Telephone: VICTORIA 4066.

Mesopotamia Commission,
28, Abingdon Street,
Westminster.

CORRESPONDENCE

with

GENERAL SIR JOHN NIXON.

שי ציק

4

July 6th., 1917.

Dear Sir John Nixon,

letter of the 3rd instant, in which you complain that the Gommission have made no reference to a note affixed by you to your evidence, in which you controvert your answers to questions 11967 and 11958. I find that a proof of your evidence about this (which was taken on the 15th of November) was sent to you for correction early in December, and returned corrected but not signed by you. In the proof so corrected no note, such as you have since inserted, appeared. Inasmuch, however, as the proof was not signed by you, we returned to you for signature a further printer's proof embodying the corrections which you had already made. This further proof was, I gather from your letter, not returned to us with the note in question until some date in March.

The same the four managers are an exercise.

collection and have emplished to the in personal which is been

estrened to in the Repart, what you in 1960s that it was

A witness is not allowed a second opportunity of correcting his evidence, and had it been brought to the notice of the Secretary that you had made further alterations nearly five months after your examination in a proof which was returned to you merely for signature, the matter would have been brought to the notice of the Commission. Unfortunately, however, your signed, corrected proof containing the note in question was put on one side until it should be necessary to send it to the printer for final proof. But had the matter come before me, I doubt if I could have accepted the interpretation which you put upon certain of your answers by substituting the word "them" for "it." Such an interpretation upsets the purport of my question No. 11956 and in fact to make your answer fit in to Lord Donoughmore's question No. 11957 you have to alter the question itself.

Grathe J Pen on

Jamuren

I do not think, however, that the omission from our Report of this somewhat late disclaimer on your part, really affects the Commission's judgment in the matter inasmuch as you have accepted the responsibility of the telegram and have explained to us, in passages which we have referred to in the Report, what was in your mind at the time the telegram was sent.

However, I am most anxious that you should not feel that we have, even unintentionally, in any way misinterpreted your evidence, and I have therefore arranged that in the copies of the evidence which we have sent to the Government your note shall be included.

heropotanies Committeed Lauring & Mr. Marinetin Kat & admitteed Lauring & Mr. Marinetin Marinetin Lauring & Mr. Marinetin Marinetin Lauring & Mr. Marinetin Marinetin Lauring & Mr. Marinetin Lauring ofter its despetch charmed to light the This statement apposes to Course on the moure or my on to Question 11467 air &

General Sir John Nixon, K.C.B., A.D.C. Sedlescombe.

say just not de a could only Eussex. her eferre 6 my earners & Oneshin 11958, when demilled to my sometime to my s

Grath Jorn in

Samularan

Selleocombe. Leson. 3. lug. 497. From Erneral Sir Tolue Nicon. Kes Bollhund doch Right Honble Cury Hamilton. G. Q.S.1.
Chairman mesopotamina Commission. on pape)) of the Report of The heropotamia Commission it is Stated that I admitted having som it, (Free telegram so 940/25 1 the 7. " Deluter 1915 relating to the want of the day after its despetch " This statement appears to be Courde a the mower as originally ventre to Question "1957" die yn Gestion, which bayan say just noor de could only Leve referred to my auxure s Questin 11958, when desimitted I saw them The bounded the say heat day. The words them mich aros our the words them I desin to call your attention Gretty I saw in won't) in ! / soms some

to my auswer to bread in 11928 the same day I carred concrise that I should admit, Except mucho a misupposehension, what I had denied a four humilles porrously; morrors, when in march lest, dures asked to sign to the correctules or otherwise of my Enidence, despute correr with the roles. wirested of initialled", and the note works bitte reference to Rneshin 195) was as follows: " Safoforer to have misepforthunded there questions. if was the wounded I saw the test day, chair he reallection of raing the telegram". If I had thought that the Commission del not accept by corruin, I bould have asked to be allowed to make the amendment byon there The position is that an advission is crudition bre which I; at no time, interiore to make, to ils apprerance in the report is to ruy projudice. Than tenfon the lowers to request that, in jactie tome, yn will his Rich as to take wet otypes as may in Laceson to make their clear to The Errinwent, That I die not make, 4 ceps word misapproblesia, and do rul make that acrinssion that, before the upor was published, I hudesvound to correct the wrong impossosion from to the I lear the long tote, Sis. Commission your oberiat known. Tolubecon. Esurral

THE PARTY HOUSE,

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Dear Sir John Nixon,

I enclose you a copy of Major William's which

copy of my letter with the original. It is being circulated to and with

the Commission.

and we back the wigners and williams I am sorry we have not yet a printer's and the we

proof of your corrected evidence; we are awaiting this.

