future misunderstanding rests with Chinese Government and stating that I propose to so inform the Tibetans. I also reserve my Government's right to demand from Chinese Government cost of detention of troops in Tibet since Convention with the Tibetans was signed. I calculate that as Tibetans are pleased at having effected settlement with us they will show resentment to Amban if Chinese Government delay in agreeing to settlement. *Ends.*

Repeated to Sir E. Satow.

R.

No. 465.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 18th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 16th September. We shall be glad to be informed whether you desire us to reduce the Tibet indemnity from Rs. 75,00,000 to Rs. 25,00,000 or to Rs. 50,00,000 as proposed by us.

(To Tibet only). Repeated, for information, to the British Commissioner for Tibet Frontier Matters.

R.

No. 466.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 20th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Meshed reports enormous quantities of ammunition, including 7,290 boxes rifle cartridges, are being sent eastwards from Krasnovodsk.

R.

No. 467.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 20th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to my telegrams of the 25th July and 18th September 1904, and to Sir E. Satow's telegram of the 14th September.

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As China now insists on direct arrangements with her in first instance as in 1890 and 1893 which she failed to enforce and on this ground threatens to obstruct final settlement, we suggest that Sir E. Satow, who has been informed of the terms finally concluded, should press the Chinese Government to sign the Adhesion Agreement forthwith either at Peking or through the Amban at Lhasa. Our proceedings which have been necessitated by breach of the Anglo-Chinese Treaty of 1890 have hitherto been conducted with the full approval of the Chinese and with the utmost deference for Chinese sensibilities, and the Amban who was specially appointed to negotiate has himself induced the Tibetans to accept our terms which he himself regards as quite satisfactory. In fact the arrangement is most satisfactory for China as her *láches* in the past are overlooked and her suzerainty in Tibet is fully recognised. Unless, as in Korea, China wishes to renounce her suzerainty, we suggest intimation that in the event of delay we shall claim indemnity against her for damages caused to us by her failure to secure the fulfilment of the Convention of 1890 and Regulations of 1893 that are now put forward by her. The amount of the indemnity would be calculated on the cost of the operations entailed upon us by her failure after deduction of any sum recovered from the Tibetan Government.

We also think that China should be informed that we cannot recognise her objections to any agreement which fully recognises her suzerainty and which was entered into with the Tibetans with the full cognizance and consent of her local representative who fully approves of the terms. If China presses her objections we shall be compelled to reconsider our policy in regard to the position of China in Tibet, and to take measures, in consultation with the Tibetans, for securing our interest there without further reference to Peking.

Repeated to Sir E. Satow and Colonel Younghusband.

No. 468.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 21st September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to my telegram 13th September. Colonel McMahon telegraphs under date September 16th that the Afghan Commissioner was still without orders from Amir. McMahon has accordingly informed his Afghan colleague of Amir's consent to demarcation being undertaken, and pending reply to an urgent reference which the Afghan Commissioner has sent to His Highness, has arranged to proceed with the demarcation of the straight line towards Koh-i-Malik Siah.

No. 469.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 21st September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to paragraph 6 of our Foreign Secret Despatch No. 16, dated the 21st January 1904, and to the correspondence

regarding the proposed light-house on Musandim which was forwarded with the Foreign Secretary's letter No. 35 M., dated the 1st September 1904. In view of the fact that no Indian Officer, with the requisite experience, is available for the work, we should be glad if you can secure the services of an expert through Trinity House. He will be required to examine and report on the above scheme and generally on the lighting of Gulf also.

No. 470.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 22nd September 1904, 12-45 p. m.

With reference to your telegram, dated 19th instant, we refused to grant the Bishop of Bombay extraordinary furlough, because we held that we had no power to do so since the preamble to the Royal Warrant of the 11th February 1901, which is based on proposals in our Despatch of the 4th October 1900, paragraph 6, limits the grant of such furlough to cases in which it is required for public reasons. A Despatch follows fully stating the case.

R.

No. 471.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 22nd September 1904, 7-15 p. m. (Despd. for Mily. Dept.)

Medal for Tibet. Please refer to your telegram of the 19th instant. The execution of His Majesty's wish that a special medal should be struck would be cordially welcomed by the Government of India.

R.

No. 472.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 23rd September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. The following telegram which has been received from Colonel Younghusband is repeated for information :—

Begins. 822-G. Lhasa, 18th September. Your No. 3043-E. B. I trust Government do not consider indemnity as now arranged excessive, for seventy-five lakhs of rupees paid in seventy-five years is really equivalent to only about half that amount paid in three years. Thirty-six lakhs of rupees is only half year's revenue of Indore State, and to ask any less sum from a country which is so much richer in everything but cash, would have been unfair on Indian subjects who have to pay the balance. But if I had insisted on Tibetans paying thirty-six lakhs of rupees in three years I should have left them with sense of oppression. The Government would have to squeeze money from poor people

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instead of making rich Monasteries disgorge, and nasty racial feeling would have sprung up. All the suggestions named in your telegram under reply were made next to the Tibetans by the Bhutanese and Nepalese, but Tibetans themselves prefer and put forward proposals I adopted. They appear well content with the settlement I have made. An altogether better feeling now prevails here. They have, without single protest, acquiesced in proposal to send party from Gyantse to Gartok and have agreed to depute an official to accompany it. So changed indeed is the feeling that some people in city are proposing to appeal to us to take them under our protection in preference to Chinese. It was necessary to seize psychological moment for clinching settlement, for moderate party which had been disposed for settlement would have been swamped in sea of arguments if further discussion allowed. Macdonald fully concurs with me in thinking that terms of Convention greatly diminish our responsibility, and probably prevent necessity for second expedition few years hence. With Tibetans well disposed and with Chumbi occupied by us, our Agent and merchants at Gyantse and Gartok will be secure. With Tibetans resentful at having to pay indemnity in short time, position of Agent and merchants after our withdrawal from Chumbi might have been precarious. I have, I think, secured maximum of reparation with minimum of responsibility, and as Tibetans are content I would deprecate any present alteration of terms as calculated to unsettle their minds. If any different arrangement is required it could preferably be made when Trade Regulations are revised. Such revision on scale recommended would be impossible in limited time at my disposal, and I would suggest that consideration of further amendments be postponed. Amban had final draft in his hand before signature took place, he was present at the signing, he received signed copy from me, and he said that he personally had no objection to it. It would be unreasonable, therefore, for Chinese Government at this stage, and especially after the continuous neglect of their duty as Suzerain Power, to raise any objections. *Ends.*

I am awaiting his reply to my telegram of the 19th September 1904, in which I explained the position to him fully.

R.

No. 473.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 23rd September 1904, 6-55 p. m. (Despd. for Mily. Dept.)

Please see your telegram of 22nd instant. Under the redistribution sanctioned in that telegram only 1 battery Field Artillery, 4 battalions Native Infantry and 1 company Sappers and Miners will remain in Madras Command in excess of proposed Secunderabad Division, while 1 regiment Native Cavalry will be wanting. We propose therefore at once to abolish the Madras Command; General Egerton on pay of Lieutenant-General of Command to

command Secunderabad Division, communicating direct with Army Head-Quarters until in due course division comes into Eastern Army Corps. We hope to arrange for the employment elsewhere of the majority of the Command Staff.

The above proposals are submitted for your approval.

R.

No. 474.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 24th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. From a report sent by Colonel Younghusband on the 20th September we learn that the Dalai Lama is believed to be a few marches beyond Nagchuka and will return to Lhasa when the Mission leaves it. The probability is that the position of the Amban will then be rendered unpleasant as the feelings of the people are against the Chinese.

Colonel Younghusband paid a ceremonial visit to the Sera and Depung Monasteries and met with a good reception from the Chief Abbotts who expressed their complete satisfaction with the settlement which has been effected and promised to assist the Tibetan Government in carrying it out.

Repeated to Sir E. Satow.

R.

No. 475.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 24th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. The following telegram, dated the 15th September 1904, which has been received from Colonel Younghusband, is repeated for information in amplification of his message dated the 18th September 1904:—

Begins. The following is the text of telegrams said by Amban to have been sent to him by Wai-wu-pu.

First received on 12th, *begins.* Your telegram forwarding the Convention of ten Clauses sent to you by the British official has been duly read. The Convention robs China of her suzerainty, and you are on no account to sign it. Discuss this point and send us telegraphic reply. *Ends.*

Second received on 13th, *begins.* Tibet is a dependency of China; the two treaties concluded in 1890 and 1893, respectively, were concluded between Great Britain and China after negotiations had been carried on by officers appointed by those countries. In the present instance, the treaty should be between Great Britain and China, and the Tibet Government instructed to agree and sign. Great Britain should not conclude a treaty direct with Tibet, as by that China

loses her suzerainty, and that lost, her admonitions to the Tibetans will be of no avail. This is the important idea throughout. Explain this point carefully to the British official; if he agrees to this point, then the treaty can be discussed. Send a speedy reply by telegram. *End of message.*

No. 476.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 25th September 1904. (Despd. from Rev. & Agrl. Dept.)

The recent rain has improved prospects in Deccan, Gujerat and Kathiawar. Government of Bombay do not anticipate relief measures will be required anywhere during winter. There is no fear of famine at present in any part of India.

R.

No. 477.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 26th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to my telegram of 19th September. Writing on 9th September the British Agent, Kabul, reports that preparations for the journey of Sardars Nasrulla Khan and Umar Jan to the northern frontier of Afghanistan are completed, and that they were to travel *viâ* Ghazni and Kandahar to Herat, thence to Maimena and Mazar-i-Sharif. They were to start in a week.

No. 478.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 26th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegrams of the 1st and 28th July 1904. May we authorise the Postmaster now to proceed to Koweit please? The presence of a Political Agent there renders the establishment of improved postal arrangements advisable, and the Director-General of the Post Office in India has recently been petitioned by the Karachi Merchants' Association for a Post Office at this port. If the opening of a Post Office is still not considered desirable we presume that the Assistant Surgeon may go to Koweit now that a Political Agent is there and may require his service in that capacity.

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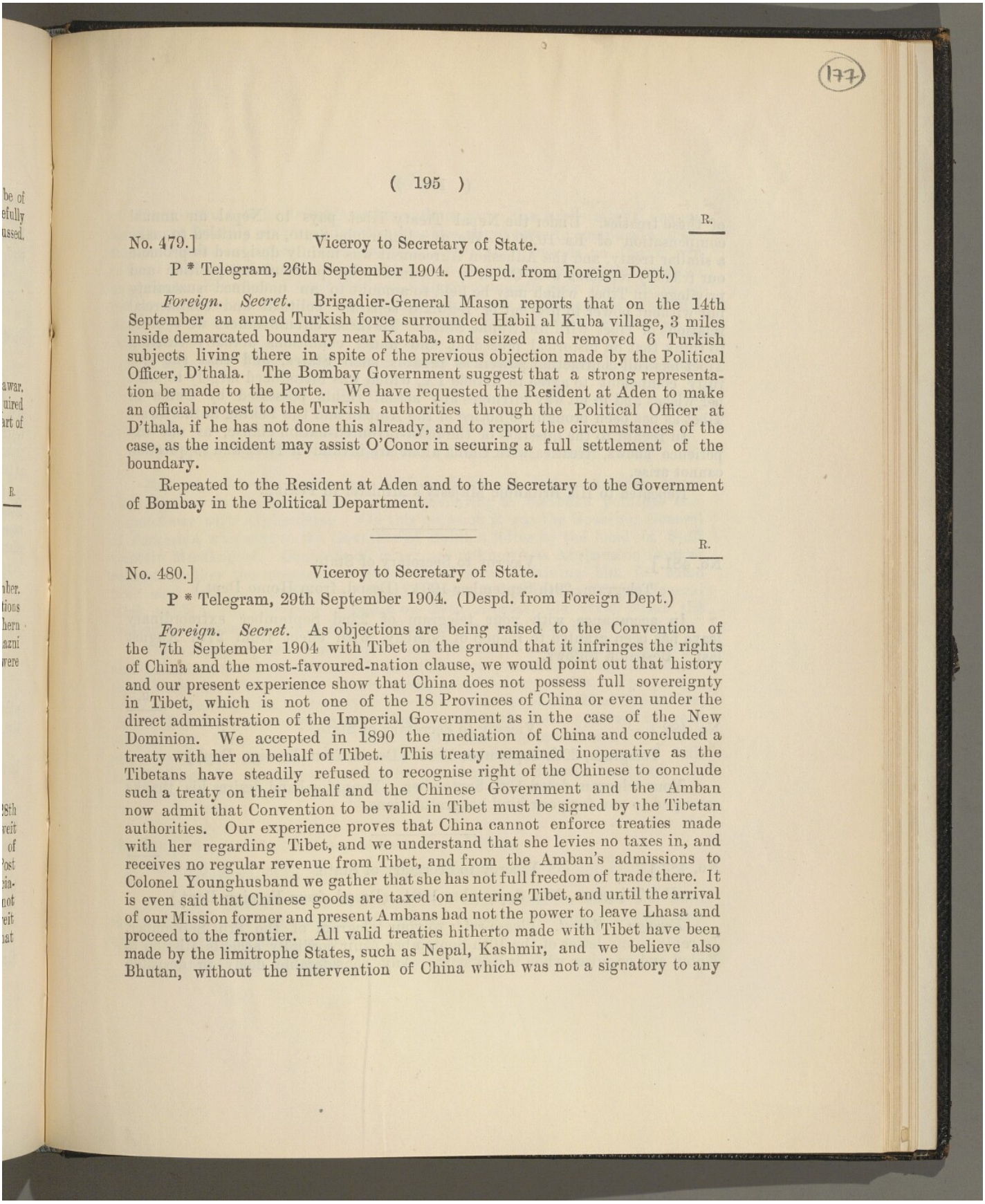

R.

No. 479.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 26th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Brigadier-General Mason reports that on the 14th September an armed Turkish force surrounded Habil al Kuba village, 3 miles inside demarcated boundary near Kataba, and seized and removed 6 Turkish subjects living there in spite of the previous objection made by the Political Officer, D'thala. The Bombay Government suggest that a strong representation be made to the Porte. We have requested the Resident at Aden to make an official protest to the Turkish authorities through the Political Officer at D'thala, if he has not done this already, and to report the circumstances of the case, as the incident may assist O'Conor in securing a full settlement of the boundary.

Repeated to the Resident at Aden and to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay in the Political Department.

R.

