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‘Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled’

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
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Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 item (27 folios)
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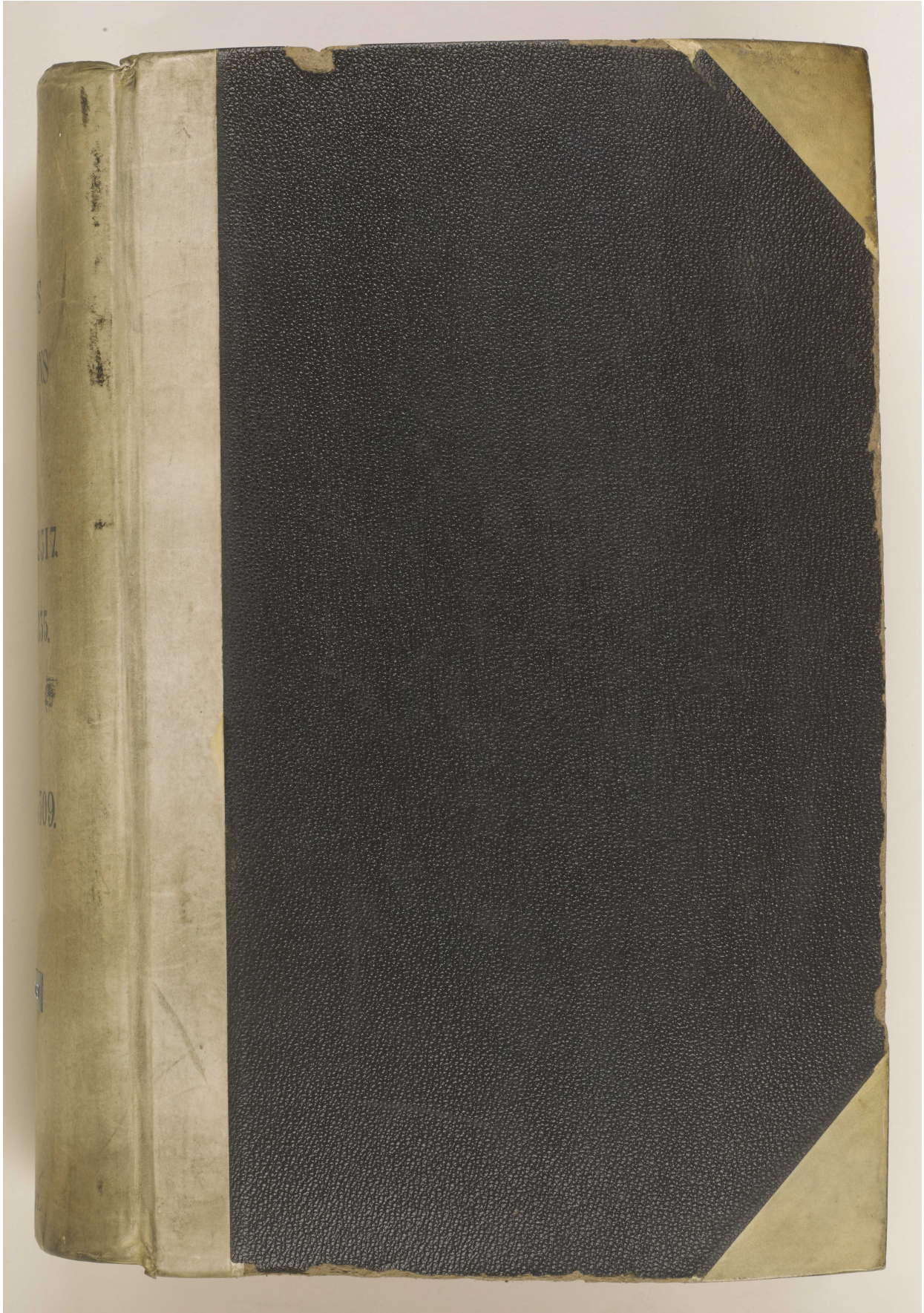
About this record

The item consists of copies and extracts of correspondence, minutes and resolutions cited in, or enclosed with, letters from the Government of Bombay and the East India Company Court of Directors. The item relates to requests for compensation by Dr John McNeill following the cancellation of his appointment as Resident at Bushire [Būshehr]. In particular, the item refers to the reasons for the cancellation and the extent to which the Government of Bombay should take responsibility for McNeill's expenses and losses, which are detailed in the correspondence. Discussion around the question of whether the Resident post should be held by a Military Servant or a Civil Servant is also included.

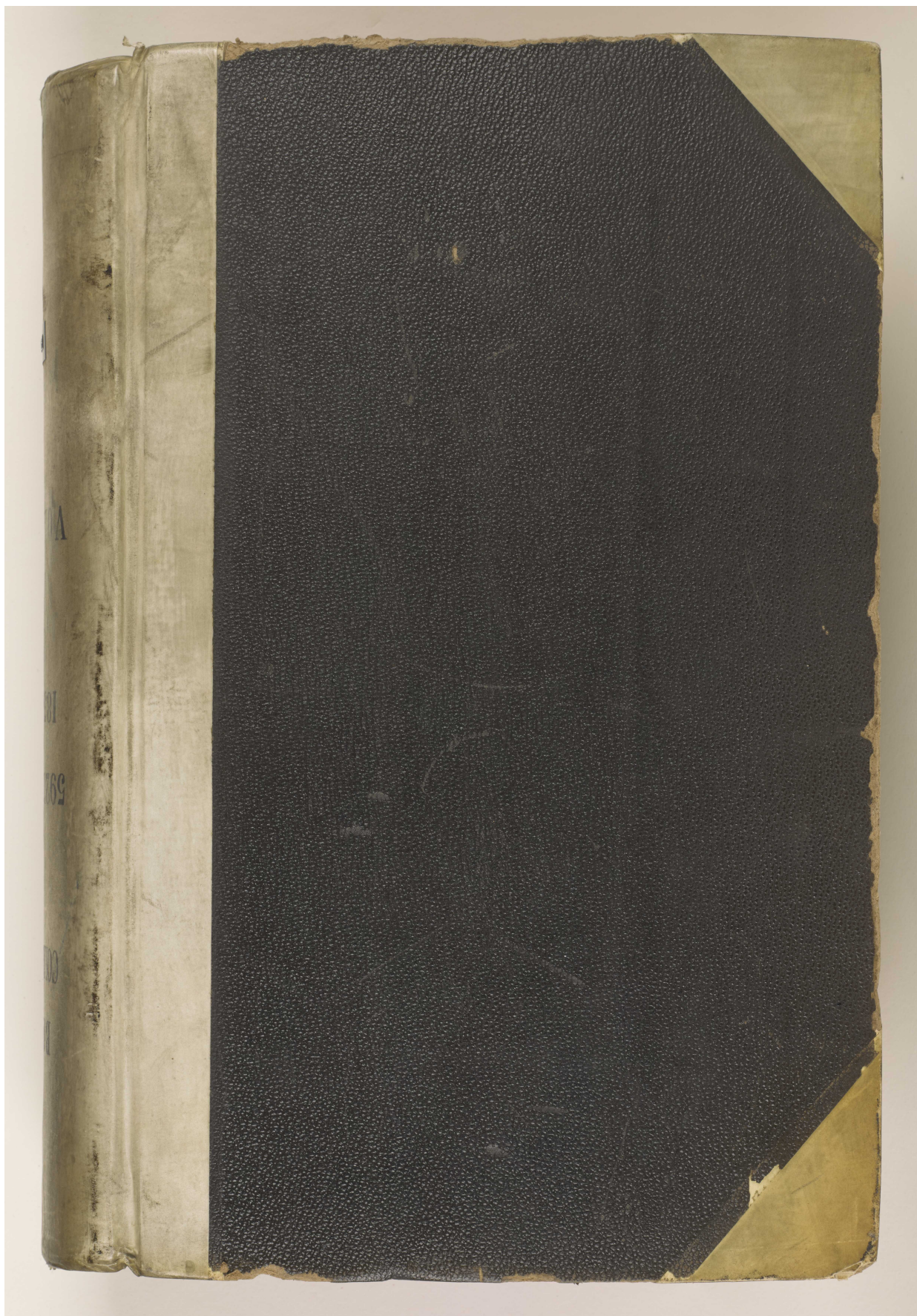
The correspondents are: the Government of Bombay; the Court of Directors; and Dr John McNeill, First Assistant to the Mission in Persia.

The title page of the item contains the following references: 'Bombay Political Department', 'P.C. [Previous Communication] 1586, Draft 555, 1835' and 'Examiner's Office'.

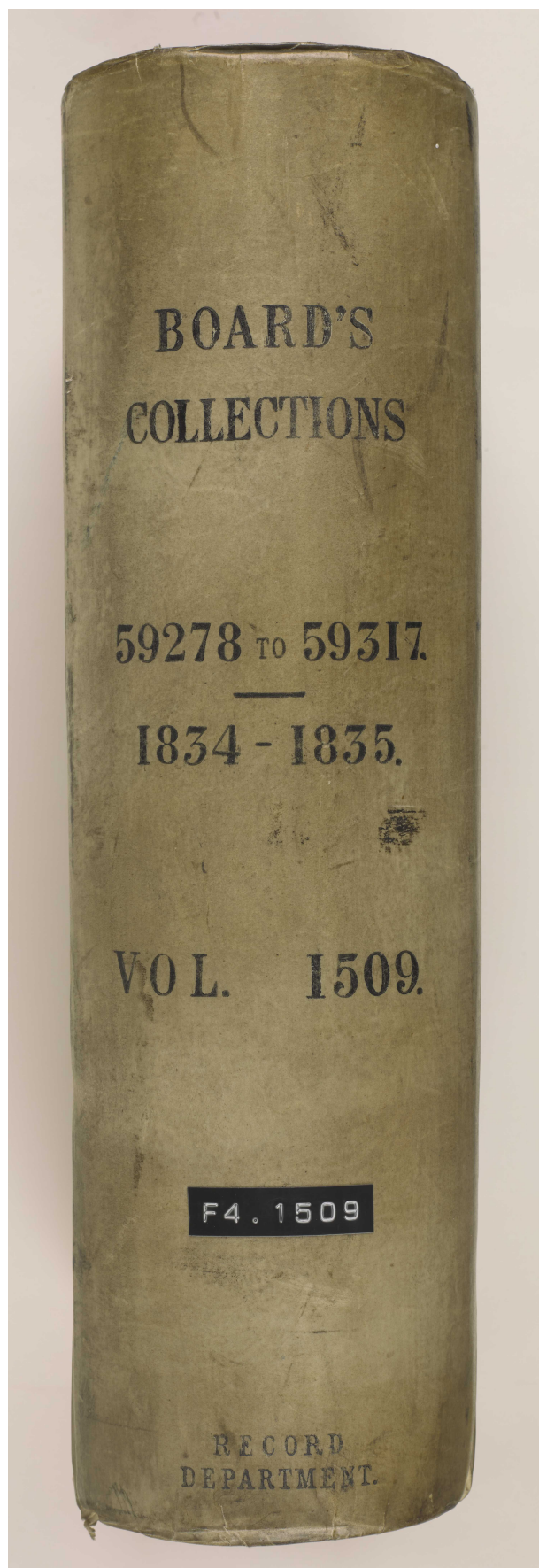
'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [front] (1/60)



'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [back] (2/60)



'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [spine] (3/60)



'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [edge] (4/60)



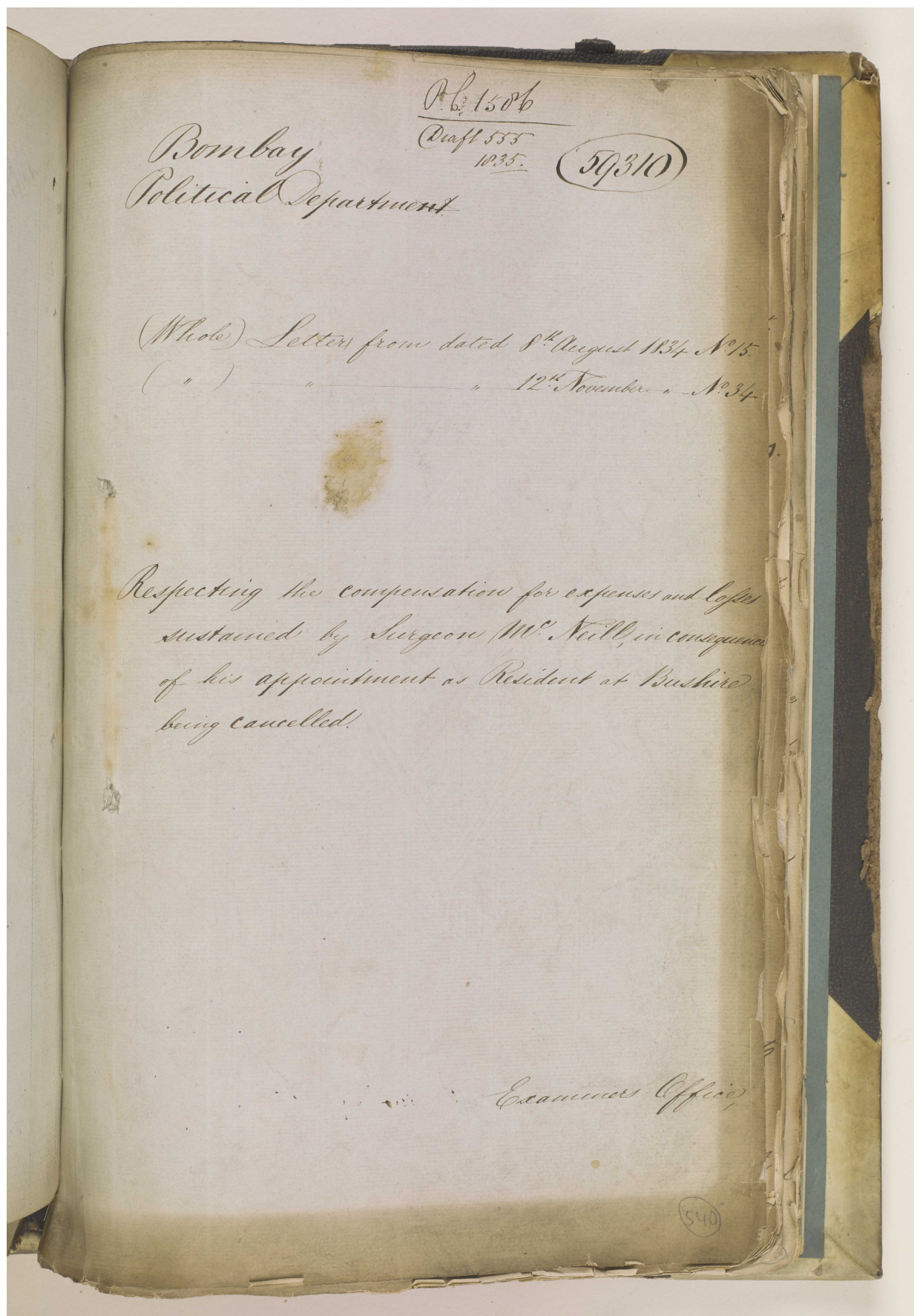
'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [head] (5/60)