When yours sincerely

John win GLAS.

General Sir John Nixon The Manor House Sedlescombe Sussex.

tuch Mirine. Hat is

STATION, BATTLE 3 MILES.

15.74.497.

THE MANOR HOUSE,
SEDLESCOMBE,
SUSSEX.

Screter. mesopotamie Commission will you Kindly send me a copy of my sondence with the last Corretions adord which I signed? and will you also I soul we hark the original and elso a copy of major los Mianes latter to me and tree me where it is - or is to h motertre in the provereducy. dolutusin' Gen!

Ewalate Mayon XXIII STATION, BATTLE 3 MILES. TEL. IX3 BATTLE. 2. 7st.ysz. 19 19 M 11768 my leer Duff. Le continua tron of on conversation in the telepolour, I send you the latter Suporter of begarding that telegram about the bounded -The writer of the latter is major billiams, who was my assistant military Scenetary & hows to Same post with Erwal mans u hesofsotamie nom. wrote and askers him to bet me Know what he could about the telegram & you me his reply. The other better to which

Frentt,

. BELOW SOWAN BAT hilliams refers came hothe same post treached me yesterday. His BEMOSTRUBER The major Ra. Cessels mentioned suprosoros (their. was in buchular 455 thed. a. a. 9. of my Hand Questoss and the briter is M. Coloure C.B. builter Then (and) bakin now) A. Q. m. 9. of my Head Quarters , tomoequest tott on the administration that I have the Force of Casosto is how there there is a casosto is how a casosto is how G.S.O. I ptu 14" Division in meropotania I sid not Catel ym yesterday. apms smet Soluties

3/11 8. 34. 97

THE MARCH HOUSE

SADS FOR SHADE

9.2.1917

Suretray margoracuia Commence

will you Kindy tell med of HeleDear Sirjam major Williams

In reply to your letter of February 8th

I am directed to say that Major William's letter is

being copied and circulated to the Commission.

Consideration to be direct

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

Assistant Secretary

General Sir John Nixon The Manor House Sedlescombe 8.24.497.

THE MANOR HOUSE, SEDLESCOMBE, SUSSEX.

Suretag merpsvaenia Commonia.

Will you Kindy tell me ih

Will you Kindy tell me ih

Major Williams

the letter from major williams

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or how who has born planed them

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the Commission of tehen auto

Consideration as soi dence:

Sur leed ?

THE REPORT OF MILES Married Barrell 17. m. 476

Sent 1.1.17

THE MANOR HOUSE. SECLESCOMME. SUSSEX.

7.2.1917.

my dear Daft

Dear Sir: - May humble afactogico

In reply to your letter to Mr. Duff of

February 2nd. he asked me to say that the matter

the proof ymlaw will be laid before the Commission at their next

the Meeting.

my last sing's widered.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant.

will yn freak later a copy of my Link lays yourse

Att the the second of the seco

Hand My Laststant Secretary.

General Sir John Wixon. 4. 6. price 4 4

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Maken Sussex.

Sedlescombe of from Reforming

in august portator

STATION, BATTLE 3 BATTLE. 27. mr. 476.

THE MANOR HOUSE. SEDLESCOMBE. SUSSEX.

my dear Duff.

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asovon es D car. will yn Mass send me later i copy of my fish lay's yourses the last day i snidmee. Ifind in my brandy clause I pat dem by. as price 4 c Eten ticket from Robertotrip to London in august roctober

LIZZON ROMAM ENT LI have descorred will gue han in Jums smuit Solube et

24.11.1916.

81.11.1916

Dear Sir John Nixon,

Your telephone message of this merning informing me that you had not received any proofs of your evidence.

I find that we already have a proof of your First Day's evidence corrected by you, and my staff assure me that your Second and Third Days' evidence was also sent.

