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‘Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2’

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	IOR/F/4/894/23289
Date(s)	7 Dec 1822-9 Apr 1823 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 item (102 folios)
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About this record

This item consists of copies of correspondence, consultations, and resolutions cited in, or enclosed with, political letters from the Government of Bombay. It is the second in a series of three items about a negotiation by William Bruce (the others are IOR/F/4/894/23288 and IOR/F/4/895/23290). The principal correspondents are: the Government of Bombay; the Government of Bengal; William Bruce, former Political Agent in the Persian Gulf; Lieutenant [John] Macleod, Political Agent in the Persian Gulf; Major [George] Willock, in charge of the British Mission in Persia.

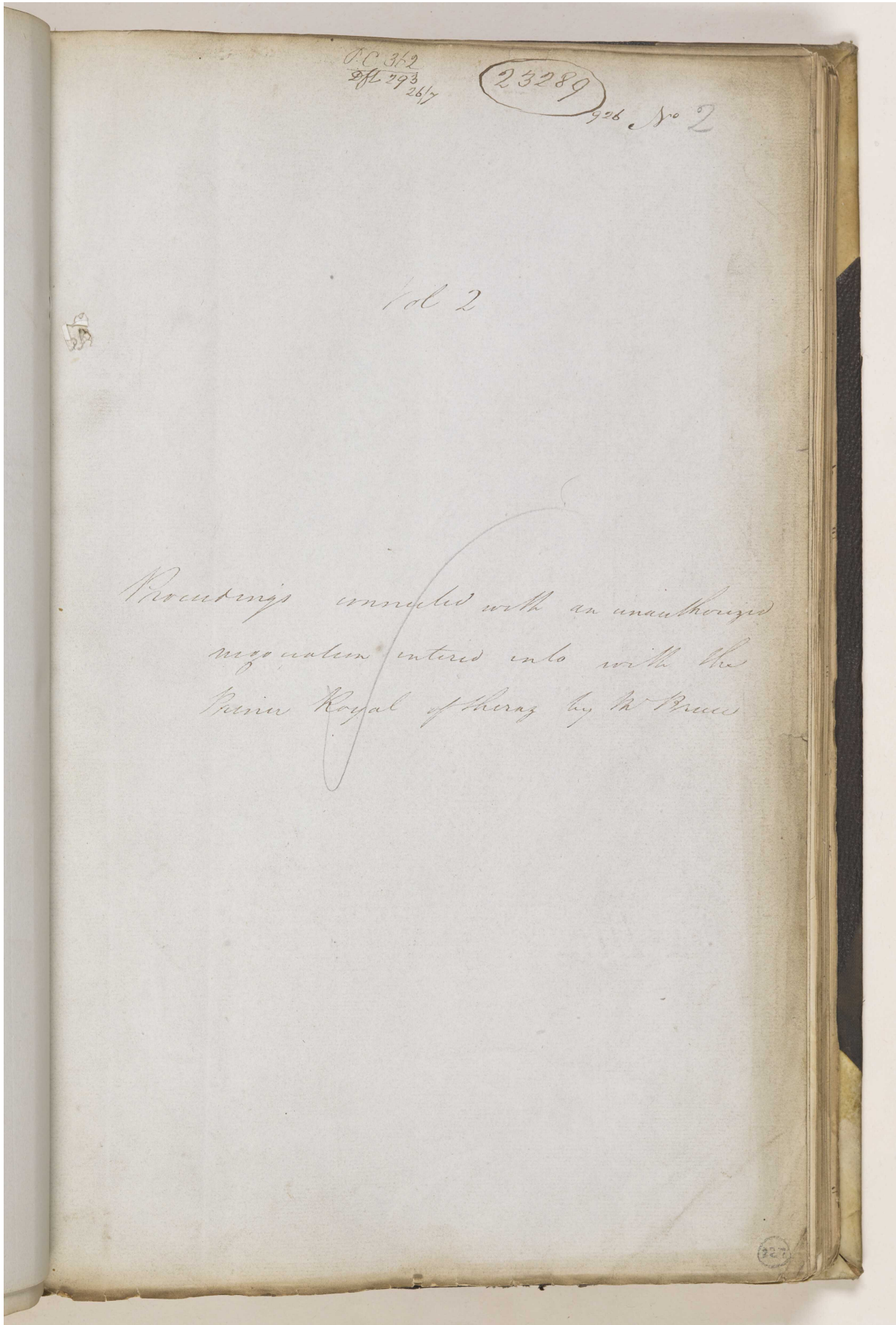
The item concerns:

- An explanation by William Bruce about his conduct in negotiating an unauthorised treaty with Hoossain Ali Mirza [Ḥusayn ‘Alī Mirzā Farmānfarmā, Prince-Governor of Fārs]
- The results of the treaty, including the evacuation of Kishm [Qeshm] and the effect on stability in the Gulf
- The appointment of Captain Faithfull as Commanding Officer in the Persian Gulf
- How to enforce the General Treaty of Maritime Peace of 1819, negotiated by William Keir Grant

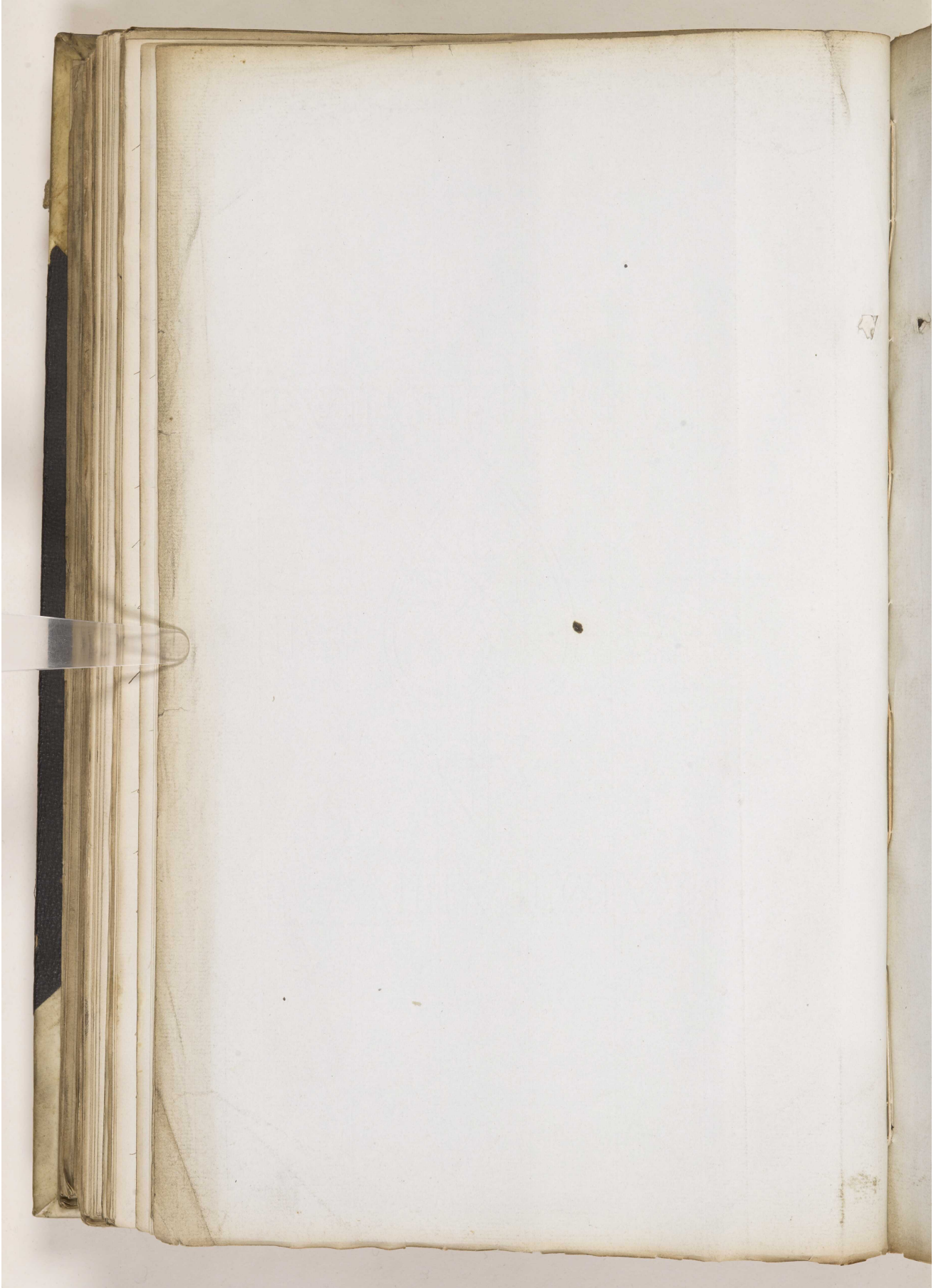
- John Macleod's tour of the Gulf and discussions with the Imaum of Muscat [Imam of Muscat, Sayyid Sa'īd bin Sulṭān Āl Bū Sa'īd] and other chiefs in the Gulf who were signatories to the General Treaty of Maritime Peace in 1819
- Analysis of the balance of power in the Gulf and particularly Shaikh Sooltan Bin Suggest [Shaikh Sulṭān bin Ṣaqr al-Qāsimī]
- How to eliminate the slave trade
- The reaction of the King of Persia [Fath-Ali Shah Qājār] to the treaty.

The item includes a contents page, and the title page of the item contains the following references: '[Political] No. 2, Draft 293, P.C. 362, [Season] 26/7'.

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [227r] (1/211)



'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [227v] (2/211)



'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [228r] (3/211)

191	7 Dec. 1822	Mr Swinton	} 8 Jan 1823
192	6 Jan 23	Mr Tarish	
195	13 Dec 22	Mr Bruce	} 29
198	24 Jan 23	Mr Tarish	
201	13 Dec 22	Mr Mauleod	} 5 July
211	5 Dec	Do	
213		Morgan Banker	5 March
217	10 Jan 23	Mr Mauleod	} 19 Dec
217	Dec	Do	
256	15 March	Mr Newham	
265-	27 July	Mr Mauleod	26 Dec
358		Private Chufs	
361	26 March	Mr Newham	
370	Do	Do	
373	Do	Do	
375	29 Jan 1823	Maj Mallock	9 April

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [228v] (4/211)



'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [229r] (5/211)

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Extract Bombay Political Consultations

8th January 1823.

Dushire Government. From G. Swinton Esq^r Secretary to the Supreme Government

From the Secretary to the Supreme Government to Mr Secretary Farish (7 December 1822)

Approving of the measures adopted in the removal of Captain Bruce from his situation and desiring to be called upon to conduct upon his arrival at Bombay.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge

the receipt of your Despatches of the 11th October and 1st Ultimo relative to the proceedings of the Resident at

8th Decr -
Dushire.

2 His Excellency the Governor General in Council directs me to intimate his entire approbation of the highly judicious and decided measures adopted by the Honble the Governor in Council on the occasion

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'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [229v] (6/211)

occasion of such unwarranted and
unaccountable proceedings on the part
of Captain Bruce on whom His
Lordship in Council concludes the
Government of Bombay will call
for the necessary explanations on
his arrival at that Presidency.

Fort William

1st Dec^r 1832

Shave & Co

(Sig^d) C. Scintin
Sec^y to Government

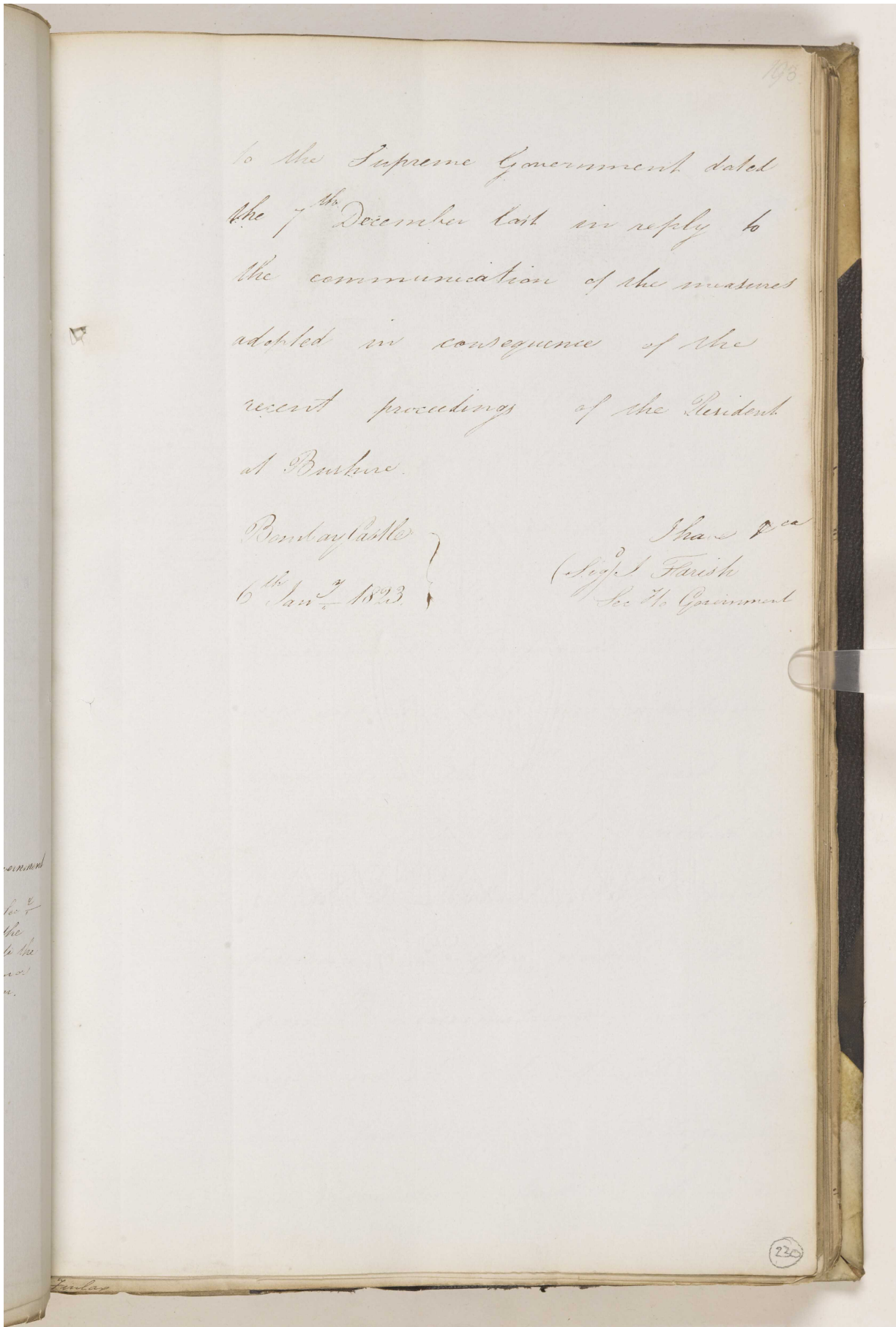
From Mr Secretary Farish to Mr Secretary
Warden (6th January 1833)

Sir,

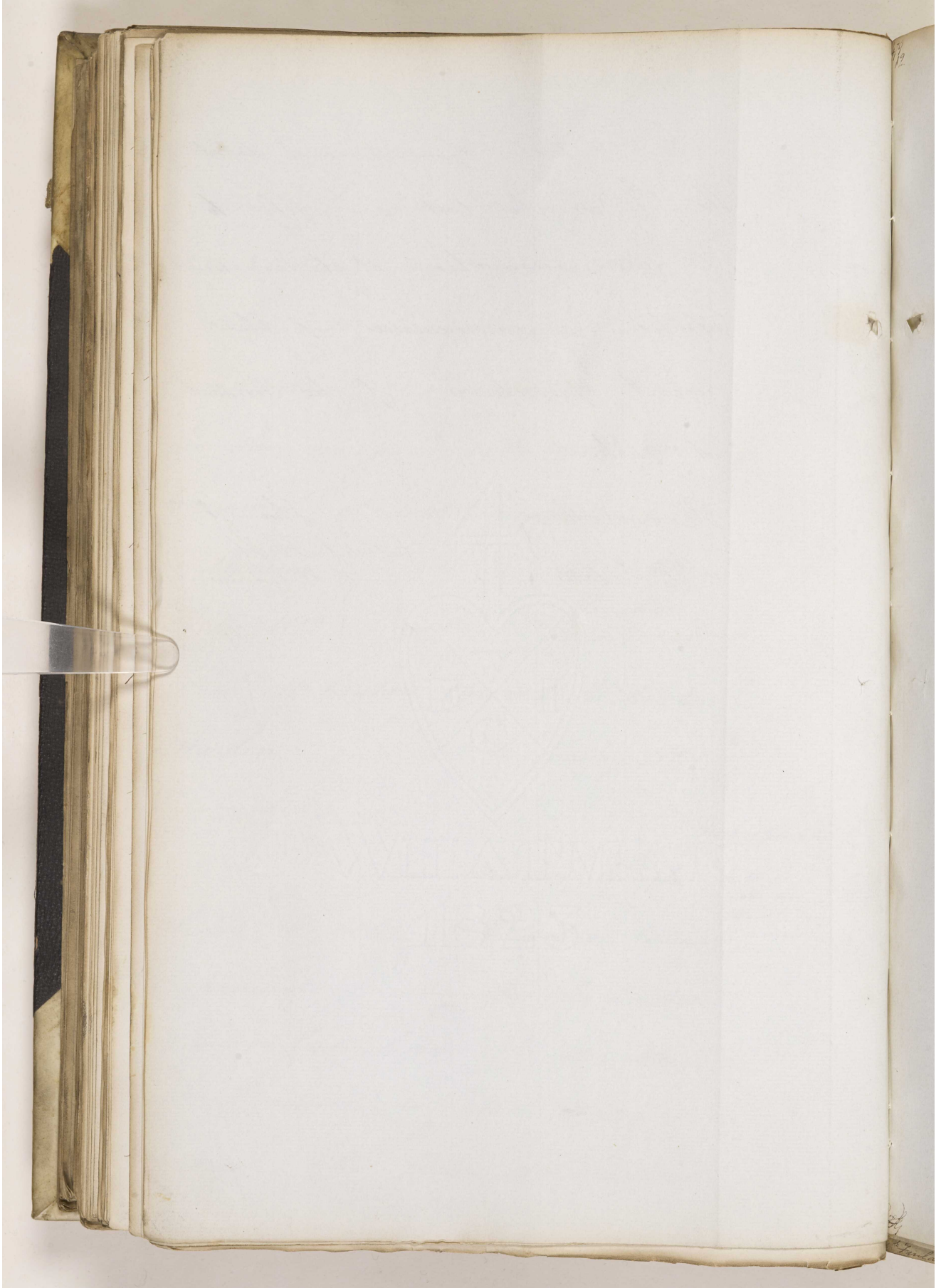
Bushire Government

I am directed by the Honble the Acting Resident in Council
to transmit to you for the purpose
of being laid before the Honble
the Governor, the accompanying
Copy of a letter from the Secretary
to the Sec^y with the Honble the
Governor's
shown.

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [230r] (7/211)



'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [230v] (8/211)



'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [231r] (9/211)

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Extract Bombay Political Consultations
29th January 1823.

Bushire Residency

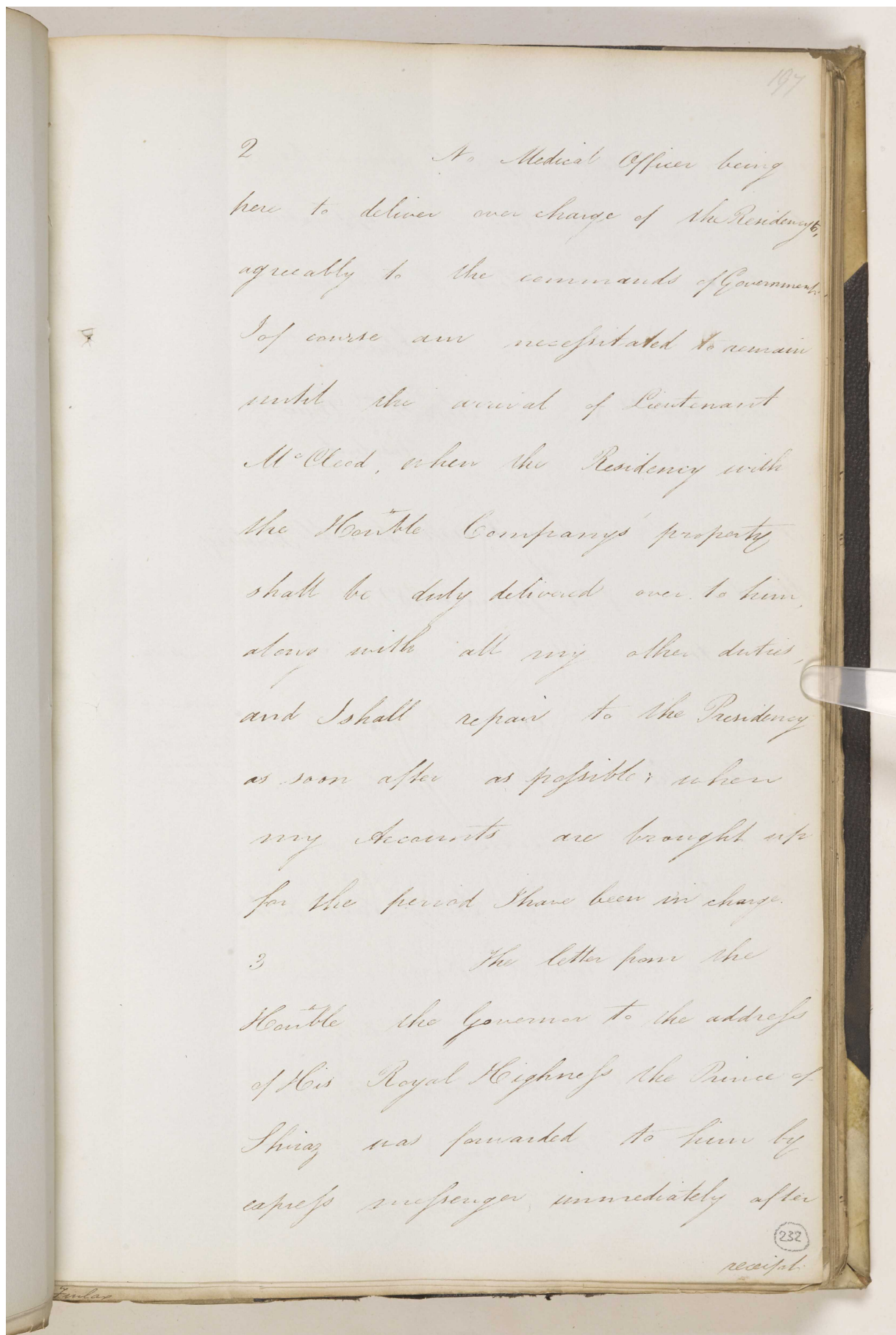
From Captain Bruce in reply
to the order
reversing his appointment
from his situation
& the appointment
of Lieutenant
M. C. to
succeed him
as Resident.

From Captain M. Bruce Resident at Bushire
to Mr Secretary Farish (13th December 1822)

I have the honor to
acknowledge the receipt of the
Government commands N^o 1491, 1530,
1543, and 1544 in this department
under dates the 1st, 6th and 7th
Ultimo and which reached me
on the 9th Instant, I shall not
presume to offer under the
present circumstances, and the
view which the Honble Board
have taken of my late proceedings,
any observation further than to
notice

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'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [232r] (11/211)



'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [232v] (12/211)

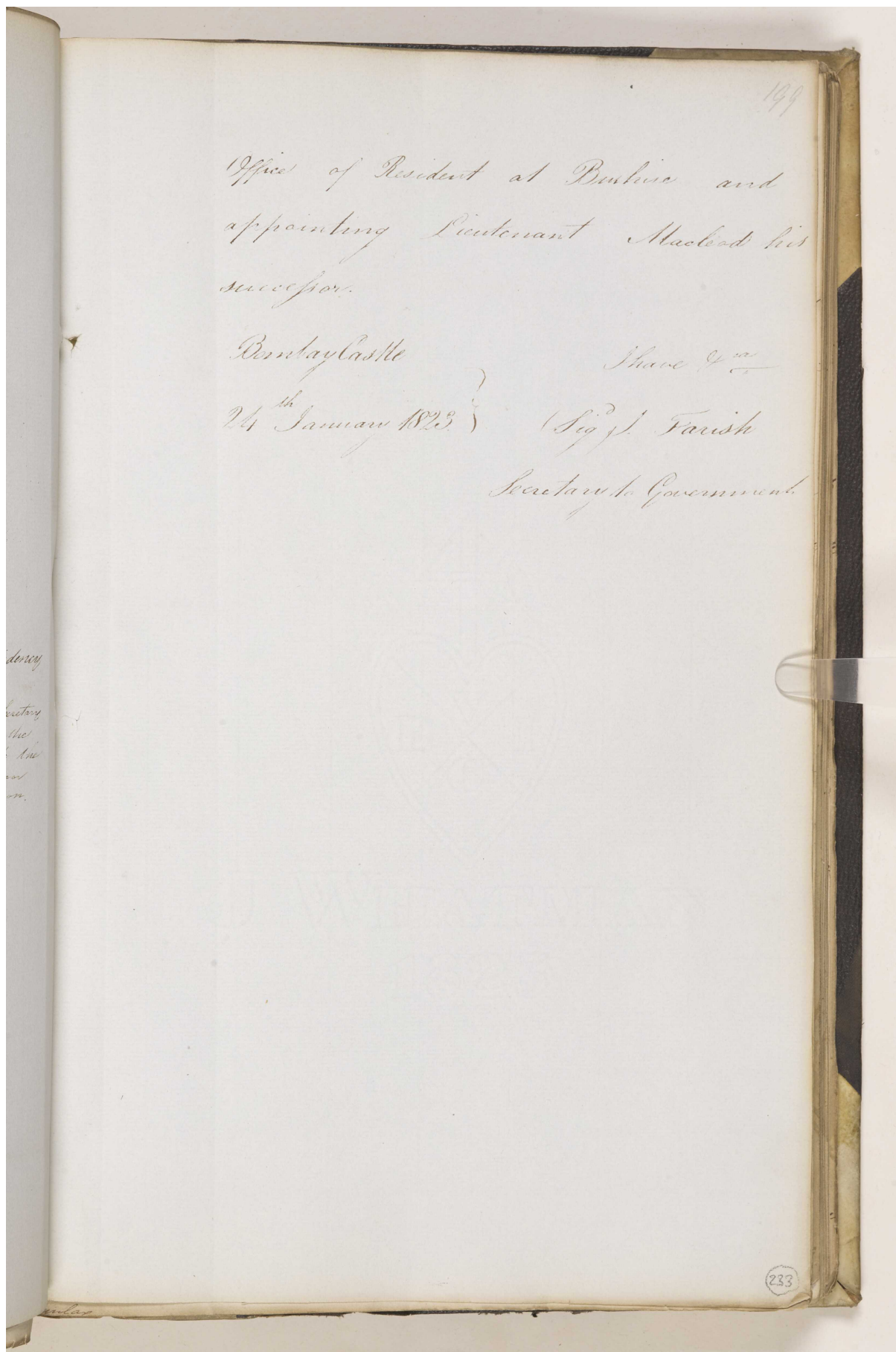
receipt, and I have officially acquainted the
 Governor of this Place, of the appointment
 of Lieutenant M^o Cloud to this situation
 at Bushire } I have Y^{rs}
 13th December 1822 } (Sig^d) W^m Bruce
 Resident

From Mr Secretary Farish to Mr Secretary
 Warden 21th January 1823.

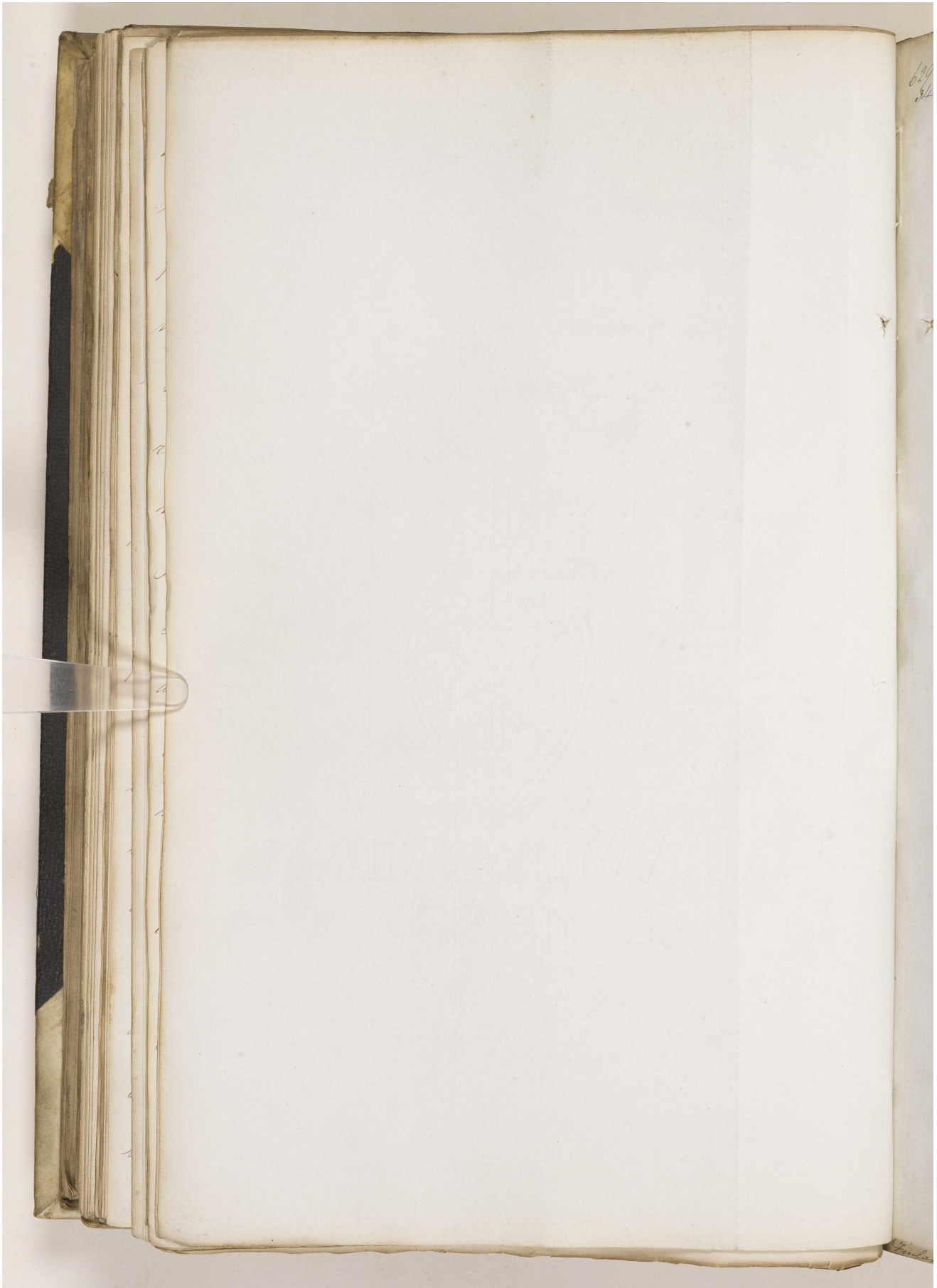
Sir, Bushire Residency

I am directed by the ^{to the Secretary} Hon^{ble} the Acting President in ^{with the} Council to transmit to you ^{Hon^{ble} the} for the purpose of being laid before ^{Governor} the Hon^{ble} the Governor the ^{thereon.} accompanying copy of a letter from Captain Bruce dated the 13th of December last in reply to the orders requiring him from the Office

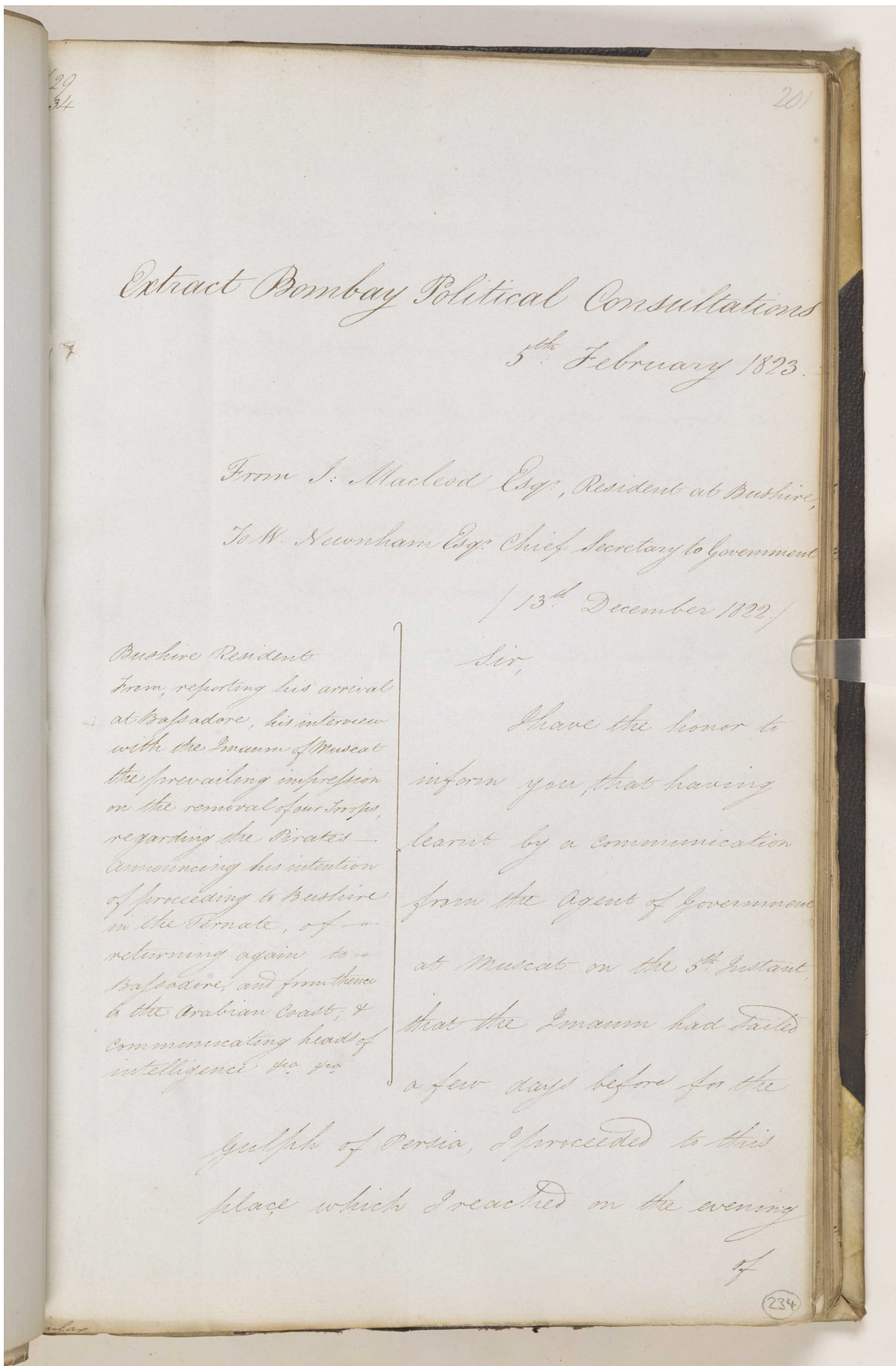
'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [233r] (13/211)



'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [233v] (14/211)



'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [234r] (15/211)



of the 11th Instant. —

2. On my arrival in the
harbour I was informed that the
Imam of Muscat had been there
that day on a visit to Colonel Kennett,
and had returned in the afternoon
to Durakos, the first stage on the
road to Salak, where he was to
embark on his return to Muscat.
I therefore immediately wrote to
Colonel Kennett requesting him to
dispatch a Messenger to His
Highness, to apprise him of
my arrival and ascertain whether
I could overtake him. The Messenger
having reached the Imam that
night, he determined to halt the
next day, and sent the Shaikh of
Hishon

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [235r] (17/211)

203

Hishm to conduct me to him. -

3 I regret to state that on my landing next morning the 12th I found Colonel Bennett so extremely ill, as to be unable to see me much less to conduct any business - I soon afterwards proceeded to the Imam's camp which was about ten miles from this place. -

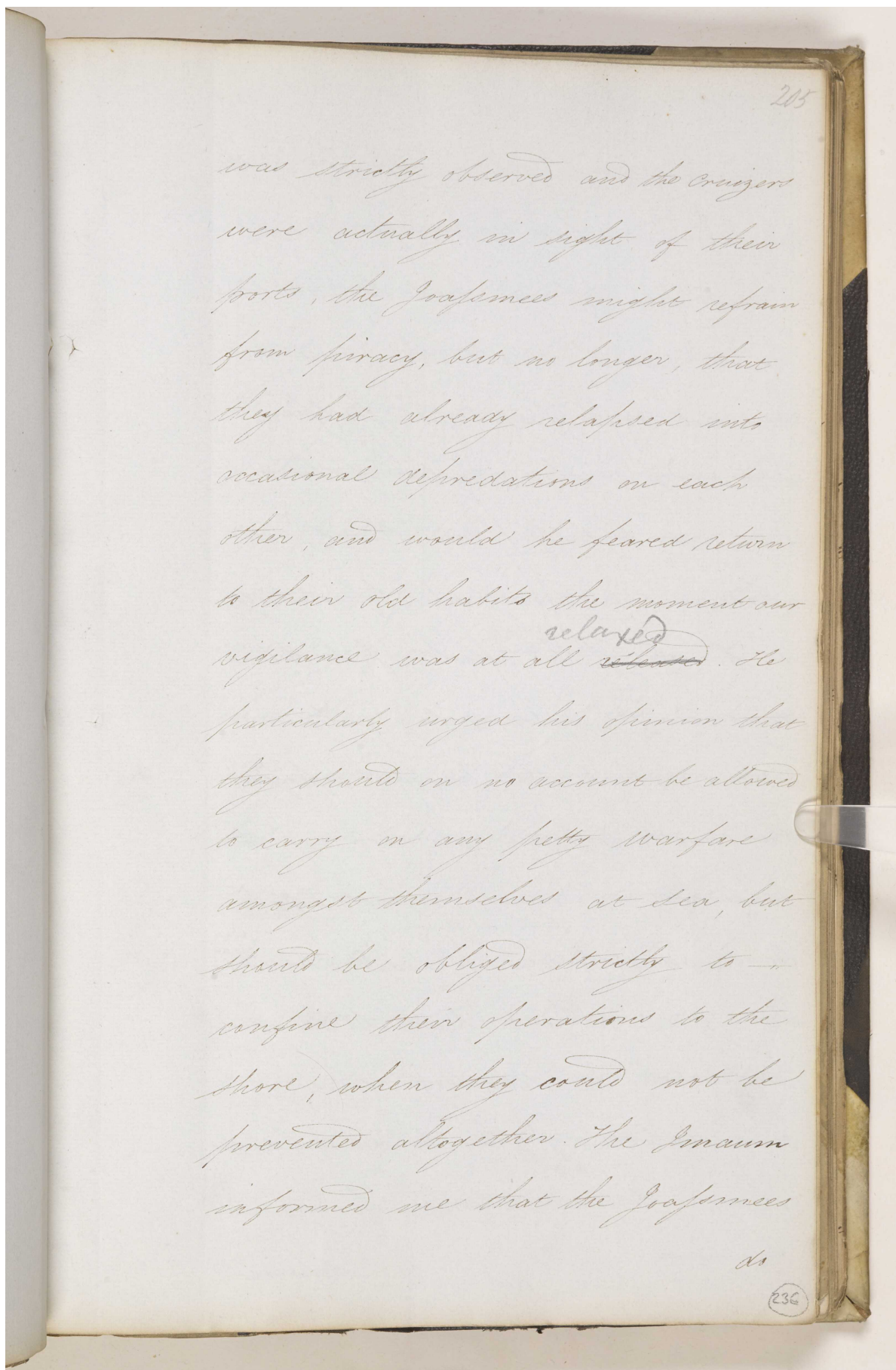
4 His Highness received me with much kindness. I did not fail to repeat the assurance that the friendly disposition of the British Government was no way affected by the late unfortunate occurrences or by the removal of our troops from this

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this place. His Highness did not
express any particular anxiety on
his own account, but said he
had the fullest confidence in
our friendship and I therefore
confined my communications on
this head to a reference to the
letter of the Honorable the Governor
explaining the whole affair.

5 The Imam at first declared
his conviction that the removal of
the Troops would be followed by
immediate disorders in the Gulph
but when I explained to him the
system of watch and control which
was to be maintained by the
squadron on the Pirate Coast, he
said that as long as this plan
was

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [236r] (19/211)



do carry the flag as required by the
treaty, but that they hoist it only
when any of our vessels are in
sight, using on all other occasions
the red arab flag. He further
stated that the whole of them
continue to traffic in slaves, &
wherever they have an opportunity,
in breach of the article of Sir William
Heins Treaty. After a long interview
during which the Imaum expressed
the worst possible opinion of the
Joassmees in every respect I took
leave and returned to Bassadore.

6 I have been the more
particular in detailing this
conversation of the Imaum because
Colonel Hennetts illness having
deprived

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deprived me of the advantage of
any communication with him, it
contains almost all the information
I have yet been able to collect on
the subject; the sentiments however,
of the officers here, who have had
an opportunity of judging, seem
very nearly to coincide with those of
His Highness with the exception
that their opinion of the Goafnees
in general is by no means so
bad as his. Although we cannot
interfere in the disputes between
the tribes so as actually to
prevent hostilities amongst them
even at sea, yet these disorders
are so likely to lead to the
renewal of piracy that their
occurrence

(237)

occurrence is much to be deprecated.

In respect to the Slave trade, it
may I apprehend be difficult to
enforce the provision of the
Treaty. -

As the death of Mr
Assistant Surgeon Todd has left
us person whatever to whom
Captain Bruce could deliver over
charge, I am anxious to proceed
immediately to Bushire, and
Captain Southwell has been good
enough to furnish me with
a passage in the Ternate which
will sail on the 15th Instant. -

After receiving charge of the
factory I intend to return, and
hope to reach this place before
the

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [238r] (23/211)

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the transports can be ready to sail, both with a view of consulting with Colonel Kennett, and that Captain Faithful may be enabled to carry into effect the instructions for the disposal of the Cruizers, as soon as possible after the embarkation of the Troops; I then propose to accompany the Squadron across to the Pirate Coast, and after having visited the whole of the Chiefs, to proceed up to Bahrein, and thence back to Bushire.

8 I am informed that Mr. Willock has returned to Ibraum, that the prince Hoossein Ali-Murza has been called up to Court

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'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [238v] (24/211)

Court; and that the intended expedition
to Bahrein has been entirely abandoned,
Rahma bin Jauber has proceeded
to Bushire where he has been
placed. —

Bassadore } I have your
13th December } Signed J. Macleod
1822. } Resident

Extract Bombay Political Consultations

5th February 1823.

From J. Macleod Esq. Resident at Bushire to
Mr Secretary Farish. 5th December 1822.

