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‘Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1’

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	IOR/F/4/913/25777
Date(s)	1 Apr 1818-1 Dec 1824 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 item (25 folios)
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About this record

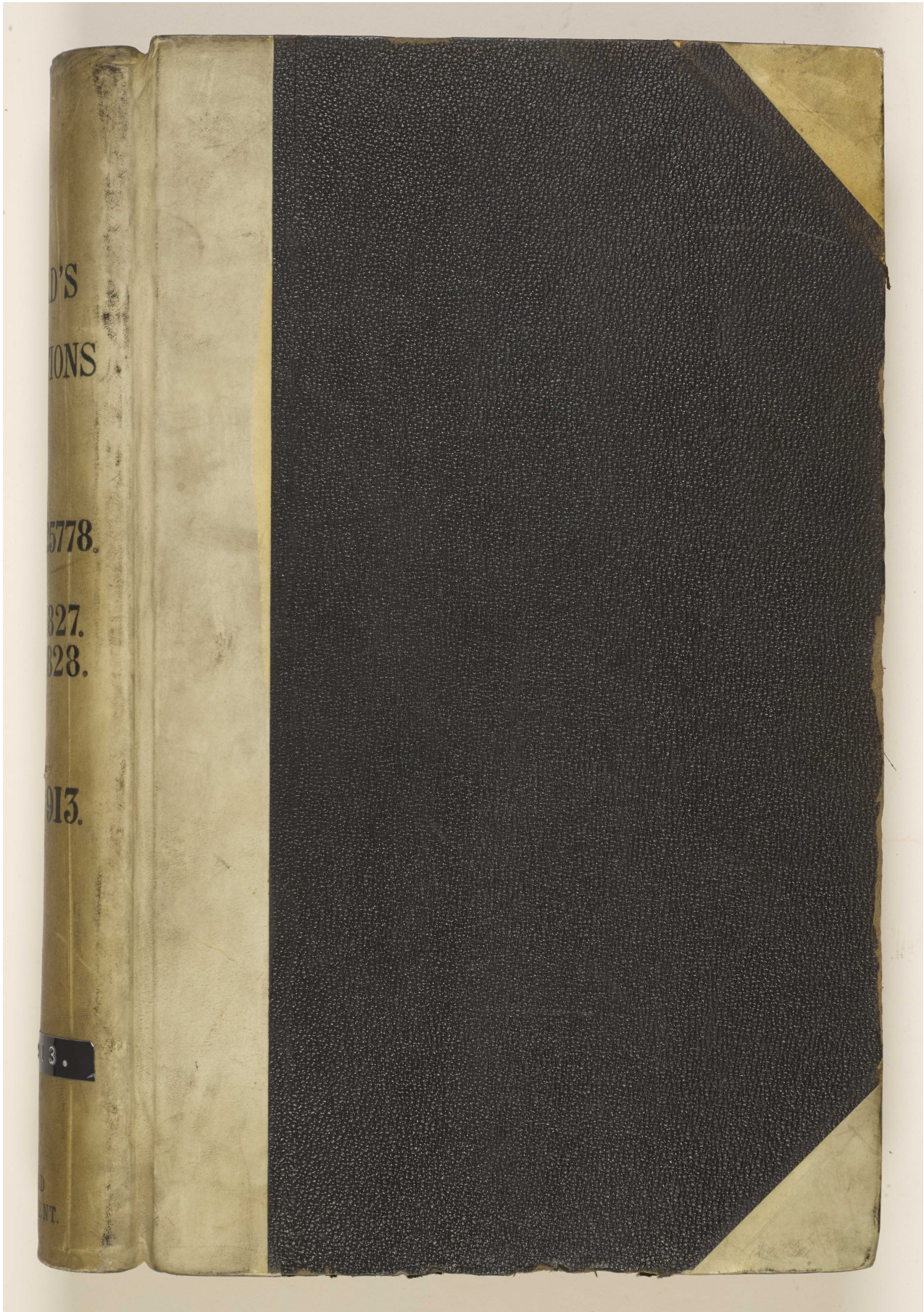
This item consists of copies of political letters to and from the Government of Bombay. It is the first in a series of three items on Muscat and the slave trade (the others are IOR/F/4/913/25778 and IOR/F/4/914/25779). The correspondents are the Government of Bombay and the East India Company Court of Directors.

The item concerns:

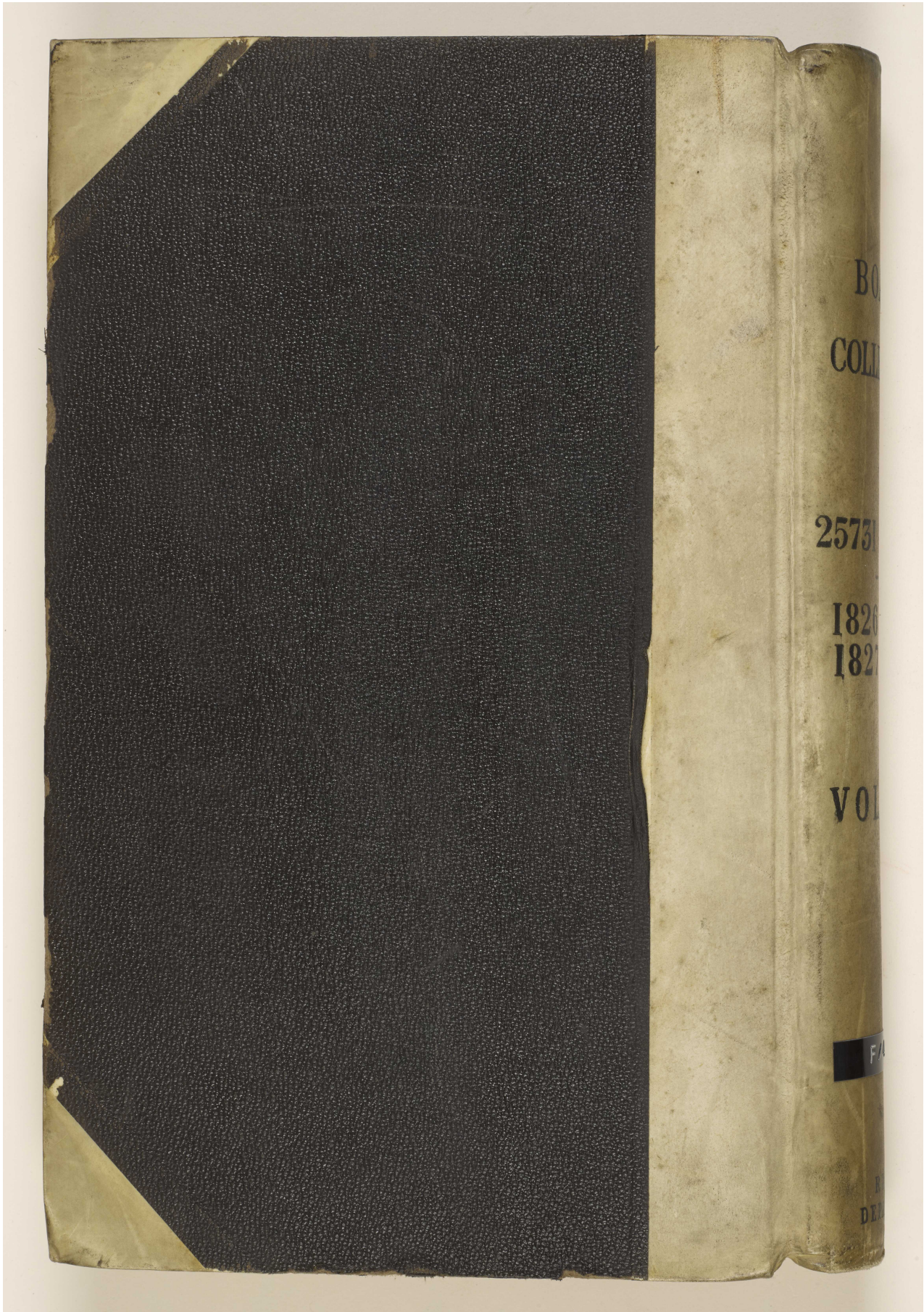
- The actions taken by the Imaum [Imam] of Muscat [Sayyid Saʿīd bin Sulṭān Āl Bū Saʿīd] to limit the slave trade
- The Moresby Treaty, which aimed to limit the slave trade
- Captain William Fitzwilliam Owen’s acceptance of the cession of Bombassa [Mombasa] from the King and Chiefs of the island (see also IOR/F/4/785/21163).

The item includes a contents page, and the title page of the item contains the following references: ‘Bombay Political No. 943, Draft 8, P.C. 423, [Season] 1827/28’.

'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the
suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [front] (1/56)



'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [back] (2/56)



'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [spine] (3/56)



'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [edge] (4/56)



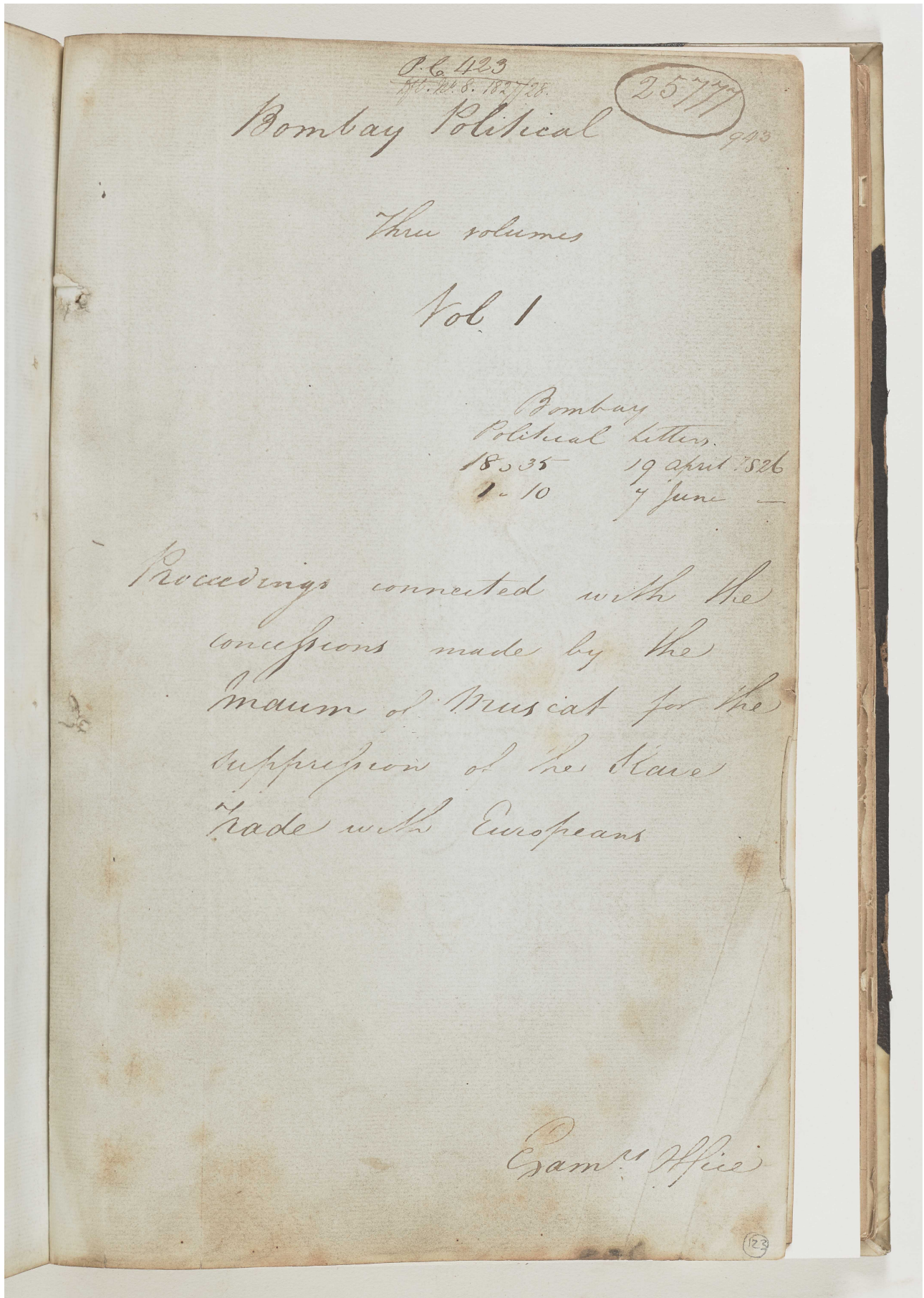
'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [head] (5/56)



