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‘Survey of the Western Shore of the Persian Gulph’

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	IOR/F/4/676/18677
Date(s)	22 Apr 1809-29 Aug 1821 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 item (67 folios)
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About this record

This item consists of copies of correspondence, minutes, and consultations cited in, or enclosed with, a Marine and Forest Letter from the Government of Bombay [Mumbai].

The correspondents are: the Government of Bombay; Henry Meriton, Superintendent of Marine; the East India Company Court of Directors; the Bombay Marine; and Captain Phillip Maughan.

The item concerns a survey of the western side of the Persian Gulph [Gulf]. It includes:

- A recommendation from the Court of Directors, in 1815, for the Government of Bombay to undertake a survey of the western side of the Gulf
- The arrival, in 1820, of the survey ship *Margaret and Francis* in Bombay, and the suggestion that it might be employed to carry out the previously-mentioned survey
- The carrying out of repairs to the *Margaret and Francis* , its renaming as the *Discovery* , and the appointment of Captain Maughan as Commander
- The preparations for the survey, including the supply of surveying instruments, and the question of the allowances that should be granted to the officers employed

• Maughan's relinquishing of his command of the *Discovery* due to illness,
with the ship subsequently being refitted and placed under the command of Lieutenant John Michael Guy

• Discussions regarding the types of vessel most suitable for carrying out survey work

• The methods suggested by Maughan for the completion of the survey.

The title page contains the following references: 'P.C. [Previous Communication] 86, Dr[a]ft 359, 22/3' and 'Examiner's Office Sept. 1822'.

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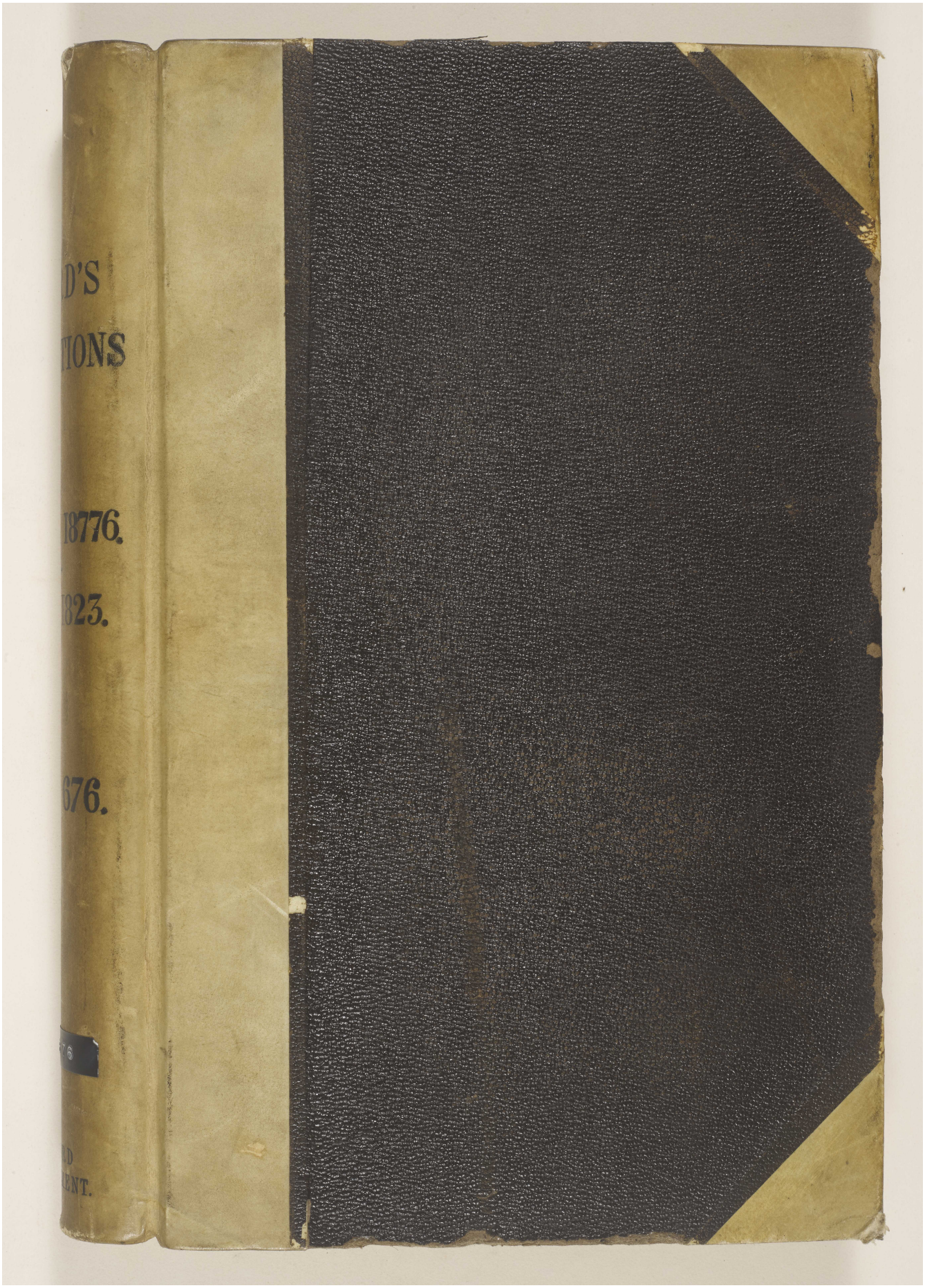

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‘Survey of the Western Shore of the Persian Gulph’ [tail] (6/142)



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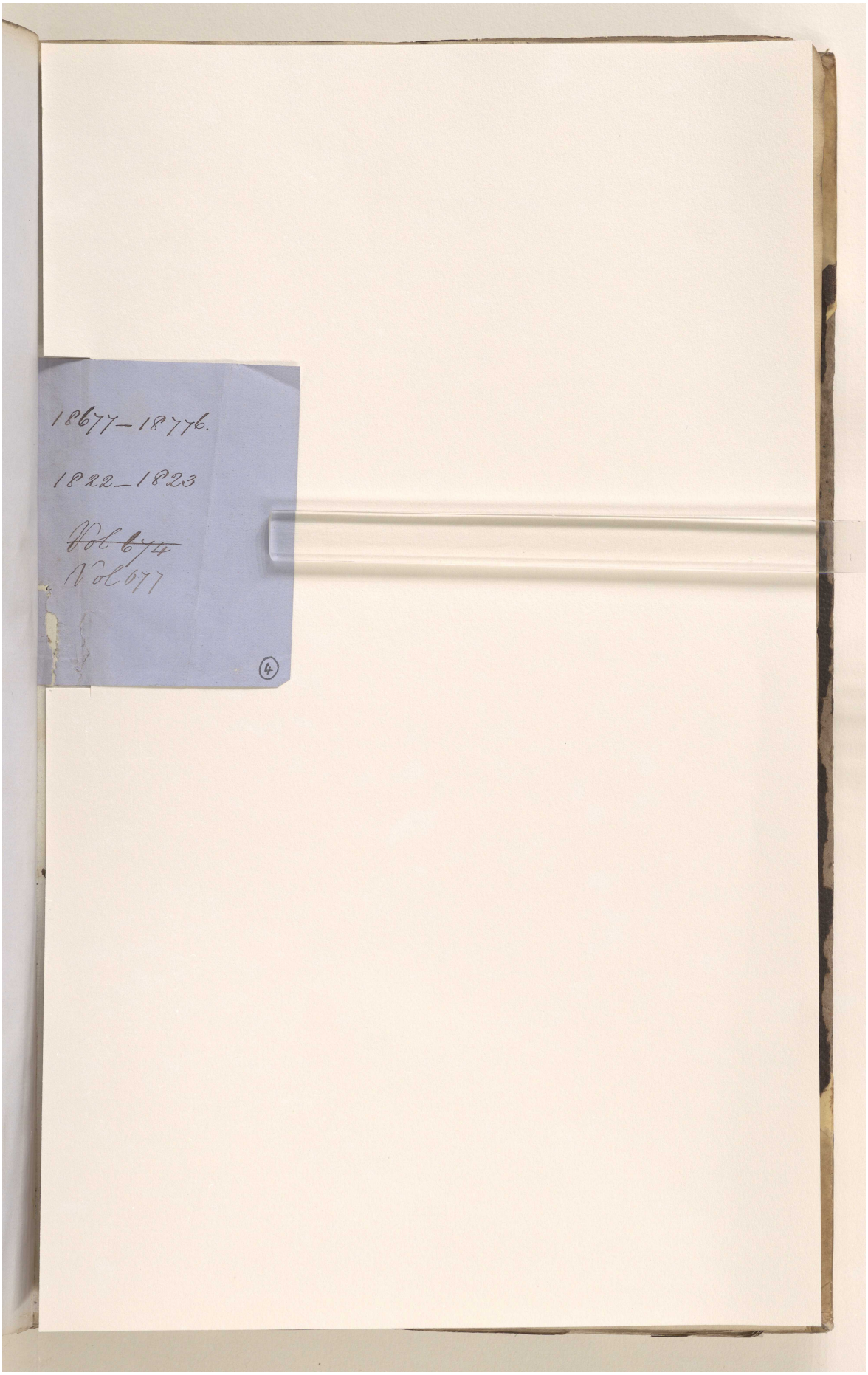

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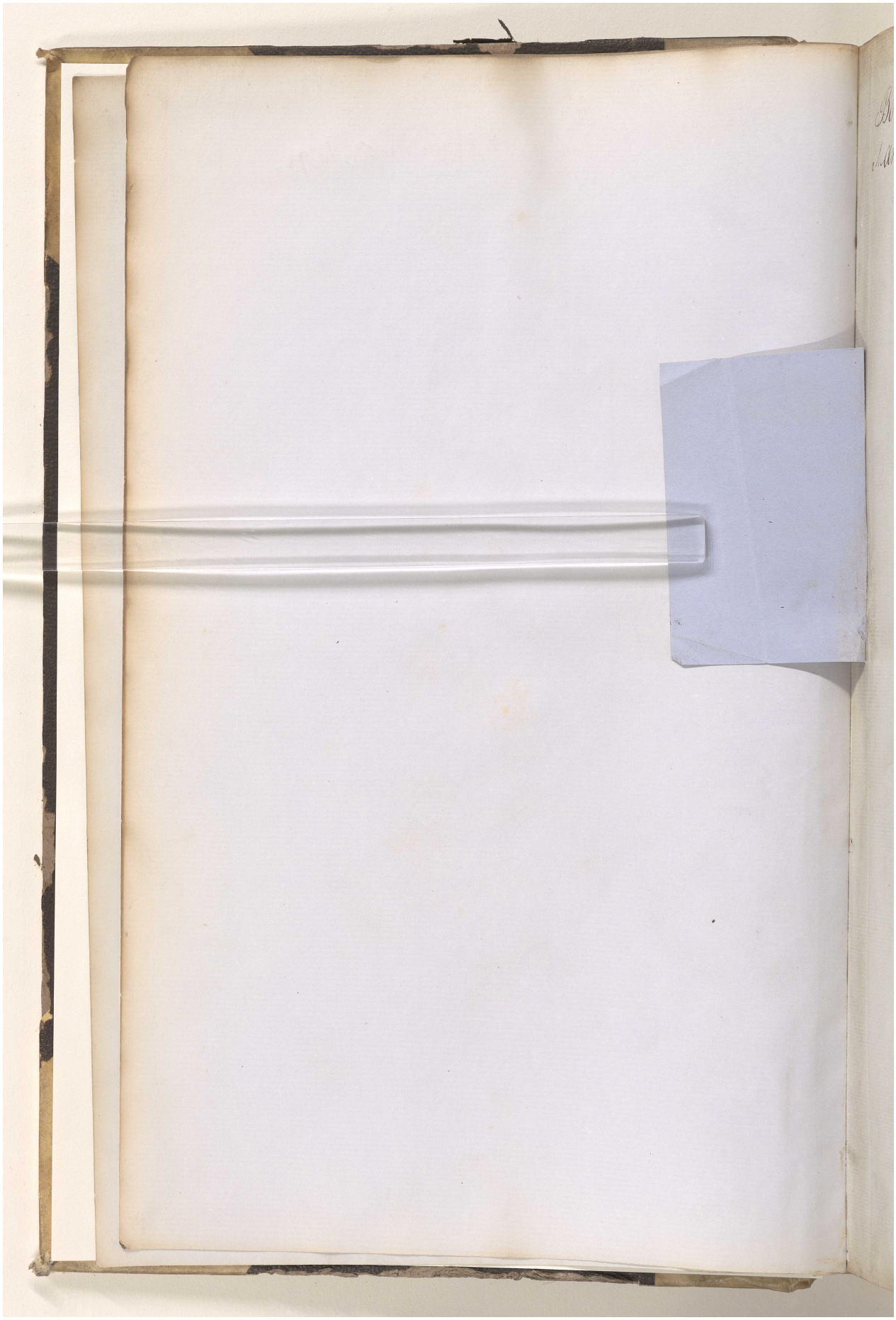

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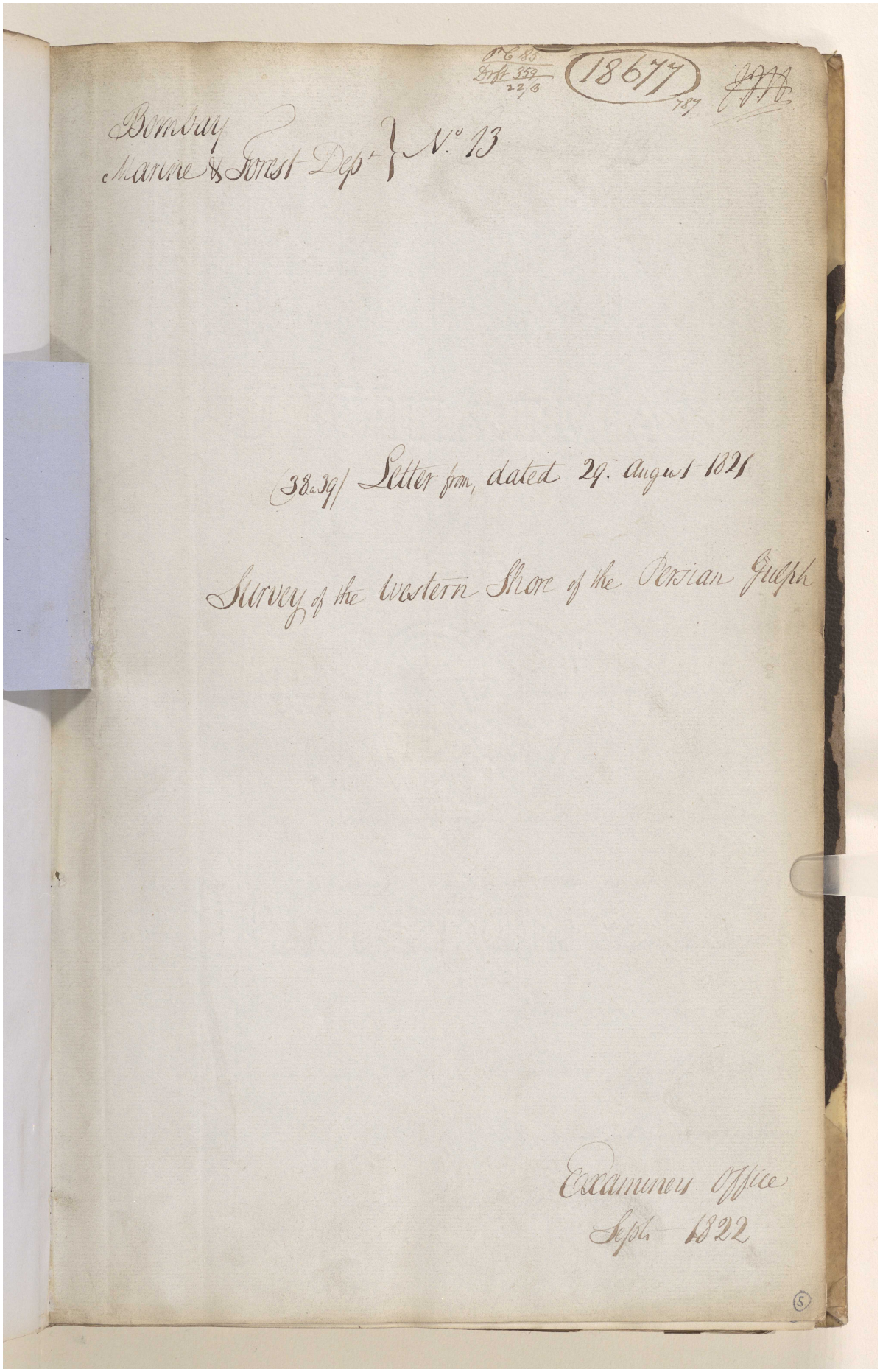

P C 85
Drft 359
22/3
18677
787

Bombay
Marine & Forest Dep^t } N.° 13

(38 a 39) Letter from, dated 29. August 1821

Survey of the Western Shore of the Persian Gulph

Examiners Office
Sept. 1822

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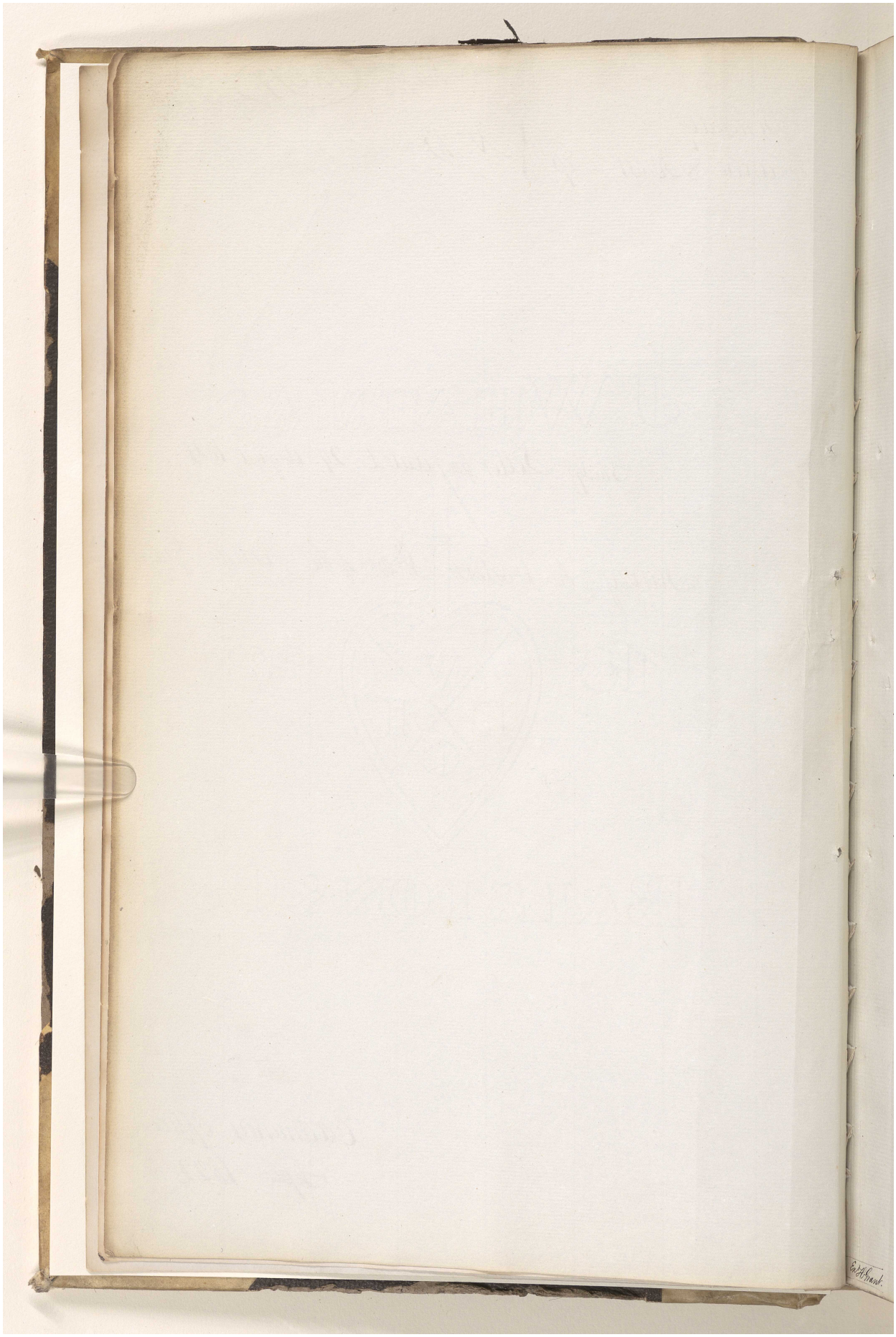

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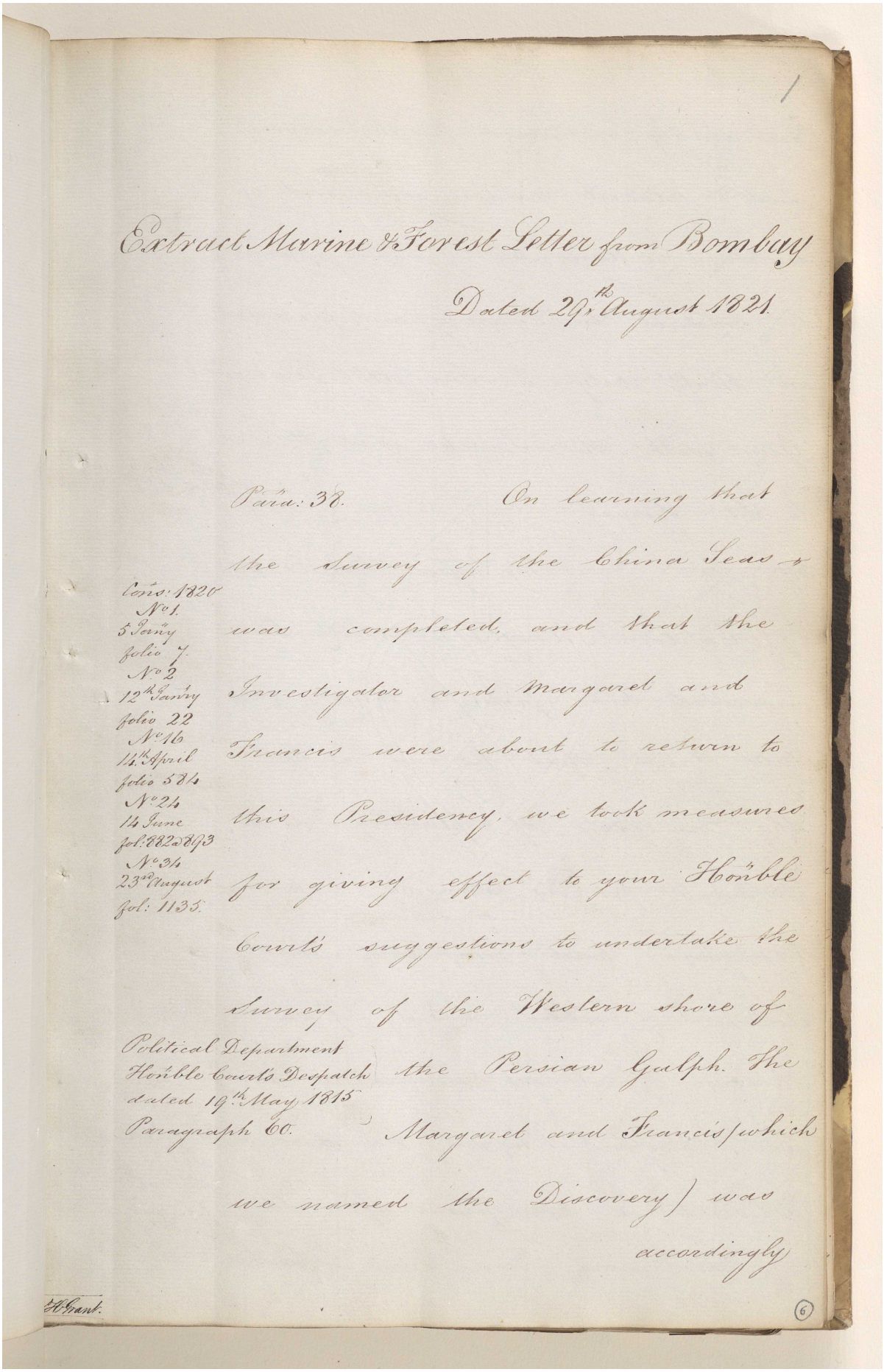


Extract Marine & Forest Letter from Bombay

Dated 29th August 1821.

Para: 38. On learning that

the Survey of the China Seas

Cons: 1820
No 1.
5 Jany
folio 7.
No 2
12th Jany
folio 22
No 16
14th April
folio 584
No 24
14 June
fol: 882 & 893
No 34
23d August
fol: 1135.

was completed, and that the

Investigator and Margaret and

Francis were about to return to

this Presidency, we took measures

for giving effect to your Honble

Courts suggestions to undertake the

Survey of the Western shore of

Political Department
Honble Courts Despatch
dated 19th May 1815
Paragraph 60.

the Persian Gulph. The

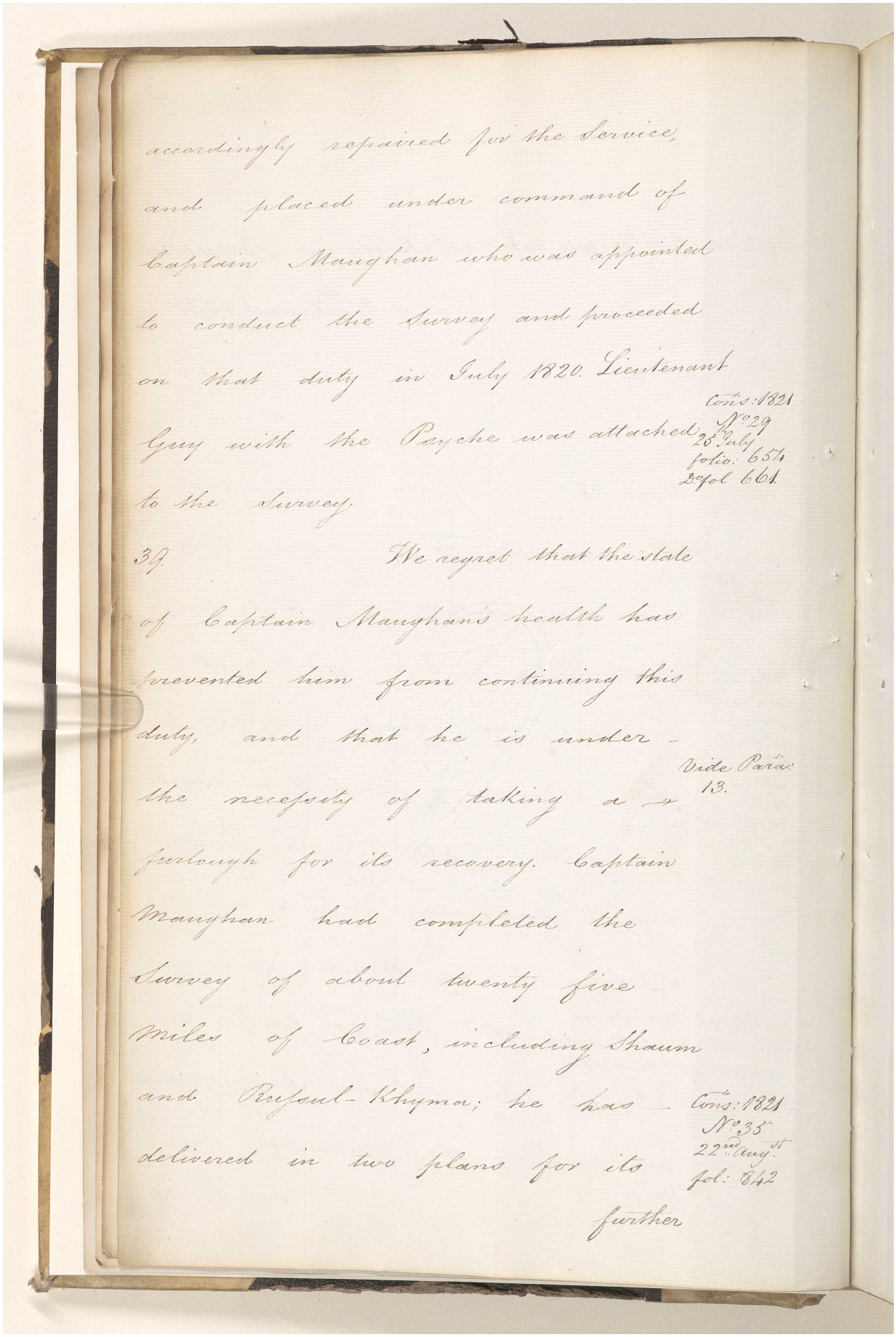
Margaret and Francis (which

we named the Discovery) was

accordingly

H Grant.

6



accordingly repaired for the Service,
and placed under command of
Captain Maughan who was appointed
to conduct the Survey and proceeded
on that duty in July 1820. Lieutenant
Guy with the Psyche was attached
to the Survey.

Cons: 1821
N°29
25 July
folio: 654
2d fol 661

39. We regret that the state
of Captain Maughan's health has
prevented him from continuing this
duty, and that he is under
the necessity of taking a
furlough for its recovery. Captain
Maughan had completed the
Survey of about twenty five
Miles of Coast, including Shaum
and Ruysul-Khyma; he has
delivered in two plans for its
further

Vide Para: 13.

Cons: 1821
N°35
22nd Aug.st
fol: 842

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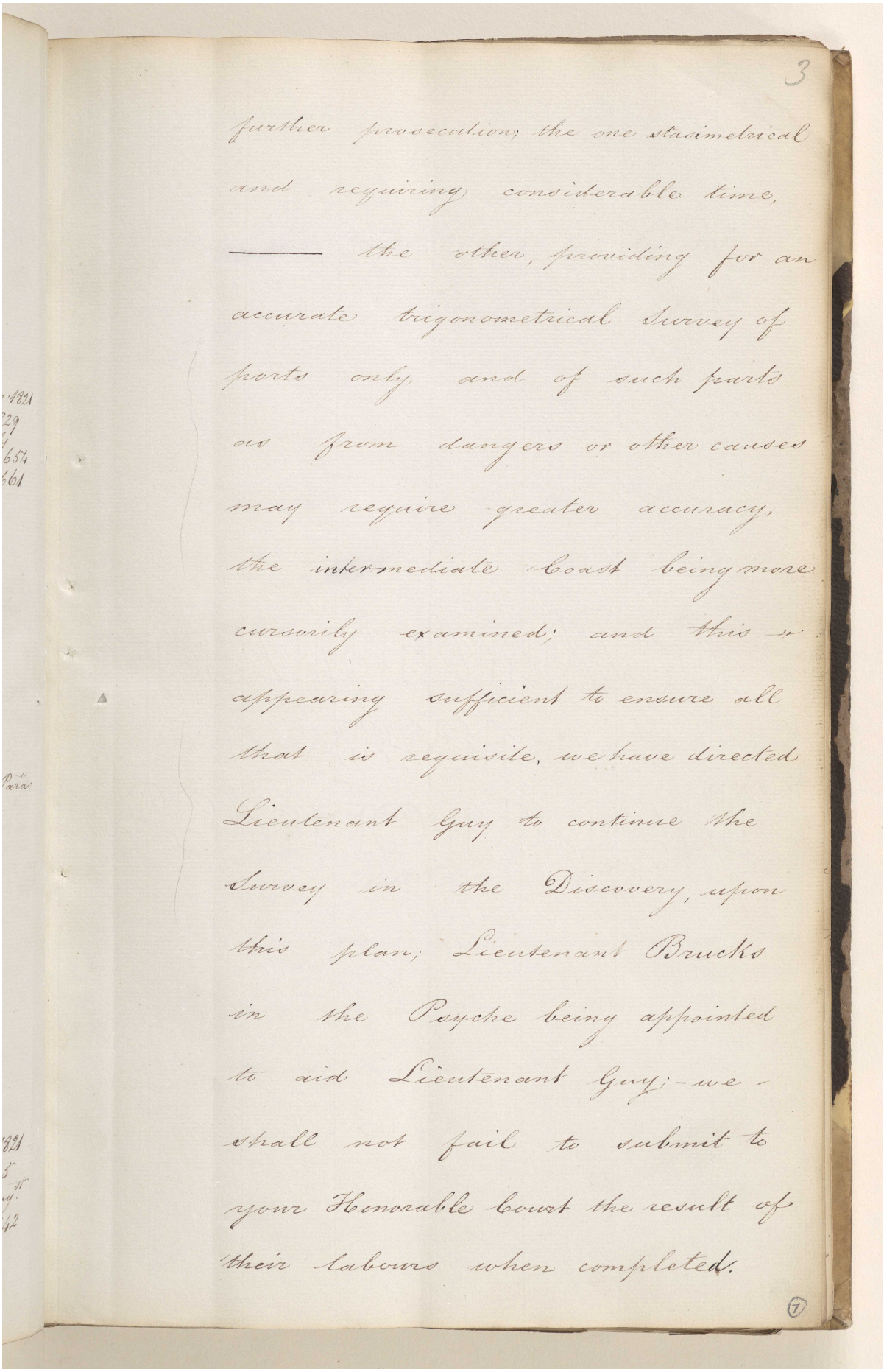

further prosecution; the one stasimetrical and requiring considerable time, —— the other, providing for an accurate trigonometrical Survey of ports only, and of such parts as from dangers or other causes may require greater accuracy, the intermediate Coast being more cursorily examined; and this appearing sufficient to ensure all that is requisite, we have directed Lieutenant Guy to continue the Survey in the Discovery, upon this plan; Lieutenant Brucks in the Psyche being appointed to aid Lieutenant Guy;-we shall not fail to submit to your Honorable Court the result of their labours when completed.

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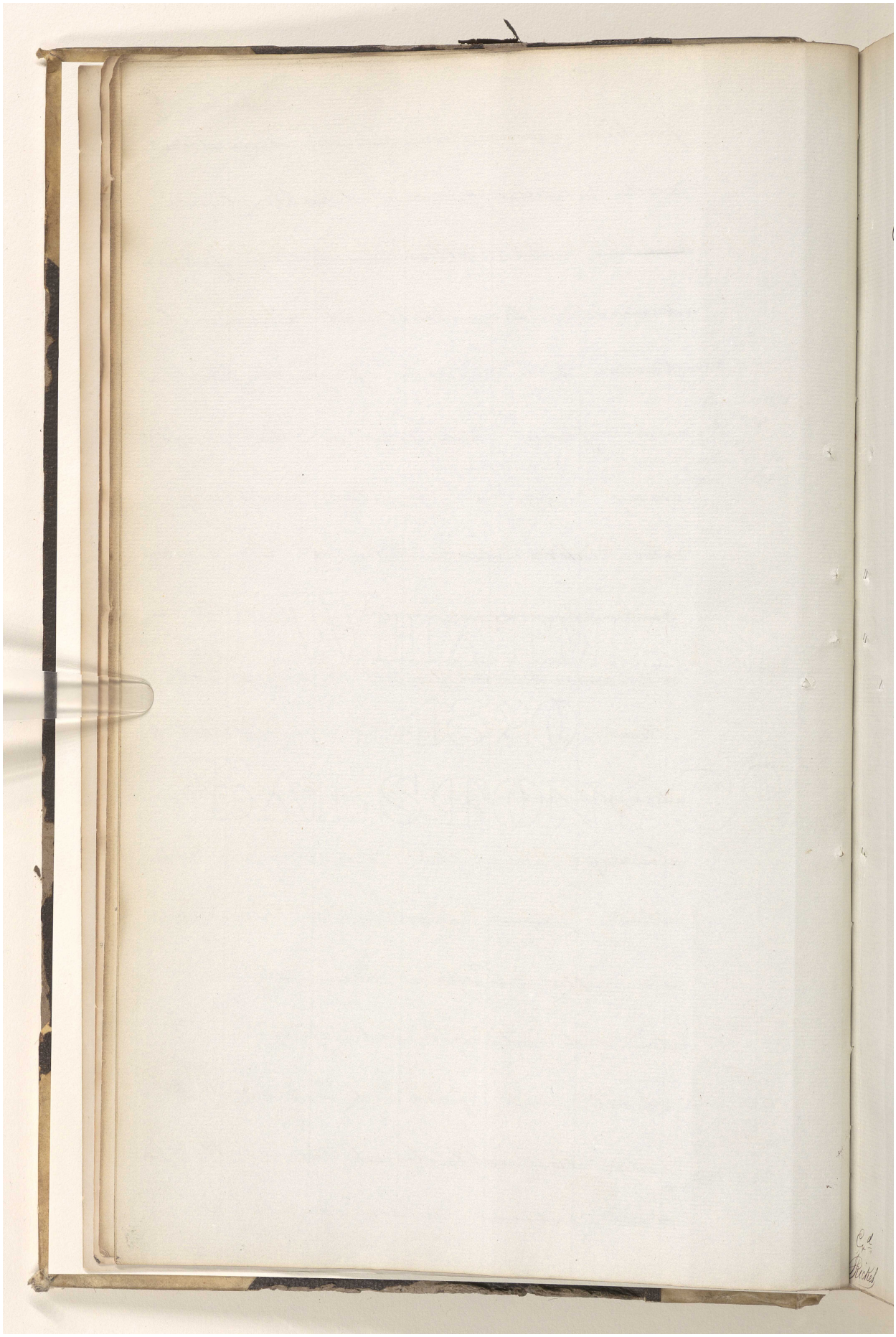

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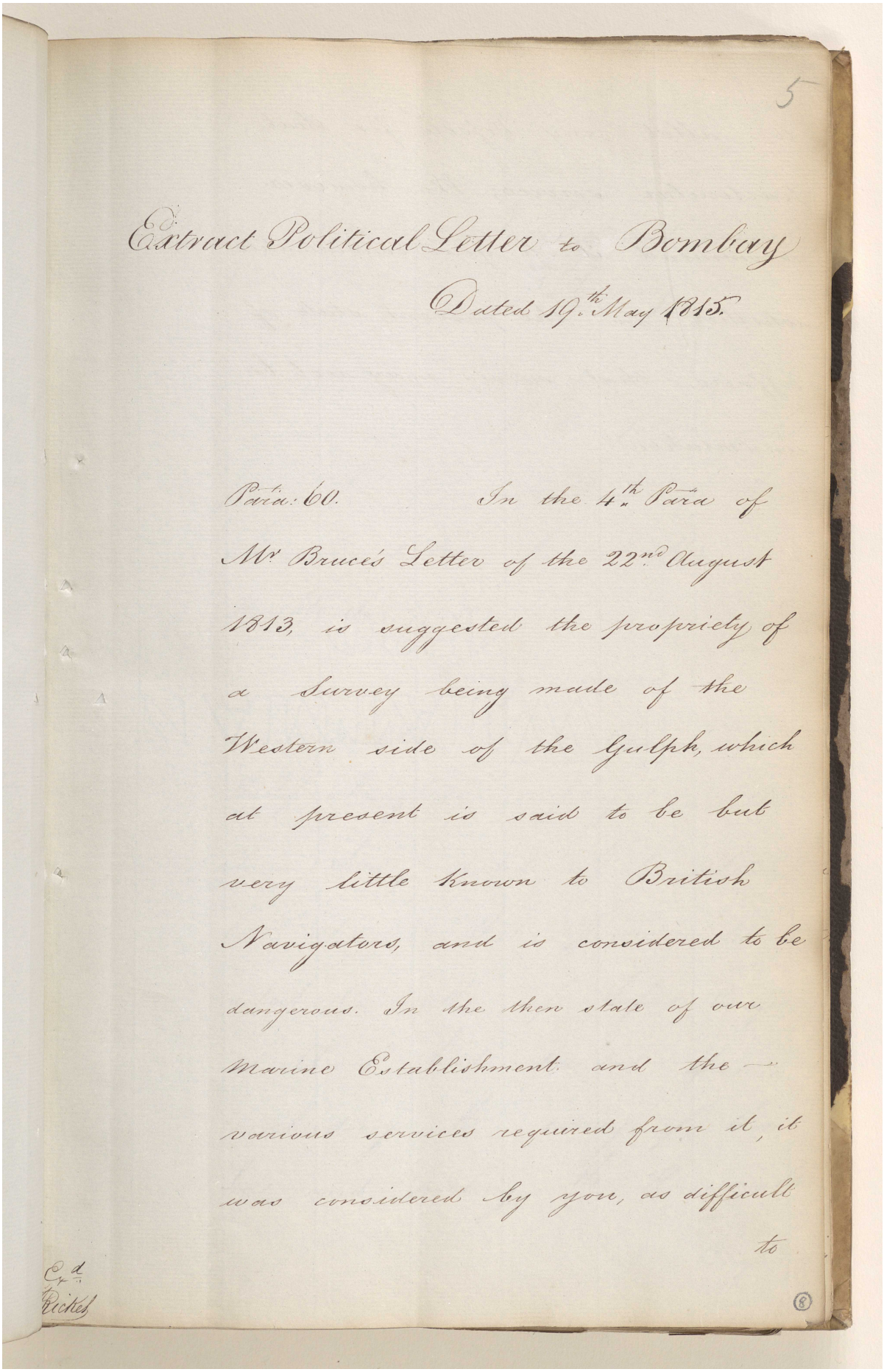

5

Extract Political Letter to Bombay

Dated 19th May 1815.

Para: 60. In the 4th Para of Mr Bruce's Letter of the 22nd August 1813, is suggested the propriety of a Survey being made of the Western side of the Gulph, which at present is said to be but very little known to British Navigators, and is considered to be dangerous. In the then state of our Marine Establishment and the various services required from it, it was considered by you, as difficult to

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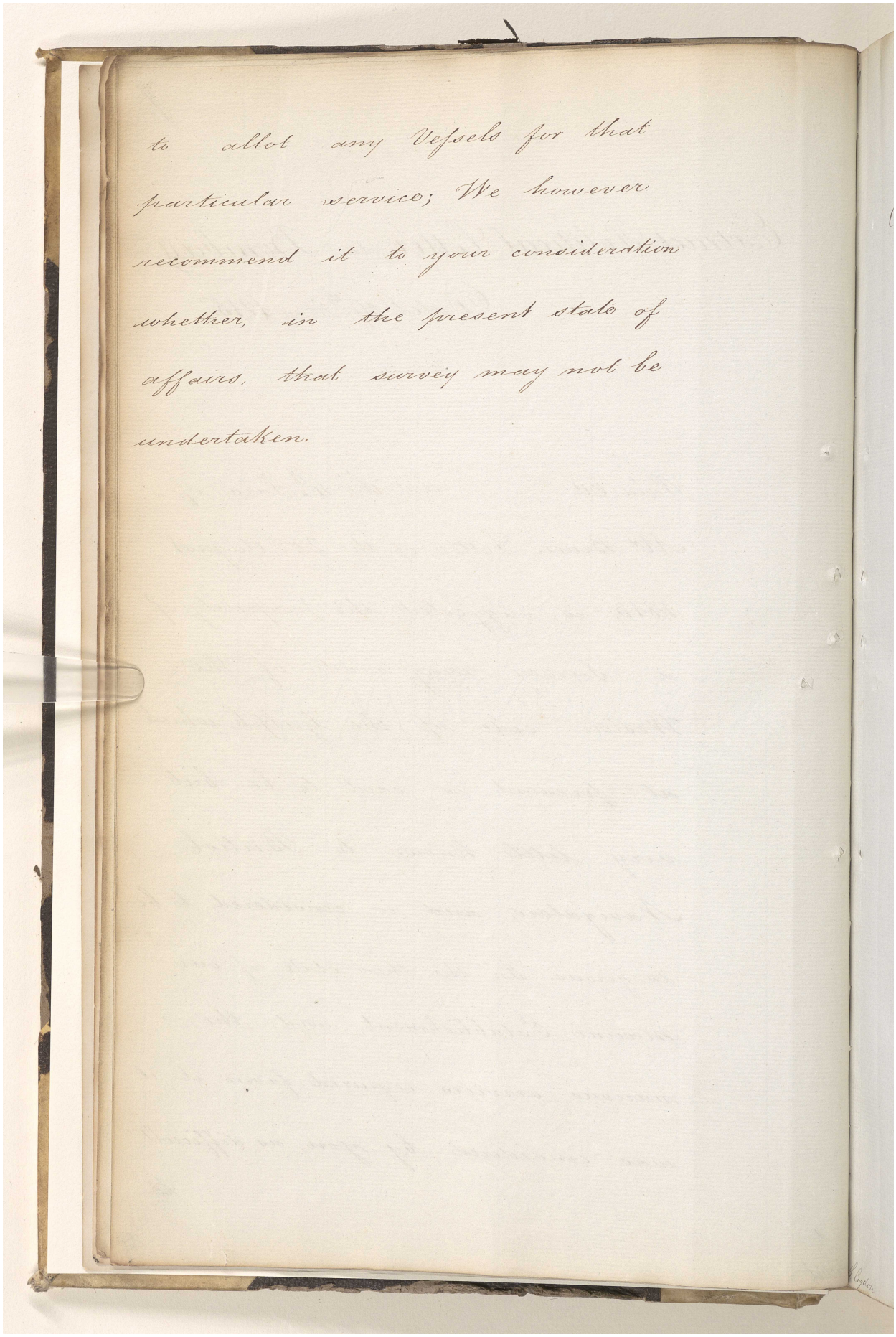

to allot any Vessels for that particular service; We however recommend it to your consideration whether, in the present state of affairs, that survey may not be undertaken.

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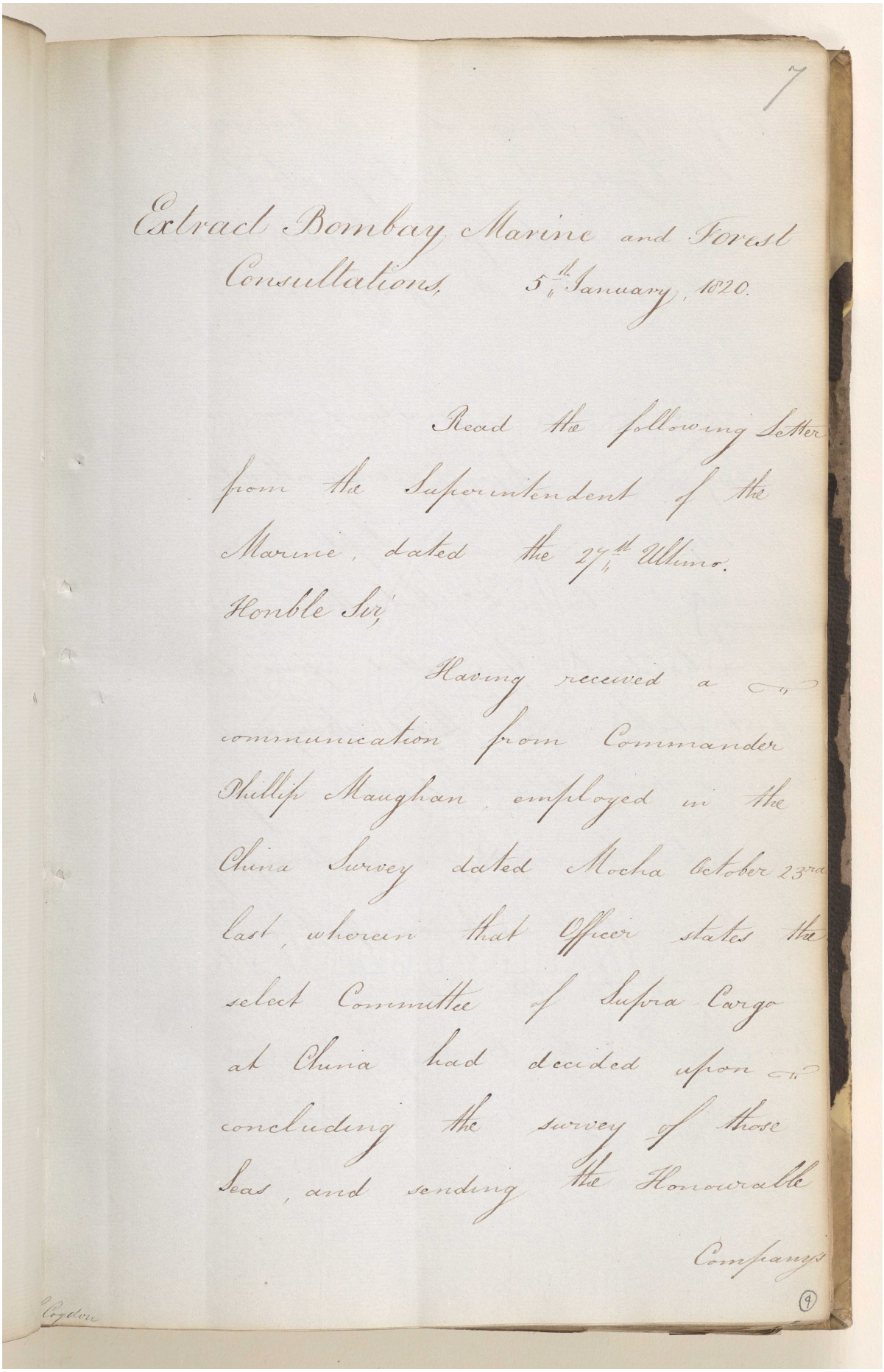

7

Extract Bombay Marine and Forest Consultations. 5th January, 1820.

Read the following Letter from the Superintendent of the Marine, dated the 27th Ultimo.

Honble Sir,

Having received a communication from Commander Phillip Maughan employed in the China Survey dated Mocha October 23rd last, wherein that Officer states the select Committee of Supra Cargo at China had decided upon concluding the survey of those Seas, and sending the Honourable Companys

Cyclone

(9)

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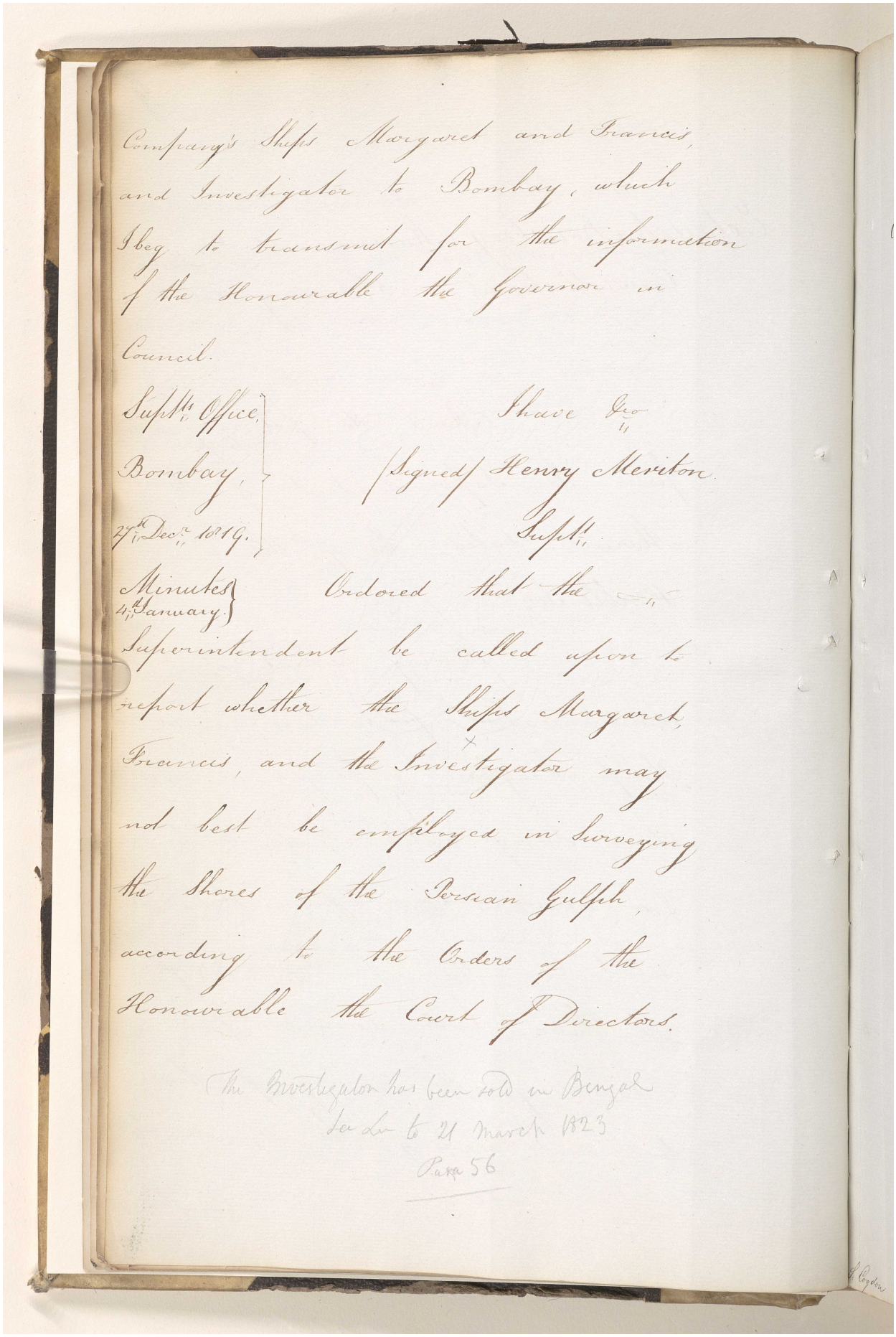


Company's Ships Margaret and Francis, and Investigator to Bombay, which I beg to transmit for the information of the Honourable the Governor in Council.

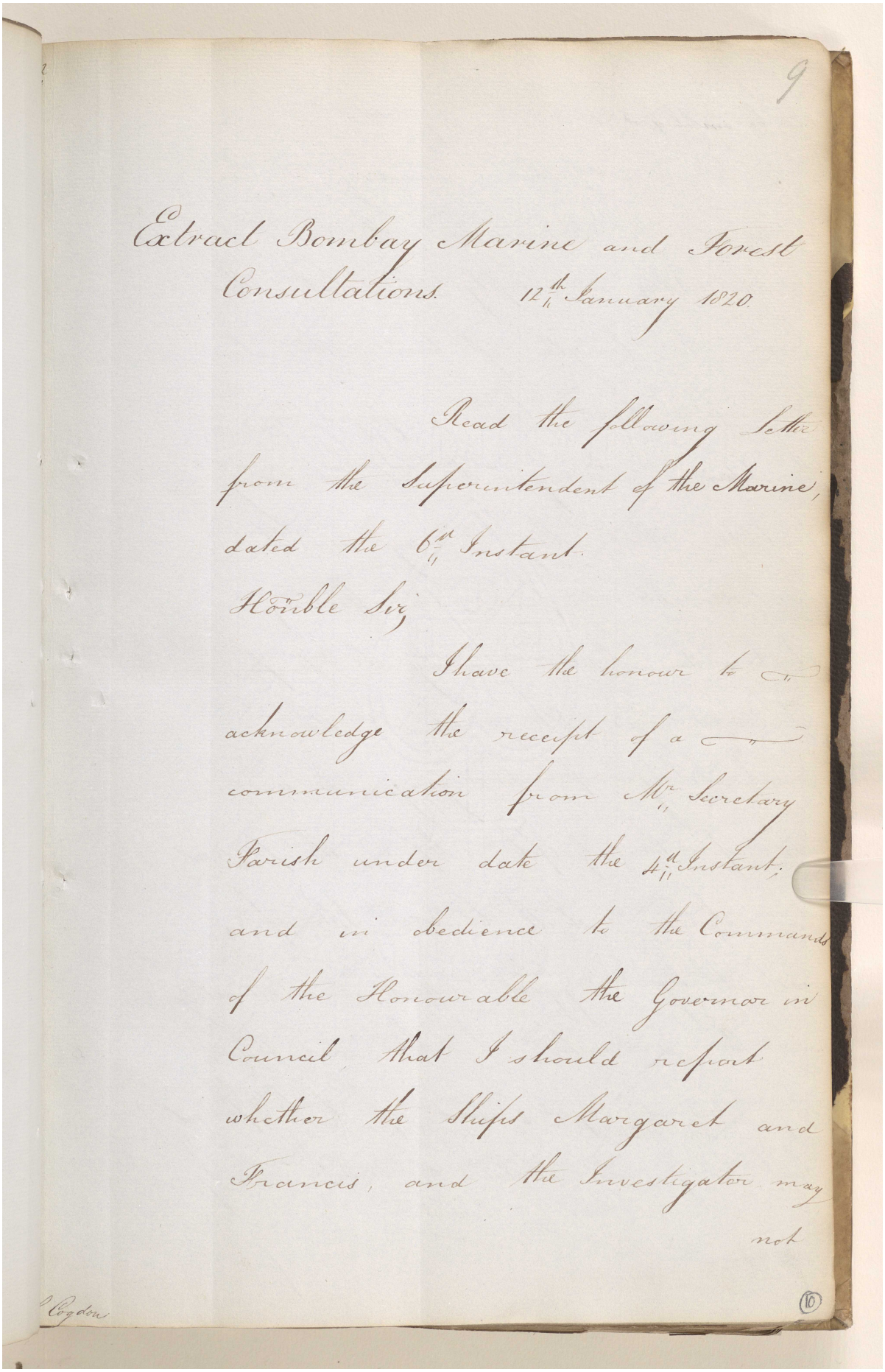
Supt.ts Office, Bombay, 27th Decr. 1819.

I have &c.
(Signed) Henry Meriton
Supt.

Minutes 4th January.

Ordered that the Superintendent be called upon to report whether the Ships Margaret, Francis, and the Investigator may not best be employed in Surveying the Shores of the Persian Gulph, according to the Orders of the Honourable the Court of Directors.

The Investigator has been sold in Bengal
See Ln to 21 March 1823
Para 56



9

Extract Bombay Marine and Forest Consultations. 12th January 1820.

Read the following Letter from the Superintendent of the Marine, dated the 6th Instant.

Honble Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a communication from Mr. Secretary Parish under date the 4th Instant; and in obedience to the Commands of the Honourable the Governor in Council, that I should report whether the Ships Margaret and Francis, and the Investigator may not

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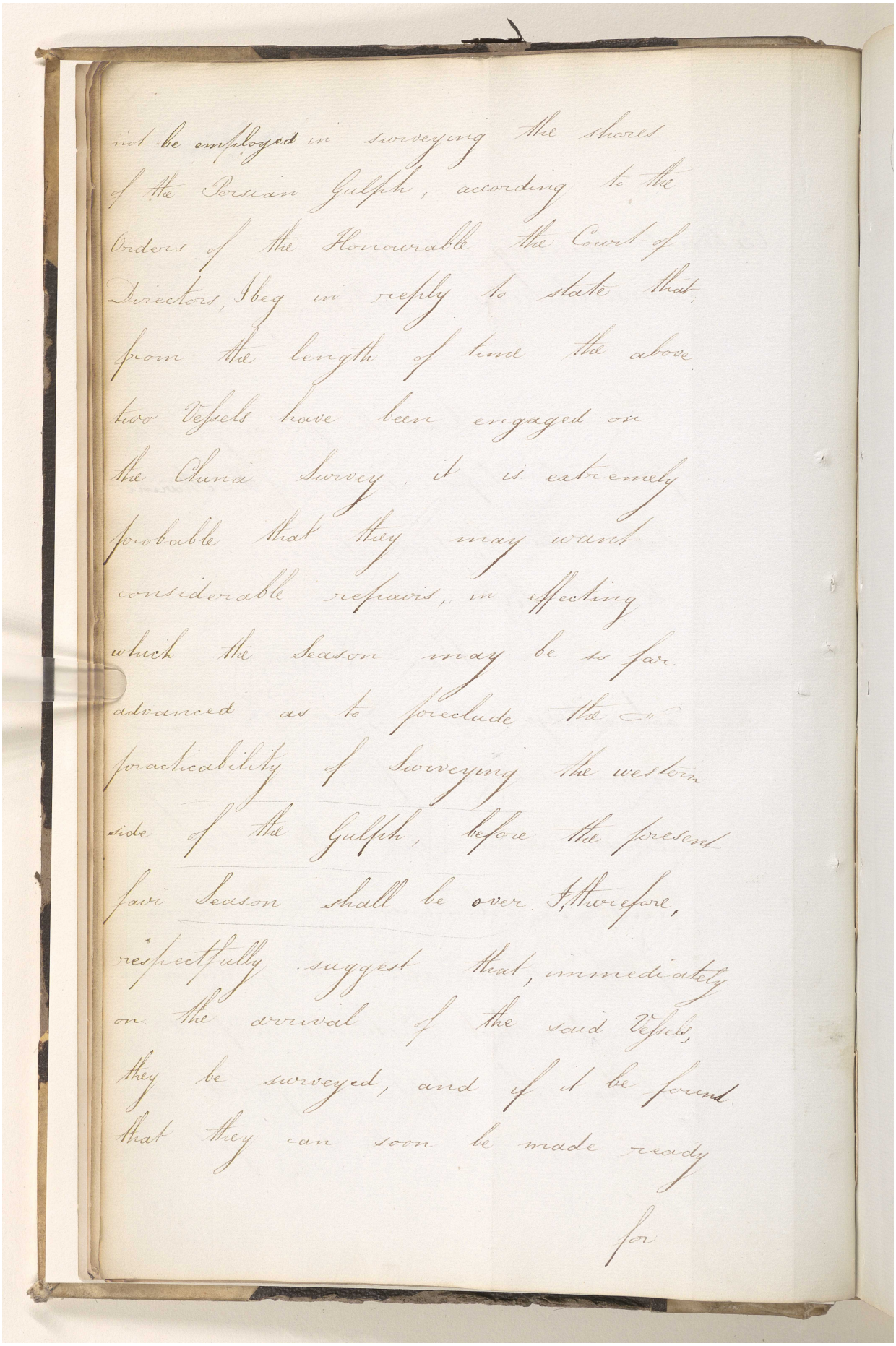
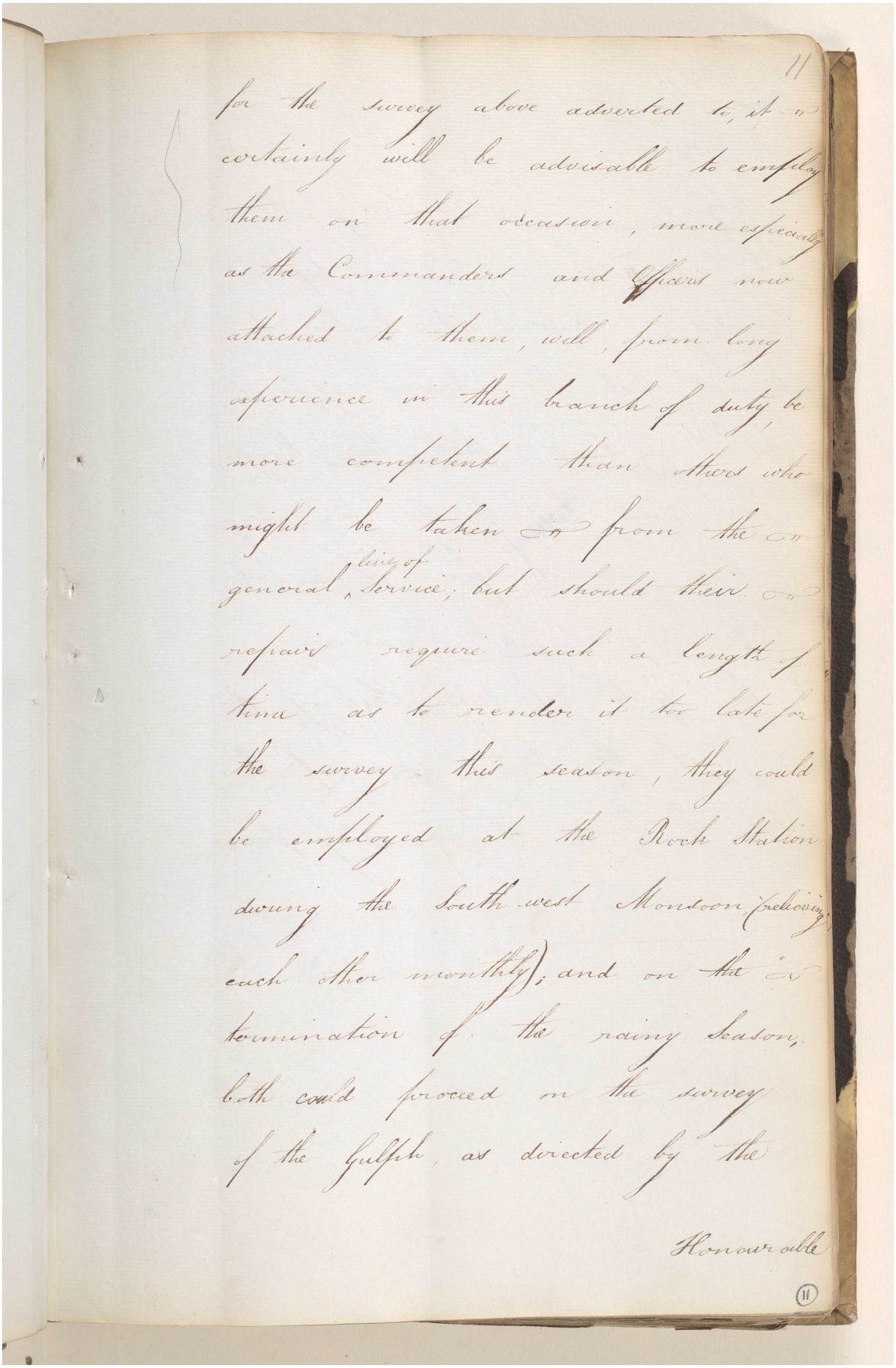


not be employed in surveying the shores of the Persian Gulph, according to the Orders of the Honourable the Court of Directors, I beg in reply to state that, from the length of time the above two Vessels have been engaged on the China Survey, it is extremely probable that they may want considerable repairs, in effecting which the Season may be so far advanced as to preclude the practicability of Surveying the western side of the Gulph, before the present fair Season shall be over. I, therefore, respectfully suggest that, immediately on the arrival of the said Vessels, they be surveyed, and if it be found that they can soon be made ready for

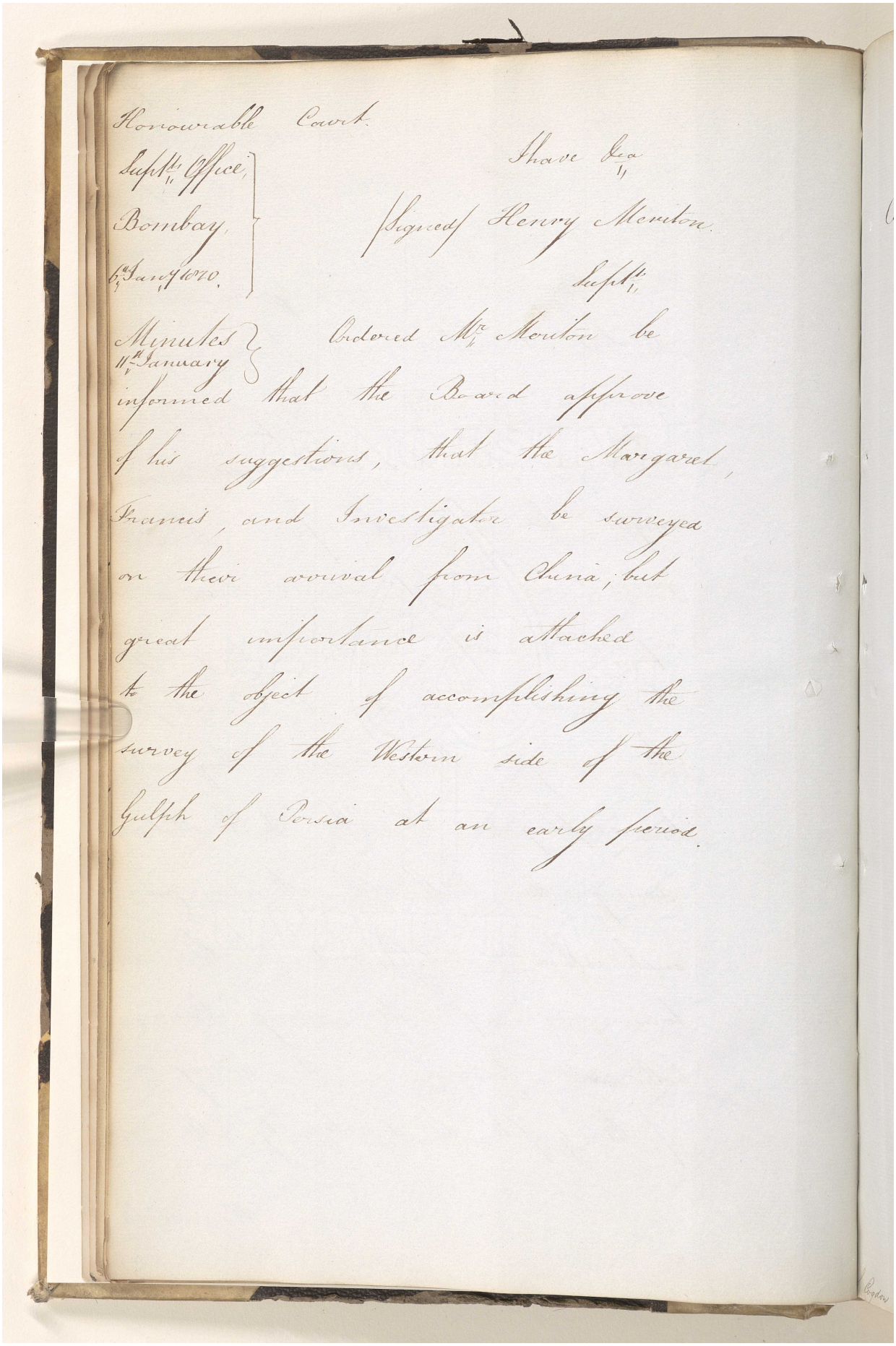


11

for the survey above adverted to, it
certainly will be advisable to employ
them on that occasion, more especially
as the Commanders and Officers now
attached to them, will, from long
experience in this branch of duty, be
more competent than others who
might be taken from the
general line of Service; but should their
repairs require such a length of
time as to render it too late for
the survey this season, they could
be employed at the Rock Station
during the South west Monsoon (relieving
each other monthly); and on the
termination of the rainy Season,
both could proceed on the survey
of the Gulph, as directed by the

Honourable

(11)



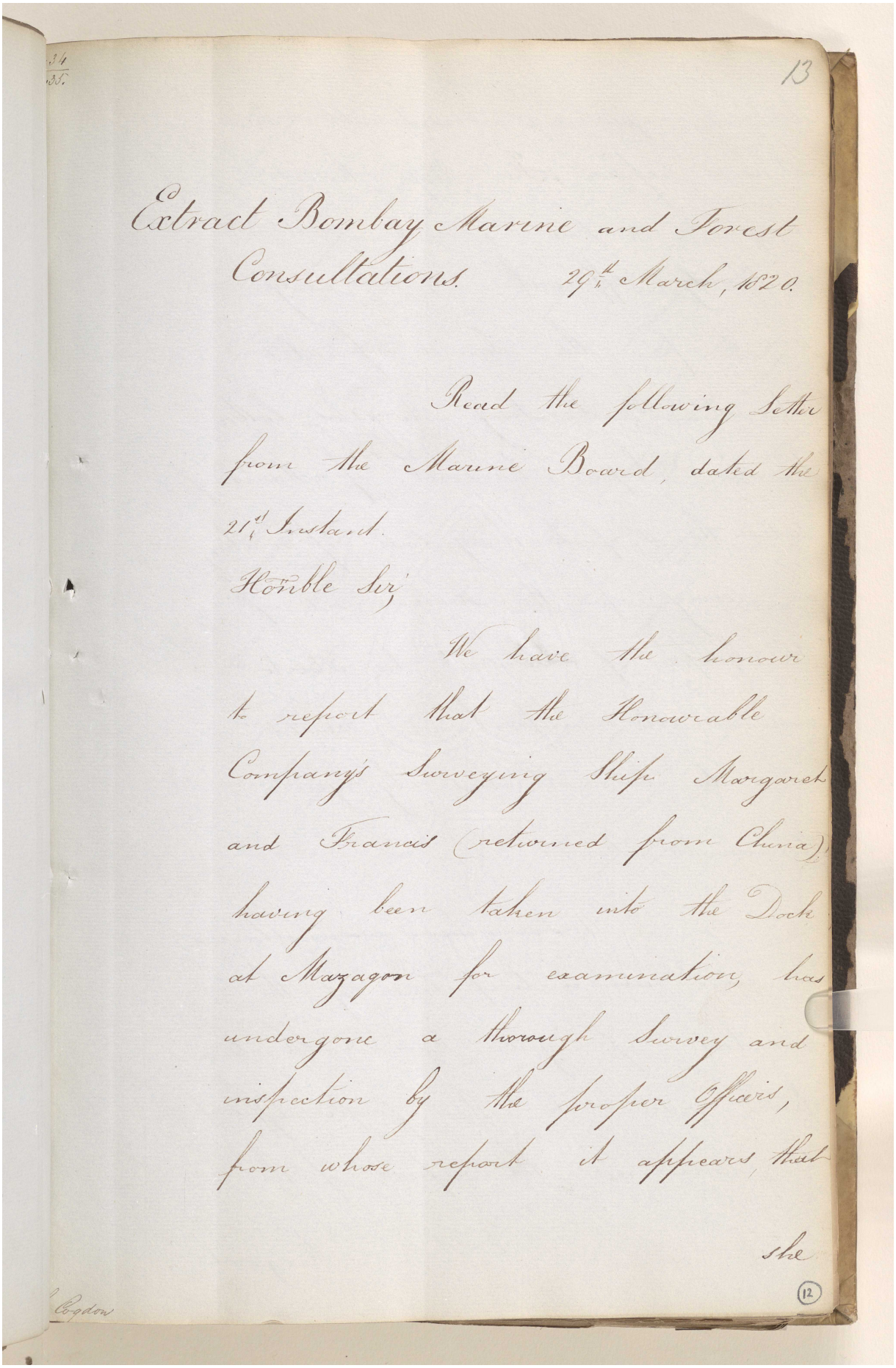
Honourable Court.