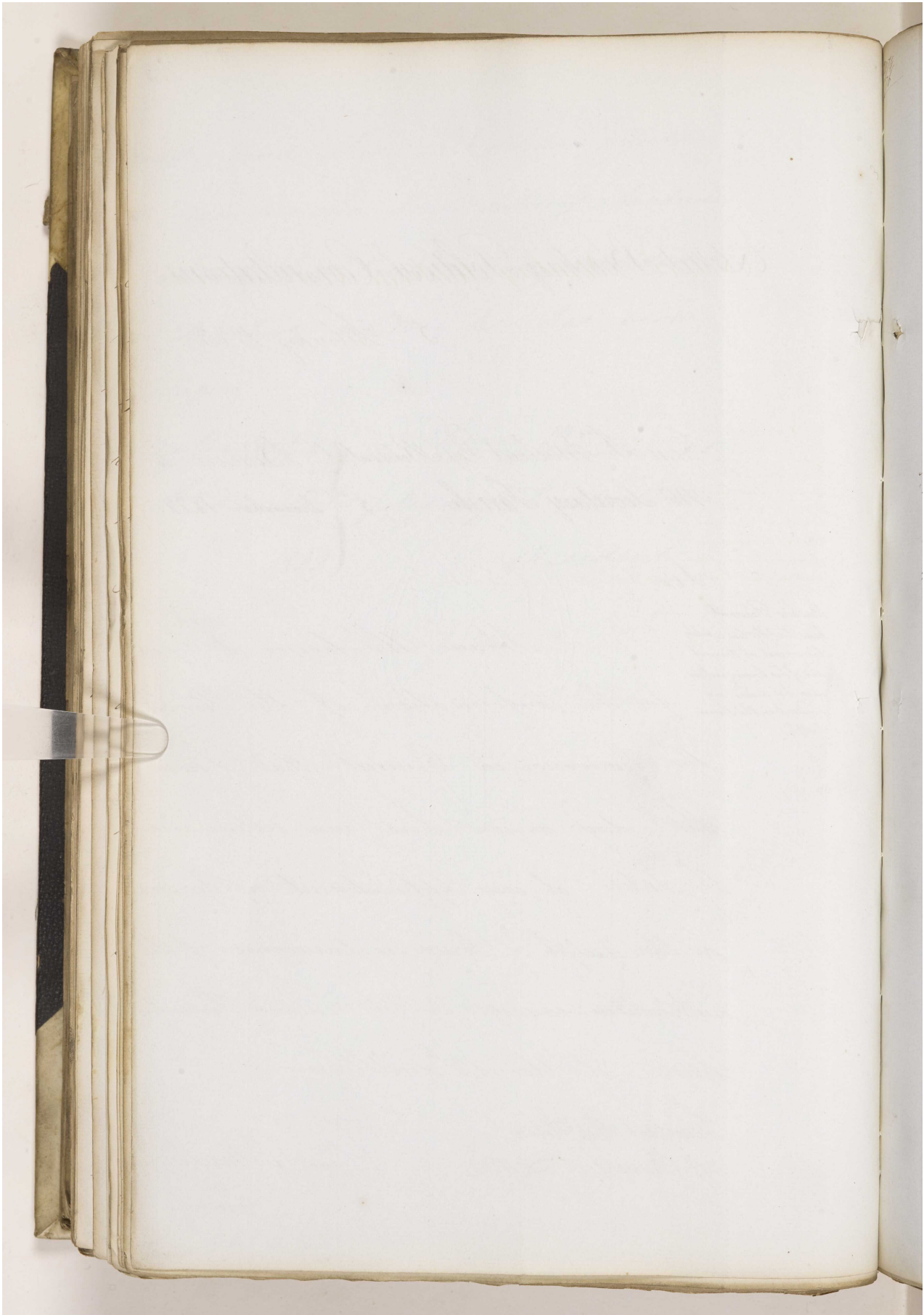
Sir,

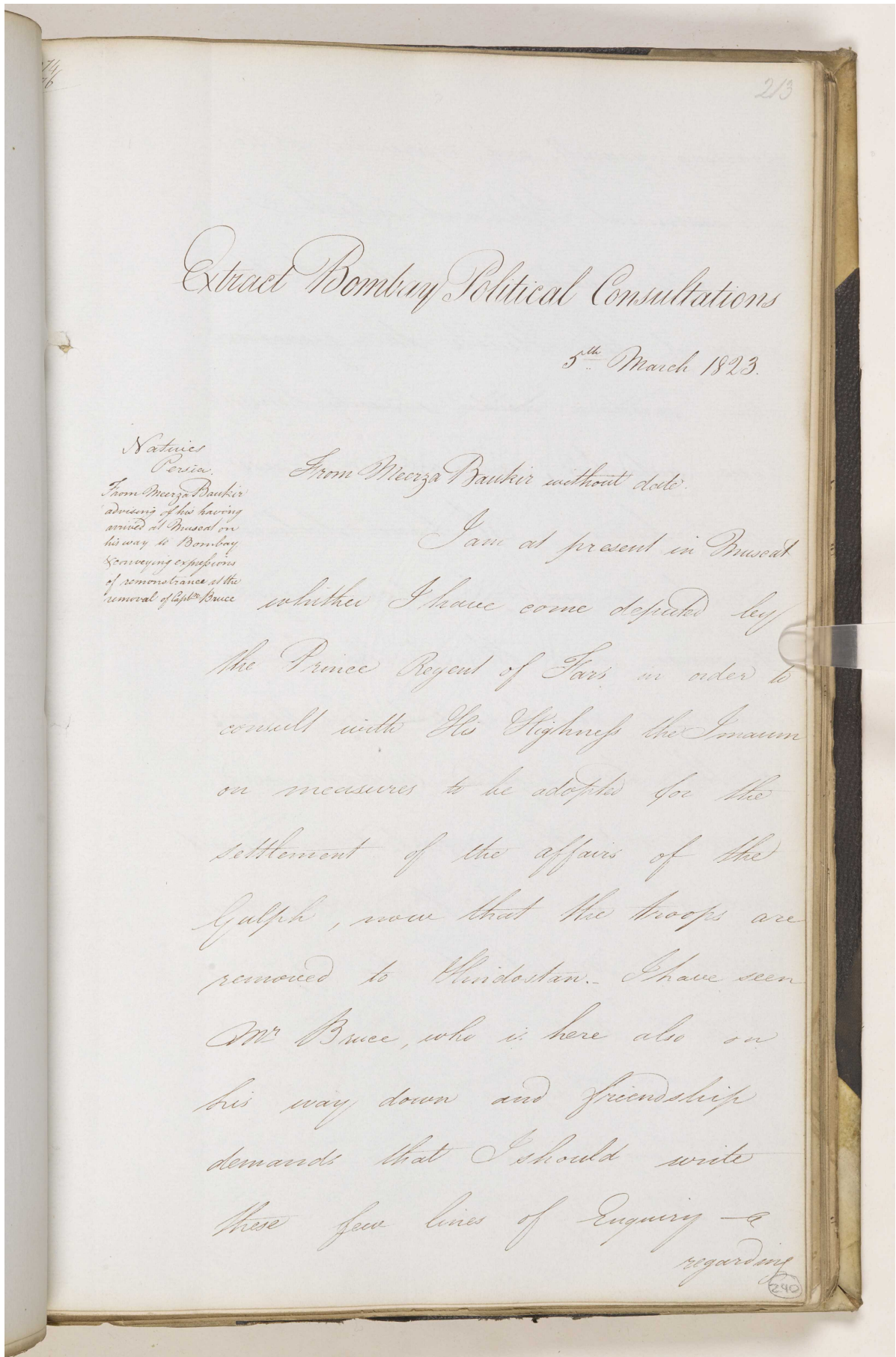
*Bushire Resident.
From J. Macleod reporting
his arrival at Muscat
and of his having entered
upon his duties as
Resident in the Persian
Gulph.*

I have the honor to report
for the information of the Honble
the Governor in Council that I have
this day arrived here and entered on
the duties of my appointment as Resident
in the Gulph of Persia in pursuance of the
instructions conveyed in Mr Secretary Farish's
letter of the 12th Ultimo.

Transport Ship Helen
off Muscat 5th Dec. 1822

I have &c
(Signed) J. Macleod
Resident.





Extract Bombay Political Consultations

5th March 1823.

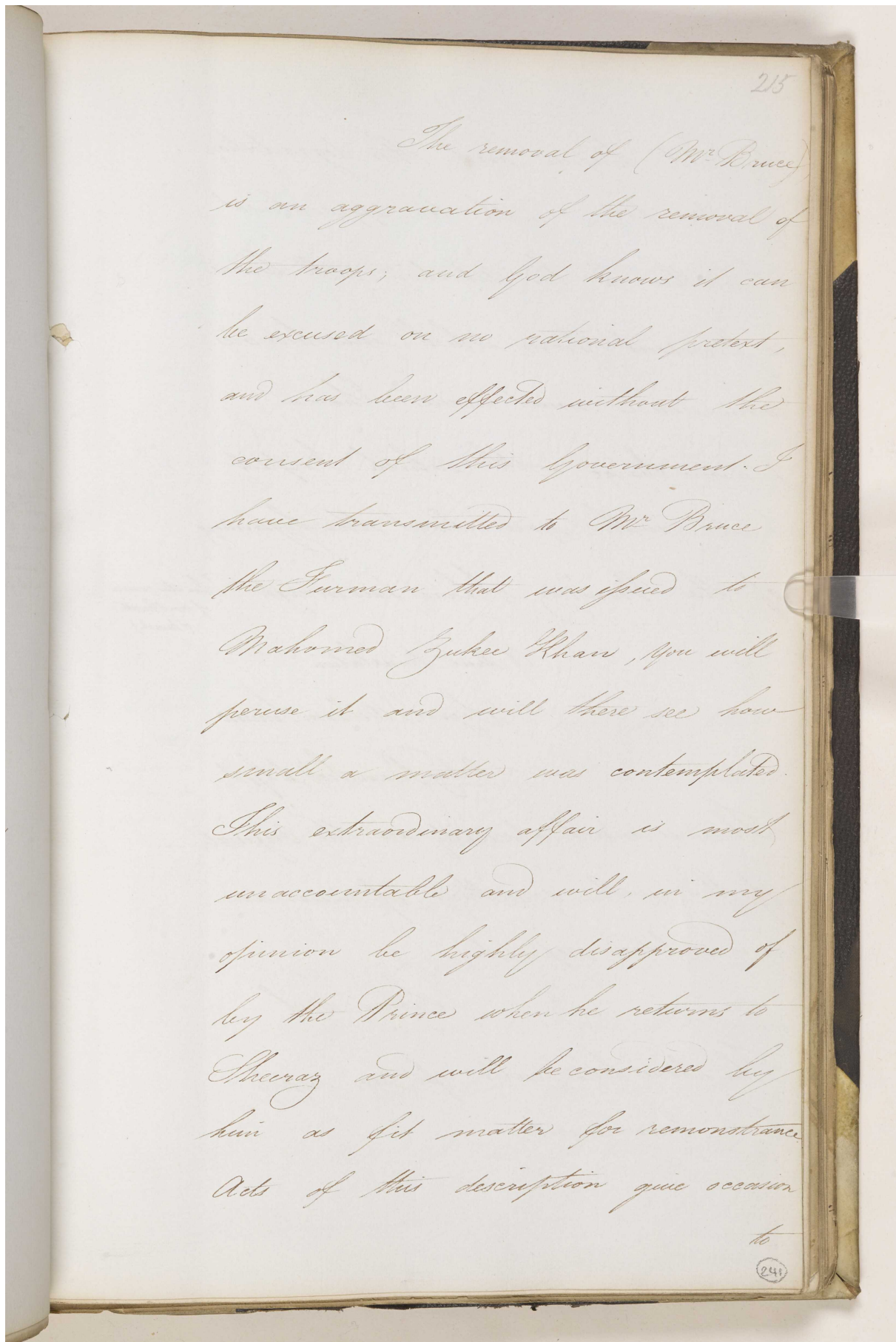
Native
Persia.
From Mirza Bankir
advising of his having
arrived at Busrah on
his way to Bombay
expressing expectations
of remittance at the
removal of Mr Bruce

From Mirza Bankir without date.

I am at present in Busrah
whether I have come despatched by
the Prince Regent of Fars in order to
consult with His Highness the Imam
on measures to be adopted for the
settlement of the affairs of the
Gulph, now that the troops are
removed to Heridostan. I have seen
Mr Bruce, who is here also on
his way down and friendship
demands that I should write
these few lines of Enquiry
regarding
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regarding yourself and expressions of the
astonishment I feel and which I
take the liberty to express at the
orders of the Honble the Governour
whose wisdom and sagacity I myself
have witnessed, and whose praises
God knows I have labored
much to impress upon my
Soverign and the Nobles of Persia.
I marvel much what has become
of this far sighted wisdom and
prudence! The imperfect agreement
undertaken by Mr Bruce was made
expressly subject to the approval
of both States and the simple
expression "I dissent" from either
party, would have been sufficient
for its nullification.

The



to Evil tongues and this degradation
of Mr Bruce with the appointment
of another to his situation will become
a precedent from which mischievous
consequences must ensue. I have
presents in
present in charge with which I expect ought
to be with you about the beginning
of the Nowruz. - I have said enough.

In the course
of next month
(March)

A true translation

(Signed) William Simson

Acting Persian Sect. to Govt.

There is much obscurity in the Original
of this with something of innuendo
and subdued reproach

(Signed) W.S.

The above letter calls for no reply
from Government.

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Extract Bombay Political Consultations

19th March 1823

From H. Meriton Esq^r Superintendent
of Marine to Mr Chief Secretary
Newham. (18th February 1823)

Honorable Sir

Persian Gulph
From the Superintendent
of Marine. Reports his
opinion as to the
measure of appointing
a Commodore in the
Persian Gulph:

I have the honor
to acknowledge the receipt
of a communication from Mr
Chief Secretary Newham, under

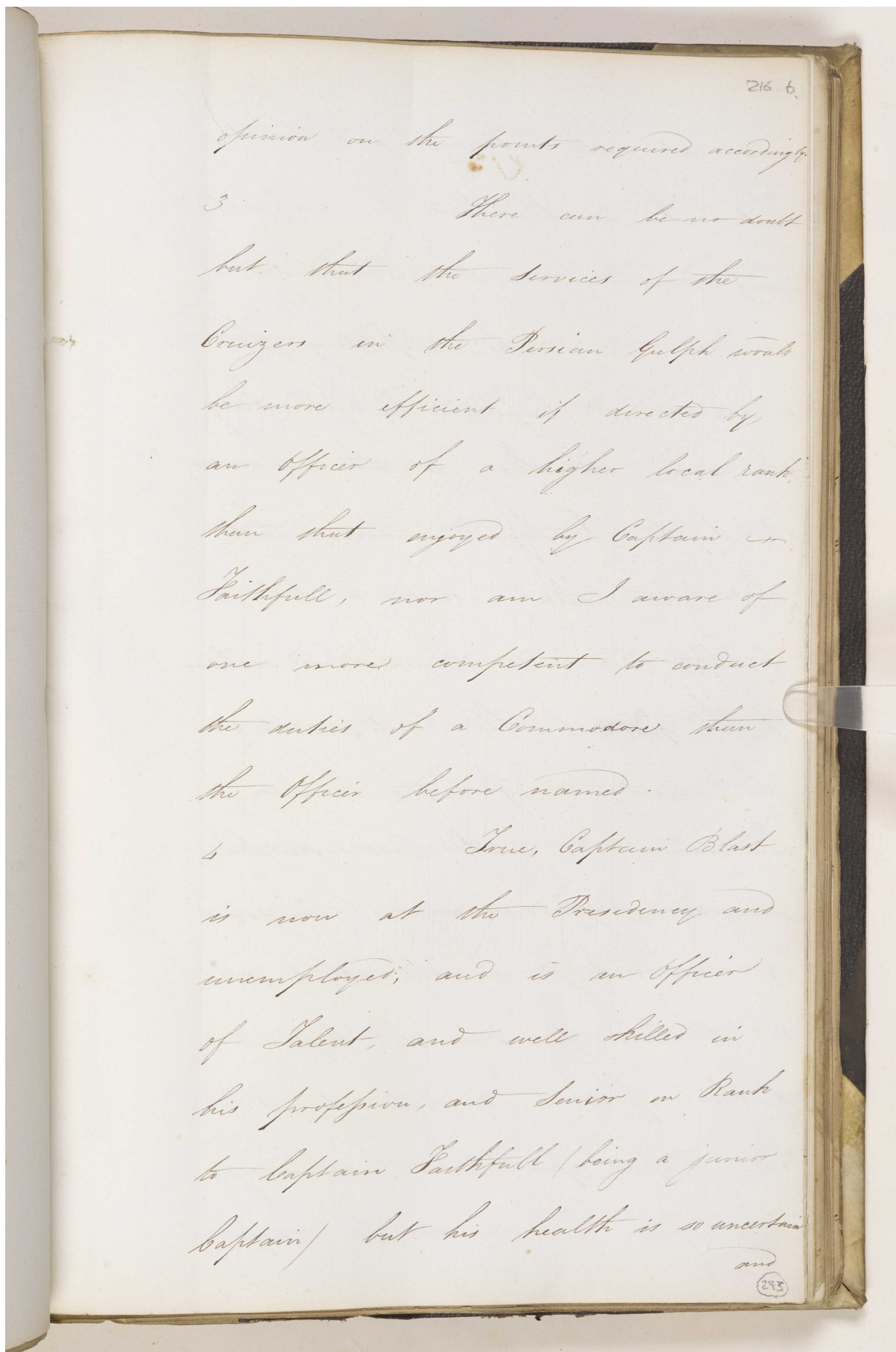
Yesterday's date, informing that in
order to secure the complete efficiency
of the Plan for blockading the
Pirate Ports, it is essential that
the commanding Officer should be a

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'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [242v] (32/211)

man of talent, and experience, and
not liable to be changed with the
accidents of the Service. Captain
Faithfull who is now there appears
to possess the requisite qualities, and
in order to give respectability and
permanency to his command, and
to afford encouragement to the
part of the Marine that is afloat,
it occurs to the Governor ~~to~~
in Council that he should be
appointed Commodore with the
same allowances as the Commodore
at Surat. On this point however
my opinion is required before
it is carried into effect.

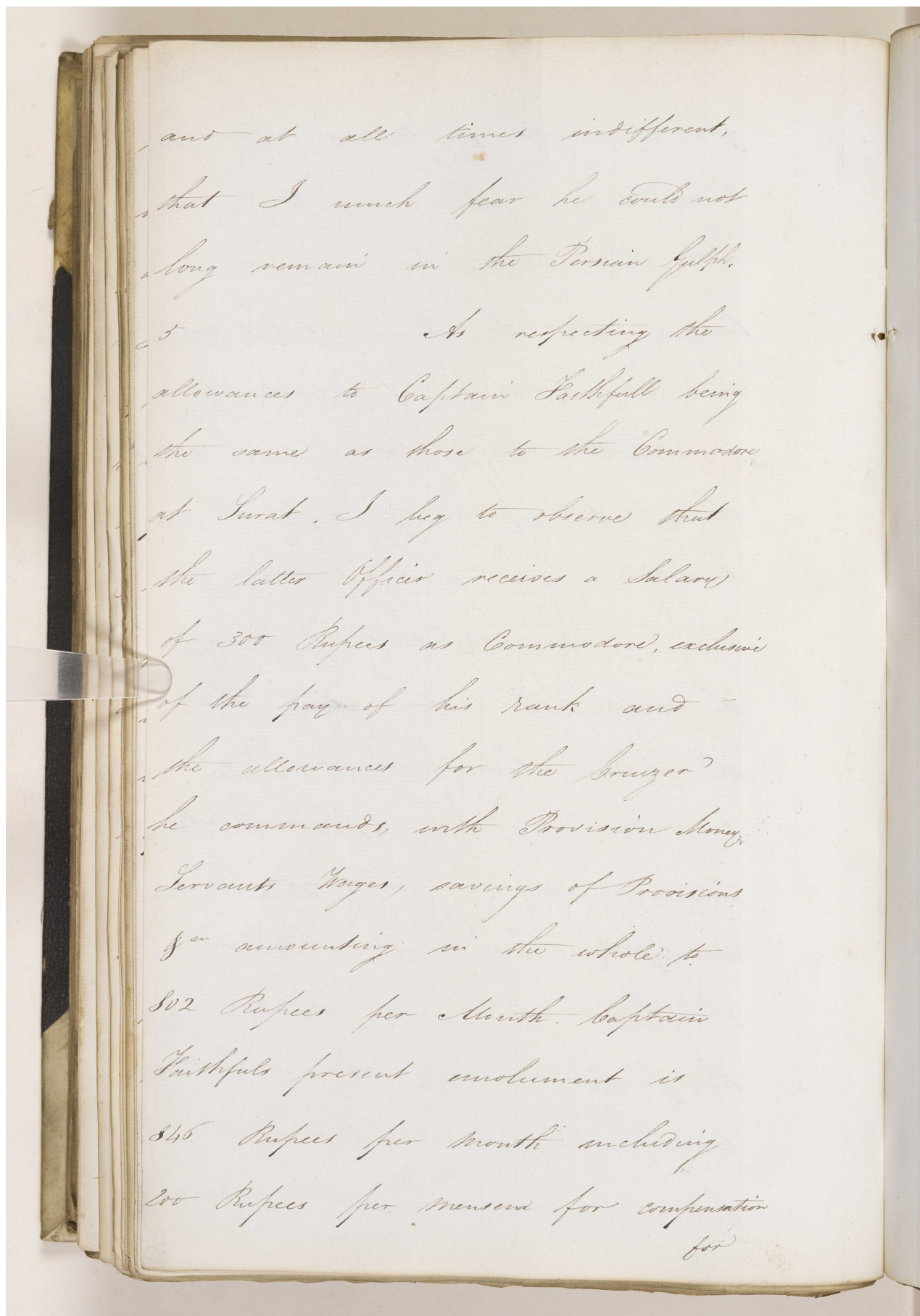
2 I shall therefore
have the honor to express my
opinion



216 b.
opinion on the points required accordingly.
3. There can be no doubt
but that the services of the
Comizers in the Persian Gulf would
be more efficient if directed by
an officer of a higher local rank,
than that enjoyed by Captain
Faithfull, nor am I aware of
one more competent to conduct
the duties of a Commodore than
the officer before named.

4. Now, Captain Blast
is now at the Presidency and
unemployed, and is an officer
of Talent, and well skilled in
his profession, and Senior in Rank
to Captain Faithfull (being a junior
Captain) but his health is so uncertain
and

213



216c

for treasure freight

6 As in the case of
the Commodore in the Gulph
being stationary in these Seas,
and consequently not likely to
convey much treasure, I respectfully
suggest for the consideration of
your Honorable Board, the measure
of withdrawing the 200 Rupees
compensation money and allowing
a Salary of 500 Rupees per
Mensem as Commodore in the
Persian Gulph, thereby placing
him above the other Commanders
as regarding the compensation
money.

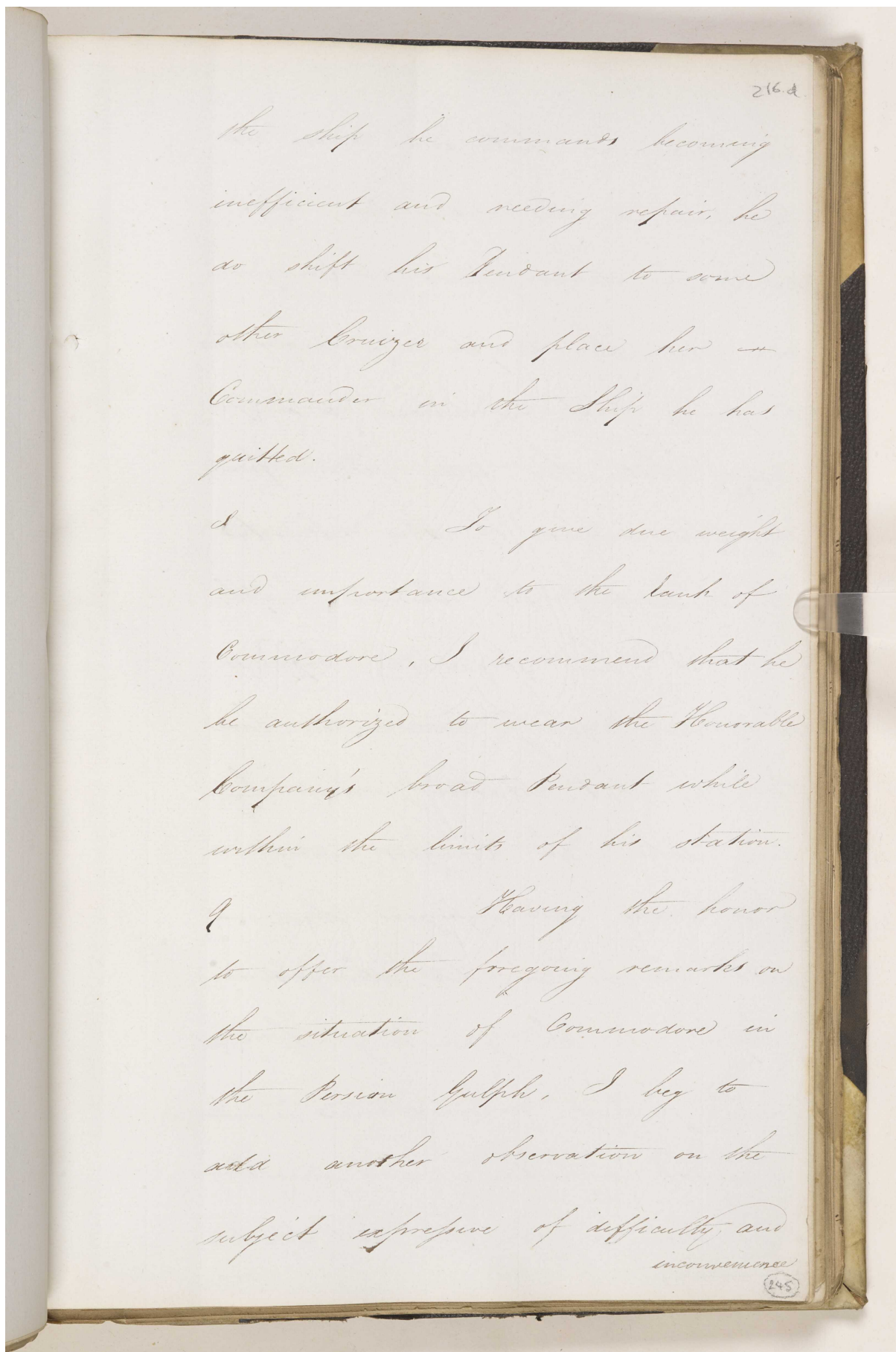
7 It being the intention
of your Honorable Board that Captain
Faithfull

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Faithfull, as Commodore in the
Gulph, be permanently employed
there, and not likely to be
removed by the accidents of the
Service, I respectfully recommend
that he be furnished with
instructions to the following effect
viz:

That he do not quit
his station or return to the
Presidency without the permission
of your Honorable Board (except
in case of illness or other urgent
necessity) and when applying for
a leave of absence he is to state
most fully his reasons for doing
so.

That in the event of
the



inconvenience that may occur as
relating to his Majesty's Name,
All the Commanders of Cruizers
now in the Gulph have instructions
to pay strict obedience to any
orders that they may receive from
the Commanders of His Majesty's
Ships visiting the Persian Gulph,
and it has frequently happened
that very young Commanders have
been on that station when they
have taken the Cruizers under
their orders, and assigned them
such services as they thought
proper. As the guarding the Gulph
under present circumstances is matter
of great importance, and must
necessarily engage the best effort
and

216 2

and skill of the Senior Marine Officer, it would be a very painful and probably a mischievous circumstance were the plans of the Senior Officer liable to be superseded by some young Commander in the Navy it would therefore be a measure most desirable if the interference by his Majesty's Ships with the Cruizers could be avoided (except in cases of absolute warfare or other very emergent Service.)

10 I confess myself most unwilling to suggest any measure that might seem to limit the powers of His Majesty's Navy, but as the Honorable Company's Cruizers in the Gulph are employed exclusively

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [246v] (40/211)

exclusively in watching the motions
of those lately in the habits
of Piracy, guarding the navigation,
and protecting the trade, probably
His Excellency the Naval Commander
in Chief may be induced to instruct
his Commanders not to interfere
with the Cruizers unless their
Services should be absolutely required

I have the honor of
 Supt's Office }
 Bombay } signed H. Meriton
 18th February 1823 } Superintendent

From Mr Chief Secretary Newnham
to H. Meriton Esq^r Superintendent of
Marine (16th March 1823)

Sir

I am directed to
acknowledge the receipt of your Letter
dated

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [247r] (41/211)

216 f
dated the 18th Ultimo in reply to
mine of the preceding date.

2 Under the opinion
entertained by the Advocate General
as to the power of the Governor
in Council to grant the Commission
of Commodore to any of the
Officers of the Honorable Company's
Marine in recognition of the
authority of Captains in His
Majesty's Navy; the proposed arrangement
of authorizing Captain Faithfull
to hoist a broad Pendant will
not be carried into effect.

3 Captain Faithfull is
however to be considered the Officer
in permanent command of the
Marine Vessels serving in the Persian
Gulph

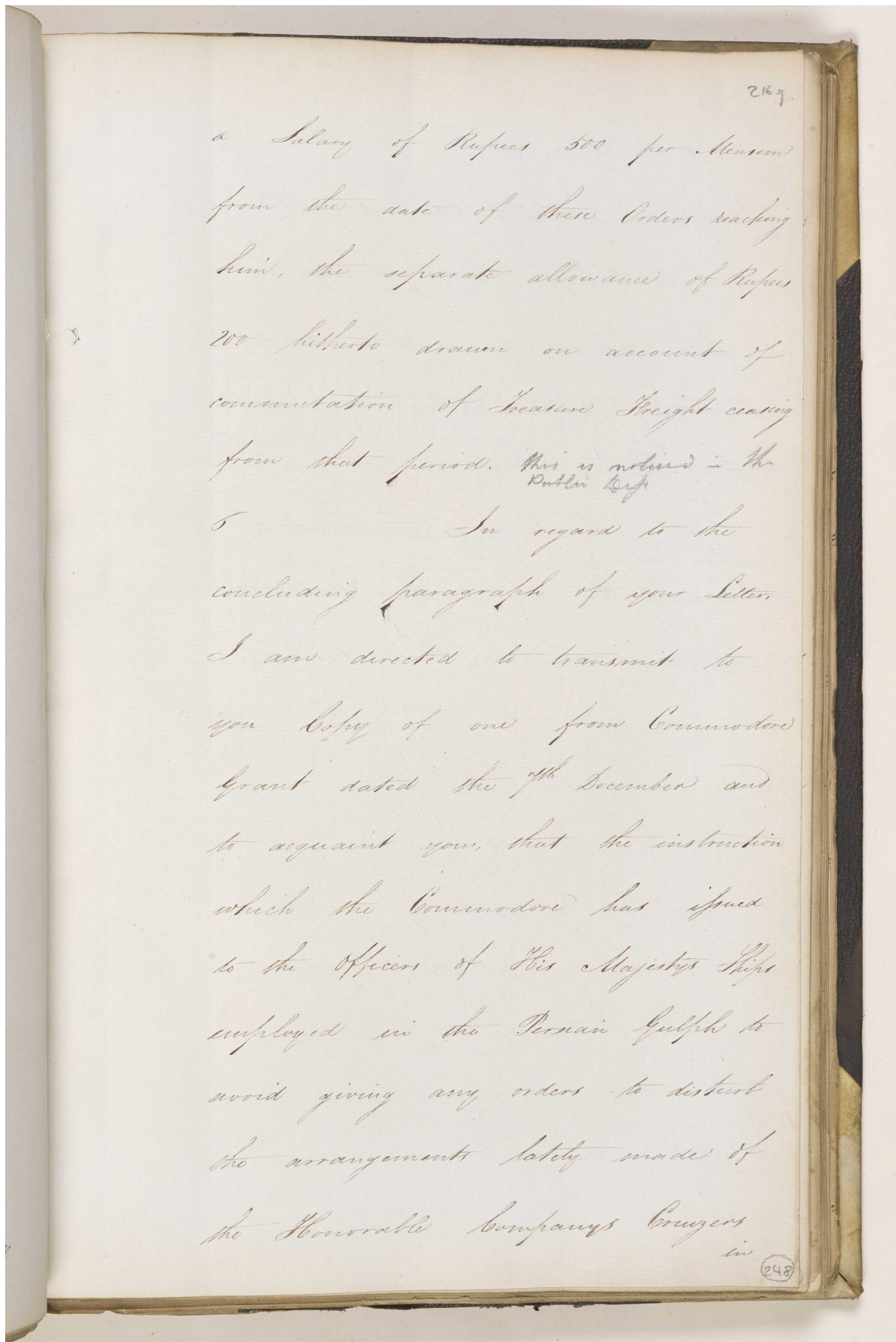
(247)

Gulph and is not to quit his
Station or return to the Presidency
without the previous permission
of the Governor in Council (except
in case of illness or other urgent
necessity) and when applying for
leave of absence he is to state
most fully his reasons for so
doing.

4 In the event of
the Ship which he commands
becoming inefficient and needing repair,
he is to shift his pendant to
some other Cruiser, and place
his Commander in the Ship he
has quitted.

5 The Governor in Council
is pleased to grant to Captain Southwell
a

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [248r] (43/211)



'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [248v] (44/211)

in that station, unless on the
application of the Resident will
no doubt leave Captain Southwell
at full liberty to execute the duties
entrusted to him with every advantage
to the Public Service.

Bombay Castle) I have the honor to be
15th March 1823) signed W Kevenham
Chief Secretary

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [249r] (45/211)

2286
311

217

Contract Bombay. Political Consultations
the
19th March 1823.

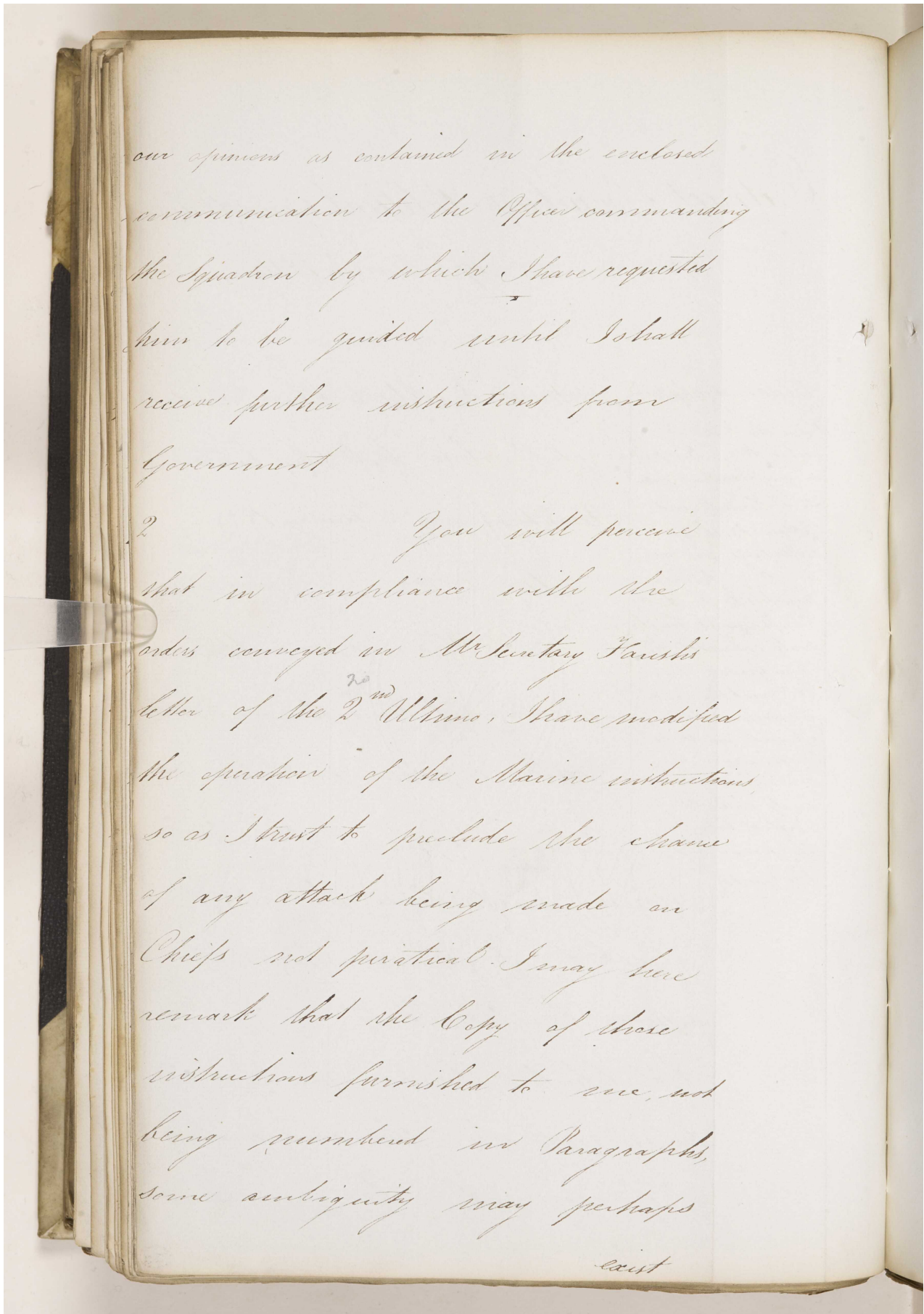
Persian Gulph.
From the Resident,
submitting his opinion
in conjunction with
Lieut. Kennett and
Captain Faithful
respecting the best
mode of issuing
Registers to the Arab
Chief required by the
Treaty concluded by
Major General Sir
W. Grant Duff and
suggesting an
effectual mode for
enforcing certain
provisions of that
Treaty with the
Persian King for
the tranquillity of
the Gulph.

From J. Macleod Esq. Resident
at Bushire to Mr Chief Secretary
Newburn dated the 1st January 1823.

Sir,

Having consulted with
Lieutenant Kennett, and also
with Captain Faithful the
Senior Officer of the
Marine, respecting the best
method of issuing the papers
required by the Treaty to the
Arab Chief, I have the honor
to submit for the consideration
of Government the result of

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our opinions as contained in the enclosed
communication to the Officer commanding
the Squadron by which I have requested
him to be guided until I shall
receive further instructions from
Government

2 You will perceive
that in compliance with the
orders conveyed in Mr Secretary Fox's
letter of the 2nd Ultimo, I have modified
the operation of the Marine instructions,
so as I trust to preclude the chance
of any attack being made on
Chips not piratical. I may here
remark that the copy of those
instructions furnished to me, not
being punctuated in Paragraphs,
some ambiguity may perhaps
exist

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just as to the particular part alluded
to as the 9th Paragraph by Mr Finch

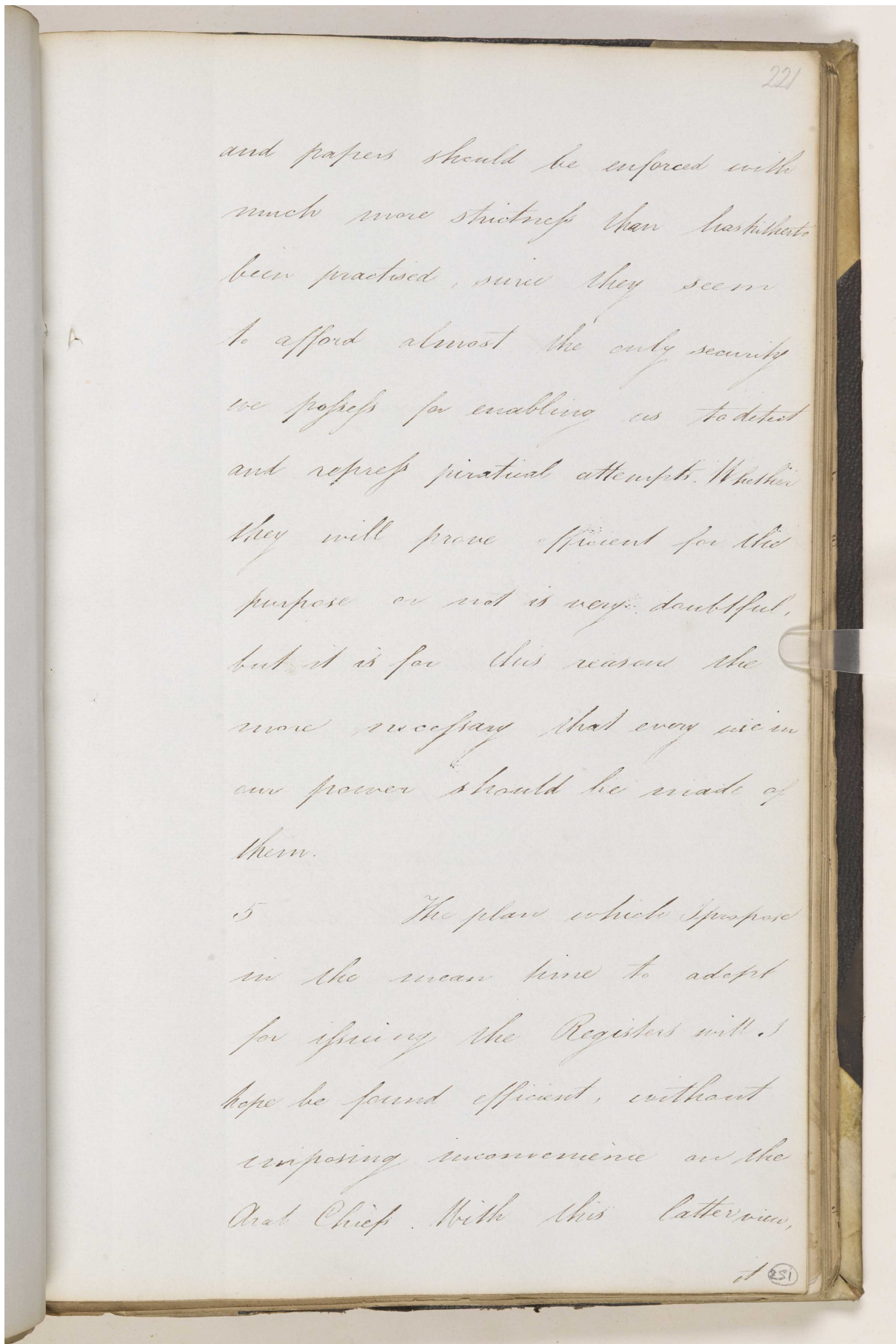
3 I proceed now to lay
before you such remarks on
the most effectual mode of
enforcing certain provisions of the
Treaty, as the experience of the
above-mentioned Officers, enables me
to offer. I trust I shall not be deemed
presumptuous in submitting these
suggestions, under the sanction of their
advice, before I have had sufficient
experience to authorize my hazarding
any opinions of my own, when
it is considered that it is of the
utmost importance that I should
be furnished with the orders of
Government on the difficult
points.

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points in question, as soon as possible,
in order that a more defined system
of control may be at once adopted.

4 No trial has yet
been made of the efficacy of a
warlike force alone in suppressing
piracy, nor could it be fairly judged
of, as long as the moral effect
produced by the presence of the
Military Station here existed. This
effect will now be removed and in
view of it we have for the future
to depend upon the increased strength
and vigilance of our squadrons,
with the aid of a more strict
control over the pirate ports. For
this purpose it appears essential
that the provisions respecting flags
and

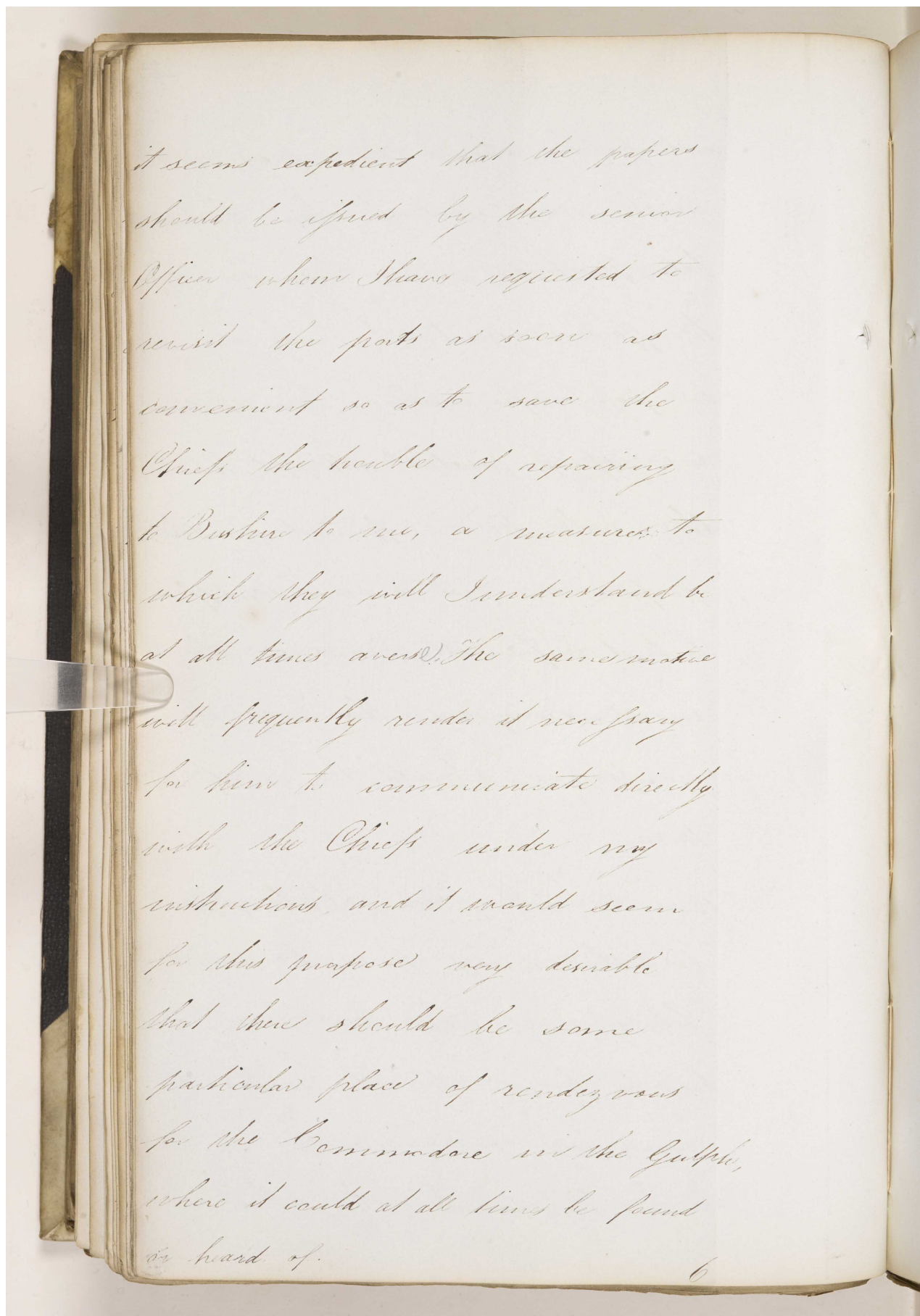
'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [251r] (49/211)



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and papers should be enforced with much more strictness than has hitherto been practised, since they seem to afford almost the only security we possess for enabling us to detect and repress piratical attempts. Whether they will prove efficient for this purpose or not is very doubtful, but it is for this reason the more necessary that every means in our power should be made of them.

