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'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre'

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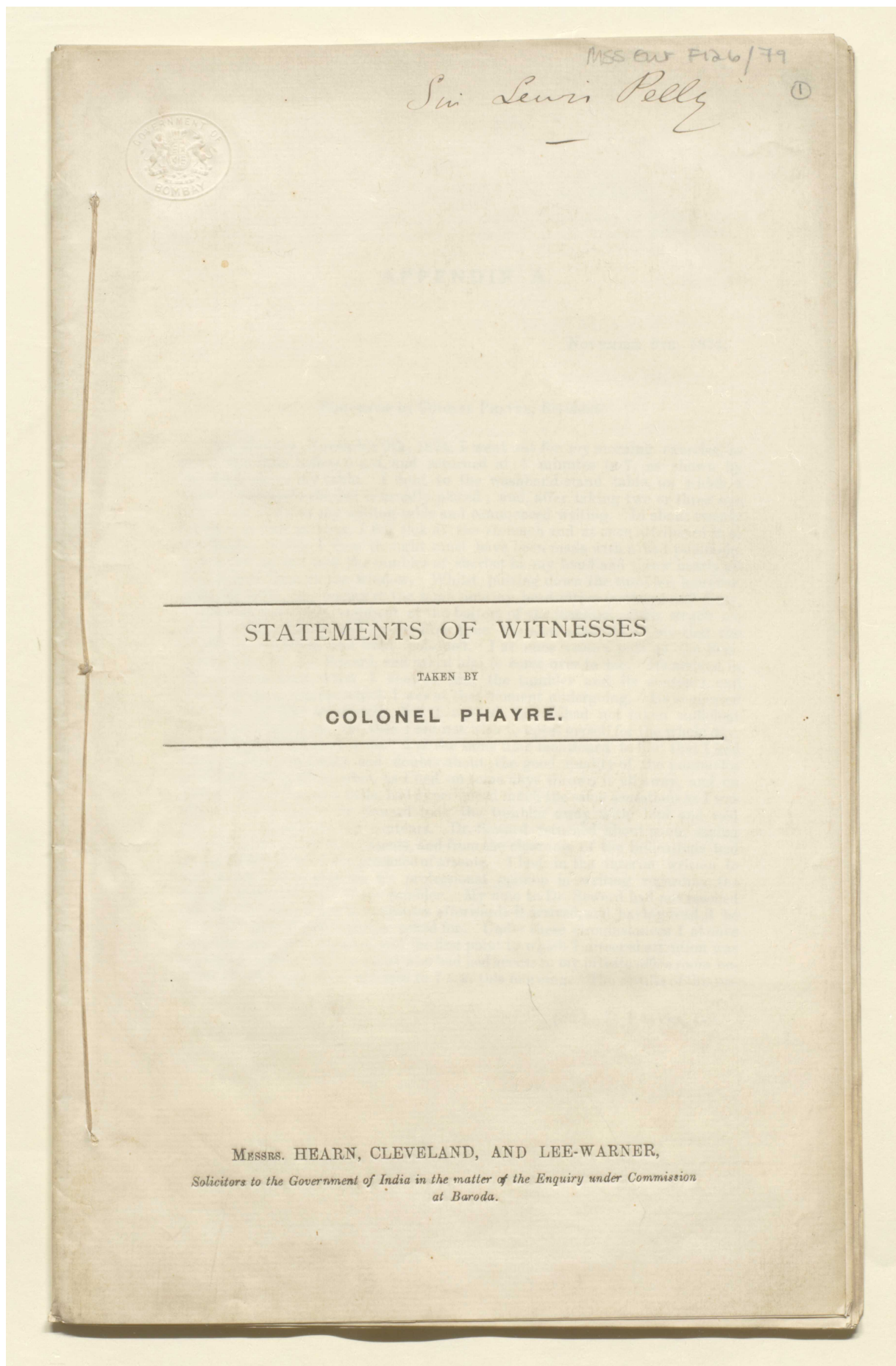
About this record

Statement of witnesses taken by Col Phayre, Resident at Baroda, of all those individuals who had access to his private office room between 6am and 7am on 9 November 1874 and could have been involved in the attempt to poison him.

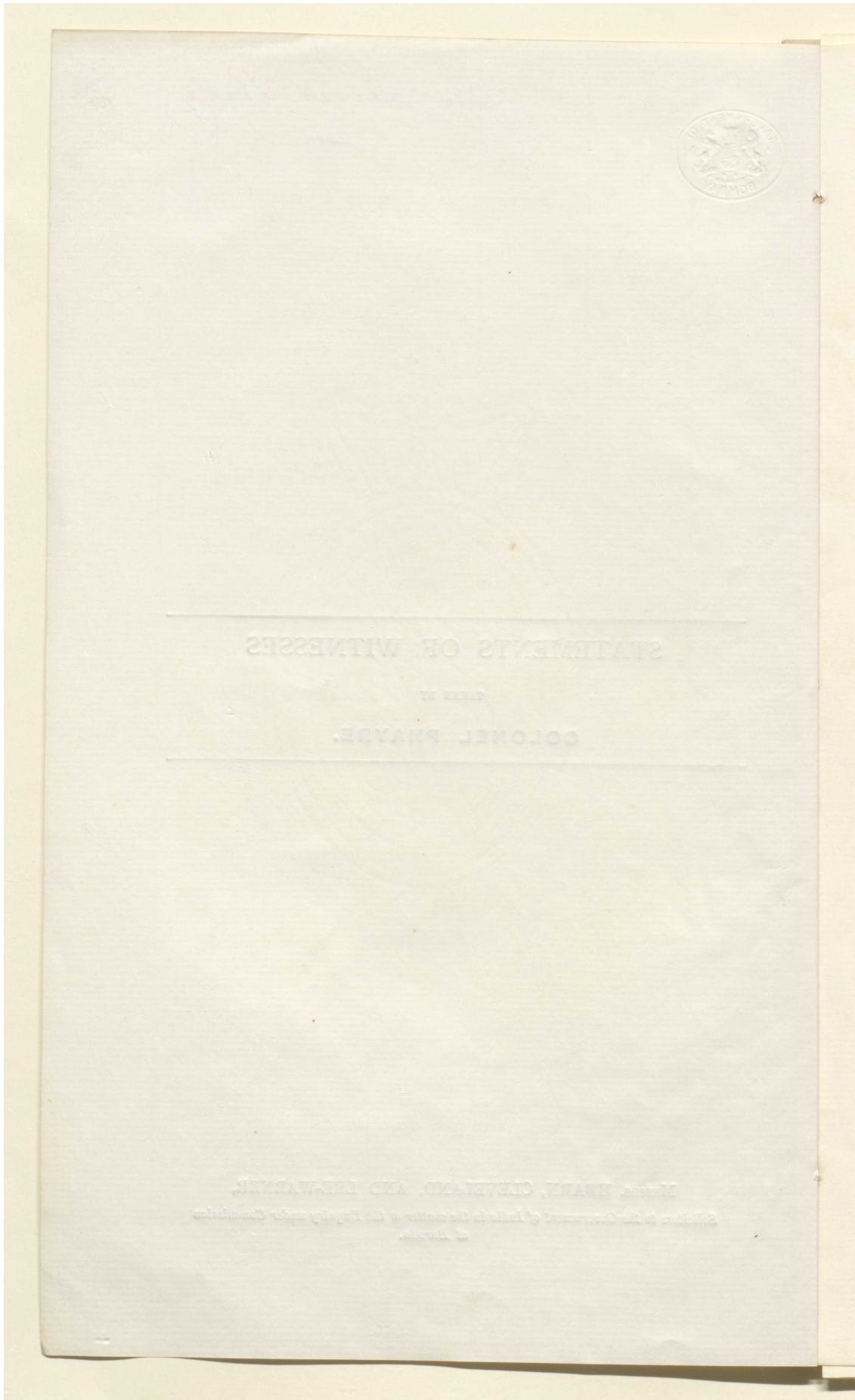
The statements were prepared by Messrs Hearn, Cleveland, and Lee Warner, Solicitors to the Government of India in the matter of the Enquiry under Commission at Baroda.

There are twenty-six statements, including Colonel Phayre's own account of the attempted poisoning from staff and individuals residing at the Residency, as well as further cross-examination of some of these witnesses, including several who were being held in custody over the incident.

'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [front] (1/40)



'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [front-i] (2/40)



'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [2r] (3/40)

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APPENDIX A.

NOVEMBER 9TH, 1874.

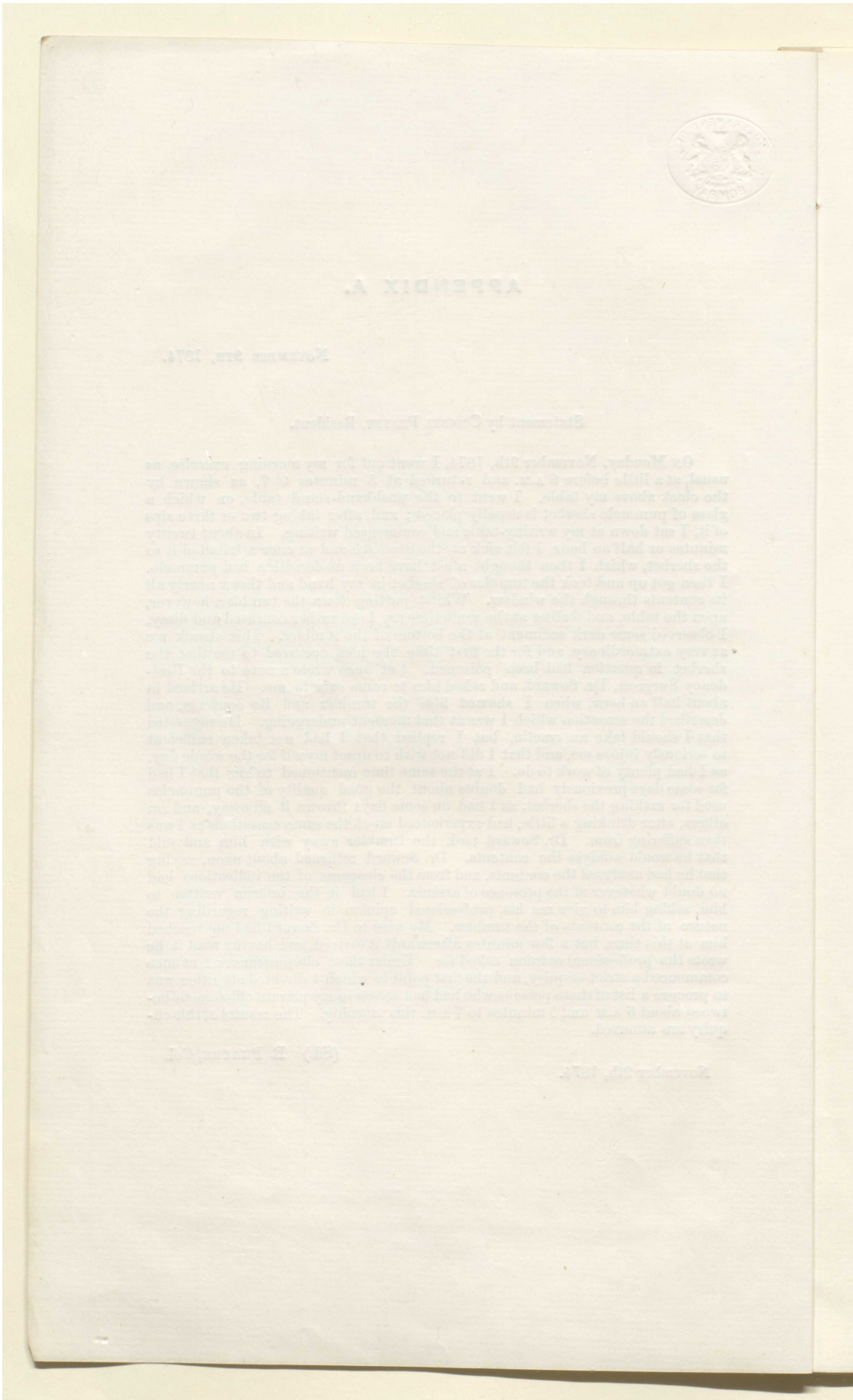
Statement by COLONEL PHAYRE, Resident.

ON Monday, November 9th, 1874, I went out for my morning exercise, as usual, at a little before 6 A.M. and returned at 5 minutes to 7, as shown by the clock above my table. I went to the washhand-stand table, on which a glass of pummelo sherbet is usually placed; and, after taking two or three sips of it, I sat down at my writing-table and commenced writing. In about twenty minutes or half an hour, I felt sick at the stomach and at once attributed it to the sherbet, which I then thought must have been made with a bad pummelo. I then got up and took the tumbler of sherbet in my hand and threw nearly all its contents through the window. Whilst putting down the tumbler, however, upon the table, and feeling at the same time my head rather confused and dizzy, I observed some dark sediment at the bottom of the tumbler. This struck me as very extraordinary, and for the first time the idea occurred to me that the sherbet in question had been poisoned. I at once wrote a note to the Residency Surgeon, Dr. Seward, and asked him to come over to me. He arrived in about half an hour, when I showed him the tumbler and its contents, and described the sensation which I was at that moment undergoing. He suggested that I should take an emetic, but I replied that I had not taken sufficient to seriously injure me, and that I did not wish to upset myself for the whole day, as I had plenty of work to do. I at the same time mentioned to him that I had for some days previously had doubts about the good quality of the pummelos used for making the sherbet, as I had on some days thrown it all away, and on others, after drinking a little, had experienced much the same sensations as I was then suffering from. Dr. Seward took the tumbler away with him and said that he would analyse the contents. Dr. Seward returned about noon, saying that he had analysed the contents, and from the clearness of the indications had no doubt whatever of the presence of arsenic. I had in the interim written to him, asking him to give me his professional opinion in writing regarding the nature of the contents of the tumbler. My note to Dr. Seward had not reached him at this time, but a few minutes afterwards it arrived, and having read it he wrote the professional opinion asked for. Under these circumstances I at once commenced a strict enquiry, and the first point to which I directed attention was to procure a list of those persons who had had access to my private office room between about 6 A.M. and 5 minutes to 7 A.M. this morning. The results of this enquiry are annexed.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col.

November 9th, 1874.

'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [2v] (4/40)



'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [3r] (5/40)

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Statement by A. C BOEVEY, Esquire, Assistant Resident.

On Monday morning, Novr. 9th, I went out shooting about 7 A. M., and returned about 8-30. On my return to the Residency I was accosted by Eshvuntrao Jessood Salam, the Maharaja's Arab Sowar, and by Madhowrao Sowar, who presented to me the usual fruit, &c., with the Maharaja's compliments. As I rode up to the door I saw Faizoo Chobdar in the verandah talking with Salam. Several peons and others were present at the same time.

(Sd.) A. C. BOEVEY, Ag. Asst. Resident.

November 9th, 1874.

NOVEMBER 9th, 1874.

The following witnesses were called by the Resident and examined:—

1. NURSOO, JEMADAR of peons on the Residency establishment, states:—
I came on duty to the Residency this morning at 7-30 A.M. after the Resident's return from his walk. The Resident was in his room when I arrived.

Before me this 9th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE Col. Resident.

2. ROWJEE, Havildar of Peons, on the Residency establishment, states:—
I was present at the Resident's room when, Abdoola placed the pummelo juice on the Resident's table. I cleared the waste-paper basket in the Resident's room before his return and was on duty when he returned this morning.

Before me this 9th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE Col., Resident.

3. GOVIND BALOO, Hamal, states:—

I cleared the Resident's private room this morning with Yellapa Hamal. It is my duty to arrange the things, and Yellapa sweeps the room. While I was employed with Yellapa, Abdoola brought pummelo juice. (On being further questioned, the witness denied that this morning any pummelo juice was brought by Abdoola.) I saw no pummelo juice brought to-day. I left the Resident's room about 7 o'clock. Yellapa cleaned the room with me, and afterwards left before me. Rowjee Havildar came into the room while I was there to collect the waste-paper by the writing table. Luximon, puttewalla, also came into the room before Raojee.

