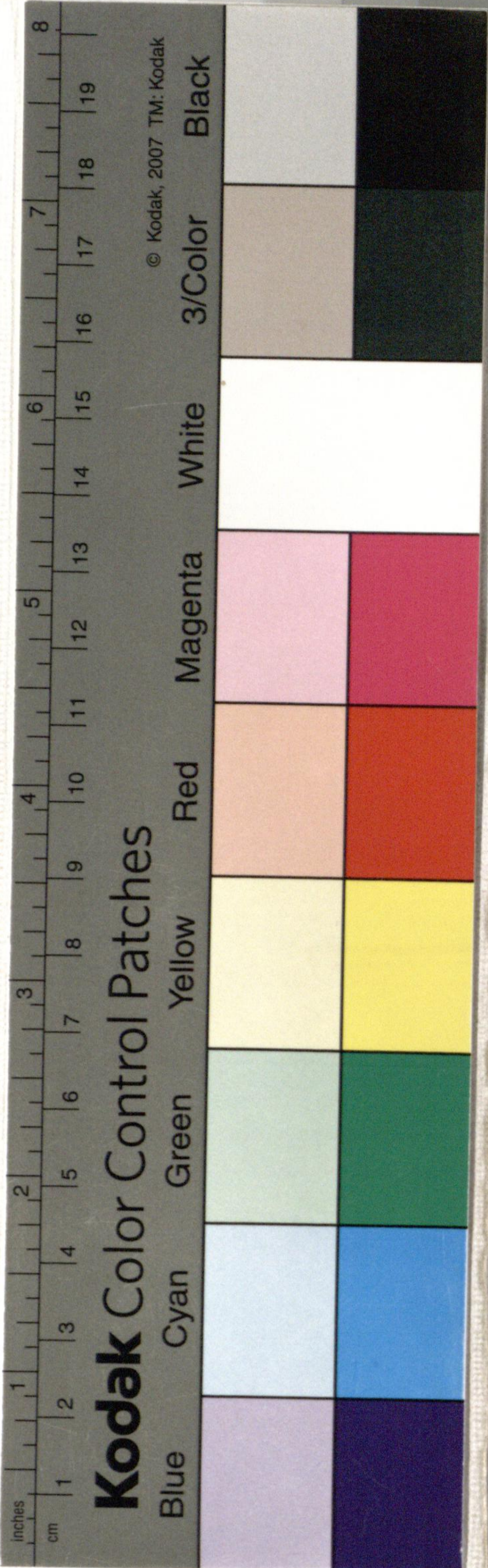


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No. 9.

Copy.

London April 3 1843

My Lord,

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of 1st Inst. informing us that Her Majesty's Government are willing and have determined to recognize the Independence of the Sandwich Islands ~~under~~ their present Sovereigns.

We should be unworthy the trust reposed in us by the King of the Sandwich Islands did we not in His Majesty's name express to your Lordship our grateful sense of the important benefit thus liberally and promptly conferred on the King and his people by the British Government.

In reply to that part of your Lordship's letter in which it is stated that Her Majesty's Government require that British Subjects shall on all occasions and in all respects be treated in those Islands on a footing of perfect equality with all other foreigners residing in them, and that whatever privileges and immunities of any description may at any time be granted to the natives of any other countries shall be simultaneously extended to the subjects of Her Majesty, we beg leave to assure your Lordship that His Majesty the King of the Sandwich Islands will feel himself bound by every tie of gratitude as well as by those dictates of justice by which his conduct has always been regulated to comply with this demand in its largest construction.

