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Drafts of letters and memoranda on Gulf affairs

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	Mss Eur F126/36
Date(s)	1860s (CE, Gregorian)
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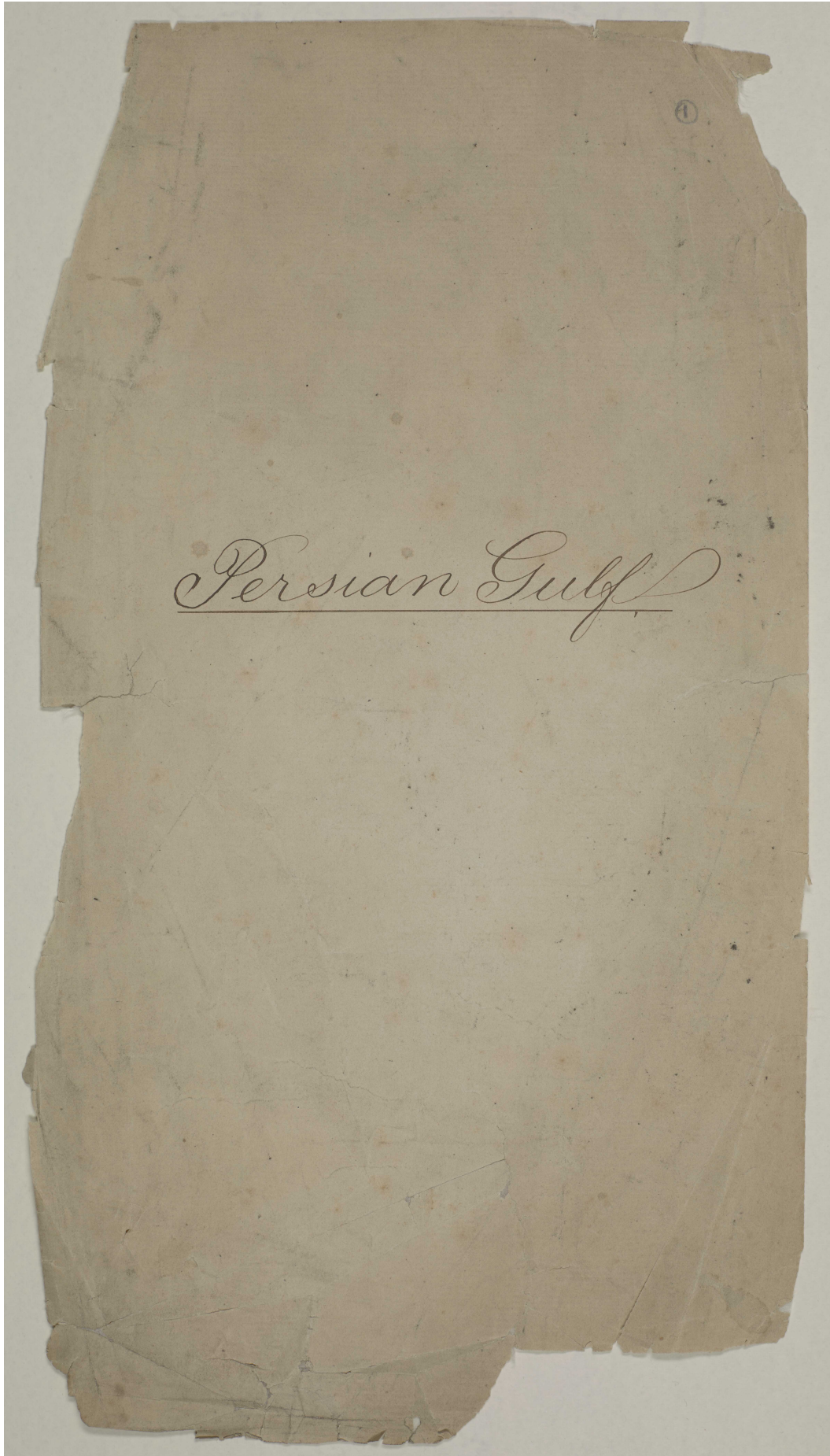


About this record

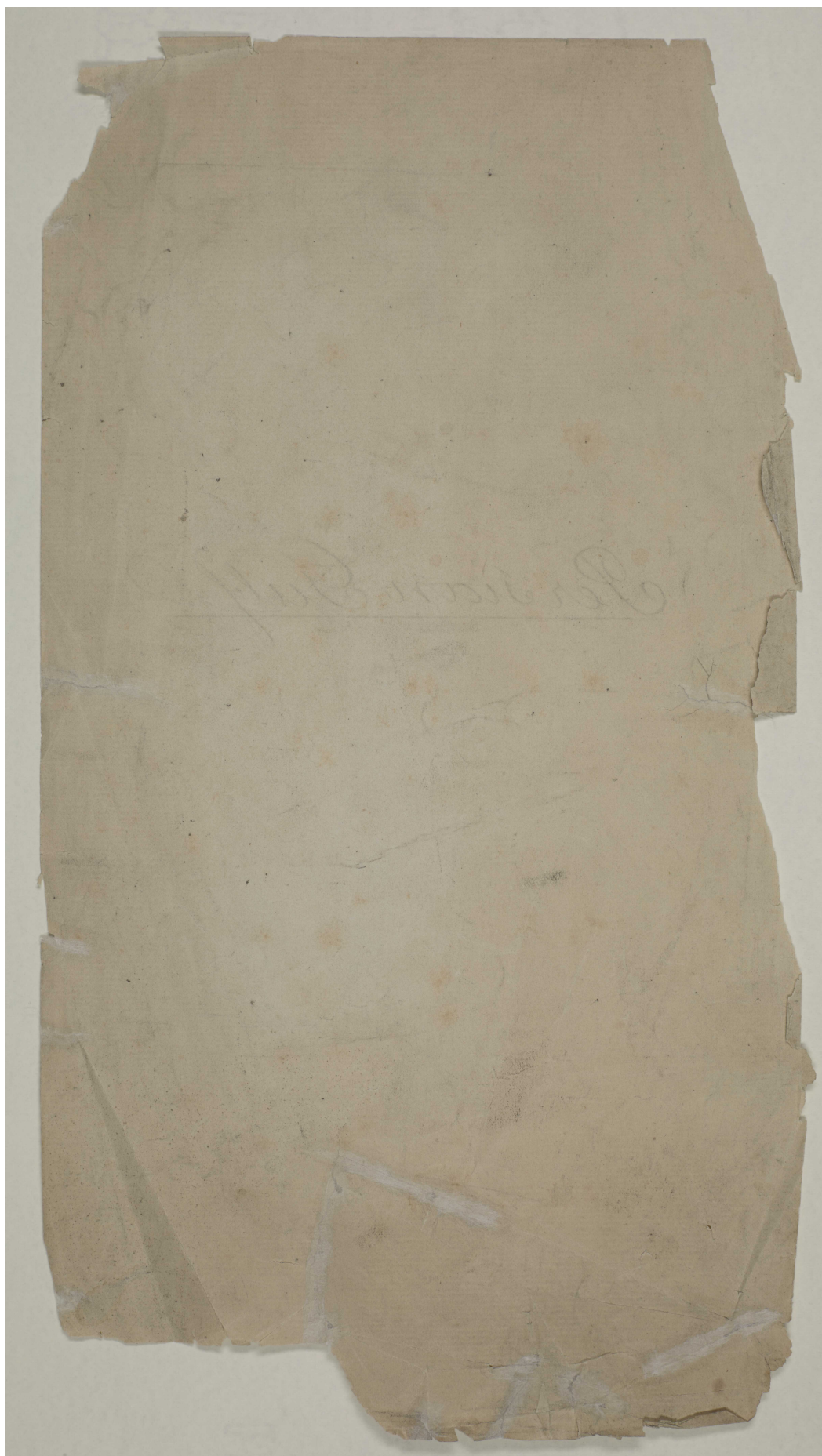
The letters and memos give details of Pelly's duties and responsibilities as the Resident in the Persian Gulf. Information given includes indications of the time spent both at and away from the residency itself at Bushire; the role of the residency in suppressing piracy and promoting trade; and the importance of steam and telegraph communications to the residency.

Later letters discuss the potential benefits and disadvantages of the residency being relocated to another site in the Gulf, potentially around Cape Mussundoom [Musandam]; a journal written by Pelly on his travels through Afghanistan; the progress of the telegraph station at Jashk [Jask]; misunderstandings in Muscat which Pelly mediated; the suitability of vessels for use by the residency; and a request by Pelly to visit Tehran on his return to Bushire.

Cover Page entitled 'Persian Gulf' [1r] (1/2)



Cover Page entitled 'Persian Gulf' [1v] (2/2)



MSS. Eur. F126/36

(2)

Bushire 7 May 1879

Dear Sir,

Observing from the public prints that the attention of His Excellency the Viceroy is turned towards our relations with Afghanistan - I enclose to send of this Mail Steamer a printed copy of a Journal I kept when travelling on public duty through that country, in 1860.

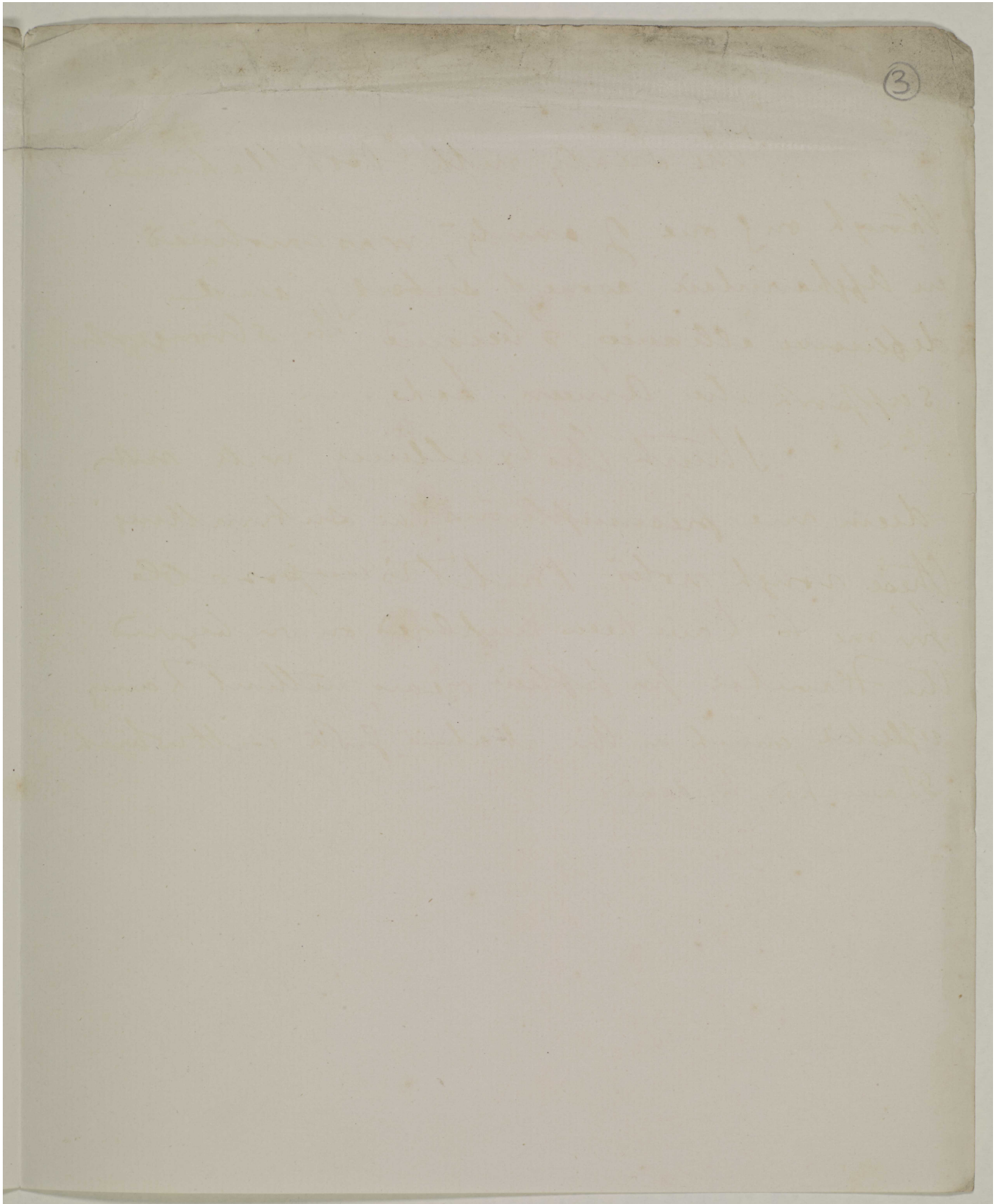
The Journal is rough but is based on personal observation and maybe of some little interest from its forecasts of events which have since happened.

