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Fort Saint George, Political Consultation, 8th June 1858.

No. 1. From Lieutenant General W. CULLEN, Resident of Travancore and Cochin; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 26th March 1858, No. 18.

SIR,

1. I regret to have to bring to the notice of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, a representation which His Highness the Rajah of Cochin has thought fit to forward to his Lordship against the Dewan.

2. I consider His Highness to have been deceived and misled by a few designing persons, His Highness being a young man of weak and nervous temperament, and easily influenced; particularly on points of etiquette between himself and the Dewan, and which are the real and sole grounds on which disagreement has originated and been fomented, although at first endeavoured to be kept out of sight by collecting a number of Petitions with charges of general mismanagement.

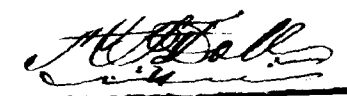
3. On my first visit to the Rajah after my arrival in the middle of January after some complementary enquiries, I alluded to the Dewan's recent visit to Trevandrum without having previously secured leave, but I had at the time of the Dewan's said visit written an apologetic and explanatory letter to His Highness, of which however he takes no notice in his present communication, and while I expressed my regret at the Dewan's rather hasty departure, I pointed out the extreme urgency of the occasion, the hourly expected death of his friend, the late Dewan of Travancore, and that he had previously waited upwards of 24 hours of His Highness' reply to his application for leave. I may notice also that he had some time previously expressed to me a wish to wait on me at Trevandrum, on public business. I was not then aware of any other grounds whatever of disagreement or dissatisfaction; but the Rajah on this visit made some obscure allusions to other complaints and said that he thought the Dewan required an Assistant in his duties, i. e. a Dewan Peshkar, and hinted that if agreed to it would obviate all further discussions. I at once resisted this unworthy attempt at compromise, as well as on the general ground that an Assistant was altogether unnecessary, the Dewan with his ordinary Cutcherry Establishment being perfectly equal to the duties of this small District, that for the last 20 years the Dewan had had no such assistance and that otherwise it was an unnecessary expence at a moment when retrenchment was urgently called for.

4. The person proposed by His Highness was a son of the late Dewan of Cochin, now a Moonsiff in Malabar, and it at once explained to me an intrigue which had been carrying on for some months previously in recommending an unusual public expenditure in connection with the annual obituary ceremony for the late Dewan.

5. I had authorized the disbursement of 1,000 Rupees for the ceremonies consequent on his death, a charge altogether unusual, but which I thought due to the man's character and his valuable services as a Minister; but a few months ago, I was surprised at receiving, through the Dewan, a proposal from the Rajah for the disbursement of an additional sum of 1,000 Rupees to celebrate the annual obituary ceremonies, a proposal which I at once rejected as unprecedented and altogether uncalled for; but if proved even then the existence of a party endeavouring to bring the Dewan into difficulties, the Huzzoor Cutcherry as well as the Talooks being filled with relatives or dependants of the late Minister.

6. I have dwelt at some length on the above facts to prove the existence for a considerable time past of a design to cause the Dewan embarrassment, and as is now but too apparent, all originating in his declining to depart from usage and the orders of Government in regard to the Forms for the transaction of public business.

7. On a second visit to the Rajah, he avoided all reference to the subject of a Dewan Peshkar and adverted only to the complaints of the Dewan's management, stating that there were nu-



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merous Petitions against him about the management of the Salt Department and other branches, and finally objecting to the Dewan's mode of transacting business with himself, insisting that all reports or references on public business should in the first instance be made to himself, instead of the Dewan referring first for the advice and instructions of the Resident, and then communicating these to the Rajah for his formal confirmation, a system that had been in force for the last 50 years.

8. I explained to the Rajah that the Government having approved of the existing system of conducting business, I had no authority to alter it, and in regard to the Petitions, &c., I promised to make enquiries, although I pointed out that many of the charges in the Petitions were palpably false and absurd, and that the rates of purchase and sales of Salt, Tobacco, Timber, &c. &c., were all arranged with and under the written sanction of the British Resident.

9. I subsequently paid the Rajah a third visit, but he had nothing new to state, merely reiterating his former complaints of the mode of transacting business and insisting that the Dewan's conduct should be made the subject of a Public enquiry, as was the case on the occasion of Salt frauds by a former Dewan; but I pointed out that those frauds were discovered by the Resident himself, Mr. Casamajor, and that the enquiry was conducted and disposed of under his own immediate supervision.

10. A report which I drew up for the Rajah but which I was only enabled to dispatch about the date of his own letter to Government, and an abstract of the substance of the Petitions with the Dewan's replies to them, and of which I beg to forward copies, will I hope prove to the satisfaction of Government the entire falsehood of the principal charges, that they have been signed by individuals of the very lowest class of the population, utterly ignorant of the details of the subjects adverted to in the Petitions, and their signatures obtained chiefly by compulsion or intrigue and at the instigation of parties about the Rajah personally hostile to the Dewan.

11. Of the way in which these Petitions have been got up, I cannot give a stronger proof than the list of parties (Ryots of property and respectability) who appeared before me on different occasions to complain of the conduct of the Palace Surwady and other individuals connected with the Palace in endeavouring to persuade them to sign Petitions against the Dewan and threatening them with persecution when they refused. Upon one occasion only did a party appear before me with a Petition against the Dewan. They consisted of 12 individuals and the whole of them were immediately examined by myself. They appeared quite ignorant of the contents of the Petition and when separately questioned, their only complaint was about a scarcity of Salt in the early part of the year 1857, and some petty complaints about the collection of tax in grain instead of money from certain Pagoda Lands and the garden survey now in progress. The collection of tax in grain on Pagoda lands was introduced by the late Dewan in order to reduce the expence of Ootperahs and has been cheerfully submitted to, yet the Rajah himself who holds lands on the same tenure has indirectly resisted the measure, thereby encouraging obstruction on the part of the Ryots.

12. But the most extraordinary instance of the Rajah's weakness and of the reckless misrepresentations of his advisers, is a complaint against the Dewan's brother and adverted to in the Rajah's letter to me, No. 3 of the 13th and No. 5 of the 22nd February 1858.

13. The Dewan's brother Rama Row formerly in the Huzzoor Cutcherry is employed as English Tutor to the Rajah's Nephews. The Rajah being at his Palace at Muttoncherry (Cochin,) Rama Row on the 12th February about 2 P. M. crossed the Back-water from Ernacollum to Muttoncherry to pay his respects to His Highness. He went over without a Single Peon and only one Native friend, visited His Highness and returned to Ernacollum by ½ past 3 o'clock without even having quitted his Boat except at the Palace; yet the day following the Rajah forwards to me his letter, No. 3, with a complaint of 5 individuals, charging Rama Row with having

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crossed with 10 or 12 Peons and having insulted one of the 5 Petitioners, and broke open his door, &c., &c. The story was indignantly denied by Rama Row and his denial is fully borne out by the depositions of the Boatmen and of other individuals on the shore at Ernacollum and Muttoncherry on the occasion.

14. I have subsequently had before me and examined 3 out of the 5 individuals who signed the Petition. Two of them denied that they had signed the Petition at all, and the third, formerly a convict on the roads, acknowledged that he spoke of the asserted outrage from hear-say only, and it is to be remarked that this man's name (a former convict) is attached to all the Petitions and His Highness even condescends to offer some explanation of his conduct. Letter from Rajah to Resident, No. 5 of 22nd February, para: 4. The two remaining Petitioners, I have not succeeded in discovering; but in order to ascertain the facts of the asserted outrage at the house of the individual Ramoony Pillay, I desired the Dewan to have the house inspected by the Tahsildar and the neighbours as to the facts represented, the result is a disproof of the whole story in a report from the Tahsildar who accompanied by 12 Villagers and several head men inspected the house and found that there were no grounds whatever for the charge.

15. In proof of the unfitness of the present Palace Officer called Surwady Kariakar for a confidential Office about the Rajah, I may quote a Teetoorum from him to the Dewan by order of His Highness expressed in the most objectionable terms, so that I can hardly suppose the Rajah to have seen it previous to despatch.

LIST OF ENCLOSURES.

- A. Letter from the Resident to the Rajah.
- B. Abstract of the substance of Petitioners with the Dewan's explanation.
- C. Dewan's explanations on certain paras: of the Rajah's letter.
- D. Translation of a Teetoorum.
- E. Resident's remarks on certain paras: of the Rajah's letter.

ENCLOSURE A.

From Lieutenant General W. CULLEN, Resident of Travancore and Cochin; to His Highness the Rajah of Cochin, dated Trichoor, 18th March 1858.

HIGHNESS,

1. I have been unable until now from indisposition and other causes to draw up any remarks on the Petitions which your Highness gave to me soon after my arrival at Bolgatty, although I saw enough of them at once to satisfy me that they were full of misrepresentations and exhibited entire ignorance of the subjects they pretended to write about.

2. I have subsequently had full opportunity of confirming my original impressions by repeated enquiries from the Dewan himself and by a reference to the Public Records, and I do not hesitate to designate the whole of the Petitions as false and malicious, and my belief that they have been got up by certain parties for other objects than those represented.

3. I regret that your Highness did not at once, as was due to the position of the Dewan, on receipt of the Petitions, send for him. He would immediately have afforded every explanation and would have satisfied your Highness without difficulty by producing his Accounts of the utter groundlessness and absolute absurdity of many of the complaints.

4. The chief subject of representation is about Salt. It is asserted that whereas the late Dewan always employed Hadjee Jacob and Hadjee Mossa, as Contractors for Salt, the present Dewan at great loss to the Sirkar substituted Ellia Rabbi as sole Contractor.

The assertion is a deliberate untruth, for Hadjee Jacob was not only a Contractor for 1032, but is one of the Contractors also for the present year 1033.

5. It is asserted that Ellia Rabbi was never employed under the late Dewan, but this is equally untrue, for I find from the Public Records that he was employed as a Contractor by the late Dewan so long ago as 1025, and again by him in 1032.

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6. The Deposits of money by the wholesale purchasers of Salt was introduced by the late Dewan and has been found to be a most satisfactory arrangement.

7. So far from the Dewan's arrangements about Salt having caused loss to the Sirkar, they have been eminently successful, the Revenue from Salt in 1032, having exceeded that of the previous year by 7,000 Rupees.

8. The purchase price of Salt has risen and greatly during the last year, owing to the troubles in the N. W. ; but nevertheless owing to the Dewan's prudent management, the stock of Salt in the Cochin Sirkar Bankshalls has always been abundant, much more so than in Travancore, or than in the Company's Collectorate of Malabar.

9. The assertions of loss on the sale of Teak Timber are equally destitute of foundation, for the sale of Teak in the year 1032, yielded an average of 20 Rupees per candy, an amount never but once realized before.

10. Equally absurd and unfounded are some other misrepresentations in regard to Tobacco sales, the loss on the Tutocorin Tobacco, &c., the Revenue on which in last year also exceeded that of the year preceding by 11,000 Rupees and it is necessary here that I should remark that all Contracts and all Sales had been previously submitted to and had received the full sanction of the Resident.

11. I have stated at the commencement of this letter my belief that these Petitions have been got up not by the individuals who signed them but by other parties and for other purposes than those stated in the Petitions, for many of the Petitioners, who have since appeared personally before me, have been unable to specify or to explain a single charge. All that they had to complain of was that there had been a scarcity of Salt in 1032, with some petty complaints about the garden Survey and other such trifling matters.

12. The falsehood of the charge against the Dewan's brother Rama Row of having gone over to Muttoncherry with a party of 10 or 12 Peons and having violently threatened one Vada-kadattoo Ramen, has already been proved by the depositions taken by the Dewan on that occasion. Rama Row not having had a single Peon with him and having gone to Muttoncherry exclusively to pay his respects to your Highness and where he did not remain above half an hour, when he returned to Ernacollum ; but of the utter worthlessness of these Petitions generally, I cannot furnish a more and striking instance than in giving the three first names to the Petition against the Dewan's brother on that occasion, viz.

Vellaiyl Ramoony,
Puntheil Cochoo Kristnen,
Araked Shungoony,

now these three Petitioners have been personally examined by me. The 1st and 3rd of them both emphatically denied having signed any such Petition and have declared their signatures to be forgeries, while the 2nd individual, Puntheil Cochoo Kristnen states he was at the Palace on the afternoon of Rama Row's arrival, and that he saw him enter as well as leave the Palace, but he added that he knew nothing whatever of the truth of the asserted complaint against Rama Row further than that some other person had told him of it. A 4th Individual Pulliyil Coonjoo Kristno Menowen has never appeared before me although I hear that he was for one day at Trichoor in company with a Nair Sepoy from Tripoontoray, but he absconded before I could secure his attendance.

13. When your Highness added some remarks on the conduct of the said Puntheil Cochoo Kristnen in your letter of the 22nd February, your Highness could not have been aware that that person had formerly, as a Public Servant, been convicted of embezzlement and sentenced to hard labor in irons on the Public roads.

14. The next subject on which I have to offer remark is the conduct of the Surwady Kariakar in endeavouring to alter the forms of conducting the Public business of the Sirkar.

The present prosperity of this Sirkar I consider to originate entirely in the unrestricted control that the late Dewan exercised over the management of public affairs under the advice of the Resident, a system of management which is enforced in the most distinct and unmistakeable terms in

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the letter from the then Governor Sir H. Pottinger to your Highness' late brother in September 1850, and of which letter your Highness I conclude has a copy, and to which I beg your Highness to refer.

15. I cannot close this letter without again expressing my conviction that these complaints have originated in a combination amongst certain parties to endeavour to bring the Dewan into trouble on other grounds than those stated in the Petitions, and that the Surwady Kariakar has more or less encouraged such Petitions.

As before stated to your Highness, numerous Petitioners have complained to me in person of the interference of the Surwady Kariakar, and also of other persons connected with or in attendance at the Palace, and of these Petitions, I send your Highness a list.

Such being my opinion of this Palace Officer, your Highness will not be surprised at my expressing my hope to see him re-placed by some Individual of greater experience, judgment and temper.

P. S.—A copy of this letter will be forwarded to Government.

ENCLOSURE B.

Abstract of the Substance of Petitions with the explanations of the Dewan.

1.

That Salt had always for 18 years been obtained through Hadjee Jacob, and Hadjee Moossa at a fair price never higher than 25 to 30 Rupees the 100 Indian Maunds.

1.

Supplies of Salt were never exclusively received through Hadjee Jacob and Hadjee Moossa, but also from various other Merchants residing at Cochin, Choughat, Ponany and Bombay, according to the urgency of the time and the demand of the article. A fact borne out by the records. The prices of Salt have varied during the last 18 years from 18 to 29 Rupees per Indian Maund.

In 1026 Salt was collected from eleven different Merchants.

In 1029 from 12 do.
In 1031 from 5 do.
In 1032 from 3 do.
In 1033 from 3 do.

2.

Immediately on the appointment of the present Dewan, he discontinued all connection with Hadjee Jacob, &c., and sent for and employed a Jew Elliah Rabbi and offered him a higher price, on the promise that the profits were to be divided between himself and Elliah Rabbi.

2.

The present Dewan only took charge in Toolam 1032, (October 1856.) The connection with Hadjee Jacob was not discontinued, for he has also been one of the suppliers both for the last year of 800 Coombs, and the present year of 1000 Coombs, Elliah Rabbi is an Agent of a Firm in Bombay and was by no means a supplier newly made choice of by me, as stated in the Petition, for he has been one of the regular Contractors for the last 8 years. His name appears as a Contractor every year from 1024 to 1033 inclusive. No tenders having been received according to our Notification of 15th June 1857, Elliah Rabbi subsequently undertook the supply with the sanction of the Resident at 38 Rupees per 100 Indian Maunds or 26½ Rupees per Coomb, the rate in Travancore being then 26 Rupees.

The supply was however insufficient and two other Individuals engaged for small quantities at 36 and 37 Rupees per 100 maunds. Our Commercial Agent, Mr. Verne, conducted all these measures, hence it will be seen that there were no grounds for the allegations of the Petitioners.

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3.

In the contract with Elliah Rabbi for last year he failed by 500 Coombs and the penalty has not been enforced, thus causing a loss of 20,000 Rupees.

4.

This favor to Elliah Rabbi has led to similar leniency to other Contractors to the extent of 300 Coombs, with a loss of 12,000 Rupees.

5.

From the above cause, there was a general scarcity of Salt, and the retail prices rose from 4 Nalies to less than 1 Nalee per poother.

	Coombs.
1030	2504.
1031	2673.
1032	2816.

	Coombs.
1st Qr. of 1031	113.
2nd „ 1032	153.
1st „ 1033	158.

6.

Notwithstanding the above, the Dewan disregarding the favorable terms of Hadjee Jacob and others renewed the Contract with Elliah Rabbi for the present year at an advance of 8 and 9 Rupees per maund, thereby causing a further loss of 20,000 Rupees.

7.

Different Merchants had deposited to the amount of 20,000 Rupees for Salt; but owing to the failure of Elliah Rabbi to provide Salt, the said Merchants begged that their money might be returned; but instead of complying with the request, the Dewan sent for one Irroovamben through Elliah Rabbi and offered him Salt to the value of 20,000 Rupees for a bribe of 5,000 Rupees and then the Dewan returned the Deposits above adverted to.

3 and 4.

For the last year Hadjee Jacob as well as Elliah Rabbi both failed to complete the supply and left a balance in the aggregate of upwards of 700 Coombs, since reduced to about 600. The inability on the part of these Merchants to make the whole supply was owing partly to the increase of freight of vessels on account of the disturbances of the N. W. Provinces, and partly to the liberal prices offered by the Travancore Sircar. The Cochin Contract rate for 1032 was 20½ Rupees per Coomb, while in Travancore it was 23 Rupees. No penalty was enforced, as it has not been usual, where satisfactory explanation has been afforded. The Sircar instead of sustaining any loss, as asserted by the Petitioners, have on the contrary gained by the sale 7,000 Rupees more than the preceding year, as the Accounts will show, and as has already been reported by the Resident to the Government.