Supt.ts Office,
Bombay,
6th Jany 1870.

I have &c.a
(Signed) Henry Meriton
Supt.t

Minutes
11th January

Ordered Mr Meriton be informed that the Board approve of his suggestions, that the Margaret, Francis, and Investigator be surveyed on their arrival from China; but great importance is attached to the object of accomplishing the survey of the Western side of the Gulph of Persia at an early period.



13

Extract Bombay Marine and Forest Consultations. 29th March, 1820.

Read the following Letter from the Marine Board, dated the 21st Instant.

Honble Sir,

We have the honour to report that the Honorable Company's Surveying Ships Margaret and Francis (returned from China), having been taken into the Dock at Mazagon for examination, has undergone a thorough Survey and inspection by the proper Officers, from whose report it appears that

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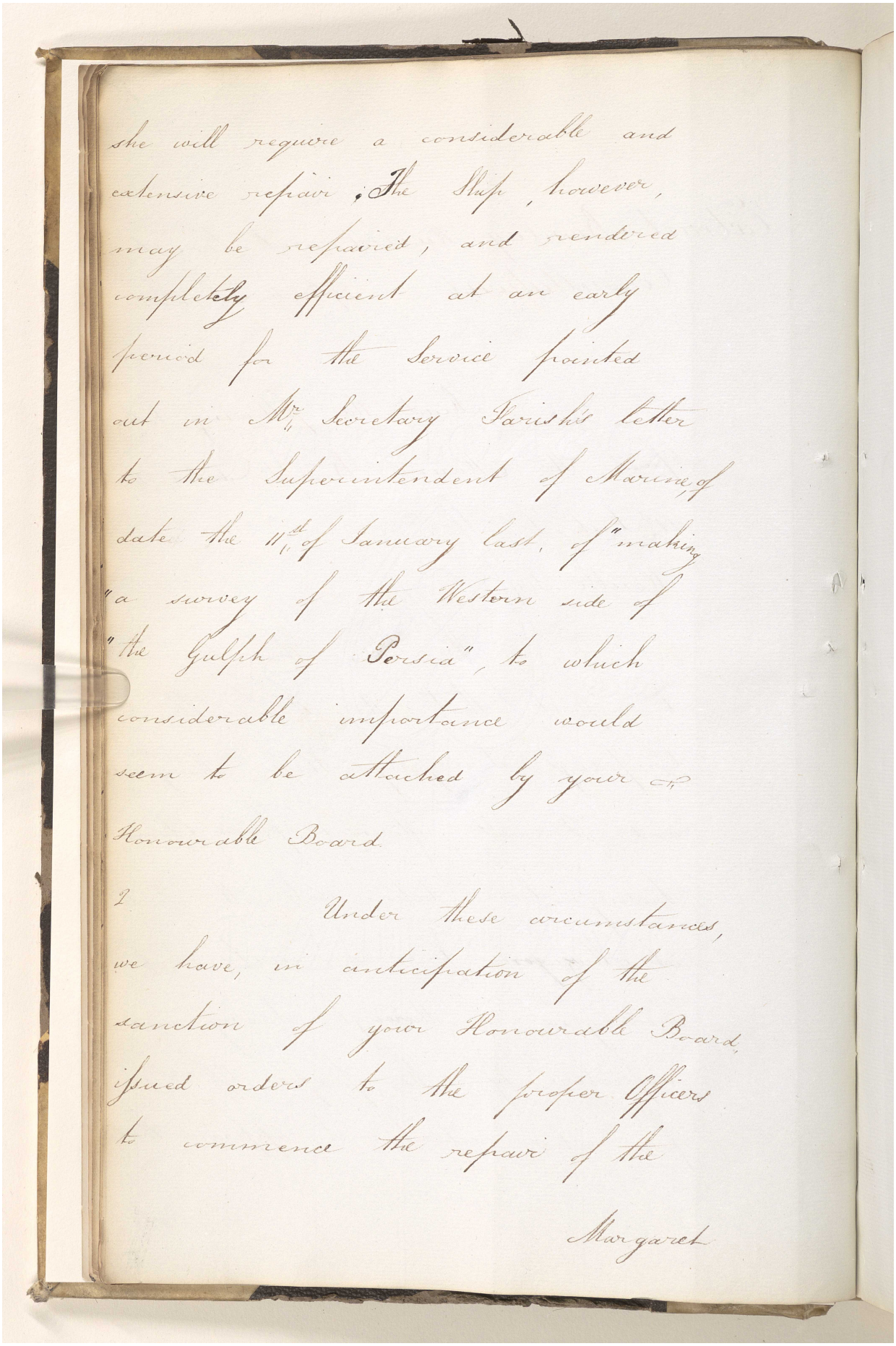

she will require a considerable and
extensive repair; The Ship, however,
may be repaired, and rendered
completely efficient at an early
period for the Service pointed
out in Mr. Secretary Farish's letter
to the Superintendent of Marine, of
date the 11th of January last, of "making
"a survey of the Western side of
"the Gulph of Persia", to which
considerable importance would
seem to be attached by your
Honourable Board.

2 Under these circumstances,
we have, in anticipation of the
sanction of your Honourable Board,
issued orders to the proper Officers
to commence the repair of the

Margaret

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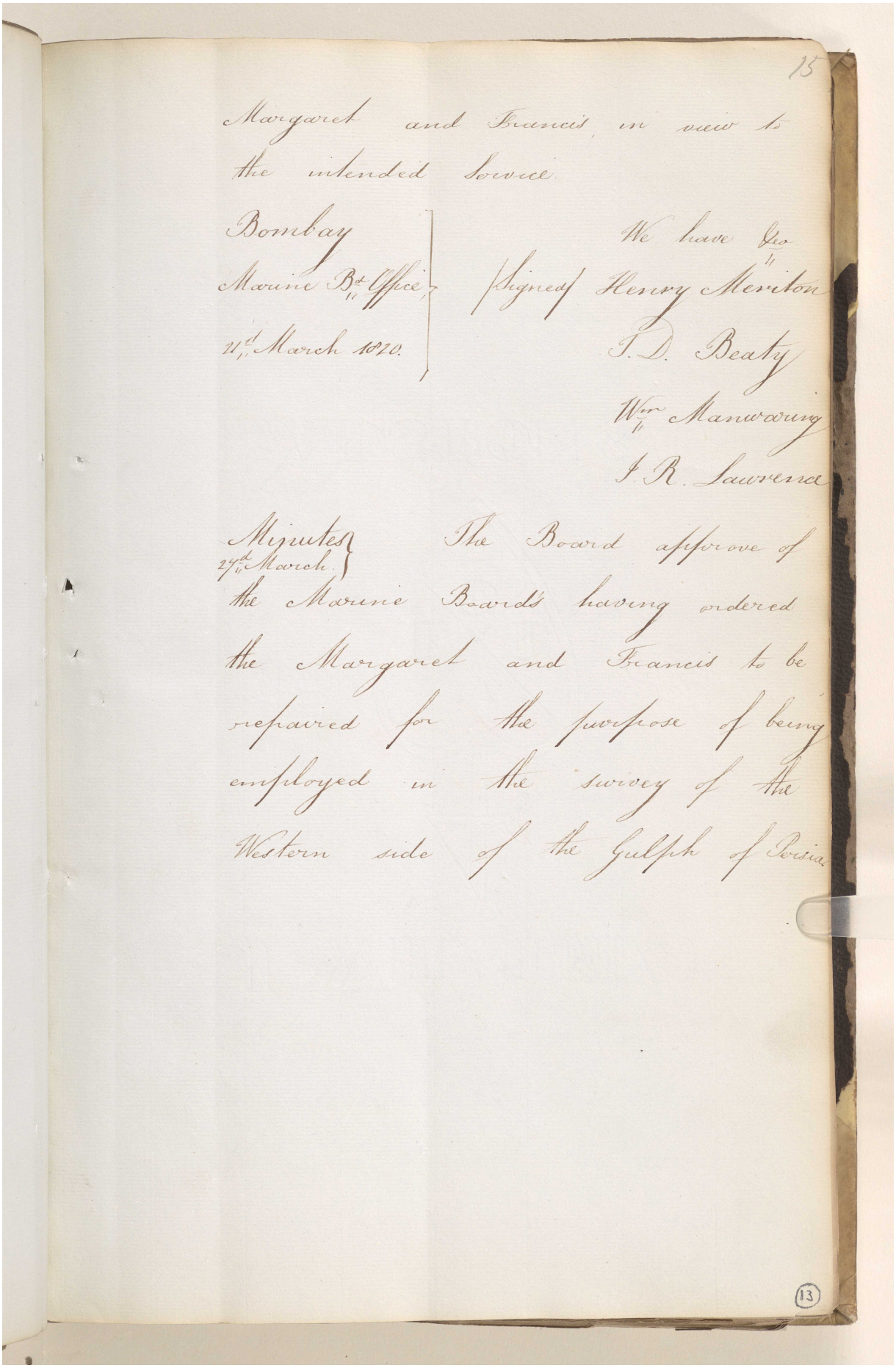

Margaret and Francis, in view to the intended Service.

Bombay
Marine Bd. Office,
21st March 1820.

We have &c.
(Signed) Henry Meriton
T. D. Beaty
Wm. Manwaring
J. R. Lawrence

Minutes
27th March.

The Board approve of the Marine Board's having ordered the Margaret and Francis to be repaired for the purpose of being employed in the survey of the Western side of the Gulph of Persia.

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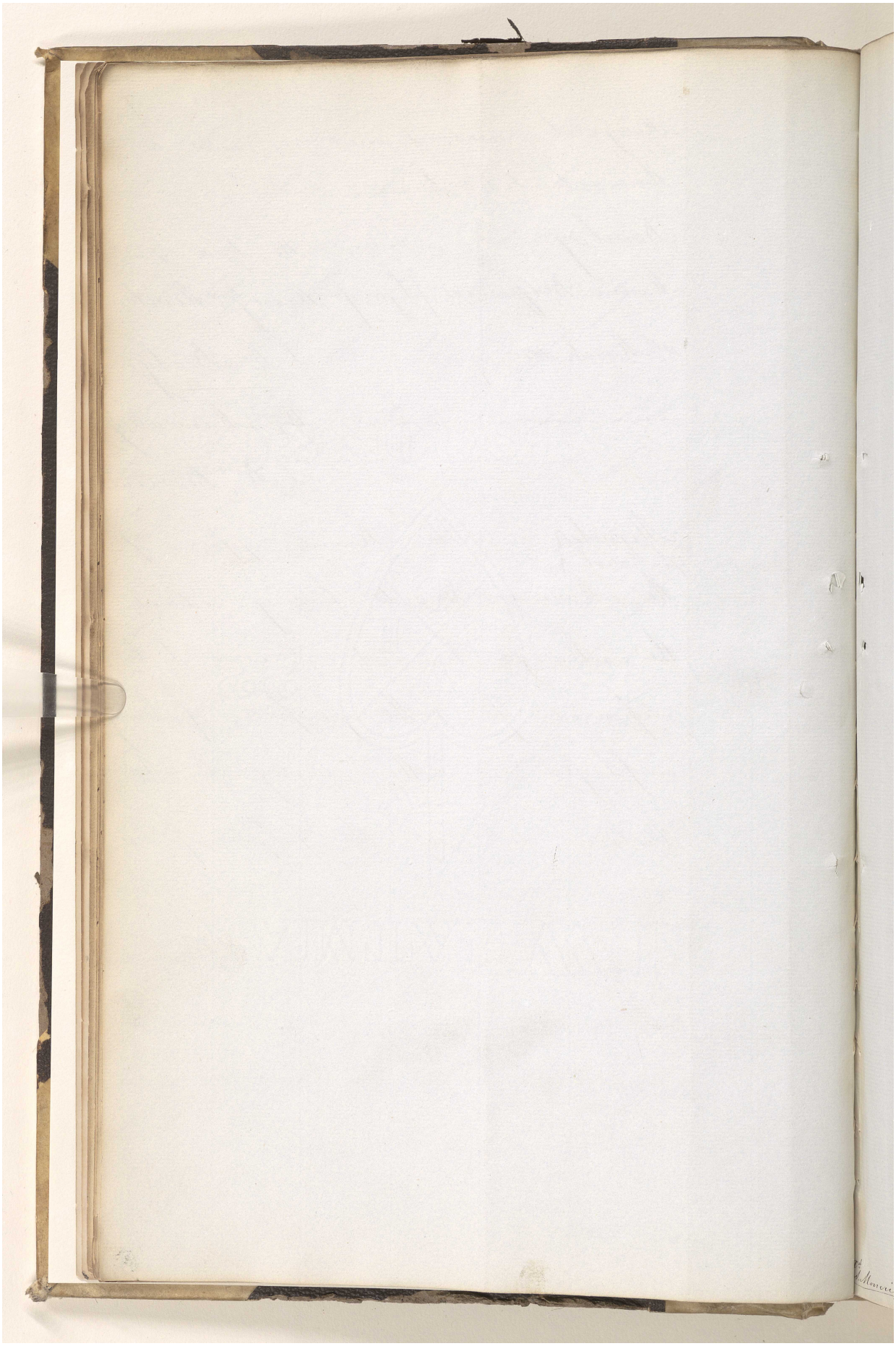

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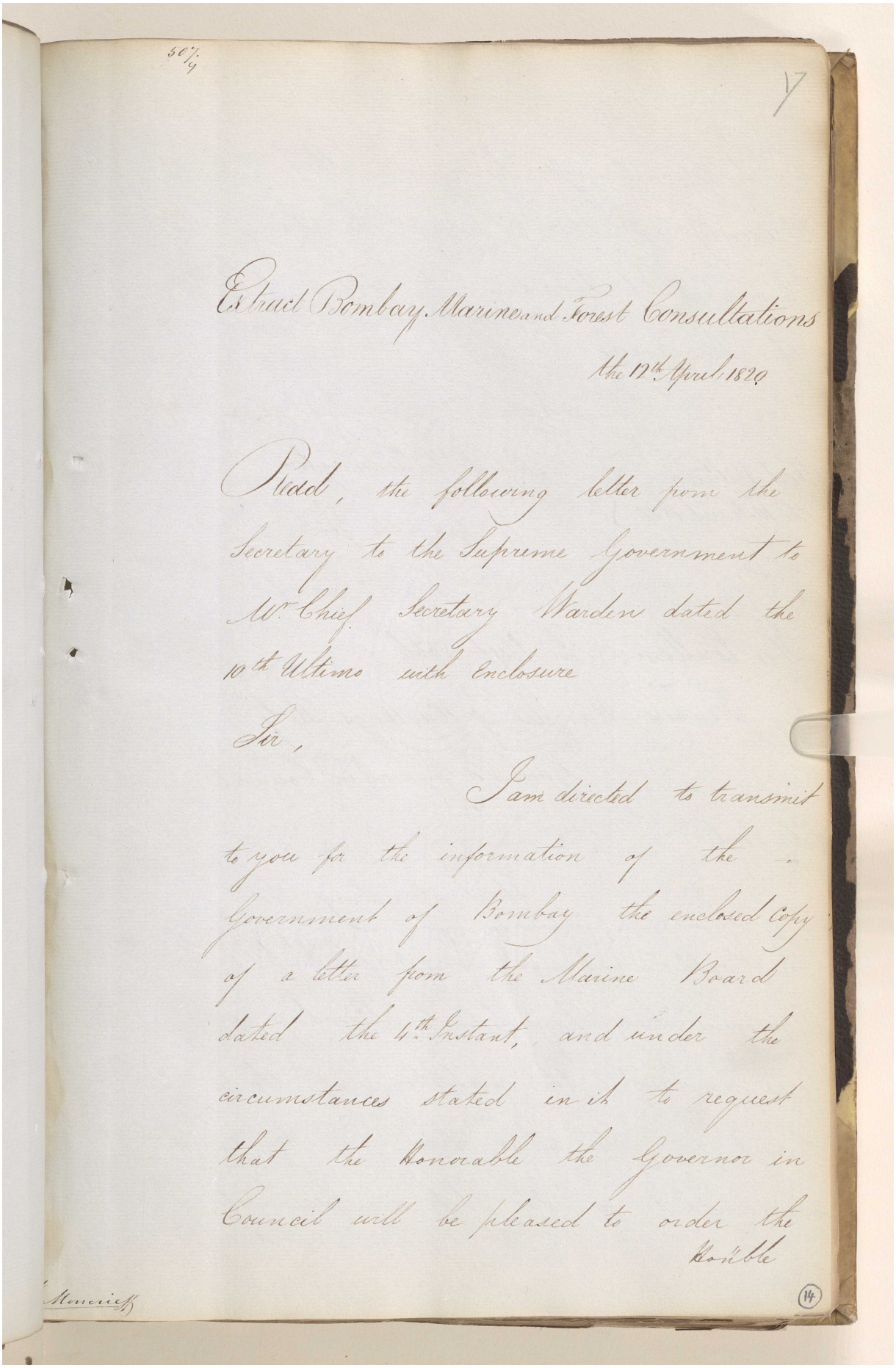

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17

Extract Bombay Marine and Forest Consultations

the 12th April 1820

Read, the following letter from the Secretary to the Supreme Government to Mr Chief Secretary Warden dated the 10th Ultimo with Enclosure

Sir,

I am directed to transmit to you for the information of the Government of Bombay the enclosed Copy of a letter from the Marine Board dated the 4th Instant, and under the circumstances stated in it to request that the Honorable the Governor in Council will be pleased to order the Hon'ble

Moncrieff

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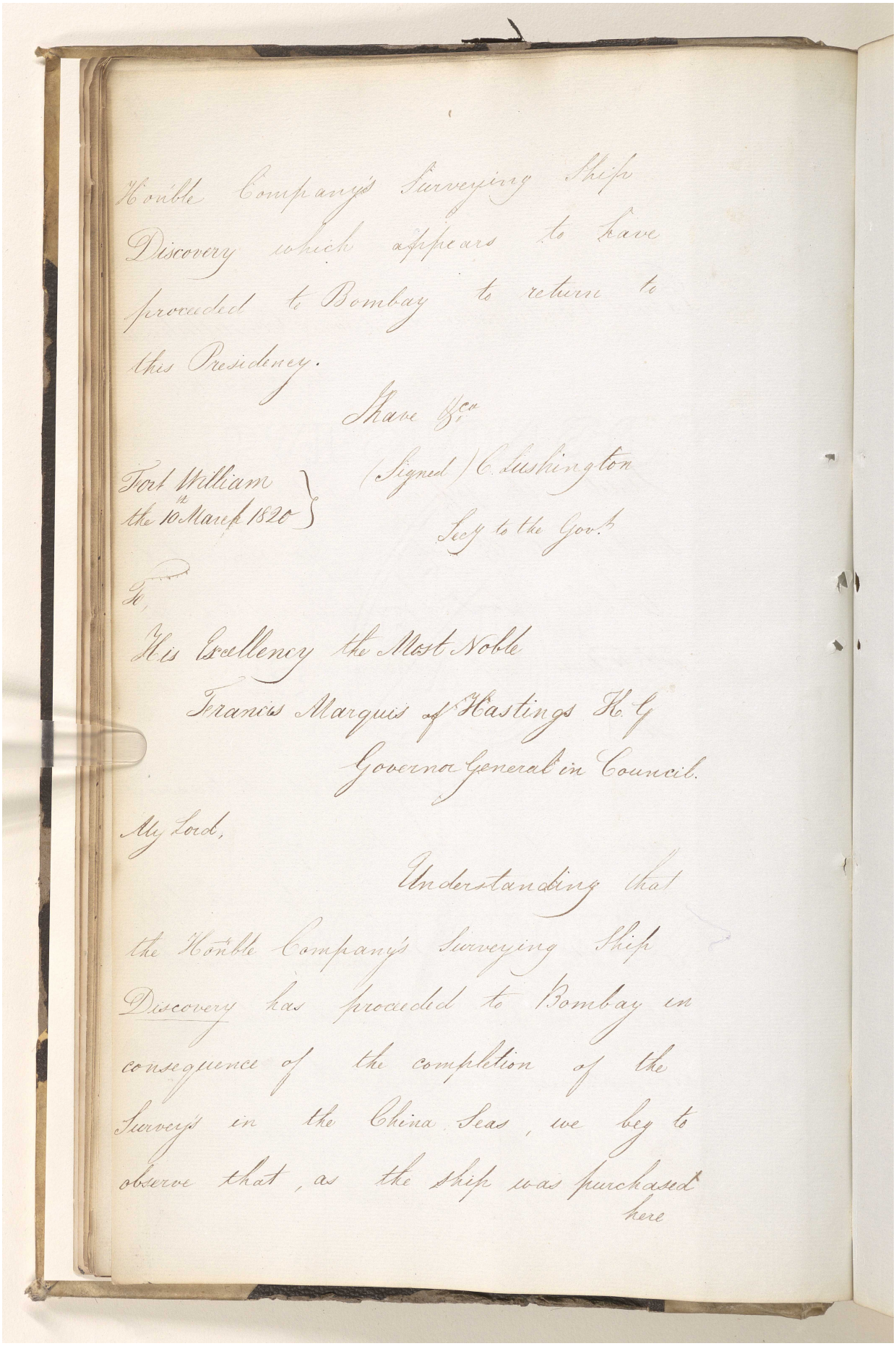

Hon'ble Company's Surveying Ship
Discovery which appears to have
proceeded to Bombay to return to
this Presidency.

I have &c.
(Signed) C. Lushington
Secy to the Govt.

Fort William
the 10th March 1820

To,
His Excellency the Most Noble
Francis Marquis of Hastings K.G
Governor General in Council.

My Lord,

Understanding that
the Hon'ble Company's Surveying Ship
Discovery has proceeded to Bombay in
consequence of the completion of the
Surveys in the China Seas, we beg to
observe that, as the Ship was purchased
here

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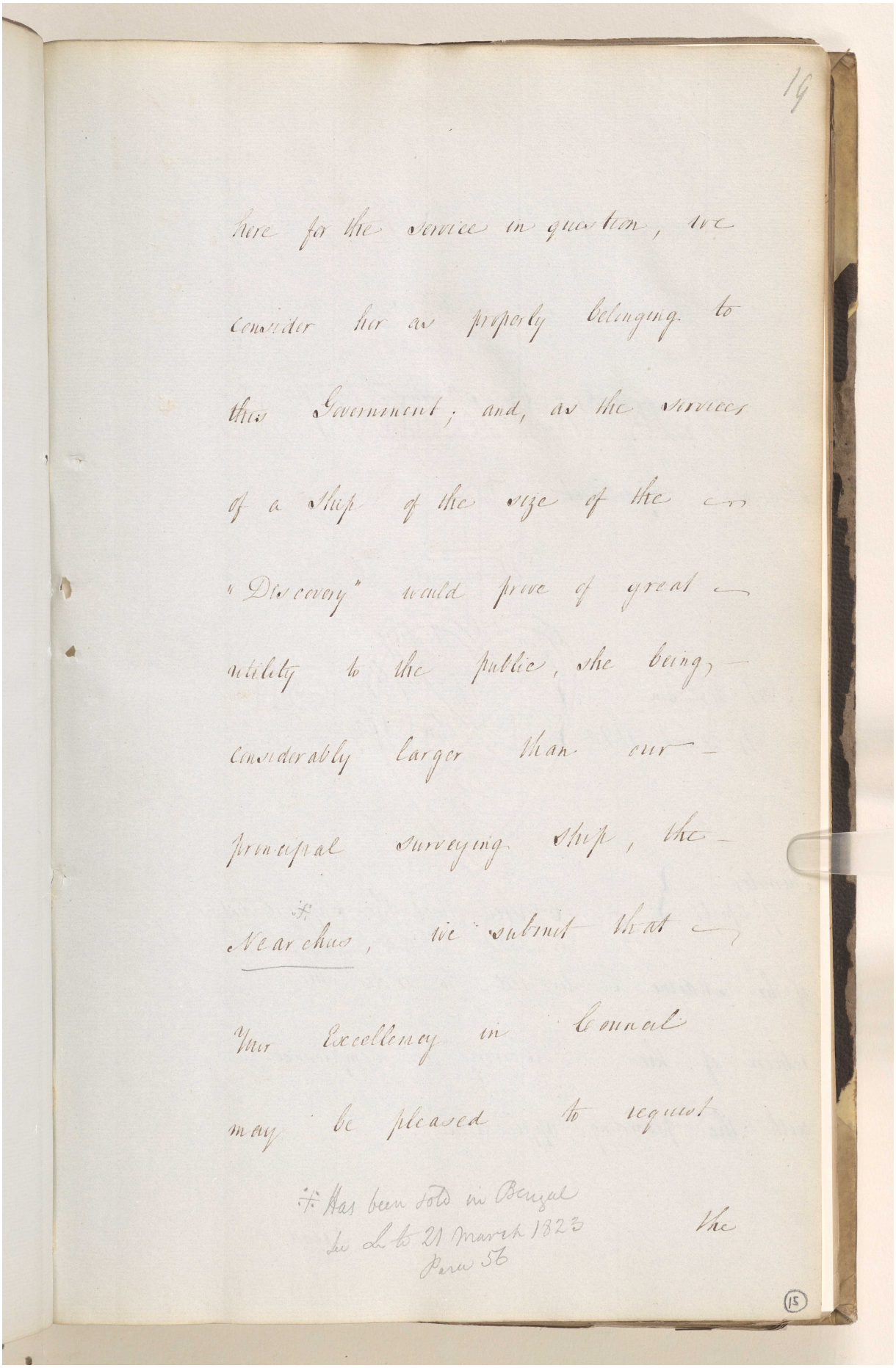


16

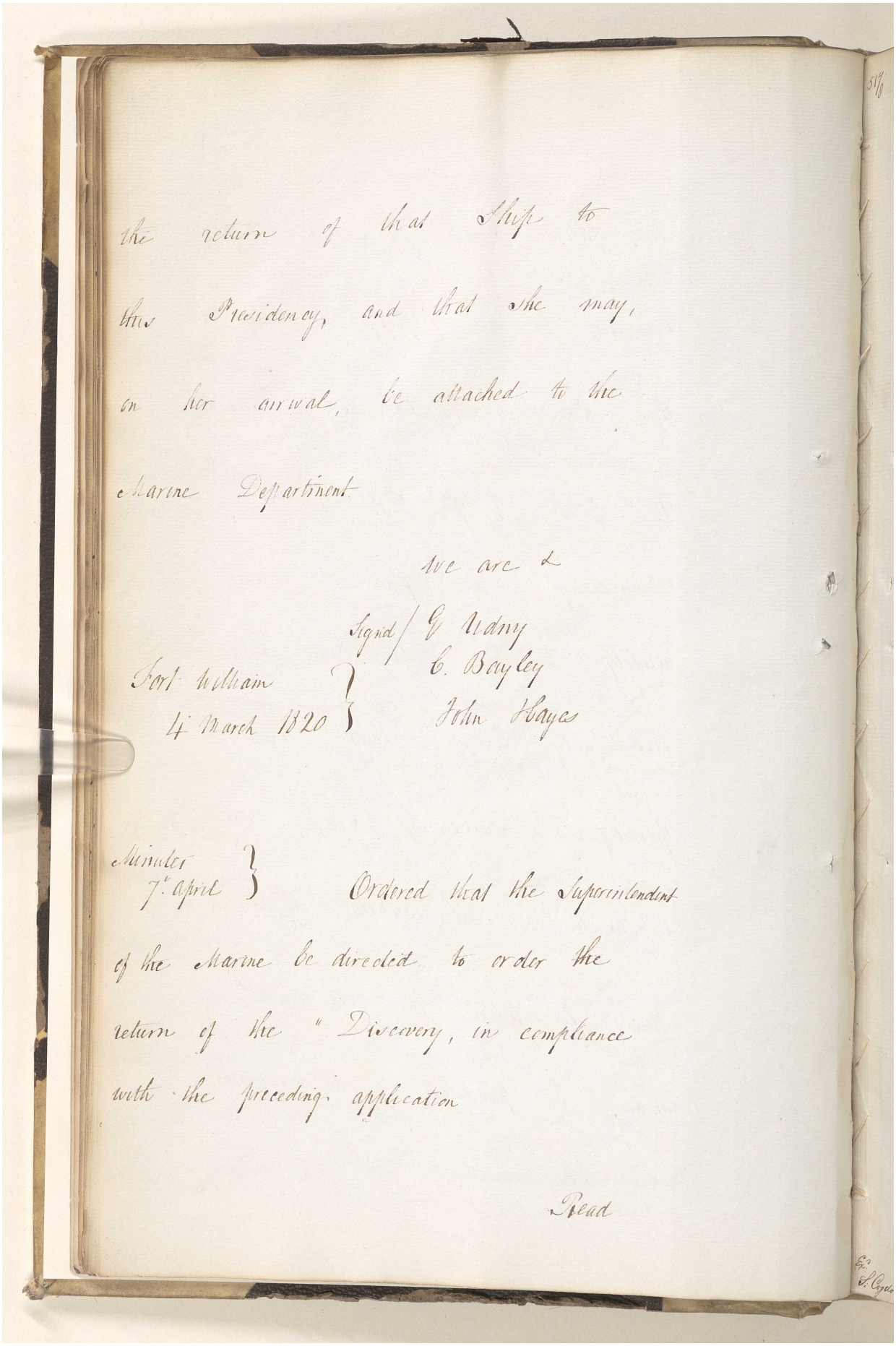
here for the service in question, we
consider her as properly belonging to
this Government; and, as the services
of a Ship of the size of the —
"Discovery" would prove of great —
utility to the public, she being —
considerably larger than our —
principal surveying ship, the —
Nearchus*, we submit that —
Your Excellency in Council
may be pleased to request

* Has been sold in Bengal
See Lr to 21 March 1823
Para 56

the

15

517/8



the return of that Ship to this Presidency, and that she may, on her arrival, be attached to the Marine Department

We are &

Signd/ G Udny
C. Bayley
John Hayes

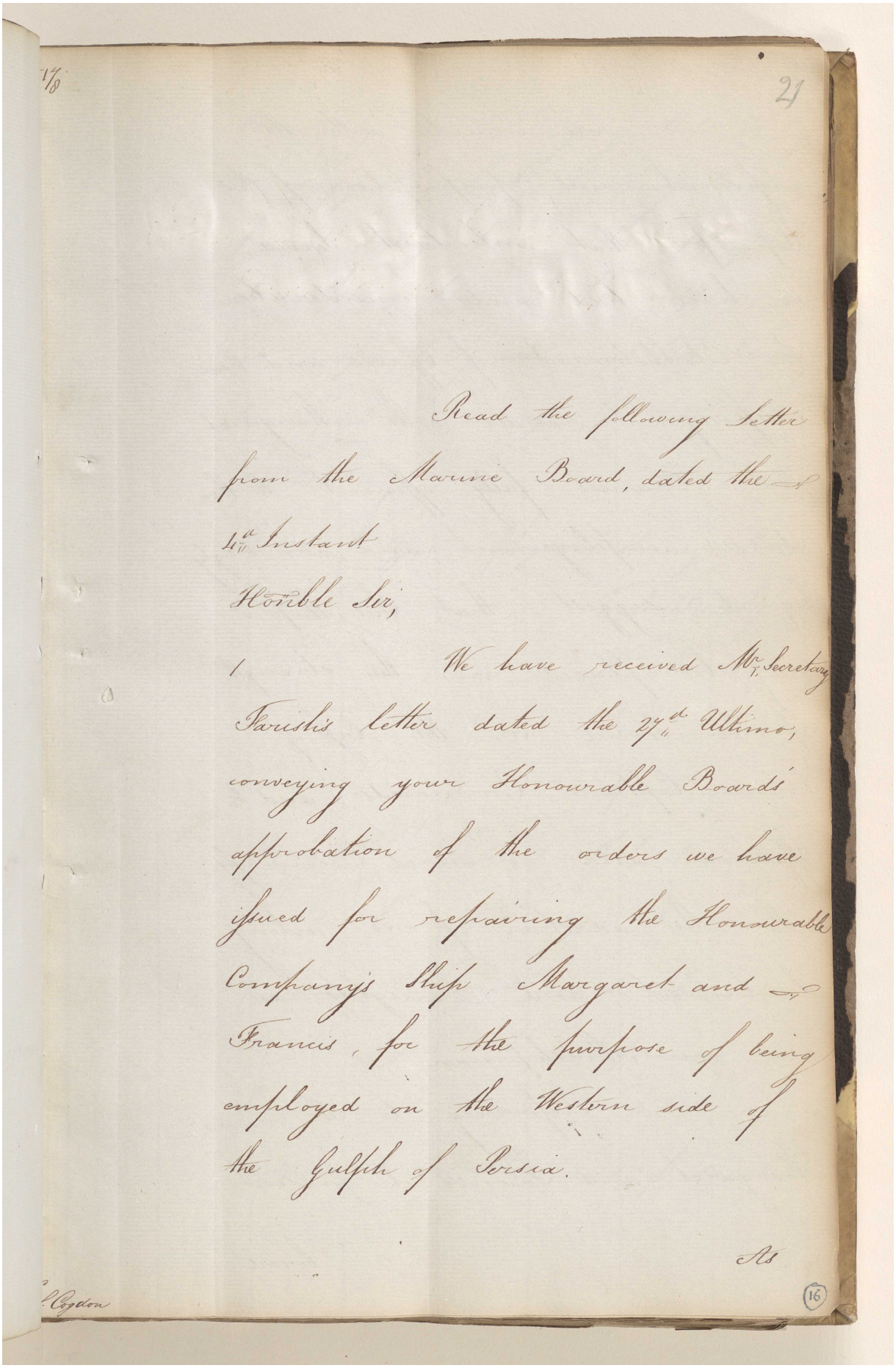
Fort William
4 March 1820

Minutes
7th April

Ordered that the Superintendent of the Marine be directed to order the return of the "Discovery, in compliance with the preceding application

Read

Ex. S. Cogdo



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21

Read the following Letter from the Marine Board, dated the 4th Instant

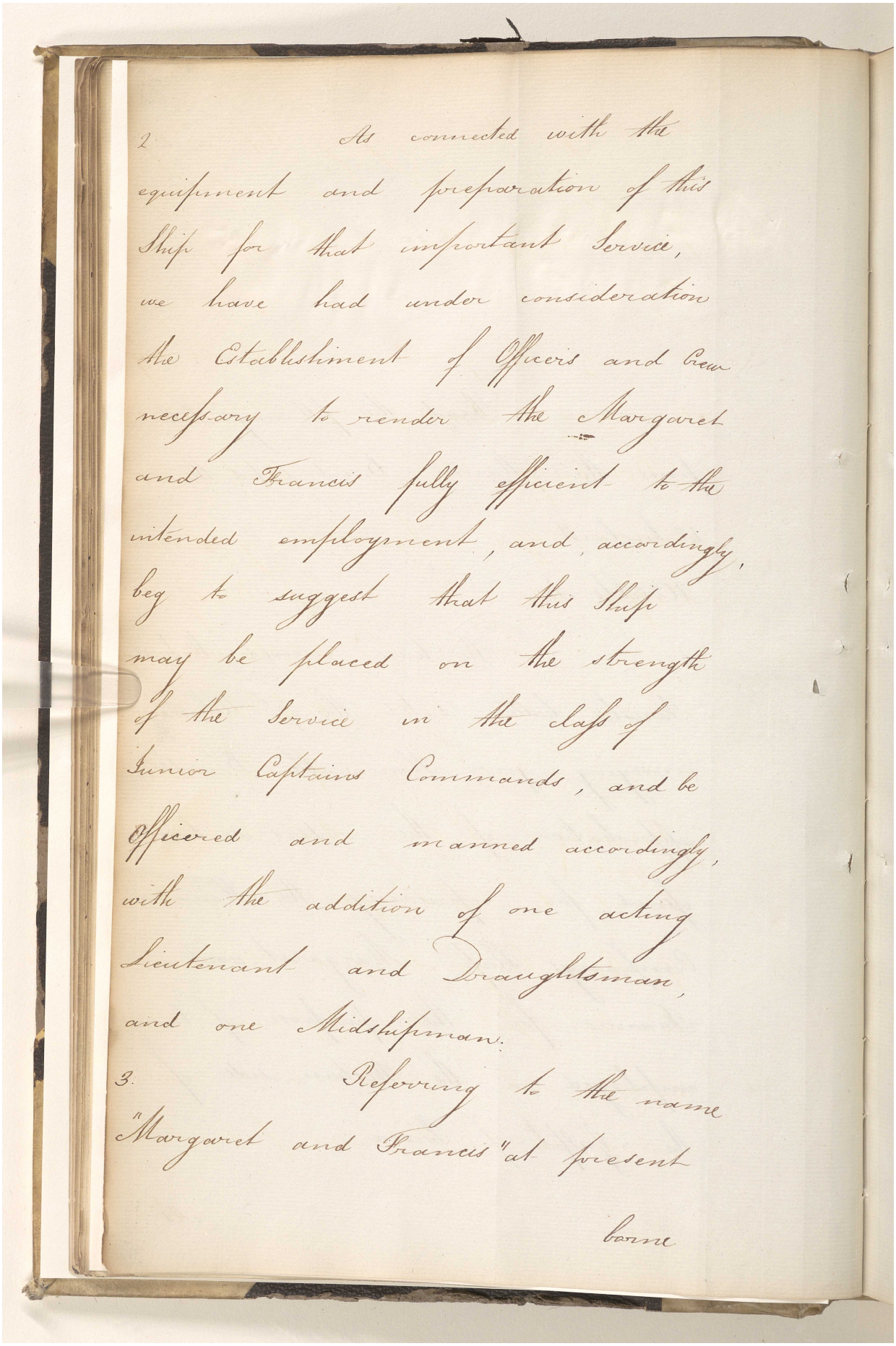
Honble Sir,

We have received Mr. Secretary Farish's letter dated the 27th Ultimo, conveying your Honourable Board's approbation of the orders we have issued for repairing the Honourable Company's Ship Margaret and Francis, for the purpose of being employed on the Western side of the Gulph of Persia.

As

Cogdon

16



2. As connected with the equipment and preparation of this Ship for that important Service, we have had under consideration the Establishment of Officers and Crew necessary to render the Margaret and Francis fully efficient to the intended employment, and accordingly beg to suggest that this Ship may be placed on the strength of the Service in the class of Junior Captains Commands, and be Officered and manned accordingly, with the addition of one acting Lieutenant and Draughtsman, and one Midshipman.

3. Referring to the name "Margaret and Francis" at present borne

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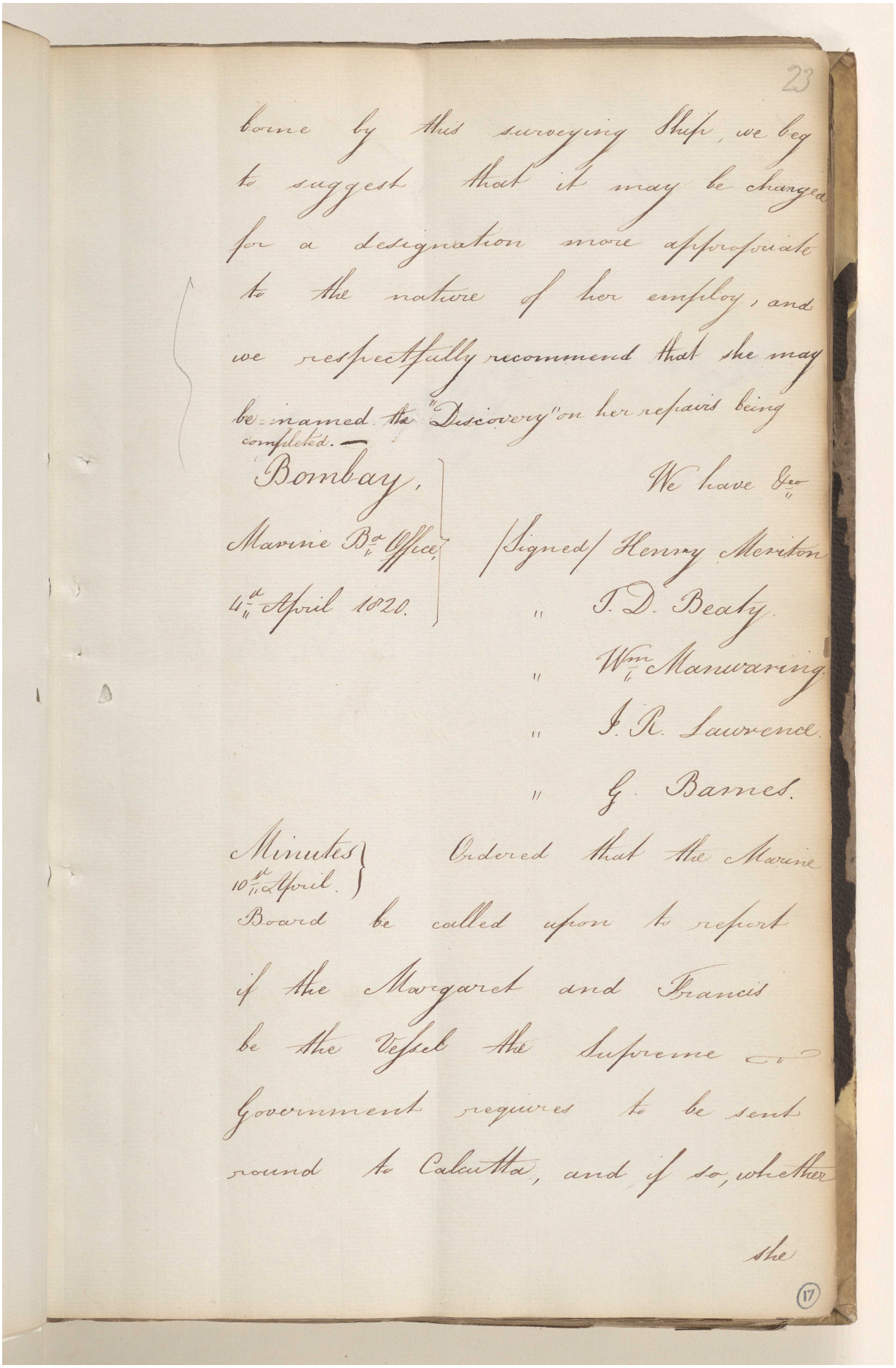


23

borne by this surveying Ship, we beg to suggest that it may be changed for a designation more appropriate to the nature of her employ, and we respectfully recommend that she may be named the "Discovery" on her repairs being completed.—

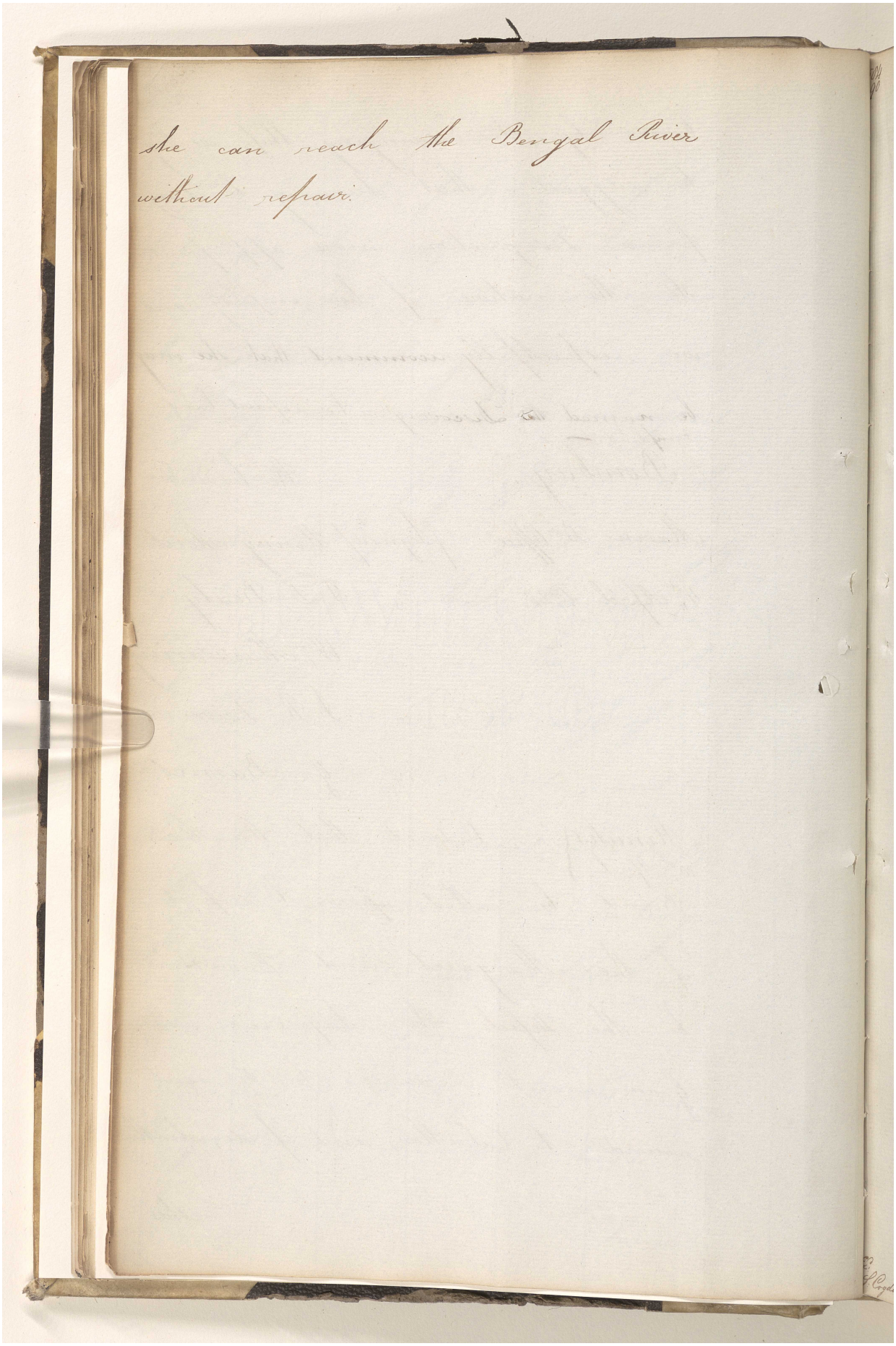
Bombay, Marine Bd. Office, 4th April 1820.

We have &c.
/Signed/ Henry Meriton
" T. D. Beaty.
" Wm. Manwaring.
" J. R. Lawrence.
" G. Barnes.

Minutes 10th April.

Ordered that the Marine Board be called upon to report if the Margaret and Francis be the Vessel the Supreme Government requires to be sent round to Calcutta, and if so, whether she

17



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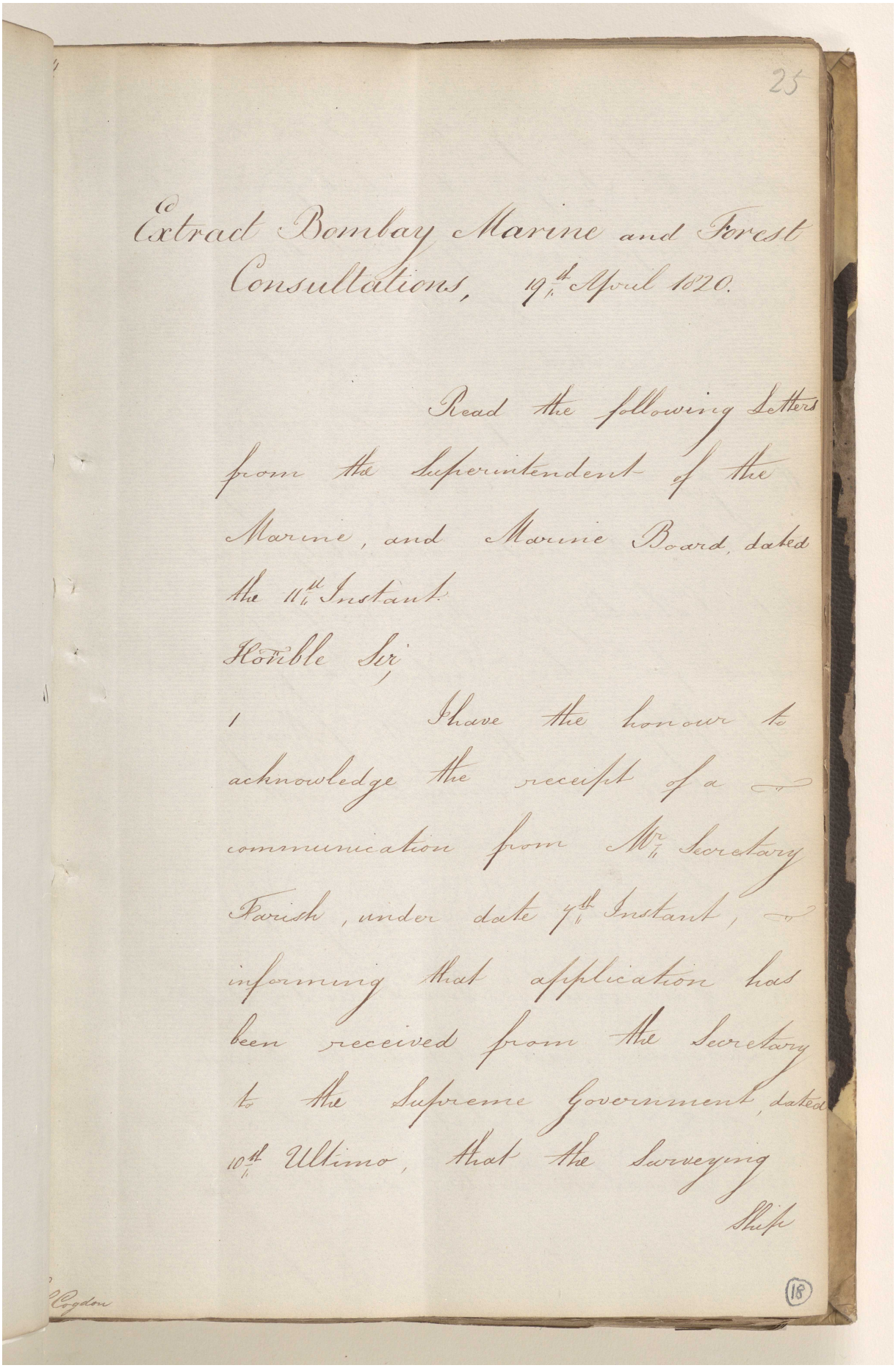


25

Extract Bombay Marine and Forest Consultations, 19th April 1820.

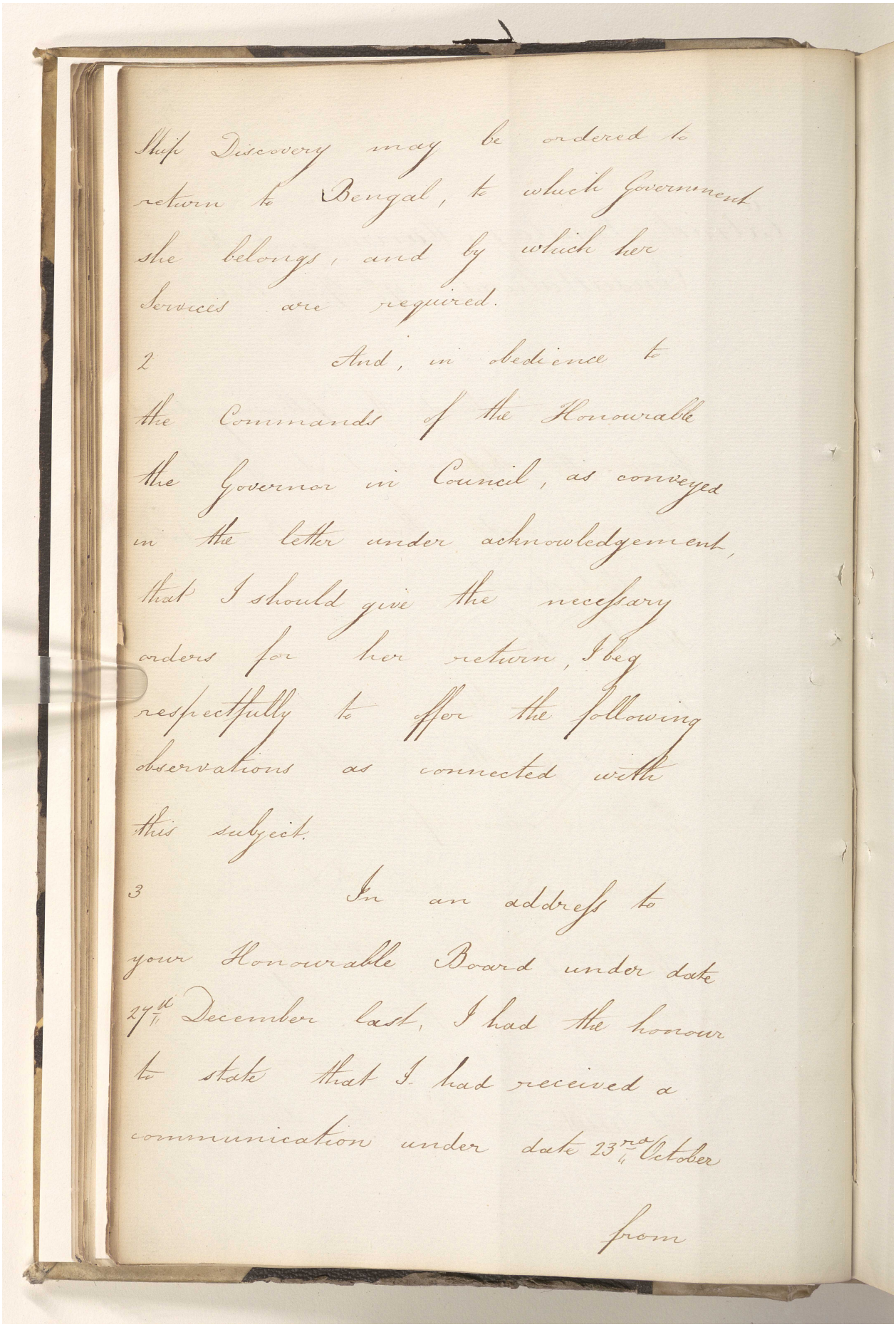
Read the following Letters from the Superintendent of the Marine, and Marine Board, dated the 11th Instant.

Honble Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a communication from Mr. Secretary Farish, under date 7th Instant, informing that application has been received from the Secretary to the Supreme Government, dated 10th Ultimo, that the Surveying Ship

Cogdon

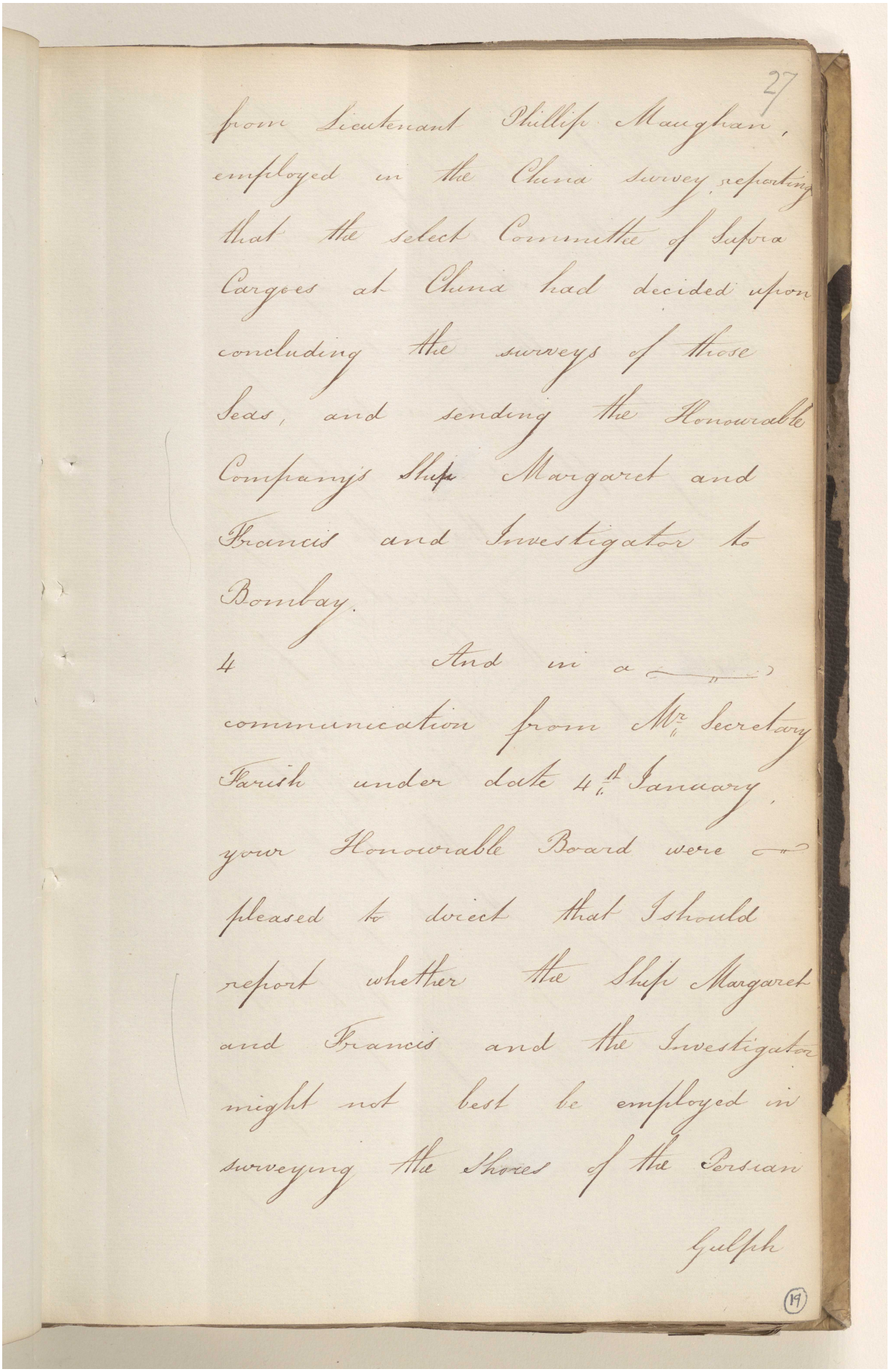
(18)



Ship Discovery may be ordered to
return to Bengal, to which Government
she belongs, and by which her
Services are required.

2 And, in obedience to
the Commands of the Honourable
the Governor in Council, as conveyed
in the letter under acknowledgement,
that I should give the necessary
orders for her return, I beg
respectfully to offer the following
observations as connected with
this subject.

3 In an address to
your Honourable Board under date
27th December last, I had the honour
to state that I had received a
communication under date 23rd October
from



27

from Lieutenant Phillips Maughan,
employed in the China Survey, reporting
that the select Committee of Supra
Cargoes at China had decided upon
concluding the surveys of those
Seas, and sending the Honourable
Company's Ships Margaret and
Francis and Investigator to
Bombay.

