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Copies of correspondence concerning the conduct of Dr William Henry Colvill, the Residency Surgeon, during the expedition to Riadh [Riyadh] and after

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	Mss Eur F126/62
Date(s)	Feb-Dec 1865 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 file, 5 items (26 folios)
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About this record

Political Department Reports regarding Pelly's concerns over the conduct of Assistant Surgeon Dr William Henry Colvill.

Colvill is accused of having assumed unauthorised responsibility for Pelly's duties during his absence in England and for giving secret and personal information to the Royal Geographical Society regarding Pelly's trip to Riyadh.

Copy of letter No.57 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to
Government, Bombay [1r] (1/10)

MSS Eur F126/62

No 57 of 1865

①

From Lieutenant Colonel Lewis Pelly
A/2 His Political Resident Persian Gulf

To

C. Gonne Esquire
Secretary to Government
Bombay

British Residency

Bushire 23rd December 1865

Sir

During my absence in
England the Civil Surgeon attached to
this Residency wrote a letter direct to
Government accusing me of having
assured him that he should assume
charge of my duties and of having in-
formed him of the line of policy he
ought to pursue.

2 It does not appear that As-
sistant Surgeon Colvill supported this
assertions by producing my letter
to him either in original or in
Copy or that he gave to this office
either

either at the time or subsequently
any intimation of the correspondence
he was carrying on. Nor was it
until after my return to India,
when in obedience to Government

No 2615 dated 18th October 1865 instructions in
Political Department forming myself
of what had passed during my ab-
sence. that I discovered the un-
founded charges that had been
made against me

3 It seems on all accounts
proper that I should now supply
a copy of my letter to Assistant
Surgeon Colvill. I have accordingly
caused an authenticated copy to
be made of the original in the pre-
sence of Assistant Surgeon Colvill,
and I have now the honor to enclose
that copy

4 Government will observe
that in my letter to Assistant Surgeon
Colvill I used the word "again". The
facts of the case ^{being} briefly as follows—

5 Proposing to proceed on
privilege leave to Bombay in May
1864

②

1864 I suggested Dr. Colvill's name
to conduct the current duties on
my responsibility. Just before starting
however circumstances occurred
which induced me to doubt
whether I should be justified in
leaving him in charge I resolved
therefore to forego my leave Dr. Colvill
thereupon expressed so much sorrow
for the past and assurances so
strong for the future that I consented
to place him in charge. On
my return to Bushire I found
much disharmony, and the
Telegraph Department so discontented
that it was doubtful if they would
remain subsequently the Assistant
Surgeon went on quietly and when
after some months I meditated ab-
sence on leave to England I
informed him that I should be
glad if he had an opportunity
of acting if only I could feel a
reasonable assurance that matters
would

would not fall into confusion. Some
time afterwards D. Colvill uselessly
insulted one of my Establishment
at a critical moment and showed
himself during my journey into
Arabia so destitute of the qualities
necessary for that description of
work that I could not conceal from
myself that he was an officer
ill suited to the Political department

6 Finally when submitting
to Government the names of such
officers as were available in the
Gulf for conducting my duties
during my proposed absence
in Europe I mentioned the
names of Assistant Surgeon Colvill
and my lieutenanted Assistant.

The latter on account of his long
experience and thorough conversance
with the routine of my office. The
former as that of an English
officer whose general position
tended to point him out as a
lieutenant

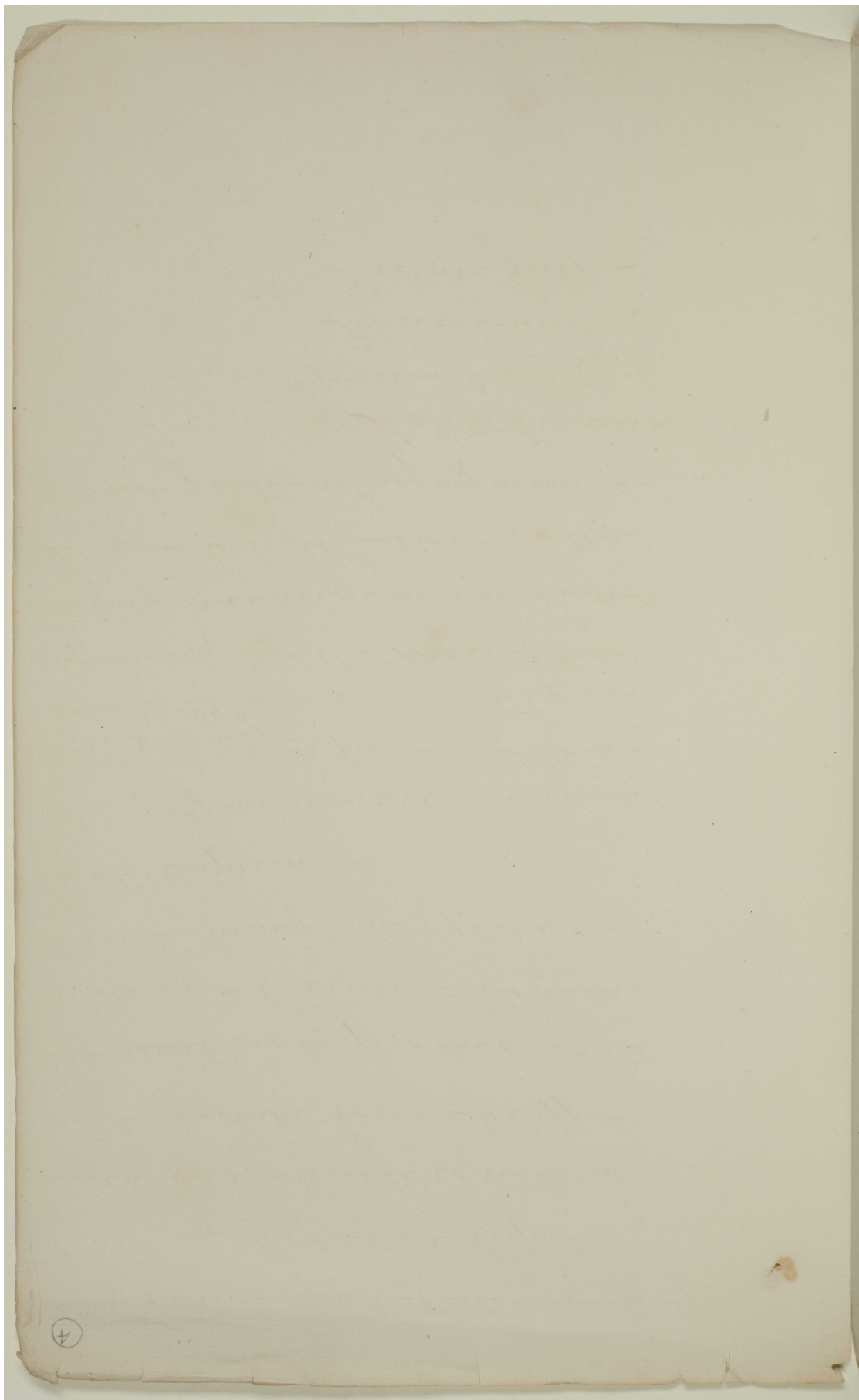
Copy of letter No.57 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to
Government, Bombay [3v] (6/10)

accusation against his immediate and official Superior
Such subordinate is in honor and in duty bound to support his assertions by producing the note and to submit his accusation through the office of that Superior -

