

This PDF was generated on 28/01/2022 from online resources of
the **Qatar Digital Library**

The online record can be viewed at:

http://www.qdl.qa/en/archive/81055/vdc_100000001524.0x00037b

It contains extra information, high resolution zoomable views and transcriptions.

Correspondence from Sir William Lockyer Merewether, Commissioner in Sind to Lewis Pelly, Political Resident in the Persian Gulf

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	Mss Eur F126/3
Date(s)	29 Nov 1865-08 May 1876 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 file, 38 items (118 folios)
Copyright for document	Open Government Licence



About this record

Letters from William Lockyer Merewether to Lewis Pelly discussing affairs in the Persian Gulf, Muscat, Kelat [Kalāt], Afghanistan, India, Europe and Britain.

Discussion on affairs in Muscat covers the period 1866 to 1872 and includes Syud Salem [Salim II bin Thuwaini]'s attempts to consolidate power as Sultan 1866-1868; Colonel Herbert Disbrowe, Political Agent at Muscat's actions whilst in post and his subsequent removal from there; and Torkee [Turki bin Said]'s attempts to consolidate his power as Sultan 1868-1872, including threats from Sheikh Nazir and Azzan bin Qais, and his eventual recognition by the British Government in 1871. Also discussed are ideas for the final separation of Muscat and Zanzibar including possible ways of settling the outstanding question of the Zanzibar Subsidy.

The situations at Gwadar [Gwadar] and Chabar [Chababar] are also discussed in the correspondence, with particular focus on Sheikh Nazir and Abd'al Aziz al-Said, both of whom held the position of Governor of Gwadar during this time, and also Abd'al Aziz's attempts at taking control of Chabar.

Affairs in the Persian Gulf are also discussed including the increase in trade in the region, the problems with the lack of available vessels of war; the handling of affairs in Bahrein [Bahrain] and Bunder Abbass [Bandar Abbas]; appointments to vacant positions in the Gulf and also focusing on the Persian Famine in 1871 with thoughts on the need for relief, the sickness and suffering being experienced, the failure of the Persian Government to react quickly to the situation, the lack of available grain and the high prices of Indian grain

for sale. The ongoing difficulty of relations with the Persian Government are also discussed, along with thoughts on the British representative at Tehran Charles Alison, and the desire for Persian relations to be handled by the Government of India instead of the Foreign Office.

There is discussion on affairs in Kelat, including the Khan of Kelat's actions and relations with both local chiefs in Beloochistan [Baluchistan] and the British Government. The correspondence primarily focuses on the actions of Colonel Robert Phayre and Captain (later Major) Robert Sandeman who are both accused of meddling and interfering in the affairs of Kelat in direct violation of their orders, resulting in Phayre being removed from his position as Superintendent of Sind in 1871.

News from Europe and Britain is also reported on, including the instability of the British Government 1869-1871 including attempts to remove Benjamin Disraeli from power in 1869 and the likely dissolution of William Gladstone's government in 1871 and the likelihood of a coalition government being formed; also reported on is the Austro-Prussian War of 1866 and the situation in Italy with regard to Venetia; the Alabama Claims brought by the United States of America against the United Kingdom in 1869 and their resolution; and the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-1871 including its beginnings, thoughts on Otto von Bismark's strategy against Napoleon III, the situation in France post war and Adolphe Thiers as the new President of France.

Other matters discussed in the correspondence include the work of Frederic John Goldsmid in attempting to resolve the Persian boundary dispute over Sistan; the challenge to the rulership of Najd between Abdalla ibn Faisal ibn Turki and Said ibn Faisal ibn Turki along with Turkish involvement in Wahhabi affairs; extensions of the telegraph at Chahabar; Henjam; Musandam and Jask in 1868; Sayyide Salme (later Emily Ruete)'s escape from Zanzibar to Aden on the British vessel *Highflyer*; and news of Hormuzd Rassam's journey to Abyssinia [Tanzania] to attempt to secure the release of hostages being held by the King of Abyssinia and his subsequent capture and imprisonment there.

The cover sheet (folio 1) which was most likely written by a member of staff in the India Office in the 1920s, records that the file contains correspondence from Colonel Sir William Lockyer Merewether to Sir Lewis Pelly, 1867-1872, mostly written at Karachi. The cover sheet also notes that Merewether was Chief Commissioner of Sind 1868-1877 and a Member of the Council of India 1877-1880 and that he died in 1880.

Correspondence from Sir William Lockyer Merewether, Commissioner in Sind to
Lewis Pelly, Political Resident in the Persian Gulf [1r] (1/236)

MSS Eur F126/3

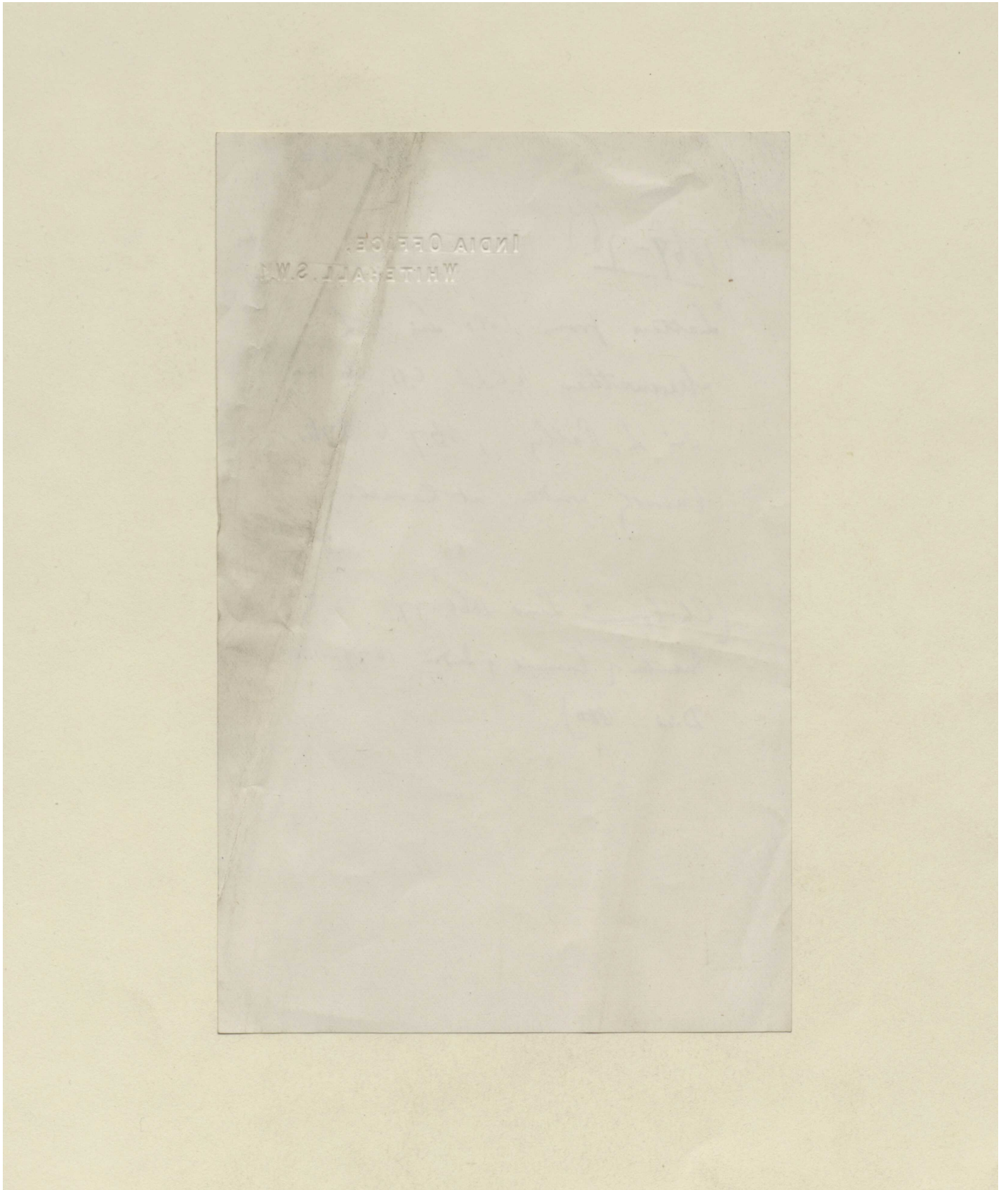
⁺(1867-76.)

INDIA OFFICE,
WHITEHALL, S.W.1.

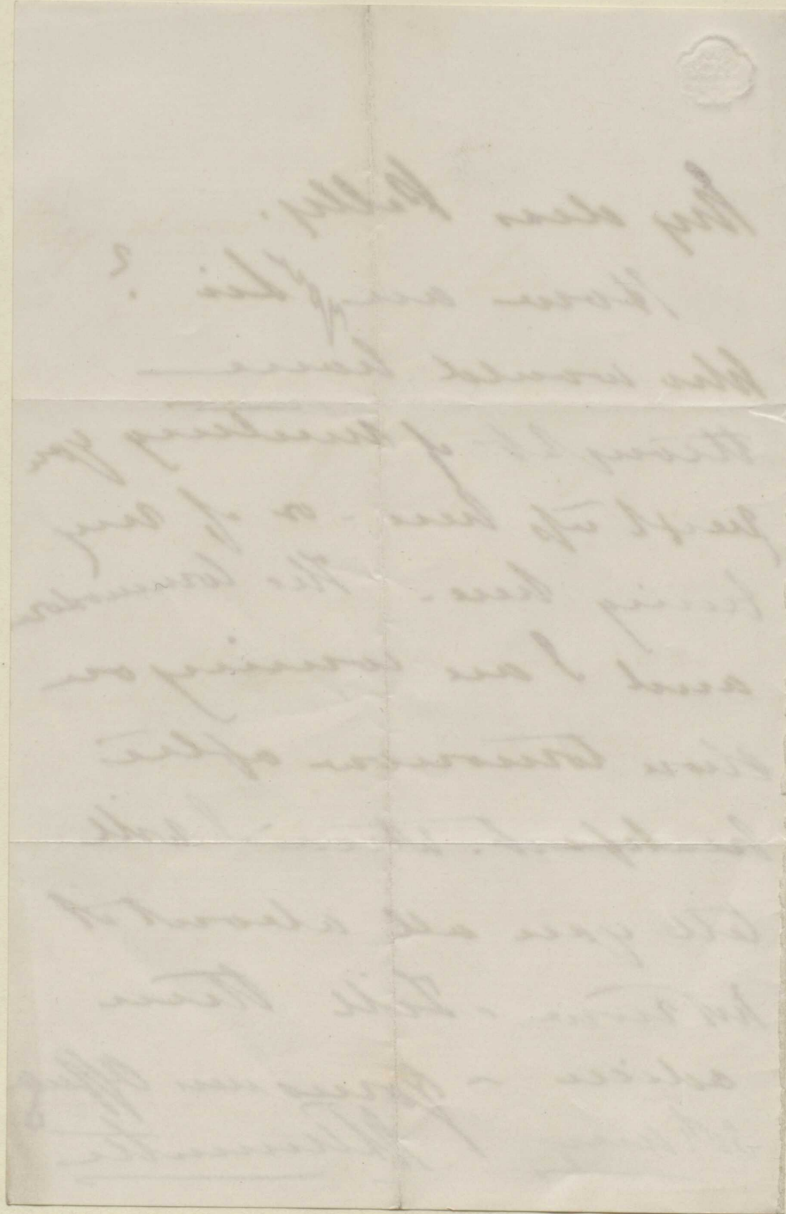
⁺Letters from Col: Sir W. L.
Merewether K.C.S.I., C.B. to
Sir L. Pelly, 1867 to 1876.
(mostly written at Karachi)

(Ch: Comm: Sind 1868-77
Member of Council of India 1877-1880
Died 1880)

Correspondence from Sir William Lockyer Merewether, Commissioner in Sind to
Lewis Pelly, Political Resident in the Persian Gulf [1v] (2/236)



My dear Pelly.
How amazing?
Who would have
thought of meeting you
just up here - or of my
being here. The Commodore
and I are coming on
shore tomorrow after
breakfast. When I will
tell you all about it
in a row. Till then
adieu -
30th May / Merewether



It is very dispiriting the
way the Admiralty have
arranged to replace the
Indian Navy. They have
literally done nothing.
The Commodore in the
Indian and East African
Sea has only five vessels
there were as many of the
R. N. when the Indian
Navy existed besides.
Besides the Revenue
for yourself. you ought
3

to have two fast Gunboats, w
better than the Penguin; p
for the Persian Gulf. p
They might visit Kurrachee we
occasionally during the Si
but weather if necessary &
so as to avoid the great
heat of summer in the
Gulf. I
Since I last wrote
we have had Sir R. Chapin
here. but only for a day. He
I wish he could have
spent a week. He is a
great trick and will

with Sir Bantle do a
power of good in our
presidency. The Gov. will
be very strong Sir Bantle
Sir R. Napier. Lachin
& Ellis.

I am most anxiously
looking for a man of War
to enable me to finish the
head of a refractory Chief
that done and the loss
of Horse given, as I hope
now it will be and in
six months the interior

4

will be as quiet as our frontier.
I have sent your
messages to North Wales
The Woolleouses send
kind remembrances
and I am as ever
Your affectionate friend
W. Merewether

My dear Pelly.

I intended to have written you a long year - but yesterday was Monday & Egypt's Mail day, and I could not get time -

Allow me to introduce to you Colonel Herkiss a hearty earnest fellow who as you know has been sent to Baghdad

The app't was quite

5

unsolicited by him
and was Sir J. Lawrence's
own act. I hurry in
hurry for Herbert's
departure of Attoch in
1848. a most full and
strong.

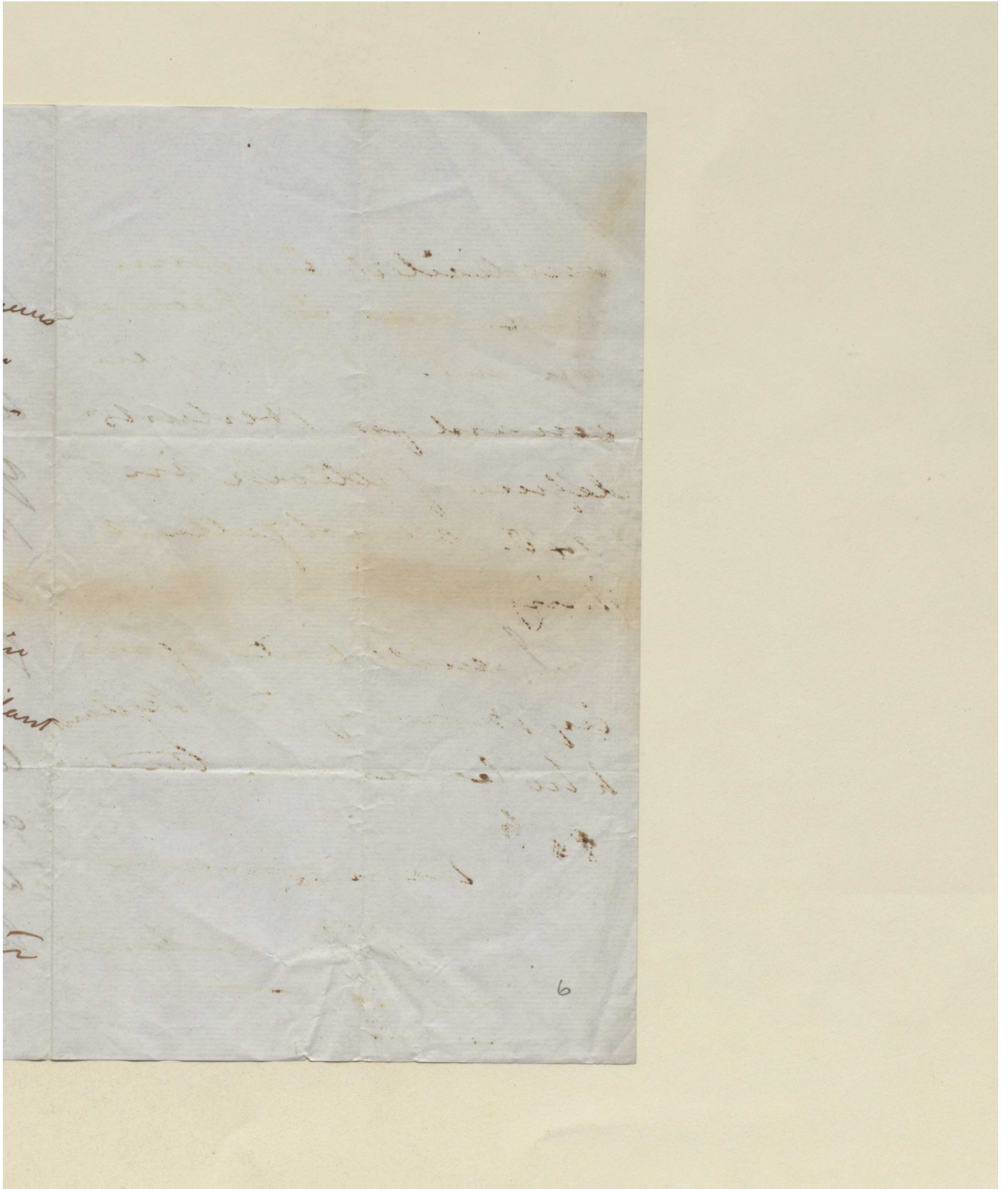
I will write again
by Brown of the Vigilant
who leaves on the

20th I am yours

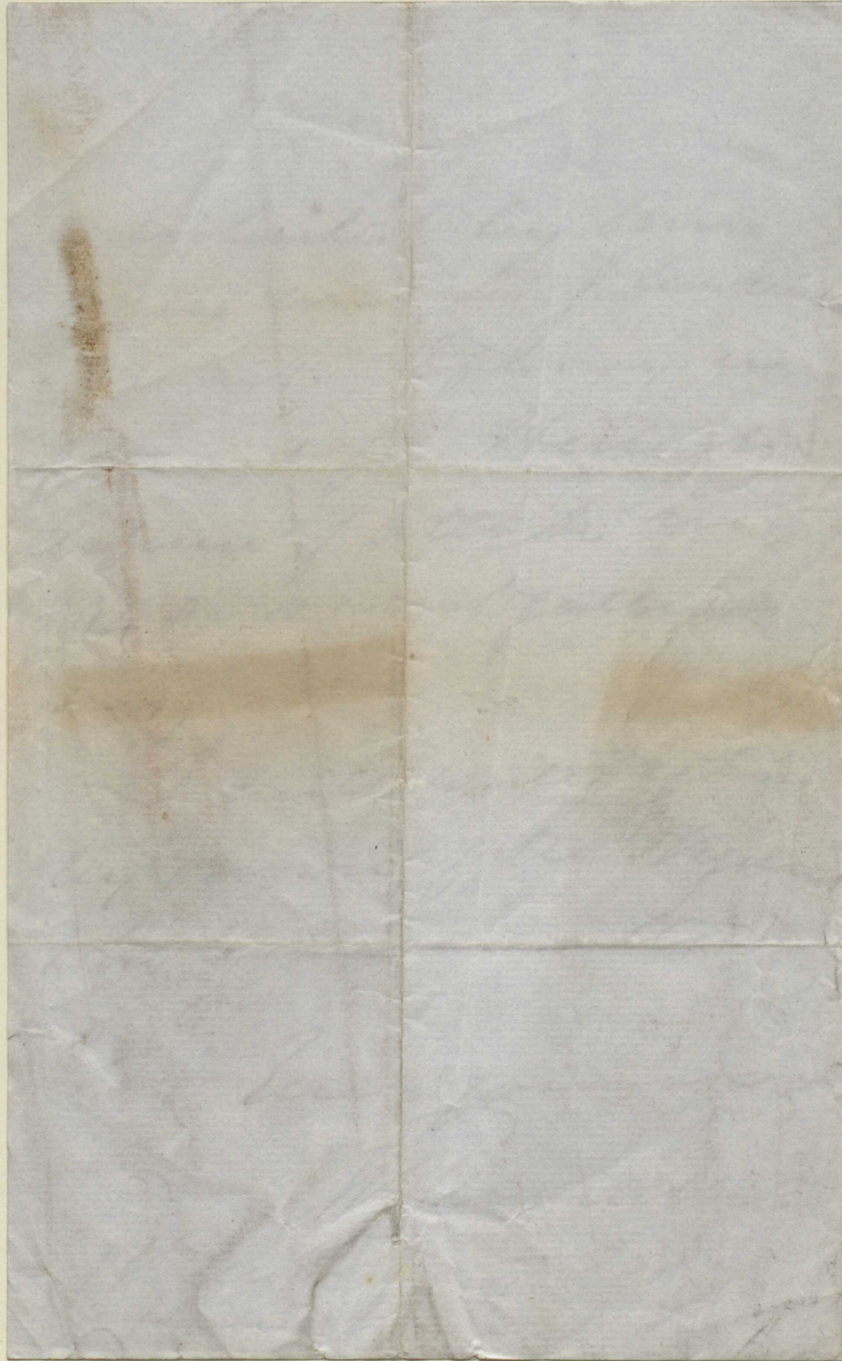
W. Merewether

16th Oct →
Merewether

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether to Lewis Pelly [6r] (3/4)



Letter from William Lockyer Merewether to Lewis Pelly [6v] (4/4)



Aden 13th Nov

My dear Pelly

Thanks for yours of
the 28th ult^o. I was sorry
to hear of the row at Muscat
your Wahabees friends at
their old tricks. My latest
news from Muscat is that
the row is all over - old
Feyzi having wisely
ignored his son Turkei's
proceedings with the
Perris Rev. Alis - and so saved
a row which would have
set half Arabia in a flame

7

Mr Pelly is expected
in the next steamer for
Bombay due on the
10th. But I hope he will
come for his waiting
waiting is a nuisance.
Temple and Mr. Munsham
will have told you
of their being here
as regards the want of
Arab Horses in Bombay
I believe one of the chief
causes is the unwise
abolition of the removal
Agent. He used to be in

communication with
the Arab dealers and they
know what to do - now
they have no one to go to
and are helpless so they
don't trouble themselves
about the matter ^{so} much
as they otherwise would
again the excessive drain
on the stock in 1857-58 & 59
did great injury and
helped to promote a scarcity.
I am sorry to say I
don't know any of the
chiefs near or beyond
Rasid Hadd - so cannot

help you with letters to
them. Myself Ray goes
up to Ras I had and you
could get letters from some
terrible loss just more
Lord Palmerston's death.
Lord John is Premier. but I
doubt his lasting out next
session. I wish the loss
had been Sir J. Wood instead
of Lord P. - that would have
been a release.
The Woolwich's desire
their kindest remembrance
and I am always
Very affectionately yours
W Merewether

Borleajee to Lewis Pelly

My dear Pelly

Many thanks for
your two letters one
from Mumut letter
from Bombay.