In case, however, these two latter days' evidence may have been mislaid in the post, I am forwarding another copy for the favour of your correction.

That wheeliant Servant.

General Sir John Nixon The Manor House Sedles combe

Sussex.

Assistant Secretary

21.11.1916

Dear May John Mixon,

November 2016

Dear Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt this morning of your account of Travelling Expenses, which will be duly forwarded account of Travelling Angle to the Treasury for settlement.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

Assistant Secretary

Andleten 300

General Sir John Nixon The Manor House Sedlescombe

E/35

November 3rd 1916

3. Not 18. 48.

Dear Sir John Nixon.

The Commission have decided to hear what you wish to say on your "Heads of Evidence", on November 7th, and will, therefore, be glad if you will be in attendance at Committee Room 4, House of Lords on that day at 11.30 a.m.

I will forward, to the address you give in Town. your Statement on Sir E. Barrow's evidence, as soon as it Your obedient Servant, comes from the printers.

I beg to remain.

Car And Complete

and wormen fruit remaining in anunità 1-3 uprin promis

The Manor House

Sedlescombe

Sussex.

General Sir John Nixon of the Assistant Sec. lang armin have much 24. Orman guerma ary frances. S. Maria Helle Jan. Cincle

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Expressione of amunitarion is Concuensurate with the result, or some such phrise. Hat is the componence I want to Est hold til her me hen 2 cepriso 4

Gretty I rem in want Im? Jamesmet

a. 3.11.16. Ladi 20 Salesweb. 2. mr. 416. Scretz, meroprobaccia Comission I did not grasp, me til I recent Im les letter, that I'm writer my comments Ithough it was to be frien mally. Lar um withen, " home main points Mary Barre torne them. hill que let me ou /tim in Ym say I nall be wanted in the print to proof them. I propose to come up to ton a honday by at the Ismior in Paul mall - The luited 12 mice Club - for a when the your shall be strong of digs I fild Place, Horshau of Jam wet wanted with 7". Shall not come to tom in the B?, I will !! thought to Fisher Place t www for may now wanted, but will stay tell for me Parow definity you thank for him and the leaving hen hy lo am. metter 6 th John he sin

29. Oct. C6 16.

THE MANOR HOUSE, SECLESCOMBE, SUSSEX.

November Ast. 1916.

Dear Six:- Dw H .

8 115 4 27 " Det. I should esteem it a great favour if you could return me the typewritten copy of your Notes on General Barrow's evidence, so that I can send it to the printer's immediately. I also enclose a proof of your Statement on the Medical Arrangements; would you be so kind as to correct it, and if possible, let me have it back by return.

I have inspected the files at the India Office, and can find no telegram or telegrams between March 10th and 24th, 1915 discussing the policy of advance, given in your instructions of the

24th March.

I hope to be able to forward you to-morrow the full text of the telegrams 116, and 177 in the Yellow Book, and I beg to enclose herewith copies of telegrams on High Explosives Shells and

ammunition, which I trust are what you were asking for.

I believe there was another series which you were anxious to see, but I am afraid that General Duff's Staff cannot lay their hands on them, without a few further particulars; if you could let me have these I will ask them to make another search.

I beg to remain,

Jumes 4 this

General Sir John Nixon The Manor House Sedlescombe Sussex.

India of a standard of the form

22 24 STATION, BATTLE 3 MILES. THE MANOR HOUSE, BALLY3 BATTLE. SEDLESCOMBE, 29. Oct. C. 16. SUSSEX. ym 2/15-427. oct. bear ont. many thanks for ording we the
Turns of the time c/2 ser 3 offer tilling ene chout the hunt for the Wepour about High Enphroises and that theyram about, the 10,000 du munition. I Leve found a copy . His the latter half Tuen for Ahwes. f vo 116 in the gullow book 'collection which has been omitted by the hunin office. Ifind a provin & 122 her hou omittet also. Jumes if then Ku

en eny word omissions my ripsy on p 54 bol it was to the haia Mice - down not awar that mand a . ecnelive it was to prote 1.B. commission. ; adm Jaroll heavy for the 7.4 November hat you will tell me the lover Ho MEA, 1915 of the how to get to the place tres III 03 boa **all** Jum smuf. eno lune. Tiedi V Bisas Jaculucon