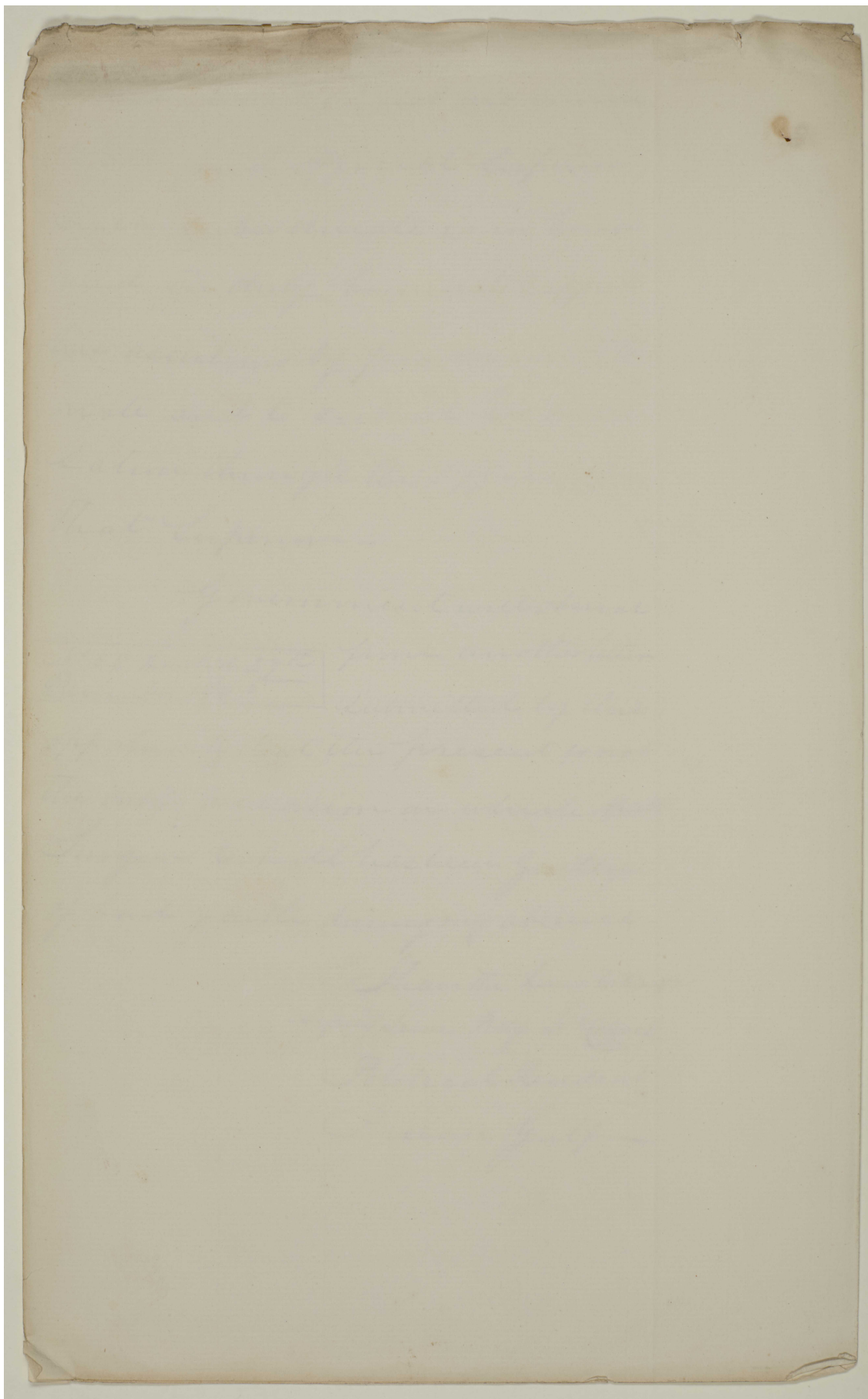
Government will observe
No 58 Dated 27th December 1865 from another letter submitted by this opportunity that the present is not the only occasion on which Mr. Surgeon Calvill has been guilty of bad faith during my absence -

I have the honor to be
Signed Lewis Pelly Lt-Colonel
Political Resident
Persian Gulf

Copy of letter No.57 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to
Government, Bombay [4r] (7/10)

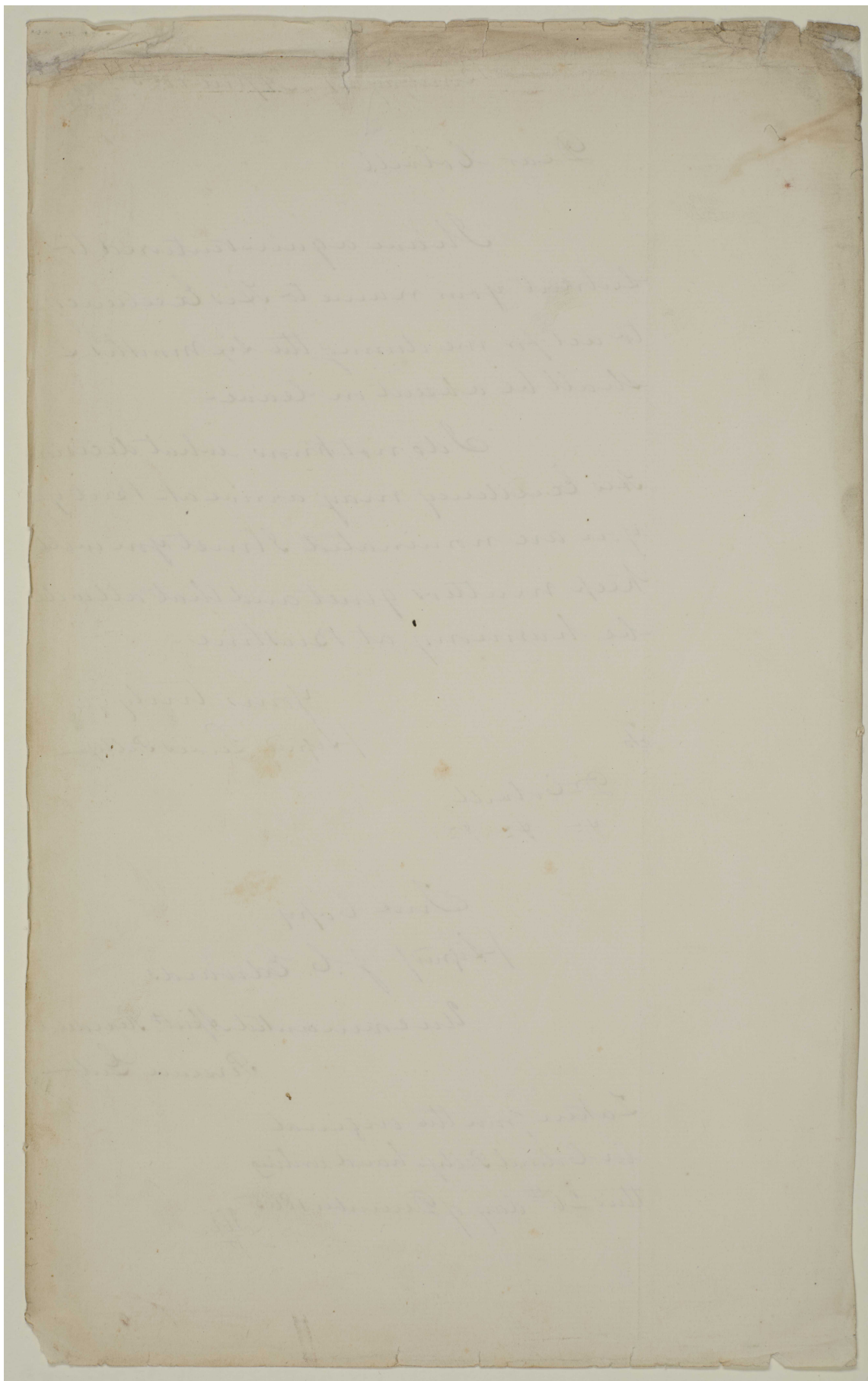


Copy of letter No.57 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to
Government, Bombay [4v] (8/10)



Dear Sir
 I have again ventured to
 submit your name to His Excellency
 to act for me during the 12 months &
 shall be absent on leave -
 I do not know what decision
 His Excellency may arrive at - but if
 you are nominated I trust you will
 keep matters quiet and that all will
 be harmony at Bahrine -
 Yours truly
 J. Pelly
 Deputy Secy to Govt
 J. Pelly
 Taken from the original
 in Pelly's handwriting
 this 26th day of December 1865
 J. Pelly
 The enclosed is for the
 Deputy Secy to Govt
 J. Pelly

Copy of letter No.57 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to
Government, Bombay [5v] (10/10)



Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government,
Bombay [6r] (1/26)

3
of immediately before standing
ment
they were chiefly in the secret de-
proceedings in connection with the
was about to take with me that the
Regard, & explained to the two officers &
when starting for the Hatcher's Capital
2
At the beginning of the year
meet the following circumstances
have to bring under notice of govern-
It is with great regret that I
Dr.
British Academy
Bombay
Secretary to Government
to Gonne Esquire
Dr.
The Political Resident in India
Pelly
From
No 58 of 1865

Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government,
Bombay [6v] (2/26)

circumstances occurred which induced me, to doubt whether it would be prudent to allow Assistant Surgeon Colvill to accompany me. He solemnly assured me however that "neither by word nor deed would he give me a moment's anxiety" I there consented to take him on condition of his confining his attention to his medical duties; and I again instructed him to consider "all proceedings in relation to my journey as in the secret department."