4 And in a
communication from Mr. Secretary
Farish under date 4th January,
your Honourable Board were
pleased to direct that I should
report whether the Ships Margaret
and Francis and the Investigator
might not best be employed in
surveying the Shores of the Persian
Gulph

19

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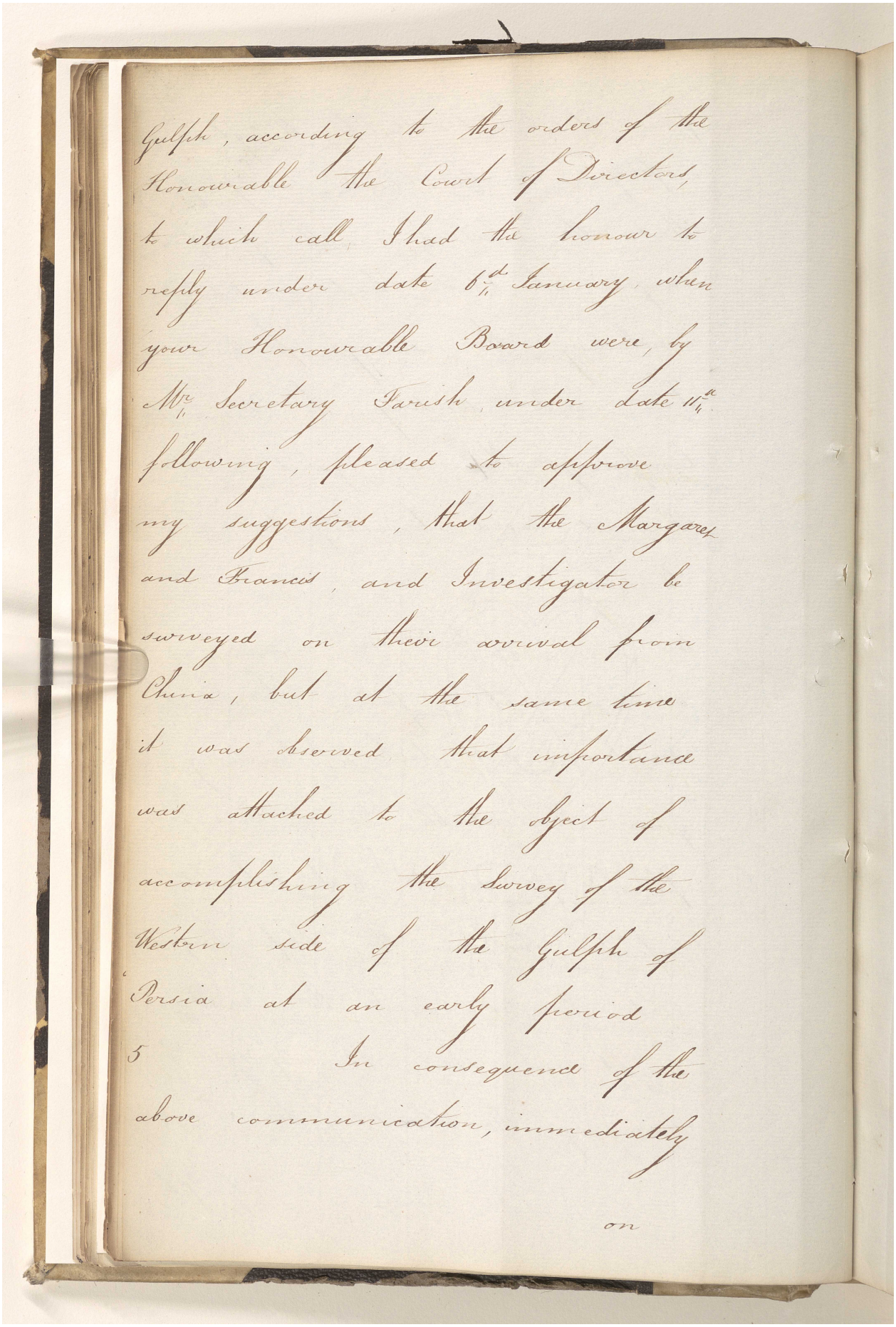

Gulph, according to the orders of the
Honourable the Court of Directors,
to which call I had the honour to
reply under date 6th January, when
your Honourable Board were, by
Mr. Secretary Farish, under date 11th
following, pleased to approve
my suggestions, that the Margaret
and Francis, and Investigator be
surveyed on their arrival from
China, but at the same time
it was observed that importance
was attached to the object of
accomplishing the Survey of the
Western side of the Gulph of
Persia at an early period
5 In consequence of the
above communication, immediately

on

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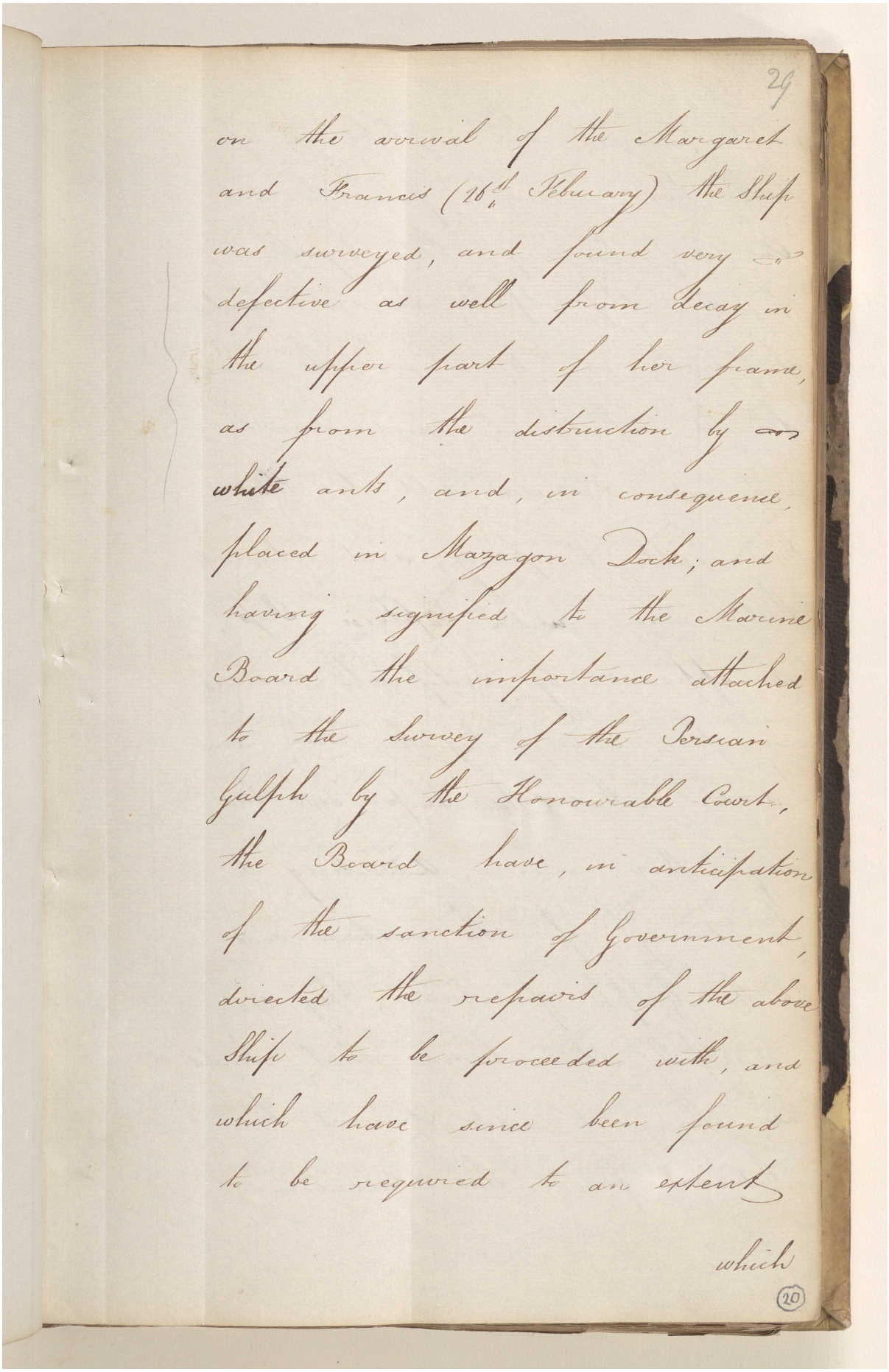

29

on the arrival of the Margaret and Francis (16th February) the Ship was surveyed, and found very defective as well from decay in the upper part of her frame, as from the distruction by white ants, and, in consequence, placed in Marzagon Dock; and having signified to the Marine Board the importance attached to the Survey of the Persian Gulph by the Honourable Court, the Board have, in anticipation of the sanction of Government, directed the repairs of the above Ship to be proceeded with, and which have since been found to be required to an extent

which

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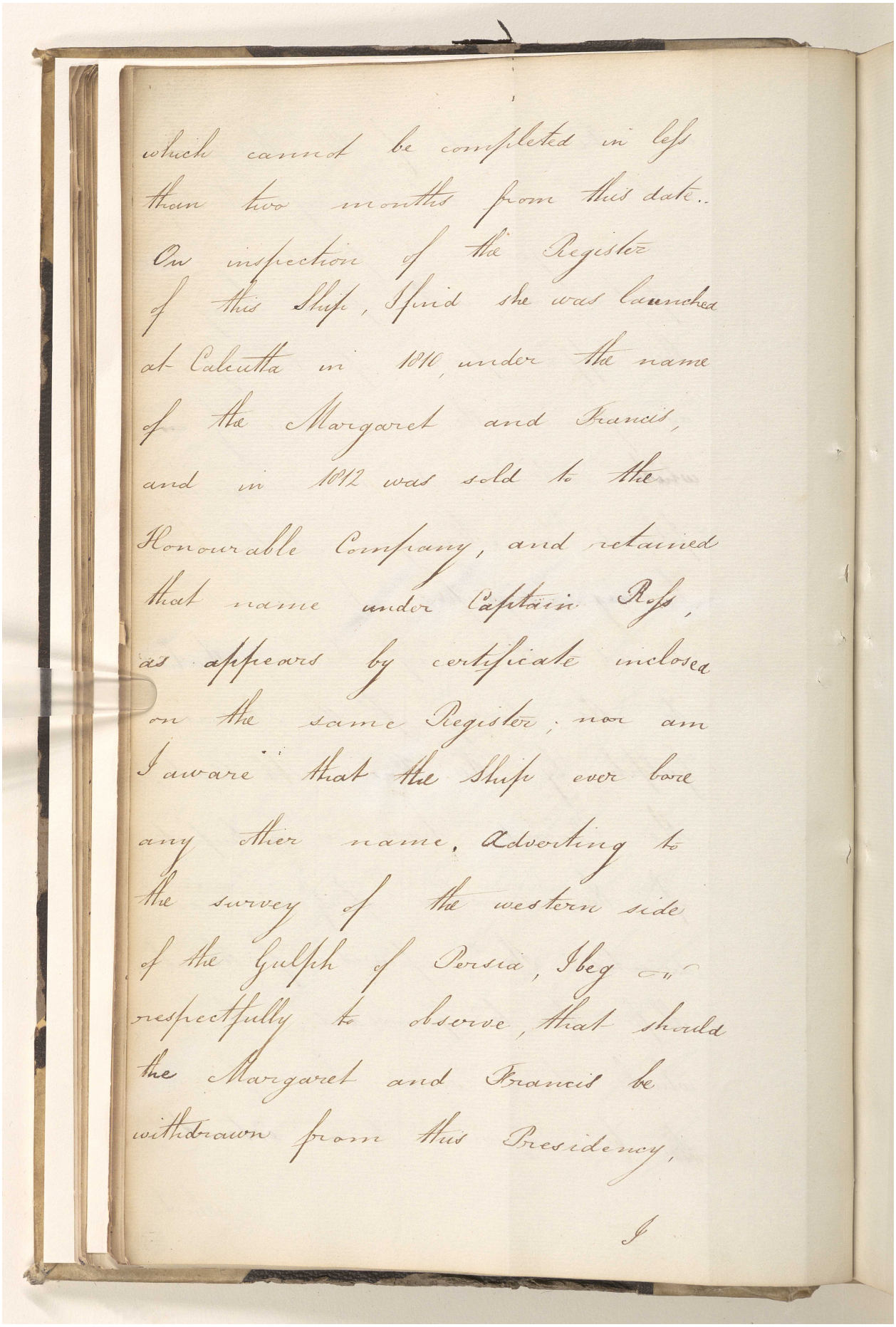
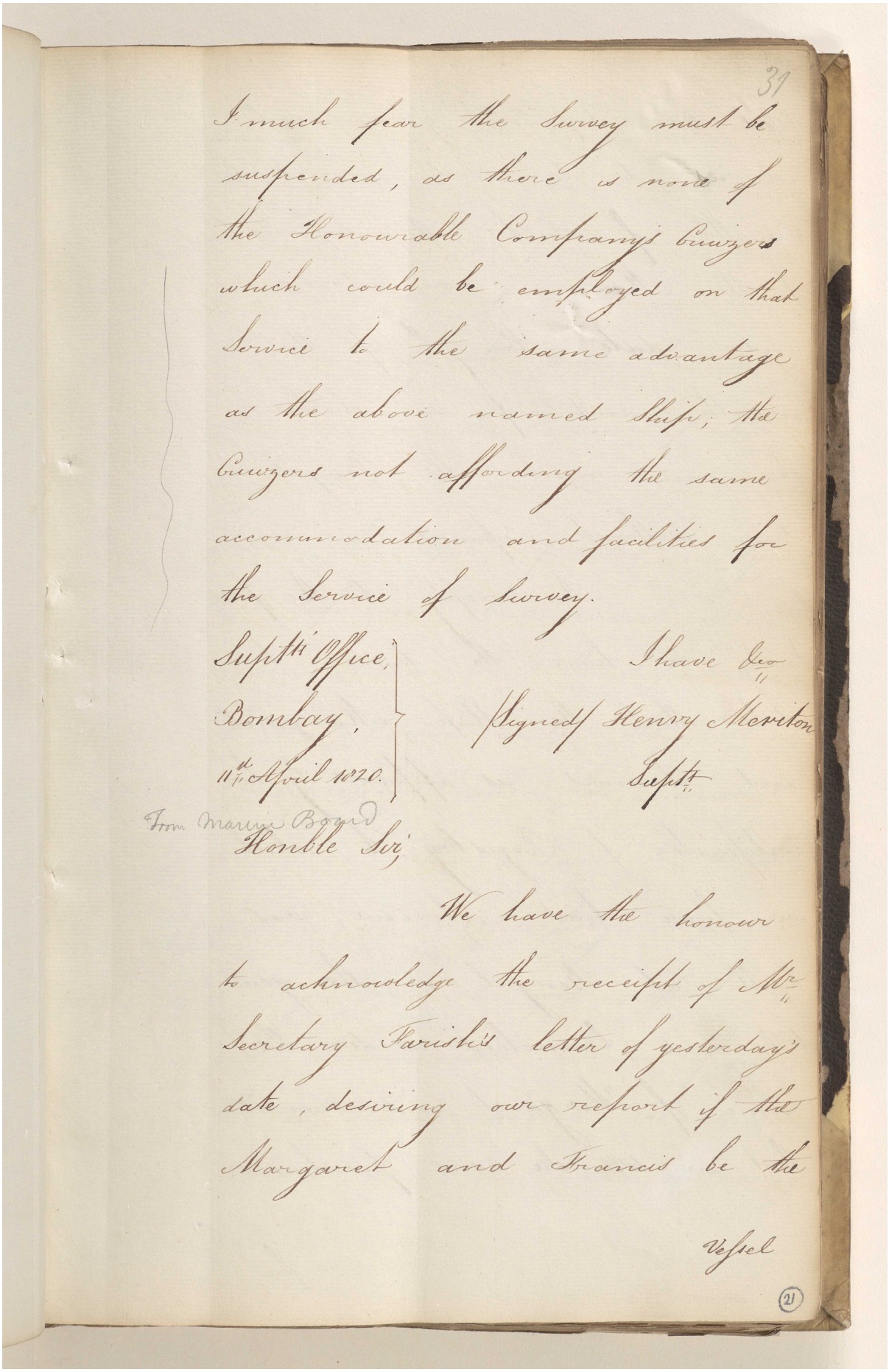


which cannot be completed in less than two months from this date.

On inspection of the Register of this Ship, I find she was launched at Calcutta in 1811, under the name of the Margaret and Francis, and in 1812 was sold to the Honourable Company, and retained that name under Captain Ross, as appears by certificate inclosed on the same Register; nor am I aware that the Ship ever bore any other name. Adverting to the survey of the western side of the Gulph of Persia, I beg leave respectfully to observe, that should the Margaret and Francis be withdrawn from this Presidency,

I



39

I much fear the Survey must be suspended, as there is none of the Honourable Company's Cruizers which could be employed on that Service to the same advantage as the above named Ship; the Cruizers not affording the same accommodation and facilities for the Service of Survey.

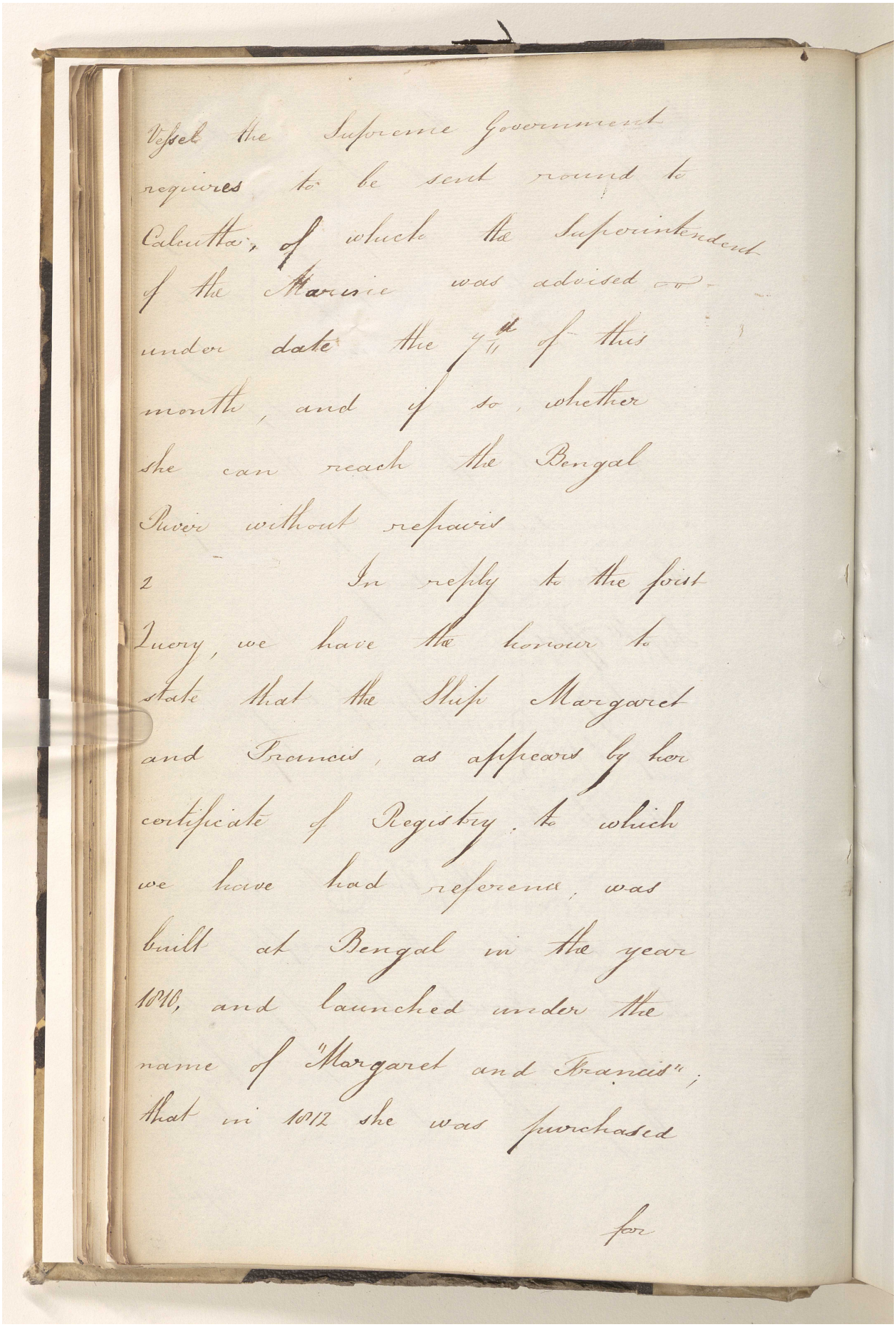
I have &c
Signed Henry Meriton
Supt.

Supt.th Office,
Bombay,
11th April 1820.

From Marine Board
Honble Sir,

We have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Secretary Farish's letter of yesterday's date, desiring our report if the Margaret and Francis be the Vessel

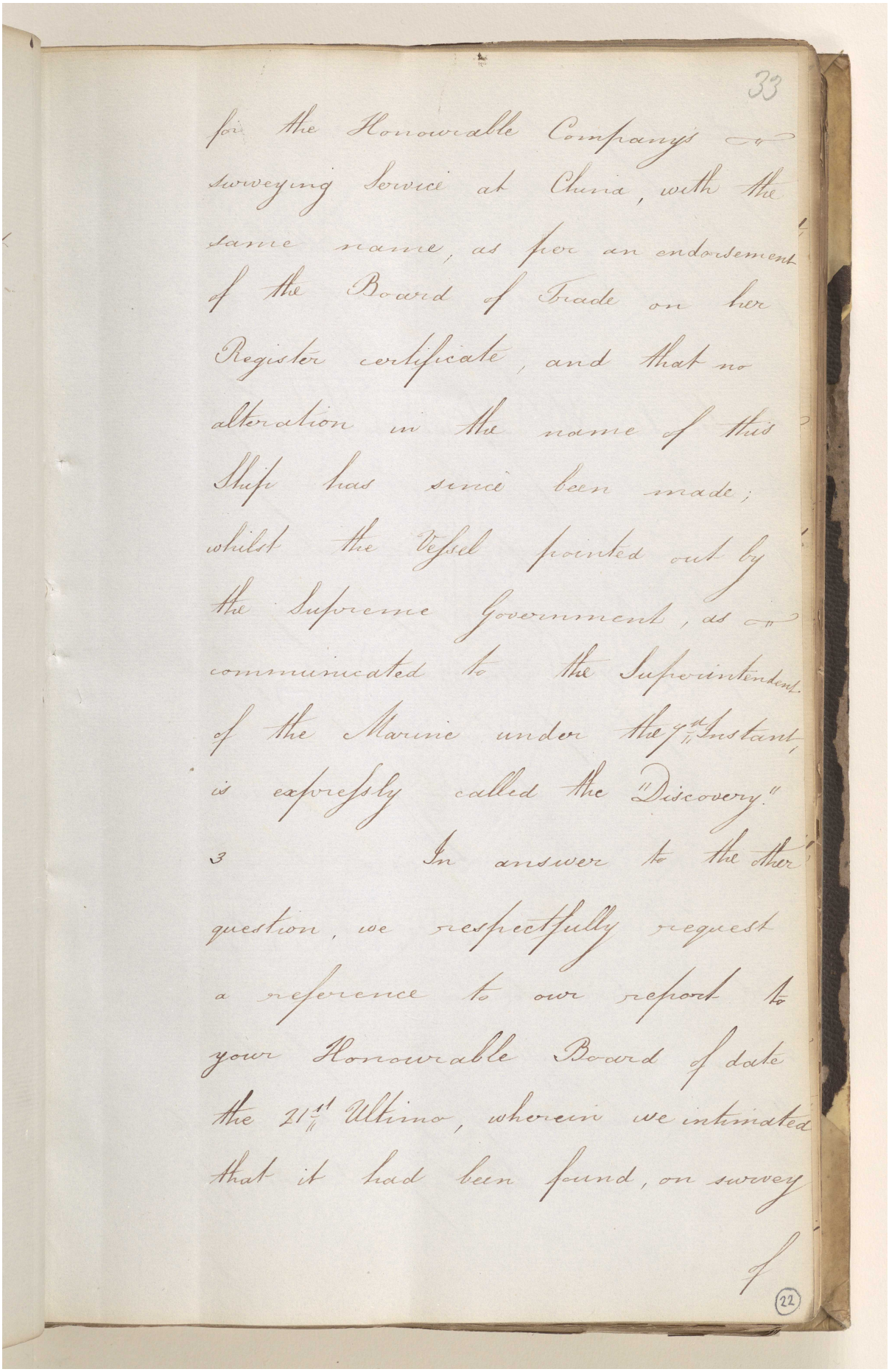
21



Vessel the Supreme Government
requires to be sent round to
Calcutta; of which the Superintendent
of the Marine was advised
under date the 7th of this
month, and if so, whether
she can reach the Bengal
River without repairs

2 In reply to the joint
Query, we have the honour to
state that the Ship Margaret
and Francis, as appears by her
certificate of Registry, to which
we have had reference, was
built at Bengal in the year
1810, and launched under the
name of "Margaret and Francis";
that in 1812 she was purchased

for



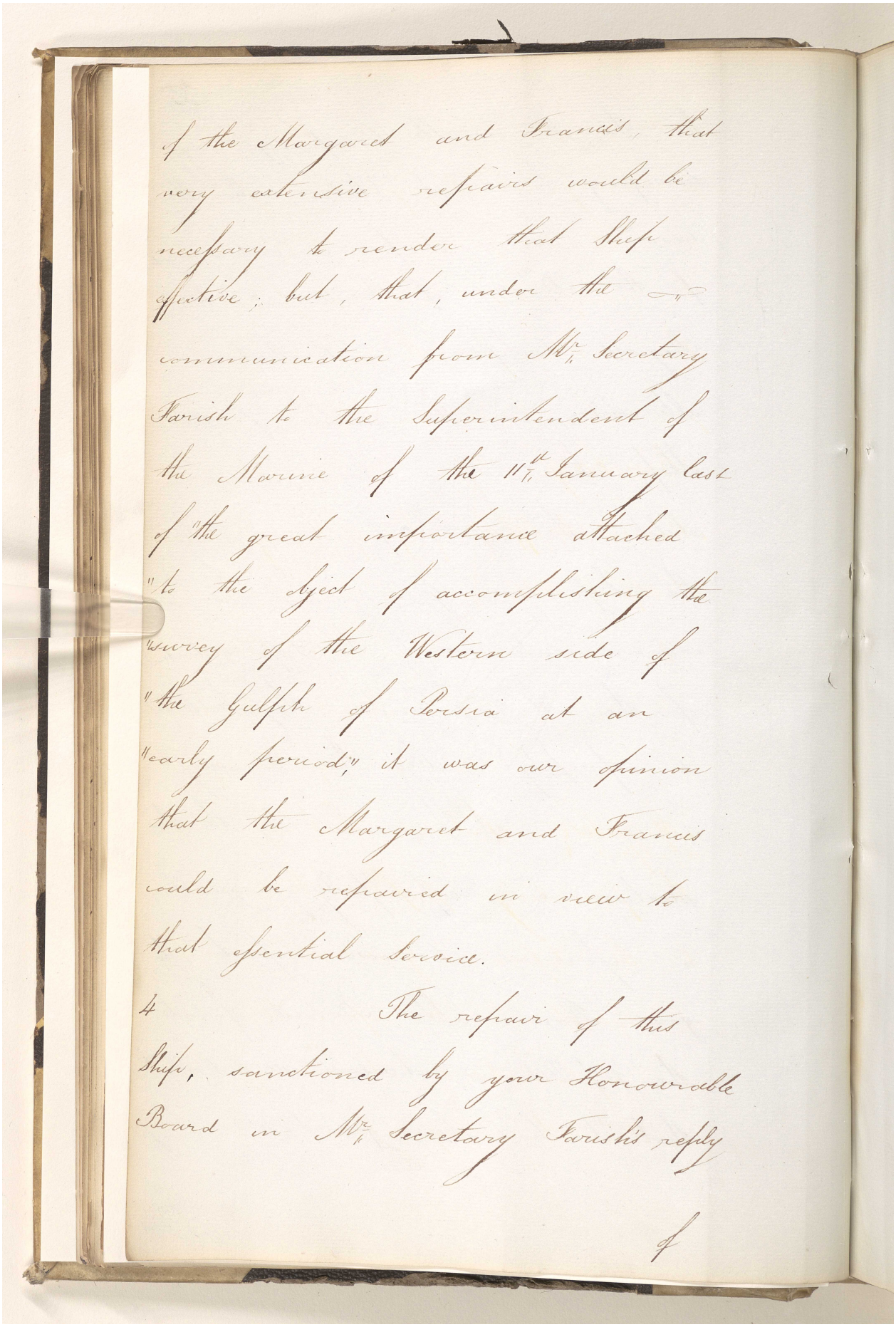
33

for the Honourable Company's
surveying Service at China, with the
same name, as per an endorsement
of the Board of Trade on her
Register certificate, and that no
alteration in the name of this
Ship has since been made;
whilst the Vessel pointed out by
the Supreme Government, as
communicated to the Superintendent
of the Marine under the 7th Instant,
is expressly called the "Discovery."

3 In answer to the other
question, we respectfully request
a reference to our report to
your Honourable Board of date
the 21st Ultimo, wherein we intimated
that it had been found, on survey

of

(22)



of the Margaret and Francis, that very extensive repairs would be necessary to render that Ship effective; but, that, under the communication from Mr. Secretary Farish to the Superintendent of the Marine of the 11th January last of "the great importance attached "to the Ject of accomplishing the "survey of the Western side of "the Gulph of Persia at an "early period," it was our opinion that the Margaret and Francis could be repaired in time to that essential Service.

4 The repair of this Ship, sanctioned by your Honourable Board in Mr. Secretary Farish's reply

of

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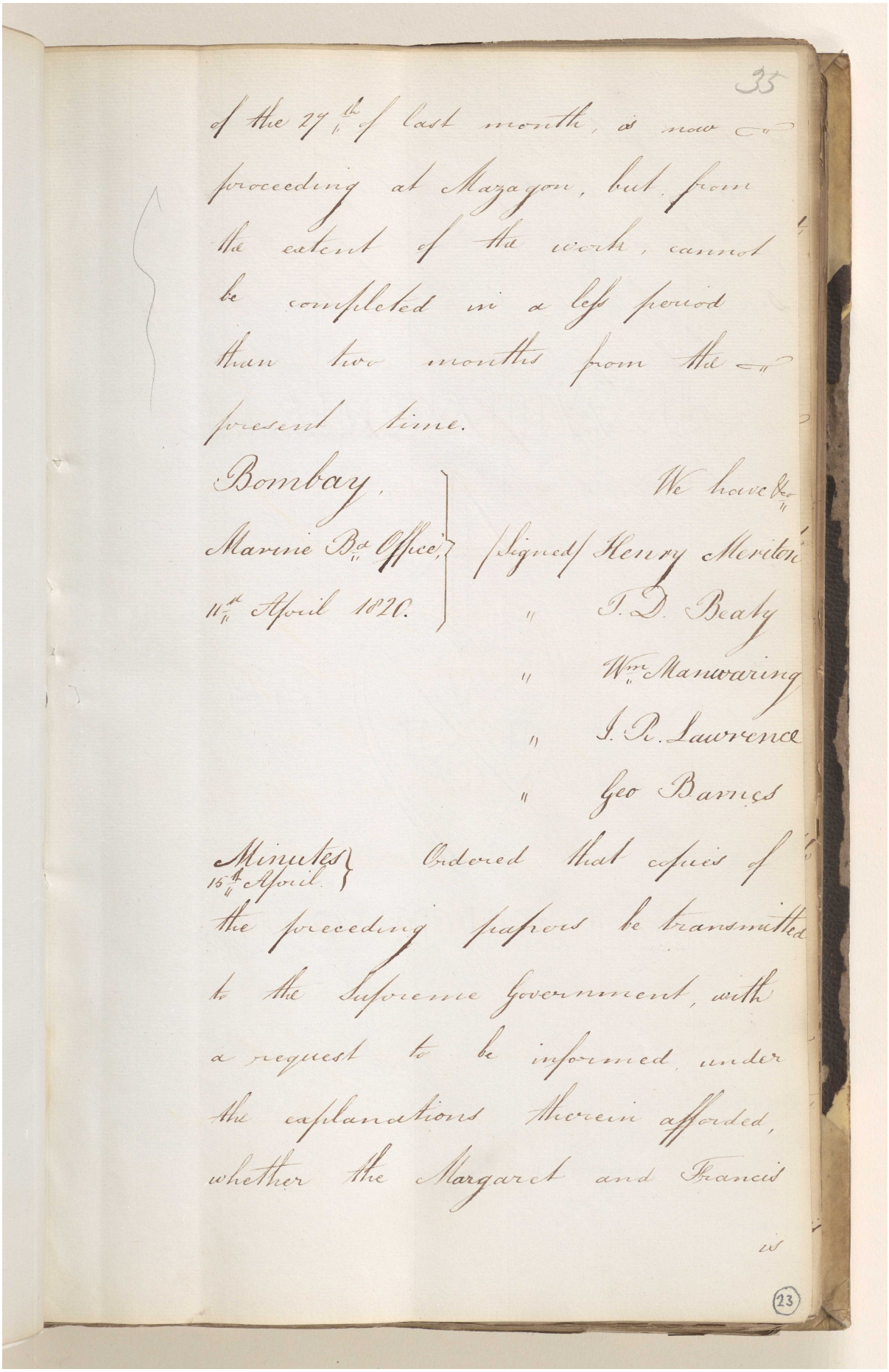


33

of the 27th of last month, is now
proceeding at Mazagon, but from
the extent of the work, cannot
be completed in a less period
than two months from the
present time.

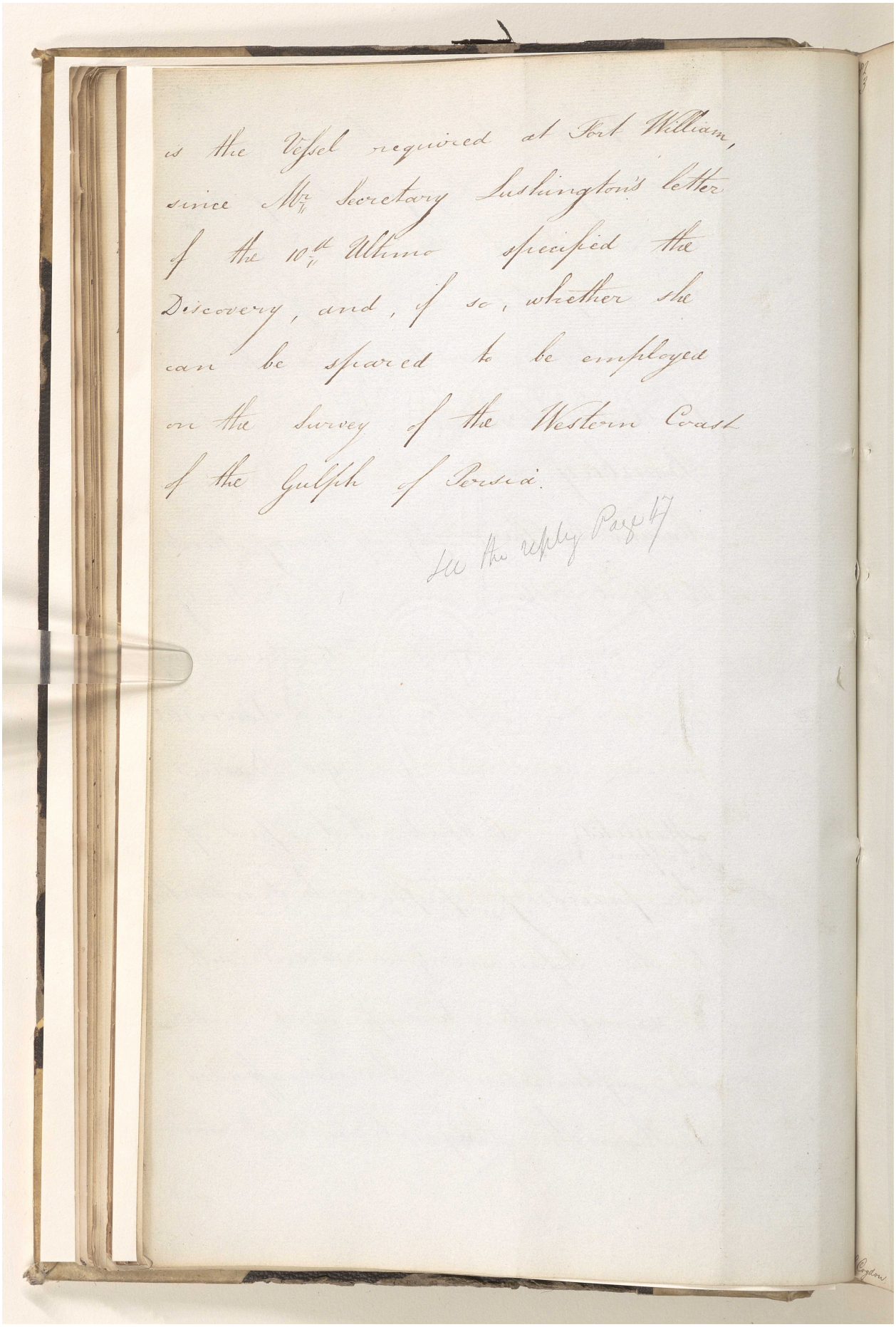
Bombay,
Marine Bd Office,
11th April 1820.

We have &c
(Signed) Henry Meriton
" T. D. Beaty
" Wm Manwaring
" I. R. Lawrence
" Geo Barnes

Minutes
15th April.

Ordered that copies of
the preceding papers be transmitted
to the Supreme Government, with
a request to be informed, under
the explanations therein afforded,
whether the Margaret and Francis
is

(23)



is the Vessel required at Fort William, since Mr. Secretary Sullivan's letter of the 10th Ultimo specified the Discovery, and, if so, whether she can be spared to be employed on the Survey of the Western Coast of the Gulph of Persia.

In the reply Page 47

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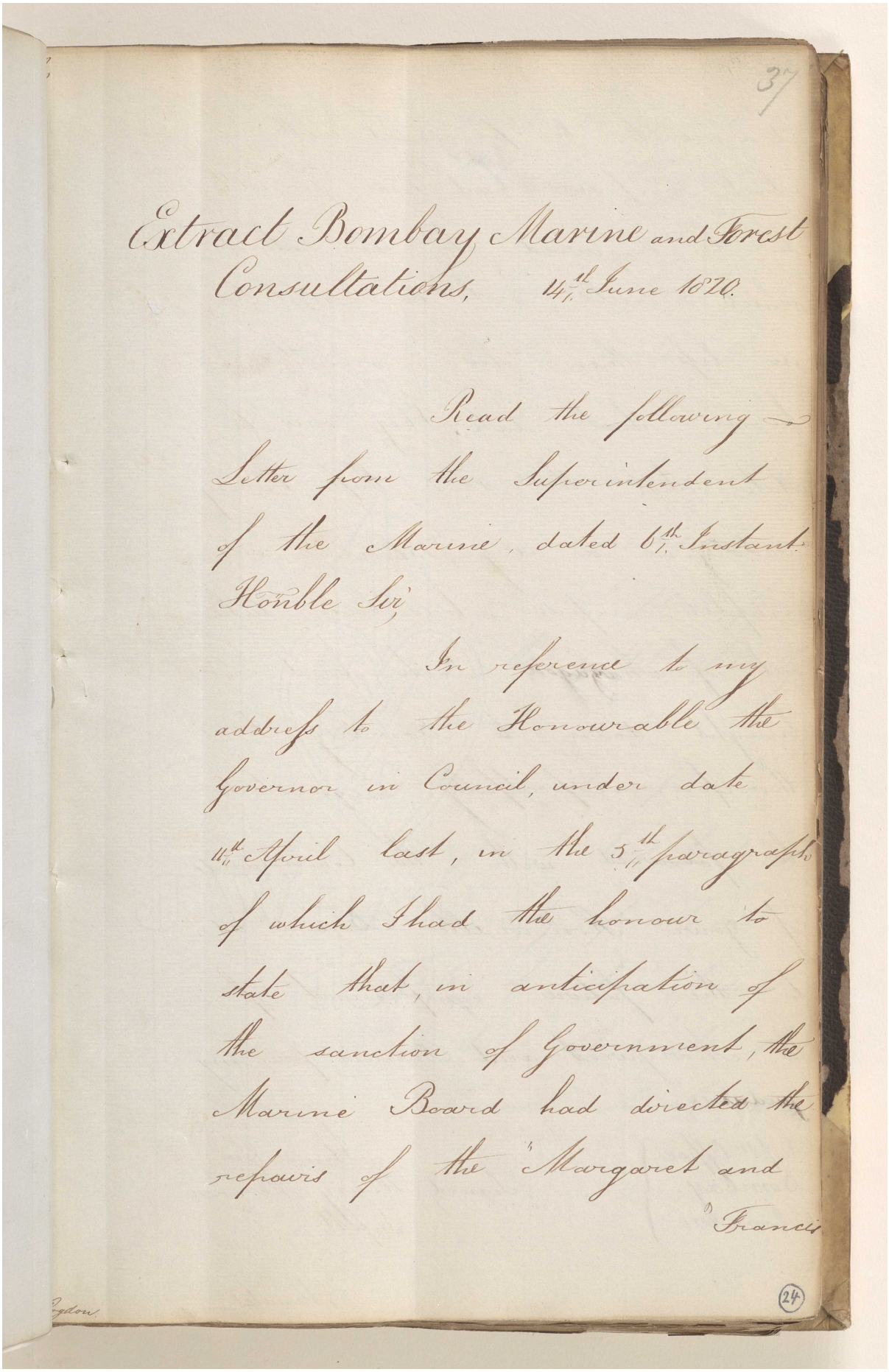


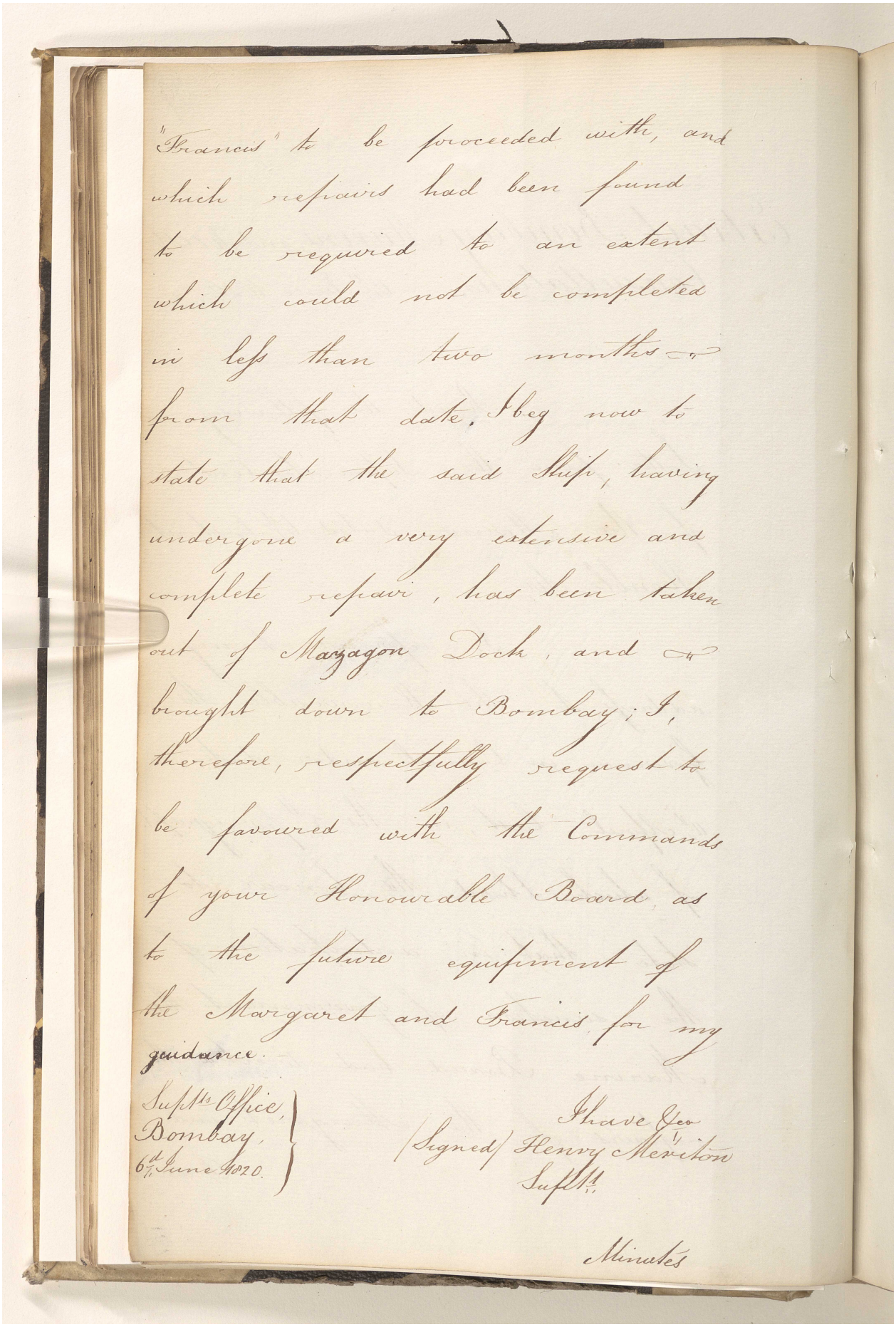
Extract Bombay Marine and Forest Consultations, 14th June 1820.

Read the following Letter from the Superintendent of the Marine, dated 6th Instant.

Honble Sir,

In reference to my address to the Honourable the Governor in Council, under date 11th April last, in the 5th paragraph of which I had the honour to state that, in anticipation of the sanction of Government, the Marine Board had directed the repairs of the "Margaret and "Francis

(24)



"Francis" to be proceeded with, and which repairs had been found to be required to an extent which could not be completed in less than two months from that date. I beg now to state that the said Ship, having undergone a very extensive and complete repair, has been taken out of Mazagon Dock, and brought down to Bombay; I, therefore, respectfully request to be favoured with the Commands of your Honourable Board as to the future equipment of the Margaret and Francis for my guidance.

Supt.ts Office,
Bombay,
6th June 1820.

I have &c
(Signed) Henry Meriton
Supt.t

Minutes

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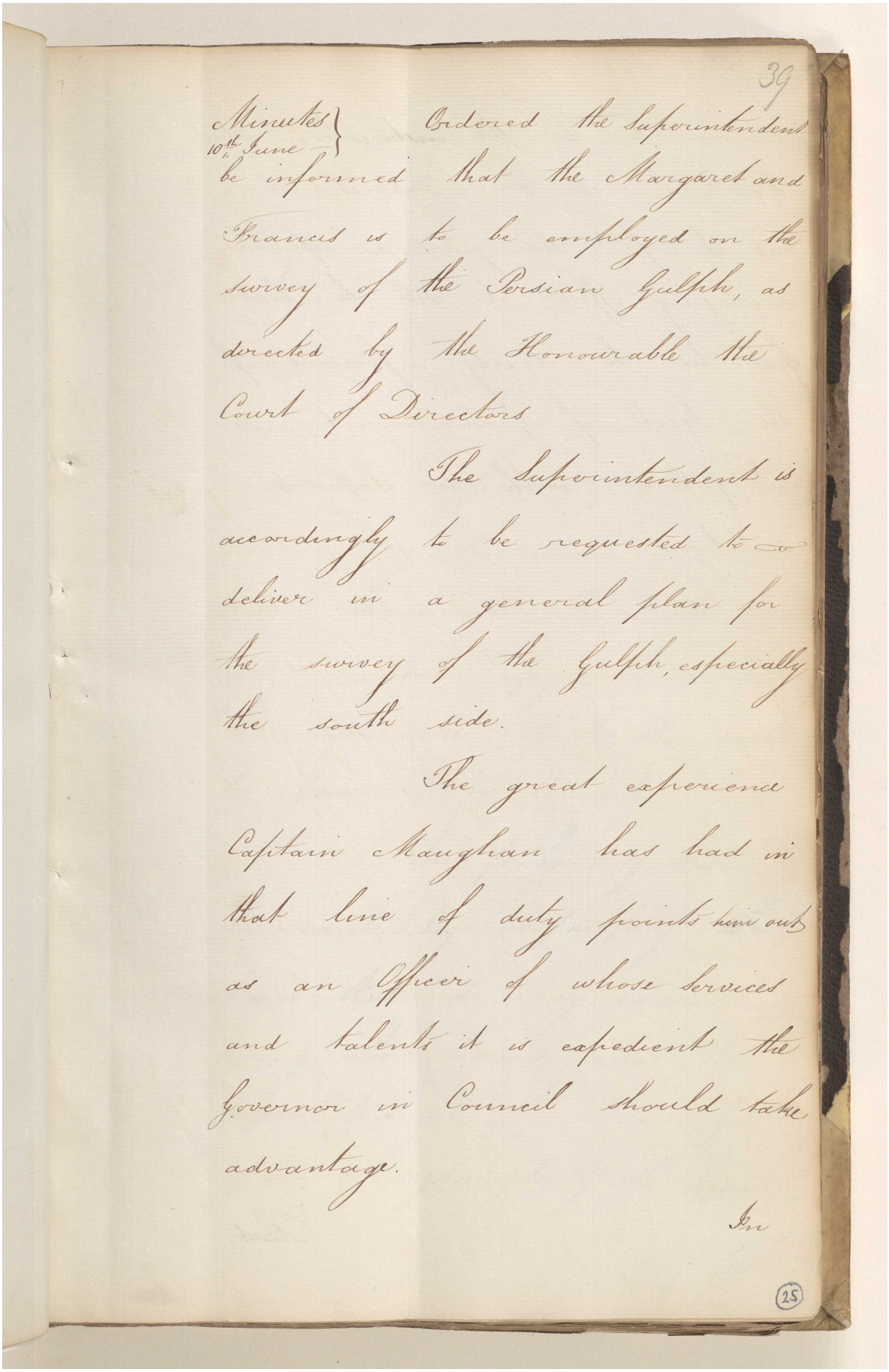

39

Minutes 10th June } Ordered the Superintendent be informed that the Margaret and Francis is to be employed on the survey of the Persian Gulph, as directed by the Honourable the Court of Directors

The Superintendent is accordingly to be requested to deliver in a general plan for the survey of the Gulph, especially the south side.

The great experience Captain Maughan has had in that line of duty points him out as an Officer of whose services and talents it is expedient the Governor in Council should take advantage.

In

25

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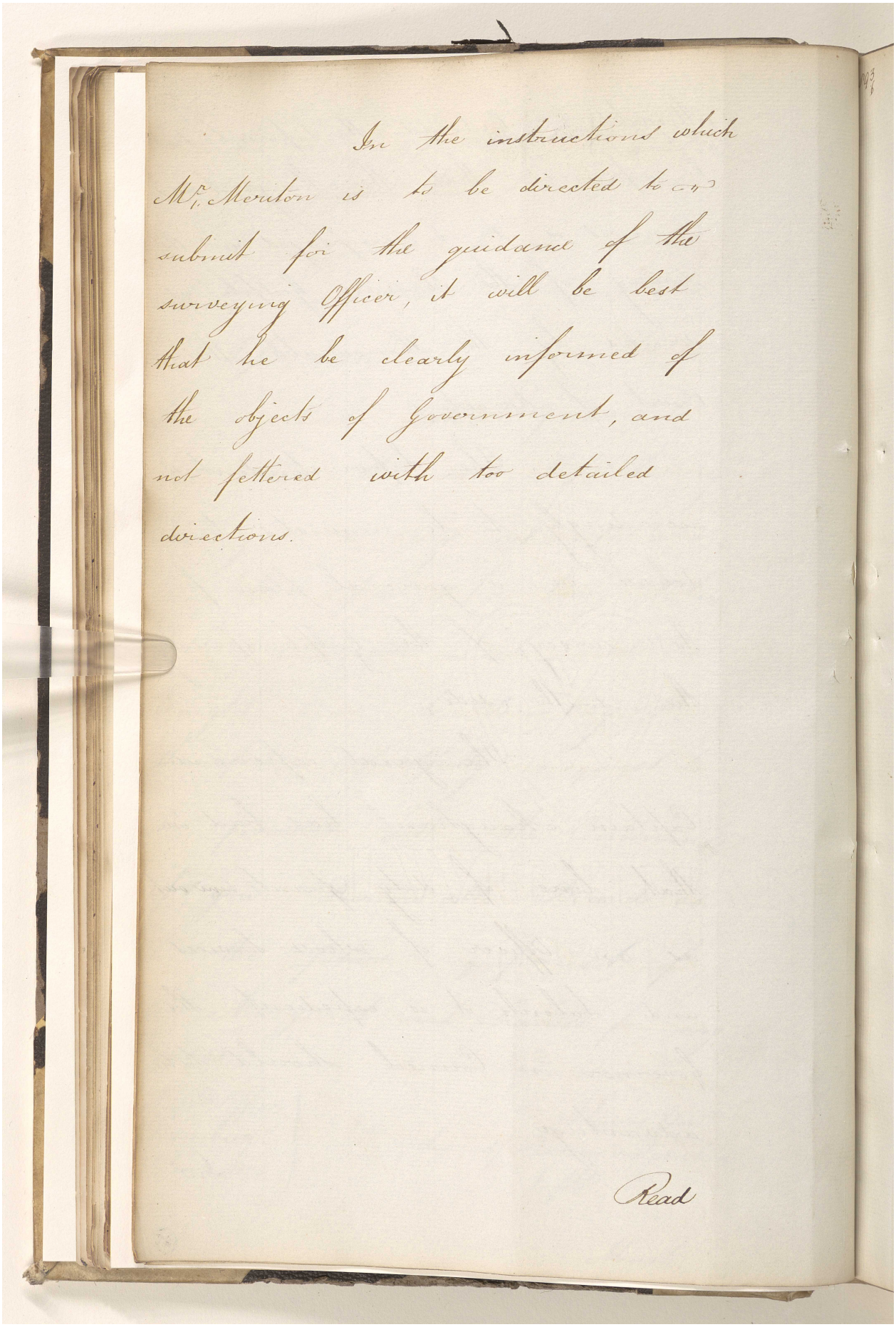
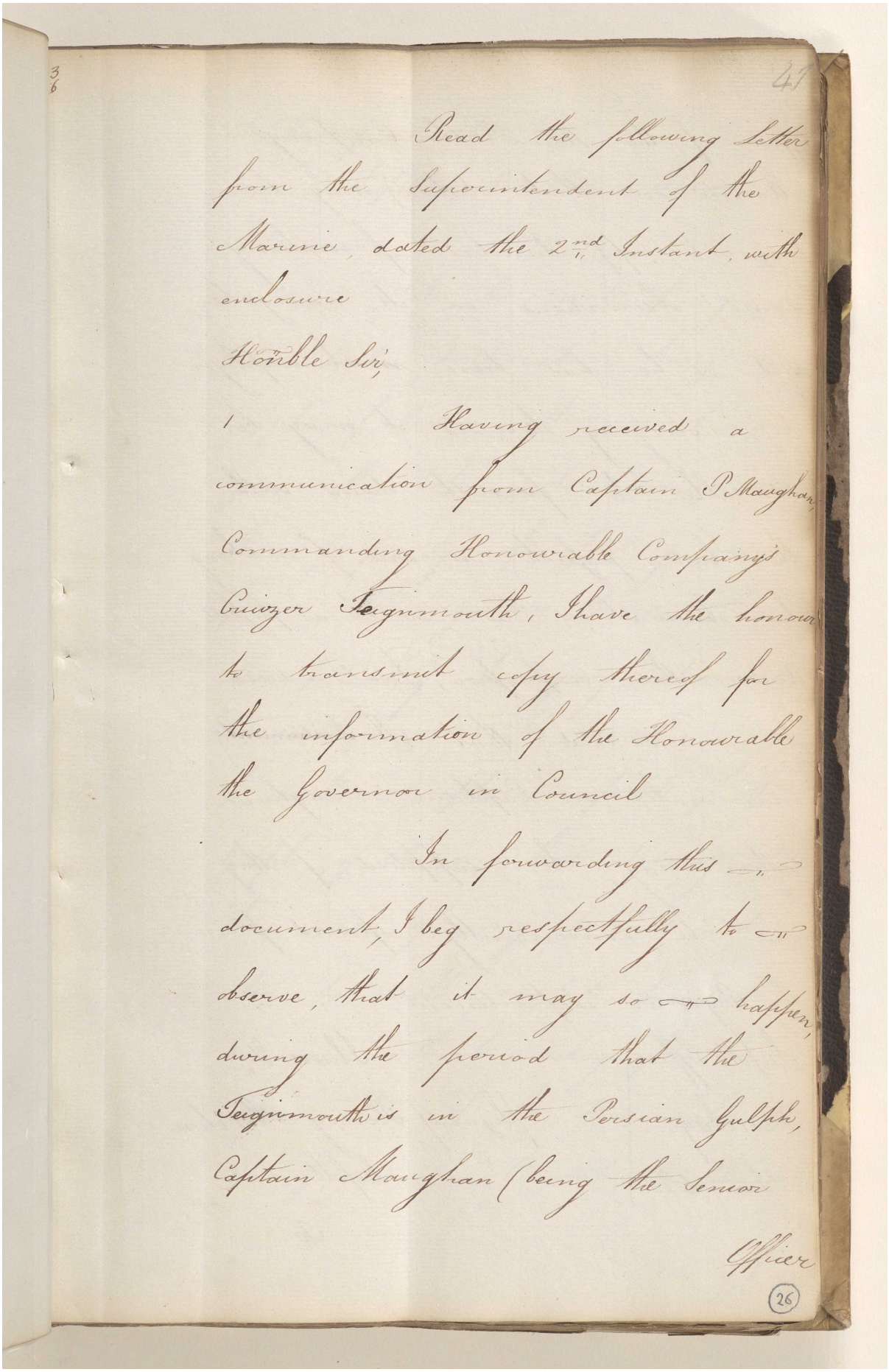


In the instructions which
Mr. Meriton is to be directed to or
submit for the guidance of the
surveying Officer, it will be best
that he be clearly informed of
the objects of Government, and
not fettered with too detailed
directions.

Read



3
6

47

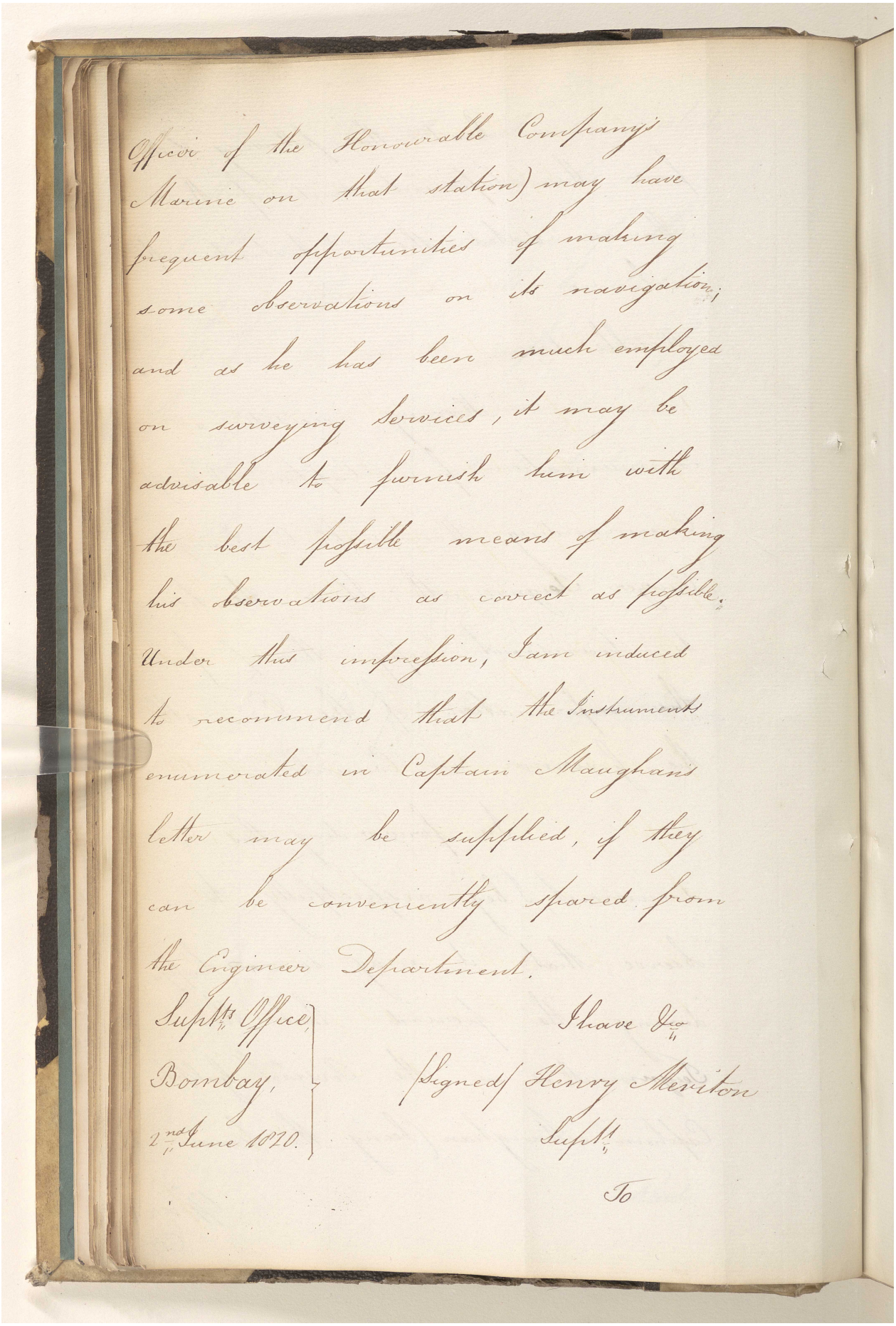
Read the following Letter from the Superintendent of the Marine, dated the 2nd Instant, with enclosure

Honble Sir,

I Having received a communication from Captain P Maughan, Commanding Honourable Company's Cruizer Teignmouth, I have the honour to transmit copy thereof for the information of the Honourable the Governor in Council

In forwarding this document, I beg respectfully to observe, that it may so happen, during the period that the Teignmouth is in the Persian Gulph, Captain Maughan (being the Senior Officer

(26)

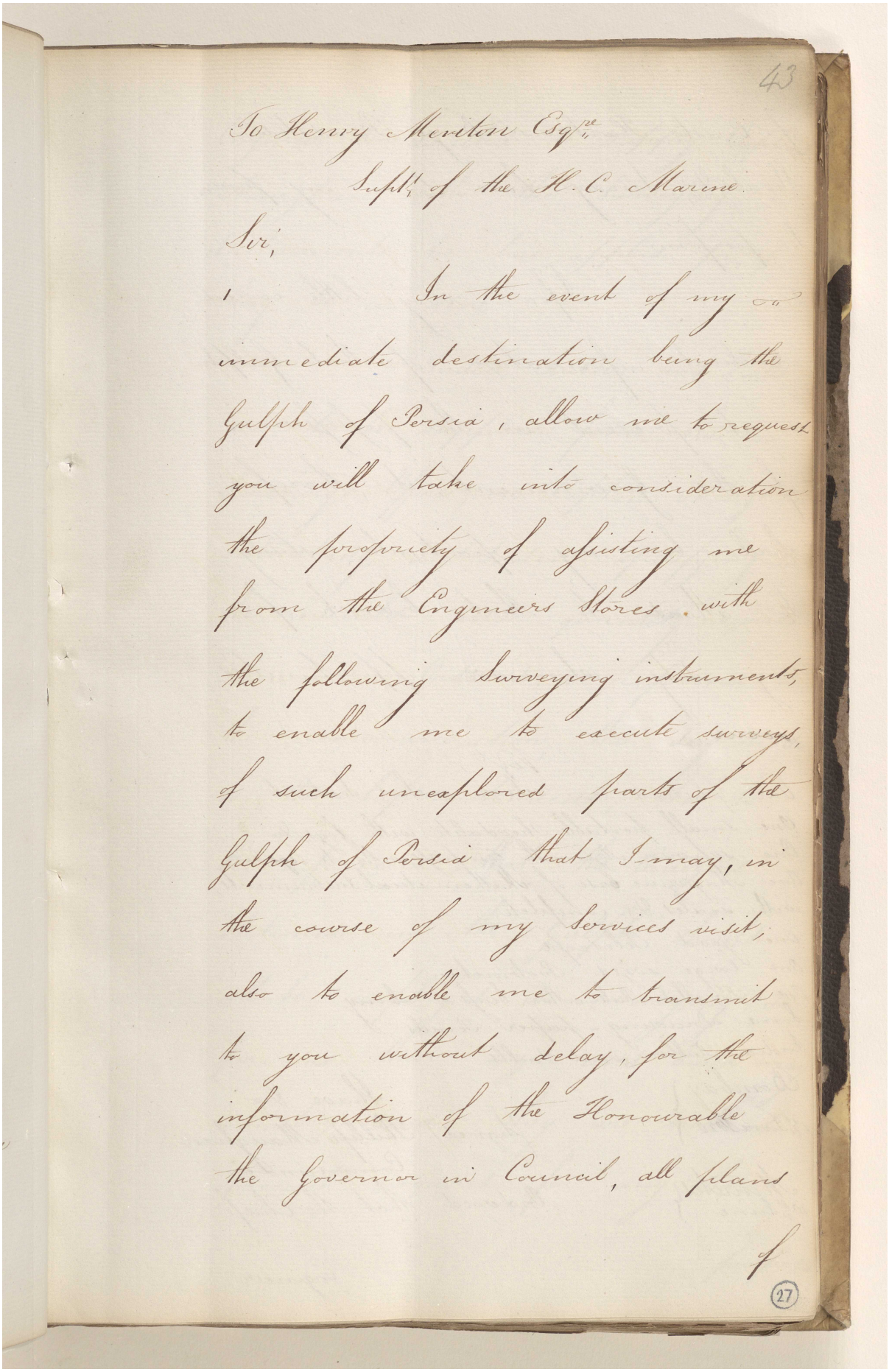


Office of the Honourable Company's
Marine on that station) may have
frequent opportunities of making
some observations on its navigation;
and as he has been much employed
on surveying Services, it may be
advisable to furnish him with
the best possible means of making
his observations as correct as possible.
Under this impression, I am induced
to recommend that the Instruments
enumerated in Captain Maughan's
letter may be supplied, if they
can be conveniently spared from
the Engineer Department.

Supt.ts Office,
Bombay,
2nd June 1820.

I have &c.
(Signed) Henry Meriton
Supt.t

To



43

To Henry Meriton Esqre.
Suptt. of the H. C. Marine.

Sir,

In the event of my immediate destination being the Gulph of Persia, allow me to request you will take into consideration the propriety of assisting me from the Engineers Stores with the following Surveying instruments, to enable me to execute surveys, of such unexplored parts of the Gulph of Persia that I may, in the course of my Services visit, also to enable me to transmit to you without delay, for the information of the Honourable the Governor in Council, all plans

of

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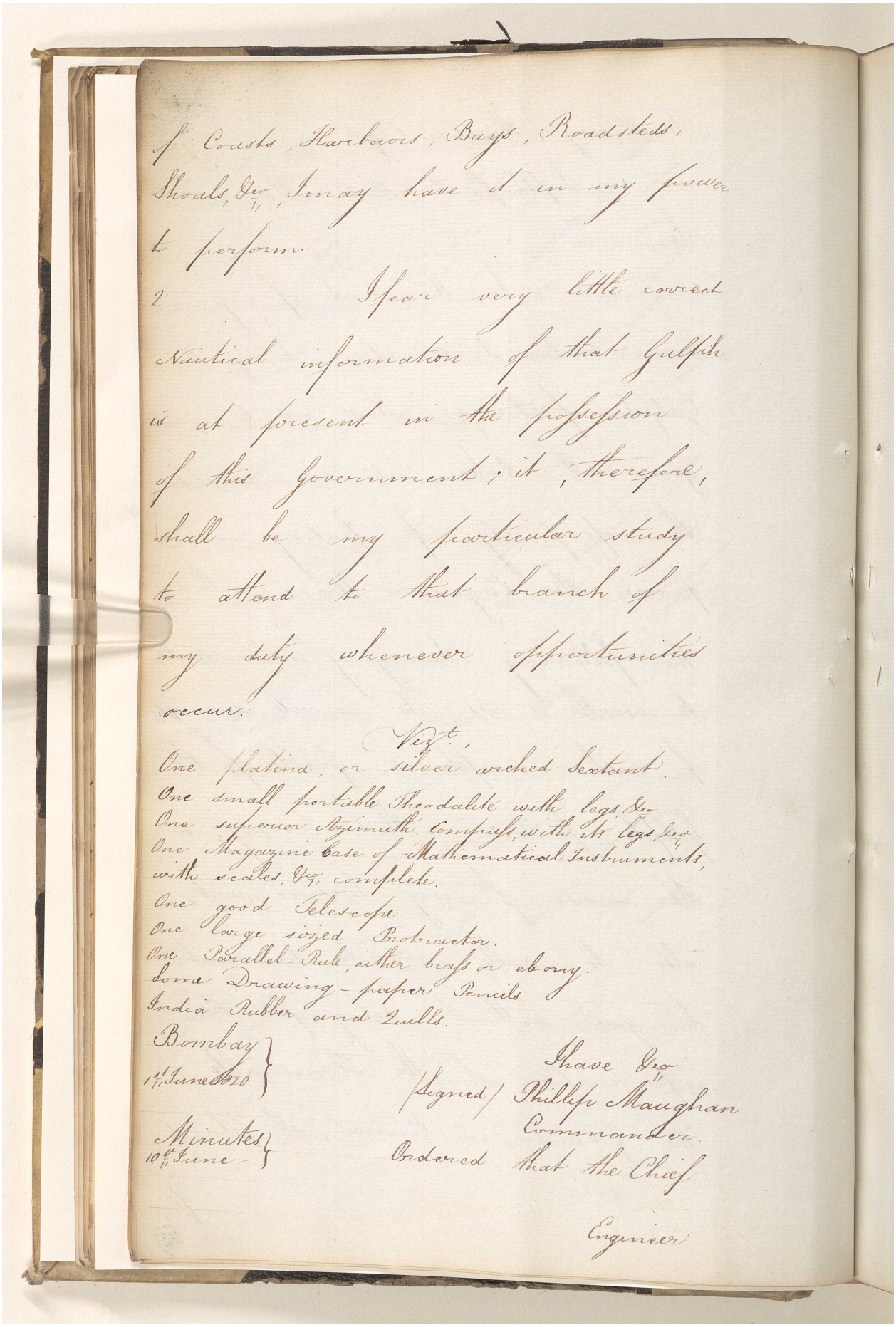


of Coasts, Harbours, Bays, Roadsteds, Shoals, &c., I may have it in my power to perform.

2 I fear very little correct Nautical information of that Gulph is at present in the possession of this Government; it, therefore, shall be my particular study to attend to that branch of my duty whenever opportunities occur.

Viz.:

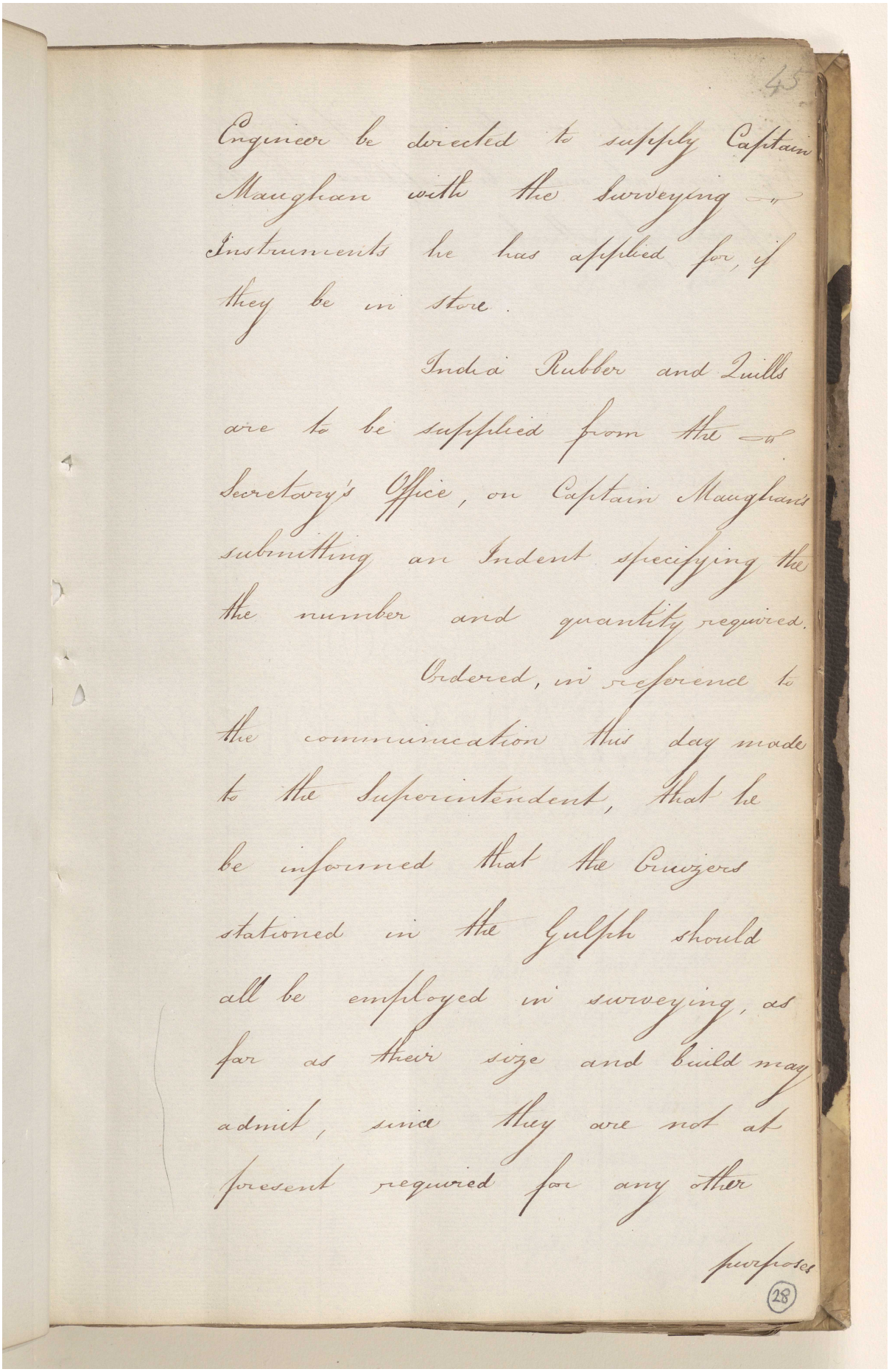
One platina, or silver arched Sextant
One small portable Theodalite with legs, &c.
One superior Azimuth Compass, with its legs, &c.
One Magazine Case of Mathematical Instruments, with scales, &c., complete.
One good Telescope.
One large sized Protractor.
One Parallel Rule, either brass or ebony.
Some Drawing-paper Pencils.
India Rubber and Quills.

Bombay
11th June 1820

I have &c.
(Signed) Phillips Maughan
Commander.

Minutes
10th June –

Ordered that the Chief Engineer



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Engineer be directed to supply Captain Maughan with the Surveying Instruments he has applied for, if they be in store.

India Rubber and Quills are to be supplied from the Secretary's Office, on Captain Maughan's submitting an Indent specifying the the number and quantity required.