No. 480.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 29th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. As objections are being raised to the Convention of the 7th September 1904 with Tibet on the ground that it infringes the rights of China and the most-favoured-nation clause, we would point out that history and our present experience show that China does not possess full sovereignty in Tibet, which is not one of the 18 Provinces of China or even under the direct administration of the Imperial Government as in the case of the New Dominion. We accepted in 1890 the mediation of China and concluded a treaty with her on behalf of Tibet. This treaty remained inoperative as the Tibetans have steadily refused to recognise right of the Chinese to conclude such a treaty on their behalf and the Chinese Government and the Amban now admit that Convention to be valid in Tibet must be signed by the Tibetan authorities. Our experience proves that China cannot enforce treaties made with her regarding Tibet, and we understand that she levies no taxes in, and receives no regular revenue from Tibet, and from the Amban's admissions to Colonel Younghusband we gather that she has not full freedom of trade there. It is even said that Chinese goods are taxed on entering Tibet, and until the arrival of our Mission former and present Ambans had not the power to leave Lhasa and proceed to the frontier. All valid treaties hitherto made with Tibet have been made by the limitrophe States, such as Nepal, Kashmir, and we believe also Bhutan, without the intervention of China which was not a signatory to any

of these treaties. Under the Nepal Treaty Tibet pays to Nepal an annual compensation of Rs. 10,000. We, as a limitrophe State, are entitled to make a similar treaty, and the Adhesion Agreement was mainly designed to promote our friendly relations with China by recognising her predominant position and privileges in Tibet, which may be held to amount to an undefined suzerainty but without power to prevent or regulate separate political and commercial relations of Tibet with limitrophe States. In these circumstances we venture to think that on historical precedent and under conditions actually existing Tibet has full contractual powers as regards such States, and that she was fully competent to agree to Article IX, which was introduced largely to meet her wishes and in no way infringes any actual rights possessed by China in Tibet as has been brought to notice of the Amban and the Peking authorities.

In regard to the question of the most-favoured-nation clause, as our experience shows, treaties with China alone are invalid in Tibet and so question cannot arise.

Repeated to His Britannic Majesty's Minister in Peking.

No. 481.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 29th September 1904. (Despd. from Home Dept.)

In accordance with your telegram of 22nd September extraordinary leave has been granted to Bishop of Bombay, with effect from 27th August last. Despatch follows.

R.

No. 482.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 29th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Your telegram dated 12th September. Younghusband desires his thanks conveyed to you for your kind congratulations.

R.

No. 483.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 30th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram of the 8th September. In reply to my letter of the 10th September Amir cordially accepts Mission to Kabul and enquires when it can start. Any considerable delay in despatch

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of Mission would be inadvisable and even dangerous; the Amir might change his present friendly attitude; frontier troubles might arise to complicate situation or Russian intrigues might develop. Everything depends on the return of Lord Curzon and as to this I recognise that you cannot give me information at present. However, I trust that you will communicate your instructions to me as soon as possible. I am entirely unaware at present of what His Majesty's Government have arranged with Lord Curzon in regard to Afghanistan.

If necessary, I shall, after consulting my Colleagues, telegraph more fully.

R.

No. 484.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 30th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Amir has addressed me enclosing another letter showing that the Russians have been endeavouring to establish political correspondence with Afghanistan. On this occasion it was the Governor-General of Turkestan who sent to the Governor of Balkh a letter by the hand of Staff Captain Musikantof. Contents of letter are unknown as Afghans on frontier refused to allow the messenger to proceed and after detaining him for some time sent him back to Termez. The Commandant of Termez, Major-General Grek, wrote to the Governor of Balkh on 27th August, old style, about the messenger's detention and it is this letter that has been sent me by the Amir.

There is good *primâ facie* evidence that Governors-General of Trans-Caspia and Turkestan acted simultaneously and therefore presumably under instructions from St. Petersburg. Amir again asked for my advice. I propose to reply by referring him to the advice given in my letter of the 22nd September, that is the advice suggested in my telegram of 17th and approved in your telegram of 19th September, and to add that the question of Russian attempts to enter into direct relations with Afghanistan will be discussed with His Highness by our representative who will shortly be deputed to Kabul.

Does this meet with your approval?

No. 485.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 30th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. With reference to your telegram dated the 26th September, we do not propose to ask the Persian Government to incur any expenditure on the intended survey.

Repeated to His Britannic Majesty's Minister in Persia.

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R.

No. 486.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 30th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. On the 21st September Colonel Younghusband paid a ceremonial visit to the Go-khang Cathedral: he was received by monks with great civility, and conducted round the most sacred shrines. On the 22nd he exchanged farewell visits with the Amban who assured Colonel Younghusband again that he saw no objections to signing the Adhesion Agreement. Colonel Younghusband was also visited by the Council, who brought him presents, assured him of their friendly sentiments, and expressed their full intention to carry out the treaty. They furnished a passport for Mr. Wilton, appointed officials to accompany him, and also for party going to Gartok.

The Mission left Lhasa on the 23rd September. Before starting Colonel Younghusband and General Macdonald were visited by the Ti-Rimpoche who presented Mr. White and Mr. O’Connor each with an image of Buddha and promised to offer prayers for their welfare. The entire Tibetan Council, with Secretaries, received the Mission in a tent pitched on the road and showed them marked cordiality.

Not sent to Peking.

Please refer to my telegram dated the 3rd September. The treaty referred to proves to be taken from an article by Ular in the *Contemporary Review* for December 1902.

Repeated to His Britannic Majesty’s Minister in China.

R.

No. 487.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 30th September 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. On 19th September we sent the following telegram to Colonel Younghusband:—

Begins. You have now authority to stay at Lhasa, if safe there, until 15th October. As it seems doubtful if China will accept arrangements, and as His Majesty’s Government have insisted on reduction of indemnity and early determination of our occupation of Chumbi, it seems to be most desirable that you should make an effort to secure Trade Regulations, lien on Customs, trade mart in Zayul, with access to Batang, and surveys in Tibet, before you leave Lhasa, so that our relations with Tibet may be put on definite basis, whatever may happen as regards China. Government of India trust that you will endeavour to meet their wishes in this respect. If you cannot secure Tibetan assent to regulations as drafted, you can modify these to accord with

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form of Regulations of 1893; but as Tibetans denied all knowledge of those the form of the draft ought not to be a difficulty. *Ends.*

On 24th September Colonel Younghusband replied as follows:—

Begins. Your telegram reached me the evening before we left Lhasa. If it had been possible to inform me last month that we could stay till 15th October, that no more than 25 lakhs of rupees was required as an indemnity, and that a third trade mart would be acceptable, I could have arranged Convention on those lines, though Tibetans distinctly preferred present arrangement to opening third mart in distant province where their control is slight, and they would suspect our action. But if I had attempted at this stage to alter settlement so solemnly made, all present good feeling would certainly have been lost, and we might not have obtained our object after all. This feeling is the best basis for future relations, and I hope, on arrival in India, to give my opinion as to best method of meeting views of His Majesty's Government when revision of Trade Regulations is eventually undertaken. Matter can, I think, be arranged, though present was not most suitable moment for arranging it. *Ends.*

The matter must now stand over until he reaches Simla which he hopes to do on 14th October.

Repeated to Sir E. Satow.

No. 488.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 1st October 1904.

Great Eastern Mining Company apply for mining lease over large area in Burma. Company have entered into contract with Share Guarantee Trust, which they state has excellent reference London City and Midland Bank. Can you obtain and telegraph information as to standing of Trust and their readiness to finance the Company to the extent of £25,000 probably required for working capital?

R.

No. 489.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 5th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Amir's intrigues with Afridis. Please refer to our Secret Frontier Despatch of 22nd September 1904. Colonel Deane reports that owing to intrigues through Khwas Khan there is serious unrest amongst the Zakha Khel. The tribe have got beyond the control of their Maliks and have committed a serious raid on a village in the Kohat District, and it is believed that they are trying to embroil other sections. Large numbers of Afridis and Orakzais are visiting Kabul and were addressed by Amir personally in public

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Durbar on 18th September. His Highness' speech as reported was not open to special objection, but Colonel Deane attributes the present unrest to the large rewards received at Kabul by the tribesmen which render them independent of our allowances. He suggested that the Amir should be asked to remove Khwas Khan, but subsequently thought that the publication of intention to send Mission would have excellent effect. Arrangements have been made in the meantime for cavalry to patrol the passes in Kohat, and it is hoped that further raids will be prevented. You will doubtless let us know when we should announce intention to send Mission. We are not taking any further action as to addressing the Amir about these intrigues at present.

R.

No. 490.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 5th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to my telegram 20th September. According to a telegram dated 3rd October from Meshed, the influx of troops from European Russia has recommenced; two thousand men recently arrived at Krasnovodsk; six narrow gauge locomotives have arrived Krasnovodsk for Khushk and the flow of supplies and munitions of war is incessant.

R.

No. 491.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 5th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Kabul Mission. Your telegram of 4th October. The Amir through his Envoy has suggested that the Mission should reach Kabul before the 10th November, when Ramzan fast begins, as he could not transact business during the latter portion of the fast, and after the Id, on the 9th December, the weather would be too cold for comfort of Mission, which might have to be postponed till March. I propose to inform him that the Mission cannot now well start until after middle of November, when it is hoped Lord Curzon will have returned to India. It will probably leave about 25th November so as to reach Kabul just after the Id, and as an early settlement is most desirable the difficulties due to the cold must be faced.

R.

No. 492.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 6th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. With reference to your telegram of the 1st October please see Colonel Younghusband's letter No. 714-G., dated the 30th August

1904, which was forwarded by the mail of the 22nd September. The text of formal notes exchanged has not yet been received by us but we have asked Colonel Younghusband for the notes. We prefer if you see no objection to defer the expression of views asked for until such time as we receive them and Colonel Younghusband arrives in Simla.

Repeated to Sir E. Satow.

R.

No. 493.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 6th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to the papers, sent with Foreign Secretary's letter No. 34-M., dated the 25th August, regarding the arrest of Captain Warneford's murderer. The reports hitherto received are very indeterminate, but the Resident hopes to secure accurate information of the murderer's hiding place. We are calling for definite information as to the possibility of locating the murderer or getting clear proof of his being harboured, and of making certain of success of a cavalry raid to secure him. If we can obtain this information we propose to authorise a raid for the purpose of securing the person of the murderer and his actual harbourers. Failing this, an expedition against the tribe harbouring him may be necessary, but we are extremely reluctant to become involved in anything approaching to military operations. He is said to be near Am Rija in Rijai territory.

No. 494.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 7th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Your telegram 29th September. Wreck *Baron Inverdale.* Political Agent with Sultan Maskat visited Maseirah and neighbouring mainland but found no trace of missing crew. Later reports received by Sultan from mainland still point to about seventeen men and one boy having been wrecked on Maseirah and all murdered except one boy said to have been taken into interior of mainland. Political Agent will therefore again visit island. As for wreck, *Dalhousie* reports her lying in sheltered position Kabhya island on flat bottom could easily be salved. Vessel likely to remain secure till December gales.

No. 495.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 8th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. On the 1st October the Chief Commissioner of Assam reported that the Manipuris had shown unrest for some time and had adopted

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a threatening attitude ending in the assembly of 5,000 men, without firearms. On the appearance of a detachment of the regulars and police, the assembly dispersed. The disturbance has resulted from the action of the Political Agent in Manipur in ordering the people to rebuild the bungalow which had been occupied by the Assistant Political Agent and by the Raja's tutor which was burnt down in August. This was the third fire which has occurred within the last six months; and which is attributed to incendiarism.

The Political Agent in Manipur wires on the 5th October that determination to resist authority is increasing and asks for two hundred military police from Kohima for this purpose. These are being sent by the Chief Commissioner of Assam. The trouble is evidently political and the outcome of opposition to the Raja.

R.

No. 496.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 9th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. By this mail I am sending you a Minute by Lord Kitchener on the military aspect of our relations with Afghanistan. Lord Kitchener points out that the defence of India is the primary object of friendly relations with Afghanistan and therefore military considerations should predominate over all others in the Agreement which we make with the Amir. The present indefinite and one-sided alliance is worse than useless, as we are supposed to have all the obligations but have none of the ordinary rights of allies. In time of peace our officers may not even enter Afghanistan to survey strategical positions and concert measures of defence, and in time of war, if the Amir adheres to the short-sighted and obstinate policy of his father, our troops would not be allowed to enter Afghanistan until the Afghans had been defeated and the country had been over-run by the Russians. We are thus unable to formulate any definite scheme for the defence of the Indian Empire, while so many important co-efficients remain unknown. Lord Kitchener urges that our Commissioner should explain the situation frankly and fully to the Amir declaring that we do not want or intend to occupy one inch of Afghan territory, negotiating only for a small rearrangement of frontier in exchange for other territory in order to enable us to obtain access to Kam Dakka and showing that Afghanistan cannot possibly stand alone. If His Highness will not consent to an Agreement which will give us the ordinary rights of allies and enable us to concert with Afghanistan a definite plan of mutual defence, Lord Kitchener thinks that it would be better to have no military engagement at all. In those circumstances we should no longer guarantee the integrity of Afghanistan, we

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should stop the subsidy and the importation of arms, and declare our intention of taking whatever measures we may consider necessary for the defence of India without reference to the Amir, leaving Afghanistan to the natural process of absorption between ourselves and Russia. Lord Kitchener holds that such questions as frontier demarcation and the settlement of disputes concerning irrigation water and tribal outrages are trivial compared with the question of military defence, and he urges that we should not lose this great opportunity of making a definite alliance based on real strategic considerations.

His Majesty's Government have doubtlessly been considering the Afghan problem from this point of view, but I think it right at once to inform you of these important opinions expressed by the Commander-in-Chief. They seem to me to look facts in the face.

R.

No. 497.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 10th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. With reference to your telegrams dated the 1st and the 3rd October and Sir E. Satow's telegram dated the 5th October, we would suggest that, pending receipt of our matured opinion which will be communicated after we learn Colonel Younghusband's explanation, no further mention should be made to the Chinese Government of the proposed reservation to the effect that Article IX of the Convention should not be so interpreted as to deprive other Powers of their rights under the existing Treaties. We hold that no such rights can exist as the Chinese treaties do not affect Tibet. But there appears grave risk that other Powers, who enjoy the most favoured-nation rights in China, would contend that such a reservation entitled them to all the rights in Tibet to which we become entitled under the Convention including, for instance, the right to post trade agents. We would prefer to dispense with the Chinese adhesion rather than risk any such result. It seems likely from the alarm which Prince Ching has displayed at the suggestion to this effect that China may be glad to adhere without inconvenient stipulations in order to avoid her being ignored. The objecting Powers may also be content to acquiesce in our terms rather than run the risk of our asserting our predominance in Tibet in any more definite manner.