Syed Salim's expedition
from Mumut is an excellent
thing and I hope your
Govt. of India will make
matters easy for the
Omarians selecting the
rule they most desire
and leave you to see it
properly carried out.

Yours sincerely and doubtless

95

The favorite and being
doubt is descent from
Iaced Iaced - would be
more acceptable than any
new person like Ayan.
The opportunity might
well be taken of separating
Gardjeles entirely from
Sennik. and making
a new treaty with Aludor
Majest.
I have received no
intimation as yet in regard
to the Telegraph affairs
but as Goldsmith has

come out I conclude
something will be done
and have allowed
young Ross to accompany
his wife to Bourne and
met Goldsmith there
to give all information
required. I suppose the
Argentine question is
settled one way or other
Meanwhile Warton has
gone off with a steamer
full of workpeople and
material for Charleston,
Jark. & Argentin!

10

I could only say to them
go - the steamer has come
and it is better there should
be no further delay - but
I could arrange nothing
for them.

Very sorry to hear of
Brown's indisposition
but hope Mattheus put
him all to rights - I guess
you will leave to go direct
to Muscat from Bombay
and will probably have
another R. N. vessel sent
with you - any way I fear
we shall miss as I am
on my way to Hyderabad

and will not be in Kumbur
again till the 25th Inst.
When I come down to
meet my wife -

Write word to the Civil
Sergeant here - I don't
know of it, its being buried
When it is and reference is
made to me I have promised
to mention two other people
Seniors first. So am afraid
I shall not be able to help
you brothers better in
law.

Very pleasant in Lent
Dear my afft & yours
W^m Merewether

Aden. 29th Nov. 1864

My dear Pelly

Many thanks for
your letter of the 13th
received by last mail

I had heard from you
direct that the disturbances
were over. but it is
only for a time - and
unless Mr. Longue
has himself up the
whole of Britain will drop
from time. and then
will be pretty soon on

12

again. The Pol: agent
should stir him up
and get some influence
over him.
Those people of Soor
are the most inveterate
dealers in slaves of any
in the world. Most of the
the slave boys belong
to them. and the safe
is from the opinion
could come by going
to Sootra and on to
Soor, calling at intermediate

places if necessary - to
be seen on the coast
from Ras el Hadid to
Socatra - would be no
aid and another between
Socatra and Magadoya
would effectually stop
the trade.

I have not heard
anything more about
Passama - but hope to in
a few days as the Victoria
was gone to Massama
for news. I do hope

13

Rassam will not stop for
a day until he reaches
Methminah - and nothing
if he can avoid it: - but
he terribly wants self
confidence and gets easily
frightened - If he fails
he deserves to be disgraced
for ever. He is travelling
with a large Kafila
which will take him
in perfect safety, as should
be apparent to him - so
that no reason should
occur for fears rising up

MSS Eur F126/3
Aden 2nd April 1866.

My dear Pelly


Many thanks for
your letter of the 9th January
I have been waiting ever
since to receipt for the copies
of your correspondence
in the present business
which I would give a good
deal to see - but which Mr.
Ryder has forgotten to send
the watch - every way I have
not got it - and as they print
those things generally now
in Bombay to have time
he might just as well

14

well have remembered
your instructions - I see by
the last papers you are said
to be en route to Bombay
in the Cutania - as this
may catch you there - if it
does please remind Mr.
Pelly - for I am most deeply
interested in your Gulf
Politics - Matters are really
taking a light one would
never have expected three
years ago - and I think in the
end a vast amount of
good will crop out.

It was a very painful deed
of Salim murdering his
father - but evidently put
up to it by the Wahabees.
This was fortunate for it seems
also to have rendered him
to allow the safety of
British subjects to be threatened
which simplifies matters.
We could
now punish his head if we
liked - and put up either
Turkey, making Brazil
^{totally} independent at Gazijeh

or if Majid came to demand
Turk would take Gaudjilad
on the old terms. From
all I heard when at
Muscat and since here
Turk would be for the
best man for payment of
the lot. What are you
doing about it all. I long
to know. -
I wonder the people
at home don't get into a
hideous funk at hostilities
on either side of Arabia
and fancy we are bent
on the assumption of
Arabia bodily? - We
had a very neat little


Campaign from this for
3 weeks in December and
January - operations during
1865/66 in Central Africa.
Most completely successful
showing the Arabs we
were not only not afraid
of them as they force out
and indeed had reason to
think. - but that if we liked
we could and would penetrate
into every part of their country
and hold it as long as we
liked. Following them
up into their own country
has looked on as a position
16

impossibility especially
by our Arab friends the
Mudallas who were inter
ignorant of it and I had
some difficulty at first
in persuading them that
the thing could be done
with the greatest ease. It
was only by pointing out
that it must and should
be done that they gave
in and the result was
all that could be wished
We have a map of the
country - and have

shown all parties, should
they will get, if they are
important to us - at
first I opened Sherga the
Fossil to see if the Fossil
would give in without its
being destroyed. However
the old villain at their head
managed to stop their surrender
and to make them try
plundering again. As on
the 9 of the 14th we were left
this with 300 Sepoys in
the Victoria & 2 light guns
with 20 cutting men in the
17

Syria. N. Mr. J. Corvett. - I have
 reached Hingra next morning
 by 10. landed all by sea.
 first thing next morning
 marched 2 miles inland and
 destroyed the Chiefs' houses
 returned to the shore - destroyed
 the town there - and reembarked
 before dark, got ^{back to} Aden by 8 o'clock on the 17th.
 A nephew of the head man
 and a very fine young fellow
 surrendered at Hingra - and
 has since been in line to see
 if the others may not be
 allowed to come in. I told
 him all night of things fairly
 and truly surrendered. He
 told me the side was beaten

tried of hostilities and
that if the old Chief would
not consent to give in - the
others would without him.
The old vessel called them all
together and said he had
only a few days more to live
that he would be well to board
together and make a final
attempt either on Sabuj
or Aden - they declined
simply - having hopes
of many years of life yet.
Pelly is going on as it
should - and I have no
doubt of the fair result.

18

down in the end. but I
wish they would give
me the Troop of Horse. It
would expedite matters
greatly - especially the
improvement of the
neighboring districts which
is a matter of vital importance
to us - and would brook
delay for fear of our having
another famine next
summer -
I am again urging

or the consideration of
God! the utter inadequacy
of naval means out there.
It is simply absurd
abandoning the western
seas of India from May
till November. Yet such
is the present order by
H. W. Lord Comd^g of the Admiralty
Capital comes from
Rassau. He had been
received magnificently
by the King. A few
hours after the first inter
19

= view had ordered the
release of all the prisoners
sending his Chamberlain
to Tradala to take off the
fetters - This is only what
I expected - but I do not the
less rejoice at Rassam's suc-
=cess, and the freedom of
the poor captives - On the 7th
Feb^r he was on his way to
visit the Captives at Belva
Jalor - expected to reach them
at the end of February
and leave Abyssinia with
them about the end of
March. God bless and keep
you old chaps - The Wollond
send kindest remembrance
and I am as ever your
affectionate
William M.

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Esgair Machynlleth, North Wales to Lewis Pelly [20r] (1/12)

Esgair Machynlleth
North Wales.
29th June 1866

My dear Pelly -

Many thanks for your
two letters of the 23rd April
and 4th May. The first received
just before I left Abers. The
last only a few days ago.
I should have written before
but in the hurry of quitting
a place time is rather scarce
and since I have reached
home I have not had a
moment to give to writing
scarcely until I got down
into this beautiful spot. so
lovely to look at and so quiet
to be in. The scenery is

20

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Esgair Machynlleth, North Wales to Lewis Pelly [20v] (2/12)

admirable - lovely hills
 and valleys well wooded
 or grassy and heathery
 with delicious air. The only
 drawback is game is scarce.
 I found my three boys here
 with the Steuarts in great
 blow - the two eldest now
 nearly 10 - and 9 respectively
 fine promising lads and
 the youngest ^{a 4 year old} as impudent
 as old hots. The Steuarts are
 very jolly and send kind
 messages to you - Mr. Stuart
 has become quite stout - and
 I think if he only had a little
 more shooting down here
 I believe would not leave this
 on any account. They have
 a very nice house, situated

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Esgair Machynlleth, North Wales to Lewis Pelly [21r] (3/12)

half way up a good sized hill
and looking into the mountains
valleys. There is the best fishing
in England to be got within fifty
miles - but I don't think I shall
care much about that style of
thing. We are trying hard to get
a snow together for the season
to take most of the Grouse. Nothing
like taking as much pleasure
as can be got in this glorious
country. My wife met me
in London - where we stayed
a fortnight - half of each day
I gave to business - the other
half to showing her the lions
and curiosities of London.
I saw all the people both at
the India and Foreign Office
and had much talk with
Mr. Lord de Grey and Lord
Clarendon about the

21

want of vessels of war to be
 continually in our neighbour-
 hood. both for the Gulf and
 for the Red sea. I have no hope
 of getting any alteration out of
 the Admiralty - but we may
 get back an Indian Marine
 before we have done. You
 have managed wonderfully
 with the Galathea - getting
 them to sing humble pie so.
 but how is Sumner likely to
 settle down. and have you
 managed to get possession
 of some Island at the mouth
 of the Gulf to be our Deposition
 I quite go with you in considering
 such a ~~strong~~ position indispensably
 necessary. and an Island would
 be far preferable to the main
 land. Before Lowmyer's death
 it could have been more easily
 arranged than now. but I fancy

There are no difficulties
which you could not easily
overcome. I may mention to
you on authority on which
you may rely that the hands
are on the look out to do the
same and will pay any
money for our Island. You
may have heard this before
but in case you should not
I give it you as "take it" —
I got all your correspondence
up to taking off the people from the
Island you about 1850
from the Secretariat. It was
most interesting and I am
anxiously looking for the
remainder to see how
the young blackguard of a
parriote is progressing. 22

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Esgair Machynlleth, North Wales to Lewis Pelly [22v] (6/12)

The sooner he is in terms
 polished off the letter. Matters for
 are somewhat in confusion for
 him consequent on the change
 of Ministry. This mail will
 tell you how the new one is
 formed. Which we expect to
 hear today. Lord Stanley is
 thought of for the F. O. and
 would be excellent. Lord
 Malmesbury is impossible there
 but we shall miss him
 sadly from the India Office
 where the best man is almost
 as much needed as at the
 F. O. - I am sorry to lose
 Lord Clarendon & Selkirk
 for they were most civil

and seemed anxious to
 give all help they could
 for Aden and its affairs - -
 I had a very pleasant trip
 up the Red sea in the Victoria
 calling at Hodeidah, the new
 French place, not surprised by the
 yet - Massouma - from which
 I brought away J. Baker -
 perceive the old port of the
 Hodeidah and which might
 with advantage be again utilized
 directly the Railway up the hill
 now commencing is finished.
 It has great natural advantages
 as a Port - easy of entrance -
 good capacity - and perfectly pro-
 tected - some day I hope to go there
 again to examine the ruins
 thoroughly - I spent a week

23

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Esgair Machynlleth, North Wales to Lewis Pelly [23v] (8/12)

in Egypt - seeing the notable
 state and found them very
 interested in Arabian politics.
 I tried the ~~Beiruti~~ route
 and can recommend it to
 every one. We were only 75 hours
 steaming from Alexandria to
 Beiruti - 16 hours by rail from
 Beiruti to Amman - 13 1/2 hours
 to Luric - 12 1/2 from Luric over
 Mount Lenin to Sainte Michele
 and 16 ^{hours} over to Paris. These were
 the stages we made - ^{three} ~~four~~ days
 stoppings on the road. At Amman
 Luric & St. Michele. This was
 taking it easy - a person in a
 hurry might go straight through
 to Paris in about 60 hours. In
 ten days and a half. & to London
 in 10 hours more - just six
 days from Alexandria. 30
 hours less than the Marseille
 route - by and by when the

Station Railroads have
better speed - they are
shockingly slow now -
the distance may easily
be done under 5 days from
Alexandria to London! -
There was tremendous ex-
citement throughout Italy
the people were fully impressed
with the idea that they could
catch the Austrians single
handed ^{quivers} - a mistake they
have already been convinced
of by the defeat near Verona.
It would be a capital thing
if they took the hint of the
series and opened negotiations

24r

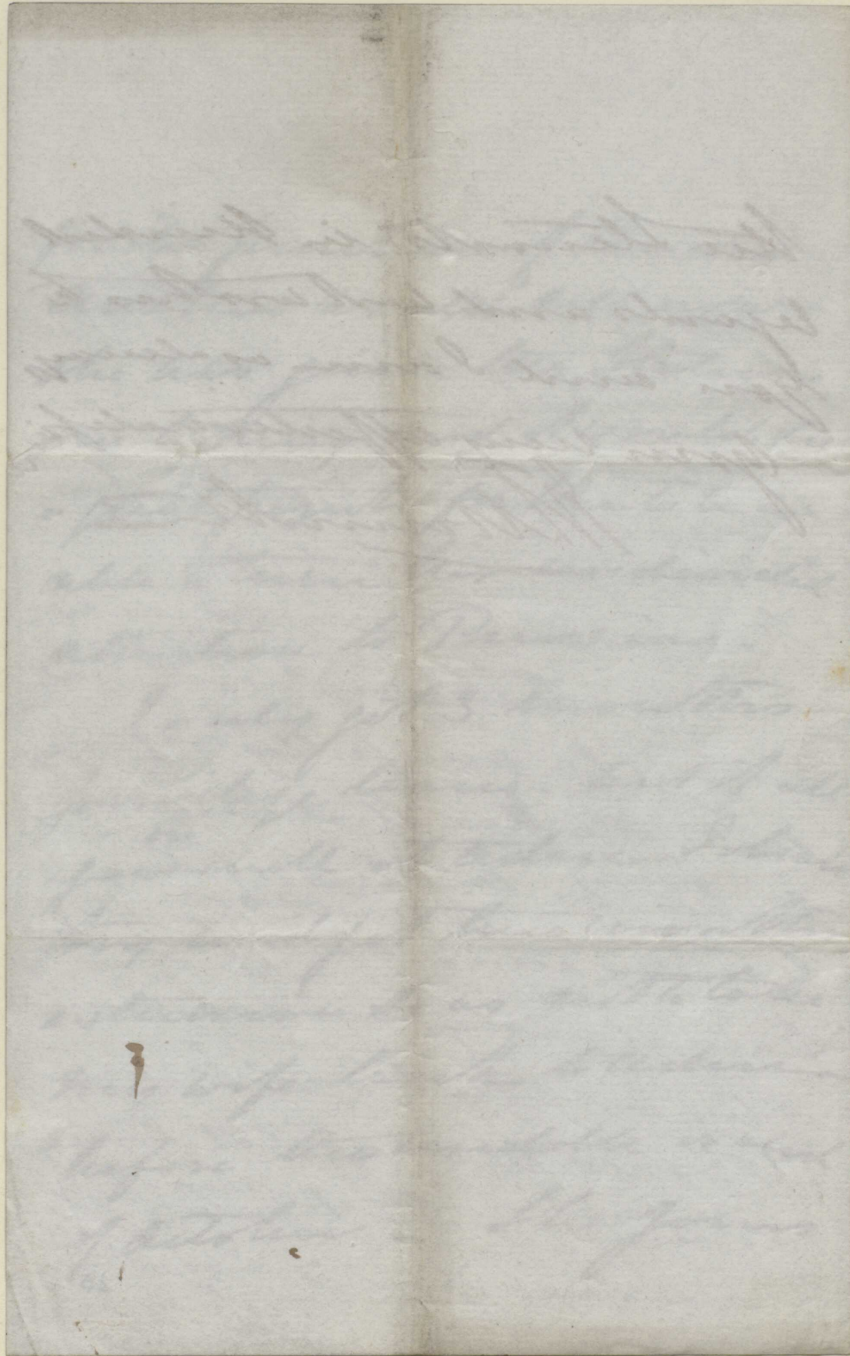
for the purchase of Venetia
Austria would sell now
she has joined the Italians
one looking and it would be
a great point for her to be
able to turn her undivided
attention to Prussia.
I only got 3 months
privilege leave. but if all
goes ^{on} well at Aden. I shall
try and get two months
extension so as not to take
my wife back to Aden
before the middle or end
of October - She joins

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Esgair Machynlleth, North Wales to Lewis Pelly [25r] (11/12)

The Stewarts in kindest
regards and best wishes to
you and I am as always
Yours very affectionally
W. Merewether

25

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Esgair Machynlleth, North Wales to Lewis Pelly [25v] (12/12)



Mussourie 2^d January 1867

My dear Pelly,

Many thanks for yours
of the 14th September which has been
to meet me at Seely - and for
your kind welcome to me on
my return. A happy new
year with many of them to you.
Since you wrote I see by the
papers other stirring events took
place at Muscat. and I cannot
help feeling very sorry Tootke
was not able to make good his
way against that Seely young
paricide. The latter removed
out of the way. Tootke would
have done well and have
proved a more satisfactory
ally to us would he not have
sided Seely. Tootke at
Muscat. and hoped independent

26

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Mussourie [Mansuri] to Lewis Pelly [26v]
(2/10)

at Gurgibon. would I should
think from a better settlement
of the question than Salins
God! is every likely to prove. I
speculate you most heartily
on having steered so safely
through a very nasty sea of
troubles. and hope that despite
Salins. you may have more
time in future to consolidate
what has been instituted.
That was an awkward thing
the beginning of the Revenue
and I was rejoiced to know all
had got so well out of it. without
any personal injury. I hope
they will now give you a good
steamer in place of this.
That Finance Comtee in Calcutta
is the devil, trying to do us out
of our steam vessels. The
work cannot be carried on to

without them - and I will fight
to the last about it. Rather an
unpleasant thing occurred the
other day between the English
folk and Aden. A German
had been carrying on a liaison
at the former place with a
sister of Mejid's. She became
with child - and on its being
discovered some clerical stores
intended to put her out of the
way quietly. Her brother saw
all - and made a trip to Mecca in a
steamer, from which some
of the crew would have returned
and never have reached the
port again. So she made a bold
trip on board the Highflyer
and appealed to Pelly's feelings
and got from him a passage
to Aden. This is not exactly the

27

duty a man of war is sent on
that station for and Major
naturally felt aggrieved for
pretended to for I really terrible
was glad in his heart his sister
escaped. Had Pelly nearly
said that as a man he would
not have refused assistance
to a lady whose life was un-
doubtedly in danger. The
matter would have been settled
quietly and have gradually
died out. but he stupidly was
acted against the orders of
Hilley, the Commodore and
you back to Gurgilior above
his present cannot fail to
be most unacceptable. For this
combined with the other he
will catch it. The Princess on
sailing Aden insisted on
pulling up with one Swiss,
a Spaniard. formerly slave

dearer at Gandy place. you
may know her. when she
has remained ever since.
in spite of offers to her of desirable
residence for herself in a separate
house. In the beginning of Dec.
she was confined of a girl or boy
I am not quite sure which -
and when I left on the 28th was
quite convalescent. She said
wanted her to return to Gandy place
but she does not see that all
and seems she will accompany
her friend to Europe where they
are to be married. Her is still
at Gandy place. She is
wears European costume and
write just on as other again.
Here I am at this vile place
trying to bring about the
release of poor Russam and
to by one last attempt at friendly
adjustment. I have brought

28

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Mussourie [Mansuri] to Lewis Pelly [28v]
(6/10)

out splendid presents chiefly a
machinery for the King with
a capital fellow. Civil Capt.
his assistant and five others
who are willing to enter the
King's service and if we can
only get him to release the
prisoners on which stipulation
and which only I am to send
them up to the King. They go
will make their own fortunes
and benefit the King largely.
He is however so suspicious that
so stupid in listening to the
his people who hate us tell him
that I do not feel at all sorry
of the attempt proving successful
If it does not nothing will be
left but to send the work people
and presents back and
get the people out of prison by
force. As for as the country is
concerned there would be
no difficulty whatever in this

by a well equipped force of 8 or 10,000
men would do it easily. Four
fifths of the country, especially
that between the sea board
and the small portion which
still remains in the possession
of the Emperor is held by rebels
who would be only too glad to
join us against him. It would
cost a good deal of money if
we could, but not a bit more than
it was worth - and we have been
so very small of late that a
little successful military
display in permitting an
insult to us as a nation, would
be of incalculable value just
now and help to revive our
prestige, which undoubtedly
is has fallen very low. It would
be a popular cause for us with
the nation - and if proposed
next session will meet with
29

support from every one except
 Sub. names as Right of.
 I hope I may be in Aden
 when you pass in March
 but it is uncertain as I shall
 have to be backwards and
 forwards between Aden & M.
 I would have gladly done
 anything I could to have
 helped you from Muscat.
 The ~~the~~ Victoria will have to
 be kept going to this - as long
 as she will. She is nearly
 worn out - and I could not
 send her Eastwards. From
 all I hear McKinnon's company
 will shortly again start their
 business from Muscat to the
 Red Sea and Gulf. So you
 might get a lift in time and
 safe - going round by Bombay.
 I was rejoiced when I heard

at home of Sir Bartle's app^{ts} to
the Council. Men like him
are much wanted here and
with a liberal minded clever
man like Lord Cranborne, he
will be of immense value there.
He could not and ought not to
have stayed beyond April in
India - and it is fortunate that
the place at home opened for him
I expect the new Governor will
early in Feb^r and Sir Bartle
home by the mail of 14th idem
so shall try and be at Oxford
to see both. My barrister brother
Nelson Fitzgerald well and
says he is undoubtedly able
and as long as he has lots to do
will prove a success. There is no
want of work in Bombay, so
we may hope for good results from
his appointment -
I shall attend six months

in England, and one month
in Scotland I enjoyed amazingly
the remainder I was kept rather
too closely to business to have
much amusement. — I left
my wife. Sarah & Mr. Stewart
very well thank you. Still in
North Wales — lovely country, but
very hilly now it rains there.
I sent them your messages
and did they know I was
writing they would return them.
Mr. Woolhouse is in England
and her husband goes to join her
next month —

Goodbye — God bless attend
you ever blessing
always my dear Pelly
Your very affectionate friend

W. Merewether

I got mention in England for Troops of Horse
also mention for a regiment from the
interior to bring unlimited fresh water
for Oden. This combined with the
liking we gave the Oden last season
will cause the most atrocious allusion
in the States of Oden.

Kurrachee 21st Decr. 1868.

My dear Pelly.

I sent you a few lines by Albert and promised more by Brown who starts at 11 today - he went on board yesterday but can't leave till 11 today on account of state of the Tide.

You will I am sure like him very much. he is a right good straight-forward honest sailor - no humbug about him.

I hope with his aid you will be able to arrange the ~~Particular~~ question satisfactorily.

How does the case of charging

31

The Telegraph from Muscatone

 to Cayenne got on? I fancy you

 have settled that finally now,

 and as the Abyssinian Expedition

 is ~~now~~ quite over. I hope nothing

 will prevent the sitting down

 on Cayenne being carried out at

 an early date. The sooner the

 better. for the Muscatone position

 is bad in every way.