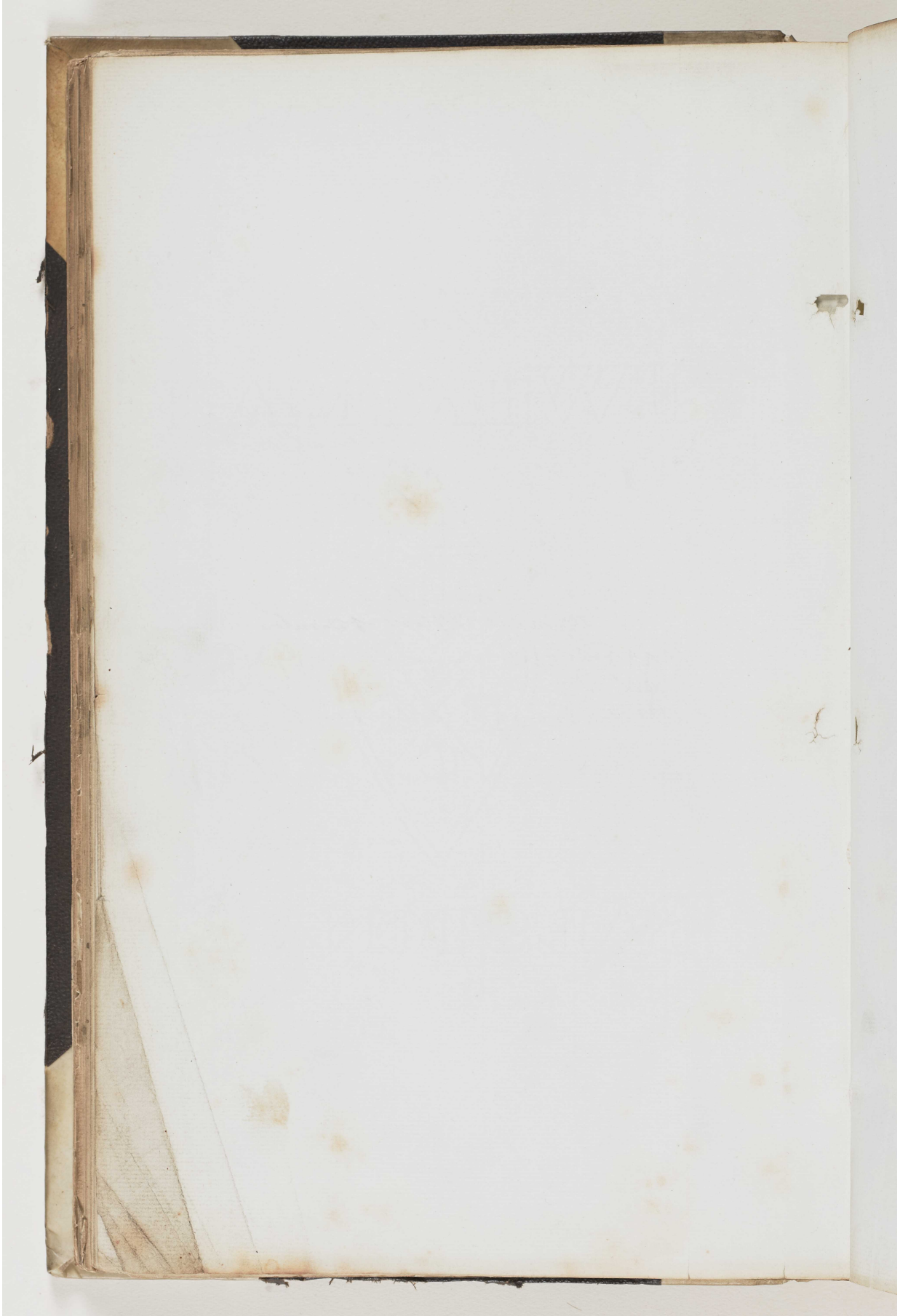
'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [tail] (6/56)



'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the
suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [123r] (7/56)



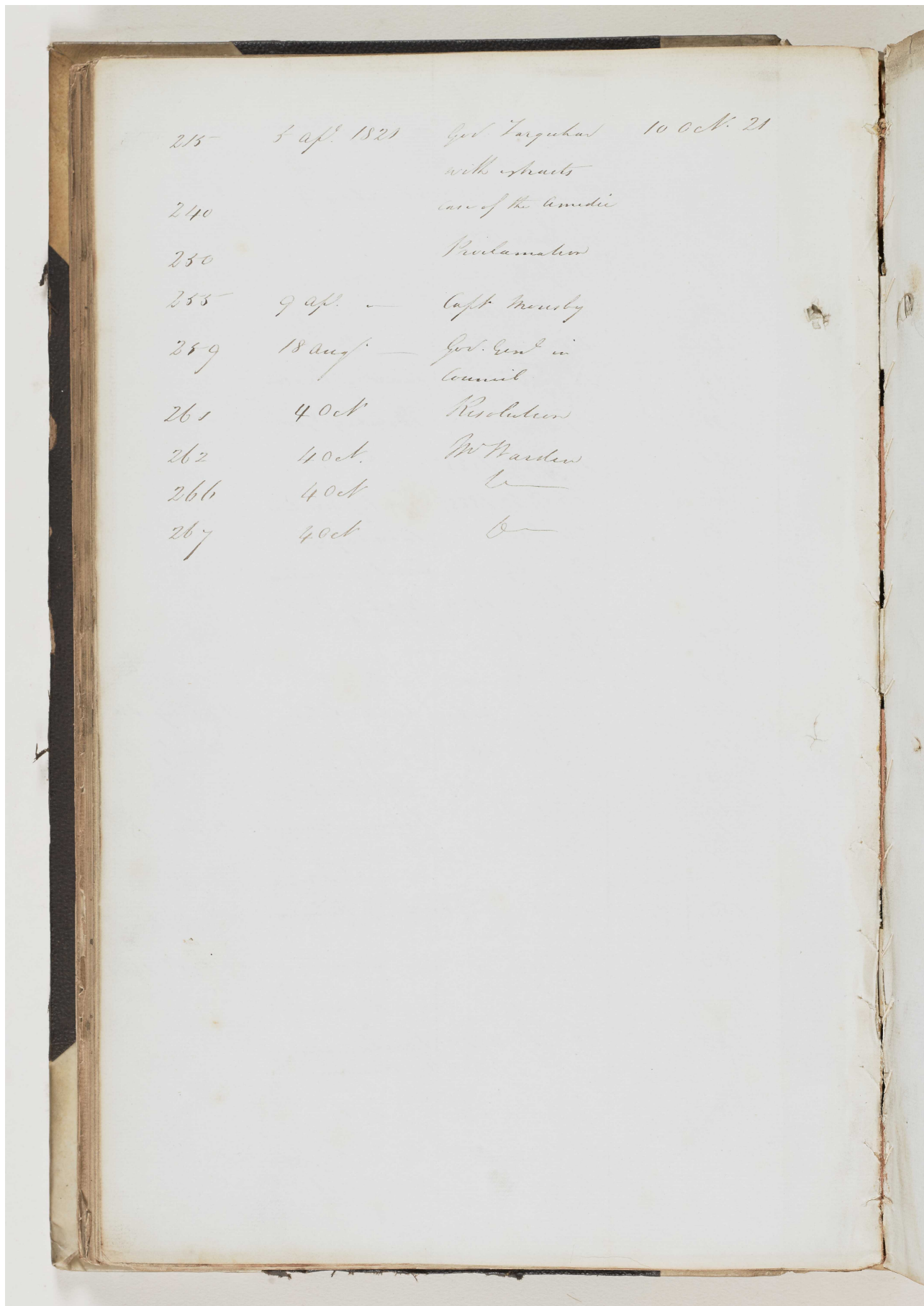
'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [123v] (8/56)



'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [124r] (9/56)

1	1 apt. 1818	Court of Directors	
3	11 apt. 1821	Do	
7	29 Aug.	Bombay Govt.	
13	2 Mar 1822	Do	
21	31 July	Do	
23	6 July 1823	Do	
24	14 Jan 1824	Do	
29	13 Sept.	Court of Directors	
31	1 Dec.	Bombay Govt.	
51	19 Jan 1825	Do	
53	16 July 1825	Court of Directors	
55	24 June	Bombay Govt.	
65	13 July	Court of Directors	
67	7 Jan 1826	Bombay Govt.	
71	19 apt.	Court of Directors	
95	7 June	Do	
107	9 July 1802	Capt. Vinton	27 Aug 1802
111	15 July 1815	Mr E. Rippeau	26 July 1815
115	11 June 1816	Mr Woodhouse	
119	5 Nov.	Imaum of Muscat	15 Dec. 1819
123	20 Mar 1821	Directors of the African Institution	
155	4 apt. 1821	Mr G. Robinson	
163	18 Aug.	Mr Swinton	10 Oct. 1821
172	20 Jan	Mr R. Targuhar	
183	23 Oct. 1817	Proclamation by Radama	
194	11 Oct 1820	Do	
195	11 May 1821	Mr R. Targuhar	
203	4 apt.	Capt. Mousby	

'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the
 suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [124v] (10/56)



215	3 rd Sept. 1821	Gov. Targuhal	10 Oct. 21
		with extracts	
210		case of the Amudie	
250		Proclamation	
255	9 th Sept.	Capt. Mearby	
259	18 Aug.	Gov. Genl in	
		Council	
261	4 Oct	Resolutions	
262	11 Oct.	Dr Hardew	
266	4 Oct		
267	4 Oct		

Extract Political Letter to Bombay

dated 1st. April 1818.

16.4 In the course of these proceedings we have observed with great regret, that the Portuguese have formed new Establishments, where they are represented as carrying on the slave trade, "in all its horrors."

17 Under the terms of the 2nd Article of the Treaty with Portugal of the 22nd January 1815 Great Britain is restricted from enforcing the abolition of the slave trade in the Portuguese Dominions to the Southward of the Line, but we shall

be 125

'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [125v] (12/56)

be desirous on all occasions to receive
any communication that may point
the attention of His Majesty's Government
to abuses of this dreadful nature,
and stimulate their exertions to
check, and if possible, finally to
put an end to a traffic which
is no less repugnant to the dictates
of humanity, than to the just policy
of every civilized Nation.

'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [126r] (13/56)

11 April 1821

Our Governor
in Council at Bombay.

1 Our last letter
to you in this Department
was dated the 29th December 1820.

2 We lately received
from the President Vice President
and Directors of the African
Institution a letter and Memoirs
respecting the Slave Trade carried
on at Lamogbar on the East Coast
of Africa a copy of which we
transmit a No in the Packet.

