Political (1898) Department.

ORDINARY PRINTED.

G.O., No. 472

DATED 13-7-98

UNDERKED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Calicut-Cannanore Railway alignment and the French territory about Mahe

Drawing the attention of the Government to certain correspondence showing the correct delimitation of the dependencies of Mahe north of the river as affecting the alignment of the Calicut-Cannanore Railway in view to the withdrawal from circulation of any plans which do not show the correct boundaries of those dependencies.

Sectt. H.27—100,000—21-5-33.

Poll ——— (195) Department.

PRINTED

SERIES.

G.O. No. 18 472

Dated 13-7-1898.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Back Papers.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department,	Date.

Further Papers.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Government (1898) of Madras.

POLITICAL.

Recd. 1898.

Regd.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O. pro... 1897., No. 472, 13th July 1898.

To the Agent ...
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JULY.

The Calicut-Cannanore Railway alignment and the French territory about Mahe.

Drawing the attention of the Revenue Department to certain correspondence showing the correct delimitation of the dependencies of Mahé *north* of the river as affecting the alignment of the Calicut-Cannanore Railway in view to the withdrawal from circulation of any plans which do not show the correct boundaries of those dependencies.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

Extract from Inspection Report by the Consulting Engineer for Railways, Madras, on the alignment of the Calicut-Cannanore Railway, dated 28th August 1897.

11. *Alignment past French territory.*—The following is a sketch of how the question of the boundaries of French territory at Mahé affects the railway alignment. The French not only possess the piece of land south of the Mahé river on which the town stands, but also a largish dumb-bell shaped piece to the north of the river, isolated both from their town territory and from the sea by a strip of British territory. They also admittedly possess the ruins of three old forts—Great and Little Callaye and St. George—all on the top of one hill and within a few hundred yards of each other. Of these old forts, however, they possess merely the actual ruins, and the three are not only isolated *inter se*, but isolated also from the dumb-bell shaped area already referred to. The survey party unfortunately became possessed of a tracing of a map, obtained I understand from the Revenue Survey authorities, in which not only were these three isolated ruins shown as lying inside a circular piece of land, but this little piece of land was shown as connected by a narrow neck with the bouring dumb-bell shaped piece of French land. This narrow neck was ning right athwart the only valley by which the railway could creep round on the west after passing Mahé town and crossing the river, unless very sharp curves were adopted and a longer alignment, so as to keep the railway between river and the ruined forts. This rendered it necessary for the survey engineers to make the great diversion to the east and to go in for the heavy cuttings which will be seen on the index plan and section between miles 37 and 45.

12. *Evidence of old records of French boundaries.*—Having obtained the old papers from the Chief Secretary's office I found that, after long negotiations, having as their object the giving of effect to the provisions of the Treaty of Paris of 1814, the Government of India in their No. 1882, Foreign Department, dated 13th May 1848, directed the Madras Government to make over to the French the dumb-bell shaped plot "and the *three detached points* called Fort George and the Great and Small Callaye." Again in a subsequent letter, dated 13th July 1849, the isolation or detachment of these three points was very strongly emphasised, and this Government were informed that "no territory yielding revenue is to be considered as belonging to the three forts." In subsequent correspondence the dumb-bell piece is referred to as the "four villages" and the forts as "the three points," or "the three detached points." Later on I find a bi-lingual agreement, signed by the French and English Commissioners on the 4th November 1853, in which all boundaries of the French territory north of the river, that is of the four villages comprised in the dumb-bell shaped piece, were very exactly defined, and also "the three detached points or posts" ("*des trois points détachés ou postes*") of Forts George and Great and Little Callaye; and all were recorded as having been made over on that date by the English to the French Commissioner. This convention or procés verbal was finally notified and reported to the Honourable the Court of Directors in accordance with Madras Government Minutes

in Council, No. 125, dated 3rd September 1854, and in these minutes again the forts are referred to as "the three detached points or posts." A perusal of these papers convinced me that the Revenue Survey map which caused the long detour to the east to be made was quite wrong, and that the route through the deep valley between the forts and the French village lands was perfectly free for the railway.

Interview with M. le Chef de Service.—I had the honour of an interview with M. Peuvergne, Chef de Service at Mahé, and having referred to this matter with great caution, with the assistance of Mr. Strange, who speaks French fluently, I was pleased to hear M. Peuvergne say that he had always heard that the French owned only ("*les batiments seulement*") of these forts. This was subsequently confirmed a few days later on the ground by a casual remark of a resident cultivator from whom we were trying to find out where, on the map, we were standing. Thus this question of the troublesome neck across the only valley available for a satisfactory route from the Mahé river northwards has been set at rest, and a survey must now be made on the revised alignment. The ground is undoubtedly a bit cramped, but I think that 2,865 feet curves, or at worst 2,149 feet, will get the line through all right, as there is really but little choice of detailed alignment.

Order—No. 695 R., dated 21st September 1897.

The report read above, omitting the confidential paragraphs 11, 12 and 13, will be communicated to the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, for information and necessary action.

2. The attention of the Political Department is drawn to paragraphs 11, 12 and 13 of the report.

3. A copy of these proceedings will be forwarded for the information of the Government of India with reference to paragraphs 1 and 2 of their letter, No. 1352-R.C., dated 17th August 1897.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) FRANCIS J. E. SPRING,
Offg. Joint Secretary to Government.

To the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway.
" Political Department.
" Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Extract from Inspection Report by the Consulting Engineer for Railways, Madras, dated 10th September 1897.

10. *The Calicut-Cannanore Railway.*—The Consulting Engineer's inspection notes on this line will be found separately reported with G.O., No. 695 R., dated the 21st September 1897. It is very important, for climatic and other reasons, that work upon this extension should be begun on soon after the cessation of the north-east monsoon as may be found possible. An interview was arranged with M. Peuvergne, the Administrator of the French Colony of Mahé, and it was settled with that gentleman, after a personal inspection of the ground, that the line on the south of the Mahé river should be kept as close as possible to French territory consistently with non-infringement of the piece of frontier which is at present in dispute. Certain doubts with regard to the possibility of carrying the alignment at the north of Mahé river, so as to avoid French territory without a long and expensive detour, were set at rest when it was ascertained that the views of the local French authorities were in unison with those of the Consulting Engineer as deduced from a study of the old records of the Madras Secretariat. The doubts arose out of a mistake in a certain plan furnished on what seemed reliable authority to the Madras Railway Engineer, which seemed to show that there was not enough room to slip round to the sea shore between the parts of French territory lying south of and north of the river, and that, therefore, an expensive detour would be necessary.

At certain difficult parts of the alignment it was settled that further trial lines should be run, and it is expected that a better line and a more economical line to construct and to work may result from these trial lines. In the opinion of the Consulting Engineer and of the officers of the Madras Railway Company it will undoubtedly be necessary to continue the line beyond Cannanore to the important trading village of Baliapatam, whence many miles of backwaters, rivers, and canals form valuable feeders for a railway. Full details are to be found in the separate report on the Calicut-Cannanore Railway.

G.O., No. 773 R., dated 5th October 1897.
G.O., No. 704, Political, dated 5th November 1897.

Memorandum.

No. 2512.

The Collector of Malabar is requested to be so good as to forward the revised copy of the plan, the original of which was drawn up by the Civil Engineer of the Seventh Division. It is referred to in the deed of transfer executed by the English and French Commissioners on the 4th November 1853, and, according to its details, the cession of the territory north of the Mahé river was carried out. It appears to have been forwarded to Government through the Collector of South Arcot with Mr. Conolly's letter No. 1777, dated 23rd August 1854, but it does not appear to have been retained in the Government office. If the original is not available, a certified copy, if such exists, should be forwarded.

(Signed) A. T. ARUNDEL,
Chief Secretary.

24th November 1897.

To the Collector of Malabar.

From G. W. DANCE, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Calicut, 6th December 1897, No. 2897-P.

With reference to Government memorandum No. 8512, dated 24th ultimo, I have the honour to submit herewith a copy of the plan, the original of which was drawn up by the Civil Engineer of the Seventh Division.

G.O., No. 593 R., dated 20th April 1898.

Letter from the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, No. 9075-A. 325, dated 15th April 1898.

I have the honour to forward herewith, for your information, copy of a letter addressed to me by the Company's Chief Engineer on the subject of the alignment of the Calicut-Cannanore Extension near the French Settlement of Mahé.

Enclosures.

Letter from the Chief Engineer, Madras Railway, to the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, No. C. E. 162, dated 13th April 1898.

I have the pleasure to enclose you a copy of a letter, No. 228-H.A. 98 of 11th March 1898, forwarded by the Collector of Malabar to the Engineer-in-Chief, Calicut-Cannanore Extension, on the subject of the alignment near the French Settlement of Mahé.

2. It will be observed that the Collector has now recorded that the proposed railway passes entirely through British territory and does not touch the French territory or land in dispute between the British and French Governments.

3. I consider that Mr. A. B. Strange, the Executive Engineer who was in charge of this portion of the final location, deserves great credit for having so laid out the line that it traverses the narrow neck of British land which separates two large detached plots of French territory at Mahé, and avoided any land that was under dispute. The Collector's letter finally disposes of a subject over which it was at one time thought there would be considerable trouble and correspondence.

Letter from the Acting Sub-Collector, to the Collector of Malabar, No. 228 H.A-98, dated Tellicherry, 11th March 1898.

In returning herewith letter of the Executive Engineer, Calicut-Cannanore Survey, received with your endorsement No. 190 P., dated 31st January 1898, I have the honour to state that the Administrator of Mahé whom I have consulted on the subject, writes to say that the proposed railway line from Calicut to Cannanore passes entirely through British territory and does not touch the French territory or land that is in dispute between the two Governments. The tracing is also returned.

No. 631-Pub.

True copy forwarded to the Executive Engineer, Calicut-Cannanore Survey, with reference to his letter No. 73, dated 27th January 1898.

No. 140.

True copy to the Chief Engineer for information.

(Signed) G. A. F. FRENCH,
Engineer-in-Chief Calicut-Cannanore Extension.

6th April 1898.

Order—No. 593 R., dated 20th April 1898.

Communicated to the Political Department with reference to G.O., No. 695 R., dated the 2[illegible] September 1897.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) FRANCIS J. E. SPRING,
Joint Secretary.

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways.
„ Political Department.

Order—No. 472, Political, dated 13th July 1898.

The correspondence regarding the transfer to France of the dependencies of Mahé, *north* of the river, is printed as an appendix to these proceedings. The papers quoted in paragraphs 11 to 13 of the report of the Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated 28th August 1897, and the letters noted in the margin show conclusively that the territory restored in 1853 comprised the four villages of Paloor, Pandaquel, Chambarra and Chalicarra and the three detached points or posts of Fort St. George, the Great and the Little Kalaye without any of the territory in the vicinity of these detached posts and that, as pointed out by the Consulting Engineer, the four villages are not connected by French territory with the three detached points.

E.M.C. No. 875-6, Revenue, dated 29th July 1853.
E.M.C., No. 314, Political, dated 26th August 1853.
E.M.C., No. 1053, Revenue, dated 16th September 1853.
E.M.C., No. 1252, Revenue, dated 23rd September 1854.
E.M.C., No. 787, Revenue, dated 5th June 1855.

2. The attention of the Revenue Department will be drawn to the matter in view to the withdrawal from circulation of any plans which are incorrect with respect to the matter dealt with above.

3. The present discussion is, it will be observed, distinct from the questi[on] the delimitation of the boundary of Mahé proper, copies of the recent proce[edings] regarding which will be communicated to the Public Works Department (Railway Branch).

G.O., Nos. 456, 457, Pol., dated 28th July 1892.
„ „ 22, 23, „ „ 14th Jan. 1896.

(True Extract.)

G. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

To the Public Works Department (Railway).
„ Revenue Department.
„ Collector of Malabar.

APPENDIX.

E.M.C., No. 61, dated 31st August 1846.

Secret Department.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation No. 61, dated 31st August 1846.

The Board proceed to pass orders on the following Despatch from the Secret Committee of the Honorable the Court of Directors, dated 3rd July 1846 :—

Since we received your despatch of the 21st of October 1830, there has been much discussion in this country on the subject of the claims of France to certain districts demanded by that Power as dependencies on the French Settlement of Mahé.

2. We now transmit, for your information, a copy of a note, dated the 1st instant, which the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has addressed to the French Ambassador in London, conveying the decision of Her Majesty's Ministers on the several claims advanced by the Government of France.

Enclosure.

From the Earl of Aberdeen to His Excellency the Count de St. Aulaire, dated Foreign Office, 1st July 1846, No. 1201 (Duplicate).

On the 6th of October last the Count de Jarnac addressed a letter to the undersigned etc., in which he announced that he was directed by his Government to enter again into communication with the undersigned on the questions raised by the imperfect retrocession of the French territory of Mahé on the coast of Malabar.

The Count de Jarnac further stated that he was authorized to demand from the Government of Her Majesty the restitution of the four villages of Palour, Pandaquel, Chambarra and Chalicara, together with the amount of their revenues which had been held in reserve since 1817 by order of the East India Company, under the supposition of their probable restoration to France. That, with respect to the other villages in litigation, it was the opinion of the French Government that a special negotiation might be opened in order to determine in a definitive manner the respective rights of the two Crowns.

The undersigned has now the honour to make known to the Count de St. Aulaire, etc., the decision to which Her Majesty's Government have come upon the subject of the claim thus once more put forward.

After a careful re-investigation of the whole matter, and upon a review of all the arguments by which the different opinions have at various times been supported, Her Majesty's Government have come to the conclusion that the claim made by the French Government to the four aldees—Palour, Pandaquel, Chambarra, and Chalicara—should be admitted.

Her Majesty's Government are prepared therefore to comply with the demand of the Government of France with regard to the four above-mentioned villages and to cause the arrears of the net revenue of those villages to be refunded.

Her Majesty's Government cannot but be alive to the consequences which the cession of the four aldees must inevitably have in increasing the facility of smuggling, and as thereby requiring the augmentation of the police force to resist the attempts which will be made to evade the fiscal regulations of the Company; but they trust that an acquiescence to the extent above mentioned, in the demand of the French Government, may induce that Government to unite in the arrangements which are necessary for the mutual advantage of the two Governments, and by which alone a kind and friendly feeling can be maintained between their respective servants.

Her Majesty's Government are also disposed to admit the claim which the French Government have advanced to the three detached points called Fort George and the Great and Small Calaye. They do not however consider the claim to these points

to rest upon grounds so strong as that to the four villages. On the contrary, Her Majesty's Government still view this question as involved in doubt; but being most anxious to terminate a dispute, which has been so long pending, by viewing in the most favourable light the demands of France, they will refrain from continuing the contest of argument with respect to the detached posts above mentioned.

With regard, however, to the Coringotte territory, the undersigned must at once declare that Her Majesty's Government can enter into no negotiation respecting that territory, since it is perfectly clear to them that it was never a possession of France, and that she has consequently no right whatever to claim its cession.

This fact seems to be quite sufficiently established by the words of M. de Melay, the Governor of the French Settlements in the East Indies, who, in his report addressed to his Government in 1831, stated distinctly "Qu'il n'y a pas lieu á donner suite aux prétentions exprimées par les Commissaires Francais sur le pays de Coringot Nair."

Without entering therefore into further argument to establish the negative of all right to this territory on the part of France, Her Majesty's Government feel themselves compelled to deny that right, and must therefore decline to prolong the discussion respecting it.

Ordered to be communicated to the Board of Revenue with instructions to adopt, in concert with the Collector of South Arcot in charge of the Special Agent's Department, the requisite measures for giving effect to the decision of the British Government on the claims preferred by France to certain districts as dependencies of the French Settlements of Mahé.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. DICKINSON.

Copy to the Board of Revenue.
" Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, Cuddalore.

Letter to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors, No. 4, dated 10th December 1846.

SECRET DEPARTMENT.

No. 4 of 1846.

To

THE HON'BLE THE SECRET COMMITTEE OF THE HON'BLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY.

HON'BLE SIRS,

1. We have the honour to reply to the following despatches:—

* * * * * *

[Letter dated 3rd July 1846.]

3. We caused this despatch to be communicated to the Board of Revenue with instructions to adopt, in concert with the Collector of South Arcot in charge of the Special Agent's department, the requisite measures for giving effect to the decision of the British Government on the claims preferred by France to certain districts as dependencies of the French Settlement of Mahé.

Transmit copy of a note from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs addressed to the French Ambassador in London conveying the decision of Her Majesty's Ministers on the several claims advanced by France to certain districts demanded by the Power as dependencies of the French Settlement of Mahé.

We have, &c.,

(Signed) H. CHAMIER.
(") H. DICKINSON.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
10th December 1846.

Letter to the Government of India, No. 462, dated 12th October 1847.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, Fort St. George, dated 12th October 1847.

Read—the following paper:—

No. 9. From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to J. F. THOMAS, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, dated Cuddalore, 17th September 1847, No. —.

Adverting to an Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, dated 31st August 1846, No. 61, I have the honour to submit the correspondence noted in the margin for the information of the Most Noble the Governor in Council and request to be favoured with their sentiments as to whether the several claims against the French Government alluded to in the concluding part of the British Commissioner's reply to the French Commissioner's memoir and submitted to Government on the 28th December 1828, have been over-ruled by Her Majesty's Ministers, or should now be insisted upon as a necessary sequence to the transfer of the villages, etc., about to be made to our neighbour.

* The Sub-Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department to the French Government, dated 5th October 1846.
From the French Government in reply, dated 7th October.
From the French Government to the Special Agent, dated 23rd August 1847.
The Special Agent, South Arcot, to the Collector of Malabar, dated 27th August 1847.
From the Collector of Malabar in reply, dated 3rd September 1847, with an enclosure.

In the event of Government deciding the foregoing point in the negative owing to the sentiments expressed in the 6th paragraph of the Earl of Aberdeen's note to the address of His Excellency the Count de St. Aulaire, I beg to state that I do not consider it advisable to communicate to the French Government the views entertained by the Collector of Malabar regarding the assimilation of the supply of tobacco to that of salt, in consequence of the system which prevails in supplying the latter article having been regulated by the Convention signed at London on the 7th March 1815, whereas the contraband trade which appears to be carried on in the former may be easily remedied by placing some additional chowkies at the frontier, and by permitting only the *bonâ fide* produce of the soil of the French villages to pass free of duty into Mahé when duly accompanied by a permit granted by some competent French authorities, agreeably to the custom which prevails in South Arcot, and is found sufficiently satisfactory.

ENCLOSURES.

From D. WHITE, Esq., Sub-Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to His Excellency Monsieur POUJOL, Governor of the French Establishments in India, dated Cuddalore, 5th October 1846, No. —.

Having received instructions from the Board of Revenue to take measures for making over to the French Government the villages of Palour, Pandaquel, Chambarra and Chalicara in the vicinity of Mahé, as also of the three detached points called Fort George and the Great and Small Calaye, I have the honour to request your Excellency will favour me with your wishes as to the manner in which they are to be transferred to your Government, whether you will be pleased to depute a special agent from Pondicherry to receive them, or whether you will issue your instructions to the authorities at Mahé upon the subject.

I have the honour to remain, with sentiments of the highest consideration and respect, etc.

From His Excellency Monsieur PUJOL, Governor of the French Establishments in India, to the Collector and Special Agent at Cuddalore, dated Pondicherry, 7th October 1846, No. —.

J'ai l'honneur de vous accuser réception de votre lettre du 5 de ce mois et de vous faire connaître en réponse, qu'aussitot la réception des instructions qui doivent en

être transmises de France et que me parviendrout sans doute prochainement, je m'empresserai de vous informer des dispositions que j'arreterais pour la prise de possession par l'administration Française des aldées de Palour, Pandeguel, Chambarra et Chalicara ainsi que des points du Fort St. George, du Grand et du Petit Calaye qui dependent du territoire de Mahé, à la côte Malabare, &c., &c.

[*Translation.*]

From His Excellency Monsieur PUJOL, Governor of the French Establishments in India, to the Collector of the Southern District of Arcot and Special Agent at Cuddalore, dated Pondicherry, 23rd August 1847.

Mr. White, the Sub-Collector in charge, during your absence, informed me on the 5th October 1846 that he had received instructions from the Board of Revenue at Madras directing the transfer to the French Government of the old dependencies of Mahé upon the coast of Malabar, comprising—

The Aldees or villages of Paloor, Pandaguel, Chambara and Chelacara, the detached Points of Fort St. George, and Great and Small Calayes.

Mr. White requested to be favoured with my wishes as to the measures to be adopted for making over these several portions of territory. On the 7th October I informed him in reply that previously to acting upon his communication to me, I was desirous of receiving from the Marine and Colonial Departments certain instructions which had not yet reached me.

I have since been informed that the concluding of the arrangements entered into between the two Governments in Europe depended upon certain other measures in which it was necessary to be agreed in order to prevent misunderstanding, and to avoid difficulties which might take place in India.

The last mail from Europe has conveyed to me the instructions which I awaited, and I now find myself in a position to determine for the French Government the measures required for making over the territories to be transferred.

Lord Aberdeen in a note, dated 1st July 1846, despatched to the French Ambassador in England, announced that the Cabinet at London would issue instructions for the Honourable Company to effect the transfer to the Government of Pondicherry of the points above indicated, also of the net revenues of the four transferred villages held in reserve for that purpose since 1817.

Lord Palmerston in a letter addressed the 17th April last to the Embassy of France, declared that he entirely adhered to that note.

Mr. Hayes, Sub-Commissary of Marine, now Chief of Mahé, will be commissioned by me to receive from the English authorities (whom you will choose and oblige me by naming) the transferred territories. I will consequently transmit to him the necessary powers.

I would request you to direct the transfer which is to take place to be effected in the usual manner, upon the production of a detailed plan indicating with perspicuity and accuracy the situation, the extent and the limits of the four villages, and the detached points included in the transfer in question. It is upon similar plans that the transfer of the settlement of Mahé in 1817 and of the lodge of Calicut were made. This plan, which will be signed by the French and English Commissioners, will be attached to the deed declaring the transfer—one copy will remain with the French Government and be submitted for my definite approval, the English Government being left to reserve to itself the same right on its side.

I would request you moreover to issue instructions in order to the collection accounts of Tellicherry showing the position of the cultivators and other sources of revenue at the period of the making over, as also to all the records concerning the territories restored to France being delivered to Mr. Hayes.

As soon as you will have made known to me the arrangements taken by you, the Chief at Mahé will be requested to place himself in communication with the functionary who will act for the Honourable Company.

As for the payment of the sums due to the French Government on account of the accumulated revenue of the four villages upon deduction of the cost of management, I would desire that it take place, if possible, at Cuddalore in the same manner as that of the four lacs and the indemnity for the salt-pits. Whatever relates to this payment foreign to the question of the transfer, and may be regulated between your Govern- and that of Pondicherry, it will only be required to receive at Cuddalore the particulars of the account to be stated, and the Collector of Malabar will forward to you the documents necessary for its examination. If, however, the forwarding of these documents be attended with any difficulty, I would see no objection to the account being adjusted at the very places by the English and French Commissioners, with the exception of the settling of the payment at Cuddalore. On this account also I will await your instructions for my communication of them to Mr. Hayes.

In the note of Lord Aberdeen which I have quoted above, His Excellency expresses his apprehension that the restoration ordered will be followed by an augmentation in the collection of the English customs, in order to prevent the attempts which may be made by smugglers to whom this increase of territory will offer fresh facilities for fraud.

There is but little foundation I believe for this apprehension,—it arises from an inaccurate and insufficient information of the localities. The portions of territory which will be given up to France upon the Malabar Coast have scarcely any importance by themselves; they are of no consequence in a commercial and agricultural point of view, they are at a distance from the seashore situated in the midst of the English possessions, their inhabitants consume scarcely anything coming from without, and export but a small portion of the produce of the soil. One cannot then perceive in admitting the conditions (of the transfer) the signs of a troublesome contraband, or one deserving of attention.

At all events, should you deem it advisable to adopt the sentiment offered by Lord Aberdeen, I will freely give my concurrence to the measures which you may judge proper to propose, and, after having examined them in common with yourself, I will submit them (so far as they concern the French Government) to the Marine and Colonial Departments at Paris, which has announced its intimation of holding itself in communication, upon the matter, with the Cabinet at London. Should anything rest to be done, it will suffice I think to act at Mahé as at Poudicherry, and to require passes or Rowanahs specifying the growth, kind and destination of the commodities exported from one point to another of the French territory in crossing the English territory. This will be required only in respect to commodities of the country.

From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, Cuddalore, to H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, dated 27th August 1847.

I have the honour to transmit copy of a communication received from the Board of Revenue on the subject of the transfer from your district of four villages with the amount of their revenues held in reserve since 1817, and of three detached points to the French Government, and to enclose, for your information, copy of a letter addressed by this department to the Governor of Pondicherry with transcript of His Excellency's reply and shall feel obliged by your favouring me with your opinion as to the manner in which they are to be transferred, and whether you have any objection to meet the "Chef de Service" of Mahé as Commissioner on the part of the British Government to effect the said transfer.

I also request to be favoured with a return showing the amount of the arrears of the net revenue of the four villages in question for submission to the Board of Revenue previous to its being paid.

From H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, Cuddalore, dated Calicut, 3rd September 1847, No. 1414/1847.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo, with its enclosures, on the subject of the transfer of four villages, with the amount of

their revenues held in reserve since 1817 and of three detached points, to the French Government, and requesting my opinion as to the manner in which they are to be transferred and whether I have any objection to meet the Chief of Mahé for the purpose.

2. The transfer might be effected in the same manner that Mahé proper was made over to the French in February 1817. The most important part of the preliminary arrangement will be to ascertain and define as accurately as possible the boundaries of the villages, &c., about to be transferred. I have therefore applied to the Civil Engineer for his assistance in this respect.

I would propose that Mr. Chatfield, the Sub-Collector in whose range the villages in question are situated, be empowered to meet the Chief of Mahé as Commissioner on the part of the British Government, to effect the said transfer after the preliminary arrangements shall have passed my revision. But if it is considered a point of importance that I should be the Commissioner, I must of course be so.

3. I would take this opportunity of drawing your attention to the report which the Commissioners (General Fraser and Mr. Sheffield) addressed the Government under date the 28th December 1828, by the 9th paragraph of which it would appear that the surrender of the villages ought to be followed by our possessing the privilege of collecting customs at Mahé. Nothing on this subject is said in the orders now under consideration re[garding] If this privilege is not conceded, Government will have to entertain a heavy expens[e] on account of establishment that it will be absolutely necessary to keep up to protect the revenue derived from the tobacco monopoly and sea customs.

4. The French Government may perhaps feel inclined to provide against the first loss by determining that their settlement at Mahé shall no longer be allowed to be used by unprincipled natives as a mere smuggling depôt as it is now. All that would be necessary is to introduce the system under which the supply of salt for their subjects is regulated to let us furnish them at the wholesale price with [salt] and tobacco as may be required and to let its introduction by others be contraban[d].

The return called for in the last paragraph of your letter is under prepar[ation] will be submitted as soon as completed.

From H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to Captain F. C. CO[NOLLY], Civil Engineer, 7th Division, Ootacamund, dated Calicut, 3rd Septe[mber] 1847, No. 1408/1847.

Instructions having been received to transfer to the French Governme[nt four] villages and two detached points in the vicinity of Mahé, and it being necessary [that] at the time of restoration maps defining the boundaries of these villages be inter[changed] changed between the British and French authorities, I have the honour to request you will be good enough to take early measures for tracing the line of boundary and preparing a descriptive list of the same, according to the information that will be given at the time the survey may be going on. The transfer will, it is expected, take place as soon as I may receive an answer to a letter I have this day addressed to the Collector of South Arcot.

No. 10. Order thereon.

Ordered in consequence that the following letter be despatched :—

No. 11. From J. F. THOMAS, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, to G. A. BUSHBY, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, dated Fort St. George, 12th October 1847, No. 462.

In forwarding for submission to the Government of India copy of a letter from the officer in charge of the Special Agent's Department at Cuddalore, I am directed by the Most Noble the Governor in Council to bring the following circumstances under consideration.

17th September 1847, with enclosures.

In 1828 the British Commissioners * for the investigation of the claims of the French Government at Mahé, after recording their opinion thereon, claimed, on the part of the British Government, certain rights upon Mahé, which had lain in abeyance since 1816, their further consideration having been then suspended until the French Government should bring its territorial claims under discussion in Europe.

* Lieutenant-Colonel I. S. Fraser, Special Agent for Foreign Settlements.
W. Sheffield, Esq., Collector of Malabar.

The British claims which were declared by the Commissioners to be "perfectly incontestible in every point of view" are as follows:—

1*st*. "A tribute of five hundred and thirty-two Tellicherry fanams † and three hundred and sixty-five robbins ‡ of rice per annum payable by the French to the English Government in acknowledgment of the tenure by which the Mahé lands are held."

† Equal to Rs. 106–6–4.
‡ 50 seers or 70 lb.

2*nd*. "The sole and exclusive privilege on the part of the English Government to levy duties and customs on all imports and exports at Mahé by land or water whether belonging to the European or Native inhabitants of that settlement, to the French Government or to individuals with exception only of the following articles:—Iron, gunpowder, shot, firearms and rice imported *bonâ fide* for the use of the French Government, which are exempted from duty."

N.B.—Respecting this claim, the present Collector of Malabar in his letter, dated 3rd ultimo, says, if this privilege is not conceded, Government will have to entertain a heavy expense on account of establishment that it will be absolutely necessary to keep up to protect the revenue derived from the tobacco monopoly and sea customs.

3*rd*. "A right on the part of the English Government to have its own custom house and officers on the same spot where the Cartenaud Raja's custom house formerly stood within the precincts of Mahé for the collection of the duties and customs above stated."

In a note which the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs addressed to the French Ambassador in London, conveying the decision of Her Majesty's Ministry on the several claims advanced by the Government of France, express mention is not made of those preferred by the British Commissioners, and with reference to paragraphs 154 to 158 of their reply to the memoir of the French Commissioners, I am instructed to request to be informed whether those claims should now be regularly advanced by the Collector of Malabar as Commissioner on the part of the British Government or not.

Vide enclosure to the despatch from the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors, dated 3rd July 1846.

Report of the Commissioners, dated 28th December 1828, with 25 enclosures.
President's minute, dated 19th October 1830.
Extract Minutes of Consultation, dated 21st October 1830.
From Secret Committee of the Court of Directors with an enclosure, dated 3rd July 1846.

The original papers on the subject as noted in the margin are herewith forwarded which it is requested may be returned when no longer required.

E.M.C., No. 221, dated 2nd June 1848.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of Consultation, No. 221, dated 2nd June 1848, Political Department.

READ—the following :—

From H. M. ELLIOT, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, dated Fort William, 13th May 1848, No. 1182.

Your letter of the 12th October 1847, No. 31, with its several enclosures, having been under the consideration of the Governor-General in Council, I am directed to inform you, in reply, that the villages of Paloor, Pundaguel, Chambana and Chalicara

in the vicinity of Mahé and the three detached points called Fort George and the Great and Small Calaye should, in the opinion of His Lordship in Council, be made over to the French Government without any reservation.

P.S.—The original papers received with your letter are herewith returned.

No. 221.

Ordered that the foregoing letter be communicated to the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department for his information and guidance in reference to his letter of the 17th September last.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
2nd June 1848.

(Signed) F. J. THOMAS,
Chief Secretary.

General Letter to the Honourable the Court of Directors No. 8, dated 18th July 1848.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

General Letter to the Honourable the Court of Directors of the East India Company, dated Fort St. George, 18th July 1848, No. 8, Political Department.

* * * * *

10. Adverting to paragraph 3 of our despatch in the Secret Department, dated 10th December, No. 4 of 1846, we have the honour to transmit a communication from the officer in charge of the Special Agent's Department at Cuddalore, requesting further instructions regarding the claims of the British Government on the French Government at Mahé which we submitted to the Government of India bringing at the same time the following circumstances under consideration.

M.C., 12th October 1847, Nos. 9 and 11.
M.C., 6th June 1848, Nos. 3 and 4.
Collection No. 6 in the packet.
Annexed *ibid*, paragraph 33.

11. In 1828, the British Commissioners * for the investigation of the claims of the French Government at Mahé, after recording their opinion thereon, claimed on the part of the British Government, certain rights upon Mahé, which had lain dormant since 1816—their further consideration having been then suspended until the French Government should bring its territorial claims under discussion in Europe.

* Lieutenant-Colonel I. S. Fraser, Special Agent for Foreign Settlements.
W. Sheffield, Esq., Collector of Malabar.

12. The British claims, which were declared by the Commissioners to be "perfectly incontestible in every point of view," were as follows:—

1st.—"A tribute of five hundred and thirty-two Tellicherry fanams † and three hundred and sixty-five Robbins ‡ of rice per annum, payable by the French to the English Government in acknowledgment of the tenure by which the Mahé lands are held.

† Equal to Rs. 106–6–4.
‡ Fifty seers or 70 lb.

2nd.§—"The sole and exclusive privilege, on the part of the English Government, to levy duties and customs on all imports and exports at Mahé by land or water, whether belonging to the European or Native inhabitants of that settlement, to the French Government or to individuals with exception only of the following articles—iron, gunpowder, shot, firearms and rice—imported *bonâ fide* for the use of the French Government which are exempted from duty."

§ *N.B.*—Respecting this claim the present Collector of Malabar in his letter, dated 3rd ultimo, says: "If this privilege is not conceded, Government will have to entertain a heavy expense on account of establishment that it will be absolutely necessary to keep up, to protect the revenue derived from the tobacco monopoly and sea customs.

3rd.—"A right on the part of the English Government to have its own custom house and officers on the same spot where the Cartenaud Raja's custom house formerly stood within the precincts of Mahé for the collection of the duties and customs above stated.

13. In a note which the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs addressed to the French Ambassador in London conveying the decision of Her Majesty's Ministry on the several claims advanced by the Government of France, express mention is not made of those preferred by the British Commissioners, and with reference to paragraphs 154 and 158 of their reply to the memoir of the French Commissioners, we requested the Government of India to inform us, whether those claims should now be regularly advanced by the Collector of Malabar, as Commissioner on the part of the British Government or not.

Vide enclosure to the despatch from the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors, dated 3rd July 1846.

14. The Government of India having, in reply, stated that in their opinion the villages of Paloor, Pundaguel, Chambana and Chalicara in the vicinity of Mahé and the three detached points called Fort George and the Great and Small Calaye, should be made over to the French Government without any reservation, we caused instructions to be issued accordingly.

* * * * *

E.M.C., No. 9, dated 15th August 1848.

SECRET DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, No. 9, dated 15th August 1848, Secret Department.

READ—the following:—

From the Honourable the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors, to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, Fort St. George, dated East India House, London, 23rd June 1848, No. 1324.

In a despatch, dated the 10th of December 1846, you informed us that you had instructed your Board of Revenue to adopt the requisite measures for giving effect to the decision of the British Government on the claims preferred by France to certain districts, &c. dependencies of the French Settlement of Mahé. Neither we, nor the Court of Directors, have received any further papers from you on that subject, but the French Minister in this country has addressed to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a letter of which a copy is enclosed, complaining that the instructions issued from England had not been carried into effect. We direct your immediate attention to the French remonstrance; and we trust that you will shortly put us in possession of such information as shall enable us to make a satisfactory communication to Viscount Palmerston.

MY LORD,

LONDRES, *le* 3 *Juin* 1848.

A la suite d'une longue correspondance entre les Gouvernements de France et d'Angleterre sur une rétrocession de territoire démandée par la France à Mahé sur la côte de Malabar, Lord Aberdeen, dans une note datée du 1 Juillet 1846 et adressée à M. de Ste. Aulaire, s'experimait dans les termes suivants:—

"After a careful re-investigation of the whole matter, and upon a review of all the arguments by which the different opinions have at various times been supported, Her Majesty's Government have come to the conclusion that the claim made by the French Government to the four Aldees, Paloor, Pundaguel, Chambana and Chalicara, should be admitted.

"Her Majesty's Government are prepared therefore to comply with the demand of the Government of France with regard to the four above mentioned villages and to cause the arrears of the net revenue of these villages to be refunded.

"Her Majesty's Government are also disposed to admit the claim which the French Government have advanced to the three detached points called Fort George and the Great and Small Calaye. They do not, however, consider the claim to these points to rest upon grounds so strong as that to the four villages. On the contrary Her Majesty's Government still view this question as involved in doubt; but being anxious to terminate a dispute which has been so long pending, by viewing in the most favourable light the demand of France, they will refrain from continue the contest of argument with respect to the detached forts above mentioned."

Le précédent Gouvernement Français ayant accepté les conditions précitées telles que le Cabinet Britannique les proposait lui même, le Gouverneur de nos établissemens dans l'Inde fut autorisé à reçevoir les Dépendances deMahé et leurs revenus accumulés depuis 1817. Il s'est en consequence adressé au Gouvernement de la Présidence de Madras par une communication en date due 23rd Août 1847; mais aucune réponse ne lui a encore été faite.

Le Gouvernement de la République me charge, my Lord, d'appeler de nouveau Pattention de votre Excellence sur cette affaire en vous priant de vouloir bien donner les ordres nécessaires pour en hâter la solution définitive.

Je saisis,

(Signed) FALLANAY.

S. E. Viscount Palmerston, &c.

Extract from Minutes of Consultation, dated 15th August 1848, No. 9.

The Board proceed to pass orders on the following Despatch from the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated 23rd June 1848.

Ordered that the foregoing despatch be communicated to the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department at Cuddalore in reference to the Order of Government of the 2nd June last, with a request that he will, as soon as possible, report what measures have been taken in order to the delivering over of the French villages therein alluded to, and for the adjustment of the arrears of Revenue due to the French authorities on that account.

E.M.C., No. 394, dated 28th August 1841.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACTS from Minutes of Consultation, No. 394, dated 28th August 1848.

READ—the following paper:—

From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Cuddalore, 17th August 1848.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of an Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, dated 15th instant, No. 9, annexed to a letter from the Honourable the Court of Directors of date 23rd June last, and to submit, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, the correspondence marginally noted, which has taken place between the French Government, the Collector of Malabar and this department, since the receipt of the Order of Government, dated 2nd June last, and from which it will be seen that the villages and points therein alluded to are in due course of transfer to the French authorities.

The Special Agent to the French Government, dated 5th June 1848.
The Special Agent to the Collector of Malabar, dated 5th June 1848.
From the French Government, dated 8th June 1848.
The Special Agent to the French Government, dated 9th June 1848.
From the Collector of Malabar, dated 12th June 1848.
The Special Agent to the French Government, dated 20th June 1848.

2. The statement of revenue demanded from the Collector of Malabar, by my letter of the 27th August 1847, not having as yet been received, I have this day addressed that officer on the subject, requesting him to expedite its transmission.

ENCLOSURES.

From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to His Excellency the Governor of the French Establishments in India, dated Cuddalore, 5th June 1848.

In reference to your Excellency's letter, dated 23rd August 1847, No. 30, I have the honour to inform you that the Sub-Collector of Malabar, in whose range the villages, &c., to be transferred to your Government are situated, having been empowered to meet the Chief of Mahé as *Commissioner* on the part of the British Government to effect the said transfer, I beg you will be pleased to issue the necessary instructions to your Agent.

2. As regards the revenue of the four villages in question, I have desired the Collector of Malabar to furnish me with a return showing the net amount to be paid to your Government, which, when received, I shall submit for the sanction of Government and obtain their permission for its being paid at Cuddalore agreeably to your Excellency's request.

3. I also trust your Excellency will issue instructions to the Chief of Mahé regarding the measures to be adopted, in concert with the British Commissioner, to prevent any loss of revenue arising from goods being clandestinely conveyed into those villages.

4. I have the honour to remain, with sentiments of the highest consideration and respect, &c.

From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to the Collector of Malabar, dated Cuddalore, 5th June 1848.

In reference to your letter of the 3rd and my reply of the 28th September last, I have the honour to inform you that the Most Noble the Governor in Council, with the sanction of the Governor-General of India, having been pleased to resolve that the four villages and the three detached points therein alluded to should be made over to the French Government, without any reservation, I have this day addressed a communication to His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry, copy of which is herewith enclosed for your information.

2. I beg you will be pleased to direct your Sub-Collector to enter into communication with the Chief of Mahé and effect the transfer in question by signing a proper, &c., in which the boundaries should be clearly fixed.

3. The return called for in my letter of the 27th August last not having as yet been received, I request you will expedite its transmission.

4. As regards the suggestions contained in the 4th paragraph of your letter of the 3rd September last, I did not consider it advisable to communicate them to the French Government, in consequence of the supply of salt having been regulated by a convention signed at London on the 7th March 1815, whereas the contraband trade which appears to be carried on in tobacco may be prevented by some additional chowkies at the frontier, and even this obviated by the ready co-operation promised by the French Government, of which, doubtless, your Sub-Collector will take due advantage at the time of the transfer.

From His Excellency Monsieur L. PUJOL, Governor of the French Establishments in India, to the Collector and Special Agent, South Arcot, dated Pondicherry, 8th June 1848.

Par votre lettre du 5 de ce mois, vous me faites l'honneur de m'annoncer que Mr. le S. Collecteur du Malabar est autorisé à s'entendre avec Mr. Le Chef de Service à Mahé pour la remise des villages et dépendances dont la rétrocession soit être faite à la France.

Dès que je serai en mesure de transmettre à Mahé les instructions que je me propose de faire préparer pour la remise dont il s'agit, j'aurai l'honneur de vous en prévenir.

En ce qui concerne les revenus des aldées et dépendances, rien ne s'oppose à ce que cette affaire soit terminée dès à présent, je vous serai donc obligé, Mr. Le Collecteur, de me communiquer, lorsqu'il vous sera parvenu, l'état que vous n'annoncez avoir demandé à Mr. Le Collecteur du Malabar.

Votre lettre du 5 Juin m'entretient des mesures à prendre pour la répression de la contrebande que vous craignez de voir introduire dans les villages dont la remise doit avoir lieu. Déjá ma lettre du 23 Août 1847 établissait que cette crainte ne paraissait pas fondée, et j'en tirais la preuve de la position elle-même des lieux. J'indiquais pourtant, dans le cas oú vous ne partagiez pas cette opinion, certains moyens qui étaient propres à rassurer contre toutes tentatives de fraude. Je désirerais savoir si vous partagez ma manière de voir à cet égard.

From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to His Excellency the Governor of the French Establishments in India, dated Cuddalore, 9th June 1848.

In reference to your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date, I have the honour to inform you that a copy of the statement of the revenue of the four villages about to be transferred to your Government will be furnished to your Excellency when received from the Collector of Malabar.

As regards measures to be taken to prevent the contraband trade alluded to in the last paragraph of your letter, I beg to suggest that it is better to leave them to be settled by the Commissioners on the spot.

From H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, Cuddalore, dated Calicut, 12th June 1848, No. 906.

In t[illegible] last paragraph of your letter [illegible] of the 5th instant on the subject of giving over certain villages near Mahé to the French Government, you [illegible] me that you did not consider it advisable to communicate certain suggestions of [illegible] with regard to checking the contraband trade in tobacco between Mahé and our frontiers [illegible] because "the trade may be prevented by some additional chowkies at the frontier, and even this object by the ready co-operation promised by the French Government, of which doubtless your Sub-Collector will take due advantage at the time of the transfer."

With regard to the first suggestion—that of "some additional chowkies at the frontier"—I beg to inform you that we have already chowkies all round the frontier within hail of each other. But the heavy expense entailed by this cordon is inoperative on great occasions and vexatious in small. The large smuggler pays his bribe and runs his tobacco. The poor wretch who comes out of Mahé with a few leaves for his own consumption is seized and shown up as a proof of the activity of the preventive force. The system is a bad one, and I would rather get rid of than increase it. Whether this can be in any way effected by the "ready co-operation promised by the French Government" is the next question.

Monsieur Pujol, I remark in his letter to you of the 23rd August last, observes that he will willingly agree to consider any measures which you may think it desirable to suggest. After this assurance, I really think it would be an error if we were to press on him the plan I have proposed in my letter of the 3rd September last. The getting rid of a smuggling depôt which is as little honourable to the French as it is annoying and expensive to our Government. All that would be necessary (to repeat what I said in that letter) would be to introduce the system under which the supply of salt for the use of their (French) subjects is regulated; let us furnish them at the wholesale price with as much tobacco as may be required and let its introduction by others be contraband.

From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to His Excellency the Governor of the French Establishments in India, dated Cuddalore, 20th June 1848.

With reference to your Excellency's letter of the 8th instant and my reply thereto of the 9th, I have the honour to communicate a suggestion from the Collector of Malabar to prevent the contraband trade in tobacco being carried on at Mahé, viz., that its supply should be regulated by the same system under which salt is now supplied, and to allow its introduction by others to be contraband.

This measure appears satisfactory in every respect, as such a quantity of tobacco as may be required for the use of the inhabitants at Mahé will be supplied by the Collector of Malabar, on requisition, at the wholesale price, and I trust it will meet with your Excellency's concurrence.

No. 394.

Ordered that the foregoing letter do lie over until the statement alluded to in its last paragraph is furnished by the Collector of Malabar.

(True Extract.)

FORT ST. GEORGE,
28*th August* 1848.

J. F. THOMAS,
Chief Secretary.

E M.C., Nos. 11, 12, dated 3rd October 1848.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, Nos. 11, 12, dated 3rd October 1848.

READ—the following:—

No. 11. From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to J. F. THOMAS, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, dated Cuddalore, 19th September 1848.

In submitting the correspondence noted in the margin, which has taken place subsequent to my letter of the 17th ultimo, and from which it appears that the transfer therein alluded to is now delayed by a reference for instructions made by His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry to his Government at Home, I have the honour to state for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council that the return received from the Collector of Malabar has been submitted by me for the sanction of Government through the Board of Revenue on the 16th instant.

The Special Agent to the Collector of Malabar, dated 17th August 1848.
From the Collector of Malabar in reply, dated 7th September.
The Special Agent to the Commissary of the Republic at Pondicherry, dated 16th September.
From the Commissary of the Republic at Pondicherry in reply, dated 18th September.

ENCLOSURES.

From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, Cuddalore, to H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, dated Cuddalore, 17th August 1848.

Government having called on me to report what measures have been taken for delivering over to the French authorities the villages and points alluded to in my letter of the 5th June last, and for the adjustment of the arrears of revenue, due to them on that account, I have the honour to request you will be pleased to transmit to me, at your earliest convenience, the return called for in my letter, dated 27th August 1847.

I take this opportunity to inform you that the suggestions contained in your letter of the 12th June last have been duly communicated to His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry but no reply has as yet been received.

From H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, Cuddalore, dated Calicut, 7th September 1848, No. 1397.

With advertence to your letter, dated 17th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit the return * called for in your communication, dated 27th August 1847, showing the net revenue realized from the four villages proposed to be transferred to the French Government, and to observe that I shall be prepared to give effect to the said transfer so soon as I am favoured with definite instructions on the subject.

* Original sent to the Board of Revenue.

I am not as yet aware whether the Chief of Mahé has been empowered to receive charge of the said villages, and sign the plan and other papers connected therewith, as Commissioner on the part of the French Government. I rather think not.

From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department to His Excellency Monsieur PUJOL, Commissary of the Republic in the French Establishments in India, dated Cuddalore, 16th September 1848.

In reference to my letter of the 20th June last, I have the honour to request your Excellency will be so obliging as to favour me with your opinion on the subject of the proposition therein contained, to enable me to communicate the same to the Collector of Malabar.

I shall also feel obliged by your kindly informing me whether, or not, instructions have been sent by your Excellency to the "Chef de Service" of Mahé, for receiving charge of the villages and points which are ready to be transferred to your Government as it appears from a communication just received that the British Commissioner had not been favoured with any intimation on the subject as yet.

No. 63.

To Monsieur Davis,

Collecteur Principal de la Division du Sud d'Arcot,
Agent Spécial à Goudelour.

Monsieur le Collecteur,

Il m'a été impossible, jusqu'a ce jour, de donner suite au projet que j'avais d'abord formé de charger le Chef de Service à Mahé de s'entendre avec le Commissaire du Gouvernement Britannique pour la reddition des 4 aldées et d'autres points du territoire de cet établissement, quelques difficultés s'étant élevées, j'ai du demander de nouvelles instructions à mon Gouvernement, j'espère qu'elles me parviendront incessamment.

Permettez-moi, à cette occasion, Monsieur Le Collecteur, de vous rappeler le contenu de ma lettre du 8 Juin der née 30 concernant les revenus des aldées et dépandances de Mahé. Rien ne s'oppose à ce que cette affaire soit terminée dès à présent. Vous me faisiez l'honneur de me dire dans votre lettre du 5 Juin que vous aviez invité Monsieur le Collecteur du Malabar à vous fournir l'état de ces revenus et que vous me transmettriez ce document dès qu'il vous seroit parvenu. Je vous serai obligé de presser la conclusion de cette affaire.

Agreez, &c.,

Le Commissaire de la République dans
les Etablissemens Français de l'Inde.

(Signed) L. PUJOL.

Pondichéry,
le 18 *Septembre* 1848.

[*Translation.*]

From His Excellency Monsieur L. PUJOL, Commissary of the Republic in the French Establishments of India, to W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Principal Collector of the Southern Division of Arcot, Special Agent at Cuddalore, dated Pondicherry, the 18th September 1848.

It has been impossible for me, up to this day, to give effect to the design which I had formed of instructing the Chief at Mahé to communicate with the Commissary of the British Government for the surrender of the four aldées and other points of the territory of this Establishment. Some difficulties having arisen, I have requested new instructions from my Government. I hope they will reach me without delay.

Allow me, Sir, upon this occasion, to recall to your mind the contents of my letter of the 8th June last, No. 30, relative to the revenues of the aldées and dependencies of Mahé. There is nothing at present to prevent the termination of this affair. You did me the honour to intimate to me in your letter of 5th June that you had requested the Collector of Malabar to furnish you with a statement of these revenues, and that you would forward this document to me so soon as it reached you. I shall be obliged by your hastening the settlement of this affair.

No. 450.

No. 12. The Right Honourable the Governor in Council awaits the receipt of the return stated in the foregoing letter to have been submitted to Government through the Board of Revenue on the 16th instant.

(By order.)

Fort St. George,
30*th September* 1848.

(Signed) J. F. THOMAS,
Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue, with two enclosures requested to be returned.

E.M.C., No. 501, dated 25th October 1848.

Political Department.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, No. 501, dated 25th October 1848.

Read—the following :—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 2416, dated 5th October 1848.

Read—the following :—

From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort St. George, dated Cuddalore, 16th September 1848.

In submitting the return, obtained from the Collector of Malabar, called for in the concluding part of "Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 28th September 1846," I have the honour to transmit extract from a letter from His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry, intimating his wish that the net revenue of the four villages about to be transferred to the French Government should be paid from my treasury, in the same manner as the quarterly instalments, payable to France by the Honourable East India Company, are now defrayed, and request you will be pleased to obtain the sanction of Government for the payment in question.

ENCLOSURES.

EXTRACT from a letter from His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry, addressed to the Special Agent at Cuddalore under date the 23rd August 1847.

