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'Memorial from Mrs Rich'

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	IOR/F/4/747/20396
Date(s)	4 Nov 1814-2 Mar 1822 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 item (45 folios)
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About this record

This item consists of copies of correspondence, minutes, and consultations, cited in, or enclosed with, political letters from the Government of Bombay and from the Court of Directors. The correspondents are the Government of Bombay; the Court of Directors; Claudius James Rich, Political Agent in Turkish Arabia; John Hine, Assistant Political Agent in Turkish Arabia; John Wedderburn, Civil Auditor; Mary Rich, widow of Claudius James Rich.

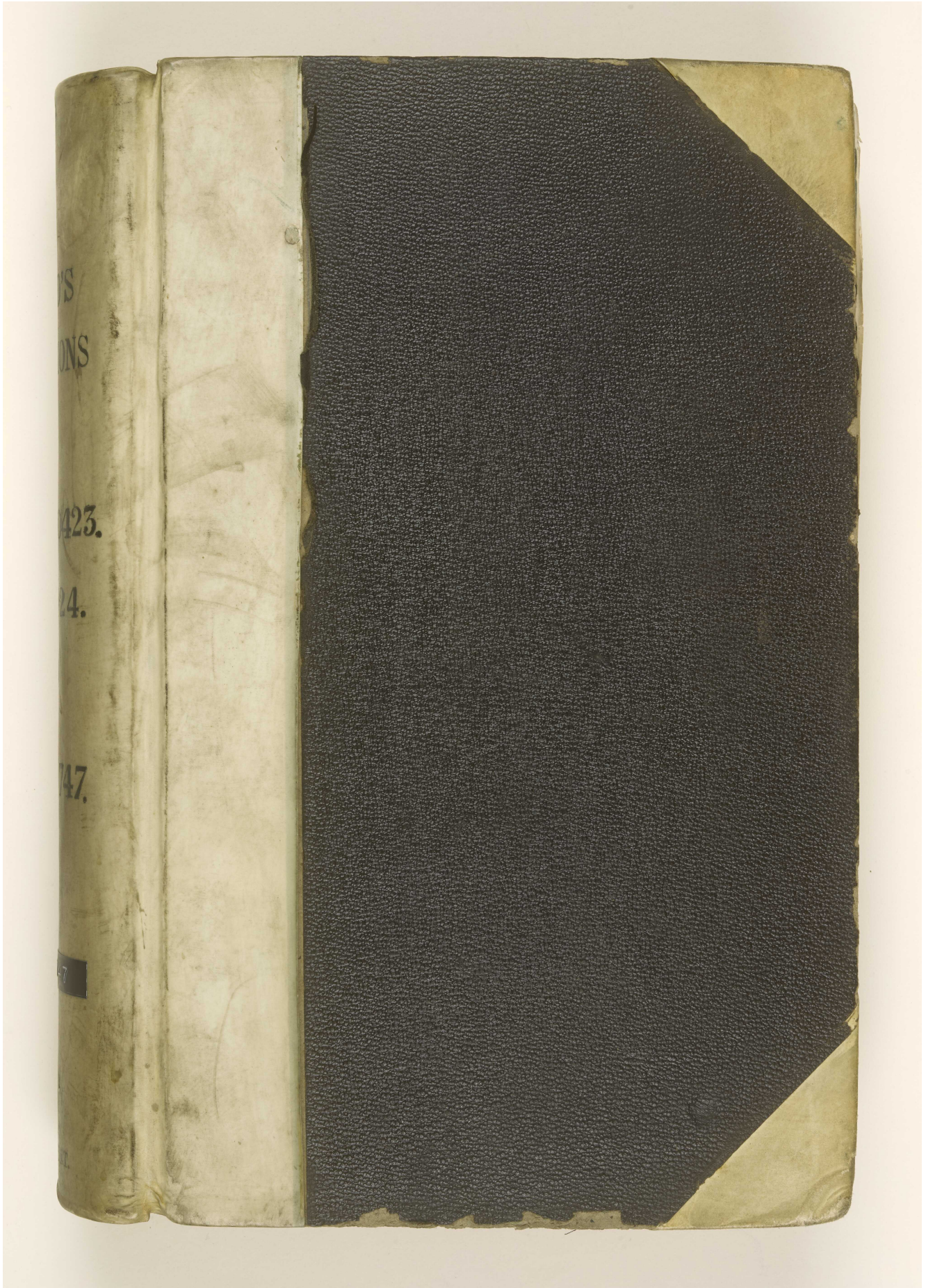
The item concerns a memorial from Mary Rich asking that the Court remit the financial penalty of the loss of Claudius Rich's personal allowances from 13 April 1814-20 September 1815 while he was in Europe. This request is granted in view of Rich's excellent service and his death from cholera in the course of his duties.

The rest of the item provides background to this case including discussions of:

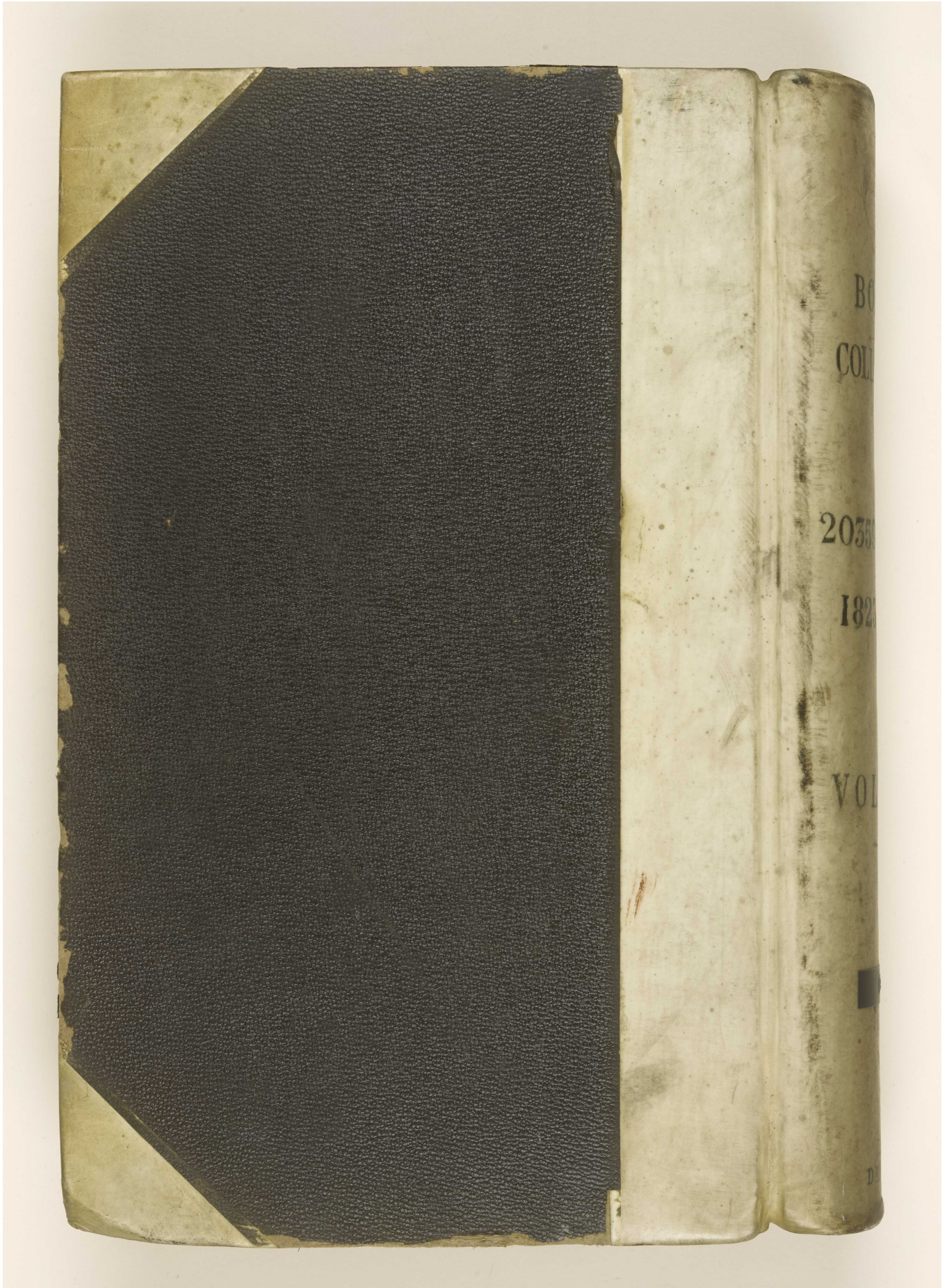
- Rich's salary and allowances
- His unauthorised journey to Constantinople and Vienna
- Whether this journey warranted his dismissal from his post
- A decision to withhold his personal allowance from the time he left Constantinople to the time he returned.

The title page of the item contains the following references: 'Political No. 843, Draft 491, P.C. 209, [Season] 1823/4' and 'Examiner's Office 1822'.

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [front] (1/96)



'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [back] (2/96)



'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [spine] (3/96)



'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [edge] (4/96)



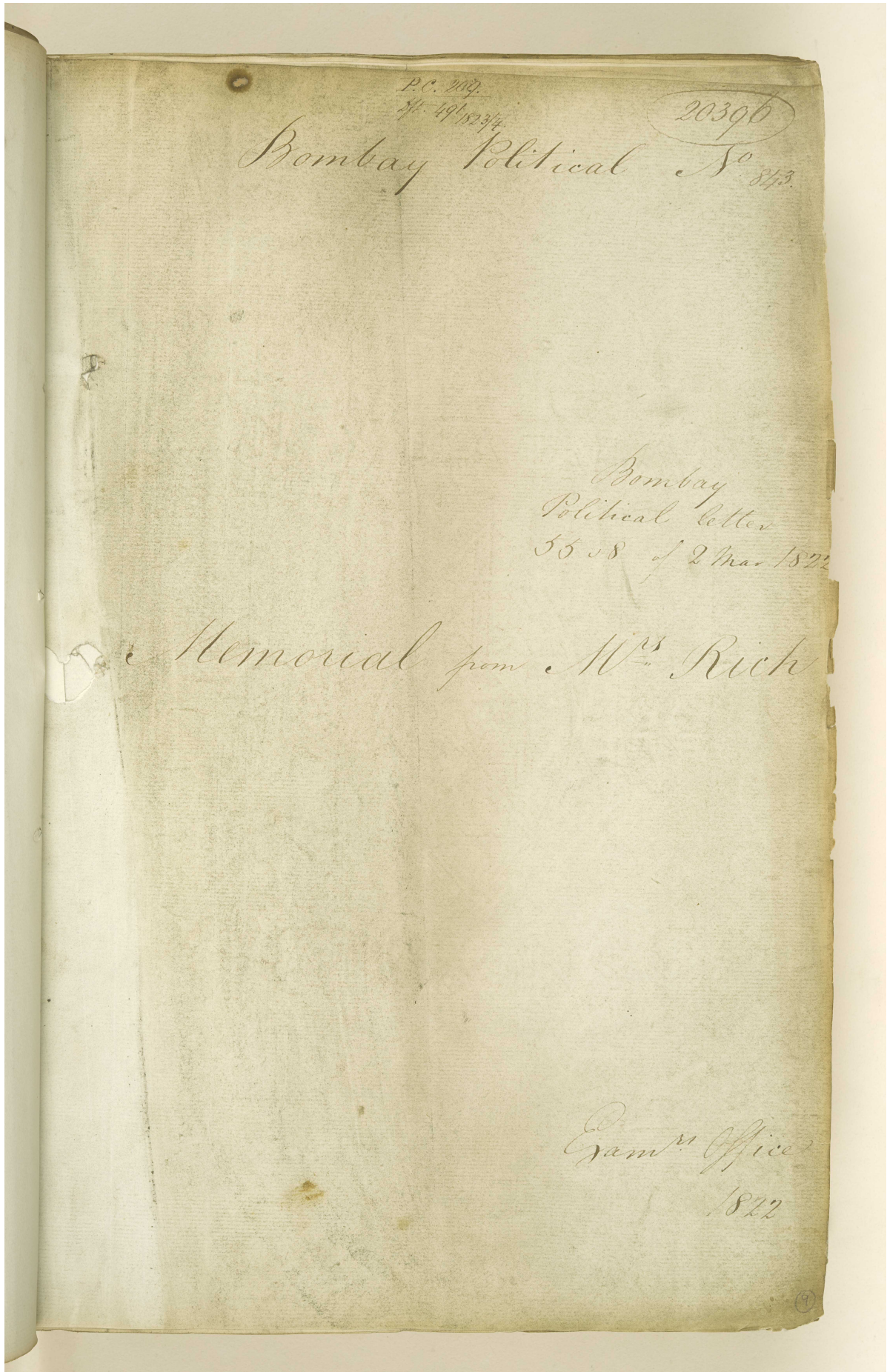
'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [head] (5/96)



'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [tail] (6/96)



'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [9r] (7/96)



'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [9v] (8/96)



'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [10r] (9/96)

Extract Political Letter from Bombay
Dated 2nd March 1822.

