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‘The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiell Ibn Minas (the Company’s linguist at Baghdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir Harford’s secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court’s liberal attention.’

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	IOR/F/4/288/6499
Date(s)	13 Sep 1808-15 Apr 1809 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 item (10 folios)
Copyright for document	Open Government Licence

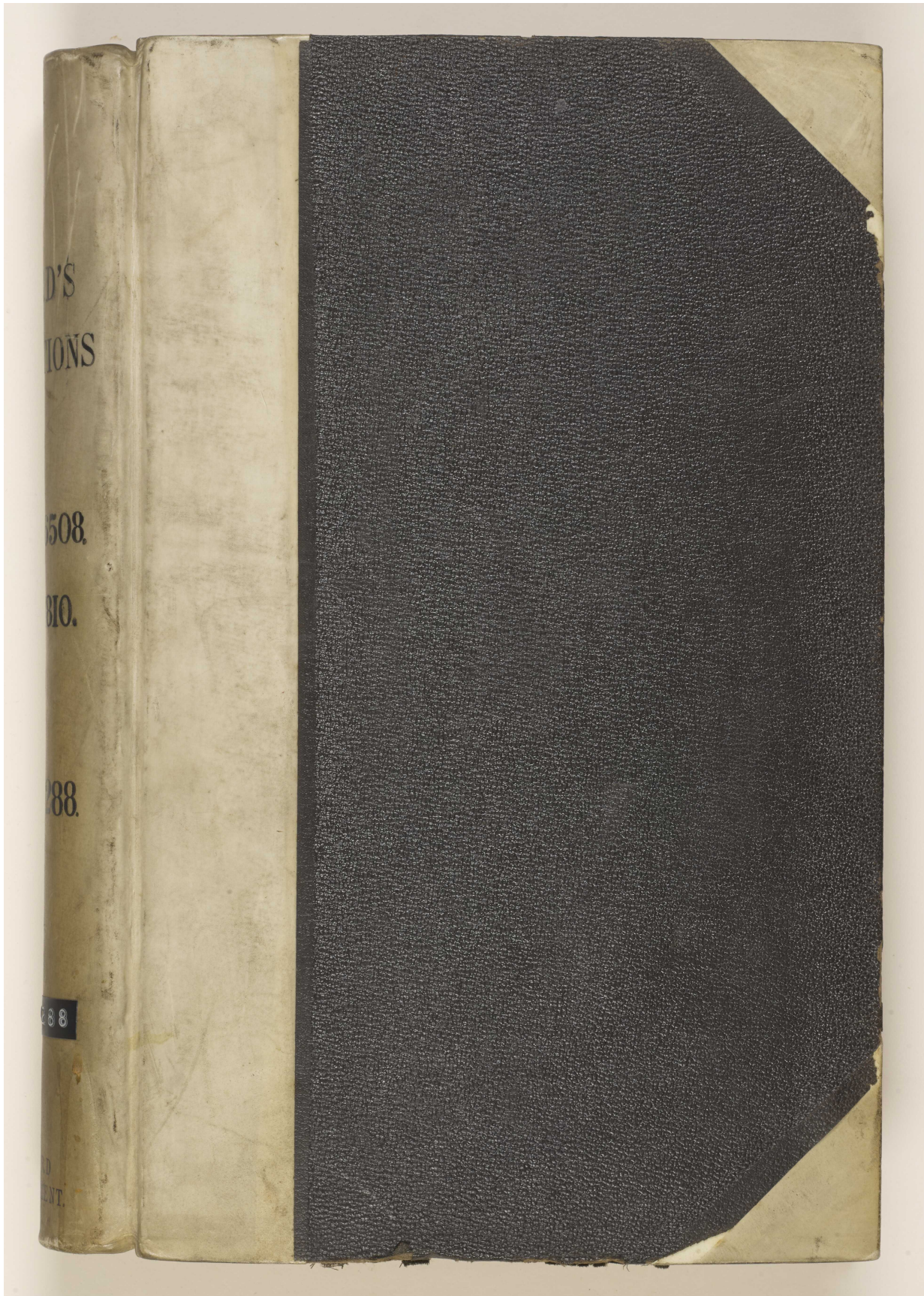


About this record

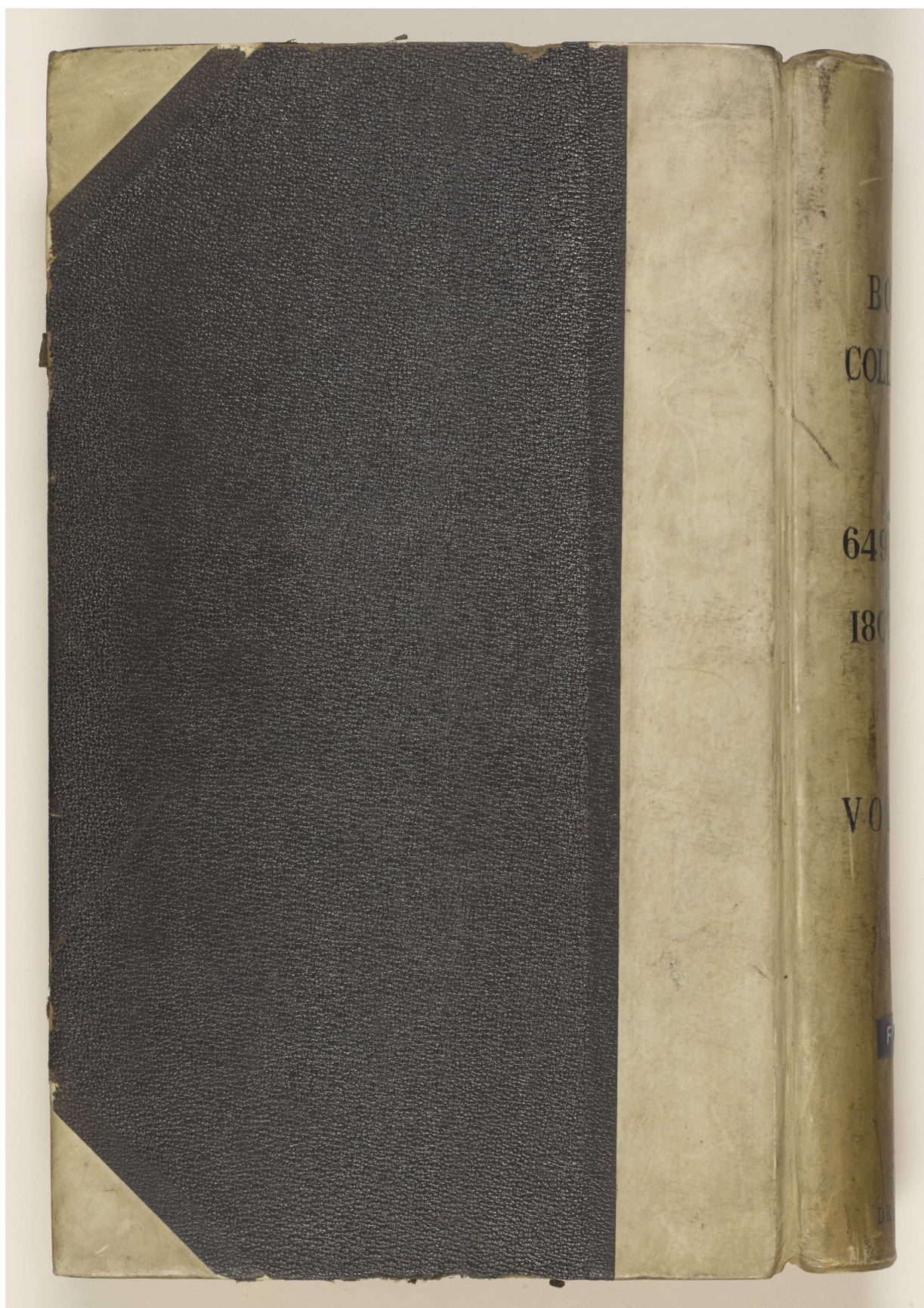
The item consists of copies of correspondence enclosed with letters from the Government of Bombay. It concerns requests from Claudius James Rich, Resident at Baghdad, and his predecessor Sir Harford Jones, for allowances to be granted to Coja Mokiell Ibn Minas [Khwaja Mikayil bin Minas Baghdadi], the residency’s interpreter, and Coja Owannes Pitcairn [Khwaja Hovhannes Paikhim], described as Harford Jones’s former secret agent in Persia. A request is also made by Rich for a salary increase for the son of Coja Mokiell Ibn Minas, who is also an interpreter at the residency.

The title page (f 20) of the item contains the following references: ‘Political No. 8, Season 1809/10, Draft 186’; and ‘Examiner’s Office, September 1809’.