Quant au paiement des sommes dues a l'administration française, pour les revenus cumulés des quatre aldeés, sous la deduction des frais de question, je désirerais qu'il eut lieu, s'il est possible, à Goudelour, de la même manière que celui des quatre lacks et de l'indemnité des salines. Tous ce qui est relatif à ce paiement est étranger au fait même de la reprise de possession, et peut être réglé entre votre administration et celle de Pondichéry, il ne s'agiroit que de réunir à Goudelour, les élémens du compte, qui sera établi, et Mr. Le Collecteur du Malabar, vous adresserait les pièces nécessaires pour le rédiger. Si d'ailleurs l'envoi de ces documens offroit quelque difficulté, je ne verrais pas d'objection á ce que le compte fut arrêté sur les lieux mêmes, par les Commissaires Anglais et Français, sauf à en fixer le paiement à Goudelour a cet égard aussi, j'attendrai pour donner des instructions à Monsieur Hayes que vous m'ayez fait connaître celles que vous transmettrez vous même.

STATEMENT showing the [illegible] from the four Tarrahs of Chalakara, Pandakel, Valoor, and Chembrah since fusly 1226.

Fusly.	Current collection.				Collection of arrears.				Grand Total.				Charges collection.	Net revenue.
	On account of Land Revenue.	On account of Mooturphee.	On account of Abkarry.	Total.	Land Revenue.	Mooturphee.	Abkarry	Total.	Land Revenue.	Mooturphee.	Abkarry.	Total.		
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.		RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
1226 * ..	2,098 15 0	Blended		2,098 15 0	..	..	..	..	2,098 15 0	..	..	2,098 15 0	122 10 1	1,976 4 11
1227	1,958 5 10	with Land		1,958 5 10	100 10 6	..	..	100 10 6	2,059 0 4	..	..	2,059 0 4	122 10 1	1,936 6 3
1228	2,091 11 7	Revenue.		2,091 11 7	362 5 0	..	..	362 5 0	2,454 0 7	..	..	2,454 0 7	122 10 1	2,331 6 6
1229	2,141 9 9	38 12 0	Blended with Land Revenue.	2,180 5 9	115 15 6	..	..	115 15 6	2,257 9 3	38 12 0	..	2,296 5 3	122 10 1	2,173 11 2
1230	2,189 1 4	32 3 2		2,221 4 6	156 3 10	12 4 0	..	168 7 10	2,345 5 2	44 7 2	..	2,389 12 4	122 10 1	2,267 2 3
1231	2,204 3 9	11 0 0		2,215 3 9	70 15 3	6 7 0	..	77 6 3	2,275 3 0	17 7 0	..	2,292 10 0	122 10 1	2,169 15 11
1232	2,158 3 6	11 0 0		2,169 3 6	31 2 9	..	..	31 2 9	2,189 6 3	11 0 0	..	2,200 6 3	122 10 1	2,077 12 2
1233	2,009 0 3	11 0 0		2,020 0 3	52 10 8	5 8 0	..	58 2 8	2,061 10 11	16 8 0	..	2,078 2 11	170 7 0	1,907 11 11
1234	2,325 8 7	28 0 0		2,353 8 7	211 4 5	..	..	211 4 5	2,536 13 0	28 0 0	..	2,564 13 0	180 0 0	2,384 13 0
1235	2,397 6 2	432 9 7		2,829 15 9	764 14 4	..	..	764 14 4	3,162 4 6	432 9 7	..	3,594 14 1	180 0 0	3,414 14 1
1236	2,302 10 10	432 9 7		2,735 4 5	139 14 9	..	..	139 14 9	2,442 9 7	432 9 7	..	2,875 3 2	180 0 0	2,695 3 2
1237	2,312 12 1	340 7 11		2,653 4 0	177 2 1	..	..	177 2 1	2,489 14 2	340 7 11	..	2,830 6 1	181 11 4	2,648 10 9
1238	2,275 1 4	312 12 8	99 9 7	2,687 7 7	190 13 0	..	..	190 13 0	2,465 14 4	312 12 8	99 9 7	2,878 4 7	195 0 0	2,683 4 7
1239	2,433 15 3	320 4 8	110 6 5	2,864 10 4	166 8 5	11 0 0	..	177 8 5	2,600 7 8	331 4 8	110 6 5	3,042 2 9	195 0 0	2,847 2 9
1240	1,959 12 4	288 3 8	105 5 10	2,353 5 10	..	..	..	..	1,959 12 4	288 3 8	105 5 10	2,353 5 10	195 0 0	2,158 5 10
1241	2,051 6 4	269 0 7	95 6 3	2,415 13 2	84 15 10	6 0 0	..	90 15 10	2,136 6 2	275 0 7	95 6 3	2,506 13 0	195 0 0	2,311 13 0
1242	2,421 7 4	303 13 6	140 0 0	2,865 4 10	278 11 1	10 2 3	..	288 13 4	2,700 2 5	313 15 9	140 0 0	3,154 2 2	195 0 0	2,959 2 2
1243	2,405 4 5	306 13 6	140 0 0	2,852 1 11	..	..	..	..	2,405 4 5	306 13 6	140 0 0	2,852 1 11	195 0 0	2,657 1 11
1244	2,399 11 0	290 9 6	140 0 0	2,836 4 6	..	..	..	..	2,399 11 0	296 9 6	140 0 0	2,836 4 6	195 0 0	2,641 4 6
1245	2,414 9 1	293 13 6	130 0 0	2,838 6 7	..	..	..	..	2,414 9 1	293 13 6	130 0 0	2,838 6 7	195 0 0	2,643 6 7
1246	2,469 7 10	281 5 6	120 0 0	2,870 13 4	..	..	..	..	2,469 7 10	281 5 6	120 0 0	2,870 13 4	195 0 0	2,675 13 4
1247	2,516 13 9	280 15 1	200 0 0	2,997 12 10	..	..	..	..	2,516 13 9	280 15 1	200 0 0	2,997 12 10	195 0 0	2,802 12 10
1248	2,538 5 6	281 15 1	225 0 0	3,045 4 7	..	..	..	..	2,538 5 6	281 15 1	225 0 0	3,045 4 7	195 0 0	2,850 4 7
1249	2,529 15 4	275 1 6	225 0 0	3,030 0 10	..	..	..	..	2,529 15 4	275 1 6	225 0 0	3,030 0 10	195 0 0	2,835 0 10
1250	2,536 3 8	274 10 3	225 0 0	3,035 13 11	..	..	..	..	2,536 3 8	274 10 3	225 0 0	3,035 13 11	195 0 0	2,840 13 11
1251	2,540 4 11	276 15 1	225 0 0	3,042 4 0	0 3 6	1 0 0	..	1 3 6	2,540 8 5	277 15 1	225 0 0	3,043 7 6	195 0 0	2,848 7 6
1252	2,542 11 0	280 1 7	290 0 0	3,112 12 7	..	..	..	..	2,542 11 0	280 1 7	290 0 0	3,112 12 7	195 0 0	2,917 12 7
1253	2,542 1 8	294 12 0	300 0 0	3,136 13 8	..	..	..	..	2,542 1 8	294 12 0	300 0 0	3,136 13 8	195 0 0	2,941 13 8
1254	2,541 6 0	296 8 10	300 0 0	3,137 14 10	..	..	..	..	2,541 6 0	296 8 10	300 0 0	3,137 14 10	195 0 0	2,942 14 10
1255	2,565 14 7	299 12 0	310 0 0	3,175 10 7	..	..	..	..	2,565 14 7	299 12 0	310 0 0	3,175 10 7	195 0 0	2,980 10 7
1256	2,556 1[illegible]	298 2 5	300 0 0	3,154 13 0	..	..	..	..	2,556 10 7	298 2 5	300 0 0	3,154 13 0	195 0 0	2,959 13 0
1257	2,550 [illegible]0	295 10 5	300 0 0	3,146 4 2	..	..	..	..	2,550 9 9	295 10 5	300 0 0	3,146 4 2	195 0 0	2,951 4 2
Total ..	74,9[illegible]4	7,164 15 7	3,980 12 1	88,127 0 0	2,904 6 11	52 5 3	..	2,956 12 2	77,885 11 3	7,217 4 10	3,980 12 1	89,083 12 2	5,650 8 11	83,433 3 3

* From 1st December 1817.

REMARKS.—A[illegible] Tarrahs proposed to be given up to the French Government comprise lands upon which the Malikanah paid to Corongotte Nair is calculated, it is necessary that the agreement or [illegible] this Malikanah should be referred to, and the Sub-Collector's opinion on the subject obtained, in order that a memorandum showing the further deduction to be made may be furnished, this wi[illegible] out delay.

CALICUT,
8th September 1848.

(Signed) H. CONOLLY,
Collector.

No. 2416.

The Board of Revenue presume that there will be no objection to the payment referred to in the above letter being made from the Cuddalore treasury, but they perceive from the remark in the statement prepared by the Collector of Malabar that some further information has yet to be furnished. On this being done, Mr. Davis will be pleased to ascertain from the French Government whether they admit the correctness of the account of the refund to be made, and, if so, will again address the Board upon the subject.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Secretary.

5th October 1848.

No. 515.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 12th October 1848.

Read—the following order of Government, dated 30th September 1848 :—

(Here enter No. 450).

Resolved that the Collector's letter of the 16th ultimo, and its accompaniments, together with the Board's Proceedings thereon, dated 5th instant, be communicated for the information of Government, in reference to the requisition contained in the foregoing order.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Secretary.

To J. F. Thomas, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 501.

The Right Honorable the Governor in Council approves of the proceeding of the Board of Revenue on Mr. Davis' letter of the 16th ultimo, and hopes to be put in early possession of the information they have called for.

(By order.)

FORT ST. GEORGE,
25th October 1848.

J. F. THOMAS,
Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue with a letter No. 2543 and its two enclosures.

Letter to the Hon'ble the Secret Committee of the Hon'ble the Court of Directors, No. 1, dated 3rd November 1848.

SECRET DEPARTMENT.

No. 1 of 1848.

To

THE HON'BLE THE SECRET COMMITTEE OF THE
HON'BLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS OF THE
EAST INDIA COMPANY.

HON'BLE SIRS,

We have the honour to reply to your Honourable Committee's despatch, dated 23rd June 1848.

2. Your Honourable Court will perceive from the correspondence noted in the margin that the transfer of the villages to which your Honourable Court refer is delayed by a reference for instructions made by the Commissary of the Republic at Pondicherry to the French Government, and that the arrears of revenue due on these villages is in process of adjustment.

Political Consultation, dated 29th August 1848, Nos. 24 & 25.
" " " 3rd October "
" " " 31st " "

We have, &c.,

FORT ST. GEORGE,
3rd November 1848.

(Signed) H. POTTINGER.
(") G. H. F. BERKELEY.
(") D. ELIOT.

E.M.C., No. 613, dated 23rd December 1848.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of Consultation, No. 613, dated 23rd December 1848.

Read—the following extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 14th December 1848, No. 637 :—

No. 8. Read the following letter from the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, dated 6th instant :—

In reference to my letter of the 16th September and the Board's Proceedings thereon, dated 5th October last, I have the honour to forward transcript of a communication since received from the Collector of Malabar from which the Board will perceive that no deduction is to be made from the net revenue exhibited in the statement transmitted with my former letter as stated in the remarks of that officer.

The return in question has been communicated to the French Government, and I have received from the Commissary of the Republic at Pondicherry a reply stating that the French authorities do not possess any document for testing the details of the said statement, and that they have examined the calculation and found it correct, and requesting that the net revenue thereof may be paid to them at the beginning of next month along with the fourth instalment of the four lacs of Sicca rupees payable for the current year; he also observes that the collection for fusly 1258 has not been included in this statement and that the revenue is due to the French Government up to the day of transfer.

I have therefore the honour to request that the Board will be pleased to obtain the sanction of Government for paying the amount in question in the manner suggested by the French Government.

ENCLOSURE.

From H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, Cuddalore, dated Calicut, 16th November No. 1709.

With reference to your letter, dated the 9th ultimo, I have the honour to state that, after a careful examination of the old accounts, it does not appear that, in calculating the malikanna paid to Korongotte Nair, the revenue of the four villages proposed to be given up to the French Government has been taken in account; there is therefore no deduction to be made from the net revenue exhibited in the statement transmitted with my letter, dated the 7th September last.

From the letter from the Collector of Malabar which accompanies the foregoing communication, it appears that no deduction should be made from the amount due on account of the four villages about to be transferred to the French Government as the revenue of those villages do not appear to have been taken in account in calculating the malikanna paid to Korongotte Nair. Mr. Davis also reports that he has afforded the Commissary of the Republic at Pondicherry an opportunity of inspecting the statement which accompanied his letter of 16th September last and that no objection has been taken to it. There would therefore seem to be no objection to the payment of the amount due to fusly 1257 (1847–48), viz., Rs. 83,433–3–3, from the South Arcot treasury in the early part of next month, as requested by Monsieur Pujol. With respect to the revenue of fusly 1258 (1848–49), the Board think that after the transfer of the villages has been made, the accounts can be closed to the date of transfer, and the balance paid to the French authorities.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Secretary.

To Sir H. C. Montgomery, Bt., Officiating Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 9. The Right Honourable the Governor in Council authorizes the disbursement from the South Arcot Treasury of the amount due to fusly 1257 (1847–48), viz., Rs. 83,433–3–3, on account of the villages alluded to in the foregoing extract and concurs with the Board of Revenue in respect to the revenue of those villages for 1258 (1848–49), that after their transfer has been made, the accounts can be closed to the date of transfer and the balance paid to the French authorities.

(By Order.)

(Signed) H. C. MONTGOMERY,
Offg. Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.
" Accountant-General.
" Civil Auditor.

Letter to the Honourable the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors, No. 1, dated 5th January 1849.

SECRET DEPARTMENT.

No. 1 of 1849.

To

THE HONOURABLE THE SECRET COMMITTEE OF THE
HONOURABLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS OF THE
EAST INDIA COMPANY.

HONOURABLE SIRS,

In our reply letter of the 3rd ultimo, we informed your Honourable Court that the arrears due on account of the transfer of certain villages to the French authorities were in process of adjustment. We have now to report that we authorized the disbursement from the South Arcot treasury of the amount due to fasli 1257 (1847–48), viz., Rs. 83,433–3–3, on their account.

2. With respect to the revenue of those villages for 1258 (1848–49), we directed that, after their transfer had been made, the accounts should be closed to the date of transfer, and the balance paid to the French authorities.

We have, &c.

(Signed) H. POTTINGER.
(") G. H. F. BERKELEY.
(") D. ELIOT.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
5th January 1849.

E.M.C., No. 56, dated 5th February 1849.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of Consultation, No. 56, dated 5th February 1849.

Read the following letter from His Excellency M. De Lalande deCalan, Governor of the French Establishments in India, Pondicherry, dated 16th January 1849, No. 4.

No. 13. Votre Excellence, lors de mon passage à Madras, m'a donné tant de preuves de son désir sincère de continuer à maintenir les relations de bon voisinage qui existent entre nos deux administrations, que je n'hésite pas à m'adresser à elle avec la plus entière confiance dans la circonstance qui se présente aujourd'hui.

Votre Excellence n'ignore pas nos anciennes réclamations au sujet des territoires dépendants de Mahé; les investigations qui en ont été la suite; les communications qui ont eu lieu à cet sujet entre les deux cabinets; enfin, la détermination adoptée d'un commun accord par nos Gouvernemens respectifs, et qui a eu pour objet de restituer à la France certains territoires qu'elle possédait au 1er Janvier 1792.

Ce sont: les aldées de Palour, Pandaquil, Chambara et Chelacara, plus les territoires connus sous les noms de " Fort St. George, Grand et Petit Calaye." Il a de plus été convenu qui les revenus perçus par le Gouvernement de S.M. Britannique depuis 1816 sur les territoires dont il s'agit seraient rendus à la France. Ces arrangemens pris par l'autorité Métropolitaine et notifiés par mon prédécesseur à M. le Collecteur p.p.al. agent spécial résidant à Goudelour, M. le Chef de Service à Mahé, Hayes, fut reconnu Commissaire Français pour recevoir les territoires rendus à la France. M. le S. Collecteur Chatfield fut désigné de son côté, comme Commissaire du Gouvernement Britannique.

Tout donnait à penser qu'enfin cette affaire allait recevoir une solution satisfaisante et que la restitution aurait lieu sans difficulté.

Il n'en a pas été ainsi; Votre Excellence verra par la correspondance ci-jointe qui a eu lieu entre M.M. Chatfield et Hayes, que les droits de la France sont encore contestés, et que du territoire exigu qui nous est rendu, l'on veut encore retrancher une portion sans laquelle la restitution serait illusoire. Je veux parler des dépendances de Mahé connues sous le nom de " Fort St. George, Grand et Petit Calaye." M. Chatfield conteste au Commissaire français nos droits sur cette portion de territoire, et veut se borner à nous rendre des sommets isolés, sans les versants qui relient ces montagnes entr'elles, et qui la France possedait à l'époque du 1er Janvier 1792, ainsi que le prouvent des documens irrécusables qui nous avons entre les mains. La lettre ci-jointe de M. Commissaire français Hayes établit à cet égard nos droits dans la manierè la plus incontestable. J'appelle sur ce document l'attention de Votre Excellence. Elle comprendra qu'il est impossible au Gouvernement français d'accepter les conditions posées par M. Chatfield, car ce ne serait ni l'esprit ni la lettre de la transaction qui a eu lieu entre les deux cabinets. Il ne s'agit au reste, que d'une étendue de territoire ayant à peine un demi mille carré de surface.

Je connais trop les sentimens de loyauté et de justice qui animent Votre Excellence pour insister plus longtems sur cette affaire. Je me borne à la prier d'examiner les argumens présentés par M. Hayes, et consignés dans sa lettre à M. Chatfield, convaincu qu'après lecture de ce document, elle s'empressera de faire cesser des difficultés imprévues qui viennent desurgir et que retardent la conclusion d'une affaire que tout fait désirer de voir terminer au plustôt.

Veuillez, je vous prie, Monsieur le Gouverneur, agréer l'assurance de la haute considération avec laquelle j'ai l'honneur d'être

[*Translation.*]

Your Excellency, during my sojourn at Madras, gave me so many proofs of your sincere desire to continue to maintain the friendly relations which subsist between our two Governments, that I feel no hesitation in addressing your Excellency with the most entire confidence under the circumstance which now presents itself.

Your Excellency is not unacquainted with our old reclamations relative to the territories dependent upon Mahé; the investigations consequent thereupon; the correspondence which took place upon the subject between the two Cabinets; in short, the Resolution adopted with one accord by our respective Governments, the object of which was to restore to France certain territories which she possessed on the 1st January 1792; they are: the villages of Palour, Pandaguel, Chambara and Chelacara, as also the territories known under the names of " Fort St. George, and Great and Small Calayes." It was further agreed that the revenues collected by the Government of Her Britannic Majesty since 1816, upon the territories in question, should be repaid to France. These arrangements made by the Metropolitan authority, and notified by my predecessor to the Principal Collector and Special Agent at Cuddalore, Mr. the Chief de Service at Mahé, Hayes, was acknowledged French Commissioner to receive the territories given up to France. The Sub-Collector, Mr. Chatfield, was nominated on his part Commissioner of the British Government.

Every thing tended to induce the belief that this affair was about at last to be satisfactorily settled, and that the restoration would take place without difficulty.

It has not so happened. Your Excellency will perceive by the accompanying correspondence which has taken place between Messrs. Chatfield and Hayes that the claims of France are still in dispute, and that of the small territory which is given up

to us, it is yet in contemplation to cut off a portion, without which the restoration will be to no purpose. I allude to the dependencies of Mahé known under the name of "Fort St. George and Great and Small Calayes." Mr. Chatfield disputes with the French Commissioner our claims to that portion of territory, and wishes to confine himself to the restoration to us of isolated summits, without the portions which intervene and connect those hills, and which France possessed on the 1st January 1792, as is proved by authentic documents which we hold. The accompanying letter of Mr. French Commissioner Hayes establishes our claims in the most incontestable manner. I call the attention of your Excellency to this document. You will perceive that it is impossible for the French Government to accept the conditions laid down by Mr. Chatfield, for it would be neither the spirit nor the letter of the transaction which took place between the two Cabinets. The consequence would be an extent of territory of barely half a square mile of surface.

I know too well the sentiments of good faith and equity which influence your Excellency to dwell any longer upon this affair. I deem it necessary only to solicit that you will examine the arguments offered by Mr. Hayes, and contained in his letter to Mr. Chatfield; convinced that after perusal of that document, your Excellency will hasten the removal of unforeseen difficulties which have arisen, and which retard the settlement of an affair which it is wholly desirable speedily to terminate.

Accept, Sir, the assurance of the high consideration, &c.

ENCLOSURE.

From R. CHATFIELD, Esq., Sub-Collector of Malabar, Commissioner of the British Government, to Monsieur HAYES, Chef de Service, Commissaire du Gouvernement, Mahé, dated Tellicherry, 2nd January 1849.

In acknowledging your letter of the 30th of December, No. 9, I am sorry to find that in consequence of our differing in regard to the extent and nature of the territory of Fort St. George, the Great and Little Callaye, you are unable to accept the villages which I was prepared to deliver into your hands. You correctly state the purport of my conversations regarding this subject: and on a review of my instructions I am unable to depart from the construction I have put upon them: I am inevitably led to understand by the three points, the fortifications which were erected by, and for many years said to be in possession of, the French Government; the limits of these points I conceive to be confined simply to the forts and their outworks and not as you argue to the entire hills and their *dependencies*. Mr. Pujol must, I fancy, have understood them in this light, when he denominates them "les points détachés" and argues that as the villages are entirely surrounded by the British territories, the suppression of smuggling would be easily effected. I shall refer the subject for the decision of my superiors by the earliest opportunity.

As you see insuperable objections to even a proposal of imposing the tobacco monopoly, the plan mentioned in your letter was the only one which struck me at the time as likely to offer any check to smuggling; any respectable man might engage to purchase and supply the four villages with the requisite amount of tobacco (about two candies in the year), giving security for his good behaviour and the French authorities giving a *nerruck* which should prevent his obtaining excessive profits or establishing a monopoly for his own benefit.

From Monsieur J. HAYES, Chef de Service, Commissaire du Gouvernement, Mahé, to R. CHATFIELD, Esq., Sub-Collector of Malabar, Commissioner of the British Government at Tellicherry, dated Mahé, 5th January 1849, No. 6.

Après la réponse du 2 de ce mois que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de faire à ma lettre en date du 30 Décembre 1848, No. 5, je ne crois pas possible de regarder la ecruite que vous m'offrez de la partie supérieure, ou des sommets pures et simples

des montagnes du Grand et du Petit Calaye de la montagne verte ou du Fort St. George exclusivement faite de leurs bases et de leurs dépendances, lesquelles resteraient en vos mains comme constituant, de ce côté, la rétrocession que je suis chargé de recevoir.

J'ignore ci que mon Gouvernement a décrité quant à la négation faite par Lord Aberdeen de nos droits sur le pays du Coringot nair, mais je me puis douter à la lecture de sa dépêche qu'il me soit clair et bien évident qu'en reconnaissant sans les restraindre nos droits aux points détachés appelés Fort St. George et le Grand et le Petit Calaye, ce Ministre n'ait en même tems, admis la date du 1er Janvier 1792—base constante des négociations sur le fait de notre occupation—et, que par suite, les trois points précités doivent nous être remis avec tous les territoires limites et dépendances qu'ils avaient à cette époque.

Mais, dira-t-on la même dépêche fait exclusion du territoire du Coringot nair, spécifié des points détachés?

Pour répondre à cette objection, je ferai remarquer qu'à Monsieur R. Chatfield, Sous-Collecteur du Malabar, Commissaire du Gouvernement Anglais à Tellicherry, qu'à cet égard, elle distingue complêtement quant à l'exclusion qu'elle prononce, entre les points qu'elle concede et ce territoire, que ces termes doivent revenir à dire "nous *détachons* du pays du Coringot nair pour les rendre aux français, les points appelés Fort St. George et le Grand et le Petit Calaye, tels qu'ils se délimitaient avec leurs dépendances au 1er Janvier 1792".

De la sorte tout s'explique d'une manière équitable et satisfaisante et l'on voit qu'elle est la valeur réelle du mot détaché.

Je ne pense que cette explication de se mot puisse être attaquée, car les points en question ne peuvent être détachés d'autre chose que du pays du Coringot nair, où ils se trouvent situés. Dire qu'ils sont détachés l'un de l'autre serait contraire à ce qui existe, puisqu'ils se relient les uns aux autres et cela n'empêcherait pas leurs abornements de se confondre, leur intégralité de nous appartenir et ne changerait par conséquent pas la situation.

Vraiment, à mon avis, chercherait-on à établir qu'il ne faut entendre par ces mots que les sommets des montagnes à l'exclusion de leurs autres parties et dépendances; car, rien dans la dépêche préciteé, qui, remarquez le bien, est celle qui nous a concédé le droit, ne peut à mon sens, préter à une telle interprétation, et il aurait fallu nécessairement dire si telle avait été l'intention de l'homme d'état, non pas qu'on reconnaissait nos droits aux points détachés appelés le Fort St. George, le Grand et le Petit Calaye, mais bien, qu'on ne les admettait qu'à la surface supérieure et exclusive occupée jadis par nos fortifications sur le sommet de ces points.

Mais, insistera-t-on peut être, le point détaché le Fort St. George, c'est le lieu des fortifications?

Bien que je ne comprenne pas comment les emplacements des fortifications puissent se dire détaché des montagnes où ils se trouvent, cette interprétation serait précieuse si les mots le Grand et le Petit Calaye qui suivent ne la rendaient impossible. En effet la dépêche qui nous occupe dit aussi "les points détachés, le Grand et le Petit Calaye"; elle ne parle pas pour eux des fortifications, mais les désigne intégralement en leur donnant les seuls noms par lesquels ils soient connus. Or, si cette admission est faite pour le Grand et le Petit Calaye, points rélativement moins importants, lors de notre occupation et où nous avions moins de fortifications, elle existe évidemment de même pour la montagne verte ou du Fort St. George et les dépendances de tous ces points et ces qui achève de le prouver victorieusement, c'est qui le Grand et le Petit Calaye occupent chacun une des extremités opposées de la montagne verte ou du Fort St. George, et que ces trois points se communiquent naturellement entre eux et forment les parties d'un même tout.

Dans le système précédent d'ailleurs, il me semble qu'il aurait fallu l'emploi après la désignation, qui n'est faite nulle part des lieux ou de la partie des montagnes où étaient ces fortifications, du mot, de retranchement *From part*, ou de tout autre suivi de la désignation (nominative) de ces mêmes elévations. Puis, cette conclusion extrême qui tend à détacher un morceau inaccessible des montagnes pour nous le donner, peut-elle, je le demande de bonne foi, se tirer des paroles de la dépêche de Lord Aberdeen

et ne voi-ton pas au contraire, qu'une telle déduction serait évidemment contraire à l'esprit même qui y a préscité et qui tout en croyant devoir refuser le territoire du Coringot nair à la France, désire néanmoins lui donner la satisfaction de cesser de mettre en doute ses droits aux trois points en question ?

Dans cet esprit, peut-on sérieusement regarder comme une satisfaction la rémise stérile offerte aujourd'hui du sommet aride, inutile et sans valeur, de ces points dont l'importance est surtout, aujourd'hui qui des conflits dans l'Inde ne sont plus probables entre les deux nations, dans la jonction qu'ils opérent entre Mahé et ses aldées, en nous donnant les deux côtés de la rivière et la suite non interrompue du territoire nécessaire au bien-être de notre population qui subit déjà plus d'une vexation de la part des agents de votre douane, ainsi qu'avec un sentiment qui vous honore vous l'avez fort bien demontré dans votre mémoire en date du 21 Décembre 1848 ?

Regarder cette partie de la rétrocession comme se bornant aux sommets dénudés de trois montagnes, me parait extrème, je l'avoue, et il me semble de plus qu'il y a la contradiction, en accordant la propriété du dessus et en refusant celle du dessous que je regarde comme devant indubitablement en être la suite ainsi que ses dépendances. Cette derniére propriété se démon'rerait au surplus même en ne parlant que des fortifications, car il ne peut être douteux, tel que je l'ai vu sur d'anciens plans, qu'un chemin partait du Fort St. George jusqu'à sa base et communiquait au bord de la rivière à 150 toises environ dans l'est, avec une batterie ou redoute dominant le passage et dont les ruines existent probablement encore.

D'ailleurs, ne pas admettre nos droits à cette propriété reviendrait je crois à dire l'impossible, à savoir que dans les temps de guerre et de trouble où il faut se reporter et lorsque la France avait établi une ligne de fortification qui partant de la mer et de Codoty aboutissait au pied du Grand Calaye et par la montagne verte ou du Fort St. George au Petit Calaye et à la rivière, elle ne s'etait pas rendue maîtresse absolue et sans contestation du territoire sous ses canons et de toutes leurs dépendances, et cela lorsque ces possessions lui étaient d'une importance *vitale* en lui assurant les points qui dominaient Mahé en faisaient le complément stratégique indispensable, et pouvaient seuls lui assurer le libre passage de la rivière et la communication sans entraves avec ses villages de Pallour, Chambara, Chalacara et de Pandaquel ainsi qu'avec les postes et fortifications qui s'y trouvaient partout et dont quelques ruines existent encore ainsi que le constate celle de la redoute portée sur le plan que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de me communiquer le 28 Décembre dernier.

Vous paraissez penser, Monsieur, que Monsieur Pujol a compris comme vous qu'il ne s'agissait que de nous rétrocéder le sommet de trois montagnes ; à cet égard je puis vous assurer que vous êtes dans l'erreur, Monsieur Pujol m'ayant écrit dans un sens tout différent. Du reste, ce que j'ai dit ci-dessus me semble expliquer clairement la valeur des termes qu'il a employés après Lord Aberdeen, et lorsque parlant des ravanahs, le Commissaire de la République Francaise s'occupe du passage de nos habitans sur votre territoire, il a énoncé un fait facile à concevoir. En effet, outre que nous sommes toujours dans l'Inde à peu près envelopés par vos possessions, la surface des quatre villages qui doivent nous être rétrocédés ressemblant à un sablier, c'est-à-dire, ayant des extrémités assez larges réunies par un sol long et étroit, s'il arrivait, comme on l'a fait pressentir de Pondichéry, que nos habitans prissent une ligne directe ne passant sur votre territoire, pour éviter un détour sur le nôtre, ils pourraient en effet, au besoin, se munir d'une ravanah. Du reste, même en supposant ce qui n'est pas, ainsi que je viens de vous le dire, que Monsieur Pujol partageat votre opinion quant aux trois points détachés, la nomination d'un Commissaire français sur les lieux, montre assez qu'on eut attendu ses rapports pour exprimer une opinion définitive.

D'après cela, il me parait difficile de m'éconnaître la justice de nos demandes. Le Gouvernement Anglais en a au surplus implicitement reconnu une, il y a longtems, en partageant constamment avec nous depuis la reprise de possession, le droit de passage sur la riviére qui sépare Mahé du territoire qui est aujourd'hui reconnu lui appartenir sur la rive opposée.

Mais si on élevait de nouveaux doutes à cet ègard, l'inspection des lieux les détruirait entièrement ; ainsi les dernières pentes du versant sud-ouest de la montagne du Grand Calaye qui s'étend du côté de Tellicherry jusqu'à douze pas environ au delà

de la boutique de Candoté Paguerchy, sèchelonnent aussi depuis ce point vers le sud-oest en s'abaissant graduellement jusqu'a une portée de fusil ou deux de la mer, sa limite naturelle dans cette direction, et se trouve ainsi nécessairement coupé par la route qui part du bac. D'où il résulte que cette montagne comprend toute la pointe et les terrains vis-à-vis Mahé de l'autre côté de la rivière jusqu'auprès de Codoty.

Quant au surplus du territoire que nous réclamons si justement, il est non seulement situé entre Mahé et nos villages, mais même ils ont entre eux de tels points de contact qu'on voit aisément qu'on ne peut les séparer équitablement ; ainsi par exemple la montagne de Vera que vous admettez sur votre plan, comme étant au dedans des limites de nos villages, n'est qu'à trois portées de fusil de la montagne verte ou du Fort St. George et cette distance est occupée seulement par trois terrains travaillés dans leurs bases confondues ; la distance de ces montagnes d'un sommet à l'autre, versants opposés et espace intermédiaire mesurés, n'est que de 1,890 pieds environ. Du reste les montagnes du Petit et du Grand Calaye, du Fort St. George, de Vera, de Poitara et d'Ayapen, se suivent pour ainsi dire sans interruption et forment un groupe qui doit nécessairement comprendre les terrains qui en relevent ou qui s'y trouvent enclavés.

De la sorte nos limites doivent être—

(1) Dans le sud suivant une ligne directe tirée en continuation de celle qui nous aborne au nord de Vera Common et qui passant à O.N.O. couperait la route de Tellichéry à douze pas au delà de la boutique de Candoté Paquerchy, mettrait la petite maconarie de notre côté et aboutirait à la mer au dessous de Codoty.

(2) Dans le N.N.E. d'après une ligne partant de la rivière jusqu'au petit ponceau, premiére limite de Peringady, lequel est situé de l'autre côté du ruisseau ou Tande de Calaye et se dirigeant delà dans le nord pour aboutir à nos abornemens à Ayapen.

En ce qui concerne les quatre villages eux-mêmes, j'ai à vous observer, Monsieur, que le plan que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de me communiquer fait exclusion de 19 terrains qui me semblent nous appartenir.

En voici la note :—

(1) Pontimpora Parambou. (2) Connaté Parambou. (3) Ponatincandy Tarjy Parambou. (4) Banatanvittilé Miteley tarjy Parambou. (5) A[illegible]ary Parambou. (6) [illegible]davalaté Parambou. (7) Moddatel Parambou. (8) Coilloté Parambou. (9) Corinddavaddaté Parambou.	Ces neufs terrains dependent de la montagne de Chambara.
Le terrain de Potton Colon, autrefois dépendance de Pandakel. Le terrain Ticracave Parambou qui parait appartenir au district du Pallour. Le terrain Balle Parambou qui parait appartenir au même district.	Ces terrains se trouvent portés aujourd'hui au district de Calaye.
(1) Tarize Parambou. (2) Tegué Pondividdon Parambou. (3) Pondiaviddon Parambou. (4) Chaddin Viddon Parambou. (5) Chaddin Vadd[illegible]guel Tarize Parambou. (6) Pilacanddy Parambou.	Appartenant au district de Palour, compris aujourd'hui dans celui de Calaye.

Et enfin un autre terrain appelé Cheria Collatil Parambou revenant à Pallour.

Enfin, Monsieur, ainsi que j'ai eu l'honneur de vous le dire par ma lettre du 30 Décembre dernier, No. 5, la contemplation notoire et que vous reconnaissez qu'a depuis longtems votre honorable Gouvernement de permettre la libre culture du tabac dans le Malabar, assure dans un avenir sans doute prochain, avec les idées du jour, la disparition de la contrebande dont vous vous plaignez et en attendant la bonne entente qui existe entre les Gouvernements ne peut manquer d'amener les arrangements possibles à cet égard et qui, vu le peu d'importance du territoire concédé, seront sans doute suffisants pour empêcher de grands dommages pour vos intérêts. Du reste, en ce qui me concerne je ferai ce qui dependra de moi pour aller au devant des exigences de

votre service dans les limites qui me sont tracées. Dans ce sens et en attendant une étude plus complette, je crois à première vue que le nouveau système que vous proposez peut avoir une grande efficacité pour arrêter la contrebande du tabac, puisqu'il ne laisse en général aucun intérêt pour la faire et que d'ailleurs il n'impose aucune nouvelle charge aux habitans. Reste à savoir maintenant to une mesure semblable ou analogue peut s'accorder avec nos institutions.

Il y a donc à mon avis toute espèce de motifs pour que les droits de la France, non seulement aux quatre villages mais encore aux trois montagnes et à toutes leurs dépendances, ainsi qu'à la possession qu'ils entraînent des deux rives de la rivière et des bacs ne soient pas plus longtems méconnus ; ces droits me semblent admis de fait par la concession de Lord Aberdeen même, et je ne doute pas que l'honorable Gouvernement dont vous referrez ne le juge ainsi.

En attendant et comme je n'ai pouvoir ni de diviser ni de restreindre la reprise de possession qui m'est confiée ; que l'acceptation, dès à présent, des quatre villages que vous m'avez proposée, sauf à attendre ce qui sera statué quant aux autres points, engageraient la liberté d'action et préjugerait la détermination de mon Gouvernement ; j'ai l'honneur de terminer les considérations précédentes dont il était convenable d'appuyer cette communication, en vous informant que je vais en référer.

En définitive et quelle que soit la décision à intervenir de la part de nos Gouvernements quant aux intérêts respectifs dont nous sommes chargés, je ne finirai pas cette lettre sans me féliciter des relations que j'ai eu l'honneur d'avoir avec vous et dans lesquelles vous m'avez assisté à maintenir cet esprit de bonne entente qui les rend faciles et bienveillantes et qui est si digne des fonctionnaires de deux grandes nations comme celles aux quelles nous appartenont.

Recevez, Monsieur, &c.

Le Chef du Service
Commissaire du Gouvernement

(Signé) J. HAYES.

[*Translation.*]

From Monsier J. HAYES, Chief de Service, Commissaire du Governement, Mahé, to R. CHATFIELD, Esq., Sub-Collector of Malabar, Commissioner of the British Government at Tellicherry, dated Mahé, the 5th January 1849, No. 6.

After the reply of the 2nd instant which you did me the honour to make to my letter, dated 30th December 1848, No. 5, I do not think it possible to assent to the restoration which you propose to me of the upper part, or bare summits, of the hills of the Great and Small Calayes of the green hill or the Fort St. George, to the exclusion of their bases and their dependencies, which would remain in your hands as the restoration, on your part, which I am appointed to receive.

I do not know what my Government has decided in reference to the denial made by Lord Aberdeen of our claims to the territory of Coringot nair, but I doubt not from the perusal of his despatch that it is quite evident that in recognizing without limiting our claims to the detached points called Fort St. George and the Great and Small Calayes, the Minister did not at the time admit the date of 1st January 1792, the constant basis of negotiations relative to the fact of our occupation, and that therefore the three points laid down should be made over to us with all the territories, limits and dependencies which they had at that period.

Should it be said that this despatch excludes the territory of Coringot nair, as distinguished from the detached points—

In reply to this objection, I would observe that it completely distinguishes in the exclusion it declares between the points which it gives up and this territory, and that the terms ought to be understood thus, "we *detach* from the country of Coringot

nair, to make over to the French, the points called Fort St. George and the Great and Small Calayes, just as they stand, with their dependencies on the 1st January 1792."

Thus all is explained in a fair and satisfactory manner, and the importance of the word detached is seen.

I do not think that this explanation of the word can be disputed, for the points in question cannot be detached from anything else except the territory of Coringot nair, where they are situated. To say that they are detached one from the other would be contrary to their actual position, since they are limited by each other, and that would not prevent the confounding of their boundaries, their belonging to us as a whole, nor consequently alter the situation.

In vain, in my opinion, can it be sought to prove that by these words the summits of hills to the exclusion of their other parts and dependencies is to be understood ; for nothing in the despatch above alluded to, which, remark well, is that which has conceded to us the right, can, I conceive, bear such an interpretation, and it ought necessarily to have mentioned whether such had been the intention of the statesman, and not that our claims were acknowledged to the detached points called *the Fort St. George* and the Great and Small Calayes, but also that they were admitted only in respect to the upper surface formerly occupied by our fortifications or the summits of these points.

But should it be insisted that the point detached from Fort St. George is designed for fortifications—

Although I do not understand how the sites for fortifications can be said to be detached from hills where they are found, this interpretation would be plausible enough if the words the Great and the Small Calayes which follow did not render it impossible. In effect, the despatch before us says also, "the points detached, the Great and the Small Calayes," it makes no mention in respect to them of fortifications but describes them as entire, and gives them the only name by which they are known. Now if this admission be made in respect to the Great and the Small Calayes —points relatively of less importance at the time of our occupation, and where we had fewer fortifications—it evidently exists alike in reference to the green hill or the Fort St. George and the dependencies of all these points ; and which is most satisfactorily proved by the fact that the Great and the Small Calayes occupy each one of the extremities opposite the green hill or the Fort St. George, and that these three points naturally co municate between them and form parts of the same whole.

Besides, in the foregoing hypothesis it would appear to me that the use should have followed the designation, which is nowhere made of the places or the part of the hill where these fortifications existed, of the word signifying retrenchment *from, part,* of any other followed by the designation (nominal) of these same elevations. Then can this extreme conclusion, I candidly ask, which would detach an inaccessible portion of the hills to give it to us, be drawn from the words of the despatch of Lord Aberdeen, and is it not evident, on the contrary, that such an opinion would be opposed even to the spirit that presided on the occasion, which, while it refuses to surrender to France the territory of Coringot nair, desires nevertheless to give her the satisfaction of rendering her claims to the three points in question no longer doubtful ?

In this spirit, can one seriously regard as a satisfaction the restoration now offered of the barren summits, useless and valueless, of these points, the importance of which besides—at the present time that wars in India are no longer probable between the two nations—is in the junction which they effect between Mahé and its villages, in giving us the two sides of the river and the unbroken slip of territory necessary to the well-being of our population, who already suffer more than one vexation on the part of the agents of your customs, as you have with a feeling that does honour to you very well shown in your memoir dated the 21st December 1848 ?

To regard that part of the restoration as confined to the naked summits of the three hills appears to me, I must confess, to be going too far, and there would moreover seem to me to be a contradiction in giving the signification of the upper and in withholding that of the lower part, which I consider to be undoubtedly the continuation, as also its dependencies. This last signification will be even more obvious in speaking of fortifications only, for there can be no doubt that a road such as I have

seen it in old plans led from Fort St. George to its base and communicated with the edge of the river at about 150 toises* to the east, with a battery or redoubt commanding the passage, and of which the ruins probably still exist.

* A French measure of 6 feet, answering to the English fathom.—*Translator.*

Besides, not to admit our claims to that signification would be, I think, to assert what is impossible; for instance, to go back to the time of war and disturbance when France had established a line of fortification which, leading from the sea and from Codoty, bordered upon the foot of the Great Calaye and by the green hill or the Fort St. George to the Small Calaye and to the river, she did not render herself absolutely and indisputably mistress of the territory occupied with her cannon, and of all its dependencies and that, too, when her possessions were of *vital* importance to her in securing to her the points which commanded Mahé as indispensably necessary to the purposes of war, and could alone secure to her the free passage of the river and the uninterrupted communication with its villages of Pallour, Chambara, Chalacara and of Pandaguel, also with the posts and fortifications everywhere found, and of which some ruins still exist, as that of the redoubt borne upon the plan which you did me the honour to communicate to me the 28th December last, would prove.

You appear to think, Sir, that Mr. Pujol has understood, like yourself, that it would be required only to make over to us the summits of three hills; I can assure you that in this respect you are in error, Mr. Pujol having written to me in quite a different sense. Besides, what I have said above appears to me to explain clearly the meaning of the expressions he has employed in regard to Lord Aberdeen; and when speaking of ravanahs, the Commissary of the French Republic dwells upon the passage of our inhabitants over your territory, he has declared a fact easy to conceive. In effect, besides that we are always in India nearly surrounded by your possessions, the surface of the four villages which should be made over to us resembling an hour glass, that is to say having extremities sufficiently large and united by a long and narrow neck, if it happened, as has been foreseen of Pondicherry, that our inhabitants took a direct line in passing over your territory, to avoid a detour upon ours, they could in fact, in a case of need, provide themselves with a ravanah. Besides, even in supposing what is not the case, as I have just told you, that Mr. Pujol shared in your opinion in respect to the three detached points, the nomination of a French Commissioner on the spot sufficiently shows that his reports had been awaited in order to express a final judgment.

From what has been said, it appears to me to be hard not to admit the justice of our demands. The British Government has, moreover, a long time since, tacitly acknowledged one, in constantly sharing with us since the cession the right to the passage of the river which separates Mahé from the territory which is now known to belong to it upon the opposite shore.

But should fresh doubts be raised in this respect, the inspection of the places would entirely remove them; thus the lower slopes of the south-west side of the Great Calaye hill, which extend towards Tellicherry to about twelve paces beyond the shop of Condoté Paguerchy, also extend from that point towards the south-west gradually declining to the distance of a musket shot or two from the sea, the natural boundary in that direction, and thus necessarily become intersected by the road which leads from the ferry. From which it follows that that hill comprises all the Point and the grounds opposite Mahé upon the other side of the river adjacent to Codoty.

As for the surplus territory which we so justly claim, it is not only situated between Mahé and our villages, but they (the villages ?) have even between them such connecting points as are easy to be

the ... and de...

† Translator.

...en cannot be justly separated; thus, for example, the hill ... of Vera which, you admit ... upon your plan as being within the limits of our villages ... only three musket shots ... from the green hill or the Fort St. George, and that distance ... occupied only by three ... grounds wrought in their mingled bases; the distance of the ... hills from one summit ... to the other—sides opposed to each other and intermediate ... pace measured—is only 1,890 feet or thereabouts. Besides, the hills of the Great and ... Small Calayes, of Fort

St. George, of Vera, Poitara and of Ayapen, follow each other in a manner without interruption, and form a group which ought necessarily to comprise the territories which surround or which are enclosed.

So that our boundaries ought to be—

(1) In the south following a direct line drawn in continuation of that which bounds us to the north of Vera Common, and which passing at W.N.W. intersects the road to Tellicherry at twelve paces from the shop of Condoté Paguerchy would place the little building upon our side, and would terminate at the sea below Codoty.

(2) In the N.N.E. from a line leading from the river to the little Ponceau, the first limit of Peringady which is situated upon the other side of the stream or Tandide Calaye and leading from that to the north to end at our boundaries at Ayapen.

As regards the four villages themselves, I have to observe, Sir, that the plan which you did me the honour to communicate to me excludes the nine grounds which appear to me to belong to us.

Here is the note:—

1st Poutinpora Parambou. 2nd. Connaté Parambou. 3rd. Ponatin Candy Tarjy Parambou. 4th. Banatanvillité Mitiley Tarjy Parambou. 5th. Ajary Parambou. 6th. Eddavalaté Parambou. 7th. Moddatel Parambou. 8th. Coillote Parambou. 9th. Corinddavaddaté Parambou.	These nine grounds are dependencies of the hill of Chambara.
The ground of Potton Colon, formerly dependency of Pandakel. The ground Ticracave Parambou which appears to belong to the district of Pallour. The ground Balle Parambou which appears to belong to the same district.	These grounds at present belong to the district of Kalaye.
1st. Tarize Parambou. 2nd. Tegue Pondividdon Parambou. 3rd. Pondiaviddon Parambou. 4th. Chaddin Viddon Parambou. 5th. Chaddin Vaddagnel Tarize Parambou. 6th. Pilacanddy Parambou.	Belonging to the district of Palour, included at present in that of Calaye.

And finally another ground called Cheria Collatil Parambou, being given up to Pallour.

In fine, Sir, as I had the honour to tell you by my letter of the 30th December last, No. 5, the evident intention which you know that for a long time your Hon'ble Government has had of permitting the free cultivation of tobacco in Malabar, promises for a future day doubtless not distant, with the spirit of the time, the disappearance of smuggling of which you complain, and in the meanwhile the good understanding which exists between the Governments cannot fail to bring about the arrangements possible in that respect, and which, considering the little importance of the territory conceded, will doubtless be sufficient to prevent any serious damages to your interests. Besides, so far as I am concerned, I will do what will lie in my power to anticipate the exigencies of your service within the limits which are assigned to me. In this sense, and in expecting a more complete consideration, I think, at first sight, that the new system which you propose may have great efficacy in stopping the smuggling of tobacco, since it leaves in general no inducement to make it and besides imposes no fresh burden upon the inhabitants. It remains now to be seen whether a measure, similar or analagous, be in accordance with our laws.

There is then, in my judgment, every motive for the claims of France, not only to the four villages, but even to the three hills and to all their dependencies, as also to the possession which they include of the two banks of the river and the ferries, being no longer doubted; these claims appear to me, in fact, to be admitted even by the concession of Lord Aberdeen, and I have no doubt that the Hon'ble Government which you represent is of the same opinion.

In the apprehension (and as I have no power to act authoritatively in the business confided to me) that the acceptance, at the present time, of the four villages

which you have proposed to me might, without waiting for what will be resolved in respect to the other points, interfere with the determination of my Government, I have the honour to conclude the foregoing observations which it was expedient to offer in this communication by informing you that I am about to refer the question to it.

In conclusion, whatever may be the decision on the part of our Governments in regard to the respective interests which are entrusted to us, I would not close this letter without felicitating myself upon the communications which I had the honour to have with you, and in which you have assisted me in maintaining that spirit of good understanding which renders them easy and kind, and which are worthy the functionaries of two great nations like those to which we belong.

No. 14. The Right Honourable the Governor in Council observes that under date the 3rd September 1847 the Collector of Malabar had called upon the Civil Engineer of the 7th Division to take early measures for preparing maps, defining the boundaries of the villages to be interchanged between the British and French authorities, which maps do not appear to have been forwarded to Government. It is, therefore, desired that they may be furnished, at an early date, jointly, if practicable, with those of the French Chief at Mahé or, if not, separately.

The Collector of Malabar will be pleased to request Mr. Chatfield to submit to Government, as early as practicable, the report promised in his letter to the French Chief at Mahé, dated the 2nd January 1849.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. THOMAS,
Chief Secretary.

Copy to the Collector of Malabar.
„ to Government of India, 26th April 1853.

E.M.C., No. 57, dated 5th February 1849.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

No. 57.

To

HIS EXCELLENCY MONS. DE LALANDE DECALAN,
Governor of the French Establishments in India,
&c., &c., &c.

SIR,

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter of the 16th ultimo, and, in reply, beg to inform you that the subject thereof will be referred, as early as practicable, for the consideration of the Home authorities.

I beg in the mean time to request your Excellency will be pleased to favour me with a sketch map embracing the points and localities particularly adverted to in your Excellency's communication, either distinctly and separately or jointly drawn out by the French and British Commissioners.

Accept, Sir, the assurance of the high consideration with which

I have the honour to be, &c.,

FORT ST. GEORGE,
5th February 1849.

(Signed) HENRY POTTINGER.

Copy sent to Government of India, 26th April 1853.

E.M.C., No. 148, dated 20th March 1849.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, No. 148, dated 20th March 1849.

READ—the following :—

From H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to J. F. THOMAS, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Calicut, 24th February 1849, No. 4.

I have the honour to forward, for the information of Government, a copy of Mr. Chatfield's report * on the Mahé question alluded in the last paragraph of the Minutes of Consultation under date the 5th instant. The report, it will be seen, is dated the 10th January, but I may explain that it had to be slightly modified, and only came to me eventually a day or two ago.

* Dated 10th January 1849.

2. Mr. Chatfield, after perusing the communication from Government to which I am now replying, has thought it well to write a further † letter, recapitulatory of the subjects treated of in his correspondence with Mr. Hayes, the French Commissioner at Mahé.

† Dated 10th instant.

3. The question at issue is simply this. What meaning is to be attached to Lord Aberdeen's instructions, as conveyed in his Minute under date 1st July 1846, that the French are to have ceded to them the "three detached points" or "posts" (the words are used indifferently by Lord Aberdeen) " of Fort St. George, Great Calaye and Little Calaye " in addition to four villages separately specified.

