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‘Relative to advances made on account the Persian Government.’

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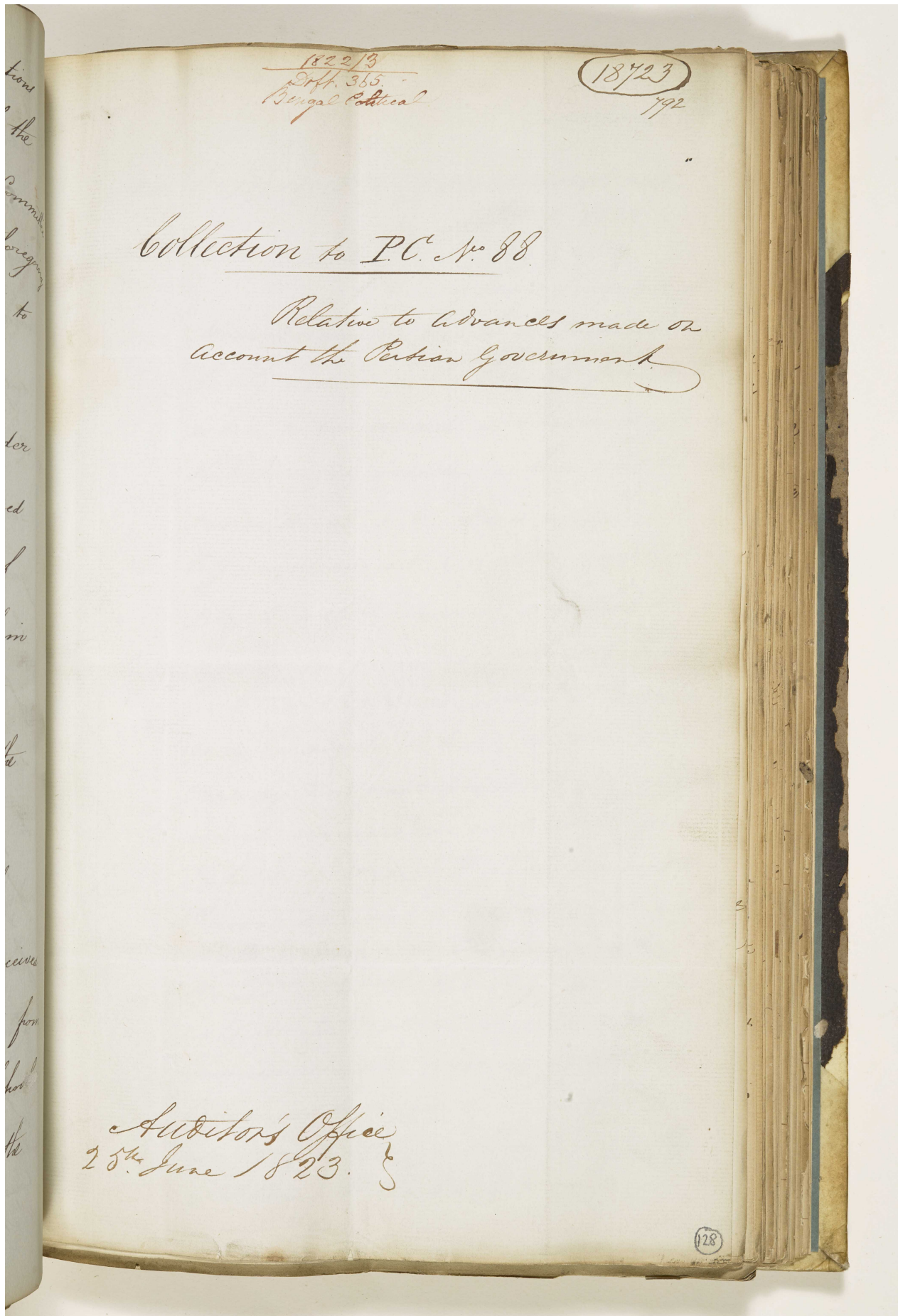
About this record

