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'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.'

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	IOR/F/4/290/6518
Date(s)	10 Feb 1803-15 Apr 1809 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 item (60 folios)
Copyright for document	Public Domain



About this record

The item consists of copies and extracts of correspondence, minutes and resolutions cited in, or enclosed with, letters to and from the Government of Bombay and the Government of Bengal. The item relates to the decision to re-establish a Resident or Agent of the East India Company at Mocha in order to pursue commercial and political objects in the 'Arabian Gulph' – comprised of the Red Sea, Egypt and Abyssinia [Ethiopia]. In particular the item is concerned with:

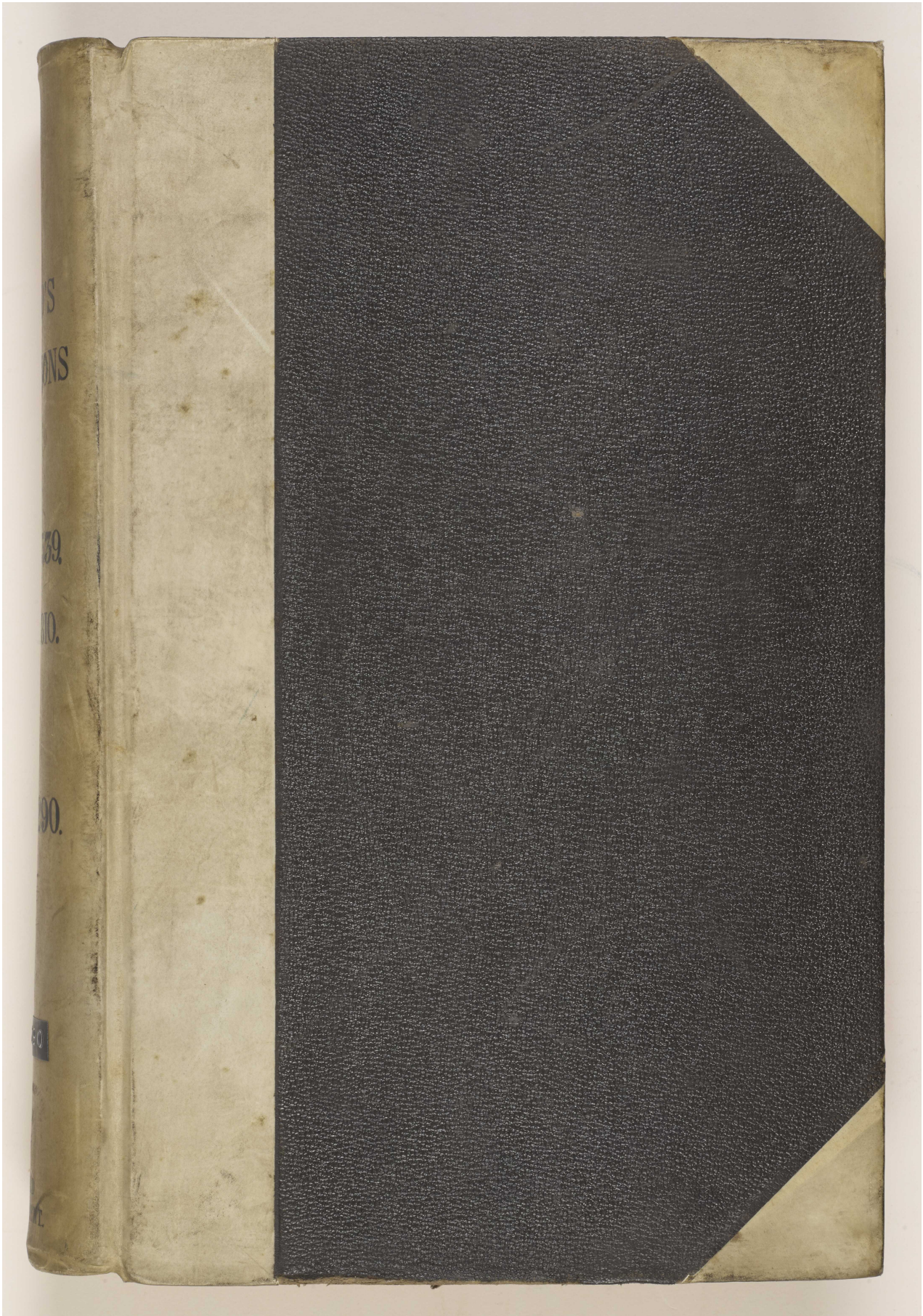
- The principal objects of the position, namely: the extension of trade in the Arabian Gulph; the procurement of intelligence on the activities of the French in the area; and the establishing of communication routes with Europe via Egypt and Malta
- Discussions of the likelihood of success of the above objects and the validity of the mission, including consultation with the Superintendent of Marine for the Government of Bombay on the channels of conveyance for packets
- The appointments of Captain Henry Rudland as Resident at Mocha and John Benzoni as his Assistant, including consultation with the Auditor of Civil Accounts regarding their allowances
- Reports by Rudland, Benzoni and the Custom Master at Bombay on the trading of goods in

the Arabian Gulph, particularly in Abyssinia.

Correspondents include: Court of Directors of the East India Company; Government of Bombay; Government of Bengal; Dr J Pringle, [Previous] Resident at Mocha; William Taylor Money, Superintendent of Marine, Government of Bombay; Mr Petrucy, Swedish Consul General to Alexandria; William Smith, Acting Commissary of Stores, Bombay; Rudland; Benzoni; Peter Paré Travers, Custom Master, Bombay; John Elphinstone, Auditor of Civil Accounts.

The title page of the item contains the following references: 'Political No. 27, Season 1809/10, Draft 186' and 'Examiner's Office November 1809'.

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [front] (1/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [back] (2/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [spine] (3/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [edge] (4/126)



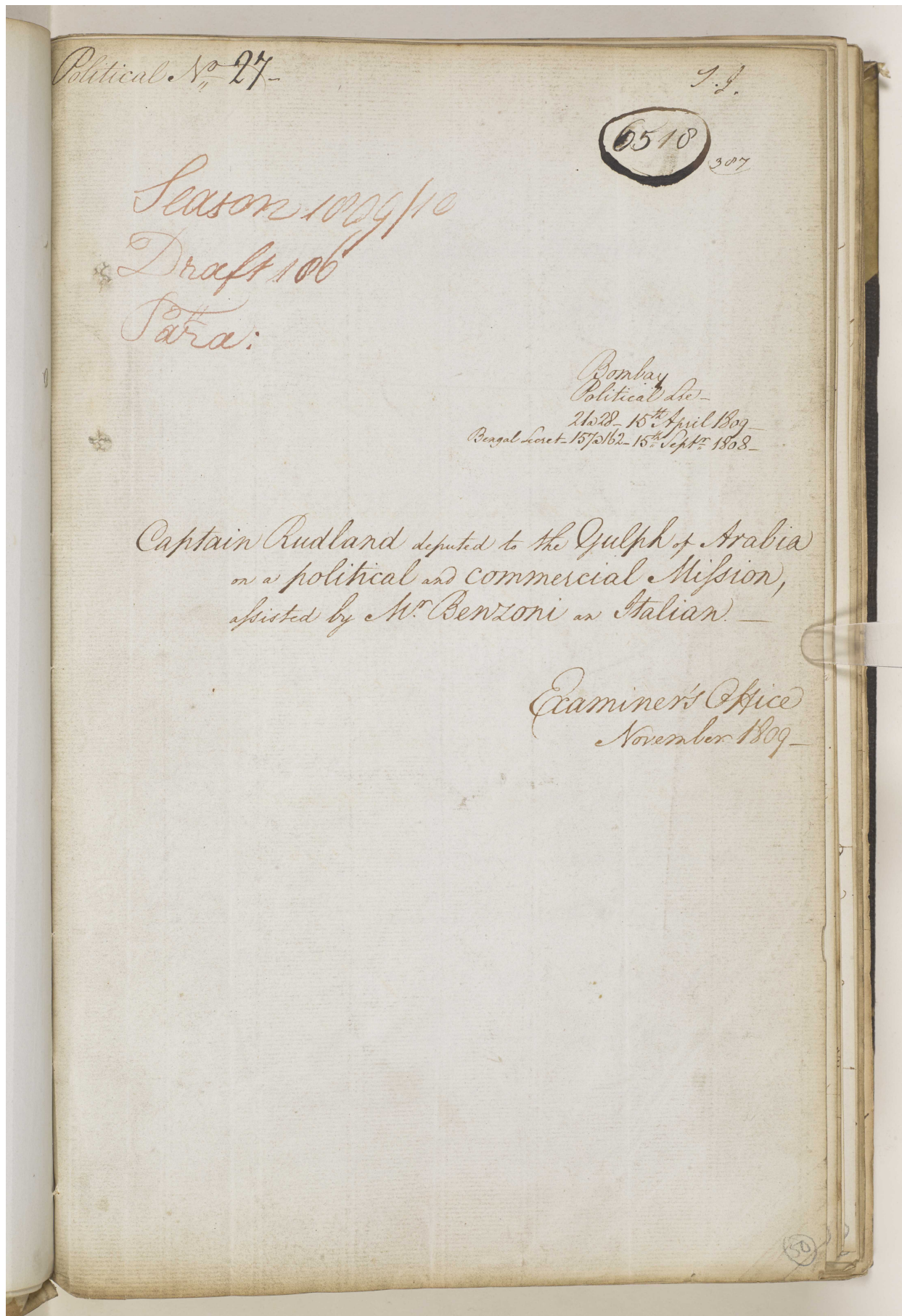
'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [head] (5/126)



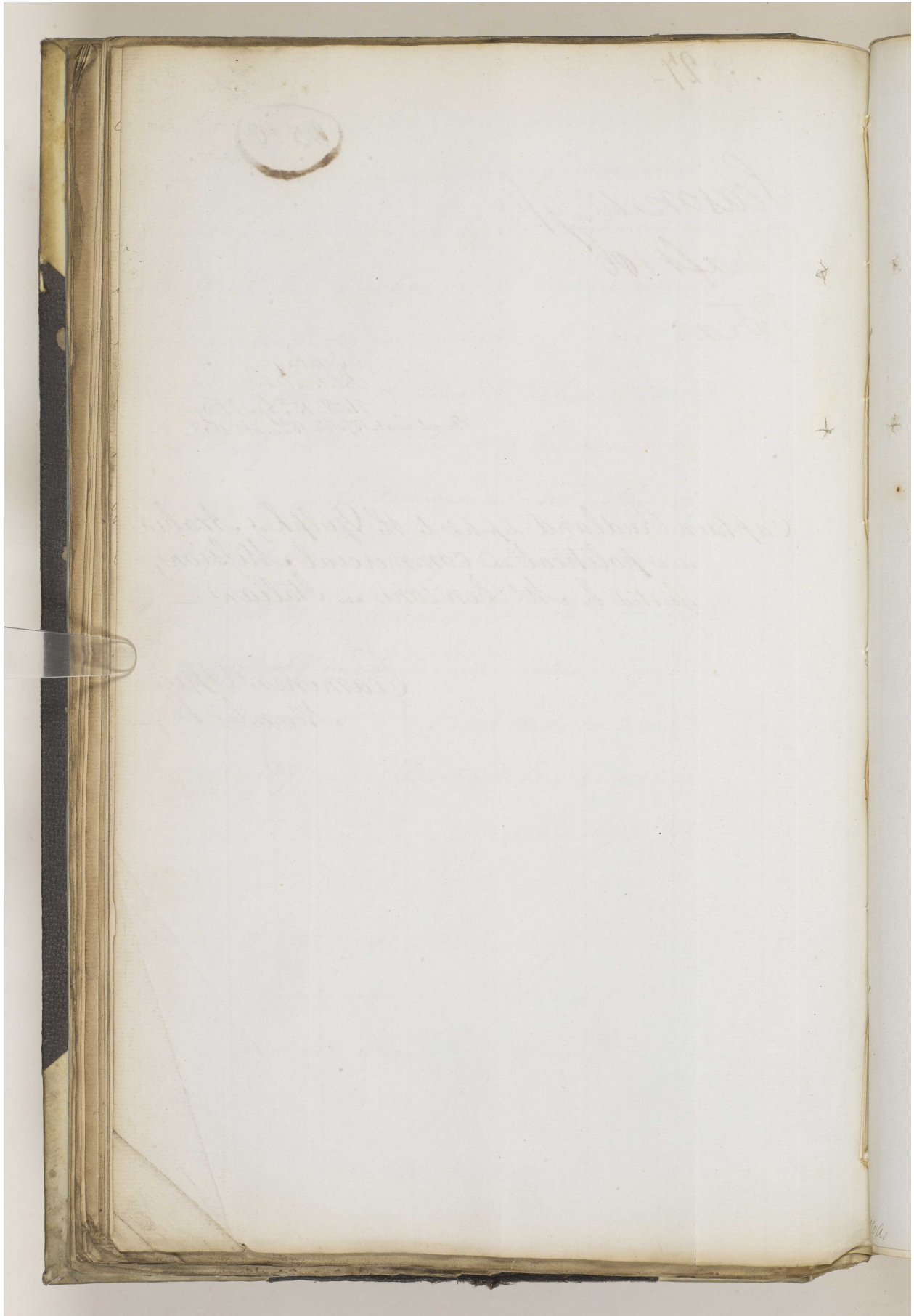
'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [tail] (6/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [50r] (7/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [50v] (8/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [51r] (9/126)

Extract Commercial Letter to Bombay

Dated 6 Nov^r 1807.

Part 2

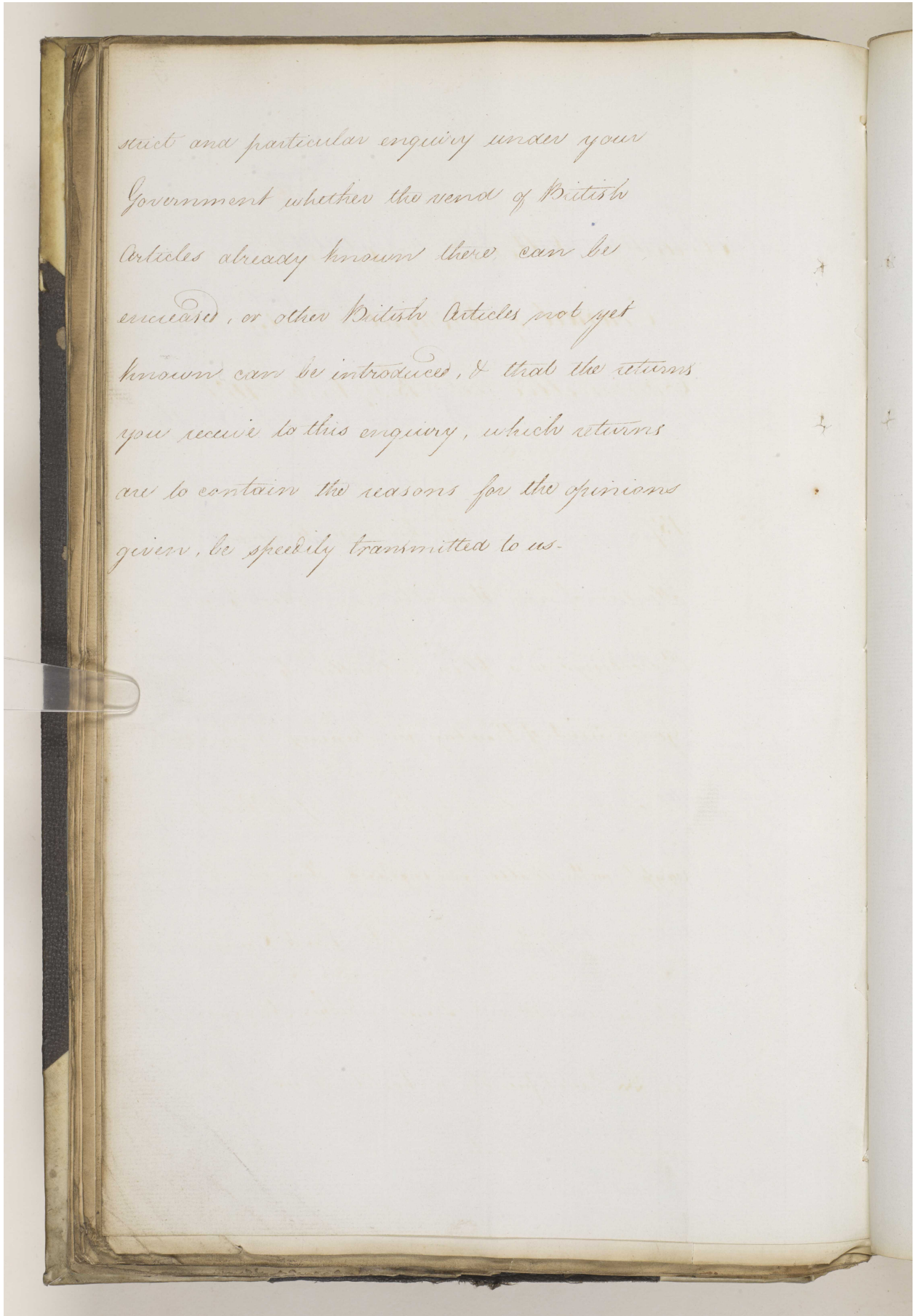
We have long & frequently urged upon you the duty & importance of endeavouring to extend in India the sale of the Manufactures and produce of this Country -
A reference only to the letters noted in the Margin

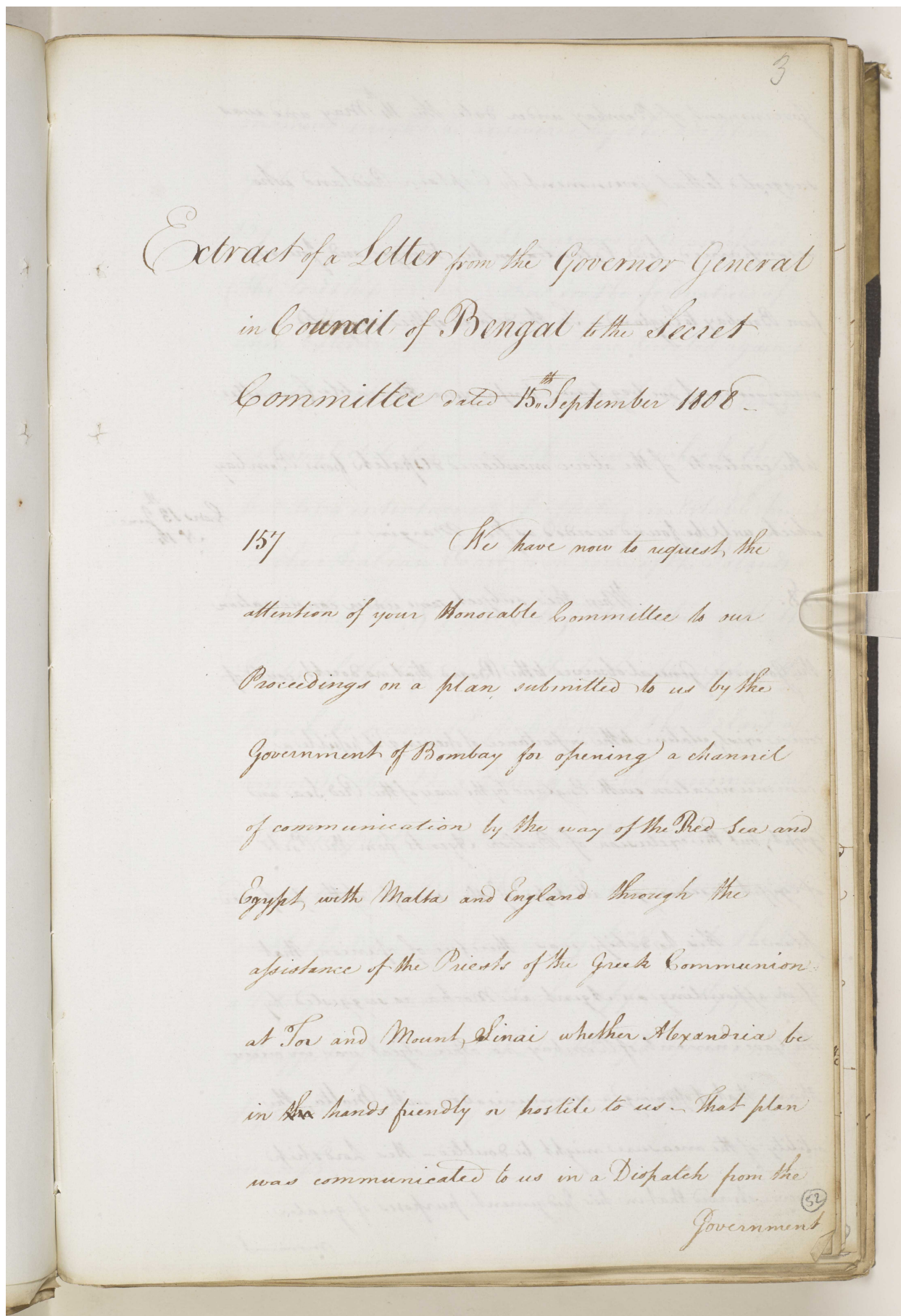
7 April - 1786	
21 April - 1790	Pages 259-26
20 Dec ^r - 1792	
23 April - 1795	" 18
5 June - 1795	" 5
5 Aug ^r - 1796	" 339-54
28 Aug ^r - 1800	" 149-15
17 Oct ^r - 1801	" 28
15 Sept ^r - 1802	" 163

written in the course of no great number of years past, will sufficiently evince how habitually our attention has been directed to this object; & we cannot suppose that our frequent

injunctious have been overlooked by you, but we nevertheless judge it expedient to repeat our Orders, and have therefore now urgently to desire that it may be made matter of strict

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [51v] (10/126)





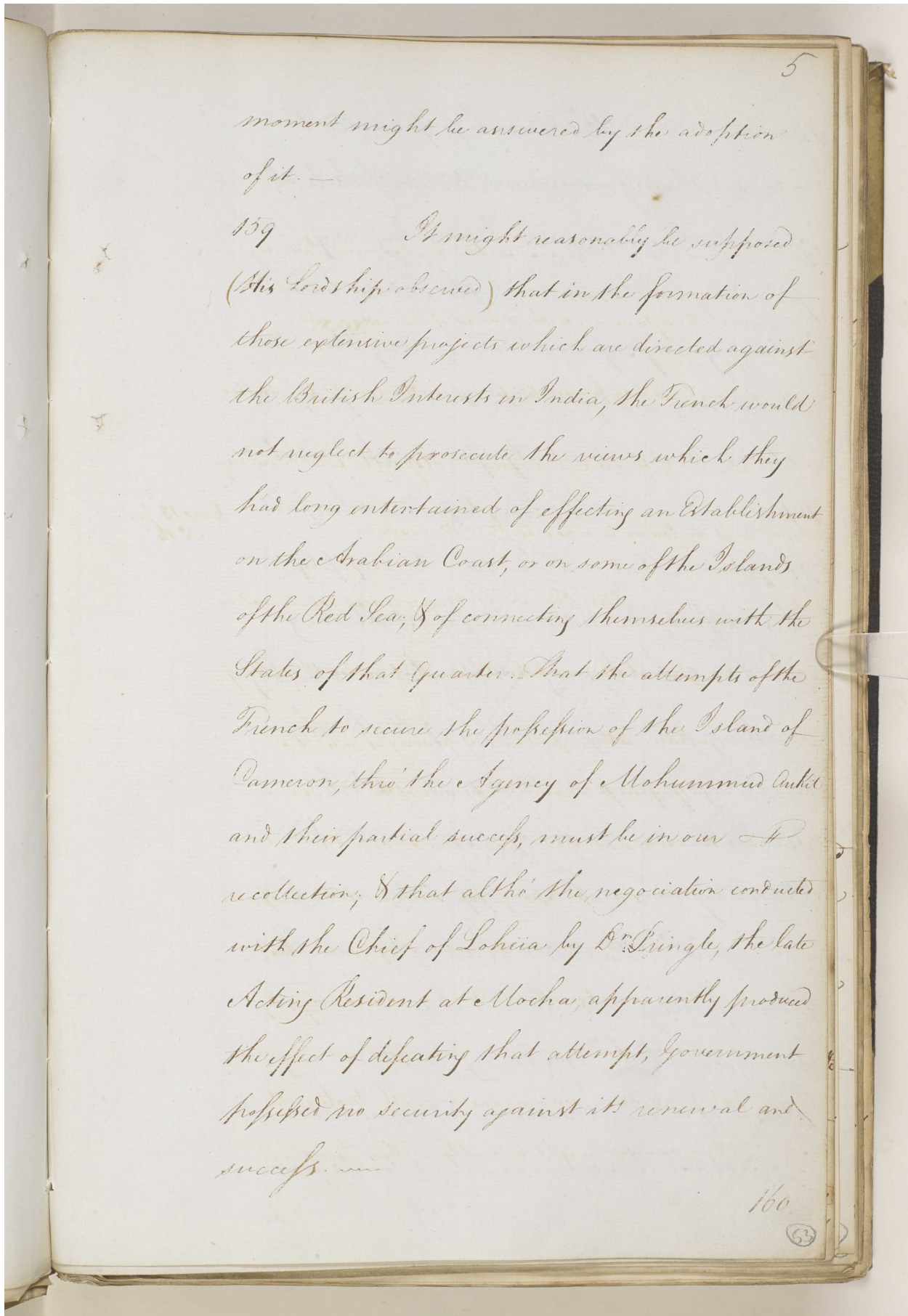
'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [52v] (12/126)

Government of Bombay under date the 14th May and was suggested to that Government by Captain Rudland who accompanied Lord Valentia on his Voyage and Journey from Bombay to England - For the details of this suggested arrangement we beg leave to refer your Honorable Committee to the contents of the above mentioned dispatch from Bombay which will be found recorded as per Margin -

Done 13th June
N^o 14.

158. When this subject came under consideration the Governor General observed to the Board that no doubt could of course exist relative to the importance of opening if possible a communication with England by the way of the Red Sea and Egypt, but the exclusion of British Agents from the Ports of Egypt, discouraged all hope of the success of the proposed plan - His Lordship was therefore of opinion that if in appointing an Agent in Mocha as suggested by the Government of Bombay no other object was in view than that of opening a communication with Malta, the utility of the measure might be doubted - His Lordship however observed that in his judgement purposes of greater moment

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [53r] (13/126)



moment might be answered by the adoption
of it. —
159 It might reasonably be supposed
(His Lordship observed) that in the formation of
those extensive projects which are directed against
the British Interests in India, the French would
not neglect to prosecute the views which they
had long entertained of effecting an Establishment
on the Arabian Coast, or on some of the Islands
of the Red Sea, & of connecting themselves with the
States of that Quarter. That the attempts of the
French to secure the possession of the Island of
Cameron, thro' the Agency of Mohummed Aukel
and their partial success, must be in our
recollection, & that altho' the negotiation conducted
with the Chief of Lohia by Dr. Pringle, the late
Acting Resident at Mocha, apparently produced
the effect of defeating that attempt, Government
possessed no security against its renewal and
success. —

160

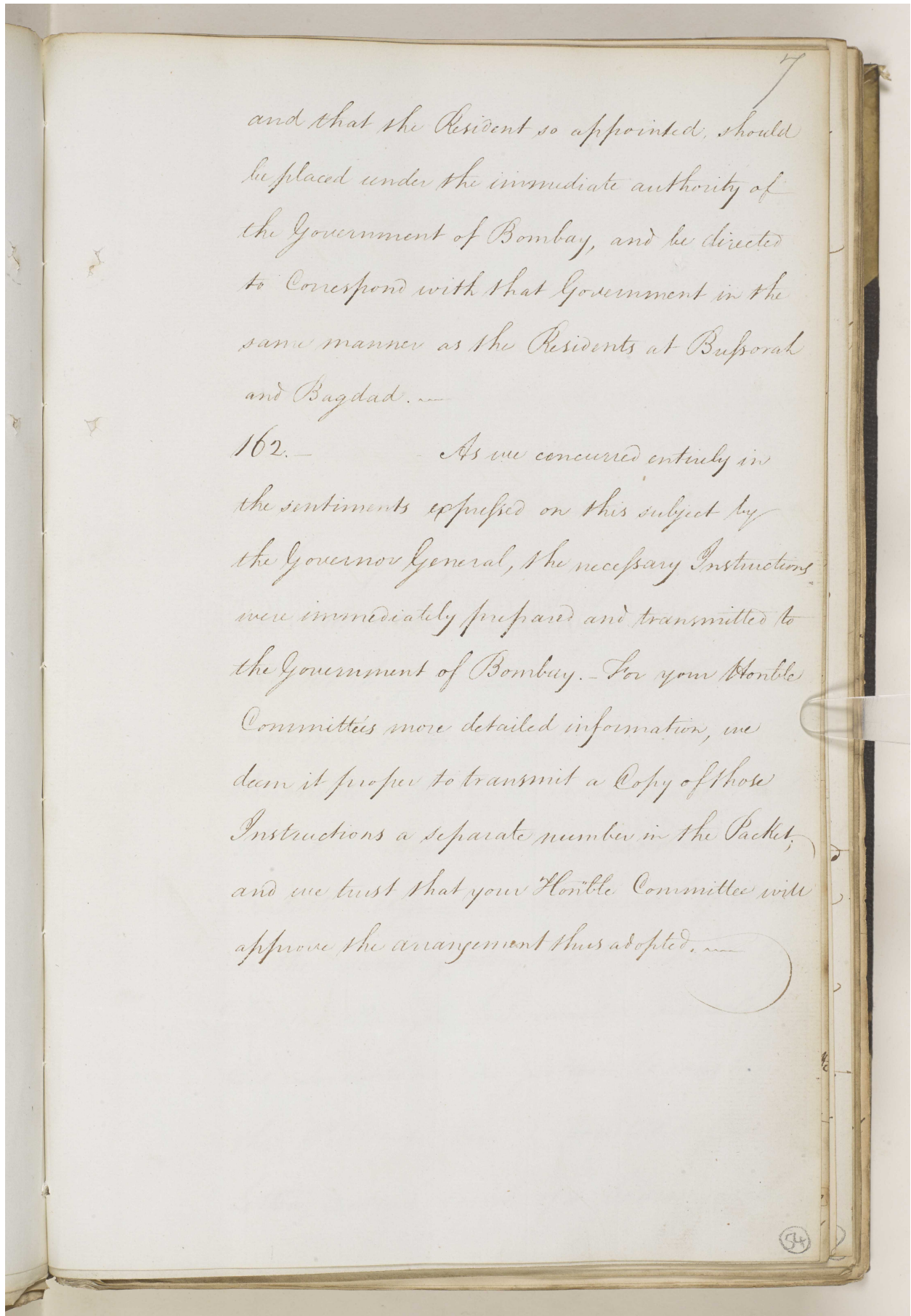
(53)

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [53v] (14/126)

160 His Lordship proceeded to observe that Government did not possess at present the means even of watching any proceedings of the French in the Red Sea, or of obtaining any information regarding them, & that consequently that field of enterprise & intrigue was left entirely open to the French.