14 While in England, I received from the Secretary to the Royal Geographical Society thirty nine sheets of manuscript written in form as for printing and purporting to be extracts from three letters received by a correspondent from Assistant Surgeon Colvill. The Secretary desired to know if I would consent to the publication of all or any of these notes. On perusal I found them to contain a journal,
in

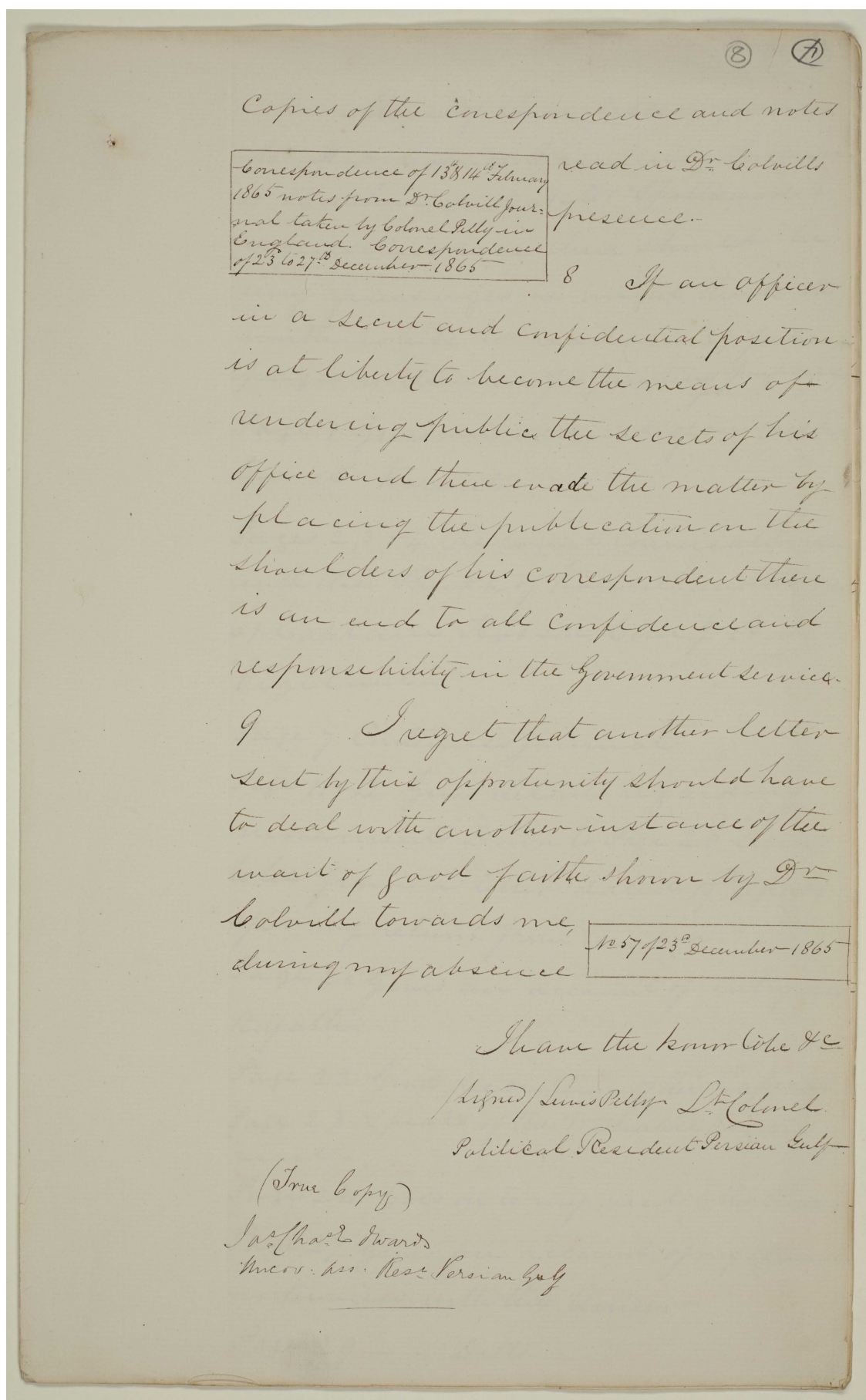
"As far as the question of the
 directness or indirectly to any news
 that he may in his like note either
 to the question of replying
 to a confidential in England and my
 to a confidential in England and my
 for the information of Government
 Assistant Surgeon to the office in
 On return to Russia, requested
 prohibited me from making further
 city to political matters, which they had
 have expressed that I was giving further
 "active" otherwise the India Office might
 that "I had been duly and officially
 writer of the Review was carried to state
 Edinburgh Review for October 1865. The
 same journal, inserted at page 515 of the
 was allocated to an extract from the
 I have given my attention
 of course to the direction their publication
 proceedings while in India. I should
 movement, confidential, and political
 was acquainted with them, of my
 in the past Assistant Surgeon to the
 (7) (8)

Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government,
Bombay [7v] (4/26)

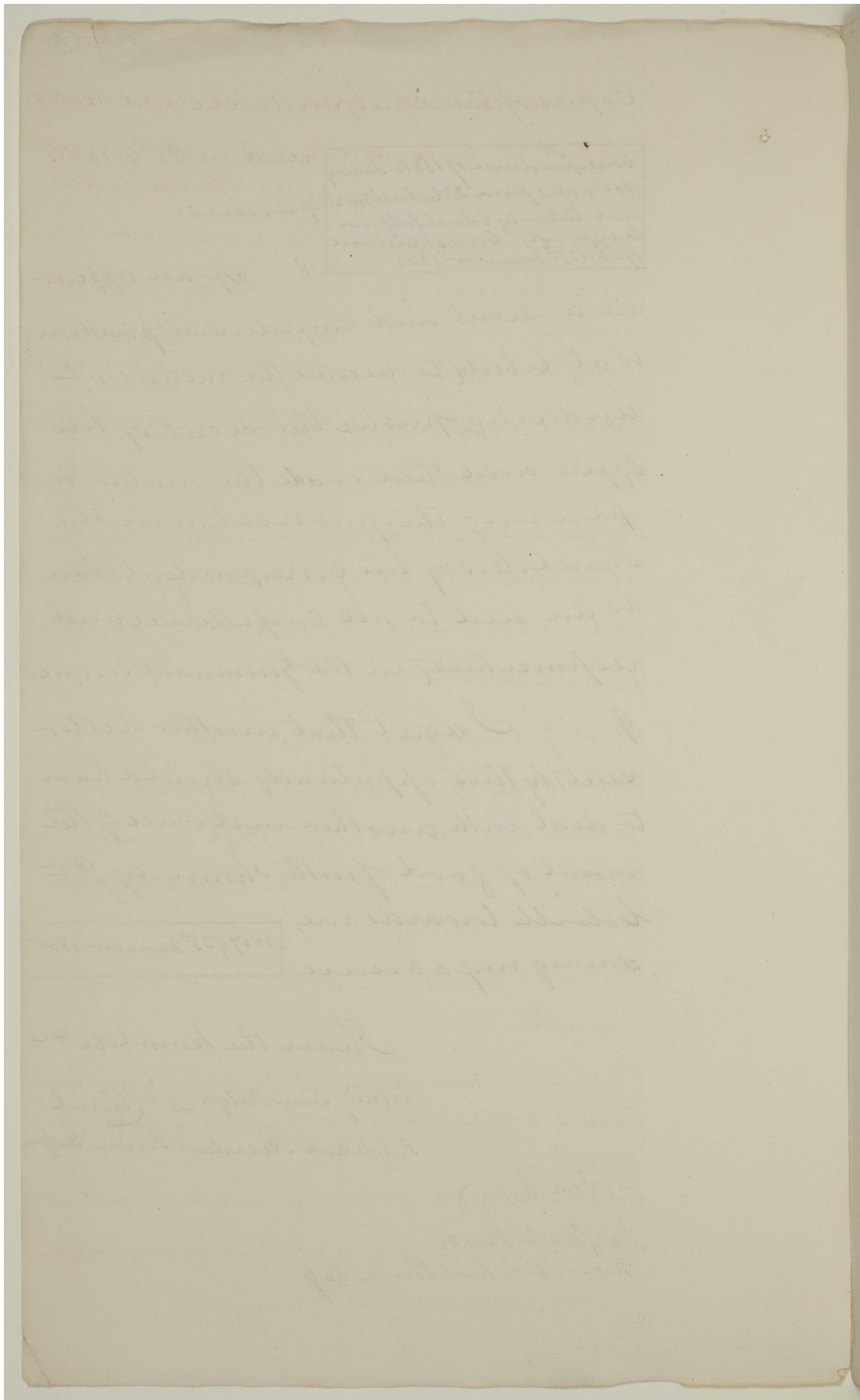
I thereupon, requested Assistant
Surgeon Colvill to attend at my
office, and after reading over to
him the appended summary of
his journal, I again put the
question to him, when he at once
confessed that he had written the
notes read over to him to his nearest
relation, and that he was not aware
of their having been communicated
to any journal, or newspaper.

7 It will I think, be obvious
to Government that the accusation
I make against Assistant Surgeon
Colvill is not that of communicating
to any newspaper, but of having
journalized and written to a
correspondent notes of my official
proceedings which he knew to be
secret and confidential and of
which he had gained cognizance
only on the understanding that he
so considered them. I append
Copies

Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government,
Bombay [8r] (5/26)



Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government,
Bombay [8v] (6/26)



Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government,
Bombay [9r] (7/26)

9 2
Memo of three letters from
Mr H. H. Colvill Residency Surgeon
at Bushire sent at Mr Spottiswood's
request in case there should be
any passages he might think it
worth while to read (in 39 foolscap
pages written as for printing purposes)
Page 1 gives an account of our recep-
tion at Koweit.

