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## 'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government'

<b>Holding Institution</b>	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
<b>Reference</b>	IOR/F/4/190/4155
<b>Date(s)</b>	12 Oct 1798-23 Jul 1806 (CE, Gregorian)
<b>Written in</b>	English in Latin
<b>Extent and Format</b>	1 item (89 folios)
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### About this record

The item consists of correspondence regarding the situation in Muscat after the death in 1804 of the Imam Syed Sultan [Sultan bin Ahmad Al Bu Sa'id] and efforts to counter the naval activities of the Joasmee [Al-Qasimi] in the Gulf. The correspondence is particularly concerned with the capture by the Joasmee of two British ships, the *Shannon* and the *Trimmer*, and the eventual return of the *Trimmer* as part of a truce.

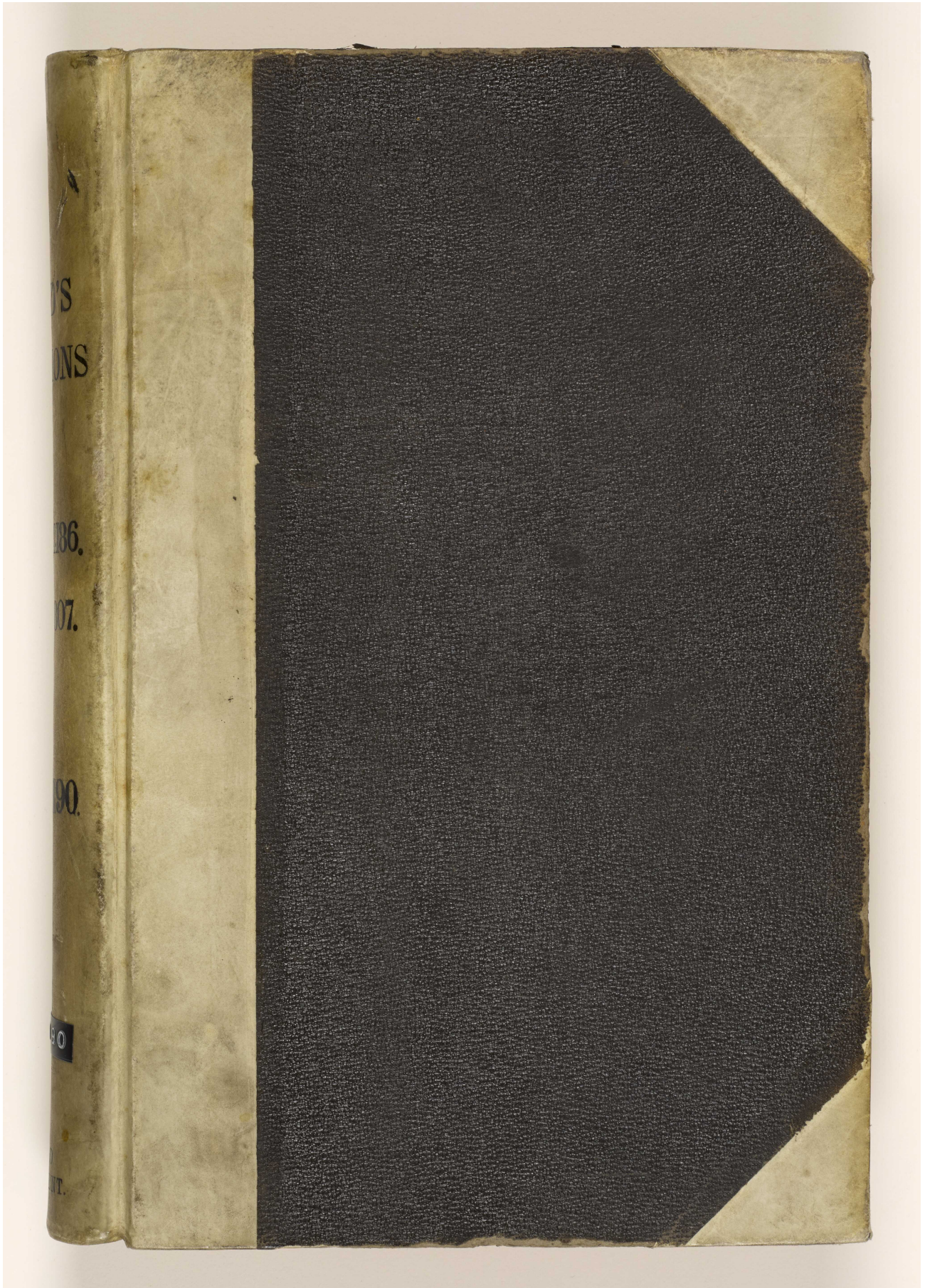
Other topics covered include:

- An attempted coup by Syed Gheiss [Qais bin Ahmad Al Bu Sa'id], the brother of the late Imam
- An Omani expedition to recover Gombroon [Bandar Abbas] from Mullah Hussain [Molla Husayn], ruler of Kishem [Qeshm]
- The establishment of a permanent Residency at Muscat.

The correspondence consists mainly of letters between the Government of Bombay and the Resident at Muscat. The other correspondents are: Mullah Hussain; Syed Gheiss; the Resident at Bussora [Basra]; the Resident at Bushire; Sultan ben Suggur [Sultan bin Saqr Al Qasimi], Emir of Sharjah; and Syed Beder [Badr bin Saif Al Bu Sa'id], Regent of Oman.

The bulk of the item dates from the years 1805 and 1806, the earlier date range includes copies of the Anglo-Omani Agreement of 1798 and an amendment to it from 1800 (ff 17-19).

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [front] (1/186)



'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [back] (2/186)



'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [spine] (3/186)



**'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [edge] (4/186)**



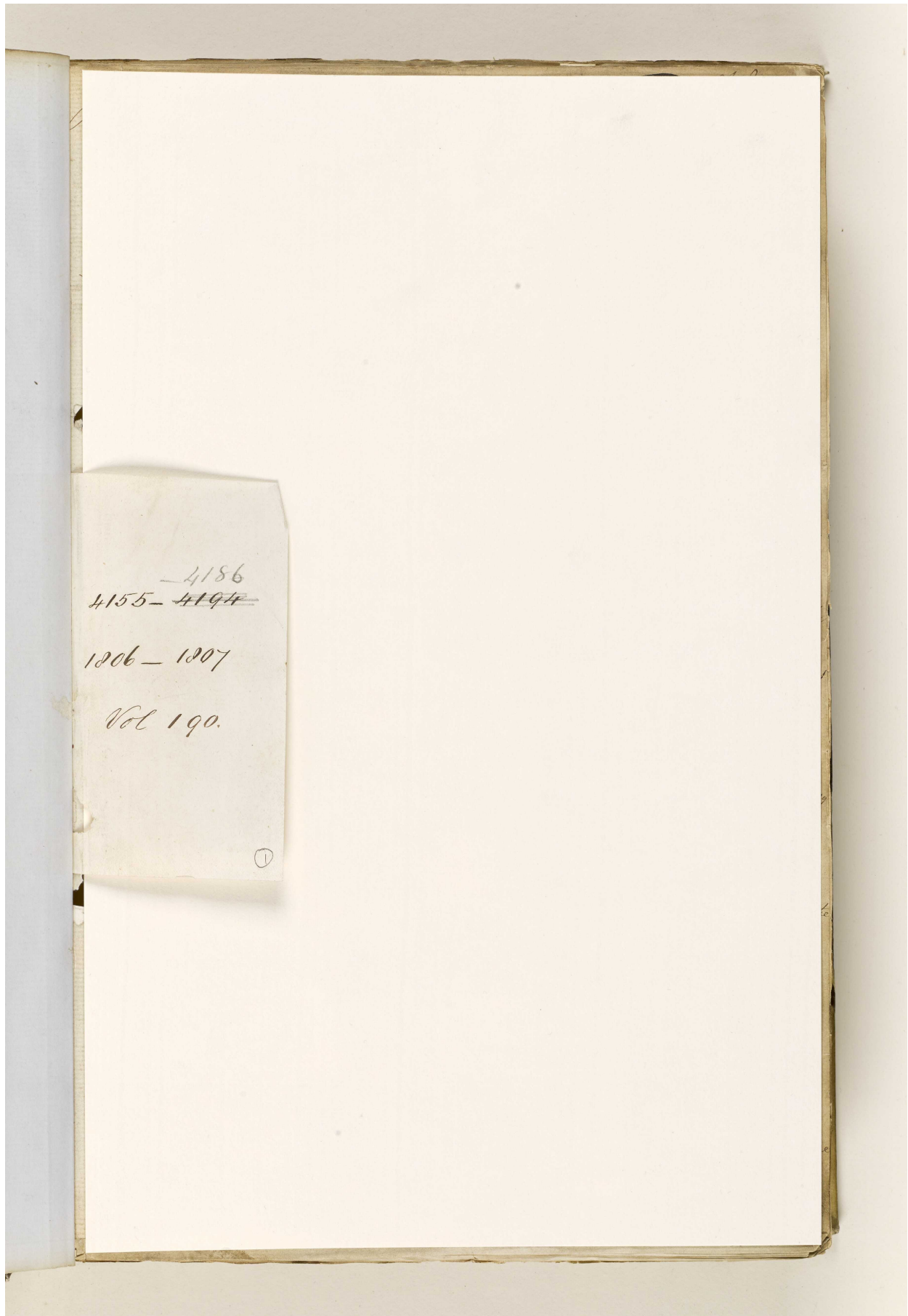
**'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [head] (5/186)**



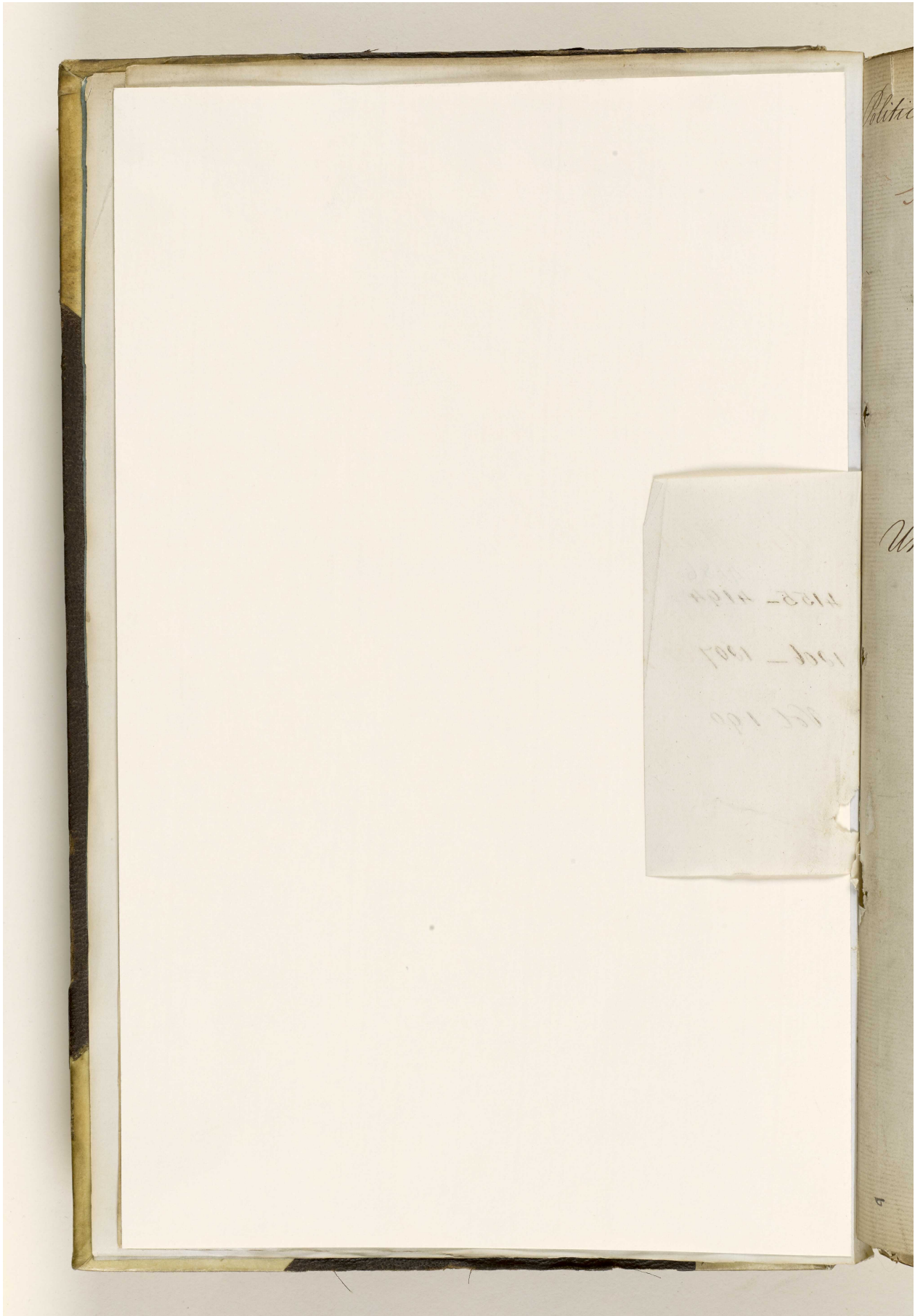
**'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [tail] (6/186)**



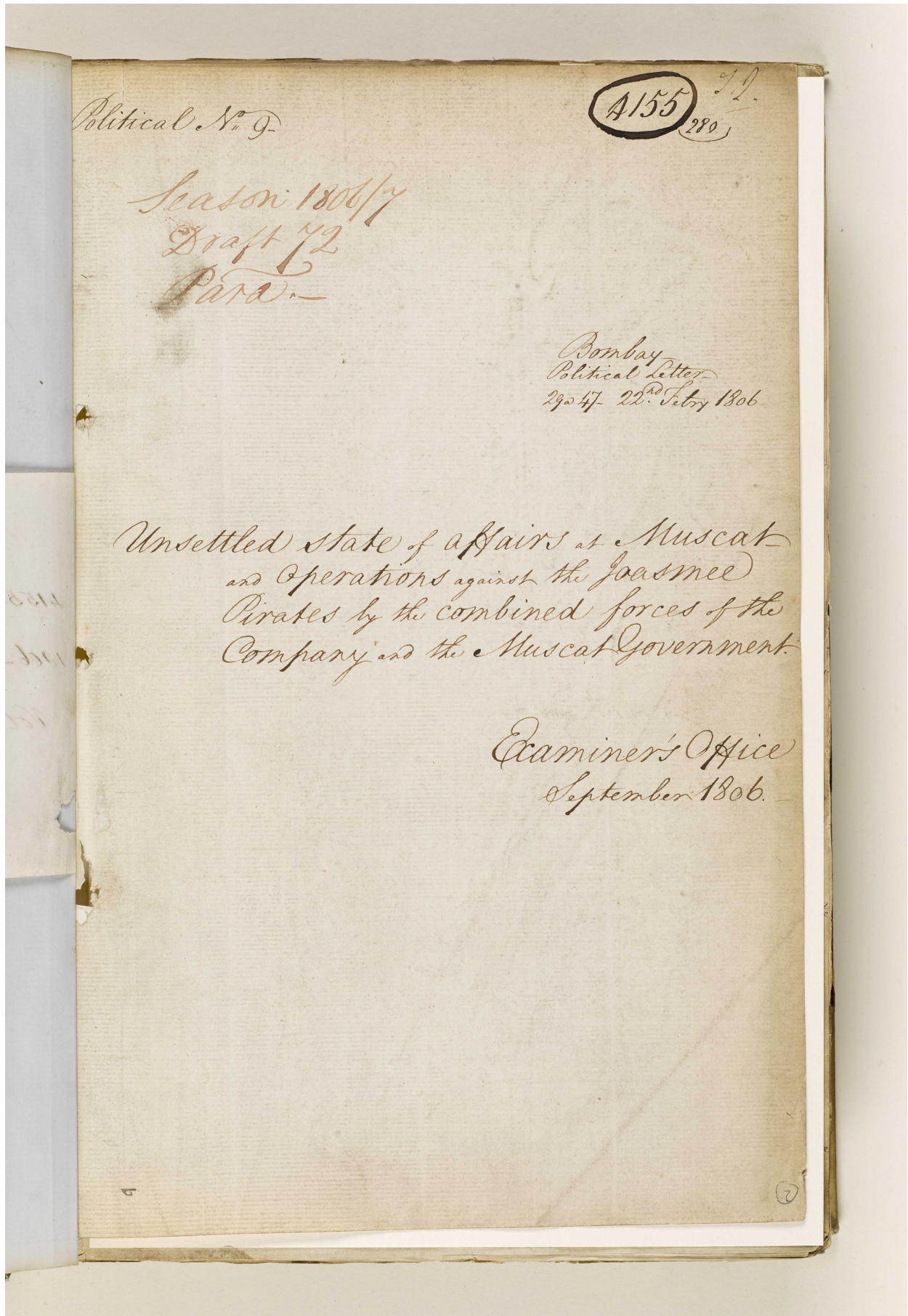
'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [1r] (7/186)



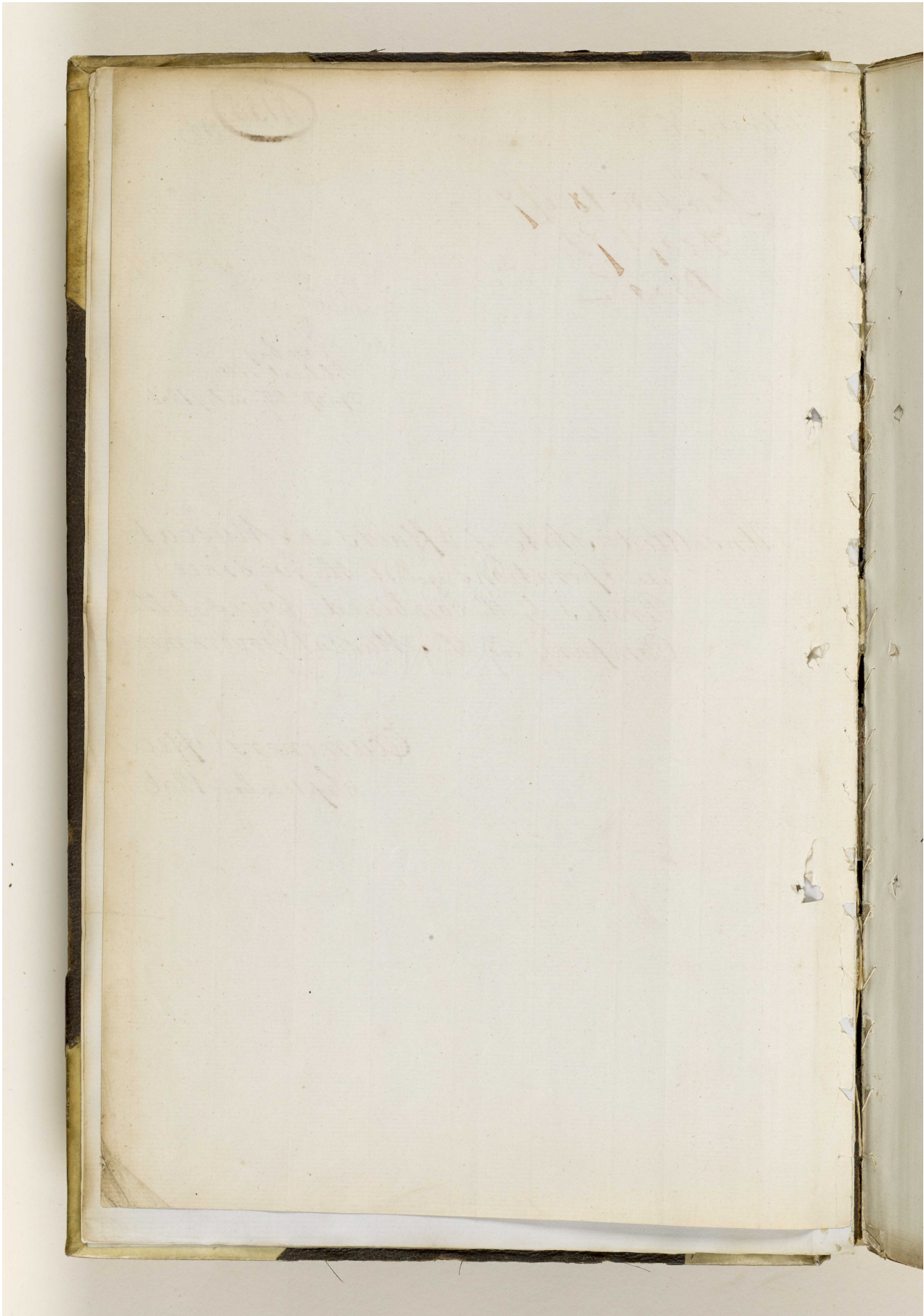
'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [1v] (8/186)



'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [2r] (9/186)



'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [2v] (10/186)



'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [3r] (11/186)

Extract Secret Letter from Bombay.

Dated 26<sup>th</sup> February 1805.

Para. 16. In our address of the 15<sup>th</sup> December 1804, we took occasion to notice the information we had received of the Death of <sup>the</sup> Saiman of Muscat, in a Sea engagement, and the consequent reference made to his Excellency the Governor General for instructions as to the line of conduct to be observed by this Government towards that of Muscat in its new relation to us, and we are now enabled to refer to the orders thereon received from His Excellency in which with a view to the preservation of the Interests of the British Government at Muscat and to the security of our Trade in the Gulph of Persia, we are authorized to extend every degree of countenance and support to the sons of the late Seyid Sultann which can be effected through the means of the British influence and without engaging in hostilities with the opposing Party, it being at the same time, his Lordship's desire should the interest of the Brothers of Seyid Sultann

Pl. Cons.  
P. 34/1805

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [3v] (12/186)

Sultaan prevail, to maintain with them, or with the ruling power at Muscat, the same Relations of Amity, which subsisted under the Treaties with the former Government; requiring further that these should be recognized, and that with a view to the maintenance of our influence a Residency, on the part of the Company, shall be permanently established at that station.

57. Under these Instructions your Honorable Court will observe, by the reply written to the Governor General as entered on our proceedings of the 9<sup>th</sup> of February, that Captain <sup>John Cans</sup> <sup>Feb 4 1805</sup> Seton (recently employed on a distant duty at Surat - but who has for years past filled the Office of Resident at Muscat) was summoned to the Presidency for the purpose of repairing thither. In the same reply your Honorable Court will find reference made to a genealogical Table of the Muscat Family - which is, also, entered on our proceedings, and to which is annexed the best account then procurable of the state of affairs there, - being on the whole deemed to wear a favorable aspect towards the descendants of Seyid Sultaan.

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [4r] (13/186)

Extract Secret Letter from Bombay

Dated 26<sup>th</sup> February 1805

18. To the premature and unexpected Death of  
the late Imam, who had long maintained a superiority  
over the Powers, of the Gulph of Persia are ascribed the  
disturbances, that have already arisen there, as described in  
advices from our Native Broker at Muscat and from the

Cons.  
1805

Publ. Cons.  
9<sup>th</sup> Feb 1805 Residents at Buzorah and Bushire recorded as Mr. Margiv.

It will thence appear that the Joasmee Pirates  
[ascertained to be the authors of those disturbances,  
begun by capturing two Vessels (the Shannon  
and Trimmer), belonging to Mr. Maunty  
of Buzorah and proceeding hence charged  
with public Dispatches the narratives of  
whose respective Commanders stand also  
entered and indicate much severity of treatment,  
the (4)

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
 by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [4v] (14/186)

the one (Captain Babcock) having after receiving  
 several severe wounds had his hand cut off  
 whilst the other (Captain Cumming) is reported  
 to have lost his life through the severity  
 of his sufferings. The Shannon has however  
 (having just been stripped of all that  
 was valuable on board) been released  
 but the Summer is still retained. The reports  
 of the Resident at Busrah on this subject  
 & the information submitted by him to the  
 Supreme Government (which will be found  
 among the proceedings to which we have  
 referred) convey intimation of his intention  
 to apply to the Wahabie Sheekh (to whose  
 sect the Joasmees are said to have been formerly  
 if not now attached) for redress in the first  
 instance, without however, thence entertaining  
 any very sanguine expectation of indemnity  
 for the past, or of security against future Injults  
 & Injuries.

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [5r] (15/186)

5

19. Information has also been received from the Commander of the Honble Company's Cruiser Mornington (detached to cruise in the Persian Gulph for the Security of the Trade against French Privateers) <sup>that</sup> when off the Island of Bolor, he was surrounded by a Fleet consisting of upwards of 40 Vessels (Dories & Frigatees) belonging to these Pirates; but that though they fired into the Mornington & shewed a disposition to further annoyance two broad sides & a few discharges from her stern Guns, obliged them nevertheless to desist; neither under our General Instructions to the Commanders of all our Cruizers to avoid hostilities with the Powers of the Gulph; did her Commander think it proper to act otherwise than defensively; but from these recent acts of aggression, it is our intention in concurrence with a suggestion of the Resident at Muskat to assist the Muskat Government in chastising <sup>the</sup> 5

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [5v] (16/186)

the Joasmees, by affording the cooperation  
 of our Cruizers in the Gulf (as may  
 conveniently be done through the means  
 of the *Mornington*) in as far as it may  
 be found free of objection, in respect to the  
 Wahabee, who was formerly the Protector,  
 though now said to have quarrelled with  
 that Tribe, Provided therefore that the Resident, shall  
 on his arrival at Muskat have every reason to  
 believe that the Wahabee will not take offence,  
 at the intended coercion, it is to be pursued, or  
 otherwise, as Mr. Manesty, has as already noticed,  
 intimated his intention to depute a proper  
 person to Deryah, the Capital of the Wahabee  
 to demand the restitution of the Captured Vessels,  
 & Property, the result of that intervention may  
 be awaited.

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [6r] (17/186)

Extract. Political Letter from Bombay

Dated 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb<sup>r</sup>. 1806.

Para 29.

In our address of the 15<sup>th</sup> December we had the honor to notice to your Honble Court, the information we had received of the Death of Syed Sultan, the late Imouss of Muscat; and in our subsequent advice dated the 26 Feb<sup>r</sup>. 1805, we referred to the Instructions that had been transmitted by Marquis Wellesley for the guidance of this Gov<sup>t</sup>. in the event of the succession of the late Imouss's Son being disputed by his Brothers: of the probability of a hostile competition, His Excellency had been only advised by our Residents, under date the 12<sup>th</sup> December preceding.

30.

Under the 6<sup>th</sup> March 1805, there stand recorded the Instructions we thought

Folio 560

Done

proper

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [6v] (18/186)

proper to issue to the Resident conformably to  
the orders of Marquis Wellesley referred to in  
the preceding Paragraph; in pursuance of  
which Captain Seton was authorized to give  
every degree of countenance to the Sons of the late  
Imruun which could be effected thro' the means  
of the British Influence, and without engaging  
in Hostilities with any opposing party: at the  
same time, that should the Interests of the  
Brothers of Said Sultan prevail, Captain Seton  
was enjoined to maintain with them, or with  
the ruling power at Muscat, the same relations  
of Amity which had subsisted under the Treaties  
with the former Government, as negotiated  
by Mehdi Ali Khan and Major (now Colonel)  
Malcolm, it being further required of Captain  
Seton to obtain the recognition of those Treaties  
by the New Government, and that with a

The first signed  
12 Oct 1805  
and the other  
18 Jan'y 1806

view

view  
of the  
page

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [7r] (19/186)

9

view to the maintenance of the British influence at Muscat, a Residency should be permanently established there, agreeably to the engagement concluded by Major Malcolm in 1800. —

31 By the letters we have received

*St. Louis* from the Resident at Muscat, it appears that after  
27 June 1805 Vol. 1776  
6 Aug. 1805 Vol. 2758

the Death of Syed Sultaun, his two sons retained possession of Muscat and the adjacent Territory, but being opposed by their Uncle Syed Ghais of Sohar, who succeeded in seizing the Forts of Cabra and Seib, they were reduced to the necessity of entrusting the management of their affairs to their Cousin Syed Beder, who being assisted by the Mahabee succeeded in repelling Syed Ghais. —

dated  
1805  
for  
1806

32. — Syed Beder is represented to be a man of ability and enterprize, and as his connection with, or rather dependance on, the <sup>(7)</sup>

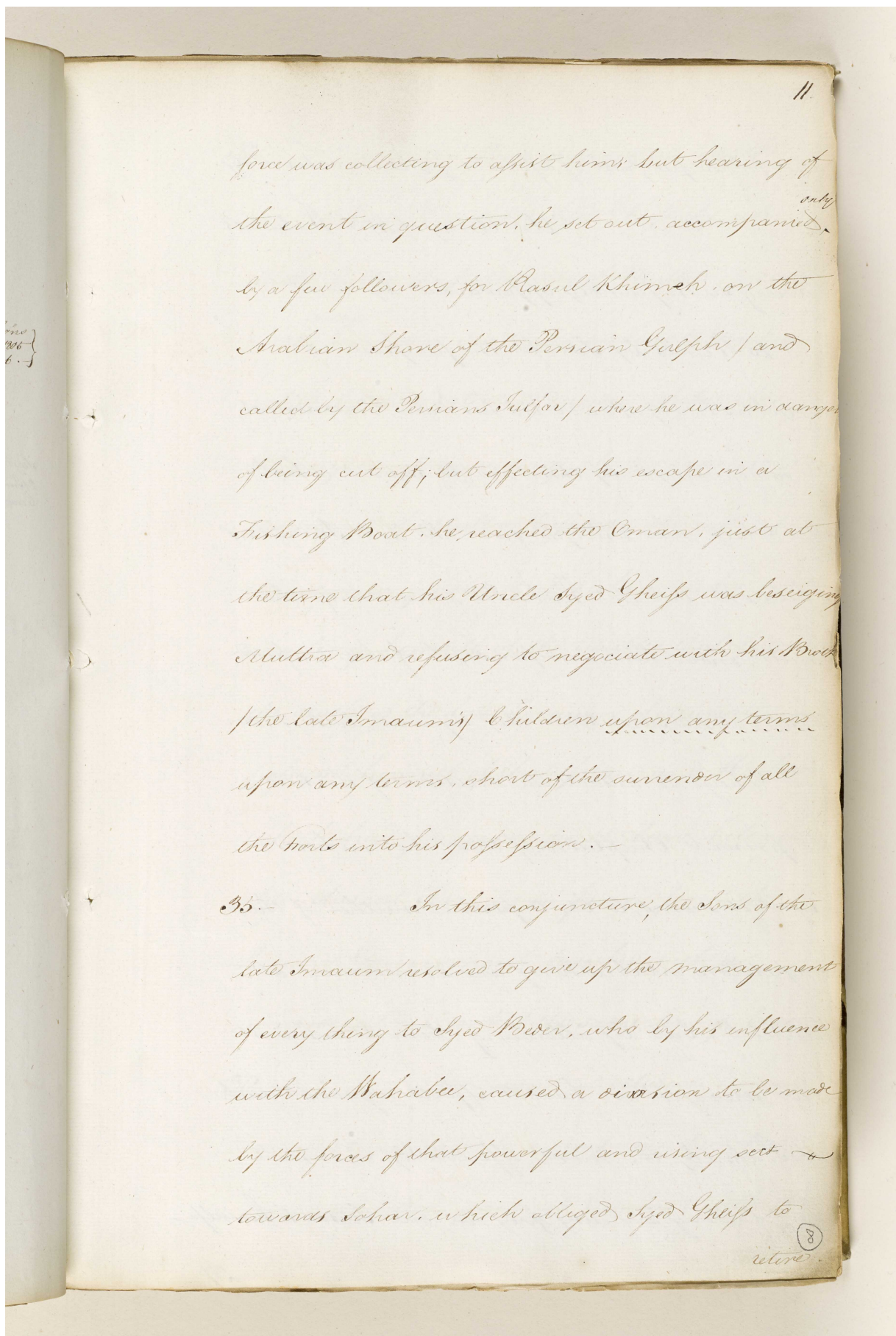
'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [7v] (20/186)

the Wahabee will eventually lead to important consequences, it may not be improper here briefly to advert to the Circumstances, which gave rise to that connection, as related by Captain Siton in his Letter dated <sup>23<sup>rd</sup></sup> of May. } Secret Copy  
21 June 1806  
folio 177b.

33. In the Year 1803 Syed Beder availed himself of the opportunity of the late Imaum's absence on a Pilgrimage at <sup>Mecca</sup> ~~Mecca~~ to attempt the seizure of the Forts at Muscat, but failing in this project he fled to Zabrah and embraced the protection of Abdal Azeer, the former Chief of the Wahabee, who ordered the Arab Tribes bordering on the Oman to aid him in his ambitious views on that Country; assisted by them Syed Beder twice invaded it, but being repulsed, he fled to Deraya.

34. When the late Syed Sultan was killed, Beder was at <sup>Arabia,</sup> Zabrah where a  
force

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [8r] (21/186)



11.  
force was collecting to assist him; but hearing of  
the event in question, he set out, accompanied <sup>only</sup>  
by a few followers, for Rasul Khimreh, on the  
Arabian Shore of the Persian Gulph / and  
called by the Persians Sulphar / where he was in danger  
of being cut off; but effecting his escape in a  
Fishing Boat, he reached the Oman, just at  
the time that his Uncle Syed Gheif was besieging  
Muttra and refusing to negotiate with his Brother  
/ the late Immaum / & Children upon any terms  
upon any terms, short of the surrender of all  
the Ports into his possession.

35- In this conjuncture, the Sons of the  
late Immaum resolved to give up the management  
of every thing to Syed Bader, who by his influence  
with the Mahabee, caused a division to be made  
by the forces of that powerful and rising sect  
towards Sohar, which obliged Syed Gheif to  
retire.

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [8v] (22/186)

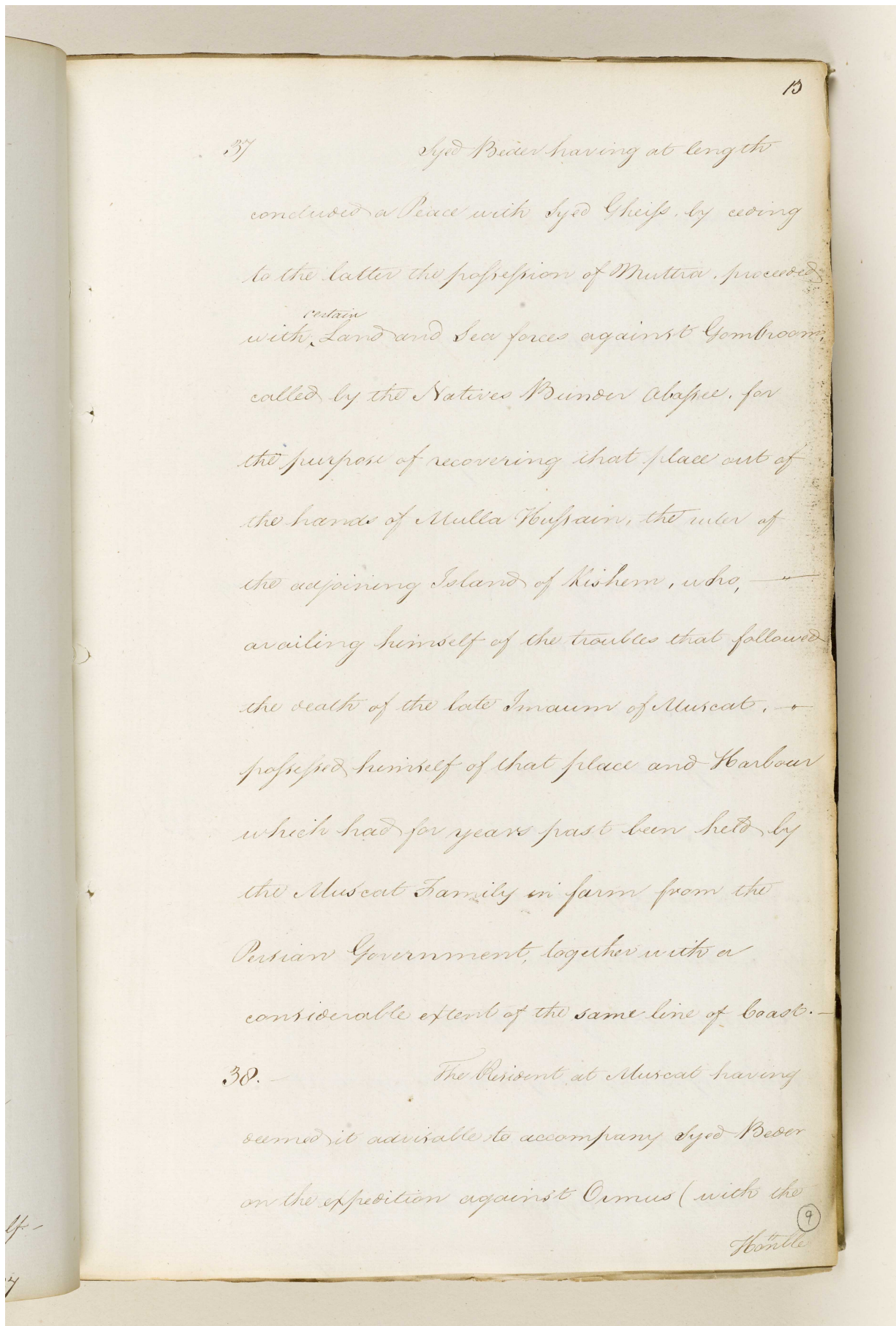
retire for the purpose of defending his own Territory.