5.

There was some scarcity last year for 3 or 4 months from causes already explained, but there was a similar in Travancore and in the Company's District of Malabar, and Mr. Crawford, the Commercial Agent, is so sensible of the necessity of offering a liberal price for Salt, that he has recently recommended to the Dewan of Travancore to adopt the same purchase rate as at Cochin.

From the accompanying Memo: it will be perceived that the quantity of Salt disposed of by the Sircar in 1032 was more than that of the preceding years and further that the quantity sold in the first quarter of 1033 has not been less than that sold in the same quarters of 1031 and 1032.

6.

Not only were no favorable tenders received, but no tenders were received of any kind whatever either from Hadjee Jacob or any other person. In consequence of no tenders having been received, the Dewan under the authority of the Resident, subsequently entered into engagements with Elliah Rabbi on the 20th August 1857, to supply 140,000 Indian Maunds at the rate of 38 Rupees per hundred Indian Mands. This was about 7 Rupees above the rate of the preceding year; but, as before explained, much difficulty has been experienced in procuring Salt owing to the troubles in the N. W.

7.

Yes.—Different Merchants, as was the practice also under the late Dewan, have of their own accord deposited to the amount of different periods in the last year to buy the Salt by wholesale, as has long been customary. The Merchants are eager to make large deposits so as to secure supplies, as the Salt may arrive from Bombay.

At the close of the Season, there was a balance to the amount of 20,000 Rupees in deposit, and which was ordered to be returned, but they did not wish it.

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8.

Next overtures were made to the dealers by one Panacal Eapen and a similar contribution of 5,000 Rupees levied, and the Sircar Accounts were corrected, as if the above deposits were from some other Merchants.

9.

The other Merchants finding that Irroovamben and Eapen were to have the sole monopoly of the Salt this year, offered terms to the Dewan through Elliah Rabbi, when a further sum of 4,000 Rupees was received, the Dewan receives a reward of 6 per cent or 200 Rupees.

10.

That although first sort Tobacco was procurable at 65 Rupees per Candy, the Dewan has given 70 Rupees per Candy.

11.

A deficiency in a supply of Tobacco from Tutocorin was never recovered from the Contractors.

12.

The usual sale price of Tobacco had been 187½ Rupees per Candy, but the Dewan allowed Achooda Preboo to receive at 150 Rupees.

13.

The acceptance of a tender by Achooda Preboo for the Teak Timber of 1032 caused a loss of 10,000 Rupees.

14.

The Teak Timber in the Chittoor Forests was sold by the late Dewan for 8½ Rupees per Candy and to be cleared in 3 years, but the present Dewan has entended the period for removal to 5 years to the loss of the Sircar.

8 and 9.

This charge is utterly false, as an inspection of the Accounts will prove. Panacal Eapen also was one of the depositors for Salt. The charge under this para: as well as that brought in the 9th para: are utterly false.

10.

I purchased Tobacco at 75 Rupees for 1033, as was done in 1032, from the same Merchant, who supplied in the last year, Tobacco might be got now at 65 Rupees. The price depends on the quality and quantity imported in British Cochin. The charge in this head is therefore without foundation.

11.

It is true that there was a deficiency in the Tobacco brought from Tutocorin by the late Dewan, but it was struck off the Accounts with the sanction of both His Highness and the Resident in the last year.

12.

I have with the concurrence of the British Resident reduced the selling price of Tobacco from 187½ Rupees per Candy to 150 Rupees in the last year, as a temporary arrangement, in order to ensure a rapid sale. This arrangement met with a most favorable result, giving an increase of upwards of 11,000 Rupees over the year preceding. The disposal of the article was by no means confined to any particular person, as stated in the Petition. The Bank shall was open to all.

13.

The timber Contract of 1032 was disposed of with the concurrence of the British Resident and the sale of the year was singularly favorable, viz., at 20 Rupees per Candy, a higher rate than had ever before but once been realized.

14.

No alteration was ever made by me in the arrangement of the late Dewan who had accepted the tender for all green teak, my arrangements were merely for the removal of the timber at the rate of 2000 Candies annually, which together with dry teak, gave a revenue of 17,000 Rupees.

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15.

The asserted unfavorable terms on which the Dewan has allowed one Shamy Putter to have the upper branches of teak trees in the Peranbaculum forests at 2¹/₁₀ per Candy, while the said branches are worth at Ponany 16 the Candy. That no tenders were sent to the Resident for approval.

15.

The disposal of the branches in the Peranbaculum Forest was at the recommendation of the Conservator of Forest, Mr. Kohlhoff. The Perambaculum Forest are very high land, very remote, and with long and difficult land carriage.

16.

Case of murder against Paroye, the Prosecutrix was intercepted by the Dewan, but released on a bribe.

This case was enquired into by me (the female or Prosecutrix) the charge was unfounded, and I intimated the result to the Dewan of Travancore in answer to his letter on the subject. The Petitioner since appeared before the Resident and denied the whole of the circumstances.

16.

17.

Asserted favor to Paliat Atchen in the survey now in progress.

The survey was conducted on the reclaimed portion of land adjacent to Paliat Atchen's strictly in conformity with the former usage. This question will be fully considered and adjusted when the survey is closed together with other little disputes of the like nature.

TRICHOOR, } (Signed) VENCATA ROW,
24th March 1858. } Dewan.

17.

ENCLOSURE C.

Explanations offered by the Dewan of Cochin on certain paras: of His Highness the Rajah's letter.

Para: 4th. At the request of the late Dewan, who was then lying dangerously ill, I was sent to Cochin by the Resident from Courtallum, to assist him, and on my arrival there in October 1856, the Dewan was no more, and when I waited on His Highness I was favored with a commission (which as well as my subsequent confirmation as Dewan have been voluntarily granted, I have every reason to believe) to conduct the duties of Dewan.

With regard to the reflections cast against me, I would respectfully observe that they have been made without due consideration, for His Highness, during the time that I was attached to the Resident, could not have had an opportunity of forming any correct opinion as regards my merits or demerits. My position under the Resident was one of confidence, and delicacy, and I presume to state that the Resident is fully aware of my principles. I would also respectfully remind the Resident of a letter written by His Highness whilst on his return, at Dindigul from his tour to Rameiswaram, in which His Highness expresses his entire approbation of my conduct; and His Highness has also stated favorably of me in his demi-official letter of the March 1854.

My predecessor while holding the place of Dewan Peishcar did nothing more than what I have done in a similar capacity.

Para: 5th. In reply to this para: I beg to say that His Highness never made any mention to me about complaints received against me, until lately, and as they are now before the Resident I beg to be permitted to leave the matter in his hands.

Paras 6th and 7th.—I am not aware of having in any one instance assumed a position of hostility and defiance. Neither am I aware of any established usage for the Dewans to wait upon His Highness weekly; and the late Dewan in his letter to His Highness, dated the 19th Toolam 1020, states plainly that he was not aware of any usage to call on His Highness weekly, but only when desired to do so, or when the exigency of business required. I was in the habit of attending frequently as business required. Since my appointment as Dewan I have made frequent communications to the Palace demi-officially, explaining the particulars of my tours to Trichoor, Chittoor and other places, and have always received kind and satisfactory replies, and His Highness has not, in any one instance, made remarks with regard to my communications.

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Para: 8th.—His Highness remarks that I had not consulted His Highness' wishes on the appointment of persons, who receive commissions. I *did* select a few persons to fill up the principal posts in the Survey Departments in Meenum 1032, and His Highness readily granted them their usual commissions without a remark. Since which no appointments have been filled up except that of the Tahsildar's of Canianore. After selecting the individual, who does the duty now, and obtaining the Resident's approbation as usual, I communicated the matter to His Highness for confirmation, but I was only favored with a reply "to wait," without any reasons being assigned for it.

In former days I recollect Teetoorums of appointments of Tahsildars being sent to the then Dewans for delivery to the individuals appointed as Tahsildars, &c., but it has long been discontinued.

Para: 9th.—I have made no innovations in the collections and disposal of the Revenue. The Dewan had hitherto full control over the Huzzoor and local Treasuries, and had the power of ordering disbursements as the urgency of cases demanded. In the time of my predecessor, pay to the Servants was issued at the end of every second month, or at the early part of the third month; but as I found that measure to be inconvenient, and irregular, I checked the practice and arranged that all payments to Circar Servants should be made on the 5th of every ensuing month. Of this arrangement I have made mention personally to His Highness.

Para: 10th.—For the sake of convenience, I have introduced the plan of sending returns of cash monthly, instead of twice in a month, after informing the same to the Resident and His Highness, and the Statement that I have "discontinued" "it altogether" and without due authority; is incorrect.

Para: 11th.—As public business long in contemplation required my attendance before the Resident at Trevandrum, I was put under the sudden necessity of proceeding thither, anticipating His Highness' permission to whom I duly applied, as His Highness was then out of his capital to a bathing place many miles distant; but after my arrival at Trevandrum, I received a communication from the Palace, declining to comply with my request. There was no business of the slightest importance to require my detention at Cochin.

Para: 16th.—A full explanation on the subject of the Petition alluded to in this para: has been given by the Resident to His Highness.

Para: 25th.—The Financial report of 1032, just acknowledged by the Government, will plainly show the inaccuracy of His Highness' argument.

I suggested through the Resident, a land survey, whilst I was the Dewan Peishcar two or three years ago, but it was left dormant by the late Dewan, and General Cullen is aware, that soon after my appointment as Dewan I brought into operation this most important and most interesting task, and it is progressing favorably. I have also made several other improvements in the minor sources of Revenue.

TRICHOOR, } (Signed) VENCATA ROW,
24th March 1858. } Dewan.

ENCLOSURE D.

Translation of a Teetoorum from His Highness the Rajah of Cochin; to the Dewan, Vencata Row, dated 9th March 1858.

We have been informed by Parameshoren of a letter addressed by you to him, No. 5772, dated 17th Instant, in reply to our Teetoorum to you bearing date 14th Idem, granting leave of absence for 2 months to the Shastry of Trichoor Zillah Court to proceed to Chola Deshom for the Wedding ceremony of his daughter at that place.

It appears in your letter aforesaid that the Resident has written that it is contrary to usage for the Judicial Officers to apply directly to us for leave of absence; but we must observe that, it would not tend to an infringement of precedence by the Officers appointed by us in our country applying directly to us regarding their private affairs and grievances; and that there is no established rule forbidding their doing so; whilst so, the cause which led the Resident to make such an observation is owing we are convinced to our having appointed you as Dewan.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) VENCATA ROW,
Dewan.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. CULLEN,
Resident.

Fort Saint George, Political Consultation, 8th June 1858.

Memo : of Petitions complaining of the conduct of certain Servants of the Palace and other individuals in inciting them to make false representations against the Dewan.

No.	Date.	Names of the Petitioners.	Substance.
1	1st February 1858.	Francis Cleveyer of Pulloorthy in Cochin, appeared before the Resident.	Complains that one Achootha Menon Conicopillay of Cheriananthapoorom Proverthy and one Ramen Pillay cunningly obtained his signature to a Petition written against the Dewan.
2	"	Mathaven Peroomal of Cochin, appeared before the Resident.	Complains that one Ramen Pillay, Coonjoo-kristna Menon of Pulligil, Atchooda Manon Conicopillay of Cheriananthapoorom Proverthy and the Jemadar of the Palace clandestinely obtained his signature by order of the Surwathy to a Petition written against the Dewan.
4th	"	Theeyoh Pathen of Cochin, appeared before the Resident.	Complains that Velootha Ramen Pillay has inserted by forgery Petitioner's name and signature to certain Petitions against the Dewan.
4	"	Puppoo Manon of Canianoor, appeared before the Resident	Complains that Caroopully, Palace Jemadar, asked him to sign a Petition against the Dewan. Petitioner having refused a conspiracy has been made to bring Petitioner to trouble.
5	12th	Mathaven Peroomal of Cochin, appeared before the Resident.	Complains that he was sent for and threatened by the Surwathy to pass a statement to the effect that he was forced by Rama Row and the Cochin Sumprethy to complain to the Resident.
6	17th	Nanoo Manon and 6 others of Cranganore, all of whom appeared before the Resident.	State that one Vathookaut Cariakar asked them to collect some people and forward charges against the Dewan to the Resident and the Madras Government. As they refused, the Cariakar assured them they will be brought to trouble.
7	22nd	Reverend L. Remedis and 15th others of Edacochin Church, all of whom appeared before the Resident.	State that the Surwathy sent for one Antha and others amongst the Petitioners and desired them to pass a Kychit to the effect that they bribed the Dewan 3,000 Rupees. As Petitioners refused, they have misrepresented matters to the Rajah.
8	24th	Cunden Coonjen and others (10 in number) of Canianoor who appeared before the Resident.	Complain that the Surwathy and Vathookatoo Kariakar sent for and asked them on pain of being brought to trouble in case of a refusal to cease from payment of assessment on lands surveyed and to complain against the Dewan.
9	"	Cochonny Manowen of Nettoor Proverthy.	Do. do. and add that when they refused they were shoved by neck.
10	"	Caky Paro and 15 other of Vypeen, who appeared before the Resident.	Complains of oppression by Pullyil Coonjoo Kristna Manon and Govinda Manon, Palace Jemadar, to sign certain Petition against the Dewan.
11	19th	Cootten, Thiroopaud son of a late Rajah of Cochin, who appeared before the Resident.	Complains that the Surwathy took the loan of a pair of Diamond Earrings and 2 Rings valued at 400 Rupees which he now asks as a pre-sent for the Settlement of Petitioner's case of family dispute pending disposal in the Palace and creates misunderstanding in the family.
12	22nd	Chako Chako and others of Canianoor who appeared before the Resident. Referred 26th February.	Complain that the Surwathy cut down a very productive Jack tree of his and destroyed the crops of his garden by causing it to be dragged through them.
13	26th	Coruth Coonjee Chako and others of Vypeen in Cochin, who appeared before the Resident. Referred 1st March 1858.	Complain that the Surwathy has authorized the Cash keeper of a certain Davassom, subject to the Palace, and from which Petitioners hold lands to bring forward a Suit against Petitioners because they refused to give the lands to the Surwathy when he asked for them, a mode of procedure unprecedented.

RESIDENT'S OFFICE ON CIRCUIT, Trichoor, 12th March 1858.

(Signed) W. CULLEN, Resident.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. CULLEN, Resident.

Fort Saint George, Political Consultation, 8th June 1858.

ENCLOSURE E.

Remarks on certain paras : of the letter from His Highness the Rajah ; to the Right Honorable the Governor.

Para : 5. States that *within the brief space of a year* after the appointment of the Dewan His Highness had "been literally overwhelmed with complaints." The Dewan was appointed in October 1856. I was at Cochin in March 1857, but it is only in January 1858, for the *first time* that His Highness makes the Resident acquainted with the existence of any complaints, nor do any of the Petitions appear of older date than December last, as if the whole had been hurriedly drawn up on hearing of my intended visit to Cochin.

Para : 15. The first Individual alluded to, who is a petty Talook Servant, had been charged by another party with threatening him with personal violence if he did not join in the Petitions against the Dewan. He was therefore summoned before the Magistrate's Office for enquiry ; but no violence was used, and the man is still at large and constantly about the Palace.

The other Individual was one of the 5, who had signed the Petition charging the Dewan's brother with an assault. They were all summoned by order of the Resident to Trichoor for examination, but Shungooney was the only party that could be found. He came to Trichoor under a Peon. He has since been discharged.

Para : 16. Refers to a Petition signed by only 3 Individuals. The first named, Paili Avarah, has no house or local name attached so as to be recognised. The second person is in constant attendance at the Palace, and the third an Il-looven man of low caste and of no property, yet their Petition contains particulars of trans-actions which none but men of respectability or property or experience could ever have had the slightest knowledge of.

Paras : 19, 20. Have been replied to in paras : 4 to 8 and para : 10 of my letter to the Rajah and in the explanation of the Dewan.

Appendix A. B.

Para : 21. The Rajah talks vaguely of the Dewan's "acts being attended with results disastrous to the interests of the State," and in para : 25 he refers to the 4th Article of the Treaty of 1809, as if he really thought the finances were on the verge of Bankruptcy and that the management of the country was about to be assumed by the Company, while the past year's Revenue (the first year of the present Dewan's management) is half a lac of Rupees in excess of the previous year, an additional lac and a half having besides been invested in Government Securities and the country in the highest state of prosperity, and all this was officially reported to His Highness several months ago by the Dewan, as well as explained to him by myself only a few days ago, but it proves how utterly unacquainted he is with the subject and how completely he is in the hands of idle people.

But as I have already noticed, the Rajah is weak and nervous and like all of his Class easily influenced by designing persons, and when I mention that besides his intriguing Surwady Kariakar and other Natives, he has also in frequent attendance at the Palace, in utter disregard of the VII Article of the Treaty of 1809, in regard to Europeans, the notorious Mr. Harris of Cochin and Mootoo Iyen, formerly dismissed from the Sudr Ameen's Court, Cochin, and afterwards dismissed from the Palace by order of Government in 1850, and Mr. Rice, an East Indian of the Joint Magistrate's Office at Cochin, it will be easily understood how His Highness may be misled by persons of such low and intriguing character.