'The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiell Ibn Minas (the Company's linguist at Baghdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir Harford's secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court's liberal attention.'
[front] (1/26)



'The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiell Ibn Minas (the Company's linguist at Baghdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir Harford's secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court's liberal attention.'
[back] (2/26)



'The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiell Ibn Minas (the Company's linguist at Baghdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir Harford's secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court's liberal attention.'
[spine] (3/26)



**‘The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiell Ibn Minas (the Company’s linguist at Baghdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir Harford’s secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court’s liberal attention.’
[edge] (4/26)**



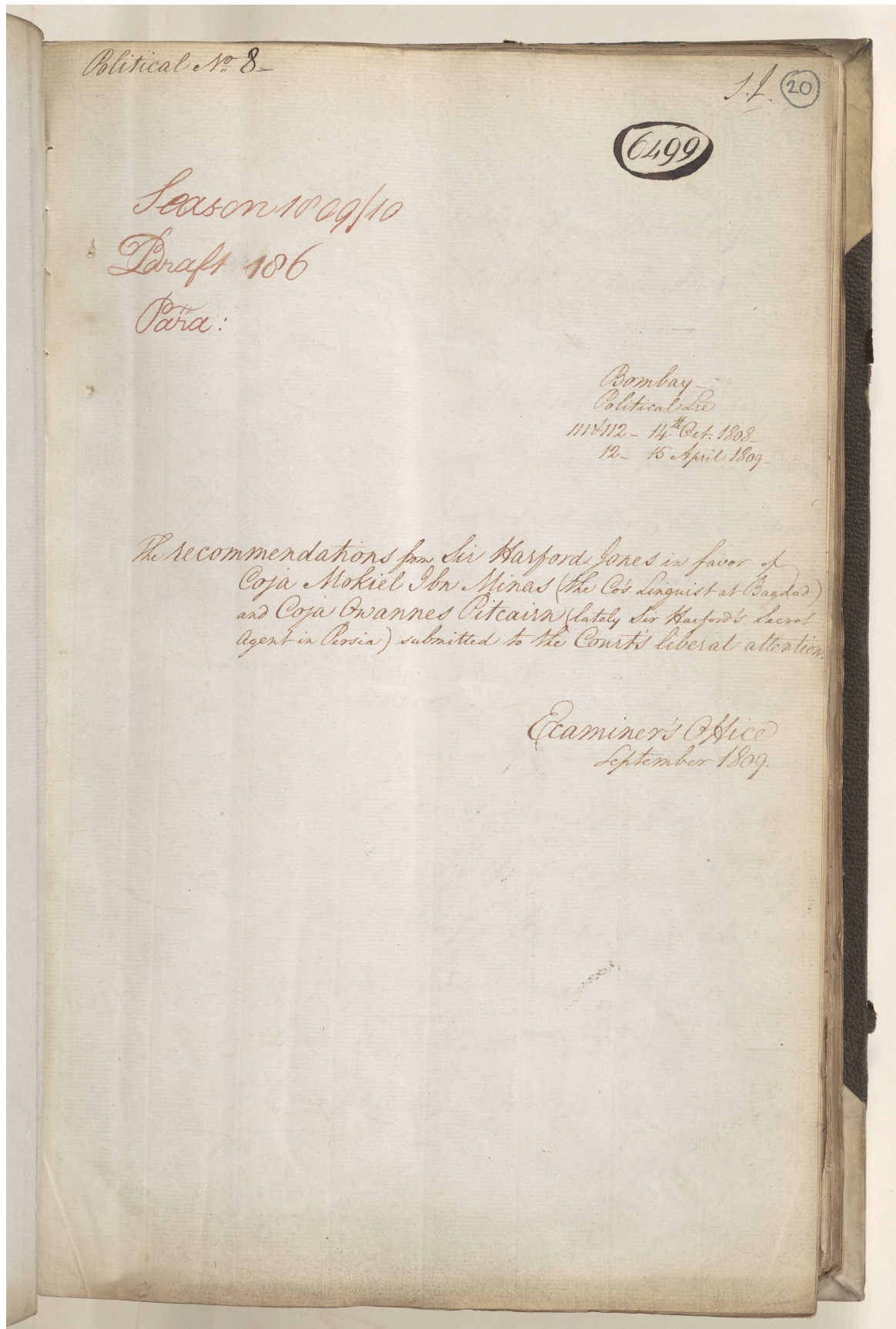
**‘The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiell Ibn Minas (the Company’s linguist at Baghdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir Harford’s secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court’s liberal attention.’
[head] (5/26)**