Before me this 9th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

4. YELLAPA Hamal states:—

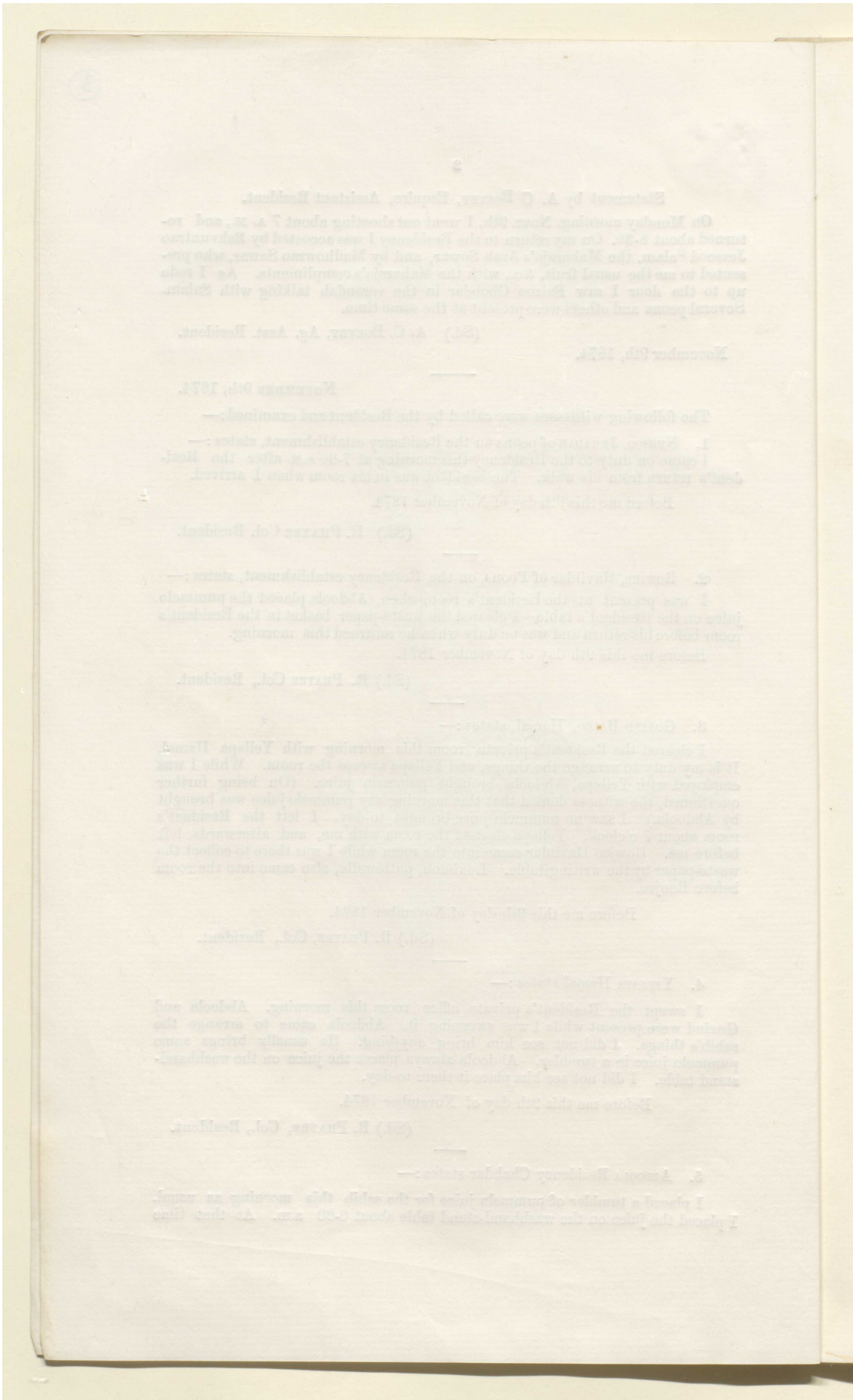
I swept the Resident's private office room this morning. Abdoola and Govind were present while I was sweeping it. Abdoola came to arrange the sahib's things. I did not see him bring anything. He usually brings some pummelo juice in a tumbler. Abdoola always places the juice on the washhand-stand table. I did not see him place it there to-day.

Before me this 9th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

5. ABDoola Residency Chobdar states:—

I placed a tumbler of pummelo juice for the sahib this morning as usual. I placed the juice on the washhand-stand table about 6-30 a.m. At that time



'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [4r] (7/40)

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Hamals Govind Baloo and Yellapa were in the room. Raojee Havildar was in his usual place, he did not come into the room while I was there. I placed the juice and went away. When I left, the two hamals and Luximan were in the room, and the havildar, Rowjee, was in the ante-room. With reference to the statement of Govind and Yellapa, hamals, that they saw me bring no pummelo juice as usual, that is untrue. Both of them were present and saw me place the juice on the table, as usual. Luximon, peon, came into the room to set the papers, &c., in order. I saw no other peon come in except Luximon. Rowjee was arranging papers in the ante-room; he did not come into the private office room while I was present.

Before me this 9th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

6. LUXIMON, puttewalla, states that he came into the Resident's private office room about 6-15 A. M. Two hamals named Govind Baloo and Yellepa were present when I came into the room. While I was in the room Abdoola brought some fruit, &c., and placed it on the table. I was engaged in arranging the ink-stand, pens, &c. I left the room while Abdoola, Govind and Yellapa were in the room.

Before me this 9th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

7. FAIZOO, Chobdar, states :—

I did not go to the Resident's private office room this morning. I returned from the city this morning about 7 o'clock and went to clean the silver as usual. No one was then engaged in cleaning the silver. I saw Pedro at the cookroom on my return. He was not going to the bazaar.

Before me this 9th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

NOVEMBER 10th, 1874.

YELLAPA NURSOO, Hamal, is in custody and is further examined :—

Q—When did you go into the Resident's private office room on Monday, November 9th, 1874?

A—I went there about 6-15 A.M. with Govind Baloo, Hamal.

Q—Did you leave the room before Govind Baloo, Hamal, or after him?

A—I left the room before Govind Baloo left about 6-30 A.M.

Q—Who was with Govind Baloo when you left at 6-30 A.M.?

A—Abdoola was with him.

Q—Where did you go when you left the Resident's private office?

A—I went into the drawing-room.

Q—When you went into the Resident's private office first, did you see any fruit there?

A—No.

Q—Who cleans the Resident's room every day?

A—Govind Baloo. I only came to sweep it in my turn, which comes once in every four days.

Q—Whose turn was it to sweep the room on Sunday?

A—Gopal Hamal swept the room

Q—Whose turn was it on Saturday?

A—Hanmanta's, I believe.

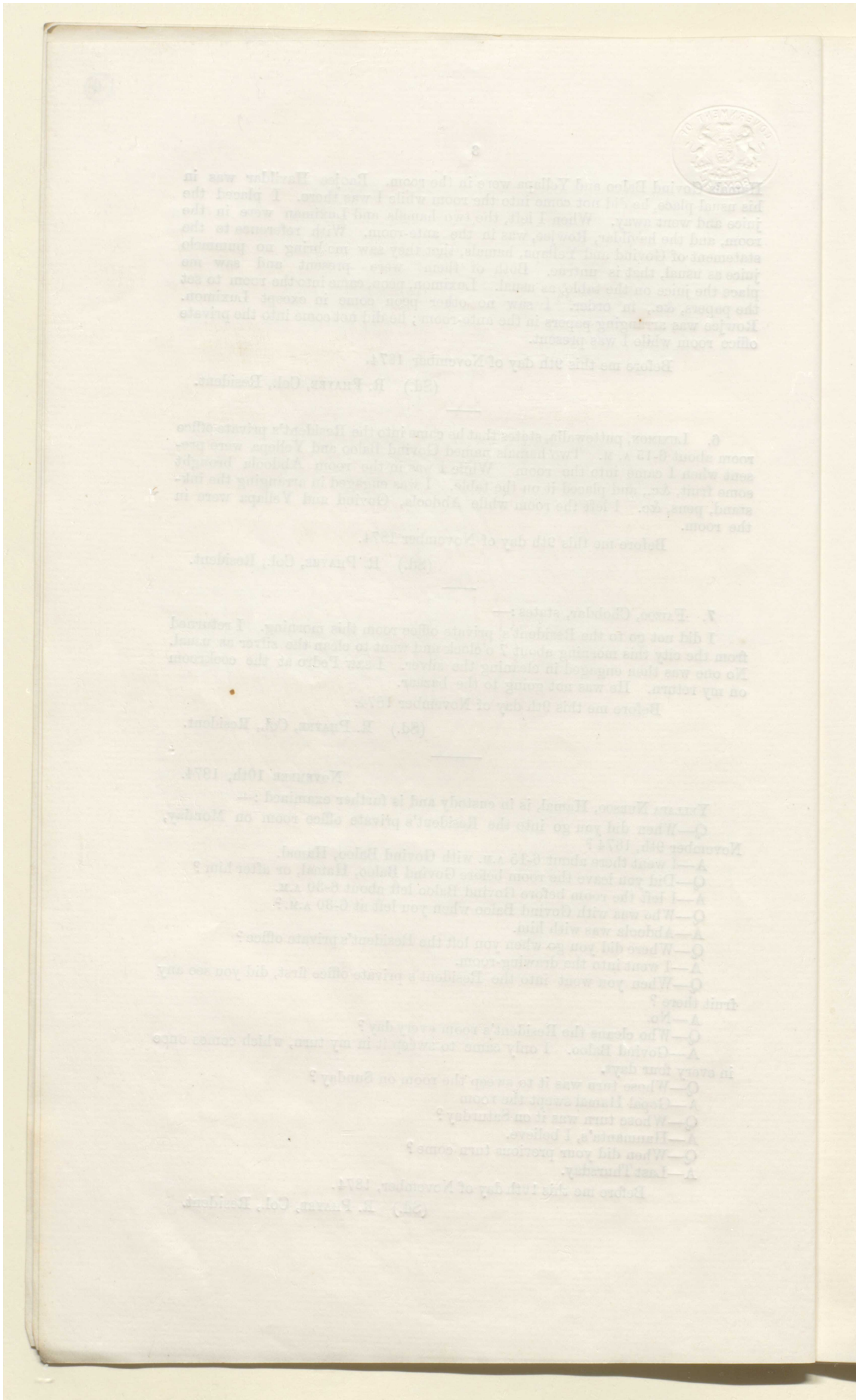
Q—When did your previous turn come?

A—Last Thursday.

Before me this 10th day of November, 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [4v] (8/40)



'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [5r] (9/40)

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NOVEMBER 10th, 1874.

GOPAL RANOO, Hamal, states :—

It was my turn to sweep the Resident's room on Friday morning. After sweeping the room Govind remained behind. Abdoola came as usual and placed a glass on the table with fruit. I know nothing about what has happened. I am a Rajpoot and live in the Sudder Bazar. I was employed in Colonel Wallace's time.

Before me this 10th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

NOVEMBER 10th, 1874.

GOVIND BECHUR, Hamal states :—

I swept the private office room on Sunday with Govind. Abdoola came as usual with pummelo juice and placed it on the table. After I had swept the room I left it with Govind arranging the things. I know nothing about what has happened. I am a koonbee by caste and live in the city. I have served all my life in the Residency. On Monday morning I returned to duty about 8 A.M. I live in the city, and went there on Sunday night to sleep.

Before me this 10th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

NOVEMBER, 10th 1874.

HUNMANTA RAJANOW, Hamal, states :—

On Saturday morning I cleaned the Resident's private office with Govind Baloo after the Resident's departure for exercise.

Abdoola came in as usual afterwards with sherbet and fruit. I do not recollect whether the sherbet was placed on the table or not, nor do I recollect whether it was placed in the usual place or not. It is only my business to sweep the room, and it is Govind's business to arrange the things on the table. Govind remained behind on Saturday, as he always does. I am a Kamatee Bhoee by caste. I live in Kamateepoora.

Before me this 10th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE Col., Resident.

NOVEMBER 1st, 1874.

GOVIND BALOO, Hamal, is recalled in custody and further examined :—

Q—When you went into the Resident's private office room yesterday to clean it, was any one there ?

A—Abdoola was there when I went.

Q—What o'clock was it then ?

A—It was a little after 6 A.M.

Q—Did Abdoola bring fruit and sherbet as usual ?

A—Fruit was then on the table, but no sherbet that I saw.

Q—How long after you came, did Abdoola leave ?

A—He left very soon after I came.

Q—When did you leave the Resident's private office room.

A—I left the room shortly before 7 A.M.

Q—How do you know the exact time ?

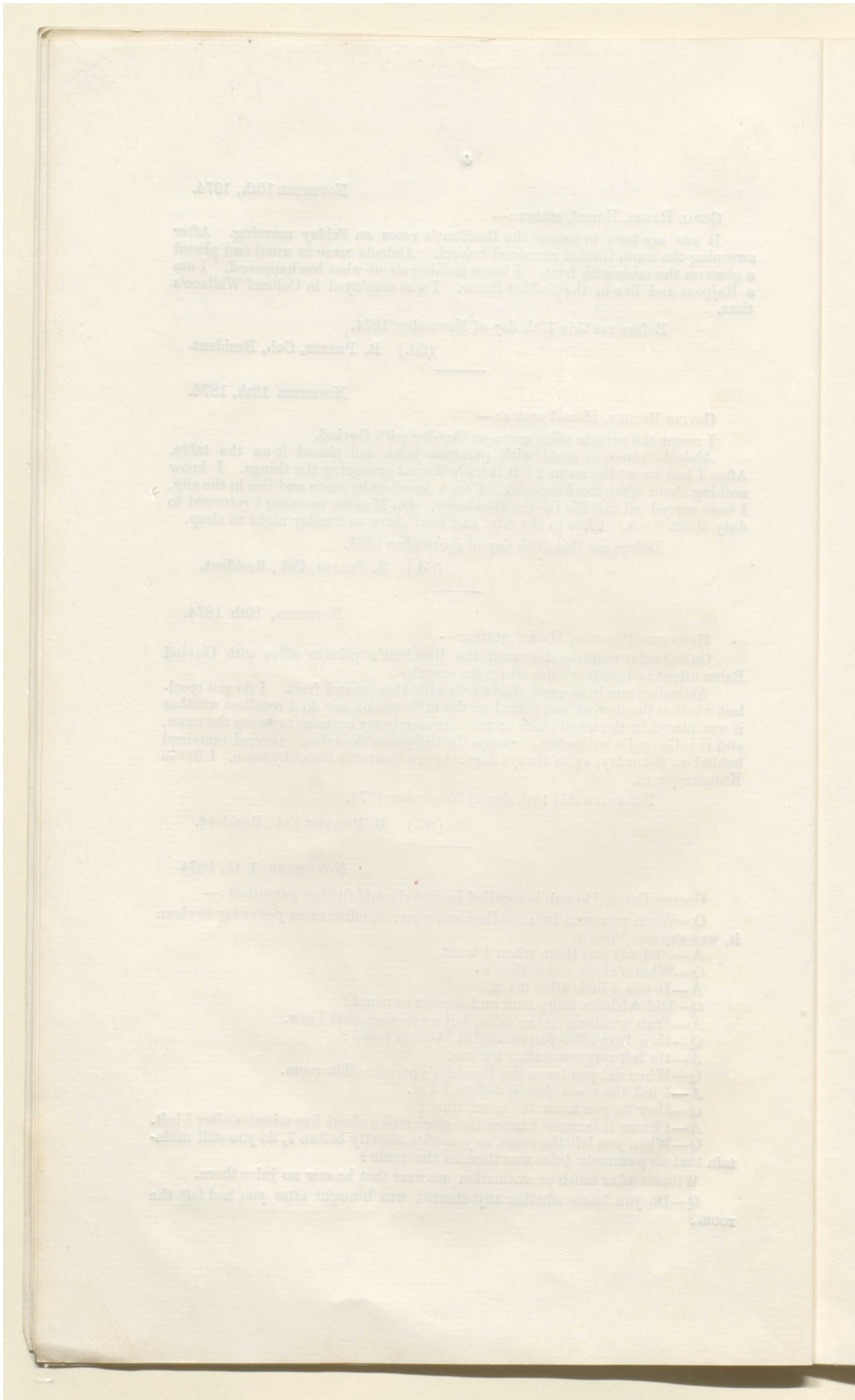
A—I know it because I heard the clock strike about five minutes after I left.

Q—When you left the room, as you state, shortly before 7, do you still maintain that no pummelo juice was then on the table ?

Witness after much prevarication answers that he saw no juice there.

Q—Do you know whether any sherbet was brought after you had left the room ?

'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [5v] (10/40)



'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [6r] (11/40)

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A—I do not know.
Q—On previous days have you always seen sherbet placed on the table?
A—Yes.
Q—Can you give any reason for not seeing it yesterday?
A—No.
Q—When you left the Resident's private office room, was any one in the ante-room?
A—Yes, Yellapa was there.
Q—Did Yellapa return to the Resident's private room after you had left it.
A—I did not see him return.
Q—Did you return to the Resident's room after you had once left it?
A—No.
Q—Where do you live?
A—I live in the Residency compound next to the Bheestee. Kareem peon also lives near me.