Sadlocombr. oct. 416. Suntari hisosportania Commission. I snelvre 7m my rote on the hurial, side of the Inquiry. will you Wied frank on the proof of it when it is printed it is printed When my other wite, an prinche will Ju said let me tur cysics of sach and of this one too in the consefor me to larl whomb with. Coned prosts I han ever of ranger paan from don't pure don't pure Jethin wo. wi yel. them in which with. Hurr you you made the word Whice produce treezement women the to? mind 24. march 1915 hourse the Smety of that fouring in which must have been discussed the suns frois & adrawa frim me in my Tuchnehim of the ne: heart

October 27th 1916.

Dear Sir John Bixon,

The Documents you asked me To get for you:-

- The Secretary of State's Telegram of the 4th Dec. No. C243.
- Please see this enclosed.
- II. Telegram from Sec. of State to India and repeated to you towards the end of April 1915, suggesting that 10,000 men might be sent to

We cannot trace anything as to this, other than Telegram 152 in the Yellow Book Collection, which is dated July, and only refers to Query - Has the 2,000 become 10,000 in course of 2.000 men. transmission by Telephone or Telegraph?

III. Telegrams from the Indias as to High Explosives and Ammunition are being hunted up by Duff's Staff and will be forwarded to you when I get them.

IV. Paragraph 26 in your "Heads of Evidence".

Is not your reply to the India Office as to questions on Medical Arrangements that which is printed on page 84 of Vol.II of the Appendices to the Vincent-Bingley Report?

I have provisionally arranged with the Commission that they will ask you to appear on Tuesday November 7th, and will then give you an opportunity of saying all you wish to say on your "Heads of Evidence": this will then be taken down verbatim and printed, and the Commission will in the succeeding week eross-examine you on what you have said on Nov.7th, and also on the other Statement of Evidence which we are having printed for you.

General Sir John Nixon The Manor House Sedlescombe. This arrangement, of course, implies that we shall on Nov.7th only deal with your "Heads of Evidence", and allow you to have your full say on that without putting any cross-examination questions until the succedding week.

I think this is the substance of what we agreed over the telephone.

I shall be glad to have as soon as possible your reedited Statements on the Vincent-Bingley Report and on Barrow's Evidence, upon which I understand you are now engaged.

Believe me.

Yours faithfully,

copy.

Sedlescombe 23rd Oct.1916.

Sec.

Mesopotamia Commission.

I am obliged for the printed copy of part of my Statement, for correction. I have made alterations and corrections and trust . Please look at para 10 of "River Steamers". I speak of an ahalysis being here". I presume you are you will have them ? taking it out and putting it in as an appendix - is that so?

I enclose you a further paper which I would like you to print and let me see a proof if you will.

Your question as to the three pt typed-written statements-The Heads of Evidence is what you asked me to make out. I thought that my evidence on these points would be oral: these?are evidently matters which have not been made clear to the Commission and could I not address them on these? Some matters I put down would perhaps not and the territory require entering into now.

As regards my comments on Barrow's evidence he seemed to me to suggest the wrong conclusion so often, and to contradict himself that I must in my own interest call attention to them, and in thes same manner the Vincent-Bingley Report.

I will talk to you over the telephone to-day and settle about it. If not I will come up on Wednesday.

Yours sincerely John Nixon. March Land Commence Com

Oct.23rd.1916

Inster as of potaming I I am Timen obligate to you for

Dear Sir John Nixon, which of many Communication of the Communication of In accordance with our telephone conversation this morning, I am returning to you your two typed statements. My proposal is, subject to what you think best, that you should see whether it is not possible to put some or all of those into a connected statement like those you have sent us under the heading of Policy, River Steamers, etc?

H. S. G. Hally yours. 6. a copy of my orsers, my instructions, 5 - Rendery and I make to grand points on which I was record

General Sir John Nixon

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The Manor House Sedlescombe Sussexies of the same of the s

John With.

Sidleocombi. 16. oct. 4916.