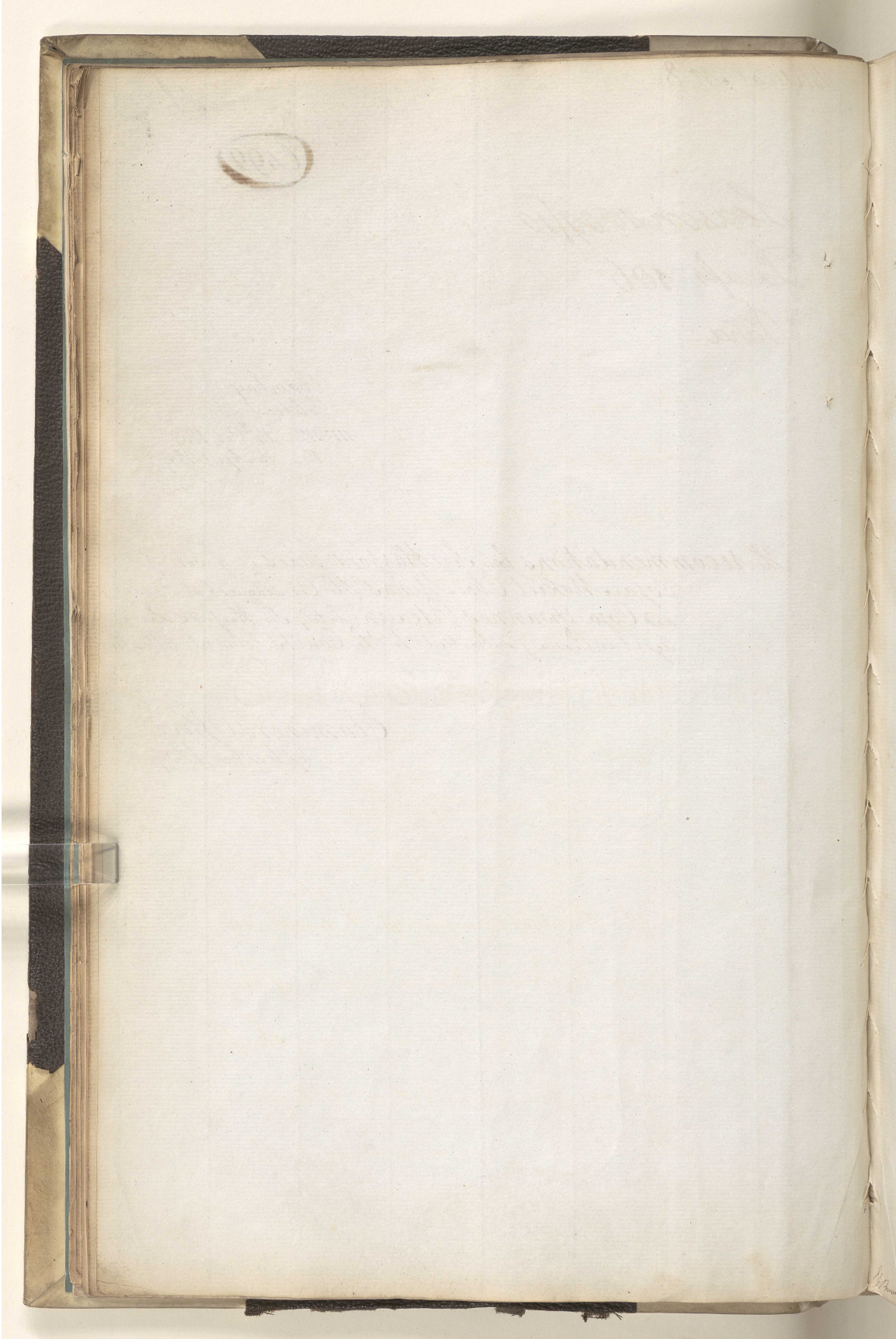
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[tail] (6/26)**



'The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiel Ibn Minas (the Company's linguist at Baghdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir Harford's secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court's liberal attention.'
[20r] (7/26)



'The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiell Ibn Minas (the Company's linguist at Baghdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir Harford's secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court's liberal attention.'
[20v] (8/26)



'The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiel Ibn Minas (the Company's linguist at Bagdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir Harford's secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court's liberal attention.'
[21r] (9/26)