36

An Army of 1,000 Mahabee's  
having subsequently approached by Land  
and 15 Vessels by Sea, for the purpose of  
Establishing Power in his new Government,  
he endeavoured by their aid to recover what  
Ghiep had usurped from the late Imraamis  
Children, but the Mahabee perceiving this  
would render him independent of them, refused  
to act; at the same time they required both Boer  
and Ghiep to await the decision of Soohud  
the present Chieftain of their Sect, whose  
object it seems to be, to permit neither of those  
competitors establishing an ascendancy at  
Muscat, but by allowing them to exhaust  
their strength in hostile efforts against each  
other, thereby the more effectually to ensure  
their falling an easy prey, in our Season to himself.

37

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [9r] (23/186)



37. Syed Beder having at length concluded a Peace with Syed Ghais, by coming to the latter the possession of Muttera, proceeded with <sup>certain</sup> Land and Sea forces against Gombroon, called by the Natives Minder Abappe, for the purpose of recovering that place out of the hands of Mulla Huspaim, the ruler of the adjoining Island of Kishem, who, availing himself of the troubles that followed the death of the late Imaum of Muscat, possessed himself of that place and Harbour which had for years past been held by the Muscat Family in farrm from the Persian Government, together with a considerable extent of the same line of Coast.

38. The Resident at Muscat having deemed it advisable to accompany Syed Beder on the expedition against Ormus (with the <sup>9</sup> Hoortle)

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [9v] (24/186)

Honorable Comfrants Cruizers *Mornington*  
*and Ternate*) as well with the view of preventing  
 his committing Hostilities against the Turks  
 or Persians, as in that of assisting him to  
 recover the Island of Ormus, an object in  
 which the Honorable Company were  
 undoubtedly interested, inasmuch, as that  
 all the neighbouring Countries of Kishorn, *Masul,*  
*Rhinah* and others belonging to, or connected  
 with, the Joasmee Pirates (against whom we  
 were then prosecuting Hostilities) drew their  
 supplies of Dates and Grain from thence as <sup>Secret Code</sup> *as folio 275 B*  
 mentioned in Captains *Sidon's* Letter of the 25<sup>th</sup>  
 July, we have the honor to refer to that Letter  
 as communicating all the Information we  
 possess, respecting the operations against  
*Gombroon*, inclusive of the degree of desperation,  
 which was, under Captains *Sidon's* orders,  
 afforded

and coins  
1806

Secret Code  
6 Aug<sup>r</sup> 1806  
as folio 275 B

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [10r] (25/186)

15

afforded to Syed Bader by the Honorable Company's  
 Marine, and which ended in the surrender of  
 the place to Syed Bader, who we may here  
 observe has since offered (as advised, of in the  
 Bader's letter dated the 4<sup>th</sup> October last) to allow  
 the Honorable Company <sup>to</sup> establish a Factory there,  
 on the same terms as those granted by Shah  
 Abbas, surnamed the great, on the first  
 settlement of the English there, or on any  
 other terms we may chuse to dictate which  
 could not, however, be available without  
 the concurrence of the Persian Government.

secret copy  
13 Dec 1805

6 lines  
2788

39. In communicating to the  
 Supreme Government under date the 6<sup>th</sup> of  
 August 1805. the Circumstances connected  
 with the recovery of Bander Abassee from  
 Mulla Hussein, as detailed in the preceding  
 Paragraphs, it was observed that there  
 was <sup>(10)</sup>

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [10v] (26/186)

was little reason to apprehend that any umbrage could be taken by the Persian Government at the degree of indirect assistance thus afforded by Captain Seton; who must have been convinced, it was added, of the inoffensiveness of the measure, as by the <sup>4</sup>13 Paragraph of his instructions dated 3 March / before referred to and recorded under Secret Cois  
6.11 March 1805 date the <sup>4</sup>6 March) it had been pointed out to him, as an object of attention, studiously to avoid all occasion of dispute with that state.

40. Impressed with this opinion we were much surprized to learn from the Acting Resident at Bushire in a Letter, Secret Cois  
7 Aug. 1805  
7.6.27/4 - dated the 2<sup>d</sup> July, that the Persian Government were dissatisfied with Captain Seton's conduct in the premises; immediately on the receipt of which intelligence, we issued to Captain Seton

Secret  
27 Aug  
file 5

13 Dec

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [11r] (27/186)

117

Seton's and to M<sup>r</sup> Bruce, the Instructions recorded  
under the same date, enjoining the former  
Officer to be more circumspect in future; &  
charging the latter to convey to the Persian  
Government, such explanations & assurances  
as we thought best adapted to remove any  
doubts, which might be entertained of our  
cordial disposition to maintain the most  
friendly relations with that power. And  
we have the pleasure to add, that subsequent  
advices, received from the Acting Resident at  
Bushire, contain the agreeable assurance,  
that the Persian Government are entirely  
satisfied with the explanations in question.

At Muscat Under the 13<sup>th</sup> December there  
stands entered a Letter from Syed Noor dated  
4 October last, which the Resident at Muscat

in (11)

at Co's  
10th Decr 1805

Secret Co's  
29 Decr 1805  
folio 563B

at Co's  
19<sup>th</sup> 1806  
2770 -

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [11v] (28/186)

in his Letter of the same date, reports to be  
intended as a formal acceptance of all Treaties  
made with Syed Sultaun, the late Imraun;  
we are sorry to observe however, that affairs  
in that quarter seem at present less likely to  
assume a settled appearance than ever, as  
will appear, by the letter from Captain Selon,  
to which we have the honor to refer; - and  
the Translations of Letters from Syed Peder,  
conjointly with the two sons of the late  
Imraun, and from Syed Ghieps, which are  
entered immediately after it, that the latter  
aided by Mulla Kuspain and other Partisans  
had recommenced Hostilities with Syed  
Peder and compelled the latter to call in  
a Mahabee Force.

Secret Code  
13 Dec. 1805

Sec  
13.4

"  
26.4

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [12r] (29/186)

19

Extract of Political Letter from Bombay,

Dated 22 February 1806.

Par 112—

We had the honor to communicate to your Honble Court, in our address of the 26<sup>th</sup> of February 1805, the Orders we had issued to the Resident at Muscat, relative to the eventual punishment of the Joasmee Pirates, for the recent acts of aggression, detailed to your Honble Court on that occasion; and we have the satisfaction to add, that those Orders and the line of conduct intended to be pursued by this Government, as reported to your Honble Court in the 19<sup>th</sup> Para-

Secret Cont<sup>n</sup>

14<sup>th</sup> May 1805 of that address, have since been entirely approved of by the Governor General in Council.

" " 26<sup>th</sup> Apr<sup>l</sup> 1805 113

M<sup>r</sup> Manesty the Resident at Busora, having under date the 19<sup>th</sup> of April, reported that any effectual measures we might adopt for  
the

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [12v] (30/186)

the chastisement of the Joasmee, would not offend  
the Mahabee, with whom, according to Captain  
Seton's Statement, recorded under date the 26<sup>th</sup> Feby.

1805 - the former had quarrelled - the Resident at Muscat was accordingly authorized to act upon  
*Secret Cois  
26 Feby 1805  
folio 529.*

the orders which had been previously issued for  
his eventual guidance under the C<sup>o</sup> of the following month, in pursuance of which Captain Seton  
*" "  
6<sup>th</sup> Mar 1805  
folio 500*

was to assist the Muscat Government in chastising  
the Joasmee, by affording the cooperation of our  
Cruiser in the Gulph of Persia, consisting of the  
Mornington and Duxon, which have been since  
joined by the Ternate.

Our Correspondence with the Resident at Muscat, to which we have the honor  
to refer, will give your Honble Court all the  
information we possess relative to the operations against  
the Joasmee Pirates, that have been undertaken by  
the combined forces of the Honble Company  
*" "  
21<sup>st</sup> June  
6<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>o</sup>  
20<sup>th</sup> "  
11<sup>th</sup> Sept  
11<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>o</sup>  
23<sup>rd</sup> "  
17<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>o</sup> } 1805.*

and

*Secret  
6<sup>th</sup> Aug  
folio 5*

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [13r] (31/186)

and the Muscat Government, and all of which have been regularly reported to the Supreme Government, though we have not been favored with any further communication from Bengal upon the subject of them, and have been therefore obliged to issue from time to time, such instructions to Captain Seton, as the nature of the circumstances seemed to demand, and we hope our Proceedings on the occasion will meet with the approbation of your Honble Court.

15. — It appears that soon after the recovery of Gombroom from Mulla Hapsain, which has been fully treated of in a former part of this Despatch, the combined forces proceeded to the Island of Keshew where they blockaded a Fleet of Joasmee, who had no other alternative than to make peace or to starve — Captain Seton agreed upon certain conditions, which are detailed, together

with the preliminary negotiations in that Officer's

Letter (15)

ent (ent)  
Feb'y 1805  
529.  
" "  
Jan 1805  
560-

" "  
1805

Secret Cont  
8 Aug. 1805  
Vol 2788.

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [13v] (32/186)

Letter dated the 25<sup>th</sup> July 1805, to grant them a truce until the pleasure of this Government should be known - Captain Selon was advised under the same date, that it would hereafter be intimated to him, whether this truce could be converted into a permanent Treaty; a contingency depending upon the orders of the Bengal Government, and that in the interim it was our desire to continue the truce with the Mahabee provided they fulfilled the conditions upon which it had been concluded.

16. - Captain Selon's Letter of the 16<sup>th</sup> of October, advises, that the Joasmee according to their engagements, had restored the Brig *Trimmer* formerly belonging to M<sup>rs</sup>. Manesty which had been captured by them; and states, as his reason for refraining from hostilities, the impossibility of prosecuting them with vigor or effect, without offending either the Persians or  
the

orig. cont.  
17 Oct. 1805

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [14r] (33/186)

23

the Mahaber. In acknowledging this Letter, Capt<sup>m</sup> Seton was under the same date instructed in compliance with the expectation he had expressed of being speedily furnished with some rule for his guidance, not to make peace with the Joasmies or any of the other Piratical Tribes of the Persian Gulph, until they should, as a preliminary have made an ample restitution of or indemnification for, the plunder committed by them on the Vessels lawfully navigating under the British Flag, and the Honourable Company's protection, as he might be satisfied to be equal to their available means, and accompanied by adequate security against their recurrence to such Piracies in future; on which conditions, Capt<sup>m</sup> Seton has been authorized to restore them to a state of amity with the British Government, been at the same time advised, that until the parties in question can be brought to the reasonable and moderate terms

(14)

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [14v] (34/186)

terms thus required of them, the war must be continued, care being taken to conduct it, with an especial attention to avoid cause of umbrage or offence to the friendly powers in the same quarter.

179.

In reference to Captain

Scot Cox  
28<sup>th</sup> Nov 1795  
Folio 12116

Saton's Letter of the 6<sup>th</sup> of November, he has been advised, that altho' we are not aware of any objection to the proposed terms of Peace between Syed Pader on the one part, and the Joasmee on the other, yet, that any terms of pacification between those Pirates and the British Government, must not be limited to their refraining from hostilities towards Muscat; as advocated to in his Letter of the 12<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup>. to the Commander of the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Company's Cruisers in the Persian Gulf; but generally for the whole Gulf, and every place and situation; We hope in our next advices to be enabled to report to your Hon<sup>ble</sup> Court, the full attainment of this object either by negotiation or otherwise.

+ Supp  
(Nov 1795)  
at  
of the  
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Pra

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [15r] (35/186)

25

Extract of Political Letter to Bombay

Dated 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1806.

+ Supers 26<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>r</sup> 1805

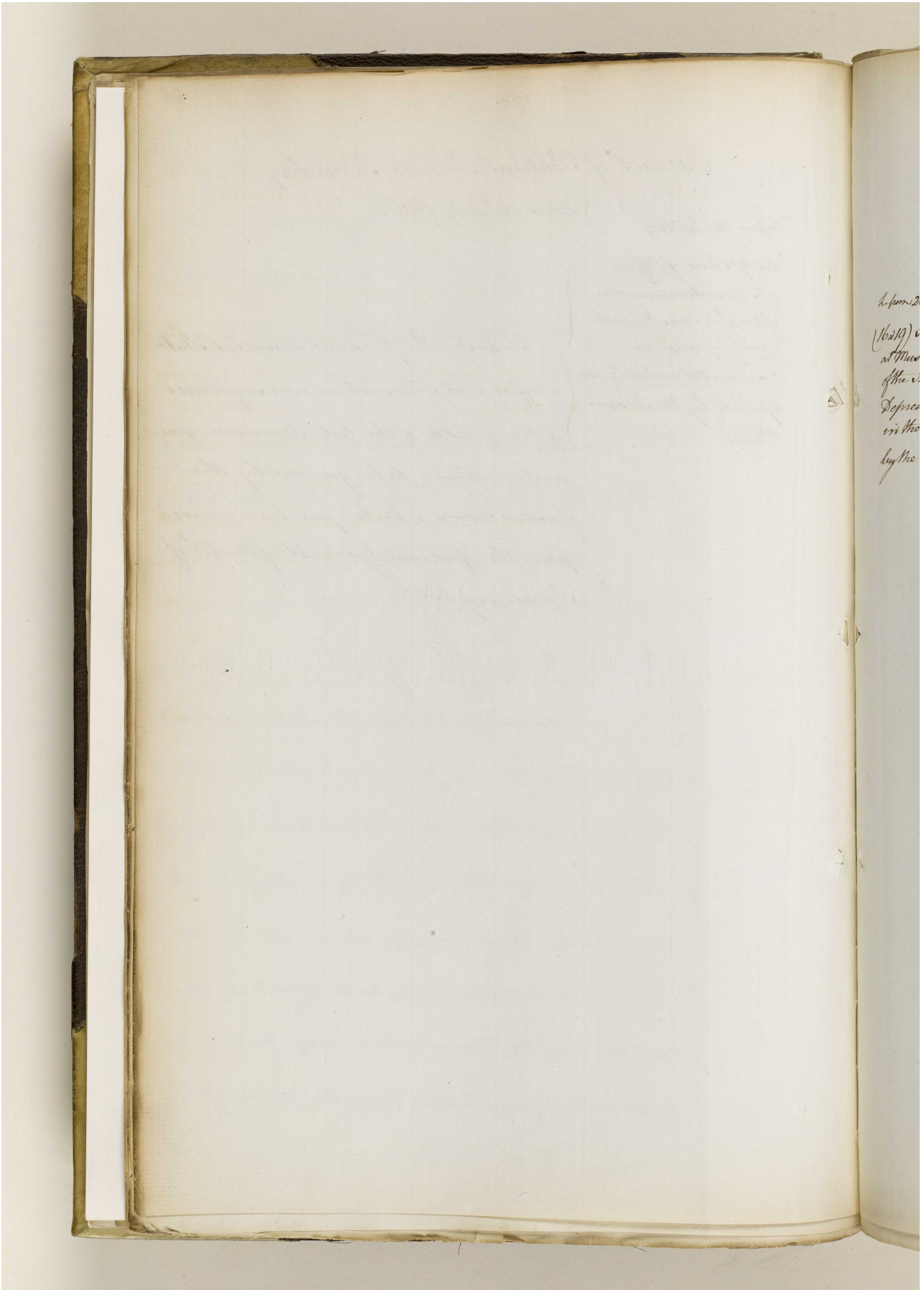
(16019) State of Affairs  
at Muscat in consequence  
of the Imaum's Death  
and Depredations  
committed in the Persian  
Gulph by the Joasmee  
Pirates

at Co. 1  
Nov 1805  
1216

Para 5 - In the present unsettled State  
of affairs at Muscat in consequence  
of the death of the late Imaum you  
will continue to be guided by the  
Instructions which you have received  
from the Governor General of the 10<sup>th</sup> of  
January 1805.

(15)

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [15v] (36/186)



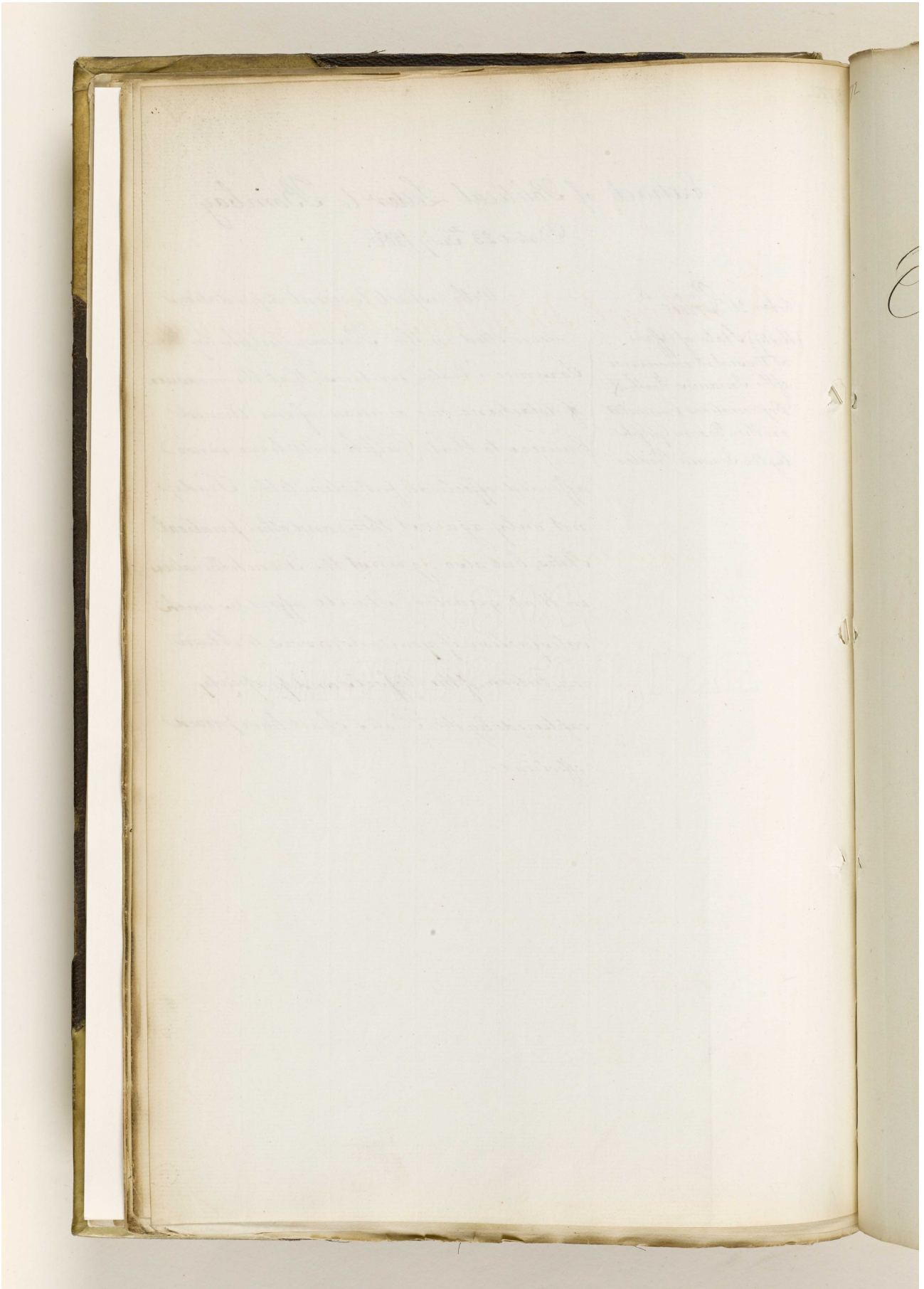
'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [16r] (37/186)

Extract of Political Letter to Bombay  
Dated 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1806.

Para 5  
24<sup>th</sup> Nov 1805  
(16219) State of Affairs  
at Muscat in consequence  
of the Imams Death  
Depredations committed  
in the Persian Gulph  
by the Joasmee Pirates

With respect to recent depredations  
committed in the Persian Gulph by the  
Joasmee Pirates, we trust that the measure  
of detaching one or more of our Armed  
Cruizers to that Gulph will have since  
afforded effectual protection to the Trade,  
not only against those and other piratical  
States, but also against the French Privateers  
in that quarter. It will afford us much  
satisfaction if your endeavours to obtain  
restitution of the Vessels and property  
captured by the Pirates shall have proved  
effectual.

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [16v] (38/186)



'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [17r] (39/186)

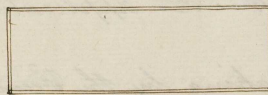
3772

29

Extract Bombay Political Consultations

the 30<sup>th</sup> October 1798

Translate of the Coulnanna, or written Engagement  
from the Imraam of Muscat -



Deed of agreement from the state of the Omanian sultan  
under the approbation of the Imraam the Director of the  
sultan whose grandeur be eternal to the high and  
potent English Company, whose greatness be perpetuated  
as comprehended in the following articles -

First - From the Intervention of the Nawab Elmarid  
Doulah Mirza Mehedy Ali Khan Bahader Hermit

Young

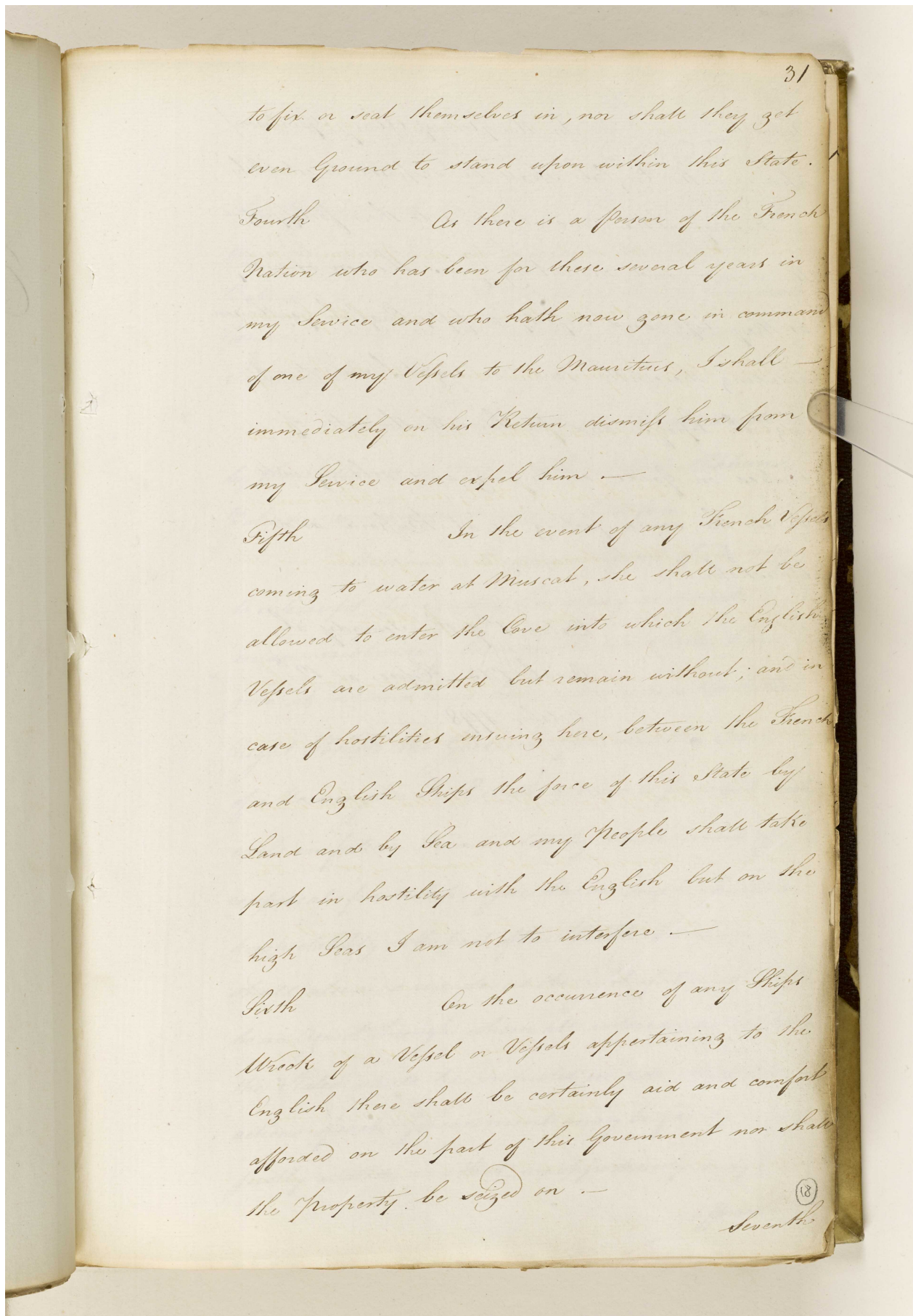
'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [17v] (40/186)

Juny. never shall there be any deviation from this  
 Combrama.~

Second- From the recital of the said Nawwab, my  
 heart has become disposed to an increase of the friendship  
 with that state, and from this day forth, the friend of  
 that Sircar, is the friend of this; and the friend of the  
 Sircar, is to be the friend of that; and in like manner,  
 the Enemy of that Sircar, is the Enemy of this, and the  
 Enemy of this is to be the Enemy of that.~

Third- Whereas frequent applications have been  
 made, and are still making by the French and Dutch  
 People for a Factory, i.e. a place to seat themselves  
 in; either at Muscat, or at Gombroon, or at the  
 other Ports of this Sircar; It is therefore written  
 that whilst Warfare shall continue between the  
 English Company, and them; never shall from  
 respect to the Company's friendship be given  
 to them throughout all my Territories a place  
 to

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [18r] (41/186)



31  
to fix or seat themselves in, nor shall they get  
even Ground to stand upon within this State.

Fourth As there is a person of the French  
Nation who has been for these several years in  
my Service and who hath now gone in command  
of one of my Vessels to the Mauritius, I shall  
immediately on his Return dismiss him from  
my Service and expel him.

Fifth In the event of any French Vessels  
coming to water at Muscat, he shall not be  
allowed to enter the Cove into which the English  
Vessels are admitted but remain without; and in  
case of hostilities ensuing here, between the French  
and English Ships the force of this State by  
Land and by Sea and my People shall take  
part in hostility with the English but on the  
high Seas I am not to interfere.

Sixth On the occurrence of any Ships  
Wreck of a Vessel or Vessels appertaining to the  
English there shall be certainly aid and comfort  
afforded on the part of this Government nor shall  
the Property be seized on.

Seventh <sup>(18)</sup>

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [18v] (42/186)

Seventh In the Port of Alasay / Gombison /  
whenever the English shall be disposed to establish  
a Factory I have no objection to their fortifying  
the same and mounting Guns thereon as many  
as they list, and to forty or fifty English Gentlemen  
residing therewith seven or eight hundred  
English Sepoys and for the rest, the rate of  
Duties on Goods on buying and selling will  
be on the same footing as at Bussora and  
Abushehr.

Dated 1<sup>st</sup> of the Semady al  
Awal 1213 Hijree or 12<sup>th</sup>  
October 1798.

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [19r] (43/186)

33

L. 9

An Agreement entered into by the Imãame of  
the State of Oman with Captain John Malcolm  
Bahadur Envoy from the Right Honble the Governor  
General Dated the 21<sup>st</sup> of Shaban 1213 Hegree or 18<sup>th</sup>  
January 1800

Article 1<sup>st</sup> The Coulnamah entered into  
by the Imãame of Ousàn with Mehdi Akhbar  
Bahadur remains fixed and in full force.

Article 2<sup>d</sup> As improper Reports of a tendency  
to interrupt the existing harmony and create  
misunderstanding between the two States, have  
gone abroad, and have been communicated to the  
Right Honble the Governor General the Earl  
of Mornington K. C. with a view to prevent such  
evils in future, We actuated by sentiments of  
reciprocal friendship, agree, that an English Gentleman  
of respectability on the part of the Honble Company,  
shall always reside at the Port of Muscat, and  
be an Agent through whom all intercourse between  
the States shall be conducted, in order, that the  
actions of each Government may be fairly and  
justly stated, and that, no opportunity may be  
afforded (19)

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [19v] (44/186)

529  
afforded to designing Men, who are ever eager  
to promote dissensions, and that the friendship  
of the two States may remain unshook  
till the end of time, and till the Sun and  
Moon, have finished their revolving career

[L.L.]

Sealed in presence

(Signed) John Maledon  
Goury

529

35

Extract of Bombay Political Consultations,  
the 26.<sup>th</sup> February 1805.

Extract of Letter from the  
President at Muscat, dated  
20.<sup>th</sup> February 1805.

The whole Family of the late Sultan  
have been called on to suspend their quarrels,  
to assist in revenging the Death of their  
Relations on the Joasmees - whoever does not  
join in this is to be considered the enemy  
of the whole.

Beder had been with the  
Mahabee Chief and made peace with the  
Attobee, whose Vessels had come to trade  
at Muscat - before the departure of the present Dungey.

The Mahabee Chief is entitled to  
one-fifth of all plunders made by his Followers,  
and

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [20v] (46/186)

and the Beni Joasmee have offended him  
by withholding it.

They also quarrelled, and fought with the  
Guzachy, a neighbouring Tribe, for a Doo they  
had captured, belonging to Muscat.

Shaikh Sagger, Joasmee, and  
Shaikh Pehmah, of Nuhheelo, are Sisters Sons  
of Moolle Hussan, of Bushme, their Grandfather  
was the famous Shaikh Abdulla, cotemporary  
with Meer Mohenna.

If Affairs in the Gulph are as reported  
by this Directory the English Government would  
gain the good will of all Parties, and chastise  
the Joasmee for the capture of their Vessels  
by giving an Order to any Cruizers in the Gulph, at  
Basora, Bushire, or elsewhere, to cooperate with  
Beder, in revenging the late Seyn's Death, and  
with the Wahabee, in chastising them, for their  
contumacy and rebellion.

Minute

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [21r] (47/186)

37

Minute of Council, the 24<sup>th</sup> February 1805,

The suggestion in favour of our assisting in chastising the Joasmees, by affording the assistance of our Cruizers, in the Gulph (as may conveniently be done, through the means of the *Mormington*, now cruizing there) appears very advisable, in as far as it may be found free of objections, in respect to the *Mahabee*, who was formerly the Protector, though now said to have quarrelled with that Tribe; — Provided therefore, that Captain *Seton* shall, on his arrival at Muscat, have every reason to believe, that the *Mahabee* will not take offence at the intended coercion, it is to be pursued; or otherwise, as *M<sup>r</sup> Manesty* has intimated his intention to depute a proper Person to *Deryah*, to demand the restitution of the captured *Nepols* and Property, Captain *Seton* may await the result of that intimation,

(21)

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [21v] (48/186)

intimation, which M<sup>ty</sup> Majesty is to be directed to  
advise him of with all practicable dispatch. Copies of  
the above, with intimations of our Order thereon, were  
on the 24<sup>th</sup> Instant, forwarded to the Chief Secretary  
to the Supreme Government, and the Secretary  
directed to draft Instructions thereon, for  
Captain Seton, the Queen being held in  
readiness to carry him and the Packet, and  
give Convoy also to the Bagdad Ship, if she  
be ready to sail, at the same time.

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [22r] (49/186)

39

Extract of Bombay Political Consultations  
6<sup>th</sup> March 1805.

Recorded the following Draft of a Letter from  
the Honble the Governor to Syed Salem Imraouf of  
Muscat.

Draft of a Letter from the Honble the Governor of  
Bombay to Syed Salem bin Sultan bin Isman of  
Muscat Dated 28<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>r</sup> 1805.

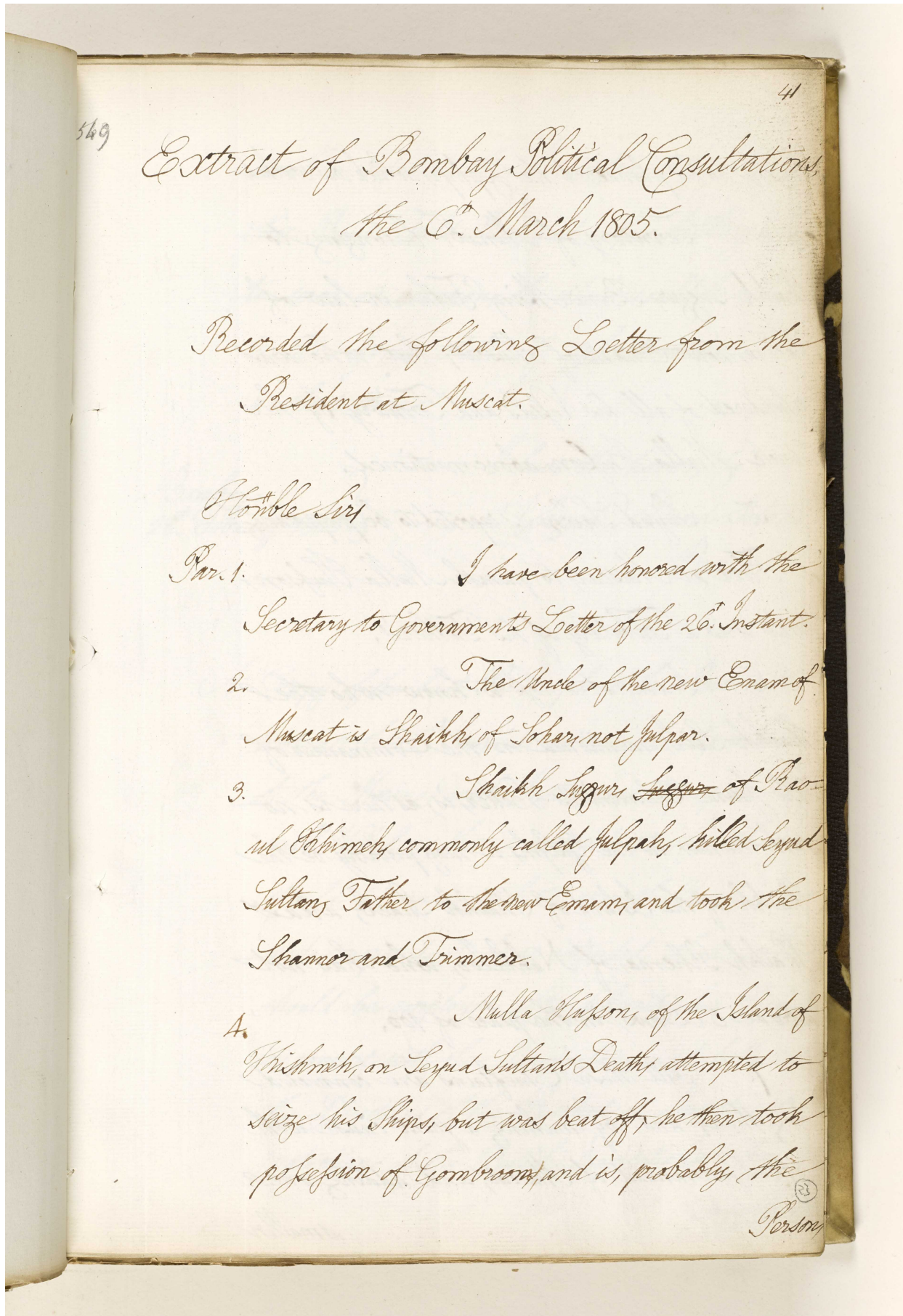
I have been favored with yours of the 24<sup>th</sup>  
Shaban containing the Melancholy tidings of the Death  
of your lamented father and your succession to his  
Dominions as also your wish to preserve the Relations  
of Amity between the two States.