5 The plan which I propose in the mean time to adopt for issuing the Registers will I hope be found efficient, without imposing inconvenience on the Arab Chief. With this latter view,

f 251



it seems expedient that the papers

 should be reviewed by the senior

 Officer whom I have requested to

 revisit the ports as soon as

 convenient so as to save the

 Chiefs the trouble of repairing

 to Bushire to me, a measure to

 which they will I understand be

 at all times averse. The same matter

 will frequently render it necessary

 for him to communicate directly

 with the Chiefs under my

 instructions, and it would seem

 for this purpose very desirable

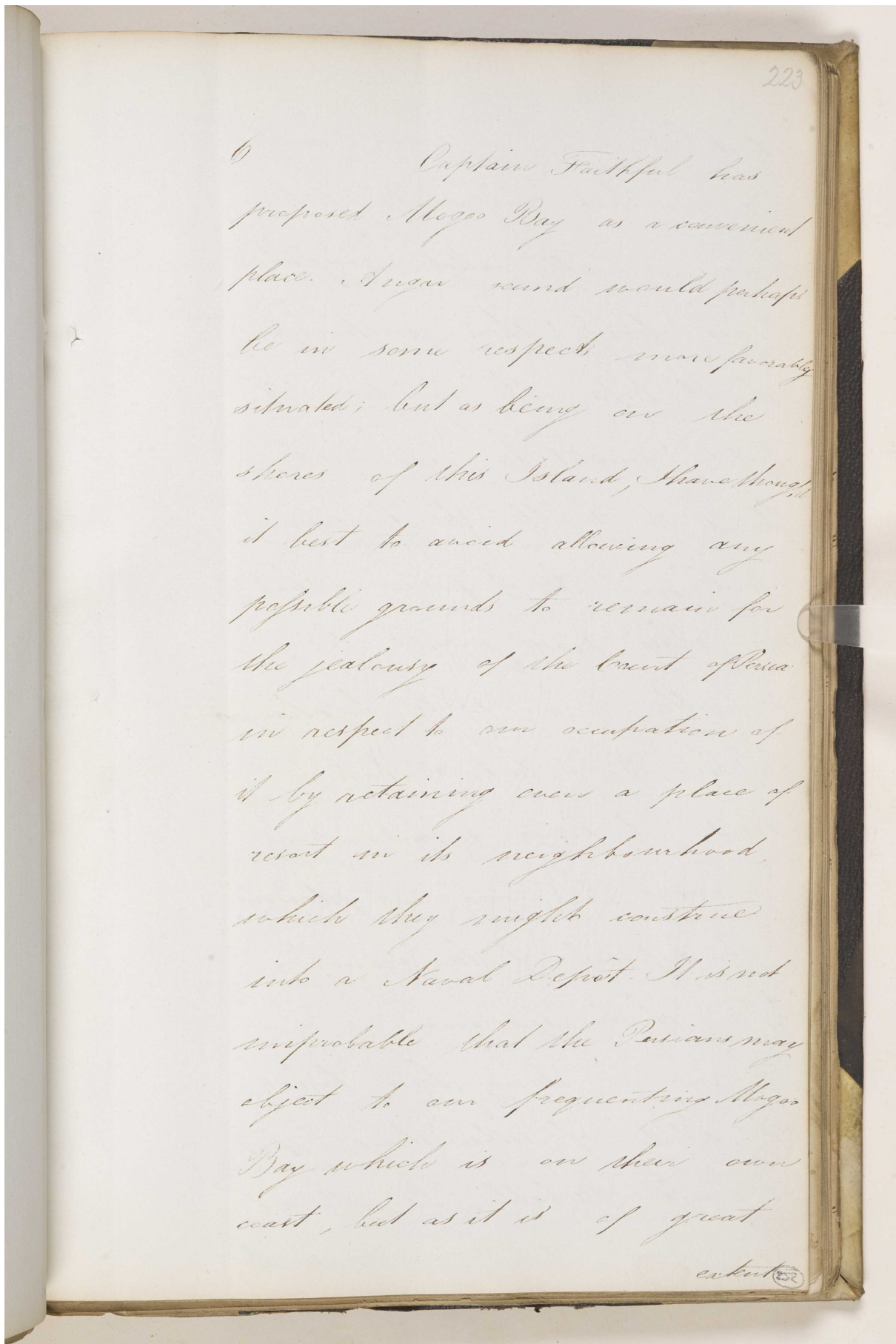
 that there should be some

 particular place of rendezvous

 for the Commodore in the Gulf,

 where it could at all times be found

 or heard of.



extent, being few or twelve miles
wide so that our ships when
they occasionally called might
always change their anchorage.
I should hope the objection, if
started might be removed.
Should the Honourable the Governor
in Council be of opinion that
any other place would be
preferable, it can easily be changed.
Captain Bruce had a Native
Agent at Linga whom I propose
removing to Mecca, and placing
at the disposal of the senior
Officer of the Squadron.

I may here take
the liberty of submitting that
it would probably be attended
with

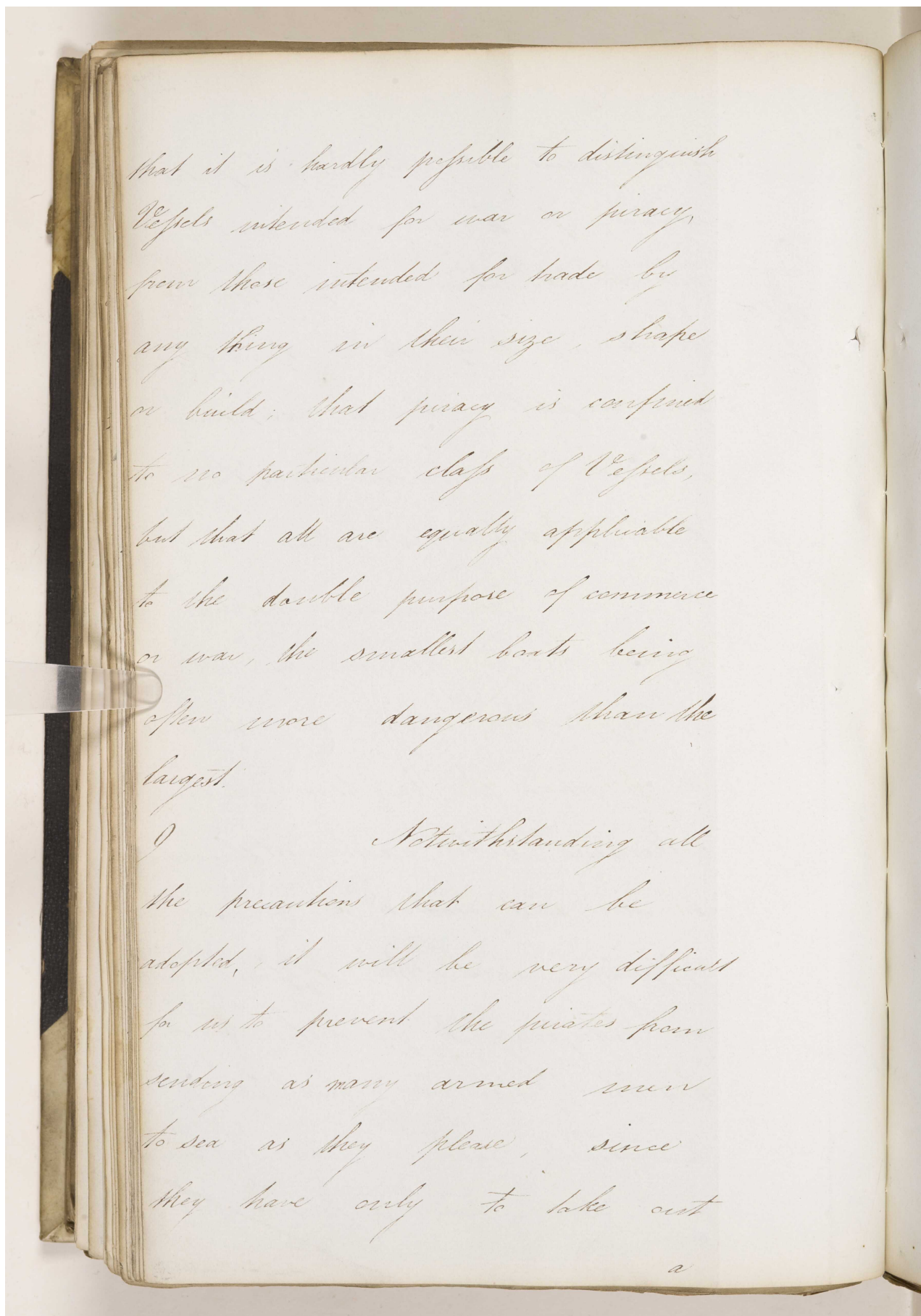
'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [253r] (53/211)

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with great advantage to the public service, if the suggestions contained here in the 25th Paragraph of General Clarke's report of the 23^d April 1821, were adopted with the exception that the Commodore might not be stationed on shore.

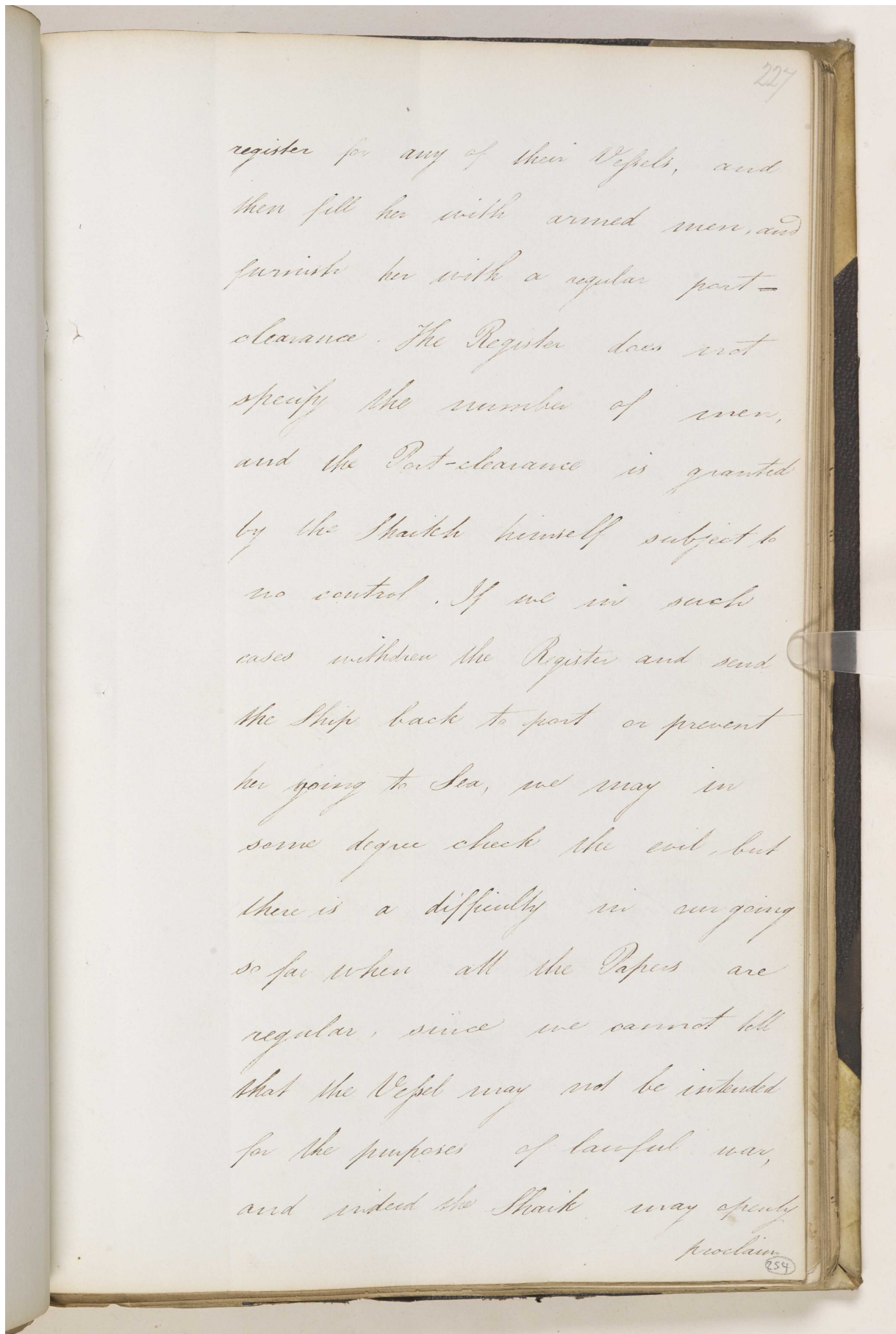
8 The principal obstacles which occur to me in our attempts at suppressing piracy, are the great danger that the hostilities of the Maritime tribes amongst themselves at sea will lead to a revival of piracy, and the difficulty of our interfering to prevent those hostilities from our inability to distinguish between lawful war and piracy. I am informed also that

(253)



that it is hardly possible to distinguish
 Vessels intended for war or piracy,
 from those intended for trade by
 any thing in their size, shape
 or build; that piracy is confined
 to no particular class of Vessels,
 but that all are equally applicable
 to the double purpose of commerce
 or war, the smallest boats being
 often more dangerous than the
 largest.

Notwithstanding all
 the precautions that can be
 adopted, it will be very difficult
 for us to prevent the pirates from
 sending as many armed men
 to sea as they please, since
 they have only to take out



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register for any of their Vessels, and then fill her with armed men, and furnish her with a regular port-clearance. The Register does not specify the number of men, and the Port-clearance is granted by the Shakh himself subject to no control. If we in such cases withhold the Register and send the Ship back to port or prevent her going to Sea, we may in some degree check the evil, but there is a difficulty in surmounting so far when all the Papers are regular, since we cannot tell that the Vessel may not be intended for the purposes of lawful war, and indeed the Shakh may openly proclaim

259

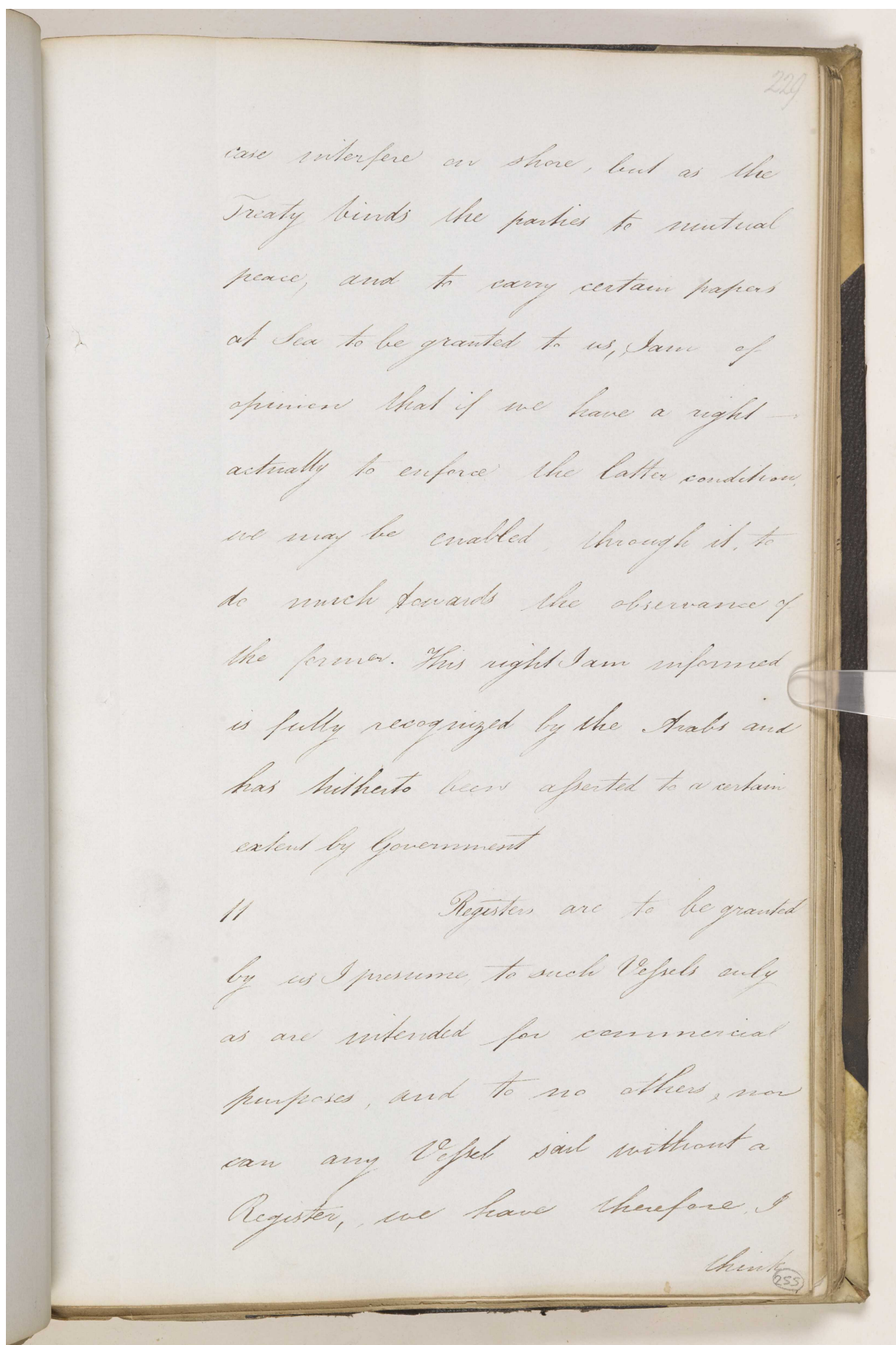
'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
 Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [254v] (56/211)

proclaim that this is his intention,
 and even if he pleases, embark on
 board of her himself. We have no
 right to interfere in his quarrels,
 provided he do not commit piracy,
 but we have no security for his
 good conduct. If his intention be
 practical it is not likely that he
 will subject himself to suspicion
 by such open proceedings, but if
 Rebels once get to sea with men
 and arms for the purposes of war,
 however lawful their quarrel may
 be, the temptation to piracy will
 be too great to be resisted, and the
 first favorable opportunity will lead
 to a revival of it.

10

We cannot in any
 case

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [255r] (57/211)



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we interfere on shore, but as the Treaty binds the parties to mutual peace, and to carry certain papers at Sea to be granted to us, I am of opinion that if we have a right actually to enforce the latter condition, we may be enabled, through it, to do much towards the observance of the former. This right I am informed is fully recognized by the Arabs and has hitherto been asserted to a certain extent by Government

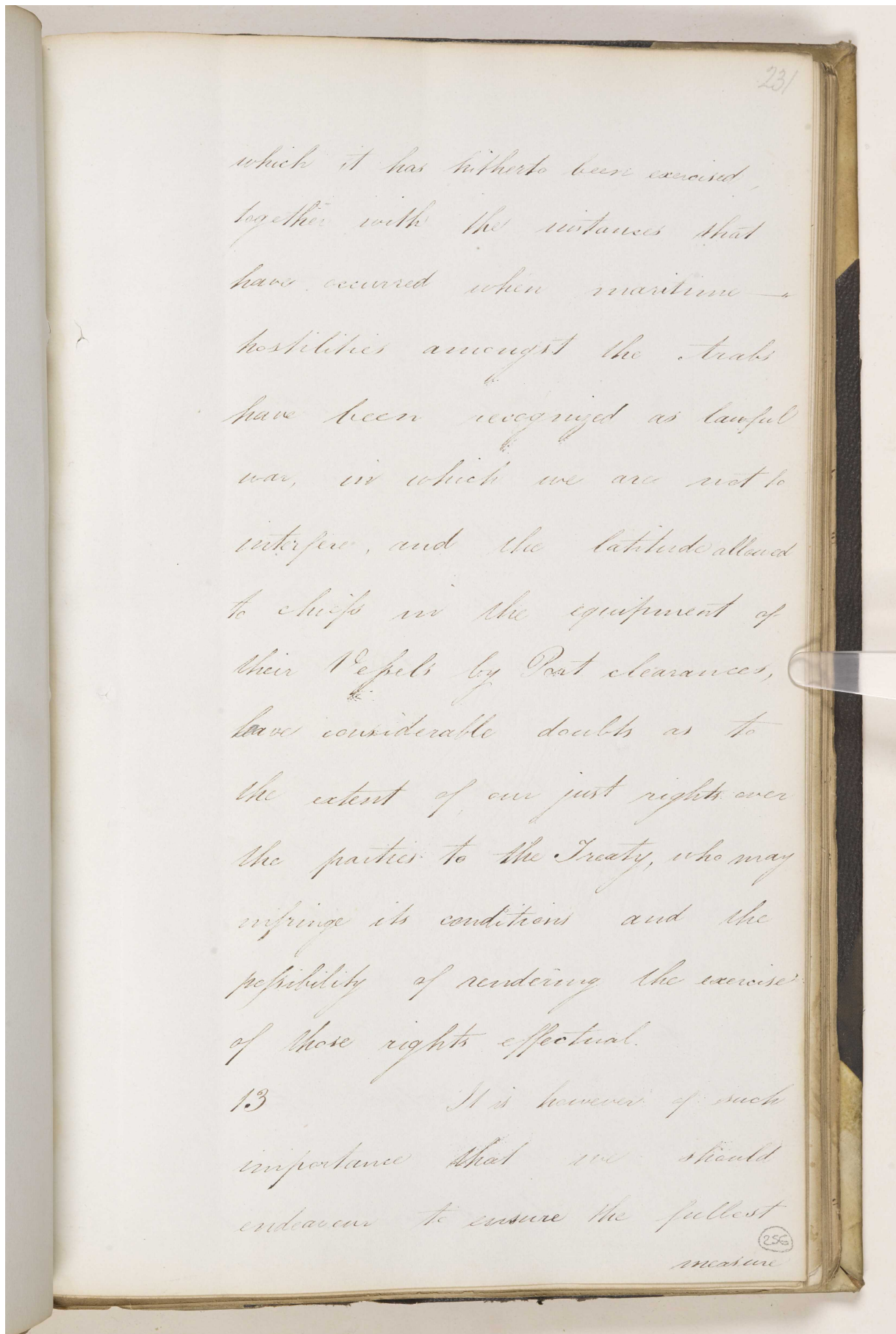
11 Registers are to be granted by us I presume, to such Vessels only as are intended for commercial purposes, and to no others, nor can any Vessel sail without a Register, we have therefore, I think

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
 Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [255v] (58/211)

think a right in conformity with the
 treaty, to refuse to register any Vessels
 which may be equipped for warlike
 purposes of any kind, and even
 to withdraw a Register before granted,
 if the Vessel be converted to those
 purposes; and to prevent such
 Vessels from going to Sea, or
 stop them if found at Sea.

12 The strict enforcement
 of this plan would probably enable
 to suppress, in a great degree,
 all acts of hostility at Sea, and
 go far to the prevention of piracy,
 but the undefined nature of our
 right by the Treaty, to enforce
 compliance with its provisions,
 and the qualified manner in
 which

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [256r] (59/211)

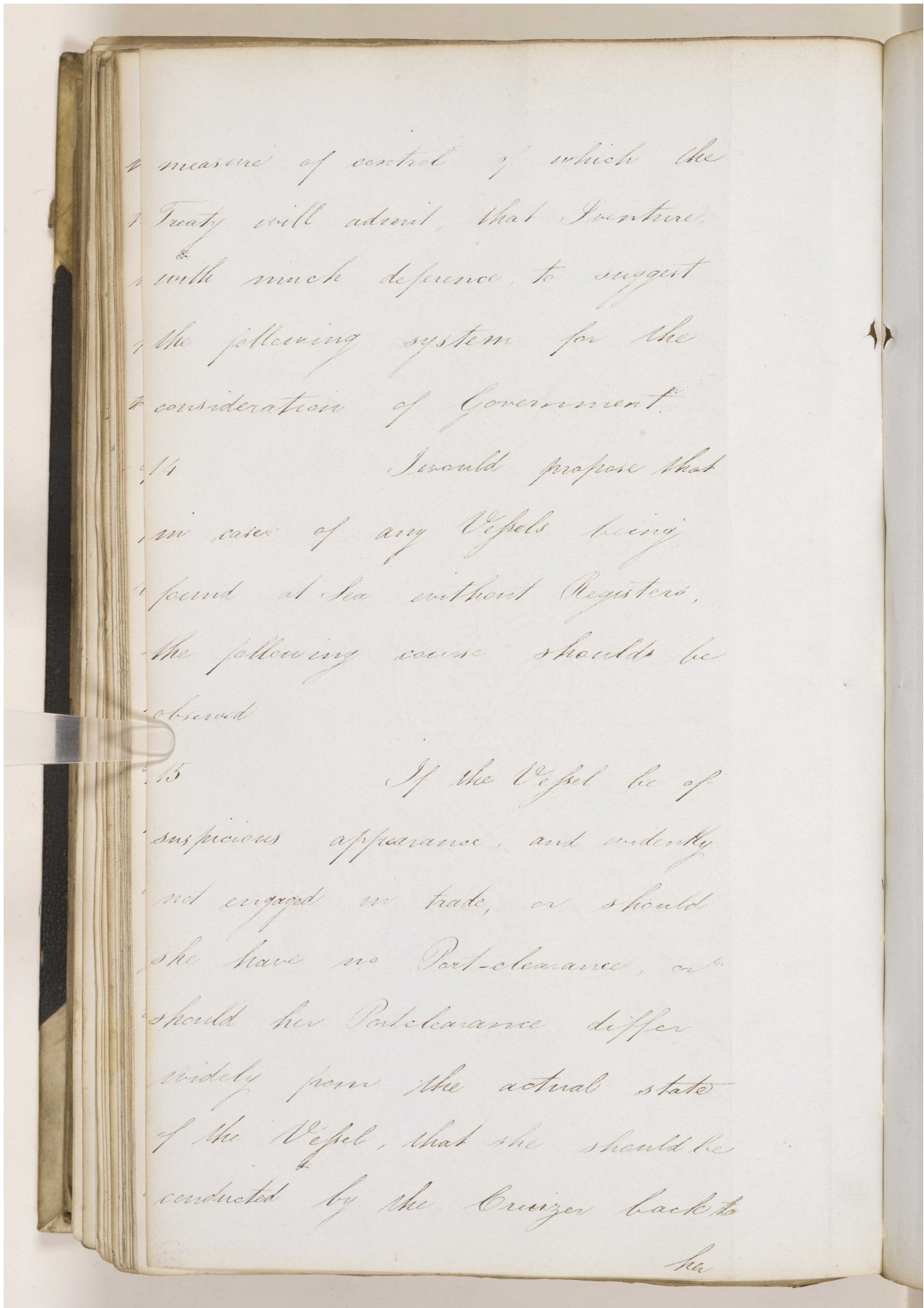


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which it has hitherto been exercised,
together with the instances that
have occurred when maritime
hostilities amongst the Arabs
have been recognized as lawful
war, in which we are not to
interfere, and the latitude allowed
to ships in the equipment of
their Vessels by Port clearances,
have considerable doubts as to
the extent of our just rights over
the parties to the Treaty, who may
infringe its conditions and the
possibility of rendering the exercise
of those rights effectual.

13 It is however of such
importance that we should
endeavour to ensure the fullest
measure

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [256v] (60/211)



'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [257r] (61/211)

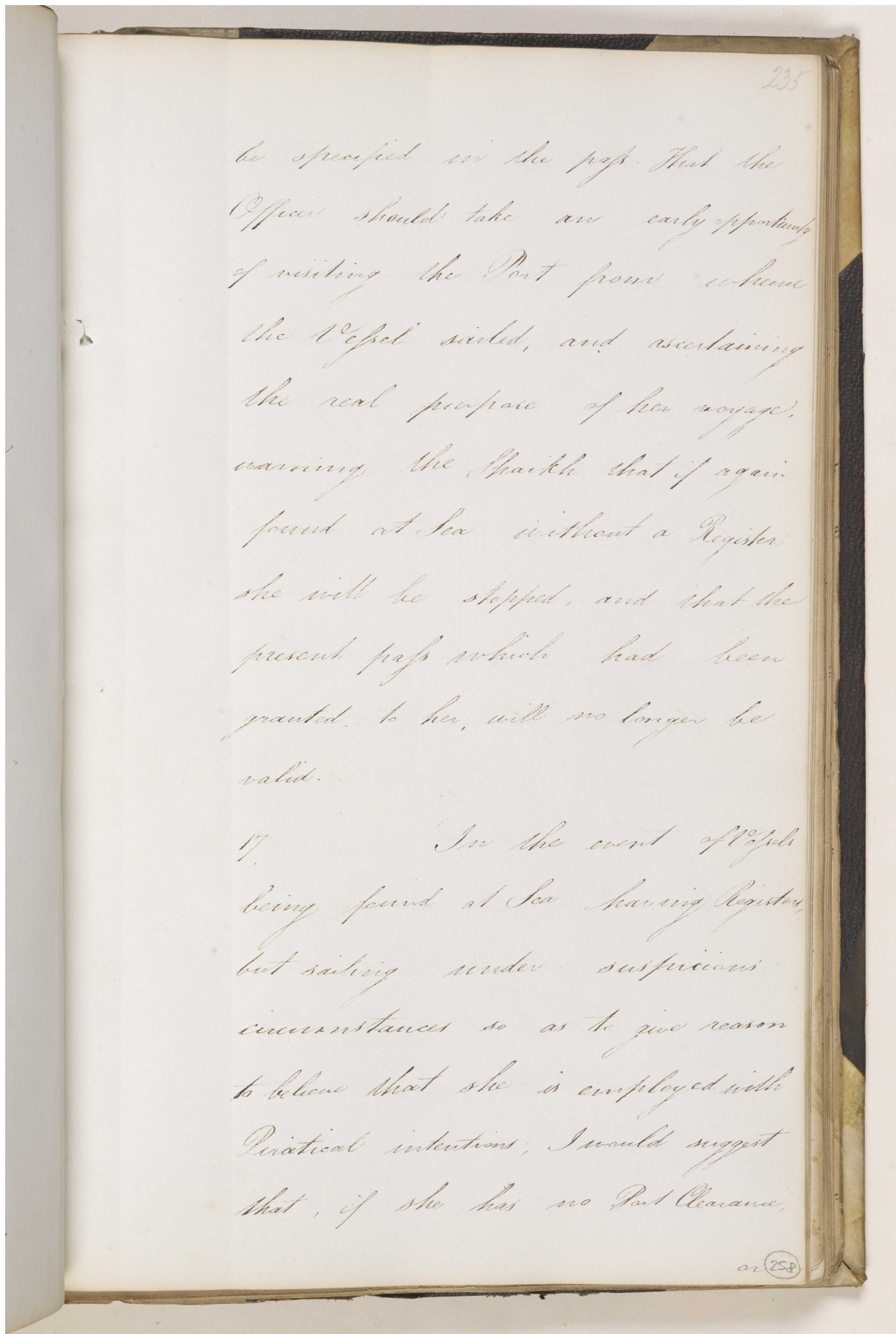
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her Port, and in the event of her refusing, to accompany the Cruiser, or be taken in tow, that she should be compelled by force to submit. On arriving at her Port that the Commander of the Cruiser should deliver the boat over to the Shaikh, warning him at the same time, that this instance of his infraction of the Treaty will not be forgotten by the British Government, and that if any of his boats be again found under similar circumstances, she will be sent to Bushire to the Resident, which threat he will accordingly in the next instance carry into effect.

16 (257)

16 Should the vessel not
be of suspicious appearance, but
she evidently employed on a trading
voyage, and be possessed of a
regular Portclearance, although
she has no register. The Nakhoda
to be warned of the danger he
has incurred, but in this instance
that it will not be necessary
to oblige her to return to her
Port, nor for the Cruiser to
proceed thither immediately, but
that the Officer be authorized
to grant her a temporary pass for
the prosecution of her voyage, to
be valid only for the period,
and in the course of the
intended voyage which shall
be

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [258r] (63/211)

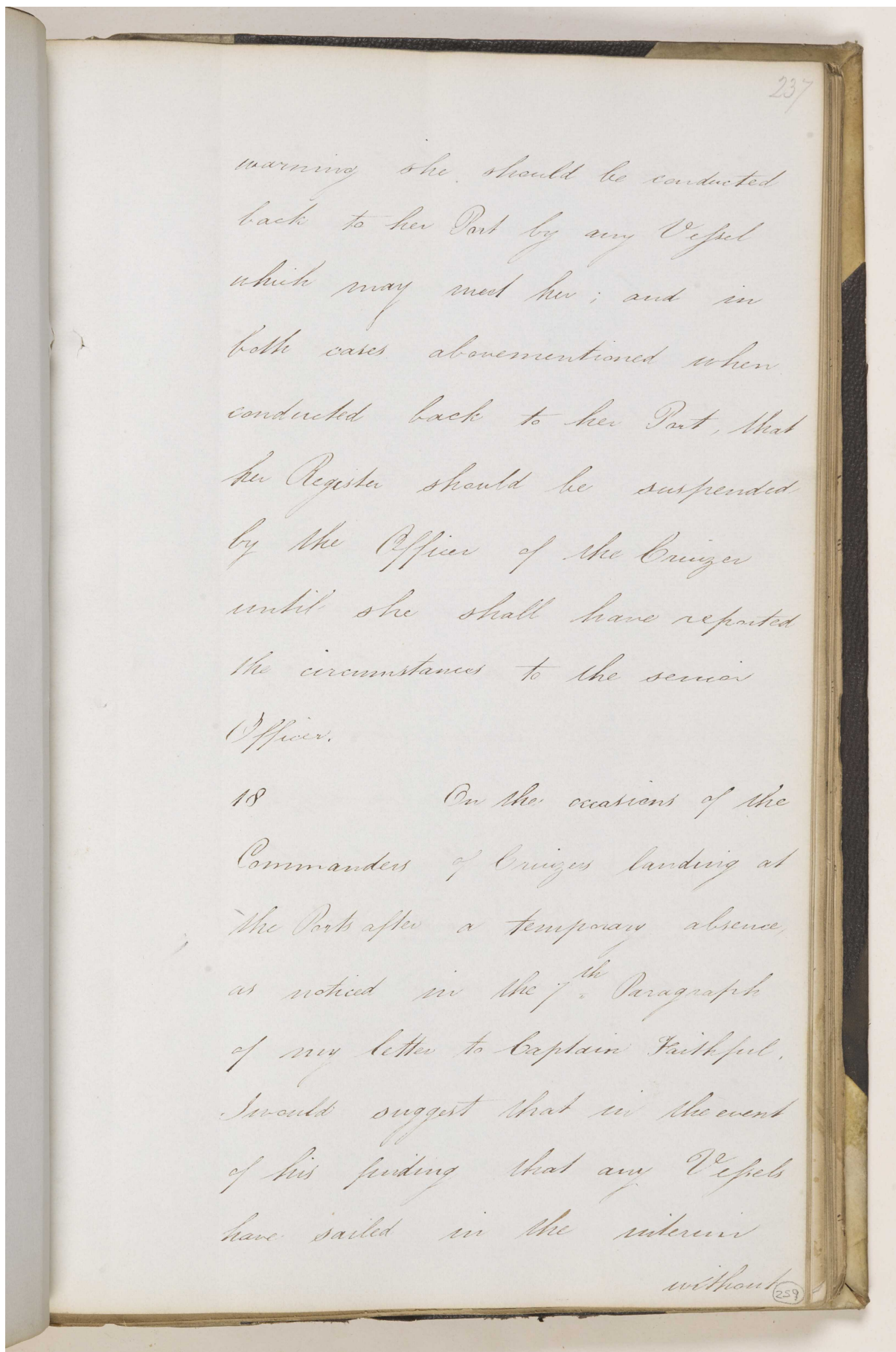


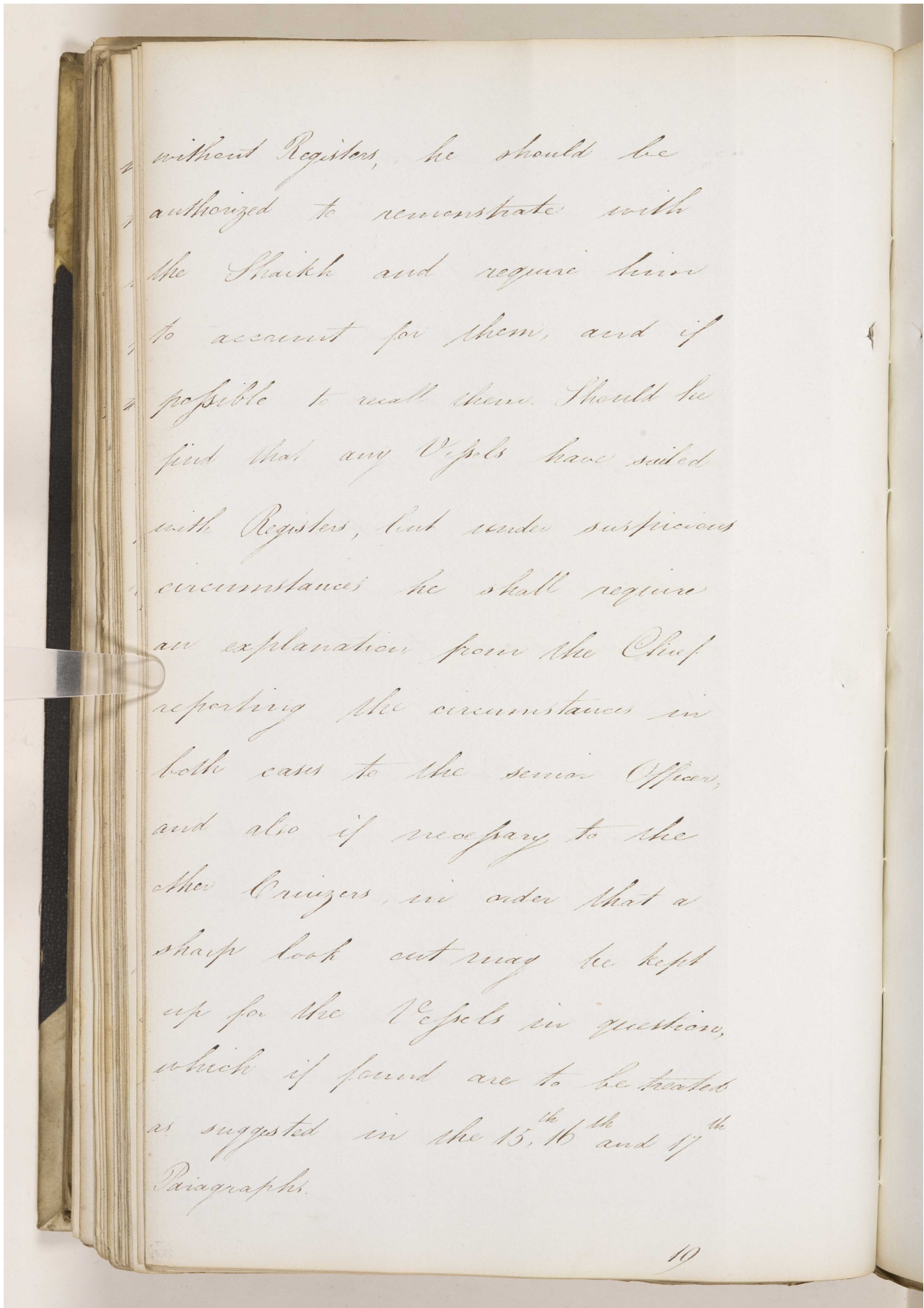
'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [258v] (64/211)

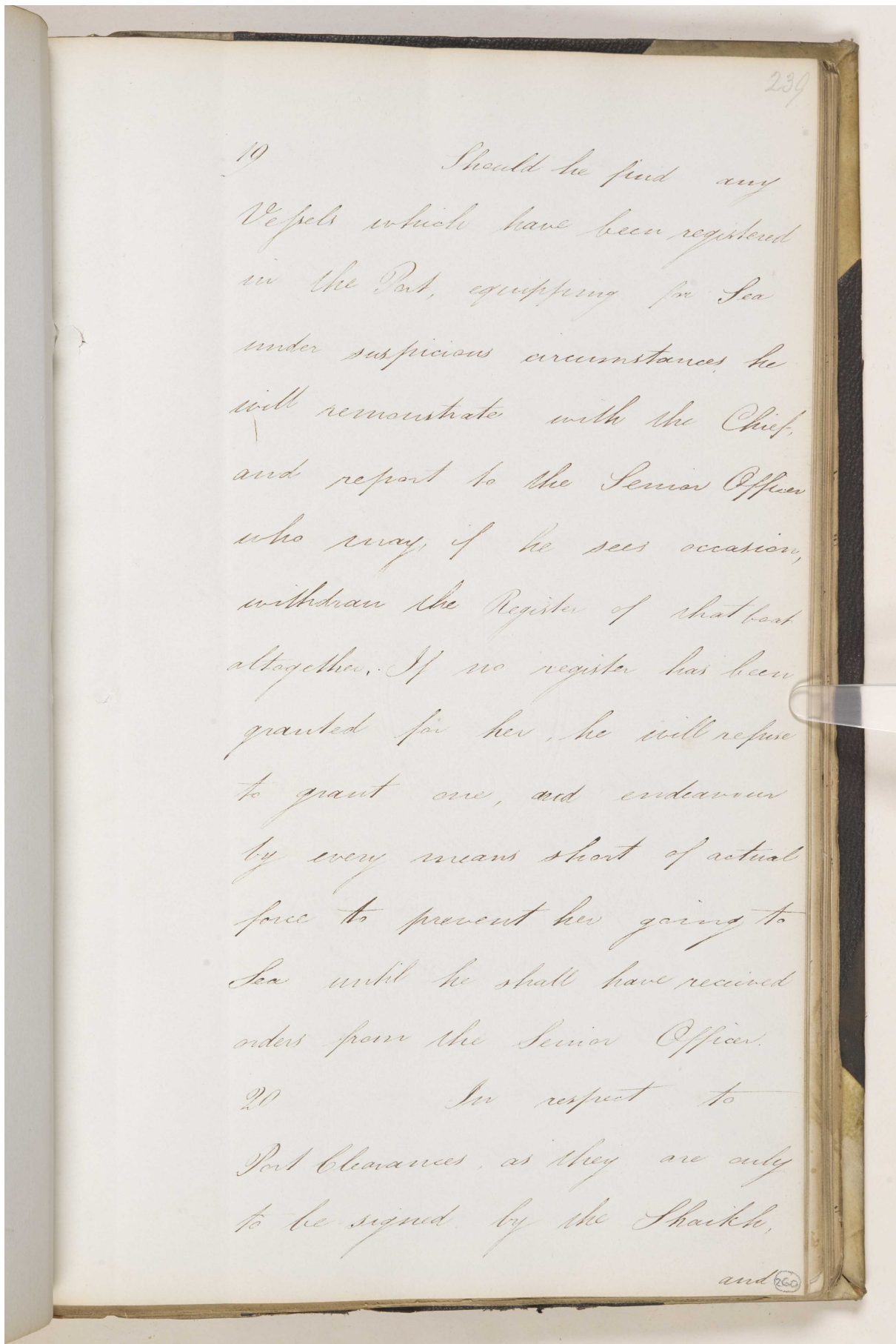
or if her Port Clearance should differ
 widely from the actual state
 and equipment of the Vessel, she
 should be conducted back to her
 Port as before and compelled to
 submit if she refuse.