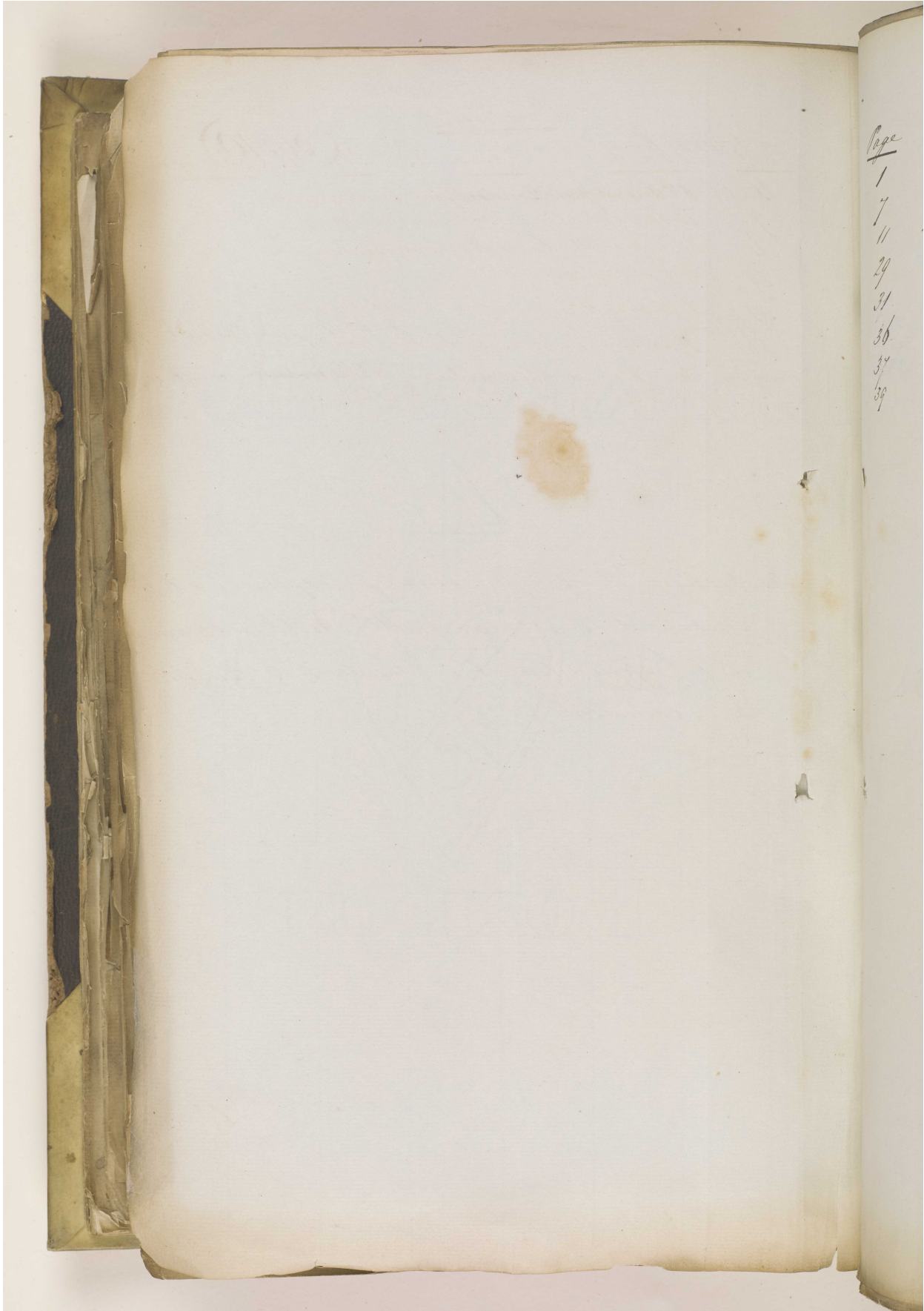
'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [tail] (6/60)



'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon
McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being
cancelled' [540r] (7/60)



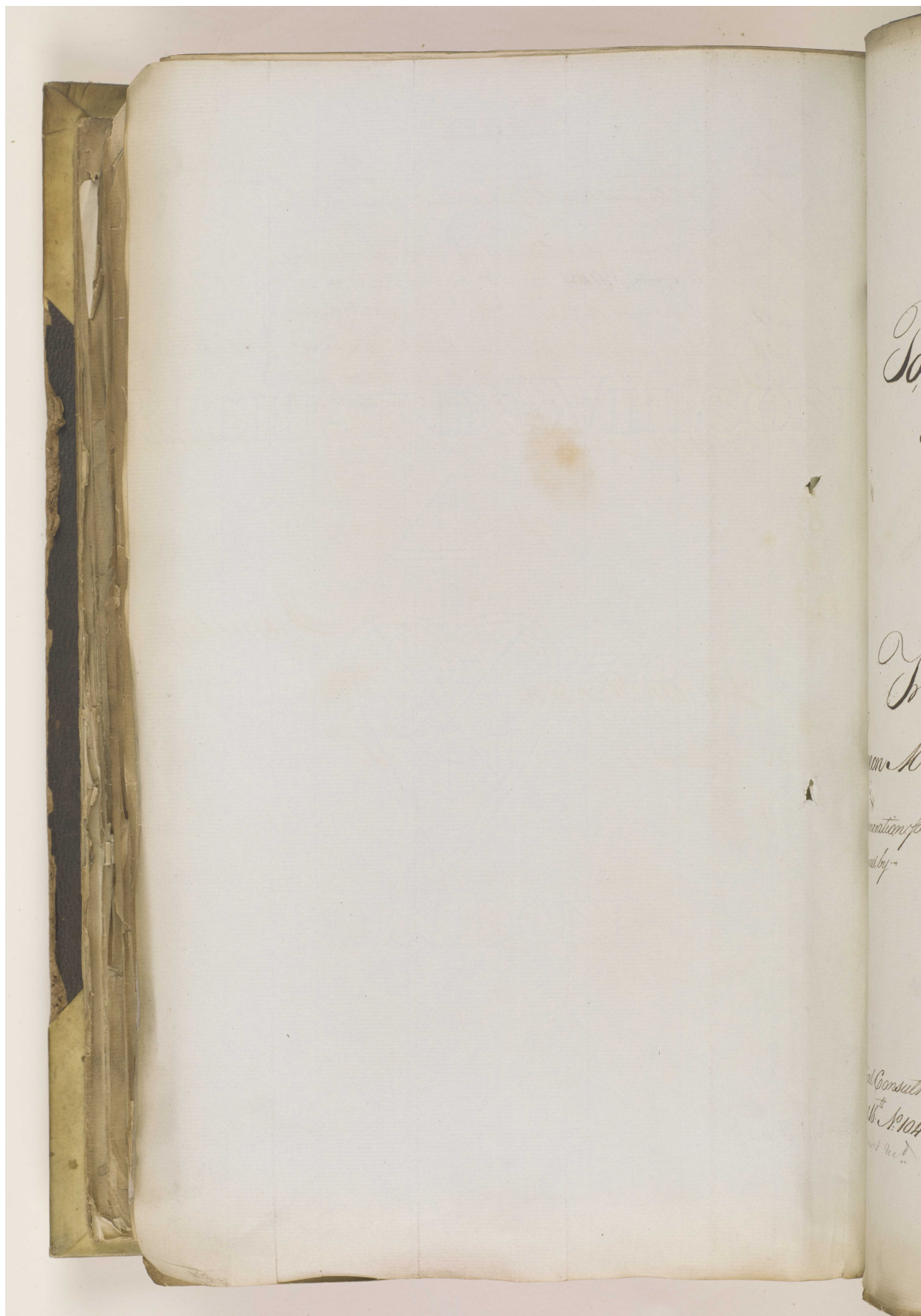
'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [540v] (8/60)



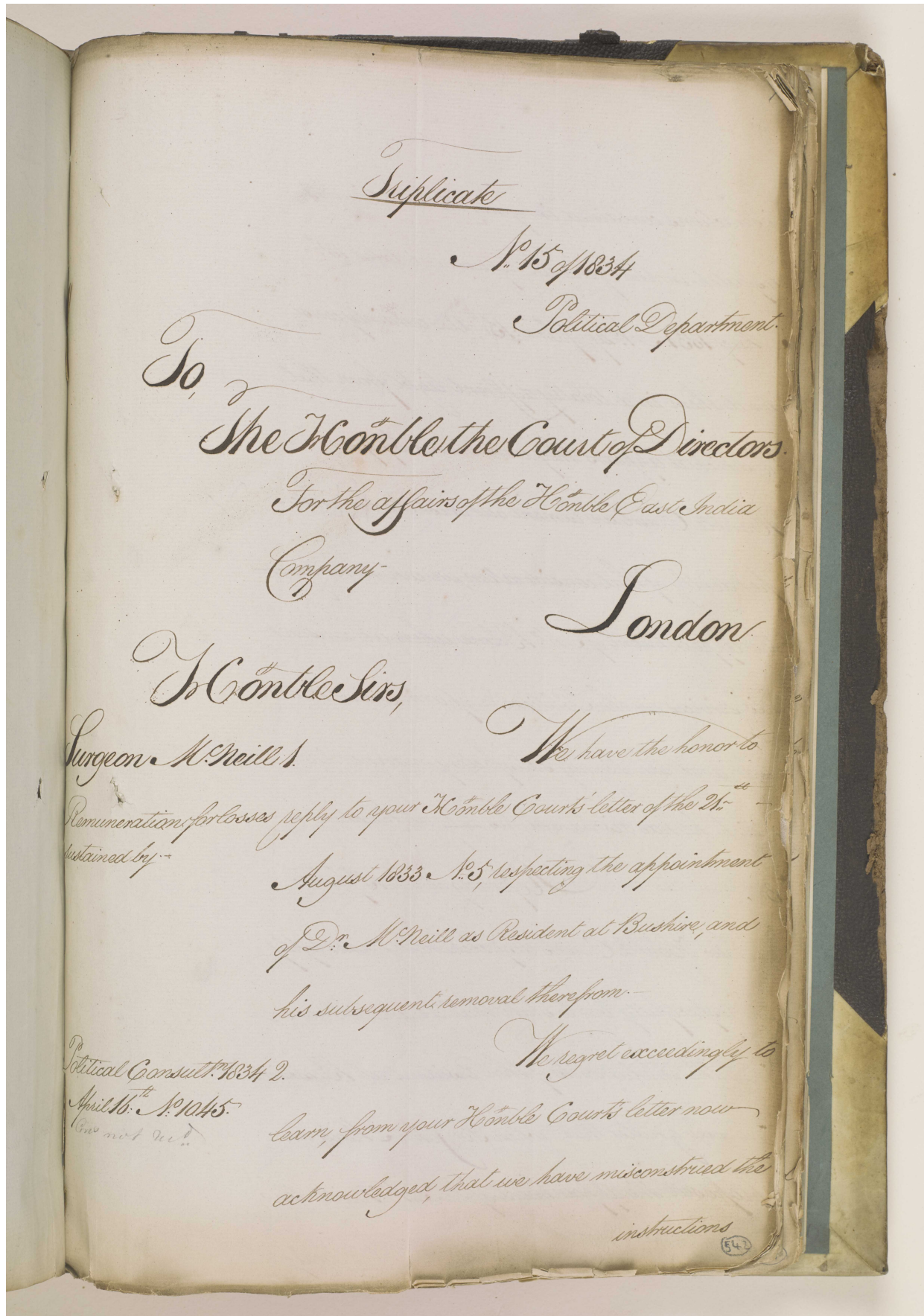
'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [541r] (9/60)

<u>Page</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Date of loss</u>
1	8 th August 1834	Bombay Govt	Court of Directors	
7	12 November -	D ^o	D ^o	
11	21 August 1833	Court of Directors	Bombay Govt	
29	15 April [1834] 1835	D ^o	D ^o	
31	6 August 1834	D ^o	Chf Secy. & Treas.	
36	27 October -	Minute by the Governor		12 Nov. 1834
37	30 - D ^o	Chf Secy. & Treas. Mr. McNeill		
39	15 th May 1835	J. W. Neill Esq ^r Mr Secy. & Treas.		

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [541v] (10/60)



'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [542r] (11/60)



'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [542v] (12/60)

instructions contained in your Honble Courts
dispatch in the General Department dated 18th
May 1831. No. 27. para. 15th. We certainly consi- Vide Disputed
dered them in a totally different light from that Page 17
in which it appears they were viewed by your
Honble Court, we lament our mistake but inde-
pendently of that consideration, we can never regret
the appointment of Mr. Blane when we consider
his services in the Political Department in Russia
war, and the highly satisfactory manner in
which he has discharged his duty at Bushire.
Referring to the 15th para. Page 20
of your Honble Courts dispatch now under reply,
we respectfully beg to state that we are not aware
that the emoluments of the Resident at Bushire
are now greater than when Sir John Malcolm
proposed the appointment of Dr. McNeill the
only

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [543r] (13/60)

only difference is that, the Resident now draws
a consolidated salary.

4. In obedience to your
Honble Court's orders, we have caused Dr. McNeill
to be informed that all expenses incurred by him
on his journey from Tehran and back, will be paid
by Government on his stating the amount, and with
regard to remuneration, we are of opinion that he
should be allowed to draw from this Government
the pay he now receives from the Supreme Govern-
ment, Rs. 1250 per mensem, from the date when
his appointment of Resident was cancelled,
to the date when his salary as Surgeon and
Assistant to the Envoy to Persia commenced
viz. 8th November to 13th December 1834, should
your Honble Court not consider the payment
of all Dr. McNeill's expenses, and the above
salary.