Ordered, in reference to the communication this day made to the Superintendent, that he be informed that the Cruizers stationed in the Gulph should all be employed in surveying, as far as their size and build may admit, since they are not at present required for any other purposes

28

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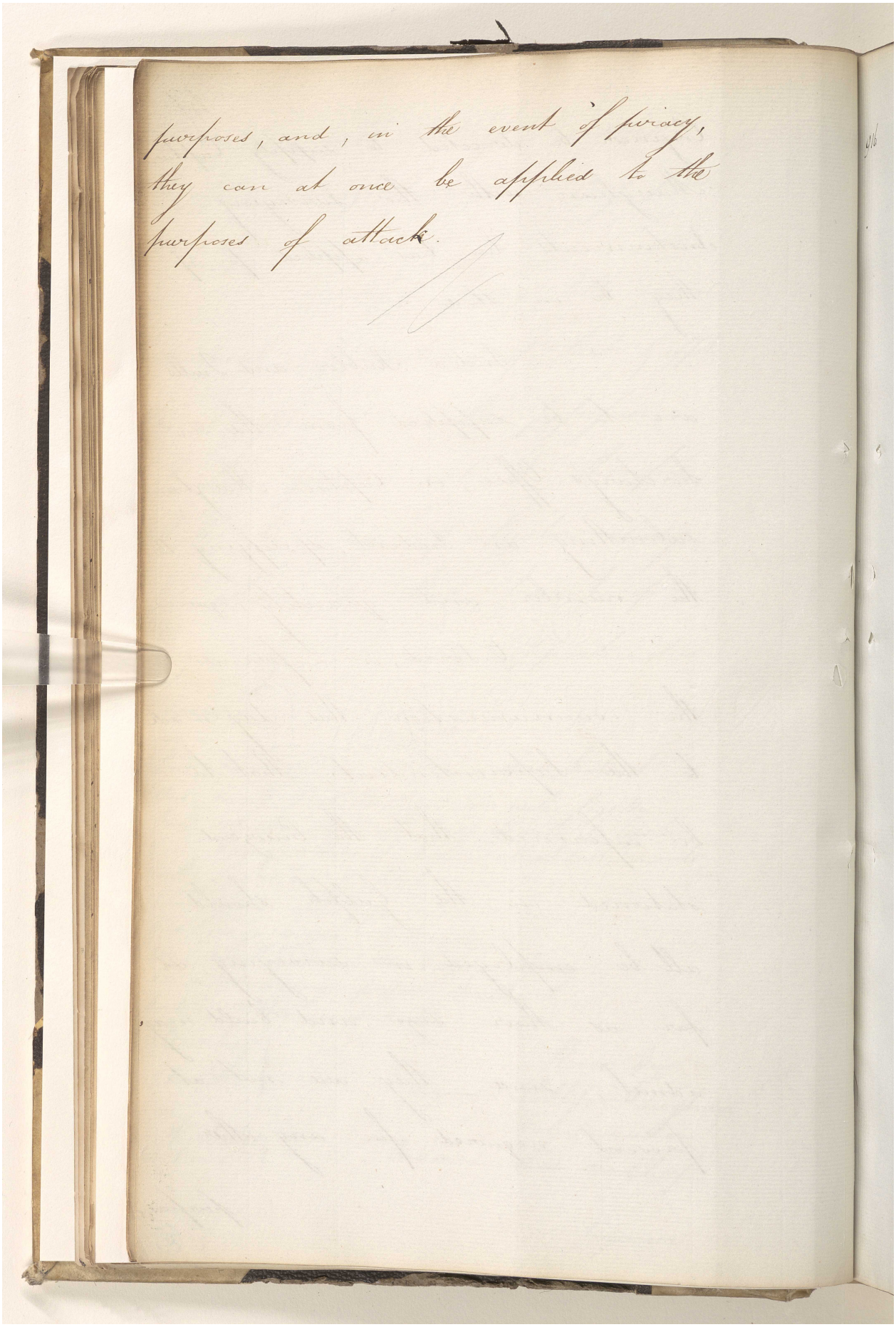
purposes, and, in the event of piracy,
they can at once be applied to the
purposes of attack.

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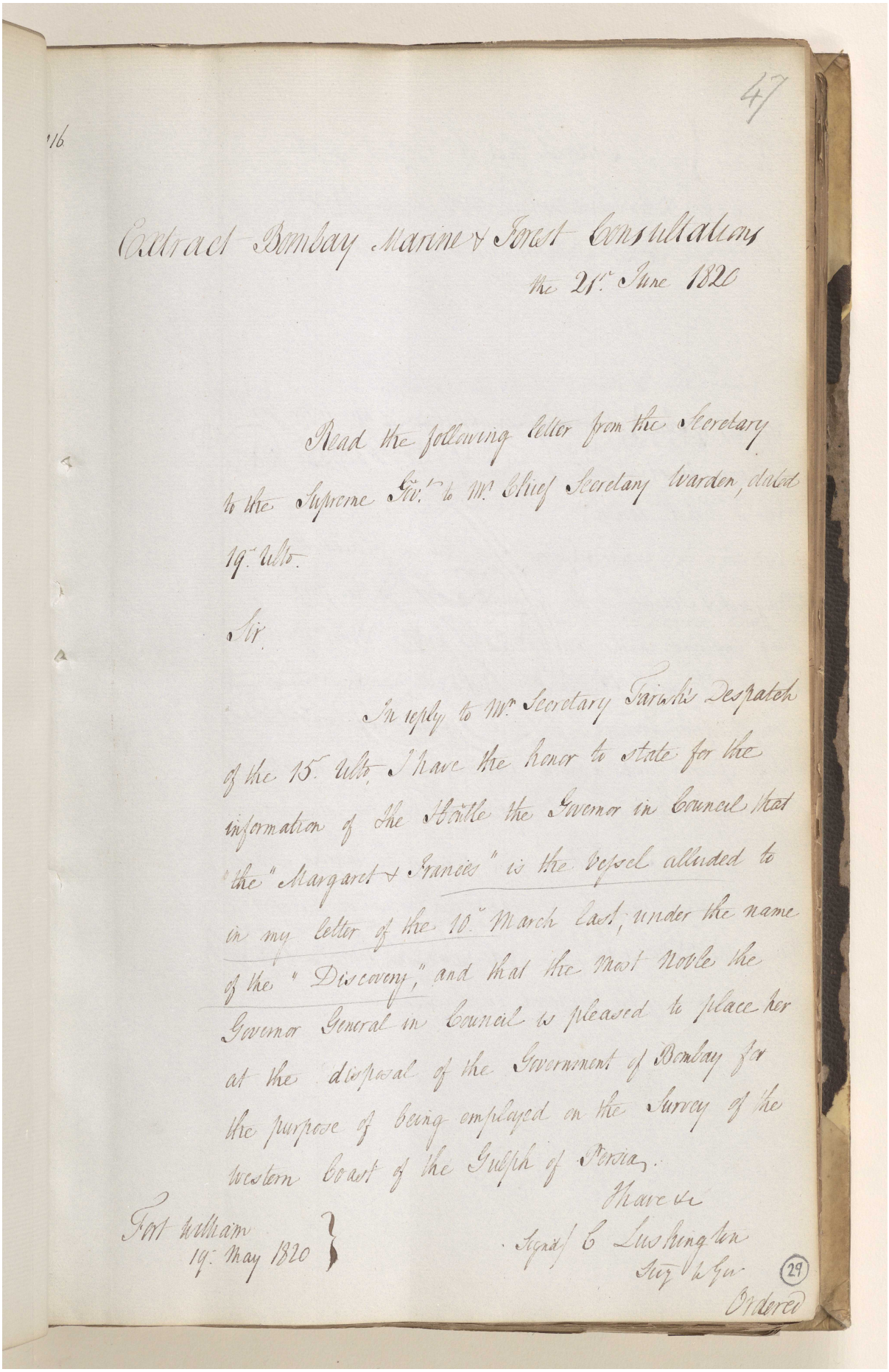

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1/6

Extract Bombay Marine & Secret Consultations
the 25th June 1820

Read the following letter from the Secretary
to the Supreme Govt. to Mr Chief Secretary Warden, dated
19th Ulto.

Sir

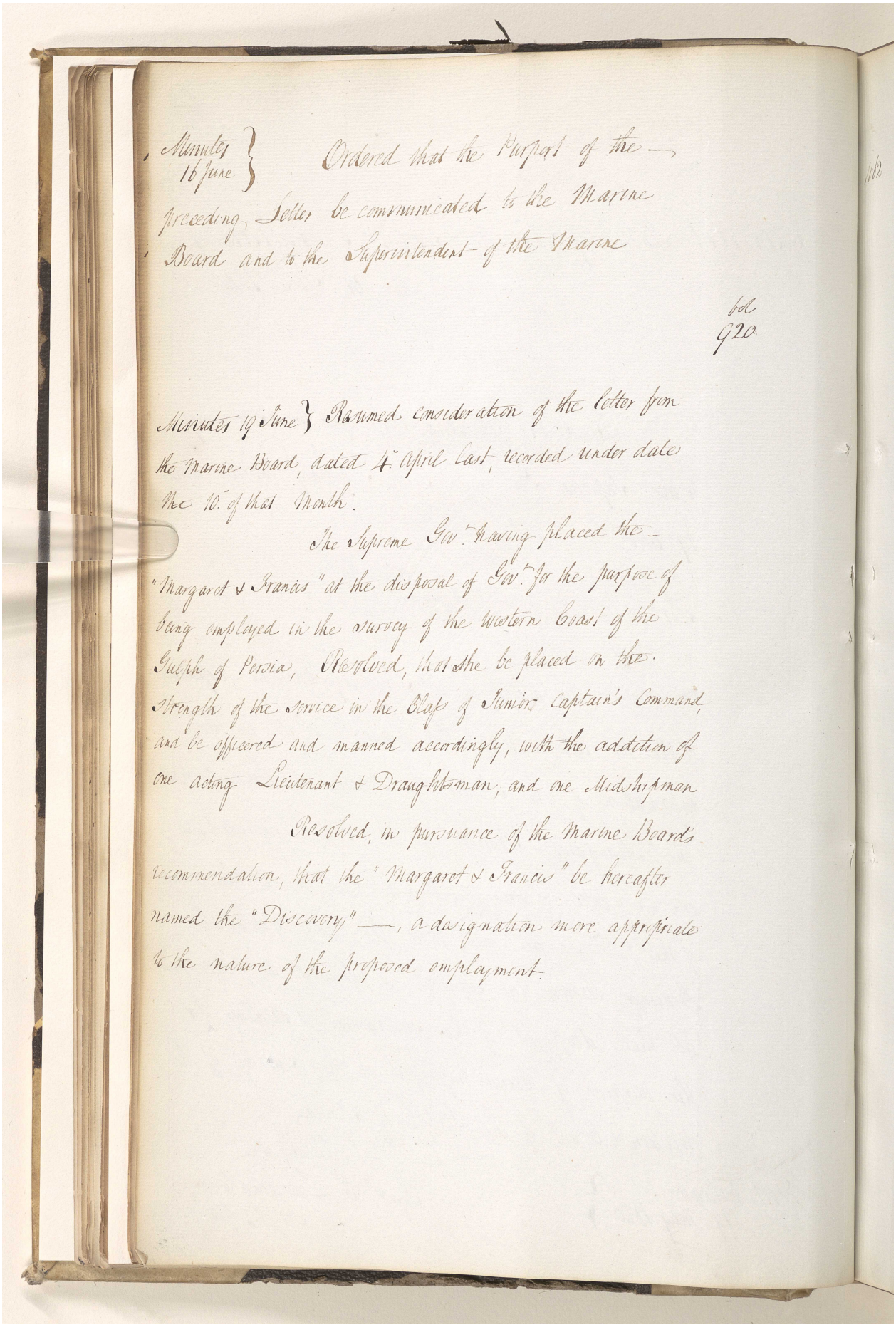
In reply to Mr Secretary Fairish's Despatch
of the 15. Ulto. I have the honor to state for the
information of the Hble the Governor in Council that
the "Margaret & Frances" is the Vessel alluded to
in my letter of the 10th March last, under the name
of the "Discovery," and that the Most Noble the
Governor General in Council is pleased to place her
at the disposal of the Government of Bombay for
the purpose of being employed on the Survey of the
western Coast of the Gulph of Persia.

I have &c
Sgd/ C Lushington
Sec. to Govt.

Fort William
19th May 1820

29

Ordered



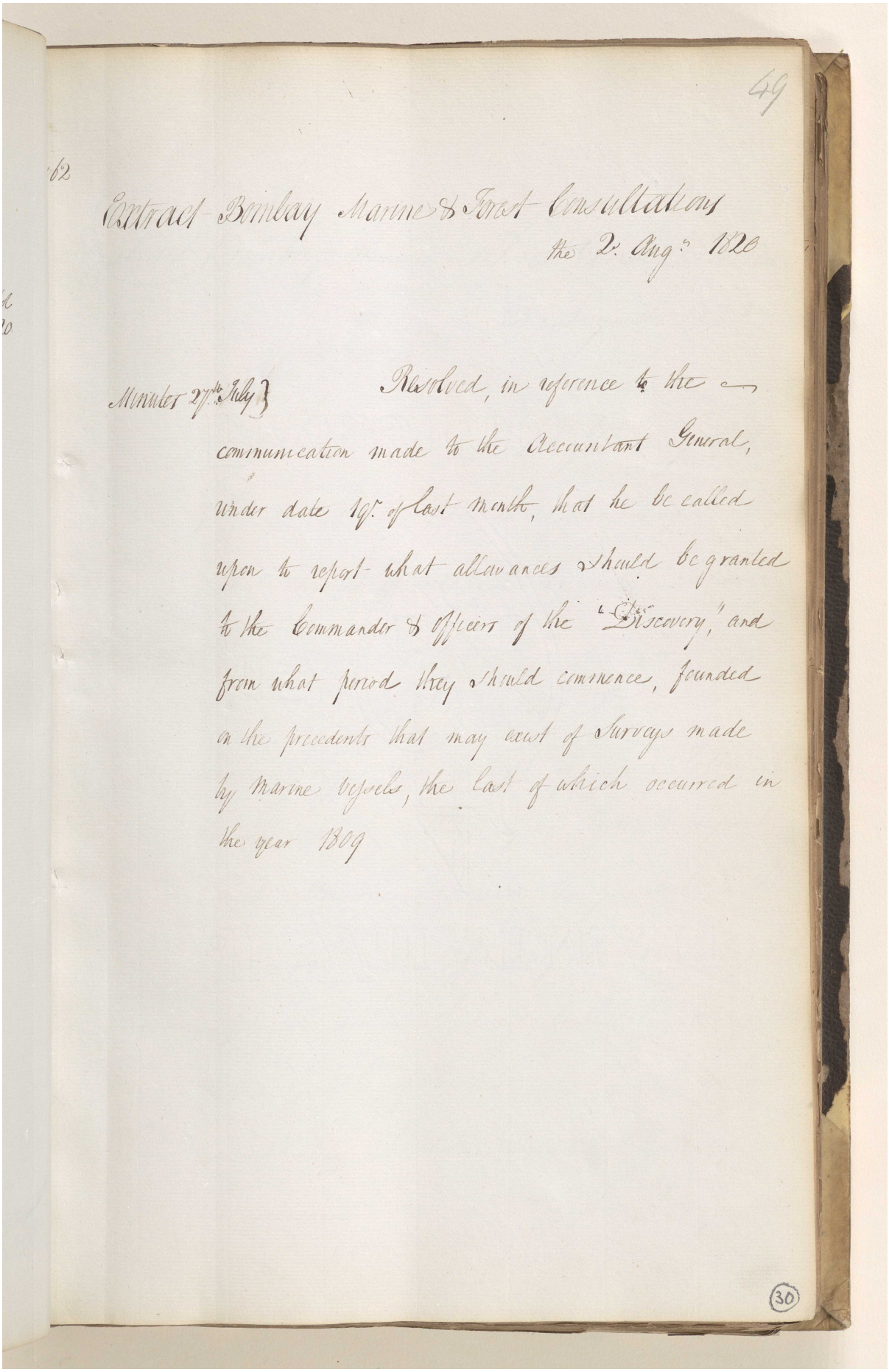
Minutes 16 June } Ordered that the Purport of the — preceding Letter be communicated to the Marine Board and to the Superintendent of the Marine

fol 920

Minutes 19th June } Resumed consideration of the Letter from the Marine Board, dated 4th April last, recorded under date the 10th of that Month.

The Supreme Govt having placed the "Margaret & Frances" at the disposal of Govt for the purpose of being employed in the survey of the Western Coast of the Gulph of Persia, Resolved, that she be placed on the Strength of the service in the Class of Sumvas Captain's Command, and be officered and manned accordingly, with the addition of one acting Lieutenant & Draughtsman, and one Midshipman

Resolved, in pursuance of the Marine Board's recommendation, that the "Margaret & Frances" be hereafter named the "Discovery" —, a designation more appropriate to the nature of the proposed employment.



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62

Extract Bombay Marine & Trust Consultations
the 2d Augt 1820

Monday 27th July } Resolved, in reference to the
communication made to the Accountant General,
under date 19th of last month, that he be called
upon to report what allowances should be granted
to the Commander & Officers of the "Discovery," and
from what period they should commence, founded
on the precedents that may exist of Surveys made
by Marine Vessels, the last of which occurred in
the year 1809

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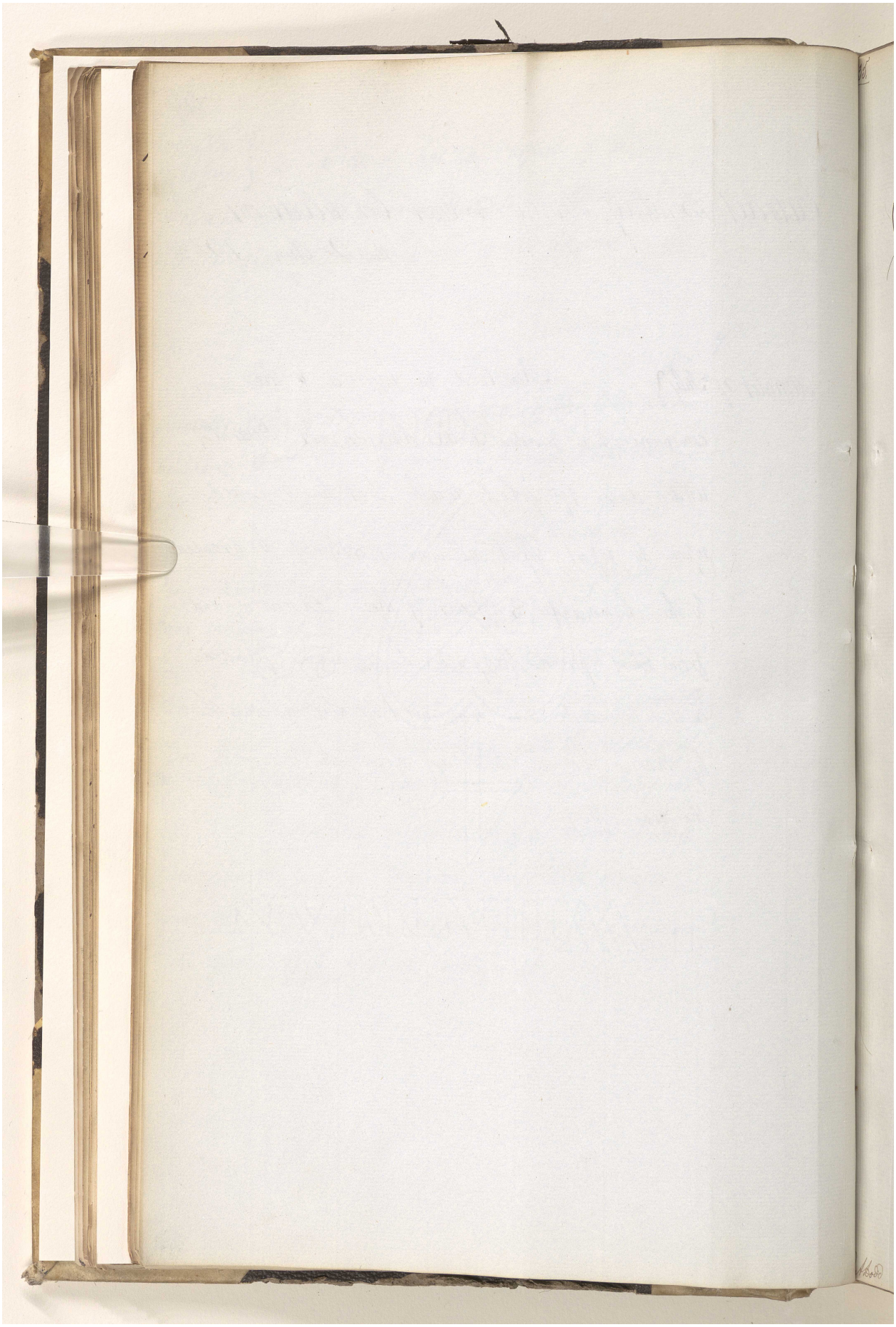

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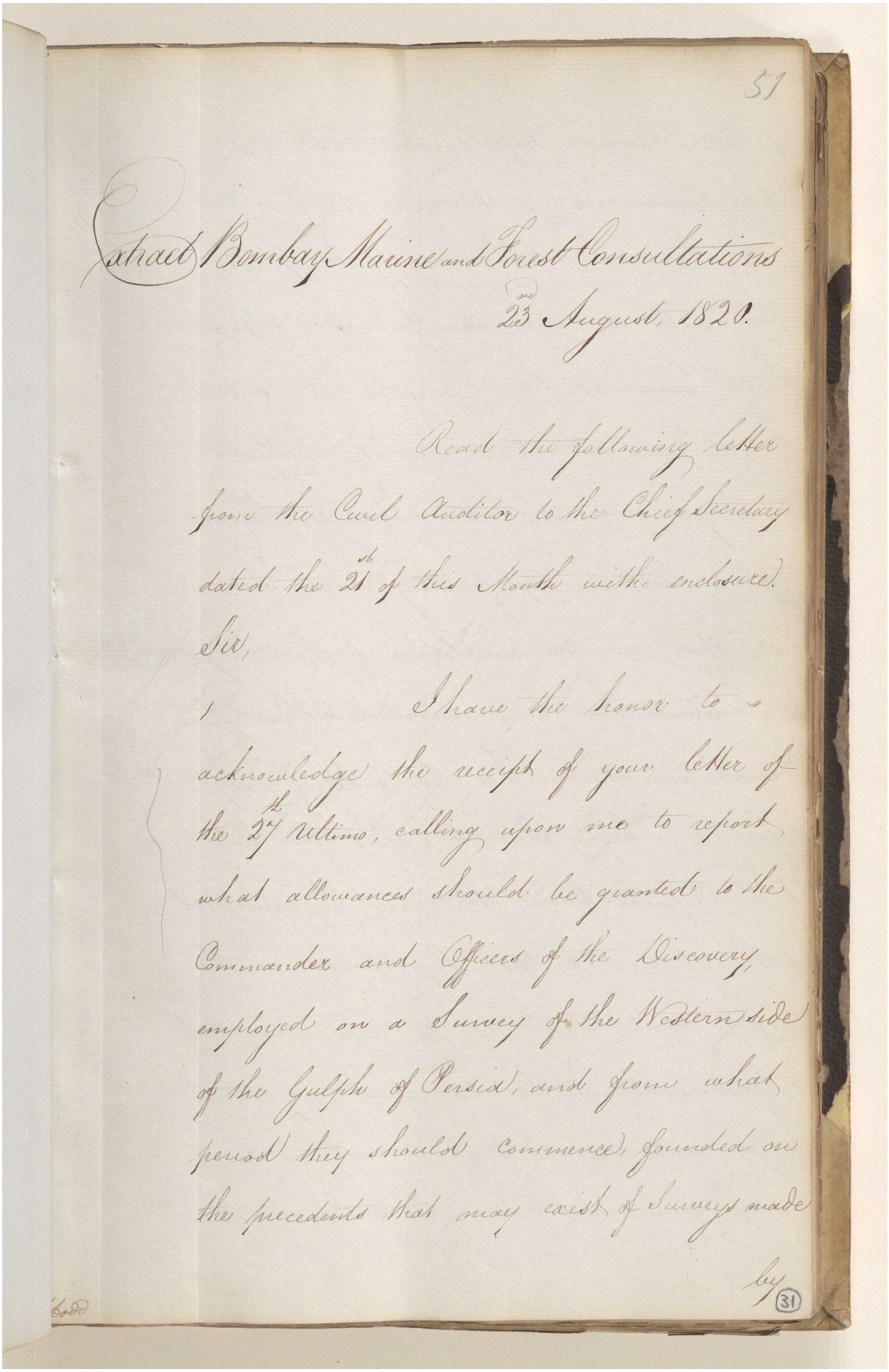

51

Extract Bombay Marine and Forest Consultations
23rd August, 1820.

Read the following letter
from the Cuid Auditor to the Chief Secretary
dated the 21st of this Month with enclosure.

Sir,

I have the honor to
acknowledge the receipt of your letter of
the 27th ultimo, calling upon me to report
what allowances should be granted to the
Commander and Officers of the Discovery
employed on a Survey of the Western side
of the Gulph of Persia, and from what
period they should commence, founded on
the precedents that may exist of Surveys made
by

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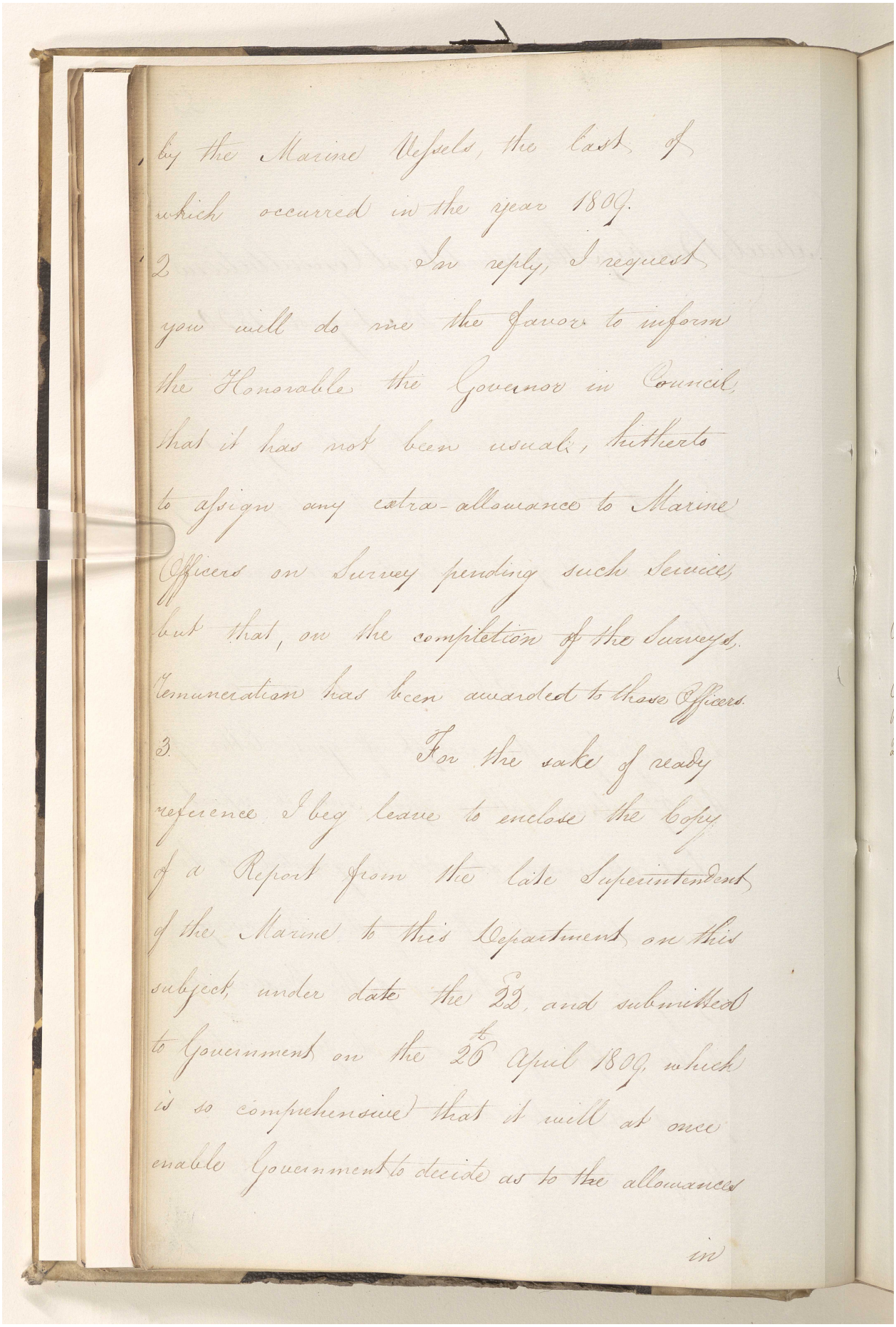

by the Marine Vessels, the last of
which occurred in the year 1809.

2 In reply, I request
you will do me the favor to inform
the Honorable the Governor in Council
that it has not been usual, hitherto
to assign any extra-allowance to Marine
Officers on Survey pending such Services,
but that, on the completion of the Surveys,
Remuneration has been awarded to those Officers.

3 For the sake of ready
reference I beg leave to enclose the Copy
of a Report from the late Superintendent
of the Marine to this Department on this
subject, under date the 22, and submitted
to Government on the 26 April 1809, which
is so comprehensive that it will at once
enable Government to decide as to the allowances

in

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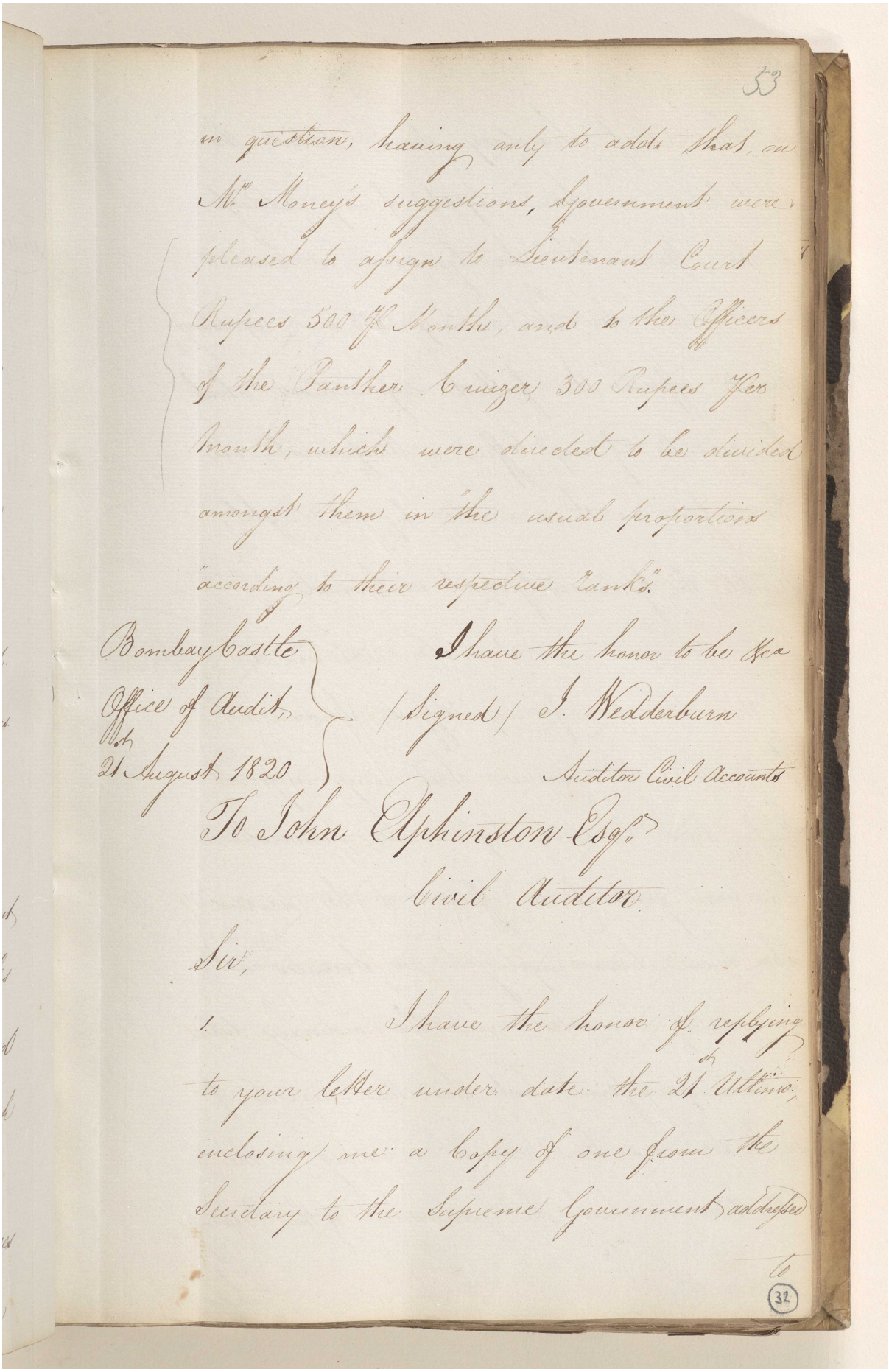


53

in question, having only to adds that, on Mr Money's suggestions, Government were pleased to assign to Lieutenant Court Rupees 500 ℔ Month, and to the Officers of the Panther Cruizer 300 Rupees ℔ Month, which were directed to be divided amongst them in the usual proportions "according to their respective Ranks".

Bombay Castle
Office of Audit
21st August 1820

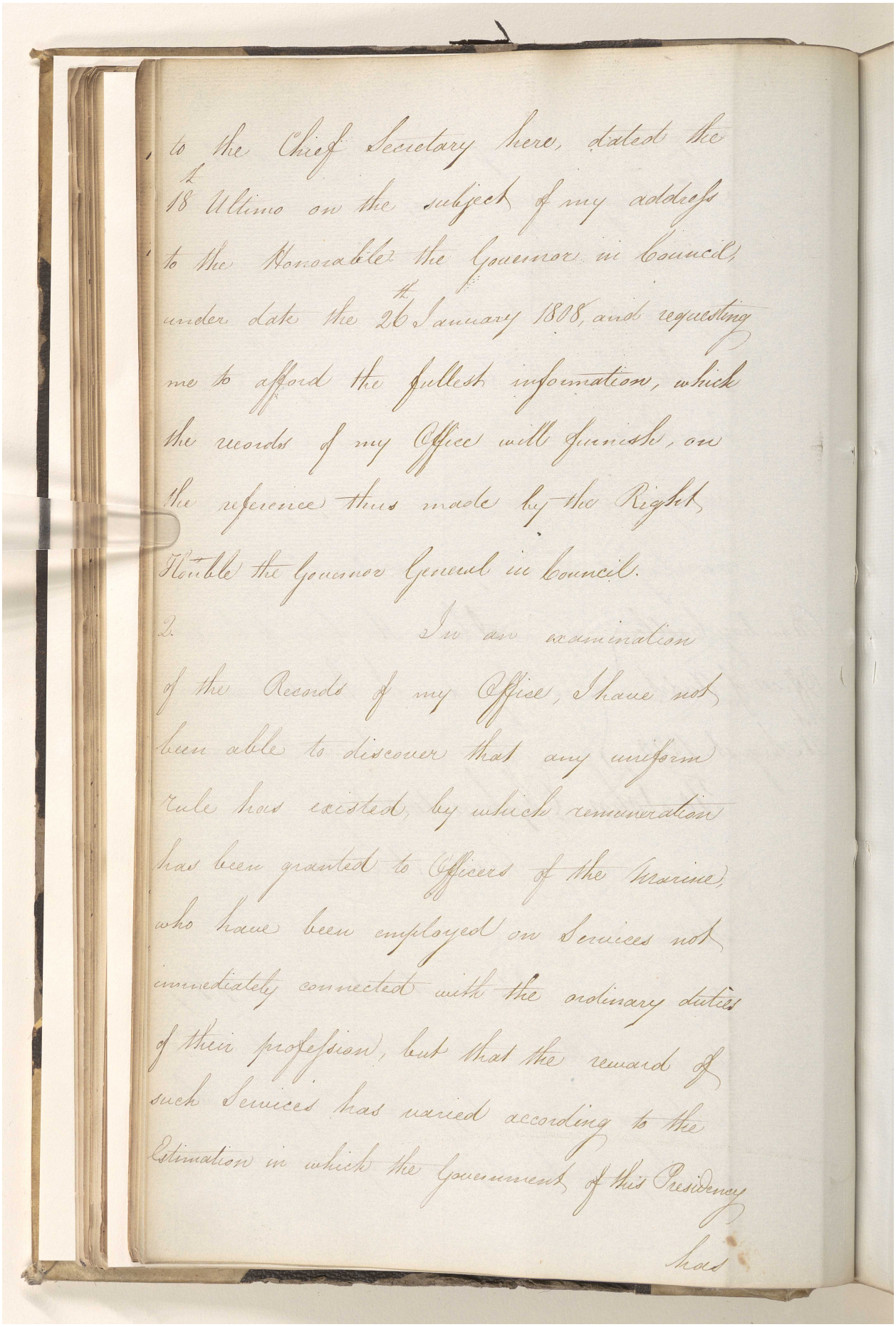
I have the honor to be &c
(Signed) J. Wedderburn
Auditor Civil Accounts

To John Elphinston Esq.
Civil Auditor

Sir,

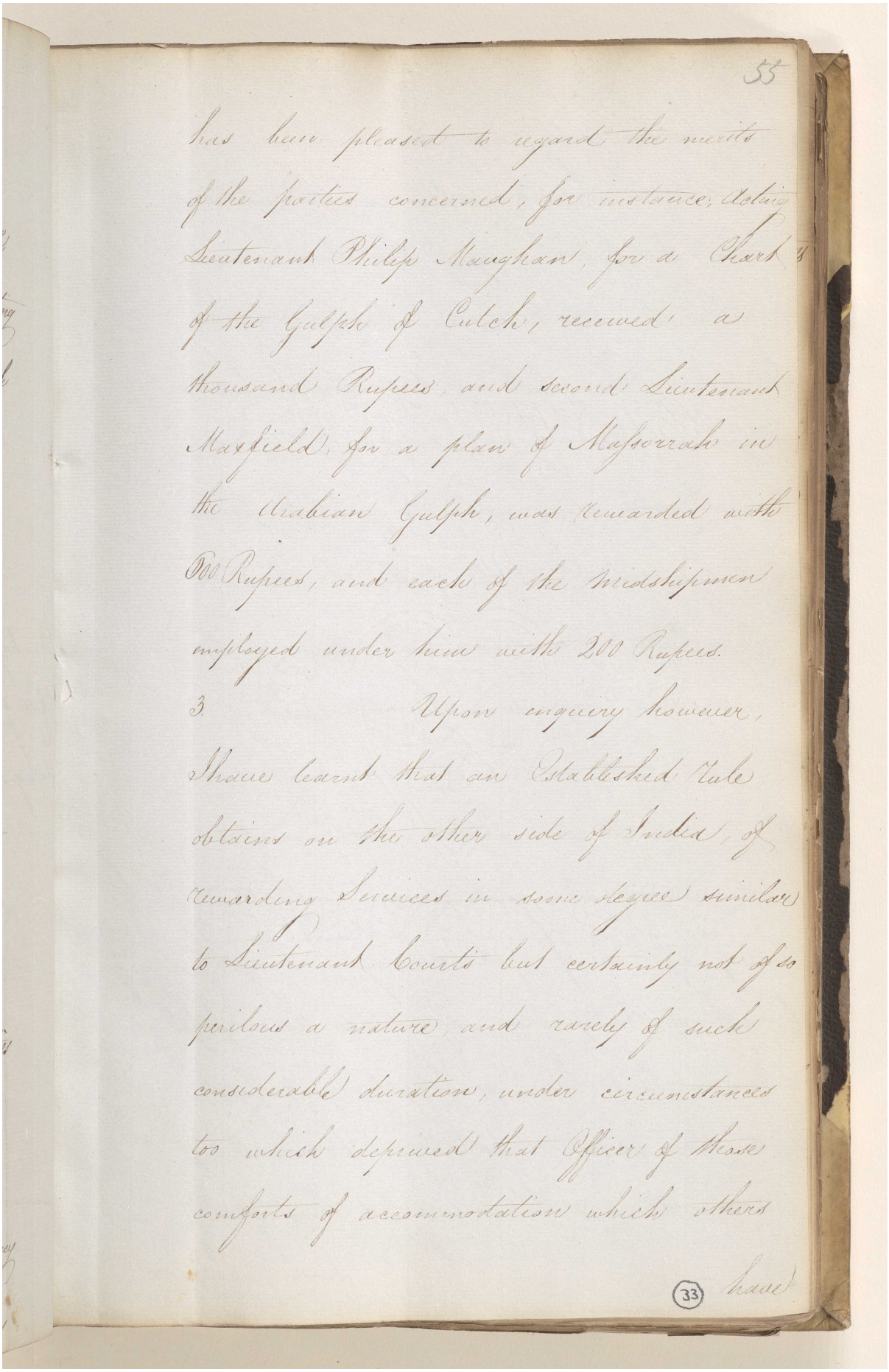
I have the honor of replying to your letter under date the 21 Ultimo, inclosing me a Copy of one from the Secretary to the Supreme Government addressed to

32



to the Chief Secretary here, dated the 18th Ultimo on the subject of my address to the Honorable the Governor in Council, under date the 26th January 1808, and requesting me to afford the fullest information, which the records of my Office will furnish, on the reference thus made by the Right Honble the Governor General in Council.

2. In an examination of the Records of my Office, I have not been able to discover that any uniform rule has existed, by which remuneration has been granted to Officers of the Marine, who have been employed on Services not immediately connected with the ordinary duties of their profession, but that the reward of such Services has varied according to the Estimation in which the Government of this Presidency had



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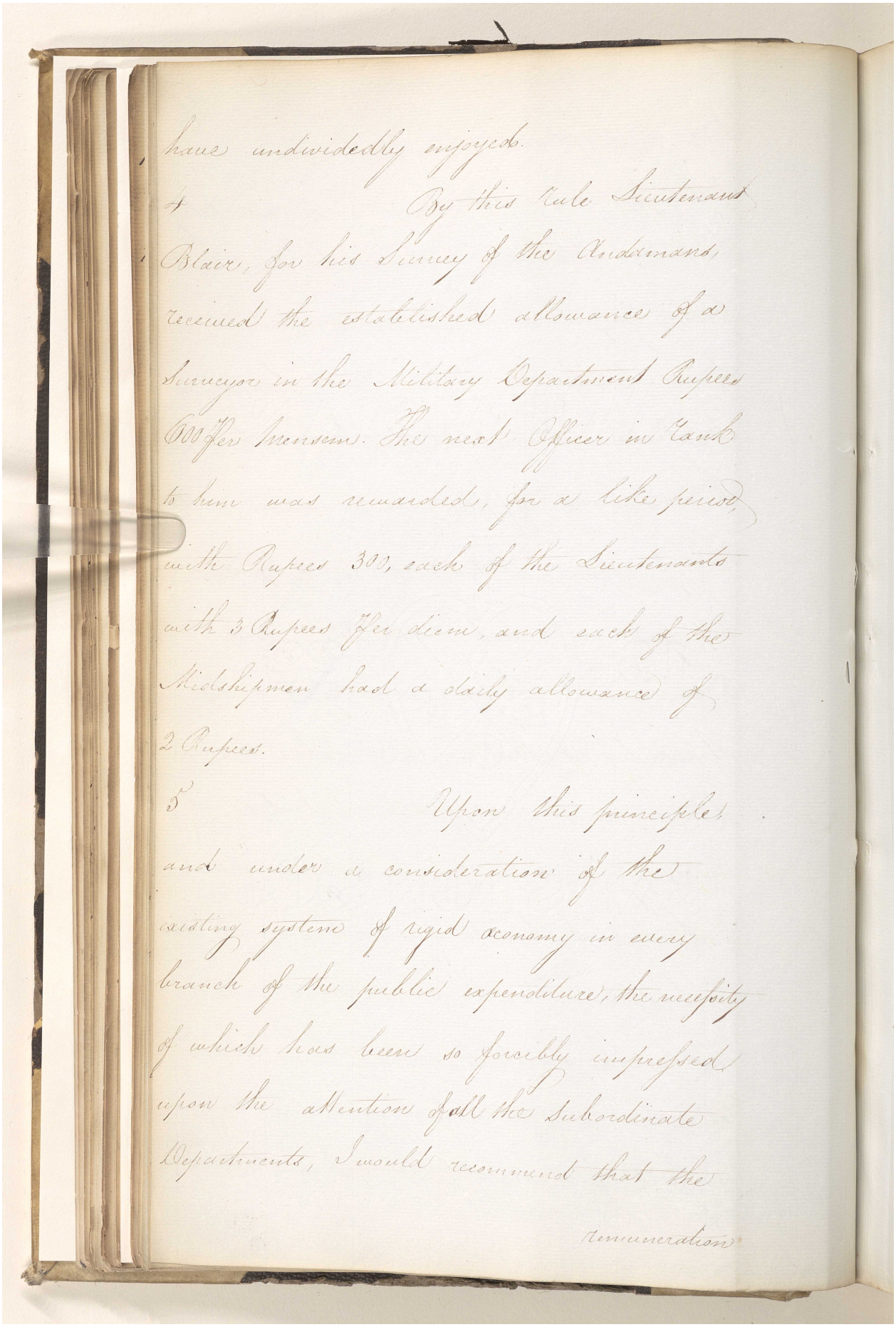
has been pleased to regard the merits
of the parties concerned, for instance, Acting
Lieutenant Philip Maughan, for a Chart
of the Gulph of Cutch, received a
thousand Rupees, and second Lieutenant
Maxfield, for a plan of Mafsorrah in
the Arabian Gulph, was rewarded with
500 Rupees, and each of the Midshipmen
employed under him with 200 Rupees.

3. Upon enquiry however,
I have learnt that an Established Rule
obtains on the other side of India, of
rewarding Services in some degree similar
to Lieutenant Maxfield's but certainly not of so
perilous a nature, and rarely of such
considerable duration, under circumstances
too which deprived that Officer of those
comforts of accommodation which others

(33) have

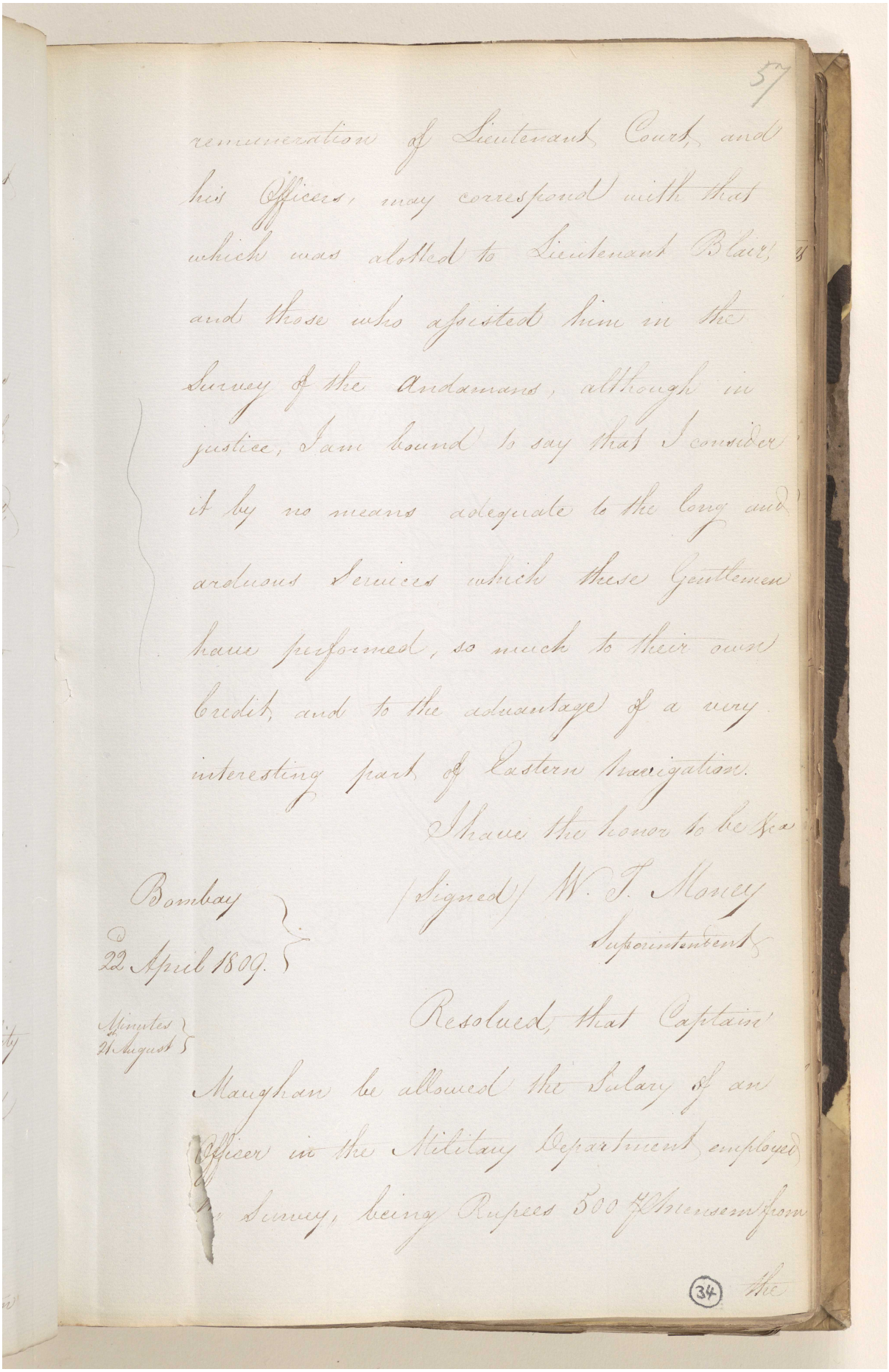


have undividedly enjoyed.

4 By this rule Lieutenant Blair, for his Survey of the Andamans, received the established allowance of a Surveyor in the Military Department Rupees 600 per Mensem. The next Officer in rank to him was rewarded, for a like period, with Rupees 300, each of the Lieutenants with 3 Rupees per diem, and each of the Midshipmen had a daily allowance of 2 Rupees.

5 Upon this principle, and under a consideration of the existing system of rigid economy in every branch of the public expenditure, the necessity of which has been so forcibly impressed upon the attention of all the Subordinate Departments, I would recommend that the

Remuneration



57

remuneration of Lieutenant Court, and his Officers, may correspond with that which was allotted to Lieutenant Blair, and those who assisted him in the Survey of the Andamans, although in justice, I am bound to say that I consider it by no means adequate to the long and arduous Services which these Gentlemen have performed, so much to their own credit, and to the advantage of a very interesting part of Eastern Navigation.

I have the honor to be &c.

(Signed) W. T. Money
Superintendent

Bombay
22 April 1809.

Minutes
21 August

Resolved, that Captain Maughan be allowed the Salary of an Officer in the Military Department employed in Survey, being Rupees 500 ₹ Mensem from the

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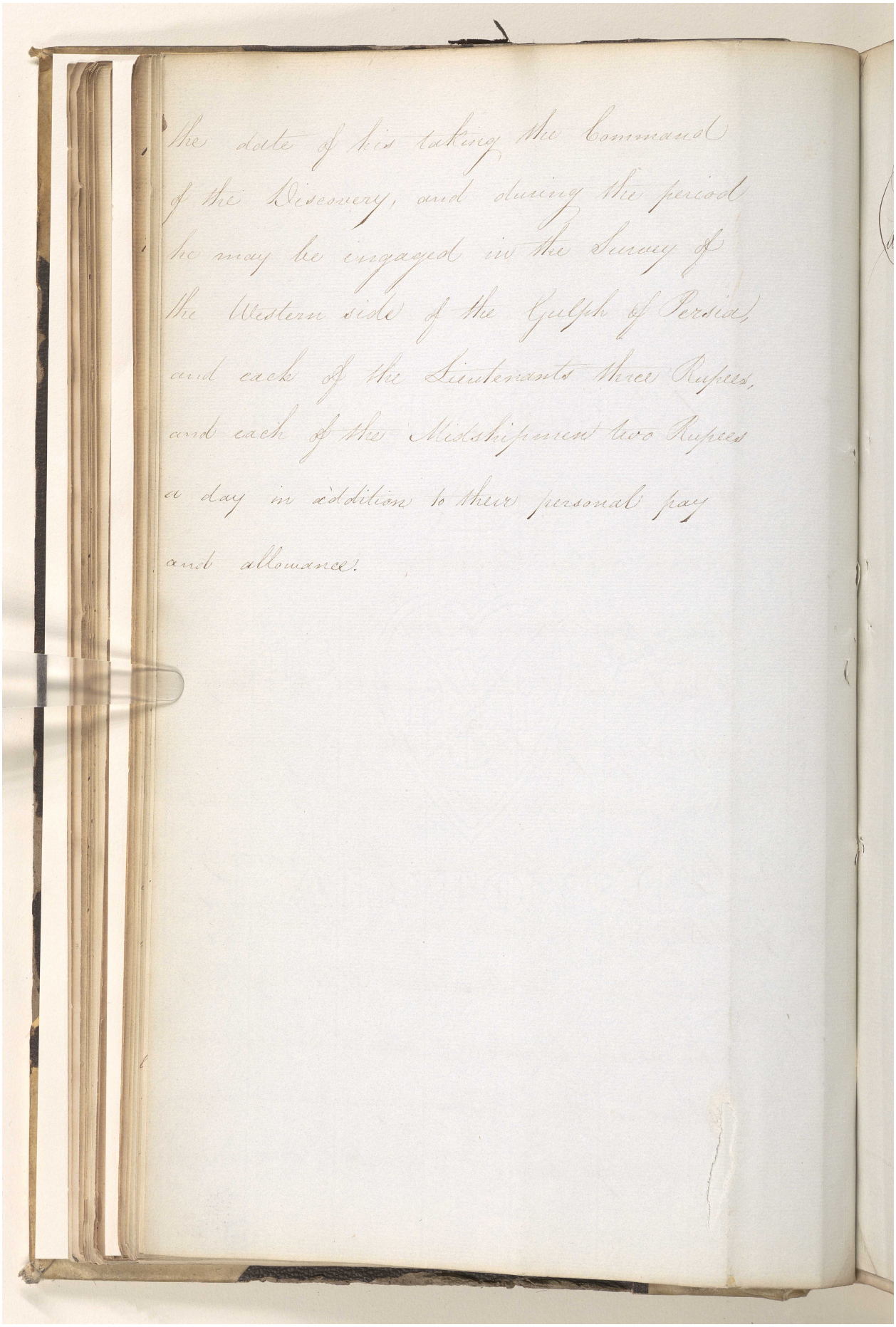

the date of his taking the Command
of the Discovery, and during the period
he may be engaged in the Survey of
the Western side of the Gulph of Persia,
and each of the Lieutenants three Rupees,
and each of the Midshipmen two Rupees
a day in addition to their personal pay
and allowance.

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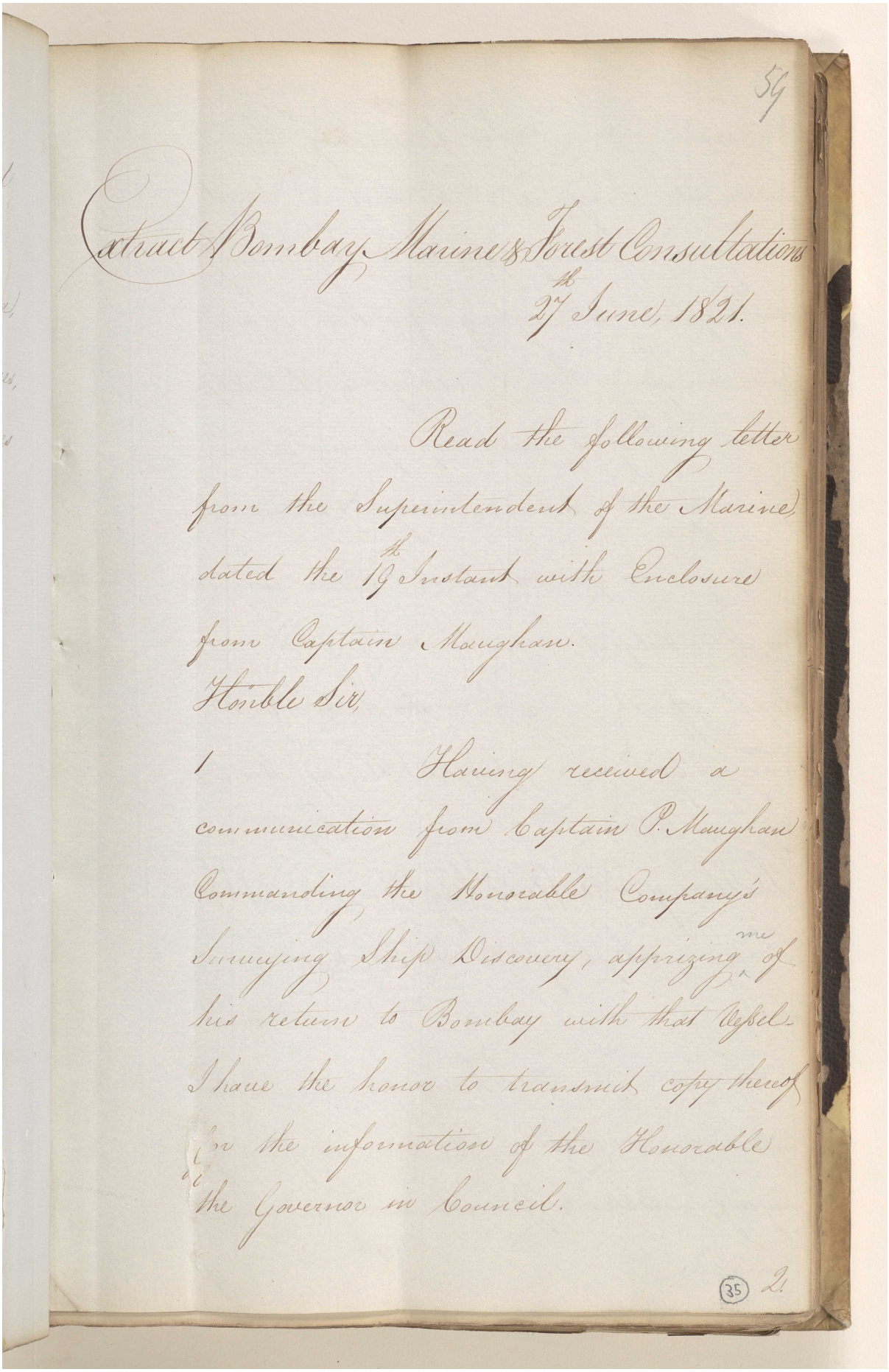

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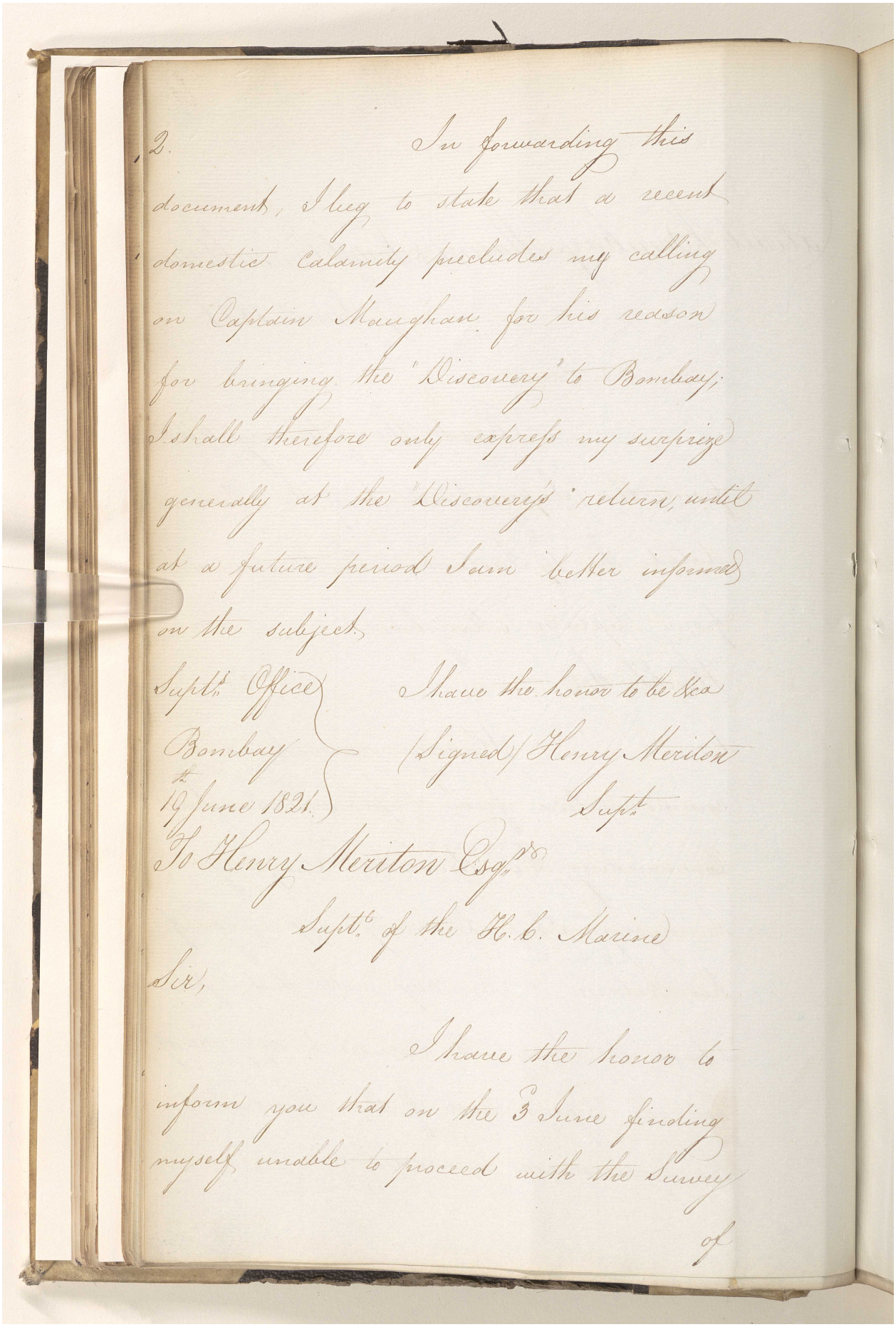
Extract Bombay Marine & Forest Consultations
27th June, 1821.

Read the following letter
from the Superintendent of the Marine
dated the 19th Instant with Enclosure
from Captain Maughan.

Honble Sir,

I Having received a
communication from Captain P. Maughan
Commanding the Honorable Company's
Surveying Ship Discovery, apprizing me
his return to Bombay with that Vessel
I have the honor to transmit copy thereof
for the information of the Honorable
the Governor in Council.

(35) 2.



2. In forwarding this
document, I beg to state that a recent
domestic calamity precludes my calling
on Captain Maughan for his reason
for bringing the "Discovery" to Bombay;
I shall therefore only express my surprize
generally at the "Discovery's" return, until
at a future period I am better informed
on the subject.

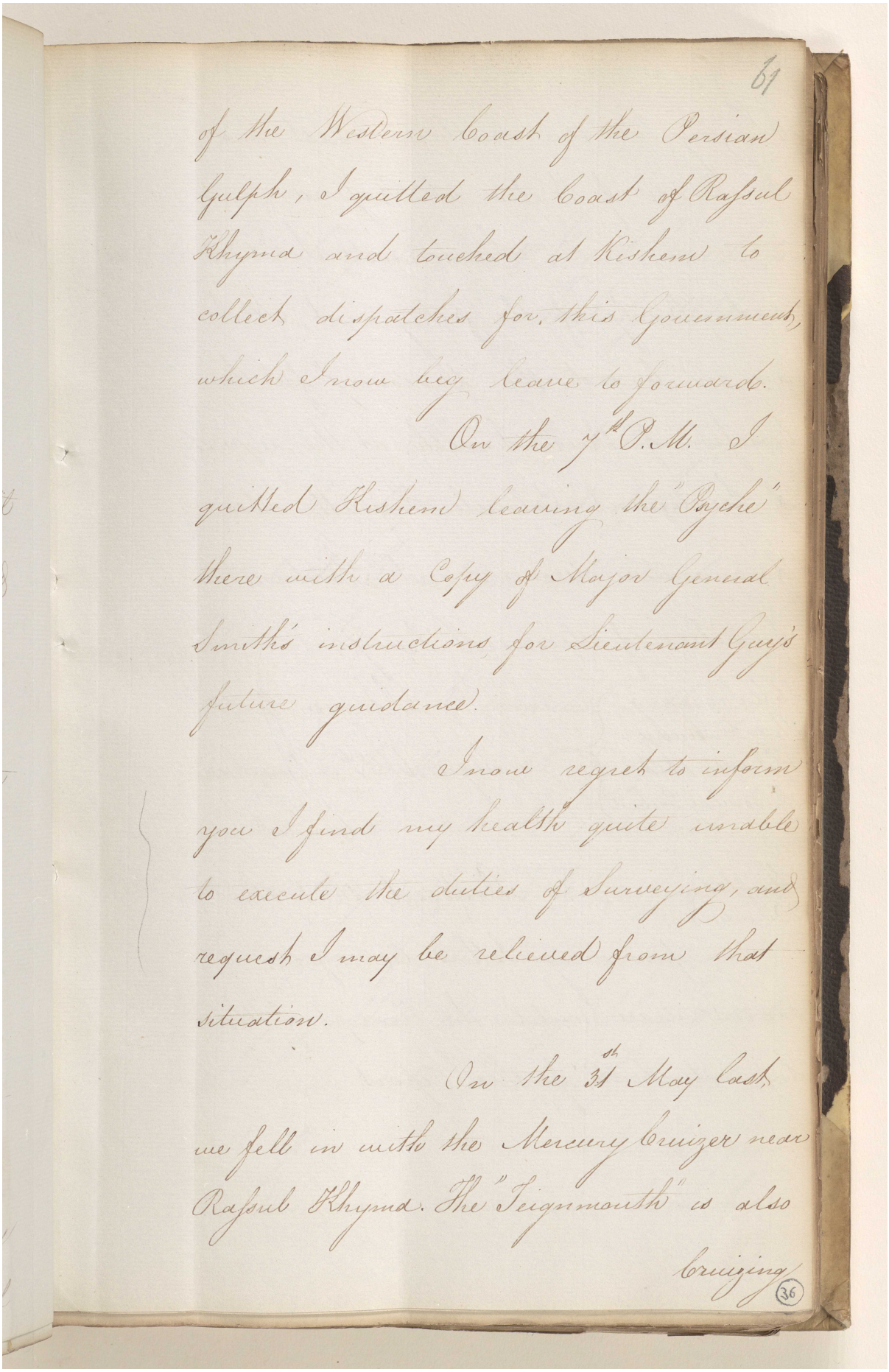
Supt.s Office
Bombay
the
19 June 1821.

I have the honor to be &c.a
(Signed) Henry Meriton
Supt.

To Henry Meriton Esq.re
Supt.t of the H.C. Marine

Sir,

I have the honor to
inform you that on the 3 June finding
myself unable to proceed with the Survey
of



61

of the Western Coast of the Persian Gulph, I quitted the Coast of Rasul Khyma and touched at Kishem to collect dispatches for this Government, which I now beg leave to forward.

On the 7th P.M. I quitted Kishem leaving the "Psyche" there with a Copy of Major General Smith's instructions for Lieutenant Guy's future guidance.

I now regret to inform you I find my health quite unable to execute the duties of Surveying, and request I may be relieved from that situation.

On the 31st May last we fell in with the Mercury Cruizer near Rasul Khyma. The "Teignmouth" is also

cruizing

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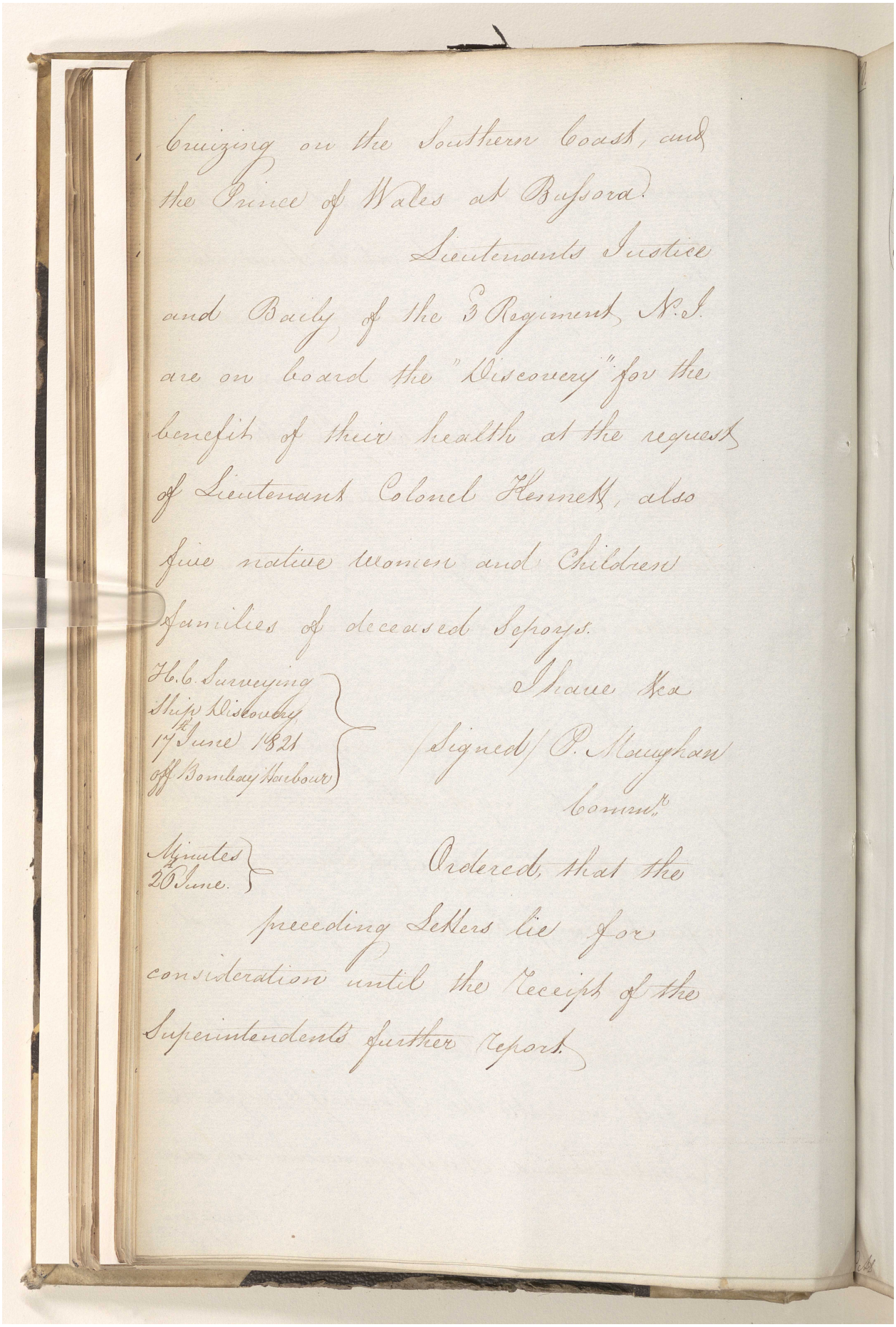


cruizing on the Southern Coast, and the Prince of Wales at Bufsora.