Is Mr. Chatfield correct in his belief that the meaning is that these points are nothing but three detached ‡ military positions which, as they overlook and command Mahé, it was a point of honour with the French to obtain possession of, or is Mr. Hayes correct in *his* belief that it means not only these military outworks, but also all their "dependencies", a term by which he includes a tract of country yielding a yearly revenue of Rs. 780, and the half of a river yielding from ferry tolls Rs. 650 a year more, total Rs. 1,430 per annum?

‡ Detached from Mahé; detached from each other—*vide* Map.

The total ferry tax is Rs. 1,305, of which the French have a moiety.

4. That Mr. Chatfield is right in *his* construction of the instructions of the Home Government (the only point I presume that is now to be discussed) is a matter on which I have no doubt.

5. That the term "points" (or posts) would more naturally favour Mr. Chatfield's view than his own, is evidently felt by Mr. Hayes when he thinks it necessary to add to it the word "dependencies" in order to defend his own view.

6. An exactly similar word "dependencies" was used by the French in 179 as regards these very "points," but the expression was vigorously resisted by the British parties in authority at that time as being one quite unauthorized. For the details of this occurrence I beg to refer to the Commissioner's report under date the 10th July 1828, paragraph 138.

7. Lord Aberdeen's minute § is evidently grounded on this report and it will ten to elucidate the subject that I quote here the opinion of the Commissioners, as t what was meant by these "three points":—

§ Dated 1st July 1846.

8. "With respect to Fort St. George, and Great and Little Calaye, which thoug situated in the Coringotte district, are specifically and separately claimed, there ca be no doubt that on the two first of these places at least you" (they are addressing th French Commissioners) "formerly had redoubts or military posts, as we took an subsequently restored them on two successive occasions. We have no reason either call in question that you occupied them under a grant or by the permission of th

Coringotte Nair, though we meet with no direct information to this effect in any of the papers that have fallen under our notice. These hills are within two or three hundred toises of Mahé itself on the opposite side of the river, and the possession of them was indispensably necessary in a military point of view to the defence of that place; as the elevation of the centre one La' Montague verte (or Fort St. George) is stated in Mr. Larcher's report to General Malartie to be 27 toises, while the highest point of Mahé, which was Fort Dauphin, was only 15."

"We are however led to believe by the whole tenor of the information we have obtained in regard to the Coringotte district, that you never possessed more than the mere ground on the summit of the hills which was covered by the military works constructed on them, and that no portion of the adjoining territory however small had ever been conceded to you by the Nair"—and after some further detail confirmatory of these positions they add the expressions of their decided judgment—"that the French had not actual occupation of Fort St. George or Great and Little Calaye on the 1st of January 1792, and that at no period of time had they ever possessed them otherwise than as mere advanced posts of an exclusively military nature."

9. Monsr. de Lalande de Calan has apparently not seen Lord Aberdeen's minute, or he would hardly have used such an inappropriate term as that of "territories" in treating of the posts in question.

Vide his letter, dated 16th January 1849.

10. To any part of the Coringotte "territory" properly so called, the French, as asserted by Lord Aberdeen, on the admission of their own Governor Monsr. deMelay, have no right whatever. Now the portion claimed by Mr. Hayes is not only a considerable but a valuable portion of this said territory—its rental, as I have shown in the commencement of this letter, being not less than Rs. 1,430 per annum.

Lord Aberdeen's minute, paragraph 9.

11. The cession of the tract now requested by the French authorities would, as Mr. Chatfield remarks, be productive of great loss and inconvenience to us.

12. In the first place, we should have to remodel, and very largely increase, our establishment for the prevention of smuggling.

The precincts of Mahé are at present $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles, and as we have the command of half of the river through which foreign tobacco finds its way into the French territory from the sea, we are able by having chokies within hail of each other all round the French border, to check in some measure at least its introduction into our limits. But if we lose this half of the river and the French precincts are increased in an unbroken line from 2 to about 12 miles, it is evident that the difficulty of repressing smuggling will be enormously increased. A cordon of peons for 2 miles costs Rs. 124. A cordon for 12 miles would cost Rs. 744 per mensem.

Exclusive of the seabord.

13. Accession of this territory would lead also, I imagine, to an immediate loss of about Rs. 45,000 being the arrears of receipts obtained by us since the year 1817 from its possession. If we are to refund what we have received for the last 32 years from one part of what is given up, the four villages, we should naturally refund for the other.

14. But I feel confident that such heavy sacrifices were never intended when Lord Aberdeen resolved, more as a matter of favour than of justice, to cede to the French Government the "detached points" or "posts" of Fort St. George, Great Calaye and Little Calaye. Had it been so, some specification would doubtless have been made of them, as was made in the case "of the arrears of the net revenue of the four villages" ordered to be restored.

Lord Aberdeen's minute, paragraph 5.

15. It is with regret that I find that the French authorities show but little inclination to respond to the hope expressed by Lord Aberdeen that the cession of the four Aldees (or villages)—a cession which his Lordship remarks must inevitably have the consequence of increasing the facility of smuggling—"may induce the French

Paragraph 6.

Note.—Not, let it be remarked, of the 3 points.

Government to unite in the arrangements which are necessary for the mutual advantage of the two Governments, and by which alone a kind and friendly feeling can be maintained between their respective servants."

16. Monsr. Pujol, the late Governor of Pondicherry, thought that Lord Aberdeen had written in this manner from a want of knowledge of the localities, and that as the territory to be ceded was at a distance from the shore of the sea, "*eloignees du rivage de la mer*" there could be little fear of an increase of smuggling. Mr. Chatfield has shown in his letter of the 2nd January last, that this admission of Monsr. Pujol speaks volumes as to the meaning which *he* attached to the "three points" at the time of writing it that he certainly did not think with Mr. Hayes that they embraced any part of the line of coast.

Vide his letter, 23rd August 1847, paragraph 13.

17. I allude to Monsr. Pujol's words to show that Lord Aberdeen was not so mistaken as he supposes. The cession of the four villages will inevitably give an extra facility to smuggling. At present the contraband tobacco is always liable to seizure even if it has escaped our preventive peons on the border as the surrounding country is all English, and any official may lay his hands on it; but the possession by the French of a long slip of ground like that embraced by the four villages will greatly alter the state of the case. The distance between Mahé and the nearest point of the four villages is a mere trifle, and once over that, the tobacco may be stored for smuggling into the Company's territories in any of the unprotected points to be found in the twelve miles of frontier which the four villages embrace. Some extra security therefore is certainly urgently required and I can see no easier method to obtain it, none less liable to hurt the feelings of the French authorities, than what has been proposed by Mr. Chatfield and myself, viz., that the system under which they derive their supply of tobacco for the use of their subjects should be assimilated to that under which they at present derive their supply of salt—we to furnish them at the wholesale price with whatever quantity is required for their people, which they will sell in retail at prices similar to those which obtain among ourselves. The wholesale price being Rs. 35 and the retail Rs. 175 this plan would be as profitable, comparatively, to the French, as it is to ourselves and as a great portion of their subjects (those embraced by the four villages now to be ceded) have always been liable to pay the higher rate, the annoyance to be felt by the increase of price to the consumer will be limited to a few, *i.e.*, to the residents of Mahé proper.

18. Mr. Hayes, it will be seen, declines much argument on the subject, and suggests that its necessity be obviated by the British Government doing away with their tobacco monopoly generally.

19. I forward various maps showing the position of the territories and points treated of in this letter.

Memorandum of maps forwarded.

Boundary survey attested by Major Cotton, Mr. Chatfield and Mr. Hayes.	1
Copy of do. do do.	1
Sketch by Assistant Revenue Surveyor Shedden showing in detail the points at present in dispute between the English and French Commissioners ..	1
Old maps relating to the French territories lately received from the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, Cuddalore, and which may possibly be required for reference	5
Total maps ..	8

ENCLOSURES.

From R. CHATFIELD, Esq., Sub-Collector of Malabar, to the Collector of Malabar, dated Tellicherry, 10th January 1849.

I have the honour to forward Monsieur Hayes' last letter, No. 6, under date the 8th instant, containing his views of what is meant by "the three detached points." From this you will perceive that a large and very important tract of territory is claimed, commencing from the entrance of the river, running east beyond our Custom

House at Callye, from thence stretching north until the land joins Naaltarra for the four villages and proceeding west and by south down to the sea on the Mahé side of the old battery of Condotty Comchy. This claim seems to me preposterous, since the Home Government, on the report of the Commissioners of 1828, declare the French have no claim to any of the lands of the late Coringote Nair, and as a matter of courtesy can merely claim the three points where they formerly had an outwork and two small fortresses, without the least control over an iota of the adjoining cultivated lands. Should this unreasonable claim be seriously pressed, a fair opportunity will be opened for our bringing forward the incontestible claims of the British Government, as successors to the rights of the Cartenaad Rajah, to have a Custom House at Mahé, and to the collections and taxes which until Mahé was captured by us had always been regularly levied by the servants of the Rajah, who was acknowledged by the French to be the proprietor of the soil. I shall forward you a map containing my ideas of what was meant by the three points with the claims now made by Monsieur Hayes.

As you have long since advocated, I believe, a modification of the tobacco monopoly, it is unnecessary for me to repeat what everybody acquainted with Malabar has said regarding the great grievance and injury of that tax. I feel perfectly confident, if the abolition of the monopoly is at present impossible, that a great reduction might be made in prices without any reduction to the revenue. The inducement to smuggle is now excessive, and a reduction in the price of tobacco would not only destroy that inducement (for the difficulties of the transit are very great) but materially increase the consumption and turn the gangs of smugglers to seek a less precarious livelihood in legitimate commerce and the cultivation of waste lands. I doubt whether tobacco can be grown, as Monsieur Hayes thinks, with success in Malabar, but, if it could, a regulated tax on its production would have most beneficial results in opening a fresh source of trade and industry.

Regarding the gardens and fields which Monsieur Hayes supposes formerly belonged to Naaltarra (the once Mahé Hobly), I have reason to think he writes on the report of inhabitants just beyond the boundaries and who are desirous of participating in the benefits expected to arise from a free trade and consumption of tobacco.

From Monsieur J. HAYES, Chef de Service, Mahé, to the Sub-Collector of Malabar, dated 5th January 1849, No. 6.

From R. CHATFIELD, Esq., Sub-Collector, to the Collector of Malabar, dated Cannanore, 10th February 1849.

I have the honour to return the "Extract from the Minutes of Consultation under date the 5th February 1849" regarding the cession of 4 villages and 3 detached points to the French.

My "report" is in the letters already communicated to you. To clear up any doubts, I will recapitulate.

Mr. Hayes and I differ in our opinion regarding the meaning and extent of territory included under the term of 3 detached points. Mr. Hayes thinks that the entire hills, with the adjoining river, fields, and gardens is meant; I cannot understand more than 3 military positions once occupied and fortified by the French. That they are resigned in courtesy and not as a matter of right is clear, since the Home Government expressly declare that the French claim to Coringot Nair's possessions (in which the forts stand) cannot for an instant be entertained; and the Commissioners of 1828 explicitly state that the French never had any control beyond the limits of their outworks. On this report of the Commissioners the British Minister formed his decided opinion.

Pending a reference on the meaning of the terms "3 detached points" I tendered the 4 villages (regarding which there is no dispute) to Mr. Hayes' acceptance, but he declined to receive them without the 3 points and their "dependencies" as understood by him.

Mr. deCalan repeats, after Mr. Hayes, the train of argument which was so triumphantly refuted by the Commissioners of 1828, and as it was merely my duty to *restore* what the British Government offered, and the French Government in Europe had accepted, I declined entering into a long and useless, because irrelevant, discussion, regarding the supposed claim of 1792. Mr. deCalan states in his letter of the 16th ultimo to the Madras Government that, in addition to the 4 villages, the British Government sanctioned the restoration of "les territoires connues sous le nom de Fort St. George, Grand et petit Calye," but it will be apparent, on perusing Lord Aberdeen's minute, that the British Government never sanctioned any thing of the kind, but simply recognized as a matter of *courtesy*, their claim to the 3 detached points of Fort St. George, the Great and Little Calaye.

The matter is one of vital importance to our interests in Malabar, as the possession of the river, of the ferry and the custom house will leave it open to every species of illicit trade, cut off our direct communication along the coast, offer a sure retreat from the law, and entail a yearly loss of no trivial amount of revenue. Surely, if it had been intended to cede more than the barren fortifications, some mention would have been made of the revenue arising from the ferry and extensively cultivated grounds, and, I have no doubt, if any departure is made from the strict letter of our instructions, that a long amount of arrears will be claimed as soon as the French are put in possession of these "dependencies." Their *right*, I repeat because it is most necessary to remember, has been denied, and I cannot be induced to imagine, that the British Minister would injure our position in Malabar for *mere courtesy*. It *was* an act of graciousness to resign positions which overlook Mahé and had once been occupied by the French; but, to yield territories to our own particular loss would be more than an act of graciousness, and was, therefore, never contemplated by Lord Aberdeen or expected by Count Jarnac.

No. 10.

MAHE,
ce 22 *Fevrier* 1849.

MONSIEUR,

J'ai l'honneur de vous retourner le plan signé par Monsieur l'Ingénieur Cotton le 9 du mois dernier à Ootacamund et que vous m'avez adressé avec votre lettre du 16 de ce mois.

En m'invitant, Monsieur, à signer ce plan si je le trouve correct vous indiquez au crayon sur le plan même le lieu où nous devons tous deux opposer nos signature.

J'ai le plaisir de me rendre à votre désir en spécifiant toute fois que comme la figure des quatre illages de Palour, de Chalekara, de Chambara et de Pandaquel fait suite à celle des montagnes du Grand Calaye, du Fort St. George et du Petit Calaye et que les dix-neuf terrains que j'ai reclamés par ma lettre du 9 Janvier 1849, No. 6, ne m'y paraissent point portés, je fais toutes reserves à cet égard ainsi que pour tous onblis ou omissions qui pourraient exister au préjudice de mon gouvernement.

Recevez, Monsieur, l'assurance de ma considération trés distinguée.

Le Chéf du Service,
Commissaire Français.
(Signed) JN. HAYES,

Á Monsieur R. Chatfield, Sous-Collecteur de Malabar,
Commissaire du Governement Anglais à Tellicherry.
Returning the map of the four villages to be ceded to the French duly signed.

ORDER—No. 148, Political, dated 20th March 1849.

Ordered to be brought to the notice of the Honourable the Court of Directors with the former papers on the subject.

(True Extract.)

J. F. THOMAS,
Chief Secretary.

Letter to the Honourable the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors, No. 2, dated 27th March 1849.

SECRET DEPARTMENT.

No. 2 of 1849.

To

THE HON'BLE THE SECRET COMMITTEE OF THE
HON'BLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS OF THE
EAST INDIA COMPANY.

HON'BLE SIRS,

With reference to our despatch of the 5th January last No. 1, we have the honour to submit the correspondence noted in the margin, from which Your Honourable Court will perceive that the Commissioners for the delivery to France of certain territory at Mahé, are at issue as to the meaning to be attached to Lord Aberdeen's instructions as conveyed in his minute of the 1st July 1846, regarding the "three detached points" or "posts" (the words are used indifferently by Lord Aberdeen) "of Fort St. George, Great Calay and Little Calay" to be ceded to the French in addition to four villages separately specified.

Nos. 2 and 6.

Political.
In Consultation, dated 6th February 1849, Nos. 13—15
In Consultation, dated 20th March 1849, Nos. 24 and 25.
See Secret Court's despatch, dated 3rd July 1846.

2. Mr. Chatfield, the English Commissioner, considers the meaning to be that these points are merely three detached military positions, which, as they overlook and command Mahé, it was a point of honour with the French to obtain possession of, while Mr. Hayes, the French Commissioner, believes that it means not only these military out-works, but also all their dependencies, a term by which he includes a tract of country yielding a revenue of Rs. 1,430 per annum.

3. We informed the Governor of the French Establishments in India that the subject would be referred for the consideration of the Home authorities, and in now doing so, we request your particular attention to Mr. Conolly's communication of the 24th February last, and to the Commissioner's report therein noticed, dated 4th, dated 1828, which was submitted to Your Honourable Court with a despatch in the Foreign Department, dated the 21st October 1830, No. 3.

FORT. ST. GEORGE,
27*th March* 1849.

(Signed) HENRY POTTINGER.
(,,) G. H. F. BERKELEY.
(,,) DANIEL ELIOT.

P.S.—Since the foregoing was written, we have received a further communication from the Governor of the French Establishments in India on the subject, copy of which, with our President's reply, is herewith transmitted.

In Consultation, dated 13th April 1849, Nos. 14, 15.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
13*th April* 1849.

(Signed) HENRY POTTINGER.
(,,) G. H. F. BERKELEY.
(,,) HENRY DICKINSON.
(,,) DANIEL ELIOT.

E.M.C., Nos. 14—16, dated 13th April 1849.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, Nos. 14—16, dated 13th April 1849.

READ—the following:—

No. 14. From HIS EXCELLENCY MONS. DELALANDE DECALAN, Governor of the French Establishments in India, dated Pondicherry, 27th March 1849, No. 9.

Par lettre en date du 5 Février dernier, Votre Excellence m'informait qu'elle allait soumettre le plustôt qu'il lui serait possible, aux autorités métropolitaines, l'affaire rélative à la rétrocession des dépendances de Mahé. Elle me faisait connaître en même tems, qu'elle désirait avoir un plan comprenant les diverses localités mentionnées dans ma lettre du 16 Janvier 1849.

Depuis cette époque, M. le Commissaire français m'a rendu compte que le 22 Février dernier, il avait signé, sous toutes les réserves par lui faites dans la lettre adressée le même jour à M. le S. Collecteur Chatfield un plan revetu de la signature de M. l'Ingénieur Cotton. Ce plan, accompagné de toutes les observations de Mr. Hayes, a dû être communiqué à Votre Excellence. Je viens aujourd'hui la prier de vouloir bien me faire connaître la détermination à laquelle elle se sera arrêtée examen fait des réclamations de M. le Commissaire français afin que le cas échéant, je puisse aviser aux mesures à prendre.

Agreez, je vous prie, Monsieur le Gouverneur, l'assurance de la haute considération avec laquelle j'ai l'honneur d'être

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[*Translation.*]

By a letter under date the 5th February last, your Excellency informed me that you would submit, as early as possible, to the Chief authorities the question relative to the restoration of the dependencies of Mahé. Your Excellency gave me to understand, at the same time, that you desired to have a plan comprising the various localities mentioned in my letter of the 16th January 1849.

Since that period, the French Commissioner has informed me that on the 22nd February last he signed, under all the reservations made by him in the letter addressed the same day to Mr. Sub-Collector Chatfield, a plan bearing the signature of Mr. Engineer Cotton. This plan, with all the observations of Mr. Hayes, ought to have been communicated to your Excellency. I now solicit that you will inform me of the decision come to upon the examination of the reclamations of the French Commissioner, in order that the business being brought to a close, I may consult as to the measures to be taken.

Accept, Sir, the assurance of the high consideration with which

I have the honour to be, &c.

No. 15. To HIS EXCELLENCY MONS. DELALANDE DECALAN, Governor of the French Establishments in India, No. 186, dated 10th April 1849.

SIR,

Para. 1. I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's communication of the 27th ultimo, and, in reply, beg to inform you that Mr. Commissioner Hayes' observations and the plan alluded to by your Excellency have received the attention of this Government.

Your Excellency having stated in your communication of the 16th January last that it would be impossible for the French Government to accept the conditions of the English Commissioner, which appear to be those laid down by Lord Aberdeen in his minute of the 1st July 1846, a copy of which is forwarded, I could only refer the matter for the consideration of the Home authorities, to whom the whole of the correspondence, with the plan will be forwarded at the earliest opportunity.

I do myself the honour to enclose extract of a report from the Collector of Malabar, and to inform your Excellency that I fully concur in that officer's view of the subject.

Paragraphs 3 to 10 of report dated 24th February 1849.

Accept, Sir, the assurance of the high consideration with which

I have the honour to be, &c.,

(Signed) HENRY POTTINGER.

No. 16. To THE COLLECTOR OF MALABAR, No. 187, dated 10th April 1849.

SIR,

With reference to your communication of the 24th February last, I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to forward, for your information, transcripts of the papers noted in the margin and to inform you that the subject to which they refer is under despatch to the Honourable Court.

From the Governor of Pondicherry, dated 27th March 1849.
To the Governor of Pondicherry, dated 10th April 1849, No. 186.

(Signed) J. F. THOMAS,
Chief Secretary.

E.M.C., Nos. 16, 17, dated 22nd May 1849.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, dated 22nd May 1849, Nos. 16, 17.

READ—the following :—

No. 12.

PONDICHERY,
le 10 *Mai* 1849.

MONSIEUR LE GOUVERNEUR,

J'ai l'honneur d'accuser réception à votre Excellence de la lettre en date du 10 Avril dernier, par laquelle elle m'informe qu'elle va référer aux autorités métropolitaines de l'affaire concernant la rétrocession du territoire dépendant de Mahé. Il ne me reste plus, dès lors, qu'a m'adresser, de mon côté, à mon Gouvernement et c'est ce que je compte faire très prochainement.

Je ne crois pas devoir laisser passer sous silence l'observation contenue au p. 9 de la lettre de Monsieur le Collecteur du Malabar, en date du 24 février 184[illegible] Votre Excellence m'a transmis un extrait. *Monsieur de Lalande de Calan* n'ignorait pas les termes des instructions de Lord Aberdeen; mais avant tout, il devait se conformer aux ordres de son Gouvernement, et il ne s'est nullement cru lié par des expressions que viennent contredire des faits avérés et l'état des lieux.

Quant au reste de l'argumentation de Monsieur le Collecteur du Malabar, ce n'est que la répétition des motifs allégués au Commissaire français et que celui-ci a réfutés. Je n'y reviendrai donc point.

Agréez, Monsieur le Gouverneur, l'assurance de la très haute considération avec laquelle j'ai l'honneur d'être

De Votre Excellence,

Le très humble et très obéissant serviteur,
Le Gouverneur des Etablissemens français dans l'Inde,

DE LALANDE DE CALAN.

A Son Excellence le Très Honorable Gouverneur de la Présidence du Fort St. George à Madras.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

J. F. THOMAS,
Chief Secretary.

E.M.C., No. 5, dated 10th September 1849.

SECRET DEPARTMENT.

No. 5.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, dated 10th September 1849.

The Board proceed to pass orders on the following despatch from the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated 13th July 1849.

From the Honourable the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors, to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, Fort St. George, dated East India House, London, 13th July 1849, No. 1380.

You have referred, for the decision of the Home authorities, the question, whether, in the restoration to the French Government of the dependencies of Mahé, any territory yielding revenue is to be considered as belonging to Fort St. George and the Great and Little Calaye.

2. After communication with Her Majesty's Government, we have no hesitation in answering this question in the negative.

3. In all the correspondence which has taken place on this subject, the authorized restorations have been considered as comprising four villages yielding revenue, and three (the three above named) forts or military outposts "of no territorial value." If these words were not used in the letter of Lord Aberdeen, their sense was clearly implied in the words "detached points," applied to those three forts.

Ordered that a copy of this despatch be forwarded to the Collector of Malabar and to the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department and that the following letter be despatched.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. THOMAS,
Chief Secretary.

No. 6.

To

H.E. M. DESALANDE DECALAN,
Governor of the French Establishments in India.

SIR,

I do myself the honour to inform your Excellency that the Honourable the Court of Directors, in communication with Her Majesty's Government, have negatived the claim advanced by the French authority in India, to the territory in the vicinity of Mahé, adjacent to Fort St. George and the Great and Little Calaye, adverted to in your Excellency's letter of the 10th May last. As it appears obvious to the Home Government that this territory yielding revenue is expressly excluded by the terms military outposts "of no territorial value," and that this is clearly implied in the language used by Lord Aberdeen, viz., "three detached points."

Accept, Sir, the assurance of the high consideration with which

I have the honour to be, &c.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
10*th September* 1849.

(Signed) H. POTTINGER.

E.M.C., No. 8, dated 25th September 1849.

SECRET DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, No. 8, dated 25th September 1849.

READ—the following :—

From H. DE SALANDEDE CALAN, Governor of the French Establishments in India, to His Excellency the Right Honourable Governor of the Presidency of Fort St. George at Madras, dated Pondicherry, 14th September 1849.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant. As soon as my Government will have notified to me the decision come to on the subject of our reclamation of the territory of Mahé, I shall lose no time in communicating the same to your Excellency.

Resolution—No. 8, dated 25th September 1849.

To be recorded.

E.M.C., Nos. 464, 465, dated 29th April 1853.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, Fort St. George, Nos. 464–65, dated 29th April 1853.

Received the following letter :—

From the Honourable the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors, to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, Fort St. George, dated London, 7th January 1853, No. 1535.

We transmit herewith copy of a letter from the President of the Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India, dated the 26th November 1852, with which is transmitted, for our consideration, copy of a letter from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and of its enclosure respecting the terms on which articles of consumption are imported by land from British territory into the French Settlements of Pondicherry, Karikal, Yanam and Mahé.

2. His Excellency the French Ambassador proposes that an arrangement which was made in the year 1819 between the Governments of Fort St. George and Pondicherry should, by a definitive act, be invested with the character and duration of a treaty.

3. The correspondence relative to the arrangement referred to by Count Walewski is recorded on your Foreign Consultations of the 10th April and 30th August 1819. We observe, however, that independently of any practice which might be agreed on between the two Governments the law affecting the levy of duties on goods passing by land into or out of Foreign European Settlements on the coast of the Madras Presidency is contained in Act VI of 1841 which declares that the rates to be levied shall be those prescribed for goods imported or exported on foreign battons at any British port by Act VI of 1848 the duty leviable on goods shipped on foreign battons has been equalized with that leviable on British battons.

4. As we are uncertain whether, under the Acts referred to, a change may not have been made in the mode of treating articles passing from British into French territory, we desire that you will ascertain the practice that at present exists in this respect, and that, before reporting the matter to us, you will submit the question to the Governor-General of India in Council with the view of obtaining the opinion of that authority as to the propriety of acceding to the suggestion of Count Walewski, East India House.

(Signed) J. W. HOGG.
(„) R. ELLICE

ENCLOSURE.

TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY, &c.

GENTLEMEN,

With reference to the correspondence which has passed as to French Settlement of Mahé in East Indies, I have the honour to transmit, for your consideration, a copy of a letter, dated the 19th instant, and of its enclosure, which I have received from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs respecting the terms on which articles of consumption are imported into Pondicherry, Karikal, Yanam and Mahé.

26th November 1852. (Signed) J. C. HARRIES.

TO HUGH STARK, ESQ., &c.

SIR,

I am directed by the Earl of Malmesbury to transmit to you a copy of a note from Count Walewski, the French Ambassador at this Court, proposing that an arrangement made in 1819 by the French and British authorities in India for the free importation of goods into Pondicherry, Karikal, Yanam and Mahé be confirmed by a treaty and be considered as a final settlement of the Mahé question, and with reference to Lord Palmerston's letter of the 20th of April 1850 enclosing a copy of a note addressed by His Lordship on the 8th of the same month to the French Ambassador on this subject, I am to request that you will move the Commissioner for the Affairs of India to take Count Walewski's note into consideration and to favor Lord Malmesbury with their decision upon His Excellency's proposition.

FOREIGN OFFICE, (Signed) H. M. ADDINGTON.
19th November 1852.

[*Translation.*]

HIS EXCELLENCY THE EARL OF MALMESBURY, &c.

RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR,

Your Excellency is not unaware that the territory of Mahé, situated on the Malabar Coast, was ceded to France by an article of the Treaty of Paris of 1814, but that that restoration which was effected by the Government of His Britannic Majesty in 1817 remains incomplete. After long negotiations a rule was determined upon on both sides on the 6th July 1846 to the effect that France, which moreover made an express reserve in respect to the points of claims which the Court of London did not judge sufficiently established, should enter upon the immediate possession of certain territories the weight (*sic*) which it was not disputed.

Some difficulties then arose as to the necessity of defining the exact limits of the ceded lands or concerning the payment of a debt of Rs. 80,000 lent in 1,775 by France to the Province of Coringott Nair.

In its desire to put an end to those difficulties and to arrive at a final settlement of these various questions my Government has endeavoured to find a basis of arrangement which should lead to settlement. Now in 1819 a sort of compromise which authorises the free introduction into the territories of Pondicherry, Karikal, Yanam and Mahé of articles necessary for the consumption of those places was entered into between the English and French authorities of India. That act has always been acknowledged and referred to on both sides.

I, therefore, propose for your Excellency to give to the arrangement of 1819 by a definitive act the character and permanence of a treaty. In the event of, as I hope, your Excellency being disposed to accept of my proposal, our two Governments will have to concest (*sic*) for transmitting fresh instructions to their respective agents in India.

(Signed) A. WALEWSKI.

No. 464.

1. With the above letter the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors transmit copy of a communication with its enclosures from the President of the Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India relative to a proposal made by His Excellency the French Ambassador to the effect that the arrangement which took place in the year 1819 between the French and English authorities in India relative to the free importation into the settlements of Pondicherry, Karikal, Yanam and Mahé of articles necessary for local consumption should, by a definitive Act, be invested with the character and duration of a treaty.

2. The Secret Committee desire that this Government will ascertain the practice which since the passing of Acts VI, 1844, and VI, 1848, has obtained in regard to the levy of duties on goods passing by land into or out of the French Settlements on the coasts of the Madras Presidency and that before reporting the matter to them the question be submitted to the Governor-General in Council with the view of obtaining the opinion of that authority as to the propriety of acceding to the suggestion of Count Walewski.

3. With respect to the arrangement "une sorte de compromis" referred to by Count Walewski as having been entered into between the French and English authorities in 1819, it is observed that in their letter of the 20th March 1819 the Count du Puy and Mr. Dayat made to the Government of Madras certain propositions of which some were admitted and others negatived, but without any convention or agreement being formally executed. The first of these proposals was that all articles intended for the consumption of the inhabitants of the French Settlements should be exempt from frontier duty. From another part of the letter it appeared that the articles here referred to were such as grain provisions (comestibles) native medicines and drugs (medicines at drogues pour les Malabars). In reply they were informed that the exemption thus sought was already in force.

To British Commissioner at Pondicherry, 30th August 1819.

4. Subsequently several applications, as shown in the annexed Précis, have been received from the French authorities requesting exemption from duty on certain goods passing into or out of their territories and certain concessions have from time to time been made to them. Recently or under date 28th February 1850 the Board of Revenue were called upon to review the nature of the trade carried on between the British and French possessions on the Malabar and Coramandel Coasts generally and to specify those imports and exports into and out of the Company's territory which might properly be relieved from frontier duties and those which should still remain subject to the tax. The Board furnished a report upon this question under date 30th January 1851 and at the same time submitted revised schedules containing those articles of import and export to which the levy of frontier duties might properly be confined, all others being allowed to pass free.

5. In submitting their schedules the Board of Revenue at the same time suggested, with reference to the French ports being free and the variations that might probably take place in the local trade, that the schedules should be revised periodically every five years, adding it is quite possible that many articles now of very slight traffic and therefore struck off from the list may in a short time become of more importance and *vice versâ* and it will be necessary to protect the import duties by not encouraging an undue advantage to merchants importing into this Presidency *viâ* Pondicherry and the other ports.

Paragraph 18.

6. The Madras Government expressed their concurrence in the views of the Board relative to the levy of customs duty on the French Frontier and recommended to the Government of India the adoption of the revised schedules which were sanctioned by that authority, 30th May 1851.

7. The proposal of His Excellency the French Ambassador is made in view to its furnishing a basis for settling the question at issue relative to the cession of the lands to be given over to the French in the vicinity of Mahé. It is seen from the

correspondence noted in the margin that the negotiations for this purpose have for some time been suspended, because the French authorities claim a certain extent of land around the three detached points or posts of Fort George and the great and small Calaye mentioned in Lord Aberdeen's note of 1st July 1846, which claim the Court of Directors have, in reply to a reference made to them on the subject and after communicating with Her Majesty's Government, declared to be untenable. The decision of the Court has been made known (10th September 1849) to the Governor of Pondicherry, who, 14th September 1849, replied that, on receipt of advice from his own Government on the subject, he would communicate thereon with the Government of Madras, but nothing has since been heard from him.

From Secret Committee, 3rd July 1846.
Minutes of Consultation, 31st August 1846, No. 61.
From Special Agent at Cuddalore, 17th September 1847.
To the Government of India, 12th October 1847.
Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, 14th December 1848.
Extract Minutes of Consultation, 23rd December 1848.
From the Governor of Pondicherry, 16th January 1849.
Extract Minutes of Consultation, 5th February 1849.
From Collector of Malabar, 24th February 1849.
Order thereon, 20th March 1849.
From the Governor of Pondicherry, 10th May 1849.
From Secret Committee, 13th July 1849.
Board Resolution in Secret Committee, 10th September 1849.
To the Governor of Pondicherry, 10th September 1849.
From the Government of Pondicherry, 14th September 1849.

8. The Right Honourable the Governor in Council now resolves, in obedience to the commands of the Honourable Court, to communicate the circumstances above noticed to the Government of India and to add the expression of his opinion, that by the schedules sanctioned 30th May 1851 everything has been done to place the French settlements within the Madras Presidency on a most liberal and advantageous footing with advertence to their local commerce and that no further indulgence is required. For the reasons given by the Board of Revenue he does not think that any permanent engagement should be entered into and he cannot perceive that such a measure would tend to facilitate the settlement of the question relative to the Mahé cessions, inasmuch as the completion of that arrangement has been delayed, not from any consideration connected with the frontier tariff, but solely in consequence of the French authorities having advanced certain claims to territory which Her Majesty's Government and the Honourable the Court of Directors have ruled to be inadmissible.

Proceedings, 30th January 1851, paragraph 18.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
26th April 1853.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Secretary to Government.

No. 465.

To J. P. GRANT, ESQ., Secretary to the Government of India.

SIR,

I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to forward the accompanying copy of despatch from the Honourable the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated 7th January last, relative to a proposition made to Her Majesty's Government by His Excellency Count Walewski the French Ambassador in London as also an Extract Minutes of Consultation of this day's date containing the views of this Government upon the questions thus referred to them and copies of the principal papers bearing on the subject.

I have, &c.,

FORT ST. GEORGE,
26th April 1853.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Secretary to Government.

Despatch to the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors, No. 24, dated 16th May 1853.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

From T. PYCROFT, Esq., Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, to the Honourable the Secret Committee of the Honourable Court of Directors of the East India Company, dated 16th May 1853, No. 24 of 1853.

We have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Honourable Court's letter in the Secret Department, dated 7th January last, with a communication and its enclosures from the President of the Board of Commissioners for the affairs of India, relative to a proposal made by His Excellency the French Ambassador to the effect that the arrangement which took place between the French and English authorities in India relative to the free importation into the French Settlements of articles necessary for local consumption may be invested with the character and duration of a treaty.

We beg to submit in reply an Extract from the Minutes of Consultation of the date noted in the margin together with copy of a minute recorded by our President and of a précis to which allusion is therein made, and which will inform your Honourable Court of the proceedings adopted by us pursuant to the instructions conveyed in the despatch under acknowledgment. Your Honourable Court will observe that, under the circumstances detailed in these papers, we have conveyed to the Government of India "the expression of our opinion that every thing has been done to place the French Settlements within the Madras Presidency in a most liberal and advantageous footing with advertence to their local commerce and that no further indulgence is required." For the reasons previously given by the Board of Revenue one did not also think that any permanent engagement should be entered into, and we did not perceive that such a measure would tend to facilitate the settlement of the question relative to the Mahé cessions, inasmuch as the completion of that arrangement has been delayed not from any considerations connected with the frontier tariff, but solely in consequence of the French authorities having advanced certain claims to territory which Her Majesty's Government and your Honourable Court have ruled to be inadmissible.

Consultation, 29th April 1853, No. 28 to 30.

E.M.C. No. 875, 29th July 1853, and letter to the Government of India, No. 876, dated 29th July 1853.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation Nos. 875 and 876, dated 29th July 1853, Revenue Department.

READ—the following:—

From G. PLOWDEN, Esq., Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Separate Revenue), to the Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, dated 22nd June 1853, No. 508.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 465, dated the 26th of April last, submitting under instructions from the Honourable the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors, for the opinion of the Government of India, a proposition made to Her Majesty's Government by His Excellency Count Walewski, the French Ambassador in London, respecting a treaty for the free admission of articles of consumption into the French Settlements on the Malabar and Coromandal Coasts, as also an Extract Minutes of Consultation of the same date as your letter, containing the views of the Government of Fort St. George upon the question, and copies of the principal papers bearing on the subject.

2. In reply I am directed to communicate the following observations of the Most Noble the Governor-General of India in Council on the question.

3. The French Ambassador begins his address to Lord Malmesbury by referring to a difficulty which has arisen in executing an arrangement made in London, in 1846, for the delivery to the French of some of villages, &c., claimed by them, as belonging to their settlement of Mahé, on the Malabar Coast. He says that his Government is anxious to put an end to the questions connected with this difficulty. In this view, though the two subjects have no connection with each other, he refers to what he calls a sort of compromise, which he says was come to at Madras in 1819, whereby the free introduction, into the settlements aforesaid, of necessaries for local consumption, was authorized, and he proposes that the character and permanence of a treaty should be now given to that measure. He does not state to what this proposition, if it is agreed to, will lead; but the inference which to the Government of India seems intended to be drawn from the proposal is, that if it is agreed to, the Mahé questions will be given up by the French Government.

4. The first thing, therefore, to be considered is, what these Mahé questions or difficulties are.

5. They are referred to by the French Ambassador as having relation; first, to the exact demarcation of the boundaries of the ceded lands; and secondly, to the payment of a loan of eighty thousand rupees made by France in the year 1775 to the Province of Coringott Noir.

6. The Government of Fort St. George, I am directed to observe, do not notice this last question; and there is no mention whatever of the point, in the papers which accompanied your letter under acknowledgement. It formed no part of the territorial settlement proffered in 1846 by Lord Aberdeen, and accepted, under reservation, by the French Government. The territory of Coringotta, or "Coringot Noir," was, as the Government of Fort St. George is aware, a part of the land claimed by the French; but the English Government has finally pronounced its decision on this claim, to the effect, that it is perfectly clear that this territory was never in possession of France; and has formally declined to prolong the discussion respecting it. It is manifest that this point of an alleged loan is a mere nothing. Coringotta must have been a part of the dominions of Hyder Ali in 1775, and the Rajah of it must then have been one of the petty tributaries of that potentate, from whose son the British Government afterwards (in 1792) took all his Malabar Provinces by conquest and treaty of cession. The British Government cannot possibly be responsible for loans made to the local chief of any portions of Hyder's dominions in 1775.

7. From a perusal of the papers which formed enclosures to your letter, it appears that the first Mahé question or difficulty above-mentioned stands thus. The restoration of Mahé was an article of the Treaty of 1814 and was actually effected in 1817, when a claim to more land than was then transferred was left open for future settlement. The net revenue from four villages claimed was reserved, because of the probability of their eventual cession to the French. In 1846, after long investigations and discussions, Lord Aberdeen intimated to the French Government the final determination of his Government upon this question. That determination was to cede to the French, as a measure admittedly of justice, the four villages, with their accumulated revenues; to cede to them, not as a measure admittedly of justice, but as being a questionable matter on which the British Government would no longer continue the contest of argument, three detached points or posts, specified; and to deny definitively, as unquestionably untenable, the claim to the territory of Coringotta, at the same time declining to entertain further discussion regarding it. It is to be gathered, that some further correspondence passed in London, as it appears that Lord Palmerston entirely adhered to Lord Aberdeen's ultimatum; and in 1847 the English and French Governments in India, both under instructions from their Home Governments, took steps to execute the cession, as determined by Lord Aberdeen's note of 1846. But, as the French Commissioner in India, when it came to the marking out of limits, insisted that the cession of the "detached posts," mentioned by Lord Aberdeen, should be accompanied by the cession of a considerable tract of territory, yielding revenue, and joining the said posts with one another, and with Mahé itself, which could not, under their instructions be yielded by the British authorities, the delivery of the ceded lands did not take place, and references to Europe were made by both sides in 1849. It is to be inferred, however, though the French authorities

refused to take over the four villages, and the three detached posts offered, that the accumulated rents of the four villages (the only lands mentioned for cession which yield any territorial revenue) were accepted by them, pending the settlement of the new dispute. In reply to the reference from Madras, the Court of Directors, after communicating with Her Majesty's Government, decisively negatived this claim of the French authorities, and stated that the final determination of 1846 involved no cession of any revenue yielding land, except the four villages specified; and that no such land was ever contemplated when Lord Aberdeen agreed to cede the three detached posts. These posts appear to be ancient hill battery stations, alleged to have been at some time armed, and held by the French, before 1789, as military positions commanding the Fort of Mahé. But it is a settled point of fact with the Home Government as well as with the Indian Government, that the French never at any time possessed a profitable morsel of land, or drew revenue from any land, in that quarter, more than the present settlement of Mahé, and the four villages ordered to be ceded as above mentioned.

8. In this state the case has rested, since 1849; the French still declining to take the four villages, and the three detached posts, unless with the latter they get a large tract of revenue-yielding land, which will make the posts no longer detached, but will envelope them in one large undivided tract of revenue-yielding territory.

9. This being the position of the question, the Most Noble the Governor-General of India in Council observes that it is evident that the British Government have no reason to concern themselves with its settlement, though the French have. What may be ceded has been absolutely fixed; and it rests with the French to accept the cession, or to leave their claim unsatisfied. Their leaving their claim unsatisfied is no loss to the British Government but rather the contrary. Whenever they please they can take all that at any time will ever be yielded to them. It seems therefore to His Lordship in Council a mere piece of diplomatic finesse, to put forward, as a motive to induce the British Government to grant something else advantageous to them, a prospect of their consequently consenting to the execution of the resolution of 1846 in their favour, in the manner and form in which the British Government intended that resolution to be executed. Neither the question on which that resolution was taken, nor the precise method of executing that resolution, is any longer in the category of question to be bargained about, or even discussed. The question was not closed over hastily, it has occupied 29 years of enquiry and discussion; but now it is closed. Consequently, His Lordship in Council remarks, whether the French chose to take the benefit of the resolution in their favour, or not, is to the British Government indifferent.

10. The treaty as to customs duty, therefore, which the French Government asks the British Government to make in its favour, would be plainly, if a benefit to the French at all, a benefit without consideration.

11. The case of the Customs duty, His Lordship in Council observes, stands thus.

12. By law (Acts VI of 1844 and VI of 1848) imports into our territory from the French Coast Settlements, and exports from our territory into those settlements, are treated in respect to customs duty precisely as similar imports into and exports from our own territory, by sea, are treated. Goods entering or leaving our territory by one of these settlements, are liable to pay, by law, precisely what the same goods entering or leaving our territories, in a British ship from or for a foreign country, would pay.

13. It would be impossible, His Lordship in Council observes, for the French Government to set up a case of unfriendly treatment, by reason of this law, even if it were enforced to the letter. And the question arises, whether it would be reasonable, prudent or dignified, to bind the British Government *by treaty* to any thing more than this, when no equivalent, and nothing even that could stand as the show of our equivalent, is offered in return.

14. In practice, however, the treatment of these French Settlements is, it seems, very much more favourable than the law authorizes. They are all free ports; and it is therefore obviously impossible to remove the custom house lines from around them;

and to allow all exports and imports from and into the British territory, to pass these lines free of duty. But all articles necessary for the consumption of the settlements, whether staples of our customs revenue, or not, are allowed, by special order, to pass into these settlements free of duty; and a long list of articles, not necessary for the consumption of the settlements, on which the aggregate duty levied on the trade of each separate settlement was small, have been lately allowed, by special order, to pass free both into and out of these settlements, without enquiry whether they were imported by sea, or not, or whether they are intended to be exported by sea or not. In both these respects, the French Settlements are treated with a degree of favor which is not extended to our own Free Ports in the Straits, and elsewhere.

15. The resolution to allow necessaries for the consumption of the natives in these settlements to pass free of duty, was come to, it seems, by the Madras Government, in 1819; when the system of transit duties, and a much heavier tariff than the present export and import tariff, was in force. But the papers show that on that occasion there was nothing in the least resembling a compromise. Complaints were made by the French of the vexatious attendant on the practical enforcement of the transit duty by the lower officers of customs, and of the hardship to which their native subjects were exposed, by having to pay duty on the necessaries of life. The concession was made by the Madras Government, by more favor, and from pure motives of friendship; no claim of right was ever set up on the other side.

16. This is the measure, improperly called a sort of compromise, that the French Ambassador now asks to have clothed with the character and permanence of a treaty.

17. It is an incontestible position that if the law were enforced tomorrow, whereby the French Free Ports would be treated precisely as our own Free Ports are treated, they could have no just ground to complain of unfriendly treatment; and His Lordship in Council is of opinion that it would be an unwise proceeding on the part of the British Government, to deprive itself, without equivalent, of the right to enforce the law, whenever, owing to changes of trade, or other altered circumstances, it may think fit to do so.

18. The papers received with your letter under acknowledgment show that there has been on the part of the Indian Government from 1819 to 1851 nothing but a series of friendly and gratuitous concessions.

19. On the other hand, the same papers show that nothing has ever been done by the French Government, by way of concession to the British Government. It is well known that all the places in question are the strongholds of smugglers; and in some the customs duties fall far short of the cost of the customs establishment necessary not to collect the duties, but to check the smuggling of sea-borne goods. No disposition on the part of the French authorities to assist us in any arrangements that would alleviate this burden has been shown. Such proposals, with this object, as one mentioned in this correspondence to have been made by us, on either side of the Peninsula, have been wholly unsuccessful.

20. In this quarter of India, the repudiation, after years of apparent adoption, when an occasion offered of doing so to our inconvenience, of the formal agreement made between the Administrator of Chandernagore and the Bengal Government, determining by limits drawn much to the general territorial advantage of that settlement, a long unsettled boundary dispute, is fresh in His Lordship's recollection.

21. These circumstances raise the question whether any treaty whatever, for the advantage of the French Settlements in India, should now be acceded to, without securing some equivalent advantage for British India.

22. On the present subject, the opinion recorded by the Right Honourable the Governor of Madras in Council is as follows:—

"That by the schedules sanctioned, 30th May 1851, every thing has been done to place the French Settlements within the Madras Presidency in a most liberal and advantageous footing, with advertence to their local commerce, and that no further indulgence is required. For the reasons given by the Board of Revenue he does not think that any permanent engagement should be entered into, and he cannot perceive that such a measure would tend to facilitate the settlement of the question relative to the Mahé cessions, inasmuch as the completion of that arrangement has been

delayed, not from any considerations connected with the Frontier tariff, but solely in consequence of the French authorities having advanced certain claims to territory, which Her Majesty's Government and the Honourable the Court of Directors have ruled to be inadmissible."

23. In this view, the Most Noble the Governor-General of India in Council entirely concurs, and is accordingly of opinion that the treaty sought by the French Ambassador should not be assented to; at least not without some equivalent, none, as has been shown, having been, in fact, offered.

From E. MALTBY, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, dated Cuddalore, 15th July 1853, No. 901.

In reply to the memorandum from your office in the Political Department, dated the 12th instant, I have the honour to inform you that the sum of Rs. 83,433-3-3 ordered in Extract from Minutes of Consultation, dated 23rd December 1848, No. 613, to be disbursed to the French authorities on account of the revenues of certain villages in Malabar has not been paid to them.

2. On referring to the records I find that my predecessor Mr. Davis learnt * from the Collector of Malabar that the French Agent had refused to receive the villages in consequence of his advancing claims respecting their boundaries which were deemed unfounded and could not be complied with. Mr. Davis felt accordingly precluded from making the payment as his instructions were to disburse the amount after the transfer of the villages had been effected. He accordingly addressed a letter, of which I now enclose a copy, to the Governor of Pondicherry describing the difficulty which had arisen.

* Letter, dated 8th January 1849, with enclosures.

3. To the above letter no reply has been received and the subject remained in silence until the 21st February 1852, when His Excellency the present Governor addressed me a letter requesting me to obtain him information of the sum which had recently accumulated on account of the revenues of these villages. I accordingly procured a statement from the Collector of Malabar showing their net revenue from fasli 1258 to 1261 inclusive to be Rs. 11,271-9-6 and forwarded it to His Excellency on the 7th October last.

4. It appears that Mr. Davis did not report the delay in making the payment ordered in the Minutes of Consultation above referred to, because he was expecting a reply to his letter regarding the difficulty which had arisen about the boundaries from the French authorities and he had been informed * that the Collector of Malabar had transmitted direct to Government maps of the villages and other papers illustrating the point at issue.

* Letter from Collector of Malabar, to Special Agent, dated 28th February 1849.

ENCLOSURE.

From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to His Excellency the Governor of the French Establishments in India, dated Cuddalore, 20th January 1849.

I have the honour to inform your Excellency that Mr. Hayes, the Commissioner to the French Government, declines to receive from the British Commissioner the four villages and three points alluded to in a letter from this department, dated 5th October 1846, unless the base of the hills connecting the four villages and some extent of the river opposite Mahé are also made over to him, and that the transfer in question has in consequence been postponed.

Upon a most attentive examination of the voluminous papers connected with the subject, I am clearly of opinion that the three detached points called "Fort George" and the "Great and Small Calaye" ought only to be transferred to your Excellency's

Government in conformity with the decision of Her Majesty's Ministers communicated on the 1st July 1846, to the French Ambassador in London, they being merely three military positions consisting of the remains of a battery and fort on the hill called Great Calaye and a fort on the other hill called Little Calaye and not "three separate mountains or two hills and *their dependencies*" as held by Mr. Hayes, since the former denotes only the actual position of the fortifications while the latter includes a part of the territory of the Coringotto Nair, the claim of your Excellency's Government regarding which has already been examined and entirely denied by the British authorities. This view of the case appears to me to have been clearly understood by your Excellency's predecessor; for, in his letter of the 23rd August 1847, he states that the suppression of smuggling could not be difficult since the four villages *Sont eloignées du rivage de la mer enclavées dans les possessivus anglaises*, an assertion which could not have been made if the base of the hills connecting the four villages and some extent of the river opposite Mahé were to be ceded.

Under these circumstances I trust your Excellency will see fit to issue further instructions to Mr. Hayes to enable him to come to an understanding with the British Commissioner, and as Mr. Hayes has declined to receive the four villages in question although there was no difference of opinion regarding their limits, I must defer the payment of their revenue noticed in my letter to the French Treasurer of the 19th instant, till the receipt of your Excellency's reply.

After this difficulty is settled the tobacco question can be duly considered, and the Collector of Malabar will be prepared to allow to the French inhabitants a road through uncultivated land leading to the said four villages as also one to the detached points.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of Consultation, dated 29th July 1853, No. 875.

Ordered that the foregoing letters be forwarded to the Honourable Court of Directors in continuation of the letter, dated 16th May 1853, No. 24.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
29*th July* 1853.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Secretary to Government.

From T. PYCROFT, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, to the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, dated 29th July 1853, No. 867.