Para. 55. We have the honour
to forward by this opportunity a
Memorial from M^{rs} Rich, the
Widow of C. J. Rich Esq., late Agent
in Turkish Arabia.

56 In forwarding that
Memorial we beg to observe that
we should not have recommended
the remission of the penalty imposed
on M^{rs} Rich for absenting himself
from his Station, if he himself
were still able to repair his
fortune by his further employment
in your Service, but, as, from
the untimely death of that Gentleman

L. P. P. P.

10

the loss has fallen on his Widow,
with a weight that could never
have been contemplated by your
Honble Court, we are induced to
recommend that the decision should
be reconsidered.

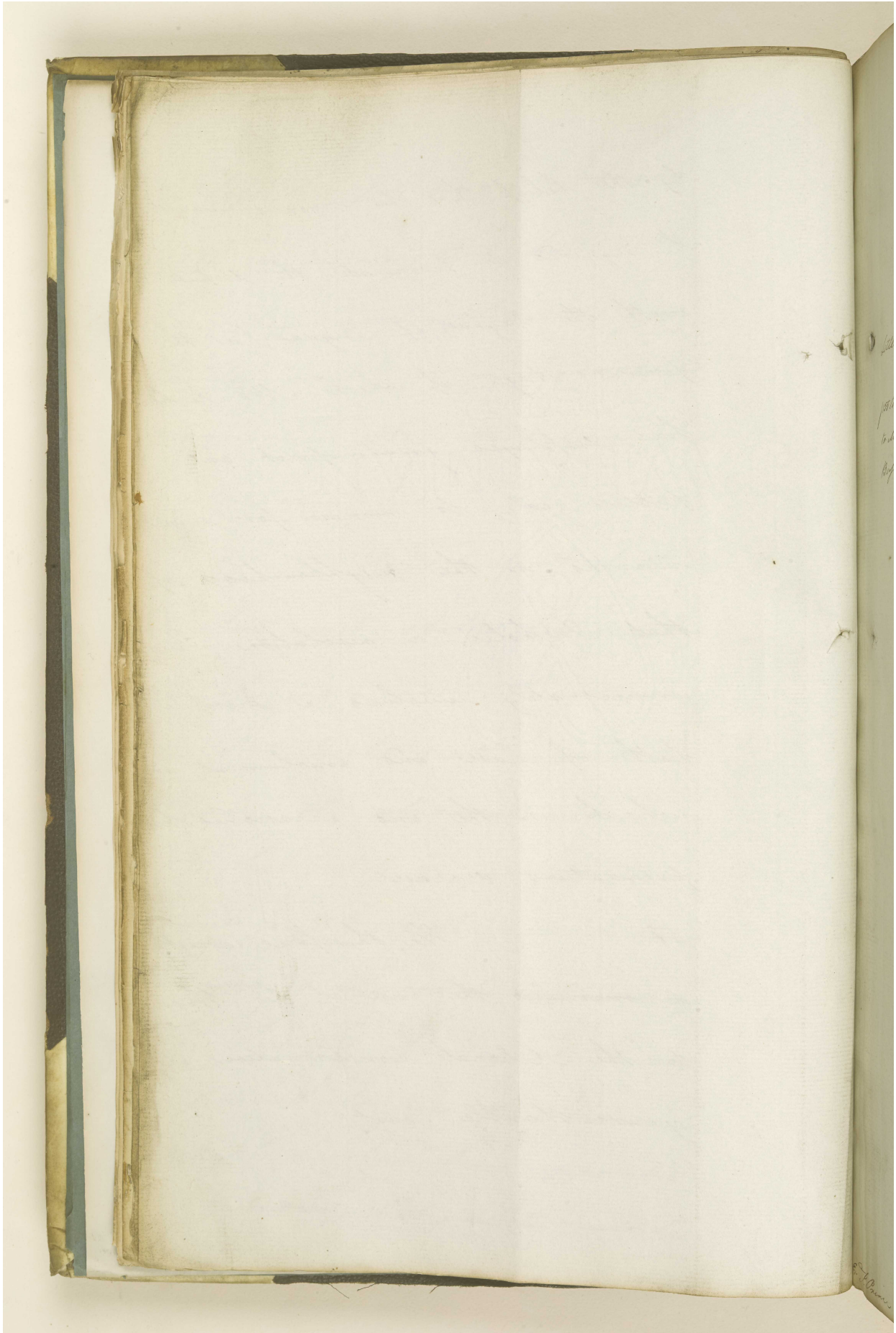
57. Independent of the
motive just stated for rescinding
the former orders, the circumstances
of Mr. Rich's death affords his
Widow the strongest claims on
the liberality of your Honble
Court. Mr. Rich's constitution
having been much impaired by
the climate of Bagdad, he was
impatient to join the Station to
which he had been appointed
in India; but ~~he~~ he was led
by

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [11r] (11/96)

3
by the belief that his Services would
be required to terminate the dispute
with the Pacha of Bagdad, (in the
former stages of which Mr Rich
had displayed great spirit and
public zeal,) to remain for some
months in the neighbourhood of
that Pacha's, - a resolution which
immediately involved a sacrifice
both of ease and emolument, and
which in the end occasioned his
premature decease.

58. We, therefore, earnestly
recommend the case of his Widow
to the liberal consideration of
your Honorable Court.

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [11v] (12/96)



'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [12r] (13/96)

5

Extract Political Letter to Bombay.

Dated 4th November 1814.

Letter from dated 29th Oct^r 1814.

{ 155 to 163) Salary & Allowances } 65. after a mature
to Mr Rich as Resident at }
Bussorah and Bagdad. - } consideration of the documents

referred to in these paragraphs we cannot acquiesce in your decision. (founded upon the sentiments of the Supreme Government as conveyed in their letter of the 5th April 1811) fixing the total amount of the allowances of Mr Rich the Resident at Bussorah and Bagdad at Rupees 4,300 & Mensen inclusive of the established expenses of 1,300 Rupees & month incurred for the station of Bussorah, the duties of which are performed by the Assistant

F. Palmer

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [12v] (14/96)

Assistant Mr. Hine, never having had it in our contemplation at the time of Mr. Rich's appointment that his allowances should exceed those of his predecessor Sir Harford Jones, viz^t 1300 Rupees p^r month for salary Diet money and House Rent, and 500 Rupees p^r Month for the expenses of the Residency. The salary of £ 3125 p^r annum granted by the Court of Directors to Sir Harford Jones, and made payable to his Agents in England, was on account of certain services of a Diplomatic nature to be performed by him; we therefore direct that on the receipt of these orders you immediately take measures for reducing Mr. Rich's allowances, and that

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [13r] (15/96)

7

that they be fixed in future at
Rupees 1500 ₹ month, for personal
Salary, and Rupees 545 ₹ month for
Diet, House Rent and public expenses,
exclusive of presents.

Letter from Dated 16th Jan^y 1813.
(175 to 81) Expense of Presents } 84. The increased amount
incurred by Mr Rich the }
Resident at Bagdad. } of Mr Rich's disbursements

on account of Presents, as compared
with those of his predecessors, very
properly induced you to confine that
branch of his expenditure in future
to the sum of Rupees 229 ₹ month,
the average amount incurred during
the period that Mr. Hine held
the office of Resident at Bagdad,
and not to admit even that
amount unless the most satisfactory
reasons

(B)

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [13v] (16/96)

reasons shall be assigned for the
disbursements; your control over which
will have been established by the
order prohibiting Mr. Rich from
making any presents of value
without specific authority from your
Government. —

9
Extract Political Letter to Bombay
Dated 20th Sept. 1815.

2. We have received from Mr. Claudius James Rich a representation upon the subject of the inadequacy of the allowances, which by our orders in this Department to your Presidency of the 4th November last, were fixed for the Office which this gentleman holds, of Resident at Basorah & Bagdad.

3. By those orders the allowances of Mr. Rich, which had been settled by you at the recommendation of the Supreme Government

Rich
14

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [14v] (18/96)

Government. at 4,300 Rupees per Month,
 were directed to be reduced to
 1,500 Rupees per Month for personal
 salary, and 545 Rupees per Month
 for diet, house rent, & public
 expenses, exclusive of presents, making
 a total of Rupees 2,045 per Month.

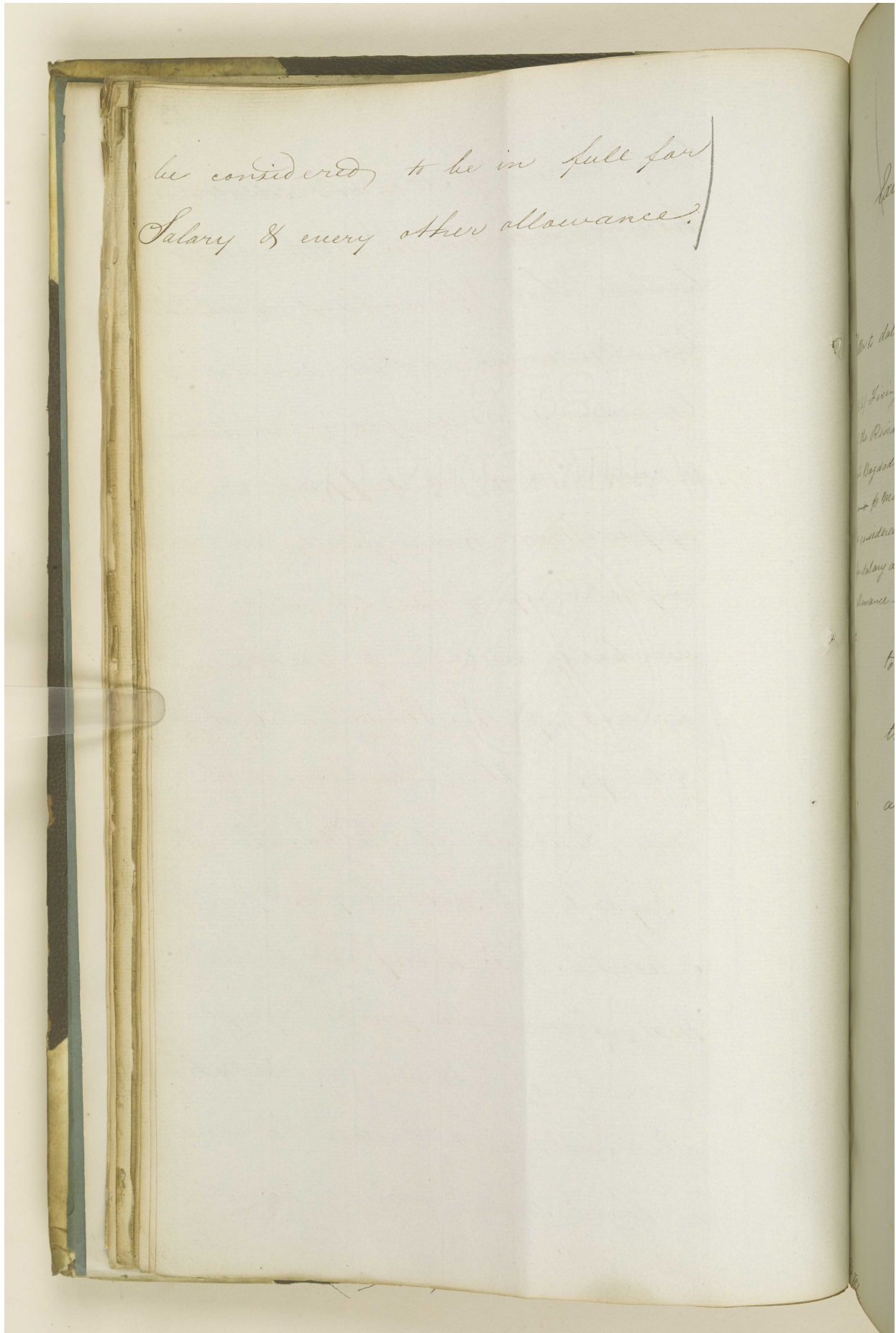
4. In consequence of
 the above-mentioned representation
 from Mr Rich, we have been
 induced to take the subject
 of his allowances again into
 our consideration, & being fully
 aware that a person holding
 the situation which he occupies
 is necessarily obliged to maintain
 a certain degree of external
 appearance, and the review we
 have

