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'Persian Gulf - affairs of'

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
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About this record

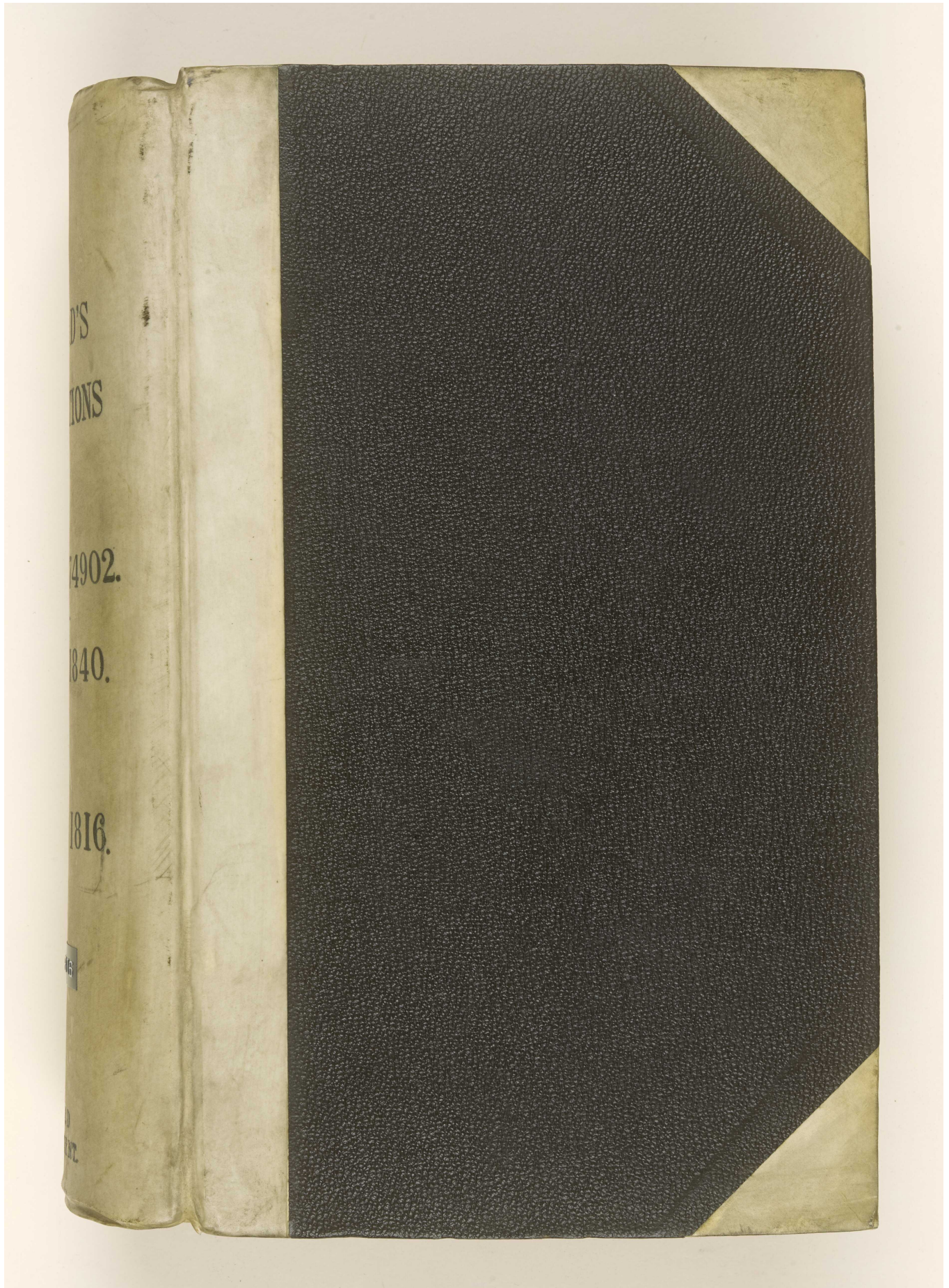
This item consists primarily of copies of correspondence and consultations cited in, or enclosed with, political letters from the Government of Bombay. The correspondents are: the Government of Bombay; Samuel Hennell, Resident in the Persian Gulf; and Moollah Hoossein [Mullah Ḥusayn], British Agent at Sharjah.

The item concerns:

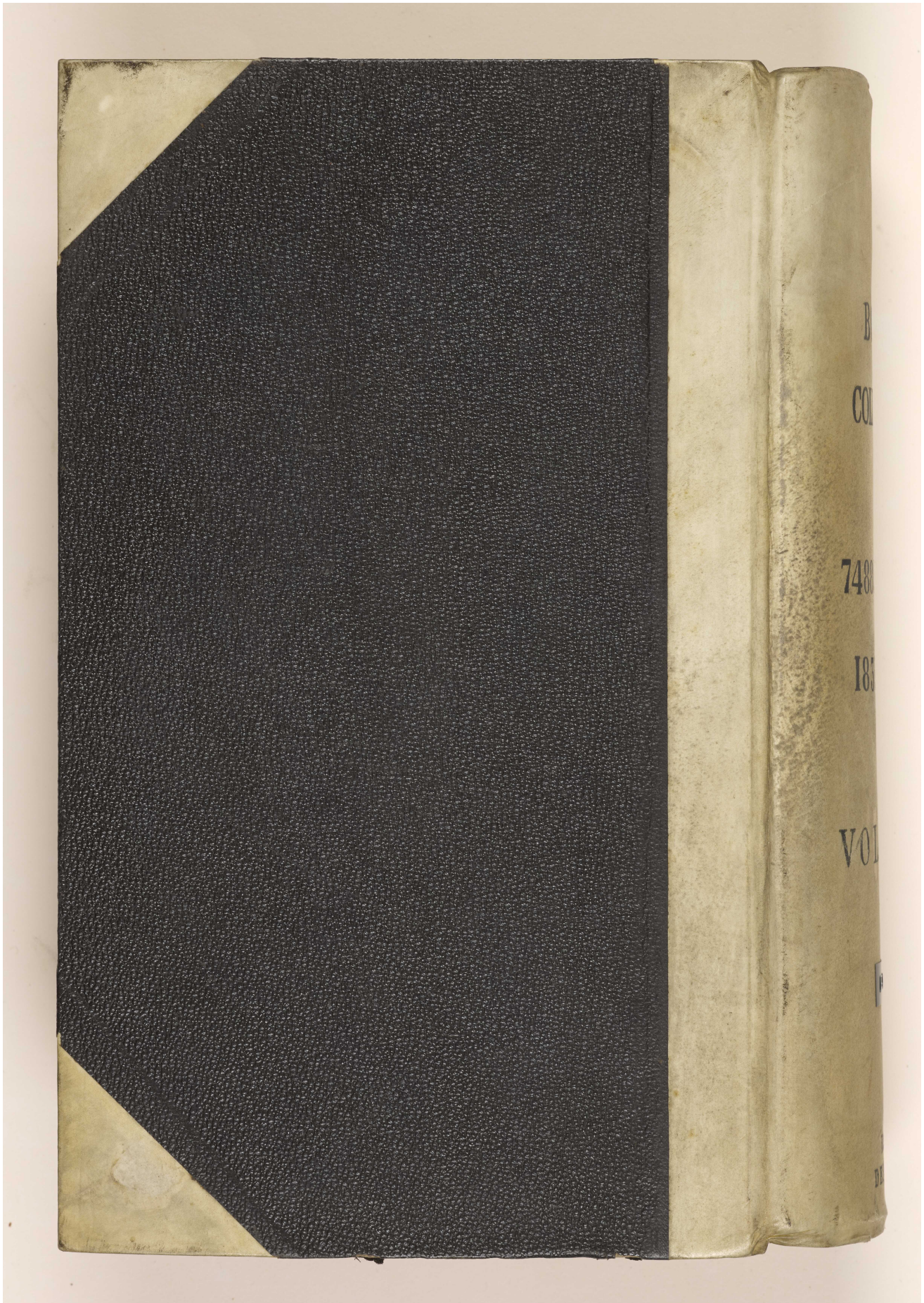
- Relations between the Benyas [Bani Yas] and the Joasmees [Āl Qawāsim]
- Negotiations between the son [ʿAlī bin Rashid al-Nuʿaymī] of the late Shaikh of Ejman [Ajman] and the brother [Shaikh Ṣāliḥ bin Ṣaqr al-Qāsimī] of the Shaikh of Sharjah over the piracy of Mahomed bin Suhur [Muḥammad bin Suhur?]
- A complaint by Soleman bin Jassem [Sulayman bin Jāsim], a merchant from Bahrain, about the death of one of his men at Kishm [Qeshm].

The item contains a contents page, and the title page of the item contains the following references: 'Collection No. 10, Draft 244, P C [Previous Communication] 2683'.

'Persian Gulf - affairs of' [front] (1/38)



'Persian Gulf - affairs of' [back] (2/38)





'Persian Gulf - affairs of' [edge] (4/38)