I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 508, dated 22nd June 1853, conveying the observations of the Most Noble the Governor-General on the proposition made to Her Majesty's Government by the French Ambassador in London respecting a treaty for the free admission of articles of consumption into the French Settlements on the Malabar and Coromandel Coasts, and to state that a copy of that communication will be forwarded to the Honourable Court in continuation of the previous correspondence by the next mail.

2. With reference to the remark in paragraph 7, as quoted in the margin, I have, however, to bring to the notice of the Government of India that it appears from a reference made to Mr. Maltby, the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, that the "accumulated rents" in question have not yet been disbursed to the French authorities. The circumstances under which the payment has been delayed are explained in Mr. Maltby's letter, a copy of which is enclosed. A copy will also be sent to the Honourable Court.

"It is to be inferred, however, though the French authorities refused to take over the four villages and the three detached posts offered, that the accumulated rents of the four villages (the only lands mentioned for cession which yield any territorial revenue) were accepted by them pending the settlement of the new dispute."
From the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, dated 15th July 1853, with enclosure.

Letter to the Honourable the Court of Directors in the Revenue Department, No. 46, dated 3rd August 1853.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 46.

To

THE HON'BLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY.

HON'BLE SIRS,

With reference to our letter in this department, dated 16th May 1853, No. 24, we have the honour to forward copy of a communication from the Government of India, dated 22nd June, on the subject of the proposition made to Her Majesty's Government by His Excellency Count Walewskei, the French Ambassador in London, respecting a treaty for the free admission of articles of consumption into the French Settlements on the Malabar and Coromandel Coasts.

2. Your Hon'ble Court will observe that the Most Noble the Governor-General of India in Council concurs entirely with this Government in their views that everything has been done to place the French Settlements on a most liberal and advantageous footing with advertence to their local commerce, that no further indulgence is required, nor would tend to facilitate the settlement of the question relative to the "Mahe Cessions", and is of opinion that the treaty sought by the French Ambassador should not be assented to, or at least not without some equivalent.

3. With reference to the observations of the Supreme Government in paragraph 6 of Mr. Officiating Secretary Plowden's letter of 22nd June last, we would remark that notice of the alleged loan made by the French to the Prince of Coringot Nair will be found in the letter addressed by the British to the French Commissioners under date 10th July 1828, forming an enclosure in the British Commissioner's letter to this Government of 28th December 1828, which was transmitted by us to your Hon'ble Court with our despatch in the Foreign Department, dated 21st October 1830, No. 3.

4. With advertence also to the remarks in paragraph 7 of Mr. Plowden's letter, as quoted in the margin, we would add that we find from a reference made to the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's department that the "accumulated rents" in question have not yet been disbursed to the French authorities. The circumstances under which the payment has been delayed are explained in Mr. Maltby's letter, a copy of which we have the honour to forward.

"It is to be inferred, however, though the French authorities refused to take over the four villages and the three detached posts offered, that the accumulated rents of the four villages (the only lands mentioned for cession which yield any territorial revenue) were accepted by them, pending the settlement of the new dispute."

We have the honour to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. POTTINGER.
(„) D. ELIOTT.
(„) J. F. THOMAS.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
3rd *August* 1853.

E.M.C., No. 314, dated 26th August 1853.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of Consultation, No. 314, dated 26th August 1853, Political Department.

Read—the following:—

From E. MALTBY, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Cuddalore, 18th August 1853, No. 385.

I have the honour to enclose copy of a letter, dated 12th instant, addressed to me by His Excellency Rear-Admiral de Verninac, the Governor of Pondicherry, regarding the four villages and three points in the neighbourhood of Mahé, which it was arranged should be transferred to the French Government.

2. In my letter to the Secretary to Government in the Political Department, dated 15th ultimo, I explained how the transfer had been delayed in consequence of the French Agent Monsieur Hayes declining to receive charge of the villages and points, unless certain concessions were made respecting their boundaries which could not be admitted.* The letter now addressed to me by His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry appears to show that the French Government have signified to Her Majesty's Ministers their acceptance of the boundaries as defined by the British Commissioner, and I request therefore to be informed whether I am authorised to state that the villages and points will in this case be surrendered to any Commissioner who may be nominated to receive them and that after the transfer has been effected the net revenue of the villages from 1816 to the present time will be paid to the Pondicherry Government.

* See letter No. 6 in Secret Department from the Madras Government to Governor of Pondicherry, dated 10th September 1849.

From Rear-Admiral VERNINAC, Governor of the French Establishments in India, to the Collector and Political Agent, South Arcot, dated Pondicherry, 12th August 1853.

Il y a déja bien long temps que le Gouvernement Français a fait connaître au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine d'Angleterre, qu'il acceptait, sur la côte du Malabar et autour de Mahé, la restitution des terrains reconnus nôtres par l'Honorable Compagnie, et délimités par ses propres Commissaires.

J' ai l' honneur de vous prier de me faire connaitre si le Gouvernement de l' Inde n'a reçu aucune notification touchant cette affaire qui traine depuis 36 ans et qui, depuis la même époque donne à votre collègue du Malabar l' embarras pénible de gérer pour notre compte, les quelques aldées qui nous appartiennent.

Je serais très heureux d' apprendre que son Excellence Monsieur Le Gouverneur Général est autorisé à nous faire la cession des sus dits terrains et trés heureux aussi de terminer immédiatement un litige qui n'a plus aujourd'hui la moindre raison d'être.

[*Translation.*]

From Rear-Admiral VERNINAC, Governor of the French Establishments in India, to the Collector of South Arcot, Special Agent for Foreign Powers, Cuddalore, dated Pondicherry, the 12th August 1853.

It is now a very long time since the French Government made known to the Government of Her Majesty the Queen of England that it accepted the restoration on the Malabar Coast and in the neighbourhood of Mahé of the territories recognized by the Honourable Company to be ours, and defined by its own Commissioners.

I have the honour to request that you will let me know if the Government of, India has received any notification touching this affair, which is pending since the last 36 years, and which has given to your colleague in Malabar, during that period. the painful trouble of managing, on our account, the several villages that belong to us

I shall be very happy to learn that His Excellency the Governor-General is authorised to surrender to us the above mentioned territories, and very happy also to immediately terminate a litigation which has now not the least reason to exist.

No. 314.

Ordered to be referred to the Revenue Department, where the previous letter from the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, dated 15th July last, was considered and disposed of.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
26*th August* 1853.

(Signed) H. C. MONTGOMERY,
Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department, with an enclosure and its translation.

E.M.C., No. 1053, dated 16th September 1853.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Extract from Minutes of Consultation, in the Revenue Department, under date the 16th September 1853, No. 1053.

READ—the following :—

No. 9.—Extract from Minutes of Consultation in the Political Department.

[Here enter No. 314, dated 26th August 1853.]

No. 10.—The Right Honourable the Governor in Council perceives no objection to the four villages in the vicinity of Mahé, viz., Paloor, Pandaguel, Chambana and Chalicara and the net revenue of those villages together with the three detached points or posts of Fort George and the Great and Little Calaye being made over to the French Government, on the understanding that the transfer as regards the three abovenamed points is confined to the points themselves and does not extend to any of the adjacent territory. Mr. Maltby will ascertain from His Excellency Admiral Verninac whether he is prepared to accept the four villages, and the three points as above limited, and if so will instruct the Collector of Malabar to make them over to any Agent whom the French Government may empower to take charge of them.

2. On the lands being transferred the Collector of South Arcot in charge of the Special Agent's Department will report, through the Board of Revenue, to Government the total amount payable to the French authorities on account of the revenue of the four villages, calculated to the date of transfer, when sanction will be given for the disbursement.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Secretary to Government.

To the Political Department.

E.M.C., No. 335, dated 17th September 1853.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

No. 335.

READ—the following :—

Extract from Minutes of Consultation, No. 1035, Revenue, dated 16th September 1853.

Extract from Minutes of Consultation, No. 335, dated 11th September 1853.

Ordered to be communicated to the Collector of South Arcot in charge of the Special Agent's Department, with reference to his letter of the 18th ultimo.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
17*th September* 1853.

(Signed) H. C. MONTGOMERY,
Chief Secretary

E.M.C., No. 90, dated 21st January 1854.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Extract from Minutes of Consultation, No. 90, dated 21st January 1854.

READ—the following :—

From W. H. BAYLEY, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort St. George, 19th January 1854, No. 21.

With reference to Extract from Minutes of Consultation, dated 16th September 1853, I am directed by the Board of Revenue to submit, for the information and orders

of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, the accompanying letter from the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, dated 26th December 1853,* reporting that the Collector of Malabar has made over to the French Government the four villages of Chalicara, Pandaguel, Paloor and Chambana, and the three detached points of Fort George, and the Great and Little Calaye in the vicinity of Mahé.

* In Consultation, dated 19th January 1854.

2. From the statement forwarded with Mr. Maltby's letter, it will be seen that the net revenue realized from the four villages since 1816–17 up to the date of their surrender is Rs. 97,648–5–9, and, as the Government have already in Extract from Minutes of Consultation of 12th January 1854 authorized the disbursement of Rupees 83,433–3–3 to the French authorities, the Board now recommend that sanction be granted for the remaining sum, viz., Rs. 14,215–2–6.

3. The above amount is exclusive of a small sum due for the first four months of the current fasli 1263, on account of abkári on the four villages included in the Nulletarak arrack contractor's lease and respecting which sum, the Collector promises to report hereafter.

No. 90.

The Right Honourable the Governor in Council grants authority for the disbursement of the sum still due on account of the net revenue of the villages in the vicinity of Mahé recently transferred to the French Government amounting to Rs. (14,215–2–6) fourteen thousand two hundred and fifteen, annas two and pies six.

2. The sum due on account of the abkári revenue of the above villages will be adjusted on the receipt of the promised report.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
21*st January* 1854.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
" Political Department.
" Accountant-General.
" Civil Auditor.

General letter to the Honourable the Court of Directors, No. 12, dated 17th March 1854.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

GENERAL letter to the Hon'ble the Court of Directors, dated 17th March 1854, No. 12.

* * * * *

Regarding the four villages and three points in the neighbourhood of Mahé which it was arranged should be transferred to the French Government.

Cons., 20th September 1853, Nos. 9 and 10.

12. Referring to paragraph 4 of our letter, dated 3rd August last, No. 46, we have the honour to forward the accompanying communication from the Collector of South Arcot in charge of the Special Agent's department giving cover to one to his address from His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry regarding the four villages and three points in the neighbourhood of Mahé, which it had been arranged should be transferred to the French Government and, under the circumstances therein signified, requesting to be informed whether he was authorized to state that the villages and points would be surrendered to any Commissioner who might be nominated to receive them, and that, after the transfer had been effected, the net revenue of the villages from 1816 to the present time would be paid to the Pondicherry Government.

13. We perceived no objection to the four villages in question, viz., Palour Pandaquel, Chambara and Chalicara, and the net revenue of those villages, together with the three detached points or posts of Fort George and the great and little Calaye being made over to the French Government on the understanding that the transfer as regards the three above-named points was confined to the points themselves and did not extend to any of the adjacent territory. We desired Mr. Maltby to ascertain from His Excellency Admiral Verninac whether he was prepared to accept the four villages and the three points as above limited and, if so, to instruct the Collector of Malabar to make them over to any agent whom the French Government might empower to take charge of them.

14. On the lands being transferred, we requested the Collector of South Arcot in charge of the Special Agent's department to report through the Board of Revenue the total amount payable to the French authorities on account of the revenue of the four villages calculated to the date of transfer, when sanction would be granted for the disbursement.

* * * * *

General letter to the Honourable the Court of Directors, No. 14, dated 21st March 1854.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

GENERAL Letter to the Honourable the Court of Directors in the Revenue Department, dated 21st March 1854, Original No. 14 of 1854.

* * * * *

16. His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements in India represented the distress apprehended in the town of Pondicherry in consequence of the scarcity of grain and invited us to co-operate with him in all matters calculated to afford relief and protection to the people. The measures particularly indicated by His Excellency were—a special surveillance over the open and irregular frontier of Pondicherry and South Arcot, the extension to the French possessions of all Custom House Regulations and other expedients adopted with a view to ensure the supply of food and especially the prohibition of the exports except those of the continent of India, a measure which he proposed should be carried out simultaneously by the French and English Governments at their several ports.

Dy. to Cons., 13th Jan. 1854, Nos. 26, 27.
" 27th " " " 73, 74.

17. We directed the Special Agent for Foreign Settlements, in his capacity of Magistrate of South Arcot, to adopt, in communication with the French authorities, all practicable precautions to prevent robbery and outrage on the frontier, and to assure His Excellency of our earnest desire to preserve the peace of the French Settlements in common with that of our own possessions.

18. With regard to the other steps, we informed the French Government that, in our opinion, the only safe policy in the present crises was to give the utmost possible freedom to the trade in grain, by moving all obstructions and scrupulously abstaining from any attempt to dictate to the dealers or to interfere with the market, and that with this view we had already suspended the levy of import duty on grain at all the ports under this Presidency and that we could not concur with them in the expediency of closing the ports to the export of grain to the places beyond India.

19. His Excellency also alluded to a rumour which had reached him of the Collector of Tanjore having issued orders to prohibit the export of grain; but this report, your Honourable Court will observe, we subsequeutly ascertained to have been wholly unfounded.

20. We acceded to an application made by the authorities at Mahé for the remission, during the present seasons of the export duty on grain exported from Mangalore for the supply of that settlement, and desired that the remission should be carried out in the manner suggested by the Collector of Canara, the duty being levied on export and held in deposit to be repaid on the production of a certificate from the Chef de Service, that the grain had been imported at Mahé for the consumption of the place.

Cons., 14th February 1854, Nos. 38, 39.

* * * * *

E.M.C., No. 676, dated 13th June 1854.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Extract from Minutes of Consultation, No. 676, dated 13th June 1854.

READ—the following:—

From the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors, to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, Fort St. George, dated East India House, London, 17th April 1854, No. 1575.

We transmit, for your information, a copy of a letter, dated the 8th instant, which the French Ambassador at this Court has addressed to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, announcing that the Marine Department has sent to the Governor of the French Settlements in India instructions to come to an understanding with the officers of the East India Company on the measures which the retrocession of certain dependencies of Mahé may render necessary for the suppression of illicit trading.

2. You will forthwith direct your local officers to place themselves in communication with the French authorities on the spot, for the purpose of concerting with them such arrangements as may appear advisable for the attainment of the object in question.

ENCLOSURE.

From the French Ambassador, to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, dated 8th April 1854.

J'ai transmis au Government de S.M.I la lettre que V.E. m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire, en date du 27 Mars dernier, an sujêt des arrangements arrêtés entre nous au sujet du comptoir de Mahé, à la côte de Malabar; et je m'empresse annoncer à V.E. que le département de la Marine a adressé au Gouverneur des Etablissements Français dans Inde les instructions nécessaires pour qu'il s'entende, avec les autorités de la l'Compagnie, sur les moyens d'assurer la repression de la contrebande, le long de la frontière commune aux établissements des deux nations.

(Signed) A. WALEWSKI.

No. 676.

Ordered that a copy of the above letter and of its enclosure be forwarded through the Board of Revenue for the information and guidance of the Collector of Malabar.

2. Ordered also that a copy be furnished to the Political Department.

(Signed) J. PYCROFT,
Secretary to Government.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
13*th June* 1854.

To the Board of Revenue.
" Political Department.

General letter to the Honourable the Court of Directors, No. 38, dated 15th June 1854.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

GENERAL Letter to the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated 15th June 1854, No. 38, Revenue Department.

* * * * *

9. Referring to our proceedings of the 12th January last, copy of which accompanied paragraph 16 of our letter of the 21st March following, No. 14, we have the honour to report that we have authorised the disbursement of the remaining sum Rs. 14,215–2–6 due on account of the net revenue of the villages in the vicinity of Mahé recently transferred to the French Government.

Disbursement of the remaining sum due on account of the villages in the vicinity of Mahé recently transferred to the French Government—Cons. 27th January 1854, Nos. 8, 9.

* * * * *

E.M.C., No. 938, dated 10th August 1854.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Extract from Minutes of Consultation, No. 938, dated 10th August 1854.

READ—the following letter:—

From A. HALL, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Cuddalore, 15th July 1854.

I have the honour to submit the accompanying copy of a letter with its enclosures received from the Collector of Malabar, for the information and orders of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council.

As His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry has expressed a wish in his letter to the Chief at Mahé, that the original deed of transfer (which I beg to enclose) already executed by the British and French Commissioners on the 14th November 1853 at Mahé should be ratified by the respective Governments, I beg to suggest that unless the Right Honourable the Governor in Council sees objection to the measure it may be done and also that authority may be given to the Collector of Malabar to draw out in a similar form the several articles now proposed by Mr. Passart in his letter of the 29th May last, and concurred in by Messrs. Conolly and Robinson, with a view to their being also ratified by the respective Governments.

ENCLOSURE.

From H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to the Sub-Collector in charge, Special Agent's Department, Cuddalore, dated Calicut, 3rd July 1854, No. 1317.

I have the honour to forward, for your consideration, copy of a correspondence with the Chief of Mahé relating to the cession of four villages.

From the Chief Assistant, Mahé, to the Head Assistant Collector of 29th May 1854.
From the Head Assistant Collector, to the Chief of Mahé of 31st May 1854.
To the Chief of Mahé of 8th June 1854.
From the Chief of Mahe of 27th June 1854.
To the Chief of Mahé of 1st July 1854.

From Monseiur PASSART, le Chef du Service, Mahé, to the Head-Assistant Collector Malabar, dated Mahé, 29th May 1854.

J'ai l'honneur de vous informer que par lettre du 22 de ce mois, Monsieur le Gouverneur me demande oú en est la question de le rente des aldées. Il me dit qu'il espère que la réglementation de cette petite affaire sera promptement soumise à son approbation. J'ai du repondre á Monsieur le Gouverneur qu'une blessure qui vous tient encore couché sur votré canapé avait empêché notre rencontre d'avoir lieu, ainsi que vous l'aviez desire.

Pour hâter autant que possible la marche de cette affaire, j'ai l'honneour de vous soumettre les propositions suivantes, lesquelles garantiront suffisamment selon moi les intérêts de nos Gonvernements respectifs.

Article 1.—Un bac sera établi au Petit Calaye pour relier la route des aldées à Mahé. La proximité du lieú ou il sera placé avec celui on fonctionne le bac déjà existant à l'embouchure de la rivière pouvant nuire aux intérêts du Gouvernement Anglais, le bac du Petit Calaye sera affirmé. autant que possible, au fermier du bac déjà existant. La réglementation sera la même pour les deux bacs, et le produit du fermage sera divisé en deux parts, l'uné sera donné au Gouvernement Anglais et l'autre au Gouvernement Francais.

Article 2.—Les produits du sol de quelque nature qu'ils soient seront importés et exportés librement de Mahé aux aldées et des aldées à Mahé.

Article 3.—L'arack mis en ferme aux aldées et à Mahé ne pourra être transporté d'un de ces lieux a l'autre que par les soins du fermier, lequel devra prèalablement en avoir obtenu l'autorisation du Percepteur des revenues, lequel lui donnera dans ce cas un passeport.

Article 4.—Le sel nécessaire à la consommation des habitans devra passer librement sur la route des aldeés.

Transporté par le soin due Gouvernement, lequel est attentif à avoir des approvisionnements proportionnés à la consommation, et à empêcher toute espèce de commerce en dehors du monopole qu'il a établi, aucune contrebande ne peut être à craindre.

Article 5.—Le fermage du tabac ayant réglementé l'introduction de cette feuille sur le territoire français, la quantité nécessaire à la consommation locale ayant servi de base à l'introduction, l'administration veillant avec soin au maintien du cahier des charges qui régle les conditions du fermage, le tabac circulera librement sur la route des aldées.

Article 6.—Le jagre ou le sucre raffiné dont la consommation est presque mille aux aldées et à Mahé, étant du reste fabriqué sur le territoire Anglais, circuleront aussi librement sur la route des aldées.

Article 7.—Le present arrété par nous, J. D. Robinson, ler Assistant Collector du Malabar, et Julien Passart, Capitaine de lere classe au 3e Regiment d'Infanterie de Marine, Chef de Service, p.i., à Mahé, a été signé et accepté par nous, sauf l'approbation de nos Gouvernemens respectifs.

Le Gouvernement français s'engage à établir la ferme du Calou et de l'arack à Mahé et aux aldées, à maintenir le monopole du sel et du tabac, et si, plus tard la consommation du jagre ou du sucre raffiné, la quelle est mille aujourd'hui, engageoit quelque industriel à fabriquer ce produit sur le territoire français, le Gouvernemênt s'engage à règlementer l'impot qui, comme celui de l'arack et de calou, seroit le même que sur le territoire anglais.

Telles sont, monsieur, les propositions que j'ai l'honneur de vous soumettre, j'ose espérer qu'elles garantissent suffisamment les intérêts de votre Gouvernement pour que vous puissez les accepter immédiatement et veuillez avoir la bonté d'accuser réception et agréer l'assurance de ma considération tres distinguée.

P.S.—J'aime à penser que vous souffrez moins de la blessure qui vous retient chez vous et que dont 5—ou 6—jours vous serez complettement rétabli.

[*Translation.*]

From Monsieur PASSART, Chef de Service, p. i., to the First Assistant Collector of Malabar at Tellicherry, dated Mahé, the 29th May 1854.

I have the honour to inform you that by a letter of the 22nd instant, His Excellency the Governor requests me to intimate to him the state of the question as to the revenue of the villages. He tells me that he hopes the settlement of this little affair will, without loss of time, be submitted for his approval. I have thought it necessary to inform His Excellency that a hurt which still confines you to your couch had prevented our meeting taking place as you desired.

To hasten as much as possible the settlement of this affair, I have the honour to submit to you the following propositions which in my opinion will sufficiently guarantee the interests of our respective Governments:—

Article 1.—A ferry shall be established at the little Kalaye to connect the road to the villages with Mahé.

As the proximity of its locality to that of the one which is already at work at the mouth of the river, may be prejudicial to the interests of the English Government, the ferry at the little Kalaye shall be leased, as much as possible, to the renter of the one which already exists. The regulations shall be the same for the two ferries, and the income of the farm shall be divided into two parts—one shall be made over to the English Government and the other to the French Government.

Article 2.—The products of the soil of whatever kind shall be imported and exported free of duty from Mahé to the villages and *vice versâ*.

Article 3.—The arrack farmed out at the villages and at Mahé can only be transported from one of these places to another by the farmer, who should previously obtain the authority of the Collector, who will in that case supply him with a pass.

Article 4.—The salt necessary for the consumption of the inhabitants shall pass free of duty on its way to the villages.

Transported by the care of the Government, who is attentive to the supplies being proportioned to the consumption, and to prevent every kind of trade to the prejudice of the monopoly which it has established, no smuggling need be apprehended.

Article 5.—The introduction of tobacco into the French territory having been regulated in the farming out of that article—the quantity necessary for local consumption having served as the basis for such introduction—the Government attentive to the keeping up of the price list which regulates the conditions of the farm, tobacco will pass free on its way to the villages.

Article 6.—Jaggery or refined sugar, the consumption of which at the villages and at Mahé is next to nothing, being manufactured upon the English territory, will also pass free on its way to the villages.

Article 7.—The present agreement by us J. D. Robinson, First Assistant to the Collector of Malabar, and Julien Passart, Captain of the first-class, in the 3rd Regiment of Marine Infantry, Chef de Service p. i. at Mahé, has been signed and accepted by us, save and except the approval of our respective Governments.

The French Government engages to establish at Mahé and in the villages the toddy and arrack farm, to maintain the salt and tobacco monopoly, and if, hereafter, the consumption of jaggery or refined sugar, which is now next to nothing, should induce any one to manufacture that article upon the French territory, the Government engages to regulate the duty which, as in that on arrack and toddy, will be the same as on the English territory.

Such, Sir, are the propositions which I have the honour to submit to you. I presume to hope that they will sufficiently guarantee the interests of your Government in order that you may at once accept them, and be pleased to have the goodness to acknowledge their receipt, and accept the assurance of my very distinguished consideration.

P.S.—I am disposed to think that you suffer less from the hurt which keeps you at home and that in five or six days you will be completely restored.

From J. D. ROBINSON, Esq., Head Assistant Collector, Malabar, to the Chef de Service, Mahé, dated Tellicherry, 31st May 1854, No. 237.

I am under orders to proceed immediately to Mangalore, there to assume charge of the Subordinate Court and am consequently debarred the pleasure I had promised myself of personally discussing and settling with you the several little difficulties which have sprung out of the recent transfer of territory made by the English to the French Governments. I have, however, given to your six propositions such time and attention as my other duties will permit and find them fair and reasonable and such as, in my opinion, would sufficiently guarantee the rights of our respective Governments. The old and new ferry farms should, as you propose in article 1, be placed, if possible, under the same management, your Government sharing equally in the proceeds, manifestly have, even under the present system, as much interest in protecting the farmer as we have.

To the 2nd article I have nothing to say. The interchange of grain and the other natural products of the soil between the markets of Mahé, and its dependencies could not, I conceive, be objected to.

Article 3 seems to provide sufficiently against any irregularity in the management of the arrack farm.

Article 4. It has been already decided should obtain as a rule in the distribution of salt.

Article 5. No rule seems now to be required in respect of tobacco, which is an article of free trade, the monopoly having been abolished throughout the Presidency.

Article 6 seems also unobjectionable; the Custom House authorities will, of course, as heretofore watch against the introduction of China sugar, sugar-candy, brandies, wines, and such like dutiable articles.

Such, Sir, are briefly my sentiments; I only regret that indisposition in the first instance, and subsequently my unforeseen transfer to another province, should have interfered to prevent our personal interview. I have sent copies of your and my letter to the Collector, who will give his instructions to my successor how further to proceed.

Thanking you for your polite enquiries after my health.

From H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to the Chief of Mahé, dated Calicut, 8th June 1854, No. 1125.

Mr. Robinson has sent me his correspondence with Monsieur Passart relative to the ferry or to the villages lately restored to your Government.

I beg to express my opinion that Monsieur Passart's propositions are unreceptionable and that I willingly assent to their being carried out.

From Monsieur D. St. HILAIRE, Le Chef de Service, Mahé, to the Collector of Malabar, Calicut, dated Mahé, the 27th June 1854.

Par votre lettre du 8 Juin, No. 1125, vous avez eu la bonté de m'informer que vous apportez une complête adhésion aux propositions de mon prédécesseur, Monsieur Le Capitaine Passart. J'ai dû m'empresser de faire part à Monsieur le Gouverneur de Pondichéry de cette heureuse acceptation de plus, j'ai pensé que pour donner plus de poids à un état de choses qui avoient reçu l'approbation des autorités Françaises et Anglaises, il servit convenable q'une expédition de ces propositions soit signé par leurs Excellences les Gouverneurs de Madras et Pondichéry pour être remise au Collecteur du Malabar et au Chef de Mahé, ce qui constituroit un titre official pour les parties contractantes, et les nantiroient pour l'avenir d'une maniére irréfrigable. Notez bien, Monsieur ler Collecteur, que cette clause n'ajoute rien ni ne change rien à ce qui a été accepté par Monsieur Robinson et par vous, mais les hommes changent et l'interprétation peut amener des modifications aux clauses acceptées, c'est ce qu'il faut éviter et ce que nous évitons par le moyen dont j'ai l'honneur de vous entretenir.

Monsieur le Gouverneur en m'accusant réception de ma dépêche adhère avec plaisir à ma proposition, it pense toute fois que les conventions passées précédemment entre nos deux gouvernemens respectifs pour la rétrocession des aldées et le plan qui s'y trouve annexés n'ont pas été soumis à cette formalité, et il m'engage à m'entendre avec vous sur l'oppertunité d'un ensemble des mesures, qui doivent amener une sorte de consécration, à ce qui s'est précédemment passé.

Veuillez donc je vous prie, Monsieur le Collecteur, me faire part de vos observations, et croire au sincère désir que j'éprouve de vous voir accepter ma manière d'opérer, qui évitera pour l'avenir bien des tracas, parceque cela fermera le champ des interprétations.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Collecteur, l'expression de mes sentimens les plus distingués.

[*Translation.*]

From Monsieur D. Sr. HILAIRE, Chef de Service, Mahé, to the Collector of Malabar at Calicut, dated the 27th June 1854.

By your letter of 8th June, No. 1125, you had the kindness to inform me that you fully adhered to the propositions of my predecessor, Captain Passart, I have thought it necessary to hasten the communication of this happy acceptance to His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry; I have thought, moreover, that to give more weight to a transaction which has received the approval of the French and English authorities, it would be expedient that a copy of these propositions be signed by their Excellencies, the Governors of Madras and Pondicherry, for transmission to the Collector of Malabar and to the Chief of Mahé, which would constitute an official title for the contracting parties, and would be an irrefragable assurance to them for the future. Observe well, Sir, that this proviso adds nothing to, and changes nothing of, what bas been accepted by Mr. Robinson and by yourself, but men change, and the conditions which have been accepted may be liable to misconstruction, which must be avoided, and which we do avoid by the expedient which I have the honour to propose to you.

His Excellency the Governor in acknowledging the receipt of my despatch, cheerfully concurs in my proposition; he thinks, however, that the conventions formerly passed between our respective Governments for the transfer of these villages on the plan which will be found annexed, have not undergone this formality and he desires me to communicate with you on the opportunity which is offered of considering with this view the whole of these transactions, which may lead to a sort of confirmation of what has been passed heretofore.

I beg therefore, Sir, that you will communicate to me your observations, and believe the sincere desire which I feel to know that the manner in which I have acted is approved of by you, which will in future prevent much confusion, inasmuch as it will leave no room for misinterpretations.

From H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to the Chief of Mahé, dated Calicut, 1st July 1854, No. 1306.

I understand by your letter of the 27th ultimo that you wish the assent to Monsieur Passart's propositions given in my letter of the 8th ultimo to be ratified by the Governors of Madras and Pondicherry and that a similar ratification be made in respect to the transfer of the four villages.

I do not quite see the need of this, but in deference to your opinion, have thought it well to lay the matter before the Special Agent at Cuddalore.

Attendu qu'il y a eu diverses négociations au sujet du territoire qui doit être remis au Gouvernement Français dans le voisinage de Mahé d'après les stipulations des Traités de Paris des 30 Mai 1814 et 20 Novembre 1819 et comme il a été enfin résolu que le dit territoire doit consister des quatre villages de Palour, Pandaquel, Chambara et Chalicara et des trois points détachés ou postes du Fort St. George, du Grand et du Petit Calaye, ainsi qu'ils sont définis par les autorités Britannique sans aucune partie du territoire réclamé dans leur voisinage dans une

Whereas there have been various discussions regarding the territory to be delivered up to the French Government in the vicinity of Mahé under the provisions of the Treaty of Paris of the 30th May 1814 and 20th November 1819, and whereas it has been finally determined that the said territory is to consist of the four villages of Paloor, Pandaquel, Chambarra and Chalicara and of the three detached points or posts of Fort St. George, the Great and the Little Kalaye, as defined by the British authorities without any of the territory in their vicinity to

précédente circonstance, et comme en exécution de cet arrangement les limites du territoire à être rétrocédé au Gouvernement Français ont été reconnus être principalement—

Pour les quatre villages—

A l'Est.—Les amshams de Panianour, Seringalem, Volavillom et de Kalay.

A l'Ouest.—Les amshams de Tirouvangadde et de Kalay.

Au—Nord.—La rivière de Ponian et une partie de l'amsham de Panianour.

Au Sud.—Une partie de l'amsham de Volavila et celui de Kalay.

Pour les trois points détachés qui communiquent entreux —

Au Nord.—Une bande de Kalay s'étendant entreux et Veera Coonoo.

Au Sud et Sud-ouest.—Une bande de Kalay s'enterposant entreux et la rivière de Mahé et une partie de la route de Tellichéry.

A l'Est.—Une mosquée et une précipice.

A l'Ouest.—Une partie de la route de Tellichéry et une bande de l'amsham de Kalay s'enterposant entreux et Cainon Connou.

On trouvera l'exposé des abornements ci-dessus en détail dans l'appendix annexé à cet acte, approuvé et signé ce jour.

Nous, Joseph Hayes, Sous-Commissaire de la Marine de la première classe, Chef du Service de l'Etablissement de Mahé, côte du Malabar, Commissaire Français, rêvetu des pleins pouvoirs de son Excellence le Contre-Amiral De Verninac, Gouverneur des Etablissements Français dans l'Inde, reconnaissons par ces présentes avoir reçu de Monsieur James Douglas Robinson, Premier Assistant Collecteur de Malabar et Commissaire pour le Gouvernement Britannique, les susdits trois points détachés ou postes du Fort St. George, du Grand et du Petit Calaye et les quatre villages de Palour, Pandaquel, Chambara et Chalicara, que moi, James Douglas Robinson, reconnais avoir remis cejourd'hui conformément aux abornements ci-dessus spécifiés qui correspondent avec ceux consignés dans un plan dressé par l'Ingénieur civil de la septième division et daté du 9 Janvier 1849, excepté dans trois endroits différents indiqués sur les copies

which a claim was made on a former occasion, and as in execution of this arrangement the limits of the territory to be transferred to the French Government have now been ascertained to be principally—

For the four villages—

East.—Part of Panianoor, Peringalom, Vollavilam and Kalaye amshams.

West.—Ceeroovangad and Kalaye amshams.

North.—Poonian river and part of Panianoor amshams.

South.—Part of Vollavilom and Kalaye amshams.

For the three detached points which communicate with each other—

North.—The strip of Kalaye lying between them and Vera Coonoo.

South and South-west.—A strip of Kalaye intervening between them and Mahé river and a portion of Tellicherry road.

East.—A mosque and precipice.

West.—A portion of Tellicherry road and strip of Kalaye amshams intervening between them and Kanien Koonoo.

The particulars of the above boundaries will be found exhibited in detail in the appendix annexed to this instrument, approved and signed by us this day.

Be it known that I, Joseph Hayes, first-class S. Commissary of the Marine, Chief of the French Establishment of Mahé, Malabar Coast, French Commissioner, invested with full power by His Excellency Rear-Admiral De Verninac, Governor-General of the French Settlements in India, do acknowledge by these presents having received from Mr. James Douglas Robinson, Head Assistant Collector of Malabar, and Commissioner for the British Government, the aforesaid three detached points or posts of Fort St. George, the Great and the Little Kalaye and the four villages of Paloor, Pandaquel, Chambarra and Chalicara which I, James Douglas Robinson, do acknowledge to have delivered this day according to the above specified boundaries, which correspond with those laid down in a plan drawn up by the Civil Engineer of the 7th Division and dated 9th January 1849, except at three different places indicated on the revised copies

révisés du plan sous les lettres A, B, C, où, après de soigneuses enquêtes et comparaison du plan original avec les comptes des villages, de certaines différences ayant été constatés exister, les limites originelles ont été changés, autant qu'il a été reconnu juste et légitime, et ainsi modifiées ont été consignées sur la copie révisée du plan et ont été déclarées constituer définitement les abornements du territoire retrocédé par le présent.

Au surplus moi, James Douglas Robinson, ainsi que j'en suis prié par Monsieur Hayes, promets de lui fournir un plan certifié du territoire actuellement rétrocédé.

En foi de quelle présent procés verbal a éte dressé et signé après que le pavillon français a été arboré à Vera Connou.

Fait quadruple à Mahé le quatorze du mois de Novembre, mil huit cent cinquante-trois.

(Signé) J. HAYES,
Commissionaire Français.

(„) D. ROBINSON,
English Commissioner.

of the plan as A, B, C, where, on carefu enquiry and comparison of the original plan with the village accounts, certain discrepancies having been ascertained to exist, the original land marks have been altered in such degree as appears just and reasonable, and so modified have been defined on the copy of the plan and declared to constitute the boundary of the territory hereby ceded.

I, James Douglas Robinson, do moreover, as requested by Mr. Hayes, promise to supply him with a certified plan of the territory now transferred.

In witness whereof the present verbal process, after having had the French colours hoisted on Vera Coonoo, has been drawn up and signed.

Done in quadruplicate at Mahé the fourteenth day of November one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three.

(Signed) D. ROBINSON,
English Commissioner.

(„) J. HAYES,
Commissionaire Francais.

MEMORANDUM.

It is quite necessary to see the map before giving any opinion about this.

(Intld.) H.

Under date the 16th September 1853 the Government, on the application of His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry, authorized the cession to the French authorities of the four villages Paloor, Panduguel, Chambara and Chalicana, with their net accumulated revenue, and of the three detached points or posts of Fort St. George, and the Great and Little Calaye, all in the vicinity of Mahé, on the understanding that the transfer as regarded those three points was confined to the points themselves and did not extend to any of the adjacent territory. The transfer of these villages and points had long been under agitation, but had been delayed because the French claimed the cession of certain tracts of land around the "points or posts" as well as the "points," which the English had refused to admit.

2. On the 26th December 1853, the Special Agent reported, through the Board of Revenue, that the transfer had been made, and he obtained sanction for paying over to the French authorities the net revenue of the four villages which had accumulated from 1816–17 to the date of actual transfer, Rs. 97,648–5–9. The convention, or process verbal, executed in quadruplicate on the occasion of the transfer by the English Commissioner, Mr. Robinson, Head Assistant to the Collector of Malabar, and Mr. Hayes, Chef de Service at Mahé, is now submitted by the present Agent. By it the four villages and three detached points or posts (*trois points detachés on postes*) are made over by the English to the French with slight variations according to a plan prepared by the Civil Engineer, 7th Division. This plan is not before Government, and it might be well to have it or a copy of it. I observe too in the process verbal, an expression which seems to need explanation "the three detached points which communicate with each other" ("qui communiquent entreux"). If they are detached, how do they communicate? It has been made a *sine quâ non* throughout by the English that the points or posts only should be given up and no part of the land around them. The plan may perhaps explain this.

3. Monsieur Passart, Chef de Service at Mahé, on the 29th May last submitted to Mr. Robinson certain propositions intended to embody the subsidiary arrangements connected with the transfer. These propositions are viewed by Mr. Robinson as fair and reasonable, and by his superior, Mr. Conolly, as unobjectionable. Such part of them as relates to tobacco has been rendered unnecessary as respects the British Government by the cessation of the tobacco monopoly.

4. Under date 17th April 1854, the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors transmitted, for the information of this Government, copy of a letter addressed by the French Ambassador at the Court of London to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, announcing that the Marine Department had sent to the Governor of the French Settlements in India instructions to come to an understanding with the officers of the East India Company on the measures which the retrocession of certain dependencies of Mahé might render necessary for the suppression of illicit trading, and directed that this Government would forthwith order the local officers to place themselves in communication with the French authorities on the spot, for the purpose of concerting with them such arrangements as might appear advisable for the attainment of the object in question. Copy of this despatch was sent, through the Board of Revenue, for the information and guidance of the Collector of Malabar on the 13th June last.

5. Monsieur D. St. Hilaire who has succeeded Captain Passart as Chef de Service at Mahé has, under date 27th June last, intimated to the Collector of Malabar the concurrence of His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry in his, (Monsieur St. Hilaire's) suggestion that the "propositions" drawn up by Captain Passart should be signed by the Governors of Madras and Pondicherry for transmission to the Collector of Malabar and Chief of Mahé, as also the wish of His Excellency that the convention regarding the transfer of the villages, *i.e.*, the process verbal concluded between Messrs. Robinson and Hayes should be similarly ratified. The Collector of Malabar has sent up this

application to Government, through the Special Agent, who suggests that, as His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry has expressed a wish in his letter to the Chief at Mahé, that the original deed of transfer already executed by the British and French Commissioners on the 14th November 1853 at Mahé should be ratified by the respective Governments, unless the Right Honourable the Governor in Council sees objection to the measure, it may be done; and also that authority may be given to the Collector of Malabar to draw out in a similar form the several articles now proposed by Monsieur Passart in his letter of the 29th May last, and concurred in by Messrs. Conolly and Robinson, with a view to their being also ratified by the respective Governments.

6. It is to be observed that these proposals do not come to Government direct from His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry, but through his subordinate officer the Chef de Service at Mahé. There seems no particular objection to a compliance with the application as regards the ratification either of the convention itself or of the subsidiary articles, but before the latter are ratified it would seem advisable that they should first be put into shape by the Collector of Malabar in communication if needful with the Chef de Service at Mahé and be reported on by the Board of Revenue as they pertain chiefly to fiscal matters.

7. On a former occasion, 18th July 1837, the Madras Government ratified a convention for the renewal of a previous salt convention, but that convention was concluded between the Governor of the French Settlements in India, General St. Simon and the Special Agent Mr. Dent, and was ratified by the Madras Government only. Now the convention has been concluded by the line Commissioners appointed by the two Governments and it is requested that it may receive the ratification of both those Governments.

See Extract from Minutes of Consultation, 18th July 1837.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of Consultation No. 938, dated 10th August 1854.

Before taking into consideration the subject of the foregoing letter, the Right Honourable the Governor in Council desires to have before him the revised copy of the plan drawn up by the Civil Engineer of the 7th Division according to which, as appears by the process verbal executed by the English and French Commissioners, 14th November last, the cession of the territory was carried out with explanation of the differences between the original and revised plan in the places A, B, C alluded to in the process.

2. It is observed that in the same instrument mention is made of the three detached points "which communicate with each other" ("qui communiquent entreux"). The Government request that this expression may be explained. It is observed that it has throughout been insisted on by the British Government that the points or posts only should be given up and no part of the adjacent territory.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of South Arcot in charge of Special Agent's Department.

E.M.C., No. 1252, dated 23rd September 1854.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, No. 1252, dated 23rd September 1854, Revenue Department.

READ—the following letter from the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, Cuddalore:—

From A. HALL, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Cuddalore, 28th August 1854, No. 1117.

I have the honour, with reference to Extract from Minutes of Consultation, dated 10th instant, No. 938, to forward the revised plan of the territory ceded to the French Government at Mahé in Malabar under the orders of Government, dated 17th September 1853.

2. The plan itself shows wherein there is any difference between it and the original one, which was found not to correspond with the village accounts and was therefore altered.

3. Mr. Conolly's letter, copy of which is forwarded, explains the meaning of the term "which communicate with each other" as applied to the posts on points laid down in the plan.

ENCLOSURES.

From H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to the Collector of South Arcot, in charge of the Special Agent's Department, Cuddalore, dated Calicut, 23rd August 1854, No. 1777.

I have had the honour to receive your letter, dated the 12th instant, and its enclosure, being extract from the Minutes of Consultation under date the 10th idem.

No. 938.

2. In a separate packet I beg to transmit the sketch adverted to in the second paragraph of my letter of the 2nd December 1853. It was detained here until a copy could be made for the use of my office.

A reference to this sketch will show where the differences between the original and revised plan occurred and the cause thereof is explained in the 4th and 5th paragraphs of Mr. Robinson's report, copy of which was submitted with my letter above alluded to.

Dated 1st December 1853.

3. With respect to the observation contained in the second paragraph of the Minutes of Consultation, I beg to state that the expression "which communicate with each other" was evidently made use of because the three detached posts (now in ruins) were on two hills which communicate with each other. These hills stand within the whitish tinted space exhibited in the plan, the adjacent territory within the deep red line which was claimed by Monsieur Hayes in 1849, was not made over to the French Government, as affirmed in the preamble of the process verbal executed on the occasion of the transfer.

See note appended to the sketch of the boundary survey prepared by the Civil Engineer and transmitted to Government under date the 24th February 1849.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of Consultation under date the 23rd September 1854, No. 1252.

The Collector of Malabar forwards, through the Collector of South Arcot and Special Agent for Foreign Settlements, a plan showing the territory at Mahé lately transferred to the French Government.

2. The plan exhibits the boundaries of the four villages—Panduguel, Paloor, Chambara and Chalicana which have been made over, as also the position of the three detached points or posts, Fort St. George, and the Great and Lesser Calaye, likewise transferred to the French. The expression "which communicate with each other" is sufficiently explained by the sketch.

3. The four villages and three detached points or posts in question having thus been made over according to the decision conveyed in Lord Aberdeen's note of 1st July 1846, and the accumulated net revenue to the date of transfer, Rs. 97,648–5–9 having also been paid to the French Government, the Right Honourable the Governor in Council resolves to report the proceedings which have taken place to the Honourable the Court of Directors in reference to their letter in the Secret Department of 13th July 1849. The wish expressed on the part of His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements in India that the convention or process verbal executed by the British and French Commissioners, Messrs. Robinson and Hayes at the time of transfer, 14th November 1853, should be ratified by the two Governments, and that the subsidiary arrangements proposed by the late Chef de Service at Mahé, Monsieur Passart, and assented to by the Collector of Malabar should be similarly ratified, will at the same time be brought to the notice of the Court for their orders.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Secretary to Government.

Copy to the Special Agent,
Board of Revenue for information.

Letter to the Honourable the Court of Directors, No. 56, dated 19th October 1854.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 56 of 1854.

To

THE HON'BLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY.

HON'BLE SIRS,

Paragraph 1.—In paragraphs 12 to 14 of our letter, dated 17th March 1854, No. 12, we informed your Hon'ble Court that we had, on the application of His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry, authorized the cession to the French authorities of the four villages—Palour, Pandaguel, Chambana and Chalicara—together with the three detached points or posts of Fort George and the great and little Calaye, all in the vicinity of Mahé in the district of Malabar.

2. From our proceedings, dated 12th* and 21st† January last transmitted with our subsequent despatches of the dates noted in the margin, your Hon'ble Court will have learnt that we had authorized the payment to the French Government of the net revenue of the four villages which had accumulated to the date of transfer, viz., Rs. 97,648–5–9.

* Reported in paragraph 16 of letter, dated 21st March 1854, No. 14.
† Reported in paragraph 9 of letter, dated 15th June 1854, No. 38.

3. We have now the honour to submit in reference to your Hon'ble Court's letter in the Secret Department, dated 13th July 1849, No. 2, copies of the correspondence noted in the margin‡ in connection with the above subject, and at the same time to solicit your orders in respect to the wish expressed on the part of His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements in India that the convention or process-verbal executed by the British and French Commissioners Messrs. Robinson and Hayes at the time of transfer, 14th November 1853, should be ratified by the two Governments, and that the subsidiary arrangements proposed by the late Chef de Service at Mahé, M. Papart, and assented to by the Collector of Malabar, should be similarly ratified.

‡ Cons 15th August 1854, Nos. 5 and 6.
Cons. 26th September 1854, Nos. 1117 and 1252.

We take this opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of a despatch from the Secret Committee of your Hon'ble Court, dated 17th April last, copy of which and of its enclosure we have forwarded through the Board of Revenue for the information and guidance of the Collector of Malabar.

We have the honour, &c.,

(Signed) HARRIS.
(„) G. ANSON.
(„) J. F. THOMAS.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
19*th October* 1854.

E.M.C., No. 613, dated 21st May 1855.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Extract from Minutes of Consultation, No. 613, dated 21st May 1855, Revenue Department.

Read the following despatch from the Honourable the Court of Directors, No. 4, Revenue Department, dated 21st February 1855.

OUR GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

At Fort St. George.

In these paragraphs § you inform us of the final adjustment of the question which has been so long under discussion between the English and French authorities relative to the claim of the latter to certain territory in the neighbourhood of their settlement of Mahé.

§ Letter, dated 17th March (No. 12) 1854, paragraphs 12 to 14.
Letter, dated 21st March (No. 14) 1854, paragraphs 16 to 20.
Letter, dated 15th June (No. 38) 1854, paragraph 9.
„ „ 19th October (No. 56) 1854.

2. The four villages of Panduguel, Paloor, Chambara and Chalicana, together with the three detached points of Fort St. George, and the Great and Lesser Calaye have been made over to, and accepted by, the French authorities, and the net revenues of the villages, which have accumulated since 1816, in the Treasury of the Collector of Malabar, have also been made over to them.

3. The arrangements agreed on between the Chef de Service at Mahé and the Collector of Malabar for the security of the Abkarry, Customs and Salt Revenues, appear to be sufficient for that purpose. If the Governor of the French Settlements in India should still be desirous that an instrument embodying the convention already executed by the British and French Commissioners, and the arrangements above

adverted to, should be formally ratified by the chief authorities of the respective Governments in India, we see no objection to such a proceeding although we do not perceive any advantage to be anticipated from it.

4. We entirely approve your having declined to entertain the proposal submitted to you by the Governor of the French Settlements when apprehensive of a scarcity of grain in the town of Pondicherry, for prohibiting the export of grain to any ports except those on the continent of India. Interference of this nature, with the natural and ordinary course of trade, can scarcely fail to lead to injurious consequences. The step to which you had recourse, when entertaining similar fears for the people of our own territory, of suspending the levy of import duty on grain brought to British ports, was quite proper.

(Signed) J. OLIPHANT,
(„) E. MACNAGHTON,
(„) C. MILLS &c., &c.

LONDON,
21st February 1855.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, Revenue Department, dated 21st May 1855, No. 613.

The Right Honourable the Governor in Council proceeds to pass orders on a despatch, in this department, from the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated 21st February 1855, No. 4.

Ordered that copies of this despatch be furnished for the information of the Board of Revenue and of the Special Agent for Foreign Settlements.

2. Adverting to the observations of the Honourable Court in paragraph 3 of this despatch, the Special Agent will be requested, in reference to his letter of the 15th July last, to communicate with the Collector of Malabar, in view to its being ascertained whether the French authorities still desire that an instrument, embodying the convention already executed by the British and French Commissioners, should be formally ratified by the respective Governments, and, if so, he will take the necessary steps in order to a document being submitted in proper form for that purpose.

E.M.C., No. 787, dated 5th June 1855.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, No. 787, dated 5th June 1855, Revenue Department.

READ—the following:—

From A. HALL, Esq., Collector in charge of Special Agent's Department, to the Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Cuddalore, 28th May 1855.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Extract from Minutes of Consultation under date the 21st instant, No. 613, with copy of a despatch from the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated 21st February last.

2. I beg to state, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, that previous to communicating with the Collector of Malabar on the subject, I thought it best to address a letter to His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry with a view of ascertaining whether he was still desirous that the convention, already executed between the British and French Commissioners in Malabar, should be formally ratified by the respective Governments.

3. His Excellency has informed me in reply that, as far as he is concerned, he considers the tenor of the despatch of the Honourable Court as a sufficient ratification of the convention alluded to, but adding that, as he had previously referred the question to the Government in France, he could not answer for the view which might be taken of the matter there.

Extract from Minutes of Consultation, dated 5th June 1855, No. 787.

To be recorded.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

Letter to the Honourable the Court of Directors of the East India Company, No. 1, dated 28th January 1856.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 1 of 1856.

To

THE HON'BLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS
OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY.

HON'BLE SIRS,

* * * * *

34. We furnished copies of this despatch * for the information of the Board of Revenue and of the Special Agent for Foreign Settlements.

* No. 4, dated 21st February 1855.

35. Adverting to the observations of your Honourable Court in paragraph 3 of this despatch, we requested the Special Agent, in reference to his letter of the 15th July last, to communicate with the Collector of Malabar in view to its being ascertained whether the French authorities still desire that an instrument embodying the convention already executed by the British and French Commissioners should be formally ratified by the respective Governments, and, if so, to take the necessary steps in order to a document being submitted in proper form for that purpose. The reply † of the Special Agent is herewith submitted. From this it will appear that the Governor of Pondicherry had been addressed in the first instance and that His Excellency has informed the Special Agent that, as far as he was concerned, he considered your Honourable Court's decision as a sufficient ratification of the convention, but that, as he had previously referred the question to the Government in France, he could not answer for the view that might be taken of the matter there.