Political Consult. 1834 -
April 16th No. 1046.
Cons not recd.

only 1 month
or 5 days

543

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [543v] (14/60)

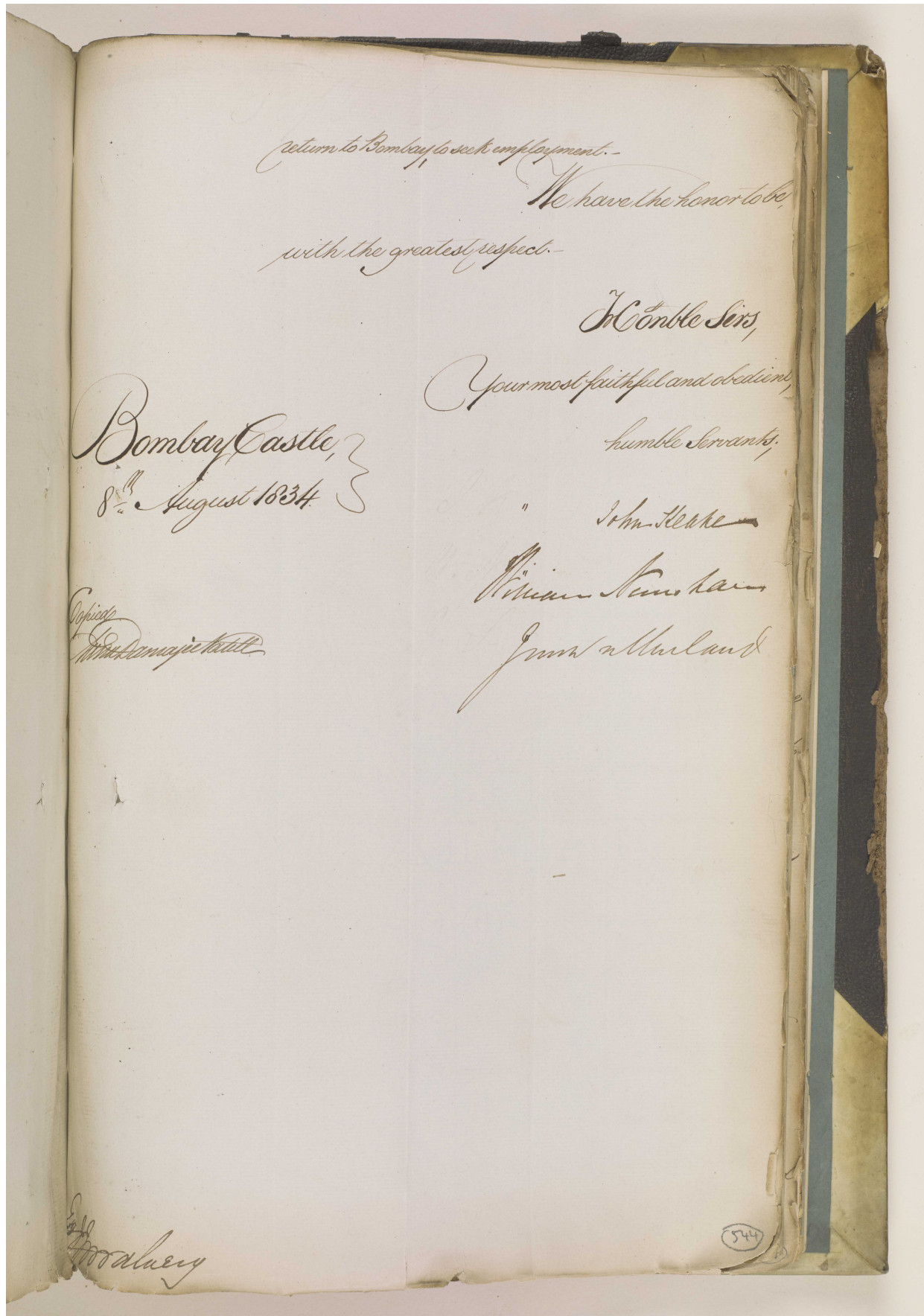
Salary sufficiently liberal, we beg to solicit your Honorable Court's instructions as to the specific amount to be paid to him. —

Your Honorable Court in the last part of your dispatch express a hope that if Dr. McNeill returns to Bombay, he will be placed in a situation advantageous to the public Interests — we have beg respectfully to call your Honorable Court's attention to the fact that in the Medical line below the rank of Superintending Surgeon, there is not a single situation with a Salary equal to that which Dr. McNeill now enjoys, except that of Assay Master, to which your Honorable Court has been pleased to appoint Assistant Surgeon Fraser, and that in the Political line, there is hardly any situation under the Government to which he could be appointed. —

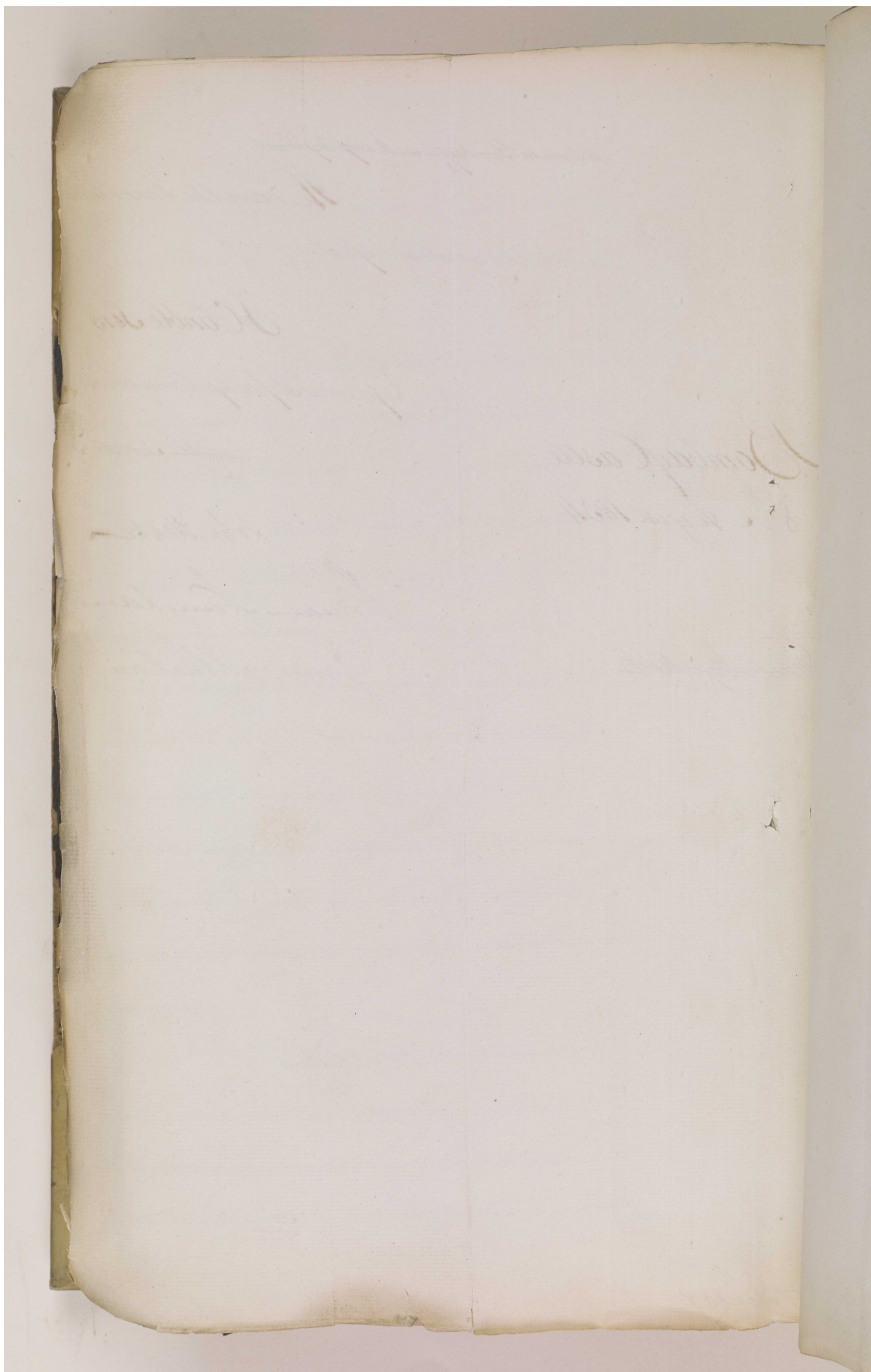
From the above statement your Honorable Court will perceive how difficult it will be for this Government to meet the wishes of your Honorable Court in favor of Dr. McNeill in the event of his

(Return

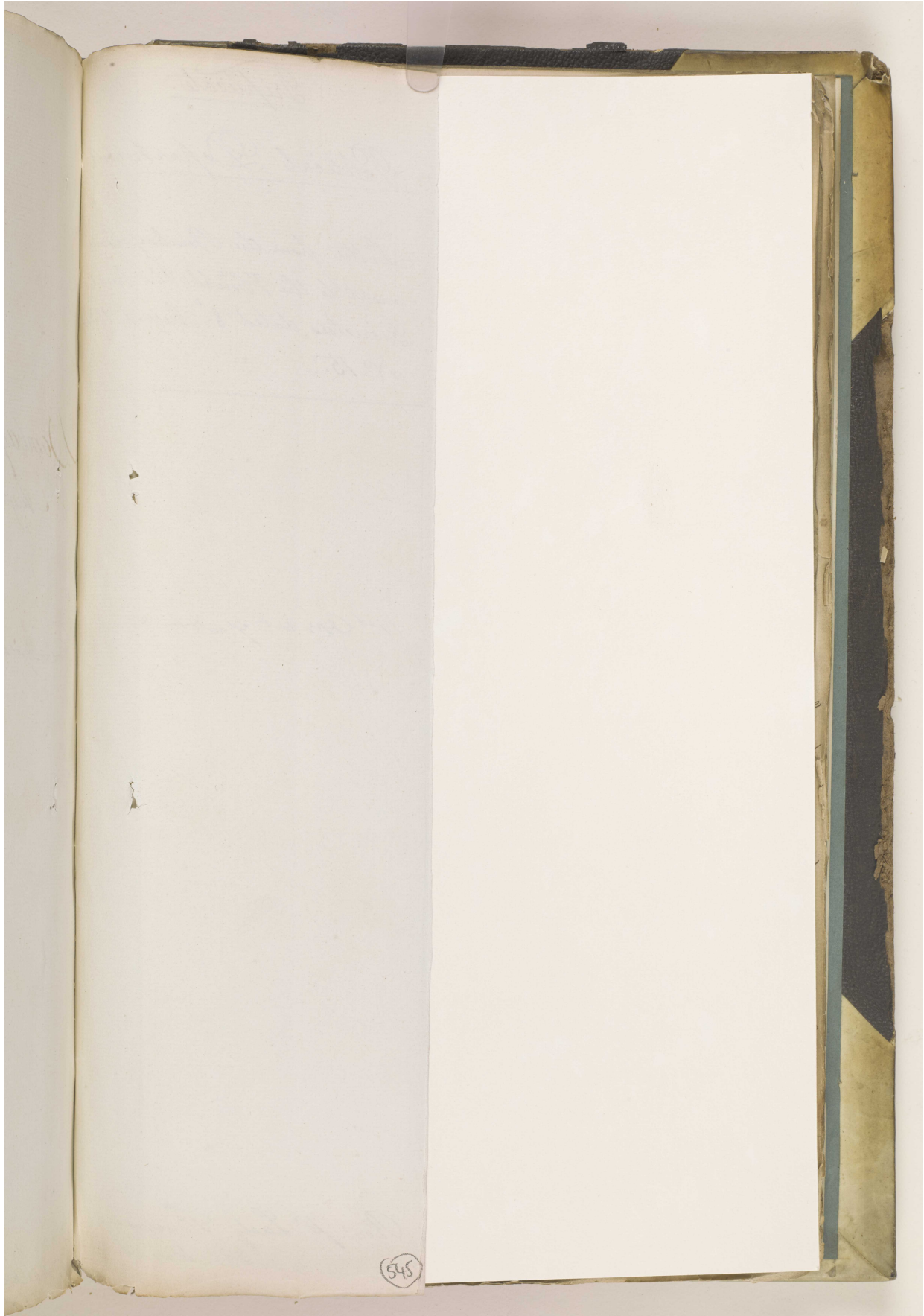
'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [544r] (15/60)



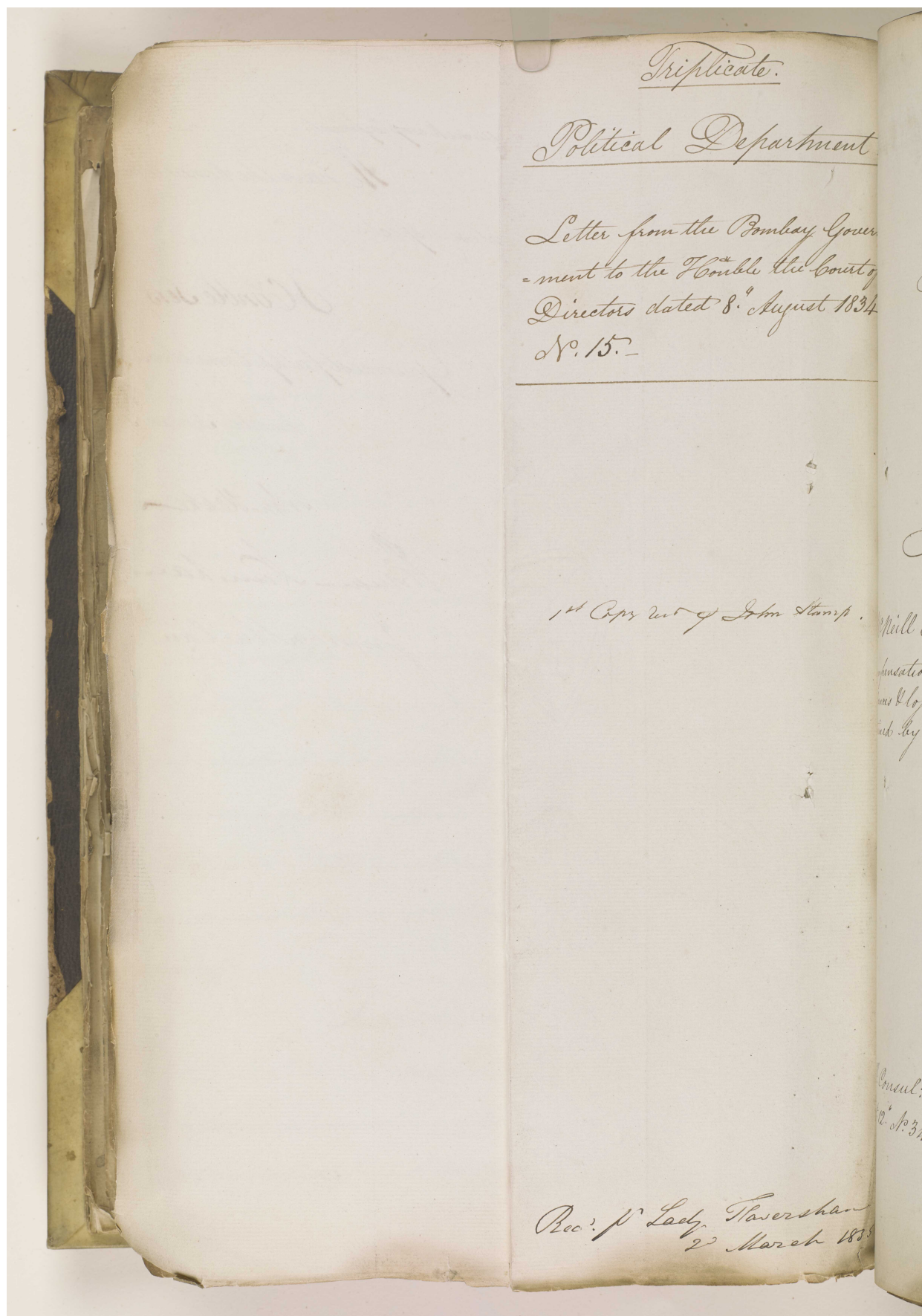
'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [544v] (16/60)