Before me this 10th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col. Resident.

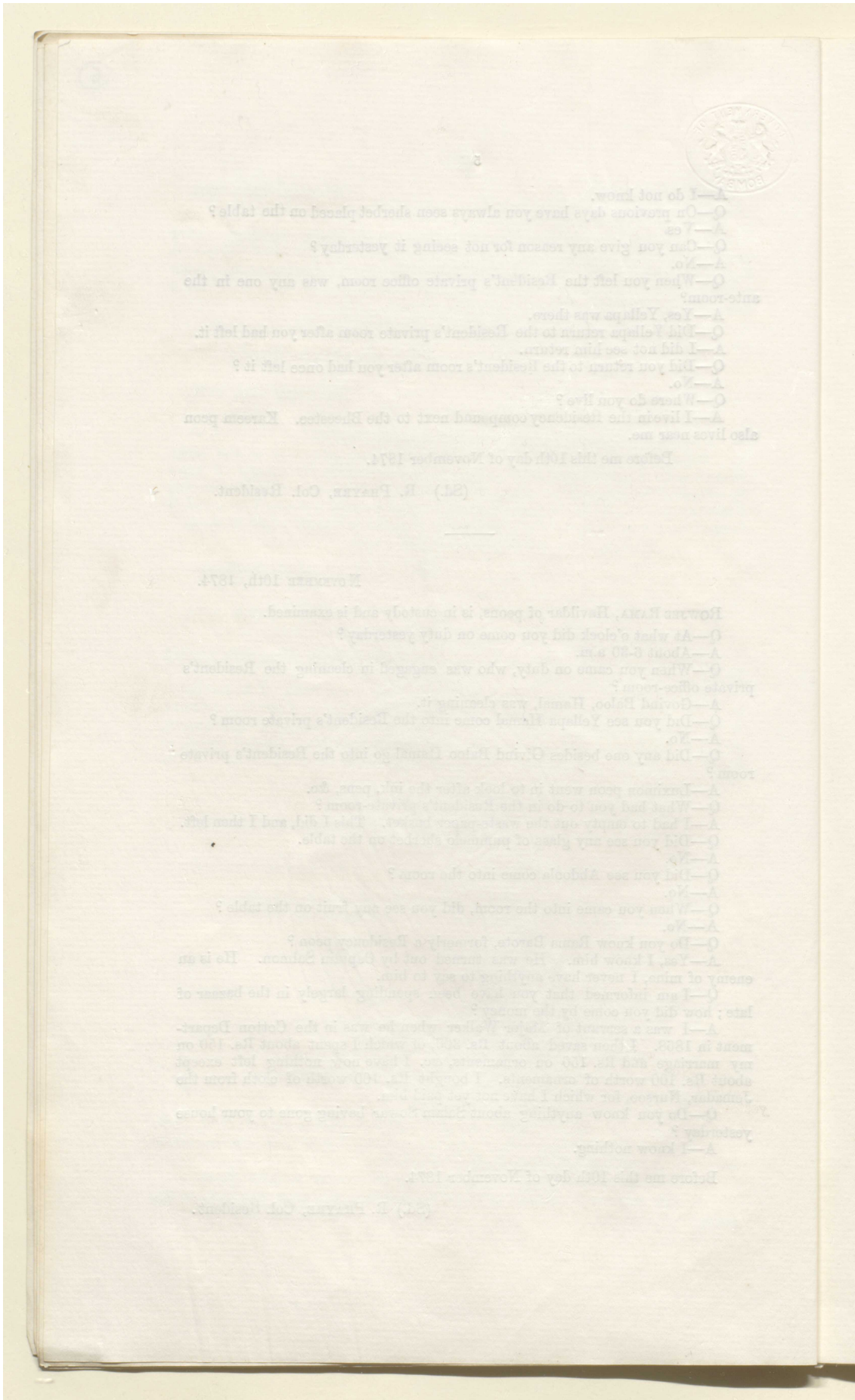
NOVEMBER 10th, 1874.

ROWJEE RAMA, Havildar of peons, is in custody and is examined.
Q—At what o'clock did you come on duty yesterday?
A—About 6-30 a.m.
Q—When you came on duty, who was engaged in cleaning the Resident's private office-room?
A—Govind Baloo, Hamal, was cleaning it.
Q—Did you see Yellapa Hamal come into the Resident's private room?
A—No.
Q—Did any one besides Givind Baloo Hamal go into the Resident's private room?
A—Luximon peon went in to look after the ink, pens, &c.
Q—What had you to do in the Resident's private-room?
A—I had to empty out the waste-paper basket. This I did, and I then left.
Q—Did you see any glass of pummelo sherbet on the table.
A—No.
Q—Did you see Abdoola come into the room?
A—No.
Q—When you came into the room, did you see any fruit on the table?
A—No.
Q—Do you know Rama Barote, formerly a Residency peon?
A—Yes, I know him. He was turned out by Captain Salmon. He is an enemy of mine, I never have anything to say to him.
Q—I am informed that you have been spending largely in the bazaar of late; how did you come by the money?
A—I was a servant of Major Walker when he was in the Cotton Department in 1868. I then saved about Rs. 300, of which I spent about Rs. 150 on my marriage and Rs. 150 on ornaments, &c. I have now nothing left except about Rs. 100 worth of ornaments. I bought Rs. 100 worth of cloth from the Jemadar, Nursoo, for which I have not yet paid him.
Q—Do you know anything about Salam Sowar having gone to your house yesterday?
A—I know nothing.

Before me this 10th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col. Resident.

'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [6v] (12/40)



'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [7r] (13/40)

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6

RE-EXAMINATION.

NOVEMBER 11th, 1874.

ROWJEE RAMA, Havildar of Peons, is in custody, and states in answer to the Resident's questions as follows :

Q—When you left the Resident's private office room on the morning of Monday the 9th, what o'clock was it ?

A—I came to the room about 6-30 and was engaged in removing the papers for about five minutes.

Q—Where did you then go to ?

A—I went to the place where the peons sit, on the further side of the bungalow.

Q—Did you leave before Abdoola, or after him ?

A—I left before he did.

Q—Did you return after you once left the sahib's room ?

A—No.

Q—When you went to the peons' sitting place, did you see Faizoo ?

A—Yes ; he was then in the dispense-khana.

Q—When did you first see the Arab Sowar Salam that morning ?

A—I saw him about 7 o'clock after the sahib's return. He then came on the Devdee from the direction of the servants' houses.

Q—What did you say to him ?

A—I asked him why he had come so early on this particular morning and he said I have come because I have brought the Dewalee fruit.

Q—Did the Dewalee fruit come with him ?

A—No, it came a long time afterwards, about 8-30 A.M.

Q—When you were in the Devdee when the Assistant Resident returned from shooting, was Salam there ?

A—Salam was there, and Faizoo was also present.

Q—Where did Faizoo go from there ?

A—I saw him go in the direction of the servants' houses.

Q—Does Chimma Wagh live with you ?

A—Yes.

Q—What do you know about Faizoo ?

A—I have reported to the Resident some time ago that Faizoo was not a good character and was suspected of going to visit Nanajee Eshwunt and Nana Sahib at night. He also has been in the habit of going to the Kazee in the city and the Kazee to visit him here. I should have mentioned this ; but he used to come to visit the Padree sahib, so I said nothing.

Q—Who do you suspect of having attempted to administer poison to the sahib ?

A—I suspect Faizoo, because he has for a long time past been engaged in all kinds of intrigues, both in the time of Colonel Barr and Colonel Shortt. In Colonel Shortt's time he used to go with Colonel Shortt's butler to the house of Rahoorkur, Nana Sahib, and others for the purpose of giving them information. I have myself seen Faizoo go with Colonel Shortt's butler and others to the city for this purpose.

Before me this 11th day of November 1874.

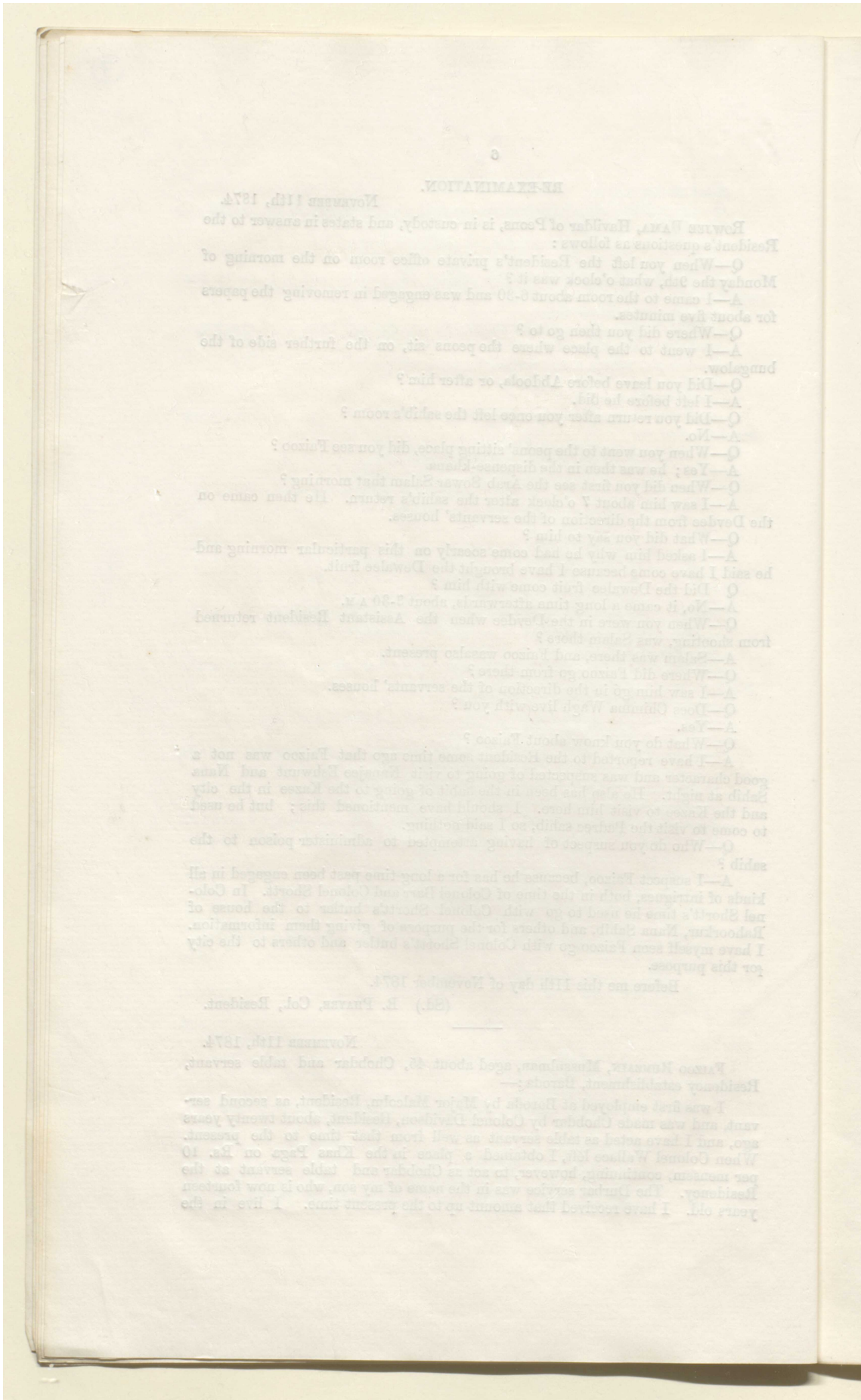
(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

NOVEMBER 11th, 1874.

FAIZOO RUMZAIN, Mussulman, aged about 45, Chobdar and table servant, Residency establishment, Baroda :—

I was first employed at Baroda by Major Malcolm, Resident, as second servant, and was made Chobdar by Colonel Davidson, Resident, about twenty years ago, and I have acted as table servant as well from that time to the present. When Colonel Wallace left, I obtained a place in the Khas Paga on Rs. 10 per mensem, continuing, however, to act as Chobdar and table servant at the Residency. The Durbar service was in the name of my son, who is now fourteen years old. I have received that amount up to the present time. I live in the

'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [7v] (14/40)



'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [8r] (15/40)

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city and come every day for duty. I have a room in the Residency compound: my family lives in the city.

Q—Where are you in the habit of sleeping?

A—I usually sleep in the Residency, but I go home to sleep every third or fourth day.

Q—What is the name of the Mussulman who has been in the habit of visiting you at the Residency lately?

A—He is called Kazee Dada Meeya; I do not know his father's name. Kazee Dada Meeya lives in the city near the lines of one of the regiments. He only used to visit me when the Revd. Mr. Taylor came to the Residency, whom he used to visit. I do not know whether he is in the Maharajah's service or not. I did not know him before he used to come here to visit Mr. Taylor. I do not know why he first came to me instead of going to the Padree Sahib direct. I know nothing about him except in connection with his visits to the Padree.

I am acquainted with Salam, an Arab sowar, a private servant of the Maharaja. I have known him since the present Maharaja's time. Salam has never come to my room in the Residency to sit, nor has he ever smoked with me. He did not come to my room on Monday last the 9th about 9 A.M. I saw him in the adjoining room to mine on Monday last at about 9-30 A.M. He called out to me and I said that it was near breakfast time and that I was changing my clothes. Salam then left. No further conversation passed between us on the morning in question.

Q—Do you remember seeing the Assistant Resident return from shooting at about 9-30 A.M. on the morning of Monday the 9th instant in question, and were you not at that time sitting on the bench and talking to the Maharaja's Arab Sowar Salam?

A—I did not see the Assistant Resident, and I was not talking to Salam. Salam has never come to my house in the city. I have never seen Salam talking with the old man Govind Baloo, who cleans out the Resident's private office. When my boxes were searched on Monday the 9th instant, Government Rs. 100 were found in one of them. I usually keep my money in the city, where my family is.

Q—Do any other persons from the city, except the Kazee above referred to, and Salam, ever come to your quarters at the Residency?

A—No one has ever come from the city to visit me.

Q—If, as you say, the Arab Sowar Salam has never been in the habit of visiting your quarters at the Residency, how came he to come to your quarters and call out to you on Monday the 9th instant?

A—I cannot say why he came.

Q—Do you ever go to the quarters of the old Hamal, Govind?

A—I never go, and I have never sat smoking outside with him: in passing I have enquired about his wife.

Q—Do you know how Govind Baloo came to put poison in my sherbert on the morning of Monday, the 9th?

A—I did not see him do it—how can I tell? I slept at the city on Sunday night, and returned to duty about 7 A.M. on Monday, the 9th. I slept on Friday night, the 6th instant, in the city (witness corrects himself and states that Friday night he slept in the Residency). I also slept at the Residency on Thursday and Saturday nights last.

Q—Have you ever made pummelo sherbet for the Resident?

A—Yes, I have when Abdoola has not made it. I may have made it within the last week or ten days. I have never brought it to the Resident's room myself. There was no special reason for my not bringing it. I may have made the sherbet last Friday. I never put sugar into the sherbet.

The above examination has been read over to the witness in Hindoostani—a language which he understands—and has been acknowledged to be correct.