No certainly ought to have

 another line via Aden. I have

 earnestly advocated it for some

 time and shall continue to do

 so. I know you would also

 clearly see the necessity of it and

are glad to find your opinion
to that effect on Official record.

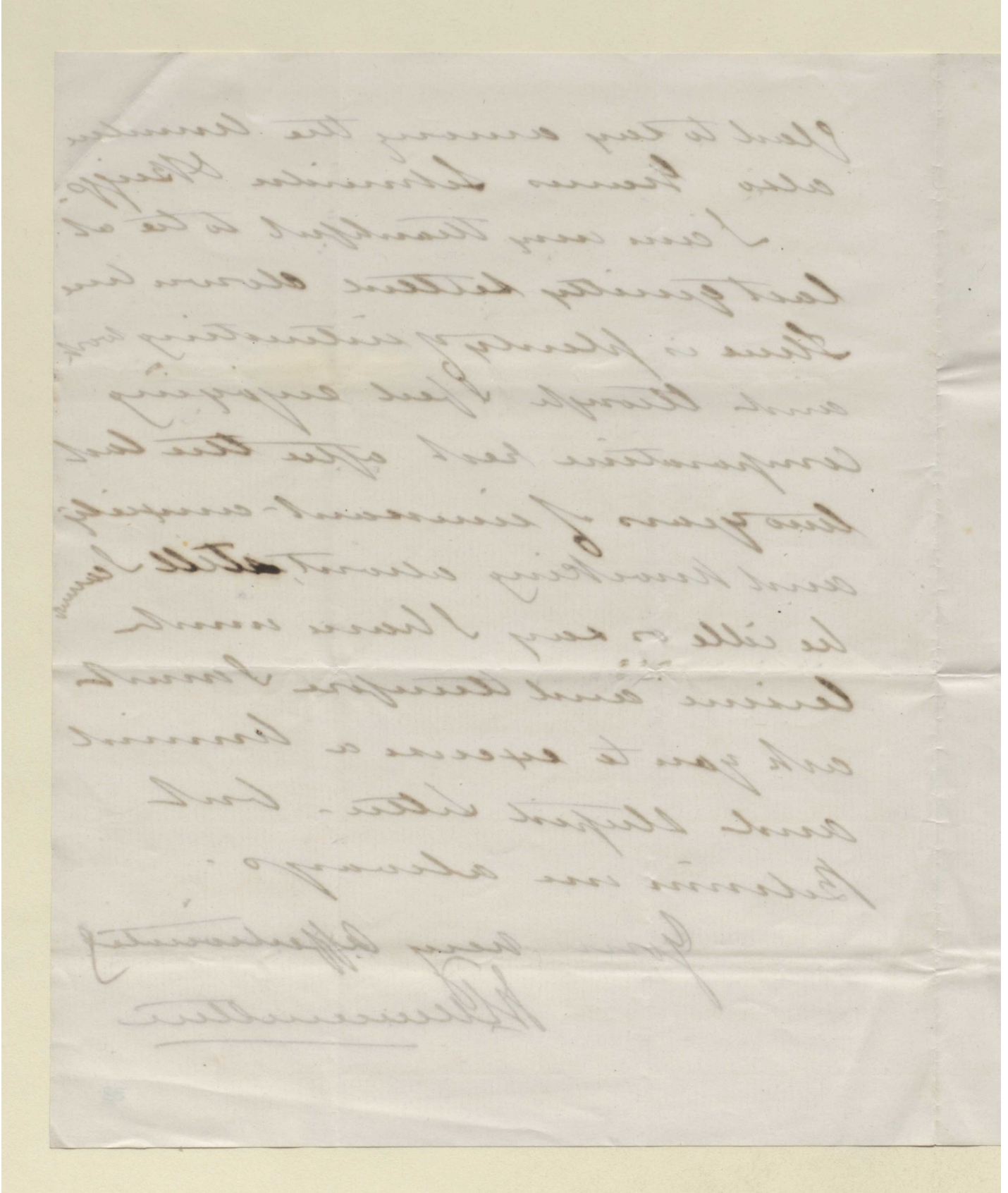
Matters are in a most unsatisfactory
state on the Northern Frontier of
the Punjab. The attack on the
Police outpost near Abbottabad
is merely the commencement of another
Unhywala business which it is to
be hoped will be better managed
than the first one. The whole line
of Frontier down to George Khan
is in a most shaky state, and
must be looked to, while that infamous
"Masterly inactivity" is playing
the very devil with our good
name and repute outside our
bounds. Pallock says all the

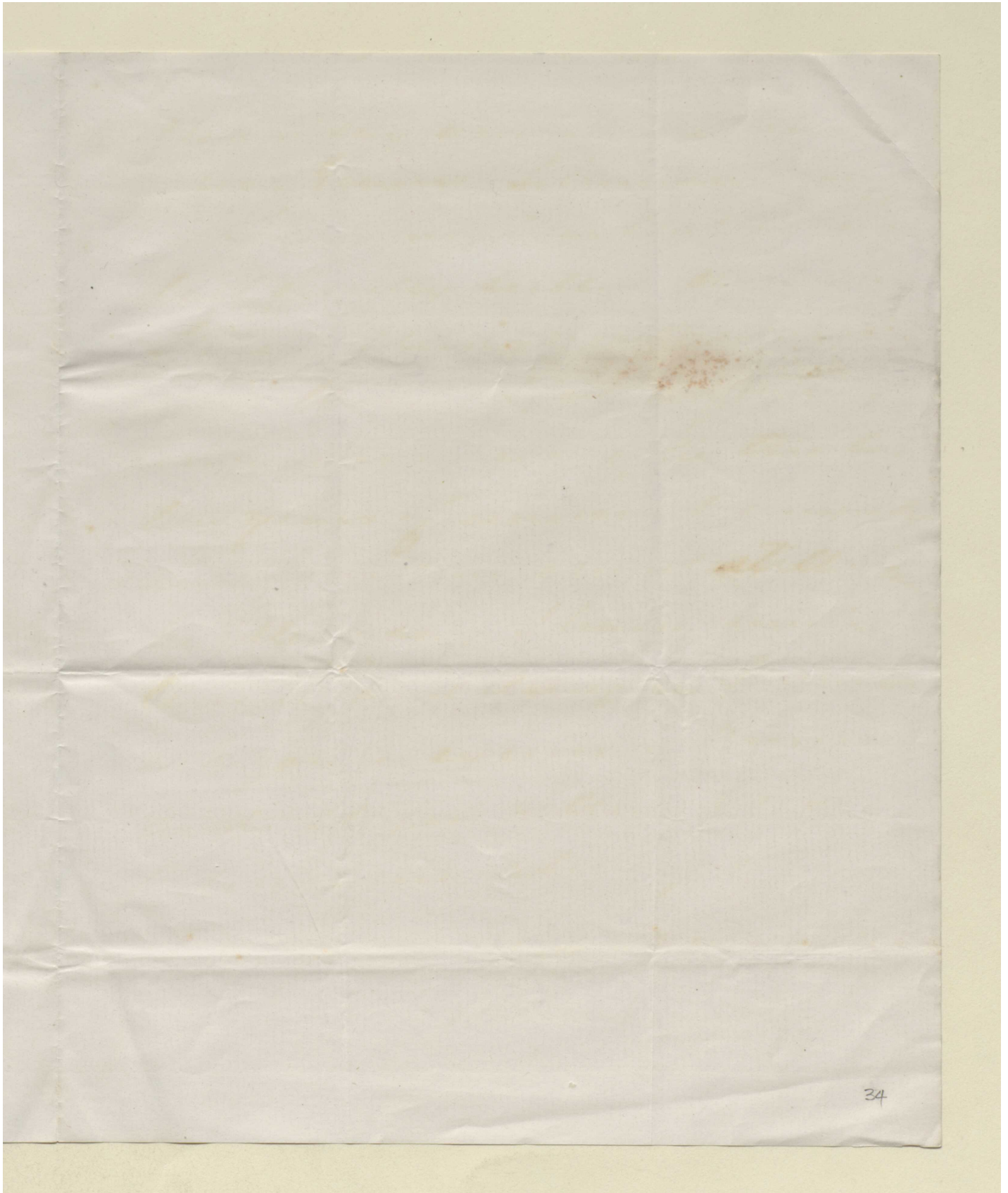
Julius have quite contempt for
 us and openly show it. It will
 be a blessing when Sir John Saurin
 returns to London duty or London
 or anywhere but India - and it is
 to be earnestly hoped that with the
 arrival of a new G. G. new policy
 with respect to external relations
 may be introduced -

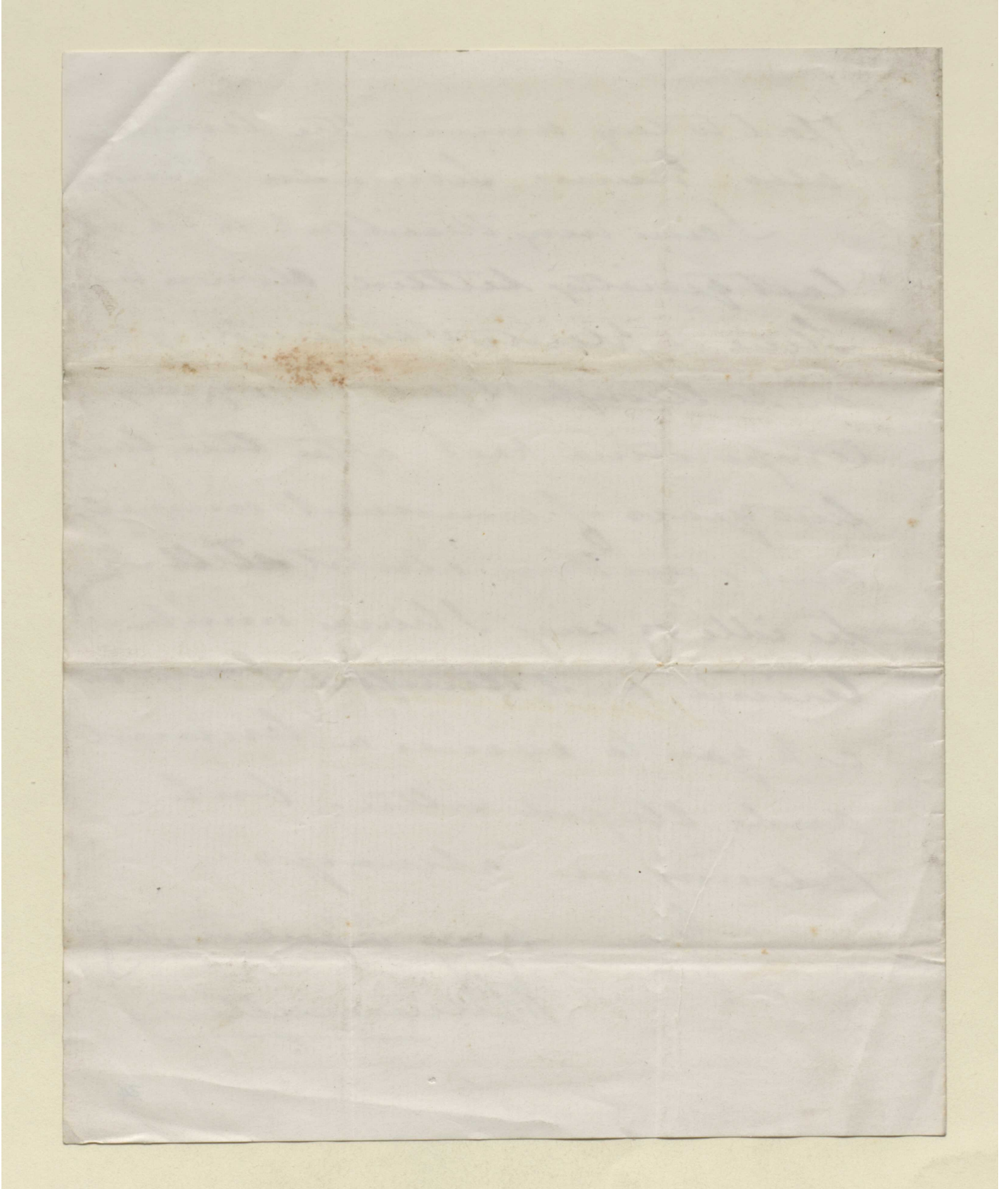
The Abyssinian Expedition by its
 complete and rapid success has done
 much towards restoring our prestige
 but that won't last long if we persist
 in the contemptible line tentatively followed

yesterday brought a telegram
 giving as the first intimation of the
 honors for the late Expedⁿ. They seem
 to be dealing liberally - Keble [R. L.]
 and Neill [R. L.] are mentioned as R. C. L.
 and a number of others. Perhaps I am

Glad to say among the Annals
also James Schmidt & Pfeiffer.
I am very thankful to be at
last quietly settled down here
There is plenty of interesting work
and though I feel enjoying
comparative rest after the last
two years of incessant anxiety
and knocking about, still I cannot
be idle or say I have much
leisure and therefore I must
ask you to excuse a hurried
and stupid letter. but
Believe me always
Yours very affectionately
W. Merewether







Kurrachee 11th Sep 60

My dear Pelly

Many thanks for your
kind letter of the 30th -
and congratulations on
wind up of the late work.

I may also congratulate
you as I do heartily on the
success of your trip to
India - It was an
important matter you
got settled - and the ^{greater}
improved value of the
part of your address
renders the increased
rent most justifiable -

25

Handwritten text in cursive script, likely a letter. The text is partially obscured by a watermark or stamp in the center. The visible text includes:

Russ sends me information
concerning of improper
intentions on the part
of the Gypsies from
Kampur and Sistan of
against our friend the
Khan. I have ordered
copies of Russ's reports
to be sent to you for
your information and I
would be as well to
let Alison know about
them. - I shall be
much obliged if you can
get any information as

to the truth or otherwise
of the reports -
Some questions have
been raised on the frontier
of U.S. by the Pleas of Kurrachee
in which of course the
new man Pelly is quite
abroad in - so that he
has referred to me and
I have taken the opportunity
of asking Govt. what they
really wish to do, whether
they wish to disjunct the
Pleas and force them to
look to others for the help

36

me so stupidly begudge
or if it is still thought-
advisable to maintain
alliance with him -

These Ali Khan is now
firmly in the ascendant
has Kabul and all Afghanistan
again - but the general
impression is that he has
sold Herat - and I should
not be surprised - We shall
see what Masterly inactivity
will do now.

It would seem some
change has come over the
King's ideas - The force
being massed now on
Khyber frontier is about
double what we want

through Abyssinia with.
There is no doubt the state
of affairs all round that
frontier from Abbottabad
to Sena Hazeeh Man is most
settled - and a strong
demonstration accompanied
by firm action and some
pursuement to all who
have in any way disturbed
the peace would do a
power of good -
Yes the Ferozshah rules
are very liberal - especially
to the holders of good
appointments - but I think
they will be found most

37

Miscellaneous in their
bearing. Most app^{ts}
will become Acting ones
and as it has been determined
the Acting man only gets
a portion of the allowance
in those cases where the
salary is only just equal
to the demands of the
position the Acting must
become involved or
not carry on the duties
as he should do. This comes
of the Committee who draw
up the rules being people
holding post app^{ts} like
Honnors —

Bernard has gone
away on short leave
and Norman has
apptd to act in Council
for him - a most important
selection I think. Long
service in the Adjutant
General's Dept and in the
Secretariate quite suits
a man for an administrative
position. As departmental
officer and Secretary
he learns to leave towards
others opinions and forsee
none of his own. This is
quite the case with Norman

38

narrow minded to a degree
and the concentrated essence
of all the red tape that was
ever made.

By all means I think
it most advisable you
should come on here from
Gwaden to consult about
a variety of affairs - especially
extension of Telegraph to
Jask and reported Persian
movements. I am sure the
Governor will have no
objection - but to make sure
I will write to him by
tomorrow's mail and
Telegraph to Gwaden when
I get his reply - If no
Telegraph has come by the

time you get there - I
would certainly come on
here to see what is going
on. I should be very glad
if you would do so.
The Vigilant I hope
joined you on the 1st or
2^d. I am sure you will
like Brown. a good honest
chap.
Very good amounts
Thank you from Wales
Lady here had been
staying with the Stewarts
at Esquin. and Sir North
and Lady here were

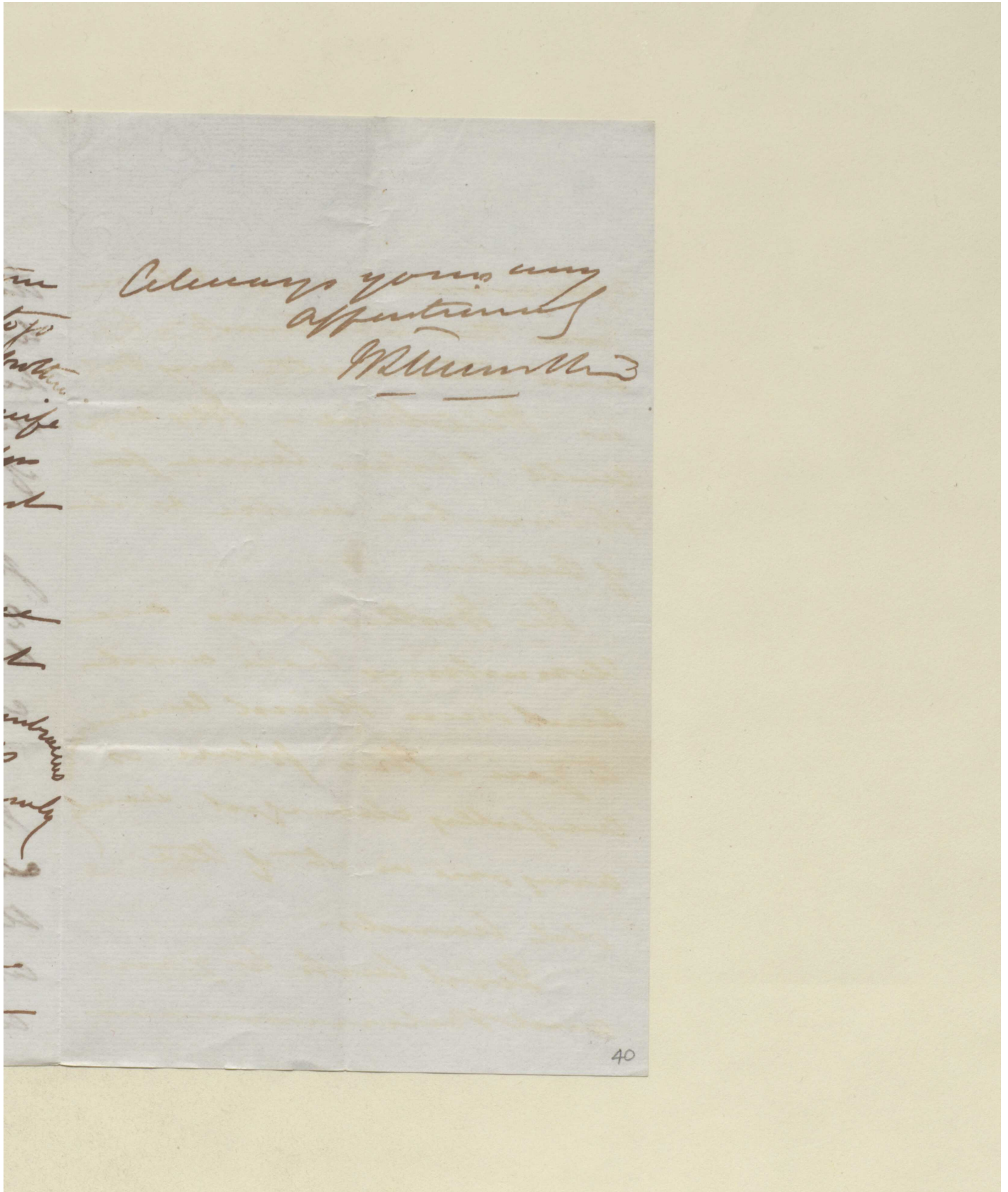
39

afterwards - on his return
from the Continent - to
and stay with my brother
in Wiltshire - My wife
will I hope leave for
Shrewsbury in the end
of October. —

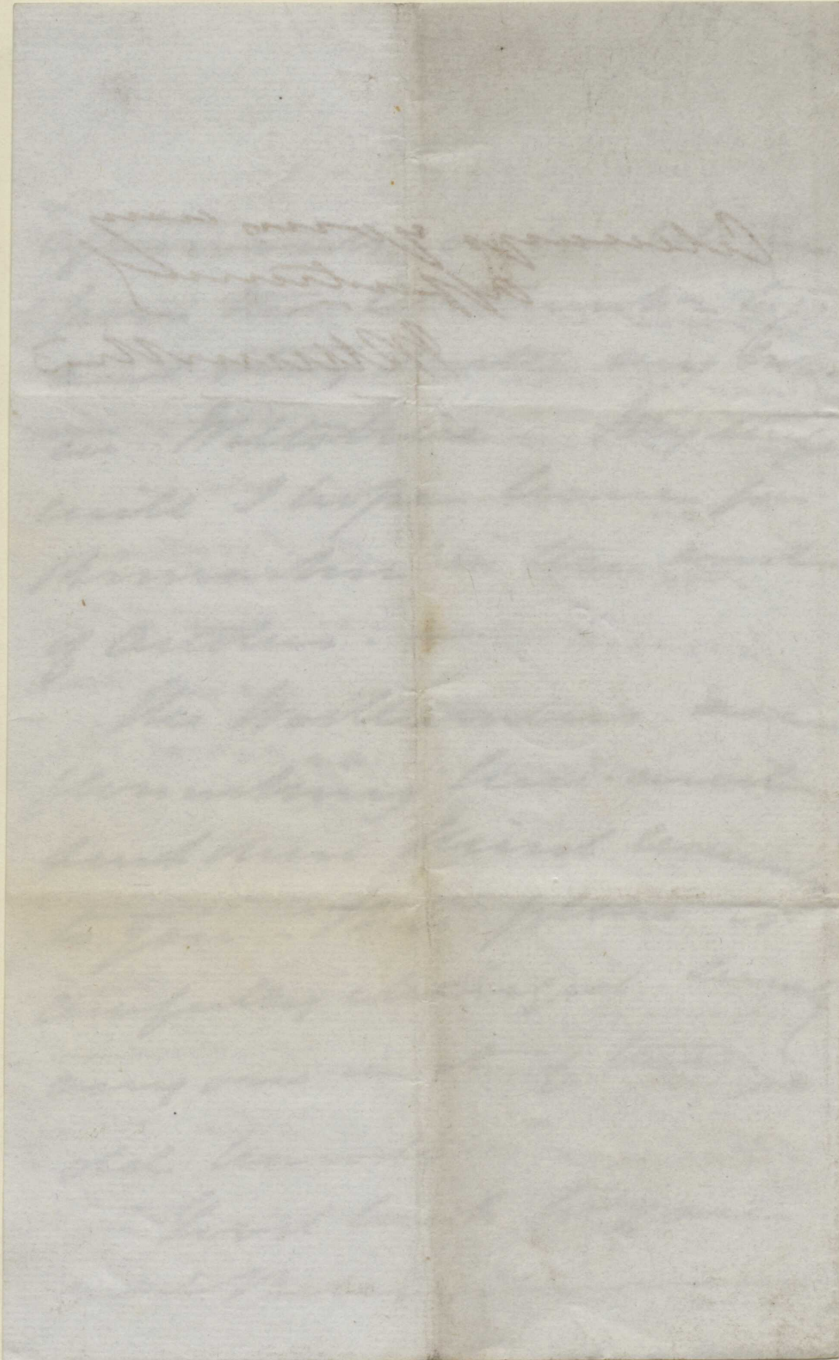
The Woodvilles are
flourishing here and
send their kind remembrance
to you - This place is
awfully changed. Scarcely
any one in it of the
old hands.