161. His Lordship was therefore of opinion that with a view to supply this defect, the measure of reestablishing the British Agency at Mocha, was highly necessary and important; and His Lordship accordingly proposed that it should be recommended to the Government of Bombay to revive the appointment of an Agent or Resident at Mocha, on the same footing on which it was held by the late D^r Pringle, combining with it any objects of a Commercial nature which such an Establishment was calculated to promote,
and

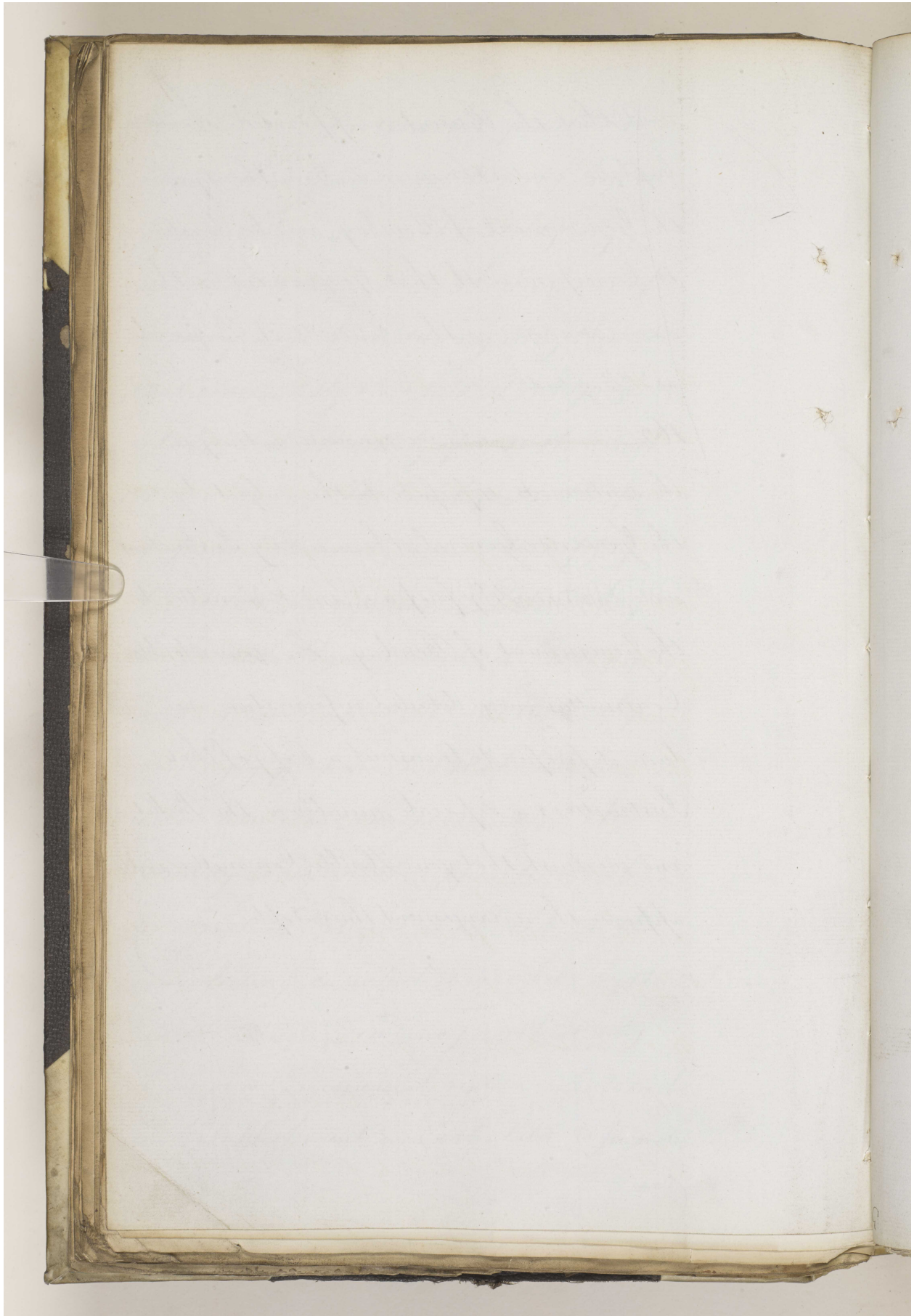
'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [54r] (15/126)



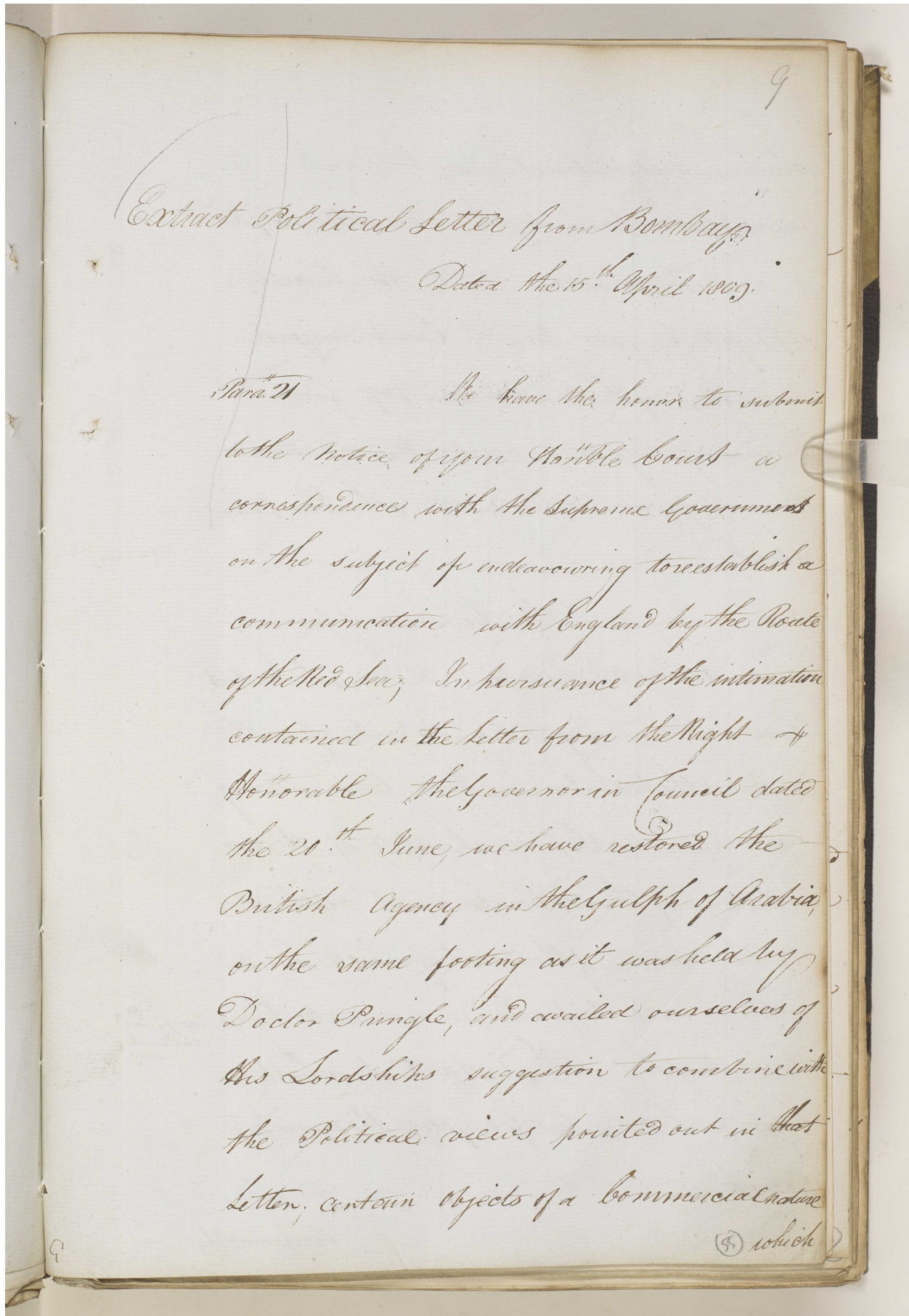
17
and that the Resident so appointed, should
be placed under the immediate authority of
the Government of Bombay, and be directed
to Correspond with that Government in the
same manner as the Residents at Bussorah
and Bagdad. —

162. — As we concurred entirely in
the sentiments expressed on this subject by
the Governor General, the necessary Instructions
were immediately prepared and transmitted to
the Government of Bombay. — For your Honble
Committee's more detailed information, we
deem it proper to transmit a Copy of those
Instructions a separate number in the Packet,
and we trust that your Honble Committee will
approve the arrangement thus adopted. —

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [54v] (16/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [55r] (17/126)



9
Extract Political Letter from Bombay
Dated the 15th April 1809.

Para²¹ We have the honor to submit
to the notice of your Honorable Board a
correspondence with the Supreme Government
on the subject of endeavouring to reestablish a
communication with England by the Route
of the Red Sea; In pursuance of the intimation
contained in the letter from the Right &
Honorable the Governor in Council dated
the 20th June, we have restored the
British Agency in the Gulph of Arabia,
on the same footing as it was held by
Doctor Pringle, and availed ourselves of
His Lordship's suggestion to combine with
the Political views pointed out in that
Letter, certain objects of a Commercial nature
④ which

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [55v] (18/126)

which such an establishment may be deemed a
calculated to promote, the more especially as
it is in concurrence with the anxiety
expressed by your Honorable Court, in your
Commands of the 6th November 1807, for
increasing by every practicable endeavour,
the sale of your Woolens and other European
Staples.

22. With the view of forming
some estimate how far and to what extent
these articles might be disposed of on the
Coasts of the Red Sea, we have been collecting
information on the present state of Arabia,
inclusive of the opposite Coast and Country
of Abyssinia, of the result of which some
notice will be found in a minute by our
President dated 16th Instant to which
we beg leave to refer your Honorable
Court.

Secret Cont.
26th March
1809.

Conformably

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [56r] (19/126)

23. Conformably to the intimation conveyed in the 4th Paragraph of the Supreme Government's Letter of the 20th June, we have appointed Captain Henry Rudland the Honorable Company's Agent in the Gulph of Arabia, assisted by Mr. John Benzoni an Italian, long connected with the English in India, and who has resided three years at Aden, the latter having been so far associated with Captain Rudland in this Mission, in view chiefly to his local information and experience in Mercantile Affairs, and to provide against casualties in either; Mr. Benzoni having long proved himself firmly attached to the British Interests and being also known to, and in correspondence with the several chiefs through whom the experiment is on a limited scale intended to be made of extending

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [56v] (20/126)

extending the said of your exports from
England on the Western African Shore which
has never yet been tried for that purpose

24 We further beg to refer your
Honorable Court to the instructions issued
to Captain Rudland for more detailed information
with regard to the Political and Commercial
objects, with which he is charged with the
prosecution of neither of which shall we,
(your Honorable Court may be assured) allow
ourselves to exceed the bounds of a discreet
and cautious experiment.)

Secret Cons.
26th March
1809
No. 1.

25 We have fixed Captain Rudland's
Allowances and Establishment as follows.

Personal Salary, besides his Militaries ^{ry} of 4 P. yr.	Pounds
Dien which is of course to be drawn separately	1000 ..
Table Allowance	500 ..
Travelling Charges	200 ..
Total of Personal Allowance	1500 ..
Establishment	

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [57r] (21/126)

13

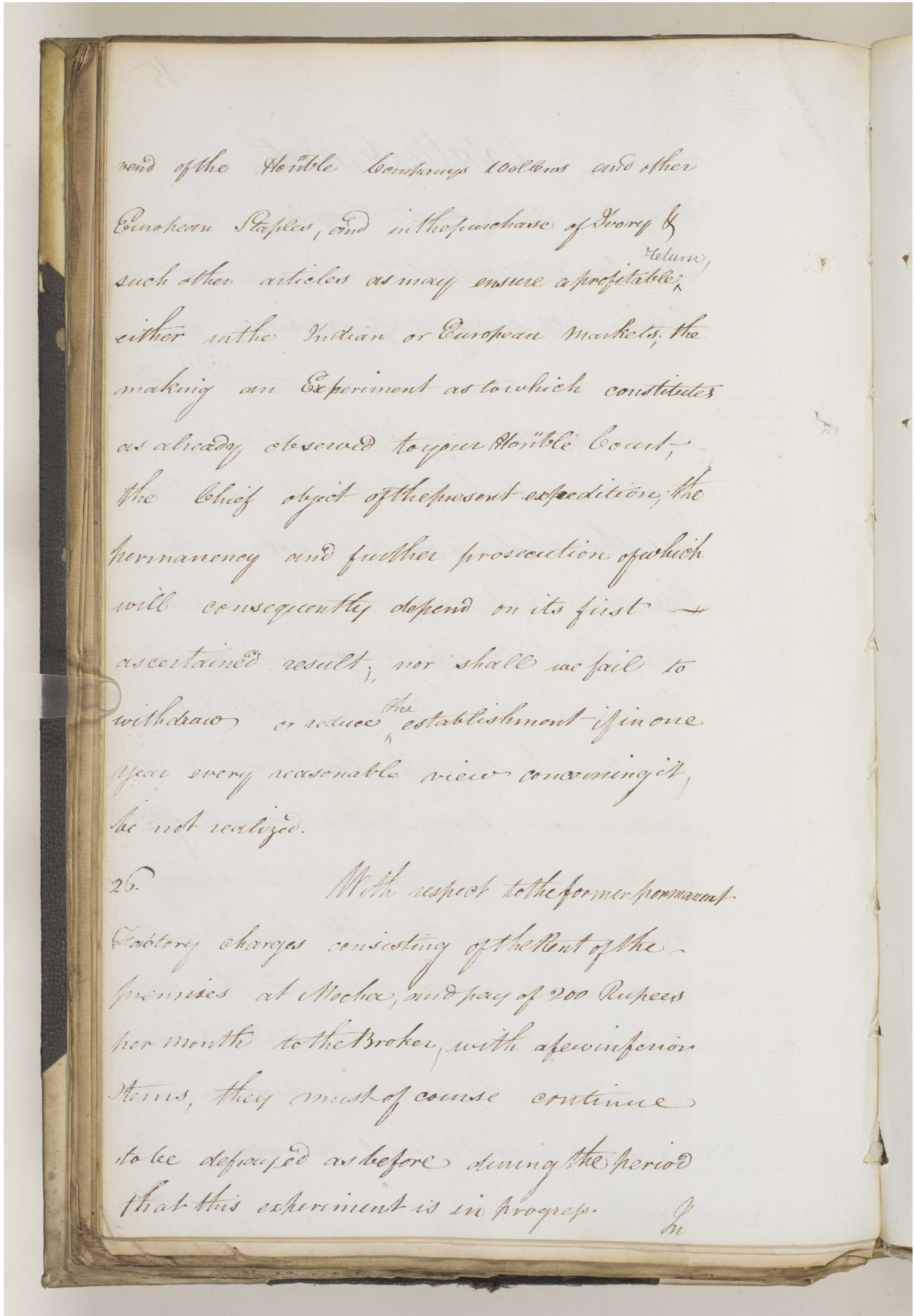
Establishment

Salary to his Assistant Mr. Benzoni	300.
Moonshees & Native Writers	120
To Cover all Contingent expences whatever.	80.
	<u>500.</u>

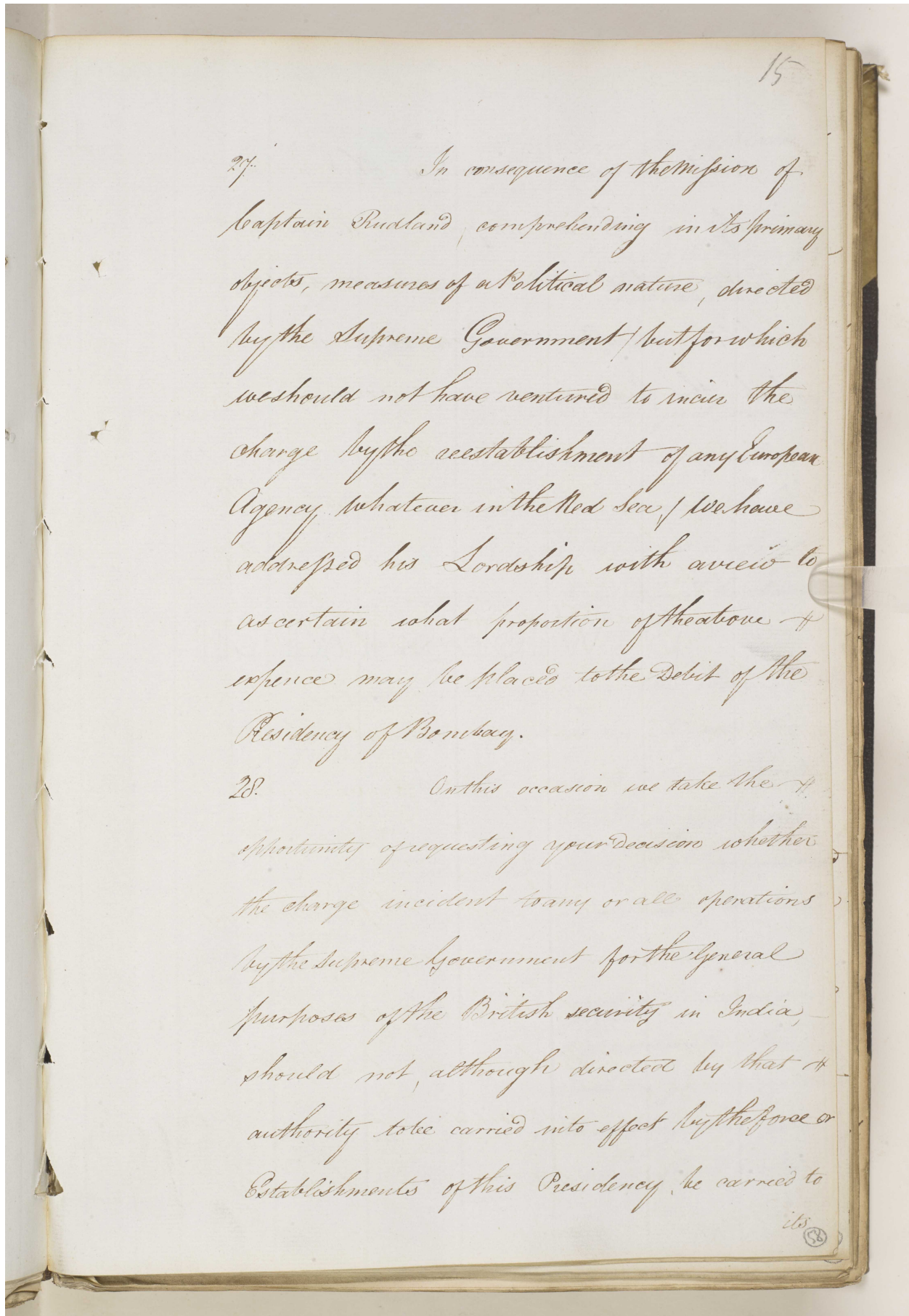
The amount of this charge is to be defrayed, in the first instance out of a Commission of 5. per Cent on all their purchases and Cash Sales for the Honorable Company, which is to be divided into the following proportions, Viz. 3/5 to Captain Rudland as Agent, & 2/5 to his Assistant. In the event of this Commission not proving equal to cover the Disbursements of 2000/ two thousand Rupees per mensem, the difference is to be made up by the Honorable Company, whilst in as much as the same may exceed that Amount such surplus will be divisible between him and his Assistant in the proportions above specified, as an encouragement to exert themselves in the

read (1)

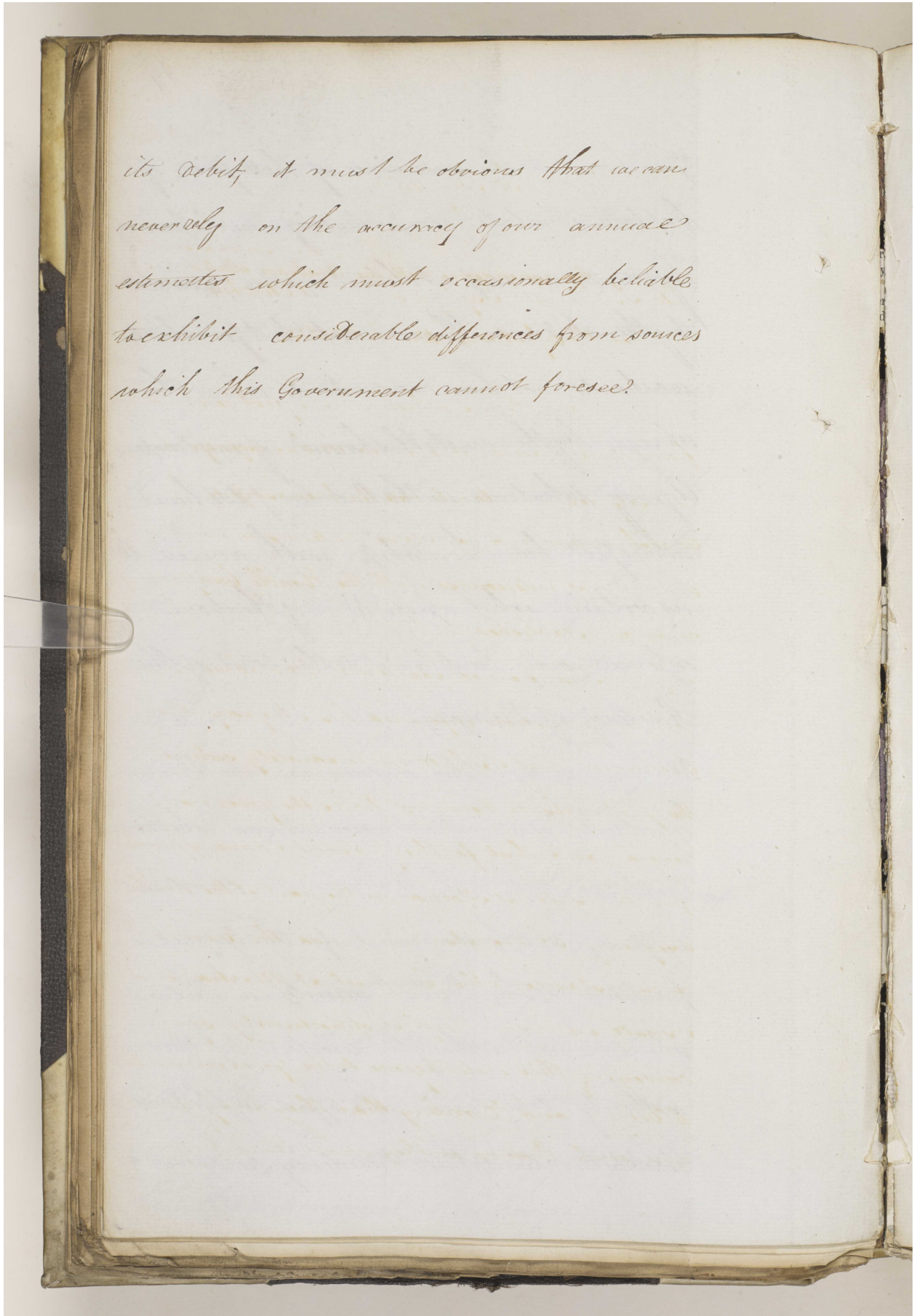
'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [57v] (22/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [58r] (23/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [58v] (24/126)



17
Extract of Bengal Political Consultations
30th May 1805.

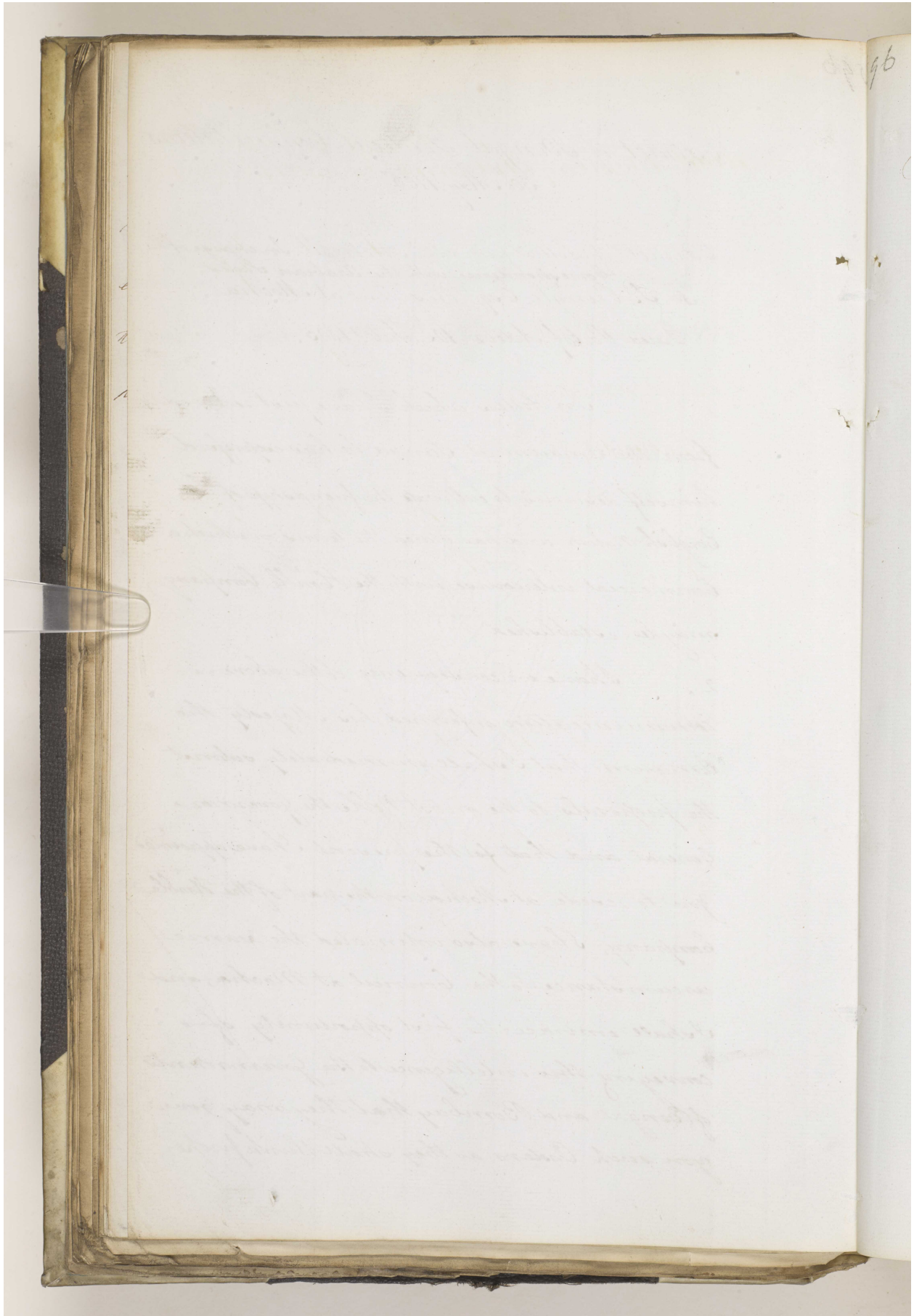
Extract of Letter from M^r. Melville, In charge of the
Correspondence with the Arabian States.
To J. Pangle Esq^r Resident at Mocha
Dated Port of Aden 10th Feb^r 1803.

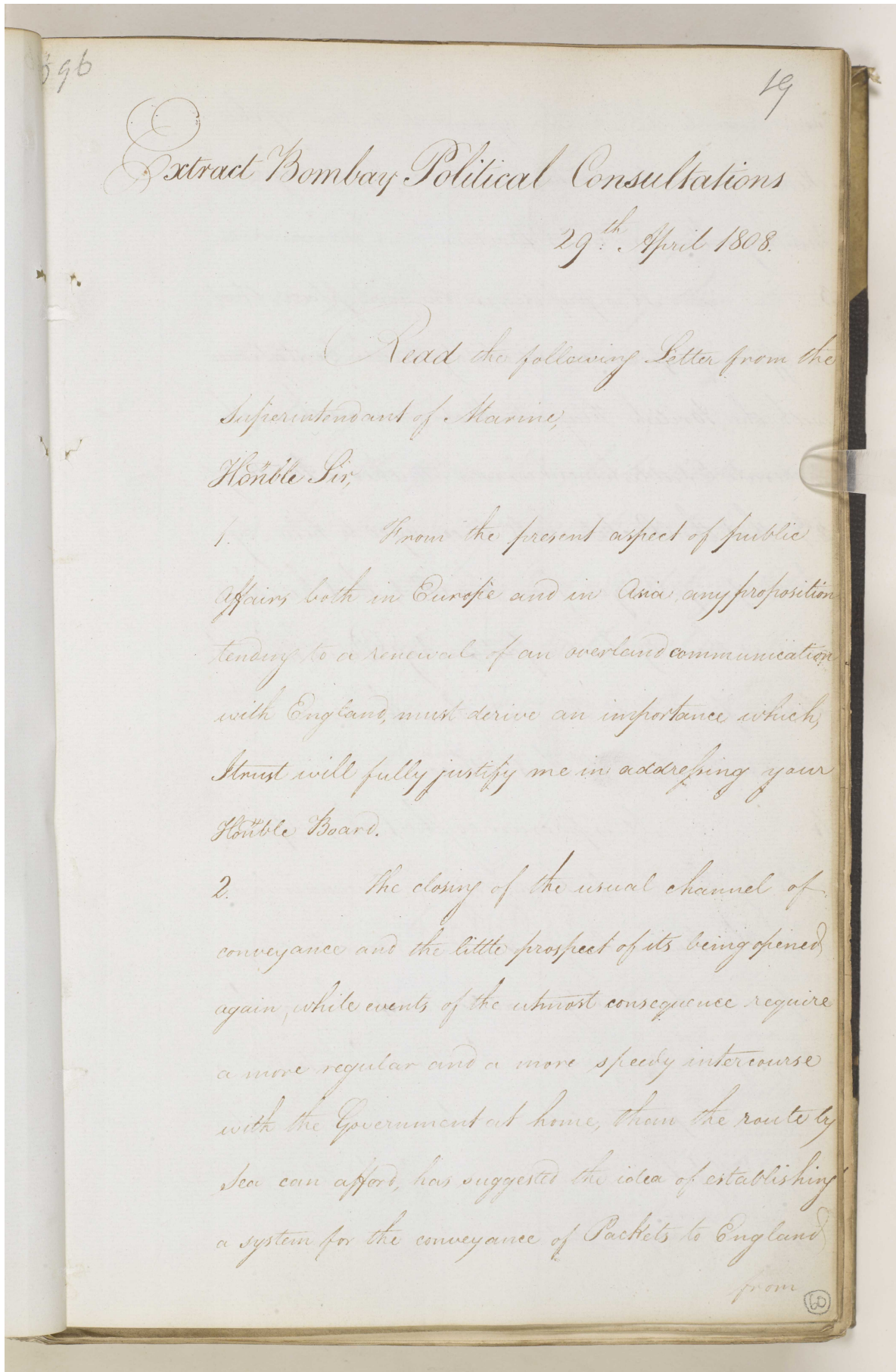
1. In letters which I have just received from the Imaum at Sarada he has expressed himself desirous to cultivate the friendship of the English Nation, and has stated the terms on which a commercial intercourse with the Honble Company may be established

2. I have in consequence of the above communication informed his Majesty the Imaum that I shall immediately submit the proposals to the most Noble the Governor General and that for the present I have appointed you to reside at Mocha on the part of the Honble Company; I have also intimated the same circumstance to the Council at Mocha, and I shall embrace the first opportunity of conveying this intelligence to the Governments of Bengal and Bombay that they may give you such Orders as they shall think proper.