Repeated to His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

No. 498.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 11th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. My telegram of 7th October. *Baron Inverdale.* Telegram received from Political Agent, Maskat, that affair has been discovered, some offenders secured and hopes are entertained of securing remainder. His full report will reach me on 15th.

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No. 499.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 11th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see my telegram of the 8th October 1904, regarding unrest in Manipur. On the 8th October the Chief Commissioner of Assam telegraphed as follows:—

Begins. Reinforcement of Military Police left Kohima for Manipur on the morning of the 6th and should arrive there on the 10th or 11th October. Colonel Maxwell reports that the people are beginning to ask for pardon and that there is no further cause for anxiety. *Ends.*

R.

No. 500.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 12th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. We have received a report from the Nepalese Representative at Lhasa that merchants who recently arrived there from Nagchuka say that they met the Dalai Lama travelling north and that he has probably reached Urga. All is reported to be quiet at Lhasa and the people are said still to be well disposed towards us, but trouble with the Chinese is anticipated.

Repeated to Sir E. Satow.

R.

No. 501.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 13th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram of the 1st October regarding the violation of the Amiri frontier by the Turks. It appears that the only reason for the action taken by the Turks was that some villagers of Shakhab had left Turkish territory and settled in Amiri territory. The Kaim Makam of Katabe and Yuz Pasba in conjunction with 50 Turkish soldiers surrounded Habil al Khadar at 3 A. M. on the 14th September and arrested and carried off six Shakhab men with all their property. Merewether had told Kaim Makam on the 10th September that he should not take direct action against these men but should address him (Merewether) when any allegations against the action of the Amir of Dthali would be examined, but he believes that the villagers left Shakhab of their own accord. The Bombay Government recommend that the removal of Kaim Makam be demanded. It is said that the Turks had already ordered this. We considered that urgent representations should be made and full explanation required against such an open violation of the border which has been so recently demarcated.

Repeated to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay in the Political Department.

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R.

No. 502.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
Telegram, 13th October 1904. (Despd. from Mily. Dept.)

Macdonald left Gyantse 11th October last with remainder of troops less three companies Infantry for garrison of post.

R.

No. 503.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
P * Telegram, 13th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 10th October regarding Tibet.

1. Please see my telegram dated the 10th October in regard to the reservation of foreign rights.

2. We would strongly urge Calcutta as the place of negotiation and signature for the following reasons :—

(*a*) That negotiations in India are favoured by the precedents of 1890 and 1893 of which the present agreement is to be supplementary.

(*b*) That owing to perpetual leakage, the choice of Peking will enable Foreign Powers to obstruct.

(*c*) That His Majesty's Minister at Peking and the Chinese Government are in favour of it.

3. After consulting Colonel Younghusband, we will reply in regard to amendments to the Tibet Convention.

Repeated to His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

R.

No. 504.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
P * Telegram, 15th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram of 8th October. Colonel Deane reports that Zakka Khels are beyond the control of their maliks, and recommends strongly that an immediate representation be made to the Amir, in default of which he anticipates that there will be considerable trouble on the frontier during the winter. The Zakka Khel Maliks themselves say that they are helpless in view of treatment which the tribesmen receive at Kabul, and they suggest the blockade of whole Afridi tribe, or the occupation of Bazar valley, or a direct warning to the Amir with punishment of the clan. We are replying to Deane that we still prefer not to make representation to Amir by letter or to take strong measures against Afridis until we have seen the effect of announcement of Mission to Kabul. We authorise, however, the suspension of payment of ordinary allowances which fall due in November and December, pending consideration of further action : we trust that matters will be settled one way or the other before December.

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These circumstances emphasize the necessity for an immediate announcement of the Mission. The probability of action on the part of the Russians in reply to our Mission to Kabul has no doubt been fully considered by His Majesty's Government, and Lord Kitchener desires that this aspect of the situation should be strongly emphasized. He points to the Penjdeh incident following the Boundary Commission and the exploits of Yonoff following the Durand Mission. We recognise that similar complications are even more likely now in spite of Russian disclaimers. But secrecy will not be possible much longer, seeing that the Amir has not been asked to keep the matter confidential, and we are of opinion that if the affair leaked out through unauthorized channels suspicion and misunderstanding would certainly result. The announcement should therefore only be made if it is irrevocably decided to send the Mission no matter what may happen. We are strongly of opinion that it would be disastrous to lose the present opportunity and once more we urge that the Mission should be sent as soon as possible, that is, at the end of next month.

No. 505.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 16th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Maskat Customs. Please refer to the correspondence which was forwarded under the letters from the Foreign Secretary, Nos. 29-M., 32-M., 37-M., and 41-M., dated, respectively, the 21st July, the 11th August, the 15th September, and the 13th October 1904. In view of the opinion expressed in Lord George Hamilton's telegram dated the 18th February 1898, and in order to avoid direct British control of the Maskat Customs, it is proposed that the Imperial Bank of Persia should be induced to open a branch at Maskat, and fixed monthly advances on the security of the Customs might then be made on a Government guarantee, on the condition that the Customs revenue will be collected by officers approved by the British Government and that the money so collected will be paid into the Bank. Any balance due either way could be paid on settlement of account at the close of the year. This proposal is considered most desirable by the local Political Officers, and there is pressing need for the introduction of Customs reform. We trust that you will, if the proposed action is approved, kindly obtain the views of the Directors of the Bank in London and if they are agreeable His Highness the Sultan will be approached and his decision in the matter reported to you. Should the Sultan prove obstructive to these proposals it is intended to secure, as an alternative, his agreement to the Bank farming out the Customs and to financing His Highness. As, apart from the Customs question, it is considered that an Agency of the Bank would prove beneficial to Indian traders at Maskat, the

Political Resident in the Persian Gulf has been instructed to consult the nearest Agent of the Bank on the general proposal to establish an Agency there.

No. 506.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 16th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. We have received a report from the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf that the Agent of the Sheikh of Koweit at Fao arrested three Turkish soldiers for two murders and asked the Commander of the *Merlin* to receive them. The latter refused and delivered the soldiers to the Kaimakam. It is now feared that the Turks will seize and imprison the Agent. In view of the action taken by the Turks against the Basrah Agent it might be well that the Porte should be asked to anticipate the hostile action of the local authorities by warning them to do nothing without reference to Constantinople. Should the Agent seek refuge on a British ship, he will not be surrendered pending enquiry into facts which are still obscure. A full report regarding the incident is expected from Resident in the Persian Gulf.

Repeated to the Naval Commander-in-Chief, East Indies.

R.

No. 507.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 16th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Your telegram 3rd October. Russian communications with Afghans. The Amir has replied to my letter of September 22nd. He concurs in the advice given to him but has instructed the Governor of Herat only to act on it if a reply is demanded by the Russians, otherwise to send none. The Amir says that if Russians cannot bring about breach between England and Afghanistan by intrigue, they will endeavour to create disturbances through Afghan refugees in Russian territory. The Afghan Envoy mentions that emissaries of the son of Sardar Ishak Khan have been trying to create disaffection among the Amir's troops in Turkestan.

R.

No. 508.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 17th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. In continuation of my telegram of the 15th October I repeat the following telegram, dated 17th October, from Colonel Deane:—

Begins. Widespread feeling is gaining ground among the other tribes as well as Afridis that relations between Government and Amir are very strained.

Directly Mission is announced I believe feeling will change. Meanwhile there is danger of raid by Afridis committing tribes, and for this reason I have urged and do urge as early announcement as possible. *Ends.*

No. 509.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 17th October 1904. (Despd. from Rev. & Agril. Dept.)

Your telegram 10th instant. Great Eastern Mining Company. We think Trust should be asked to produce letter guaranteeing to find £25,000 probably required as working capital by Company. Company has agreed to this.

No. 510.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 18th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Turkish Quarantine against Koweit. At the request of the Sheikh the Assistant Surgeon at the Fao Telegraph Station left for Koweit on the 13th September for the purpose of reporting on the sanitary condition there. Will you please see whether steps can be taken at Constantinople in order to ensure the recognition of his certificate by the Turkish authorities?

I shall be glad to have a reply to the last sentence of my telegram dated the 26th September, in view of the Sheikh's anxiety for a resident British Doctor.

Repeated to the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

R.

No. 511.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 18th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Definite news has been received from Meshed that the Tashkend-Orenburg Railway was finally linked up on the 28th September. The new Governor-General, Turkestan, who has just arrived at Tashkend, travelled in a construction train over the whole line.

R.

No. 512.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 20th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Unless you see any objection, please ascertain from A. H. Grant, c. s., if he is willing to return to join Kabul Mission as Assistant. He should reach Peshawar by 15th November.

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R.

No. 513.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 21st October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Escort of the Trade Agent at Gyantse. Please refer to your telegram dated the 14th October 1904. Pending a final decision as to the strength of this, three weak companies were left there as a temporary measure. We have now decided that an escort of fifty rifles will be sufficient and the remainder will be withdrawn to Chumbi at an early date.

R.

No. 514.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 21st October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Captain O'Connor visited Shigatse with Gartok party and met with most cordial reception from the Tashi Lama who referred to the former friendly relations between the Government of India and his predecessor. The Gartok party left Shigatse on the 17th October 1904 all well.

R.

No. 515.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 21st October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. After having discussed the matter with Colonel Younghusband and also in Council, I propose to ratify the Tibet Convention in the usual way and to append a declaration to the following effect:— "His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India having ratified the Convention—a full description of this will be given—is pleased to direct as an act of grace that the amount of the indemnity be reduced from Rs. 75,00,000 to Rs. 25,00,000 and to declare that the British occupation of the Chumbi Valley will cease after the due payment of three annual instalments of the said indemnity, if in the meantime the Tibetans shall have faithfully complied with the terms of the Convention." This decision will be communicated to the Tibetan Government in a friendly letter, if you approve.

No. 516.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 21st October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. The despatch of a Mission to Kabul having been sanctioned by His Majesty's Government we now submit our views as to the

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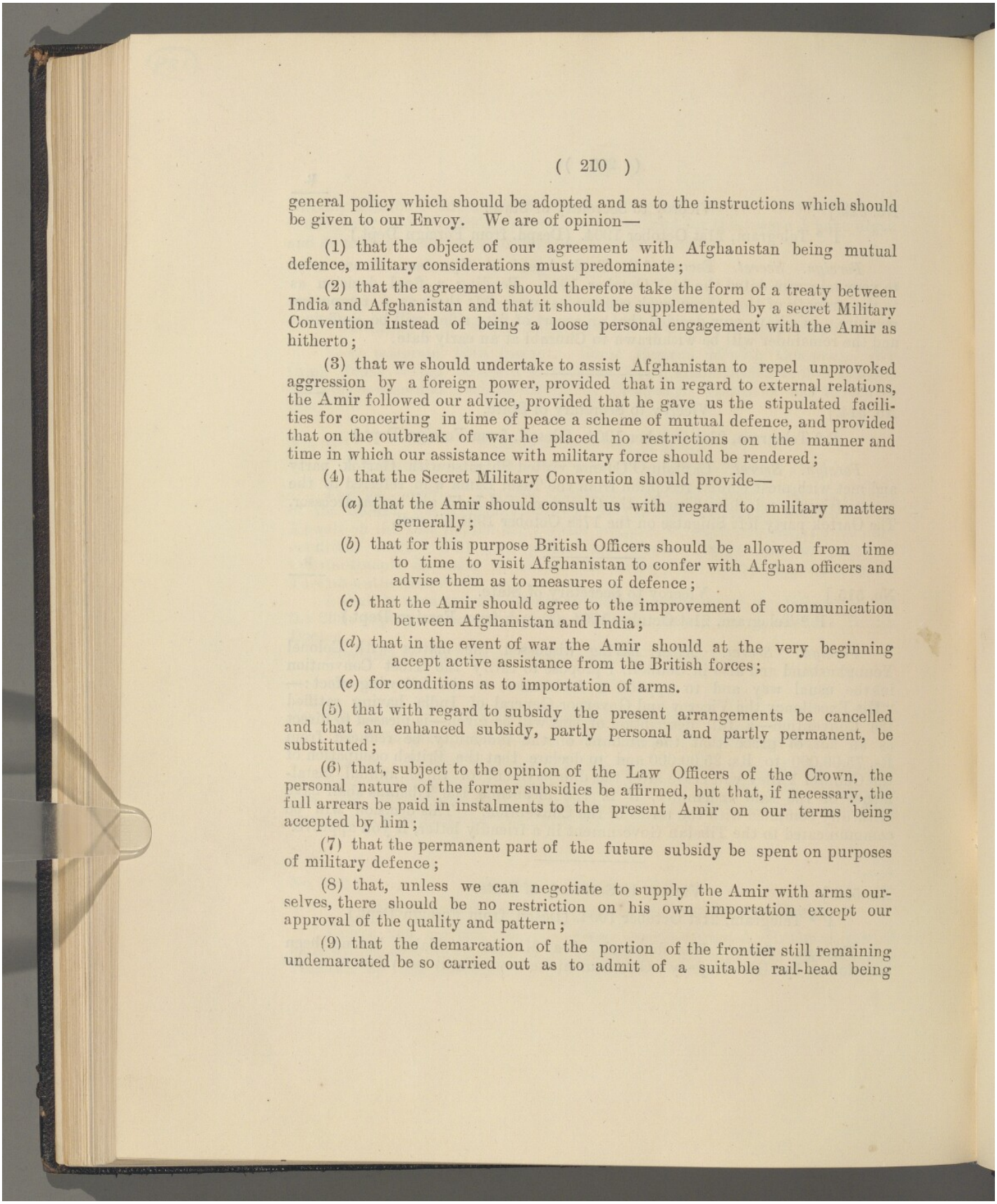

general policy which should be adopted and as to the instructions which should be given to our Envoy. We are of opinion—

(1) that the object of our agreement with Afghanistan being mutual defence, military considerations must predominate;

(2) that the agreement should therefore take the form of a treaty between India and Afghanistan and that it should be supplemented by a secret Military Convention instead of being a loose personal engagement with the Amir as hitherto;

(3) that we should undertake to assist Afghanistan to repel unprovoked aggression by a foreign power, provided that in regard to external relations, the Amir followed our advice, provided that he gave us the stipulated facilities for concerting in time of peace a scheme of mutual defence, and provided that on the outbreak of war he placed no restrictions on the manner and time in which our assistance with military force should be rendered;

(4) that the Secret Military Convention should provide—

(*a*) that the Amir should consult us with regard to military matters generally;

(*b*) that for this purpose British Officers should be allowed from time to time to visit Afghanistan to confer with Afghan officers and advise them as to measures of defence;

(*c*) that the Amir should agree to the improvement of communication between Afghanistan and India;

(*d*) that in the event of war the Amir should at the very beginning accept active assistance from the British forces;

(*e*) for conditions as to importation of arms.