But should
 no difference be found, and her
 Port Clearance be regular, that she
 should be warned to return to
 her Port, or to alter her suspicious
 course and equipment, and this
 warning entered on the back
 of her Register, and that if
 again found under similar
 suspicious circumstances after this
 warning

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [259r] (65/211)







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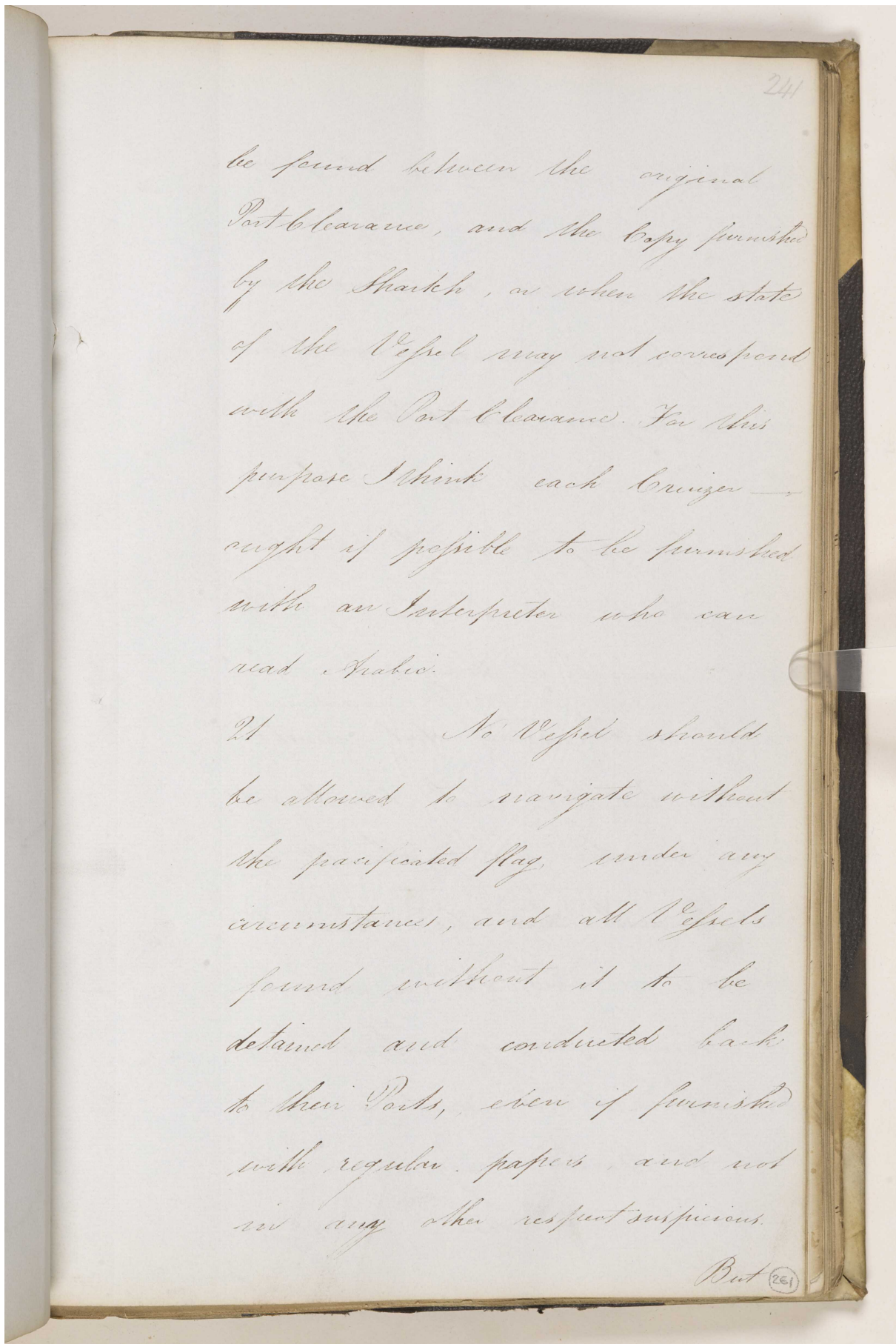
19 Should he find any
Vessels which have been registered
in the Port, equipping for Sea
under suspicious circumstances he
will remonstrate with the Chief,
and report to the Senior Officer
who may, if he sees occasion,
withdraw the Register of that boat
altogether. If no register has been
granted for her, he will refuse
to grant one, and endeavour
by every means short of actual
force to prevent her going to
Sea until he shall have received
orders from the Senior Officer.

20 In respect to
Port Clearances, as they are only
to be signed by the Sheikh,

and 260

and are written in Arabic, it will
prove be difficult to render the
check which they impose very
expedient, and I would therefore
suggest as the best means of
attaining the end in view,
that the Commanders of Cruizers
should be authorized at their discretion
to require from the Shaitks when
they visit their Ports, Copies of
all Port-Clearances which they
may issue; as well as to call
on all Vessels at sea to produce
them, and to conduct back to
their Ports, after one warning
all Vessels which may either
be without Port-clearance, or in
which any discrepancy may
be

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [261r] (69/211)



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be found between the original
Port Clearance, and the Copy furnished
by the Sharrh, or when the state
of the Vessel may not correspond
with the Port Clearance. For this
purpose I think each Cruiser
ought if possible to be furnished
with an Interpreter who can
read Arabic.

21 No Vessel should
be allowed to navigate without
the pacificated flag, under any
circumstances, and all Vessels
found without it to be
detained and conducted back
to their Ports, even if furnished
with regular papers, and not
in any other respect suspicious.

But (261)

But the mere carrying the flag
should not be an excuse for any
of the irregularities of papers or
other suspicious circumstances detailed
in the foregoing Paragraphs.

22. The checks which
I have here proposed will hardly
be applicable to the case of the
actual renewal of piracy, in which
proceedings ^{proceedings} must be
event much more strict, must be
adopted; but they will I trust act
as a preventive, and should they
fail it will then be time to
pursue more decided measures.

The utmost penalty which will
be incurred is sending the
boat to Bushire, when all
should do is to detain the Vessel
until

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [262r] (71/211)

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until I hear from the Chief, and should be obliged to maintain the people at the expense of Government; but I am at a loss what further course to suggest which should not involve a risk of hostilities, unless perhaps to send them to Bombay which might be very inconvenient.

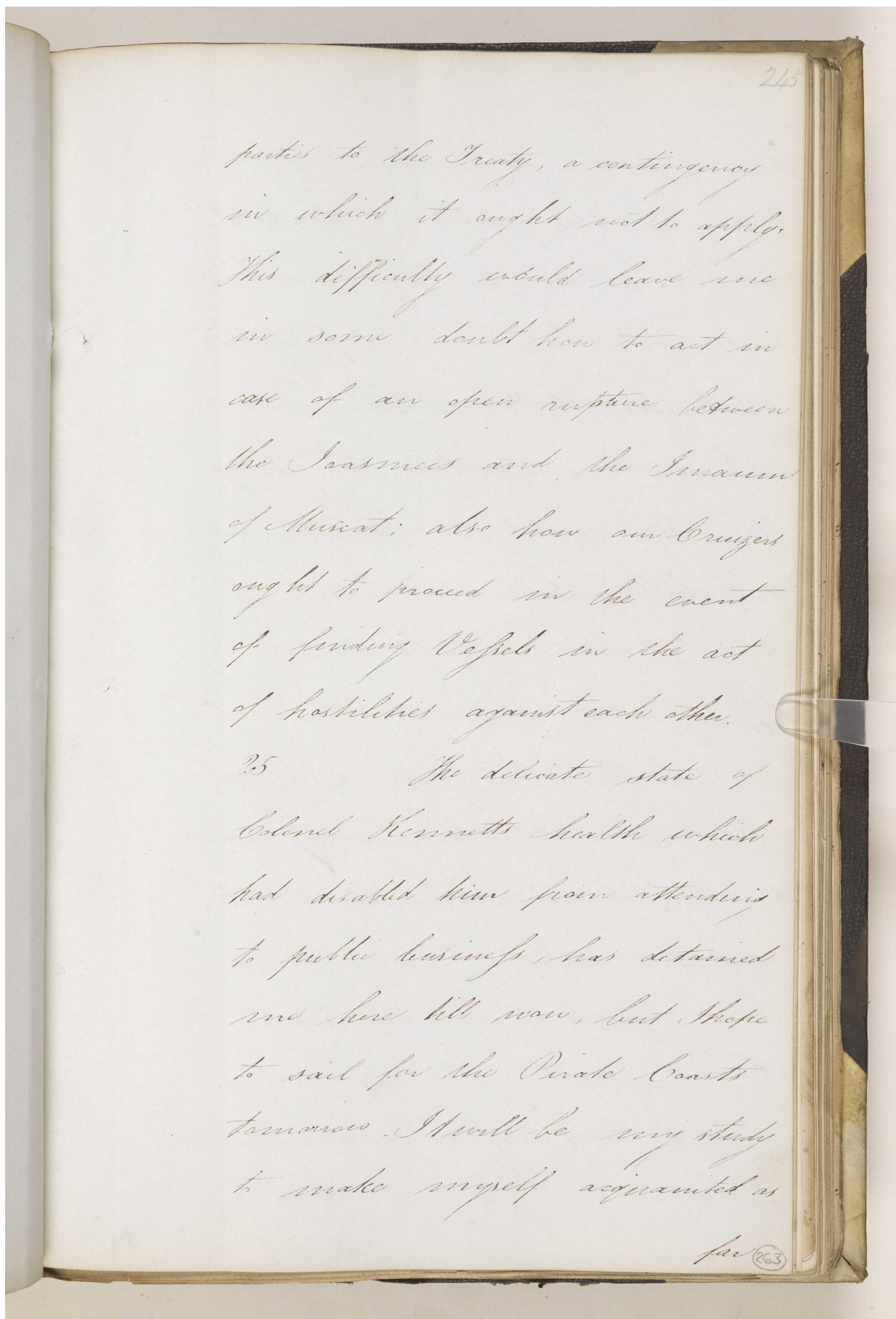
23 The whole of these conditions refer of course only to the Chiefs who are parties to the treaty, but I understand there are some other maritime chiefs on the Arabian Coast who are not parties to it. I propose endeavouring to come to some understanding with them.

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These Chiefs, by inviting them to
join in the Treaty, and explaining
to them the suspicious light in
which they must inevitably
place themselves should they
decline.

24 Although these
resolutions are intended only to
prevent acts of piracy by the
parties to the Treaty, and will
have the effect also in some
degree of checking their hostilities
against each other at Sea; yet
their operation may involve us
in a difficulty which I know
not how to avoid in the
case of Wars between them and
other powers who are not
parties

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [263r] (73/211)



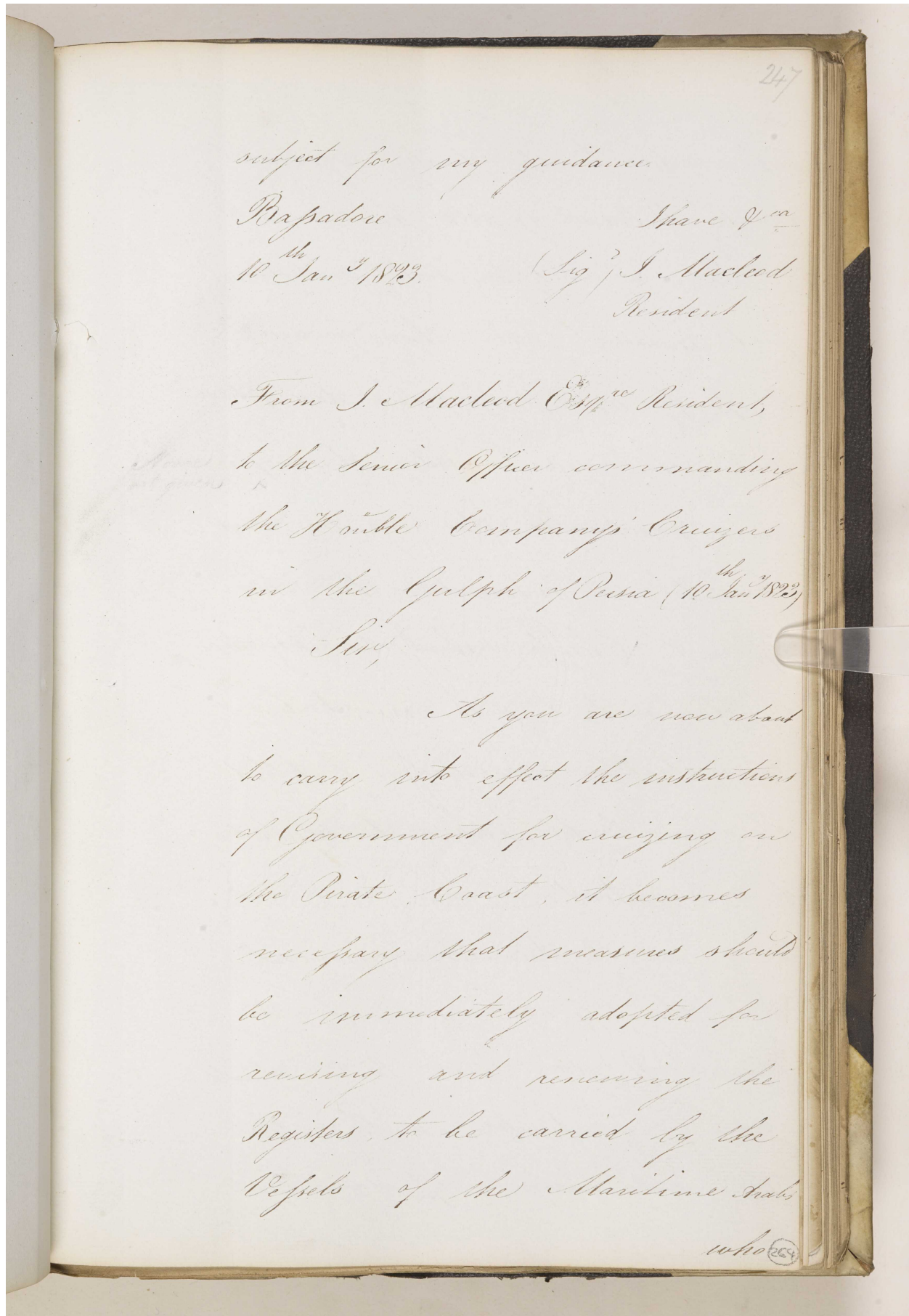
245
parties to the Treaty, a contingency
in which it ought not to apply.
This difficulty would leave me
in some doubt how to act in
case of an open rupture between
the Sassanics and the Sman
of Muscat; also how our Cruizers
ought to proceed in the event
of finding Vessels in the act
of hostilities against each other.

25 The delicate state of
Colonel Kennetts health which
had disabled him from attending
to public business, has detained
me here till now, but I hope
to sail for the Pirate Coasts
tomorrow. It will be my study
to make myself acquainted as

for 263

as far as possible with the state of
affairs in that quarter, and I shall
on my return to Boston submit
to Government all the information
which I can collect, together with
such further suggestions as I may
then be enabled to offer. It is not
improbable that my views on
some points may then be
different from those which I have
now laid before you, and that
many other difficulties may occur
to me, but I hope the present
imperfect reference will in
the meantime be sufficiently
clear to enable you to procure
at an early period the instructions
of Government on the
subject

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [264r] (75/211)

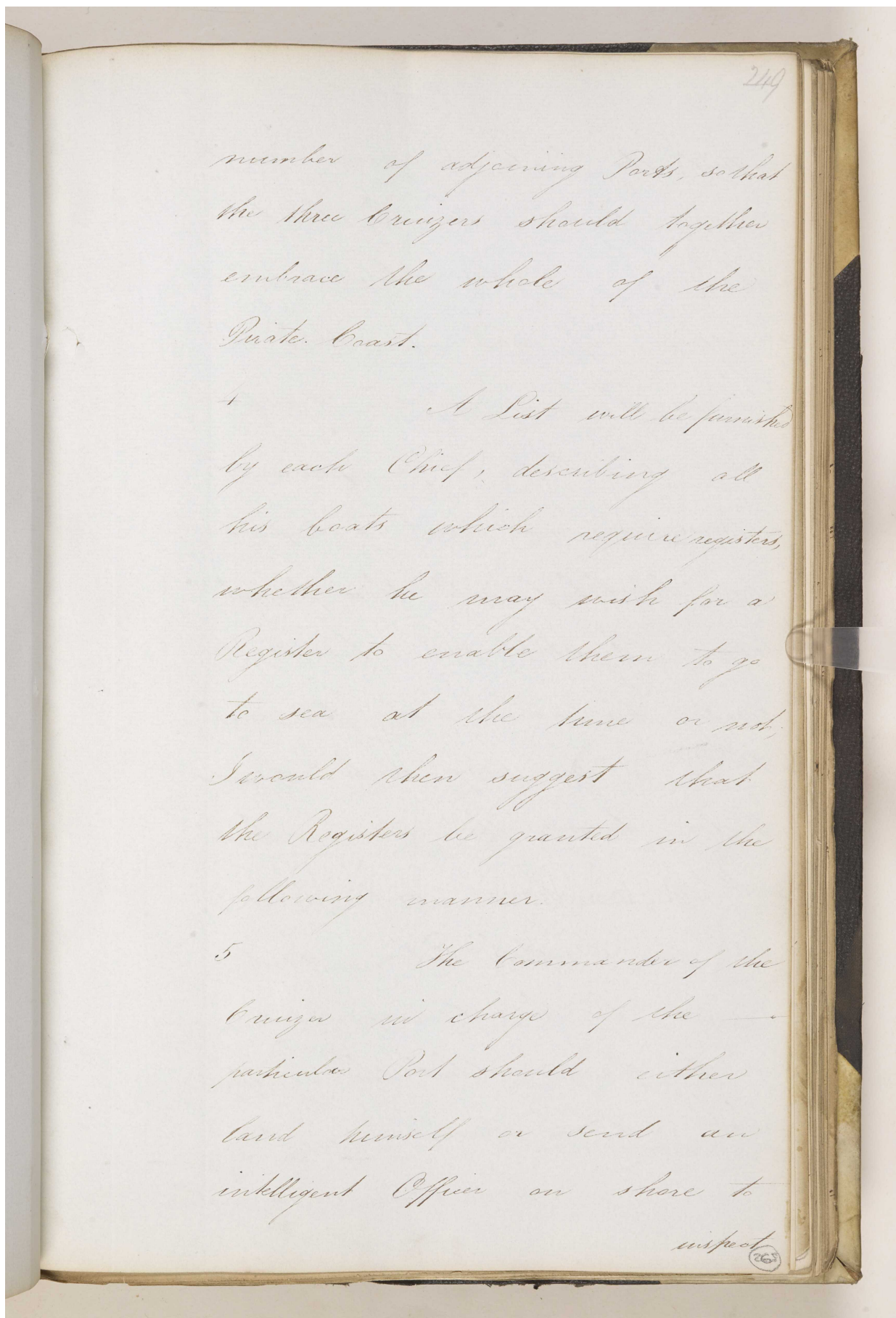


'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [264v] (76/211)

whom parties to the treaty negotiated by Sir William Grant Keir.

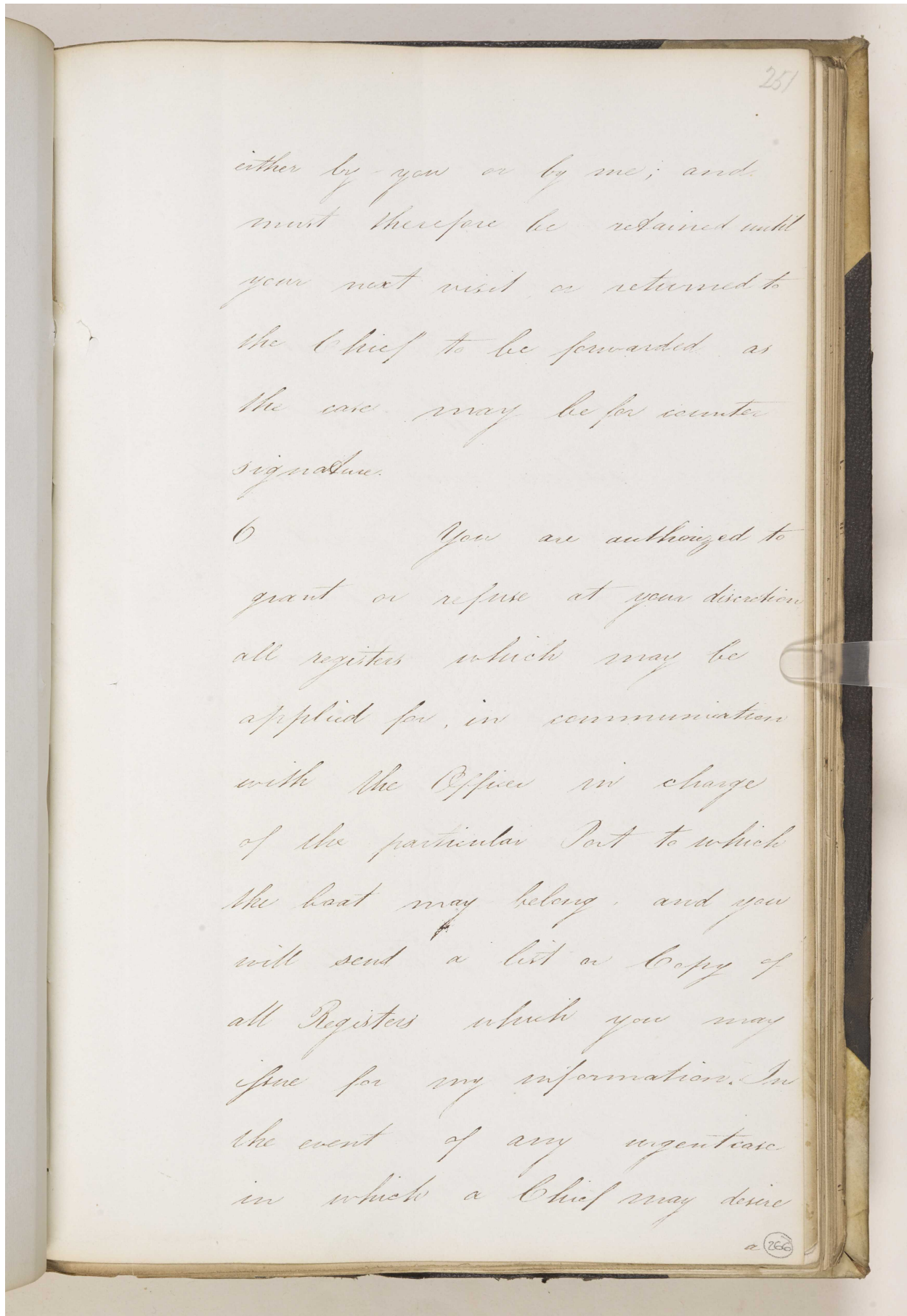
2 You will on the first instance have the goodness to specify what size and description of Vessels you consider it necessary and practicable to register, and it will be intimated to the different Chiefs that the Registers of all such Vessels must be immediately received, but that smaller boats are not required to be registered.

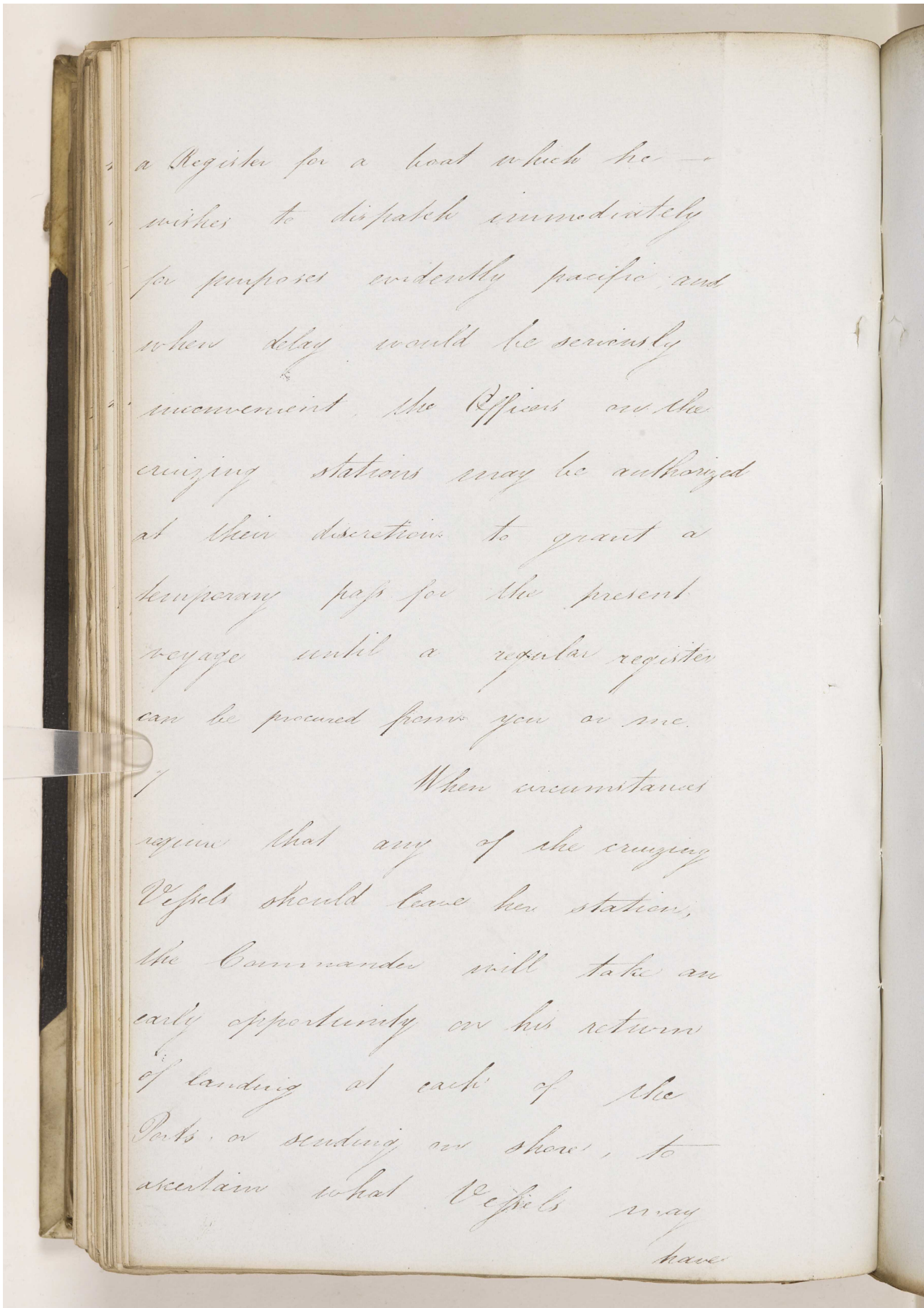
3 I would recommend that the Officers stationed to cruise off the Pirate Ports, should each be entrusted with the particular charge of a certain number



inspect the boats in person, and
compare them with the Shaikh's
list, writing a description in
English of each according to
the usual form of the Registers
which he will keep for future
information, and send a Copy to
you. The Chief will then furnish
separate Registers in Arabic,
under his own seal, for such
Vessels as he may wish to send
to Sea during the year, which
will be compared and filled
up in English below, and
signed by the Commander
of the Cruiser; but the Registers
shall not be valid until
they shall have been countersigned
either

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [266r] (79/211)

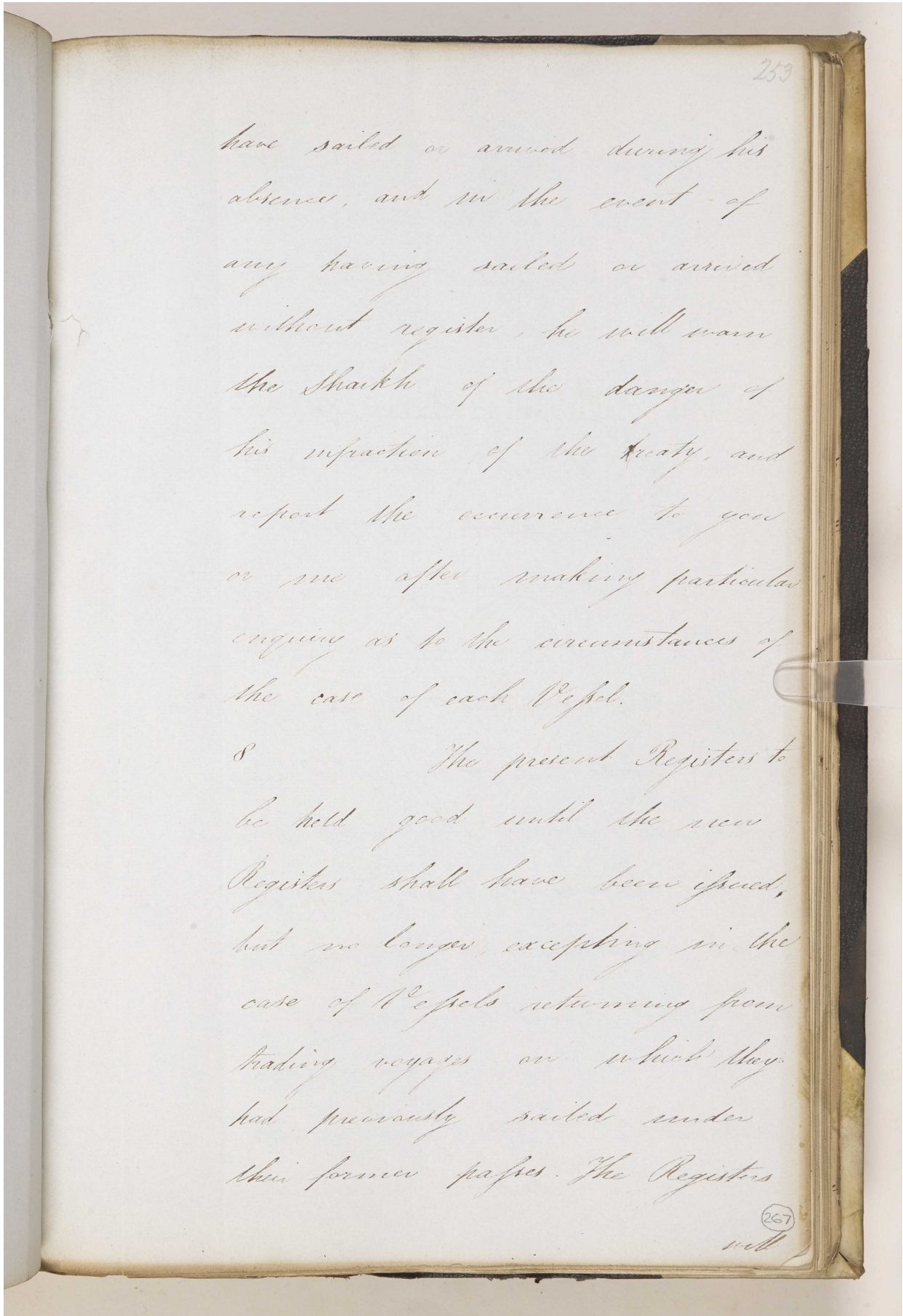




a Register for a boat which he
wishes to dispatch immediately
for purposes evidently pacific; and
when delay would be seriously
inconvenient, the Officers on the
cruizing stations may be authorized
at their discretion to grant a
temporary pass for the present
voyage until a regular register
can be procured from you or me.

When circumstances
require that any of the cruizing
Vessels should leave her station,
the Commander will take an
early opportunity on his return
of landing at each of the
Ports, or sending on shore, to
ascertain what Vessels may
have

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [267r] (81/211)



'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [267v] (82/211)

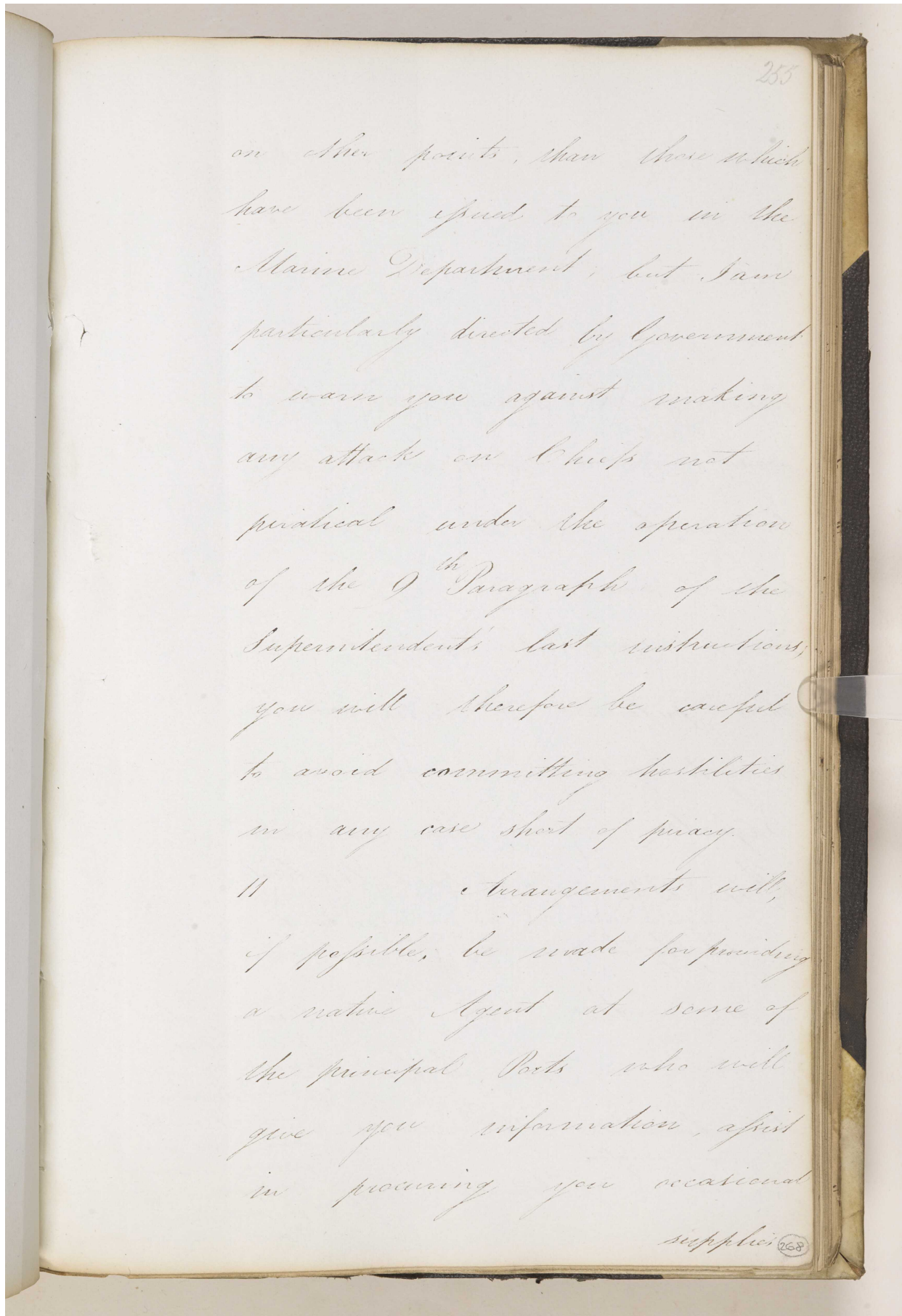
will be paid from one year only,
and will be renewed annually,
when the old Registers must be
given up.

9 It is hoped that
when the Registers shall once
have been issued, as here
recommended, no difficulties will
occur in renewing them, and
that the occasional inspection
of the Ports will enable every
Officer to give a pretty correct
account at any time of all the
boats belonging to each of those
under his particular charge.

10 I am not yet
prepared to furnish you with
any more particular instructions

as

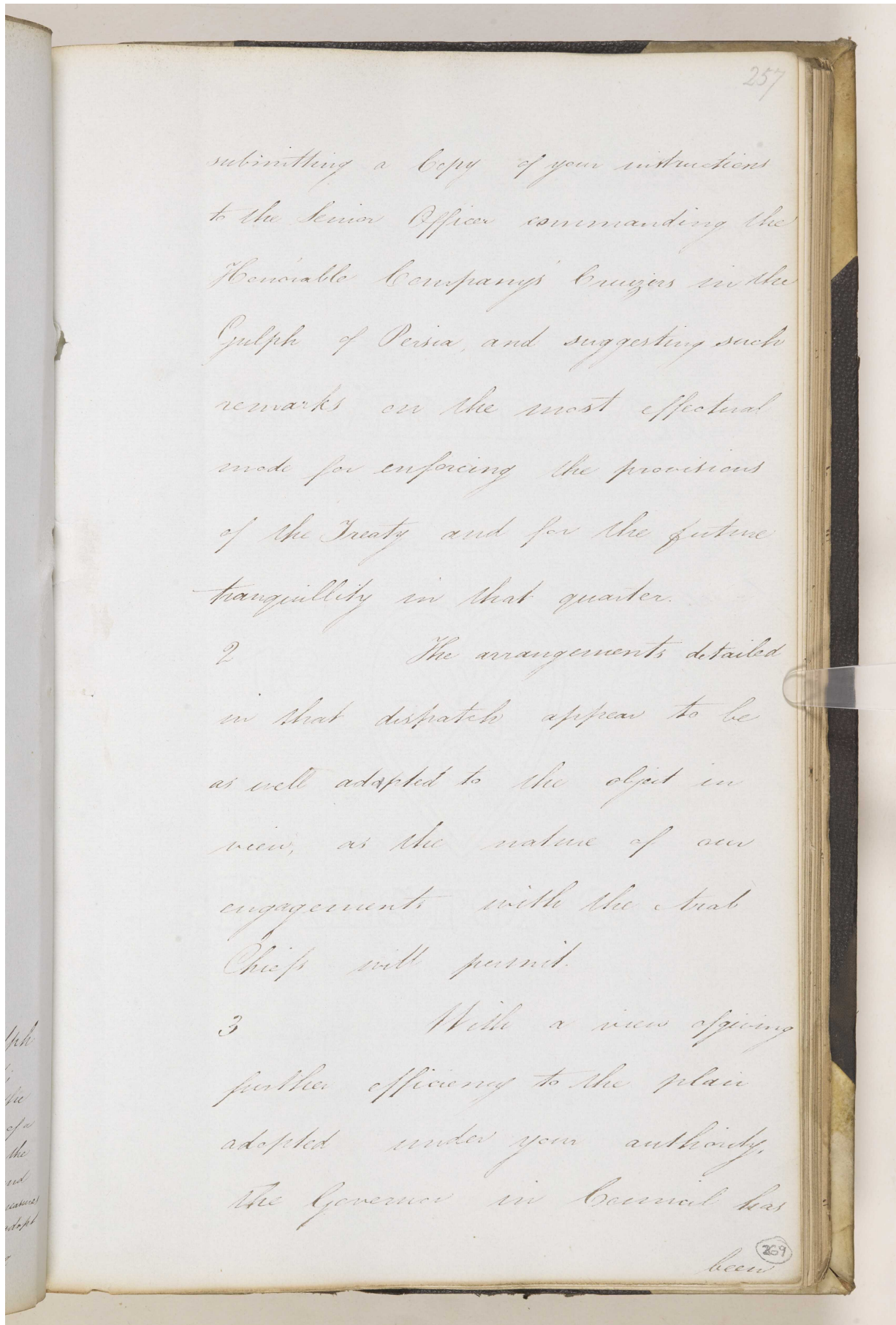
'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [268r] (83/211)

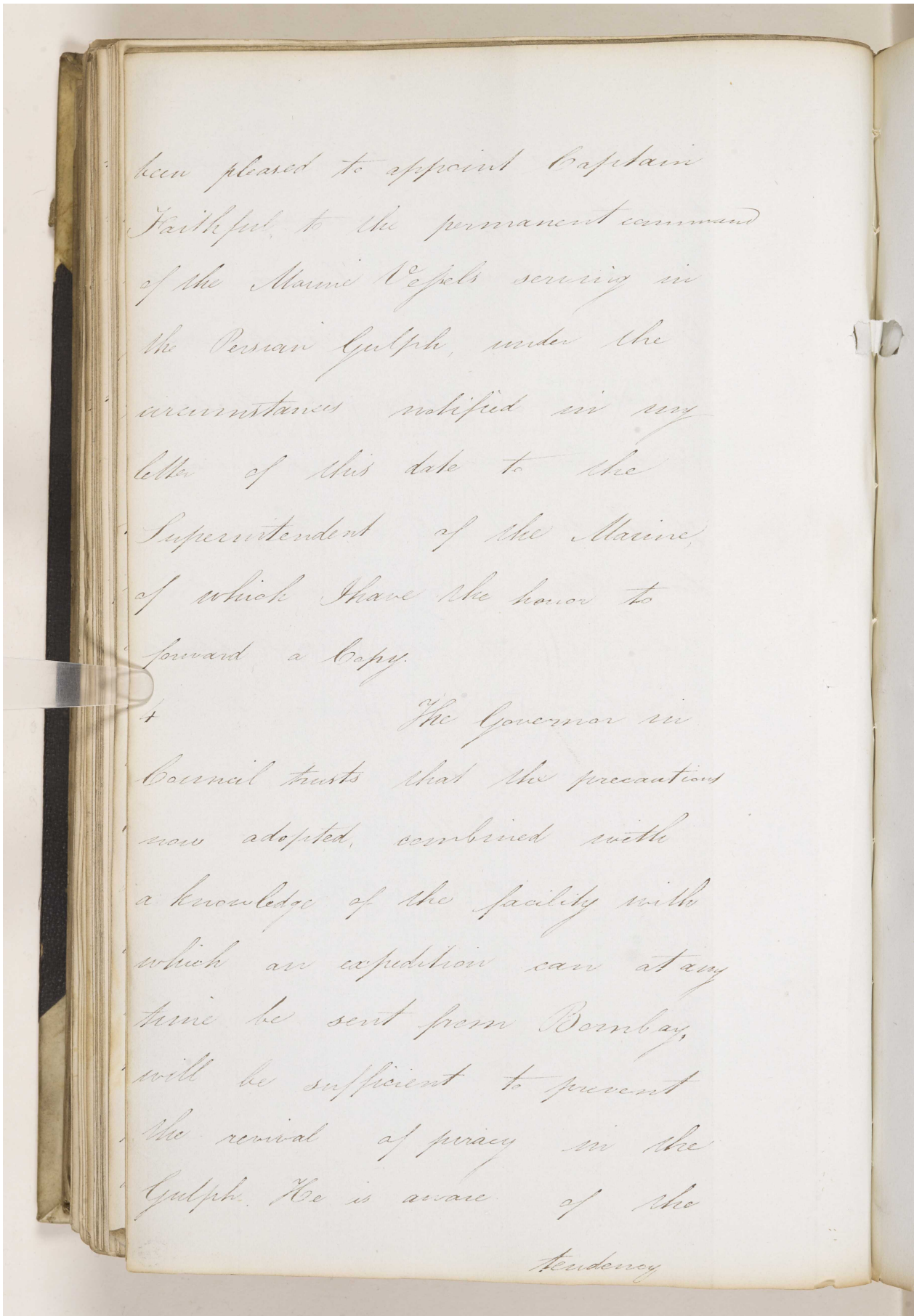


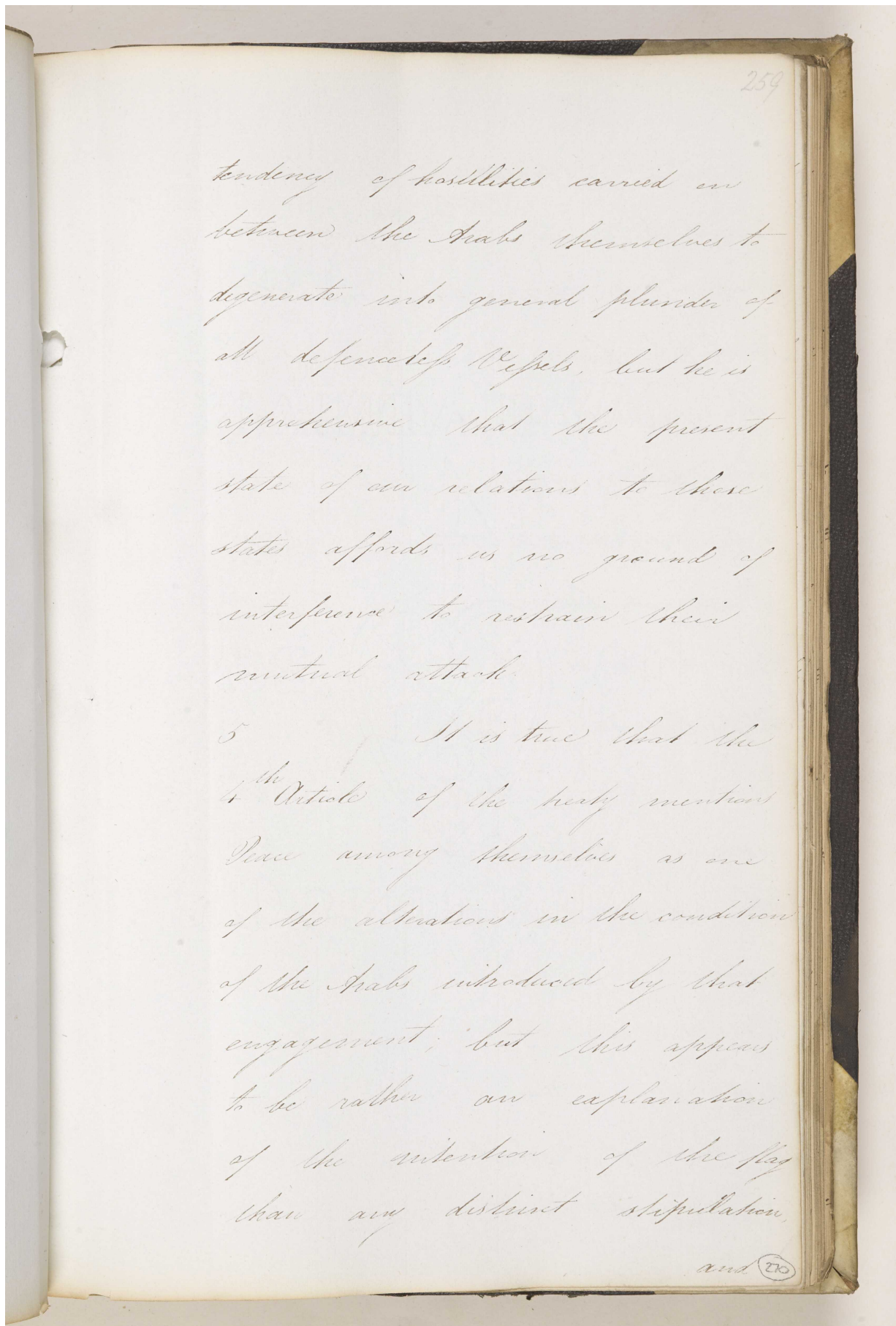
'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [268v] (84/211)

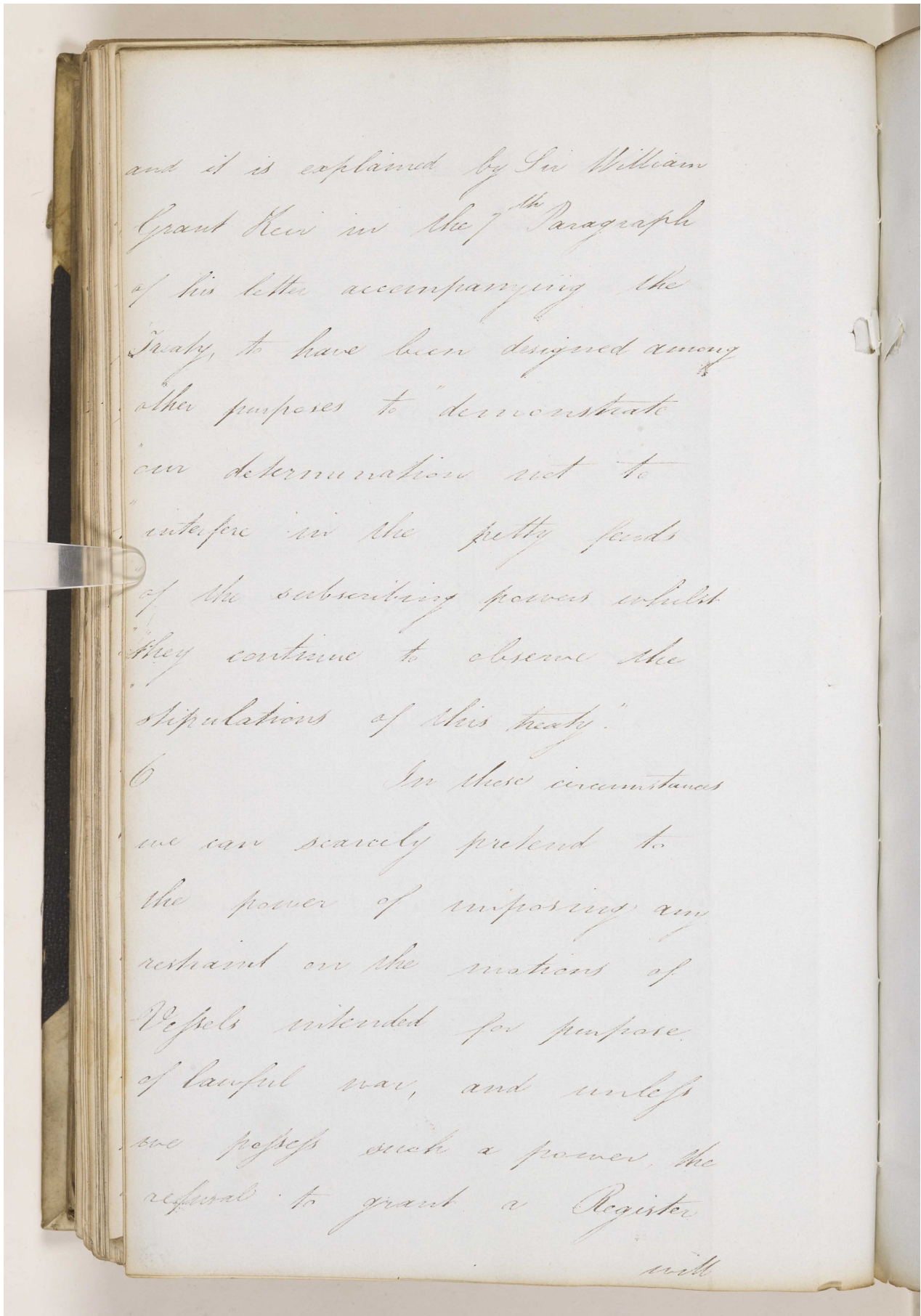
supplies, and also act as interpreters
 when required, in the measure
 which the Officers may be
 authorized to employ for the
 time, such persons as they
 may require to enable them
 to make out the necessary
 bills of boats, the expense of
 which will be defrayed on
 their preferring a contingent bill
 through you.