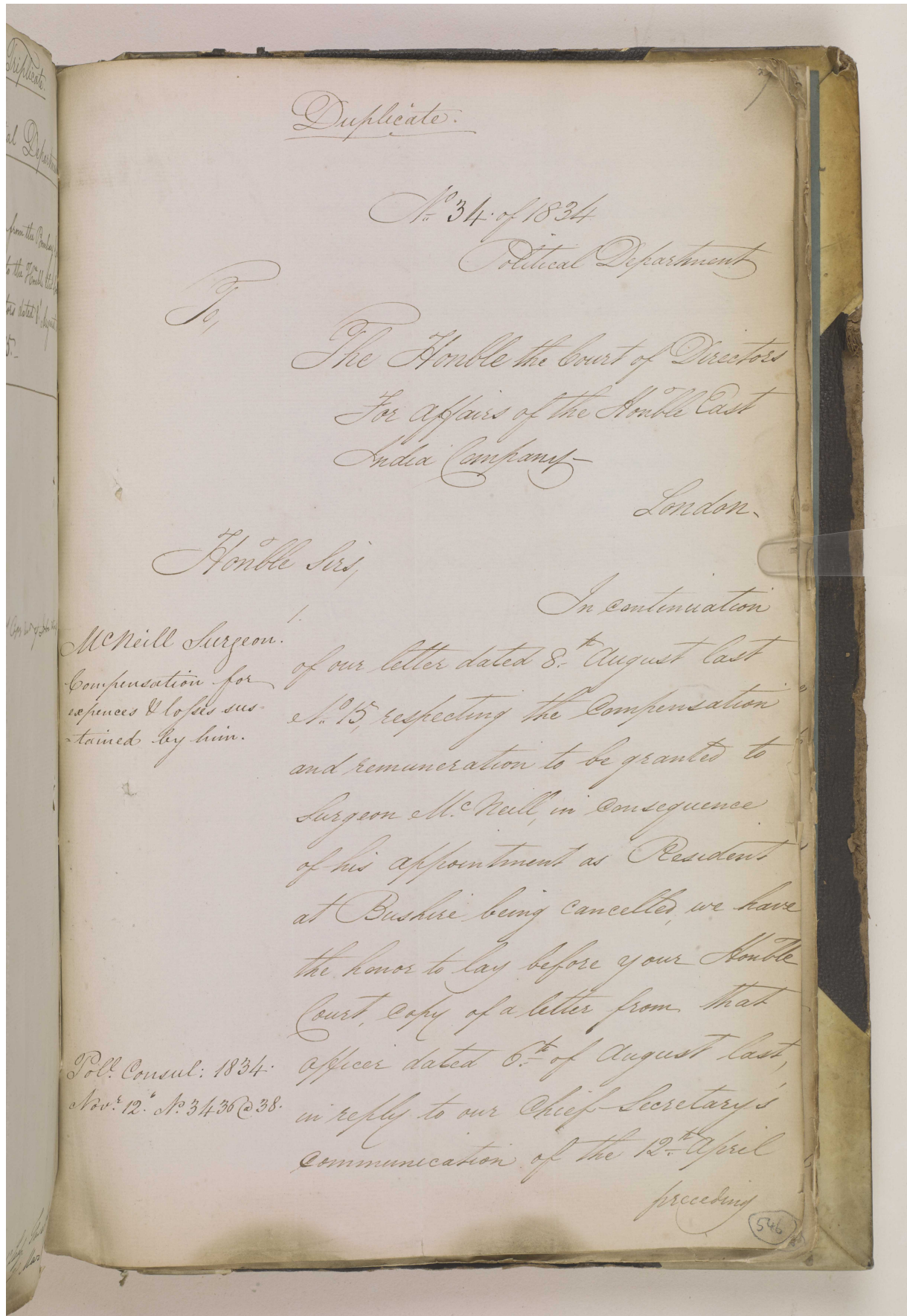
'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [545r] (17/60)



'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [545v] (18/60)



'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [546r] (19/60)



'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [546v] (20/60)

proceeding and to state that we
have resolved to grant him 6000
Rupees in Compensation for
the expenses and losses incurred
by him on his journey from
Tahreez to join the Bushire
Residency, and back.

2. In the last para.
of his letter, Dr. McNeill com-
plains of the inadequacy of the
remuneration fixed by us for the
difficulties and hardships he
endured vizt Rupees 1250 per
mensem from the date when his
appointment as Resident was
cancelled, to the date when his
salary as Surgeon and Assistant
to the Envoy to Persia commenced
vizt 8th November to 13th December
1831, but as we have in the 4th para.
of our letter to your Honble Court
of

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [547r] (21/60)

9
of the 8th August last, solicited instructions as to the specific amount to be paid to him on this account, we have only to call the attention of your Honble. Court to Dr. McNeill's appeal in the last para. of his letter -

We have the honor to be,
with the greatest respect -

Honble. Sirs,
Your Most faithful & obedient
humble Servant

Bombay Castle
12th November 1834

Ans.

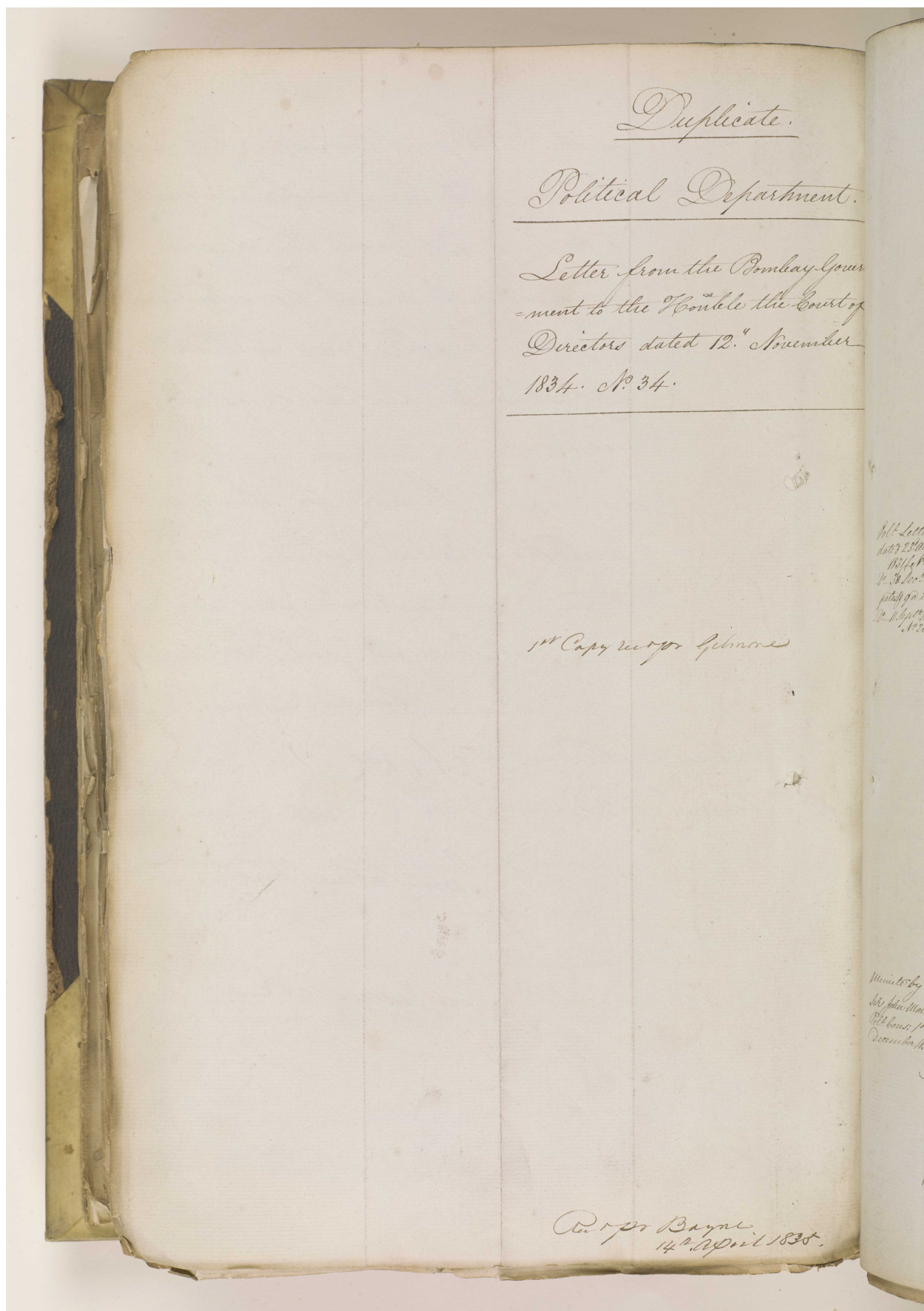
J. M. A. M. A. M.

E. M. A. M.

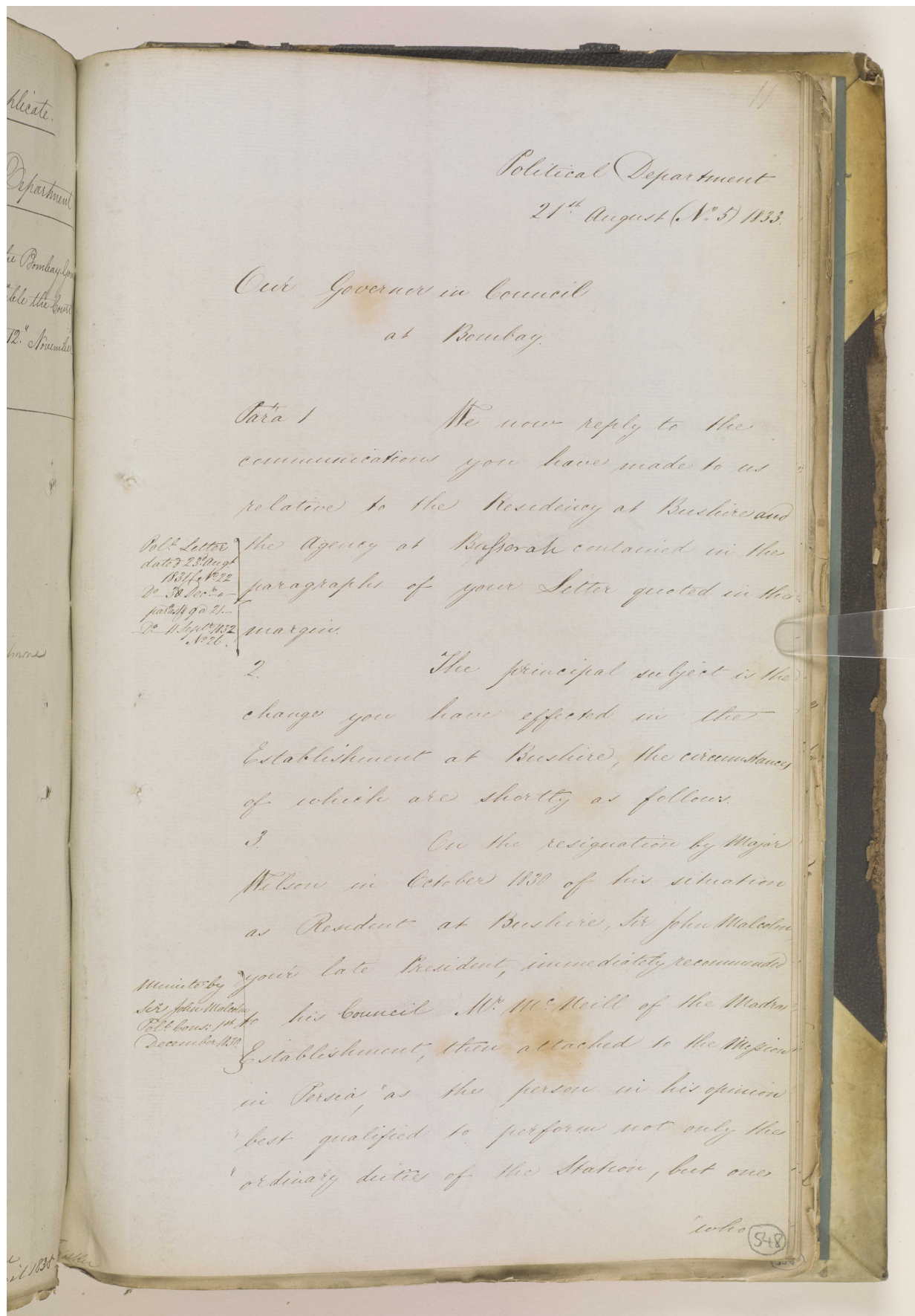
Dr. McNeill

(547)

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [547v] (22/60)



'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [548r] (23/60)



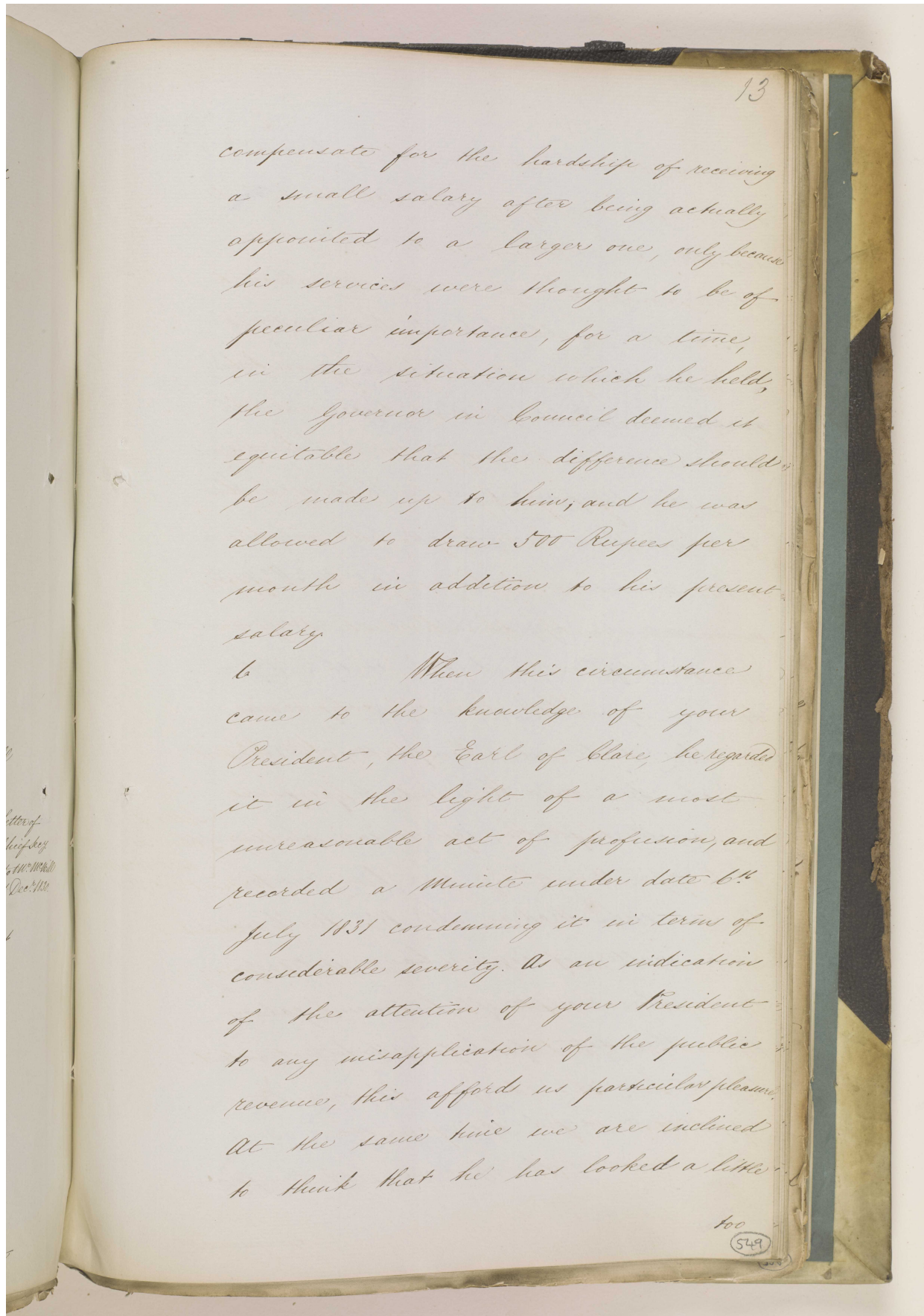
'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [548v] (24/60)

"who added to talent and experience
"those local impressions which would
"enable him to act with success on
"the occurrence of those emergencies to
"which the country where he resides is
"continually exposed." Sir John grounded
this opinion on the evidence which
Mr McNeill had afforded of his
peculiar fitness by the ability and
address he had displayed in the
transaction of highly important affairs
connected with the British Mission
in Persia.

