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'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia'

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	Mss Eur F126/60
Date(s)	1866 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 file (22 folios)
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About this record

The statements were originally intended to form Appendix 12 of Colonel Pelly's Riyadh report No.57 dated 15 May 1866 and were produced following a request from the British Government for Pelly to go through William Gifford Palgrave's book and verify the truth, or otherwise, of accusations, assertions and claims made by Palgrave about the places he visited and people he met.

The principal statements that Pelly addressed were as follows:

- That the native agent at Shargah [Sharjah], an Armenian named Hajee Yacoob, was encouraging the slave trade whilst operating as a representative of the British Government. This claim was refuted by Pelly firstly as Hajee Yacoob was a musselman, secondly as he had recovered more slaves than 'any other man in the Gulf' and thirdly as successive residents considered him to be a most energetic and reliable man who was not as Palgrave supposed responsible for the suppression of slavery in Shargah but was in fact the arbitrator of the maritime truce there.
- That Palgrave and his companion had travelled openly as Christians and been welcomed as such. Whereas Pelly had witness testimonies, including from his agent at Muscat, that Palgrave had disguised himself as a mussulman and used assumed names in order to travel and had even been seen worshipping in mosques.

- Claims as to the extent of the territories of Oman, that Bahrein and Qatar (amongst other places) paid tribute to Oman, that Said Saeed [Thuwaini bin Said] divided his territories up between his three sons in his will, alleged tensions between these sons and claims relating to Said Soulem [Salim II bin Thuwaini], son of Said Saeed, being a young boy. Several of these claims such as the extent of Oman's territories and the way in which they were divided up following Said Saeed's death were refuted through treaties and agreements that already existed such as Lord Canning's of 1861 which separated Muscat and Zanzibar, and a loan agreement of 1856 in which Persia agreed to lease some places to Oman. The remaining claims were refuted by Pelly's personal and detailed knowledge of Muscat and through Said Torki [Turki bin Said], son of Said Saeed who was a guest of Pelly's in Bushire at the time of his writing the responses to the statements, including that Said Soulem was actually a grown man, not a young boy, and had recently been accused of murdering his father,

Also included in the file are a draft version of the statements and a copy of the witness statement of Mr Rozario, agent at Muscat, regarding Mr Palgrave passing himself off there as a mussulman called Aboo Mahmood and that he had observed him attending mosques and outwardly observing the fast.

'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [1r] (1/48)

MSS. Eur. F. 126 / Box 2 ①

Copy of Appendix 12 to Colonel Pelly's
Riyadh Report No. 57 dated 15th May 1866 V.D.

At Page 302 and 303 Volume II. Mr. Palgrave describes the Native Agent of this Residency - one Hajee Yacoub as encouraging the Slave Trade, as being an equivocal Representative of Great Britain, and as being beyond doubt an Armenian - born as Mr. Palgrave believes at Busrah.

Hajee Yacoub was not an Armenian, but was one of two brothers, both strict Muslims, both born on the Island of Kharrack, and both very old servants of the English Government. - There is an Armenian named Shojeh Yacoub who is an Agent at Busrah, and who fell into disgrace, but it is difficult to understand how Mr. Palgrave being at Thargah - the Head quarters of a Muslim Agent - could confound him with the Armenian Agent at Busrah - which latter place Hajee Yacoub had never visited.

As Mr. Palgrave's charge against the Agent of conniving at Slavery is entirely unsupported by evidence it were unnecessary to refute it. - But I may mention that Hajee Yacoub has recovered more Slaves than any other man in the Gulf, that many successive Residents have considered him to

'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [1v] (2/48)

to be the most energetic and reliable man procurable for his post, and on a former occasion Government made him an honorary present in approval of his Anti-Slavery proceedings.

Mr. Palgrave supposes the Agents' official occupation was to prevent the import and sale of Slaves. - but Hajee Yacoub was the Residents' local Agent in his capacity of arbitrator of the Maritime Trade of the Persian Gulf. - This was his principal duty and in his faithful and arduous discharge of his duty, Hajee Yacoub died about a month ago after serving the English Government upwards of thirty years. - Mr. Palgrave trusts that distance and other circumstances will prevent the publication of his remarks on Hajee Yacoub from having any injurious effect on Yacoub's position. - As the immediate official superior of the Agent, I can assure Government, that any subordinate of mine adhering steadfastly to his duty, is unlikely to be injured by the irresponsible criticisms of any passing traveller. -

At Page 74 Volume I. Mr. Palgrave states that he and his companions "were known to all for Christians and welcomed as such." And at Page 258 of Volume I. "To feign a religion which the adventurer himself does not believe, to perform with scrupulous exactitude,

as

'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [2r] (3/48)

(2)

"as of the highest and holiest import, practices
"which he inwardly ridicules, and which he
"intends on his return to hold up to the ridicule
"of others, to turn for weeks and months together
"the most sacred and awful bearings of man
"toward his Creator into a deliberate and truth-
"less mummery, not to mention other and yet
"darker touches, - all this seems hardly compa-
"tible with the character of a European gentle-
"man, let alone that of a Christian. -

Ikhlof, commonly known as Abou. Essa,
being the person who conducted Mr. Palgrave
safely through the Wahabee territories has
been passing the past few weeks as my guest,
and informs me that Mr. Palgrave passed
every where as a Mussulman named Hajee
Mahmood, that he attended the mosques,
and that he was a man of business who
adopted the religion of the country he chanced
to be passing through. - An authenticated
copy of Abou-Essa's statements is annexed

An envoy recently arrived
from the Wahabee Ameer remembers to have
had his eyes treated by Hajee Mahmood. -
He implicitly believes to this moment that
he was treated by a Mussulman Doctor. -

Lastly, Mr. Pozaris our Up-
theary and Local Agent at Maskat states
that he met Mr. Palgrave in the streets, that
he was then passing under the name of
Abou. Mahmood, regularly attended the
mosques

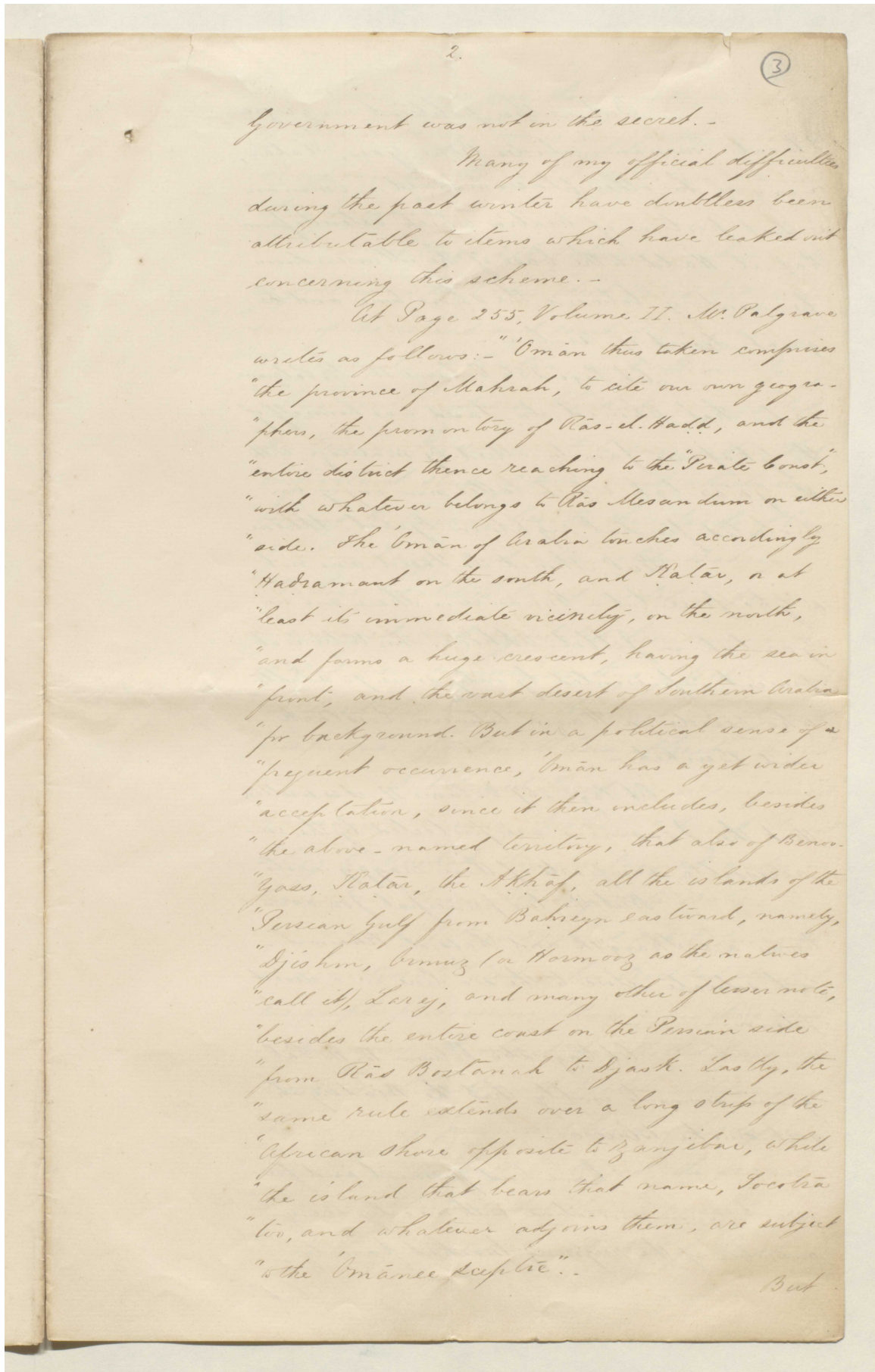
'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [2v] (4/48)

Mosques, and outwardly observed the fast, -
eating in secret in Mr. Rozario's house. - An
authenticated copy of Mr. Rozario's statement
is annexed. -

At Page 7 of his preface Mr. Palgrave
writes. - "The hope of doing something towards
"the permanent social good of these wide
"regions; the desire of bringing the stagnant
"waters of Eastern life into contact with the
"quickenning stream of European progress;
"perhaps a natural curiosity to know the
"yet unknown, and the restlessness of enterprise
"not rare in Englishmen; these were the prin-
"cipal motives. The Author may add that at the
"time of the undertaking he was in connection
"with the Order of the Jesuits, an Order well known
"in the annals of philanthropic daring; he has
"also gratefully to acknowledge that the necessary
"funds were furnished by the liberality of the pre-
"sent Emperor of the French. -

Abu-Besa explains that a Hagee Mah-
mood, alias Mr. Palgrave entered into agree-
ment with him to return to the Wahabee terri-
tories within two years or so, revolutionize
the country, and convert the people to
another religion. Abu-Besa adds that
with the means which were to be at their
disposal, the scheme would be quite fea-
sible, that he has commenced preparations,
and nothing could persuade him that our
Govt

'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [3r] (5/48)



'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [3v] (6/48)

But neither political nor geographical Oman includes Beni-Yass, Hatar, or any of the other places named. - Oman is that portion of Arabia which extends from Ras-el-Hadd to the base of the Musandam promontory between the shore line and the great desert of Arabia. -

At Page 256 Volume II. Mr. Palgrave writes that Ahmed ibn Sa'eed was himself of the Ghaffree family allied by marriage with the Ya'aribah which latter now enjoy unmolested feudal rights in Jebel Akhdar.

But Ahmed ibn Sa'eed was not a Ghaffree but a Hinawee. - There are no Ya'aribah in Jebel Akhdar. This tribe is at present represented by only some 40 adults who reside in Hazm between Rossack and Burskeh. -

At Page 257 Volume II. it is written that the Jowasmees are protected by the inaccessible ramparts of their craggy nests.

But the two principal Jowasme towns are Thargah and Ras-el-Khamish. Both situate close to the sea line in a desert plain. -

At Page 265 Volume II. Mr. Palgrave seems to imply that the Biaderyah sect smoke tobacco. -

I have had personal and frequent communication with nearly every member of the reigning Masbat family,

but

'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [4r] (7/48)

④

but I have never seen them smoke, nor heard of them smoking, nor is any person whether European or other permitted to smoke in their presence. -

At Page 276 Volume II. it is written as follows. - "With this fleet Saïed took possession of the island and coast of Zangibar, of the Lowāhel, of Socotra, and ultimately, by a long-continued sea blockade, compelled the Persian Government to surrender that important strip of their coast which now belongs to Omān, besides the islands of Omuz, Djishm, Larej, and ultimately Bahreyn. - All these localities Saïed visited in person, encouraged and regulated their commerce, opened new communications of traffic, and rendered his kingdom the most wealthy and prosperous, if not in all Asia at least in Arabia."

But Saïed Saïed never conquered Bahrain. - Omuz, Nishm, & Lareh do not belong to Muskat, they are farmed under a lease from Persia bearing date 1856. -

At Page 277 and 278 Volume II. it is written: - "Saïed on his death-bed divided his ample possessions between his three sons. - To Shoueynee, the eldest, he allotted Omān from Barka eastwards, with Djebel Akhdar and the adjoining provinces, besides the dependencies in the Gulf. - Mājied, the second in age, obtained the African possessions, while the younger, Amjed, had for his share the

'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [4v] (8/48)

"the westerly mainland of 'Omān from Barka
"to Maskat, with Sohar for capital. -

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
"Sowaynee, whom his father's will had rendered
"lord of two-thirds of the mainland of 'Omān,
"with its most important centres of Government
"and traffic, master besides of the great sea-
"ports on either side of the Gulf, with two-thirds
"of the national commerce at his disposal,
"was no longer content with a divided rule,
"and sought to deprive his younger brother
"Amjed of his share of the inheritance, that
"he might rule alone, sole and absolute
"master in 'Omān. -

But the late Saïed Saïed left
us with partitioning his dominions - hence
our interference and hence the partition of
Saïed Saïed's dominions into two independent
Sovereignities under the arbitration of the late
Earl Carnarvon in 1861. -

At Page 278 Volume II. it is said
"Amjed, who still held the open country, was
"invited by his elder brother to a conference in
"Maskat, and there, in spite of solemn engage-
"ments and promises, was treacherously detained
"prisoner; immured in a fortress of the city, he
"remains a captive to the present day. -

But there was no brother named
Amjed. - Saïed Sokei, who is now with me,
states that it was he who was invited by
Sowaynee. -

At

'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [5r] (9/48)

3.

(5)

At Page 279 Volume II. Mr. Palgrave states: - "Khalid, by dint of long and bloody contests with his own brother and uncle, had become master of the town and of the entire province of Sharjah, which he now ruled in fief from the Sultan of Oman." - W.