On the system of conducting Public business which is the true and sole plea of this attack upon the Dewan, I have only to remark that it has been carried on by the present Dewan precisely as it was by his predecessor, the late Dewan. The Rajah should know that well, and he should of course also be perfectly aware of the correspondence upon the same subject in 1849 and 1850, when the then Rajah, his elder brother, made precisely similar objections to the late Dewan's proceedings, and I would respectfully refer more particularly to my report to Government, No. 25 of 22nd August 1850, and the letter from the Right Honorable Sir. H. Pottinger to the Rajah, No. 409, dated 17th September 1850.

Fort Saint George, Political Consultation, 8th June 1858.

In fact the very same system of business obtains in Travancore. The Dewan invariably consults in the first instance with the Resident, and having ascertained his sentiments, communicates them to the Rajah and they are then carried out, but the Rajah of Cochin wants to reverse all this and to have no communications made to the Resident, until after His Highness has been consulted and decided. Under the late Dewan, as he had held the Office for 17 years and had been brought up in the Office from infancy and under his predecessors also, not only all suggestions of the Resident, but all those also originating with the Dewan himself, provided they had obtained the concurrence of the Resident, were always expected to receive at once the confirmation of the Rajah.

The generally short annual visit of the Resident to Cochin rendered it the more necessary to relieve the Dewan as much as possible from all direct or indirect Palace interference; and of the advantage of such an arrangement no stronger proof could be urged than the uniform success of the late Dewan's management of the country during the long period of 17 years.

The 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th paras: are exaggerations amounting to untruths. No alterations or changes of any description have been introduced without due communication to His Highness, either verbally or by writing.

The remarks on these subjects submitted to Government in my report, No. 25 of 22nd August 1850, are so perfectly applicable to the present state of things that I beg to quote them.

"The Dewan has always been held responsible for the Administration of the country, he could not with justice be so unless he has the most perfect control over all its branches, the appointment and transfer of its Tahsildars and other Servants subject of course to the approval in certain cases of the Resident and subsequent communication to and confirmation by the Rajah. It has never, I learn, been usual for the Rajah to interfere materially, nor ever to object to the recommendations of the Resident, but the present Rajah enters into the most petty details and questions every arrangement, however trifling proposed by the Dewan."

"The Judicial Courts could not maintain their independence for a moment were they subjected to the direct control of the Rajah."

It may be proper here to notice that in the Teetoorum or Commission of appointment issued by His Highness to the present Dewan, it was pointed out to me at the time that some alterations had been introduced in the wording of it, tending to restrict the Dewan's Authority, and which I immediately brought to His Highness' notice by letter. In His Highness' reply he stated that "as I considered the alterations objectionable he had directed the Dewan to abide closely by the customs and usages of the Government observed heretofore."

Copy annexed.

A similar injudicious restriction was introduced in the Neet of appointment granted by the present Rajah of Travancore to the late Dewan Kristno Row, and which I brought to the notice of Government of the Marquis of Tweeddale, and I find the same restrictions are stated to exist in the Neet as Acting Dewan to Madava Row. It may suggest the expediency of desiring all Commissions of appointment being submitted to the Government before issue to the Individuals, for as the appointment of Dewan requires the confirmation of Government, to introduce any limitations or restrictions without the knowledge or concurrence of the controlling Power, is clearly a deviation from the spirit of the Treaty.

RESIDENT'S OFFICE ON CIRCUIT,
Trichoor,
26th March 1858.

(Signed) W. CULLEN,
Resident.

From Lieutenant General W. CULLEN, Resident of Cochin: to His Highness the Rajah of Cochin, dated 12th January 1857.

HIGHNESS,

I had the honor to receive your Highness' letter of the 29th December 1856, enclosing copy of your Teetoorum investing the Dewan Peishcar Vencata Row with the office of Dewan.

I have every confidence that the Dewan will afford your Highness satisfaction in the management of the affairs of the country.

Fort Saint George, Political Consultation, 8th June 1858.

I am sorry however to observe from a Translation of the Teetoorum that it does not correspond exactly with the Teetoorum of his predecessor, the late Dewan. Some additions and alterations have been introduced in the wording which although of little consequence in themselves yet as alterations in the previously existing form of conducting business, I cannot, as British Resident, with propriety give my concurrence to.

The alterations have been introduced without previous reference to or communication with the Resident.

I fear your Highness must have employed some person to draw it up not sufficiently acquainted with the forms of such documents, nor with the necessity of introducing no alterations in Public business without consultation with the Resident, and I hope your Highness may yet be able to remedy the mistake.

From RAVI VIRMAH, Rajah of Cochin; to Lieutenant General W. CULLEN, British Resident, Tripoonitorah, dated 25th January 1857.

MY DEAR GENERAL,

I have much pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th Ultimo, and am sorry to say in reply, that I had not thought that a few additions or rather a few wordings in the Teetoorum granted to the Dewan Vencata Row would interfere much in his Administration nor in any way prove to be offensive to any party, and as I now learn from your letter under acknowledgement that you are not so well disposed to give your concurrence to it, I have acquainted my Minister to abide closely to the customs and rules of the Government observed heretofore.

I am quite confident that he will no doubt manage the affairs of my country to my entire satisfaction as you properly observed, and hope the country will flourish under his Government.

Hoping that this will meet your kind approbation and with my best compliments.

No. 2. From Lieutenant General W. CULLEN, Resident of Travancore and Cochin; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Trevandrum, 10th April 1858, No. 21.

SIR,

A day or two only before leaving Cochin, on my return to Travancore, His Highness the Rajah of Cochin addressed me a letter in answer to my letter to His Highness, copy of which I have already submitted to Government, and replying to the opinions I had expressed on the Petitions against the Dewan. His Highness also forwarded to me Duplicate copy of the letter with a request that it might be submitted to Government.

2. I regret that in the hurry and occupation of travelling, I have not been able until now to submit it with my remarks, although there is nothing in His Highness' present letter, which has not been fully explained in the correspondence already forwarded.

3. The present letter I consider to have been drawn up by an European that Mr. Harris of Cochin, for it is full of the most glaring inaccuracies.

From RAVI VIRMAH, Rajah of Cochin; to Lieutenant General W. CULLEN, British Resident of Travancore and Cochin, dated 27th March, No. 10 of 1858.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th Instant, conveying your final opinion on the charges brought against the Dewan.

2. It is truly painful to me to be obliged to differ from you, and nothing could be further from my wish than to enter into unpleasant discussions with the British Resident, whose advice

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and assistance I have ever esteemed as invaluable, in promoting the interests of my State and the welfare of my people. It is therefore with the more regret that I feel my inability to agree with you in your view of the Dewan's proceedings, which appear to me to be too open to suspicion, to admit of being accounted for purely on the score of a malicious combination against him.

3. I beg to assure you that I have not been wanting in consideration towards the Dewan, for I not only communicated to him personally the nature of the Petitions against him, but addressed him officially on the subject. The opportunity for explanation was, however, contemptuously thrown away, and the Dewan's subsequent conduct has been marked by a studied disregard of my authority.

4. I have again attentively perused the representations against the Dewan, and although I am not prepared to endorse every assertion advanced by the Petitioners, there nevertheless remains, in my opinion, sufficient weighty and uncontroverted matter to demand a thorough and searching investigation into all the circumstances, by a duly constituted tribunal, before I can renew the slightest confidence in the Dewan's integrity, judgment or administrative ability.

5. Elia Rabbi is not a usual Contractor for Salt and was but once employed in that capacity so far back as 1025, and it is a matter for legitimate enquiry under what circumstances he was admitted in 1032, and what proportion his Contract bore to those of Hadjee Jacob and other regular Contractors; and why he was again employed in 1033 after the serious breach of Contract committed by him in the previous year, and its calamitous consequences.

6. It is not attempted to impugn the system of deposits of money by the wholesale purchasers of Salt, the arrangement in question, introduced by the late Dewan, being doubtless satisfactory. The charge against Vencata Row lies in his having grossly abused that system for corrupt purposes, a point which remains to be ascertained by enquiry.

7. I must beg leave to demure to the conclusion that the Dewan's management with regard to Salt, was attended with advantage. I find on reference to the Returns furnished to me that the alleged excess of 7000 Rupees is not an actual increase of Revenue. The increase is only on the gross amount realized by the sale of Salt, the outlay having been evidently lost sight of, in estimating the net income.

The Account stands thus

	Gross outlay.	Gross income.	Net profit.
1031—Rupees	32,388 1 2	1,13,091 2 0	80,703 0 0
1032—"	43,951 15 0	1,19,879 12 0	75,927 12 7
		Decrease Rupees	4,775 3 5

Hence it would appear that instead of their being any increase, the net income has fallen off by Rupees 4,775.

8. The great scarcity of Salt, which prevailed in Cochin during the past year, and the unprecedent figure to which the price of the article rose, are perfectly notorious, and have been a source of intense suffering to the poorer Classes. The want was at one time so great as to have induced a run upon the Stores of the neighbouring Town of Cochin, causing similar disastrous results in that territory.

9. The high price obtained for Teak timber must be attributed to an unusual demand for the article, arising from causes wholly irrespective of any extraordinary foresight in the arrangements of the Sircar. The serious charge remains, that the Dewan did not take advantage of the favorable state of affairs, but rejected very eligible offers, giving undue preference to others which were decidedly injurious. The following statement will shew, that an actual decrease of Revenue has resulted, whereas a large increase might certainly have been expected under judicious management, with the great demand and high prices which obtained.

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	Gross outlay.	Gross income.	Net profit.
1031—	23,269 8 4	28,634 10 9	5,365 2 5
1032—	29,378 5 3	31,724 3 0	2,345 13 9
		Decrease	3,019 4 8

10. In the article of Jaffna Tobacco there has been but a slight increase in 1032, over the income of the preceding year, viz., 9,733 gold fanams or Rupees 2,780-15-4, but even this apparent advantage admits of considerable qualification when it is remembered that the outlay in 1032, far exceeded that in 1031; and that the proportion which the net income of 1032, bears to the outlay, falls far short of the corresponding ratio of former years. The question, however, is whether the Dewan had given preference to unprofitable and injurious offers, when better terms were tendered to him, and under what circumstances an undue partiality was shown to certain parties, and Tobacco sold to them on credit below the standard value.

11. I can hardly conceive that full and complete information had been laid before you, and all the Tenders submitted, before your opinion was requested on Contracts and Sales on behalf of the Sircar.

12. I would here take the liberty to observe, that the Dewan has already been upwards of 18 months in office, and the results of his administration during that period may be assumed to afford a fair test of his efficiency and abilities.

I shall therefore briefly review those results, as far as I am in a position to do so from the official Statements furnished to me, and contrast them with the success achieved by the preceding administration.

From 1015 to 1031, being a period of 17 years, during which the late Dewan held office, the Sircar have derived a clear increase of Revenue to the extent of..... Rupees, 9,57,995 0 6

Viz., Amount vested in Government Securities.....	Rupees, 8,00,000 0 0
Cash in Treasury on Cunny 30th, 1032, on the demise of late Dewan.....	Rupees, 1,54,103 0 6
Stock.....	42,425 8 6
	1,96,528 9 0

Deduct.		
Debit Account as it stood at late Dewan's death.....	38,533 8 6	1,57,995 0 6
		Total Rupees 9,57,995 0 6,

giving an average on the 17 years, of Rupees 56,352-10-4 per annum.

Assuming the above average to represent fairly the clear annual surplus of this State, we have a right to expect under judicious management a net income of Rupees 84,528-15-6, during the incumbency of the present Dewan Vencata Row, whereas the following comparative Statement exhibits a deficit of Rupees 64,096-4-3.

Net income due for the year 1032.....	Rupees 56,352 10 4
For the half year ending, 30th Magarom 1033.....	" 28,176 5 2
	Total Rupees 84,528 15 6
By cash remaining on the 30th Magarom 1033.....	28,427 11 9
Vested in Government Securities.....	1,50,000 0 0
Total...	1,78,427 11 9

Deduct.		
Net amount of Funds and Stock on assuming charge of Office, as given above.....	1,57,995 0 6	20,432 11 3
		Deficit 64,096 4 3.

[Signature]

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I will also add a Statement of Cash balances in the Public Treasury on the 30th Magarom of each year, for the five years previous to 1033, exhibiting a very considerable decrease in 1033, in the usual amount of such balances.

30th Magarom 1028	Rupees	89,277	6	10
Ditto. 1029	"	1,07,940	7	1
Ditto. 1030	"	72,225	9	0
Ditto. 1031	"	97,448	10	0
Ditto. 1032	"	1,55,862	4	9
Average of 5 years...		1,04,550	13	11
30th Magarom 1033		28,427	11	9
Decrease...		76,123	2	2.

The above facts, in my opinion, sufficiently prove that the administration of Dewan Vencata Row has been by no means successful, and that his financial measures are open to serious question.

13. It is very probable that some of the Petitioners against the Dewan, referred to by you, who are men of low degree and totally unaccustomed to the presence of Europeans, may have hesitated through ignorance or fear from making known their complaints, especially in a case wherein no less a person than the Dewan is implicated. If they had committed themselves to written statements, which they are not fully prepared to sustain, it is certainly a grave matter, and hence the greater necessity for calling upon them to explain their conduct before proper authority.

14. With regard to the accusers of Rama Row, I must confess that I am not at all surprised to hear that some of them had denied all knowledge of the matter. The harsh treatment of the Dewan towards Vellayil Ramoony, Arrakel Shungoony and Panthiel Cochoo Kristnen, the last of whom is still in confinement by the Dewan's order, is of itself sufficient to intimidate men of their class from speaking out, and has no doubt deterred Pullyil, Coonjoo, Kristna Menon, from appearing before you. The punishment inflicted on Punthil, Cochoo, Kristna Menon, for a former offence, would, I conceive, hardly justify the rejection of his just grievances in other matters. I cannot, at the same time, omit to notice that the depositions taken by the Dewan in Rama Row's case are, in my opinion, worthless, not only as they concern his brother, but because his own character is seriously involved in the issue.

15. I have examined the List of the Petitions presented to you complaining of the conduct of the Sarwady Caricar and other persons connected with my Palace. The Officers in question are accused of conduct, of which it is highly improbable they could have been guilty, considering their utter want of power and opportunity. On the other hand, I have received numerous Petitions from the accusers of the Dewan, complaining that unjustifiable measures were resorted to, to coerce them into a withdrawal of their statements. A complaint to that effect has even reached me from one of the parties who is on the List furnished by you, and under all the circumstances I am under a strong impression that the statements put forth by the Petitioners referred to in the said list, are mere recriminations got up to counteract the charges against the Dewan, and totally worthless, as evidence, to justify the removal of the Sarwady Carricar, without a hearing.

16. You observe that the Sarwady "Carricar," has been endeavouring to alter the forms "of conducting the Public business of the Sircar," I am totally at a loss to know upon what grounds such an imputation is based. The Sarwady Carricar is powerless to make such alterations, and as a servant immediately subordinate to my authority has no choice, but to adopt the course dictated by me. He is clearly irresponsible for any official proceedings, and the entire onus of them rests upon myself.

17. If the Sarwady Carricar is guilty of originating or supporting an illegal and malicious combination against the Dewan, I shall be the last person to shield him from the consequences of such practices, but common justice requires that so serious a charge should be supported by somewhat stronger proof than I have yet before me; and that the character and interests of an old and tried servant who has been favorably known to me for years, should not be utterly blasted on light grounds.

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18. If the Dewan, at the proper time, can establish a case against the Sarwady Carriacar by legal evidence, I shall certainly not stand in the way of justice, I shall not even object to bring the Sarwady Carriacar to trial simultaneously with the Dewan. But with all deference, I beg to say, that, as far as I have yet seen, I am unable to exonerate the Dewan at the expense of the Sarwady Carriacar.

19. There is but one point more on which I am anxious to offer a few remarks, you attribute the prosperity of the Cochin State "to the unrestricted control the late Dewan exercised over the management of Public affairs under the advice of the Resident," you must be aware that I have never interfered with any measure of public utility or any suggestion for the Public good in opposition to the counsels of the British Resident. But I contend that I have a right to demand that my sanction, as the sovereign authority, should be obtained on certain points, which I have specified, in accordance with the usage which has uninterruptedly obtained from the earliest period of our alliance with the British Government, and with the entire sanction of your Predecessors. And it remains to be shown that such practice is incompatible with the prosperity of the Country.

20. If I have abused the privileges of my position, and thus rendered it unsafe to entrust me any longer with their exercise, I am free to admit the right of Government to set bounds to them, but I am perfectly unconscious of having misused my prerogatives, and until the contrary can be proved, I maintain that my lawful authority cannot be set aside.

21. A more than ordinary freedom of action in some respects may have been enjoyed by the late Dewan Shungra Warriar, but it must be remembered that the grounds upon which such indulgence was conceded, were purely exceptional, and do not at all exist in the circumstances of the present administration.

22. I have attentively considered the former instructions of the Madras Government referred to by you, but I am unable to trace in them any abnegation of the limited and reasonable authority which I contend for. It was ruled "that the authority of the British Resident and the "Dewan should be maintained in all its integrity." But this is by no means incompatible with my own claims and the upholding of my own dignity. I can scarcely suppose it was contemplated by the said instructions that all former precedents should be abandoned, that when once I had given my assent to the appointment of a Dewan, I have ever after no control over his conduct, that I should be deprived of the courtesy of a previous reference in the appointment to Offices of the highest trust, held by virtue of Commissions directly issued by me, and that I should unhesitatingly issue Commissions for unauthorized appointments made by the Dewan, though the parties may have long held Office without my official cognizance, that vital and fundamental changes may be made by the Dewan in the established system of the administration without my concurrence, and in short, that I should retain the mere insigma of Loyalty without the common privilege of a vote in the Regulation of even the most important Public affairs, a position, I can safely say unknown to the constitution of any other Native Sovereignty.