4. The Council concurring
with the late President, Mr. McNeill
was appointed. He was however
informed that the question regarding
the appointment of an Envoy in Persia <sup>Letter of
Chief Secy
to Mr. McNeill
1 Dec. 1850.</sup>
being under reference to us the Government
"did not wish to disturb the temporary
"arrangement made by the Supreme
"Government, and therefore did not intend
"that he should join his new
"appointment for the present."

5. At the same time to
compensate

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [549r] (25/60)



'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [549v] (26/60)

too strongly at one part of this case
and not quite sufficiently at
another. There is no doubt that an
addition of 500 Rupees per month to
the salary attached to the office of
Mr. McNeill under the *Envy in Persia*,
merely as holding that Office would
have been unjustifiable, and have deserved
all the disapprobation with which His
Lordship has received it, but when we
take into consideration that Mr. McNeill
was actually appointed to a more
lucrative Office, and only withheld from
entering upon its emolument by reason
of the still more important services
which he was required to perform
in another place; when we also consider
that at the other two Presidencies,
Bengal and Madras, Mr. McNeill would
as a matter of course have entered
upon the receipt of his new salary
from the date of his appointment, we
do not, much as we desire to
uphold a rigid economy, see reason
for regarding this proceeding of the former

Government

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [550r] (27/60)

15
Government in so unfavorable a light
as it now appears in to you. The
appointment with all its circumstances,
this among the rest, received the
unqualified approbation of the Governor
General under date 8th January 1831.
On the 30th June 1831 you
addressed a Letter to the Governor General
requesting that Mr. McNeill might, as
speedily as possible, be permitted to
assume the duties of Resident at Bushire.
Some time after this you received our
Letter in the General Department, dated
18th May 1831, in which these words: "We
are led to apprehend that your
late arrangements have had the effect
of increasing the number of Officers
held by Military servants. However
this may be we positively direct
you to revise strictly the circumstances
of each appointment and to substitute
a Civil for a Military officer wherever
the peculiar fitness of the individual
for the particular office, or his peculiar
claims to consideration, or some peculiar
advantage."
(550)

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [550v] (28/60)

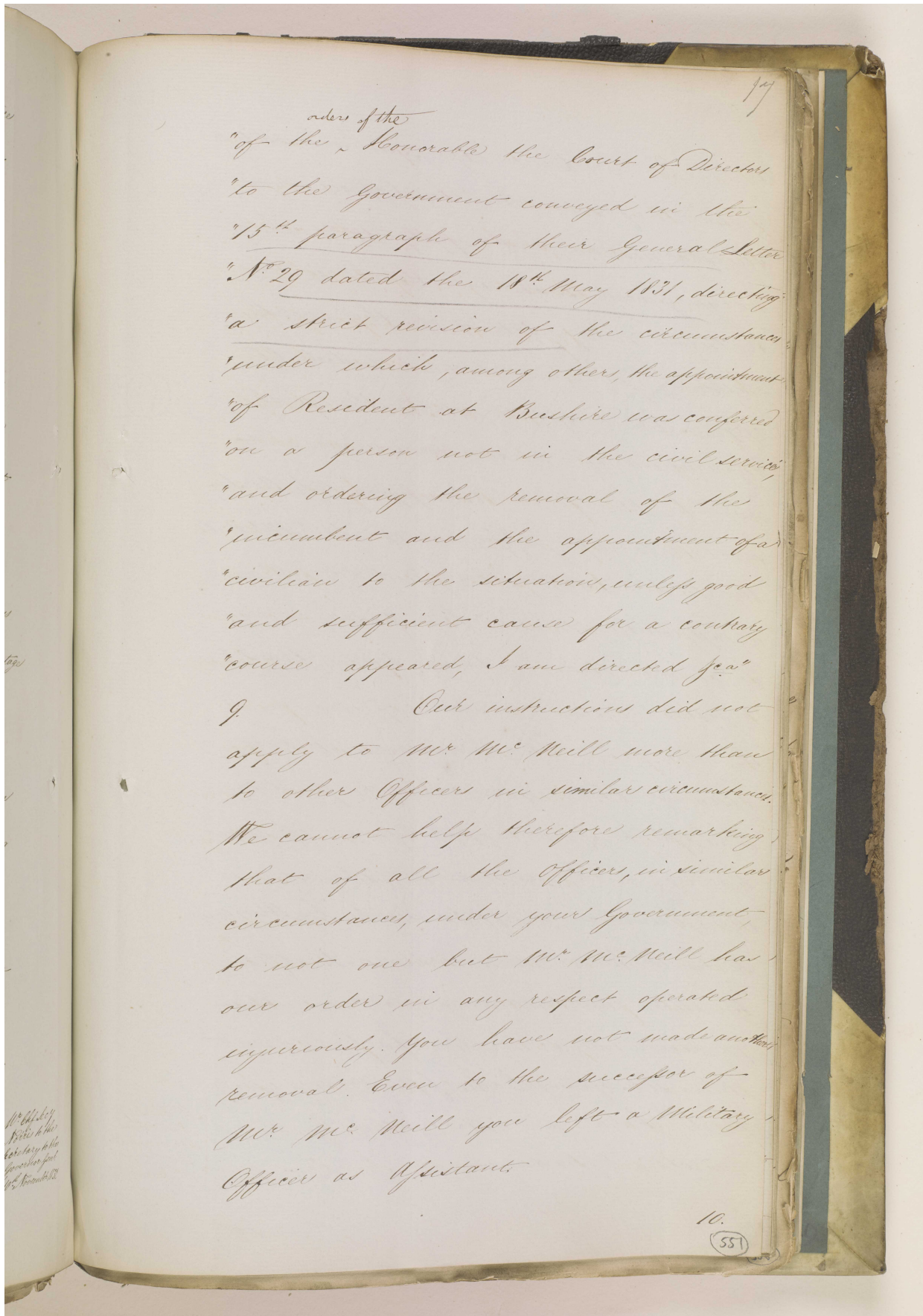
"advantage arising to the public service
"from the situation being held by a
"military man, shall not render such
"a measure absolutely inexpedient."

8 Upon the receipt of this
Letter you immediately cancelled the
appointment of M^r. McNeill although
that gentleman had been made choice
of by Sir John Malcolm's Government
on the express grounds enumerated
in that Letter, - "the peculiar fitness
"of the individual," "his peculiar claims
"to consideration", and "the peculiar advantages
"to the public service" expected from
his employment in the situation of
Resident at Bushire. We do not mean
to express any blame of your exercising
your own discretion in this case,
though we may doubt its correctness,
but you certainly had no sufficient
ground for construing our instructions
as an imperative order for the
removal of M^r. McNeill, and for
writing as you did to the Governor
General in these words; In consequence

[M^r. Chisley
Baker to the
Secretary to the
Governor Genl.
10th Novemb^r 1858]

"of

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [551r] (29/60)

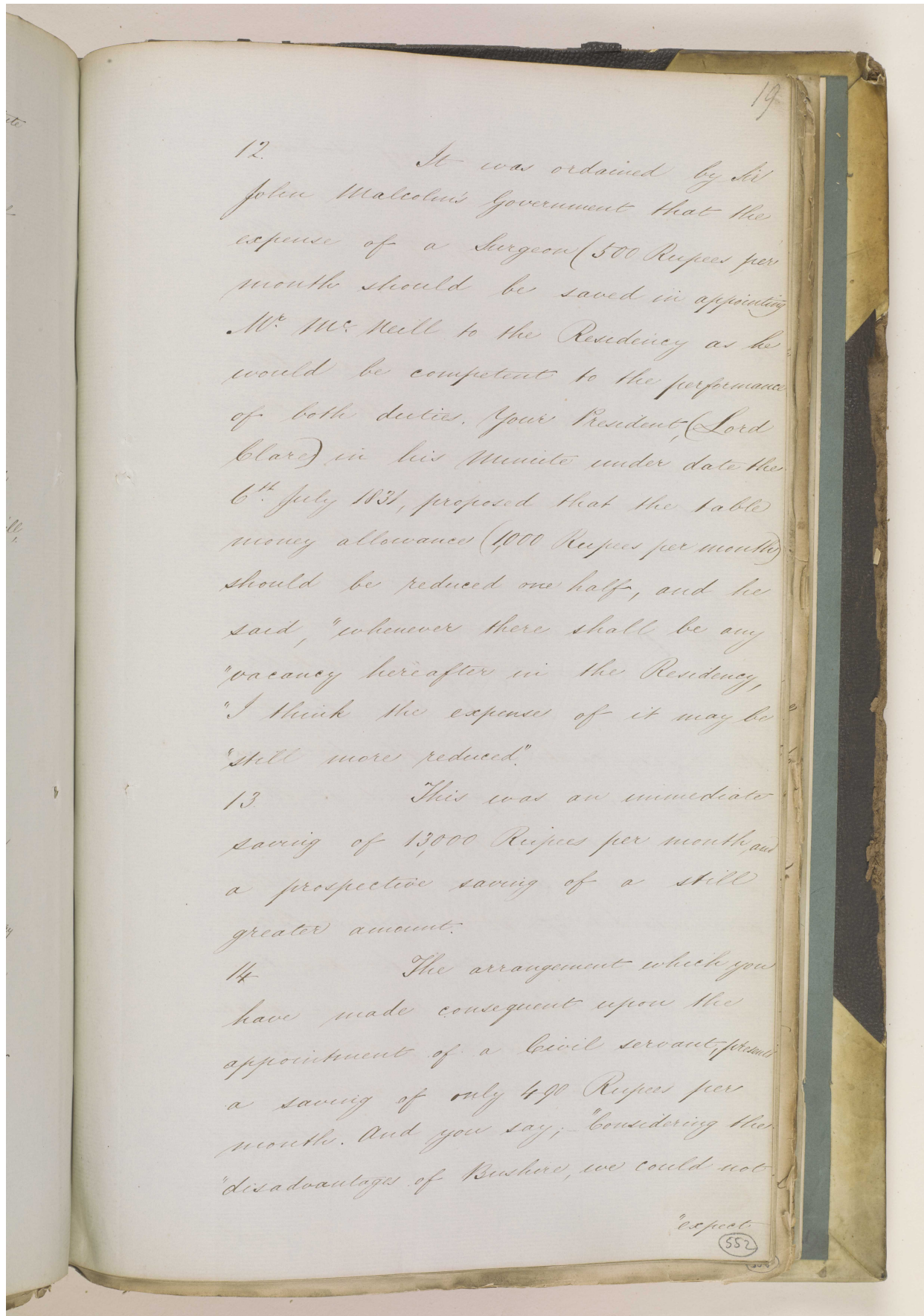


'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [551v] (30/60)

10. Our expression "to substitute a civil for a Military Officer" was chiefly intended to apply to cases of vacancy, and such we think is the natural interpretation of the words: certainly it was not intended to apply to removals where the just expectations of a meritorious servant would be severely disappointed. And such is our opinion of Mr. McNeill, that the occurrence of such a disappointment in his case is in a more than ordinary degree to be regretted.

11. The occasion of our issuing the instruction in question was that of our apprehension of your having made arrangements to increase the number of offices held by Military servants. But it is clear that the Bushire Residency was not in that predicament, since the fact is that this situation had for some years been held in succession by a Military Officer.

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [552r] (31/60)



'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [552v] (32/60)

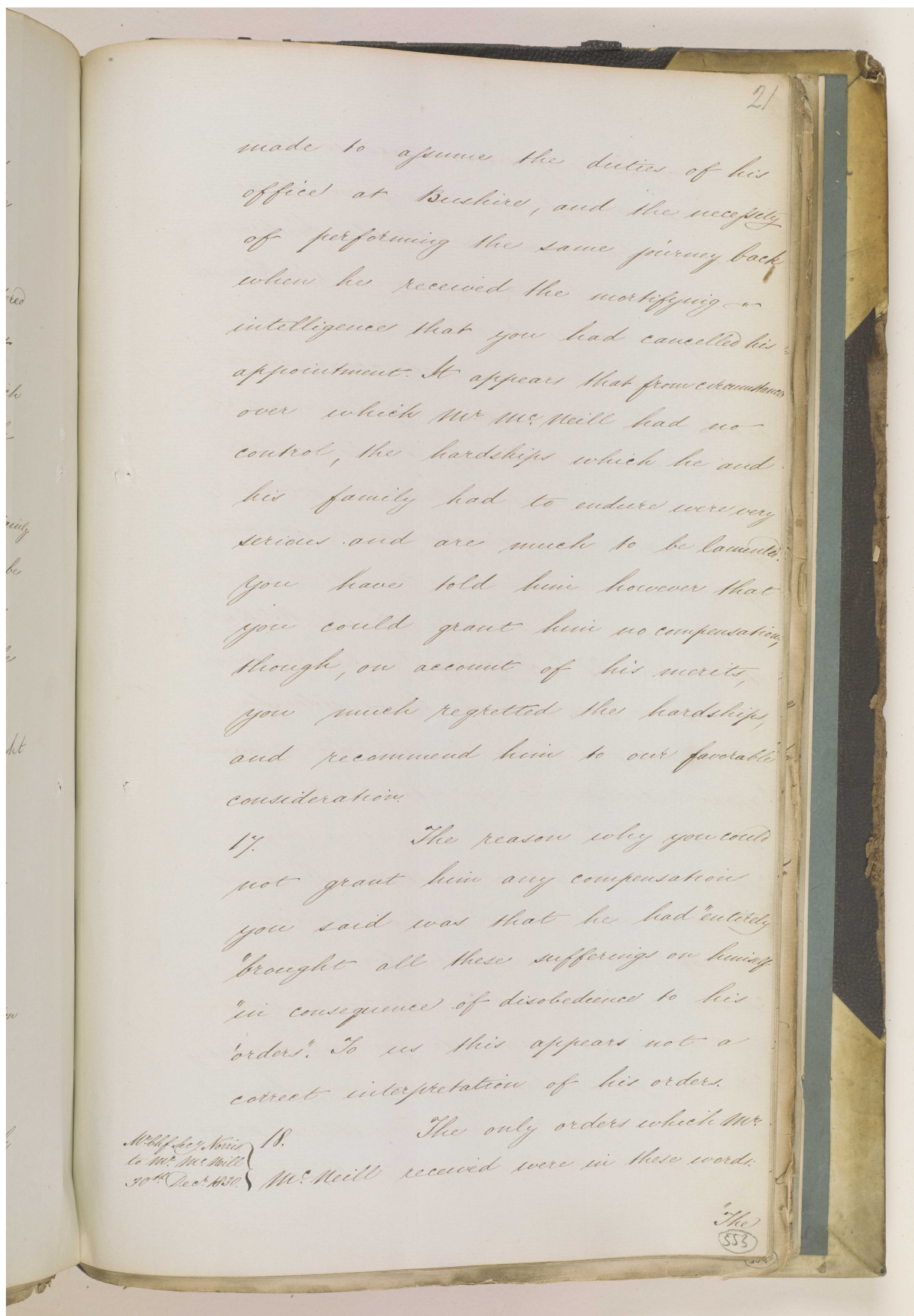
"expect that any civilian of talent
and experience would go there, if a
further reduction was made in the
establishment."

