Descriptive Summary
Title: Harford Jones collection
Dates: 1783-1814
Collection Number: mssHJ 1-88
Creator OR Collector: Jones, Harford, Sir, 1764-1847
Extent: 92 items
Repository: The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. Manuscripts Department
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, California 91108
Phone: (626) 405-2191
Email: reference@huntington.org
URL: http://www.huntington.org

Abstract: Collection chiefly consists of correspondence between Sir Harford Jones (1764-1847), Henry Dundas, first Viscount Melville (1742-1811), and Robert Dundas, second Viscount Melville (1771-1851). The collection spans Jones's time in the Persian court.

Language of Material: The records are in English.

Access
Open to qualified researchers by prior application through the Reader Services Department. For more information, contact Reader Services.

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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item]. Harford Jones collection, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.

Provenance
The collection was purchased by the Library Collectors' Council from Maggs Bros. of London, January 2014.

Biographical Note
Sir Harford Jones Brydges, first baronet (1764-1847), diplomat and author, was born on January 12, 1764. On February 16, 1796 he married Sarah, eldest daughter of Sir Henry Gott of Newland Park, Buckinghamshire; they had one son and two daughters. In commemoration of his descent, through is material grandmother, from the family of Brydges of Old Colwall, Herefordshire, he assumed, by royal signature, dated May 4, 1826, the additional name of Brydges. Early in life Jones entered the services of the East India Company, working as assistant and factor at Basrah, 1783-1794, and its president in Baghdad, 1798-1806. He acquired great proficiency in oriental languages, and with the assistance of Robert Dundas's patronage he was appointed envoy-extraordinary and minister-plenipotentiary to the court of Persia, where he remained from 1807-1811. He was attached to the first Persian mission lead by Sir John Malcolm (1801). He remained in Tehran from 1809 to 1810, in the service of the Dundases. During this time his main achievement was the Preliminary Treaty of 1809 that effectively barred France from the route to India. In 1810, his authority in Tehran was crucially undermined by the East India Company, through Lord Minto's appointment of Sir John Malcolm as envoy while Jones represented the crown. Snubbed by the Persians, he reacted furiously. Eventually Sir Gore Ouseley was appointed as London's new ambassador to the Shah and on hearing the news Malcolm decided to leave Persia for India, and Jones was recalled. In 1832 he was sworn of the privy council, and in 1841 was appointed deputy lieutenant of the county of Herford. He died at his seat at Boultnbrook, near Presteigne, on March 17, 1847.

Henry Dundas, first Viscount Melville (1742-1811), politician, was born on April 28, 1742 in Edinburghshire, Scotland. He married Elizabeth (1751-1843), coheir of David Rannie, merchant and shipbuilder. They had four children. In May 1775, Dundas became lord advocate, and in 1782 he became treasurer of the navy. He was elected to Parliament for Scotland in 1790. Dundas was close political ally of William Pitt, the Younger. He became home secretary in 1791, President of the Board of Control in 1793, and secretary of state for war in July 1794. In 1805, Dundas was impeached after a commission of inquiry uncovered accounting transgressions in naval records. Dundas returned to Scotland. He died on May 27, 1811 in Edinburgh.
Robert Saunders Dundas, second Viscount Melville (1771-1851), politician was born in Edinburgh on March 14, 1742, the only son of Henry Dundas and his wife Elizabeth. Robert served as his father's private secretary from 1794, through thinking it also useful for him to be in parliament: he was brought in as MP for Hastings in 1794, Rye in 1796, and Midlothian in 1801. He married and heiress, Anne Saunders on August 29, 1796. The couple had four sons and two daughters. In 1807, after his father's "retirement", he became President of the Board of Control for India. In 1811, he was promoted first lord of the Admiralty. In 1814, he was appointed a governor of the Bank of Scotland, and he was elected chancellor of the University of St. Andrews, and made a knight of the Thistle in 1821. He resigned his political offices in 1830, over debates about the Reform Act, never to hold office again. He died on June 10, 1851 at Melville Castle.

**Arrangement**
The collection is arranged chronologically. It is housed in two boxes.

**Scope and Content**
This diplomatic archive spans Harford Jones's time at the Persian court; it consists of correspondence and documents, most of which are written by Jones. The bulk of the collection is comprised of 71 letters dating from September 1799 to January 1814, all written to, or enclosures intended for, firstly Henry Dundas first Viscount Melville and secondly Robert Dundas second Viscount Melville.