(5) that with regard to subsidy the present arrangements be cancelled and that an enhanced subsidy, partly personal and partly permanent, be substituted;

(6) that, subject to the opinion of the Law Officers of the Crown, the personal nature of the former subsidies be affirmed, but that, if necessary, the full arrears be paid in instalments to the present Amir on our terms being accepted by him;

(7) that the permanent part of the future subsidy be spent on purposes of military defence;

(8) that, unless we can negotiate to supply the Amir with arms ourselves, there should be no restriction on his own importation except our approval of the quality and pattern;

(9) that the demarcation of the portion of the frontier still remaining undemarcated be so carried out as to admit of a suitable rail-head being

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secured and that the existing engagements that each Government should abstain from all interference with the tribes beyond its frontier should be emphatically affirmed;

(10) that no pressure be put on the Amir to construct telegraphs and railways but that he should, if possible, be induced to make roads on railway alignments in continuation of our strategic lines to the frontier;

(11) that no British Officer be posted in Afghanistan as political representative;

(12) that in the event of the Amir pressing for a representative in London, the answer should be in the terms of the letter of 20th September 1895 from Lord Salisbury to the late Amir;

(13) that as at present, a Mahomedan Agent be posted at Kabul, his status to be improved;

(14) that in view of the necessity of providing some channel for communications on non-political and commercial matters on the Russo-Afghan frontier, the Amir should be induced to recognise the appointment of three British Officers as Consuls at suitable points on the frontier;

(15) that British Consular protection be extended formally to Afghans in foreign countries;

(16) that a definite understanding should be secured as to trade and customs regulations and duties.

(17) that since in existing conditions a British military occupation of Afghan Seistan is not advisable, no mention of the Seistan question should be made, unless the Amir appears to be willing to consider it, in which case the matter should be referred for orders.

We should be glad to know, as soon as possible, whether these views are in accord with those of His Majesty's Government.

R.

No. 517.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 22nd October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Mr. Warneford's murder. Please refer to your telegrams dated the 12th and 19th October 1904. The result of the enquiries, when they are completed, will be reported to you. No action is contemplated without referring to you previously.

R.

No. 518.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 23rd October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. We have received a report from our Trade Agent at Gyantse that the Tibetan Trade official is showing a most friendly

spirit about the opening of a mart there and our Agent says post huts between Gyantse and Phari will be built by the Lhasa Government. Fortunately small posts on the route have already been constructed by us. They will serve for post and traders as contemplated in Article II of the Regulations of 1893. So far everything shows that the disposition of the Tibetans is most satisfactory, and we may hope that Colonel Younghusband's greatest achievement has been to bring about really friendly relations between the Tibetans and ourselves.

R.

No. 519.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 24th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Kabul Mission. Your telegram 19th October. On 22nd October I addressed Amir announcing Mr. Dane's appointment as British representative and stating that he proposed to start from Peshawar about 25th November and to arrive at Kabul about December 10th.

No. 520.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 24th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Your telegram 17th October. *Baron Inverdale.* Question of compensation for relatives under enquiry. Latest details from Political Agent, Maskat, show massacre beyond doubt. Boat containing 17 men including stow-away boy wrecked near Ras Jadufa, and party refusing to comply with demand for delivery of cash were treacherously murdered by inhabitants of island. Sultan revisited Maseirah 26th September. Energetic house to house visitation at Ras Half village unearthed part of a seaman's jacket blood-stained and riddled with bullet holes. On this party secured first four men they met among whom is chief instigator. Sultan returned Maskat 8th October with 9 of the murderers and a dozen other prisoners including principal residents of neighbouring villages of Dawwa and Um-ar-Rasas. Rest of murderers believed to be 10 in number and steps in progress to secure their arrest. Sultan proposes shooting perpetrators on scene of massacre and as example to hang bodies. These proposals are endorsed by Agent, who also makes following suggestions as previous act of brigandage reported from this neighbourhood: Ras Half to be burned; arms found there to be confiscated; principal residents of the two last-named villages to be imprisoned; Sheikh of island to be deported; guard of Maskat soldiers to be stationed on island for protection of native craft and other vessels. He also thinks Sultan's desire for partial reimbursement of expenses might be met.

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A few relics have been found and will be forwarded if required by owners of vessel. We have left matter in hands Sultan who is greatly upset over occurrence and has shown promptitude in dealing with regrettable incident. It is also desirable he should assert authority.

Enquiries in progress regarding rest of vessel's crew which consisted of master, 3 mates, and 48 hands with stow-away.

No. 521.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 25th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 15th October regarding slave trade in Persia. Sir A. Hardinge's letter was received by last mail. On receipt of the views of the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf we will furnish a definite opinion on the subject.

R.

No. 522.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 25th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Your telegram of the 24th October. I shall reply shortly with regard to the visit of Amir's son Inayatulla. As at present arranged the personnel of Mission is as follows:—Mr. L. Dane, Commissioner; Mr. H. R. C. Dobbs, Secretary; Major W. Malleson, Assistant Quarter-Master-General; Major W. W. Norman, Staff Officer, Militia, North-West Frontier; Captain Victor Brooke, Aide-de-Camp to Commander-in-Chief, Assistants to Commissioner. Your reply concerning Grant, I. C S., who is suggested as fourth Assistant, is awaited. A Medical Officer is being selected.

R.

No. 523.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 26th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. On the 22nd October Captain O'Conor telegraphed from Shigatse that he had a private visit with the Tashi Lama on the 18th idem. The Lama is in doubt whether to obey the Amban's summons to Lhasa, and proposes to wait and watch events. He does not know where the Dalai Lama is, but considers it to be certain that he has gone to Mongolia. He entirely approves the Convention, but hopes for a reduction in the amount of the indemnity which Tibet will be required to pay.

Captain O'Conor had satisfactory interviews with the Chinese official and traders, and he has established very friendly relations with them. Captain O'Conor started for Gyantse on the 23rd October and he hoped to arrive there on the 26th idem.

Repeated to His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

R.

No. 524.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 27th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Personnel of the Kabul Mission. Mr. A. H. Grant, I. C. S., has been selected as remaining Assistant and Captain Turnbull, I. M. S., as Medical Officer.

Have you any wish as to designation of Head of Mission? Sir Mortimer Durand signed as Foreign Secretary representing Government of India. As Amir might object to title of Commissioner as inadequate, probably it will be best to follow this precedent.

R.

No. 525.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 27th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. We have just heard that Monsieur Bussiere is also doctor to the Russian Consulate at Bushire, and of the intention, which has temporarily been abandoned, to depute him to Kermanshah for quarantine work there. In return for the consent to abandon the *status quo* in regard to the transmission of quarantine orders to our officers through His Britannic Majesty's Legation, Tehran—*vide* Sir A. Hardinge's Despatches No. 143, dated the 3rd August, and No. 152, dated the 16th August—would it not be possible to secure the control of the quarantine arrangements at Kermanshah being given to the British Consular Surgeon there, and also to obtain a definite understanding of our right to nominate officers to administer quarantine independently of the Customs Department both at Kermanshah and at the following places, *viz.*, Bushire, Lingah, Bunder Abbas, and Jask, so long as our trade at these places preponderates. In regard to the substitution of a better class of medical subordinates, we will endeavour to meet Sir A. Hardinge's wishes, but doubt the advantage of offering to pay them ourselves, unless the point is pressed by the Persian Government. Claim to interfere is apparently based by M. Naus on the fact that their pay is disbursed by the Customs Department, but this now applies equally to the pay of Governors and other Persian officials, and greater derogation from the Shah's dignity seems to be involved by the delegation of quarantine functions to British paid officials than by the employment of British officers paid by the Persian Government.

Repeated to His Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, Tehran.

R.

No. 526.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 28th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Your telegram of 24th October. We fully concur in attitude assumed by His Majesty's Government in opposing withdrawal of Hashmat-ul-Mulk and the appointment of the Yamin-i-Nizam. The present attitude of the Persian Government in matter of Quarantine arrangements in Gulf of Henjam, Bunder Abbas and Seistan telegraph lines, Gudar, Balutak customs post, and the introduction of fresh Russian signallers at Meshed and the withdrawal of consular guards seems most unsatisfactory.

It is unlikely that Russia would attempt at present to retaliate by increasing her consul's guard in Seistan as this is even now stronger than ours to equal Mission escort. If she does, we think we must take countervailing action of the same kind. If she protests against the retention of Mission, the answer is that its work is not completed and that in view of risk of trouble with the Afghans and of frontier complications consequent on dislocation of old established arrangements in Seistan we may be compelled to retain our commission as Russia has kept hers at Gumbaz-i-Kabus for years. In event of Persia persisting in her anti-British policy in Seistan, the question of securing the control of the Helmund may have to assume a more prominent position in our negotiations with the Amir than we are at present disposed to give it. An intimation might also with advantage be conveyed to the Persian Government that we would not in the future be disposed as hitherto actively to exercise on behalf of the central Government our influence with the maritime and frontier chiefs over whom the Persian Government have found it difficult to maintain their direct control even now.

R.

No. 527.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 28th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Visit of Amir's son. Your telegram of 24th October. I have ascertained that Amir is prepared to send his son to Calcutta but could not send him before the *Id* festival which is on the 10th December. The Amir, as at present advised, wishes to send him after the conclusion of the Mission business. The position is difficult, but it might be best, as soon as Lord Curzon's plans are finally decided, to suggest some definite date and occasion and invite the Sirdar to reach Calcutta by that date. It might accelerate transaction of Mission business if early date in January was mentioned.

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R.

No. 528.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 28th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 1st October. The text of the notes between Colonel Younghusband and the Amban was posted on the 26th September. Colonel Younghusband sent the papers on the 13th September, but they did not reach us. Enquiries on the subject are being made. The Amban's letter is an official despatch with his official seal on it. Following is its purport:—

Colonel Younghusband to the Amban.

Begins. In Clause IX of the Convention China is not included in the term Foreign Powers. Also there is no objection on my part to Chinese subjects proceeding for purposes of trade to marts named in Clause II. *Ends.*

From the Amban to Colonel Younghusband.

Begins. With reference to Clause IX I have to state that I have throughout maintained that Tibet being dependency of China, China is not bound by restrictions mentioned therein. The Chinese Government will not however, directly or indirectly, hypothecate or transfer in any way to others anything in the sense of Clause IX without having first obtained the consent of the British Government thereto. Referring to the Trade Agent to be sent by your Government to Gyantse, I agree to his visiting Lhasa whenever occasion arises to discuss with me and the Tibetans matters of a commercial nature. *Ends.*

We see no objection to the addition to the Adhesion Agreement in the above sense, omitting reference to visits to Lhasa as to which Tibetan permission is all that is required. The main objects of the Chinese adhesion are (1) to avoid the charge of ignoring Chinese suzerainty, and (2) to prevent the introduction of foreign influence through Chinese aid. Former object has been attained by consistent consultation with China and invitation to adhere in regard to the latter. Formal note of the Amban specially deputed to negotiate with our Commissioner even if unratified by China considerably strengthens our position. We therefore deprecate sacrificing any substantial privilege gained by Convention and these subsidiary notes for sake of the Chinese adhesion.

Repeated to His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

R.

No. 529.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 28th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see your telegram of the 25th October. The probability of effecting a satisfactory arrangement for the withdrawal of the

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British Consular escorts in Persia appears remote, and their retention there is fully justified by the disturbed state of the country: witness the Seistan riot which occurred in the month of June 1903, the unrest at Meshed during May 1904, the constant insecurity around Kerman and Bunder Abbas regarding which we are about to propose addressing the Persian Government, the attacks on Shushan, the chronic turmoil in Arabistan and Luristan, and recent outrages at Urumia. The withdrawal of Russian escorts would not expose the officers and interests of Russia to risks equal to those which would be involved on us by a similar concession inasmuch as Russian establishments might be protected by detachments from the Cossack Brigade which in connection with quarantine cordons in Khorasan have been practically interchangeable with Russian escorts. The only possible basis of withdrawal of the British escorts from Persia appears to be the institution of a Persian force, commanded by British officers similar to the Cossack Brigade. It is significant that these negotiations should have been in progress at St. Petersburg before any reference was made to British Legation at Tehran.

Repeated to Mr. Grant-Duff.

No. 530.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 28th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see your telegram dated the 24th October regarding Maskat arbitration. At the instance of the American Legation at the Hague, the American Consul has asked the Political Agent at Maskat for a written statement of the history of the case and of the terms on which it has to be submitted to the Peace Tribunal. I am instructing the Political Agent at Maskat that, while representing the local aspects of the question to the United States Consul, he should suggest that information as to the facts to be submitted for arbitration would best be obtained in London through the American Ambassador. The Local officers recommend that before submitting our case demand for a list of the flag-holders should be pressed. I agree in this view.

R.

No. 531.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 30th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see my telegram dated the 10th October regarding Tibet. Colonel Younghusband's explanations were sent with the Foreign Secretary's weekly letter dated the 20th October. Following is the

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substance of our despatch, an advance copy of which was sent by the mail of the 27th October. Please see our despatch of the 6th October as regards defence of action in regard to Article VI of Agreement. We think that there is much force in the following pleas which have been put forward by Colonel Younghusband in explanation of his departure from Lhasa without giving effect to the wishes of His Majesty's Government:—

(*a*) The anxiety of the Military Authorities for departure before the setting in of the cold weather;

(*b*) The danger of exciting suspicion by continuing negotiations, in view of promise to depart;

(*c*) The difficulty of changing plans at the last moment;

(*d*) The fruitlessness of attempting further negotiations then;

(*e*) The friendliness since displayed by the Tibetan authorities showing that it was well-timed; and

(*f*) The general latitude due in the difficult circumstances of the case.