Barpadow }
 10th Jan^y 1823. }
 Reply to }
 Sir, }
 I have the honor }
 to acknowledge the receipt }
 of your Despatch }
 of the 10th of January last, }
 submitting }
 Persian Gulf }
 to the Resident; }
 advising of the }
 appointment of a }
 Commission in the }
 Persian Gulf and }
 approving the measures }
 he proposes to adopt }
 for restraining }
 piracy.



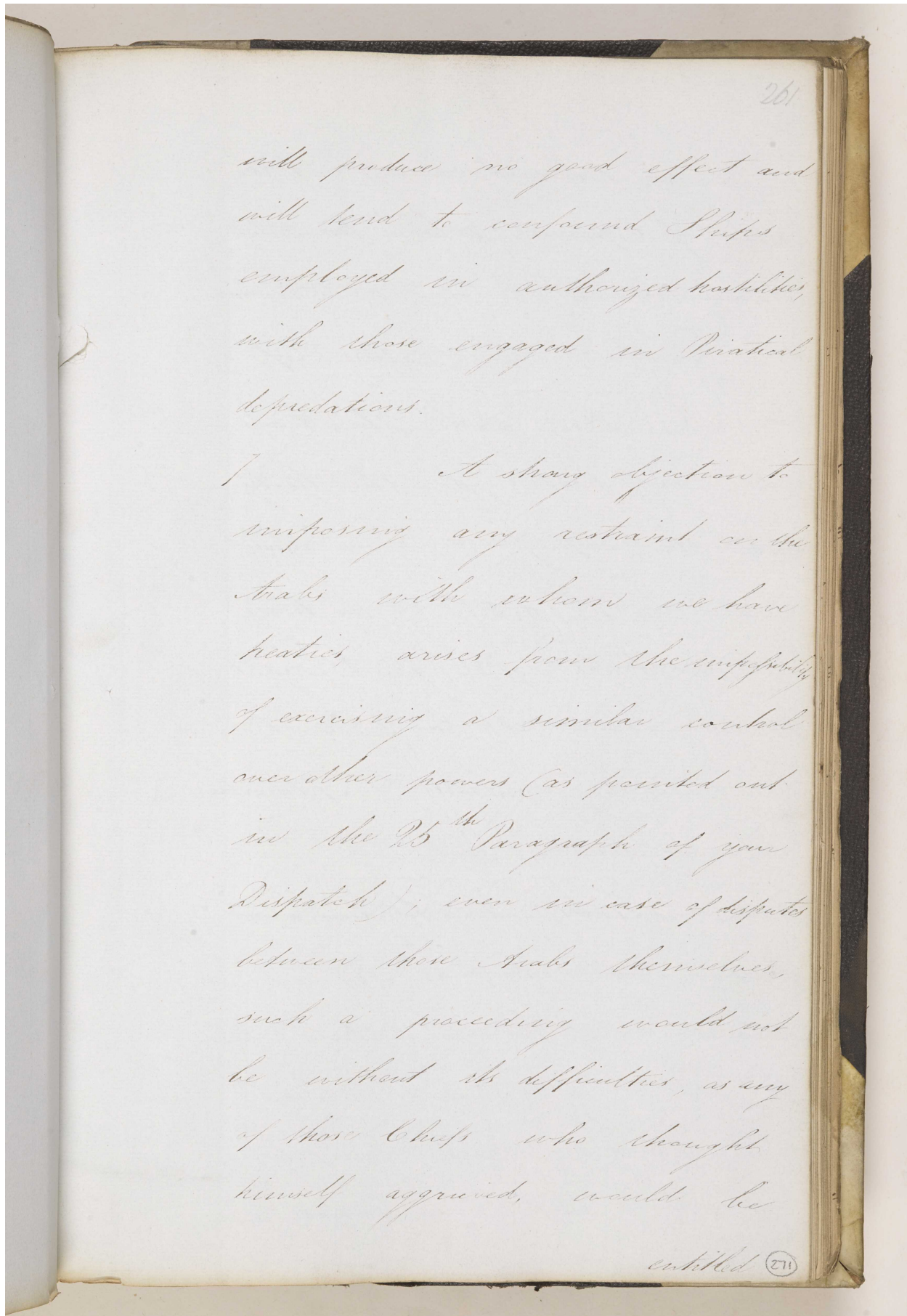






and it is explained by Sir William
Grant Kew in the 7th Paragraph
of his letter accompanying the
Treaty, to have been designed among
other purposes to "demonstrate
our determination not to
interfere in the petty feuds
of the subscribing powers whilst
they continue to observe the
stipulations of this treaty."

6 In these circumstances
we can scarcely pretend to
the power of imposing any
restraint on the motions of
Vessels intended for purpose
of lawful war, and unless
we possess such a power, the
refusal to grant a Register
with



entitled to demand redress at the
hands of a power which prevented
his seeking it by his own means.
The nature of
our connection with the Arabs
who are parties to the treaty,
and the expression above alluded
to in the 1st Article of the treaty,
will no doubt give great weight
to our endeavors to prevent
hostilities by means of explanation
and mediation, and will even
perhaps entitle us to demand
from each chief an explicit
declaration of his intention before
he goes to war with any
other power in the Gulph,
but when such war shall once
have

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [272r] (91/211)

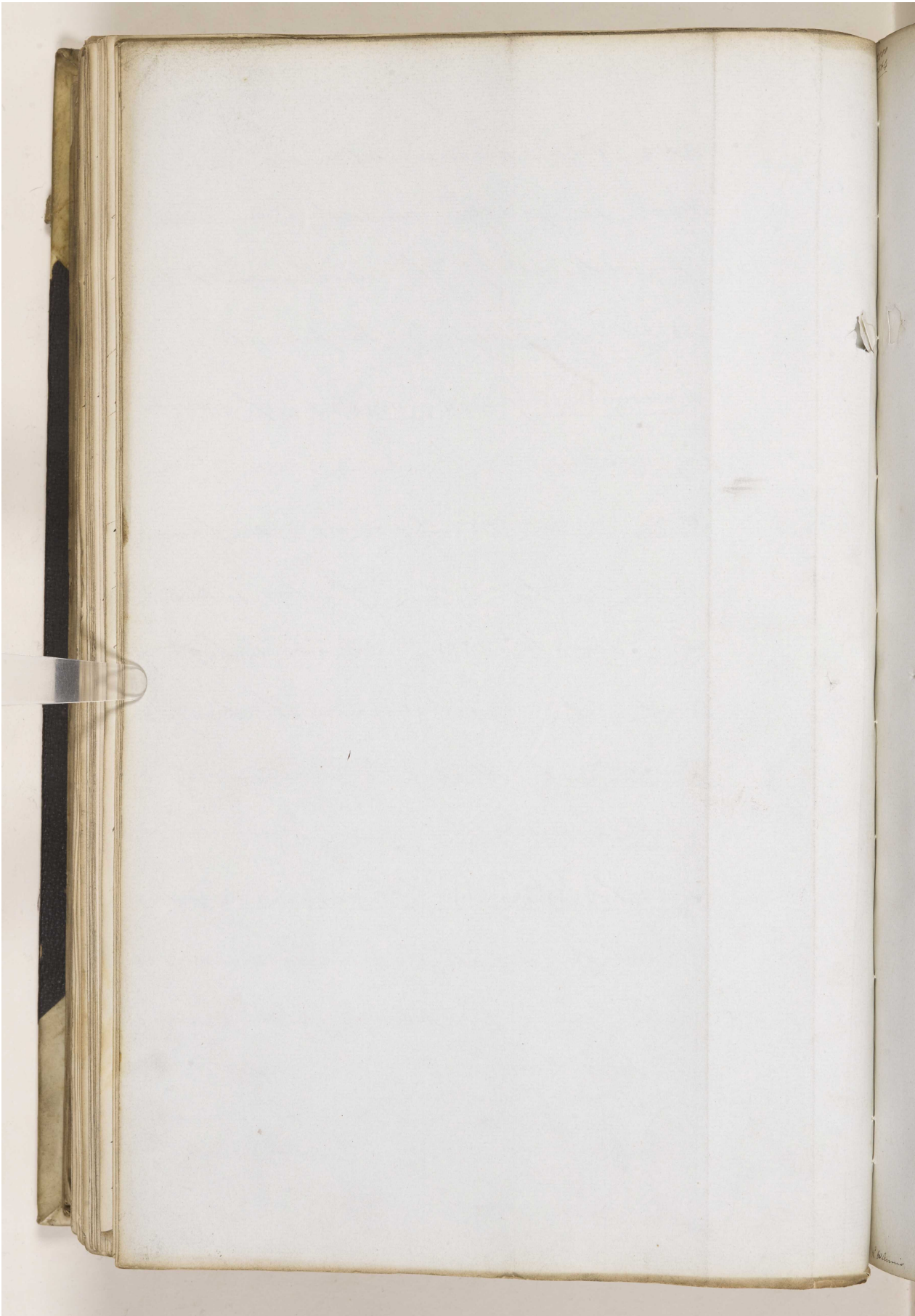
263

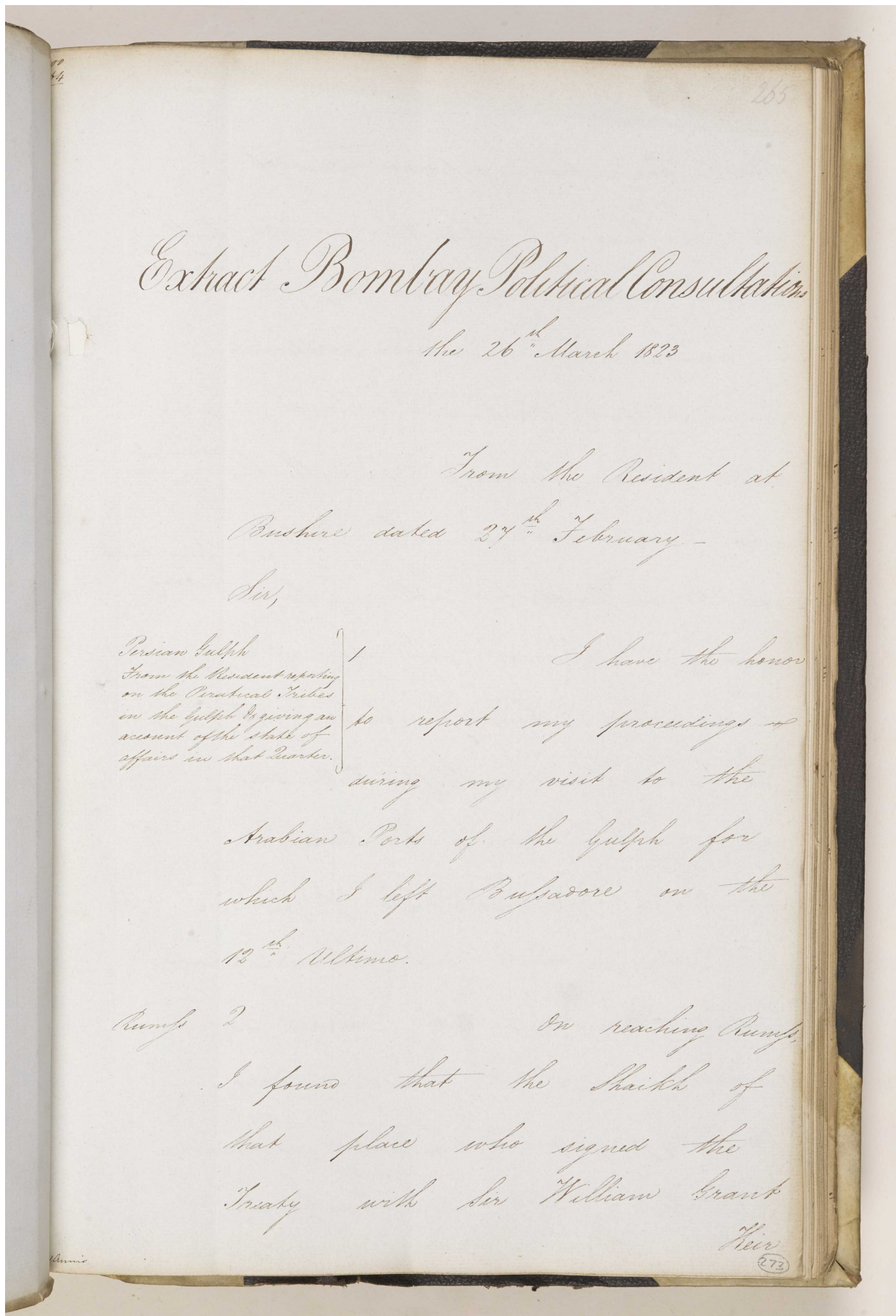
have been announced we can
 have no further control over the
 proceedings of the belligerents, than
 may be necessary to prevent a
 renewal of the system of general
 depredation.

I The Governor in Council
 highly approves of your intention,
 to invite the Arab Chiefs
 not yet parties to the treaty to
 accede to that engagement,
 and hopes that your success will
 be the means of removing some
 of the dangers to which the tranquillity
 of the Persian Gulf is still exposed.

Bombay Castle }
 15th March 1823. } Have I^{re}
 (Sig^d) W. V. Norman
 Chief Secretary

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Heir has been deposed through
 the influence of Shaikh Soltan ^{Shaikh}
 Bin Suggur, and succeeded by ^{Mahomed} ^{bin Abdul} ^{Rahman}
 a young man named Mahomed
 bin Abdul Rahman whose
 Father had formerly been Shaikh,
 until superseded by the late ^{former Shaikh}
 Shaikh, Hussain bin Ali, who is ^{deposed}
 now at Sharga. The young
 Man excused himself from visiting
 me on Board Ship, but sent
 his head man to whom
 I fully explained the purposes
 of my visit and the arrangements
 which were to be made as
 directed in my instructions.
 He expressed his Master's determination
 to abide by the Treaty, and
 he

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [274r] (95/211)

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his readiness to comply with
any measures which we might
think fit to adopt in
furtherance of its engagements.

Rafsool Khyma³
Shaikh
Mahommmed
bin Suggar

Rafsool Khyma
is entirely subject to Soollan
bin Suggar, whose brother Shaikh
Mahomed has been placed by
him in charge of the Government
The former Shaikh Hoosain bin
Rana also resides there. The
Inhabitants who have returned
to the place have established
themselves on the beach, on
the East side of the back-water
opposite to the former Town,
the whole of which remains
in ruins, and deserted, the new
Town

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Town consists of a good many
huts built of Reeds, with only
one or two houses of mud
The Creek still serves as a
harbour for their Boats.

As the Shaikhs
people were very anxious to
impress us with the idea, that
the whole coast from Rump
to Sharga was entirely subject
to Sooltan bin Suggur. I thought
it necessary to explain, that
although this might be
the case, yet that each Chief
whether dependent or otherwise
must hold himself answerable
for the Rebels belonging to
his own Boats.

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5 After visiting the
 Suway and receiving every assurance
 of the most friendly disposition
 on the part of Sooltan bin
 Suqur and his Brother, I
 returned on Board and proceeded
 to Jeziratool Humra.

Jeziratool Humra
 Humra Shaikh
 Moosizim bin
 Abdool Rehman
 former Shaikh
 deen

Shaikh Suqur bin
 Ahmed of Jeziratool Humra is
 dead, and has been succeeded
 by Shaikh Moosizim bin Abdool
 Rehman under the approbation
 of Sooltan bin Suqur, the Shaikh
 himself was absent at Muscat,
 but his son Mahomed bin
 Moosizim came on board, he
 acknowledged most fully the general
 obligation of the Treaty, but seemed

very
 275

very ignorant of its particular
conditions, since he admitted that
although he had two Books
on trading Voyages, neither
of them had either pass
or colours, and he seemed quite
unconscious of the impropriety
of this neglect, or the danger
to which his vessels were
exposed. On my explaining the
purposes of my visit, he
promised faithfully to abide by
his engagements and furnished
a list of his vessels for
Registry, he acknowledged generally
the supremacy of Sooltan Hussein
Sugger, but declared that he
considered

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [276r] (99/211)

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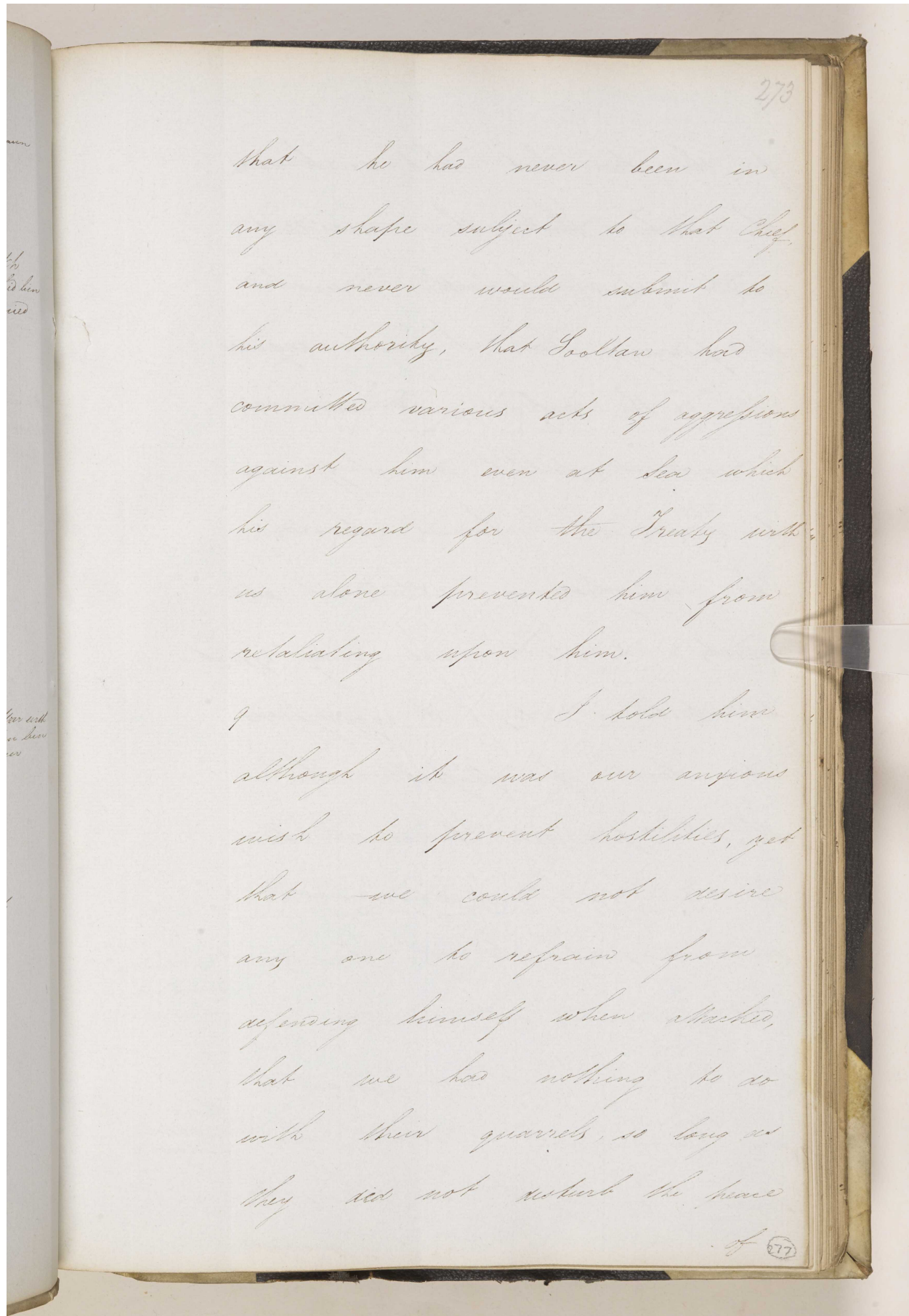
considered himself fully amenable
to us for all his actions in
respect to his Treaty with the
English Government.

Ummul Qurayn
Abdullah bin
Rasheed

The Sheikh of
Ummul Qurayn Abdullah bin Rasheed,
is the same who signed the
Treaty, he brought a copy of
it with him, and assured
me that he would not
fail to abide by it, he
acknowledged the supremacy of
Sultan bin Sa'ud, in the
same manner as the Sheikh
of Jezirahool Humra, and at
the same time asserted his
own responsibility for the
Rebels of his Port.

8276

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [277r] (101/211)



'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [277v] (102/211)

of the sea, but that such was the risk that these disorders would lead to the revival of piracy, that I would enquire into the subject, and endeavour to induce Sultan ben Suggur to ^{desist} direct, if I found him the aggressor, and that at all events I should use every effort to put a stop to aggressions at sea if possible. The Shaikh promised to abide strictly by all our arrangements in respect to the Treaty, and returned on shore.

10 I was anxious to see as much of Sultan ben Suggur as possible, and therefore

Shirvan
Sultan ben Suggur -

proceed

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [278r] (103/211)

275

proceeded to land at once at
Sharga, accompanied by Capt^r Faithful &
the other Commanders of the
Cruizers. The Shaikh received us
very well, gave us a house
and a Tent and supplied us
with every thing we required during
our stay of two days on Shore.
" This Chief is certainly
by far the most powerful
and the ablest of all the
Shaikhs from Rumf to Bahrain.
He entered at great length
claims of into the subject of the Treaty,
sovereignty and urged strongly his supremacy
over all the other Chiefs of
the Coast which, he alledged
had been confirmed by Sir
William

William
(278)

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [278v] (104/211)

William Grant Keir by a special
agreement which he produced.
This paper (which is the one
alluded to by Lieutenant Colonel
Kenneth in the 8th 9th 10th 11th
pages of his letter to me
of the 15th January, with a
copy of which he has I
presume furnished you) proves
to be the preliminary Treaty ^{preliminary} ~~Treaty~~
by which Scollan engaged to
deliver up the the lower
guns and vessels at the Ports
of Sharga Imam Mummul
Suwayr and their dependencies
As the Shah quoted this
as a confirmation by our
Government, of his rights over
all

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [279r] (105/211)

277

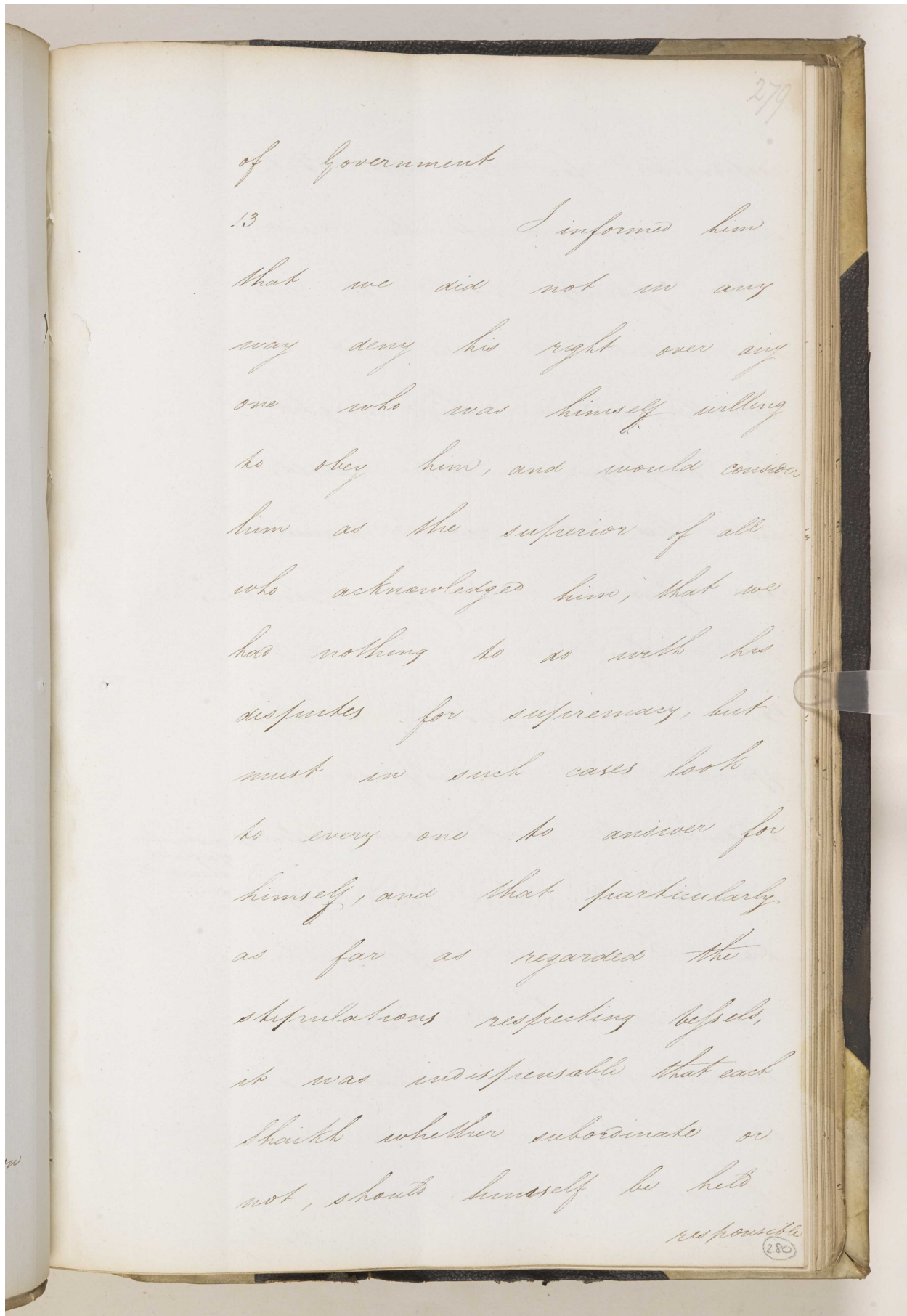
all those Ports, and of his obligation
of responsibility for their conduct
and observance of the Treaty, I
told him it did not appear
to confer or confirm any
rights whatever, but merely to
acknowledge the state of things
as it stood at the time
of the agreement.

12 The next address
in proof of his positive rights
over the ports and particularly
the Chiefs of
submitting their
representation
in justification of his present
proceedings against Raschid bin
Hoomeid a letter from the
Chiefs said to be a duplicate
of one addressed by them to
the Honourable the Governor last
year

(279)

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [279v] (106/211)

year, in answer I presume to
a printed circular to the
parties to the Treaty which
was transmitted to His Highness
from the office of Country
correspondence on the 23rd July
1821. I cannot discover whether
this letter was ever actually
sent to Bombay or not,
and Colonel Kenneth does not
seem to have been aware
of its contents, but the
duplicate which I examined had
every appearance of authenticity,
and bears the seals of
the Chiefs. I have the honor
to enclose a copy and translation
of it for the information
of



responsible for his own Part,
 since references to him on
 those points would be most
 inconvenient, and could not be
 admitted, although they might
 be necessary in other cases,
 in this he readily acquiesced,
 and promised to give instructions
 accordingly.

14 Sothman bin Suggue
 expressed great anxiety to be
 allowed to erect some defenses ^{construction} _{of defenses}
 towards the land side of ^{towards the} _{land.}
 the Town to repel the
 Bedouins, who he said took
 advantage of the defenseless state
 of the place, to come down
 and attack it during the Pearl
 Fishing

281

Fishing Season, when all the men
are at sea, and no one left
but the Women & Children. He
said he had no wish to erect
any works towards the sea,
or even within gun shot of
the shore, and that although
he had surrendered his Guns and
towers to be destroyed by Sir
William Grant Keir, yet he
had not bound himself not
to erect other defences, I told
him that under the orders
of Government. I did not feel
myself at liberty to authorize
his erecting any works so
near the beach as he desired
but that further in hand
he

281

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [281v] (110/211)

he might build what he pleased, that it was true there was no express stipulations in the Treaty against rebuilding their Fortifications, but that it was the evident intention & spirit of our proceedings and agreements to prevent it, & that I believed the Shaikh had themselves acknowledged this right on our part. I however promised to represent the case to Government & obtain its orders

15 The Shaikh next ^{discrepant reflecting that as regards with the Shaikh of Muscat} stated that the Emam of Muscat and he, were already at hostilities on land, and asked how

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [282r] (111/211)

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how he was to act in the event of the Saamans attacking his vessels, I replied that I hoped the Saaman would not commit any aggressions, that I would advise his Highness not to endanger the tranquillity of the Gulf by such proceeding and that if the Saaman should take any of his ships which were peaceably trading under our Register, I would remonstrate with His Highness and endeavour, if possible, to procure redress. That although we had no right to interfere in their quarrels or wars or even to prevent them from

282

heard
being
aggravated
between
rest

from prosecuting just hostilities
at sea, and shall try to
forbid any one to defend
himself from aggression, provided
these hostilities did not lead
to Piracy, yet that we
could not in any way
countenance them, and must
strongly dissuade all parties
from them. I explained that
our Registers were granted for
purposes of peace, not of
War, and would not protect
any suspicious vessels, and
that as in such cases it
was hardly possible for our
Privateers to distinguish between
vessels intended for lawful War
and

285

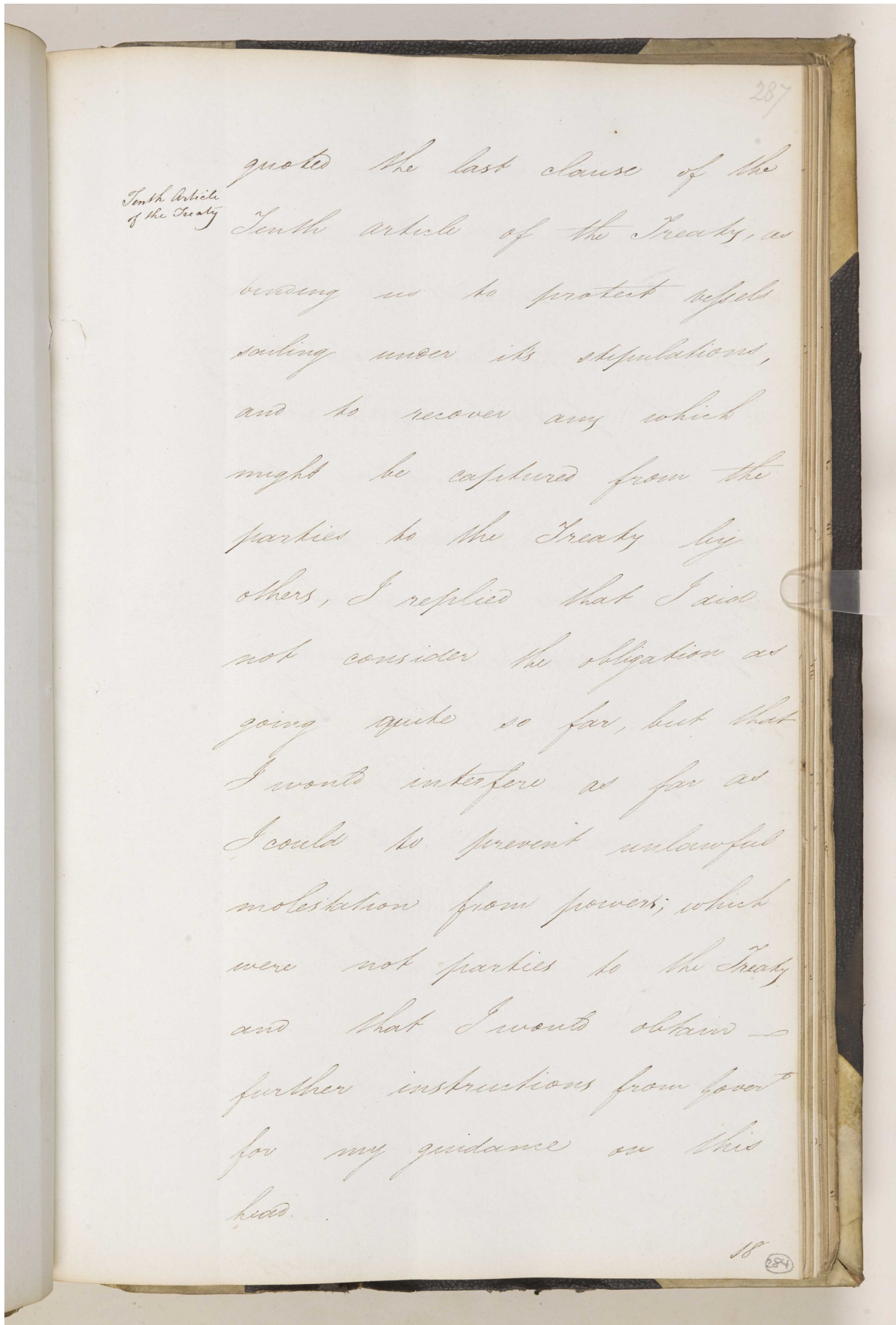
and those whose intentions were
Piratical, armed boats would often
be inevitably exposed to suspicion
and even danger, and at any
rate to the risk of trouble

Hostilities and
with the
Shahish of
Imamun

16 On enquiring respecting
his quarrel with Raschid ben
Hoosaid, Soollan denied all his
accusations and complained loudly
against him, that after submitting
and solemnly acknowledging his
supremacy, he had now thrown
off his allegiance, and was
stirring up all his enemies
against, him in concert with
the Imam of Muscat, that
Raschid had always been most
hostile

hostile to the English as well
as to himself. He declared
that he had no intentions
against him further than
to bring him back to his
former engagements which he
had broken, and asserted his
right to do so according
to the paper which I had
seen; under these circumstances
I could only repeat my
former instances to avoid
extremities, and compromise the
dispute, which I fear will
be of little avail.

14 During a very
long discussion on the subject
of the Treaty generally, Lothian
quoted



18 The Shaikh concluded
by assurances of his friendly
dispositions towards the British
Government, his entire acquiescence
in the present arrangements,
and his determination to
abide by the Treaty, and by
any directions we might give
respecting its fulfilment

19 I have been
thus particular in detailing
my conversation with the
Chief, because it not only
shews the views which he
took of the subject, but
those which formed the basis
of my communication
generally with all the other
chiefs

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Chiefs, in addition to the points
adverted to in my instructions,
Shaukh Soaltan was however the
only one who seemed capable
of entering fully into the
subject, the rest are very inferior
in every respect.

Dubey 20
Boothabee

The Chiefs of

Dubey and Boothabee, who were
at a short distance in land
from Sharga, both visited me
at that place, I did not
therefore think it necessary to
proceed myself to their Ports.

Shaukh 24
Tahman of
Boothabee
Shaukh Zaid
bin Saif of
Dubey.

These Shaukhs are

both of the Benigas Tribe, of
whom Shaukh Tahman of Boothabee
is the superior. Shaukh Zaid

bin (285)

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [285v] (118/211)

bin Saif of Dubey, is the same who signed the Treaty, to which both promised entire compliance. Shaikh Tahman has fully established his power to the exclusion of his Father Shaikh Shakhsoot, and his Brother Shaikh Mahomed, the former is said to have submitted to his Son, the latter is with another branch of the Tribe in the interior.

22 On my enquiring ^{Soudan} ^{bin Jal} respecting Soudan bin Jal, who is particularly mentioned in Colonel Kennett's letter to you of the 6th Ultimo N^o 42, Shaikh Tahman stated that he was his

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [286r] (119/211)

291
his subject, that he has left
Bidder, and was some where
amongst the Islands between
that place and Boothabee,
that he had as yet no
fixed place of abode, but
that he would be answerable
for his conduct, and would,
if I pleased, recall him either
to Boothabee or Duker and
fix him there under his
own eye; I thought this
would be a very desirable
arrangement under the suspicious
circumstances of this person, and
as the proposal was publicly
made in the presence of Sothan
bin Suggus and the Shaikh
of

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [286v] (120/211)

of Dubey, I requested Tahman
to write to Souidan, and
gave him also at his desire
a letter to that Chief desiring
him to obey the orders of
his Sheikh, in addition to
which I took a duplicate of
Tahmans letter for Souidan, in
case I should fall in with
him, but in this hope I was
disappointed.

23 At Shargah
Captain Faithful completed his
arrangements for the stationing
of the cruising vessels, and
the renewal of the Registry.
As they are entirely consonant

to

286v

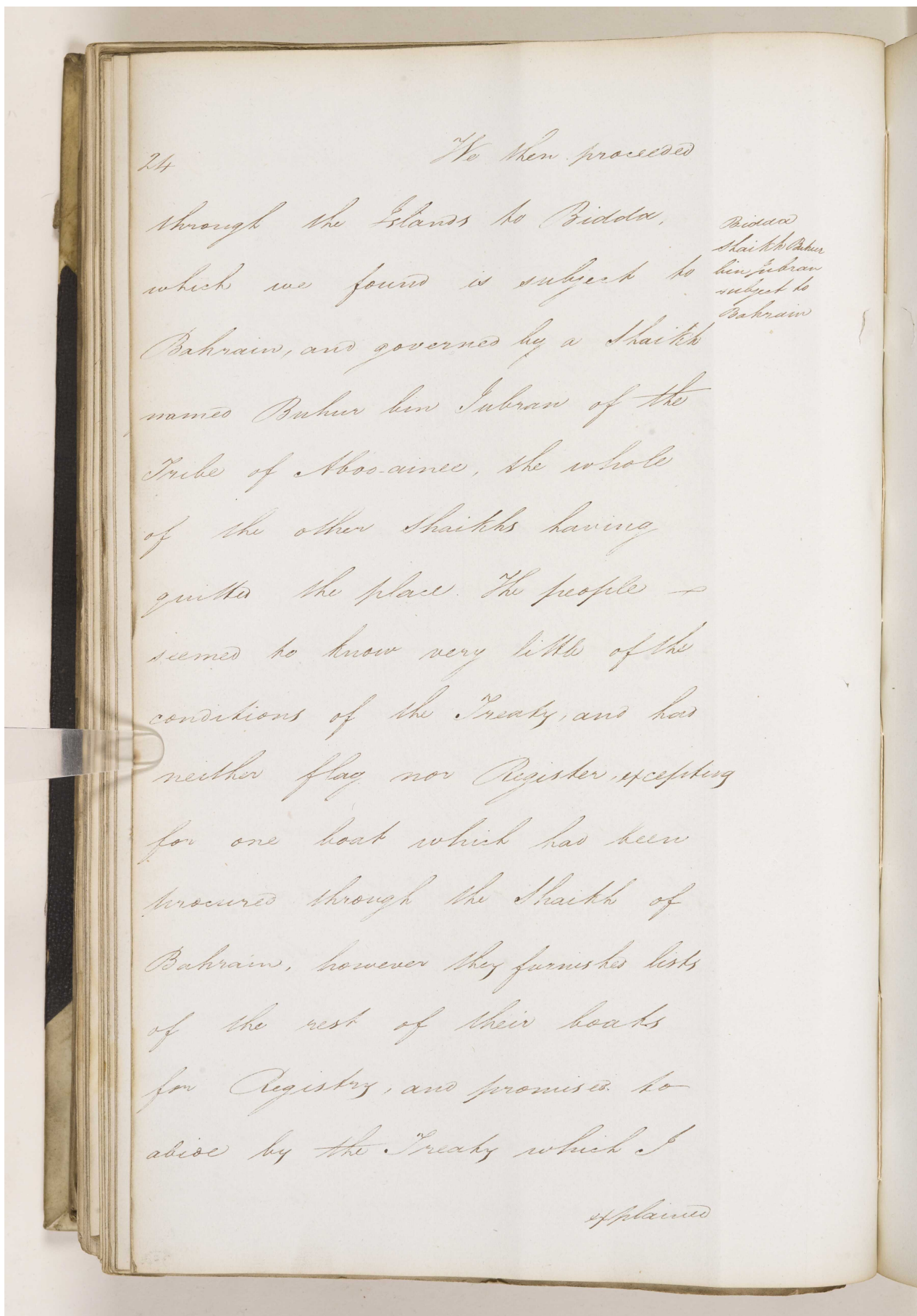
88
B. Jones

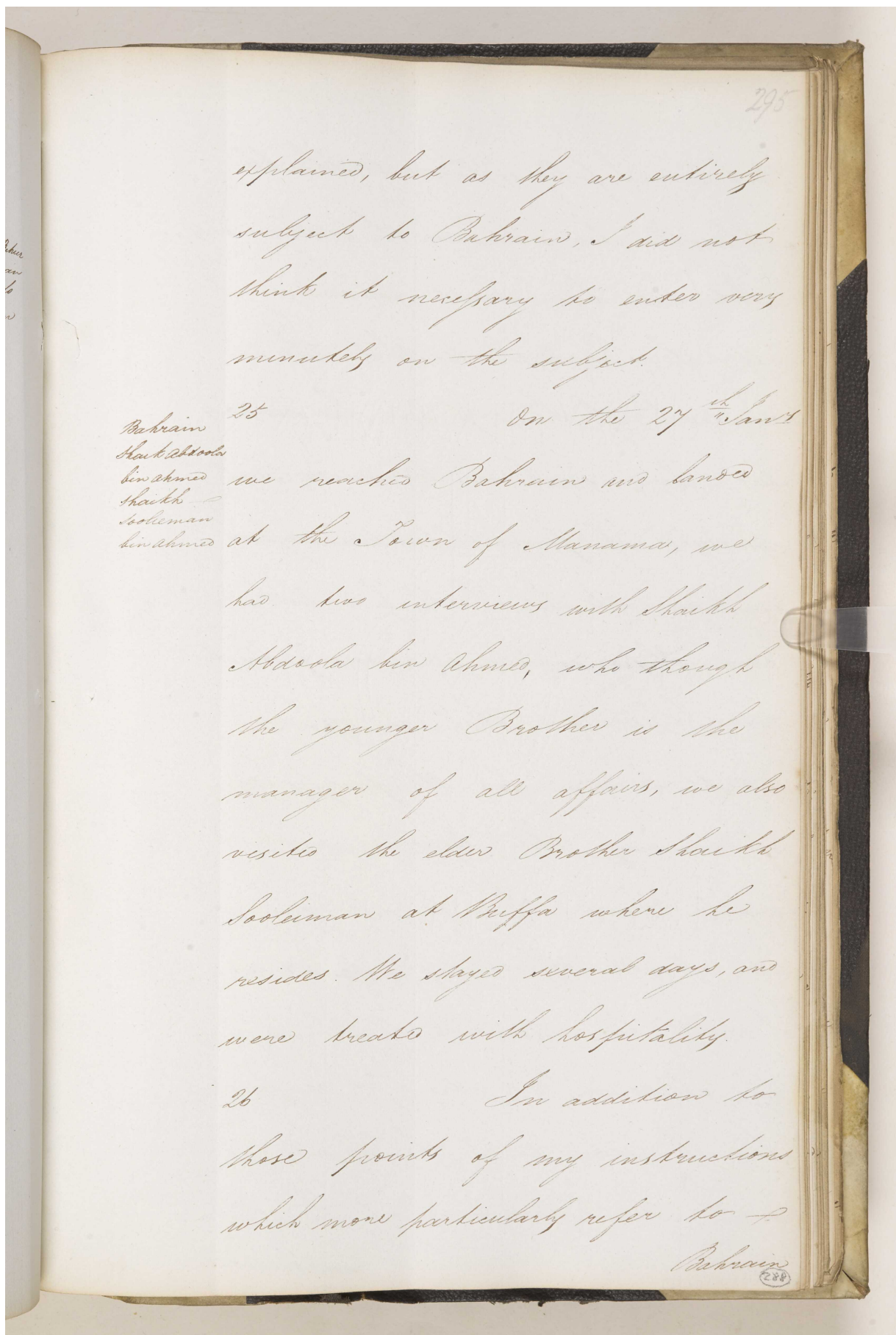
293

to the suggestions offered in
my letters to him of the 11th
January, and have doubtless been
reported by him to the Superintendent
of Marine, it is not necessary
that I should trouble Government
with the detail in this place.
I have however to solicit the
sanction of Government for
the occasional hire of Native
boats by the Cruizers, which
the Senior Officer deems necessary
for landing at times and places
when the Ships boats could
not land, and also for avoiding
the risk of the Ship boats being
left on shore when the Ships
themselves are blown to sea.