Pages 2, 3 & 4. Recount conversations
with the Sheikh of Koweit. and the visit
of Captain Hobson Comd of H.M.S.
"Vigilant"

Page 7 Continues journal

Page 11 & 12 gives details regarding
movements Down to Page 20 seems
to be from a letter dated 19th April
after my return from Arabia.

Page 20 gives an account of entry into
Rujath.

Page 22 gives description of the Capital

Page 23 Speaks of the Wahabee Viziers
visit.

Page 24 goes on to my visit to the Ameer.

Page 27 gives an account of my official
interview with the Ameer.

Page 29 — Ditto —

Page 31

Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government,
Bombay [9v] (8/26)

Page 31 Description of the Ameer's habits
and to P 22 details of Colvill's being
detected smoking

Page 32 retails what I men-
tioned to Dr Colvill of my second
visit to the Ameer, and makes most
unjust reflections on my Inter-
preter who was essentially useful
to me

Page 33 goes on to describe other
details at Rijatte

Page 35 states my supposed inten-
tion of visiting other parts of Kuzol-

Page 36 Describes my difficulties
in leaving Rijatte

Page 37 Describes the departure in
Dr Colvill's manner

Pages 38 & 39 Describes my return
journey and communicates astro-
nomical observations-

/signed/ Lewis Pelly Lt Colonel

Political Resident

Persian Gulf

Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government,
Bombay [10r] (9/26)

(10) Q

St. James Club

St. James Street

14th August 1865

Dear Sir

Having pursued the Journal
transmitted to England by Dr. Colvill
recently attached to my secret and
political journey to Ryasdh, I find
it contains notes in some points
erroneous of proceedings and con-
versations at which Dr. Colvill was
present as attached to my staff

Having myself observed
and enjoined on my subordinates
the rules of office in regard to my
official journey, I cannot sanction,
or in any way become a party to the
publication of all or any portion of
this Journal

As it would appear from Dr.
Colvill's mode of expression that he was
in joint direction of the expedition,
I

Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government,
Bombay [10v] (10/26)

I would remark that he had nothing
whatsoever to do either with its pre-
paration, management or respon-
sibility. He like every one else around
me had deemed the trip imprac-
ticable and wrote to me that he
could not think what the Colonel
was thinking about in attempting it.

At the last moment I con-
sented to take him. He went as
my guest and under assurances
of the strictest confidence.

Yours truly
Signed Louis Pelly

Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government,
Bombay [11r] (11/26)

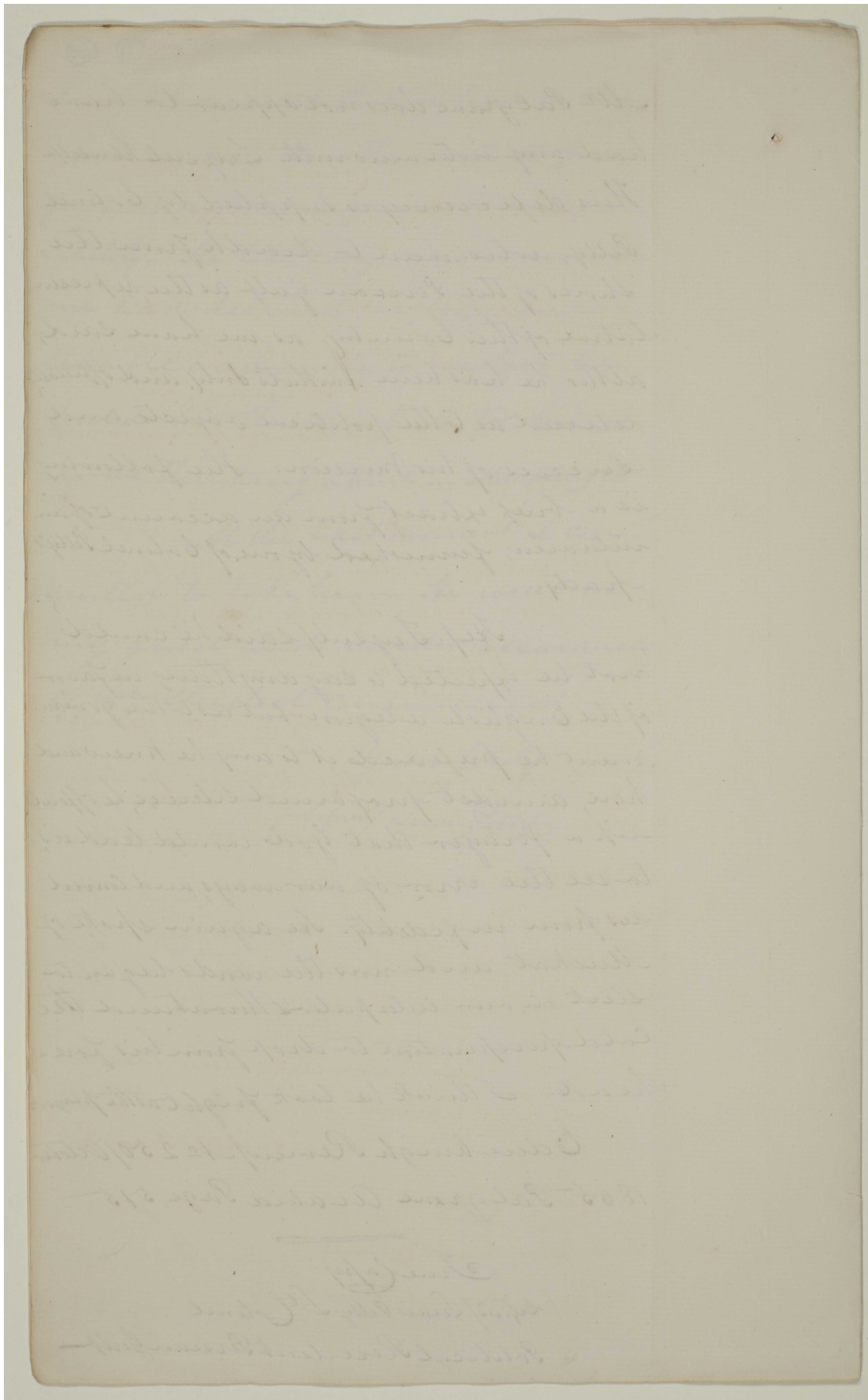
(11) (20)
Mr Palgrave does not appear to have
had any interview with Laysul himself.
This deficiency is supplied by Colonel
Pelly, who went to Raddah from the
shores of the Persian Gulf as the represen-
tative of this country, as we have said,
altho he has been hitherto only and officially
reticent as to the political objects and
success of his mission. The following
is a brief extract from an account of an
interview, furnished by one of Colonel Pelly's
party.

He/ Laysul/ said he could
not be expected to say anything in favor
of the English religion but as to the Govern-
ment he preferred it to any he knew and
here, amidst profound silence, he offered
up a prayer that God would lead us
to see the error of our ways, and convert
us from infidelity. He again spoke of
Muskat and now the words began to
stick in our interpreter's throat and the
cold perspiration to drop from his fore-
head. I think he took fright at the prayer.

Edinburgh Review/ 12 50/ October
1865- Palgrave Arabia Page 575

True Copy
Signed/ Lewis Pelly Lt Colonel
Political Resident Persian Gulf

Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government,
Bombay [11v] (12/26)



Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government,
Bombay [12r] (13/26)

(12) (11)

From

Lieutenant Colonel Lewis Pelly
A.B.M. Political Resident Persian Gulf

To

Assistant Surgeon Colvill
Civil Surgeon Residency
Persian Gulf

Dated Kuwait 13th February 1865

Sir

My Interpreter Mr Lucas has
shown me an order received by him
from you. I enclose a copy of it.