Good luck to you
and Belina

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Kurrachee [Karachi] to Lewis Pelly [40r]
(11/12)



Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Kurrachee [Karachi] to Lewis Pelly [40v]
(12/12)



Camp Nurpoor F. Districts
26th Feb 69.

My dear Pelly

Many thanks for yours of the
14th received yesterday. There was
one before which I am ashamed to
say I never thanked you for. but
since rejoined Camp at Belwan
that with country seeing and other
work I have had my hands more
than full.

I am glad to hear the Priestly
faction are in a fix at Rome. I
felt sure they would be sooner or
later and the sooner it happened
of course the better. I trust the
Supreme God now will take the

opportunity of getting a fair expression
from some of whom they would
prefer. Captain's observations is
pretty conclusive. and our new
policy would I think be inclined
to take advantage of any opening
to reverse the previous policy.

It would be very useful if we
could see what Alison has about
but judging from some documents
I saw in Bombay. It would not

take us very long reading his work -
I have seen it.

The Bombay man was inclined
to give trouble the other day in respect
to the Telegraph along the coast.
but he has been pitied
into from London and is more civil
but he is an intriguing pestering

secure. Shows it is necessary to
 keep an eye on. Persian ^{relations} ought certainly
 to be under the Indian Gov. as Sir
 J. Malcolm upheld. But the F. O. is
 very adverse to it. What we particularly
 require is a proper definition of the
 Persian boundary to the Eastward
 their encroachments since 1855. have
 been very great - and will be more unless we
 stop them - to cause the F. O. to think
 a thing is almost impossible -
 The people at home are at least
 beginning to appreciate somewhat
 the Russian proceedings in Central
 Asia and are getting into a
 funk - even the Times is beginning
 to change its note -

Here I am in the old deppings
 We were at Jecoleent from
 Friday ^{14th} till yesterday morning and
 enjoyed the stay very much. Every
 one seemed so kindly and truly
 glad to see us as much as we were
 them.
 You would be astonished to
 see how the trees have grown - and
 what famous avenues now exist
 where the trees were only planted
 10 or 12 years ago. It certainly is the
 prettiest and most practical station
 I have seen in India - I am now
 going along the Beigane and as up
 to Thunbore as of old and my wife
 enjoys the trip vastly. She sends
 her kindest regards to you and I am
 as ever yours most affectionately
 I don't expect to be
 away ^{more} ~~more~~ ^{much} ~~much~~ ^{before} ~~before~~ ^{middle} ~~middle~~ ^{of} ~~of ^{April} ~~April~~.
 W. Merewether~~

Kurrachee 6th May. 68.

My dear Pelly.

Many thanks for yours of the
23 April received by Capt. Thomas.
Strikes in Oman and its
dependencies are getting into a nice
state of confusion & a pretty kettle of
fish altogether. I believe that the
greatest care has been taken to ~~manage~~
matters - it could not have been more
completely carried out. There is no doubt
that Nazir is popular both on account
of his Kelsook blood and also from
the very great unpopularity of the Priestly
lot. But if Lookha came on the scene
tomorrow - I don't think Nazir would
cause any complications. It is a thousand
pities the Supreme Govt will not come
to some clear understanding as to what

43

30. 1843
 their real policy should be. They
 have clearly now at present and
 seem only to be waiting to events
 and trusting to Providence & you
 will have the Turks coming round
 from the Red Sea directly to claim
 Jeddah! — Alprison's departure
 is a blessing - but I question whether
 much will be gained in the return of
 old Sibbome. I see he has already
 begun to write long winded despatches
 again.

Quaden is quite quiet Ross
 tells me. Capt. Hazin going to Chander
 may very possibly play Ibrahim
^{on the Persian table.}
 Meas's game ~~for~~. If any one
 sets up independent there and opposes
 Hazin the Kurrachee people will be only
 too happy to give assistance if wanted
 for a consideration & which would

he of course recognition of Persian authority
 Shabran Khan has been stopped
 for the present - but affairs in Bukhara
 and Sistan are very unsettled. Lee
 Khan is in such a mess with his Chief
 that he can do nothing towards looking
 after Bukhara. ~~Private~~ ^{Private} maybe less certain
 complicated matters by too openly
 advocating the cause of the disaffected
 Barons and so made as ~~business~~ ^{business}
 still more difficult. I expect much
 from Harrison's last and good sense
 but his difficulties have lately been
 doubled by Pleyris very injudicious
 action. I felt there would be missing
 from such a total strategy coming to the
 frontier especially so important a one
 and here it is all ready. He at Urota
 Matroush. Poyan goes to Kergla to join
 the disaffected Jalawar Sirdars contrary
 to my instructions. because that shows
 to every one we sided with the Sirdars

A madman attempts to assassinate
 Moolla Mahmood. Alludina ^{is said to have given out} ~~his~~
 and his sons, giving out, he did as by
 the Khan's order. This of course was
 utterly untrue - but Pelly's strange to
 say accepted the story and showed
 he had done so - a dreadful false-
 step in a place where every little move
 is so carefully watched as on the Frontier
 I gave him full latitude at first, telling
 him I would support all he did - but
 now I have to withdraw it and tell
 him to do nothing without reference first.
 But the worst of it is, that the evil there
 is done at once - It is the everyday life,
 and readiness to do the right thing at
 the moment there, that commands influence
 and having to refer destroys half his
 power. Very provoking this -

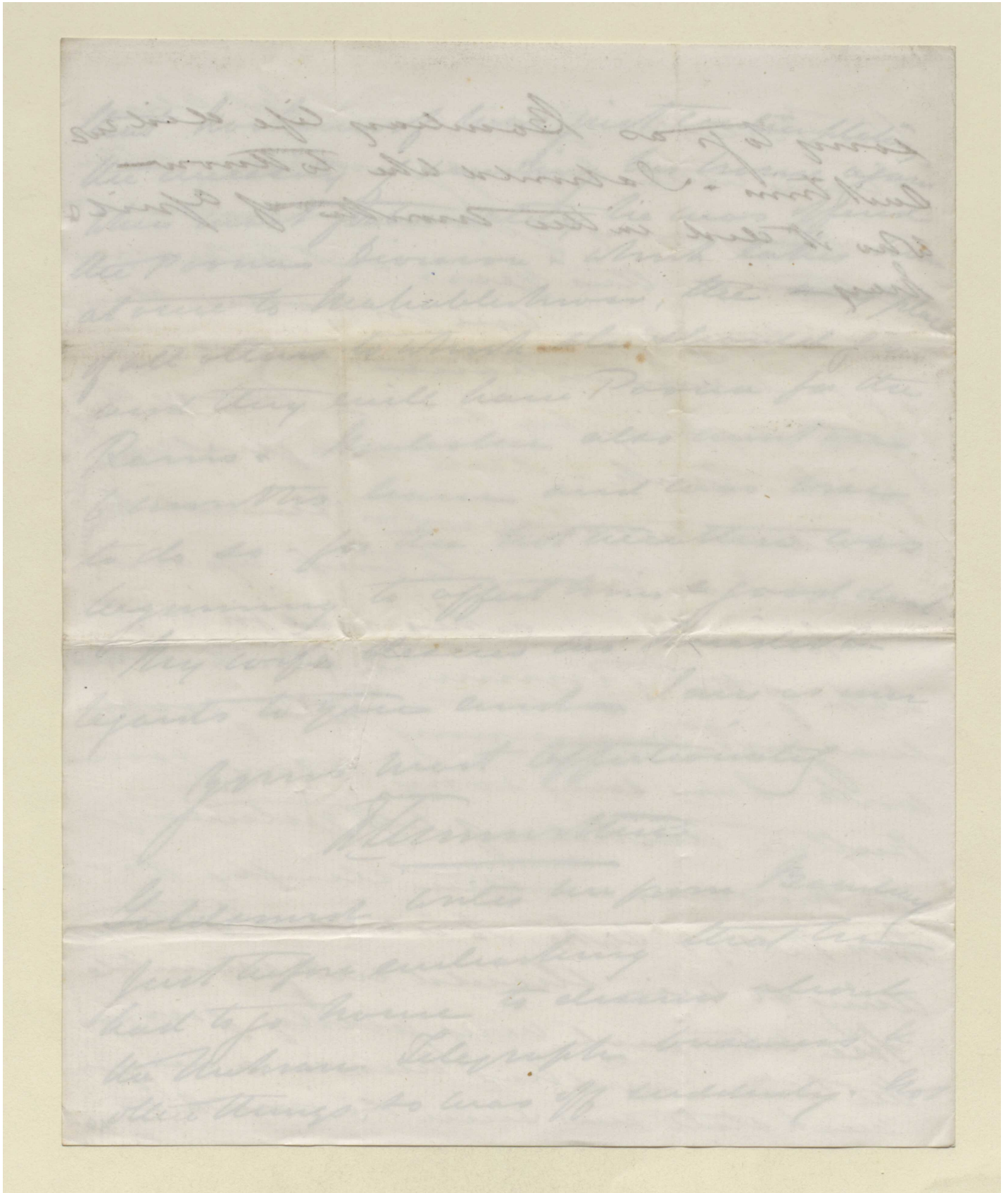
In Saitan the Persians are fermenting
 disturbances and working the Kelooch
 there to badger both the Kelooch and
 and Affghan Sultans - This has
 to be remedied by some diplomacy

the Foreign Office and Mr Alison
I have little hope of good from either.
I am sorry you are unable to
get home this year, but hope we
may see you here for some days
if you do run on leave. so none of
your clipping by Sir - many thanks
for the book - it will be a great curiosity
to add to the Hermitage General Museum
which I am trying to work up a bit.

For my own sake and for the
sake of the Province, in which I
was just commencing to do good
work, I am very sorry to say your
brother Lockyer left yesterday
for his own or rather chiefly for
Mr Pelly's sake. It is a most fortunate
thing so we should not grumble.
He returned very poorly from
the tour - and has been in a very
weak state ever since so much so

that Lockyer was just contemplating
the necessity of sending her home again
when most fortunately he was offered
the Poona Division - which takes him
at once to Mahabulnagar, the very place
of all others to which she should go.
and they will have Poona for the
Paris. Muloolie also went on
6 months leave and was wise
to do so - for the hot weather was
beginning to affect him a good deal.
My wife desires her kindest
regards to you and I am as ever
yours most affectionately
W. Merewether

Goldsmith writes me from Bombay
just before embarking that he
had to go home to discuss about
the Arabian Telegraph business &
other things, so was off suddenly. Not



Kurrachee 19 Jan 1864

Dear Pelly

I am very sorry to find
by your letter from Mumbai
dated yesterday that you were
so poorly with Rheumatism is not a
very pleasant season of the
year. If you don't get better come
away for a change to this the
climate is delightful here now
and we will soon get you up
again. I have thanks for parcel
of your dispatches. They were
sealed in my presence just now
and sent to the post to go to Bombay
by Earl Canning leaving tomorrow

47

Certainly current affairs
have come to a pretty pass. One
thing they could hardly be
worse so must needs be judged
from symptoms of vigour already
shown by Lord Mayo. I should
hope he would press on the
the necessity of some more decided
and clear policy than has hitherto
been followed.

Lord Russell seems to have
quietly established himself at
Glasgow and Aberdeen - but
unless measures are adopted
at once to get the question
of the Eastern boundary of Persia
clearly and finally defined -
Lord Russell will not long be

left unadmitted. only by a
different power from what we expect
them to first appeared on the scene.
The Shah has lately at Seheran
spoken again of Christian missions
"swadeshi" as places in Kashmir
belonging to his God - though he
has about as much right to them
as I have to St. Petersburg. I have
heard confidentially that the Gov-
ernment of India have very strongly urged
our early settlement. in consequence
of movements towards Meheran
& from Seistan which are exciting
anxious and rising uneasy
feelings. About Celi. From the
Persian lately sent from Seheran
to me after the Amherst Expedition

was officially announced to Alwar
by the Per: Foreign Minister to have
been sent to see after the Sultan's
possessions of Cashmere and Goudan.
Kelat affairs are in a very bleak
state and were very nearly being more
seriously complicated by Pelly
who from want of experience was leading
us along into a trap laid for us
by the rebellious Sirdars to oppose
their cause against the Meer.
Quite forgetting that our only con-
-nection with Kelat is with the Meer.
I stopped him and I hope in time
but not before he had given the
Sirdars more encouragement than
they ought to have had, and
matters were made more difficult.
However Harrison is at Kelat now
and is doing excellently well under
clear instructions from me which
he fully understands and I have
great faith in his tact and judgment.

Memorandum 1st July 69.

My dear Pelly

Received a copy of the
18th yesterday recd. Many
thanks for it. as also for
the paper sent for perusal.

The state of the Gulf is
certainly most satisfactory
and you may well view
it with gratification.

I have repeatedly
urged Mr. Williams
making the Annual to
Aden the Auxiliary
to the main Gulf one.
and if it commenced

49

at Bombay Abbas. calling
at Herbyine to meet the
Main Gulf line and so
go on to Aden. It would
pay I am sure. Herbyine
should become a
large depot. Bombay
Abbas would send a
good deal to it, this time
I look at its being a
certainty that Bombay
Abbas will have a line
of steamers of its own
to Bombay direct.
If there was certainly no
regular
of safe despatches from

Friend's letters the
export trade there would
rapidly increase. and we
know how soon exports
increase when our
vessels regularly call at
places.
Glad to hear you
have got well through
the worst part of your
hot season in spite of
the forebodings at ^{Commencing}
We have had a most
unpleasant June here
but and leaning to a
degree. with truly

50

sent worse than I ever
knew it at furthest
or narrow. During
the last two or three days
there has been a refreshing
change and I hope now
we may consider the
monsoon weather fairly
established -

Some news there is
not much - except that the
opposition are so utterly
disgusted with the British
that they are going to
make another effort
to get quit of him - I don't
think promising -

Those quackes are
abominably cheeky
quackes. I felt sure that
all Summers Trade was
now broken - still it
does rile one to think
that any civilized or
supposed to be civilized
Govt. could allow one of
its Ministers to talk so
outrageously - and make
no comment - or take no
action. I am quite
convinced myself that
no matter what Government
may occasionally be

51

given forth - there is too
strong a sensible party
in America to allow of
our being drawn to war
with them -
Things are going on
very well here. Young
Harrison has managed
matters admirably
at Ketak - in spite of
some stupid blundering
at first of Phelps's
Harrison eventually
elaborated the form
and his party and

made them look exceedingly
small - adding pro-
portionally to the better
position of the Khan.
I would most gladly
do anything I could for
Mr. Campbell - but really
I have not a plan or chance
of you for an offer to come
as vacancies very seldom
open and I have in
end of applications down already
I saw Mr. Wilson at
Lahore the other day
He has been doing
excellent work with a

52

Subsidiary fait in the
Fest of Buhara and many
very well. They are now
through rather unworking
time - without any much
increase of pay -
My wife is very well
Thank you now. That is as
well as possible heat with
allow her to be. She
sends her kindest regards
and I am as ever
Yours most affectionately
W. Merewether

Meeanie 13.th Nov. 1869.

My dear Pelly.

In my great pleasure I find
your letter of 12.th Aug. still unattended
for. I can only plead incessant
work as my excuse. But it is not a
full one. I mean also to thank you
for the promise of your several
reports which come under flying
lead. I read them with the greatest
interest - and only hope God will
allow you to carry out your plans
as regards the Arabian business in
their integrity - they will settle
the matter perfectly and teach
the folk there not to misbelieve
in future. These Wabulanes appear
inclined to be troublesome again
and unless they are firmly and

53

decidedly but at once will give

 a great deal of trouble.

Sidrone and Mument affairs

 would be farical were it not for

 the great mischief such folly causes

There is a report abroad that he is

 to leave and no wonder for Govt.

 ought by this time to be as weary

 of him as you must be. It is a

 thousand pities Mument was so ill

 managed after Shorney's death

for disorders not merely fit chronic

 but are terribly infectious in such

 regions - I am glad to see they

have sent you a couple of men of

 War, but there is little real good in

 their presence except to carry out

 an immediate object. There must

 be some arrangement made to supply

 the place of the old Indian brany

 and I hope there may be before

long - apart from the admirably &
its conservative obstructiveness -
The improved state of Trade in the
Gulf calls for more care and is well
worth fostering - Our misfortunes
in India are being your advantage
We are now importing grain largely
at Kinnelree from the Gulf and
it is entirely being sent up Perse
to Multan -

Last years famine - and
the great destruction of the crops
this year by myriads of locusts
has caused the price of grain to go
up fearfully - and should the
Rubbish prove as great a failure
as the Wharf has no way been
very serious straits in Sind ever
It has been a most extraordinary
year - all the seasons most irregular
no months proper - and a fall of

rain such as never was heard of before

 in Sind - thirty inches have fallen

 at and about Pomehree since the

 1st January. The country was covered

 with rich grass and excellent Karam

 crops when down came these

 abominable hoists and joggled

 up everything. As a necessary result

 of so much rain there is an immense

 deal of fever about - and the people

 quite dejected - Their cholera

 must needs come as if we had

 not enough other disempowers

 Fortunately it confined itself almost

 entirely to the natives. but were it did

 appear in any form as at Guidoo

 and Hotee, it was of the most virulent

 form I have ever known - Mortality

 of attacked was 65 per cent! I am

 thankful to say it has nearly gone

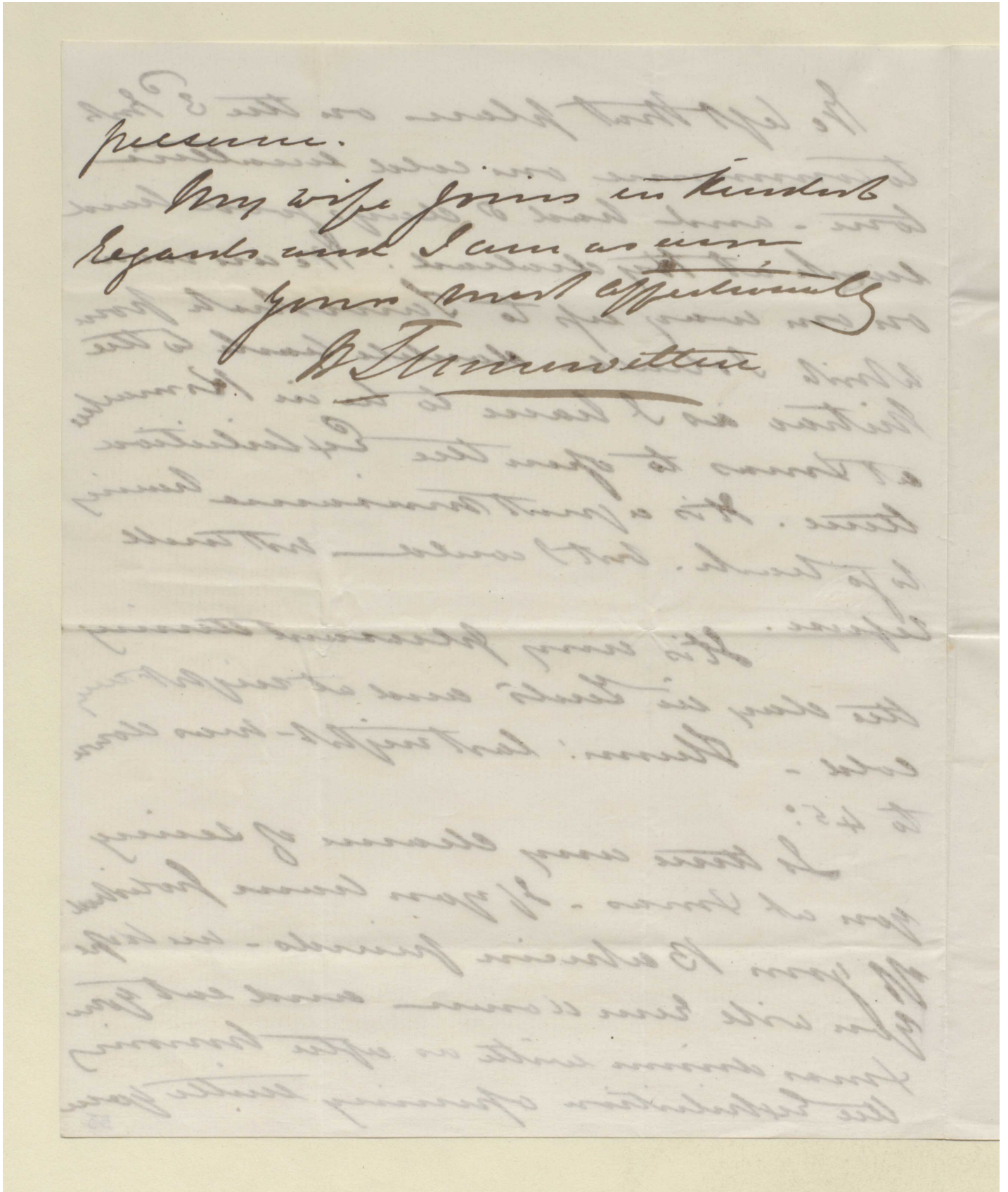
 now, though there are still a few

 deaths daily in the Town of Pomehree.