(A)

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [59v] (26/126)





'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [60v] (28/126)

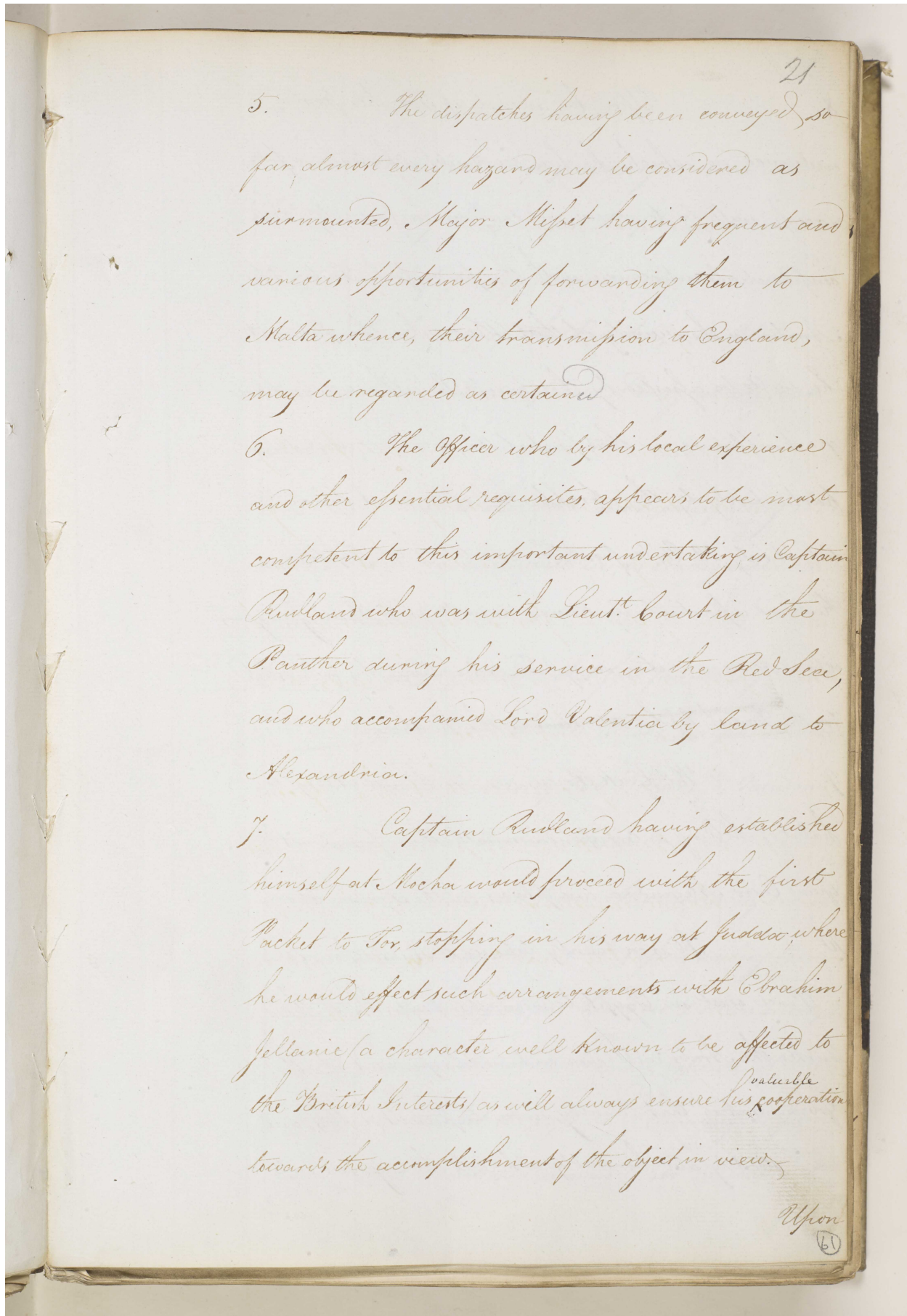
from hence to the Red Sea by land to the Coast of the
Mediterranean to Malta, and thence, by the regular
Monthly Mail, to Great Britain.

3. It is proposed in the first place, that
an Officer of experience, and ability, shall be stationed
with the British Flag at Mocha; and with such
moderate Establishment as was attached to Mr. Pingle,
2^o that the Packets, shall be conveyed to him by
the Company's Cruizers from this Port; that he shall
forward them by Sea in fast-sailing Vans, when the
Season permits, to Soc. or when the winds are
adverse, by land to that Place.

4. It is presumed that this Officer
will by his local knowledge, his acquaintance
with the Native languages, and his conciliatory
disposition, be readily enabled to fix the faithful
Arab of Soc, so firmly in the British Interest, as
to ensure the punctual transmission of the Packet to
Major Misset at Alexandria or such other Port in
Egypt as he may be stationed at.

The

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [61r] (29/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [61v] (30/126)

8 Upon his arrival at Tor, his first endeavor in which he has no doubt whatever of success, will be to renew and confirm a friendly and confidential intercourse with the powerful Tribes of Arabs in the vicinity of that Place. In the pursuit he will be assisted by the Greek Priesthood, who have great influence in that part of the Country; and particularly by the Archbishop of Mount Sinai, distant only 22 Miles from Tor, and to whom Captain Rudland is particularly known, as well as to Padre Ferrajino, who exercises an active sway, and demonstrated his friendship for the British by his attentions to the Panther.

9. The Greek Priests are in the uninterrupted habit of holding a correspondence with their friends at Grand Cairo, Alexandria, and places on the Syrian Shores.

10. It is confidently believed that whether War or Peace exist in Egypt, between the English and the Turks, the Arabs will ever continue independant of the Government of that Country, under its present Rulers, and will steadily and honorably adhere to the engagements
into

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [62r] (31/126)

23
into which they may be induced to enter.

11 Under all these promising circumstances there is certainly the strongest temptation to make the experiment of opening a communication with England by the way of the Red sea, a temptation which nothing but an expence of magnitude, can supersede.

12. It is therefore most satisfactory to be assured, what the expence will be, as conveyance appears certain.

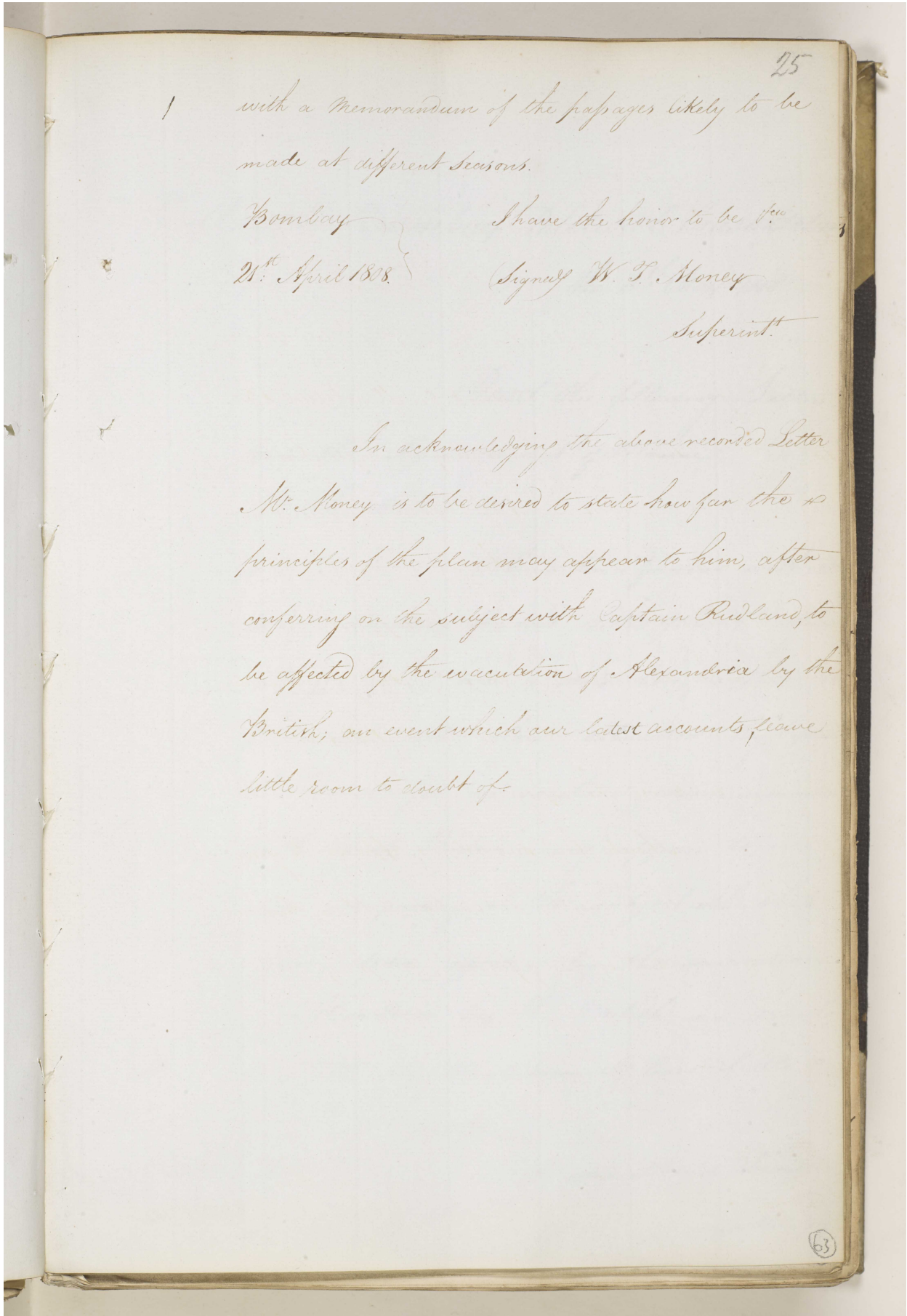
13. It is presumed that four fast sailing Dows will be adequate to the Service in the Gulph, and the expence of these will be only 200 Dollars *pr*. Mensm. The conveyance from Sor to Alexandria will be under one hundred Dollars, and from Alexandria by one of the numerous opportunities which Vessels sailing from that Port to Malta afford, one hundred Dollars more, so that charging even the whole Monthly expence of the Dows upon one Packet, the expence of conveying it from Mocha to Malta will only amount to 400 Dollars and
from

(62)

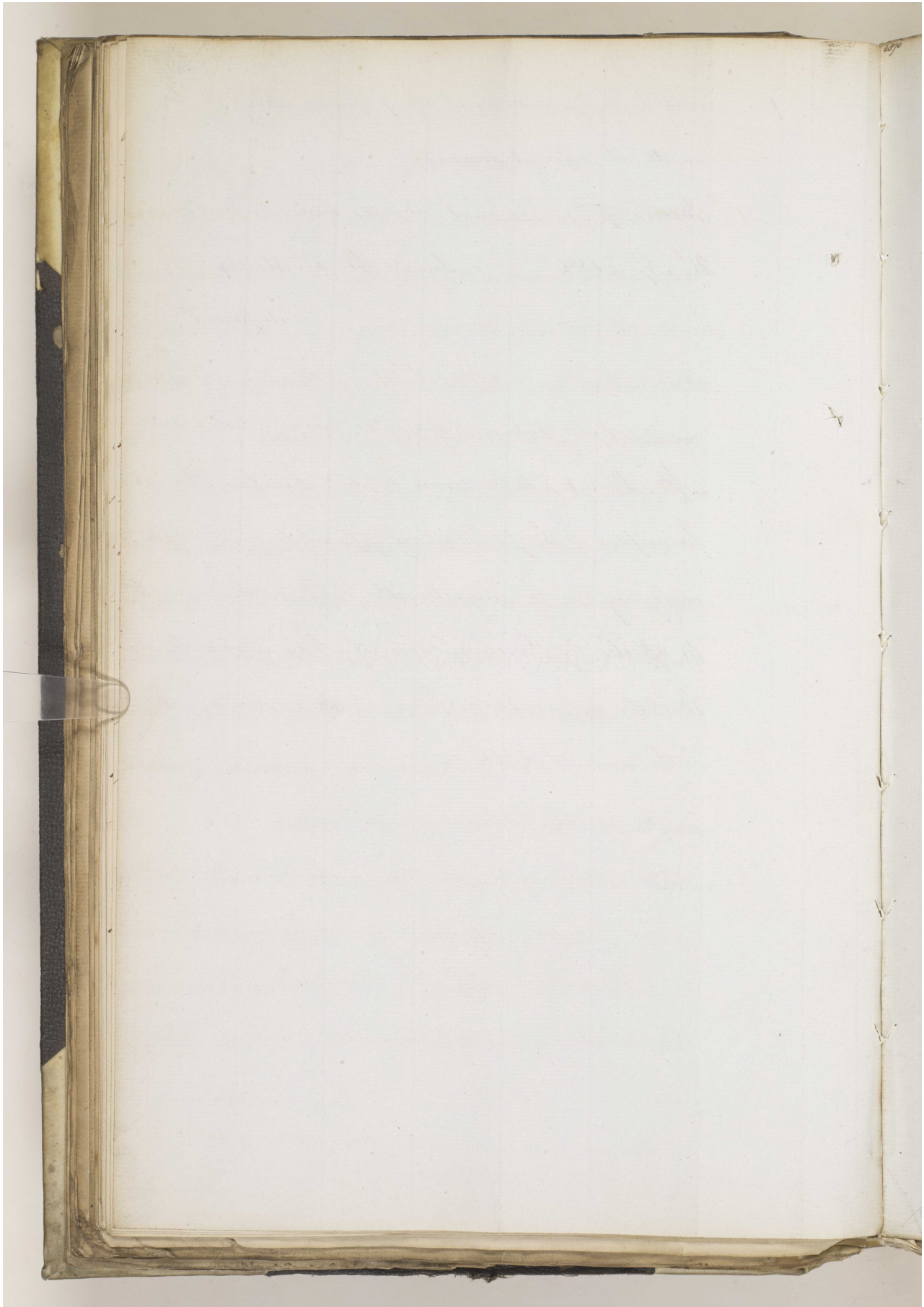
'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [62v] (32/126)

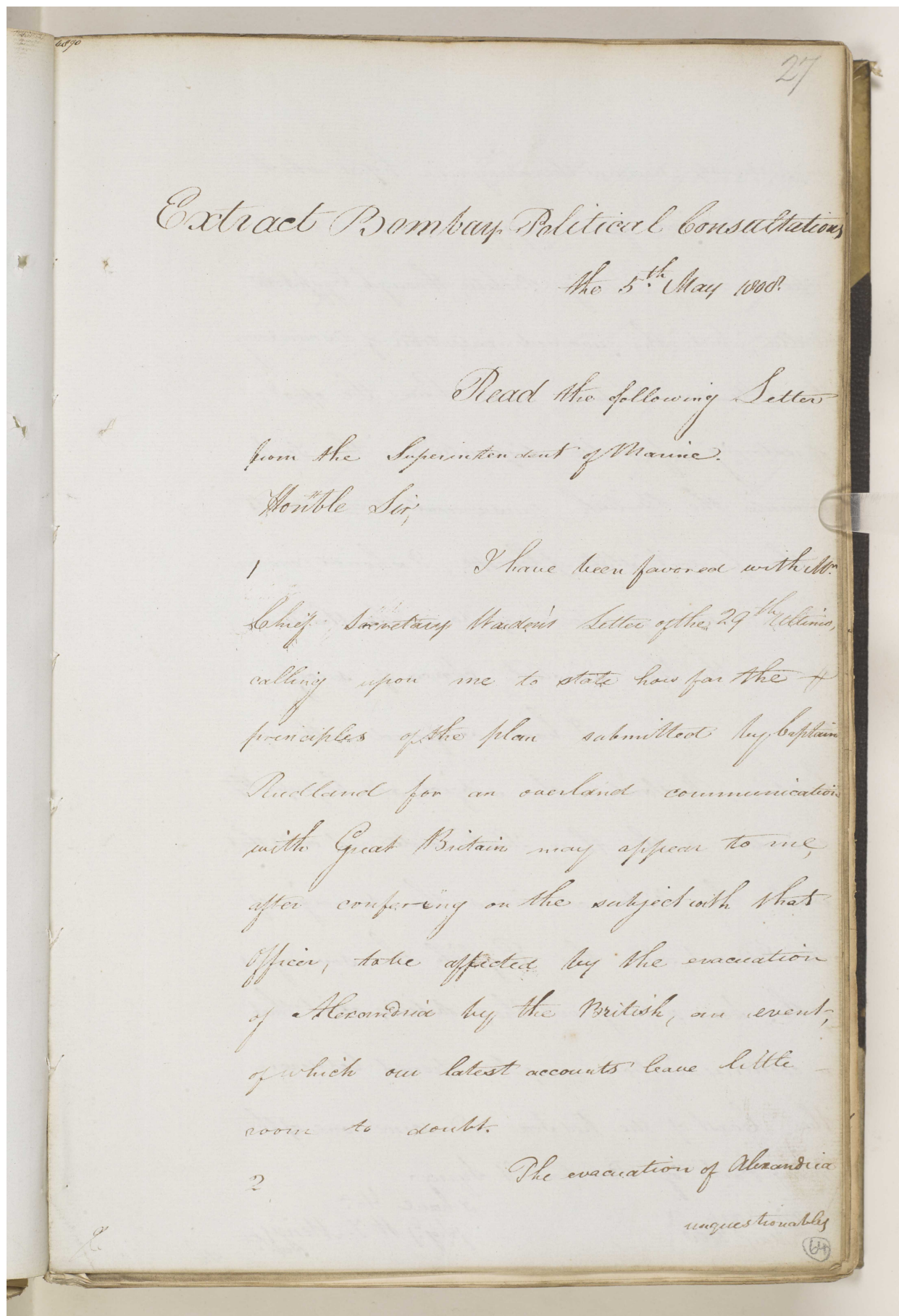
- from Malta to England none will be incurred on board the regular Post Office Packets.
14. To provide against all unforeseen contingencies, in the execution of a novel scheme let the amount be even trebled for the first twelve Months, and the expence of conveying a Packet will not exceed £300.-
15. I am aware that it may be urged that the expence of the establishment of Captain Rudland at Mocha, ^{night} be added to that of the conveyance of the Packets. This however will not be supported, as an objection, when it is considered that the Postage willingly paid by Individuals, on their overland Letters, will probably reimburse the expence.
16. Should these suggestions appear to your Honorable Board to be worthy of adoption, Captain Rudland can enter into detail on every point of necessary information, and I beg leave to observe that the earlier they are acted upon, the more substantial will be the benefit derived.-
17. I beg leave to accompany this
with

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [63r] (33/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [63v] (34/126)





'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [64v] (36/126)

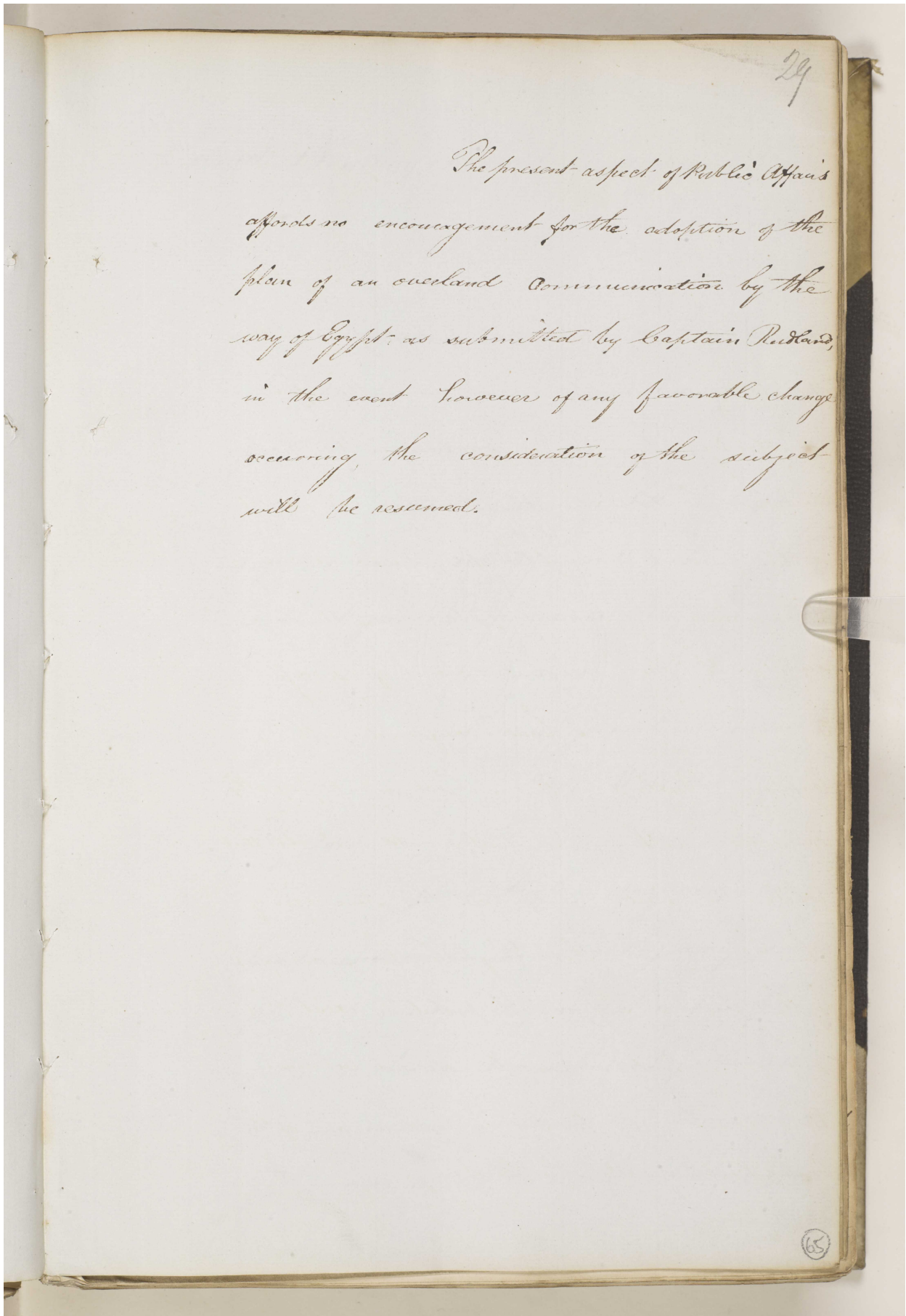
unquestionably Reduces the sanguine Hopes which were entertained of a successful result to the experiment of sending Packets through Egypt to Malta, but the avowed intention of dismembering the Ottoman Empire, must have the effect of restoring a favorable disposition in the Sultans towards the British cause, and at all events in the present state of Europe, I should consider it an increase of expediency to make the Trial, even with the remotest chance of success.

3. I have conferred with Captain Rudland on this subject, and he perfectly coincides with these Sentiments, and adds that while the Arabs continue the Sovereigns of the Desert, and the English the Sovereigns of the Sea, so long will the probability exist that a communication may be opened between the Coast of the Red Sea, and some one of the many Ports of Palestine & Syria.

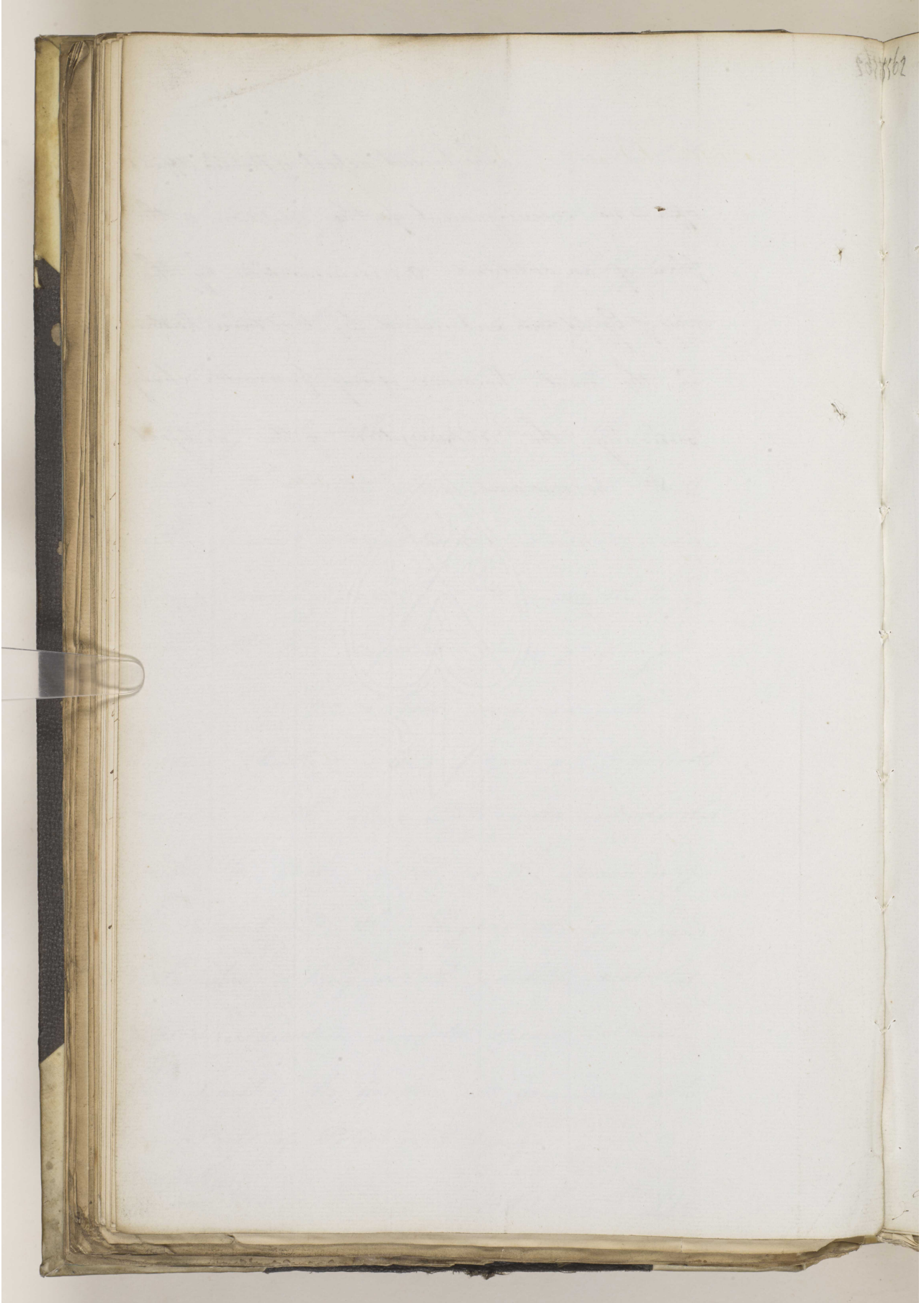
Bombay }
14th May 1700 }

I have Y^e a
[Sig.] W. J. Money
Sup^{ts} the

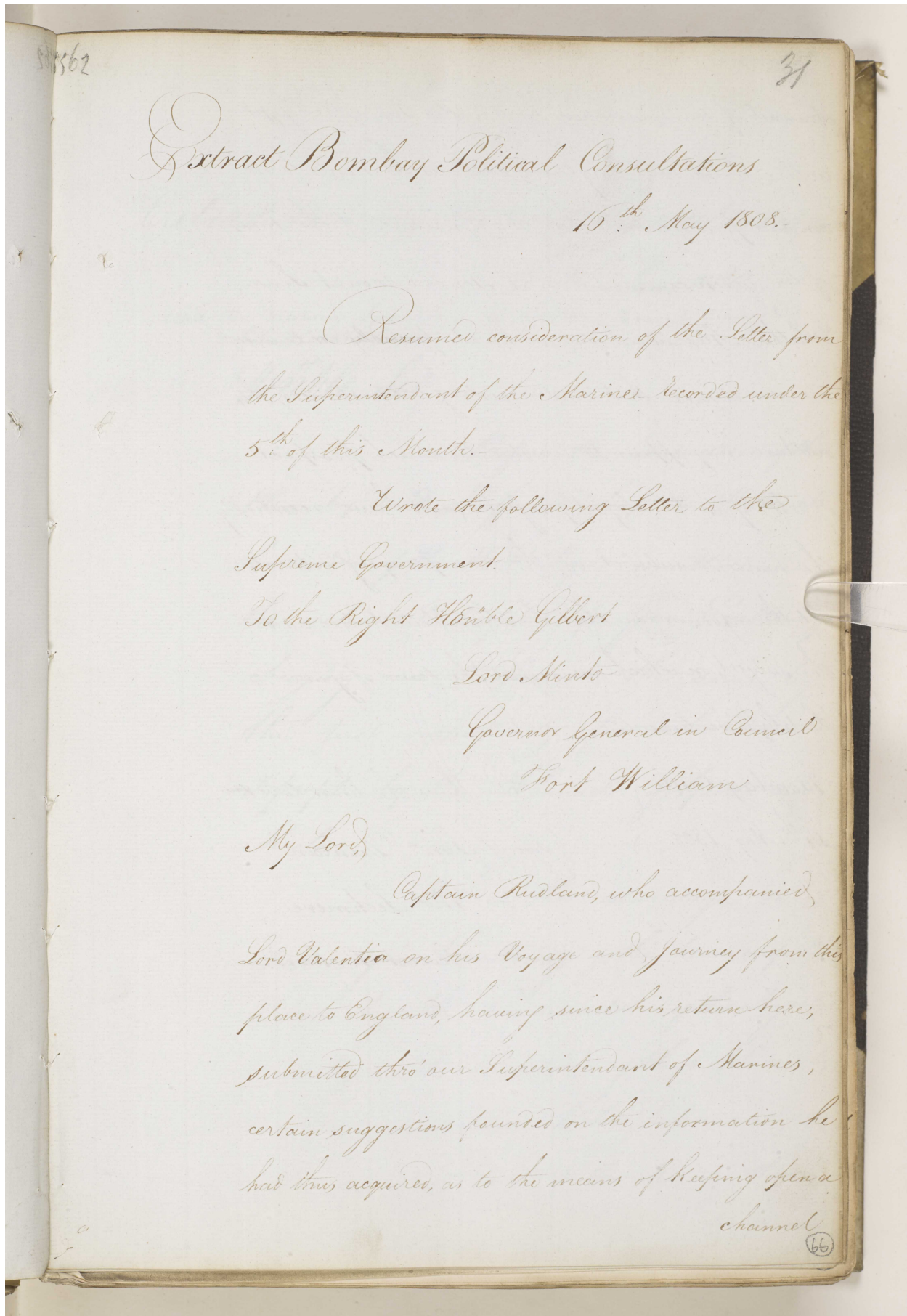
'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [65r] (37/126)