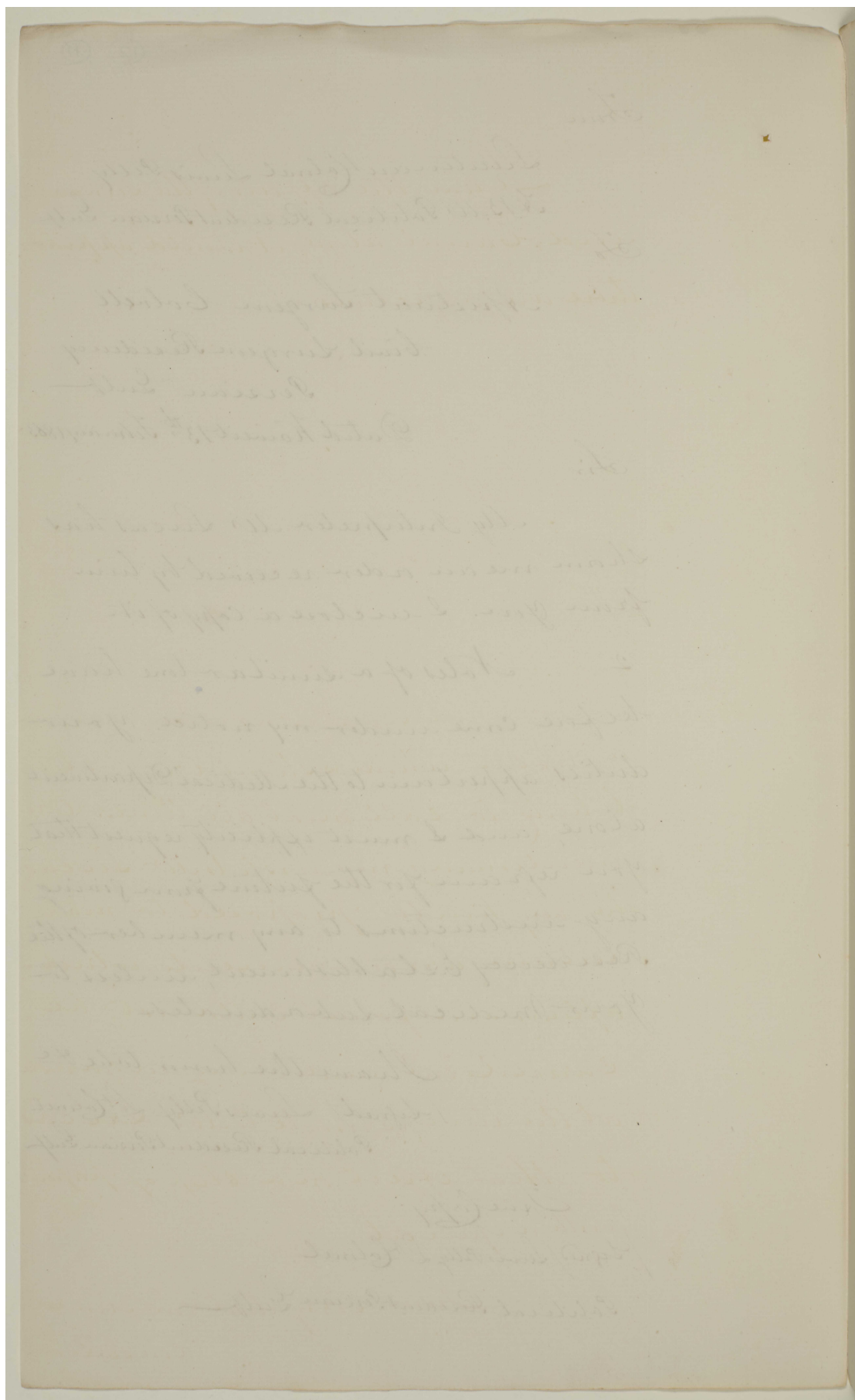
2 Notes of a similar tone have
before come under my notice. Your
duties appertain to the Medical Department
alone, and I must explicitly request that
you refrain for the future from giving
any instructions to any member of the
Residency Establishment, unless to
your Medical Subordinates

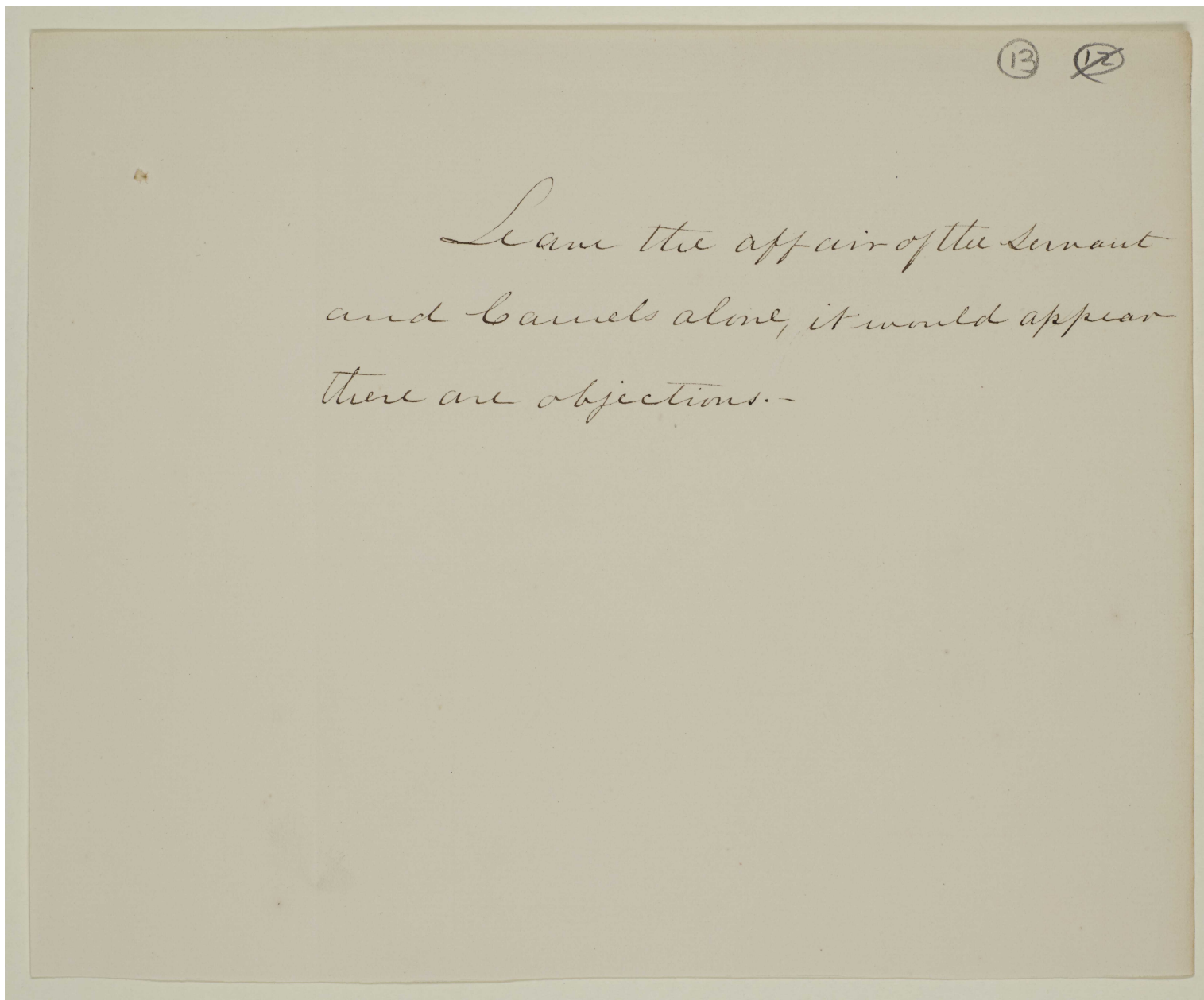
I have the honor to be &c
/signed/ Lewis Pelly Lt Colonel
Political Resident Persian Gulf