3
(126)

'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [126v] (14/56)

3
No take the earliest
opportunity in drawing your attention
to this communication of expressing
our most cordial concurrence in
the benevolent views entertained by
the respectable Members of that
Institution and of communicating
to you our directions that every
means of persuasion may be
exerted by you with the Imaum
of Muscat to induce him to
abolish this inhuman traffic -
within his possessions and consent
to such of his Subjects as may
afterwards engage in it, being
considered and treated as Pirates.

4
The letter upon
the subject addressed to the
Imaam

'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [127r] (15/56)

5

Imaam by our late Governor in
July 1815 evinced a highly commendable
anxiety on the part of Sir Cochrane
Alpman for the attainment of this
desirable object and we have been
both disappointed and mortified by
not being able to find upon your
records any reply from the Imaam
to that important communication.
From the friendly terms however
in which the letter addressed by
the Imaam to our present Governor
in December 1819 is couched we
are willing to flatter ourselves with
the hope that His Highness may
be disposed favourably to listen to
a renewed appeal on a matter
wherein we take so deep an
interest

(127)

'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [127v] (16/56)

interest and we feel assured that
you will leave no prudent
means untried to obtain from
the Imaum the desired concession.

We are

Your loving friends

(Signed) G. A. Robinson

" J. Reid.

" J. Cotton

" J. Thudleston

" W^m Astle

" J. Hoare

" C. Margaritants

" J^{no} Morris

" C. E. Pasert

" W. J. Clarke

" G. Raikes

" R. C. Plowden

" C. Parry

" G. Smith

" Jacob Pasangnet

" R. Campbell

London -
11th April 1821.

'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [128r] (17/56)

Extract Political Letter from Bombay

Dated 29th August 1821

My Dear Sir We have had the honor
of receiving your Honble Courts
dispatch dated the 11th April, forwarding
a Letter and Memoir, which you had
 lately received from the Vice President
and Directors of the African Institution
respecting the Slave trade carried on
at Zanzibar, and directing that
every means of persuasion may
be exerted with the Imaum of
Muscat to abolish this inhuman
traffic within his possessions.

My Dear Sir Our President has addressed

'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [128v] (18/56)

a letter to the Imaum to the effect of your Honorable Courts suggestions, which has been transmitted to Mr Inkes with instructions to visit the Imaum, and to use every means that may appear likely to succeed in persuading his Highness to cooperate in the suppression of so detestable a traffic without offending or alarming his prejudices.

It should not however be concealed from your Honorable Court that as Zanzibar is the great seat of the slave trade of the East, it is probable that a large portion of the Imaum's revenues may be derived from it,

in

'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [129r] (19/56)

9

in which case it seems beyond
all hope that His Highness will
be persuaded to put a stop to it,
without an equivalent, especially as
the trade is quite consistent with
his ideas of humanity and is expressly
authorized by the religion, ^{which} he professes.

206. Cons 172 The traffic in slaves
22 Feb 1820
Ms 48 folio
9214. on the east Coast of Africa was
recently brought to our notice by
the Supreme Government requesting
our attention to the solicitation
expressed in a Letter from the Governor
dated 2^d Febr Farguhar to His Lordship in Council
that the different Agents in the
Gulph of Persia & Arabia might be
directed to obtain and furnish such
information on the subject of attempts
at

(129)

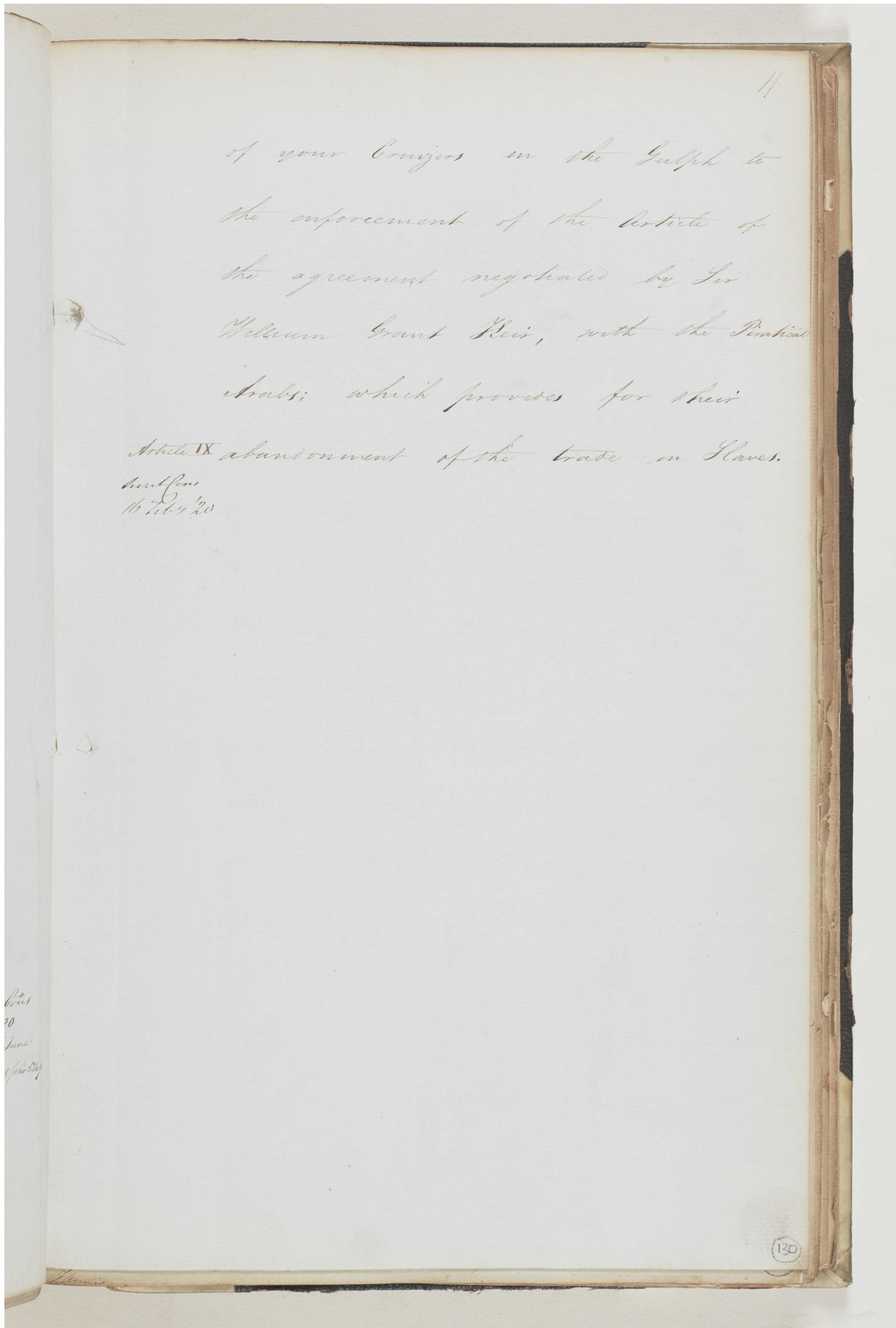
'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [129v] (20/56)

at slave dealing by British Subjects,
or those of other Nations as might
lead to the detection and punishment
of any efforts, that might be
made to renew the trade with
the Island of Bourbon & Mauritius
from the Countries and consequently
lead to its final extinction.

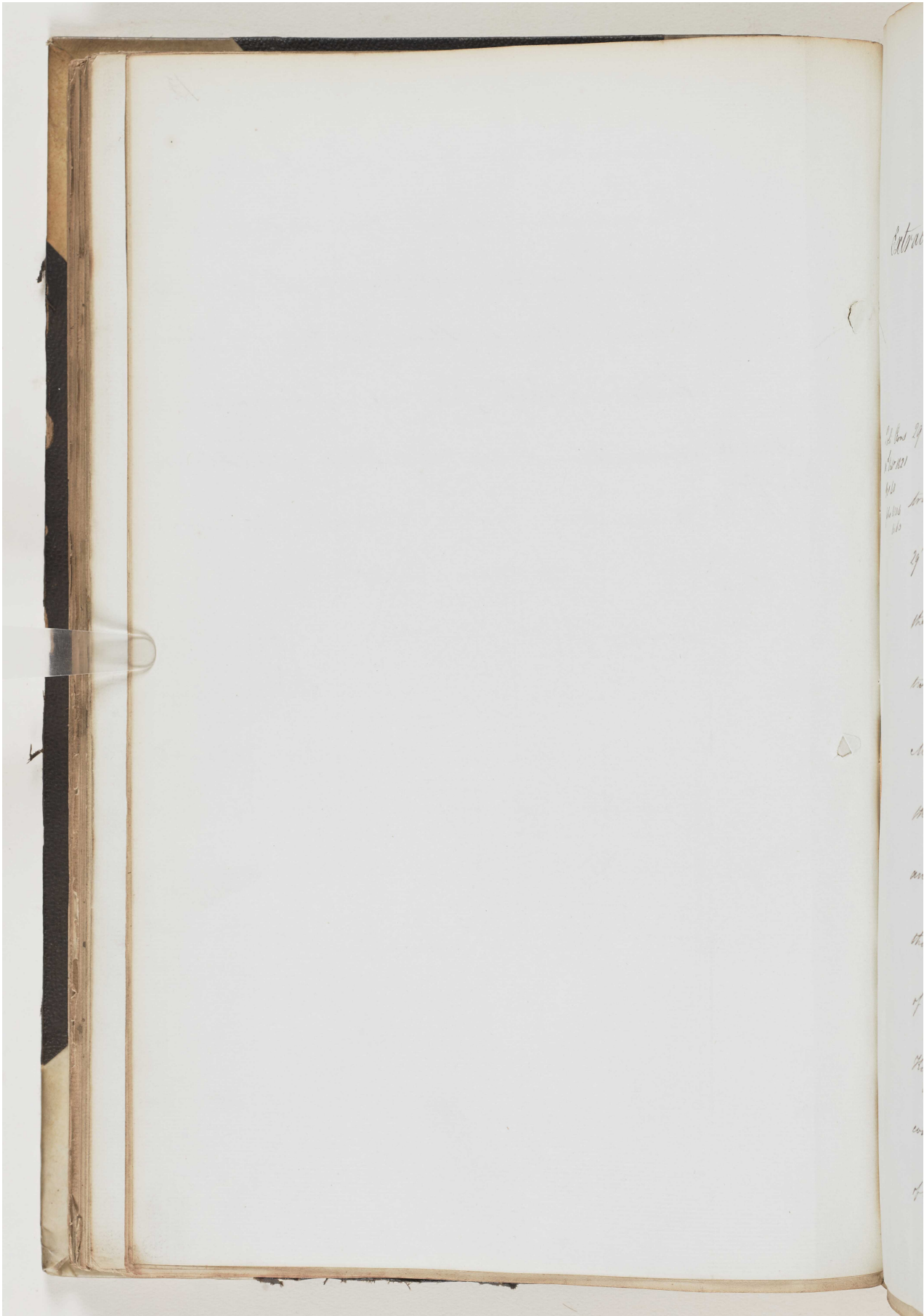
173 Having issued a circular
conformably to the suggestions of
Governor Farguhar, we have not
yet obtained any information of
the nature desired by His Excellency.
Your Honble Court will perceive from
the second paragraph of our
instructions to the Superintendent of
the Marine, that we have enjoined
the particular attention of the Commanders
of