23. If such a system had been contemplated in reference to this State, it is difficult to conceive how I could be enabled to adopt measures to avert the contingency alluded to in Article IV of the Treaty, a disaster peculiarly involving the interests of myself and my heirs and successors. I therefore cannot hesitate to adopt the conclusion, that the instructions of Government will not bear the construction suggested.

24. I beg, however, it may be clearly understood that I am not contending for absolute power, but for those limited and reasonable rights sanctioned by established usage, the denial of which by the present Dewan only evinces an unbecoming spirit of independence on his part, and can serve no other purpose than to injure my dignity and self-respect, and lower me in the estimation of my people.

25. I regret, I was not in possession of your final views contained in your letter under acknowledgement, before I addressed the Madras Government; and as your communication is before that authority, I beg you will do me the justice to submit these remarks, which are offered with all deference, for their consideration. Enclosing a Duplicate of this letter for transmission to Government, &c.

Fort Saint George, Political Consultation, 8th June 1858.

Remarks on the letter of the Rajah of Cochin to the address of the Resident, dated 27th March 1858, No. 21.

Para: 3rd. The Rajah never communicated any of the present Petitions to the Dewan, all of which are of most recent date. He received only 2 or 3 Petitions about the smuggling affrays many months ago, where one or two deaths occurred and on which verbal explanations were afforded.

Para: 4th. His Highness here admits that he "is not prepared to endorse every assertion advanced by the Petitioners," after having in his former letter insisted on their entire accuracy.

Para: 5th. His Highness having adopted in his original letters the assertion of the Petitioners that Ellia Rabbi was employed as a Contractor of the first time in 1032, I proved in my report to His Highness that Ellia Rabbi had also been employed in the year 1025. That was all the information I could then give, but subsequent enquiry proved that the said Ellia Rabbi had been employed as a Contractor for more or less of the annual supply for 8 successive years as shewn in my Memo: B.

Disregarding also the Dewan's clear explanation of the cause of the failure of a portion of the Contract for 1032, in common with other Contractors, His Highness repeats his allusion to "the calamitous consequences," of the failure.

Para: 6th. An unwilling admission of the expediency of the system. There was not the slightest proof of impropriety of conduct.

Para: 7th. I made repeated enquiries from Natives of the Company's Town of Cochin, as well as of Sircar Cochin. Salt was scarce for a few months from causes which have been explained, but it was always selling cheaper by the Sircar than in the Company's Town of Cochin. As a proof of the general scarcity last year, I enclose extract of a letter from the Commercial Agent of the Travancore Government at Allepey.

Para: 12th. His Highness contrasts the annual Revenue under the late Dewan with that of the first year of the present one, but he knowingly avoids noticing that the surplus of those years are almost entirely from the great sale of Tobacco previous to the abolition of the monopoly. The gross Tobacco Revenue was then not less than 2 lacs of Rupees per annum, now it yields with the greatest difficulty $\frac{1}{2}$ a lac.

The close of this para: is contradicted by the favorable opinion of the Government as per Minute of Consultation, No. 167, 8th March 1858.

Para: 13th. When I noticed to His Highness the low degree, and utter ignorance of the Petitioners, His Highness supported them, but he now finds it necessary to appeal to that as a fact in his own support, but I would beg a reference to the very full reports that have already been submitted, as explaining every thing alluded to in the Rajah's present letter.

RESIDENT'S OFFICE, TREVANDRUM,
10th April 1858.

(Signed) W. CULLEN,
Resident.

Extract from a letter from the Commercial Agent at Allepey to the Acting Dewan of Travancore, dated 5th February 1858.

You will find that from August to November last, we were unable to supply any of the whole-sale Bankshalls and had not enough for retail purposes, and were moreover frequently without any Salt whatever in the Bankshalls during the period.

With regard to your remark that "the late Contract price (26 Rupees per Coomb) is unfavorable to the Sircar," and your unwillingness to engage in a hurry, I was not aware that there would be any objections on that head, my object in making the intimation was in order to save time, understanding that the Sircar must have the Salt. The Cochin Sircar have since I addressed you advanced their price equal to 28 Company's Rupees per Coomb, while ours is only Company's Rupees 25 annas 8 per Coomb.

Fort Saint George, Political Consultation, 8th June 1858.

No. 3. From Lieutenant General W. CULLEN, Resident Travancore and Cochin; to THOMAS PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Trevandrum, 12th April 1858, No. 22.

SIR,

Since dispatching my report, No. 21 of the 10th Instant, with copy of a letter from the Rajah of Cochin, I have received from the Dewan of Cochin a Certificate from a number of Native Merchants of the Company's town of Cochin, proving that the Stock of Salt in Company's Cochin was so small from November 1856 to May 1857, and the price so dear, that instead of Salt going from the Company's town to the Sirkar territory, the fact was directly the reverse, Salt having been purchased in large quantities from the Sirkar Banksalls for the use of the Company's town.

No. 4. From RAVI VIRMAH, Rajah of Cochin; to The Right Honorable GEORGE ROBERT FRANCIS LORD HARRIS, Governor in Council, Fort Saint George, dated 15th March 1858.

MY LORD,

Circumstances of a very painful nature induce me most reluctantly to address your Lordship in Council on the present state of the administration of my Government; and to solicit your Lordship's timely interposition to avert evils of serious magnitude, which threaten the ruin of my people and the overthrow of my rule and dominion over these territories.

2. Before entering into details, I beg to premise, that I have ever entertained the warmest feelings of loyalty and attachment to the British Throne and Government, and every desire to conform to the advice and wishes of your Lordship in Council conformably to the ninth Article of the Treaty, dated the 6th March 1809. In addressing you, I have no private interests to serve, no personal feelings to gratify. My only object is to uphold the character of the administration and the welfare of my Country and I have deeply to deplore that I have not received from the British Resident, General Cullen, that ready support and co-operation which I had a right to expect.

3. Having stated this, I beg deferentially to bring the following circumstances to your Lordship's notice.

4. On the death of my late Dewan Shungra Warriar, General Cullen recommended* to me the appointment of Vencut Row as a suitable successor, and I yielded my consent though with considerable reluctance. He had nominally held the office of Dewan Peishcar of Cochin, but with none of its peculiar duties or responsibilities, and had not the merit of having distinguished himself by any special services to the Cochin State. He was personally attached to the Resident, accompanying him on his tours, and attending to duties connected with the Residency. At that time rumours reached me that he was making corrupt use of the advantages of his situation. I was unwilling, however, to oppose the wishes of the Resident, and hoped that Vencut Row, would direct his efforts to promote the welfare of the Country, and thus refute the unfavorable reports regarding him.

5. Within the brief space of a year after his appointment, I have literally been overwhelmed with complaints from all quarters, urged with a frequency and earnestness, quite unprecedented. I at first endeavoured to use my personal influence to check abuses; but soon discovered with pain that the Dewan assumed a position of hostility and defiance to my just authority; and in several instances departed from the rules and practice observed by his predecessors.

6. In illustration of what I have advanced I beg to instance the following cases.
*Vide Appendix A.
Letter from Dewan Nunj- upon me weekly+ and make special reports respecting casual- appen, to the Resident, 18th ties in the Public Service, the nomination of suitable persons to vacant appointments, and generally on all matters connected with Chingom 993.

W. Cullen

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Do. from the Dewan to His Highness the Rajah, August 1818.
From Dewan Shasgherry Row, February 1826.

8. Even in regard to those appointments which are held by virtue of Commissions issued directly by me my wishes are not consulted as heretofore, but vacancies filled up at the Dewan's own option; and not till after the parties have been long in office, is a formal application made to me for the issue of Teetoorams or Commissions. I have already explained to General Cullen, that I have no desire to interfere with the nominations to such posts unless clearly objectionable on Public grounds, but I feel it due to me as the Sovereign authority, that my approval should be previously obtained, before I am expected to issue Commissions to the nominees referred to. I cannot therefore but regard the Dewan's conduct as not only a gross violation of the respect and courtesy to which prescriptive usage* entitles me, but as an arrogation of my rights and privileges, and an utter defiance of my authority.

*Vide Appendix C.
Letter from Col. Munro, Resident, 29th April 1812.
From Col. Munro, Resident, 31st January 1817.
From Col. Munro, Resident, 5th November 1811.
From Dewan Vencata Saobiah, 12th April 1835.

9. The Dewan has also introduced innovations of vital importance in the collection and disposal of the Revenue, which I have already detailed in para: 3 of my letter to the Resident, dated the 1st Instant, and I feel confident that your Lordship in Council will allow that changes of so fundamental a nature in the established system of the administration, should have received my sanction before being practically carried out.

†Vide Appendix D.
Letter from Dewan Nunjapiah, 6th April 1819.
From Assistant Resident, 22nd December 1815.

10. The periodical Returns of Cash usually† furnished to me twice in the month have also been arbitrarily discontinued.

11. On the death of Kristna Row, the late Dewan of Travancore, Vencut Row without my sanction and with a full knowledge that I required his presence at Cochin, for several reasons proceeded to Trevandrum, and remained absent for upwards of six weeks.

‡Contrary to usage, Vide Appendix E.
Letter from Dewan Shungra Warrior, 20th February 1846.
From His Highness the Rajah, 22nd February 1846.

12. I trust the above instances are sufficient to show the disrespectful and arbitrary conduct of the Dewan towards me. Feeling that my personal remonstrances were powerless to recall him to a sense of duty, and having meanwhile received complaints of a character, that precluded further inaction on my part, I had no alternative but to bring these complaints officially to the notice of the British Resident.

13. The charges in question are doubtless of a most serious description, and, if well founded, call for the Dewan's instant removal from Office, but, if false, demand the most exemplary punishment on his accusers.

14. I have already forwarded the most important of these Petitions to General Cullen, but unfortunately his confidence in the Dewan's assertions is so implicit that he has pronounced them groundless. What opportunities General Cullen may have had of testing their accuracy, I am ignorant of; but I beg respectfully to observe that the Resident is necessarily precluded from making any public or judicial investigation, which can alone be perfectly satisfactory, while private enquiries would afford many opportunities to interested parties to impose upon the Resident and impress him with any thing but a just notion of the facts.

15. I am borne out in this view of the case by the fact of representations§ having reached me from several of the Dewan's accusers, that they have been forcibly arrested, and endeavours made to coerce them to retract their charges. Still later, the Dewan having proceeded to Trichore about 60 miles remote from Cochin, I received a complaint from

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Petition from Ramoony Menon and others, 28th Magarom 1033.

Petition from Ramoony Menon and others, 2nd Coombom 1033.

†Vide Appendix G.
Petition from Arrakel Shungy Menon, 24th Coombom 1033.

Arrakel Shungoony Menon† one of the leading Petitioners that he had been arrested at night, forwarded to Trichore, and imprisoned there for illegal purposes, I ascertained that the arrest and imprisonment complained of were correct and accordingly addressed the Resident on the subject, requesting his interposition, in protecting the Petitioners generally from undue interference on the part of the Dewan until they had a fair opportunity allowed them of making good their charges against him. The Resident informed me in reply that Arrakel Shungoony Menon alluded to above was sent for to Trichore, at his request. I can hardly suppose, however, that General Cullen could have ordered him to be arrested and forwarded as a criminal, under circumstances of severe hardship, and then thrown into prison where he still continues.

16. I enclose translation of one of the numerous Petitions* presented to me, for the consideration of your Lordship in Council, which I have selected as by far the most important: being anxious to spare your Lordship unnecessary trouble in the perusal of the whole of them.

*Vide Appendix H.
Petition from Paily Avarah and others, 24th Dhanoo 1033.

17. I earnestly solicit the attentive consideration of your Lordship in Council, to the several subjects, represented in the said Petition, and I feel convinced your Lordship will agree with me, that they are not of a nature to be lightly regarded. I shall only advert to those parts of the address wherein the Dewan is accused of corrupt and fraudulent practices in the disposal of the contracts, forming the chief sources of the Revenue of this State, and which charges, as relating directly to the interests of the Circar, require that the ruling Authorities, should themselves take the initiative, though in the absence of private prosecutors.

18. In reference to these subjects, there are several indisputable facts, which go far to establish a *prima facie* case against the Dewan, and at all events, are to my mind perfectly conclusive as to the necessity of a public and judicial investigation into the conduct of that Officer. These facts, I shall refer to as briefly as possible.

19. The rates at which the Dewan accepted Tenders for the supply of Bombay Salt during the current year are so extravagant as to be beyond all precedent. The rates at which the article in question has just been supplied to the Travancore Circar, at the neighbouring Ports of Alleppy and Monambom, and those at which the Honorable Company imported Salt this season into Ponany and Cochin, are considerably lower than the rates, accepted by the Dewan. Moreover a large portion of the Bombay Salt agreed to be supplied, as per contracts of last year, was short delivered, so that an unheard of scarcity and general complaint was the result. Notwithstanding this serious injury, the Dewan did not enforce the penalty justly incurred by the defaulting Contractors.

20. In the article of Tobacco, similar suspicious proceedings are apparent. When the established Circar rates for the sale of Tobacco was Rupees 187½ per Candy, the Dewan, without any reasonable grounds and without my knowledge or sanction, made an exception in favor of certain parties and sold them upwards of 100 Candies at the reduced price of 150 Rs. and that upon credit, a system never allowed under this Circar. And it is important to notice, that at the very same period, Tobacco was retailed to all other purchasers at the fixed rate of 187½ Rupees.

†Vide Appendix I.
Letter from the Resident to Dewan Nunjapiah, October 1818.
From Dewan to His Highness, February 1835.

21. In several other matters connected with the Revenue, the Dewan has acted independently of my authority, in deviation from established rules, with results equally disastrous to the interests of the State. Usage† and expediency alike required that such departures from the prevailing system should receive my previous sanction.

From Dewan to His Highness, February 1835.
From do. April 1835.

22. The above circumstances throw a very strong and unequivocal light upon the Statements made by the Petitioners; and establish beyond a doubt the necessity for public enquiry.

[Signature]

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23. I have no desire, however, to act unjustly towards the Dewan, and in all my communications to the Resident have merely recommended a fair and impartial enquiry; every facility being allowed the Dewan to prove his innocence. It is extremely painful to me to see the Officer at the head of my administration involved in charges of gross corruption, fraud and abuse of authority, without any attempt being made to re-establish him in public confidence, if innocent, or to protect the people, if those charges be well founded. I cannot see how the Dewan can ever discharge the responsible duties entrusted to him, with satisfaction to himself or benefit to the public, with such grave accusations impending against him, for the obvious loss of character and public confidence must seriously impair his usefulness to the State.

¶ *Vide Appendix J.*

*From His Highness to Resident, 4th Decr. 1857.
From Resident, 8th January 1858.*

*From His Highness, 29th January 1858, No. 1.
From Resident, 29th January 1858.*

*From His Highness, 30th January 1858.
From the Resident, 1st February 1858.*

*From His Highness, 3rd February 1858, No. 2.
From His Highness, 13th February 1858, No. 3.*

*From the Resident, 14th February 1858.
From the Resident, 17th February 1858.*

*From His Highness, 18th February 1858, No. 4.
From the Resident, 19th February 1858.*

*From His Highness, 20th February 1858, No. 5.
From the Resident, 26th February 1858.*

*From His Highness, 1st March 1858, No. 7.
From His Highness, 7th March 1858, No. 8.*

From the Resident, 9th March 1858.

24. I beg to submit the enclosed correspondence with the British Resident for the consideration of your Lordship in Council; and to express my deep sorrow that this Appeal should have been rendered necessary by the refusal of General Cullen to co-operate with me in effectuating my views on the question at issue. My letters of the 20th Ultimo, and 1st Instant, Nos. 5 and 7, are still unanswered.

25. I beg to solicit the attention of your Lordship in Council to the fact that such gross misconduct as the Dewan stands publicly charged with, is eminently calculated to precipitate the contingency contemplated by Article 4 of the Treaty with the British Government, dated the 6th March 1809, and, on behalf of myself and my successors, the parties who will be solely affected by such a result, I beg deferentially to claim the privilege of adopting those obvious precautionary measures which are necessary to avert the danger referred to.

26. That a precedent is not wanting for the course suggested by me your Lordship will perceive by the accompanying correspondence relative to the case of a former Dewan Edamana Shan-gra Menon, who under similar circumstances was brought to trial, with the sanction of J. A. Casamajor, Esq., then British Resident, and dealt with according to his merits.

¶ *Vide Appendix K.
Report from Acting Dewan
to His Highness, dated
April 1835.
Admission of Dewan Eda-
mana Shungra Menon
before Commissioners, 19th
Tholam 1010.*

27. I trust therefore your Lordship in Council will be pleased to give your early and best consideration to the subjects alluded to in this address and accord your sanction to my Dewan Vencut Row being brought to trial before Commissioners of unexceptionable character, in conformity to the above cited precedent, and to his being suspended from Office pending the enquiry, with a view to prevent his employing the machinery of power to subvert the ends of justice and to neutralize the efforts of the Petitioners to obtain redress. I need hardly add, that under the circumstances already explained, I feel that I am unable to yield to the Dewan that unreserved confidence which is necessary for the public good and his own position, until he shall have established a valid claim to it by a public and complete acquittal.

28. I cannot conclude this address without respectfully conveying my unqualified protest against the attempt made by General Cullen, in his letter of the 17th February 1858, to explain away the charges against the Dewan on the assumption that I have been misled by evil designing persons, an imputation which has caused me the most painful regret. In all sincerity, I beg to pledge my assurance to your Lordship in Council, that I am totally uninfluenced by any improper advice, and that I have all along acted in perfect good faith in the interests of my people and

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Government. I beg your Lordship in Council will do me the credit to believe, that I am quite incapable of tolerating any irregular proceedings, as suggested by General Cullen, and my whole line of conduct since my accession to the Musnud affords a triumphant refutation to such an idea.