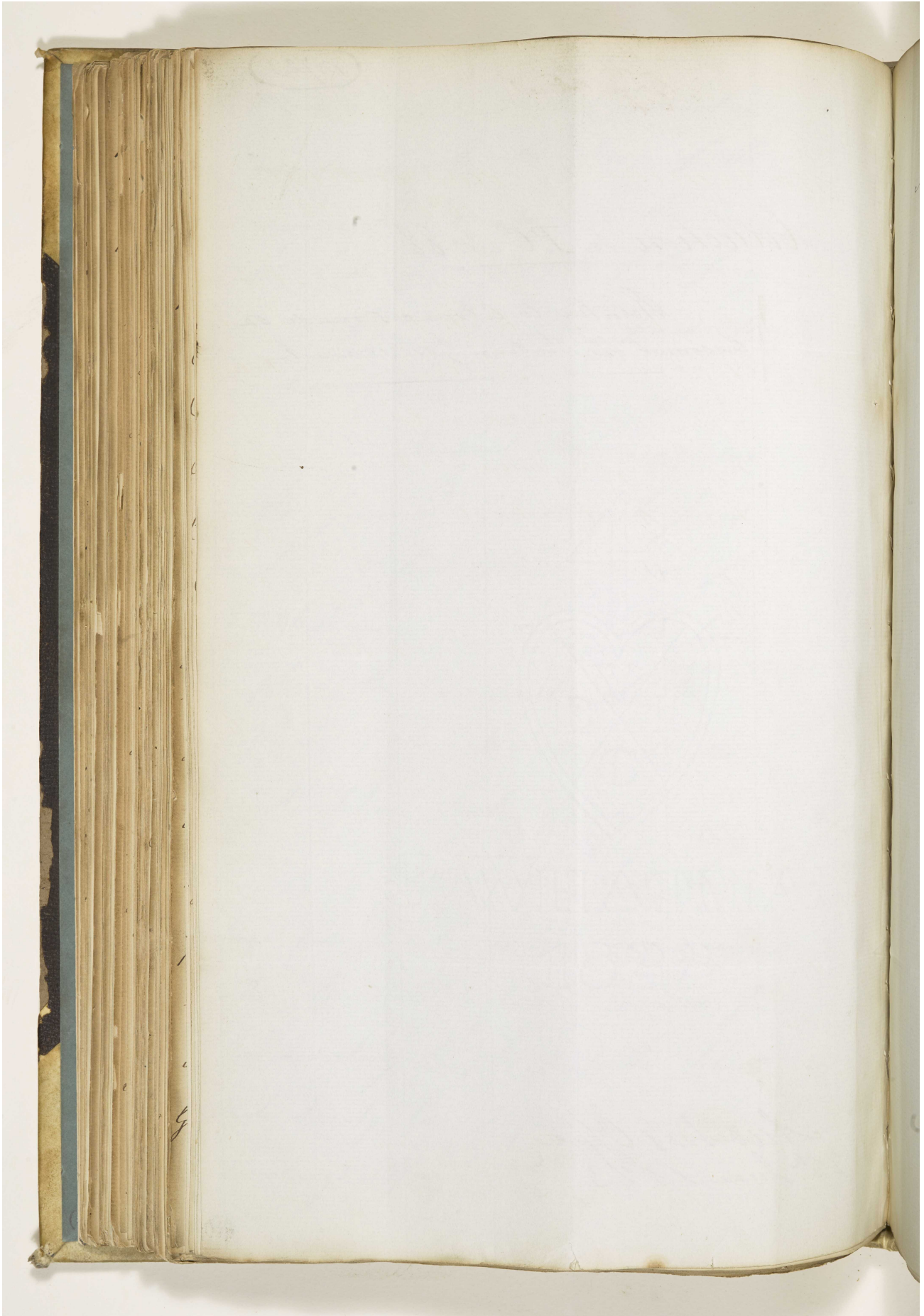
This item consists of copies of recommendations of the Committee of Correspondence, and extracts of political letters from the East India Company Court of Directors to the Government of Bengal.

The item concerns:

- A claim made by the Persian Ambassador to the UK (Mīrzā Abū al-Ḥasan Khān Shīrāzī) regarding the outstanding amount still owed of a subsidy paid by Britain to Persia from 1809-14, along with other ‘pecuniary claims’ relating to arms supplies, and a request for the Government of Bengal to calculate what is owed and to arrange payment
- The arrival in England of Meerza Mahomed Saleh [Mīrzā Šāliḥ Shīrāzī], the ‘accredited agent’ of Abbas Merza [‘Abbaṣ Mīrzā Qaṣṣār] the Prince Royal [Crown Prince] of Persia, and his request for part of what is owed of the subsidy to be issued to him for the purchase of arms and ammunition for the Persian Government.

The title page contains the following references: ‘1822/3, Dr[a]ft 365’, ‘Collection to P.C. [Previous Communication] No. 88’, and ‘Auditor’s Office 25th June 1823’.





A Committee of Correspondence
16th Oct. 1822.

It having been represented to
your Committee by Mr Willock who has
lately arrived in this Country from Persia,
where he has resided as Charge d'affaires,
that Meerza Sauleh has been sent by the
Prince Royal to England on special
Affairs, as advised in a Letter from the Prince
Royal to the Chairman, and that he
requires an advance of £500 to defray
his current expenses, which it is requested
may be made to him, the same to be
considered in part payment of the sum
which remains due on account of the
Subsidy to Persia, &c. The Committee
having adverted to a letter read in Court
this day from Mr Courtenay at the India
Board, dated the 11th Instant, upon the
subject of the alleged debt to that
Government, they recommended that a
Warrant be made out for the sum
of £500 to Meerza Sauleh, payable
to Henry Willock Esq. on his giving

a receipt for the same, the Amount
thereof to be debited to the Persian
Government.