21
Extrait of Political Letter from Bombay,
Dated 11th October 1808.

Par. 111. ————— We discharge a pleasing
duty in submitting Sir Harford Jones's recommendations
to your Honble Court's particular & liberal attention
of the two other persons of whose merits & services
Sir Harford makes the most favourable mention,
namely Coja Mokiel Ibn Minas, the Honorable
Company's Linguist at Bagdad, and Coja Owannes
Pitcairn, the latter of whom has afforded the
most satisfactory proofs of attachment & fidelity
to the Honble Company's Interest, in the
dangerous & confidential Office of Secret Agent
in Persia to Sir Harford, during the period that
the latter filled the station of Resident at Bagdad.
112. ————— Under a general reference to Sir
Harford Jones's Address on this occasion, we
beg

'The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiell Ibn Minas (the Company's linguist at Baghdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir Harford's secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court's liberal attention.'
[21v] (10/26)

beg to subscribe to the opinion offered in
its concluding Parat in support of these
dependants on the Honble Company's
munificence, that "if in the present perilous
and critical times, we wish to be well served
by the Natives in Arabia & Persia, it is most
sound & wholesome policy to act liberally towards
those who already, at the risk of their lives and
fortune, have served us well."

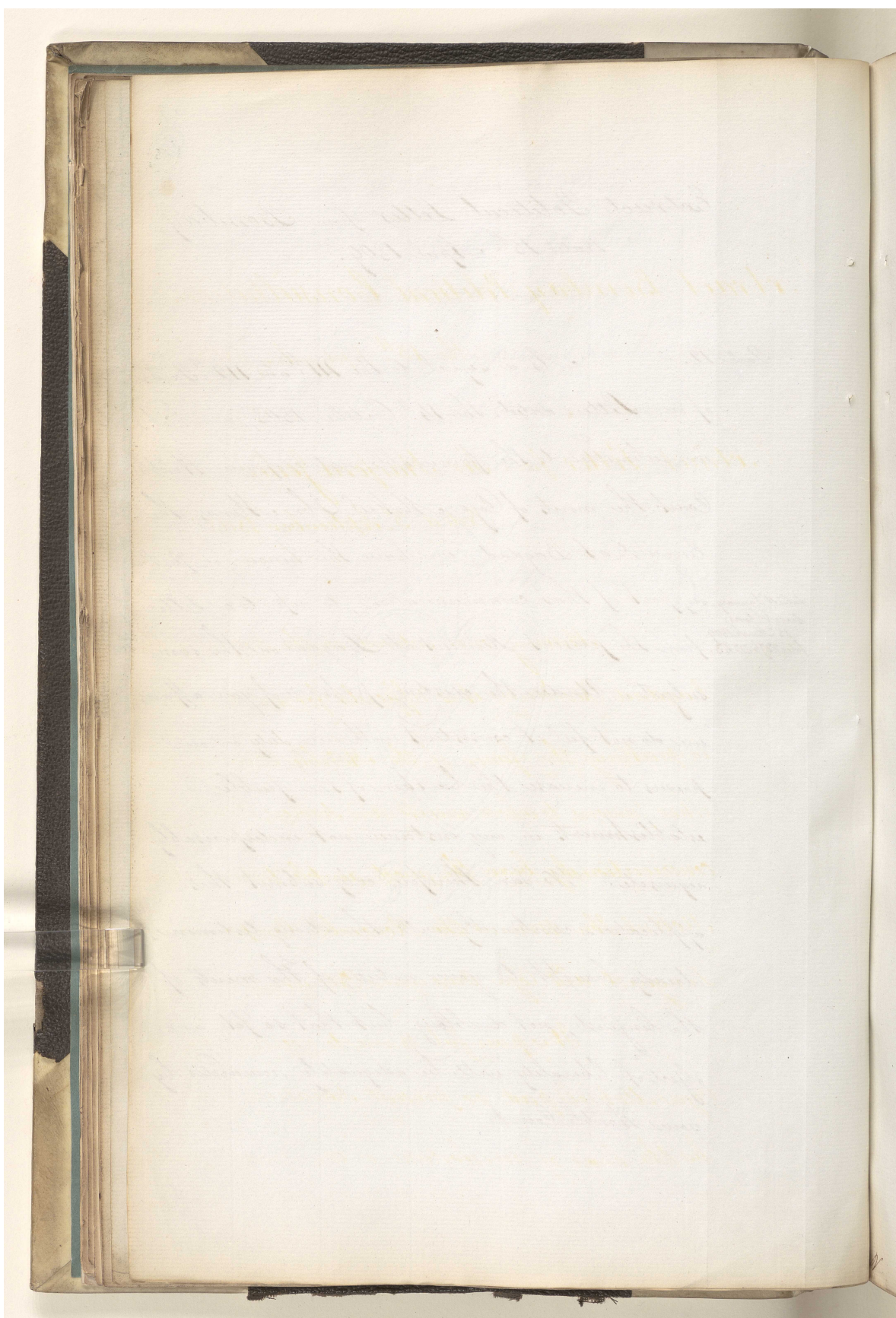
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[22r] (11/26)

23
(22)
Extract Political Letter from Bombay,
Dated 15th April 1809.

Part 12.

As a sequel to the 111th and 112th Parts of our Letter dated the 14th October 1808, in which we submitted to the favourable notice of your Honble Court the merits of Coja Mokiel Ibn Minas, the linguist at Bagdad, we have the honour, in further support of that communication, to refer to a letter ^{dated 11 January. secret Court.} ^{15 March 1809.} from the present Resident at Bagdad on the same subject. Under the existing pressure of your affairs we do not feel it consistent with our duty or our powers to increase the burthen of the public establishments in any instance not indispensably requisite. We can therefore only submit this application combinedly with the strong testimonies, already brought to your notice, of the merits of the linguist, not doubting but that so jet an object of liberality will be adequately rewarded by your Honble Court.