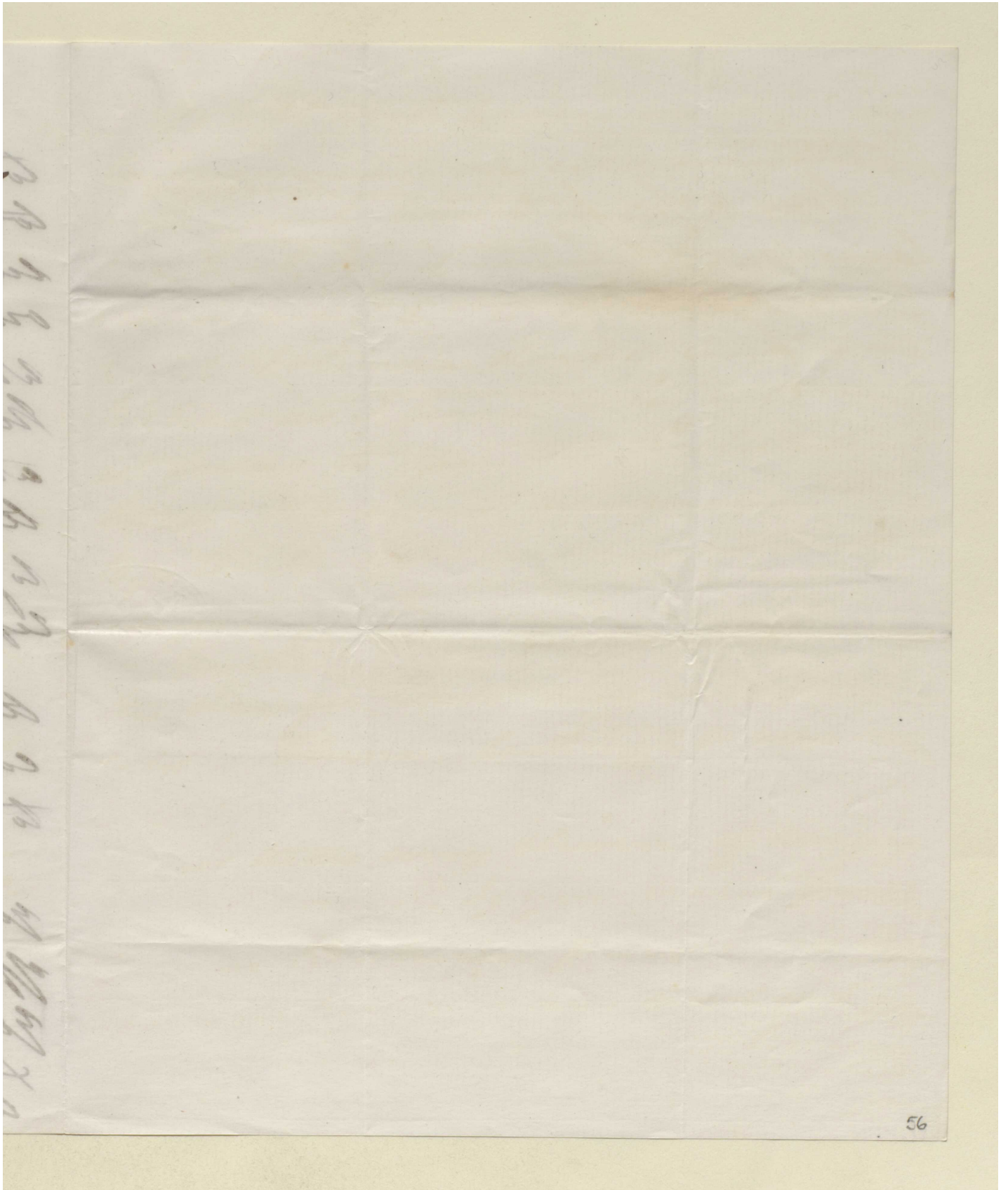
We left that place on the 3rd Inst
to commence our cold weather
tour - and had 8 days' good hard
work at ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~end~~. We are now
on our way up to Turovshah from
which I shall double back to the
Nithas as I have to be in Komuk
at Amas to open the Exhibition
there. It is a great business being
to go back, but I could not well
refuse. It is very pleasant during
the day in Turov's and at night very
cold - Therm: last night - was down
to 45°.

Is there any chance of seeing
you at Amas - If you have finished
off your Babine funds - we hope
you will run down and eat your
Amas dinner with us after having
the exhibition opening with you

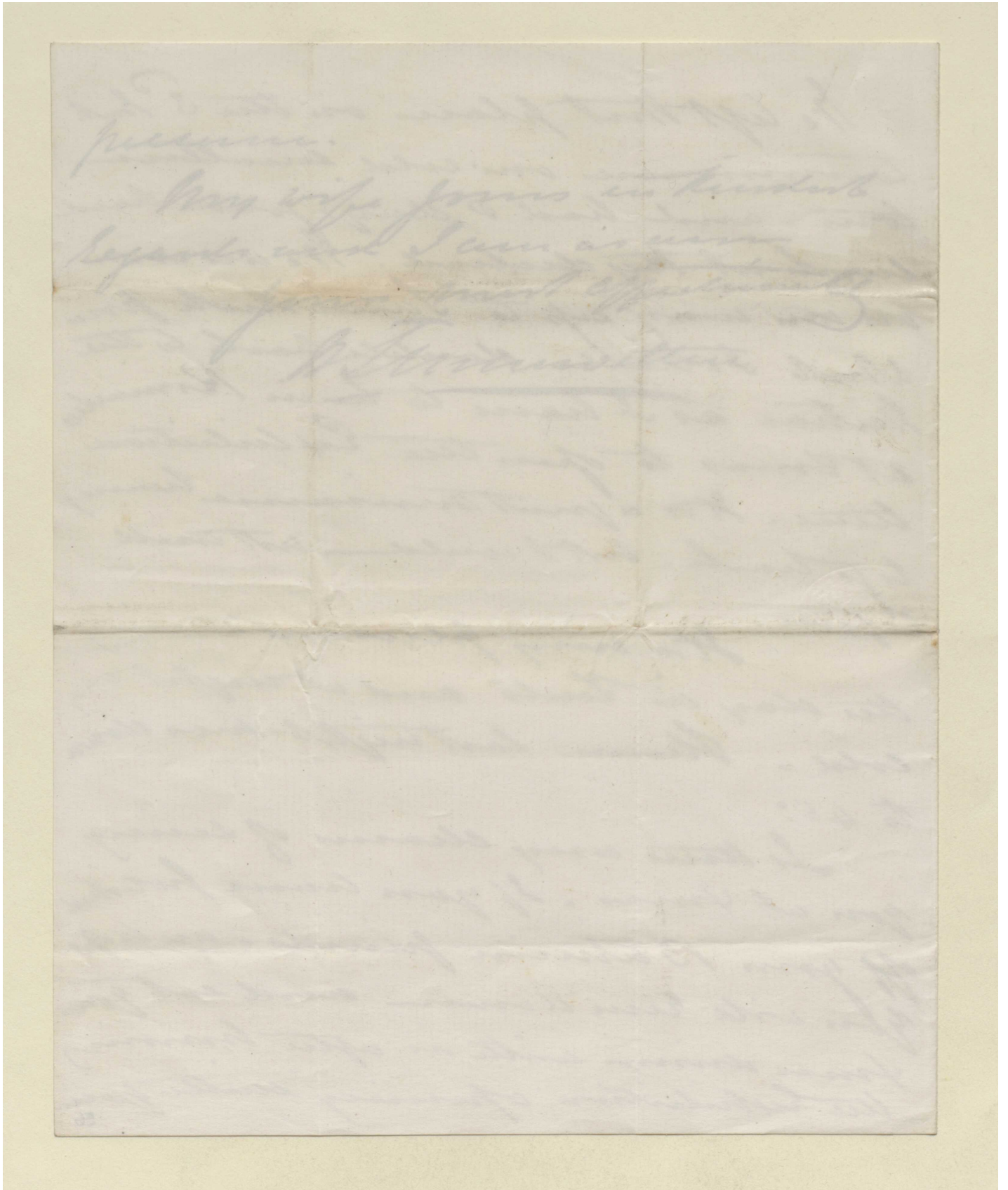
Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Meeanie [Miäni] to Lewis Pelly [55v]
(6/8)



Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Meeanie [Miāni] to Lewis Pelly [56r]
(7/8)



Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Meeanie [Miäni] to Lewis Pelly [56v]
(8/8)



Camp Taroo Shah. 28th Nov. 64.

My dear Pelly

Many thanks for your letter of the 4th with accompaniment. The letter I return herewith - Agassiz's people behaved very properly about the Clyde business - and your settlement of the matter was simple and convincing. But what can one say of poor old Dibrowe. Surely Govt. now have fair reasons for telling him his further presence at Anwarak is not conducive to the interests of Govt. or of that state. It is a waste of time having to patch up his wretched differences.

The Kabrine business clearly shows how unwise it was to get rid of the old Indian navy in the hasty way they did in 1862/63. There is report that a species of hybrid arrangement is to be tried - not quite old Indian navy - and not

57

not quite Admirally Manipulation,
but a little of both - consequently
utterly useless. Strange people unaccountable
to the seas or the inhabitants of the
Shores will be sent forth - and these
will have the same ideas as at present.
I wish that vessels of war must be kept out
of the Persian Gulf and Red Sea
during the summer. It is trying in
both doubtless - but there are suitable
plans where they might remain near
Horn of Somalia!

I hope you will be able to give
the Arabian & Persian people a lesson
in some degree in spite of the delay
which the absence of men of war caused.

Sir J. Fitz Gerald has very excellent
& clear ideas about our policy in the
Gulf and foreign policy generally and
I believe Lord Mayo personally is quite

in accord - the Calcutta Bureau
 is the stumbling block and when
 that had Lord Curzon's support it was
 the death. I hope however a change
 is coming on and that hereafter
 broad views will be the rule and
 narrowness shunned.

There is a small steady going
 on in the Helat State - that usually
 joins at two points again. backed by
 Koordeen Muzul. On this occasion
 the Khan wisely took Harrison's advice
 and acted with most proper energy.

In the end of September the Jam being
 sent round circulars throughout
 the country urging a general rise during
 the cold season. The Khan started
 the old Shuhgasser off with a force to
 deal with the Jam at once. Waller
 and Maberoun very properly pushed on to
 Wadd. Arriving there before Koordeen

was ready - the latter had to trot ^{gins}.
 minimally - and his armistat balls
 were knocked to pieces. Many of the
 Mujahs came into the Shalyasser and
 attended ^{a rather tight pass} submission. He then advanced
 to Baran Sukh. 25 miles beyond Wudd
 & about 45 from Baylah. where the jam
 had taken up position - attacked him
 and won the day. The jam and his
 brave Army fled after very little fighting
 losing only 20 men. the Shalyasser half
 that number. If the latter presses on
 quickly the jam & his wooden will have
 nothing left to them but flight - to Kermuk
 where every day I expect to hear of their
 arrival. The only fear is that Syeds and
 old women - more "Broovio's" may
 be allowed to intervene - and a rotten time
 patched up. The Khan has acted well
 and if he goes on in the same way. we
 may yet see a strong Gov. at Kelah
 under him.

The most serious matter in India
now is this rapid and I cannot help
thinking, most injudicious, wholesale
retrenchment. A fine decided policy
well considered and
unflinchingly carried out is all very well
and the proof of a strong Government.
But these hasty cuttings - without any
regard to the necessity or otherwise of the
portion of the machinery done away with
are in my humble opinion most serious
to us as the governing power. Important
public works necessary to proper development
are suddenly stopped without the slightest
regard to what ^{effect} the withdrawal of a
large sum of money will have on those
works - Establishments are summarily
reduced - without provision being made
for the effect - the Native Army is exposed
to the comment "contre qui conta" in spite of
its having been clearly shown in 1862 as
I know well. That further diminution
would be most dangerous - The Native
Army is disappointed enough as it is - but
this, from showing to them the uncertainty
of their tenure of employment, will make

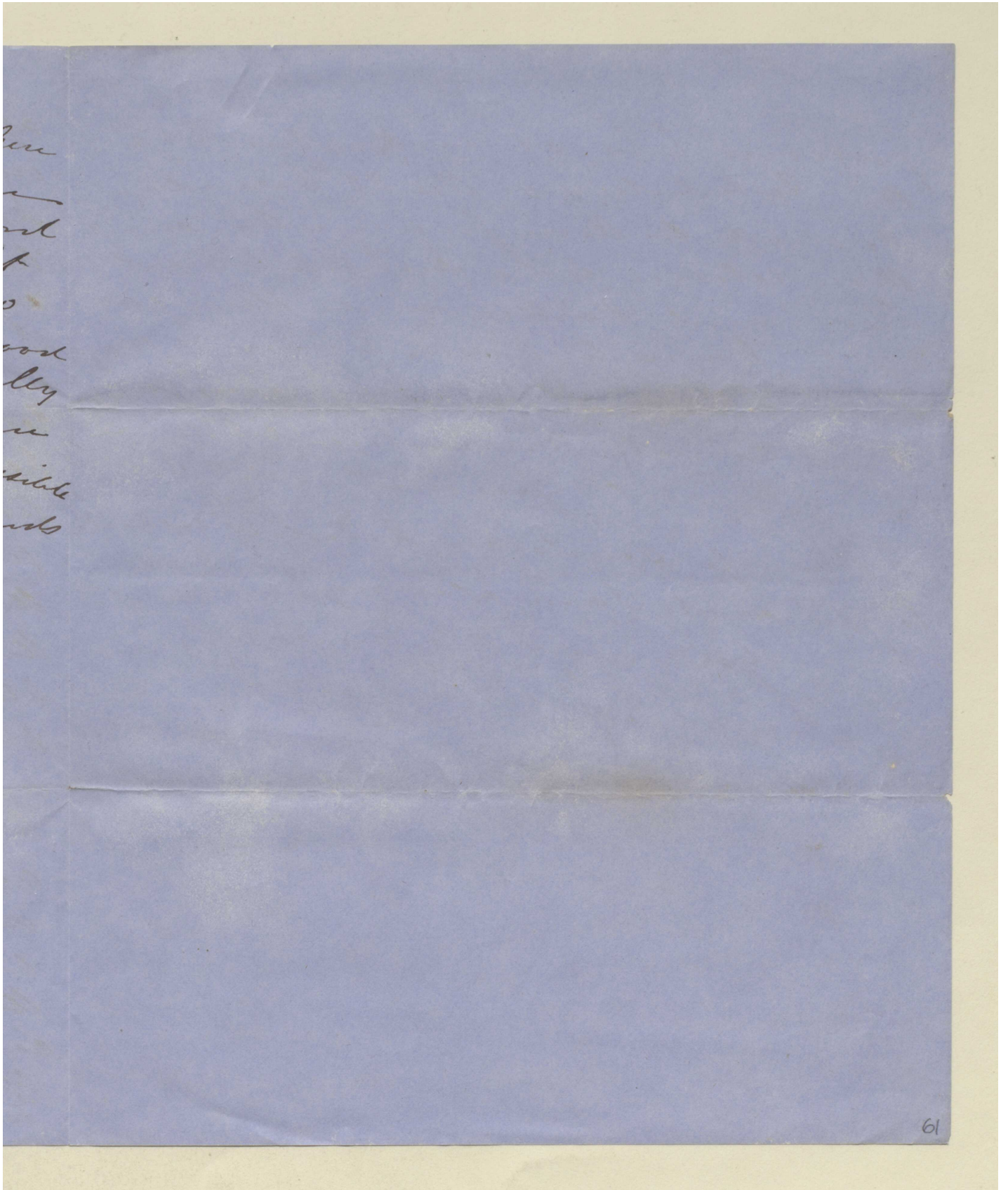
matters a hundredfold more - All this from
 a sudden panic - and from not having
 a clear understanding as to what public
 works should be carried out from Revenue
 and what by means of loans. Had Sir C. Wood
 had the pleasure to accept and adopt the
 proposal made to him nearly five years
 ago - to borrow 20 millions - apply 10 to irrigation
 works, which under the most unfavorable
 circumstances would return 15 per cent.
 and the other 10 to Barracks - Harbor Works
 & fortifications against - we should not have
 needed this second clipping - our soldiers
 would have been properly housed - and
 many of the irrigation works would have
 been paying more like 30 per cent - giving
 clear gain while ordinary Revenue was
 not touched upon. These recurring extraordinary
 do incalculable mischief by their unsettling
 peoples minds. Men of strong will like
 Sir W. Mansfield ^{who look only to the present} persistently ignore this - and
 say never mind it will all come right when
 we have over-extended the expenditure -
 but it won't - the evil has been born and will
 grow.
 We are enjoying our travelling greatly
 weather delightful - and in spite of there
 being a good deal of fever in the country

after the very heavy rain of last summer
our Camps from constantly moving
keeps wonderfully healthy - Cholera
has I am thankful to say almost
entirely left the country - and the ^{Southern}
I hope the same. They did terrible mischief
in Larus Sind. Thurn & Parkin. so that
remissions there will have to be very
heavy. But Middle and Upper Sind
have been more fortunate. We have
recovered slowly up from Hyderabad
that I might take a good look at all
the matters of the large courts with
which this Collectorate is signally favored
but which from long immurement
and neglect have got into shocking
bad order - If a proper sum of money
were given to put them into thorough
order. the Revenue I am convinced
would be doubled the first year - &
that grand but fearfully expensive
annual from Revenue quite unnecessary.
After ten more days we shall have
to turn South again as I am under

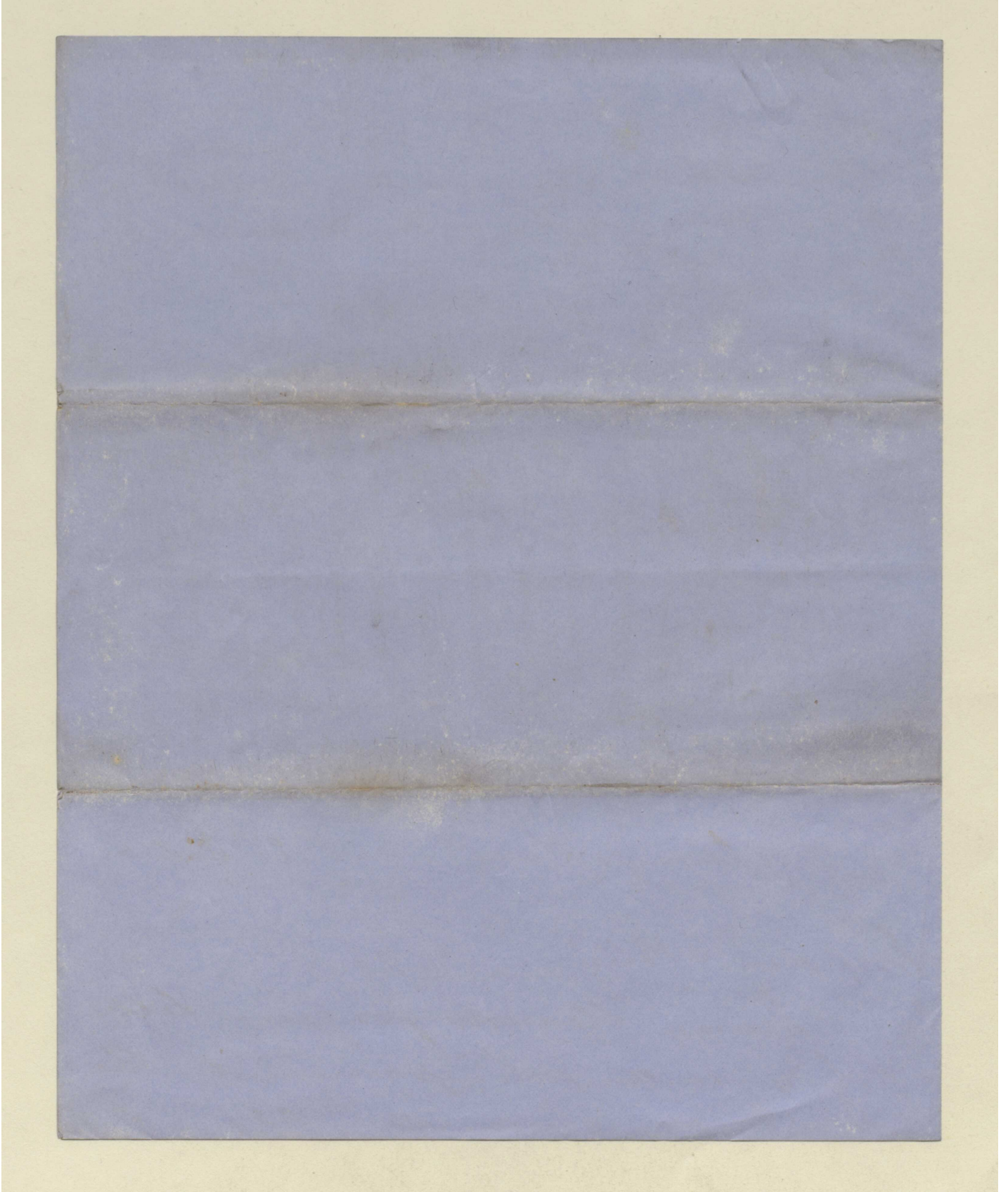
promise to be at Ramesh to open
the Exhibition on the 23^d December
We shall be there for a week, and
then return to the District to visit
Herr and Parkin and then go
up the harra to Rovee to have a good
look at that. It would be very jolly
if you came to Ramesh while we
are there - but I fear that is not possible

My wife sends her kindest regards
to you and I am always
Yours most affectionately
W. Merewether

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Camp Tarooshah [Tharu Shah] to Lewis Pelly [61r] (9/10)



Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Camp Tarooshah [Tharu Shah] to Lewis Pelly [61v] (10/10)



Camp Oomeerkote

27th Feb. 70.

My dear Pelly.

I received yours of the 4th
some days ago and of the 15th
this morning very many thanks
for bottle of them. I was very much
delighted to see by the Gov. notification
how very properly your labors
had been appreciated both in Bombay
and Calcutta - the latter an amazing
improvement on old times - and
I am very glad to find by your
letters that personally all has been
so satisfactory to you in your inter-
course with Sir Seymour & the
Feiray as well as others. The two
former are both good generous minded
men and can appreciate good work
at its real worth.

62

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Camp Oomeerkote [Umarkot] to Lewis Pelly

 [62v] (2/4)

The holder and more vigorous policy of the present Govt. has already borne fruit in checking the extended aggressions of the Persians on the Beloochistan Frontier. Major Mun and the Kerman Governor had a large force collected at Bampoor and took a position of it to Gakh and Rusemabad. But ~~soon~~ they returned and broke up the force under it was supposed by Ross. instructions received from Tehran. The disaffected Ghitabek Chief of Kedi who they had taken up for their own purposes has been dropped by them and got in charge, so matters are all right for the present. No good business will be really done until the Persian boundary line is distinctly fixed. and the sooner that is done the better. It never will

be until Persian political matters
are put under the Govt. of India, as
they ought to be and as I hope may
yet be the case.

Gulf affairs are getting very
lively and we should have some
stirring news from there soon.

I hope the G. G. will continue the
straightforward and bold course

These letters found by you on
the messengers at Bahrein for the
copies of which every man's thanks
are most important - and a fearful
expose of Persian double dealing.