*At a Committee of Correspondence
13th Novr 1822.*

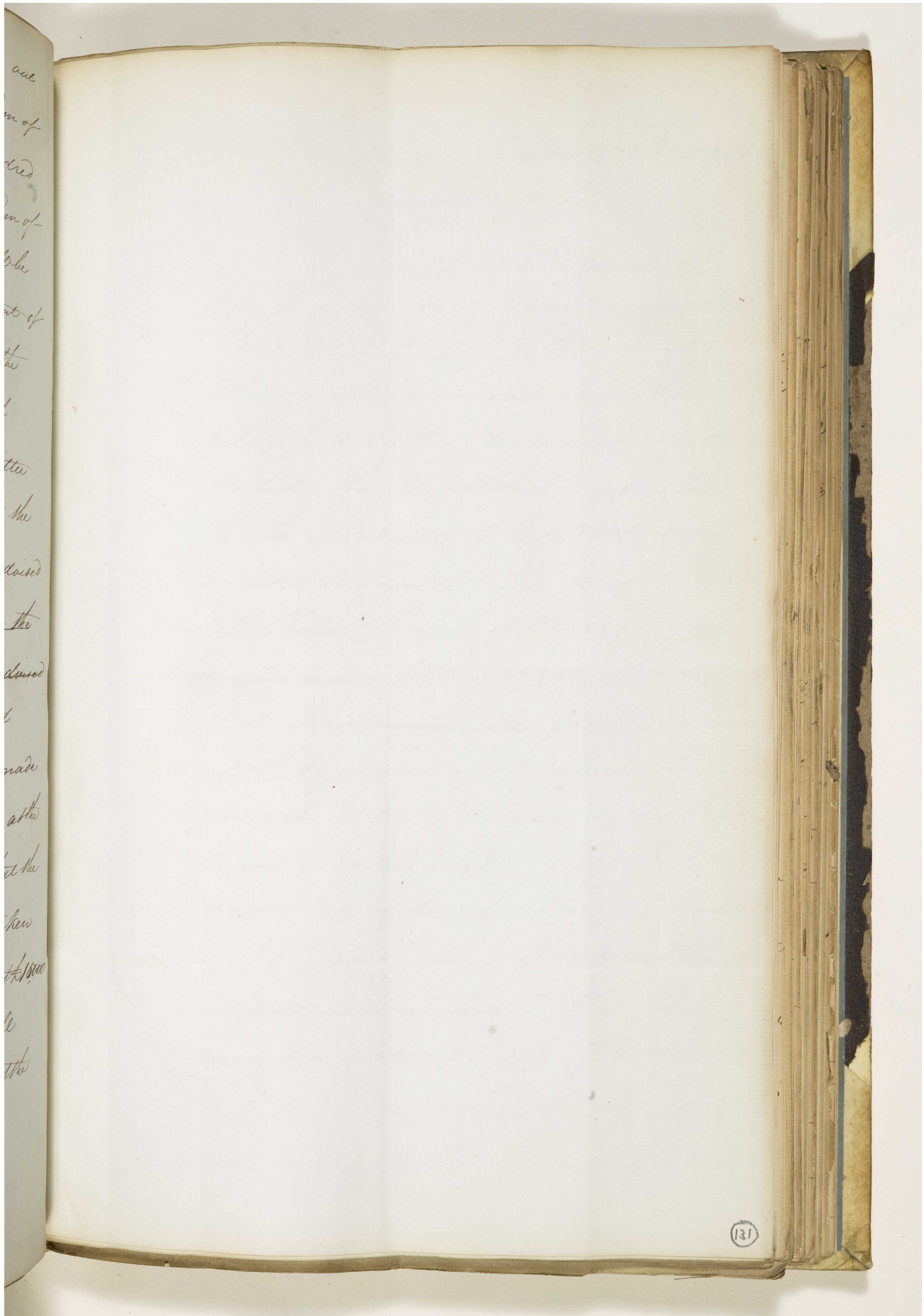
Your Committee have had
before them a letter from Merza
Mahomed Sauleh who has arrived from
Persia on a mission from Abbas Merza
the Prince Royal requesting the Court
will be pleased to issue the sum of
£14,500, being the balance of the fifteen
thousand pounds which the Prince
Royal of Persia has requested may be
paid to his accredited Agent for the
purpose of purchasing Guns, and
Ammunition for the Persian Government.