True Copy

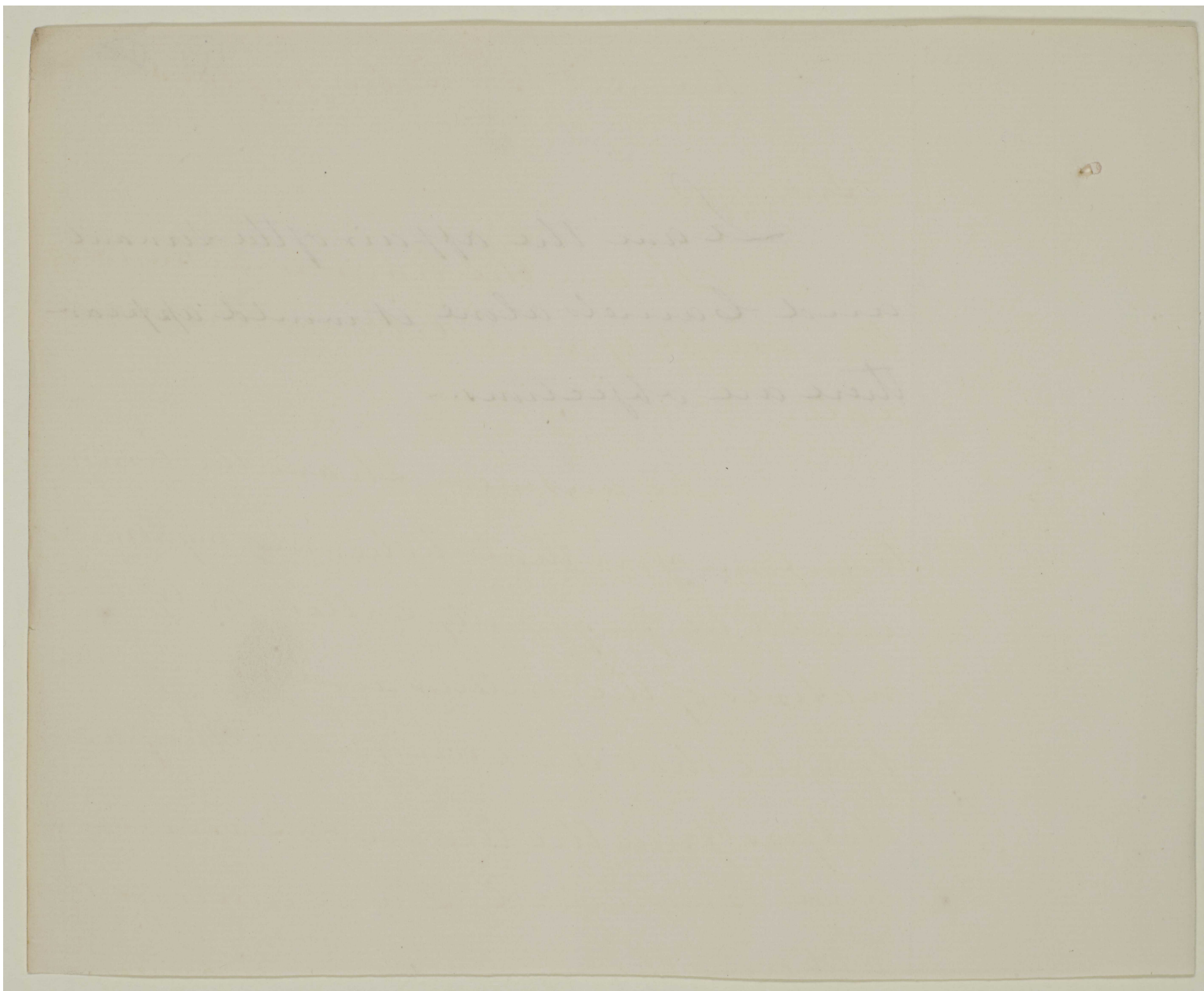
/signed/ Lewis Pelly Lt Colonel
Political Resident Persian Gulf

Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government,
Bombay [12v] (14/26)





Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government, Bombay [13v] (16/26)



Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government,
Bombay [14r] (17/26)

Koweit 13th February 1865 (13)
(14)

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your letter of this day's
date.

In answer, I have the honor
to inform you that believing my services
would be frequently called for by the
natives of the interior and being in-
formed that the language they use
differs from the Arabic of Bassorah
and Baghdad. I was anxious to
obtain the services as interpreter, of
a man whom I should feel at
liberty to call on at all times. On
mentioning my wish to Mr Lucas
he very kindly proposed to make
certain arrangements which I
afterwards found could not be
carried out and being engaged
at the time, I wrote to Mr Lucas
to that effect on a slip of paper
with a pencil

I am sorry that you should
consider

Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government,
Bombay [14v] (18/26)

consider the writing on the slip of
paper had any thing whatever
in it of an order or that it at all
referred to Mr Lucas as your
interpreter, the whole being a
private conversation simply between
one man and another

I have the ^{honor} to be &c
Signed/ W. H. Colvill
Civil Surgeon

To
Lieut Colonel Pelly
Resident & Consul General
Persian Gulf

Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government,
Bombay [15r] (19/26)

(15) (14)

From Lieutenant Colonel Lewis Pelly
H.B. Mr Political Resident Persian Gulf

To Assistant Surgeon W. H. Colvill
Civil Surgeon Residency Persian Gulf

Dated Harveit 13th February 1865

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge

Dated 13th February 1865 letter as per margin

2 Your order to my Interpreter was of a presumptuous character, and was properly felt to be so, by him. It related entirely to a matter of very delicate official work. I cannot assent to your considering as private, arrangements made with my subordinates regarding such matters. You have no authority to give them instructions and I remind you that I have on former occasions received complaints of your addressing both the Residency and the Telegraphic Establishments in a tone similar with that which I now disapprove.

I

Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government,
Bombay [15v] (20/26)

3 I cannot deem it expedient
to take on my proposed journey in-
land, an officer who holds your
views

4 I request you will make
over to me from the packet which
you have prepared for my journey,
such ordinary medicines as you
may deem requisite for a party
of forty persons for a period of six weeks

5 You can at once communicate
with Captain Warner in view to lending
you the services of his Apothecary for
this purpose. Each packet should
of course be carefully docketed

6 I shall require this
packet by Sunday morning
16th Instant. Captain Warner
will place a boat at your
disposal if you have occasion
to proceed on board in view
to carrying out this instruction.

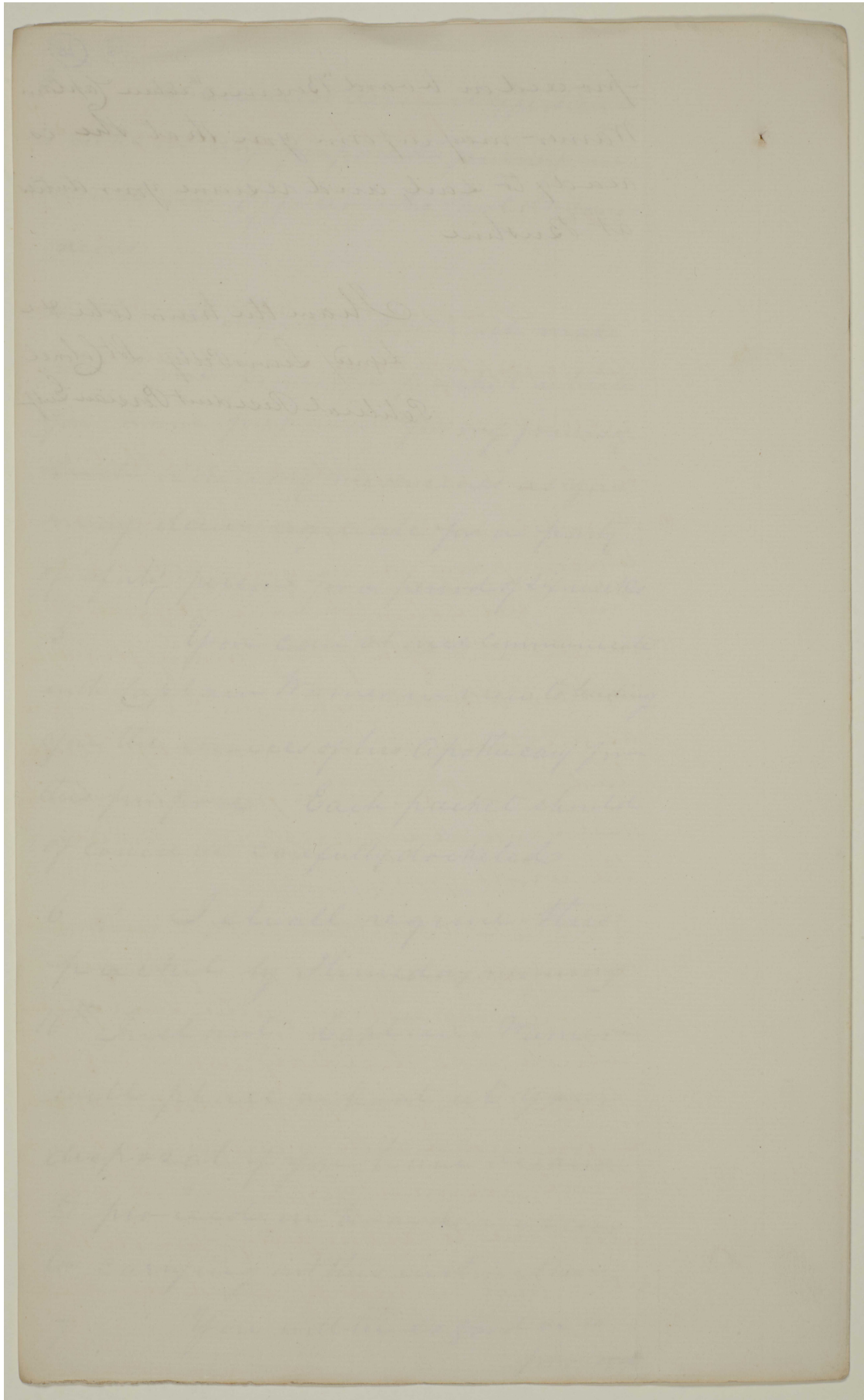
7 You will be so good as to
proceed

Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government,
Bombay [16r] (21/26)

(16) (18)
proceed on board "Berenice" when Captain
Warner may inform you that she is
ready to sail, and resume your duties
at Bushire

I have the honor to be &c
/signed/ Lewis Pelly Lt Colonel
Political Resident Persian Gulf

Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government,
Bombay [16v] (22/26)



Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government,
Bombay [17r] (23/26)

(17) (18)

Kuwait 14th February 1865

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your second letter of
yesterday's date.