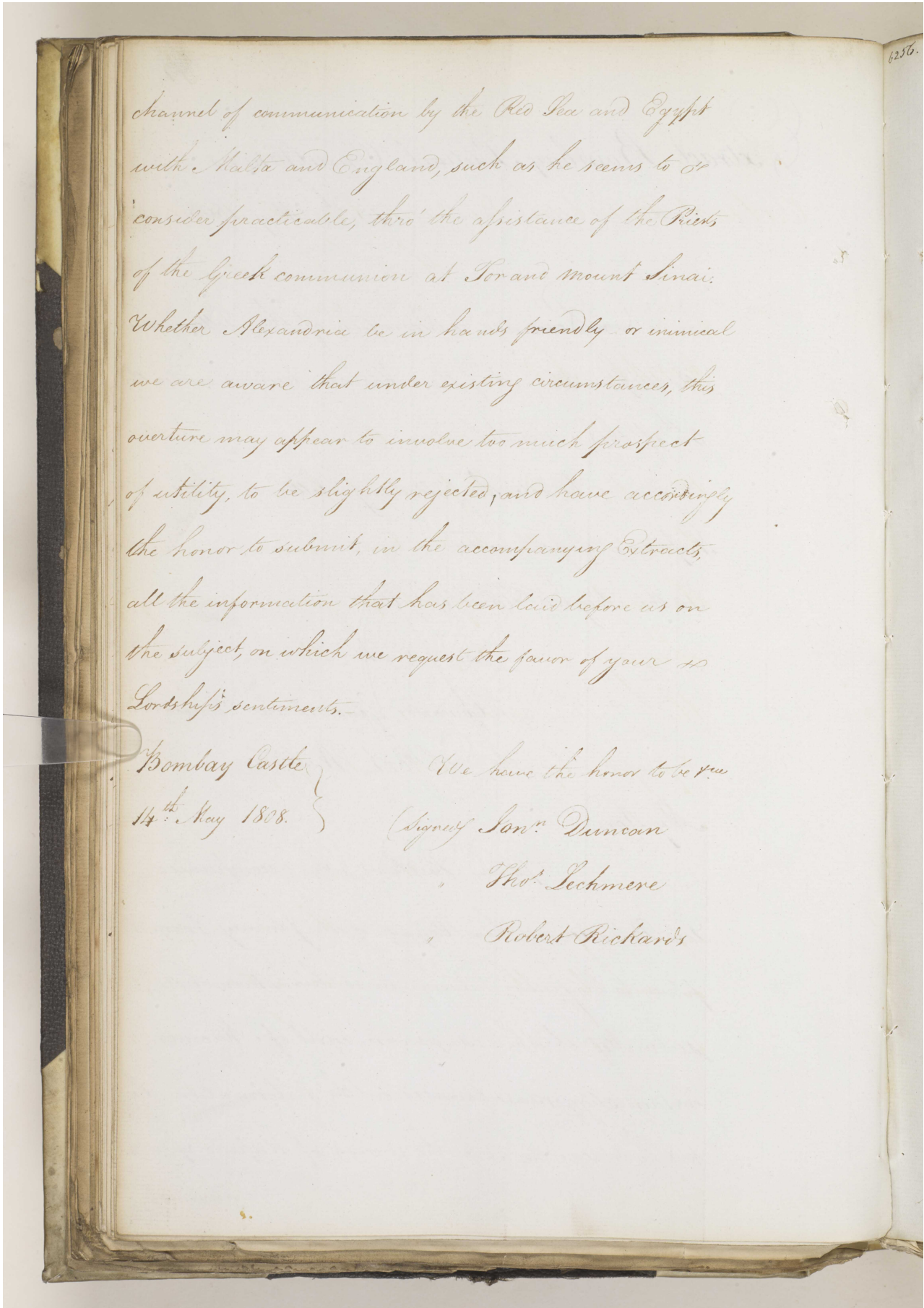
'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [65v] (38/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [66r] (39/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [66v] (40/126)

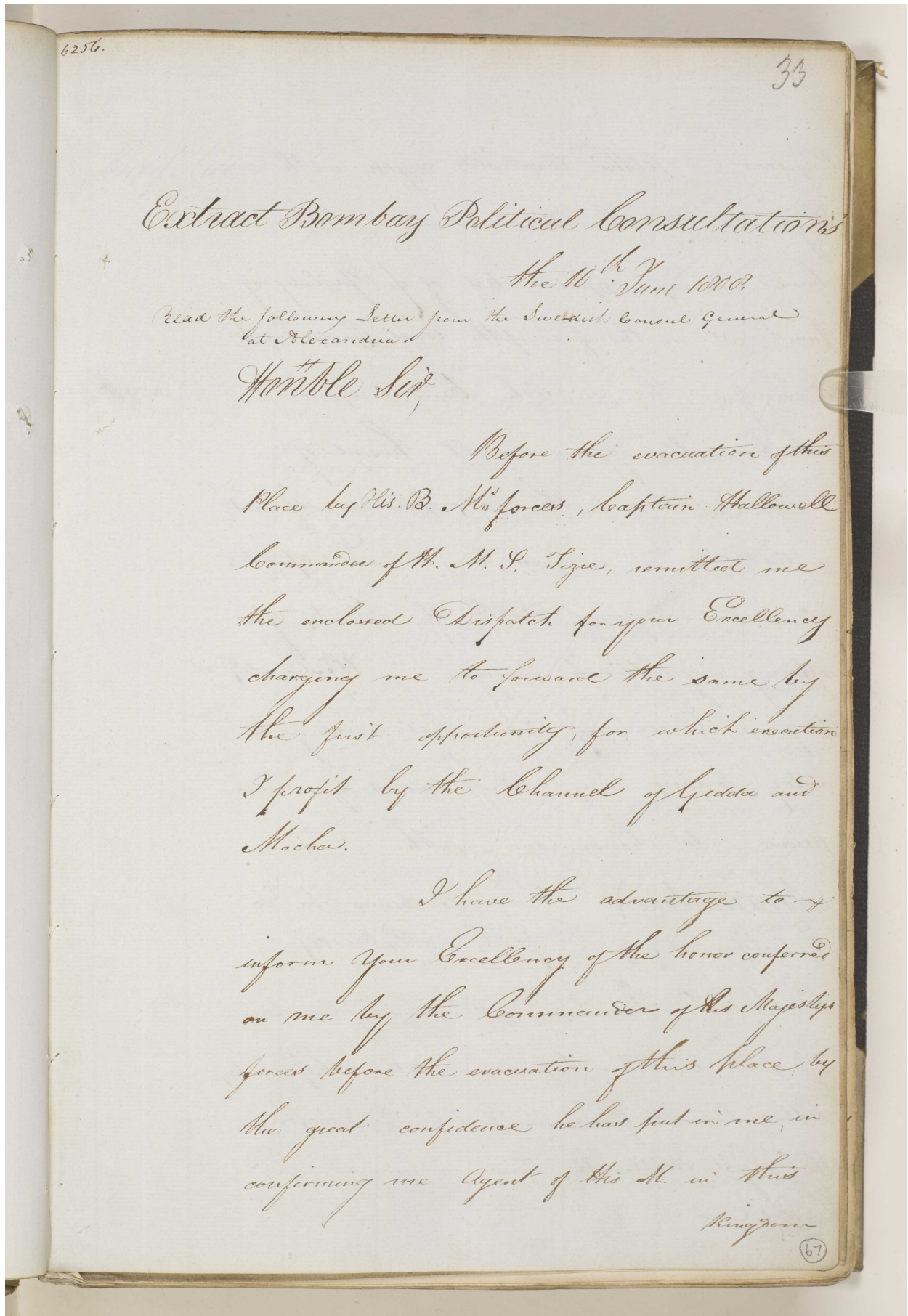


6256.
Channel of communication by the Red Sea and Egypt
with Malta and England, such as he seems to
consider practicable, thro' the assistance of the Priests
of the Greek communion at Tor and Mount Sinai:
Whether Alexandria be in hands friendly or inimical
we are aware that under existing circumstances, this
overture may appear to involve too much prospect
of utility, to be slightly rejected, and have accordingly
the honor to submit, in the accompanying Extracts,
all the information that has been laid before us on
the subject, on which we request the favor of your
Lordship's sentiments.

Bombay Castle
14th May 1808.

We have the honor to be
Yours
Thos. Seckmere
Robert Richards

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [67r] (41/126)



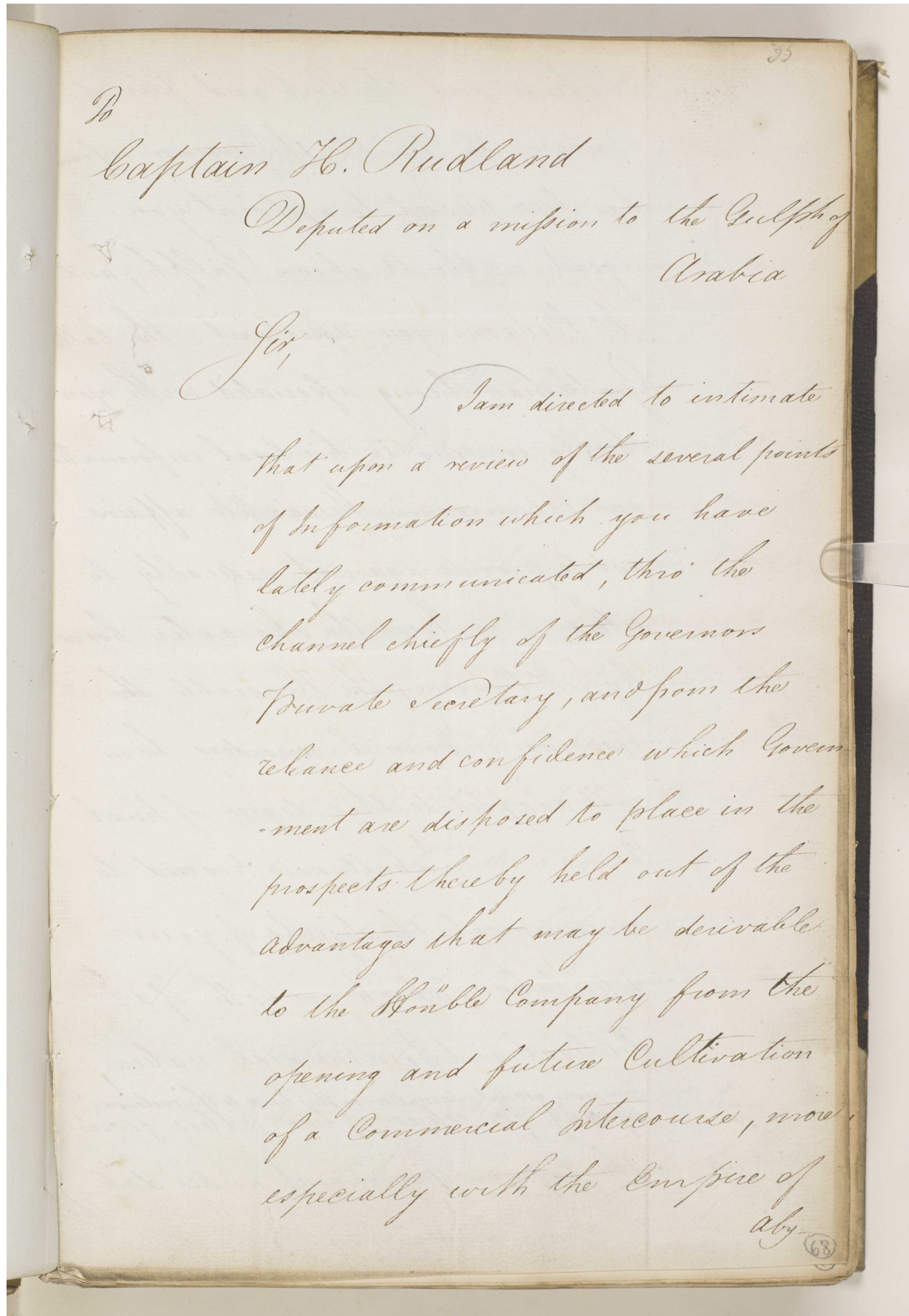
'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [67v] (42/126)

Kingdom. Altho' War still reigns with
England and the Porte I still shall
have many opportunities of fulfilling my
functions in the face of the local Government,
I being also the Swedish Consular General
which will afford me all kind of
communication with every place without
molestation as well as to forward Dispatches
Ye^r in consequence I take the liberty of
offering my weak services in this Country
to your Excellency, and shall always be
ready to obey any Commands you may
please to honor me with

Alexandria } I have the honor to be Ye^r
2. October 1807. } [Sig?]. Petruscap

Ordered that copies of the preceding Translation
and of its Enclosures be forwarded to the Chief Secretary
to the Supreme Government to be laid before
the Right Honble the Governour General in
Council.

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [68r] (43/126)



B

Captain H. Rudland

Deputed on a mission to the Gulph of
Arabia

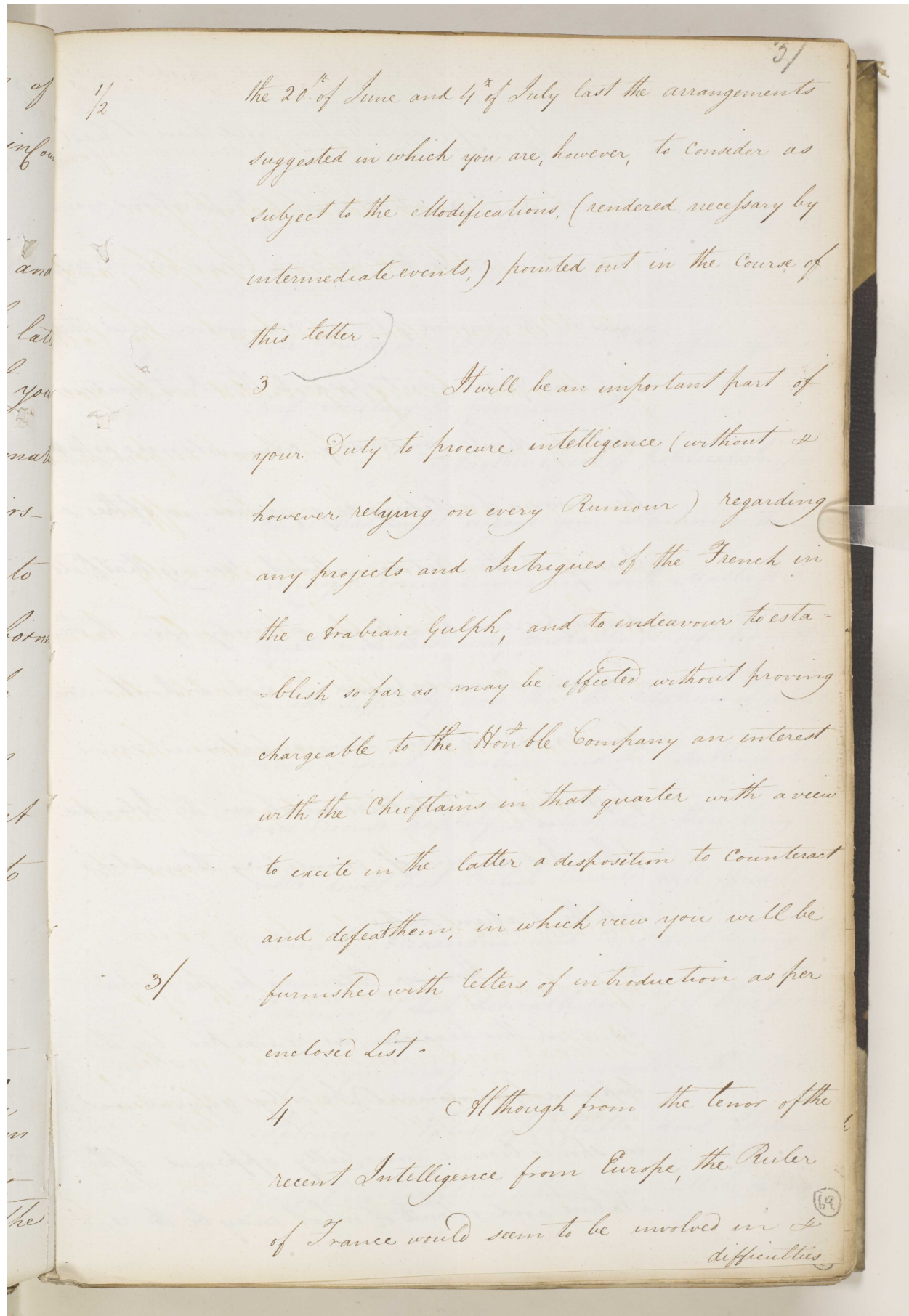
J. B.

I am directed to intimate
that upon a review of the several points
of Information which you have
lately communicated, thro' the
channel chiefly of the Governors
Private Secretary, and from the
reliance and confidence which Govern-
ment are disposed to place in the
prospects thereby held out of the
Advantages that may be derivable
to the Hon^{ble} Company from the
opening and future Cultivation
of a Commercial Intercourse, more
especially with the Empire of
Aby.

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [68v] (44/126)

Abyssinia and the Port and fair of
Barbera the Hon^{ble} the Governour inform^{er}
has been pleased to appoint you
Agent in the Arabian Gulph; and
Mr Benzoni your assistant: the latter
Gentleman being associated with you
chiefly in view to his local information
and experience in Mercantile affairs
and to provide against casualty to
either. From the character borne
by Mr Benzoni, the Honorable the
Governour in Council considers him
well adapted to this degree of trust
? I shall now proceed to
communicate the objects of your
deputation, which are both of a
Political and Commercial nature,
^{you more general information on this head to the enclosed}
referring for ^{copies} of two letters from
the Supreme Government under date ^{the}

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [69r] (45/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [69v] (46/126)

difficulties in that part of the world, which must exclusively occupy his attention and have at least produced a stagnation of his Preparations against India it is possible that he may renew his ~~intrigue~~ ~~views~~ for the purpose of future annoyance, and the Supreme Government appear to think it material that we should under any circumstances possess the means of watching any proceedings of the Enemy in the Red sea without leaving that field of enterprize and intrigue entirely open to the French who are supposed perhaps without entire foundation to have long entertained views of effecting an establishment on the Islands of the Red sea and of connecting themselves with the Arabian States -

5 However this may be the Instructions on this head can (as remarked by the Supreme Government) be only general unless we should become more fully apprized of the Nature and extent of what may be the real
views

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [70r] (47/126)

39
views of France in that Quarter and of the condition
and disposition of the Arabian States; Meanwhile
you will be allowed to have access to all the
Information or record that is connected with
these Points, on application at the office of the
Chief Secretary to Government -
6 Another object of political impor-
tance that must engage your attention, is the
opening a communication with Malta via
Egypt: and this may probably be effected without
much difficulty now that the Relations of amity
between Great Britain and the sublime Porte
have been so happily re-established, there being
little doubt that British Consuls will speedily
return to Alexandria and Cairo and during the
Interim of that desirable event (if there prove
any) you may communicate with Mr.
Petrucce, a Native of Malta and the Swedish
consul in Egypt, to whom you will be furnished
with
79

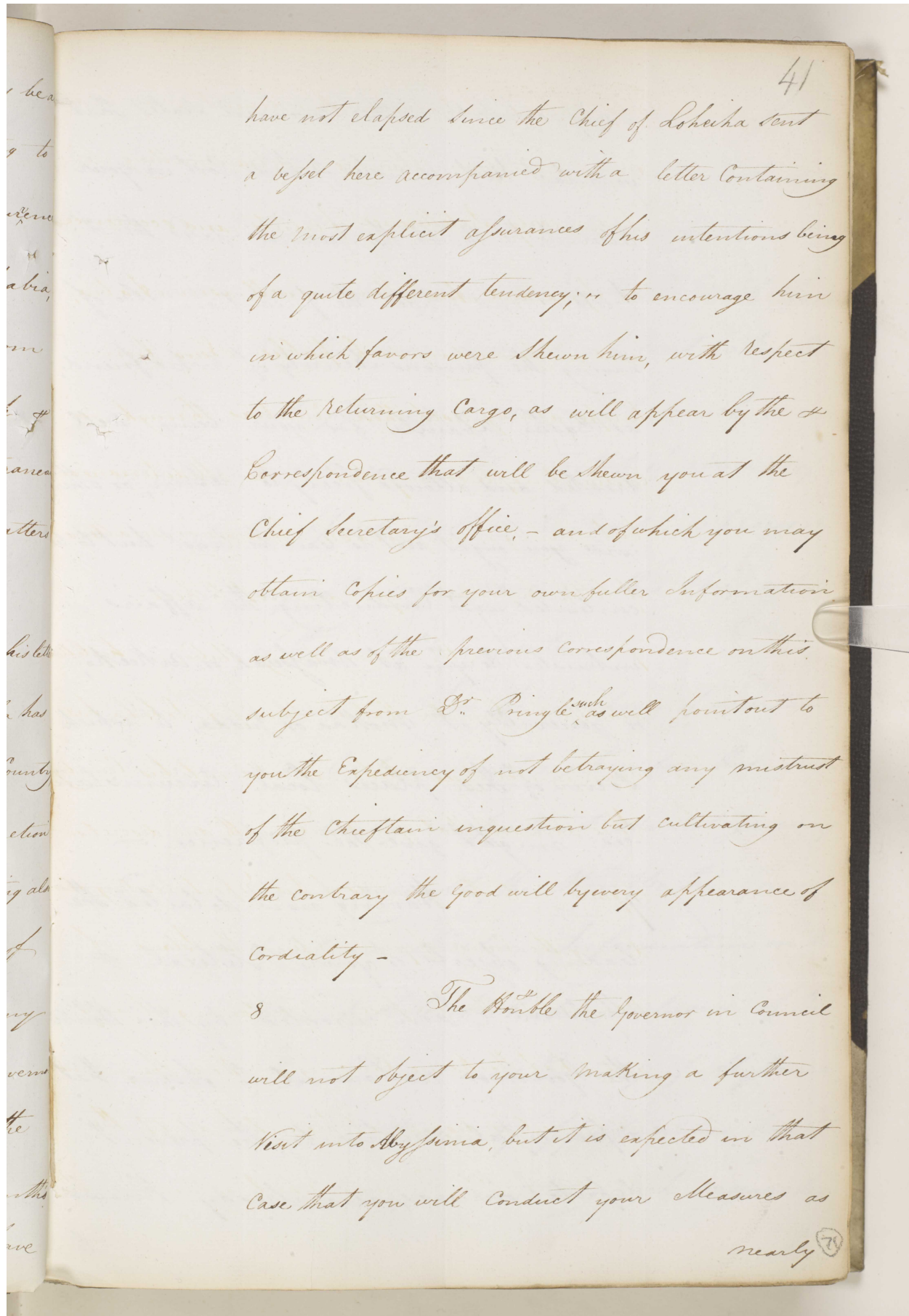
'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [70v] (48/126)

with a letter of Introduction some benefit may be derived from your obtaining and transmitting to India, early Intelligence of events and occurrences in Syria and Asia Minor as well as in Arabia, and in forwarding such public News from Europe as may reach those Countries through Constantinople or any Port in the Mediterranean but fleeting or improbable Rumors or matters of little Importance you are not to heed.

7 Mr. Benzoni having Stated in his letter dated the 3. November, that the Sherief of Loheha has again invited Syed Mohammed Atil into his Country. It is advisable that you should with due discretion enquire into the grounds of this Report, visiting also during the Course of your Mission, the Island of Kameran for the purpose of ascertaining if any and what Works are Carrying on there. The Government in Council is disposed at present to doubt the accuracy of Mr. Benzoni's Report, as two months have

MS. This is the Max. thro' whose agency the Doarch in 1806 attempted to acquire possession of the Island of Kameran in the Red Sea.

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [71r] (49/126)



41

have not elapsed since the Chief of Lohcha sent
a vessel here accompanied with a letter containing
the most explicit assurances of his intentions being
of a quite different tendency; or to encourage him
in which favors were shown him, with respect
to the returning Cargo, as will appear by the
Correspondence that will be shown you at the
Chief Secretary's office, - and of which you may
obtain Copies for your own fuller Information
as well as of the previous Correspondence on this
subject from Dr. Pringle ^{such} as will point out to
you the Expediency of not betraying any mistrust
of the Chieftain in question but cultivating on
the contrary the good will by every appearance of
Cordiality -

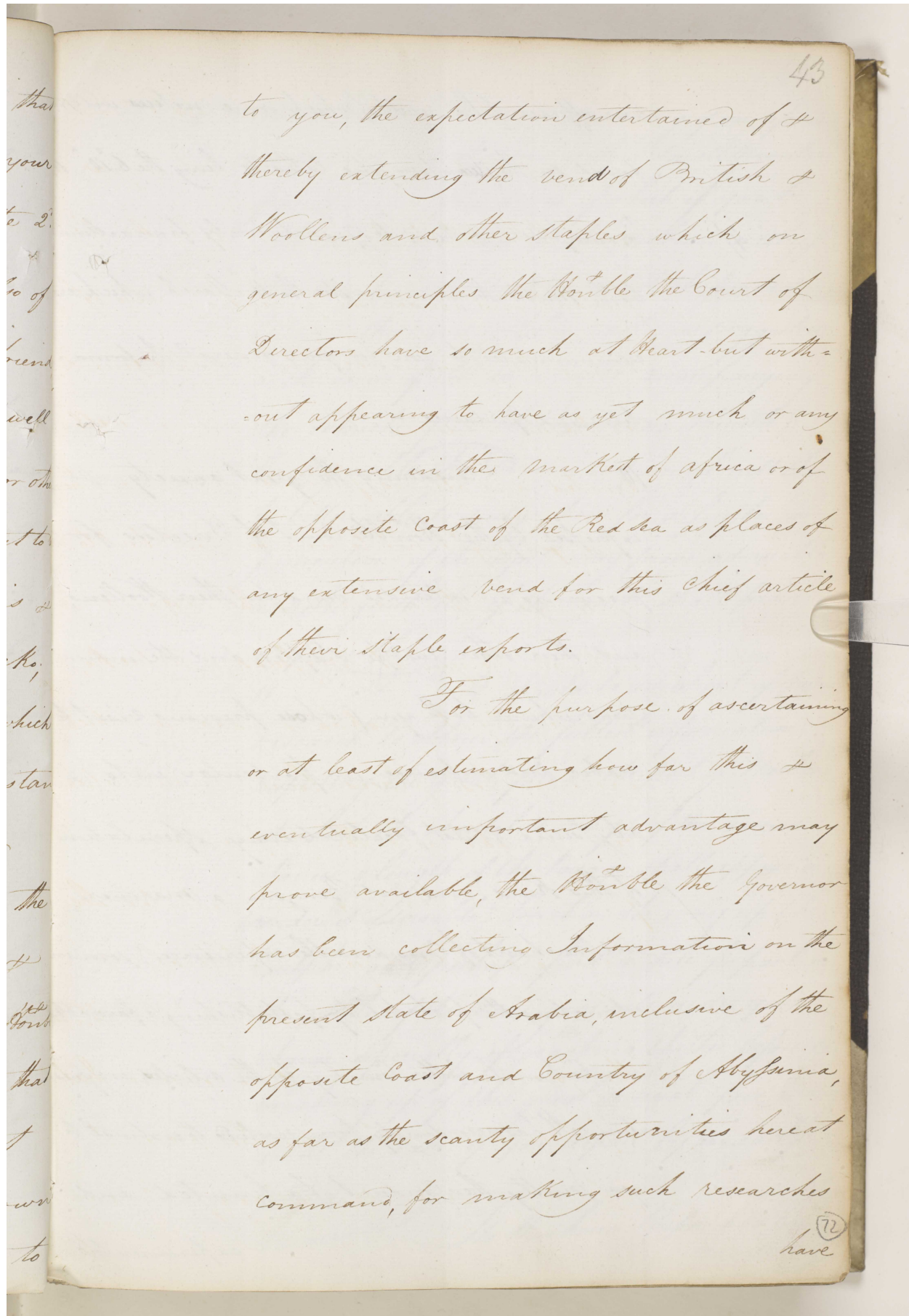
8 The Honble the Governor in Council
will not object to your making a further
Visit into Abyssinia, but it is expected in that
Case that you will Conduct your Measures as
nearly ^{as}

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [71v] (50/126)

nearly as possible on the Economical scale that
your last Visit is noted to have Cost, in your
letter to the Honble the Governor dated the 2^d.
Instant and under the precaution also of
having the previous security of such a friend,
as Basha Abdulla for your being well
treated and allowed freely to return, or other-
wise you ought not to leave the Coast but to be
contented with Conducting the affairs so
entrusted to you at Massuah, or Arkeko,
or generally at Mokha or Judda, to which
soever of these places local Circumstan-
ces might give the preference.

9 Having now detailed the
leading objects of your Political &
Mission, I am directed by the Honble
the Governor in Council to observe that
a principal motive for the present
deputation was, as is already known
to

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [72r] (51/126)



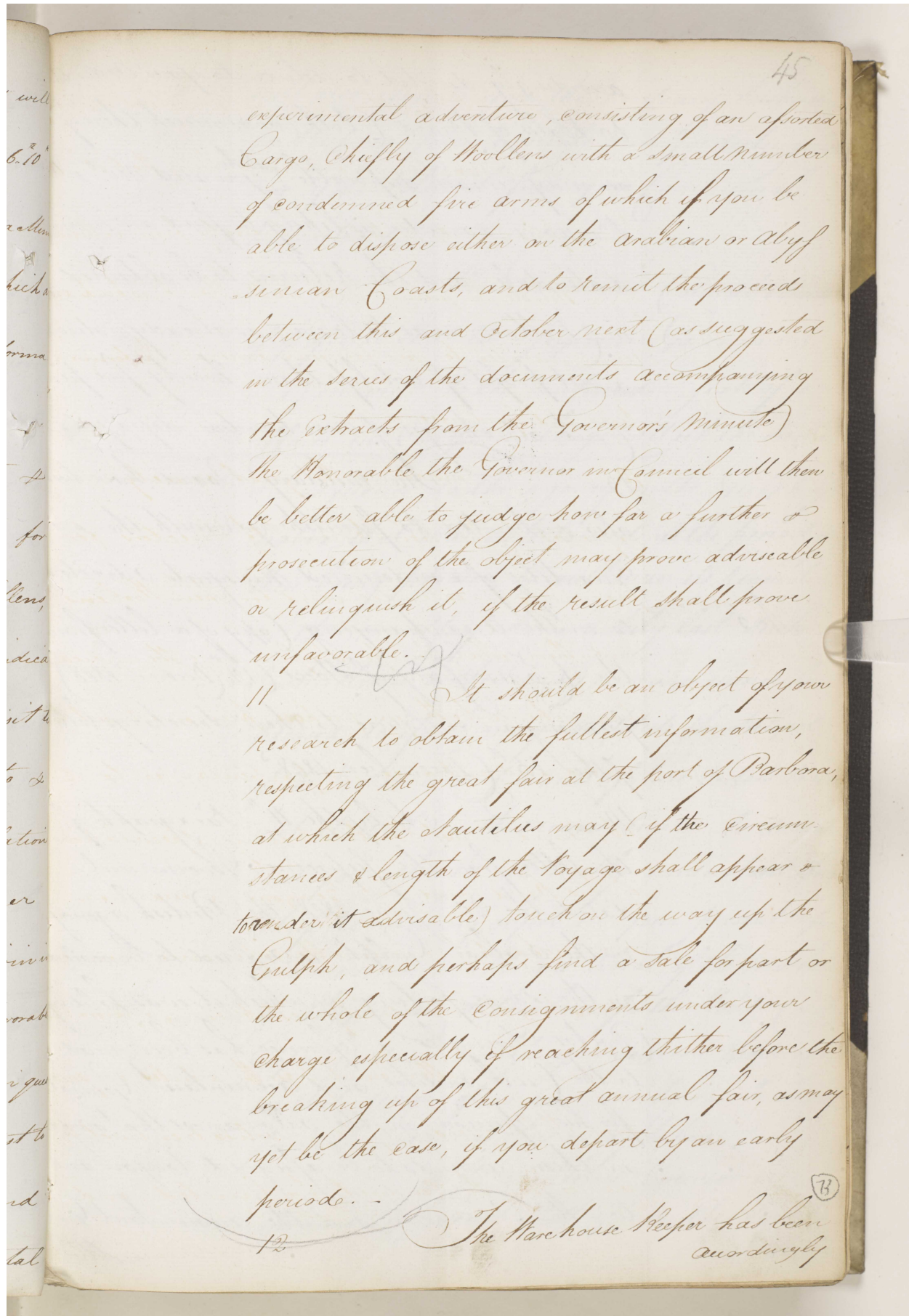
'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [72v] (52/126)

4/ have afforded, of the result of which, some notices will be found in the Accompanying Extracts being the 6.th 10.th 11.th 12.th 13.th 14.th 15.th 16.th 17.th 18.th 19.th 20.th 21.th 22.th 23.th 24.th 25.th 26.th 27.th 28.th 29.th 30.th 31.th 32.th 33.th 34.th 35.th 36.th 37.th 38.th 39.th 40.th 41.th 42.th 43.th 44.th 45.th 46.th 47.th 48.th 49.th 50.th 51.th 52.th 53.th 54.th 55.th 56.th 57.th 58.th 59.th 60.th 61.th 62.th 63.th 64.th 65.th 66.th 67.th 68.th 69.th 70.th 71.th 72.th 73.th 74.th 75.th 76.th 77.th 78.th 79.th 80.th 81.th 82.th 83.th 84.th 85.th 86.th 87.th 88.th 89.th 90.th 91.th 92.th 93.th 94.th 95.th 96.th 97.th 98.th 99.th 100.th

4/ Paragraphs and the 14.th to 17.th inclusively from a letter by the Hon^{ble} the Governor dated the 16th March, which are communicated to you for your general Information and Guidance. -

10 Considering the great anxiety expressed by the Hon^{ble} Court of Directors for procuring an extended vend for their Woollens, and their other Europe Staples, and the indications whence both you (whose previous visit to Arabia and entrance, in particular, into Abyssinia must facilitate every speculation of this kind) and Mr. Benzoni (a Mariner and Merchant of Considerable experience), join in estimating the probability of establishing a favorable market in the latter Country for the articles in question; It has accordingly been resolved to entrust to you jointly the Conduct of a limited and experimental

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [73r] (53/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [73v] (54/126)

Accordingly directed to deliver to your Order
60 Bales of Broad Cloth (or as much thereof
as may remain disposable) ^{which} you and Mr. Benzoni
consider as likely to find an immediate
sale, and the Returns to be obtained
in Dollars; so as to leave (as already stated)
a net profit of not less than Twenty five per
Cent, all charges of Merchandise defrayed.