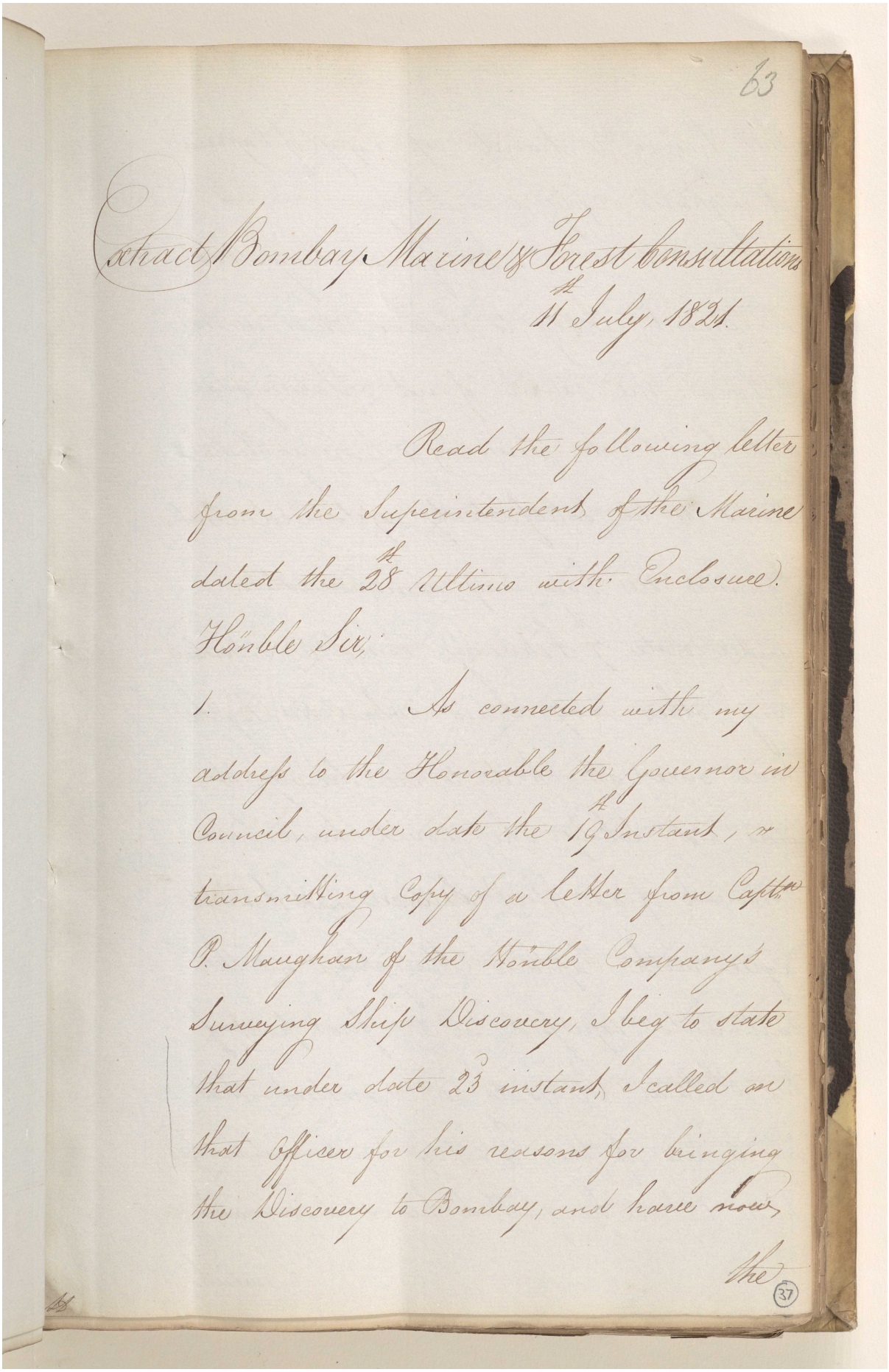
Lieutenants Justice and Baily of the 3 Regiment N.I. are on board the "Discovery" for the benefit of their health at the request of Lieutenant Colonel Kennett, also five native women and Children Families of deceased Sepoys.

H.C.S. Surveying Ship Discovery 17th June 1821 off Bombay Harbour

I have &c
(Signed) P. Maughan
Commr.

Minutes 20 June.

Ordered, that the preceding Letters lie for consideration until the Receipt of the Superintendents further Report.



63

Extract Bombay Marine & Forest Consultations
11 July, 1821.

Read the following letter from the Superintendent of the Marine dated the 28th Ultimo with Enclosure.

Honble Sir,

1. As connected with my address to the Honorable the Governor in Council, under date the 19th Instant, transmitting Copy of a letter from Captn P. Maughan of the Honble Company's Surveying Ship Discovery, I beg to state that under date 23d instant, I called on that Officer for his reasons for bringing the Discovery to Bombay, and have now,

the

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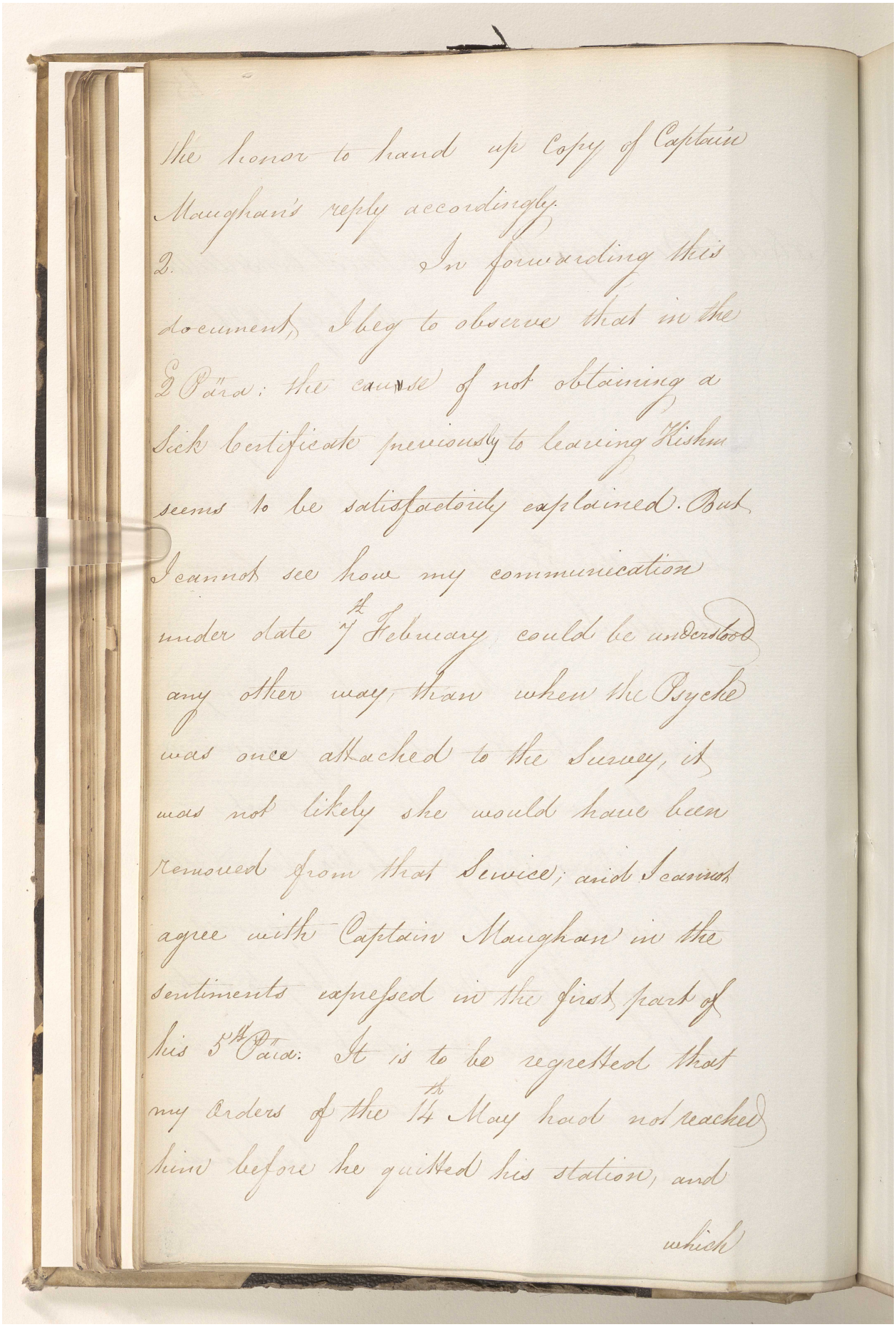

the honor to hand up Copy of Captain Maughan's reply accordingly.

2. In forwarding this document, I beg to observe that in the 2d Para: the cause of not obtaining a Sick Certificate previously to leaving Kishm seems to be satisfactorily explained. But I cannot see how my communication under date 7th February could be understood any other way, than when the Psyche was once attached to the Survey, it was not likely she would have been removed from that Service; and I cannot agree with Captain Maughan in the sentiments expressed in the first part of his 5th Para: It is to be regretted that my Orders of the 14th May had not reached him before he quitted his station, and

which

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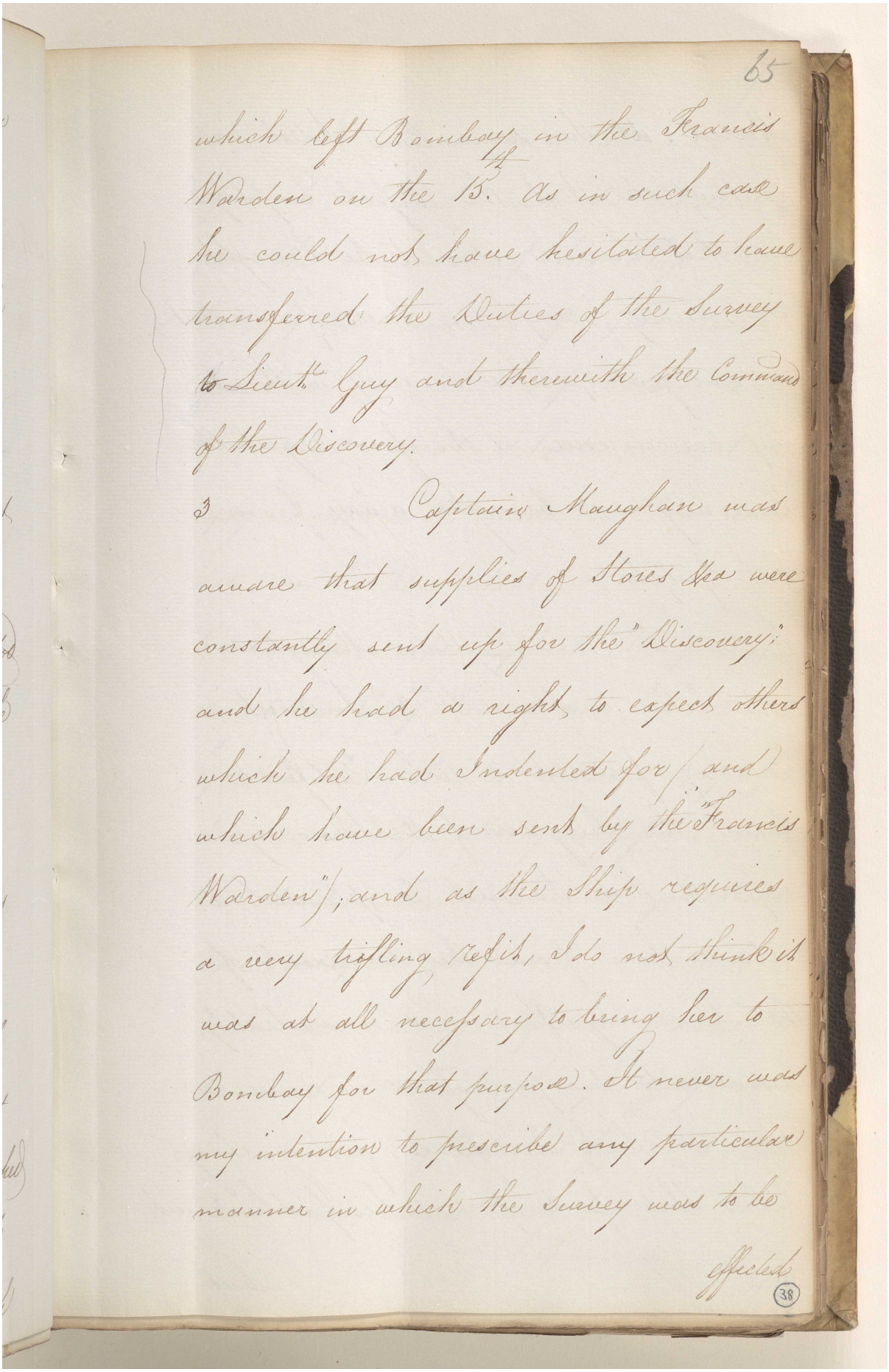

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which left Bombay in the Francis Warden on the 15th as in such case he could not have hesitated to have transferred the Duties of the Survey to Lieut. Guy and therewith the Command of the Discovery.

3 Captain Maughan was aware that supplies of Stores &c were constantly sent up for the "Discovery;" and he had a right to expect others which he had Indented for, and which have been sent by the "Francis Warden"; and as the Ship requires a very trifling refit, I do not think it was at all necessary to bring her to Bombay for that purpose. It never was my intention to prescribe any particular manner in which the Survey was to be effected

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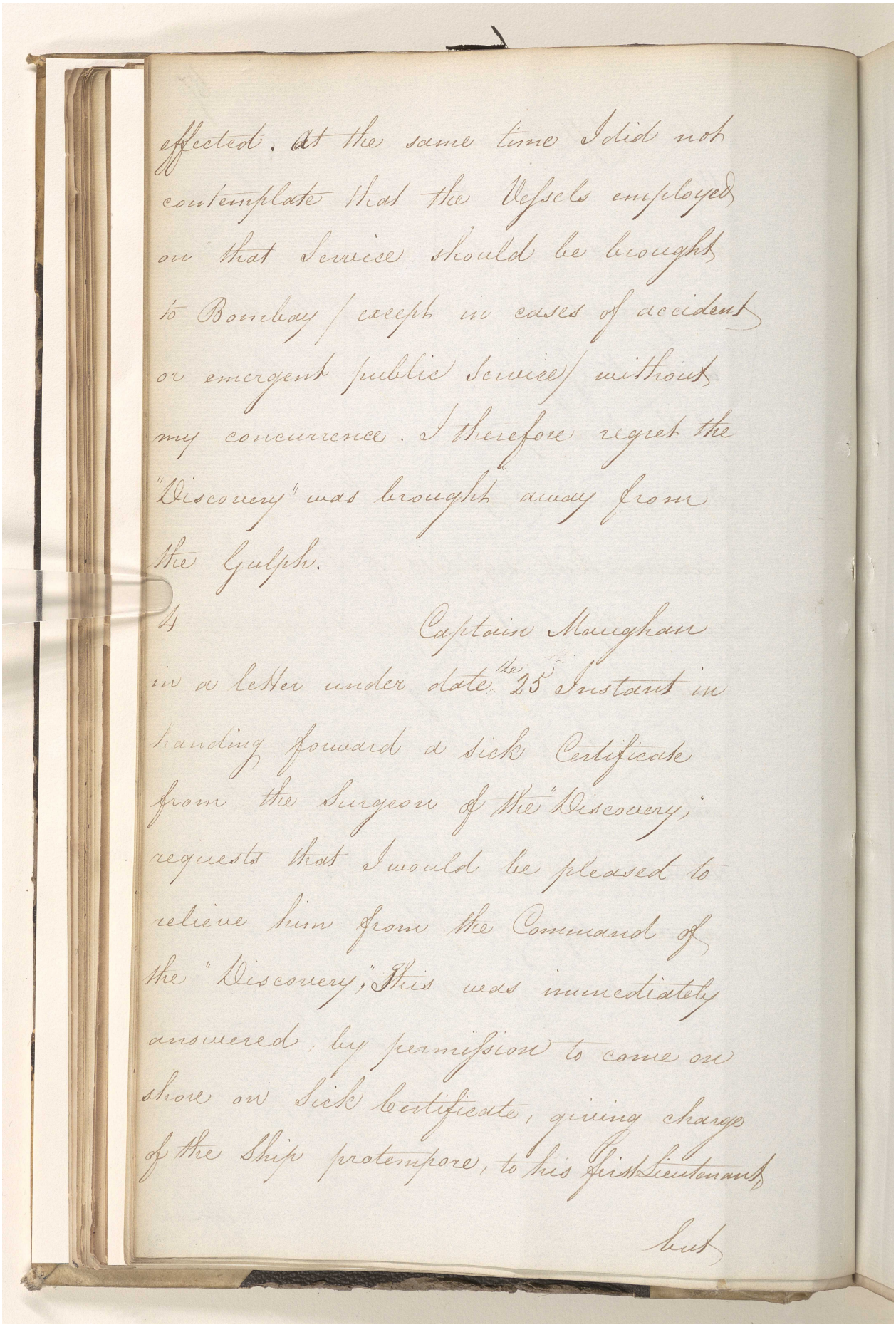

effected. At the same time I did not
contemplate that the Vessels employed
on that Service should be brought
to Bombay / except in cases of accident
or emergent public Service / without
my concurrence. I therefore regret the
"Discovery" was brought away from
the Gulph.

4 Captain Maughan
in a letter under date the 25 Instant in
handing forward a Sick Certificate
from the Surgeon of the "Discovery,"
requests that I would be pleased to
relieve him from the Command of
the "Discovery." This was immediately
answered, by permission to come on
shore on Sick Certificate, giving charge
of the Ship protempore, to his first Lieutenant

but

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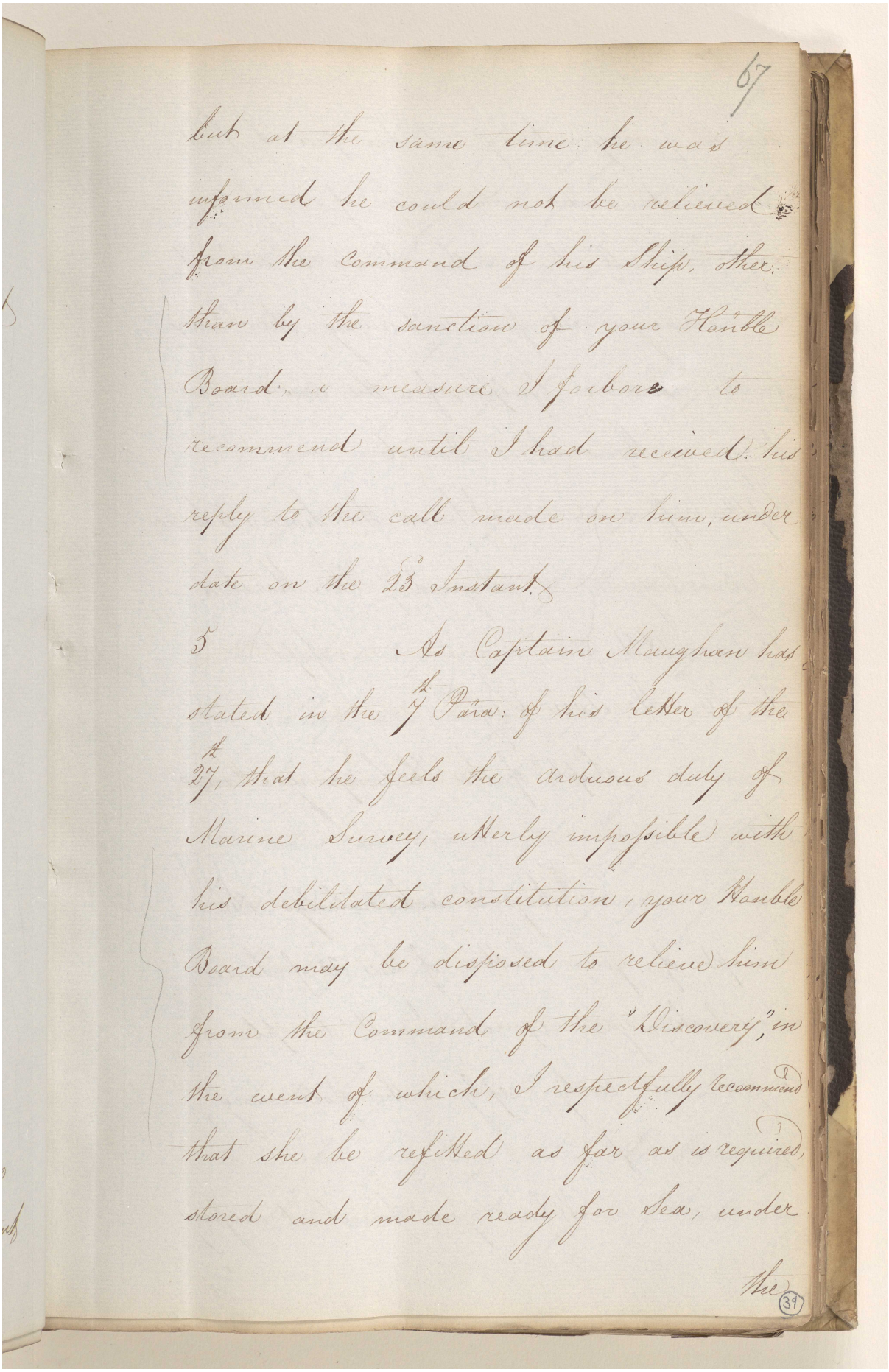

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but at the same time he was informed he could not be relieved from the Command of his Ship, other than by the sanction of your Honble Board, a measure I forbore to recommend until I had received his reply to the call made on him, under date on the 23d Instant.

5 As Captain Maughan has stated in the 4th Para: of his Letter of the 27th, that he feels the arduous duty of Marine Survey, utterly impossible with his debilitated constitution, your Honble Board may be disposed to relieve him from the Command of the "Discovery," in the event of which, I respectfully recommend that she be refitted as far as is required, stored and made ready for Sea, under

the

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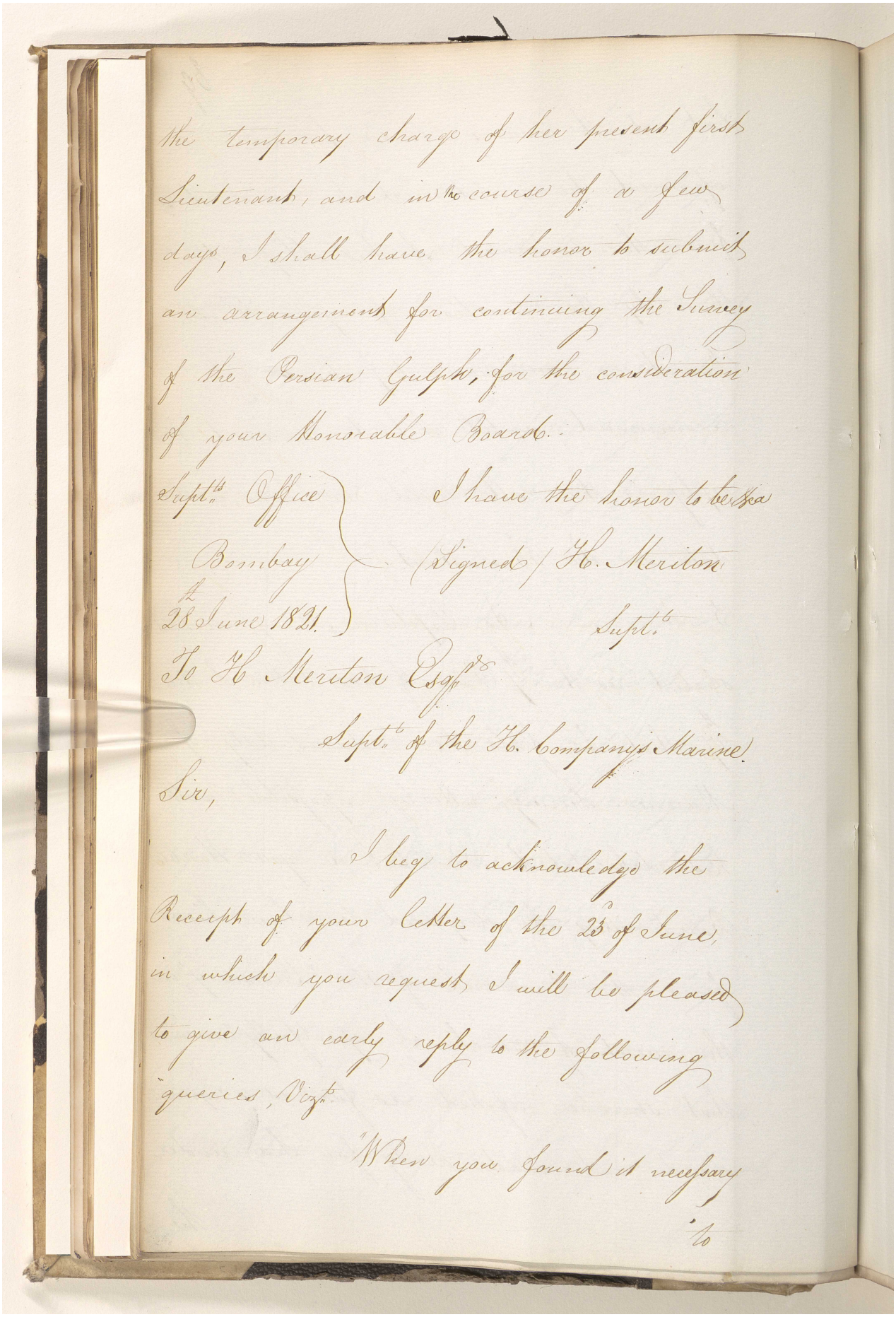


the temporary charge of her present first Lieutenant, and in the course of a few days, I shall have the honor to submit an arrangement for continuing the Survey of the Persian Gulph, for the consideration of your Honorable Board.

Supt.ts Office
Bombay
28th June 1821.

I have the honor to be &ca
(Signed) H. Meriton
Supt.t

To H Meriton Esqr.

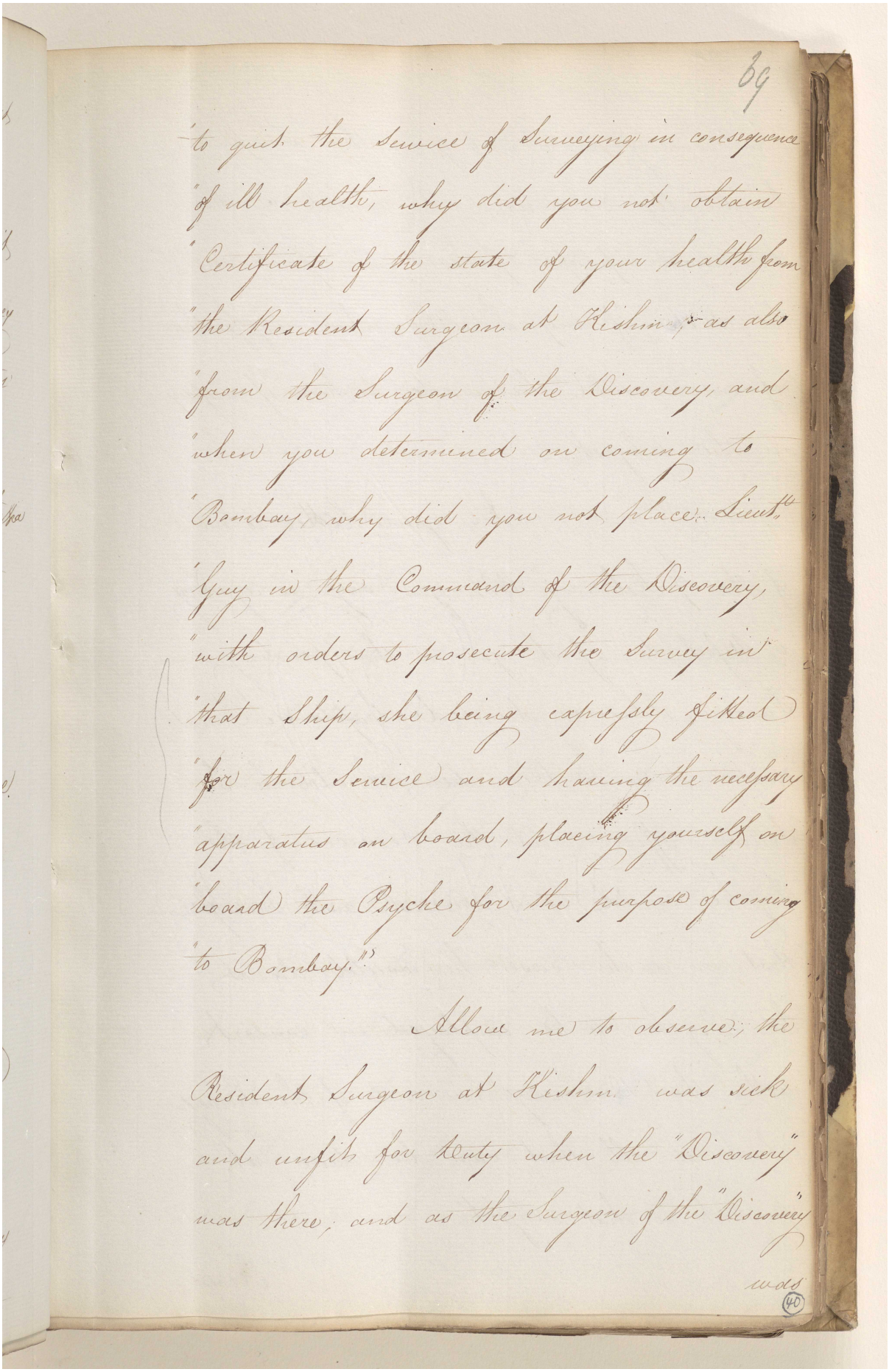
Supt.t of the H. Company's Marine.

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 23d of June, in which you request I will be pleased to give an early reply to the following queries, Vizt.

"When you found it necessary

to



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"to quit the Service of Surveying in consequence
"of ill health, why did you not obtain
"Certificate of the state of your health from
"the Resident Surgeon at Kishm, as also
"from the Surgeon of the Discovery, and
"when you determined on coming to
"Bombay, why did you not place Lieut.t
"Guy in the Command of the Discovery,
"with orders to prosecute the Survey in
"that Ship, she being expressly fitted
"for the Service and having the necessary
"apparatus on board, placing yourself on
"board the Psyche for the purpose of coming
"to Bombay."

Allow me to observe, the
Resident Surgeon at Kishm was sick
and unfit for duty when the "Discovery"
was there, and as the Surgeon of the "Discovery"

was

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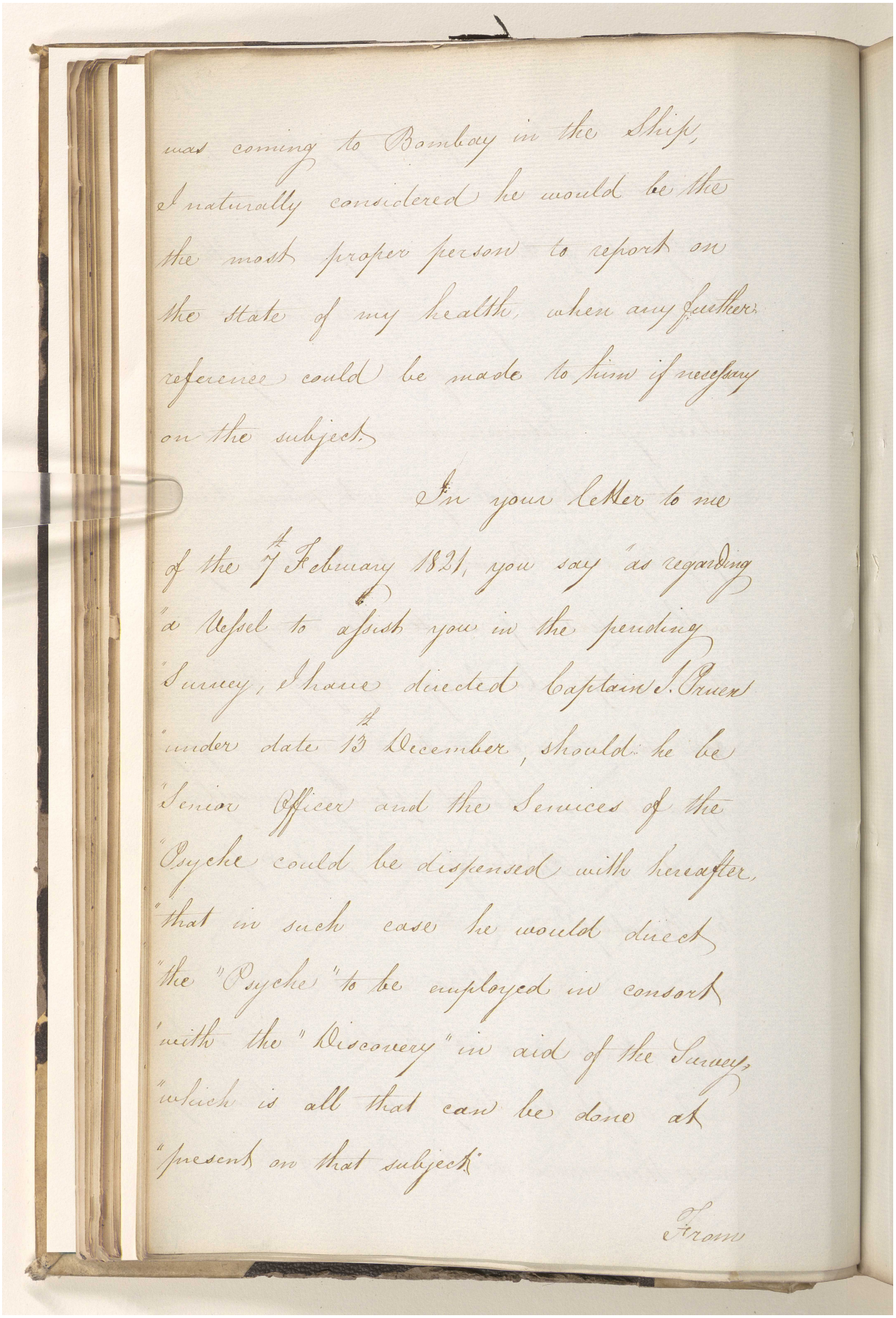
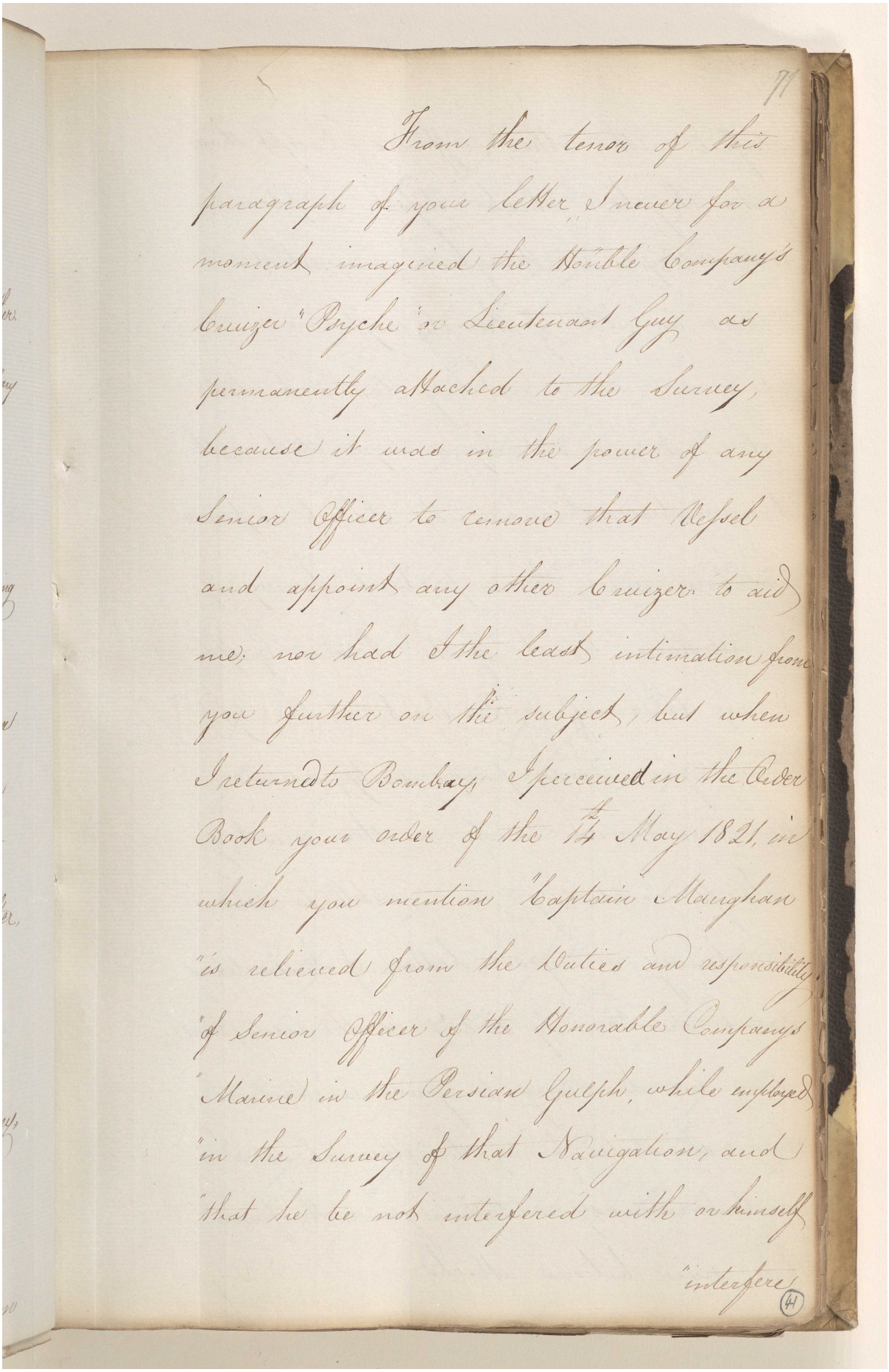


was coming to Bombay in the Ship,
I naturally considered he would be the
the most proper person to report on
the state of my health, when any further
reference could be made to him if necessary
on the subject.

In your letter to me
of the 7th February 1821, you say "as regarding
"a Vessel to assist you in the pending
"Survey, I have directed Captain J. Bruce
"under date 13th December, should he be
"Senior Officer and the Services of the
"Psyche could be dispensed with hereafter,
"that in such case he would direct
"the "Psyche" to be employed in consort
"with the "Discovery" in aid of the Survey,
"which is all that can be done at
"present on that subject."

From



From the tenor of this
paragraph of your letter, I never for a
moment imagined the Honble Company's
Cruizer "Psyche" to Lieutenant Guy as
permanently attached to the Survey,
because it was in the power of any
Senior Officer to remove that Vessel
and appoint any other Cruizer to aid
me; nor had I the least intimation from
you further on the subject, but when
I returned to Bombay, I perceived in the Order
Book your order of the 14th May 1821, in
which you mention "Captain Maughan
"is relieved from the Duties and responsibility
"of Senior Officer of the Honorable Company's
"Marine in the Persian Gulph, while employed
"in the Survey of that Navigation, and
"that he be not interfered with or himself
"interfere

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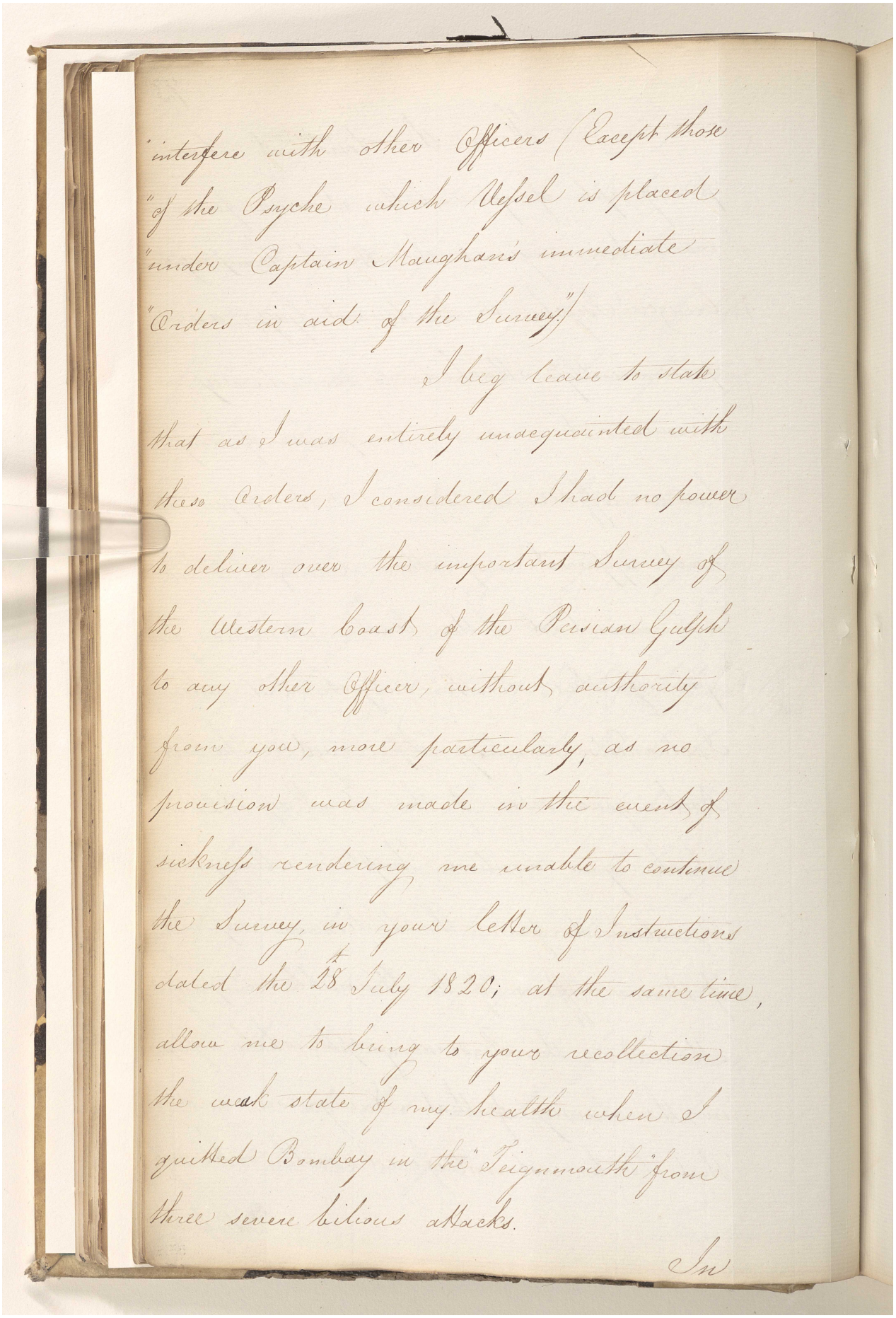
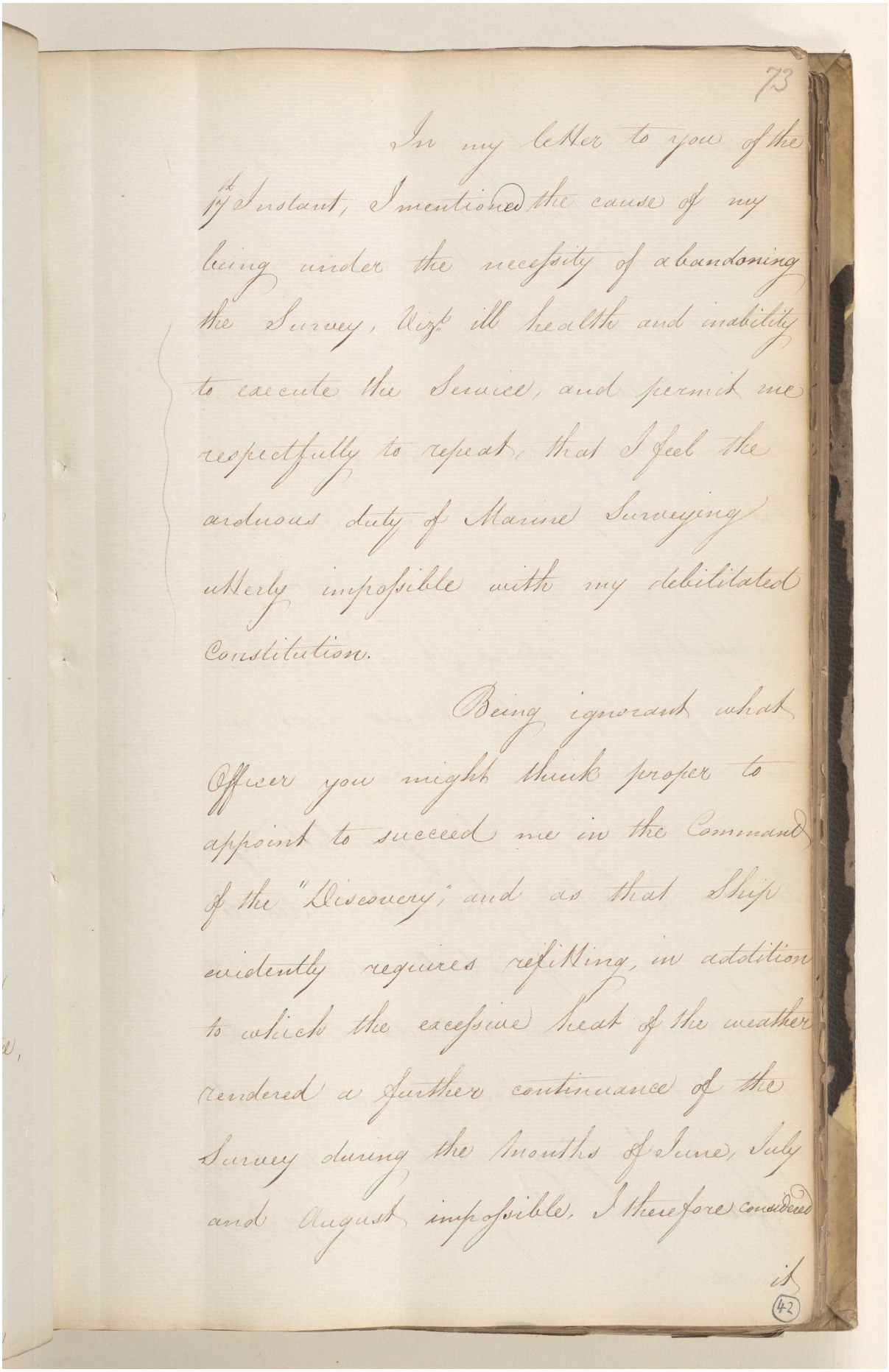


interfere with other Officers (Except those
"of the Psyche which Vessel is placed
"under Captain Maughan's immediate
"Orders in aid of the Survey")

I beg leave to state
that as I was entirely unacquainted with
these Orders, I considered I had no power
to deliver over the important Survey of
the Western Coast of the Persian Gulph
to any other Officer, without authority
from you, more particularly, as no
provision was made in the event of
sickness rendering me unable to continue
the Survey, in your Letter of Instructions
dated the 28 July 1820; at the same time,
allow me to bring to your recollection
the weak state of my health when I
quitted Bombay in the "Teignmouth" from
three severe bilious attacks.

In



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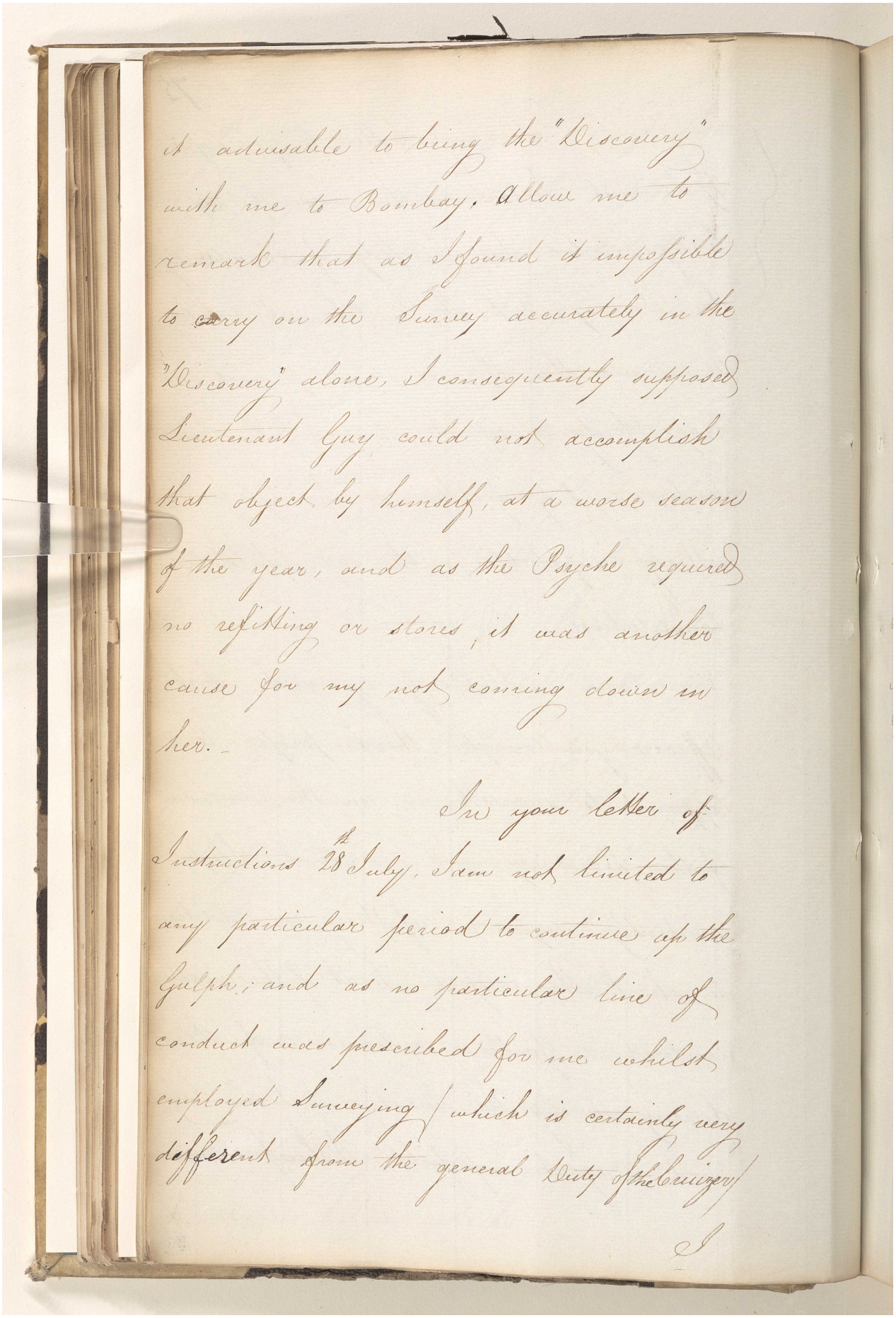
In my letter to you of the 5th Instant, I mentioned the cause of my being under the necessity of abandoning the Survey, viz. ill health and inability to execute the Service, and permit me respectfully to repeat, that I feel the arduous duty of Marine Surveying utterly impossible with my debilitated Constitution.

Being ignorant what Officer you might think proper to appoint to succeed me in the Command of the "Discovery", and as that Ship evidently requires refitting, in addition to which the excessive heat of the weather rendered a further continuance of the Survey during the Months of June, July and August impossible, I therefore considered it

(42)



it advisable to bring the "Discovery" with me to Bombay. Allow me to remark that as I found it impossible to carry on the Survey accurately in the "Discovery" alone, I consequently supposed Lieutenant Guy could not accomplish that object by himself, at a worse season of the year, and as the Psyche required no refitting or stores, it was another cause for my not coming down in her.

In your letter of Instructions 28th July, I am not limited to any particular period to continue up the Gulph; and as no particular line of conduct was prescribed for me whilst employed Surveying which is certainly very different from the general Duty of the Cruizers

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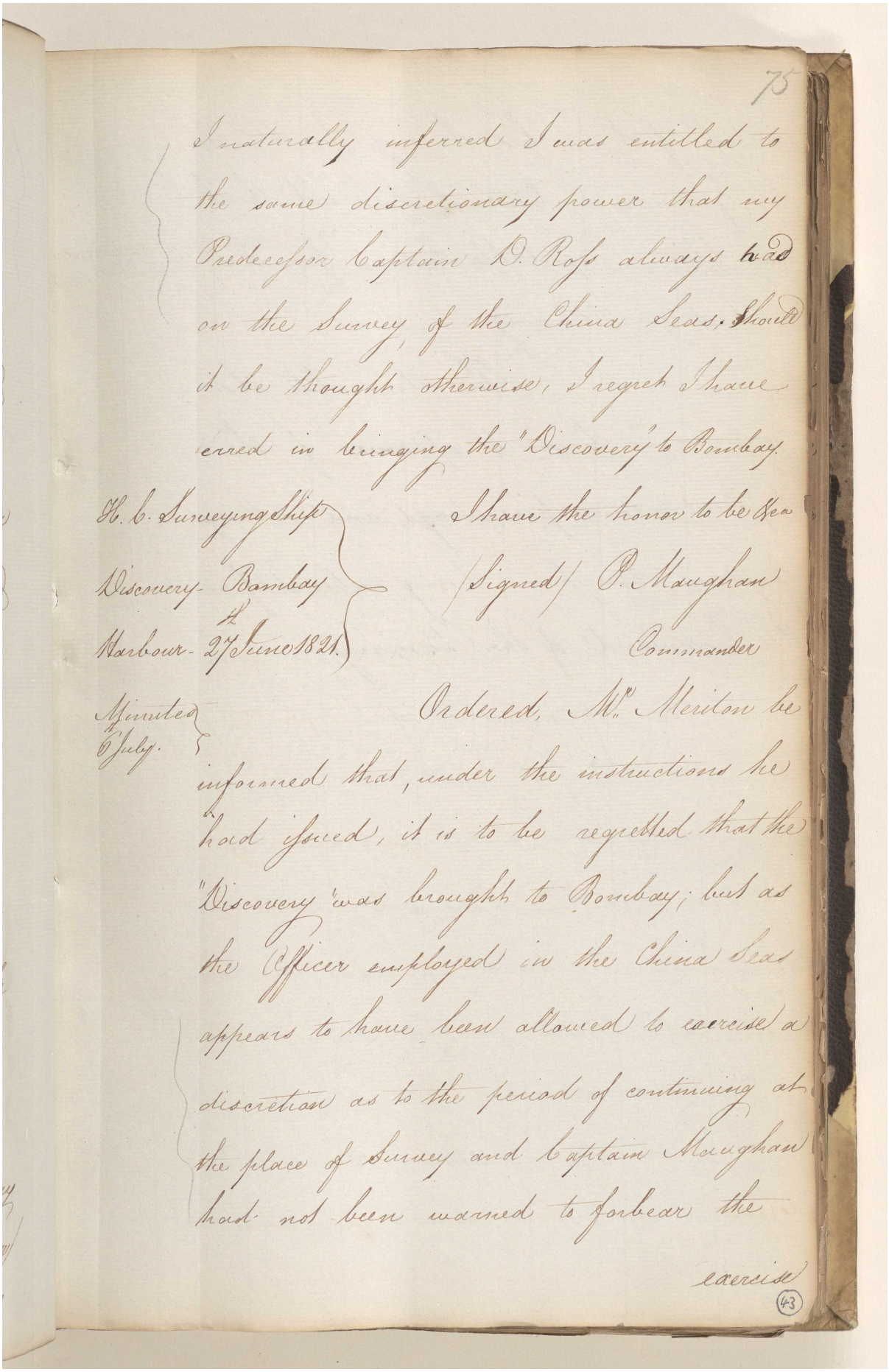

75

I naturally inferred I was entitled to the same discretionary power that my Predecessor Captain D. Ross always had on the Survey of the China Seas. Should it be thought otherwise, I regret I have erred in bringing the "Discovery" to Bombay.

I have the honor to be Sir
/Signed/ D. Maughan
Commander

H. C. Surveying Ship
Discovery Bombay
Harbour 27 June 1821.

Minuted 6 July.

Ordered, Mr. Meriton be informed that, under the instructions he had issued, it is to be regretted that the "Discovery" was brought to Bombay; but as the Officer employed in the China Seas appears to have been allowed to exercise a discretion as to the period of continuing at the place of Survey and Captain Maughan had not been warned to forbear the exercise

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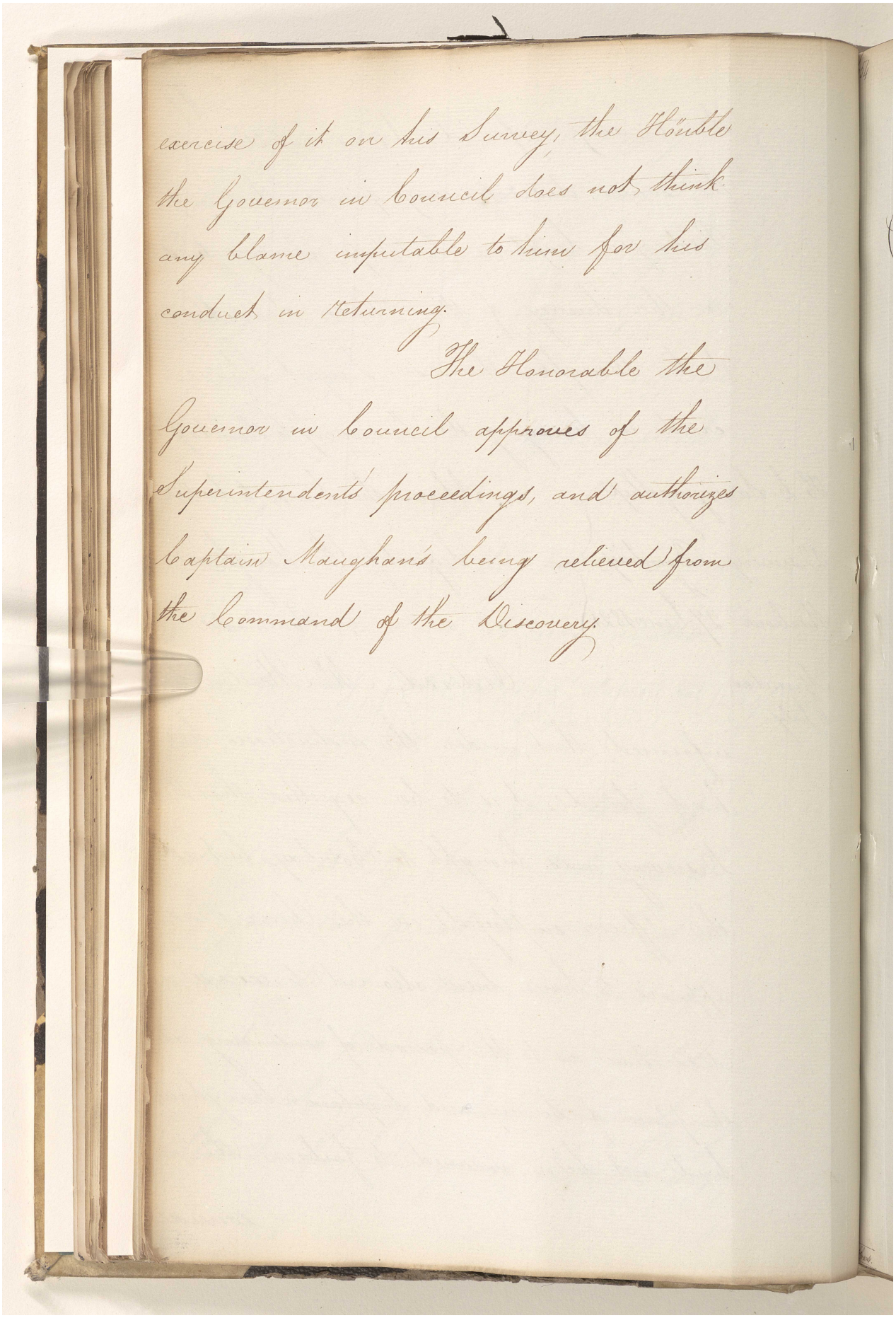

exercise of it on his Survey, the Hönble the Governor in Council does not think any blame imputable to him for his conduct in returning.

The Honorable the Governor in Council approves of the Superintendents proceedings, and authorizes Captain Maughan's being relieved from the Command of the Discovery.

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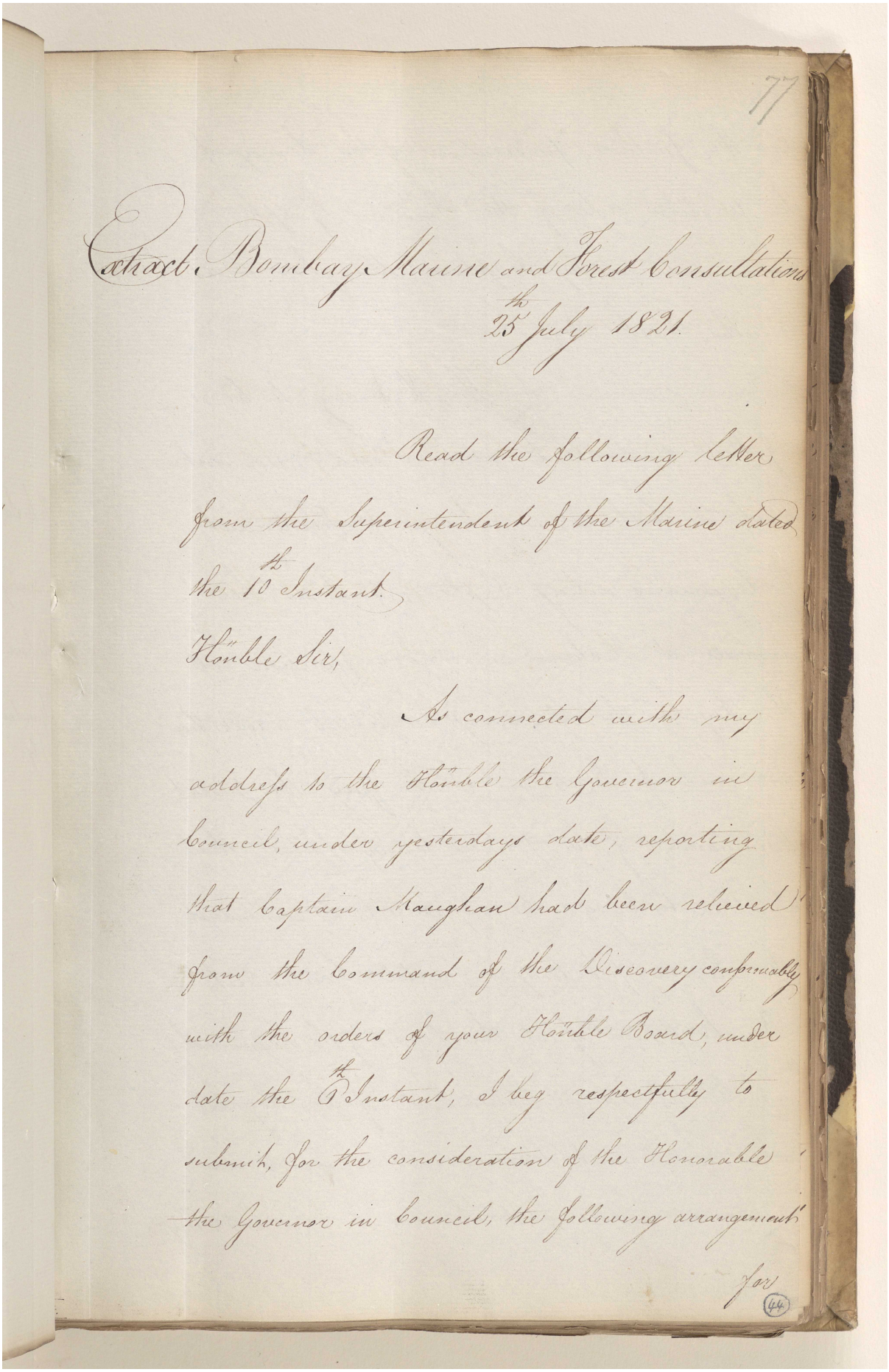

77

Extract Bombay Marine and Forest Consultations
25th July 1821.

Read the following letter
from the Superintendent of the Marine dated
the 10th Instant.