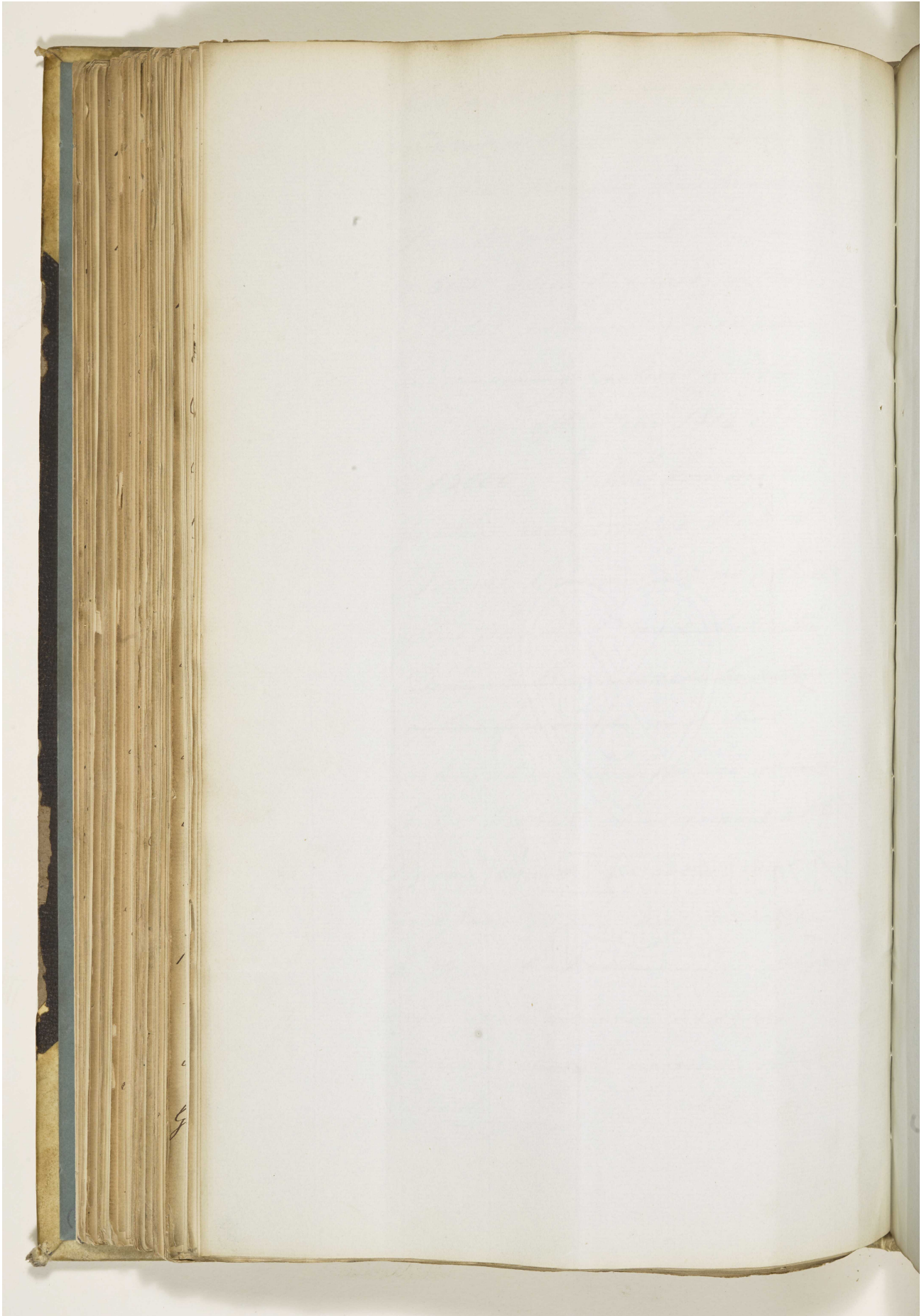
The Committee having
had reference to the Correspondence
which has passed with the Board of
Commissioners for the Affairs of India
by which there does not appear to be
any Political objection to the Courts
affording facility to the purchase of such
Stores they recommend to the Court
that

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that a Warrant be made out
to Meerza Sauleh for the Sum of
fourteen thousand, five hundred
Pounds which with the Sum of
£500 already issued will be
a total advance on account of
the remaining portion of the
Subsidy of the year 1814 of
£15,000. - The Committee
further recommended that the
Bengal Government be advised
of this payment and that the
~~Bengal Government be advised~~
~~of this payment~~ and that
intimation be likewise made
to Mr Willock now resident at the
Persian Court, in order that the
necessary steps may be taken
to deduct the said Sum of £15,000
from such balance as shall
remain due on account of the
Subsidy.

'Relative to advances made on account the Persian Government.' [131r] (7/28)





*At a Committee of Correspondence
the 4th June 1823.*

*Pursuant to a reference of
Court of this day, Your Committee
have considered a Letter from
Murga Mahommed Sauleh,
addressed to the Chairman, and
dated the 2nd Instant; advertising
to the advance of £15,000 recently
made to him at the request of
the Prince Royal of Persia to
enable him to Purchase Arms,
and Ammunition for the Service
of that Government; representing
several Circumstances, which
have unexpectedly occurred to
render requisite a further advance
of (£ 3,000 / three thousand Pounds,
and requesting, that the same
may be accordingly granted
to him on account of the
arrears of the British Subsidy
to*