But Sharjah is a Jowasnee town, and in religion Wahabee, pays tribute to the Najd Ameer and is hostile not in fief to the Sultan of Oman. - Khalid shot his nephew not uncle and so gained the Government of Sharjah. But down to within the last three months when his father died Khalid held Sharjah under his father, the notorious Sultan ben Faggar. -

At Page 285 Volume II. It is stated that the correct address of the Ruler of Maskat is the Sultan of Oman. -

I have never heard him called Sultan either by his own courtiers or subjects, but always Sayyed. -

At Page 340 Volume II. it is written: - "Nowhere is the Omance government more loved or better served than in the navy; and in spite of all the terror inspired by English frigates and guns, I should doubt whether the seamen of Sebee and Barka would be inclined to surrender their maritime supremacy off these coasts without a struggle." -

But having inspected with Naval officers nearly every ship belonging to the
Sultans

'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [5v] (10/48)

Sultans of Zanzibar and Maskat, I think I may say that they are so ill found and ill manned that an English officer would hesitate to put to sea with them. - A few months ago I towed the largest War ship of Maskat on an expedition. - She had no charts, no chronometer, no man on board who could use a sextant, her log was a bottle towed aft, she had scarce any ammunition, her gear was rotten throughout, the large ^{part} portion of men on board were Shepherds and others suddenly pressed, she proved to be a source of continual anxiety and we were only too glad to get her safe back to harbor. -

Page 345 and onwards, ^{Vol. II} gives an account of Mr. Palgrave's shipwreck. -

But there is evidently some mistake in regard to localities. - The Sultan of Maskat was at Watijah in the Ramadhan of 1863. - But Watijah is only four miles from Matrah close to Maskat, while it is thirty miles from the Jezereh Sjeyn. - There is a range of rocks between Watijah and the sea. - But Seeb, where Mr. Palgrave places the Sultan is fifteen miles or more up the coast and the place placed among some date groves on a plain close to the beach. -

The Minister Hajee Ahmed referred to, has gone over these passages but is quite unable to identify the names of the

'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [6r] (11/48)

(6)
the places set forth by Mr. Palgrave, though he says there are names of villages somewhat resembling Mr. Palgrave between Wadyah and Maskat. -

At Page 380 Volume II. it is written: -

"Three of the latter class are five in number: -
"Bahrein, which at the period of my visit had
"scarcely any link with the Sultan of Oman,
"except the payment of a slender tribute, and
"an ambiguous allegiance; Katar and the terri-
"tory of Benow-Yaf, whose union is a degree closer
"than that of Bahrein; and the three provinces
"of Sharjah, Ras-el-Djebel, and Rakhoot,
"subject indeed to the Sultan, but through the
"unfriendly medium of Khâlid-ebn-Sakkar,
"this is the case especially with the provinces of
"Sharjah." Eight provinces acknowledge a
"more absolute dependence and a stricter rule.
"The first is the Persian coast from Cape Bostanah
"to Djask, with the adjacent islands of Djishm,
"Larej and Bumez."

"Thirdly, Djebel-Akhdar. This commences at
"Kataa'l-Loha, and reaches to Samad; the
"Batinah bounds it on the North-east, the
"Dahirah on the South-west. The entire dis-
"trict is mountainous, but well inhabited; here
"lies the main political and military strength
"of the kingdom."

But Katar, Bahrain and Sharjah
are

The

'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [7r] (13/48)

4. (7)
The Customs he farms for a lump sum of about 120,000 Dollars per annum to a British Indian Subject, who in turn levies various rates of dues according to description of article. - European nations pay five per cent ad valorem duty under Treaty. -

The son of the Sultan whom Mr. Palgrave describes as almost a child is one Saiyed Saulem a full grown man, who a few weeks ago shot his father dead while sleeping. -

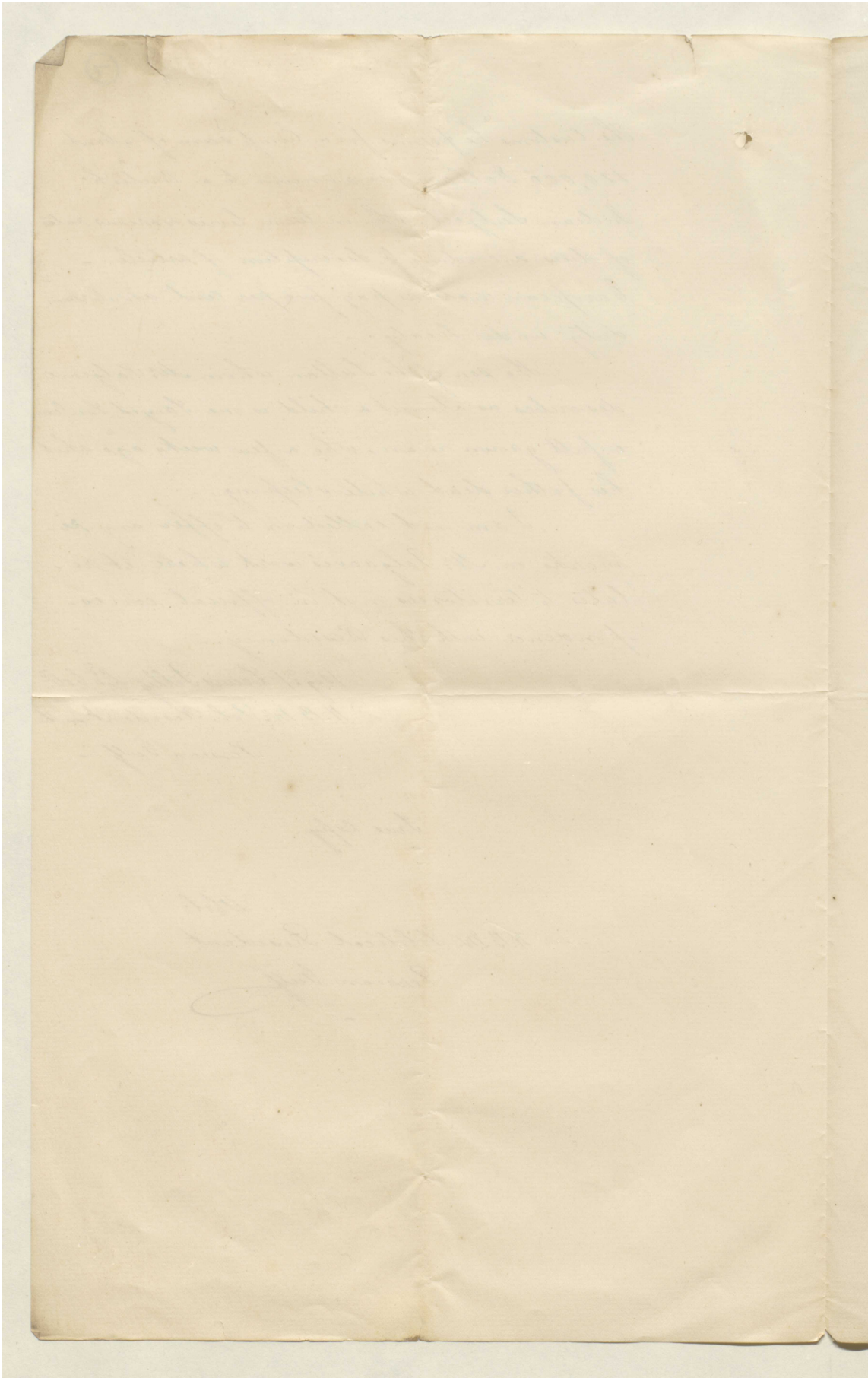
I am not called on to offer any remarks on Mr. Palgrave's work where it relates to territories not in official correspondence with this Residency. -

(sig?) Lewis Jolly Lt Col.
H. B. W. Pol. Resident in the
Persian Gulf. -

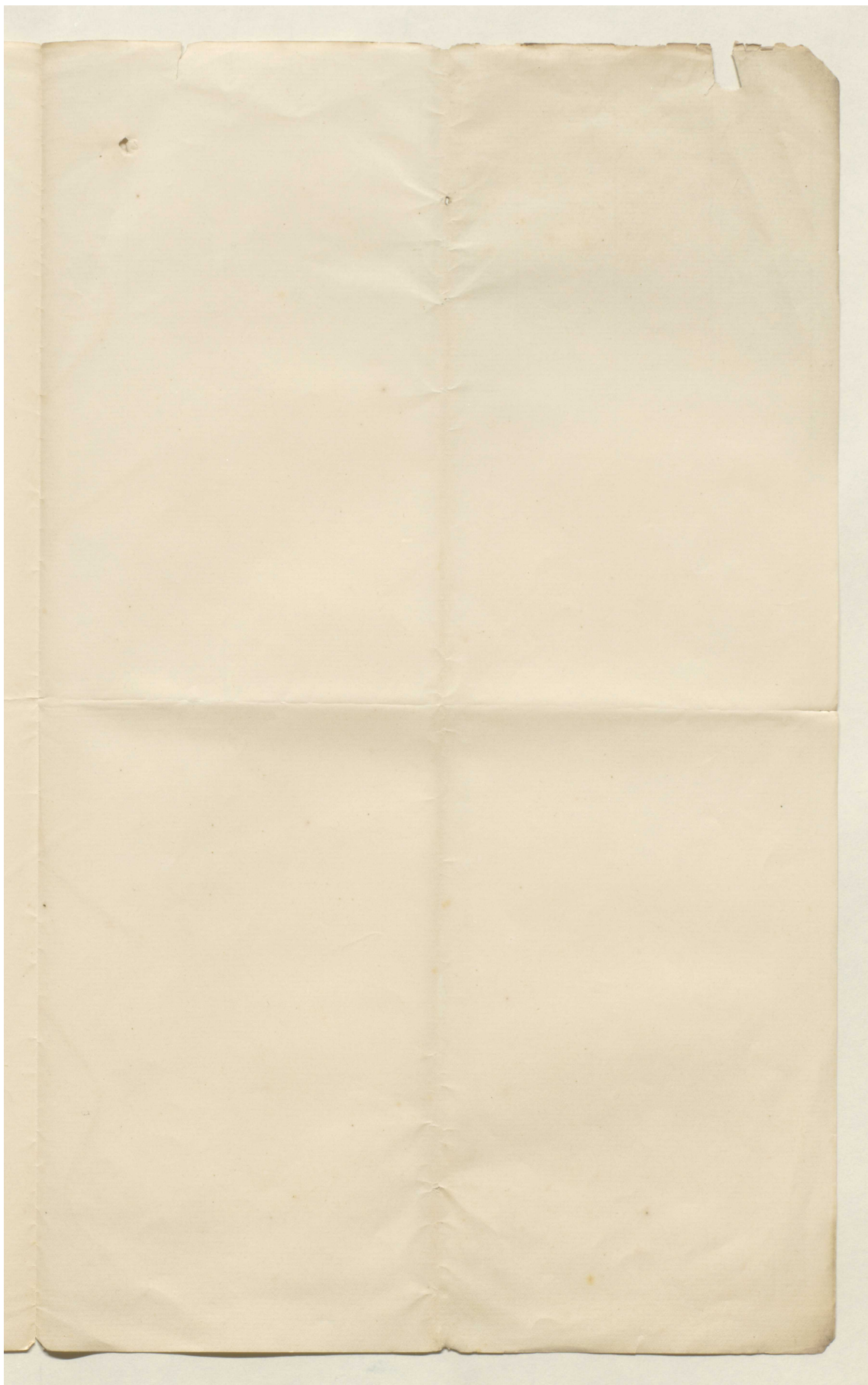
True Copy.

Lt Col.
H. B. W. Political Resident
Persian Gulf

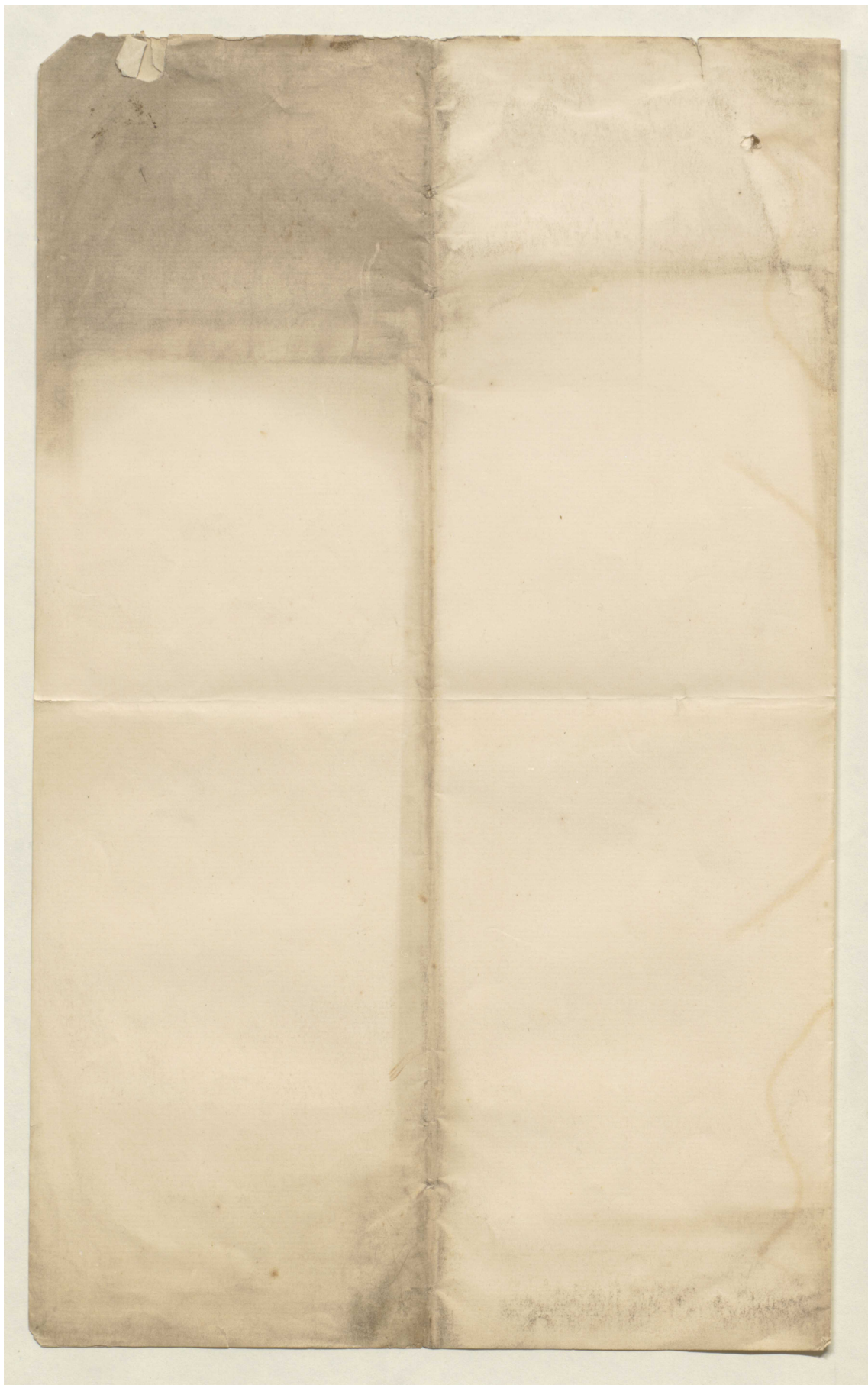
**'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a
Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [7v] (14/48)**