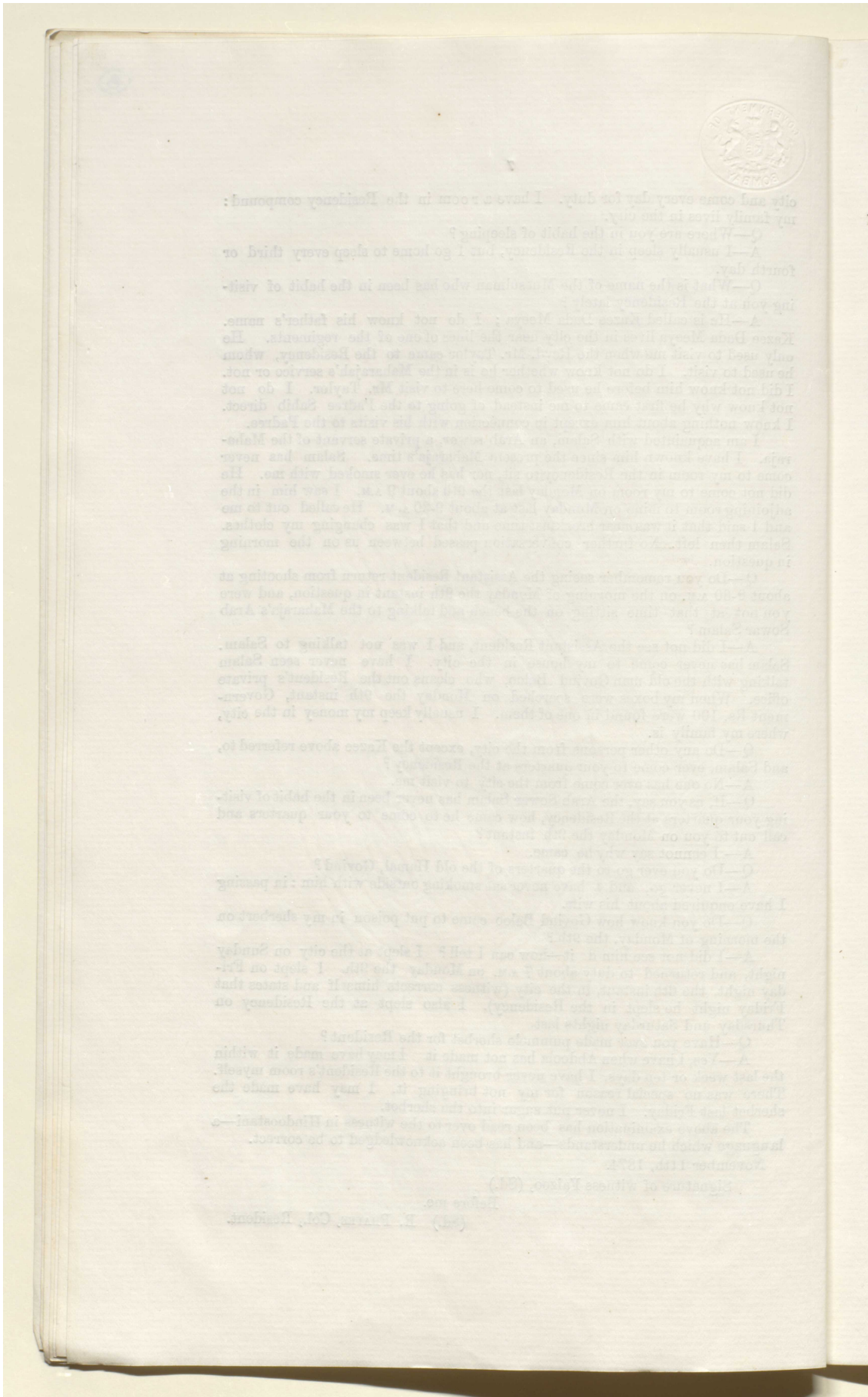
November 11th, 1874.

Signature of witness Faizoo, (Sd.)

Before me.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [8v] (16/40)



'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [9r] (17/40)

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The examination of Faizoo Rumzain having been recorded, he is ordered to be placed in confinement, pending further enquiry.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

November 11th, 1874.

NOVEMBER 11TH, 1874.

PEDRO DE SOUZA, Portuguese, age about 37 years, butler in the service of Colonel R. Phayre, C. B., Resident :—

I have been in the service of Colonel Phayre about 25 years, and I accompanied him to Baroda. I went on leave to Goa on the 3rd October last, and returned again on November 3rd. Salam Arab Sowar of the Maharaja, has been in the habit of going to the servants' quarters. When he comes he usually goes to Faizoo's room, and sits outside on the verandah. Next to Faizoo's room is the Ayah's room, and a dwarf wall divides those two rooms from mine. I have never seen him sit anywhere else.

Since I came from leave on the 3rd instant, I have seen Salam twice. On Monday last, the 9th instant, I saw him sitting, as usual, outside Faizoo's room, in the verandah. I did not see whether Faizoo was there or not. At that time the Maharaja had not arrived. It was about 9 o'clock. I was then employed in plucking some quail that had just been brought in.

I have also seen a man whom they call the Kazee go to Faizoo's room. I do not know who the Kazee is, but he used also to come to see the Rev. Mr. Taylor. He used, also, to come at other times. He has been in the habit of coming to Faizoo's room, and sitting there for long periods together. He usually comes on horseback, and wears a white turban tightly bound. No other jassoods or personal servants of the Maharaja ever go to the servants' quarters. I have not seen any other people from the city go to Faizoo's quarters.

I have been solicited by Nur Ollah, former Chobdar, to go down to the city to the Maharaja's Palace. I told my master of it at the time, and Nur Ollah was discharged. Since that I have not been solicited by any one.

Faizoo sleeps as often in the city as he does here. I suspected Faizoo of being concerned in the matter of administering poison to the Resident, because of his connection with the city, his intimacy with Salam and others who live in the city. He also sometimes makes the sherbet and has access at all times to the Resident's private office room. He is also in the pay of the Durbar.

Govind Baloo, the old Hamal, who looks after the Resident's private office, dressing-table, bathing water, &c., always shuts up the Resident's room the last thing at night, and goes off to his room to sleep. Faizoo or Abdoolla, whoever may be on duty, leaves the bungalow about the same time. Throughout the whole day also, except during meal time, Faizoo and Govind are always present on duty in the Residency.

This examination, having been read over to the witness in Hindoostanee—a language which he understands—is acknowledged by him to be correct.

Mark † of Pedro DeSouza.

Before me this 11th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

NOVEMBER 11TH, 1874.

ANTONE JOHN DE SOUZA, Portuguese, aged about 24 years, cook to Colonel R. Phayre, C. B., Resident :—

I have been employed in Colonel Phayre's service as cook for the last seven or eight years, and I accompanied him to Baroda. The Maharaja's Arab Sowar, Salam, is in the habit of coming to Faizoo's quarters twice in the week when the Maharaja visits the Resident. I know this because the cook-room is opposite those quarters, and I can see what goes on. I have also seen him come at other times on special occasions, and he then always goes to Faizoo's room. I have also seen a person called Kazee, who always goes to Faizoo, and who visits the Reverend Mr. Taylor when he comes to Baroda. I have also seen the Kazee referred to a great many times when Mr. Taylor was not at Baroda. I have once enquired of Faizoo why this Kazee always came. Faizoo replied that he came to get news of Mr. Taylor. The Kazee, however, stayed a long time at each visit, much longer than was necessary to make such enquiries. I cannot say positively whether the Kazee came last week or not when Mr. Taylor was here.

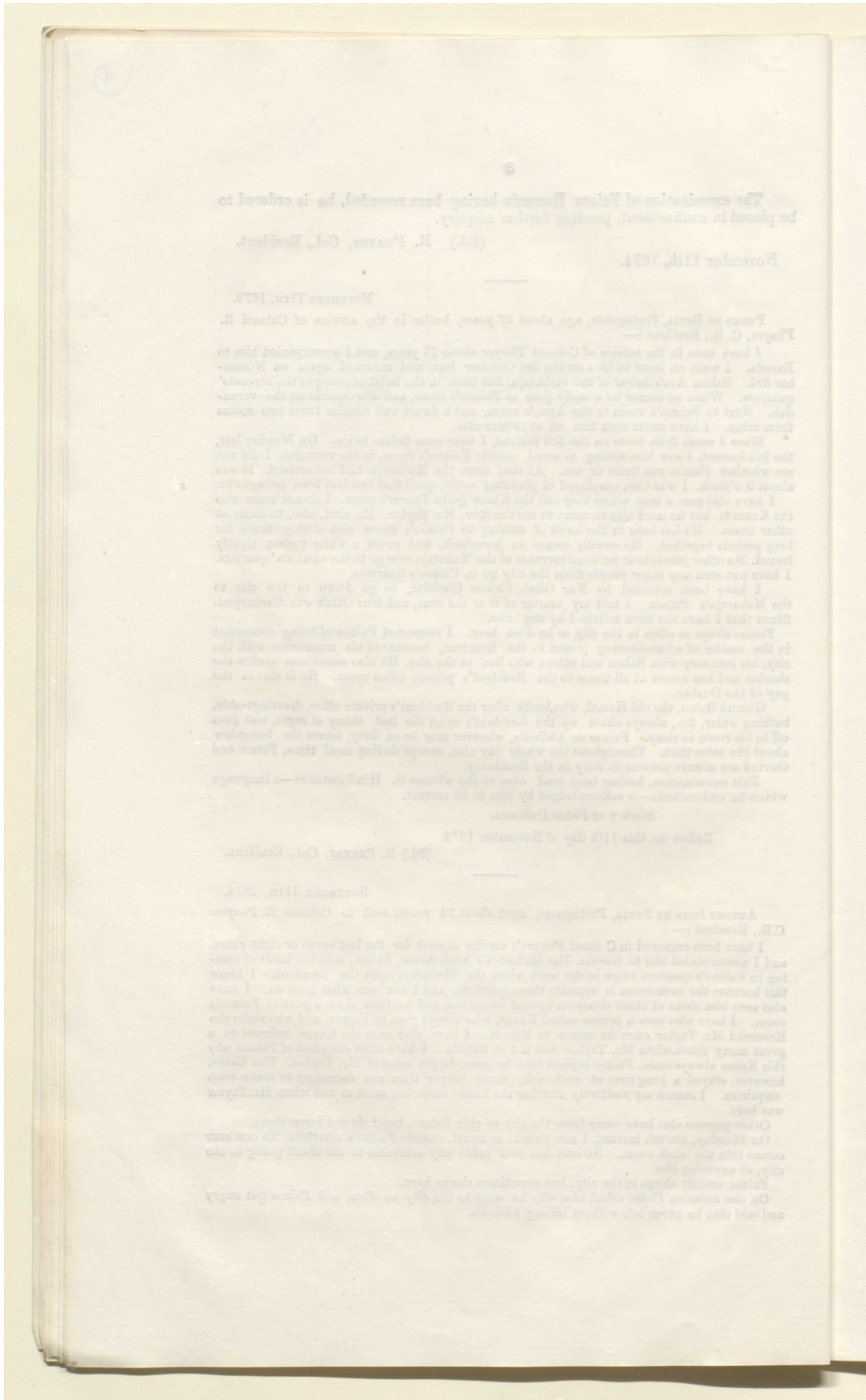
Other persons also have come from the city to visit Faizoo, but I do not know them.

On Monday, the 9th instant, I saw Salam, as usual, outside Faizoo's quarters. No one ever comes into the cook-room. No one has ever made any overtures to me about going to the city, or anything else.

Faizoo usually sleeps in the city, but sometimes sleeps here.

On one occasion Pedro asked him why he went to the city so often, and Faizoo got angry and said that he never left without telling Abdoolla.

'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [9v] (18/40)



'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [10r] (19/40)

9

I suspected Faizoo's complicity in the crime of administering poison, because he receives pay from the Durbar, and has been mixed up in Baroda intrigues for a long time past and is always enquiring about the Sahib to give information in the city.

Abdoola and I had lately an altercation with him about this, and another reason is the visits that are constantly paid to him by the Arab Sowar Salam, the Kazee, and others from the city who have no business there at all.

[Sd.] Antone Jooao de Souza.

The above examination, having been read over to the witness in Hindoostanee, a language which he understands, is acknowledged by him to be correct.

Before me this 11th day of November, 1874.

[Sd.] R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

November 11th, 1874.

ABDOOLA MAHOMED, Mussulman, age about 35, Chobdar and table servant.

I have been off and on in Colonel Phayre's service for eighteen years. I came to Baroda with Colonel Phayre, and was made Chobdar in the place of Nur Ollah who was discharged. I have the highest certificate of character from my master and others whom I have served for the above period.

Q—Have you ever had anything to complain of since you have been in my service ?

A—Far from it. I have been treated as a child of the family both by my master and mistress. I am in the habit of making pummelo sherbet for the sahib, and I made it on the morning of Monday, November 9th. Faizoo Chobdar has occasionally made it, and he made it, I believe, on Friday last. Faizoo has on more than one occasion brought the sherbet himself and put it on the sahib's table; but I put it there on the morning of Monday, the 9th. When my child died, Faizoo prepared the sherbet for about twelve days running. This was about three months ago.

I have known the Maharaja's Arab Sowar Salam since I came to Baroda, when the Maharaja comes to visit at the Residency twice a week. Salam generally goes to Faizoo's room, sometimes he goes inside and sometimes he sits outside in the veranda. My room is about twenty to twenty-five paces beyond Faizoo's, and I can see any one who comes if I am in my room. Last Monday, the 9th instant, I did not see Salam at Faizoo's room, because I was at work in the bungalow. I saw the Assistant Resident return from shooting about 8-30 on that morning, and then Salam and two other Mahratta jasoods of the Maharaja were talking together with Faizoo in the Residency back verandah.

When the Madam Sahib was leaving for England she gave me and Pedro strict orders that no one but ourselves were to prepare the tea, coffee, &c., for the Sahib. Faizoo, however, on several occasions has endeavoured, in a marked manner, to forestall us in this respect. Both I and Pedro, in consequence of our orders, have frequently remonstrated with Faizoo about this, but he has always put us off, and has not attended. I have never suspected that there was any special motive on Faizoo's part for doing this.

I have always used the best pummelo for extracting the juice, and on one or two occasions, about a month or two ago, I have brought bad pummelos to show. The pummelo that I used on the morning of the 9th was perfectly fresh and in good condition. I showed it to Dr. Seward I could not understand why the Sahib complained two or three mornings previously that the juice was bad. No suspicion crossed my mind that any one had drugged it.

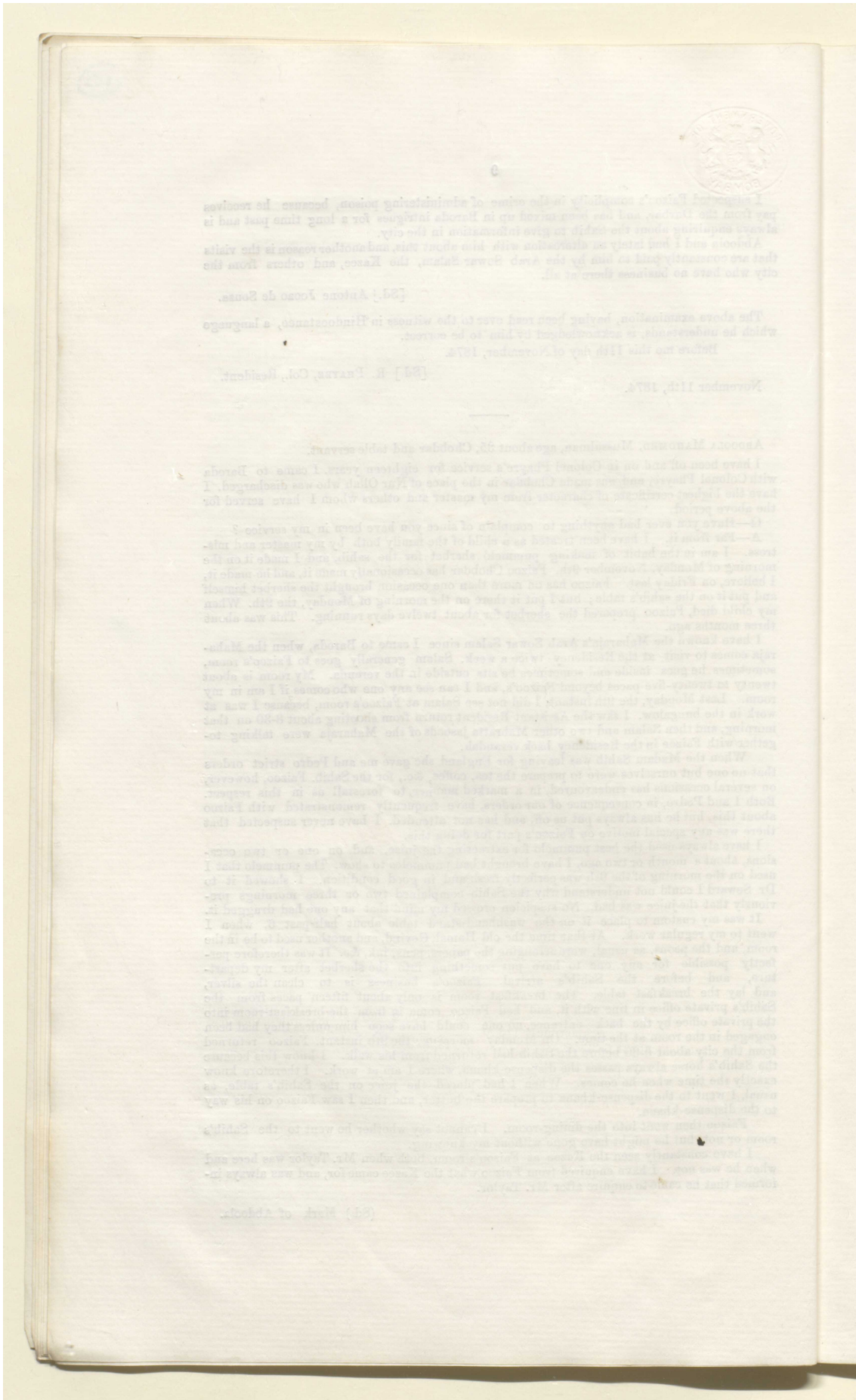
It was my custom to place it on the washhand-stand table about half-past 6, when I went to my regular work. At that time the old Hamal, Govind, and another used to be in the room, and the peons, as usual, were arranging the papers, pens, ink, &c. It was therefore perfectly possible for any one to have put something into the sherbet after my departure, and before the Sahib's arrival. Faizoo's business is to clean the silver, and lay the breakfast table. The breakfast room is only about fifteen paces from the Sahib's private office in line with it, and had Faizoo come in from the breakfast-room into the private office by the back entrance, no one could have seen him unless they had been engaged in the room at the time. On Monday morning, the 9th instant, Faizoo returned from the city about 6-30 before the Sahib had returned from his walk. I know this because the Sahib's horse always passes the dispense-khana, where I am at work. I therefore know exactly the time when he comes. When I had placed the juice on the Sahib's table, as usual, I went to the dispense-khana to prepare the butter, and then I saw Faizoo on his way to the dispense-khana.