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [15r] (19/96)

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have taken of M^r Rich's situation
having impressed us with the
belief that the amount to which
his allowances were directed to
be reduced, will prove insufficient
to enable him to support this
appearance, & consequently the
respectability of his situation,
we have resolved to revoke our
orders of 15th November last,
& to fix the allowances of
the Resident at Baporah and
Bagdad at 3,000 Rupees per
Month. We therefore direct
that from the period of your
receipt of those orders, the
allowances of M^r Rich be reduced
to this sum, which must
be

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [15v] (20/96)



Extract Political Letter from Bombay

Dated 6th August 1815-

Letter to dated 20th Sept^r 1815.

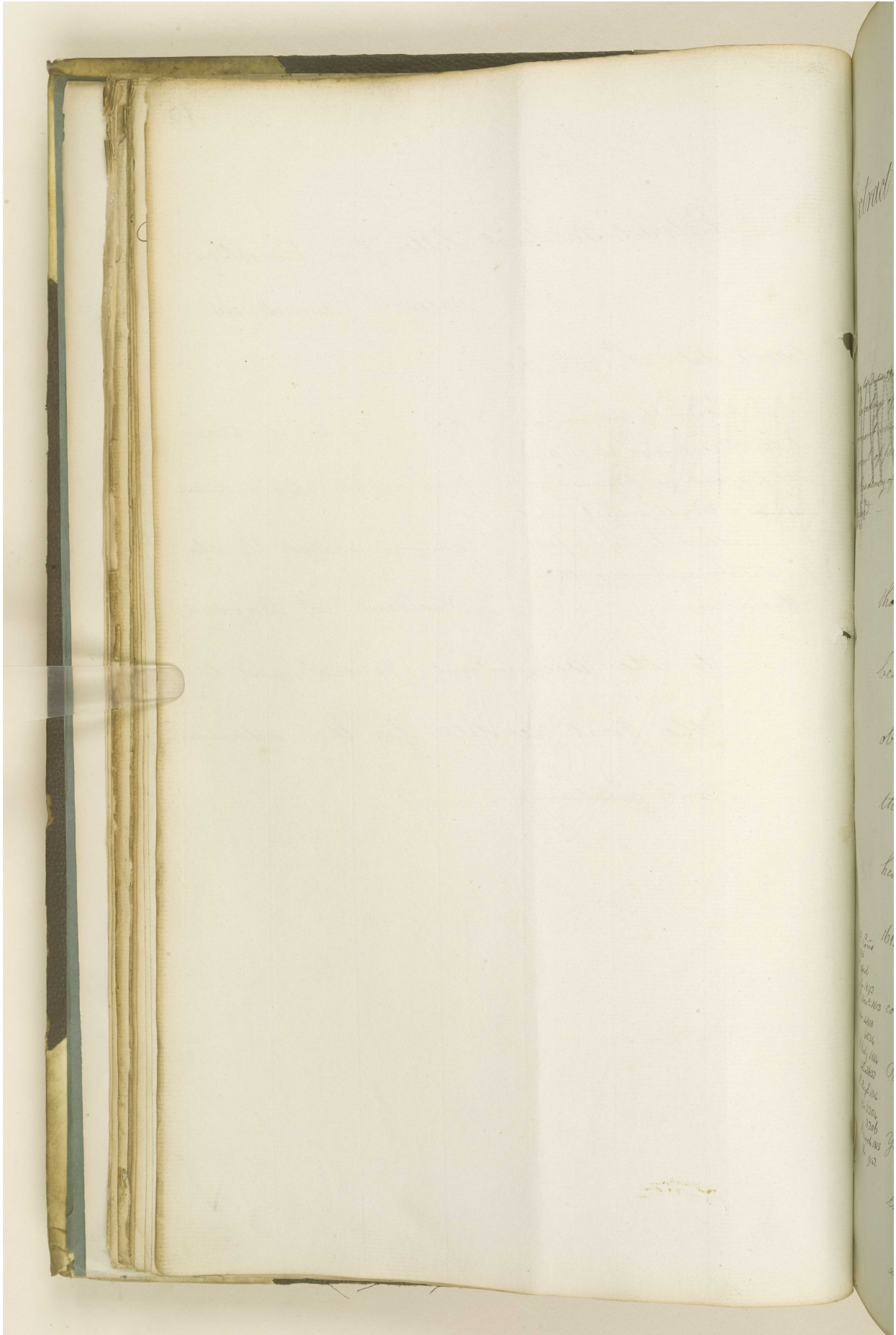
*[2 to 4] Fixing the allowances
of the Residencies at Buposh
and Bagdad at Rupees 3000
~~per~~ per Month which must
be considered to be in full
for salary and every other
allowance.*

*3. Copies of these
paragraphs have been
communicated to the
Resident at Bagdad,*

*to the Accountant General, and to
the Civil Auditor for their information
and guidance.*

Palms

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [16v] (22/96)



Extract Political Letter from Bombay

Dated 22nd August 1815.

Letter to India, 29 July, 1814

Re: Proceedings of the Government concerning the grant of jurisdiction to the Presidency of Bombay.

160. We are concerned to be under the necessity of reporting to your Honble Court,

that the conduct of Mr. Rich has been of such a nature as to oblige us to suspend him from the farther exercise of the duties of his situation.

Ref. Cons
1815
21st April
folio 1892
29th Decr. 1813
folio 2818
" 2824
17th July 1814
folio 3632
18th Decr 1814
folio 3204
" 3206
3rd March 1815
folio 942

161. On adverting to the correspondence which has passed with Mr. Rich of the dates noticed in the Margin, your Honble Court will observe that on the 6th February 1813, without forwarding any medical Certificate in support of the

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [17v] (24/96)

the necessity of a change of air, he
informed us that "as the severe shock
"his health had sustained from the
"intense heat of the climate induced him
"to believe that he might possibly
"require temporary change, he was
"anxious to be furnished with our
"eventual permission to absent
"himself for a time from his station,
"should such a measure become
"necessary, since the distance between
"Bagdad and the Presidency would
"render any application at the
"moments impossible, that he had
"therefore ventured to solicit our
"indulgence on this head and to
"assure us of his discretion in
"the availing himself of it."

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [18r] (25/96)

162. Under a supposition that
Mr Rich intended to proceed to the
Presidency, leave of absence was granted
to him on the 19th April following,
"for the period of three months from
"the date of his quitting the Gulph."

Colly letter 1813
29th Dec 22
folia 48/18

163. On the 15th October Mr
Rich acknowledged the receipt of Mr
Warden's letter granting him conditional
leave and represented "that his health
"which had been in a state of
"deterioration ever since he applied
"for that permission, having at
"length arrived at so alarming a
"point, that he felt himself under
"an immediate necessity of availing
"himself of it;" explaining at the
same time that the considerations
which

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [18v] (26/96)

which had induced him to select
Constantinople as the place of his
residence during his absence from
Bagdad, consisted principally in
his being enabled to new model
the department for the Packet Service,
and to confer with the Port and
His Majesty's Ambassador in regard
to the political discussions which
might be expected to arise, in
the event of a pacification between
Russia and Persia, and between the
latter power and Turkey, of which
the Territory of Bagdad would be
the Theatre; concluding with an
assurance, that on public grounds
alone "his journey would be found
"to be a most justifiable and
"even

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [19r] (27/96)

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"even beneficial measures, especially
"as it would be productive of no
"additional expense to Government, that
"he should of course have been
"desirous of submitting his plan for
"our decision, but he was under the
"necessity of immediately setting out,
"on account of the difficulty of
"passing thro' Aida Minor in the winter,
"and if he waited till the spring
"even supposing his health —
"admitted of any delay, most of the
"Political advantages he proposed
"to derive from the journey would be
"frustrated." accounts reached us at the
same time that Mr Rich had
proceeded on his journey.

164.

From an anxious
desire

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [19v] (28/96)

12
 desire to treat Mr Rich with every
 degree of personal consideration, no
 farther notice was taken of this
 extraordinary proceeding, farther than
 by informing him "that Government
 "relied with confidence that his
 "stay at Constantinople would be
 "no longer than the re-establishment
 "of his health might require, and
 "that when that should have been
 "effected he would return to Bagdad."

165. On the 7th July 1844, a
 letter was received from Mrs Rich
 dated Constantinople the 10th March,
 representing that "as the leave of
 "absence we had so kindly granted
 "was about to expire, he ventured
 "once more to solicit a prolongation
 " of

Bobb. Genl's 1844
 13th July
 folio 3632

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [20r] (29/96)

21

"of it, rendered absolutely necessary,
"from the infirm state of his
"health; and as in a Month or two
"hence the season would be so far
"advanced as to render a journey
"through Asia minor extremely hazardous
"independent of the danger of immediately
"encountering the heats of Bagdad in
"a convalescent state; and for these
"reasons soliciting an extension of his
"furlough"

166. In answer to this
application M^r Rich was informed
that at the time his letter was
written, he had been absent from
his duty no less than six Months,
and that by remaining at
Constantinople till an answer could
be

pe 20

184
3632

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [20v] (30/96)

89
be received a period would elapse of
at least six Month more.

107. That under such
circumstances we did not feel
ourselves justified in extending his
leave, unaccompanied, as his application
had been by any certificate from his
Medical Attendant, that the state
of his health had rendered his
continuance in Europe necessary to
it's recovery, especially as we were not
aware nor were we indeed on
the receipt of his letter of the 15th
October last, from any reasoning
contained in it, that his
proceeding to Constantinople could
be attended with any advantage to
the public Service, and that had
his

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his original application rested on that ground alone, it would not have been sanctioned by this Government.

Ms. On the 10th of April, only one month after the date of Mr Rich's application for an extension of his leave, he apprized his Assistant, that "having been authorized to make "the usual present to the Pacha "and his Officers, and being induced "to spend the time which must "elapse before his return to Bagdad "by a journey to Vienna, it had occurred to him that both there, and at this place, /meaning Constantinople / he should meet with opportunities of supplying himself with more appropriate articles, and on

a

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [21v] (32/96)

"a more economical rate than
"he could hope for at Bagdad,
"and that he had in consequence
"drawn on him (M^r Home) for
"the sum of 40,000 Pistres."

169 Your Honorable Court
will be pleased to understand that
previously to M^r Rich's leaving
Bagdad, he represented to our
President that the public service
was then suffering material injury
from the disappointment which
had been felt by the officers of
the Pashalic, in receiving ^{the} Presents
which had on all former occasions
been made to them and urged
the necessity of his being authorized
to take measures for removing
these

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these causes of complaint, and was informed by our President, that he was by no means disposed to think that presents to Persons of their description might not be necessary but that on the contrary they might in certain cases be advantageously applied, and that possessing those opinions he should be ready to sanction any reasonable expensures which might be incurred on that account, calling on Mr Rich at the same time to observe the strictest economy in his expensures.