'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [7ar] (15/48)



'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [7av] (16/48)



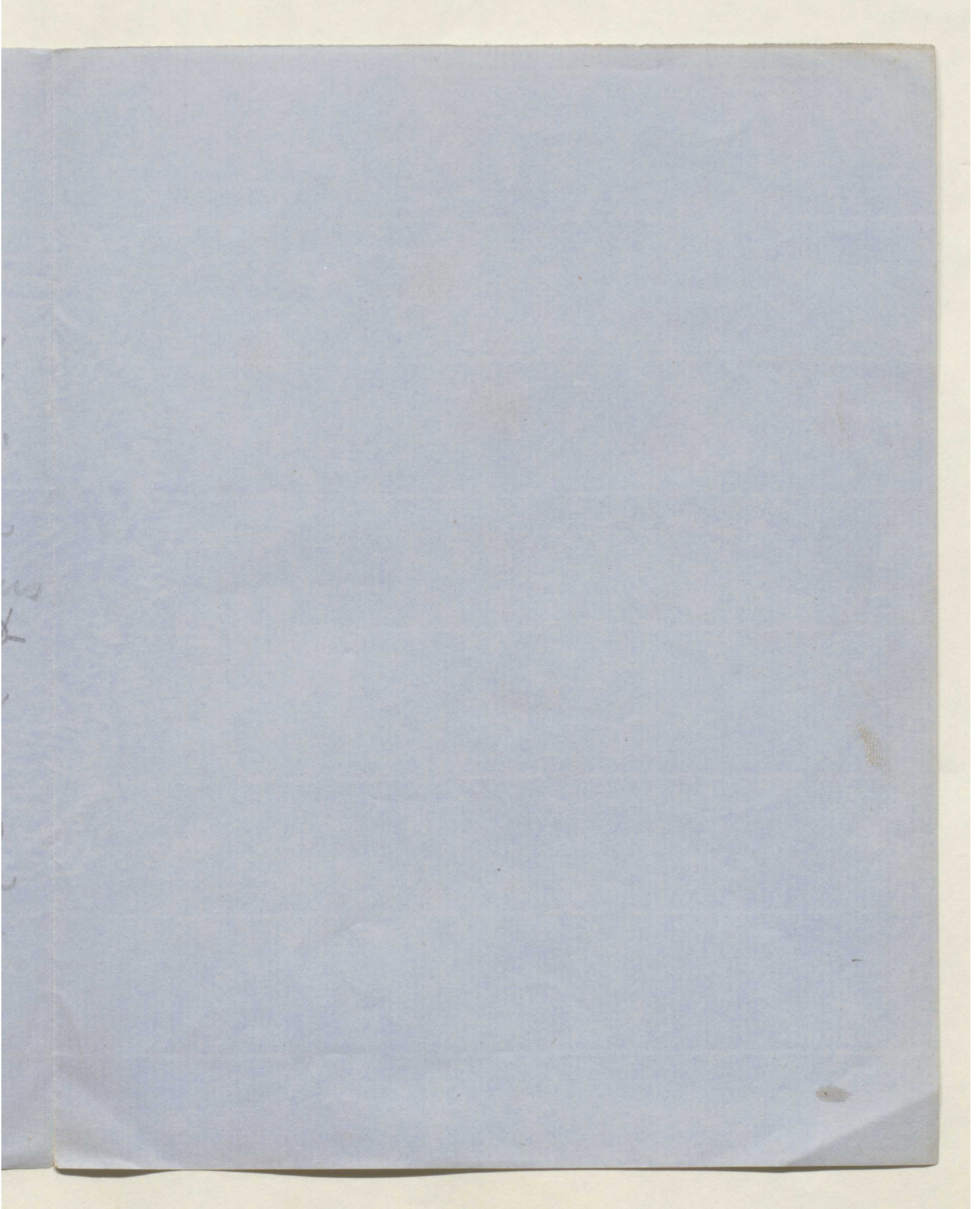
'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a
Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [8r] (17/48)

Met him at Bereidah - ^{to the way} (8)
was a Xhain & had a brother - There
were two one named Hage Mahmood
also Saleem - was Saleem first Dahan told
him to have Hage Mahmood before it - he
passed as a Mussulman of the tribe of
Abd el Es of Mosul - people used to know
him - I was to say he knew him in
Damascus - He went as a doctor - The other
man was Barchak he was a Xhain but passed
as a Mussulman of Saleem - Had sent on my
Pilgrimage & came with these two to Riyadh
we came by Bulf & Sedavir to Riyadh - They
was not there - He went to see Abdullah my
often - He was nearly two months at Riyadh
Abdullah said to him one evening you are not
a Mussulman. I then took him out of the room
We left Riyadh together & went to Bahra where
we sat some 23 days & then went to Bahra
We went to Wadi Solai. Sent them on to Wadi
Solai to wait one day - as they were found
out as Europeans - Abdullah got some

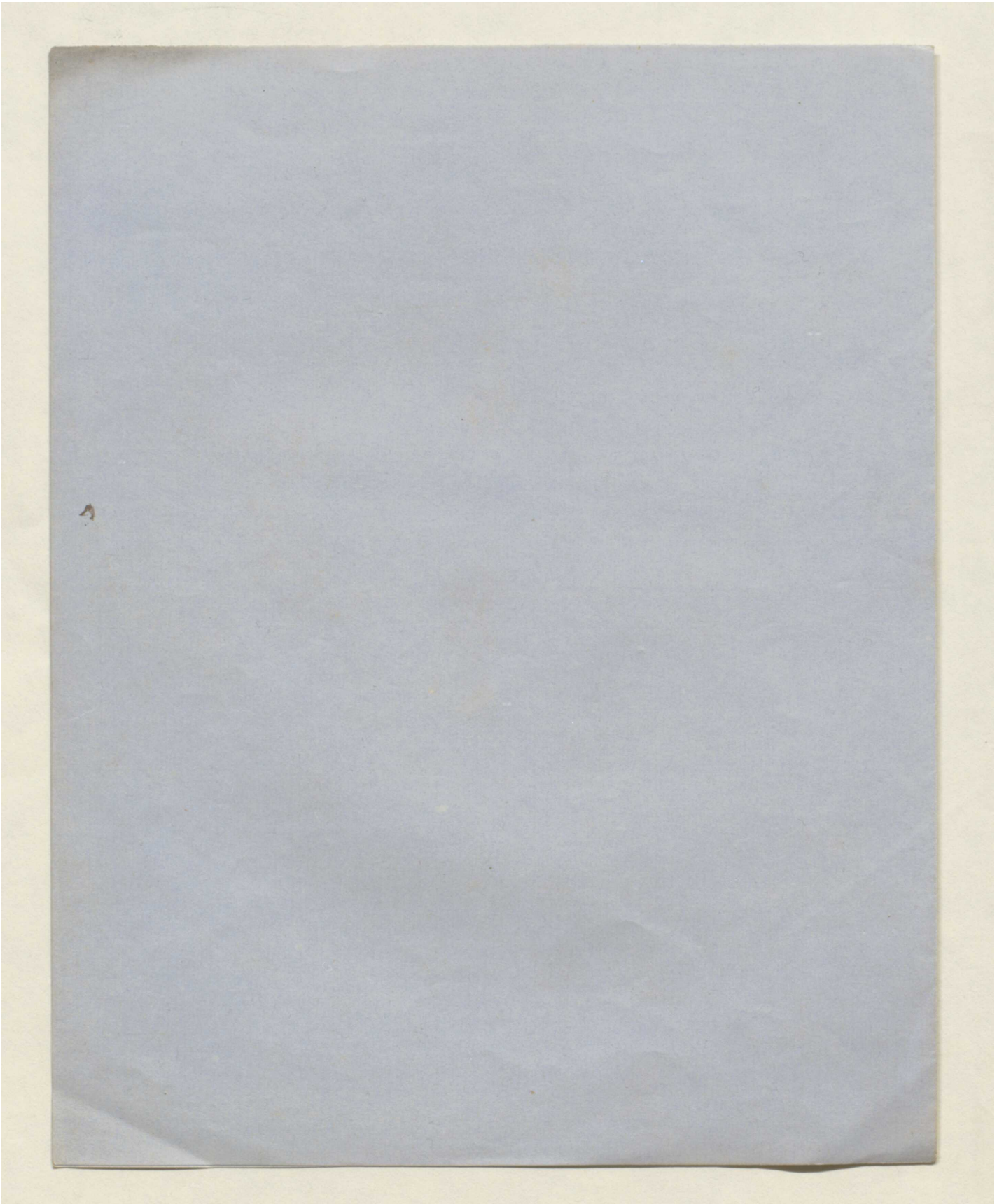
'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a
Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [8v] (18/48)

emitted from the Habees. but when
I found out it was an emite I advised
Abdullah not to take it on him or to
his brother. - Abdullah did not want
to expose his brother. It surprised they
two travellers as Europeans regarded their
them. - Mahood suspected them but
not of friendship here he said nothing.
They used to go on a time to the
dome in the morning. The Moysse man
used to call out for the two strangers
& Barakat used to answer. - Mahood
is Lowahin. There is no suspicion of
his being a spy. He was with
the mother in Egypt. - He was with
his companion. - The separation
from me at Bahrein. Had they been
certain to see him they would have
killed him. -

**'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a
Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [8ar] (19/48)**



**'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a
Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [8av] (20/48)**



'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [9r] (21/48)

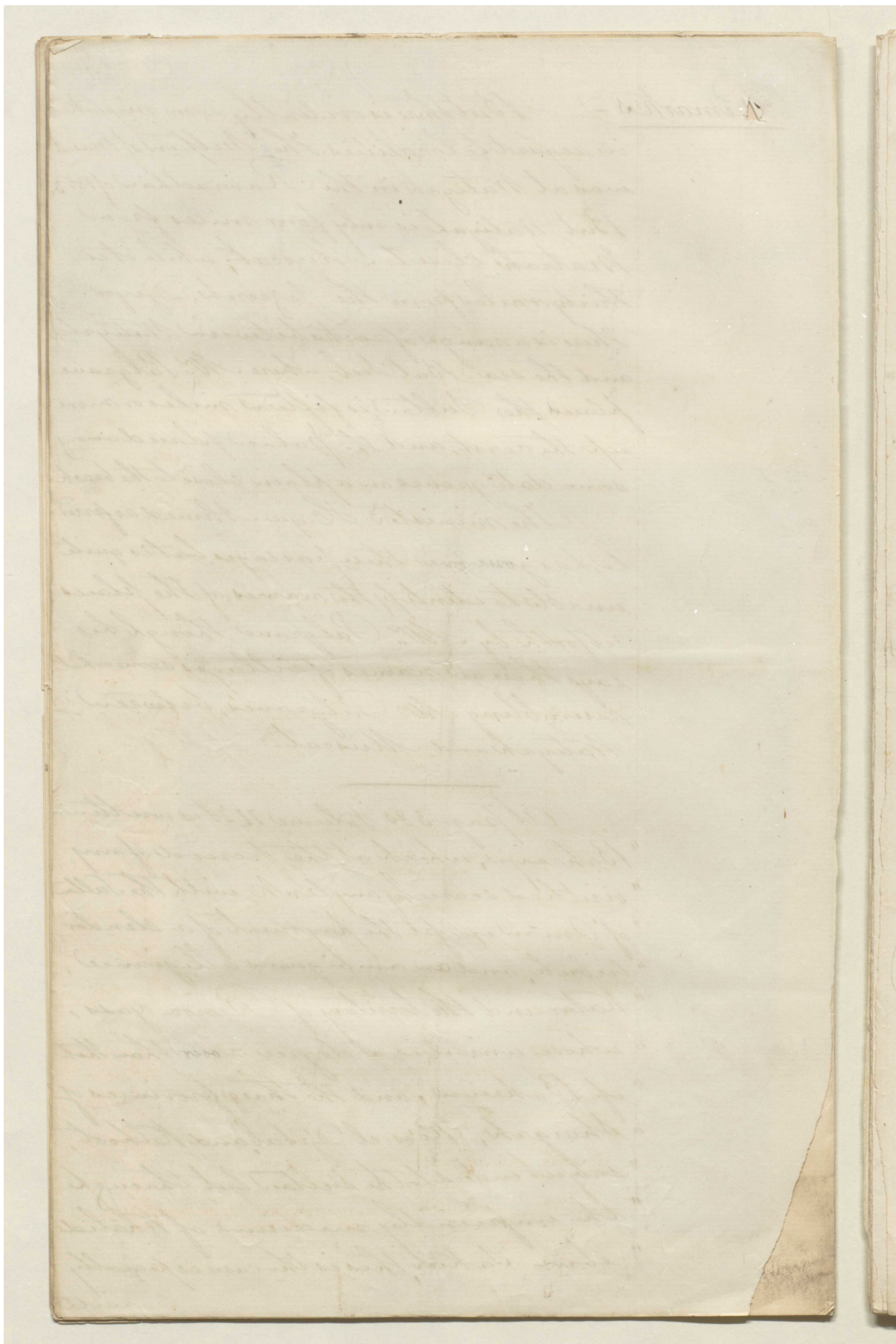
Remarks -

But there is evidently some mistake in regard to localities. The Sultan of Muscat was at Matiyah in the Ramadhan of 1853. But Matiyah is only four miles from Matrah, close to Muscat; while it is thirty miles from the Jezereh Djerw. There is a range of rocks between Matiyah and the sea. But Seeb, where Mr. Palgrave places the Sultan, is fifteen miles or more up the coast, and the palace placed among some date groves on a plain close to the beach.

The minister Hajee Ahmed referred to, has gone over these passages, but is quite unable to identify the names of the places set forth by Mr. Palgrave, though he says there are names of villages somewhat resembling Mr. Palgrave's, between Matiyah and Muscat.