† Consultation, dated 5th June 1855, Nos. 63, 64.

* * * * *

We have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) HARRIS.
(„) GEORGE ANSON.
(„) H. C. MONTGOMERY.
(„) WALTER ELIOT.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
28th *January* 1856.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

Extract from Inspection Report by the Consulting Engineer for Railways, Madras, on the alignment of the Calicut-Cannanore Railway, dated 28th August 1897.

11. *Alignment past French territory.*—The following is a sketch of how the question of the boundaries of French territory at Mahé affects the railway alignment. The French not only possess the piece of land south of the Mahé river on which the town stands, but also a largish dumb-bell shaped piece to the north of the river, isolated both from their town territory and from the sea by a strip of British territory. They also admittedly possess the ruins of three old forts—Great and Little Callaye and St. George—all on the top of one hill and within a few hundred yards of each other. Of these old forts, however, they possess merely the actual ruins, and the three are not only isolated *inter se*, but isolated also from the dumb-bell shaped area already referred to. The survey party unfortunately became possessed of a tracing of a map, obtained I understand from the Revenue Survey authorities, in which not only were these three isolated ruins shown as lying inside a circular piece of land, but this little piece of land was shown as connected by a narrow neck with the bouring dumb-bell shaped piece of French land. This narrow neck was ning right athwart the only valley by which the railway could creep round on the west after passing Mahé town and crossing the river, unless very sharp curves were adopted and a longer alignment, so as to keep the railway between river and the ruined forts. This rendered it necessary for the survey engineers to make the great diversion to the east and to go in for the heavy cuttings which will be seen on the index plan and section between miles 37 and 45.

12. *Evidence of old records of French boundaries.*—Having obtained the old papers from the Chief Secretary's office I found that, after long negotiations, having as their object the giving of effect to the provisions of the Treaty of Paris of 1814, the Government of India in their No. 1882, Foreign Department, dated 13th May 1848, directed the Madras Government to make over to the French the dumb-bell shaped plot "and the *three detached points* called Fort George and the Great and Small Callaye." Again in a subsequent letter, dated 13th July 1849, the isolation or detachment of these three points was very strongly emphasised, and this Government were informed that "no territory yielding revenue is to be considered as belonging to the three forts." In subsequent correspondence the dumb-bell piece is referred to as the "four villages" and the forts as "the three points," or "the three detached points." Later on I find a bi-lingual agreement, signed by the French and English Commissioners on the 4th November 1853, in which all boundaries of the French territory north of the river, that is of the four villages comprised in the dumb-bell shaped piece, were very exactly defined, and also "the three detached points or posts" ("*des trois points détachés ou postes*") of Forts George and Great and Little Callaye; and all were recorded as having been made over on that date by the English to the French Commissioner. This convention or procés verbal was finally notified and reported to the Honourable the Court of Directors in accordance with Madras Government Minutes

in Council, No. 125, dated 3rd September 1854, and in these minutes again the forts are referred to as "the three detached points or posts." A perusal of these papers convinced me that the Revenue Survey map which caused the long detour to the east to be made was quite wrong, and that the route through the deep valley between the forts and the French village lands was perfectly free for the railway.

Interview with M. le Chef de Service.—I had the honour of an interview with M. Peuvergne, Chef de Service at Mahé, and having referred to this matter with great caution, with the assistance of Mr. Strange, who speaks French fluently, I was pleased to hear M. Peuvergne say that he had always heard that the French owned only ("*les batiments seulement*") of these forts. This was subsequently confirmed a few days later on the ground by a casual remark of a resident cultivator from whom we were trying to find out where, on the map, we were standing. Thus this question of the troublesome neck across the only valley available for a satisfactory route from the Mahé river northwards has been set at rest, and a survey must now be made on the revised alignment. The ground is undoubtedly a bit cramped, but I think that 2,865 feet curves, or at worst 2,149 feet, will get the line through all right, as there is really but little choice of detailed alignment.

Order—No. 695 R., dated 21st September 1897.

The report read above, omitting the confidential paragraphs 11, 12 and 13, will be communicated to the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, for information and necessary action.

2. The attention of the Political Department is drawn to paragraphs 11, 12 and 13 of the report.

3. A copy of these proceedings will be forwarded for the information of the Government of India with reference to paragraphs 1 and 2 of their letter, No. 1352-R.C., dated 17th August 1897.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) FRANCIS J. E. SPRING,
Offg. Joint Secretary to Government.

To the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway.
" Political Department.
" Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Extract from Inspection Report by the Consulting Engineer for Railways, Madras, dated 10th September 1897.

10. *The Calicut-Cannanore Railway.*—The Consulting Engineer's inspection notes on this line will be found separately reported with G.O., No. 695 R., dated the 21st September 1897. It is very important, for climatic and other reasons, that work upon this extension should be begun on soon after the cessation of the north-east monsoon as may be found possible. An interview was arranged with M. Peuvergne, the Administrator of the French Colony of Mahé, and it was settled with that gentleman, after a personal inspection of the ground, that the line on the south of the Mahé river should be kept as close as possible to French territory consistently with non-infringement of the piece of frontier which is at present in dispute. Certain doubts with regard to the possibility of carrying the alignment at the north of Mahé river, so as to avoid French territory without a long and expensive detour, were set at rest when it was ascertained that the views of the local French authorities were in unison with those of the Consulting Engineer as deduced from a study of the old records of the Madras Secretariat. The doubts arose out of a mistake in a certain plan furnished on what seemed reliable authority to the Madras Railway Engineer, which seemed to show that there was not enough room to slip round to the sea shore between the parts of French territory lying south of and north of the river, and that, therefore, an expensive detour would be necessary.

At certain difficult parts of the alignment it was settled that further trial lines should be run, and it is expected that a better line and a more economical line to construct and to work may result from these trial lines. In the opinion of the Consulting Engineer and of the officers of the Madras Railway Company it will undoubtedly be necessary to continue the line beyond Cannanore to the important trading village of Baliapatam, whence many miles of backwaters, rivers, and canals form valuable feeders for a railway. Full details are to be found in the separate report on the Calicut-Cannanore Railway.

G.O., No. 773 R., dated 5th October 1897.
G.O., No. 704, Political, dated 5th November 1897.

Memorandum.

No. 2512.

The Collector of Malabar is requested to be so good as to forward the revised copy of the plan, the original of which was drawn up by the Civil Engineer of the Seventh Division. It is referred to in the deed of transfer executed by the English and French Commissioners on the 4th November 1853, and, according to its details, the cession of the territory north of the Mahé river was carried out. It appears to have been forwarded to Government through the Collector of South Arcot with Mr. Conolly's letter No. 1777, dated 23rd August 1854, but it does not appear to have been retained in the Government office. If the original is not available, a certified copy, if such exists, should be forwarded.

(Signed) A. T. ARUNDEL,
Chief Secretary.

24th November 1897.

To the Collector of Malabar.

From G. W. DANCE, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Calicut, 6th December 1897, No. 2897-P.

With reference to Government memorandum No. 8512, dated 24th ultimo, I have the honour to submit herewith a copy of the plan, the original of which was drawn up by the Civil Engineer of the Seventh Division.

G.O., No. 593 R., dated 20th April 1898.

Letter from the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, No. 9075-A. 325, dated 15th April 1898.

I have the honour to forward herewith, for your information, copy of a letter addressed to me by the Company's Chief Engineer on the subject of the alignment of the Calicut-Cannanore Extension near the French Settlement of Mahé.

Enclosures.

Letter from the Chief Engineer, Madras Railway, to the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, No. C. E. 162, dated 13th April 1898.

I have the pleasure to enclose you a copy of a letter, No. 228-H.A. 98 of 11th March 1898, forwarded by the Collector of Malabar to the Engineer-in-Chief, Calicut-Cannanore Extension, on the subject of the alignment near the French Settlement of Mahé.

2. It will be observed that the Collector has now recorded that the proposed railway passes entirely through British territory and does not touch the French territory or land in dispute between the British and French Governments.

3. I consider that Mr. A. B. Strange, the Executive Engineer who was in charge of this portion of the final location, deserves great credit for having so laid out the line that it traverses the narrow neck of British land which separates two large detached plots of French territory at Mahé, and avoided any land that was under dispute. The Collector's letter finally disposes of a subject over which it was at one time thought there would be considerable trouble and correspondence.

Letter from the Acting Sub-Collector, to the Collector of Malabar, No. 228 H.A-98, dated Tellicherry, 11th March 1898.

In returning herewith letter of the Executive Engineer, Calicut-Cannanore Survey, received with your endorsement No. 190 P., dated 31st January 1898, I have the honour to state that the Administrator of Mahé whom I have consulted on the subject, writes to say that the proposed railway line from Calicut to Cannanore passes entirely through British territory and does not touch the French territory or land that is in dispute between the two Governments. The tracing is also returned.

No. 631-Pub.

True copy forwarded to the Executive Engineer, Calicut-Cannanore Survey, with reference to his letter No. 73, dated 27th January 1898.

No. 140.

True copy to the Chief Engineer for information.

(Signed) G. A. F. FRENCH,
Engineer-in-Chief Calicut-Cannanore Extension.

6th April 1898.

Order—No. 593 R., dated 20th April 1898.

Communicated to the Political Department with reference to G.O., No. 695 R., dated the 2[illegible] September 1897.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) FRANCIS J. E. SPRING,
Joint Secretary.

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways.
„ Political Department.

Order—No. 472, Political, dated 13th July 1898.

The correspondence regarding the transfer to France of the dependencies of Mahé, *north* of the river, is printed as an appendix to these proceedings. The papers quoted in paragraphs 11 to 13 of the report of the Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated 28th August 1897, and the letters noted in the margin show conclusively that the territory restored in 1853 comprised the four villages of Paloor, Pandaquel, Chambarra and Chalicarra and the three detached points or posts of Fort St. George, the Great and the Little Kalaye without any of the territory in the vicinity of these detached posts and that, as pointed out by the Consulting Engineer, the four villages are not connected by French territory with the three detached points.

E.M.C. No. 875-6, Revenue, dated 29th July 1853.
E.M.C., No. 314, Political, dated 26th August 1853.
E.M.C., No. 1053, Revenue, dated 16th September 1853.
E.M.C., No. 1252, Revenue, dated 23rd September 1854.
E.M.C., No. 787, Revenue, dated 5th June 1855.

2. The attention of the Revenue Department will be drawn to the matter in view to the withdrawal from circulation of any plans which are incorrect with respect to the matter dealt with above.

3. The present discussion is, it will be observed, distinct from the questi[illegible] the delimitation of the boundary of Mahé proper, copies of the recent proce[illegible] regarding which will be communicated to the Public Works Department (Railway Branch).

G.O., Nos. 456, 457, Pol., dated 28th July 1892.
„ „ 22, 23, „ „ 14th Jan. 1896.

(True Extract.)

G. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

To the Public Works Department (Railway).
„ Revenue Department.
„ Collector of Malabar.

APPENDIX.

E.M.C., No. 61, dated 31st August 1846.

Secret Department.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation No. 61, dated 31st August 1846.

The Board proceed to pass orders on the following Despatch from the Secret Committee of the Honorable the Court of Directors, dated 3rd July 1846 :—

Since we received your despatch of the 21st of October 1830, there has been much discussion in this country on the subject of the claims of France to certain districts demanded by that Power as dependencies on the French Settlement of Mahé.

2. We now transmit, for your information, a copy of a note, dated the 1st instant, which the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has addressed to the French Ambassador in London, conveying the decision of Her Majesty's Ministers on the several claims advanced by the Government of France.

Enclosure.

From the Earl of Aberdeen to His Excellency the Count de St. Aulaire, dated Foreign Office, 1st July 1846, No. 1201 (Duplicate).

On the 6th of October last the Count de Jarnac addressed a letter to the undersigned etc., in which he announced that he was directed by his Government to enter again into communication with the undersigned on the questions raised by the imperfect retrocession of the French territory of Mahé on the coast of Malabar.

The Count de Jarnac further stated that he was authorized to demand from the Government of Her Majesty the restitution of the four villages of Palour, Pandaquel, Chambarra and Chalicara, together with the amount of their revenues which had been held in reserve since 1817 by order of the East India Company, under the supposition of their probable restoration to France. That, with respect to the other villages in litigation, it was the opinion of the French Government that a special negotiation might be opened in order to determine in a definitive manner the respective rights of the two Crowns.

The undersigned has now the honour to make known to the Count de St. Aulaire, etc., the decision to which Her Majesty's Government have come upon the subject of the claim thus once more put forward.

After a careful re-investigation of the whole matter, and upon a review of all the arguments by which the different opinions have at various times been supported, Her Majesty's Government have come to the conclusion that the claim made by the French Government to the four aldees—Palour, Pandaquel, Chambarra, and Chalicara—should be admitted.

Her Majesty's Government are prepared therefore to comply with the demand of the Government of France with regard to the four above-mentioned villages and to cause the arrears of the net revenue of those villages to be refunded.

Her Majesty's Government cannot but be alive to the consequences which the cession of the four aldees must inevitably have in increasing the facility of smuggling, and as thereby requiring the augmentation of the police force to resist the attempts which will be made to evade the fiscal regulations of the Company; but they trust that an acquiescence to the extent above mentioned, in the demand of the French Government, may induce that Government to unite in the arrangements which are necessary for the mutual advantage of the two Governments, and by which alone a kind and friendly feeling can be maintained between their respective servants.

Her Majesty's Government are also disposed to admit the claim which the French Government have advanced to the three detached points called Fort George and the Great and Small Calaye. They do not however consider the claim to these points

to rest upon grounds so strong as that to the four villages. On the contrary, Her Majesty's Government still view this question as involved in doubt; but being most anxious to terminate a dispute, which has been so long pending, by viewing in the most favourable light the demands of France, they will refrain from continuing the contest of argument with respect to the detached posts above mentioned.

With regard, however, to the Coringotte territory, the undersigned must at once declare that Her Majesty's Government can enter into no negotiation respecting that territory, since it is perfectly clear to them that it was never a possession of France, and that she has consequently no right whatever to claim its cession.

This fact seems to be quite sufficiently established by the words of M. de Melay, the Governor of the French Settlements in the East Indies, who, in his report addressed to his Government in 1831, stated distinctly "Qu'il n'y a pas lieu á donner suite aux prétentions exprimées par les Commissaires Francais sur le pays de Coringot Nair."

Without entering therefore into further argument to establish the negative of all right to this territory on the part of France, Her Majesty's Government feel themselves compelled to deny that right, and must therefore decline to prolong the discussion respecting it.

Ordered to be communicated to the Board of Revenue with instructions to adopt, in concert with the Collector of South Arcot in charge of the Special Agent's Department, the requisite measures for giving effect to the decision of the British Government on the claims preferred by France to certain districts as dependencies of the French Settlements of Mahé.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. DICKINSON.

Copy to the Board of Revenue.
" Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, Cuddalore.

Letter to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors, No. 4, dated 10th December 1846.

SECRET DEPARTMENT.

No. 4 of 1846.

To

THE HON'BLE THE SECRET COMMITTEE OF THE HON'BLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY.

HON'BLE SIRS,

1. We have the honour to reply to the following despatches:—

* * * * * *

[Letter dated 3rd July 1846.]

3. We caused this despatch to be communicated to the Board of Revenue with instructions to adopt, in concert with the Collector of South Arcot in charge of the Special Agent's department, the requisite measures for giving effect to the decision of the British Government on the claims preferred by France to certain districts as dependencies of the French Settlement of Mahé.

Transmit copy of a note from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs addressed to the French Ambassador in London conveying the decision of Her Majesty's Ministers on the several claims advanced by France to certain districts demanded by the Power as dependencies of the French Settlement of Mahé.

We have, &c.,

(Signed) H. CHAMIER.
(") H. DICKINSON.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
10th December 1846.

Letter to the Government of India, No. 462, dated 12th October 1847.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, Fort St. George, dated 12th October 1847.

Read—the following paper:—

No. 9. From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to J. F. THOMAS, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, dated Cuddalore, 17th September 1847, No. —.

Adverting to an Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, dated 31st August 1846, No. 61, I have the honour to submit the correspondence noted in the margin for the information of the Most Noble the Governor in Council and request to be favoured with their sentiments as to whether the several claims against the French Government alluded to in the concluding part of the British Commissioner's reply to the French Commissioner's memoir and submitted to Government on the 28th December 1828, have been over-ruled by Her Majesty's Ministers, or should now be insisted upon as a necessary sequence to the transfer of the villages, etc., about to be made to our neighbour.

* The Sub-Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department to the French Government, dated 5th October 1846.
From the French Government in reply, dated 7th October.
From the French Government to the Special Agent, dated 23rd August 1847.
The Special Agent, South Arcot, to the Collector of Malabar, dated 27th August 1847.
From the Collector of Malabar in reply, dated 3rd September 1847, with an enclosure.

In the event of Government deciding the foregoing point in the negative owing to the sentiments expressed in the 6th paragraph of the Earl of Aberdeen's note to the address of His Excellency the Count de St. Aulaire, I beg to state that I do not consider it advisable to communicate to the French Government the views entertained by the Collector of Malabar regarding the assimilation of the supply of tobacco to that of salt, in consequence of the system which prevails in supplying the latter article having been regulated by the Convention signed at London on the 7th March 1815, whereas the contraband trade which appears to be carried on in the former may be easily remedied by placing some additional chowkies at the frontier, and by permitting only the *bonâ fide* produce of the soil of the French villages to pass free of duty into Mahé when duly accompanied by a permit granted by some competent French authorities, agreeably to the custom which prevails in South Arcot, and is found sufficiently satisfactory.

ENCLOSURES.

From D. WHITE, Esq., Sub-Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to His Excellency Monsieur POUJOL, Governor of the French Establishments in India, dated Cuddalore, 5th October 1846, No. —.

Having received instructions from the Board of Revenue to take measures for making over to the French Government the villages of Palour, Pandaquel, Chambarra and Chalicara in the vicinity of Mahé, as also of the three detached points called Fort George and the Great and Small Calaye, I have the honour to request your Excellency will favour me with your wishes as to the manner in which they are to be transferred to your Government, whether you will be pleased to depute a special agent from Pondicherry to receive them, or whether you will issue your instructions to the authorities at Mahé upon the subject.

I have the honour to remain, with sentiments of the highest consideration and respect, etc.

From His Excellency Monsieur PUJOL, Governor of the French Establishments in India, to the Collector and Special Agent at Cuddalore, dated Pondicherry, 7th October 1846, No. —.

J'ai l'honneur de vous accuser réception de votre lettre du 5 de ce mois et de vous faire connaître en réponse, qu'aussitot la réception des instructions qui doivent en

être transmises de France et que me parviendrout sans doute prochainement, je m'empresserai de vous informer des dispositions que j'arreterais pour la prise de possession par l'administration Française des aldées de Palour, Pandeguel, Chambarra et Chalicara ainsi que des points du Fort St. George, du Grand et du Petit Calaye qui dependent du territoire de Mahé, à la côte Malabare, &c., &c.

[*Translation.*]

From His Excellency Monsieur PUJOL, Governor of the French Establishments in India, to the Collector of the Southern District of Arcot and Special Agent at Cuddalore, dated Pondicherry, 23rd August 1847.

Mr. White, the Sub-Collector in charge, during your absence, informed me on the 5th October 1846 that he had received instructions from the Board of Revenue at Madras directing the transfer to the French Government of the old dependencies of Mahé upon the coast of Malabar, comprising—

The Aldees or villages of Paloor, Pandaguel, Chambara and Chelacara, the detached Points of Fort St. George, and Great and Small Calayes.

Mr. White requested to be favoured with my wishes as to the measures to be adopted for making over these several portions of territory. On the 7th October I informed him in reply that previously to acting upon his communication to me, I was desirous of receiving from the Marine and Colonial Departments certain instructions which had not yet reached me.

I have since been informed that the concluding of the arrangements entered into between the two Governments in Europe depended upon certain other measures in which it was necessary to be agreed in order to prevent misunderstanding, and to avoid difficulties which might take place in India.

The last mail from Europe has conveyed to me the instructions which I awaited, and I now find myself in a position to determine for the French Government the measures required for making over the territories to be transferred.

Lord Aberdeen in a note, dated 1st July 1846, despatched to the French Ambassador in England, announced that the Cabinet at London would issue instructions for the Honourable Company to effect the transfer to the Government of Pondicherry of the points above indicated, also of the net revenues of the four transferred villages held in reserve for that purpose since 1817.

Lord Palmerston in a letter addressed the 17th April last to the Embassy of France, declared that he entirely adhered to that note.

Mr. Hayes, Sub-Commissary of Marine, now Chief of Mahé, will be commissioned by me to receive from the English authorities (whom you will choose and oblige me by naming) the transferred territories. I will consequently transmit to him the necessary powers.

I would request you to direct the transfer which is to take place to be effected in the usual manner, upon the production of a detailed plan indicating with perspicuity and accuracy the situation, the extent and the limits of the four villages, and the detached points included in the transfer in question. It is upon similar plans that the transfer of the settlement of Mahé in 1817 and of the lodge of Calicut were made. This plan, which will be signed by the French and English Commissioners, will be attached to the deed declaring the transfer—one copy will remain with the French Government and be submitted for my definite approval, the English Government being left to reserve to itself the same right on its side.

I would request you moreover to issue instructions in order to the collection accounts of Tellicherry showing the position of the cultivators and other sources of revenue at the period of the making over, as also to all the records concerning the territories restored to France being delivered to Mr. Hayes.

As soon as you will have made known to me the arrangements taken by you, the Chief at Mahé will be requested to place himself in communication with the functionary who will act for the Honourable Company.

As for the payment of the sums due to the French Government on account of the accumulated revenue of the four villages upon deduction of the cost of management, I would desire that it take place, if possible, at Cuddalore in the same manner as that of the four lacs and the indemnity for the salt-pits. Whatever relates to this payment foreign to the question of the transfer, and may be regulated between your Government and that of Pondicherry, it will only be required to receive at Cuddalore the particulars of the account to be stated, and the Collector of Malabar will forward to you the documents necessary for its examination. If, however, the forwarding of these documents be attended with any difficulty, I would see no objection to the account being adjusted at the very places by the English and French Commissioners, with the exception of the settling of the payment at Cuddalore. On this account also I will await your instructions for my communication of them to Mr. Hayes.

In the note of Lord Aberdeen which I have quoted above, His Excellency expresses his apprehension that the restoration ordered will be followed by an augmentation in the collection of the English customs, in order to prevent the attempts which may be made by smugglers to whom this increase of territory will offer fresh facilities for fraud.

There is but little foundation I believe for this apprehension,—it arises from an inaccurate and insufficient information of the localities. The portions of territory which will be given up to France upon the Malabar Coast have scarcely any importance by themselves; they are of no consequence in a commercial and agricultural point of view, they are at a distance from the seashore situated in the midst of the English possessions, their inhabitants consume scarcely anything coming from without, and export but a small portion of the produce of the soil. One cannot then perceive in admitting the conditions (of the transfer) the signs of a troublesome contraband, or one deserving of attention.

At all events, should you deem it advisable to adopt the sentiment offered by Lord Aberdeen, I will freely give my concurrence to the measures which you may judge proper to propose, and, after having examined them in common with yourself, I will submit them (so far as they concern the French Government) to the Marine and Colonial Departments at Paris, which has announced its intimation of holding itself in communication, upon the matter, with the Cabinet at London. Should anything rest to be done, it will suffice I think to act at Mahé as at Pondicherry, and to require passes or Rowanahs specifying the growth, kind and destination of the commodities exported from one point to another of the French territory in crossing the English territory. This will be required only in respect to commodities of the country.

From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, Cuddalore, to H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, dated 27th August 1847.

I have the honour to transmit copy of a communication received from the Board of Revenue on the subject of the transfer from your district of four villages with the amount of their revenues held in reserve since 1817, and of three detached points to the French Government, and to enclose, for your information, copy of a letter addressed by this department to the Governor of Pondicherry with transcript of His Excellency's reply and shall feel obliged by your favouring me with your opinion as to the manner in which they are to be transferred, and whether you have any objection to meet the "Chef de Service" of Mahé as Commissioner on the part of the British Government to effect the said transfer.

I also request to be favoured with a return showing the amount of the arrears of the net revenue of the four villages in question for submission to the Board of Revenue previous to its being paid.

From H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, Cuddalore, dated Calicut, 3rd September 1847, No. 1414/1847.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo, with its enclosures, on the subject of the transfer of four villages, with the amount of

their revenues held in reserve since 1817 and of three detached points, to the French Government, and requesting my opinion as to the manner in which they are to be transferred and whether I have any objection to meet the Chief of Mahé for the purpose.

2. The transfer might be effected in the same manner that Mahé proper was made over to the French in February 1817. The most important part of the preliminary arrangement will be to ascertain and define as accurately as possible the boundaries of the villages, &c., about to be transferred. I have therefore applied to the Civil Engineer for his assistance in this respect.

I would propose that Mr. Chatfield, the Sub-Collector in whose range the villages in question are situated, be empowered to meet the Chief of Mahé as Commissioner on the part of the British Government, to effect the said transfer after the preliminary arrangements shall have passed my revision. But if it is considered a point of importance that I should be the Commissioner, I must of course be so.

3. I would take this opportunity of drawing your attention to the report which the Commissioners (General Fraser and Mr. Sheffield) addressed the Government under date the 28th December 1828, by the 9th paragraph of which it would appear that the surrender of the villages ought to be followed by our possessing the privilege of collecting customs at Mahé. Nothing on this subject is said in the orders now under consideration. If this privilege is not conceded, Government will have to entertain a heavy expense on account of establishment that it will be absolutely necessary to keep up to protect the revenue derived from the tobacco monopoly and sea customs.

4. The French Government may perhaps feel inclined to provide against the first loss by determining that their settlement at Mahé shall no longer be allowed to be used by unprincipled natives as a mere smuggling depôt as it is now. All that would be necessary is to introduce the system under which the supply of salt for the use of their subjects is regulated to let us furnish them at the wholesale price with such and tobacco as may be required and to let its introduction by others be contraband.

The return called for in the last paragraph of your letter is under preparation and will be submitted as soon as completed.

From H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to Captain F. C. CONOLLY, Civil Engineer, 7th Division, Ootacamund, dated Calicut, 3rd September 1847, No. 1408/1847.

Instructions having been received to transfer to the French Government four villages and two detached points in the vicinity of Mahé, and it being necessary that at the time of restoration maps defining the boundaries of these villages be interchanged between the British and French authorities, I have the honour to request you will be good enough to take early measures for tracing the line of boundary and preparing a descriptive list of the same, according to the information that will be given at the time the survey may be going on. The transfer will, it is expected, take place as soon as I may receive an answer to a letter I have this day addressed to the Collector of South Arcot.

No. 10. Order thereon.

Ordered in consequence that the following letter be despatched :—

No. 11. From J. F. THOMAS, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, to G. A. BUSHBY, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, dated Fort St. George, 12th October 1847, No. 462.

In forwarding for submission to the Government of India copy of a letter from the officer in charge of the Special Agent's Department at Cuddalore, I am directed by the Most Noble the Governor in Council to bring the following circumstances under consideration.

17th September 1847, with enclosures.

In 1828 the British Commissioners * for the investigation of the claims of the French Government at Mahé, after recording their opinion thereon, claimed, on the part of the British Government, certain rights upon Mahé, which had lain in abeyance since 1816, their further consideration having been then suspended until the French Government should bring its territorial claims under discussion in Europe.

* Lieutenant-Colonel I. S. Fraser, Special Agent for Foreign Settlements.
W. Sheffield, Esq., Collector of Malabar.

The British claims which were declared by the Commissioners to be "perfectly incontestible in every point of view" are as follows:—

1*st*. "A tribute of five hundred and thirty-two Tellicherry fanams † and three hundred and sixty-five robbins ‡ of rice per annum payable by the French to the English Government in acknowledgment of the tenure by which the Mahé lands are held."

† Equal to Rs. 106–6–4.
‡ 50 seers or 70 lb.

2*nd*. "The sole and exclusive privilege on the part of the English Government to levy duties and customs on all imports and exports at Mahé by land or water whether belonging to the European or Native inhabitants of that settlement, to the French Government or to individuals with exception only of the following articles:—Iron, gunpowder, shot, firearms and rice imported *bonâ fide* for the use of the French Government, which are exempted from duty."

N.B.—Respecting this claim, the present Collector of Malabar in his letter, dated 3rd ultimo, says, if this privilege is not conceded, Government will have to entertain a heavy expense on account of establishment that it will be absolutely necessary to keep up to protect the revenue derived from the tobacco monopoly and sea customs.

3*rd*. "A right on the part of the English Government to have its own custom house and officers on the same spot where the Cartenaud Raja's custom house formerly stood within the precincts of Mahé for the collection of the duties and customs above stated."

In a note which the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs addressed to the French Ambassador in London, conveying the decision of Her Majesty's Ministry on the several claims advanced by the Government of France, express mention is not made of those preferred by the British Commissioners, and with reference to paragraphs 154 to 158 of their reply to the memoir of the French Commissioners, I am instructed to request to be informed whether those claims should now be regularly advanced by the Collector of Malabar as Commissioner on the part of the British Government or not.

Vide enclosure to the despatch from the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors, dated 3rd July 1846.

Report of the Commissioners, dated 28th December 1828, with 25 enclosures.
President's minute, dated 19th October 1830.
Extract Minutes of Consultation, dated 21st October 1830.
From Secret Committee of the Court of Directors with an enclosure, dated 3rd July 1846.

The original papers on the subject as noted in the margin are herewith forwarded which it is requested may be returned when no longer required.

E.M.C., No. 221, dated 2nd June 1848.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of Consultation, No. 221, dated 2nd June 1848, Political Department.

READ—the following :—

From H. M. ELLIOT, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, dated Fort William, 13th May 1848, No. 1182.

Your letter of the 12th October 1847, No. 31, with its several enclosures, having been under the consideration of the Governor-General in Council, I am directed to inform you, in reply, that the villages of Paloor, Pundaguel, Chambana and Chalicara

in the vicinity of Mahé and the three detached points called Fort George and the Great and Small Calaye should, in the opinion of His Lordship in Council, be made over to the French Government without any reservation.

P.S.—The original papers received with your letter are herewith returned.

No. 221.

Ordered that the foregoing letter be communicated to the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department for his information and guidance in reference to his letter of the 17th September last.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
2nd June 1848.

(Signed) F. J. THOMAS,
Chief Secretary.

General Letter to the Honourable the Court of Directors No. 8, dated 18th July 1848.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

General Letter to the Honourable the Court of Directors of the East India Company, dated Fort St. George, 18th July 1848, No. 8, Political Department.

* * * * *

10. Adverting to paragraph 3 of our despatch in the Secret Department, dated 10th December, No. 4 of 1846, we have the honour to transmit a communication from the officer in charge of the Special Agent's Department at Cuddalore, requesting further instructions regarding the claims of the British Government on the French Government at Mahé which we submitted to the Government of India bringing at the same time the following circumstances under consideration.

M.C., 12th October 1847, Nos. 9 and 11.
M.C., 6th June 1848, Nos. 3 and 4.
Collection No. 6 in the packet.
Annexed *ibid*, paragraph 33.

11. In 1828, the British Commissioners * for the investigation of the claims of the French Government at Mahé, after recording their opinion thereon, claimed on the part of the British Government, certain rights upon Mahé, which had lain dormant since 1816—their further consideration having been then suspended until the French Government should bring its territorial claims under discussion in Europe.

* Lieutenant-Colonel I. S. Fraser, Special Agent for Foreign Settlements.
W. Sheffield, Esq., Collector of Malabar.

12. The British claims, which were declared by the Commissioners to be "perfectly incontestible in every point of view," were as follows:—

1st.—"A tribute of five hundred and thirty-two Tellicherry fanams † and three hundred and sixty-five Robbins ‡ of rice per annum, payable by the French to the English Government in acknowledgment of the tenure by which the Mahé lands are held.

† Equal to Rs. 106–6–4.
‡ Fifty seers or 70 lb.

2nd.§—"The sole and exclusive privilege, on the part of the English Government, to levy duties and customs on all imports and exports at Mahé by land or water, whether belonging to the European or Native inhabitants of that settlement, to the French Government or to individuals with exception only of the following articles—iron, gunpowder, shot, firearms and rice—imported *bonâ fide* for the use of the French Government which are exempted from duty."

§ *N.B.*—Respecting this claim the present Collector of Malabar in his letter, dated 3rd ultimo, says: "If this privilege is not conceded, Government will have to entertain a heavy expense on account of establishment that it will be absolutely necessary to keep up, to protect the revenue derived from the tobacco monopoly and sea customs.

3rd.—"A right on the part of the English Government to have its own custom house and officers on the same spot where the Cartenaud Raja's custom house formerly stood within the precincts of Mahé for the collection of the duties and customs above stated.

13. In a note which the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs addressed to the French Ambassador in London conveying the decision of Her Majesty's Ministry on the several claims advanced by the Government of France, express mention is not made of those preferred by the British Commissioners, and with reference to paragraphs 154 and 158 of their reply to the memoir of the French Commissioners, we requested the Government of India to inform us, whether those claims should now be regularly advanced by the Collector of Malabar, as Commissioner on the part of the British Government or not.

Vide enclosure to the despatch from the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors, dated 3rd July 1846.

14. The Government of India having, in reply, stated that in their opinion the villages of Paloor, Pundaguel, Chambana and Chalicara in the vicinity of Mahé and the three detached points called Fort George and the Great and Small Calaye, should be made over to the French Government without any reservation, we caused instructions to be issued accordingly.

* * * * *

E.M.C., No. 9, dated 15th August 1848.

SECRET DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, No. 9, dated 15th August 1848, Secret Department.

READ—the following:—

From the Honourable the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors, to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, Fort St. George, dated East India House, London, 23rd June 1848, No. 1324.

In a despatch, dated the 10th of December 1846, you informed us that you had instructed your Board of Revenue to adopt the requisite measures for giving effect to the decision of the British Government on the claims preferred by France to certain districts, &c. dependencies of the French Settlement of Mahé. Neither we, nor the Court of Directors, have received any further papers from you on that subject, but the French Minister in this country has addressed to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a letter of which a copy is enclosed, complaining that the instructions issued from England had not been carried into effect. We direct your immediate attention to the French remonstrance; and we trust that you will shortly put us in possession of such information as shall enable us to make a satisfactory communication to Viscount Palmerston.

MY LORD,

LONDRES, *le* 3 *Juin* 1848.

A la suite d'une longue correspondance entre les Gouvernements de France et d'Angleterre sur une rétrocession de territoire démandée par la France à Mahé sur la côte de Malabar, Lord Aberdeen, dans une note datée du 1 Juillet 1846 et adressée à M. de Ste. Aulaire, s'experimait dans les termes suivants:—

"After a careful re-investigation of the whole matter, and upon a review of all the arguments by which the different opinions have at various times been supported, Her Majesty's Government have come to the conclusion that the claim made by the French Government to the four Aldees, Paloor, Pundaguel, Chambana and Chalicara, should be admitted.

"Her Majesty's Government are prepared therefore to comply with the demand of the Government of France with regard to the four above mentioned villages and to cause the arrears of the net revenue of these villages to be refunded.

"Her Majesty's Government are also disposed to admit the claim which the French Government have advanced to the three detached points called Fort George and the Great and Small Calaye. They do not, however, consider the claim to these points to rest upon grounds so strong as that to the four villages. On the contrary Her Majesty's Government still view this question as involved in doubt; but being anxious to terminate a dispute which has been so long pending, by viewing in the most favourable light the demand of France, they will refrain from continue the contest of argument with respect to the detached forts above mentioned."

Le précédent Gouvernement Français ayant accepté les conditions précitées telles que le Cabinet Britannique les proposait lui même, le Gouverneur de nos établissemens dans l'Inde fut autorisé à reçevoir les Dépendances deMahé et leurs revenus accumulés depuis 1817. Il s'est en consequence adressé au Gouvernement de la Présidence de Madras par une communication en date due 23rd Août 1847; mais aucune réponse ne lui a encore été faite.

Le Gouvernement de la République me charge, my Lord, d'appeler de nouveau Pattention de votre Excellence sur cette affaire en vous priant de vouloir bien donner les ordres nécessaires pour en hâter la solution définitive.

Je saisis,

(Signed) FALLANAY.

S. E. Viscount Palmerston, &c.

Extract from Minutes of Consultation, dated 15th August 1848, No. 9.

The Board proceed to pass orders on the following Despatch from the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated 23rd June 1848.

Ordered that the foregoing despatch be communicated to the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department at Cuddalore in reference to the Order of Government of the 2nd June last, with a request that he will, as soon as possible, report what measures have been taken in order to the delivering over of the French villages therein alluded to, and for the adjustment of the arrears of Revenue due to the French authorities on that account.

E.M.C., No. 394, dated 28th August 1841.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACTS from Minutes of Consultation, No. 394, dated 28th August 1848.

READ—the following paper:—

From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Cuddalore, 17th August 1848.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of an Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, dated 15th instant, No. 9, annexed to a letter from the Honourable the Court of Directors of date 23rd June last, and to submit, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, the correspondence marginally noted, which has taken place between the French Government, the Collector of Malabar and this department, since the receipt of the Order of Government, dated 2nd June last, and from which it will be seen that the villages and points therein alluded to are in due course of transfer to the French authorities.

The Special Agent to the French Government, dated 5th June 1848.
The Special Agent to the Collector of Malabar, dated 5th June 1848.
From the French Government, dated 8th June 1848.
The Special Agent to the French Government, dated 9th June 1848.
From the Collector of Malabar, dated 12th June 1848.
The Special Agent to the French Government, dated 20th June 1848.

2. The statement of revenue demanded from the Collector of Malabar, by my letter of the 27th August 1847, not having as yet been received, I have this day addressed that officer on the subject, requesting him to expedite its transmission.

ENCLOSURES.

From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to His Excellency the Governor of the French Establishments in India, dated Cuddalore, 5th June 1848.

In reference to your Excellency's letter, dated 23rd August 1847, No. 30, I have the honour to inform you that the Sub-Collector of Malabar, in whose range the villages, &c., to be transferred to your Government are situated, having been empowered to meet the Chief of Mahé as *Commissioner* on the part of the British Government to effect the said transfer, I beg you will be pleased to issue the necessary instructions to your Agent.

2. As regards the revenue of the four villages in question, I have desired the Collector of Malabar to furnish me with a return showing the net amount to be paid to your Government, which, when received, I shall submit for the sanction of Government and obtain their permission for its being paid at Cuddalore agreeably to your Excellency's request.

3. I also trust your Excellency will issue instructions to the Chief of Mahé regarding the measures to be adopted, in concert with the British Commissioner, to prevent any loss of revenue arising from goods being clandestinely conveyed into those villages.

4. I have the honour to remain, with sentiments of the highest consideration and respect, &c.

From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to the Collector of Malabar, dated Cuddalore, 5th June 1848.

In reference to your letter of the 3rd and my reply of the 28th September last, I have the honour to inform you that the Most Noble the Governor in Council, with the sanction of the Governor-General of India, having been pleased to resolve that the four villages and the three detached points therein alluded to should be made over to the French Government, without any reservation, I have this day addressed a communication to His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry, copy of which is herewith enclosed for your information.

2. I beg you will be pleased to direct your Sub-Collector to enter into communication with the Chief of Mahé and effect the transfer in question by signing a proper, &c., in which the boundaries should be clearly fixed.

3. The return called for in my letter of the 27th August last not having as yet been received, I request you will expedite its transmission.

4. As regards the suggestions contained in the 4th paragraph of your letter of the 3rd September last, I did not consider it advisable to communicate them to the French Government, in consequence of the supply of salt having been regulated by a convention signed at London on the 7th March 1815, whereas the contraband trade which appears to be carried on in tobacco may be prevented by some additional chowkies at the frontier, and even this obviated by the ready co-operation promised by the French Government, of which, doubtless, your Sub-Collector will take due advantage at the time of the transfer.

From His Excellency Monsieur L. PUJOL, Governor of the French Establishments in India, to the Collector and Special Agent, South Arcot, dated Pondicherry, 8th June 1848.

Par votre lettre du 5 de ce mois, vous me faites l'honneur de m'annoncer que Mr. le S. Collecteur du Malabar est autorisé à s'entendre avec Mr. Le Chef de Service à Mahé pour la remise des villages et dépendances dont la rétrocession soit être faite à la France.

Dès que je serai en mesure de transmettre à Mahé les instructions que je me propose de faire préparer pour la remise dont il s'agit, j'aurai l'honneur de vous en prévenir.

En ce qui concerne les revenus des aldées et dépendances, rien ne s'oppose à ce que cette affaire soit terminée dès à présent, je vous serai donc obligé, Mr. Le Collecteur, de me communiquer, lorsqu'il vous sera parvenu, l'état que vous n'annoncez avoir demandé à Mr. Le Collecteur du Malabar.

Votre lettre du 5 Juin m'entretient des mesures à prendre pour la répression de la contrebande que vous craignez de voir introduire dans les villages dont la remise doit avoir lieu. Déjá ma lettre du 23 Août 1847 établissait que cette crainte ne paraissait pas fondée, et j'en tirais la preuve de la position elle-même des lieux. J'indiquais pourtant, dans le cas oú vous ne partagiez pas cette opinion, certains moyens qui étaient propres à rassurer contre toutes tentatives de fraude. Je désirerais savoir si vous partagez ma manière de voir à cet égard.

From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to His Excellency the Governor of the French Establishments in India, dated Cuddalore, 9th June 1848.

In reference to your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date, I have the honour to inform you that a copy of the statement of the revenue of the four villages about to be transferred to your Government will be furnished to your Excellency when received from the Collector of Malabar.

As regards measures to be taken to prevent the contraband trade alluded to in the last paragraph of your letter, I beg to suggest that it is better to leave them to be settled by the Commissioners on the spot.

From H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, Cuddalore, dated Calicut, 12th June 1848,

No. 906.

In t[illegible] of the 5th instant on the subject of giving over cert[illegible]me that you did not c[illegible] with regard to check[illegible] because "the tra[illegible]ven this obv[illegible]h doubtles[illegible]

last paragraph of your letter [illegible]n villages near Mahé to the French Government, you [illegible]nsider it advisable to communicate certain suggesti[illegible]ns of r[illegible]g the contraband trade in tobacco between Mahé and our fro[illegible]tiers as e may be prevented by some additional chowkies at the [illegible]er, and e[illegible]ted by the ready co-operation promised by the French Gover[illegible]ent, of whic[illegible]h your Sub-Collector will take due advantage at the time of the transfer."

W[illegible] regard to the first suggestion—that of "some additional chowkies at the frontier"—I beg to inform you that we have already chowkies all round the frontier within h[illegible] of each other. But the heavy expense entailed by this cordon is inoperativ[illegible] great occasions and vexatious in small. The large smuggler pays his bribe an[illegible] runs his tobacco. The poor wretch who comes out of Mahé with a few leaves f[illegible]r his own consumption is seized and shown up as a proof of the activity of the pre[illegible]ntive force. The system is a bad one, and I would rather get rid of than increase[illegible]t. Whether this can be in any way effected by the "ready co-operation promise[illegible] by the French Government" is the next question.

M[illegible]nsieur Pujol, I remark in his letter to you of the 23rd August last, observes that h[illegible] will willingly agree to consider any measures which you may think it desirable[illegible] suggest. After this assurance, I really think it would be an error if we were to press on him the plan I have proposed in my letter of the 3rd September last T[illegible] getting rid of a smuggling depôt which is as little honourable to the French as it is annoying and expensive to our Government. All that would be necessary (to repeat what I said in that letter) would be to introduce the system under which the supply of salt for the use of their (French) subjects is regulated; let us furnish them at the wholesale price with as much tobacco as may be required and let its introduction by others be contraband.

From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to His Excellency the Governor of the French Establishments in India, dated Cuddalore, 20th June 1848.

With reference to your Excellency's letter of the 8th instant and my reply thereto of the 9th, I have the honour to communicate a suggestion from the Collector of Malabar to prevent the contraband trade in tobacco being carried on at Mahé, viz., that its supply should be regulated by the same system under which salt is now supplied, and to allow its introduction by others to be contraband.

This measure appears satisfactory in every respect, as such a quantity of tobacco as may be required for the use of the inhabitants at Mahé will be supplied by the Collector of Malabar, on requisition, at the wholesale price, and I trust it will meet with your Excellency's concurrence.

No. 394.

Ordered that the foregoing letter do lie over until the statement alluded to in its last paragraph is furnished by the Collector of Malabar.

(True Extract.)

FORT ST. GEORGE,
28*th August* 1848.

J. F. THOMAS,
Chief Secretary.

E M.C., Nos. 11, 12, dated 3rd October 1848.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, Nos. 11, 12, dated 3rd October 1848.

READ—the following:—

No. 11. From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to J. F. THOMAS, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, dated Cuddalore, 19th September 1848.

In submitting the correspondence noted in the margin, which has taken place subsequent to my letter of the 17th ultimo, and from which it appears that the transfer therein alluded to is now delayed by a reference for instructions made by His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry to his Government at Home, I have the honour to state for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council that the return received from the Collector of Malabar has been submitted by me for the sanction of Government through the Board of Revenue on the 16th instant.

The Special Agent to the Collector of Malabar, dated 17th August 1848.
From the Collector of Malabar in reply, dated 7th September.
The Special Agent to the Commissary of the Republic at Pondicherry, dated 16th September.
From the Commissary of the Republic at Pondicherry in reply, dated 18th September.

ENCLOSURES.

From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, Cuddalore, to H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, dated Cuddalore, 17th August 1848.

Government having called on me to report what measures have been taken for delivering over to the French authorities the villages and points alluded to in my letter of the 5th June last, and for the adjustment of the arrears of revenue, due to them on that account, I have the honour to request you will be pleased to transmit to me, at your earliest convenience, the return called for in my letter, dated 27th August 1847.

I take this opportunity to inform you that the suggestions contained in your letter of the 12th June last have been duly communicated to His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry but no reply has as yet been received.

From H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, Cuddalore, dated Calicut, 7th September 1848, No. 1397.

With advertence to your letter, dated 17th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit the return * called for in your communication, dated 27th August 1847, showing the net revenue realized from the four villages proposed to be transferred to the French Government, and to observe that I shall be prepared to give effect to the said transfer so soon as I am favoured with definite instructions on the subject.

* Original sent to the Board of Revenue.

I am not as yet aware whether the Chief of Mahé has been empowered to receive charge of the said villages, and sign the plan and other papers connected therewith, as Commissioner on the part of the French Government. I rather think not.

From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department to His Excellency Monsieur PUJOL, Commissary of the Republic in the French Establishments in India, dated Cuddalore, 16th September 1848.

In reference to my letter of the 20th June last, I have the honour to request your Excellency will be so obliging as to favour me with your opinion on the subject of the proposition therein contained, to enable me to communicate the same to the Collector of Malabar.

I shall also feel obliged by your kindly informing me whether, or not, instructions have been sent by your Excellency to the "Chef de Service" of Mahé, for receiving charge of the villages and points which are ready to be transferred to your Government as it appears from a communication just received that the British Commissioner had not been favoured with any intimation on the subject as yet.

No. 63.

To Monsieur Davis,

Collecteur Principal de la Division du Sud d'Arcot,
Agent Spécial à Goudelour.

Monsieur le Collecteur,

Il m'a été impossible, jusqu'a ce jour, de donner suite au projet que j'avais d'abord formé de charger le Chef de Service à Mahé de s'entendre avec le Commissaire du Gouvernement Britannique pour la reddition des 4 aldées et d'autres points du territoire de cet établissement, quelques difficultés s'étant élevées, j'ai du demander de nouvelles instructions à mon Gouvernement, j'espère qu'elles me parviendront incessamment.

Permettez-moi, à cette occasion, Monsieur Le Collecteur, de vous rappeler le contenu de ma lettre du 8 Juin der née 30 concernant les revenus des aldées et dépandances de Mahé. Rien ne s'oppose à ce que cette affaire soit terminée dès à présent. Vous me faisiez l'honneur de me dire dans votre lettre du 5 Juin que vous aviez invité Monsieur le Collecteur du Malabar à vous fournir l'état de ces revenus et que vous me transmettriez ce document dès qu'il vous seroit parvenu. Je vous serai obligé de presser la conclusion de cette affaire.

Agreez, &c.,

Le Commissaire de la République dans
les Etablissemens Français de l'Inde.

(Signed) L. PUJOL.

Pondichéry,
le 18 *Septembre* 1848.

[*Translation.*]

From His Excellency Monsieur L. PUJOL, Commissary of the Republic in the French Establishments of India, to W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Principal Collector of the Southern Division of Arcot, Special Agent at Cuddalore, dated Pondicherry, the 18th September 1848.

It has been impossible for me, up to this day, to give effect to the design which I had formed of instructing the Chief at Mahé to communicate with the Commissary of the British Government for the surrender of the four aldées and other points of the territory of this Establishment. Some difficulties having arisen, I have requested new instructions from my Government. I hope they will reach me without delay.

Allow me, Sir, upon this occasion, to recall to your mind the contents of my letter of the 8th June last, No. 30, relative to the revenues of the aldées and dependencies of Mahé. There is nothing at present to prevent the termination of this affair. You did me the honour to intimate to me in your letter of 5th June that you had requested the Collector of Malabar to furnish you with a statement of these revenues, and that you would forward this document to me so soon as it reached you. I shall be obliged by your hastening the settlement of this affair.

No. 450.

No. 12. The Right Honourable the Governor in Council awaits the receipt of the return stated in the foregoing letter to have been submitted to Government through the Board of Revenue on the 16th instant.

(By order.)

Fort St. George,
30*th September* 1848.

(Signed) J. F. THOMAS,
Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue, with two enclosures requested to be returned.

E.M.C., No. 501, dated 25th October 1848.

Political Department.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, No. 501, dated 25th October 1848.

Read—the following :—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 2416, dated 5th October 1848.

Read—the following :—

From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort St. George, dated Cuddalore, 16th September 1848.

In submitting the return, obtained from the Collector of Malabar, called for in the concluding part of "Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 28th September 1846," I have the honour to transmit extract from a letter from His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry, intimating his wish that the net revenue of the four villages about to be transferred to the French Government should be paid from my treasury, in the same manner as the quarterly instalments, payable to France by the Honourable East India Company, are now defrayed, and request you will be pleased to obtain the sanction of Government for the payment in question.

ENCLOSURES.

EXTRACT from a letter from His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry, addressed to the Special Agent at Cuddalore under date the 23rd August 1847.

Quant au paiement des sommes dues a l'administration française, pour les revenus cumulés des quatre aldeés, sous la deduction des frais de question, je désirerais qu'il eut lieu, s'il est possible, à Goudelour, de la même manière que celui des quatre lacks et de l'indemnité des salines. Tous ce qui est relatif à ce paiement est étranger au fait même de la reprise de possession, et peut être réglé entre votre administration et celle de Pondichéry; il ne s'agiroit que de réunir à Goudelour, les élémens du compte, qui sera établi, et Mr. Le Collecteur du Malabar, vous adresserait les pièces nécessaires pour le rédiger. Si d'ailleurs l'envoi de ces documens offroit quelque difficulté, je ne verrais pas d'objection á ce que le compte fut arrêté sur les lieux mêmes, par les Commissaires Anglais et Français, sauf à en fixer le paiement à Goudelour a cet égard aussi, j'attendrai pour donner des instructions à Monsieur Hayes que vous m'ayez fait connaître celles que vous transmettrez vous même.