Pub. Cons
1820
21st June
N^o 25 folio 535g

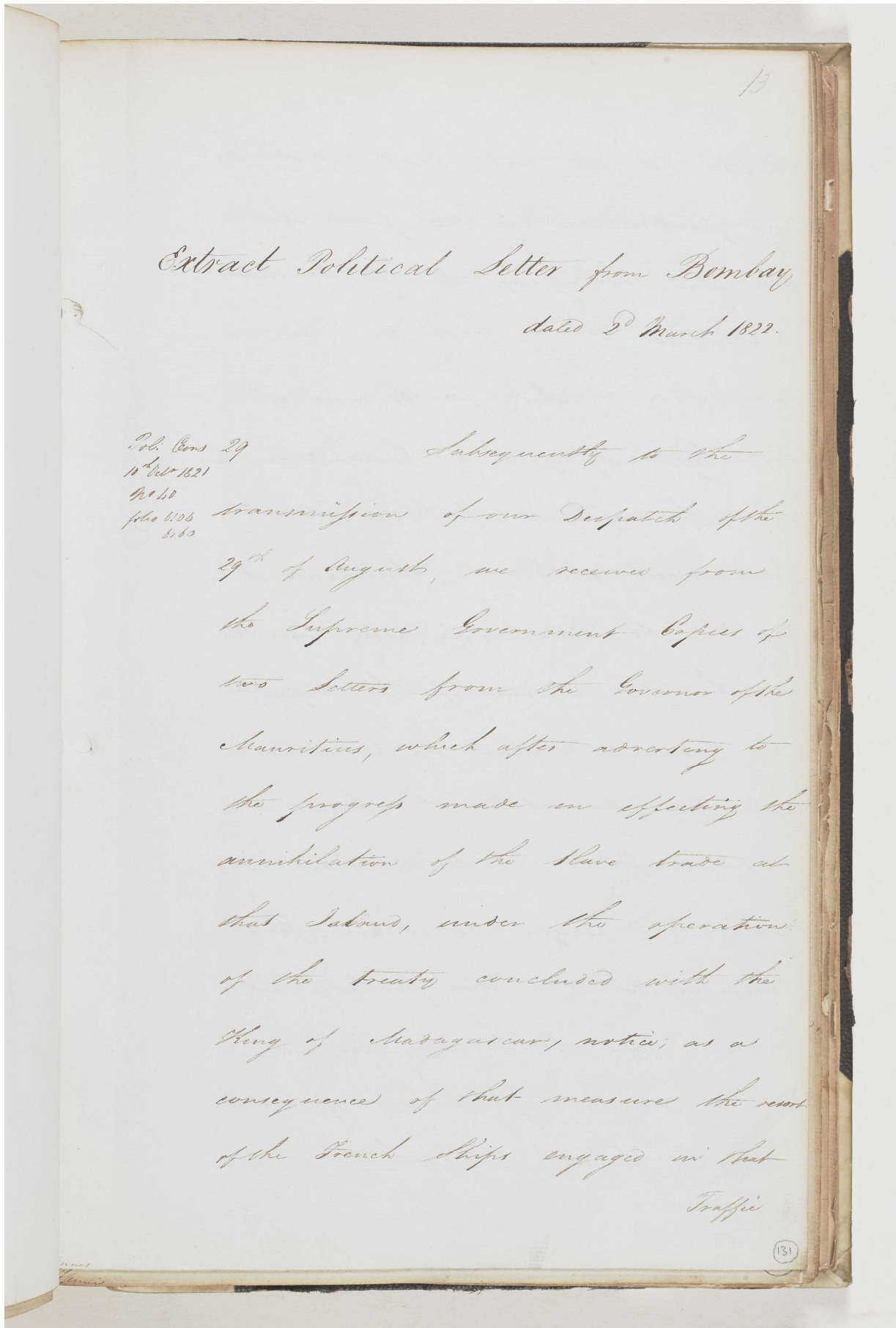
'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [130r] (21/56)



'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [130v] (22/56)



'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [131r] (23/56)

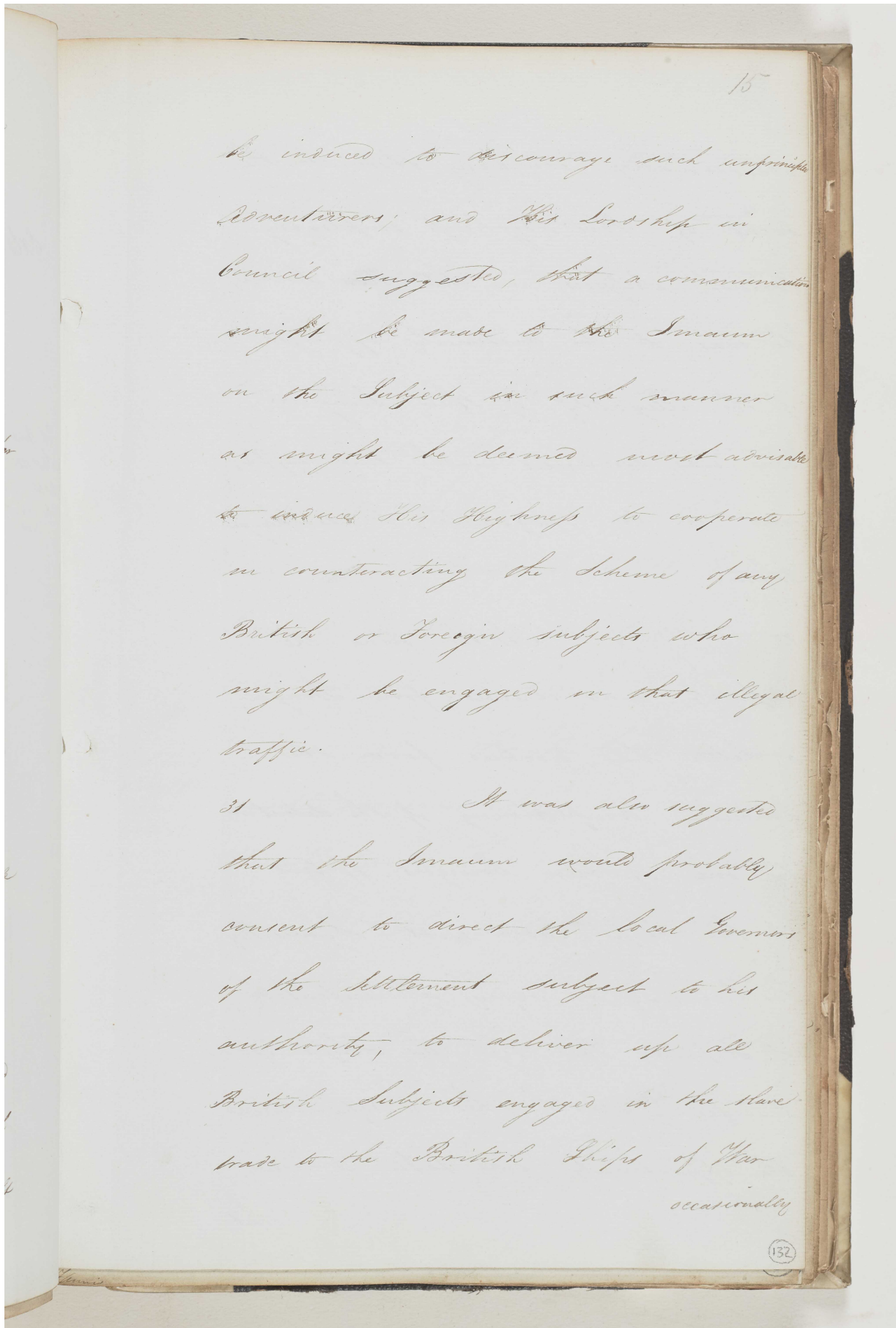


'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [131v] (24/56)

Traffic to the east Coast of Africa,
and particularly to the port of
Zanzibar belonging to the Imaum
of Muscat.

30 In furtherance of
the hope expressed by Governor Barchin
that the influence of the British
Government with the Imaum
might be beneficially employed
in the prohibition of this traffic,
the Governor General in Council
remarked that altho' the Imaum
was understood to derive a considerable
revenue by importing Slaves from
Zanzibar, still it was probable his
interest was not in any way concerned
in the similar speculations of British
or French Subjects, and that he might
be

'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [132r] (25/56)

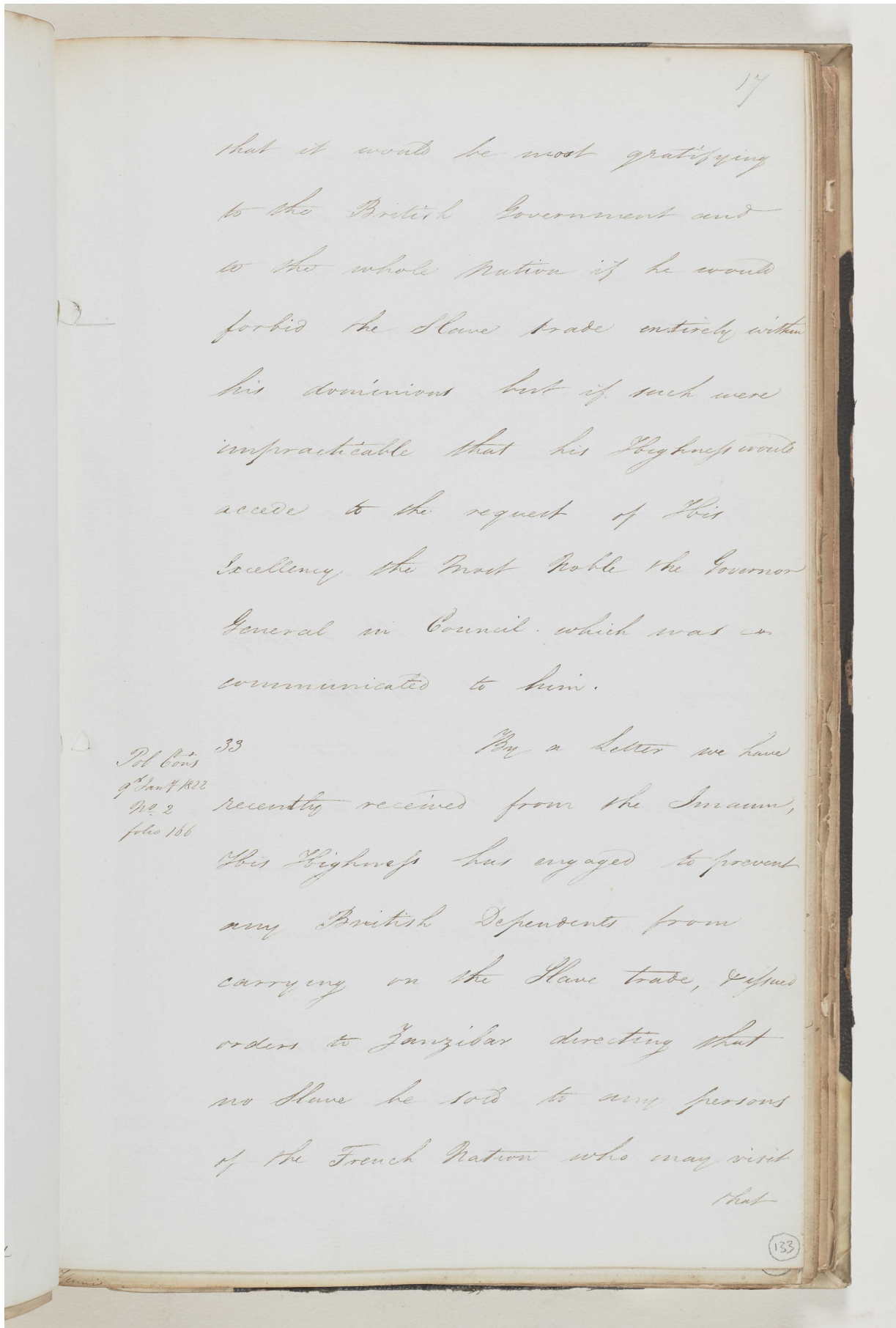


'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [132v] (26/56)

occasionally touching there. In the event of His Highness employing British Subjects in his own Service, he was to be distinctly apprized of the illegality of their being in any way connected with this traffic, and to be requested to discharge them.