29. Apologizing for the length at which I have trespassed upon your Lordship's time and attention, and with feelings of sincere respect and attachment.

APPENDIX A.

From Lieutenant General W. CULLEN, Resident of Travancore and Cochin; to His Highness the Rajah of Cochin, dated Bolghatty, 25th November 1856.

HIGHNESS,

Since visiting your Highness on Saturday last, I have been considering a good deal about the appointment of Vencut Row as Dewan, I first thought that it might be deferred for a little, but I now think it important that the confirmation should take place as soon as possible in order to add to his power and influence in these troubles about the Bimbom. I would therefore propose to address the Government at once on the subject.

From RAVI VURNAH, Rajah of Cochin; to Lieutenant General W. CULLEN, British Resident, dated Tripoonitorah, 26th November 1856.

MY DEAR GENERAL,

I have had the pleasure in receiving your very kind letter of yesterday's date, and agreeably to it, you can at once address the Government, regarding the appointment of Vencut Row as Dewan of Cochin, and of my approval of the measure. It has been also consulted in our last meeting that we should nominate my Carriacar as the Dewan Peishgar, and I sincerely hope, you will kindly and particularly have the measure carried into effect, which, I trust, will also be duly communicated.

I am sorry that the Woolsogum festival in the Pagoda here which commenced yesterday and will last a week, will prevent my doing myself the pleasure of seeing you till it is over, as I have some things more to communicate in person.

(True Copies)

R. V.

APPENDIX B.

An abstract of a Report of the late Dewan Nunjapayen; to the late Resident Colonel Munro.

To Colonel Munro, Resident of Travancore and Cochin, dated 18th Chingom 993.

At the time Captain Blacker left this, directed me to visit His Highness once every week and to enquire after His Highness' health, &c., &c., as also to inform him of all the business of the State, &c., and to inform you of my having done so, and in the event of Captain Blacker leaving Madras has sent me an order directing me to observe as stated above, and conformably to it, I do continue to go to Tripoonitorah and inform His Highness every particulars. I have also this day been at Tripoonitorah and seen His Highness, who I beg to say is in good health.

(True Translation.)

R. V.

From SHAYAGHERRY ROW, Dewan; to His Highness the Rajah of Cochin, Trichore, dated 9th Combom 1001, and February 1826.

HIGHNESS,

I have already informed your Highness of my proposal and obtained sanction to my intended Tour accompanied by the Officers of the Huzzoor Cutcherry, and that of the Appeal Court as far as Chittoor District. Accordingly I left Ernacollum this day the 8th Instant at 5 o'clock P. M.,

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and reached at Trichore about 10 o'clock A. M. Since my arrival here I examined and adopted measures in progressing the (*Turse grounds*) or uncultivated lands left without progress in all the Districts here, I shall inform your Highness of it more fully after I make an examination of the lands left uncultivated.

(A True Translation.)

R. V.

From NUNJAPAYEN, Dewan; to His Highness the Rajah of Cochin, Cranganore, 22nd Kankadagom 993, (August 1818.)

HIGHNESS,

In mine of the 30th Instant, I have duly informed your Highness of my arrival at Moogoonthapooram on the 27th and of my having inspected all the business, &c., and that, I was going to Cranganore; but I beg leave to state, that since my arrival here, have arranged the following business, *viz.*, out of the tribute of the 24,000 gold fanams due by the Rajah of Cranganore for this year 23,300 gold fanams been collected and paid up to the 30th Instant, and the balance 700 fanams, since my arrival was recovered and paid into the Treasury; 2nd an advertisement was given on the 14th Instant, inviting Tenders for the 5 Ferries at Cranganore which since my arrival here I accepted a tender on them for 120 fanams per month in addition of $4\frac{1}{2}$ fanams to that of last year; as also the opium and gunga, at $3\frac{1}{2}$ gold fanams per month, as that of last year.

2. As Coimbatore Tobacco was purchased at Cochin, for 19 Pootens per Bundle, and sold here at 26 Pootens on 7 Pootens profit to each Bundle, *viz.*, six Pootens to the Rajah and one to the Retailer. The Rajah wrote to me stating that as Tobacco is sold at 19 Pootens it is very grievous to him, enclosing a copy of the Treaty passed in 967, between himself and the Cochin Circar, wherein testifying that Tobacco should have been supplied at Cranganore, for the stipulated price of 14 Pootens per Bundle, consequently, I could not have contracted for it, but wrote to Coonhu Painker to examine the records, and to forward a copy of the accounts and the Treaty for my perusal, to ascertain the facts; and in order to arrange the matter of Tobacco. On the reception of these documents I shall inform the Resident, and at the same time submit every particulars for your Highness' information. I have ordered the continuance of the sale on Tobacco as hitherto done. I further beg leave to state, that I intended to leave this for Ernacolom today. On my arrival there, I shall acquaint your Highness with every particulars personally.

(A True Translation.)

R. V.

APPENDIX C.

From Colonel MUNRO, Resident; to His Highness the Rajah of Cochin, dated 29th April 1812, and 19th Medom 987.

HIGHNESS,

As the present Officers of the Cochin Circar having been appointed by Proclatha Rowyer and his predecessors without the sanction of your Highness, it is requisite now to dismiss them all and to appoint new hands in their room, consequently Candidates were invited, and on strict examinations, I find them capable for holding the offices that will be vacated. A list of their names are herewith forwarded, and should your Highness approve them they shall be appointed on the receipt of an answer on the subject.

(A True Translation.)

R. V.

From Colonel MUNRO, Resident; to His Highness WEERACARALA VURMAH, Rajah of Cochin, dated 31st January 1817.

HIGHNESS,

When I left Cochin, I informed your Highness that I had written to the Government concerning the appointment of a Dewan in Cochin, now I have received their sanction as I expected,

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by which I am directed to inform your Highness, that your Highness is to select and name a person trustworthy and confidential, fit, and efficient for the management of Public affairs, as well as for maintaining the existing friendship between your Highness and the Honorable Company, and consequently your Highness being true, prudent, and of good understanding and disposition, I trust your Highness will let me know speedily the name of a man for this purpose agreeably to the wishes of the Honorable Company.

(A True Translation.)

R. V.

From Colonel MUNRO, Resident; to His Highness the Rajah of Cochin, dated 21st Tholam 987, (5th November 1811.)

HIGHNESS,

I have received your letter of the 15th Instant, and am glad to see of your Highness' approval in establishing the Courts at Cochin.

It being my desire to appoint persons whom your Highness may deem requisite as Officers in the establishment of the intended Court, I request your Highness will chose fit, and able men versed in law affairs, and let me know, when I shall be glad to appoint them agreeably to your Highness' pleasure.

The established pay for the Court Officers of the Travancore Circar appear to be rather high in consequence of its Territory being larger than the Cochin Circar's and there are more business to be transacted and income derivable than what could be expected at Cochin, therefore I herewith send a statement of pay of the Officers of a Court here on the perusal of which I hope your Highness will be able to form a similar one, shewing the rank and pay of persons unavoidably required for the intended Court at Cochin, and forward the same for my perusal.

By your Highness' letter I understand the reason why the Dewan Coonjoo Kristna Menon applied for leave to go to Moogoonha Poram, and agreeably to your Highness' desire I have not complied with his request, but sent him an order to deliver back into the Sircar Treasury the Articles he had taken from it and in the event of his doing so I hope to be informed of as well as of your Highness' health.

(A True Translation.)

R. V.

From VENCADAH SOOBIAH, Dewan; to His Highness the Rajah of Cochin, Ernacolom dated 30th Meenom 1010, (12th April 1835.)

HIGHNESS,

I beg leave to state that I have received a letter from Resident on the 9th April, together with a list decreasing 1,098 Rupees, from the annual amount of pay of the Servants employed at the Island Custom Houses and Tobacco Godowns, the copy of which List I beg to forward for your Highness' perusal and request the sanction to act conformably from the 1st Medom.

(A True Translation.)

R. V.

APPENDIX D.

To His Highness The Rajah of Cochin.

I doubt not your Highness is in possession of the four Kisto Accounts I sent from the 1st up to the 15th Coombom, and the Accounts from the 16th up to the last day of the month are herewith forwarded, *viz.* First the account of money received and disbursed in the Treasury, second the money daily expended and advanced to the servants as per Bills, and of the Balance due to them up to the 15th Meenom, Third the assessment account of Money which is due and uncol-

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lected, and Fourth of the Court fees recovered and those remaining uncollected on renewing the Bonds and Deeds. These, I trust, will meet your Highness' approbation.

Ernacollum,
24th Meenom 994,
6th April 1819.

(Signed) NUNJAPIEN,
Dewan.
(A true Translation.)
R. V.

To His Highness WEERACARoola VURMA, Rajah of Cochin.

I beg to send herewith for your Highness' information the Accounts of the years of 989: of the receipts and disbursements as well as of the Revenue Collection in arrears of the Cochin Government, besides these I transmit for your Highness information an account of the Profit in the Salt, Tobacco, and Customs in the Commercial Department. The accounts for the year 988, 989, 990, have been prepared explicitly so that your Highness may clearly understand them. I trust you will approve and feel pleased when acquainted with them. I will submit without delay the remaining Accounts of the receipts and disbursements and of the arrears remaining uncollected for the year 990.

Trichore,
9th Tholam 991,
22nd December 1815.

(Signed) BLACKER,
Assistant Resident.
(True Translation.)
R. V.

APPENDIX E.

To P. COONHO CRISTAN MENON, to His Highness' Clerk.

SIR,

It is about a month my mother is bedridden, but now being informed by a letter from Trichore, that she is in a dangerous state since these last two days, and in consideration of her old age having a desire to see her, and remain there till she may feel a little better. I am of mind to proceed to Trichoor this night with the necessary Officers of the Cutcherry to transact the daily business during my stay there, consequently I request you will avail the opportunity to inform His Highness of the same and furnish me with an answer on the subject.

10th Coombom 1021
20th February 1846.

(Signed) S. WARRIER,
Dewan.

(A true Translation.)

R. V.

To my Dewan E. WARRIATHOO SHUNGRNE,

SHUNGREN,

In reply to your's of the 8th instant, No. 66, I have to say that I cannot with propriety grant your request in taking the Public officers attached to the Cutcherry to Trichore, while you go there to see your mother recovered. It was very unbecoming in you to write to me in the manner you have done, for in case any Officer, &c., are desirous to visit their parents or family would apply for leave mentioning the extent of time will be required, when as customary leave would be granted. But the manner you have written it is utterly out of practice, however if you like to go to Trichore, and remain there till your mother is recovered, on applying for the extent time required, leave shall be granted.

Tripoonitorah,
16th Combom, 1021
22nd February 1846.

(Signed) RAM VURMAH,
The Rajah of Cochin.
(A true Translation.)
R. V.

APPENDIX F.

To His Highness the Rajah of Cochin,

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Cochin.

SHEWETH,

That the Petitioners had lately represented their grievances both to your Highness and the British Resident respecting the Dewan's fraudulent acts, and misdemeanors, and as they have not

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received any redress whatsoever nor an investigation of the case being held the Dewan combined with his favourite officials with an animosity has this day sent his Brother Rama Row, accompanied by 10 to 12 Peons, &c., &c., (with an order from the Cochin Tassildar) into the House of one Vadakedathil Rama Pillay, to take him by force, they however, surrounded his House and called him to go up with them to the Huzzoor, but as he then pleaded himself unwell to do so, they forcibly broke open the door of his House and used great violence on his person, and went off.

That the Petitioners in not conforming to the wishes of the Dewan, they are thus forcibly taken up, detained, and disgraced with a view to compel Petitioners to adhere to his desire, and if such disorderly state of things are allowed to be continued, Petitioners fear it would be a matter of difficult to them to prove their statements, the Dewan is now endeavouring means, to conceal all the Circar Accounts, which would prove their assertion, they therefore beg that your Highness will have the goodness to cause an immediate investigation of the case already represented by them without further delay; till then, prevent the Dewan, from causing any unjust oppression or molestation being used on the Petitioners. For which act of humanity the Petitioners as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

2nd Coombom,
1033.

(Signed) VELLIYIL RAMOONY,
and four others.
(True Translations.)
R. V.

To His Highness the Rajah of Cochin.

The humble Petition of Pullyil Coonhoo Kristnen Menon, residing in Cochin.

SHEWETH,

That Petitioner from the era 1025 been employed in the capacity of a local Accountant in the Tassildar's Cutcherry at Cochin, where he credibly discharged his duties to the satisfaction of his superior; till on the 16th Vrichigom last, when he was unfortunately transferred to the Huzzoor in the Assessment Department, to conduct the duties of an Accountant (who was in the receipt of 10 Rupees, per month) and he to the Petitioner's room at Cochin; Petitioner's, however discontented of the 5 Rupees pay, correctly discharged his duties, till late to his greater regret removed to Trichoor, to the Tassildar's Cutcherry.

That on the 2nd Coombom, the Cutcheries being closed up consequent on the Cheverathee Festival, the Petitioner receiving a Message through a Moor Peon, from the Dewan, to appear before him that day at the Cutcherry; Petitioner waited upon him for a long time, till the said Peon conducted him to the Dewan's Maddom (where he said, that it was his orders to take him) when to his great regret the Dewan, ordered Petitioner, to write and sign a Chycit purporting, that he was fully aware of certain Petitions of the place; and in doing so, to fear nothing. Petitioner perplexed at the sudden and unjust orders, on replying to the negative, the Dewan threateningly and coolly urged again to depose it, by detaining till 12 in the noon, at last said that he shall not go till his orders are complied with.

That immediately afterwards the Petitioner's uncle, the Cannianore Tassildar was sent for, and told to obtain from him, the writing in question, who taking Petitioner aside endeavoured all that he can for one, and finding no recourse whatever took Petitioner back to the Dewan's house, where he was most unjustly detained, and frightfully threatened, that none of the Petitioner's relatives, &c., shall hold any employment in this Circar, unless the said Cychit being granted, and that he would fetter Petitioner, so saying, ordered a cadjan, an Iron Pen, and fetters, which being brought, the Petitioner was frightened at it, taking the cadjan, as he commenced writing, the Dewan hearing of your Highness' arrival at Ernacollum, repaired immediately to the landing place; and the Petitioner availing of the opportunity, unwilling to execute an unlawful act, made his way to his house at Cochin, where he resides ever since.

That considering the respectable situation the Petitioner's ancestors held in this Circar, &c., though he is young, yet it grieves him much to execute a false statement, therefore he apprehends that the Dewan, through an hatred is liable to disgrace him by some means or other, and in

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that case, he trust to receive your Highness' consideration, and your Highness will also be pleased to place the Petitioner in his former post, at Cochin, and prevent the Dewan from using similar unjust acts for the future. For which act the Petitioner, shall ever pray.
4th Coombom 1033.

R. V.

APPENDIX G.

To His Highness the Rajah of Cochin, dated 24th Coombom, 1033.

The humble Petition of Arrakel Shungoony Menone, residing in Cochin.

SHEWETH,

That on Petitioner returning to his house from Chellaie the Duffadar Jamaljee and Chillem-brom the Acting Duffadar united by 6 to 7 Peons seized him on the 21st Instant at 7 P. M., and told Petitioner that the Dewan has ordered to hand him up to the Resident's Office, but they on executing this order took him to the Tassildar's Cutcherry, from where, his instant commitment was ordered to, but he alleged that he has eaten nothing that day and begged to allow him to do so and to secure some means for the road expence the Tassildar did not grant the Petitioner's entreaties but privately telling something to Nagapen Naigue who committed him to the Danah, and Nagapen told at same time that he was ordered to be delivered up to the Iyekle Danah, for which he was from thence conducted to the Chowky at Muttoncherry and conveyed into a Canoe managed on with 3 Oars, this was at 12. P. M. On approaching in front of the bar he was terrified at the meeting of a large boat containing some Peons (among whom were those that apprehended him) with a number of persons at the oar but a certain feelings of terror excited by a thought of his being drowned by the parties so set up against him, he was compelled to cry out which was heard by a party of Sailors quite near in a ship and they on nearly repairing to the stop of alarm, the party in the boat thereupon consulted themselves to do nothing and he was committed to the said Danah at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 12. Nagapen was furnished with usual receipt of his committal, and thus he was all along through the medium of such restriction sent up starving and reached Trichore on the 23rd at 3 o'clock P. M. and he was detained at the Trichore Danah mealless as the Resident's Office was closed at the time. The next day the 24th at 10 o'clock he was taken to the Resident's Office from whence he was directed to be sent to the Dewan, on going to the latter he had been again brought up to the former, the Dewan remained for nearly 2 hours near the Resident, and that Petitioner is again committed to the Trichore Danah where he is labouring under the severest starvation. Petitioner is a sickly man, and had done nothing, but only complained against the Dewan, wherefore he begs that your Highness will order his exemption from oppression, and Petitioner shall as in duty bound, ever pray.

APPENDIX H.

To His Highness the Rajah of Cochin.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Cochin.

SHEWETH,

That your Highness' Petitioners beg leave to submit a few of the principal instances in which Vencata Row, the present Dewan of Cochin, has during his brief administration of less than a year, caused loss to the Circar, and grievance to your Highness' subjects; your Highness' Petitioners humbly pray, that, the following circumstances may receive your Highness' best consideration with a view to the adoption of measures to prevent these evils in future.