13 The military Board have been
also instructed to furnish you with the
Quantity of Condemned Musquets adverted
to in the accompanying Copy of a letter from
the Commissary of Stores (12th Decem^r 1808)
forming an enclosure to their Secretary's letter
of the 15th Decem^r 1808.

N^o 5

14 As by the 11th Paragraph of
the letter from the Supreme Government
dated the 20th June 1808. the British Agency
in the Arabian Gulph is ordered to be revised
on the same footing on which it was held by
Doctor Pringle, a reference has been made
to the Civil Auditor and accountant General
for his Opinion on the allowances that ought
on these grounds to be assigned to you
to Mr. Benzoni, and the accountant Gen^l
will

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [74r] (55/126)

will also issue to you the necessary ⁴⁷Instructions for keeping your accounts and for distinguishing your Political from your Commercial transactions.

The Governor in Council consider if possible that the Supreme Government may in view to the improved state of affairs in Europe no longer attach the same consequence to the agency on the Gulph of Arabia that was entertained at the period of their being pleased to authorize its renewal in the months of June & July last. Such Instructions as they may in consequence be pleased to issue, may constitute the subject of the Governor in Council's future Orders to you, but it will in the mean time be desirable that you should distinctly understand their chief remaining object in your present mission to consist in making a trial of the markets of Abyssinia & Barbera for the possible exports; since unless you succeed thoroughly in that design ~~no~~ no permanency can be looked for on the measures thus undertaken.

The Nautilus Cruiser is assigned to proceed with you on this service.

Her 74

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [74v] (56/126)

Her Commander will be subject to all
your Requisitions but you are of course not
to interfere with the interior Economy of the
Island.

Bombay Castle
24 March 1809. —

P.S.

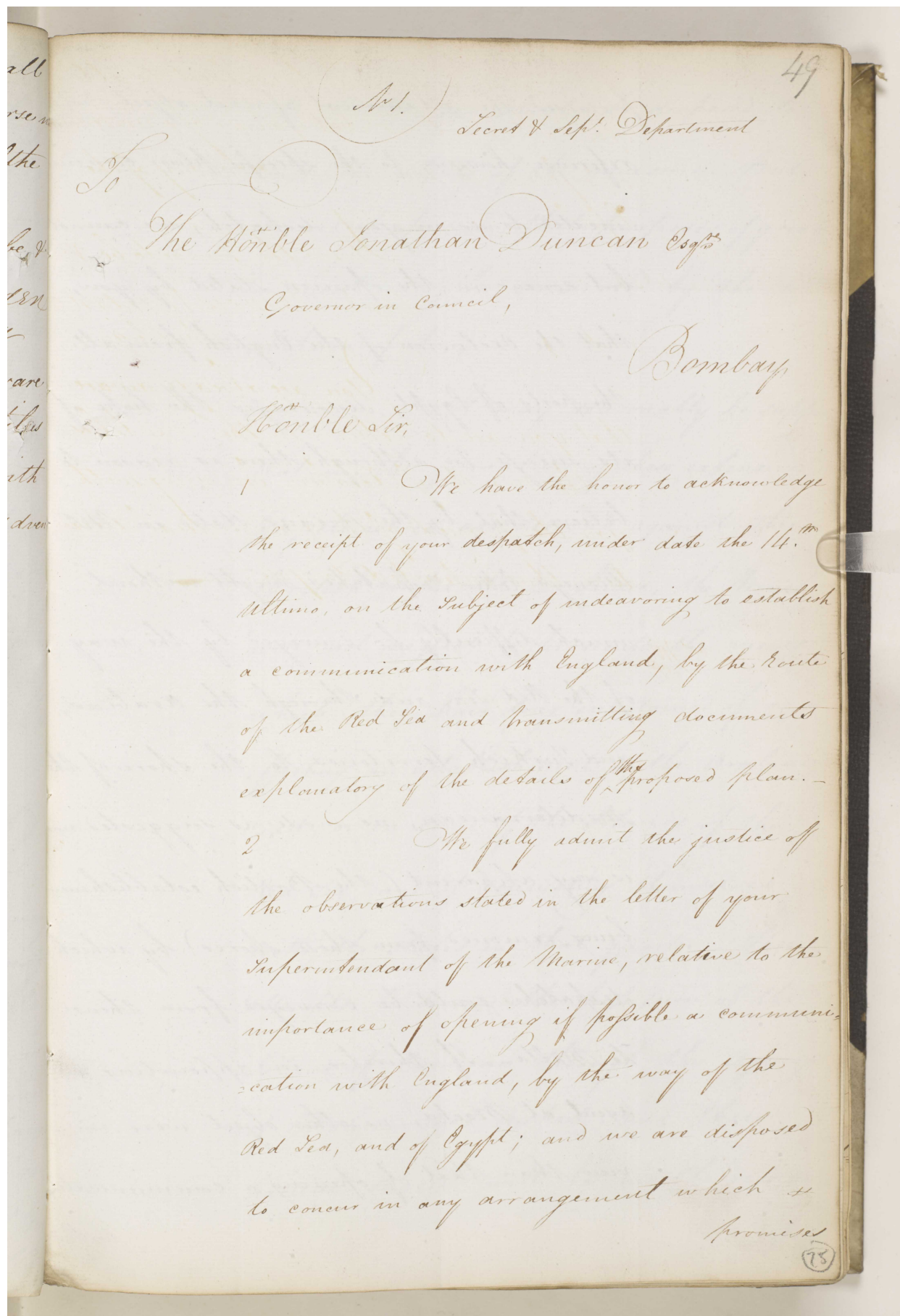
I have the honor to be, &c.

(Sign) Francis Warden
Chief Magistrate

You are already aware
that you are to return in the *Mantles*
in the month of October, bringing with
you the proceeds of the Commercial adven-
ture thus entrusted to you. —

W. J. P.

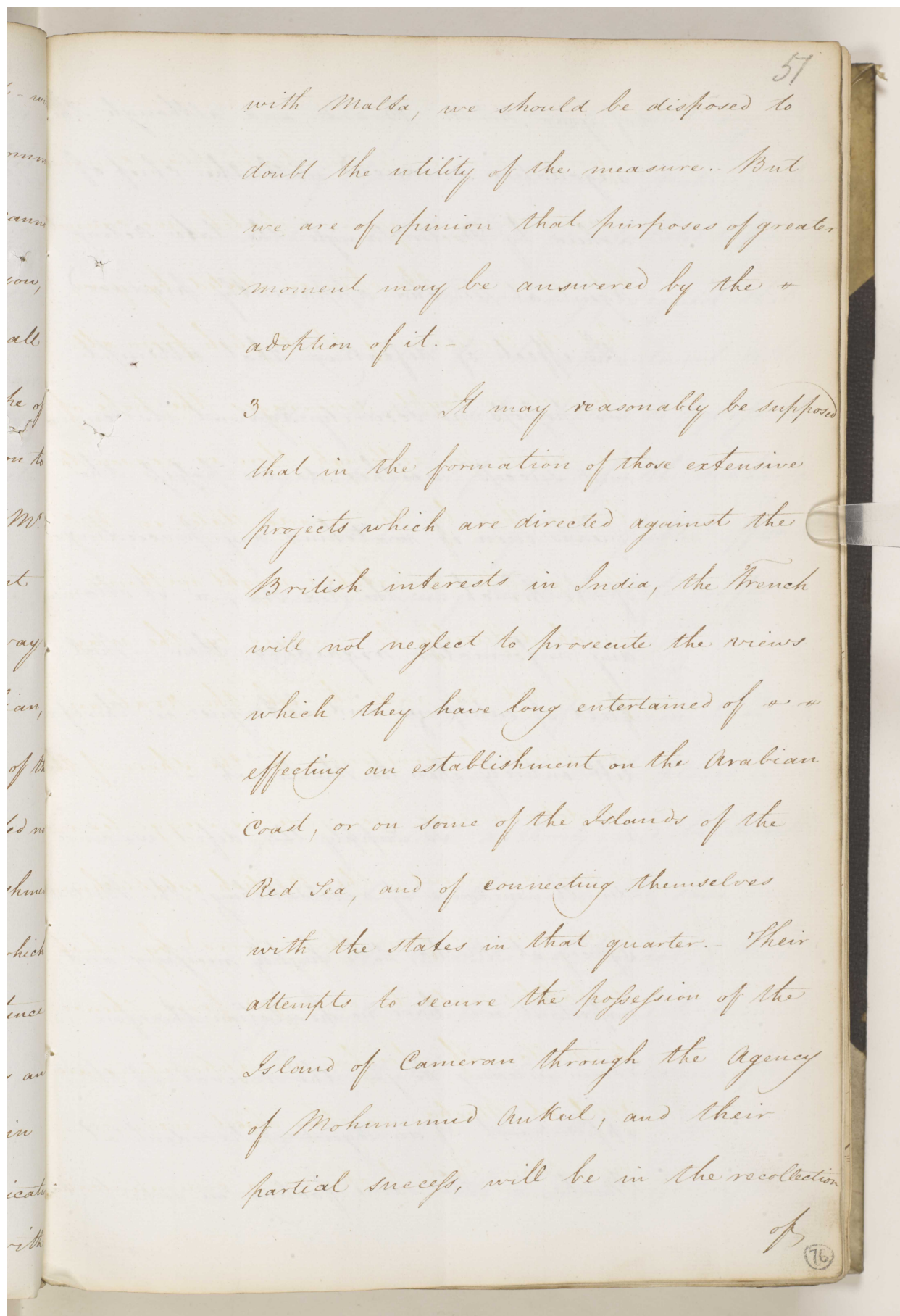
'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [75r] (57/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [75v] (58/126)

promises the attainment of that object - with
reference however to the specific plan commu-
nicated to us in your despatch, we cannot
but concur in the opinion stated by you,
that the exclusion of the English from all
the ports of Egypt, discourages the hope of
its success. For although there is reason to
believe that by the means stated in Mr.
Money's letter despatches might without
much difficulty be conveyed by the way
of the Red Sea, and through the Arabian,
and Turkish territories, to the shore of the
Mediterranean, no mode is suggested nor
is any apparent (the British establishment
being removed from those shores) by which
despatches could be conveyed from thence
to Malta. If therefore in appointing an
agent at Mocha, no other object were in
view than that of opening a communication
with

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [76r] (59/126)

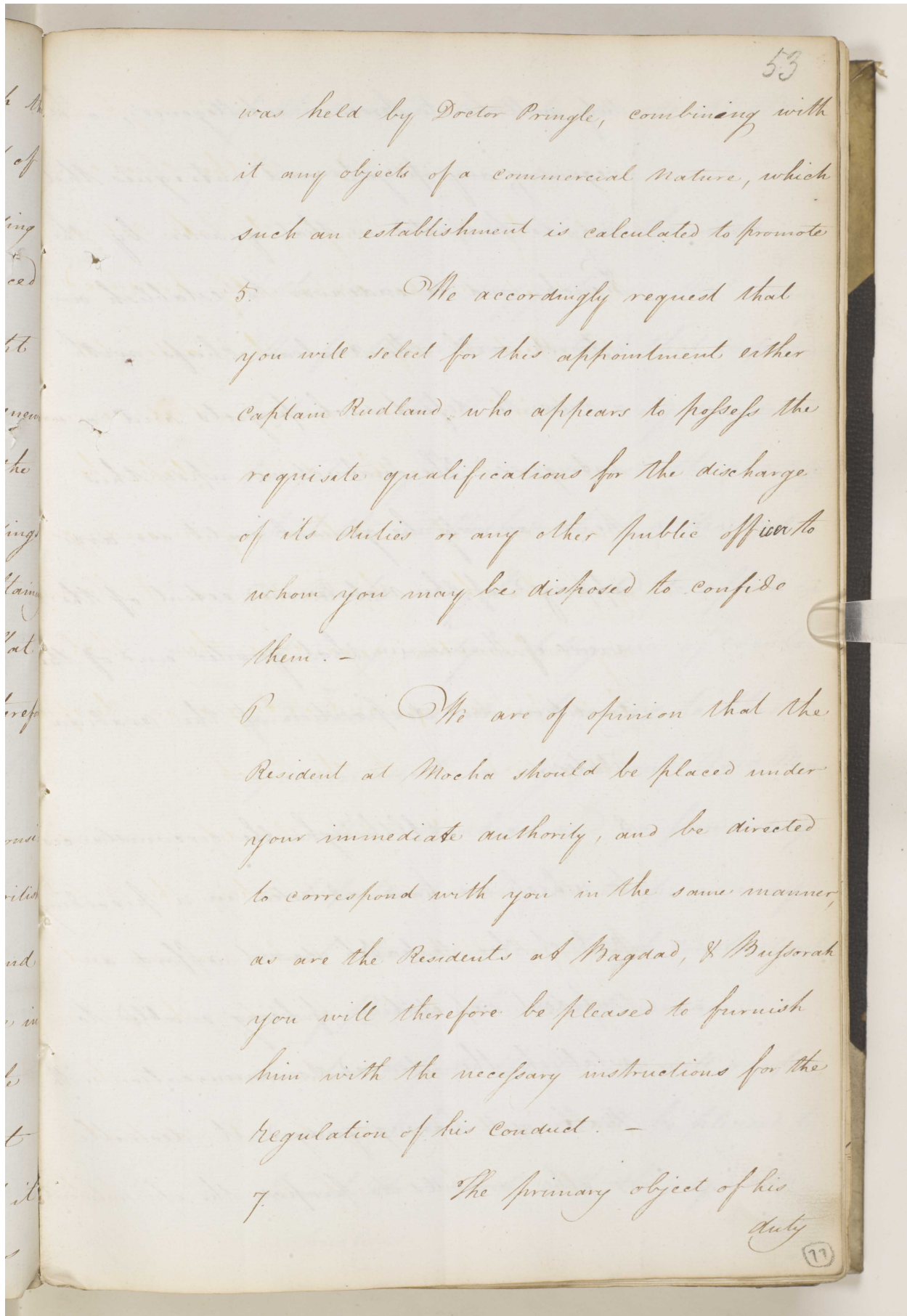


'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [76v] (60/126)

of your Honble Board, and although the negotiation conducted with the chief of Lohia by Doctor Pringle the late acting Agent at Mocha apparently produced the effect of defeating that attempt we possess no security against its renewal and success - neither do we possess the means even of watching any proceedings of the French in the Red Sea, or of obtaining any information regarding them - That field of enterprize and Intrigue is therefore left entirely open to the French. -

To supply this defect we consider the measure of reestablishing, the British agency at Mocha, to be highly necessary and important we have no hesitation therefore in recommending to you the revival of the appointment, of an Agent or Resident at Mocha, on the same footing on which it was

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [77r] (61/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [77v] (62/126)

duty will be to procure intelligence, & regarding any projects and intrigues that may be prosecuted in that quarter by the French, and to endeavor to establish an interest with the Arabian chiefs with a view to defeat such projects and intrigues. - The instructions upon this head can only be general until we are apprized of the nature and extent of the views of France in that quarter and of the condition and disposition of the Arabian states.

8 Although the circumstances to which we have adverted in a preceding part of this despatch do not afford a confident expectation of being enabled to establish the desired communication with Malta yet having judged it desirable on other grounds to propose the appointment
of

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [78r] (63/126)

55

of the Resident at Mocha the attempt should
of course be made. -

I We concur in the expediency
of the measures suggested in Mr. Money's
letter for the attainment of that important
purpose. - At all events a very considerable
benefit may be derived from the facility
which the establishment of a Resident
at Mocha may be expected to afford in
obtaining early intelligence of events
and occurrences interesting to this
Government in Syria and Asia Minor,
as well as Arabia, and in forwarding
such publick news from Europe as may
reach those countries through Constantinople,
or any part in the Mediterranean. -

On these Subjects therefore, as well as upon
commercial points, you will be pleased to
furnish the Resident with the requisite
instructions. -

(78)
M

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [78v] (64/126)

10

It is Superfluous to recommend
to your attention to observe and enjoin the
utmost practicable degree of economy in
the arrangements connected with the proposed
plan. —

Fort Milliam }
The 26th June 1808 }

We have the honor to be
Y^r - Y^r - Y^r -

[Signed] Wm. B. Hinton
" J. Hewitt
" John Linnaden
" H. C. Debrooke

To,
Francis Marden Esq^r

Chief Secretary to Government

at Bombay

Y^r -

I am directed to acknowledge
the receipt of your letter of the 6th June,
communicating the translation of a letter
from the Broker at Mocha. The intelligence
contained in that document having reached
India

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [79r] (65/126)

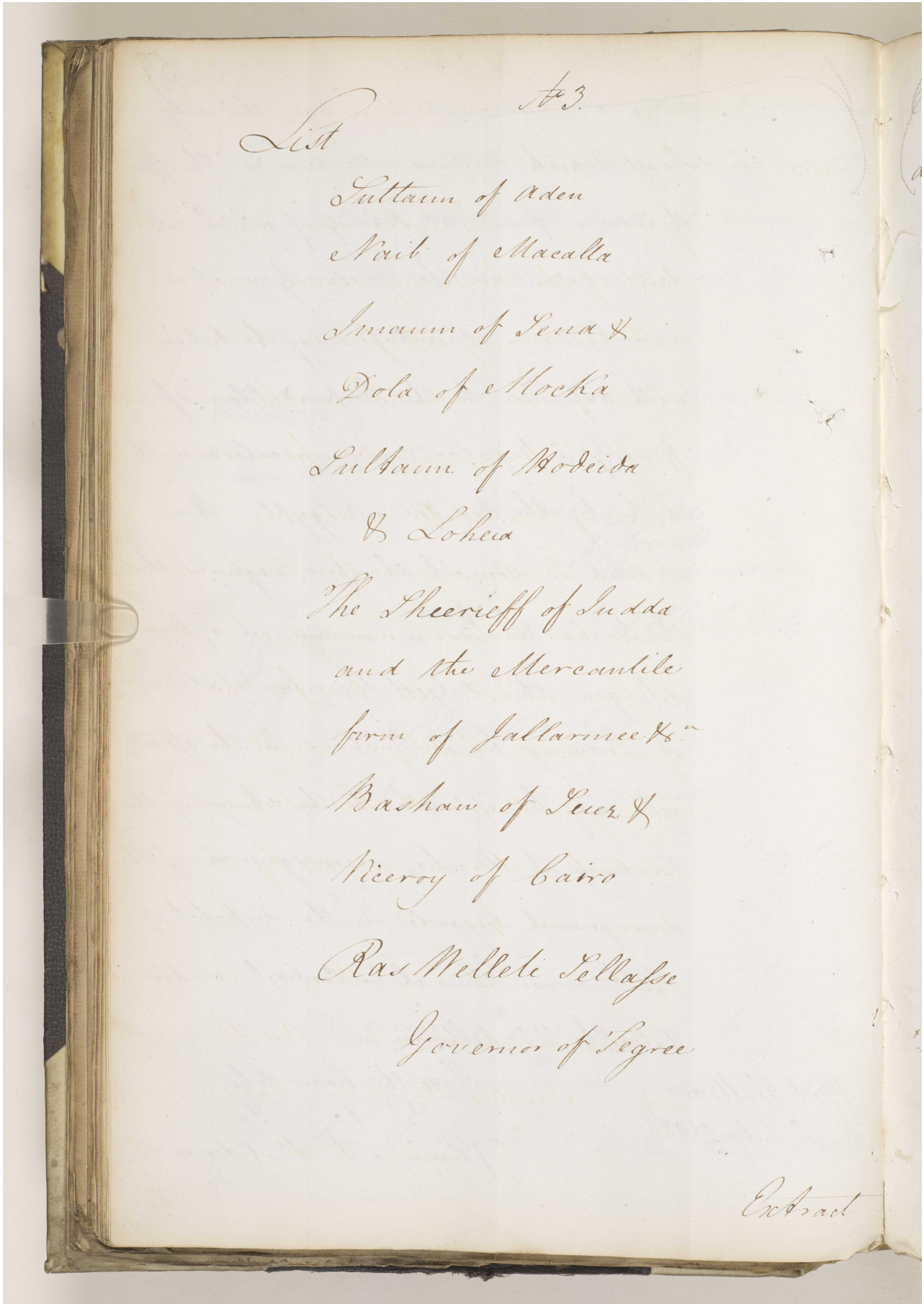
57

India a considerable time ago, the only point which deserves attention is, the offer of Service from Mr. Petrucci of which, it has occurred to the Governor General in Council, some advantage may be taken with reference to the proposed Plan of opening a Regular Communication with Europe by the Red Sea and Egypt. - His Lordship in Council therefore requests that the Honourable the Governor in Council of Bombay will give this Subject his consideration, in framing his Instructions to the officer, who may be appointed to the charge of the Residency at Mocha, in consequence of the arrangement suggested in the dispatch of the Governor General in Council under date the 20th Ultimo. -

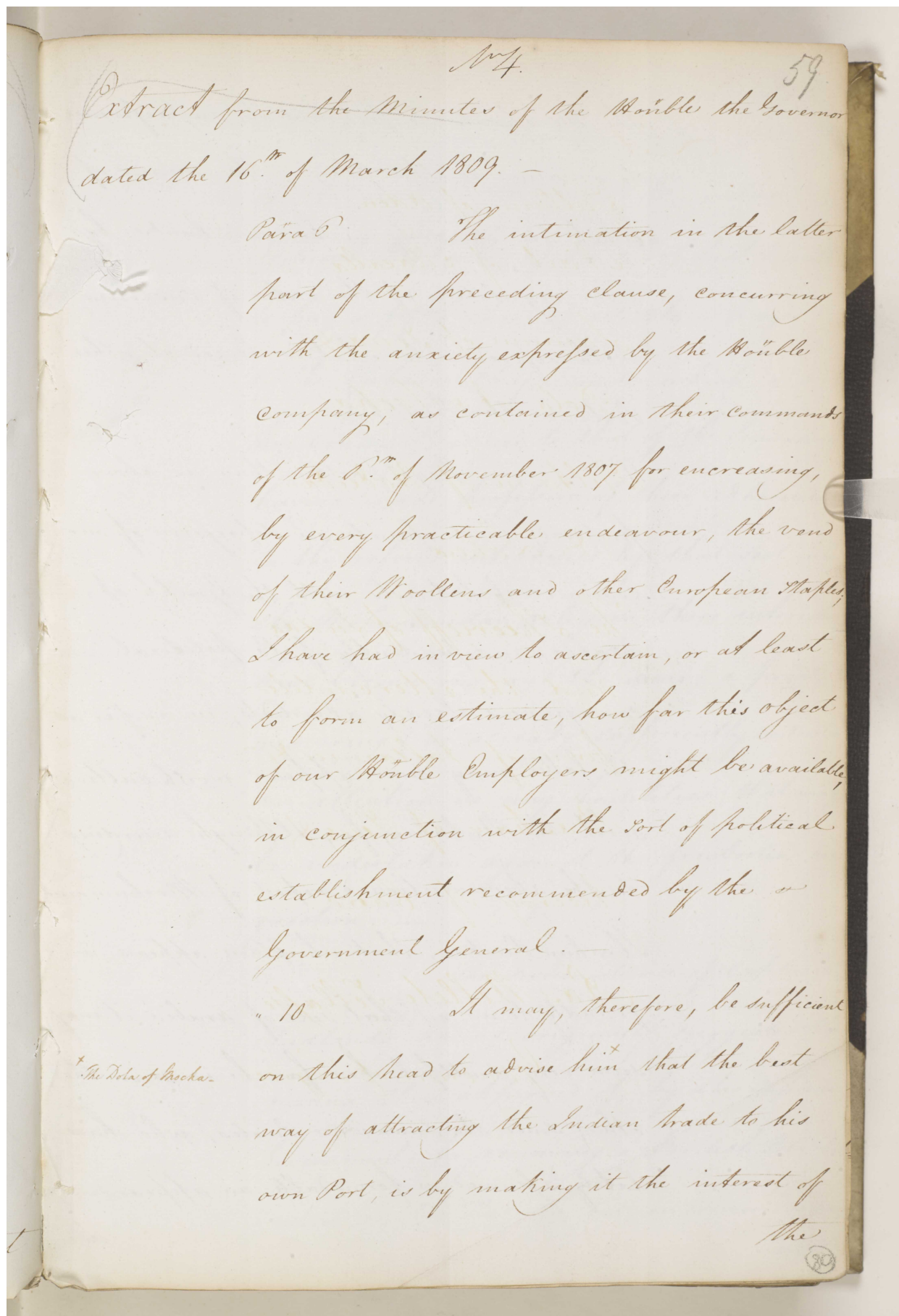
Fort Mellicam }
The 4th July 1808 }

I have the honor to be,
Y^r. Y^r. Y^r.
[Signed] A. B. Edmonstone
Secy to Gov^t

(79)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [80r] (67/126)

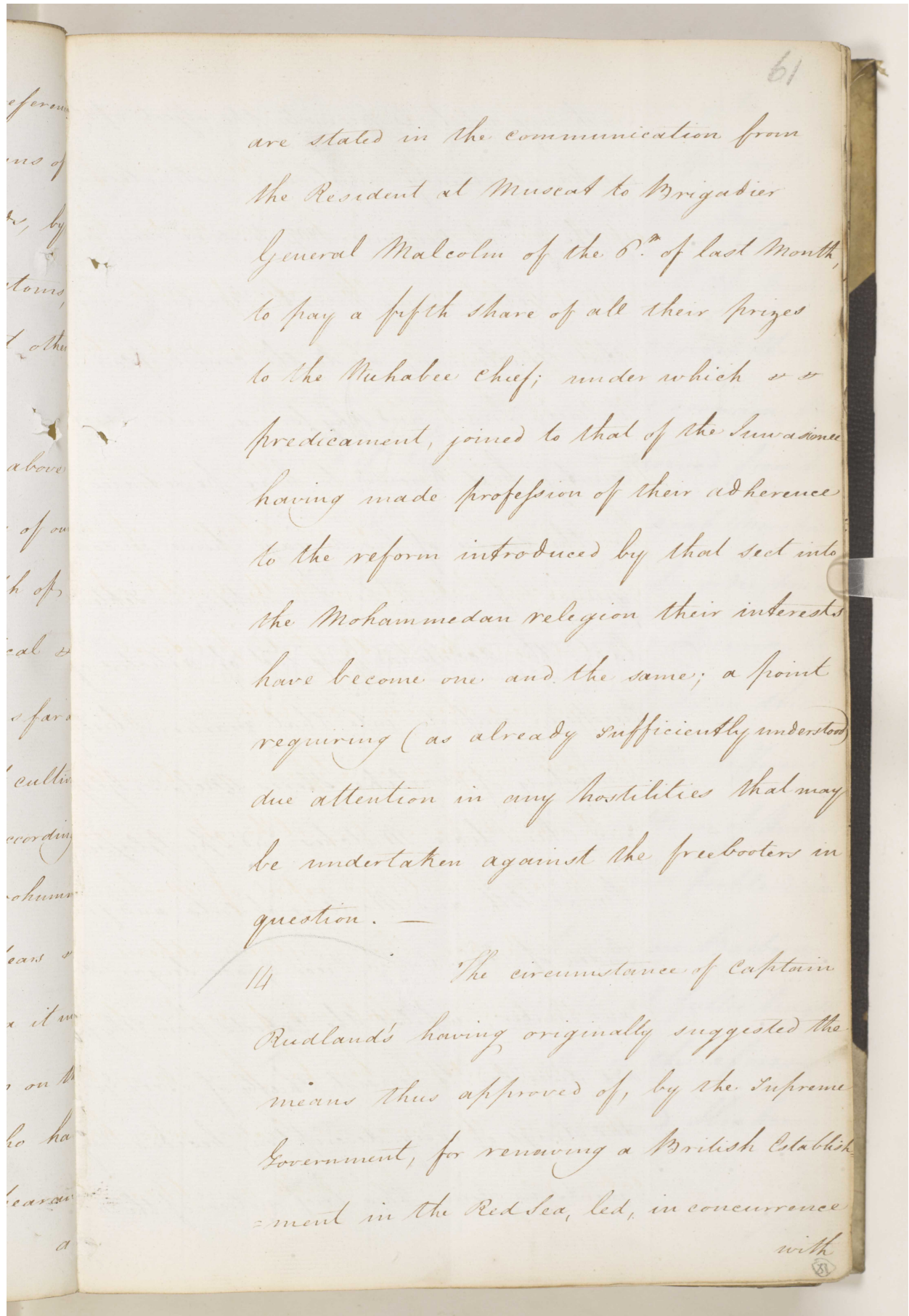


'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [80v] (68/126)

the Merchants to frequent it, in preference
to resorting to other places, the means of
which are obviously in his own hands, by
a due regulation of the rates of Customs,
with reference to what is levied at other
Ports in the Gulph.

|| To go further than as above
proposed, must operate in depression of our
Commercial Interests with the Gulph of
Arabia, independently of its political
consequences already adverted to, in as far as
the latter may now appear worth cultivation
with the Muhabee; for, although according
to the abovementioned report of Mochum
Abraham Purkar, that chieftain appears
friendly to us, on that side of Arabia it may
seem very doubtful, how far he is so on the
other; Since the Suwasinee Pirates, who have
lately assumed so formidable an appearance

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [81r] (69/126)



61
are stated in the communication from
the Resident at Muscat to Brigadier
General Malcolm of the 8th of last Month,
to pay a fifth share of all their prizes
to the Muhabee chief; under which
predicament, joined to that of the Suwasime
having made profession of their adherence
to the reform introduced by that sect into
the Mohammedan religion their interests
have become one and the same; a point
requiring (as already sufficiently understood)
due attention in any hostilities that may
be undertaken against the freebooters in
question. —

14 The circumstance of Captain
Rudland's having originally suggested the
means thus approved of, by the Supreme
Government, for renouncing a British Establish-
ment in the Red Sea, led, in concurrence
with

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [81v] (70/126)

with my wish to promote the object of the
company's already mentioned instructions
of the 6.th of November 1807, to some communi-
-cation between my private Secretary and
that Gentleman, as to the course of Commerce
between India and Abyssinia, into which
country he is known to have penetrated,
in the course of his voyage home in conse-
-quence of which he furnished, in September
last, the accompanying list of articles of
European imports into that quarter; chiefly
consisting of warlike stores Metals, Glass,
and China ware, Matches and Spy Glasses, &
Broad Cloth and Woollens of sorts and from
India of Raw Cotton Piece Goods, Sugar, Rice
and Timber; whilst the Exports from Abyssinia
are described to consist chiefly of Ivory, Gold,
and drugs of every description, besides Pay-
-ments in coin. This brief notice of the Trade
of

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [82r] (71/126)

63

of Abyssinia may be considered to be corroborated, by the annexed letters and accompaniment from Mr. John Benzoni, an Italian long connected with the English in India and who having resided three years at Aden, offers, on this occasion, the result of his information derived from his Mercantile connexion with Arab Merchants at the last mentioned port. In order, however, effectually to establish the intercourse, he thinks that some person should in the first instance be deputed to the different Chiefs particularly to the Sultan of Bushar the principal Chieftain whose people repair annually to the rich fair in Barbara (or Burbarau) described at fuller length in the 12th Paragraph of the aforesaid memoir from Moohammed Ibrahim Purkar.