My letter to the late Lord Carnarvon printed at page 109 after selection sketches a policy which might then perhaps have been adopted towards Sardar Sultan Ahmed Khan - which at the present day might perhaps have good results if adopted towards Sher Ali Khan, with modification.

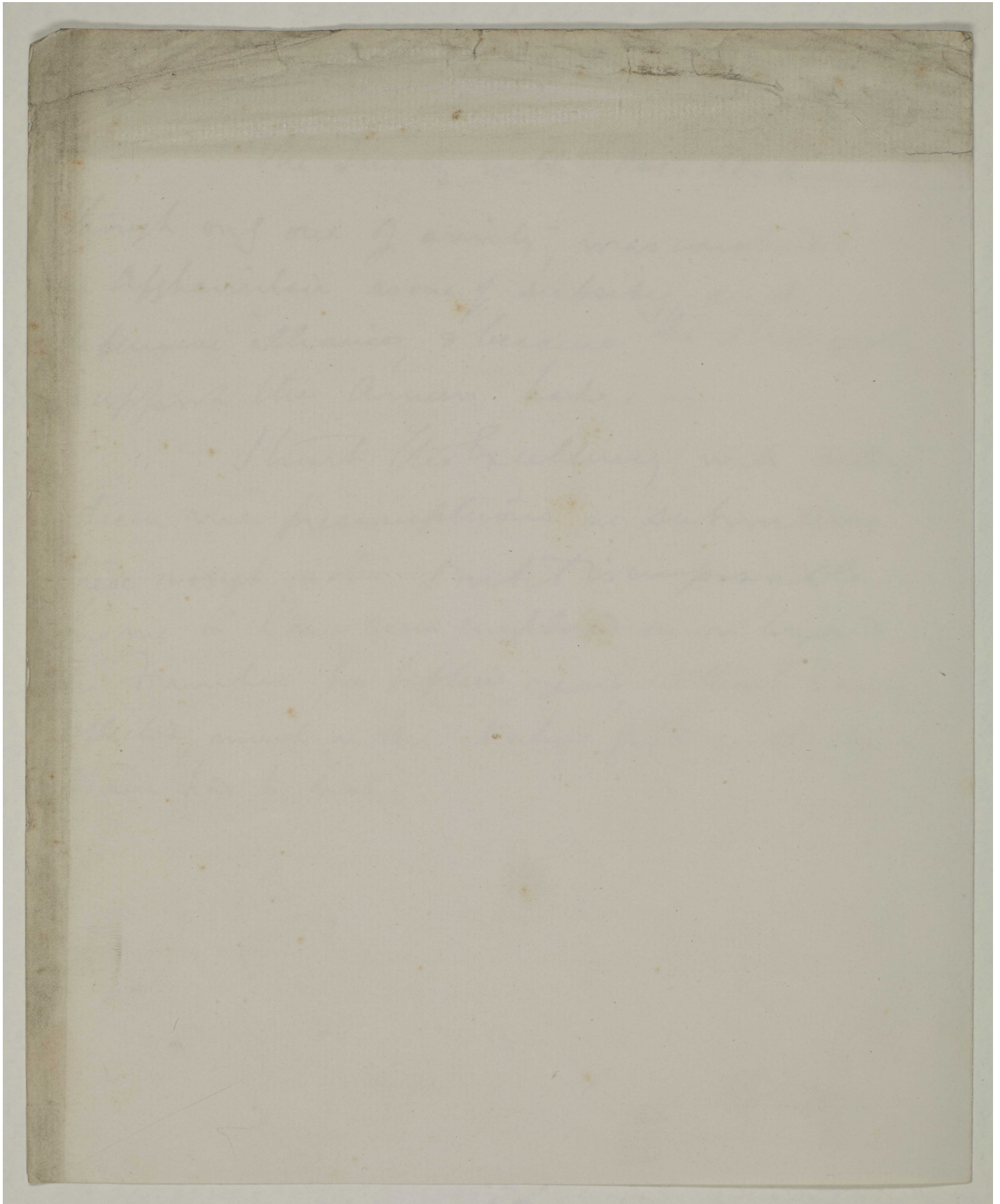
The Treaty with Asad Mahomed
though only one of unity, was combined
in Afghanistan as one of subsidy and
defensive alliance, & became the strongest
support the Ameer had. —

I trust this Excellency will not
deem me presumptuous in submitting
these rough notes. But it is impossible
for me to have been employed on or beyond
the Frontier for fifteen years, without having
reflected much on the various facts with which
I have had to deal.

Letter from Pelly regarding a journal of his travels through Afghanistan that
may be of interest to the Viceroy of India [3r] (3/4)



Letter from Pelly regarding a journal of his travels through Afghanistan that
may be of interest to the Viceroy of India [3v] (4/4)



3/

(4)

Southern Persia - & further
there, in the last resort go to your
Excellency. -

As to my head Munshi
not being of rank to correspond
with the Pasopost Agent - the
head Munshi has on two occasions
represented our fort at the Muscat
Court. - The practical advantage of
making him representative of the
Asst Resident is this that he knows
Persian thoughts, & becomes responsible
for what he writes, whereas if the
Asst wrote the Munshi would
say I am only a clerk & become
careless. - However to prevent work
being hindered I have been obliged to

Notes from Pelly to his Excellency the Governor of Bombay regarding the use of
Munshees and his own position as Political Resident at Bushire [4v] (2/4)

to the Govt to write himself
in the present, & until I
can bring the whole matter
before the India Office
office — It is true Your
Recalling referred to the
matter of correspondence in
April or May last. — And
the validity of the Passport
Matters subsequent complaints
will be perceived when you recall
that my duties have kept
me wholly absent from

Notes from Pelly to his Excellency the Governor of Bombay regarding the use of
Munshees and his own position as Political Resident at Bushire [5r] (3/4)

from Bushire since 1st May ⁽⁵⁾
down to this time, with the exception
of the days passed en route to
Shiraz! — a better commentary
than the above fact, could
scarcely be thought of
regarding upon the practicality
of my correspondence direct upon
local affairs with a local
Persian Authority —

It appears to me that
the correspondence on which the Honorable
Office issued their order, assumed
the Resident to be a Consul & thus
stationary. The fact is the Resident

Notes from Pelly to his Excellency the Governor of Bombay regarding the use of
Munshees and his own position as Political Resident at Bushire [5v] (4/4)

is always on the move & must
be so. - And I don't not that
the real facts of the case have
only to be placed before Lord Stanley
Sir Stafford to ensure that my
own position be defined & that
the variety of the Persian Foreign
Agents is not to be solved at
the expense of my office &
responsibilities to the Indian
Govt. - remain.

Your Excellency

very sincerely

Levis Pelly

Memo from Pelly on the purchase of a Shule for use in the Persian Gulf [6r]
(1/4)

Memo

(6)

I have looked at the Shule to day and her accommodation size and general appearance have favourably impressed me

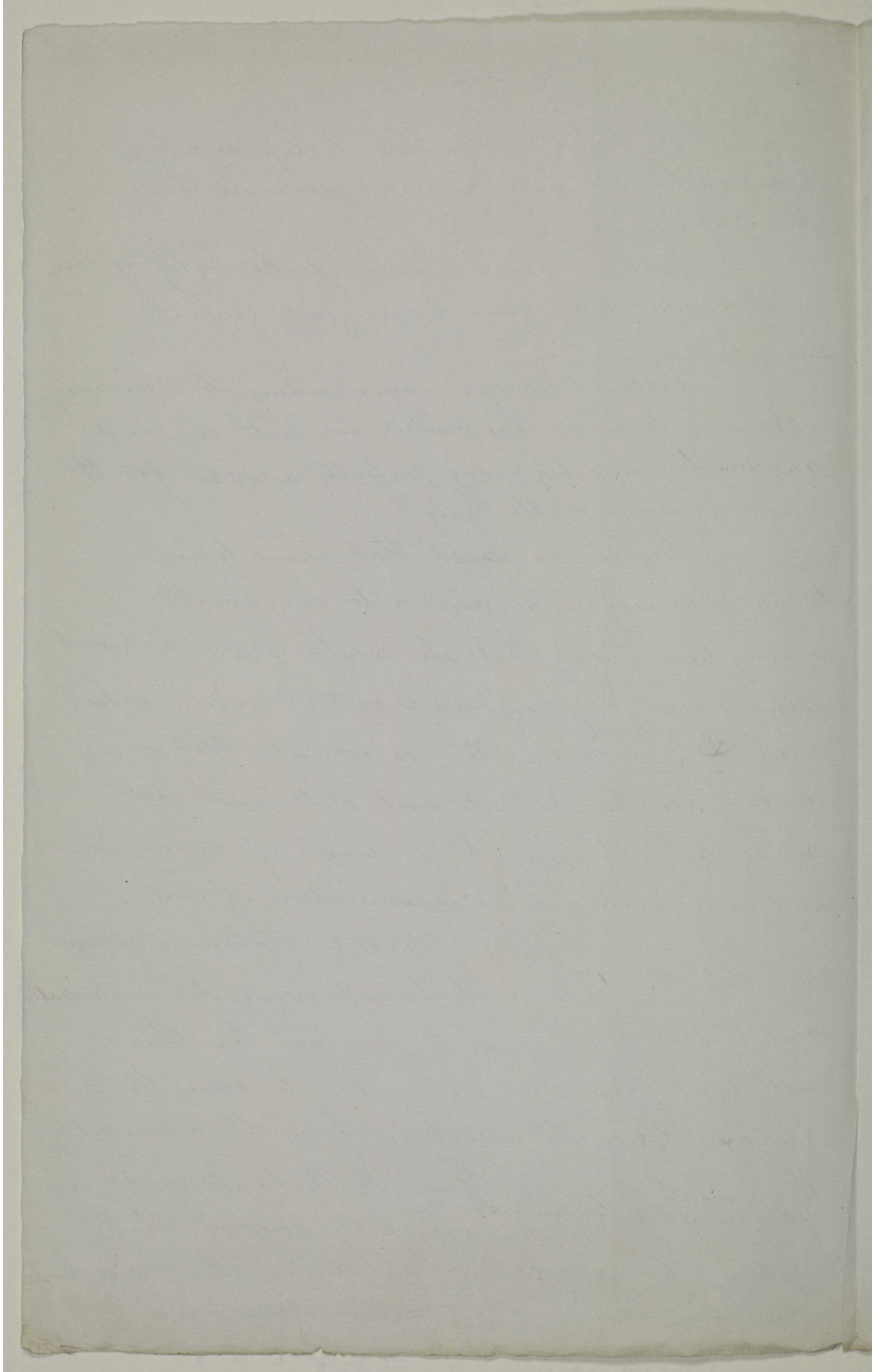
Captain Sherard Osborn speaks highly of her sailing qualities and gives her a good general ~~character~~ character.