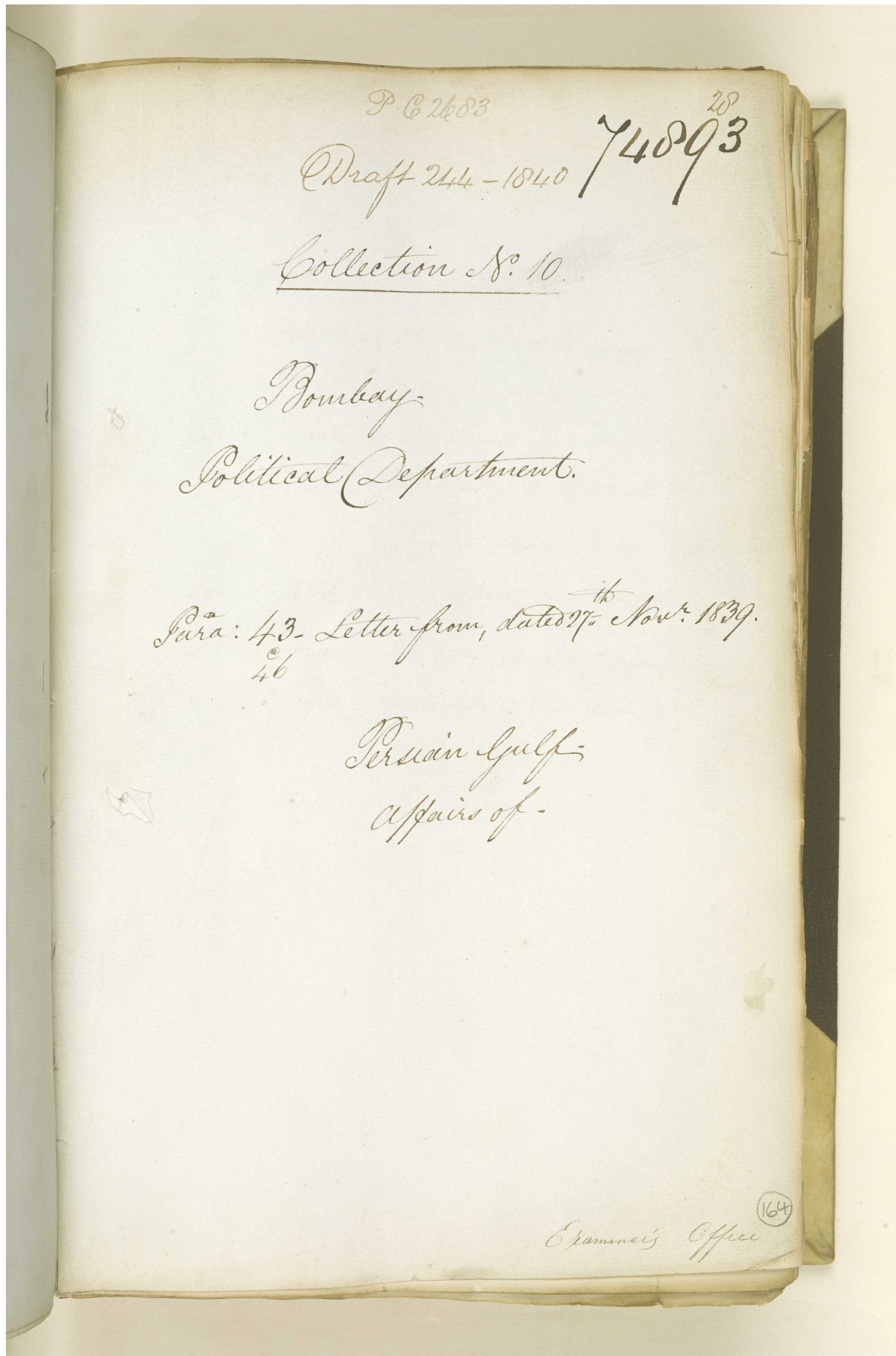


'Persian Gulf - affairs of' [head] (5/38)

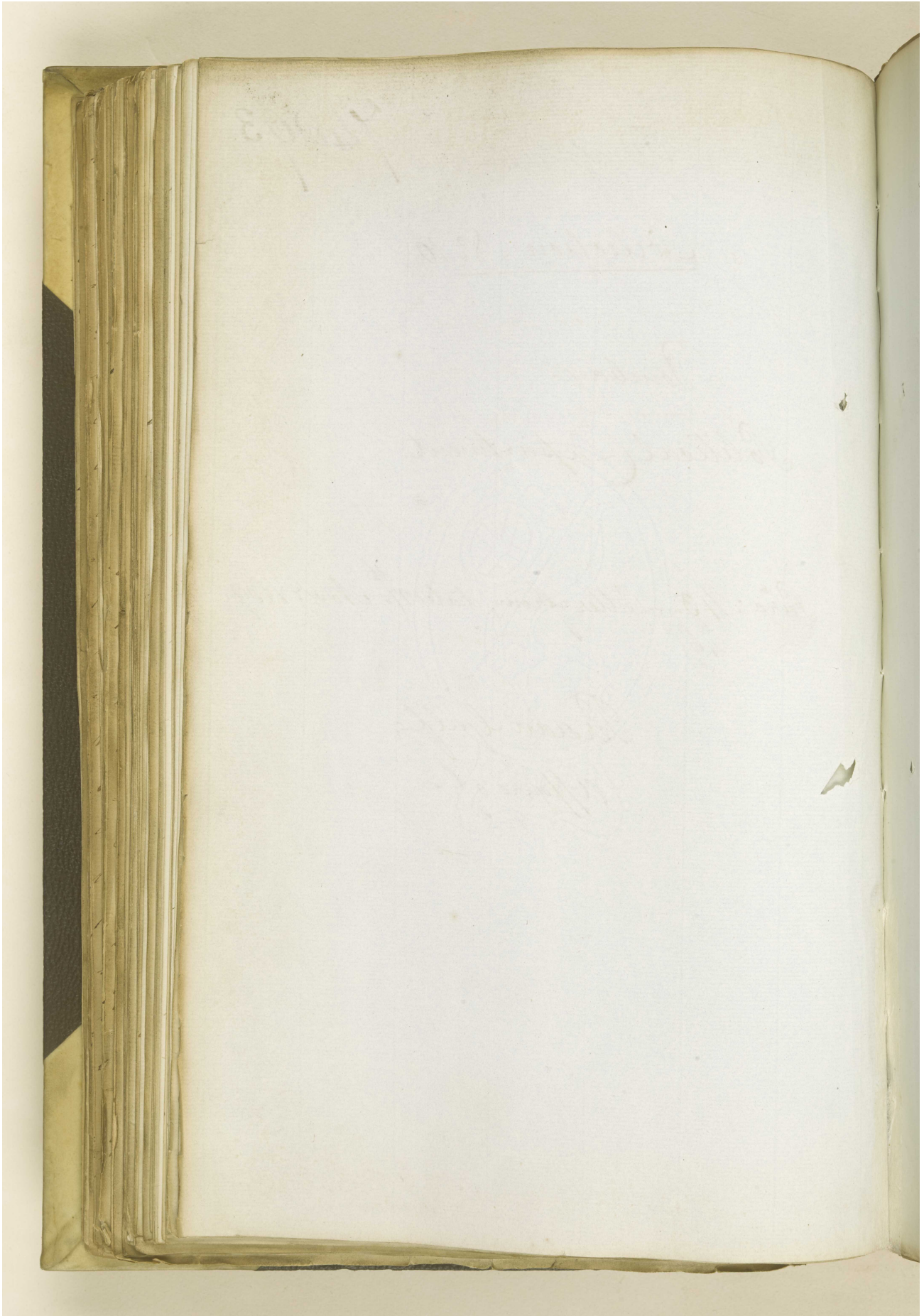


'Persian Gulf - affairs of' [tail] (6/38)