32 At the time the dispatch was received from Bengal, a letter had arrived from the Imaum complaining of the detention by one of our cruizers of two of his Ships laden with Slaves. By disclaiming in reply all intention of stopping His Highness's Ships or interfering with his independence the opportunity was taken to notice that

'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [133r] (27/56)



17
 that it would be most gratifying
 to the British Government and
 to the whole Nation if he would
 forbid the Slave trade entirely within
 his dominions but if such were
 impracticable that his Highness would
 accede to the request of His
 Excellency the Most Noble the Governor
 General in Council which was
 communicated to him.

Pol Cons 33
 of Sant R22
 No 2
 folio 186

By a Letter we have
 recently received from the Imaum,
 His Highness has engaged to prevent
 any British Dependents from
 carrying on the Slave trade, & signed
 orders to Zanzibar directing that
 no Slave be sold to any persons
 of the French Nation who may visit
 that

133

'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [133v] (28/56)

that place, but appears reluctant to prohibit the traffic among his own subjects.

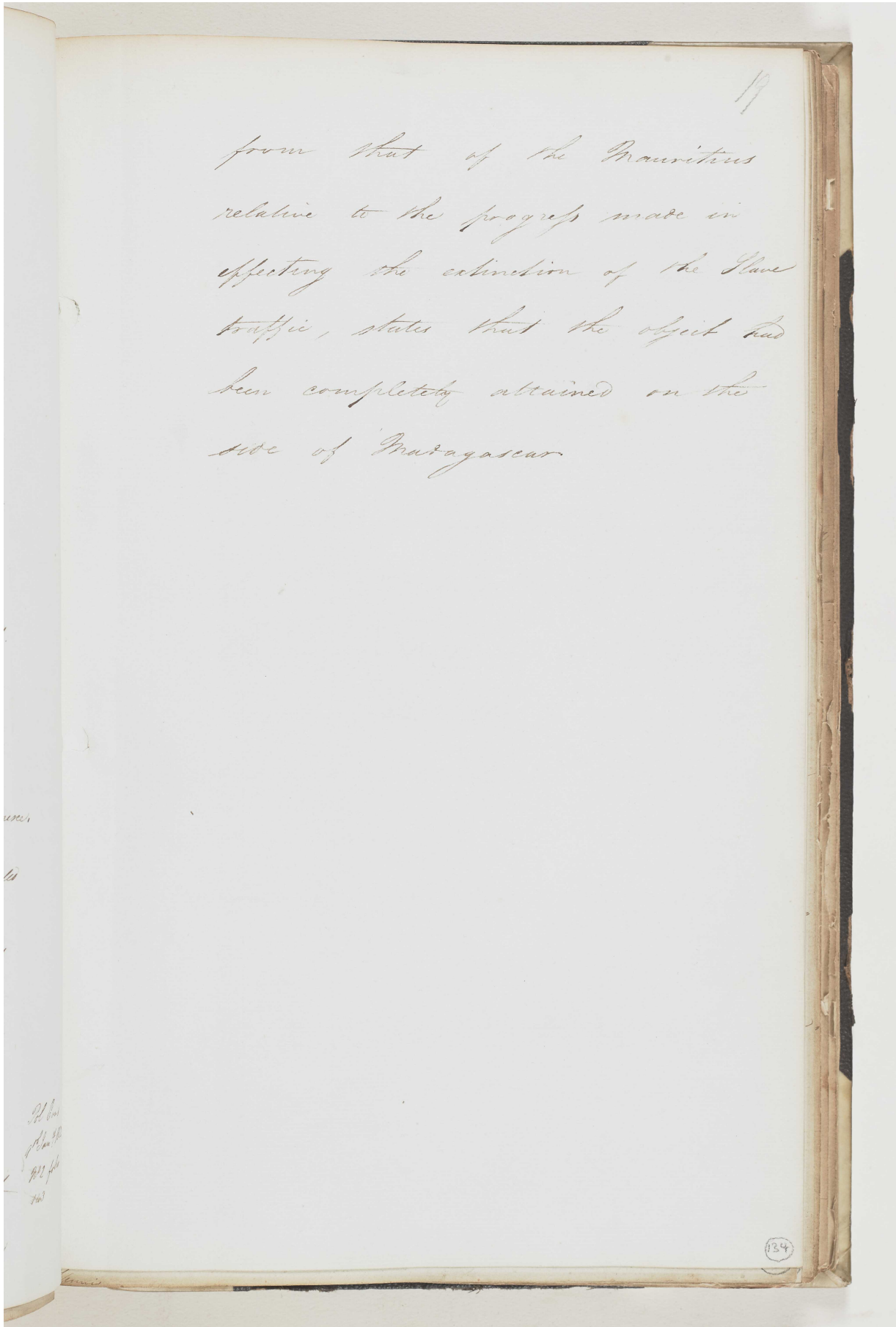
34 Captain Bruce has been directed to stop at Muscat on his return to Beshire, and to use every effort to enter into such explanations and arrangements, with His Highness, as may lead to the effectual check if not to the entire suppression, of that nefarious commerce.

35 He had communicated to the Government of the Mauritius the measures thus pursued for the accomplishment of that interesting object. A despatch forwarded to us by the Supreme Government

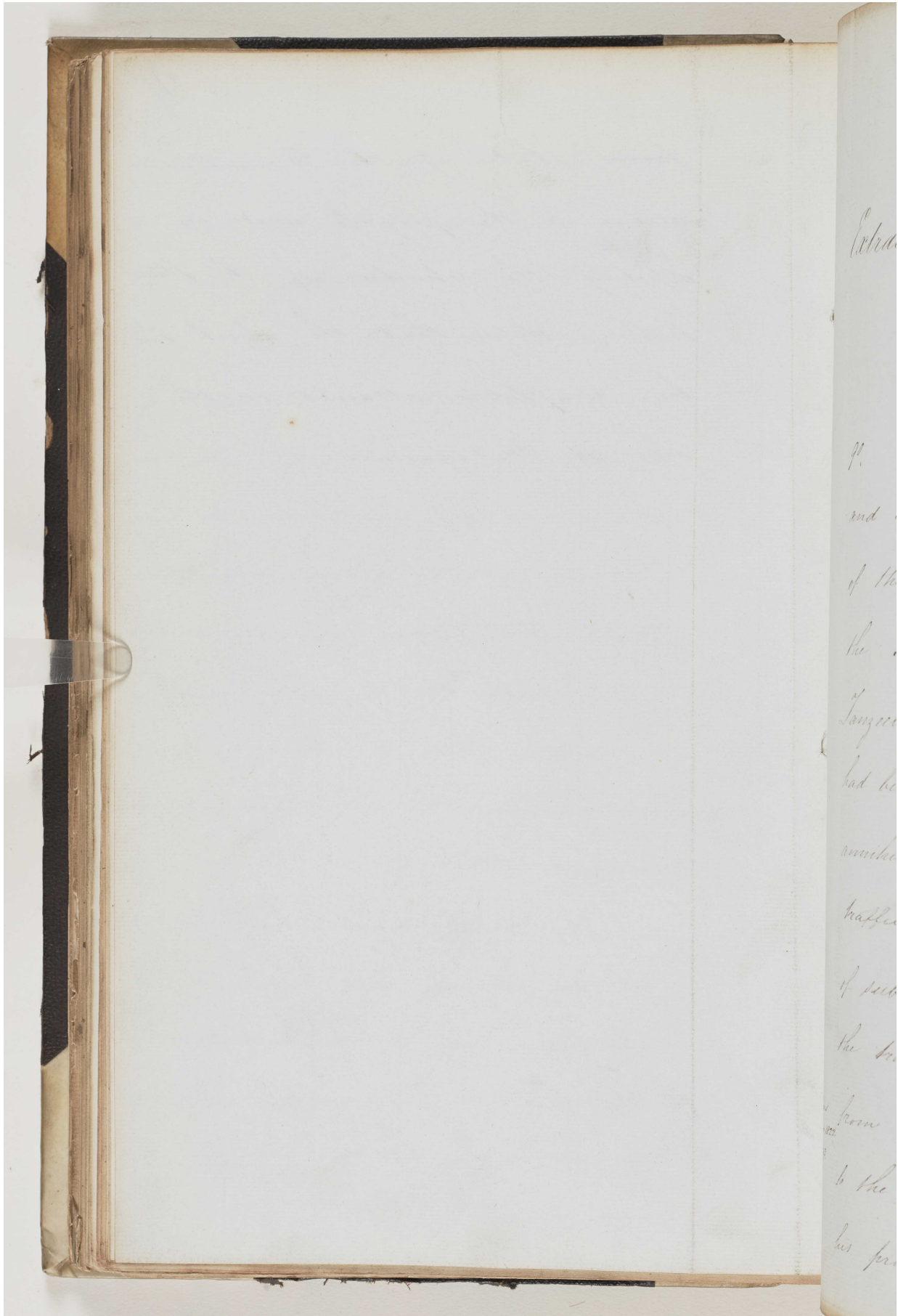
Pol Cons
 of Jan 4, 1822
 W2 folio
 463

from

'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [134r] (29/56)



'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [134v] (30/56)



'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [135r] (31/56)