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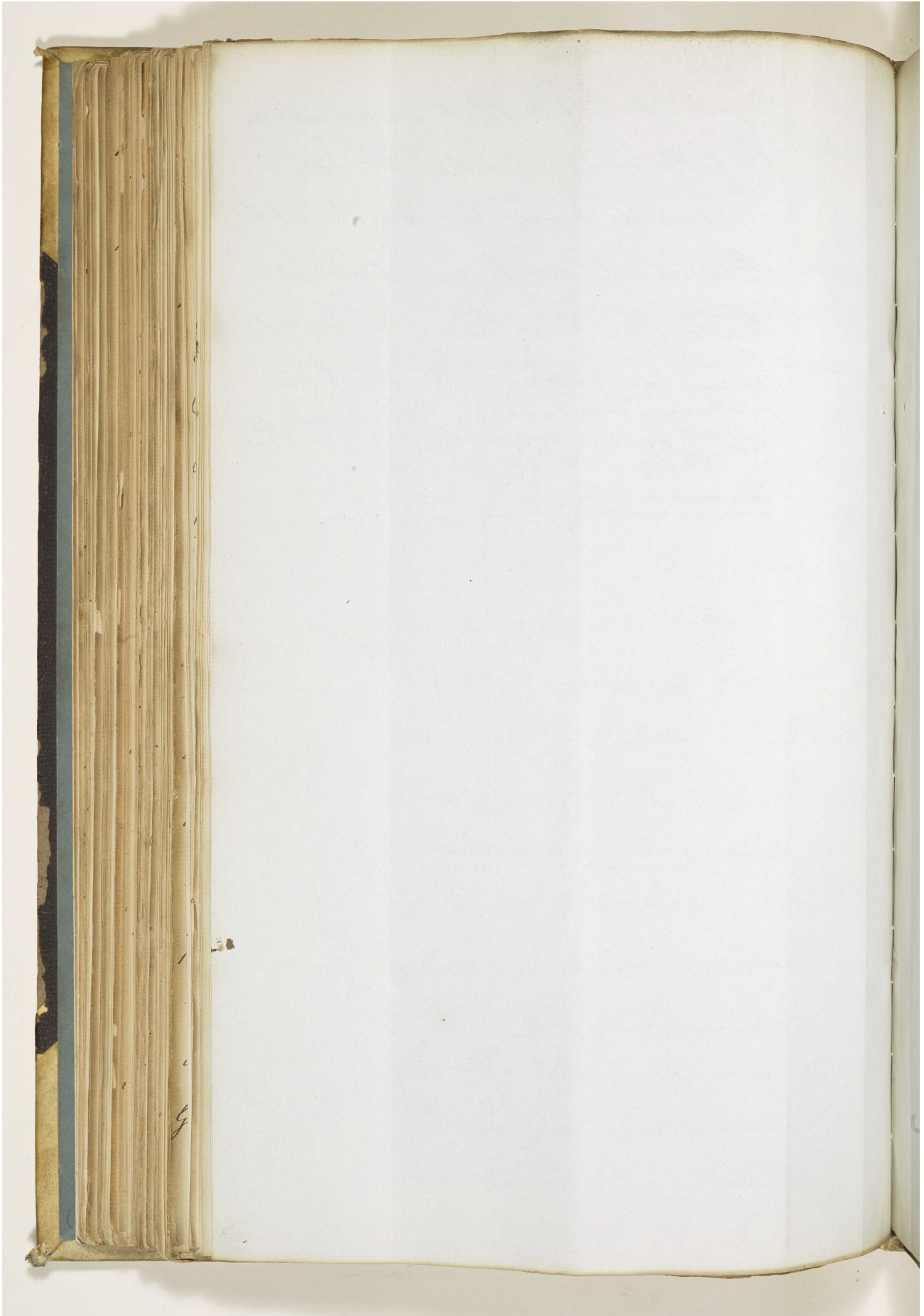
to the Persian Government of
the year 1814, which he states
are not yet adjusted -

Your Committee ^{advancing} according
to their Report of the 13th of
November last, and considering
the circumstances stated
in support of the present
request, recommend to the
Court, that the same
be complied with, and
that a warrant for the
sum of £3000, three
thousand Pounds be
made out, payable to
Sheerza Bahommed Sauleh
upon this account accordingly.

Your Committee
further recommend that
the Bengal Government be
advised of this further
Payment

Payment, and that intimation
be likewise made to Mr
Millock now resident at the
Persian Court in order
that the necessary steps
may be taken to debit
that Government with the
amount.

'Relative to advances made on account the Persian Government.' [133v] (12/28)



Extract Political Letter to Bengal

dated 7th June 1820.

Para 2. The Commissioners for the Affairs of India have communicated to us the Extracts which we enclose of the answer returned by His Majesty's Command to certain pecuniary demands brought forward by the Ambassador of the King of Persia; as well as the Instructions which Lord Castlereagh has given to His Majesty's Minister at the Persian Court with respect to the adjustment of these demands.

3. We have therefore to desire that you will immediately put yourselves in communication with Mr. Willock as suggested by Lord Castlereagh, and that you will arrange with him such measures as may be necessary for carrying into effect what has been agreed between the two Countries.

4. You will observe that it has been determined that the payment of the Subsidy shall be considered as not having
ceased

ceased until the end of the year 1814: but it has been impossible to fix in this Country the amount which ought consequently to be paid to Persia; because we are not precisely informed of the amount already received in Money or otherwise by that Government on account of the Subsidy.

5. It is not disputed that the Subsidy has been paid up to the end of the year 1813 - and that for the first half of the year 1814 - it was discharged by Sir Gore Ouseley subject to adjustment as to the value of Muskets as hereinafter mentioned; and he states that he left with Mr. Morier the means of paying the Subsidy for the remaining half year after his (Sir Gore Ouseley's) departure from Persia.

6. Under these circumstances it is necessary to enquire 1st Whether any payment on account of the second half year of 1814 was in any shape actually made to Persia; and 2^{ndly}

Whether

Whether the whole of the Funds provided
by the Company's Government or Agents
for the payment of subsidy have been
duly brought to account, or whether any
part of them now remain chargeable
upon the diplomatic Agents of His
Majesty.

7. With these views we have had
some communication through the Board
of Commissioners with the Office of Foreign
Affairs and Sir Gore Ouseley, and have
directed a careful examination of the
Books and Accounts received from our
Governments in India; - but we have
not been enabled to satisfy ourselves
as to the state of the account - We
therefore forward to you copies of the several
papers connected with these enquiries
together with some observations prepared
by our Auditor of Indian Accounts
with reference to the very imperfect state
of the information upon this subject
to be drawn from the Indian Books
and we desire that the attention of your

Accountant

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Accountant General be particularly directed
to the last mentioned Document.

8. Other pecuniary Claims were
made by the Ambassador which are
of less importance, but which we
nevertheless wish to be correctly
adjusted.