2 It is with deep regret that you
do not consider it expedient to allow me
to accompany you on your proposed
tour, yet I should have begged of you
on the strength of our many journeyings
together to try me for this one I look upon
as an event in any man's life time,
had I not gathered from your letter
that I should possibly endanger
the whole party-

3 I trust you will allow me to
express extreme regret for my proceedings
of yesterday not only for the slip of paper
which was decidedly wrong, but also
for the highly improper letter which
I forwarded with reference to it, and
I feel assured if you would only
allow me to accompany you on this
trip, that neither by word nor deed
will

Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government,
Bombay [17v] (24/26)

will I give you a moments anxiety-

I have the honor to be &c

Signed/ W. G. Colnill

Civil Surgeon

To

Lieut. Colonel Pelly

Resident & Consul General

Persian Gulf

Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government,
Bombay [18r] (25/26)

18 17
To Lieutenant Colonel Lewis Pelly
H.B. No Political Resident Persian Gulf

W. H. Calvert Esquire
Civil Surgeon - Presidency Buxhine
Kornet 14th February 1865

Sir

Under your present assurances I shall be happy to see you accompanying me to Riyadh -

2 If without attracting attention you can collect specimens of any of the few flowers and rocks we may meet en route, I shall be happy to transmit them to Government, But no risk of attracting attention should be incurred on such account. You cannot be too careful in avoiding asking questions or otherwise awakening suspicion on the part of the natives -

3 Your duty unless on my special direct request on this journey

Letter No.58 of 1865 from Pelly to Charles Gonne, Secretary to Government,
Bombay [18v] (26/26)

journey will be the medical care
of my camp -

All proceedings in relation
to this journey are in the secret de-
partment

I have the honor to be &c
/signed/ Lewis Pelly Lt Colonel
Political Resident Persian Gulf

Letter No.100 of 1865 from Pelly to Dr William Henry Colvill, the Residency
Surgeon in Bushire [19r] (1/4)

No 100 of 1865

(19) (18)

From Lieutenant Colonel Lewis Pelly
A.D. His Political Resident Persian Gulf
To Assistant Surgeon W. H. Colvill
Civil Surgeon - Bushire Residency

British Residency

Bushire 23rd December 1865

Sir

Referring to correspondence

My letter of 13 th February 1865 your reply of same date my rejoinder of same date your letter of 14 th February 1865 and my reply of same date	as per margin containing my instructions to you "to consider all proceedings in
---	---

in relation to my journey to Nizadh
as in the secret department together
with your solemn official assurance
"to me that "if I would only allow you
"to accompany me on the trip that
"neither by word nor deed would
"you give me a moment's anxiety" I
have now the honor to inform you that
when in England I received from
the Secretary to the Geographical So-
ciety a letter requesting permission to

Letter No.100 of 1865 from Pelly to Dr William Henry Colvill, the Residency
Surgeon in Bushire [19v] (2/4)

to publish some notes which had been
received as emanating from you
relative to Arabia, I inferred that
the notes in question related to the
medical duties to which you were
explicitly limited by me - and I
was therefore in the first instance
about to accede to the request. -

But on reconsideration I deemed
it prudent to peruse the notes and I found
them to contain summaries in so far as
you were acquainted with them, of
my political proceedings and interviews
2 I append the reply which I then
addressed to the Secretary in regard to your notes -

My attention has more recently
been attracted to an extract from these notes
published in the Edinburgh Review for
October I request you will submit for the
information of Government any expla-
-nation you may have to offer in defence
of your journalizing and communicating
to your correspondents in England notes
of my secret and confidential political
proceedings -

I am the honor to be &c
Signed Lewis Pelly Colonel
Political Resident Persian Gulf

Letter No.100 of 1865 from Pelly to Dr William Henry Colvill, the Residency
Surgeon in Bushire [20r] (3/4)

(20) 100

From Assistant Surgeon W. H. Colvill
Civil Surgeon Bushire
To Lieutenant Colonel Lewis Pelly
H. B. M. Political Resident Eastern Gulf
Bushire 27th December 1865
Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your letter
dated as per margin.

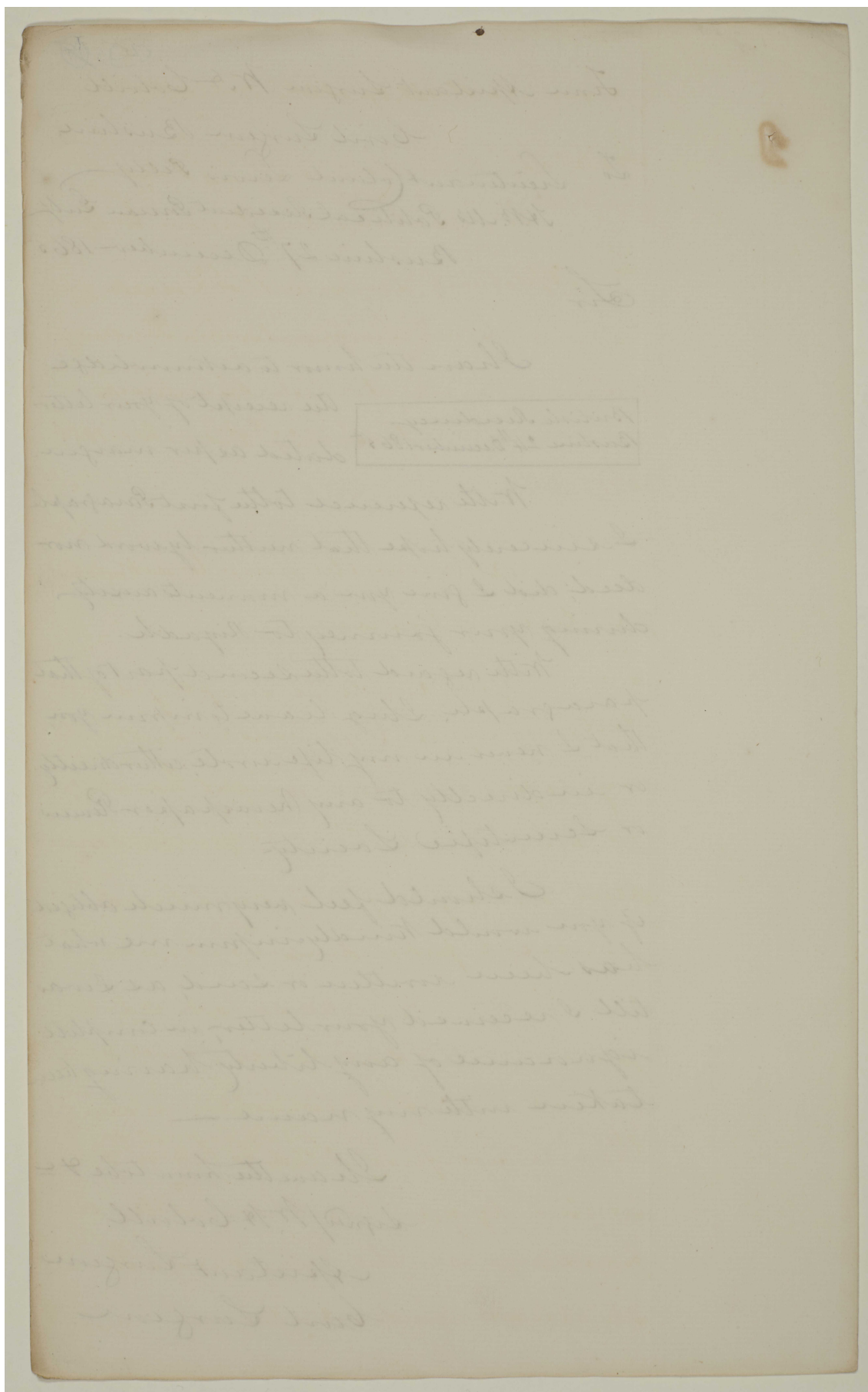
With reference to the first Paragraph
I sincerely hope that neither by word nor
deed, did I give you a moment's anxiety
during your journey to Riyadh.

With regard to the second part of that
paragraph, I beg leave to inform you,
that I never in my life wrote, either directly
or indirectly to any Newspaper Review
or Scientific Society.

I should feel very much obliged
if you would kindly inform me what
has been written or said, as I was,
till I received your letter, in complete
ignorance of any liberty having been
taken with my name.

I have the honor to be &c
Signed W. H. Colvill
Assistant Surgeon
Civil Surgeon

Letter No.100 of 1865 from Pelly to Dr William Henry Colvill, the Residency
Surgeon in Bushire [20v] (4/4)



(21) (20)

No 110 of 1865

From Lieutenant Colonel Lewis Pelly
Political Resident Persian Gulf

To Assistant Surgeon W. H. Colvill
Civil Surgeon - Bushire Residency
British Residency
Bushire 27th December 1865

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge
your letter of this day -

2 You evade the simple question
put; my request to you was to submit
any explanation you might have to offer
for communicating to your correspon-
dent notes of my secret and confidential
political proceedings in Arabia.