Faizoo then went into the dining-room. I cannot say whether he went to the Sahib's room or not, but he might have gone without my knowing.

I have constantly seen the Kazee at Faizoo's room, both when Mr. Taylor was here and when he was not. I have enquired from Faizoo what the Kazee came for, and was always informed that he came to enquire after Mr. Taylor.

(Sd.) Mark of Abdoola.

'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [10v] (20/40)



'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [11r] (21/40)

10

This examination, having been read over to the witness in Hindoostanee, a language he understands, is acknowledged by him to be correct.

Before me this 11th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

NOVEMBER 12th, 1874.

NURSOO RAJANOW, Jemedar of Peons, Residency establishment, Kamatee, age about 50, Baroda, states :—

I have served in the Residency about 31 years. I was made jemedar after Major Malcolm's death by Captain Barton about sixteen years ago. I am acquainted with the Maharaja's Arab Sowar Salam. When the ex-Ranee, Jumna Baie, was residing at the Residency for her confinement, Salam was employed by the Maharaja to keep watch over the Residency and to give him information of everything that went on. At that time Faizoo was on very intimate terms with Salam, and has continued so up to the present time. In the time of Colonel Shortt Faizoo was on very intimate terms with Col. Shortt's butler and they used to visit the city and go to Nana Saheb Dewan, Bulwantrao Eshwant, and also to Rahoorkur. They were also accompanied by Doolub, Naik of Peons in the Residency establishment, and by his two brothers Maunsing and Premsing, all of whom were last year expelled from the cantonment, but now reside in the city. Faizoo was on very intimate terms with all of these persons, and used to accompany them to the city. Faizoo was engaged in all sorts of intrigues during the whole time that Col. Shortt was here.

I am acquainted with a Mussulman Kazeer who was on very intimate terms with Faizoo and who used to come to Mr. Taylor. He often came to Faizoo's quarters when Mr. Taylor was not in Baroda.

When the Resident was at Nowsaree, in March last, with the Maharaja, Salam did not live with the Maharaja in the town of Nowsaree, but he lived in the compound of the bungalow occupied by the Resident. I know that Salam is a dangerous man, because in Col. Shortt's time he was employed with Faizoo to seize the Karkoons of Rahoorkur, who were in Col. Shortt's butler's room at the Residency. The facts of the case were very notorious and made much sensation at the time. When this occurred Salam was, as now, the confidential servant of the Maharaja. Since Col. Phayre became Resident, I do not know whether Faizoo has been engaged in any intrigue like that above described, but I do know that he continues to be on very intimate terms with Salam, and that he is always enquiring what goes on, and resides chiefly in the city.

I reside in the city, and I come on duty every day between 7-30 and 8 o'clock. In the time of the Ranee Jumna Bae's residence at the Residency I incurred the Maharaja's displeasure, because I refused to allow access to his men as he wished. That displeasure has never been removed. Two of my brothers were turned out of the service; one was subedar-major of the Irregular Cavalry, and the other was a havildar. Pensions, however, were granted subsequently, at the Resident's intercession. I am considered by the Maharaja as an enemy, and no overtures of any kind have been made to me.

In connection with the attempt to poison the Resident, my suspicion falls on Faizoo for the reasons already disclosed. The old Hamal, Govind, I believe to be incapable of such a crime. I have never heard of Govind going about anywhere or of his being engaged in any intrigue. Faizoo knows Govind well, and has plenty of opportunities of talking to him.

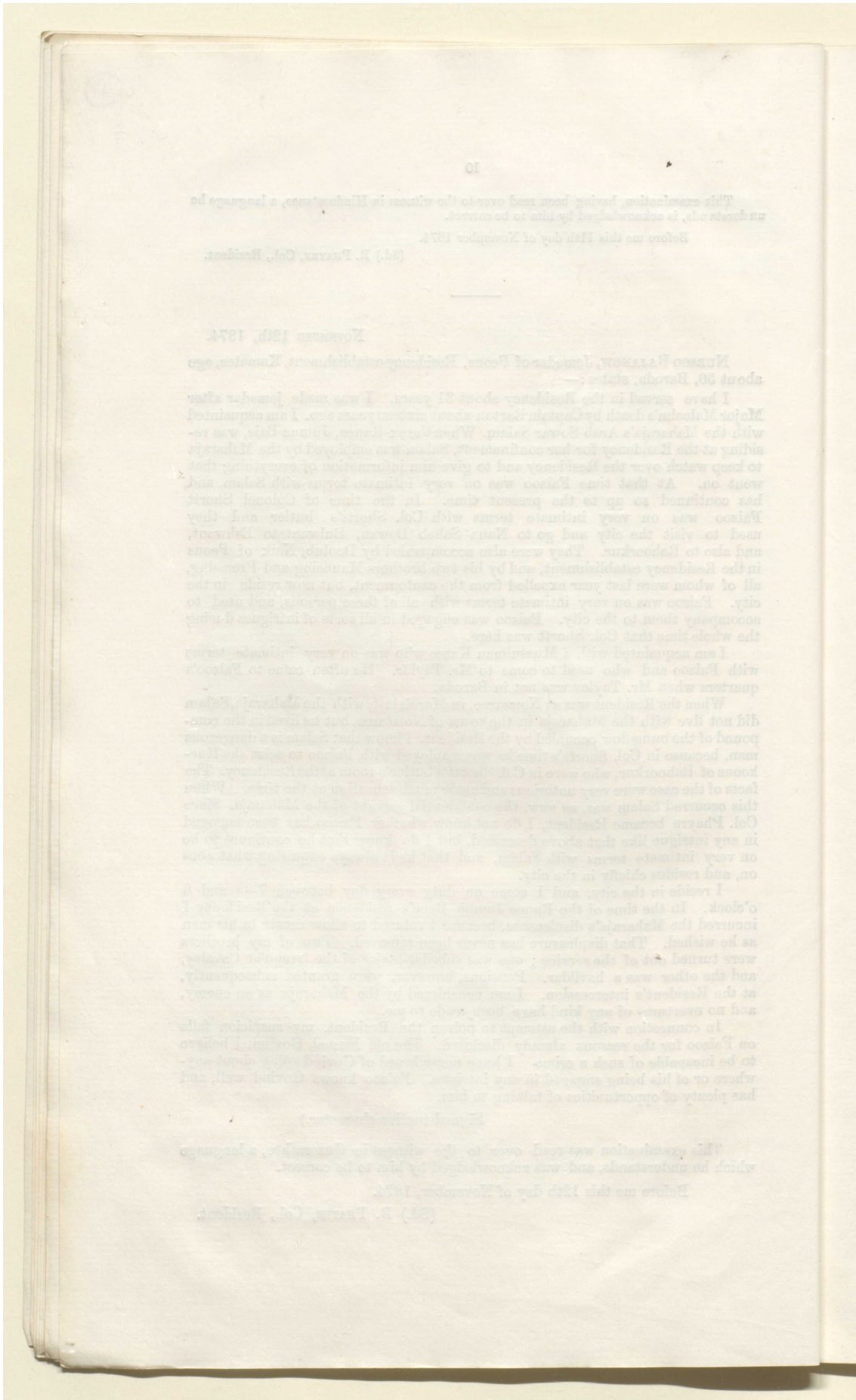
Signed (native character.)

This examination was read over to the witness in Guzerathee, a language which he understands, and was acknowledged by him to be correct.

Before me this 12th day of November, 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [11v] (22/40)



'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [12r] (23/40)

12

11

NOVEMBER 12th, 1874.

Govind Baloo, Hamal, aged about 50 years, is in custody, and is re-called and further examined.

Q—State precisely what are your duties in the Resident's private office room every morning.

A—The hamals sweep the room first, and then I clean the tables, chairs, &c., empty the basin, bring fresh water in the kooja. I arrange the bath-room which adjoins the private office, and see that bathing water, &c., is ready.

Q—Who is in the habit of bringing the sherbet that I drink?

A—Abdoola usually brings it, but Faizoo sometimes brings it. It is not always brought whilst I am in the room.

Q—Who brought the sherbet on the morning of the 9th, Monday?

A—I did not see the sherbet at all.

Q—Did not Abdoola on that morning bring the sherbet?

A—I did not see him bring it.

Q—Could any one have brought the sherbet without your knowledge?

A—Yes; when I went into the dining-room it could have been brought.

Q—Did you see Faizoo at all on the morning of the 9th?

A—No. I may have seen him, but I do not recollect.

Q—You clean the washhand-stand table and you say you did not see the sherbet on Monday the 9th instant. Do you usually see it there?

A—I always see it there, but I did not see it on the morning in question.

Q—Did you see Abdoola in the private office room on Monday the 9th?

A—I saw Abdoola, but he had no sherbet with him.

Q—You have said above that sometimes Abdoola brings the sherbet and sometimes Faizoo. Did you ever see Faizoo bring it?

(After much prevarication the witness declines to acknowledge that he ever saw Faizoo bring any sherbet to the Resident's room. The witness shows a marked disinclination to say anything whatever about Faizoo.)

Q—How many years have you been employed at the Residency?

A—About six or seven years.

Q—Do you know the Maharaja's Arab Sowar Salam?

A—I know him by sight, but I have never had anything to say to him. He usually comes with the Maharaja.

Q—Have you ever seen Salam at Faizoo's quarters?

A—Yes, I have.

Q—Has the Resident ever injured or offended you in any way?

A—No, not in the least.

Before me this 12th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

NOVEMBER 12th, 1874.

MAHOMED AHMED, Mussulman, age about 50, Bheestee, Baroda Residency, states:—

I live in the Residency compound, next to the old Hamal Govind Baloo. I have been employed at the Residency since the time of Mr. Andrews, Acting Resident, about 25 years ago.

Govind Baloo lives in the next room with his wife; no one else lives with him. I know Salam the Maharaja's Arab Sowar. He always goes to Faizoo's room, and sits there. I have seen Faizoo go and talk to the old Hamal, Baloo Govind, outside his room. I have not seen him go there for the last month. I cannot say whether he goes there or not at night.

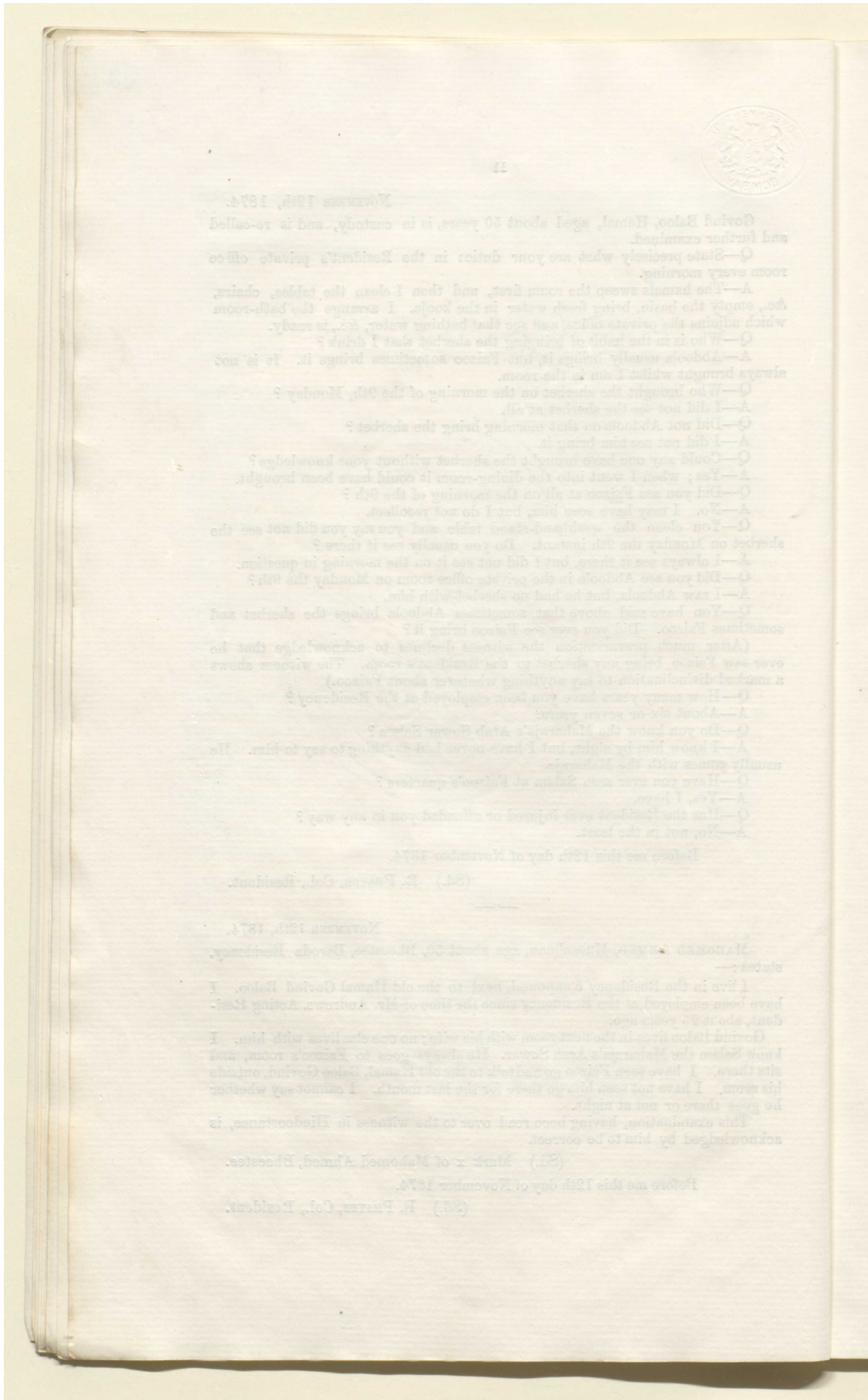
This examination, having been read over to the witness in Hindoostanee, is acknowledged by him to be correct.

(Sd.) Mark x of Mahomed Ahmed, Bheestee.

Before me this 12th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [12v] (24/40)



'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [13r] (25/40)

13

12

NOVEMBER 12th, 1874.

RUNCHOD RUTNA, Purwaree, age about 21 years, Mussal in the Residency establishment, states:—

I remember seeing Abdoola on the morning of Monday, the 9th, at about 6-30. He came into the dispense-khana to prepare the butter as usual. I was cleaning the candlesticks, &c. as usual. I know the time, because the Sahib's horse came a long time afterwards about 7 o'clock. I saw Faizoo come in to the dispense-khana shortly after Abdoola came there. Faizoo went from there to the dining-room. The dining-room was not ready at that time for the table to be laid. The hamals never go into the dining-room so early as 6-30.

This examination, having been read over to the witness in Hindoostanee, a language which he understands, is acknowledged by him to be correct.

(Sd.) Mark x of Runchod Rutna.

Before me this 13th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

NOVEMBER 13th, 1874.

THOMAS DIAS, Portuguese Christian, age about 45 years, Butler in service of A. C. Boevy, Esq., Assistant Resident, states:—

My room is next to Abdoola's. I have seen the Maharaja's Arab Sowar named Salam come to the servants' quarters. He usually goes to Faizoo's room, and there sits and talks with him. I only remember seeing Salam when the Maharaja's Sowaree comes. Salam alone of the Maharaja's private attendants has been in the habit of going to the servants' quarters.