**Personal Names**
Dundas, Henry, 1741-1811
Jones, Harford, Sir, 1764-1847
Malcolm, John, 1769-1833
Melville, Robert Saunders Dundas, Viscount, 1771-1851
Minto, Gilbert Eliot, Earl of, 1751-1814
Perceval, Spencer, 1762-1812
Wellesley, Richard Wellesley, Marquess, 1760-1842

**Corporate Names**
East India Company

**Subjects**
Diplomats -- Correspondence

**Geographic Areas**
Great Britain -- Foreign Relations -- Iran
Iran -- Foreign Relations -- Great Britain
Great Britain -- Foreign Relations -- Middle East
Middle East -- Foreign Relations -- Great Britain

**Genre**
Documents -- 18th century
Documents -- 19th century
Letters (correspondence) -- 18th century
Letters (correspondence) -- 19th century

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**Box 1**

**HG 1-43 1783-1807**

**HJ 1** Fullarton, Colonel (William), 1754-1808. Letter to Henry Dundas, 1742-1811 (1783, Dec. 20)
Palace of Corinbatour

**HJ 2** Unknown author. Letter to Henry Dundas, 1742-1811 (1785, Oct. 25)

**HJ 3** Unknown author. Financial accounts & estimates (1786-1810)
7 items. Note: endorsement dated 25 May 1810 on each item.

**HJ 4** Taylor, Robert. Letter to Henry Dunas, 1742-1811 (1791, Dec. 27)
Tellicherry
HJ 5  Taylor, Robert. Letter to Henry Dunas, 1742-1811 (1792, Feb. 6)
  Tellicherry

HJ 6  [(Chirry, G.F.)] "Copy of the preliminary articles agreed upon and exchanged"
  (1792, Feb. 22)

HJ 7  Taylor, Robert. Letter to Henry Dunas, 1742-1811 (1792, Mar. 13)
  Tellicherry

HJ 8  Unknown author. "The advice in the Revenue Department of the Madras government..." [after 1794, May]

HJ 9  Inglis, Hugh, - 1820. Letter to Henry Dunas, 1742-1811 (1797, Aug. 20)
  East India House

   Clarges Street

HJ 11 Unknown author. "Extract of letters...relative to the action of Genl. Stuart with Tippoo's army...." (1799, Mar. 7 & 13)
  Calicut & Camp near Sedapore.

HJ 12 Jones, Harford, Sir, 1764-1847. Letter to Henry Dunas, 1742-1811 [1799?, Sep. 8 ?]
   Baghdad [Baghdad]

HJ 13 [Dundas, Henry, 1742 - 1811]. Letter to Sir Harford Jones, 1764-1847 (1799, Dec. 7)
   Wimbledon

   Bupora

   Baghdad [Baghdad]

HJ 16 Jones, Harford, Sir, 1764-1847. Bulletin (1801, Jan 5)
   Baghdad [Baghdad]

HJ 17 Jones, Harford, Sir, 1764-1847. Bulletin (1801, Jan 22)
   Baghdad [Baghdad]

HJ 19 [Aga Mohammed Ally]?. Letter to Sir Harford Jones, 1764-1847 (1801, Apr. 23)
   Isfahan

HJ 20 Jones, Harford, Sir, 1764-1847. "Substance of information obtained from an Armenian merchant...." (1801, May 16)
   Baghdad [Baghdad]
Bagdad [Baghdad]

HJ 23 Jones, Harford, Sir, 1764-1847. Letter to Henry Dunas, 1742-1811 (1801, Sep. 15)
Bagdad [Baghdad]

Bagdad [Baghdad]

Bagdad [Baghdad]

Bagdad [Baghdad]

HJ 27 Qajar, Fath Ali Shah, Shah of Iran, - 1834. Firmaun (proclamation) [1801, Dec. 17]
Tehran

HJ 28 Qajar, Fath Ali Shah, Shah of Iran, - 1834. Firmaun (proclamation) [1801, Dec. 17]
Tehran

HJ 29 Qajar, Fath Ali Shah, Shah of Iran, - 1834. Firmaun (proclamation) [1801, Dec. 17]
Tehran

Bagdad [Baghdad]

HJ 31 Jones, Harford, Sir, 1764-1847. Bulletin (1801)

Bagdad [Baghdad]

Bagdad [Baghdad]

London

HJ 35 Jones, Harford, Sir, 1764-1847. [Extracts of reports re: continuing unrest in Afghanistan....] (1804, Sep. 12)
Bagdad [Baghdad]

[London]
HJ 37  Unknown. "Draft of Instructions for Sir Harford Jones on his Mission to Persia...." (1807, Mar.)

HJ 38  Vaughn, Charles Richard, 1774-1849. Memorial to the Chairman of the East India Company (1807, Aug 29)
        London

        Lincolns Inn Fields

        Wimbledon

HJ 41  Melville, Robert Saunders Dundas, Viscount, 1771-1851. Letter to George Tierney, 1761-1830 (1807, Sep. 3)
        Wimbledon

HJ 42  Tierney, George, 1761-1830. Letter to Robert Saunders Dundas, Viscount Melville, 1771-1851 (1807, Sep. 5)
        Great George St.