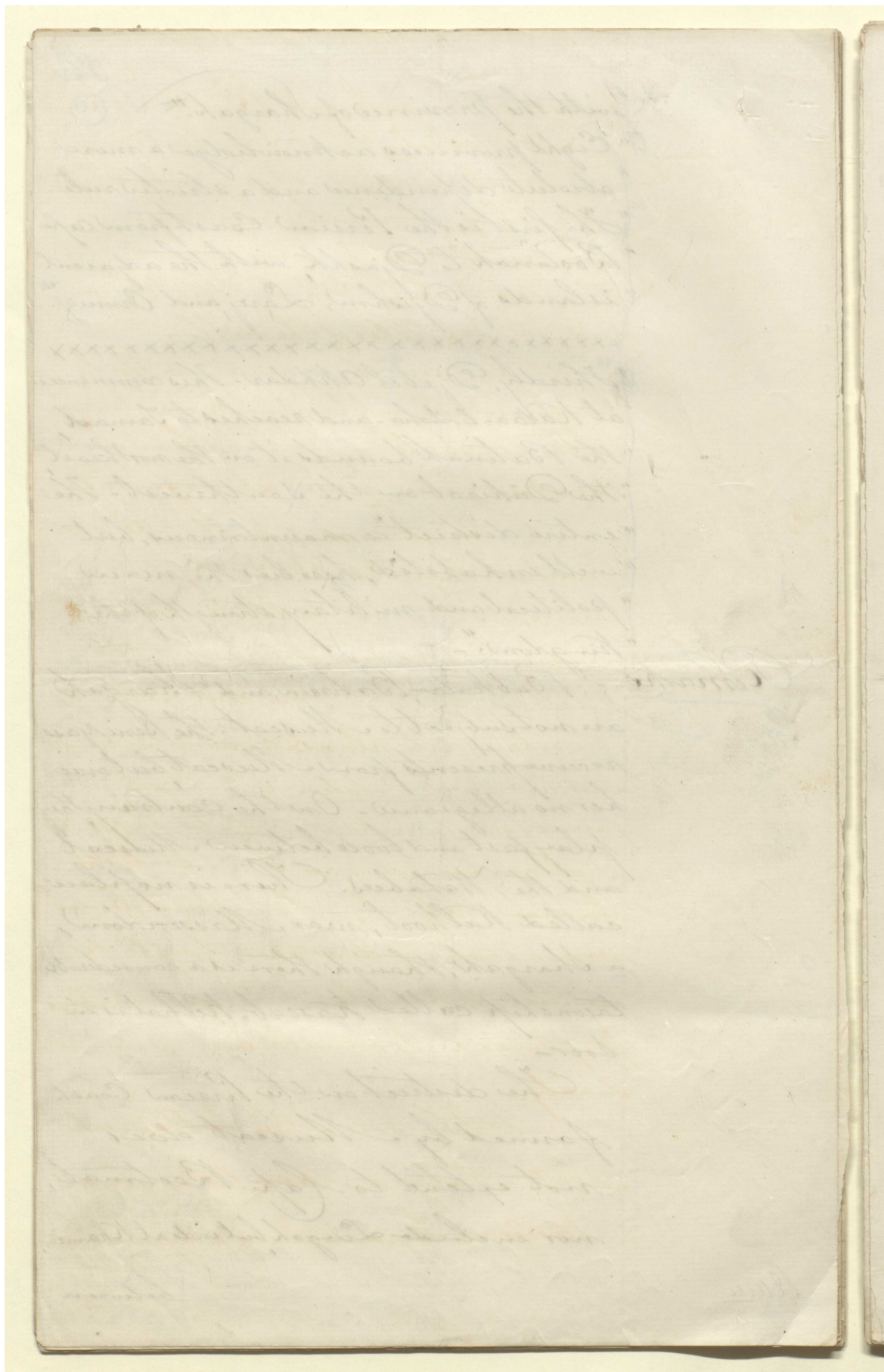
At page 380, volume II, it is written "Bahrein, which at the period of my visit had scarcely any link with the Sultan of Oman except the payment of a slender tribute, and an ambiguous allegiance," "Katar and the territory of Benoo-yass, whose union is a degree closer than that of Bahrein, and the three provinces of Shergah, Ro's-el Djibal and Kathoot, subject indeed to the Sultan, but through the unprincipally medium of Khalid ibn - Iskan, this is the case especially with

**'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a
Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [9v] (22/48)**



Scam

'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [10v] (24/48)



'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [11r] (25/48)

⑪ 184

At Page 340, Volume II, it is written:-
"No where is the Omānee Government more
"Loved or better served than in the navy,
"and in spite of all the terror inspired by
"English frigates and guns I should
"doubt whether the seamen of Zibee and
"Barke would be inclined to surrender
"their maritime supremacy off these
"coasts without a struggle."

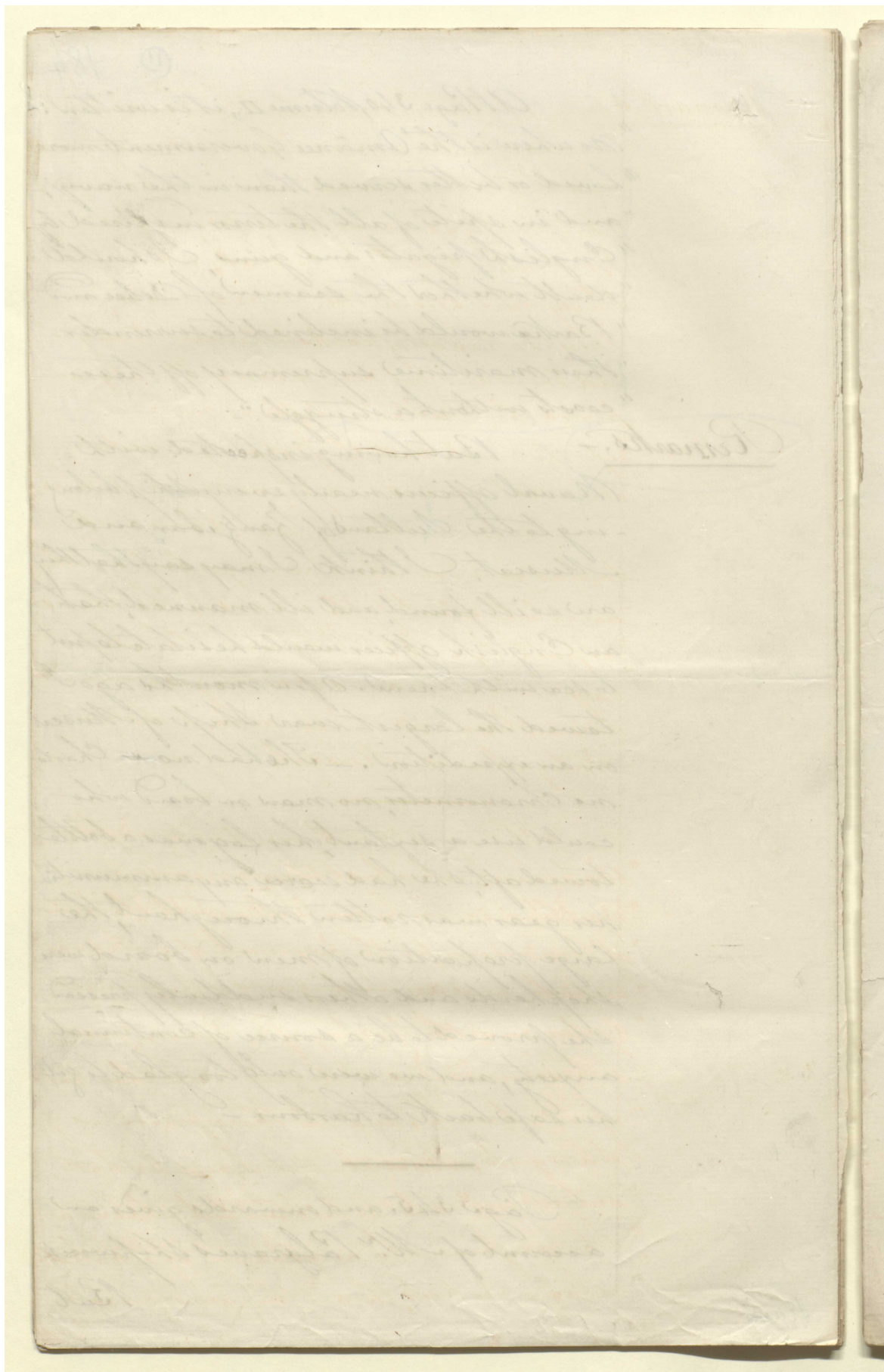
Remarks. -

But having inspected with
Naval officers nearly every ship belong-
-ing to the Sultan of Zanzibar and
Muscat, I think I may say that they
are so ill found and ill manned, that
an English officer would hesitate to put
to sea with them. A few months ago I
towed the largest war ship of Muscat
on an expedition. - She had no charts,
no chronometer, no man on board who
could use a sextant, her log was a bottle
towed aft, she had scarce any ammunition,
her gear was rotten throughout, the
large proportion of men on board were
shepherds and others suddenly pressed;
she proved to be a source of continual
anxiety, and we were only too glad to get
her safe back to harbour.

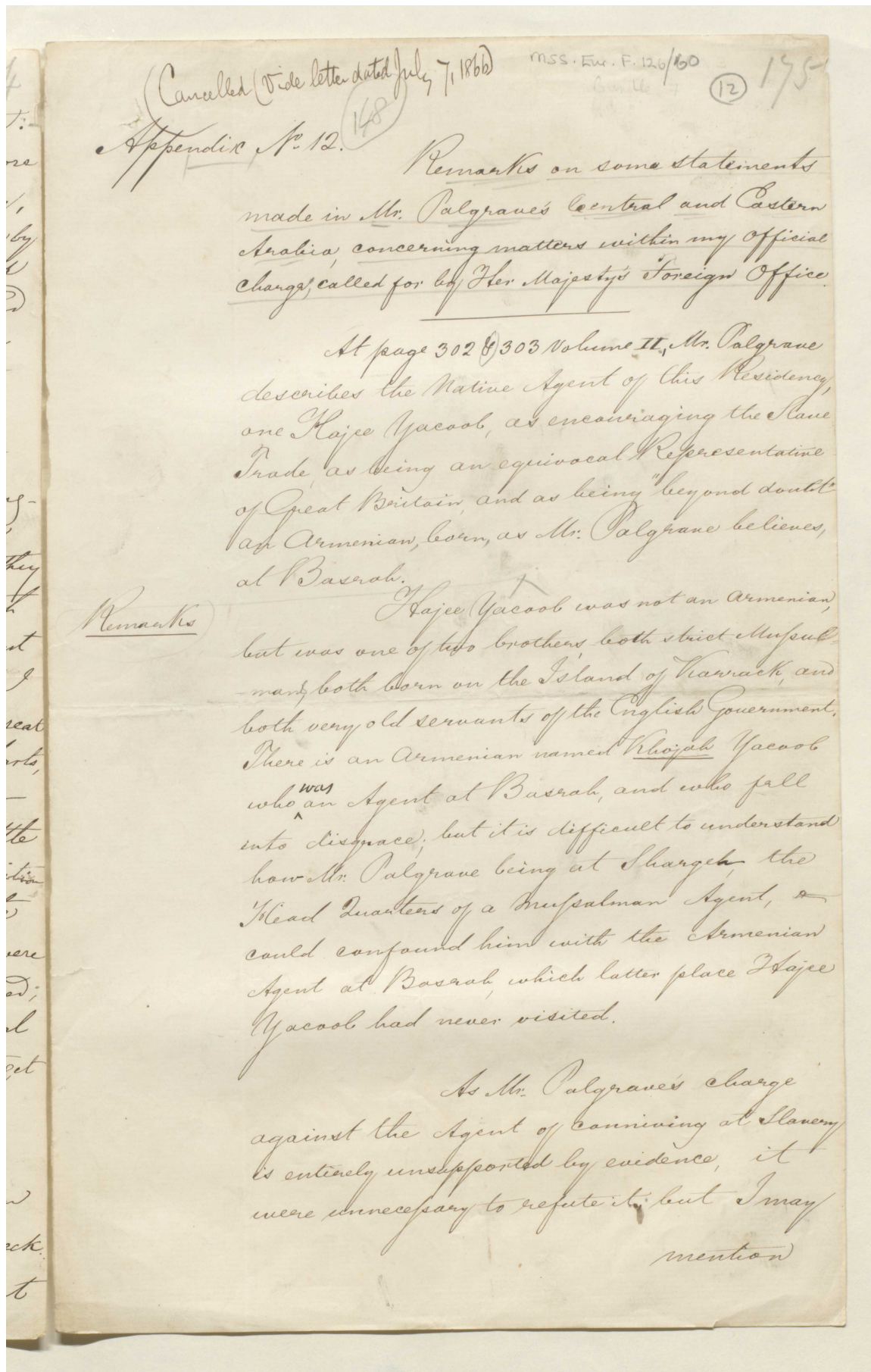
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account of Mr. Palgrave's shipwreck.
But