170. The only notice taken by Mr Rich of this correspondence,

15 (2)

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [22v] (34/96)

is contained in his letter to
Mr Hine adverted to in the
preceding paragraph.

171 Before it was possible
for Mr Rich to receive any
reply to his letter, or even a
communication from Mr Hine
of any instructions he might
have received from Government
for his guidance, it appears that
he proceeded to Vienna.

172 In regard to the
presents which Mr Rich might
purchase, we directed Mr Hine
to make such a selection from
the whole as might ~~be~~ ~~be~~
be likely to be most acceptable
to the Pacha and the officers to
whom

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whom such concessions had usually
 been made; but to limit their
 extent so as not to exceed the
 amount expended by Sir Harford
 Jones on his appointment
 to the situation of Resident
 at Bagdad in 1798, namely
 Rupees 12,093.1. - on the
 amount sanctioned in July
 1811, on the elevation of
 the late Pacha vizt
 Rupees twelve thousand
 six hundred and sixty
 five and two annas, and at
 the same time expressed to
 Mr Hinde the strong
 displeasure we felt at
 the conduct of Mr Rich,
 not

(23)

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [23v] (36/96)

not only no drawing on
him for so large a sum
as forty thousand Peastres
amounting to double the
amount heretofore applied
as presents to the Pacha
and his officers by any one
of his Predecessors; but
in proceeding to Vienna
at a time when he
ought to have been returning
to Bagdad to attend to the
duties of his office.

173. Under these
circumstances we directed that
if, on Mr. Hoine's receipt
of our instructions of the
4th of March last, Mr.

Rich

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Rich should not have
returned and resumed the
exercise of his duties at
Bagdad, that he was not
to be permitted so to do,
and Mr. Hine was directed
to retain charge of the
Residency until the farther
pleasure of Government should
be known, apprising Mr.
Rich, should his arrival
at Bagdad be procrastinated
beyond that time, of these
instructions, and leaving him to
^{adopt} such measures as he
might judge necessary in
consequence.

174

But should
Mr. 29

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [24v] (38/96)

Mr Richs have returned
to Bagdad and taken
charge of the Residency,
he was required to transmit
such explanations as he
might think proper in
justification of his conduct,
for the ultimate determination
of the Government.

175. Mr Hine has
acknowledged the receipt of
our instructions of the 4th March, and as Mr Rich had
not returned to his Station,
the former has continued
in charge of the
Residency.

Poll Conts
1815
28d and
4 27/91

176.

31

176. With respect to the
movements of Mr Rich, we have
not received any official information
whatever beyond what is contained
in the 2nd Para of a letter from
Mr Aine recorded on our
Proceedings of the 28th of June,
wherein he observes that he had
forwarded a Copy of our instructions
of the 4th March to Mr Rich
which Mr Aine imagined would
meet him on the road between
Constantinople and Merden, but from
private accounts it appears that
on his quitting Vienna he proceeded
to Paris. Nor had Mr Rich
forwarded to Mr Aine any of the
Presents for the purchase of which
he

Mr Rich
28/15
Aine
27/91

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [25v] (40/96)

he had drawn on his Assistant
for the sum of Pistres forty
thousand.

144 Under the established
Regulations of your service an Officer
proceeding to Europe from any
part of India vacates his situation,
and according to the opinion of our
Advocate General, the regulation applies
with equal force to the situation
held by Mr. Rich, as to that of
any situation held by any other
Civil Servant on this establishment.
We should therefore have been
justified in filling up the
appointment on the receipt of
information of his having left his
station and proceeded to Constantinople,
indeed

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indeed such a measure could hardly have been considered in any other light, than as the ordinary course of proceeding.

178. The leave of absence granted by us to Mr Rich had reference only to a supposed intention of his visiting this Presidency, which was to commence from the time of his leaving the Gulph, and could not be pleaded in justification of his proceeding to Europe.

179. But under a supposition that he would have returned to his station, we forbore to inflict so heavy a penalty upon him, until we had observed that he had ^{had} 26

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [26v] (42/96)

had disregarded all sense of decency,
and had been pursuing his
pleasures at Vienna. Business he
could have none at that metropolis.
180. As an Officer belonging
to this establishment, and placed under
the orders of this Government, it
appears to us that his leaving
his station as he would imply
to be necessary on public grounds,
would have been far more
censurable than if he had left
it on those of a private nature.
Had any objects worthy the
attention of Government presented
themselves to Mrs Rich, it was
his duty to have communicated the
views he had taken of those
subjects

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [27r] (43/96)

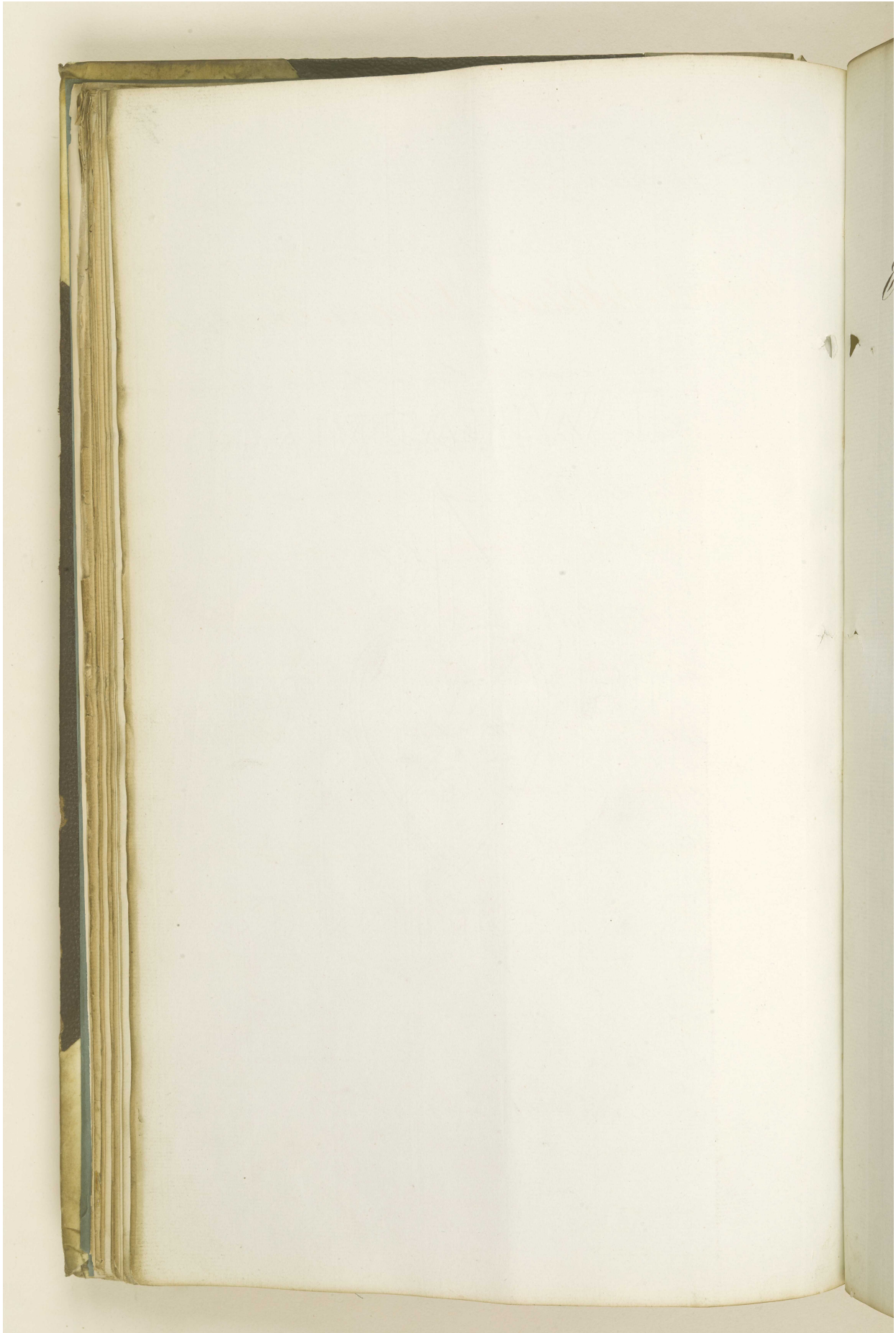
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subjects to us, and to have
awaited our instructions in consequence
as in whatever light Mr Rich
may consider himself, we should not
have been disposed to have
allowed that Gentleman to have
acted on a subject of that
magnitude, under the influence of
his own opinion.

186. We have thought it our
duty to state thus much to your
Honble Court for your consideration,
and shall only add that we shall
not take any measures for filling
that employment, until we shall
be favored with the commands of
your Honble Court on the subject.

(27)

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [27v] (44/96)



37
Extract. Political Letter to Bombay.

Dated 26th June, 1816.

2. In our Despatches in the Political Department of the 20th Sept: 1815, we informed you of the revocation of our former orders of the 4th Nov: 1814, respecting the allowances to M^r: Claudius James Rich, the Resident at Poonah, and that we had thought proper to fix those allowances at Rupees 3000 p^r: Month. The subject was at that time brought under our consideration by a Memorial from M^r: Rich himself, dated the 20th December 1814, in which he represented the inadequacy

of (28)

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [28v] (46/96)

of the allowance of which he was
then in the receipt; and further,
that his health had manifested
such alarming symptoms of rapid
decay, that he had been reluctantly
obliged to quit his station.

3. This Letter was written
from Vienna, whither he had advanced
from Constantinople; to which last
place he had repaired from
Bagdad, on the score, as he stated,
of extreme ill health, which had
induced him to solicit the leave
of your Government to be absent
from his station.

4. We were quite aware
of the expensive liberty Mr. Rich
had taken in proceeding from
Constantinople

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [29r] (47/96)

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Constantinople to Vienna, and were displeas'd at so great an irregularity, but believing it to have proceeded from impaired health and anxiety of mind, we were induc'd to pass it over, and allow him to return to his Station.

5 We have however recently received a Letter from you, in the Political Department, dated 22^d August 1815 - representing the irregular conduct of M^r. Rich in the several instances particularised.

6 His quitting his Station without having furnished the usual Certificate of ill health, and his going to Constantinople without your express permission to repair thither,

you.

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [29v] (48/96)

you were induced to over look, in
consideration of M^r. Rich's former
meritorious services. But his procedure,
in quitting Constantinople after a
residence there of many months,
and going from thence to Vienna
and to Paris, without waiting for
an answer to the applications
he had made for an extension of
the original leave of absence granted
to him, joined with the other
objectionable circumstances specified,
you very justly deemed of a nature
such as rendered your serious
notice of it indispensable.