I think there can be no question
that Mr. [unclear] should be under the
Bahrein Resident - and the
promotion is due to one of your
assistants who have worked so well
under you. The only point to be
in view is who will suit you when

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Kurrachee [Karachi] to Lewis Pelly [64r]
(1/4)

Dear Pelly
I have all
your leaving
business of
the 11th
and the papers
same mail with
seal. The latter were most
interesting especially the
one about the Trade. It has
excited me exceedingly
certainly - but I am quite
convinced it is only still in
its infancy - and a few
more years will see still
much greater development.
Your account too of the
state of affairs in Oman
is very clear and good

64

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Kurrachee [Karachi] to Lewis Pelly [64v]
(2/4)

and ought to enable
our talented magnates
to decide what they should
do. I believe ^{& feel} both
Sir Seymour and Lord
Murray have very correct
views on our foreign
policy. but the latter
is abominably hampered
by his coworkers in Govt.
and the Bengal Secretariat
who give him information
There seems to be a stir
in the right direction
at home about our

Persian relations. I do hope yet that embassy
may be put under the
Indian Govt. - but these
Foreign Office gentlemen
are full of jealousy.
There is little or no
news here - Telegraphs
with England working
splendidly now both lines
We get in the afternoon
the opinions given
forth by the London
journals of that day!
I returned last week
from my trip to Jeddah
which was a very

65

Pleasant one. The weather
was very jolly while I was
there - nights and morning
so fresh and cold. I hope
Wray understands matters
better now - but I cannot
help having the feeling that
though he intended to and
in the end subscribed to my
views - still he had not had
faith and is determined
on the first opportunity to work
his own again. He had
better not for he won't be
spared by God! I am
pretty sure. Very busy times
these my wife joins in
kindest regards and I am
as ever yours very affectionately
W. Merewether
The few days and nights to remain
remains. Very sorry to hear of

Memorandum 13th July 70

My dear Pelly.

Mr. Snow duly delivered
your note of introduction and I
was very glad to get him up here
for the day and night - and then
to send him on board the Boundary
Steamer on the Saturday morning.

He is an intelligent observant
character - and is going the
way to improve himself by travelling
and that not too hurriedly.
I should like very much to follow
his example.

You had a very happy time
of it certainly in those grand riots

It was fortunate you were on the spot and not away dodging after Looshee & Co. I got the dispatches all right - and sent them on. Many thanks for their perusal.

I am anxious to see the result of Looshee's last move. I am afraid his chances are not very brilliant. I say afraid for though Azem has shown himself a good man. I think from what I know of the Arabs that they are more likely to join and become one affair in Ocean under Looshee, a legitimate than under any other.

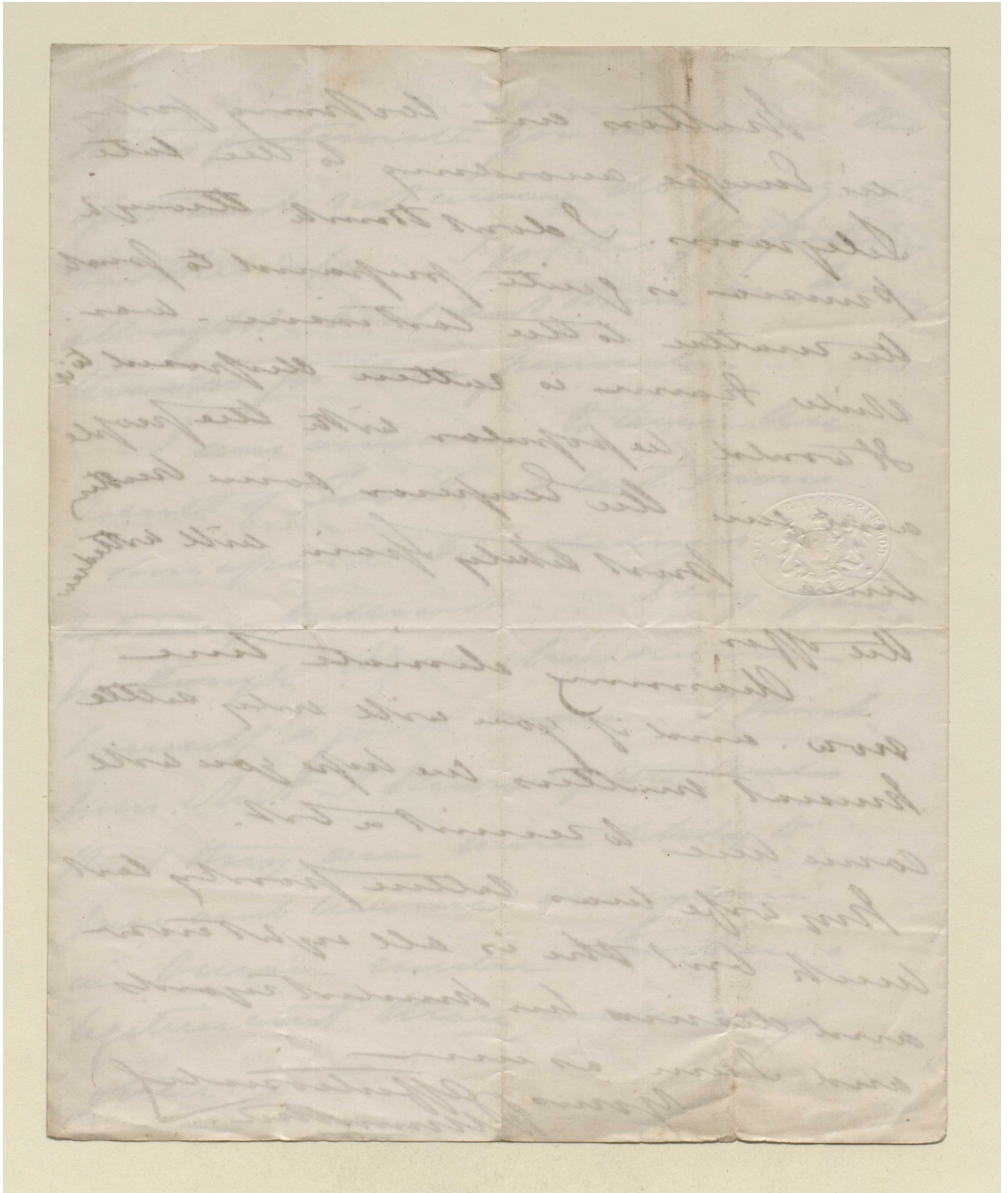
Matters are looking fairly
in Europe according to the late
Telegrams. I don't think though
Prussia is quite prepared to push
the matter to the last issue - war.
While France is rather disposed to
It would be popular with the people
and give the Emperor some breathing
time. Most likely Spain will withdraw
the offer.

Charming climate here
now, and if you will only settle
current matters we hope you will
come here to recruit a bit.

My wife was rather poorly last
week but she is all right now
and desires her kindest regards
and I am as ever

Yours Affectionately
William Merewether

67



Remembrance 7th Aug. 70

My dear Pelly,

Many thanks for
yours of the 26th June
present. We were very
sorry to hear of your fall
and congratulate you
on getting off so easily
from what might have
been a most serious accident.

It is very interesting
Government affairs remaining
in such an unsettled state
for it not only interferes
with trade there &
elsewhere but it is not

68

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Kurrachee [Karachi] to Lewis Pelly [68v]
(2/6)

unlike to lead to either
unpleasant complications
on the Persian Coast.
The present Wali of Swat
and his intriguing faction
are not working together
and any day there
may be a coup d'etat
started by the former
to get rid of the latter
who will call in any
aid to help him - His
latter
has been intriguing
with the people in the
neighbourhood with a
view to send occurring
Had we not Pass there

There would have been
a serious war in this
and if such takes place
Rass is very much
affected -
Will this be a rise for
this war. What one must
have expected to occur
at any time - but the conditions
that are taking place
are not a little interesting
and part are held to all
trust for the future in
Confidential political
inter communications, if
they are to be used as
Bismarck is doing

69

He has been playing
a bold and reckless game
determined apparently to
put Napoleon into a very
square hole. Through one
cannot approve his clamour
one cannot help admiring
his bold calculations
and unwavering pertinacity
in behalf of Germany
to humiliate France. At
first it seemed as if the
the latter was in the
wrong - joining on a
sacrificary and needless
struggle - but later news
has to prove Bismarck
was at the bottom of it

all and France is
 attentive. When will
 it all end? It seems impossible
 that other nations will not
 be dragged in and then
 we can't hold aloof, either
 in honor or in safety. I do
 hope our statement will not
 be led to break with France,
 for it has very much as
 of the struggle between
 liberty and despoticism
 been really about to take
 place. France though ruled
 quasi despotically has
 the form of liberty & progress
 in her, and commercially
 our alliance with her is
 essential to the welfare of
 both ends of the world, so
 I hope we may with the separation

The Queen's predilections
are of course all Prussian
and it will be a most tedious
matter when the question
of which road we are to
take has to be decided.
A Mr. Johnson called
here the other day on his
way up the Gulf - it was
not my receiving day, and
unfortunately I did not see
him which I was very
sorry for on finding out.
He was only a passenger.
My wife has had a
rather severe attack of illness
but is today I am glad to
say very much better.
Mr. Ainsley is thriving thank
you, they all send kindest
regards and I am as ever
your most affectionately
W. Merewether

Rs number 21^o October 1874

My dear Pelly

Many thanks for your letter
of the 4th. - It certainly seems a thousand
pities if John Lawrence did not adopt
the just and clear policy of supporting
Dooker at the right time - However
we have a report true brought by last
mail that Azam bin Ghos had received
a severe thrashing and been obliged to
fly with only 12 men. If this is true
Dooker may be all right - unless he
has got too much enthralled with
the Wahabee.

I was very much obliged to you
for sending the arrant to Swadue
she arrived in the nick of time, and

71.

as she was only detained three
two days or so. I hope she got back
to Muscat in good time.

There were the elements of a very
noisy business in the Gwader
case, and it became necessary to act
promptly and decidedly. Daboo was
getting desperate, and in a few days
would have been joined by a lot of
Rinds from Mund and other rounds
who cared only for the chance of loot.

Ross acted with excellent judgement,
and settled the whole business without
any bloodshed whatever.

Shekh Masser having placed
himself under Ross' protection, Daboo
and his people became only a disordered
tribe which it became necessary to
despise for the safety of our own people.

Miss Ross did very artistically and
the tickets are now being saved
for until Govt. decides what had better
be done with them. I have ordered
copies of my reports and Ross' to be sent
to you for that you may know exactly
what occurred and hope they will reach
you by this mail.

I also send you copies of all
the correspondence that has lately
passed about Belut affairs. Perhaps
from obstinate blundering would
soon set the border in a blaze. He cannot
see when and how interference is justified
or proper. so I was compelled to forbid
his interfering at all. He is fond of
writing and does not write badly, but
he is rather reckless in quotation, and
cares only for what will support his
own argument. The Khan has really

been behaving better during the last

 two years than has ever been the case before

 and it would most unjust as well as

 most impolitic - just as he is beginning

 to govern well - to cut in the harsh and

 unjustifiable way Phayre would

 propose.

This war is a terrible business

 certainly - but there are circumstances

 attending it - that should open the eyes

 of our statesmen if they will allow them

 to be opened. The helpless state of our Army

 at home and abroad is to my mind a

 matter of extreme importance - but spite of

 all that has occurred I fear the present

 peace making policy will put off the

 readjustment until too late.

I have for long advocated giving our

 native Army the best weapons that can

 be produced. On political as well as physical

 grounds - but there is necessarily want of

faulth among our magistrates which
prevents them doing a wise thing
though themselves convinced of the
correctness of it.

This China business is a very
serious one and so we shall find
it unless we prepare for the time
when we must interfere and should
be able to act promptly and vigorously.

Lord Granville is welcome by
Mr. Hammond ought to convince the
people at the Foreign Office at last how
dangerous it is to trust longer to men
like Hammond of a bygone period
and full of self sufficiency. They cleared
Murray out, who certainly had not Hammond's
talent, but they ought to have provided
for the latter also.

I am sorry you are not able to
 take your full voyage - but it is just as
 well you do not at present as I am
 confident this cold season will show
 some important entries out in the East
 and the more good men are present
 to the fore the better.

We are all very well and
 thank you - Had a wonderfully
 cool season, only sorry you could
 not come down to enjoy a little rest
 with us. If you stay next summer
 you really must.

We have the Rosses staying
 with us for a few days - but they will
 go on to Sweden next week I think
 The boys are also here preparatory
 to leaving for England on the 2^d prox^o
 I shall be very sorry to lose them.

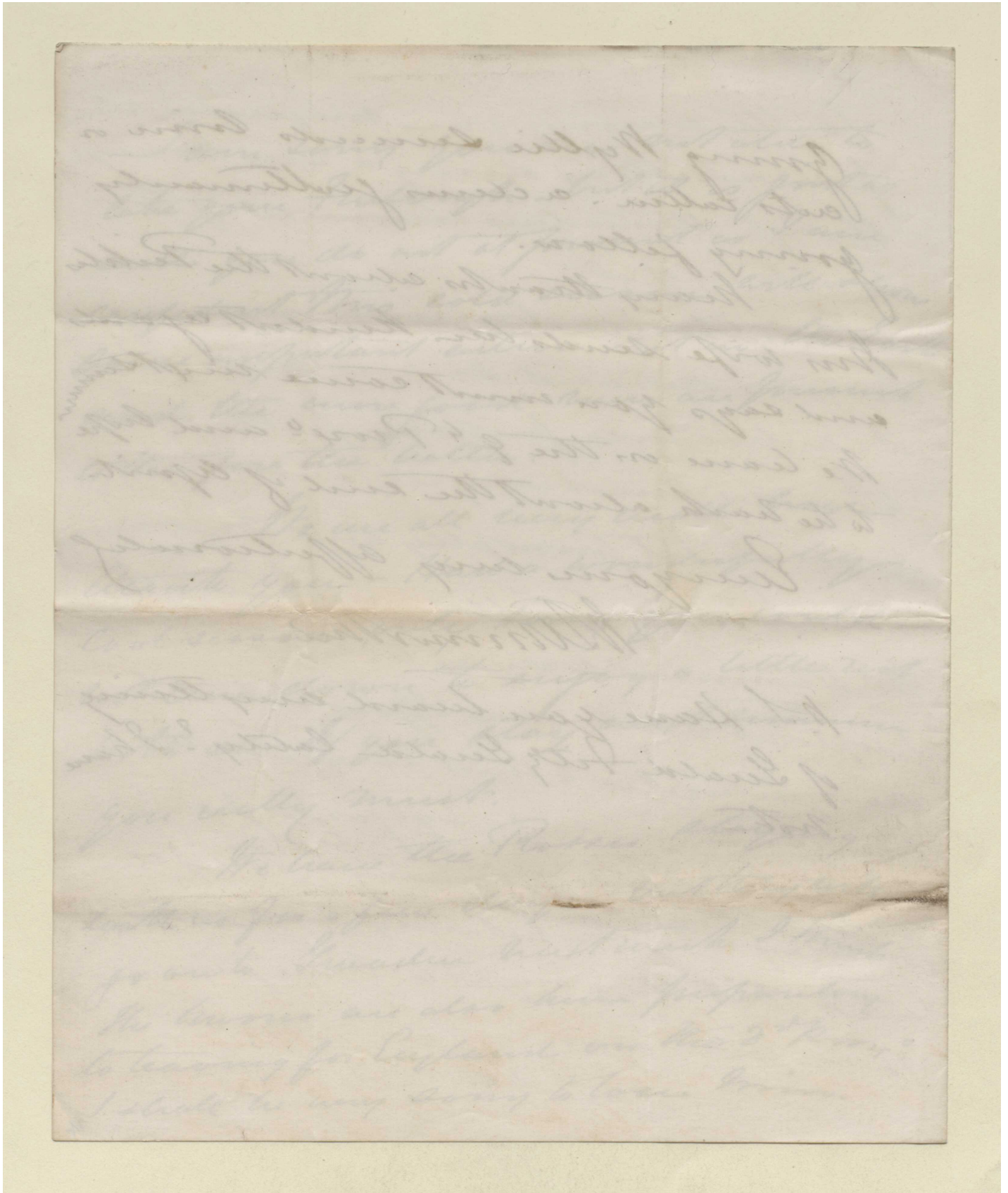
Young Willie seems to be in
better health. a clever gentlemanly
young fellow.

Mary thanks about the Pebles
Mrs wife sends her kindest regards
and says you must come next summer
We leave on the 4th Prov^o and hope
to be back about the end of April.

Ever yours very affectionately

W. Merewether

P.S. Have you heard anything
of Gerald Fitz Gerald lately? I have
not -



Kurrachee 3rd Nov. 1840

My dear Pelly,

Many thanks for yours
of the 22nd Nov.

I hope you did not think
that in enquiring about the Guadalupe
business at once with Ross I was
needlessly interfering. The position
of Guadalupe and of Ross there is most
peculiar - and the case was one of
those which did not admit of delay
and I considered it absolutely
necessary to act at once - or we should
have had a long and nasty business
on our hands. If anything less
been accidentally omitted which you
think ought to have been done
please let me know - and the
omission shall be rectified forthwith

75

I quite agree with you in all
you say about Government affairs
Sir J. Lawrence's policy in regard
to that unhappy place was not
happy - and would, I think
will get worse of it. There is nothing
so dangerous as allowing disturbances
to continue for any time in a
country - and if Loosken had
only been set up as Sultan &
Imam - or as Sultan only, five
years ago all this would have
been saved.

If he remains now - forms a
Govt. and is recognized, what do
think of our buying Guadar
from him, or taking on a long lease
The money would be invaluable

to him - and I should think he
 would offer no objections - The lease
 would perhaps be best as less likely
 to touch the susceptibilities of our
 Persian friends -

I have heard nothing from
 the Governor yet on the Guadue
 business so conclude he defers
 remarks until he is in possession
 of the views of the Secretary -

Ross left this yesterday for
 Guadue. He will probably have
 to go up to Bampur to meet Goldwind
 as it seems intended that the Persian
 & Nekran boundary should be
 first taken in hand. I have however
 no instructions as yet.

The Kandahar question seems
 likely to be solved sooner than
 was expected. The Amens Troops

received Mr. Pelly on the 21st March
As they were at the house
became very ill and had to be
hurried off to the hospital. It is said
in an insensible state his illness
was so severe. He evidently had
no stomach for the fight.

All going on well here thank you
The two boys left yesterday for England
and are a great loss.

The Pickles you so kindly sent
arrived yesterday - and we tried
them today. They are most
excellent and my wife begs me
to thank you very much for them
and for thinking of her in regard
to them.

The cold season has fairly set
in and we are off on our travels
next Wednesday.

Good bye to you and with our
kindest regards I am as ever
Very affectionately yours
W. Merewether

I have your money to the order of Lewis Pelly and my kindest regards to you

Charbua Ghat opposite
Mittunhkote
1st Feb. 1871.

My dear Pelly.

I have to thank you
much for your two letters
of 5th Nov. and 17th December
and to apologise for not having
before acknowledged them
but what with the short days
and knocking about the
country I have had little time
for anything but current official
work.

Pray keep the copy of
Relat Papers I sent you. They
were intended for you to do so
Nothing has yet been settled
about the question. but I lately
received a Telegram from
Sir Seymour to the effect that
he entirely concurred in my

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Charbua Ghat, opposite Mittunhkote
[Mithan Koat] to Lewis Pelly [77v] (2/8)

views and opinions and
disapproved totally of Col:
Wharfe's policy and proceedings
which is so far satisfactory.
By Lord Mayo's desire
I have now come here to
meet Mr. Davies the new
Governor of the Punjab to
confer with him on Frontier
affairs. and expect him
to arrive some time today
The meeting was to have
been with the poor Sir H. Bernard
but his untimely and most
melancholy death prevented
that. Apart from his loss to
the Punjab and India
generally I regret it extending
in reference to this question

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Charbua Ghat, opposite Mittunhkote
[Mithan Koat] to Lewis Pelly [78r] (3/8)


as he was a soldier and well
 as freely on fact at frontier
 politics and would have
 understood the bearings of
 the case in their true light.
 It remains to be seen whether
 Mr. Dennis will. At present
 I am quite ignorant on what
 particular points the conference
 is to be - not having yet received
 the papers - which ought to have
 been sent to our eyes ago.
 It is very unpleasant
 the case not being settled
 as I have charge with the
 and I can do or say nothing
 until a decision has been
 authoritatively pronounced

78

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Charbua Ghat, opposite Mittunhkote
[Mithan Koat] to Lewis Pelly [78v] (4/8)

I believe now we shall
 tide over this cold season
 without any immediate
 difficulties - but Russia
 through obliged now to draw
 back because Prussia did
 not approve will before
 long press the Eastern question
 again and war must follow
 in which case we must look
 out for squalls on this
 Affaire affairs are looking
 better too - Yakovlev's
 little game is up - a night attack
 on his camp leaving dispersed
 his reduced army and made
 him a fugitive with only a
 few followers.
 I am afraid I cannot
 help you to a reply about

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Charbua Ghat, opposite Mittunhkote
[Mithan Koat] to Lewis Pelly [79r] (5/8)



 Leave rules to Mill's Officers
 in Civil employ having
 no one with me who knows
 anything for certain about
 it. But I recollect at Odessa
 I had to come under the
 Civil Service Rules - which
 I fancy would therefore be
 the case with you. A reference
 to the Auditor General would
 set it settled clearly for you.
 Old Marston was with
 us from 9th Nov. to end of
 December and seemed to
 enjoy himself exceedingly.
 We had the dogs with us
 also for a month - I gave
 them your message and
 they sent kind regards in return.

79

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Charbua Ghat, opposite Mittunhkote
[Mithan Koat] to Lewis Pelly [79v] (6/8)

We have had a delightful
cold season - no rain but
plenty of clear dry cold.
Ice repeatedly and once the
therm: down to 18° at night.
After this we go down the
Eastern River to Bonuhote
and then by Goshonee
districts into Penahnee
where I hope we may yet
see you during the
summer.

Muscut affairs seem to
be looking better for Gooden
but I am afraid his delay
at Looe injured his cause
a good deal.

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Charbua Ghat, opposite Mittunhkote
[Mithan Koat] to Lewis Pelly [80r] (7/8)

I congratulate you on the
truce matters here taken
in the Sables country
you will I hope have less
trouble from that direction
than formerly.

I trust your harvest
had more rain and that
your neighbourhood may
be saved from the horrors
of famine - We have had a
very good harvest this
year and will be able to help
you with grain if you
want it

My wife joins in

80

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Charbua Ghat, opposite Mittunhkote
[Mithan Koat] to Lewis Pelly [80v] (8/8)

kindest regards and in
 returning you the best
 wishes of the season
 and I am always
 Very affectionately yours
 W. Merewether

Kurrachee 7th April 1871

My dear Pelly

Many thanks for your letter of the 23rd March. We returned here on the 30th sooner than I had intended but the heat came on suddenly and unusually early. so that it was not kept to keep Larkins out any longer nor to force the unfortunate office people to work in Larkins with the them: about 100 every and all day. I wished to have seen the Gorabore districts. the only part of Sind I have not been over since I came back, but was compelled to put it off.