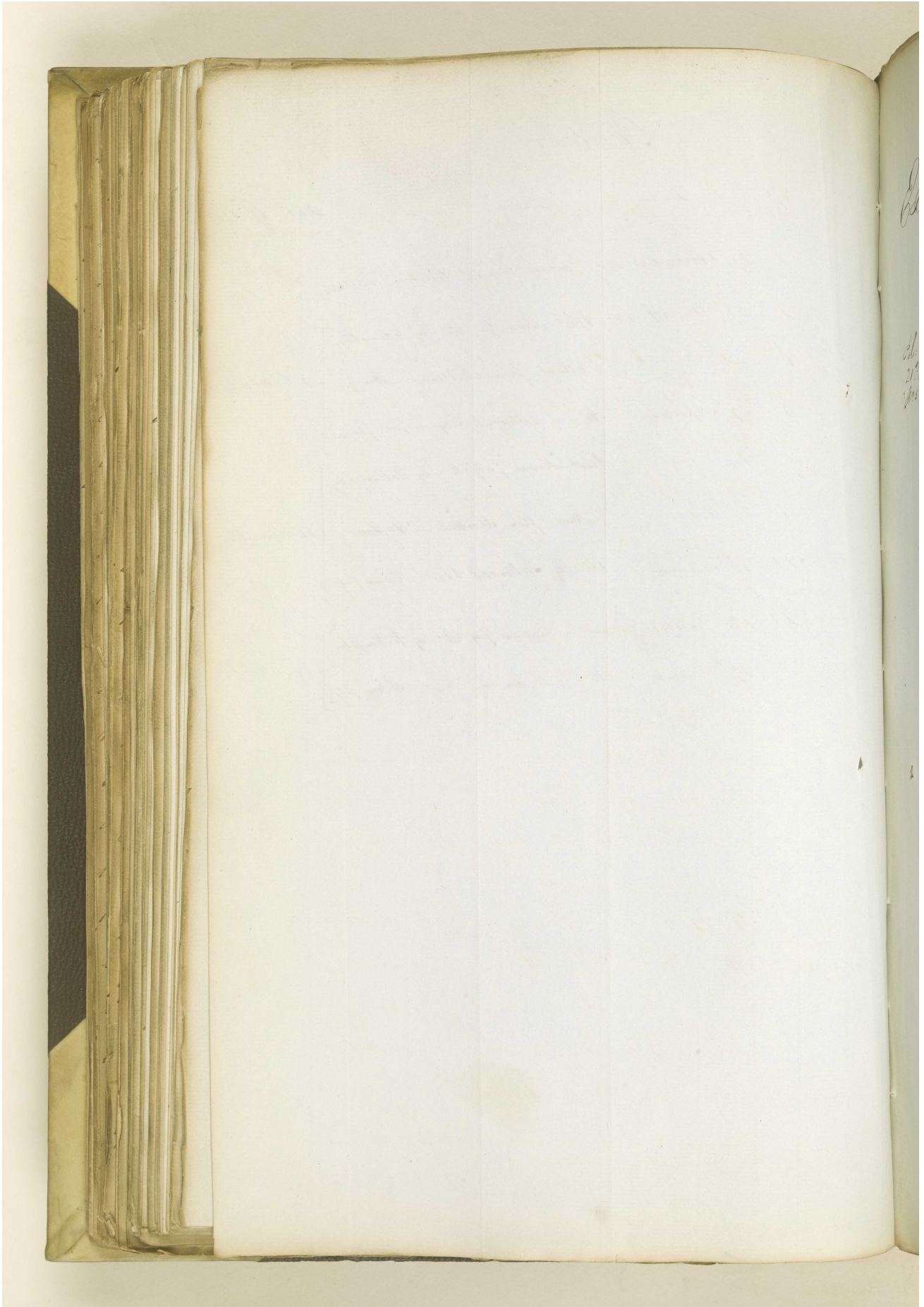


'Persian Gulf - affairs of' [164v] (8/38)



Contents				
Page	Date	From	To	Date of Copy
1	27 th November 1839	Part of Bombay Court of Directors		
5	27 th August 1839	Rest-Persian July th Mr. Sir Willoughby		
6	—	Extract from Mr. Elliot's Answer		3 October 1839
8	27 th September	Mr. Sir Willoughby to Mr. General		
9	24 th —	Rest-Persian July th Mr. Sir Willoughby		
11	25 th August	Trans. from Mr. Elliot's Answer		21 November
21	16 th November	Mr. Sir Willoughby Rest-Persian July		
23	19 th October	Rest-Persian July th Mr. Sir Willoughby		
27	17 th December	Mr. Sir Willoughby Rest-Persian July		19 th December

'Persian Gulf - affairs of' [165v] (10/38)



Extract Political Letter from Bombay
Dated 27th November (No. 43) 1839

Ed. Com 1838 Para: 423. With a letter dated
27th Nov: the 24th September (No. 76) 1838 Captain
Hennell forwarded for our information,
translation of a letter from the Native
Agent at Shargah from which it
is gratifying to perceive that although
the animosity which has for so
long a period subsisted between the
Joasmeed and Baryas Chief continues
unabated, and every opportunity is
taken of prosecuting it on shore,
yet the peace by sea remains unbroken
and uninterrupted.

144 With a letter dated the 27th
5th Q. 1837 No. 43 1837 August (No. 76) 1838 Captain Hennell
the Resident in the Persian Gulf
forwarded for our information, extracts
from a letter from Moollah Housseini
the Native Agent at Shargah reporting
the proceedings of the maritime Chiefs on

166

the Arabian Coast, and stating that
no disturbances whatever had taken
place by sea, and that the
different Tribes were peaceably employed
in the Shark Fishery upon the banks.