1. That your petitioners will first speak on the subject of the Revenue derived from Salt. That the quantity of Bombay Salt, annually required by the Cochin Circar, is about 3,600 Coombs (70 Indian Maunds a coomb) was obtained through Hadjee Jacob, Hadjee Moossa, and others of the family of Adam sett, and other men of wealth and consideration at a fair price, without loss, either to the Circar, or the Contractors. That under this practice which obtained during the 18, years' administration of the late Dewan Shungra Warriar, Salt was never purchased

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at a higher rate than from 25 to 30 Rupees, for 100 Indian Maunds. Immediately on the appointment of the present Dewan Vencata Row, he discontinued all connection with Hadjee Jacob, and other respectable Merchants, and sent for a Jew of the name of Ellia Rabbi, residing in the Jew's Town of Cochin, for the purpose of dealing with the Circar in Salt, and offered him a higher price than what had formerly rated, on the understanding that the profits were to be divided, between the Dewan and Ellia Rabbi. In pursuance of this arrangement, Ellia Rabbi entered into a Contract for the supply of a certain quantity of salt, for last year's consumption. On the other hand Hadjee Jacob, and others, who refused to supply the article on the infamous terms proposed by the Dewan, made no arrangements for its importation last year, and the result was that Ellia Rabbi committed a breach of contract to the extent of 500 Coombs of Salt, and the penalty of 40 Rupees per coomb upon the above quantity Salt delivered has not been enforced through the connivance of the Dewan, the consequence of which is the loss of 20,000 Rupees to the Circar. This improper leniency towards Ellia Rabbi has formed a precedent for extending a similar indulgence towards certain other defaulters to the extent of 300 coombs, by which also the Circar lost 12,000 Rupees, as penalty, fairly forfeited, and thus there was a loss of the sum of 32,000 to the Circar upon the last years' contract.

In consequence of the above extensive breaches of contract, a general scarcity of salt, has prevailed, thus enhancing the retail price from 6 measures or Nanhees per Puthen to less than one measure. A state of things which was a source of severe suffering to the poorer classes.

2. Even after the severe experiences of the past year, the Dewan has in utter disregard of the highly favourable terms offered by Hadjee Jacob, and others, renewed the contract with Ellia Rabbi himself for the present year, at an advance of 8 and 9 Rupees per Indian Maund, above the price at which the article was supplied in the time of late Shungra Warriar, so that the Circar will incur a loss of upwards of 20,000 Rupees upon the whole contract.

3. Independent of the above procedure which the Dewan has adopted for his own self interest, he has resorted to still more infamous conduct to fill his coffers. Several Sums of money amounting in the aggregate to Rupees 20,000 had been paid into the Treasury, by different retail merchants, for the purchase of salt; and as the article could not be delivered owing to the default on the part of Ellia Rabbi, and other contractors, the depositors prayed that the money may be retained and salt delivered to them from the supplies of the present year. The Dewan however determined to make capital amount of this transaction, and sent for one Irromben through Ellia Rabbi, and offered to give him Salt to the amount of 20,000 Rupees, if he paid the Dewan a premium of 5,000 Rupees, which being accordingly given, the previous deposits of the other retail dealers who should have received their supplies last year, were ordered to be returned. After the issue of such orders overtures were made on their behalf by one Panakel Iyapen, and a similar contribution of 5,000 Rupees having been entered by the Dewan, the Circar Accounts were corrected as if the above deposits were received, into the Treasury, from some other Merchants. The other retail Merchants, finding that Irroomban, as well as Iyapen and his party were to have the sole monopoly of Salt this year, offered terms to the Dewan through Ellia Rabbi, when a further sum of 40,000 Rupees was received into the Treasury, from them for the purchase of Salt. The Dewan having obtained a reward of 6 per cent, upon that amount or Rupees 2,000. By the above transactions the Circar incurred a loss of 52,000 Rupees on the purchase and 12,000 Rupees, in the sale, of a total loss of 64,000 Rupees which should be well considered by your Highness.

1. In the matter of Jaffna Tobacco, the annual quantity required by the Circar is 500 candies of good quality. In this year the 1st Sort is obtainable at prices not exceeding 65 Rupees, but the Dewan without sending for and making enquiries with all the merchants, entered into a contract with some favored individual at an advance of 10 Rs. per Candy above the market price, by which the Circar has clearly been a loser to the amount of 5,000 Rupees, and this, has been done in the face of more favourable tenders which were rejected. The Tobacco, already supplied is not of the best quality, and should it prove unsaleable, it must either be committed to the flames or the value of it written off the Accounts, thus entailing a heavy loss on the Circar. These results will be developed hereafter.

2. The late Dewan sent one Chathoo Panikar and other Circar Officers to Tuticoreen to weigh and receive charge of certain Tobacco on account of the Circar; but when the article

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arrived at Cochin there was deficit of 31 Candies amounting to Rupees 9,000 and odd, which the late Dewan ordered to be debited to the said Chatoo Paniker and others. The present Dewan has however omitted to enter into any enquiries to ascertain the cause of the deficiency or to institute legal proceedings against Chathoo Panikar and other, by which the amount in question is virtually lost to the Circar.

3. The usual rate at which Jaffna Tobacco is sold on behalf of the Circar is 187½ Rupees per Candy to all inhabitants. but a great partiality is manifested towards one Achooda Probboo a favorite of the Dewan, who is allowed to purchase the freshest supplies at 150 Rupees, and that upon credit, and by such unfair preference the Dewan derives a profit. On the other hand he gave orders to sell the inferior sort of Tobacco to other merchants at the higher rate of 187½ Rupees per Candy, together with old Tobacco, and this for ready cash.

4. The Dewan also permits his favorite the said Achooda Probboo to land contraband Tobacco on his own account, and sell it together with the Tobacco purchased from the Circar, the profits of this illicit trade being shared by Achooda Probboo and the Dewan.

With regard to the sale of Circar Timber for 1032, the high Tenders of certain merchants were rejected, and the unfavorable tender of the Dewan's favorite Achooda Probboo was accepted, thus causing a loss 10,000 Rupees to the Circar. The said Achooda Probboo had never been a dealer in timber and had no experience in that branch of trade, but the Contract was entered into in his name, as the Dewan has a personal share in the profits of the contract, and the timber which fell to the Dewan's share was employed by him in the erection of a private Pagoda for his own use.

The late Dewan having advertised for Tenders for the privilege of hewing Teak timber of above 8 inches, from the Chittoor forest, one Vengadashuren Putter of Nellashary Grammom, offered 8½ Rupees per Candy and his tender was accepted as the most advantageous, and it also received the sanction of the Resident. The contract was not however completed owing to a dispute as to the period for which the privilege in question was to be exercised, the late Dewan allowing only 3 years and the said Vengadashuren Putter requiring five. The negotiations remained unsettled at the time of the late Dewan's death but the present Dewan through interested motives assigned over the privilege to the said individual for an indefinite period on those terms, although the value of the timber has been considerably enhanced, and is still increasing every year. With a view to obtain the above favorable terms and to prevent the Tassildar and other principal officers, from being present at the measurement of the Timber, and thereby to enable him to defraud the Circar, the said Vengadashuren Putter presented the Dewan Gooroo or master (the Shastry of the Appeal Court) with 20 sovereigns and a suit of clothes for the purpose of tampering with the Dewan. He also sent to the Dewan through the Shastry 1,000 Venetian carpets of the value of 50 Rupees, besides Teak timber for the erection of a Barm, &c., on an Estate belonging to the Dewan near the Chittoor forest. These doctours had the effect of obtaining an order from the Dewan to the effect that the presence of the Tassildar was not necessary at the measuring of the Timber hewn by Vengadashuren Putter and a private servant of the Dewan was appointed to superintend the measurement.

The Nelliampathy and Parambicum forests produce Teak of very large size. These forests were subject to frequent depredations by one Shessayen Putter and the sons of one Anayen Chetty who farmed the adjoining forests in the Company's Territory. The now has now made an arrangement very prejudicial to the interests of the Circar by receiving a bribe of 8,000 Rupees from the sons of Anayen Chetty. He has allowed their Agents Shamy Putter the privilege of lopping off the upper part of the Teak trees in the said forests on payment of 2 Rupees per Candy. The upper parts of the trees in the said two forests are by far thicker and more valuable than the Teak of the Chittoor forests, and are actually sold at Ponany at 16 Rupees the Candy, whereas no tenders were invited or the sanction of the Resident or your Highness obtained in this case as was done in respect to the less valuable Teak of the Chittoor forest.

That the Police Ameenadar employed in the detection of smuggled articles was dismissed without any cause, and one Jamaldeen appointed to that duty, under the supervision of Ellia Rabbi,

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Achooda Probboo, the Dewan's Brother Rama Row, and one Wallia Arrayen, who receive 20 Rupees upon each Candy of smuggled Pepper or Tobacco which they allow to pass. The said Jamaldeen has made a Profit of 4,000 Rupees during the 4 months, he was employed in the above duty. And although he was discharged by the Dewan, he was re-appointed upon paying 1,000 Rupees to the Dewan. Considerable quantities of Tobacco and Pepper are daily allowed to pass by Jamaldeen and Ellia Rabbi and others, and large sums of money received by them for the same to the injury of the Circar.

Having detailed a few instance of the Dewan's conduct prejudicial to the interests of the Circar, your Highness' Petitioners will now proceed to state some instances of oppression towards the inhabitants.

1. The Dewan has afforded very facility and aid in suppressing the murder Case against the Parayas and has received a bribe of 20,000 Rupees in connection with that affair. Ex-Dewan Peischar of Travancore Rama Menone may be examined as an evidence on this point, and that officer also possesses vouchers bearing on the case.

2. That the sons of the late Jogia Ramy of Cochin having been convicted of knowingly receiving stolen property were in consideration of their youth sentenced to pay a fine by the Appeal Court. At the suggestion of the Dewan who was then attached to the Resident an order was sent to the Appeal Court expressing a strong and decisive opinion that the fine was inadequate, and that imprisonment should be awarded. After Vencata Row's appointment as the Dewan, the sons of Jogia Ramy gave the Appeal Court Shastry 300 Rupees for himself and 200 sovereigns, 2 pairs of Diamond earrings and one pair of Ruby earrings of the value of 25,000 Rupees for the Dewan. This induced the Dewan to make a further representation to the Resident and thus obtain the confirmation of the original sentence of fine. This will be proved by the examination of Jogia Ramy's sons and their Account Books, and by the Dewan being required to give a satisfactory account as to how he came, by the earrings.

3. While the Dewan was attached to the Resident's Office he received a bribe of 3,000 Rupees from one Gooroo sawmy on the promise of getting him from the Travancore Government, the contract for Coimbatore Tobacco for 1031; but as he failed to fulfil his promise, the said Gooroo sawmy has become insolvent and reduced to great extremities. This will be proved by examining the said Gooroo sawmy, Jogia Shetty Ghirry, and the Documents in their possession.

4. That the Dewan, while with the Resident's Office at Courtallum, received 1,000 Rupees from Ceshava Shenoy Ghirry and obtained an order to the Appeal Court against their Decree in his case, and gave the said Ghirry a private copy of the said order. After the Resident's arrival at Cochin, the Dewan Vencat Row and Nanoo Pillay of the Resident's Office received 2,000 Rupees from the opposite party Paramashura Menone and by misrepresentation, obtained another order in direct opposition to the former one, in consequence of the above Keshava Shenoy Ghirry, an honest and respectable man, was forced to quit the country.

5. The Tassildar of Cranganore having embezzled funds belonging to the Cranganore Devassom the Dewan's mother received 2 Chodenas of ghee, his Brother 200 Rupees and the Dewan himself 1,000 Rupees from the said Tassildar and suppressed the matter without any enquiry.

6. That an equitable decision having been passed by the Appeal Court in the case of Augarato Manady versus the Chondathoo family. The former who is employed in the Huzzoor Cutcherry proceeded to Courtallum without leave, presented a forged Petition in the name of his Carnaven and gave the Dewan (who was then attached to the Resident) a bribe of 1,000 Rupees and obtained an order in opposition to the said Decree. The Agent of the Choudathoo family hearing of this adverse order, sent a bribe of 1,500 Rupees to the Dewan, through Letchmana Pillay of the Assessment Department, the Dewan has thus exacted money from both parties to their prejudice and ruin.

7. In the case of the Thiroomala Bimbom the Dewan intimidated the Davassom people and received from them 10,000 Rupees and 2 Silver salvers, he also demanded 1,500 Rupees more and has taken security from the parties that they would assign over to him the Mitcharom receipts for the property called Pullypoorathoo Cadoo on account of the additional sum demanded by him

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This will be proved by the accounts of the Davessom, and by examining Davessom people, and also by calling upon the Dewan to account how he came by the two silver salvers which are of a construction peculiar to Davessom property.

8. That while the prosecutrix in the case of murder charged against the Parayees, was on her way to Trevandrum, the Dewan sent the Daffadar to seize her boat and both she and the men who accompanied her were lodged in Jail on a pretext that they were smuggling Tobacco, and they were only released after the Dewan's Brother had received 200 Rupees and the Dewan 1,000 Rupees through one Valliatarrah. The facts are well known to many Public Officers at Ernacollum, and will be proved by an investigation with them as well as with Valliatarah and others.

9. That in the dispute relating to the Syrian Churches the Dewan intimidated one Panakel Iyapen and received from him at Koonamkolumgara Silver Salver containing money and a Cap worked with gold Tissue. He subsequently received from the same party at Ernacollum a golden waist jewel. The Dewan also received from the opposite party, the Metropolitan, 4 or 5 gold Bracelets, besides money and other articles nominally as a present to his children. If the parties concerned are duly sworn on the Bible, the facts will be brought to light.

10. The Dewan has received 1,000 Rupees from one Jenarthanen of Aykal, by charging him with assaulting a writer of the Huzzoor and others deputed to detect smuggling and thus putting him under the influence of fear, this will be proved by enquiring how Jenarthen's case has been disposed of, and also by examining certain parties from whom Jenarthen had obtained the extorted money by mortgage.

11. That through the means of Ellia Rabbi and Achooda Proboo the sum of 1,000 Rupees for the Dewan and a lustre for the value of 200 Rupees for his brother Rama Row were exacted from one Ellia, a respectable black jew, by falsely accusing him of complicity in a case of highway robbery. Besides the above Ellia Rabbi, Achooda Proboo and the Cochin Tahsildar and Sambra-
thy obtained 1,000 Rupees for their own use. This will be proved by putting Ellia on his oath, and also examining Proboo who lent Ellia the money and also by calling the Dewan to account for the presence of the lustre which is suspended in the central room of his Bungalow.

12. In the matter of the disputes connected with the Eddacochee Church, the Dewan's brother received 500 Rupees from the minor part of the parishioners, and the Dewan himself after his return from the north received 3,000 Rupees from the major party through Ellia Rabbi, and which has caused great hardship to the entire congregation of that Church. This can be proved by examination of the Church records and by putting the parishioners upon their oaths.

13. That with reference to the surveys for assessment, the Dewan intimidated Palliet Achen and extorted from him, money and ornaments to the amount of 15,000 Rupees. The Palliet Achen will not admit this from a feeling of shame, and from fear of losing his property, but the matter will be proved by examining the survey reports originally prepared in respect to the Palliet Estate jointly with other property and the order returning those reports for revision, and also from the fact of the subsequent confirmation of the original reports themselves.

14. That one Canadan, a Moplah having committed homicide by misadventure while in pursuit of a monkey, the Dewan had him apprehended by the Parvaticar, and extorted from him through the said Parvaticar the sum of 1,000 Rupees. This fact will be proved by examining Canadan, the Moplah, as well as his brother, a Roman Priest.

15. That for the purpose of hushing up the case of murder, one Chembagacherry Achen and Vallen Macky, bribed the Dewan in the sum of 1,500 Rupees through the Cochin Sumbra-
thy Pillay and one Manadiar of the Huzzoor Rayesom Department, as will be apparent upon enquiry made on the spot where the murder occurred, and from the fact of no investigation whatever having been hitherto made.

16. That the Dewan has by improperly interfering with established usage in respect to the Arrack Contract, and by intimidation and oppression, exacted 500 Rupees from one Toorootoomal Oonamen through the Sumbroothy Pillay of Cochin.

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In conclusion your Highness' Petitioners most humbly beg leave to submit that if the matters above referred to are thoroughly and impartially investigated and the line of enquiry above dictated is duly followed up and the truth thoroughly sifted, the Petitioner's representations will be borne out, and the result will tend to the removal of the great evils under which they now groan by the extortionate and unjust conduct of the Dewan.

If, on the other hand, no such enquires are made, but the Petitioners' statements are at once communicated to the Dewan, there can be no doubt, that he will exert all the influence of his position to block up channels of evidence pointed out by the Petitioners, and to prevent the truth from coming to light.

The Petitioners therefore entreat that in like manner, as His late Highness, who departed this life in Toolam, had in the time of the Resident Mr. Casamagoo appointed Commissioners to investigate the charges against Edamana Shungren Menon, the Dewan of that period, your Highness will be pleased to suspend the present Dewan Vencata Row and cause him to be brought to trial before Commissioners duly appointed for the purpose, in order that should the flagrant misconduct of the Dewan to the ruin of the Public Revenues, and prejudice of your Highness' Subjects be brought home to him, he may with exemplary punishment, but that on the other hand, if the Petitioners representations prove false or malicious, they may be visited with just retribution.

And your Highness' Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(Signed) PIELY AVURA.

(") VATHEN.

(") COONJEE PANIKER.

(") AYAPEE THUNDAN.

24th Dhanoo 1033.

(A True Translation.)

R. V.

APPENDIX I.