We had a very pleasant trip to the Panyind and were most kindly and cordially received there. Davis

1901
I like very much. he is very able
and clear headed. and what is of
great importance on our frontier
his decision and very determined.
He ought to make a successful
He at once understood the danger and
absurdity of Captain Sandeman's
proposed proceedings and at the
conference gave him a very sensible
set down. by saying in reference
to Sandeman's boasting he had revived
an old line of Trade which
enabled the Rajahs to avoid the
Khan of Kelats Territory. "And may
I say, what business have you to interfere
with such matters relating to countries
beyond your border". This rather
nonplussed Sandeman. but it was

very first and what he needed to achieve
his desired meddling. The result
of our meeting was so far satisfactory
that there was complete unanimity
between Davis and myself. It was
clear the two frontiers could not be
properly managed with two different
systems - and as the Boogtes and
Munns had long been recognized and
must still continue to be recognized
as subjects of the Khan of Peshawar. Political
relations with the Khan were known
from Jandahabad. It followed that, given
Munns and Boogtes, the officials
on the southern border of the Punjab
should be under and act in accord
with the officers in charge of the
Sind Frontier. So Sanderman is to
work under and with Pelly and

82

I have to keep both straight. It is after

 all only what was being done before

 but not authorized then. and I am sure

 could push forward a heavy Commission

 of the subject to them the thought it con-

 sistent. -

Sir H. Bernards melancholy death

 has indeed a very great loss. and par-

 ticularly to the Punjab and Frontier

 generally. with which he was so

 thoroughly acquainted. He was most

 able and independent. with a most

 high sense of duty. and I do deeply

 regret he was cut off before we met.

 for I have a very strong idea he

 had very clear views as to the bad

 working of the Punjab Frontier system

 and would have remodelled it. The

 Secretary Mr. Thornton told me from

 Sir H. ~~was~~ very anxious for the meeting

 to take place. and almost the first thing

He did our recovering consciousness
 was to direct a Telegram to be sent to
 me expressing his regret that he was
 afraid the meeting must be put off for
 some time.

I was very glad to read the Gov.
 of India's decision on the Gairi civil
 case. How long will Mr. Allison be
 gone with at Kelumna? It really is
 criminal allowing a person like him
 to remain in so important a place. I see
 clearly as long as he is at Kelumna - no
 boundary between Beloochistan and
 Sindh - and Persia will ever be
 settled.

Your account of the sickness &
 suffering at Bushire is very sad. So
 that any way in which we can help
 from this. Fortunately our Harvest

has been a very good one, and
the merchants are exporting to Russia
and Persia. but as they want a
harvest too I am afraid they pitch
the prices rather high. If you thought
it worth while. you might be purchased
here and sent up for sale at nearly what
it cost. - You would though I suppose
have to work through the Persian authorities
who would then make their hands
a more sweeping one even than the
merchants. If there should be anything
don't hesitate to let me know it shall
be done at once.

I was very glad to see Tooke's
success at last. but he has a hard task
before him. now the Persians have
learned to be insurgent.

We shall be very glad indeed to

see you here again and shall
keep you for a time to refresh before
you go on

Henry Green came back to
India because he must have resigned
if he did not: and that he did not
wish to do. It is only for a time. he will
go down again as soon as he can. and
remain there as long as he can.

What extraordinary people these
French are. I am beginning to lose all
patience with them. They allowed
themselves to be regularly conquered and
crushed by the Prussians and now
they are like children fighting among
themselves. The only chance is to
utterly destroy those Red Republicans
as vicious vermin.

The Newsboys were in here first
they send kind regards to you
My wife is much better for the past
season's tone and sends her kindest
regards to you while I am as ever

Yours very affectionately
W. Merewether

Old Life is here President of our little
Committee to enquire what is the
best bank for the missing fish to take
from Sukkur down. I hope this may
lead to some conclusion being arrived
at.

Kurrachee 28th May 76

My dear Pelly,

Many thanks for
yours of the 22nd Ult.^o

I have just heard from
Bombay that the Gov^o
has at last decided the
Whaye business - coinciding
with me - so I conclude
the apt. on the Frontier
will have to be vacated
by Whaye. It is I fear a
very serious matter for
him - but he has only
himself to blame.
I hope his successor will
be more reasonable


85

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Kurrachee [Karachi] to Lewis Pelly [85v]
(2/8)

but I have not heard
for certain who it is to be
What a most sad thing
the death of poor Major
Gray. I fear extreme anxiety
helped to disorder him
or rather that was the
outward effect of serious
mischievous
Ross was ordered off
at a moment's notice to
present and as you will
have heard went up by
last mail leaving Mrs
Ross with us here for
the present at all events
Goldsmith came
down here and spent


at a fortnight with us.
He was able to see a
good deal of the Frontier
but could settle nothing
in consequence of the
usual obstinateness
and impracticability of
the Persians. so the
matter will have to be
fought out at Jeluzan.
That is a most unfortunate
more of the Turks especially
as the new Wahabees
I will be appears disposed
to be agreeable to all
you wanted done. I hope
the more may yet be
86

stopped.
 Your state at Bushin
 seems to be most unfortunate
 Were the Persian Govt
 in any way paternal
 one ~~they~~ ^{it} might give
 easy relief to the poor
 sufferers by expating
 grain from this - of which
 we have plenty a
 good supply this year
 We have received
 two cases of small
 pox from your regions
 both too far gone for
 any chance of recovery
 Ships - Steamers, have been



Now to be suspected and
I have ordered all cases
to be cancelled and send
you immediately -
You are fortunate in
your weather - Here
we had it most tempestuous
for a time - followed
by a hoard muggy
calm. but now the sea
breeze is as it should
be and we have gone
out to Histon for a month
living in the Gen's old
house. which is very
comfortable -

87

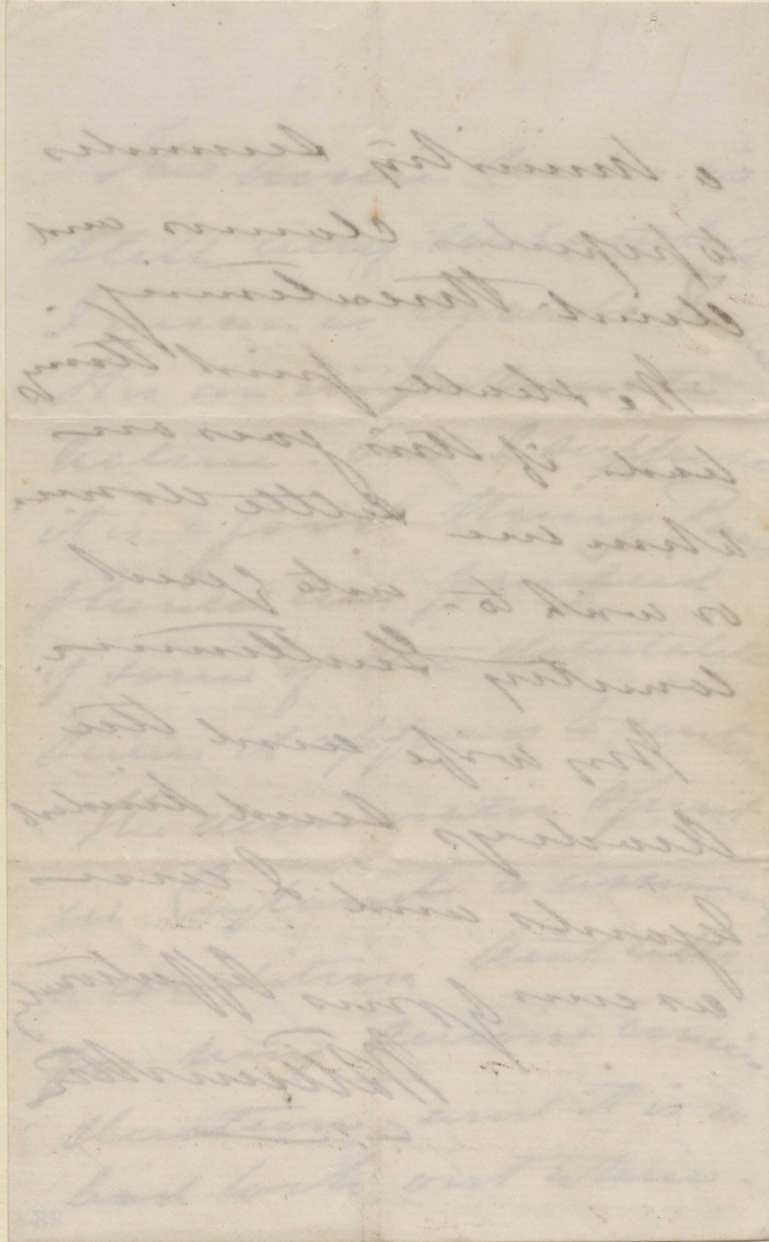


The home news is
still very melancholy to
I mean as regards France
It is an unfortunate
action - but I suppose
it is a good thing Paris
should be purged
of some of the detestable
demons it appears to contain
The democratic spirit
in England is assuming
a condition that calls
for very serious consid-
eration - and it is a
bad look out there

is a Ministry succumb
to popular clamor and
threatening.
We shall find things
lead if this goes on
when we settle down
or wish to visit your
country gentlemen.
My wife and the
Auntys send kindest
regards and I am
as ever yours Affectionately
W. Merewether

88

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Kurrachee [Karachi] to Lewis Pelly [88v]
(8/8)



Kurrachee 28th June 1871.

My dear Pelly,

Many thanks for yours of the 5th. I hear from Widderburn that the G.R. about Helut Affairs will reach me in a few days, so probably this mail will bring it, and I hope proper settlement -

That is a most stupid view of the Turks. They are pretty sure of winning Tripoli, and will find it difficult to push back, unless the Sovereignty is acknowledged by the popular candidate to the Imamate, to which I fancy there will be no objection, as it is not much more than nominal, and was done before.

The accounts from Persia are most distressing - and all the worse because had the Gov. acted promptly

and pretty we could have
given any amount of pain from
this. and great misery have been
prevented.

We are having a wonderfully
cool season, and the climate
now is most delightful strong
cool sea breeze day & night.

Affghanistan affairs have
taken an adverse turn against
the army in the service of Yakub
Khan at Herat. and there is
great uneasiness at Kandahar in
consequence and from reports from
an agent of the Persian Frontier
Force being largely increased with
the object of taking possession of Herat
I ask you to be very serious matter, and give
prom. a serious matter, and give

our magistrates some trouble -

I don't think Gakhovskoi's
services will be more than temporary
he will be wanted again shortly
General Khan sent his report but
has unshakable firm confidence
to the disaffected chiefs on the borders
of Turkestan - and they are becoming
active again. The Russian move
on India appears certain and when
they have that they will hold
the whole line of the Caucasus, and
will connect it with the Caspian
so as to have through water com-
munication from Russia proper
to Bokhara which they will then
also take. I wonder who will be
thought right there - those who
advised close attention to their
proceedings or the representatives of the
inactivity policy! Very

we may say. "My son with how
"little wisdom is this world governed."
No one has yet been appointed
to Sweden. but I have Pedersey
at Aalen has been offered it. He is not
very brilliant. but steadily and
will be better than an entirely
new man.

My wife and the children
send kindest regards to you
and I am as ever

Very affectionately Yours.

William Merewether

Russ tells me in reports you
went over there. I wish you would
continue your travels to this &
that they would let Russ come
over to Sweden to settle the
annual subsidies now falling
due.

Kurrachee 12th July 1871.

My dear Pelly,

Gov. have appointed Captain Miles from Aden to Guadalupe, and Captain Grant who was formerly in charge of your coal fields at Aden to act as your 2^d Assist: but he is instructed to stop on his way at Guadalupe and assume charge there until Capt^l Miles arrives.

Before these arrangements were made I have telegraphed to the Governor, that as there was a difficulty about the payment of the Telegraph subsidies at Guadalupe, regarding which I was not fully informed I should be much obliged if Ross could be allowed to come over here, and finally settle them, which he was unable to do before he left for Muscat. His the Governor sanctioned and I communicated the fact to Ross by Telegram via Guadalupe last mail

and he arrived here this morning

 by the Ocean Steamer. Captain Grant

 is also here having come by yesterday's

 Steamer -

Now as Ross is here and I can

 arrange with him all about the

 subsidies - there is no pressing necessity

 for Capt. Grant remaining at Gevaden

 particularly as Captain Miles may soon

 be expected by any mail from Cebu.

I have therefore telegraphed to Poonah

 recommending that Captain Grant should

 be allowed to go on and join you at

 once, feeling sure that under present

 circumstances you will not be sorry

 to have his assistance. The steamer

 may come this afternoon before he

 leaves, but if it does not, it will in

 plenty of time to be sent to him by

 telegraph to meet him at Gevaden, and

 I have instructed him accordingly

 I will also telegraph the result to

you.
Captain Grant comes of a good
stock being son of old John Grant
of the Artillery, and should make you
a good recruit.

I was very glad indeed to see
the other day that God had at
last decided on recognising Toobee
and had done it in a very proper
way - not noticing the interregnum
of Syed Salim's possession of the
Sultannate - I was in hopes this
would have reached Messrs before
Ross left - but it did not, and will
have to be formally carried out on
his return - He will go back by next
steamer a fortnight hence, so I hope
no delay or inconvenience will be
caused by his temporary absence.
It was a great thing for me to get time
over here to settle these subsidies
that the crew must now know what
he is about, and get proper instructions.

from me before he leaves this. which
I could not have given without seeing
Ross first. he having gone off to Muscat
so hurriedly on the former occasion.

I hope you will soon get rid of
your Turkish friends, and the better
they threatened. His merit was
brought a report that Saood has prevailed
and Abdoolah given into him. If this
be true there will no longer be any
fair reason for the presence of the
Turkish Troops in Malabar Territory
unless they intend to adopt the foul
one of trying to compel Saood to
acknowledge the sovereignty of the
Porte.

Hoping you are keeping well
and with our united kindest regards
Remains affectionately
Yours
William Lockyer Merewether

Kurrachee 23 August 71.

My dear Pelly.

Many thanks for your
letter of 16th July.

We are very sorry to find
that you are still detained by
the wretched proceedings of those
Turks. I fancy however they cannot
last much longer - and that they
will be glad to bring matters to any
conclusion that can be decently
obtained. The sufferings of their
force from sickness and insufficient
arrangements must have been
great. but I am afraid their authorities
don't care much about that - and
they are not likely to allow
Russell's in their camp to parade
their misfortunes before the public.

93

We have a report here that Madoola
has been killed or has died, this will
simplify matters for them -

We saw in the Papers the
announcement of Tooke's resign-
ation, which was well done and
a right good thing. We half
hoped you would have come
down to see to it, and then that
you would have been over here.

The news from France is now
most interesting - as showing the
wonderful vitality of the country.

It is to be hoped they will allow
Luis to remain at the helms,
until the time comes for restoration
of Monarchy, which must be in
France - and then I suspect the

Dear D'Armale will have the least
chance and be the best man they
could have -

Your amount of the flour is
most sad indeed - If the Persians
had had only bestowed themselves
to buy grain to throw into Persia
we could have sent you any quantity
from Sind - as last was fortunately a
good harvest.

We have had a wonderfully
good season as far as climate is
concerned - cloudy days and strong
sea breeze day and night for the
last 3 months so that we positively
have had no hot weather - I wish
you could say the same. Rain
is our only want, it wont fall
here - so that our tanks are
dry and wells getting deficient

in good water -

Gladstone appears coming
a week at home - and his Ministry
shows every chance of breaking up
next session. the difficulty is to
form a new one. the Conservatives
are so divided. that only a coalition
one could be formed.

We are in all the confusion
of a Ball this Evg, one usual one
in honor of H. V's birthday, so
excuse a hurried letter.

My wife and the boys
join kindest regards and I
am ever,

Yours affly

W. Merewether

When Lockyer has been installed
cannot something be done about
Sweden, for him to appoint a Gov.
Everything is in confusion. I present

Dear Sir
I have to thank you for
your letter of the 23rd of
the month of August and
to express my regret
that I am unable to
reply to you at present
on account of my being
in the hospital
at present
You do indeed appear to have had
a most trying season, and we
congratulate you on a change
appearing. It was a stiff introduction
to Political life in the Gulf for your
new side. Capt^l Grant.
It is to be hoped that the season
Maggie & Bullfinch have had to go
through will open the eyes of the
Administration to the folly of employing
such vessels in such a climate and
for such purposes. While the Administration
having the power to suddenly order
ships off any station they please

95

This was of course not allowed
 the vessel was brought into harbor
 and all landed on a communit
 spot at Manora. Where the sick were
 tended - and the healthy made blocks
 for the few days they were without
 water in was cases occurred.

Many thanks for the information
 about the policy of Govt. with regard
 to Governor's possessions on the Arabian
 Coast. They ought to have communicated
 their wishes to me - or I might have
 done mischief. Governor has sent a
 man a
 good man to Chastan - but his going
 there will not cause any difficulty as
 he is well known and possessed there
 before for Shaweyere. It would be
 a very good thing if Colonel West took
 himself off from Swader. For though

There is nothing actually bad in him
he does great mischief by his restless
beakness. if I may so express it.

That was a bad deed you mention
of Looker against Kheulele & Lou but
the usual kind of thing one does of
under such circumstances. I had hoped
better things however from Looker.

Adoolle turning up again is unfortunate
as it will prompt the Turks to continue
their ill advised expedition. Would they
had better have left alone. There is some
one pushing the Turks on to reap
more in the East and it was beginning
when I was at Aden.

Goldsmith's patience appears to
have won the fight and the Whigs has
accepted the line of boundary proposed
by G. This is very good and will save
us much trouble hereafter. I should
like very much to get home and that the
all night quest at Goldsmith's dinner at

Kurrachee 19th Oct^r 71.

My dear Pelly,

By a telegram from
G. Fitzgibbon I was told
to send the Symp to meet
you at Transit. Should
the letter come in time
which she has not as yet.
I conclude therefore you
will be at Transit, and
I hope have come to settle
something about Lord's
possessions in Kashmir
about which instead
of keeping quiet at Swat
is disposed to give trouble

97

He has again started for
 Charles and is said to
 have asked the aid of
 Hussein Khan of Gair to
 recule him to get possession
 of Charles. It will be unhand
 if he does do so. and it
 will be a very good thing
 if you could aid in his
 being sent to Bombay,
 as was arranged for London,
 with provision from London
 as long as he remained
 quiet there.
 There has been a small
 rebellion at Murrtoing and

Merewether - but the steam
by his prompt action has I hope
ripped it in the bud - Melodist
will be liable to seek for
some time to come - but
it is satisfactory to note that
for the last two years no
such thing has happened.
Perhaps C. G. proceeds by
this steamer to the Gulf.
He came out to see after
the Harbor works here,
and has been asked by
Anderson to take a look at
Fao Robat and Persora
in connection with the
European Railway -

98

I have given him a note
to you as the best person
who could give him information
on the subject he is interested
and I shall be much
obliged if you will give
him any information
and aid you can - He is
a very sensible old chap
and good practical Engineer
Anglo-Burmese has come
back to land as Railway
Capt. he and his wife arrived
today and are staying with
us. All old Sindhus come
back soon or later
With our kindest regards
Yours affectionately
William Merewether

Kurrachee 2 Nov. 71.

My dear Pelly

I was very sorry to
hear from Ross how ill
you had been at Muscat
and wish very much you
could leave here over
here for a few days change
and rest. Our splendid
climate for such it is now
and has been all the
summer though would
soon have let you off.
You have indeed had
a most trying season

99

14. 2. 1858
in the Gulf. but I hope
now when you return
you will find the cold
weather set in.
Those confounded Sushes
are an abominable
nuisance. but you will
doubtless checkmate
them again as you did
before. and it is to be
hoped they will then
change their tactics.
Poor Smith's death,
which Walton told me
of, was very sad. and

His would soon be settled
 if Govt would only declare
 its desire to support the
 Khan and his rule. I have
 urged this most strongly
 and trust they will soon
 decide to remove Whycze
 whose presence on the
 frontier is most displeasing
 to the Khan. I have learned
 from London letters dated
 from Aden, and so I suppose
 to take up the question as
 boundary question as
 it looks comes out in the
 view with the Resident regards
 from my wife and the Lady
 I am ever yours most truly
 W. Merewether

Jacobabad 8th Feb^y 1872

My dear Pelly I am in your
 debt for three kind interesting
 letters of 2^o Nov. 4^o & 30^o December
 with the copy of the 6^o Dec^r
 and must say I am horribly
 ashamed at not having before
 thanked you for them - but I was
 ten days on the Indus after
 4^o December and since I came
 you have had my hands full
 with Phayre's political blundering
 and silly nonsense about the
 forced funds -

First let me congratulate you
 as I do most heartily on having
 settled the Kachin question so
 very satisfactorily - The Viceroy
 will be greatly pleased -

101

Phayre's obstinacy and ill
advised open sympathy with
the refractory Sikhs backed by
Captain Sutherland's important
interference in affairs here and
sending misleading statements to
the Honorable Govt. has brought
the Govt of India into the very
unnecessary position of directly
interfering in Peshawar affairs. the
result of which we know. True before
there is no need to it of course -

I would have been against this so
did Sir Seymour - but the ill
effects of proceedings of an obstinate
man like Phayre were not met
in time. and the Chiefs got such
confidence that the Govt's position
became most critical. and interference
became necessary to prevent worse
consequences. The Govt is now

to come from Rhelut to confer
with me. and the Serikhs have
submitted and sent their followers
to their homes on hearing I would
mediate if they did so. The
disturbances are stopped for a
time. but tomorrow if any of these
Chiefs force^s himself off he
will kick up a row and we
shall be again called in. The
Rhan will always do as we tell
him. but our intermeddling must
each time diminish his power.
which is a previous mistake.
Phayre during the 5 1/2 years
he has been here has done as much
wishing as he possibly could
thinking to prove himself wiser
than his predecessors. who kept the
border quiet. which he has not.

The whole District is quite up and
 and it will take a long time to
 remedy the mischief he has done
 In the present question he has
 only shown himself supremely
 ignorant of Revenue ^{entirely} matters
 and the ordinary rules of double
 entry. but of even ordinary judicial
 procedure. besides being downright
 insubordinate. Little Wells who
 was formerly at Kharanah but now
 in the Assistant Comptrol's Dept.
 happening to come to send to
 examine the Accounts. I obtained
 his services to examine the accounts
 said to be false and fraudulent
 and I am only awaiting his report
 to send the whole thing on to Govt.
 when Govt will be able to judge
 what are injudicious men they
 should be in charge. He has

Winnipeg Feb. with a perfect
 quiet for work. but no more judgments
 than a cow. Sir R. Napier was about
 eight when he pronounced him "the
 most impracticable Staff Officer
 he had ever met."

I see no probability of leaving
 this for another month or six
 weeks. so my cold weather to me
 has been completely knocked on
 the head. When I had much to see.

We are living in the big house
 and very comfortable. It seems
 almost as if we had never left it.