The circumstances now brought
more distinctly under our notice
than they were before, are, his not
having

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [30r] (49/96)

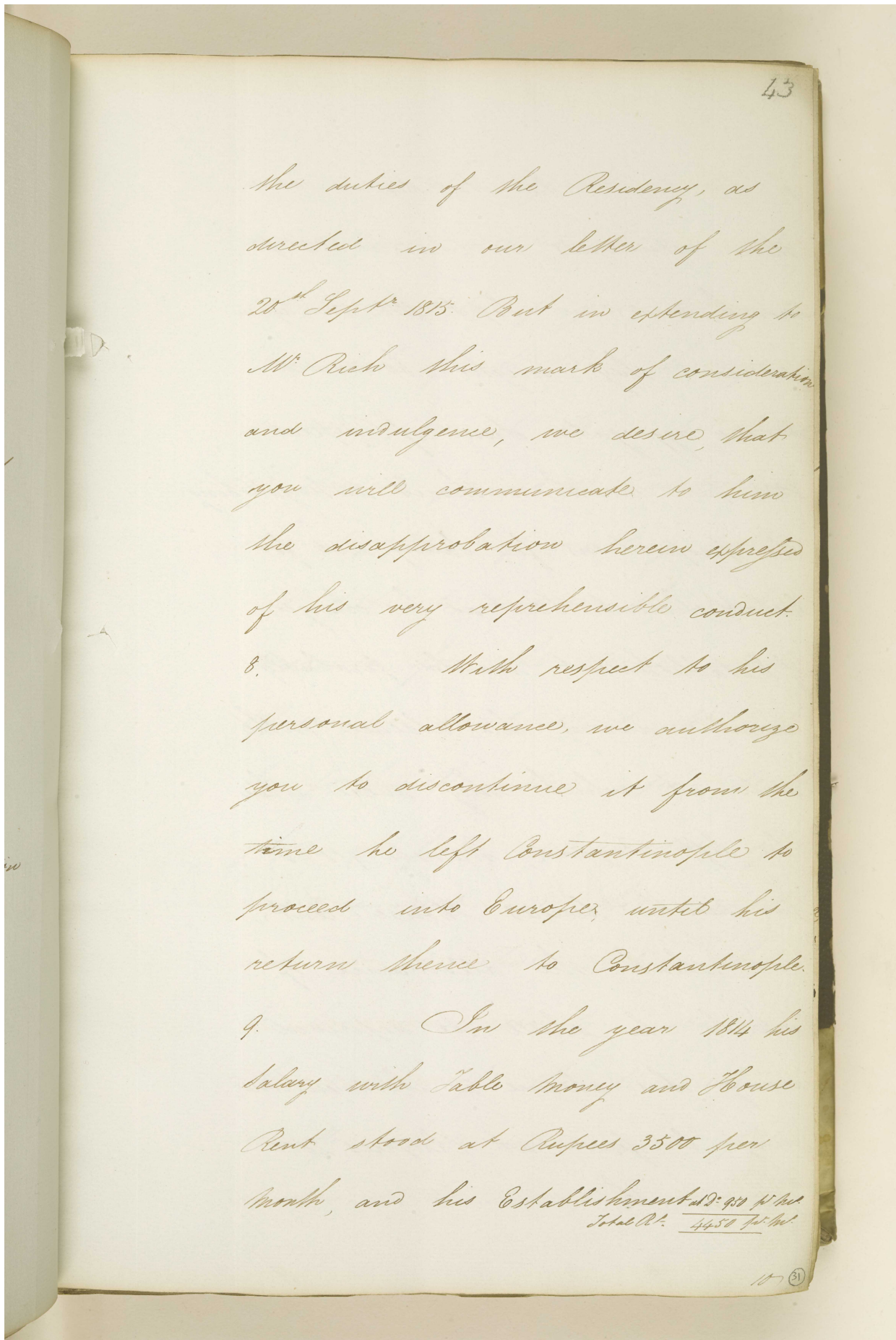
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having transmitted you a medical
Certificate of his ill state of
health, the long duration of his
absence from his Station, and his
proceeding into the heart of Europe.
We regard these circumstances as
highly reprehensible, particularly the
two last, which justified the
strongest expressions of your disapprobation.
We are at all times disposed to
uphold the authority of our
Governments over the Servants of
their respective Establishments. And
upon the present occasion we
should not hesitate to conform
the resolution you came to, of
suspending Mr Rich from the office
of Resident at Busbora and Bagdad.

L 30

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [30v] (50/96)

if there did not exist some
circumstances in his case, which
in our opinion, would render
such a proceeding, a measure of
severity towards him. We certainly
feel great displeasure at the conduct
of Mr Rich in the several instances
before stated. But in consideration
of his general character and services,
and as we have already, whilst
in the knowledge of his being
at Vienna, authorised the augmentation
of his allowances and his return
to his station, we act only in
the spirit of that proceeding, in
desiring that his suspension
from office be taken off, and
that he be permitted to resume
the



'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [31v] (52/96)

10 In Nov^r 1814, we reduced
these allowances, to Rupees 2045 p^r
month, and in Sept^r 1815, we again
desired they might be raised
to one aggregate sum of Rupees
3000 per month, without distinguishing
the proportions for salary and for
Establishment. But as his charges
of Establishment would probably
remain during his absence on the
scale at which they were when
he left Bagdad, namely 950 R^s.
per month, besides House Rent,
we think the allowance of
which he shall be deprived
during his absence as abovementioned,
may be fixed at Rupees 2000
per month.

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [32r] (53/96)

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11 In regard to the
circumstance mentioned in the
168 paragraph of your beforementioned
Despatch, of M^r Rich having
drawn upon M^r Thine, his Assistant
at Bagdad, for 40,000 Piastres, for
the purpose of enabling him
(M^r Rich) to procure the necessary
presents for the Pacha, and his
officers, we direct that M^r Rich
be forthwith called upon to
give a full explanation of
his conduct in this respect;
and, if it shall appear that
he has unnecessarily increased
the value of the presents
usually made, on account of the
Company, by his predecessors in
office.

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [32v] (54/96)

offer; on the accession of a new
Pashov, we direct that the staff
paid by Mr Rich into the
Treasury of the Bagdad Residency.

47

Extract Political Letter from Bombay

Dated 6th August, 1816.

86. Referring to the 160th
 & 181st paragraphs of our Despatch
 dated the 22nd of August 1815, we
 take the liberty of calling your
 Honorable Courts attention to a
 letter from M^r. Rich dated
 the 25th of September following,
 reporting his return to Constantinople
 and his receipt of the orders
 of Government prohibiting his
 resuming the duties of his
 Station at Bagdad, until he had
 afforded a satisfactory explanation

Pol. Cases No 29
 7th Feb. 1816

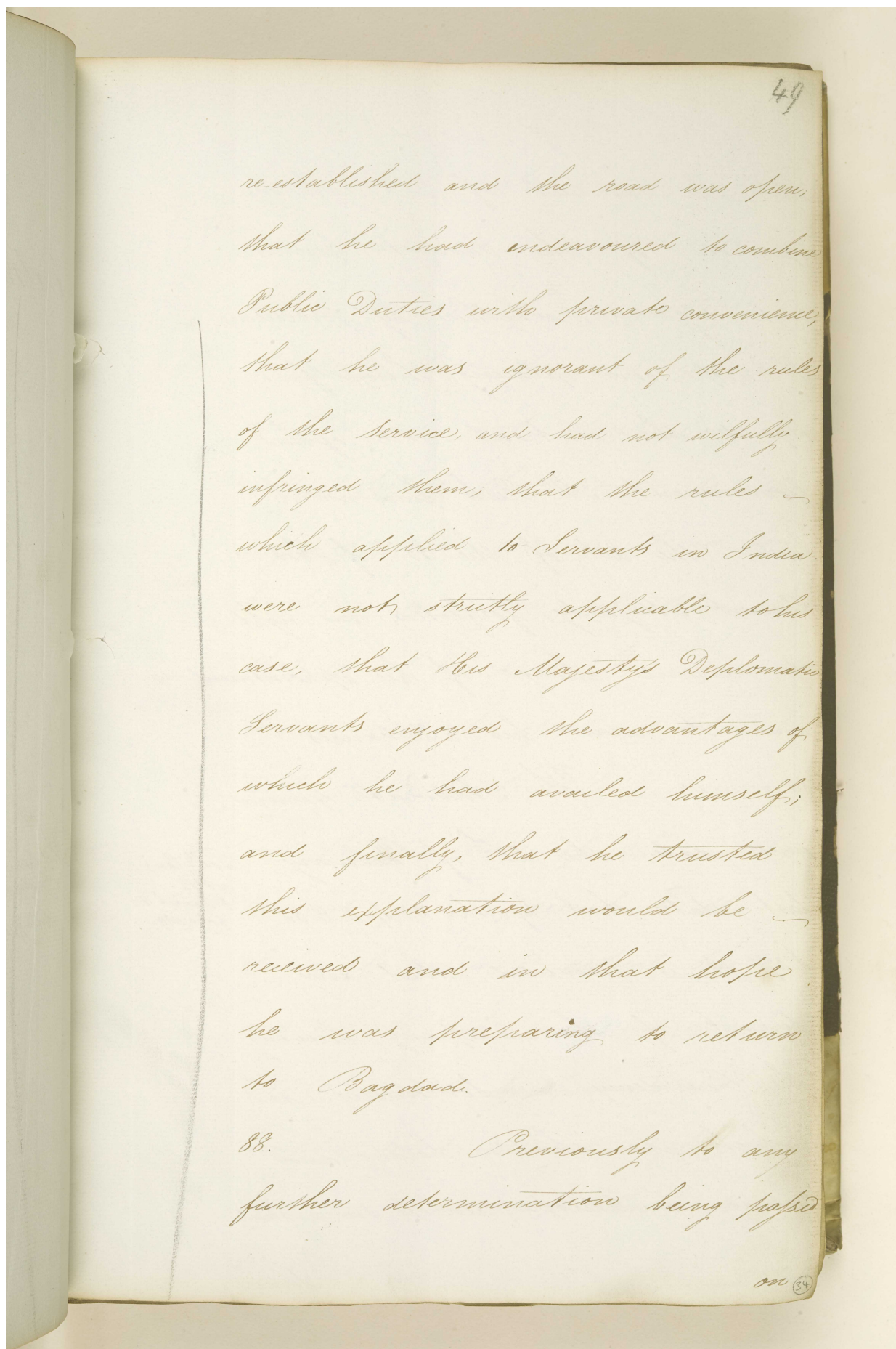
folio 771

of 33

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [33v] (56/96)

of his conduct.

87 In justification of
the proceedings which had drawn
upon him our censure, Mr. Rich has
observed, that he had not much
exceeded the amount authorized to
be expended in providing presents
for the Pacha; that the state
of his health had induced him
to leave Constantinople and proceed
to Vienna; and that the prevalence
of the plague had prevented his
return; that thus circumstanced
he reported his proceedings to
your Honorable Court, whose
displeasure he concluded he had
not incurred; that he returned
as soon as his health was
re-established



on the conduct of M^r. Rich, the
opinion of the Advocate General
was required, whether by proceeding
to Europe, and placing himself
beyond the controul of this
Government M^r. Rich had not,
under the Act of the 33rd of His
Present Majesty, forfeited his right
to resume charge of his appointment,
and to draw his allowances.