HJ 43  Jones, Harford, Sir, 1764-1847. Letter to Henry Dundas, 1742-1811 (1807, Sep. 28)
        Ibbotson's Hotel

Box 2

HJ 44-88 1808-1814

HJ 44  Jones, Harford, Sir, 1764-1847. Letter to Henry Dundas, 1742-1811 (1808, Jan. 7)
        Cape Town

HJ 45  [Minto, Elbert Elliot, Earl of, 1751-1814]. Letter to Sir Harford Jones, 1764-1847 (1808, May 17)
HJ 46  Jones, Harford, Sir, 1764-1847. Letter to Gilbert Elliot, Earl of Minto, 1751-1814 (1808, June 5)
        Bombay

HJ 47  Jones, Harford, Sir, 1764-1847. Letter to Gilbert Elliot, Earl of Minto, 1751-1814 (1808, June 9)
        Bombay

        Bombay

HJ 49  Unknown author. “Extract of the Governor General’s Instructions to Br. General Malcolm....” (1808, Aug. 12)
        H.M. La Nereide

        Bushire

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Bushire

HJ 53  East India Company. Letter to Henry Dundas, 1742-1811 (1809, Feb. 10)
East India House

Tehran

Tehran

HJ 56  Jones, Harford, Sir, 1764-1847. Letter to Robert Saunders Dundas, Viscount Melville, 1771-1851 (1809, Apr. 4)
Tehran

HJ 57  Jones, Harford, Sir, 1764-1847. Letter to Sir Robert Adair, 1763-1855 (1809, Apr. 15)
Tehran

HJ 58  Jones, Harford, Sir, 1764-1847. Letter to Sir Robert Adair, 1763-1855 (1809, May 4)
Tehran

Tehran

HJ 60  Sheffea, ----- , Mirza, active 1809. Letter to John Malcolm, 1769-1833 (1809, May 4)

Tehran

HJ 62  East India Company. Letter to Henry Dundas, 1742-1811 (1809, July 21)
East India House

HJ 63  Jones, Harford, Sir, 1764-1847. Letter to Robert Saunders Dundas, Viscount Melville, 1771-1851 (1809, Nov. 9)
Tauris

HJ 64  Sheffea, ----- , Mirza, active 1809. Letter to Robert Saunders Dundas, Viscount Melville, 1771-1851 (1809, Dec. 5)

HJ 65  Melville, Robert Saunders Dundas, Viscount, 1771-1851. [Memorandum] [approx. 1809]

Tauris

HJ 67  Abul Hassan Khan, 1776-1845 or 1846. Letter to [Sir Harford Jones, 1764-1847] (1810, Feb. 18)

HJ 68  Dundas, Henry, 1741-1811. Letter to Abur Hassan Khan, 1776-1845 or 1846 (1810, Feb. 18)
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<th>Location</th>
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<td>Dundas, Henry, 1741-1811. Letter to Abur Hassan Khan, 1776-1845 or 1846 (1810, Feb. 24)</td>
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<td>Melville, Robert Saunders Dundas, Viscount, 1771-1851. Letter to Abur Hassan Khan, 1776-1845 or 1846 &amp; Mizra Sheffea, active 1809 (1810, Apr. 2)</td>
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<td>HJ 73</td>
<td>Melville, Robert Saunders Dundas, Viscount, 1771-1851. Letter to Abur Hassan Khan, 1776-1845 or 1846 &amp; Mizra Sheffea, active 1809 (1810, June 29)</td>
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<td>HJ 74</td>
<td>East India Company. Letter to Fath Ali Shah Qajar, Shah of Iran, - 1834 (1810, June)</td>
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<td>Culling Smith, Charles, approx. 1775-1853. Letter to “Sir” (1810, Sep. 22)</td>
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<td>HJ 78</td>
<td>Abul Hassan Khan, 1776-1845 or 1846. Letter to Sir Harford Jones, 1764-1847 (1811, Jan. 25)</td>
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<td>HJ 82</td>
<td>Jones, Harford, Sir, 1764-1847. Letter to Robert Saunders Dundas, Viscount Melville, 1771-1851 (1812, [June])</td>
<td>Ibbotson's Hotel</td>
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HJ 85  Melville, Robert Saunders Dundas, Viscount, 1771-1851. Letter to Sir David Baird, 1757-1829 (1812, Aug. 29)
    The Strand

    Grenville St. Brunswick Square

    India Board

HJ 88  [Author unknown]. [Unidentified Persian document] (19th century)