'The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiell Ibn Minas (the Company's linguist at Baghdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir Harford's secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court's liberal attention.'
[22v] (12/26)



'The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiel Ibn Minas (the Company's linguist at Baghdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir Harford's secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court's liberal attention.'
[23r] (13/26)

Extract Bombay Political Consultations

the 13th September 1808.

Extract Letter from Sir Harford Jones

Dated 3^d September 1808.

Having once entered on the subject of the
Bagdad Residency it is difficult for me to avoid
bespeaking the favor of the Hon^{ble} Board to two
other persons, to whose merits and services, I can
conscientiously bear the most ample testimony Coja
Mokiel Ibn Minas the Honorable Company's
Linguist and Coja Owannes Pitcairn.

It is painful to me to recur either to
Coja Mokiel's past or present situation - robbed
by the hand of misfortune of the greater part of
a

'The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiel Ibn Minas (the Company's linguist at Bagdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir Harford's secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court's liberal attention.'
[23v] (14/26)

a very plentiful fortune I found ^{him} ~~at~~ Bagdad
in the year 1798 with still so much left and so
infirm in health as to render his acceptance of the
Office and Salary of Linguist a matter not of
interest but of friendship to me and obligation
to the public. subsequent disasters rendered his
fortune more scantily and Ally Pacha's mad
conduct towards him in consequence of his being
the Linguist, left him with a large Family and
little more to support them, than the slight
Salary attached to his Office of Linguist.

Without adverting to the valuable
services of Coja Mokiel at Bagdad those rendered
to the British Government in India by him at
Muscot during the Government of Mr. Hornby
at Bombay and the Residency of Mr. ^{Latrache} Labruche
at Bussora were such (the Records testify) as to
have claimed the warmest public acknowledgements
from

'The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiel Ibn Minas (the Company's linguist at Baghdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir Harford's secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court's liberal attention.'
[24r] (15/26)

24
from both Gentlemen - Mokiel was then a
opulent Merchant and the same strength and
dignity of mind which now enables him
to bear poverty without public complaint
forbad him at that moment to accept the
offer of a pecuniary reward for the services
he had rendered.

Owannes Pitcairn was sent by me
into Persia as my secret Agent, and I believe few
persons employed in such capacity ever acquitted
themselves more satisfactorily. - It seems by the
last advices from Persia, he has been sent out
of the Country and as I learn, and as it too probable,
in a distressed situation. - There needs, I hope, but
the Statement of the facts to procure this man
his well earned recompence. for surely the
Honorable the Court of Directors will feel -
happy they have it in their power to become
his

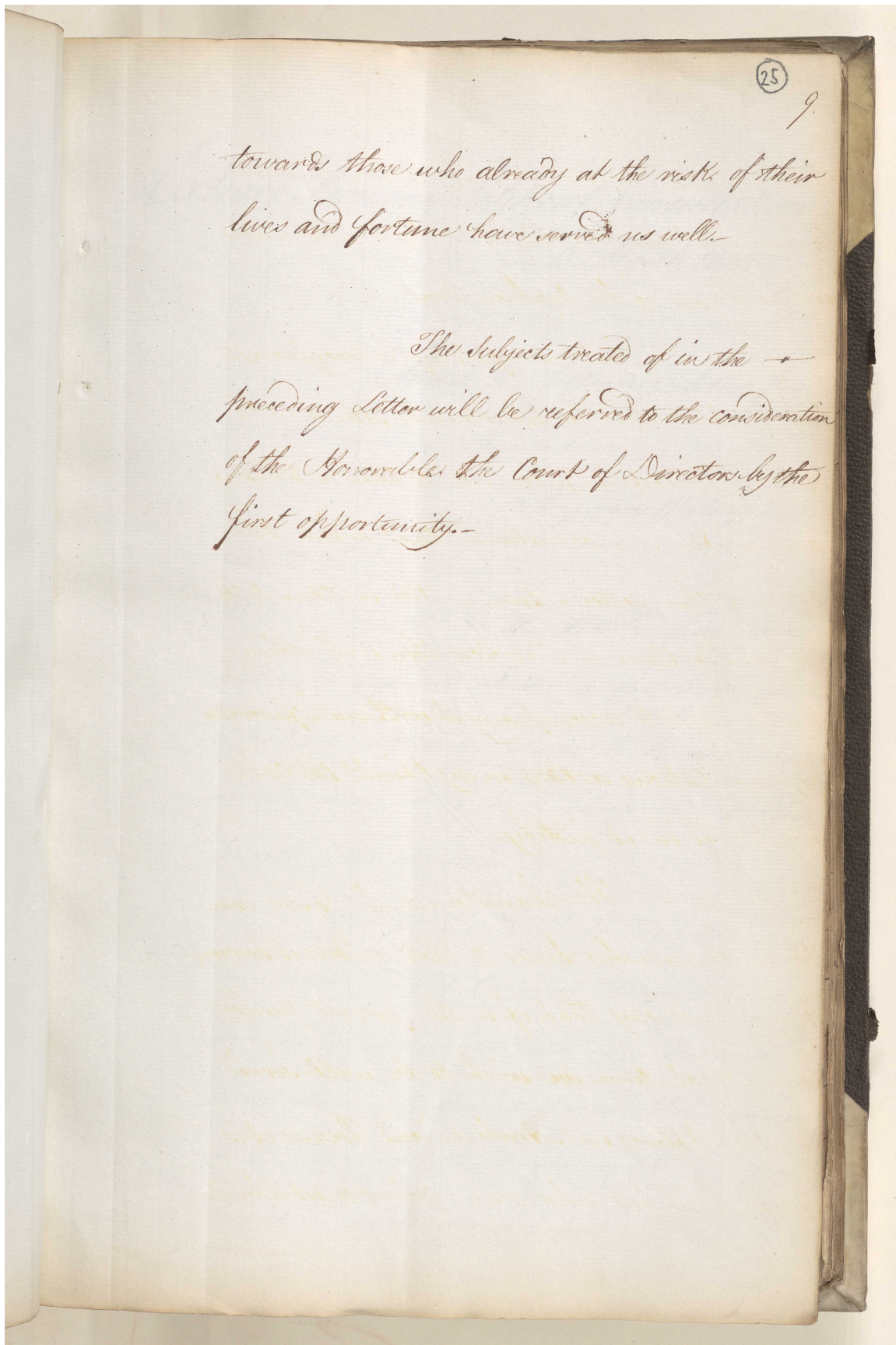
'The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiel Ibn Minas (the Company's linguist at Baghdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir Harford's secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court's liberal attention.'
[24v] (16/26)

his benefactor instead of being (as might have been the case) by duty obliged to charge themselves with the care of his Orphan Son.