89. The Advocate General.

under date the 28th of February
last stated, that "by the 33 G. 3. C. 52
"S. 27. it is provided that any
"servant of the Company leaving
"the Presidency or Settlement to
"which he shall belong and
"going to Europe, unless on actual
"service,

Pol: Cons
N^o 12
6 March 1816
folio 189

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [35r] (59/96)

57

"Service, shall vacate his appointment,
"and forfeit his salary or allowance,
"from the day of his quitting such
"Presidency. Under this enactment M^r
"Macklin did not think Government
"itself possesses the power to allow
"any of their servants to go to
"Europe, in any other situation than
"that of actual service. The only question
"then, is, can the object of M^r Rich's
"visit to Constantinople & Vienna
"and the purchase of the articles
"designed for a present to the
"Pacha, be considered actual service;
"and has M^r Rich been sent on that
"actual service by Government. M^r
"Macklin found nothing in the statement
"that could authorize him to draw
"such (35)

Off. Cons
1812
March 1813
Dec 1819

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [35v] (60/96)

52

"such a conclusion: the first step
"to Constantinople appears to have
"been taken on the Residents
"own risk; but it is afterwards
"acknowledged, and M^r. Macklin thinks
"virtually confirmed by Government,
"every thing⁹ subsequent indeed must
"be considered as the voluntary act
"of M^r. Rich; but that in a legal
"point of view the journey to
"Vienna does not at all affect
"the question. That the forfeiture
"depends on going to Europe "other
"than on actual Service;" and is
"as complete at Constantinople as
"at Vienna. Now it was impossible
"to overlook the fact that Government
"had assented to M^r. Rich's going

"to

53

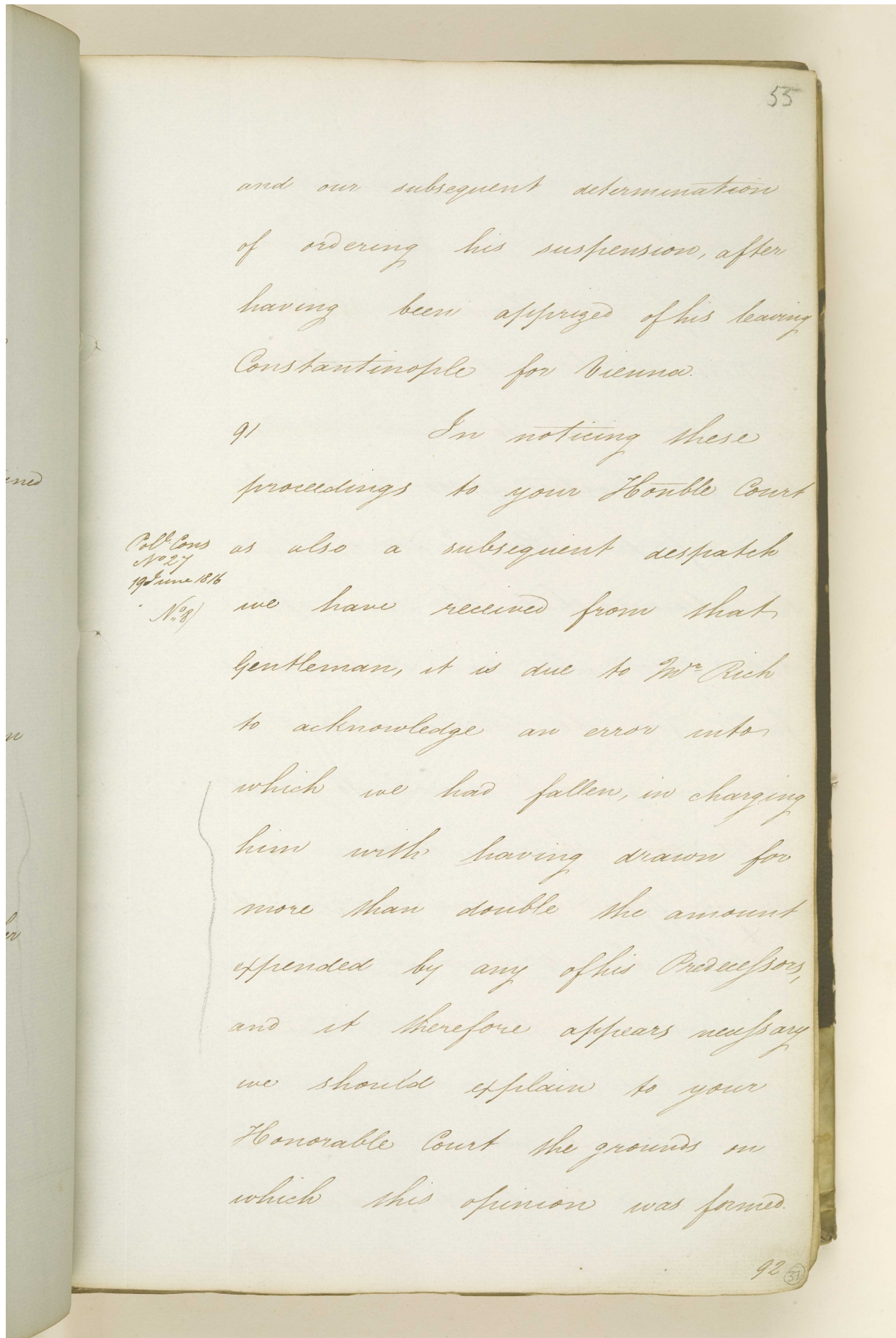
"to Constantinople. It was not an assent
"previous to the fact, but subsequent,
"yet still it is an assent, and as
"the going to Europe is the essence
"of the forfeiture, M^r Macklin
"could not advise Government to
"visit as a crime, an act to which
"they ^{had} subsequently ^{given} their assent.
"Government no more possessed the
"power to grant M^r Rich permission
"to go to Europe, than M^r Rich
"did to assume it. That in fine
"the Statute has been violated by
"M^r Rich's going to Constantinople
"and it was for Government
"to decide how far they had
"sanctioned that step. All else
"was matter of aggravation,

"and (36)

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [36v] (62/96)

32
"and could not be taken into
"consideration, in the construction
"of an abstract point of Law."

90 On this point we
beg to refer your Honorable
Court to the observations contained
in our letter of the 22nd of
August, from which it will
be seen that an expectation
of Mr Richs immediate return
from Constantinople had alone
influenced us in delaying to
suspend him from the farther
exercis^{es} of his functions; and
your Honorable Court will
no doubt advert to the
distinction which ought to be
drawn between this proceeding
and



'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [37v] (64/96)

92. It is undoubtedly
true that we considered the
draft of M^r Thine for 25,000
Rupies to be intended exclusively
to enable him to honor M^r Rich's
bill for Peastres 40,000 under the
terms of his letter of advice, wherein
he observed "that the sum of
"Rupies 25,000 was required to provide
"funds for the Residency, that it
"was in general usual to grant
"Bills for the small sum of
"ten or fifteen thousand Rupies at
"a time, but M^r Rich having drawn
"on him on the public account
"for Peastres 40,000 he (M^r Thine) had
"been obliged to deviate from that
"course, and that the copy of
"M^r

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [38r] (65/96)

57

"Mr. Rich's letter would make known
 "the reasons which had made him
 "draw on Mr. Hine for Pistres
 "40,000;" and this opinion was
 strengthened by a reference to the
 account of Sir Harford Jones's
 disbursements in the month of Oct:
 1798, by which it appeared that
 the presents made to the Pacha
 and his officers amounted to

*Mr. Rich's Pistres 44,172 or Pistres 44,292. 2. only;
 40,000
 4,172. 2. -*

the difference between Mr. Rich's
 expenditure and that of Sir Harford
 Jones's viewing the sum in
 Pistres, arising from the course
 of Exchange, over which the
 Resident probably had no controul

93. We are concerned
 however

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [38v] (66/96)

however to observe that the explanations
Mr Rich has afforded on the
other parts of his conduct are
not satisfactory. The weight to
be attached to the apology he
has offered, founded on the ^{very} precarious
state of his health, we have
not the means of appreciating
though if we were capable
of establishing the reports which
have reached this Presidency of
the rapidity of his movements
on his journey to Constantinople,
we should be justified in pronouncing
that they are entirely inconsistent
with the weakness of an injured
Constitution; but the plea he
has advanced on the charge of
inattention

59

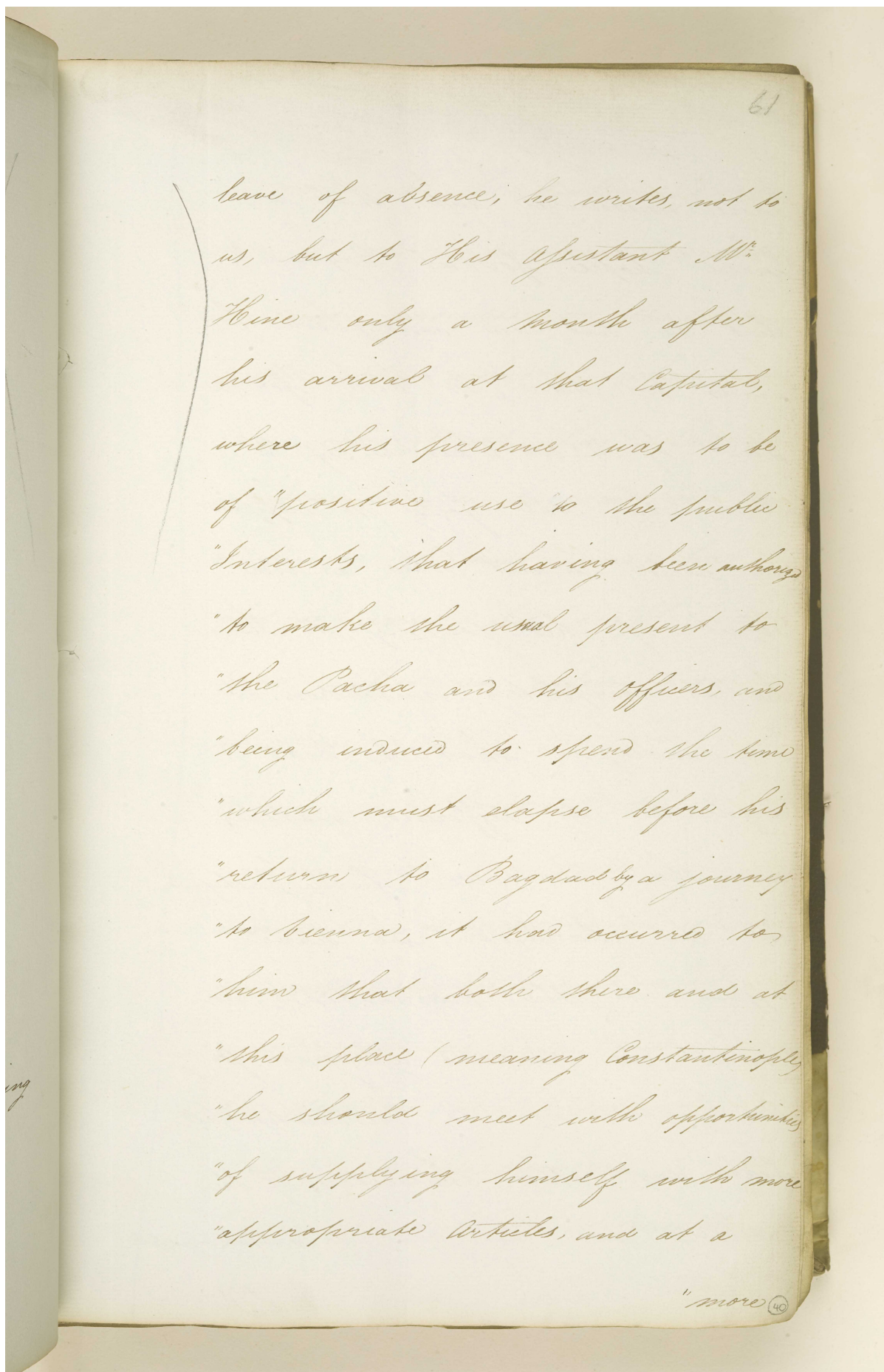
inattention to the common rules
of the Service by absenting himself
from his Station in the manner
he has done, without the sanction
of superior authority is ^{wholly} ~~only~~
inadmissible. It required no
particular instruction to point
out the obvious principles of
public duty, of which even a
writer could hardly be ignorant,
nor can it be supposed for
a moment that a Servant of
the Honorable Company can be
justified in leaving his Station,
proceed beyond the controul of
the Government to which he is
subordinate, and remain absent
for upwards of 17 Months without
any 39

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [39v] (68/96)

any satisfactory information
whatever being afforded to the
Government, during the whole of
that time, not even that the
state of his health required
a relaxation from the exercise
of his public duty.