15. But when we considered
it due to our civil servants that
offices of the civil kind, to which
they were eligible, should not be
filled by others without some
good and peculiar reason, we certainly
never meant that offices should be
made for civil servants; nor that
the emoluments of offices should be
increased only to make them fit for
their acceptance when the duties might
equally well be performed at the
smaller expense.

16. There is but one other
circumstance, of a subsequent date,
which it is necessary for us to
notice, and that is, the representation
which was made to you, and is
now in a Memorial before us,
of the loss and hardship sustained by
Mr. McNeill, in consequence of a journey
made

Ref. 552v, 11183
to Mr. McNeill
30th Dec. 1830

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [553r] (33/60)



'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [553v] (34/60)

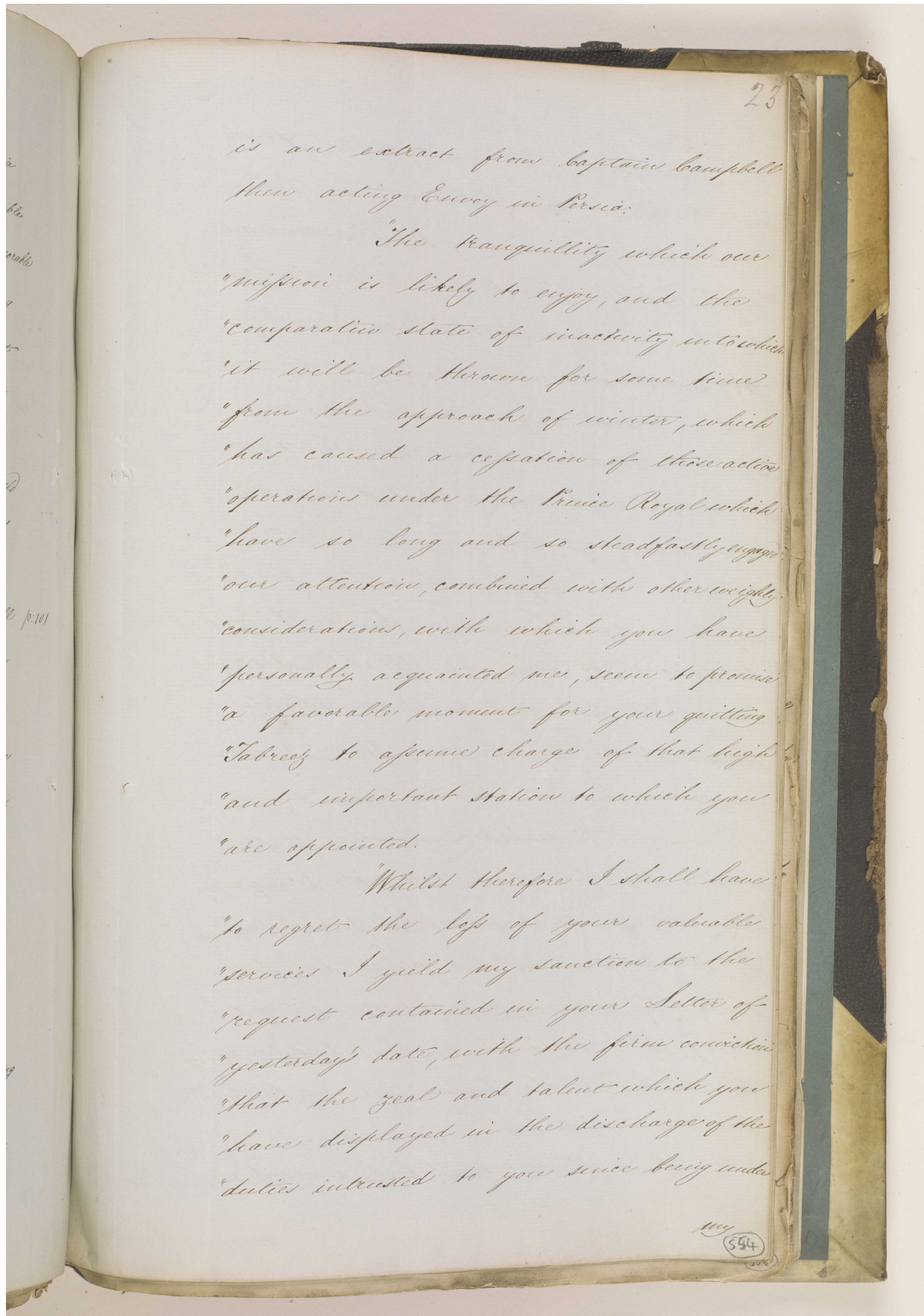
The question regarding the
"appointments of an Envoy in Persia
"being under reference to the Honorable
"the Court of Directors, and the Honorable
"the Governor in Council not wishing
"to disturb the temporary arrangements
"made by the Supreme Government,
"desires me to signify to you that
"it is not intended that you should
"join your new appointment for the
"present."

19. The answer of Mr. McNeill p.101
dated the 27th February 1831, clearly shows
the sense in which he considered
these orders: "I have the honor to receive
"your Letter in the Political Department
"of the 30th March intimating my
"appointment to succeed Major Nelson as
"Resident at Bushire, but directing me
"to continue in the discharge of the
"duties at present intrusted to me
"until the decision of Government regarding
"this mission shall have become known."

20. On 14th December 1831 Mr. McNeill
received a Letter of which the following

is

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [554r] (35/60)



'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [554v] (36/60)

"my orders, will now be called forth
in a more extended and novel field,
and be productive of permanent and
in^{stant} impartial benefits to our Indian populations."

21. With this sanction Mr.
McNeill commenced his journey to Bushire,
and we are very sure when you
again attend to the circumstances, you
will not say that he did so in
disobedience of orders.

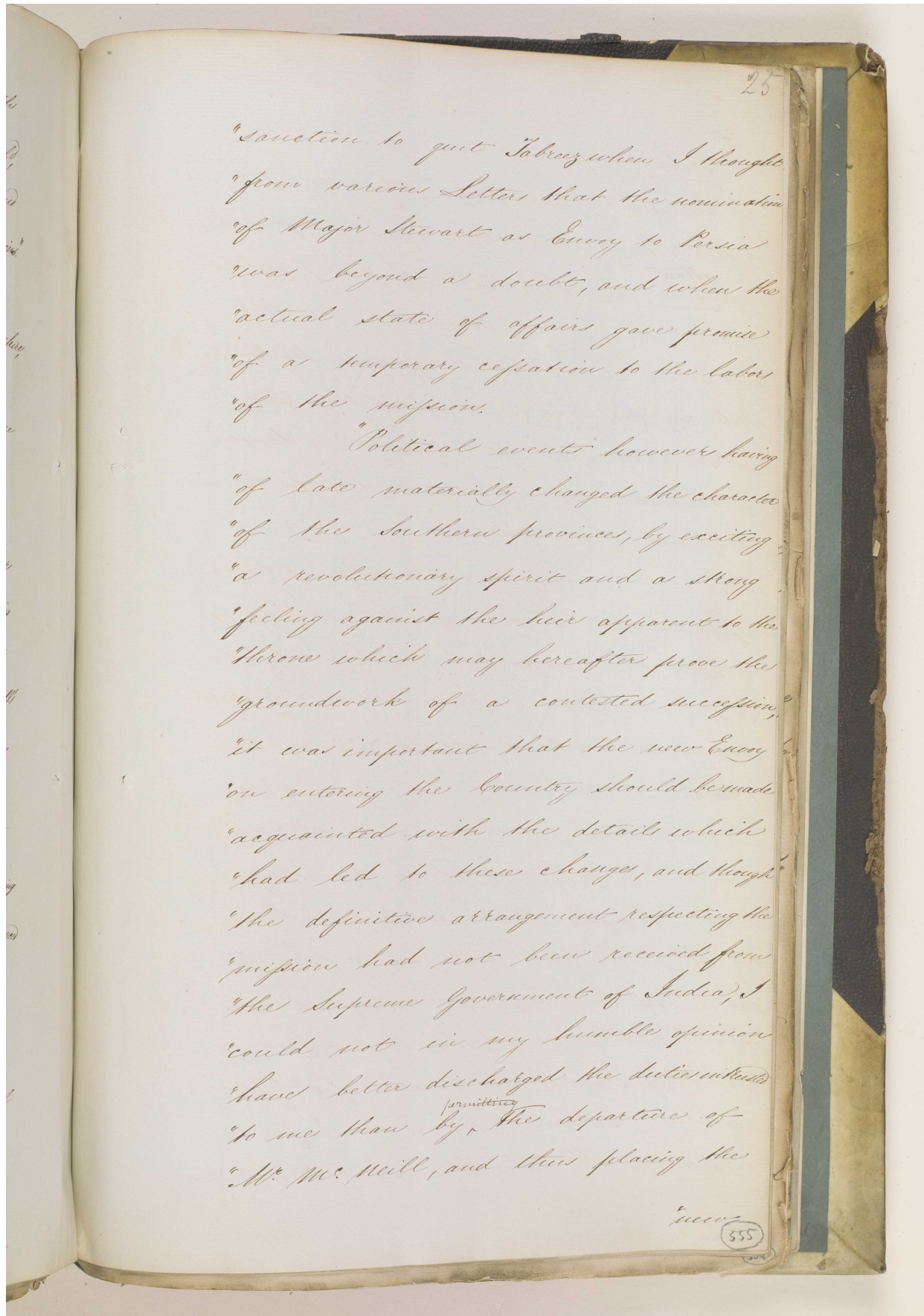
22. Captain Campbell further
explains the reasons of his authorizing
Mr. McNeill's departure, in his Letter
to Lord Clare transmitting Mr. McNeill's
Memorial, dated 28th May 1832, in these
words:

"I consider it my duty to
confirm the facts detailed in the accompanying
documents, of the dangers and difficulties
by Mr. McNeill in his journey during a
season of unexampled severity, and of the
heavy costs incurred by that Officer, as
travelling in the high station of Political
Resident of Bushire.

"Mr. McNeill only received my

sanction

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [555r] (37/60)



'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [555v] (38/60)

"never Envoy in personal communication
with an Officer so ably qualified to
"afford" him all the requisite information
"on the state of affairs and of
"parties throughout Persia."

23. It thus appears that
Mr. McNeill's departure, at the time
when it took place, was in direct
furtherance of the objects of the Persian
Mission; that the utmost extent of
his orders was not to leave the
mission, while his services were required,
under the temporary arrangement of the
Supreme Government; that he was not
told to remain till he received
orders to depart; but till the
circumstances which required his stay
ceased to exist; that a discretion
was therefore left to him which
certainly he did not abuse. In these
circumstances it is but bare justice,
that Mr. McNeill should receive a
reimbursement of the expense of his journey
and a reasonable compensation for the
difficulties and hardships which he underwent.

Thus

1250 Rupees
for both officers

21 Aug

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [556r] (39/60)

27
This we direct you will pay to him according to your own estimate of what upon this view of the case you may think due.

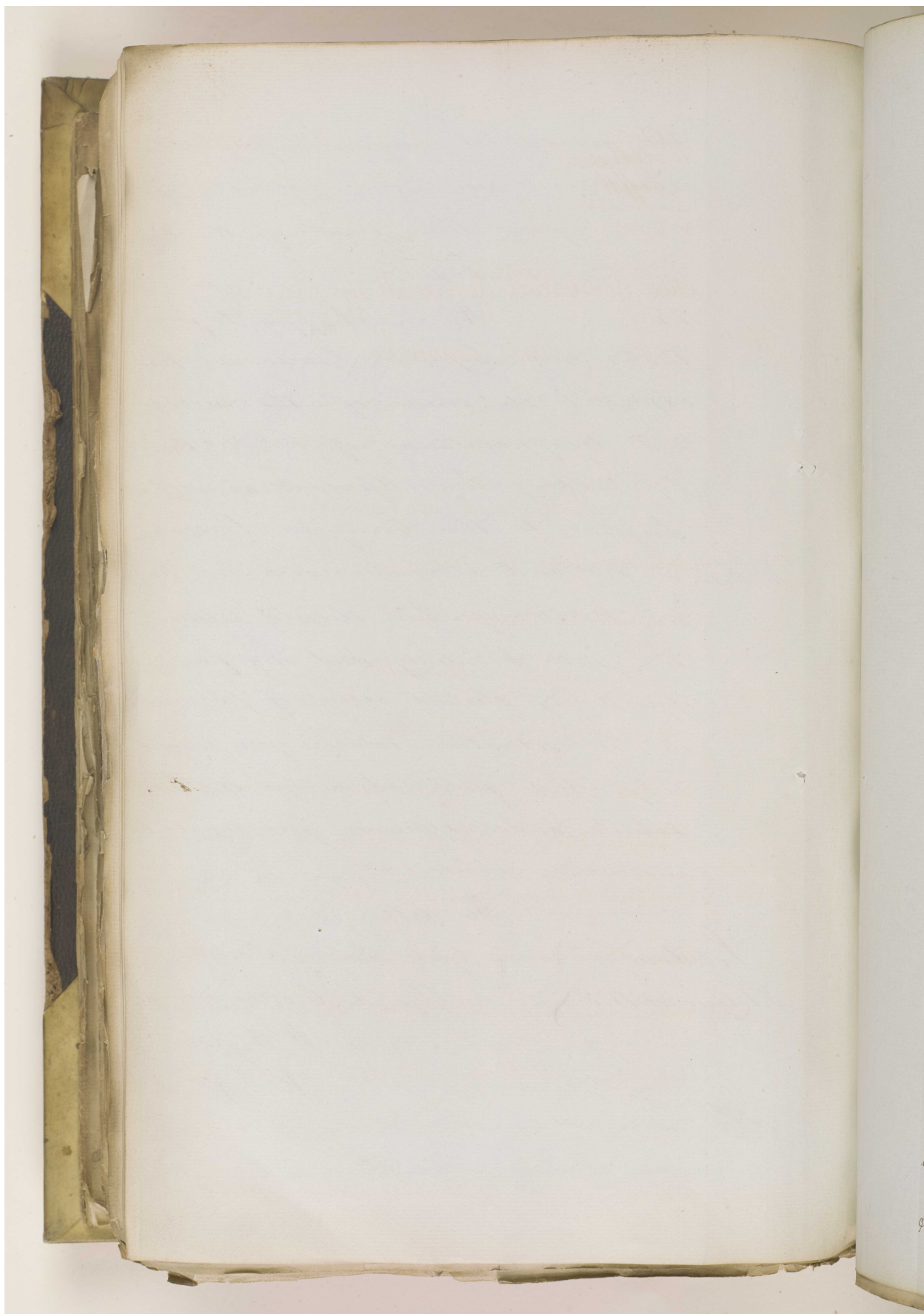
24. We are happy to find that the Supreme Government has expressed its sense of the merits and disappointment of Mr. McNeill by making him Assistant as well as Surgeon to the Envoy in Persia with an increased allowance; and we have no doubt if he should return to your Residency, and any fair opportunity should occur of placing him in a situation where you might reap the full advantage of his talents and experience, you would be anxious to embrace it.