Captain Warner commanding the Residency Steamer Berenice has visited her with me and considers her in every way perfectly adapted for the service required in the Gulf.

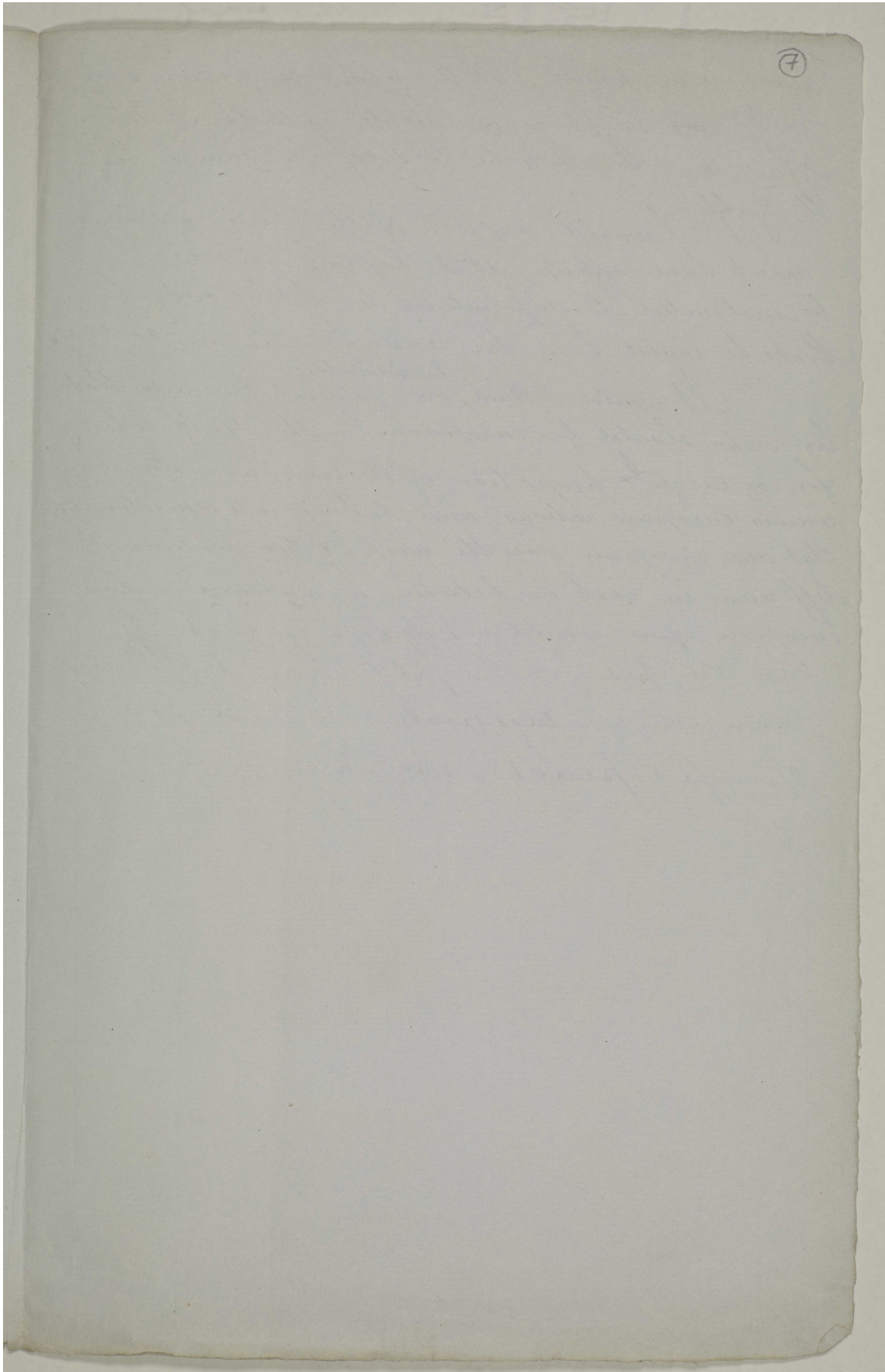
There is no doubt that owing to her keeping ordinarily under sail & to her small consumption of coal that she would "prove a great saving to Gov^{ts}" as compared with Berenice" which vessel ~~is~~ although in every other respect all that is required for the Residents work still must cost money to Gov^{ts} owing to her want of sailing power and comparative large consumption of coal.

Captain Sherard Osborn informs me that the Shule is at present under the admiralty and that if Gov^{ts} wish to purchase her their method of procedure would be to move the India Office to ascertain from the admiralty the present price of Shule. He thinks she would now cost from 5 to 6 thousand £. I would respectfully suggest that Captain Warner be instructed to take her a trial trip and report as to her sailing &

**Memo from Pelly on the purchase of a Shule for use in the Persian Gulf [6v]
(2/4)**



**Memo from Pelly on the purchase of a Shule for use in the Persian Gulf [7r]
(3/4)**



Memo from Pelly on the purchase of a Shule for use in the Persian Gulf [7v]
(4/4)

and steam power. If the report be favourable Gov^{mt} ~~may~~ might communicate with the India Office and the Shule be told off for service in the Gulf. I would suggest if the above arrange-
-ment have effect, that Captain Warner be instructed to superintend her fitting out. He thinks he could have her ready for sea in 30 days.
It would I think ^{be advisable} on political grounds that her crew should be European. In the Gulf where for a large ~~in~~ proportion of the year a native crew receives European rations, and taking into consideration that one European does the work of two natives the difference in cost as between a ~~native~~ and a European crew would not perhaps be great. A crew shipped for the Gulf should I think enter into an engagement to serve for a specified period - say three years.

Draft letter from Pelly dated 5 August requesting permission to return to
Bushire from England via Persia and Teheran [Tehran] rather than Bombay [8r]
(1/2)

St. James Club St. James P.
5th August.

Sir:

I have the honor
to have returned to come to
England in the month of May last
on 6 months leave of absence on private
affairs without pay & allowances, I have
now the honor to request the
permission of His Highness to
return to my duty -

As my appointment that
of Pole Road in the Persian
 Gulf is partly under the first
 Ministry & in part under the
 the Ministry at Teheran & the
 Lord of Persia I have the honor
 to request that in the contingency

Draft letter from Pelly dated 5 August requesting permission to return to
Bushire from England via Persia and Teheran [Tehran] rather than Bombay [8v]
(2/2)

Entertaining of my return
 to the Persian Gulf via Persia
 or other ^{rather} overland route, I may
 be permitted to report my
 arrival at Teheran instead
 of at Bombay. - Teheran & Bombay
 are ^{in point of time} about equal distant from ^{my port} the place
 of my ^{departure} ~~departure~~ & some advantage may be
 possibly result from a personal interview
 with Mr. Akbari a member of the
 line of Telegraph in the Gulf. -

Flag ^{is left} ~~was~~ hoisted at the Agency. ~~however~~
 Your recalling with obscure
 in Lt Disbrow's reports that rumours
 of an attack on the Agency reached him -
 that a rumour also reached him of
 an intention to attack & kill me when
 re-embarking from the Agency. but I was
 not put ^{with} any faith in these rumours -
 further than that I think the British
 Party at Muscat would be ^{be} likely to kill
 me such things & be not aware from
 carrying them off, if they dared. X
 But regarding Agan I do not
 find that he has in any way motivated
 our interests, and he has been ~~only~~
 anxious to meet me.
 Some part shd be reserved
 here & ~~there~~ ~~must~~ ~~continue~~ to
 disturb, and nothing can be settled.
 Your recollections is more
 that I have never attained my opinion that
 nests in the first instance & three years
 ago Lane informed of part of the
 other popular and experienced chief of
 the Soud said based on the show -
 but there was no show. & Lord
 Argyll's Verpach shows that ~~nothing~~ ^{is} ~~not~~

(10)

with the same. It seems to me therefore that
~~there is no alternative other than to~~
 under the present anomalous & irresponsible
 state of affairs is to go on indefinitely we
 have no alternative other than to
 recognize Raza & let him try his chance.
 We might then perhaps ^{perhaps} ~~then~~ ^{experience} his ~~adventures~~
 & supplement the Powers of power. Between
 when recognized his tenure in he feared -
 and it was he only the lesser of two evils -

X Col Ashmore is an open
~~sharper~~ ^{English} man - and there is always
 something to work on even if errors are
 committed. -

Think the Apothecary Mr
 Raza who has been here many years
 meddling & meddling in politics & that
 his influence is injurious. -

X You are certainly not getting
 him out of my ~~disposition~~ ^{disposition} that I have
 been fortunate in inducing a considerable
 expenditure of the Government. I hope to achieve
 peacefully when it was on the point of
 taking Rasool Raza - but to
 do this in a broken down from both with
 a ~~native~~ ^{native} view of 25 ^{seen} 212 ^{native}
 Sepoy, ^{against} ~~the~~ 13-00 Anals. & 32 craft.

public moral force to an unusual
Shamir. To ^{the} peace he maintained in
conforming with ^{my} ~~the~~ ^{British} ~~ideas~~
all ~~ways~~ ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{British} ~~ideas~~
about the apprehension that our ^{extreme} ~~great~~
debility, and one day we are all some power
like America or Russia & guarded well
us. In such event our ^{often} ~~British~~ ~~ideas~~ Shamir
from ^{our} ~~the~~ ^{British} ~~ideas~~ Shamir
immediately on the shore he is open & ^{unwilling} ~~disobedient~~
I say ^{unwilling} ~~disobedient~~ - ^{our} ~~the~~ ^{British} ~~ideas~~ Shamir
an angry could not protect them. =

It is I think a pity that the
slave coast of Africa is included in the
Indian Navy Station - For our ships
are so zealous in suppressing the "inhuman
trade" that the interests of ^{many} ~~the~~ ^{British} ~~ideas~~ Shamir
& representation lose much ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{British} ~~ideas~~ Shamir
on ships - The weather has been something
awful - 70° by day and 98° by night
dead calm - and all hands unable to
sleep.