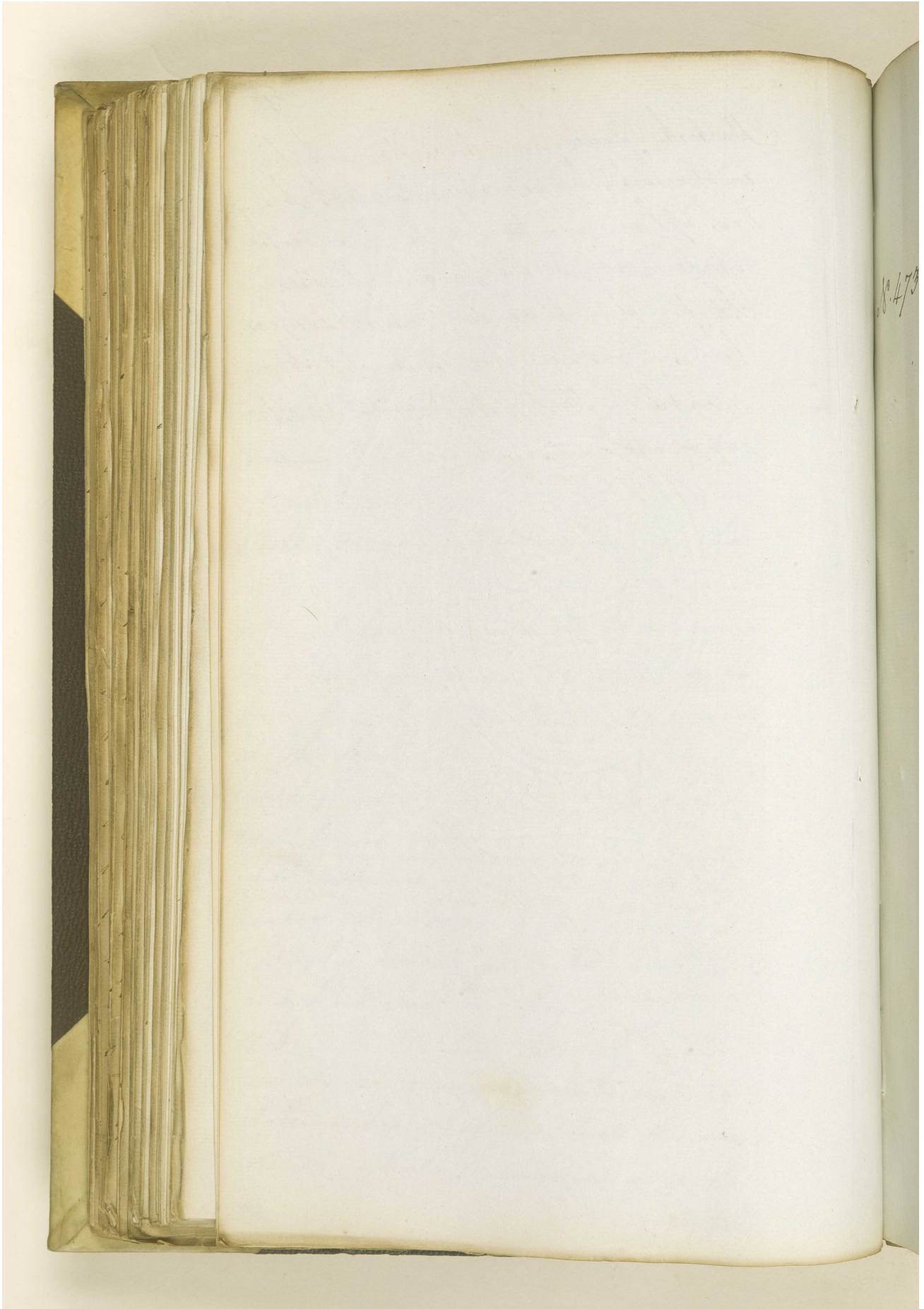
45 On the 13th October last
Captain Hennell the Resident in the
Persian Gulf reported that Solemanben
Jafar ben Asfar one of the principal
Wholesale Merchants of Bahrein had
on the 8th of that month paid him
a visit for the purpose of soliciting
his interference in obtaining redress
from the Chief of Kishen on account
of the death of an individual in his
employ alleged to have been shot by
one of the followers of the Chief
when approaching the shore for the
purpose of conveying on board a
Bungla certain goods belonging to the
merchant above mentioned.

Pub. Com. 1838
19th Dec.
1860 99420

46 Captain Hennell very
properly in our opinion informed
Solemanben Jafar that this was a
case in which the interference of the
British

3
British Government could not be
authoritatively exercised and that his
best plan would be to procure the
interference in his favor of the
chief of Bahrein, whose subject
he is, when the sheik of Hakeen
might probably be induced to offer
reparation.

'Persian Gulf - affairs of' [167v] (14/38)



Extract Bombay Political
Consultation 3rd October 1830.

N^o 70 of 1830

Political Department

N^o 4736. From Captain S. Kennell
Resident in the Persian Gulf
To, J. P. Willoughby Esquire
Secretary to the Government
Bombay

Dated 27th August 1830.

Sir,

In doing myself the honor
to enclose for the information of the
Honorable the Governor in Council the
accompanying Extract of a Letter
from Moollah Houssein the Native
Agent at Shargah reporting the
proceedings of the maritime Chiefs
on the Arabian Coast. I have much
satisfaction in stating, that up
to the 12th Instant, no disturbances
whatever had taken place by Sea,
and that the different Tribes were
peaceably employed in the Pearl &
Fishery (168)

Fishery upon the Banks. -
Residency in the - } I have the honor to be
Persian Gulf Bushire } signed/ J. Hemmell
27th August 1838 - } Resident in the Persian Gulf

Extract of a Letter from Moollah
Hoofsein agent at Shargah to the
Resident in the Persian Gulf dated
21st Jumadee ool Uwwul 1254 or 12th
August 1838.

Kuleefa bin Shakloot
has assembled his force and marched
from aboothabee. Some say he is going
to Braymee, others that he intends plu-
ndering Shargah and Rasul - Rhyamah.
Sooltan bin Suggur has assembled his
host and marched towards Braymee.
On the 10th Jumadee ool Uwwul he ar-
rived at vade distant 10 fursaks from
Shargah having about 100 people with
him, and was joined at that place by
Muktoom bin Butaie (Shaikh of Debay)
with about 50 Horsemen - Humaid
bin Rashid bin Humeed Shaikh of
Ejman also joined with 20 followers.
Many

many suppose that they design #
capturing the Fort of Braymee, in
order to neutralize Kulcefa bin Shaik-
boot's influence in that district-
Others say that their object is to #
destroy the fort of Shakboot which
is in Braymee - Kulcefa bin Shaik-
boot and his force are at Kuttum
which is one and a half days journey
distant from Braymee, observing #
Looltan bin Suggur's operations - each
is trying to outwit and deceive the
other - at sea there is neither distur-
-bance nor plundering thanks to your
Sircar, and all are busy at the #
pearl fishery.

True Extract

Signed J. Edmunds
Assistant to the Resident

True Copy

Signed J. Hennell
Resident in the Persian Gulf

From

(169)

N^o 1851 of 1838.