Other considerations seem to point even more to the strictures in your telegram of the 3rd October being unmerited.

In this connection please refer to your telegrams dated the 12th and 13th September; my telegram of the 14th September; your telegram of the 16th September, especially the last sentence from "but" to "already"; your telegram of the 18th September, purport of which was evidently concession to our wishes rather than instruction for Colonel Younghusband remaining at Lhasa.

The foregoing telegrams gave Colonel Younghusband considerable justification for thinking that he was not expected to remain at Lhasa for modification of the Agreement. Though we regret that his departure made it impossible to obtain the compensatory concessions we had suggested, we feel bound to accept his opinion as to the impossibility of carrying through the negotiations without friendly relations being impaired. It is important to remember that he had no instructions to reduce the amount of the indemnity without compensation which last was, in his judgment as man on the spot, impossible of attainment.

We trust that His Majesty's Government, while recognising the full merits of Colonel Younghusband's achievement, will not condemn him for one error of judgment, which, though admittedly serious, as involving the occupation of Chumbi for a period of 75 years in contravention of the undertaking of His Majesty's Government, was committed in circumstances which admit of generous condonation.

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R.

No. 532.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 30th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 26th October. Draft Tibet Trade Regulations and papers connected therewith will be sent with the Foreign Secretary's weekly letter going by the mail of the 3rd November.

R.

No. 533.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 30th October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Captain Rawling reports that the Gartok party arrived on the 22nd October at Poonchaling, a place 70 miles west of Shigatse. The party is well and have been well received. Ho-Kuang-Shi, late Chinese Commissioner, has arrived at Darjeeling *en route* to China, and reports that, owing to the action of the Amban in keeping Tibetan prostitutes, there was a disturbance at Lhasa, in which some 15 Tibetans and 5 Chinese were killed. It is said that in consequence there is great ill-feeling between the Tibetans and the Chinese, and that some Chinese traders have left.

Repeated to Sir E. Satow.

R.

No. 534.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 31st October 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 24th October 1904 regarding Tibet. We have consulted Colonel Younghusband and see no reason to alter the opinion we have already expressed in regard to Article IX and the inapplicability to Tibet of treaties between China and other Powers.

As you intend that the Adhesion Agreement should be negotiated at Peking, I suggest that as Mr. Wilton's services will be most valuable to Sir Ernest Satow he should proceed to Peking at once.

Repeated to Sir E. Satow.

R.

No. 535.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 31st October 1904, 5-50 p. m.

Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 27th instant. Our total requirements are as given in our Despatches Nos. 54 dated 28th April 1904

and 84 dated 16th June 1904. In the event of war occurring the following will be required as a first instalment and the remainder as quickly as possible :—

104,000 emergency rations.
25 million rounds small arms ammunition.
30,000 rifles and bayonets.
100 maxim guns with tripod mountings.
400,000 lbs tinned meat.
100,000 lbs Maconchie's rations.
35,000 lbs condensed milk.
150,000 lbs Cavendish tobacco.
99,000 lbs cocoa.
473,000 lbs potatoe slices.
169,000 lbs pickles.
1,000 ponies.
10,000 mules.

As we are most anxious not to incur this expenditure we are desirous of a further reference being made before we are committed to it.

R.

No. 536.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 1st November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see Mr. Grant-Duff's telegram dated the 27th October to the Foreign Office, London. Meshed-Seistan telegraph line. His Britannic Majesty's Consul, Seistan, also asserts on the authority of the Persian Telegraph Master that Russians at Meshed are intended as linesmen for the Meshed-Seistan line. I think that in view of the assurance given to Sir A. Hardinge by the Mushir-ed-Dowlah last March, we should decline to acquiesce in the transfer of the line to the Russians, if this is really contemplated, and that the Persian Government should be told that wherever Russia posts a signaller we shall place an European signaller also. We trust that if it is confirmed that Russia is to be allowed to construct a line *viâ* Kuchan to Meshed, His Majesty's Minister, Tehran, may be instructed again to press strongly for consent to our linking up the line from Seistan to Koh-i-Malik Siah and from Henjam to Bunder Abbas.

Repeated to Mr. E. Grant-Duff, Tehran.

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R.

No. 537.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 2nd November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Alleged Afghan encroachments at Musabad. Please see the enclosures of the Foreign Secretary's weekly letters of the 22nd and 30th June 1904. The chance of serious complications on this frontier has caused us anxiety for some time past and this is increased by the failure of His Highness the Amir to reply to our letters and also by the report received from our Karez Agent that the Russian Captain Yass is concerning himself with the dispute. It has now been reported that the Governor-General of Khorasan has made a proposal to the Persian Government that we should be moved to depute an officer to define the boundary. Although I am most reluctant to intervene on that Frontier, yet if danger of collision that might be serious is to be averted, I see no alternative but to do so.

If you agree, I now propose to instruct Mr. Dane to explain the situation to His Highness the Amir and to request His Highness to depute a representative in the spring to meet a Persian representative on the spot in the presence of a selected British Officer, to whom both parties would submit the case. The British Officer would then draw up proposals in due form and submit them to Persian and Afghan Governments through Sir Arthur Hardinge and the Government of India. When these are accepted he would proceed to demarcate the boundary. I should insist also that meanwhile the *status quo* should be strictly maintained.

Repeated to Chargé d' Affaires, Tehran.

R.

No. 538.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 2nd November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Karun Irrigation. Please see my telegram† of the 18th September 1904. It is estimated that the necessary survey of Arabistan will cost approximately £300 a month for six months in addition to the pay and allowances of the Engineer.

†[Note.—This telegram was not printed.]

R.

No. 539.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 3rd November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Russian military activity. On the 31st October the Consul-General in Meshed reported that work was still continuing at high

pressure on the Central Asian Railway; in addition the lines to Karshi from Bokhara and Samarcand were being pushed on hurriedly and already considerable progress had been made; south of Karshi construction had not yet begun; a thousand men from Samarcand were being sent to increase the garrison of Patta Kesar; considerable quantities of ammunition from Europe continue to arrive at Krasnovodsk.

No. 540.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 4th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Your telegram 17th October. *Baron Inverdale.* Endeavour being made to secure compensation but amount recoverable probably small.

No. 541.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 5th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to my telegram dated the 25th October. The local authorities deprecate placing the suppression of slave trade in Persia in the hands of the Belgian Customs officials. We concur in this view.

Repeated to E. M. Grant-Duff, Esq., and Major Cox.

R.

No. 542.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 5th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see Sir E. Satow's telegram dated the 1st November. If the action suggested is taken by China it will clearly indicate that hitherto Tibet was not an integral part of China proper, and that existing treaties with China cannot apply to it. Treaties already made with Tibet, such as those of Kashmir, Nepal, Bhutan and India, could not be affected by a change in her status and it might be desirable to be prepared to make an intimation to this effect to the Chinese Government. The fact that the Tibet Convention of the 7th September 1904 is still unratified, would not invalidate that Convention as regards Tibet, since ratification is unilateral, but, if there is likelihood of China taking action as suggested, it might be well to ratify Convention before date mentioned.

Repeated to H. B. M.'s Minister in China.

R.

No. 543.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 5th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Seistan Arbitration. Please refer to Colonel McMahon's letter of 25th September 1904 which was forwarded with Secretary's letter of 13th October. We do not consider it desirable to do anything that may give birth to any idea that the Persians have any claim to extend irrigation by channels to be constructed through Afghan territory. Moreover the Persian Government insisted that the decision in the present case should be in accordance with General Goldsmid's award and we prefer to confine the award to this. Award B therefore seems the most suitable with the following modifications:—Omit paragraph 4 of the preliminary remarks and prefix to paragraph 5 the following sentence: *Begins.* Unfortunately of recent years whatever may have been the cause and whether that was due to the change in the course of the main stream or to more strained relations, the amicable settlement of water difficulties has been found to be no longer possible. *Ends.* In paragraph 8 before words "further laid down" enter "after consulting General Goldsmid". The rest of clause should run as in Award A.

In paragraph 10 C instead of "Bander-i-Kamal Khan" read "Band-i-Kohak." Omit the last section of clause 2 of award from Seistan on and clauses 3 and 4.

This is proposed as it is useless to attempt to prevent the diversion by the Afghans of all the water between Bunder-i-Kamal Khan and Band-i-Kohak as they might do this further up-stream at Kala-i-Bist or elsewhere and it is undesirable to give the Persians any voice in matters outside their own boundary. The difficulty will be to ensure that Persian Seistan receives one-third of supply that at present reaches Band-i-Kohak and the only way of securing this will be to appoint an expert irrigation officer as suggested by Colonel McMahon. We trust that his proposals in this respect will be approved.

But it is a great question if Goldsmid's award renders it necessary to give Persia more than enough water for existing irrigation 141,000 acres for which less than one-fifth of Helmund would be sufficient: as however owing to change in main channel most of Helmund water now passes through Persian Seistan and as area commanded by existing Persian channels amounts to 460,800 acres of which, on existing system of cultivation, whereby half area lies fallow each year, 230,400 acres could be irrigated and cultivated, we think that one-third of the water might be allotted to Persians but this is the absolute maximum, and should only be given if award is accepted in its integrity. If you concur we would inform McMahon that award to this effect would not be open to objection from our point of view and that he can announce it when demarcation which Amir has formally authorized is completed provided that political *status quo* in Seistan is not threatened, in which case he should refer to us for orders.

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No. 544.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 5th November 1904, 10-30 a. m.

Reinforcements for India. Please see your secret telegram of the 2nd November on this subject. As Defence Committee are aware, it is estimated by the Commander-in-Chief that after supplying the units to complete the ninth division, reinforcements would be required at least to the extent of the units of two Cavalry brigades and eight Infantry Divisions, besides drafts to repair wastage. In view of the fact that the Orenburg-Tashkend line is now complete we concur with the Commander-in-Chief, and we agree with him that the following should be the order in which the reinforcements should be prepared for despatch:—

Firstly.—Three battalions of Infantry to complete the ninth division; three battalions of trained Mounted Infantry, and as many as possible of the officers mentioned in the concluding clause of our telegram of the 8th January last.

Secondly.—Following as soon as possible after the above:—

Units—
Infantry, 16 Battalions,
Cavalry, 4 Regiments,
Mounted Infantry, 3 Battalions,
Horse Artillery, 1 Battery,
Field Artillery, 6 Batteries,
Railway Engineers, 2 Companies,
Telegraph Engineers, 2 Divisions,

Drafts—
Infantry Reservists, 10,000,
Cavalry Reservists, 1,000,
Artillery Reservists, 1,500,

with due proportion of officers and the remainder of the officers that were mentioned in the concluding clause of our telegram of the 8th January last.

Thirdly.—

Units—
Battalions, Infantry, 16,
Regiments, Cavalry, 3,
Battery Horse Artillery, 1,
Batteries Field Artillery, 6,

Drafts—
Infantry, 10,000,
Cavalry, 1,000,
Artillery, 1,500,

with due proportion of officers.

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Fourthly.—
The remainder of the organised units and drafts as may be required by developments.

R.

No. 545.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
P * Telegram, 6th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. My telegram 16th October. A report has been received from the Herat Agent that another letter, from either the Governor of Askabad or Khushk, has reached the hands of the Governor and that he sent it at once to Kabul. Its contents are unknown.

No. 546.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
P * Telegram, 7th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to the telegrams dated the 2nd November, from His Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, Tehran, regarding the attack made by Lurs on Major Douglas and Lieutenant Lorimer. Details of the incident have not yet been received by us, but we suggest that the opportunity should not be lost of pressing the institution of a Persian force commanded by British officers similar to the Russian Cossack Brigade. In connection with the assault on Tanfield, a similar proposal was suggested by Sir H. M. Durand, *vide* Despatch dated the 14th August 1896. A precedent for securing substantial concessions as the result of an outrage on a British official in China is afforded by the Chifu Convention. On the occasion of Graves' murder in 1898, Indian troops were sent to Jask and Charbar and they still remain on Persian soil. His Majesty the Shah might, in order to avoid a similar result in the present instance, agree to the suggested Anglo-Persian force, or to the road guards scheme which is at present under consideration. If the present outrage is the work of a stray gang, punitive measures taken by the Persian Government will need watching in order that indiscriminate reprisals should not embitter the good relations which have been established with the leading Lur Chiefs by Lieutenant Lorimer.
Repeated to His Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, Tehran.

R.

No. 547.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
P * Telegram, 8th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. The Government of India understand from the *Aide-Memoire* dated the 20th October and from your telegram dated the 28th

October that it is intended that a formal Treaty and subsidiary Agreement should be secured. The Treaty is intended to contain a broad statement of the foundations of our policy towards Afghanistan and of our relations with Amir personally and to recapitulate his promise to have no political relations with any foreign power except the British and to follow our advice in his relations with such powers and our contingent promise to give him assistance against unprovoked aggression. The subsidiary Agreement should deal in some detail with various matters set forth in the *Aide-Memoire* and include a promise to allow Amir to purchase arms to reasonable extent, from British firms of repute, and to import these through India and to pay him 18½ lakhs a year so long as he fully observes the conditions of the Treaty and Agreement.

The instructions on two main issues are not very clear, *viz.*, the freedom of military action to be secured for us in Afghanistan and the prevention of direct relations between the Amir and Russia. Paragraph 11 of *Aide-Memoire* and telegram of 28th October contemplate our giving military support in Afghanistan and securing the right to examine the country between Herat and Kabul, for which we should prefer to substitute northern and western frontiers and Kabul. We presume that, if possible, the general treaty should contain a provision, securing to us the right to enter the country with military force when it becomes in our opinion necessary to repel aggression and after full consultation with the Amir, and binding him to aid our operations in or on frontiers of Afghanistan, but assuring him against any interference in his internal administration and of withdrawal of force when our purpose is accomplished. Otherwise Treaty will be of little practical use except possibly as means of glossing over present difficulty.

The prevention of direct relations with Russia is said to be the cardinal feature of the Agreement, but beyond recapitulation of the former pledge no special measures are suggested for securing this object. The only way in which such communications come to our knowledge is through our News-Agent at Herat unless there happens to be British Officer on the Afghan frontier or unless the Amir chooses to send us a particular letter. We consider that it is unsafe to trust to our previous sources of information now that Russia has taken over the direct administration of Roshan and Shignan and is about to construct a railway to Termez. If His Majesty's Government are not prepared to press for the appointment of British Officers on the northern frontier as suggested in our Despatch of 27th October, unless the absolute concurrence of the Amir can be secured, we would suggest that at least an attempt should be made to obtain the Amir's consent to the deputation of native news-writers, or commercial agents as we would prefer to call them, to Maimena, Mazar-i-Shariff and Faizabad, who should be consulted by local Afghan Governors about all such communications as in spite of the efforts of His Majesty's Government the local Russian Officers may still send.