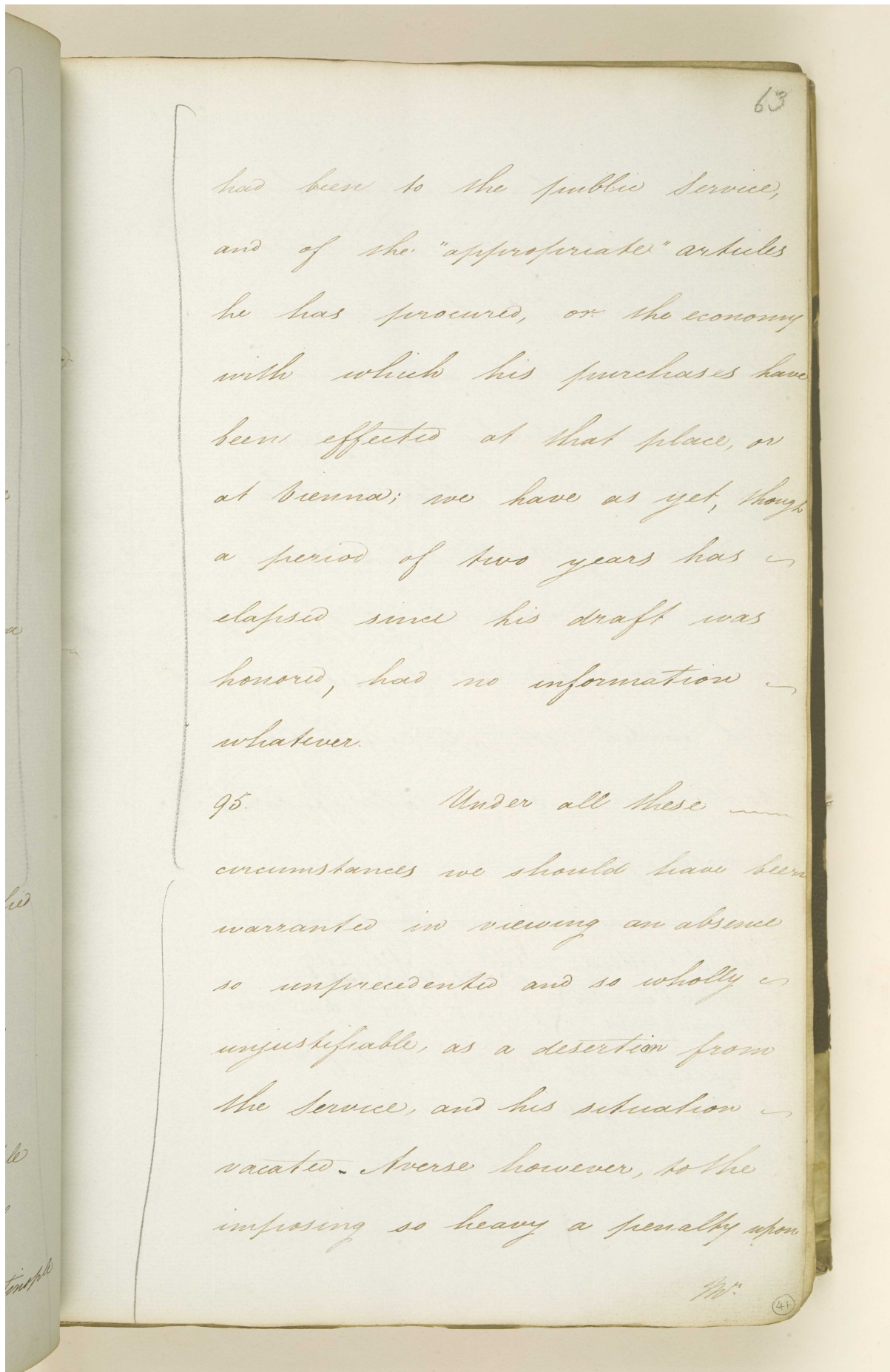
94. With regard to the
expression made use of in our
Chief Secretary's Letter to Mr Rich,
which has proved so offensive
to his feelings, we beg to refer
to his letter of the 10th March
1814, which afforded no indication
whatever of his intention of proceeding
^{beyond} Constantinople, and yet without
waiting for any reply to his
application for a further

leave



'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [40v] (70/96)

28
"more economical rate than she
"could hope for at Bagdad, &
"that he had in consequence
"drawn on him (M^r Shine) for the
"sum of 40,000 Peastres;" if M^r
Rich had the folly to suppose
we could admit this as the
object of his journey to Beunda
he is completely mistaken. We
are satisfied that he was
influenced by different motives,
and that we were fully justified
in the character we have
affixed to the transaction; nor
could the reasons assigned for
his proceeding to Constantinople
bear any other character, of the
"positive use" his visit to Constantinople
had



63
had been to the public service,
and of the "appropriate" articles
he has procured, or the economy
with which his purchases have
been effected at that place, or
at Vienna; we have as yet, though
a period of two years has
elapsed since his draft was
honored, had no information
whatever.

95. Under all these
circumstances we should have been
warranted in viewing an absence
so unprecedented and so wholly
unjustifiable, as a desertion from
the service, and his situation
vacated. Averse however, to the
imposing so heavy a penalty upon

41

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [41v] (72/96)

Mr Rich, we have permitted him to
resume charge of the Residency
of Bagdad, but have determined
that his salary and allowances
should be charged from the
period of his entering the
Continent of Europe and have
carried the amount of his draft
for 40,000 Piastres to his personal
debit, until its appropriation
shall have been satisfactorily
accounted for.

Extract Political Letter to Bombay
dated 1. April 1818.
Letter from Alex. G. August 1816 }
(Box 95) Extract of Mr Rich } 70. The subject of these papers
was replied to in our Letter from this Department
of the 26. June 1816

Page 37c46

65

Extract Political Letter from Bombay,

Dated 18th December, 1816.

Letter to dated 26th June 1816.
In reply to Paras 160 & 181 of
Letter dated 22nd August, 1815, on
the conduct of Mr. Rich, Resident
at Bagdad.

Paras 2 to 8. Disapprobation
expressed of the objectionable
Proceedings of Mr. Rich, but
authorizing his suspension to
be taken off, in consideration
chiefly to his general character
and services.

2. It is satisfactory
to observe by the present
letter from your Honorable
Court, that your
opinion of the conduct

of Mr. Rich coincides with that of
this Government, in the various
instances in which it has had
occasion to censure his proceedings;
and that the resolution we had
passed of suspending him from
his functions is considered by
you as having been justified
by the circumstances of the case;
altho'

altho' in consideration of his
character and services, and of
your having already overlooked
the great irregularity of his
proceeding to Europe, under a
persuasion of his infirm state
of health, you have been induced
to permit him to resume the duties
of his situation.

Para: 8 to 10. A portion of
his allowances to be checked
from the period of his leaving
Constantinople, until his
return there, to the extent
of 2,000 Rees per mensem.

3. In referring
Your Honorable
Court to the 8th

29th Paragraphs of our Letter of the 6th
August last, it will be perceived that
we have seen no reason from
the explanations afforded by
M^r Rich, to alter the sentiments
we at first entertained of his
conducts

67

conduct, in-so-far as it is connectd
with his absence from his Station;
but that unwilling to inflict
on him so severe a punishment,
as a removal from his situation
would prove, we had determined
only to check his allowance from
the period of his entering the
Continent of Europe; and this measure
appears to have been also considered
by your Honble Court as the best
mode which could be adopted for
marking your displeasure at his conduct.

It. We have now ordered
M^r. Rich's salary to be admitted,
conformably to the decision of
Your Honble Court, & which ^{will} supersede
the order already passd that the
whole

(43)

whole of his allowances should
be stopped from the period of his
entering the Continent of Europe.

Para. 11. Directs that
if the value of Presents
reported to have been
made by Mr Rich,
appears to have been
unnecessarily increased,
he be required to pay
the excess.

5. Your Honble Court
will have been already
apprized by the

information conveyed in the Paragraphs
above noticed, that Mr Rich
had afforded an explanation of
the matter, on account of the
presents he had provided for
the Public authorities at Bagdad,
& of their appropriation.

69

Extract Bombay Political Consultations

9th July 1847.

Read the following Letter from
the Political Agent in Turkish Arabia, dated
the 1st May forwarding an application from
his first Assistant - Mr Hine.

Bagdad
Letter from the
Resident, forwards
an application from
his first Assistant, Mr
Hine, for remuneration
for the period he was
in charge of the Residency
during his absence.
Recommends it to
favorable notice.

Honble Sir,

I have the honor to
enclose a Letter to your address
from my first Assistant Mr Hine,

the application contained in which, I beg
leave respectfully to recommend to the
favorable notice of Government. I would
add my most ample and sincere testimony
to the valuable services of this Gentleman
on the present as well as on former occasions.

44

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [44v] (78/96)

were such necessary but all the particulars
of his conduct are before Government,
and require no comment on my part to
illustrate them.

Bagdad
1 May 1817

I have Ye^{rs}
(Signed) Claudius J. Rich

Bagdad
The application
from Mr Kine

Honble Sir

It being usual for
those deputed to perform the duties of
Residencies in the absence of the Resident,
to lay respectfully their claim before Government
for remuneration. I am myself emboldened
to do so from this consideration, joined to a
belief that my exertions have not been
entirely useless, and that the Right
Honble the Governor in Council has been
pleas'd to regard them, generally with a
favorable

71

favorable eye. I remained in charge of the
Residency from the 15th October 1813, to the
28th April 1816. On the retiring of Sir Stamford
Jones to Europe in February 1806, I continued
to perform the duties of Assistant Resident
nearly the same length of time. I had
reason to express my deep sense of gratitude
to Government for the recompense awarded
me for executing those duties, and from
its known liberality in such respects, I
confidently trust that an opportunity will
be now afforded me of again as warmly
expressing it.

Bagdad }
1st May 1817 }

I have &c
(Signed) John Keir

Bagdad Minutes }
Not granted. 8th July. }

In reply to the preceding Letter,
Ordered the Resident be informed that according
to the custom of the Service the Assistant in
similar

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [45v] (80/96)

similar cases executed the duties of the
Department without participating in the
emoluments of his principal, and that
as Mr Rich has drawn his Salary, no
allowance can be granted to Mr Hine.

73
Extract. Bombay. Political Consultations.

10th February 1819.

Read the following
letter from the Political Agent in
Turkish Arabia, dated 1st October.

Honble Sir,

Bagdad.
Letter from
the Resident.
Submits for
sanction
expense incurred
by him for
repairing
the house
he at present
occupies.

I have the honor
to represent to you, that the
house inhabited by my Predecessors
and myself ever since the
establishment of the Bagdad Residency,
having been sold for the benefit
of the family who owned it, I
have been compelled to remove to
a new situation.

The premises which I now
occupy

occupy, and of which I have obtained
a lease for three years, are the
only ones in which the Hon^{ble}
Company's Establishment could be
lodged, and indeed very considerable
alterations, repairs, and additions were
required to render them habitable
by us. This, to one aware of the
kind of accommodation used by
the Turks, will not appear surprizing.
The whole sum expended for
these purposes (including the building
an entire new Stable), is three
thousand Rupees; and indeed had
it been possible for me to have
continued longer in the old
Residency, its very ruinous
condition would have required
an

75
an almost equal sum to put it in
a thorough state of repair, as it
is not the custom here for
landlords to repair their houses
when in the occupation of
any persons of consequence. This
expense though a strictly necessary
and public one, I have not,
however, ventured to bring into
account, without the permission
of Government, which I now
venture to solicit, declaring
at the same time, upon my
honor, that it was a most
unavoidable expense; that I
have confined myself to what
was merely necessary, and that
the most rigid economy has
been

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [47v] (84/96)

been observed. I leave this affair
entirely to the liberality of
Government, and have the honor to be
Bagdad. } *See See*
4th Oct^r 1818. } Signed C. J. Rich.

Minutes } Ordered that a Copy *Bagdad.*
4th Feb^r 1819. } of the preceding letter be *Reference*
referred for the report of the *to the Civil*
Civil Auditor, with instructions *Auditor.*
to state whether the rent of
the house occupied by the
Resident at Bagdad has been
hitherto borne on the public
accounts.

77
Extract Bombay Political Consultations.

21st April 1819.

Read the following
letter from the Civil Auditor
to Mr Acting Chief Secretary Newham
dated the 15th Instant.

Sir,

Bagdad
Letter from the
Accountant General.
The Resident allowances
have been finally fixed
by the Court in full
for salary and every
other allowance, since
when no further charge
either on account of
rent money or house
rent applies on the
public disbursements.