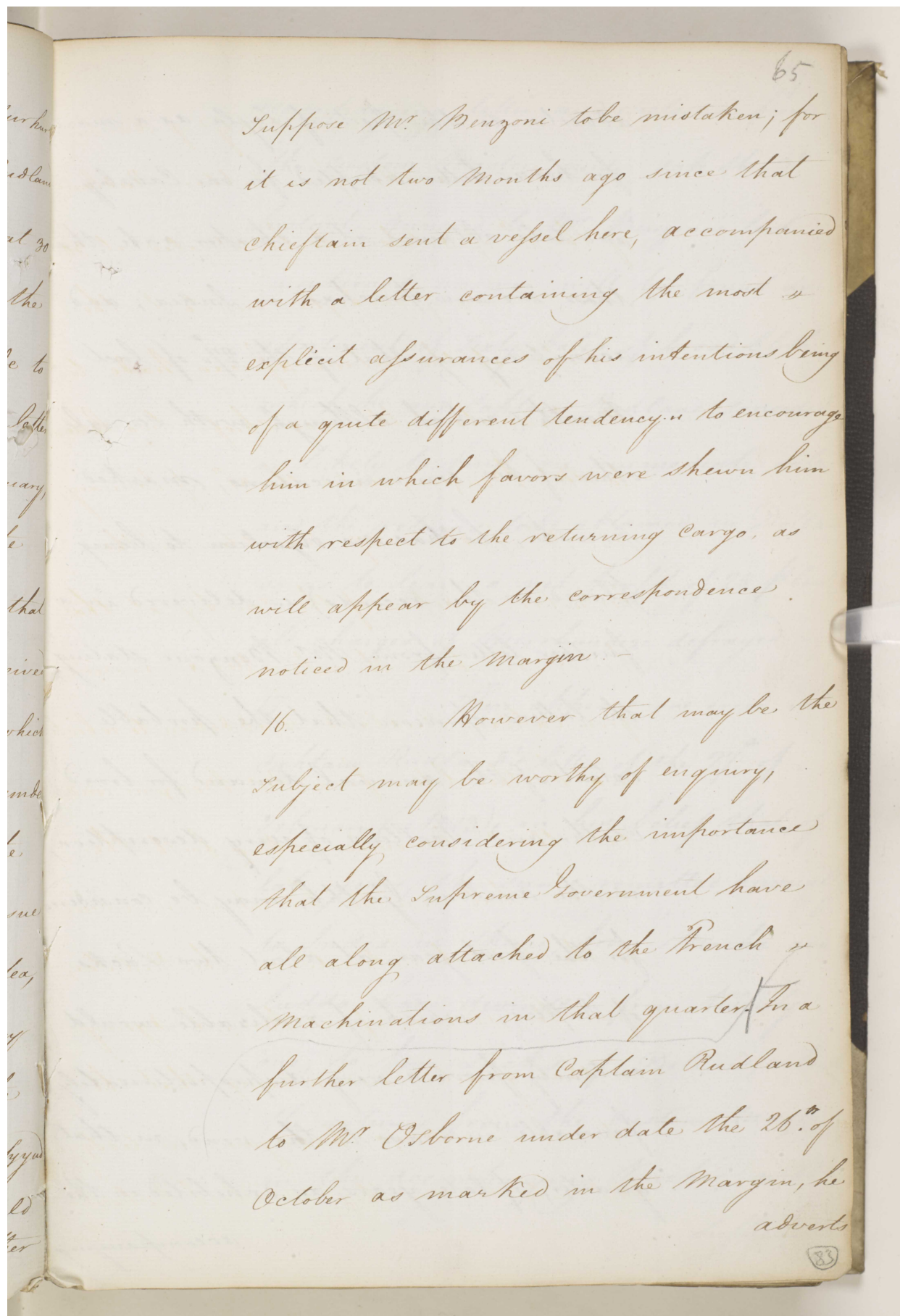
This

(82)

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [82v] (72/126)

15. This Principality of Barbar is stated, in a letter from Captain Rudland of the 11th of October, to be situated at 30 days journey from Seyla, and to be the entrepôt of the inland African trade to Barbara, its Sultan's or Chiefs two Letters to Mr. Benzoni, dated the 31st of January, and 13th of April 1807, descriptive of the perturbed condition of the Country at that period are herewith submitted as received from Captain Rudland in addition to which is a further letter from Mr. Benzoni under date the 3^d November, setting forth the danger that may in his opinion, insue to the British Interests in the Red Sea, from the absence of all British Agency in that quarter; and noticing that the Shereef of Loheija, has again invited Sylla Akil into his Country; in which I should rather

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [83r] (73/126)



65
Suppose Mr. Benzoni to be mistaken; for
it is not two Months ago since that
chieftain sent a vessel here, accompanied
with a letter containing the most
explicit assurances of his intentions being
of a quite different tendency. To encourage
him in which favors were shewn him
with respect to the returning Cargo, as
will appear by the correspondence.
noticed in the Margin.

16. However that may be, the
Subject may be worthy of enquiry,
especially considering the importance
that the Supreme Government have
all along attached to the French
machinations in that quarter. In a
further letter from Captain Rudland
to Mr. Osborne under date the 26.th of
October as marked in the Margin, he
advertises

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [83v] (74/126)

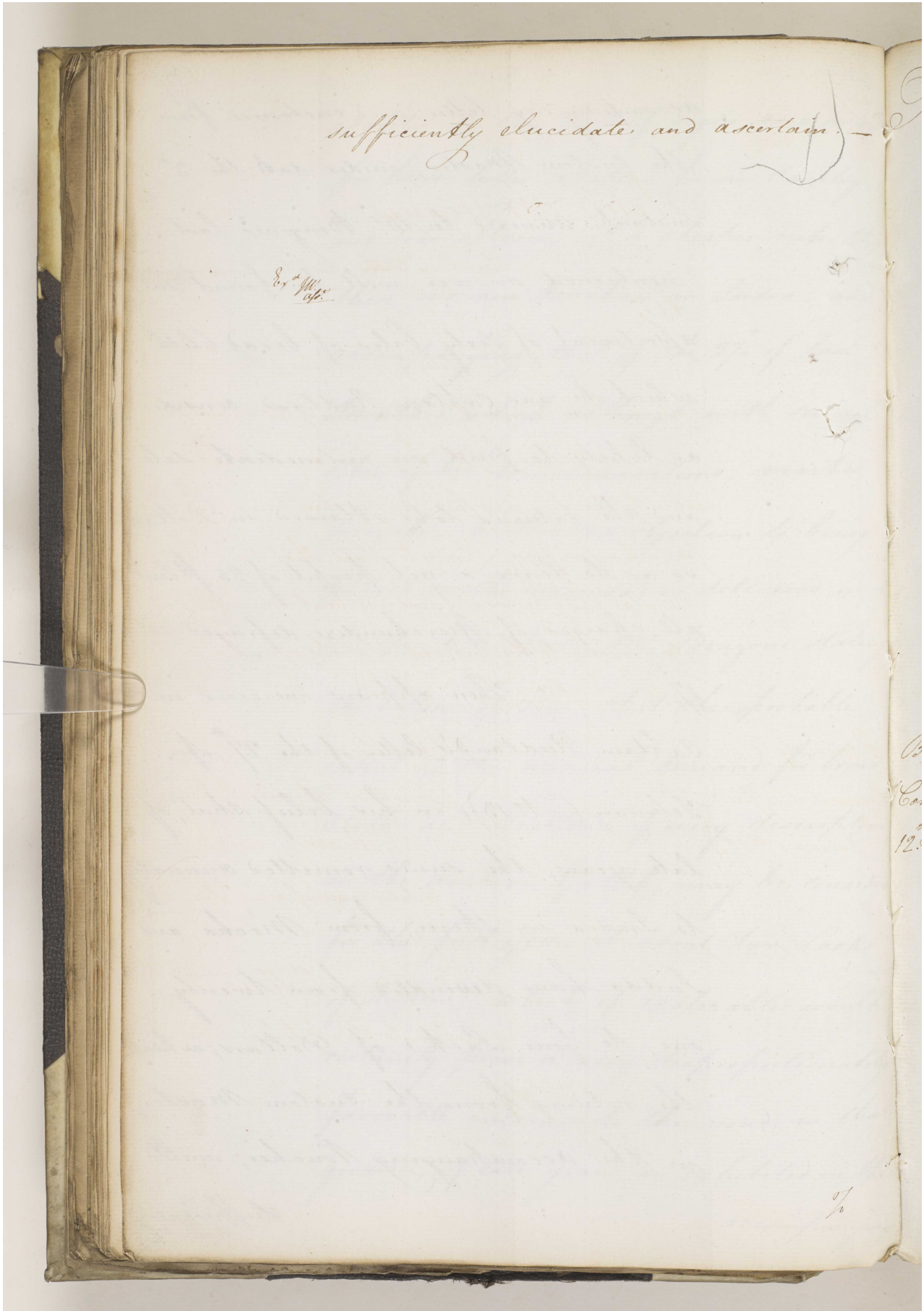
adverts to the port of Seyla as a mart
for horses better adapted for our Cavalry
and to be obtained at a cheaper rate than
those we now purchase in India; and
accompanying that of the 27th of last
Month (which although with several
other of his communications, marked
private, he has no objection to being
placed on the records) is delivered in a
further letter from Mr. Benzoni stating
the latter's opinion that the probable
extent of the annual demand for broad
cloths and Woollens of every description
in the Arabian Gulph, may be considered
for the first year, at about two Lacks
of Rupees; which if realizable would
certainly prove a very disproportionately
favorable increase to the vend, in that
quarter, of late years, as exhibited in the
accompanying

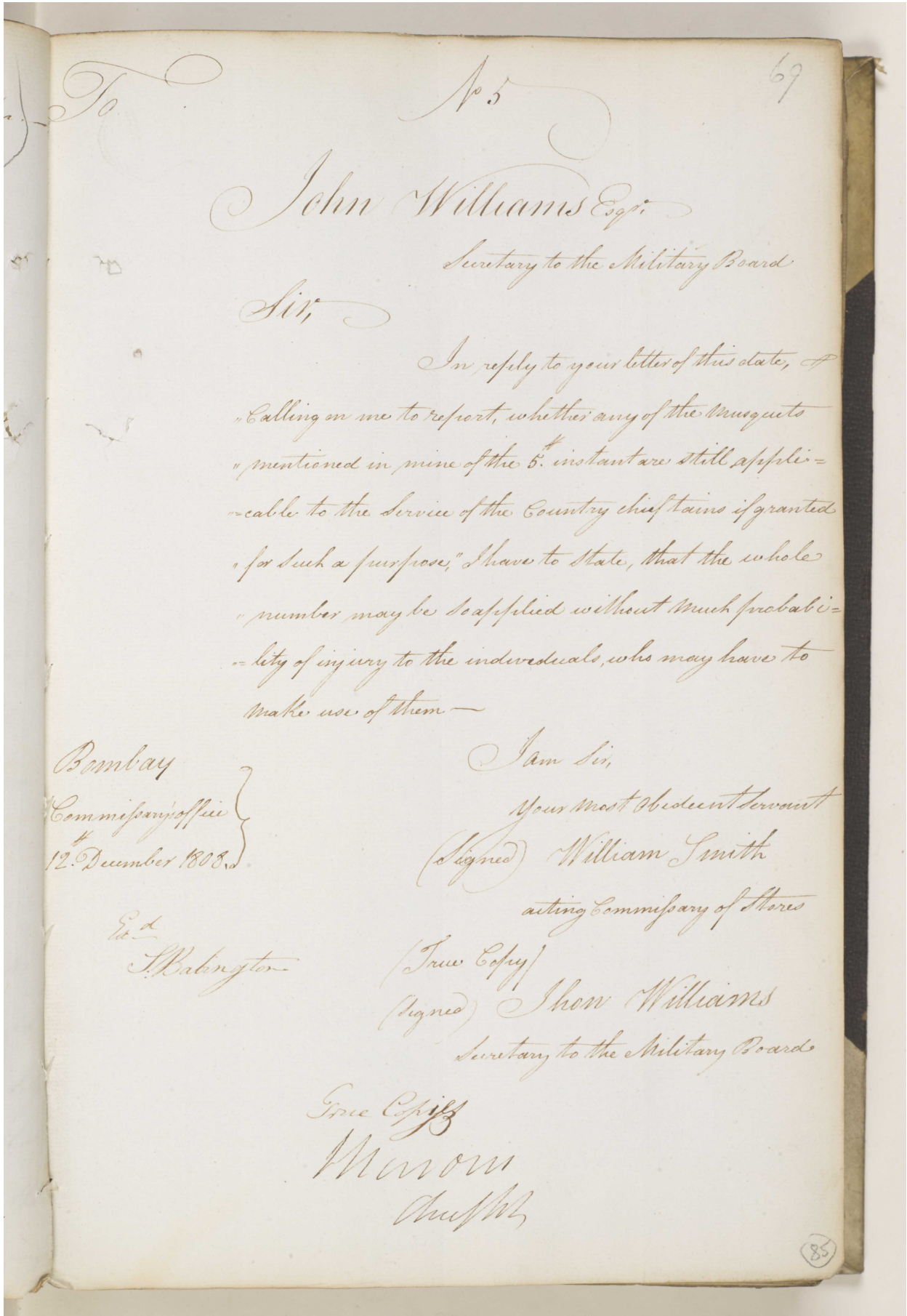
'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [84r] (75/126)

67
accompanying letter and enclosure from
the Custom Master, under date the 3^d
Instant. Annexed to Mr. Benzoni's last
mentioned answer will be found an
assortment of Sixty bales of broad cloth
which he and Captain Rudland, consider
as likely to find an immediate sale
and the returns to be obtained in Dollars,
so as to leave a net profit of 25 pcent,
all charges of Merchandize defrayed. -

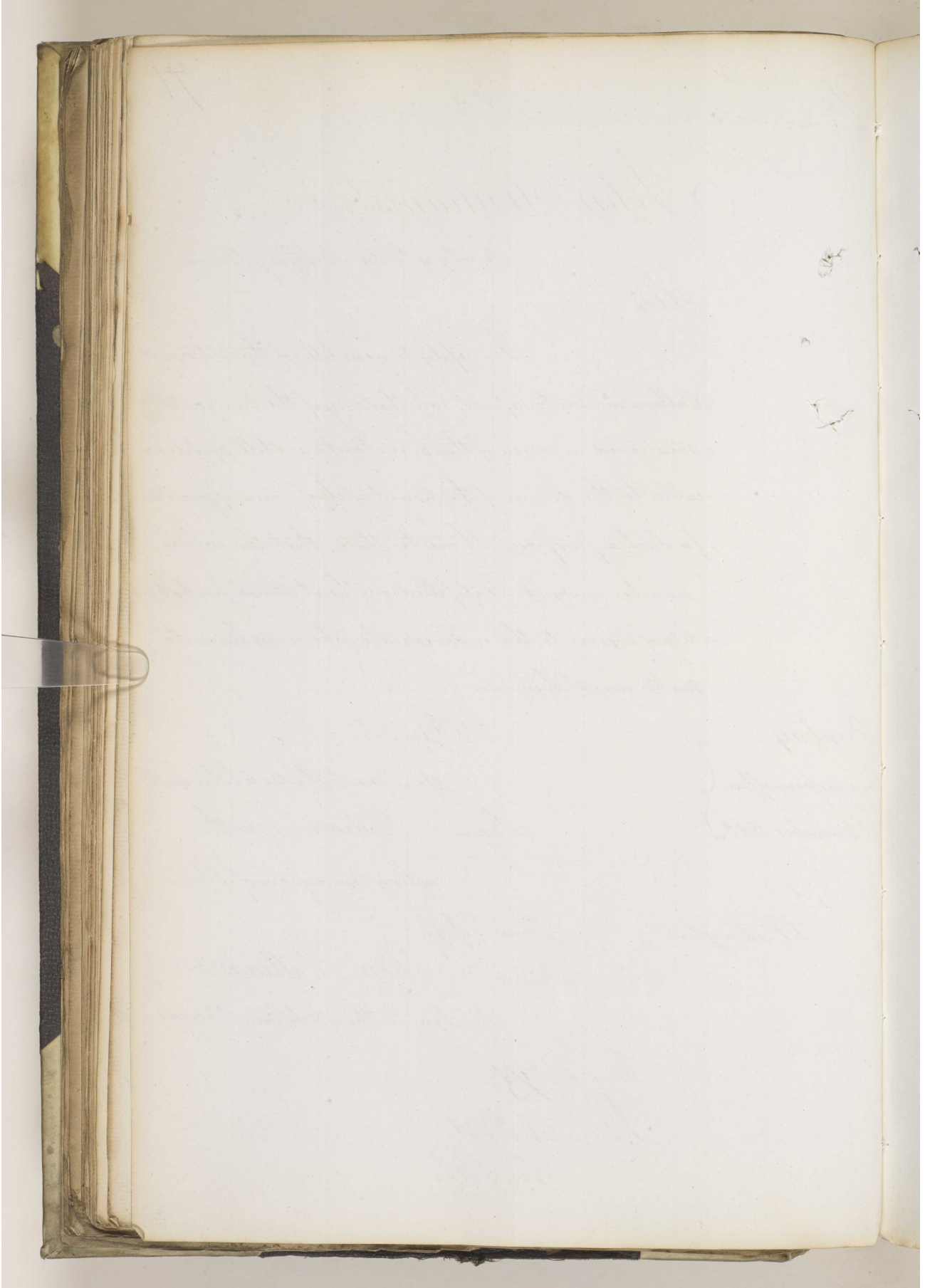
17. There appears one error in
Captain Rudland's letter of the 27th of
February (N^o 13), in his belief that, of
late years, the sums remitted annually
to India in specie, from Mocha and
Sudda have dwindled from twenty
one, to four Lacks of Dollars, which
the returns from the Custom Master,
in the accompanying Voucher, will
sufficiently

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [84v] (76/126)

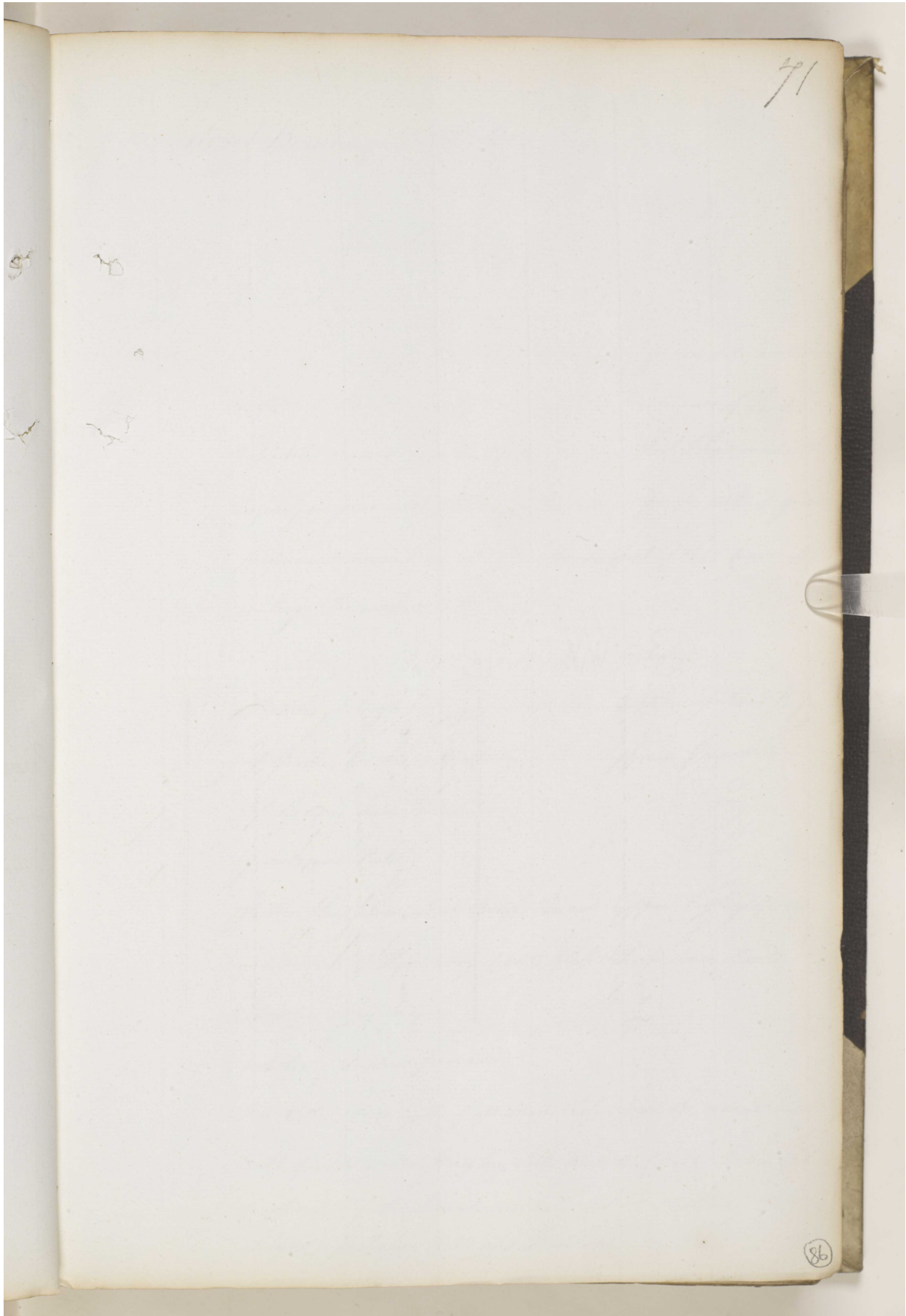




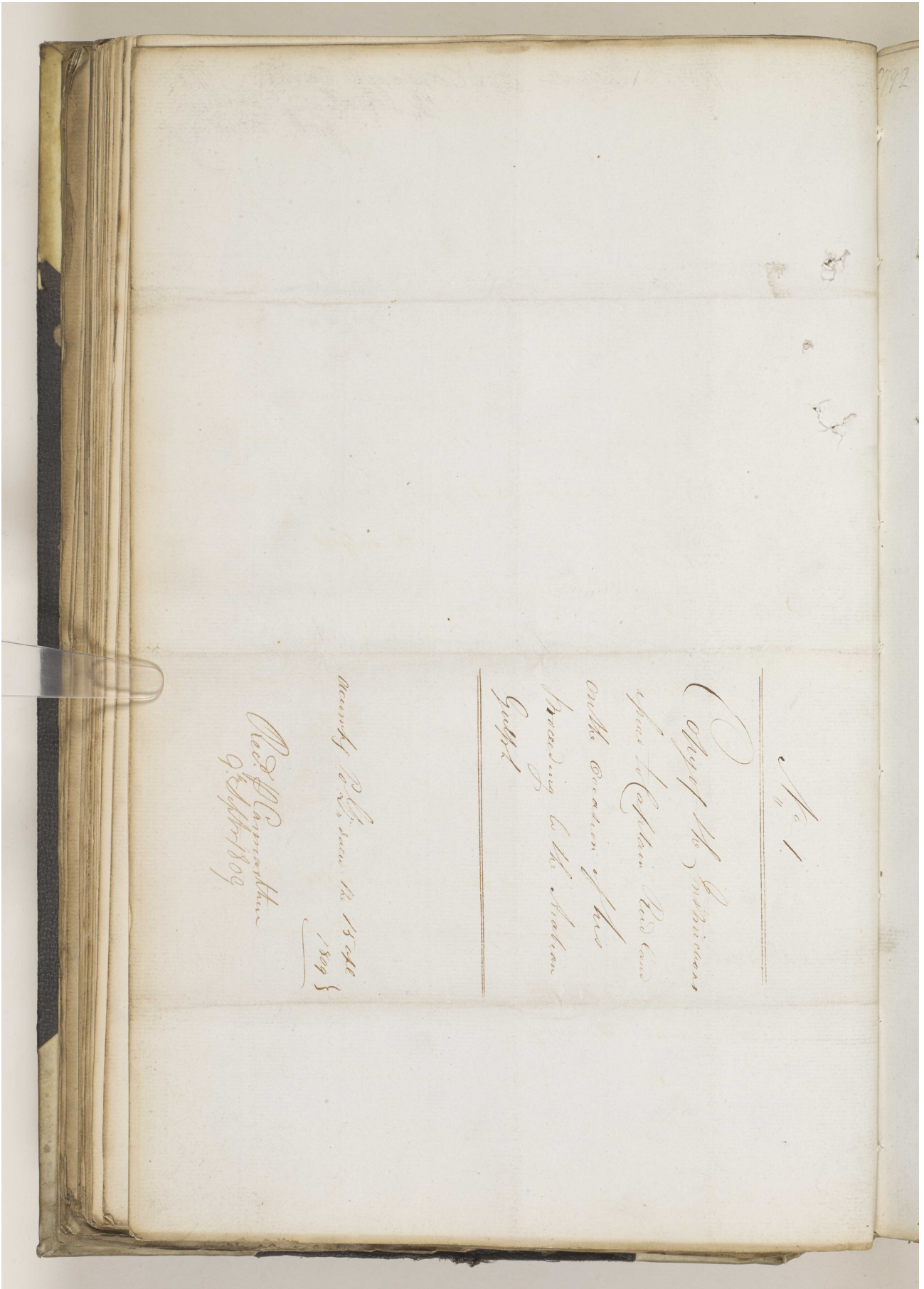
'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [85v] (78/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [86r] (79/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [86v] (80/126)



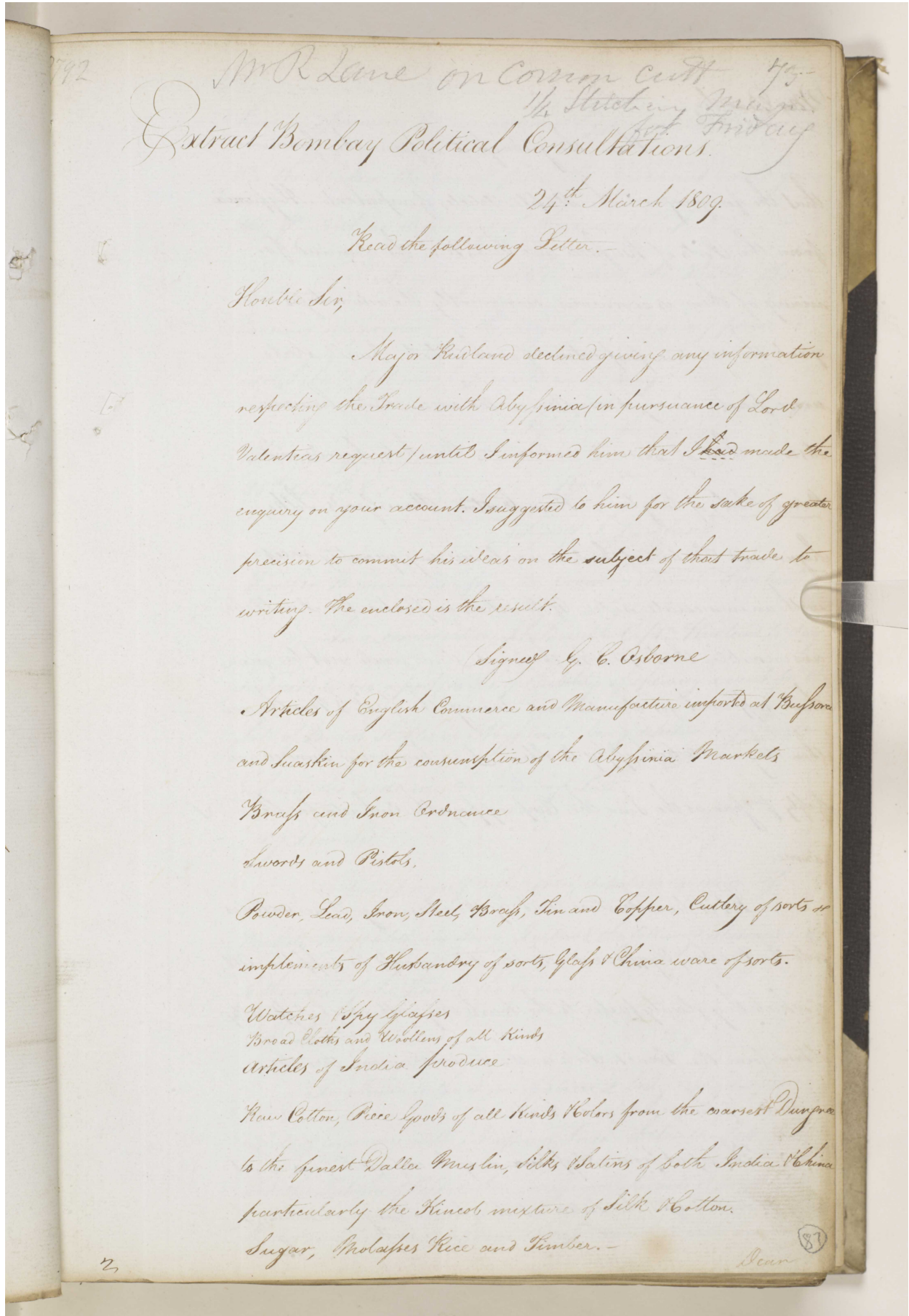
No 1

Copy of the Instructions
given to Captain Rudland
on the occasion of his
Proceeding to the Arabian
Gulph

Manuscript No. 126, vol. 80
1809

Geo. P. V. Compton
9. 12. 1809

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [87r] (81/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [87v] (82/126)

My Dear Sir,

Have the goodness to inform the Governour that the foregoing are the staple Articles of import into Abyssinia from the Ports of Suaskin and Insasquin, the demand for many of them is enormous, consequently the advantages are great, the relative proportion of each Article I will state more particularly hereafter, in the mean time however observe that of small Ordnance, Muskets, Swords and Broad Cloths of England, Raw Cotton, Piece Goods, Silks, Sugar and Timber of India would in any quantity meet with an immediate sale. Of Muskets in particular I will be answerable that 40 or 50 thousand stand would not be more than sufficient for the demand during the first 6 Months, and then they would be happy to obtain at an hundred or hundred and fifty £ year as the Sum the Company pays the Contractor for the same.