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Our intention in making these suggestions is not however to issue hard-and-fast directions to our representative, but rather to indicate to him the objects towards which his negotiations should tend, if the Amir proves amenable. He will of course report to us from time to time what the Amir's views are and how far he is likely to obtain his consent to the various points mentioned and the final draft of the treaty and Agreement will depend on these reports.

R.

No. 548.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 8th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Kabul Mission. Please refer to paragraph 7 of our Secret Despatch, 200-Frontier, dated 27th October. I should be glad if you would instruct me, as soon as possible, whether I may empower Dane to propose to the Amir that His Highness should formally request that our Consuls should extend protection to Afghans abroad, if he thinks that proposal is likely to meet with a favourable reception.

No. 549.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 8th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram, dated the 24th August 1904, regarding flag-Staffs on the island of Musandim. I should be glad to be informed whether flags should be hoisted occasionally or whether, when required, they should be Union Jacks or blue ensigns? It is understood that by former only British domination is expressed.

R.

No. 550.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 9th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Telegrams dated 8th instant from Commandant, Khyber Rifles, report that Mr. Fleischer, a German in the employ of the Amir, was shot dead near Dakka afternoon 7th, while on his way to India, by the Duffadar of the Afghan Guard, with whom Khassadars say he quarrelled. Four Afghan Khassadars who arrived Landi Kotal on 7th said Fleischer had shot himself, but this is contradicted by later information, and Sarhang is said to have imprisoned the whole of escort. No letter received yet from Sarhang. Am informing Amir and instructing Political Agent to write to Sarhang requesting that body be sent in at once.

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R.

No. 551.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 10th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Kabul Mission. A cordial letter has been received from the Amir in which he agrees to the Mission starting on the 25th and expresses his pleasure at Mr. Dane's appointment and his conviction that whatever discussions and settlements may take place in conference with him will be for the advantage of both Governments and bring about that speedy settlement which he is most desirous to secure. He explains that his reasons for mentioning a small retinue was his wish to prove to his own people and to strangers the perfect friendship and confidence between both Governments and for this purpose also he is sending his own son. He now agrees that the retinue shall be of the same strength as that which accompanied Durand. He has appointed the General of the Eastern District to escort Mission and hopes the Mission will excuse the deficiencies in the uniform and equipment of his troops as the funds for purchase of these had not been received. Still he thanks God that his troops have the courage and numerical strength which will render them of real value in the face of the enemy.

R.

No. 552.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 11th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Fleischer. Your telegram 9th November. I sent an urgent message to the Amir expressing regret at the death of his employé, deploring the grave crime and asking for further particulars. I cannot fairly do more than that at present. It would be most unwise to assume that the Amir will not punish the offenders of his own accord, or to make any suggestion to him until we know the facts. It should be remembered that we were in no way responsible for Fleischer who was the Amir's servant and took all risks in going to Afghanistan.

R.

No. 553.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 11th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Violation of the Amiri boundary. Please let Bombay Government letter No. 6540, dated the 24th October 1904, which was sent with Foreign Secretary's letter No. 44-M., dated the 3rd November 1904, be considered as cancelled. A letter based on information which was received subsequently will be substituted for it.

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R.

No. 554.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
P * Telegram, 11th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. I have ratified the Convention in accordance with your instructions and, as suggested, sent a friendly letter to the Lhasa authorities. Please let me know your wishes as regards the publication of the Convention and the Declaration annexed to it. In order that we may publish simultaneously shall I telegraph the full text of the latter to you?

R.

No. 555.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
P * Telegram, 12th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegrams of the 3rd and 9th November. An experienced Engineer could, by mere inspection, say whether weir site is suitable and whether tract is fertile and lend itself to irrigation, but, he could not, without a rough survey for which our estimate allowed, say what area would be commanded, nor if the scheme is one which would justify complete investigation and execution. If Sir A. Hardinge sees no objection we think it far preferable to make such a rough survey; but this would not fit in with Lord Lansdowne's idea of a fortuitous visit.

Repeated to His Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, Tehran.

R.

No. 556.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
P * Telegram, Rawalpindi, 13th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram of the 12th November regarding Tibet. My telegram No. 2980-E. B. of the 10th September communicated in full to Colonel Younghusbad, the text of the draft Trade Regulations and my telegram of the 15th September prefixed a preamble to regulations and instructed Colonel Younghusband to add to the draft if necessary and to tell the Tibetans that if they accepted and signed the regulations he would recommend leniency as regards the indemnity. All the papers relating to the Trade Regulations, including the above telegrams, were despatched with the Foreign Secretary's letter of the 3rd November, and by next mail they will reach you.

R.

No. 557.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
* Telegram, 16th November 1904.

I have received the following telegram, dated the 15th November 1904, from Lieutenant Muspratt, Adjutant, Khyber Rifles:—

Begins. Abdul Karim Khan, who murdered Fleischer, was sent back to Dakka from Jallalabad and was shot there this morning by Amir's orders. Information reliable as Khyber Rifle sowars were present at execution. *Ends.*

R.

No. 558.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, Srinagar, 16th November 1904.

Foreign. Secret. Please see your telegram of the 11th November concerning the American traveller Nicholls. The principle which we have adopted for the present is to permit no travellers to proceed into Tibet beyond our trade mart at Gyantse; to do so would be a distinct violation of the spirit of the Convention and would be regarded by the Tibetans as a breach of faith. We cannot give right to foreigners which is denied to British subjects. The subject of permits will be taken up on publication of treaty.

No. 559.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 18th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see your telegram of the 14th November, Mr. Fleischer was buried with due solemnity in Peshawar cemetry by Chaplain, Peshawar, on the 10th of November.

No. 560.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 19th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. On the 17th November Captain O'Connor reported from Gyantse that there are persistent rumours that the Tibetans intend to recommence hostilities, that all the Military Officers have been summoned to Shigatse to meet the Teling-Kusho, and that three buried cannons have been exhumed from a Jong and taken to Shigatse. Captain O'Connor says that he is well prepared for an attack and that no anxiety need be felt about the matter.

No. 561.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 19th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept., Camp.)

Foreign. Secret. Koweit. Please refer to your telegram dated the 11th November 1904. With the greatest regret I view the communication made to the Turks by His Majesty's Government that the appointment of Political Agent at Koweit is not permanent. This is a complete surprise to me in view of the circumstances which necessitated a revival of the proposal in May 1903, and

recent communications. The withdrawal of our Agent at Koweit will involve complete alienation of Sheikh Mubarak, who is already doubtful of the value of our friendship, and who with his friend Binsaud, will probably yield repeated overtures to the Turks. This will mean not merely the extension of the Turkish dominion down the Persian Gulf, but the exposure of Koweit to the advances of Foreign Powers. We have already reported to you the rumour that a proposal had been made to the Sheikh to receive French and Russian Agents. I would therefore strongly urge that the withdrawal of Captain Knox should be postponed at any rate until our position with Mubarak and at the head of the Persian Gulf is strong enough to permit such a step being taken without disastrous results, which must now ensue. I am firmly convinced that if our Agent is now withdrawn he will never return, as to resume our present favourable position next time we shall have to face not only the opposition of Turkey, but also that of Germany.

No. 562.] Viceroy to Secretary of State. (Finance Dept.)

Telegram, 19th November 1904.

Your telegram of the 4th instant. Presidency Banks. We have not consulted the Exchange Banks, and do not consider it necessary to do so specially. They and the Chambers of Commerce will have an opportunity of expressing their views when the Bill is introduced. They are not bankers in true sense and are not more interested than many large commercial firms doing financial business. The Chambers would probably resent the Exchange Banks being separately consulted when they were not, and we therefore deprecate the action suggested by you. Should you decide upon referring to the Exchange Banks, we trust we shall receive orders in time to pass the Bill in the Calcutta session. We should greatly regret having to postpone it for another year.

R.

No. 563.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 20th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Telegram from Colonel McMahon states that the demarcation of the straight line from Koh-i-Malik Siah to Kuhak was completed on the 18th November.

R.

No. 564.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 21st November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to Sir E. Satow's telegram No. 237 to Lord Lansdowne, and to your telegram of the 14th November, regarding Tibet.

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The Chinese Government might be asked to say when Tang may be expected in India.

We suggest a reply being sent to Prince Ching, that the Secretary of the Indian Foreign Department will be happy to meet Tang at Calcutta till March, or thereafter at Simla, for negotiations.

Repeated to the Foreign Secretary with His Excellency the Viceroy, Viceroy's Camp.

R.

No. 565.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 23rd November 1904, 6 p. m. (Despd. for Mily. Dept.)

With reference to your secret telegram of the 28th September, employment has been found for all the Madras Command Staff except Surgeon-General Hay, I. M. S., and Brigadier-General Hepburne, R. A. Lord Kitchener proposes that the former should be permitted to retire forthwith on pension, admissible in May next, and that the latter should revert to half pay. The Commander-in-Chief is also anxious to make the *ad interim* redistribution as complete as possible, and proposes, therefore, to create, at once, the following additional appointments: 3 Colonels on Staff, 11 Brigade-Majors and 3 second class Station Staff Officers, the extra expenditure involved, until General Egerton is absorbed, being Rs. 47,400 annually. The proposal is approved by us and I shall be glad if you will sanction it.

R.

No. 566.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, Viceroy's Camp, 23rd November 1904.

Foreign. Secret. Our despatch, of which an advance copy was sent to you by mail of 19th November, answers your telegram of 17th November. With respect to the draft Treaty we notice in the first place that His Majesty's Government, in contrast to all former engagements with Afghanistan, contemplate that all Treaties shall be signed by Governor-General. We suggest in the circumstances, which seem to preclude signature by Viceroy, the Treaty should be signed by the British Envoy according to precedents, and ratified by the Viceroy. Second, as the omission in the Treaty of the name of the Amir might be interpreted as making the Treaty dynastic or perpetual, we suggest addition of name after every mention of the Amir in the Treaty. Third, the draft apparently contemplates that the Treaty should be between the British Government and the Amir direct, instead of through the Government of India. We should

prefer to follow precedents of former Treaties and make the Government of India and the Amir the only parties to the Treaty; otherwise the Amir might hereafter advance a claim for direct relations with His Majesty's Government. Fourth, we suggest the addition of a clause binding the Amir to offer no objection and to assist in measures entailed on the British Government in repelling unprovoked aggression, also an allusion, in the same clause, to the possibility of British troops entering Afghanistan for such purpose without interfering in internal administration, and returning to India as soon as purpose is accomplished. In paragraph 10 of *Aide-Memoire* we observe that discussion of the form which our assistance is to take should be avoided. We venture to point out that the Amir is almost certain himself to refer to question whether British troops should enter Kabul and some discussion of this matter seems therefore inevitable. Indeed, as the Treaty is to contain a promise of assistance and the Amir is to be carefully sounded as to the admission of British Officers into Northern Afghanistan to report on the military features of the country, it follows that aid by British troops is contemplated. We conclude, therefore, that the clause which we have suggested does not contravene instructions quoted and are strongly of opinion that it should be entered in Treaty as a proof of our good faith, unless strong objections are raised by the Amir. Besides, if His Highness repeats his view that British troops shall not enter Afghanistan and this point is passed over by Mr. Dane without discussion, the Amir will be entitled hereafter to argue that silence gave consent, and the results of complications and delays might be fatal. We think, therefore, we should at all events express our views on the point and, if the Amir is favourable, embody them in the Treaty. With respect to subordinate form of Agreement which is suggested in paragraph 14 of the *Aide-Memoire*, we propose the inclusion of the following additions to matters mentioned in the *Aide-Memoire*: namely, first, that news-writers be posted at Maimena, Mazar-i-Sharif, and Faizabad, where it is most important to have them for the purpose of watching Russian proceedings. From your telegram of November 18th we understand that there will be no objection to this matter being mentioned and we think this should certainly be done if Amir shows a disposition to agree, as in no other way can information of Russian intrigues in Afghanistan be secured; second, that the Government of India, after due consultation with the Amir, shall be entitled to send British Officers, not exceeding 5 in number all at once, from time to time as may be desirable, to report or advise in conjunction with officers of the Amir upon the strategical defensive features of the country between Western and Northern Frontiers of Afghanistan and Kabul; third, that British Officers, as hitherto, from time to time, as may be necessary, shall be permitted to proceed to the frontiers of Afghanistan to settle in concert with officials of the Amir, disputes likely to lead to complications with Foreign Powers or to disturb the mutual relations of the Government of India and the Amir; fourth, that representations

concerning minor border disputes may be made by our Agent at Kabul and the Amir's Agent in India reciprocally. Separate instructions are being issued to Mr. Dane about the removal of the outlaws from the vicinity of the frontier, Donald's settlement border case, and the Mohmand tolls on the Amir's timber. With reference to your telegram of the 16th instant about Amir's co-operation on the Helmand, Mr. Dane may be instructed that the co-operation should take the form of allowing us a right of way along the Helmand from Chagai. Subject to foregoing remarks we have at present no other suggestions to make as to points for discussion at Kabul, in addition to those mentioned in the *Aide-Memoire* received with your despatch of the 21st October.

No. 567.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, Camp, 24th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see my telegram of the 6th November. Minchin telegraphs on the 15th November that letter referred to was from Governor of Shaikh Junaid saying Russian authorities had heard of arrest by Governor of Herat of certain Afghan thieves and demanded return of three rifles which they stole from Russian territory. Herat Agent reported that same Russian officer has sent Herat authorities list of debts due to Russian traders by Afghan subjects and that the Governor of Herat is making the Afghans pay. *Ends.*

No. 568.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 24th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see my telegram of the 19th November. O'Connor reports on the 20th November that he does not think there is any cause to fear resumption of hostilities. His opinion is that the Tibetan Generals are reconstituting their regiments probably with a view to customary exactions.