Have

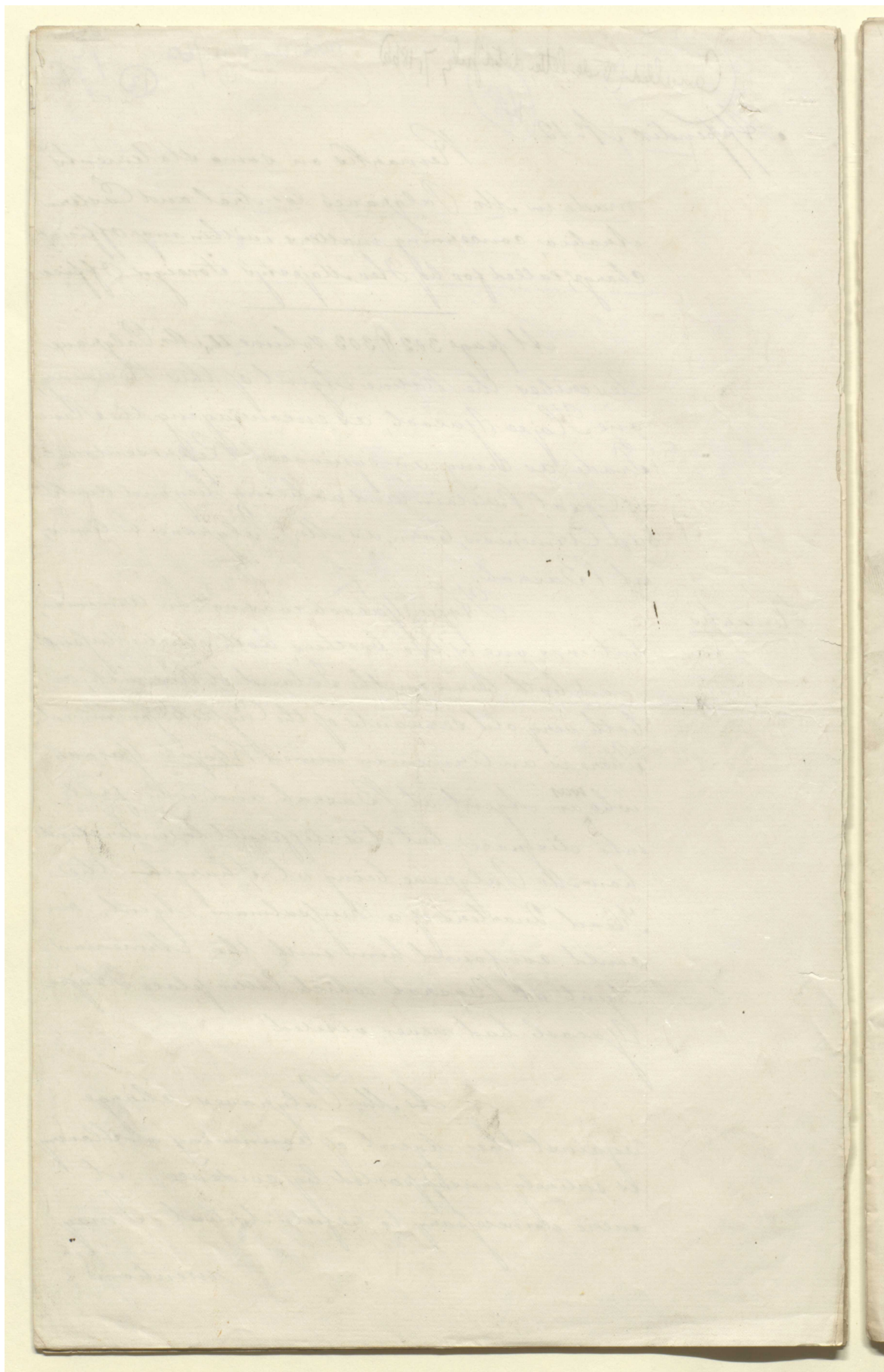
'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [11v] (26/48)



'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [12r] (27/48)



**'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a
Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [12v] (28/48)**



'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [13r] (29/48)

between Lingah and Bunder Abbass. ^{(13) 187}

The Jabhal Akhdar district commences at Semayel. The greatest military strength of Muscat is drawn from Jaalan and its neighbourhoods the districts of the Beni-Bos, Hassan and Jenebah tribes of the hills.

The minister is quite unable to recognise any approximate accuracy in the estimate of population and military force given at page 381.

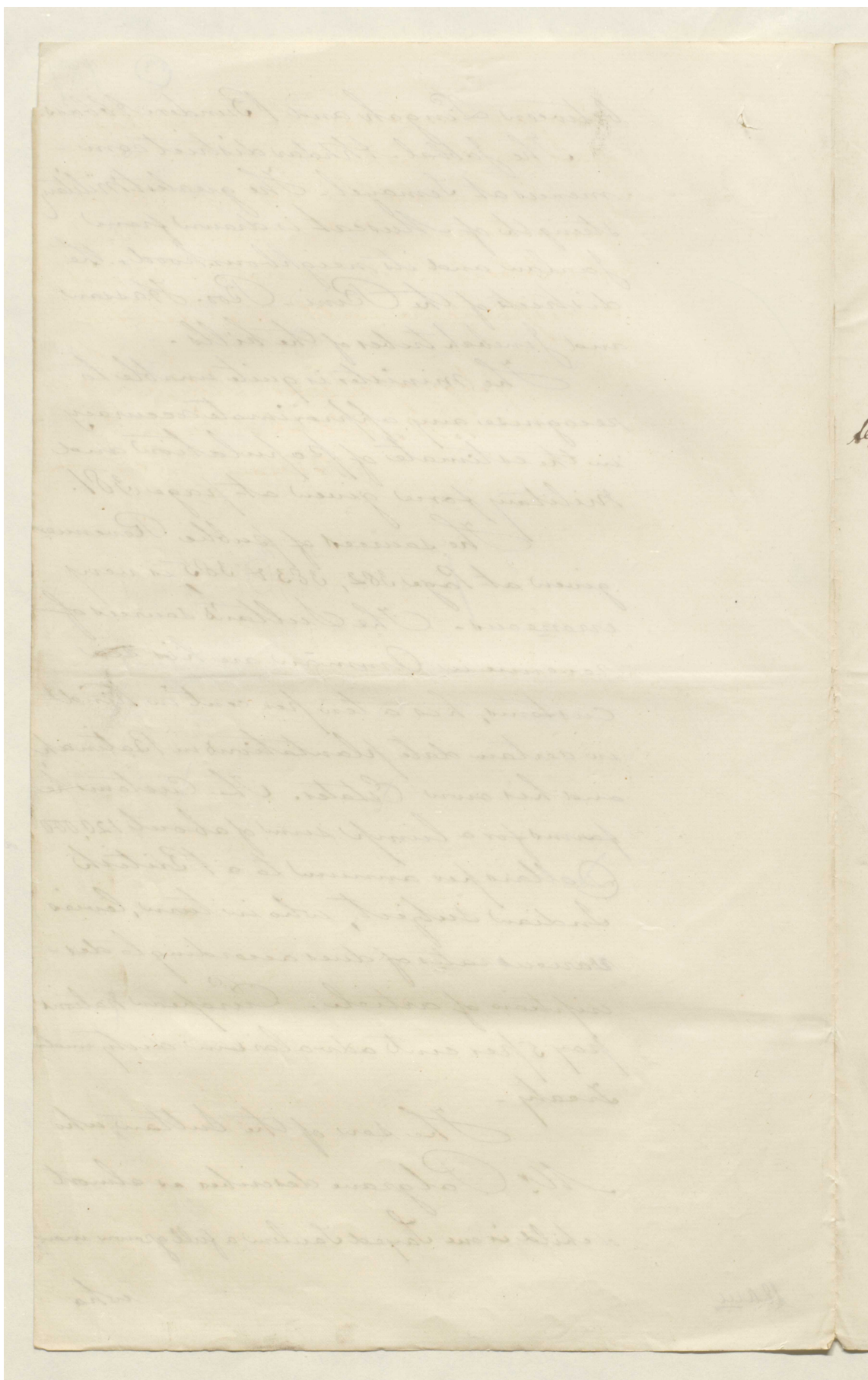
The sources of public Revenue given at pages 382, 383 & 385 is very erroneous. The Sultan's sources of revenue in Oman are his sea customs, his a ten per cent in kind in certain date plantations in Batinah and his own Estates. The Customs he farms for a lump sum of about 120,000 Dollars per annum to a British Indian subject, who in turn, levies various rates of dues according to description of article. European nations pay 5 per cent ad valorem duty under Treaty.

The Son of the Sultan, who Mr. Palgrave describes as almost a child, is one Sayed Saulem, a full grown man,

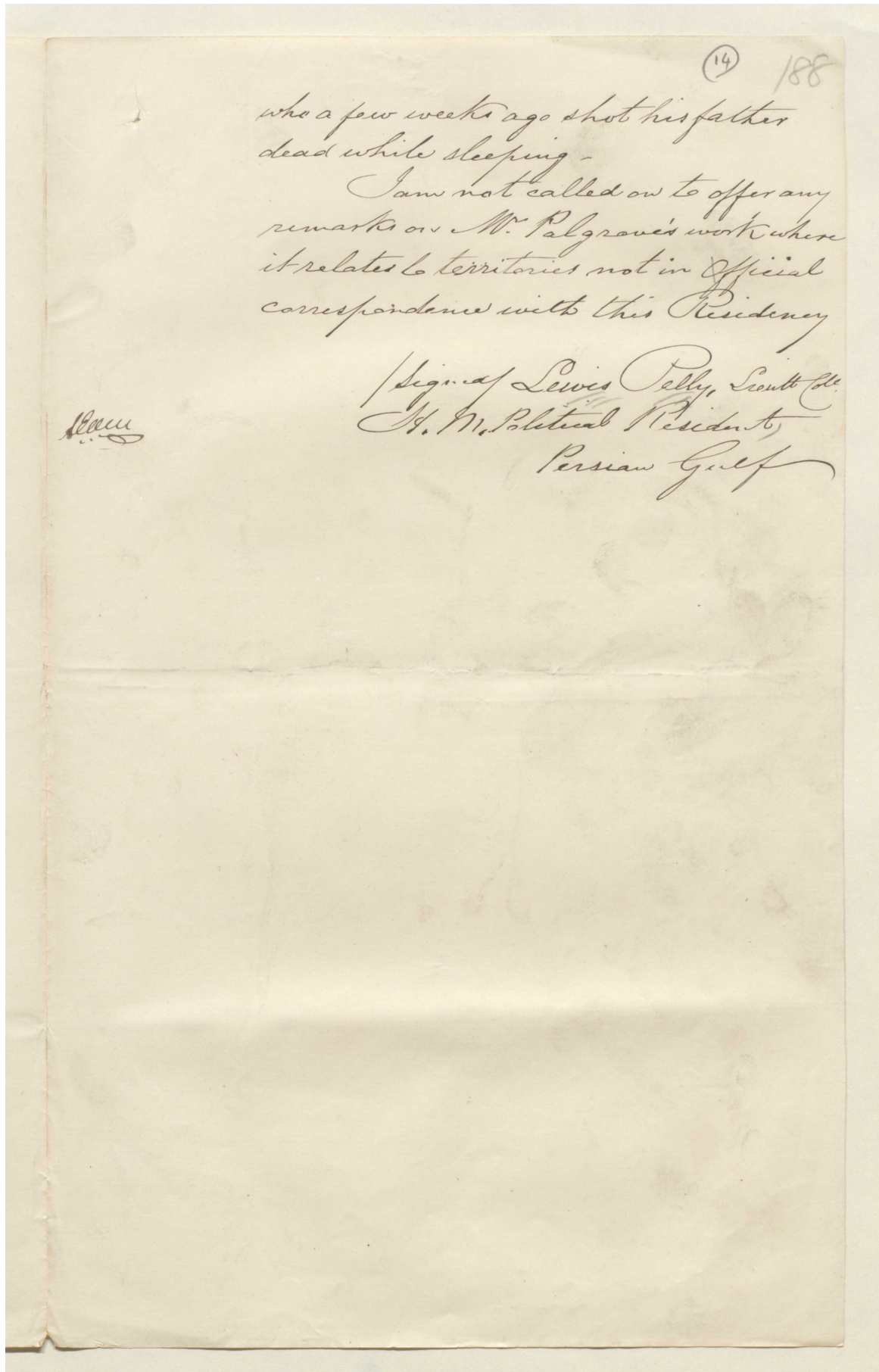
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who

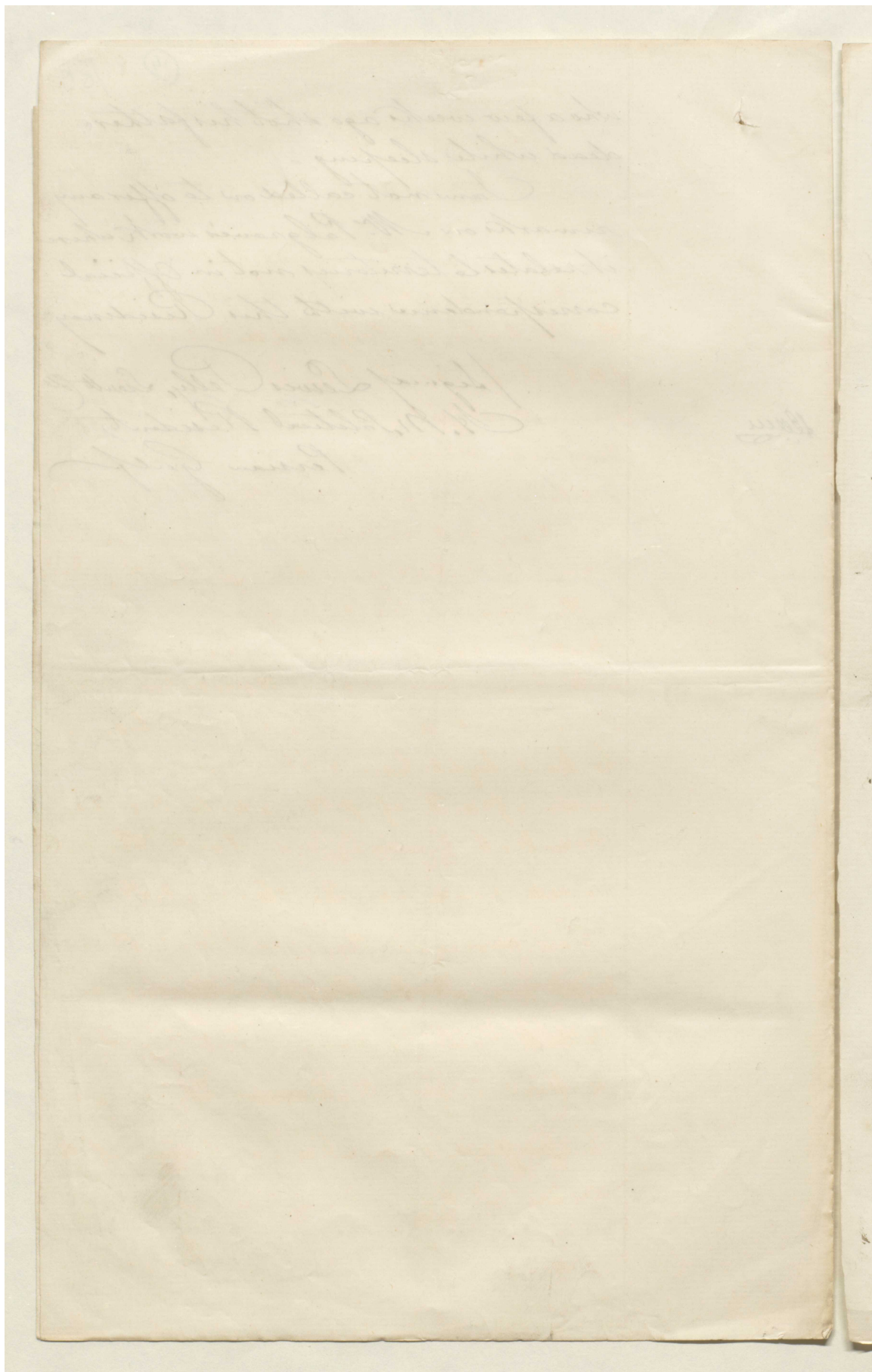
'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a
Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [13v] (30/48)



'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [14r] (31/48)



'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a
Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [14v] (32/48)



'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [15r] (33/48)