8.4737

From the Secretary to Government
Bombay

To, The Secretary with the Right Honora-
ble the Governor General of India

Dated 27th September 1838.

Sir,

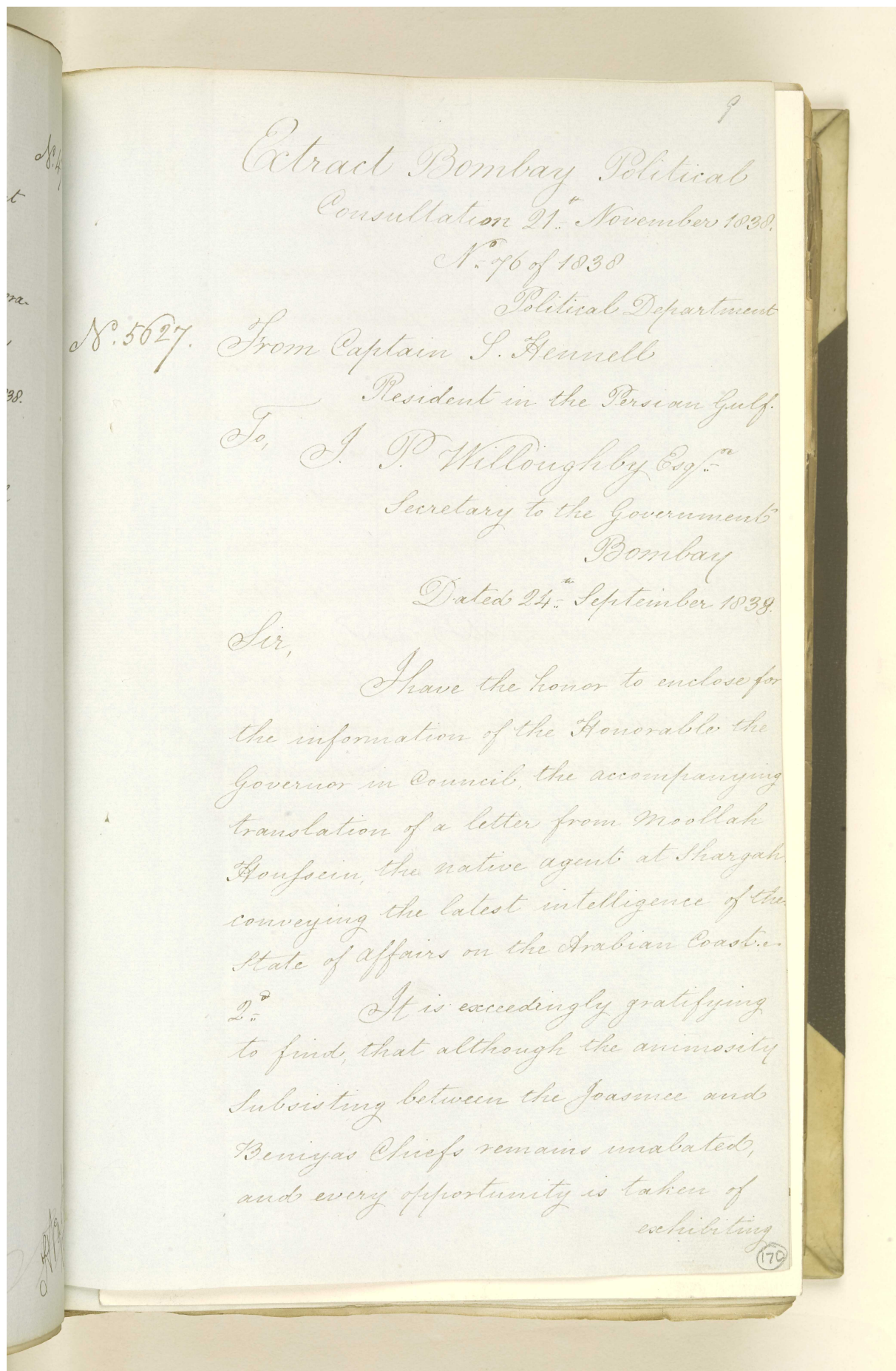
I am directed by the Honble
the Governor in Council to transmit to
you for the purpose of being laid before
the Right Honorable the Governor General
of India Copy of a letter from the Resident
in the Persian Gulf dated the 27th Ultimo
forwarding Extract from a letter from
the Native Agent at Sharga reporting
the satisfactory intelligence that up
to the 12th of that month tranquillity
continued to prevail in that quarter.

Bombay Castle - } I have the honor to be
27th September 1838 } Signed J. P. Willoughby
Secretary to Government.

True Extract -

" L. Reed

Actg Chief Secy -



exhibiting it on land, yet that the
truce by sea remains unbroken and
uninterrupted.

3.^d The proceedings also
reported to have taken place with
reference to Mohamed ben Suhar are
upon the whole satisfactory, as they
shew that the chiefs are aware of the
responsibility attending the protection
of a person who is known to have been
guilty of piracy. The robbery of the
Batinah boat by Mohamed ben
Suhar who is the brother of the noto-
rious pirate Sultan ben Suhar, whose
atrocious proceedings in the murder of
the crew and passengers in the Karrack
boat have already been reported to the
Government took place in April
last. The goods which the individuals
concerned in this piracy offer to restore,
exceed those specified in the list sent
to me from Muscat, and therefore their
restitution might have been accepted
as an atonement, but I have reason
to believe that a passenger on board
of

11
of the Batinah boat lost his life on
the occasion in question I have
therefore in my reply to Moollah
Houssein informed him, that if the
Sheikh of Giman still refuses to give
up Mahomed ben Suhar, that I
shall not only hold the Chief Respon-
-sible for the property plundered,
but that he will be made answer-
-able for the Decah or the price ^{of} blood.
Should the report of the murders
of one of the persons on board the
plundered vessel prove to be well
founded.

Residency in the - } I have the honor to be
Persian Gulf Bushin } signed J. Hennell
24th September 1838 } Resident in the Persian Gulf

Translation of a letter from
Moollah Hussien Agent at Shar-
-gah dated 4th Jumadeeool Tanee
A. H. 1254 or 25th August 1838, to
Captain Hennell Resident in
the Persian Gulf.