Suretay. heoopsotamia Commission Jam ruch oblijne toga for smaning me the types copies of my Comments on Comme Branows Endree and the Vinesnt-I snelssé y n my comments on the following. Brigley Commission. 1. Pairer Strawers 3. allegra Josephones of two Hatt. 2- Policy. 4. S. G. Hattaway 6. a copy of my morrow, my instruction, and 5. Railway . and down special paints or which Iwas would Hym would be 10 m Rived as Whan them typen to, surner h word pretipe ; as Than we copsies of them and can for nothing

done here.

John beson Card.

Telephone: VICTORIA 4066.

Mesopotamia Commission, 28, Abingdon Street, Westminster.

p/88

October 20th 1916.

Dear Sir John Nixon,

I am having printed and will send to you, if possible to-day, or at any rate to-morrow, your Statements, as to

- River Steamers. 1.
- 2. Policy.
- Alleged secretiveness of Staff. 3.
- Surgeon General Hathaway, and his status. 4.
- Railways. 5.

I am not sure what you want done with the other three typewritten Statements which we have done for you, viz:-

- Comments on Sir Edmund Barrow's Evidence.
- Vincent-Bingley Report. 2.
- Heads of Evidence.

They do not seem to be quite in the form in which we should print them as your evidence in chief, which we would, of course, do with the Statements we are sending.

I expect we shall be wanting to take your evidence in & week or two now: would it not, therefore, be better if we could have a final interview, when you could explain to me exactly the form in which you wish to give evidence?

The Commission meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays, but on any other day, except Saturdays, I am at your service.

General Sir John Nixon,

The Manor House

Sedlescombe.

Sussex.

D/67

October 13th 1916

Dear Sir John Nixon,

If you will send me in the further addition to your Statement, we will gladly have it typed at such times as my staff can fit it in.

I am returning to you herewith one of the papers you left with me; you will notice there are several gaps, where we have been unable to read your writing: perhaps you will be kind enough to fill these in.

A further section will follow tomorrow.

In regard to your letter of yesterday I have not got the Force Organisation Orders, Force "D", and I fancy we shall have to wait for these and many other particulars until we can have access to the papers which the Commander-in-Chief is bringing home with him.

So far as I can see the Commission will probably be ready to hear you in about a fortnight's time, so that we ought to hasten on and get printed all the Statement of evidence which you wish to put in.

General Sir John Nixon

The Manor House

Sedlescombe

Sussex.

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11. act. 416. Surety herop at amia Commission. may thanks be your of 61 of yesterray. I am som i nid unt muche uyort eleve in my frist regnest. Sis S. Barrow impshes (Questions 317. 1.9 spara 20 of his crime on page 6) that the change for a purely prossing definee to the offension, moral in by we knichono it is the sw has well has tota lucia The tile the 2 th my warm my · unshackions "reached the hisia , Thice . It yellow hooks cuetains no tilegrams homes The Swetzy of State and during from the 10 " he and bottom & April It some to me improved that dudia should have made buch a reversal policy without my better the Inretay better of April. wes want to ha lighest for the production which went han Taken which went han Taken of the work han to the first of the work o place to primit the line. to issue me the " In Metrono" he did sours. Can Em assistación flet mã Rum what that The point in my array for his correspondence was ? of husbre criephs, report was to show that he had reporter, before here's one concurand, the pravider eisneis in the nursed orpartural. betreprint this depende in attempt. Their was made to remark them the which willy Bright send tomes they like Leff a million in 1514/15. so long as the is brogen out, it does not maller how it is done , but as the Force before from those org' wisness

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in the near truish way, for which rund is bring theng at run, it is successed to his this hoper the Commission.

the the whole of his or heaves Creaging region, but this is a wester of importance, and I am finite living that it should be brought hopers the tormin sin in the way they think book.

Jaliele con

D/61

October 10th 1916.

In reply to your letter of the 7th inst. we shall not Dear Sir John Nixon, be able to examine the Commander-in-Chief until after we have examined you; therefore, any questions which you wish put to him, you may properly suggest to the Commission when you are being examined yourself. This refers to your enquiry as to the circumstances in which the Commander-in-Chief issued instructions referred to in the first paragraph of your letter.

With regard to the Secretary of State's Telegram suggesting that Nasiriyeh should be given up, I am told that this is in the Yellow Book, which you already have, Telegram 163.