Let it be understood that by thus turning these articles into the Red Sea, Egypt, and Arabia Felix, would be supplied. All of which they gladly prefer to the trash they with much difficulty obtain from the French Ports in the Mediterranean, thro' the medium of the Greeks and Arabs.

The export from Abyssinia may be confined to Gums Civet, Ivory, Hides and Gold, the latter at Suaskin in large quantities, I have

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [88r] (83/126)

75

have a specimen by me now, and by paying $18\frac{1}{2}$ Dollars or $18\frac{3}{4}$ the Ukeka the usual price the Merchants would give 200 fr. But in disposing of the same in India.

Any thing further which the Honble the Governor may require on the subject, and it is in my power to do, I shall feel much pleasure in so doing.

My Dear Sir

Wednesday
28th Sept. 1828

Yours &c

(Signed) J. Rudland

Further Memorandum from the Governor's Private Secretary

In a conversation I had with Capt^m Rudland to day, I adverted to his report (on the probability of opening a vent for the sale of British Staples in Abyssinia) being defective in precision: whereon he wrote me the following Letter.

My Dear Sir,

Confining myself to the three Articles in question viz:

Muskets, Broad cloth, and Ivory, I submit the following Statement ~~&c~~ to the notice of the Honble the Governor.

"Muskets,

In allusion to the Sum of 500,000 l. being realized by this article of commerce with Abyssinia, I mean that on the fall of Mysore and other Fortresses of Tippoo, there were found upwards of two Million Stand of small arms of different descriptions which on the dismemberment of

88

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [88v] (84/126)

of that Government in 1797 all became our property. Of these a large portion were Manufactured in France but a larger portion by Frenchmen in India.

These very Muskets are this day a considerable incumbrance to the Government of India. They are a considerable expense also, without the most remote chance of their ever becoming useful, because the English Musket is so much lighter consequently more convenient and in every other respect superior.

I say that an immediate demand may be had for 50000 Stand of these Muskets by Maspara & Suackie Merchants and a certain return of Cash of from 4 to 10 Dollars for each (say 7 one with another) 350,000 £

Broad Cloth

admitting 50 %^o Ct upon an immediate demand of from 30 to 50,000 Y^{ds} (say 40,000) ————— 20,000 £

Ivory

The finest in the World from Abyssinia and some of it at present finds its way to India the whole of it purchased up by the Agents of the India Merchants and sent thro' Egypt to the Mediterranean and from the Ports there by the Greeks & Americans to other parts of the World.

Admitting the Demand here to bring 100 R^{ls} this is agreeable to my Memorandum is an increase of 300 per Cent upon the Maspara price, and admitting also that

77

that there are exported from
 Masowa and Suackie annually 14,000
 Seeth, upon an average two Mains
 each in weight they are this at
 least; for in Africa they are seen very
 large indeed, which we accounted for
 from the annual levy hunted in
 that part for the profit solely which
 his Seeth brings; therefore none but the
 aged are selected for destruction. I say
 that the profit which might be
 derived by the purchasing up this
 Article alone, amounts to a Sum
 annually exceeding \$ 200,000

When we were at Masowa and
 Suackie the common price of a Turkish
 Matchlock was 10 Dollars, and
 up the Country twelve and fifteen
 Dollars.

If

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [89v] (86/126)

If Mr. Duncan is inclined
to allow me to make the trial, I have
no objections; I will be answerable (setting
the ivory aside) that in the Muskets and
Broad Cloth, I will cover all the expenses,
and return to his Treasury a profit of 1 Lack
of Rupees in the first six Months after I am
there. —

Thursday-

Yours &c.

(Signed) J. Rudland.

Let me again remark that this is a sort
of duty incompatible with my present
engagements; if I can serve my Country
by thus setting a Machine a going which
must work with such advantage hereafter,
I am ready. —

(Signed) J. R.

Sir

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [90r] (87/126)

79

Sir,

Agreeable to your request I have made the enclosed Memorandum of imports of British Trade into Abyssinia, which from my Mercantile connection with the Arab Merchants &c^r was enabled to collect during my residence at Sden of three years and upwards. In order effectually to establish the intercourse, some person in the first instance should be sent to the different Chiefs, particularly to the Sultan of Harer, who is the principal Man, & whose Subjects come every Year to the rich Fair of Barbara in Caravans from 15 to 20 thousand Camels. In my opinion he ought to be the first consulted on the occasion, as I have already corresponded with him on the Subject, and it appears by his two Letters to me now in possession of Captain Rudland, that he is very
much

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [90v] (88/126)

much disposed to cultivate an interest
with the English, for which purpose he
has offered in his Letter to grant an
escort to any Gentleman who may be
inclined to favour him with a visit.

If this Trade, with Abyssinia
is once opened, and prudently managed,
it must inevitably afford a considerable
advantage to those who may be
disposed to embark in it

Bombay
13th Oct 1808.

I have the honour to be,

Very
Dear Sir

Signed John Benzoni.

of

Of English Imports into Abyssinia may
best be considered—

Iron, Steel, Copper, Lead, Muskets, Fire-
Arms of every kind, Swords New-
Cloth, Cutlery of every description, Glass-
ware and Trinkets of Sorts.—

Of Indian Imports.—

Rice, Sugar, Tobacco (great quantity of
these three Articles) Rice Goods of
Sorts, principally coarse. Chintzes of every
description. Baglapores, Palampores—Raw
Cotton and Spices.—

In return for these Goods you may
have Cash in Dollars and Gold-dust, or
Drugs of every description and — —
Ivory

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [91v] (90/126)

Ivory in great quantity. —

(Signed) J. Benzoni

Sir,

In addition to my former Statement
I beg leave to inform you that Tar, Pitch, &
Country Sail Cloth, and twine, Anchors from
9 to 12 hundred weight, Graplines from 3 to
8 hundred weight, nails and Spikes of sizes,
Coils (Yarns (quantity) Spars for Dows,
Lumber for houses and small Vessels, are, to
the best of my judgment, very excellent
articles for the Arabian Markets. —

I have the honour to be,

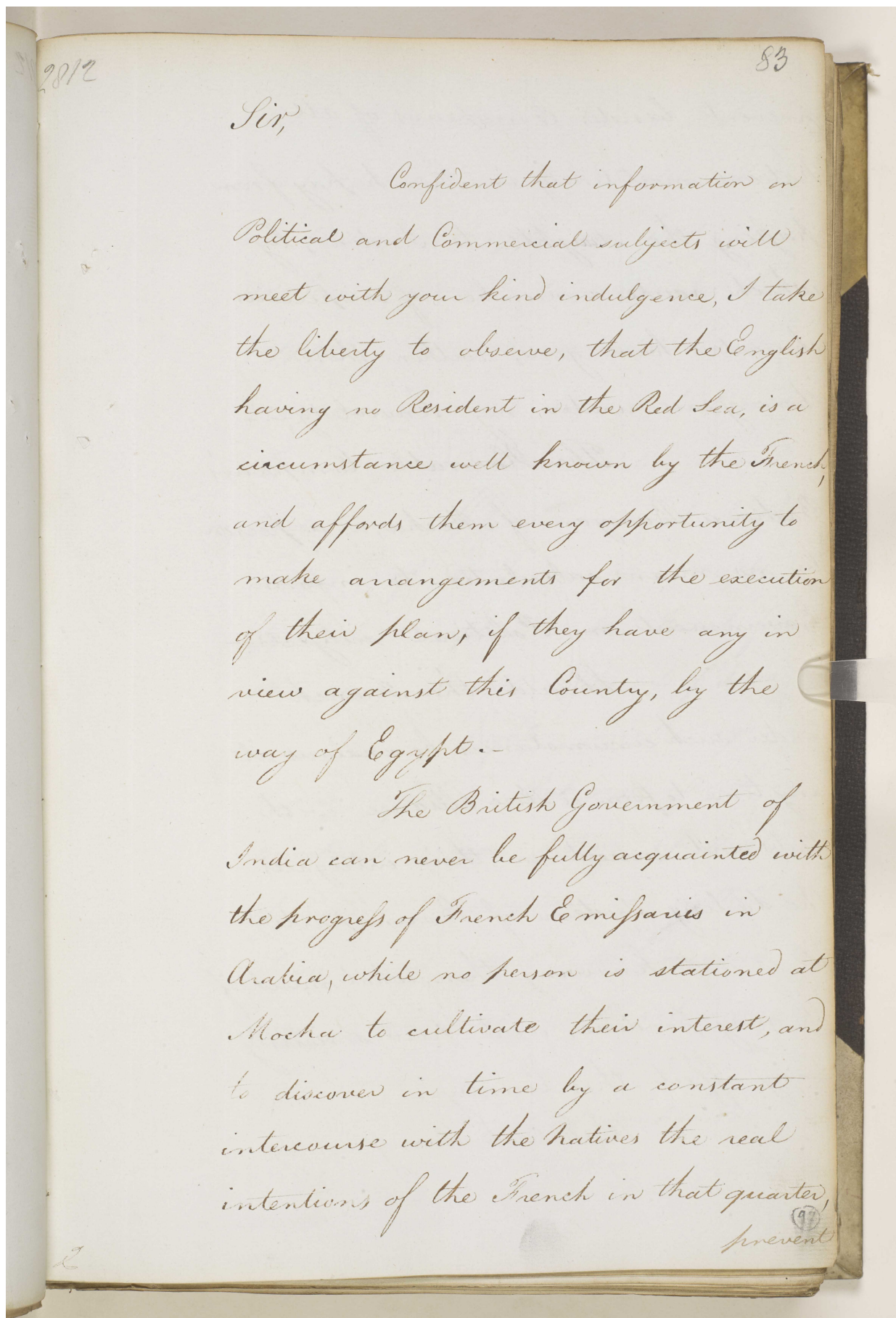
Bombay

Yours &c

17 Oct: 1808.

(Signed) J. Benzoni

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [92r] (91/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [92v] (92/126)

prevent besides Europeans of all Nations most likely in French pay from passing the Straights to India, by which route a number of suspicious characters have gone, within those three years under my knowledge.

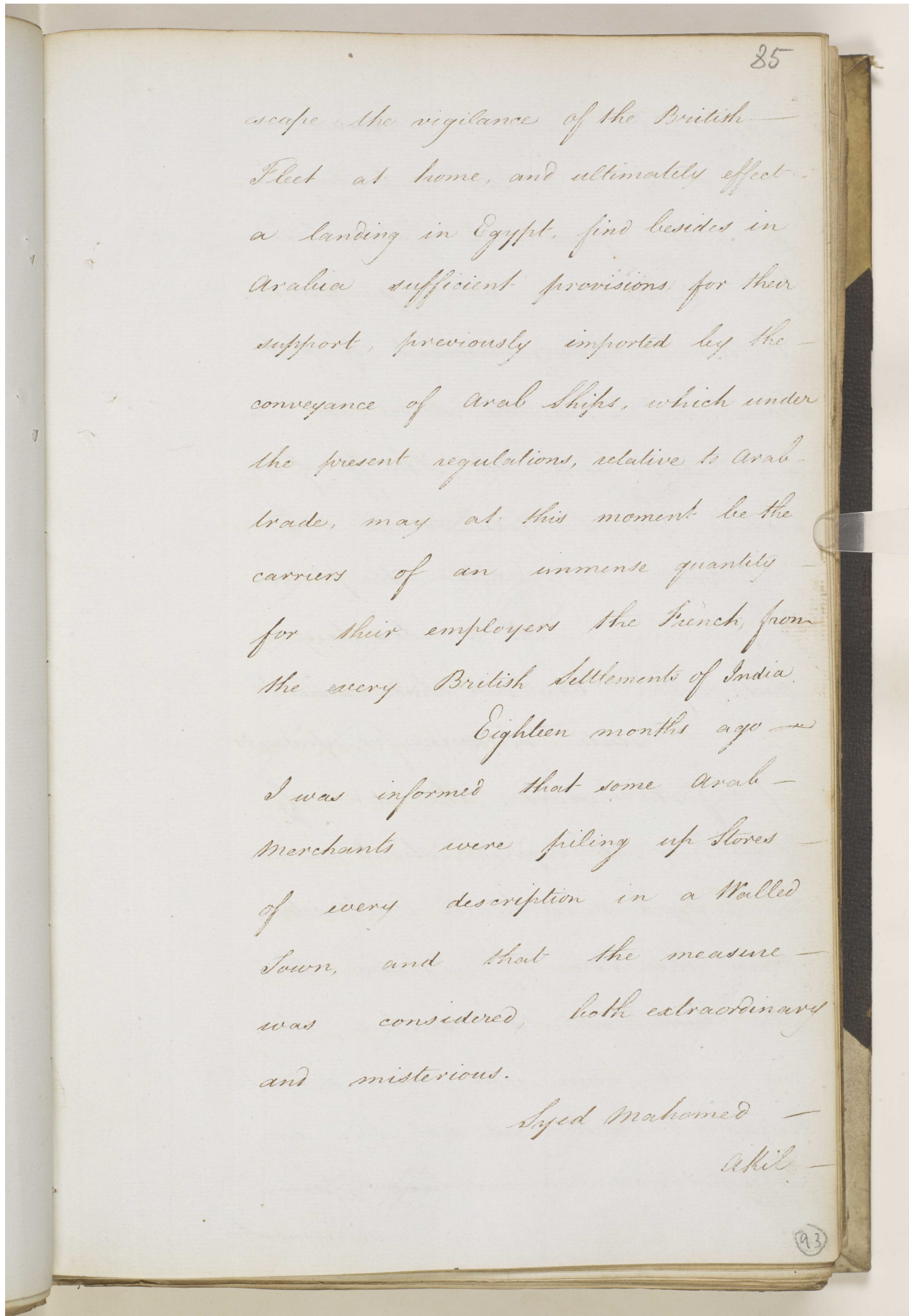
The Honorable Company's Broker, a Banyan of Mocha, is a person by no means calculated to inform Government on Political subjects.

Should the French under such circumstances be anxious at any time to form a close alliance with Arabs and succeed in their intrigues (the darling system of Buonaparte) it is not knowing then, what mischief it may produce, and how seriously may affect this Country.

A French Army may

escape

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [93r] (93/126)



85

escape the vigilance of the British
Fleet at home, and ultimately effect
a landing in Egypt, find besides in
Arabia sufficient provisions for their
support, previously imported by the
conveyance of Arab Ships, which under
the present regulations, relative to Arab
trade, may at this moment be the
carriers of an immense quantity
for their employers the French, from
the every British Settlements of India.

Eighteen months ago
I was informed that some Arab
Merchants were piling up stores
of every description in a walled
Town, and that the measure
was considered, both extraordinary
and mysterious.

Syed Mahomed
Akil

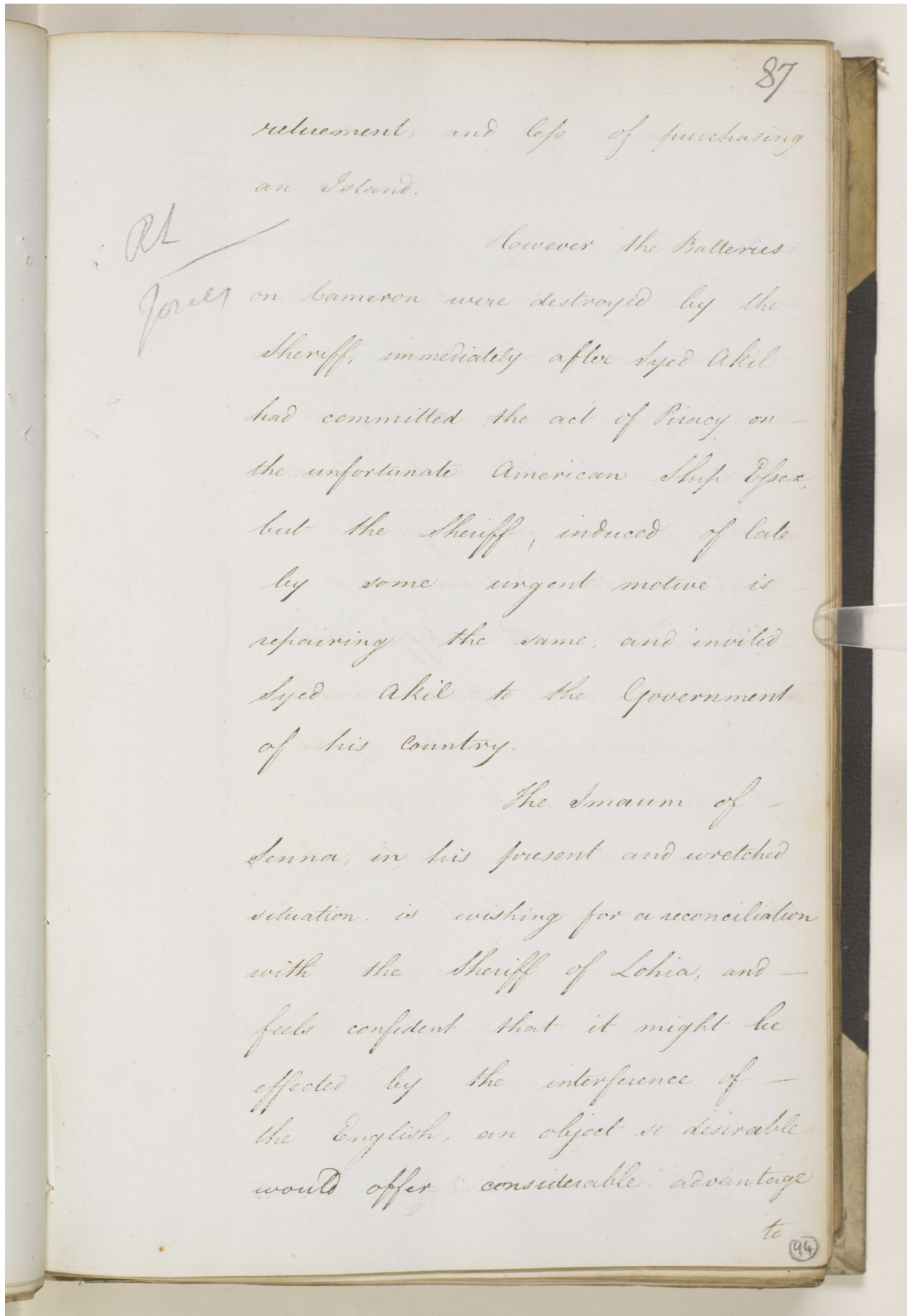
(93)

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [93v] (94/126)

78
Akil, who cannot be conceived a friend to the British cause, was brought from the Isle of France 70 Pieces of Artillery, given to him by the Government of that Island, he immediately entered into negociation with the Sheriff of Lohia, for Cameron Island, took possession and fortified the place.

It is astonishing that after Cameron had remained in a state of ruin for upwards of forty years, the idea of fortifying it again, should revive on Syed Mohamed Akil's return from the Isle of France, that the Syed should purchase it for his own use, when I well know that he was not then in circumstances of seeking for retirement.

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [94r] (95/126)



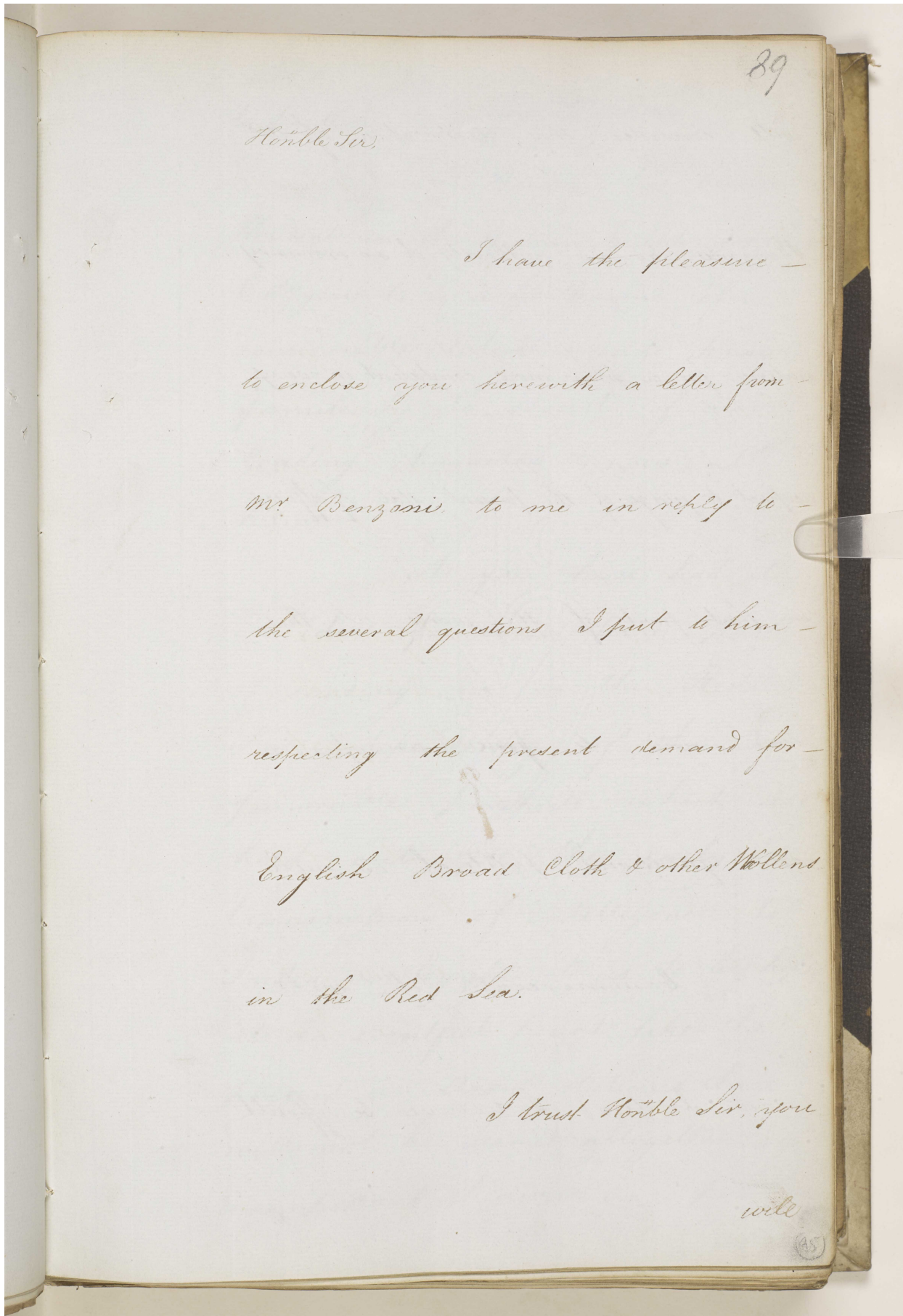
'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [94v] (96/126)

to merchants of India, and secure
to government, that friendly disposition
of the Arabs, which if properly cultivated
would be of infinite service
for the establishment of a regular
Packet from India to England, even
in War with the Turks, ^{a good} understanding
with Arabs, would greatly
facilitate the advantageous
intercourse with Abyssinia,
and Trade once opened with
that truly valuable part
of the continent may be
increased to an extent at
present incalculable.

Bombay }
3 Nov 1806 }

I have Y^{ca}
Signed, J. Benzoni

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [95r] (97/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [95v] (98/126)

will consider this declaration of Mr
Benzoni as an authority of no ordinary
nature, for a man more competent in every
respect to judge of the present state of affairs
in that part of the world, at this
time, and to give an opinion
on questions political as well
as commercial it will
(in India) I believe be difficult
to

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [96r] (99/126)

Wednesday, on common count
to produce. - for Friday 91

Mr. Benzoni has been a Resident in the Arabian Gulph for these last years, he is a gentleman of considerable talent and known familiarly to several of our leading characters now at home.

As you have had it in idea for some time past of sending me to the Red Sea, independently of the favorable prospects which are held out for the early transmission of intelligence to India, via Egypt, it is to be hoped at an eventful period like the present an Agent stationed there will not be deemed altogether unimportant otherwise in a political point

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [96v] (100/126)

point of view. The friendship, already formed by us with the inhabitants of Abyssinia, it would be well to cement by a further intercourse with these people; the resources of that County^{are} immense and might with the greatest facility be early turned by us to the greatest possible national advantage.

The immense riches which have been amassed within these few years by the Maritime Arabs may be attributed entirely to the commerce which they have exclusively and uninterruptedly carried on with Abyssinia through their Agents residing at the several Sea Ports and Commercial Towns of Mocha, Sudda, Ayt, Massowah, Arganbo, and Sanckin.

Prior

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [97r] (101/126)

93

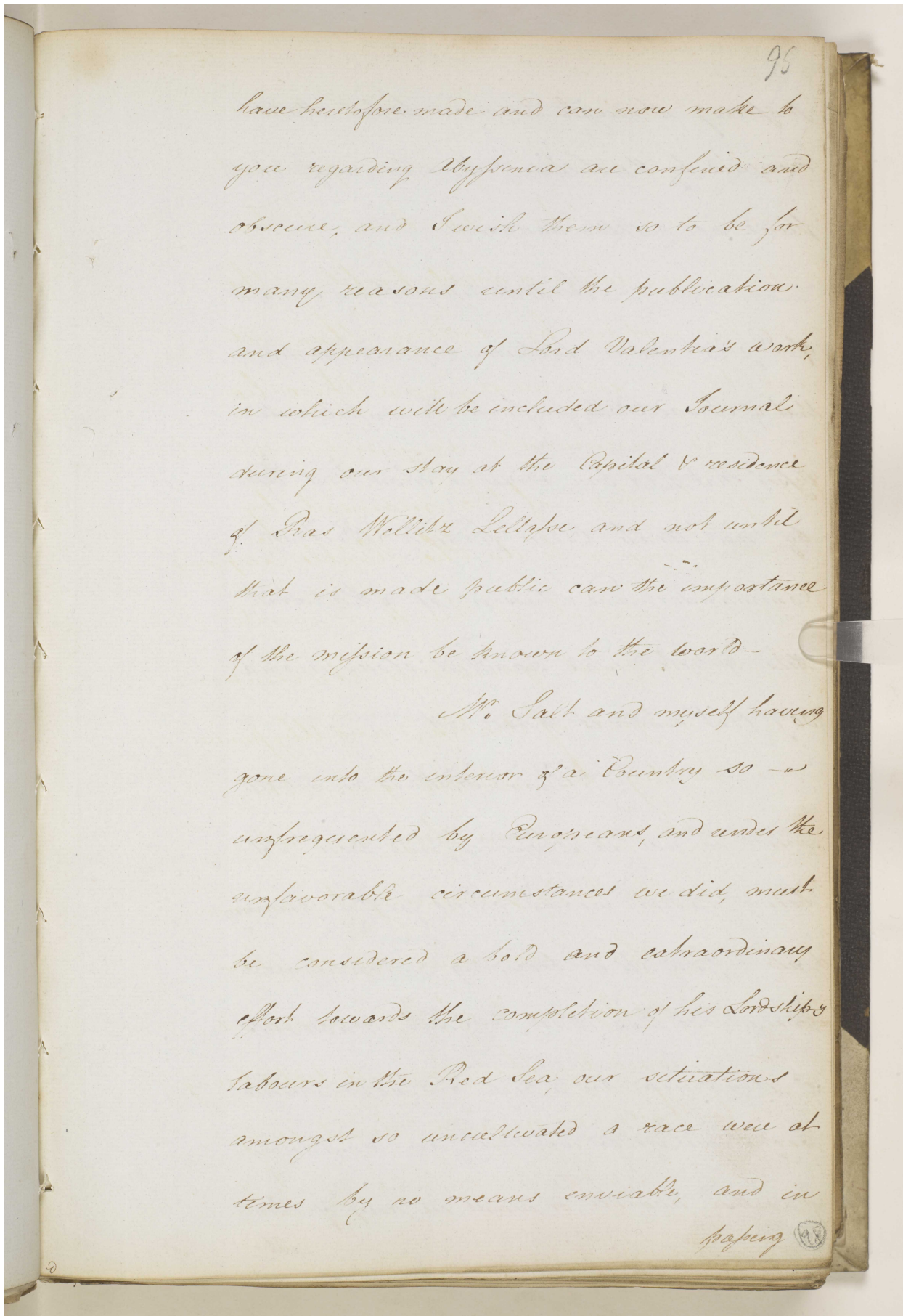
Prior to the present War with France the remittances in specie from Mocha and Sudda exceeded yearly the enormous sum of 21 Lacs of Dollars to British India, but of late years the sums remitted from thence have not amounted to 4 Lacs yearly, this serious deficiency may be accounted for in a variety of ways, but in sums so great as in the instance of the Arabs purchasing the Prize goods at the Isle of France, and with that any return of money which they formerly employed in the purchase of the same articles at our Indian Markets.—

The social intercourse at present held between the Maritime Arabs and the French Government at Mauritius, while it is to be hoped for the sake of British Indian Commerce, ^{will} be ⁽¹⁷⁾

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [97v] (102/126)

he soon put a stop to, then the Arab must
return to the Markets of India for what
he wants, but on the other hand if the
Company can realize a double profit in the
same commodities by sending them at
once to the commerce, can there be ^{2 new} ^{Centenent}
any thing unreasonable in your Government
taking advantage of the moment by
endeavouring so to do. The Hon^{ble} Company
by an arrangement of this kind would
not only be vast gainers on the occasion,
but the subjects of Arabia and Abyssinia
would thereby be relieved from the
abominable impositions they are at
present liable to in procuring the common
necessaries of our commerce which they
stand in daily want of, a grievance so
easily removed by the same articles being
offered to them in a more direct way.
The observations which I
have

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [98r] (103/126)



96
 have hitherto made and can now make to
 you regarding Abyssinia are confused and
 obscure, and I wish them so to be for
 many reasons until the publication
 and appearance of Lord Valentia's work,
 in which will be included our Journal
 during our stay at the Capital & residence
 of Ras Melike Lettaye, and not until
 that is made public can the importance
 of the mission be known to the world.