STATEMENT showing the [illegible] from the four Tarrahs of Chalakara, Pandakel, Valoor, and Chembrah since fusly 1226.

Fusly.	Current collection.				Collection of arrears.				Grand Total.				Charges collection.	Net revenue.
	On account of Land Revenue.	On account of Mooturphee.	On account of Abkarry.	Total.	Land Revenue.	Mooturphee.	Abkarry	Total.	Land Revenue.	Mooturphee.	Abkarry.	Total.		
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.		RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
1226 * ..	2,098 15 0	Blended		2,098 15 0	..	..	..	..	2,098 15 0	..	..	2,098 15 0	122 10 1	1,976 4 11
1227	1,958 5 10	with Land		1,958 5 10	100 10 6	..	..	100 10 6	2,059 0 4	..	..	2,059 0 4	122 10 1	1,936 6 3
1228	2,091 11 7	Revenue.		2,091 11 7	362 5 0	..	..	362 5 0	2,454 0 7	..	..	2,454 0 7	122 10 1	2,331 6 6
1229	2,141 9 9	38 12 0	Blended with Land Revenue.	2,180 5 9	115 15 6	..	..	115 15 6	2,257 9 3	38 12 0	..	2,296 5 3	122 10 1	2,173 11 2
1230	2,189 1 4	32 3 2		2,221 4 6	156 3 10	12 4 0	..	168 7 10	2,345 5 2	44 7 2	..	2,389 12 4	122 10 1	2,267 2 3
1231	2,204 3 9	11 0 0		2,215 3 9	70 15 3	6 7 0	..	77 6 3	2,275 3 0	17 7 0	..	2,292 10 0	122 10 1	2,169 15 11
1232	2,158 3 6	11 0 0		2,169 3 6	31 2 9	..	..	31 2 9	2,189 6 3	11 0 0	..	2,200 6 3	122 10 1	2,077 12 2
1233	2,009 0 3	11 0 0		2,020 0 3	52 10 8	5 8 0	..	58 2 8	2,061 10 11	16 8 0	..	2,078 2 11	170 7 0	1,907 11 11
1234	2,325 8 7	28 0 0		2,353 8 7	211 4 5	..	..	211 4 5	2,536 13 0	28 0 0	..	2,564 13 0	180 0 0	2,384 13 0
1235	2,397 6 2	432 9 7		2,829 15 9	764 14 4	..	..	764 14 4	3,162 4 6	432 9 7	..	3,594 14 1	180 0 0	3,414 14 1
1236	2,302 10 10	432 9 7		2,735 4 5	139 14 9	..	..	139 14 9	2,442 9 7	432 9 7	..	2,875 3 2	180 0 0	2,695 3 2
1237	2,312 12 1	340 7 11		2,653 4 0	177 2 1	..	..	177 2 1	2,489 14 2	340 7 11	..	2,830 6 1	181 11 4	2,648 10 9
1238	2,275 1 4	312 12 8	99 9 7	2,687 7 7	190 13 0	..	..	190 13 0	2,465 14 4	312 12 8	99 9 7	2,878 4 7	195 0 0	2,683 4 7
1239	2,433 15 3	320 4 8	110 6 5	2,864 10 4	166 8 5	11 0 0	..	177 8 5	2,600 7 8	331 4 8	110 6 5	3,042 2 9	195 0 0	2,847 2 9
1240	1,959 12 4	288 3 8	105 5 10	2,353 5 10	..	..	..	..	1,959 12 4	288 3 8	105 5 10	2,353 5 10	195 0 0	2,158 5 10
1241	2,051 6 4	269 0 7	95 6 3	2,415 13 2	84 15 10	6 0 0	..	90 15 10	2,136 6 2	275 0 7	95 6 3	2,506 13 0	195 0 0	2,311 13 0
1242	2,421 7 4	303 13 6	140 0 0	2,865 4 10	278 11 1	10 2 3	..	288 13 4	2,700 2 5	313 15 9	140 0 0	3,154 2 2	195 0 0	2,959 2 2
1243	2,405 4 5	306 13 6	140 0 0	2,852 1 11	..	..	..	..	2,405 4 5	306 13 6	140 0 0	2,852 1 11	195 0 0	2,657 1 11
1244	2,399 11 0	290 9 6	140 0 0	2,836 4 6	..	..	..	..	2,399 11 0	296 9 6	140 0 0	2,836 4 6	195 0 0	2,641 4 6
1245	2,414 9 1	293 13 6	130 0 0	2,838 6 7	..	..	..	..	2,414 9 1	293 13 6	130 0 0	2,838 6 7	195 0 0	2,643 6 7
1246	2,469 7 10	281 5 6	120 0 0	2,870 13 4	..	..	..	..	2,469 7 10	281 5 6	120 0 0	2,870 13 4	195 0 0	2,675 13 4
1247	2,516 13 9	280 15 1	200 0 0	2,997 12 10	..	..	..	..	2,516 13 9	280 15 1	200 0 0	2,997 12 10	195 0 0	2,802 12 10
1248	2,538 5 6	281 15 1	225 0 0	3,045 4 7	..	..	..	..	2,538 5 6	281 15 1	225 0 0	3,045 4 7	195 0 0	2,850 4 7
1249	2,529 15 4	275 1 6	225 0 0	3,030 0 10	..	..	..	..	2,529 15 4	275 1 6	225 0 0	3,030 0 10	195 0 0	2,835 0 10
1250	2,536 3 8	274 10 3	225 0 0	3,035 13 11	..	..	..	..	2,536 3 8	274 10 3	225 0 0	3,035 13 11	195 0 0	2,840 13 11
1251	2,540 4 11	276 15 1	225 0 0	3,042 4 0	0 3 6	1 0 0	..	1 3 6	2,540 8 5	277 15 1	225 0 0	3,043 7 6	195 0 0	2,848 7 6
1252	2,542 11 0	280 1 7	290 0 0	3,112 12 7	..	..	..	..	2,542 11 0	280 1 7	290 0 0	3,112 12 7	195 0 0	2,917 12 7
1253	2,542 1 8	294 12 0	300 0 0	3,136 13 8	..	..	..	..	2,542 1 8	294 12 0	300 0 0	3,136 13 8	195 0 0	2,941 13 8
1254	2,541 6 0	296 8 10	300 0 0	3,137 14 10	..	..	..	..	2,541 6 0	296 8 10	300 0 0	3,137 14 10	195 0 0	2,942 14 10
1255	2,565 14 7	299 12 0	310 0 0	3,175 10 7	..	..	..	..	2,565 14 7	299 12 0	310 0 0	3,175 10 7	195 0 0	2,980 10 7
1256	2,556 1[illegible]	298 2 5	300 0 0	3,154 13 0	..	..	..	..	2,556 10 7	298 2 5	300 0 0	3,154 13 0	195 0 0	2,959 13 0
1257	2,550 [illegible]	295 10 5	300 0 0	3,146 4 2	..	..	..	..	2,550 9 9	295 10 5	300 0 0	3,146 4 2	195 0 0	2,951 4 2
Total ..	74,9[illegible] 4	7,164 15 7	3,980 12 1	88,127 0 0	2,904 6 11	52 5 3	..	2,956 12 2	77,885 11 3	7,217 4 10	3,980 12 1	89,083 12 2	5,650 8 11	83,433 3 3

* From 1st December 1817.

REMARKS.—A[illegible] Tarrahs proposed to be given up to the French Government comprise lands upon which the Malikanah paid to Corongotte Nair is calculated, it is necessary that the agreement or [illegible] this Malikanah should be referred to, and the Sub-Collector's opinion on the subject obtained, in order that a memorandum showing the further deduction to be made may be furnished, this wi[illegible] out delay.

CALICUT,
8th September 1848.

(Signed) H. CONOLLY,
Collector.

No. 2416.

The Board of Revenue presume that there will be no objection to the payment referred to in the above letter being made from the Cuddalore treasury, but they perceive from the remark in the statement prepared by the Collector of Malabar that some further information has yet to be furnished. On this being done, Mr. Davis will be pleased to ascertain from the French Government whether they admit the correctness of the account of the refund to be made, and, if so, will again address the Board upon the subject.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Secretary.

5th October 1848.

No. 515.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 12th October 1848.

Read—the following order of Government, dated 30th September 1848 :—

(Here enter No. 450).

Resolved that the Collector's letter of the 16th ultimo, and its accompaniments, together with the Board's Proceedings thereon, dated 5th instant, be communicated for the information of Government, in reference to the requisition contained in the foregoing order.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Secretary.

To J. F. Thomas, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 501.

The Right Honorable the Governor in Council approves of the proceeding of the Board of Revenue on Mr. Davis' letter of the 16th ultimo, and hopes to be put in early possession of the information they have called for.

(By order.)

FORT ST. GEORGE,
25th October 1848.

J. F. THOMAS,
Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue with a letter No. 2543 and its two enclosures.

Letter to the Hon'ble the Secret Committee of the Hon'ble the Court of Directors, No. 1, dated 3rd November 1848.

SECRET DEPARTMENT.

No. 1 of 1848.

To

THE HON'BLE THE SECRET COMMITTEE OF THE
HON'BLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS OF THE
EAST INDIA COMPANY.

HON'BLE SIRS,

We have the honour to reply to your Honourable Committee's despatch, dated 23rd June 1848.

2. Your Honourable Court will perceive from the correspondence noted in the margin that the transfer of the villages to which your Honourable Court refer is delayed by a reference for instructions made by the Commissary of the Republic at Pondicherry to the French Government, and that the arrears of revenue due on these villages is in process of adjustment.

Political Consultation, dated 29th August 1848, Nos. 24 & 25.
" " " 3rd October "
" " " 31st " "

We have, &c.,

FORT ST. GEORGE,
3rd November 1848.

(Signed) H. POTTINGER.
(") G. H. F. BERKELEY.
(") D. ELIOT.

E.M.C., No. 613, dated 23rd December 1848.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of Consultation, No. 613, dated 23rd December 1848.

Read—the following extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 14th December 1848, No. 637 :—

No. 8. Read the following letter from the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, dated 6th instant :—

In reference to my letter of the 16th September and the Board's Proceedings thereon, dated 5th October last, I have the honour to forward transcript of a communication since received from the Collector of Malabar from which the Board will perceive that no deduction is to be made from the net revenue exhibited in the statement transmitted with my former letter as stated in the remarks of that officer.

The return in question has been communicated to the French Government, and I have received from the Commissary of the Republic at Pondicherry a reply stating that the French authorities do not possess any document for testing the details of the said statement, and that they have examined the calculation and found it correct, and requesting that the net revenue thereof may be paid to them at the beginning of next month along with the fourth instalment of the four lacs of Sicca rupees payable for the current year; he also observes that the collection for fusly 1258 has not been included in this statement and that the revenue is due to the French Government up to the day of transfer.

I have therefore the honour to request that the Board will be pleased to obtain the sanction of Government for paying the amount in question in the manner suggested by the French Government.

ENCLOSURE.

From H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, Cuddalore, dated Calicut, 16th November No. 1709.

With reference to your letter, dated the 9th ultimo, I have the honour to state that, after a careful examination of the old accounts, it does not appear that, in calculating the malikanna paid to Korongotte Nair, the revenue of the four villages proposed to be given up to the French Government has been taken in account; there is therefore no deduction to be made from the net revenue exhibited in the statement transmitted with my letter, dated the 7th September last.

From the letter from the Collector of Malabar which accompanies the foregoing communication, it appears that no deduction should be made from the amount due on account of the four villages about to be transferred to the French Government as the revenue of those villages do not appear to have been taken in account in calculating the malikanna paid to Korongotte Nair. Mr. Davis also reports that he has afforded the Commissary of the Republic at Pondicherry an opportunity of inspecting the statement which accompanied his letter of 16th September last and that no objection has been taken to it. There would therefore seem to be no objection to the payment of the amount due to fusly 1257 (1847–48), viz., Rs. 83,433–3–3, from the South Arcot treasury in the early part of next month, as requested by Monsieur Pujol. With respect to the revenue of fusly 1258 (1848–49), the Board think that after the transfer of the villages has been made, the accounts can be closed to the date of transfer, and the balance paid to the French authorities.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Secretary.

To Sir H. C. Montgomery, Bt., Officiating Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 9. The Right Honourable the Governor in Council authorizes the disbursement from the South Arcot Treasury of the amount due to fusly 1257 (1847–48), viz., Rs. 83,433–3–3, on account of the villages alluded to in the foregoing extract and concurs with the Board of Revenue in respect to the revenue of those villages for 1258 (1848–49), that after their transfer has been made, the accounts can be closed to the date of transfer and the balance paid to the French authorities.

(By Order.)

(Signed) H. C. MONTGOMERY,
Offg. Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.
" Accountant-General.
" Civil Auditor.

Letter to the Honourable the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors, No. 1, dated 5th January 1849.

SECRET DEPARTMENT.

No. 1 of 1849.

To

THE HONOURABLE THE SECRET COMMITTEE OF THE
HONOURABLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS OF THE
EAST INDIA COMPANY.

HONOURABLE SIRS,

In our reply letter of the 3rd ultimo, we informed your Honourable Court that the arrears due on account of the transfer of certain villages to the French authorities were in process of adjustment. We have now to report that we authorized the disbursement from the South Arcot treasury of the amount due to fasli 1257 (1847–48), viz., Rs. 83,433–3–3, on their account.

2. With respect to the revenue of those villages for 1258 (1848–49), we directed that, after their transfer had been made, the accounts should be closed to the date of transfer, and the balance paid to the French authorities.

We have, &c.,

(Signed) H. POTTINGER.
(") G. H. F. BERKELEY.
(") D. ELIOT.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
5th January 1849.

E.M.C., No. 56, dated 5th February 1849.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of Consultation, No. 56, dated 5th February 1849.

Read the following letter from His Excellency M. De Lalande deCalan, Governor of the French Establishments in India, Pondicherry, dated 16th January 1849, No. 4.

No. 13. Votre Excellence, lors de mon passage à Madras, m'a donné tant de preuves de son désir sincère de continuer à maintenir les relations de bon voisinage qui existent entre nos deux administrations, que je n'hésite pas à m'adresser à elle avec la plus entière confiance dans la circonstance qui se présente aujourd'hui.

Votre Excellence n'ignore pas nos anciennes réclamations au sujet des territoires dépendants de Mahé; les investigations qui en ont été la suite; les communications qui ont eu lieu à cet sujet entre les deux cabinets; enfin, la détermination adoptée d'un commun accord par nos Gouvernemens respectifs, et qui a eu pour objet de restituer à la France certains territoires qu'elle possédait au 1er Janvier 1792.

Ce sont: les aldées de Palour, Pandaquil, Chambara et Chelacara, plus les territoires connus sous les noms de "Fort St. George, Grand et Petit Calaye." Il a de plus été convenu qui les revenus perçus par le Gouvernement de S.M. Britannique depuis 1816 sur les territoires dont il s'agit seraient rendus à la France. Ces arrangemens pris par l'autorité Métropolitaine et notifiés par mon prédécesseur à M. le Collecteur p.p.al. agent spécial résidant à Goudelour, M. le Chef de Service à Mahé, Hayes, fut reconnu Commissaire Français pour recevoir les territoires rendus à la France. M. le S. Collecteur Chatfield fut désigné de son côté, comme Commissaire du Gouvernement Britannique.

Tout donnait à penser qu'enfin cette affaire allait recevoir une solution satisfaisante et que la restitution aurait lieu sans difficulté.

Il n'en a pas été ainsi; Votre Excellence verra par la correspondance ci-jointe qui a eu lieu entre M.M. Chatfield et Hayes, que les droits de la France sont encore contestés, et que du territoire exigu qui nous est rendu, l'on veut encore retrancher une portion sans laquelle la restitution serait illusoire. Je veux parler des dépendances de Mahé connues sous le nom de "Fort St. George, Grand et Petit Calaye." M. Chatfield conteste au Commissaire français nos droits sur cette portion de territoire, et veut se borner à nous rendre des sommets isolés, sans les versants qui relient ces montagnes entr'elles, et qui la France possedait à l'époque du 1er Janvier 1792, ainsi que le prouvent des documens irrécusables qui nous avons entre les mains. La lettre ci-jointe de M. Commissaire français Hayes établit à cet égard nos droits dans la manierè la plus incontestable. J'appelle sur ce document l'attention de Votre Excellence. Elle comprendra qu'il est impossible au Gouvernement français d'accepter les conditions posées par M. Chatfield, car ce ne serait ni l'esprit ni la lettre de la transaction qui a eu lieu entre les deux cabinets. Il ne s'agit au reste, que d'une étendue de territoire ayant à peine un demi mille carré de surface.

Je connais trop les sentimens de loyauté et de justice qui animent Votre Excellence pour insister plus longtems sur cette affaire. Je me borne à la prier d'examiner les argumens présentés par M. Hayes, et consignés dans sa lettre à M. Chatfield, convaincu qu'après lecture de ce document, elle s'empressera de faire cesser des difficultés imprévues qui viennent desurgir et que retardent la conclusion d'une affaire que tout fait désirer de voir terminer au plustôt.

Veuillez, je vous prie, Monsieur le Gouverneur, agréer l'assurance de la haute considération avec laquelle j'ai l'honneur d'être

[*Translation.*]

Your Excellency, during my sojourn at Madras, gave me so many proofs of your sincere desire to continue to maintain the friendly relations which subsist between our two Governments, that I feel no hesitation in addressing your Excellency with the most entire confidence under the circumstance which now presents itself.

Your Excellency is not unacquainted with our old reclamations relative to the territories dependent upon Mahé; the investigations consequent thereupon; the correspondence which took place upon the subject between the two Cabinets; in short, the Resolution adopted with one accord by our respective Governments, the object of which was to restore to France certain territories which she possessed on the 1st January 1792; they are: the villages of Palour, Pandaguel, Chambara and Chelacara, as also the territories known under the names of "Fort St. George, and Great and Small Calayes." It was further agreed that the revenues collected by the Government of Her Britannic Majesty since 1816, upon the territories in question, should be repaid to France. These arrangements made by the Metropolitan authority, and notified by my predecessor to the Principal Collector and Special Agent at Cuddalore, Mr. the Chief de Service at Mahé, Hayes, was acknowledged French Commissioner to receive the territories given up to France. The Sub-Collector, Mr. Chatfield, was nominated on his part Commissioner of the British Government.

Every thing tended to induce the belief that this affair was about at last to be satisfactorily settled, and that the restoration would take place without difficulty.

It has not so happened. Your Excellency will perceive by the accompanying correspondence which has taken place between Messrs. Chatfield and Hayes that the claims of France are still in dispute, and that of the small territory which is given up

to us, it is yet in contemplation to cut off a portion, without which the restoration will be to no purpose. I allude to the dependencies of Mahé known under the name of "Fort St. George and Great and Small Calayes." Mr. Chatfield disputes with the French Commissioner our claims to that portion of territory, and wishes to confine himself to the restoration to us of isolated summits, without the portions which intervene and connect those hills, and which France possessed on the 1st January 1792, as is proved by authentic documents which we hold. The accompanying letter of Mr. French Commissioner Hayes establishes our claims in the most incontestable manner. I call the attention of your Excellency to this document. You will perceive that it is impossible for the French Government to accept the conditions laid down by Mr. Chatfield, for it would be neither the spirit nor the letter of the transaction which took place between the two Cabinets. The consequence would be an extent of territory of barely half a square mile of surface.

I know too well the sentiments of good faith and equity which influence your Excellency to dwell any longer upon this affair. I deem it necessary only to solicit that you will examine the arguments offered by Mr. Hayes, and contained in his letter to Mr. Chatfield; convinced that after perusal of that document, your Excellency will hasten the removal of unforeseen difficulties which have arisen, and which retard the settlement of an affair which it is wholly desirable speedily to terminate.

Accept, Sir, the assurance of the high consideration, &c.

ENCLOSURE.

From R. CHATFIELD, Esq., Sub-Collector of Malabar, Commissioner of the British Government, to Monsieur HAYES, Chef de Service, Commissaire du Gouvernement, Mahé, dated Tellicherry, 2nd January 1849.

In acknowledging your letter of the 30th of December, No. 9, I am sorry to find that in consequence of our differing in regard to the extent and nature of the territorial points of Fort St. George, the Great and Little Callaye, you are unable to accept the villages which I was prepared to deliver into your hands. You correctly state the purport of my conversations regarding this subject: and on a review of my instructions I am unable to depart from the construction I have put upon them: I am inevitably led to understand by the three points, the fortifications which were erected by, and for many years said to be in possession of, the French Government; the limits of these points I conceive to be confined simply to the forts and their outworks and not as you argue to the entire hills and their *dependencies*. Mr. Pujol must, I fancy, have understood them in this light, when he denominates them "les points détachés" and argues that as the villages are entirely surrounded by the British territories, the suppression of smuggling would be easily effected. I shall refer the subject for the decision of my superiors by the earliest opportunity.

As you see insuperable objections to even a proposal of imposing the tobacco monopoly, the plan mentioned in your letter was the only one which struck me at the time as likely to offer any check to smuggling; any respectable man might engage to purchase and supply the four villages with the requisite amount of tobacco (about two candies in the year), giving security for his good behaviour and the French authorities giving a *nerruck* which should prevent his obtaining excessive profits or establishing a monopoly for his own benefit.

From Monsieur J. HAYES, Chef de Service, Commissaire du Gouvernement, Mahé, to R. CHATFIELD, Esq., Sub-Collector of Malabar, Commissioner of the British Government at Tellicherry, dated Mahé, 5th January 1849, No. 6.

Après la réponse du 2 de ce mois que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de faire à ma lettre en date du 30 Décembre 1848, No. 5, je ne crois pas possible de regarder la ecruite que vous m'offrez de la partie supérieure, ou des sommets pures et simples

des montagnes du Grand et du Petit Calaye de la montagne verte ou du Fort St. George exclusivement faite de leurs bases et de leurs dépendances, lesquelles resteraient en vos mains comme constituant, de ce côté, la rétrocession que je suis chargé de recevoir.

J'ignore ci que mon Gouvernement a décrité quant à la négation faite par Lord Aberdeen de nos droits sur le pays du Coringot nair, mais je me puis douter à la lecture de sa dépêche qu'il me soit clair et bien évident qu'en reconnaissant sans les restraindre nos droits aux points détachés appelés Fort St. George et le Grand et le Petit Calaye, ce Ministre n'ait en même tems, admis la date du 1er Janvier 1792—base constante des négociations sur le fait de notre occupation—et, que par suite, les trois points précités doivent nous être remis avec tous les territoires limites et dépendances qu'ils avaient à cette époque.

Mais, dira-t-on la même dépêche fait exclusion du territoire du Coringot nair, spécifié des points détachés?

Pour répondre à cette objection, je ferai remarquer qu'à Monsieur R. Chatfield, Sous-Collecteur du Malabar, Commissaire du Gouvernement Anglais à Tellicherry, qu'à cet égard, elle distingue complêtement quant à l'exclusion qu'elle prononce, entre les points qu'elle concede et ce territoire, que ces termes doivent revenir à dire "nous *détachons* du pays du Coringot nair pour les rendre aux français, les points appelés Fort St. George et le Grand et le Petit Calaye, tels qu'ils se délimitaient avec leurs dépendances au 1er Janvier 1792".

De la sorte tout s'explique d'une manière équitable et satisfaisante et l'on voit qu'elle est la valeur réelle du mot détaché.

Je ne pense que cette explication de se mot puisse être attaquée, car les points en question ne peuvent être détachés d'autre chose que du pays du Coringot nair, où ils se trouvent situés. Dire qu'ils sont détachés l'un de l'autre serait contraire à ce qui existe, puisqu'ils se relient les uns aux autres et cela n'empêcherait pas leurs abornements de se confondre, leur intégralité de nous appartenir et ne changerait par conséquent pas la situation.

Vraiment, à mon avis, chercherait-on à établir qu'il ne faut entendre par ces mots que les sommets des montagnes à l'exclusion de leurs autres parties et dépendances; car, rien dans la dépêche préciteé, qui, remarquez le bien, est celle qui nous a concédé le droit, ne perte à mon sens, préter à une telle interprétation, et il aurait fallu nécessairement dire si telle avait été l'intention de l'homme d'état, non pas qu'on reconnaissait nos droits aux points détachés appelés le Fort St. George, le Grand et le Petit Calaye, mais bien, qu'on ne les admettait qu'à la surface supérieure et exclusive occupée jadis par nos fortifications sur le sommet de ces points.

Mais, insistera-t-on peut être, le point détaché le Fort St. George, c'est le lieu des fortifications?

Bien que je ne comprenne pas comment les emplacements des fortifications puissent se dire détaché des montagnes où ils se trouvent, cette interprétation serait précieuse si les mots le Grand et le Petit Calaye qui suivent ne la rendaient impossible. En effet la dépêche qui nous occupe dit aussi "les points détachés, le Grand et le Petit Calaye"; elle ne parle pas pour eux des fortifications, mais les désigne intégralement en leur donnant les seuls noms par lesquels ils soient connus. Or, si cette admission est faite pour le Grand et le Petit Calaye, points rélativement moins importants, lors de notre occupation et où nous avions moins de fortifications, elle existe évidemment de même pour la montagne verte ou du Fort St. George et les dépendances de tous ces points et ces qui achève de le prouver victorieusement, c'est qui le Grand et le Petit Calaye occupent chacun une des extremités opposées de la montagne verte ou du Fort St. George, et que ces trois points se communiquent naturellement entre eux et forment les parties d'un même tout.

Dans le système précédent d'ailleurs, il me semble qu'il aurait fallu l'emploi après la désignation, qui n'est faite nulle part des lieux ou de la partie des montagnes où étaient ces fortifications, du mot, de retranchement *From part*, ou de tout autre suivi de la désignation (nominative) de ces mêmes elévations. Puis, cette conclusion extrême qui tend à détacher un morceau inaccessible des montagnes pour nous le donner, peut-elle, je le demande de bonne foi, se tirer des paroles de la dépêche de Lord Aberdeen

et ne voi-ton pas au contraire, qu'une telle déduction serait évidemment contraire à l'esprit même qui y a préscité et qui tout en croyant devoir refuser le territoire du Coringot nair à la France, désire néanmoins lui donner la satisfaction de cesser de mettre en doute ses droits aux trois points en question ?

Dans cet esprit, peut-on sérieusement regarder comme une satisfaction la rémise stérile offerte aujourd'hui du sommet aride, inutile et sans valeur, de ces points dont l'importance est surtout, aujourd'hui qui des conflits dans l'Inde ne sont plus probables entre les deux nations, dans la jonction qu'ils opérent entre Mahé et ses aldées, en nous donnant les deux côtés de la rivière et la suite non interrompue du territoire nécessaire au bien-être de notre population qui subit déjà plus d'une vexation de la part des agents de votre douane, ainsi qu'avec un sentiment qui vous honore vous l'avez fort bien demontré dans votre mémoire en date du 21 Décembre 1848 ?

Regarder cette partie de la rétrocession comme se bornant aux sommets dénudés de trois montagnes, me parait extrème, je l'avoue, et il me semble de plus qu'il y a la contradiction, en accordant la propriété du dessus et en refusant celle du dessous que je regarde comme devant indubitablement en être la suite ainsi que ses dépendances. Cette derniére propriété se démon'rerait au surplus même en ne parlant que des fortifications, car il ne peut être douteux, tel que je l'ai vu sur d'anciens plans, qu'un chemin partait du Fort St. George jusqu'à sa base et communiquait au bord de la rivière à 150 toises environ dans l'est, avec une batterie ou redoute dominant le passage et dont les ruines existent probablement encore.

D'ailleurs, ne pas admettre nos droits à cette propriété reviendrait je crois à dire l'impossible, à savoir que dans les temps de guerre et de trouble où il faut se reporter et lorsque la France avait établi une ligne de fortification qui partant de la mer et de Codoty aboutissait au pied du Grand Calaye et par la montagne verte ou du Fort St. George au Petit Calaye et à la rivière, elle ne s'etait pas rendue maîtresse absolue et sans contestation du territoire sous ses canons et de toutes leurs dépendances, et cela lorsque ces possessions lui étaient d'une importance *vitale* en lui assurant les points qui dominaient Mahé en faisaient le complément stratégique indispensable, et pouvaient seuls lui assurer le libre passage de la rivière et la communication sans entraves avec ses villages de Pallour, Chambara, Chalacara et de Pandaquel ainsi qu'avec les postes et fortifications qui s'y trouvaient partout et dont quelques ruines existent encore ainsi que le constate celle de la redoute portée sur le plan que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de me communiquer le 28 Décembre dernier.

Vous paraissez penser, Monsieur, que Monsieur Pujol a compris comme vous qu'il ne s'agissait que de nous rétrocéder le sommet de trois montagnes ; à cet égard je puis vous assurer que vous êtes dans l'erreur, Monsieur Pujol m'ayant écrit dans un sens tout différent. Du reste, ce que j'ai dit ci-dessus me semble expliquer clairement la valeur des termes qu'il a employés après Lord Aberdeen, et lorsque parlant des ravanahs, le Commissaire de la République Francaise s'occupe du passage de nos habitans sur votre territoire, il a énoncé un fait facile à concevoir. En effet, outre que nous sommes toujours dans l'Inde à peu près envelopés par vos possessions, la surface des quatre villages qui doivent nous être rétrocédés ressemblant à un sablier, c'est-à-dire, ayant des extrémités assez larges réunies par un sol long et étroit, s'il arrivait, comme on l'a fait pressentir de Pondichéry, que nos habitans prissent une ligne directe ne passant sur votre territoire, pour éviter un détour sur le nôtre, ils pourraient en effet, au besoin, se munir d'une ravanah. Du reste, même en supposant ce qui n'est pas, ainsi que je viens de vous le dire, que Monsieur Pujol partageat votre opinion quant aux trois points détachés, la nomination d'un Commissaire français sur les lieux, montre assez qu'on eut attendu ses rapports pour exprimer une opinion définitive.

D'après cela, il me parait difficile de m'éconnaître la justice de nos demandes. Le Gouvernement Anglais en a au surplus implicitement reconnu une, il y a longtems, en partageant constamment avec nous depuis la reprise de possession, le droit de passage sur la riviére qui sépare Mahé du territoire qui est aujourd'hui reconnu lui appartenir sur la rive opposée.

Mais si on élevait de nouveaux doutes à cet ègard, l'inspection des lieux les détruirait entièrement ; ainsi les dernières pentes du versant sud-ouest de la montagne du Grand Calaye qui s'étend du côté de Tellicherry jusqu'à douze pas environ au delà

de la boutique de Candoté Paguerchy, sèchelonnent aussi depuis ce point vers le sud-oest en s'abaissant graduellement jusqu'a une portée de fusil ou deux de la mer, sa limite naturelle dans cette direction, et se trouve ainsi nécessairement coupé par la route qui part du bac. D'où il résulte que cette montagne comprend toute la pointe et les terrains vis-à-vis Mahé de l'autre côté de la rivière jusqu'auprès de Codoty.

Quant au surplus du territoire que nous réclamons si justement, il est non seulement situé entre Mahé et nos villages, mais même ils ont entre eux de tels points de contact qu'on voit aisément qu'on ne peut les séparer équitablement ; ainsi par exemple la montagne de Vera que vous admettez sur votre plan, comme étant au dedans des limites de nos villages, n'est qu'à trois portées de fusil de la montagne verte ou du Fort St. George et cette distance est occupée seulement par trois terrains travaillés dans leurs bases confondues ; la distance de ces montagnes d'un sommet à l'autre, versants opposés et espace intermédiaire mesurés, n'est que de 1,890 pieds environ. Du reste les montagnes du Petit et du Grand Calaye, du Fort St. George, de Vera, de Poitara et d'Ayapen, se suivent pour ainsi dire sans interruption et forment un groupe qui doit nécessairement comprendre les terrains qui en relevent ou qui s'y trouvent enclavés.

De la sorte nos limites doivent être—

(1) Dans le sud suivant une ligne directe tirée en continuation de celle qui nous aborne au nord de Vera Common et qui passant à O.N.O. couperait la route de Tellichéry à douze pas au delà de la boutique de Candoté Paquerchy, mettrait la petite maconarie de notre côté et aboutirait à la mer au dessous de Codoty.

(2) Dans le N.N.E. d'après une ligne partant de la rivière jusqu'au petit ponceau, premiére limite de Peringady, lequel est situé de l'autre côté du ruisseau ou Tande de Calaye et se dirigeant delà dans le nord pour aboutir à nos abornemens à Ayapen.

En ce qui concerne les quatre villages eux-mêmes, j'ai à vous observer, Monsieur, que le plan que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de me communiquer fait exclusion de 19 terrains qui me semblent nous appartenir.

En voici la note :—

(1) Pontimpora Parambou. (2) Connaté Parambou. (3) Ponatincandy Tarjy Parambou. (4) Banatanvittilé Miteley tarjy Parambou. (5) A[illegible]ary Parambou. (6) [illegible]davalaté Parambou. (7) Moddatel Parambou. (8) Coilloté Parambou. (9) Corinddavaddaté Parambou.	Ces neufs terrains dependent de la montagne de Chambara.
Le terrain de Potton Colon, autrefois dépendance de Pandakel. Le terrain Ticracave Parambou qui parait appartenir au district du Pallour. Le terrain Balle Parambou qui parait appartenir au même district.	Ces terrains se trouvent portés aujourd'hui au district de Calaye.
(1) Tarize Parambou. (2) Tegué Pondividdon Parambou. (3) Pondiaviddon Parambou. (4) Chaddin Viddon Parambou. (5) Chaddin Vadd[illegible]guel Tarize Parambou. (6) Pilacanddy Parambou.	Appartenant au district de Palour, compris aujourd'hui dans celui de Calaye.

Et enfin un autre terrain appelé Cheria Collatil Parambou revenant à Pallour.

Enfin, Monsieur, ainsi que j'ai eu l'honneur de vous le dire par ma lettre du 30 Décembre dernier, No. 5, la contemplation notoire et que vous reconnaissez qu'a depuis longtems votre honorable Gouvernement de permettre la libre culture du tabac dans le Malabar, assure dans un avenir sans doute prochain, avec les idées du jour, la disparition de la contrebande dont vous vous plaignez et en attendant la bonne entente qui existe entre les Gouvernements ne peut manquer d'amener les arrangements possibles à cet égard et qui, vu le peu d'importance du territoire concédé, seront sans doute suffisants pour empêcher de grands dommages pour vos intérêts. Du reste, en ce qui me concerne je ferai ce qui dependra de moi pour aller au devant des exigences de

votre service dans les limites qui me sont tracées. Dans ce sens et en attendant une étude plus complette, je crois à première vue que le nouveau système que vous proposez peut avoir une grande efficacité pour arrêter la contrebande du tabac, puisqu'il ne laisse en général aucun intérêt pour la faire et que d'ailleurs il n'impose aucune nouvelle charge aux habitans. Reste à savoir maintenant to une mesure semblable ou analogue peut s'accorder avec nos institutions.

Il y a donc à mon avis toute espèce de motifs pour que les droits de la France, non seulement aux quatre villages mais encore aux trois montagnes et à toutes leurs dépendances, ainsi qu'à la possession qu'ils entraînent des deux rives de la rivière et des bacs ne soient pas plus longtems méconnus ; ces droits me semblent admis de fait par la concession de Lord Aberdeen même, et je ne doute pas que l'honorable Gouvernement dont vous referrez ne le juge ainsi.

En attendant et comme je n'ai pouvoir ni de diviser ni de restreindre la reprise de possession qui m'est confiée ; que l'acceptation, dès à présent, des quatre villages que vous m'avez proposée, sauf à attendre ce qui sera statué quant aux autres points, engageraient la liberté d'action et préjugerait la détermination de mon Gouvernement ; j'ai l'honneur de terminer les considérations précédentes dont il était convenable d'appuyer cette communication, en vous informant que je vais en référer.

En définitive et quelle que soit la décision à intervenir de la part de nos Gouvernements quant aux intérêts respectifs dont nous sommes chargés, je ne finirai pas cette lettre sans me féliciter des relations que j'ai eu l'honneur d'avoir avec vous et dans lesquelles vous m'avez assisté à maintenir cet esprit de bonne entente qui les rend faciles et bienveillantes et qui est si digne des fonctionnaires de deux grandes nations comme celles aux quelles nous appartenont.

Recevez, Monsieur, &c.

Le Chef du Service
Commissaire du Gouvernement

(Signé) J. HAYES.

[*Translation.*]

From Monsier J. HAYES, Chief de Service, Commissaire du Governement, Mahé, to R. CHATFIELD, Esq., Sub-Collector of Malabar, Commissioner of the British Government at Tellicherry, dated Mahé, the 5th January 1849, No. 6.

After the reply of the 2nd instant which you did me the honour to make to my letter, dated 30th December 1848, No. 5, I do not think it possible to assent to the restoration which you propose to me of the upper part, or bare summits, of the hills of the Great and Small Calayes of the green hill or the Fort St. George, to the exclusion of their bases and their dependencies, which would remain in your hands as the restoration, on your part, which I am appointed to receive.

I do not know what my Government has decided in reference to the denial made by Lord Aberdeen of our claims to the territory of Coringot nair, but I doubt not from the perusal of his despatch that it is quite evident that in recognizing without limiting our claims to the detached points called Fort St. George and the Great and Small Calayes, the Minister did not at the time admit the date of 1st January 1792, the constant basis of negotiations relative to the fact of our occupation, and that therefore the three points laid down should be made over to us with all the territories, limits and dependencies which they had at that period.

Should it be said that this despatch excludes the territory of Coringot nair, as distinguished from the detached points—

In reply to this objection, I would observe that it completely distinguishes in the exclusion it declares between the points which it gives up and this territory, and that the terms ought to be understood thus, "we *detach* from the country of Coringot

nair, to make over to the French, the points called Fort St. George and the Great and Small Calayes, just as they stand, with their dependencies on the 1st January 1792."

Thus all is explained in a fair and satisfactory manner, and the importance of the word detached is seen.

I do not think that this explanation of the word can be disputed, for the points in question cannot be detached from anything else except the territory of Coringot nair, where they are situated. To say that they are detached one from the other would be contrary to their actual position, since they are limited by each other, and that would not prevent the confounding of their boundaries, their belonging to us as a whole, nor consequently alter the situation.

In vain, in my opinion, can it be sought to prove that by these words the summits of hills to the exclusion of their other parts and dependencies is to be understood ; for nothing in the despatch above alluded to, which, remark well, is that which has conceded to us the right, can, I conceive, bear such an interpretation, and it ought necessarily to have mentioned whether such had been the intention of the statesman, and not that our claims were acknowledged to the detached points called *the Fort St. George* and the Great and Small Calayes, but also that they were admitted only in respect to the upper surface formerly occupied by our fortifications or the summits of these points.

But should it be insisted that the point detached from Fort St. George is designed for fortifications—

Although I do not understand how the sites for fortifications can be said to be detached from hills where they are found, this interpretation would be plausible enough if the words the Great and the Small Calayes which follow did not render it impossible. In effect, the despatch before us says also, "the points detached, the Great and the Small Calayes," it makes no mention in respect to them of fortifications but describes them as entire, and gives them the only name by which they are known. Now if this admission be made in respect to the Great and the Small Calayes —points relatively of less importance at the time of our occupation, and where we had fewer fortifications—it evidently exists alike in reference to the green hill or the Fort St. George and the dependencies of all these points ; and which is most satisfactorily proved by the fact that the Great and the Small Calayes occupy each one of the extremities opposite the green hill or the Fort St. George, and that these three points naturally communicate between them and form parts of the same whole.

Besides, in the foregoing hypothesis it would appear to me that the use should have followed the designation, which is nowhere made of the places or the part of the hills where these fortifications existed, of the word signifying retrenchment *from, part,* of any other followed by the designation (nominal) of these same elevations. Then can this extreme conclusion, I candidly ask, which would detach an inaccessible portion of the hills to give it to us, be drawn from the words of the despatch of Lord Aberdeen, and is it not evident, on the contrary, that such an opinion would be opposed even to the spirit that presided on the occasion, which, while it refuses to surrender to France the territory of Coringot nair, desires nevertheless to give her the satisfaction of rendering her claims to the three points in question no longer doubtful ?

In this spirit, can one seriously regard as a satisfaction the restoration now offered of the barren summits, useless and valueless, of these points, the importance of which besides—at the present time that wars in India are no longer probable between the two nations—is in the junction which they effect between Mahé and its villages, in giving us the two sides of the river and the unbroken slip of territory necessary to the well-being of our population, who already suffer more than one vexation on the part of the agents of your customs, as you have with a feeling that does honour to you very well shown in your memoir dated the 21st December 1848 ?

To regard that part of the restoration as confined to the naked summits of the three hills appears to me, I must confess, to be going too far, and there would moreover seem to me to be a contradiction in giving the signification of the upper and in withholding that of the lower part, which I consider to be undoubtedly the continuation, as also its dependencies. This last signification will be even more obvious in speaking of fortifications only, for there can be no doubt that a road such as I have

seen it in old plans led from Fort St. George to its base and communicated with the edge of the river at about 150 toises* to the east, with a battery or redoubt commanding the passage, and of which the ruins probably still exist.

* A French measure of 6 feet, answering to the English fathom.—*Translator.*

Besides, not to admit our claims to that signification would be, I think, to assert what is impossible; for instance, to go back to the time of war and disturbance when France had established a line of fortification which, leading from the sea and from Codoty, bordered upon the foot of the Great Calaye and by the green hill or the Fort St. George to the Small Calaye and to the river, she did not render herself absolutely and indisputably mistress of the territory occupied with her cannon, and of all its dependencies and that, too, when her possessions were of *vital* importance to her in securing to her the points which commanded Mahé as indispensably necessary to the purposes of war, and could alone secure to her the free passage of the river and the uninterrupted communication with its villages of Pallour, Chambara, Chalacara and of Pandaguel, also with the posts and fortifications everywhere found, and of which some ruins still exist, as that of the redoubt borne upon the plan which you did me the honour to communicate to me the 28th December last, would prove.

You appear to think, Sir, that Mr. Pujol has understood, like yourself, that it would be required only to make over to us the summits of three hills; I can assure you that in this respect you are in error, Mr. Pujol having written to me in quite a different sense. Besides, what I have said above appears to me to explain clearly the meaning of the expressions he has employed in regard to Lord Aberdeen; and when speaking of ravanahs, the Commissary of the French Republic dwells upon the passage of our inhabitants over your territory, he has declared a fact easy to conceive. In effect, besides that we are always in India nearly surrounded by your possessions, the surface of the four villages which should be made over to us resembling an hour glass, that is to say having extremities sufficiently large and united by a long and narrow neck, if it happened, as has been foreseen of Pondicherry, that our inhabitants took a direct line in passing over your territory, to avoid a detour upon ours, they could in fact, in a case of need, provide themselves with a ravanah. Besides, even in supposing what is not the case, as I have just told you, that Mr. Pujol shared in your opinion in respect to the three detached points, the nomination of a French Commissioner on the spot sufficiently shows that his reports had been awaited in order to express a final judgment.

From what has been said, it appears to me to be hard not to admit the justice of our demands. The British Government has, moreover, a long time since, tacitly acknowledged one, in constantly sharing with us since the cession the right to the passage of the river which separates Mahé from the territory which is now known to belong to it upon the opposite shore.

But should fresh doubts be raised in this respect, the inspection of the places would entirely remove them; thus the lower slopes of the south-west side of the Great Calaye hill, which extend towards Tellicherry to about twelve paces beyond the shop of Condoté Paguerchy, also extend from that point towards the south-west gradually declining to the distance of a musket shot or two from the sea, the natural boundary in that direction, and thus necessarily become intersected by the road which leads from the ferry. From which it follows that that hill comprises all the Point and the grounds opposite Mahé upon the other side of the river adjacent to Codoty.

As for the surplus territory which we so justly claim, it is not only situated between Mahé and our villages, but they (the villages ?) have even between them such connecting points as are easy to be

† Translator.

the and de

en cannot be justly separated; thus, for example, the hill of Vera which you admit dis upon your plan as being within the limits of our villages is only three musket shots from the green hill or the Fort St. George, and that distance is occupied only by three grounds wrought in their mingled bases; the distance of the hills from one summit to the other—sides opposed to each other and intermediate pace measured—is only 1,890 feet or thereabouts. Besides, the hills of the Great and Small Calayes, of Fort

St. George, of Vera, Poitara and of Ayapen, follow each other in a manner without interruption, and form a group which ought necessarily to comprise the territories which surround or which are enclosed.

So that our boundaries ought to be—

(1) In the south following a direct line drawn in continuation of that which bounds us to the north of Vera Common, and which passing at W.N.W. intersects the road to Tellicherry at twelve paces from the shop of Condoté Paguerchy would place the little building upon our side, and would terminate at the sea below Codoty.

(2) In the N.N.E. from a line leading from the river to the little Ponceau, the first limit of Peringady which is situated upon the other side of the stream or Tandide Calaye and leading from that to the north to end at our boundaries at Ayapen.

As regards the four villages themselves, I have to observe, Sir, that the plan which you did me the honour to communicate to me excludes the nine grounds which appear to me to belong to us.

Here is the note:—

1st Poutinpora Parambou. 2nd. Connaté Parambou. 3rd. Ponatin Candy Tarjy Parambou. 4th. Banatanvillité Mitiley Tarjy Parambou. 5th. Ajary Parambou. 6th. Eddavalaté Parambou. 7th. Moddatel Parambou. 8th. Coillote Parambou. 9th. Corinddavaddaté Parambou.	These nine grounds are dependencies of the hill of Chambara.
The ground of Potton Colon, formerly dependency of Pandakel. The ground Ticracave Parambou which appears to belong to the district of Pallour. The ground Balle Parambou which appears to belong to the same district.	These grounds at present belong to the district of Kalaye.
1st. Tarize Parambou. 2nd. Tegue Pondividdon Parambou. 3rd. Pondiaviddon Parambou. 4th. Chaddin Viddon Parambou. 5th. Chaddin Vaddagnel Tarize Parambou. 6th. Pilacanddy Parambou.	Belonging to the district of Palour, included at present in that of Calaye.

And finally another ground called Cheria Collatil Parambou, being given up to Pallour.

In fine, Sir, as I had the honour to tell you by my letter of the 30th December last, No. 5, the evident intention which you know that for a long time your Hon'ble Government has had of permitting the free cultivation of tobacco in Malabar, promises for a future day doubtless not distant, with the spirit of the time, the disappearance of smuggling of which you complain, and in the meanwhile the good understanding which exists between the Governments cannot fail to bring about the arrangements possible in that respect, and which, considering the little importance of the territory conceded, will doubtless be sufficient to prevent any serious damages to your interests. Besides, so far as I am concerned, I will do what will lie in my power to anticipate the exigencies of your service within the limits which are assigned to me. In this sense, and in expecting a more complete consideration, I think, at first sight, that the new system which you propose may have great efficacy in stopping the smuggling of tobacco, since it leaves in general no inducement to make it and besides imposes no fresh burden upon the inhabitants. It remains now to be seen whether a measure, similar or analagous, be in accordance with our laws.

There is then, in my judgment, every motive for the claims of France, not only to the four villages, but even to the three hills and to all their dependencies, as also to the possession which they include of the two banks of the river and the ferries, being no longer doubted; these claims appear to me, in fact, to be admitted even by the concession of Lord Aberdeen, and I have no doubt that the Hon'ble Government which you represent is of the same opinion.

In the apprehension (and as I have no power to act authoritatively in the business confided to me) that the acceptance, at the present time, of the four villages

which you have proposed to me might, without waiting for what will be resolved in respect to the other points, interfere with the determination of my Government, I have the honour to conclude the foregoing observations which it was expedient to offer in this communication by informing you that I am about to refer the question to it.

In conclusion, whatever may be the decision on the part of our Governments in regard to the respective interests which are entrusted to us, I would not close this letter without felicitating myself upon the communications which I had the honour to have with you, and in which you have assisted me in maintaining that spirit of good understanding which renders them easy and kind, and which are worthy the functionaries of two great nations like those to which we belong.

No. 14. The Right Honourable the Governor in Council observes that under date the 3rd September 1847 the Collector of Malabar had called upon the Civil Engineer of the 7th Division to take early measures for preparing maps, defining the boundaries of the villages to be interchanged between the British and French authorities, which maps do not appear to have been forwarded to Government. It is, therefore, desired that they may be furnished, at an early date, jointly, if practicable, with those of the French Chief at Mahé or, if not, separately.

The Collector of Malabar will be pleased to request Mr. Chatfield to submit to Government, as early as practicable, the report promised in his letter to the French Chief at Mahé, dated the 2nd January 1849.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. THOMAS,
Chief Secretary.

Copy to the Collector of Malabar.
„ to Government of India, 26th April 1853.

E.M.C., No. 57, dated 5th February 1849.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

No. 57.

To

HIS EXCELLENCY MONS. DE LALANDE DECALAN,
Governor of the French Establishments in India,
&c., &c., &c.

SIR,

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter of the 16th ultimo, and, in reply, beg to inform you that the subject thereof will be referred, as early as practicable, for the consideration of the Home authorities.

I beg in the mean time to request your Excellency will be pleased to favour me with a sketch map embracing the points and localities particularly adverted to in your Excellency's communication, either distinctly and separately or jointly drawn out by the French and British Commissioners.

Accept, Sir, the assurance of the high consideration with which

I have the honour to be, &c.,

FORT ST. GEORGE,
5th February 1849.

(Signed) HENRY POTTINGER.

Copy sent to Government of India, 26th April 1853.

E.M.C., No. 148, dated 20th March 1849.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, No. 148, dated 20th March 1849.

READ—the following :—

From H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to J. F. THOMAS, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Calicut, 24th February 1849, No. 4.

I have the honour to forward, for the information of Government, a copy of Mr. Chatfield's report * on the Mahé question alluded in the last paragraph of the Minutes of Consultation under date the 5th instant. The report, it will be seen, is dated the 10th January, but I may explain that it had to be slightly modified, and only came to me eventually a day or two ago.

* Dated 10th January 1849.

2. Mr. Chatfield, after perusing the communication from Government to which I am now replying, has thought it well to write a further † letter, recapitulatory of the subjects treated of in his correspondence with Mr. Hayes, the French Commissioner at Mahé.

† Dated 10th instant.

3. The question at issue is simply this. What meaning is to be attached to Lord Aberdeen's instructions, as conveyed in his Minute under date 1st July 1846, that the French are to have ceded to them the "three detached points" or "posts" (the words are used indifferently by Lord Aberdeen) " of Fort St. George, Great Calaye and Little Calaye " in addition to four villages separately specified.

Is Mr. Chatfield correct in his belief that the meaning is that these points are nothing but three detached ‡ military positions which, as they overlook and command Mahé, it was a point of honour with the French to obtain possession of, or is Mr. Hayes correct in *his* belief that it means not only these military outworks, but also all their "dependencies", a term by which he includes a tract of country yielding a yearly revenue of Rs. 780, and the half of a river yielding from ferry tolls Rs. 650 a year more, total Rs. 1,430 per annum?