21
Extract Political Letter from Bombay

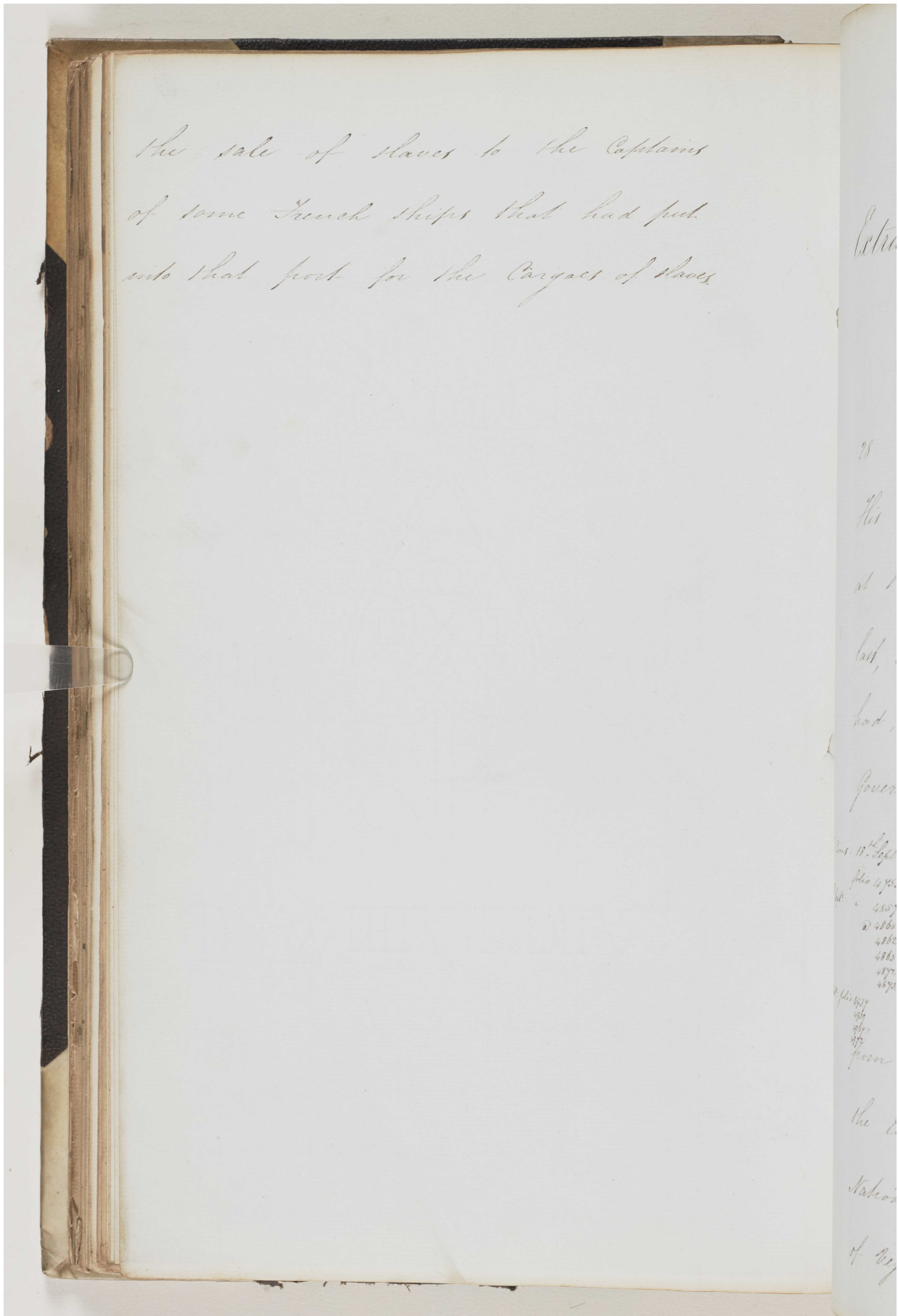
Dated 31st July 1822

9^o. Referring to the 29th
and 35th paragraphs of our despatch
of the 2nd March last respecting
the Slave trade on the Coast of
Zanzibar, and the measures that
had been adopted for effecting the
annihilation of that nefarious
traffic, we have the gratification
of submitting to your Honorable Court
the translated Extract of a Letter
from the Governor of Zanzibar
to the Imaum of Muscat, detailing
his proceedings in the prevention
of

Pl. Comd
26th June 1822
File 2493

(135)

'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [135v] (32/56)



23

Extract Political Letter from Bassein
dated 5th February 1823.

28

Captain. Moresby of
His Majesty's Ship Menai on arriving
at this Port on the 16th September
last, communicated to us the treaty he
had, under instructions from the
Governor of the Mauritius entered
into with His Highness the
Imaum of Muscat, for the total
suppression of slave trade
from His Highness's dominions on
the East Coast of Africa with Christian
Nations, and permitting the seizure
of Vessels bearing even His Highness's
flag.

<p>16th Sept^r plus 4793</p> <p>25th Sept^r " 4807</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">@ 4860</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">4862</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">4863</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">4870</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">4873</p> <p>2^d Oct^r plus 4937</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">4937</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">4940</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">4972</p>	}	<p>into with His Highness the Imaum of Muscat, for the total suppression of slave trade from His Highness's dominions on the East Coast of Africa with Christian Nations, and permitting the seizure of Vessels bearing even His Highness's flag.</p>
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'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [136v] (34/56)

flag; if found with slaves to the
 Eastward of a line drawn from
 Cape Ill Gada, and passing 60
 miles from Socatra on the Divis
 Head, beyond which no vessel
 would proceed if bona fide bound
 only to His Highness's British
 territories or to the Mahomedan
 States included within the limits

29 We beg to refer
 Your Honourable Court to that
 document, and to the correspondence
 which passed in explanation of
 different points, in which explanation
 seemed to be necessary.

'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [137r] (35/56)

25

Extract Political Letter from Bombay.

dated 14th January 1824.

by We beg to draw
Your Honorable Courts attention to
a Letter addressed to us by Captain
Owen of His Majestys Ship Lion,
and employed on a survey of the
Eastern Coast of Africa in which
that Officer states that the slave
Trade is still carried on to a
considerable extent from Zanzibar,
with Mozambique, and other places
along that Coast. Captain Owen
consequently suggested that the Imaum
of Muscat might be prevailed on to
inter

Obt. Cons 1823
1850
3rd Dec^r 1823 by 2
1851 10th Dec^r 1823 6391
1852 17th Dec^r 1823 6395
1854

(137)

'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [137v] (36/56)

enter into further stipulations for
the suppression of the slave trade
within certain limits beyond those
already granted by the Treaty entered
into by His Highness with Captain
Morley of the Minar

to As the material
point of Captain Owen's suggestion
appeared to us to be of a nature
which the Imaum could not have
power to grant viz. that of authorizing
our Officers to seize the Vessels of
all Nations European or Asiatic
having slaves on Board within a
certain distance of his shores we
did not think it expedient to
make any application to him on
the subject. The Correspondence with Captain
Owen

'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [138r] (37/56)

27

1823
Pol. Cond. Owen has however been transmitted to
1857
10th December
folios 495 the Government of the Mauritius, to
which we have no doubt the information furnished by Captain Owen in regard to the traffic in slaves will be very acceptable.

69. Mr. Macleod's despatch of the 24th February (pages 56 to 55) to which we have already so often adverted enters at some length into the state of slavery in the Persian Gulf, and on the interpretation to be given to the ninth article of the Treaty with the Arab States.

70

In adverting to those remarks, we have to state that on the Cruiser Antelope, being lately at Bahrein the Commanding Officer

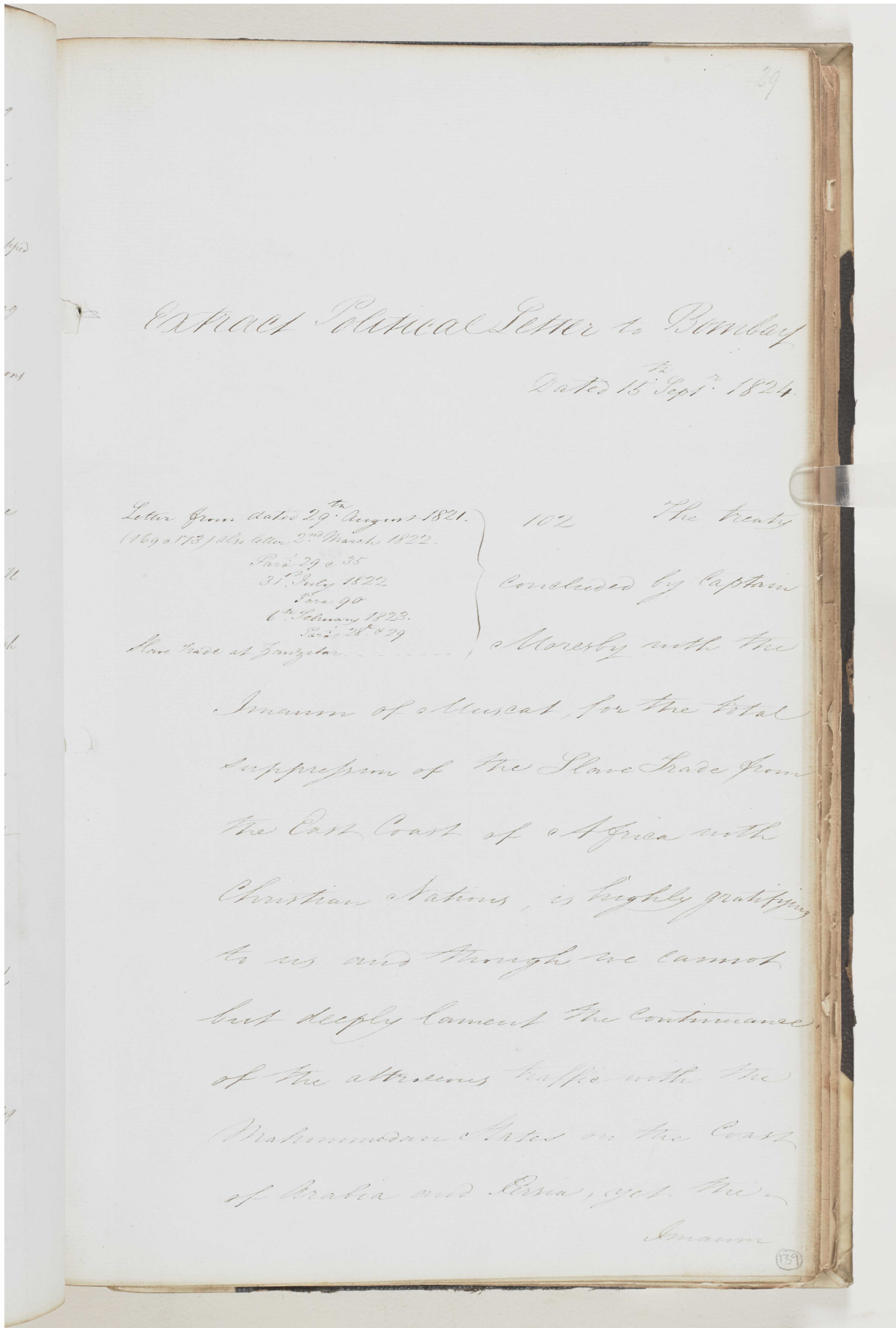
Pol. Cond. 1823
1852-17th Decr
folios 405 & 406
1854-21st Dec
folios 1198 & 1200

(58)

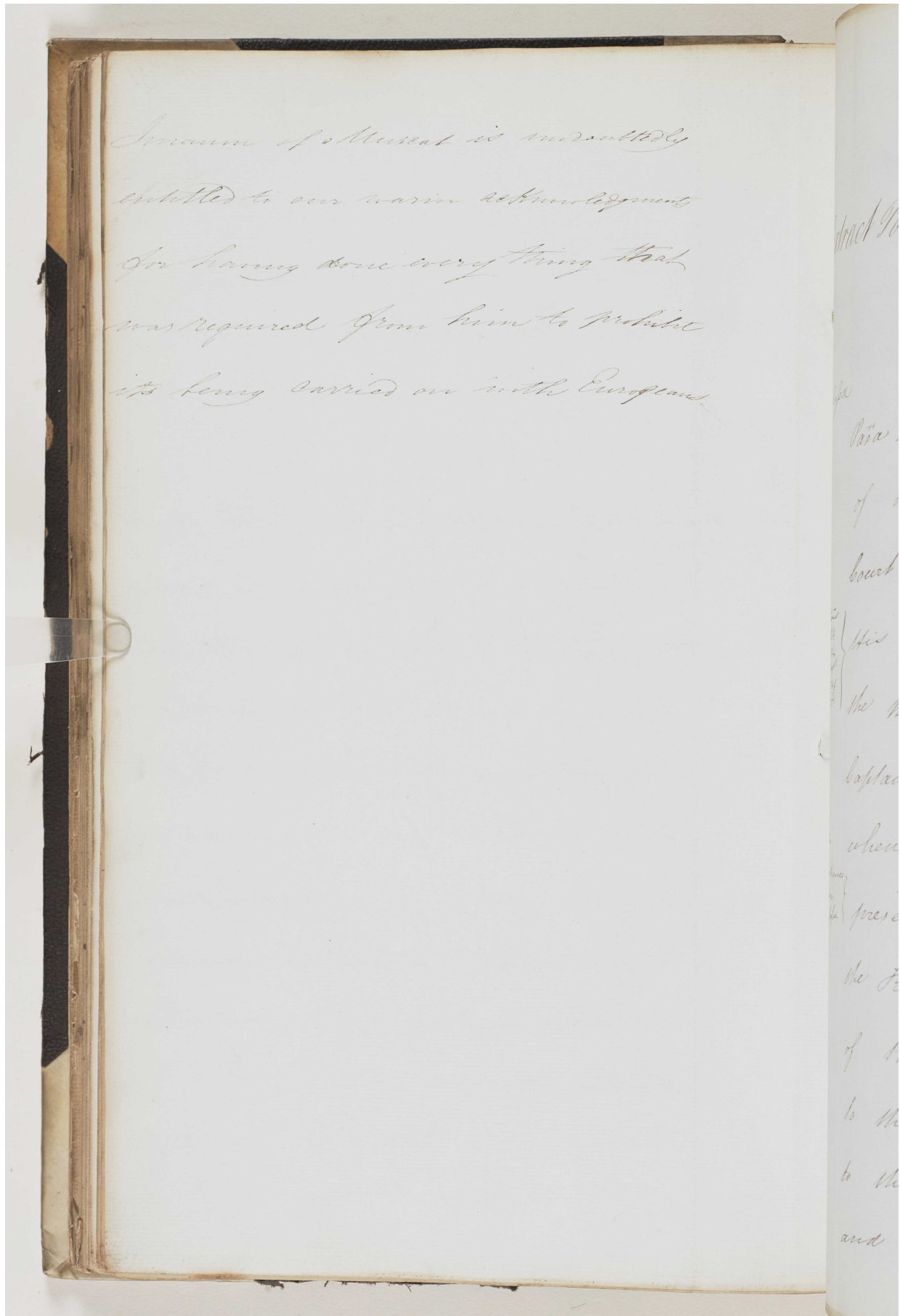
'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the
 suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [138v] (38/56)