(15) 176

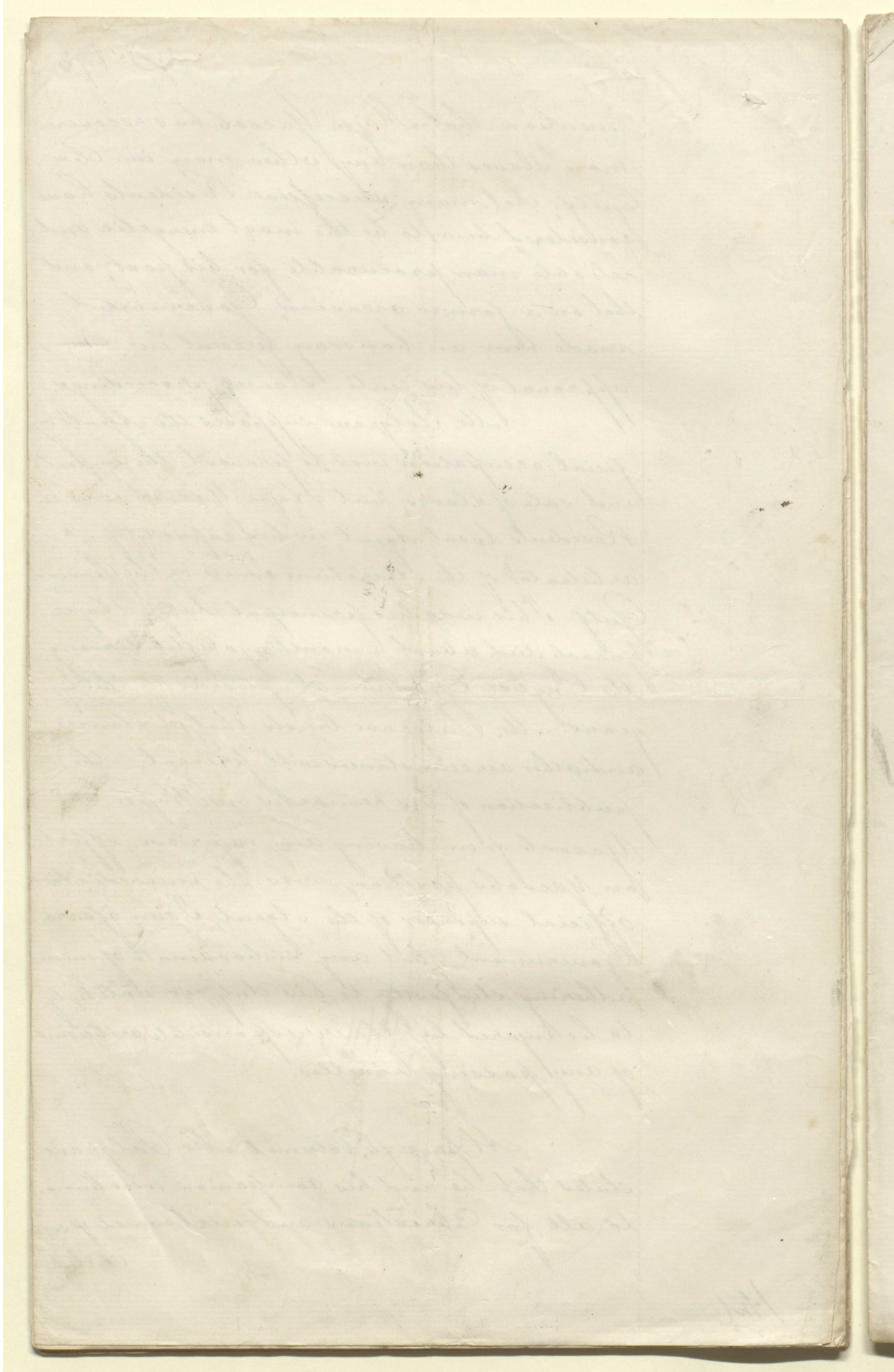
mention that Hajse Yacoub has recovered more slaves than any other man in the Gulf, that many successive Residents have considered him to be the most energetic and reliable man procurable for his post, and that on a former occasion, Government made him an honorary present in approval of his anti-slavery proceedings.

Mr. Palgrave supposes the Agents of official occupation was to prevent the import and sale of slaves, but Hajse Yacoub was the Resident's local Agent, in his capacity of an arbitrator of the Maritime Peace of the Persian Gulf. This was his principal duty. Hajse Yacoub died about a month ago after serving the English Government upwards of thirty years. Mr. Palgrave trusts that distance and other circumstances will prevent the publication of his remarks on Hajse Yacoub from having any injurious effect on Yacoub's position. As the immediate official superior of the Agent, I can assure Government, that any subordinate of mine adhering steadfastly to his duty, is unlikely to be injured by the irresponsible criticisms of any passing traveller.

At page 74, Volume I. Mr. Palgrave states that he and his companion "were known to all for Christians and welcomed as such" and

1/2

**'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a
Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [15v] (34/48)**



'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [16r] (35/48)

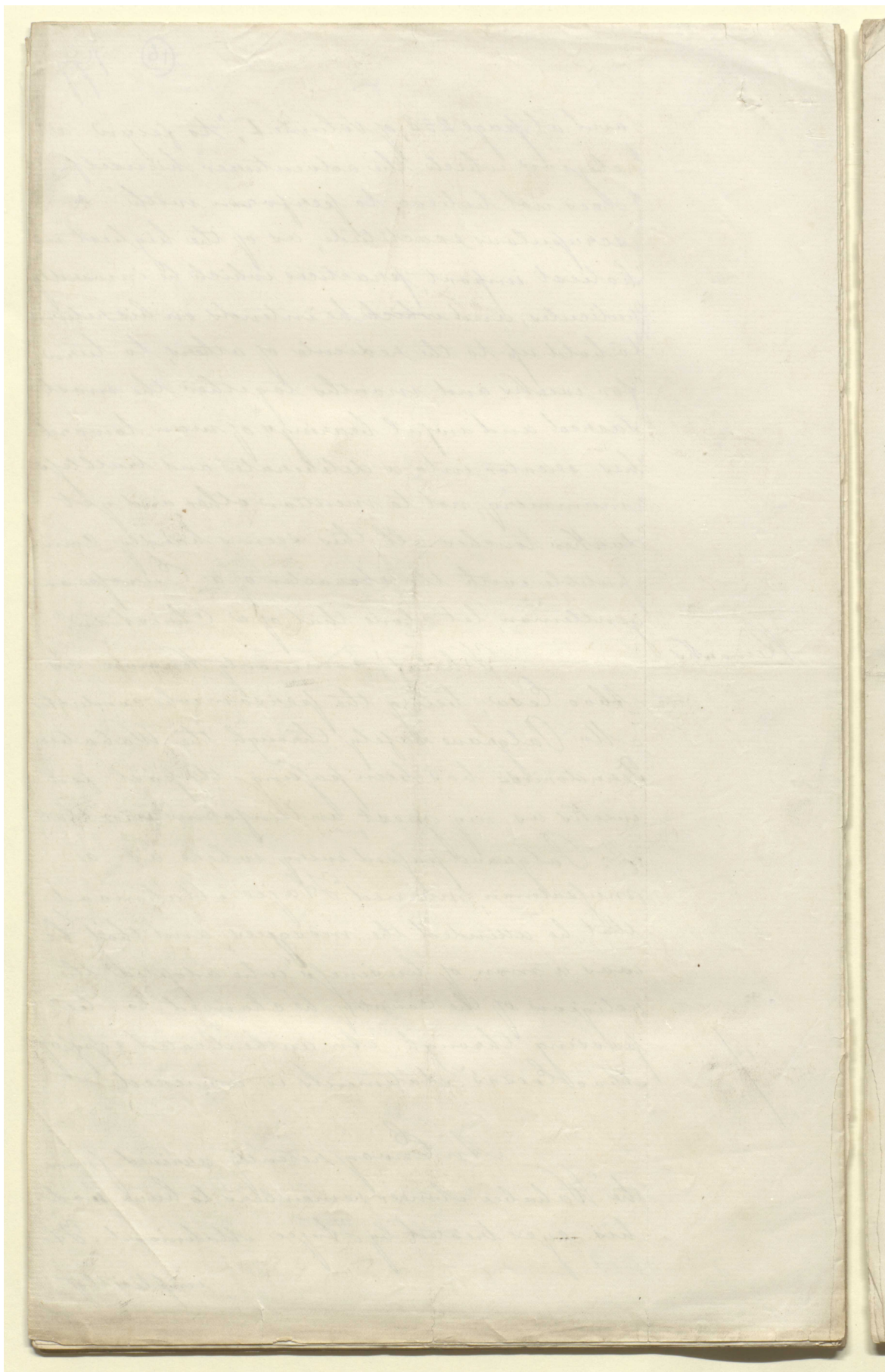
(16) 177

and at page 258, of Volume I, "to feign a religion which the adventurer himself does not believe, to perform with scrupulous exactitude, as of the highest and holiest import, practices which he inwardly prediles, and which he intends on his return to hold up to the ridicule of others, to turn for weeks and months together the most sacred and awful bearings of man toward his creator into a deliberate and truthless mummery, not to mention other, and yet sarker touches, all this seems hardly compatible with the character of a European gentleman, let alone that of a Christian."

Remarks Khalaf, commonly known as Abou Cesa, being the person who conducted Mr. Palgrave safely through the Wahabee Territories, has been passing the past few weeks as my guest, and informs me that Mr. Palgrave passed every where as a muselman, named Hajee Mahmood. that he attended the mosques, and that he was a man of business, who adopted the religion of the country, he chanced to be passing through. An authenticated copy of Abou Cesa's statements is annexed.

An Envooy recently arrived from the Wahabee Ameer remembers to have had his eyes treated by Hajee Mahmood. He implicitly

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Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [16v] (36/48)**



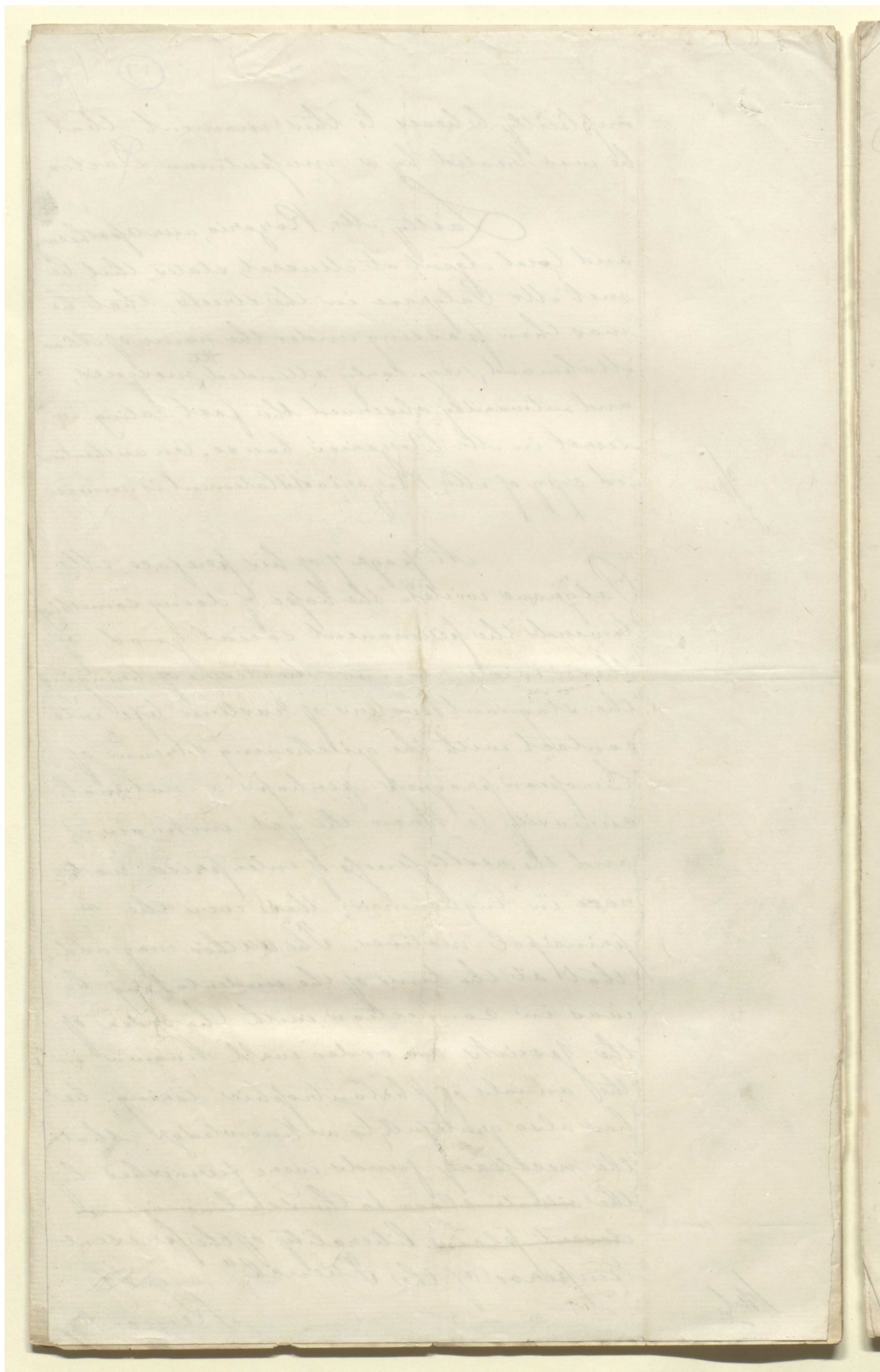
'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [17r] (37/48)

(17) 148
implicitly believes to this moment that he was treated by a ^{Musulman} Doctor.

2/1
Lastly, Mr. Rozario, an apothecary and local agent at Muscat, states that he met Mr. Palgrave in the streets, that he was then passing under the name of ^{the} Mahmood, regularly attended mosques, and outwardly observed the fast, eating in secret in Mr. Rozario's house. An authenticated copy of Mr. Rozario's statement is annexed.