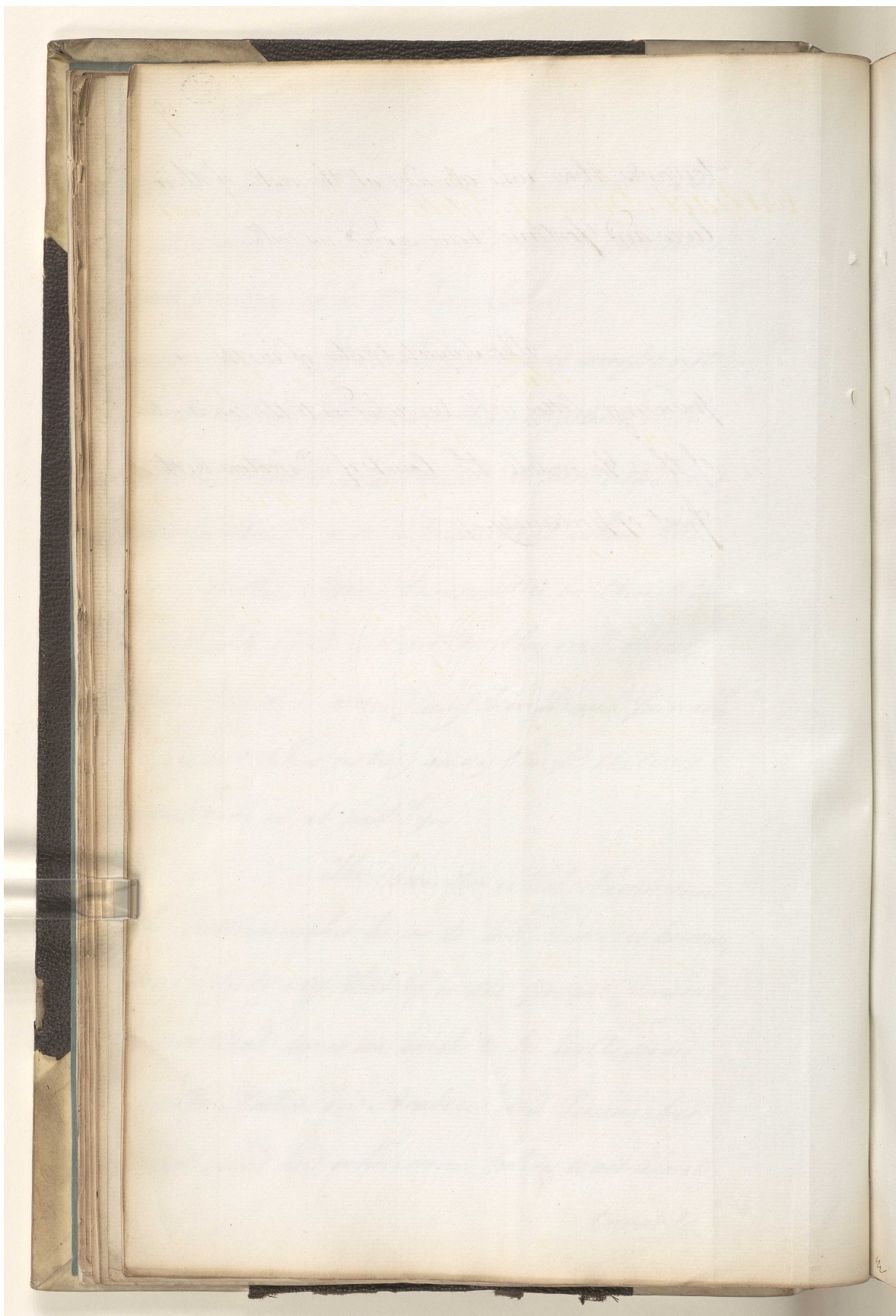
I feel an apology is necessary to the Honble Board for troubling it so long with subjects almost as intimate to them as to myself and for adding a solicitation that when the Copy of this Letter is transmitted by them to the Honorable Court of Directors they will oblige me so far as to accompany it with such favorable representations as they may think the cases mentioned in it justify.

The Character which I have now the distinguished honor to hold, renders it however my duty to say that, if in the present perilous and critical times we wish to be well served by the Natives in Arabia and Persia, it is most sound and wholesome policy to act liberally towards