Officer received information of there being
 three Christian Women Natives of Mangalore in
 slavery on that Island who had been kidnaped
 a few months before by an Arab Vessel trading
 to the Malabar Coast. These persons
 were readily given up by the
 authority of the Sheekh, and have
 been returned to Mangalore where enquiries will
 be instituted into the truth of their story, which
 if found correct will not only enable us to prep
 the punishment of the person by whom they
 are stated to have been carried off, but to
 check altogether a practice which is
 said (and we are afraid with too much
 truth) to be frequently exercised by
 the Commanders of the Arab Trading
 Boats.

'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [139r] (39/56)



'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [139v] (40/56)



Imaum of Muscat is undoubtedly
entitled to our warm acknowledgments
for having done every thing that
was required from him to prohibit
its being carried on with Europeans

31

Extract Political Letter from Bombay
Dated 1st December 1824.

Bombay

Para 21. In our proceedings
of the 25th of August, your Honorable
Court will find a letter from
His Excellency the Governor of
the Mauritius, informing us, that
Captain Owen of H. M. Ship Leven
& when at Bombay, early in the
present year, had accepted from
the King and Chiefs the Cession
of that Island and its Dependencies
to the British Government, subject
to the approbation of His Majesty,
and left an Officer with a
few

Old Copies
1824.
No. 24.
25th Aug^l
Vol 3749
3751

Loucheux
with
Bombay

(140)

'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [140v] (42/56)

few men there in the Fort
 as a protection; that Captain
 Owen who had transmitted to
 the Lords of the Admiralty
 detailed Reports of his proceeding,
 had lately arrived at the
 Mauritius, having on Board an
 Embassy from Bombaya to that
 Government, which under the
 circumstances above related His
 Excellency had considered himself
 obliged to receive, and had
 been induced from the
 same considerations to acquiesce
 in the measures taken by
 Captain Owen until His Majesty's
 pleasure shall be known.

22 His Excellency observes,

'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [141r] (43/56)



'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [141v] (44/56)

he would bring forward, in
some shape, the adoption
by any British Authority of
a step which he must
consider as disadvantageous to
his interests, and that in
the event of such a
representation, the knowledge
of the facts of which His
Excellency has put this Government
in possession, could not fail
to be of great utility.

24. We have since
received the respective communication
from the Imaum remonstrating
against Captain Owers proceeding
at Bantaba. To this letter and
to our Proceedings thereon, we
beg

'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [142r] (45/56)

35

beg to solicit your Honorable Court
attention, including a Statement
drawn up by the Persian Secretary
who had been particularly
directed to obtain the fullest
information regarding the real
state of that Colony, and the
reges in which it was to
be considered subservient to
the Imaum.

25 In the same
Proceedings your Honorable Court
will observe a letter from
the Chief of Bombapa delivered
to us by his Brother who
has been dispatched to Bombay
to obtain the confirmation of
the Agreement concluded with
Captain

142

'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [142v] (46/56)

Captain Owen,

26. Your Honble Court will observe that the information afforded by the Persian Secretary with the exception of the part which mentions the general impression that Bombafsa belongs to Oman, can only be considered as an exposition of the Bombafsa side of the argument,

The late Capt. Selton Resident at Muscat in his letter of July 1802, speaking of the Imams Dominions east on the Coast of Africa the two Jaqueson, Pottet part of Mombasa and Melindar, other places acknowledge him as they did the Portuguese. File Old Cases 1802 No 33, 27th August.

and we have therefore nothing on the Imams part but the Statement in his own letter. Judging from this partial information, the Imams right to Bombafsa seems very questionable, but even admitting it to be so, he

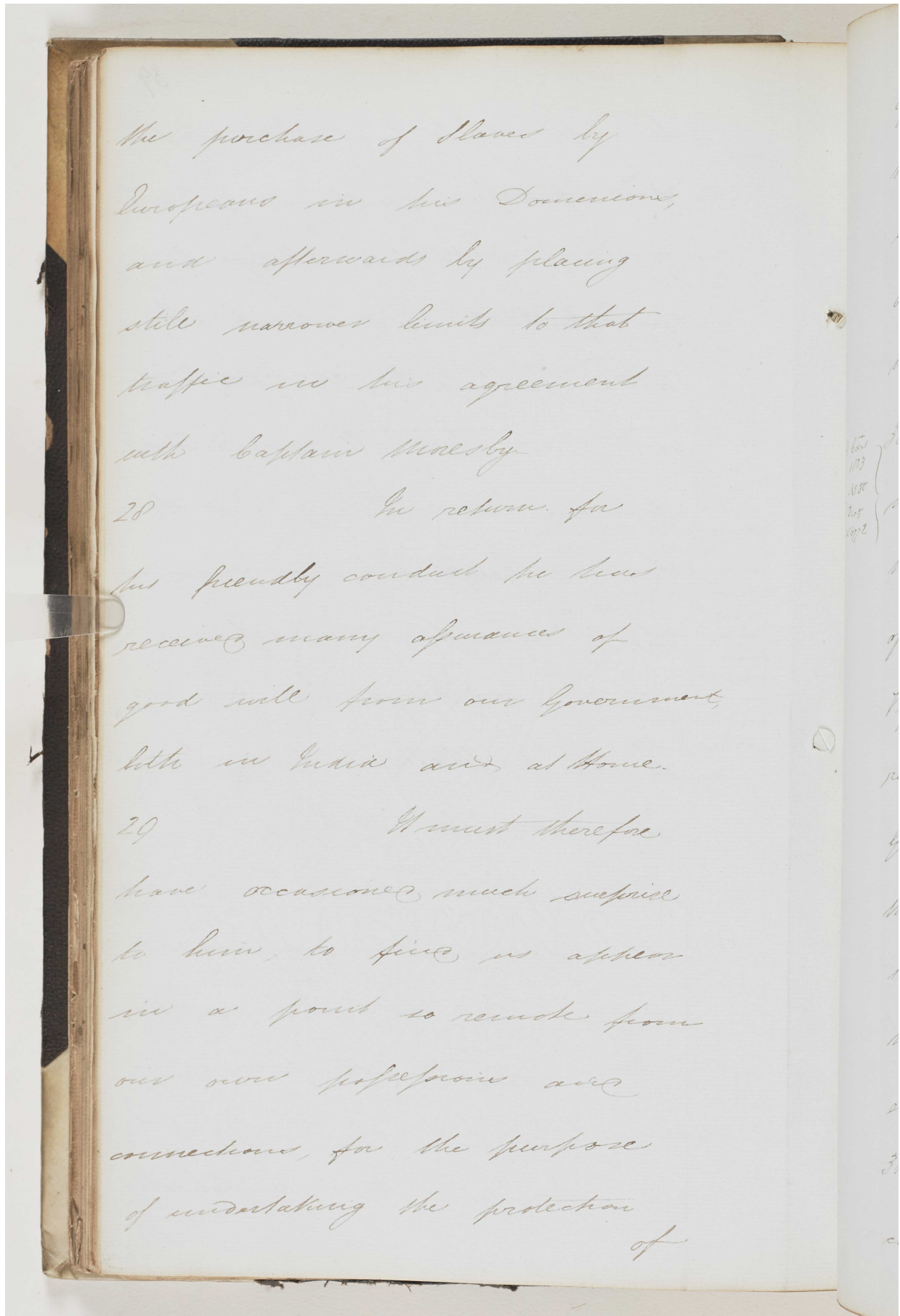
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34
he appears to have reason to
be dissatisfied with our Government.
27 We has always been
our faithful and cordial Ally,
and not only has cooperated
with us in all our attempts
to put down Piracy in the
Persian Gulf, but has on more
than one occasion refrained
from enterprises that promised
to be profitable to him, because
we represented to him that
his engaging in them would
be inconsistent with our
policy. We has also agreed
to a considerable pecuniary
sacrifice - first at the request
of His Government by forbidding
the

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Muscat
of the
of Africa
and
the
1832
with.

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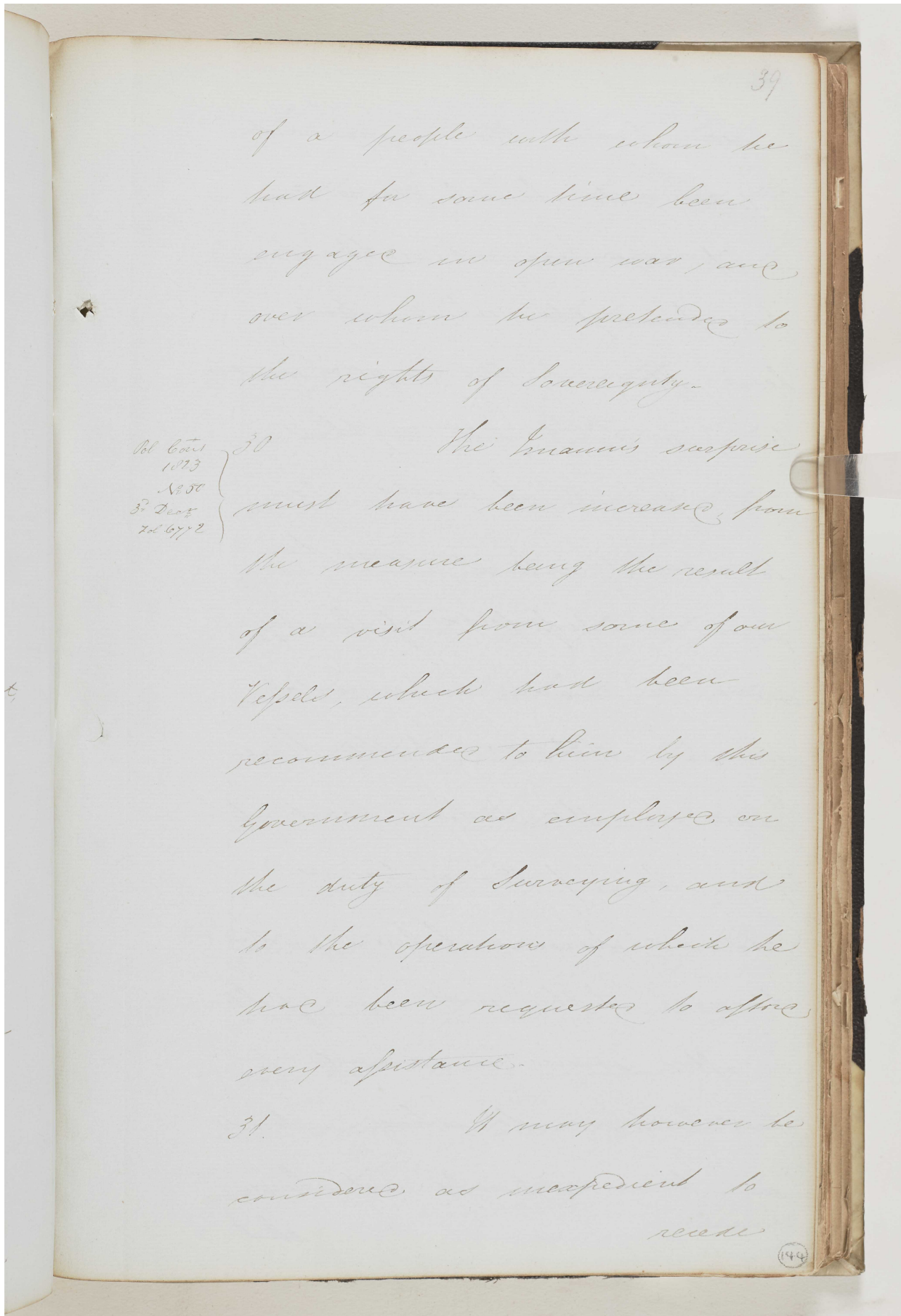


the purchase of Slaves by
Europeans in his Dominions,
and afterwards by placing
still narrower limits to that
traffic in his agreement
with Captain Moresby

28 In return for
his friendly conduct he has
received many assurances of
good will from our Government,
both in India and at Home.