They are, first a deduction stated
to have been made from the Subsidy
for 500 Bullets for each of 20 Guns
stipulated by Treaty to be presented
to the King of Persia.

9. We admit that this deduction
ought not to have been made and we
desire that if it was made the amount
may be allowed to Persia.

Secondly a deficiency of
10,000 Belts and Cartouch Boxes which
ought to have been supplied with
20,000 Muskets agreed by Treaty to
be sent to Persia.

10. On this account also if the
Statement on the part of Persia shall
be found correct we desire that an
allowance may be made to Persia.

Thirdly A complaint of the
captive

excessive price charged for 36,000 muskets purchased by His Persian Majesty and Prince Abbas Mirza. As we never contemplated making any profit upon this transaction and it appears that the sum for which credit was taken in account with Persia exceeded the probable cost of the muskets to us we desire that a sum may be allowed to the Persian Government for the difference according to the principle laid down in your Resolution in the Political Department of the 3rd Sept: 1813.

11. You will not fail to notice the observations contained in the Note from Lord Castlereagh relative to the case of Mahomed Subber Khan, and to take such measures as shall be found requisite to accomplish the investigation and adjustment of account therein directed.

12. After all these points shall have been settled you will give directions for stating an Account of what shall appear payable to the King of Persia, according to the tenor of Lord Castlereagh's Communications

and

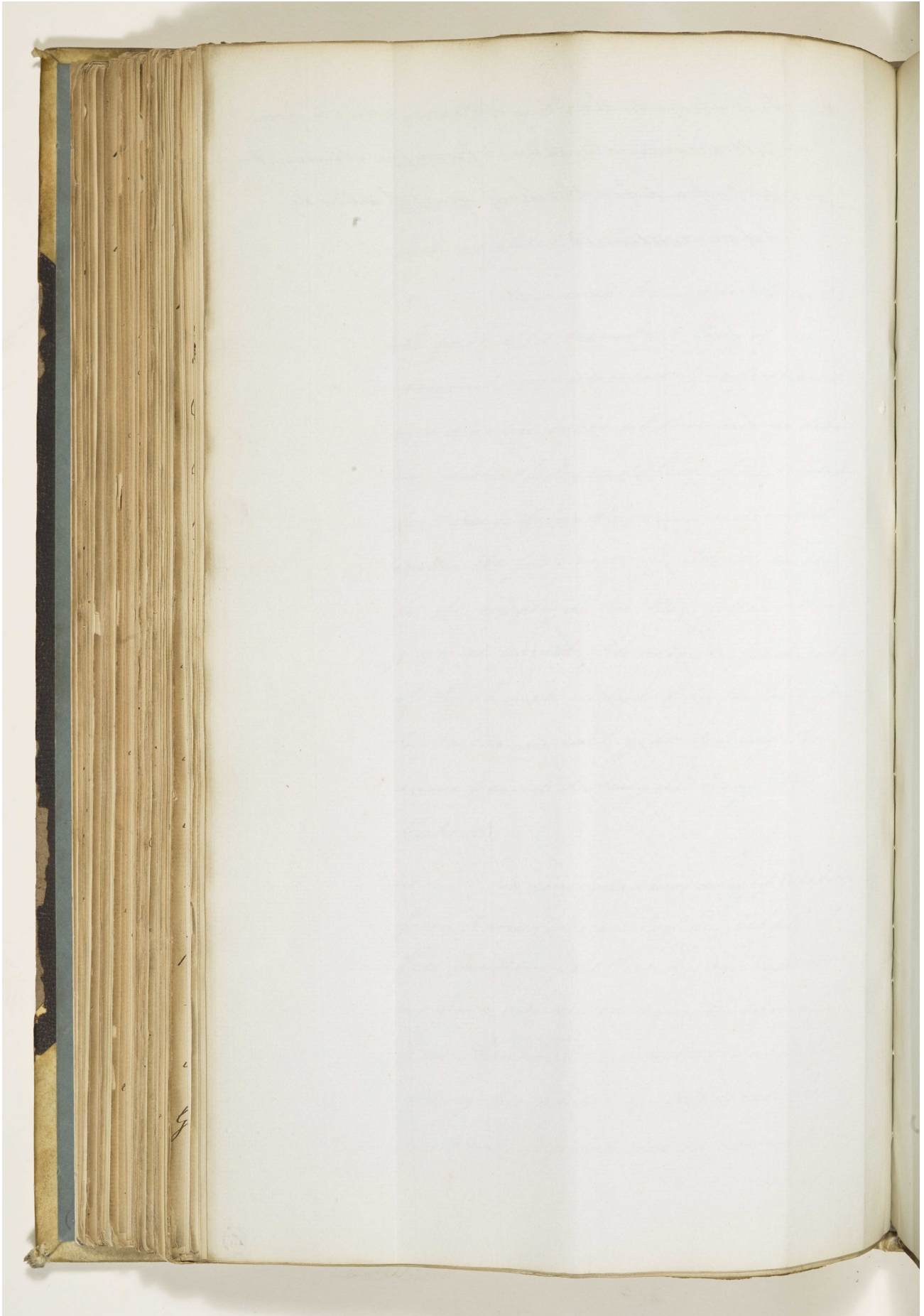
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and of these instructions, and you will arrange the actual payment in such a mode as you may consider best adapted to the occasion.