We are
your loving Friend,
(Signed) C. Macgibbon.
W. Wigram.
J. J.

London,
21 August 1838.

(556)

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [556v] (40/60)



'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [557r] (41/60)

Political
Dept

15th April (R^o 9) 1835.

Our Governor General of India
in Council.

1 Having had under consideration an application from D^r M^r Neill 1st Assistant and Surgeon to the Mission in Persia to be allowed his travelling expenses to England, We have ordered him to be paid the sum of Five hundred Pounds on that account, and have consented that his Salary of Rupees 1,250 a Month, shall be paid to him on his return to Persia from the date of his departure from that country, to the period when his allowances may commence from the Crown. D^r M^r Neill having been permitted by us to attach himself to the intended mission from His Majesty to the Shah of Persia, without prejudice to his rank

on
(557)

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [557v] (42/60)

on the Bombay Medical Establishment, his period of service in Persia, is to be considered as time passed in India.

2. You will communicate this information to the Envoy in Persia and to the Government of Bombay:

We are

Your affectionate Friends

(signed) W. J. Clarke

J. R. Barnard.

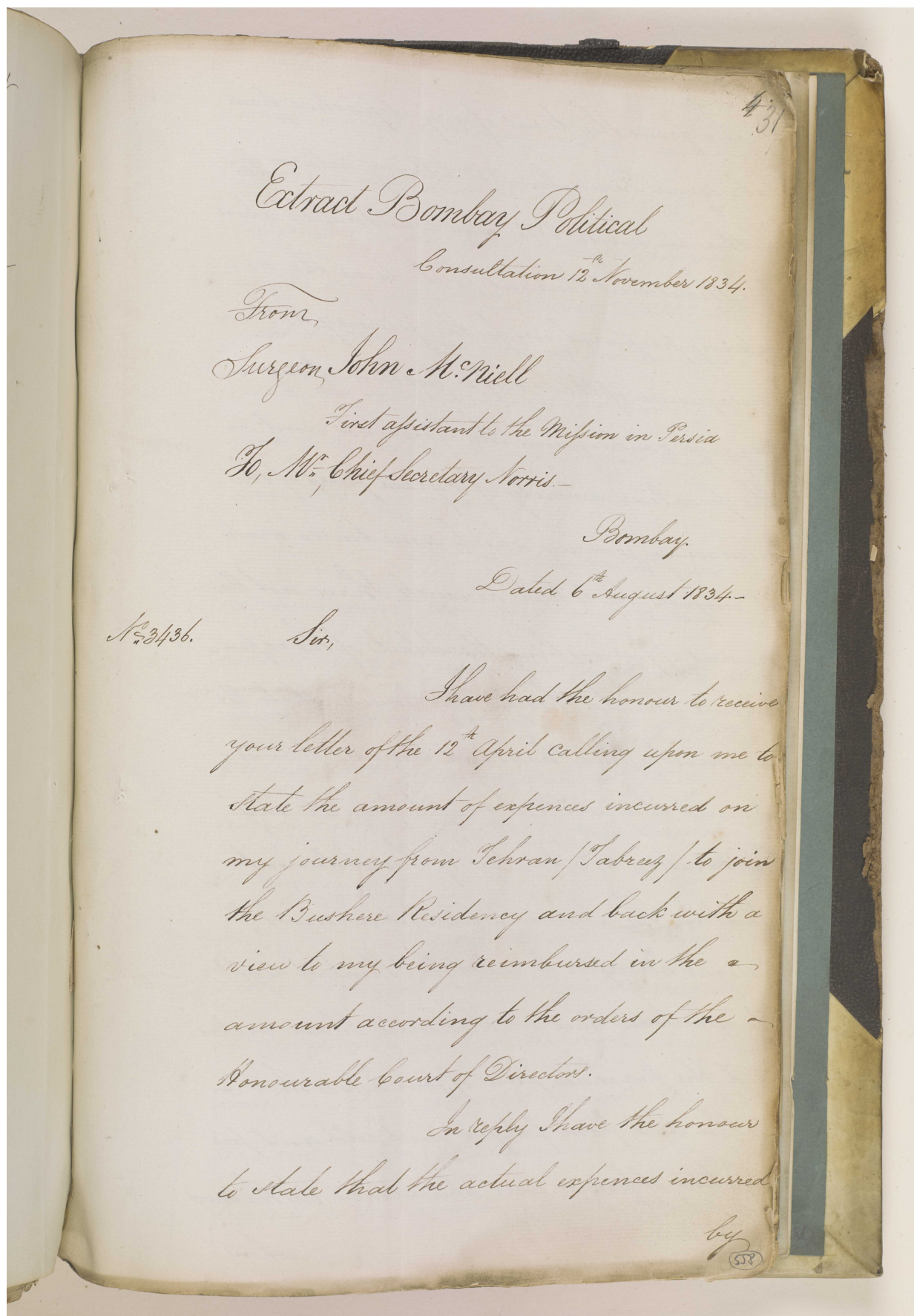
&c &c.

London

the 15th April 1835.

1835/36.

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [558r] (43/60)



'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [558v] (44/60)

5.
by me from the time of my departure from
Tabreez in December 1831. till my return
hither in May 1832. was considerably above
two thousand toman, including the ne-
cessary preparations for the journey, but in
consequence of the loss of a portion of my
baggage containing the accounts and on
the peculiar severity of a great part of the
returning journey which some times made
it impossible to keep accounts. I have not the
means of furnishing the details of the ex-
penditure I would therefore beg leave to state the
amount at two thousand toman. Because
I could then without scruple furnish any
declaration corroborative of this statement.
That in the absence of detailed accounts
might hereafter be called for, I think it right
to mention that in this sum I have includ-
ed the purchase price of four horses that
either died from fatigue and cold and pri-
vation of food, or were abandoned in the snow
when

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [559r] (45/60)

when unable to proceed, and it is due to
myself to state that the expences of the journey
towards Bushire and of the return journey
as far as Hamadan were incurred the
first without my having contemplated
and the second without my having had
time to reflect on the probability that they
would be reimbursed.

As I was detained for some time
at Hamadan, where one of my children was
born, it may be proper to state that the dis-
tance travelled gives an average of above
thirteen miles per diem for the whole time,
nearly five months, that I was absent from
Tabriz.

I shall also take the liberty to
bring to the notice of the Right Honourable
the Governor in Council that for the months of
January February and March 1832 I have
received no pay or allowance what soever,
because on my departure for Bushire Captain
Macdonald

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [559v] (46/60)

Macdonald and Mr. Cornick were nominated by the acting envoy to discharge the duties of assistant & Surgeon to the Mission, and the sum of one thousand Rupees a month which had been assigned to me for these offices was divided between the abovementioned gentlemen. I was thus subjected to a loss of three thousand Rupees which I trust I shall not be called upon to sustain.

I was further subjected to a loss of about three hundred tomans in disposing of my house and furniture at Tabreez and the amount of injury done to my property on the journey as well as baggage actually lost or utterly destroyed, amounts to a similar sum. Independent therefore of the actual travelling expenses this journey has cost me about six thousand Rupees which, if it be the intention of the Honourable Court and the wish of the Right Honourable the Governor, as I presume it is, to

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [560r] (47/60)

835
to protect me from all loss consequent on my
removal from Bushire, I hope I shall be deem-
ed entitled ^{to} recover.

Regarding the compensation
for difficulty and hardship which the
Right Honourable the Governor in Council
has been pleased to assign to me, I shall
only venture to say, that when I reflect, even
at this distance of time, on what I and
every one who accompanied me was then
called upon so unexpectedly to endure, I
cannot consider the amount fixed by His
Lordship as a reasonable compensation for
the suffering to which I was subjected; and
I beg leave most respectfully to say the sum
thus appropriated [1,500 R^s.] does not
much exceed the amount of compensation
for suffering which I feel myself bound in
humanity to make to the domestics who
faithfully served me in all dangers
and difficulties exposed to every description
of

560
of

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [560v] (48/60)

of privation and hardship throughout a journey in which I was exposed to difficulties disappointment and distress such as are not often encountered and overcome.

Tabreez —
6th August —
1834. }

I have the honor to be yr.
Signed/ John McNeill
First Assistant to the
Mission in Persia.

Minute by the Right Honble the Governor
Subscribed by the Board. —

Dated 27th October 1834. No 3437.

Think under the orders
received from the Honble Court Mr. McNeill
should receive Rupees 6000 being the amount
of loss sustained by him in his journey. the loss sustained
is estimated at
20000 Tomans,
which is equal to
about 12000 Ru

With regard to the inadequate remuneration of Rupees 1250 per month of which he complains as the amount was reported, Some and the Honble Court informed that it would be increased if considered to be inadequate all that we
can

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [561r] (49/60)

can do is to call the attention of the Honble Court to what Mr. McNeill says in the last para of his letter -

27th October 1834. / signed / Clare

From Mr. Chief Secretary Morris.

To Surgeon J. MacNeill

attached to the Mission in Persia.

Dated 30th October 1834.

No 438.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 6th August last, and to signify to you that the Right Honble the Governor in Council is pleased to grant you six thousand Rupees in compensation for the expenses and losses incurred by you on your journey from Tabreez to join the Bushire Presidency, and back, which amount will accordingly be paid to any person whom you may authorize to receive it. -

2

With regard to the inadequacy

(561)

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [561v] (50/60)

11.
of the remuneration for the difficulties & hardships you endured as alluded to in the last para of your letter under reply, I am directed to acquaint you that the subject has been referred to the Honble Court of Directors.

Bombay Castle,

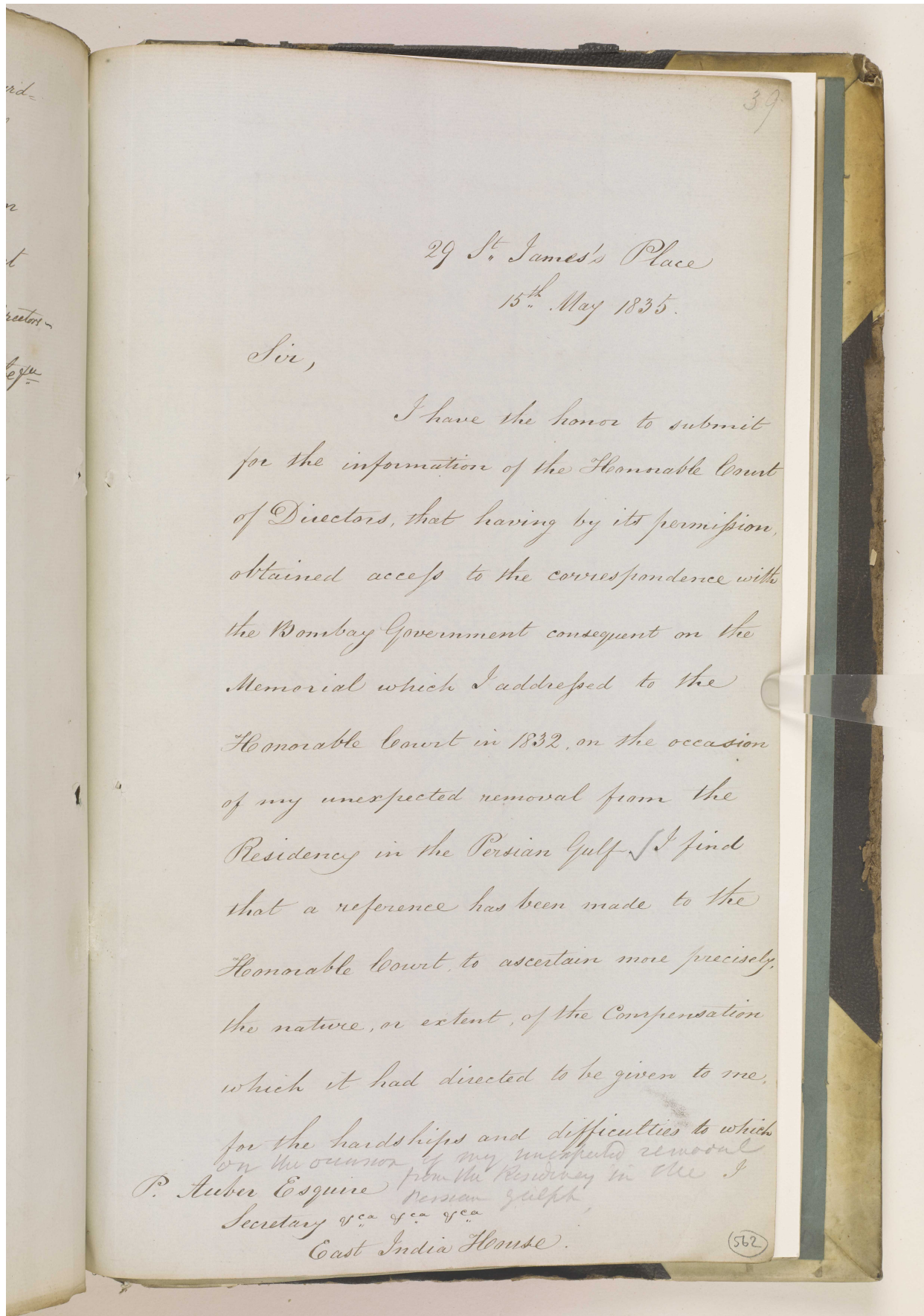
30th October 1834.

I have the honor to be
Signed / C Morris.