Jones

287





Bahrain, I fully explained to Shaikh
Abdoolah bin Ahmed, the arrangements
that had been made for cruising
off the Pirate Ports, that the
conduct of himself and his subjects
had been such as to render such
measures of precautions unnecessary
in regard to his Ports, but that
our Ships would occasionally visit
the Island, and that an officer
would be sent for the purpose
of revising the Registers, and
would bring them to me or
the Senior officer for signature.
I called his attention to the necessity
of observing the strictest conformity
to the articles of the Treaty, as
well at Bahrain, as at his other
subordinate

297

subordinate Ports and particularly at Bidda, where its conditions did not seem to be known. He promised that they should be most carefully observed wherever his power extended adding that Bidda was the only Port from which trading vessels sailed.

Dispute with 27
Rama bin
Sauber

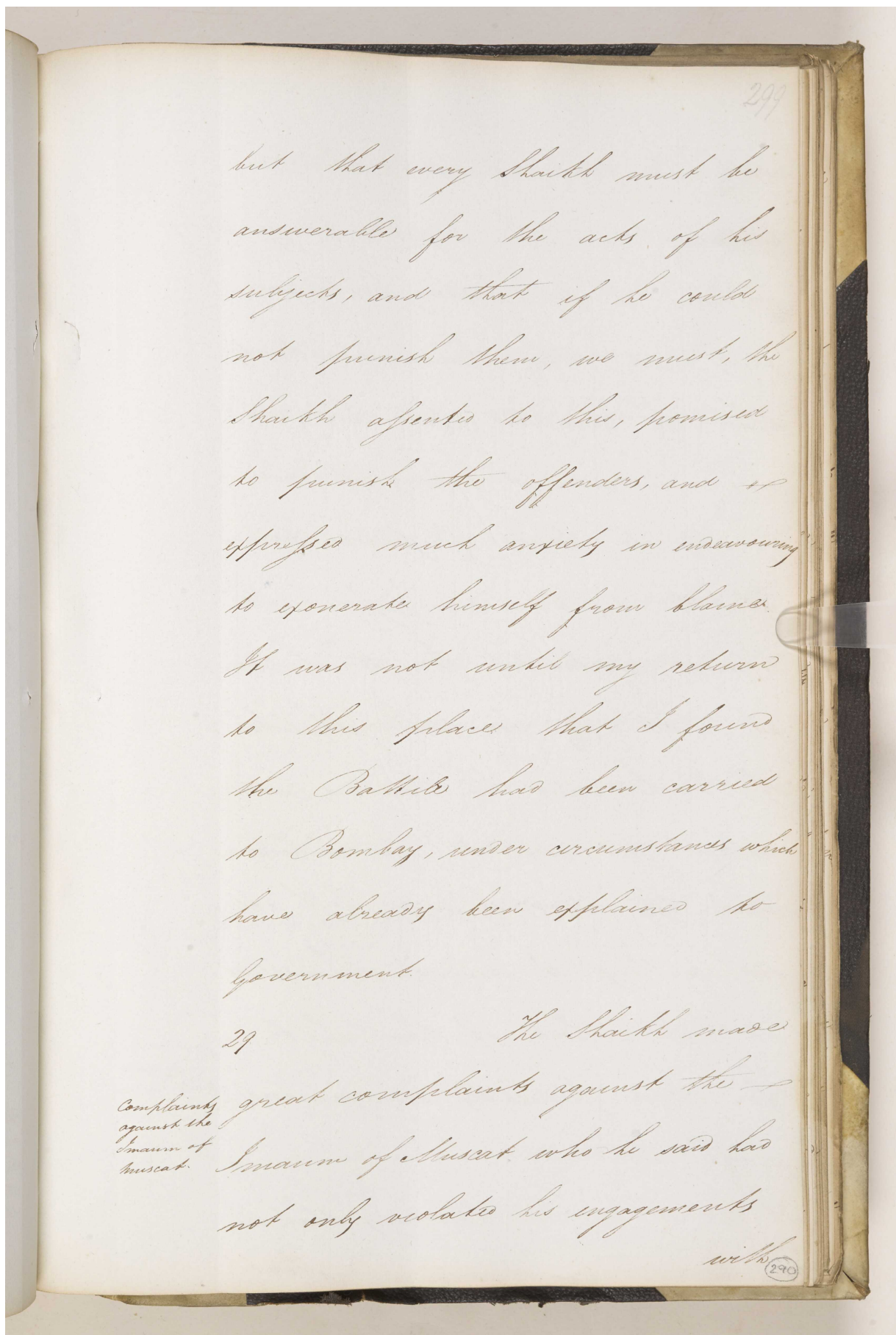
My chief difficulty was respecting the dispute with Rama bin Sauber, and I am sorry to say that my endeavours to effect an adjustment have hitherto been of no avail. This affair however will form the subject of a future letter.

Capture of 28.
a Barkman
battled by
the British
Ship of War

The Shaikh informed me that a Barkman belonging to

no one of his Subjects has been
captured by His Majesty's Ship
Sophie, in consequence of having
seized a Boat from Bushire
in Bapora river, on account
of a claim which the owner
of a Battelle had against the
Shahk of Bushire. He declared
his entire disavowal and disapprobation
of the act, and justified himself
by saying that he had expressly
warned the owner of the Boat
not to retaliate on any Bushire
Serpets which he might meet
with. I informed him that until
I was made fully acquainted
with the circumstances, I could not
judge of the merits of the case
but

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [290r] (127/211)



299

but that every Shaikh must be answerable for the acts of his subjects, and that if he could not punish them, we must, the Shaikh assents to this, promised to punish the offenders, and expressed much anxiety in endeavouring to exonerate himself from blame. It was not until my return to this place that I found the Bakhsh had been carried to Bombay, under circumstances which have already been explained to Government.

29 The Shaikh made
Complaints against the Imam of Muscat. great complaints against the Imam of Muscat who he said had not only violated his engagements

with
 (290)

with him, but had abetted Rama
bin Sauber in his unprovoked aggressions
on his People, although it was
only at the Smaum's entreaty,
that he admitted that Chief who
was the ancient enemy of his
Family to terms of peace, he
at the same time professed the
utmost contempt for the Smaum,
as well as for the Shaikh
of Bushire, and the Persians in
general as enemies, and declared
that the Whoobees were both able
and willing to revenge themselves
on the whole of them but
for their forcible engagements
with us.

30

Reserving that the
Shaikh

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [291r] (129/211)

301

Pacificated
Flag. Shaikh seemed to consider the adoption
of the Pacificated Flag as implying
a nearer and more dependent
relation with our Government, than
it really does I took occasion to
explain to him, that it was the
Arab not the British Flag, but that
those Tribes who were parties to
the Treaty with us, had agreed to
distinguish themselves by wearing
round the red Flag a border of white,
which is the colour emblematic of
Peace, in token of their relinquishment
of Piracy.

Both the Shaikhs

^{general professed} ³¹
^{of Amity, they}
^{all the Shaikhs} were profuse in their assurances
of attachment to our Government, &
promise

(291)

promises to abide by their amicable engagements, indeed the whole of the Shaikhs of the Coast, profess their determination to avoid every act which could lead to an infringement of their present friendship with the English, I made small presents to them all with which they seemed gratified.

32. On our voyage back to Bushire, I took the opportunity of violent and continued contrary winds to visit Cangoon & reached this place on the 10th Instant.

33. Having thus detailed my proceedings in execution of ^{several} remarks the orders of Government, I beg
have

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [292r] (131/211)

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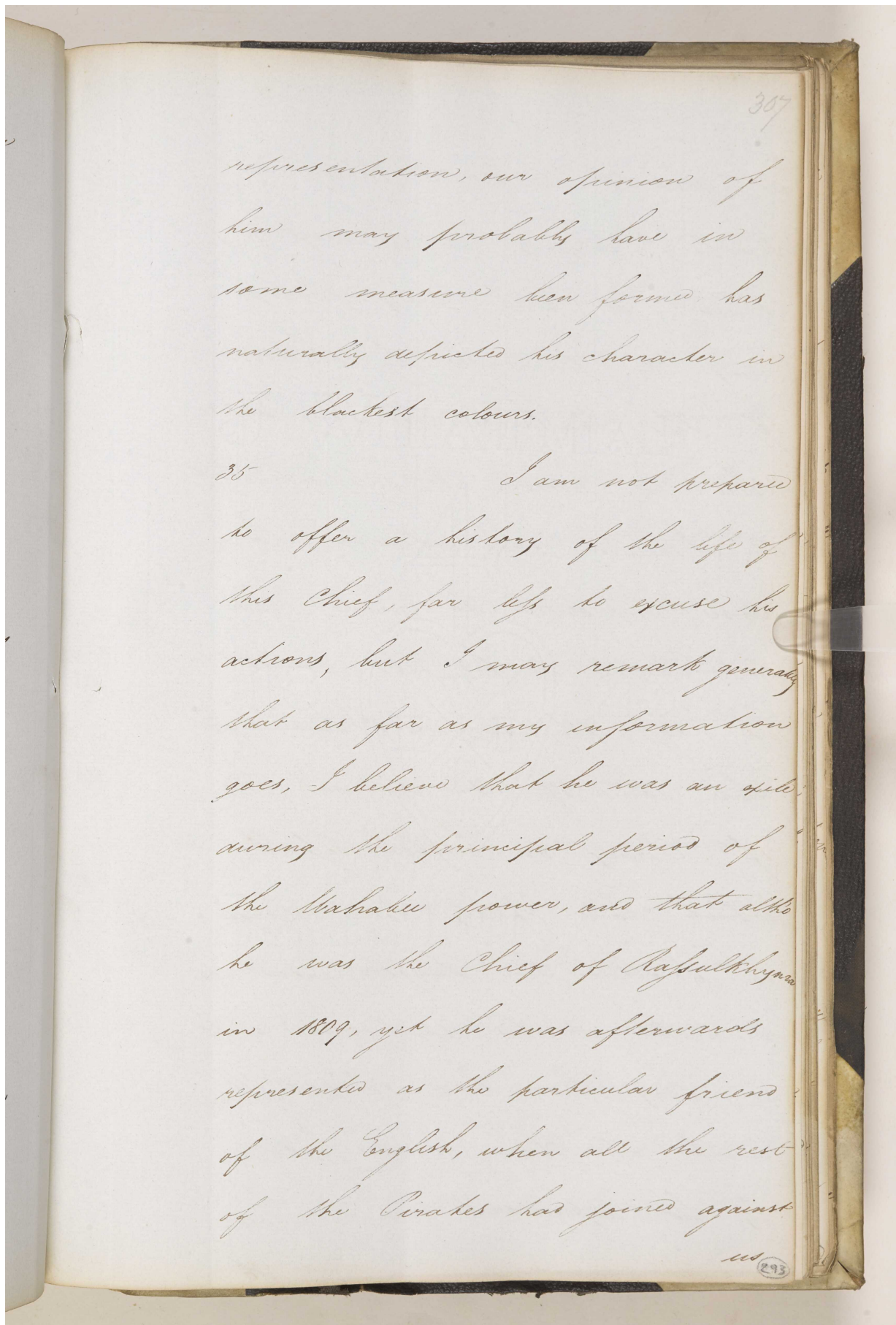
leave to offer for your consideration
some further particulars respecting the
state of the gulf and the condition
of its chiefs

character 34
of Isoltan bin
Suggur

The most
prominent character in the gulf is
Isoltan bin Suggur, as this Chief has
hitherto been generally branded with
the stamp of almost every crime
which can disgrace human nature,
it would be presumption in me,
on so very short an experience,
to hold out any hopes at variance
with the sentiments which I believe
all the British authorities in
the gulf have from time to
time expressed of him, yet from
personal inquiry on the spot,

and 292

and from other sources of information
I am strongly inclined to suspect
that his offences against us may have
been somewhat exaggerated, whatever
his conduct in other respects may
have been; he is a turbulent and
ambitious man, and was driven to
desperation partly by the effects
of his own misconduct and partly
by the power of his enemies.
a rooted enmity, has always
existed between this family and
that of the Smaum of Muscat,
who himself bears the most
rancorous hatred towards him. Sultan
bin Suggur has opposed the Smaum's
views both by sea and land,
and His Highness through whose
representation

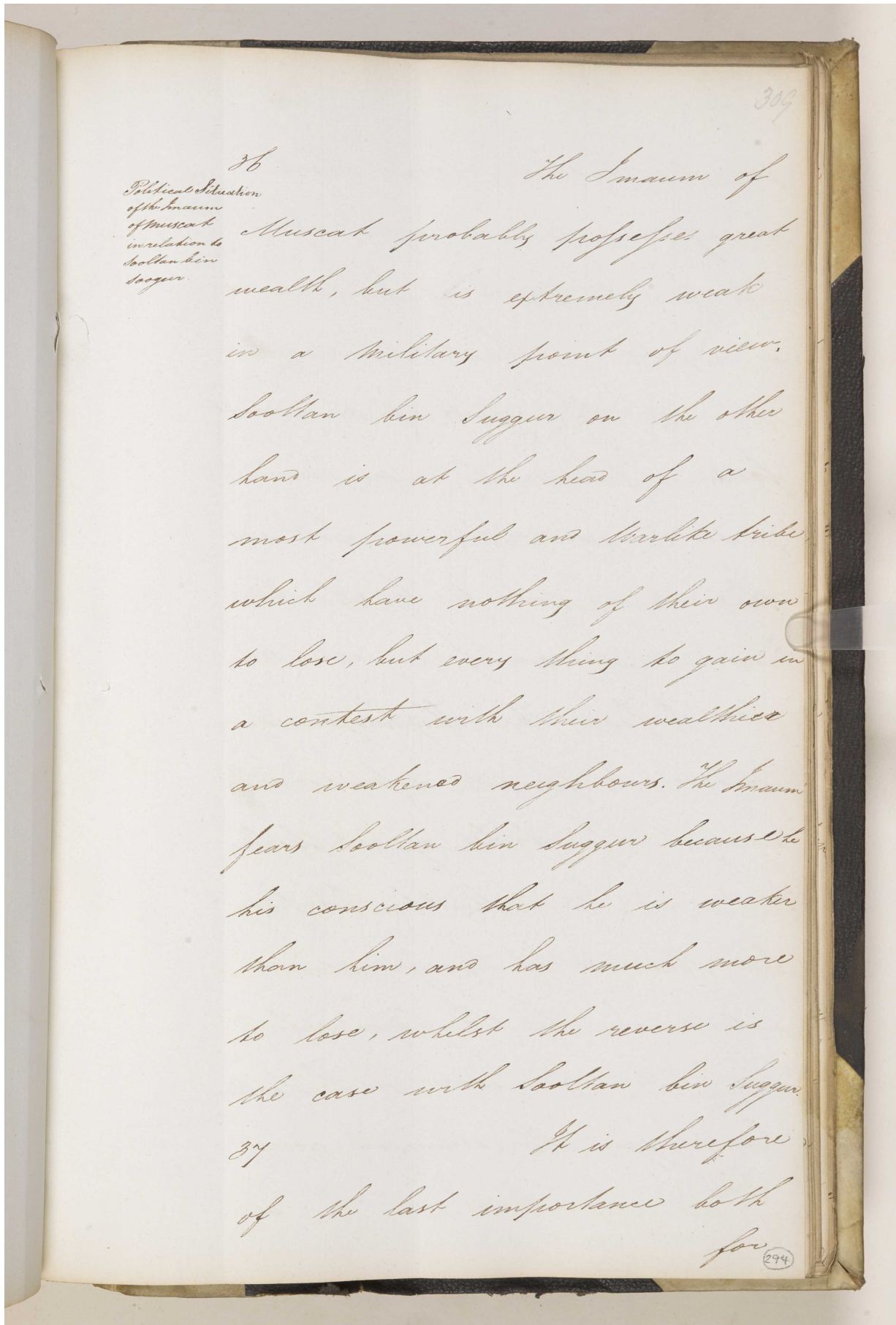


307
representation, our opinion of
him may probably have in
some measure been formed, has
naturally depicted his character in
the blackest colours.

35 I am not prepared
to offer a history of the life of
this Chief, far less to excuse his
actions, but I may remark generally
that as far as my information
goes, I believe that he was an pirate
during the principal period of
the Barbary power, and that altho
he was the Chief of Rasbalkhyn
in 1809, yet he was afterwards
represented as the particular friend
of the English, when all the rest
of the Pirates had joined against
us.

293

us that I think his alleged
treachery towards the Imams of
Muscat, if true may perhaps
may be palliated by the conduct
of His Highness to him since
there is reason to suspect that
the Imam only espoused his
cause, in order to make him
subservient to his own views
on Rajulkyra, and I have heard
that some of the distinct acts
of Piracy on English vessels
which have lately been charged
on Sa'adan bin Suggur, were not
committed at his instigation altho
he may have been obliged to
swink at their commission
by his dependents.



36
Political Situation
of the Imam
of Muscat
in relation to
Sultan bin
Suggur.

309
The Imam of
Muscat probably possesses great
wealth, but is extremely weak
in a military point of view.
Sultan bin Suggur on the other
hand is at the head of a
most powerful and warlike tribe
which have nothing of their own
to lose, but every thing to gain in
a contest with their wealthy
and weakened neighbours. The Imam
fears Sultan bin Suggur because he
is conscious that he is weaker
than him, and has much more
to lose, whilst the reverse is
the case with Sultan bin Suggur.

37
It is therefore
of the last importance both
for

for the interest of his Highness
himself, and for the safety of the
Gulf, that he should if possible avoid
a rupture with this Chief, but
such are the effects of an ancient
^{jeud} feud, inflamed by more recent
personal animosities on both sides,
that it is not to be expected
they will refrain from hostilities,
and I fear His Highness is
inclined to foment dissension
amongst the tribes against both.

38
Sheikh Raschid
bin Hasmeid of Ismaun is, as
noticed in the 8th Para of
this letter at war with Sultan
bin Saggur. The sensible cause
is

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311

is a quarrel between two branches
of Beni Na'im tribe, one of which
is subject to Rasheed bin Hamud
and the other disputes his authority,
and is supported by Sooltan bin
Suggur and the Jawafmees, whilst the
Imaum assists Rasheed. I suspect however
that the real cause is that Rasheed
who was a notorious Pirate, and the
friend of Hamud bin Sauber, after
acknowledging the supremacy of Sooltan
bin Suggur, has lately disclaimed it,
and is either abetted, or was
originally instigated by the Imaum
of Muscat.

Supremacy of Sooltan bin Suggur merely nominal

Sooltan bin Suggur is, as I have before observed, recognized as

(295)

as the superior of all the Tribes
on the Coast from Rumuf to Sharga
excepting at Gjenaw; this supremacy
is of a very indefinite description,
and is in fact little more
than nominal, since Sooltan bin Suggur
has certainly very little direct authority
over them, and is unable to control
their actions, indeed I doubt if
the power of any Shaikh is absolute
even in his own tribe. The Chiefs
are elected by their own Tribes,
but Sooltan bin Suggur seems
to have some power in influencing
their choice although he can
not impose a Shaikh upon
them against their will, they seem
in fact to be independent in respect

to

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [296r] (139/211)

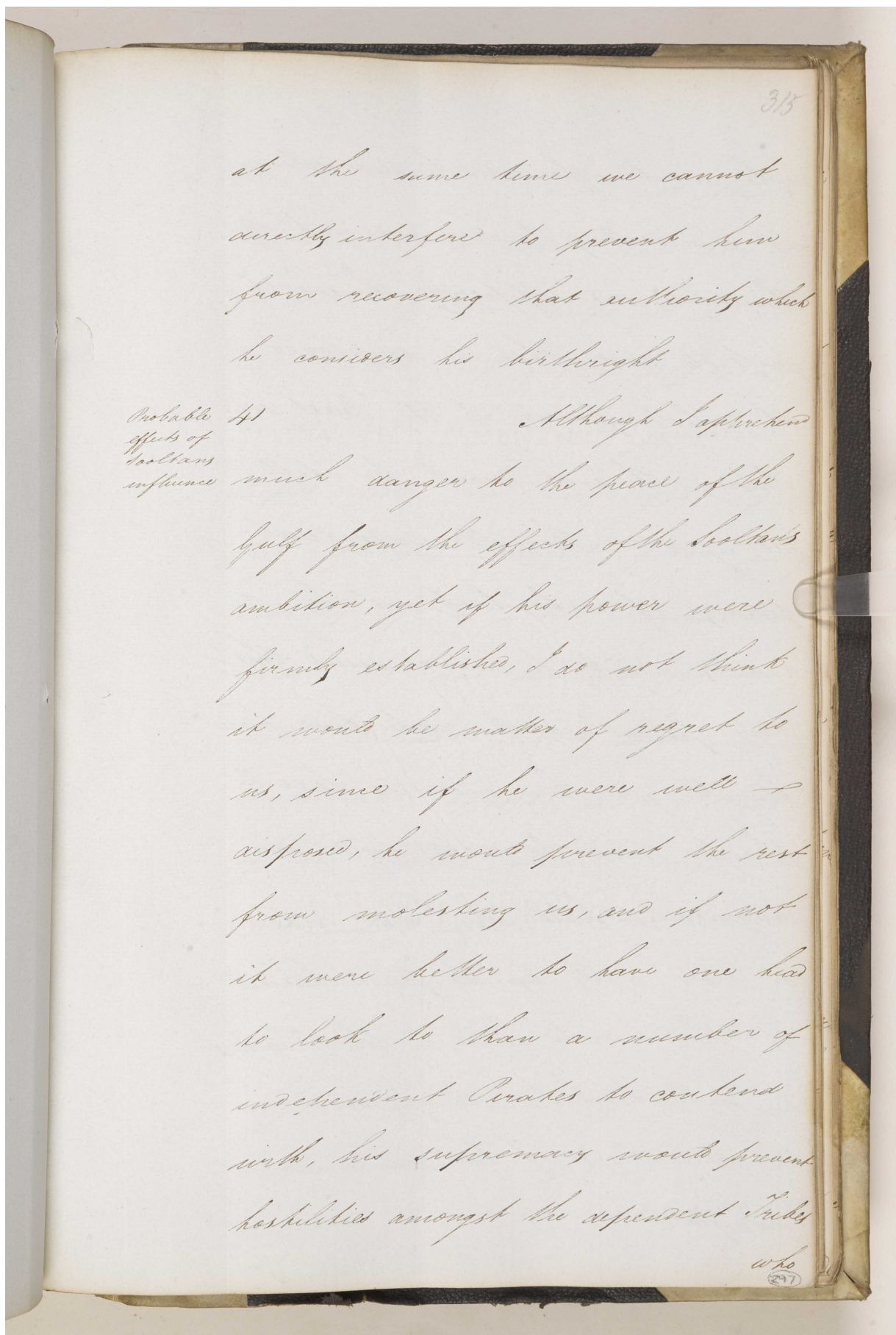
313

to their own tribes, but acknowledge
a general allegiance to Sooltan as
the head of a superior Tribe. They
all declared themselves responsible to
us for the observance of the
Treaty in as far as regarded
their own Ports, and yet in
the paper which I have submitted
they acknowledge an entire dependence
on Sooltan bin Suggur, who has
accordingly been in the habit of
procuring all their passes, and in
fact of transacting every thing
for them with Colonel Kennett.
I cannot doubt the authenticity
of this document, because I compare
the seals with those affixed to
Sir William Keir's Treaty, but it
seems

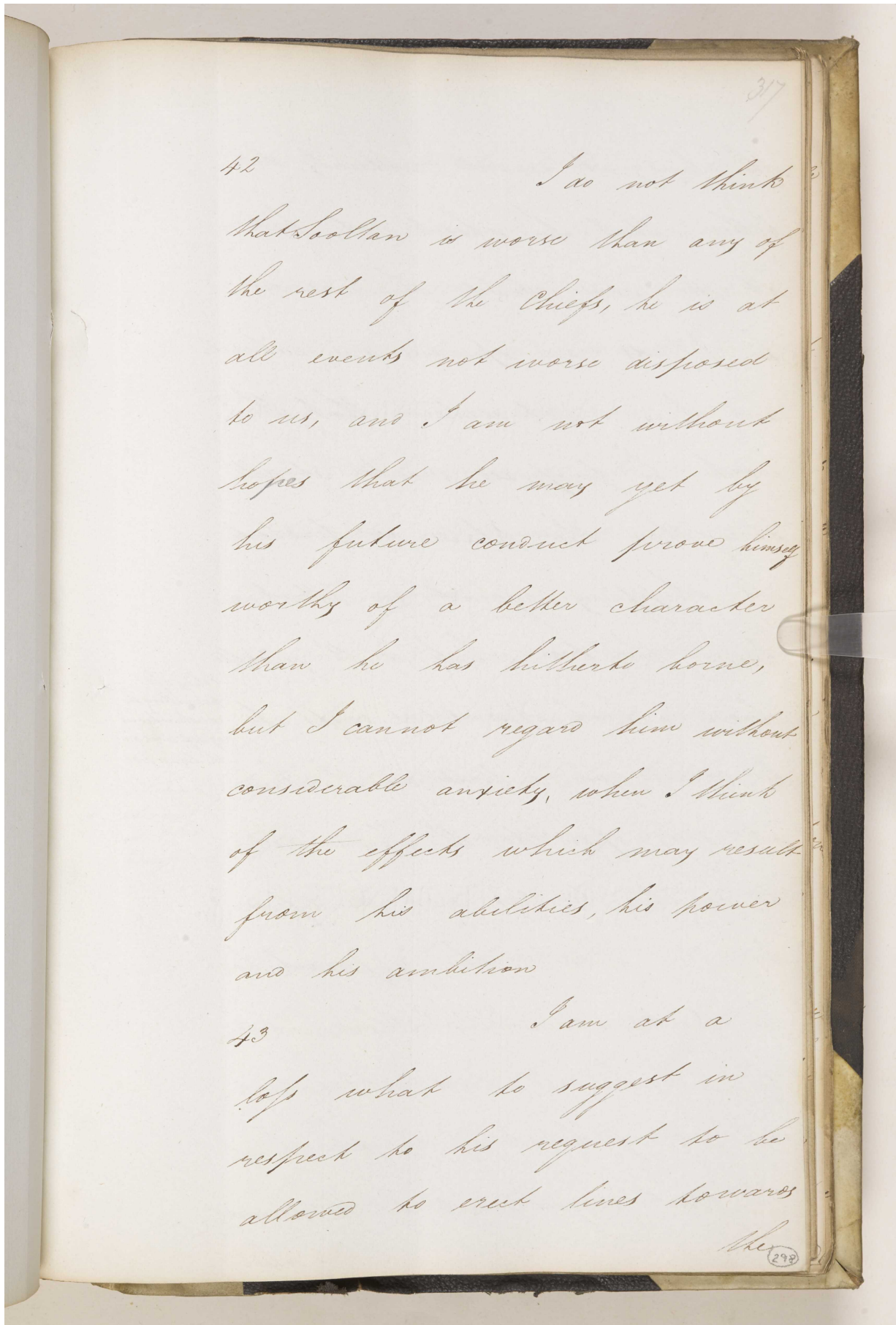
296

seems to be of little avail, since
one of the Chiefs has already disclaimed
it, and the rest seem to be scarcely
even nominally bound by it, and I
never even heard of its existence
until I had reached Sharga

40 Sultan bin Suggur
is ambitious of reducing the tribes
to complete and absolute subjection,
and so he considered unavailing
for the whole of the Coast,
it is impossible for us to
recognize his authority, any
farther than it is obeyed by
the other Chiefs nor can we
lend the influence of our name
in any way to aid his views,
at



who would otherwise be quarrelling
and committing Piracies amongst of
themselves, and supposing the worst
possible case, that he employed
the whole power of the Coast in
Crave, the evil would be still
not greater than the individual
piracy of each Chief, and the
remedy would be easier, since this
very power would make him more
tangible, give him more to lose &
therefore more to dread from our
vengeance, whilst it would enable
us more easily by the punishment
of the head, to reduce the Members
to subjection. In the opposite case
the advantages of his power are
manifest.



'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [298v] (144/211)

the land, it would certainly be better that he should not, but at the same time the reasons he pleads are specious and natural, and I am not certain that the work he proposes would at all strengthen the place or protect its shipping against an attack from the sea, which is the quarter from which operations ought to be carried on, a Wall on the land side only open to the Sea and so constructed as not to defend by its flanks the approach by the Creek or along Shore, would be much less mischievous than the strong houses of the Shaikhs. The great danger would be the precedent which

*idea of
removing the
constructions
of defences on
the land side*

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [299r] (145/211)

319

which would be followed up by others and probably by Sooltan bin Suggur himself at the new Town of Rassaulkhyma. I cannot therefore recommend a compliance with his desire, but I request to be favored with the instructions of government on the subject.

44 Sooltan bin Suggur possesses a great many very fine Naval vessels, probably at least thirty strength of the Savanones capable of containing from 50 to 100 men, he is building a large Bughla of about 120 tons for the purpose it is said of trading to India. The other Chiefs have very few boats, beyond those employed for fishing probably

none
(27)

none of them has more than
three or four I shall however
reserve a more particular
account of the Naval strength
of the Savagness until I shall
have received returns of the Registers
from the senior officers of the
Marine. I may however remark
that Sultan Hussein must
I think have continued to secrete
almost all his boats at the
time of the last expedition,
since it is scarcely possible
that so many fine large vessels
could have been built by him
in so short a time as three
years.

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321

45 The next in
 chief of importance is the Chief of Boothabee
 Shaikh Johnson, this person appears
 to be the principal Chief of the
 Beni-yas Tribe, and the Chief of
 Dubey is subordinate to him, they
 acknowledge the ^{general} supremacy of the
 Imam of Muscat but are at
 present in alliance with Soothan
 bin Suggur.

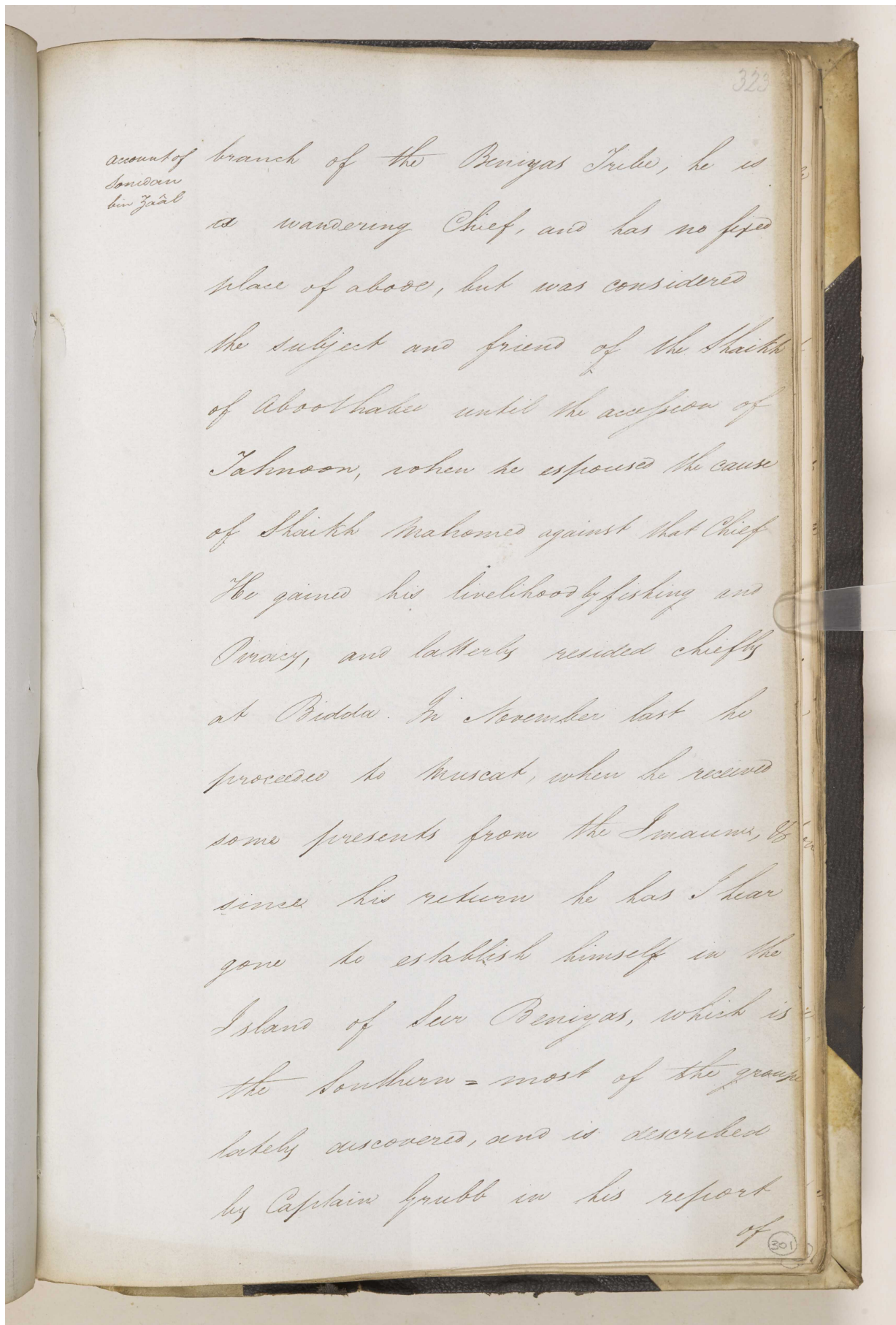
46 You are already
 aware that Shaikh Shaboot the
 former Chief of Boothabee, was
 expelled by the Imam of
 Muscat about two years ago,
 and his son Johnson set up
 in his stead, Shaikh Mahomed
 the brother of Johnson fled to

Bidder 300

Struggle
 between Shaikh
 Johnson &
 Shaikh
 Mahomed

Bussa, and engaged the service
 of a Chief named Souidan bin
 Zail, the struggles lead to
 disorders which have already been
 explained by Colonel Kennett,
 and which through the interference
 of the Imam of Muscat been
 put a stop to. Through this influence
 also it would appear that
 the parties have so far been
 reconciled that Souidan bin
 Zail has desisted from his
 depredations, and Shaikh Mahomed
 has left Bussa and retired to
 the protection of another branch
 of the tribe in the interior.

47 Souidan bin Zail
 is Shaikh of the Moohariba
 branch



of the 19th September 1820. He is accompanied by his Friend and relation Shaikh Suhaiman, they have nearly a thousand men at their command and possess one fine Battell and about 30 Fishing boats

48 The particulars respecting Sonidan, I did not learn till after my arrival at Bidda, and Bahrain otherwise I should have made a point of finding him out, I am also informed that it is very doubtful whether he will obey Shaikh Tahnoon's order, and that he is a very dangerous unsteady character ready to join in any disorder

325

disorders that may occur. It is extremely desirable that a person of this description should either be reduced to dependence on his lawful Chief (if indeed he does owe allegiance to any one) or that he should be obliged to fix himself in some tangible place of abode and leave off his perambulating life.

49 I intend to write to Shakh Jahoon, that if London submits to his authority, it is well, if not that we shall not object to his reducing him by force, provided he really owes him allegiance, but that if he remains quietly at sea

measures proposed respecting London

Bernays 302

Benigas, and does not disturb
the peace of the sea, it is better
to allow him to settle there,
and that we cannot interfere
farther than to see that he
obeys all the articles of the
Treaty, to which I consider him
in any event a party to a
certain degree, since he has been
hurnished with a Register, for
his boat by Colonel Kennett, but
that if he commit any act
of piracy we will assist to
destroy him.

50 I shall at the
same time request Captain
Faithful as soon as possible
to send a Cruizer to find
Soudan

327

Souiran, to whom I shall write
to the same effect as to
Tahnoon, recommending him at
the same time to submit to
Tahnoon, and warning him that
in any event his renewal of
disorders at sea will draw
down our vengeance on him,
that if on the other hand
he chooses to live in peace at
Sew Beniyas we will not
molest him, but that if he does not
settle somewhere, I shall be under
the necessity of withdrawing
his Register, since we cannot
admit to the benefit of
the Treaty, a Chief who persists
in leading a wandering life on
the high seas, and acts in the
suspicious

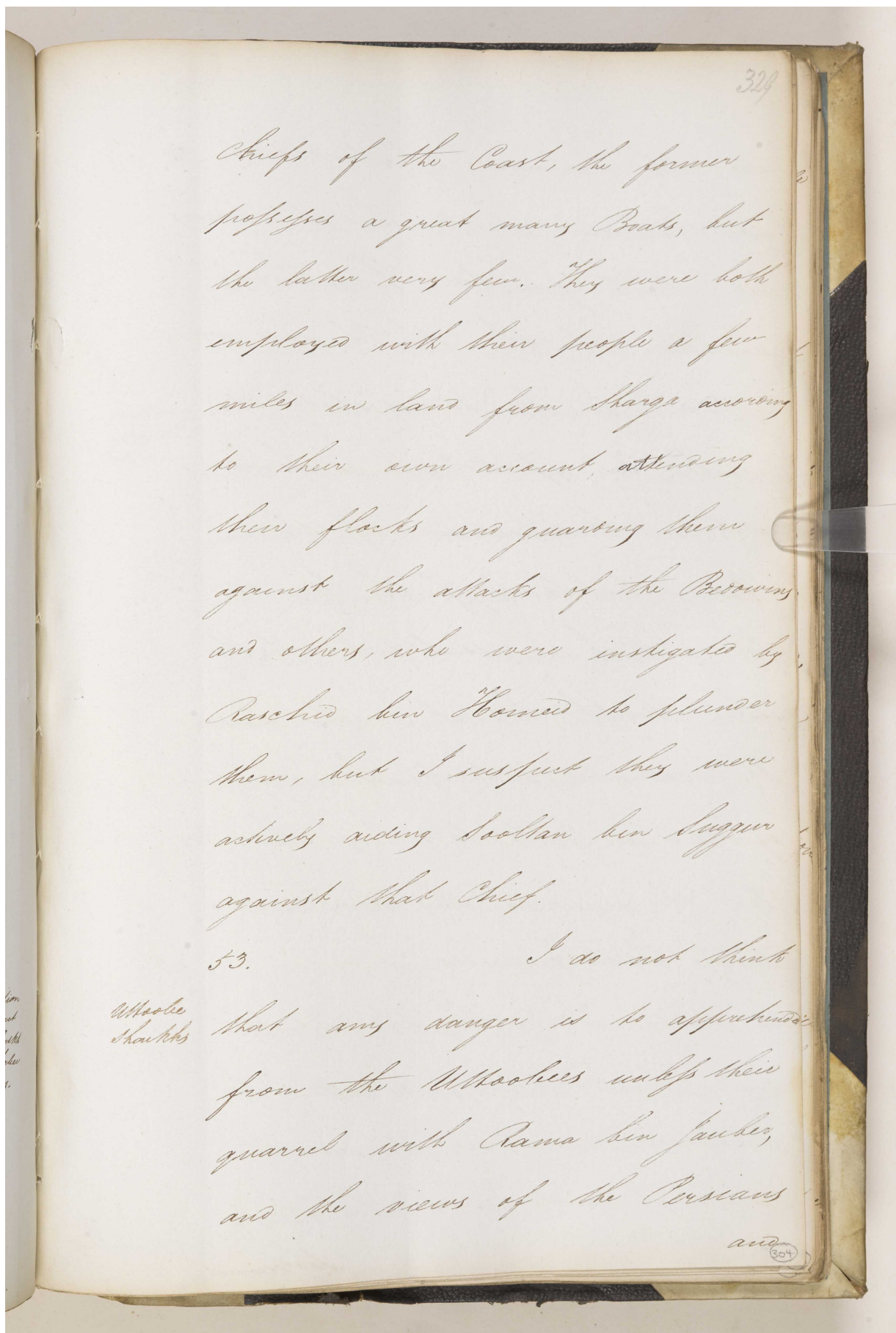
303

suspicious manner which he has done.

51 I have also written to the Imam of Muscat on the subject, and shall be guided by the answers I receive, whether to admit Souidaw formally as a party to the Treaty or not should he commit any fresh disorders, I shall probably be obliged to recommend an attack on him.

52 The Shaikhs of Abosshakeh and Dubey profess to be very well disposed to our Government, they both seem to be more of pastoral and military habits than the other chiefs

Disposition and conduct of the Shaikhs of Abosshakeh and Dubey.



329

Chiefs of the Coast, the former
possesses a great many Boats, but
the latter very few. They were both
employed with their people a few
miles in land from Sharga according
to their own account, attending
their flocks and guarding them
against the attacks of the Persians
and others, who were instigated by
Rasheed bin Horned to plunder
them, but I suspect they were
actually aiding Soolhan bin Sugguer
against that Chief.

53. I do not think

Whoolie
Sharkhs

that any danger is to apprehend
from the Whoolies unless their
quarrel with Rama bin Jauber,
and the views of the Persians

and
304

and the Imam of Muscat
in Bahrain, should lead to disorders
in that quarter. The authority
however of the Shaikh does not
appear to be so absolute as
might be expected, and is borne
with much reluctance by the
Sheed inhabitants of the Islands.
In fact, I am doubtful whether
the Shaikh has it in his power
to restrain entirely the inclinations
of his subjects, to revenge themselves
for the injuries they may receive
from their enemies.

54

Shaikh Abdoolla
bin Ahmed and nearly all the
Uttoobes reside on the smaller
Island of Arad, his brother Shaikh
Soleiman

331

Soleiman is a very old man, & has retired from public life to spend the remainder of his days, at a small Fort called Ruffa on the Island of Bahrain, about 8 miles from the Town of Manama, where his son Khalifa exercises the principal control, but there appears to be some division of authority amongst several sons and servants of the Sharikh's.