It has ever been His Majesty's most anxious

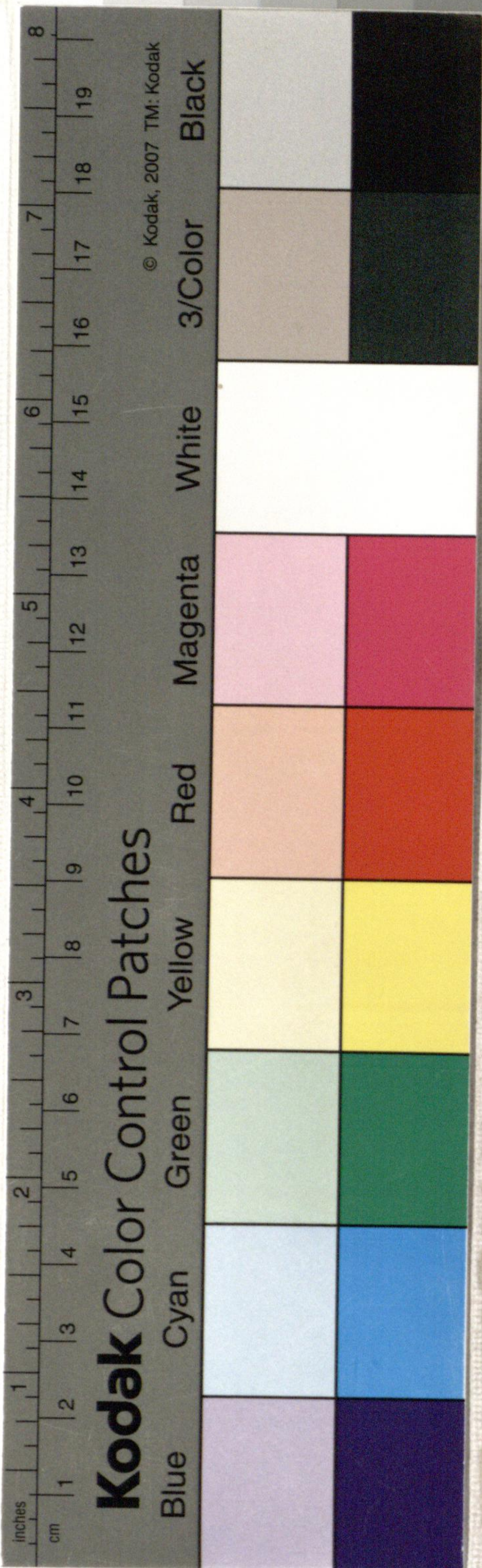
anxious

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anxious desire that justice should be done towards British subjects who may have thought themselves in any way aggrieved. His Majesty will continue to be animated with the same sentiments in future, and we can therefore have no hesitation in pledging ourselves as His Majesty's representatives that the complaints and appeals of British subjects when respectfully preferred either to the sovereign or to the tribunals, shall be immediately attended to, and that the wrongs complained of, if well founded shall be redressed without delay.

Your Lordship remarks that circumstances have recently occurred at the Sandwich Islands with regard to suits instituted before the tribunals by British subjects which lead Her Majesty's government to apprehend that the laws are not always fairly and impartially administered, and that they have before them at this moment complaints and remonstrances of British subjects who have been the victims of alleged undue rigor exercised towards them or of improper partiality exhibited towards their adversaries by the tribunals of the country.

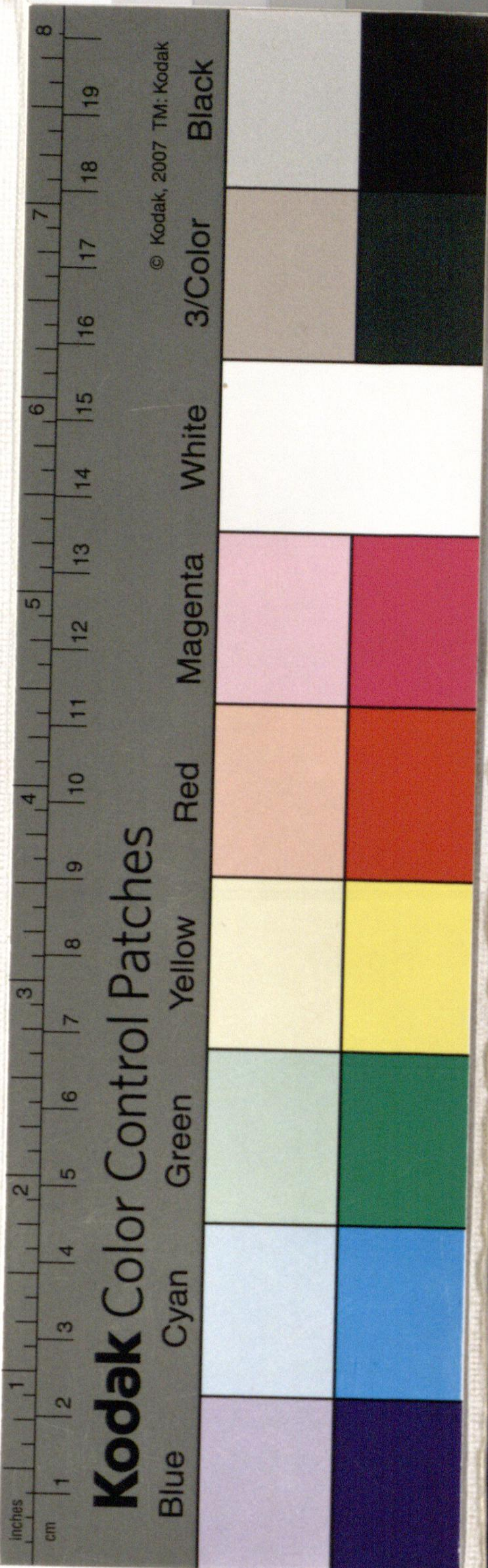
As Your Lordship does not enter into any detail of the cases in which it is alleged that British subjects have been harshly or unjustly treated, we can only reply that there is no wish nearer His Majesty's heart than that the laws should be administered with
the

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the strictest impartiality, without which he is well aware that it can neither inspire confidence nor command respect. It is probable that some of the formalities with which the administration of the law in more civilised countries is surrounded may sometimes have been omitted, but we know of no one instance in which substantial justice has not been done to those who have appealed to the tribunals, and we are prepared, if an opportunity be afforded us to show that there is no just ground of complaint against their decisions.

We have only now to request of your Lordship, that as Sir George Simpson embarks to day for America you will be pleased to receive a letter from His Majesty the King of the Sandwich Islands, by which it will appear that Tugus Richard and Haalilio are empowered to act as His Majesty's Commissioners in the absence of Sir Geo. Simpson.

We have the honor to be
My Lord,
your Lordship's
Most Obedient and
Humble Servants

signed

George Simpson
William Richard

The Right Honorable
The Earl of Aberdeen

1843

Copy of Sir George
Simpson & Richards
letter to the Earl
of Aberdeen

April 3-1843,
in relation to the
above endorsement
of the independence
of the Islands by
the British govern-
ment

Enclosure N^o 7
in Harshie &
Richards letter
to Hornsby in
April 29
1843

[Faint handwritten text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side]