I was at Lingar intend-
-ing (171)

intending to go on to Bassadore when
I heard that Mohomed bin Lohar
and those belonging to his vessel
had returned from the Pearl Fish-
ery and had proceeded to Shargah.
at that hour I set off for Shargah
and when I arrived at that place
his brother Abdolla bin Lohar
was there and gave out that having
committed no crime he was not
afraid of being seen there - Mahom-
med bin Lohar and his people
went to the Shaik of Ejmann on
the 22^d Jumadeeool Uwwal and
agreed with him that they should
be allowed to settle at, and bring
their families from Shargah to,
Ejmann without hindrance.
The Owner of the Buggara (vessel)
with the Seamen had gone to their
own homes at Gira, Fushk and
Shargah Shaik Sultan bin
Luggur and his Son Luggur are
absent at Braymee, and at this
time

10
time Saala bin Suggur is acting as
governor of Shargah, and to him I
applied regarding this affair of Mahomed
bin Suhar: as to the acts that he
had committed at sea in capturing
the Buggara belonging to the people
of Batina; and mentioning that
although for a long time back I had
been urging Sooltan bin Suggur to
make every endeavour to apprehend
him, he was now allowed without
any opposition to settle and reside
at Ejmann - I further told Shaikh
Saala bin Suggur that Sooltan bin
Suggur being absent, it was incum-
bent on him, who filled his place, to
seize on him (Mahomed bin Suhar) -
When Saala bin Suggur had heard
what I said, he sent a person accom-
panied by a party of twenty men to
Ejmann, and a note to the Shaikh
of that place saying that "Mahomed
bin Suhar who has committed such
and such deeds has gone to reside at
your place, and therefore it is necessary
to

(72)

to recover from him all the property
which he has obtained by robberies
at sea, for the Sircar / English / is de-
manding these things from Soltan
bin Suggur, because he is a native of
his territory, therefore do you offer no
impediment to their recovery, and
do you give over to the people sent
Mohomed bin Suhar and all his
people implicated in these doings.-
Ali bin Rashid (the son of the late
Shaik of Ejmann) would not agree
to give them up, but sent some of
his people to Saala bin Suggur, to
represent that Mahomed bin Suhar
having sought an asylum with him
he could not for his honor and credit
sake give him up; but that he was
willing to give restitution for his,
his sons or slaves' share of property
obtained by plunder and piracy, even
should he be obligated to raise the
amount by taxing his own subjects:
but that as regarded the share of
plunder awarded to the owner and
the

15

the men of the Buggara who are scattered about in their own Country, at Fushit, Bira, Sharjah, &c. he (Shalabin Suggur) was himself able to recover it from them and therefore he (Ali bin Rashid) would not make himself responsible for it - Numerous notes have passed between Saala bin Suggur and the son of Rashid bin Humaid on this subject, but the latter will not consent to give up Mahomed bin Suhar and Saala bin Suggur cannot use force to oblige him to do so, as Sooltan bin Suggur & would be greatly displeased if any quarrel were to arise between his people and those of Ajmann, and Saala bin Suggur is not willing to bring down upon himself ill-will and dispute amongst the people - Saala bin Suggur himself proceeded on the last day of Jumadeeool Uwwul to Ali bin Rashid bin Humaid at Ajmann and I accompanied him - We had a conference with the chief men

men of Ejmann and it was agreed
that Mahomed bin Suhar should
accompany us to Sharjah, and that
by confronting him with the people
belonging to the Buggara with which
he had plundered, the value or quan-
tity of articles taken might be ascer-
tained. accordingly bin Suhar ac-
companied us to Sharjah and had
a conference with the Owner and
Sailors of the Buggara and it was agreed
that every one should restore his share
of the plunder and that for the rest
the thing should stand over until
Sooltan bin Suggur returned from
Braymee: after this Mahomed bin
Suhar returned to Ejmann where he
now is - I am not sure how much
more property was taken with the
Buggara which however they say was
considerable, but from what these
people themselves say it would ap-
pear not to exceed 100 Dollars - I
have heard that the people of Batina
robbed by Mahomed bin Suhar came
to

17
to you at Bushire so you must be
aware of the amount of the property.
If their account agrees with that
of these people it is correct if it ex-
ceeds it you had better write to me
and I will inform the Shaiks - You
know that wise men don't believe
what thieves say they are false and
fearing punishment don't say the
truth. -

In this direction all is
quiet the people peacefully employed
in fishing or otherwise - There is no
infraction of law all being afraid
of punishment from the Sircar. -
Sooltan bin Suggur's subjects have
all of them launched their boats -
Shaikh Said bin Guzeel sent to Sool-
tan bin Suggur stating that he
had sent Sooltan bin Suhar to the
Resident who had sent him on to Chasab.
After arriving there he said that he
belonged to the Joasnee tribe and
that many of the Joasnees were
joined with him in the piracy -

The (174)

The Shaikh of Chaab wrote this to
Said bin Guzeel who writes that it
is difficult to believe, being the af-
firmation of a person not deserving
of credence, but that in consequence
he intended embarking for Bushire
to visit the Resident to clear up
the affair, and that if Captain
Hennell ordered him he would fur-
ther proceed to Chaab to settle it all-
When Looltan bin Suggur received
this note he gave orders before all his
people that his vessels should be
prepared, and that one of his sons
should proceed with them to Lingar
and joining Said bin Guzeel accom-
pany him to Bushire and Bussora;
and that Said bin Guzeel was to
have the control of all of them: and
that on the 2^d of the month Rijab
they should set out from Lingar.-

Regarding Shaiks Looltan
bin Suggur, Muktoom bin Butais,
and Humaid the son of the late
Rushid bin Humaid now at Brayma:

It

19
It is said that when Looltan bin Suggur arrived with his tribe at a Braymee, Beni Ayer the Deputy of Sy-sul bin Loorkee and commanding the fort of Braymee, went out to meet him and afterwards returned to his post but that Looltan bin Suggur did not say any thing to him regarding his affairs. - It is also said that the Chiefs of the Bedowins in that quarter paid friendly visits to Looltan bin Suggur and further that Muktoom with the Beni Kootub tribe who are with him plundered the Bedowin tribe of Awanrsir and took 250 Camels and then returned to Looltan bin Suggur at Braymee. -

Regarding the Penyas-Shakboot himself with 40 of his people is in his fort in the Braymee Country, and Kuleefa bin Shakboot is at Kuttoon near Braymee - When Looltan bin Suggur approached a Braymee they say that a Bedowin tribe

tribe called al-Mowra went to
plunder the Country of the Moonasir
people who are Beni-yas and killed some
of them and captured a great num-
ber of Camels - When the Moonasir
people who were with Kuleefa heard
of it they returned to their own Country
and Kuleefa proceeded to Absoothabee
on the 25th of Jumadeeool Uwwal intend-
ing to recall his people from the Pearl
Fishery to do service in the interior,
but the Chief men of Absoothabee and
Sooltan bin Sulama and Esau bin
Sareef would not consent to their
leaving the Pearl fishery in the mid-
dle of the season - on the 3rd of jumadee
ool Saanee he returned to Kutturn with
a reinforcement of 200 of his people.

True Translation

(Signed) J. Edmunds

Assist^t. Resident Persian Gulf

True Copy

(Signed) J. Pennell

Resident in the Persian Gulf

N^o.

21

N^o 2219 of 1838

N^o 5028. From the Secretary to Government
of Bombay

To The Resident in the Persian Gulf
Dated 16th November 1838

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 24th September last, forwarding translation of a Communication from Moollah Housien the Native Agent at Shargah, conveying the latest intelligence of the State of affairs on the Arabian coast, and to inform you that the intelligence therein communicated, is on the whole Considered satisfactory by the Honorable the Governor in Council.

2nd You proceedings as reported in the 3rd para regarding the piracy committed on the Batinah boat are approved by

(176)

by Government.

Bombay Castle } I have the honor to beg
16th November 1838. } Signed / J. P. Willoughby
Secretary to Government

True Extract -

" In Aid
Acty Chief Secy.

23

Extract Bombay Political
Consultation 19th December 1838
From the Resident in the Persian Gulf
To
J. P. Wroughton Esquire
Secretary to the Government
Bombay
Dated 13th October 1838

Sir,

I have the honor to report
for the information of the Honorable
the Governor in Council, that Sohr-
man ben Jafar ben Abdol, one
of the principal Moolasses Merchants
of Bahrein, visited me on the 8th
Instant, bringing a letter of intro-
duction from Abdollah ben Ahmed
the Chief of that Island, requesting
my interference to obtain redress
from Sheikh Abdool Rahman of
Kishm, on account of the death of
an Individual, who was shot by
one of the followers of the latter,
when (17)

when approaching the shore for
the purpose of procuring and convey-
ing on board Ben Asfour's vessel,
certain goods saved from the wreck
of the Buglar. Sted. Ally, according
to his agreement made with their
Owner.

2nd After Solomon ben Jafar
had detailed the circumstances
under which his Supercargo
had lost his life, he proceeded to
say, that he hoped to obtain satis-
faction for this outrage thro^{ugh}
the influence of the British Go-
vernment, but otherwise, he
trusted, there was no objection to
measures being taken for the at-
tainment of this object. In reply
I stated that it did not appear a
case calling for our interference,
seeing, that it might have arisen
through a misunderstanding,
that with reference to the ^{other} alterna-
tive, I wished to know, whether
he

25
he adverted to steps contemplated
against the Chief of Kishm by
Sheik Abdollah ben Ahmed, or
whether he alluded to his own
personal intentions. On his reply-
ing that he referred to the latter,
I explained to him that such a
course of proceeding could not be
sanctioned that the person who
had lost his life being at that
time a dependent of the Bahrein
Sheik, it was the part of that Chief
to take up the question, if he con-
sidered the conduct of Sheik. Abdol
Rahman in the affair to be such
as to call for serious notice. I ob-
served, that were once the principle
admitted, that any private In-
dividual receiving an injury (whether
real or imaginary) from
the hands of the subjects of ano-
ther Sheik was at liberty to pro-
secute his own schemes for the
attainment of redress or satisfaction
without

without reference to the views or
intentions of his own immediate
Chief, that the whole of the
Gulf would, under such circum-
stances soon become a scene of
confusion and disturbance. I
added that if the subject were
taken up by Sheikh Abdollah
himself as a substantive power
the case would be different and
therefore his best plan would
be to procure the interference of
that ruler, which being afford-
ed, Sheikh Abdool Rahman
might be induced to offer respa-
-ration for the injury com-
-plained of, rather than incur
the risk of a collision with the
little Chief. With this sugges-
-tion Ben Asfour expressed
himself satisfied, and after
some general observations chief-
-ly upon the unusual success
which

27
which had attended the Pearl
Fishery this year, he took his
departure.

I have the honor to be
Signed S. H. Russell

Resident in the Persian Gulf

From J. P. W. Houghby Esq.
Secretary to Government

To
The Resident in the Persian Gulf
Dated 17th December 1838

N^o 180 Sir

I am directed to acknowledge
the receipt of your letter, dated the
13 October last, reporting the visit
of Solomon ben Jafar ben Asfor,
one of the principal Attobee &
merchants of Bahrain, for the
purpose of soliciting your inter-
ference in obtaining redress from
the Chief of Kishin, on account
of

of an individual in his employ,
alleged to have been killed by
the Persian people; and to in-
form you that the Honble
the Governor in Council is
pleased to approve of your
proceedings on the occasion.

Bombay Castle } Have the honor to be Sir,
17 December 1838. } Signed J. P. Mordaunt
Secy to Government

True Extract -

" J. P. Mordaunt
Actg Secy.

Ed. Gm.