As this is also the wish of our Government  
I have deputed to you Captain Seton who resided  
with your father, and who being the friend of both will  
transact with you whatever respects the confirmation  
of the Treaty between the Honble Company and the  
Government of Muscat and will assure you on our  
part of our readiness to continue on the same  
 footing (2)

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [22v] (50/186)

569  
 footing of unity and friendship as has hitherto  
 existed between the two States, this and all other matters  
 which he will communicate to you, you will believe  
 as coming from ourselves

(Signed) R. J. Goodwin  
 Secretary & Translator in the Office  
 of Country Correspondence



'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [23v] (52/186)

Person, who plundered the Zephyr, which was wrecked  
on the Territory of Menab, belonging to  
Shaikh Suggur, Beni Moir, Father-in-law of  
Salem, now Emam of Muscat, but who was  
plundered of all his Vessels and Territory by his  
Uncle, Mulla Husson, above mentioned.

5. Seyud Salem is reported to be preparing  
a Fleet at Muscat, to punish Mulla Husson  
who was a Tributary of his Father's.

6. I am at a loss to know, who the  
Shaikh Saib, mentioned in the Commander of  
the Junne Clementine's Letter, is, as there is no  
such name in the Gulph, it may probably be the  
Shaikh of the Island of Shaikh Shaeb, alias  
Shaikh Phemas of Nuhelos, who has not  
above 5 Dows, in the place of 100.

7. All these Chieftains are connected  
together, and, by making a joint cause with  
the Government of Muscat, and adding one  
smaller

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [24r] (53/186)

40

smaller Vessel to the Mornington, with a Brass Six Pound Field Piece, and a few Artillery Men to serve on occasions the whole would be reduced to their former state of subordination, in a short time.

Bombay  
28<sup>th</sup> February 1805.

I have the honor, &c.

(Signed) David Seton,  
President.

A Copy of the last Paragraph of the above Letter was, on the 1<sup>st</sup> Instant sent to the Superintendent of the Marine, with Instructions to prepare a small Vessel, as therein proposed, or if there should be none, such, to arm the Queen, in the mode proposed, it being intended, that she should be employed, after delivering her Packet, in concert with the Mornington, and both under the Directions of the President at Muscat, in the protection of the British Navigation, by  
suppressing

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [24v] (54/186)

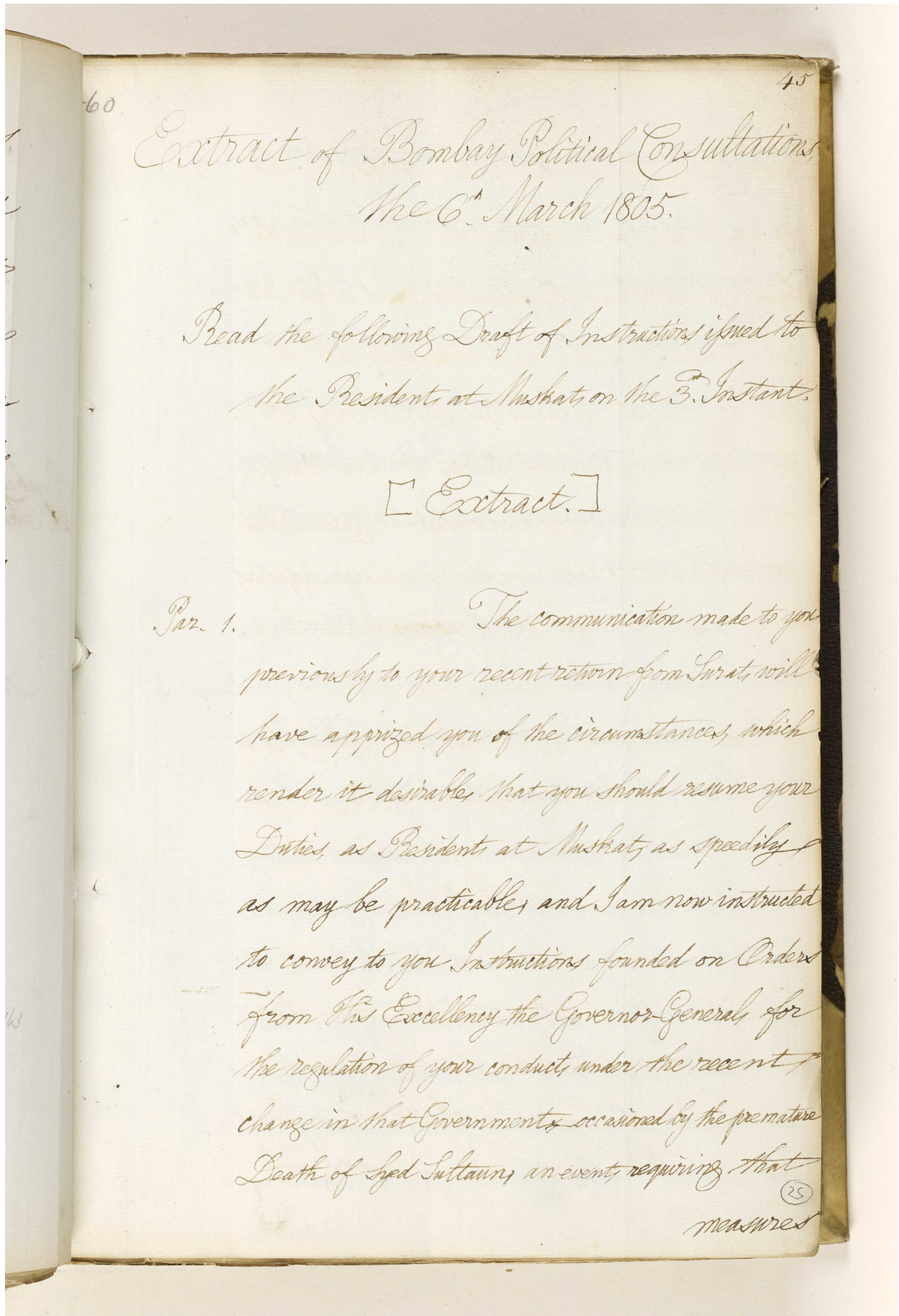
560  
 suppressing the Pirates in the Gulph. In this  
 view, it was ordered, that the Queen should  
 have 11 Artillery Men, under a good Sergeant,  
 put on board of her, and victualled, till the  
 end of August, as well as the Mornington,  
 for the conveyance of which, it was added,  
 there was a Dingey, and would (under Captain Sutor's  
 superintendance) take in the necessary Supplies,  
 as far as there might not be room in the Queen.

~~Read the following Draft of Instructions issued  
 to the Resident at Muscat, on the 3. Instant.~~

~~[Extract.]~~

~~Par. 8. The suggestion contained in your Letter 563  
 of the 20. ultimo, in favour of this Government's  
 assisting that of Muscat, in chastising the  
 Joasmees, by affording the assistance of  
 the  
 Read~~

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [25r] (55/186)

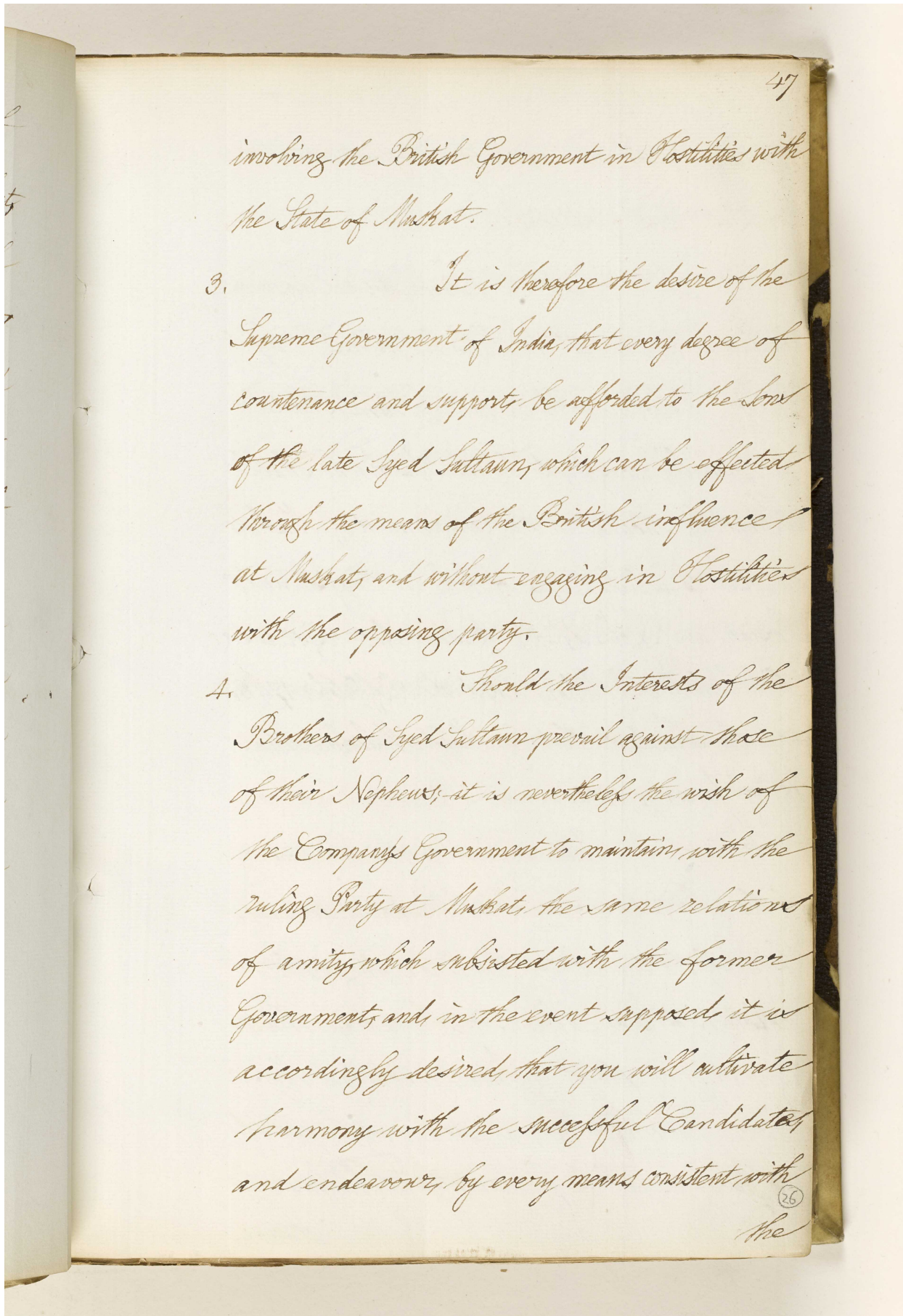


'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [25v] (56/186)

measures should be adopted for the preservation of the Interests of the British Government, at Muscat, and for the security of our Trade in the Gulph of Persia, objects which (independently of the events of the intermediate period) might be exposed to increased hazards by the establishment of a Power at Muscat, less favourable to these Interests, than the Government of the late Imam.

2. The existing Engagements between the Company and the Imam of Muscat do not impose on the former any obligation to support the Succession of the Sons of the late Imam, to the rights and Power of their Father, but the nature of the connection, existing between the Company and the Imam, and cemented by the Engagements concluded with that Prince, in the Year 1798 and 1800, justify the interference of the British Government, in support of that Candidate, whose pretensions shall appear to be founded on justice, provided that support can be afforded, without the hazard of involving

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [26r] (57/186)



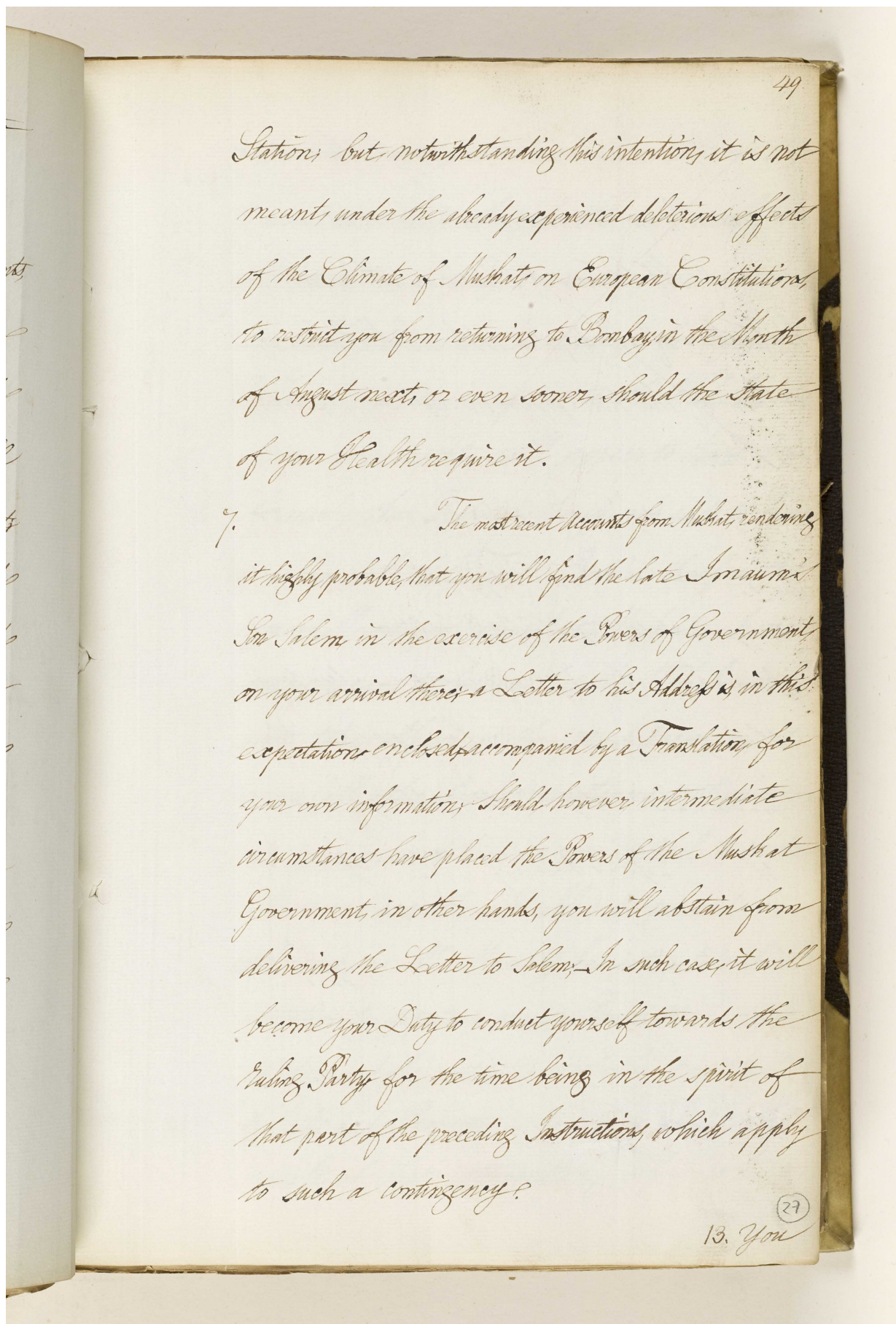
'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [26v] (58/186)

the dignity of the British Government to  
conciliate their good-will.

5. It will be desirable that the Engagements  
concluded by Mehedi Ali Johans and by  
Major Malcolm with the late Imam, should  
be formally recognized by the Person, who shall  
ultimately succeed to the Government of Muscat  
in view to which, Copies of both, in English and  
Persian, are enclosed, - the first, or that registered  
by Mehedi Ali Johans, dated the 12<sup>th</sup> of October 1798,  
and the second, or that by Major Malcolm, the  
18<sup>th</sup> of January 1800.

6. With a view to the maintenance  
of the British Influence at Muscat, under any  
issue of the contest for Power among the  
Princes of Syed Sultan, it is intended, that,  
agreeably to the Engagement concluded by  
Major Malcolm in 1800, a Residency on the part of  
the Company shall be permanently established at that  
Station.

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [27r] (59/186)



49  
Station; but notwithstanding this intention, it is not meant, under the already experienced deleterious effects of the Climate of Muscat, on European Constitutions, to restrict you from returning to Bombay in the Month of August next, or even sooner, should the State of your Health require it.

7. The most recent Accounts from Muscat rendering it highly probable, that you will find the late Imaum's Son Salem in the exercise of the Powers of Government, on your arrival there a Letter to his Address is in this expectation enclosed accompanied by a Translation for your own information. Should however, intermediate circumstances have placed the Powers of the Muscat Government, in other hands, you will abstain from delivering the Letter to Salem. In such case, it will become your Duty to conduct yourself towards the ruling Party for the time being in the spirit of that part of the preceding Instructions, which apply to such a contingency.

(27)  
13. You

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [27v] (60/186)

13. You are likewise to correspond with, and to  
act generally in concurrence with the views and  
advice of M. Bruce, at Bushire, with a view to  
keep clear of all disputes with the Mahabee, or  
either of the two Governments of Turkey  
or Persia.

Par. 8. The suggestion contained  
in your Letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> Ultimo in  
favor of this Government's assisting  
that of Muscat in chastising the  
Joasmees, by affording  
the assistance of

the

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [28r] (61/186)

51

The Cruizers on the Gulph (as may now be conveniently done, through the means of the Mornington, already there) appears very advisable; in as far as it may be found free of objections, in respect to the Mahabee, who, from your Reports will appear to have been formerly the Protector, though now said to have quarrelled with that Tribe. Provided, therefore, that you shall, on your arrival at Muscat, have every reason to believe, that the Mahabee will not take offence at the intended coercion, it may (all other local circumstances continuing, in your view of them, on your arrival, to render the same urgently advisable) be pursued, or otherwise, as Mr. Manesty has intimated, his intention to depute a proper Person to Deryah, to demand the restitution of the captured Vessels and Property. You may await the result of that intervention, of which

Mr. Manesty

M<sup>r</sup>. Muresty has been instructed to advise you  
with all practicable dispatch.

9. In view to its being thus eventually  
determined to act against the Joasmees, a  
Letter, under flying Seal, to the Commander of  
the Honble Company's Cruizer, Mornington, is  
now enclosed, in which he is instructed to comply  
with all your Requisitions, and to remain in  
the Gulph, while you may require his presence.

10. On the ground of the suggestions contained  
in the concluding Paragraph of your Letter of the  
28<sup>th</sup> ultimo, the Superintendant of the Marine has  
been instructed to prepare small Vessels, as therein  
proposed, or, if there be none such, to arm the  
Queen, in the mode desired, upon which, she is  
after delivering her Packet, to be employed, in  
concert with the Mornington, under your direction,  
in the protection of the British Navigations  
by suppressing the Pirates in the Gulph.

The

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [29r] (63/186)

53

The Queen is in this view to have 11 Artillery Men, under a good Serjeant, put on board of her, and to be victualled till the end of August as is also the Mornington, the Supplies for this purpose, being as far as there may not be room for them, on the Queen, sent on board of the Dorey engaged by you.

11. As the Queen must, in the first instance, proceed up the Gulph to Bushire and Basora with the Basha of Bagdad's Ship and the Packet to Basora, you should, by the same opportunity, write to Mr. Manesty for the purpose of advising that Gentleman of your views in relation to the suppression of the Pirates, if still requiring to be hastily coerced, and desire his advice as to the effects which any active proceedings against the Joasmees, or any other Tribe, may probably have on our National Interests with the Wahabee, or other Powers

(29)  
on

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [29v] (64/186)

on either Coasts of the Gulph, such as it may be, perhaps in M. Manesty's power (through his local influences more particularly of the upper part of the Gulph) to avert, as you will accordingly request of him, and wait his answer, before our Resolvent on any offensive Plan of Hostility against the Pirates, unless, as above observed, the urgency of the circumstances should, for the protection of our Trade and Navigation, call for a speedier course.

12. In your proceedings towards the Pirates, you are moreover to be particularly cautious to act with the greatest moderation, to aim at pacification, by means of Negotiations, and to avoid Hostilities, at all events, with any Clashes of the Armed Boats, or Ketches, belonging to either side of the Gulph, which may have respected the British Flag, so as that we may not prove the Aggressors in any instances.

13. You are likewise to <sup>correspond</sup> ~~correspond~~ with, and to act generally in concurrence with the views and advice of

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [30r] (65/186)

55

of Mr. Bruce at Bushire, with a view to keep clear of all disputes with the Wahabees, or either of the two Governments of Turkey or Persia.

14. It appears by a Letter from Mr. Bruce, of the 12<sup>th</sup> of January, that part of the Crew of the Buzzula, employed by Messrs. Youh, Lane, and Flour, in the recovery of the Ship's Pickets, were, after having been captured, by the Pirates, left at Bushire on board of a Dow, supposed to be bound to Muskat, it is in consequence desired, that you use your utmost endeavours in recovering and relieving those helpless British Subjects, in the event of your being enabled to obtain any information respecting them.

66 Copies of Paragraphs from 8 to 13, inclusive, of the above Letter, were, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Instant, ordered to be forwarded for the general information <sup>(30)</sup>

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [30v] (66/186)

information of the Resident at Bussorah  
and Acting Resident at Bushire and M. Bruce  
also separately written to, as ¶ 14. Paragraphs  
whilst a complete Copy of the whole was sent to Bengal.

The following Letter was, on the 3. Instant,  
written to Lieutenant Ch<sup>l</sup>. Gilmore, or Officers  
Commanding the Honble Company's  
Cruizer, Mornington.

Lieutenant Charles Gilmore,  
or Officer, commanding the  
Honble Company's Cruizer,  
Mornington.

Sir,

Par. 1. The continued instances of depredation, by  
the piratical Chieftains in the Gulph of Persia,  
as recently reiterated, in the case of the plunder  
of the Zephyrus having appeared to the  
Governor

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasme Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [31r] (67/186)

57

Governor in Council to render it expedient  
to instruct Captain Seton, the President at  
Muscat, to adopt such measures as may on  
his arrival there be found most advisable for  
preventing future similar excesses, and  
it being thence probable, that he may have  
occasion to call for the Services of the *Flotilla*  
*Company's* Cruizers, *Mornington's* *Jany*, in  
consequence, instructed to desire, that you comply  
with all requisitions from that Officer, whilst  
he may require the continuance of the  
*Mornington's*, in the Gulph of Persia, and  
consider yourself as generally subject to the President's  
Orders, for the purposes thus intimated, as well  
as in respect to the period of your return to  
the Presidency, and in case Captain Seton  
shall think fit to embark, at any time  
on your Vessel, you will be careful to afford him  
every suitable accommodations, and to conduct  
yourself

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [31v] (68/186)

yourself in all respects, with that becoming  
spirit of harmony so essential to the  
advancement of the Public Service.

2. In view to this probable prolongation of your  
Cruise, the Superintendant of the Marine has  
been instructed to forward to you such Supplies as  
he may judge the *Mormington* to be in want of  
as to which he will by this opportunity separately  
write to you.

Bombay Castle,  
3. March 1805.

I am,

Yr.  
Obedt. Servant

(Signed) J. A. Grant  
Secretary to Government.

A Copy of the above Letter  
was, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Instant,  
Ordered to be communicated to the  
Superintendant of Marine, for  
his information.

The

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [32r] (69/186)

59

The following Letter was on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Instant  
written to the Commander of the  
Honble Company's Cruizer, Queen.

Lieutenant Daniel Proff,  
Commander of the  
Honble Company's Cruizer,  
Queen.

Sir,

Par. 1.

Having received on board the  
Dispatches intended to be forwarded to the  
Gulph of Persia, by the Honble Company's  
Cruizer, Queen, the Governor in Council is  
pleas'd to direct, that you enter on your Voyage, observing  
the following Instructions for your guidance.

2.

There being now here, the  
Moostuffa, a Ship belonging to the Pasha of  
Bagdad, it is intended that she shall proceed  
to Buforah, under your Convey; you will

accordingly

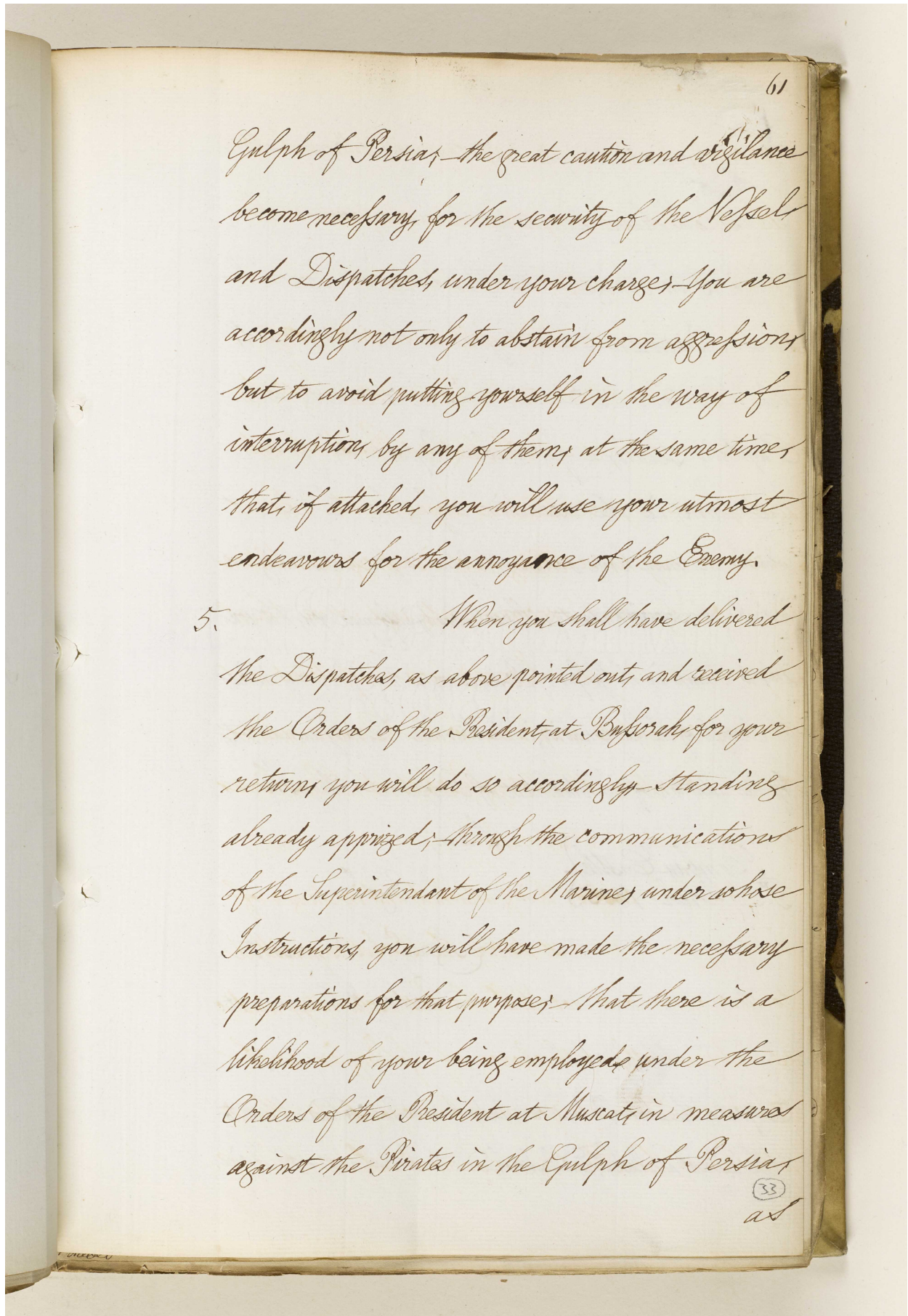
'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [32v] (70/186)

accordingly be careful to keep company with, and to  
extend to her all the protection in your power, in the  
course of the Voyage.

3. Captain Seton, with his Servants and  
Passage, will embark on the Queen, for Muscat,  
whence you are under his Orders as President, at  
that place, to prosecute your Voyage, into the  
Persian Gulph, receiving also, in charge (in addition  
to those from Government, and from the  
Superintendent of the Marine) such Dispatches as  
he may commit to your care, for the Commander  
of the *Morningstar*, the Acting President at Bushire  
and President, at Basrah.

4. In case of being attacked, and in danger of  
being captured, you must destroy the Packet committed  
to your care, but not till the last extremity, and  
as independently of the chance of falling in with  
European Enemies, you may be exposed to the  
attacks of the Pirates, who now infest the  
Gulph

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [33r] (71/186)



61  
Gulph of Persia, the great caution and vigilance  
become necessary, for the security of the Vessels  
and Dispatches, under your charge. You are  
accordingly not only to abstain from aggressions  
but to avoid putting yourself in the way of  
interruption by any of them, at the same time  
that, if attacked, you will use your utmost  
endeavours for the annoyance of the Enemy.

5. When you shall have delivered  
the Dispatches, as above pointed out, and received  
the Orders of the President at Busrah for your  
return, you will do so accordingly. Standing  
already apprized, through the communications  
of the Superintendant of the Marines, under whose  
Instructions, you will have made the necessary  
preparations for that purpose, that there is a  
likelihood of your being employed, under the  
Orders of the President at Muscat, in measures  
against the Pirates in the Gulph of Persia.  
33  
ad

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [33v] (72/186)

as to which, Captain Seton will determine after  
he shall have heard by the Queen from the  
Officers in charge of the Presidencies of Buzorah  
and Bushire. Should you be thus employed,  
the Governor in Council relies on receiving from  
Captain Seton, a favourable Report of your  
exertions, in the execution of the Orders,  
which, he may have occasion to inform you, understanding us,  
indeed, the Superintendent, will have already informed you, that you  
are to remain in the Gulph of Persia, as long as that Officer may desire,  
the strength of the Queen, having in this view been materially augmented,  
by the addition of a Detachment of European Artillery Men.

Bombay Castle  
3<sup>rd</sup> March 1805

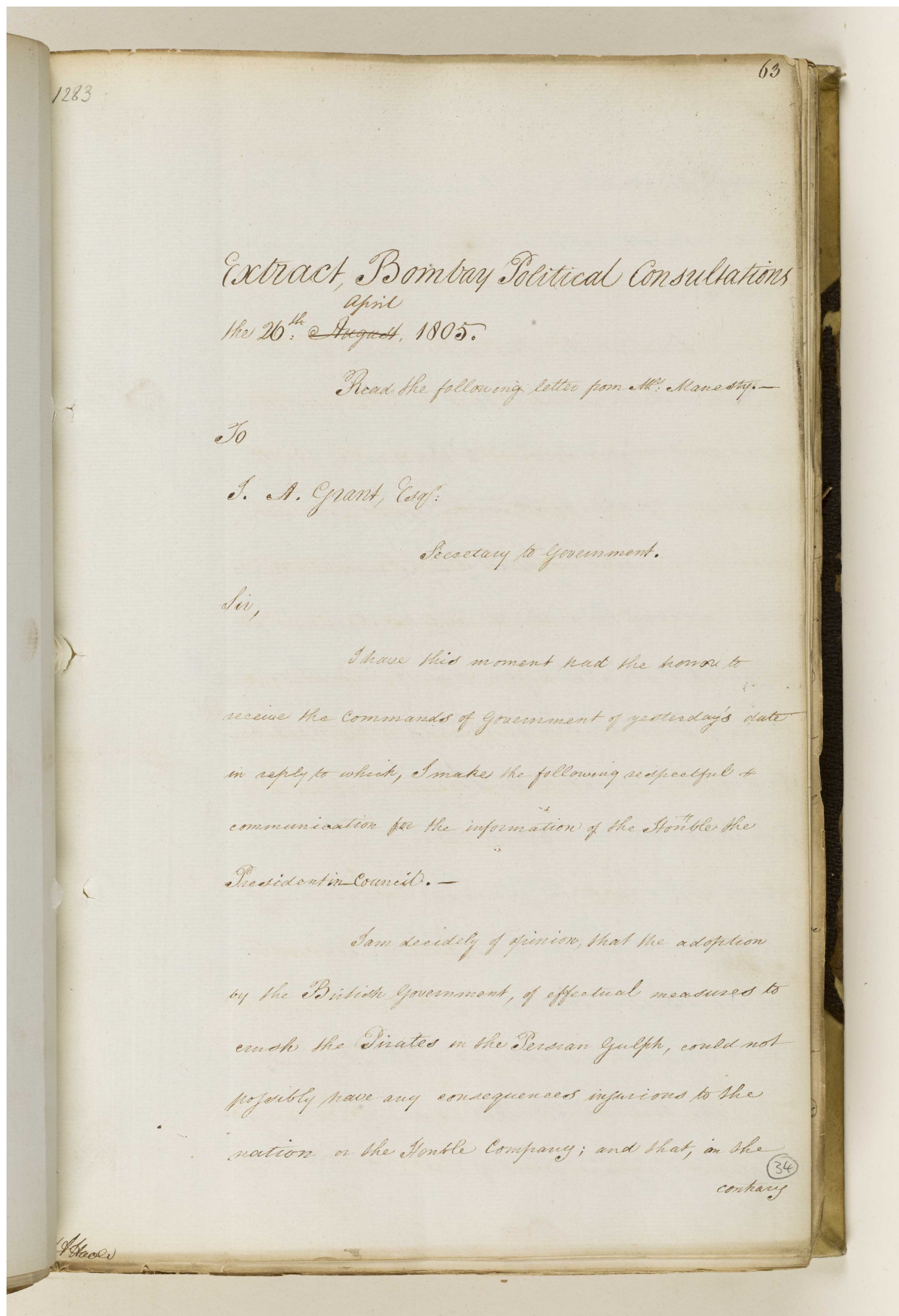
I am,

Yr.  
Obedt. Servant

(Signed) J. A. Grant  
Secretary to Government.

Copies of the above Orders were, under the same Date, ordered to be sent to  
the Resident at Muscat, and Buzorah, and to the Superintendent of the Marine.

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [34r] (73/186)



'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [34v] (74/186)

contrary, the operation, by such measures of the public  
rights, interests, honor and dignity is indispensably  
requisite. —

I have not the most distant idea that the  
Wahabee Sheik would resent any energetic effort  
in our part to give security to the navigation of  
the Persian Gulph, by British Vessels. — I do not  
conceive the recent conduct of the Sauesonue Arabs  
in the capture of the *Saimmer* and the *Shannon*, and  
the attack of the *Storningson*, to be the result or  
effects of the wishes or commands of the Wahabee  
Sheik, I am inclined to think <sup>that</sup> he will return a  
favorable answer to my late letter to him, on the  
subject, and it is to my judgment evident that the  
relinquishment by him, of his friendly connection  
with the *Bassora* Presidency would not accord  
with his present and favorite political views.

The Wahabee Sheik, is, uniformly and actively  
attentive to the grand object of his ambition, the  
conquest

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [35r] (75/186)

65

conquest of Turkey, in Asia; he has latterly perseveringly exerted himself to make, at some future period, an inevitable attack on Buzora his attempts to reduce the place, unsupported by such a power, will probably ever fail: and the only serious obstacle to his attainment of it, is the British Naval ascendancy. Will he therefore provoke our resentment, or excite our anger.

Until the Whahabee Sheik obtains possession of Buzora he can only partially interrupt the navigation of the Persian Gulph, and instead of facilitating as he has hitherto done, the conveyance of the national correspondence across the desert, make efforts to impede it.

British Ships of War can restore tranquility to the Persian Gulph, and the intercourse by water between Buzora and Bagdat is not exposed to danger from Whahabee force, or Whahabee influence.