It has been a very cold season
 unusually so. and we are not
 sorry to be in a house - at night
 especially. I was very glad to
 hear you had had rain. but there
 will be yet great misery before

good results from it are obtained
 Mallock passed up by Khelak
 and Innatuk to Kamsukus to
 join Goldsmid. but up to 30th
 January when he reached
 Pitkeen he had heard nothing
 of Goldsmid since the latter
 had left B under Abbass on
 the 26th December - They are
 to meet at Seshon - and will
 have an embarkment out to track
 There are constant rumours
 of increased action this spring
 to Khiva certainly. They have
 taken Gulshan half way to
 Kashgar - and are working
 Abdol Rahman Khan against
 Sukhtan - Now: Catastrophe should
 their cards in Armenia - and if

This Alabama business brings on
a rupture between us and America
which seems not improvable, though
I doubt it myself. Russia will
throw off the mask and surely
push towards India. She even
now at St Petersburg does not
disguise her intentions. To watch
for our mastery inactivity -

The Auldys I am very sorry
to say have had sad grief in
losing their second child, and
the third lately born is most
delicate - Very sad for them -

We are in great blow thank
you, and hope you are the same
quite round from your illness
of the Autumn - My wife joins
in kindest regards and love

wishes and I am always
Very affectionately yours
W. Merewether
When shall we meet in London indeed?
I don't venture on thinking of it as
troublesome times are certainly coming
I was glad to hear Gov. has at least
allowed Lookee to take after his
Nehran possessions not before it was
needed. Arabian Plans will be
sure to try and get hold of Chander
unless prevented through Lehman
Giles I told long ago not to interfere
at all - beyond advising Aludoo
Wjeef to keep quiet. but the latter
slipped surreptitiously off and got
into Chander -

Jacobabad 25th Mar.
1872.

My dear Pelly,

Many thanks for
yours of the 10th Feb. and
for sending me the G.L.
about your proceedings
at Bataavia. I most
heartily congratulate
you on their being so
justly and properly
appreciated.

I have had a most
enjoyable time of it
for the last three years
with the best fellow I have

105

Not merely owing to his
wearing head-dress but
to his very understand-
ings and at that he
was downright immoderate
note - boasting here
that he would obey no
one. The annoyance to
myself personally is
the least part of the
business. The worst is
the mischief he has done
in the country by
unsettling everything
and every body and
by the most illadvised

Support the cause to the
celebrated leaders of arms
the Meer. This was
the cause of the late
Revolution - and by
putting sword into the
leaders hands has made
settlement of the treaty
between the Meer and
them almost impossible
Homer having got
out of Phrygia and his
contemptible men
Sardemur. I hope to be
able to do something
but the position has
been made a most awkward
106

one. The Sardars could
say they have not had
a full hearing - and I
believe they began to think
that they have made
fools of themselves -
but previous anxiety
has been done - I hope
to finish all by the end
of this week - and then
we hope to go Southwards.
I heard from Goldsmith
& his party from Bannu
but not since they reached
Sohra where they expected
to be about the 13th Feb^y
Pulloch not before the

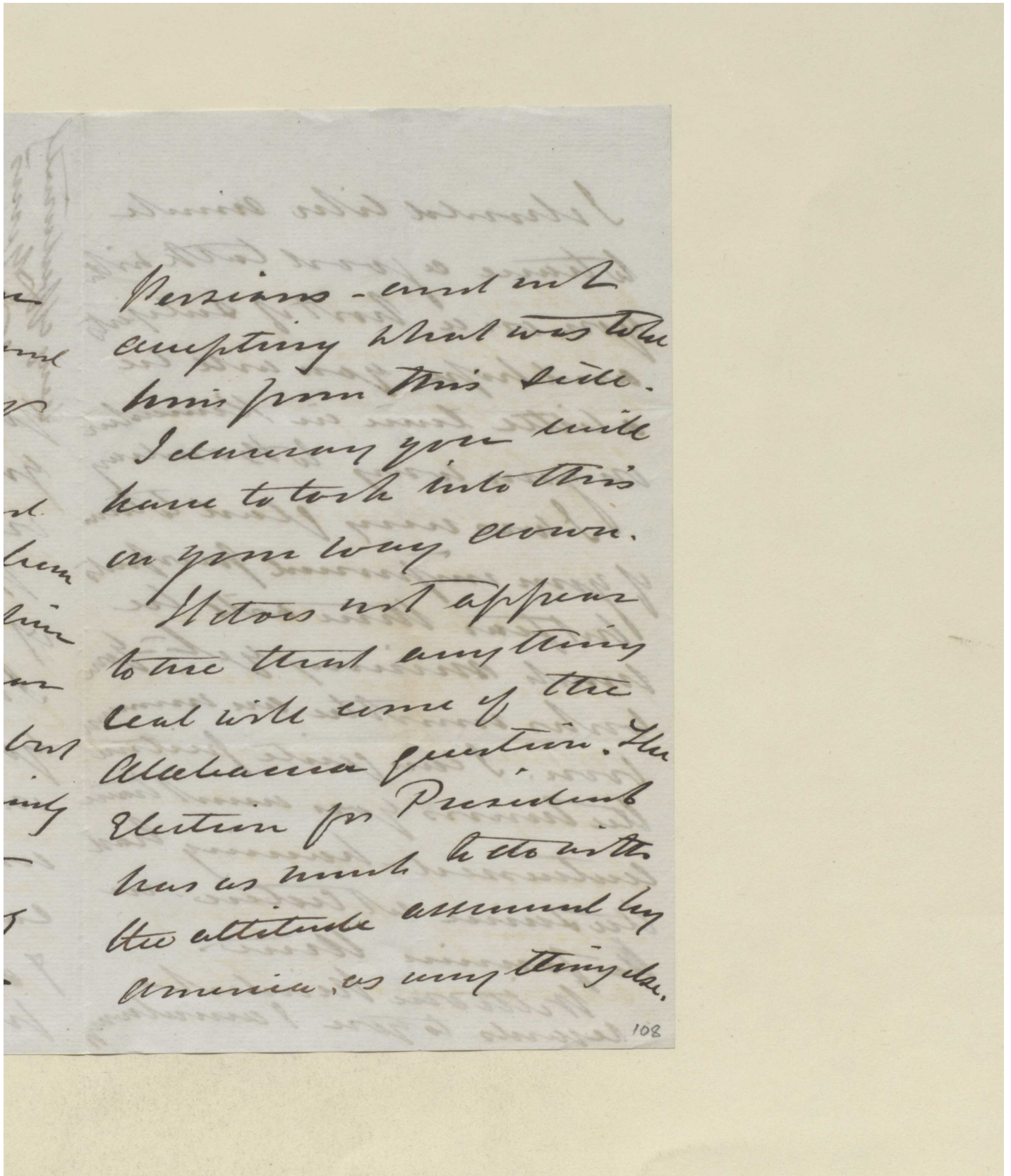
very affectionately
yours
W. Lockyer Merewether
The Overlays I
was going to buy
for you. We
have been applied
for by the Secretary
to the new
Provincial God.
I hope to be
able to get it in his
power. —

you at the same time on
your way to Sindah.
via Bombay I suppose.
We should be very glad
if you will return thro
Sind. but I cannot tell
you it will be very late
on the River in Aug.
and that you may
calculate on taking
7 days by Steam
from Multan to Kotla

107

as they bring down
two flats in tow and
are obliged to go very
steadily.

I don't understand
what our Gov. has been
about to let the Arabian
Hans bone Charles
for the Persians but
I suspect it was mainly
Alison's fault for
believing the lying
assurances of the



I should like much
to have a good talk with
you on a host of subjects
and hope you will be
a little time in Remembrance
on your way to the country
I was very glad to hear
of your improved prospects
but fear there will be
much missing yet - your
works must be an immense
work. I can quite picture
the towers you must have
continued - having had
the same at least in
the former time.
With our kindest
regards to you I am
yours truly

Kurrachee 28th March 72.

My dear Pelly,

The steamer that takes
this will probably bring you
down so I send a few lines to
thank you for yours of the 28th and
to say how glad we shall be to see
you in your way to Sindiah. I have
got back from Bombay just in time
having been kept there longer than
I expected. - It was useful however
as I saw the new Vicary. visited
our old friends in Lygman and had
party God speed and had an
opportunity of spending ten days
with the new Governor after he

109

took charge.
 He is a thorough English gentleman
 hearty and most conscientious - and
 anxious to keep work properly
 going -
 I am thankful to say the
 G. R. on the fundamental points
 copy of which you shall find soon
 I get the spare ones. completely
 disposed of Phayre by saying
 "The attache ^{with} ~~Colonel~~ ^{Colonel}
 has assumed with regard to the
 Commission in Sind in connection
 with Khelat affairs has led to his
 temporary removal from his app't
 at Junahabad, and His Excellency
 in Council with much regret is com-
 pelled to observe that the facts

disclosed by these papers under
it is probable that he should not be
allowed to resume office as Political
'Supt. of the U.S. Frontier'. It is impossible
yet to say the mischief he has done
on the frontier - but the most thoroughly
disorderly every thing - and upon
the people's minds in a way - it will
take several years of steady management
to correct. However this much
good has I hope been done in
convincing the authorities that any
such interference as Whipple proposed
would be the most dangerous that
could be followed - and infallibly
lead to our having to enter Baluchistan
however little we desired it. I will

110

find you a copy of all the papers for
your private amusement when you
come. They are being printed.

The Persian Commission in
Saitan evidently had orders to be
simply destructive there. So nothing
was taken, though much valuable
information was fortunately obtained.

The execution, like that of Inebrou,
will have to be decided at Seheran.

All will depend on who is Alessio's suc-
cessor. I have heard nothing about
it yet.

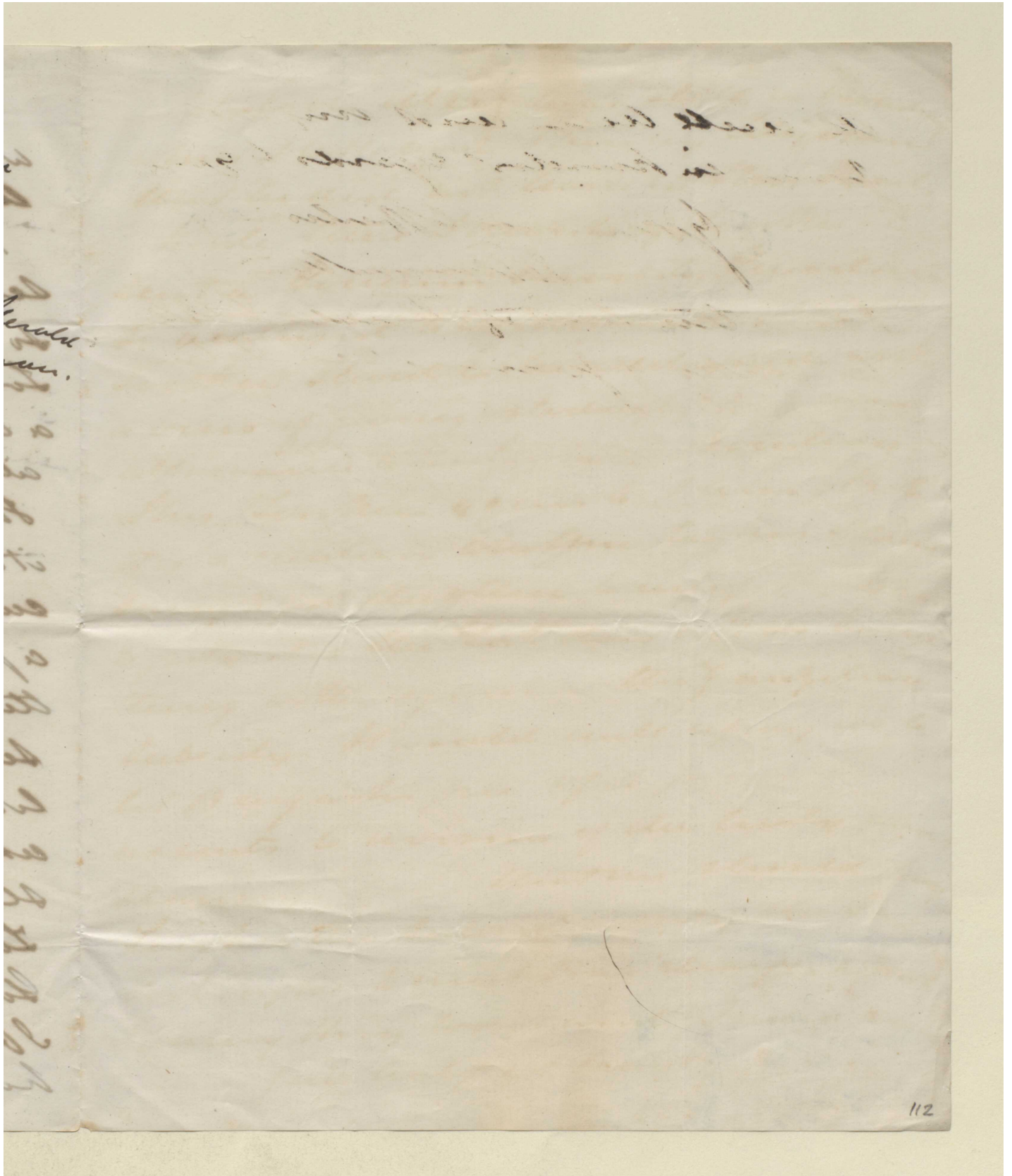
The Saad Azim is decidedly
a cheeky fellow as you will see
from a G. R. about Cleverly which will
reach you by this mail. I wonder
what he says his proceedings about
Cleverly. If orders were irregular, and
improper.

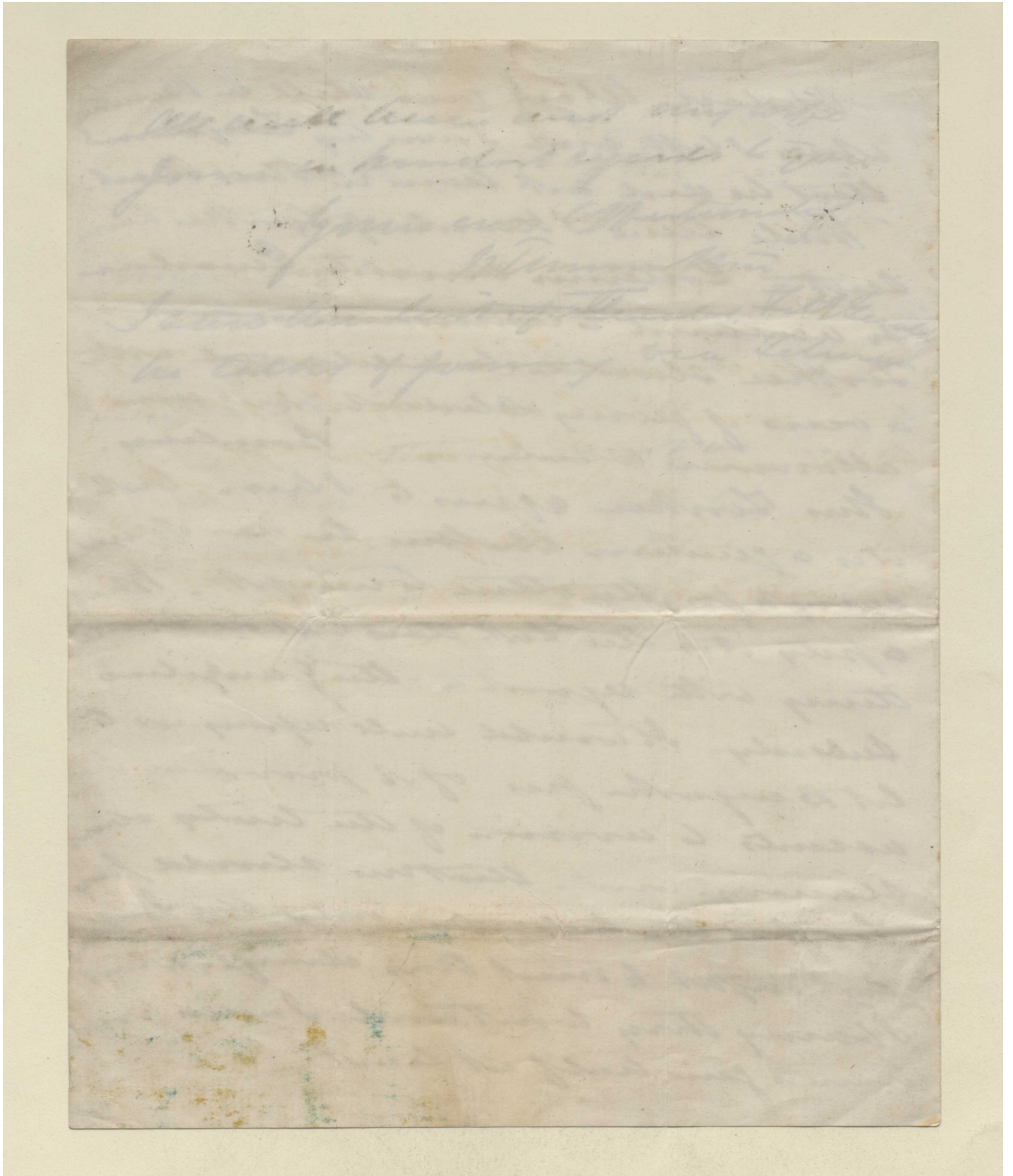
Abdool Kheef was still in Bombay
 when I left and I hear by telegraph
 that he did not leave in their train.
 While there I heard of Lord Kee having
 sent a Governor's answer to the
 so venturing to recommend that
 Lord Kee should be allowed with
 a view of giving Abdool Kheef an
 allowance to remain in Bombay.
 This Lord Kee refers to I hear. I wish
 it is a question whether he has offered
 enough for the other to accept. What
 a pity it is the Govt. does not do some
 thing with regard to the Yandehias
 subsidy. It would well repay us to
 let Buryah pay of it provided he
 assents to revision of the treaty about
 slavery. and that we should pay
 Lord Kee the subsidy. only the Imperial
 Govt. ought to meet this charge. I wish
 I knew they would and India would
 have to give half at least.

111

All well here and my wife
joins in kindest regards to you
Yours ever affectionately
William Merewether
I saw the last of General FitzGerald
he talks of joining via Teluk.

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Kurrachee [Karachi] to Lewis Pelly
[112r] (7/8)





Kurrachee 22nd July 42

My dear Pelly,

I did not write my
last time to thank you
for yours of the 10th June
because I thought it possible
you might get time up in
the steamer we expect today
& this would give me not being
able to take your leave through
I can quite understand
your disinclination to quit
under the circumstances.

There has been an unpleasant
turn in events at Helak
caused by the mischievous
sternness of Pharoos & the
nature of the frontier.

113

Letter from William Lockyer Merewether, Kurrachee [Karachi] to Lewis Pelly
[113v] (2/4)

his both allowing and
 encouraging that Purvis
 Sandeman to meddle in
 Kelat politics. The Khan
 worried by many compli-
 cations and cited at what
 he heard of Sandeman's going
 on. I am sulky and feeling
 to wit advisers about them
 quarrelled with the old
 Shabazee pretending it
 was on account of the post
 the Shabazee took in the
 meeting at Jambulud. His
 was really so. he was flying
 against me. The Shabazee
 took refuge in Harrison's camp
 and I sent off immediately
 I heard of it to tell Harrison
 if the Khan continued his
 threats to withdraw at once
 from the capital and watching

recruits from a little distance
await instructions. If such
had to be done - the plan
life would not be worth the
days purchase. and had
never it. so he probably
with such such matters to
be transmitted - I indeed I have
already heard that we
immediately after the row he
got into a violent fever
as to how we show later it
and is very nervous still.
He is a terrible brute to deal
with. but being known we
must make the best of it.
His confidence - and that
of every one else has been
greatly shaken in us by
Murray's idiotic proceedings
and getting at the bottom

114

that he completely supported
the business. It will be long
before this is remedied if it
can will be during this Khani
reign.
Those suffering youths
have got well out of their
bitterness, better than they
deserved.
There does not seem to
be much else going on.
Crossing boundaries steadily
working against the federal
for which I believe that
artistic individual.
We are having good rain
which was much wanted
but unfortunately those
abominable locusts have
come too.
My wife sends her kindest
regards and I am as ever
Very affectionately yours
W. Merewether

Kurrachee 1st Sept. 42

My dear Pelly,
Delighted to hear by
your letter of 21st and just
received that all has
gone so well and that
this year the summer
has treated you so well
in the matter of health.
He shall be delighted
to see you at the end of
this month or the beginning
of next, but I fear you
will be rather late to catch
the good folk at Simlaha

115

I hear the Vicary
will arrive from Simlah
down into the Punjab
about the 13th October
and he proposes visiting
us I am glad to say after
wards. leaving Mooltan
early in Nov. to come
down Punjab by Steam
He then goes to Bombay
and up to Central India
to invest the Revenue of
Bhopal with the P. C. of
the State of India.

All is going well here
only that dissipation
is killing - Buller Hunt
& Divine parties in
on Sunday next at
the call of our worthy
Judicial Commr. West &
his good wife - we are all
going to make pots of
silver in fancy costume
Nothing has been finally
settled about the
affairs - The ultimatum
I sent to the Khan - had
not arrived when last letter
116

left Beluk. so matters were
in status quo. I can hardly
suppose the young Khan
will be such a fool as to
hold out when he finds
Harrison ordered to leave.
But there is no certainty with
these suspicious fools.
Weather most charming
here day and night.
My wife sends her kindest
regards to you and I am
always yours most
affectionately
W. Merewether
P.S. Heard from the Dowry
a few days ago. still at
Sotacammah. the caring state
of which they don't much like
after day send.

Kurrachee
8th May. 76

My dear Pelly -

Many thanks for
your letter of the 26th apt.

I can quite understand the
necessity of caution and time
in the present state of Belat & other
Frontier matters. At the same
time I can't help expressing
to you the anxiety I feel in
regard to Major Sanderson's
proceedings. He by his
temperance and expediency
of the moment - meeting views
is destroying all confidence
by the people of Belochistan
in our justice - short faith

117

and Major I pulled all the
strings of ^{harsh & unjust} treatment of the
Shahyans was a grievous
mistake and has done
more to lower our name
than anything that has
occurred for many years. The
way the ^{wretched} ^{knows}
Rumoh ^{is being} ^{bullied} by being sent
of a known to be a ^{Shahy Khan}
is very displeasing to us -
Getting worse a man like
Sanderson - as Lord N. so
unfortunately did is a grievous
you calamity. With wild people
like the Rumoh - above all
is things a gentleman is required
and a man who will only

118

act justly and truthfully
whatever may be said. This
is not the case with Major J.
he is too like the Lordship of
fourteen years and unless he
is saved by recall - he will
have a very good chance of
a similar fate to Lordship's.

The present state of affairs
is too like that painful time
when we went from the true
paths of rectitude at the commencement
of the Cabul Campaign, and
I cannot help feeling most anxious
that things should not go too
far - and there be a repetition
of our old irregularities.

I sent your kind message to my
wife last week and am always
your very affec^ted
W. Merewether