I go now to ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{British} ~~ideas~~ Shamir
what is ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{British} ~~ideas~~ Shamir
recognised. I had a desire that I be instructed
to endeavour to arrange a new lease - of
I can find ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{British} ~~ideas~~ Shamir

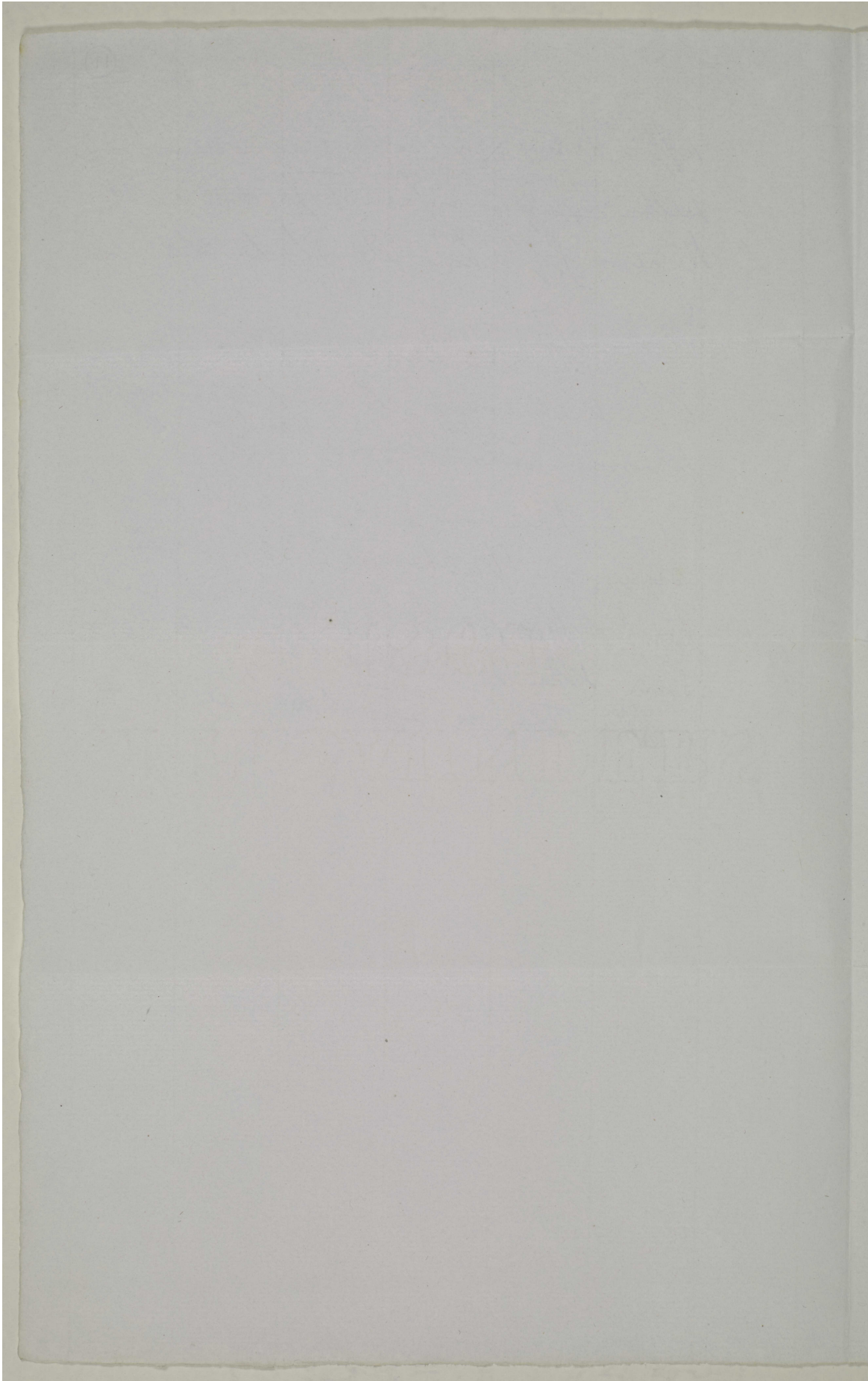
Draft letter from Pelly regarding affairs in Muscat and Bushire [11r] (5/8)

after ^{my} return to Bushire in view to
improving acquaintance
with myself on a friendly footing with
the new Lt ^{17th} who is the State Elder
Sir.

A mini murder about 25
to the Arch work to visit the Chaps. —
Wahem ^{is settling down} ~~is settling down~~ ^{subsequently} —

I am very grateful to J. P. for
sending me Dalhousie — I had
had to do this part month's work in
Sind. I think I must have attended
to the Threl's ^{advice} report and given in —

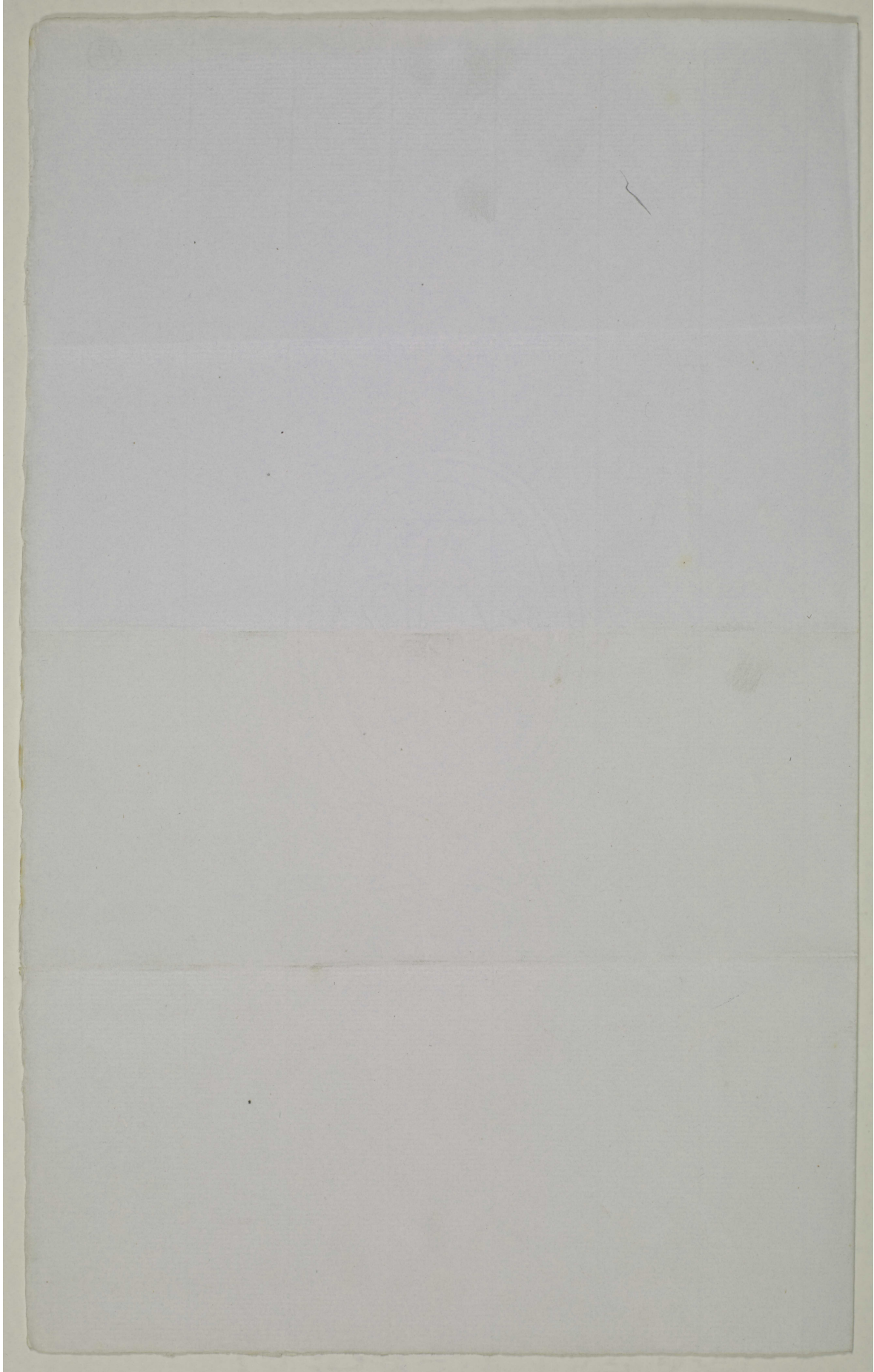
Draft letter from Pelly regarding affairs in Muscat and Bushire [11v] (6/8)



Draft letter from Pelly regarding affairs in Muscat and Bushire [12r] (7/8)



Draft letter from Pelly regarding affairs in Muscat and Bushire [12v] (8/8)



Memorandum by Pelly on the development of Steam and Telegraph Communications and their impact on the Political Residency in the Persian Gulf [13r] (1/6)

(13)

Pelly Memo:

At the question of the development of the ~~Euphrate Valley~~ Persian Gulf line of Steam & Telegraph communication is under the consideration of Govt. and I beg respectfully to submit the following remarks bearing upon that question in its relation to the Residency in the Persian Gulf. - And in order to avoid occupying the time of Govt more than may be absolutely necessary, I shall I offer what I have to say in the form of 'results of thought', as these results have been ^{reaching} arrived at in my own mind. Much be easy to put, 'map in hand', to fill in the ~~the~~ trace the steps which led to these results. -

1st The main drift of the establishment of a Political Residency in the Persian Gulf, was the suppression of piracy; ~~the~~ of the slave trade; & the development of Trade.

2nd Piracy on a large scale is suppressed but the littoral sea-chiefs remain bloodthirsty. & their mutual disputes at sea are promptly & justly arbitrated. Hence they would suddenly break out into bloodshed. -

3rd The slave trade still obtains. -

4th Trade, which was in the first instance contemplated on a small scale, may now be expected on an ever increasing & extended scale. This Trade ~~with~~ ⁱⁿ the Gulf is quite the compass

my first visit was to the Gulf, & more effectively than I have been able to do since. I was then about the Gulf & sea-chief after making out along the coast, & I have since then been to see the Gulf.