3 You will be so good as to
appear in the Residency office at 2
o'clock this afternoon when notes of
three letters purported to have been
written by you together with a
passage in the Edinburgh Review
shall be read over to you - you
will

Letter No.110 of 1865 from Pelly to Dr William Henry Colvill, Residency Surgeon
at Bushire [21v] (2/4)

will then be so good as to state yes,
or no, whether you have or have not
communicated to one or more persons
by letters or otherwise remarks to
the effect communicated in those
notes -

Having during my journey
to Riyadh on more than one occasion
animadverted to you directly on
your conduct, I deem it unneces-
sary in the present place to reply
to your second Para-

I have the honor to be &c
/ Signed / Lewis Pelly Lt Colonel
Political Resident
Persian Gulf

(22) (28)
Bushire 27th December 1865

Substance of the statement
of Assistant Surgeon Colvill given
in the presence of the British Political
Resident Gulf (Lieutenant Colonel Lewis
Pelly / Captain F. W. Warner - commanding
"Peregrine" and Mr J. C. Edwards Inco-
-munated Assistant Resident, relative
to his having communicated to his
correspondents in England notes of
Colonel Pelly's trip to Nizadk.

Read. correspondence between
Colonel Pelly and Dr. Colvill of 13th & 14th
February 1865

Read. notes transmitted by Dr.
Colvill to England of his journal
from a copy taken word for word from a
copy shown Colonel Pelly in England -

Read. an extract from the Edin-
burgh Review for October 1865 -

Read. correspondence between
Colonel Pelly and Dr. Colvill of 23rd and 27th
December 1865

Dr. Colvill was then asked by
Colonel Lewis Pelly whether he had
written the journal just read to
him, and at once stated. "There is not
the

Letter No.110 of 1865 from Pelly to Dr William Henry Colvill, Residency Surgeon
at Bushire [22v] (4/4)

"the slightest doubt that it (meaning
"notes read by Colonel Pelly as above)
"was what I wrote to my nearest relation
"at home. I confess it at once. But I had
"no idea to the present moment that
"it had been communicated to
"any Journal or Newspaper whatever,
"and it was without my wish."

Colonel Pelly asked Dr. Colvill
whether he had any explanation to
give as to his having communicated
proceedings that he was officially
requested to keep secret.

Dr. Colvill stated he had no
explanation to give except that what
he did write was simply what he
expressed before—

Signed/ H. W. Warner
Comdg H. M. Stⁿ "Berenice"

Signed/ F. C. Edwards
Quar^{tr} Master Resident
Persian Gulf—

MS. Eur. F. 126, Box 3
From Lieutenant Colonel Lewis Pelly,
H. B. M's Political Resident Persia.
To Assistant Surgeon Colvill, (23) (22)
Civil Surgeon Residency Persian Gulf.
Dated Koweit 13th February 1855.

Sir,

My Interpreter Mr Lucas
has shown me an order received by him
from you. I enclose a copy of it.

2. Notes of a similar tone have
before come under my notice. Your duties
appertain to the Medical Department
alone. And I must explicitly request
that you refrain for the future from giving
any instructions to any member of
the Residency Establishment, unless to
your medical subordinates.

I have the honor to be Y^{rs}

W. H. Colvill

H. B. M's Political Resident Persia.

Leave the affair of the servant and
camels alone, it would appear there are
objections.

Koweit

Koweit 13th February 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this day's date.

2. In answer I have the honor to inform you that believing my services would be frequently called for by the natives of the interior, and being informed that the language they use differs from the Arabic of Busorrah and Baghidad, I was anxious to obtain the services, as interpreter, of a man whom I should feel at liberty to call on at all times. On mentioning my wish to Mr Lucas he very kindly proposed to make certain arrangements which I afterwards found could not be carried out, and being engaged at the time I wrote to Mr Lucas to that effect on a slip of paper with a pencil.

3. I am sorry that you should consider the writing on the slip of paper had any thing whatever in it of an order, or that it at all referred to Mr Lucas as your interpreter, the whole being a private conversation simply between one man
and

and another. I leave the honor to be ⁽²⁴⁾ ⁽²⁵⁾ _{signed} W^m H. Colvill,
Civil Surgeon.

To Lieutenant Colonel Pelly,
Resident & Consul General Pers. Gulf.

From Lieutenant Colonel Lewis Pelly,
H. B. M.'s Political Resident Pers. Gulf.
To Assistant Surgeon W. H. Colvill,
Civil Surgeon Residency Persian Gulf.
Dated Noweit 13th February 1865

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge your letter as per margin.

Dated 13th February 1865. 2. Your order to my interpreter was of a peremptory character, and was properly felt to be so by him. It related entirely to a matter of very delicate official work. I cannot apent to your considering as private arrangements made with my subordinates regarding such matters. You have no authority to give them instructions, and I remind you that I have on former occasions received complaints of your addressing both the Residency and the Telegraphic Establishments in a tone similar with that which I now disapprove.

3.

3. I cannot deem it expedient to take on any proposed journey inland, an Officer who holds your views.
4. I request you will make over to me from the Packet which you have prepared for any journey, such ordinary medicines as you may deem requisite for a party of forty persons for a period of six weeks.
5. You can at once communicate with Captain Warner in view to lending you the services of his Apothecary for this purpose. Each Packet should of course be carefully docketed.
6. I shall require this Packet by Thursday morning 16th Instant. Captain Warner will place a boat at your disposal if you have occasion to proceed on board in view to carrying out this instruction.
7. You will be so good as to proceed on board "Peruvie" when Captain Warner may inform you that she is ready to sail, and resume your duties at Buslive.

I have the honor to be *Y^{rs}*

W^m H Colvill

H. B. M.'s Political Resident B. G.

From

2.
From Lieutenant Colonel Lewis Pelly,
H. B. M. Political Resident Pers. Gulf
To Captain H. W. Warner, (25) (26)
Commanding H. B. M. Political R. S.
"Perseus."
Dated Noweit 13th February 1865.
Sir,
I should be glad if you would
allow your Apothecary to give his services
to Dr Colvill for the preparation of a packet
of medicine. As I shall require the
medicines by Thursday morning, I beg the
favor of your at once communicating with
Dr Colvill in view to arranging whether they
shall be prepared on board or on shore. If
on board, please place a boat at Dr Colvill's
disposal tomorrow morning.
I have the honor to be Dear Sir,
W. H. Colvill
H. B. M. Political Resident Pers. Gulf.
From

From H. W. Warner Esquire, Lt. Col.
Commanding H. M. S. "Peregrine"
B. M. for the Persian Gulf.
To Lieutenant Colonel Lewis Pelly,
H. B. M. Political Resident Pers. Gulf.
(not in the original.)

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter as per margin.
Dated Noweit 13th February 1865.

I beg leave to inform you in reply that having communicated with Dr Colvill, he states that at present no medical assistance is required from the vessel under my command.

I beg leave also to state that should any assistance on a future occasion be required it will be rendered with the greatest pleasure.

I have the honor to be Y^{rs} &c

Signed H. W. Warner, Lt. Col.
Commanding H. M. S. "Peregrine."

Dated Noweit,
14th February 1865.

Noweit.

Sir,

Koweit 14th February 1865.

(26) (28)

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your second letter of yesterday's date.

2. It is with deep regret that you do not consider it expedient to allow me to accompany you on your proposed tour, yet I should have begged of you on the strength of our many journeys together to try me for this one. I look upon as an event in any man's life time, had I not gathered from your letter that I should possibly endanger the whole party.

3. I trust you will allow me to express extreme regret for my proceedings of yesterday, not only for the slip of paper which was decidedly wrong, but also for the highly improper letter which I forwarded with reference to it, and I feel assured if you would only allow me to accompany you on this trip, that neither by word nor deed will I give you a moment's anxiety.

I have the honor to be Dear Sir,
Signed W^m H. Colvill,
Civil Surgeon.

To Lieutenant Colonel Pelly,
Resident Consul General Persian Gulf.

From Lieutenant Colonel Lewis Pelly,
H. B. M.'s Political Resident Pers. Gulf.
To Assistant Surgeon W. H. Colvill,
Civil Surgeon Residency Persian Gulf.
Dated Noweit 14th February 1865.

Sir,

Under your present assurances
I shall be happy to see you accompany me
to Rijath.

2. If without attracting attention
you can collect specimens of any of the few
flowers and rocks we may meet en route
I shall be happy to transmit them to the
Government. But no risk of attracting
attention should be incurred on such an
account. You cannot be too careful in
avoiding asking questions or otherwise
awakening suspicion on the part of the
natives.

3. Your duty unless on any
special requisition, on this journey will be
the medical charge of any camp.

4. All proceedings in relation to
this journey are in the secret Department.
I have the honor to be Y^{rs}

W. H. Colvill

H. B. M.'s Political Resident Pers. Gulf.