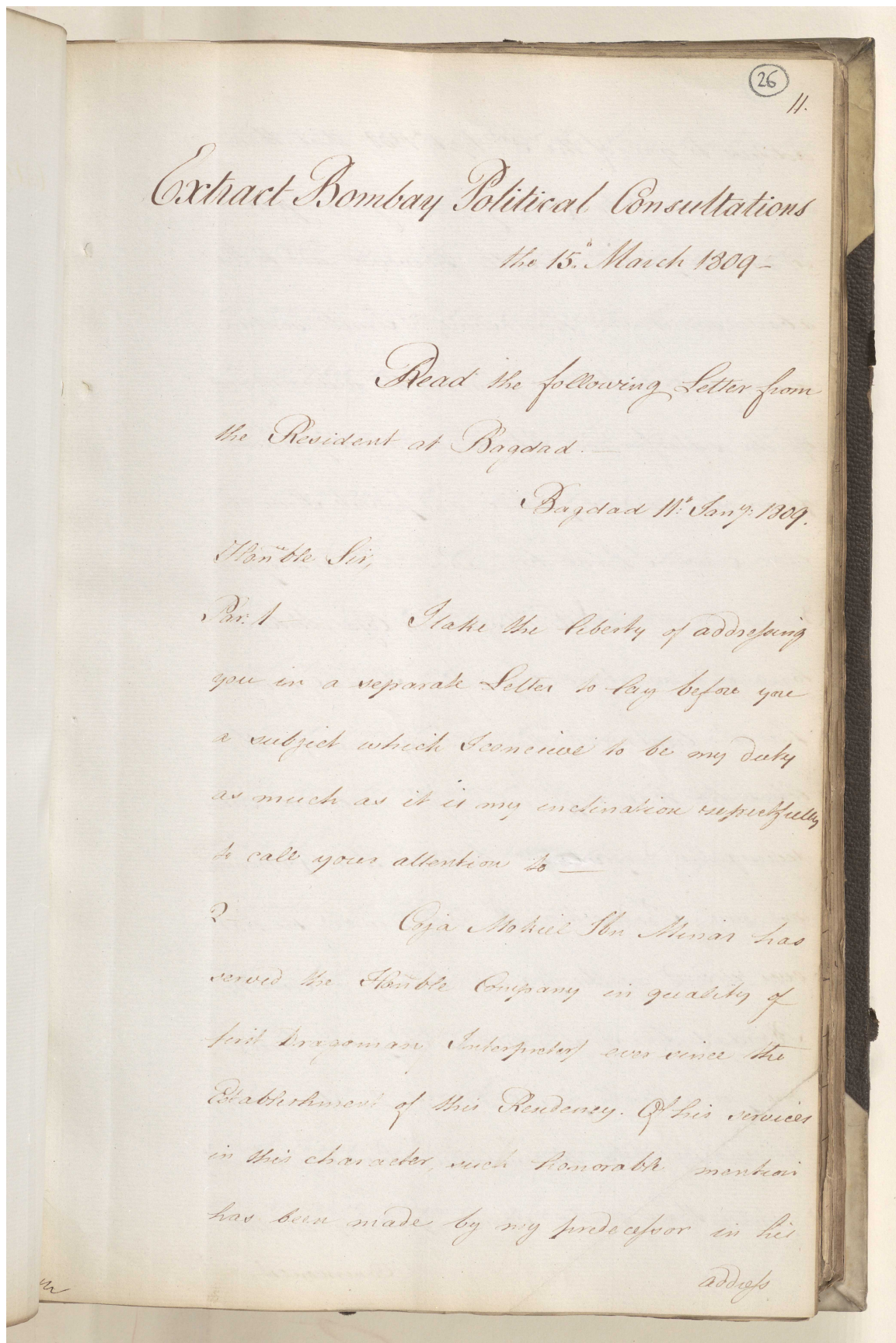
'The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiell Ibn Minas (the Company's linguist at Baghdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir Harford's secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court's liberal attention.'
[25r] (17/26)



**'The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiell Ibn Minas
(the Company's linguist at Baghdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir
Harford's secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court's liberal attention.'
[25v] (18/26)**



'The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiel Ibn Minas (the Company's linguist at Baghdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir Harford's secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court's liberal attention.'
[26r] (19/26)



'The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiel Ibn Minas (the Company's linguist at Baghdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir Harford's secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court's liberal attention.'
[26v] (20/26)

address to you of the 3rd Sept^r 1808, that there
exists no necessity for my enlarging upon
it in this place. I will however add to the
above mentioned handsome, & I will venture
to say just, tribute of praise, the acknowledgments
of the satisfaction I have invariably received
from this many public and private Services
ever since I have been Resident at this place.

3 Notwithstanding Coja Mokiel's
long and meritorious public Services, and the
harsh treatment he has experienced, & the
toiles he has suffered in the national cause,
during the disputes between this Government
and my Predecessor, the only reward he has
ever received is the paltry Salary of twenty
Bagdad Vaize Pistres or Pistres forty
one per Month paid out of the Resident's
allowance like the menial Tendency Groats,
 whilst those of the same quality in the
Commonest

'The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiel Ibn Minas (the Company's linguist at Baghdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir Harford's secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court's liberal attention.'
[27r] (21/26)

(27) 13.

commonest Consulates of the Levant, where they in every other respect enjoy the utmost comfort and ease are in the receipt of at least twice the sum, and at Cairo (the only Residency in Turkey except these) the Head Interpreter has a yearly Salary of five thousand Pistres, besides many other advantages which cannot be enjoyed by the Nagoman at Bagdad.

A— I need not expatiate on the entire dereliction of all mercantile and private concerns which must necessarily arise from an attention to the public business of the Residency, nor will I trouble you with a recital of the losses he has sustained, or point out to you the rank he holds in life, and consequently the respectability of appearance necessary for him to maintain. I will leave all these to your better recommendations and generous feelings. I am too well aware

of

5 Impressed with these ideas,
I venture earnestly to recommend that an
allowance be granted to Cja. McKel of one
hundred Bombay Rupees J^r. Menson, to
commence from the time^x of my taking ^{#7} charge x ⁴⁷/₇ May 1862.
of the Presidency. I am sure the sum
will be deemed a most reasonable one
when all the above mentioned circumstances
are taken into consideration. Permit me to
add

'The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiel Ibn Minas (the Company's linguist at Baghdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir Harford's secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court's liberal attention.'
[28r] (23/26)

(28) 15

add, that his modesty has prevented him
from making any direct application for
relief or increase of Salary, and I have a
pleasure in saying I do it unasked. I
am certain however that this inconsiderable
sum would ensure the old man's eternal
gratitude.