Memorandum by Pelly on the development of Steam and Telegraph Communications and their impact on the Political Residency in the Persian Gulf [13v] (2/6)

composed of square rigged vessels sailing the Gulf from England, Europe, ~~the~~ India, India itself & so forth: of Native country craft coming from Western India, Muscat, East Africa & the ~~the sea coast~~ ^{Arab coast} line of Arabia. - of Caravan trade coming from Mecca, Shiraz & other points in Southern Central Asia though led to Mecca & Basra the natural outlet for all such trade. of goods coming from caravan ~~from~~ the Shams, Isfahan & Shiraz have down to Meshke. of goods coming down the Tigris whether of Shams or from the ~~the~~ ^{the} Mesopotamia. & long there have been a few steamers on both ~~passage~~ ^{passage} to the Gulf. - of a few of fishing trade existing in the Gulf itself especially along the Western and Arab side though ~~and~~ ^{and} a certain date other miscellaneous trade coming from the ports of the Western shore between Basra & Ras al Khayma to the Northward & Ras al Khayma to the Southward. -

5th. The Residency was probably established at Meshke for political reasons because it was ^{then} not have been safe to have a Resident on the "opposite Arab shore" which was moreover reputed of deadly climate. - of it that Meshke was not so geographically considered I may mean the

(14)

The most convenient point for effecting the objects which its establishment had in view is obvious from a glance at the Map. — It is plain that as the series of Seas Boreas the various were settled along the inner western coast of the Gulf between Kullup Bahari & Cape Musmudown any point along that coast would have had advantages for the trade & political status permitted of such an establishment.

That Musine was not a well selected point viewed from a Naval Point of view is obvious from the fact that the Squadron had to find a Head Quarters Station elsewhere; selected Barroore on the western station of the Island of Kishur, & was soon convinced however, this Station was although we have no better hit other than the words permission of the Imam of Muscat who in a treaty entered into with Persia in 1856. has assigned his pretensions to sovereignty over Kishur; has consented to visit the Island of Persia for a term of years; & the whole the Island under certain local conditions which may any day bring our occupation of Barroore into question. — Again that Musine was a convenient point for shipping is equally obvious from the fact that the anchorage

Memorandum by Pelly on the development of Steam and Telegraph Communications and their impact on the Political Residency in the Persian Gulf [14v] (4/6)

and now is distant nearly four miles from the shore - that it is cramped - shallow - exposed & that during a North Western (which is the prevailing wind) communication of boats with the shipping is slow & hazardous & sometimes impracticable for days together. -

gth That the element of a telegraphic communication is now introduced & that it will be convenient to have the main station on the shore which is the wharf of an accident on either side communication might be most easily supplied by steam, at the same point as the Residency. -

gth - That a coal depot is an element which must now be considered on an increased & increasing scale, & that it will be advisable to have this depot at the Subraun of the Gulf for the following reasons. - That the British as they have been working up the Gulf are always - that coal taken in at the mouth of the Gulf when necessary in every vessel - and when coal is to be run up to Basrah, the fuel point is the same & a return. - That the Subraun of the Gulf is the point first used by a steamer coming in from a distant Port & therefore the point of coal - that it is convenient of which help may be given to the India & Basrah. - That the great difficulty ships coming to the Gulf

gth That Persian was only built suitable for the purpose of the steam line & steam. because a change of the Prop shows that the strategic point for shutting the Line is the narrow Strait at the entrance of the Gulf. & that one steamer being sent to secure the entrance of the Gulf & another to guard the Straits not as the Persian

Memorandum by Pelly on the development of Steam and Telegraph Communications and their impact on the Political Residency in the Persian Gulf [15r] (5/6)

(15)

Pelly had experience is not arrived at
the bottom of the Gulf, but the ~~fact~~ ^{fact} ~~fact~~ ^{fact}
& down it ~~and~~ that consequently it may
be expected that as time develops it will
be come concerned for it to be a source of sailing
craft to Cape Musandam. & there the
disturbance along the shores. The Gulf
on the River of Shemars, which is the main
and which goods coming from the Gulf shores
& being then to Cape Musandam. -

18th That even political
considerations Persian Embassy is not so
concerned for our purposes of a Residence,
Telegraph Station, Coal Depot, & for
that of Yacub as 'no one else' from
on the Gulf. - Because experience shows that
any movement of Persian beyond their
frontier certainly disturbs our political relations
& because in the event of an European crisis
Persia might be overawed by Russia as to
can using her Gulf communication before
measures with the of force on diplomacy could
intervene to save this. - In brief so far as
my experience at Shiraz & at the Gulf so, I am
of opinion that we never can have political
confidence in Persia so long as we attack her
when she opposes our views. so long as we
are unprepared to make with an offensive &
defensive alliance with her & the Persians. -

12th That at the present moment then, ~~our~~ ^{our} relations with the Gulf are under reconsideration it is worthy consideration to endeavour to solve permanently the following problem:

To find a point somewhere in the Persian Gulf, which shall offer the following advantages:

- 1st Centrality, as a free Port where trade may concentrate, where a shipment may take place; where goods transhipped may be most conveniently distributed.
- 2nd - Which shall possess centrally, as a telegraphic station, or moderately afford means of maintaining or settling land communication / station in the event of accident to the cable.
- 3rd Which shall be the most convenient point for a coal depot.
- 4th - Which shall be the most convenient point for watching the littoral acts, & at once settling or preventing disputes with the least possibility, & at the least cost of fuel, & of the residents alien to ourselves.
- 5th Which shall be a kind of anchorage, of inoculation - or rather of the

The Table is arrived
all safe thanks for
your kind letter.
The Summa takes
at some stage for me.
When she arrives with
your kind and pleasant
letter under special care
in Persia - I
possible one white and
the other Tortoiseshell.
When you embark there
please address Mr. H. E. E.
overboard - ask the Captain
to note their presence on
board to Mr. H. E. E. on
arrival. - send also a letter
addressed Mrs. Brooke Smith
Stoke Bishop
Mr. Bristol
16

Leave England a few days before
of via Russia & Tehran.

Hope to be at Shiraz on or
about 12 to 15 October. - I will
telegram to ~~Mr.~~ Mr. H. E. E. on arrival at Tehran.

On receipt of the telegram the
officer in charge of the Residency will be
so good as to proceed to meet me along the Shiraz
road, as per Mr. H. E. E. where my native land is.
You yourself are in charge &
We deem that your presence is more desirable

via Moscow telling her the cats are shipped
by my order - the probable date of their reaching England - and

asked her to address a letter to Henry Smith
 Henry & I have been to keep
 an eye on the arts of
 her camp. No tents save a Routee. -
 I am anxious for some
 pumps for the Wahabee Armeen. -
 Salamu hall. I am much
 pressed for time. - Your letters are
 very detached, careful, & satisfactory.
 Yours truly Lewis Kelly.

Pol. Dep. 4263

Sir

The Stick of the Loannes, the principle
of the Chief of the Peace Court will be as
follows.

extract as marked in the letter

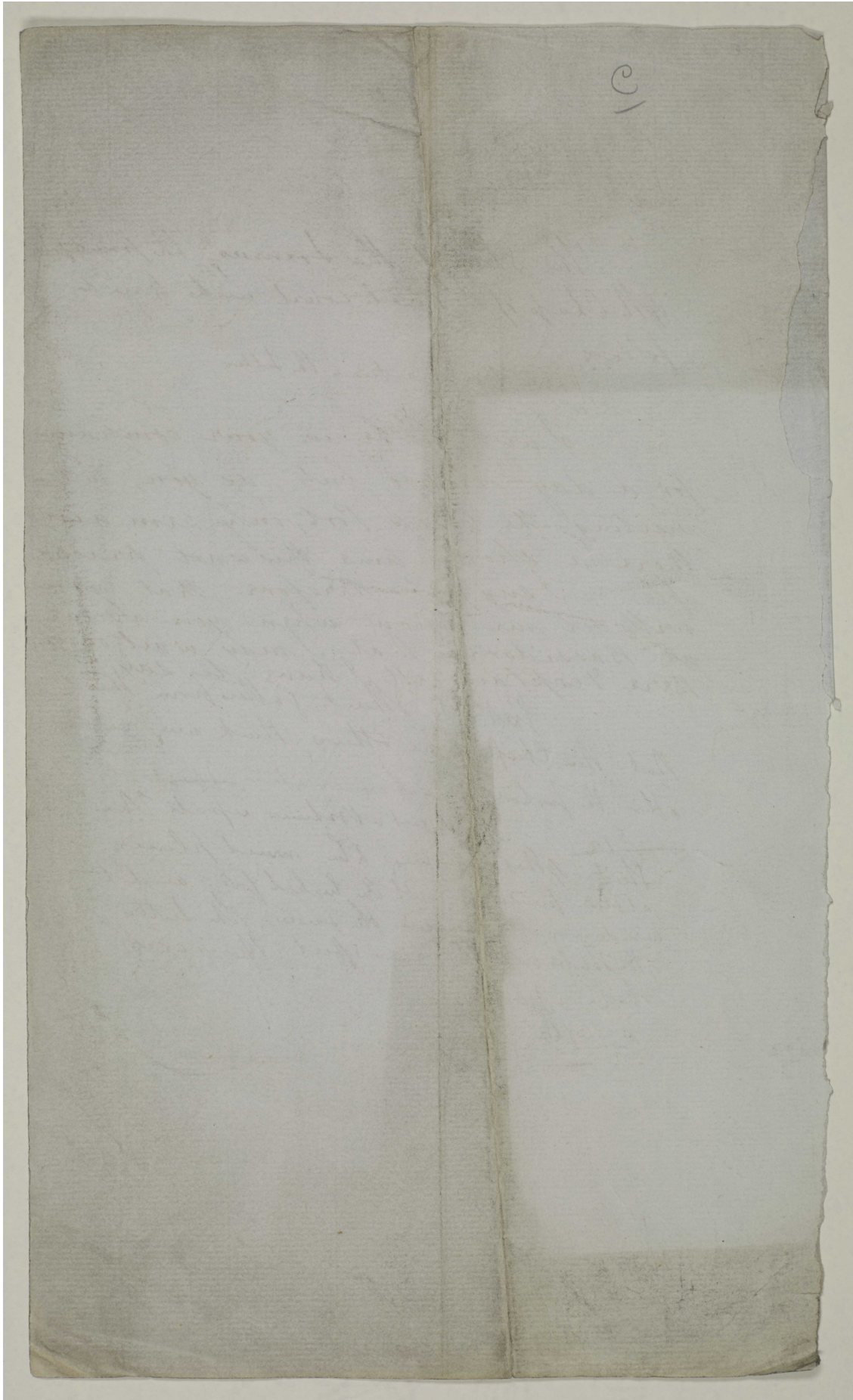
"I wish to be in your company
for a day or two, but, as you, when
visiting the Chief Port, only remain
there a short time this is not practica-
ble. I suggest therefore that you
will let me know when you arrive
at Bassidone that I may wait on you
there & explain all I have to say."

But with much father from this
that then Chief like others, think very much
after the fashion of human nature.

The Agent at Bassidone reports the
ships of that Territory, the most pleased
at their friendship with the British, and to
be endeavouring to increase the same. The letters
of the ships are to the same effect. This is as it
should be.