At page 7 of his preface Mr. Palgrave writes - "the hope of doing something towards the permanent social good of these wide regions, the desire of bringing the stagnant waters of Eastern life into contact with the quickening stream of European progress; perhaps a natural curiosity to know the yet unknown, and the restlessness of enterprise not rare in Englishmen; these were the principal motives. The author may add that at the time of the undertaking he was in connection with the order of the Jesuits, an order well known in the annals of philanthropic daring, he has also gratefully to acknowledge that the necessary funds were furnished by the ~~liberal~~ ^{liberal} ~~plains~~ ^{plains} ~~liberality~~ ^{liberality} of the present Emperor of the French." ~~At~~
Remarks

'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [17v] (38/48)



'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [18r] (39/48)

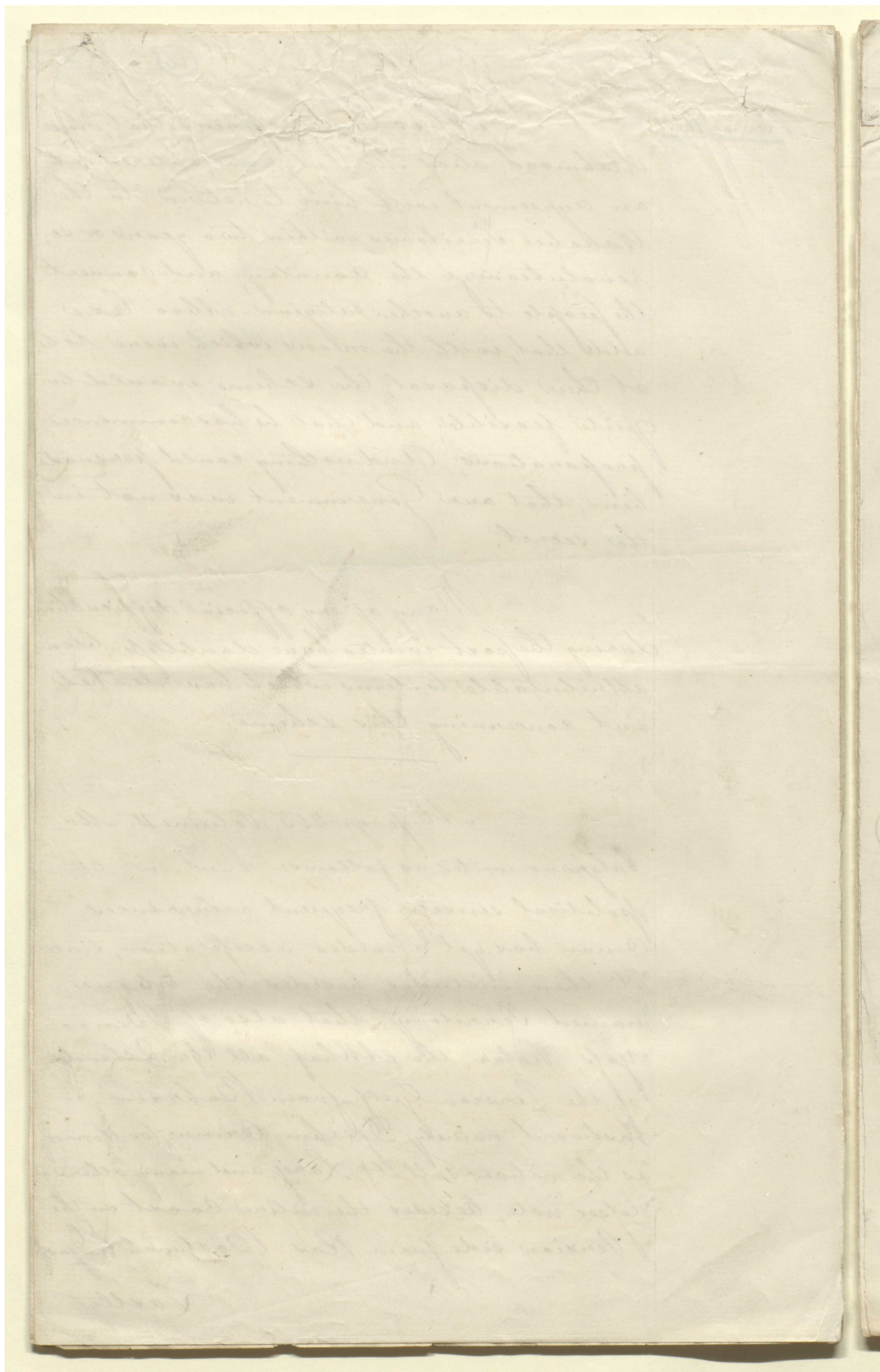
Remarks.

Also Esso explains that, Hajee Mahmood, alias Mr. Palgrave, entered into an agreement with him to return to the Wahabee Territories, within two years or so; revolutionize the country, and convert the people to another religion. Also Esso adds that, with the means which were to be at their disposal, the scheme would be quite feasible, and that he has commenced preparations. And nothing could persuade him, that our Government was not in the secret.

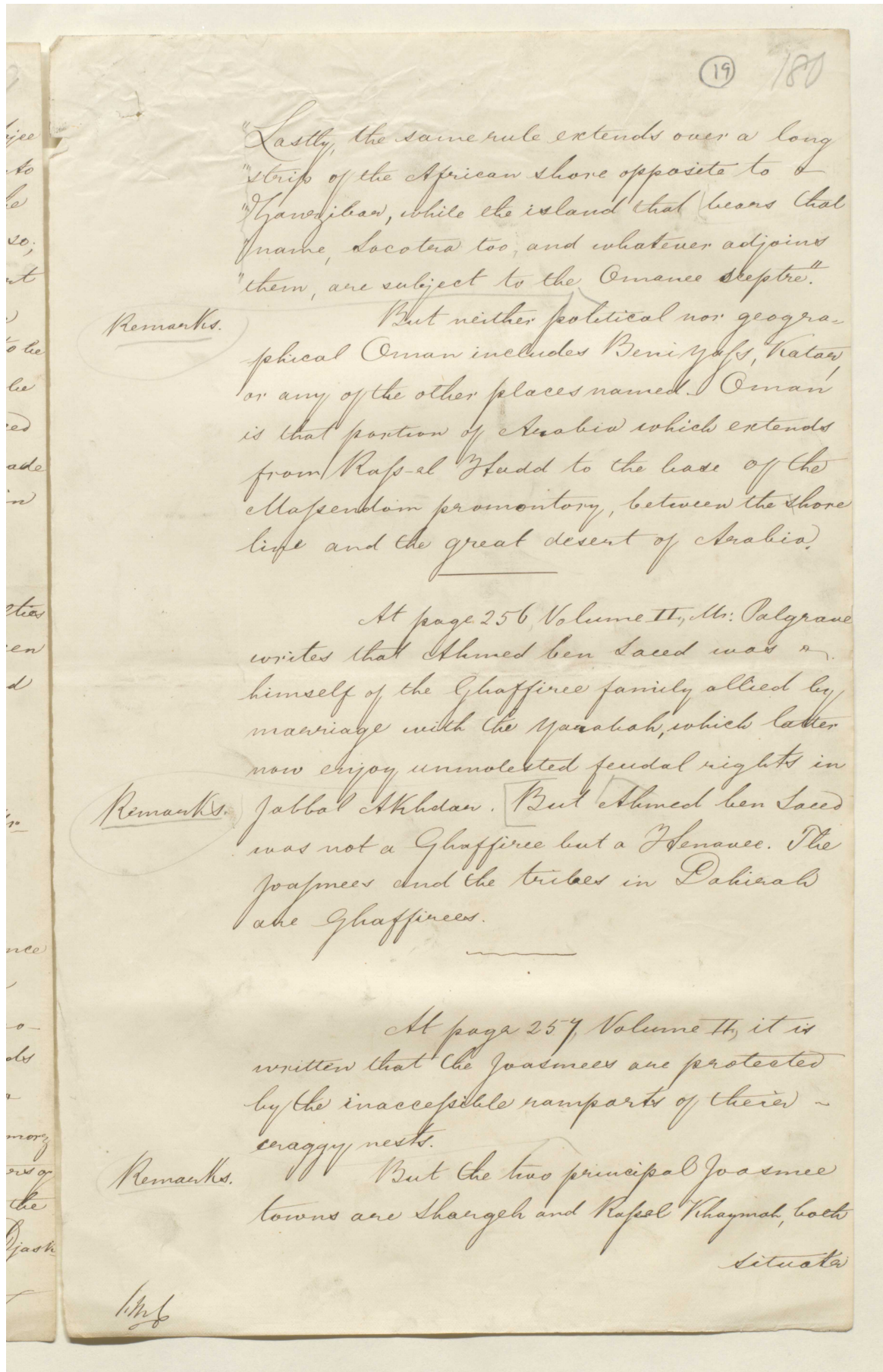
Many of my official difficulties during the past winter have doubtless been attributable to items which have leaked out concerning this scheme.

At page 255, Volume II, Mr. Palgrave writes as follows: "But in a political sense of frequent occurrences, Oman has yet a wider acceptance, since it then includes, besides the above named Territory, that also of Benao-ryaf, Natan, the Akhaf, all the Islands of the Persian Gulf from Bahrein & Eastward, namely, Djishm, Ormuz (or Hormuz, as the natives call it), Laraj, and many others of lesser note, besides the entire coast on the Persian side from Ras-Bostanah to Jash. Lastly

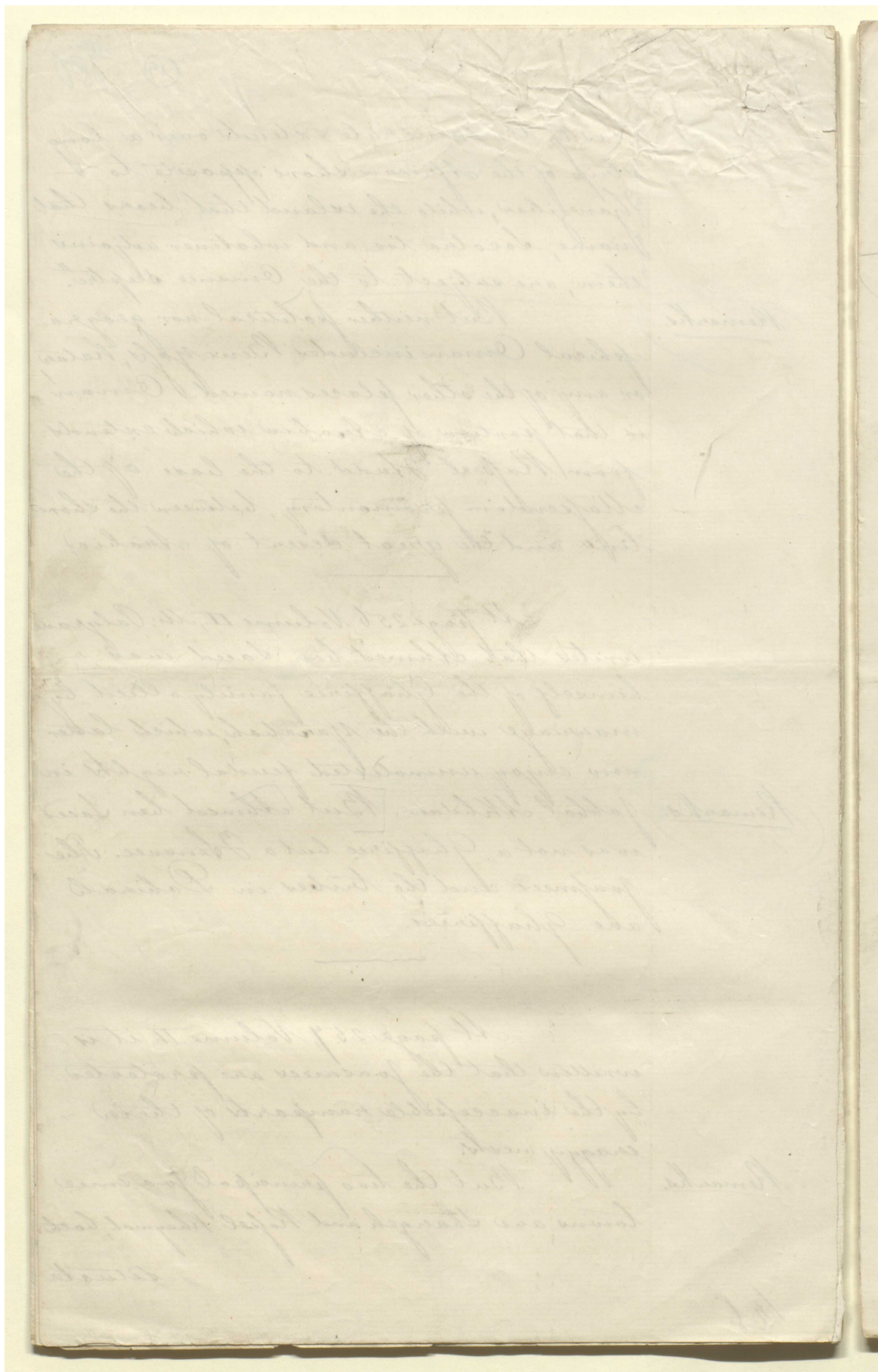
'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [18v] (40/48)



'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [19r] (41/48)



'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [19v] (42/48)



'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [20r] (43/48)

20 181
situated close to the sea line on a desert plain.

At page 265, Volume II, Mr. Palgrave seems to imply that the Bayadhee sect smoke tobacco.

Remarks-

I have had personal and frequent communication with nearly every member of the reigning Muscat family, but I have never seen them smoke, nor heard of their smoking, nor is any person, whether European or other, permitted to smoke in their presence.