I have seen Faizoo sometimes preparing sherbet for the Resident. I remember that he prepared it one day lately, but I am not quite sure as to the exact day.

I have seen a Mussulman, who is called "the Kazee," come to Faizoo's quarters on several occasions, and have seen him sit and talk with him. I do not know what the Kazee's name is, or what he comes for.

I have been in the service of my present master about five years. Since I have been at the Residency, no one has ever solicited me to give information, or to go into the city.

This examination, having been read over to the witness in a language which he understands, is acknowledged by him to be correct.

(Sd.) THOMAS DIAS.

Before me this 13th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

NOVEMBER 13th, 1874.

KURREEM, son of Sheik Misree, Mussulman, age about 40 years, Peon on the Residency Establishment attached to the Assistant Resident's office:—

I live with my family in the Residency compound. My room is at the back of the Ayah's room. I know the Maharajah's Arab Sowar Salam. He comes with the Maharaja's Sowaree and usually goes to Faizoo's room, and sits and talks with him. I also have seen a Mussulman called "the Kazee," who goes to visit Faizoo. I do not know who he is, or what he comes for, but I have heard that he came to visit the Rev. Mr. Taylor. I have often seen him when Mr. Taylor has not been here.

I am not on good terms with the Maharaja's Arab Sowar, Salam. One time when the Commission was sitting, he asked me to give him information about Bhow Pooneker, and promised me to get some favour from the Maharaja. I said that I would tell my master if he made any overtures to me of that kind. Since then he has shown enmity towards me, and when the Resident went to Mukhurpoora, would not allow me to sit in the bullock cart provided for the servants. I had a quarrel with him about this. I did not tell Pooneker what Salam had said to me, as no fresh overtures were made to me. I know the old Hamal, Govind Baloo; he lives near my room only two doors off. His old wife lives with him, and no one else. I have never seen anyone go and visit him.

Faizoo lives in the city, but he has a room in the servants' quarters. I know him since I came to the Residency to live. He usually brings his food with him from his house. He does not have any expense here that I know of, nor have I seen him go to the camp bazaar.

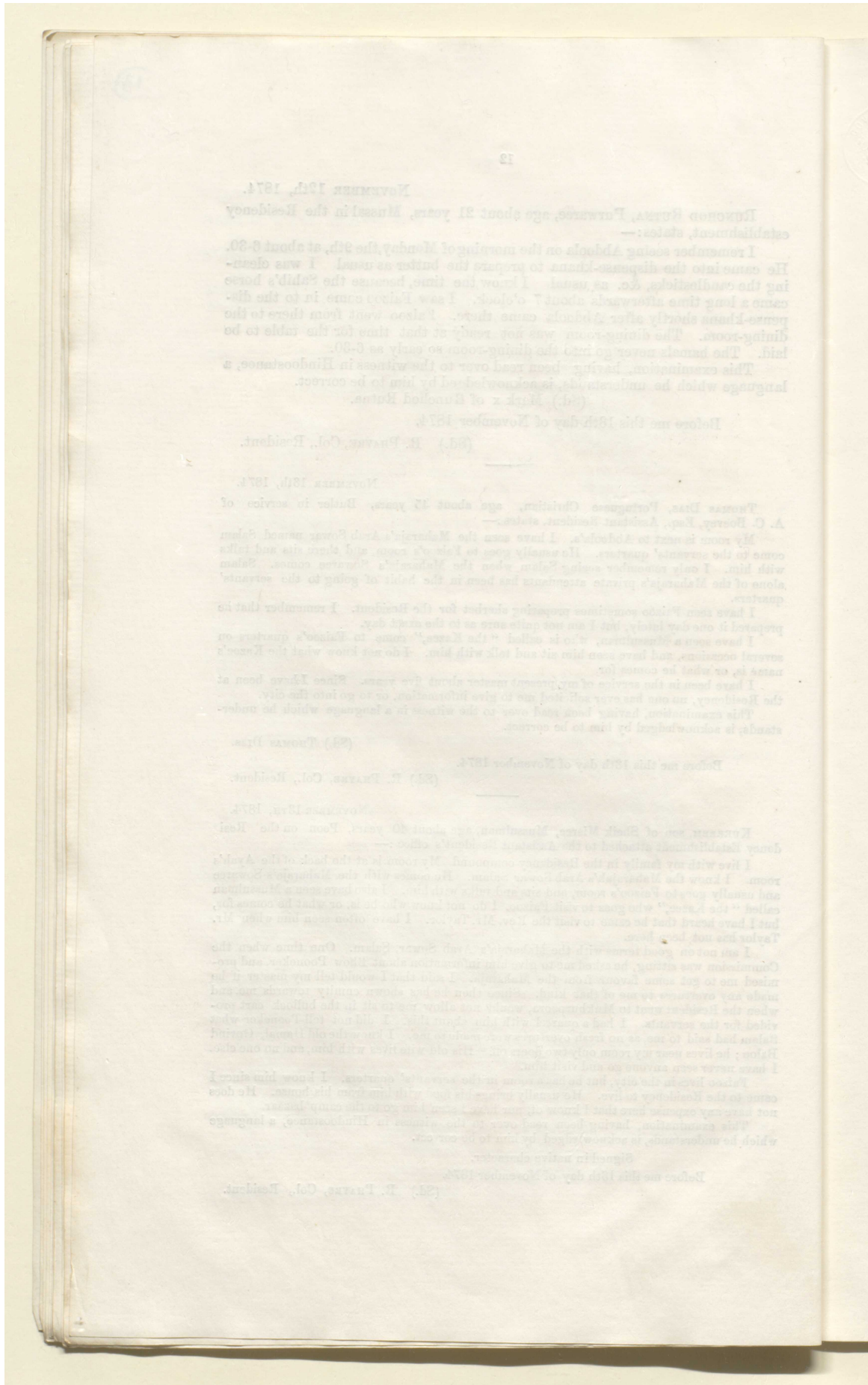
This examination, having been read over to the witness in Hindoostanee, a language which he understands, is acknowledged by him to be correct.

Signed in native character.

Before me this 13th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [13v] (26/40)



'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [14r] (27/40)

13

NOVEMBER 13th, 1874.

MAHOMED ALLA BAKSH, Mussulman, aged about 30, Peon on the Residency establishment attached to the Assistant Resident's office, states :—

I was made a peon on the Residency establishment in Colonel Wallace's time. I live in the city, but I take my turn to sleep at the Residency. I slept here on the night of Sunday, November 8th, and I was on duty on the morning of Monday, November 9th.

I remember seeing the Resident return from his walk about 7 A. M. The Maharaja's Arab Sowar named Salam then came up to the place where the peons were sitting. I do not know why he came so early on that morning. Bala, peon, was with me when I saw Salam first. I remember seeing the Assistant Resident return from shooting. I came forward to hold his horse. Salam was then present, with the other two jasoods named Yeshwuntrao and Madhavrao. I do not remember whether Faizoo was present or not, but he may have been present.

The fruit was not brought on that morning until between 8 and 8-30 A. M. I have seen a Mussulman who is called "the Kazee." He is a friend of Faizoo, and always goes to his quarters in the Residency. I do not know who he is, but I believe he comes to visit the Rev. Mr. Taylor.

I remember taking a note on Monday morning from the Resident to Dr. Seward. As I was going, Salam called out to me and gave me a rupee, telling me to get some biscuits for him from the bazaar. I delivered the note to Dr. Seward and then went to get the biscuits, but as none were ready, I gave the baker four annas and told him to make them. On my return I told Salam that they were not ready, and he then said that he would come and fetch them three or four days later. Up to the present time he has not asked me for the biscuits, and the change of the rupee [twelve annas] I have still got.

This examination, having been read over to the witness in Hindoostanee, a language which he understands, is acknowledged by him to be correct.

Sd. in native character.

Before me this 13th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

NOVEMBER 13TH, 1874.

SHAIK ABDoola SHAIK ADAM, Mussulman, age about 38 years, residing in the Residency compound.

My wife is employed as Ayah in the service of the Assistant Resident's wife. I came to Baroda about a year ago from Bombay. I have never been in Baroda before. I was employed as butler in Major Blakeney's service, but left it about two and a half months ago. Since that time I live with my wife in the Residency compound. I have seen the Maharaja's Arab Sowar Salam come to Faizoo's quarters, which are next to mine. He always comes when the Maharaja comes. I have also seen a Mussulman, whom they call "the Kazee," come to visit Faizoo. The Kazee comes to visit the Rev. Mr. Taylor. I do not know who he is, or where he lives, but I have heard Faizoo say that he comes from the Deccan. His residence is, I think, Chandode, or some name like that. The Kazee stated to me that he was once in the present Maharaja's service, but that he had been driven away.

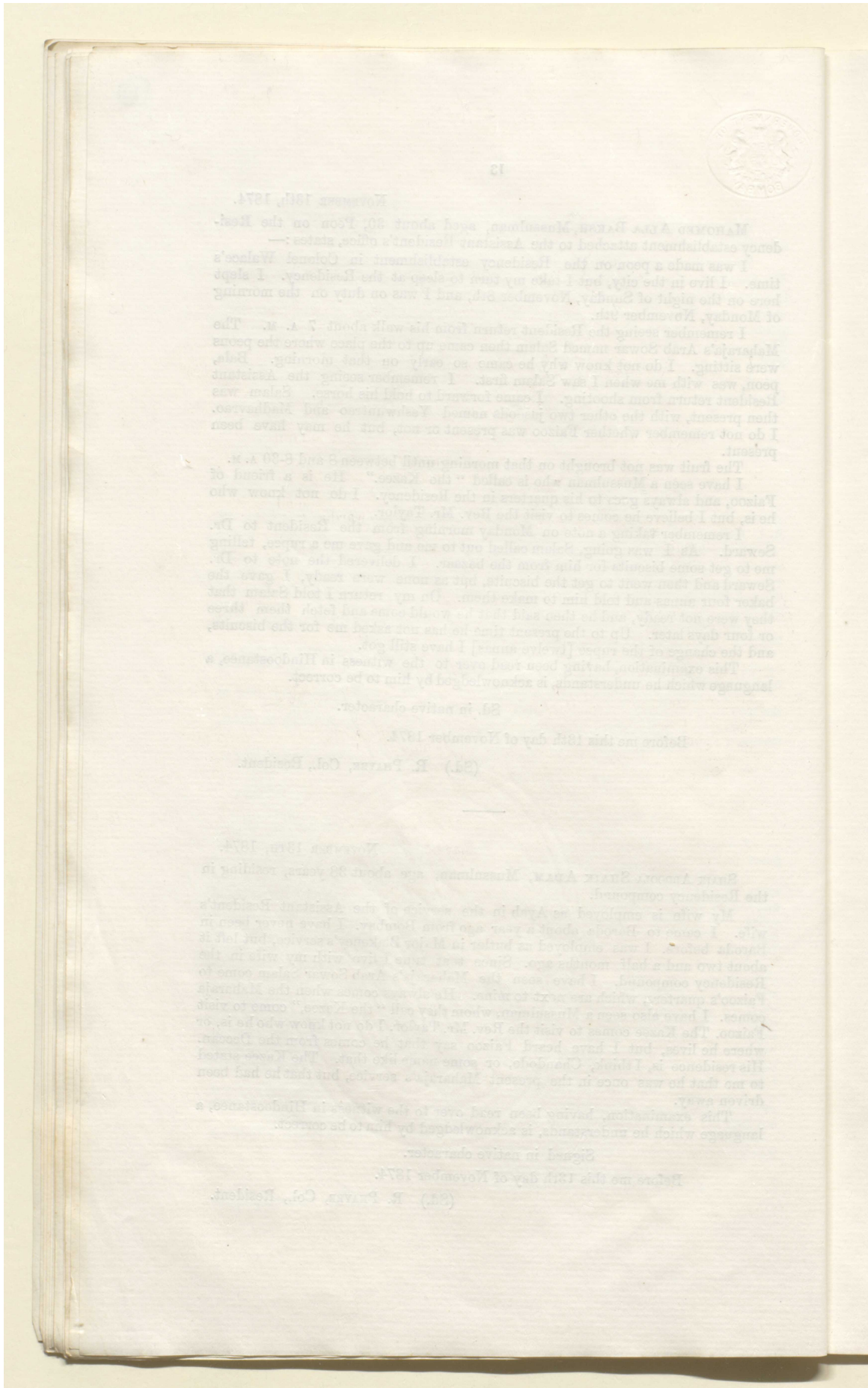
This examination, having been read over to the witness in Hindoostanee, a language which he understands, is acknowledged by him to be correct.

Signed in native character.

Before me this 13th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [14v] (28/40)



'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [15r] (29/40)

14

NOVEMBER 13TH, 1874.

BALOO RAMJEE, Mahratta, age about 30, Peon on the Residency establishment, states :—

I have been employed on the Residency establishment about one a half years. I was on duty on the morning of Monday the 9th instant. I saw the Resident return from his walk, and I then was sitting on the servants' bench. Salam, the Maharajah's Arab Sowar, was then present. A few minutes afterwards Rowjee brought a note from the Resident to take to Dr. Seward. As he was going, Salam told Mahomed to get him some biscuits from the bazaar and gave him a rupee for the purpose. Mahomed took the rupee away. I have never seen Salam come so early as he did that morning. I do not know why he came so early. The fruit came about one and a half hours afterwards. When the Jemadar returned to duty at 7-30, I left and went home to eat. Luximon was also on duty on the same morning.

This examination, having been read over to the witness in Hindoostanee, a language which he understands, is acknowledged by him to be correct.

(Sd.) Mark x of Baloo Rowjee.

Before me this 13th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

NOVEMBER 13TH, 1874.

LUXIMON DERIOSING, Purdeshi peon on the Residency establishment, is in custody and is further examined :—

Q—Where do you live ?

A—I have a room at the back of the Resident's stables. Luximon Falkur, Office Furash, lives in the next room to mine. My brother and his wife live with me, and Luximon Falkur's wife and family live with him.

Q—When you left the Resident's room on the morning of Monday, the 9th, where did you go to ?

A—I went to the "Devree," where the peons sit.

Q—Who were present on the "Devree" when you returned ?

A—Rowjee Havildar, Baloo Peon, and Mahomed Peon.

Q—What did you do after you returned to the Devree.

A—Rowjee gave me a note to post and I went and posted it.

Q—When you took the note away was Salam present ?

A—Salam was then just approaching the Residency on horseback as I left it.

Q—When you had posted the letter, what did you do ?

A—I posted the letter and returned at once.

Q—When you returned, was Salam present ?

A—Yes, he was then sitting on the Devree.

Q—What o'clock was that ?

A—It was about 7-15. I remember that the Jemadar returned shortly afterwards.

Q—Was Mahomed present on your return ?

A—No, but he soon afterwards returned.

Q—Do you know why Mahomed left ?

A—I do not know.

Q—When you went to the Devree, did you afterwards return to the Resident's room ?

A—No.