Yr. obedt. Servt.
22/2/63

Handwritten draft by Pelly of Political Department letter No. 63 [17v] (2/2)



Handwritten draft of official letter No.2A from Lewis Pelly, Chagudduck
[Choghādak] to the Secretary of Government, Bombay [18r] (1/8)

No 3 A (18)

Chagudduck - 1st February 1863

Immediate

Sir,

In a Memo: appended to my letter of the 13th January 1863, I suggested the concentration of this Political Residency, main Telegraph Station, and Coal Depot, at some spot near Cape Messundoom, where a Fine Port and Depot might be developed at a point Central between the slave channel at the entrance of the Gulf, and the Pirate coast. —

Some of the principal arguments in favor of the scheme were summed up in the Memo: itself. And subsequent reflection tends to strengthen my conviction that it is possible for government — supposing climate to be sufficiently bearable — to create, near Cape Messundoom a ~~settlement~~ ^{settlement}, which from its geographical position, under a free rule would, before many years should pass over, become of considerable importance, and give to our interests and to our status, whether Commercial or Political,

To the Secretary
of Government

Handwritten draft of official letter No.2A from Lewis Pelly, Chagudduck
[Choghādak] to the Secretary of Government, Bombay [18v] (2/8)

political in the Persian Gulf, a development
and character which they do not at present
possess and which, perhaps, they could
not easily attain, unless under some
arrangement such as that proposed.

I believe that in a Settlement
of the nature suggested, would be found the best
means practicable for preventing slaves entering
the Gulf - of preventing piracy or disturbance in
the Gulf itself - of civilizing the Maritime Arabs -
of extending a healthy influence into Arabia
on the one hand and into Western Sukkrah on the
other - of offering to many Indian and other
Merchants now scattered round the shores
of the Gulf an undisturbed refuge for the free
prosecution of Commerce - and, finally, of
giving to the Ports of the Gulf in general an impetus
and an example which it might be expected
would in the end induce or compel the Governments
of these Ports either to imitate our system or
to lose their trade.

If Government should approve the
proposal, among matters of detail to come under
consideration would be the following: -

1st A clear and valid written
title should be obtained from the Sultan of
Muscat, for the Land; and the conduct of this
preliminary measure should, I think, be entrusted
to cool and experienced hands: so conducted it would
probably be easily arranged. - But if any
inefficiency were committed in this part of the
business, much delay might ensue.

2^d The neighbourhood of
Muscat should be carefully examined

Handwritten draft of official letter No.2A from Lewis Pelly, Chagudduck
[Choghādak] to the Secretary of Government, Bombay [19r] (3/8)

(19)

in view to selecting a spot suitable to the objects
we have in view, in respect of water extent of
ground non committal opposition, calm & land
locked harbours etc.

3^d The ground should be
laid out with forethought to meet possible
distant future requirements. The public stores
and offices should be as compact as possible &
their site uncommittal whether of land or sea.
Cuttings or seeds from trees found indigenous
in the neighbourhood should without loss of time
be planted along the proposed roads and in
groups near the watering places and landing
points. — Emancipated slaves at present
operated for 30 Rs. Monthly at Bassindoe, might
aid in the public works as free men. —

4th The old scuttling of
our Camp houses at Bombay still available I
am told, at Bombay, might be sent up for
use. —

5th Mooring buoys should
be laid down in the anchorage for the general
convenience of shipping: the Moorings for the
ships being a little apart from the others. —

6th If practicable a small
road should be made from the Settlement along
the coast line to the so called Pirate Trunk &
Horta. A good Caravanseirai should be erected
at the Settlement terminus of this line for the
convenience of all Travellers. And I believe that the
free frequent friendly and beneficial interchange
of visits which would then ensue as between the
Mauritius Arabs and the Settlement would do more
to civilize the former & to open up Arabia to
Commerce and Progress than would do all the
menaces that a Resident might fulminate
from

From the heavy plumb line that
a road might not be made
of the old buildings. But the distance is short & easy. Road from
Ran at Chagudduck (Chagudduck)
The coast is low and sandy
fractured. —

Handwritten draft of official letter No.2A from Lewis Pelly, Chagudduck
[Choghādak] to the Secretary of Government, Bombay [19v] (4/8)

from Bushie, and then all the Annual
Visits of State that could be made before
the year of Grace 1900: — a little easier treatment
the whole hump, and strong healthy life
expels disease of its very nature. —

7th Notification should be
made of the freedom of the Port, and all people
should be invited to settle there, without ~~that of~~
any other condition than that of paying rent
or purchase money for the ground they might
secure, & of becoming subject to any municipal
rules which the community might impose on
itself.

8th No Turkish wall, no
works with plunging fire would be required.
Persons entering the Settlement must come unarmed.
And if any outrage occurred punished severely
but prompt should be administered and no
further altercation or retaliation be deemed of —

9th The Officer ~~who~~
entrusted with charge of the Settlement should
have full powers until all was settled. The
could never have a fair chance of success, if
Subordinates whether afraid or ashamed were allowed
to cavil or offer the air incentive.

10th The Naval Force
should consist of two handy Screw Steamers.
Vessels on the more recent plan as the Eugenie would
be most efficient and cheapest in the long run. —
The title of Commodore, or Senior Naval Officer
(which in Japanese is only another name for Commodore
with the extra inconvenience of the Officer by reason
of his real want of rank being more than Commodore
jealous of his dignity) should have no place in this
little Armament. The Vessels should be attached to
the Chief of the Settlement, & should be wholly at his

Handwritten draft of official letter No.2A from Lewis Pelly, Chagudduck
[Choghādak] to the Secretary of Government, Bombay [20r] (5/8)

his disposal is better for anti slave work telegraph
communication suppression of piracy, conveyance
of the Chief to other points of the Gulf, or for
miscellaneous cruising and maintenance of
peace along the pearl bank: - as a general
rule one vessel should be on the move, the
other in Harbor ready to relieve, on such
accidents. -

11th The functions of government
and the actions of government servants in
the Settlement should be limited to the
removal of obstacles, to the maintenance of
the peace, to the protection of commerce in
so far as to render its development really
free & unimpeded, & to the erection of
unimpressive public works such as a Telegraph
office - a Post Office, Bridges, Wells &c. &c. For the
rest the Settlement should be allowed to
grow of itself. -

12th Muscat whose interests
and Territories are thoroughly interlaced with
those of its neighbors at Mussumdown
should form part of the Mussumdown charge.
There might be an ~~active~~ agent in the Town
of Muscat and the one now at Shargas
might go there. -

13th There should be a
Vice Consul under the Minister at
Bahrain: who though directly subordinate
to the Foreign Office might correspond upon
local affairs with the Chief at Mussumdown.

The proposed Settlement
would flourish, I think, under any Officer who

Handwritten draft of official letter No.2A from Lewis Pelly, Chagudduck
[Choghādak] to the Secretary of Government, Bombay [20v] (6/8)

who would use common sense in its
Administration, and leave Commerce and
People in general to manage their own business. -
Perhaps however, an Officer who had been
trained in a good School for general
Administration would be preferable to a mere
Diplomatist, or a pure Soldier: for the former
is perhaps, a little too prone to fancy work
done when he has given the last polish to his
Despatch, and the latter perhaps, occasionally
forgets that Martial Law and the Nations
Laws Act, cannot coexist, in one and
the same jurisdiction -

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient Servant

Lewis Pelly Esq
Asst. Polt. Resident

Persian Gulf

~~I deem it inadvisable to send this letter
just at present into my office. Perhaps you
would favor me with a copy for record,
at your leisure Lewis Pelly.~~

Since writing this letter I have received
and am transmitting Mr Eastwick's Despatch No 7 of
December 18th 1861 a directing the establishment of a
Five Admiralty Court for the Persian Gulf &c. It is questionable
whether we have a right to establish such a Court on Foreign
Soil. But the natural point for such a Court would be the
Settlement at Muscat. In brief whenever there is a
reason for selecting that as our Field of influence in the

Handwritten draft of official letter No.2A from Lewis Pelly, Chagudduck
[Choghādak] to the Secretary of Government, Bombay [21r] (7/8)

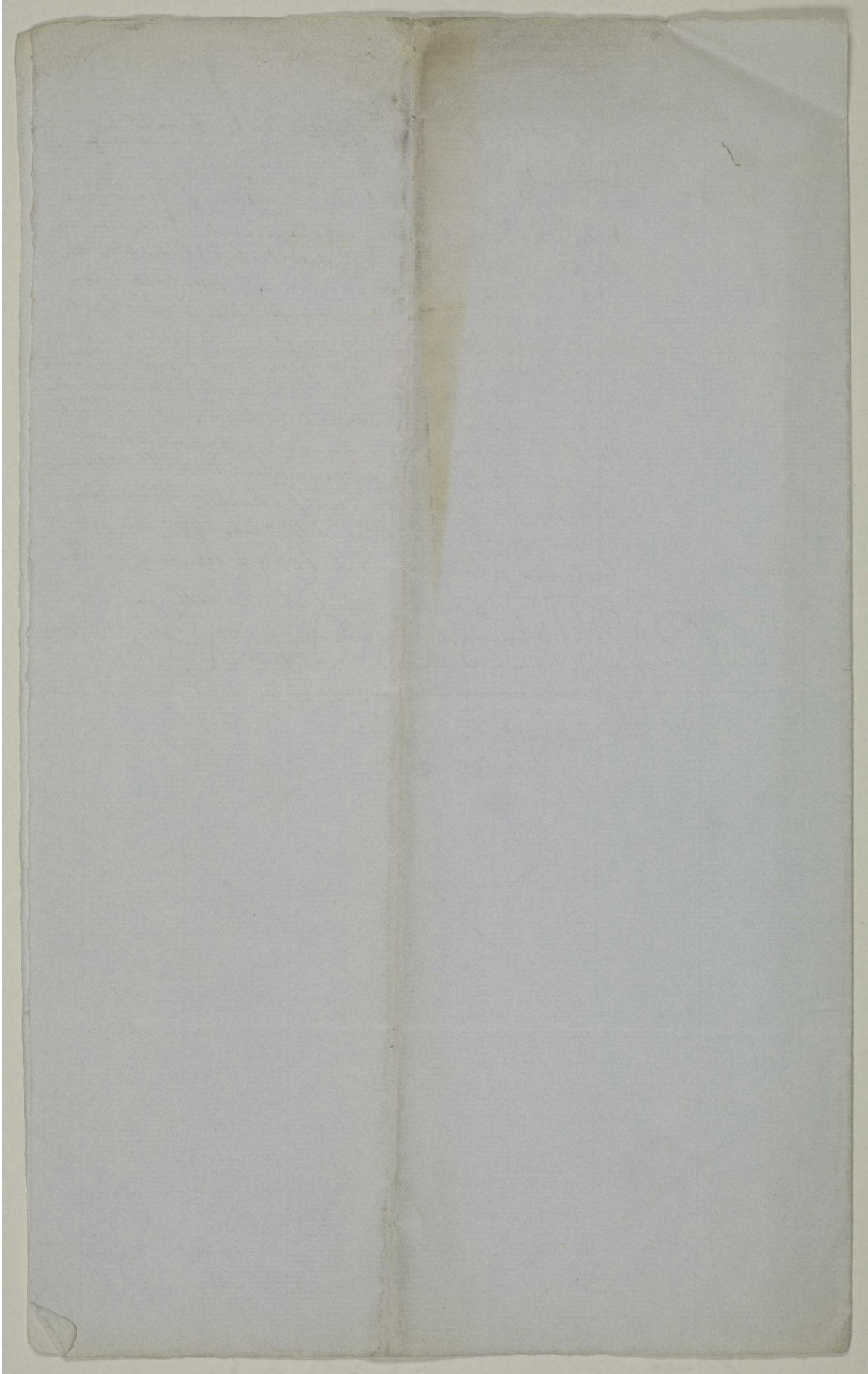
(2)

in the full; provided always that climate be
sufficiently bearable.