To the foregoing expression of my sentiments on the subject in discussion I will add a forcible suggestion

(35)

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [35v] (76/186)

suggestion and recommendation that the execution of the effectual measures to crush the pirates in the Gulf of Persia, now in <sup>the</sup> agitation, be postponed till the month of October next: a more early expedition to that quarter would expose the lives of valuable men, to imminent danger, from extreme heat, and insalubrity of climate, and possibly lead to failure of success; whilst an adequate force, employed towards the close of the year, would probably perform the required service and severely and sufficiently punish the offenders, without liability to more than the ordinary risks of warfare.

Bombay 19<sup>th</sup> April, 1805.

I have the honor to be  
(Sig<sup>d</sup>) S. Manesty.

Copy of the above letter is ordered to be forwarded to Captain Seton with the view to supply the defect of information required by his instructions as derivable from Mr. Manesty and as there ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~now~~ <sup>now</sup> remains no cause of hesitation, ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup>

as

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [36r] (77/186)

67

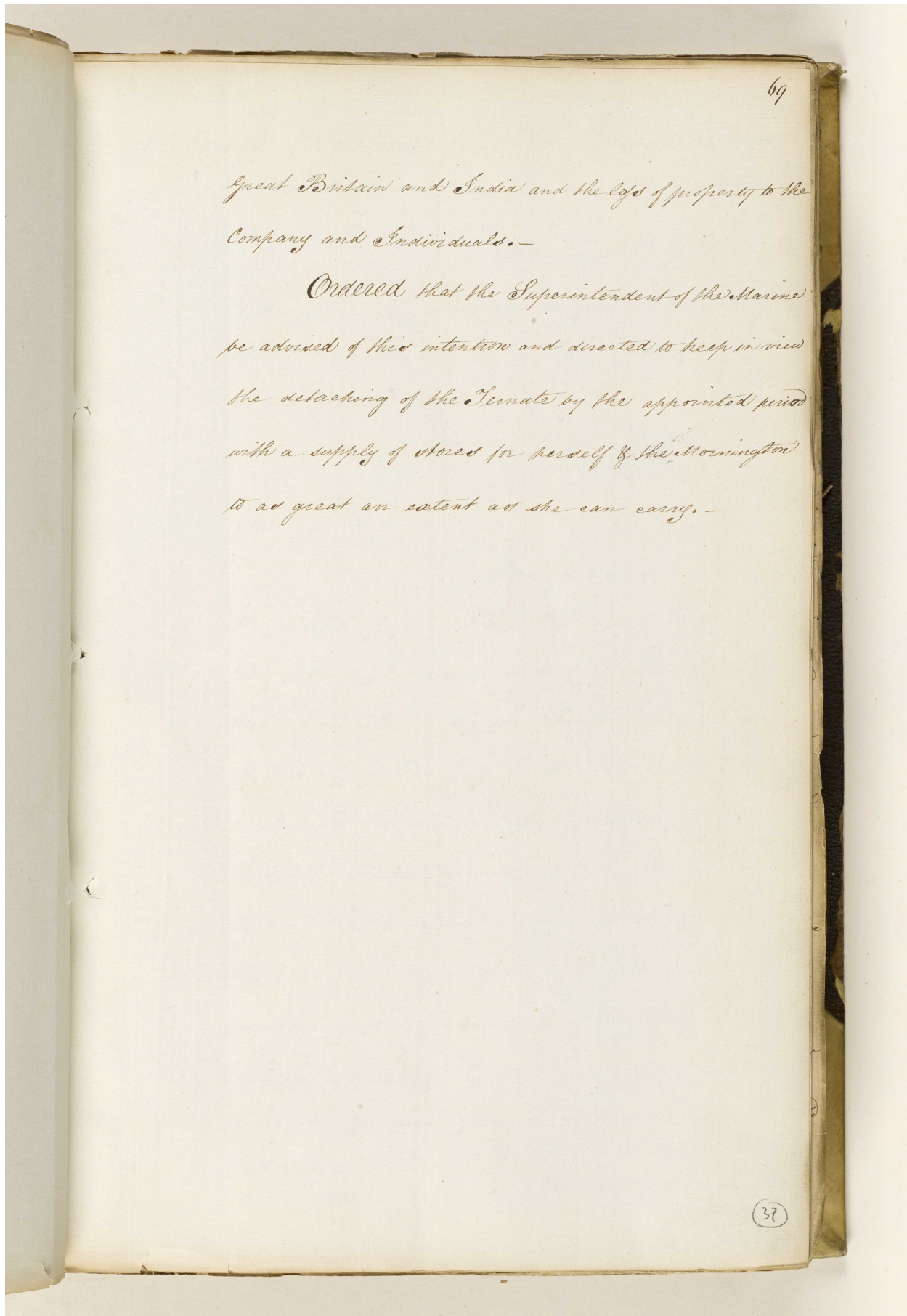
as far as regards the Makabee, for not acting with  
 vigor against the Pirates, at the same time that in  
 M<sup>r</sup>. Manesty's opinion the present season of the year  
 is unfavorable thereto — it must therefore be left to  
 Captain Seton's view of circumstances on the <sup>spot</sup> spot to  
 determine how far it may be adviseable to forbear  
 entering on measures of coercion against these  
 sea-rovers till the period assigned by M<sup>r</sup>. Manesty  
 in forming his judgment, respecting which Captain  
 Seton is to weigh the present danger there may be to  
 the safety of our Packets and Commerce in the Gulph  
 joined to the means he may propose in conjunction with  
 our Muscat ally to make an effectual immediate  
 impression on the Enemy, against the risk of sickness  
 and mortality in the crews and force to be employed  
 by reason of the unseasonableness of the interval  
 during which they may thus be called upon to act  
 after maturely considering all which Government  
 will acquiesce in his ultimate proceedings & —  
 (36)  
 provided

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [36v] (78/186)

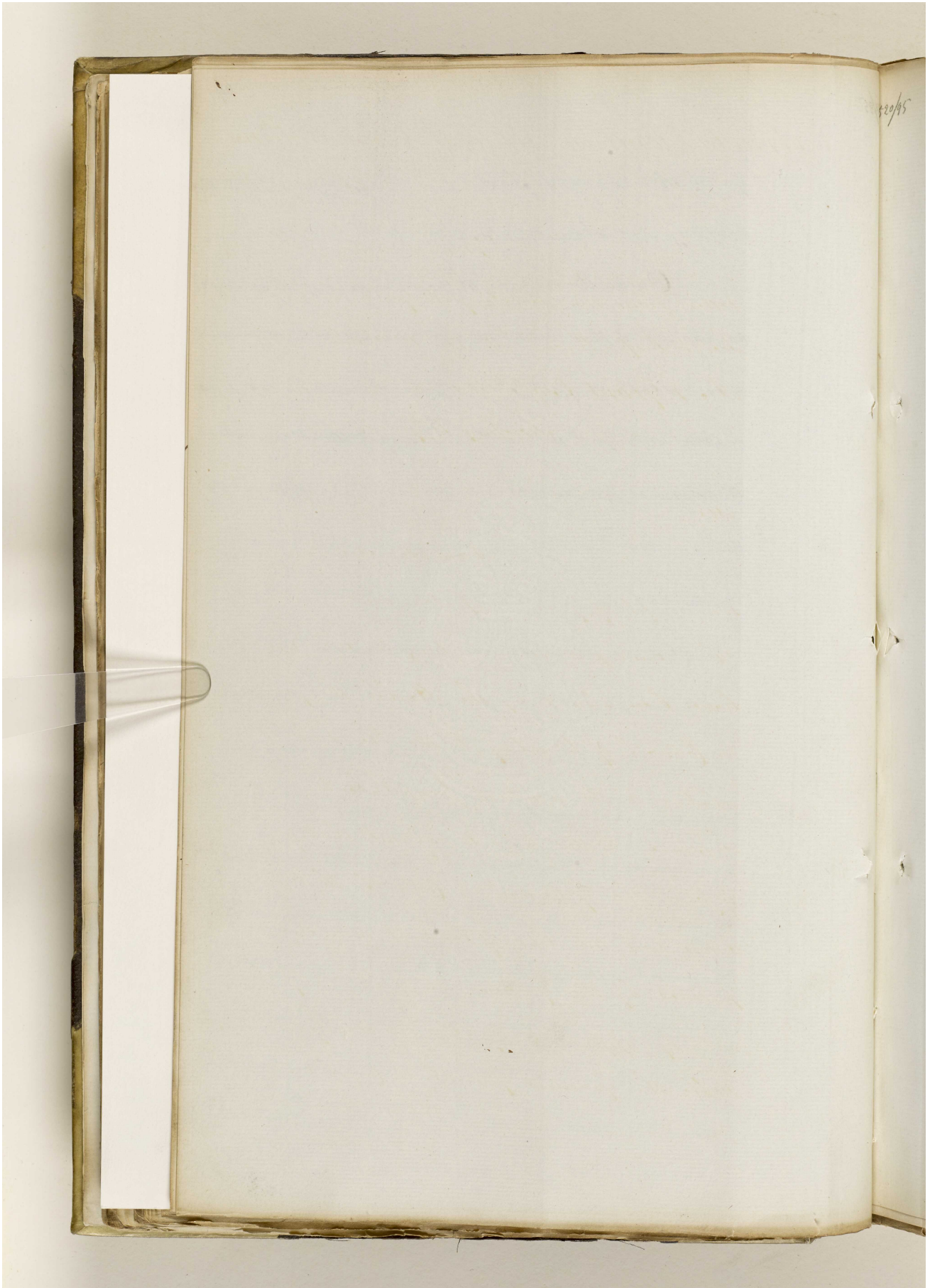
provided always that he take especial care to avoid offences to any of the Pirates who may not be essentially parties in the present depredations— limiting his exertions to checking or crushing the existing Piracies and to the means of restoring quiet and security to the navigation of the Gulf. Captain Selon to be further advised that it is probable the Ternate will be sent to reinforce the Mornington about the month of August next to the end that in the little expectation we can now entertain of Admiral Pellew's finding it convenient to detach any of His Majesty's Ships into that sea at the period when they would be most wanted— to wit— from September to November next we may exert all the means at our <sup>own</sup> command for averting a repetition of the fatal consequences that occurred last season by the Enemy's sending in an armed Vessel of sufficient force to dominate in that sea to the interruption of the communication between

Great

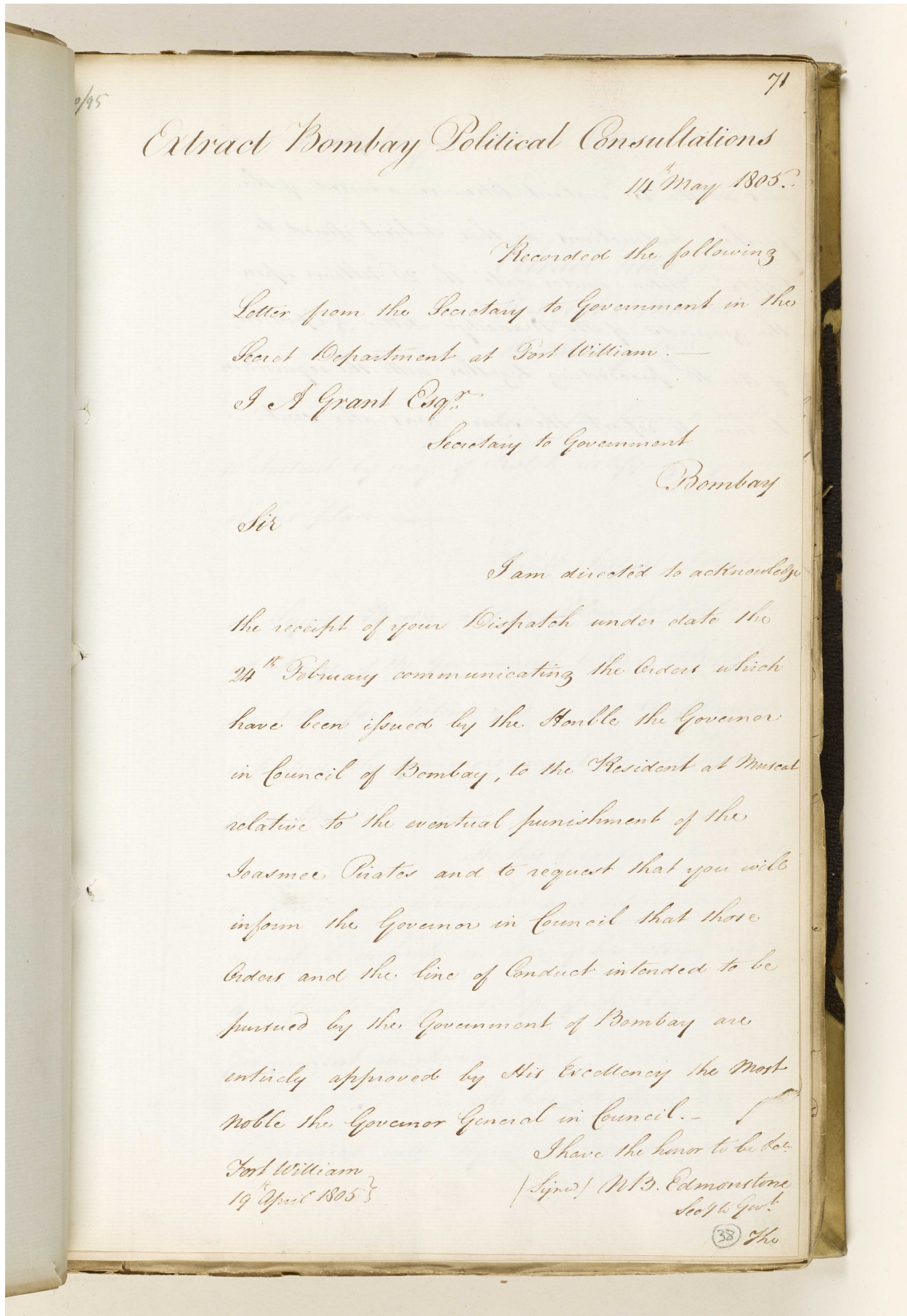
'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [37r] (79/186)



'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [37v] (80/186)



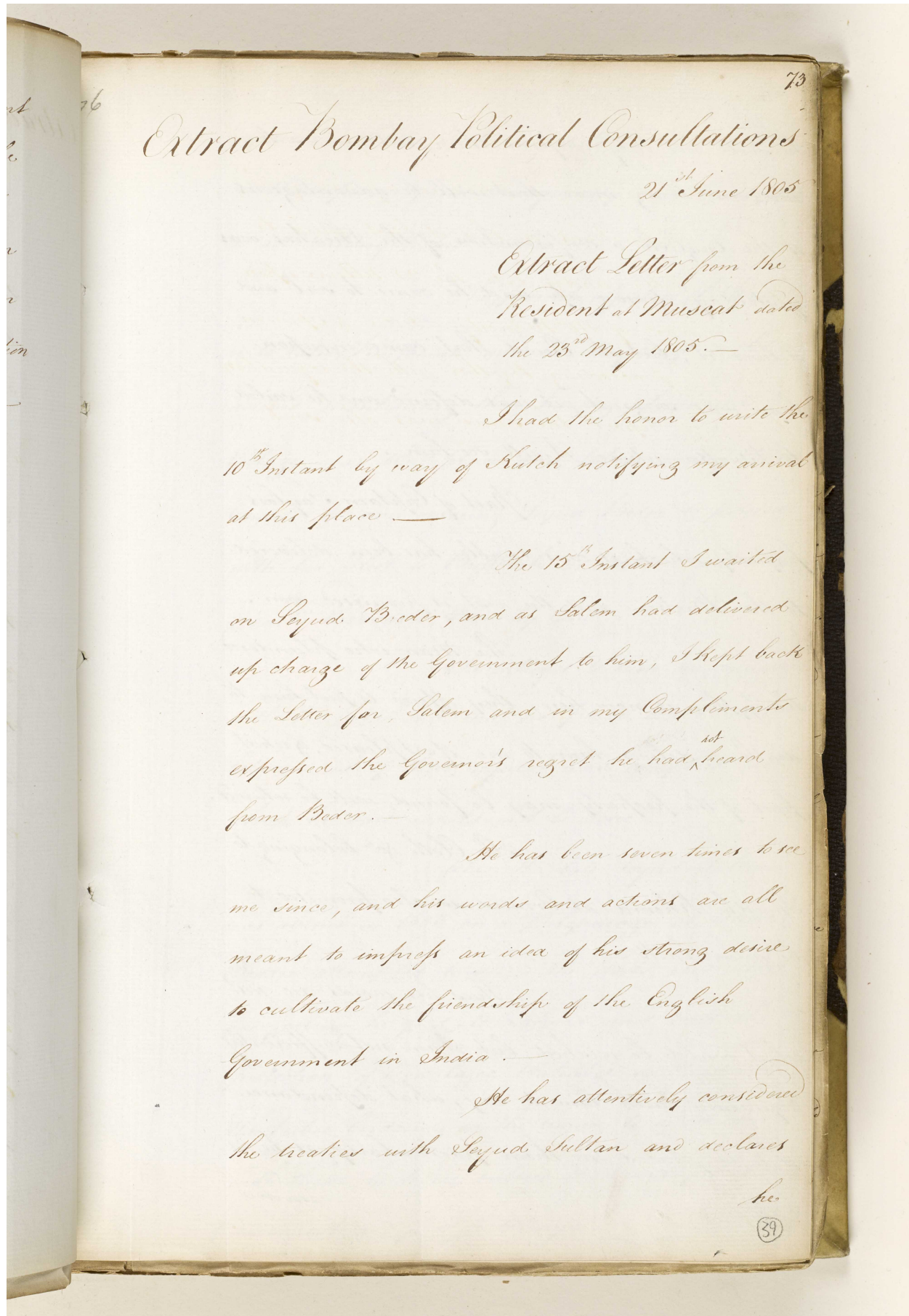
'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [38r] (81/186)



'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [38v] (82/186)

1776  
The Supreme Government  
was on the 13<sup>th</sup> instant likewise advised of the  
further Instructions on this Subject issued to  
Captain Loten under date the 20<sup>th</sup> Ultimo upon  
the grounds of Mr Manesty's Letter & Opinion  
of the 10<sup>th</sup> preceding together with the requisition  
to him to report the same was also sent.

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [39r] (83/186)



73  
Extract Bombay Political Consultations

21<sup>st</sup> June 1805

Extract Letter from the  
Resident at Muscat dated  
the 25<sup>th</sup> May 1805. —

I had the honor to write the  
10<sup>th</sup> Instant by way of Kutch notifying my arrival  
at this place —

The 15<sup>th</sup> Instant I waited  
on Seyud Beder, and as Salem had delivered  
up charge of the Government to him, I kept back  
the Letter for Salem and in my Compliments  
expressed the Governor's regret he had <sup>not</sup> heard  
from Beder. —

He has been seven times to see  
me since, and his words and actions are all  
meant to impress an idea of his strong desire  
to cultivate the friendship of the English  
Government in India. —

He has attentively considered  
the treaties with Seyud Sultan and declares

He

(39)

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [39v] (84/186)

he will not only confirm them but means to add something more that will be advantageous to the English a confirmation of the Treaties was yesterday drawn up and he came to seal and deliver it, but the Crowd that came in upon him was so great, it was deferred and he sailed to Burka, where I will see him —

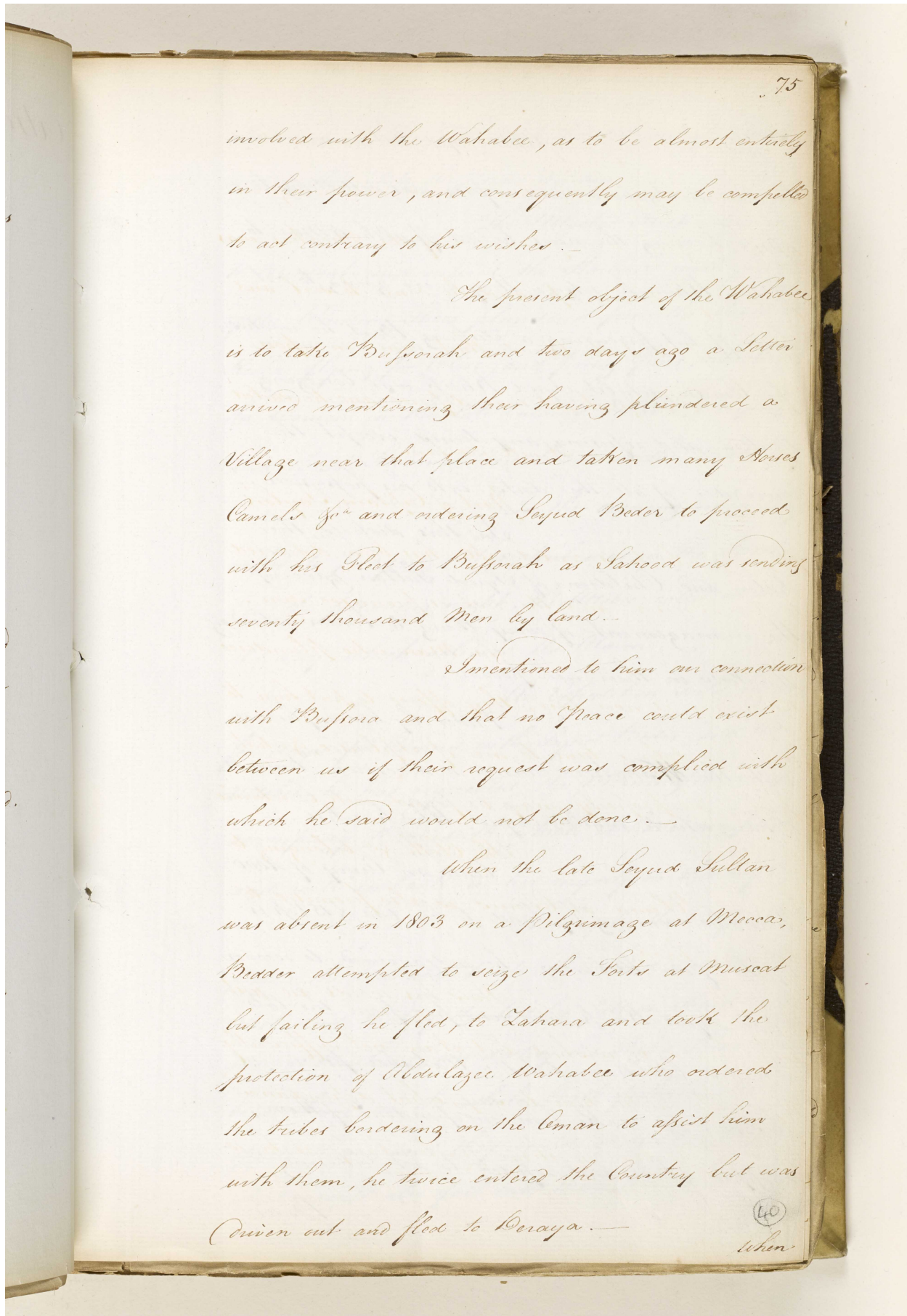
Part of Captain Taylor's property which is considerable has been delivered to the Doctor and the rest is promised soon.

The Man who plundered the Zypher is now here, they offered to put him to death or deliver him to me if I pleased, & what part of the property may be found will be returned.

The Cloth &c. belonging to Shaikh Khema at Ormus is also promised to be given back —

Thus his words are just what could be wished, but I am not sufficiently acquainted with him to say, what dependance is to be placed on them particularly as he is  
involved

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [40r] (85/186)



involved with the Wahabee, as to be almost entirely  
in their power, and consequently may be compelled  
to act contrary to his wishes.

The present object of the Wahabee  
is to take Bussorah and two days ago a Letter  
arrived mentioning their having plundered a  
Village near that place and taken many Horses  
Camels &c<sup>o</sup> and ordering Seyud Beder to proceed  
with his Fleet to Bussorah as Saheed was sending  
seventy thousand Men by land.

I mentioned to him our connection  
with Bussora and that no Peace could exist  
between us if their request was complied with  
which he said would not be done.

When the late Seyud Sultan  
was absent in 1803 on a Pilgrimage at Mecca,  
Beder attempted to seize the Forts at Muscat  
but failing he fled, to Lahara and took the  
protection of Abdulazee Wahabee who ordered  
the tribes bordering on the Oman to assist him  
with them, he twice entered the Country but was  
driven out and fled to Beraya.

(L)  
When

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [40v] (86/186)

When Syed Sultan was killed he was at Zabara and a force was collecting to assist, hearing the news he set off with 3 Men to Rasul Khimch where they were going to cut him off but procuring a Fishing Boat, he reached the Oman, whilst Syud Ahsif was besieging Muttra and refusing any terms except the surrender of all the Ports into his possession.

In this distress, the Sister and Children of Syud Sultan gave up the management of every thing to Beder retaining the Ports in their own power.

Beder by his influence with the Wahabee caused a diversion towards Sohar, which made Syud Ahsif retire.

And an Army of 4000 Wahabee coming by land to his Aid, & 15 Vessels by Sea from Behereen, he endeavoured to recover what Syud Ahsif had usurped from the late Amans Children, but the Wahabee perceiving this, would make him independent of them, stopped short and refused to act,

Beder

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [41r] (87/186)

77

Beder and Khief to wait the decision of Schoods and in this state they now remain —

The Uttobee Fleet returned to Muscat and entered the Harbour, with pieces of the Winding Sheet plundered from the Tomb at Herba, flying for Colors, and firing Guns, which set the Women in the late Emam's Zenana, a crying, and their Screamers were heard in the Streets —

In the evening when they called to Prayers, not a Soul was in the Streets; & in the following night, the Uttobee called in the old way, which relieved the Alarm —

An Expedition sails in a few days for Cermus with Sayud Beder, and the Uttobee — he has requested the Mornington may accompany them, with which I have complied, and will embark in her myself on Sunday —

It may be that Sayud Beder prefers the Uahabee to all others, and should his Fleet and that of the Uttobee fall on Shark Raffer now at Bushcab, and destroy his Ships there would be nothing on the whole Coast of Persia, able to oppose them, and they would go direct, to Persora which would also fall into their hands as I have  
(at)  
declared

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [41v] (88/186)

declared I will not act against the Turks or Persians  
I will be on the spot to see, Beder does not also, and  
as I expect to be joined by the Queen, I will be  
able to make them respect us without giving offence.

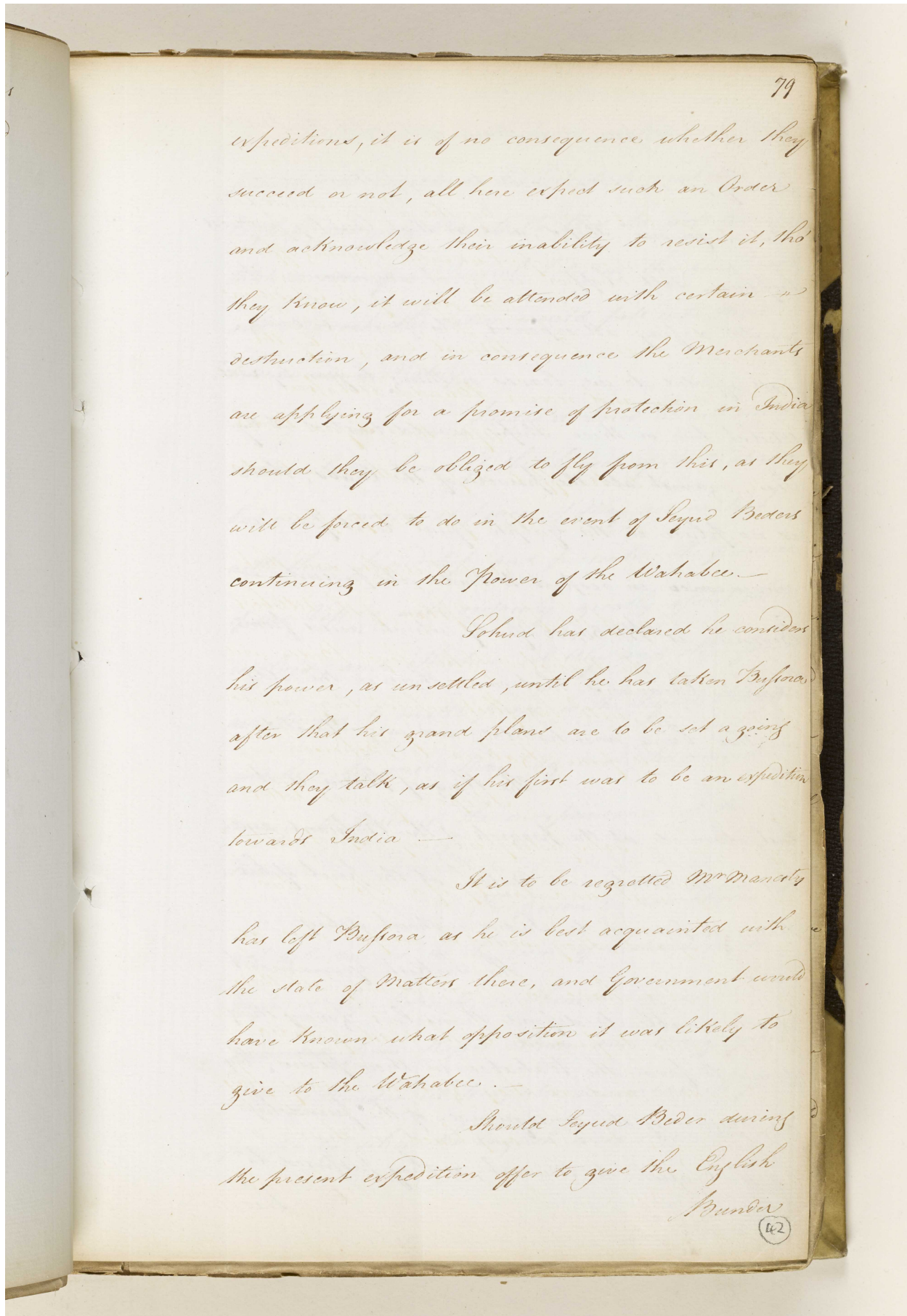
The object of the Expedition  
to Omus is to relieve Minab besieged by the  
Beni Moien and recover Bunder Abbaser -

After that Seyud Beder  
will proceed to Watiff, to confer with Schood, who  
is expected to come there for that purpose -

And it is also said that  
in prosecution of the former Plan, of the Uttoobies  
throwing off the Wahabee Yoke, Seyud Beder will  
protect them, with his fleet, whilst they remove  
their families from Szabara to Beheren -

I hope my next Letter  
will be more satisfactory in every respect, but  
in the present uncertainty if a Vessel or two  
can be spared, they would be useful here, as  
the Wahabee have in view, ordering all their  
Dependants to proceed to the Coast of India  
to plunder, and as they give no money pay  
or provisions to those employed in their  
Expeditions

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [42r] (89/186)



79  
expeditions, it is of no consequence whether they  
succeed or not, all here expect such an Order  
and acknowledge their inability to resist it, tho'  
they know, it will be attended with certain  
destruction, and in consequence the Merchants  
are applying for a promise of protection in India  
should they be obliged to fly from this, as they  
will be forced to do in the event of Seyud Beder  
continuing in the Power of the Wahabee.

Sohud has declared he considers  
his power, as unsettled, until he has taken Buffora,  
after that his grand plans are to be set a going  
and they talk, as if his first was to be an expedition  
towards India.

It is to be regretted Mr Manesty  
has left Buffora as he is best acquainted with  
the state of matters there, and Government would  
have known what opposition it was likely to  
give to the Wahabee.

Should Seyud Beder during  
the present expedition offer to give the English  
Bunder

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [42v] (90/186)

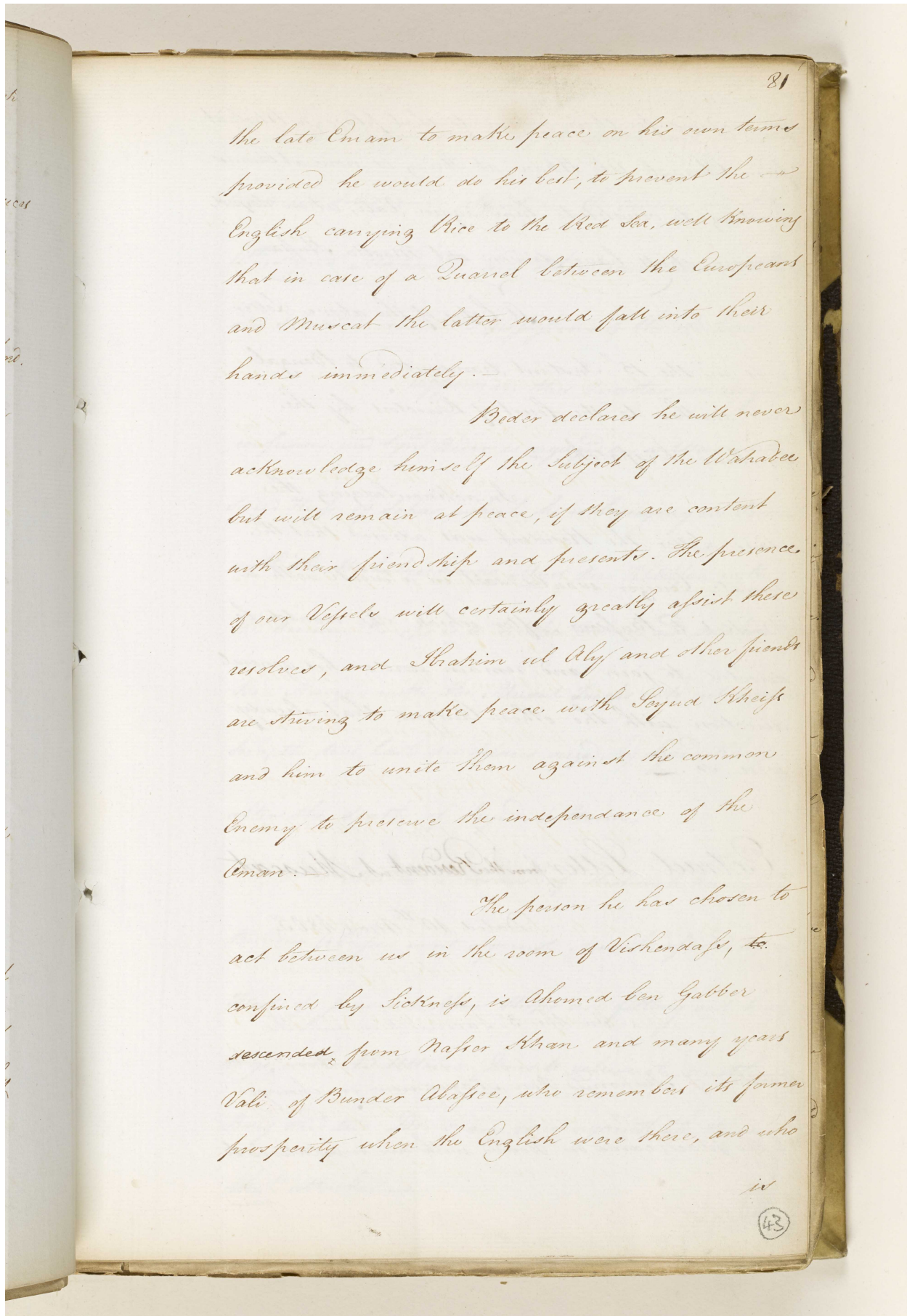
Wunder Abasse, or a share of it, and the Dutch Factory, it would be well to accept them as a Station for our Ships, and as that Country produces Sulphur, Salt &opper in great abundance, it would defray all expences, the Possians being well affected to us, leaves nothing to fear by Land. whilst two or three Ships would protect it by Sea, against all the power of the Arabs; there is no place in the Gulph equal to it for convenience in respect to trade, its present Revenue is  $\text{Rs } 30,000$  Yearly which arises from chance Caravans that come there in the cold weather being uninhabited and uncultivated.

The King of Persia is at last alarmed at the progress of the Perfians and has wrote Mahomed Nubee, at the head of his Army, to proceed to India without delay.

The Turkish Government is also unable to defend themselves & every thing seems to favor the Wahabee in their plans. They are aware of the consequence, of the friendships of the English to Muscat, as they proposed to

the

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [43r] (91/186)



81

the late Emam to make peace on his own terms provided he would do his best, to prevent the English carrying Vice to the Red Sea, well knowing that in case of a Quarrel between the Europeans and Muscat the latter would fall into their hands immediately.