Mr. Salt and myself having
 gone into the interior of a Country so
 unfrequented by Europeans, and under the
 unpropitious circumstances we did, must
 be considered a bold and extraordinary
 effort towards the completion of his Lordship's
 labours in the Red Sea, our situation
 amongst so uncultivated a race well at
 times by no means enviable, and in
 papering (18)

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [98v] (104/126)

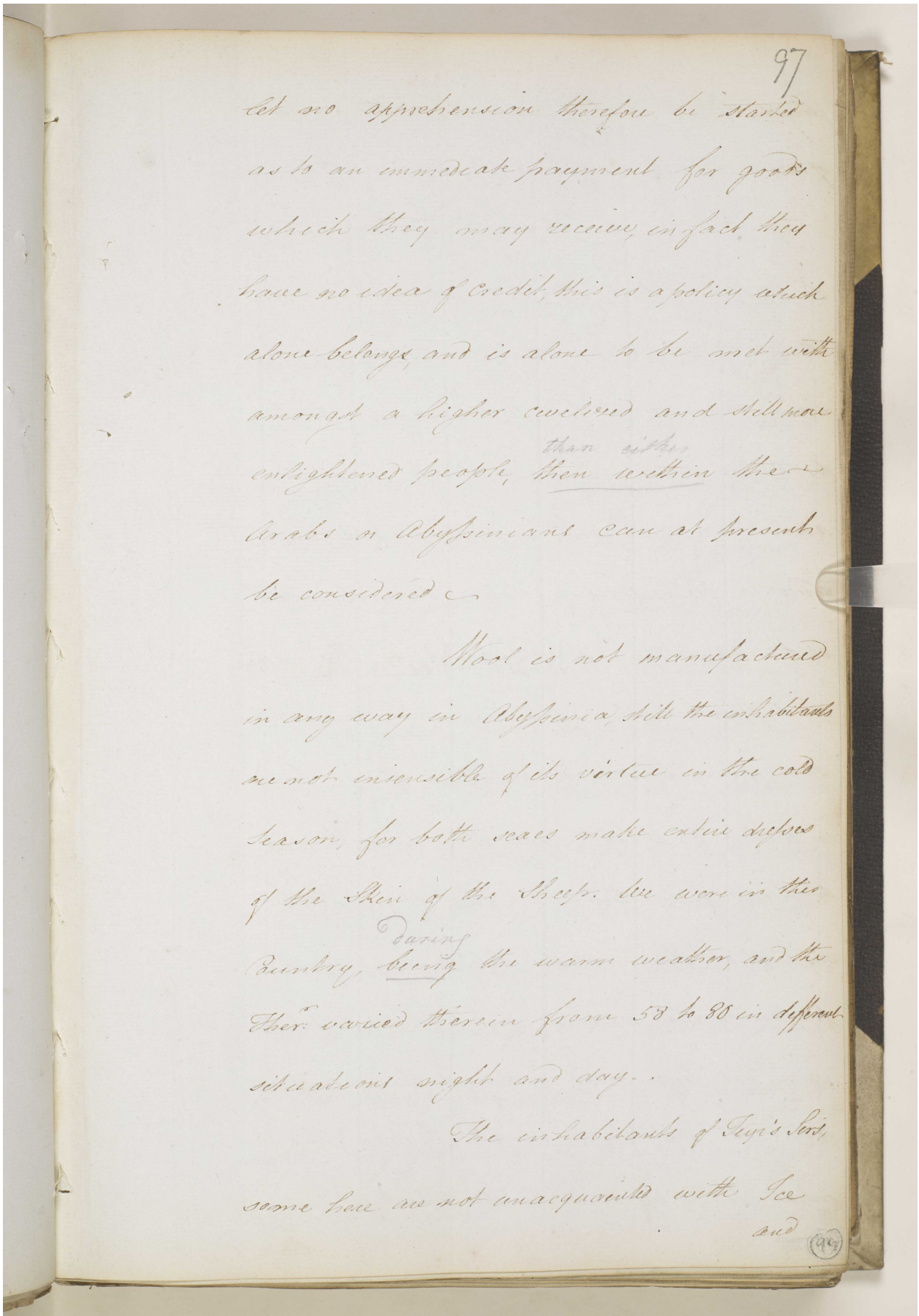
passing through the more brutal States
occupied by the Tribes of Rosantas, we frequently
found not a little dangerous.

We took up with us a specimen
of English manufacturing, particularly
that of Broad Cloth for from the unfortunate
Vessel that had been seized a short time before
by an Arab Crew from a British
Commander and retaken at Macallah,
this article was hawked about Arabia
200 ^l. per yard under its prime cost.

Broad Cloth is an article
much in use in Abyssinia, and there not
being easier means offered for their procuring
it, alone prevents its becoming much more
generally so than it is. — The inhabitants
of Abyssinia are a rich and noble minded
people, we never witnessed an instance
of either avarice or want in any of them.

Ab

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [99r] (105/126)



97
let no apprehension therefore be started
as to an immediate payment for goods
which they may receive, in fact they
have no idea of credit, this is a policy which
alone belongs, and is alone to be met with
amongst a higher civilized and still more
enlightened people, ^{than either} then within the
Arabs or Abyssinians can at present
be considered.

Wool is not manufactured
in any way in Abyssinia, till the inhabitants
are not insensible of its virtue in the cold
season, for both sexes make entire dresses
of the Skin of the Sheep. See worn in this
Country, ^{During} being the warm weather, and the
ther. varied therein from 58 to 80 in different
situations night and day.

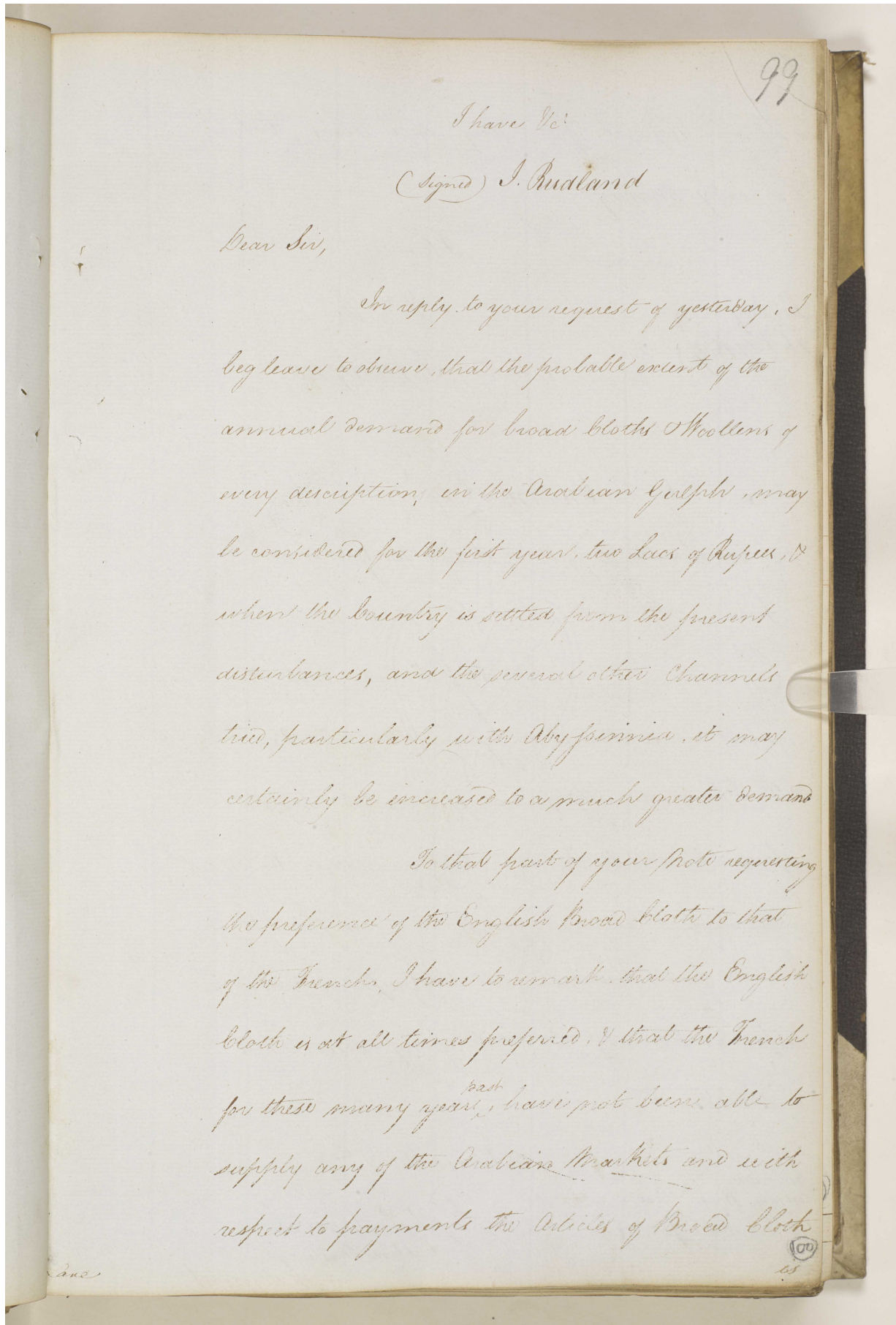
The inhabitants of Sui's Land,
some have are not unacquainted with Ice
and

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [99v] (106/126)

and Snow, for it is common on the summit
of every eminence during the cold months —

No people indulge more in
luxury and every species of voluptuousness
than the inhabitants of Abyssinia, they live
in a Country so fertile and rich, that
produces every necessary of life in such
abundance and with so little trouble and
under a Government so easy & unrestrained, &
at the same time so congenial to their nature
and persons that the meanest subject
can never entertain an idea of ever being
in want, of their wants they may be said
to have fewer than we, but it cannot be
said that they are the less happy, for
jealousy and avarice, or passions which
seem not to prevail amongst them, and we
did not witness a single beggar thro
whole time we were in the Country —

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [100r] (107/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [100v] (108/126)

is seldom disposed of on any other terms, but
for ready money.

I have

Sunday
26 Feb 1809 }

Y^{rs} V^{rs}

(signed) J. Benzoni

To G. B. Osborne Esq^r
Private Secy to the Honble the Governor

Sir

In compliance with the
requisition contained in your letter of the 28th
ult. I have now the pleasure to enclose for the
information of the Honble the Governor, a Statement
of the Annual amount of Exports of Compaings
Hollers from this port into the Gulph of Arabia
as far as the complete state of my documents
would admit

Bombay
Custom House office
3 March 1809. }

I have Y^{rs} V^{rs}

(signed) J. P. Travers
Custom House
Statement

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [101r] (109/126)

101

Statement of the Annual amount of Exports of Woolless from this Port into the Gulph of Arabia from 1st May 1803 to the 28th February 1809.

	Broad cloth		
	Pieces	Value	
From the Year 1803/4	10	1006	" "
1804/5	16	1300	" "
1805/6	5	525	" "
1806/7	4	405	" "
1807/8	5	470	" "
From 1 st May 1808 to the 28 th Feb 1809	218	25020	" "
Total	258	28726	" "

Bombay Custom House office
3rd March 1809.

Signed P. P. Havers
Customs Treasurer.

Honble Sir,

Annexed I have the honor to transmit the Statements required in your note of this morning. Impaired into Bombay from the Gulph of Persia

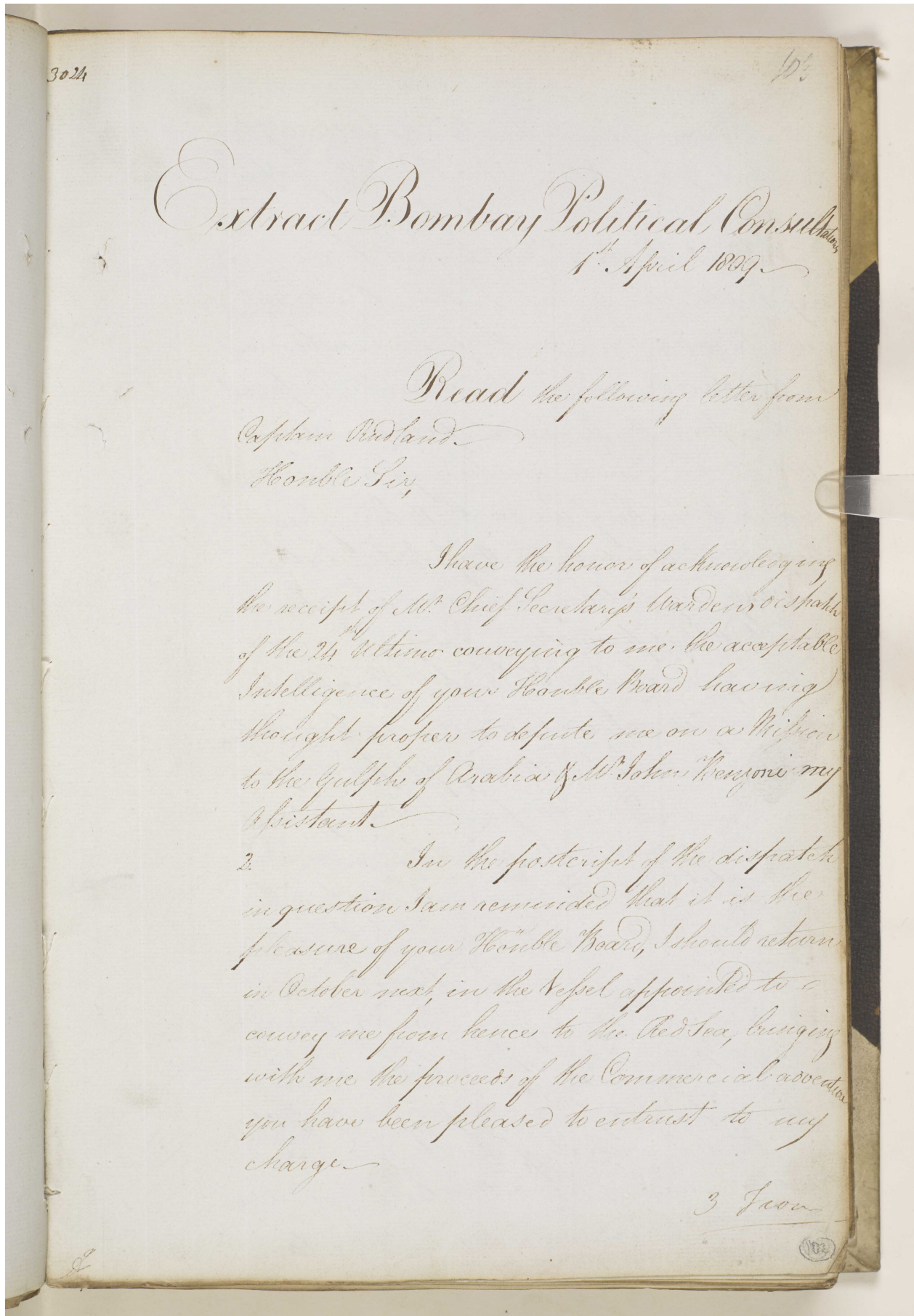
1802/3	Rs. 1150,007	
1803/4	13,69,189	
1804/5	29,81,050	
1805/6	11,35,651	
1806/7	12,47,514	789,481.
Ditto into Surat		
1802/3	10,72,148	
1803/4	58,325	
1804/5	6,88,566	
1805/6	12,42,985	30,62,024
1806/7 not yet received.		10,953,505
22 July 1807.	Signed & Co. (Signed) P. P. Havers	The

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [101v] (110/126)

3024

The members of the Board
concurring in the propositions of the Honourable
the President, Resolved that a Mission —
comprehending the Political and Commercial
objects developed in the Governor's Minute be
sent to the Red Sea, and that it be entrusted
for the reasons assigned to the Agency of
Captain Rudland assisted by Mr. Benzoni

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [102r] (111/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [102v] (112/126)

3. From my being thus limited actually to the short space of three Months in the Gulph, for the carrying into effect the many and important objects as pointed out to me in my Instructions, I am induced to address your Honble Board in the present instance.

4. In the mean time Honble Sir permit me to express the high satisfaction which I feel at the Honble mention you have been pleased to make of me in the 14th Para of your Minute under date the 16th of last Month, that any suggestion from me should merit the approbation of so high an authority as that of the Right Honble the Governor General in Council, is a Circumstance that I cannot but gratefully feel proud of.

5. I have therefore deliberately viewed the nature of your instructions before me, and having also reviewed the several objects both Political & Commercial to which they relate, I think it a duty incumbent upon me to state thus publicly to your Honble Board the little probability which appears to me to offer in favour of the carrying into effect even the lesser objects of the Mission, in the short space of time to which you have been

been

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [103r] (113/126)

105

can please to limit my stay in the Red Sea,
and under this Circumstance alone many
of the greater & more important objects in
question, must I fear be relinquished
altogether.

The present advanced state of the
Season for crossing from hence to the Red Sea,
lead us to expect a prevalence of adverse Winds
it is therefore by the usual detention occasioned
in a Convey not likely the Cruiser will pass
the Straights of Babelmandel, ^{much} must before
the end of next month, & by a reference which
I have made to the ^{very} first Nautical authority
on the Navigation of the Gulph of Arabia,
it appears utterly impracticable our
communicating with the different Ports
alluded to in my Instructions within
the prescribed time, independent of the
intercourse which your Hon^{ble} Board directs
me to follow up, from the Southern borders
of the Gulph with the Empire of Abyssinia.

Bombay }
10 April 1809 }

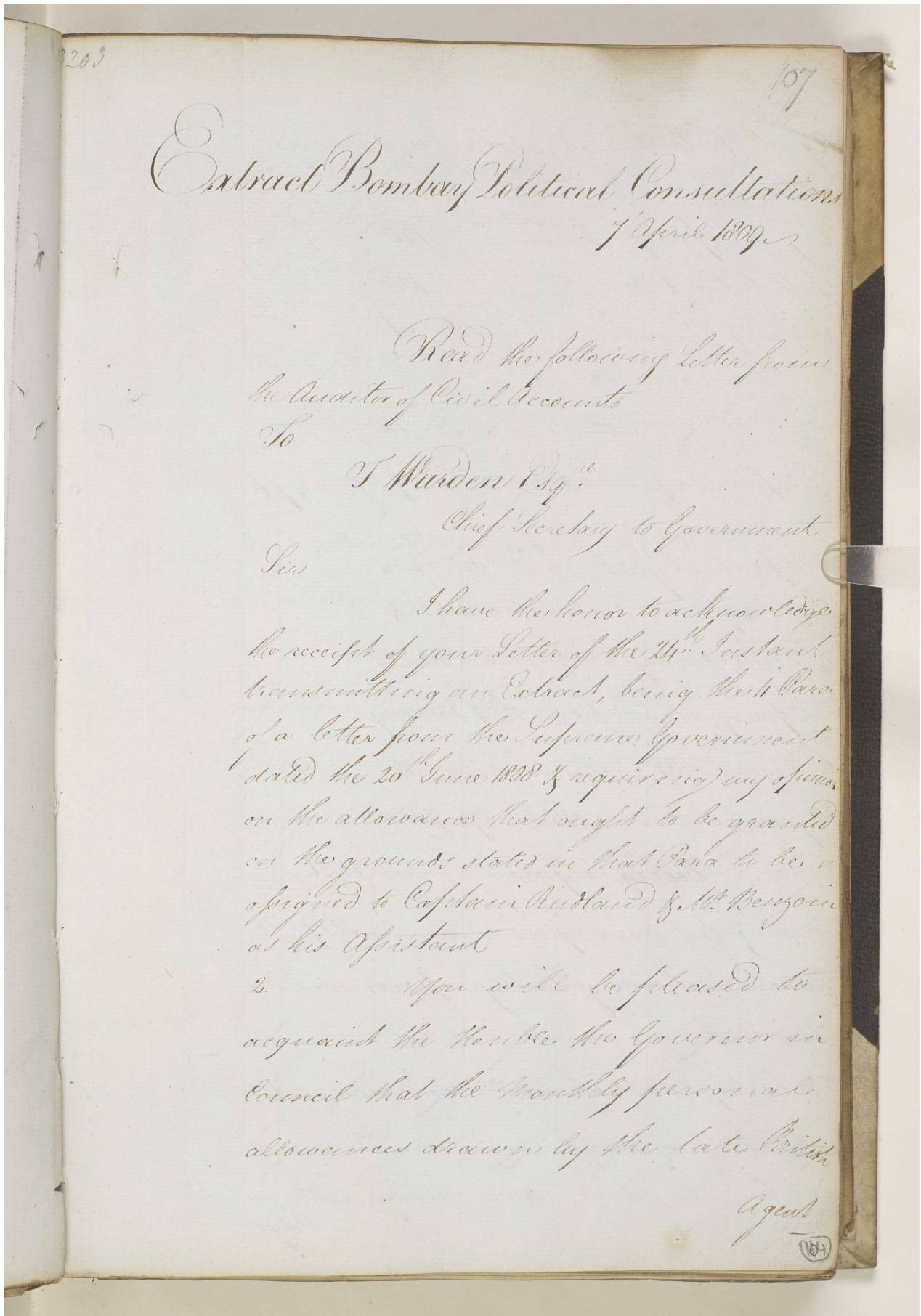
Yours &c
(Signed) J. A. Rudland

The 103

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [103v] (114/126)

114
The Board acquiesce in admitting
of a reasonable extension of period to Captain
Rudland's stay in the Gulph, as far as may
be requisite for giving a fair trial to the
several objects announced in his propositions
to Government, such as cannot however be
allowed to exceed a twelve month, so that
after the expiration of that period, Captain
Rudland is to return with the result of
his researches, reporting in the mean time
the success that may attend his vend of
the Woolens & other articles now consigned
to his charge, of which it is expected that
the favorable result will be made known
within the period limited in his correspondence,
according to which the Sales are expected
to be realized in all October next.

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [104r] (115/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [104v] (116/126)

Agent Doctor Penigle, at Mocha were as follows viz:

Pay to Officer P. Secin	—	120
Full Batta to D. D.	—	100
Gratuity Month	—	36
Leat Carriage	100	
Patra D.	50	150
Dispensary	—	2 pms 5/6

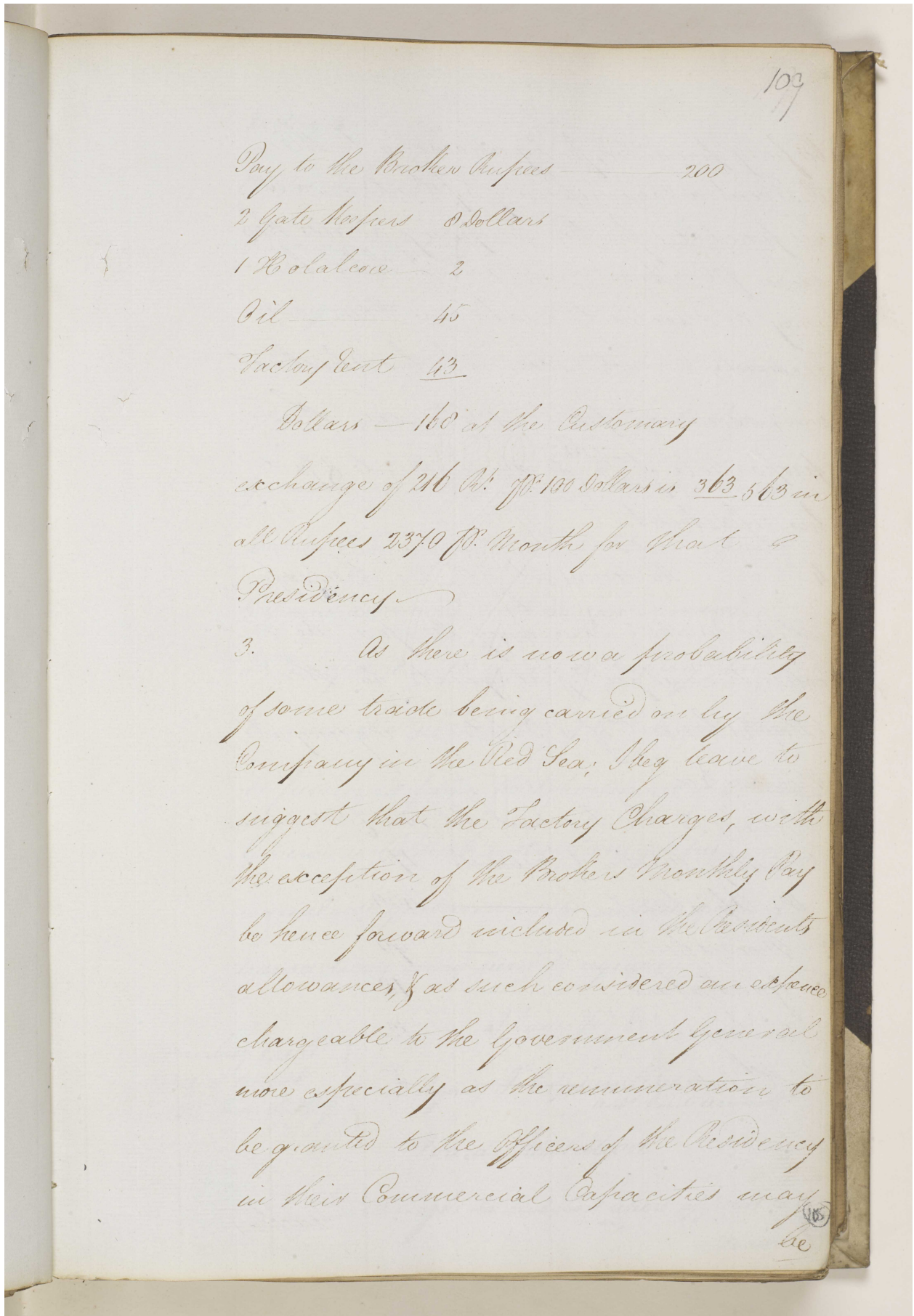
independent of which Mr Penigle's table expense Servants wages & was charged by him to the House Company which, from the 1st January to August 1804 inclusive, amounted to German Crowns 11426 or 5/6 p.

Money being Officer	—	1231
Making together Officers	—	1807 p.

Month, inclusive of Factory repairs and other Contingencies
The Factory Establishment is now, as it then was viz:

Copy

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [105r] (117/126)



'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [105v] (118/126)

be fully provided, for by allowing to the
President a Commission of 5 per Cent on all
his purchases for the Company, as also the
same per Centage on any Cash Sales he
may be directed to make on their
accounts, in both of which his Assistant
will, as usual participate in the
proportion of $\frac{2}{3}$ to the President & $\frac{1}{3}$ to
his Assistant.

4. The Amount of the Monthly expenses
noticed in the 3^d Para may therefore be
considered as fully adequate to the
Establishment of a Political Agency at
Moocha Kis.

Salary to the President	Rs. 1000	per mensem
Country Writer & Servants	170	
Do. Assistant	400	
Moocha Kis	90	
Gatekeepers	18	
2 Sayers	12	
Halalans	5	

Factory

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [106r] (119/126)

111

Factory Rent 93

Do repairs Country

Stationary & all petty

contingencies 192

per Month 1970 or per Annum

R²³⁶46 - which being chargeable to the Supreme Government will supersede the necessity of Captain Rudland in his political capacity keeping accounts with the Government of Bombay and with respect to keeping his commercial accounts Capt^m Rudland shall be furnished from the Department of Accountant General with such instructions for his immediate guidance as the nature of the transactions may seem to require.

I have &c. &c.

Bombay Castle }
Office of Audit } (signed) J. Elphinstone
28th March 1809. } Aud^r Civil Accounts

Boards Resolution

Although the Auditor's report appears to be
Decum

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [106v] (120/126)

drawn out on the footing of the political part of his proposed charge being repayable by the Bengal Government as were the late Mr. Pringle's allowances it is by no means clear that such may have been the Government General's intention, since in that case they would not probably have merely recommended but at once directed the establishment of the Department -

The allowance for a table as taken from Mr. Pringle's expenses on that account appears too high nor are the circumstances that led to such extensive disbursements on the part of Mr. Pringle applicable to the present case. An allowance of (500) five hundred Rupees ^{per} month for table charges will ^{be} thereof be sufficient together with (800) eight hundred Rupees ^{per} mensem personal allowance to Capt^m Rudland as Agent (besides his Army pay of 1000 ^{per} mensem which he will draw separately) and 200 two hundred Rupees for travelling Charges

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [107r] (121/126)

113

Charges making in all 1500 fifteen hundred R^s
 of Mensum with 300 three hundred Rupees per
 Mensum as Salary to Mr Benzoni with one
 hundred and twenty Rupees for Moonshes
 & Writers of all descriptions and 80 eighty Rupees
 for every other petty contingency making
 in the whole (2000) two Thousand R^s of Mensum.

The Factory charges being to be
 separately defrayed as they now stand, at the
 rate of 563 Rupees Monthly

The amount of the aforesaid charge
 of 2000 R^s per Mensum shall be defrayed in the
 first instance from the 5/1/6th which Mr Elphinstone
 has proposed to be allowed on all Capt^l Rudland's
 purchases & sales for the Company as divisible
 in the proportions of $\frac{2}{3}$ to the Agent $\frac{1}{3}$ to the Resident

In the event of this Commission not proving equal
 to cover the said Monthly Disbursements of 2000
 two thousand R^s per Mensum for Capt^l Rudland
 and 57

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [107v] (122/126)

and his Assistant the difference is to be made up
by the Company whilst in as much as the
same may exceed the said two thousand Rupees such
Surplus shall be dividable between the Agent &
his Assistant in the proportions aforesaid as an
encouragement to themselves in the secure vend
of the Company's Hoollens and other European
Staples and in the economical purchase of Iron
and such other Articles as may insure a profitable
return either in the Indian or European Markets;
the making an Experiment as to which
constitutes the chief object of the present Expedition
the permanency & further prosecution of which
will depend in the first ascertained result thereof.

Under these circumstances
Capt^l Rudlands Accounts are to be kept with the
Bombay Government and the Accountants
General will furnish him with forms
and Instructions accordingly.

The

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [108r] (123/126)

115

The following letter is written to
the Supreme Government

To
The Right Honble Gilbert
Lord Minto
Governor General in Council
at Fort Williams

My Lords,

We have already had the honor
to advise your Lordships of our nomination
of Capt^m Rudland as temporary Agent in the
Red Sea, for the Political purposes adverted
to in your Lordships' commands of the 20th
June last, combining therewith certain
objects of commercial research in the view of
promoting a more extensive vend of the Honble
Company's Staples; such as although without
any very sanguine expectations of success we
have deemed it our duty to avail ourselves of
the

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [108v] (124/126)

the opportunity afforded by your Lordships
instructions to make a limited trial of, in
pursuance of which Capt^o Rudland carries
with him into the Gulph an assortment of
Woolens, with some condemned Arms to the
extent specified in the accompanying Invoice
it being expected that both together will meet
with a ready Sale Chiefly on the African Coast
and in Abyssinia whence returns may be
made in Ivory and other Articles susceptible
of yielding a profit in the Indian or European
Markets -

Having called on our Civil
Auditor to submit a Statement of the Allowances
and Establishment that might appear to him
applicable to the joint Political & Commercial
Object thus in view, we have the Honor to
enclose a Copy of his report of the 23rd March
and of our Minutes thereon under this Date
requesting

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [109r] (125/126)

117

requesting that your Lordship will be pleased
to favor us with information whether any
and what part of the same Monthly charge
of 2000 two thousand Rupees with (563) five
hundred and sixty three for the factory shall
be chargeable to the Presidency of Bengal
in consideration of the General Political
Interest thereby meant to be provided for.

We have &c. &c.

(signed) J. Duncan
&c Council
O

Bombay
Castro
7 April 1809 }

(104)

'Captain Rudland deputed to the Gulph [Gulf] of Arabia on a political and commercial Mission, assisted by Mr. Benzoni an Italian.' [109v] (126/126)