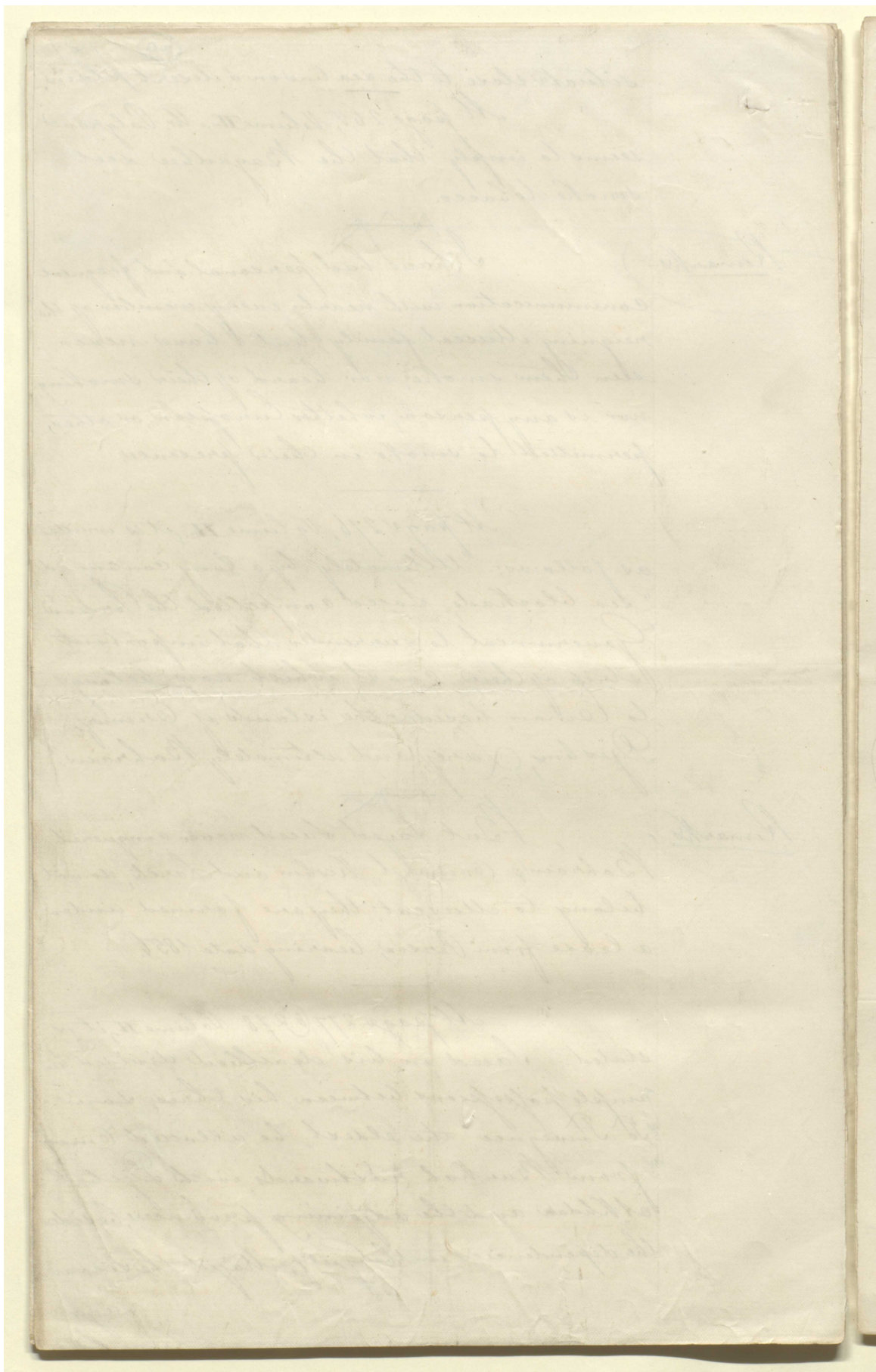
At page 276, Volume II, it is written as follows: "Ultimately by a long continued sea blockade, Saeed compelled the Persian Government to surrender that important strip of their coast which now belongs to Oman, besides the islands of Ormuz, Djeshm, Larz, and ultimately Bahrein."

Remarks

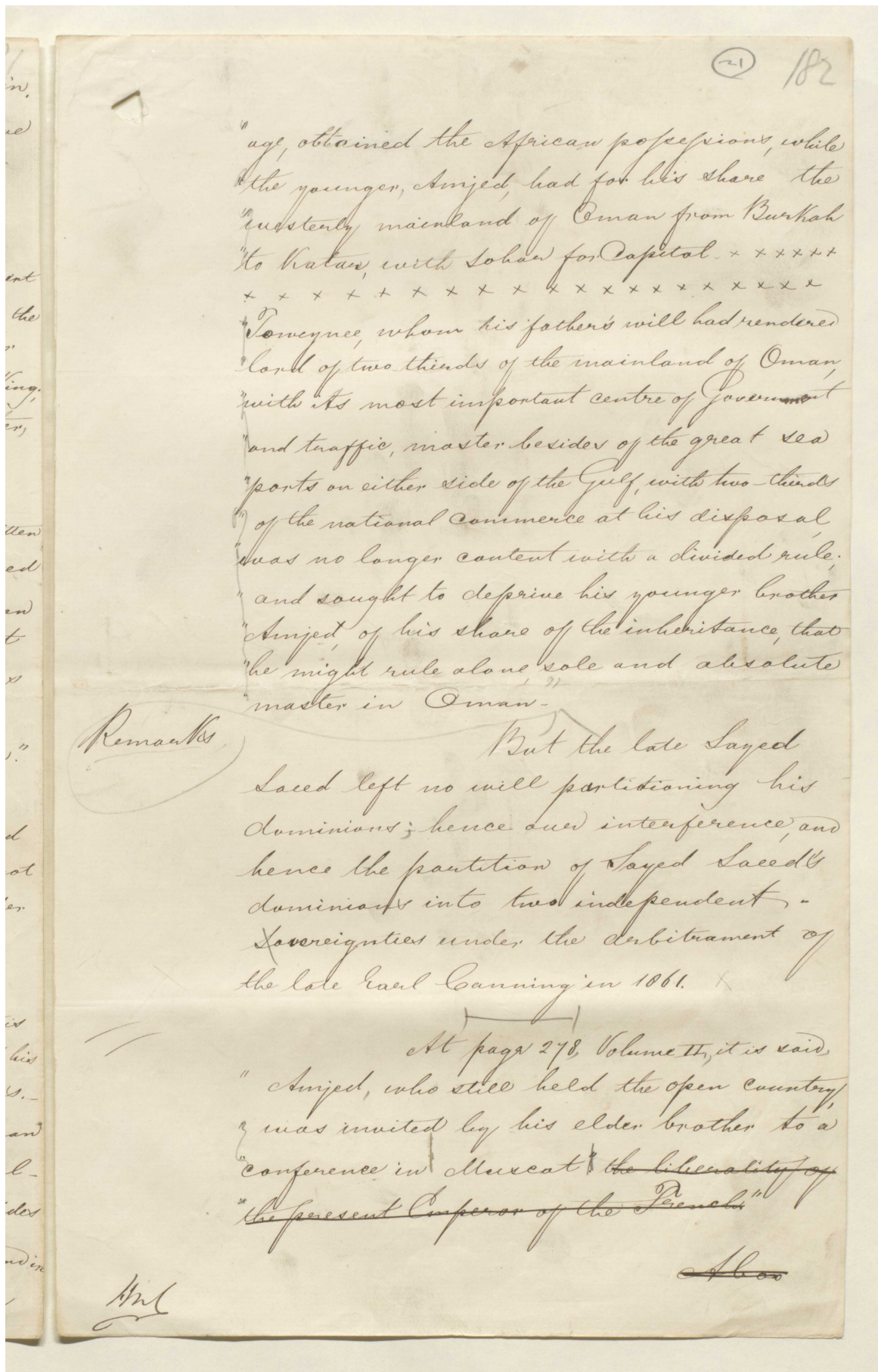
But Sayed Saeed never conquered Bahrein, Ormuz, Djeshm and Larz, do not belong to Muscat; they are farmed under a lease from Persia, bearing date 1856.

At page 277 & 278 Volume II, it is stated: "Saeed on his deathbed divided his ample possessions between his three sons. To Tureque, the eldest, he allotted Oman from Buarkah fastuands, with Djeshm, Khodan and the adjoining provinces, besides the dependencies in the Gulf. Majid, the second,
aga,

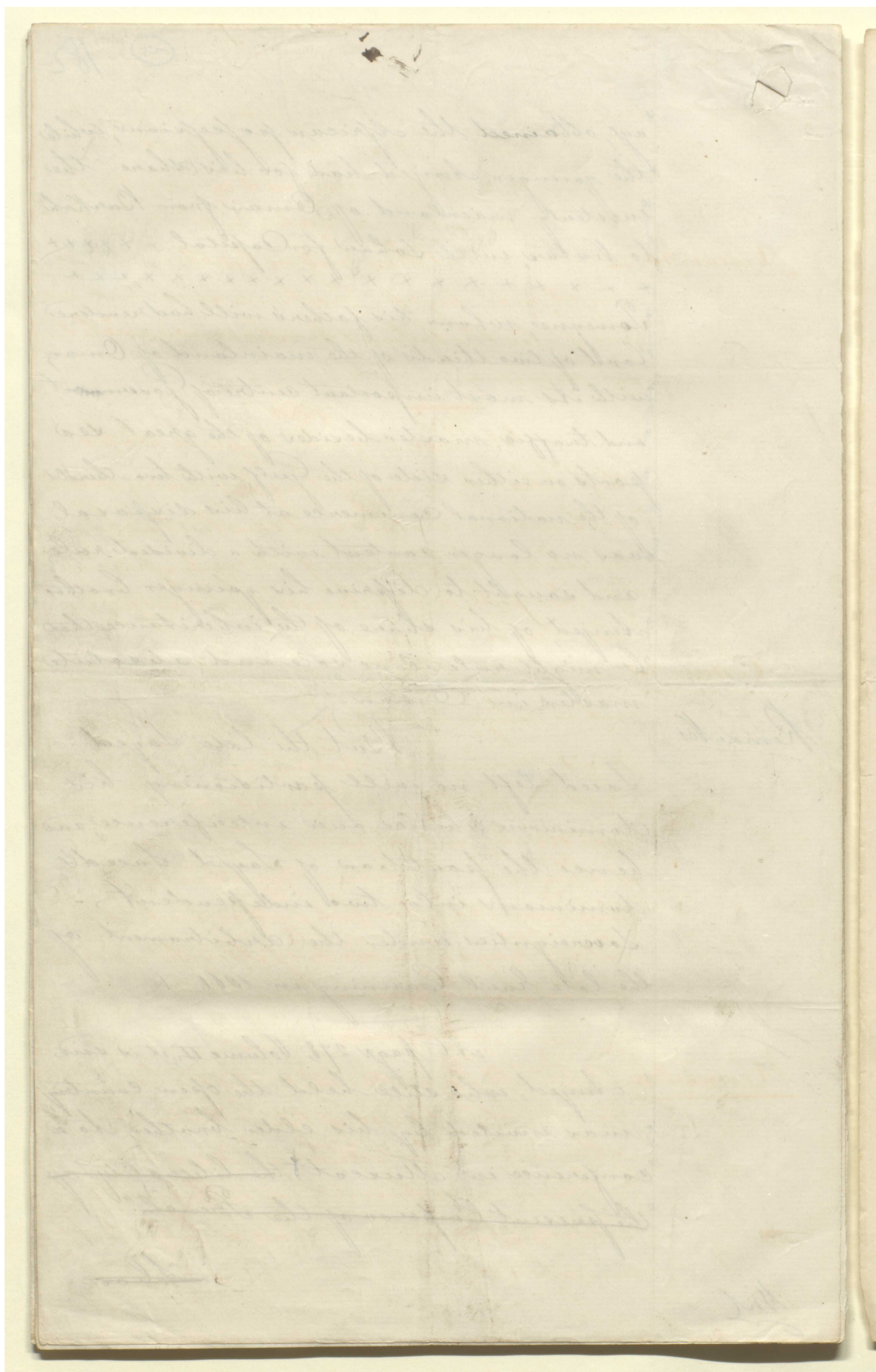
'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [20v] (44/48)



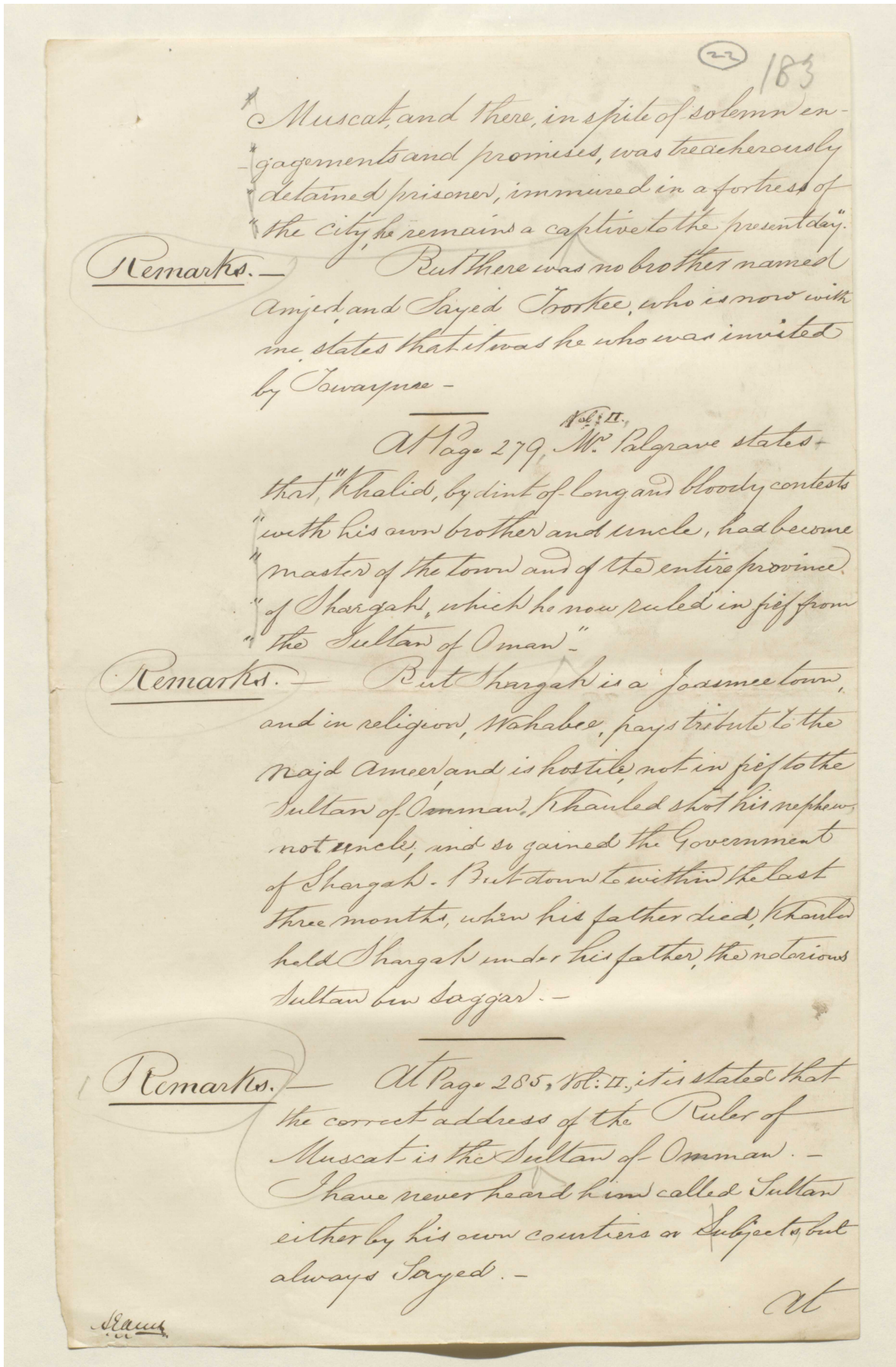
'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [21r] (45/48)



'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [21v] (46/48)



'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [22r] (47/48)



'Notes on the statements made in William Gifford Palgrave's book Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia' [22v] (48/48)