Hon'ble Sir,

As connected with my
address to the Hon'ble the Governor in
Council, under yesterdays date, reporting
that Captain Maughan had been relieved
from the command of the Discovery conformably
with the orders of your Hon'ble Board, under
date the 6th Instant, I beg respectfully to
submit, for the consideration of the Honorable
the Governor in Council, the following arrangement

for

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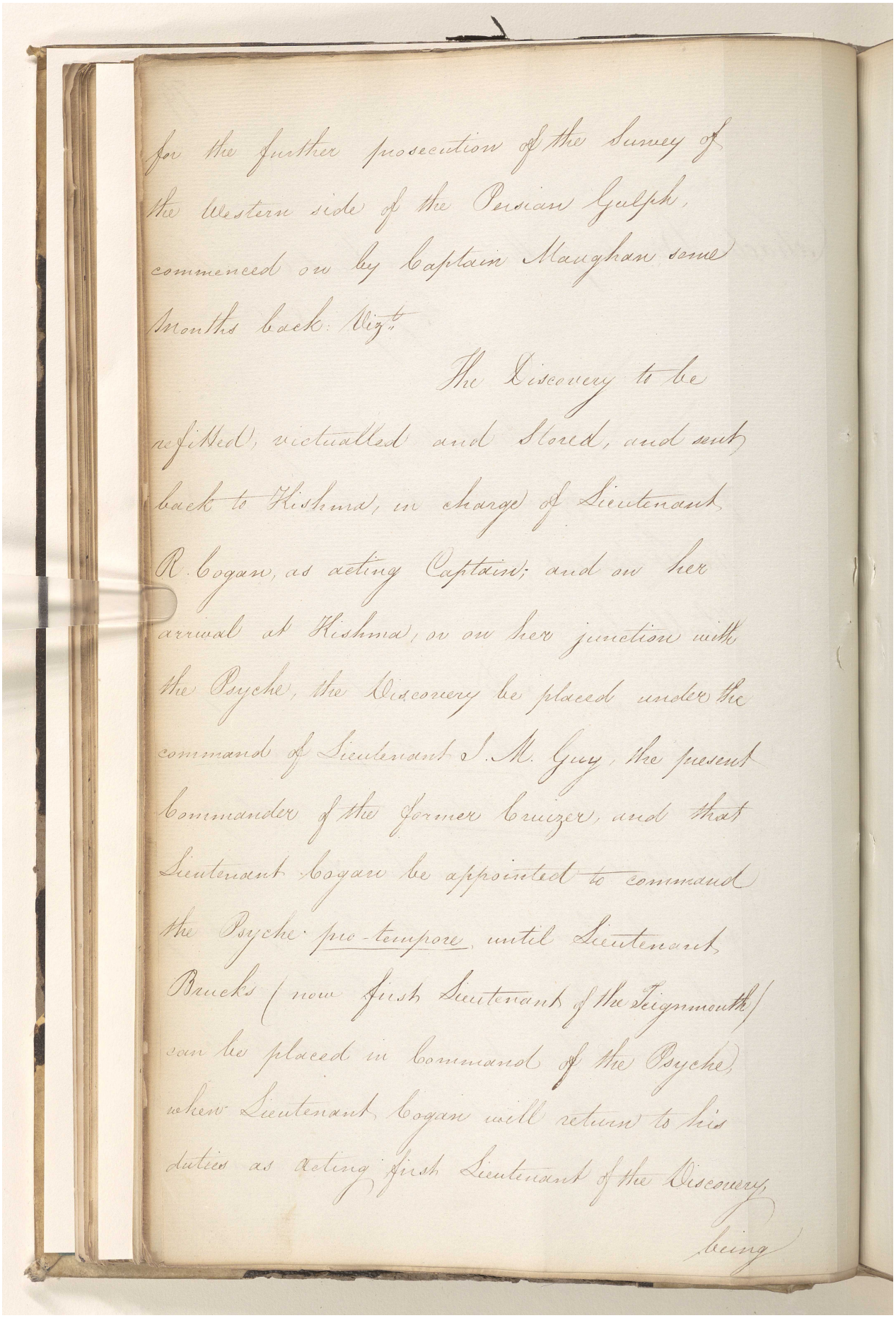

for the further prosecution of the Survey of the Western side of the Persian Gulph, commenced on by Captain Maughan some Months back: Viz.t

The Discovery to be refitted, victualled and Stored, and sent back to Kishma, in charge of Lieutenant R. Logan, as acting Captain; and on her arrival at Kishma, or on her junction with the Psyche, the Discovery be placed under the command of Lieutenant I. M. Guy, the present Commander of the former Cruizer, and that Lieutenant Logan be appointed to command the Psyche pro-tempore, until Lieutenant Brucks (now first Lieutenant of the Teignmouth) can be placed in Command of the Psyche, when Lieutenant Logan will return to his duties as acting first Lieutenant of the Discovery,

being

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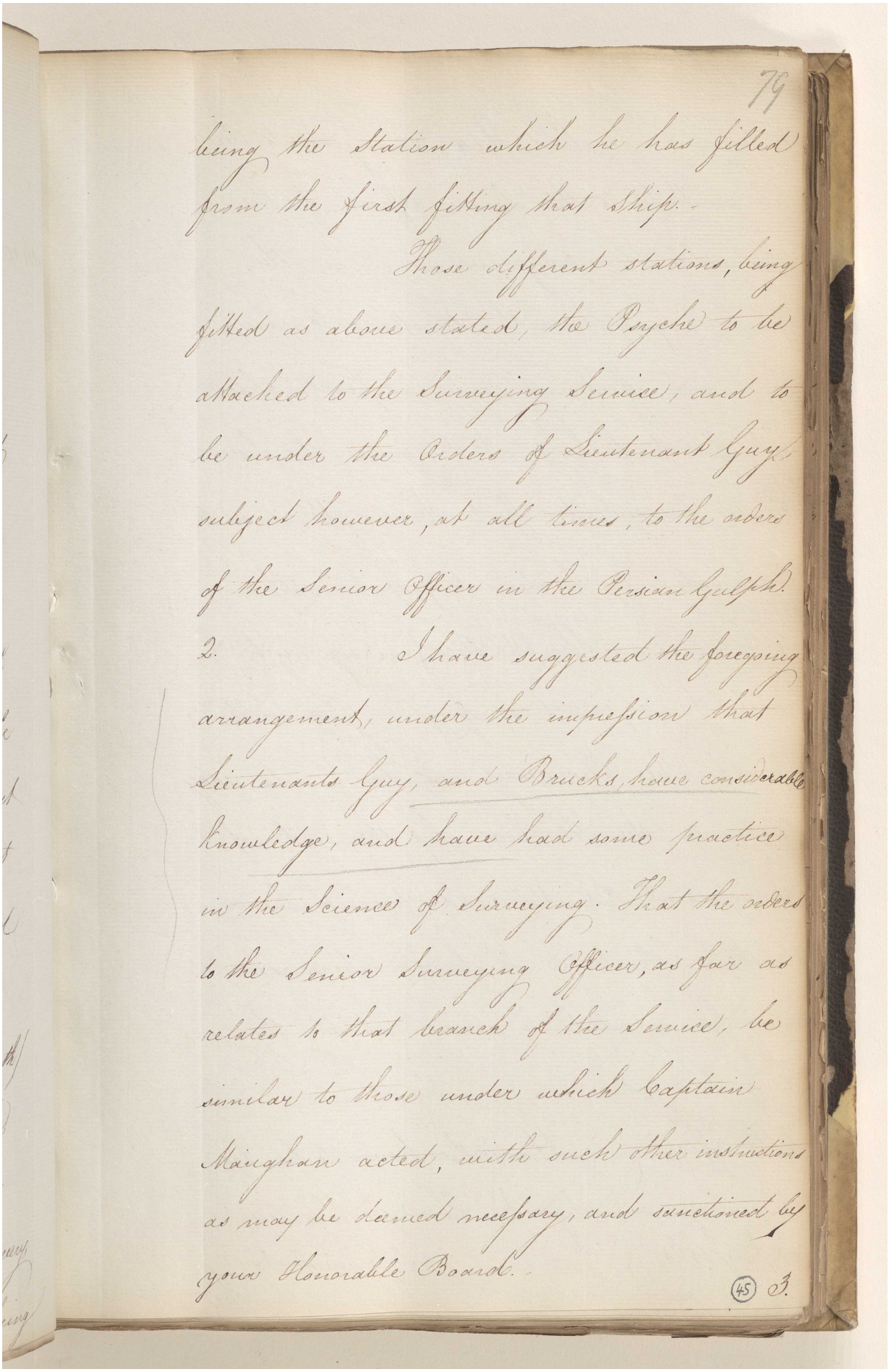


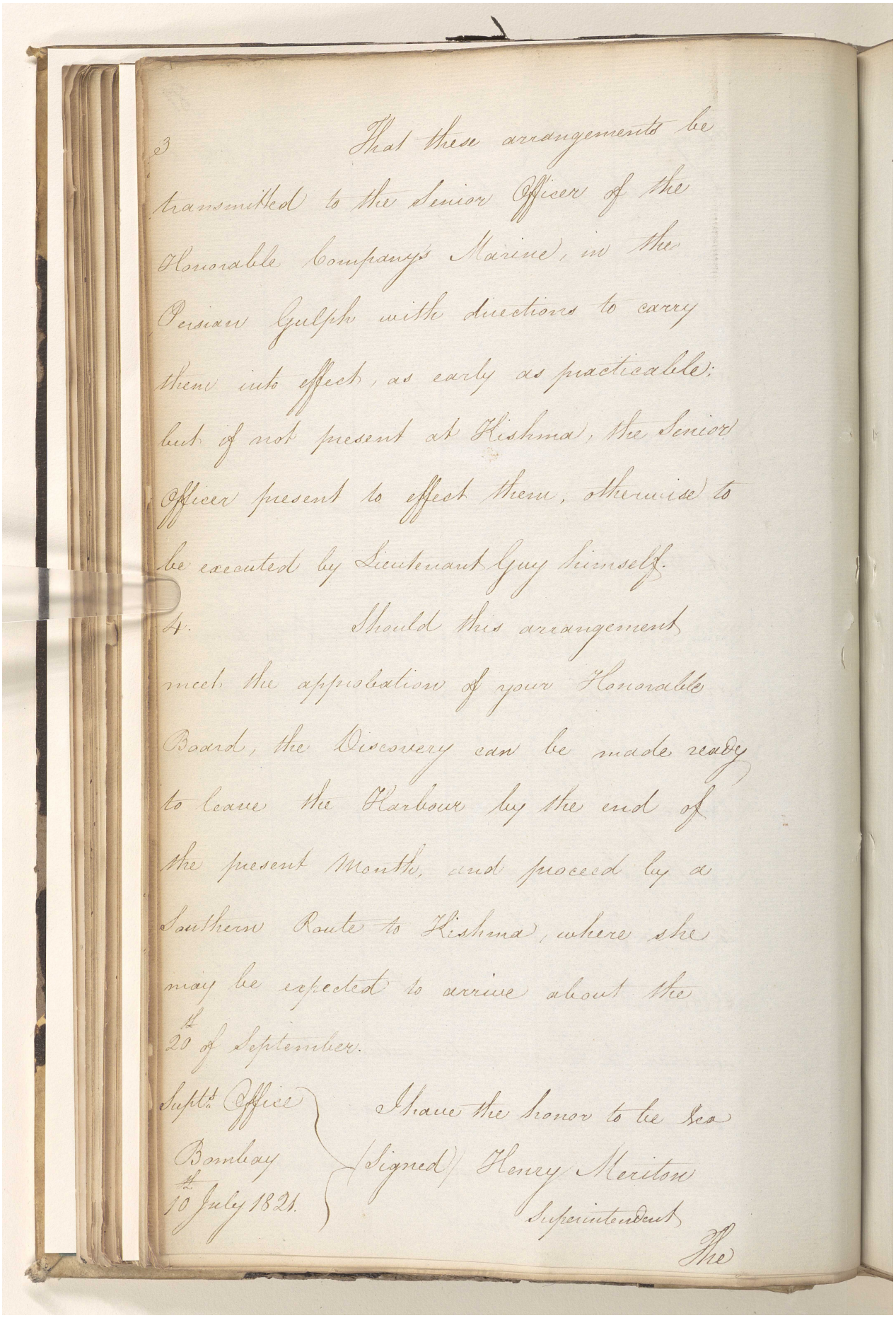
79

being the Station which he has filled from the first fitting that Ship.

Those different stations, being fitted as above stated, the Psyche to be attached to the Surveying Service, and to be under the Orders of Lieutenant Guy, subject however, at all times, to the orders of the Senior Officer in the Persian Gulph.

2. I have suggested the foregoing arrangement, under the impression that Lieutenants Guy, and Brucks, have considerable knowledge, and have had some practice in the Science of Surveying. That the orders to the Senior Surveying Officer, as far as relates to that branch of the Service, be similar to those under which Captain Maughan acted, with such other instructions as may be deemed necessary, and sanctioned by your Honorable Board.

(45) 3.



3 That these arrangements be transmitted to the Senior Officer of the Honorable Company's Marine, in the Persian Gulph with directions to carry them into effect, as early as practicable; but if not present at Kishma, the Senior Officer present to effect them, otherwise to be executed by Lieutenant Guy himself.

4. Should this arrangement meet the approbation of your Honorable Board, the Discovery can be made ready to leave the Harbour by the end of the present Month, and proceed by a Southern Route to Kishma, where she may be expected to arrive about the 20th of September.

Sept.r Office
Bombay
10 July 1821.

I have the honor to be &c.
(Signed) Henry Meriton
Superintendent

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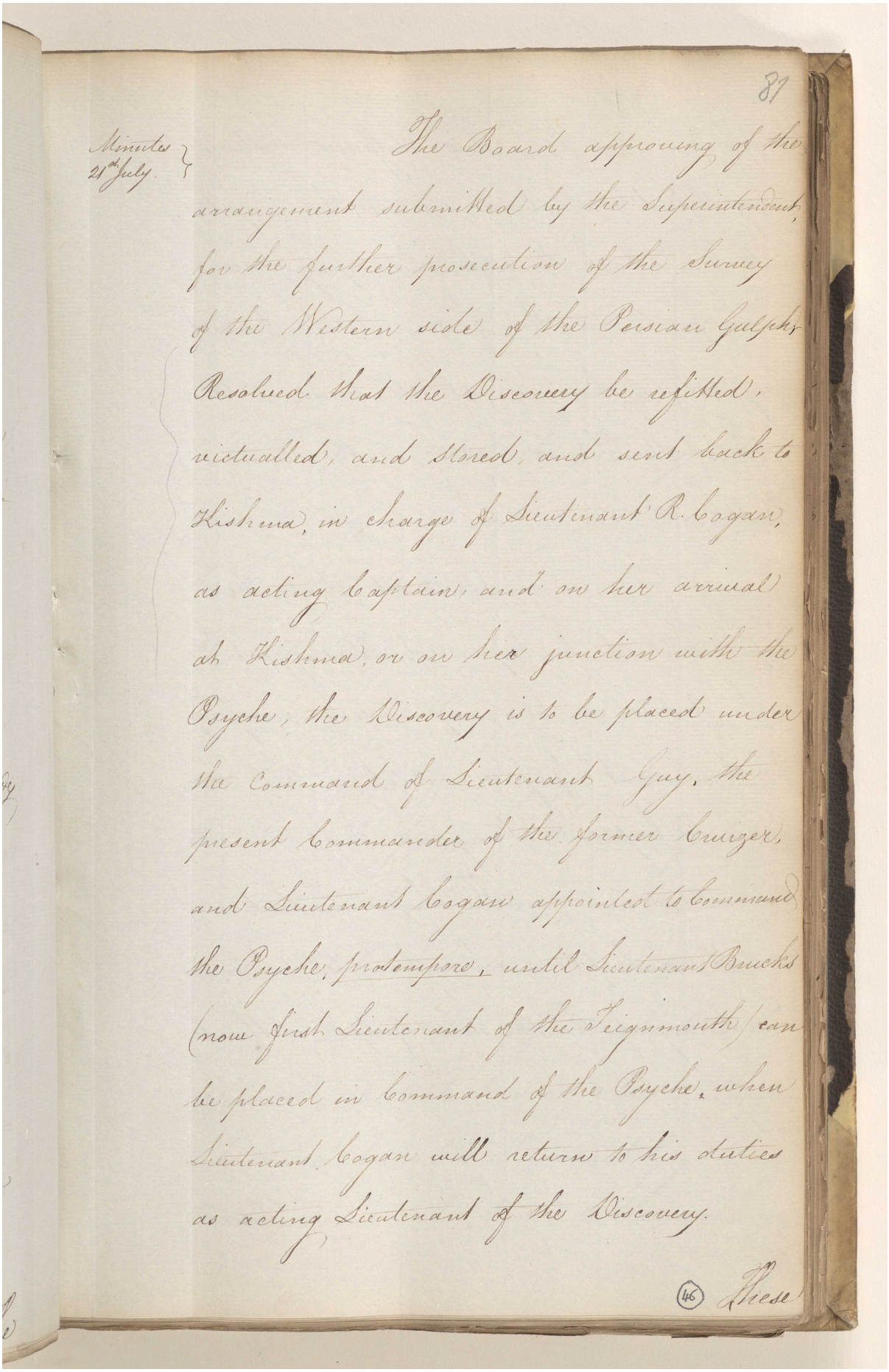

89

Minutes 21st July.

The Board approving of the arrangement submitted by the Superintendant for the further prosecution of the Survey of the Western side of the Persian Gulph, Resolved that the Discovery be refitted, victualled, and Stored, and sent back to Kishma, in charge of Lieutenant R. Logan, as acting Captain, and on her arrival at Kishma, or on her junction with the Psyche, the Discovery is to be placed under the Command of Lieutenant Guy, the present Commander of the former Cruizer, and Lieutenant Logan appointed to command the Psyche, protempore, until Lieutenant Bucks (now first Lieutenant of the Teignmouth) can be placed in Command of the Psyche, when Lieutenant Logan will return to his duties as acting Lieutenant of the Discovery.

(46) These

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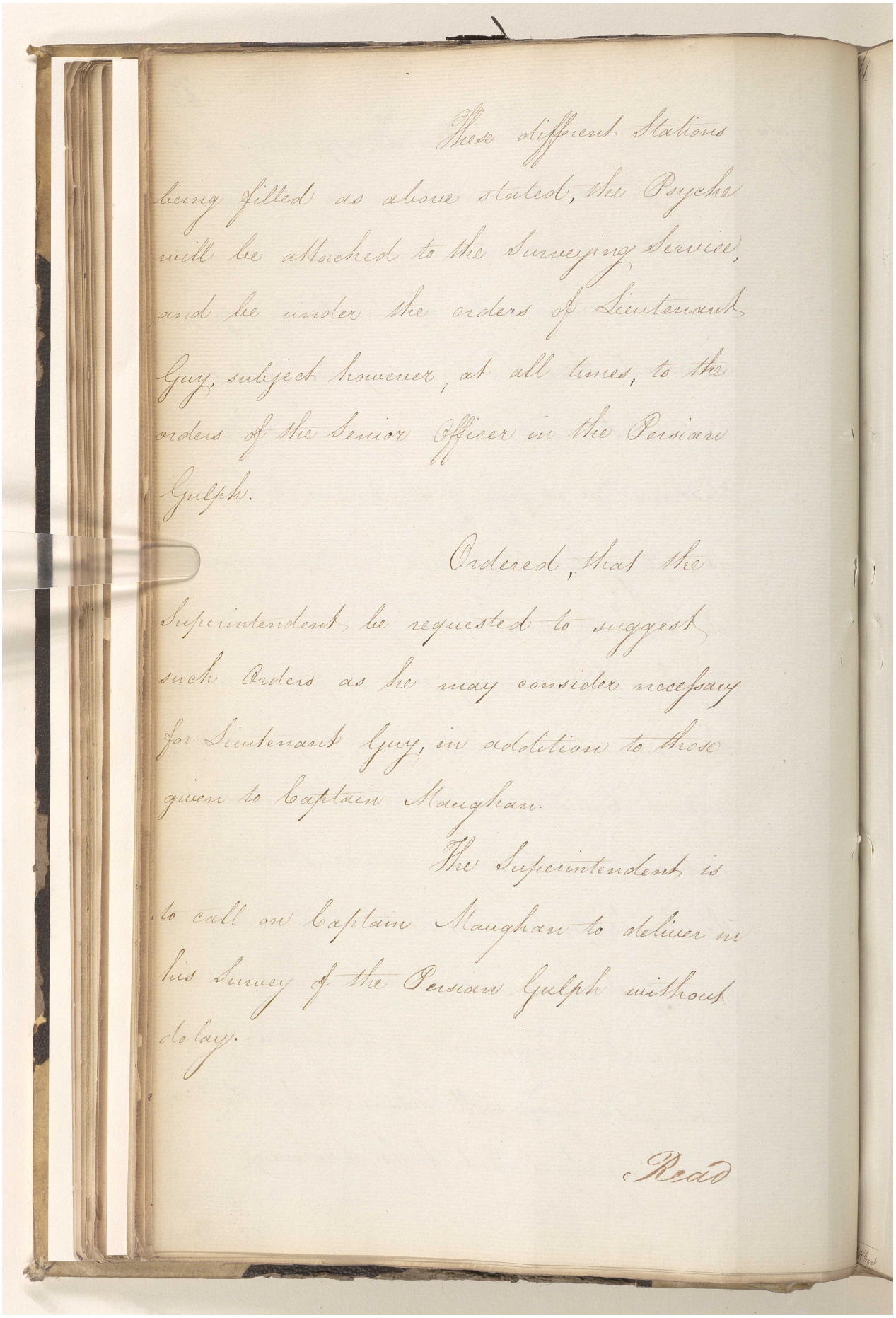
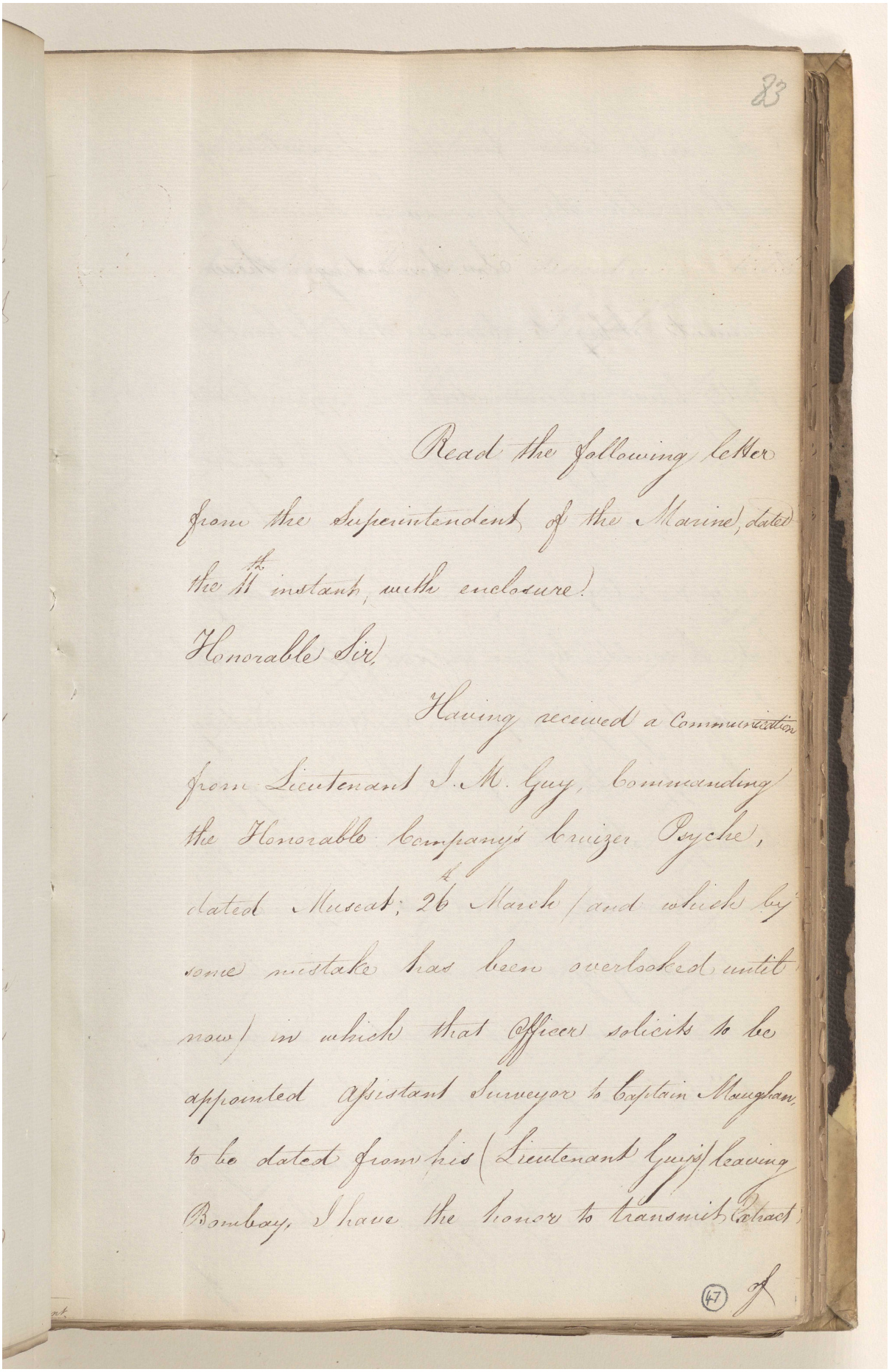


These different Stations being filled as above stated, the Psyche will be attached to the Surveying Service, and be under the orders of Lieutenant Guy, subject however, at all times, to the orders of the Senior Officer in the Persian Gulph.

Ordered, that the Superintendent be requested to suggest such Orders as he may consider necessary for Lieutenant Guy, in addition to those given to Captain Maughan.

The Superintendent is to call on Captain Maughan to deliver in his Survey of the Persian Gulph without delay.

Read



83

Read the following letter from the Superintendent of the Marine, dated the 11th instant, with enclosure.

Honorable Sir,

Having received a Communication from Lieutenant J. M. Guy, Commanding the Honorable Company's Cruizer Psyche, dated Muscat; 26 March / and which by some mistake has been overlooked until now / in which that Officer solicits to be appointed Assistant Surveyor to Captain Maughan, to be dated from his (Lieutenant Guy's) leaving Bombay, I have the honor to transmit (Extract)

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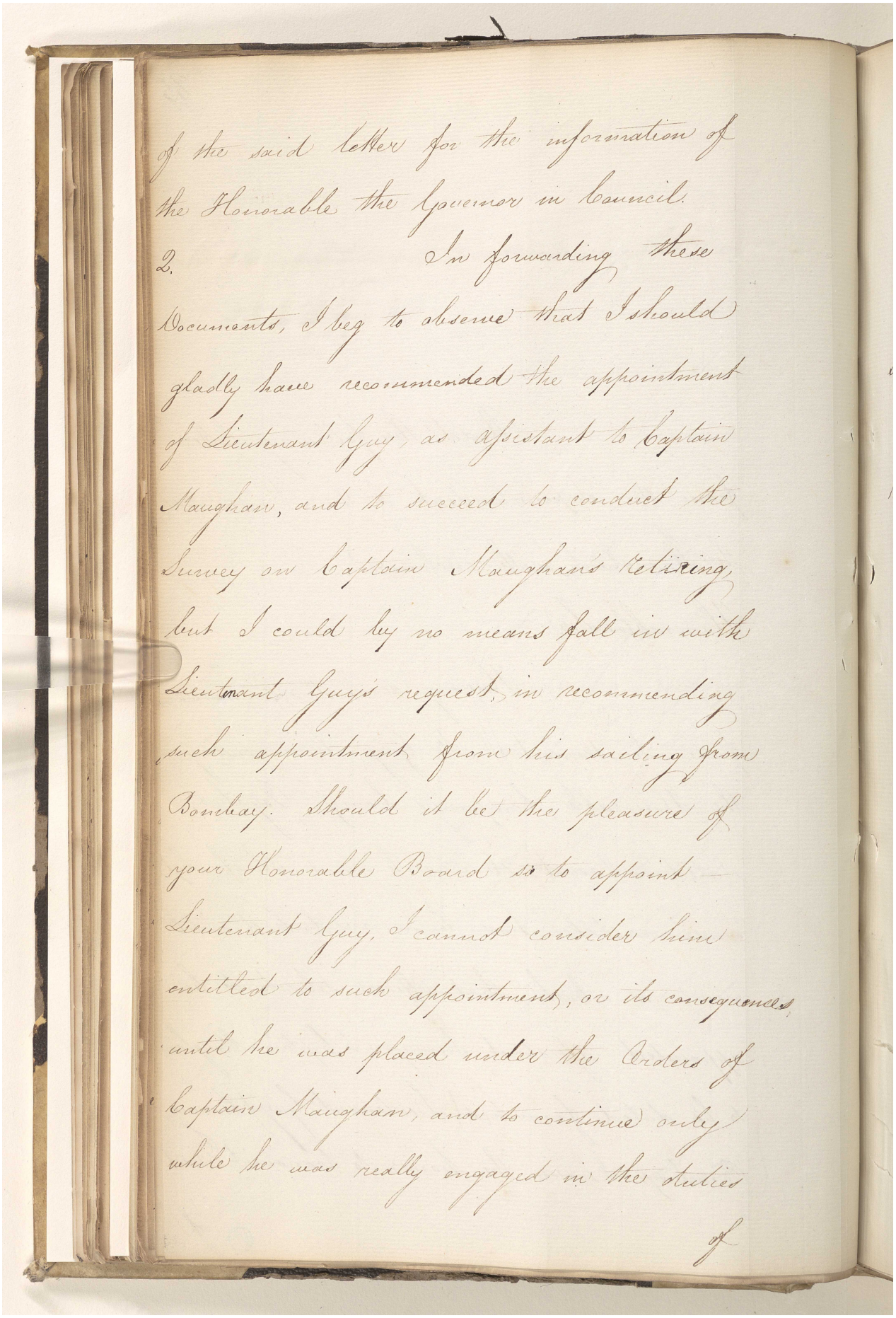
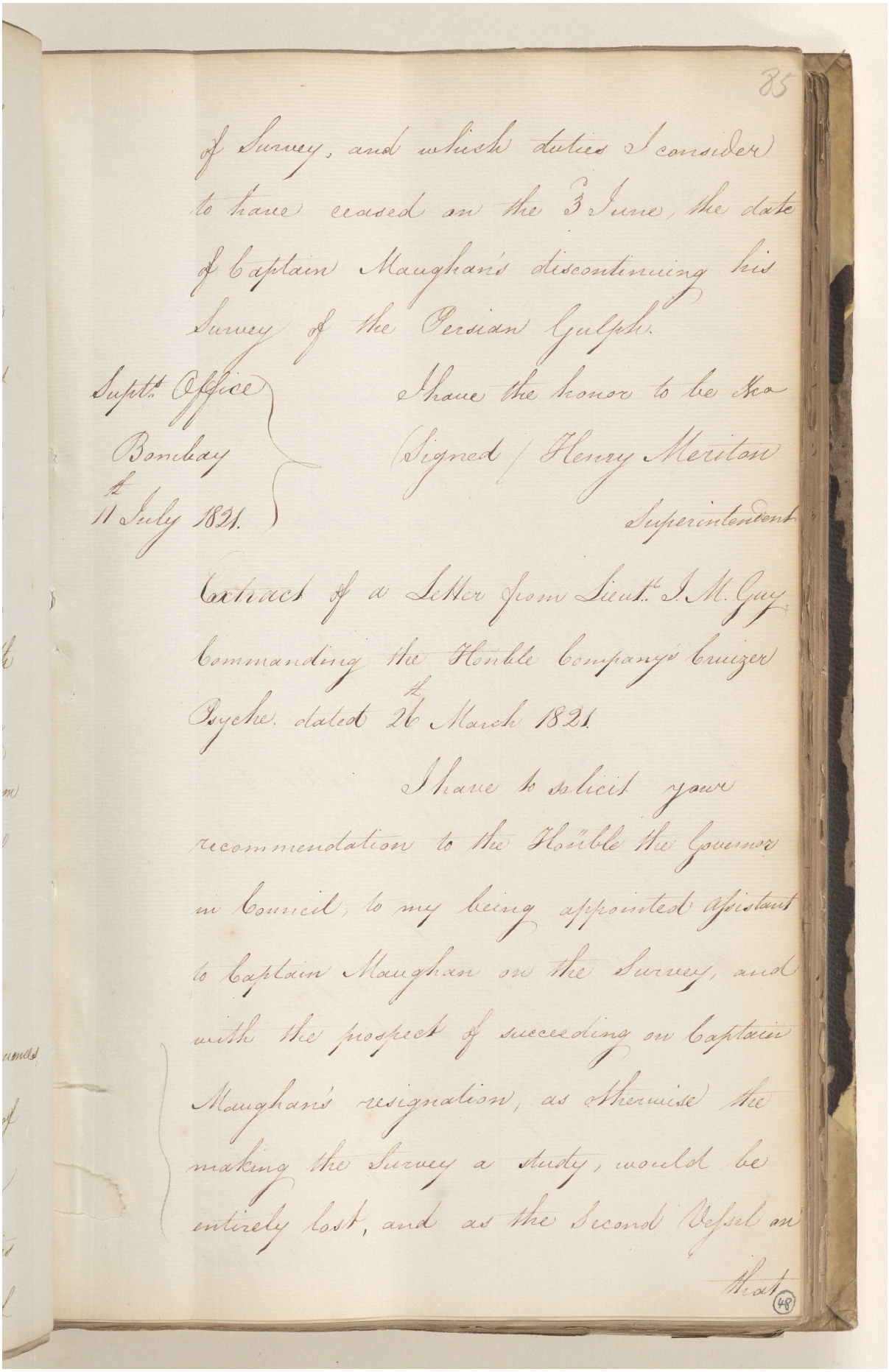


of the said letter for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council.

2. In forwarding these Documents, I beg to observe that I should gladly have recommended the appointment of Lieutenant Guy, as assistant to Captain Maughan, and to succeed to conduct the Survey on Captain Maughan's Retiring, but I could by no means fall in with Lieutenant Guy's request, in recommending such appointment from his sailing from Bombay. Should it be the pleasure of your Honorable Board so to appoint Lieutenant Guy, I cannot consider him entitled to such appointment, or its consequences until he was placed under the Orders of Captain Maughan, and to continue only while he was really engaged in the duties of



85

of Survey, and which duties I consider to have ceased on the 3 June, the date of Captain Maughan's discontinuing his Survey of the Persian Gulph.

I have the honor to be &c.

(Signed) Henry Meriton

Superintendent

Supt.t Office
Bombay
11 July 1821.

Extract of a Letter from Lieut.t J. M. Guy commanding the Honble Company's Cruizer Psyche, dated 26 March 1821

I have to solicit your recommendation to the Honble the Governor in Council, to my being appointed Assistant to Captain Maughan on the Survey, and with the prospect of succeeding on Captain Maughan's resignation, as otherwise the making the Survey a study, would be entirely lost, and as the Second Vessel on that

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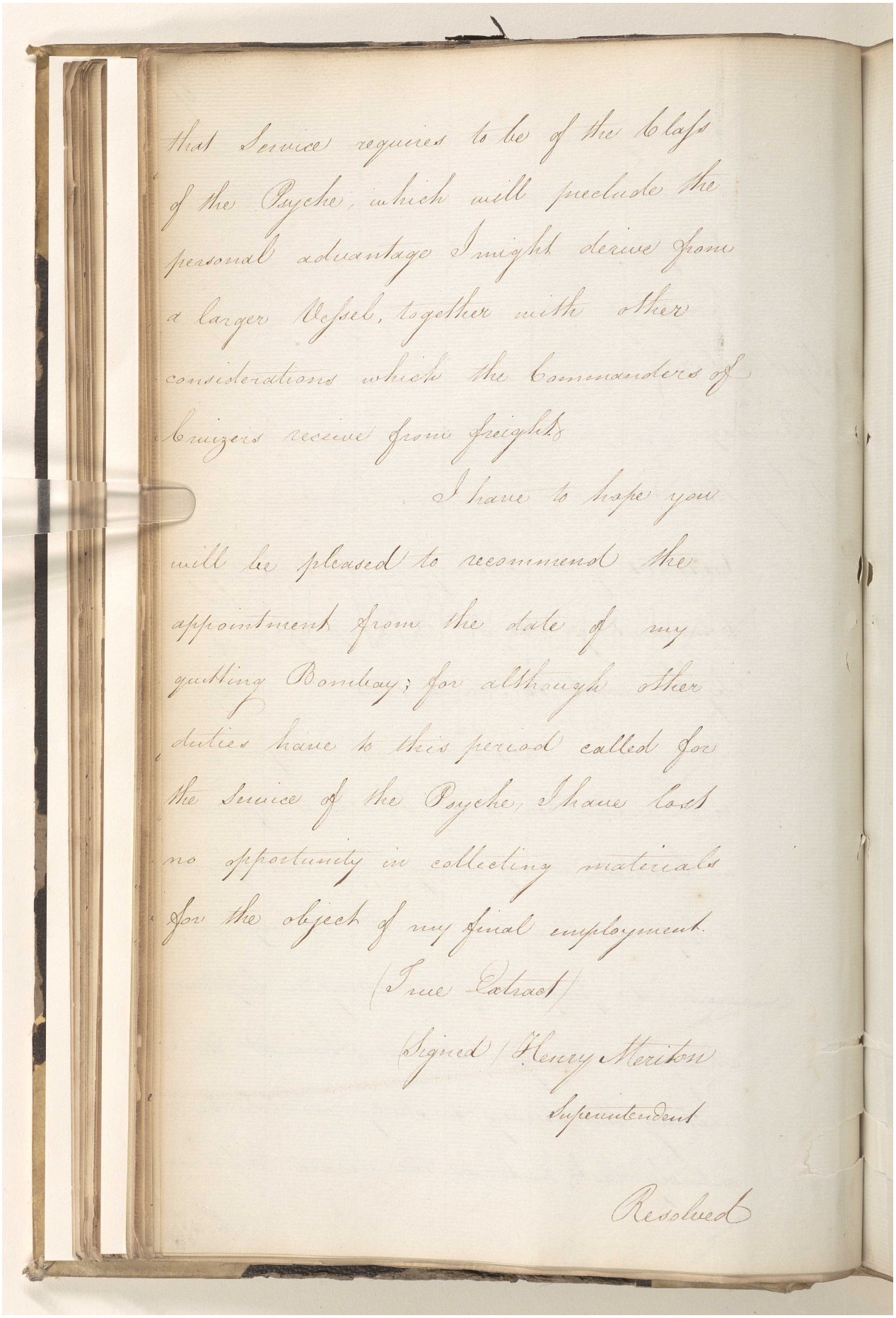

that Service requires to be of the class of the Psyche, which will preclude the personal advantage I might derive from a larger Vessel, together with other considerations which the Commanders of Cruizers receive from freights.

I have to hope you will be pleased to recommend the appointment from the date of my quitting Bombay; for although other duties have to this period called for the Service of the Psyche, I have lost no opportunity in collecting materials for the object of my final employment.

(True Extract)

Signed / Henry Meriton

Superintendent

Resolved

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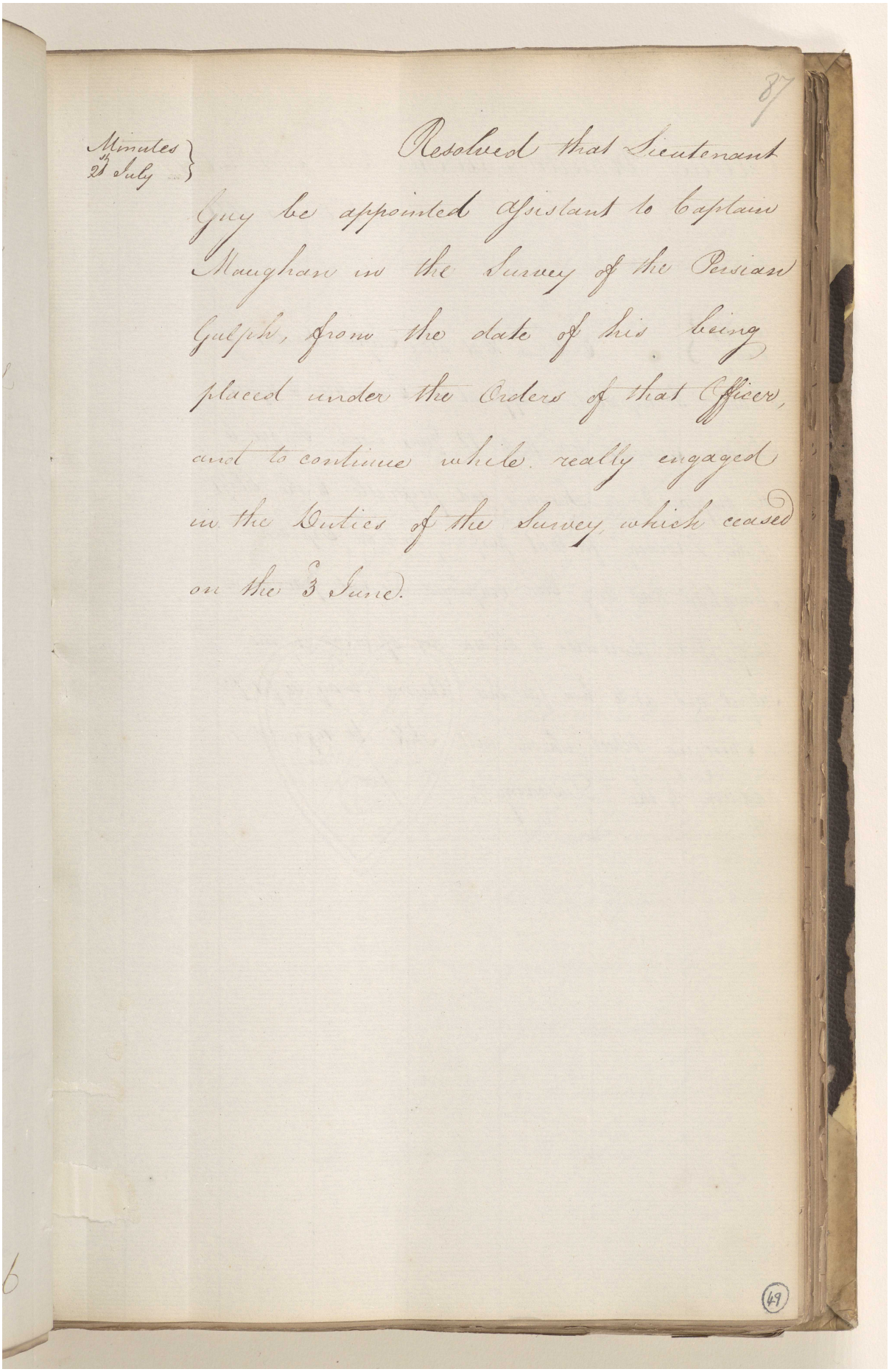

87

Minutes 25 July

Resolved that Lieutenant Guy be appointed Assistant to Captain Maughan in the Survey of the Persian Gulph, from the date of his being placed under the Orders of that Officer, and to continue while really engaged in the Duties of the Survey, which ceased on the 3 June.

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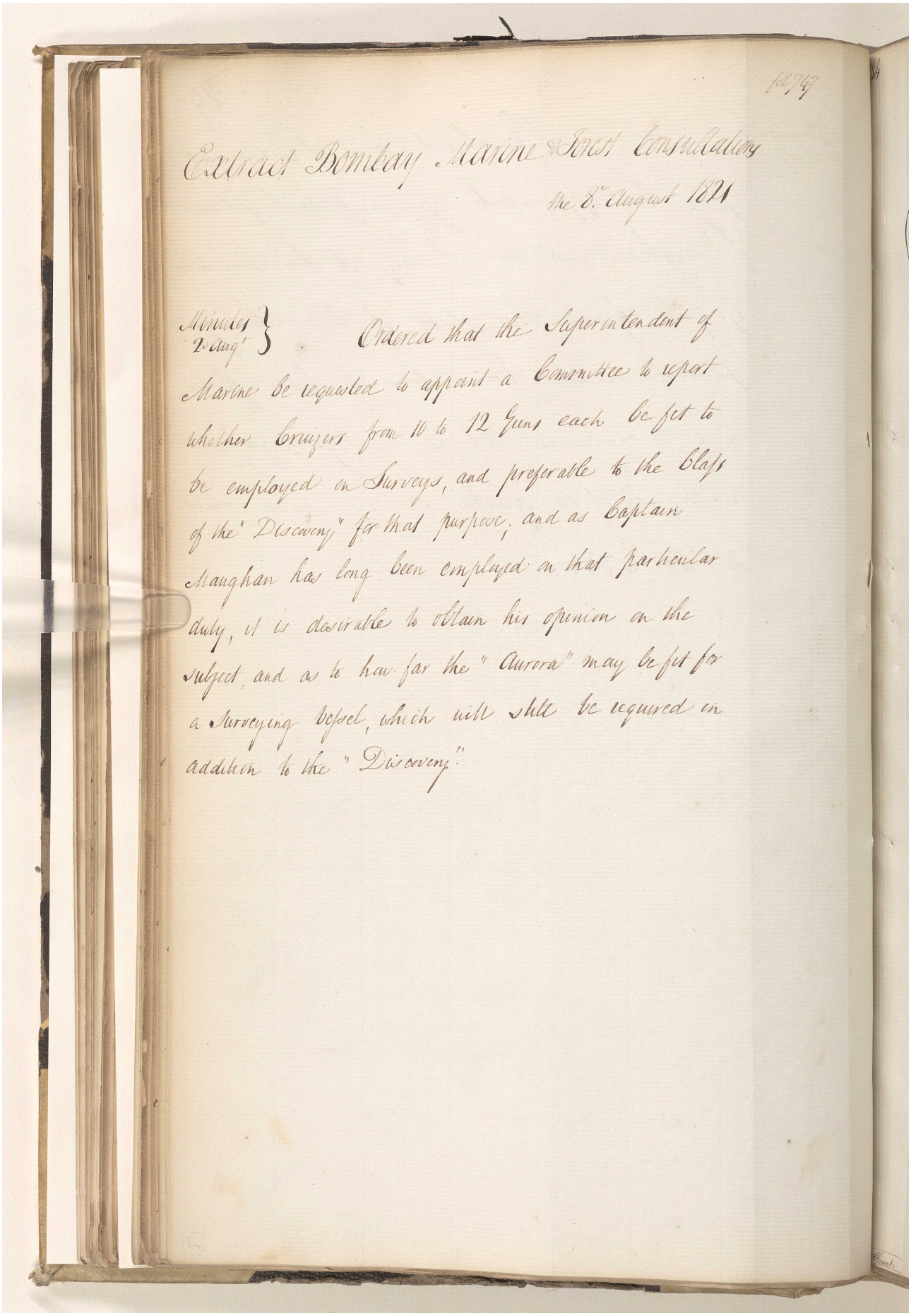
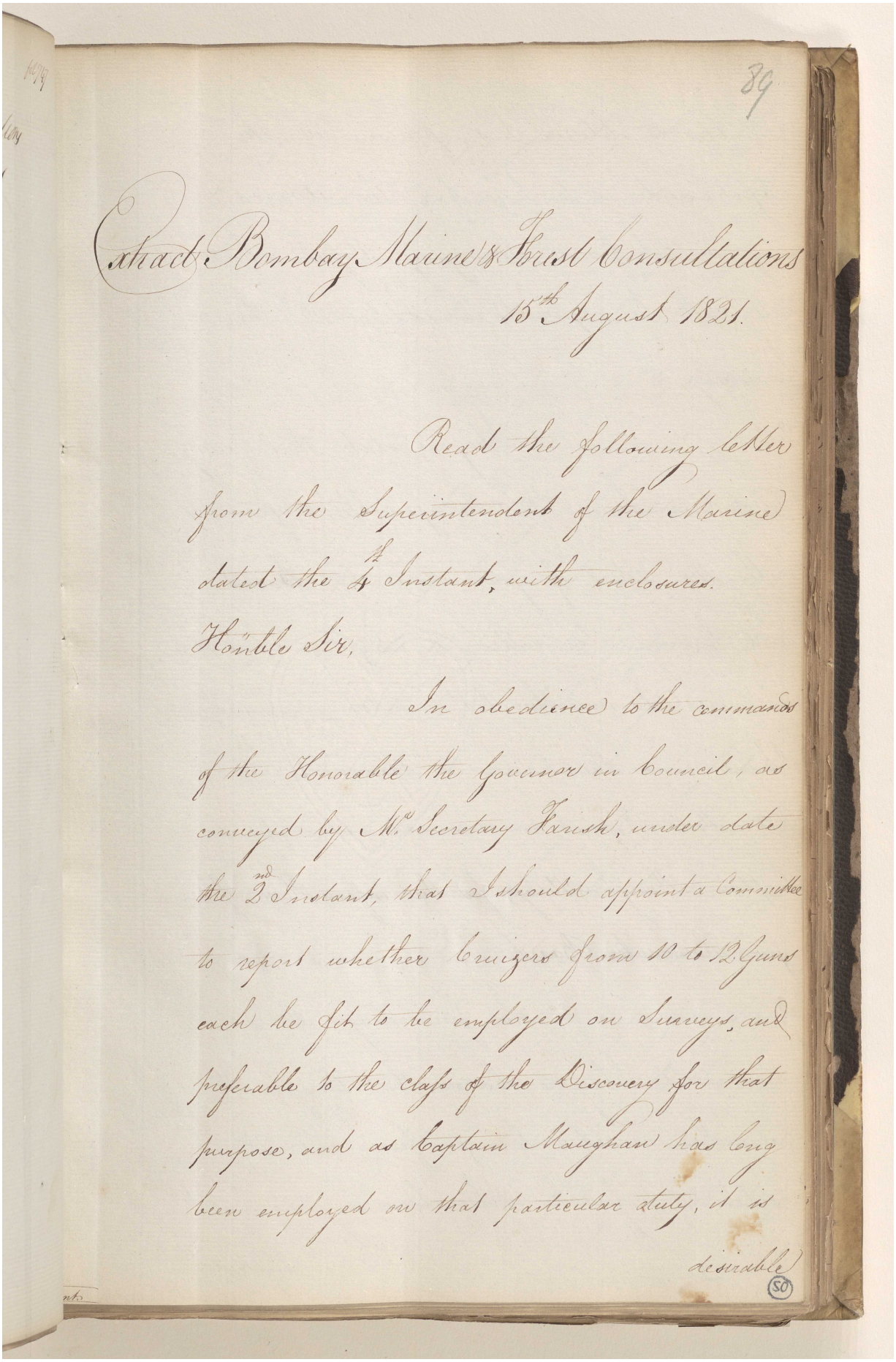


fol 747

Extract Bombay Marine & Forest Consultations
the 8th August 1821

Minutes 2d Augt } Ordered that the Superintendent of Marine be requested to appoint a Committee to report whether Cruizers from 10 to 12 Guns each be fit to be employed on Surveys, and preferable to the Class of the "Discovery" for that purpose; and as Captain Maughan has long been employed on that particular duty, it is desirable to obtain his opinion on the subject, and as to how far the "Aurora" may be fit for a Surveying Vessel, which will still be required in addition to the "Discovery."



89

Extract Bombay Marine & Pilot Consultations
15th August 1821.

Read the following letter from the Superintendent of the Marine dated the 4 Instant, with enclosures.

Honble Sir,

In obedience to the commands of the Honorable the Governor in Council, as conveyed by Mr. Secretary Farish, under date the 2nd Instant, that I should appoint a Committee to report whether Cruizers from 10 to 12 Guns each be fit to be employed on Surveys, and preferable to the class of the Discovery for that purpose, and as Captain Maughan has long been employed on that particular duty, it is desirable

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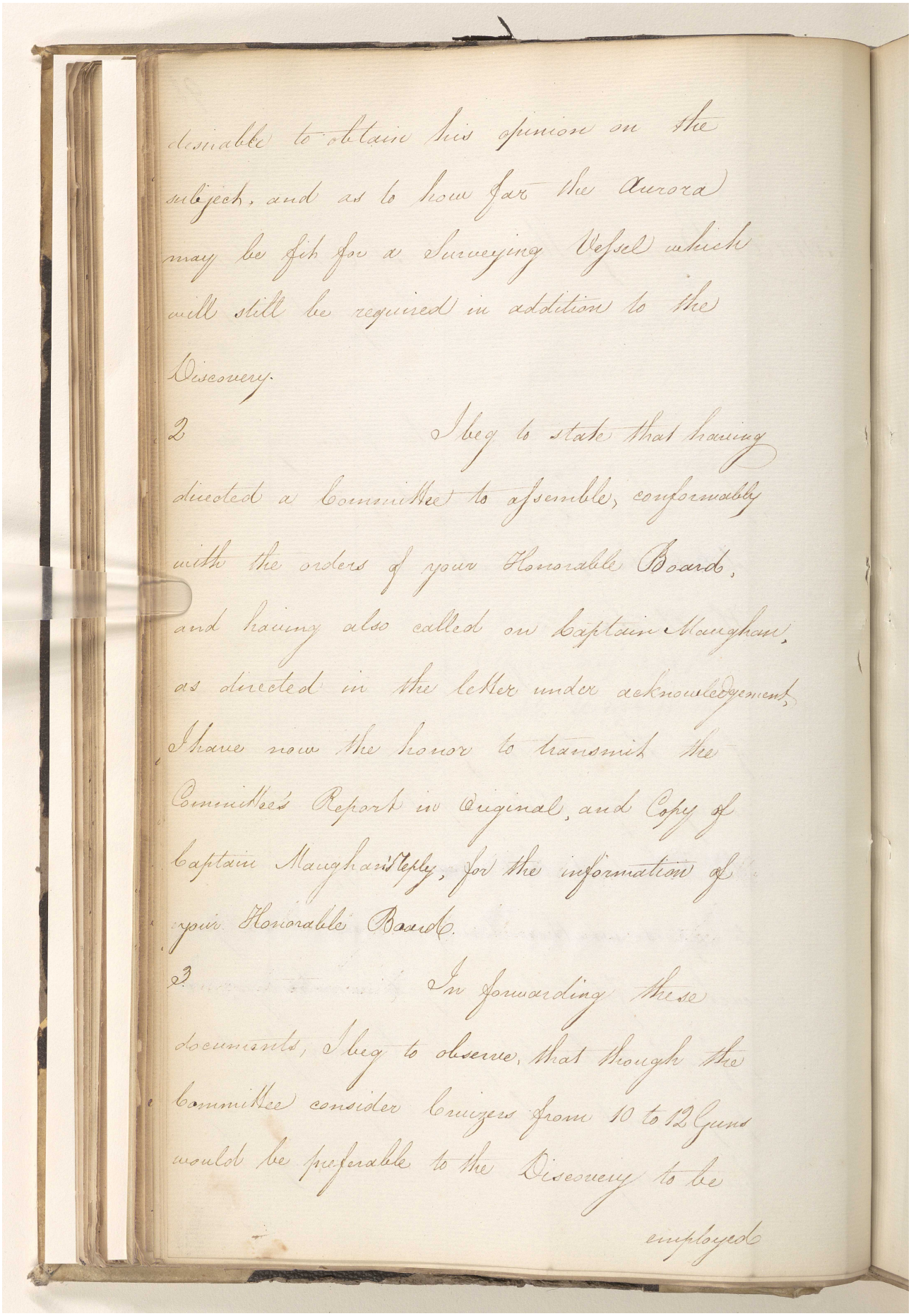

desirable to obtain his opinion on the subject, and as to how far the Aurora may be fit for a Surveying Vessel which will still be required in addition to the Discovery.

2 I beg to state that having directed a Committee to assemble, conformably with the orders of your Honorable Board, and having also called on Captain Maughan, as directed in the letter under acknowledgement, I have now the honor to transmit the Committee's Report in Original, and Copy of Captain Maughan's Reply, for the information of your Honorable Board.

3 In forwarding these documents, I beg to observe, that though the Committee consider Cruizers from 10 to 12 Guns would be preferable to the Discovery to be employed

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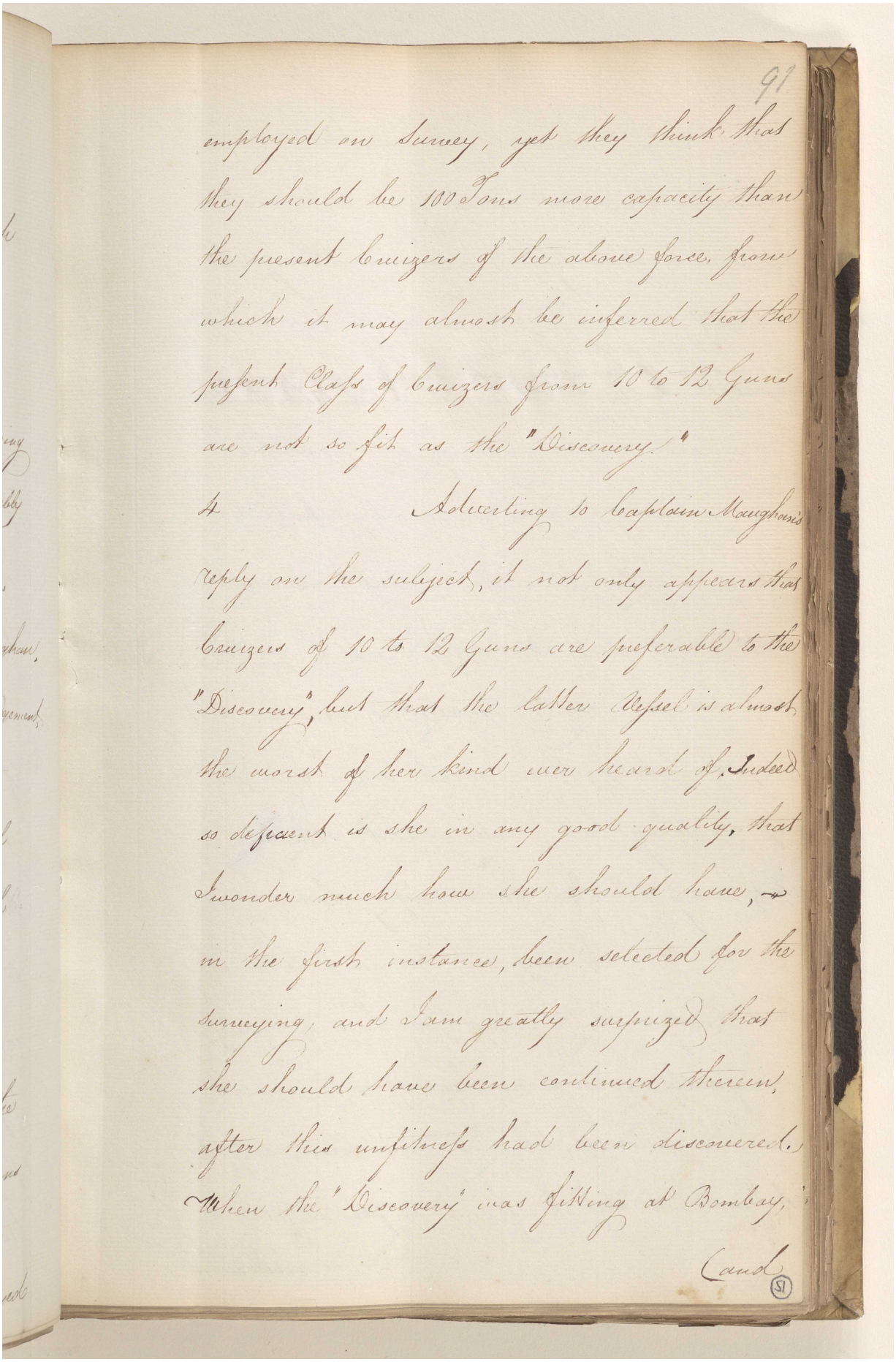

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employed on Survey, yet they think that they should be 100 Tons more capacity than the present Cruizers of the above force, from which it may almost be inferred that the present Class of Cruizers from 10 to 12 Guns are not so fit as the "Discovery."

4 Adverting to Captain Maughan's reply on the subject, it not only appears that Cruizers of 10 to 12 Guns are preferable to the "Discovery", but that the latter Vessel is almost the worst of her kind ever heard of. Indeed so deficient is she in any good quality, that I wonder much how she should have, in the first instance, been selected for the surveying, and I am greatly surprized that she should have been continued therein, after this unfitness had been discovered. When the "Discovery" was fitting at Bombay,

Cand

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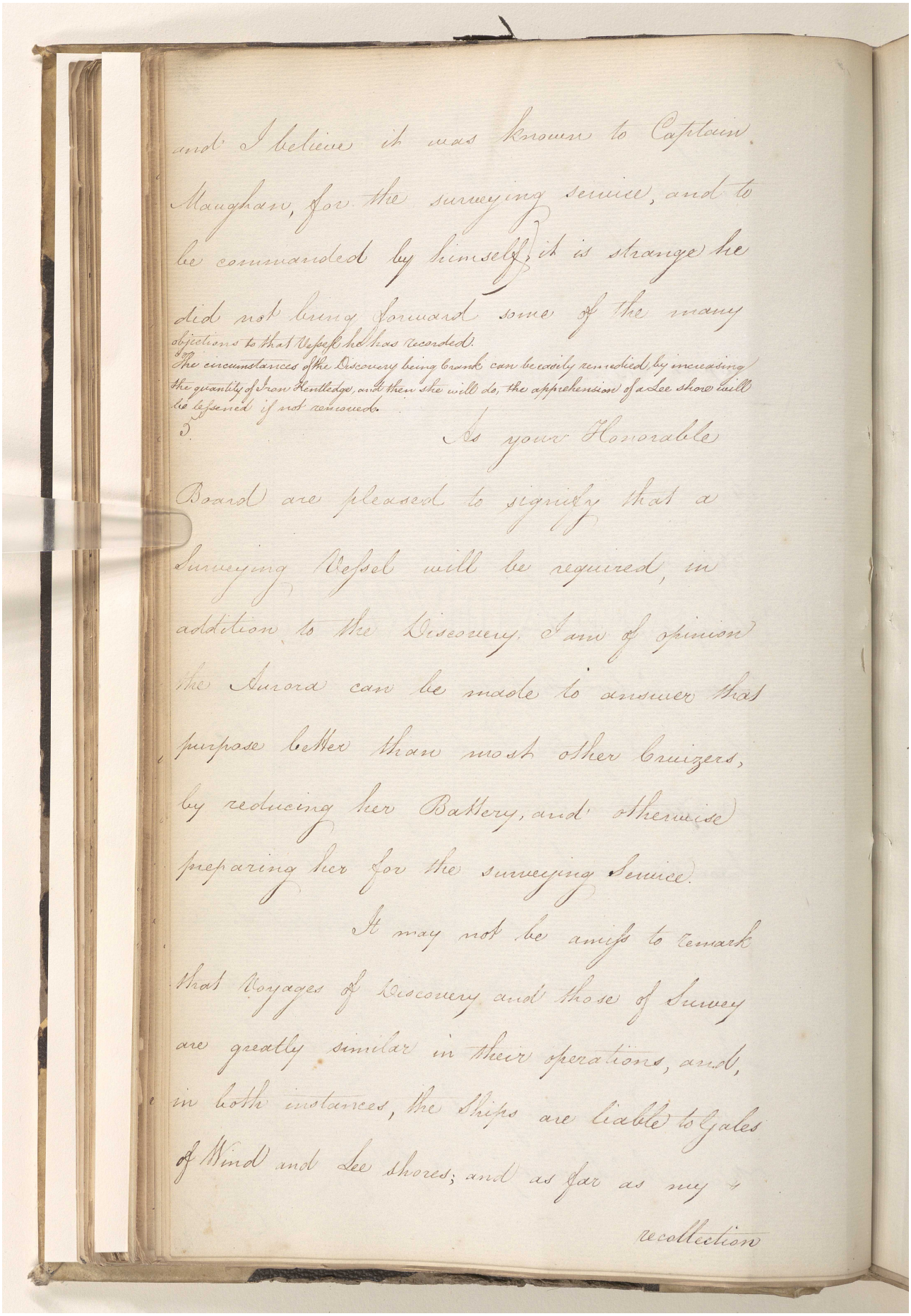
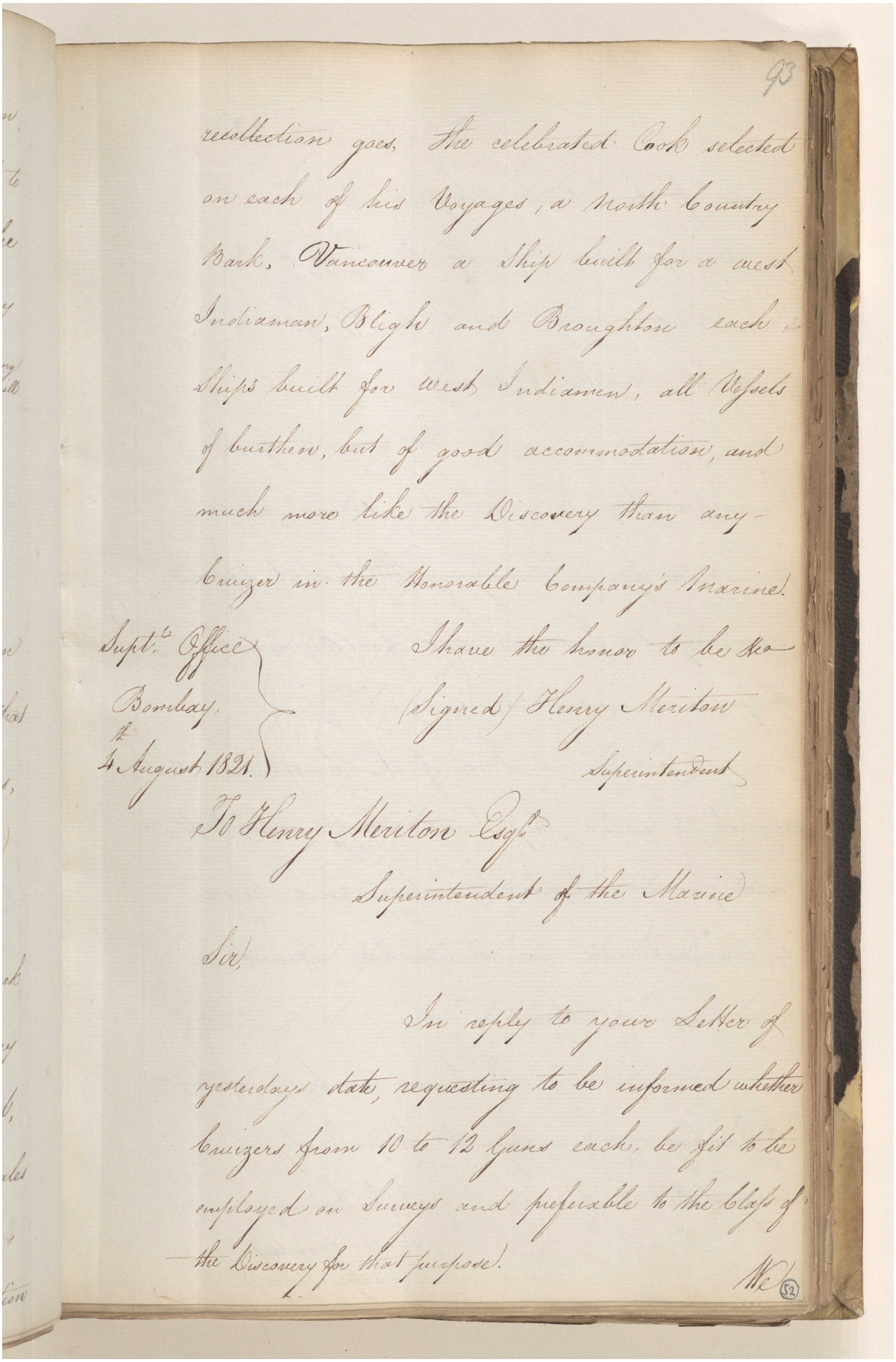


and I believe it was known to Captain Maughan, for the surveying service, and to be commanded by himself; it is strange he did not bring forward some of the many objections to that Vessel he has recorded.

The circumstances of the Discovery being crank can be easily remedied by increasing the quantity of Iron Kentledge, and then she will do, the apprehension of a Lee shore will be lessened if not removed.

5. As your Honorable Board are pleased to signify that a Surveying Vessel will be required, in addition to the Discovery, I am of opinion the Aurora can be made to answer that purpose better than most other Cruizers, by reducing her Battery, and otherwise preparing her for the surveying Service.

It may not be amiss to remark that Voyages of Discovery and those of Survey are greatly similar in their operations, and, in both instances, the Ships are liable to Gales of Wind and Lee shores; and as far as my recollection



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recollection goes, the celebrated Cook selected on each of his Voyages, a North Country Bark, Vancouver a Ship built for a west Indiaman, Bligh and Broughton each Ships built for west Indiamen, all Vessels of burthen, but of good accommodation, and much more like the Discovery than any Cruizer in the Honorable Company's Marine.

I have the honor to be &c.
(Signed) Henry Meriton
Superintendent

Supt.ᵉ Office
Bombay
4 August 1821.

To Henry Meriton Esqr.
Superintendent of the Marine

Sir,

In reply to your Letter of yesterdays date, requesting to be informed whether Cruizers from 10 to 12 Guns each, be fit to be employed on Surveys and preferable to the Class of the Discovery for that purpose.

We

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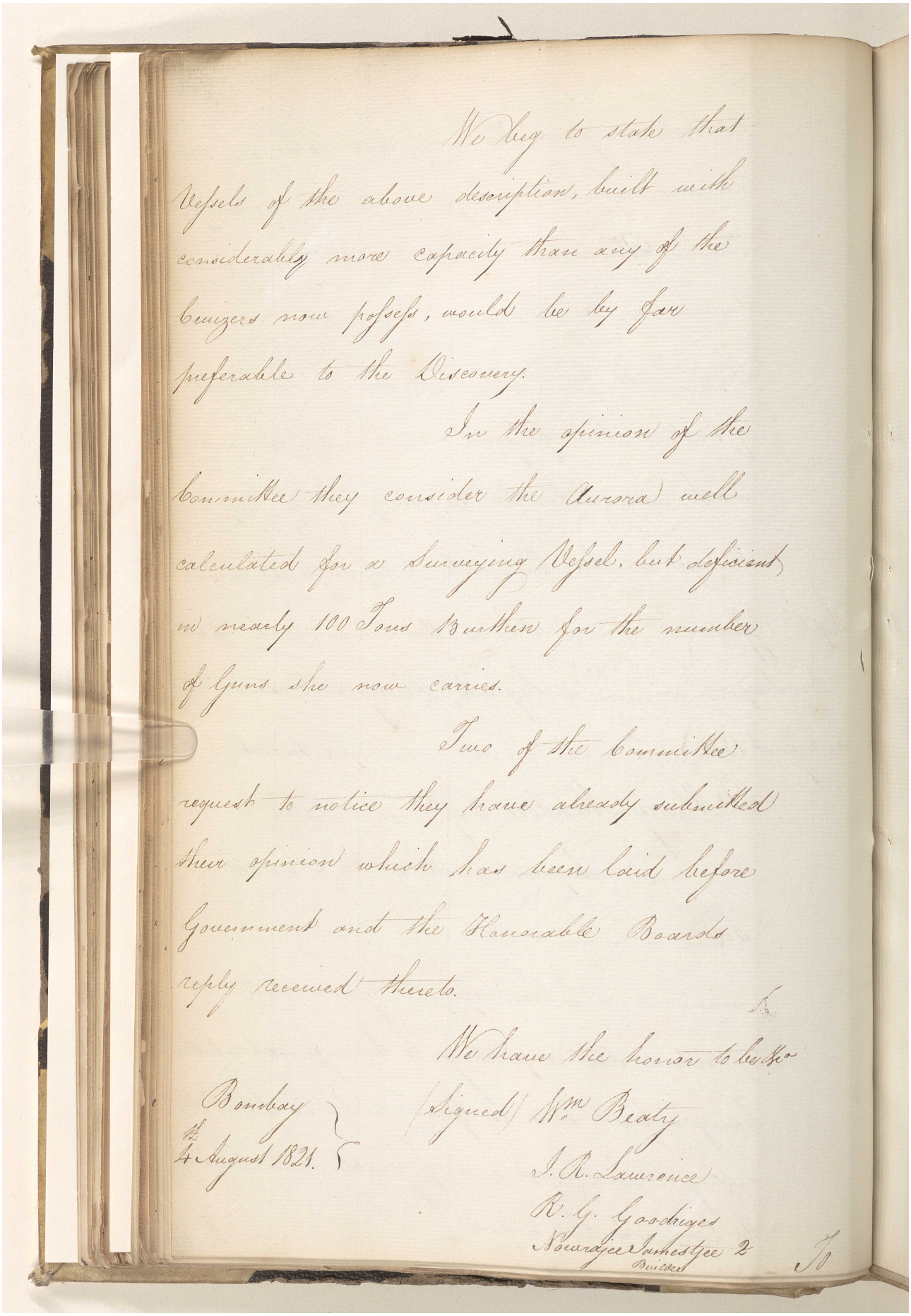


We beg to state that Vessels of the above description, built with considerably more capacity than any of the Cruizers now possess, would be by far preferable to the Discovery.