13 You will transmit to us by the first opportunity a Copy of the Account now directed to be prepared and also an account shewing in detail the mode of liquidation of the subsidy to Persia from the commencement under the preliminary Treaty in 1809 to its cessation in 1814 - likewise a general account shewing the particulars of the charge incurred by the Embassy to Persia in each year during the same period distinguishing the Subsidy. —

14 In consequence of an application from James Morier Esq. in behalf of His Excellency the Persian Ambassador we have advanced him the sum of Five Thousand Pounds £5.000 upon his giving his receipt in triplicate that the same is advanced on account of His

His Majesty the King of Persia which you
will accordingly deduct from the Amount
to be paid for the half year's Subsidy
beforementioned.

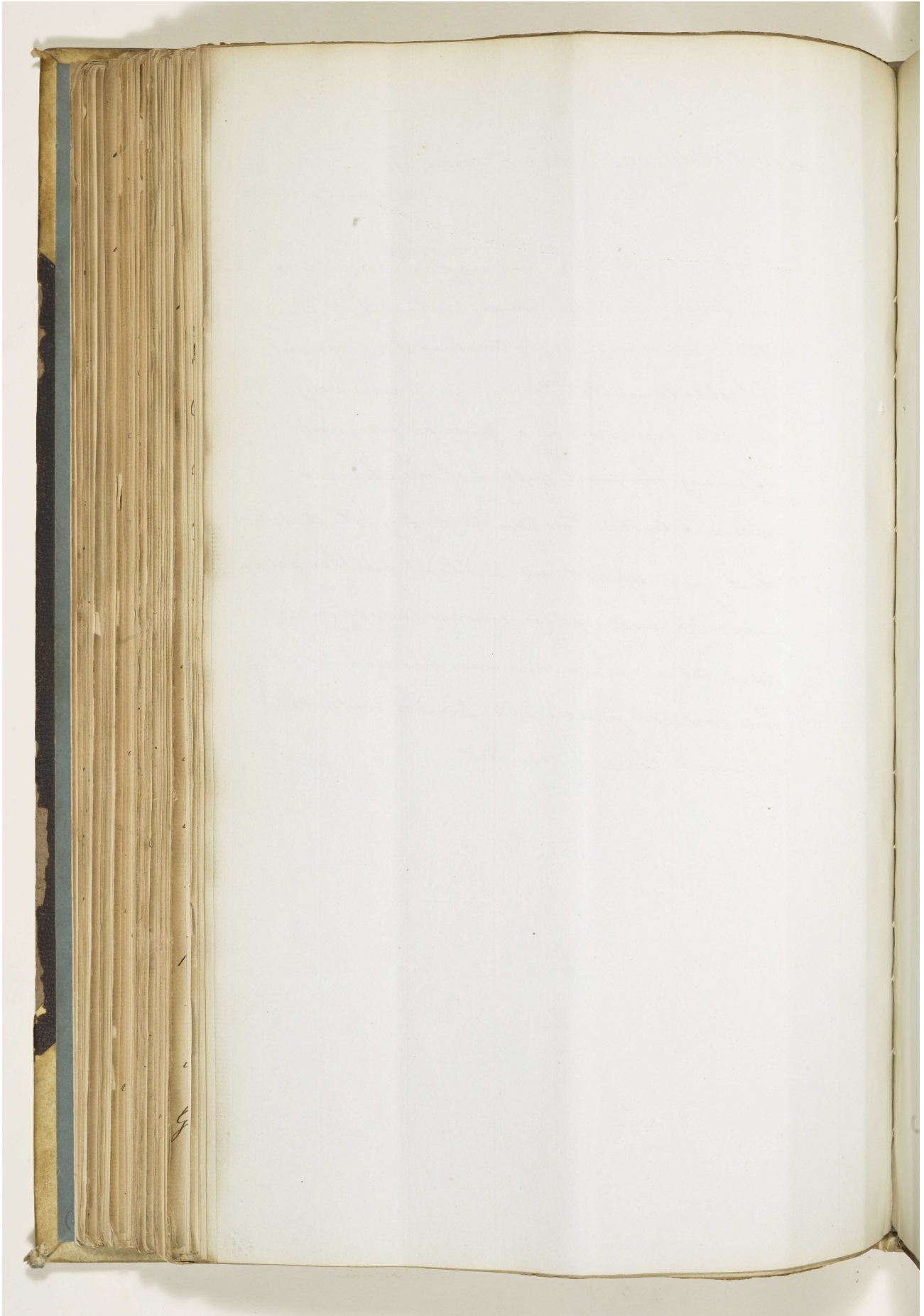


Extract Political Letter to Bengal

dated 14th August 1822

Para 2. *No reply having ^{hitherto} been received to*
our letter in this Department of the 7th June
1820 - respecting the Settlement of the Account
of Subsidy with Persia, and requiring
the transmission of a General Account
shewing the particulars of the charges
incurred by the Persian Embassy. We direct
that you report to us without further delay
your proceedings in consequence of our
said letter, and that you furnish us at
the earliest practicable period with the
account therein required.