From Colonel MUNRO, Resident; to NUNJAPAYEN, the Dewan of Cochin, dated Trevandrum, 17th Cunny 994, (October 1818.)

SIR,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, stating that in consequence of Coimbatore Tobacco being supplied at 19 Pottens per Bundle instead of 14 as stipulated in the Treaty, the Cranganore Rajah has represented his grievances and as you have not found any stipulated price of Tobacco in the Treaty ordered for an examination of the Poodookot Tobacco Godown accounts, and found that Tobacco were supplied to the Rajah from Era 966 which Accounts together with a Statement of the profit the Circar had on their sale while brought to Moogoondaporom you forwarded for my perusal. In reply, I have to say that as the Rajah of Cranganore being tributary to the Cochin, Circar and not having hitherto paid the partly subsidy due it does not appear reasonable to charge so high a price on Tobacco instead its stipulated price at Cochin, but as these circumstances are very grievous to the Rajah, it is necessary to do every thing reasopably, I request you will therefore on obtaining His Highness' concurrence cause Coimbatore Tobacco to be sold in Cranganore for their prime cost, and have not the least doubt of His Highness granting you the necessary sanction for it.

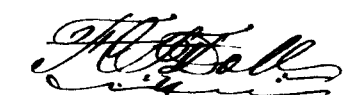
(A True Translation.)

R. V.

From VENCATA SOOBIAH, Acting Dewan; to His Highness the Rajah of Cochin, dated Ernacolom, 18th Combom 1010, (February 1835.)

HIGHNESS,

I beg leave to state that since I wrote to the Resident regarding the purchase of Bombay Salt for this year's sale I have been directed to dispose of all the Country white and Goa Salt at



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present in the Godown. Agreeably I ordered to do so from 1st Magrom last, but finding the Circar to sustain a loss by such sale, I reported it to the Resident requesting his permission to dispose of the remaining supply of Bombay, Country and white Salt together by mixing it in equal proportion, which I think it will be of some advantage to the Circar. Having received a reply from the Resident on the 25th Ultimo, desiring me to submit all those particulars for your Highness' information and approval, I request your Highness will be kindly pleased to sanction me to act on the subject.

From VENCATA SOOBIAH, Dewan; to His Highness the Rajah of Cochin, dated Ernacolum, 16th Combom 1010, (February 1835.)

HIGHNESS,

I beg leave to state that the Collector of Timbers at Icotta by name Narrina Pillay, reported to me that there are about 287 Logs, including Anjellee and Jungle Wood, and if ordered that could be sold for Circar advantage. But being desirous to know their Current price, I wrote to the Tassildar of Cochin, to furnish me with one, and in reply being informed that Anjellee are sold at one and half to 1½ Rupee per Candy; immediately I wrote to the Collector of Timbers, and received a reply stating that some of the Merchants offered 1½ and 2 Rupees per Candy agreeably to the Anjellee Logs, and as for the Jungle Wood they are required by many Merchants, further the Circar would sustain a loss by keeping those Timbers unsold and besides having no Public Works presently they are liable to be putrified by keeping it longer.

On the receipt of the above information, I reported the Resident on the subject, and received his concurrence on the 23rd February to dispose those Timbers on submitting the case for your Highness' information and concurrence, therefore I request your Highness' sanction on the subject.

From VENCATA SOOBIAH, Dewan; to His Highness the Rajah of Cochin, dated Ernacolum, 17th Madom 1010, (April 1835.)

HIGHNESS,

I beg leave to state, that I received a letter from Saporjee Heejee, a Merchant of Cochin, stating that he has a desire to purchase those Teak Timbers brought lately, via Ponany and Cranganore, provided the Circar would lessen one Rupee from the stipulated price per Candy of every class Teak Timber.

Finding on an enquiry that none of the Merchants require Timber presently, with the exception of him, and being requisite to dispose them for short of cash, I sent for Soorabjee and inspected those Timbers; but finding very few Logs in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and the 4th class, I induced Soorabjee to take them for their stipulated price per Candy, and those upwards to the 5th class one Rupee less.

I have on these particulars reported to the Resident and obtained his concurrence to dispose them (as otherwise the Timbers remaining unsold the Circar is liable to sustain a loss) consequently I request your Highness' sanction and concurrence to act on the subject.

(A True Translation.)

R. V.

APPENDIX J.

From RAVEE VURMAH, the Rajah of Cochin; to Lieutenant General W. CULLEN, British Resident of Travancore and Cochin, Trevandrum, dated Cheverah, 4th December 1857.

SIR,

I have the honor to bring to your notice, that my Dewan Vencata Row has without my permission or knowledge left this on the 30th Ultimo for Trevandrum against all the Rules and usages observed by his Predecessors.

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From W. CULLEN, Resident of Travancore and Cochin; to His Highness the Rajah of Cochin, dated Trevandrum, 8th January 1858.

HIGHNESS.

I propose leaving Trevandrum tomorrow morning on my route to Cochin, and to have the pleasure of congratulating your Highness on the commencement of another new year, I hope to reach Bolghatty about the 13th Instant.

The Dewan who has been of the greatest use to me in assisting in the management and disposal of the late Dewan of Travancore's affairs will follow me in a day or two. He has been of the utmost assistance to me and to the family, in fact we could not have got on without him and I hope your Highness will not therefore be sorry that I have detained him so long.

Your Highness will be surprised to learn, after all the ridiculous stories of the great riches of the late Dewan, that he has only left about 40,000 Rupees in Government Securities and no other property, but his Widow's Jewels and a few other Articles. He divided the whole sum amongst his five nearest relatives.

Hoping that your Highness enjoys good health and also Her Highness the Amah Rajah and the Elliah Rajah and your Highness' Sisters.

From RAVEE VURMAH, the Rajah of Cochin; to Lieutenant General W. CULLEN, British Resident of Travancore and Cochin, Bolghatty, Muttoncherry, dated 29th January 1858, No. 1.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward to you with reference to our conversation in the meeting held on the 22nd Instant, copy of an English Petition together with Translations of five from Malayalim ones represented to me by some of the Inhabitants of Cochin, complaining against Vencata Row, the Dewan.

From W. CULLEN, Resident of Travancore and Cochin; to His Highness the Rajah of Cochin, dated 29th January 1858.

HIGHNESS,

Just as I received your Highness' note of this morning, I was about to write to your Highness to say, in reply to a communication yesterday from the Dewan, that I regretted, I had not been at all well for the last two or three days and that I was sorry, I should not be able to wait upon your Highness on Saturday.

There should be nothing however that your Highness should have any difficulty in communicating to the Resident by letter; I have a strong dislike to the employment of any writer as Interpreter, nor should I be disposed to give any opinion whatever on information so communicated. The usual mode of transacting business is through your Highness' Dewan, and I should ask that mode to be adhered to. It is a privilege also to which he is entitled and which it would be contrary to usage and unjust to deprive him of.

I must also take the liberty to offer some remarks on our Interview on Wednesday last, for I was very sorry to find your Highness at a mere visit of ceremony where I had Officers to meet you, introducing before them discussions on Public affairs, such as the Bimbom and the subject the subject of conversation at my private interview with your Highness at Muttoncherry. Now the Bimbom affair cannot be disposed of in verbal conferences; the duties incumbent on the Sirkar are clear and unmistakable, and I hope your Highness will read the whole of the correspondence carefully, for I attribute the success of the Robbery to the apathy if not indirect connivance of the late Dewan, and certain parties connected with him at Ernacollom and Muttoncherry, all which is fully pointed out in my letter to him, No. 611 of the 28th February 1853.

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On the other subject which your Highness appeared to wish to discuss on Wednesday, I have already given my sentiments, they continue unaltered nor should I wish to re-open the discussion.

Any Papers that your Highness may wish me to read, I hope you will send to me for that purpose.

From RAVEE VURMAH, the Rajah of Cochin; to Lieutenant General W. CULLEN, British Resident of Travancore and Cochin, Bolghatty, dated Muttoncherry, 30th January 1858.

SIR,

I have received your letter of yesterday's date, and regret to learn of your indisposition and trust it will be of short continuance.

I have several matters of importance to communicate personally, which circumstances would render it very inconvenient to detail at length in writing. I am therefore induced again to request you will afford me the pleasure of an interview either at Bolghatty or Muttoncherry on Monday the 1st Proximo at 7 A. M., or as soon after as may be perfectly convenient to you, and I shall be happy to continue at Muttoncherry until then. I have come down from Chowray for the express purpose.

Without desiring to act in any way unjustly towards the Dewan, I beg to observe that on many occasions, the interviews with the Resident have been carried on through the intervention of an Interpreter provided by the Resident, and the adoption of such course on the present occasion will not, I think, interfere with the Dewan's rights. Besides I have reasons to wish that the interview I now seek may be so conducted, and trust you will oblige me in that respect.

I regret much that the allusion to the Bimbom affair at our last interview should have given you displeasure, it was far from my wish to open a discussion on the question and any remarks which fell from me were elicited by the turn the conversation had taken. I hope however to satisfy you on this and other points you refer to, by personal explanation at our next interview.

From W. CULLEN, Resident of Travancore and Cochin; to His Highness the Rajah of Cochin, dated Bolghatty, 1st February 1858.

HIGHNESS,

I have just received your Highness' note of this day announcing your intended departure to Tripoonitorah for the Birth-day preparation. I think your Highness will be well away from Muttoncherry, for I hear that the small Pox is very bad in the Company's Town. I duly received your Highness' letter of Saturday evening, but I had already requested the Dewan to write to your Highness and yesterday was Sunday.

I trust the Dewan will be able to explain satisfactorily all those Petitions your Highness sent me, which seem all to proceed from one source, but these are mere Translations. I can only act on being furnished with the originals.

From RAVEE VURMAH, the Rajah of Cochin; to Lieutenant General W. CULLEN, British Resident of Travancore and Cochin, Bolghatty, dated Tripoonitorah, 3rd February, No. 2 of 1858.

SIR,

In compliance to the last para: of your letter of the 1st Instant to my address, I have the honor to enclose herein seven original Petitions, one English and six Malayalim ones, the copies of the former, and the translations of the latter five, (which I have already furnished you) together with one Malayalim I received since my return to Tripoonitorah have to forward you for the purpose alluded to in the concluding para: of yours under acknowledgement.

It appears by the last mentioned Petition that the Dewan not only by oppression compels the poor Petitioners to screen and suppress the truth of their Statements, but is adopting measures to rectify and deface several Circar Accounts and wherein he is unlawfully concerned in order

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to prove himself guiltless, you will therefore, I beg, have the goodness to adopt stringent measures as you may deem expedient to prevent such misdemeanors being exercised by him.

I beg you will have the goodness to return the above alluded Petitions after the due revival of the same.

From RAVEE VURMAH, the Rajah of Cochin; to Lieutenant General W. CULLEN, British Resident of Travancore and Cochin, Alwaye, dated Muttoncherry 13th February, No. 3 of 1858.

SIR,

With reference to my letter of the 3rd Instant, in which I drew your attention to certain illegal practices on the part of the Dewan by which he has sought to intimidate certain Petitioners into a retraction of their complaints, and to alter the public Accounts to suit his views, I regret to be obliged again to forward to you a further Petition by which it would appear that since your departure for Alwaye the Dewan's brother Rama Row has, with the aid of Circar Peons, used the most unjustifiable means to coerce and intimidate the accusers of the Dewan.

In pressing the subject upon your attention, I trust you will see the necessity of using prompt and effectual measures not only to protect the Petitioners from unjust treatment, but to prevent the ends of Justice from being defeated, should ulterior measures become necessary, which I fear cannot long be delayed in justice to all parties.

From Lieutenant General W. CULLEN, Resident of Travancore and Cochin; to His Highness the Rajah of Cochin, dated Alwaye, 14th February 1858.

HIGHNESS,

I have had the honor to receive your Highness' letter of yesterday with its enclosure. I have no person with me here to furnish me with a perfectly correct translation of the Petitions, but I understand them sufficiently to perceive that they are signed by five individuals whose names have already been added to former Petitions, or whose names have been mentioned to me in connection with those Petitions.

Your Highness having already transferred their previous Petitions to the Resident for disposal, I have observed with regret the concluding para: of your Highness' letter imputing to the Resident a disinclination to make due enquiry. The matter can not be disposed of summarily, and I have been fully occupied with enquiries, but I cannot allow myself to be hurried by the complaints of Petitioners, nearly all of whom appear to be of low degree, and several of whom have already in personal examination before me declared that they were threatened and forced to sign those Petition by parties whose names have been given to me.

I have every reason to believe that the charges generally are without foundation and I thought your Highness knew that all contracts for Salt, and the prices at which it is to be supplied, and in general all contracts whatever requires the sanction of Resident, before they can be executed.

I shall return to Bolghatty tomorrow, when I will have the Petition carefully translated.

From Lieutenant General W. CULLEN, Resident of Travancore and Cochin; to His Highness the Rajah of Cochin, dated Bolghatty, 17th February 1858.

HIGHNESS,

I have been favored with your Highness' letter of yesterday. I regret much that the state of my health, suffering as I do from eruptions caused from the extreme heat, will not admit of my waiting on your Highness as requested, I shall be much engaged also with Dr. Barker, who is about leaving me.

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I would moreover observe to your Highness, that I have already paid two long visits to your Highness and visits at the Residency from your Highness, and from His Highness the Elliah Rajah.

I have been here now upwards of a month. Your Highness has on both my visits had the opportunity and entered fully on Public matters. I have been fully investigating the subjects your Highness brought to my notice and the result satisfies me that evil designing persons have been endeavouring to mislead your Highness in regard to the Dewan's proceedings, as far as I have yet seen the whole of their complaints appear to be entirely groundless. After the interval of a whole month to be still desirous of making their complaints against the Dewan proves a combination in a most serious charge.

I shall however say no more at present, but I do earnestly entreat of your Highness not to permit any more of these suspicions proceedings, and to follow the advice of the British Resident, whom your Highness must know from an experience of a great number of years has no wish but to uphold your Highness' interest and the character of the Government. The Dewan's high and responsible post, selected as he was by your Highness and approved by British Resident and the Government, require that he should receive the utmost support. He is engaged in a most important work a survey of the gardens of the Sircar. He cannot conduct that with success if he is to be thus interfered with by mischievous persons, nor will the Government be pleased to hear in the present times more especially that a high Public Officer of the kind enjoying the confidence of the Resident is thus obstructed in the performance of his duties. Any further communication which your Highness may wish to make to me in writing I shall be prepared to pay every attention to.

From RAVEE VURMAH, the Rajah of Cochin; to Lieutenant General W. CULLEN, British Resident of Travancore and Cochin, Bolghatty, dated Muttoncherry, 18th February, No. 4 of 1858.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your two letters of the 14th and 17th Instant.

I regret much that you were unable to afford me the interview requested in my letter of the 16th. My visit at the Residency was one of Ceremony when the presence of strangers necessarily prevented much communication on Public Affairs. I had certainly the honor of two visits from you at Muttoncherry, but on neither occasion had I the advantage of an interpreter, and my limited knowledge of English did not permit me to enter so fully into the matters under discussion, as it was my eager desire to do. Those visits, therefore so far as the expression of my feelings and sentiments on public questions was concerned, were in a great measure unavailing. I had come down to Cochin for the express purpose of meeting you and fully communicating my views on certain matters; and my health has somewhat suffered from long detention in this ungenial climate, I am therefore induced to request, that under the circumstances you will afford me the pleasure of an interview on Saturday the 20th Instant at 7 A. M., at Muttoncherry, but should this appointment prove inconvenient to you, I shall be happy to call at the Residency at 1 P. M., the same day, where, I trust you will provide the necessary facilities for the attainment of my object without interruption.

I have perused with deep regret your assumption that I have been misled by evil designing persons in regard to the Dewan's proceedings. The charges are so clear and specific, and advanced so openly, that I should have thought this circumstance sufficient to preclude such a conclusion.

I am perfectly unconcious of any combination, nor of having encouraged any suspicious proceedings, as you suggest; and have no desire but to have the whole matter thoroughly investigated so that the evil does from whatever side may be fully exposed. But if I am more clear on any one point than another, it is that nothing can be more prejudicial than to pronounce an opinion upon summary or imperfect data.

The accusers being of low degree, gives them an additional claim to protection against the abuse of power; and many of the accusations may be easily verified by the most reliable evidence, the Circar Records themselves. At all events they involve, in my opinion, matters of too serious a character to be lightly regarded.

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The Petitioners declare that they are prepared to substantiate their charges, or to abide the consequences of failing to do so, and I think it nothing but justice to both parties, to order a full and impartial judicial enquiry into all the circumstances. Nor is such a proceeding without precedent.

I am not insensible of the important duties now devolving upon the Dewan, and I am therefore the more impressed with the inexpediency of allowing him to continue in the execution of important works, which he can neither do with any chance of success or satisfaction to himself, with such damaging and disreputable charges impending against him, and which, if allowed to pass unheeded, will raise a strong presumption as to their truth. I am confident you will agree with me that nothing is so essential to an Officer holding an high and responsible a Post as an unblemished character, and nothing can possibly tend more to mar his utility than such imputations if they continue unchallenged.

In conclusion I trust you will do me the credit to believe that I have every respect and confidence in the British Resident, and I am fully persuaded that you will heartily co-operate with me in upholding the character of my Government.

From Lieutenant General W. CULLEN, Resident of Travancore and Cochin; to His Highness the Rajah of Cochin, dated Bolghatty, 19th February 1858, No. 5.

HIGHNESS,

As promised in my letter of the 14th Instant, I now beg to explain to your Highness the result of my enquiries into the Petitions forwarded in your Highness' letter of the 13th Instant.