Persia has renewed its attempts against this Island, at least I understand that Muzza Barkir Abee has proceeded to Muscat to invite the Imam to a conference with Zuckee Khan at

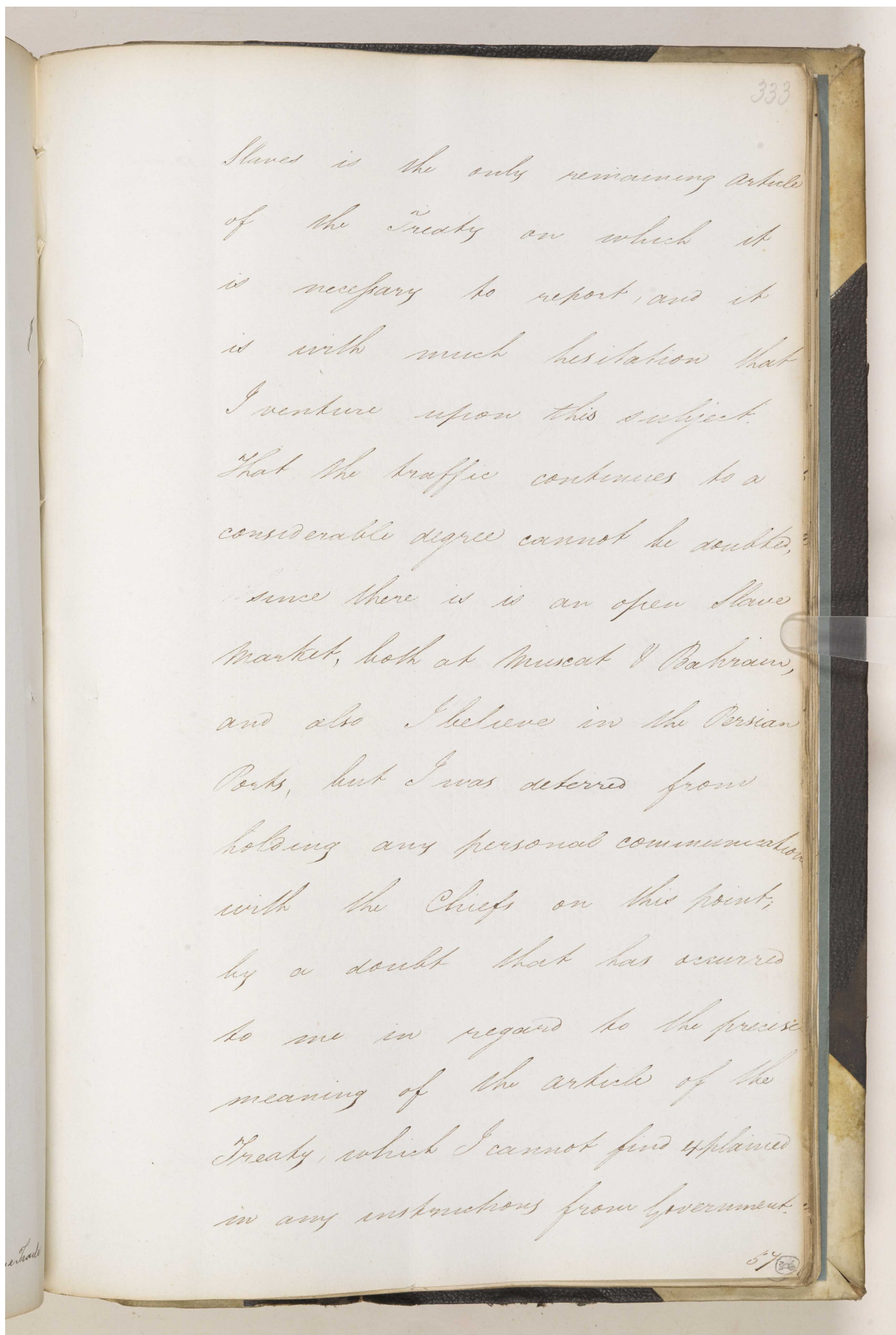
auth^{ty} of the Chief divid^{ed}

205

at Bunder Abbas, to arrange operations for a joint attack on Bahram, and also that letters have been forwarded to Scobden his suggestion requesting his cooperation, and offering him the Naval command of the expedition. It is not probable that a coalition of this description will take place, but the Emperor may perhaps consent and Rama his father together with the Shaikh of Bushire will always be ready to cooperate. If the expedition should actually be undertaken, it will inevitably lead to a renewal of disorders to a certain extent.

36

The provision respecting Slave Trade
Slaves

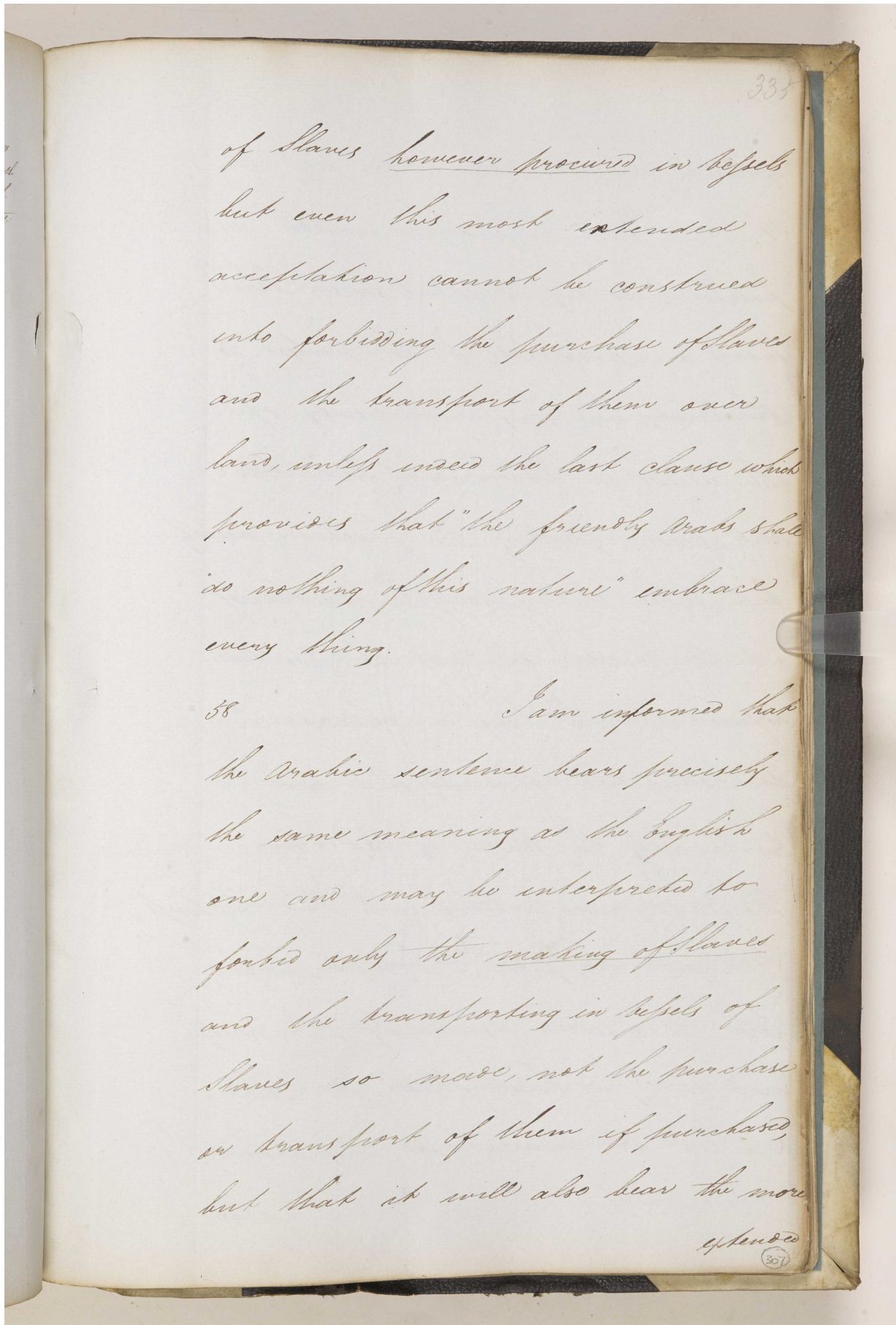


333

Slaves is the only remaining article
of the Treaty on which it
is necessary to report, and it
is with much hesitation that
I venture upon this subject.
That the traffic continues to a
considerable degree cannot be doubted,
since there is an open Slave
Market, both at Muscat & Bahran,
and also I believe in the Persian
Ports, but I was deterred from
holding any personal communication
with the Chiefs on this point,
by a doubt that has occurred
to me in regard to the precise
meaning of the article of the
Treaty, which I cannot find explained
in any instructions from Government.

57

37 The words are *meaning of the third article of the Treaty*
"the carrying off of Slaves, Men
"Women & Children from the Coasts
"of Africa or elsewhere, and the
"transporting them in Sepels is
"plunder and piracy and the friendly
"Arabs shall do nothing of this
"nature" now it strikes me
that this sentence may be
understood to forbid only the carrying
off of Men Women or Children
as Slaves, and the transporting
them in Sepels when so carried
off although the words will
also bear the more comprehensive
sense of forbidding the carrying
off of Slaves, and also the transporting
of



335
of Slaves however procured in vessels
but even this most extended
acceptation cannot be construed
into forbidding the purchase of slaves
and the transport of them over
land, unless indeed the last clause which
provides that "the friendly Arabs shall
do nothing of this nature" embrace
every thing.

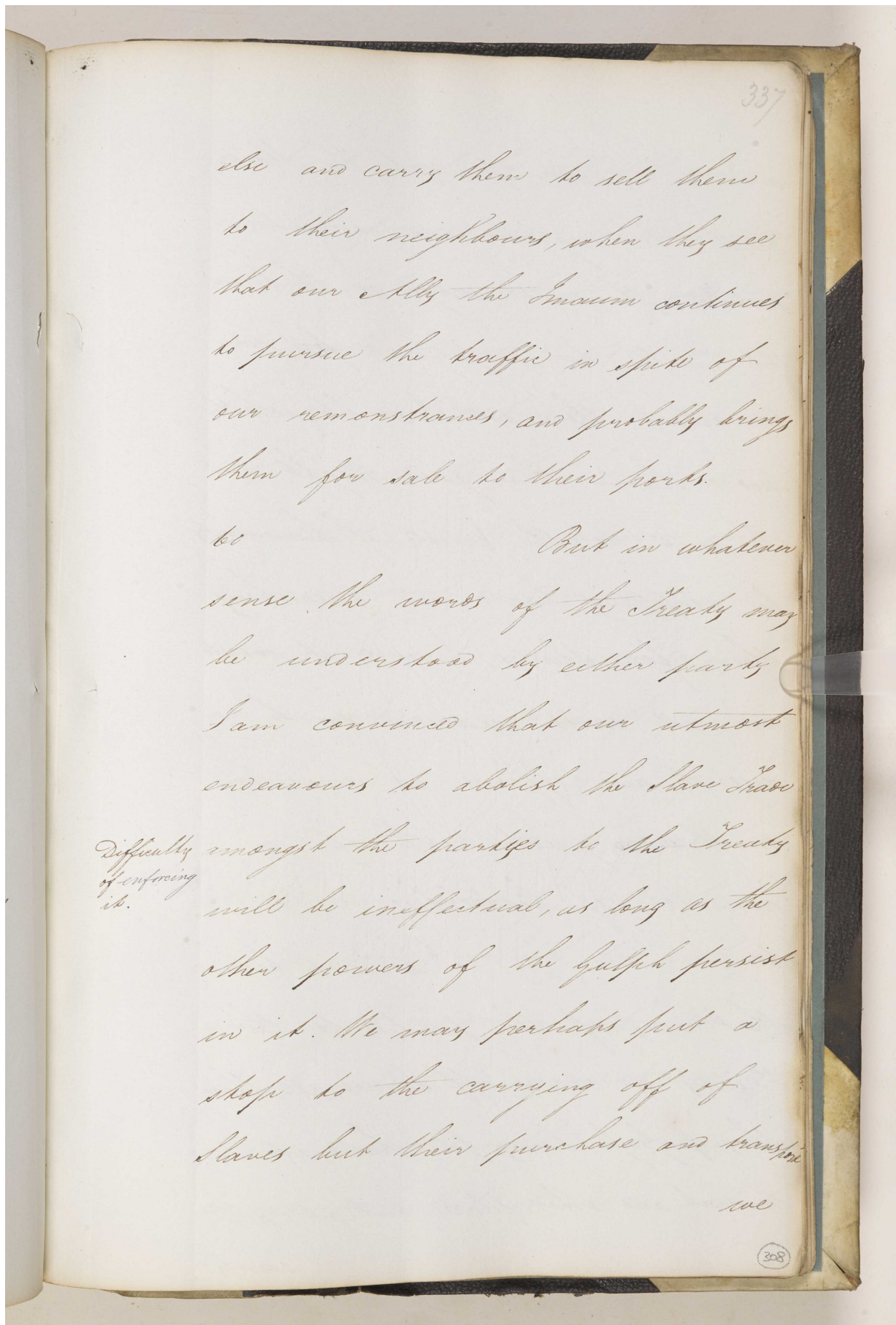
38 I am informed that
the Arabic sentence bears precisely
the same meaning as the English
one and may be interpreted to
forbid only the making of slaves
and the transporting in vessels of
Slaves so made, not the purchase
or transport of them if purchased,
but that it will also bear the more

extended
307

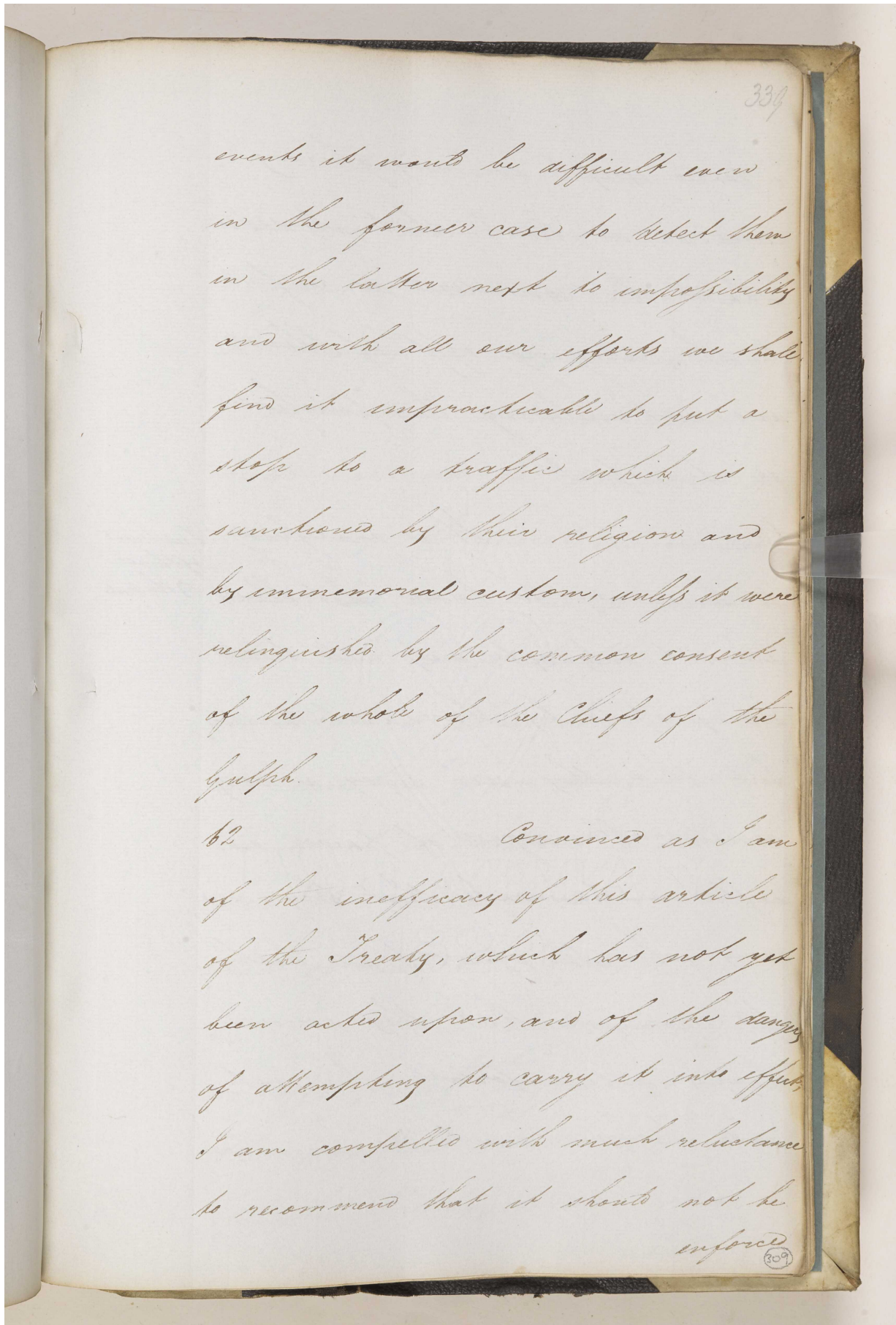
extended signification

59

I am unable
positively to say in what sense the
words are understood by the parties to
the Treaty, and my uncertainty of
the views of Government prevented
me from putting the question directly
but when I consider the practice of
all Mahomedan Nations, the positive
refusal of the Imam of Muscat
to relinquish this traffic and
particularly the tenor of Captain
Moresby's negotiations with His Highness
I cannot suppose ^{that} the Arab Chiefs
hold themselves bound by the Treaty
not to purchase Slaves in the
Market at Muscat or any where
else



we can never prevent. The Slaves
will be disguised and concealed
in a thousand ways, so that
it will be impossible for us
to detect them, and I doubt whether
more harm than good might not
be done to the cause of humanity
by stopping boats and searching
them for Slaves, because it would
in all cases occasion such
disgust and offence as would
involve a great risk of a
renewal of hostilities
as I do not believe
that any of the parties to the
Treaty do carry off Slaves, all those
they possess being purchased at
Muscat and other places but at all
events



339
events it would be difficult even
in the former case to detect them
in the latter next to impossibility
and with all our efforts we shall
find it impracticable to put a
stop to a traffic which is
sanctioned by their religion and
by immemorial custom, unless it were
relinquished by the common consent
of the whole of the Chiefs of the
Gulph.

62
Convinced as I am
of the inefficacy of this article
of the Treaty, which has not yet
been acted upon, and of the danger
of attempting to carry it into effect,
I am compelled with much reluctance
to recommend that it should not be
enforced

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enforced except in very glaring cases, or at least that its sense should be considered as confined to the carrying off of Slaves, and not including their purchase or transport.

b3 It is gratifying ^{Treatment} to humanity to know, that Slaves ^{of Slaves} by the Arabs are not only extremely well treated and protected by their Arab masters, but that they even enjoy a very considerable degree of power and influence, I remarked that they were every where the stoutest and best fed men, and that they seemed happy and comfortable. I must not however omit to mention
an

341
an exception which occurred at
Bahrain, where two Slaves sought
refuge on Board the Ternate from
the cruelty as they said of their
Master they were not however
received, and we had no means of
ascertaining the merits of the case,
much as it is to be desired
that this horrid traffic should
be abandoned throughout the world,
we must I fear confess that
the cruel treatment of Slaves has
been the reproach rather of European
than of Eastern Nations.
I am not prepared
to offer any ^{further} suggestions on
the execution of the other articles
of the Treaty, beyond those
submitted

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submitted in my letter of the 10th January. It will be hardly possible to get the Chiefs to be very regular with their papers, but when once the first Registry has been completed, I do not anticipate much difficulty. There is however one point on which I beg leave to solicit the instructions of Government which is the extent to which we are to interfere to prevent aggressions by Chiefs who are not parties to the Treaty, on vessels bearing our Registers you will perceive from the 14th Part of my letter, that Saftan bin Suggur construes the latter part of the 4th Article of the Treaty

Interference
or Prohibitions
implied by the
14th Article
of the Treaty

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313

Treaty, into an engagement of protection on our part. The Sheikh of Bahrain was also anxious to establish a similar meaning. The words are "and if any shall attack them (viz^t the vessels of the Friendly Arabs engaged in trade) the British Government shall take notice of it."

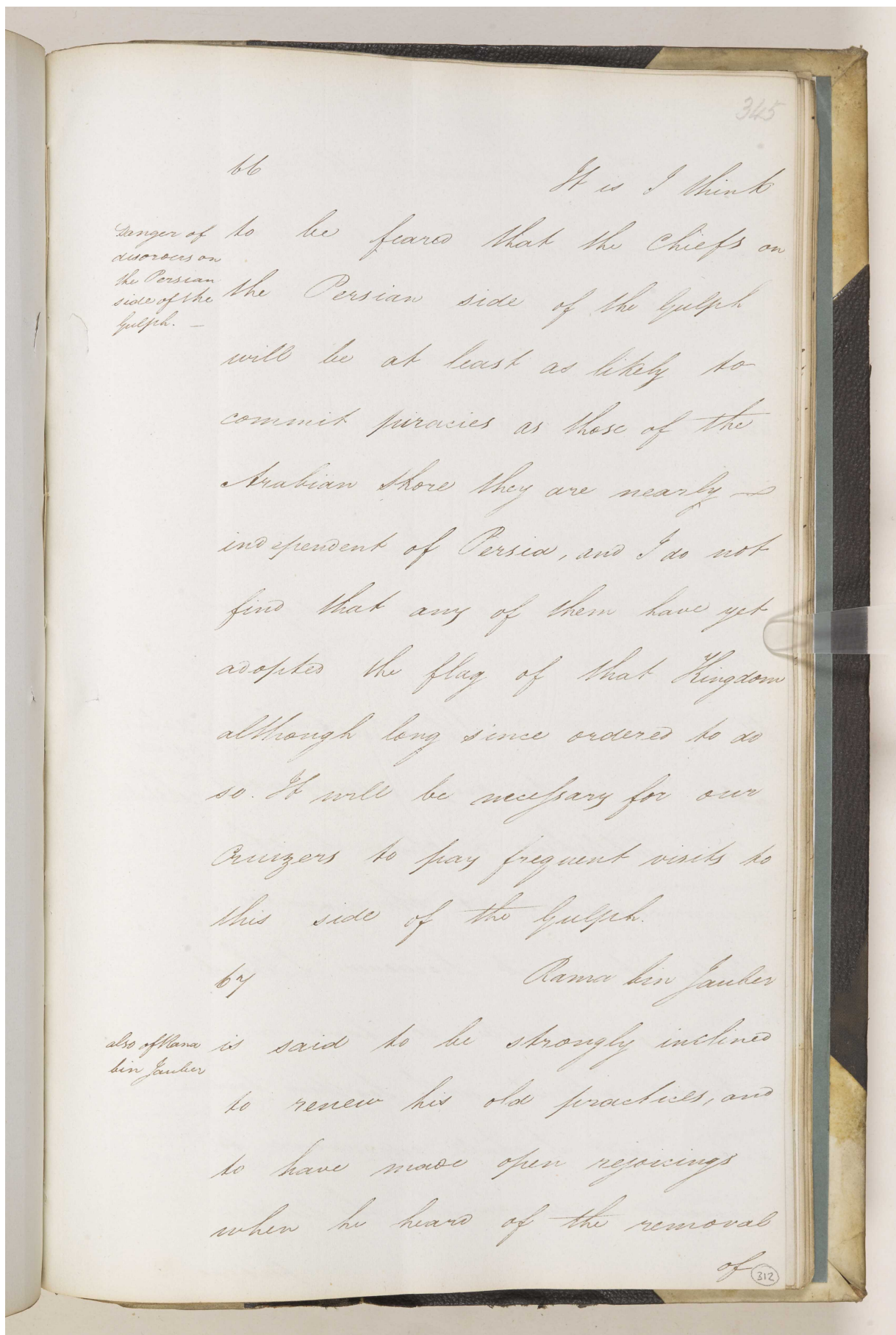
65. The understanding which I have of the general spirit of the Treaty and of our policy in this point is that if applied to by ^{parties} the, to the Treaty in respect to an aggression at sea by any other power not authorized by open war, I ought to remonstrate with the aggressor

(311)

some
how
by the
Treaty

aggressor and endeavour to procure
redress if possible. In all such
matters connected with the Persian
side of the Gulf, I must of
course conduct the remonstrance
through the Government of Persia
as directed in the 18th para of
my instructions. In cases of
open war it will be impossible
to interfere, but it is of such
importance to encourage a spirit
of traffic amongst the Arab
Tribes, by all the protection
which we can give them, that
it is very desirable to prevent
as far as we can any lawless
aggressions from powers who are not
parties to the Treaty.

bb



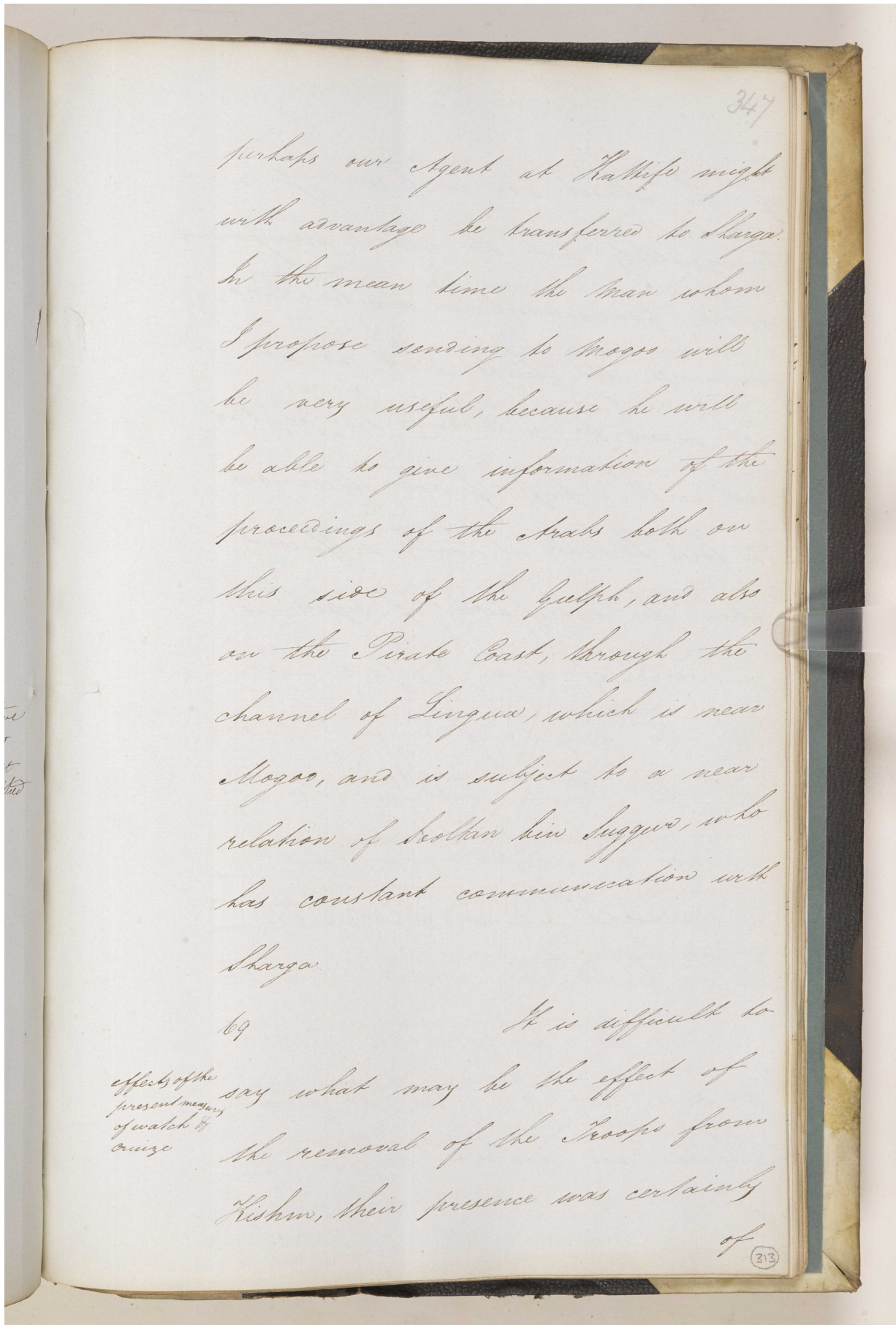
345
bb
It is I think
danger of to be feared that the chiefs on
the Persian side of the Gulph
will be at least as likely to
commit piracies as those of the
Arabian shore they are nearly
independent of Persia, and I do not
find that any of them have yet
adopted the flag of that Kingdom
although long since ordered to do
so. It will be necessary for our
Cruizers to pay frequent visits to
this side of the Gulph.

by Rama ben Jander
also of Rama bin Jander
is said to be strongly inclined
to renew his old practices, and
to have made open rejoicings
when he heard of the removal
of

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of our Troops from Keshm. He is
now old and blind, but retains
all the violence of his youth,
and there is much to fear from
his lawless disposition, and
his animosity to the Mookees
in particular. His sons are said
fortunately to be of a different
temper.

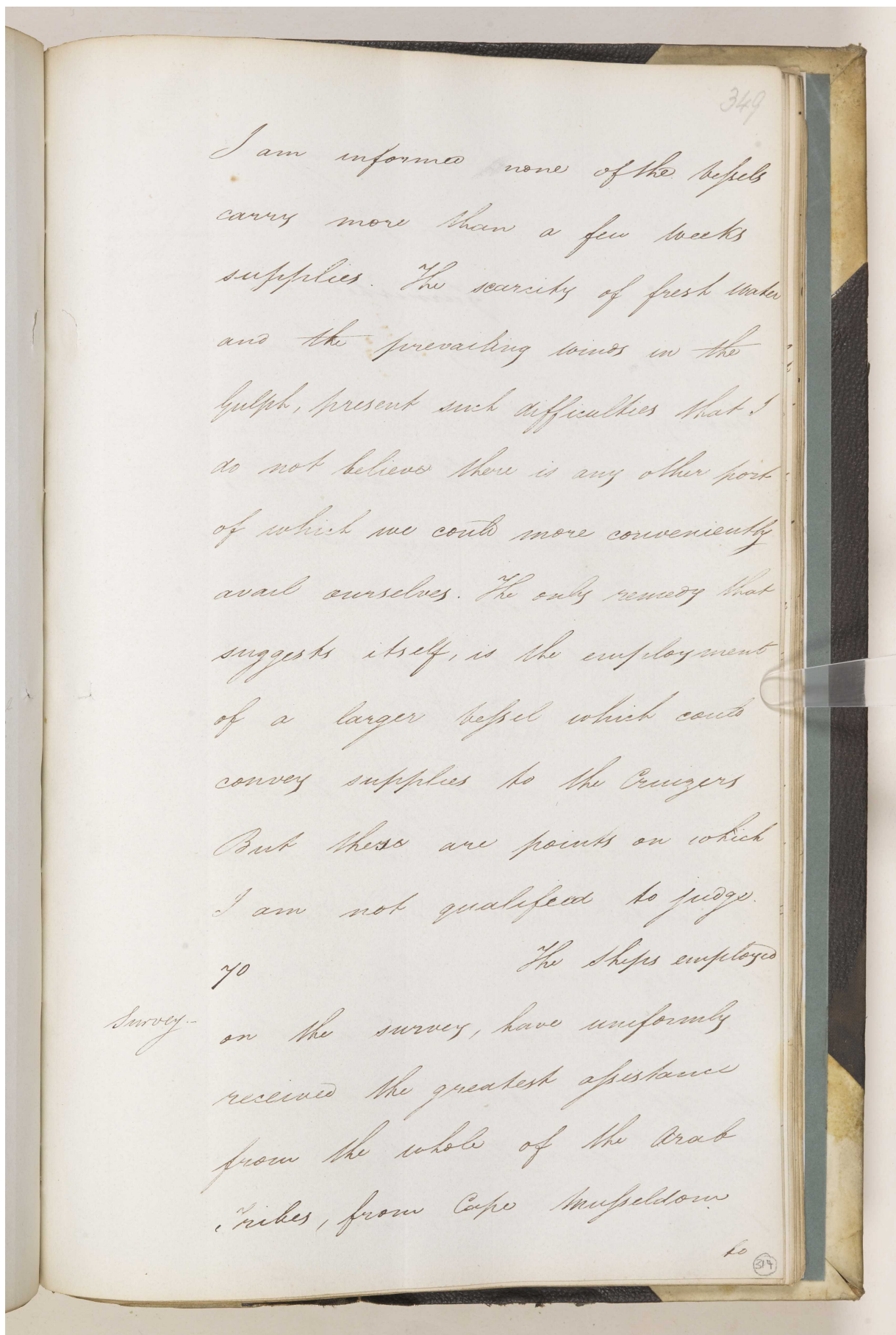
68 I have not been ^{Native} able to make any arrangements ^{agents} ^{not yet} ^{established}
for establishing a channel of
communication at the Pirate
Ports, it would however I think
be very desirable to have a
Native Agent with Isokhan ben
Suggur, and I shall endeavour to
procure a person for the purpose;
perhaps



347
perhaps our Agent at HaMife might
with advantage be transferred to Sharga.
In the mean time the man whom
I propose sending to Mogoo will
be very useful, because he will
be able to give information of the
proceedings of the Arabs both on
this side of the Gulph, and also
on the Pirate Coast, through the
channel of Lingua, which is near
Mogoo, and is subject to a near
relation of Beokan bin Suggur, who
has constant communication with
Sharga.

69 It is difficult to
say what may be the effect of
the removal of the Troops from
Kishm, their presence was certainly
of

of the utmost use in preserving
tranquillity but the naval arrangements
which Government has directed have
convinced the Chiefs that we do
not mean to withdraw our control
and will I hope prove efficacious.
The force however is hardly sufficient
when the description of vessels is
considered, of five Cruizers now
in the Gulf ^{three} are stationed ^{orig.}
off the Pirate Coast, and one is
retained at Buzora. The Depot
at Muscat is more distant
than could be wished, since it
requires on an average nearly
20 days for a vessel to proceed
thither and return to her Port.



349
I am informed none of the Bepels
carry more than a few weeks
supplies. The scarcity of fresh water
and the prevailing winds in the
Gulph, present such difficulties that I
do not believe there is any other port
of which we could more conveniently
avail ourselves. The only remedy that
suggests itself, is the employment
of a larger Bepel which could
convey supplies to the Cruizers
But these are points on which
I am not qualified to judge.

70
The Ships employed
Survey on the survey, have uniformly
received the greatest assistance
from the whole of the Arab
tribes, from Cape Muzfeldt

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to Bahrain I beg leave to suggest
that the Cruizers employed in the
Gulph should be furnished with
copies of the survey on their
leaving Bombay

74 There are many
other points in my instructions
on which I am directed to
report but I have not at this
early period, had it in my
power to collect any further
information which I can venture
to submit to the attention
of Government. I hope at a
future period to be enabled
to offer a full account
of the piratical tribes.

75 I may in
the

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
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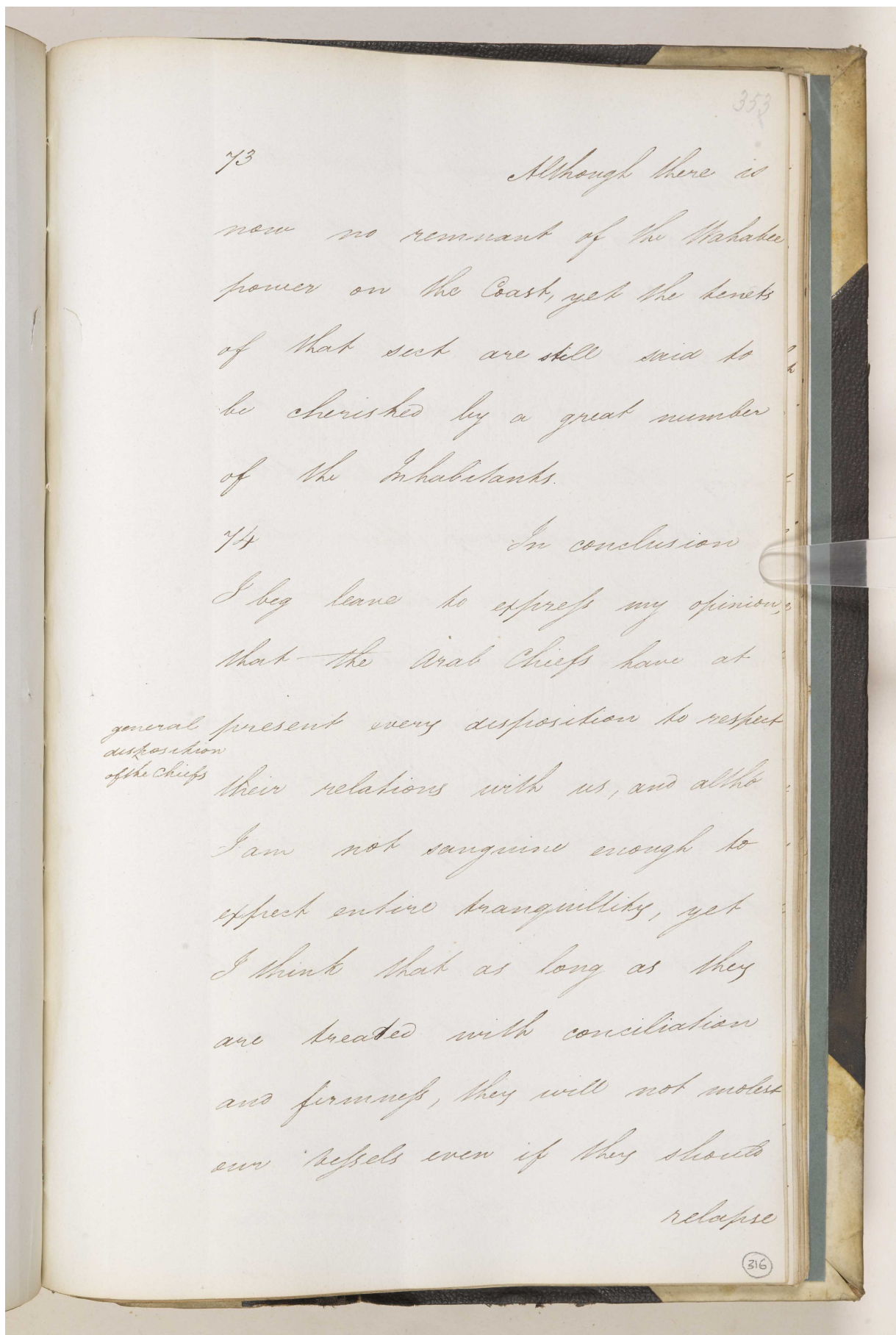
351

The mean time state that I
do not understand the Jawasmees procure
^{supplied to}
Pt of the
Jawasmees all their material for building
as well — — — as their
war like stores, from Muscat, &
Bahrain and the Persian Ports
in the lower part of the Gulf.
The Timber is all Indian Teak,
the arms are chiefly of Persian
manufacture, but of the latter
articles their Prizes furnish
them with an abundant supply
from all quarters. They possess
no articles of export, since their
pearls are generally purchased
by merchants on the spot
and the produce of their Country
is not even sufficient for
their

(315)

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [315v] (178/211)

Their maintenance. Their only employment is catching Fish, diving for Pearls, and importing dates and grain and other necessaries of life which they purchase with the price of their Pearls. Their dates are chiefly brought from Bahrain and Bussora, grain and cloth from Muscat and the Persian Ports, they appear to be very poor and I should fear that they can never find much employment in commerce unless in carrying for others, but I believe they at one time pursued a very extensive trade, and it is to be hoped their resources may again improve.



relapse into piracy against their
neighbours in the Gulph we
ought to encourage them as
much as possible to embark
in commerce, and endeavour to
bring them to more peaceful
habits by affording them all
the protection in our power
and at the same time asserting
our right to maintain the peace
of the sea, but their poverty
their habits of rapine and the
feuds which seem inherent in
the Arab tribes, are such obstacles
that we can not expect any
sudden or entire reform, nor
can we look to any other motive
but the dread of our power
for

prob
be ob
serva
them

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [317r] (181/211)

355
for keeping them true to their
engagements.

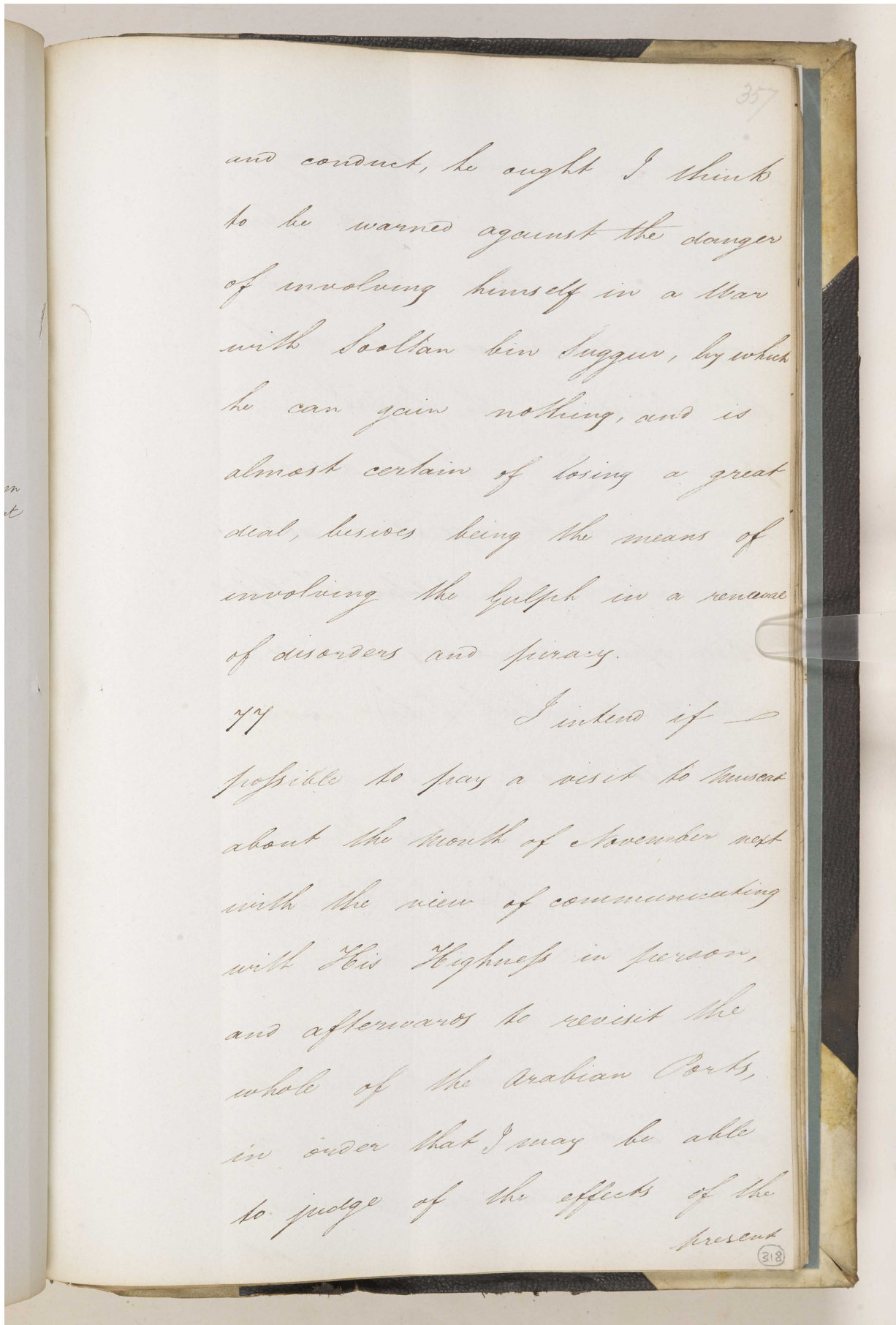
43
policy to be observed towards them. I think is to keep down hostilities, at sea, if possible & to prevent their quarrels amongst themselves from leading to a renewal of disorders, at the same time we must not interfere too far and must observe great caution to avoid giving offence, much may be done by persevering in the system of steady control, combined with friendly intercourse which Government has adopted, some discretion will however be requisite to guard against disgusting the Shaiths by too much strictness, and we must bear in

mind
317

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mind that any uncautions or
harsh acts on our part which
may tend to exasperate them
will again embroil us with
these desperate and lawless tribes.

45 The feud between
the Imam of Muscat and Sultan ^{Imam}
bin Suggur is perhaps as much ^{of Muscat}
to be dreaded, as the ambitions
of the latter Chief, or the quarrels
amongst the tribes themselves.
His Highness is accused of
countenancing other disorderly
characters, besides Raschid bin
Hameid, but I hope my suspicions
on this head may prove unfounded
and I have the highest opinion
of the Imams general character
and



357
and conduct, he ought I think
to be warned against the danger
of involving himself in a war
with Soollan bin Suggur, by which
he can gain nothing, and is
almost certain of losing a great
deal, besides being the means of
involving the Gulph in a renewal
of disorders and piracy.

44 I intend if
possible to pay a visit to Muscat
about the month of November next
with the view of communicating
with His Highness in person,
and afterwards to revisit the
whole of the Arabian Coasts,
in order that I may be able
to judge of the effects of the
present

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present system, and inform myself
more fully than I could possibly
do on my first visit regarding
every particular connected with
the affairs of the Gulf.

78 I have derived
much valuable assistance and
information from Captain Faithful
whose opinions entirely coincide
with those which I have now
said before you.