Chief Secretary

/ True Extract /
" C Morris
Chief Secretary

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [562r] (51/60)



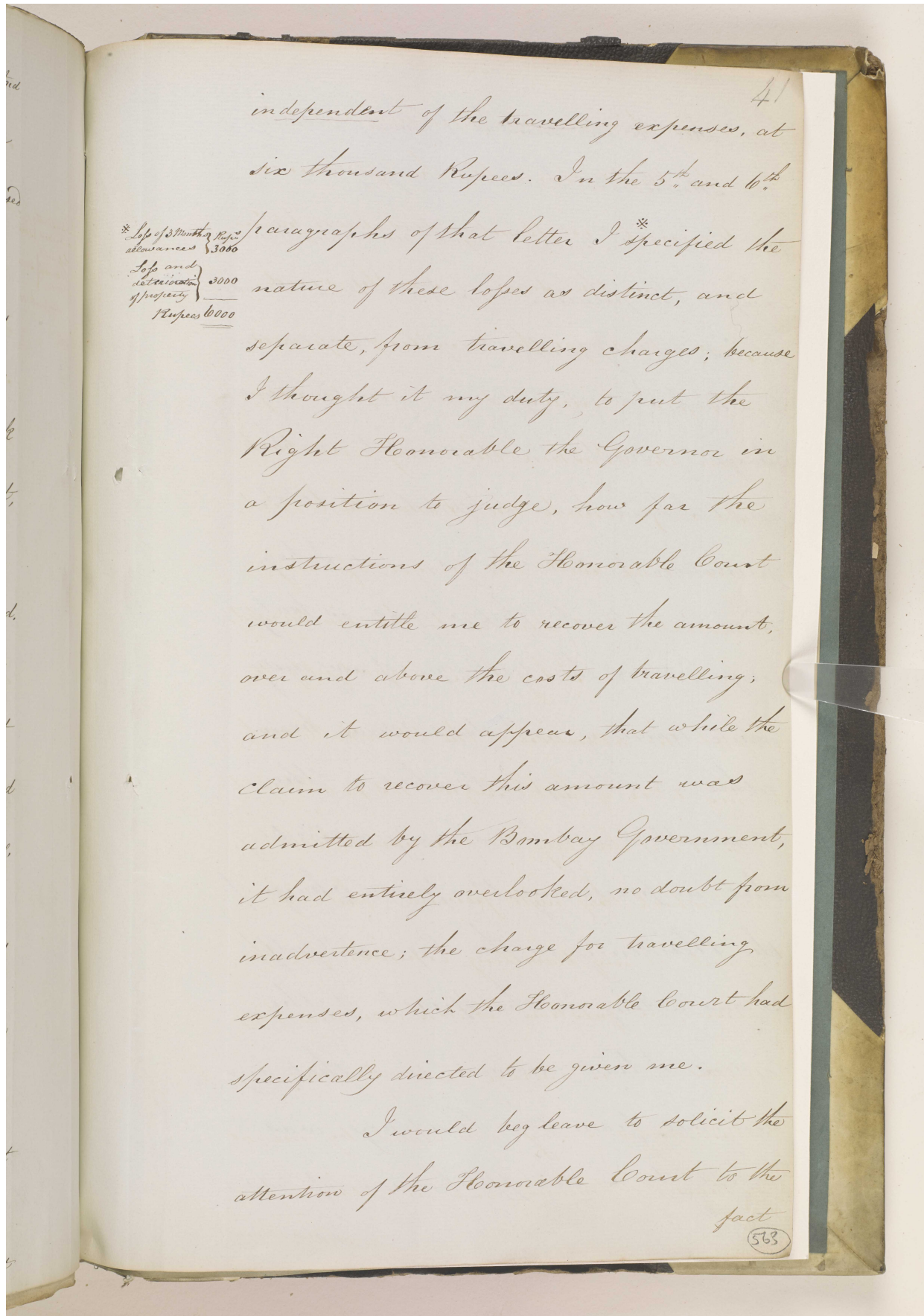
'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [562v] (52/60)

I had on that occasion been subjected, And
that the Right Honorable the Governor
in Council in Bombay has been pleased
to grant me the sum of six thousand
Rupees (6000) for the travelling expenses
and losses incurred on my journey
to join the Bushire Residency, and back
to Sabreez, which the Honorable Court,
in accordance with the prayer of my
Memorial, had directed to be reimbursed.

I beg leave respectfully to
attract the attention of the Honble Court
to my letter of the 6th August 1834. addressed
to the Chief Secretary to Government Bombay,
from which they will perceive, that the
amount of my travelling expenses, for the
journey in question, which occupied five
months, at an average rate of above
thirteen miles a day, was stated by me at
Two thousand tomans; and my other losses
independent

Expenses for
allowances 5,300
by and
received 500
properly
Rupees 600

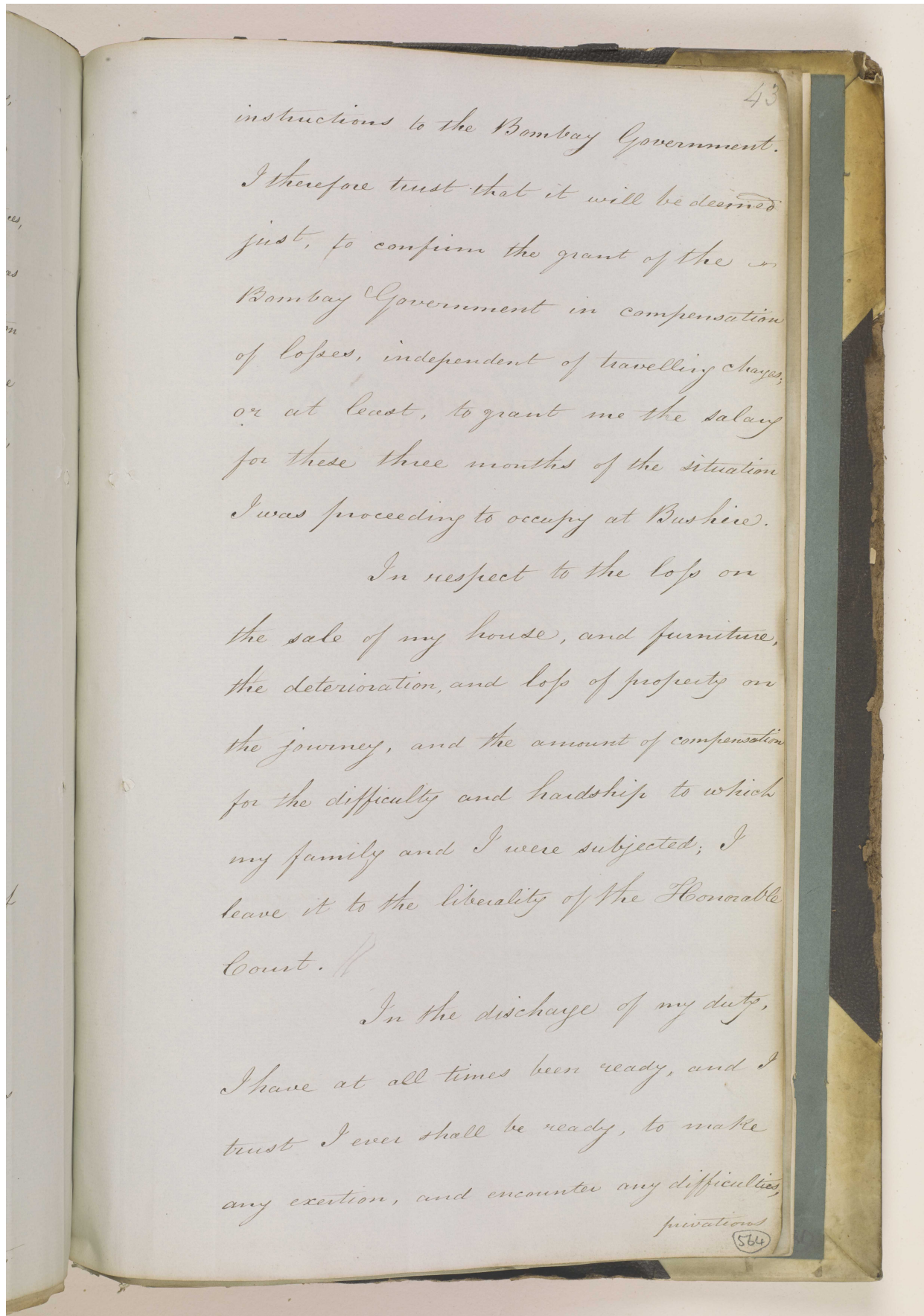
'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [563r] (53/60)



'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [563v] (54/60)

fact, that for the months of January, February, and March 1832, I received no pay or allowance whatsoever. Under no circumstances, except the peculiar ones, in which I was placed by my removal from the situation to which I stood appointed, and to assume charge of which, I had vacated another, could I have been subjected to a total privation of allowances; and I beg leave to submit, that I was as truly engaged in the discharge of my duty while travelling, as I should have been either at Tabreez, or Bushire. The Honorable Court has already decided that in proceeding to assume charge of the Presidency in the Persian Gulf, I was acting in the spirit of the orders I had received; and that my removal from the Presidency, was caused by a misapprehension of its instructions.

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [564r] (55/60)

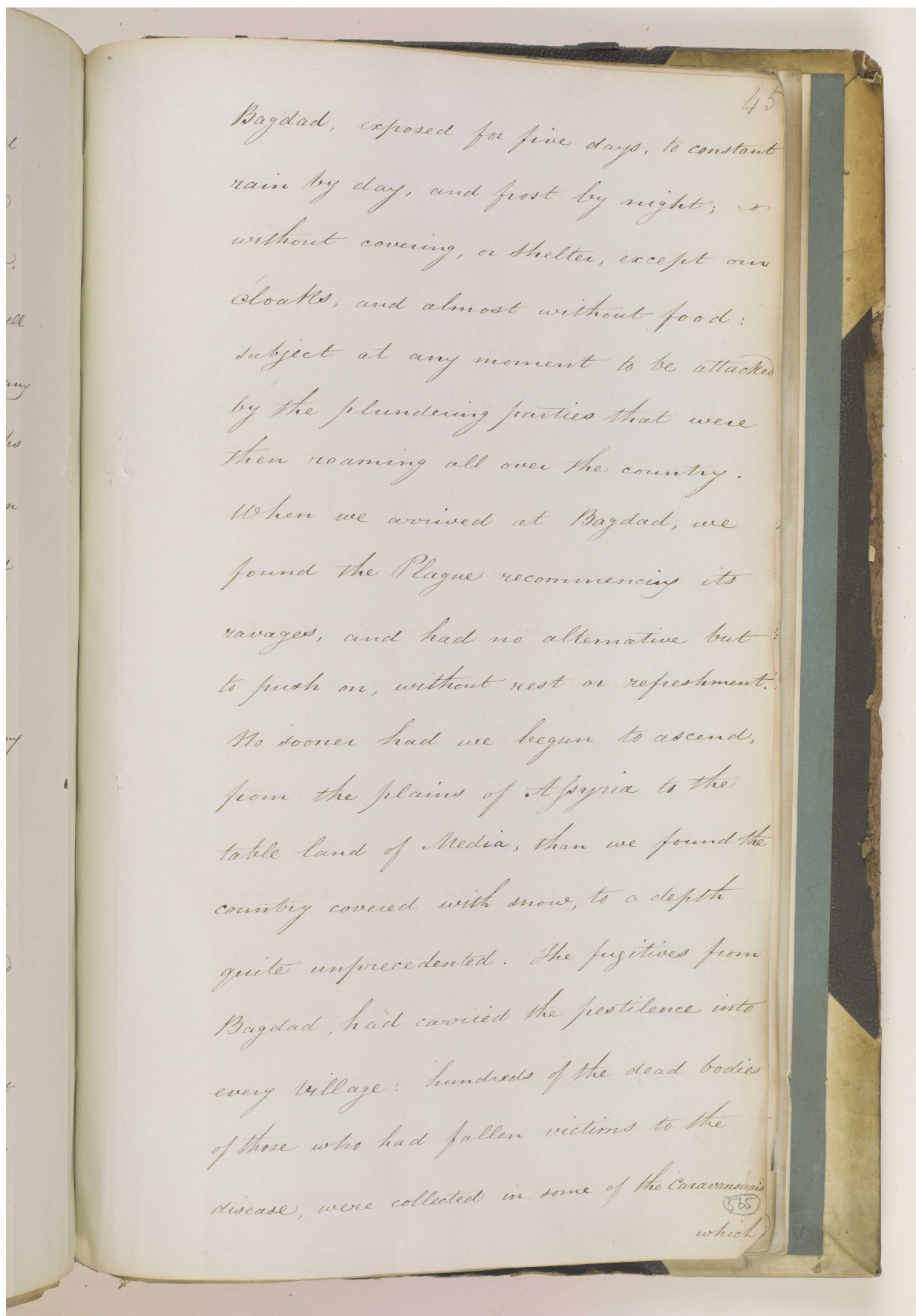


'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [564v] (56/60)

privations or hardships which my constitution is capable of bearing, and the emergencies of the public service may require; but in this instance, my family and my servants, as well as myself, were exposed, without any preparation, to a series of hardships and dangers, which no prudence on my part could have averted; and which no exigency of a public nature had demanded.

With the assistance of my Persian servants, I had to defend my family against an attack from the Arabs; I had to remain with them exposed, for several days, in a crowded Boat, to the infection of the Plague, which had appeared fatally amongst the crew; and at length, as the only chance of escape, to cross the desert to
Bagdad,

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [565r] (57/60)



'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [565v] (58/60)

which afforded the only shelter we could obtain: we had therefore no alternative but to toil on in the snow, which was every where from two, to six feet deep, and through which, we could only advance with extreme fatigue and labor, at the rate of, from half a mile to one mile an hour. We were several times exposed, from fifteen to seventeen hours, without accomplishing above eight, or nine miles. Where the snow was soft and deep it was impossible to ride, and I had to support my wife, then within a few days of her confinement, for several hours daily; while she struggled, knee deep through the snow; and to seek for her at night the shelter of a stable, where, in the deficiency of fuel, we might hope to protect ourselves in some degree from the intense cold, by collecting our
mules

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [566r] (59/60)

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mules and horses: harried every hour by the apprehension, that her sufferings might cause her, prematurely, to be taken ill in such a situation, or on the road. Disappointed by the reverse we had encountered, dejected by the reflection that the labors and services of sixteen years had gone for nothing, our minds worn out by protracted anxiety; and our bodies by fatigue and privation, I thank God we still were able to struggle on: but let any man place himself in my situation, and say whether he would consider £150, proposed by the Bombay Government as a reasonable compensation for all the mental anguish, and bodily suffering to which we were exposed: to say nothing of the great pecuniary and other advantages of which I had been deprived. (566)

'Respecting the compensation for expenses and losses sustained by Surgeon McNeill, in consequence of his appointment as Resident at Bushire being cancelled' [566v] (60/60)

deprived, in consequence of my removal
from Bushire, by mistake.

I have the honor to be
Sir,

Your obedient
humble servant

(Signed) John McNeill.

Revenue