I could not but feel astonishment and suspicion at the charge made against the Dewan's brother, and I now forward to your Highness a copy of Rama Row's distinct and unqualified denial of the whole story; and his statement is supported by the deposition of 13 Individuals taken by my order both at Ernacolum and Muttoncherry on the day of his visit to your Highness.

Your Highness' Surwady Kariacar should have ascertained the general correctness of the Petitions before he gave them to your Highness to forward to the British Resident. One of them is, I observe, an old Petition of the 8th of February scored with the English initials of some person and apparently torn out of a Book into which it had been posted, not exactly the kind of paper I think which your Highness could have seen or desired to be forwarded to the Resident.

I would also request your Highness' notice to the circumstance that one of the Petitioners Cochoo Kristna Menone is an individual who has been accused by a number of Petitioners who have appeared before me at the Residency as having forced or persuaded them to sign Petitions against the Dewan.

Another individual who had been forced to sign a Petition lately preferred a Police complaint before the Dewan, that one Coongoo Kristma Menone had threatened and intimidated him, because he had deposed in favor of the Dewan, and he was therefore summoned before the Dewan's Cutcherry to answer the charge. He attended for a few minutes and then disappeared, and he is now stated to be concealing himself within the precincts of the Palace and refusing to attend before the Dewan.

He is a Revenue Servant and I cannot think that your Highness can be aware of his conduct, and I hope therefore that orders may be given for his appearance before the Dewan.

The names of both the above individuals are attached to the last Petitions forwarded to me by your Highness.

I will take the liberty also to add in proof the existence of a party engaged in fomenting complaints against the Dewan that I have this very forenoon been occupied in the examination of six Petitions from Codungaloor who complain that while they came a day or two ago to Muttoncherry in order to represent to the Dewan certain irregularities on the part of the Tassildar they were accosted by one Vathoo Cattoo Karriakar and 5 or 6 others near the Chowkey at Mutton-

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cherry who told them that it was of no use going to the Resident or Dewan and that Petitions were preparing against the Dewan, and that they also must join, or that they should be brought into trouble.

From RAVEE VURMAH, the Rajah of Cochin; to Lieutenant General W. CULLEN, British Resident of Travancore and Cochin, Bolghatty, dated Muttoncherry, 20th February, No. 5 of 1858.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th Instant, with its enclosure.

The charges against the Dewan's brother Rama Row were brought to my notice by the Petitioners, under circumstances which left me no alternative, but to forward them to your consideration inasmuch as the Petitioners distinctly stated and offered to prove, that Rama had been endeavouring to coerce and intimidate the Dewan's accusers. I observe that the said Petitioners have not been called upon to make good their Statements.

The Surwady Carriacar is not responsible for the transmission of those Petitions to you as they were presented to me in person, and I considered them of sufficient importance to deserve your attention. The Petition, dated 8th February, had been pasted into a book in which all Petitions are usually filed and a translation of it sent to you on the 13th instant with my letter, No. 3. The original Petition was subsequently removed from the file to be forwarded by you in accordance with the desire expressed in your private letter of the 1st Instant.

The Petitioner Cochoo Kristna Menon is not a person in authority or possessing any special powers by which he could coerce persons to combine in so hazardous a venture as to bring accusations against the Dewan. If any individuals have by mere persuasion from another, committed themselves so seriously, I can hardly think their responsibility less onerous than that of the party who instigated them.

With reference to the individual Coongoo Kristna Menone, alluded to in the 5th paragraph of your letter, I must distinctly deny that he has found an Asylum within the precincts of my Palace.

I have received a Petition from him (herewith enclosed,) in which he gives a totally different version of the circumstances you refer to, and complains that he has been attempted to be victimized by the Dewan. He alleges that he was seized and taken to the Dewan's private house, and coercive measures adopted to induce him to retract his charges against the Dewan. That after being detained a whole day, he took advantage of my unexpected presence at Ernacollum, which temporarily diverted the Dewan's purpose, to escape to his own house.

Whatever may be the fact, it is clear that the Police complaint against Coonjoo Kristna Menone, has arisen altogether out of charges personally affecting the Dewan. I am therefore disposed to doubt the propriety of such complaints being investigated and disposed of by the Dewan himself.

I take this opportunity of enclosing another Petition from Francis Fernandez, complaining that the Dewan had by oppressive practices extorted his signature to a Cadjan, the contents of which he was ignorant of. The Petition will speak for itself.

Adverting to the concluding paragraph of your letter under reply, I beg to state that as far as my information goes, I am not aware of any organized party against the Dewan, but whatever may be the degree of credibility to be attached to the statements noticed by you, the charges alleged against the Dewan Vencata Row rest upon their own merits and I do not think it would be fair towards aggrieved parties to deny them a hearing, so long as they adopt legal and proper measures to bring forward their grievances.

A public and judicial investigation can only bring to light the real merits of those accusations, serious and weighty as they are, and I am prepared to visit with the utmost rigour the authors of such representations, should they prove wilfully false and malicious.

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I therefore request your earnest and full consideration to my opinion on this point contained in my letter of the 18th Instant, and to which I have yet had no reply.

I cannot conclude this without expressing my conviction that the course I have suggested is more likely to bring the case to a decisive and satisfactory result than unprofitable preliminary enquiries which can only tend to complicate matters and give rise to mutual recriminations, the merits of which it is impossible fairly to appreciate.

From Lieutenant General W. CULLEN, Resident of Cochin; to His Highness the Rajah of Cochin, 26th February 1858.

HIGHNESS,

Your Highness' note reached me yesterday afternoon only about half past 4 o'clock, and after my Office Writers had gone off.

Your Highness asks me to wait upon you at 7½ this morning or that your Highness will come to the Residency at 1 P. M. or that I should visit your Highness at 7 A. M. tomorrow. I think your Highness is not quite reasonable to press so much for visits in such oppressive weather and on so short a notice.

I regret very much that the state of my health as well as the important public business with which I am constantly occupied with, put it out of my power to engage in any visits just at present.

The Dewan yesterday visited your Highness, and I believe mentioned that I was unwell, which I hoped would have saved your Highness the trouble of writing me.

I would beg of your Highness also to consider that I have now paid your Highness 3 visits, and at all of them your Highness' conversation has been on precisely the same subjects. Further personal communications, therefore can have no very satisfactory results, and it is painful to me to have to differ from your Highness on such occasions.

The complaints against the Dewan, as I have explained to your Highness at my last interview, I consider unfounded, and regarding which I shall again address your Highness, and with reference to your Highness' remarks, on the mode of conducting business with the Dewan, I have fully explained that I can perceive nothing in the Dewan's proceedings that has not been customary for a long series of years. All my reports to the Government have been to the same effect, and particularly in the discussions with your Highness' late brother in the years 1849 and 50, and the orders of Government, on which your Highness must, I think, be in possession of.

P. S.—I have already stated to your Highness that whatever communication your Highness may desire to make to me in writing shall receive every attention.

From RAVEE VURMAH, Rajah of Cochin; to Lieutenant General W. CULLEN, British Resident of Travancore &c., Bolghatty, dated Tripoonitorah, 1st March 1858, No. 7.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th Instant.

I trust I have not overstepped my province in having solicited the interview referred to in your letter. I am not unmindful of your varied and difficult duties, and certainly should not so early have renewed my application for a visit after our last interview, particularly under your delicate state of health, had not the unpleasant alternative been forced upon me by circumstances over which I had no control.

At our former interviews, and especially the last, I took occasion to impress upon you my views on several public questions of great importance, and I observed with pain that you

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

I, the undersigned Eddamana Shungren, Dewan of Cochin, do hereby acknowledge of having embezzled the Circar of the Surplus salt while administrating the Affairs of the Cochin Government in breach of the trust reposed on me; whereupon two Commissioners had been appointed to investigate the case on an examination of the Circar Accounts having proved that I have appropriated Rupees 36,490 As. 2 P. 9 on the Surplus Salt instead of crediting it in the Circar Accounts; and further being testified by the four Cash Keepers' Accounts viz., Ramen Menon, &c., that I, my brother and sons had received the Circar Money under their charge Rupees 19,289-14 As. 5 P. both amounting to Total Rupees 55,701-1 As. 2 P. been ordered to pay and having raised objection to submit to the decree the case was examined at the Resident's Office and decreed that through my mal-administration have caused great losses to the Circar consequently am in duty bound to make good the same to the State on a deduction of 10 per cent from the above sum, Total Rupees 32,841 As. 2 P. 6, which I willingly submit and hereby promise to discharge that amount by disposing off all my effects consisting in Gold, Silver, Copper, Brass, as also my landed properties.

With reference to the four Cashkeepers' statement, that I, my sons, brother and other relative having received and appropriated the Circar money, I submit to satisfy the Circar on any sum whatsoever that may be decreed against us by the Court, as also on those Cashkeepers for the deficiency found in them (should in case, they or their Securities have no possibility) by disposing of the properties of my sons Poyenherry, Govindoo Menon, and brother Ramony Menon, which are now sequestered.

To the facts whereof I have hereunto set my hand before the undersigned Witnesses the 19th day of Tholam 1010 (1834) at Ernacolom in the presence of Huzzoor Cutcherry.

(Signed) EDDAMANA SHUNGREN.

Witnesses.

(Signed) EDDACONATHOO VARRIATHOO SHUNGREN.
VEMAGAPEN CHRISTNEN.
HUZZOOR JAMA BUNTTEE.

(A true Translation.)

R. V.

To His Highness the Rajah of Cochin.

The humble Petition of the undersigned
Inhabitants residing at Cochin.

SHEWETH,

The Petitioners not being favored with any reply whatsoever to their address of the 24th, 28th Danoo and the 21st Magarom last, regarding the Dewan's illegal appropriation of Sircar Funds, and unjust extraction of money from subjects, &c., they are put to much mortification and disgrace.

That Petitioner's had brought to your Highness' kind notice, that the Dewan, on the event of knowing the true merits of their Statement that he would use his powerful means to thwart the same, and at the same time oppress Petitioners by putting them into great inconvenience, to avoid which, that a due enquiry into his conduct should be instituted and thereby afford them redress, the delay in doing so, the Dewan being exercising several illegal and unprecedented proceedings in order to suppress, and screen the truth of the Petitioner's statements, notwithstanding oppressing them in the most cruel and annoying manner. Two Petitioners, one, who signed the Petition of the 24th and the other the other the Petition of the 28th Instant, are both the orders of the Dewan sought for, causing their dwelling houses to be surrounded and searched by his own Peons, and the Cochin and Cannianore officials and ill-treat and take them if found, those Petitioners who were already apprehended, are sent to the Dewan's house and a Cychit extracted by compul-

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sive means, and sent over to the British Resident, causing thereby one Nanoo Pillay (a writer in the Residency) to interpret the same *vice versa* to the Resident in the Dewan's favor, further fresh orders have been issued by the Dewan to the Proverticar, for the apprehension and delivery of the other Petitioners, &c., to extract their signature and writings also; the Petitioners regrets therefore to state of the unjust oppression and injustice they suffer. That Petitioners beg to enclose herein an Arivoo (order) dated the 20th Magarum in the identical hand writing of Rama Warrior the Cochin Proverticar, exhibiting that he sends over Ayapa Thundan, one of the signee of the Petition of the 24th Instant, and that Narrina Coorpoo the signee of the Petitioner of the 28th of the same month, will be sent without delay. A perusal of this Arivoo itself would appear evident that the Petitioner's statements of the 21st Instant are founded in truth.

That Petitioners are put to great sufferings, annoyances, and disgrace consequent upon their representations to your Highness, they beg therefore, that your Highness will in justice conform to the usages and rules observed by your Predecessors, and in consideration of the true statement of the case bring the Dewan to a trial or kindly return them their Petitions for they may beg the Dewan's forgiveness or abandon themselves and families from this Territory.

That in conclusion the Petitioners respectfully beg that your Highness will be kindly disposed to cause the ill proceedings of the Dewan referred above be investigated by a Committee, as had been done to the late Dewan Edamana Shungren at the time of your Highness' Predecessor who died in the month of Tholam or kindly return their Petitions with an endorsement as to how they are to act on the subject. For which act of equity the Petitioners shall ever pray.

(Signed) COCHIL VELLAIL RAMOONY MENON.

(") PUNTHIL COCHOO KRISTNA MENON.

(") ARAKAE SHUNGOONY MENON.

(") CHUCKANANT ILTY KRISTNEN COONJOO.

(") KALATHA COONHEN NEELACUNDEN.

28th Magarom 1033.

(True Translation.)

R. V.

No. 5. From RAVI VURMAH, the Rajah of Cochin; to the Right Honorable GEORGE ROBERT FRANCIS LORD HARRIS, Governor in Council, Fort Saint George, dated 27th March 1858.

MY LORD,

Since addressing your Lordship in Council under date the 15th Instant, on the present state of affairs in my Country, I have been favored with a letter from the Resident, dated the 18th, conveying his final views on the questions at issue.

General Cullen has intimated to me that a copy of his said communication will be laid before your Lordship in Council, and I have therefore requested him likewise to submit my reply, dated 27th Instant, No. 10, for your Lordship's consideration.

The Resident being now at Trichore at some distance from Cochin, I am afraid some delay will necessarily occur in forwarding my reply, and as I am particularly anxious that your Lordship in Council should be in possession of my remarks on General Cullen's communication, before recording an opinion on the matters referred to, I have taken the liberty of anticipating the regular transmission of my said reply, by submitting herewith a copy of the same.

In respectfully apologizing for this rather unusual course, which peculiar circumstances have alone suggested, I beg to add that it is by no means intended to supersede the regular mode of procedure, which your Lordship will perceive I have already conformed to.

The Rajah's letter to the Resident, entered as an enclosure of one from the latter of 10th April, No. 21.

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No. 6. ORDER THEREON, No. 353; dated 2nd June 1858.

The Right Honorable the Governor in Council has read with attention the voluminous papers above recorded in the matter of certain representations made by His Highness the Rajah of Cochin relative to the proceedings of the Dewan.

2. It is unnecessary to recapitulate the contents of these papers, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council will only state the conclusion at which he has arrived from their perusal.

3. The charges against the Dewan on to Government to have been sufficiently met by the Resident, and they do not think that further inquiry is called for or would be expedient.

4. The mode in which business is transacted by the Dewan with the Rajah and the Resident appears to be that in which it has been conducted for many years past and to be in accordance with the views of the Honorable the Court of Directors. It cannot therefore be departed from.

5. At the same time the Governor in Council does not consider that the Dewan in his intercourse with the Rajah has on all occasions shown him that respect and courtesy which are due to his position. It is remarked that in a previous instance the Honorable Court of Directors have desired that "in matters of form and
Letter in Political Department, No. 6 of 1846, Para: 13 et sequentes.
"and things of minor importance the Rajah's
"pleasure and dignity should be consulted,
"even at some sacrifice of public and private
"convenience." The Resident will impress upon the Dewan the orders of the Honorable Court and will inform him that the Government expect them to be carefully observed. General Cullen will apprise the Dewan that the Government view with displeasure his conduct in not asking leave to absent himself, and in failing to communicate nominations to appointments until long after they had been made. He will also require the Dewan to apologize to the Rajah for these marks of disrespect and will enjoin him as soon as appointments have been confirmed by the Resident to communicate them to the Rajah before they are made public. The Resident will also be reminded that in giving effect to the policy which has been adopted towards the Cochin State, the Government expect that every consideration will be shewn to the feelings of His Highness the Rajah himself.

6. Lieutenant General Cullen will communicate the above observations to His Highness the Rajah in reply to his letters.

Remarks on certain paras: of the letter from His Highness the Rajah to the Right Honorable the Governor; enclosure in Lieutenant General Cullen's letter of 26th March 1858, last para:

7. With respect to the suggestion of the Resident that all Commissions of appointment to the Office of Dewan in Travancore or Cochin, should be submitted to Government before issue to the individuals on whom they are to be conferred, it seems to the Government that it will be sufficient for the Resident to satisfy himself that such Documents are in the customary form, and should he find any unusual conditions or restrictions introduced, to bring them to the notice of the Rajah in view to their withdrawal. Should the Rajah decline to withdraw them the matter may then be submitted to Government.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

It to on 8th June
Political 1858 Depart.
No. 353
Extract from letter
Dated 2nd June 1858

*Recording observations
on the communications
of the Rajah of Cochin -
complaining of the conduct
of his Dewan who has -
been enjoined to behave
with courtesy and respect
towards His Highness, and
to communicate all ap-
pointments to the Rajah
before they are made
public and if some certain
instructions to the Resi-
dent.*

No. 126.

M. J. Hall

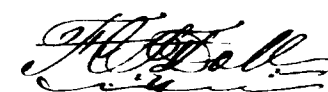
Fort Saint George, Political Consultation, 8th June 1858.

No. 16. MINUTE OF CONSULTATION; dated 4th June 1858, No. 359.

The Right Honorable the Governor in Council resolves to call the attention of the Resident of Travancore and Cochin to the requisition, of which he was reminded in Extract Minutes of Consultation, 8th March last, No 163, regarding the Bimbom. He cannot permit these requisitions to be longer uncomplied with and must require the information to be furnished at once.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.



Political Department

N^o 359

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Dated 4th June 1858.

The Right Honorable
like the Governor in Council
resolved to call the attention
of the President of Senegal,
Sierra Leone and Cochin to the re-
quisitions of which he was
reminded in Extract Minutes
of Consultation 8th March
last N^o 163 regarding the
Fort Bimboré. He cannot
permit these requisitions to
be longer uncomplished with
and must require the in-
formation to be furnished
at once.

J. P.

H. B. L.

In Lth London 8th June
Political MSS & papers

N^o 359

Extracts from MSS of floors

14 June 1881