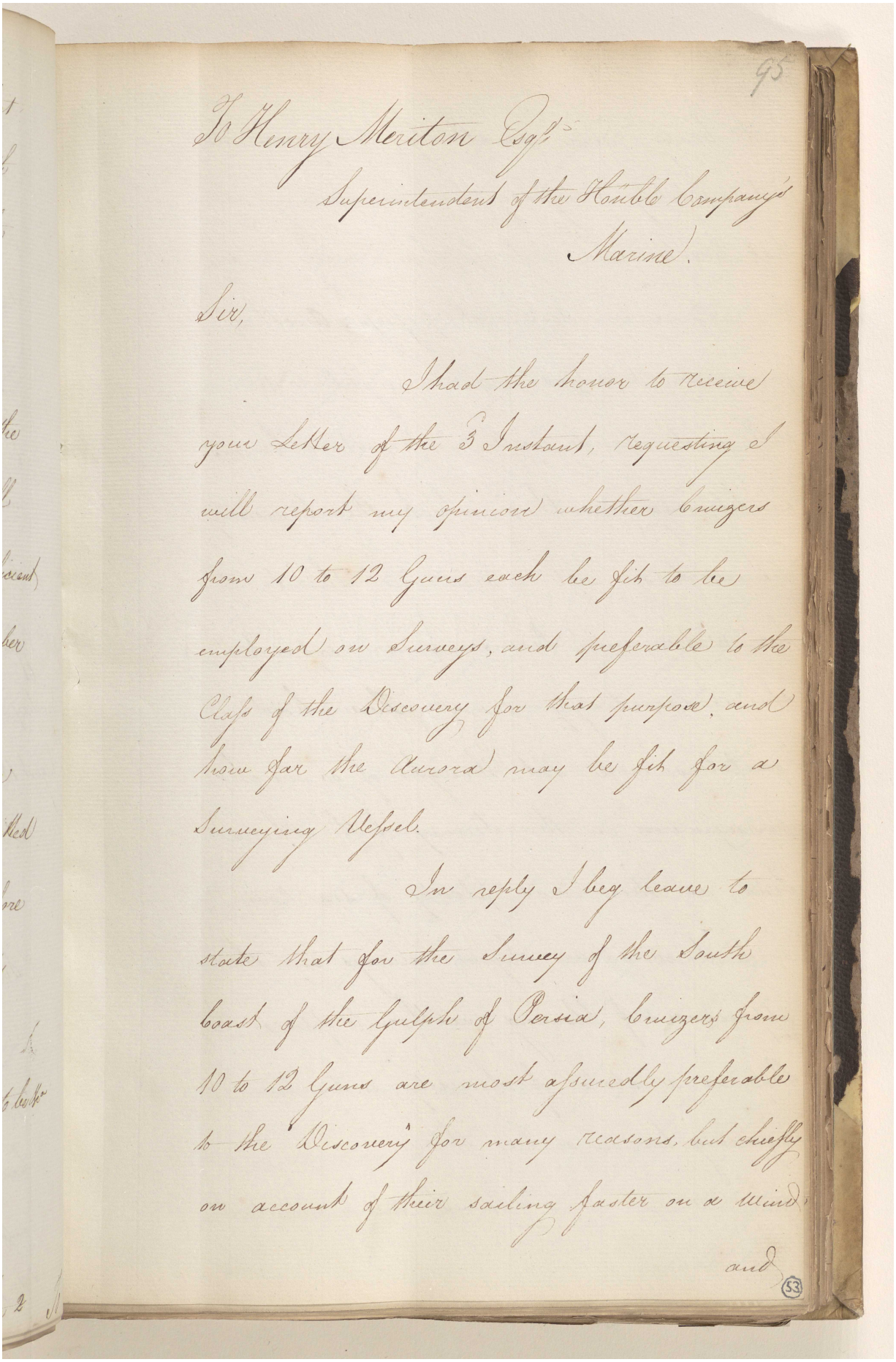
In the opinion of the Committee they consider the Aurora well calculated for a Surveying Vessel, but deficient in nearly 100 Tons Burthen for the number of Guns she now carries.

Two of the Committee request to notice they have already submitted their opinion which has been laid before Government and the Honorable Boards reply received thereto.

We have the honor to be &c

Bombay
the 4 August 1821.

(Signed) Wm Beaty
J. R. Lawrence
R. G. Goodriges
Nowrojee Jamsetjee 2
Builders



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To Henry Meriton Esqr.

Superintendent of the Honble Company's Marine.

Sir,

I had the honor to receive your Letter of the 3 Instant, requesting I will report my opinion whether Cruizers from 10 to 12 Guns each be fit to be employed on Surveys, and preferable to the Class of the Discovery for that purpose, and how far the Aurora may be fit for a Surveying Vessel.

In reply I beg leave to state that for the Survey of the South coast of the Gulph of Persia, Cruizers from 10 to 12 Guns are most assuredly preferable to the Discovery for many reasons, but chiefly on account of their sailing faster on a Wind

and

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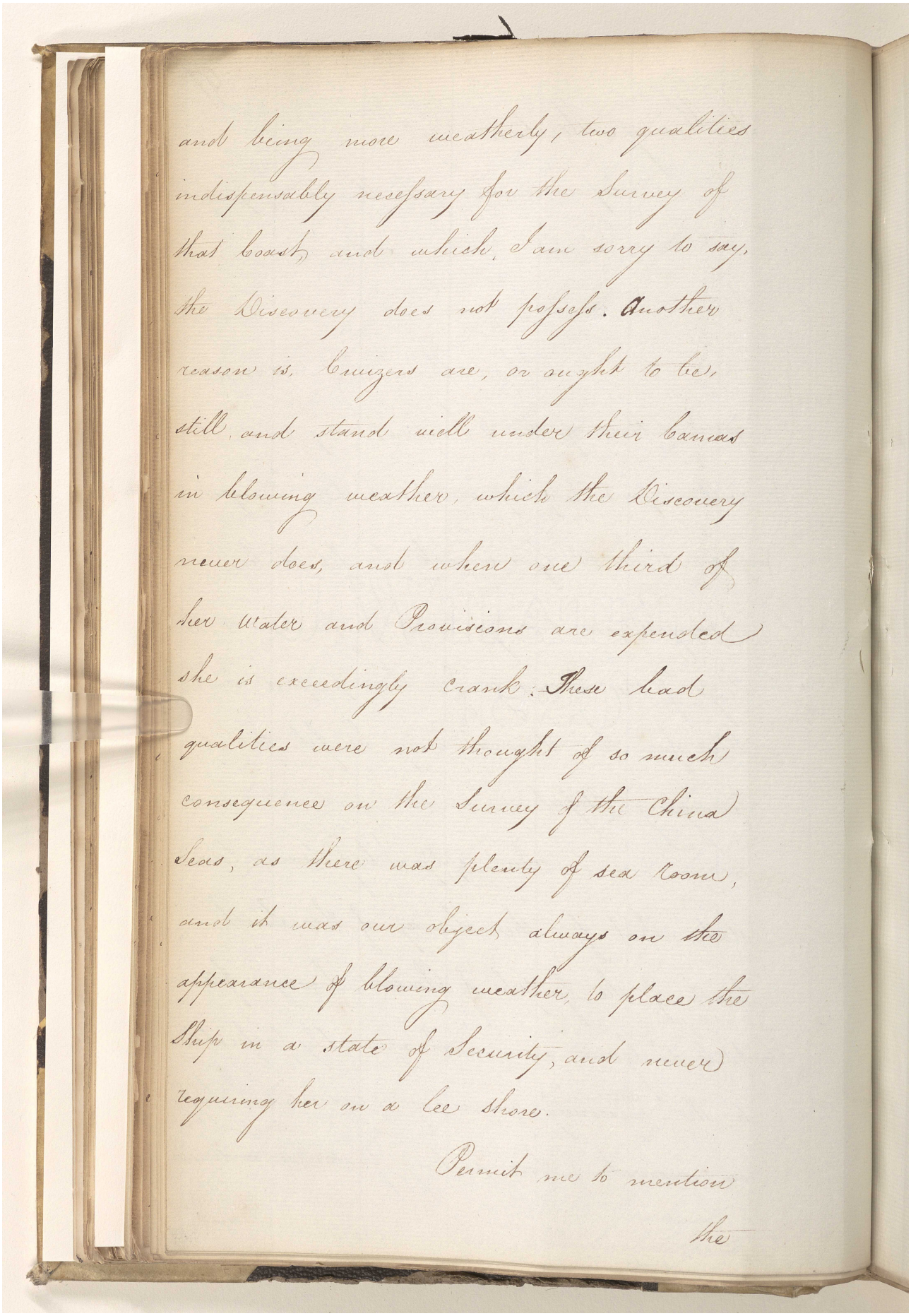

and being more weatherly, two qualities indispensably necessary for the Survey of that Coast, and which, I am sorry to say, the Discovery does not possess. Another reason is, Cruizers are, or ought to be, still, and stand well under their Canvas in blowing weather, which the Discovery never does, and when one third of her Water and Provisions are expended she is exceedingly crank. These bad qualities were not thought of so much consequence on the Survey of the China Seas, as there was plenty of sea room, and it was our object always on the appearance of blowing weather, to place the Ship in a state of Security, and never requiring her on a lee Shore.

Permit me to mention

the

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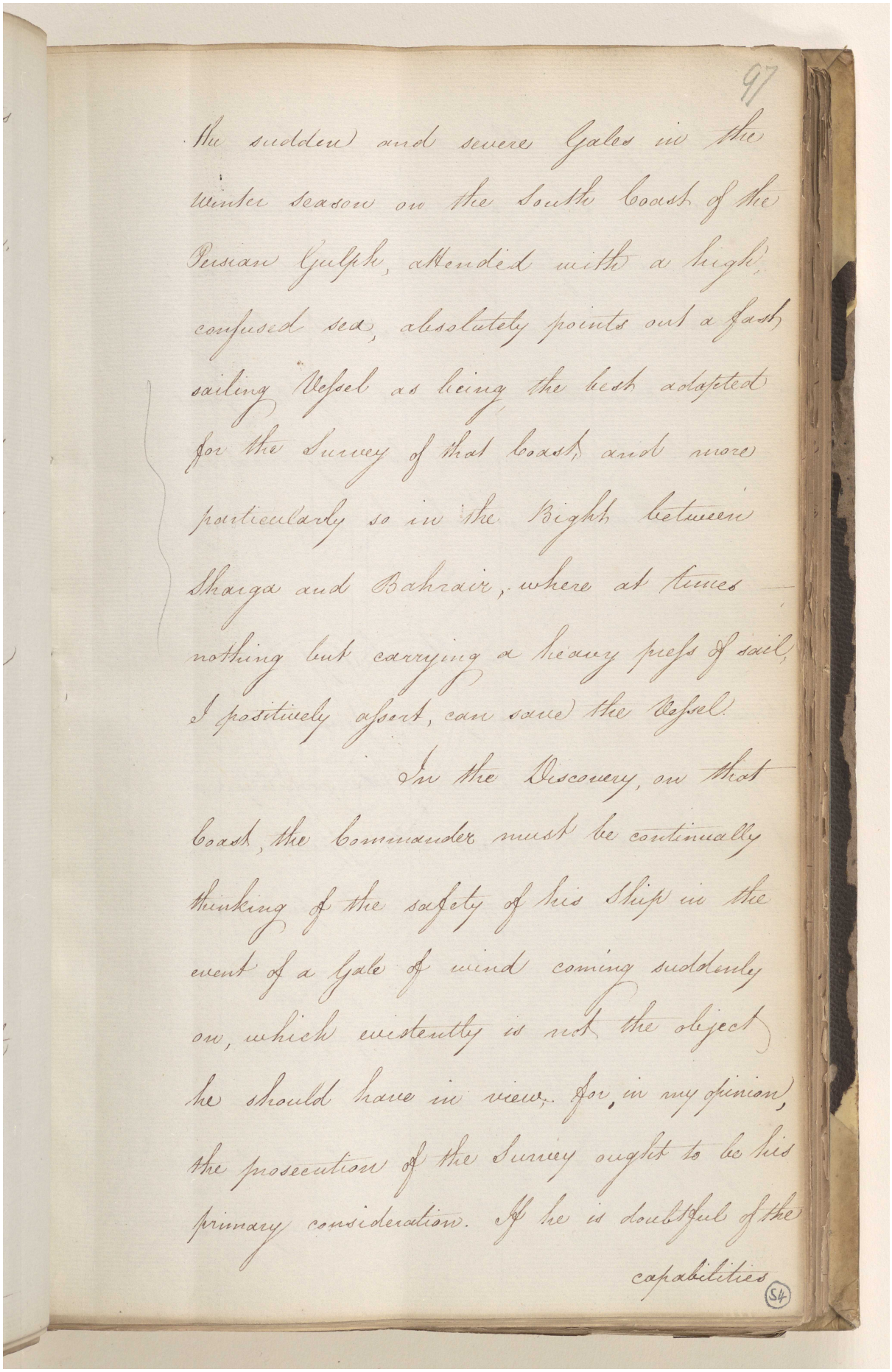

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the sudden and severe Gales in the Winter season on the South Coast of the Persian Gulph, attended with a high confused sea, absolutely points out a fast sailing Vessel as being the best adapted for the Survey of that Coast, and more particularly so in the Bight between Sharja and Bahrain, where at times nothing but carrying a heavy press of sail, I positively assert, can save the Vessel.

In the Discovery, on that Coast, the Commander must be continually thinking of the safety of his Ship in the event of a Gale of wind coming suddenly on, which existently is not the object he should have in view. For, in my opinion, the prosecution of the Survey ought to be his primary consideration. If he is doubtful of the

capabilities

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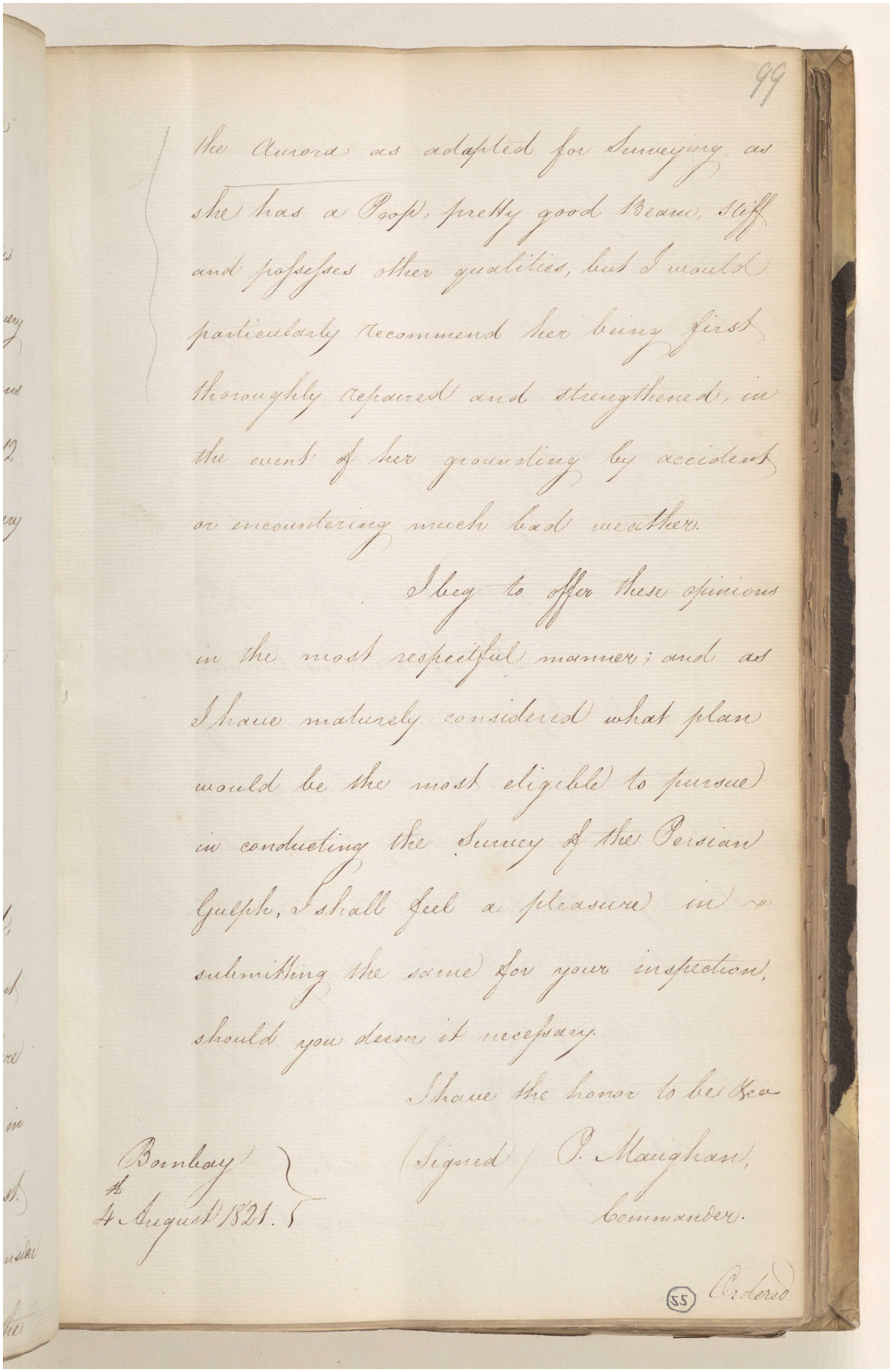
capabilities of her Ship, how can she place
her near the shore in stations absolutely
requisite, either for trigonometrical operations
or astronomical observations. As the Discovery
is crank, I would recommend lighter Guns
being placed in her, she formerly had 12
Pound Carronades which she carried very
well.

In the Survey of the
China Sea, the Discovery was found a
useful Vessel, on account of the quantity
of water and Provisions she carried, as
those articles were difficult to be procured,
away from China; but it is very different
in the Survey of the Persian Gulph, where
water and Provisions can always be got in
few days from any part of the South Coast.

I should certainly consider

the



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the Aurora as adapted for Surveying, as she has a Poop, pretty good Beam, Stiff and possesses other qualities, but I would particularly recommend her being first thoroughly repaired and strengthened, in the event of her grounding by accident or encountering much bad weather.

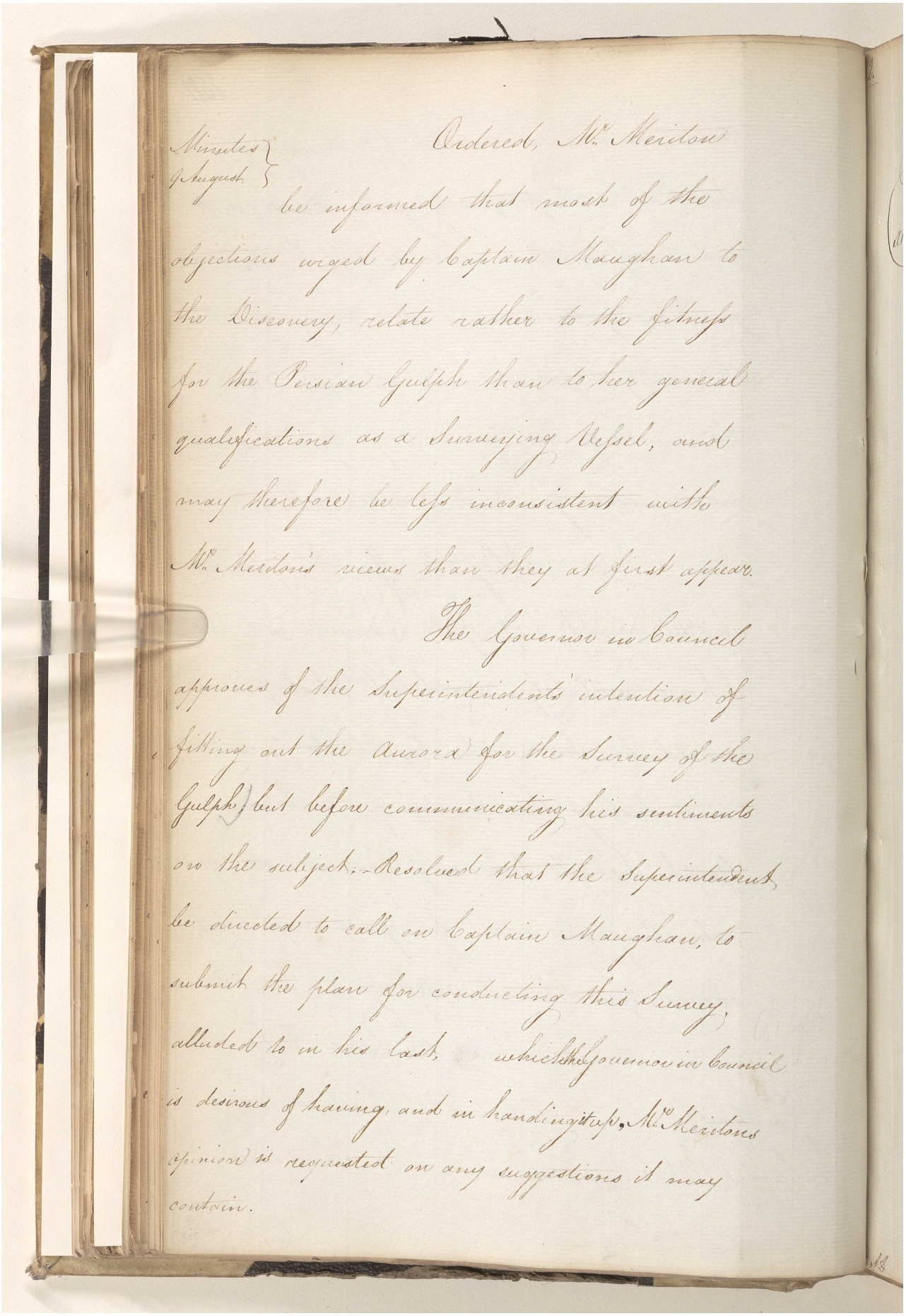
I beg to offer these opinions in the most respectful manner; and as I have maturely considered what plan would be the most eligible to pursue in conducting the Survey of the Persian Gulph, I shall feel a pleasure in submitting the same for your inspection, should you deem it necessary.

I have the honor to be &c.

(Signed) P. Maughan,
Commander.

Bombay
4 August 1821.

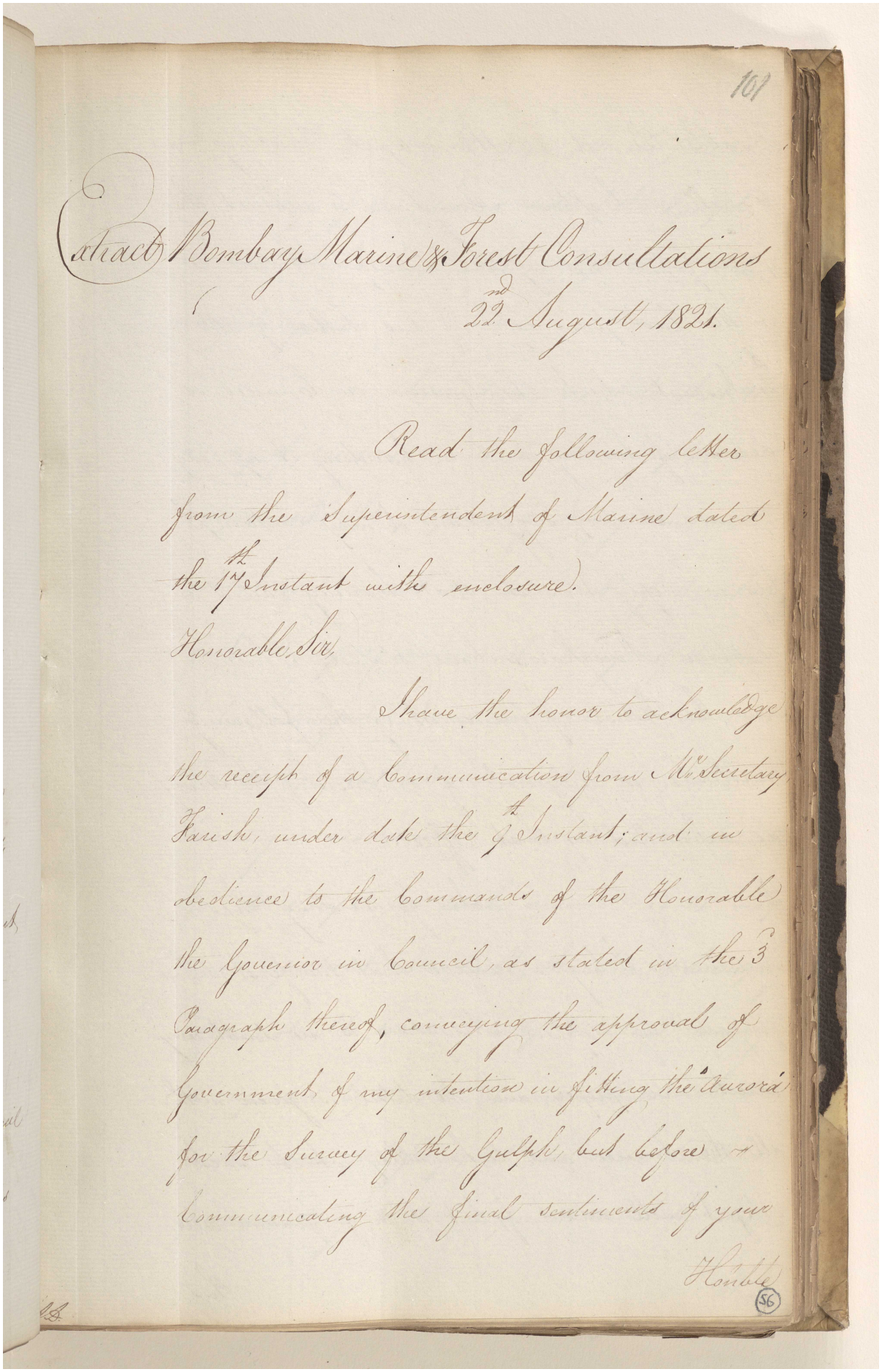
(55) Ordered



Minutes 9th August

Ordered, Mr. Meridon be informed that most of the objections urged by Captain Maughan to the Discovery, relate rather to the fitness for the Persian Gulph than to her general qualifications as a Surveying Vessel, and may therefore be less inconsistent with Mr. Meridon's views than they at first appear.

The Governor in Council approves of the Superintendents intention of fitting out the Aurora for the Survey of the Gulph, but before communicating his sentiments on the subject.—Resolved that the Superintendent be directed to call on Captain Maughan, to submit the plans for conducting this Survey, alluded to in his last, which the Governor in Council is desirous of having, and in handing it up, Mr. Meridons opinion is requested on any suggestions it may contain.



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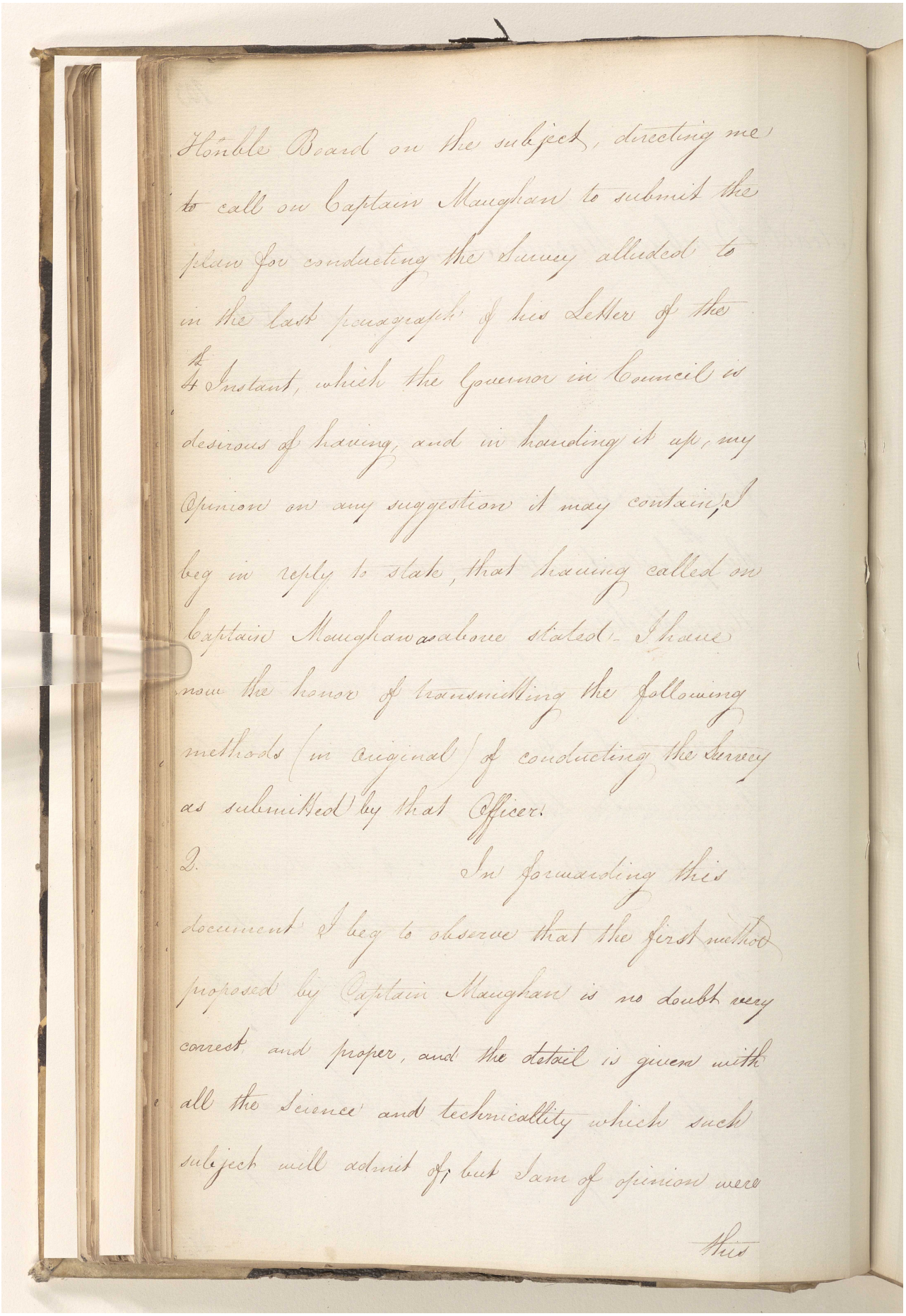
Extract Bombay Marine & Forest Consultations
22nd August, 1821.

Read the following letter from the Superintendent of Marine dated the 17th Instant with enclosure.

Honorable Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a Communication from Mr. Secretary Farish, under date the 9th Instant; and in obedience to the Commands of the Honorable the Governor in Council, as stated in the 3d Paragraph thereof, conveying the approval of Government of my intention in fitting the Aurora for the Survey of the Gulph, but before communicating the final sentiments of your Hon'ble

(56)



Honble Board on the subject, directing me to call on Captain Maughan to submit the plan for conducting the Survey alluded to in the last paragraph of his Letter of the 4th Instant, which the Governor in Council is desirous of having, and in handing it up, my Opinion on any suggestion it may contain, I beg in reply to state, that having called on Captain Maughan as above stated. I have now the honor of transmitting the following methods (in original) of conducting the Survey as submitted by that Officer.

2. In forwarding this document I beg to observe that the first method proposed by Captain Maughan is no doubt very correct and proper, and the detail is given with all the Science and technicality which such subject will admit of, but I am of opinion were this

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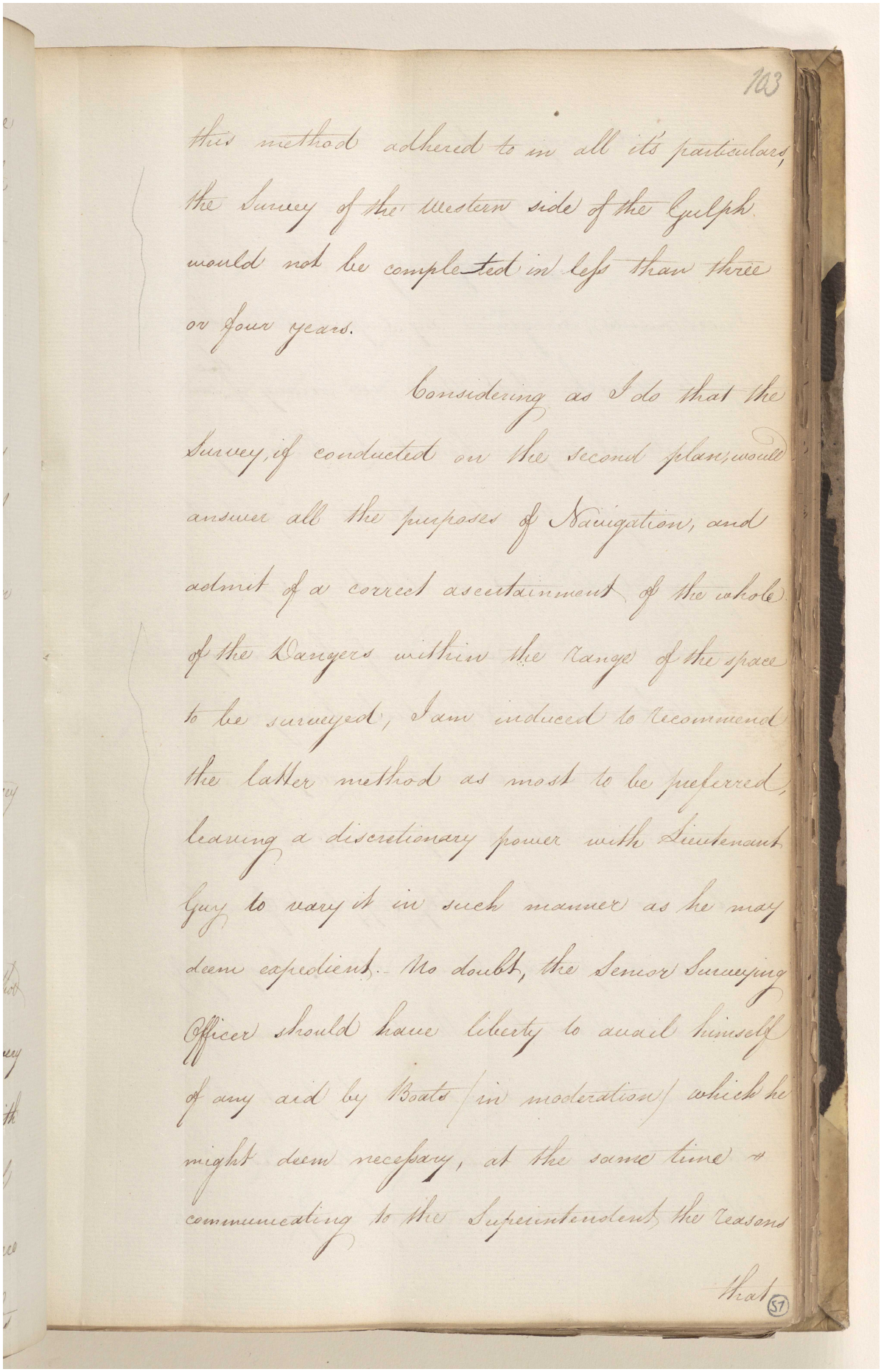

103

this method adhered to in all its particulars, the Survey of the Western side of the Gulph would not be completed in less than three or four years.

Considering as I do that the Survey, if conducted on the second plan, would answer all the purposes of Navigation, and admit of a correct ascertainment of the whole of the Dangers within the Range of the space to be surveyed, I am induced to recommend the latter method as most to be preferred, leaving a discretionary power with Lieutenant Guy to vary it in such manner as he may deem expedient. No doubt, the Senior Surveying Officer should have liberty to avail himself of any aid by Boats (in moderation) which he might deem necessary, at the same time communicating to the Superintendent the reasons

That

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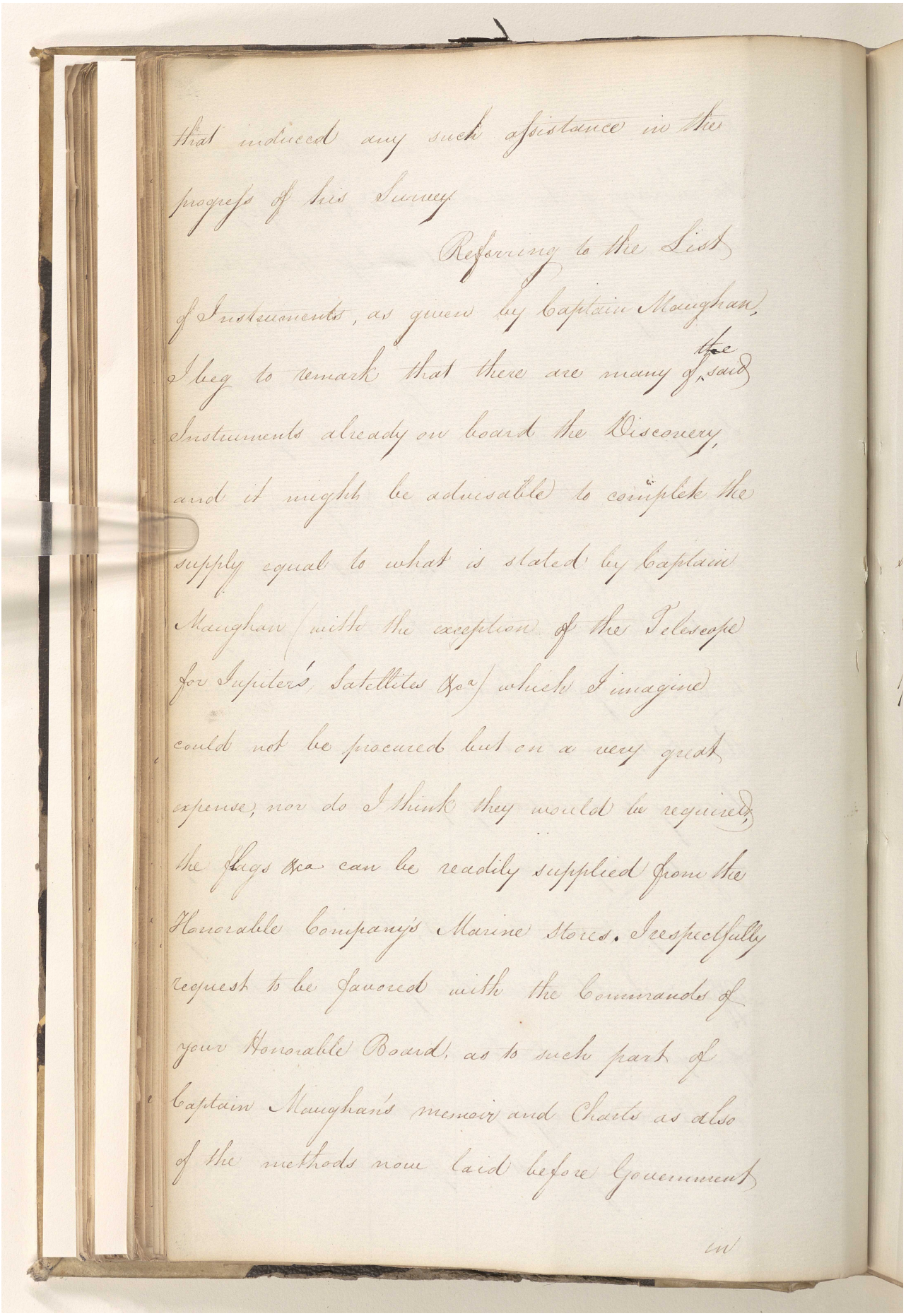

that induced any such assistance in the
progress of his Survey

Referring to the List
of Instruments, as given by Captain Maughan,
I beg to remark that there are many of the said
Instruments already on board the Discovery,
and it might be advisable to complete the
supply equal to what is stated by Captain
Maughan (with the exception of the Telescope
for Jupiter's Satellites &c.ª which I imagine
could not be procured but on a very great
expense; nor do I think they would be required,
the Flags &c.ª can be readily supplied from the
Honorable Company's Marine Stores. I respectfully
request to be favored with the Commands of
your Honorable Board, as to such part of
Captain Maughan's memoir and Charts as also
of the methods now laid before Government

in

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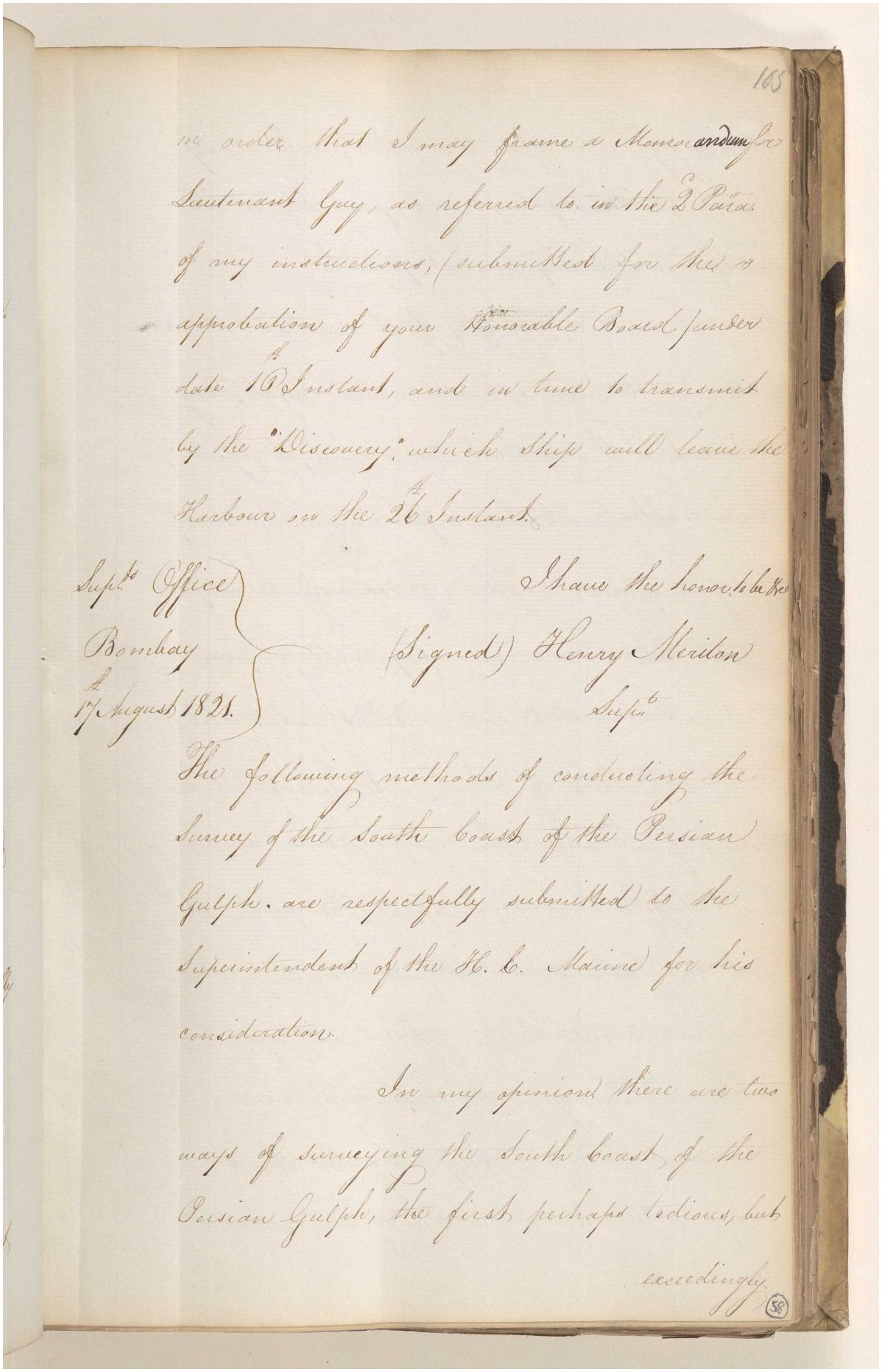

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in order that I may frame a Memorandum for Lieutenant Guy, as referred to in the 2d Para. of my instructions, / submitted for the approbation of your Honorable Board under date 10th Instant, and in time to transmit by the "Discovery" which Ship will leave the Harbour on the 26th Instant.

I have the honor to be &c

(Signed) Henry Meriton
Supt.

Supt.s Office
Bombay
17th August 1821.

The following methods of conducting the Survey of the South coast of the Persian Gulph, are respectfully submitted to the Superintendent of the H. C. Marine for his consideration.

In my opinion there are two ways of surveying the South coast of the Persian Gulph, the first perhaps tedious, but exceedingly

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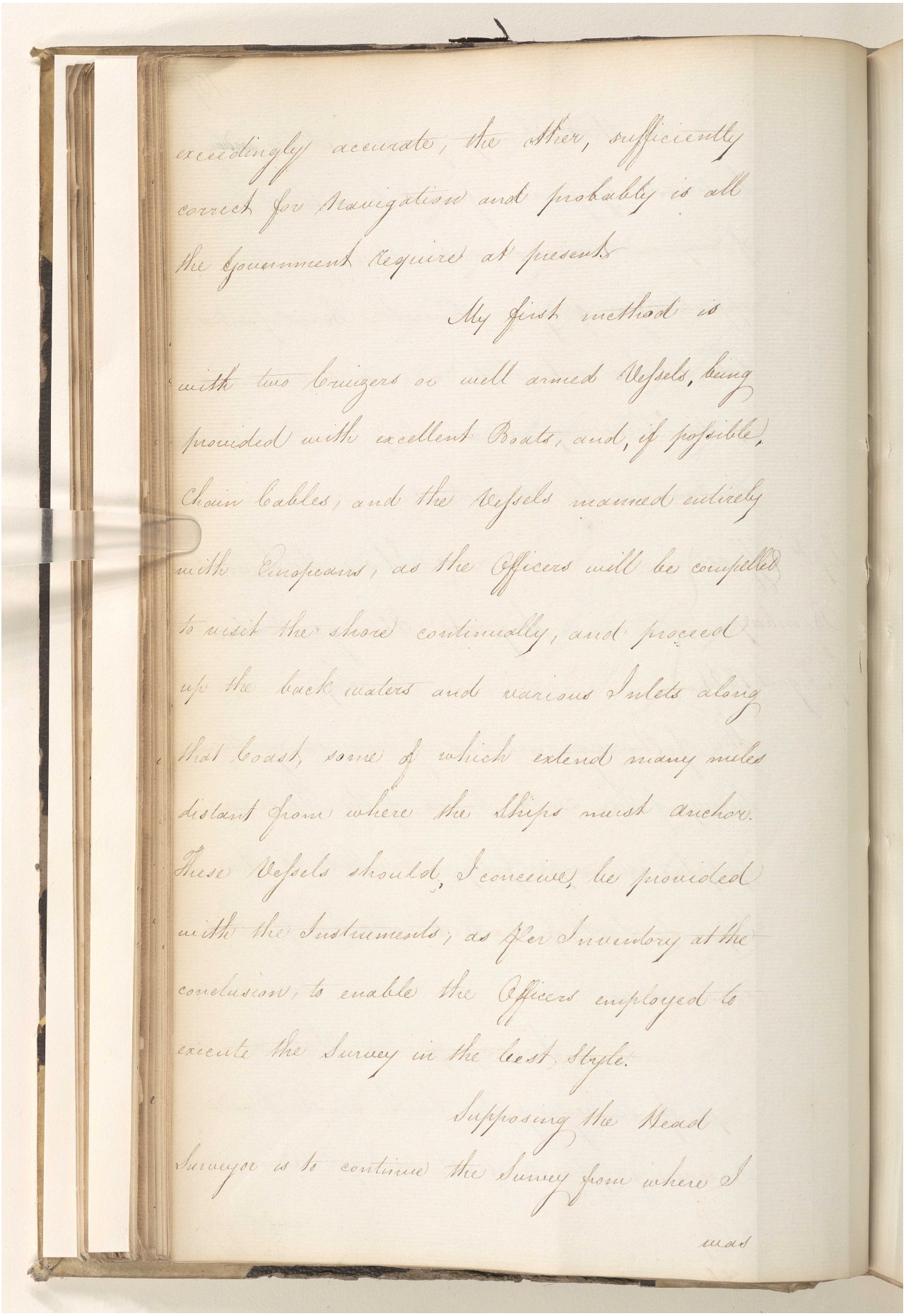

exceedingly accurate, the other, sufficiently correct for Navigation and probably is all the Government Required at present.

My first method is with two Cruizers or well armed Vessels, being provided with excellent Boats, and, if possible, Chain Cables, and the Vessels manned entirely with Europeans, as the Officers will be compelled to visit the shore continually, and proceed up the back waters and various Inlets along that Coast, some of which extend many miles distant from where the Ships must anchor. These Vessels should, I conceive, be provided with the Instruments, as per Inventory at the conclusion, to enable the Officers employed to execute the Survey in the best Style.

Supposing the Head Surveyor is to continue the Survey from where I

was

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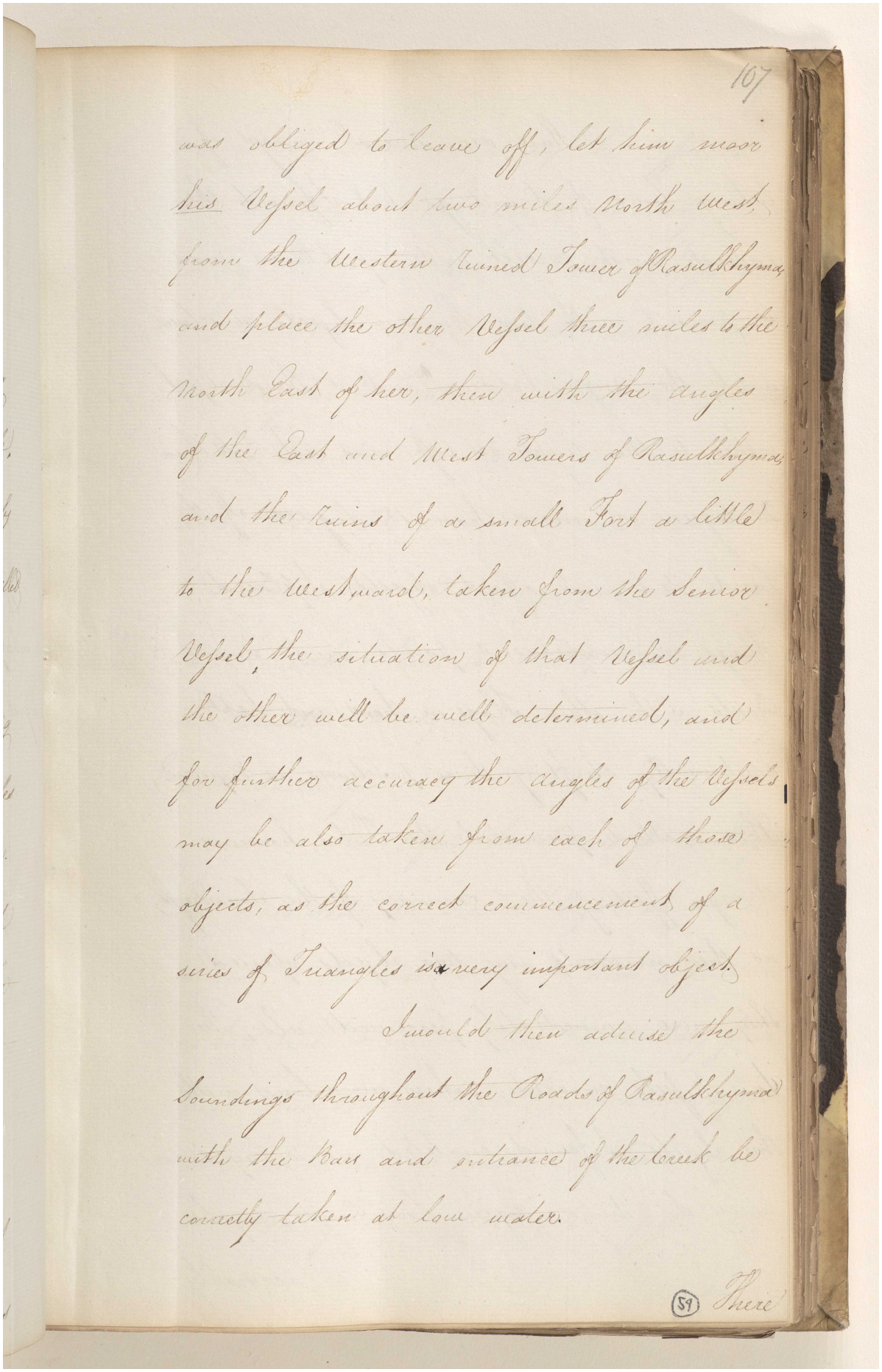

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was obliged to leave off, let him moor his Vessel about two miles North West from the Western ruined Tower of Rasulkhyma, and place the other Vessel three miles to the North East of her, then with the angles of the East and West Towers of Rasulkhyma, and the ruins of a small Fort a little to the Westward, taken from the Senior Vessel, the situation of that Vessel and the other will be well determined, and for further accuracy the angles of the Vessels may be also taken from each of those objects, as the correct commencement of a series of Triangles is a very important object.

I would then advise the Soundings throughout the Roads of Rasulkhyma with the Bar and entrance of the Creek be correctly taken at low water.

(59) There

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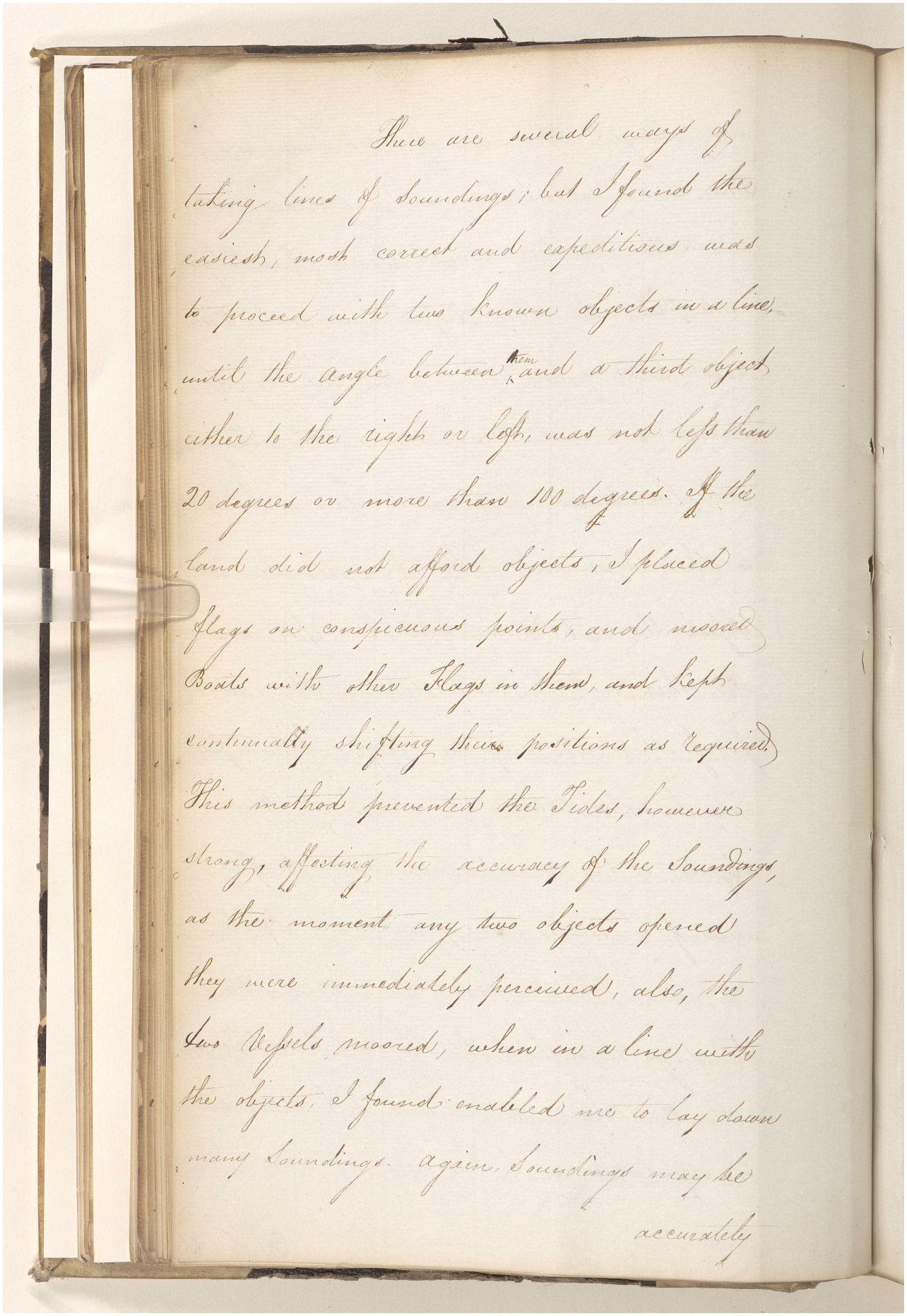

There are several ways of taking lines of Soundings; but I found the easiest, most correct and expeditious was to proceed with two known objects in a line, until the angle between them, and a third object either to the right or left, was not less than 20 degrees or more than 100 degrees. If the land did not afford objects, I placed flags on conspicuous points, and moored Boats with other Flags in them, and kept continually shifting their positions as required. This method prevented the Tides, however strong, affecting the accuracy of the Soundings, as the moment any two objects opened they were immediately perceived, also, the two Vessels moored, when in a line with the objects, I found enabled me to lay down many Soundings. Again, Soundings may be accurately

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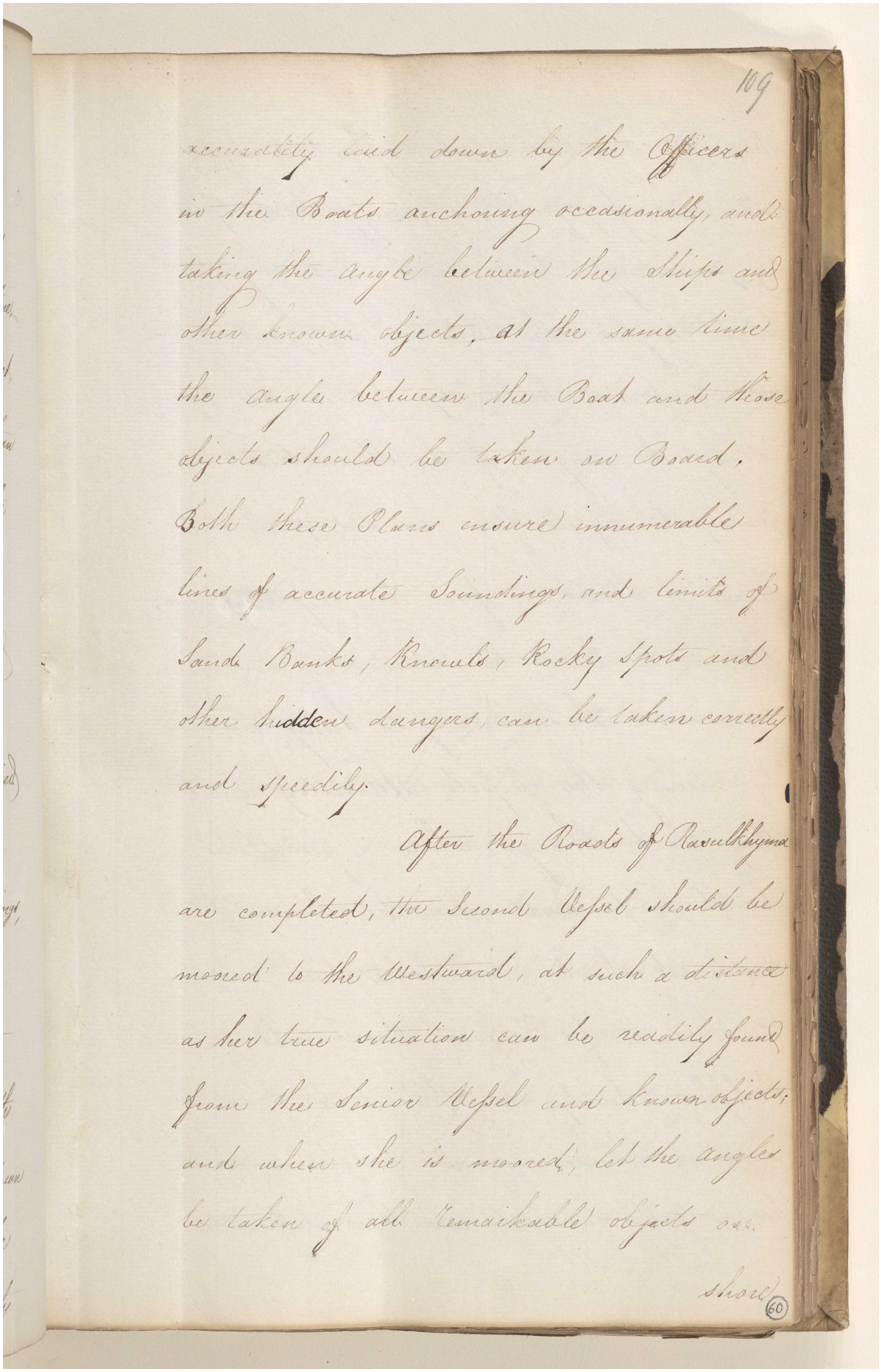

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accurately laid down by the Officers
in the Boats anchoring occasionally, and
taking the angle between the Ships and
other known objects, at the same time
the angle between the Boat and those
objects should be taken on Board.
Both these Plans ensure innumerable
lines of accurate Soundings, and limits of
Sands Banks, Knouls, Rocky Spots and
other hidden dangers can be taken correctly
and speedily.

After the Roads of Rasulkhyma
are completed, the Second Vessel should be
moored to the Westward, at such a distance
as her true situation can be readily found
from the Senior Vessel and known objects,
and when she is moored, let the angles
be taken of all remarkable objects on
shore

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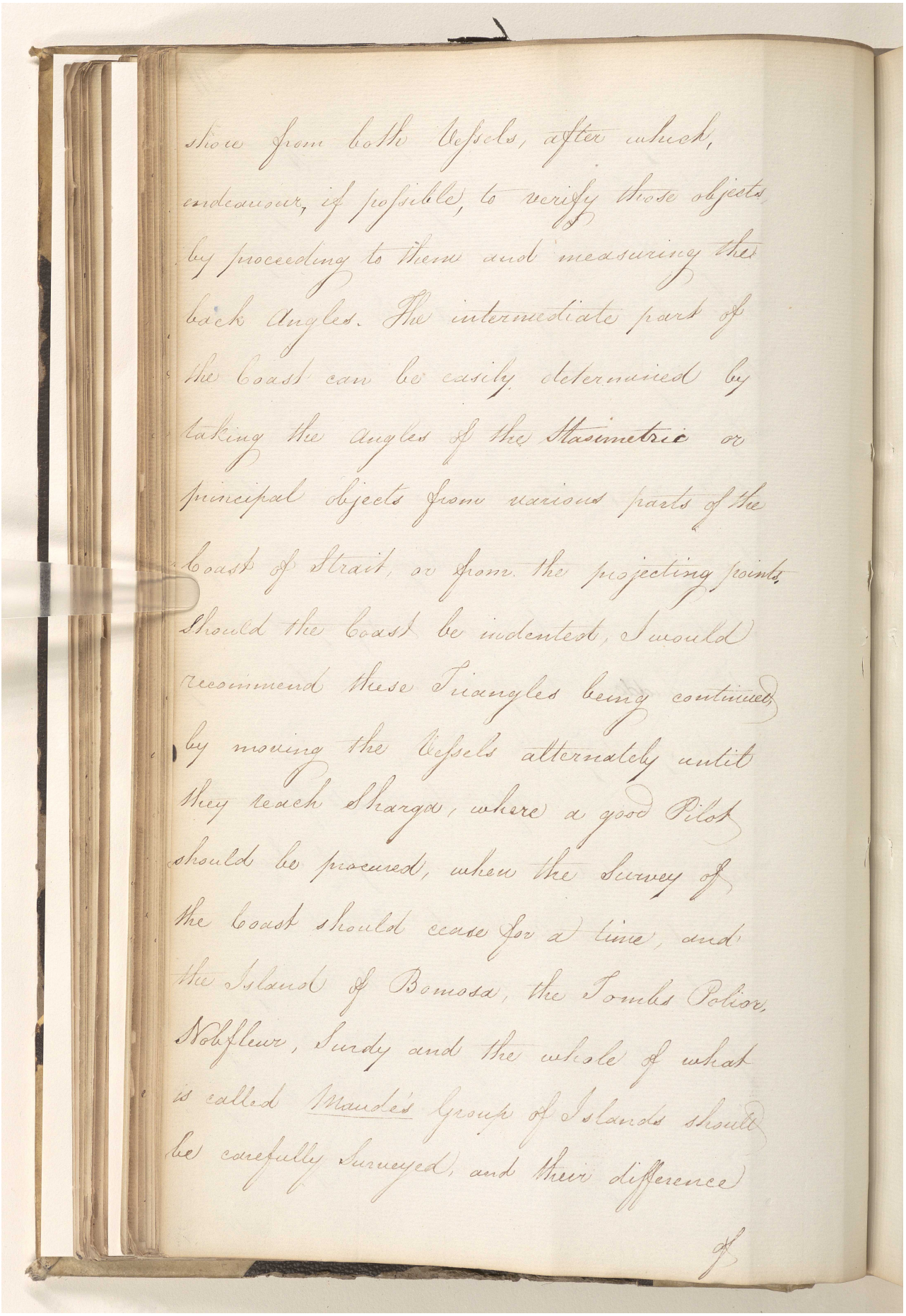

shore from both Vessels, after which, endeavour, if possible, to verify those objects by proceeding to them and measuring their back Angles. The intermediate part of the Coast can be easily determined by taking the Angles of the Masimetric or principal objects from various parts of the Coast of Strait, or from the projecting points. Should the Coast be indented, I would recommend these Triangles being continued by moving the Vessels alternately until they reach Shargo, where a good Pilot should be procured, when the Survey of the Coast should cease for a time, and the Island of Bomosa, the Tombs Potion, Nobfleur, Sundy and the whole of what is called Maudé's Group of Islands should be carefully Surveyed, and their difference

of

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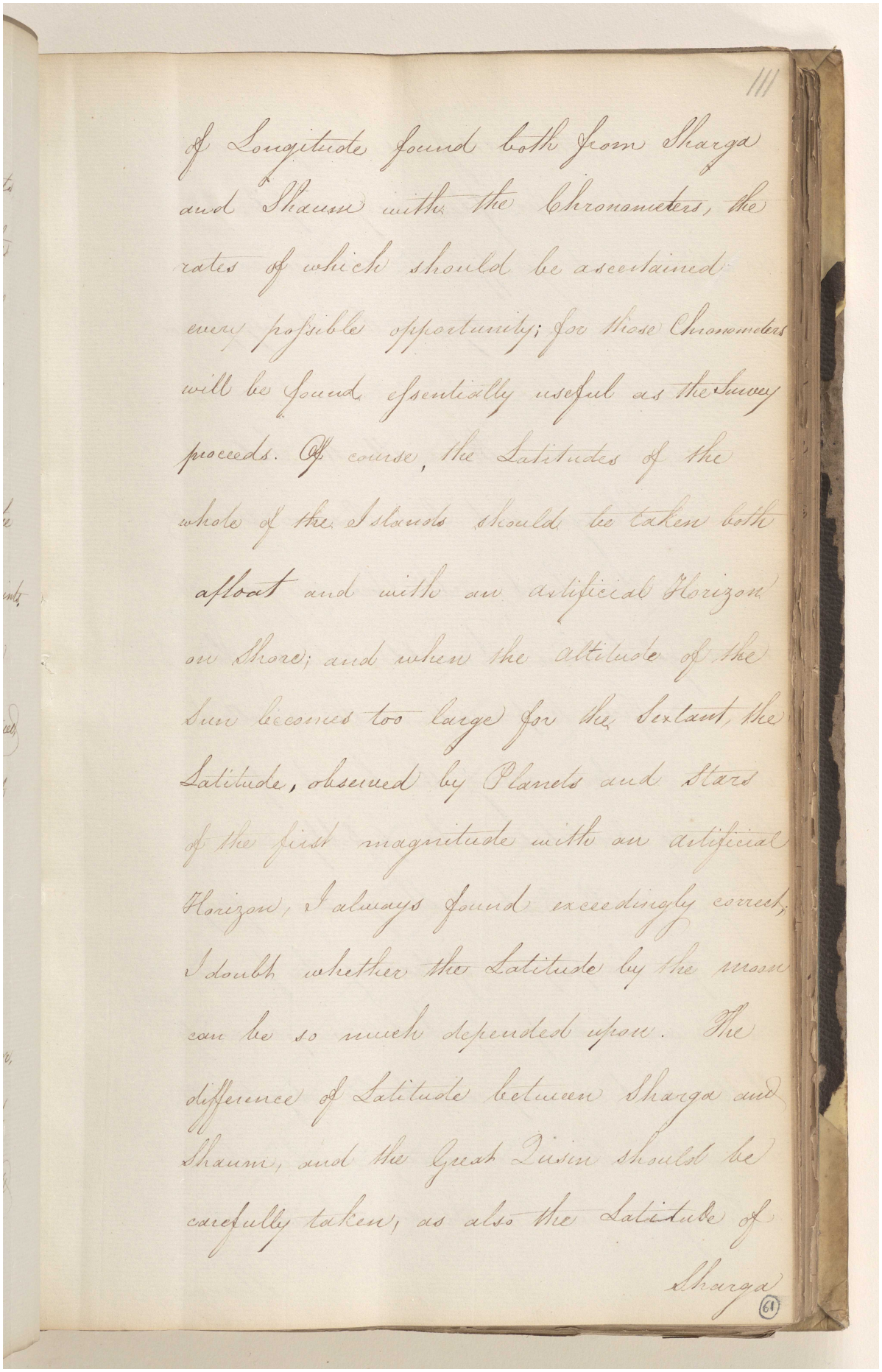

111

of Longitude found both from Sharga and Shaum with the Chronometers, the rates of which should be ascertained every possible opportunity; for those Chronometers will be found essentially useful as the Survey proceeds. Of course, the Latitudes of the whole of the Islands should be taken both afloat and with an artificial Horizon on Shore; and when the altitude of the Sun becomes too large for the Sextant, the Latitude, observed by Planets and Stars of the first magnitude with an artificial Horizon, I always found exceedingly correct; I doubt whether the Latitude by the moon can be so much depended upon. The difference of Latitude between Sharga and Shaum, and the Great Division should be carefully taken, as also the Latitude of Sharga

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Sharga with the artificial Horizon, as I consider the latter place very useful to return and verify all astronomical observations occasionally, as the Survey proceeds to the westward.