No. 569.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, Camp, 24th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. A letter has been received from the Amir dated the 11th November to Mr. Dane acknowledging his letter of 28th October. Cordially welcomes his appointment. Argues that forthcoming discussion while beneficial to Afghanistan will be ten times more beneficial to British Government. Help and sympathy extended by latter to Japan have broken legs of adversary, whose body Amir would gladly cut down when given sword by person who would gain

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fame by such gift. Praises, obviously for imitation in Afghanistan, British policy of assisting instead of taking possession of Japan, as saving British work of opposing adversary and producing beneficial results. Arranges two days' halt for Mission at Jalalabad so its arrival at Kabul may be one day after national holiday.

No. 570.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, Camp, 26th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see my telegram of the 4th November. S. S. *Innerdale.* The Political Agent, Maskat, reports now that of four responsible tribes one is too poor to pay compensation and two are inaccessible without extended operations. To exact compensation from one tribe only would, in our opinion, be a confession of weakness on the Sultan's part in regard to portion of his dominions where it is specially important to strengthen his authority and to prevent driving local Sheikhs into arms of French. The Sultan, who has already been subjected to heavy expense in case, would resent paying compensation out of his own pocket. On this ground, and in view of reparation already made, we trust His Majesty's Government will agree that question of compensation may be allowed to drop.

No. 571.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 26th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see my telegram of the 24th November. O'Connor reports on the 23rd that Lhasa Abbot has personally explained that all local troops were summoned to Shigatse to ascertain extent of recent losses and to enroll fresh men, and begged that we should not impute any hostile significance to this proceeding as nothing was further from their thoughts than a resumption of hostilities.

No. 572.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, Camp, 26th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign Secret. It is reported by the Political Agent, Maskat, that the *Sphinx*, which left on the 22nd with Shakespear, returned on the 24th having erected flagstaffs on the isthmus between Elphinstone and Malcolm inlets, on Telegraph island and on Sheep island. No hitch whatever occurred.

No. 573.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
P * Telegram, Camp, 26th November 1904.

Foreign. Secret. Koweit. Please see your telegram of the 18th November. As directed by you Knox was ordered to proceed to Koweit in manner not to attract unnecessary attention. With regard to the specific complaints of the Turkish Government, Trevor telegraphs that Knox has no sepoys, that he engaged Abdullah only as Arabic teacher, that he does not enter into relations other than social with natives, and does not interfere in the administration. We might add that Knox was directed by us to abstain even from offering advice to Sheikh Mubarak on Nejd affairs pending further instructions. As the accredited Agent of the Government of India and with the approval of the Sheikh he flies flag on telegraph staff on house. Further details can be supplied, by Cox, if necessary, on his return from tour after he has visited Koweit.

No. 574.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
P * Telegram, Camp, 26th November 1904.

Foreign. Secret. Koweit. Please see your telegram of the 21st November. Major Cox is being consulted as to date and manner of Knox's temporary withdrawal so as to give effect to the policy of His Majesty's Government and we will make proposals after receiving his suggestions.

The Sheikh of Koweit has again pressed Knox to tell him what advice he is to give Saud as to replying to Turkish advances. We propose maintaining instructions to give no opinion.

In view of contemplated departure of Knox it might re-assure the Sheikh if he could be told Turkish Government have promised to respect *status quo* in Nejd. Could not such a promise be made condition precedent to Knox's departure? This would be in accordance with general sense of your telegram of May 25th.

I also venture to suggest that in order to attain maintenance of *status quo* the removal of our Agent from Koweit might consistently be made conditional on removal from Babiyan of the Turkish military post.

No. 575.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
P * Telegram, Camp, 26th November 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see Mr. Grant-Duff's telegram of the 11th November reporting news from Consul, Resht. Movement of a quarter of a million troops may be dismissed as absurd. According to Military Attaché, Meshed, during the five weeks ending the 9th November under seven thousand men ordinary reliefs crossed Caspian from Baku as against slightly larger number returning westward through Krasnovodsk.

R.

No. 576.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 29th November 1904, 6 p. m. (Despd. for Mily. Dept.)

Please refer to your Secret telegram dated the 18th November on the subject of reinforcements.

First.—Both as regards units and drafts the basis of calculation is contained in a secret paper belonging to the Imperial Defence Committee. As the battalions for the ninth Division and the Mounted Infantry battalions have not yet been provided, they have necessarily been added. When our field army takes the field, one British Cavalry regiment, two Horse Artillery batteries, nine field batteries and nineteen British Infantry battalions will remain in India for internal defence. On the arrival of reinforcements, these seasoned units will take the field, and they will be replaced, by an equal number, from England or the Colonies. These numbers represent the units for garrison duty. The remainder will be required for the field.

Second.—All.

No. 577.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, Camp, 1st December 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see the trans-frontier Journal for October. There has been disturbance in Dir Agency consequent on the misconduct of Mian Gul Jan during the Chitral reliefs. Badshah Khan under orders of the Nawab of Dir besieged Mian Gul Jan in Mundah. Mian Gul escaped and induced the Nawab of Nawagai to join him. Fighting ensued on November 19th and the Nawab of Nawagai was defeated. Both sides called in allies and were prepared for further conflicts. Deane wrote to the Nawab of Nawagai that he must abstain from interference in the Dir family affairs under penalty of the severe displeasure of Government. The Nawab of Nawagai has retired: Mundah has surrendered to the Nawab of Dir and Mian Gul Jan has been taken by a jirga to the Nawab of Dir who sent him to Kohistan where he should not be able to give further trouble.

R.

No. 578.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 3rd December 1904.

Foreign. Secret. The Kabul Mission arrived on the 26th November at Dakka without any kind of hitch. They were met at Landi Kotal by the Sipah Salar Ghulam Husain, Muhammad Hasan Mehmandar, and the Sarhang of Dakka, with an escort of about 200 sowars, who accompanied them to Tor Kham, where a guard-of-honour of the Khyber Rifles was drawn up. The

Sipah Salar was cordial in his greetings to all the British officers. The Mission moved to camp Basawal on the 29th November and on the 30th November to Girdika, all well. They will halt at Jalalabad from the 2nd to the 4th December, reaching Kabul on the 12th idem.

No. 579.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
P * Telegram, 3rd December 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. The Amir, in a letter of November 24th, expresses pleasure at Lord Curzon's return and says that his son will reach Dakka on December 19th, and from that place his movements and stages will be as may be fixed by the Viceroy.

R.

No. 580.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
P * Telegram, Camp, 3rd December 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to our Despatch No. 217, Secret External, November 17th. Sir E. Satow enquires whether Tang may be furnished confidentially with English copies of Tibet Convention and Adhesion Agreement. May we give these and copy of ratification? Tang is expected in Calcutta at the end of January next.

No. 581.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
P * Telegram, 6th December 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to your telegram dated the 15th November 1904, regarding the Chinese Telegraph Convention. We are consulting the Government of Burma and will reply fully on receipt of the views of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.

No. 582.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
P * Telegram, 6th December 1904, 7-30 p. m.

Please see your telegram of the 17th November last about Opium. Our Financial Secretary's letter to India Office No. 3662 Exc., dated 9th June 1904, contained our views on China monopoly scheme.

No. 583.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.
Telegram, 8th December 1904.

Foreign. Kabul Mission left Jalalabad and arrived Baoli 5th December.

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No. 584.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 9th December 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please see your telegram of the 16th November regarding the Karun irrigation. Three Dutch Engineers are already on their way to make a regular survey of the Karun district for which purpose they intend to engage a large subordinate staff in Bombay and elsewhere. It has been ascertained that expert opinion is that an engineer unaided by surveyors and not permitted to make open use of instruments could do nothing worth doing, and that he would simply waste his time. If therefore the survey cannot be made properly and openly we would rather not send an engineer at all though we are convinced of the importance of securing British participation in the Karun irrigation scheme.

No. 585.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P* Telegram, 9th December 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Please refer to Sir E. Satow's telegram dated the 19th November regarding the Burma-China frontier. Please send a copy of the Foreign Office Despatch No. 200, therein cited, which has not been received here.

No. 586.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 9th December 1904. (Despd. from Mily. Dept.)

Your telegram dated 7th December. *Proserpine.* No objection.

R.

No. 587.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 10th December 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Foreign. Secret. Tibet. Please refer to your telegram dated the 7th December 1904. The text of the ratification is as follows :—

"This Convention was ratified by the Viceroy and Governor-General of India in Council at Simla on the eleventh day of November, A. D., one thousand nine hundred and four."

The text of the Declaration appended to the Convention is as follows:—

"His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, having ratified the Convention which was concluded at Lhasa on 7th September 1904 by Colonel Younghusband, C. I. E., British Commissioner for Tibet Frontier Matters, on behalf of His Britannic Majesty's Government; and by Lo-Sang Gyal-Tsen, the Ga-den Ti-Rimpoche, and the representatives of the Council, of the three monasteries Sera, Drepung, and Ga-den, and of the ecclesiastical and lay officials of the National Assembly, on behalf of the Government of Tibet, is pleased to direct as an act of grace that the sum of money which the Tibetan Government have bound themselves under the terms of Article VI of the said Convention to pay to His Majesty's Government as an indemnity for the expenses incurred by the latter in connection with the despatch of armed forces to Lhasa, be reduced from Rs. 75,00,000 to Rs. 25,00,000; and to declare that the British occupation of the Chumbi Valley shall cease after the due payment of three annual instalments of the said indemnity as fixed by the said Article, provided, however, that the trade marts as stipulated in Article II of the Convention shall have been effectively opened for three years as provided in Article VI of the Convention; and that, in the meantime, the Tibetans shall have faithfully complied with the terms of the said Convention in all other respects."

The question of the form of the Adhesion Agreement is being reconsidered.

Addressed to His Britannic Majesty's Minister at Pekin.

No. 588.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 10th December 1904, 4-15 p. m. (Despd. for Finl. Dept.)

Please refer to your telegram of the 7th instant on the subject of Opium. It is understood that the present discussion is informal, but I think it inadvisable to dispose of this important question by telegraphic correspondence. Until we know the details of the Chinese scheme, we are unable to say whether the condition which you propose would be suitable and sufficient.

No. 589.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 11th December 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Your telegram 23rd November. *Inverdale.* Political Agent, Maskat, reports that fact 13 Europeans were murdered at Maseirah is unquestionable. Local inhabitants unable to distinguish nationality and state all

were Englishmen. Suggest enquiry from men picked up by *Prome* as to occupants of each boat. Political Agent, Maskat, and Resident at Aden unable to obtain authentic information regarding fate of second boat, but former convinced she has been lost at sea. Enquiries being made from Karachi as to number of Englishmen on board when vessel sailed. Details as to crew corrected—*vide* enclosures to Foreign Secretary's letter 45-M., dated 10th November 1904.

No. 590.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

Telegram, 11th December 1904. (Despd. from Foreign Dept.)

Your telegram 1st December 1904. *Inverdale.* Report by Political Agent, Maskat, as to punishment inflicted forwarded with Foreign Secretary's letter 47-M., dated 24th November 1904.

R.

No. 591.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 11th December 1904, 3-40 p. m. (Despd. for Mily. Dept.)

Please refer to your secret telegram of the 26th November on the subject of reinforcements.

First.—The 3 battalions and other details which are mentioned under heading (1) should be sent when hostilities appear imminent.

The contingent under heading (2) should follow the above as soon as possible and should be landed in the country within two months from the outbreak of war. The contingent under heading (3) should be landed in the country within four months from the outbreak of war.

Second.—Please refer to my secret telegram of the 29th November in which the number of units that will be required for internal defence is stated. The remainder will be sent into the field.

Third.—Besides the two companies of Railway Engineers and two divisions of Telegraph Engineers required with the second contingent, the second and third contingents should each be accompanied by the Engineers prescribed for two infantry divisions in war establishments, namely, a total with each contingent of sixteen officers and 462 men.

Fourth.—For ammunition columns the following should be sent:—With each Horse Artillery Battery one officer, eighteen Non-commissioned officers and men, one store wagon, six ammunition wagons, one spare gun carriage and sixty horses. With each Brigade of Field Artillery four officers, fiftyseven

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Non-commissioned officers and men, one store wagon, eighteen ammunition wagons, one spare gun carriage and one hundred and sixty horses. One thousand rounds of ammunition per gun should accompany. Small arms ammunition columns are not required, but one thousand rounds per rifle should be sent with units. The second and third contingents should each be accompanied by the medical *personnel* prescribed in war establishments for two infantry divisions and one cavalry brigade and with complete equipments for ten British field hospitals according to the indents lodged with the India Office.

Fifth.—Cavalry and infantry drafts may be spread equally over all units.

Sixth.—See reply to above. All cavalry and infantry will be placed in the field except one regiment of cavalry and nineteen battalions of infantry which at first will remain behind for internal defence. But these latter will also take the field when relieved by reinforcing units. Hence all British units now in India will be at the front shortly after commencement of hostilities and will require drafts.

Seventh.—Yes.

Eighth.—Yes; the War Office assisting us to obtain horses and mules as may be found necessary.

Ninth.—The second and third contingents should each be accompanied by the *personnel* prescribed in war establishments for two infantry divisions and one cavalry brigade.

Tenth.—See above. The Supply *personnel* should be sent as proposed.

Eleventh.—Yes.

Twelfth.—No.

Thirteenth.—All troops should bring their arms, accoutrements, field service clothing of Indian pattern and equipments. Except the three infantry battalions in the first contingent, all units should also be accompanied with complete reserves of all kinds on the home scales, sufficient to meet requirements for one year.

Fourteenth.—Yes.

No. 592.] Viceroy to Secretary of State.

P * Telegram, 11th December 1904, 7 p. m. (Despd. for Mily. Dept.)

With reference to your telegram of 28th November, we will take as many maxims without mountings up to 243 as you can pay for. I shall be glad to know how many you can send.