I have &c

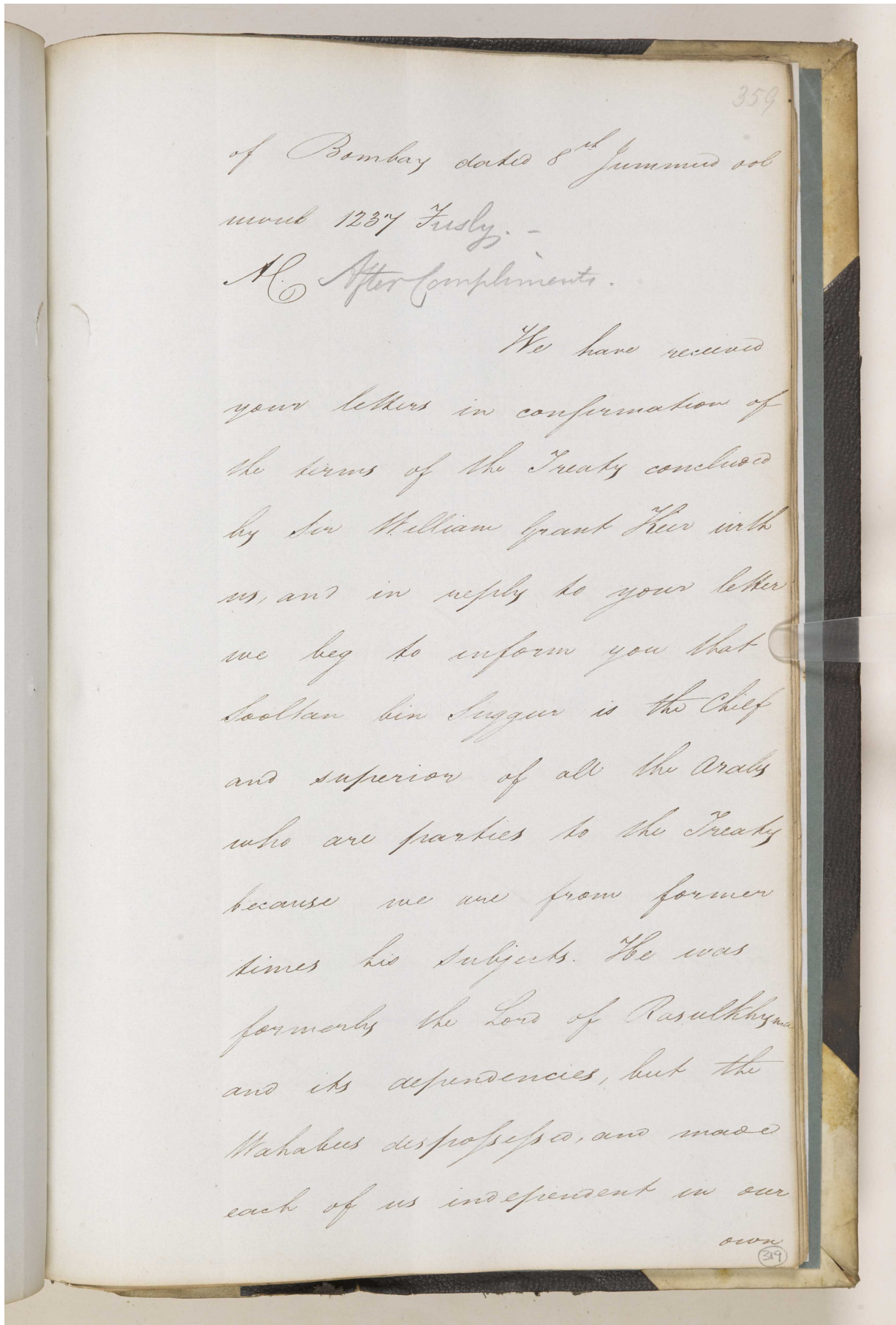
Bushire

27th Feb^r 1823

Signed J Macleod

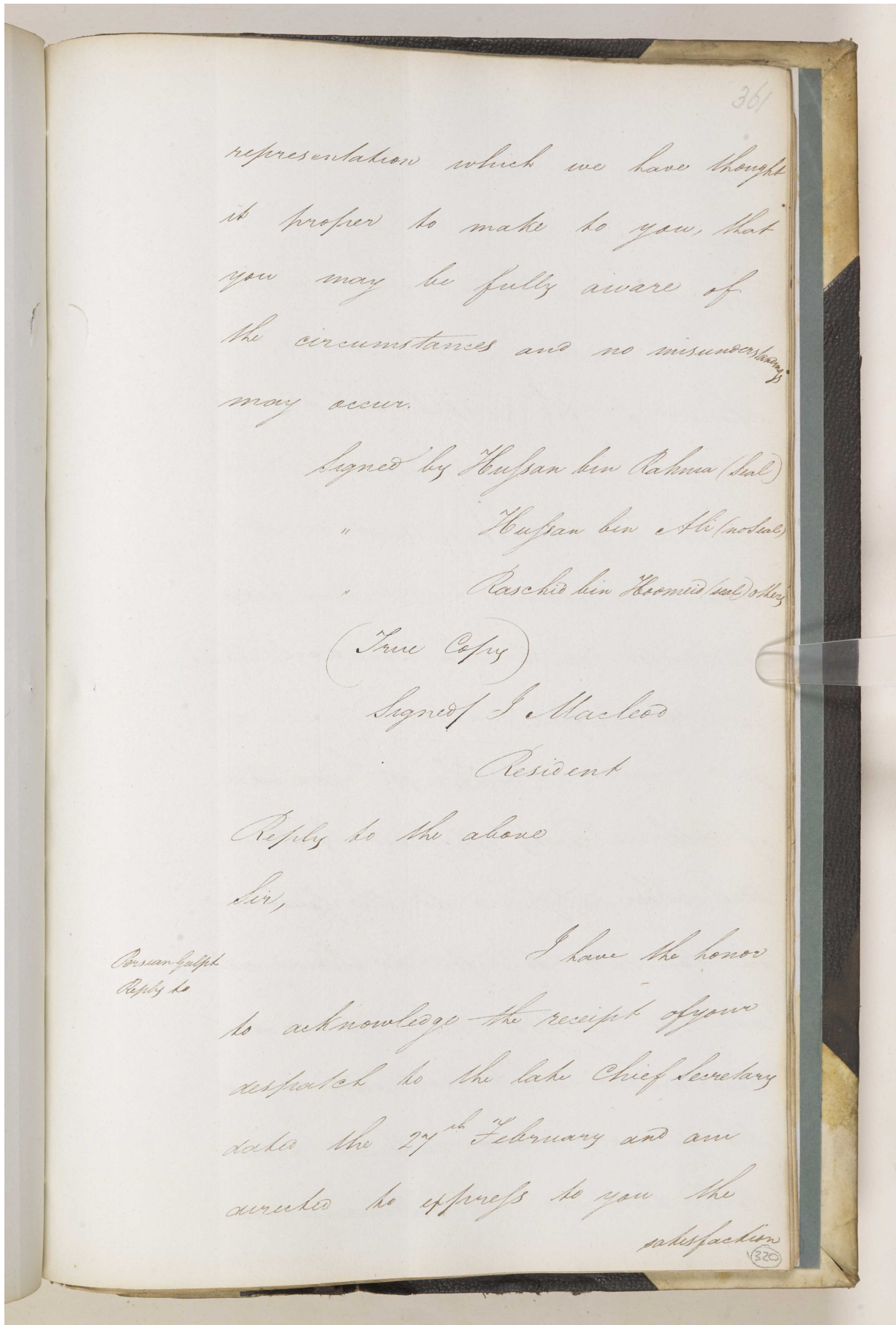
Resident

Substance of a letter
from certain of the Pirate Chiefs
to the Honble the Governour
of



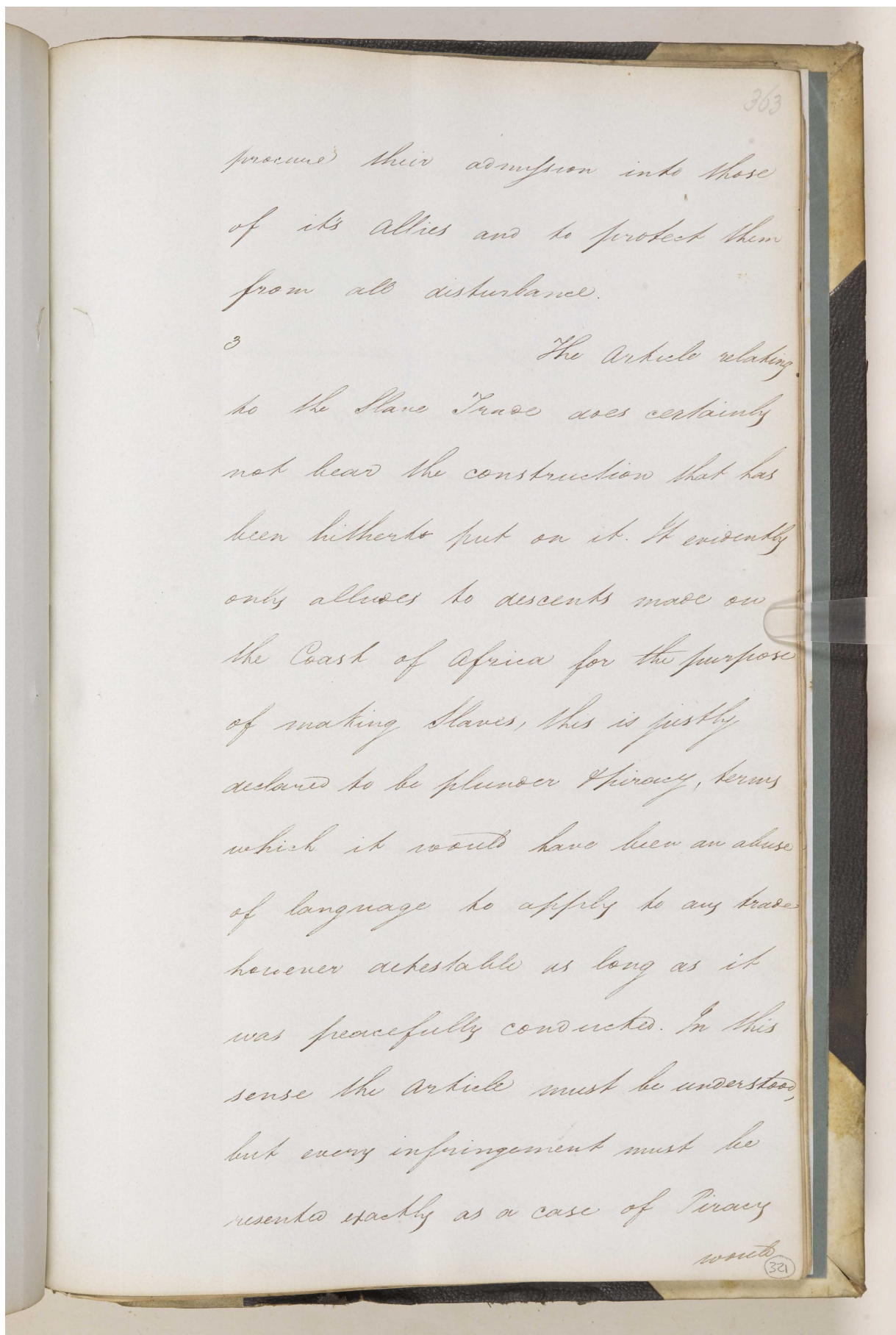
own Territory, from which time
we were at War with Sooltan
bin Suggur until your army arrived
and the will of God was visited
on us, where Sooltan bin Suggur
became again the Shaikh of these
Arabs, and we all became his
dependents from Sharga to Sookha,
and he is our Governor as
formerly. He is our Governour ^{Prin}
and if you have any business in
their affairs you will write
to him, and he will act for
us, since we are not now
individually responsible, and if
we have any business with you
Sooltan bin Suggur will write
to you for us; this is our
representation

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [320r] (187/211)



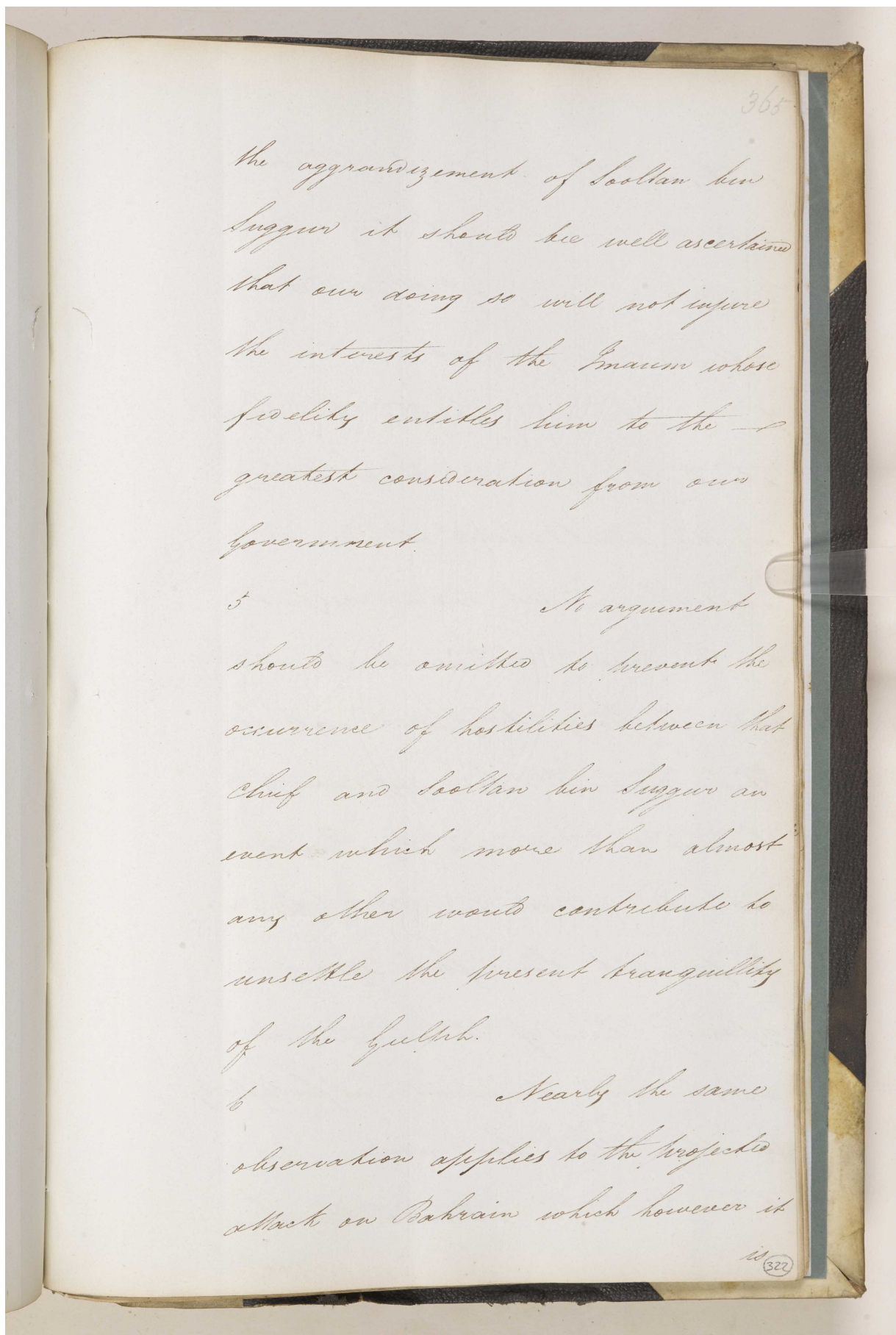
satisfaction of the Honble the
Governor in Council with the
very clear and able view it affords
of the States on the Arabian
Shore of the Gulph, and it will
no doubt greatly facilitate the
decisions of Government on all
future questions that may arise
connected with the Pratical States
in the Gulph.

2^d The 10th Article
of the Treaty concluded by Sir
W. G. Kerr appears to the Governor
in Council to refer to India alone,
and to engage that the British
Government shall not only admit
the friendly Arabs into its own
Ports but use its influence to
procure



would be.

4 The Governor in
Council has little doubt of the
accuracy of the opinions communicated
by you on the character of Sothan
bin Suggur and he agrees in the
opinion that it is greatly to be
wished that he should succeed
in fully establishing his authority
over the whole of the Swahnee
Ports, the Governor in Council
conceives the views which you have
taken of the conduct to be adopted
by the British Government in
relation to that Chief and his
alleged dependents to be perfectly
correct, and he further adds that
before we directly contribute to
the

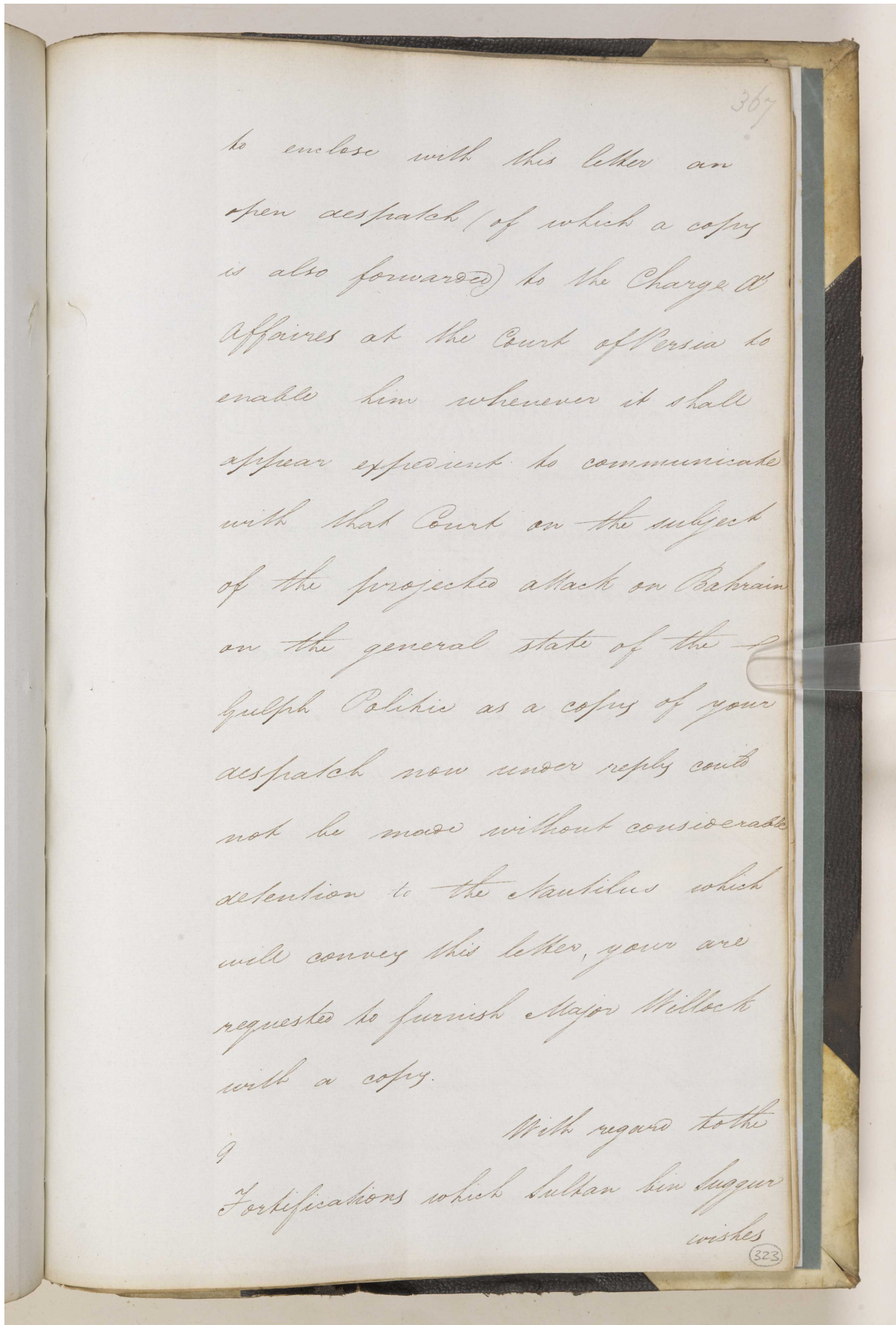


is hoped the weakness of Persia
and the jealousies of her intended
auxiliaries may of themselves be
sufficient to prevent

7 Isolhan bin Suggur
should be dissuaded from joining
in this attack should it ever be
seriously intended and in respect
to the Imam of Muscat it seems
only necessary to point out to
His Highness how repeatedly
he has been deceived by Persia
and its views on the Island
to prevent him from again
exposing himself to an alliance
which will terminate as ^{fatally} faithfully
as the others have done.

8

I have the honor
to



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wishes to erect at Rasulkhyma, I
am directed to refer you to my
despatch of the 20th instant (1795)
in which you will observe is
stated that the terms of the
Treaty do not allow of our
preventing the building of Forts, or
the retaliation of Tribes, but that
if the result of these measures
is a renewal of Piracy the
perpetrators will find that an
expedition can be sent from
Bombay as easily as from
Kishm.

10

My letter of the 17th of this month will put
you in full possession of all
the correspondence which has passed
regarding

These documents
will be included
in Coll^l relative
Abduction of
a Lord at Ras
ul Khyma

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regarding the Bahrain Botella seized
by the Commander of His Majesty's
Sloop Sophie.

11 The Governor in
Council sanctions the occasional hire
of Boats by the Commanders of
the Cruizers as recommended in
partra 28 whenever it may be
found necessary as a precaution
for the safety of their own
boats under the circumstances there
alluded to.

12 Adverting to the
40th Para of your letter, the
Superintendent of Marine will be
directed to cause the Commanders
of all Cruizers proceeding on the
Gulph Station to be furnished
with

(324)

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with copies of the Gulph survey
as soon as they can be completed.

I have H^o

Bombay Castle } Signed W. Newnham
26th March 1823 } Chief Secretary

From W^o Chief Secretary
Newnham, to Major Welbeck Charge
d' Affaires at Tehran.

(26th March 1823)

Sir,

I am directed to
acquaint you that the Resident
in the Persian Gulph has been
requested to furnish you with
a copy of his Despatch to His
Government of the 27th February
for the purpose of putting
you

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you in complete possession of the present state of the Political powers in that Quarter, and I am directed also to transmit to you at the same time copy of the reply addressed to Mr Maichee under this date.

2 The Governour in Council directs me to solicit your particular attention to those parts of this correspondence which relate to the Arab Tribes on the Persian Coast, and particularly to the rumour of a combined attack on the Island of Bahrein by the Troops of Persia in conjunction with the Imam of Muscat and Sultan bin Suggur.

3
325

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3 It is not at all the wish of this Government that any immediate communication should be made to the Persian Court on the subject of this Despatch, nor that any discussion on the subject of the Political state of the Gulph should be renewed, but whenever circumstances shall in your opinion render it expedient to agitate the subject, the possession of this correspondence will enable you to do so with advantage.

4 In such case the Governor in Council would suggest that the Court of Persia should be dissuaded from disturbing the

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370
The present tranquillity of the Gulf established with so much difficulty & expence, and that it should at the same time be stated that any renewal of Piratical practices will compel the British Govt. again to keep up a Military Establishment in the Gulf which as long as the Seas are secure can be dispensed with.

I have &c

Bombay Castle

26th March 1823

Signed W. Newham

Chief Secretary

From W. Chief Secretary

Newham, to

Secretary

to the Supreme Government.

(26th March 1823)

Persian Gulf
to the Secretary
to the Supreme
Govt. forwarding
copies of the
preceding
correspondence

I have the honor to transmit

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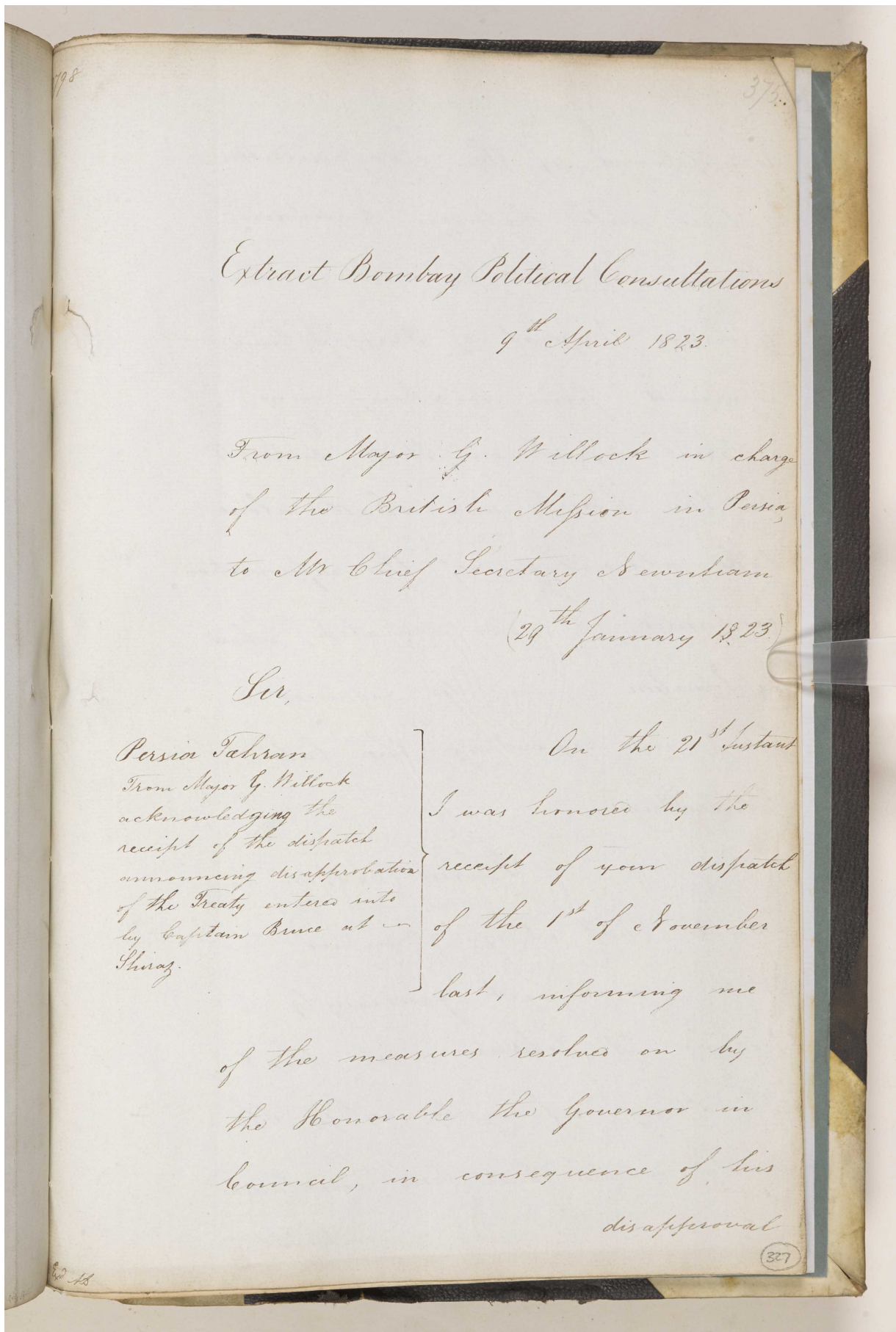
to you for the information of the
Honble the Governour General in
Council, copy of a despatch from
the Resident in the Persian Gulf
dated the 24th of last month,
being a report on the Piratical
Trikes in that quarter, together
with copies of my reply of
this date and of one addressed
to Major Willock at Tehran.

I have &c

Signed W. Newsbam
Chief Secretary

Bombay Castle

26th March 1823

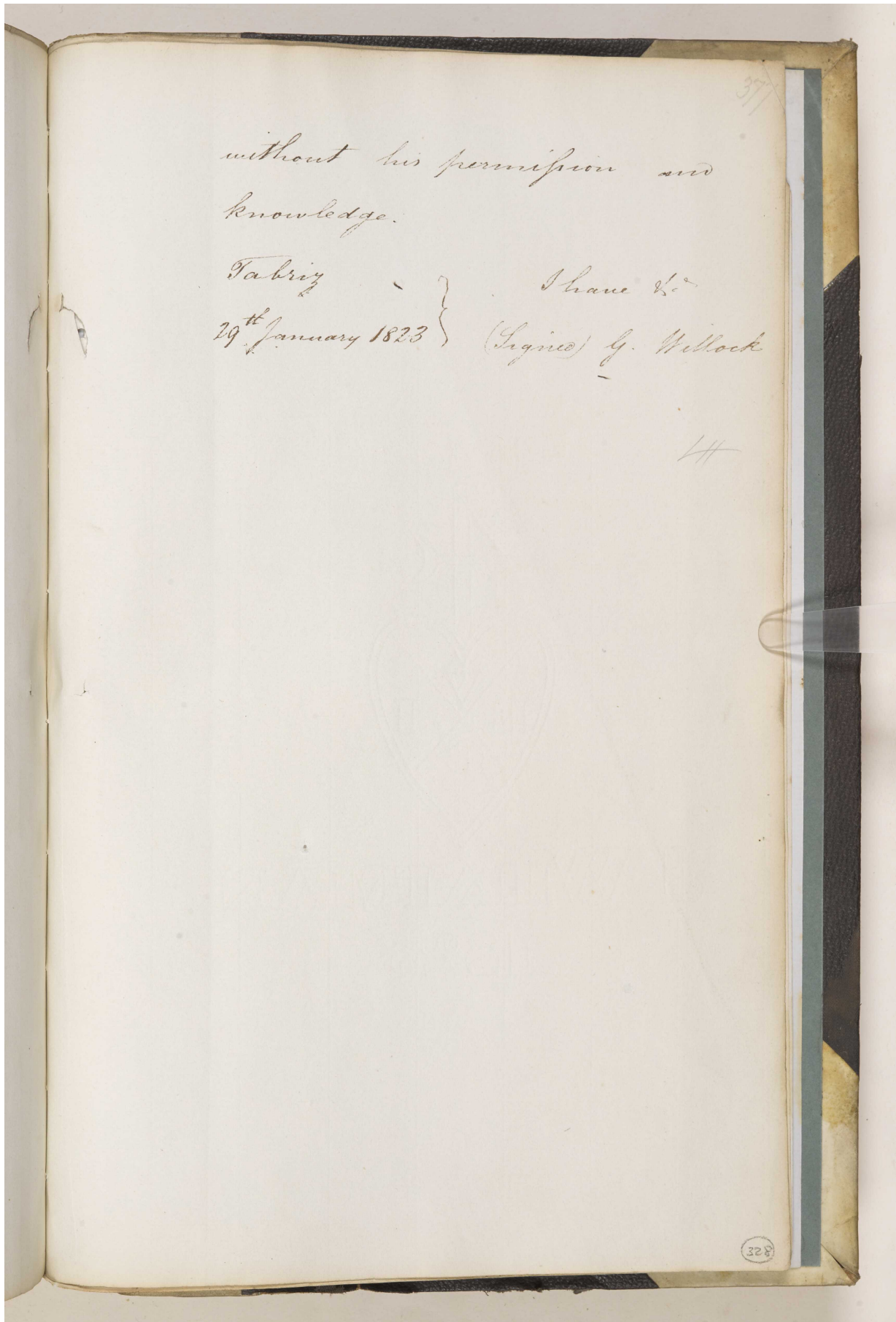


'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [327v] (202/211)

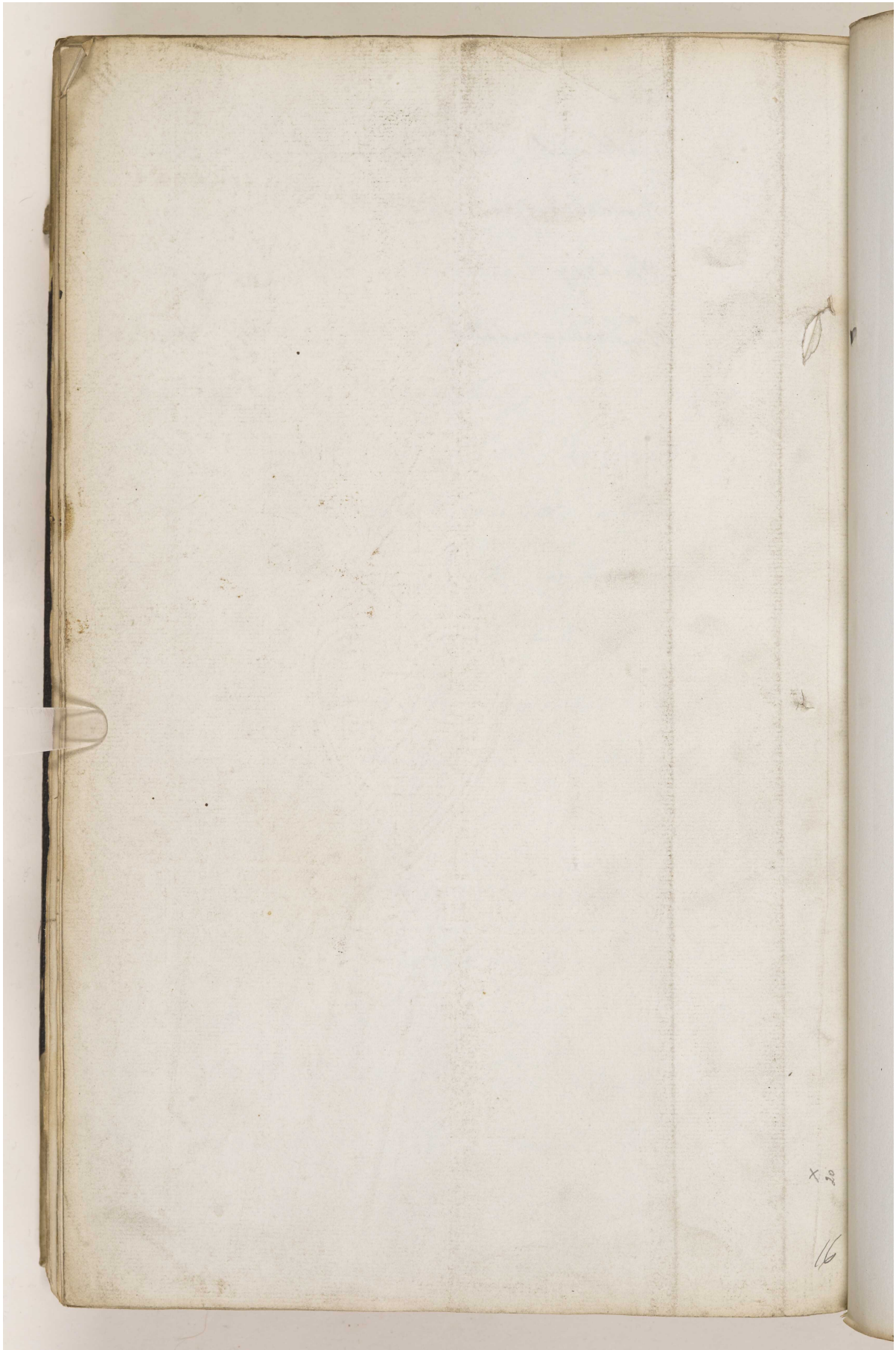
dis-approval of the engagements entered into between Captain Bruce and the Minister of the Governor General of Fars; I have refrained from making any official report on these subjects to the Court and shall alone take advantage of the information contained in your dispatch, when an explanation may be required from me regarding the late proceedings.

I have reason to believe that Mirza Bankur Akbar, was not graciously received at Teheran and that the King refused to ratify the Treaty, which had been concluded without

'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [328r] (203/211)



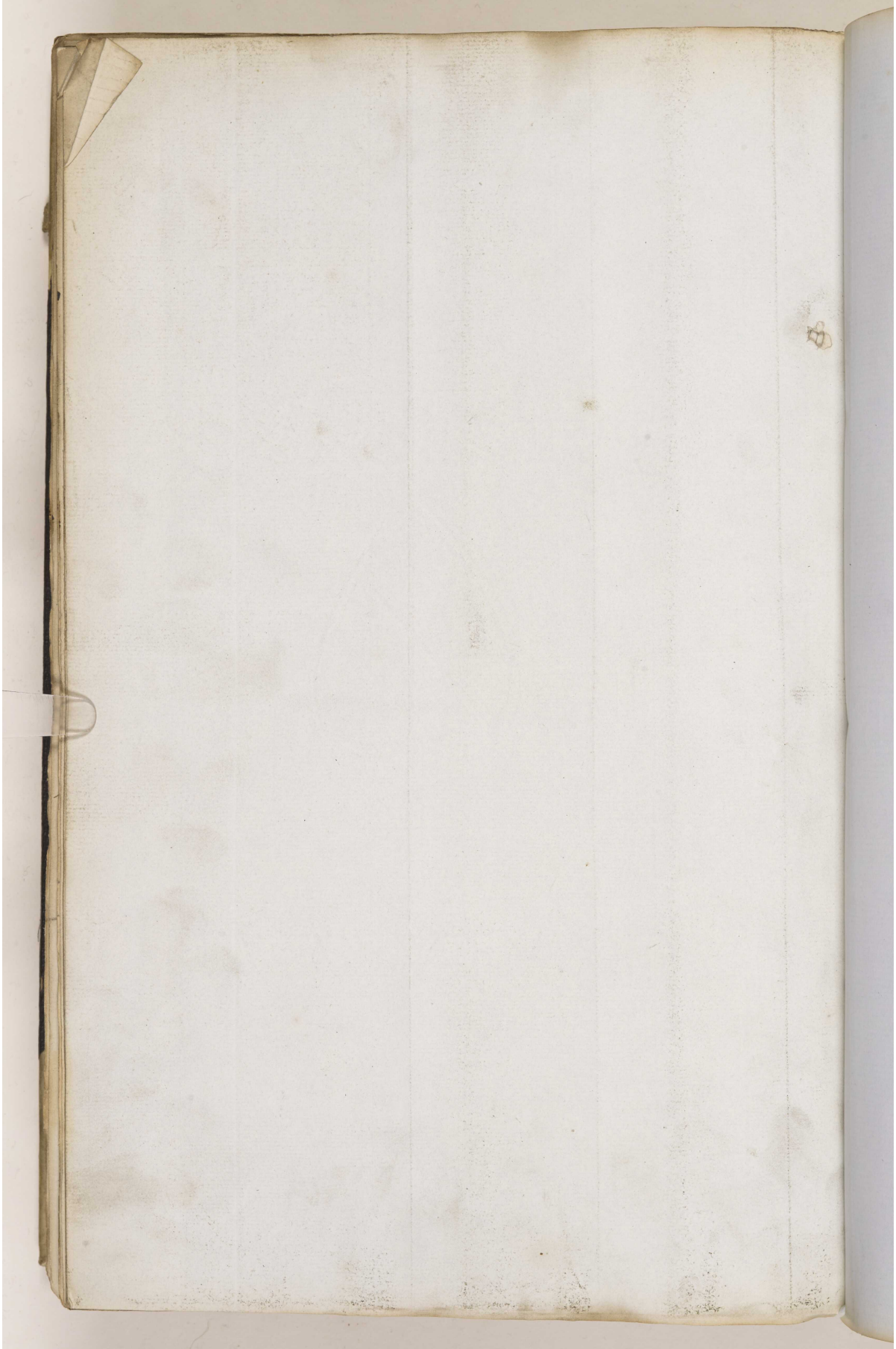
'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [328v] (204/211)



'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [329r] (205/211)



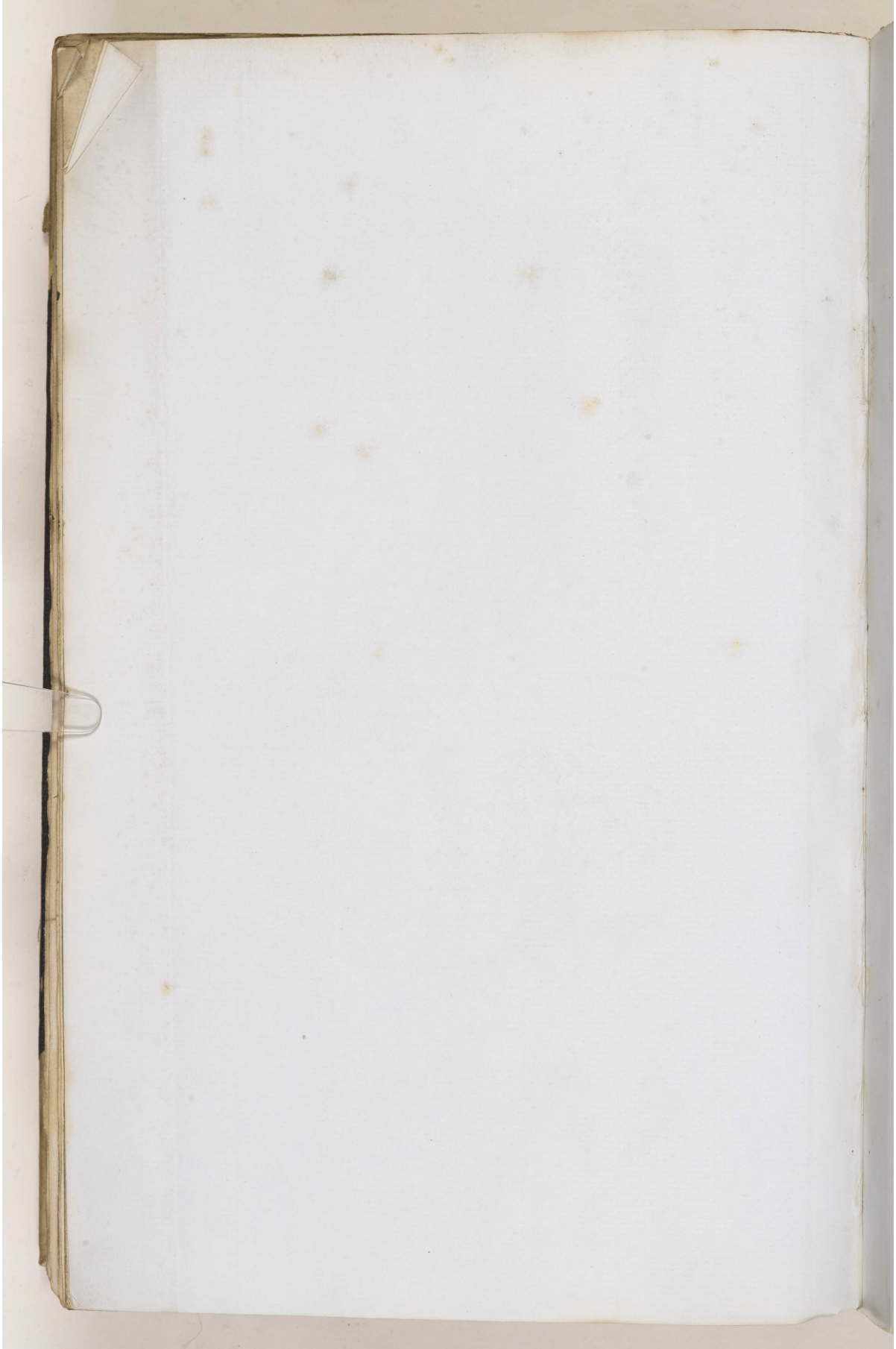
'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [329v] (206/211)



'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [330r] (207/211)



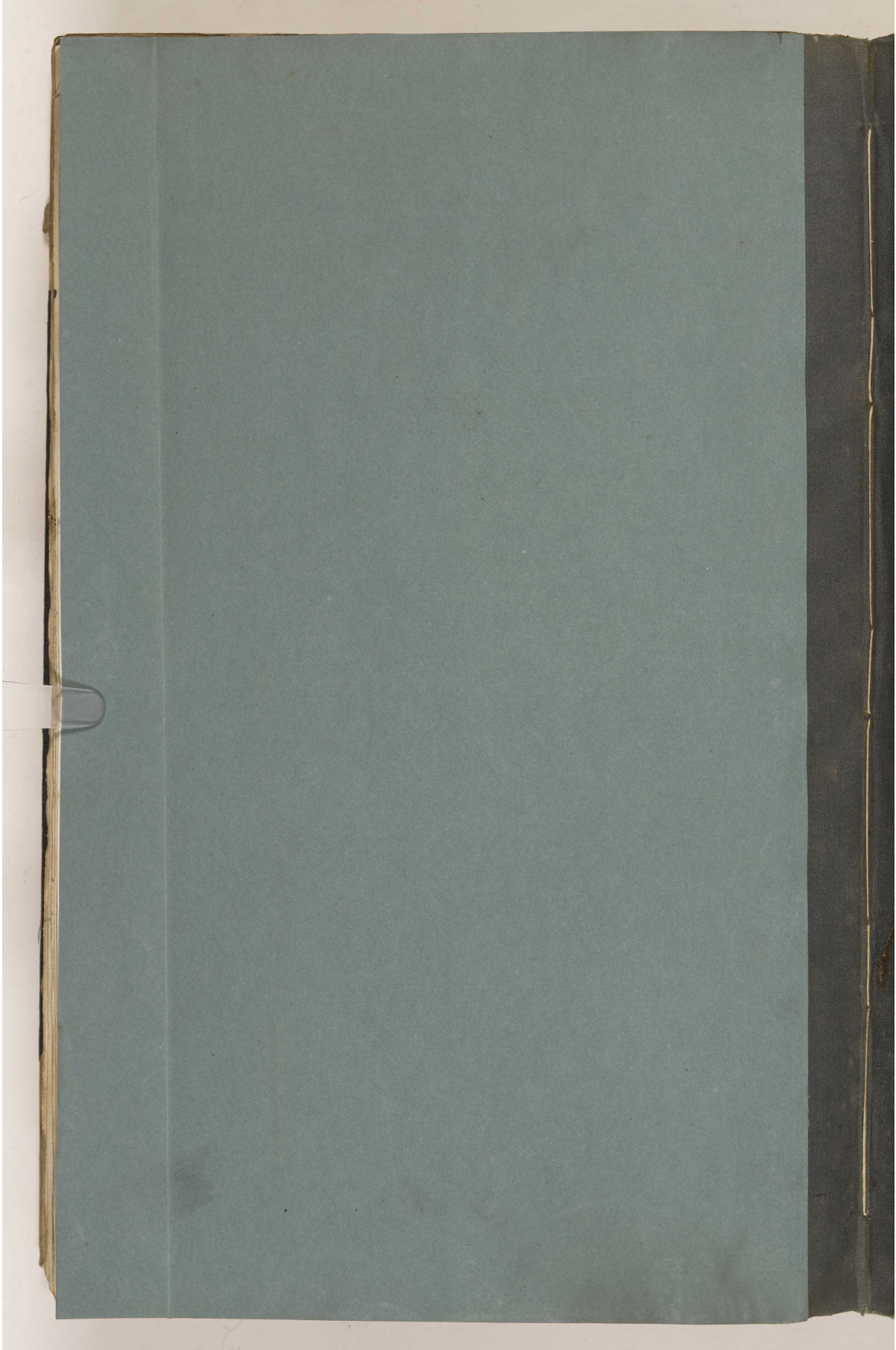
'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [330v] (208/211)



'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the
Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [331r] (209/211)



'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [331v] (210/211)



'Proceedings connected with an unauthorized negotiation entered into with the Prince Royal of Shiraz by Mr Bruce vol 2' [back-i] (211/211)