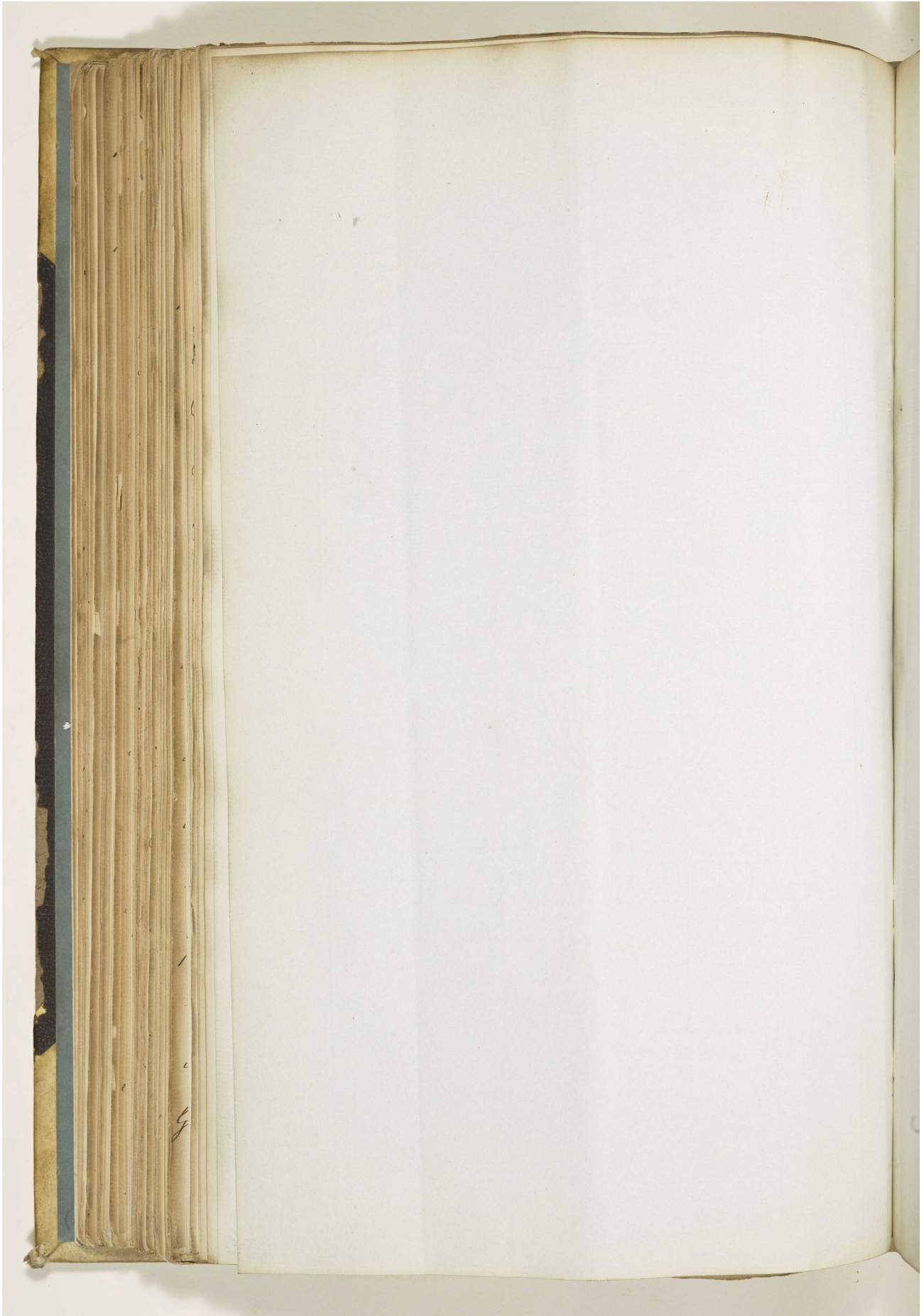
'Relative to advances made on account the Persian Government.' [138v] (22/28)



'Relative to advances made on account the Persian Government.' [139r] (23/28)



'Relative to advances made on account the Persian Government.' [139v] (24/28)



Extract Political Letter to Bengal

dated 1st January 1823

Para: 2. In our letter to you in this Department under date the 7th June 1820 we forwarded several documents received by us from His Majesty's Government on the subject of certain pecuniary demands brought forward by the Ambassador of the King of Persia; we at the same time directed, with reference to the suggestion therein contained, that you would immediately put yourselves in communication with Mr. Hillock His Majesty's Charge d'Affaires at Tehran, and arrange with him such measures as may be necessary for carrying into effect what had been agreed to between the two countries.

3. We have now to inform you that Mevoza Mahomed Saleh, the accredited agent of H. R. H. the Prince Royal of Persia has recently arrived here, and has delivered to our Chairman the written request of His Royal Highness that the Court would advance some of money in this Country on account of what
might

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might be due to Persia of the Subsidy of 1814. to enable Meerza Sauleh to purchase arms and ammunition for the service of the Persian government.

4 Not being in possession of any information from you on the several points to which we directed your attention in our letter above-mentioned we are unable to form a correct judgement as to the amount of the balance which remains due to Persia on account of the Subsidy, but having ascertained that no objection exists on the part of H. M. Government to the Courts affording facility to the purchase of Stores alluded to, we have agreed to advance the sum of £15,000 to Meerza Saleh for that purpose, and we direct that you will take the necessary measures in concert with Mr. Willock, who has been advised of the advance in question for deducting the said sum of £15,000 from such balance as shall remain due on account of the Subsidy.

'Relative to advances made on account the Persian Government.' [141r] (27/28)