Beder declares he will never acknowledge himself the Subject of the Wahabee but will remain at peace, if they are content with their friendship and presents. The presence of our Vessels will certainly greatly assist these resolves, and Ibrahim ul Aly and other friends are striving to make peace with Seyud Shreife and him to unite them against the common Enemy to preserve the independance of the Oman.

The person he has chosen to act between us in the room of Vishendafe, & confined by Sictinofe, is Ahomed ben Gatter descended from Nasser Khan and many years Vali of Bunder Abafce, who remembers its former prosperity when the English were there, and who

iv  
(43)

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [43v] (92/186)

is anxious for their return to that place, a Khelâat  
from Chiragh Ali Khan, at Shiraz, is now at Larus  
waiting to constitute him again Vali, when Seyud  
Bedder shall have driven out Moolla Hussein.

A copy of the above Letter  
was on the 15<sup>th</sup> Instant transmitted to Bengal  
and another to the Court of Directors by the  
Overland Dispatch. —

In acknowledging the  
above Letter the Resident was advised that the  
Sennate Cruiser would sail in a week with a  
Squadron to Bufona, after which she would be  
directed to join and remain under his general  
direction with the other Cruizers that already  
were so. —

Extract Letter from the Resident at Muscat

Dated 10<sup>th</sup> May 1805.

On the 3<sup>o</sup> I arrived here, and the  
Brother of Mahomed Ben Nazeer, now in charge  
of the place, came on Board, with an invitation to

land

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [44r] (93/186)

83

land, and informed me, Syed Beder, and the late  
Emam's sons were absent in the Daman; on the  
14<sup>th</sup>, Syed Mahomed, and others, came also on Board,  
and landed, and took possession of the old house.

Affairs in this Quarter are in great  
confusion and Syed Beder is engaged in a War with  
Syed Heif of Sohar, which he is besieging in Person  
with the Wahabee Troops, Majid Ben Khulfan with  
the Omaree Troops is to retake Calora and Mahomed  
Ben Naryee, with the Muscat Troops is to act against  
Seib; the two last are places seized, by Syed Heif  
after the death of Syed Sultan.

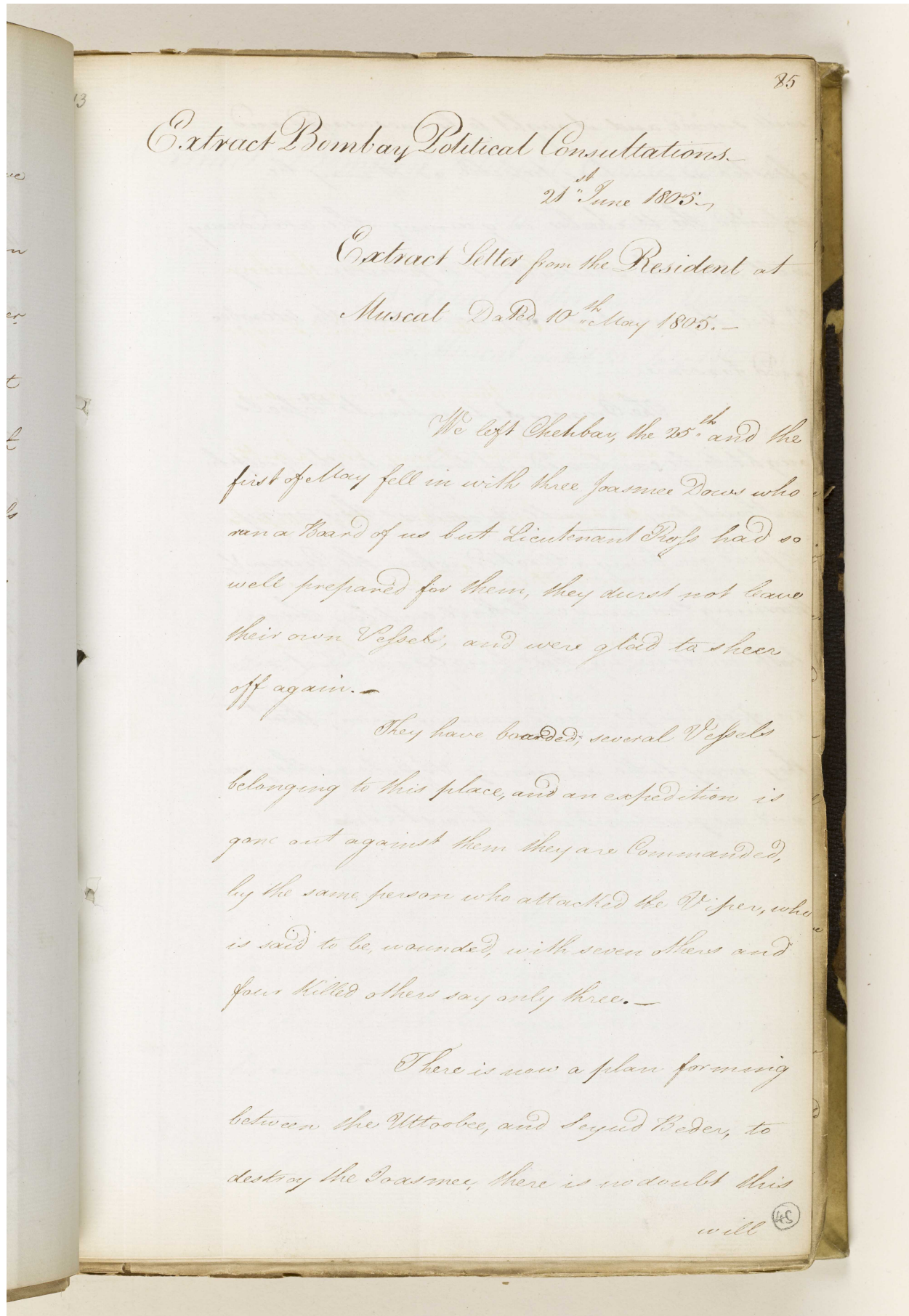
Mulla Hussein of Hishanch having seized  
Bunder Abasie went against Minah, assisted by a  
Fleet of Joasmee, three Ships are fitting out here,  
to go with 15 Uttabee Daws to relieve it, another  
Brig and two Daws, are gone against the three  
that attacked us.

(L) The

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [44v] (94/186)

1813  
The Joasmees, are subjects of the  
Whahabee, and in consequence of their orders, have  
sent Troops to assist Beder, one of whom of whom  
now wears before his sons, the Sword, and Dagger.  
Syud Sultan avows, when they murdered him, but  
Syud Beder does not consider it any breach with  
the Whahabee to hunt and destroy their Vessels  
wherever he meets them, and one that was  
loading Rice has been seized in this Port.

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [45r] (95/186)

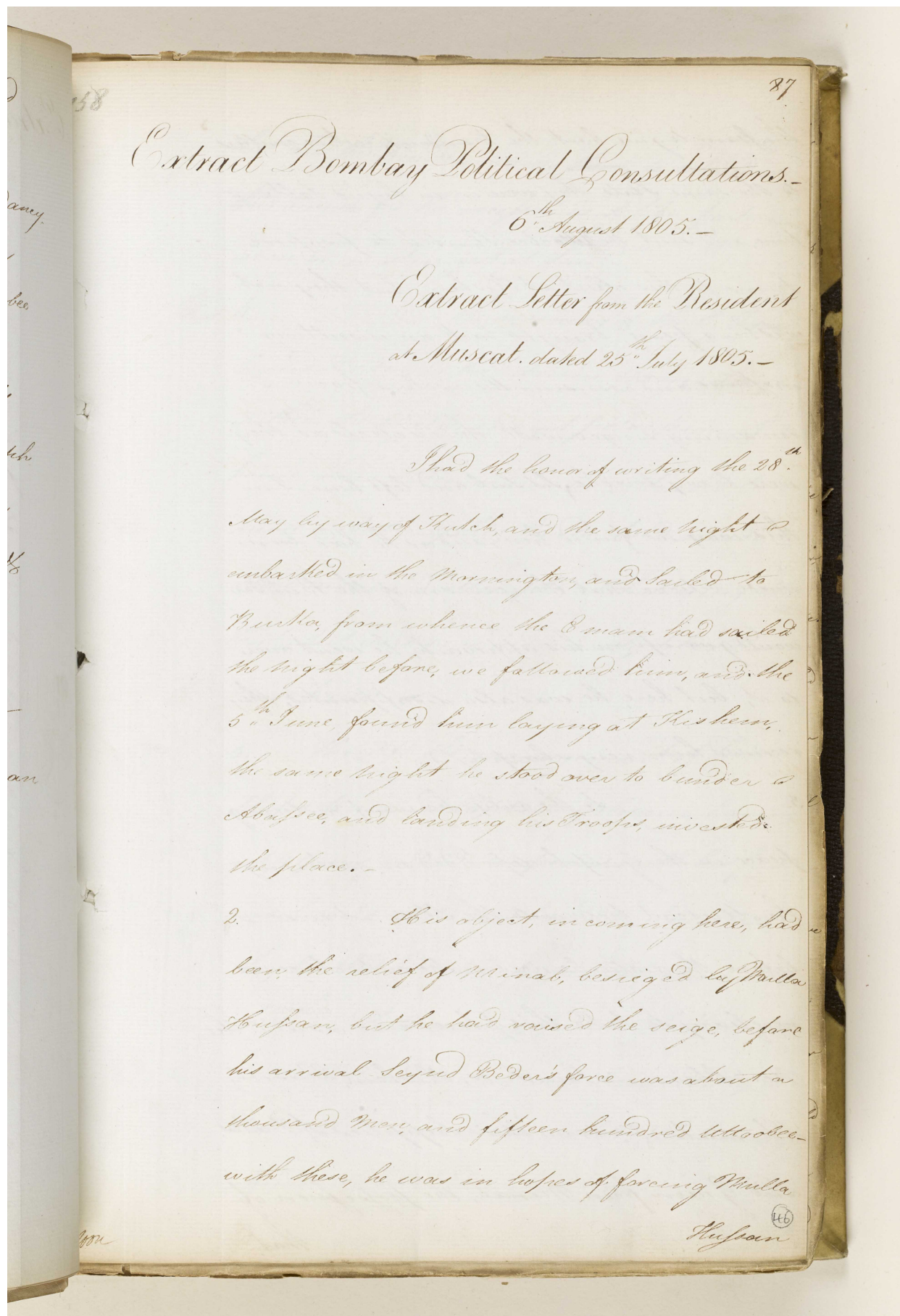


'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [45v] (96/186)

with success, and it ought to be encouraged and  
assisted as much as possible, as it may be  
expected the Wahabee in gaining the ascendancy  
will induce the Muscattees to plunder every  
Vessel they meet as they have done the Ulloobee  
and Joasmee.

The Owners of Merchants Vessels  
ought to be cautioned not to come to the Gulf  
without they are well armed, as they may  
depend on being attacked, when the Queen's  
Barrington arrive I shall employ them  
both in driving these pirates into Port as  
an opinion prevails among them, that  
they may take as many Vessels as they can  
and no questions will be asked.

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasme Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [46r] (97/186)

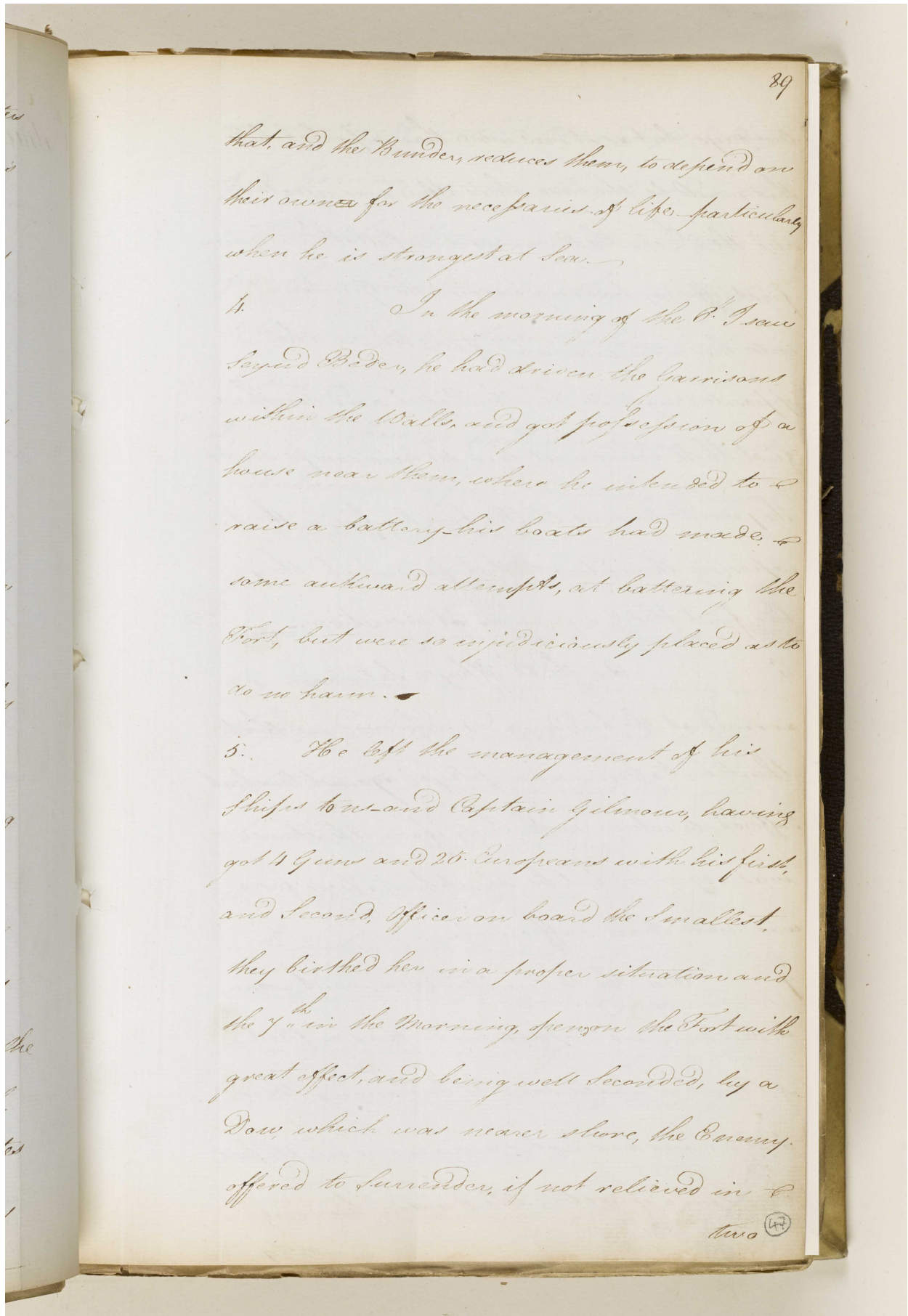


'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [46v] (98/186)

Hassan to give back the Bunder, & restore matters to the same state they were in, in Sejid Salber's time, and sent the ~~Utobee~~ Shaitich to propose terms to this effect at Fushan, but they not wishing peace, brought back an insulting message and excusing themselves from remaining longer with their defects as they were heavily loaded, set sail and left him. In this way we found him, and as he had been made believe that the Garrison of the Bunder would give up on his approach, he went over to it, but here, he was also disappointed, they received him very sharply.

3. As the only chance of restoring peace in the Gulf depended on restoring the Muscat power to the state it was before, the disturbances broke out, it was necessary to take this place, and as all the neighbouring Countries, Fushan, Daul, Ahimah &c. drew their Supplies of Dates and Grain from Muscat, the possession of that

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [47r] (99/186)



89  
that, and the Bunder, reduces them, to depend on  
their own for the necessaries of life, particularly  
when he is strongest at sea.

4. In the morning of the 6<sup>th</sup> I saw  
Seyid Beder, he had driven the Garrison  
within the Walls, and got possession of a  
house near them, where he intended to  
raise a battery his boats had made, &  
some awkward attempts, at battering the  
Fort, but were so injudiciously placed as to  
do no harm.

5. He left the management of his  
Ship to us and Captain Gilmour, having  
got 4 Guns and 20 Europeans with his first,  
and second, Officer on board the Smallest,  
they birthed her in a proper situation and  
the 7<sup>th</sup> in the Morning, upon the Fort with  
great effect, and being well seconded, by a  
Dow, which was nearer shore, the Enemy  
offered to surrender, if not relieved in  
two (17)

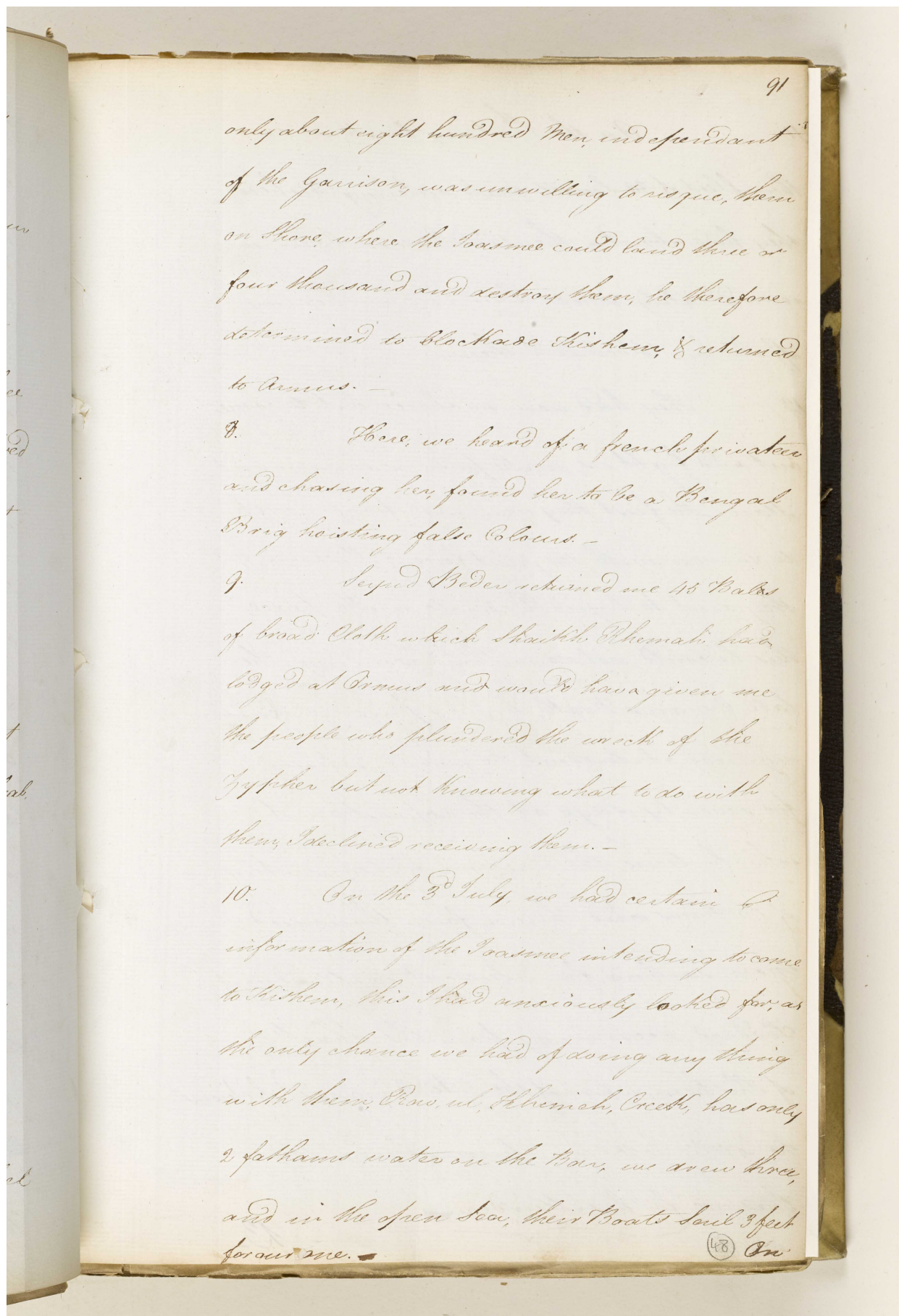
'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [47v] (100/186)

two days, but as it was more than a probability  
this would be the case, their offer was rejected,  
and the 8<sup>th</sup> in the Evening Lieut. Nath. Gilman  
first Officer, having carried the *Georgian*  
into her own draught of water on the  
opposite angle to the other Vessel and her three  
first shots being well laid, the Garrison perceived  
they would have no shelter, from her fire, without  
exposing themselves to that, from which they  
had first fled & surrendered at discretion.

6 On the 15<sup>th</sup> *Thajee Salomon* &  
arrived at the bunder and informed us that  
*Shaitkh Nasser* was employed against *Mushhal*,  
offered to return with him if our assistance  
was required, but he, *Shaitkh Nasser's* force,  
was more than sufficient.

7 On the 15<sup>th</sup> *Seyid Beden* went over  
to this hour, we expecting to find a fleet  
of *Joasmee* boats said to be coming there,  
but on our arrival seeing none our Vessel  
remained inactive. The *Qman* having  
only

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [48r] (101/186)



'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [48v] (102/186)

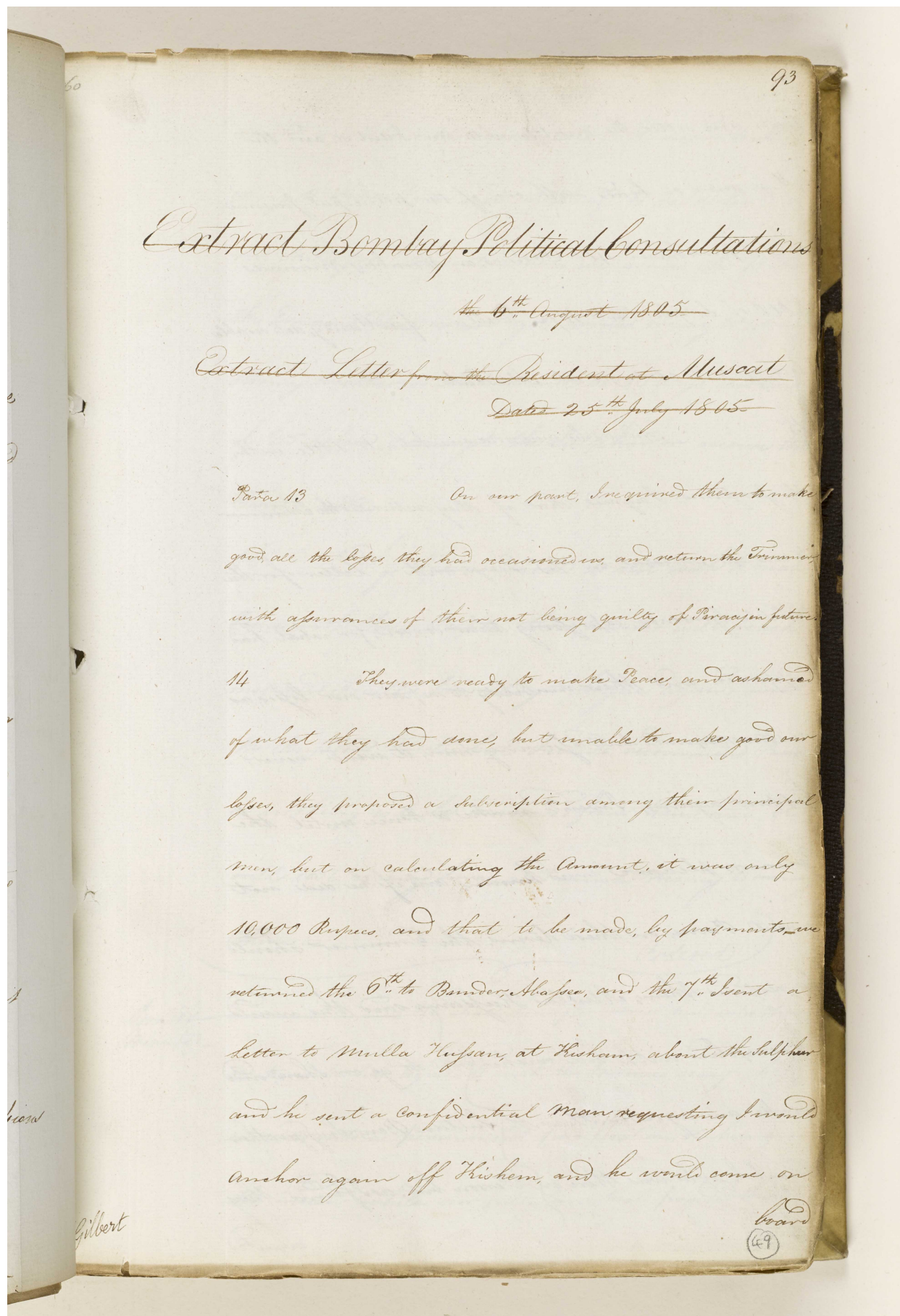
11. On the 5<sup>th</sup> at day break, we saw  
their fleet of 30 small boats entering this bay  
they had about a thousand men on board, we  
immediately made sail and anchoring  
off this bay blockaded them.

12. They had now no choice, but to come  
out and fight us, make peace, or remain and  
starve the first they were not strong enough  
to do even with the joint force of this bay, &  
they sent to Seyid Beder to make peace,  
this he could not do without excusing the  
late Oman's death, but his presence being  
required at Muscat, he made a truce  
for seventy days at the expiration of  
which time the Buffora fleet consisting  
of 60 Daws and three or four thousand  
men, sailing for Muscat, will admit  
Beder's recovering from the shadow  
of this bay, what of the late Oman's hopes  
he still holds and punishing the  
Joasmee for his Murder.

13.

McIlbert

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [49r] (103/186)



'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [49v] (104/186)

boards and settle the matter with me, I did so, and the  
8<sup>th</sup> he came on board with one of the principal Joasmees,  
and I purchased 400 Candies, or Bombay Mounds  
8,000 of Sulphur, at 10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Dollars per Candy, deliverable  
free of all charges at Muscat—

15 And as he was anxious I should settle with  
the Joasmees, I agreed, that if they returned the Trimmer  
to me at Muscat in 25 Days, with a letter for the  
Honorable Governor, expressing their sorrow, for what had  
happened, and their inability to repair our losses, as  
justice required but assuring him, it would never  
happen again, I would make a truce until the  
Governor's pleasure was known, and if he did not  
grant Peace, on these terms, the Trimmer should  
be restored them, Mulla Hussain, said this would  
be complied with, but wished me to go on shore, and  
make an agreement with Sultan Ben, I suggest their  
Shaykh who was there in Person but as I found they  
wanted

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [50r] (105/186)

95

wanted me to make agreements, with regard to their going to Sidra I was not authorized to do, declined it, and sailed for Muscat, where we arrived the 18<sup>th</sup> but the Enam's Fleet is not yet arrived owing to had stormy weather, so that it will be 40 days, instead of 25<sup>th</sup> before, I can get the Sulphur, or receive the Trimmer.

50 If Government do not wish to make Peace, with these People, their answer will reach me, and I will be ready to begin again with the Professor's Fleet, but I would recommend Peace, as nothing is to be recovered from them, and it will cost many lives, and much money to annoy them.

Ordered

Board's Minute - We shall hereafter advise him whether the truce he has agreed to with the Joasmees may be converted into a permanent pacification, it being in the mean while our intention that provided they deliver

(50) up

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [50v] (106/186)

up the *Examiner*, and adhere in all other respects to the terms thereof concluded it shall continue to operate, and have full effect between the British Government, and the parties in question until we shall have been able to obtain and transmit to him the sentiments of the Supreme Government which will be immediately applied for.

The Military Board are to be advised of Captain Seton's purchase from Mullah Shifoon, of the Island of Hiskem, of 400 Candies, or Bombay mounds 8000 of Sulphur @ 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  D<sup>r</sup> 105 Candy, deliverable free of all charges at Muscat. whence Captain Seton is to be directed to cause the amount thereof commissioned from Bengal 1,500 Bengal, or 3242.9 Bombay mounds to be transported to Calcutta, by the earliest good opportunity that may offer, sending the remainder to Bombay, and taking care that both consignments be previously ascertained to be of prime quality, well graded and in a perfectly clean state, accompanied with a certificate to that effect from the principal Merchants of Muscat, countersigned by himself as well as by regular Invoices under his signature. *Ordered*

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [51r] (107/186)

97

Ordered that a Copy of the above letter be  
transmitted to the Chief Secretary of the Government  
General accompanied by such Extracts of the  
letters from the President dated the 10<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>d</sup> of  
May, as treat of the circumstances respecting  
Bunder Abassey or Gombroon whence there  
seems on the whole but little reason to be  
apprehended that any umbrage can be taken  
by the Persian Government at the degree of  
indirect assistance which under Capt. Selby's  
orders appears to have been afforded to Syed  
Peder, the party now in authority at Muscat,  
for recovering that place out of the hands of  
Mulla Hussain the ruler of the adjoining  
Island of Chikhem, who availing himself of  
the troubles that followed the death of the  
late Sinaum of Muscat, possessed himself  
of that place and harbour, which has for  
years passed been held by the Muscat  
family in fief from the Persian Government  
together with considerable extent of the  
same (51)

same line of Coast, and there is the more ground  
to suppose Captain Selton to have been convinced  
of the inoffensiveness of any interposition or  
concurrence on our part in the instance in  
question, as by the 13<sup>th</sup> paragraph of his  
instructions of the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March it was pointed  
out to him as an object of attention to keep  
clear of all occasion of dispute with that  
State as is accordingly to be adverted to in  
the Secretary's acknowledgement of his above  
recorded dispatch, with notice that we shall  
~~Captain Selton to be informed  
that the brief notice he has taken of the  
Bengal being hoisting false Colours is  
unsatisfactory in as much as he should  
have specified her name that of her  
Commander and the Colours she was seen  
under with some explanation of her  
Commanders motives for that being wise  
hereafter advise him whether she since he  
has agreed to with the Joasmee may be  
converted~~

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [52r] (109/186)

99

converted into a permanent pacification it  
being in the mean while our intention that  
provided they deliver up the Sumner and  
adhere in all other respects to the truce thus  
concluded it shall continue to operate & have  
full effect between the British Government  
and the parties in question until we shall  
have been able to obtain and transmit to him  
the Sentiments of the Supreme Government  
which will be immediately applied for.

Captain Seton to be informed  
that the brief notice he has taken of the Bengal  
Brig hoisting false Colours is unsatisfactory  
inasmuch as he should have specified her  
name, that of her Commander, and the Colours  
she was seen under, with some explanation  
of her Commander's motives for that disguise.

The 45 Bales of Broad Cloth  
from Royal Bredon of the quantity plundered  
from the Hector is to be consigned by the  
first good opportunity to the Acting Resident  
at

(52)

at Bushire where it is likely to meet with  
the readiest market of which partial recovery  
the Accountant General and Company's Attorney  
are to be advised. —

The Military Board are  
to be advised of Captain Seton's purchase from  
Mulla Hussain of the Island of Kishem of  
400 Candies or Bombay Maunds 8000 of Sulphur  
@ 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  Dollars per Candy deliverable free of all  
charges at Muscat whence Captain Seton is  
to be directed to cause the amount thereof  
commissioned from Bengal 1500 Bengal or  
3242 $\frac{1}{9}$  Bombay Maunds to be transported to  
Calcutta by the earliest good opportunity that  
may offer sending the remainder to Bombay  
& taking care that both consignments be  
previously ascertained to be of prime quality  
well grabled and in a perfectly clean state  
accompanied with a Certificate to that effect  
from the principal Merchants of Muscat  
countersigned by himself as well as by regular  
Invoices under his Signature. —

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [53r] (111/186)

2771

101

Extract Bombay Political Consultations  
of <sup>the</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> August 1805. -

Extract Letter from the Acting Resident at  
Bushire Dated 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1805. -

I received a letter from Captain David Selon as  
per enclosed Copy which I now forward along  
with a Copy of my letter to him, for the information  
of the Honble the Governor in Council; my reasons  
for not writing to the Shiraz Government, &  
agreeable to Captain Selon's wish, will be seen  
in my letter to him, and hope they will be  
perfectly satisfactory to the Honble Board. -

I have every reason to hope from Capt:  
Selon's letter to me, that he has not acted in  
conjunction with Syed Budder in the reduction  
of <sup>Qoomboom</sup> ~~Goomboom~~, notwithstanding the official  
accounts from the Minister & Prince at  
Shiraz to His Excellency the Persian  
Ambassador, & Shaikh Nassur's letter to

Mos

Agca (53)

Agga Muhammed Behbanee; and however he  
should have been induced from particular  
circumstances to have Co-operated with Syed  
Bedden, I have no doubt he will desist, from  
any further offensive measures on this side of  
the Gulf, on the receipt of my letter; as it is  
Contrary to the wish of the Persian Government,  
more particularly at this time when they are  
actually carrying on measures for compelling  
the Chieftain of Mukheloo to make reparations  
for the property forcibly seized by him, and  
also their Ambassadors being upon the point  
of proceeding to India.

The Ambassador has written the  
Minister at Shiraz that he is confident the  
Accounts sent there must be false, & that if it  
should not be, Mr. Seton must have been made  
to believe by Syed Bedden that the place had  
thrown off the Allegiance to the King & was  
now inhabited by the Joasmees, otherwise he  
never would think of doing any thing of the  
kind & that I had dispatched a Boat to Capt. Seton,  
to ascertain the truth & to caution him not to meddle  
with any of the Islands & Ports on this side of  
the Gulf.

L. W.

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [54r] (113/186)

To  
Mr W<sup>m</sup> Bruce  
Acting Resident  
at Bushire.

Sir,  
I have the pleasure to apprise you of  
my return to this Presidency.

I am directed by Government to receive  
your information, in how far my acting  
hostilely to the Pirates in the Gulf would be  
agreeable to the Court of Persia, and whether I am  
to consider in that light, their tributaries the  
Bedi Mami and the Sheikhs of Jingerah & Shiraz,  
who were very active in plundering the  
Shannon and Trimmer.

The Queen will call for your answer,  
on her return from Bushira, and by which time  
you have been able to know from Shiraz.