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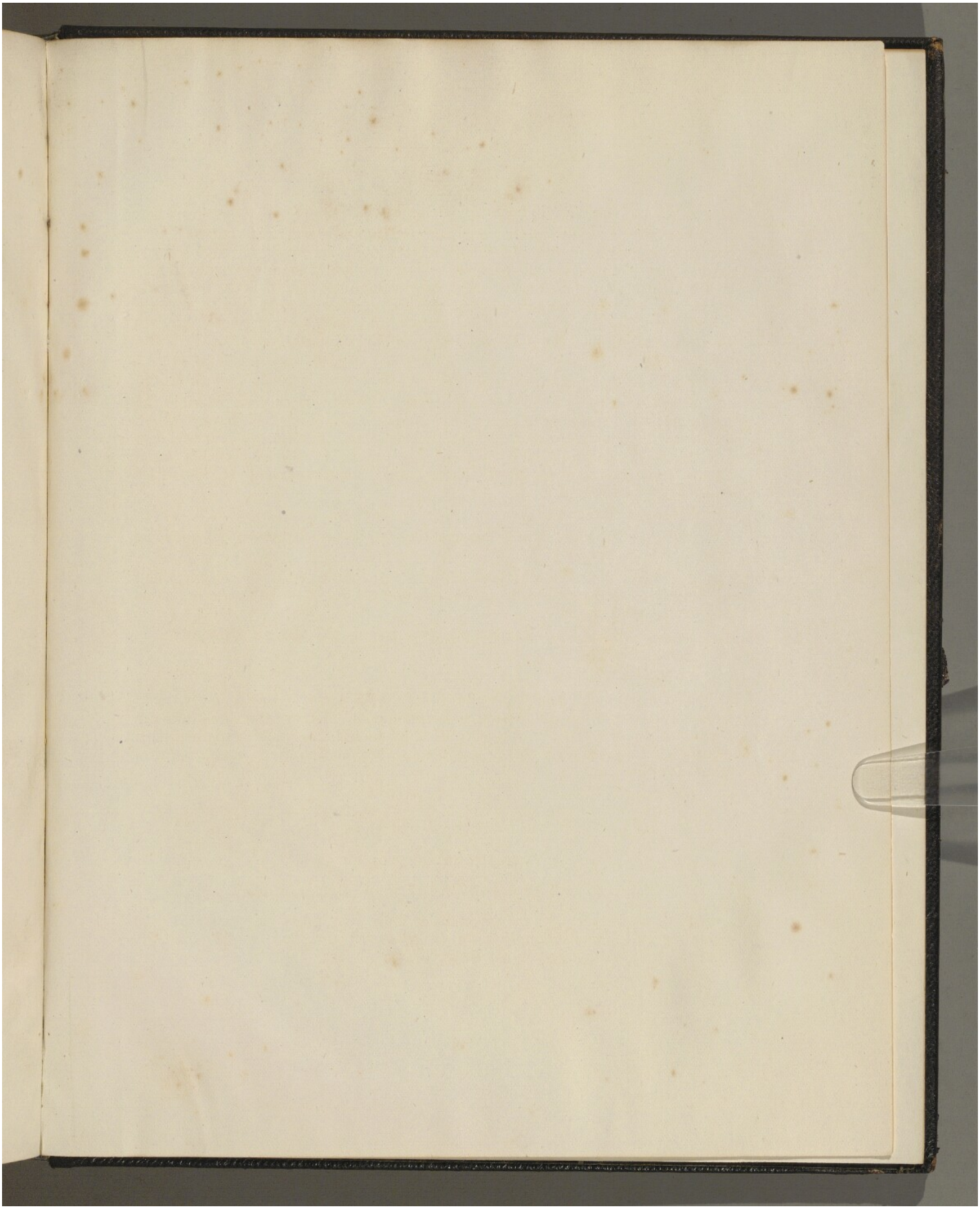

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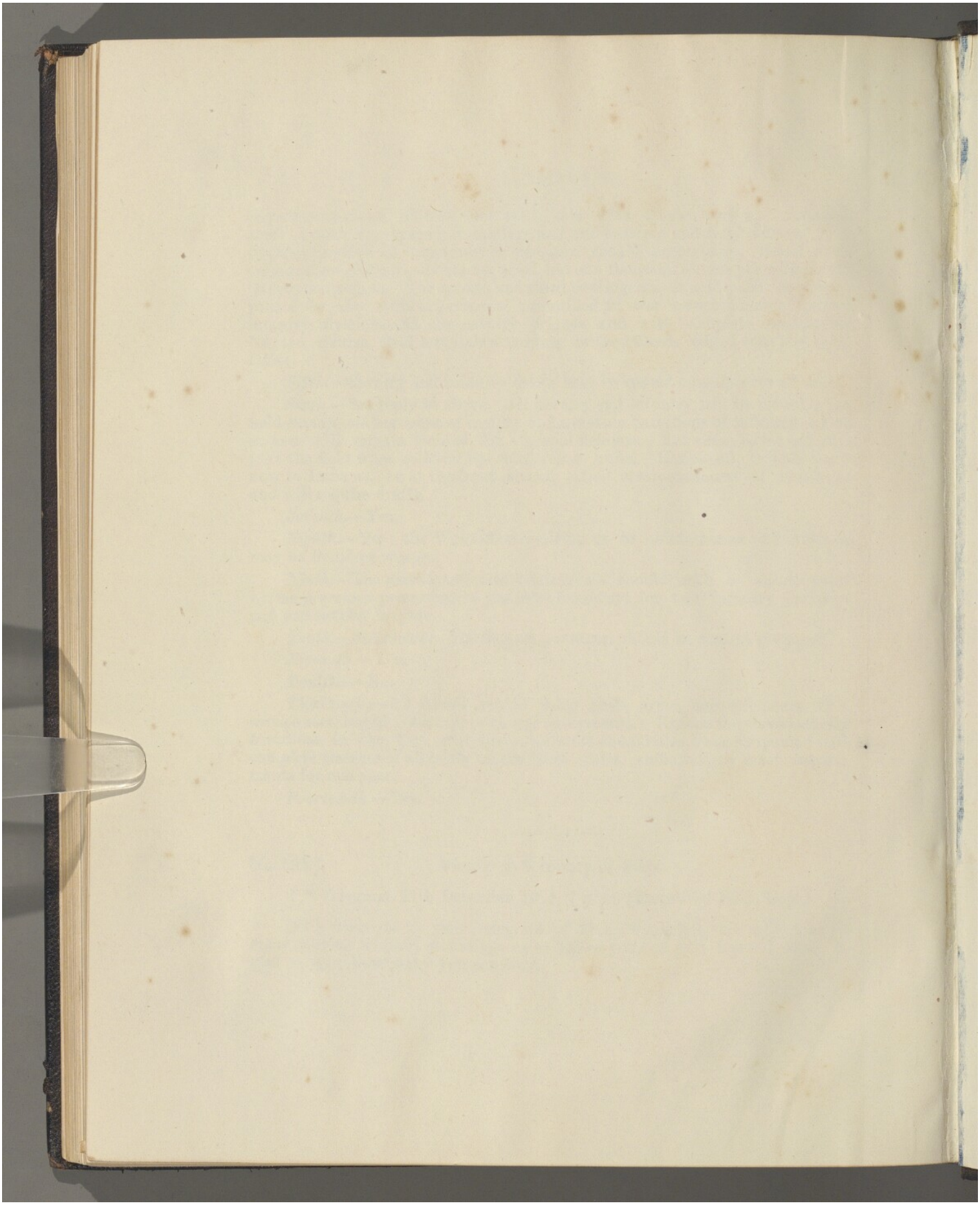

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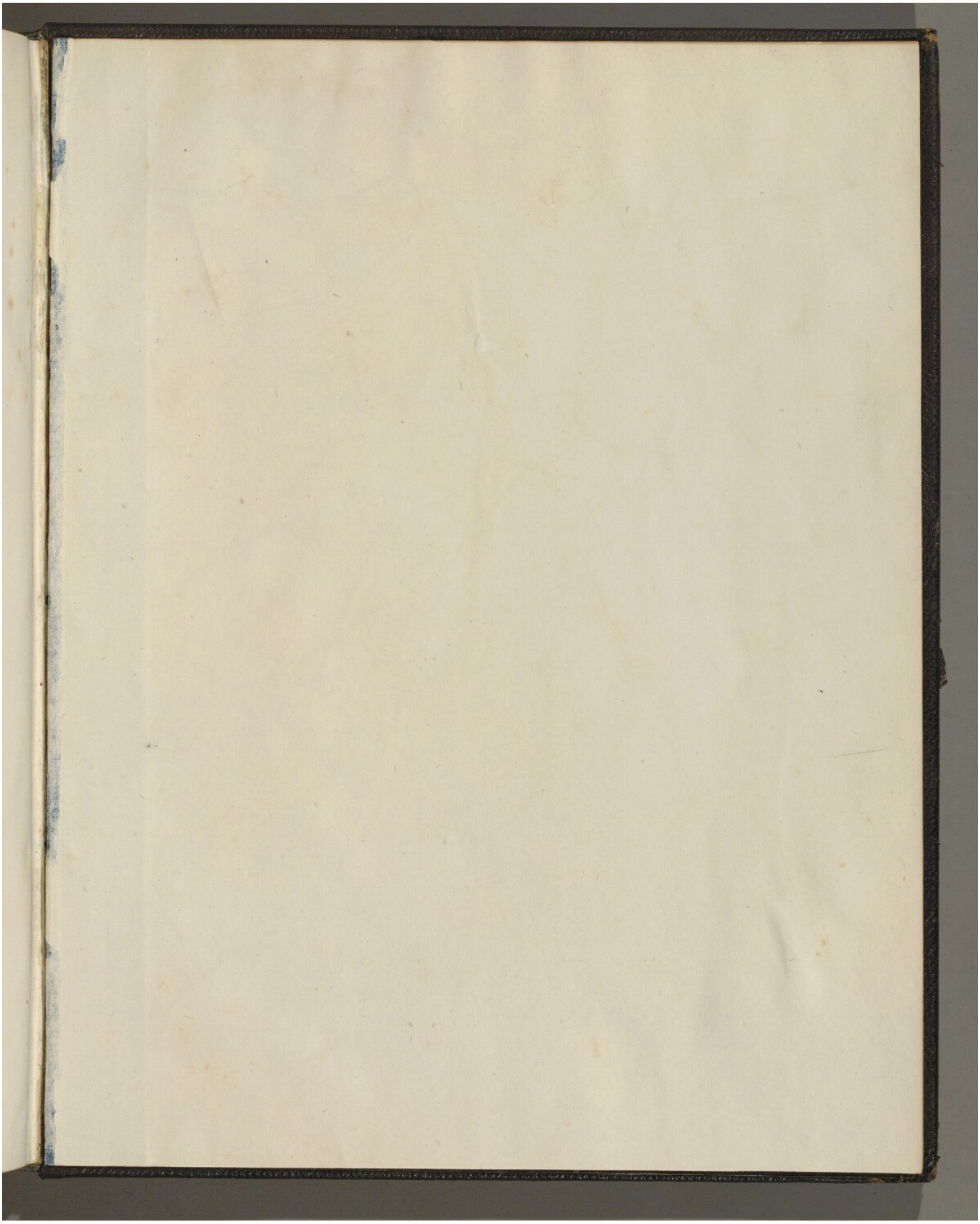

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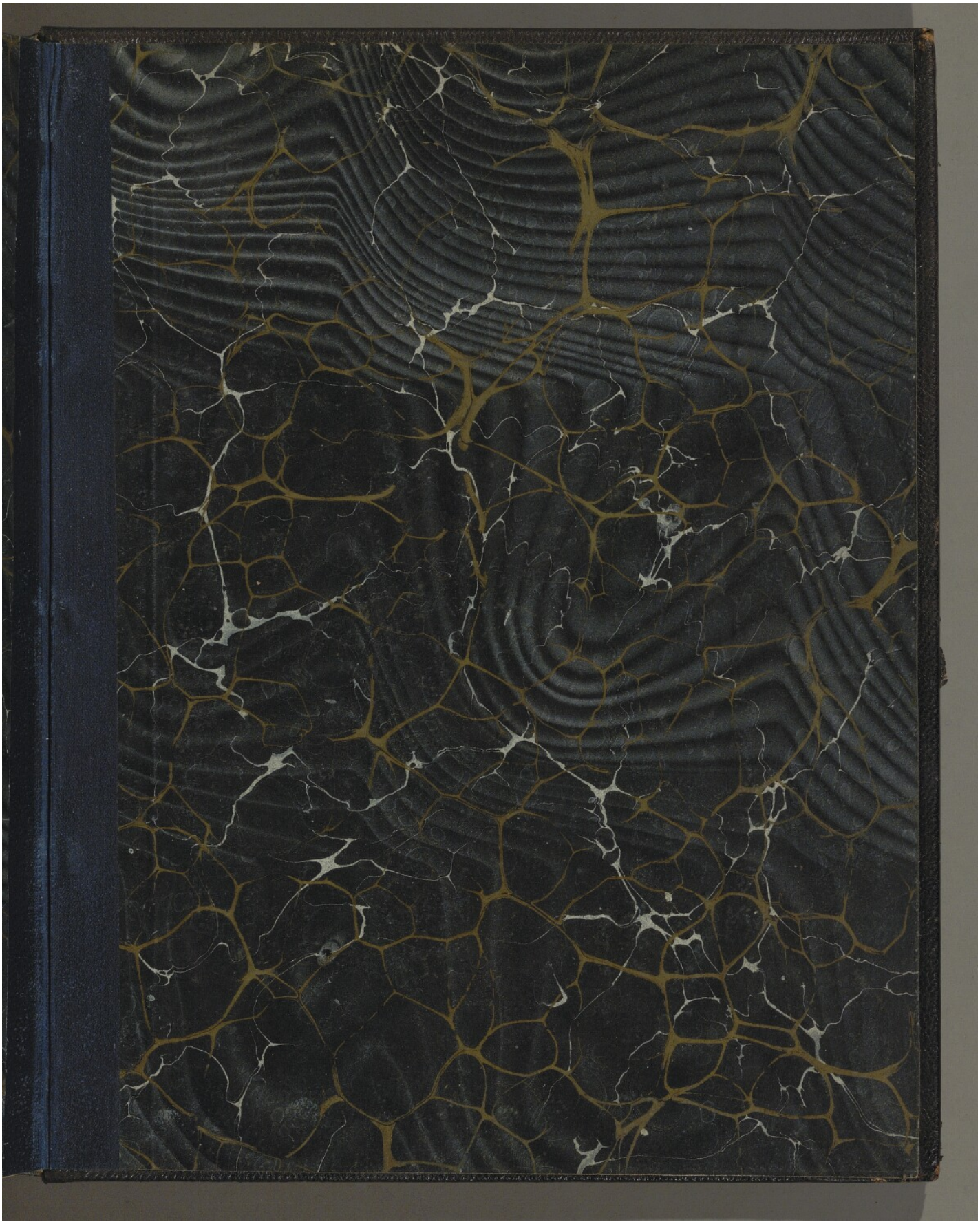

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