I ^{to} His son, Sontoo Coja Minas,
who acts in the capacity of second Interpreter,
has been from a Child, in the Company's
Service, & I am truly say, he is a most active,
valuable, & useful Servant. His monthly
allowance is twenty eight Bagdad Piastres,
a sum inferior to what is received by the
domestick of the Residency. Permit me
also to entreat, that he be likewise allowed
a Salary, commencing from the time I took
charge of the Residency, of fifty Bombae,
Rupia J. Mensure, which from my
experience

'The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiell Ibn Minas (the Company's linguist at Baghdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir Harford's secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court's liberal attention.'
[28v] (24/26)

experience I can conscientiously affirm he
fully deserves—

I have now done what I
conceive to be a duty incumbent on me. I
have to add, that I earnestly solicit your
attention to the case, & rely entirely on your
well known generosity.

I have &c &c

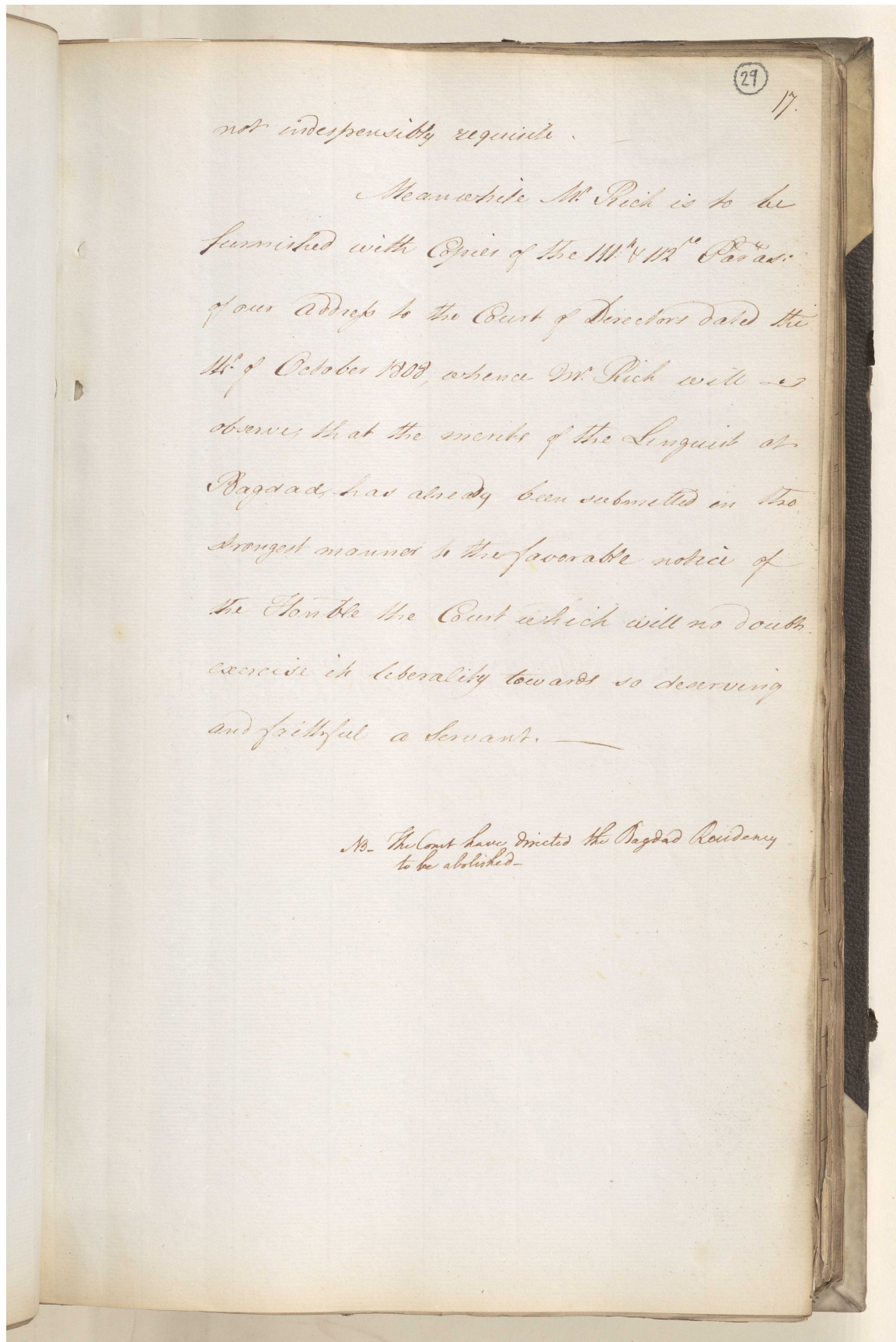
Signed G. J. Rich

Res^t

In acknowledging the above
Letter, the President at Bagdad is to be advised
that it will be referred by the Pacha &
shortly to be dispatched wth the Comarthen
to the Court of Directors, for their decision,
since the existing pressure on the public
Affairs, it is not consistent with our duty
or our power, to encumber the Business of
the Public Establishment, in any instance

not

'The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiel Ibn Minas (the Company's linguist at Baghdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir Harford's secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court's liberal attention.'
[29r] (25/26)



not indispensably requisite.

Meanwhile Mr. Rich is to be
furnished with Copies of the Wth & Wth Pass^{es}
of our Address to the Court of Directors dated the
11th of October 1808, whence Mr. Rich will see
obvious that the merits of the Linguist at
Bagdad has already been submitted in the
strongest manner to the favourable notice of
the Honble the Court which will no doubt
exercise its liberality towards so deserving
and faithful a servant.

N^o. The Court have directed the Bagdad Residency
to be abolished.

'The recommendations from Sir Harford Jones in favour of Coja Mokiell Ibn Minas (the Company's linguist at Baghdad) and Coja Owannes Pitcairn (lately Sir Harford's secret agent in Persia) submitted to the Court's liberal attention.'
[29v] (26/26)