The whole drift indeed of Mr Conrath's
Dispatch is to show the inconveniences which surround
the administration of justice towards British Subjects in Russia
Sard. — I really cannot define what my impartial Powers
are as Resident at Varsie. Nor do I perceive in what
way I could punish a criminal. — So far as my
personal observation in Russia goes, I am disposed to think
that our relations with this Govt in regard to judicial matters
are on a vague & unsatisfactory footing; and that
the attainment of justice for British Subjects depends
more upon the personal influence which British Representatives
may possess with the Russian Authorities than upon
the real merits of the Plaintiffs case. All this is
the objection of leaving our own Post & Settlements in the
full. — I do not lay much stress on either, as Mr
Pashuck seems to do. In my opinion a Law of perjury
operates much like a Law of Usury. —

as far as the full is concerned

**Handwritten draft of official letter No.2A from Lewis Pelly, Chagudduck
[Choghādak] to the Secretary of Government, Bombay [21v] (8/8)**



Letter from Pelly regarding an examination he undertook of the country near
Shiraz [22r] (1/4)

(22)

Secret

Sir

It is agreeable to me to be
able to report that the Shahs
has been permitted me to
^{examine}
~~visit~~ all the high country between
this & Shiraz, in view to selecting
a site for a Persian summer
~~residence~~ camp. - I enclose a copy
of Mr. Thomson's letter conveying this
permission, & have acknowledged the
kindness of the Shah & of the
country of the F. Amir in
a suitable manner. - I propose to examine
29/6/63 the hills both north & south of
the Shiraz road, in view to coal & other
minerals. Not so far as a Persian camp is
concerned, I am inclined at present to think it

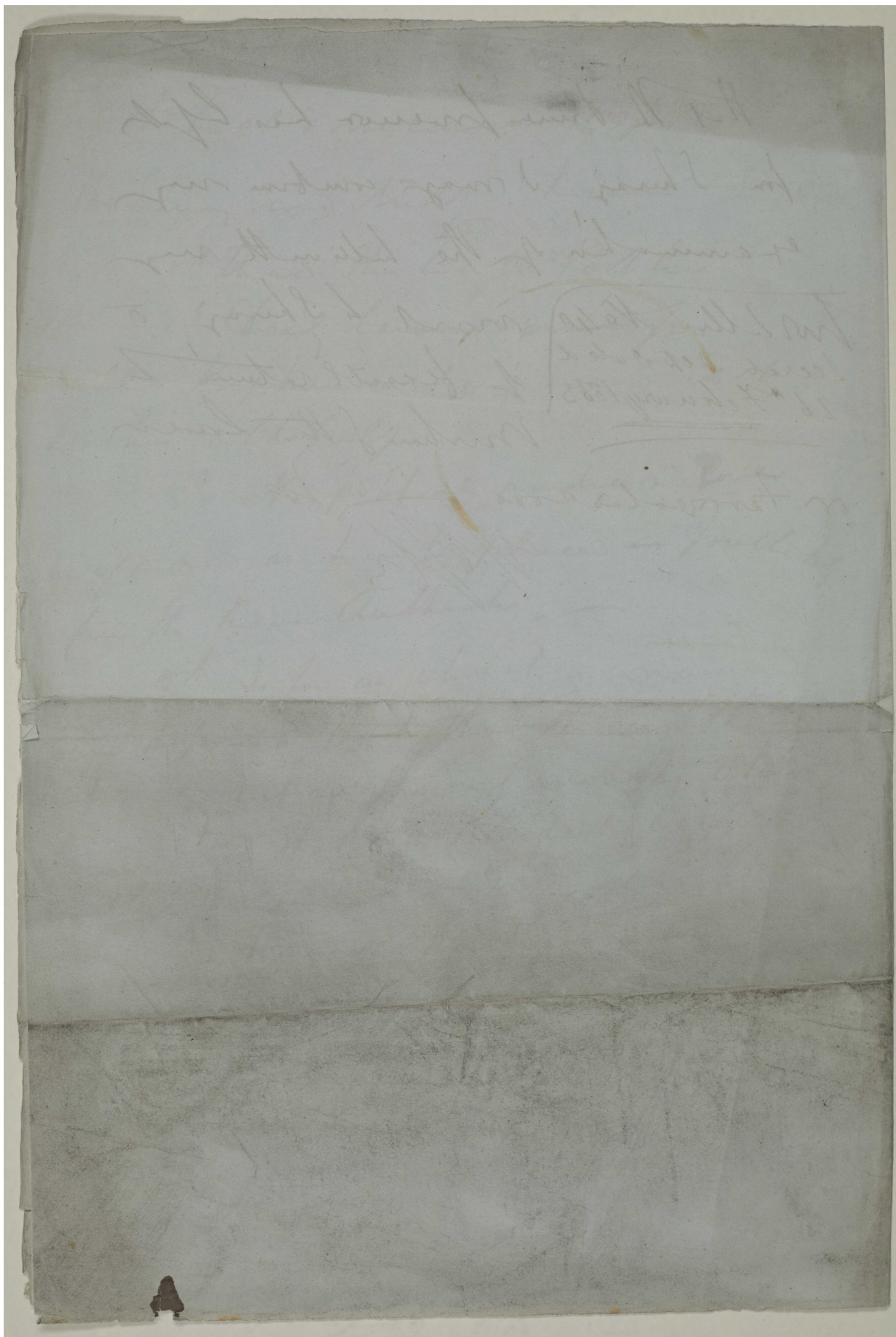
it should be at some convenient spot on
the Shiraz road itself. Because
1st The road then leads to the Port here.
2nd Daily Caravan ~~passing~~ ^{passing} ~~by~~
could keep him in day company with
Murshid & the Pelly.
3rd No political matters ~~have~~
be opposed, as he would be placed in ~~possession~~
before the Persian Authorities. —
4th I for as much as is concerned
I am disposed to think that the months of
July & August are the only months when
it is essential that the Resident should find
some relief. —
However a Resident ~~may~~ placed
at any point ~~other~~ near the Pelly is for
practical purposes as well placed as
Lieut. Murshid. — The ~~best~~ course he can
follow for the further interests is to move
about. — 29/6/63 As I learn that

Letter from Pelly regarding an examination he undertook of the country near
Shiraz [23r] (3/4)

(23)

that the Prince Imperial has left
for Shiraz I may combine my
examination of the hills with my
two letters No 40 sent to Shiraz &
secret deposited if feasible return to
26th February 1883³ Murkhie of the lower
on Ferrogah road. LP
29/2/83

Letter from Pelly regarding an examination he undertook of the country near
Shiraz [23v] (4/4)



Draft of letter No.6A from Pelly to Henry Lacon Anderson, regarding possible alternative locations for the Political Residency of the Persian Gulf [24r]
(1/12)

(24)

No 6 A

Bushire 16th February 1863.—

Sir,

I think the accompanying Map may illustrate to Government some of the points noticed in my letters No 1 A and No 3 A.—

Government will observe that for a Resident at Bushire, the nearest point of his general work, is Bahrein, over the water.— The **Map** now sent shows that distance as the radius of the black circle.—

Were the Resident centred to ~~not only in the hold of the~~ ^{at Cassab on the Muscun from Penmontory,} ~~the same radius of distance would embrace;~~ ^{Ras ul Khyma} the Chiefs of all the Arab Chiefs now enumerated, and would find them on the same shore with the Resident.— It would further embrace our Agency at ^{us} Suze, & Bassador, our commercial interests at

to not only in the hold of the
Ras ul Khyma
Annulgarine
Eymau. —
Debaye
Abrothobee
all Maritime
Arabs.

To The Honorable
Henry Lacon Anderson

Draft of letter No.6A from Pelly to Henry Lacon Anderson, regarding possible
alternative locations for the Political Residency of the Persian Gulf [24v]
(2/12)

at Bunder Abbas. our political influence
in Western Mekran, and along the southern
coastline to Muscat. It is consequently nearly
the command of the gulf entrance for trade
and anti-slavery purposes during Peace, for
military purposes in War. -

Have reliable ground for
supposing that a point near Cassat at
the outer entrance of the Elphinstone Gulch
near Cape Mussondown is suitable to
our object. -

I superficially add a few
disconnected results of thought bearing upon the
question of the Persian Gulf Trade, & line of
communication. - When the late Earl of Carnarvon
decided that the Imamship of Muscat should
be a path to two independent Sultanates of Zanzibar
& Muscat, that State which had previously the
first Asiatic maritime power declined as such. While
the Imam held his great dominion in Africa it
was essential to maintain a fleet for political ends &
mercantile purposes. The genius of the first as of the
people was turned to sea-faring. The Asian and
African possessions mutually supplied & enriched
each other. Now that these possessions are severed
& that in the coming future has been created, that
State Power has been divided, dismantled, the
trade has declined; - & if any thing was wanting to make
it worse, the invasion in the minds of the
Arab that trade between Zanzibar & Arabia
is no longer profitable or safe, owing to the

the former the west and west of the home trade

Draft of letter No.6A from Pelly to Henry Lacon Anderson, regarding possible
alternative locations for the Political Residency of the Persian Gulf [25r]
(3/12)

(25)

The proceedings of our Arab Slaving System
is ~~able to accomplish that which~~
has yet further contributed to ~~the~~ that which
is a tendency of these circumstances
is to confine the Muscat Shipping to an
Arab Carrying Trade, and hinder others
which the Sultan fears from Persia under
a lease granted some 15 years since yet to
run is its principal outposts, and the natural
Port perhaps for goods entering in passing a
large portion of Southern Central Asia.

Bombay, Aden, Kishor both
Tun & Zanzibar being in the ~~same~~ ^{same} situation. When
the entrance of the Gulf within 50 miles of
Muscat, and the Coast Lines of the Muscat
Territories being combinations of Cape
Muscat, & interlaced with the ~~interior~~
of the other Maritime Arab States - ~~which~~
~~I think~~ ^{our} be most convenient for relations with
the Sultan of Muscat would, I think, be
most conveniently managed if the Resident
at Muscat, with a subordinate Native
Agent at the Town of ~~the~~ ^{or perhaps perhaps}
a cheerful, married Apothecary, acquainted
with the dialect of the country and too
dangerous in his practice - at the Town of
Muscat.