29 It must therefore
have occasioned much surprise
to him, to find us appear
in a point so remote from
our own possessions and
connections, for the purpose
of undertaking the protection
of

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39

of a people with whom he had for some time been engaged in open war, and over whom he pretended to the rights of sovereignty.

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No 58
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30 The Imaum's surprise must have been increased, from the measure being the result of a visit from some of our vessels, which had been recommended to him by the Government as employed on the duty of Surveying, and to the operations of which he had been requested to afford every assistance.

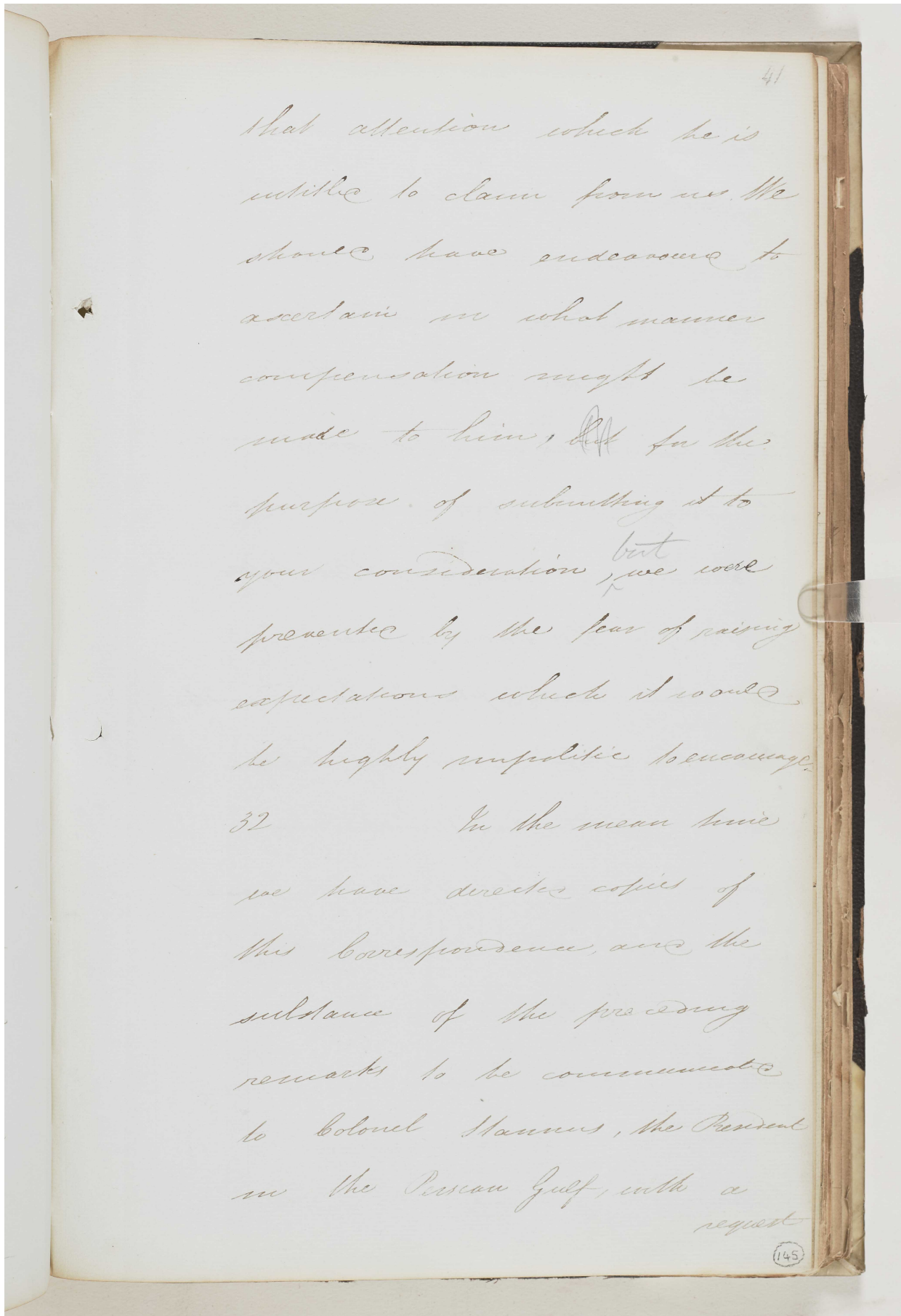
31. It may however be considered as inexpedient to record

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recede from the engagement
entered into by Captain Owen,
and the Imaum's right to
the sovereignty which has
been offered to His Majesty could
be proved. If his right is
not proved, it would also
be advisable to consider how
far the possession of Bombaya
could be made instrumental
to the abolition of the Slave
Trade on the Eastern Coast of
Africa, but if Bombaya is
retained from whatever motive,
it seems both just and politic
to offer some indemnity to
the Imaum to whose interests
we have certainly not shewn
that

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'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [145v] (52/56)

request, that in endeavouring
to remove any bad impressions
that may have been made
on the Imaum, he will be
careful to say nothing that
may embarrass us, or compromise
His Majesty's Government, should
it decide on retaining ~~Zomborpa~~.

33 We have informed
the Imaum in reply to his remonstrance,
that the step taken by Captain
Owen was entirely unauthorised,
and unexpected to this Government,
and that we are not sufficiently
informed either of the powers with
which Captain Owen may have
been vested by His Majesty's
Government, or with the real
relations

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40

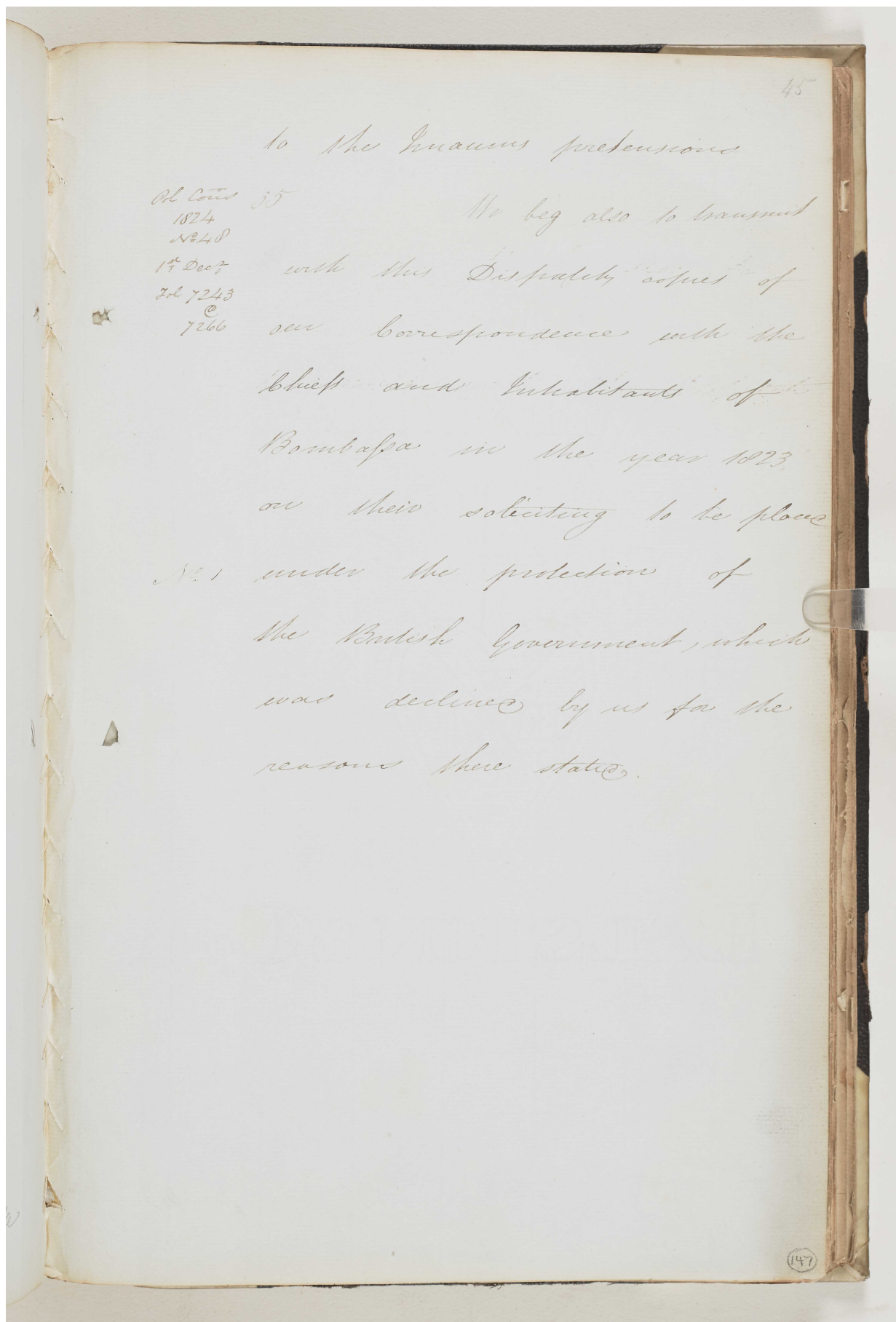
relations between His Highness
the Imaum and the chiefs of
Bombassa, to be able to give
any opinion on the steps
likely to be adopted by His
Majesty's Government, but that
His Highness may depend on
it, that no time will be
lost in conveying to Great
Britain the representations
that His Highness has made,
and any further elucidations
of his claim which he may
offer, and that he may
be assured that nothing
can be further from the
intention of His Majesty's
Government, than to do any
injustice

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injustice to so sincere a
friend of the British Nation
34 A letter had been
written to the Bataba chief
stating that this Government
possessed no authority to
interfere with their application
which had already been
submitted to His Majesty,
but that as the Imaum
had complained of the
interference of the English
and had claimed the
sovereignty of Bombassa, the
arrival of their Vahels was
fortunate as enabling this
Government to forward any
reply they might be disposed to make
to

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**'Proceedings connected with the concessions made by the Imaum of Muscat for the
suppression of the Slave Trade with Europeans vol 1' [147v] (56/56)**