‡ Detached from Mahé ; detached from each other—*vide* Map.

The total ferry tax is Rs. 1,305, of which the French have a moiety.

4. That Mr. Chatfield is right in *his* construction of the instructions of the Home Government (the only point I presume that is now to be discussed) is a matter on which I have no doubt.

5. That the term "points" (or posts) would more naturally favour Mr. Chatfield's view than his own, is evidently felt by Mr. Hayes when he thinks it necessary to add to it the word "dependencies" in order to defend his own view.

6. An exactly similar word "dependencies" was used by the French in 179[illegible] as regards these very "points," but the expression was vigorously resisted by the British parties in authority at that time as being one quite unauthorized. For the details of this occurrence I beg to refer to the Commissioner's report under date the 10th July 1828, paragraph 138.

7. Lord Aberdeen's minute § is evidently grounded on this report and it will tend to elucidate the subject that I quote here the opinion of the Commissioners, as to what was meant by these "three points":—

§ Dated 1st July 1846.

8. " With respect to Fort St. George, and Great and Little Calaye, which though situated in the Coringotte district, are specifically and separately claimed, there can be no doubt that on the two first of these places at least you " (they are addressing the French Commissioners) "formerly had redoubts or military posts, as we took and subsequently restored them on two successive occasions. We have no reason either to call in question that you occupied them under a grant or by the permission of the

Coringotte Nair, though we meet with no direct information to this effect in any of the papers that have fallen under our notice. These hills are within two or three hundred toises of Mahé itself on the opposite side of the river, and the possession of them was indispensably necessary in a military point of view to the defence of that place; as the elevation of the centre one La' Montague verte (or Fort St. George) is stated in Mr. Larcher's report to General Malartie to be 27 toises, while the highest point of Mahé, which was Fort Dauphin, was only 15."

"We are however led to believe by the whole tenor of the information we have obtained in regard to the Coringotte district, that you never possessed more than the mere ground on the summit of the hills which was covered by the military works constructed on them, and that no portion of the adjoining territory however small had ever been conceded to you by the Nair"—and after some further detail confirmatory of these positions they add the expressions of their decided judgment—"that the French had not actual occupation of Fort St. George or Great and Little Calaye on the 1st of January 1792, and that at no period of time had they ever possessed them otherwise than as mere advanced posts of an exclusively military nature."

9. Monsr. de Lalande de Calan has apparently not seen Lord Aberdeen's minute, or he would hardly have used such an inappropriate term as that of "territories" in treating of the posts in question.

Vide his letter, dated 16th January 1849.

10. To any part of the Coringotte "territory" properly so called, the French, as asserted by Lord Aberdeen, on the admission of their own Governor Monsr. deMelay, have no right whatever. Now the portion claimed by Mr. Hayes is not only a considerable but a valuable portion of this said territory—its rental, as I have shown in the commencement of this letter, being not less than Rs. 1,430 per annum.

Lord Aberdeen's minute, paragraph 9.

11. The cession of the tract now requested by the French authorities would, as Mr. Chatfield remarks, be productive of great loss and inconvenience to us.

12. In the first place, we should have to remodel, and very largely increase, our establishment for the prevention of smuggling.

The precincts of Mahé are at present $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles, and as we have the command of half of the river through which foreign tobacco finds its way into the French territory from the sea, we are able by having chokies within hail of each other all round the French border, to check in some measure at least its introduction into our limits. But if we lose this half of the river and the French precincts are increased in an unbroken line from 2 to about 12 miles, it is evident that the difficulty of repressing smuggling will be enormously increased. A cordon of peons for 2 miles costs Rs. 124. A cordon for 12 miles would cost Rs. 744 per mensem.

Exclusive of the seabord.

13. Accession of this territory would lead also, I imagine, to an immediate loss of about Rs. 45,000 being the arrears of receipts obtained by us since the year 1817 from its possession. If we are to refund what we have received for the last 32 years from one part of what is given up, the four villages, we should naturally refund for the other.

14. But I feel confident that such heavy sacrifices were never intended when Lord Aberdeen resolved, more as a matter of favour than of justice, to cede to the French Government the "detached points" or "posts" of Fort St. George, Great Calaye and Little Calaye. Had it been so, some specification would doubtless have been made of them, as was made in the case "of the arrears of the net revenue of the four villages" ordered to be restored.

Lord Aberdeen's minute, paragraph 5.

15. It is with regret that I find that the French authorities show but little inclination to respond to the hope expressed by Lord Aberdeen that the cession of the four Aldees (or villages)—a cession which his Lordship remarks must inevitably have the consequence of increasing the facility of smuggling—"may induce the French

Paragraph 6.

Note.—Not, let it be remarked, of the 3 points.

Government to unite in the arrangements which are necessary for the mutual advantage of the two Governments, and by which alone a kind and friendly feeling can be maintained between their respective servants."

16. Monsr. Pujol, the late Governor of Pondicherry, thought that Lord Aberdeen had written in this manner from a want of knowledge of the localities, and that as the territory to be ceded was at a distance from the shore of the sea, "*eloignees du rivage de la mer*" there could be little fear of an increase of smuggling. Mr. Chatfield has shown in his letter of the 2nd January last, that this admission of Monsr. Pujol speaks volumes as to the meaning which *he* attached to the "three points" at the time of writing it that he certainly did not think with Mr. Hayes that they embraced any part of the line of coast.

Vide his letter, 23rd August 1847, paragraph 13.

17. I allude to Monsr. Pujol's words to show that Lord Aberdeen was not so mistaken as he supposes. The cession of the four villages will inevitably give an extra facility to smuggling. At present the contraband tobacco is always liable to seizure even if it has escaped our preventive peons on the border as the surrounding country is all English, and any official may lay his hands on it; but the possession by the French of a long slip of ground like that embraced by the four villages will greatly alter the state of the case. The distance between Mahé and the nearest point of the four villages is a mere trifle, and once over that, the tobacco may be stored for smuggling into the Company's territories in any of the unprotected points to be found in the twelve miles of frontier which the four villages embrace. Some extra security therefore is certainly urgently required and I can see no easier method to obtain it, none less liable to hurt the feelings of the French authorities, than what has been proposed by Mr. Chatfield and myself, viz., that the system under which they derive their supply of tobacco for the use of their subjects should be assimilated to that under which they at present derive their supply of salt—we to furnish them at the wholesale price with whatever quantity is required for their people, which they will sell in retail at prices similar to those which obtain among ourselves. The wholesale price being Rs. 35 and the retail Rs. 175 this plan would be as profitable, comparatively, to the French, as it is to ourselves and as a great portion of their subjects (those embraced by the four villages now to be ceded) have always been liable to pay the higher rate, the annoyance to be felt by the increase of price to the consumer will be limited to a few, *i.e.*, to the residents of Mahé proper.

18. Mr. Hayes, it will be seen, declines much argument on the subject, and suggests that its necessity be obviated by the British Government doing away with their tobacco monopoly generally.

19. I forward various maps showing the position of the territories and points treated of in this letter.

Memorandum of maps forwarded.

Boundary survey attested by Major Cotton, Mr. Chatfield and Mr. Hayes.	1
Copy of do. do do.	1
Sketch by Assistant Revenue Surveyor Shedden showing in detail the points at present in dispute between the English and French Commissioners ..	1
Old maps relating to the French territories lately received from the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, Cuddalore, and which may possibly be required for reference	5
Total maps ..	8

ENCLOSURES.

From R. CHATFIELD, Esq., Sub-Collector of Malabar, to the Collector of Malabar, dated Tellicherry, 10th January 1849.

I have the honour to forward Monsieur Hayes' last letter, No. 6, under date the 8th instant, containing his views of what is meant by "the three detached points." From this you will perceive that a large and very important tract of territory is claimed, commencing from the entrance of the river, running east beyond our Custom

House at Callye, from thence stretching north until the land joins Naaltarra for the four villages and proceeding west and by south down to the sea on the Mahé side of the old battery of Condotty Comchy. This claim seems to me preposterous, since the Home Government, on the report of the Commissioners of 1828, declare the French have no claim to any of the lands of the late Coringote Nair, and as a matter of courtesy can merely claim the three points where they formerly had an outwork and two small fortresses, without the least control over an iota of the adjoining cultivated lands. Should this unreasonable claim be seriously pressed, a fair opportunity will be opened for our bringing forward the incontestible claims of the British Government, as successors to the rights of the Cartenaad Rajah, to have a Custom House at Mahé, and to the collections and taxes which until Mahé was captured by us had always been regularly levied by the servants of the Rajah, who was acknowledged by the French to be the proprietor of the soil. I shall forward you a map containing my ideas of what was meant by the three points with the claims now made by Monsieur Hayes.

As you have long since advocated, I believe, a modification of the tobacco monopoly, it is unnecessary for me to repeat what everybody acquainted with Malabar has said regarding the great grievance and injury of that tax. I feel perfectly confident, if the abolition of the monopoly is at present impossible, that a great reduction might be made in prices without any reduction to the revenue. The inducement to smuggle is now excessive, and a reduction in the price of tobacco would not only destroy that inducement (for the difficulties of the transit are very great) but materially increase the consumption and turn the gangs of smugglers to seek a less precarious livelihood in legitimate commerce and the cultivation of waste lands. I doubt whether tobacco can be grown, as Monsieur Hayes thinks, with success in Malabar, but, if it could, a regulated tax on its production would have most beneficial results in opening a fresh source of trade and industry.

Regarding the gardens and fields which Monsieur Hayes supposes formerly belonged to Naaltarra (the once Mahé Hobly), I have reason to think he writes on the report of inhabitants just beyond the boundaries and who are desirous of participating in the benefits expected to arise from a free trade and consumption of tobacco.

From Monsieur J. HAYES, Chef de Service, Mahé, to the Sub-Collector of Malabar, dated 5th January 1849, No. 6.

From R. CHATFIELD, Esq., Sub-Collector, to the Collector of Malabar, dated Cannanore, 10th February 1849.

I have the honour to return the "Extract from the Minutes of Consultation under date the 5th February 1849" regarding the cession of 4 villages and 3 detached points to the French.

My "report" is in the letters already communicated to you. To clear up any doubts, I will recapitulate.

Mr. Hayes and I differ in our opinion regarding the meaning and extent of territory included under the term of 3 detached points. Mr. Hayes thinks that the entire hills, with the adjoining river, fields, and gardens is meant; I cannot understand more than 3 military positions once occupied and fortified by the French. That they are resigned in courtesy and not as a matter of right is clear, since the Home Government expressly declare that the French claim to Coringot Nair's possessions (in which the forts stand) cannot for an instant be entertained; and the Commissioners of 1828 explicitly state that the French never had any control beyond the limits of their outworks. On this report of the Commissioners the British Minister formed his decided opinion.

Pending a reference on the meaning of the terms "3 detached points" I tendered the 4 villages (regarding which there is no dispute) to Mr. Hayes' acceptance, but he declined to receive them without the 3 points and their "dependencies" as understood by him.

Mr. deCalan repeats, after Mr. Hayes, the train of argument which was so triumphantly refuted by the Commissioners of 1828, and as it was merely my duty to *restore* what the British Government offered, and the French Government in Europe had accepted, I declined entering into a long and useless, because irrelevant, discussion, regarding the supposed claim of 1792. Mr. deCalan states in his letter of the 16th ultimo to the Madras Government that, in addition to the 4 villages, the British Government sanctioned the restoration of "les territoires connues sous le nom de Fort St. George, Grand et petit Calye," but it will be apparent, on perusing Lord Aberdeen's minute, that the British Government never sanctioned any thing of the kind, but simply recognized as a matter of *courtesy*, their claim to the 3 detached points of Fort St. George, the Great and Little Calaye.

The matter is one of vital importance to our interests in Malabar, as the possession of the river, of the ferry and the custom house will leave it open to every species of illicit trade, cut off our direct communication along the coast, offer a sure retreat from the law, and entail a yearly loss of no trivial amount of revenue. Surely, if it had been intended to cede more than the barren fortifications, some mention would have been made of the revenue arising from the ferry and extensively cultivated grounds, and, I have no doubt, if any departure is made from the strict letter of our instructions, that a long amount of arrears will be claimed as soon as the French are put in possession of these "dependencies." Their *right*, I repeat because it is most necessary to remember, has been denied, and I cannot be induced to imagine, that the British Minister would injure our position in Malabar for *mere courtesy*. It *was* an act of graciousness to resign positions which overlook Mahé and had once been occupied by the French; but, to yield territories to our own particular loss would be more than an act of graciousness, and was, therefore, never contemplated by Lord Aberdeen or expected by Count Jarnac.

No. 10.

MAHE,
ce 22 *Fevrier* 1849.

MONSIEUR,

J'ai l'honneur de vous retourner le plan signé par Monsieur l'Ingénieur Cotton le 9 du mois dernier à Ootacamund et que vous m'avez adressé avec votre lettre du 16 de ce mois.

En m'invitant, Monsieur, à signer ce plan si je le trouve correct vous indiquez au crayon sur le plan même le lieu où nous devons tous deux opposer nos signature.

J'ai le plaisir de me rendre à votre désir en spécifiant toute fois que comme la figure des quatre illages de Palour, de Chalekara, de Chambara et de Pandaquel fait suite à celle des montagnes du Grand Calaye, du Fort St. George et du Petit Calaye et que les dix-neuf terrains que j'ai reclamés par ma lettre du 9 Janvier 1849, No. 6, ne m'y paraissent point portés, je fais toutes reserves à cet égard ainsi que pour tous onblis ou omissions qui pourraient exister au préjudice de mon gouvernement.

Recevez, Monsieur, l'assurance de ma considération trés distinguée.

Le Chéf du Service,
Commissaire Français.
(Signed) JN. HAYES,

Á Monsieur R. Chatfield, Sous-Collecteur de Malabar,
Commissaire du Governement Anglais à Tellicherry.
Returning the map of the four villages to be ceded to the French duly signed.

ORDER—No. 148, Political, dated 20th March 1849.

Ordered to be brought to the notice of the Honourable the Court of Directors with the former papers on the subject.

(True Extract.)

J. F. THOMAS,
Chief Secretary.

Letter to the Honourable the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors, No. 2, dated 27th March 1849.

SECRET DEPARTMENT.

No. 2 of 1849.

To

THE HON'BLE THE SECRET COMMITTEE OF THE
HON'BLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS OF THE
EAST INDIA COMPANY.

HON'BLE SIRS,

With reference to our despatch of the 5th January last No. 1, we have the honour to submit the correspondence noted in the margin, from which Your Honourable Court will perceive that the Commissioners for the delivery to France of certain territory at Mahé, are at issue as to the meaning to be attached to Lord Aberdeen's instructions as conveyed in his minute of the 1st July 1846, regarding the "three detached points" or "posts" (the words are used indifferently by Lord Aberdeen) "of Fort St. George, Great Calay and Little Calay" to be ceded to the French in addition to four villages separately specified.

Nos. 2 and 6.
Political.
In Consultation, dated 6th February 1849, Nos. 13—15
In Consultation, dated 20th March 1849, Nos. 24 and 25.
See Secret Court's despatch, dated 3rd July 1846.

2. Mr. Chatfield, the English Commissioner, considers the meaning to be that these points are merely three detached military positions, which, as they overlook and command Mahé, it was a point of honour with the French to obtain possession of, while Mr. Hayes, the French Commissioner, believes that it means not only these military out-works, but also all their dependencies, a term by which he includes a tract of country yielding a revenue of Rs. 1,430 per annum.

3. We informed the Governor of the French Establishments in India that the subject would be referred for the consideration of the Home authorities, and in now doing so, we request your particular attention to Mr. Conolly's communication of the 24th February last, and to the Commissioner's report therein noticed, dated [illegible] 1828, which was submitted to Your Honourable Court with a despatch in the Foreign Department, dated the 21st October 1830, No. 3.

FORT. ST. GEORGE,
27*th March* 1849.

(Signed) HENRY POTTINGER.
(,,) G. H. F. BERKELEY.
(,,) DANIEL ELIOT.

P.S.—Since the foregoing was written, we have received a further communication from the Governor of the French Establishments in India on the subject, copy of which, with our President's reply, is herewith transmitted.

In Consultation, dated 13th April 1849, Nos. 14, 15.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
13*th April* 1849.

(Signed) HENRY POTTINGER.
(,,) G. H. F. BERKELEY.
(,,) HENRY DICKINSON.
(,,) DANIEL ELIOT.

E.M.C., Nos. 14—16, dated 13th April 1849.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, Nos. 14—16, dated 13th April 1849.

READ—the following:—

No. 14. From HIS EXCELLENCY MONS. DELALANDE DECALAN, Governor of the French Establishments in India, dated Pondicherry, 27th March 1849, No. 9.

Par lettre en date du 5 Février dernier, Votre Excellence m'informait qu'elle allait soumettre le plustôt qu'il lui serait possible, aux autorités métropolitaines, l'affaire rélative à la rétrocession des dépendances de Mahé. Elle me faisait connaître en même tems, qu'elle désirait avoir un plan comprenant les diverses localités mentionnées dans ma lettre du 16 Janvier 1849.

Depuis cette époque, M. le Commissaire français m'a rendu compte que le 22 Février dernier, il avait signé, sous toutes les réserves par lui faites dans la lettre adressée le même jour à M. le S. Collecteur Chatfield un plan revetu de la signature de M. l'Ingénieur Cotton. Ce plan, accompagné de toutes les observations de Mr. Hayes, a dû être communiqué à Votre Excellence. Je viens aujourd'hui la prier de vouloir bien me faire connaître la détermination à laquelle elle se sera arrêtée examen fait des réclamations de M. le Commissaire français afin que le cas échéant, je puisse aviser aux mesures à prendre.

Agreez, je vous prie, Monsieur le Gouverneur, l'assurance de la haute considération avec laquelle j'ai l'honneur d'être

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[*Translation.*]

By a letter under date the 5th February last, your Excellency informed me that you would submit, as early as possible, to the Chief authorities the question relative to the restoration of the dependencies of Mahé. Your Excellency gave me to understand, at the same time, that you desired to have a plan comprising the various localities mentioned in my letter of the 16th January 1849.

Since that period, the French Commissioner has informed me that on the 22nd February last he signed, under all the reservations made by him in the letter addressed the same day to Mr. Sub-Collector Chatfield, a plan bearing the signature of Mr. Engineer Cotton. This plan, with all the observations of Mr. Hayes, ought to have been communicated to your Excellency. I now solicit that you will inform me of the decision come to upon the examination of the reclamations of the French Commissioner, in order that the business being brought to a close, I may consult as to the measures to be taken.

Accept, Sir, the assurance of the high consideration with which

I have the honour to be, &c.

No. 15. To HIS EXCELLENCY MONS. DELALANDE DECALAN, Governor of the French Establishments in India, No. 186, dated 10th April 1849.

SIR,

Para. 1. I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's communication of the 27th ultimo, and, in reply, beg to inform you that Mr. Commissioner Hayes' observations and the plan alluded to by your Excellency have received the attention of this Government.

Your Excellency having stated in your communication of the 16th January last that it would be impossible for the French Government to accept the conditions of the English Commissioner, which appear to be those laid down by Lord Aberdeen in his minute of the 1st July 1846, a copy of which is forwarded, I could only refer the matter for the consideration of the Home authorities, to whom the whole of the correspondence, with the plan will be forwarded at the earliest opportunity.

I do myself the honour to enclose extract of a report from the Collector of Malabar, and to inform your Excellency that I fully concur in that officer's view of the subject.

Paragraphs 3 to 10 of report dated 24th February 1849.

Accept, Sir, the assurance of the high consideration with which

I have the honour to be, &c.,

(Signed) HENRY POTTINGER.

No. 16. To THE COLLECTOR OF MALABAR, No. 187, dated 10th April 1849.

SIR,

With reference to your communication of the 24th February last, I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to forward, for your information, transcripts of the papers noted in the margin and to inform you that the subject to which they refer is under despatch to the Honourable Court.

From the Governor of Pondicherry, dated 27th March 1849.
To the Governor of Pondicherry, dated 10th April 1849, No. 186.

(Signed) J. F. THOMAS,
Chief Secretary.

E.M.C., Nos. 16, 17, dated 22nd May 1849.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, dated 22nd May 1849, Nos. 16, 17.

READ—the following :—

No. 12.

PONDICHERY,
le 10 *Mai* 1849.

MONSIEUR LE GOUVERNEUR,

J'ai l'honneur d'accuser réception à votre Excellence de la lettre en date du 10 Avril dernier, par laquelle elle m'informe qu'elle va référer aux autorités métropolitaines de l'affaire concernant la rétrocession du territoire dépendant de Mahé. Il ne me reste plus, dès lors, qu'a m'adresser, de mon côté, à mon Gouvernement et c'est ce que je compte faire très prochainement.

Je ne crois pas devoir laisser passer sous silence l'observation contenue au p. 9 de la lettre de Monsieur le Collecteur du Malabar, en date du 24 février 1849, [illegible] Votre Excellence m'a transmis un extrait. *Monsieur de Lalande de Calan* n'ignorait pas les termes des instructions de Lord Aberdeen; mais avant tout, il devait se conformer aux ordres de son Gouvernement, et il ne s'est nullement cru lié par des expressions que viennent contredire des faits avérés et l'état des lieux.

Quant au reste de l'argumentation de Monsieur le Collecteur du Malabar, ce n'est que la répétition des motifs allégués au Commissaire français et que celui-ci a réfutés. Je n'y reviendrai donc point.

Agréez, Monsieur le Gouverneur, l'assurance de la très haute considération avec laquelle j'ai l'honneur d'être

De Votre Excellence,

Le très humble et très obéissant serviteur,
Le Gouverneur des Etablissemens français dans l'Inde,

DE LALANDE DE CALAN.

A Son Excellence le Très Honorable Gouverneur de la Présidence du Fort St. George à Madras.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

J. F. THOMAS,
Chief Secretary.

E.M.C., No. 5, dated 10th September 1849.

SECRET DEPARTMENT.

No. 5.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, dated 10th September 1849.

The Board proceed to pass orders on the following despatch from the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated 13th July 1849.

From the Honourable the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors, to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, Fort St. George, dated East India House, London, 13th July 1849, No. 1380.

You have referred, for the decision of the Home authorities, the question, whether, in the restoration to the French Government of the dependencies of Mahé, any territory yielding revenue is to be considered as belonging to Fort St. George and the Great and Little Calaye.

2. After communication with Her Majesty's Government, we have no hesitation in answering this question in the negative.

3. In all the correspondence which has taken place on this subject, the authorized restorations have been considered as comprising four villages yielding revenue, and three (the three above named) forts or military outposts "of no territorial value." If these words were not used in the letter of Lord Aberdeen, their sense was clearly implied in the words "detached points," applied to those three forts.

Ordered that a copy of this despatch be forwarded to the Collector of Malabar and to the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department and that the following letter be despatched.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. THOMAS,
Chief Secretary.

No. 6.

To

H.E. M. DESALANDE DECALAN,
Governor of the French Establishments in India.

SIR,

I do myself the honour to inform your Excellency that the Honourable the Court of Directors, in communication with Her Majesty's Government, have negatived the claim advanced by the French authority in India, to the territory in the vicinity of Mahé, adjacent to Fort St. George and the Great and Little Calaye, adverted to in your Excellency's letter of the 10th May last. As it appears obvious to the Home Government that this territory yielding revenue is expressly excluded by the terms military outposts "of no territorial value," and that this is clearly implied in the language used by Lord Aberdeen, viz., "three detached points."

Accept, Sir, the assurance of the high consideration with which

I have the honour to be, &c.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
10*th September* 1849.

(Signed) H. POTTINGER.

E.M.C., No. 8, dated 25th September 1849.

SECRET DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, No. 8, dated 25th September 1849.

READ—the following :—

From H. DE SALANDEDE CALAN, Governor of the French Establishments in India, to His Excellency the Right Honourable Governor of the Presidency of Fort St. George at Madras, dated Pondicherry, 14th September 1849.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant. As soon as my Government will have notified to me the decision come to on the subject of our reclamation of the territory of Mahé, I shall lose no time in communicating the same to your Excellency.

Resolution—No. 8, dated 25th September 1849.

To be recorded.

E.M.C., Nos. 464, 465, dated 29th April 1853.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, Fort St. George, Nos. 464–65, dated 29th April 1853.

Received the following letter :—

From the Honourable the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors, to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, Fort St. George, dated London, 7th January 1853, No. 1535.

We transmit herewith copy of a letter from the President of the Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India, dated the 26th November 1852, with which is transmitted, for our consideration, copy of a letter from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and of its enclosure respecting the terms on which articles of consumption are imported by land from British territory into the French Settlements of Pondicherry, Karikal, Yanam and Mahé.

2. His Excellency the French Ambassador proposes that an arrangement which was made in the year 1819 between the Governments of Fort St. George and Pondicherry should, by a definitive act, be invested with the character and duration of a treaty.

3. The correspondence relative to the arrangement referred to by Count Walewski is recorded on your Foreign Consultations of the 10th April and 30th August 1819. We observe, however, that independently of any practice which might be agreed on between the two Governments the law affecting the levy of duties on goods passing by land into or out of Foreign European Settlements on the coast of the Madras Presidency is contained in Act VI of 1841 which declares that the rates to be levied shall be those prescribed for goods imported or exported on foreign battons at any British port by Act VI of 1848 the duty leviable on goods shipped on foreign battons has been equalized with that leviable on British battons.

4. As we are uncertain whether, under the Acts referred to, a change may not have been made in the mode of treating articles passing from British into French territory, we desire that you will ascertain the practice that at present exists in this respect, and that, before reporting the matter to us, you will submit the question to the Governor-General of India in Council with the view of obtaining the opinion of that authority as to the propriety of acceding to the suggestion of Count Walewski, East India House.

(Signed) J. W. HOGG.
(„) R. ELLICE

ENCLOSURE.

TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY, &c.

GENTLEMEN,

With reference to the correspondence which has passed as to French Settlement of Mahé in East Indies, I have the honour to transmit, for your consideration, a copy of a letter, dated the 19th instant, and of its enclosure, which I have received from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs respecting the terms on which articles of consumption are imported into Pondicherry, Karikal, Yanam and Mahé.

26th November 1852. (Signed) J. C. HARRIES.

TO HUGH STARK, ESQ., &c.

SIR,

I am directed by the Earl of Malmesbury to transmit to you a copy of a note from Count Walewski, the French Ambassador at this Court, proposing that an arrangement made in 1819 by the French and British authorities in India for the free importation of goods into Pondicherry, Karikal, Yanam and Mahé be confirmed by a treaty and be considered as a final settlement of the Mahé question, and with reference to Lord Palmerston's letter of the 20th of April 1850 enclosing a copy of a note addressed by His Lordship on the 8th of the same month to the French Ambassador on this subject, I am to request that you will move the Commissioner for the Affairs of India to take Count Walewski's note into consideration and to favor Lord Malmesbury with their decision upon His Excellency's proposition.

FOREIGN OFFICE, (Signed) H. M. ADDINGTON.
19th November 1852.

[*Translation.*]

HIS EXCELLENCY THE EARL OF MALMESBURY, &c.

RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR,

Your Excellency is not unaware that the territory of Mahé, situated on the Malabar Coast, was ceded to France by an article of the Treaty of Paris of 1814, but that that restoration which was effected by the Government of His Britannic Majesty in 1817 remains incomplete. After long negotiations a rule was determined upon on both sides on the 6th July 1846 to the effect that France, which moreover made an express reserve in respect to the points of claims which the Court of London did not judge sufficiently established, should enter upon the immediate possession of certain territories the weight (*sic*) which it was not disputed.

Some difficulties then arose as to the necessity of defining the exact limits of the ceded lands or concerning the payment of a debt of Rs. 80,000 lent in 1,775 by France to the Province of Coringott Nair.

In its desire to put an end to those difficulties and to arrive at a final settlement of these various questions my Government has endeavoured to find a basis of arrangement which should lead to settlement. Now in 1819 a sort of compromise which authorises the free introduction into the territories of Pondicherry, Karikal, Yanam and Mahé of articles necessary for the consumption of those places was entered into between the English and French authorities of India. That act has always been acknowledged and referred to on both sides.

I, therefore, propose for your Excellency to give to the arrangement of 1819 by a definitive act the character and permanence of a treaty. In the event of, as I hope, your Excellency being disposed to accept of my proposal, our two Governments will have to concest (*sic*) for transmitting fresh instructions to their respective agents in India.

(Signed) A. WALEWSKI.

No. 464.

1. With the above letter the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors transmit copy of a communication with its enclosures from the President of the Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India relative to a proposal made by His Excellency the French Ambassador to the effect that the arrangement which took place in the year 1819 between the French and English authorities in India relative to the free importation into the settlements of Pondicherry, Karikal, Yanam and Mahé of articles necessary for local consumption should, by a definitive Act, be invested with the character and duration of a treaty.

2. The Secret Committee desire that this Government will ascertain the practice which since the passing of Acts VI, 1844, and VI, 1848, has obtained in regard to the levy of duties on goods passing by land into or out of the French Settlements on the coasts of the Madras Presidency and that before reporting the matter to them the question be submitted to the Governor-General in Council with the view of obtaining the opinion of that authority as to the propriety of acceding to the suggestion of Count Walewski.

3. With respect to the arrangement "une sorte de compromis" referred to by Count Walewski as having been entered into between the French and English authorities in 1819, it is observed that in their letter of the 20th March 1819 the Count du Puy and Mr. Dayat made to the Government of Madras certain propositions of which some were admitted and others negatived, but without any convention or agreement being formally executed. The first of these proposals was that all articles intended for the consumption of the inhabitants of the French Settlements should be exempt from frontier duty. From another part of the letter it appeared that the articles here referred to were such as grain provisions (comestibles) native medicines and drugs (medicines at drogues pour les Malabars). In reply they were informed that the exemption thus sought was already in force.

To British Commissioner at Pondicherry, 30th August 1819.

4. Subsequently several applications, as shown in the annexed Précis, have been received from the French authorities requesting exemption from duty on certain goods passing into or out of their territories and certain concessions have from time to time been made to them. Recently or under date 28th February 1850 the Board of Revenue were called upon to review the nature of the trade carried on between the British and French possessions on the Malabar and Coramandel Coasts generally and to specify those imports and exports into and out of the Company's territory which might properly be relieved from frontier duties and those which should still remain subject to the tax. The Board furnished a report upon this question under date 30th January 1851 and at the same time submitted revised schedules containing those articles of import and export to which the levy of frontier duties might properly be confined, all others being allowed to pass free.

5. In submitting their schedules the Board of Revenue at the same time suggested, with reference to the French ports being free and the variations that might probably take place in the local trade, that the schedules should be revised periodically every five years, adding it is quite possible that many articles now of very slight traffic and therefore struck off from the list may in a short time become of more importance and *vice versâ* and it will be necessary to protect the import duties by not encouraging an undue advantage to merchants importing into this Presidency *viâ* Pondicherry and the other ports.

Paragraph 18.

6. The Madras Government expressed their concurrence in the views of the Board relative to the levy of customs duty on the French Frontier and recommended to the Government of India the adoption of the revised schedules which were sanctioned by that authority, 30th May 1851.

7. The proposal of His Excellency the French Ambassador is made in view to its furnishing a basis for settling the question at issue relative to the cession of the lands to be given over to the French in the vicinity of Mahé. It is seen from the correspondence noted in the margin that the negotiations for this purpose have for some time been suspended, because the French authorities claim a certain extent of land around the three detached points or posts of Fort George and the great and small Calaye mentioned in Lord Aberdeen's note of 1st July 1846, which claim the Court of Directors have, in reply to a reference made to them on the subject and after communicating with Her Majesty's Government, declared to be untenable. The decision of the Court has been made known (10th September 1849) to the Governor of Pondicherry, who, 14th September 1849, replied that, on receipt of advice from his own Government on the subject, he would communicate thereon with the Government of Madras, but nothing has since been heard from him.

From Secret Committee, 3rd July 1846.
Minutes of Consultation, 31st August 1846, No. 61.
From Special Agent at Cuddalore, 17th September 1847.
To the Government of India, 12th October 1847.
Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, 14th December 1848.
Extract Minutes of Consultation, 23rd December 1848.
From the Governor of Pondicherry, 16th January 1849.
Extract Minutes of Consultation, 5th February 1849.
From Collector of Malabar, 24th February 1849.
Order thereon, 20th March 1849.
From the Governor of Pondicherry, 10th May 1849.
From Secret Committee, 13th July 1849.
Board Resolution in Secret Committee, 10th September 1849.
To the Governor of Pondicherry, 10th September 1849.
From the Government of Pondicherry, 14th September 1849.

8. The Right Honourable the Governor in Council now resolves, in obedience to the commands of the Honourable Court, to communicate the circumstances above noticed to the Government of India and to add the expression of his opinion, that by the schedules sanctioned 30th May 1851 everything has been done to place the French settlements within the Madras Presidency on a most liberal and advantageous footing with advertence to their local commerce and that no further indulgence is required. For the reasons given by the Board of Revenue he does not think that any permanent engagement should be entered into and he cannot perceive that such a measure would tend to facilitate the settlement of the question relative to the Mahé cessions, inasmuch as the completion of that arrangement has been delayed, not from any consideration connected with the frontier tariff, but solely in consequence of the French authorities having advanced certain claims to territory which Her Majesty's Government and the Honourable the Court of Directors have ruled to be inadmissible.

Proceedings, 30th January 1851, paragraph 18.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
26th April 1853.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Secretary to Government.

No. 465.

To J. P. GRANT, ESQ., Secretary to the Government of India.

SIR,

I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to forward the accompanying copy of despatch from the Honourable the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated 7th January last, relative to a proposition made to Her Majesty's Government by His Excellency Count Walewski the French Ambassador in London as also an Extract Minutes of Consultation of this day's date containing the views of this Government upon the questions thus referred to them and copies of the principal papers bearing on the subject.

I have, &c.,

FORT ST. GEORGE,
26th April 1853.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Secretary to Government.

Despatch to the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors, No. 24, dated 16th May 1853.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

From T. PYCROFT, Esq., Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, to the Honourable the Secret Committee of the Honourable Court of Directors of the East India Company, dated 16th May 1853, No. 24 of 1853.

We have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Honourable Court's letter in the Secret Department, dated 7th January last, with a communication and its enclosures from the President of the Board of Commissioners for the affairs of India, relative to a proposal made by His Excellency the French Ambassador to the effect that the arrangement which took place between the French and English authorities in India relative to the free importation into the French Settlements of articles necessary for local consumption may be invested with the character and duration of a treaty.

We beg to submit in reply an Extract from the Minutes of Consultation of the date noted in the margin together with copy of a minute recorded by our President and of a précis to which allusion is therein made, and which will inform your Honourable Court of the proceedings adopted by us pursuant to the instructions conveyed in the despatch under acknowledgment. Your Honourable Court will observe that, under the circumstances detailed in these papers, we have conveyed to the Government of India "the expression of our opinion that every thing has been done to place the French Settlements within the Madras Presidency in a most liberal and advantageous footing with advertence to their local commerce and that no further indulgence is required." For the reasons previously given by the Board of Revenue one did not also think that any permanent engagement should be entered into, and we did not perceive that such a measure would tend to facilitate the settlement of the question relative to the Mahé cessions, inasmuch as the completion of that arrangement has been delayed not from any considerations connected with the frontier tariff, but solely in consequence of the French authorities having advanced certain claims to territory which Her Majesty's Government and your Honourable Court have ruled to be inadmissible.

Consultation, 29th April 1853, No. 28 to 30.

E.M.C. No. 875, 29th July 1853, and letter to the Government of India, No. 876, dated 29th July 1853.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation Nos. 875 and 876, dated 29th July 1853, Revenue Department.

READ—the following:—

From G. PLOWDEN, Esq., Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Separate Revenue), to the Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, dated 22nd June 1853, No. 508.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 465, dated the 26th of April last, submitting under instructions from the Honourable the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors, for the opinion of the Government of India, a proposition made to Her Majesty's Government by His Excellency Count Walewski, the French Ambassador in London, respecting a treaty for the free admission of articles of consumption into the French Settlements on the Malabar and Coromandal Coasts, as also an Extract Minutes of Consultation of the same date as your letter, containing the views of the Government of Fort St. George upon the question, and copies of the principal papers bearing on the subject.

2. In reply I am directed to communicate the following observations of the Most Noble the Governor-General of India in Council on the question.

3. The French Ambassador begins his address to Lord Malmesbury by referring to a difficulty which has arisen in executing an arrangement made in London, in 1846, for the delivery to the French of some of villages, &c., claimed by them, as belonging to their settlement of Mahé, on the Malabar Coast. He says that his Government is anxious to put an end to the questions connected with this difficulty. In this view, though the two subjects have no connection with each other, he refers to what he calls a sort of compromise, which he says was come to at Madras in 1819, whereby the free introduction, into the settlements aforesaid, of necessaries for local consumption, was authorized, and he proposes that the character and permanence of a treaty should be now given to that measure. He does not state to what this proposition, if it is agreed to, will lead; but the inference which to the Government of India seems intended to be drawn from the proposal is, that if it is agreed to, the Mahé questions will be given up by the French Government.

4. The first thing, therefore, to be considered is, what these Mahé questions or difficulties are.

5. They are referred to by the French Ambassador as having relation; first, to the exact demarcation of the boundaries of the ceded lands; and secondly, to the payment of a loan of eighty thousand rupees made by France in the year 1775 to the Province of Coringott Noir.

6. The Government of Fort St. George, I am directed to observe, do not notice this last question; and there is no mention whatever of the point, in the papers which accompanied your letter under acknowledgement. It formed no part of the territorial settlement proffered in 1846 by Lord Aberdeen, and accepted, under reservation, by the French Government. The territory of Coringotta, or "Coringot Noir," was, as the Government of Fort St. George is aware, a part of the land claimed by the French; but the English Government has finally pronounced its decision on this claim, to the effect, that it is perfectly clear that this territory was never in possession of France; and has formally declined to prolong the discussion respecting it. It is manifest that this point of an alleged loan is a mere nothing. Coringotta must have been a part of the dominions of Hyder Ali in 1775, and the Rajah of it must then have been one of the petty tributaries of that potentate, from whose son the British Government afterwards (in 1792) took all his Malabar Provinces by conquest and treaty of cession. The British Government cannot possibly be responsible for loans made to the local chief of any portions of Hyder's dominions in 1775.

7. From a perusal of the papers which formed enclosures to your letter, it appears that the first Mahé question or difficulty above-mentioned stands thus. The restoration of Mahé was an article of the Treaty of 1814 and was actually effected in 1817, when a claim to more land than was then transferred was left open for future settlement. The net revenue from four villages claimed was reserved, because of the probability of their eventual cession to the French. In 1846, after long investigations and discussions, Lord Aberdeen intimated to the French Government the final determination of his Government upon this question. That determination was to cede to the French, as a measure admittedly of justice, the four villages, with their accumulated revenues; to cede to them, not as a measure admittedly of justice, but as being a questionable matter on which the British Government would no longer continue the contest of argument, three detached points or posts, specified; and to deny definitively, as unquestionably untenable, the claim to the territory of Coringotta, at the same time declining to entertain further discussion regarding it. It is to be gathered, that some further correspondence passed in London, as it appears that Lord Palmerston entirely adhered to Lord Aberdeen's ultimatum; and in 1847 the English and French Governments in India, both under instructions from their Home Governments, took steps to execute the cession, as determined by Lord Aberdeen's note of 1846. But, as the French Commissioner in India, when it came to the marking out of limits, insisted that the cession of the "detached posts," mentioned by Lord Aberdeen, should be accompanied by the cession of a considerable tract of territory, yielding revenue, and joining the said posts with one another, and with Mahé itself, which could not, under their instructions be yielded by the British authorities, the delivery of the ceded lands did not take place, and references to Europe were made by both sides in 1849. It is to be inferred, however, though the French authorities

refused to take over the four villages, and the three detached posts offered, that the accumulated rents of the four villages (the only lands mentioned for cession which yield any territorial revenue) were accepted by them, pending the settlement of the new dispute. In reply to the reference from Madras, the Court of Directors, after communicating with Her Majesty's Government, decisively negatived this claim of the French authorities, and stated that the final determination of 1846 involved no cession of any revenue yielding land, except the four villages specified; and that no such land was ever contemplated when Lord Aberdeen agreed to cede the three detached posts. These posts appear to be ancient hill battery stations, alleged to have been at some time armed, and held by the French, before 1789, as military positions commanding the Fort of Mahé. But it is a settled point of fact with the Home Government as well as with the Indian Government, that the French never at any time possessed a profitable morsel of land, or drew revenue from any land, in that quarter, more than the present settlement of Mahé, and the four villages ordered to be ceded as above mentioned.

8. In this state the case has rested, since 1849; the French still declining to take the four villages, and the three detached posts, unless with the latter they get a large tract of revenue-yielding land, which will make the posts no longer detached, but will envelope them in one large undivided tract of revenue-yielding territory.

9. This being the position of the question, the Most Noble the Governor-General of India in Council observes that it is evident that the British Government have no reason to concern themselves with its settlement, though the French have. What may be ceded has been absolutely fixed; and it rests with the French to accept the cession, or to leave their claim unsatisfied. Their leaving their claim unsatisfied is no loss to the British Government but rather the contrary. Whenever they please they can take all that at any time will ever be yielded to them. It seems therefore to His Lordship in Council a mere piece of diplomatic finesse, to put forward, as a motive to induce the British Government to grant something else advantageous to them, a prospect of their consequently consenting to the execution of the resolution of 1846 in their favour, in the manner and form in which the British Government intended that resolution to be executed. Neither the question on which that resolution was taken, nor the precise method of executing that resolution, is any longer in the category of question to be bargained about, or even discussed. The question was not closed over hastily, it has occupied 29 years of enquiry and discussion; but now it is closed. Consequently, His Lordship in Council remarks, whether the French chose to take the benefit of the resolution in their favour, or not, is to the British Government indifferent.

10. The treaty as to customs duty, therefore, which the French Government asks the British Government to make in its favour, would be plainly, if a benefit to the French at all, a benefit without consideration.

11. The case of the Customs duty, His Lordship in Council observes, stands thus.

12. By law (Acts VI of 1844 and VI of 1848) imports into our territory from the French Coast Settlements, and exports from our territory into those settlements, are treated in respect to customs duty precisely as similar imports into and exports from our own territory, by sea, are treated. Goods entering or leaving our territory by one of these settlements, are liable to pay, by law, precisely what the same goods entering or leaving our territories, in a British ship from or for a foreign country, would pay.

13. It would be impossible, His Lordship in Council observes, for the French Government to set up a case of unfriendly treatment, by reason of this law, even if it were enforced to the letter. And the question arises, whether it would be reasonable, prudent or dignified, to bind the British Government *by treaty* to any thing more than this, when no equivalent, and nothing even that could stand as the show of our equivalent, is offered in return.

14. In practice, however, the treatment of these French Settlements is, it seems, very much more favourable than the law authorizes. They are all free ports; and it is therefore obviously impossible to remove the custom house lines from around them;

and to allow all exports and imports from and into the British territory, to pass these lines free of duty. But all articles necessary for the consumption of the settlements, whether staples of our customs revenue, or not, are allowed, by special order, to pass into these settlements free of duty; and a long list of articles, not necessary for the consumption of the settlements, on which the aggregate duty levied on the trade of each separate settlement was small, have been lately allowed, by special order, to pass free both into and out of these settlements, without enquiry whether they were imported by sea, or not, or whether they are intended to be exported by sea or not. In both these respects, the French Settlements are treated with a degree of favor which is not extended to our own Free Ports in the Straits, and elsewhere.

15. The resolution to allow necessaries for the consumption of the natives in these settlements to pass free of duty, was come to, it seems, by the Madras Government, in 1819; when the system of transit duties, and a much heavier tariff than the present export and import tariff, was in force. But the papers show that on that occasion there was nothing in the least resembling a compromise. Complaints were made by the French of the vexatious attendant on the practical enforcement of the transit duty by the lower officers of customs, and of the hardship to which their native subjects were exposed, by having to pay duty on the necessaries of life. The concession was made by the Madras Government, by more favor, and from pure motives of friendship; no claim of right was ever set up on the other side.

16. This is the measure, improperly called a sort of compromise, that the French Ambassador now asks to have clothed with the character and permanence of a treaty.

17. It is an incontestible position that if the law were enforced tomorrow, whereby the French Free Ports would be treated precisely as our own Free Ports are treated, they could have no just ground to complain of unfriendly treatment; and His Lordship in Council is of opinion that it would be an unwise proceeding on the part of the British Government, to deprive itself, without equivalent, of the right to enforce the law, whenever, owing to changes of trade, or other altered circumstances, it may think fit to do so.

18. The papers received with your letter under acknowledgment show that there has been on the part of the Indian Government from 1819 to 1851 nothing but a series of friendly and gratuitous concessions.

19. On the other hand, the same papers show that nothing has ever been done by the French Government, by way of concession to the British Government. It is well known that all the places in question are the strongholds of smugglers; and in some the customs duties fall far short of the cost of the customs establishment necessarily kept to collect the duties, but to check the smuggling of sea-borne goods. No disposition on the part of the French authorities to assist us in any arrangements that would alleviate this burden has been shown. Such proposals, with this object, as one mentioned in this correspondence to have been made by us, on either side of the Peninsula, have been wholly unsuccessful.

20. In this quarter of India, the repudiation, after years of apparent adoption, when an occasion offered of doing so to our inconvenience, of the formal agreement made between the Administrator of Chandernagore and the Bengal Government, determining by limits drawn much to the general territorial advantage of that settlement, a long unsettled boundary dispute, is fresh in His Lordship's recollection.

21. These circumstances raise the question whether any treaty whatever, for the advantage of the French Settlements in India, should now be acceded to, without securing some equivalent advantage for British India.

22. On the present subject, the opinion recorded by the Right Honourable the Governor of Madras in Council is as follows:—

"That by the schedules sanctioned, 30th May 1851, every thing has been done to place the French Settlements within the Madras Presidency in a most liberal and advantageous footing, with advertence to their local commerce, and that no further indulgence is required. For the reasons given by the Board of Revenue he does not think that any permanent engagement should be entered into, and he cannot perceive that such a measure would tend to facilitate the settlement of the question relative to the Mahé cessions, inasmuch as the completion of that arrangement has been

delayed, not from any considerations connected with the Frontier tariff, but solely in consequence of the French authorities having advanced certain claims to territory, which Her Majesty's Government and the Honourable the Court of Directors have ruled to be inadmissible."

23. In this view, the Most Noble the Governor-General of India in Council entirely concurs, and is accordingly of opinion that the treaty sought by the French Ambassador should not be assented to; at least not without some equivalent, none, as has been shown, having been, in fact, offered.

From E. MALTBY, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, dated Cuddalore, 15th July 1853, No. 901.

In reply to the memorandum from your office in the Political Department, dated the 12th instant, I have the honour to inform you that the sum of Rs. 83,433-3-3 ordered in Extract from Minutes of Consultation, dated 23rd December 1848, No. 613, to be disbursed to the French authorities on account of the revenues of certain villages in Malabar has not been paid to them.

2. On referring to the records I find that my predecessor Mr. Davis learnt * from the Collector of Malabar that the French Agent had refused to receive the villages in consequence of his advancing claims respecting their boundaries which were deemed unfounded and could not be complied with. Mr. Davis felt accordingly precluded from making the payment as his instructions were to disburse the amount after the transfer of the villages had been effected. He accordingly addressed a letter, of which I now enclose a copy, to the Governor of Pondicherry describing the difficulty which had arisen.

* Letter, dated 8th January 1849, with enclosures.

3. To the above letter no reply has been received and the subject remained in silence until the 21st February 1852, when His Excellency the present Governor addressed me a letter requesting me to obtain him information of the sum which had recently accumulated on account of the revenues of these villages. I accordingly procured a statement from the Collector of Malabar showing their net revenue from fasli 1258 to 1261 inclusive to be Rs. 11,271-9-6 and forwarded it to His Excellency on the 7th October last.

4. It appears that Mr. Davis did not report the delay in making the payment ordered in the Minutes of Consultation above referred to, because he was expecting a reply to his letter regarding the difficulty which had arisen about the boundaries from the French authorities and he had been informed * that the Collector of Malabar had transmitted direct to Government maps of the villages and other papers illustrating the point at issue.

* Letter from Collector of Malabar, to Special Agent, dated 28th February 1849.

ENCLOSURE.

From W. D. DAVIS, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to His Excellency the Governor of the French Establishments in India, dated Cuddalore, 20th January 1849.

I have the honour to inform your Excellency that Mr. Hayes, the Commissioner to the French Government, declines to receive from the British Commissioner the four villages and three points alluded to in a letter from this department, dated 5th October 1846, unless the base of the hills connecting the four villages and some extent of the river opposite Mahé are also made over to him, and that the transfer in question has in consequence been postponed.

Upon a most attentive examination of the voluminous papers connected with the subject, I am clearly of opinion that the three detached points called "Fort George" and the "Great and Small Calaye" ought only to be transferred to your Excellency's

Government in conformity with the decision of Her Majesty's Ministers communicated on the 1st July 1846, to the French Ambassador in London, they being merely three military positions consisting of the remains of a battery and fort on the hill called Great Calaye and a fort on the other hill called Little Calaye and not "three separate mountains or two hills and *their dependencies*" as held by Mr. Hayes, since the former denotes only the actual position of the fortifications while the latter includes a part of the territory of the Coringotto Nair, the claim of your Excellency's Government regarding which has already been examined and entirely denied by the British authorities. This view of the case appears to me to have been clearly understood by your Excellency's predecessor; for, in his letter of the 23rd August 1847, he states that the suppression of smuggling could not be difficult since the four villages *Sont eloignées du rivage de la mer enclavées dans les possessivus anglaises*, an assertion which could not have been made if the base of the hills connecting the four villages and some extent of the river opposite Mahé were to be ceded.

Under these circumstances I trust your Excellency will see fit to issue further instructions to Mr. Hayes to enable him to come to an understanding with the British Commissioner, and as Mr. Hayes has declined to receive the four villages in question although there was no difference of opinion regarding their limits, I must defer the payment of their revenue noticed in my letter to the French Treasurer of the 19th instant, till the receipt of your Excellency's reply.

After this difficulty is settled the tobacco question can be duly considered, and the Collector of Malabar will be prepared to allow to the French inhabitants a road through uncultivated land leading to the said four villages as also one to the detached points.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of Consultation, dated 29th July 1853, No. 875.

Ordered that the foregoing letters be forwarded to the Honourable Court of Directors in continuation of the letter, dated 16th May 1853, No. 24.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
29*th July* 1853.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Secretary to Government.

From T. PYCROFT, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, to the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, dated 29th July 1853, No. 867.

I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 508, dated 22nd June 1853, conveying the observations of the Most Noble the Governor-General on the proposition made to Her Majesty's Government by the French Ambassador in London respecting a treaty for the free admission of articles of consumption into the French Settlements on the Malabar and Coromandel Coasts, and to state that a copy of that communication will be forwarded to the Honourable Court in continuation of the previous correspondence by the next mail.

2. With reference to the remark in paragraph 7, as quoted in the margin, I have, however, to bring to the notice of the Government of India that it appears from a reference made to Mr. Maltby, the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, that the "accumulated rents" in question have not yet been disbursed to the French authorities. The circumstances under which the payment has been delayed are explained in Mr. Maltby's letter, a copy of which is enclosed. A copy will also be sent to the Honourable Court.