Muscat  
4<sup>th</sup> May 1805

I am &c &c  
Signed David Seton  
Secy

True Copy  
Signed William Bruce

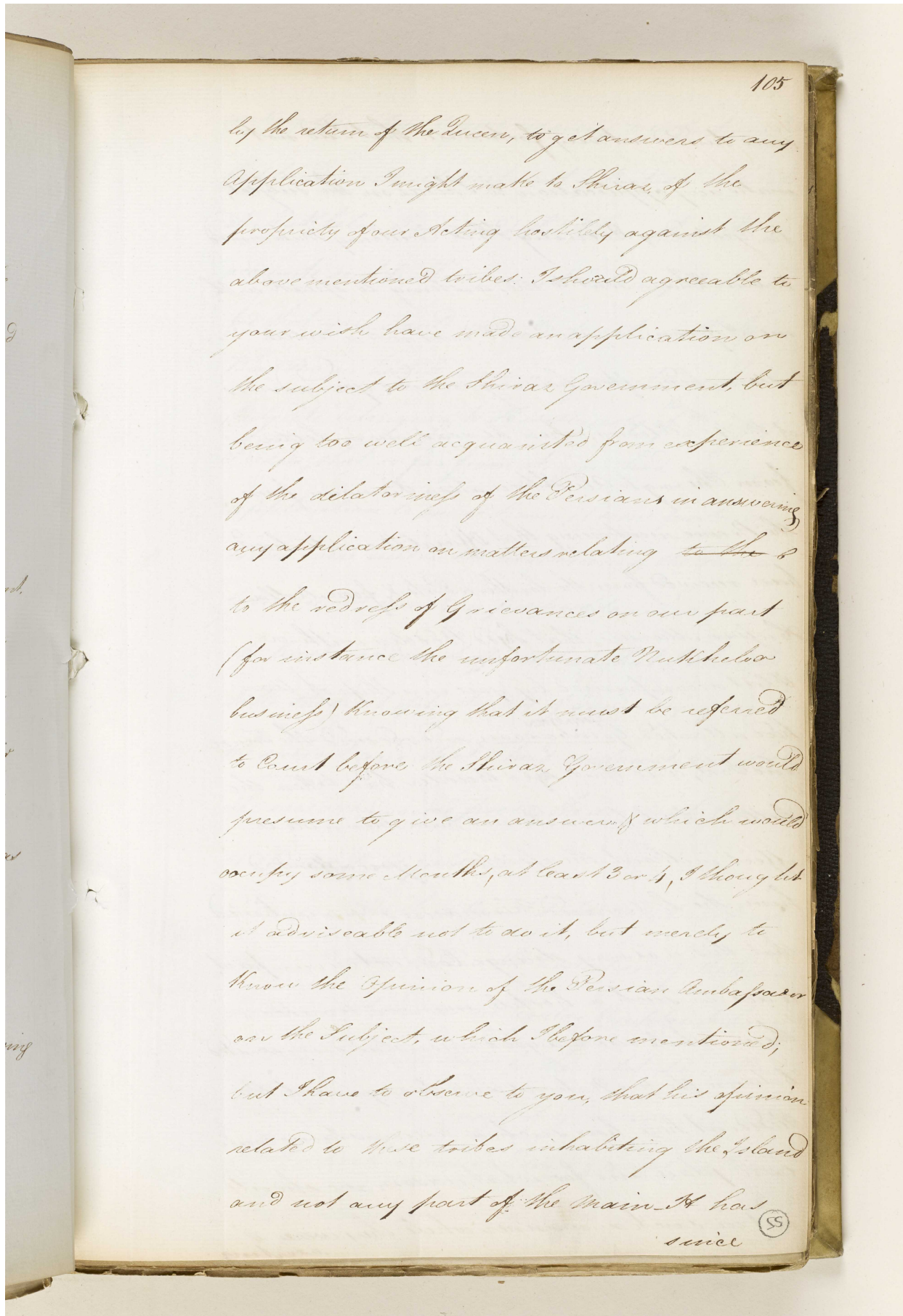
56 (56)

To  
Captain David Selow  
President  
of Muscat.

Sir,  
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 11<sup>th</sup> May and which reached me on the 20<sup>th</sup> Instant per the Queen. On the same day I waited on His Excellency the Persian & Ambassador and enquired of him whether the Beni Main, the Sheiks of Zingera & Sherias were under the protection of the Persian Government, and whether <sup>our</sup> ~~we~~ acting hostily against them would be agreeable to the latter. He at that time answered they were subjects of Persia, but their Allegiance was very precarious in general, & entirely depended on the State the Country was in at the time, and he did not suppose there would be any objection <sup>to</sup> our punishing them, if they had acted in any manner deserving of it.

In your application to me you mention that I shall have time enough  
by

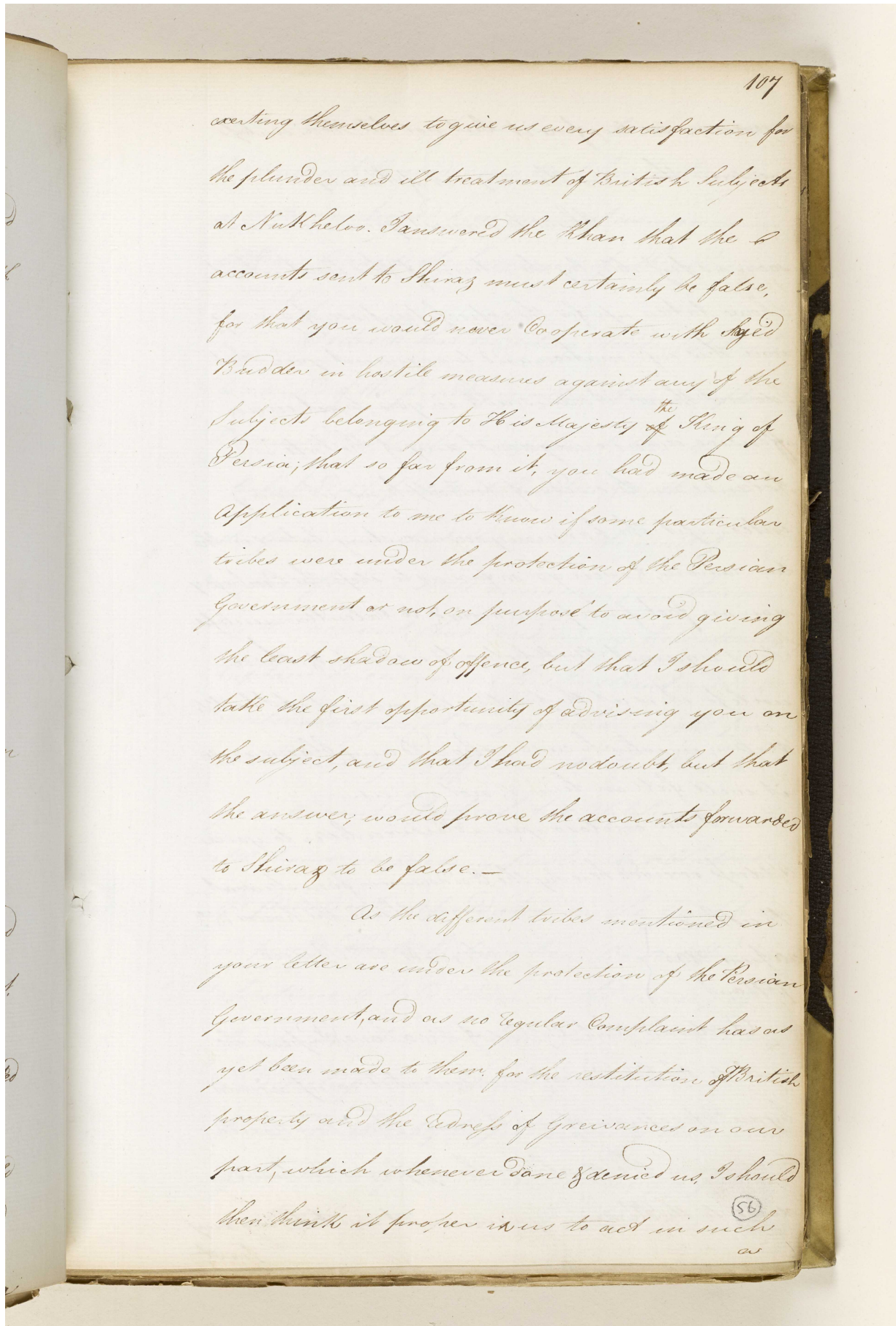
'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [55r] (115/186)



'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [55v] (116/186)

since turned out very fortunate that I did not  
make any application to Shiras on the subject,  
for yesterday Evening H. E. Excellency Mahammed  
Nebbi Khan sent to me, wishing to speak with  
me - I of course went and was not a little  
astorished, after having received your advices  
of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ultimo, when he read me a letter  
from Cheragh Ali Khan and a Firman from  
the Prince mentioning that Official Accounts had  
been received from the Southern Ports & from Mulla  
Kasim Marini, that Syed Bedder with a  
Fleet accompanied by you in a Ship of War,  
had attacked <sup>Gombroon</sup> Gombroon, and reduced the Town  
and Fort, and that Syed Bedder had taken the  
latter, which he would not have been able to  
effect without the assistance you afforded  
him. The letter and Firman also mentioned  
that this was very strange Conduct on our part,  
to act in such a hostile manner towards  
them, while such a good understanding existed  
between the two Nations, and to enquire of the  
President here how such a Circumstance could  
take place and for what reasons we should  
act in such a manner while they were <sup>existing</sup>

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [56r] (117/186)



107  
 exerting themselves to give us every satisfaction for  
 the plunder and ill treatment of British Subjects  
 at Muscat. I answered the Khan that the  
 accounts sent to Shiraz must certainly be false,  
 for that you would never cooperate with Hajed  
 Badder in hostile measures against any of the  
 Subjects belonging to His Majesty <sup>the</sup> King of  
 Persia; that so far from it, you had made an  
 Application to me to know if some particular  
 tribes were under the protection of the Persian  
 Government or not, on purpose to avoid giving  
 the least shadow of offence, but that I should  
 take the first opportunity of advising you on  
 the subject, and that I had no doubt, but that  
 the answer, would prove the accounts forwarded  
 to Shiraz to be false. —

As the different tribes mentioned in  
 your letter are under the protection of the Persian  
 Government, and as no regular Complaint has as  
 yet been made to them, for the restitution of British  
 property and the redress of Grievances on our  
 part, which whenever done & denied us, I should  
 then think it proper in us to act in such <sup>(56)</sup>  
 as

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [56v] (118/186)

a manner as to enforce it, but not till then, unless  
we saw them in the very act of Piracy.

I have to request your answer as  
soon as possible, by the return of this Boat, which  
I have taken up for the express purpose of giving  
you this information, and to acquaint you that  
I do not think it advisable in you to act in an  
offensive manner against any of the Ports or  
Islands on this side of the Gulph, as it may  
interrupt the harmony now existing between the  
two Nations; & even go so far as to stop the Embassy  
now on foot from proceeding to Calcutta unless  
it is against Mutheloo Bushah & then  
unless it is at the particular request of the  
Nafey in which case should any blame arise  
it will fall on him & not on us.

I now enclose you a Persian Letter to your  
Address received here by the Endeavour from Muscat.

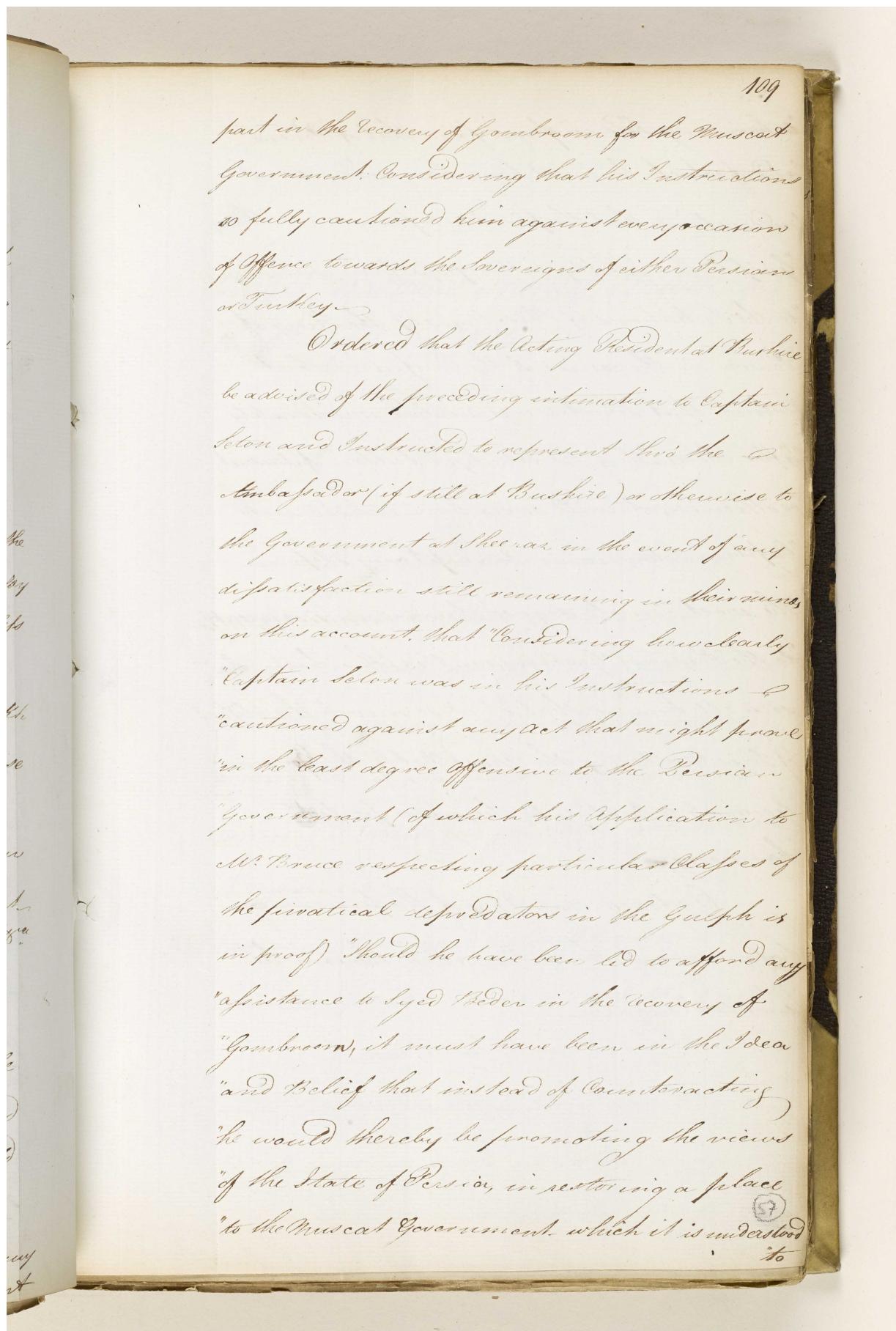
Bushie  
30 June 1805  
P Boat

I have the honor to be

(Signed) W<sup>m</sup> Bruce

Ordered that Copies of the above Papers be  
sent to the Resident at Muscat accompanied  
by an Expression of our Concern that he should  
have given the Menbrage he appears to have  
done to the Persian Government in taking any  
part

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [57r] (119/186)



109  
part in the recovery of Gombroon for the Muscat Government. Considering that his Instructions so fully cautioned him against every occasion of Offence towards the Sovereigns of either Persia or Turkey.

Ordered that the Acting Resident at Bushire be advised of the preceding intimation to Captain Selon and Instructed to represent thro' the Ambassador (if still at Bushire) or otherwise to the Government at Shiraz in the event of any dissatisfaction still remaining in their minds on this account, that "Considering how clearly Captain Selon was in his Instructions & cautioned against any act that might prove in the least degree offensive to the Persian Government (of which his Application to Mr. Pounce respecting particular Classes of the piratical depredators in the Gulf is in proof) should he have been led to afford any assistance to Syed Heder in the recovery of Gombroon, it must have been in the Idea and Belief that instead of counteracting he would thereby be promoting the views of the State of Persia, in restoring a place to the Muscat Government which it is understood  
to

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [57v] (120/186)

to have long held in favour from that of Persia  
and of which he must have been made to  
understand that the piratical powers in the  
Gulph had forcibly taken possession contrary  
to the Intentions of His Majesty the King of  
Persia in the course of the Confusion into  
which that Quarter was involved immediately  
after the death of the late Seyed Sultan of Muscat,  
or otherwise, it could never have entered into  
Captain Seton's mind, to adopt any step in  
the most remote degree obnoxious or disagreeable  
to the Persian Government with whom he  
so well knows that it is so much the object  
of His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor  
General to cultivate the most perfect  
harmony.

Ordered that Copies of the preceding  
papers and of the intimation therein be  
sent to Bengal.

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [58r] (121/186)

181  
Extract, Bombay Political Consultations  
the 4<sup>th</sup> September, 1805.

The Governor delivers in three papers for  
record, as received from Captain Seton in a private form  
but relating to public business in its nature of considerable  
importance more especially, in view to the expected  
voyage of the Persian Embassy to Bengal, and also  
extract of a Letter to him from Captain Seton, dated the  
1<sup>st</sup> August.

Extract of a Letter from Captain David Seton to the  
Honorable Governor — dated Muscat 1<sup>st</sup> August 1805

Enclosed are some papers from Mr. Bruce  
which I suppose reached, by the Margaret, and I  
have to regret, my answer did not then accompany  
them the application to Mahomed Naby from Shiraz  
was

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [58v] (122/186)

was in consequence of a letter from Mulla Hujzan, which  
will perhaps ere this be withdrawn, the Bushire people  
are extremely jealous of any settlement being made at  
Bunder Abofs, which induces them to make a noise  
whenever the Arabs get possession of it.

Shaik Gadeef of Lingua on the Persian  
side of the Gulph is a Soasim by birth uncle to  
Sattan Ben Sagger of Basud Khemeh on the  
Arabian shore; and a Wahabee by religion and  
pays tribute to Sakood, the present leader of that  
rising sect, but living on the coast of Persia he  
calls himself, when it suits his purpose a  
Persian subject, tho' he obeys no order, but  
what pleases him, Mulla Hujzan (the  
Chieftain of the Isle of Hishar) is father-in-law  
and cousin to the same Sattan, and in the same  
predicament with Persia, their boats, enjoin'd with  
the Soasims they receive and shelter and  
supply

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [59r] (123/186)

113

supply their wants in their Ports, and as the trade is obliged to go along the Persian coast they can sally out on it, an advantage they would not otherwise have.

The Persian Court know all this, and had Mr. Bruce informed them of my being there they would not have been surprized at Mulla Hujsums Letter, as they must well know, it is impossible to do any thing in this Gulph without some one of these nominal powers being hurt.

The Mornington and Minerva sailed last night in Company. I wrote Mulla Hujsum to know, why he had not sent the Sulphur and Gunpowder and telling him, I would renew the war again, if his answer was not an agreeable one, it was impossible to continue hostilities without offending the Wahabee or Persians, and it is safer to do the latter, than the first, for they increase every day, and can bring a

seventy  
(9)

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [59v] (124/186)

twenty thousand men into the field, whilst the Turks cannot trust themselves without their Walls nor the Persians make head against the Russians who are overwhelming them.

Shah Nayer is still at Bushmal they say here, he fired a few guns every day, and at night goes on shore, to dine with the Shaikh Rehman one of the last Ships that arrived, said he was looking for assistance from the Mornington, which will be odd, after refusing it, but I don't imagine the Report unfounded, or Mr Bruce would have wrote to that effect. —

M

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [60r] (125/186)

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Mr Wm Bruce  
Acting Resident  
Bustiere.

Sir,

I have been favoured with yours of  
the 8<sup>th</sup> Instant and duplicate of the 30<sup>th</sup> ultimo,  
the original is not yet arrived -

I am extremely sorry the Court of  
Shiraz was allowed to receive the first account  
of my being employed against the Joasmee  
Pirates from our Enemies: & you may assure  
the Ambassador, that the English Ship  
did not fire a Gun, as Khadjee Salomon  
who was present, will inform him, and  
how much, I respected the Subjects of the  
King of Persia, altho' they were harboring  
notorious pirates who had plundered our  
Vessels.

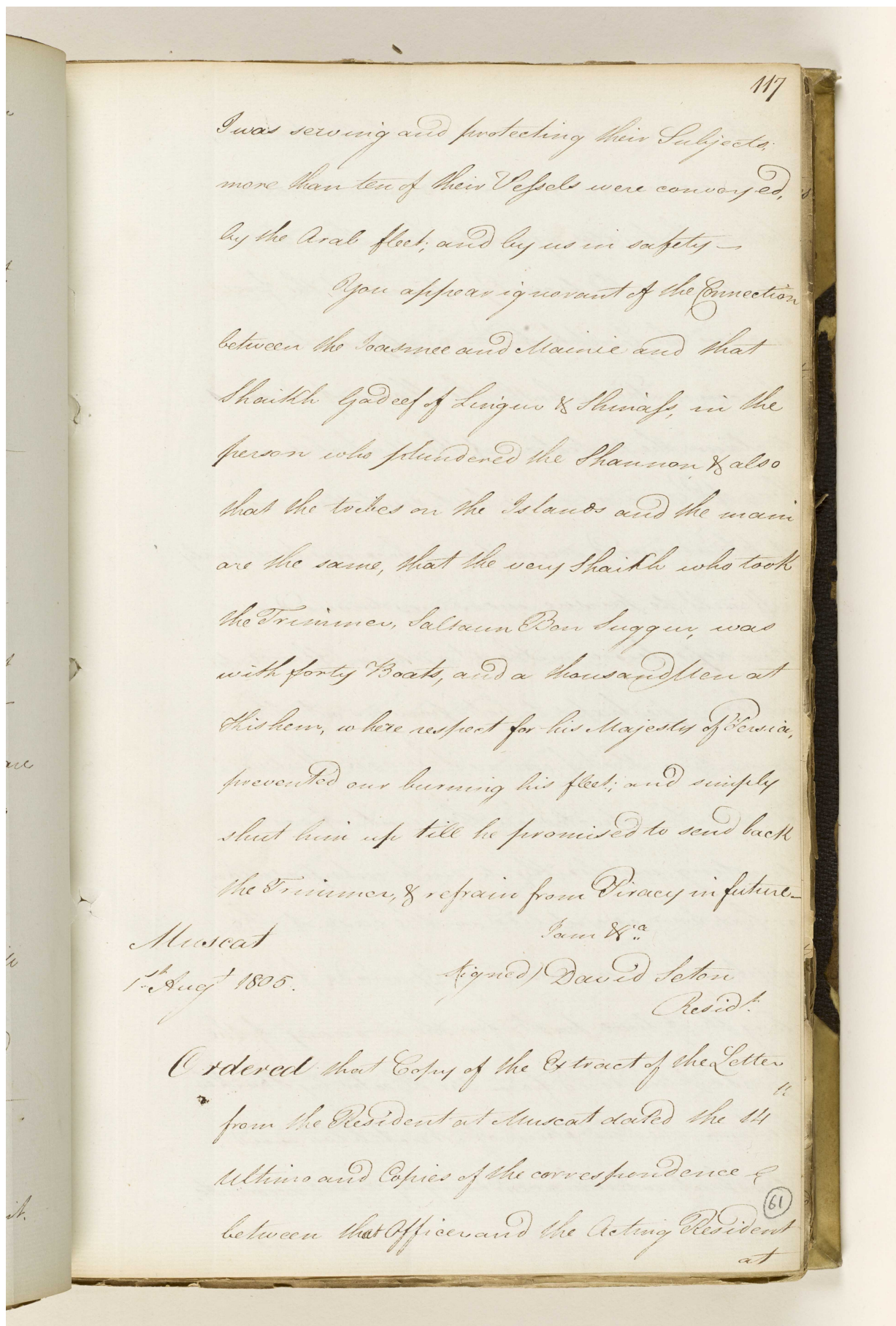
Bunder Maspat, by a Firman  
was granted the Emam of Muscat, and  
they paid tribute; on the Death of Seign  
Sultan, it was given by the Vali; in  
charge <sup>(60)</sup>

charge to Mulla Husseun Marice, to redeliver  
to the Successor of Seyid Sultan, and on  
Seyid Beders going to demand it, they  
fired on him, our Vessel was present, but  
did not fire, I sent some of our people to  
the Arab Vessels and the Akhaidan making  
this a practice for giving up his charge  
surrendered and told Mulla Husseun that  
should the English open their fire on him,  
he would not have a place to hide his wife  
in; under this impression he wrote to  
Shiraz but finding afterwards we did not  
fire he came on board Ship to me, told  
what he had done, and warned me to prepare  
myself from a complaint from Court, I do  
not know whether he will write to &  
rectify his mistake, but your informing  
Mahomed Naby of the circumstance will  
be sufficient -

It is to be regretted you did  
not communicate my being in that  
quarter to the Court of Persia, in every  
point of view they ought to have known it.

I was

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [61r] (127/186)



117  
I was serving and protecting their Subjects  
more than ten of their Vessels were conveyed  
by the Arab fleet, and by us in safety -

Upon appearing ignorant of the Connection  
between the Joasmee and Mainie and that  
Shaikh Gadcef of Lingow & Shinaf, in the  
person who plundered the Shannon & also  
that the tribes on the Islands and the main  
are the same, that the very Shaikh who took  
the Trimmer, Saltaun Bon Sugguy, was  
with forty Boats, and a thousand Men at  
this hour, in here respect for his Majesty of Persia,  
prevented our burning his fleet; and simply  
shut him up till he promised to send back  
the Trimmer, & refrain from Piracy in future.

Muscat

1<sup>st</sup> Aug 1805.

Sam & Co

Signed David Seton  
Resident.

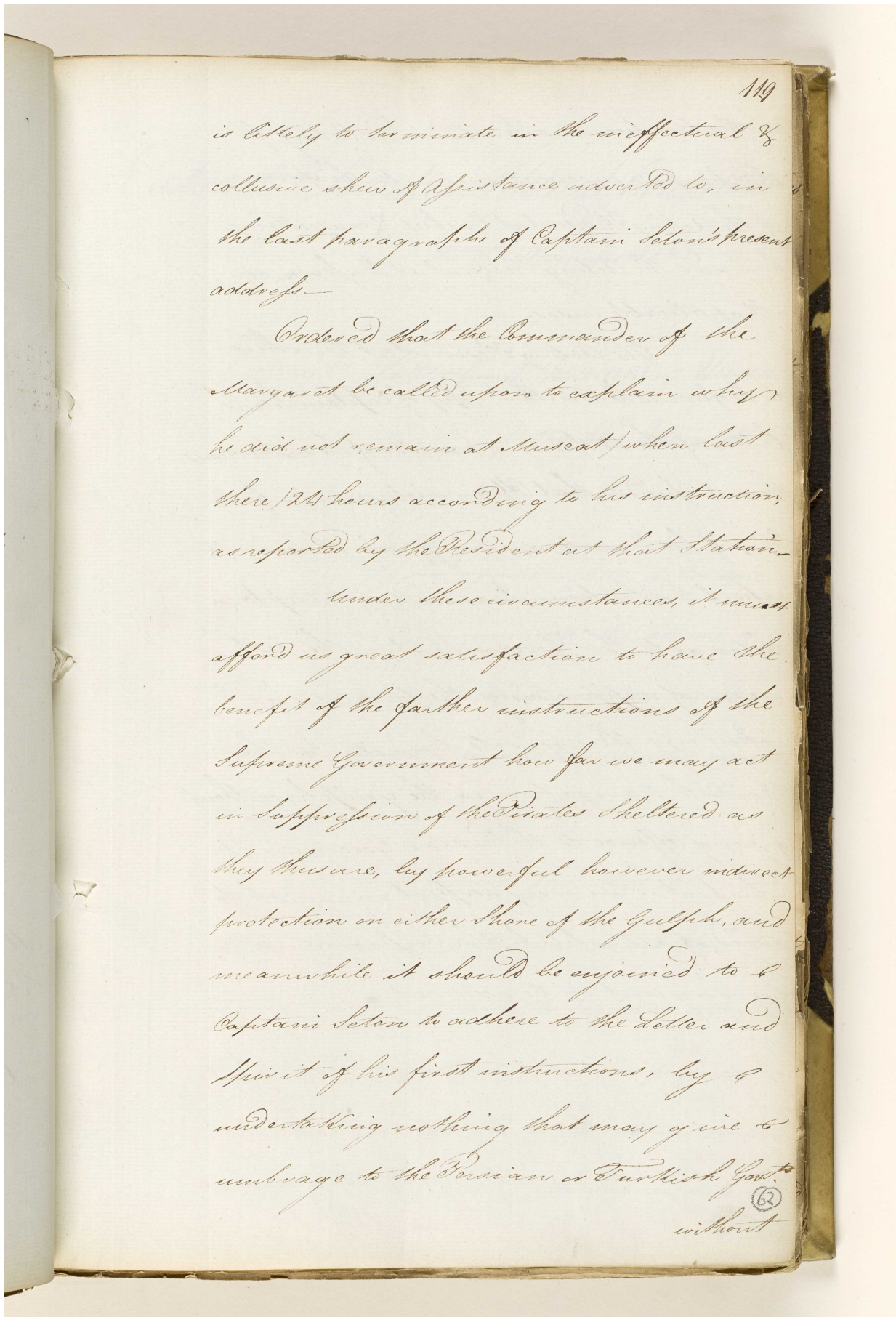
Ordered that Copy of the Extract of the Letter  
from the Resident at Muscat dated the 14<sup>th</sup>  
Ulthiro and Copies of the correspondence &  
between that Officer and the Acting Resident  
at

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [61v] (128/186)

at Bushair be transmitted to the Secy of Secretary,  
 to the Government of Fort William, with notice  
 that as the pirates against whom their late  
 depredations led to our Equipment of the force  
 now in the Gulph of Persia, appear to be  
 thus connected on both the Shores of it, so as  
 to claim the protection of the Uababee or  
 King of Persia, as may best suit their views  
 of plunder and security, it becomes peculiarly  
 difficult to pursue measures towards  
 their depression, without giving offence to  
 either or perhaps to both powers, at the  
 same time that from neither can effectual  
 redress be expected in the event of our  
 trusting implicitly to such interposition,  
 as has been exemplified in the case of the  
 applications unavailingly made for a  
 length of time past, for the recovery of the  
 Goods plundered from the Hector by Shaikh  
 Rehman, the Chieftain of Muskatloo and  
 Bushair which according to all accounts,

is

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [62r] (129/186)



119  
is likely to terminate in the ineffectual &  
collusive show of Assistance adverted to, in  
the last paragraphs of Captain Seton's present  
address—

Ordered that the Commander of the  
Margaret be called upon to explain why  
he did not remain at Muscat when last  
there, & as hours according to his instruction,  
as reported by the President at that Station—

Under these circumstances, it must  
afford us great satisfaction to have the  
benefit of the farther instructions of the  
Supreme Government how far we may act  
in suppression of the Pirates sheltered as  
they thus are, by powerful however indirect  
protection on either shore of the Gulph, and  
meanwhile it should be enjoined to  
Captain Seton to adhere to the Letter and  
Spirit of his first instructions, by  
undertaking nothing that may give  
umbrage to the Persian or Turkish Govts.  
without

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [62v] (130/186)

without our previous Sanction and Acting for  
 this purpose in concurrence with the opinion,  
 of the Acting President at Bushire, & consulting  
 him and the Acting President at Bussora, on  
 all applicable cases. —

The Acting President at Bushire  
 to be furnished with a Copy of Captain Seton's  
 Letter of the 11<sup>th</sup> of Aug. & advised of the instructions  
 thereon issued to that Officer, inclusive of a full  
 Copy of his Minute; desiring him thereon to  
 report his Sentiments as well as to Captain  
 Seton as to this Government on the best  
 means of suppressing the pirates and  
 extending the requisite security to the  
 British Navigation in the Gulph, without  
 giving Offence to the Persian Government,  
 which it is in every respect our wish to  
 avoid; of all which the Supreme  
 Government to be advised.

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [63r] (131/186)

33 121  
Extract Bombay Political Consultations

the 11<sup>th</sup> November 1805

Extract Letter from the Resident at Muscat

Dated 16<sup>th</sup> October 1805.

In my public Letter of this date  
I have the honor to communicate the arrival of the  
Trimmer, and my Instructions to Captain Skinner  
which shew the plan meant to be adapted against  
the Joasmees.

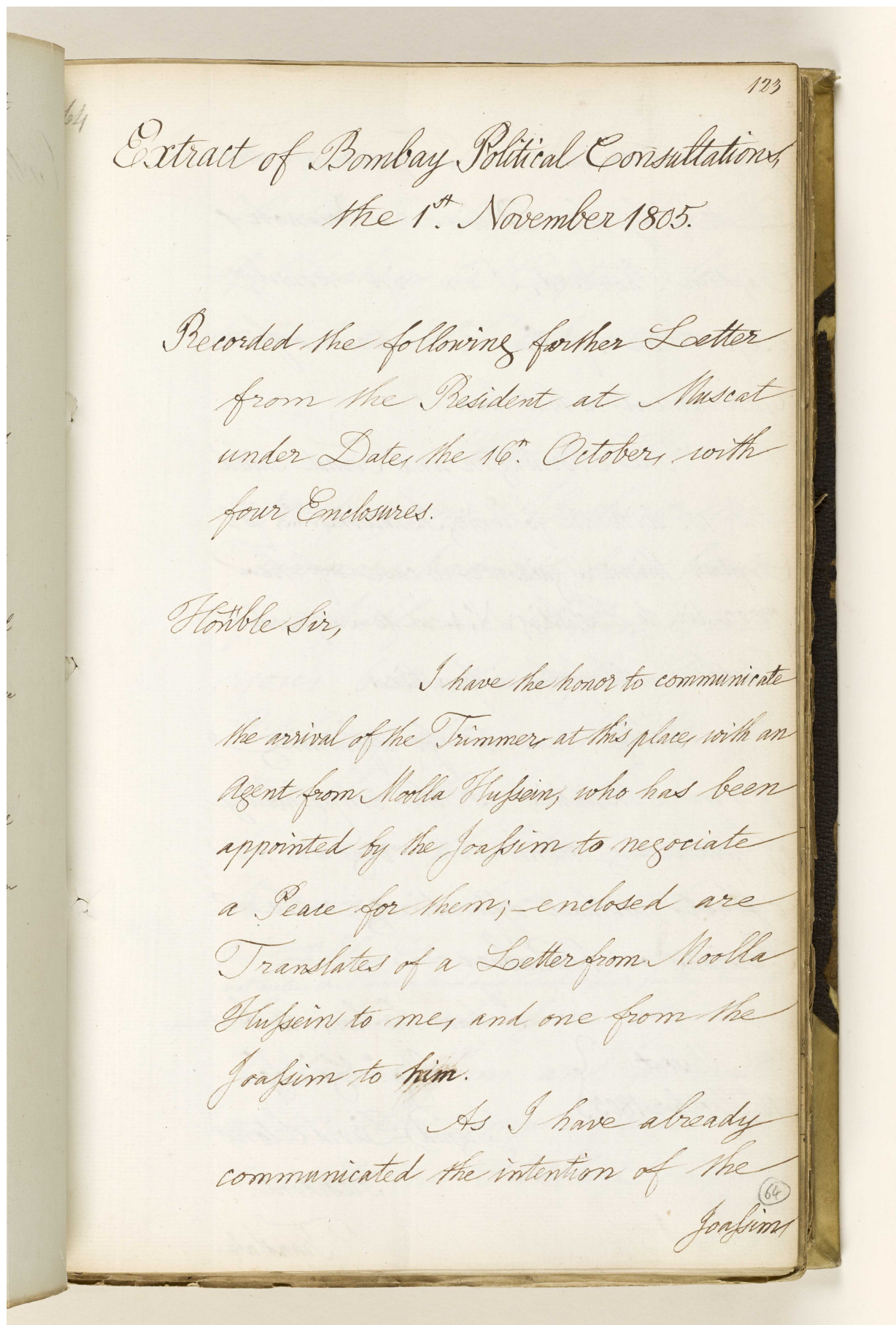
I also wrote Mr. Law that all the  
Muscat Dons had papers from Seyid Aider, that  
the Turks might prevent the Joasmees getting Dates  
under the name of Series, there was formerly a  
large Town called Sircaff, at the entrance of Chams  
Creek, which being destroyed, the Inhabitants divided  
into 63

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [63v] (132/186)

into three parties but still retain their connection, the  
1<sup>st</sup> party settled at Rasul hid. (Rasulgata) and were  
called Sorie from their Town, for the 2<sup>d</sup> at Muscat,  
and called Beni Sraffee, the 3<sup>d</sup> in Ser at Rasul  
Khimch, who from the ruling Family have lately  
obtained the name of Joasmee, this explains my  
instructions regarding the Sorie Fleet.

I have not taken possession of the  
Trimmer as I wish, the Peace should be general with  
Mulla Hussein, the Muscatties and Joasmees otherwise  
it will not be permanent.

The season for the Privateers will  
cease this month, and should the Peace with the Joasmee  
be determined on, instructions regarding the three  
Rebels now here, will be requisite.



'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [64v] (134/186)

Joasmee to send the Trimmer in my  
Letter, by the Olive Branch  
Captain Shepherd, I am in hourly  
expectation of the Orders of  
Government on that head.

The Mornington and Ternate sailed  
the 10<sup>th</sup> with the following Instructions N<sup>o</sup> 3, for  
Captain Skinner's guidance, in case of his  
proceeding to Hostilities, N<sup>o</sup> 4 is to suspend  
Hostilities, until further information.

My reasons for refraining  
from Hostilities is the impossibility  
of prosecuting them with vigour, or  
effects without offending the  
Persians, or Wahabees.

Muscat,  
16<sup>th</sup> October 1805.

I have the honor to be,  
Gc. Gc. Gc.  
(Signed) David Seton,  
President.