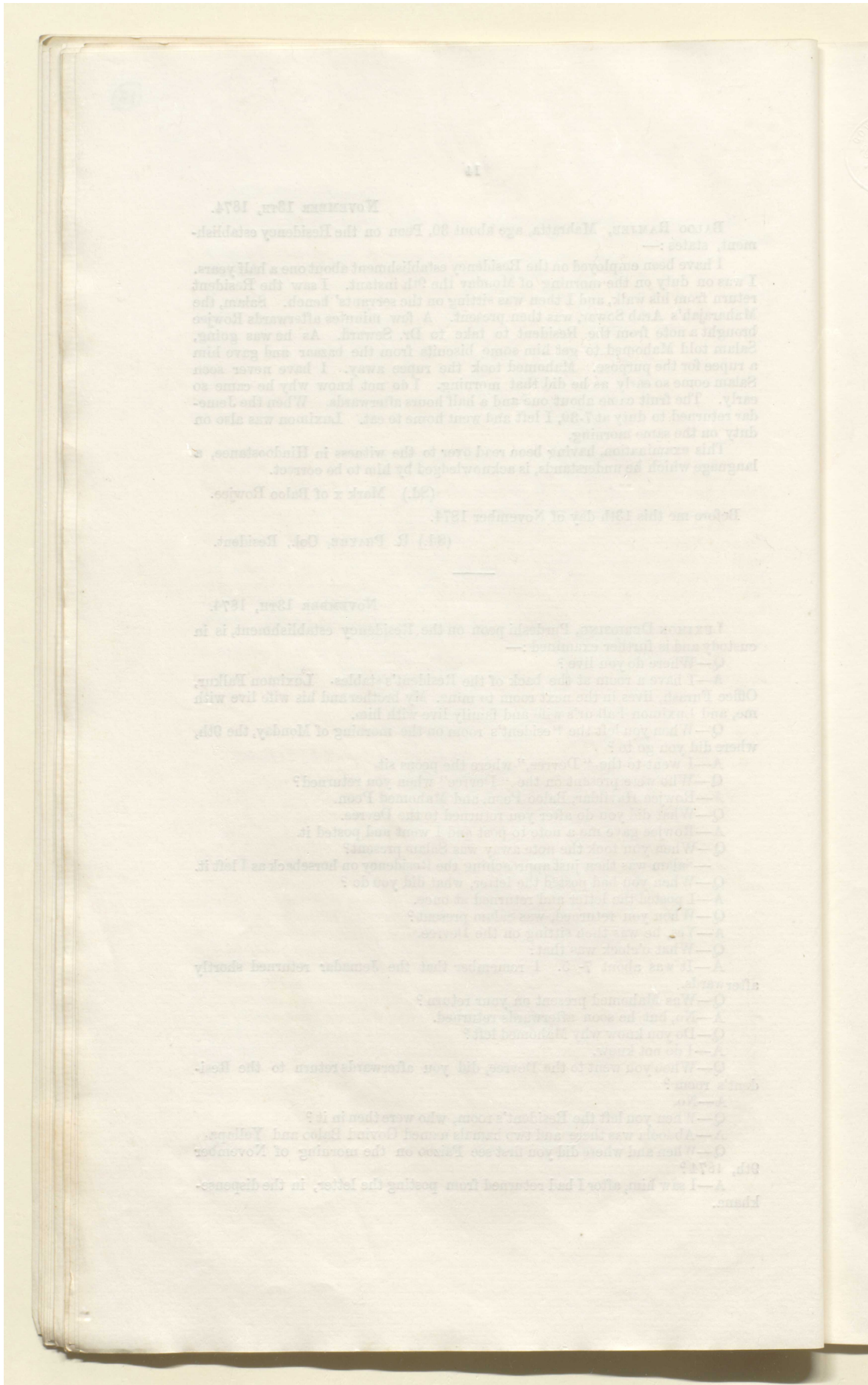
Q—When you left the Resident's room, who were then in it ?

A—Abdoola was there, and two hamals named Govind Baloo and Yellapa.

Q—When and where did you first see Faizoo on the morning of November 9th, 1874 ?

A—I saw him, after I had returned from posting the letter, in the dispensary-khana.

'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [15v] (30/40)



'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [16r] (31/40)

16

15

Q—When do you clean the inkstand, &c., in the Resident's room?

A—I take my turn and clean it every other day with Baloo.

Q—How long have you been in the Residency establishment?

A—For about one and half years. Before that time I was employed in the Bazaar Office.

This evidence, having been read over to the deponent in Hindoostance, a language which he understands, is acknowledged by him to be correct.

(Signed in native character.)

Before me this 13th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col. Resident.

RUNCHOD RUTNA, Mussal, is recalled and further examined.

Abdoola always prepares the sherbet in the dispense-khana, where I am engaged in my ordinary work. I remember his preparing it on the morning of Monday, November 9th. He squeezed it as usual into a small tumbler, which he then took with him into the dining-room. When Abdoola has not prepared it, Faizoo has prepared it. I remember seeing Faizoo on the morning of Monday the 9th, about 6-30, come into the dispense-khana. He went from there into the dining-room. When he came into the dispense-khana Abdoola was present with me and saw him come in. I do not know why he went into the dining-room. We had not begun to clean the silver so early as 6-30 when Faizoo went into the dining-room, and I am certain that he brought no silver from there to clean.

This examination, having been read over to the witness in Hindoostance, a language which he understands, is acknowledged by him to be correct.

(Sd.) Mark x of Runchod Rutna.

Before me this 14th day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

Statement by the Rev. J. TAYLOR, A.M., Missionary, Borsud, Kaira District, age 55.

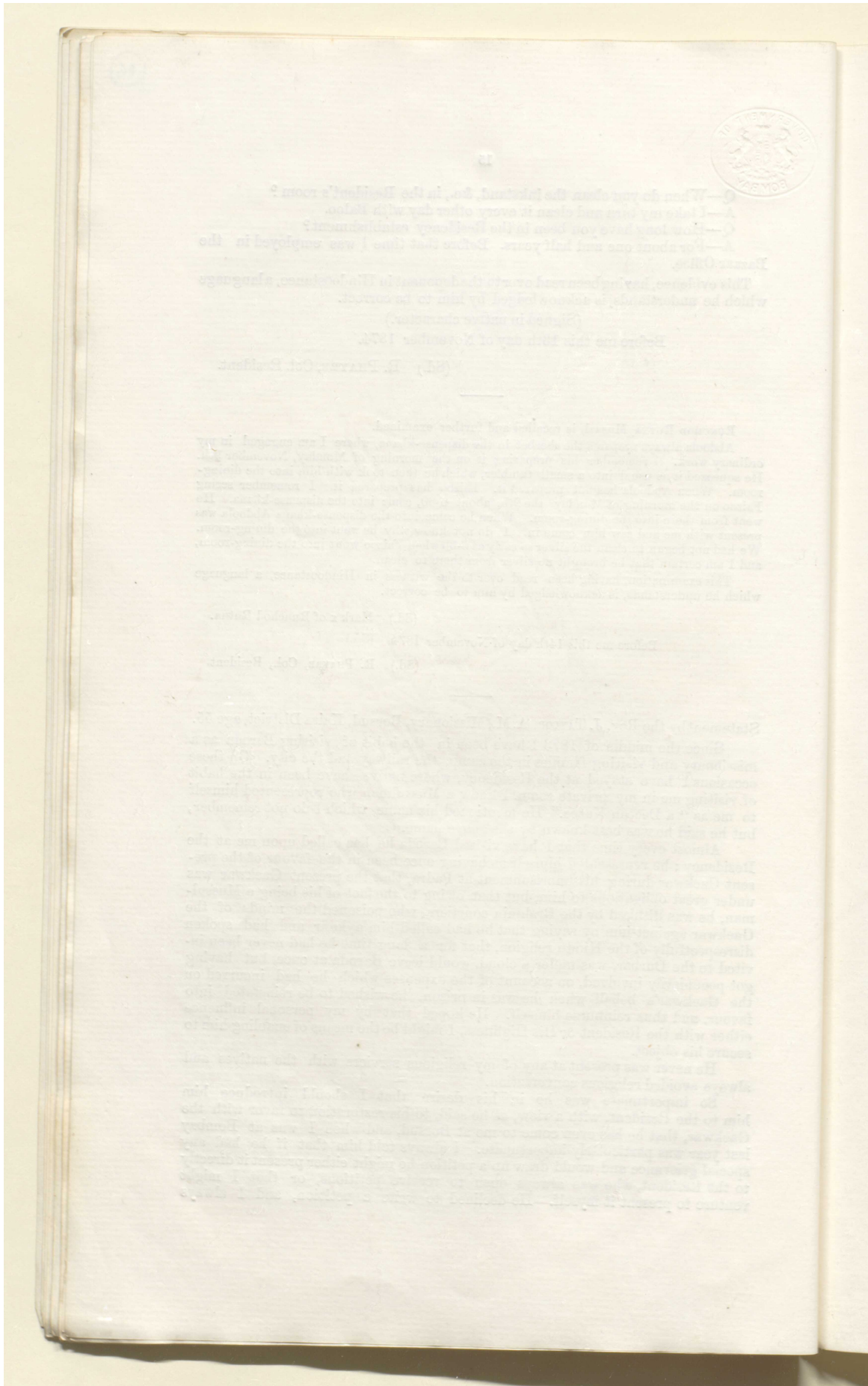
Since the middle of 1873 I have been in the habit of visiting Baroda as a missionary and visiting families in the camp, the railway and the city. On these occasions I have stayed at the Residency, where natives have been in the habit of visiting me in my private room. I know a Mussulman who represented himself to me as "a Deccan Kazeer." He mentioned his name, which I do not remember, but he said he was best known by the above name.

Almost every time that I have visited Baroda he has called upon me at the Residency; he represented himself as having once been in the favour of the present Gaekwar during his imprisonment at Padra, that the present Gaekwar was under great obligations to him, but that owing to the fact of his being a Mussulman, he was disliked by the Brahmin courtiers, who poisoned the minds of the Gaekwar against him by saying that he had called him a kafir and had spoken disrespectfully of the Hindu religion, that for a long time he had never been invited to the Durbar, was under a cloud, would leave Baroda at once, but having got pecuniarily involved, on account of the expenses which he had incurred on the Gaekwar's behalf when he was in prison, he wished to be reinstated into favour, and thus reimburse himself. He hoped that by my personal influence either with the Resident or His Highness, I might be the means of enabling him to secure his object.

He never was present at any of my religious services with the natives and always avoided religious conversation.

So importunate was he in his desire that I should introduce him to the Resident, with a view, as he said, to his restoration to favor with the Gaekwar, that he has even come to me at Borsud, and when I was at Bombay last year was particularly importunate. I always told him that if he had any special grievance and would draw up a petition he might either present it directly to the Resident, who was always open to receive petitions, or that I might venture to present it myself. He declined to write a petition, and I always

'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [16v] (32/40)



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declined to interfere in a general question like that raised without any specific object. I have asked him why he did not go himself direct; and he replied that it was best to use some person to introduce him.

This went on for about fifteen months; the same story being always told and the same answer being always given. I had no reason to suspect the man. I therefore made no objection to his coming.

About the end of August, on arrival at the Residency on a Thursday morning, the Maharaja who was sitting in the drawing-room with the Resident, expressed a wish to speak to me. The Resident called me, and I sat down and began to converse with His Highness. The Resident and one of the Durbar were present at the time. Next day the Resident informed me that H. H. the Gaekwar wished to shew me his new Palace, and asked me to go accordingly on Saturday morning early. I did so. I ought here to mention, however, that on the previous day (Friday) the Kazeer above referred to called upon me, asked me if I should like to have an interview with the Gaekwar, to my surprise alluded to the conversation I had had the previous day with His Highness, *said that he had an influential friend in the Durbar who gave him information*, and could arrange any interview with the Gaekwar that would be agreeable, and *asked in a casual way apparently what nuzzerana I would take*. I replied at once that all I desired was to see the Gaekwar take good advice, and reform the administration of his State. The Kazeer made no further remark on the subject.

It was after this interview that the Resident spoke to me saying that the Maharajah wished to see me, and advised me to go. I went to the Palace and was ushered into a room where His Highness soon appeared. Rao Saheb Bapubhai and Govind Rao Mama, of the Durbar, conducted me there.

His Highness opened the conversation, which at once took a political turn, and from what they said I came to the conclusion that they were very much concerned about the recent letter which the Gaekwar had received from Government. The conversation afterwards took a religious turn, and the interview closed with His Highness shewing me over the new Palace. He expressed himself as much pleased at my visit, and in an hour or two I left for Borsud.

On my next visit to Baroda the Kazeer called upon me again, spoke of my visit to the Gaekwar, said that it had been of great use to him, that he had seen the Gaekwar, who spoke in very laudatory terms of me, yet that all he desired had not been accomplished, as the Gaekwar had not invited him so freely to the Durbar as he desired.

On Thursday the 5th November, when I came home from the city in the evening, Faizoo was standing by my room-door, and I told him that as I had a bad headache not to allow any one to disturb me for an hour. He said that the Kazeer was waiting for me. I said that he might come. He again said that he had had only one interview with the Gaekwar since the time I had visited His Highness. He repeated what he had several times told me before, that though the Gaekwar had given him a horse, he had never given him any money, *and that I might look upon him as dirt if he had received as much as a pie from the Gaekwar*, but he hoped that by my favour he would soon find himself in much better circumstances.

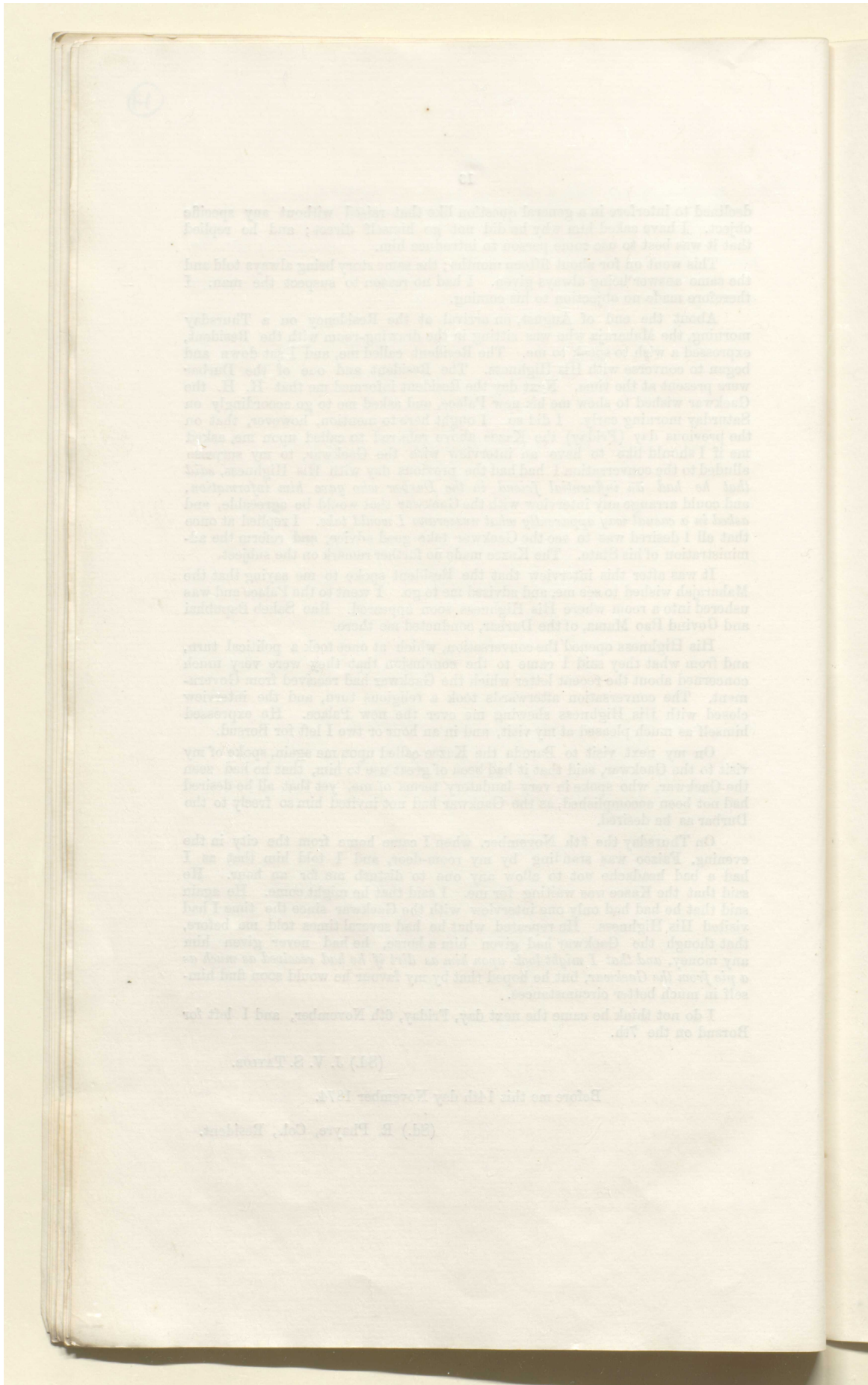
I do not think he came the next day, Friday, 6th November, and I left for Borsud on the 7th.

(Sd.) J. V. S. TAYLOR.

Before me this 14th day November 1874.

(Sd.) R. Phayre, Col., Resident.

'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [17v] (34/40)



'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [18r] (35/40)

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FURTHER EXAMINATION.

NOVEMBER 23rd, 1874.

FAIZOO RAMZAN, accused, having intimated a wish to make a statement to the Resident, is called up and examined:—

Q—What have you to state with reference to the occurrence which took place at the Residency on Monday, November 9th, in connection with which you are now in custody?

A—What I have to state is that on that morning the Arab Sowar Salam came to the Residency much earlier than usual. That fact excites my suspicion.

Q—At what o'clock does Salam usually come to the Residency?

A—He never comes before 8 o'clock.

Q—At what o'clock did he come on the morning of Monday the 9th?

A—When I came there at 7 o'clock on the morning of Monday the 9th, Salam Sowar was then there.