Draft of letter No.6A from Pelly to Henry Lacon Anderson, regarding possible alternative locations for the Political Residency of the Persian Gulf [25v]
(4/12)

The only point which is
he has dominated the proposed anchorage
at Bassorah and the Persian Gulf. And
this Port might perhaps, be more properly
watched by a Vice Consul under the Legation
at Schirvan, since the Port of Persia and
its containing Province are directly under
the Shah's power. The Vice Consul could
communicate with the Resident upon matters
affecting other Gulf interests. —

As to the Trade of Persia,
the imaginative mind of Persia embellishes
all its touches attributes to this 'the principle
and almost sole sea Port of the Persian Empire
and an incomparable commerce. — But the
common place sense of an Englishman weighs
upon the fact that a Port not celebrated for
generosity compounds with its power for the
Import and Export dues of Persia at
about £ 13 000 per annum. — Suppose
that independently of indirect embargoes
the Port clears £ 5000 on the contract. This
gives a total of £ 20000 — which at a five
percent duty of the most favoured nation
yields a total of exports & imports of £ 40000
per annum. Double this total to present

Draft of letter No.6A from Pelly to Henry Lacon Anderson, regarding possible alternative locations for the Political Residency of the Persian Gulf [26r]
(5/12)

(26)

present under statement - and add half
the original total for contingencies and
you have a grand total of one million
sterling: a Bagatelle. -

One circumstance that tends
to mislead in a trade like that of Persia
is ~~that it is a Caravan trade~~ its being
carried by beasts of burthen. - A Caravan
trade shows large. - But there may be a
good deal of bell hickling under the
mule necks without much wool or cotton
on their backs. - A mule may carry 240 lbs.
then it takes nearly 4000 mules to equal
a small draft of 500 tons. And it is
probable a year's Caravan trade along
a well frequented Persian route might
be readily stored in the shipping of an
average London yard. - I append
a very rough approximate estimate of the
Persian Trade.

Perhaps it is not possible
that the Persian Commerce of this Path
should permanently flourish so long as
it is subject to the caprice of a succession
of contracting Governors bent on immediate
personal gain as though the Shahs foot had
a three years ^{manipulation} ~~manipulation~~ of the Customs. - As
against English interests it is rumored that

Draft of letter No.6A from Pelly to Henry Lacon Anderson, regarding possible
alternative locations for the Political Residency of the Persian Gulf [26v]
(6/12)

that there depends much upon the friendships
or absence of the political relations subsisting
between the Rulers of various of the day. During
the two months I have been here ^{from 24th} has been
thus prohibited for alleged reasons of
absence from presence of Rulers. The
Government relaxed the individual to show
as he phrased it, his good will towards
me. But obviously neither England nor
any other base can furnish under
these considerations of capture of person.
Under any circumstances, perhaps, British
labors under some disadvantages of
exchange; with proper zone of inland
exchange, and rather contract than
extend of the Gulf here be thoroughly
developed upon European ideas —

Yet I am not of opinion
that Persia is ^{be} incapable of a considerable trade
under a foot which should render property
moderately secure; & guarantee to the people the
profits of their industry. — Superficially viewed
the Persian present some characteristics eminently
conducive to it. Perhaps no other nation in the world
could have supplied the exigencies of Hajie Baba.
Let me distinguish between the ~~foreign~~ ^{foreign} ~~people~~
& the the population in general. When
we speak of Persia her interests & condition

Draft of letter No.6A from Pelly to Henry Lacon Anderson, regarding possible alternative locations for the Political Residency of the Persian Gulf [27v]
(8/12)

the direct road for Kowat at the confluence
of the Tigris & Euphrates. —

Kowat is perhaps the
natural terminus for your sea going
steamers. The approach with Kowat is
indirect 70 miles of river navigation
& long shallow entrance channel, & a bar.
Kowat is very unhealthy moreover. —
Kowat is really more convenient for
bolivis, & coal depots. A Boat Canal
might readily connect Kowat with the Kowat
or any other point on the Shat ul Arab.
The Canal cutting and itself tend to equalize
the once fertile soil along its banks. —

Kowat was the entrepot
of the Commerce of the East and West from
the most ancient times of which we have
records. It may ^{be} argued that modern
circumstances are different. But if you
will carefully examine the question, you
may be struck with the fact that taking
the trade of the East and West ends have
since from China to Western Europe
& exploring its ramifications during a
succession of centuries between those
meridians. There is a marked tendency for the
trade to retrace its original lines under improved
means of transit. —

Draft of letter No.6A from Pelly to Henry Lacon Anderson, regarding possible alternative locations for the Political Residency of the Persian Gulf [28r]
(9/12)

Transit.

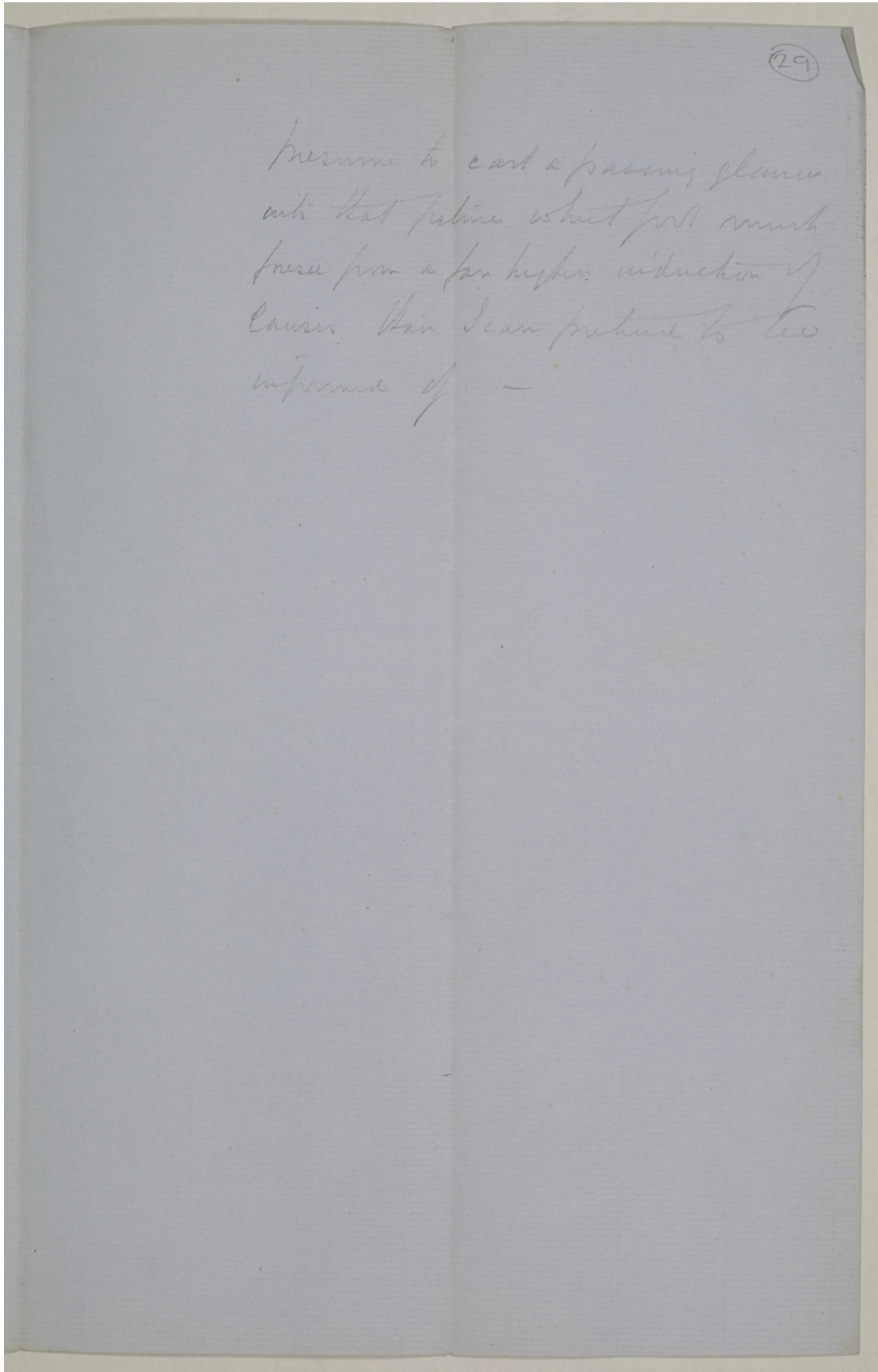
Is it possible so to arrange
as that your line of Trade, Telegraph,
& Coal Depots, & Political Residences along
the entire Gulf line, may be coincident. ^{and}
so preclude necessity for change as the
line becomes thoroughly developed? - Perhaps
this might be accomplished by selecting
Cassah at Muscat as your point
of entrance. The space ^{over} the ocean
Trade should ^{then} concentrate there at a free
Port. - Goods could be distributed
round the Gulf in Native craft on
small shalloes, Jugs or dhows. Kowis
will be the spot where the Trade would
take to River Boats or Caravans &
where you could ^{sea} Coal Depot & your first
land Telegraph station will be established.

In providing for this line, and
reconsidering our position in the Persian
Gulf, we might not be content with
contemplating the present condition of affairs
alone. - We might throw a forward glance over
half a century or so, & reflect whether during that

Draft of letter No.6A from Pelly to Henry Lacon Anderson, regarding possible
alternative locations for the Political Residency of the Persian Gulf [28v]
(10/12)

that Russia the Turkish question must
not form through a loan affecting our
Eastern interests - whether during that
period the reforms going on in Russia may
not give to that ^{free} ~~Eastern~~ an important appearance
Eastern more rapid more permanent
& more powerful than any that we have
yet had to apprehend from the arms of
Russian ships - whether ^{through} ~~fact~~ like
this now appearing to push industrial
life may not within that time claim to
partake within of Asiatic sources of wealth -
whether the molecular movements perceptible
everywhere in Southern Central Asia itself
may not give those countries & unprecedented
importance for evil or for good - whether
it be possible, early that Russia now padded
of Turkey can be laid bare to the probe of
Western European civilization in the
Western side, & remain what she now is. -
Are all these shadows or are they grants coming
in the distance ~~from~~ ^{whom} we must prepare
ourselves? - Be they what they ^{as discussed above} may, their ^{long} ~~long~~
arrival can scarcely be otherwise than
beneficial to the trade, & to the hope to the
people of Southern Central Asia & if from
this made point of view that I presume

Draft of letter No.6A from Pelly to Henry Lacon Anderson, regarding possible
alternative locations for the Political Residency of the Persian Gulf [29r]
(11/12)



**Draft of letter No.6A from Pelly to Henry Lacon Anderson, regarding possible
alternative locations for the Political Residency of the Persian Gulf [29v]
(12/12)**