Translate

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [65r] (135/186)

135

Translate of a Letter from  
 Noolla Fuzuner Shaikh  
 of Ghisheem to Captain Seton's  
 received the 11<sup>th</sup> October 1805.

When the Mornington  
 returned from Abushire, the  
 Trimmer had not been brought  
 from Jalfars as I then wrote  
 you, but through God's  
 Blessings after a World of  
 troubles this has been at  
 last accomplished, well  
 knowing that the  
 Honble Company would  
not value this more a hundred such defeats farther than it  
 would shew the submission of the  
 Joasim to them, and it will  
 also shew my friendship  
 towards the Honble Company  
 by

by the trouble I have taken in  
procuring her return.

I now send her  
in charge of Chhadjee Ally  
the son of Mahomed Thereef,  
and hope in God she will  
arrive in safety. I have  
also entrusted him with some  
Instructions, which he  
will communicate in  
private, and you will believe  
as from myself.

Shaikh Sultan Ben  
Suggar Joasmeem has wrote me in  
Arabic, which I now send for  
your perusal, and know, that  
whilst I live, I shall never fail  
in any thing I can perform for  
the Service of the Honble Company.  
In

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [66r] (137/186)

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In regard to the Sulphur promised I have sent two hundred Candies on board two Botettes which I hope will arrive safe and you will receive and should you have any further commands for me, dont stand on ceremony but write me freely.

Memorandum, enclosed in the above.

Altho' I am ashamed to send a thing so unworthy your acceptance, yet I hope you will accept as a mark of my friendship of a Candy of Armenian Sulphur now forwarded.

N.B. — by Captain Seton. The value of this at Muscat, is one hundred dollars.

A true Translate.

(Signed) David Seton.

Translate of an Arabic Letter from Sultan Ben Suggur of Kishem enclosed in N<sup>o</sup>. 1.

From the Servant of God Mottazim Billa —  
Mullewukheel, (Aly) Sultan Ben Suggur Ben Rashid to his  
dear friend and beloved father Mulla Hussein Ben Mohamed  
Ali Manser, to whom be <sup>the</sup> peace and mercy and blessing — — —  
of 66

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [66v] (138/186)

of god, exaltation and long life in this world,  
and may he afford content in the next, at  
Rasal-Shimsh, where all are well and happy  
and no news, but good news as the bearer of this, will  
have the honor to inform you.

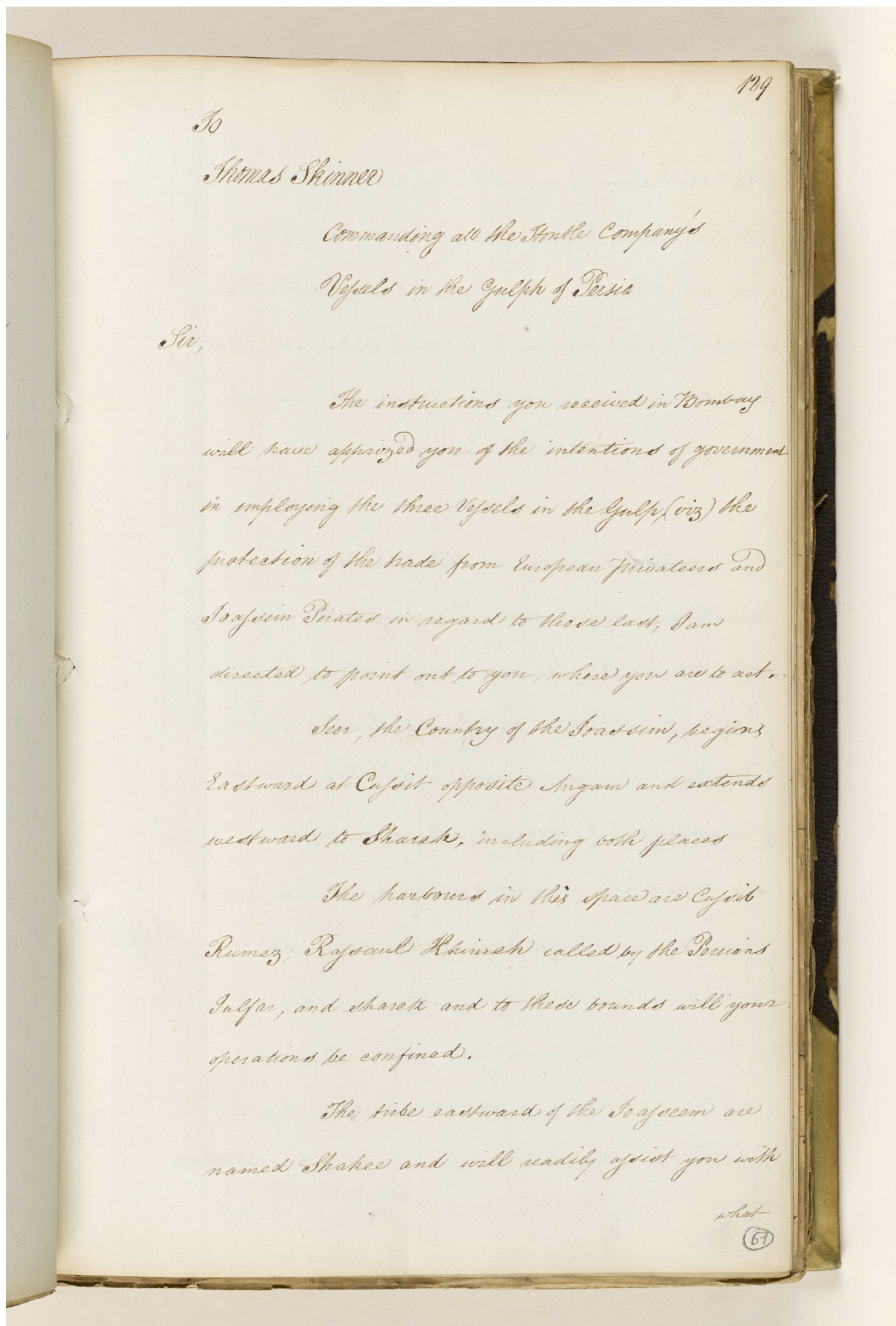
I have understood your letter regarding  
the English Ship, which I now send you, and leave  
you to act, as you think best for both parties.

When you return the Vessels, procure  
an agreement that we may frequent India, as before  
and study to remove all remembrances of what is  
past as it is my wish that matters should not  
only be as formerly, but that they should be  
on a better footing and as I am sincere without  
the least reserve, inwardly or outwardly take  
take care that no distrust on their part may  
remain after the settling of this business.

I am now setting out for Shanga  
to collect for Meer Shood, but will return in a  
few days.

A true translate  
(signed)  
David Selon 10

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [67r] (139/186)



'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [67v] (140/186)

what their Country affords, the side to the westward  
are the Beni Keoza, who are notorious pirates  
but as they have never offered any violence  
to our Vessels, you will refrain from hostilities  
towards them, without their Vessels are aiding  
and assisting to the Joasmees.

There are two ports, on the Persian  
Main, called Lingua and Shimaf, laying behind  
the Shoal of Bajseedas, belonging to the Joasmees  
who furnish boats and men for their piratical  
interprizes the same as Rasul Ichimeri, yet  
as these places are within the Dominions  
of the King of Persia no attack on their  
territories can be made, until permission be  
obtained, but this forbearance will by no  
means extend to their vessels, which you  
will destroy where ever you meet them.

Two small Vessels belonging to  
the Enam named the suffinned Nakhode Mostaur  
and

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [68r] (141/186)

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and the *Keziance Naegua Summa*, will accompany and obey your orders, as also a *Leuda* from *Burka*.

A Pilot will be sent on board to give you what information you may require and point out the most eligible places for procuring water, and fresh provisions.

You will also be furnished with a letter to *Mahomed Ben Gaber* Governor of *Bunder Abajo* and a letter of credit for procuring supplies at that place.

The Shoal on the entrance of the Harbour of the *Joasmees* preventing the *Vessels* doing them much mischief, there is a necessity for blockading them and cutting off their supplies in view to this.

The *Arabic Fleet* now ready to sail for *Bassora*, being of the same tribe as the *Joasme* will be ordered to accompany you, and you will

see

(68)

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [68v] (142/186)

see them, as far as the Islands of Rais, and prevent  
their going to Rasool Akhimeh or Lingua, or the  
boats of these places joining them and proceeding  
in Company to Buzsona, where in that case they  
will receive a supply of dates which would  
otherwise be refused them.

As it is the intention of Seynd Weder  
to send hereafter a considerable fleet to Bunder  
Staps, I will most probably accompany it, and it  
in blockading the Persian side whilst you are employed  
will be employed on the Arab Coast, I will send  
you the earliest information of their event, should  
it take place, but affairs are so unsettled here  
it may not be in Seynd Weder's power to spare an Armament

The Sheikh of Reshem will pretend  
the greatest friendship, but on account of his  
connection with the Joasmees it will not be safe  
to trust him and his being a subject of Persia  
will prevent your acting hostily towards him  
without his vessels are in company with the Joasmees  
Muscat  
(a true Copy)  
(signed) David Seton  
Resid<sup>t</sup> Jo

9<sup>th</sup> October, 1805.

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [69r] (143/186)

123

To

Thomas Skinnie, Esq.

Comm<sup>d</sup> the Vessels Co. Vt.  
Persian Gulf.

Sir,

I have this morning received certain  
accounts of the Sumner being on this coast with  
Agents from the Joasmee for a peace.

In this case you will proceed with  
the Force fleet agreeable to your first orders,  
but refraining from all hostilities towards the  
Joasmee, but what you may judge necessary  
for the protection of your convoy, until you  
hear further from me.

If you proceed as high as Muscat  
with the fleet, and afterwards return to the Island  
of Zumb I shall know where to send an express

to  
(69)

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [69v] (144/186)

to you with the result of our negotiations.

Muscat

(A true Copy)

10<sup>th</sup> October, 1805.

(signed) David Selon.

Resident

In acknowledging the receipt of  
the letter of the 10<sup>th</sup> of October the Secretary  
is to advise Captain Selon that altho we have not  
yet received the expected instructions from the  
Supreme Government for which he was informed  
that we had applied on the 4<sup>th</sup> of September  
last, he is nevertheless now instructed in  
compliance with the expectation he had  
expressed of being speedily furnished  
with some rule for his guidance not to  
make peace with the Joasmee

or

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [70r] (145/186)

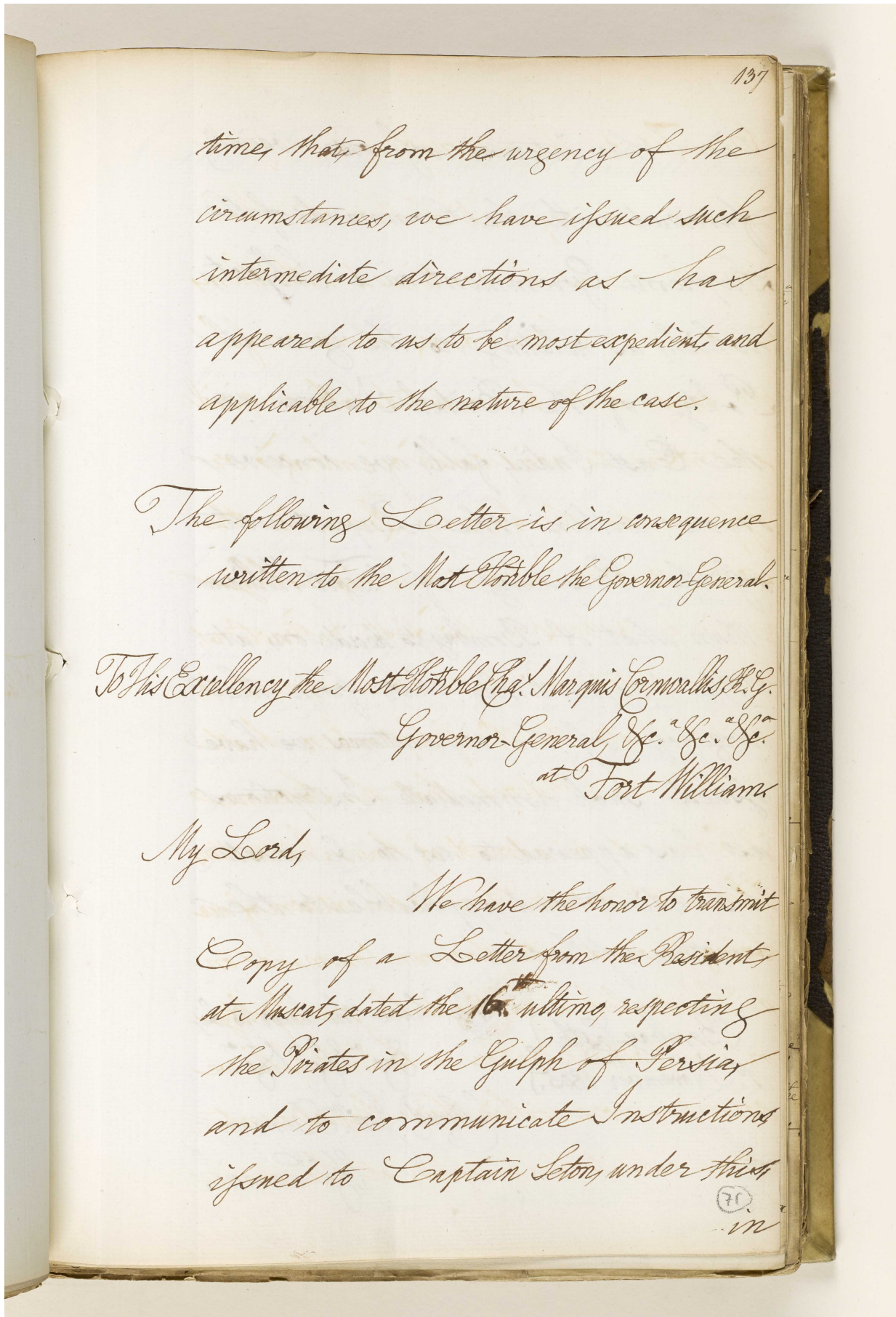
155  
or any of the other piratical Tribes in  
the Gulph, until they shall as a  
preliminary have made as ample  
restitution for the plunder committed  
respectively by any or all of them, on the  
Vessels lawfully navigating under the  
British Flag and Company's Protection  
as he may be satisfied to be equal  
to their available means, and  
accompanied likewise by adequate Security  
against their recurrence to such  
practices in time to come, on which  
conditions, he was authorized to restore  
any or all of them to a state of amity  
with the British Power in India, and  
to a consequent capacity of frequenting  
their British Ports in India, on their  
fair Mercantile pursuits, and  
until the Parties in question can be  
brought

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [70v] (146/186)

brought to the reasonable and moderate  
 terms thus required of them, the War  
 must needs be continued with them,  
 Captain Seton being always careful  
 to cause it to be conducted, with an especial  
 attention, to avoid cause of umbrage, or  
 offence to the friendly Powers in the  
 same quarter, as has been originally  
 enjoined to him in his first Instructions,  
 and repeated in those above referred to,  
 under Date the 4. of September last.

Ordered, that the Supreme  
 Government be advised of these Instructions  
 issued to Captain Seton, in the interim of our  
 being favoured with their own Commands on  
 a Subject, which, as relating to the general policy  
 of the British Nation in the East falls, we  
 conceive, more within their Department  
 than ours to decide upon, at the same  
 times

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [71r] (147/186)



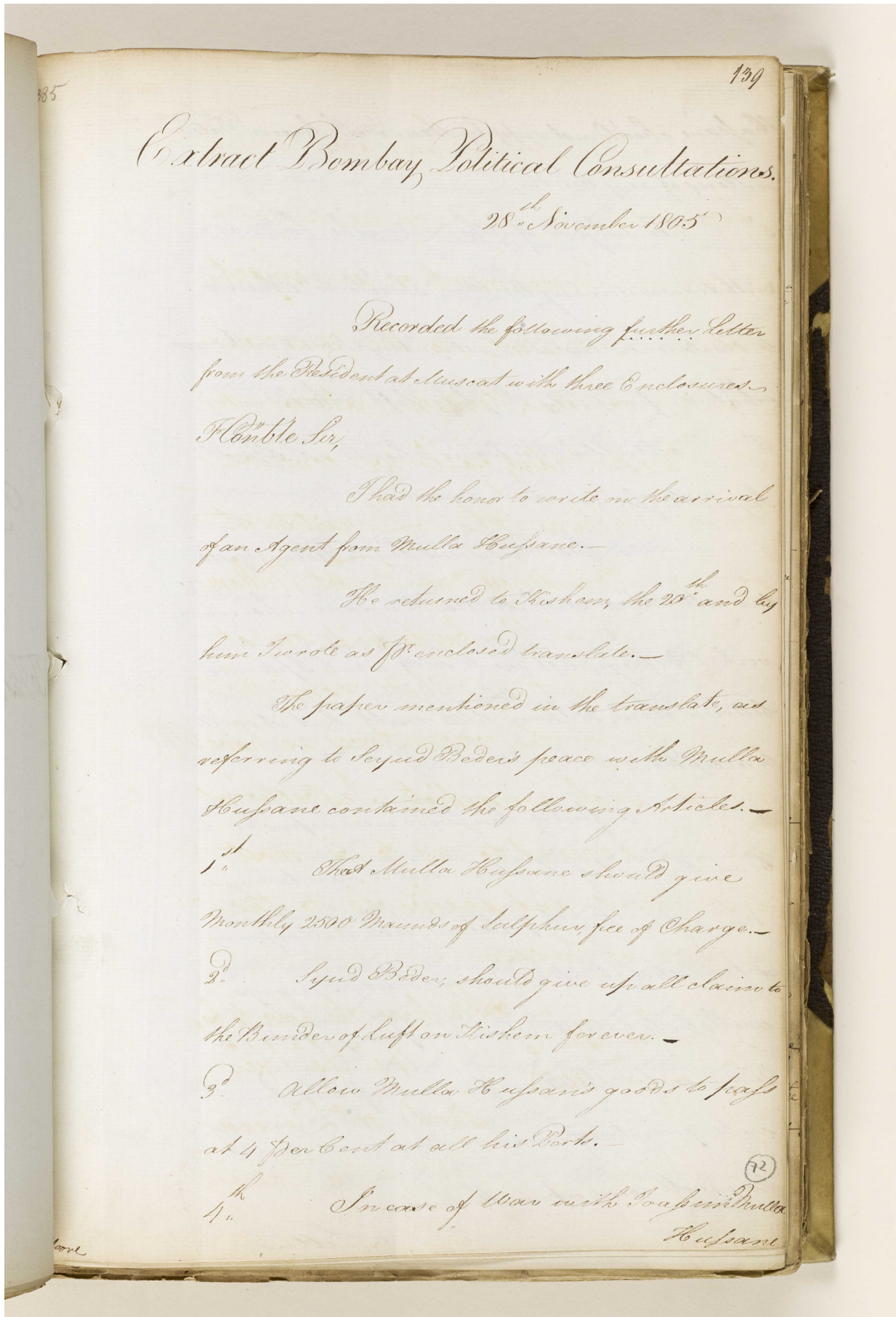
'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [71v] (148/186)

in the interim of our being  
favoured with the Commands of the  
Supreme Government on a Subject,  
which, as relating to the general  
Policy of the British Nation in  
the East Indies, falls we conceive  
more within the Department  
of the Presidency of Fort Williams  
than that of Bombay to decide on, at  
the same time, that, from the  
urgency of the circumstances we have  
issued such immediate Instructions  
as has appeared to us to be most  
expedient and applicable to the  
nature of the case.

Bombay Castle }  
At November 1805.

We have the honor to be  
Yr.<sup>ts</sup> Yr.<sup>ts</sup> Yr.<sup>ts</sup>  
(Signed) J<sup>o</sup>h<sup>n</sup> Duncanson  
Yr.<sup>ts</sup> Council.

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [72r] (149/186)



'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [72v] (150/186)

Hufane should not supply them with Grain, Dates  
or Stores of any kind.

5<sup>th</sup> The subjects of either side who had  
withdrawn during the War, should be Allowed  
to remain unmolested, where they have, & withdrawn  
whatever property they had left behind.

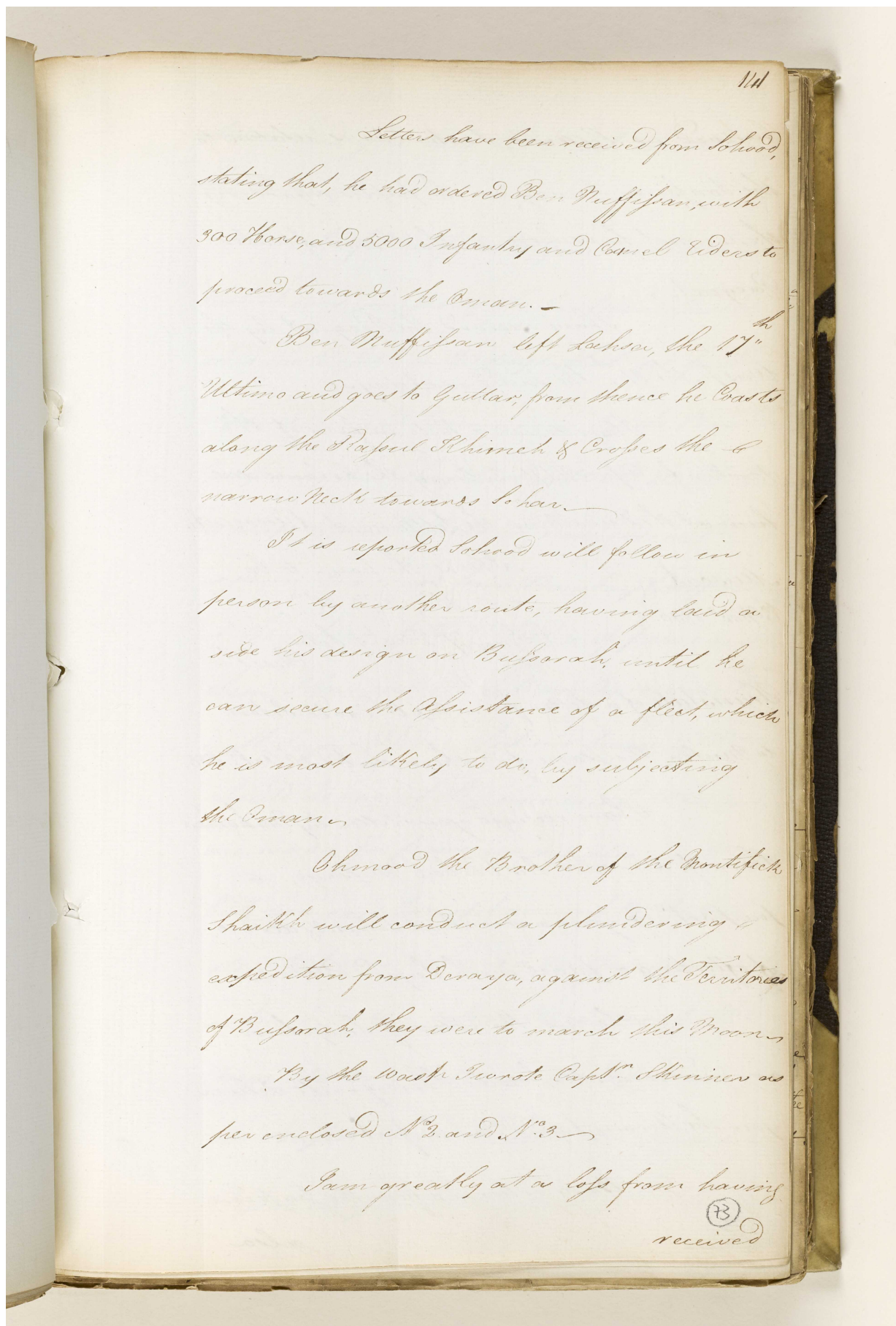
6<sup>th</sup> Mulla Hufane should not assist  
Seyid Hejra

On these Conditions Seyid Hejra Agreed  
to make Peace with Mulla Hufane who in  
verbal Proffer, left me to settle what I pleased  
between them, so I have little doubt but it will  
be accepted.

A fleet of Joasmee were reported to  
be on the Coast of Muscat and to have taken a  
Nourie from Bombay laden with the Property  
of British Subjects and some Sindy Dingers,  
two Vessels from this in Company with the  
Queen, sailed the 26<sup>th</sup> in pursuit of and from  
subsequent information there is no doubt  
they will come up with them.

Letters

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [73r] (151/186)



114  
Letters have been received from Sohood,  
stating that, he had ordered Ben Muffijam, with  
300 Horse, and 5000 Infantry and Caval Eiders to  
proceed towards the Oman. —

Ben Muffijam left Soohar, the 17<sup>th</sup>  
Ultimo and goes to Guttar, from thence he Crosses  
along the Desert Shimeh & Crosses the  
narrow Neck towards Sohar. —

It is reported Sohood will follow in  
person by another route, having laid on  
side his design on Buzorah, until he  
can secure the Assistance of a fleet, which  
he is most likely to do, by subjecting  
the Oman. —

Ohmoed the Brother of the Pontifick  
Shaitik will conduct a plundering  
expedition from Deraya, against the Territories  
of Buzorah, they were to march this Moon.

By the West Secret Capt. Skinner as  
per enclosed N<sup>o</sup> 2. and N<sup>o</sup> 3. —

I am greatly at a loss from having  
received <sup>(B)</sup>

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [73v] (152/186)

received no Letters or Instructions relative to  
the Joasmee, I enquiring the papers regarding  
them must have been in the Prince of Wales  
Pacquet

I have received the Pacquet by the  
Wasp, the 31<sup>st</sup> she sailed next day

I have drawn a Bill in favor of the  
Broker for Value 11,175<sup>00</sup> being the balance due  
him at the Devallee on the Settlement of Accounts.

Muscat }  
6<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1805. }

I have the honor to be  
Y<sup>rs</sup> &c &c &c  
(Signed) David Seton  
Presid

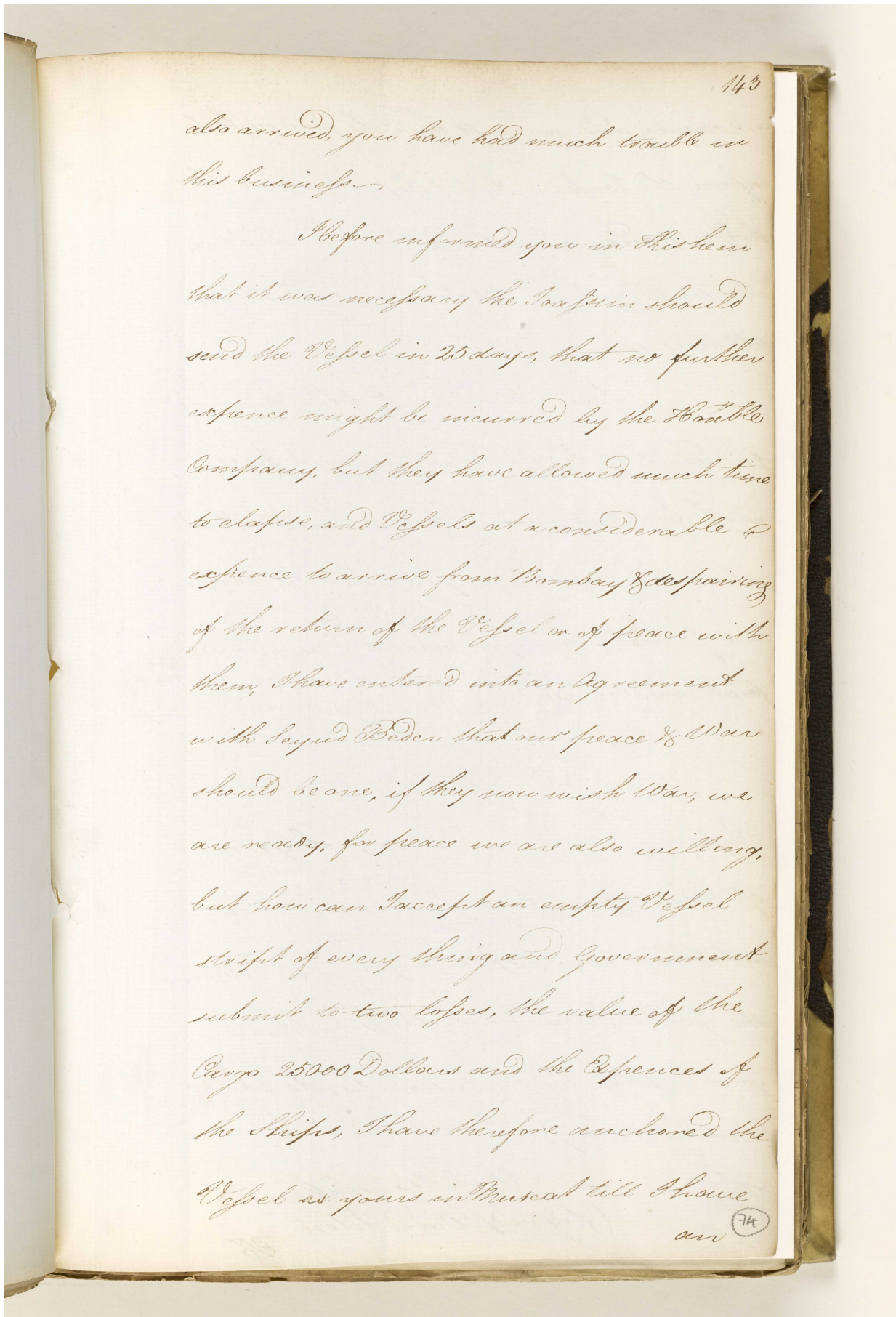
Translate of a Letter from Capt<sup>m</sup> David Seton  
to Mulla Hoysane of Shisheem dated 20<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1805.

I have received your Letter by Mahomed  
Shereef, and also his Verbal Message, &  
purporting your arrival at Sohar & desire  
of effecting a peace with Saïed Beders

The two Boats of Sulphur  
arrived and Mahomed Shereef will deliver  
you the Account and Value of it

The Brig returned from the Joasmee  
also

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [74r] (153/186)



145  
also arrived, you have had much trouble in  
this business.

Before I informed you in this letter  
that it was necessary the Captain should  
send the Vessel in 25 days, that no further  
expense might be incurred by the Honble  
Company, but they have allowed much time  
to elapse, and Vessels at a considerable  
expense to arrive from Bombay & despairing  
of the return of the Vessel or of peace with  
them, I have entered into an agreement  
with Seyud Beder that our peace & War  
should be one, if they now wish War, we  
are ready, for peace we are also willing,  
but how can I accept an empty Vessel  
strip of every thing and Government  
submit to two losses, the value of the  
Cargo 25000 Dollars and the Expenses of  
the Ships, I have therefore anchored the  
Vessel as yours in Muscat till I have  
an

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasme Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [74v] (154/186)

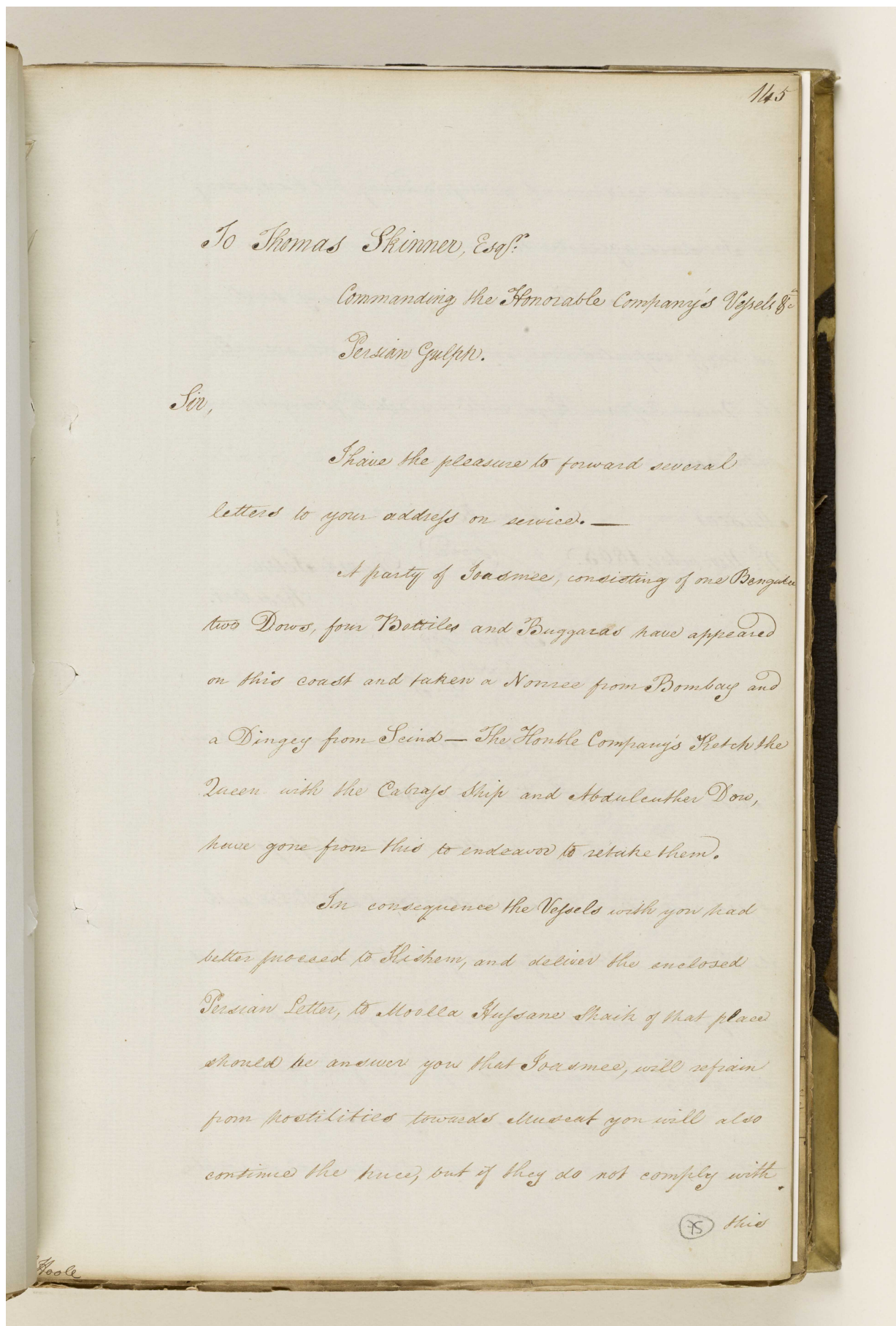
an answer, and you will have the goodness to  
inform the Joasme that if they will return the  
property, and include Seyid Bedev in the Peace,  
it will be yet granted them, & we do nothing  
till their answer comes.

I am also in want of five hundred  
of Caudies of Sulphur at the same price  
as the former, and will be answerable that  
what excess there may be, shall be taken  
care of, but what you send me must be  
picked and cleaned.

In a Separate Arabic  
Paper are the Conditions, Seyid  
Bedev Offers for a peace, in  
addition it is expected you will return  
the Goods freighted at Busorah on  
your Vessels by the Inhabitants of  
Muscat last year.

A true translation  
(Signed of David Seton) 26

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [75r] (155/186)



'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [75v] (156/186)

this I would recommend your proceeding and blockading  
the Joasmee agreeable to your first Instructions.

A Dow with Stores of every kind  
is daily expected here, immediately on its arrival  
the Queen Captain Keys, will proceed to join you  
with her.

Muscat

Sam & Co. -

2<sup>d</sup> November, 1805.

(signed)

David Selon

Resident.

A true Copy  
(signed) D. S.