With regard to Sir O'Moore Creagh's Report, I am told that this is a document of 600 pages, and it is a commentary on the Micholson Report and evidence - another 1700 pages. In these corcumstances we are very lath to be immersed in this new mass of matter, unless it is absolutely necessary; and we have not, as a matter of fact, got a copy of these documents, but perhaps you will let me know, why, if it is so, you consider this appalling mass of matter is essential? We then might then talk the matter over.

Genl. Sir John Nixon Sedlescombe

Sussex.

a. 10.1012 a. 13. 10.16 Salles courts. 36 g.oct.416. Sec. meropronenia Com. I have some more notes ready & shall be much obligie if You will knief till me whether you will be to food on to have them types for men -In the soidence unsulivors the paper pauphlet cartaining the on mischin was 1 Force D at the time that I was upported to command. Inall h much whigh if Im will his kind on to obtain rue a repry. Sowies in

TEL. 1X3 BATTLE. 7: oct.416.

THE MANOR HOUSE, SEDLESCOMBE. SUSSEX.

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STATION, BATTLE 3 MILES. Jan much social for your with D. 57 dated yesterday, says that The Lustwehins firm The arms received by letter at the Luna Mice on the 200 may 1915. Iskell to much abliged of Im will Kindy coerstain whether there instructions, involving an entire change of policy, work issued by the Commanor in Chief, without any reference whatever, priving to Their visue, Wheren the terment of Ludie of the Trueray V State, and, if There were any buch references. I represent also I shall he place to be formished that I may h shown them with the uport made by the former Commenon-in-chief, Sural Sir o'hworr Creagh, byon he resigned his approintment, pointing out

REPORT OF THE SECONDS

the deficiencies in the histical Armices in his a with the hyping of 1514.

The there I request to his franches with a copy of the tolepran that by the Turkey of the State to dedica towers the sund of July of State to dedica towers the sund of July 1915 approxing that Newsmith thought he light approxing that Newsmith thought he limited he was the sund of July 100 m up.

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Hersporamin Commission

Telephone: VICTOBIA: 4066.

Copy VI 6 NA

Mesopotamia Commission,

28, Abingdon Street,

Westminster.

7th Oct.1916

I am much obliged for your note D.57 dated yesterday, saying that the Instructions given me were received by letter at the India Office on the 2nd May 1915. I shall be much obliged if you will kindly ascertain whether these instructions, involving an entire change of policy, were issued by the Commander in Chief, whithout any reference whatever, previous to their issue, between the Government of India and the Secretary of State, and if there were any such references I request that I may be shown them.

Also I shall be glad to be furnished with the report made by the former Commander-in-Chief, General Sir O'Moore Creagh, begore he resigned his appointment, pointing out the deficiencies in the Medical Services in India in the beginning of 1914.

Tel 163 Yellow Brol Further I request to be furnished with a copy of the Telegram & sent by the Secretary of State to India towards the end of July 1915 suggesting that Nasiriyeh should be given up.

(Signed) John Nixon Genl.

The Secretary

Mesopotamia Commisson.

General Sir John N. K.C.B.

The Manor House

Sedlescomba

7th Oct.1916

I am much obliged for your note D.57 dated yesterday, saying that the Instructions given me were received by letter at the India Office on the 2nd May 1915. I shall be much obliged if you will kindly ascertain whether these instructions, involving an entire change of policy, were issued by the Commander in Chief, whithout any reference whatever, previous to their issue, between the Government of India and the Secretary of State, and if there were any such references I request that I may be shown them.

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(Signed) John Nixon Genl.

Mesopotamia Commisson.

The Secretary

Oct.6th 1916

The Secretary presents his compliments
to Sir John Mixon, and begs to inform
him that No.107, instructions from
the Commander -in-Chief were received
by letter only at the India Office on
2nd May 1915.

Sir John Nixon
The Manor House
Sedlescombe near Battle
Sussex.

BATTLE 3 MILES. E. N. DA. OZC. STATION, BATTLE 3 MILES.

29. Ssps. 916.

THE MANOR HOUSE. SEDLESCOMBE. SUSSEX.

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Peres you will knish let the Commission per term, should they commission so sleave aelsowlesysthes de son to to so. · John helen

I hard en Mi use letter which I worked for.

Secretary.

Sam John Namon K C B.

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