When all the Islands between Sharga and Ras Rescan are laid down on the Chart, with the dangers and soundings between, I would advise the Senior Officer to proceed in the smallest Vessel as close along the Coast from Sharga to Bostheba as he possibly can, hiring a small Boat at Sharga to accompany him, for the purpose of tracing the form, also to ascertain if any Inlets or places of Shelter exist, or any remarkable objects are visible to enable him to carry on his Series of Triangles. The Pilot took on board at

Sharga

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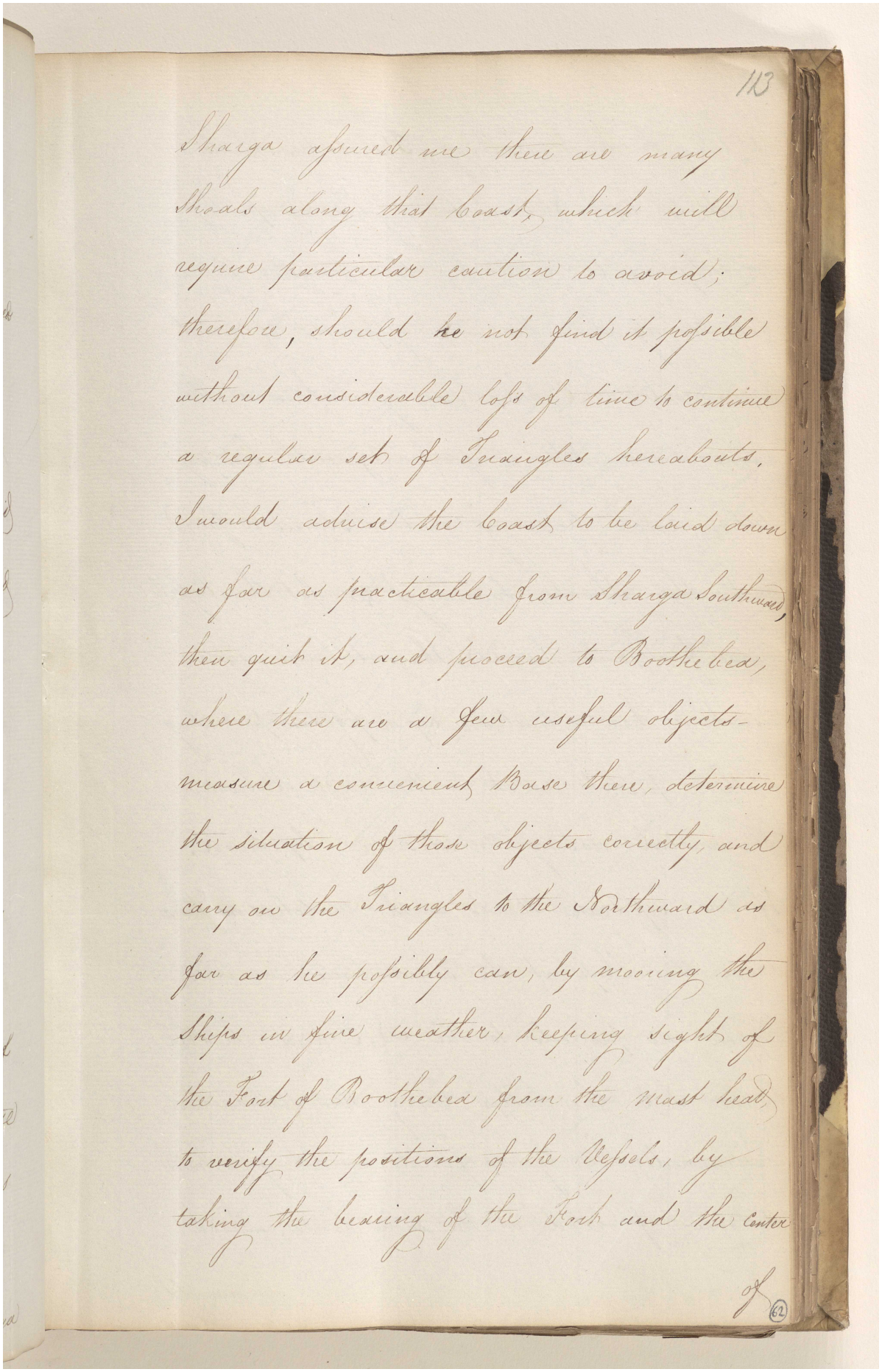

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Sharga assured me there are many
Shoals along that Coast, which will
require particular caution to avoid;
therefore, should he not find it possible
without considerable loss of time to continue
a regular set of Triangles hereabouts,
I would advise the Coast to be laid down
as far as practicable from Sharga Southward,
then quit it, and proceed to Boothebea,
where there are a few useful objects -
measure a convenient Base there, determine
the situation of those objects correctly, and
carry on the Triangles to the Northward as
far as he possibly can, by mooring the
Ships in fine weather, keeping sight of
the Fort of Boothebea from the mast head,
to verify the positions of the Vessels, by
taking the bearing of the Fort and the Centre
of

(62)

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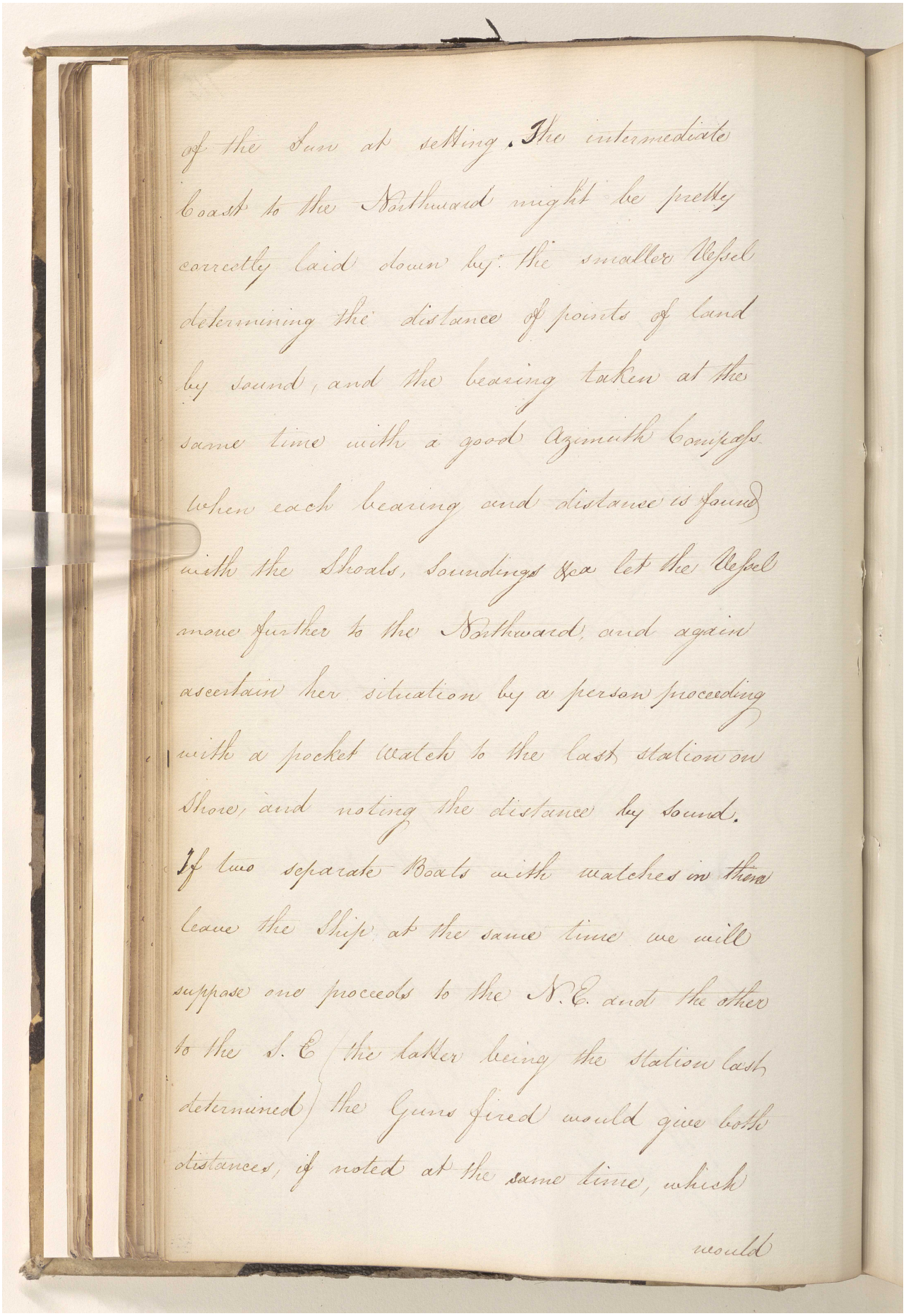
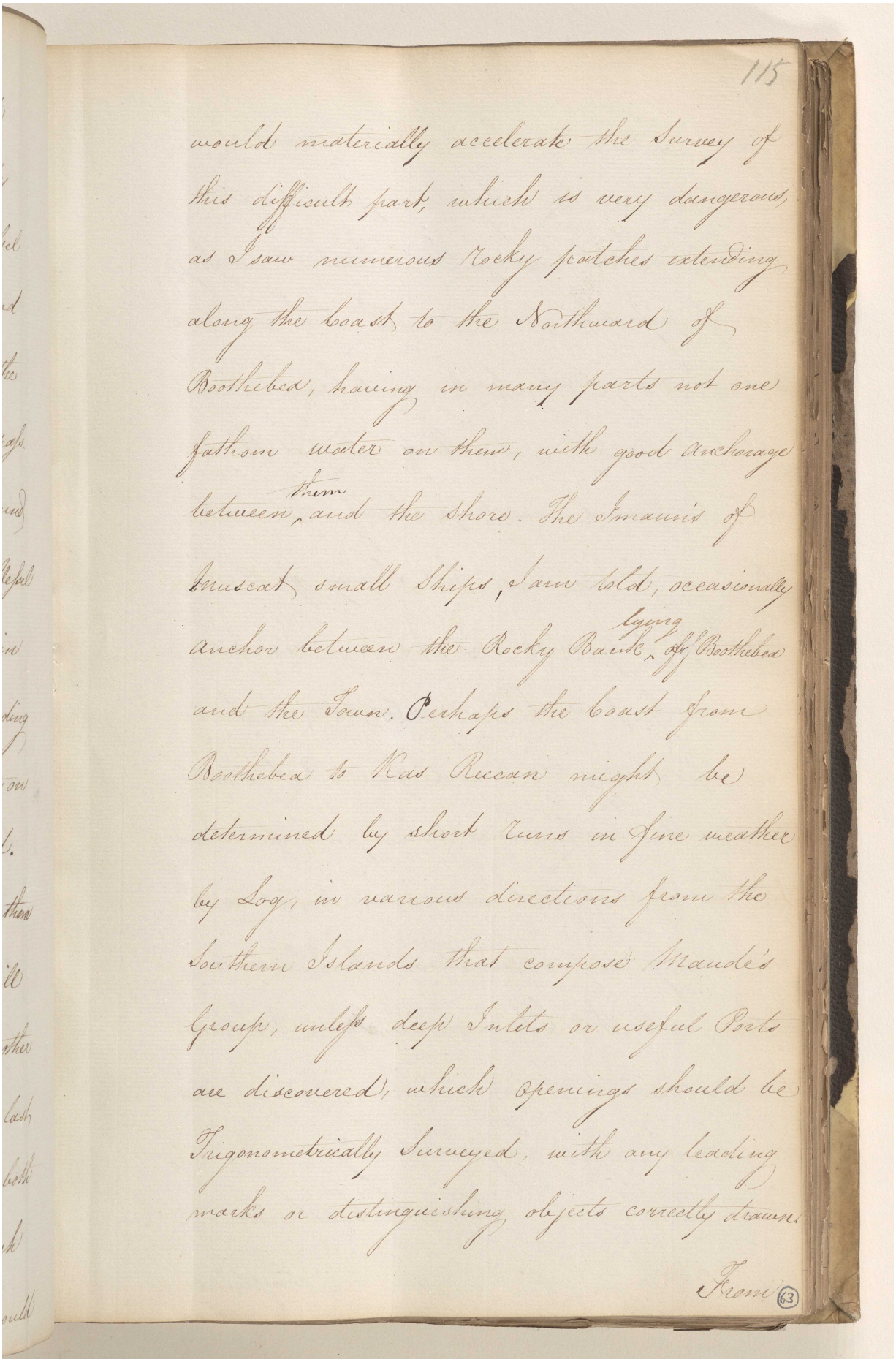


of the Sun at setting. The intermediate
Coast to the Northward might be pretty
correctly laid down by the smaller Vessel
determining the distance of points of land
by sound, and the bearing taken at the
same time with a good Azimuth Compass
when each bearing and distance is found
with the Shoals, Soundings &c. let the Vessel
move further to the Northward, and again
ascertain her situation by a person proceeding
with a pocket Watch to the last Station on
Shore, and noting the distance by sound.
If two separate Boats with watches in them
leave the Ship at the same time we will
suppose one proceeds to the N.E. and the other
to the S.E. the latter being the Station last
determined, the Guns fired would give both
distances, if noted at the same time, which

would



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would materially accelerate the Survey of this difficult part, which is very dangerous, as I saw numerous Rocky patches extending along the coast to the Northward of Boothebea, having in many parts not one fathom water on them, with good Anchorage between them, and the shore. The Imaum's of Muscat small Ships, I am told, occasionally anchor between the Rocky Bank lying off Boothebea and the Town. Perhaps the coast from Boothebea to Ras Ruccan might be determined by short runs in fine weather by Log, in various directions from the Southern Islands that compose Maude's Group, unless deep Inlets or useful Ports are discovered, which openings should be Trigonometrically Surveyed, with any leading marks or distinguishing objects correctly drawn.

From (63)

From Ras Reccan I would advise the Vessels to proceed to Bahrain and Survey that Harbour carefully, also, if possible determine its' Latitude well and its Longitude both by Chronometers and by Jupiters Satellites, as that Port will be found most probably the best situation to commence the Survey of the Coast up to Grane, and as circumstances may entirely prevent a regular series of Triangles being continued from Bahrain Westward, some remarkable part of Bahrain will serve as a good Meridian to return to, and verify any observations that may be taken with the Chronometer. From Bahrain the Coast and Islands to Ras Reccan can soon be Surveyed Trigonometrically.

When the Coast is completed

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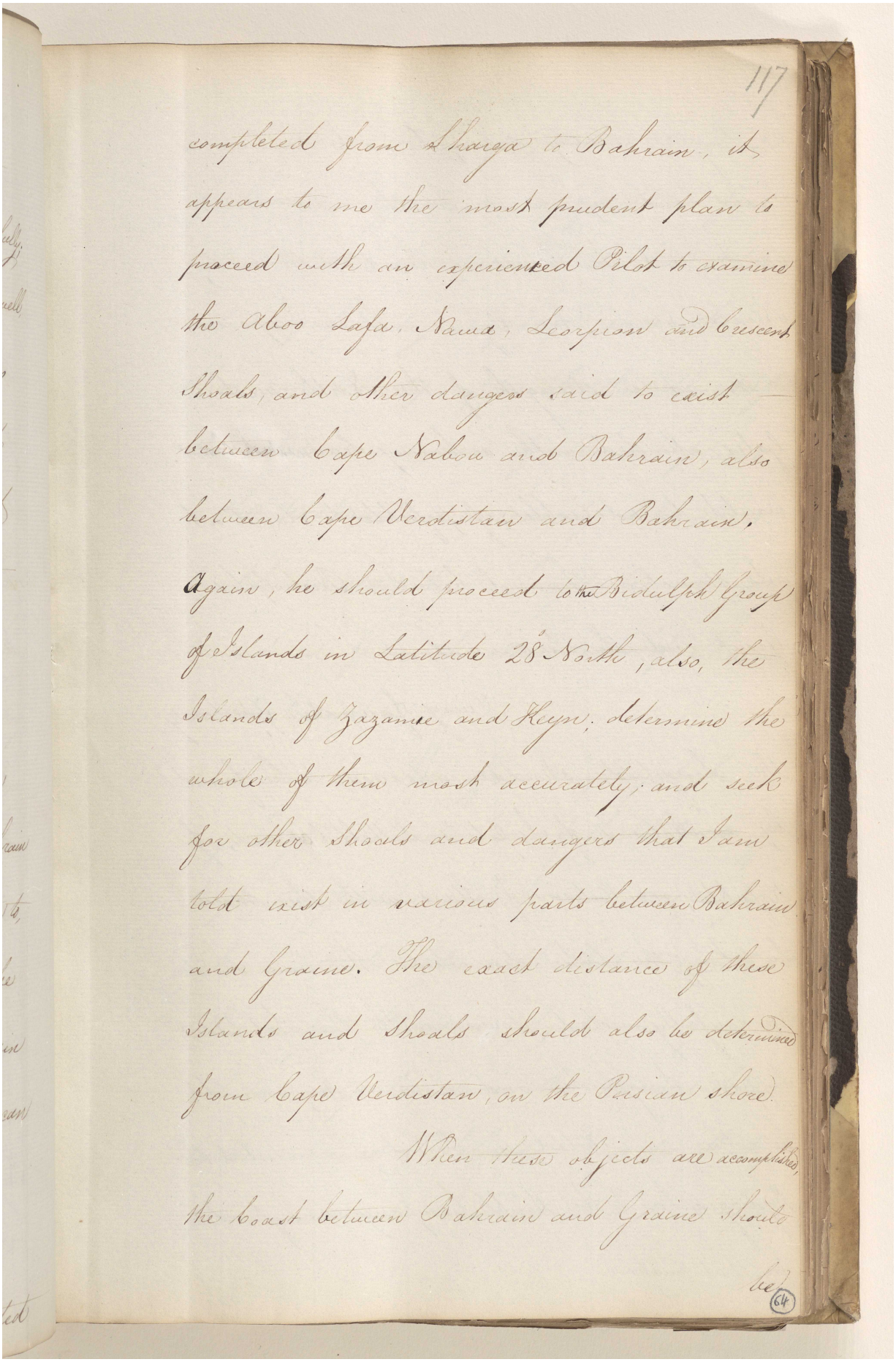

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completed from Sharga to Bahrain, it appears to me the most prudent plan to proceed with an experienced Pilot to examine the Aboo Lafa, Naua, Scorpion and Crescent Shoals, and other dangers said to exist between Cape Nabou and Bahrain, also between Cape Verdistan and Bahrain. Again, he should proceed to the Bidulph's Group of Islands in Latitude 28° North, also, the Islands of Zazamie and Keyn, determine the whole of them most accurately, and seek for other Shoals and dangers that I am told exist in various parts between Bahrain and Graine. The exact distance of these Islands and Shoals should also be determined from Cape Verdistan, on the Persian shore.

When these objects are accomplished, the coast between Bahrain and Graine should be

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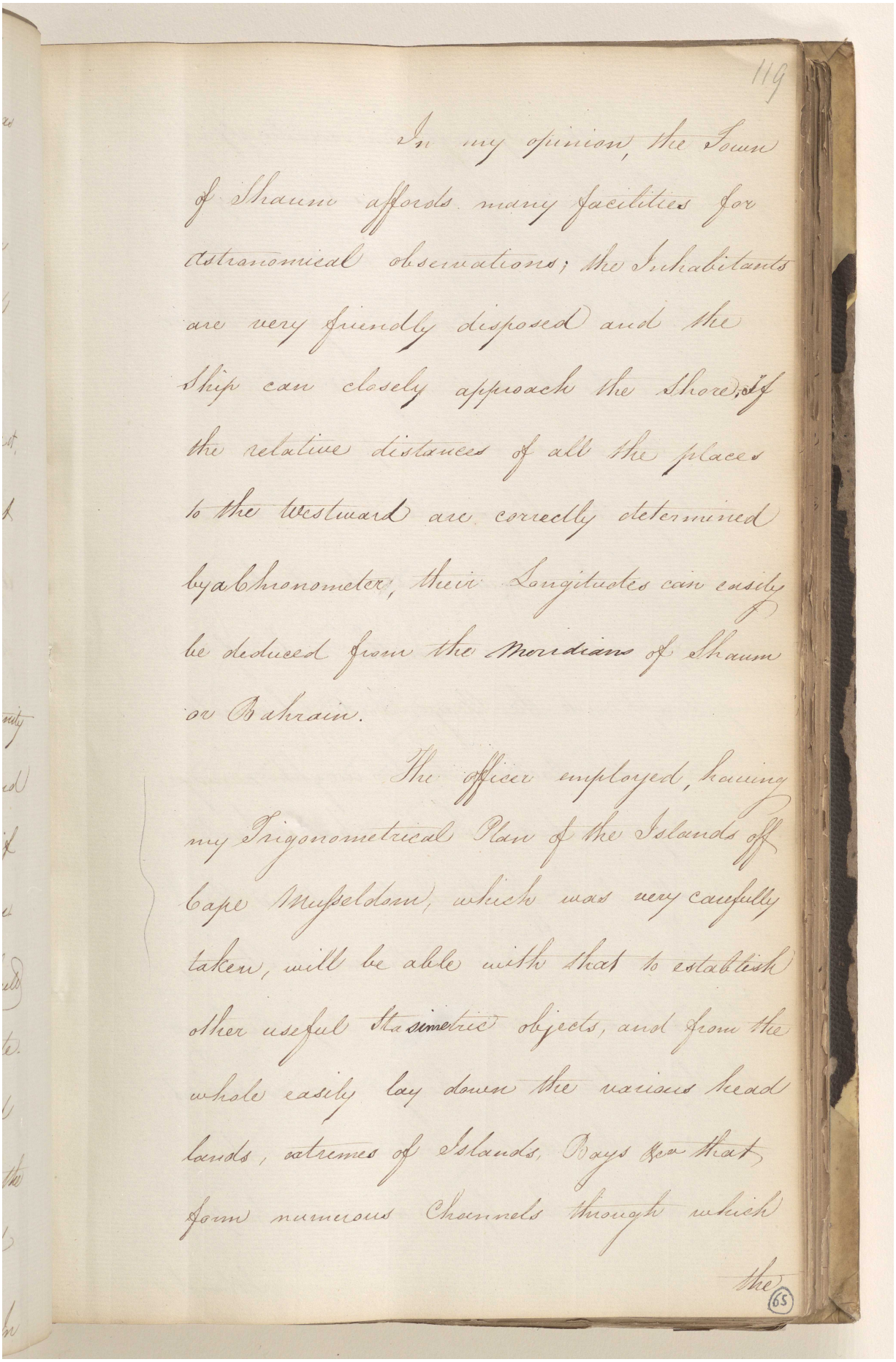
be Trigonometrically surveyed with caution, as I was told by an Arab who had been on it, that the Coast is lined with many Shoals; besides, the Vessels will be exposed to the whole strength of the North west Gales, attended with a heavy Sea in which case it would be advisable, if possible, to stand out into the clear Channel between Bidulphs Group and the Persian Shore.

Query favourable opportunity the Longitude should endeavour to be found by occultations of Jupiter's Satellites, and, if possible, occultations of Stars with the Moon. In taking the latter observations, the time should be carefully noted down, with the Latitude. Suppose Longitude and date as they could be either calculated in Bombay or sent to the Hydrographer to the Honble Company in England for that purpose.

In



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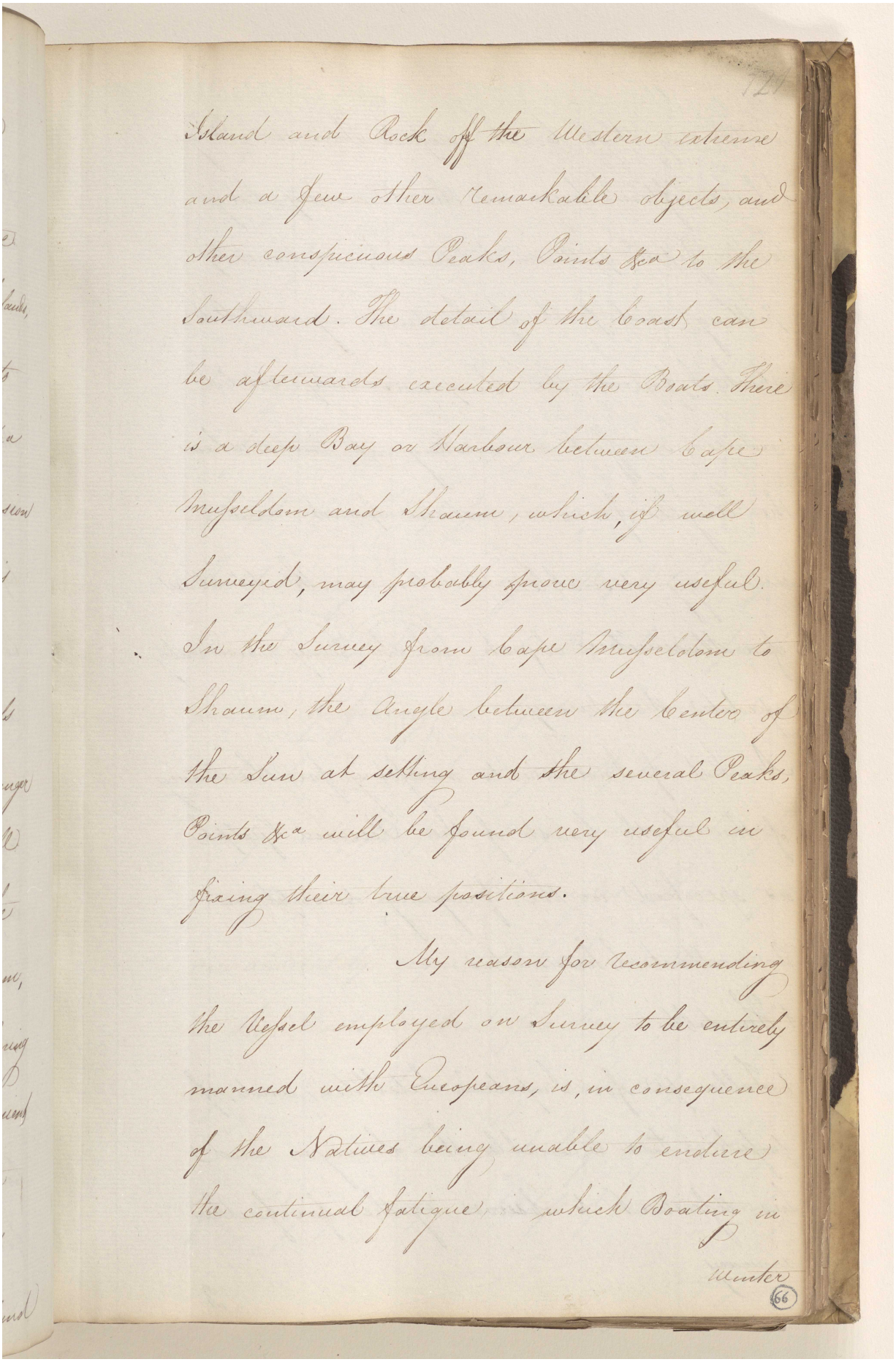
In my opinion, the Town of Shaum affords many facilities for Astronomical observations; the Inhabitants are very friendly disposed and the Ship can closely approach the Shore. If the relative distances of all the places to the westward are correctly determined by a Chronometer, their Longitudes can easily be deduced from the Meridians of Shaum or Bahrain.

The Officer employed, having my Trigonometrical Plan of the Islands off Cape Mussendom, which was very carefully taken, will be able with that to establish other useful Trigonometric objects, and from the whole easily lay down the various head lands, extremes of Islands, Bays &c that form numerous Channels through which the

65

the Tides on the Springs run exceedingly rapid. The Survey of that part, in my opinion, should be executed in a native owned Boat, to anchor among the Islands, accompanied by the Cutters of the Ships, to examine the several Inlets, points &c. &c. By so doing the Ships will have no occasion to approach the Shore / near to which is very deep water / nor run the risk of being swept into the Bays and Channels among sunken Rocks, which might endanger their being wrecked. From what I call the small Rock off the Western extreme, the Triangles can be easily continued to Shaum, by the Ships on some calm day anchoring with their Stream or Kedge in a convenient position to the Westward, to measure the angles between the Great Dusin and Lump Island



Island and Rock off the Western extreme and a few other Remarkable objects, and other conspicuous Peaks, Points &c to the Southward. The detail of the Coast can be afterwards executed by the Boats. There is a deep Bay or Harbour between Cape Musseldom and Shaum, which, if well Surveyed, may probably prove very useful. In the Survey from Cape Musseldom to Shaum, the Angle between the Centre of the Sun at setting and the several Peaks, Points &c will be found very useful in fixing their true positions.

My reason for recommending the Vessel employed on Survey to be entirely manned with Europeans, is, in consequence of the Natives being unable to endure the continual fatigue, which Boating in

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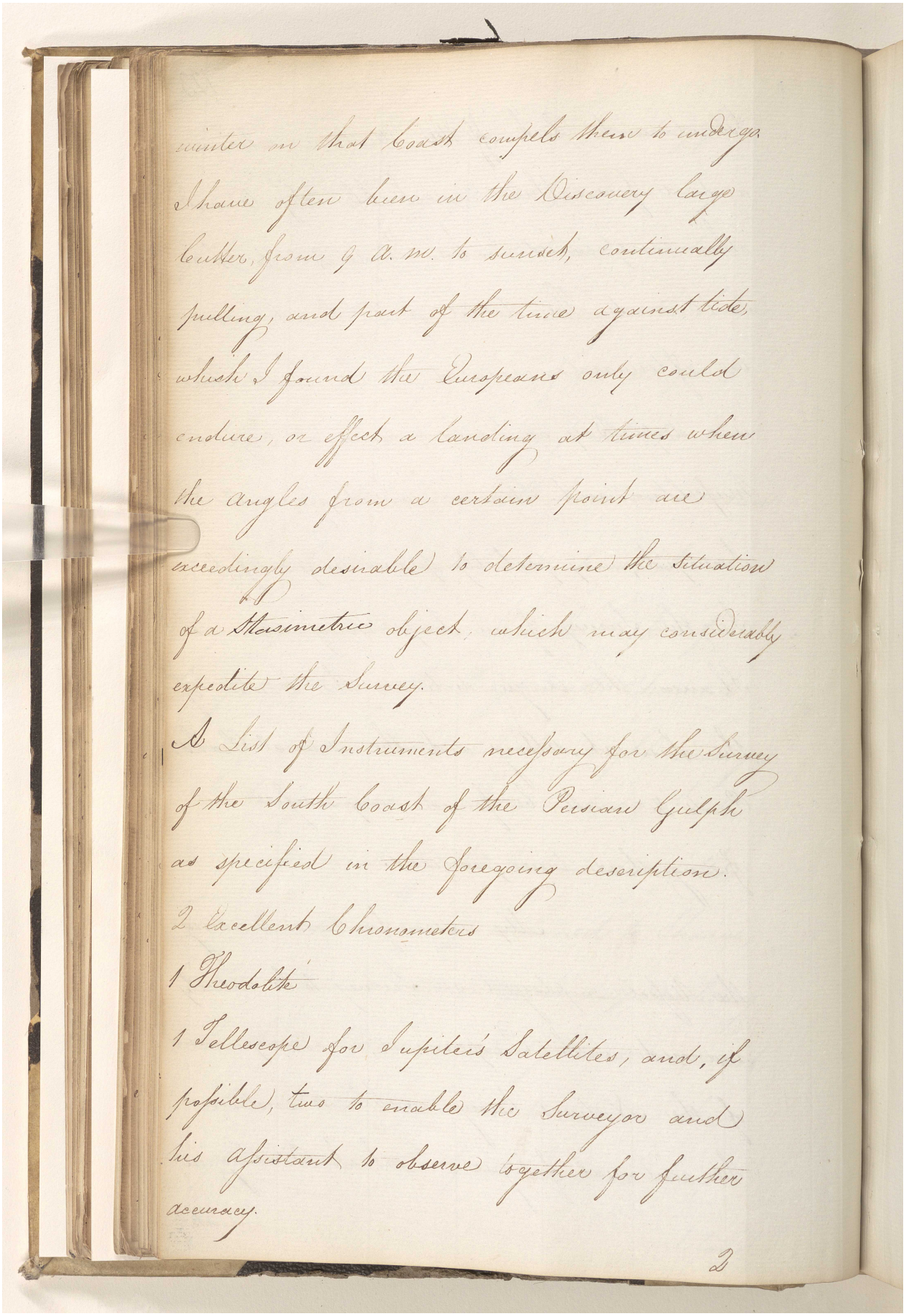


winter on that Coast compels them to undergo. I have often been in the Discovery large Cutter, from 4 A. M. to sunset, continually pulling, and part of the time against tide, which I found the Europeans only could endure, or effect a landing at times when the angles from a certain point are exceedingly desirable to determine the situation of a Plasimetric object, which may considerably expedite the Survey.

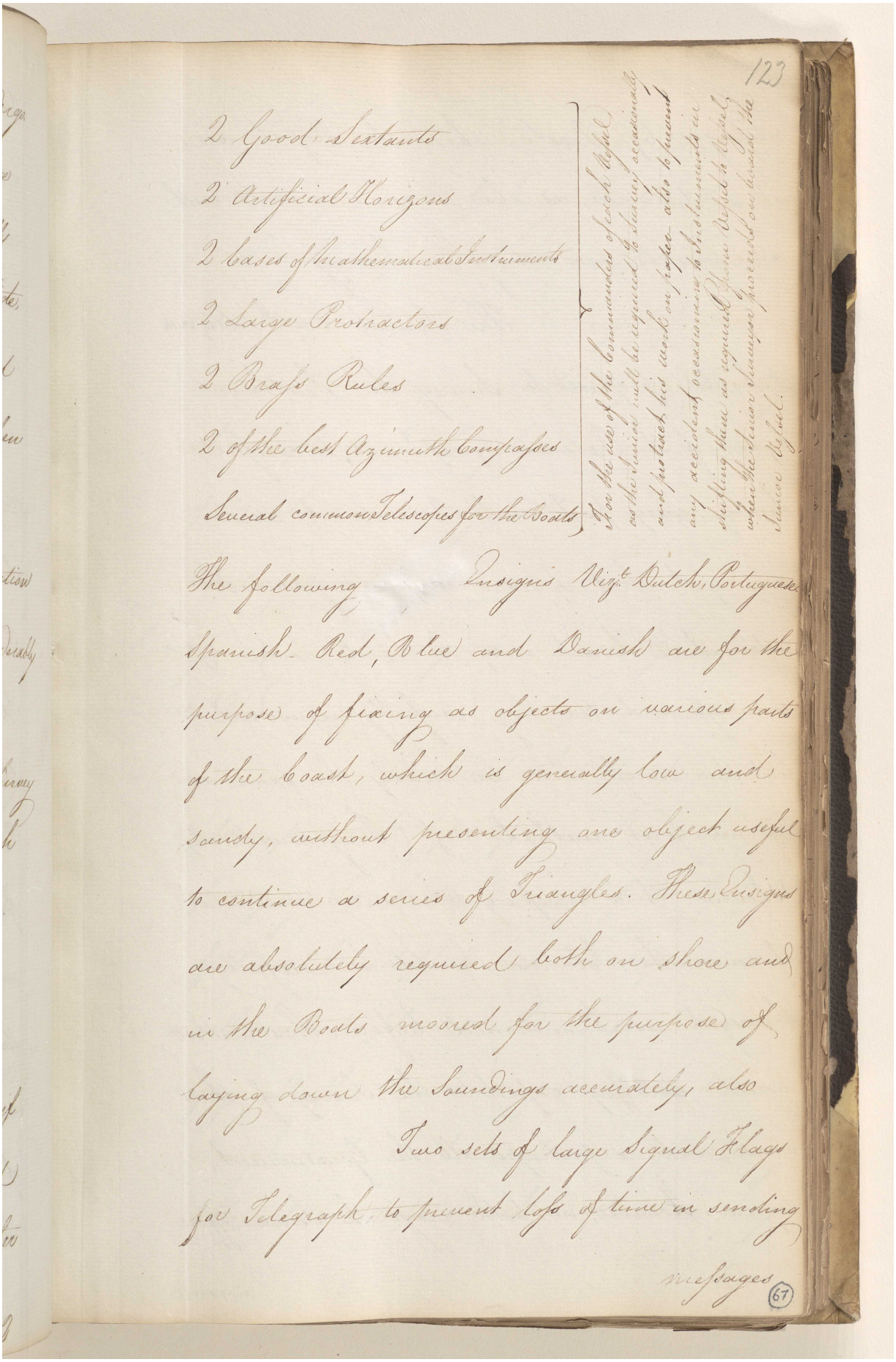
A List of Instruments necessary for the Survey of the South Coast of the Persian Gulph as specified in the foregoing description.

2 Excellent Chronometers

1 Theodolite

1 Telescope for Jupiter's Satellites, and, if possible, two to enable the Surveyor and his Assistant to observe together for further accuracy.

2



2 Good Sextants
2 Artificial Horizons
2 Cases of Mathematical Instruments
2 Large Protractors
2 Brass Rules
2 of the best Azimuth Compasses
Several common Telescopes for the Boats

For the use of the Commanders of each Vessel as the Senior will be required to Survey occasionally and protract his work on paper also to prevent any accident occasioning to Instruments in shifting them as required from Vessel to Vessel, when the Senior Surveyor proceeds on board the Senior Vessel.

The following Ensigns Viz.t Dutch, Portuguese Spanish Red, Blue and Danish are for the purpose of fixing as objects on various parts of the Coast, which is generally low and sandy, without presenting one object useful to continue a series of Triangles. These Ensigns are absolutely required both on shore and in the Boats moored for the purpose of laying down the Soundings accurately, also

Two sets of large Signal Flags for Telegraph, to prevent loss of time in sending

messages

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messages by Boats when the Vessels are at a distance, as also to communicate with any Boats proceeding on Survey.

The Second method by which I should propose to Survey the Southern Coast of the Persian Gulph, is, to carefully Survey every port and Roadstead and any spot that appears very dangerous. The intermediate Coast may be laid down by Compass and the Log carefully measured, but the process will be nearly the same as in my first method Viz.t (Trigonometrically). Whenever it is necessary to be very particular, of course the Islands should be carefully Surveyed as I mentioned before. This method would certainly expedite the Survey of that Coast, and is perhaps all the Government require. However, in both ways the Senior Officer should

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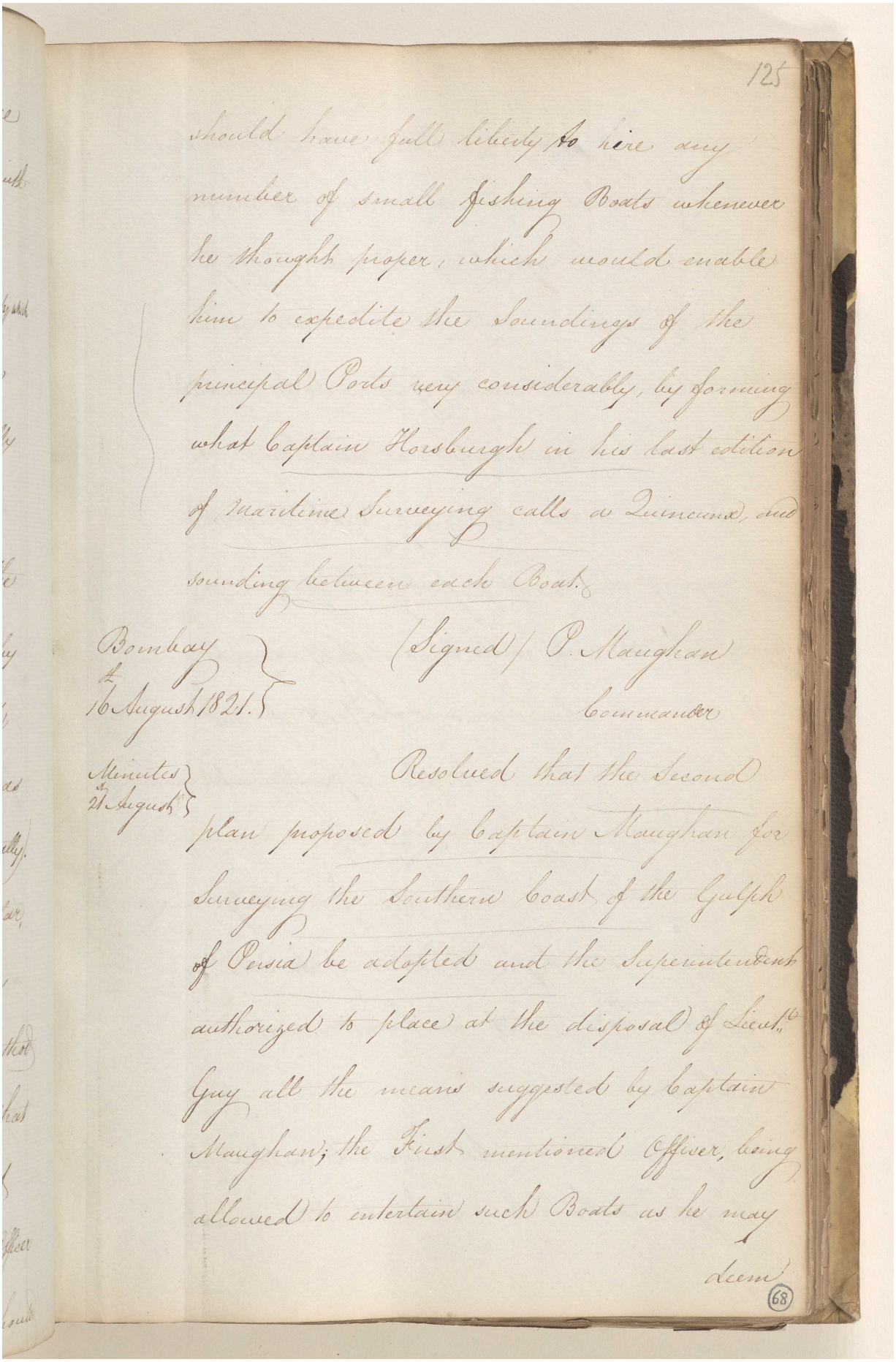

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should have full liberty to hire any number of small fishing Boats whenever he thought proper, which would enable him to expedite the Soundings of the principal Ports very considerably, by forming what Captain Horsburgh in his last edition of Maritime Surveying calls a Diameter, and sounding between each Boat.

Bombay
16 August 1821.

(Signed) P. Maughan
Commander

Minutes
21 August

Resolved that the Second plan proposed by Captain Maughan for Surveying the Southern Coast of the Gulph of Persia be adopted and the Superintendent authorized to place at the disposal of Lieut. Guy all the means suggested by Captain Maughan; the First mentioned Officer being allowed to entertain such Boats as he may deem

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deem necessary, communicating to Mr Meriton the reasons that may induce him to have recourse to such assistance in the progress of the Survey.

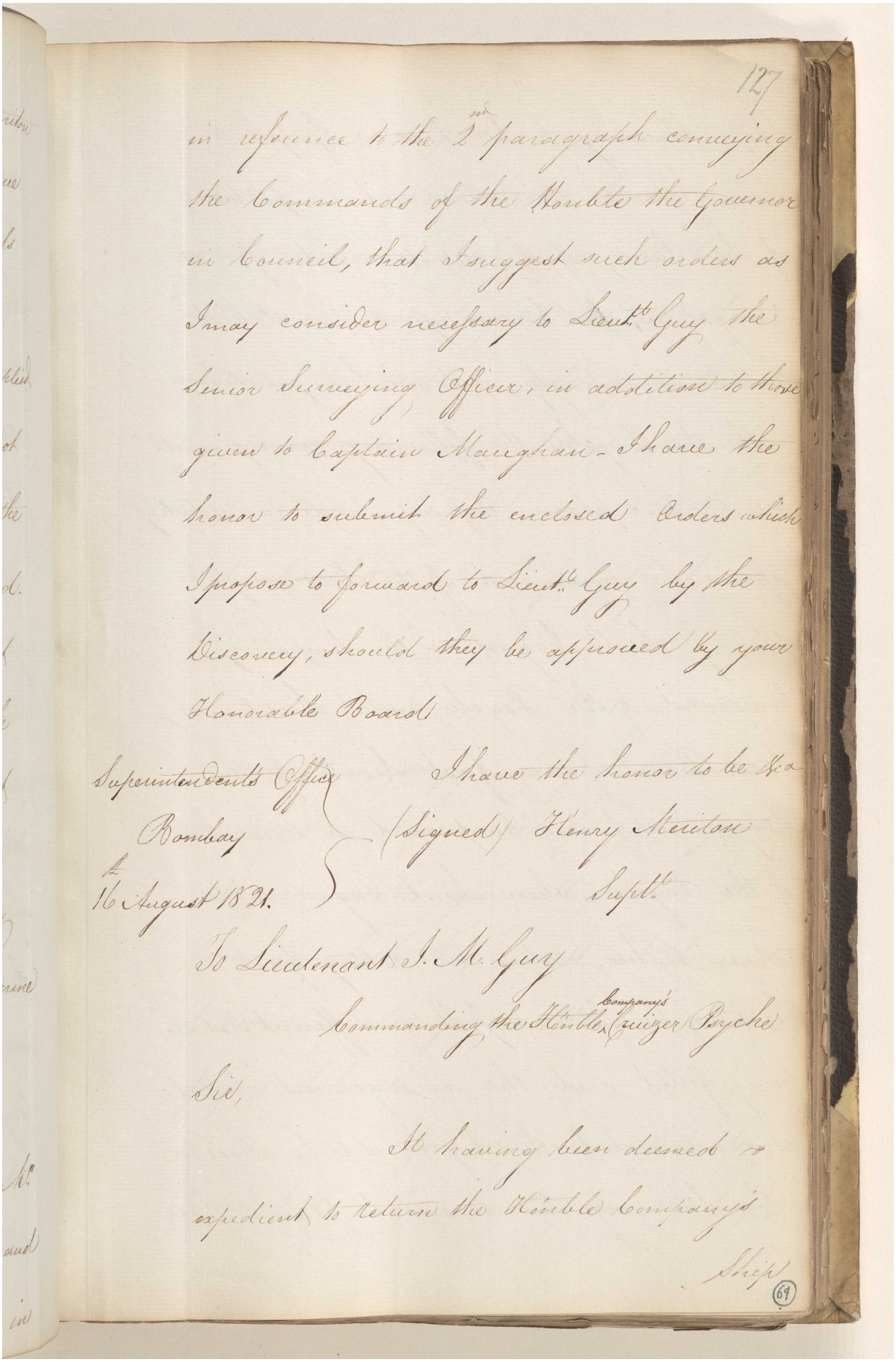
Lieutenant Guy is to be supplied with all the instruments that we have not now on board the Discovery, including the Telescopes, if they can possibly be procured. The Superintendent will accordingly direct that Officer to deliver in an Indent of the Instruments in question in the Department under whose charge they may be.

Read the following letter from the Superintendent of the Marine dated the 15th Instant with enclosure.

Honble Sir,

As connected with Mr. Secretary Faiushs letter of the 21st Ultimo and

in



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in reference to the 2nd paragraph conveying the Commands of the Honble the Governor in Council, that I suggest such orders as I may consider necessary to Lieut.t Guy the Senior Surveying Officer, in addition to those given to Captain Maughan - I have the honor to submit the enclosed Orders which I propose to forward to Lieut.t Guy by the Discovery, should they be approved by your Honorable Board

I have the honor to be &c.a

(Signed) Henry Meriton

Supt.t

Superintendents Office
Bombay
16 August 1821.

To Lieutenant J. M. Guy
Commanding the Honble Company's Cruizer Psyche

Sir,

It having been deemed expedient to return the Honble Company's Ship

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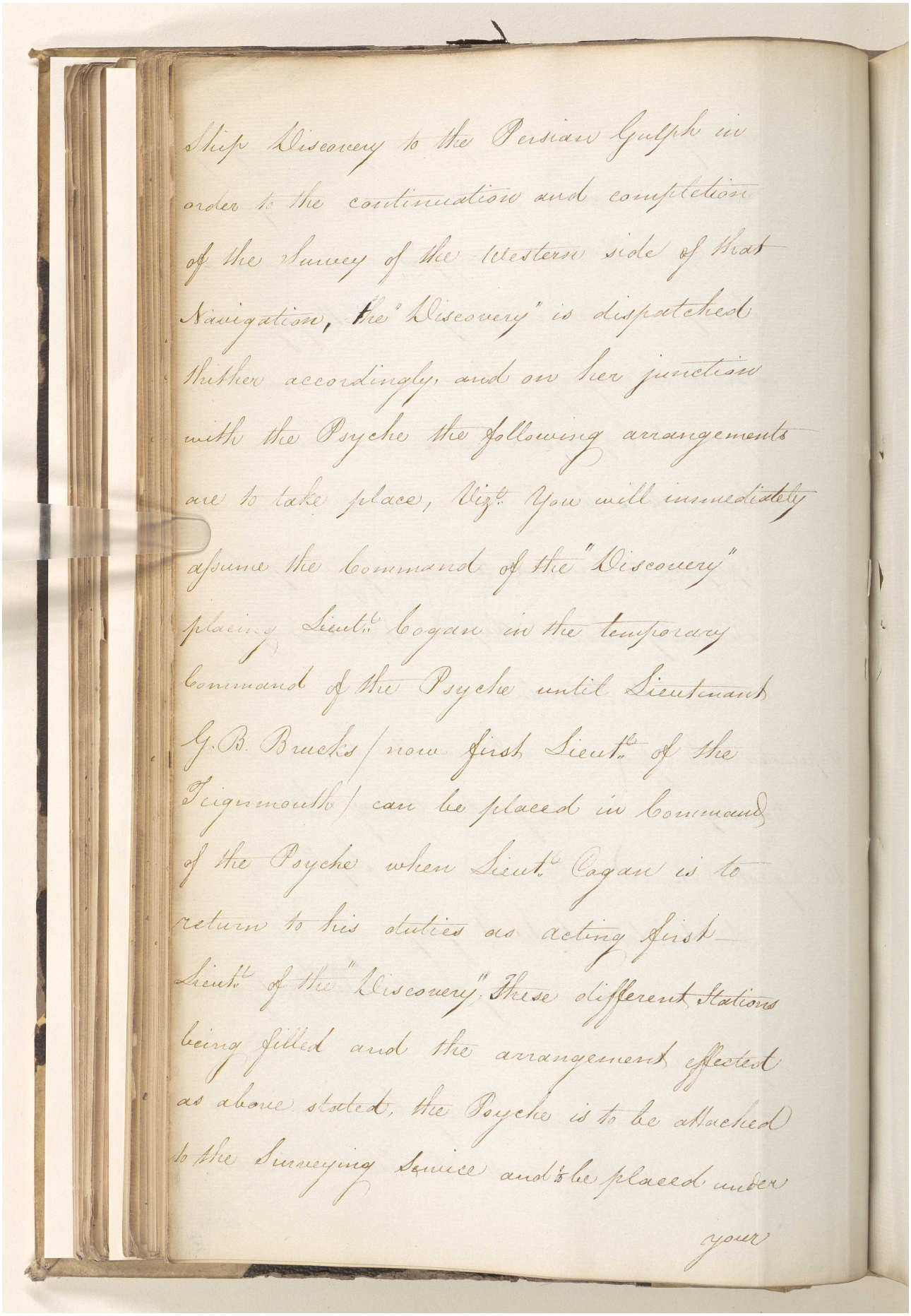

Ship Discovery to the Persian Gulph in
order to the continuation and completion
of the Survey of the Western side of that
Navigation, the "Discovery" is dispatched
thither accordingly, and on her junction
with the Psyche the following arrangements
are to take place, Viz.t You will immediately
assume the command of the "Discovery"
placing Lieut.t Logan in the temporary
command of the Psyche until Lieutenant
G.B. Brucks / now first Lieut.t of the
Teignmouth / can be placed in command
of the Psyche when Lieut.t Logan is to
return to his duties as acting first
Lieut.t of the "Discovery". These different Stations
being filled and the arrangement effected
as above stated, the Psyche is to be attached
to the Surveying Service and to be placed under
your

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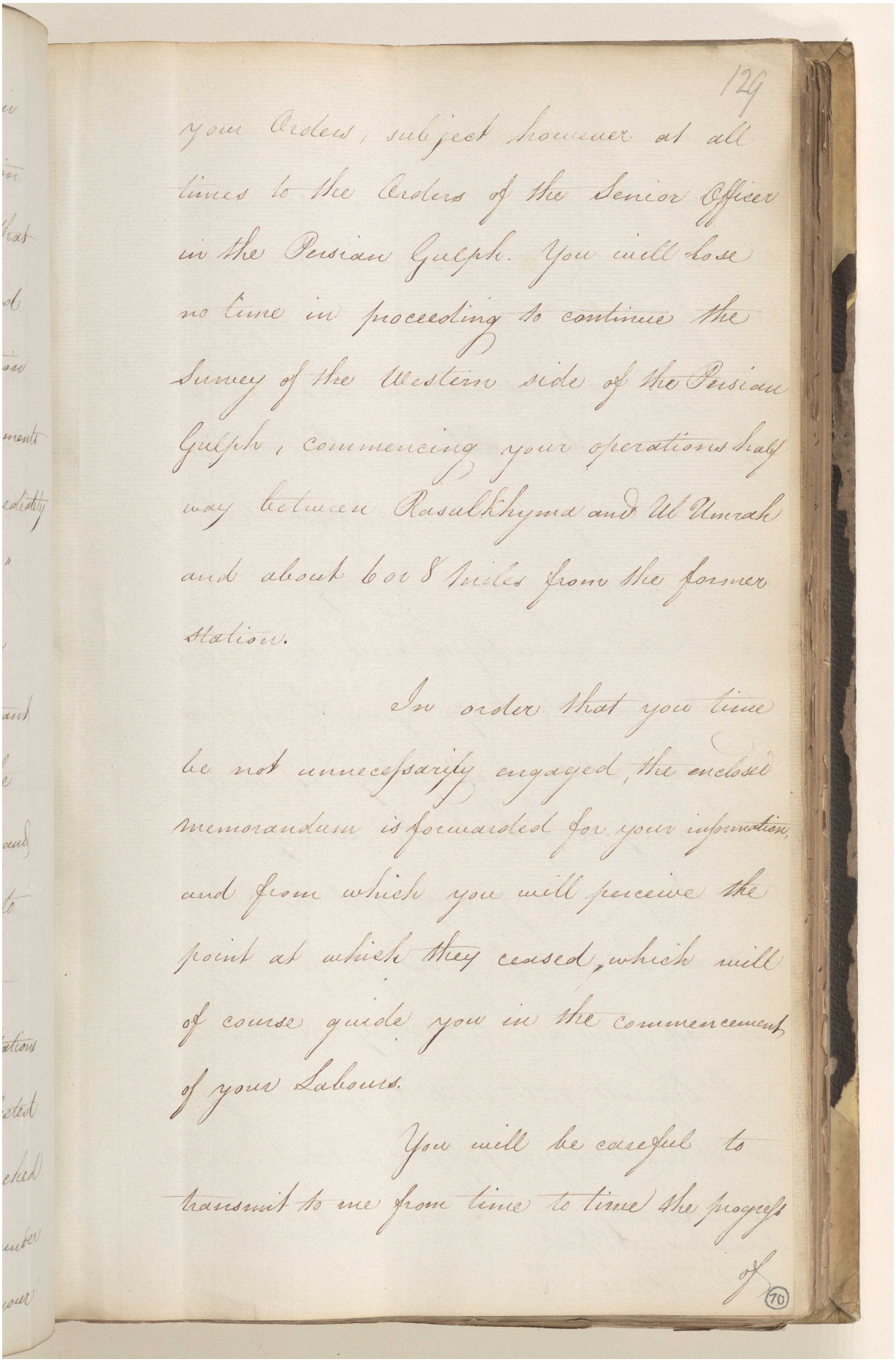

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your Orders, subject however at all times to the Orders of the Senior Officer in the Persian Gulph. You will lose no time in proceeding to continue the Survey of the Western side of the Persian Gulph, commencing your operations half way between Rasulkhyma and Ul Umrah and about 6 or 8 Miles from the former Station.

In order that your time be not unnecessarily engaged, the enclosed Memorandum is forwarded for your information, and from which you will perceive the point at which they ceased, which will of course guide you in the commencement of your Labours.

You will be careful to transmit to me from time to time the progress of

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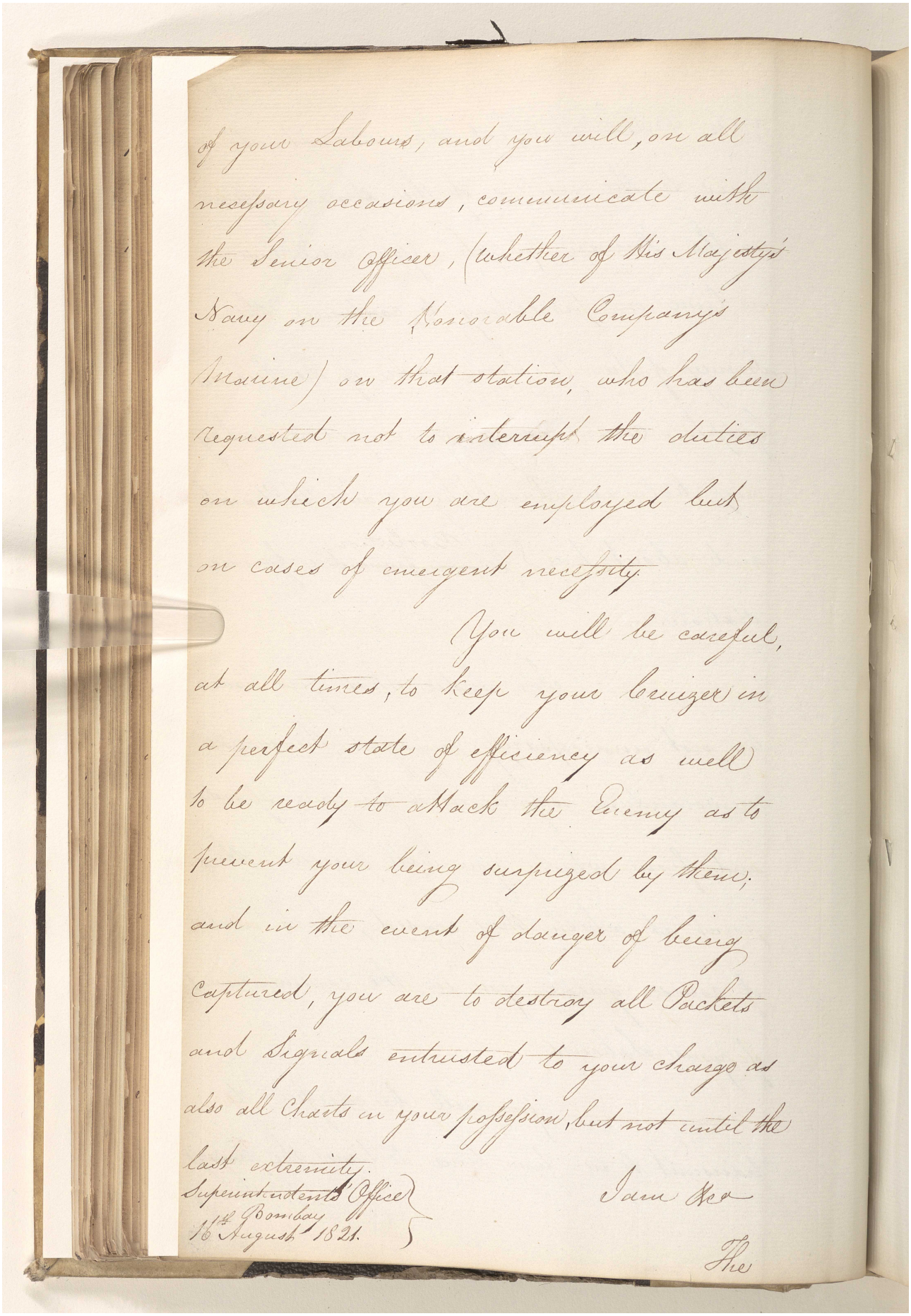


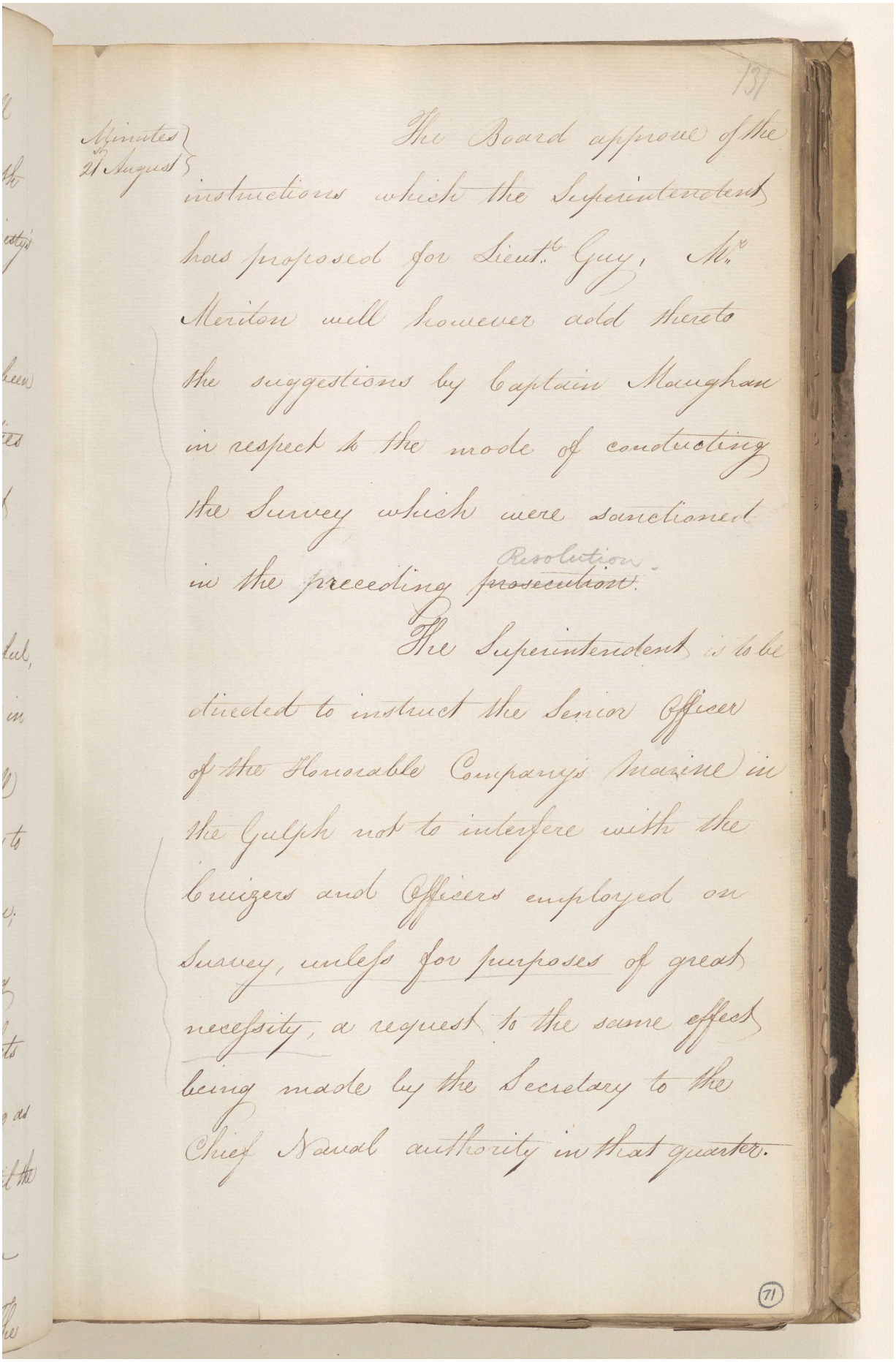
of your Labours, and you will, on all necessary occasions, communicate with the Senior Officer, (whether of His Majesty's Navy or the Honorable Company's Marine) on that station, who has been requested not to interrupt the duties on which you are employed but on cases of emergent necessity.

You will be careful, at all times, to keep your Brigger in a perfect state of efficiency as well to be ready to attack the Enemy as to prevent your being surprized by them; and in the event of danger of being captured, you are to destroy all Packets and Signals entrusted to your charge as also all Charts in your possession, but not until the last extremity.

Superintendent's Office
Bombay
16th August 1821.

I am &c

The



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Minutes 21 August

The Board approve of the instructions which the Superintendent has proposed for Lieut.t Guy, Mr. Meriton will however add thereto the suggestions by Captain Maughan in respect to the mode of conducting the Survey which were sanctioned in the preceding Resolution prosecution.

The Superintendent is to be directed to instruct the Senior Officer of the Honorable Company's Marine in the Gulph not to interfere with the Cruizers and Officers employed on Survey, unless for purposes of great necessity, a request to the same effect being made by the Secretary to the Chief Naval authority in that quarter.

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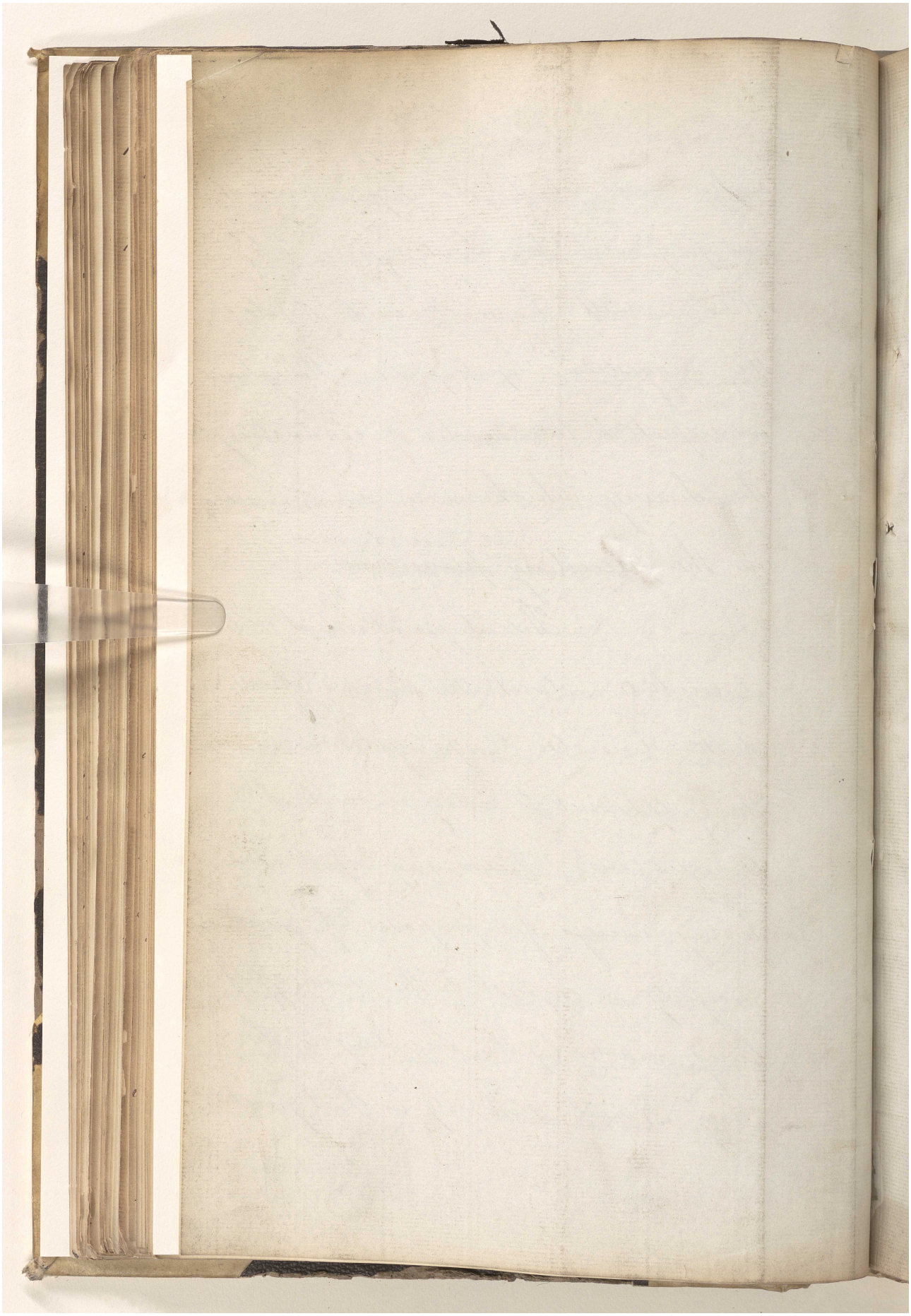

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