"It is to be inferred, however, though the French authorities refused to take over the four villages and the three detached posts offered, that the accumulated rents of the four villages (the only lands mentioned for cession which yield any territorial revenue) were accepted by them pending the settlement of the new dispute."
From the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, dated 15th July 1853, with enclosure.

Letter to the Honourable the Court of Directors in the Revenue Department, No. 46, dated 3rd August 1853.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 46.

To

THE HON'BLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY.

HON'BLE SIRS,

With reference to our letter in this department, dated 16th May 1853, No. 24, we have the honour to forward copy of a communication from the Government of India, dated 22nd June, on the subject of the proposition made to Her Majesty's Government by His Excellency Count Walewskei, the French Ambassador in London, respecting a treaty for the free admission of articles of consumption into the French Settlements on the Malabar and Coromandel Coasts.

2. Your Hon'ble Court will observe that the Most Noble the Governor-General of India in Council concurs entirely with this Government in their views that everything has been done to place the French Settlements on a most liberal and advantageous footing with advertence to their local commerce, that no further indulgence is required, nor would tend to facilitate the settlement of the question relative to the "Mahe Cessions", and is of opinion that the treaty sought by the French Ambassador should not be assented to, or at least not without some equivalent.

3. With reference to the observations of the Supreme Government in paragraph 6 of Mr. Officiating Secretary Plowden's letter of 22nd June last, we would remark that notice of the alleged loan made by the French to the Prince of Coringot Nair will be found in the letter addressed by the British to the French Commissioners under date 10th July 1828, forming an enclosure in the British Commissioner's letter to this Government of 28th December 1828, which was transmitted by us to your Hon'ble Court with our despatch in the Foreign Department, dated 21st October 1830, No. 3.

4. With advertence also to the remarks in paragraph 7 of Mr. Plowden's letter, as quoted in the margin, we would add that we find from a reference made to the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's department that the "accumulated rents" in question have not yet been disbursed to the French authorities. The circumstances under which the payment has been delayed are explained in Mr. Maltby's letter, a copy of which we have the honour to forward.

"It is to be inferred, however, though the French authorities refused to take over the four villages and the three detached posts offered, that the accumulated rents of the four villages (the only lands mentioned for cession which yield any territorial revenue) were accepted by them, pending the settlement of the new dispute."

We have the honour to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. POTTINGER.
(„) D. ELIOTT.
(„) J. F. THOMAS.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
3rd August 1853.

E.M.C., No. 314, dated 26th August 1853.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of Consultation, No. 314, dated 26th August 1853, Political Department.

Read—the following:—

From E. MALTBY, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Cuddalore, 18th August 1853, No. 385.

I have the honour to enclose copy of a letter, dated 12th instant, addressed to me by His Excellency Rear-Admiral de Verninac, the Governor of Pondicherry, regarding the four villages and three points in the neighbourhood of Mahé, which it was arranged should be transferred to the French Government.

2. In my letter to the Secretary to Government in the Political Department, dated 15th ultimo, I explained how the transfer had been delayed in consequence of the French Agent Monsieur Hayes declining to receive charge of the villages and points, unless certain concessions were made respecting their boundaries which could not be admitted.* The letter now addressed to me by His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry appears to show that the French Government have signified to Her Majesty's Ministers their acceptance of the boundaries as defined by the British Commissioner, and I request therefore to be informed whether I am authorised to state that the villages and points will in this case be surrendered to any Commissioner who may be nominated to receive them and that after the transfer has been effected the net revenue of the villages from 1816 to the present time will be paid to the Pondicherry Government.

* See letter No. 6 in Secret Department from the Madras Government to Governor of Pondicherry, dated 10th September 1849.

From Rear-Admiral VERNINAC, Governor of the French Establishments in India, to the Collector and Political Agent, South Arcot, dated Pondicherry, 12th August 1853.

Il y a déja bien long temps que le Gouvernement Français a fait connaître au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine d'Angleterre, qu'il acceptait, sur la côte du Malabar et autour de Mahé, la restitution des terrains reconnus nôtres par l'Honorable Compagnie, et délimités par ses propres Commissaires.

J' ai l' honneur de vous prier de me faire connaitre si le Gouvernement de l' Inde n'a reçu aucune notification touchant cette affaire qui traine depuis 36 ans et qui, depuis la même époque donne à votre collègue du Malabar l' embarras pénible de gérer pour notre compte, les quelques aldées qui nous appartiennent.

Je serais très heureux d' apprendre que son Excellence Monsieur Le Gouverneur Général est autorisé à nous faire la cession des sus dits terrains et trés heureux aussi de terminer immédiatement un litige qui n'a plus aujourd'hui la moindre raison d'être.

[*Translation.*]

From Rear-Admiral VERNINAC, Governor of the French Establishments in India, to the Collector of South Arcot, Special Agent for Foreign Powers, Cuddalore, dated Pondicherry, the 12th August 1853.

It is now a very long time since the French Government made known to the Government of Her Majesty the Queen of England that it accepted the restoration on the Malabar Coast and in the neighbourhood of Mahé of the territories recognized by the Honourable Company to be ours, and defined by its own Commissioners.

I have the honour to request that you will let me know if the Government of, India has received any notification touching this affair, which is pending since the last 36 years, and which has given to your colleague in Malabar, during that period. the painful trouble of managing, on our account, the several villages that belong to us

I shall be very happy to learn that His Excellency the Governor-General is authorised to surrender to us the above mentioned territories, and very happy also to immediately terminate a litigation which has now not the least reason to exist.

No. 314.

Ordered to be referred to the Revenue Department, where the previous letter from the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, dated 15th July last, was considered and disposed of.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
26th August 1853.

(Signed) H. C. MONTGOMERY,
Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department, with an enclosure and its translation.

E.M.C., No. 1053, dated 16th September 1853.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Extract from Minutes of Consultation, in the Revenue Department, under date the 16th September 1853, No. 1053.

READ—the following :—

No. 9.—Extract from Minutes of Consultation in the Political Department.

[Here enter No. 314, dated 26th August 1853.]

No. 10.—The Right Honourable the Governor in Council perceives no objection to the four villages in the vicinity of Mahé, viz., Paloor, Pandaguel, Chambana and Chalicara and the net revenue of those villages together with the three detached points or posts of Fort George and the Great and Little Calaye being made over to the French Government, on the understanding that the transfer as regards the three abovenamed points is confined to the points themselves and does not extend to any of the adjacent territory. Mr. Maltby will ascertain from His Excellency Admiral Verninac whether he is prepared to accept the four villages, and the three points as above limited, and if so will instruct the Collector of Malabar to make them over to any Agent whom the French Government may empower to take charge of them.

2. On the lands being transferred the Collector of South Arcot in charge of the Special Agent's Department will report, through the Board of Revenue, to Government the total amount payable to the French authorities on account of the revenue of the four villages, calculated to the date of transfer, when sanction will be given for the disbursement.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Secretary to Government.

To the Political Department.

E.M.C., No. 335, dated 17th September 1853.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

No. 335.

READ—the following :—

Extract from Minutes of Consultation, No. 1035, Revenue, dated 16th September 1853.

Extract from Minutes of Consultation, No. 335, dated 11th September 1853.

Ordered to be communicated to the Collector of South Arcot in charge of the Special Agent's Department, with reference to his letter of the 18th ultimo.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
17*th September* 1853.

(Signed) H. C. MONTGOMERY,
Chief Secretary

E.M.C., No. 90, dated 21st January 1854.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Extract from Minutes of Consultation, No. 90, dated 21st January 1854.

READ—the following :—

From W. H. BAYLEY, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort St. George, 19th January 1854, No. 21.

With reference to Extract from Minutes of Consultation, dated 16th September 1853, I am directed by the Board of Revenue to submit, for the information and orders

of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, the accompanying letter from the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, dated 26th December 1853,* reporting that the Collector of Malabar has made over to the French Government the four villages of Chalicara, Pandaguel, Paloor and Chambana, and the three detached points of Fort George, and the Great and Little Calaye in the vicinity of Mahé.

* In Consultation, dated 19th January 1854.

2. From the statement forwarded with Mr. Maltby's letter, it will be seen that the net revenue realized from the four villages since 1816–17 up to the date of their surrender is Rs. 97,648–5–9, and, as the Government have already in Extract from Minutes of Consultation of 12th January 1854 authorized the disbursement of Rupees 83,433–3–3 to the French authorities, the Board now recommend that sanction be granted for the remaining sum, viz., Rs. 14,215–2–6.

3. The above amount is exclusive of a small sum due for the first four months of the current fasli 1263, on account of abkári on the four villages included in the Nulletarak arrack contractor's lease and respecting which sum, the Collector promises to report hereafter.

No. 90.

The Right Honourable the Governor in Council grants authority for the disbursement of the sum still due on account of the net revenue of the villages in the vicinity of Mahé recently transferred to the French Government amounting to Rs. (14,215–2–6) fourteen thousand two hundred and fifteen, annas two and pies six.

2. The sum due on account of the abkári revenue of the above villages will be adjusted on the receipt of the promised report.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
21*st January* 1854.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
" Political Department.
" Accountant-General.
" Civil Auditor.

General letter to the Honourable the Court of Directors, No. 12, dated 17th March 1854.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

GENERAL letter to the Hon'ble the Court of Directors, dated 17th March 1854, No. 12.

* * * * *

12. Referring to paragraph 4 of our letter, dated 3rd August last, No. 46, we have the honour to forward the accompanying communication from the Collector of South Arcot in charge of the Special Agent's department giving cover to one to his address from His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry regarding the four villages and three points in the neighbourhood of Mahé, which it had been arranged should be transferred to the French Government and, under the circumstances therein signified, requesting to be informed whether he was authorized to state that the villages and points would be surrendered to any Commissioner who might be nominated to receive them, and that, after the transfer had been effected, the net revenue of the villages from 1816 to the present time would be paid to the Pondicherry Government.

Regarding the four villages and three points in the neighbourhood of Mahé which it was arranged should be transferred to the French Government.

Cons., 20th September 1853, Nos. 9 and 10.

13. We perceived no objection to the four villages in question, viz., Palour Pandaquel, Chambara and Chalicara, and the net revenue of those villages, together with the three detached points or posts of Fort George and the great and little Calaye being made over to the French Government on the understanding that the transfer as regards the three above-named points was confined to the points themselves and did not extend to any of the adjacent territory. We desired Mr. Maltby to ascertain from His Excellency Admiral Verninac whether he was prepared to accept the four villages and the three points as above limited and, if so, to instruct the Collector of Malabar to make them over to any agent whom the French Government might empower to take charge of them.

14. On the lands being transferred, we requested the Collector of South Arcot in charge of the Special Agent's department to report through the Board of Revenue the total amount payable to the French authorities on account of the revenue of the four villages calculated to the date of transfer, when sanction would be granted for the disbursement.

* * * * *

General letter to the Honourable the Court of Directors, No. 14, dated 21st March 1854.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

GENERAL Letter to the Honourable the Court of Directors in the Revenue Department, dated 21st March 1854, Original No. 14 of 1854.

* * * * *

16. His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements in India represented the distress apprehended in the town of Pondicherry in consequence of the scarcity of grain and invited us to co-operate with him in all matters calculated to afford relief and protection to the people. The measures particularly indicated by His Excellency were—a special surveillance over the open and irregular frontier of Pondicherry and South Arcot, the extension to the French possessions of all Custom House Regulations and other expedients adopted with a view to ensure the supply of food and especially the prohibition of the exports except those of the continent of India, a measure which he proposed should be carried out simultaneously by the French and English Governments at their several ports.

Dy. to Cons., 13th Jan. 1854, Nos. 26, 27.
" 27th " " " 73, 74.

17. We directed the Special Agent for Foreign Settlements, in his capacity of Magistrate of South Arcot, to adopt, in communication with the French authorities, all practicable precautions to prevent robbery and outrage on the frontier, and to assure His Excellency of our earnest desire to preserve the peace of the French Settlements in common with that of our own possessions.

18. With regard to the other steps, we informed the French Government that, in our opinion, the only safe policy in the present crises was to give the utmost possible freedom to the trade in grain, by moving all obstructions and scrupulously abstaining from any attempt to dictate to the dealers or to interfere with the market, and that with this view we had already suspended the levy of import duty on grain at all the ports under this Presidency and that we could not concur with them in the expediency of closing the ports to the export of grain to the places beyond India.

19. His Excellency also alluded to a rumour which had reached him of the Collector of Tanjore having issued orders to prohibit the export of grain; but this report, your Honourable Court will observe, we subsequeutly ascertained to have been wholly unfounded.

20. We acceded to an application made by the authorities at Mahé for the remission, during the present seasons of the export duty on grain exported from Mangalore for the supply of that settlement, and desired that the remission should be carried out in the manner suggested by the Collector of Canara, the duty being levied on export and held in deposit to be repaid on the production of a certificate from the Chef de Service, that the grain had been imported at Mahé for the consumption of the place.

Cons., 14th February 1854, Nos. 38, 39.

* * * * *

E.M.C., No. 676, dated 13th June 1854.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Extract from Minutes of Consultation, No. 676, dated 13th June 1854.

READ—the following:—

From the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors, to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, Fort St. George, dated East India House, London, 17th April 1854, No. 1575.

We transmit, for your information, a copy of a letter, dated the 8th instant, which the French Ambassador at this Court has addressed to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, announcing that the Marine Department has sent to the Governor of the French Settlements in India instructions to come to an understanding with the officers of the East India Company on the measures which the retrocession of certain dependencies of Mahé may render necessary for the suppression of illicit trading.

2. You will forthwith direct your local officers to place themselves in communication with the French authorities on the spot, for the purpose of concerting with them such arrangements as may appear advisable for the attainment of the object in question.

ENCLOSURE.

From the French Ambassador, to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, dated 8th April 1854.

J'ai transmis au Government de S.M.I la lettre que V.E. m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire, en date du 27 Mars dernier, an sujêt des arrangements arrêtés entre nous au sujet du comptoir de Mahé, à la côte de Malabar; et je m'empresse annoncer à V.E. que le département de la Marine a adressé au Gouverneur des Etablissements Français dans Inde les instructions nécessaires pour qu'il s'entende, avec les autorités de la l'Compagnie, sur les moyens d'assurer la repression de la contrebande, le long de la frontière commune aux établissements des deux nations.

(Signed) A. WALEWSKI.

No. 676.

Ordered that a copy of the above letter and of its enclosure be forwarded through the Board of Revenue for the information and guidance of the Collector of Malabar.

2. Ordered also that a copy be furnished to the Political Department.

(Signed) J. PYCROFT,
Secretary to Government.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
13*th June* 1854.

To the Board of Revenue.
" Political Department.

General letter to the Honourable the Court of Directors, No. 38, dated 15th June 1854.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

GENERAL Letter to the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated 15th June 1854, No. 38, Revenue Department.

* * * * *

9. Referring to our proceedings of the 12th January last, copy of which accompanied paragraph 16 of our letter of the 21st March following, No. 14, we have the honour to report that we have authorised the disbursement of the remaining sum Rs. 14,215–2–6 due on account of the net revenue of the villages in the vicinity of Mahé recently transferred to the French Government.

Disbursement of the remaining sum due on account of the villages in the vicinity of Mahé recently transferred to the French Government—Cons. 27th January 1854, Nos. 8, 9.

* * * * *

E.M.C., No. 938, dated 10th August 1854.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Extract from Minutes of Consultation, No. 938, dated 10th August 1854.

READ—the following letter:—

From A. HALL, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Cuddalore, 15th July 1854.

I have the honour to submit the accompanying copy of a letter with its enclosures received from the Collector of Malabar, for the information and orders of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council.

As His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry has expressed a wish in his letter to the Chief at Mahé, that the original deed of transfer (which I beg to enclose) already executed by the British and French Commissioners on the 14th November 1853 at Mahé should be ratified by the respective Governments, I beg to suggest that unless the Right Honourable the Governor in Council sees objection to the measure it may be done and also that authority may be given to the Collector of Malabar to draw out in a similar form the several articles now proposed by Mr. Passart in his letter of the 29th May last, and concurred in by Messrs. Conolly and Robinson, with a view to their being also ratified by the respective Governments.

ENCLOSURE.

From H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to the Sub-Collector in charge, Special Agent's Department, Cuddalore, dated Calicut, 3rd July 1854, No. 1317.

I have the honour to forward, for your consideration, copy of a correspondence with the Chief of Mahé relating to the cession of four villages.

From the Chief Assistant, Mahé, to the Head Assistant Collector of 29th May 1854.
From the Head Assistant Collector, to the Chief of Mahé of 31st May 1854.
To the Chief of Mahé of 8th June 1854.
From the Chief of Mahe of 27th June 1854.
To the Chief of Mahé of 1st July 1854.

From Monseiur PASSART, le Chef du Service, Mahé, to the Head-Assistant Collector Malabar, dated Mahé, 29th May 1854.

J'ai l'honneur de vous informer que par lettre du 22 de ce mois, Monsieur le Gouverneur me demande oú en est la question de le rente des aldées. Il me dit qu'il espère que la réglementation de cette petite affaire sera promptement soumise à son approbation. J'ai du repondre á Monsieur le Gouverneur qu'une blessure qui vous tient encore couché sur votré canapé avait empêché notre rencontre d'avoir lieu, ainsi que vous l'aviez desire.

Pour hâter autant que possible la marche de cette affaire, j'ai l'honneour de vous soumettre les propositions suivantes, lesquelles garantiront suffisamment selon moi les intérêts de nos Gonvernements respectifs.

Article 1.—Un bac sera établi au Petit Calaye pour relier la route des aldées à Mahé. La proximité du lieú ou il sera placé avec celui on fonctionne le bac déjà existant à l'embouchure de la rivière pouvant nuire aux intérêts du Gouvernement Anglais, le bac du Petit Calaye sera affirmé. autant que possible, au fermier du bac déjà existant. La réglementation sera la même pour les deux bacs, et le produit du fermage sera divisé en deux parts, l'uné sera donné au Gouvernement Anglais et l'autre au Gouvernement Francais.

Article 2.—Les produits du sol de quelque nature qu'ils soient seront importés et exportés librement de Mahé aux aldées et des aldées à Mahé.

Article 3.—L'arack mis en ferme aux aldées et à Mahé ne pourra être transporté d'un de ces lieux a l'autre que par les soins du fermier, lequel devra prèalablement en avoir obtenu l'autorisation du Percepteur des revenues, lequel lui donnera dans ce cas un passeport.

Article 4.—Le sel nécessaire à la consommation des habitans devra passer librement sur la route des aldeés.

Transporté par le soin due Gouvernement, lequel est attentif à avoir des approvisionnements proportionnés à la consommation, et à empêcher toute espèce de commerce en dehors du monopole qu'il a établi, aucune contrebande ne peut être à craindre.

Article 5.—Le fermage du tabac ayant réglementé l'introduction de cette feuille sur le territoire français, la quantité nécessaire à la consommation locale ayant servi de base à l'introduction, l'administration veillant avec soin au maintien du cahier des charges qui régle les conditions du fermage, le tabac circulera librement sur la route des aldées.

Article 6.—Le jagre ou le sucre raffiné dont la consommation est presque mille aux aldées et à Mahé, étant du reste fabriqué sur le territoire Anglais, circuleront aussi librement sur la route des aldées.

Article 7.—Le present arrété par nous, J. D. Robinson, ler Assistant Collector du Malabar, et Julien Passart, Capitaine de lere classe au 3e Regiment d'Infanterie de Marine, Chef de Service, p.i., à Mahé, a été signé et accepté par nous, sauf l'approbation de nos Gouvernemens respectifs.

Le Gouvernement français s'engage à établir la ferme du Calou et de l'arack à Mahé et aux aldées, à maintenir le monopole du sel et du tabac, et si, plus tard la consommation du jagre ou du sucre raffiné, la quelle est mille aujourd'hui, engageoit quelque industriel à fabriquer ce produit sur le territoire français, le Gouvernement s'engage à règlementer l'impot qui, comme celui de l'arack et de calou, seroit le même que sur le territoire anglais.

Telles sont, monsieur, les propositions que j'ai l'honneur de vous soumettre, j'ose espérer qu'elles garantissent suffisamment les intérêts de votre Gouvernement pour que vous puissez les accepter immédiatement et veuillez avoir la bonté d'accuser réception et agréer l'assurance de ma considération tres distinguée.

P.S.—J'aime à penser que vous souffrez moins de la blessure qui vous retient chez vous et que dont 5—ou 6—jours vous serez complettement rétabli.

[*Translation.*]

From Monsieur PASSART, Chef de Service, p. i., to the First Assistant Collector of Malabar at Tellicherry, dated Mahé, the 29th May 1854.

I have the honour to inform you that by a letter of the 22nd instant, His Excellency the Governor requests me to intimate to him the state of the question as to the revenue of the villages. He tells me that he hopes the settlement of this little affair will, without loss of time, be submitted for his approval. I have thought it necessary to inform His Excellency that a hurt which still confines you to your couch had prevented our meeting taking place as you desired.

To hasten as much as possible the settlement of this affair, I have the honour to submit to you the following propositions which in my opinion will sufficiently guarantee the interests of our respective Governments:—

Article 1.—A ferry shall be established at the little Kalaye to connect the road to the villages with Mahé.

As the proximity of its locality to that of the one which is already at work at the mouth of the river, may be prejudicial to the interests of the English Government, the ferry at the little Kalaye shall be leased, as much as possible, to the renter of the one which already exists. The regulations shall be the same for the two ferries, and the income of the farm shall be divided into two parts—one shall be made over to the English Government and the other to the French Government.

Article 2.—The products of the soil of whatever kind shall be imported and exported free of duty from Mahé to the villages and *vice versâ*.

Article 3.—The arrack farmed out at the villages and at Mahé can only be transported from one of these places to another by the farmer, who should previously obtain the authority of the Collector, who will in that case supply him with a pass.

Article 4.—The salt necessary for the consumption of the inhabitants shall pass free of duty on its way to the villages.

Transported by the care of the Government, who is attentive to the supplies being proportioned to the consumption, and to prevent every kind of trade to the prejudice of the monopoly which it has established, no smuggling need be apprehended.

Article 5.—The introduction of tobacco into the French territory having been regulated in the farming out of that article—the quantity necessary for local consumption having served as the basis for such introduction—the Government attentive to the keeping up of the price list which regulates the conditions of the farm, tobacco will pass free on its way to the villages.

Article 6.—Jaggery or refined sugar, the consumption of which at the villages and at Mahé is next to nothing, being manufactured upon the English territory, will also pass free on its way to the villages.

Article 7.—The present agreement by us J. D. Robinson, First Assistant to the Collector of Malabar, and Julien Passart, Captain of the first-class, in the 3rd Regiment of Marine Infantry, Chef de Service p. i. at Mahé, has been signed and accepted by us, save and except the approval of our respective Governments.

The French Government engages to establish at Mahé and in the villages the toddy and arrack farm, to maintain the salt and tobacco monopoly, and if, hereafter, the consumption of jaggery or refined sugar, which is now next to nothing, should induce any one to manufacture that article upon the French territory, the Government engages to regulate the duty which, as in that on arrack and toddy, will be the same as on the English territory.

Such, Sir, are the propositions which I have the honour to submit to you. I presume to hope that they will sufficiently guarantee the interests of your Government in order that you may at once accept them, and be pleased to have the goodness to acknowledge their receipt, and accept the assurance of my very distinguished consideration.

P.S.—I am disposed to think that you suffer less from the hurt which keeps you at home and that in five or six days you will be completely restored.

From J. D. ROBINSON, Esq., Head Assistant Collector, Malabar, to the Chef de Service, Mahé, dated Tellicherry, 31st May 1854, No. 237.

I am under orders to proceed immediately to Mangalore, there to assume charge of the Subordinate Court and am consequently debarred the pleasure I had promised myself of personally discussing and settling with you the several little difficulties which have sprung out of the recent transfer of territory made by the English to the French Governments. I have, however, given to your six propositions such time and attention as my other duties will permit and find them fair and reasonable and such as, in my opinion, would sufficiently guarantee the rights of our respective Governments. The old and new ferry farms should, as you propose in article 1, be placed, if possible, under the same management, your Government sharing equally in the proceeds, manifestly have, even under the present system, as much interest in protecting the farmer as we have.

To the 2nd article I have nothing to say. The interchange of grain and the other natural products of the soil between the markets of Mahé, and its dependencies could not, I conceive, be objected to.

Article 3 seems to provide sufficiently against any irregularity in the management of the arrack farm.

Article 4. It has been already decided should obtain as a rule in the distribution of salt.

Article 5. No rule seems now to be required in respect of tobacco, which is an article of free trade, the monopoly having been abolished throughout the Presidency.

Article 6 seems also unobjectionable; the Custom House authorities will, of course, as heretofore watch against the introduction of China sugar, sugar-candy, brandies, wines, and such like dutiable articles.

Such, Sir, are briefly my sentiments; I only regret that indisposition in the first instance, and subsequently my unforeseen transfer to another province, should have interfered to prevent our personal interview. I have sent copies of your and my letter to the Collector, who will give his instructions to my successor how further to proceed.

Thanking you for your polite enquiries after my health.

From H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to the Chief of Mahé, dated Calicut, 8th June 1854, No. 1125.

Mr. Robinson has sent me his correspondence with Monsieur Passart relative to the ferry or to the villages lately restored to your Government.

I beg to express my opinion that Monsieur Passart's propositions are unreceptionable and that I willingly assent to their being carried out.

From Monsieur D. ST. HILAIRE, Le Chef de Service, Mahé, to the Collector of Malabar, Calicut, dated Mahé, the 27th June 1854.

Par votre lettre du 8 Juin, No. 1125, vous avez eu la bonté de m'informer que vous apportez une complête adhésion aux propositions de mon prédécesseur, Monsieur Le Capitaine Passart. J'ai dû m'empresser de faire part à Monsieur le Gouverneur de Pondichéry de cette heureuse acceptation de plus, j'ai pensé que pour donner plus de poids à un état de choses qui avoient reçu l'approbation des autorités Françaises et Anglaises, il servit convenable q'une expédition de ces propositions soit signé par leurs Excellences les Gouverneurs de Madras et Pondichéry pour être remise au Collecteur du Malabar et au Chef de Mahé, ce qui constituroit un titre official pour les parties contractantes, et les nantiroient pour l'avenir d'une maniére irréfrigable. Notez bien, Monsieur ler Collecteur, que cette clause n'ajoute rien ni ne change rien à ce qui a été accepté par Monsieur Robinson et par vous, mais les hommes changent et l'interprétation peut amener des modifications aux clauses acceptées, c'est ce qu'il faut éviter et ce que nous évitons par le moyen dont j'ai l'honneur de vous entretenir.

Monsieur le Gouverneur en m'accusant réception de ma dépêche adhère avec plaisir à ma proposition, it pense toute fois que les conventions passées précédemment entre nos deux gouvernemens respectifs pour la rétrocession des aldées et le plan qui s'y trouve annexés n'ont pas été soumis à cette formalité, et il m'engage à m'entendre avec vous sur l'oppertunité d'un ensemble des mesures, qui doivent amener une sorte de consécration, à ce qui s'est précédemment passé.

Veuillez donc je vous prie, Monsieur le Collecteur, me faire part de vos observations, et croire au sincère désir que j'éprouve de vous voir accepter ma manière d'opérer, qui évitera pour l'avenir bien des tracas, parceque cela fermera le champ des interprétations.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Collecteur, l'expression de mes sentimens les plus distingués.

[*Translation.*]

From Monsieur D. Sr. HILAIRE, Chef de Service, Mahé, to the Collector of Malabar at Calicut, dated the 27th June 1854.

By your letter of 8th June, No. 1125, you had the kindness to inform me that you fully adhered to the propositions of my predecessor, Captain Passart, I have thought it necessary to hasten the communication of this happy acceptance to His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry; I have thought, moreover, that to give more weight to a transaction which has received the approval of the French and English authorities, it would be expedient that a copy of these propositions be signed by their Excellencies, the Governors of Madras and Pondicherry, for transmission to the Collector of Malabar and to the Chief of Mahé, which would constitute an official title for the contracting parties, and would be an irrefragable assurance to them for the future. Observe well, Sir, that this proviso adds nothing to, and changes nothing of, what bas been accepted by Mr. Robinson and by yourself, but men change, and the conditions which have been accepted may be liable to misconstruction, which must be avoided, and which we do avoid by the expedient which I have the honour to propose to you.

His Excellency the Governor in acknowledging the receipt of my despatch, cheerfully concurs in my proposition; he thinks, however, that the conventions formerly passed between our respective Governments for the transfer of these villages on the plan which will be found annexed, have not undergone this formality and he desires me to communicate with you on the opportunity which is offered of considering with this view the whole of these transactions, which may lead to a sort of confirmation of what has been passed heretofore.

I beg therefore, Sir, that you will communicate to me your observations, and believe the sincere desire which I feel to know that the manner in which I have acted is approved of by you, which will in future prevent much confusion, inasmuch as it will leave no room for misinterpretations.

From H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to the Chief of Mahé, dated Calicut, 1st July 1854, No. 1306.

I understand by your letter of the 27th ultimo that you wish the assent to Monsieur Passart's propositions given in my letter of the 8th ultimo to be ratified by the Governors of Madras and Pondicherry and that a similar ratification be made in respect to the transfer of the four villages.

I do not quite see the need of this, but in deference to your opinion, have thought it well to lay the matter before the Special Agent at Cuddalore.

Attendu qu'il y a eu diverses négociations au sujet du territoire qui doit être remis au Gouvernement Français dans le voisinage de Mahé d'après les stipulations des Traités de Paris des 30 Mai 1814 et 20 Novembre 1819 et comme il a été enfin résolu que le dit territoire doit consister des quatre villages de Palour, Pandaquel, Chambara et Chalicara et des trois points détachés ou postes du Fort St. George, du Grand et du Petit Calaye, ainsi qu'ils sont définis par les autorités Britannique sans aucune partie du territoire réclamé dans leur voisinage dans une

Whereas there have been various discussions regarding the territory to be delivered up to the French Government in the vicinity of Mahé under the provisions of the Treaty of Paris of the 30th May 1814 and 20th November 1819, and whereas it has been finally determined that the said territory is to consist of the four villages of Paloor, Pandaquel, Chambarra and Chalicara and of the three detached points or posts of Fort St. George, the Great and the Little Kalaye, as defined by the British authorities without any of the territory in their vicinity to

précédente circonstance, et comme en exécution de cet arrangement les limites du territoire à être rétrocédé au Gouvernement Français ont été reconnus être principalement—

Pour les quatre villages—

A l'Est.—Les amshams de Panianour, Seringalem, Volavillom et de Kalay.

A l'Ouest.—Les amshams de Tirouvangadde et de Kalay.

Au—Nord.—La rivière de Ponian et une partie de l'amsham de Panianour.

Au Sud.—Une partie de l'amsham de Volavila et celui de Kalay.

Pour les trois points détachés qui communiquent entreux —

Au Nord.—Une bande de Kalay s'étendant entreux et Veera Coonoo.

Au Sud et Sud-ouest.—Une bande de Kalay s'enterposant entreux et la rivière de Mahé et une partie de la route de Tellichéry.

A l'Est.—Une mosquée et une précipice.

A l'Ouest.—Une partie de la route de Tellichéry et une bande de l'amsham de Kalay s'enterposant entreux et Cainon Connou.

On trouvera l'exposé des abornements ci-dessus en détail dans l'appendix annexé à cet acte, approuvé et signé ce jour.

Nous, Joseph Hayes, Sous-Commissaire de la Marine de la première classe, Chef du Service de l'Etablissement de Mahé, côte du Malabar, Commissaire Français, rêvetu des pleins pouvoirs de son Excellence le Contre-Amiral De Verninac, Gouverneur des Etablissements Français dans l'Inde, reconnaissons par ces présentes avoir reçu de Monsieur James Douglas Robinson, Premier Assistant Collecteur de Malabar et Commissaire pour le Gouvernement Britannique, les susdits trois points détachés ou postes du Fort St. George, du Grand et du Petit Calaye et les quatre villages de Palour, Pandaquel, Chambara et Chalicara, que moi, James Douglas Robinson, reconnais avoir remis cejourd'hui conformément aux abornements ci-dessus spécifiés qui correspondent avec ceux consignés dans un plan dressé par l'Ingénieur civil de la septième division et daté du 9 Janvier 1849, excepté dans trois endroits différents indiqués sur les copies

which a claim was made on a former occasion, and as in execution of this arrangement the limits of the territory to be transferred to the French Government have now been ascertained to be principally—

For the four villages—

East.—Part of Panianoor, Peringalom, Vollavilam and Kalaye amshams.

West.—Ceeroovangad and Kalaye amshams.

North.—Poonian river and part of Panianoor amshams.

South.—Part of Vollavilom and Kalaye amshams.

For the three detached points which communicate with each other—

North.—The strip of Kalaye lying between them and Vera Coonoo.

South and South-west.—A strip of Kalaye intervening between them and Mahé river and a portion of Tellicherry road.

East.—A mosque and precipice.

West.—A portion of Tellicherry road and strip of Kalaye amshams intervening between them and Kanien Koonoo.

The particulars of the above boundaries will be found exhibited in detail in the appendix annexed to this instrument, approved and signed by us this day.

Be it known that I, Joseph Hayes, first-class S. Commissary of the Marine, Chief of the French Establishment of Mahé, Malabar Coast, French Commissioner, invested with full power by His Excellency Rear-Admiral De Verninac, Governor-General of the French Settlements in India, do acknowledge by these presents having received from Mr. James Douglas Robinson, Head Assistant Collector of Malabar, and Commissioner for the British Government, the aforesaid three detached points or posts of Fort St. George, the Great and the Little Kalaye and the four villages of Paloor, Pandaquel, Chambarra and Chalicara which I, James Douglas Robinson, do acknowledge to have delivered this day according to the above specified boundaries, which correspond with those laid down in a plan drawn up by the Civil Engineer of the 7th Division and dated 9th January 1849, except at three different places indicated on the revised copies

révisés du plan sous les lettres A, B, C, où, après de soigneuses enquêtes et comparaison du plan original avec les comptes des villages, de certaines différences ayant été constatés exister, les limites originelles ont été changés, autant qu'il a été reconnu juste et légitime, et ainsi modifiées ont été consignées sur la copie révisée du plan et ont été déclarées constituer définitement les abornements du territoire retrocédé par le présent.

Au surplus moi, James Douglas Robinson, ainsi que j'en suis prié par Monsieur Hayes, promets de lui fournir un plan certifié du territoire actuellement rétrocédé.

En foi de quelle présent procés verbal a éte dressé et signé après que le pavillon français a été arboré à Vera Connou.

Fait quadruple à Mahé le quatorze du mois de Novembre, mil huit cent cinquante-trois.

(Signé) J. HAYES,
Commissionaire Français.

(„) D. ROBINSON,
English Commissioner.

of the plan as A, B, C, where, on carefu enquiry and comparison of the original plan with the village accounts, certain discrepancies having been ascertained to exist, the original land marks have been altered in such degree as appears just and reasonable, and so modified have been defined on the copy of the plan and declared to constitute the boundary of the territory hereby ceded.

I, James Douglas Robinson, do moreover, as requested by Mr. Hayes, promise to supply him with a certified plan of the territory now transferred.

In witness whereof the present verbal process, after having had the French colours hoisted on Vera Coonoo, has been drawn up and signed.

Done in quadruplicate at Mahé the fourteenth day of November one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three.

(Signed) D. ROBINSON,
English Commissioner.

(„) J. HAYES,
Commissionaire Francais.

MEMORANDUM.

Under date the 16th September 1853 the Government, on the application of His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry, authorized the cession to the French authorities of the four villages Paloor, Panduguel, Chambara and Chalicana, with their net accumulated revenue, and of the three detached points or posts of Fort St. George, and the Great and Little Calaye, all in the vicinity of Mahé, on the understanding that the transfer as regarded those three points was confined to the points themselves and did not extend to any of the adjacent territory. The transfer of these villages and points had long been under agitation, but had been delayed because the French claimed the cession of certain tracts of land around the "points or posts" as well as the "points," which the English had refused to admit.

It is quite necessary to see the map before giving any opinion about this.

(Intld.) H.

2. On the 26th December 1853, the Special Agent reported, through the Board of Revenue, that the transfer had been made, and he obtained sanction for paying over to the French authorities the net revenue of the four villages which had accumulated from 1816–17 to the date of actual transfer, Rs. 97,648–5–9. The convention, or process verbal, executed in quadruplicate on the occasion of the transfer by the English Commissioner, Mr. Robinson, Head Assistant to the Collector of Malabar, and Mr. Hayes, Chef de Service at Mahé, is now submitted by the present Agent. By it the four villages and three detached points or posts (*trois points detachés on postes*) are made over by the English to the French with slight variations according to a plan prepared by the Civil Engineer, 7th Division. This plan is not before Government, and it might be well to have it or a copy of it. I observe too, in the process verbal, an expression which seems to need explanation "the three detached points which communicate with each other" ("qui communiquent entreux"). If they are detached, how do they communicate? It has been made a *sine quâ non* throughout by the English that the points or posts only should be given up and no part of the land around them. The plan may perhaps explain this.

3. Monsieur Passart, Chef de Service at Mahé, on the 29th May last submitted to Mr. Robinson certain propositions intended to embody the subsidiary arrangements connected with the transfer. These propositions are viewed by Mr. Robinson as fair and reasonable, and by his superior, Mr. Conolly, as unobjectionable. Such part of them as relates to tobacco has been rendered unnecessary as respects the British Government by the cessation of the tobacco monopoly.

4. Under date 17th April 1854, the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors transmitted, for the information of this Government, copy of a letter addressed by the French Ambassador at the Court of London to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, announcing that the Marine Department had sent to the Governor of the French Settlements in India instructions to come to an understanding with the officers of the East India Company on the measures which the retrocession of certain dependencies of Mahé might render necessary for the suppression of illicit trading, and directed that this Government would forthwith order the local officers to place themselves in communication with the French authorities on the spot, for the purpose of concerting with them such arrangements as might appear advisable for the attainment of the object in question. Copy of this despatch was sent, through the Board of Revenue, for the information and guidance of the Collector of Malabar on the 13th June last.

5. Monsieur D. St. Hilaire who has succeeded Captain Passart as Chef de Service at Mahé has, under date 27th June last, intimated to the Collector of Malabar the concurrence of His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry in his, (Monsieur St. Hilaire's) suggestion that the "propositions" drawn up by Captain Passart should be signed by the Governors of Madras and Pondicherry for transmission to the Collector of Malabar and Chief of Mahé, as also the wish of His Excellency that the convention regarding the transfer of the villages, *i.e.*, the process verbal concluded between Messrs. Robinson and Hayes should be similarly ratified. The Collector of Malabar has sent up this

application to Government, through the Special Agent, who suggests that, as His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry has expressed a wish in his letter to the Chief at Mahé, that the original deed of transfer already executed by the British and French Commissioners on the 14th November 1853 at Mahé should be ratified by the respective Governments, unless the Right Honourable the Governor in Council sees objection to the measure, it may be done; and also that authority may be given to the Collector of Malabar to draw out in a similar form the several articles now proposed by Monsieur Passart in his letter of the 29th May last, and concurred in by Messrs. Conolly and Robinson, with a view to their being also ratified by the respective Governments.

6. It is to be observed that these proposals do not come to Government direct from His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry, but through his subordinate officer the Chef de Service at Mahé. There seems no particular objection to a compliance with the application as regards the ratification either of the convention itself or of the subsidiary articles, but before the latter are ratified it would seem advisable that they should first be put into shape by the Collector of Malabar in communication if needful with the Chef de Service at Mahé and be reported on by the Board of Revenue as they pertain chiefly to fiscal matters.

7. On a former occasion, 18th July 1837, the Madras Government ratified a convention for the renewal of a previous salt convention, but that convention was concluded between the Governor of the French Settlements in India, General St. Simon and the Special Agent Mr. Dent, and was ratified by the Madras Government only. Now the convention has been concluded by the line Commissioners appointed by the two Governments and it is requested that it may receive the ratification of both those Governments.

See Extract from Minutes of Consultation, 18th July 1837.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of Consultation No. 938, dated 10th August 1854.

Before taking into consideration the subject of the foregoing letter, the Right Honourable the Governor in Council desires to have before him the revised copy of the plan drawn up by the Civil Engineer of the 7th Division according to which, as appears by the process verbal executed by the English and French Commissioners, 14th November last, the cession of the territory was carried out with explanation of the differences between the original and revised plan in the places A, B, C alluded to in the process.

2. It is observed that in the same instrument mention is made of the three detached points "which communicate with each other" ("qui communiquent entreux"). The Government request that this expression may be explained. It is observed that it has throughout been insisted on by the British Government that the points or posts only should be given up and no part of the adjacent territory.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of South Arcot in charge of Special Agent's Department.

E.M.C., No. 1252, dated 23rd September 1854.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, No. 1252, dated 23rd September 1854, Revenue Department.

READ—the following letter from the Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, Cuddalore:—

From A. HALL, Esq., Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Cuddalore, 28th August 1854, No. 1117.

I have the honour, with reference to Extract from Minutes of Consultation, dated 10th instant, No. 938, to forward the revised plan of the territory ceded to the French Government at Mahé in Malabar under the orders of Government, dated 17th September 1853.

2. The plan itself shows wherein there is any difference between it and the original one, which was found not to correspond with the village accounts and was therefore altered.

3. Mr. Conolly's letter, copy of which is forwarded, explains the meaning of the term "which communicate with each other" as applied to the posts on points laid down in the plan.

ENCLOSURES.

From H. V. CONOLLY, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to the Collector of South Arcot, in charge of the Special Agent's Department, Cuddalore, dated Calicut, 23rd August 1854, No. 1777.

I have had the honour to receive your letter, dated the 12th instant, and its enclosure, being extract from the Minutes of Consultation under date the 10th idem.

No. 938.

2. In a separate packet I beg to transmit the sketch adverted to in the second paragraph of my letter of the 2nd December 1853. It was detained here until a copy could be made for the use of my office.

A reference to this sketch will show where the differences between the original and revised plan occurred and the cause thereof is explained in the 4th and 5th paragraphs of Mr. Robinson's report, copy of which was submitted with my letter above alluded to.

Dated 1st December 1853.

3. With respect to the observation contained in the second paragraph of the Minutes of Consultation, I beg to state that the expression "which communicate with each other" was evidently made use of because the three detached posts (now in ruins) were on two hills which communicate with each other. These hills stand within the whitish tinted space exhibited in the plan, the adjacent territory within the deep red line which was claimed by Monsieur Hayes in 1849, was not made over to the French Government, as affirmed in the preamble of the process verbal executed on the occasion of the transfer.

See note appended to the sketch of the boundary survey prepared by the Civil Engineer and transmitted to Government under date the 24th February 1849.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of Consultation under date the 23rd September 1854, No. 1252.

The Collector of Malabar forwards, through the Collector of South Arcot and Special Agent for Foreign Settlements, a plan showing the territory at Mahé lately transferred to the French Government.

2. The plan exhibits the boundaries of the four villages—Panduguel, Paloor, Chambara and Chalicana which have been made over, as also the position of the three detached points or posts, Fort St. George, and the Great and Lesser Calaye, likewise transferred to the French. The expression "which communicate with each other" is sufficiently explained by the sketch.

3. The four villages and three detached points or posts in question having thus been made over according to the decision conveyed in Lord Aberdeen's note of 1st July 1846, and the accumulated net revenue to the date of transfer, Rs. 97,648–5–9 having also been paid to the French Government, the Right Honourable the Governor in Council resolves to report the proceedings which have taken place to the Honourable the Court of Directors in reference to their letter in the Secret Department of 13th July 1849. The wish expressed on the part of His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements in India that the convention or process verbal executed by the British and French Commissioners, Messrs. Robinson and Hayes at the time of transfer, 14th November 1853, should be ratified by the two Governments, and that the subsidiary arrangements proposed by the late Chef de Service at Mahé, Monsieur Passart, and assented to by the Collector of Malabar should be similarly ratified, will at the same time be brought to the notice of the Court for their orders.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Secretary to Government.

Copy to the Special Agent,
Board of Revenue for information.

Letter to the Honourable the Court of Directors, No. 56, dated 19th October 1854.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 56 of 1854.

To

THE HON'BLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY.

HON'BLE SIRS,

Paragraph 1.—In paragraphs 12 to 14 of our letter, dated 17th March 1854, No. 12, we informed your Hon'ble Court that we had, on the application of His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry, authorized the cession to the French authorities of the four villages—Palour, Pandaguel, Chambana and Chalicara—together with the three detached points or posts of Fort George and the great and little Calaye, all in the vicinity of Mahé in the district of Malabar.

2. From our proceedings, dated 12th* and 21st† January last transmitted with our subsequent despatches of the dates noted in the margin, your Hon'ble Court will have learnt that we had authorized the payment to the French Government of the net revenue of the four villages which had accumulated to the date of transfer, viz., Rs. 97,648–5–9.

* Reported in paragraph 16 of letter, dated 21st March 1854, No. 14.
† Reported in paragraph 9 of letter, dated 15th June 1854, No. 38.

3. We have now the honour to submit in reference to your Hon'ble Court's letter in the Secret Department, dated 13th July 1849, No. 2, copies of the correspondence noted in the margin‡ in connection with the above subject, and at the same time to solicit your orders in respect to the wish expressed on the part of His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements in India that the convention or process-verbal executed by the British and French Commissioners Messrs. Robinson and Hayes at the time of transfer, 14th November 1853, should be ratified by the two Governments, and that the subsidiary arrangements proposed by the late Chef de Service at Mahé, M. Papart, and assented to by the Collector of Malabar, should be similarly ratified.

‡ Cons 15th August 1854, Nos. 5 and 6.
Cons. 26th September 1854, Nos. 1117 and 1252.

We take this opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of a despatch from the Secret Committee of your Hon'ble Court, dated 17th April last, copy of which and of its enclosure we have forwarded through the Board of Revenue for the information and guidance of the Collector of Malabar.

We have the honour, &c.,

(Signed) HARRIS.
(„) G. ANSON.
(„) J. F. THOMAS.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
19*th October* 1854.

E.M.C., No. 613, dated 21st May 1855.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Extract from Minutes of Consultation, No. 613, dated 21st May 1855, Revenue Department.

Read the following despatch from the Honourable the Court of Directors, No. 4, Revenue Department, dated 21st February 1855.

OUR GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

At Fort St. George.

In these paragraphs § you inform us of the final adjustment of the question which has been so long under discussion between the English and French authorities relative to the claim of the latter to certain territory in the neighbourhood of their settlement of Mahé.

§ Letter, dated 17th March (No. 12) 1854, paragraphs 12 to 14.
Letter, dated 21st March (No. 14) 1854, paragraphs 16 to 20.
Letter, dated 15th June (No. 38) 1854, paragraph 9.
„ „ 19th October (No. 56) 1854.

2. The four villages of Panduguel, Paloor, Chambara and Chalicana, together with the three detached points of Fort St. George, and the Great and Lesser Calaye have been made over to, and accepted by, the French authorities, and the net revenues of the villages, which have accumulated since 1816, in the Treasury of the Collector of Malabar, have also been made over to them.

3. The arrangements agreed on between the Chef de Service at Mahé and the Collector of Malabar for the security of the Abkarry, Customs and Salt Revenues, appear to be sufficient for that purpose. If the Governor of the French Settlements in India should still be desirous that an instrument embodying the convention already executed by the British and French Commissioners, and the arrangements above

adverted to, should be formally ratified by the chief authorities of the respective Governments in India, we see no objection to such a proceeding although we do not perceive any advantage to be anticipated from it.

4. We entirely approve your having declined to entertain the proposal submitted to you by the Governor of the French Settlements when apprehensive of a scarcity of grain in the town of Pondicherry, for prohibiting the export of grain to any ports except those on the continent of India. Interference of this nature, with the natural and ordinary course of trade, can scarcely fail to lead to injurious consequences. The step to which you had recourse, when entertaining similar fears for the people of our own territory, of suspending the levy of import duty on grain brought to British ports, was quite proper.

(Signed) J. OLIPHANT,
(„) E. MACNAGHTON,
(„) C. MILLS &c., &c.

LONDON,
21st February 1855.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, Revenue Department, dated 21st May 1855, No. 613.

The Right Honourable the Governor in Council proceeds to pass orders on a despatch, in this department, from the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated 21st February 1855, No. 4.

Ordered that copies of this despatch be furnished for the information of the Board of Revenue and of the Special Agent for Foreign Settlements.

2. Adverting to the observations of the Honourable Court in paragraph 3 of this despatch, the Special Agent will be requested, in reference to his letter of the 15th July last, to communicate with the Collector of Malabar, in view to its being ascertained whether the French authorities still desire that an instrument, embodying the convention already executed by the British and French Commissioners, should be formally ratified by the respective Governments, and, if so, he will take the necessary steps in order to a document being submitted in proper form for that purpose.

E.M.C., No. 787, dated 5th June 1855.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Consultation, No. 787, dated 5th June 1855, Revenue Department.

READ—the following:—

From A. HALL, Esq., Collector in charge of Special Agent's Department, to the Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Cuddalore, 28th May 1855.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Extract from Minutes of Consultation under date the 21st instant, No. 613, with copy of a despatch from the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated 21st February last.

2. I beg to state, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, that previous to communicating with the Collector of Malabar on the subject, I thought it best to address a letter to His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry with a view of ascertaining whether he was still desirous that the convention, already executed between the British and French Commissioners in Malabar, should be formally ratified by the respective Governments.

3. His Excellency has informed me in reply that, as far as he is concerned, he considers the tenor of the despatch of the Honourable Court as a sufficient ratification of the convention alluded to, but adding that, as he had previously referred the question to the Government in France, he could not answer for the view which might be taken of the matter there.

Extract from Minutes of Consultation, dated 5th June 1855, No. 787.

To be recorded.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

Letter to the Honourable the Court of Directors of the East India Company, No. 1, dated 28th January 1856.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 1 of 1856.

To

THE HON'BLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS
OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY.

HON'BLE SIRS,

* * * * *

34. We furnished copies of this despatch * for the information of the Board of Revenue and of the Special Agent for Foreign Settlements.

* No. 4, dated 21st February 1855.

35. Adverting to the observations of your Honourable Court in paragraph 3 of this despatch, we requested the Special Agent, in reference to his letter of the 15th July last, to communicate with the Collector of Malabar in view to its being ascertained whether the French authorities still desire that an instrument embodying the convention already executed by the British and French Commissioners should be formally ratified by the respective Governments, and, if so, to take the necessary steps in order to a document being submitted in proper form for that purpose. The reply † of the Special Agent is herewith submitted. From this it will appear that the Governor of Pondicherry had been addressed in the first instance and that His Excellency has informed the Special Agent that, as far as he was concerned, he considered your Honourable Court's decision as a sufficient ratification of the convention, but that, as he had previously referred the question to the Government in France, he could not answer for the view that might be taken of the matter there.

† Consultation, dated 5th June 1855, Nos. 63, 64.

* * * * *

We have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) HARRIS.
(„) GEORGE ANSON.
(„) H. C. MONTGOMERY.
(„) WALTER ELIOT.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
28th *January* 1856.