Q—Can you give any reason why Salam came so early on that morning?

A—I can give no reason for it.

Q—Does the fact that he came so early on that particular morning, excite any suspicion in your mind?

A—Yes, it does, because I know that Salam is employed by the Maharaja to give information of what occurs at the Residency, and I know that he has received chuttree mussal and other honors from the Maharaja for his services at the time of the sitting of the Commission.

Q—Is not Salam in the habit of always going and sitting at your room when he comes to the Residency?

A—Ever since the Saheb returned from Nowsaree, in May last, Salam has never come to my room at the Residency.

Q—What happened to prevent his coming as usual after the Resident's return from Nowsaree?

A—I forbid his coming.

Q—Why did you forbid his coming?

(The accused states, after much prevarication, that Salam was never in the habit of coming to him at all.)

Q—All the servants and dependents in the Residency state that Salam is in the habit of coming to your room and sitting there—is this true or false?

A—Salam never comes to me.

Q—Do you know Rama Barik?

A—Yes, I do.

Q—Has he ever visited you or you him?

A—No.

Q—Do you know Runchod Bajee?

A—He used to visit Colonel Shortt's butler.

Q—Where did he come from, and what did he come for?

A—I do not know.

Q—Did Salam ever come to visit Colonel Shortt's butler?

A—Yes.

Q—What did he come for?

A—I do not know.

Q—Do you know Mahadoo Luxumon?

A—I do not know.

Q—Do you know Jugga Punkhawalla?

A—I do.

Q—Do you know Madhowrao Kalay, the Maharaja's confidential sowar?

A—Yes, I do.

Q—Was he here on the morning of Monday the 9th instant?

A—I did not see him. I saw Yeshwuntrao and Salam only.

Q—Do you know that Madhowrao died one or two days afterwards?

A—No, I do not, as I have been in prison.

Q—When you came to the Residency on the morning of Monday the 9th, where did you go to?

A—I went into the dispense-khana, where Abdoola was making the butter and Runchod Mussul was cleaning the lamps.

Q—Did you go from there into the dining-room?

A—No, I remained in the dispense-khana and cleaned the silver that was there, in the presence of Abdoola and Runchod Mussal.

(The accused denied most emphatically and eagerly that he went into the dining-room.)

Q—Did you not take any silver from the dining-room to clean on that morning?

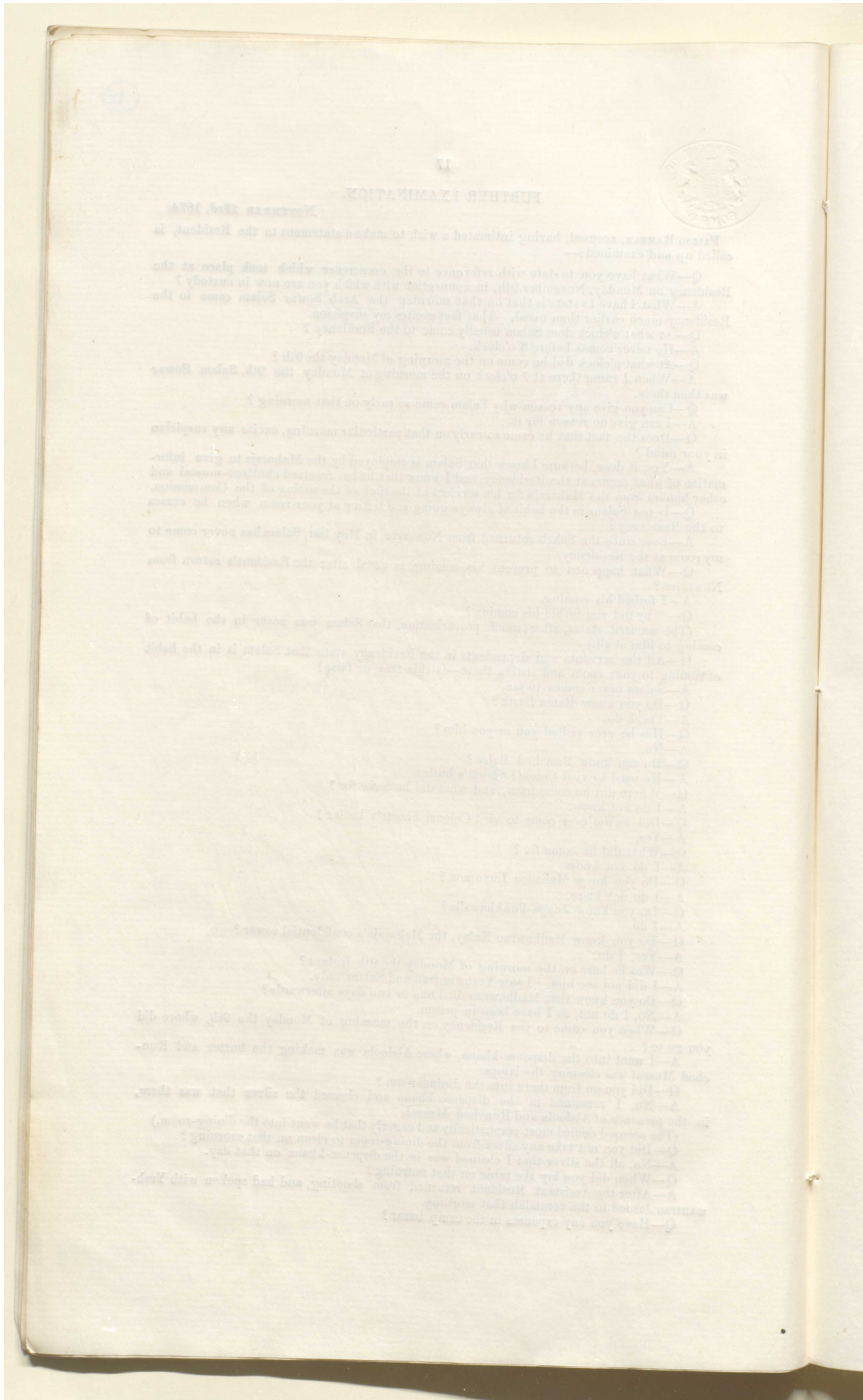
A—No, all the silver that I cleaned was in the dispense-khana on that day.

Q—When did you lay the table on that morning?

A—After the Assistant Resident returned from shooting, and had spoken with Yeshwantrao Jasood in the verandah that morning.

Q—Have you any expenses in the camp bazar?

'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [18v] (36/40)



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A—No.

Q—Have you any suspicion on anybody else except Salam ?

A—Salam's coming so very early on that morning is the only suspicious thing that I noticed.

Before me this 23rd day of November 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident, Baroda.

NOVEMBER 23RD, 1874.

FURTHER EXAMINATION.

PEDRO DE SOUZA is recalled and further examined :—

Q—When you first saw Faizoo coming from the direction of the city on the morning of Monday, the 9th, can you state accurately what o'clock it was ?

A—I did not look at my watch before I went out that morning. The sun had not long risen, but from its height it might have risen about fifteen minutes.

Q—When you first saw Faizoo, how far off was he ?

A—He was about 200 paces off. I am quite certain that it was Faizoo and no one else.

I went across to the Post Office only, and then returned. On my return I saw him [Faizoo] by the servants' quarters, going to his room. I went into the cook-room and did not see him afterwards. When I returned from the Post Office I saw Salam, the Arab sowar, standing near the place where the peons sit.

It took me about ten to fifteen minutes to go to the Post Office and back. Faizoo sometimes comes late and sometimes early. I have told him that if he did not come in good time I should speak about it to the Sahib. On the morning in question he came in good time.

This evidence, having been read over to the witness in Hindoostanee, a language which he understands, is acknowledged by him to be correct.

(Sd.) Mark of Pedro de Souza.

Before me this 23rd day of November, 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col. Resident, Baroda.

November 23rd, 1874.

FURTHER EXAMINATION.

ABDOOLA MAHOMED is recalled and further examined :—

When I saw Faizoo go into the dining-room, it was about 6-30 A.M. He returned from the direction of the dining-room about ten minutes afterwards, and went out of the house. After the saheb had returned about 7 o'clock, Faizoo came into the dispense-khana to clean the silver. I remember when Faizoo came into the dispense-khana, because I saw the Saheb's horse pass as usual. Until Faizoo came into the dispense-khana that morning about 7 o'clock to clean the silver I did not see him do any work at all.

When Faizoo sleeps in the city he usually does not return to duty till about 7-30 or 8 A.M. Faizoo slept in the city, on the night of Sunday, November 8. On Monday morning, when he came from the city he came unusually early. I have never seen him come from the city so early before as he did on that morning. When Faizoo went into the dining-room on the morning of Monday, all the doors were open.

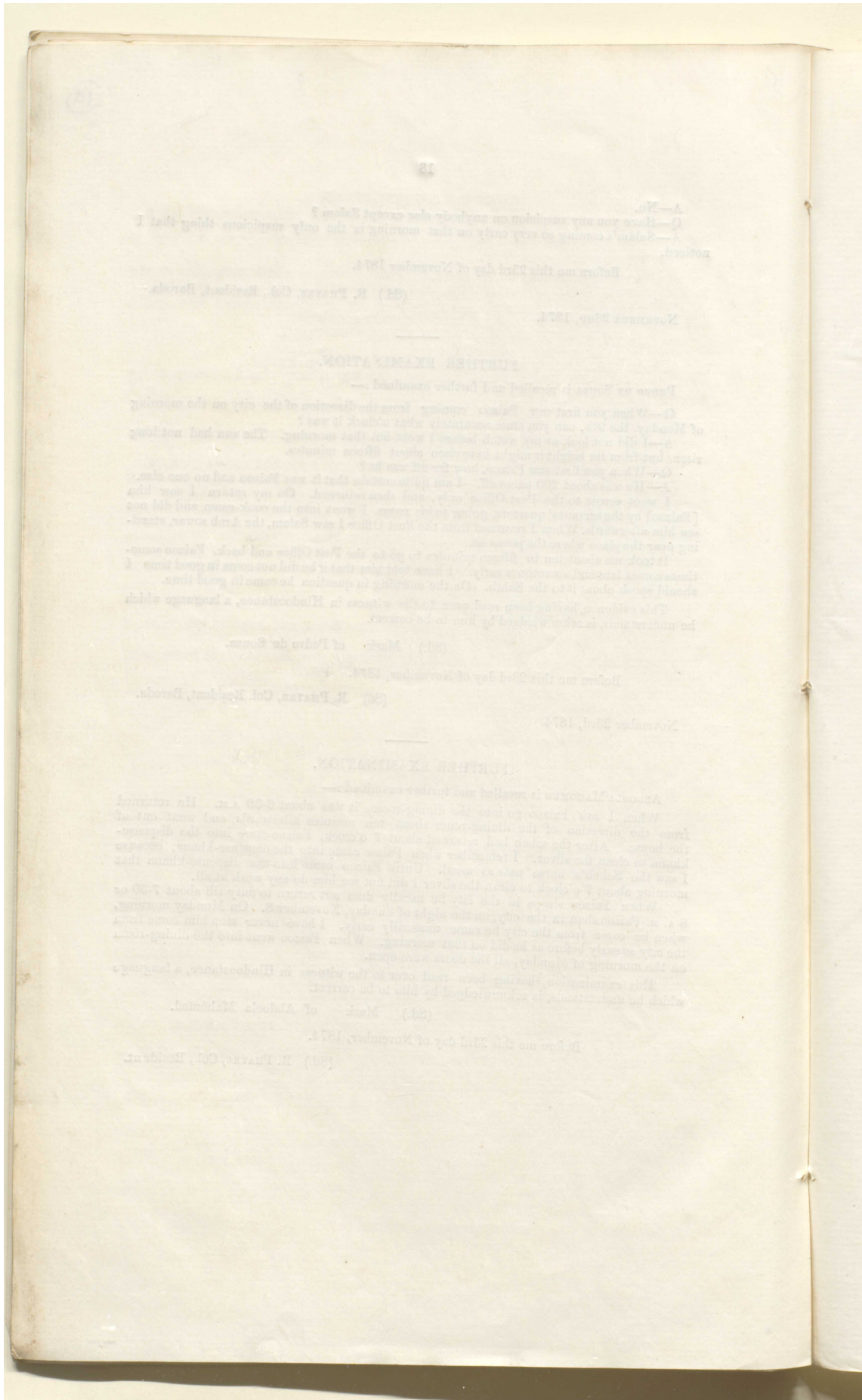
This examination, having been read over to the witness in Hindoostanee, a language which he understands, is acknowledged by him to be correct.

(Sd.) Mark of Abdoola Mahomed.

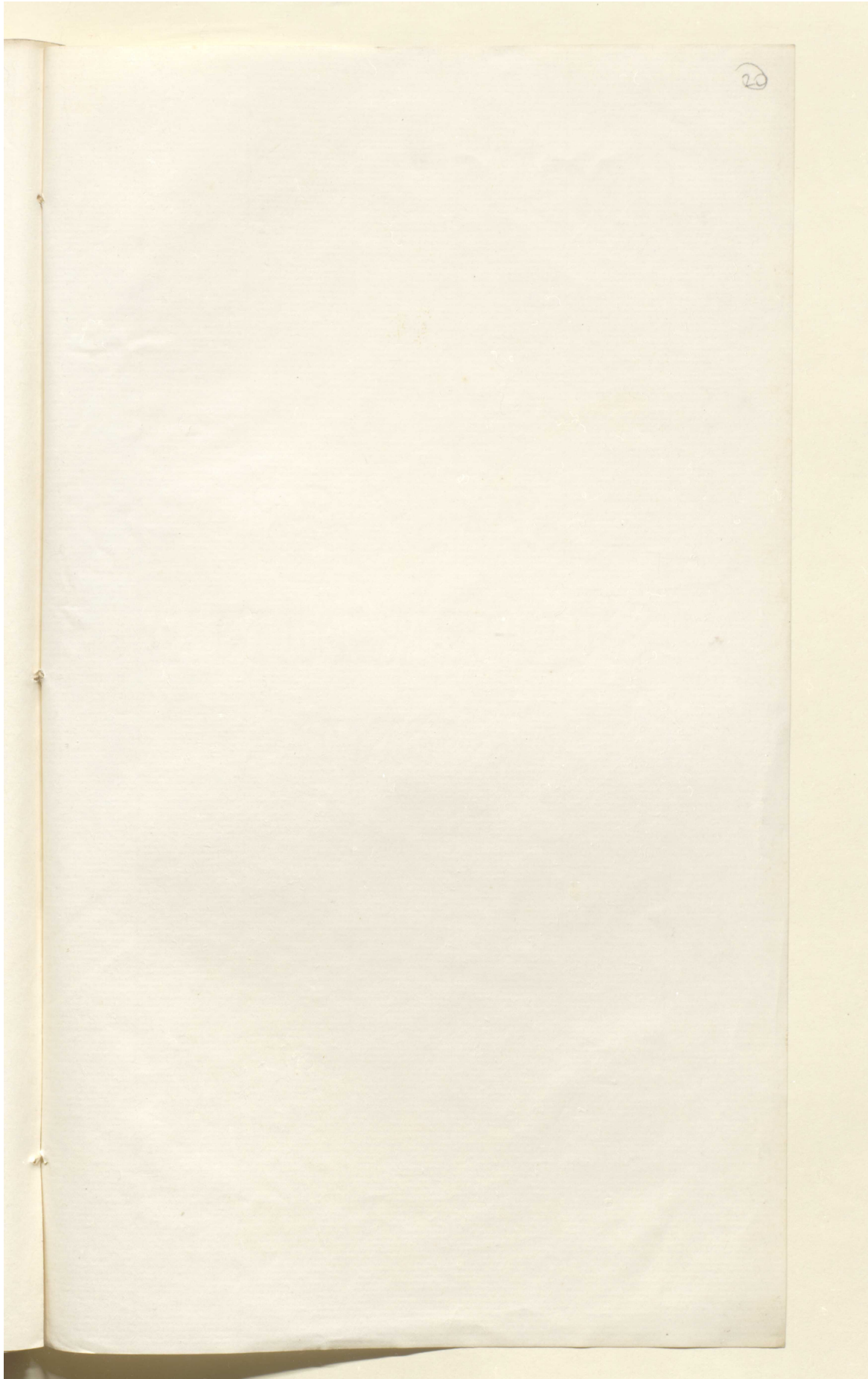
Before me this 23rd day of November, 1874.

(Sd.) R. PHAYRE, Col., Resident.

'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [19v] (38/40)



'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [back-i] (39/40)



'Statement of Witnesses taken by Colonel Phayre' [back] (40/40)