I have the honor
to acknowledge the receipt
of Mr Secretary Henderson's
letter of the 4th of February
last, transmitting for
my report the copy of one
from the Political Agent in
Turkish Arabia, dated the 6th
of October preceding, and
calling

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [48v] (86/96)

setting upon me to state, —
whether the rent of the
House occupied by the Resident
at Bagdad, has been hitherto
borne on the Public Accounts

2 In reply I request
you will do me the favor
to acquaint the Right Honble
the Governor in Council, that on
a careful examination of the
disbursements of the Resident
at Bagdad for many years past
I have found no specific sum
charged for house rent, but
the allowances of the Residency
having undergone several
modifications, I find charged
in 1808 for "Diet money and
House

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [49r] (87/96)

79

"House rent" Rupees 1300 per mensem,
in 1841 on the same account Rupees
1500 per Month, and in 1845
Rupees 545 ditto; but the Resident's
allowances having been finally
fixed by the Honble the Court
of Directors at Rupees 3000 per
Month, "considered to be in
full for salary and every
"other allowance", of course no
further charge, either on account
of Diet money or House rent,
has since the receipt of these
orders, appeared from the Public
Disbursements.

Bombay Castle

Office of Audit.

15th April 1819.

Shane & Co

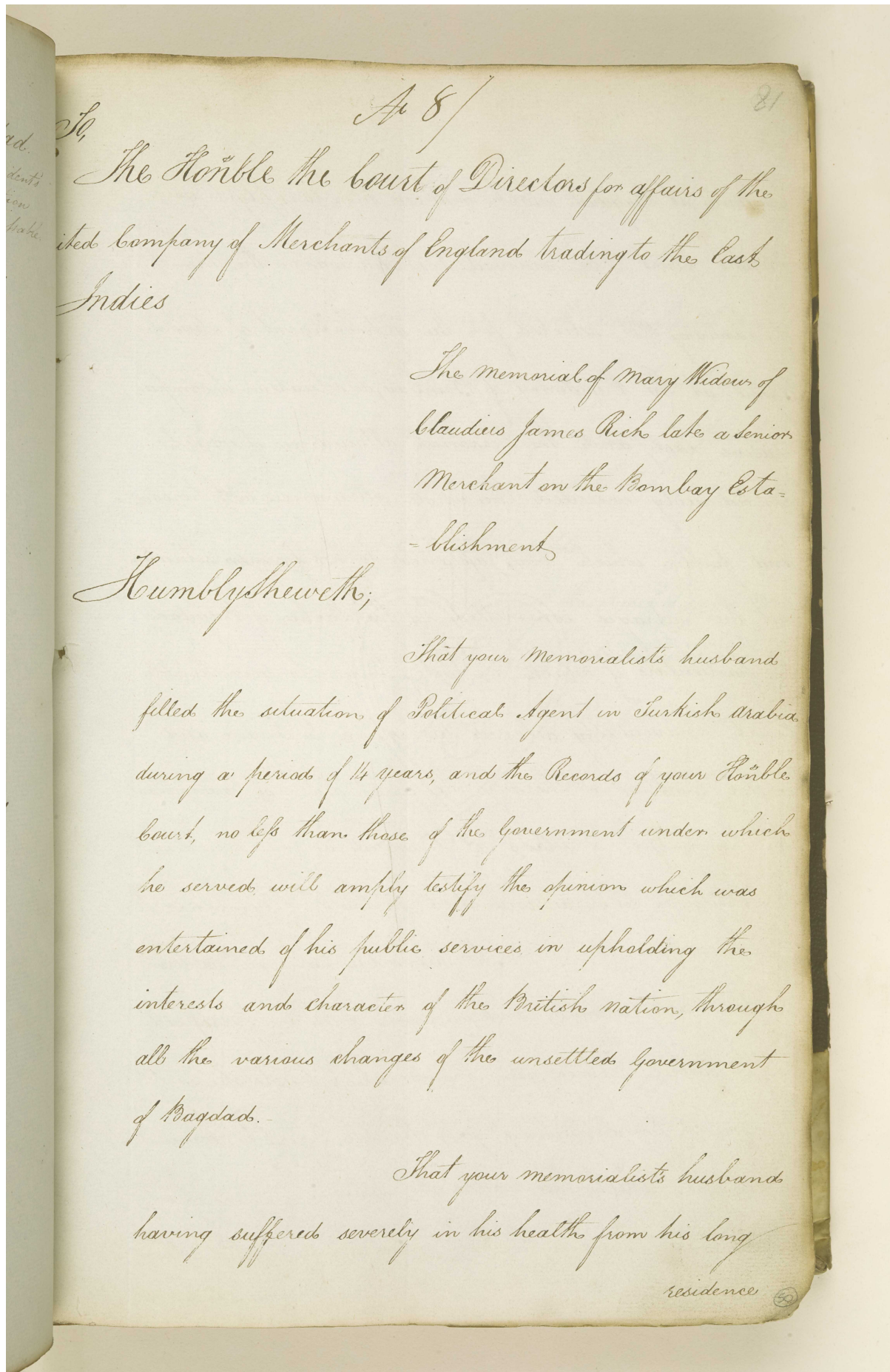
(Sig) J. Wedderburn

Auditor Civil Accounts

Ordered

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [49v] (88/96)

Minutes ^{the} 17 April Ordered the Political Bagdad.
Agent in Turkish Arabia be } the Resident's
informed, that as his present allowances application
as fixed by the Honble the Court of inadmissible.
Directors are considered to be in
full for Salary and every
allowance, which of course
includes House Rent, the Governor
in Council does not feel himself
at liberty to comply with his
application; the Accountant General
is to be advised of the nature
of this reply.



residence at Bagdad, which induced him to apply to your
Honble Court to be removed to India, was in the month
of January 1821 selected for the appointment of special
agent at the Presidency of Bombay, a situation of compa-
-rative ease, and the personal allowances of which
considerably exceeded the whole allowances, both personal
and public, which were assigned to his former situation,
but the outrages committed by the Pachas of Bagdad, he says
the property of a British Merchant also created
the particulars of which are fully known to your Honble
Court, unavoidably delayed his return to India, and
whilst waiting at Sherauze the final orders of Government
on the subject of affairs at Bagdad, he was seized with
the Epidemic Cholera, and died on the 5th of October last.

Mr. Rich's life having thus been
so peculiarly devoted, and in some measure sacrificed,
to the public service, your memorialist trusts she will
be excused for entreating your Honble Court to reconsider
a decision, which has added the inconveniences of a
limited and uncertain income to the heavy burthen of her
misfortunes

83

misfortunes

It will be in the recollection of your Honble Court that in the year 1813 Mr. Rich's health was so much impaired, by a long residence in the climate of Bagdad, as to compel him to apply to the Government of Bombay for permission to quit his station, and that he proceeded in the first instance to Constantinople.

As it is not the object of your Memorialist to enter into the defence of a proceeding on which the judgment of your Honble Court has been already pronounced, it will be sufficient in this place to state that Mr. Rich's continued indisposition, combined with other considerations, led to his advancing from Constantinople to Vienna, and that his conduct on that occasion, constitutes the only instance in which he incurred the slightest displeasure either of Government or your Honble Court, during the whole period of his public life

Your Honble Court in consideration

f. 51

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [51v] (92/96)

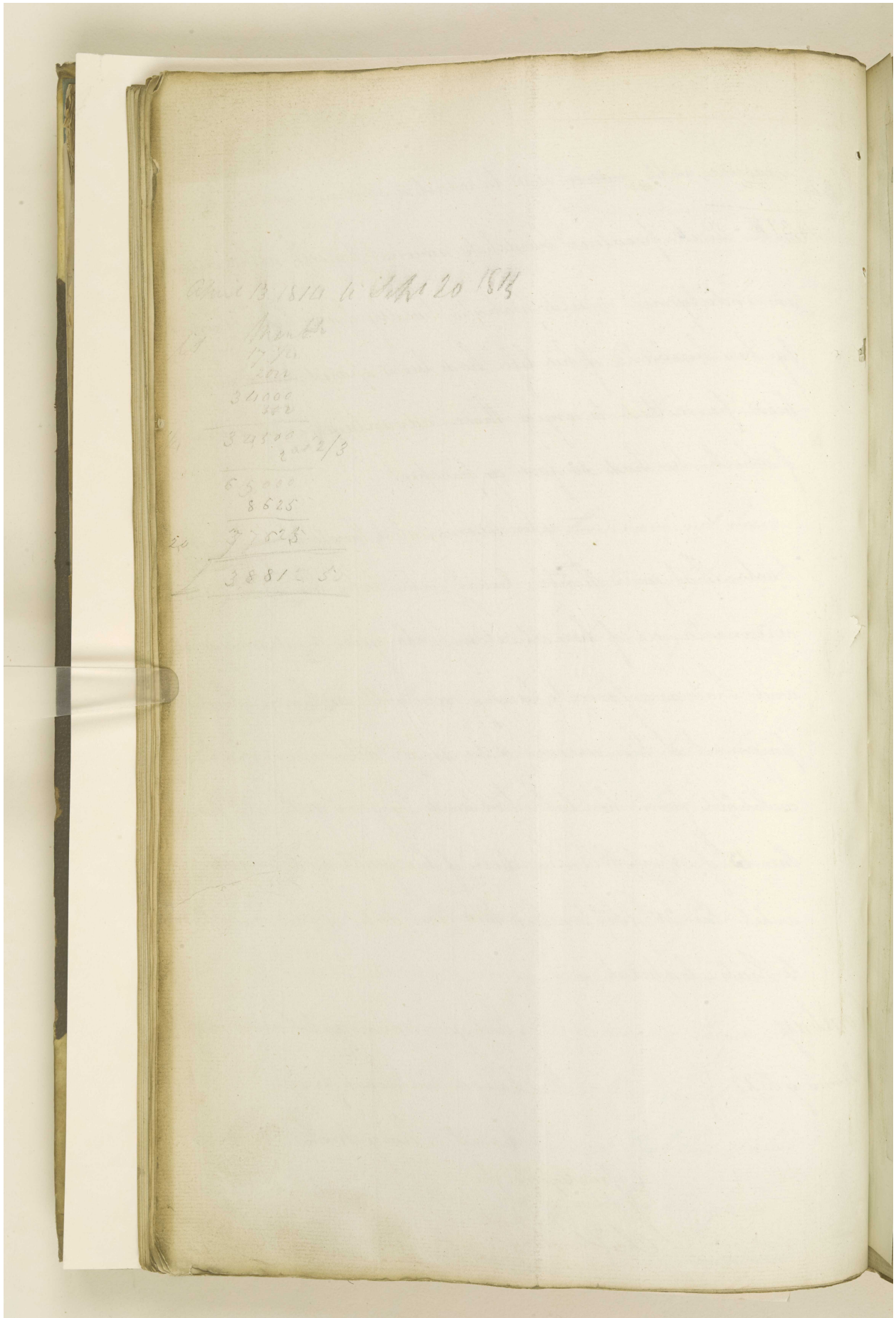
"of Mr. Rich's general character and services" have long since
 been induced indulgently to remove every advantage ^{by disadvantage} under
 which he labored, with the exception of the loss of his "personal allowances" from the time he left Constantinople
 "to proceed into Europe until his return to Constantinople."

See Despatches
the Court of
to the Hon
govt in the
Department
dated 27th

These allowances were estimated
 at Rupees 2000 per mensem, and as they have not been
 applied to any other purpose, they stand at present
 at the credit of Government, as a deduction from the
 ordinary charges of the Residency at Bagdad.

Your memorialist is led to believe
 that the object which your Honorable Court, had in view
 in your decision was not to effect a pecuniary saving
 to the Company, but to mark your sense of an irre-
 -gularity, which, however unconsciously committed,
 could not be overlooked without weakening the autho-
 -rity of Government. She hopes that that object has
 already been abundantly fulfilled and that the senti-
 -ments of liberality which distinguished all your
 measures

'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [52v] (94/96)



'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [53r] (95/96)



'Memorial from Mrs Rich' [53v] (96/96)