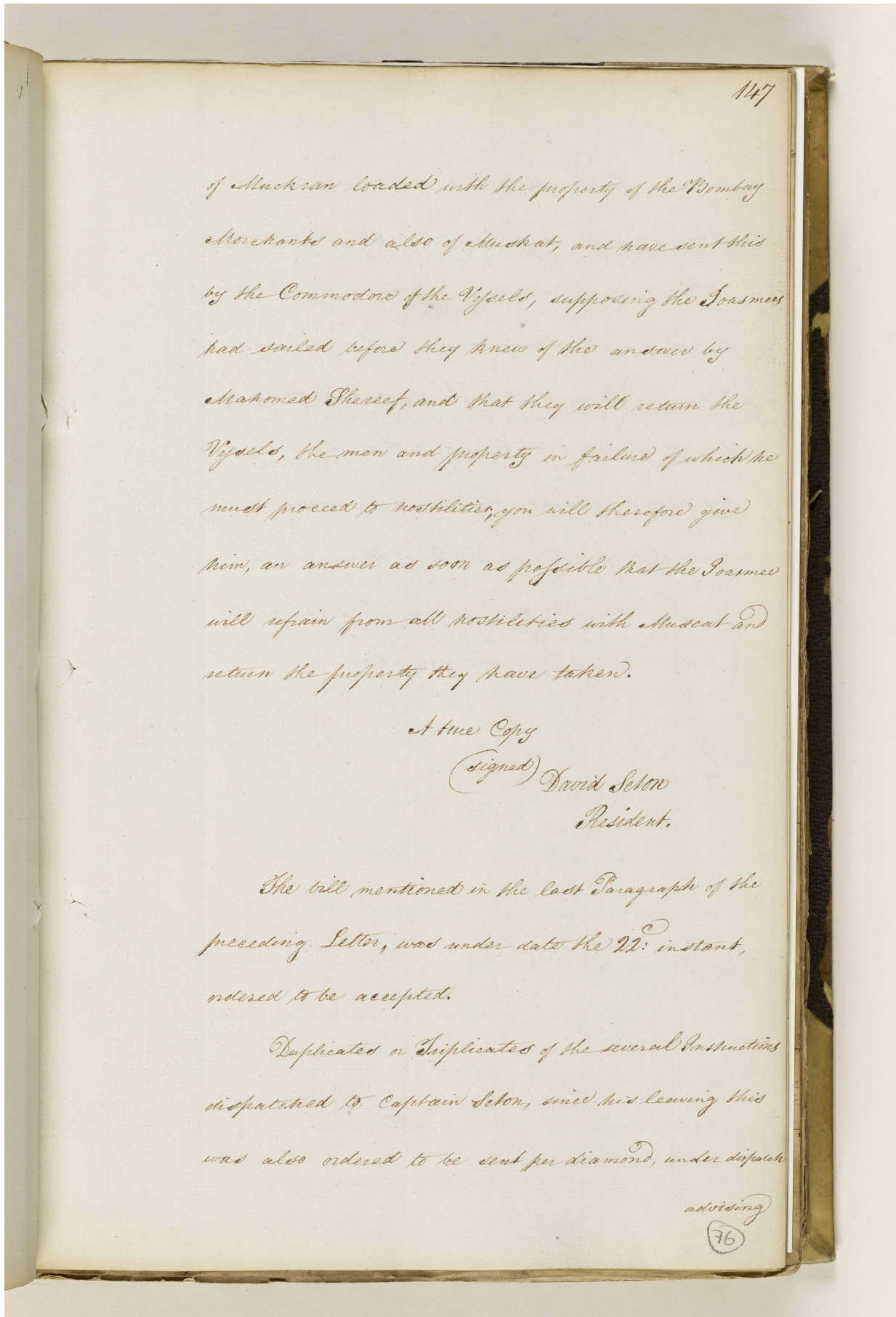
Draught of a Letter to Moolla Hajeane Shaik of Kishem.  
of Kishem, dated 1<sup>st</sup> November, 1805.

I write by Mahomed Sherreef your  
Agent respecting the Bimstone and the Peace with  
the Joasmee - I then informed you that the peace, must  
be equally with Muscat and the English and on the  
strength of this our vessels repaired from hostilities.

I have the other day learned that the  
Joasmee have taken a number of Vessels on the Coast

of

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [76r] (157/186)



'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [76v] (158/186)

189

advising him farther that altho we be not aware  
of any objection to the proposed terms of peace between  
Sayed Bider, on the one part and the present Hakim  
of Muscat and the Joasmee on the other, yet any terms  
of pacification between those Pirates and the Company's  
Government, must not be limited to their refraining from  
the hostilities towards Muscat, as advoated to in  
Captain Seton's Letter of the 2<sup>d</sup> of November to  
Captain Skinner, but generally for the whole gulph  
and every other place and situation. —

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [77r] (159/186)

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149

Extract, Bombay Political Consultations  
the 13<sup>th</sup> December, 1805.

Read the following letter from the Resident  
at Muscat.

Honourable Sir,

Seyed Beder, by this opportunity has  
wrote a letter, which is intended as a formal  
acceptation of all treaties made with Seyed  
Sulphaur.

In addition he offers a factory at  
Bunder Abaja, on the same terms as granted  
by Shah Abaja on the first settlement of the  
English there, or on any other terms Government  
may choose to dictate. —

I have not been furnished with a  
copy of the letter or I should have complied  
with the orders of the Board in sending a  
translation

(77)

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [77v] (160/186)

translation of it -

I have the honor to be

Muscat

Per. No. 85.

4<sup>th</sup> October, 1805.

(signed) David Seton

Resident

Read the following further letter from  
the Resident at Muscat,

Honble Sir,

The seaver Seyud Mahomed is  
charged with a letter from Seyud Beder, asking  
in his name, and Seyud Sultan's family, assistance  
against their uncle Seyud Ceifs, who is striving  
to deprive them of the little, he has left them.

It is a matter of some consideration  
the granting or refusal of this request - the  
peace of the gulph, certainly depends upon  
Muscat, and it would be of little consequence, to  
us, whether Seyud Beder or Seyud Ceifs, had it;  
but in the present times it is whether, the Omanees

who

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [78r] (161/186)

151

who have ever been a peaceable sect should  
brave it or the Wahabee, the nature of whose views  
are very clear in Sohood's letter, which Seyad  
Mahomed, will shew, where he says, I war not  
for thee (Seyad Beder) but for God, whose war  
shall reach India: such are his hopes from Muscat.

It is not in my power to send a translate  
of the letter, as it is but just received.

A party of Wahabee landed this morning  
more to the terror of their friends than enemies  
both the latter have applied to me to endeavour  
to accommodate matters so far as the first may  
be sent away again, I shall try it, but words  
have little effect amongst armed men.

Yesterday received by the morning  
and Ternate a letter from Moulta Hujum  
and also this morning three bottles with  
sulphur arrived with more letters, translates  
of these papers shall be sent next opportunity.

The  
(78)

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [78v] (162/186)

The Joasmee have remained true to their word the plunder on the coast of Muscat was by the Huzar a tribe of the Beni Gays and the Bobbilly they took from Moondra, freighted at Bombay, for this.

I have received the packet by the Prince of Wales, which met the mornington at Sea, they also spoke the wasp, all well, I shall answer these papers immediately.

Seyud Ceys is now at Muttra doing all he can to get Muscat, he wrote to Moolla Hujseen to make war on Seyud Beder, this letter Moolla Hujseen, either by design or mistake, sent as a cover to a letter to Seyud Beder, but in consequence he has not made peace as he offered before.

The Arabs of the Oman are so deceitful, Seyud Beder has been obliged for the safety of himself, and party, to call

in

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [79r] (163/186)

in the Mahabee, those that have come, are from  
Lasho, Sohood's letter explains the rest. —

I hope the haste of this will be excused  
The papers have come all at once, as the present  
Dow was sailing. —

It will be necessary to give Seyud Mahomed  
an immediate answer, as Seyud Beder must  
determine on some thing soon or he is lost. —

I have the honor to be

Muscat  
16<sup>th</sup> November, 1805

To: To: To:

(signed) David Seton.

The Governor delivers in the following  
translations of the letters referred to in the  
preceding ones from the President at Muscat.

Translation of a Letter from Syed Budder

Ben Syef, of Muscat and of Sauleim, and Syed

the two latter, the two sons of the late Syed

Sultaun the Ruler of Muscat, dated the

22<sup>d</sup> of Shabaan 1220 of the Hejira agreeing with

(79) the

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [79v] (164/186)

the 21<sup>st</sup> of October, 1805- and having impressed  
on the back thereof the seals of the said Pasha  
and of Seyid Sultan the father of Sulim and  
Syed.

After intimating those respects, to which  
the pen and written language are unequal  
neither can the imagination of man conceive—  
We offer our request to your honor our friend  
and excellent friend, whom God preserve  
from all the ills of fortune, and make prosperous  
in all his undertakings may God vouchsafe  
to hear in these respects our earnest prayers.

Now the cause of our present address  
is, that after enquiring ~~and~~ ~~the~~ ~~we~~

as?

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [80r] (165/186)

155

as to your Honors health, we may notice that we are well  
aware of the great friendship which existed between you and  
our late Parent Saïd Sultan deceased, and we now stand  
in his place, particularly in your Honors goodwill. Wherefore  
we apprise you that our Uncle Heïf (sometimes written  
Gheif) hath since the death of our Father raised up  
various troubles against us and hath seduced from us  
our Officers and People to such a degree that they have  
introduced him into our Country, which is Muscat, &  
whereupon seeing that we had no other choice, we made  
Peace with him, by giving up to him Muttra, saving  
thereby our subjects from desolation. He then returned  
to his own Country, but has since turned his face this  
way; nor can we place any confidence in our escape  
from his evil machinations. Wherefore if you Sir,  
be adherent to Engagement, in a manner conformable  
to friendship and truth, we rely on your support

and  
80

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [80v] (166/186)

and success in such a way, as that your ships may  
 speedily arrive in his Country, and to the Town thereof,  
 whilst we proceed against him by Land, and fight  
 with him. This hope we place in you, may even for-  
 more than this do our hopes rest on you, in view  
 to your former friendships and connection with  
 us, and you will let your friends also know -  
 what you may require in respect to this affair,  
 the person we have on this occasion deputed  
 is Syed Mahomed, son of Syed Mubker - Be  
 pleased to advise him of your determination  
 that he may apprise us thereof - To Mr  
 Seton also, we have not omitted to make  
 known all the circumstances of our situation,  
 and no doubt, but he will report the same  
 to your honor, and fully advise you thereon,  
 our whole hope rests on the answer that will  
 reach

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [81r] (167/186)

157

reach us from you, and we place the fullest  
 reliance thereon - At this time also have arrived  
 towards us couriers with letters from Saood  
 the Wharber, advising that he has sent his  
 Army to our assistance, an expedient which  
 we do not however relish, since if these  
 People come here, great detriment and  
 prejudice will ensue to all matters,  
 with hostility by sea and by Land -  
 Neither do we desire any support <sup>except</sup> expecting  
 from you - our wish being for union to  
 prevail between us and you; but we  
 are now in danger and tribulation, the  
 most imminent, by reason that the  
 Hawajim (i.e. the body of the Joasmee)  
 as well as the Tribes of Bony maen are  
 plundering on the seas, whatever they can  
 Master  
 (81)

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [81v] (168/186)

matter, whether from our People, or from  
yours. If we go out against these freebooters  
we leave our Country open to the Inroads  
of <sup>the</sup> Kheif; nor can we rely on him, and  
whenever either of the above Tribes propose  
to make peace with us Kheif, is studious  
to prevent them, and mean while the  
depredations are still going on by Sea, to  
the general prejudice.

Under these circumstances  
whatever your judgment shall fix upon  
be pleased to signify to our friend Syed  
Mahomed who being our Commissioner,  
possesses authority from, and over us, in as  
much as he is our empowered Agent in all  
concerns.

Translation of a letter to the Governor of Bombay  
from Syed Beder Ben Syef, the Grandson of  
Imam

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [82r] (169/186)

159

Enam Boursyedeem of Muscat, Dated 10<sup>th</sup> of  
Rejeb 1290 or 4<sup>th</sup> of October 1805.

A.B.

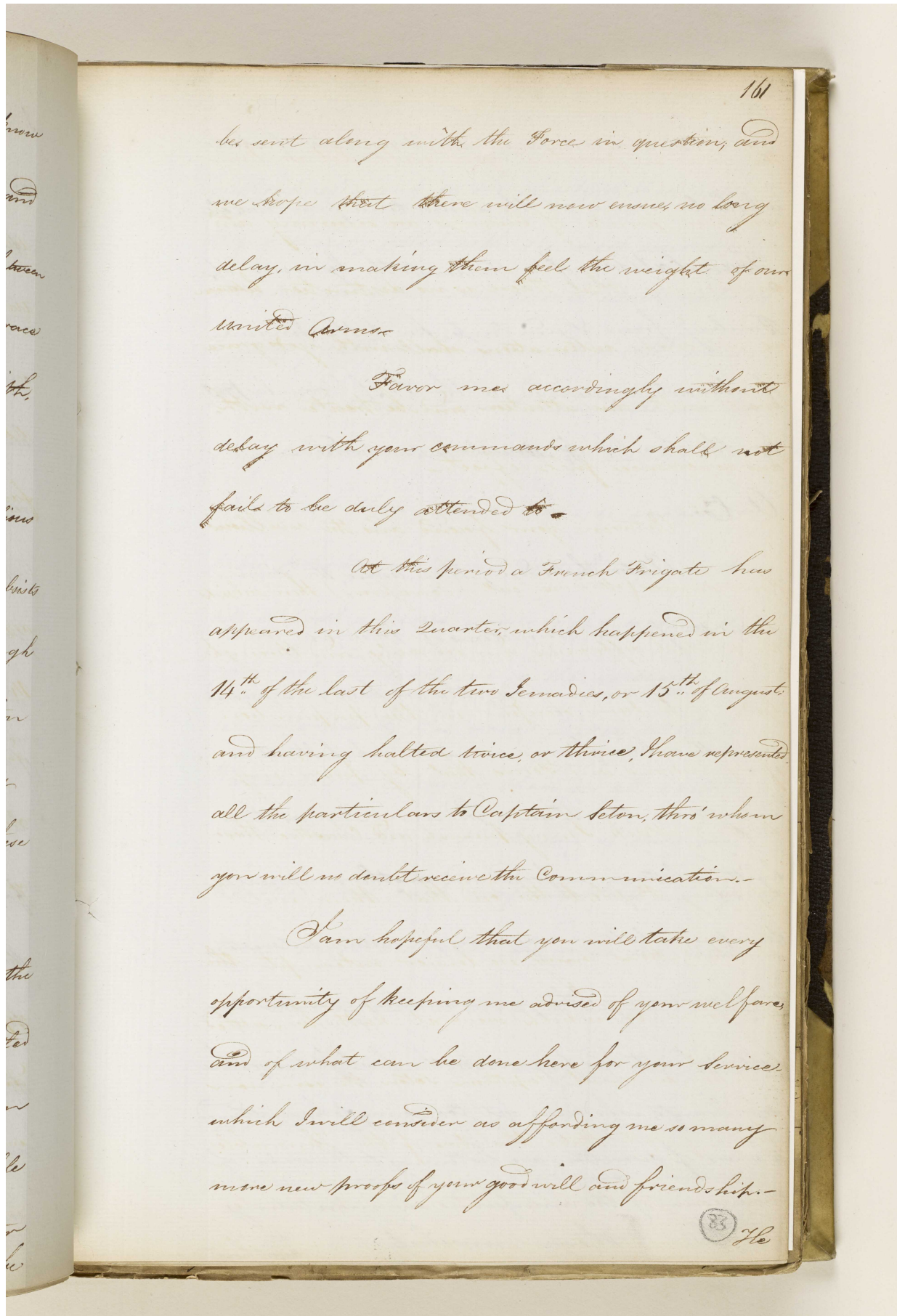
I have been favored with the friendly  
communications which you did me the  
honor to transmit, by the channel of the  
respectable and authorized Stakeel of Government  
Captain Seton, and as it advised me of your  
good health, and his expressions of the permanency  
of amity, friendship and unanimity, the  
receipt of it afforded me the greatest satisfaction - The  
like subsistence, and the same observances of  
friendship and union that existed between  
the two States, in the time of my late revered  
uncle, shall if it please God, remain under  
the favor of your honor, and continue  
uninterruptedly till the period the most remote, and  
my reliance on your honor is, that maintaining  
82

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [82v] (170/186)

the same in practice, you will let me know  
whatever points of business are occurring, and  
considering that there is no distinction between  
us, all such intimations shall with God's grace  
meet with due attention, and be treated with  
and experience full effect.

Between your friends, and the rebellious  
Howasomies (otherwise called Sowasim) there subsists  
the greatest differences, and animosity, and through  
God's help I am occupied in the preparation  
of Squadrons, and Forces that by proceeding  
to their attack, I may punish and chastise these  
refractory People, to the end that their evil  
machinations may no longer interrupt the  
Intercourse, in which view it hath been settled  
with the eminent Captain Seton, the common  
friend of both States, that two of the Honorable  
Company's Cruizers Stationed in this Quarter  
be

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [83r] (171/186)



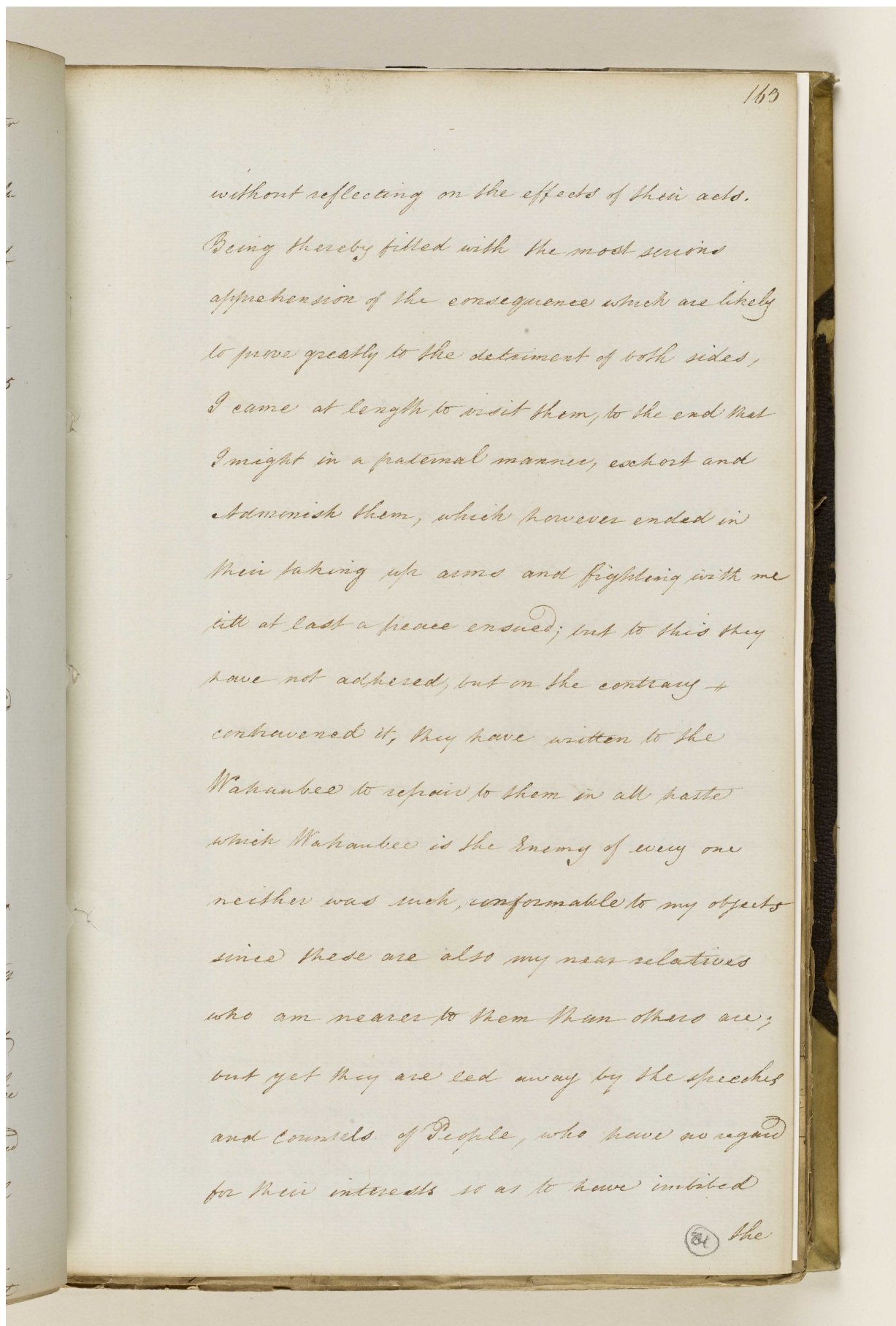
'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
 by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [83v] (172/186)

He also delivers in the Translator of a letter  
 which he received at the same time from Rhedija  
 Translation of a Letter to the Governor of  
 Bombay, from Syed. Heif, son of the Imam  
 of Muscat, as received on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December 1805  
 by the hands of Mullah Mahomed.

A. C.

Notwithstanding that under the divine  
 favor, the former connections of friendship and  
 unanimity are in force, still you have never favored  
 me with a line of communication, which I trust is  
 owing to no other than a good cause. But as it is  
 befitting between one friend and another reciprocally  
 to impart whatever may occur of a nature interesting  
 or extraordinary, I therefore acquaint you that my  
 late valiant and forgiven Brother has left two or three  
 descendants, who being yet too young to have attained  
 to years of discretion are listening to the words of  
 Enemies and of the misinformed, and meditating  
 with them mischief — without

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [84r] (173/186)



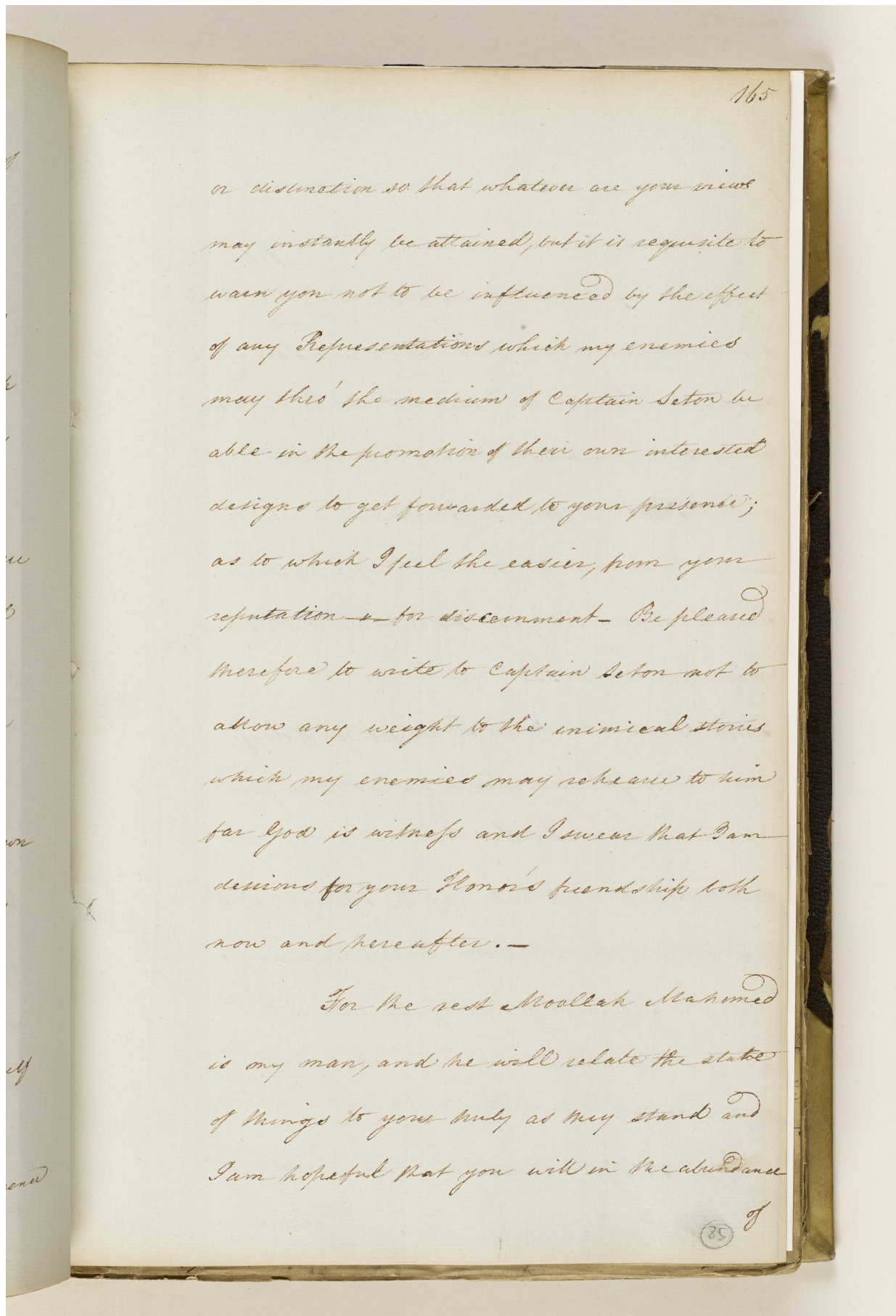
'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [84v] (174/186)

the desire and to entertain the intention of  
 giving entrance to the Wahabee, preparing  
 also two Vessels, which they are about to  
 dispatch to the perch at the Mauritius I  
 have thus become dissatisfied, in as much  
 as he (the Wahabee) is the general enemy  
 and detriment will occur to your side as  
 well as mine, by this their procedure in these  
 respects I am aware of these their inimical  
 connections, and have in myself no other  
 desire than to prefer your friendship and  
 that unanimity between our two countries  
 that have continued and been handed down  
 to the present time, and if it please God,  
 there shall not occur any prejudice  
 therein.

At present I have possessed myself  
 of the Port of Muttrah and my country and  
 I are one and the same; and without difference

or

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [85r] (175/186)



'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [85v] (176/186)

of your kindness, speedily honour me your true  
friend with an answer; and when from among your  
countries, any one shall pass this way, I will certainly  
receive and treat them with kindness, and I am in  
expectation that you will keep me advised of whatever  
you may be desirous of having done in this Quarter.

Read the following Translation of a letter  
from the Wahabee to the present Chieftain of Muscat.

Translation of a letter from the Wahabee to the present  
Chieftain of Muscat. —

From Saood to his brother Beder, the son of Seyf.

May God keep thee, in his protection from  
all the mischances of this life.

Salutation to thee! and may the Almighty shed  
his grace on thee, and bestow on thee his blessing).

The cause of writing this letter, is to  
convey to thee my greeting, and to enquire after  
thy condition.

May God preserve thee and me from every evil.

Besides



'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [86v] (178/186)

the author of what befall'd him, and who adheres  
to righteous ways, remains at all times elevated  
and prosperous; feeling prejudices only through  
a departure therefrom - in like manner, as God  
hath pronounced of the Companions, to the prophet:  
"You ask what is this? - say, O prophet! This  
proceeds from themselves." on the day that the  
intelligence reached me of what hath befallen  
Raif, I urg'd the quick dispatch of a certain person  
by name Saleem; but the people were then engaged  
in the Market, my uncle went thither, and sent  
them off towards you; previously to which, I had  
sent a body to take possession of the town and  
of the tops of the hills: verily thou shalt speedily  
proceed to the holy war, in India, by which thou  
wilt not be fighting for me, but it is incumbent  
on thee to be obedient to God - What I have not now  
in mind, I will write to thee shortly.

Translated  
(signed)

J. Duncan.

L. <sup>(brood)</sup> <sup>Sh</sup> <sup>and</sup> <sup>leg</sup> S

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [87r] (179/186)

169  
Extract of Bombay Political Consultations  
17<sup>th</sup> December 1805

Read the following Letter from the Resident  
at Muscat with two Enclosures.

Honble Sir,

I have the honor to enclose two Letters received  
from Mulla Hafsane.

He has also sent two hundred and thirty  
Candies of Sulphur, which has been weighed and landed.

Having received the orders of Government  
by the Prince of Wales, regarding the Joasmee, I will  
write Sultan Ben Suggur through Mulla Hafsane,  
that the truce will continue till orders from Bombay.

The Agents from the Joasmee are now here,  
to effect a peace with Muscat, also, which would be  
general throughout the Gulph, but for the Duties of  
Seyud Saif, he wrote Mulla Hafsane to prevent his  
making peace with Bader, and a letter to the same  
effect, to the Joasmee was intercepted, and brought here,  
I taxed him with this, and he sent me a letter, to the  
contrary effect to forward to Mulla Hafsane, but  
he is a man on whose word no dependance can

be placed.  
Muscat  
29<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1805.

I have &c  
(Sig<sup>?</sup>) David Seton

Handlale

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [87v] (180/186)

Translate of a Letter from Mulla Hafsane to  
 Captain Soton, received 15<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1805 with three Boats  
 of Sulphur.

I have received your letter by Mahomed  
 Sherief which tended to encrease our friendship.

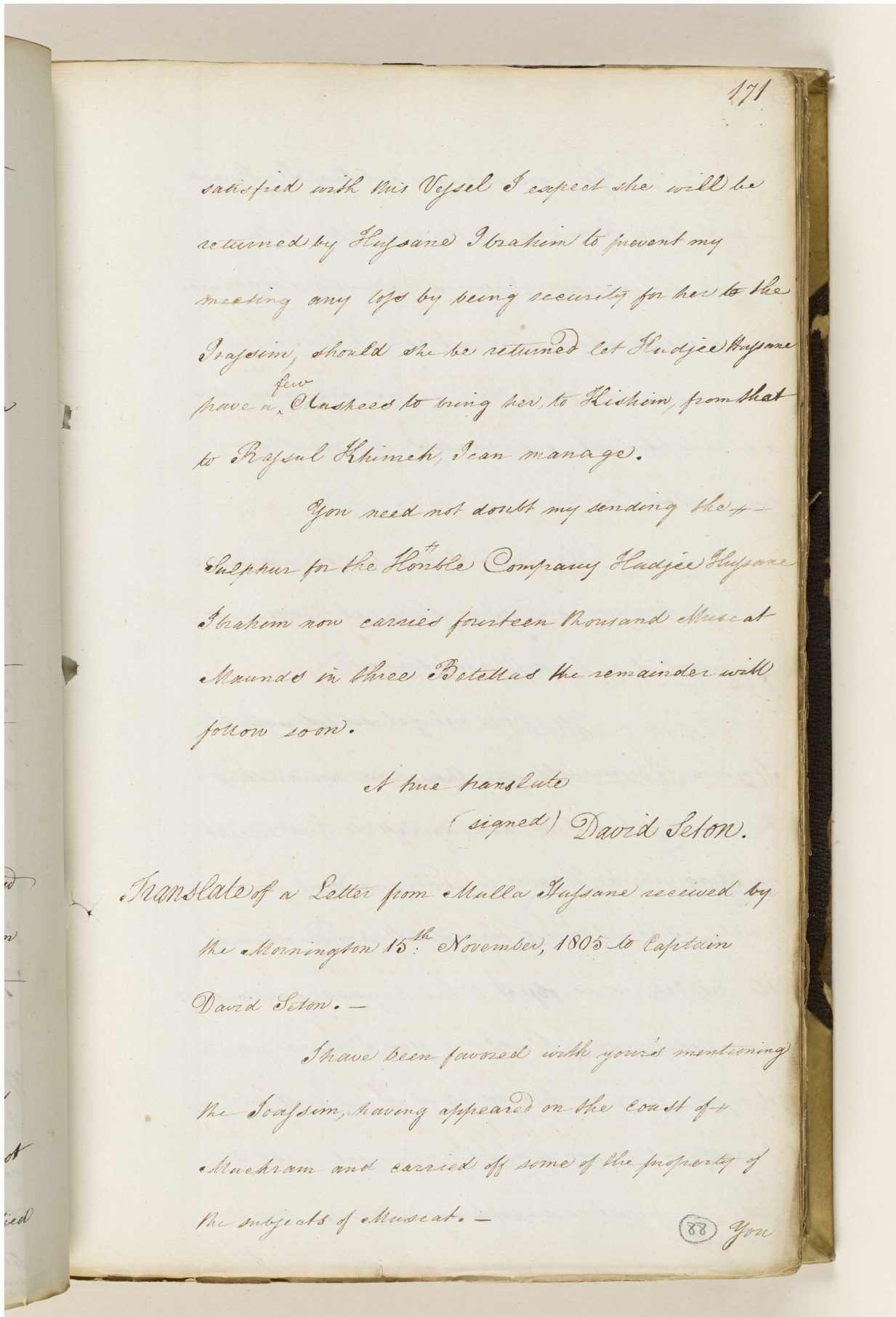
What you say regarding the Raig being  
 empty of every thing is true also of what passed, when  
 we were together.

I had much trouble to get this Raig  
 empty as she was from the Joasmee, nor did I  
 consider her intrinsic Value, but my object was  
 to demonstrate the submission of these people to  
 the English, you know them in regard to property,  
 whatever falls into their hands is spent immediately.

When I received the Raig I became  
 bound for her value, and hoped you would forward  
 her to Government and settle with the Joasmee  
 at once, writing them a friendly and kind letter, to  
 dissipate their doubts and fears, and that evil  
 minded persons, might have no opportunity of  
 stirring up discord, but if Government are not

satisfied

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [88r] (181/186)



'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
 by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [88v] (182/186)

You are not ignorant that The *Scuzga*  
 a tribe of the *Bonegas*, in the time of the late  
*Seyid Sultan* were Enemies of Muscat and plunder  
 their property where they met at, but the *Joasim*  
 have no concern with these people, whatsoever, they  
 are independant, and therefore you need not  
 doubt what I write.

War exists between *Seyid Beder*  
 and the *Joasim*, and when they act contrary to  
 agreement it is time to complain.

You have not yet settled with the  
*Joasim*, I before told you they had surrendered  
 the property and had nothing left to give except  
 the *Bug*, which, I have received, and sent you  
 empty, as complained of, through *Mahomed Sherreef*  
 the property is no object to the English Government  
 and God knows if I had it to give I would give  
 it myself. Every one knows what is best for  
 himself, but in my opinion Government ought to  
 take the vessel as nothing more is to be  
 got

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [89r] (183/186)

175

got from these people, and write to him that they  
may go and come as usual, without dread. If  
this is not agreeable, secure me from being security  
and send back the Vessel, as I shall otherwise  
sustain a loss both in Money & Character.

I have sent three days ago three Botellas  
with Sulphur in charge of Rhodger Huf and Graham  
which will ere this be arrived in safety.

I have begged the Captain of the Mornington  
to receive on board some Sulphur, or wait till the  
Botellas should accompany him. — should he  
not wish for it, I will forward it in a day or two

I hope the English government will consider  
my Country, as their own, and whether there  
is peace or war with Muscat, should their  
Vessels touch here, either Cruizers or Merchantmen,  
they shall receive night or day, what assistance  
the place can afford, and I hope whilst I live they  
will not cease to protect me. —

(89) White

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [89v] (184/186)

Write me often, and whatever you  
have to do, will be done, return Hadjed Hussain  
quickly.

At New Zealand

(signed) David Selton.

Ordered, that Copies of the preceding papers be  
sent to Bengal. —

'Unsettled state of affairs at Muscat and operations against the Joasmee Pirates  
by the combined forces of the Company and the Muscat Government' [90r] (185/186)

175  
Extract of Bombay Political Consultations,  
the 28<sup>th</sup> December 1805.

Read the following Letter from the  
Acting President at Bushire.

To Francis Warden, Esq.  
Secretary to Government.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge  
the receipt of the Government Command  
under Date 9<sup>th</sup> August, and which reached  
me at Prince of Wales, on the 30<sup>th</sup> ultimo.

I request you will inform  
the Honble the Governor in Council, that  
my explanation to His Excellency the  
Ambassador, with respect to the complaint  
against Captain Seton, proved perfectly  
satisfactory to the Persian Government.

(90) ad

as he himself informed me, before he  
left this, that the answer to his Letter  
on that Subject had fully satisfied them.  
My Letter also to the Minister, Chuanh Ali  
Pahany, on the same Subject, under Date, the  
25<sup>th</sup> August, and which I had the honor to  
forward a Translation of by the Minerva  
would remove every cause of complaint  
from their minds.

Bushire, }  
25<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1805. }

I have the honor, &c.  
(Signed) W. Bruce.

Ordered, that a Copy of the above Letter  
be transmitted to Mr. Secretary Edmonstone,  
and another to Captain Seton.